

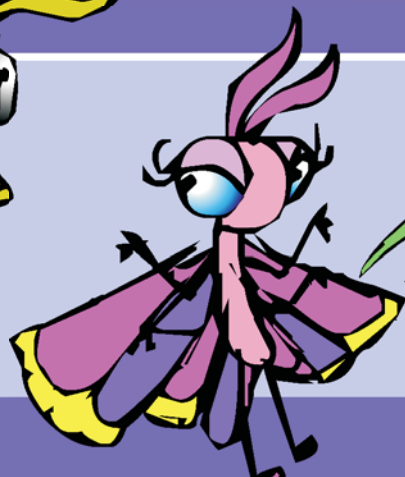
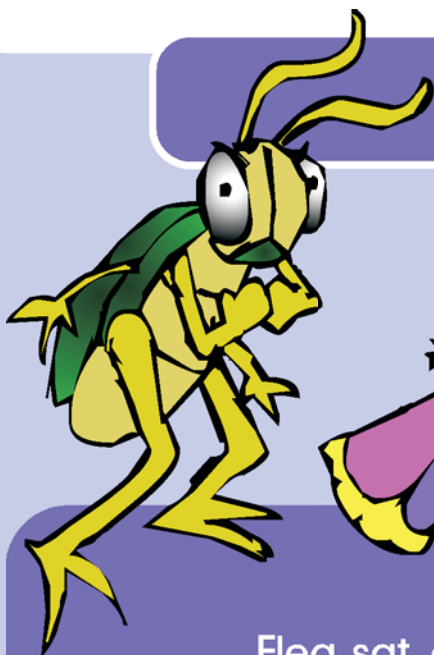


10



Fastest, smartest flea

Gardens and bugs



Flea sat quietly on Ratty's ear and watched the insects squabbling ... again!

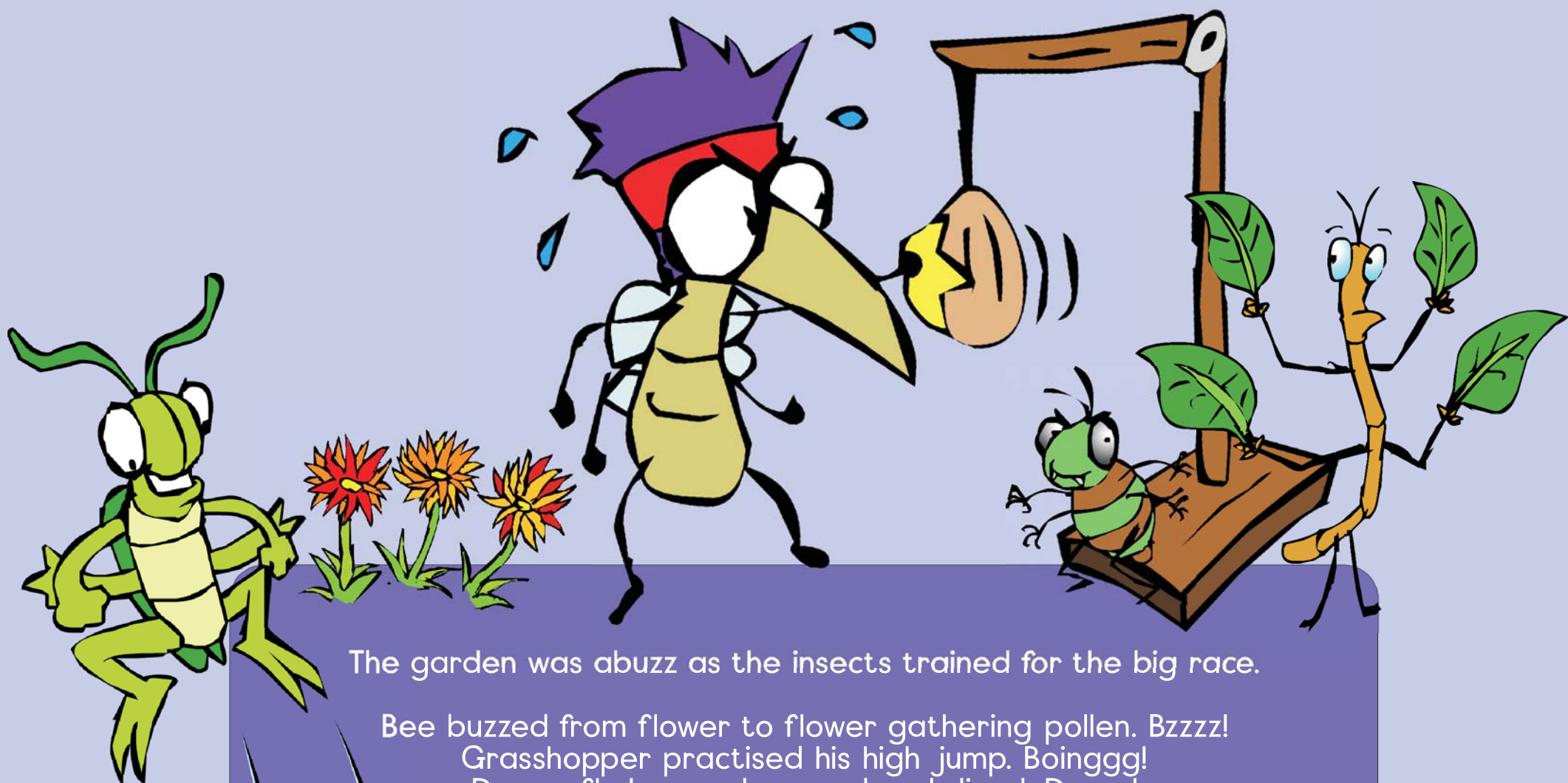
"I'm the fastest," groaned Grasshopper.

"Impossible!" droned Dragonfly. "Everyone knows I'm fastest."

"Ridiculous, I'm the fastest," buzzed Bee.

"A race," suggested Flea. "Let's have a race!"





The garden was abuzz as the insects trained for the big race.

Bee buzzed from flower to flower gathering pollen. Bzzzz!
Grasshopper practised his high jump. Boinggg!
Dragonfly hovered, soared and dived. Drrrrr!



Race day arrived! The garden was dizzy with excitement. Everyone was there.

Bang!

"And they're away ... Butterfly is in the lead ..." announced Centipede.

Wasp stung Butterfly.

"And Wasp takes the lead ... but what's that?" continued Centipede. "Bee has left the race!"

Bee could just not resist the honeysuckle.

"It's neck and neck ... Wasp and Dragonfly to the finish line," Centipede's voice bellowed.

Dragonfly pushed Wasp. Wasp pushed back. Shove. Push. Bump!

Flea, who was sleeping under Dragonfly's wing, woke up with a jolt. He jumped to get away from the fight ... and over the winning line he flew!

"Yay!" cheered the crowd.

"And the winner is Flea," announced Centipede.

And that's how Flea became the fastest insect in the garden.

