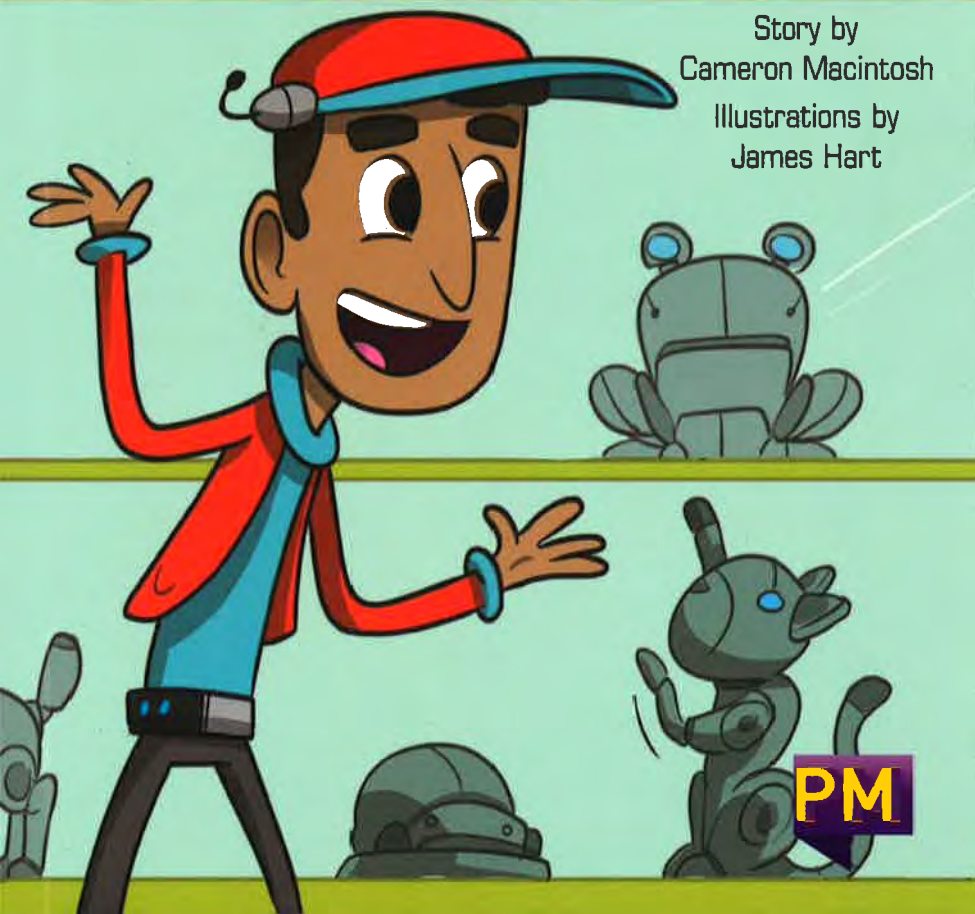
Hector's Electro-Pet Shop

Story by
Cameron Macintosh
Illustrations by
James Hart



PM

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Hector's Electro-Pet Shop

Level 25 **Curriculum Areas** Literacy; Science Fiction
Running Words 1703 **Text Type** Narrative (Imaginative)

Retelling to encourage critical thinking about the content

Ask each student to retell the story in his or her own words.
Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to reinforce meaning and stimulate discussion

Literal

1 Why had Mrs Grey come back to the shop to make a complaint?
2 What made Hector's expression change as he watched the robo-rabbit?
3 How did the metal body of the digi-dog become covered in scratches?

Inferential

4 Why was Julie called an 'assistant'?
5 What does the expression *in spite of all the interest* mean?
6 Why did Mrs Grey 'stomp' when she came into the shop?
7 Why did the robo-rabbit sniff the floor like a beagle?
8 Why didn't Mrs Grey find any humour in Hector's joke about digi-dogs?
9 Why did the April Fools' Day trick backfire?

Applied Knowledge

10 Which would be more important: the designer's job or the assistant's job?
11 If a customer is not satisfied with a product, why should they be given a full refund?
12 Why did Hector declare that his business was in very big trouble?

Vocabulary

Replace the verb 'poured' in this sentence:
Customers poured into the shop all through the afternoon.

Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 26	Book	Narrative	*Runaway Alien*
Level 26	Book	Narrative	*The Mystery at Number 7*

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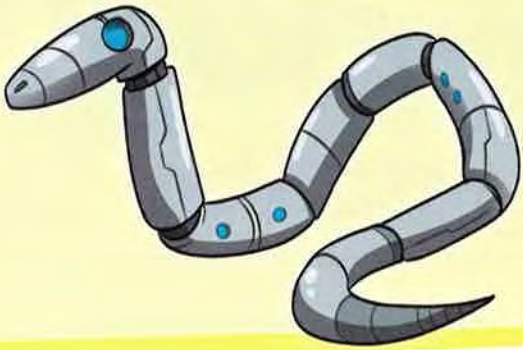
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Chapter 1

Unleashing Big Ideas



At first, it seemed to be a regular Wednesday morning at Hector's Electro-Pet Shop. Hector was sweeping the floor and dusting the shelves that housed his robotic animals – a sparkling range of electronic dogs, birds, rabbits and many others. His assistant, Julie, was working hard in the workshop at the back of the building, welding together a new robotic snake that Hector had designed just a few days earlier.

Hector designed the robotic animals he sold in his shop, but it was Julie who turned his ideas into barking, squeaking, hopping electro-pets.

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Hector knew that he would be in all sorts of trouble without Julie. It was one thing to think up exciting ideas for electronic animals, but a very different challenge to transform those ideas into real robots!



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It had been a very busy week at the shop so far. More and more people had learned about Hector's inventions through a 3D billboard he and Julie had put up near the shop.

In spite of all the interest, Hector had only sold one electro-pet since Monday – an electronic rabbit.

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Chapter 2

A Grey Kind of Day



Hector was busy drawing sketches for a radio-controlled caterpillar, when the shop doors opened and a very angry-looking woman, Mrs Grey, stomped up to the counter. "I would like to speak to the manager," she huffed.

"I am the manager," said Hector. "How may I be of assistance?"

"Well," said Mrs Grey, "you can begin by explaining to me why the robo-rabbit I purchased here yesterday is refusing to hop. It spent all day sniffing the floor and trying to chase cats. This is not what I paid for!"

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Hector sells all kinds of exciting robotic animals at his Electro-Pet Shop. But when the robo-rabbit he sold to Mrs Grey starts acting like a dog, Hector is very confused. What has happened to make his electro-pets so muddled?



Text Type:
Narrative (Imaginative)

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