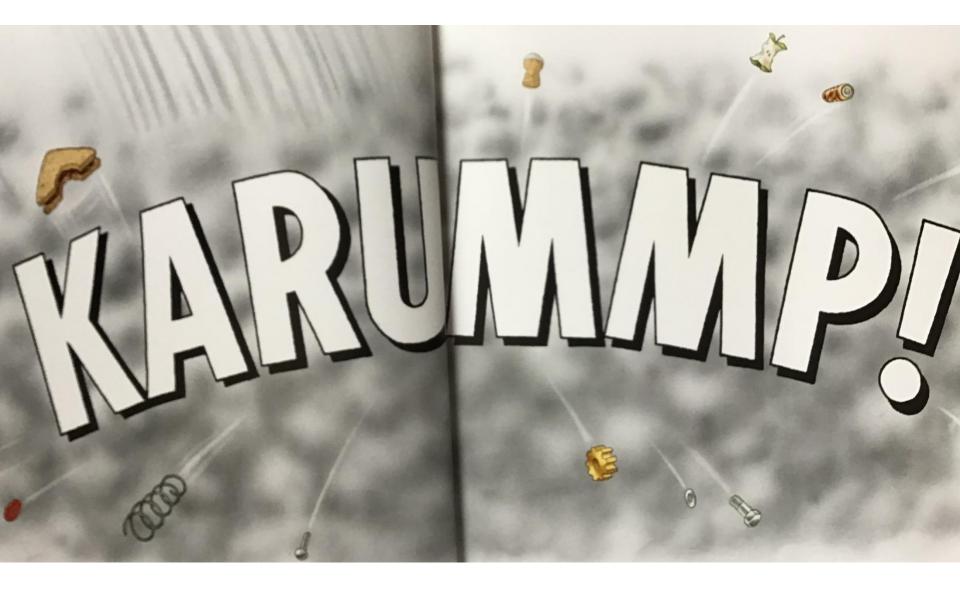


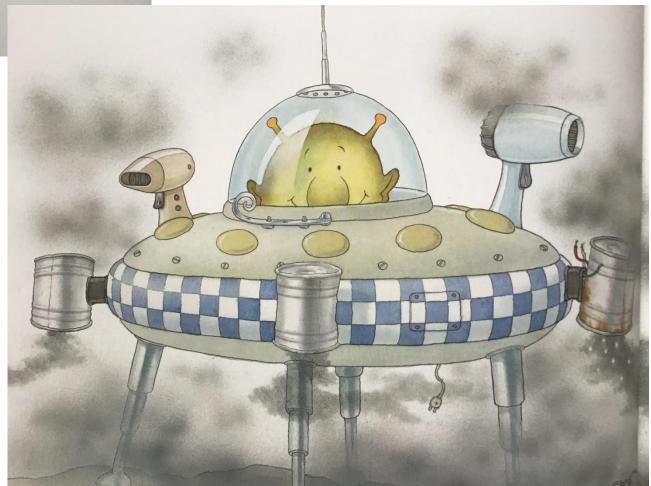
QPootle 5 NICK BUTTERWORTH

C.





Q Pootle 5 has landed. He has come to earth. But earth is not where Q Pootle 5 wants to be. He is on his way to a moon party for his friend Z Pootle 6, but something has gone wrong.



Q Pootle 5 has a problem with his spaceship. One of the rocket boosters won't boost. The spaceship won't fly. Q Pootle 5 looks carefully at the rocket booster.

"Hmm," he says. He thinks he knows what is wrong with it. "It's just as I thought," he says. "It's broken." The spaceship needs a new rocket booster. But where on earth can he find one?

Ah! Here comes an earthling. Perhaps he knows. He looks friendly and he is a nice colour. Green.

"Please can you help?" says Q Pootle 5. "I need a rocket booster." The earthling can't help. He doesn't even know what a rocket booster is. Never mind. Here come some more earthlings. Perhaps they can help. "Excuse me," says Q Pootle 5. "Do you know where I can find a new rocket booster?" The earthlings think very hard.

"No," says the first one. "Sorry." "We don't use rocket boosters," says the second.

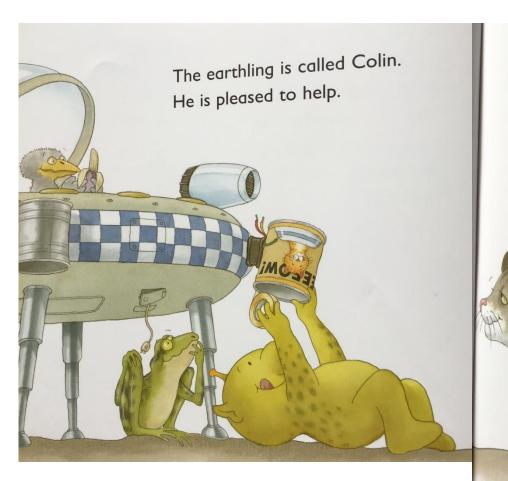
"We're birds," says the third earthling. "Oh dear," says Q Pootle 5. "I'm going to be late for the party."



But here comes another earthling. And look! The earthling is carrying a rocket booster! What luck.

> "Please," says Q Pootle 5, "can you help me?"

He tells the earthling about his spaceship and how it won't fly without a new rocket booster. "You can have this one," the earthling says. "As soon as I finish my dinner."

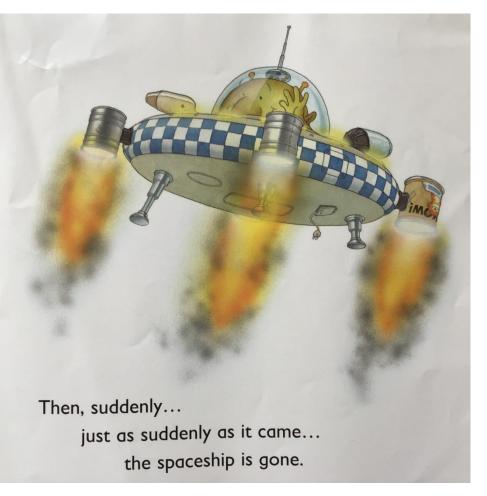


As soon as Colin has finished his dinner, Q Pootle 5 fixes the new rocket booster onto the spaceship. Q Pootle 5 climbs into his spaceship. He presses the starter button, but nothing happens. "Oh, beeebotherboootle!" says Q Pootle 5. "I'm going to be late and Z Pootle 6 will be upset."



Colin looks carefully at the spaceship. "I'm not very clever with rockets," he says, "but I think I can see the problem." Colin knows why the spaceship won't fly. "Can you pass me a spoon?" he says. "There's a bit of my dinner stuck in your rocket booster." Now the rocket booster is clear. Q Pootle 5 presses the starter button. There is a rumbling sound, then a BANG! followed by a funny smell that smells a bit like Colin's dinner... only cooked. Q Pootle 5 pushes the starter button again. Hooray! The spaceship whooshes up into the air. Q Pootle 5 waves goodbye to Colin and the birds and the green earthling. And they wave back.







Goodbye, Q Pootle 5. Enjoy the moon party!







<u>Answer the following questions</u> about the Q Pootle 5 story

- 1. Can you describe the main events in the story?
- 2. Why did Q Pootle 5's spaceship land on earth?
- 3. Where was Q Pootle 5 supposed to be going?
- 4. What is the problem with Q Pootle 5's spaceship?
- 5. Who helps Q Pootle 5 to fix his rocket? Why can't he help straight away?



Answer the following questions

- 6. What did Colin cat use to fix Q Pootle 5's spaceship and how did he get the rocket booster to work?
- 7. Why will Z Pootle 6 be upset with Q Pootle 5?
- 8. What is the funny smell that everyone can smell when Q Pootle 5 presses the starter button?
- 9. What did they eat at Z Pootle 6's moon party?
- 10. What was your favourite part of the story?