



R. E. Hees

ANIMALS
ARE
FUN



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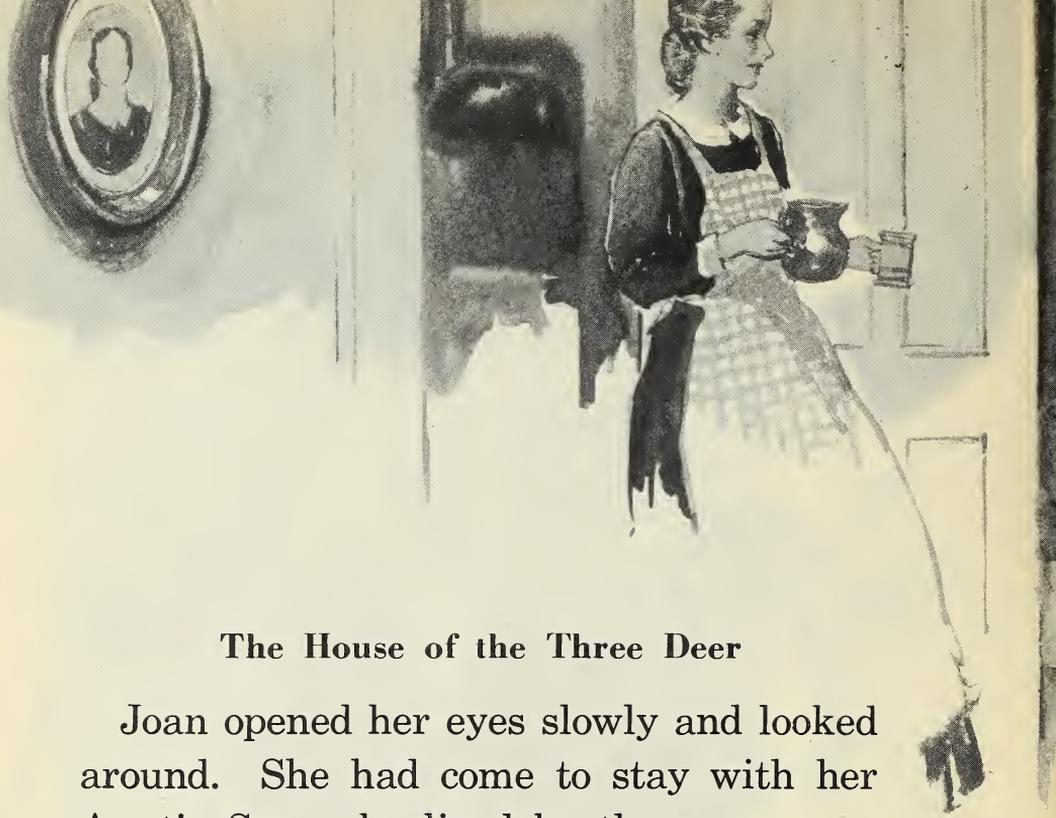
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ANIMALS
ARE FUN





The House of the Three Deer

Joan opened her eyes slowly and looked around. She had come to stay with her Auntie Sue, who lived by the ocean.

She looked out of her bedroom window and all that she could see was fog. The weather was very cold. Joan did not like this first morning.

Joan put on her warm blue coat and went down to the living room. There was a big fire in the stove. So she stood by the stove to get warm.



Joan looked around for Auntie Sue, but she did not find her.

Just then the kitchen door opened, and Auntie Sue came in.

“Would you like to sit by the fire to eat this morning?” she asked.

“Yes, please,” said Joan.

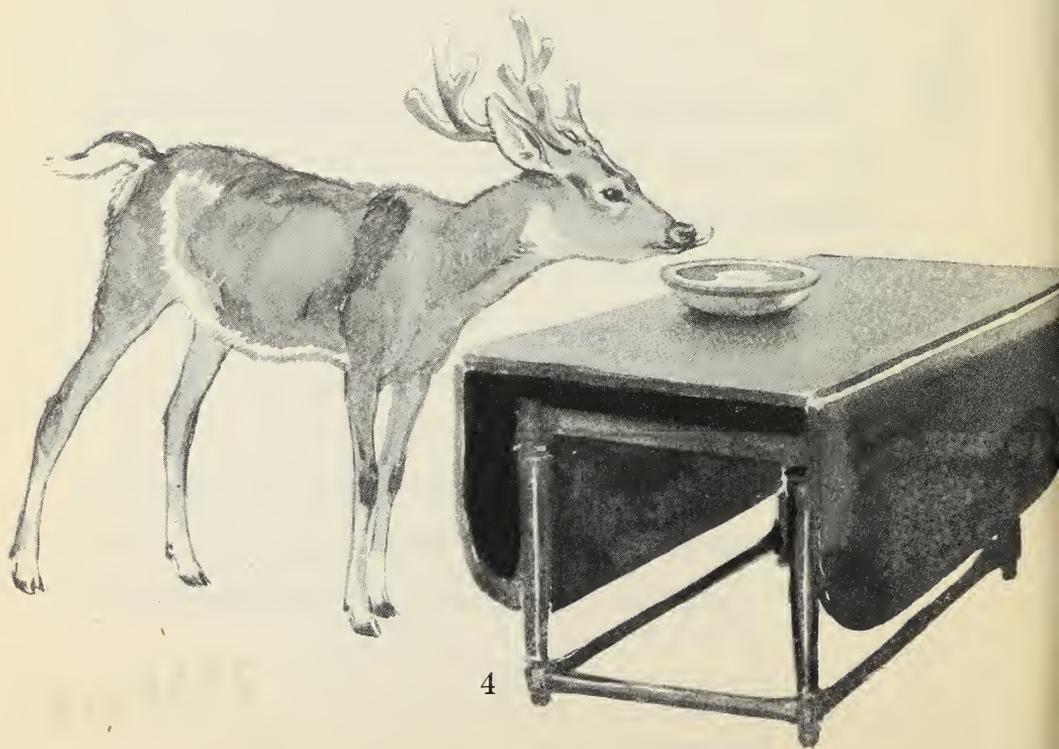
Auntie Sue put a little table by the fire. And Joan pulled up a chair and ate at the table. Auntie Sue went to the kitchen.

Before Joan was through, the kitchen door opened again. Auntie Sue came in.

“Joan, come here,” said Auntie Sue. “I want to show you something funny.”

Joan ran to the kitchen. There stood a deer eating out of a bowl on the table. He had flour on his nose.

Joan looked and looked. Yes, it was a deer. She did not know what to say.



“His name is Red, and he likes candy,” said Auntie Sue. “He thought there was candy in the bowl.”

When Red heard his name, he looked up. Then all at once Red ran out the open door into the fog.

“Oh, he is afraid of me!” Joan cried as she ran to the back door.

“He will not be afraid when he knows you,” said Auntie Sue. “It will take a little time, but Red will get used to seeing you around here.”

“Oh, do call him back!” said Joan.

But Red did not come back.

“Deer are good runners,” said Auntie. “Red has gone to tell White Tail and Spot that you are here.”

“Are there others?” asked Joan.

“Yes, there are three of them,” said Auntie Sue. “I did not tell you about them because I thought they would be a nice surprise.”



“Where do the deer stay?” asked Joan.

“At night they stay in a house,” Auntie Sue said. “Would you like to see it?”

“Oh, yes!” cried Joan. “Let’s go right away.”

So they started out the kitchen door, through the garden, and down the road that went around the hill.

“Come, Red. Come, White Tail. Come, Spot,” called Auntie Sue.

All at once she stopped.

“There is Red by the fence,” she said.

Through the fog Joan could just see the deer. He had stopped because he thought he heard something. His ears stood out.

"Come on, but do not talk," Auntie said to Joan. "Keep as still as a mouse."

Auntie took some oats from her pocket.

"Here, Red, here!" she said. "I have some oats for you, and a new friend, too."

Red came up to her. He ate the oats and let Auntie Sue brush his coat.

Joan stood very still.

"You may get some oats out of my coat pocket," Auntie Sue told her.

Joan got some oats from Auntie Sue's pocket. Then she held them out.

"Here, Red, here!" Joan called.

By and by Red came up to Joan and began to eat the oats.

After Red had eaten, he pranced off to the other deer who were standing there.

"They jump around like frisky ponies," said Joan.

Auntie Sue took Joan into a yard. There was an old house in the yard.

“Why, they do have a house!” said Joan. “The deer are just like the three bears who lived in a house in the woods.”

“Yes,” said Auntie Sue. “And the deer are like the three bears in another way.

“There is the big, big deer — that is Red. And the big deer — that is White Tail. And the little deer — that is Spot.”

Joan ran into the house. It had doors and windows just like any good house.



The house had three rooms. And in each room there was some hay for a bed.

“No one had lived here for a long time,” said Auntie Sue.

“When the deer came, they had to have a home, and there was no room at the barn. So we gave them this old house.

“Do you think this is a nice home for them, Joan?”

“Oh, yes!” said Joan. “There is a room for Red, and a room for White Tail, and a room for Spot. Who looks after the deer, Auntie?”



Auntie Sue said, "The man who makes the garden and does the work around the barn looks after them.

"He likes them as well as I do. Each morning he gets fresh water for them.

"One winter night a storm came up and there was a very high wind. He took the lantern and came down here in the sleigh to see if they were all right."

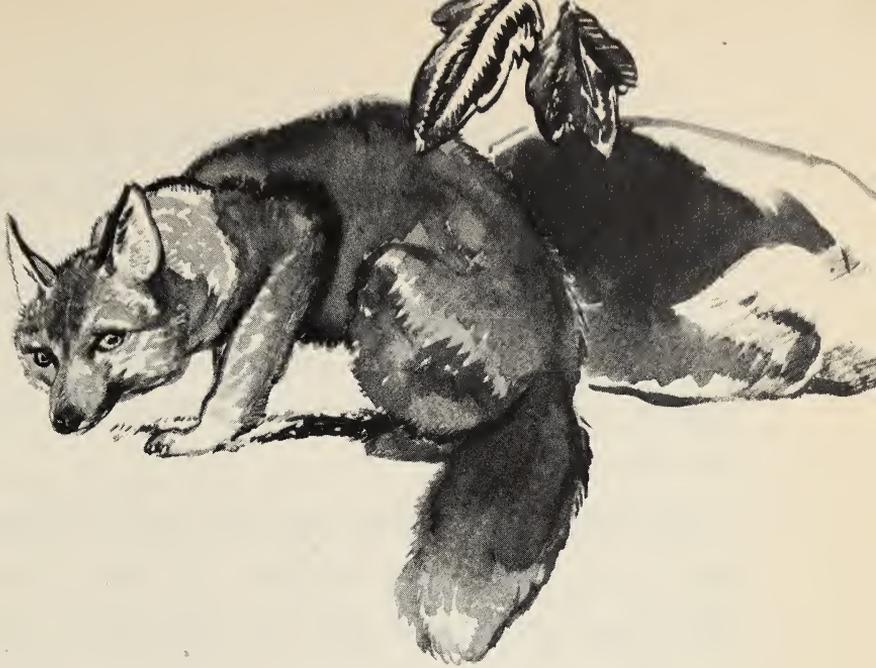
"Do you think they will let me play with them?" asked Joan.

"When they get to know you, they will let you play with them," said Auntie Sue. "Come on, now. I have to get to work."

Joan trotted up the road with Auntie Sue, talking as she went.

"I am so glad that I came," Joan said. "There will be tomorrow and tomorrow to play in the little house with the three bears — that is, the three deer."

Auntie laughed, and they went on. The next day Joan made friends with the deer.



Scrapefoot

Three bears lived in a nice house in the woods. One was a very big Father Bear. One was a big Mother Bear. And one was a little Baby Bear.

Now a big bad fox lived in the woods, too. His name was Scrapefoot.

He wanted to see the little house that the three bears lived in. But he did not want the bears to see him.

One day Scrapefoot went to the three bears' house. He walked through their garden.

"What nice carrots!" he said. "How I would like to get into the cellar some dark night! But now I want a potato to chew."

Scrapefoot pulled up one and began to eat it. Then he looked in the window. He saw no bears and he heard no bears.

"They are not here," he thought. "I will go in and see the house."

Scrapefoot put his paw in the door. He opened the door a little way. He put his head in and looked around.

He did not see the three bears. So he walked inside the three bears' house.

"Oh, it is a very nice house!" he said. "I will sit down and look around."

So Scrapefoot sat down in the very big chair.

"This chair is too big," he said.

Then he sat down in Mother Bear's big chair.

"This chair is big, too," he said.

He sat down in the little chair.

"This chair is just right," he said. "I will sit here and look at the house. What a nice rug that is!"

But the little chair was much too little. Down went the chair, and Scrapefoot, too!

Then Scrapefoot said, "Now I will walk around the house and see what I can see."

So he went into the kitchen. He saw a table. On the table were three bowls.

One was a very big bowl, one was a big bowl, and one was a little bowl.

"I would like something to eat," said Scrapefoot.

So he sat down at the table. He ate from the very big bowl.

"Oh, this is too warm!" he said.

He ate from the big bowl.

"Oh, this is too cold!" said Scrapefoot.



Then he ate from the little bowl.

"This is just right," he said.

After he had eaten, Scrapefoot said, "That was good. I will walk around and see what else I can see."

Scrapefoot saw three beds. One was a very big bed, one was a big bed, and one was a little bed.

He got into the very big bed, but it was too high. He got into the big bed, but it was high, too.

Then he got into the little bed. It was just right, and he went to sleep.

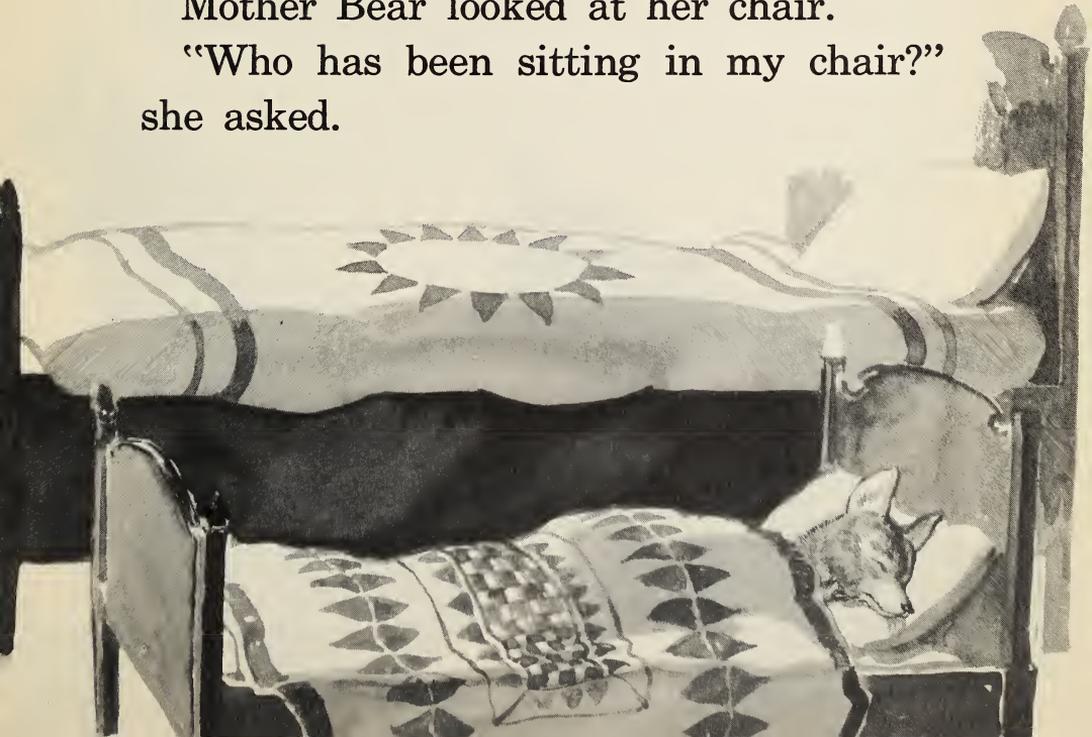
At last the three bears came home. They did not know Scrapefoot was there. They had not seen Scrapefoot's tracks.

Father Bear looked at his chair.

"Who has been sitting in my chair?" he asked.

Mother Bear looked at her chair.

"Who has been sitting in my chair?" she asked.



Baby Bear looked at his chair.

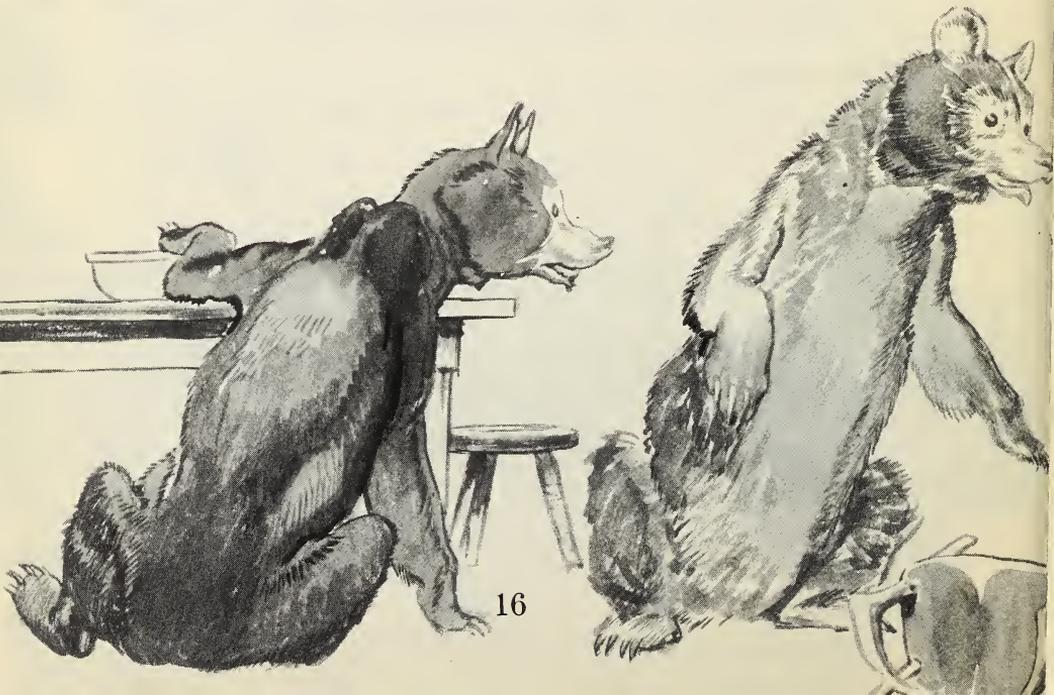
“Who has been sitting in my chair?” he cried. “Look at it!”

The bears went to the table.

“Who has been eating from my bowl?” said the very big Father Bear.

“Who has been eating from my bowl?” asked the big Mother Bear.

“Who has been eating from my bowl?” cried the little Baby Bear. “He has eaten my supper up!”



Father Bear looked at his bed.

“Who has been sleeping in my bed?”
asked Father Bear.

“Who has been sleeping in my bed?”
asked Mother Bear.

“Who has been sleeping in my bed?”
cried Baby Bear. “Look! Here he is!”

Father Bear and Mother Bear ran to
the bed. Then they pulled Scrapefoot out
of Baby Bear’s bed.

“I will put him in the fire,” Father
Bear said.



“No, put him in the ocean,” said Mother Bear.

“Put him out the window,” cried Baby Bear.

They tied his legs together. Then they threw him through the window.

And down went Scrapefoot! Bump! Bump! Bump! Poor Scrapefoot!

“Oh, my back!” he said. “Oh, my head! Oh, my legs! I cannot get up.”

He tried to get up. He got up on one leg. He got up on another leg. Before long he could stand on all his legs.

Scrapefoot started down the road from the nice little house in the woods. He ran like the wind. He ran and ran until he got to the bridge.

Then he brushed off his coat. He was out of breath.

“I will never go back to that house again,” said Scrapefoot.

And he never did.



Funny

Funny was a baby camel. And what a funny camel he was! His legs looked too long to hold him up.

He was bigger than a baby calf. But he did not jump about. He was not very frisky. He just stood and looked around until it was time to eat.

Then after he had his milk, he stood and looked around again.

He did not have a hump on his back like his mother's. There was a little bump on his back to show where a hump would grow some day.

His mother did not think he was a funny baby. Not at all! She thought he looked fine. She put her nose down to her baby and tried to play with him.

Her master gave her good things to eat and fresh water each day. He would talk to her, but she would not look at him. She just looked at her baby, Funny.

Mother Camel would not let Funny get away from her side. She would not go to work in the fields. If she could not see Funny all the time, she would cry and cry.



One day Mother Camel's master had to go away. He wanted to take his big camels with him.

But Mother Camel would not go if her baby stayed at home. And Funny was too little to walk all that way.

The master pushed and pulled at Mother Camel, but she would not go. She wanted to stay with her baby.

At last the master let the baby camel come, too.

At first Funny trotted by his mother's side. But the sun was very warm, and the way was long.

By and by the baby camel could not go on. He sat down. Then he could not get up on his legs again.

The man did not know what to do. The baby camel could not stay where he was. And the master saw that the mother camel would not go on.

He thought and thought.

Then he said, "I know what to do. I will put Funny up on his mother's back. Then he will have a good ride, and Mother Camel will come with me."

But camels are not very clever.

When Mother Camel had her baby on her back, she could not see him. So she did not know where he was and she would not go on.

She just stood there and cried and cried for her baby.

The master did not know what to do. He sat down to think again.

"I have to be on my way," he thought. "And I cannot go on and let my camels stay here. What can I do?"

Then at last he thought of a way. He tied the baby camel on the back of another camel.

Then Mother Camel could see her baby. Now Mother Camel walked on after Funny.

And the man went on his way happy.



Funny got bigger every day. He did not trot by his mother's side all the time. He could run on his long legs. His hump got bigger and bigger.

One day his master came up to him and said, "Funny, it will not be long until you are a big camel. It is time for you to know how to work."

Camels are not clever. It would take Funny's master a long time to train him. But there were some things Funny had to know how to do.

Funny stood too high for people to climb up on his back. So he had to know how to kneel and how to get up again.

And he had to kneel and get up when his master told him to.

His master said, "Down, Funny!"

He tried to show him how to kneel. His master tried to push him down, but he just stood there. At last his master got him to kneel.

It was a long time before Funny would always kneel when his master said *down* and get up when his master said *up*.





Funny had to know how to take people on his back. He had to know how to take big rolls of goods on his back.

His master started by putting a blanket on his back. Funny did not like to have that blanket on, but each day his master tied it on.

When Funny got used to the blanket, his master tied a roll of goods on his back. At first the roll was a little one. Each day the roll of goods was made bigger.

One day Funny's master said, "You are a big camel. Now that you are big, you can take people on your back. I will ride on your back."

He told Funny to kneel, and then he got up on Funny's back.

"Up, Funny!" said his master.

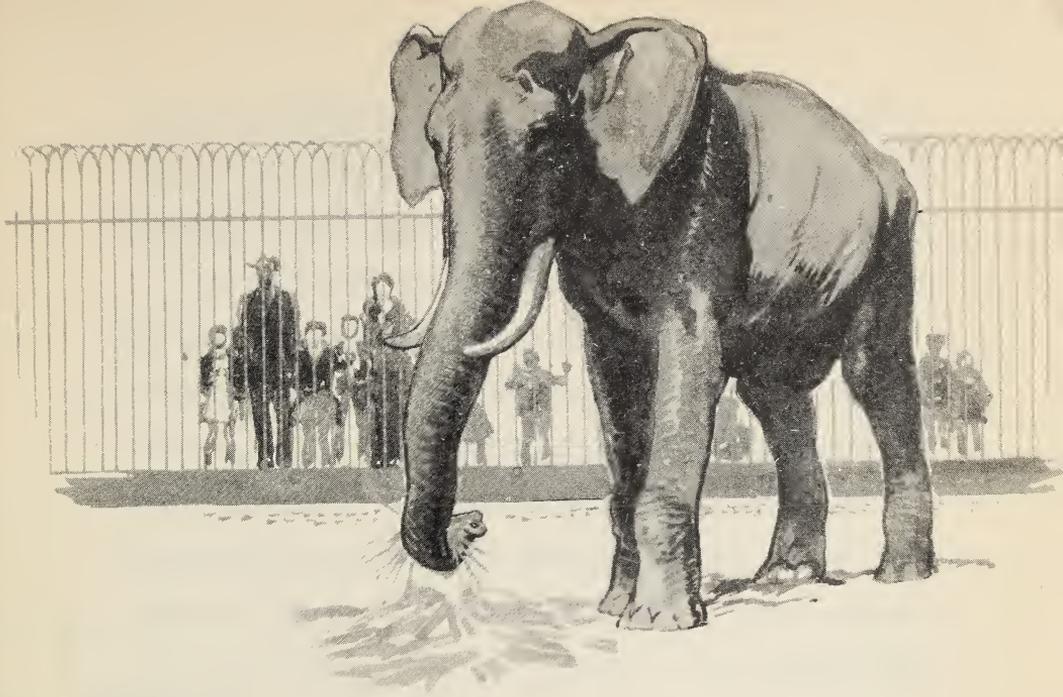
Slowly Funny got up and walked around with his master on his back.

When Funny walked, he used the two legs on his right side. Then he used the two legs on his other side.

His master rolled and tossed from side to side. But he was used to that. This was not the first ride that he had had on a camel.

Funny was a big camel. And he was all ready to work. He could take his master where he wanted to go. His master could put big rolls of goods on his back.

Who knows? Some day a baby camel may ride on Funny's back!



Long Nose

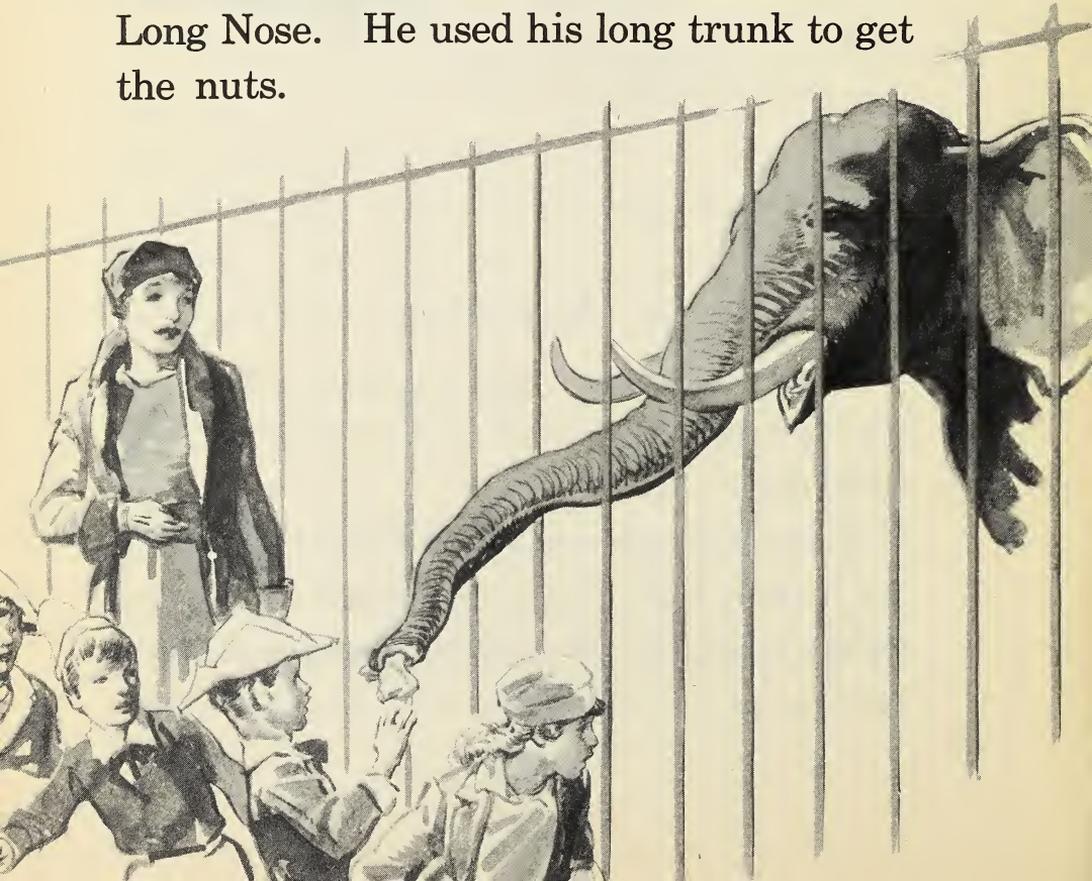
Long Nose was a big elephant who lived in the zoo. He was a friend of all the children.

Some days the children came to see him with their fathers and mothers. That was in the summer, or on days when there was no school.

One day in the fall the children went to the zoo after school. They went with Miss Black. They took some money with them to buy nuts for Long Nose.

All the children had made funny caps in school. They walked down the street, two by two, with the funny caps on their heads.

When they got to the zoo, the children got some nuts. Then they threw them to Long Nose. He used his long trunk to get the nuts.



Bobby wanted Long Nose to come to his side of the fence. So he held a bag of nuts through the fence.

Before he could pull it back, Long Nose had the nuts — bag and all.

How the children laughed!

Long Nose put his big trunk through the fence and took the funny cap off Dick's head. He put it on his head.

How funny he looked!

"Long Nose is very frisky," the children said.

"Would you like to take a ride?" asked the man who looked after Long Nose.

"Oh, may we?" cried the children.

"Get down, Long Nose!" said the man.

He put the big seat on the elephant's back, and the children climbed up on the seat.

That was a high ride, I can tell you!

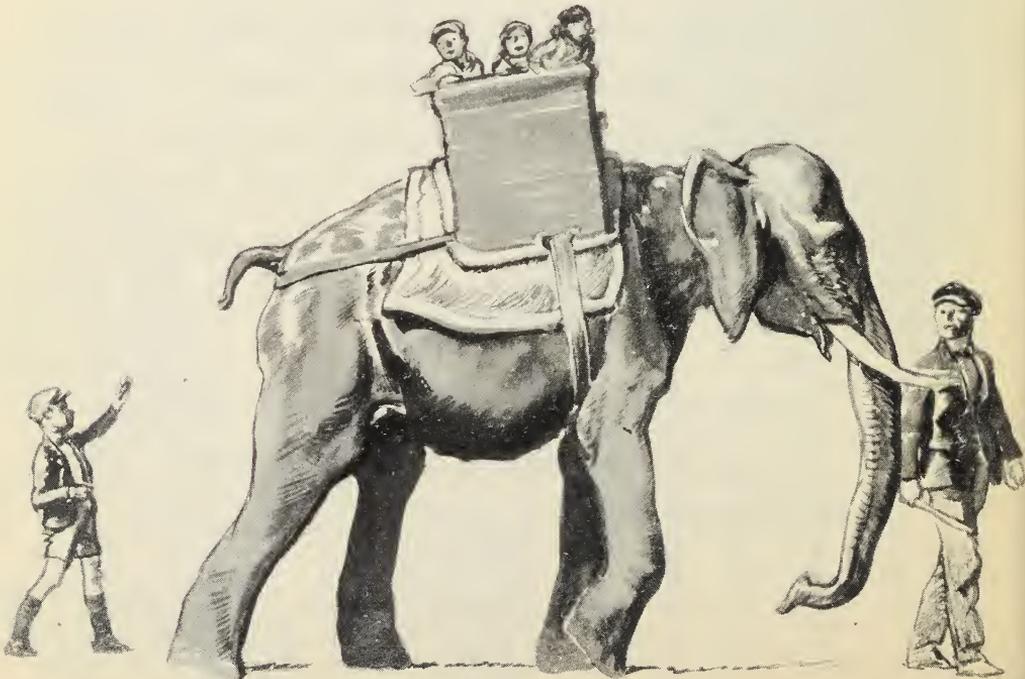
Long Nose walked that funny way that elephants walk.

The children rolled from side to side.
They went bump! bump! bump!

“Hold on!” cried Miss Black.

The children laughed until they were out of breath. What fun they had! They thought that they never had a ride before that was so much fun.

When they got home, they would tell their mothers and fathers all about the ride they had on Long Nose.



After the ride the man at the zoo told them some of the things they wanted to know about elephants.

He said that in the country Long Nose came from, the name for elephant was "the big thing."

Bill wanted to know if elephants were afraid of anything.

"An elephant is afraid of a mouse," said the man.

The children thought it was funny that an elephant was afraid of a little mouse.

"Now, it is time for Long Nose to have his dinner," said the man.

So the children watched Long Nose eat. Their eyes got bigger and bigger when they saw how much hay and oats the man gave Long Nose.

"Long Nose gets fresh vegetables every day," said the man.

"Long Nose could chew up all the carrots in my garden in one day," said Dick.

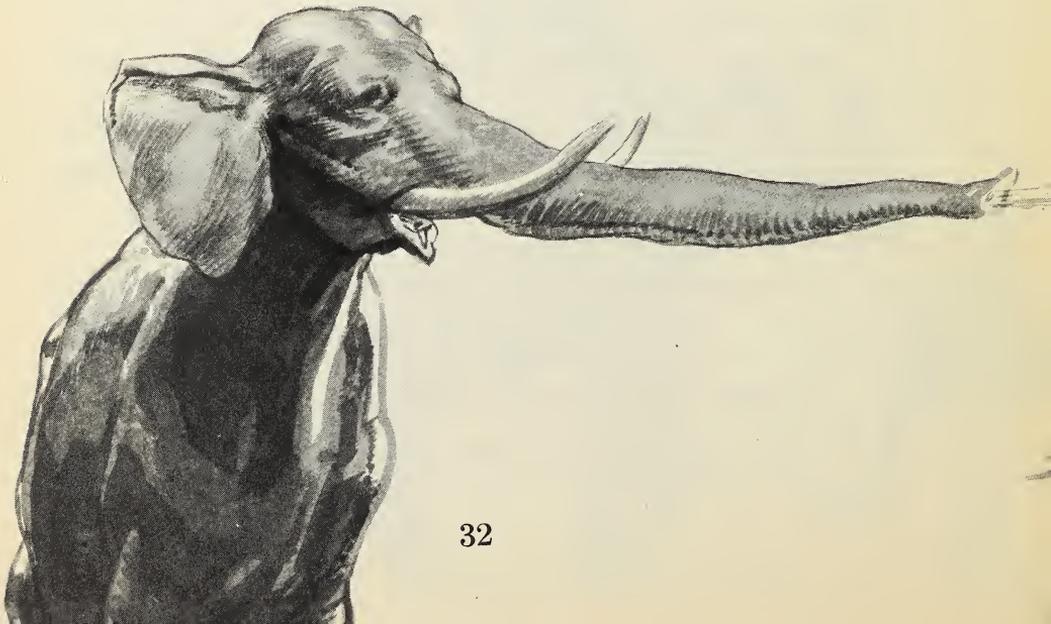
After he had eaten, Long Nose filled his trunk with water, held the trunk high, and threw the water all over his back.

“That is a good way to get washed,” the children said.

“One day the monkeys were talking and having a good time,” said the man. “Long Nose wanted to sleep.

“So Long Nose filled his big trunk with water and threw it all over the monkeys. The monkeys did not like that at all.”

“That was a good trick!” said Bill.



The children thanked the man for telling them about the elephants.

“We had a good ride and we liked the stories about Long Nose,” they said.

It was time for the children to go home. They told the man that they would come to the zoo again sometime.

Then they went over to Long Nose and said, “Good-by, good old Long Nose! We will come to see you again some other day.”

Miss Black and the children started off for home. They had had a very good time at the zoo that day.



One day in the winter the children in Miss Black's room went to the zoo again.

Before they saw Long Nose, they heard him.

They looked at each other and said, "Why is Long Nose crying like that?"

Poor Long Nose! He was running from one side of the yard to the other. He tossed his trunk from side to side.

The children called, "Come here, Long Nose! We have come to see you."

But Long Nose did not look at them. They threw nuts to him, but he would not eat them. He would not put his trunk through the fence.

When Frank held out some nuts to him, Long Nose ran the other way. Frank did not know what to think of that.

"Keep back from the fence," said Miss Black. "When his master comes, we will ask him why Long Nose is crying. I do not think he is well."

Before long his master and some other men came. His master went into the yard where Long Nose was.

Long Nose started to run away from him. His master tried to make him stand still. But Long Nose just ran from one side of the yard to the other.

The men talked together. They did not know what to do.



The elephant's master looked very sad.

"Long Nose is always glad to see me," he said. "I have never seen him like this before. How can I help him?"

One man said, "We will just have to do something for him. We cannot have an animal like that around. Long Nose may hurt someone."

"What can we do?" said all the men.





Another man said to Long Nose's master, "You will have to take him away from here. We would not want him to hurt the people."

The children were sad when they heard this. They did not want Long Nose to go away.

Then someone asked, "Do you think Long Nose wants some water?"

Someone else asked, "Do you think he is hungry?"

But Long Nose's master said, "I pumped water for him and gave him something to eat this morning."

By and by his master said, "If he were tied, we could see if he has been cut. I think he is hurt."

So all the men went over to Long Nose. By this time he had stopped running here and there. He was down on the grass.

Then the men tied his legs together and one man held his head down.

Long Nose did not like this at all. But his legs were tied, and he could not get up.



His master looked at his legs. They were not cut. He looked him all over. He could not find any cuts.

The man was no longer holding Long Nose's head down. And Long Nose tossed his head about as if it hurt him.

Just then Tom said, "See how he rolls his head around. Mother said that I did that when I had a tooth-ache."



“Well, let’s see,” said the man. “I never thought of a tooth-ache.”

The men held the elephant’s head still. His master looked at his teeth.

One tooth had a big hole in it. The hole was filled with hay. The master pulled out some hay. Again and again he pulled hay out of Long Nose’s tooth.

“See how much hay he is pulling out of Long Nose’s tooth!” the children said.

The master came over to the fence where the children were standing.

“Long Nose will get well,” he said. “Now we know what to do for him. He will be all right in a day or two.

“Come back some other day. Then Long Nose will be glad to see you.”

As the children walked back to school, they talked about Long Nose.

“Poor Long Nose!” they said. “What a big tooth-ache an elephant tooth-ache would be!”



The Fox and the Bag

One day a fox put a bee in a bag and went off down the road.

By and by the fox came to a house.

He said to the woman, "I am going to the city. Will you keep my bag for me?"

"Yes, I will," said the woman.

"Do not open the bag," said the fox.

Then the fox went on.

After the fox went away, the woman looked in the bag. Out flew the bee!

The woman had a big rooster, and he ran after the bee and ate him up.

When the fox came back, he opened his bag. The bee was not there.

“Where is my bee?” he asked.

“Oh!” said the woman. “I just looked in the bag. Then the bee flew out, and my rooster ate him up.”



“Then I will take the rooster,” said the fox.

So he put the rooster in his bag and went on. The fox stopped at the next house.

“I am going to the city,” he said. “Will you keep my bag for me?”

“Yes,” said the woman.

“Then do not open the bag,” said the fox.

But before the fox came back, the woman opened the bag. The rooster flew out.

The woman had a horse. The horse ran after the rooster and ate him up.



When the fox came back, he opened his bag.

“Where is my rooster?” he asked.

The woman said, “I just looked in the bag, and the rooster flew out. My horse ran after him and ate him up.”

“Then if the horse has eaten my rooster, I will take the horse,” said the fox.

So the fox put the horse in his bag and started off down the road.





The fox stopped at the next house.

“I am going to the city. Will you keep my bag for me?” he asked the woman.

“Yes, I will,” said the woman.

“Then do not open the bag,” said the fox.

After the fox went away, the woman went over to the bag. And just then the horse whinnied. So the woman opened the bag, and the horse jumped out.

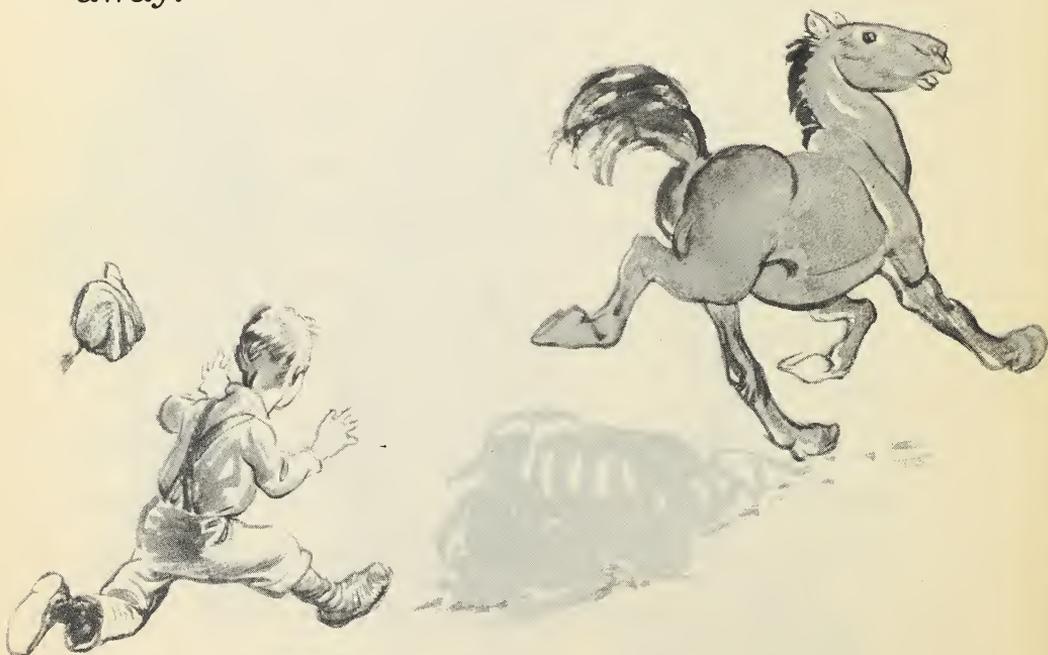
She called to her little boy, "Please run after the horse. Get him for me."

Her little boy tried to get him, but the horse got away.

The fox came back for his bag.

He opened the bag and said, "Where is my horse?"

"Oh, my!" the woman said. "I looked in the bag, and the horse jumped out. My little boy ran after him, but the horse got away."





“Well, then I will take the boy,” said the fox.

So he put the woman’s little boy in his bag and trotted on.

At the next house the fox said, “I am going to the city. May I keep my bag here?”

The woman said, “Yes, you may.”

“Then do not open the bag,” said the fox.

The woman had made some candy.

Her children were all crying out, “Oh, Mother, please give us some candy!”

I heard the children.

"I want some candy, too," he said.

The woman opened the bag.

She took the little boy out of the dark bag. She put the house dog in the bag and tied it up.

At last the fox came back. He did not know that the bag had been opened.

So the fox took the bag, tossed it over his back, and went on. The bad fox came to some woods.

As he walked on, he thought, "What a fine dinner I will have!"

By and by he said, "I will sit down here and cook my dinner."

Then he opened the bag. But the boy was not in the bag. He was at the house of the woman who had made the candy.

Yap! Yap! The house dog jumped out of the bag and ate up the bad old fox.

And that was the end of the fox!

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The following list contains the new words — fifteen in number — occurring in *Animals Are Fun* if *Animals Are Fun* is read subsequent to Unit One of the Second Reader, *We Grow Up*.

The new words are grouped here under the pages on which they first occur.

1	10	20	30	40
2	11	21	31	tooth
deer	fox	22	32	
Joan	Scrapefoot			41
Sue	12	23	33	
3	13	24	34	42
	14	kneel		
ate			35	43
	15	25		
4	16	26	36	44
5	17	27	hurt	45
6	18	zoo	37	
7	legs		38	46
		28		
8	19	trunk	39	47
	camel			
9	hump	29	tooth-ache	48

Where *TODAY'S WORK-PLAY BOOKS* are in use, *Animals Are Fun* may be read upon completion of page 54 of the Second Reader, *Friends and Workers*.

ANIMALS
ARE
FUN



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