

TIGER! TIGER!



by Terry Bell



One day Eddie was walking in the forest. Suddenly he came face-to-face with a tiger. He was so afraid that he turned and ran as fast as he could. He ran back to the village.



He was so afraid that he couldn't speak. As soon as he reached the safety of his village, he found his voice again.

'TIGER! TIGER!' he shouted as loudly as he could.





All the people in the village looked shocked. They had never seen Eddie do anything like this before.

'Whoa! Hold on a minute!' said his father. 'What's the problem?'

'There's a big, fierce tiger in the forest,' replied Eddie. 'It's just outside the village.'

'Are you sure it was a tiger and not a big dog?' asked his father.

'There haven't been any tigers in these parts for many years.'

'Yes,' said Eddie, gasping for breath. 'I saw it with my own eyes.'





So Eddie's father picked up the telephone and called the emergency services.

'Hello, hello! Emergency services? There's a big, fierce tiger just outside the village. Send help immediately!'





After just a few minutes, the emergency service trucks arrived at Eddie's house. There was a police car, a fire-engine, an ambulance, a truck from the zoo and a pick-up with lots of volunteers with spears and other weapons.

'Show us where you saw the tiger!' said the Chief of Police. Eddie and his father rode in the pick-up with the other volunteers.



Imagine how surprised they were when they saw the big, fierce tiger! It wasn't very big, and it wasn't very fierce! It was a tame tiger and it was making a television advertisement.

'Oh dear!' said Eddie's father. 'How embarrassing!'