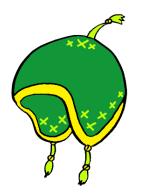
Amy stepped through the blue door into a small room.

The room was filled with woolly hats. Hats with bobbles, with tassels, with ear flaps, or even with ears.

"What beautiful hats!" Amy thought.

"I wonder if they would fit me? I have always wanted a hat with a bobble!"



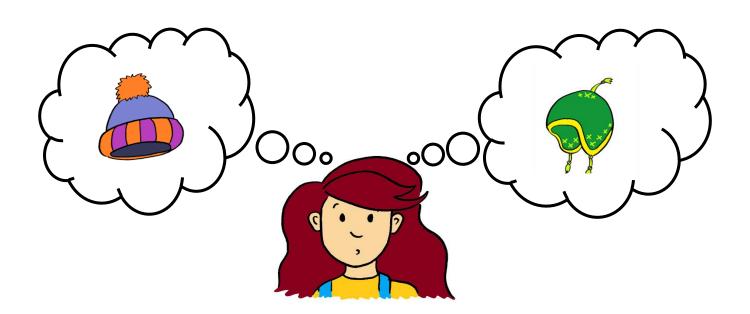


She tried some hats on. No bobble hats fitted her. But a hat with ear flaps fitted her very well.

Now help me out a moment -



What kind of hat did Amy hope would fit her?



Thank you! Let's carry on.

"What are you doing?" A small voice shouted.

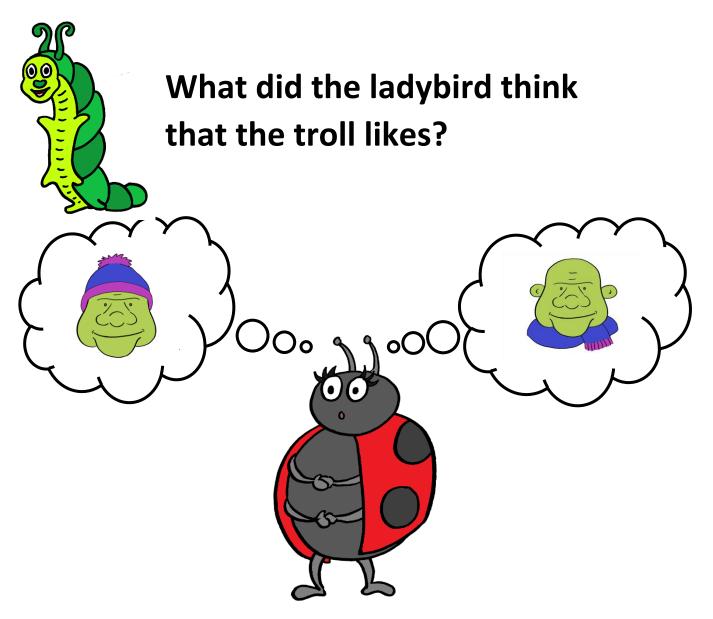
Amy jumped! She turned around and saw a little ladybird holding big knitting needles made from sticks.



"Those hats are for the troll!" The ladybird cried.

"I'm so sorry", Amy said. "I didn't mean to take your hats."

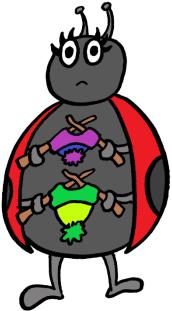
The ladybird cried again. "I made hundreds of scarves because I heard that the troll liked scarves. But no! He doesn't want scarves from me, he only likes hats!" Can you just remind me -



Great listening! I wonder what happened next...

"The troll?" Amy said. "Who is the troll?"

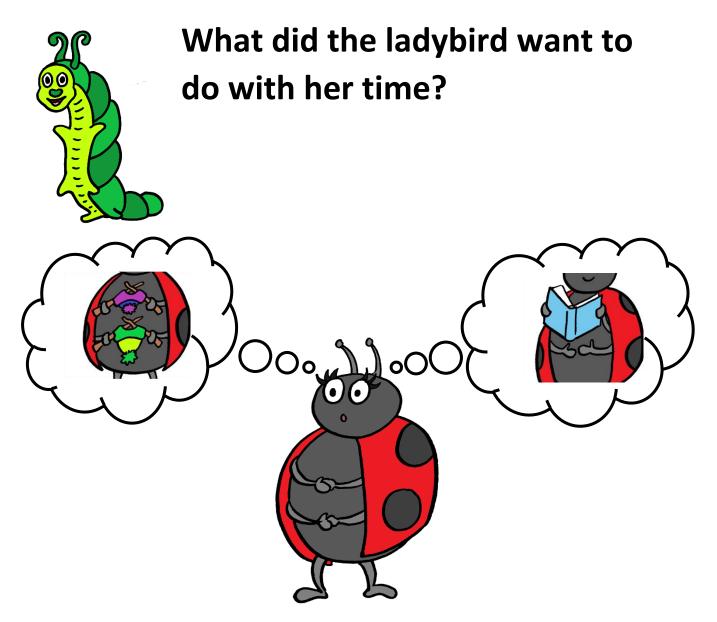
"The troll lives on the hill above our village," Ladybird said. "He gets very cold in the winter so he needs lots of clothes to sleep in through all the winter. If he gets cold, he will get angry and destroy our village.





"Every year we make lots of clothes for him and we don't have time to do anything else. I dream of reading books. But I spend all of my time making hats."

Now tell me...



That's great! Let's continue...

"Why does he need so many hats?" Amy asked.



"The troll dribbles when he sleeps, so he ruins all of his clothes!

"The clothes get holes in and he can't wear them again.





"So he gets cold and he gets angry and he demands new clothes from us here in the village.

"And because he is so big and powerful, we have to make him the new clothes to wear."

Oh no, l've forgotten!



Thank you! Let's carry on.

"It means we never stop making clothes!" Ladybird said sadly.

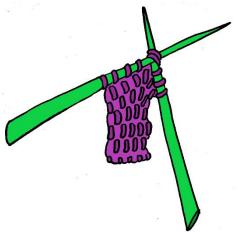
"It's very hard now, because I only have

these knitting needles made from big sticks. They are very heavy, but I will have to use them tonight because they are all I have."



There was a knock at the door.

"Who's there?" called Ladybird.

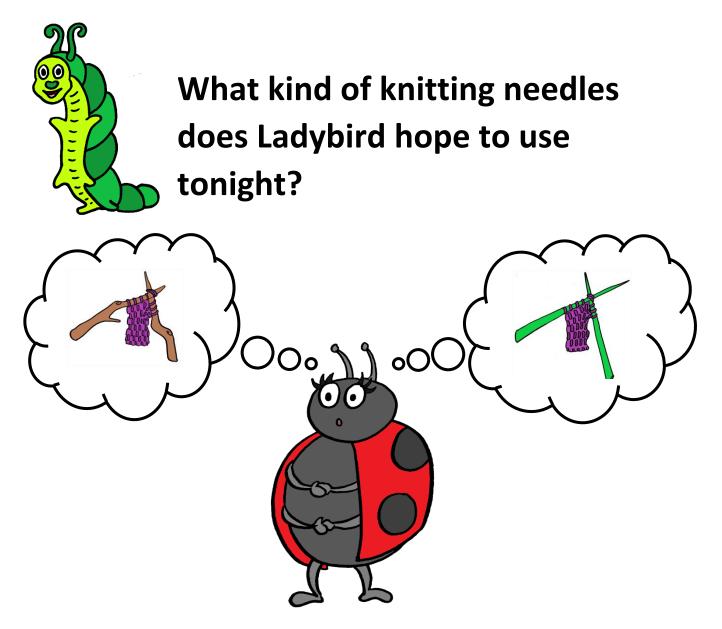


"It's Beetle!" A voice cried. "I have your new grass stalk knitting needles!"

"Oh wonderful!" said Ladybird. "I have been

waiting for my new needles for so long! Now I can use them tonight!"

Now let's see -



Fantastic! Let's keep reading.

"Something has to be done about this troll," Amy said. "It is not right that you are all working so hard for him."

"Maybe," said Ladybird, "but I have no time to do anything but knit!"

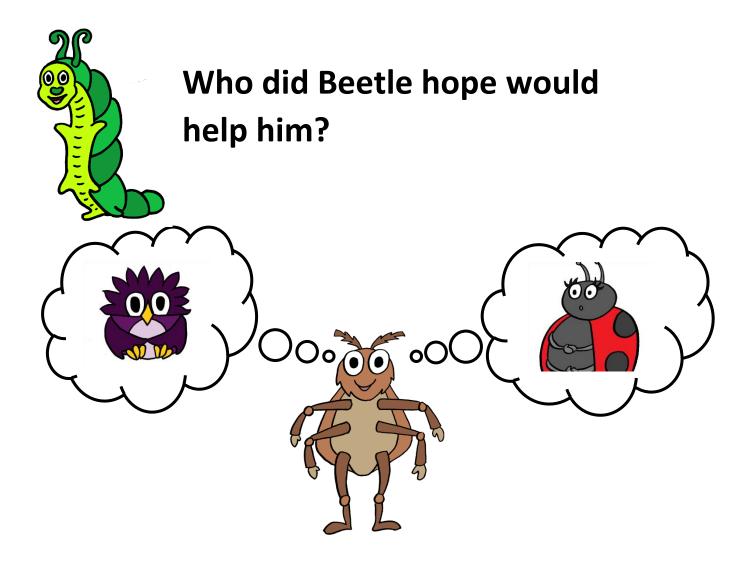
She took her grass stalk needles to her chair and started knitting again.

"Come with me," said Beetle to Amy.

Beetle and Amy left Ladybird's little house.

"I have looked for so long for someone like you!" Beetle said to Amy. "I asked the Great Owl if she would help us, but she could not help. I never imagined a human would help us! But here you are!"

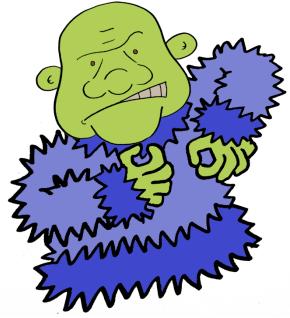
Oh, this is important!



Thanks for your help! Let's go on.

"I will try my best," Amy promised. "What have you tried before?"

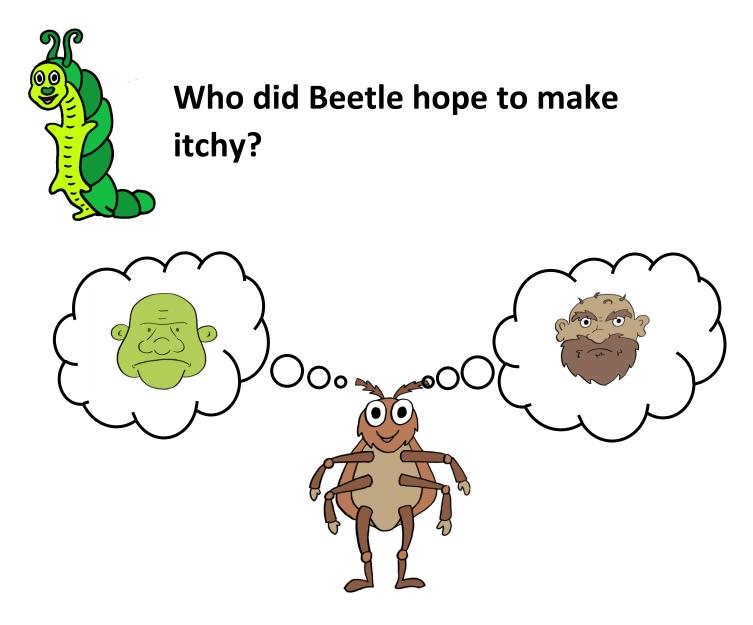
"We tried making the clothes from scritchy, scratchy wool," Beetle said, "to make the troll itchy and to make him look for his clothes somewhere else.





"But he gave those clothes to his friend the giant. And it was the giant who spent all winters itching and scratching, not the troll."

Do you remember?

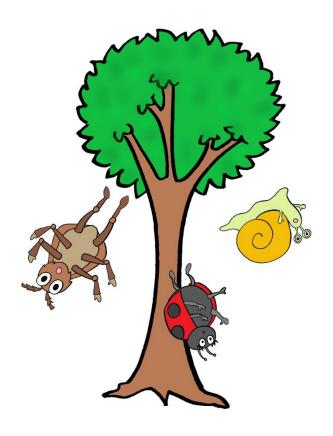


Good answering! Shall we carry on?

"What else did you try?" Amy asked.

"We tried hiding," Beetle said. "We all hid in the trees. We wanted Troll to look in a different village for his clothes.

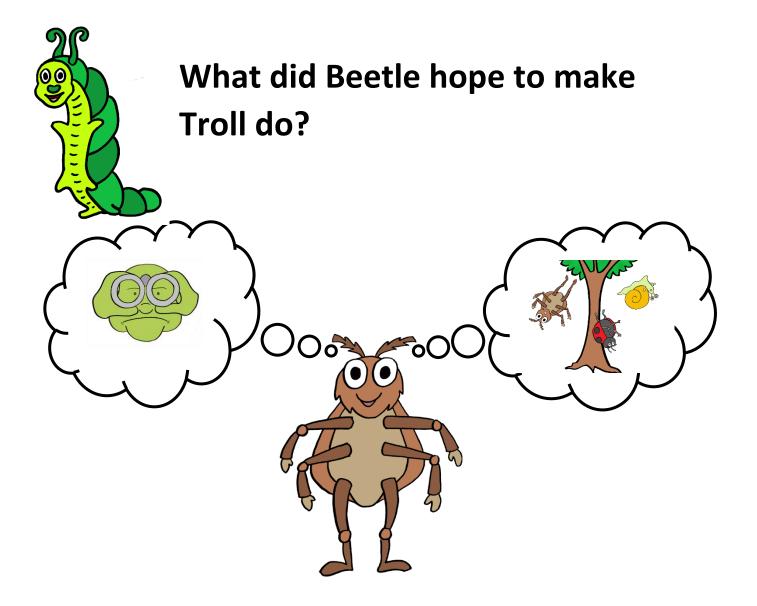




"But when Troll came to the village, he shook the trees until we all fell out.

"So we had to make the clothes again."

Please remind me -



That's great! Let's find out what happens next.

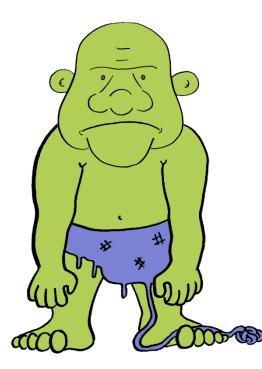
Amy suddenly said, "I have an idea! Let's make sure the troll doesn't need clothes to stay warm. Then you won't have to make them all the

time."

"I don't want to stop making clothes," Beetle said. "I do like to make jumpers.

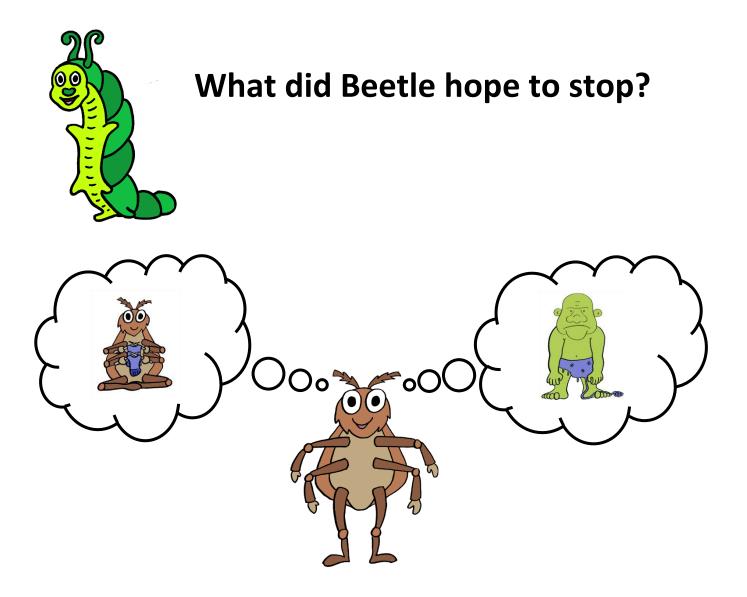


"But I wish Troll would stop coming to



the village for clothes all the time!"

"You can do anything you like when I've finished," Amy said. "But the troll will leave you alone." Can you help me -



Thanks very much! Let's carry on.

"Here is what I need," said Amy. "Do you have something that keeps water out, and something very sticky?"



"Yes," said Beetle. "We have large leaves that we use on our houses, they keep water out. And Snail makes a very sticky trail. I can fetch the leaves."

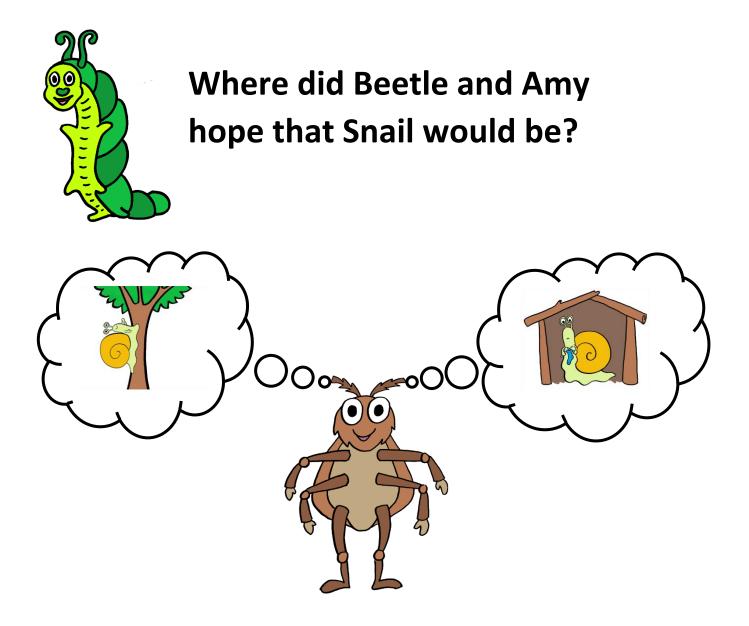
"What about Snail?" said Amy.

"He might be up a tree looking for his lunch," Beetle said. "But if we are lucky, he will be at home, making socks."



They went to Snail's house. They were in luck – there he was!

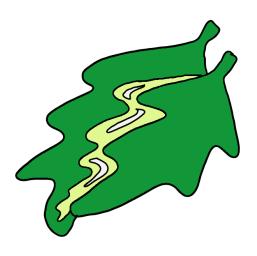
I've already forgotten!



Oh, thanks! Let's continue.

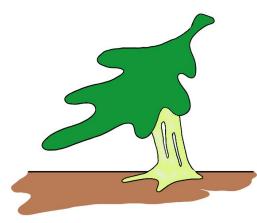
"Hello Snail," said Beetle. "Can you help us with our plan?"

"We're going to make a Troll sleeping bag out of these waterproof leaves," said Amy. "Snail, please can you stick



them together? I'll show you where."

Snail said, "My slime is so strong, I'm

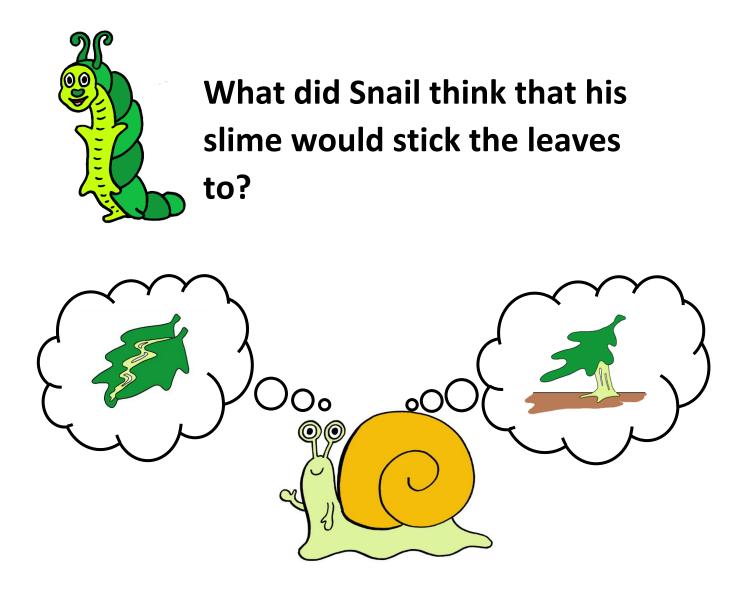


sure I can stick these leaves together."

"Be careful!" said Amy. "Don't stick the leaves to the floor!"

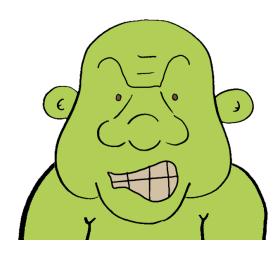
Snail was very careful and did exactly as Amy said. Before they knew it, they had one Troll sized waterproof sleeping bag!

Help me here please -



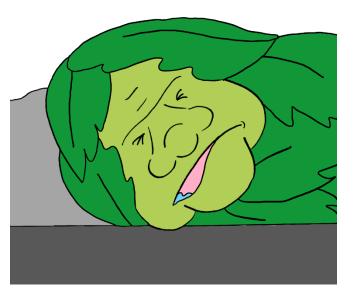
Great! Let's see what happened next.

That night, with their sleeping bag, Amy and Beetle crept up the mountain to where the Troll lay sleeping.



"We must not wake him up!" Beetle whispered to Amy. "If he wakes up, we are in trouble!"

They dragged and they heaved and they managed to drag the Troll into the sleeping bag. He gave one loud GRUUUUNT... but he stayed asleep.

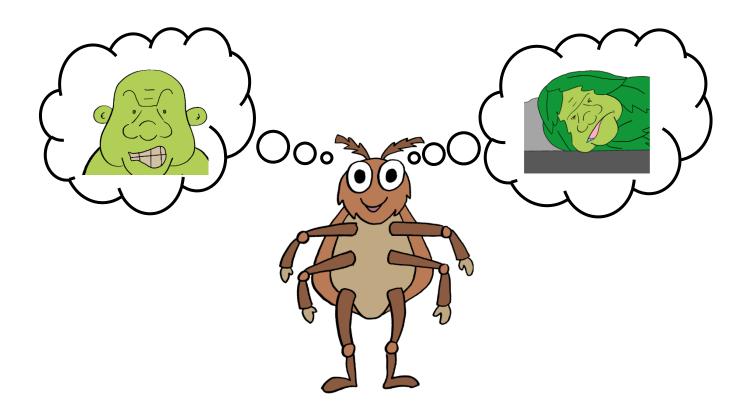


Beetle and Amy crept back to the village as fast as they could.

Just tell me -



What did Beetle hope that the Troll would do?



Good! We're nearly finished now.

"Well done Amy!" said Beetle. "Your sleeping bag will keep the troll dry."

"Now the Troll can dribble and dribble, but he won't ruin all the clothes you made," Amy smiled.

"Wonderful!" said Ladybird. "Now I can stop making hats and read my books!"

Everyone laughed. The village was happy, the Troll was warm and dry, and Amy was given all the woolly bobble hats and



socks that she could ever want.

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