




In the Big City

By Paul Shipton

Illustrated by Fabiano Fiorin



Contents

 In the Big City	2
 Picture Dictionary	20
 About Read and Imagine	22



Picture Dictionary



building



bus



camera



car



police officer



radio



river



robot



cell phone



city



drive



feel



shout



sky



steal



store



get out of



guidebook



hit



idea



street



taxi



thief
plural thieves



top



light



moon



mountain



park



train



type



van



woman



Hello!
My name's Ben.

Hello!
My name's Rosie.

This is
Grandpa.

This is Grandpa's
van. It's fantastic!



Ben

Rosie's brother



Rosie

Ben's sister



Grandpa



Clunk

Grandpa's robot



Max

Ben's friend



Two thieves



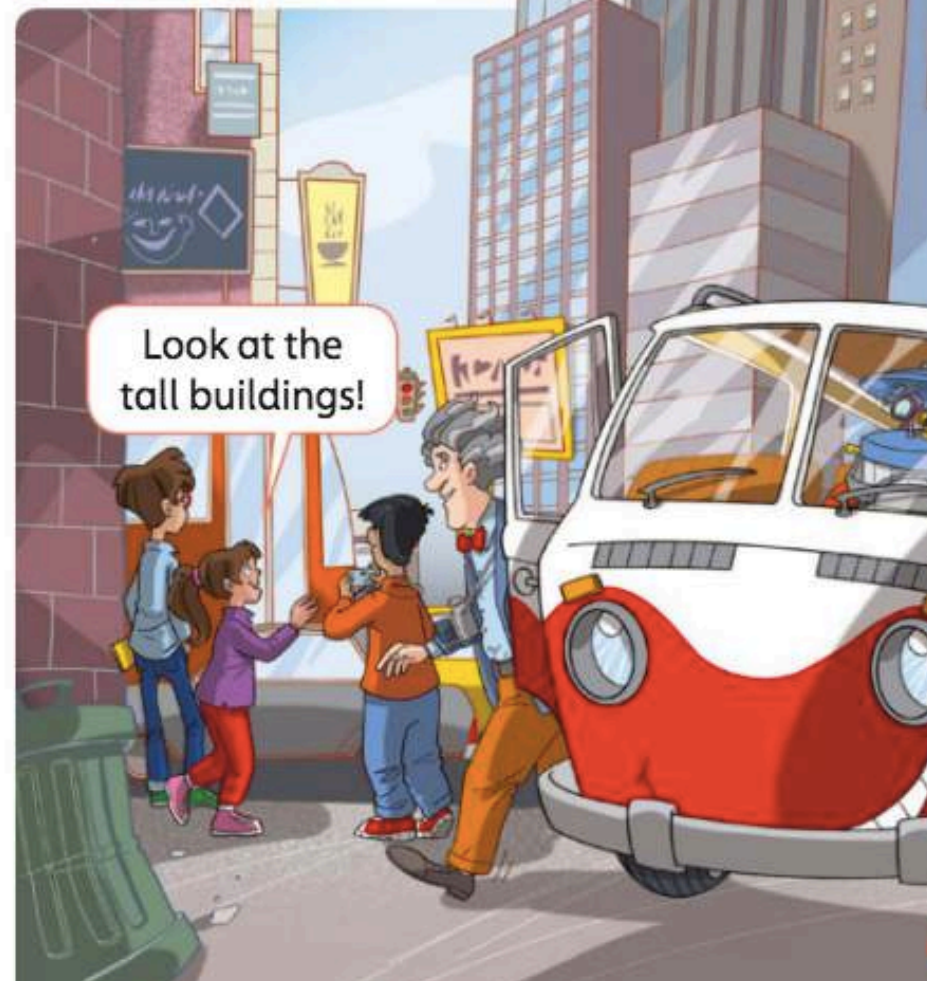
Now let's read this story,
In the Big City!



When the van stops, it's in a big city. There are lots of cars and buses and taxis.

'Wow! Look at the tall buildings!' says Rosie.

Ben has a guidebook. 'Come on!' he says.

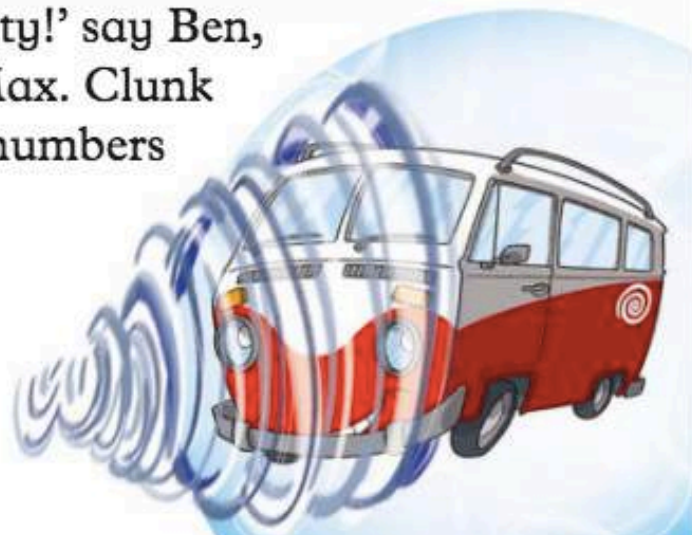


'Where do you want to go today?' asks Clunk.

'Tell him, children,' says Grandpa.

'To the big city!' say Ben, Rosie and Max. Clunk types some numbers on the van's computer.

'Let's go!' he says.

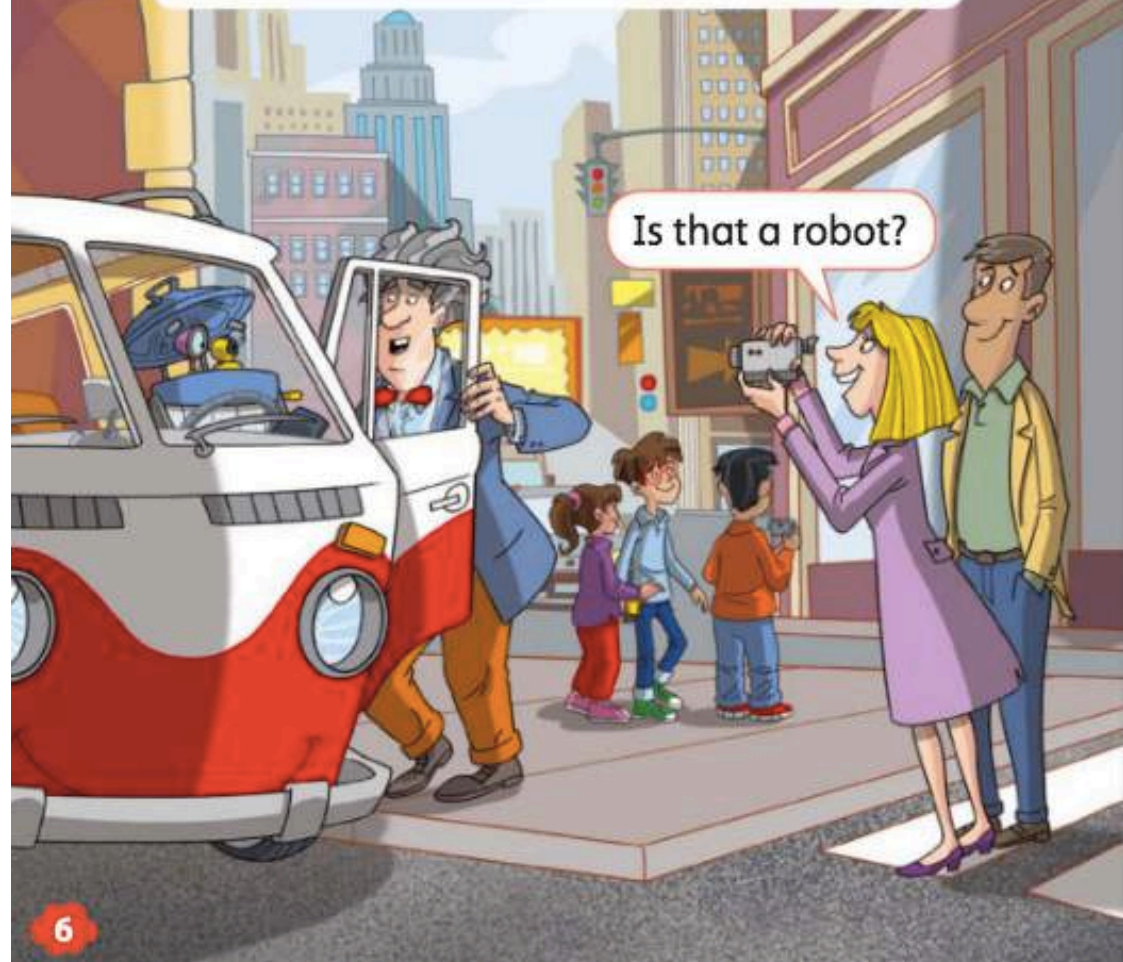




Some people on the street are pointing at Clunk.

'Is that a robot?' asks a woman with a camera.

'It's not easy to have a robot in the big city,' says Grandpa. 'Clunk, please can you wait in the van?'



Is that a robot?

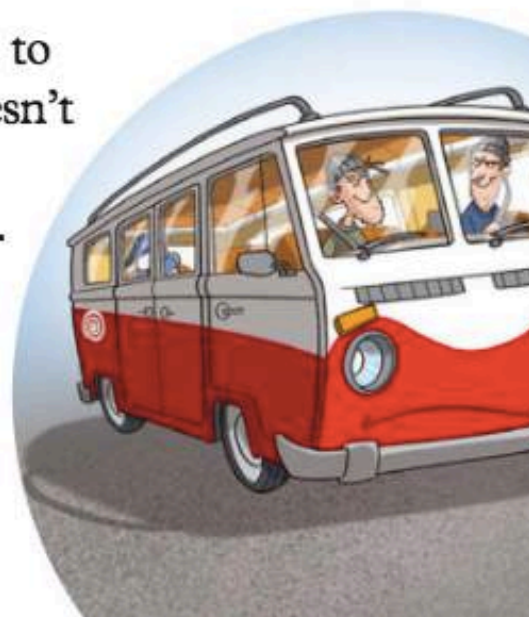


After Grandpa and the children go, Clunk sits in the van.

He closes his eyes, so he doesn't see the two men at the windows.

Clunk is listening to the radio. He doesn't hear the doors when they open.

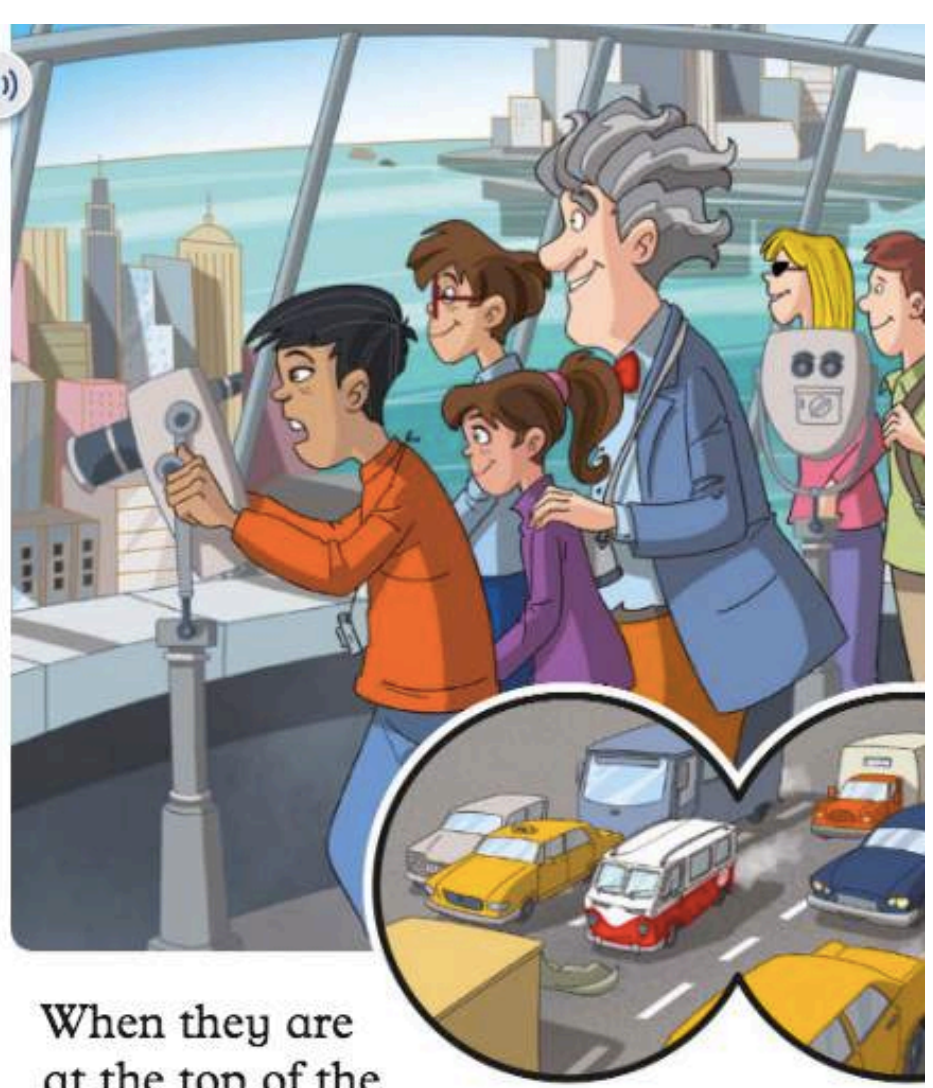
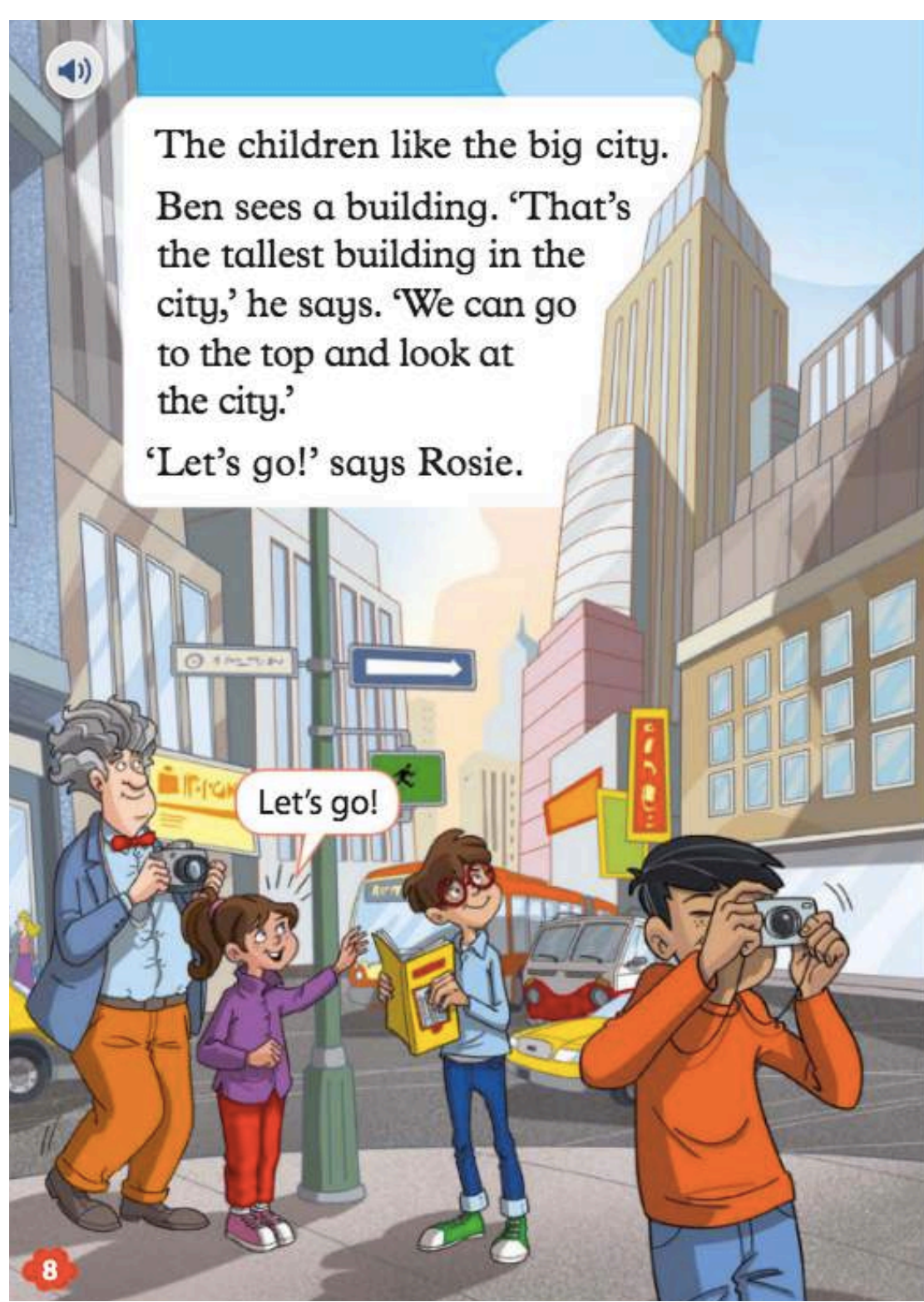
'I like this van,' says one of the men. 'Let's steal it!'





The children like the big city.
 Ben sees a building. 'That's
 the tallest building in the
 city,' he says. 'We can go
 to the top and look at
 the city.'
 'Let's go!' says Rosie.

Let's go!



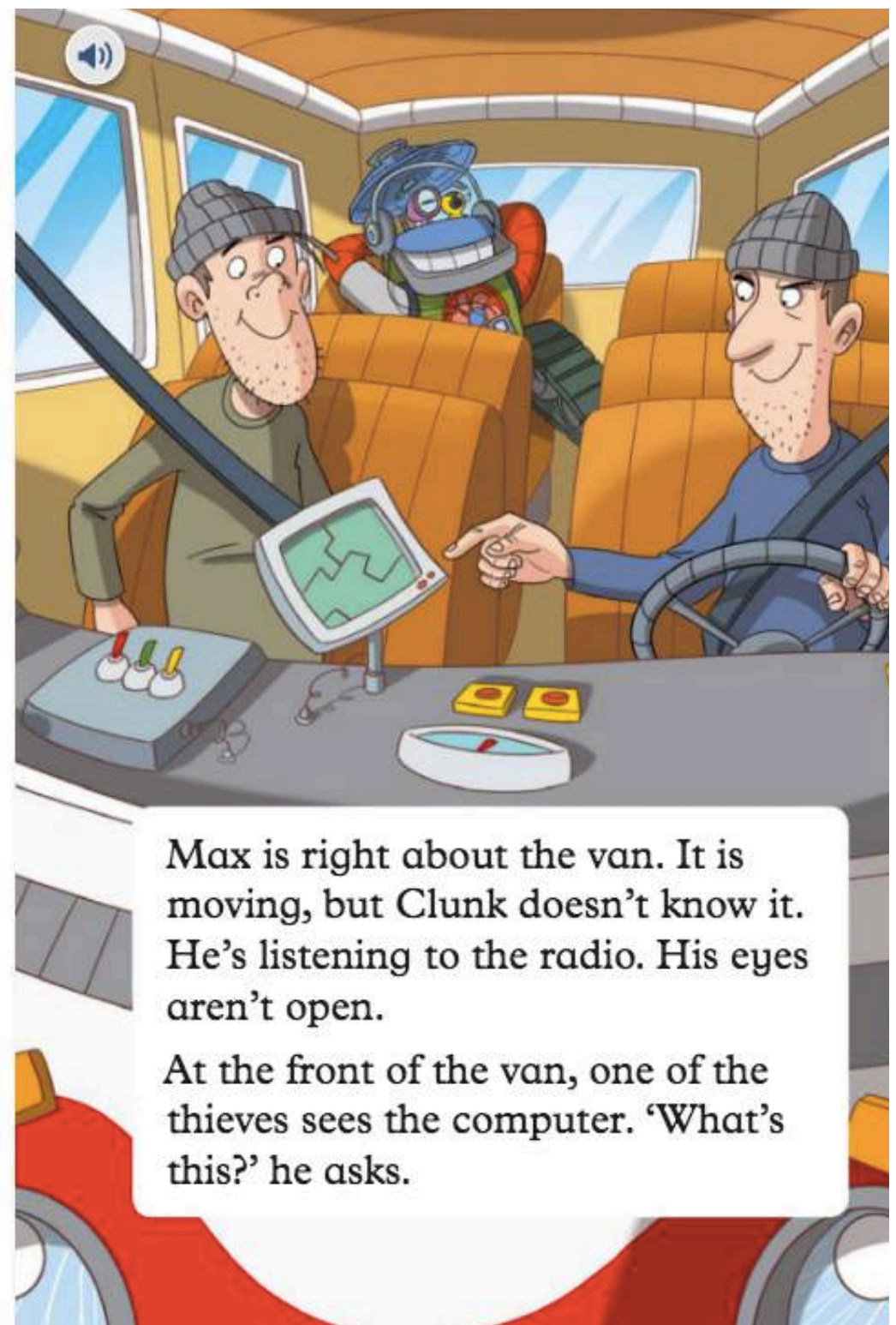
When they are
 at the top of the
 building, they can see lots of the city.
 'Look at the cars,' says Rosie.
 'Look there!' says Max. 'I can see
 Grandpa's van, and it's moving!'
 'Where?' asks Grandpa.



Grandpa can't see the van.

'This is a big city, Max,' he says. 'There are lots of red and white vans here.'

He looks at his watch. 'It's time for us to go home. Come on. We can take a taxi to the van.'



Max is right about the van. It is moving, but Clunk doesn't know it. He's listening to the radio. His eyes aren't open.

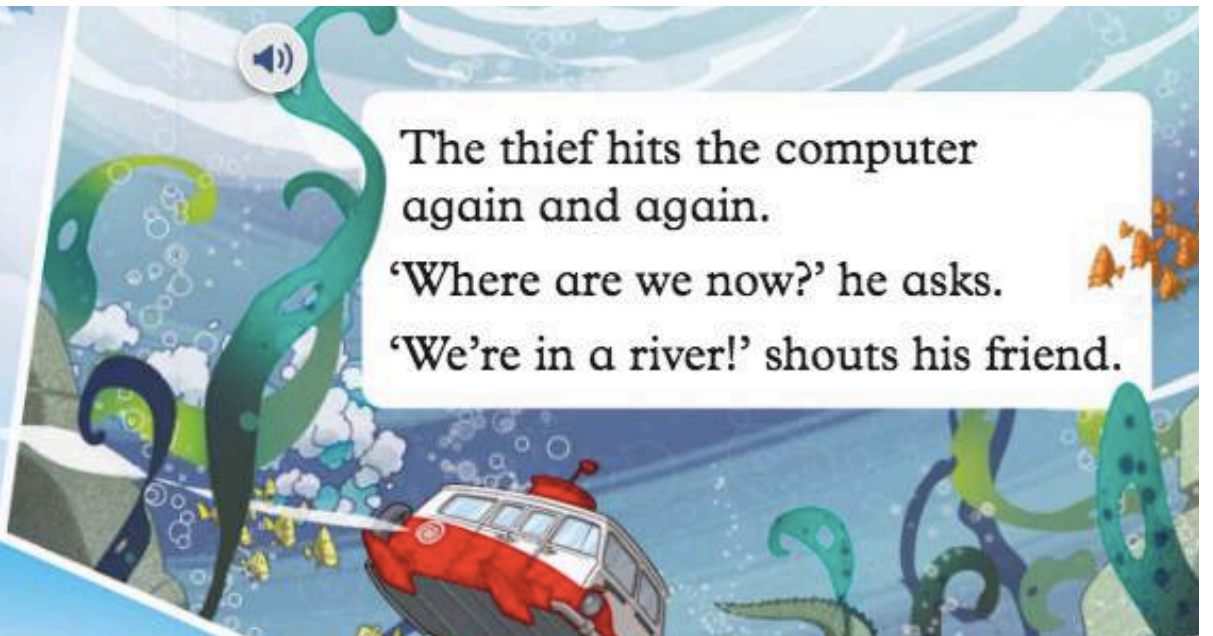
At the front of the van, one of the thieves sees the computer. 'What's this?' he asks.



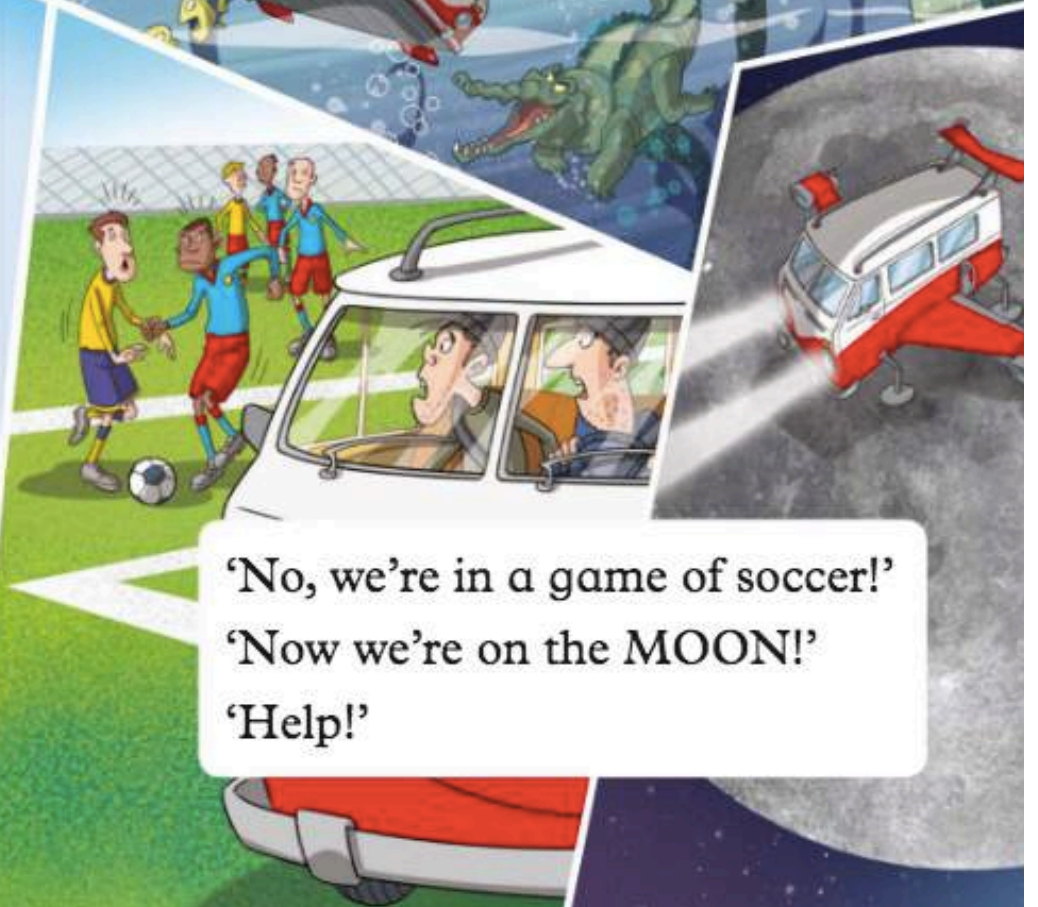
The thief hits the computer with his finger. Then ...
 'We're in the sky!' he shouts.



The thief hits the computer again and again.
 'Where are we now?' he asks.
 'We're in a river!' shouts his friend.



'Hit that computer again!' says his friend. 'Quick!'
 There are some lights in front of the van and then ...
 'Now we're on a mountain!'



'No, we're in a game of soccer!'
 'Now we're on the MOON!'
 'Help!'



In the city, Grandpa and the children get out of their taxi.

‘We’re here,’ says Grandpa. ‘But where’s the van?’

‘Speak to Clunk on your cell phone, Grandpa,’ says Ben.

‘Good idea,’ says Grandpa, and he takes out his cell phone.



But where’s the van?



Clunk doesn’t hear the cell phone, but he can feel it. He opens his eyes, and sees the two thieves. ‘Who are you?’ he asks.

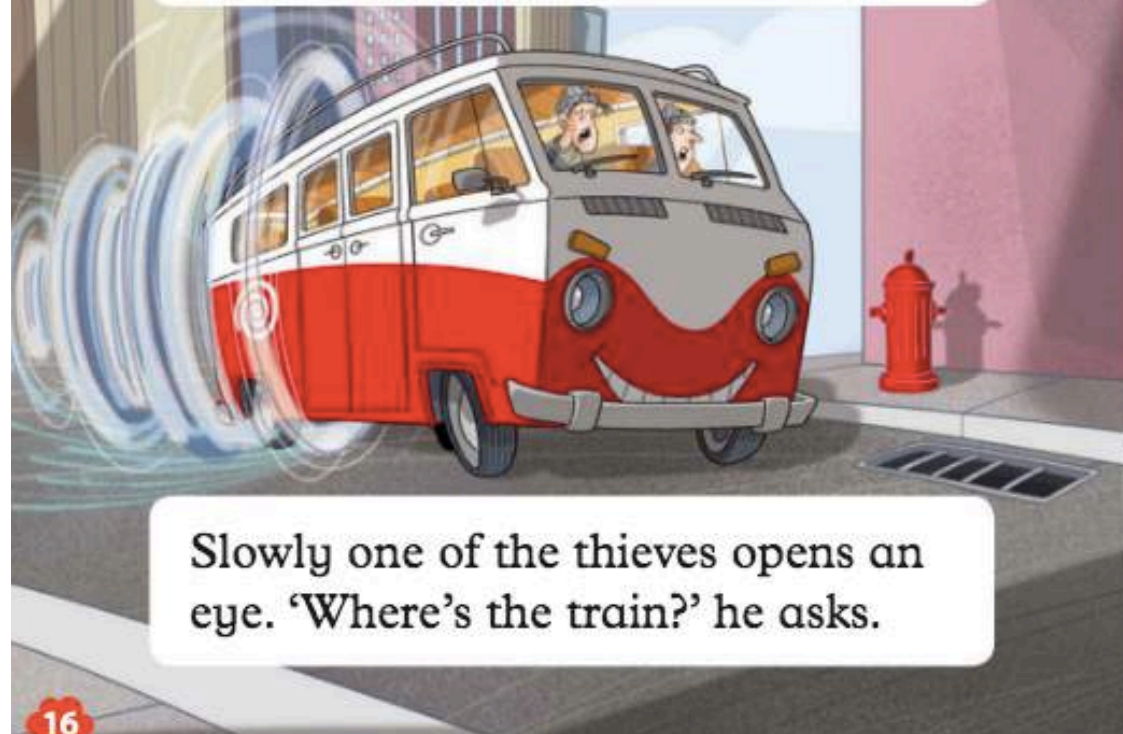
There’s no time for an answer. A big train is coming at the van!





'Help!' shout the thieves. They close their eyes.

Clunk jumps up fast and goes to the computer. There are more lights, and then the van is in the city again.



Slowly one of the thieves opens an eye. 'Where's the train?' he asks.



His friend opens his eyes and sees Clunk.

'A robot!' he shouts.

The two men jump out of the van and run.

'I don't want to steal a van ever again!' they shout.

'That's good,' says a woman in blue clothes. A police officer!





Clunk drives the van to the right street. Grandpa and the children are waiting for him there.

Clunk stops the van and opens the door.

‘Where were you, Clunk?’ Grandpa asks. ‘Were you at the store?’

‘No,’ says Clunk. ‘I wasn’t at the store.’

