Pickles and the Very Large Fly



Story by Carmel Reilly
Illustrations by Pat Reynolds

PM Early Chapters

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Pickles and the Very Large Fly

Level 19

Running Words	Complete text	505
Reading Record	Pages 6–11	186

Key Teaching Points

- Read the previous stories about Pickles.
- List some points about how to prepare a dog for a show.
- Discuss why Pickles was distracted by the fly.

Key Questions

- Why was Mum worried about entering Pickles in the show? *(Literal)*
- How old was Pickles? *(Literal)*
- Why did Eddie pretend to be a judge when Nina was practising for the show? *(Inferential)*
- Why do you think Pickles kept chasing the fly? *(Inferential)*
- Explain what the judge meant when she said that Pickles would learn quickly. *(Applied knowledge)*

Vocabulary Enrichment

- Explain that adverbial phrases tell how, when and where; e.g. *on his lead.*
- Talk about these past-tense verbs: *kept, sprang, caught, sped.*
- Build a list of words with the suffix *-wards*; e.g. *towards.*

Links with other PM Books

PM Early Chapters	Level 15	Meeting Pickles
PM Early Chapters	Level 16	Training Pickles

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Chapter 1

The Dog Show



"Mum!" called Nina
as she rushed in the door.
"There's going to be a dog show
at the park next week."

"Can I enter Pickles?" she asked.

"Oh," said Mum, looking a little surprised.
"Do you think he is old enough
to go in a show?"

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"Oh, please, Mum," said Nina.
"Pickles is a year old now,
and he's doing really well at training."

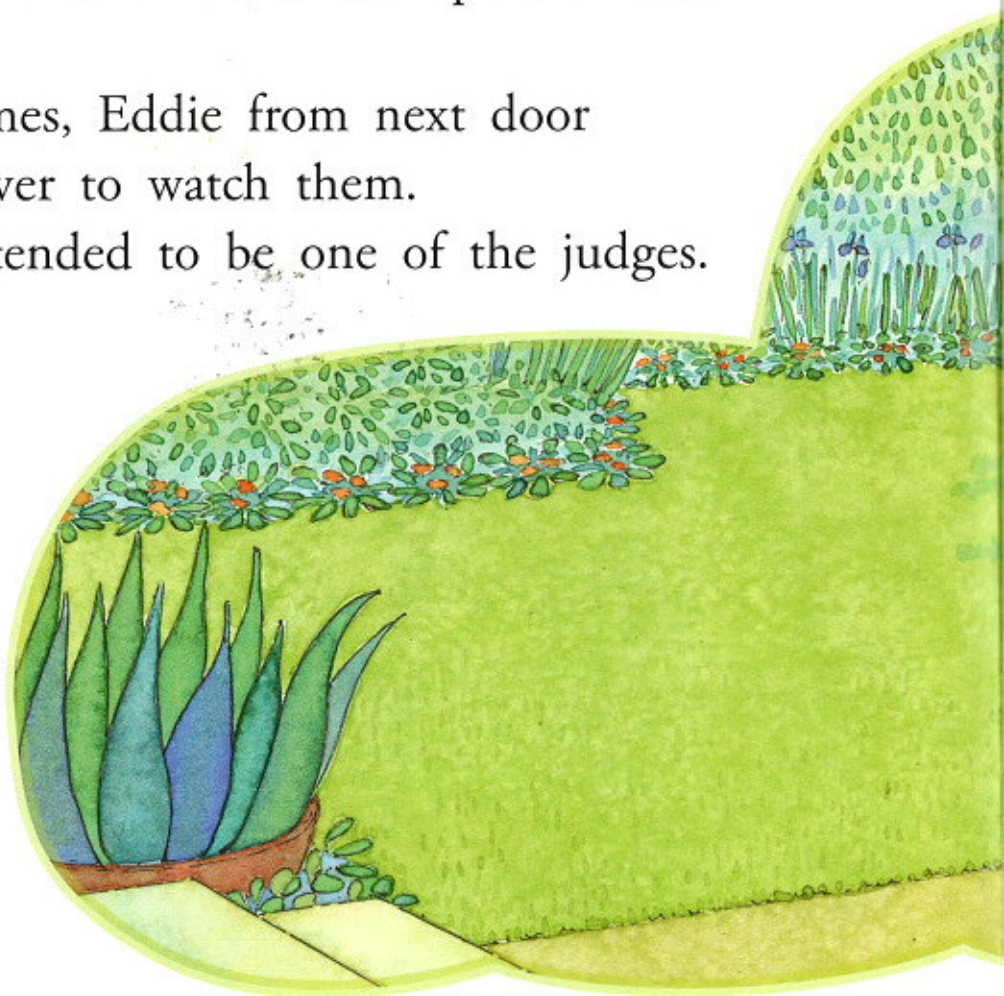
Mum smiled. "All right, then.
You can enter him," she said.



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All week, Nina and Pickles practised for the show.
Nina walked Pickles around the garden on his lead.
She got him to sit, stand up and fetch.

Sometimes, Eddie from next door came over to watch them.
He pretended to be one of the judges.



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On the morning of the show, Eddie helped to get Pickles ready before they went down to the park with Nina's mother.



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Chapter 2

Too Excited



At the park, Nina waited
with the other owners and their dogs
for the show to begin.

She could see Pickles looking
at all the other dogs.
His tail wagged and he started to pull
on his lead.

"Sit, Pickles, sit," Nina said quietly.

But Pickles was too excited to sit.