RATTLETRACK ROAD



John Parsons

Betty Greenhatch

Nelson Literacy Directions

NELSON
CENGAGE Learning

NLD Level: 7
Reading Age: 9.1–9.3
Text Type: Narrative

Rattletrack Road

Text: John Parsons
Editor: Sharon Parsons
Text design: John Parsons
Cover design: Jennifer Warwick
Series design: Simply Literacy Limited, James Lowe and Jennifer Warwick
Illustrations: Betty Greenhatch
Production controller: Adam Bextream

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ISBN 978 0 17 018357 4

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Printed in China by 1010 Printing International Ltd
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 14 13 12 11 10

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Rattletrack Road

Written by John Parsons
Illustrated by Betty Greenhatch

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Meet the Characters



Juniper

A clever student.



Mrs Humphries

A rattled driver who is Juniper and Theo's mum.



Theo

Juniper's little brother.



Mr Humphries

Another rattled driver who is Juniper and Theo's dad.



Mr Bonito

A neighbour.

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POSTCARD

Dear Reader

The town I used to live in had the bumpiest roads you could imagine. It was almost like driving on a safari, except there weren't quite as many lions or giraffes. One day, I was thudding and juddering my way to the post office when I thought, "Some people would find this fun!" And thoughts like that are how stories start!

John Parsons
Author

Pinecone Valley



1. The freeway
2. Rattletrack Road

1 Puddles and Potholes

THUMP! CRASH! Holding a carton of eggs, Juniper Humphries fell across the back seat. She bounced against her brother Theo. In the front seat, Juniper's mum grimly held the steering wheel.

The wipers flicked thick blobs of mud off the windscreen.

"Oh no!" said Mrs Humphries, who had just been to the salon. "My hairdo is ruined!"

There was another thump, and another splash of mud. Like a jack-in-the-box, Mrs Humphries' hairdo hit the car roof again.

"Mum!" complained Theo. "Juniper sat on my video game!"





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"I'm trying to save these eggs," said Juniper.

JUDDER! JUDDER! JUDDER!

The car made a sound like a washing machine.

Mrs Humphries steered through the last of the puddles and potholes on Rattletrack Road. With a sigh of relief, she drove onto the main street of Pinecone Valley.

"Someone really should do something about that road," she complained. "It's the only road into Pinecone Valley from the freeway. It's ten kilometres of pure disgrace."

"Someone should do something about big sisters who sit on video games!" added Theo.

He pushed his sister. Juniper yelped – and dropped the carton of eggs.

"Now look what you made me do!" she complained. "They were fine on Rattletrack Road – and now look at them!"

Soon, they were home. Mrs Humphries, Theo, and Juniper all climbed out, and slammed the car doors.

"Hello!" called Mr Humphries from the driveway. "My, that's a nice hairdo," he smiled.

Mrs Humphries let out a sound like a grumpy lion that has just had its tail pulled. Mr Humphries suddenly remembered an urgent job to do in the garage – the neighbour's garage.

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