



The boy who
caught the sun



You can find us at www.edgartheelephant.com.
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The music in the audio recordings was composed by Rachel Jamieson – find out more at www.racheljamieson.com.



The narrator was Christopher Jamieson – www.christopherjamieson.co.uk.



Some of the pictures were drawn by Samantha Purkis. Find her etsy shop at www.etsy.com/uk/shop/LittlePaperTrails.



The legal bit

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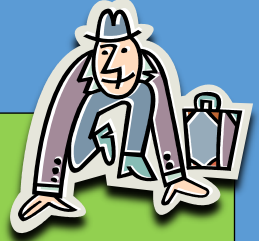
Some colouring-in pictures © Samantha Purkis 2020

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Before you start



These booklets contain ...

The text of the story, in case you'd like to read it to your child yourself.

A sheet for colouring in while listening to the story.

Some simple sentences inspired by the story, for new readers.

Some quiz questions and activities.

You may want to print the colouring-in sheet. In some cases, you may want to print the activity sheet too. These are always in black and white, so they should print on any printer, and won't use much ink.

Do make sure you visit our website – www.edgartheelephant.com – from time to time for the latest stories. You can also pick up the audio book for this story there.

Donations



These stories, audios and pictures are available free of charge. If you'd like to make a donation, though, we won't say no! Please go to our website – www.edgartheelephant.com – and use the link in the page footer.

Picture gallery



We'd love to display your child's own pictures of these stories in our Facebook gallery. Simply send us a photo of the picture along with your child's first name to <mailto:edgartheelephant@critos.co.uk> and get a personalised email from Edgar to your child!

The boy who caught the sun

It was hot. Very, very, very hot. Everybody was feeling very tired and thirsty and cross, and lots of people were saying ‘I do wish it would cool down a bit.’ Now there was a little boy called Jim who decided that instead of just *talking* about it being cooler, he’d try to *do* something about it.

Jim went to his garage, and he got out his fishing net and a big biscuit tin. He wasn’t quite sure whether what he was doing was naughty, so he waited until he was certain that no one was looking ... and then he reached right up in the sky with his fishing net and caught the sun.

It turned out to be quite a lot bigger than he’d expected, and it just wouldn’t fit into the biscuit tin at all, so he looked around for something else to put it in. The only thing that was big enough was the dustbin. Jim carefully put the sun at the bottom of the dustbin and covered it over so that no one would see it.

Now of course, when Jim put the sun in the dustbin, it suddenly got very dark. The moon had an awful shock – it had been having a nice sleep, but it suddenly woke up and said ‘Oh dear! It must be much later than I thought it was – I’d better start shining.’

And all the people looked at their watches and said ‘That’s funny – surely it’s not bed-time yet’ – but they were quite glad that it had cooled down, and they decided to go to bed anyway.

The big problem came the next morning. There was no sun to make it light, so no one knew what time to get up, and they all stayed in bed too long and then got to work late. After a few days, they started getting rather fed up with this, and they started to say ‘I wish the sun would come back.’

Now what Jim didn’t know was that when he’d caught the sun, there had been someone watching – the little boy in the house across the road. The little boy went to his mummy and said ‘I know where the sun’s gone – I saw Jim catch it the other day in his fishing net.’

‘I see,’ said his mummy. ‘We’d better call a policeman.’

So she telephoned a policeman, and the policeman got his torch so that he could see where

he was going, and set out straight away for Jim’s house. When he got there, he rang the doorbell, and Jim’s mummy answered.

‘Madam,’ said the policeman, ‘I have reason to believe that your little boy may have hidden the sun.’

‘Oh dear’, said Jim’s mummy. ‘We’d better go and ask him.’

So they went upstairs to Jim’s bedroom. Jim was very frightened when he saw the policeman. The policeman looked very stern. ‘Jim,’ he said, ‘have you done anything with the sun?’

‘Y-Y-Yes,’ said Jim. ‘It was so hot the other day that I decided to catch it, and I put it in the dustbin.’

‘Well, we need it back,’ said the policeman. ‘Everyone is getting very fed up never knowing what time of day it is.’

So they went out to the dustbin. Very carefully, they took the lid off. Very carefully, they looked inside. ...

Oh no! The sun was gone!!!

‘Oh dear!’ said Jim. ‘The dustmen must have come and emptied the bins.’

The policeman looked very cross. ‘I suppose I’ll just have to get lots of people with spades and things, and we’ll have to go and dig up the rubbish dump until we find it,’ he said.

It was very difficult digging up the rubbish dump in the dark, but after a long time someone said, ‘It feels as though it’s getting a bit warm over here.’ So everyone went over to that bit of the dump, and after a little while, there it was – they’d found the sun again.

The sun was covered in tea-leaves and cold baked beans and all sorts of other nasty gooey things from the rubbish dump, so they got buckets and soapy water and scrubbing brushes, and

cleaned it up. And then when it was clean, they got a big tin of polish, and polished it until it was all sparkly again.

‘That just leaves one problem,’ said the policeman. ‘How ever can we get it back up in the sky?’

Everyone thought for a long time, and at last someone had an idea. They took the sun and put it in a big cardboard box. Then they stuck a letter to the box, and sent it to the lady in America who’s in charge of the rockets.

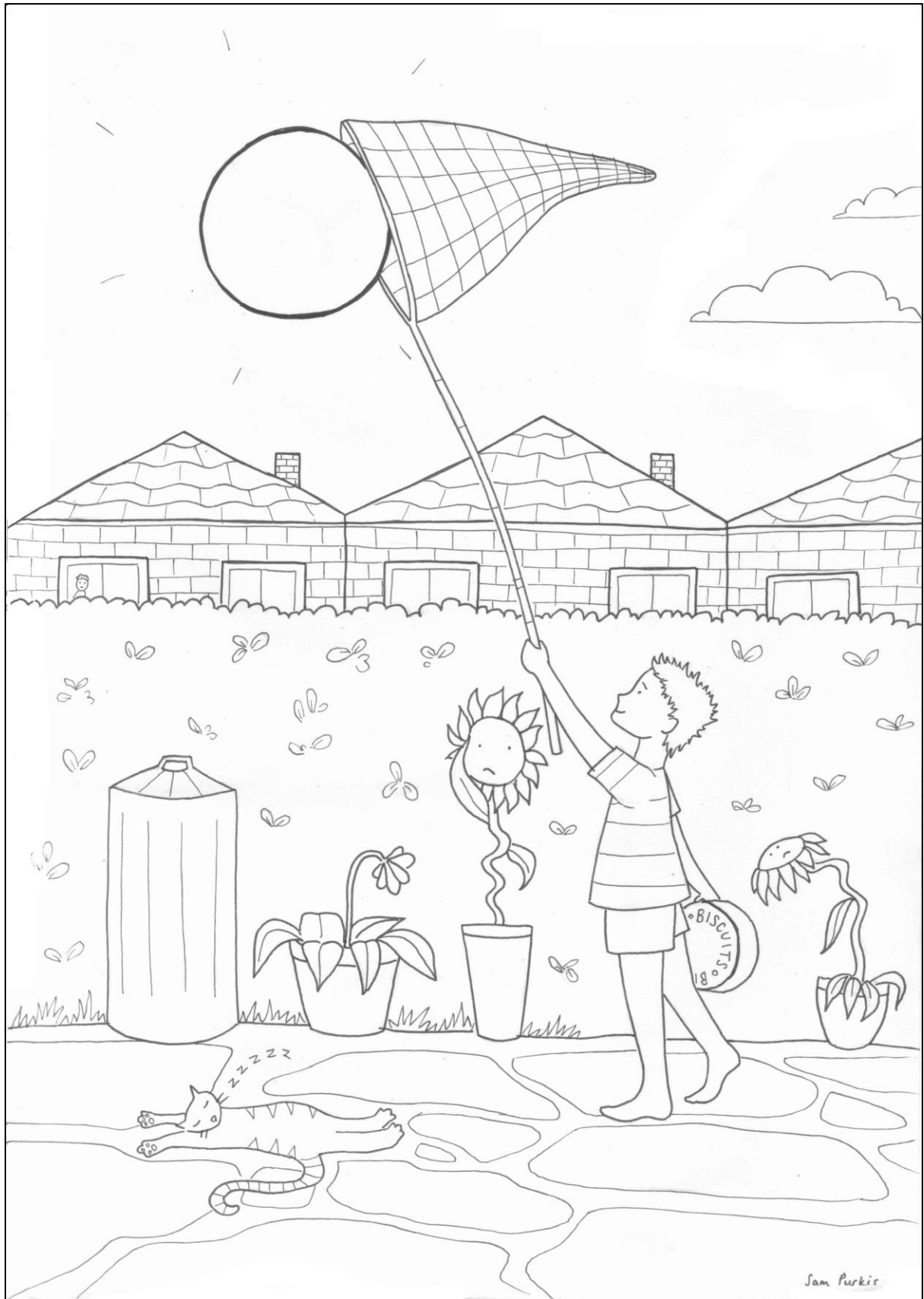
The lady opened the letter and read it. ‘Dear Mrs Rocket Lady’, it said, ‘In the attached cardboard box, you will find the sun. Please could

you put it into your rocket and send it back up into the sky.’

So the lady went down to one of her biggest rockets, and put the sun in the little room right at the top of it. Then she pointed the rocket at the place where the sun ought to be, went back to her office and pressed a big red button.

‘Whooooooosh!’ went the rocket, right up into the sky. When it got to the right place, a little door opened at the top, and out floated the sun.

Everyone was very pleased that the sun was back. It was so nice knowing when it was time to get up and when it was time to go to bed that no one ever moaned again about how hot it was.



For new readers

Here is the sun.

The sun is hot.

The sun is very hot.



Jim put the sun in the bin.

The man was cross.



Here are some quiz questions. You get ten points for each answer you get right.

Some questions about the story

What was the name of the little boy?

What did Jim use to catch the sun?

Where did he put it?

When they found the sun, what did it have on it?

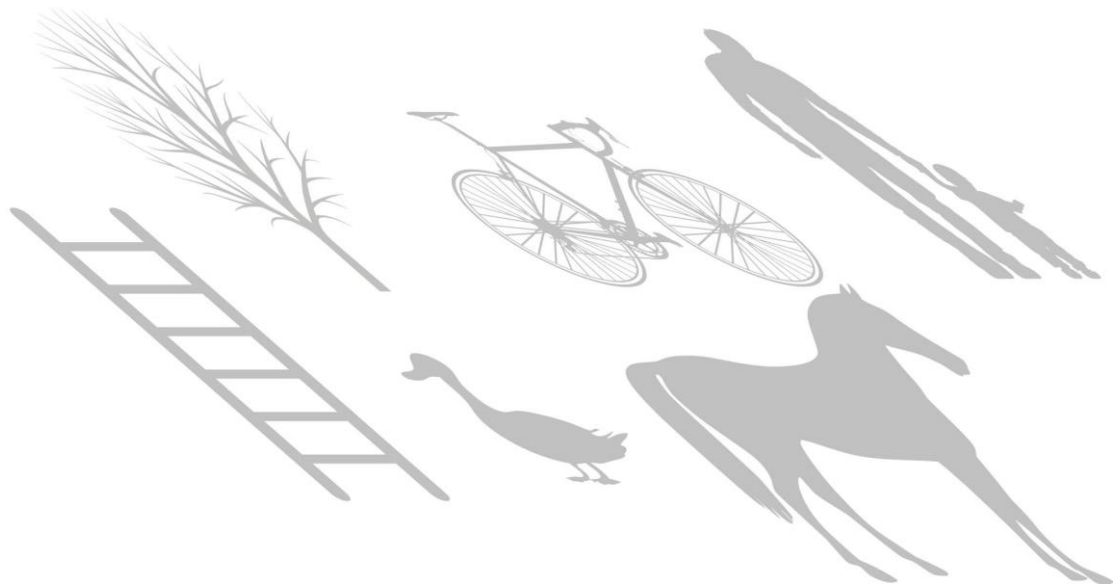
How did they get it back up in the sky again?

Some other questions

The story mentions baked beans. Baked beans come in an orange-coloured sauce. What is it made of?

Baked beans come in tins. How many other things can you think of which come in tins? (10 points each)

**The sun is low down in the sky, so it's making long shadows.
Do you know what these shadows belong to? (10 points each).**



Can you draw a picture of the shadow which your favourite toy would make?

That's the end of the quiz

How many points did you get?