

The Jumping Alien!

Story by Michael Pryor
Illustrations by Forrest Burdett



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Chapter 1

Finding Zorgbon

Sanjay walked up and down near the sports ground at school. Where was Zorgbon? He was going to be late for the high-jump competition!

A teacher saw Sanjay and came over. "You look worried, Sanjay. Is anything wrong?"

Sanjay sighed. "Zorgbon's not here, Ms Edo. I've tried his phone but he's not answering."



“You’ve been coaching Zorgbon in the high jump, haven’t you?” asked Ms Edo.

“Yes, for months,” replied Sanjay. “He’s really good, but he doesn’t think he is.”

“He has long legs,” said Ms Edo. “He looks like he would be a good high jumper.”

“Zorgbon’s the best,” said Sanjay. “He can jump as high as anything.”



“He could be sick, I suppose,” said Ms Edo.

“Maybe. I think he’s just scared of failing,” said Sanjay.

Ms Edo looked at her watch. “Do you know where Zorgbon lives?”

“Yes. It’s not far,” Sanjay said. “I can go and get him. I promise we’ll come straight back.”

“You’re a good friend, Sanjay.”



The bus stopped right outside Zorgbon's house. Sanjay jumped off the bus, ran up the stairs and banged on the front door.

"I know you're in there, Zorgbon! Hurry up or we'll be late!"

Zorgbon opened the door. He was taller than Sanjay and his skin was bright blue. He had a nose like an elephant's trunk, long, skinny legs and big, sad eyes.

"Hello, Sanjay," he said. "I don't feel so good."

"Do you want to feel better?" Sanjay asked.

Zorgbon scratched his head. "I think so."

"Then imagine how good you'll feel when you win the high-jump competition!" Sanjay said, hopping from one foot to the other with excitement.



