

Caterpillar Catastrophe

Leroy and his grandad hope to win the Glenford Gardening Competition and be featured on the local news. Leroy is keen to help so Grandad puts him in charge of watering, with instructions to add one drop of Grow Magic to every can of water. But Leroy is too busy daydreaming and tips in the whole bottle by mistake! What will Grow Magic do to Grandad's veggies... and the local bugs?

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This book is Lime Band/Level 11

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Maverick

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Written by Jenny Moore

Illustrated by
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'Caterpillar Catastrophe'

An original concept by Jenny Moore

© Jenny Moore

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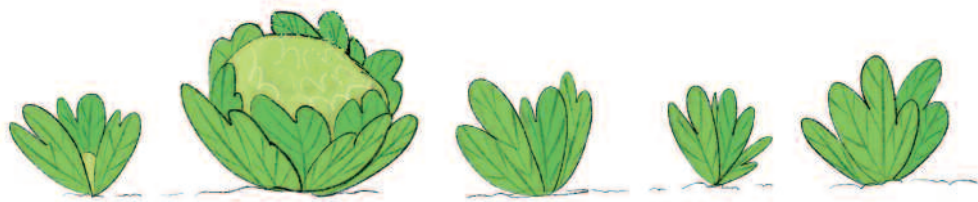
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Chapter 1

Leroy was walking down the alley to Grandad's back garden when he heard a horrible wailing noise.

"Oo-ah-oo-oo-oo."

It sounded like a chimpanzee with tummy ache... and it was growing louder with every step. Leroy followed the sound all the way to Grandad's garden and peered over the wall.



It wasn't a chimpanzee with tummy troubles.

It was Grandad, singing to his vegetables.

"Oo-ah-oo-oo-oo," Grandad wailed at the top of his voice. "It's growing time for you-oo-oo.

Listen to my cabbage song,

Grow fat and round,

Grow big and strong..."

"Hello," called Leroy, with his hands over his ears.

"Oh, hello," said Grandad, opening the gate for him. "I was just singing my cabbages a little song to help them grow faster. You can help if you want."

"Erm... Have you got any other jobs we could do together?" Leroy asked. Grandad's singing was more likely to *kill* the cabbages.

"You bet," said Grandad. "I've got a list of jobs as long as my arm. It's the Glenford Gardening Competition on Saturday," he explained.

"The winner gets to be on the local news! How amazing would that be? Plus I really want to beat grumpy Mr Tomkins from next door." He added in a whisper, "I've even ordered a secret weapon on the internet. If you take over the singing for me, I'll go and fetch it."

Grandad hurried off to his shed, leaving Leroy to entertain the vegetables.

“Yo, listen up all,
To my new cabbage rap,
This is DJ Leroy
In the vegetable patch.
If you want to be big
And star on local TV,
You’d better flex those leaves

And get growing with me...”

Grandad came back from the shed, clutching a small green bottle. He shook his hips and waggled his bottom in time to Leroy’s beat.

“Oo-ah-oo-oo-oo,” he joined in. “It’s growing time for...”

“That’s enough!” came an angry roar, making them both jump.

