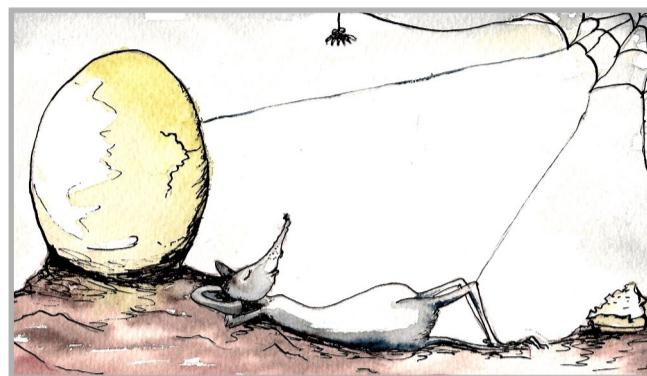


A New Home

1

Fearful of being seen, Clifford scurried off to the right of Front Door, there before him loomed a large rocky cave. Too big to hide in, he thought. To the left of the cave, he saw two small openings in a wall of what looked a little like a chimney breast. Pulling himself and the heavy load through some burnt sticks and piles of ash, he made his way up from the first opening to the second. The walls around him felt warm and there were little pieces of charred bread scattered around ready for eating, just like the ones he ate when they lived at Old Boot. Although a bit smelly, this, he thought would make a perfect home for him and Egg. Clifford was warm and cosy and full of breadcrumbs. Outside is not such a frightening place he felt in his heart, as he dreamily drifted off to sleep.



Tsi-tsi-sirrr! Mouse woke to a strange singing sound. There in the entrance stood a small creature with two thin twig-like legs and clawed feet, a hard pointy mouth that opened as it sang, a blue capped head, yellow chest and two dark round shiny eyes. As Clifford sat up, it gently drew out two large flaps and took off into the sky.

"Stop!" yelled Clifford, this must be the flying creature grandpa was telling us about, it will know what to do with Egg. Clifford set off running after it, leaving Egg safely behind.



1. Name the creature above, what does it like to eat?

Imagine who might live in the rocky cave? Give them a name and describe what he/she might look like.



Beyond Park Bench

2

Clifford was so busy following the flying creature, he didn't see the iron bench ahead, bump! Tears trickled down his furry face. Picking himself up, he clambered onto the bench to take a rest. "Oh No!" he panted loudly as the flying creature disappeared high, high up into the blue.



From the bench Clifford could see all of Outside. He had never seen anything quite like it. Above him was a blue ceiling full of white puffs, a green carpet spilled out before him filled with green plants and trees, similar to those in Mr Butterfield's glasshouses but much bigger. Flowers like the silks on the castle's walls sat watching him but these he could actually touch. Sweet smells filled his nose, his ears and eyes twitched with the sounds and colours around him. In the distance, he could see a large eye-shaped pond and two elegant fountains, just like those inside the castle glasshouses but far grander. Despite his painful face, Outside made him tingle with excitement. He felt bigger, more alive and happier than he had ever before.

Breaking through the calm appeared a sound he had never heard before Teck, teck, teck! He turned his head, there sat next to him was another flying creature but this one was smaller than the one before, it was flecked brown with a tippy up tail. Looking at him, the creature flew up into the blue above. "Stop!" squeaked Clifford loudly, he leapt off the bench and chased after the creature along the path.

2. Name the creature shown above, what is its nest made of?

Imagine you are Clifford looking out from Park Bench. Name 15 things that you might see, smell and/or hear.



Clifford gets Burnt

4

I am lost, thought Clifford arriving at the avenue of trees. He felt lonely for the first time since leaving the castle. Just then, another flying creature landed close by, black with twiggy legs and a hard pointy orange mouth, it picked up a worm from the ground and flew to a bush close by, Clifford followed and there, hidden amongst the leaves of a rhododendron bush, he saw a collection of sticks and grass sewn together with hair, inside were two small heads, babies.



"Yes!" whispered Clifford, I must build myself a house. Feeling better he set about gathering sticks and green things. It took him all day to complete, he even managed to make a small bed from rabbit fur. Happily, he licked some water off a leaf and set to finding food. Picking up a small hard brown spiky shell, he broke it open with his teeth, inside sat three small triangular nuts. He popped them in his mouth, delicious. Clifford retired to no. 2, Tree Avenue and settled down for the night. Days, months or maybe even years passed whilst Clifford lived happily in his little house.



But one night, the creature that Clifford had seen long ago opened up its huge wings and took flight. It glided above the castle, hungrily it sniffed the air.

Following a scent it dived towards the ground, down, down through the trees it landed next to Clifford's little house of sticks. The terrifying creature took one deep breath and blew hot orange flames over the little house, it burst into a ball of fire, Clifford's tail caught light, he woke up squealing and ran for his life further down the path. The enormous creature chased after him, it got closer and closer.

3. Name the creature shown above, what colour is the female?



Pick up leaves, twigs, nuts, shells and grass and build a small house for Clifford to live in.

The dragon and the mouse talked as they set off along the path. Smok, the dragon, explained his great sadness that people had always wanted to hunt dragons. He told Clifford of his dream of being accepted by people for being a dragon but didn't know if this could ever happen. Clifford told Smok of the rich family that lived inside Cliffe Castle and his adventures there, the arrival of Egg and how he now lives Outside off the land around him and how excited and happy it makes him feel, despite missing his family. Smok and Clifford soon became friends. Spotting a pond, they went to have a closer look.



Legend says that dragons turned into dragonflies. Find some natural things and make some dragonfly art.

The Fire is Lit

3

Just as he turned the corner of the castle, he tripped over a small snail crossing the path. Flying head over heels into the air, he rolled off the path and hit his head on a small stone Thump! He fell into a deep sleep...

The light disappeared and the pale blue above turned an inky black, the clicking of crickets' legs rubbing together filled the air. Egg was resting as Egg had done for many hundreds of years. Below, a fire was being lit ready to bake bread in the outdoor oven. Hotter and hotter burned the fire. Night came and went and the embers still glowed. Pieces of golden shell lay broken amongst the charred bread crumbs. There was no sign of what had been inside.

When Clifford woke up from his long sleep, stretching and yawning he found himself gazing upwards towards the castle roof. "Yikes!" screeched Clifford, he trembled with fear.



Something very big with green eyes, spiked wings, large flaring nostrils and a long thick spiked tail was perched high up on the castle roof, it was looking out into the distance. Clifford quickly camouflaged himself with leaves to hide himself from the terrifying creature.

He waited for a while. The creature wasn't moving so Clifford sneaked away scampering along the path as fast as his little legs could carry him until he reached an avenue of trees.



Camouflage yourself under leaves or behind bushes or trees. Challenge someone to see or find you.

The Magic Cups

6

Reaching the pond, the friends sat quietly together. "Did you know that for dragons a pond is a magical gateway to Dragon Kingdom," said Smok knowingly. Remembering this, Smok rose unexpectedly into the air and dived deep into the water making a loud splash! He returned, some time later, holding a magnificent golden cup. "Anyone who drinks from this cup will be a King forever," declared Smok.



Clifford grabbed the cup put it to his lips and drank, glug, glug, glug! How exciting I will be King of the castle, the mouse thought to himself. Soon he started to grow and grow until he towered over Smok. For the first time in his life the dragon felt scared. I feel so big and powerful thought Clifford so he snapped at Smok "Find me food, clean this, do that," he ordered until the helpless dragon felt tired and cross.

"Stop! I am doing my best but nothing seems to please you!" shrieked Smok exhausted. With that he dived back into the pond and emerged some time later clasping a very simple cup. "Here I hold the Cup of Plenty," announced Smok. "Drink this and your every need will be met," he smirked. Impressed again, Clifford drank. Smaller and smaller he shrunk until he was small again. "What happened?" he asked. "The Cup of Plenty decided you had had enough, it shrunk you back down to size!" chuckled Smok. "Goodness, you know even though I had everything I had ever wanted, I never felt truly satisfied," Clifford explained. Leaving the pond behind them, they walked on further.



What pond life can you spot here? Then look deeply into the pond, what might your Dragon Kingdom look like?

