

Bringing  
Down <sup>the</sup>  
Moon



Jonathan Emmett illustrated by Vanessa Cabban

### Modeling Concepts of Print

- Identify the title page for children. Review that the title page also has the name of the author and illustrator.
- Review with children that each word written in a book matches a word you read. Point to each word in the first sentence on page 4 as you say each word slowly.
- Review with children that sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a punctuation mark. On page 26 have children point out the capital letter and punctuation mark in the second and third sentences.

[www.mhonline.com/readingwonders](http://www.mhonline.com/readingwonders)



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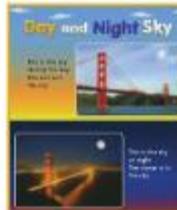
**Bringing Down the Moon . . . 4**

**Fantasy**

by Jonathan Emmett

illustrated by Vanessa Cabban

### Paired read



**Day and Night Sky . . . . . 29**

**Informational Text: Science**





To my son Max, for the use of his tree - J.E.  
For Humphrey - V.C.



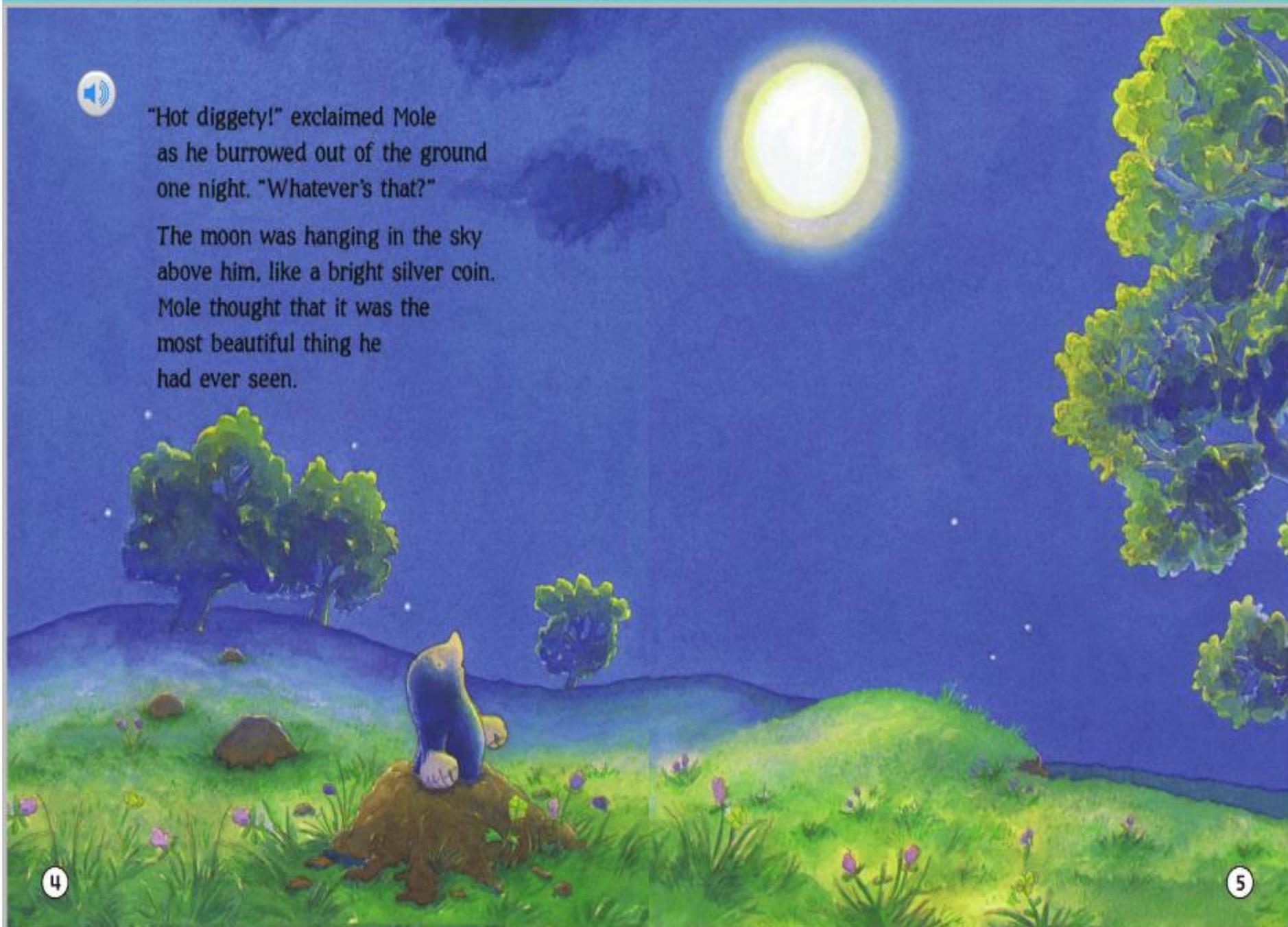
# Bringing Down<sup>the</sup> Moon

Jonathan Emmett *illustrated by* Vanessa Cabban



"Hot diggety!" exclaimed Mole as he burrowed out of the ground one night. "Whatever's that?"

The moon was hanging in the sky above him, like a bright silver coin. Mole thought that it was the most beautiful thing he had ever seen.





"Whatever it is,  
I must have it."  
Mole said to  
himself.  
"I know. I'll  
jump up and  
pull it down."

THUMP  
THUMP!



THUMPETY  
BUMP!



Mole was so busy  
jumping he didn't  
think about the  
noise he was  
making, and  
he woke up  
Rabbit in her  
burrow.





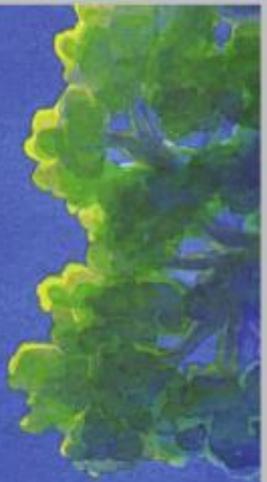
"Mole!" said Rabbit. "What on earth do you think you're doing?"

"Hello, Rabbit," said Mole. "I'm trying to pull down that shiny thing."

"You mean the moon?" asked Rabbit.

"So that's what it's called," said Mole.

"You'll never do that," said Rabbit. "It's not as close as it looks."





But Mole would not give up. "I know," he thought. "I'll get a stick and poke it down." He found a long stick and poked it up at the moon.

SWISH  
SWISH!

SWISHETY  
SWISH!



Mole was so busy poking that he tripped over Hedgehog in his bed of leaves.



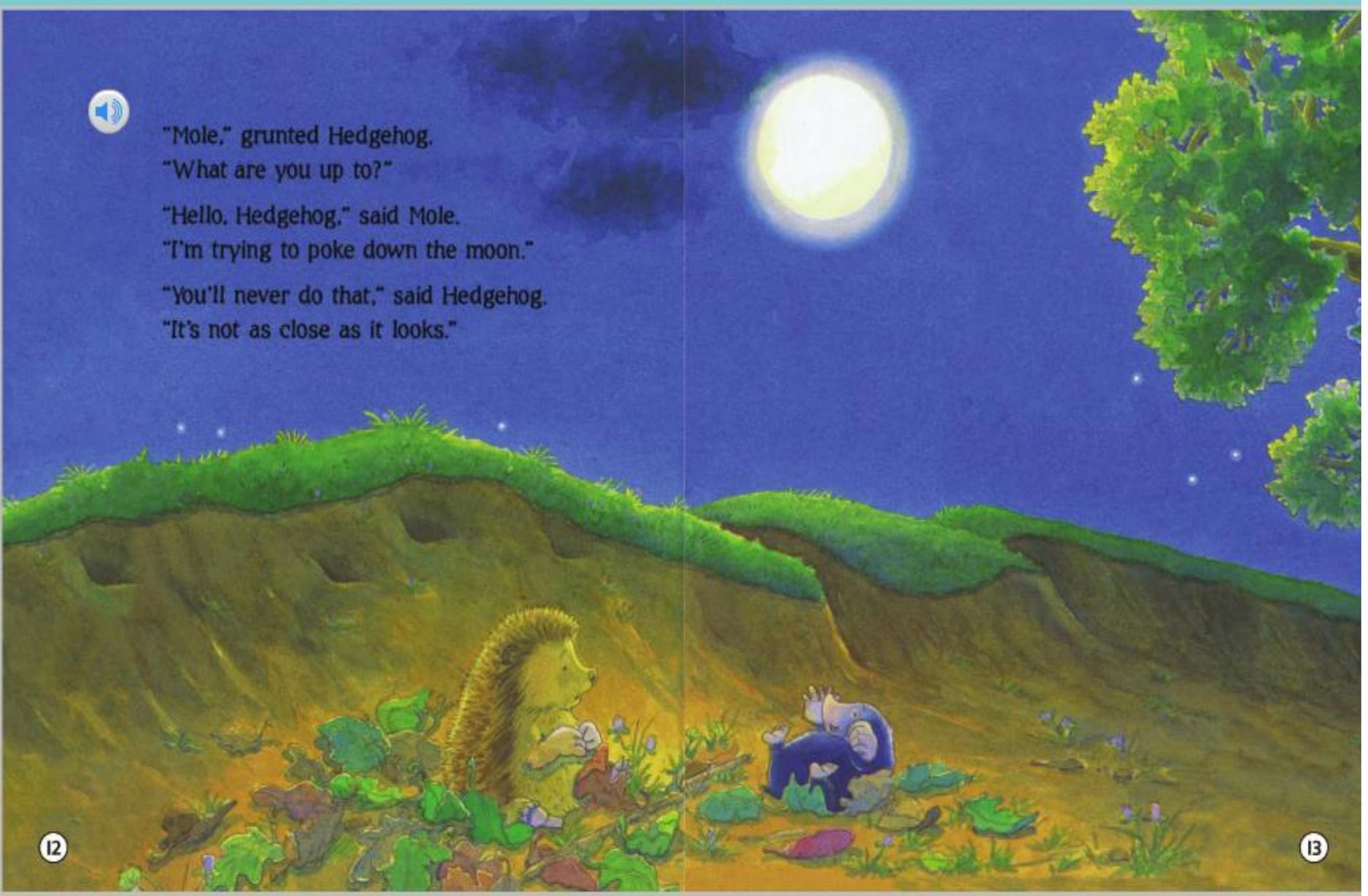
"Mole," grunted Hedgehog.  
"What are you up to?"

"Hello, Hedgehog," said Mole.  
"I'm trying to poke down the moon."

"You'll never do that," said Hedgehog.  
"It's not as close as it looks."

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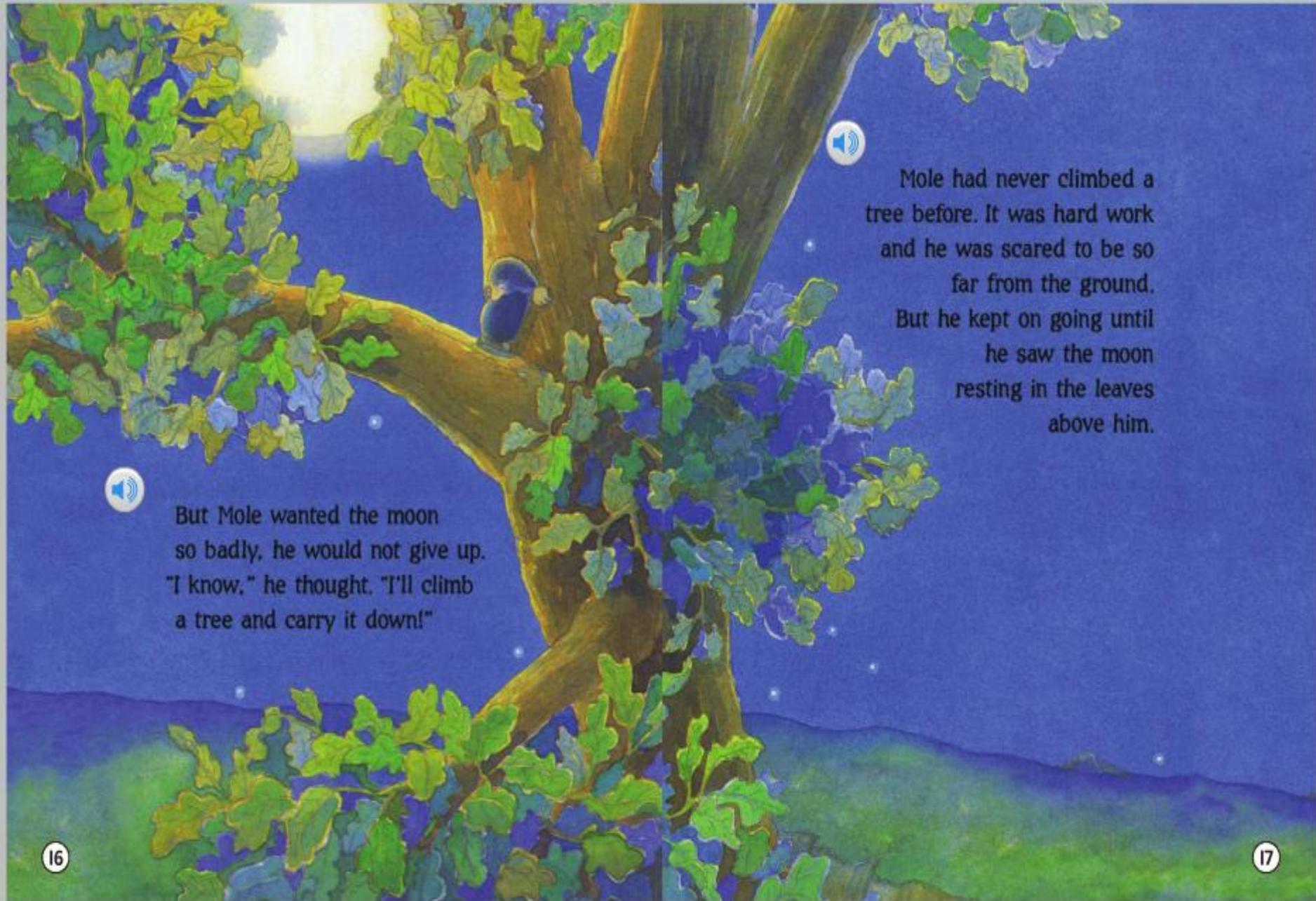


But Mole would not give up.  
"I know," he thought. "I'll throw  
something at it and knock it down."  
He found some acorns and threw  
them at the moon.

PLINK PLINK!  
PLINKETY PLINK!



"Ouch!"  
said Squirrel.  
"Mole, have you gone nuts?"  
"Hello, Squirrel," said Mole.  
"I'm trying to knock down the moon."  
"You'll never do that," said Squirrel.  
"It's not as close as it looks."



But Mole wanted the moon so badly, he would not give up. "I know," he thought. "I'll climb a tree and carry it down!"



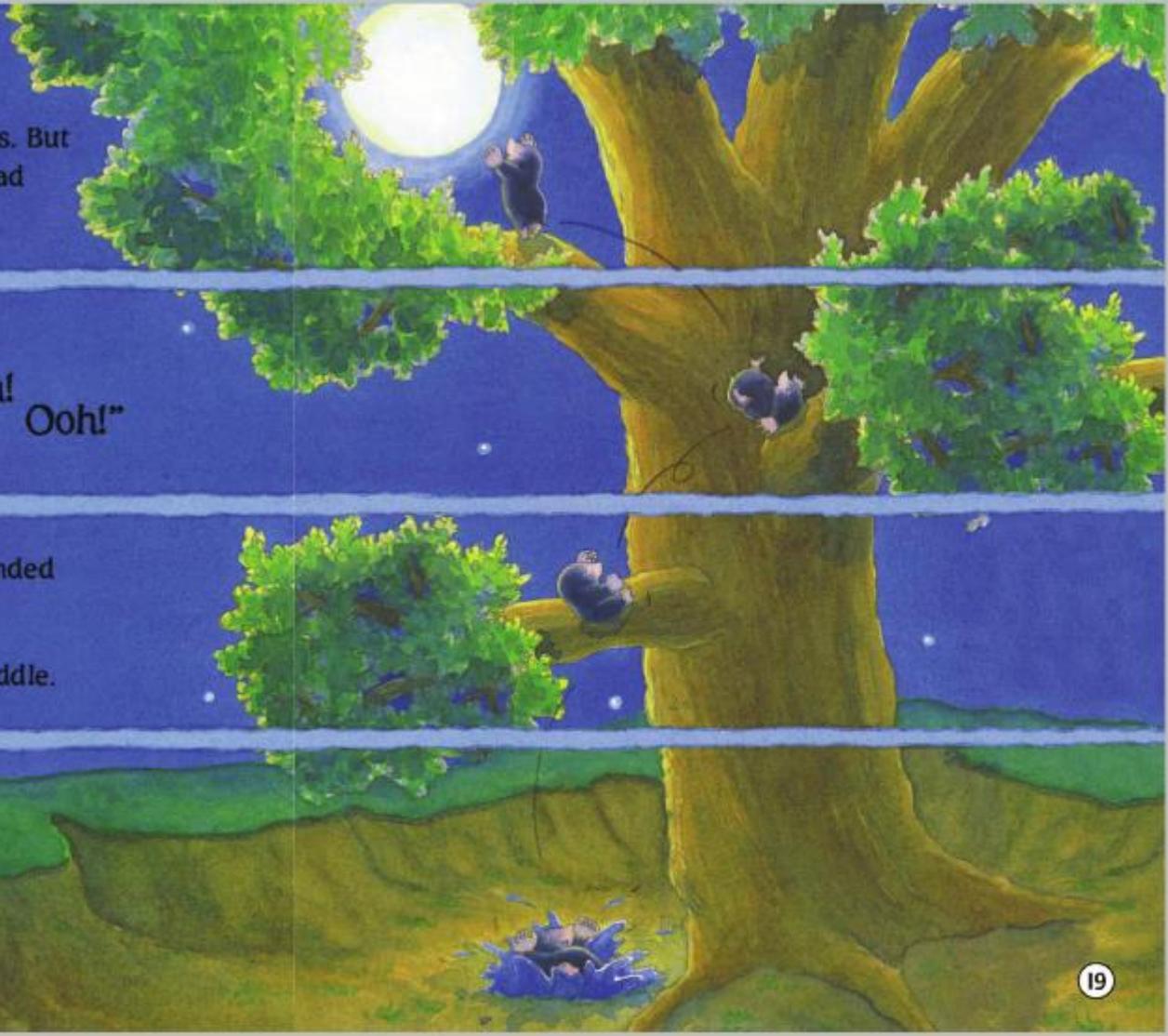
Mole had never climbed a tree before. It was hard work and he was scared to be so far from the ground. But he kept on going until he saw the moon resting in the leaves above him.



Mole stretched out his paws. But just when he thought he had the moon . . . he slipped!

“Oh!  
Eeek! Ouch!  
Ooh!”

Mole tumbled down and landed  
**SPLASH!**  
in the middle of a puddle.





"Hot diggety drat!"  
thought Mole. "I almost had it that time."  
Then he noticed something  
floating in the puddle beside him.  
It was pale and wrinkled,  
but Mole recognized  
it at once.



"The moon," whispered Mole.  
"It must have fallen down with me."  
He reached out to pick up the moon.  
But as soon as he touched it,  
it broke into pieces  
and vanished.

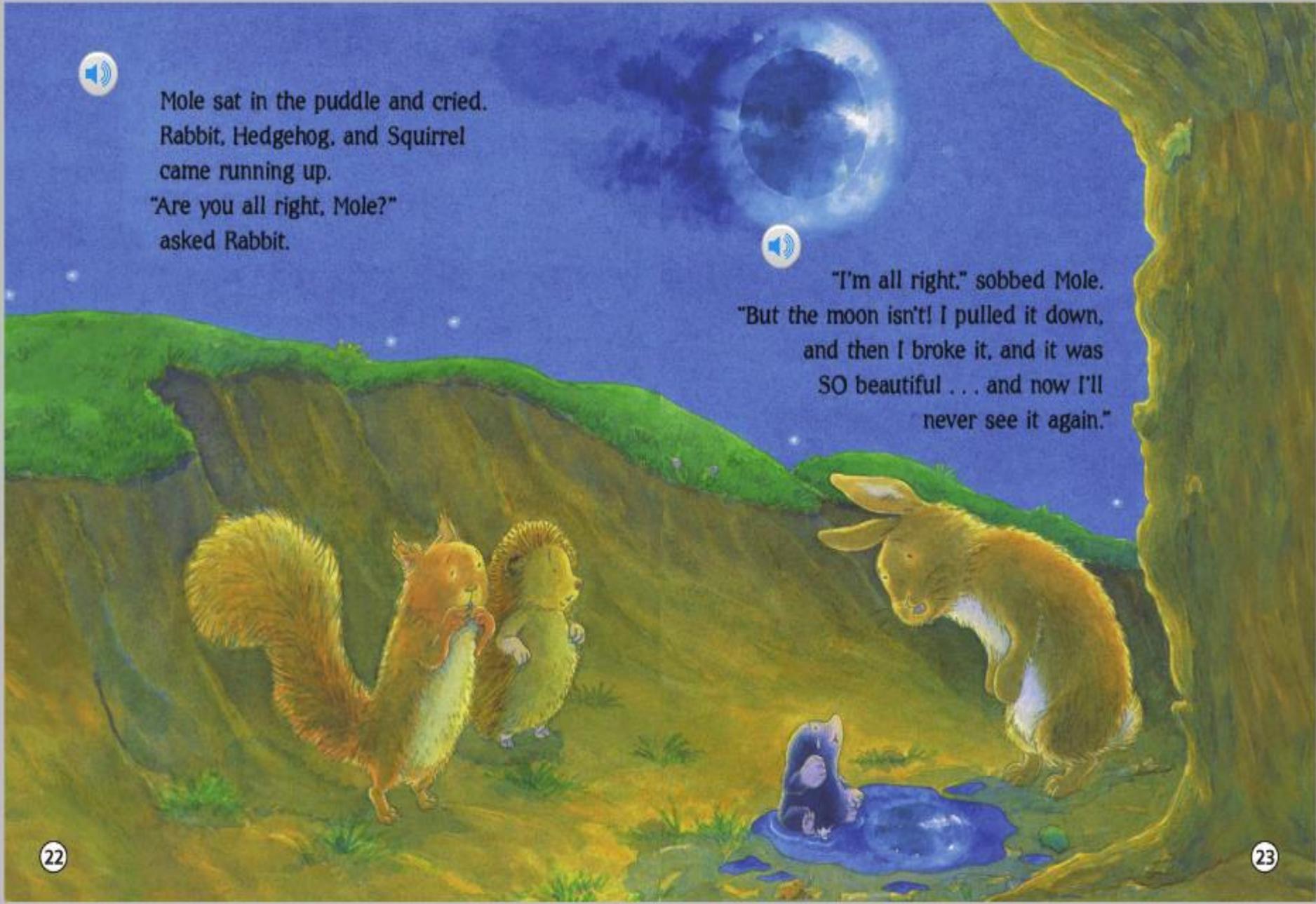


Mole sat in the puddle and cried.  
Rabbit, Hedgehog, and Squirrel  
came running up.

"Are you all right, Mole?"  
asked Rabbit.



"I'm all right," sobbed Mole.  
"But the moon isn't! I pulled it down,  
and then I broke it, and it was  
SO beautiful . . . and now I'll  
never see it again."





"Oh, Mole," said Rabbit.  
"you couldn't have pulled down the moon."  
"And you couldn't have broken it,"  
said Hedgehog.  
"And you'll certainly see it again,"  
said Squirrel. "Look!"  
High up in the sky above them, the moon  
was coming out from behind a cloud.  
"Oh," whispered Mole, "and it's  
just as beautiful as ever."





Mole, Rabbit, Hedgehog, and Squirrel stood and stared up at the moon together.

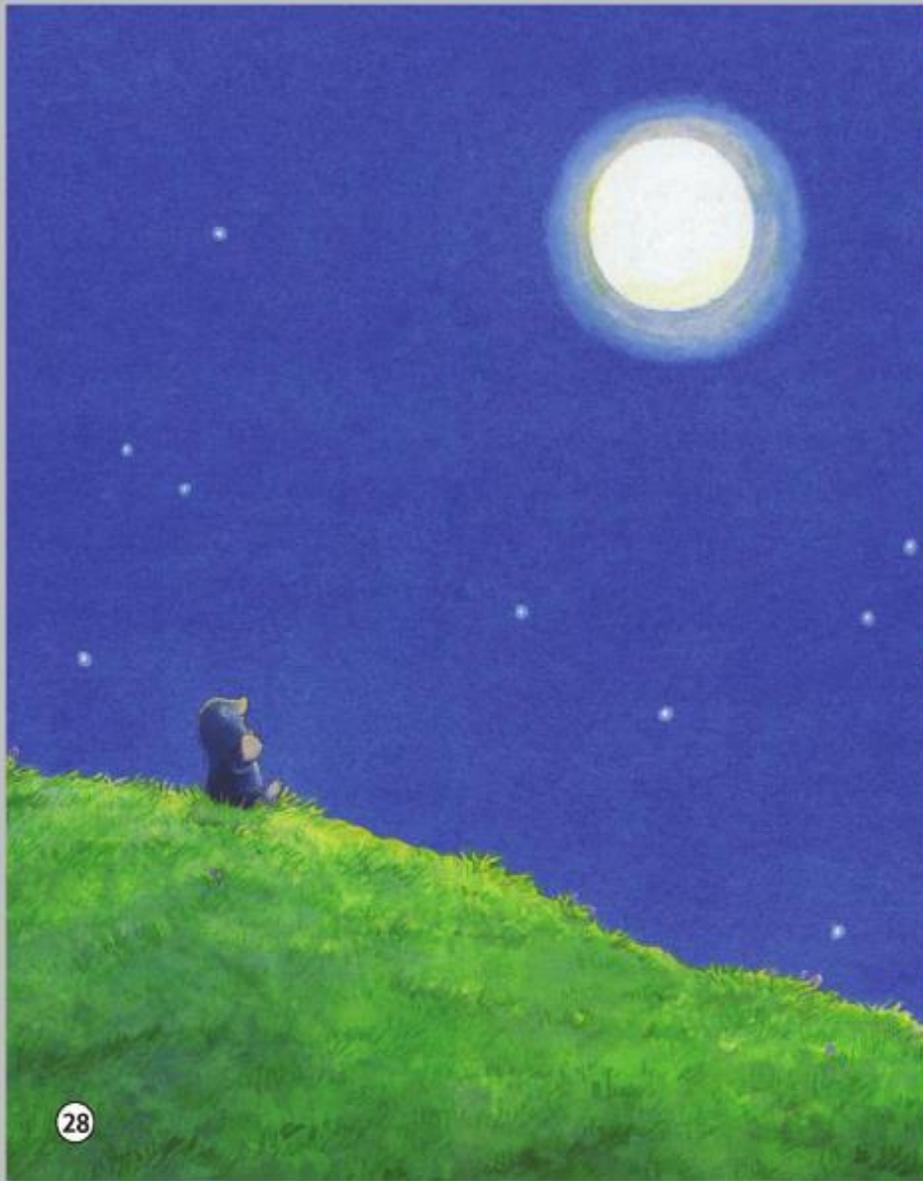
"It is beautiful," said Rabbit.

"Very beautiful!" said Hedgehog.

"Very beautiful indeed!"  
said Squirrel.



"Yes."  
said Mole.  
"But it's NOT  
as close as  
it looks!"



# Day and Night Sky

This is the sky during the day.  
The Sun is in the sky.



This is the sky at night.  
The Moon is in the sky.



## Daytime

The Sun rises in the morning and sets at night.  
The Sun is very hot and bright.  
It looks like a giant fireball.  
Be careful never to look straight at the Sun!

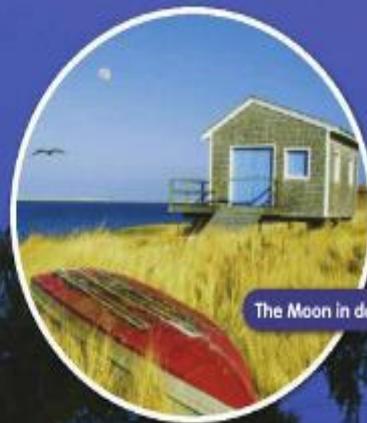


## Nighttime

The Moon looks different at different times of the month.  
The Moon can look like a thin crescent.  
At another time, it can look full and round.  
Sometimes you can even see the Moon during the day.



Crescent moon



The Moon in daytime



## The Stars

The Sun is a star.  
It looks big because it is  
the closest star to Earth.  
There are other stars we  
see only at night.  
These stars are very far  
away from Earth.

We are always looking for new stars.  
Maybe one day you will discover one!



### Respond to Reading

Show the **Big Book** and prompt children to retell the story in their own words.

Ask children:

- What are some ways Mole tries to pull down the moon?
- Where was the moon when Mole thought he broke it?
- In the end, what does Mole finally realize about the moon?

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#### About the Author: Jonathan Emmett

Jonathan Emmett loved books from an early age. Some of his fondest memories were going to the library to pick out his favorite books. He started making his own books in college. He was there to learn how to be an architect, but he discovered that he liked being an author even better.

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#### About the Illustrator: Vanessa Cabban

Vanessa Cabban has illustrated more than 25 books, which have been published in 23 countries. She also spends her time working on her paintings and sculptures. She does not always work alone. She has two dogs named Elle and Douglas who often keep her company.



Education

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