



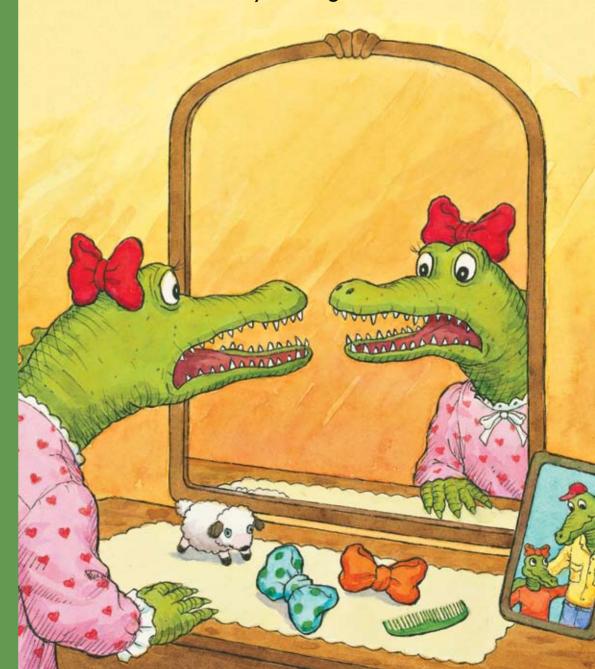
Fiction





Too Many Teeth

by Jane Bingley illustrated by Margaret Lindmark



Too Many Teeth

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Annie Alligator was worried.

"On Friday, Mom is taking me to see the dentist," thought Annie.

"I've never been to the dentist before. What will Dr. Cobb do to my teeth?"

Annie looked at her teeth in the mirror. Then she started to count them. She counted her top teeth.

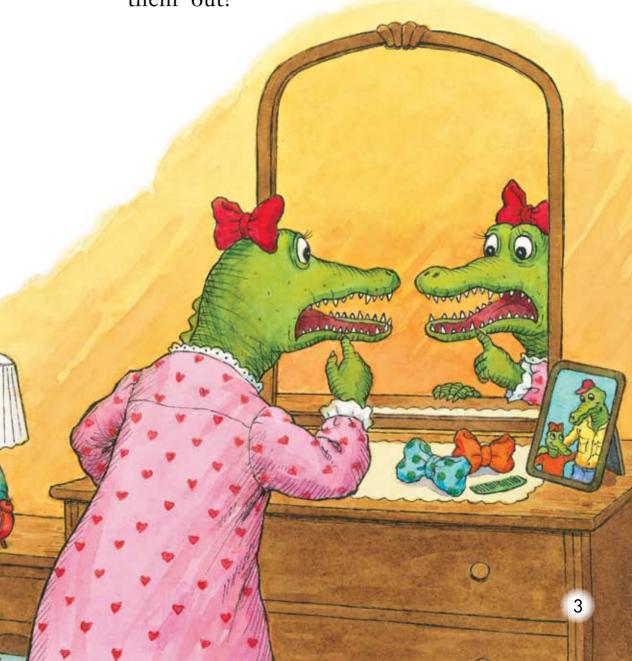
She counted her bottom teeth.

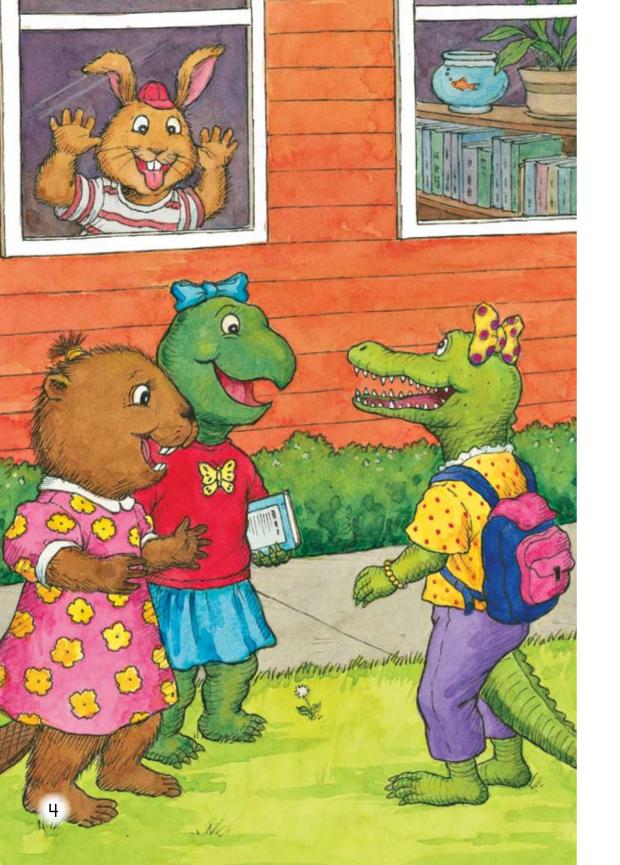
There were dozens of teeth to count.

Annie worried and worried.

"I have so many teeth," she thought.

"What if Dr. Cobb wants to take some of them out?"





The next day at school, Annie smiled at her friends. When they smiled back, she counted their teeth.

She had more teeth than Becky Beaver.



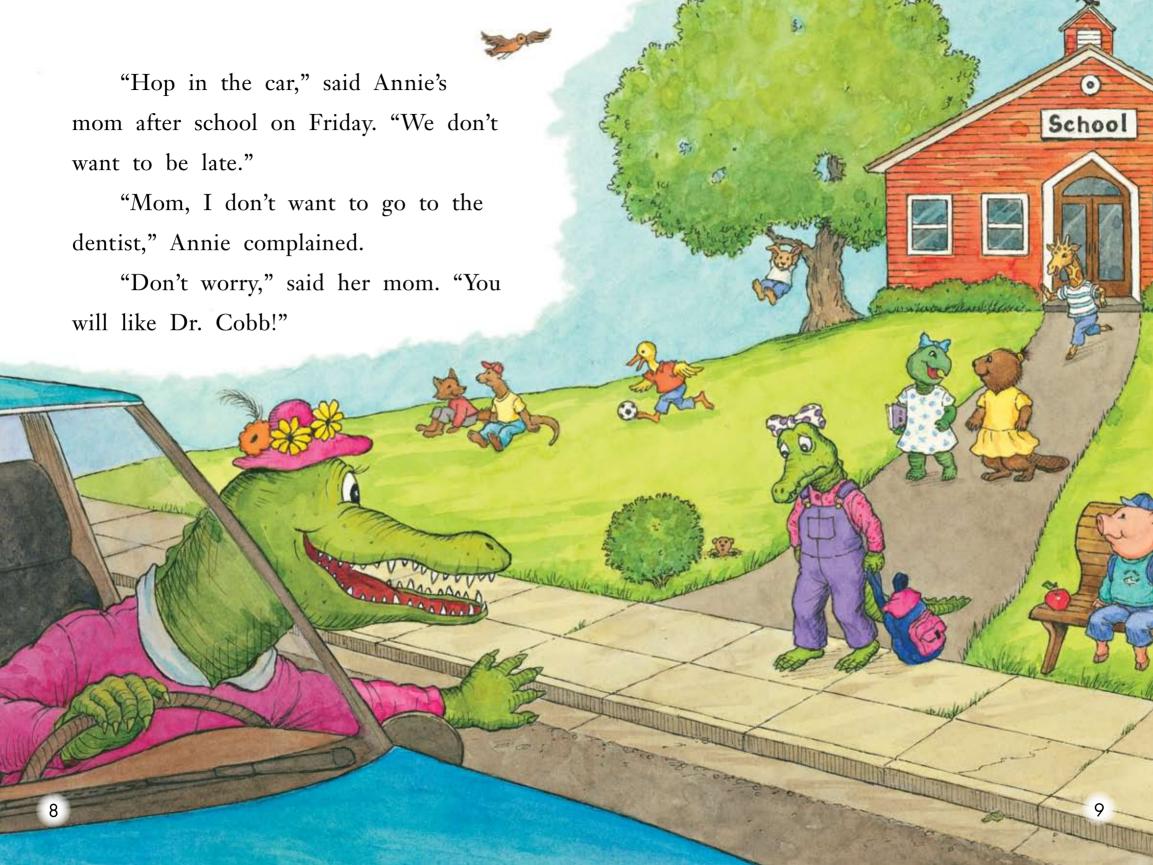
She had more teeth than Ray Rabbit.



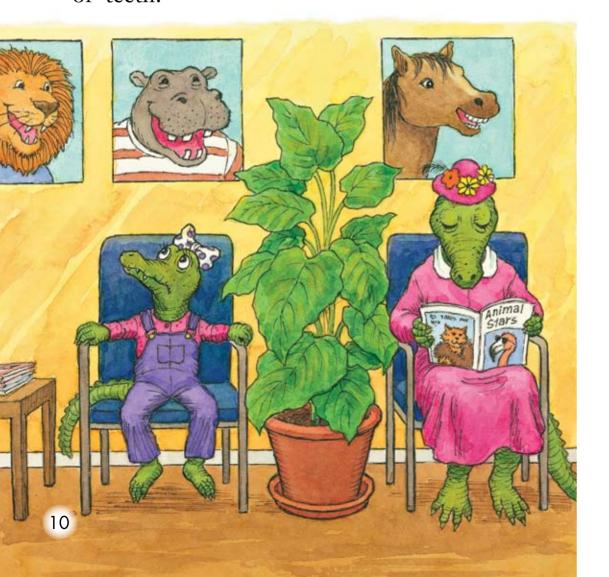
And she had a **lot** more teeth than Tara Turtle.







At Dr. Cobb's office, Annie sat and waited with her mom. She looked at pictures of teeth on the wall. There were big teeth, and there were little teeth. There were lots and lots of teeth.



"Annie Alligator," called Dr. Cobb's helper.

Annie tried to hide behind a tall plant.

"It's your turn, Annie," said her mom, peeking around the plant.

"That's right, Annie," said the helper. "I'm Sandy. Please come with me, and I promise we will take good care of your teeth."

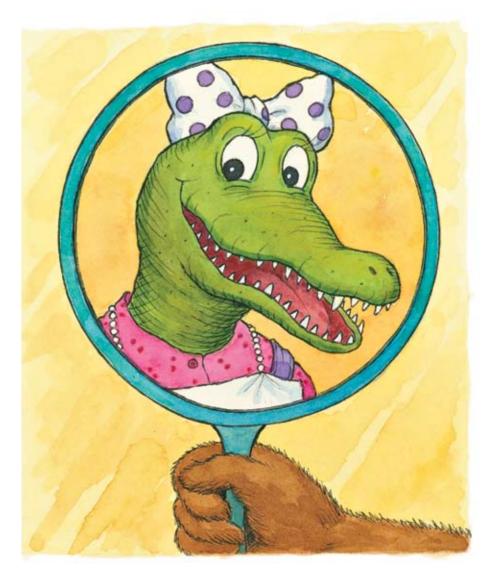


Annie sat in a big chair and worried. What would Sandy say when she noticed that Annie had too many teeth?

Sandy looked at Annie's teeth with a little mirror. Then she brushed Annie's teeth with a noisy toothbrush. Finally, she flossed Annie's teeth.



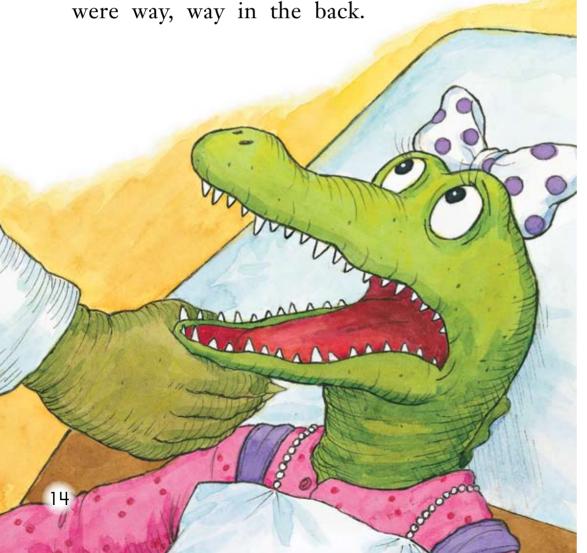
"Look in the mirror, Annie,"
Sandy said. "Your teeth are nice and clean now. I'll call Dr. Cobb to come in and take a look."



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"Hello, Annie. I'm Dr. Cobb," said the dentist. "Can you open your mouth for me so I can take a look?"

Dr. Cobb looked at Annie's top teeth. She looked at Annie's bottom teeth. She looked at the teeth that



"Smile for me, Annie," Dr. Cobb said. "Your teeth look great!"

But Annie was not quite ready to smile. She had a question to ask.

"Do I have too many teeth?"

Annie asked the dentist. "I have a lot more teeth than my friends."



Dr. Cobb gave Annie a wide alligator smile. "You're an alligator, Annie," said Dr. Cobb. "An alligator can never have too many teeth!"

