

Independent reading



Here is part of a story from the book *Winnie-the-Pooh* by A. A. Milne. Winnie-the-Pooh is a bear who likes honey. One day he hears a buzzing noise coming from the top of a tree.

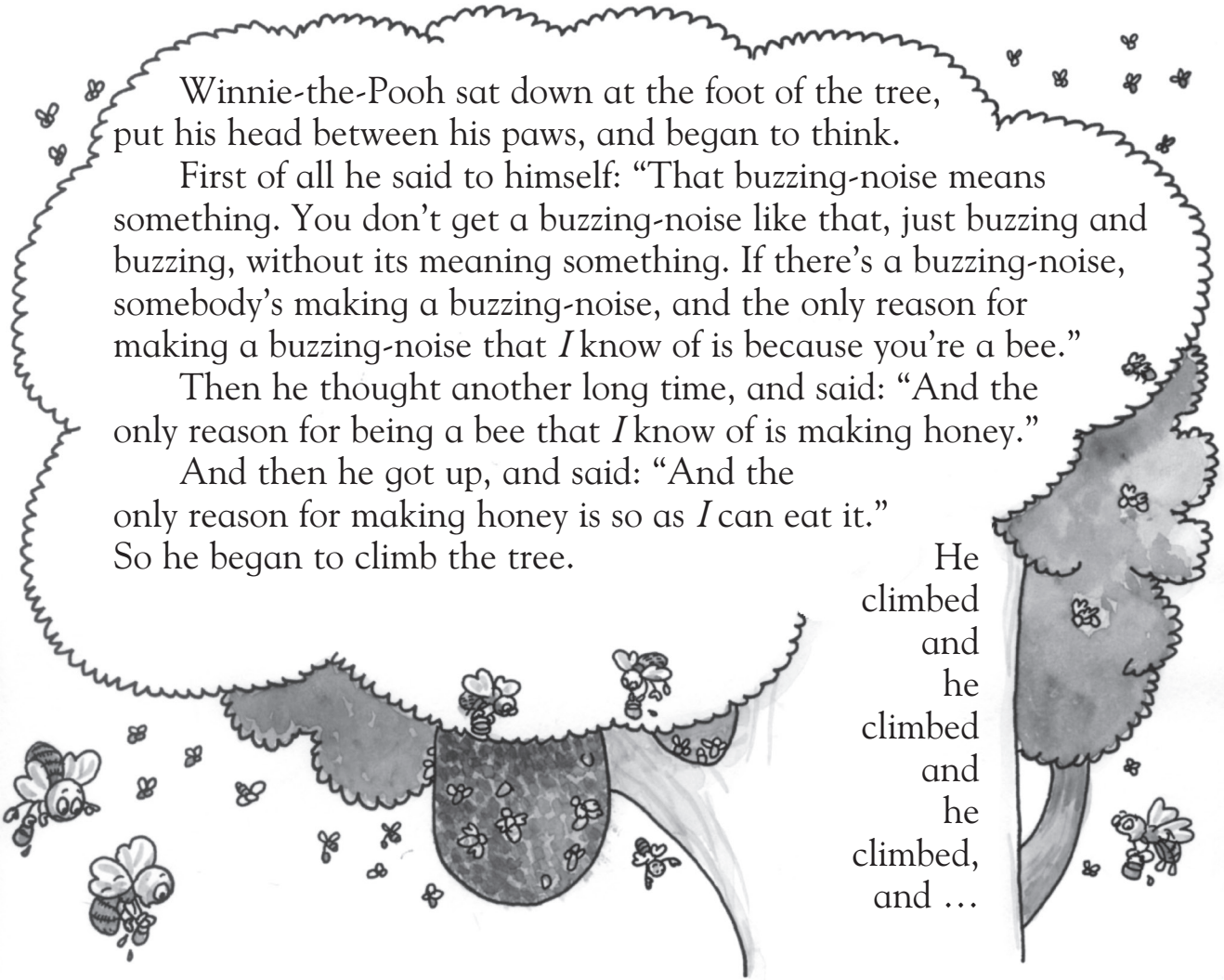
Winnie-the-Pooh sat down at the foot of the tree, put his head between his paws, and began to think.

First of all he said to himself: "That buzzing-noise means something. You don't get a buzzing-noise like that, just buzzing and buzzing, without its meaning something. If there's a buzzing-noise, somebody's making a buzzing-noise, and the only reason for making a buzzing-noise that *I* know of is because you're a bee."

Then he thought another long time, and said: "And the only reason for being a bee that *I* know of is making honey."

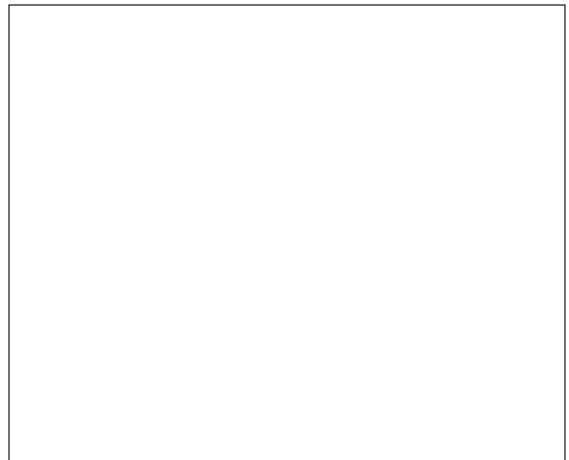
And then he got up, and said: "And the only reason for making honey is so as *I* can eat it." So he began to climb the tree.

He
climbed
and
he
climbed
and
he
climbed,
and ...



Talk about what might happen next.

Draw what Winnie-the-Pooh likes to eat, and write a label for it.



Talk about other **stories** with bears in them. Say which ones you like and why.

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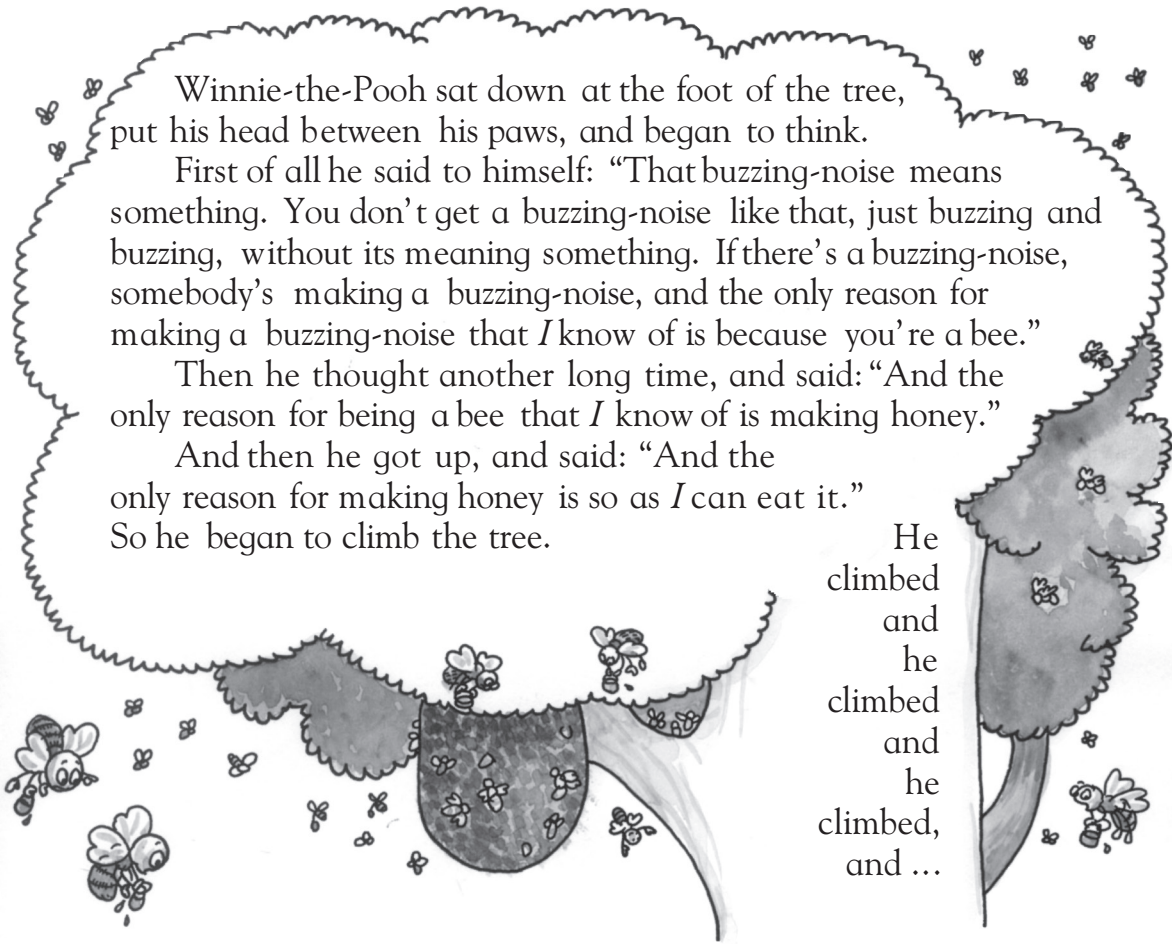
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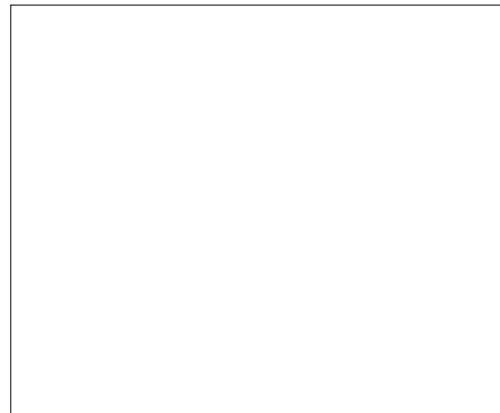
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.....Honey.....



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Your child will enjoy reading this extract, either independently or with help from you. Encourage him or her to predict what happens next, to select specific information from the text, and to compare and contrast other books and stories about bears.