

A close-up photograph of a Green Tree Frog's head, focusing on its large, prominent eye and the intricate, bumpy texture of its skin. The frog is perched on a thin, light-colored twig. The background is dark and out of focus, highlighting the frog's features.

# The Green Tree Frog

NED—14

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*Dedicated to my three wonderful boys!*

\*Note: The frog on the front cover is not a “Green tree frog”, just a funny frog saying hello.

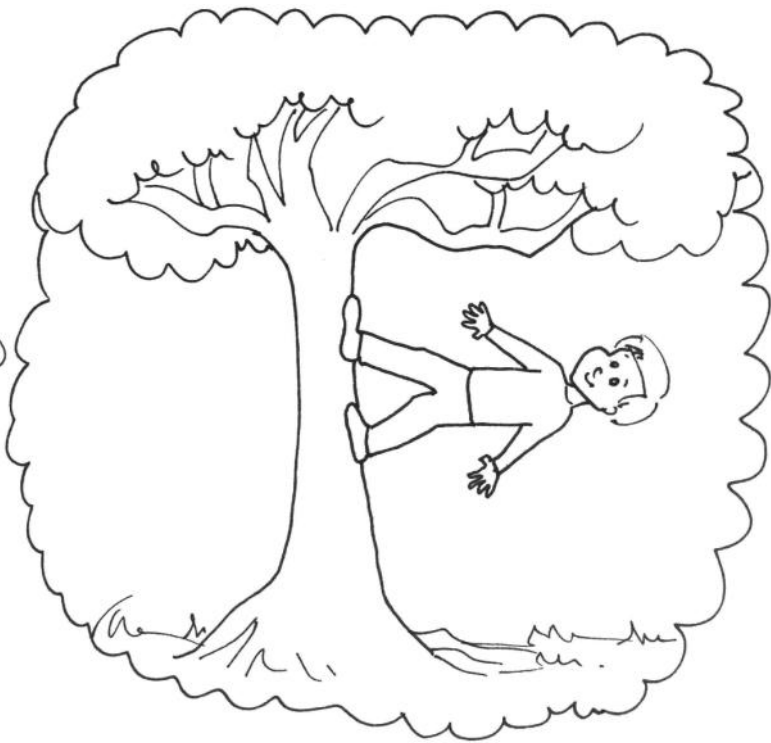
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Ned was looking at an animal book with his brother Tony.

It was called, “A Green Tree Frog”.

The book was showing and talking about these interesting little creatures, and all the things they could do, where they lived, and how they survived. They were funny and cute looking.



The boys were discussing some things the book was showing and telling.

“That’s amazing!” Tony said.

“The green tree frog’s feet can stick like suction cups! I’d like to be able to do that. Think of all the new things I could climb on if my feet didn’t slip!”

He was getting some pretty wild ideas!



Just then Mother called,

“Boys, I would appreciate some help with the shopping bags. Could you please come for a minute.”

“Sure!” Ned called out, and they both scampered off to be a help.

Before bringing in the first bag, they took a peek inside of it.





“Oh, wow, what are these?” Ned asked.

“New hooks for the bathroom door,” Mother replied.

They put it down, and picked out the next item.

“Goodie!” Tony said. “A new toothbrush, and it’s my favorite color!”



“Would you be able to bring the bags inside please, and then you can look at it as we unpack and put things away,” their mother asked.

The boys had gotten so distracted, they had totally forgotten what they had started doing.

So they stopped their looking and continued their lifting, and carried the supplies into the house.

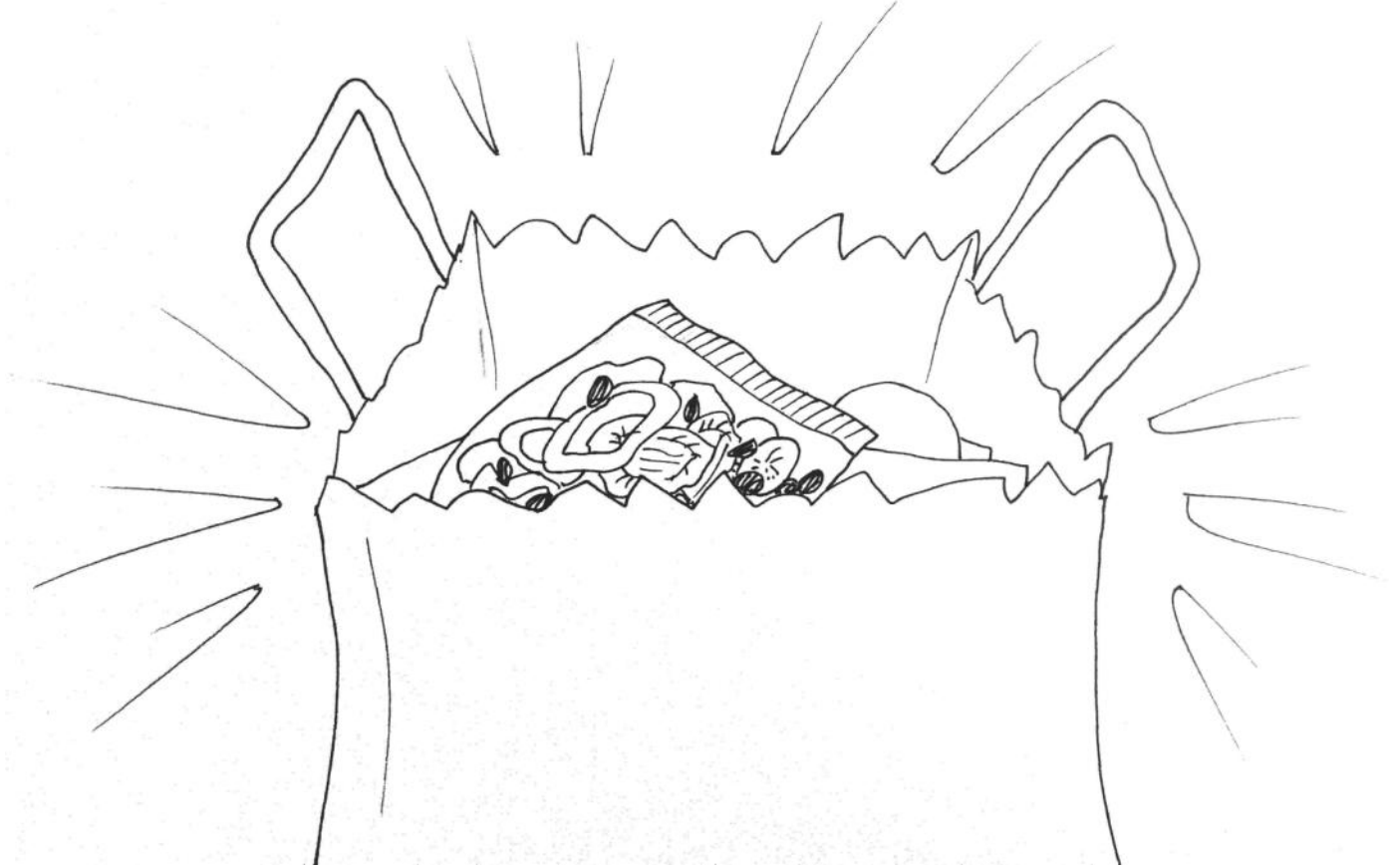


At last all the shopping bags were inside, and the discovering and putting things away continued.

“Tony, can you please bring this to the bathroom? Thank you.” Mother was handing them things to put here and there.

“This, Ned, goes under the kitchen sink.”

Things were going well, until they found it! Their favorite snack! There it was, right in the last bag they were all emptying.

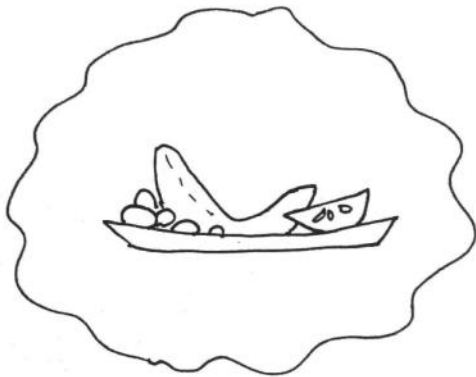


“Yay!” the boys exclaimed, while grabbing it joyfully, and beginning to open the package of dried fruit.

Mother reminded them again,

“Let’s finish our job first, and then we can enjoy a great snack at the end. If we stop to do every fun thing we think of, just imagine how long it will take to do anything! Nothing will get done, and we won’t have the things we need either.”





Mother explained it this way,

“What if I was about to make your lunch, and on the way to the kitchen I spotted my sewing machine.

““Oh, I want to sew!’ I said, and took a long while making my new dress. Then I remembered to cook, but by that time I was so hungry, I just grabbed a snack for myself.

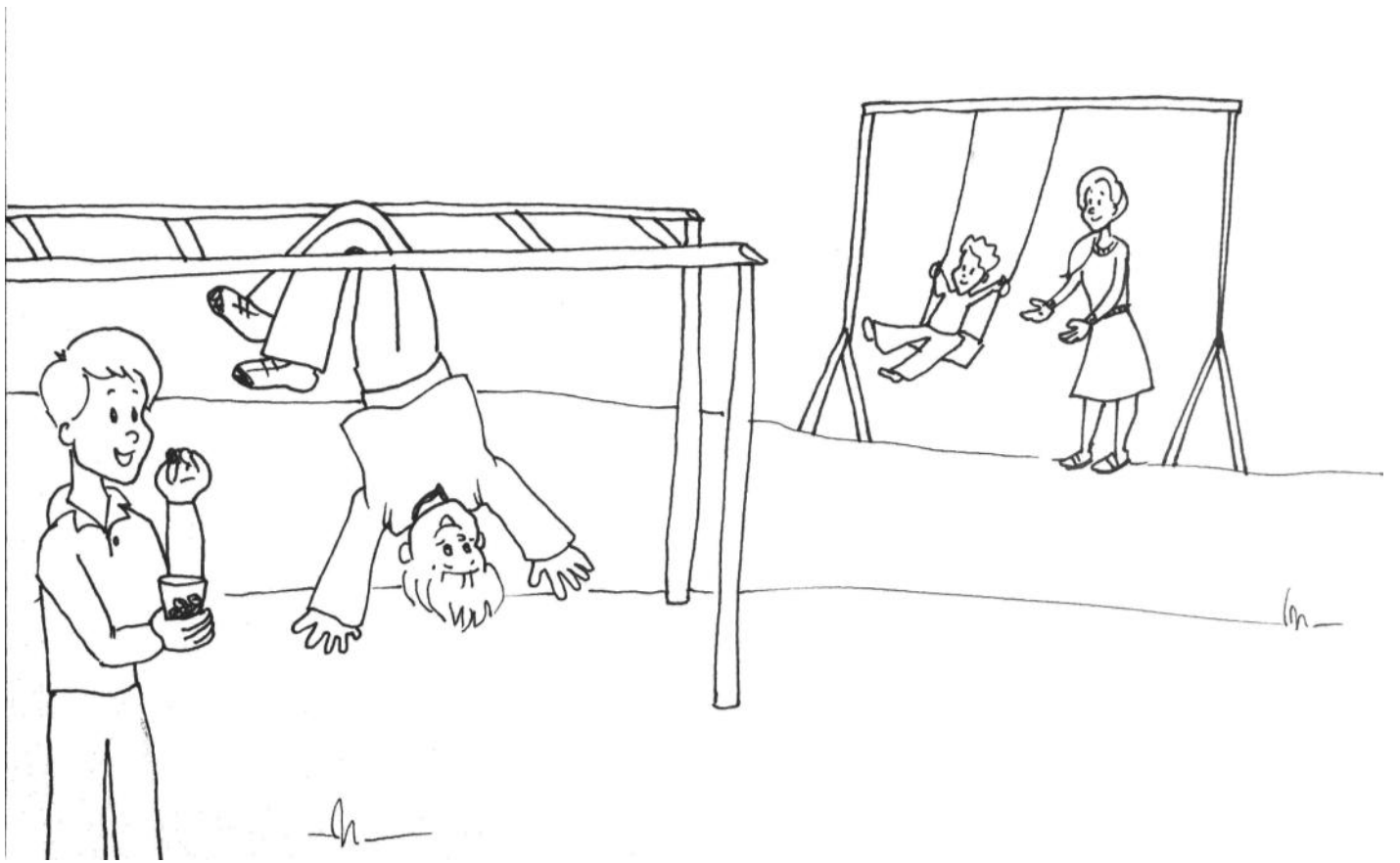
“Then I looked out the widow while eating it and noticed that the laundry wasn’t hung out yet. ‘I’ve got to hang it out first’ I thought, and did it. Meanwhile you both would be still waiting to eat some lunch.”



The boys listened, as mother continued,

“See, I have to focus on one thing at a time, and do it. There are always tons of things I need to do, and things I want to do as well. It will all work out best if I do what is meant to be done, at the time, and not get distracted. I have to stick to it.”

“Stick to it? That reminds me of the frogs we were reading about today!” said Ned. “Their feet can stick so well, it helps them to really climb!”



“Yes!” said Tony. “It made me want to climb all kinds of things.”

“Perhaps you can practice sticking with this job first, and then we can have some fun climbing at the park afterwards. Want to?” Mother offered.

They did! So Ned and Tony stayed focused on the job and didn’t get distracted.

Then, because they did the job well and quickly, soon they were eating a fun snack and playing at the park.



