



Animal Magic



OXFORD

Mick Gowar



Before reading

It's a good idea to talk with your child about a book before they read it.

- Look at the front cover together then flick through the pages of the book. Talk about why this book is called Animal Magic?
- Look at some of the pictures together. Ask questions such as
 - Can you think of any animals that hide?
 - Why do you think that animals need to hide?
- Identify the tricky word **camouflage** on page 2. Help your child to read it and talk about what it means.

Encourage your child to read the book at their own pace.



Tricky words

Here are some tricky words your child will read in this book:

camouflage
speckled

babies
lizard

amazing
colour

dragon
chameleon







Animal Magic

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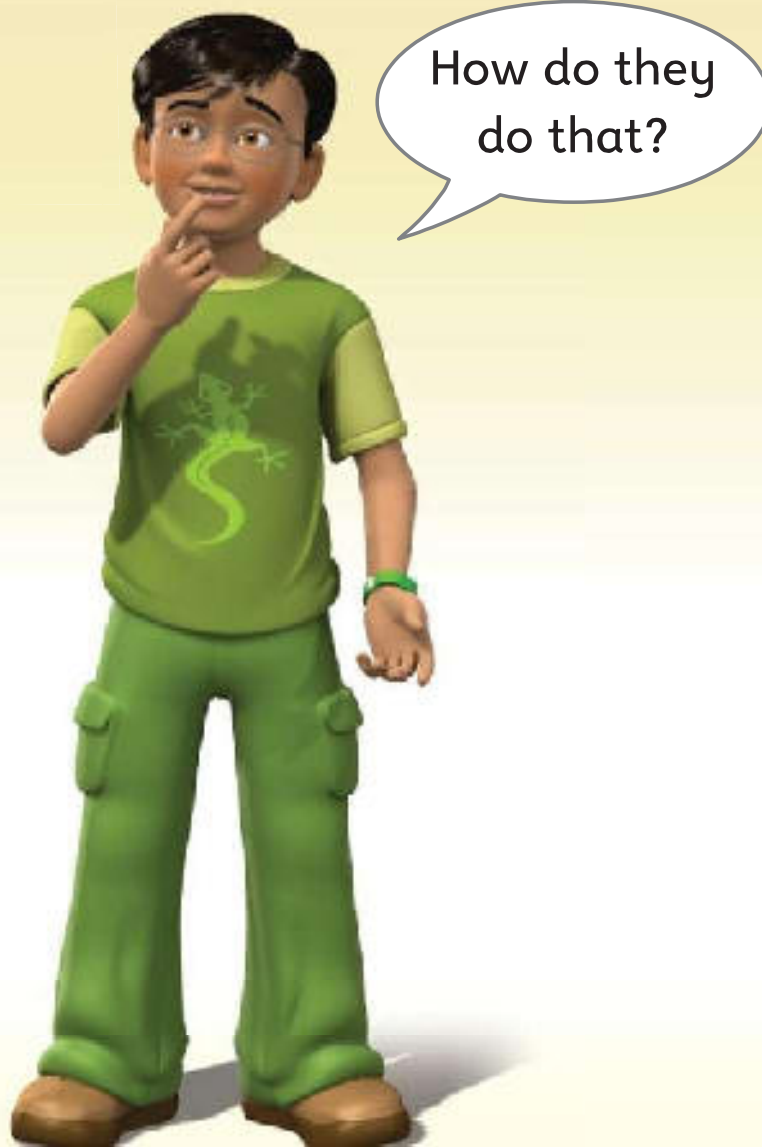
Mick Gowar
Character illustrations by Jon Stuart



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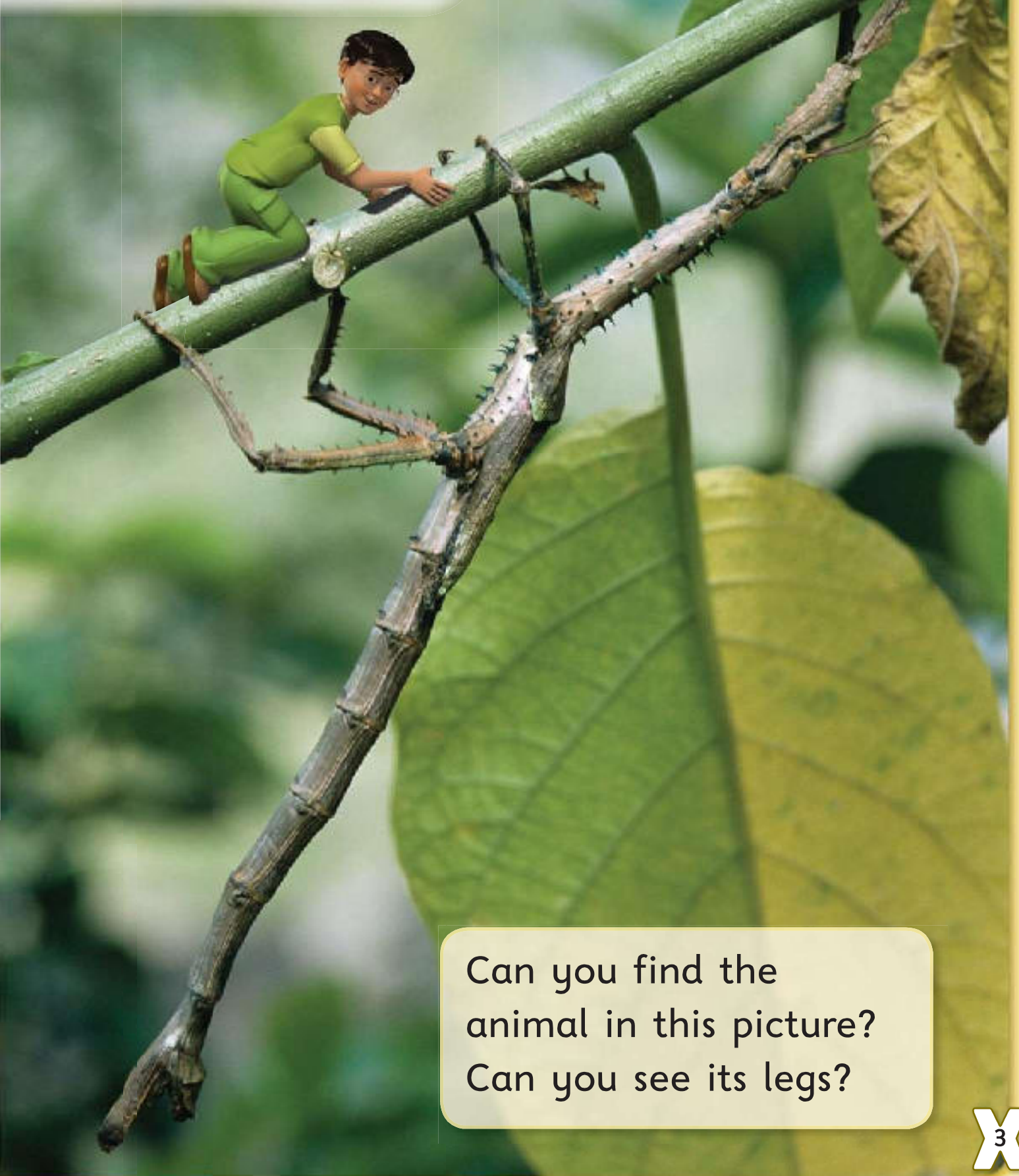
Camouflage

In this book you will find some amazing animals. They can vanish!

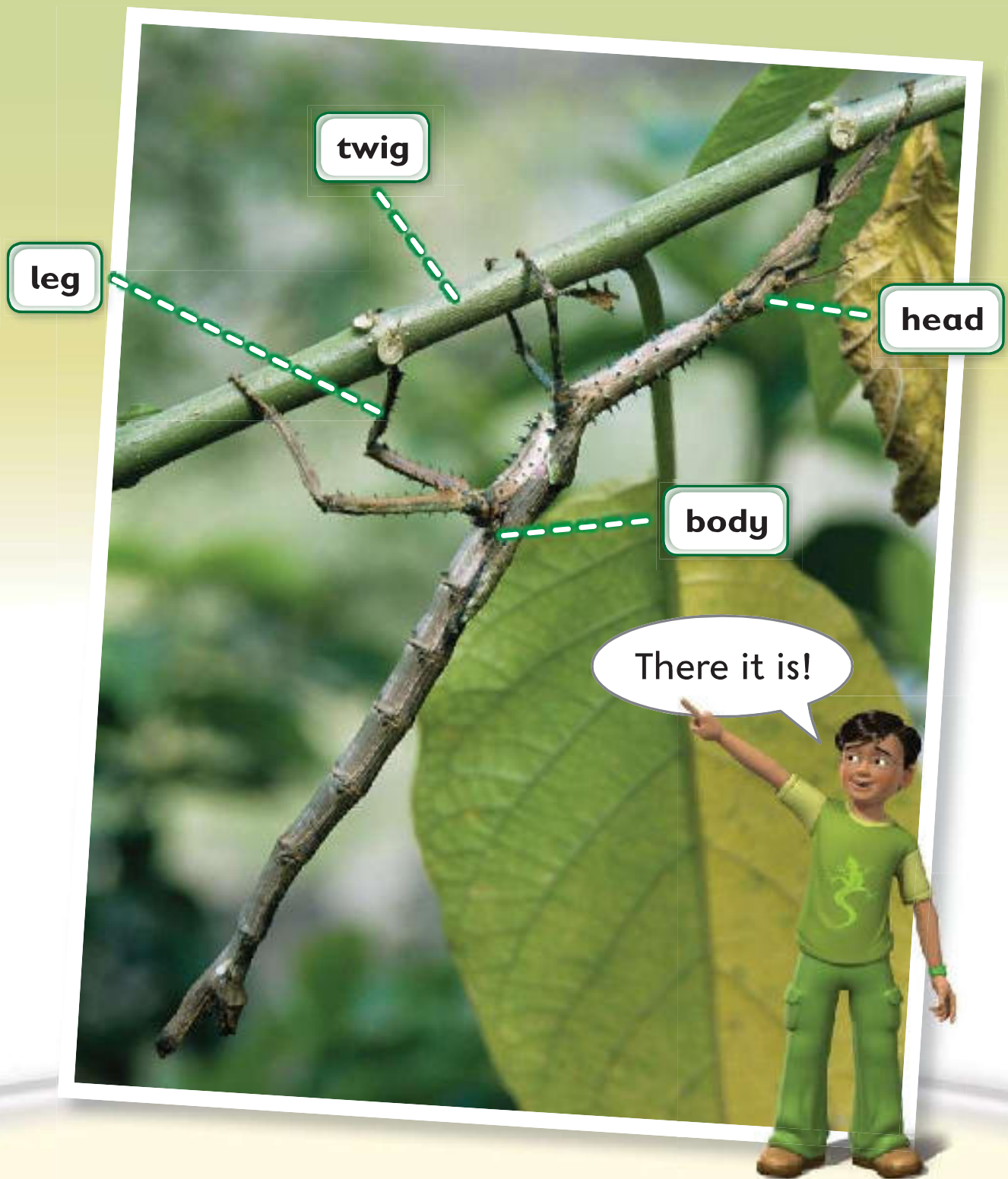


They use *camouflage*. That means their colour or shape can make it very hard to see them.

In the trees



Can you find the
animal in this picture?
Can you see its legs?



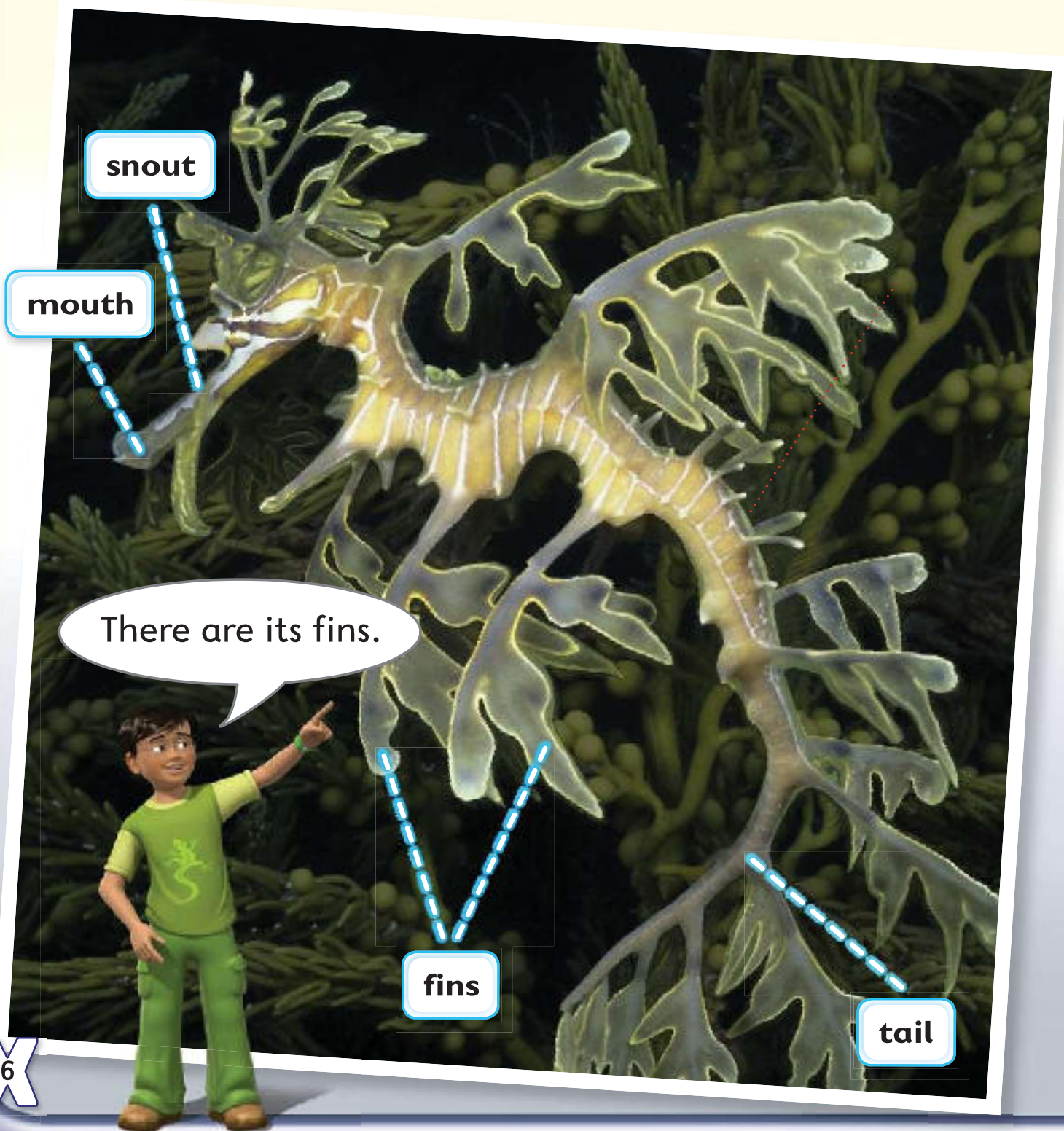
It is a *stick insect*. It looks like a stick but it is really an insect. Stick insects hide to keep safe from animals who want to eat them.

Underwater



Can you find the animal in this picture?
Can you see its fins?

It is a *leafy sea dragon*. It looks like a piece of seaweed but it is really a fish. Leafy sea dragons hide to keep safe from bigger fish who want to eat them.

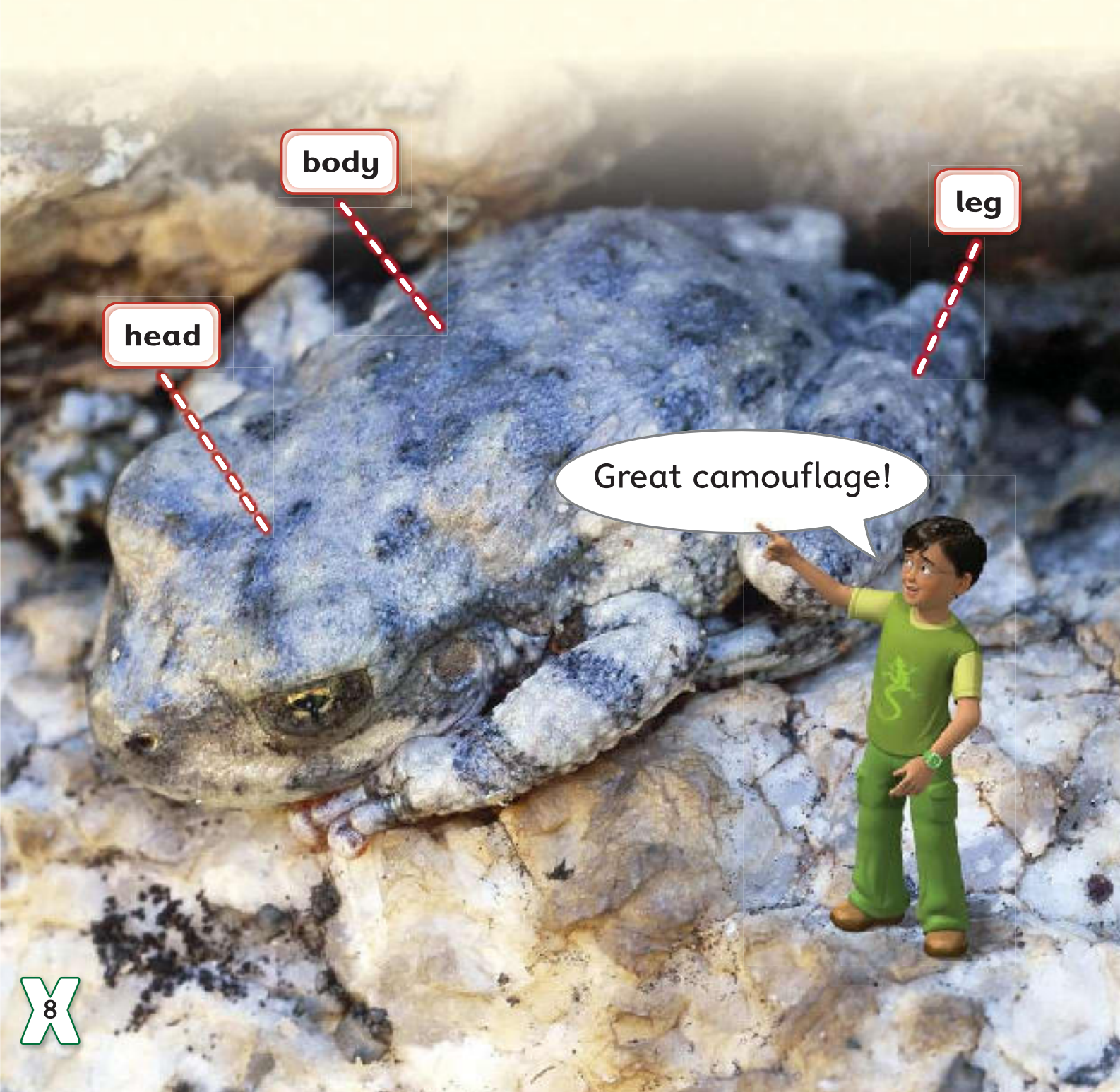


On the ground

Can you find the animal in this picture? Can you see its head?



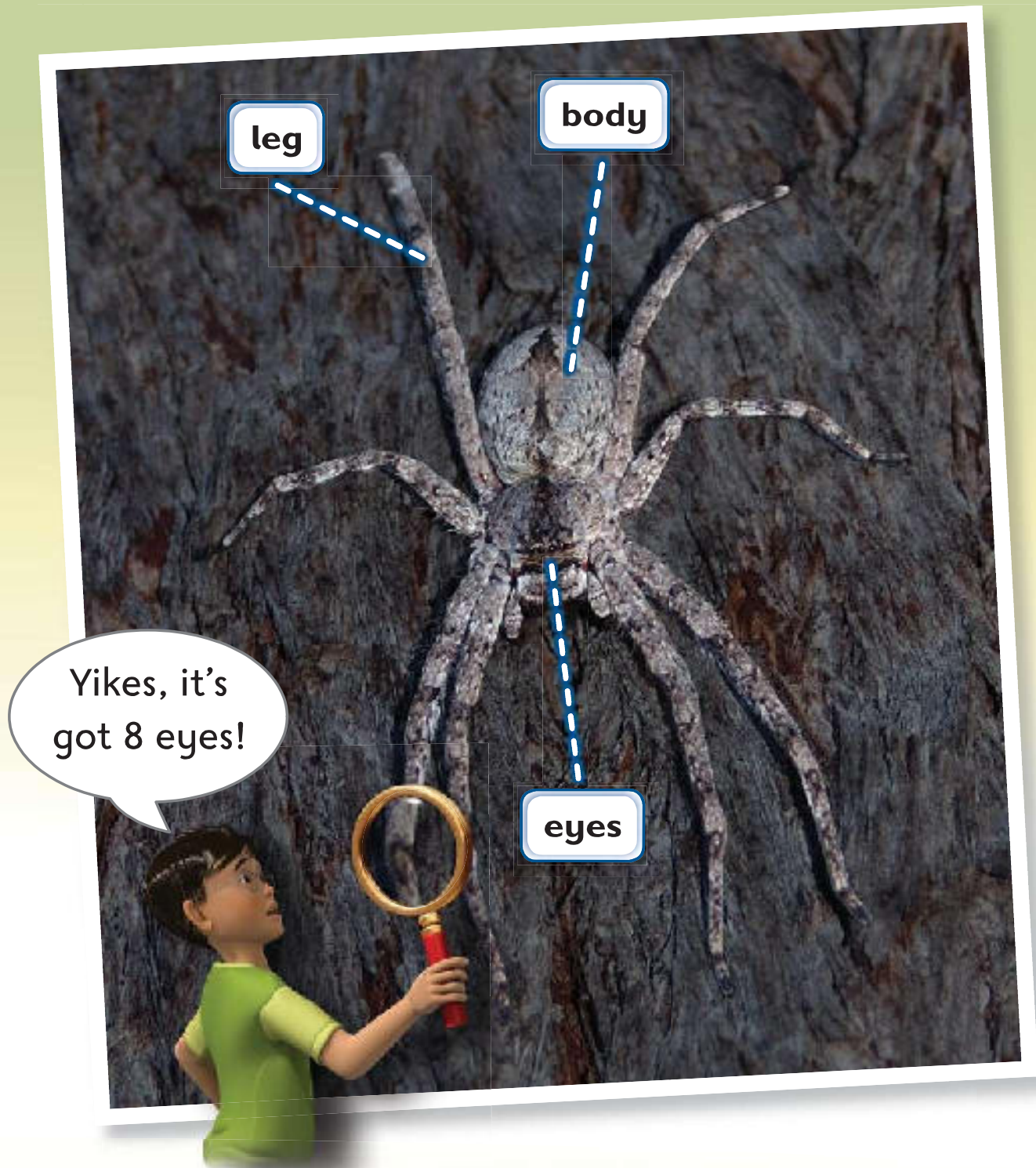
It is a *frog*. Frogs are very good at hiding. This frog is speckled to look like wet rocks. Frogs have to hide from birds, fish, lizards and other animals who all like to eat them. Frogs must be very tasty!



Look out!

Can you find the animal in this picture? Can you see its legs?



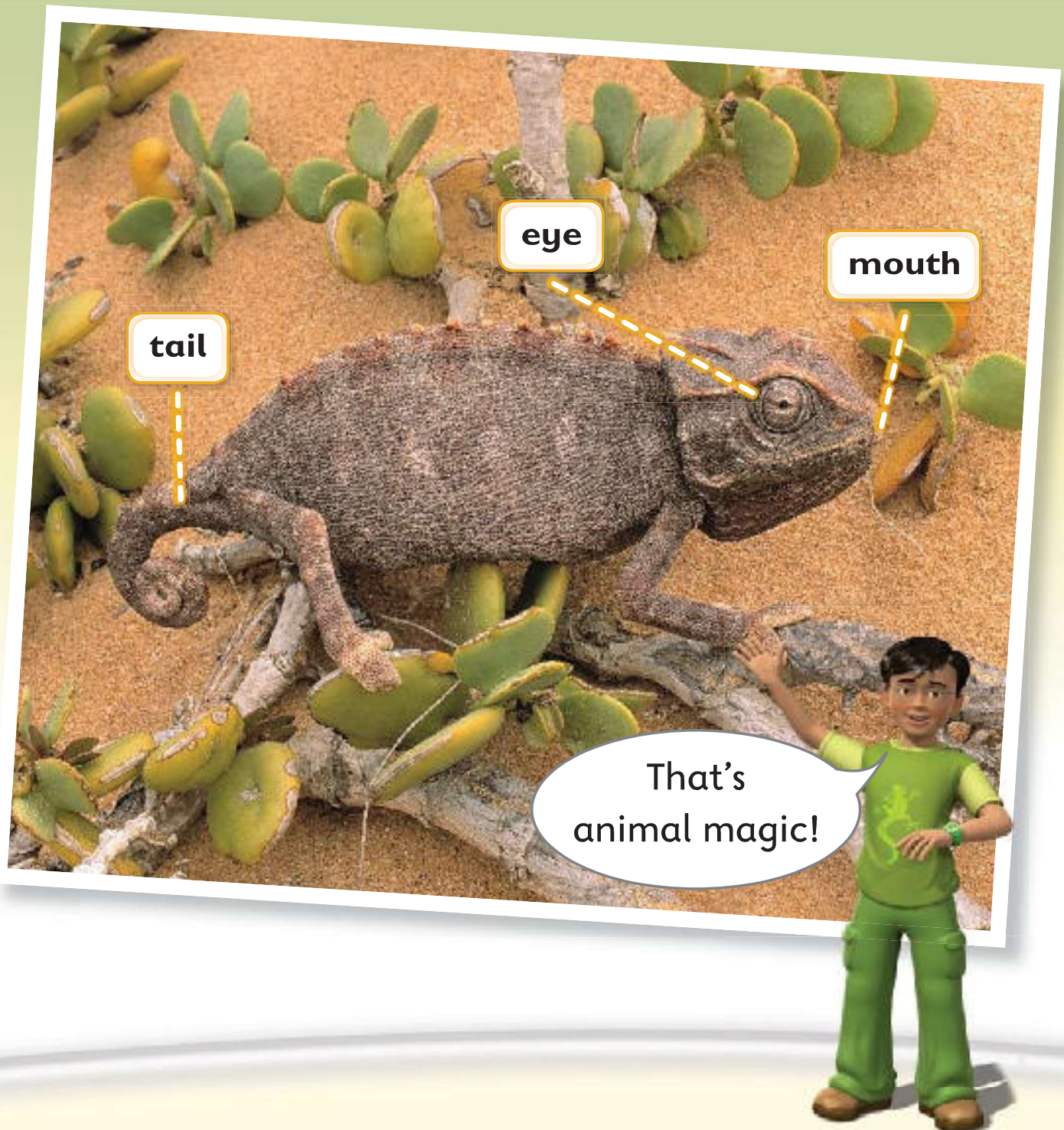


It is a *bark spider*. This spider can change colour to match what it is standing on. Spiders are hunters that eat insects. Hiding like this helps them catch their prey.

Changing colour



Look at the animal in this picture. Do you know what it is?



It is a *chameleon* (say: cam-ee-lee-un).
Chameleons are a type of lizard.
Chameleons are amazing. They can
change colour! This helps them hide.

Keeping babies safe



Chick



Deer

Why do you think baby animals need to hide?



Polar bear

Baby animals need to hide to stay safe. They use camouflage to help them.

Quiz

Can you find
the hidden animals?
What are they?



3



4



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chameleon	11–12
chick	13
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leafy sea dragon	5–6
polar bear	13
stick insect	3–4

Did you get them right? These animals are amazing!

Answers

- 1** owl
- 2** octopus
- 3** butterfly
- 4** lion





After reading

Talk with your child about the book after reading. Here are some questions you could ask:

- What did you learn about animals that hide?
- Can you remember all the animals in this book? Which animal do you think is best at hiding?
- Did you like the book? Why or why not?

Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words. This will build their reading confidence and reading fluency.



Other things to do

Chameleons are amazing animals – your child could find out more about them using library books or the Internet.

If your child wants to, they could draw and label a picture of one of the animals in this book.

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Book band 7
Turquoise



Stage 7

Animal Magic

Help Ant find the hidden animals.



**Other titles on the theme
Hide and Seek:**

- Where's Woody?
- Hide and Cheat
- Jamie and the Chameleon
- Look Closer

Non-Fiction

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