The Speedy Sloth



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TCM Teacher Created Materials

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For Review Only

Chapter One

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Slow as a Sloth

My name is Pedro. I live outside a city in Peru. Mamá, papá, and I share a comfortable hut near the Amazon Rainforest. Each morning, I wake up late.

Mamá always scolds, "You're as slow as a sloth."

And I tell her, "Sloths aren't slow!"

But I realize that sloths are just about the slowest creatures on Earth. They hang from trees. It takes a month for them to digest a single leaf. They're so slow that algae grows on their fur.

For Review Only



For Review Only

I know a shortcut so I am not late for school. I have to cut through the rainforest and come out behind the school. My parents think the forest is dangerous, but I watch for snakes, bullet ants, scorpions, and spiders.



For Review Only

Today, as I am walking through the dense forest, I spot something on a low-hanging branch. It's a sloth, and it's staring at me.

I say, "Mamá thinks I am slow, like you."

I pull a leaf from a nearby tree.



For Review Only



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"Here's a treat for you, sloth," I say.

Of course, the sloth doesn't move a muscle.

Suddenly, I feel a whoosh of air. It's like something just raced by me. I look around and see nothing. My heart is beating as I look up. *Did the sloth just swallow something?* I wonder. I look down at my hand. The leaf is gone!

Did the sloth race to the leaf and back to the tree so fast that I didn't even see it?

Now I am definitely going to be late for school. So I run. I take one last look at the sloth. I feel like he's smiling at me. *Wait a minute! Wasn't the sloth facing the other way when I first spotted him?*

For Review Only

The Speedy Sloth

Pedro's mamá calls him "slow as a sloth" because he always wakes up late. But then, Pedro discovers a sloth that may have superspeed. He gets his best friend Alessa to help him find proof.

For Review Only

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