

A day out with the Careless family (1)

story



Mollie and Robin Careless are playing in the garden of their new house on the edge of town. Their housing estate has been built on fields just outside the town.

Mum calls out, "Do you want to go out for a picnic today?"

"Yes please," shouts Mollie.

"Can we go to the pond in the country?" asks Robin. "I want to try out my new fishing rod."

"And I want to collect some animals 'cos we're doing animals at school," adds Mollie.

So, Dad packs the picnic while Mum puts all the things in the back of the car. It's only a short walk to the pond but they have quite a lot to carry so they take the car to make life easier.

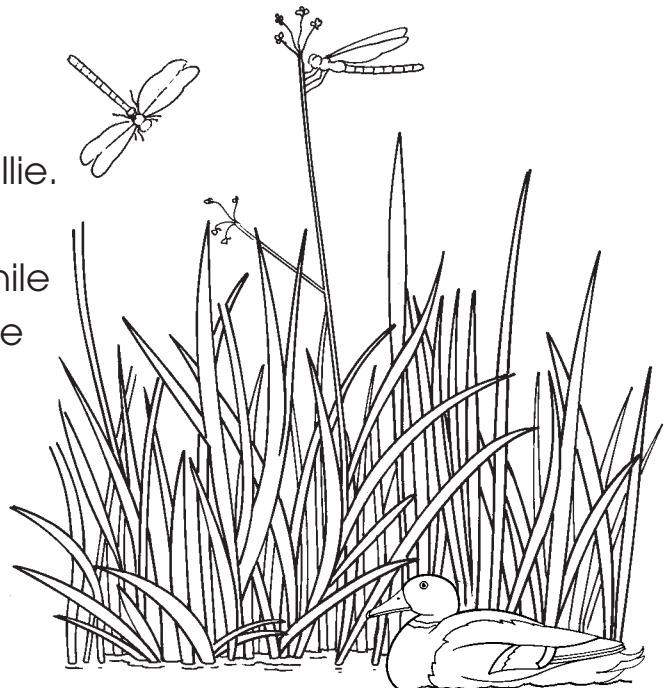


ILLUSTRATION: STUART TROTTER

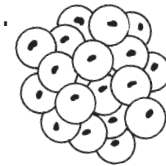
A day out with the Careless family (2)



When they arrive at the pond, Robin takes out his fishing rod. He tries to catch fish but all he manages to get is an old can and a lump of weed. His line gets tangled up and, after trying to untangle it for a couple of minutes he gives up and cuts the hook off.

Molly had been looking at a nest in a tree that had some eggs in it. She could not quite reach the nest so she went to look at the pond.

"Robin," shouts Mollie, "Look I've found some tadpoles and some frogspawn." She scoops out the animals and puts them in a jar by the side of the pond.



"Lunch is ready," says Mum.

"You're having crisps, yoghurt and cans of coke with your sandwiches," says Dad. "Unfortunately, I'm on a diet so all I've got is a tin of fruit cocktail."

After lunch, Robin picks up all the rubbish and takes it to the rubbish bin by the side of the pond. The bin is full so he just leaves the rubbish by the side of the bin.

After finishing the picnic in the sunshine, the family drives home.

