

Did That Tree Eat My Kite?



Story by Meg Livingston
Illustrations by Jennifer Clark

Green Words (Phonetic):

smashed	free	outside	chin
silly	cheered	crunch	kites
reach	inside	marched	joke
chasing	chomp	space	fly

Red Words (Sight):

watch

flew

don't

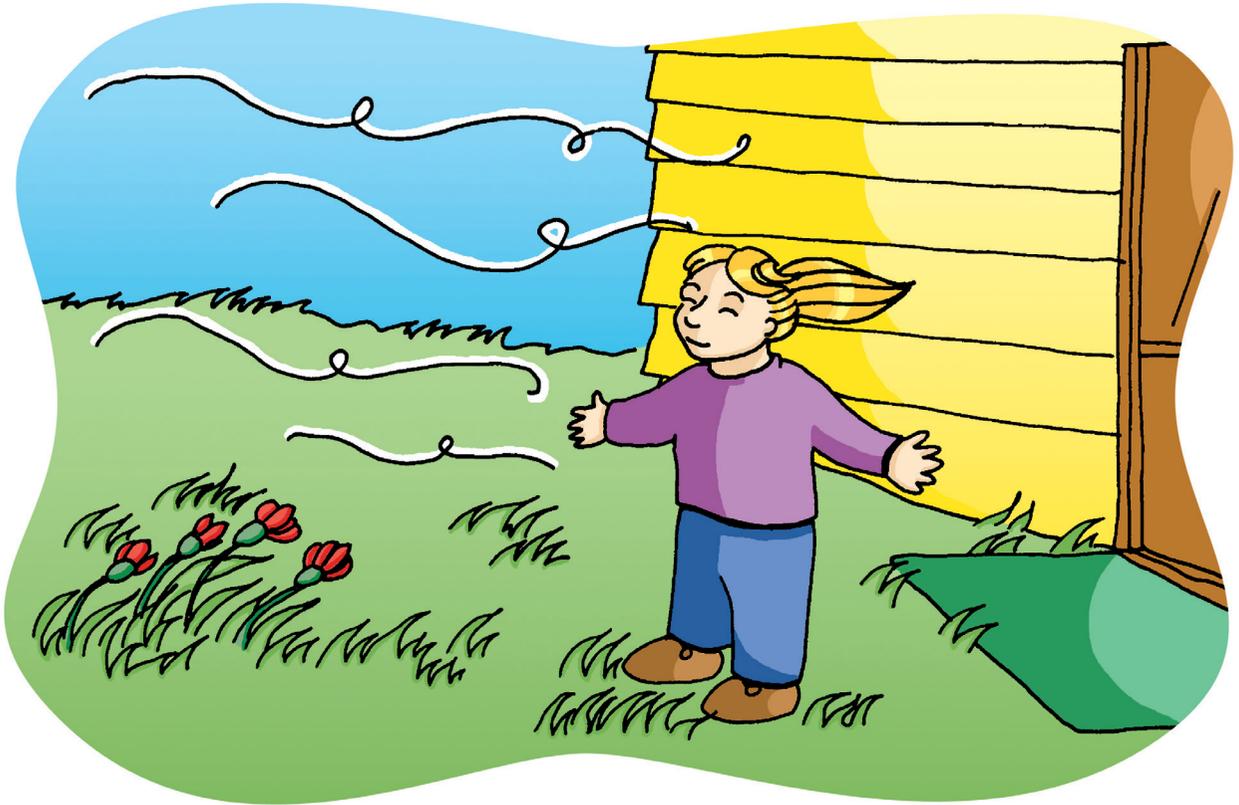
Practice reading these sentences.

It is March. It is kite time.

Fran said, "Feel the wind? It chases kites
up, up, up!"

"Yes," said Steve. "I like chasing kites."

One day the weather started to warm up, and the snow melted. A strong March wind began to blow.



Fran raced outside. She stuck up her chin and felt the strong wind.

She saw the trees shake.

“Yes!” she cheered. “It’s kite time!”

She ran back inside to get Steve.

Fran was really excited. She helped her little brother Steve put on his jacket and cap. "Where are we going? What are we doing?" asked Steve. "You'll see," said Fran.



Fran grabbed a kite and they ran outside.

Fran led Steve to an open space.

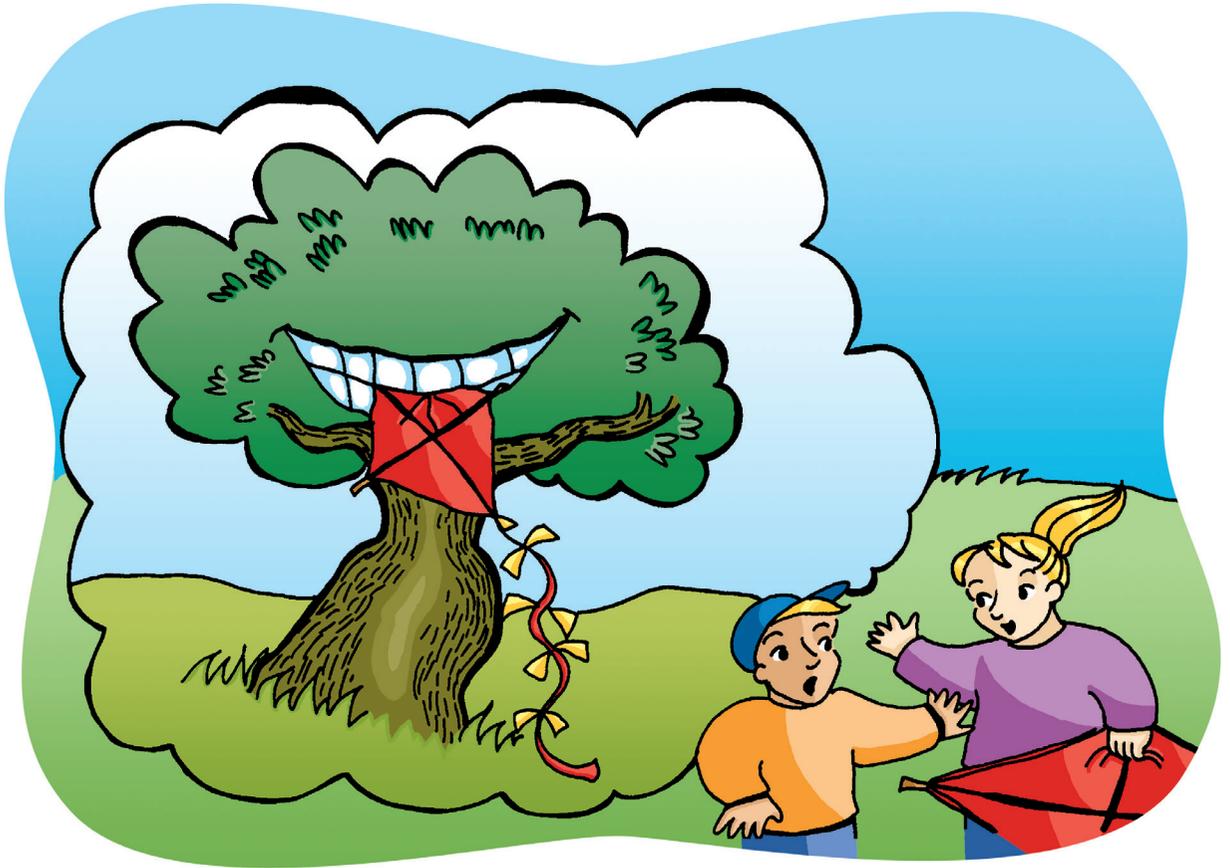
She said, "It is March."

"March?" asked Steve. "O.K. I can march."

He marched to a tree and back.



Fran said, “No, I mean March is a time to fly kites.
Feel the wind? It chases kites up, up, up!”
Steve clapped and cheered, “Yes! I like chasing kites!”



Fran said, “We cannot let the kite land in a tree. Trees eat kites.”

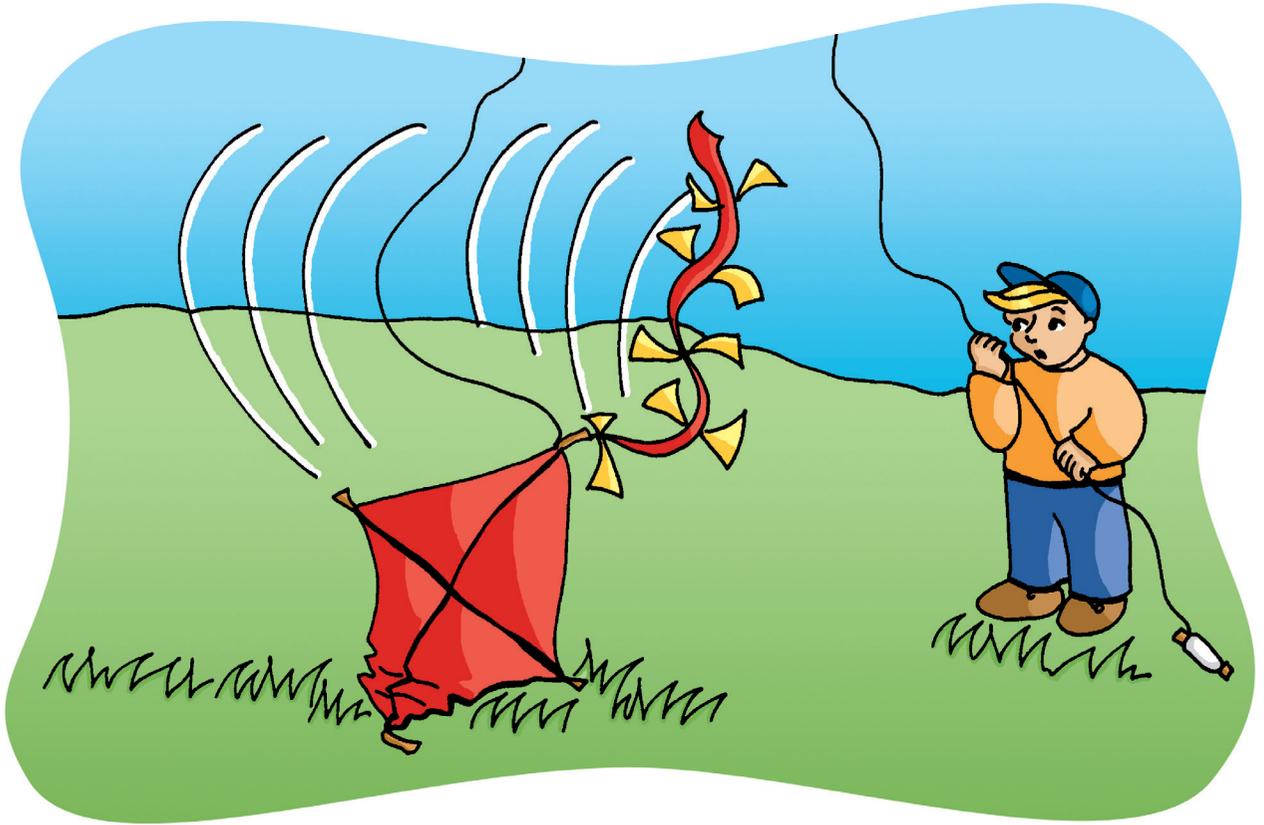
Steve stared at Fran. “Trees EAT kites?” he asked. “Do you mean a tree can chomp up a kite and spit it out?”



Fran grinned and said, “That is not what I mean, silly! Just don’t let the kite near a tree.”

She held the kite string and ran. The kite flew up and up! Steve cheered.

“Here,” said Fran. She gave the kite to Steve.



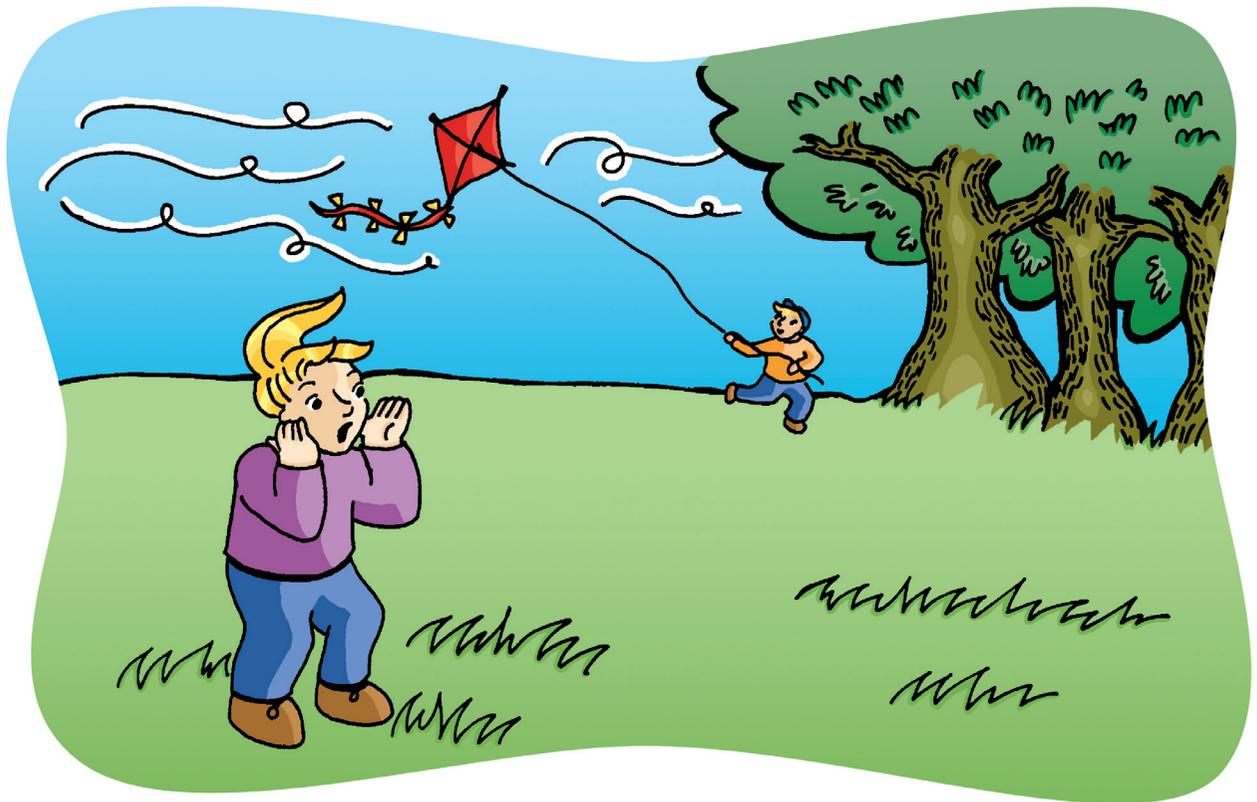
Fran said, "Run as fast as you can."

Steve held the string and ran fast.

The kite flew up! Steve stopped running to watch the kite fly.

CRUNCH! The kite fell. Steve was sad.

“Try again, Steve,” said Fran. “Try again.”

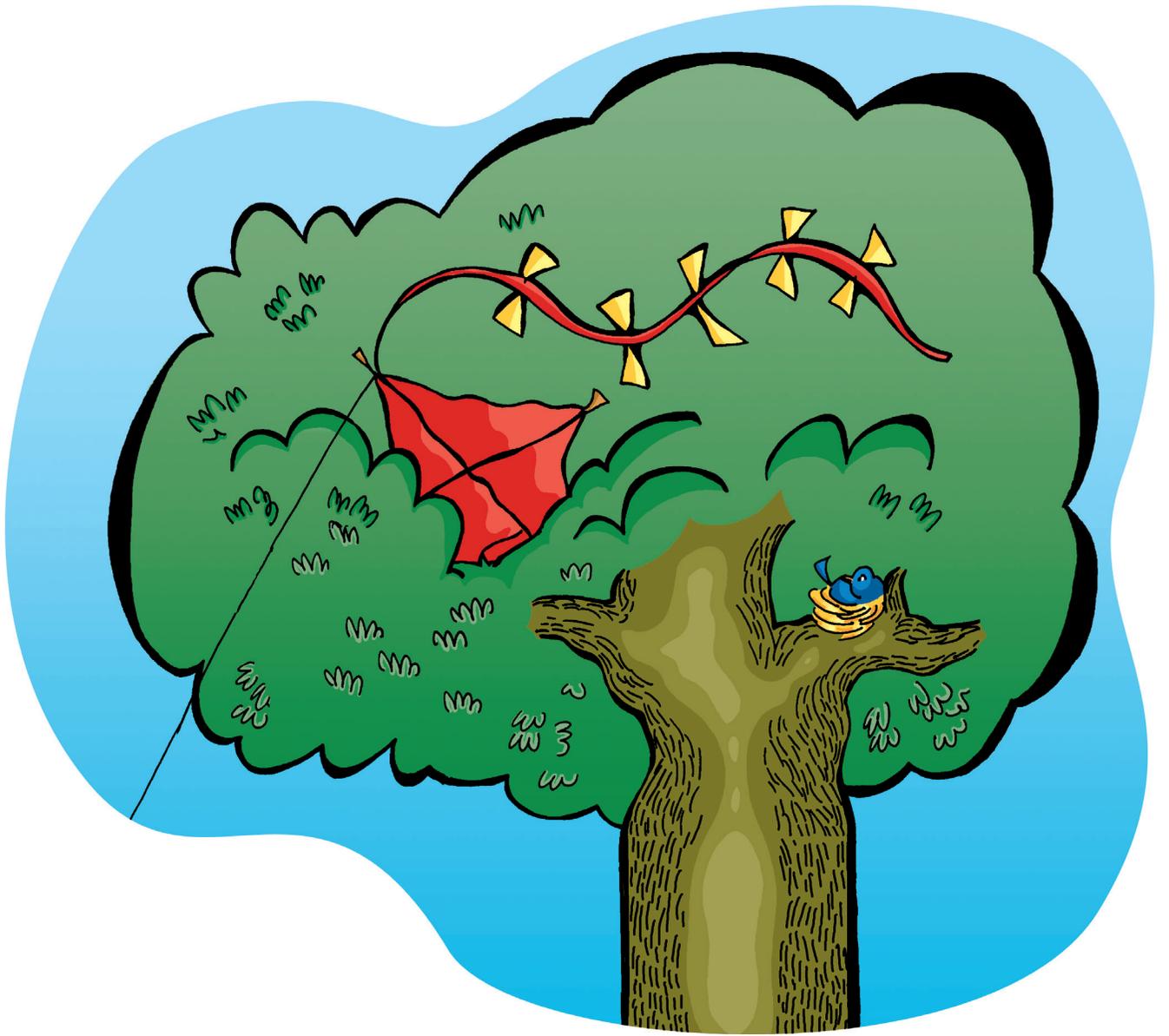


Steve picked up the string and ran fast.
The wind chased the kite up, up, up! Steve ran
near the trees.

“No! Not near the trees!” yelled Fran.



Steve did not hear Fran yell. He kept on running!
CRUNCH! The kite smashed into the top of a tree.
“Oh, no!” screamed Steve. “The tree is eating the kite!
Fran, HELP!”





Steve jumped up and down.
“Bad, bad tree!” yelled Steve. “Stop eating my kite!
Help, Fran! I cannot reach the kite. The tree is
eating it.”



Fran patted Steve on the back. She said, “Steve, it was just a joke. The kite is stuck in the tree. We can get it out. I can reach the string.” Fran tugged and tugged at the string until the kite was free. Steve was so glad! He clapped and cheered.

Fran led Steve away from the trees. They tried again. She held his hand and ran with him as he held onto the string.



Steve held the kite string and Fran held Steve's hand.
Fran and Steve ran and the kite flew up, up, up.

1. Why was Fran glad it was March?

2. What happened when Steve tried to fly his kite?

3. How did the kite get stuck in the tree?

4. Why was Steve mad at the tree?

5. How did Fran get the kite back?

Reading Roots, Level 3

Did That Tree Eat My Kite?

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Success for All Foundation is a nonprofit education reform organization that develops and disseminates research-based reading and math programs for students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary and middle schools. These programs were originally developed at Johns Hopkins University.

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