





# Room to Read<sup>®</sup>

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Ou Ou, the little porcupine likes to  
dance, sing, and play.



What he does not like are the sharp spines all over his body, called quills. They get in the way of his fun!





No one else likes them either. At the playground, no one wants to play with him.



At camp, no one wants to share a tent with him. “Don’t sleep with us, Ou Ou,” they complain. “Your quills will poke us.”



One day, a little mouse approaches and says, “Ou Ou, your quills make you special.”





The little mouse wants to help, so he makes a special shirt for Ou Ou to wear.



Ou Ou wears the shirt and goes out to meet the other animals. “Don’t come near us! We are afraid of the sharp quills on your back,” they say. “What quills?” asks Ou Ou. “I don’t have any.”



The other animals laugh, and Ou Ou sees that his quills have pierced through his special new shirt. Feeling sad, Ou Ou goes back to his only friend, the little mouse.



“Don’t worry, my prickly friend, ” the little mouse says. “ I have another idea.”





“What are you doing?” Ou Ou asks.  
“Just wait and see, Ou Ou,” says the  
little mouse.



“Now let’s go and meet the other animals,” the little mouse suggests. Ou Ou is excited to show off his new quills.



Everyone comes over to admire Ou  
Ou's colorful new quills, and soon  
they realize they aren't so scary after  
all. "We're sorry, Ou Ou," they say.





And they all go play together.







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Ou Ou Wants to Have Friends  
(English) Ou Ou likes to sing, dance and play. But he does not like his sharp porcupine spines because no one wants to play with him. A little mouse sees that Ou Ou is a good friend and his spines are not scary. Will the other animals see it too? This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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