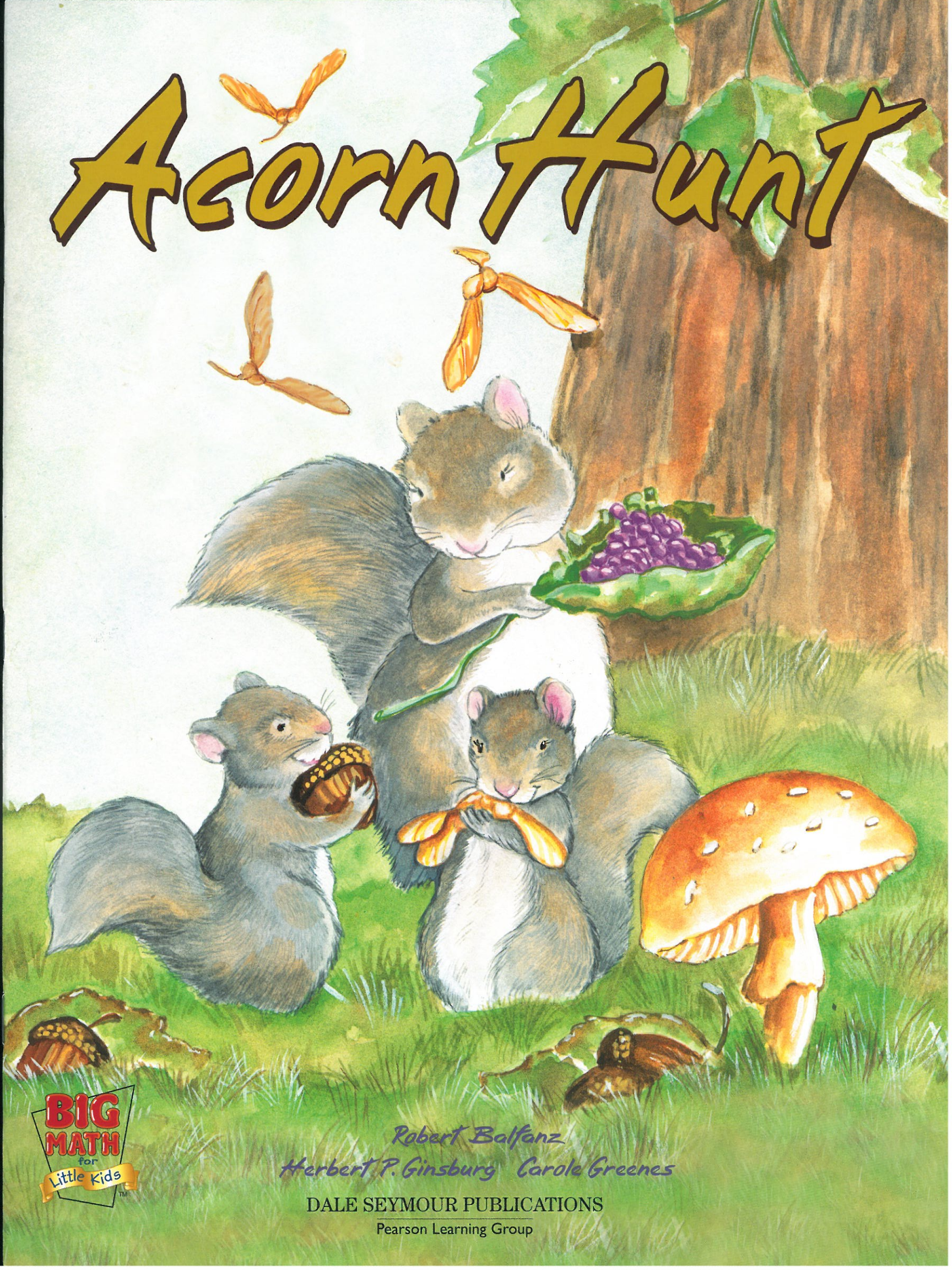


# Acorn Hunt



**BIG  
MATH**  
for  
Little Kids

*Robert Balfanz  
Herbert P. Ginsburg Carole Greenes*

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# Acorn Hunt



A STORY FOR YOU FROM  
Big Math for Little Kids™

*Robert Balfanz    Herbert P. Ginsburg    Carole Greenes*

*Illustrated by Janice Kinnealy*

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**National Science Foundation**

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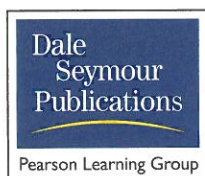
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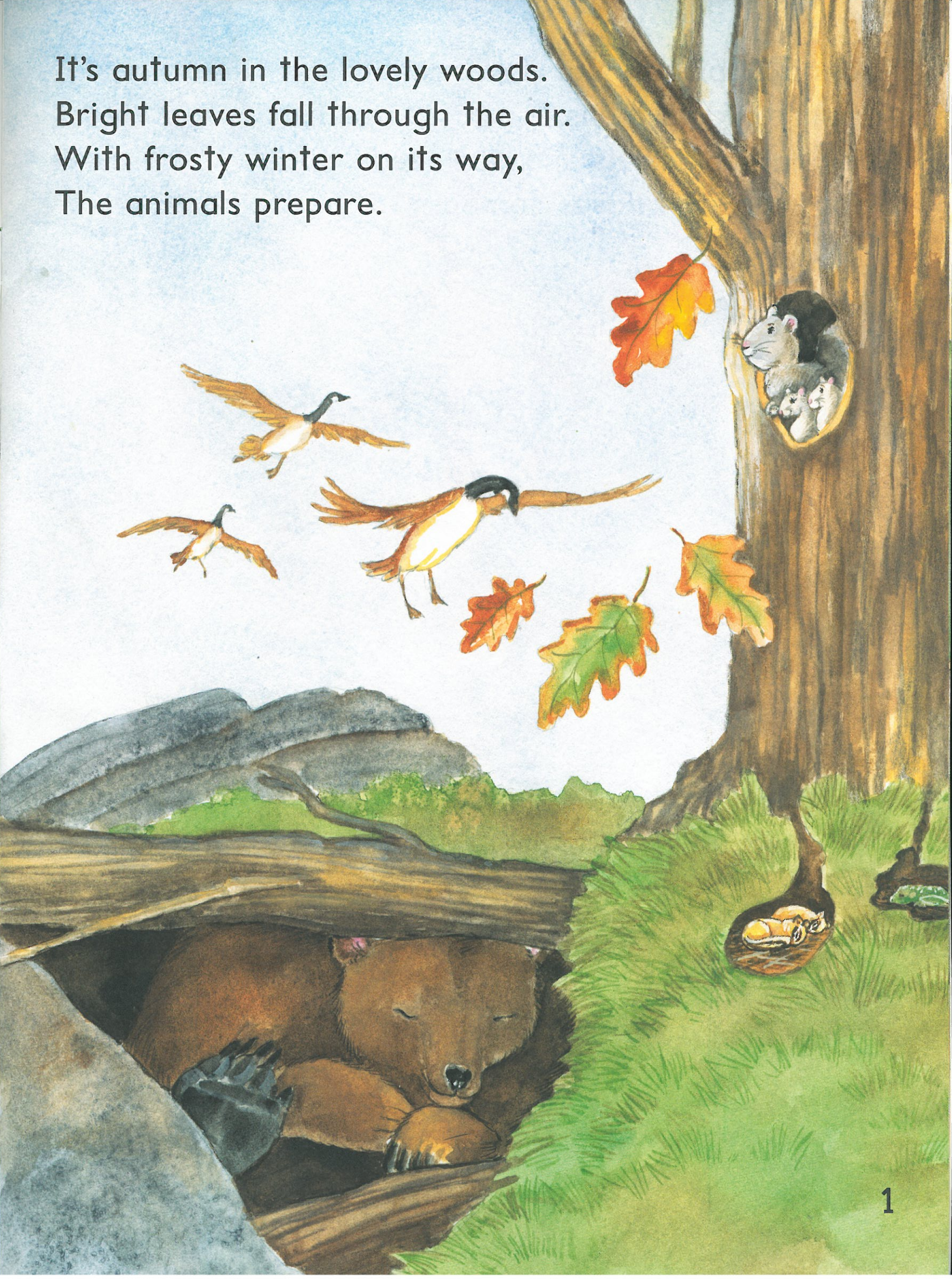
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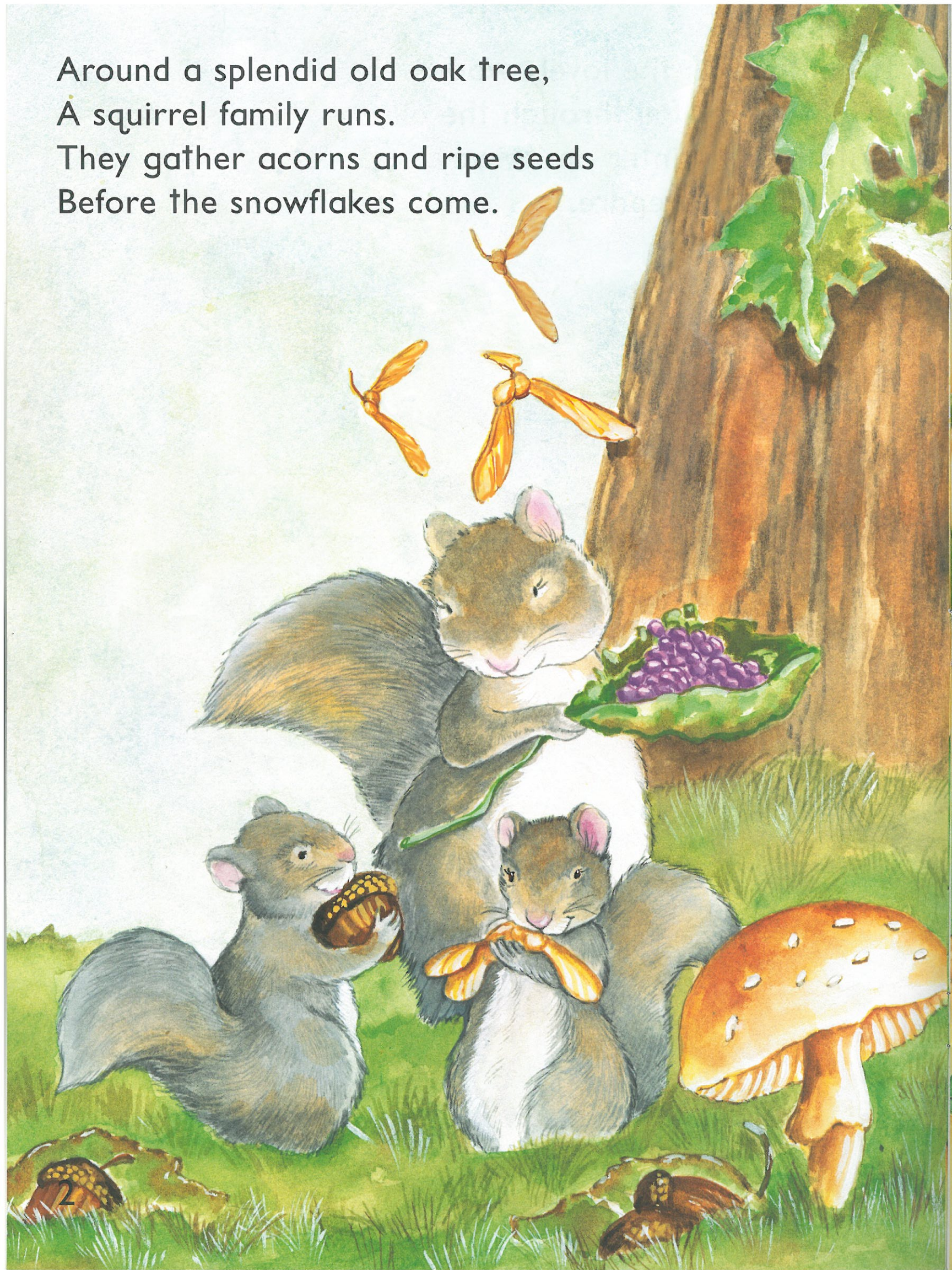


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It's autumn in the lovely woods.  
Bright leaves fall through the air.  
With frosty winter on its way,  
The animals prepare.



Around a splendid old oak tree,  
A squirrel family runs.  
They gather acorns and ripe seeds  
Before the snowflakes come.



Mama sends her children out  
To fill their acorn sacks.  
Then they count how many acorns  
They've carried on their backs.



The sister squirrel runs to show  
Two acorns, plump and round.  
Her brother follows close behind  
With three more that he found.



“Mama! Who’s got more?” they shout.  
Mama says, “Well, let’s see.  
Compare the groups to learn if two  
Is more or less than three.”



They lay the acorns in two rows  
And match them one to one.  
“We see that two is less than three.  
And three is more than two! We’re done!”



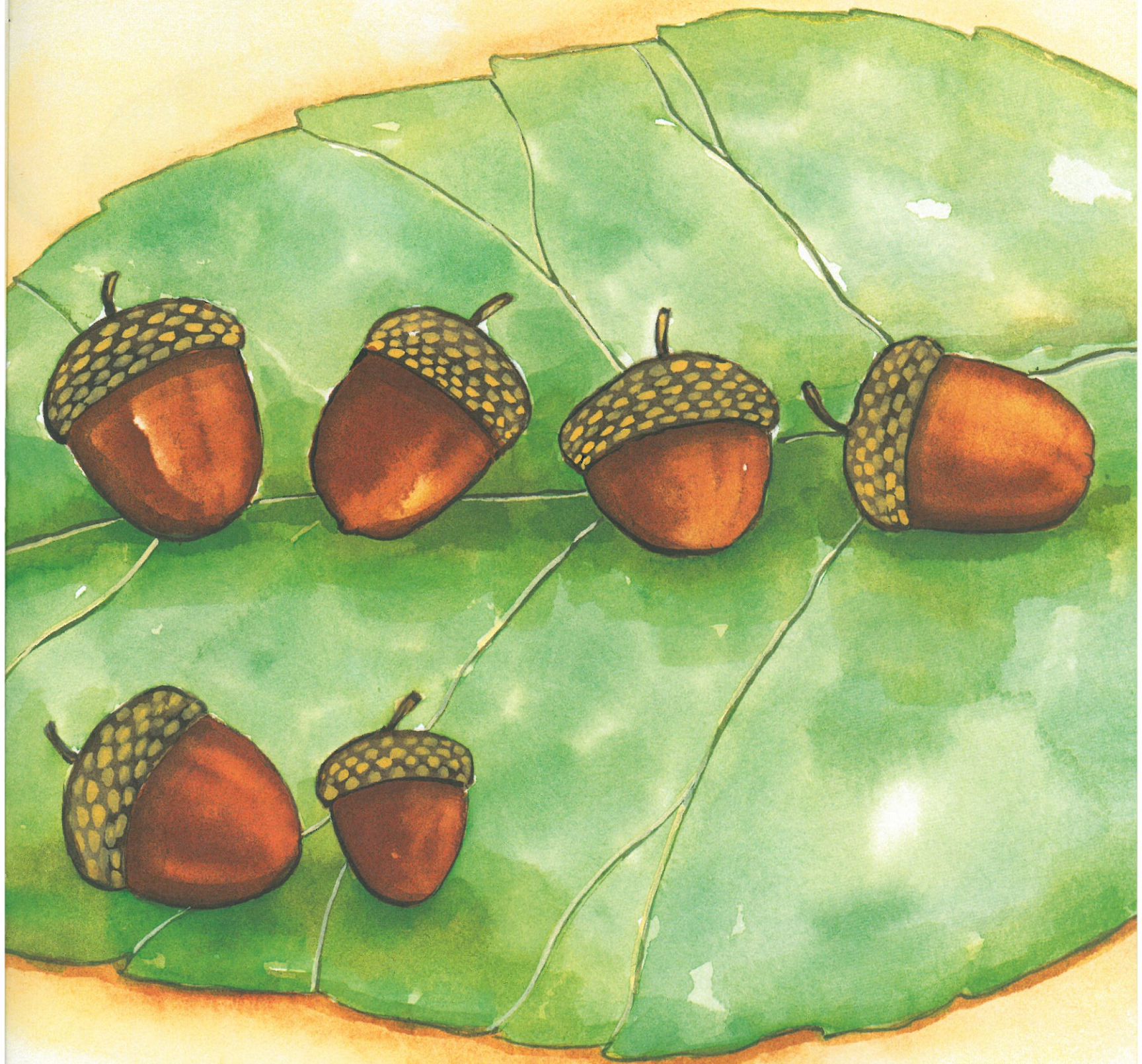
“Wait!” says Mama. “Let’s find the sum.”  
“We did!” they shout with glee.  
“The sum of two and three is five.  
We counted them all, you see.”



The squirrels go out to hunt again  
For acorn treats to store.  
This time the brother squirrel finds two.  
His sister brings back four.



“Let’s lay them out in rows again.  
That makes comparing quick.  
Four acorns are more than two.  
And four plus two is six.”



Next time the squirrels each bring back  
Five acorns to the den—  
Not more or less, but both the same.  
And five and five make ten!



Mama says, "Some of these ten nuts  
Should be shared with Mrs. Grey.  
We'll give her seven. That leaves us  
Three nuts to store away."



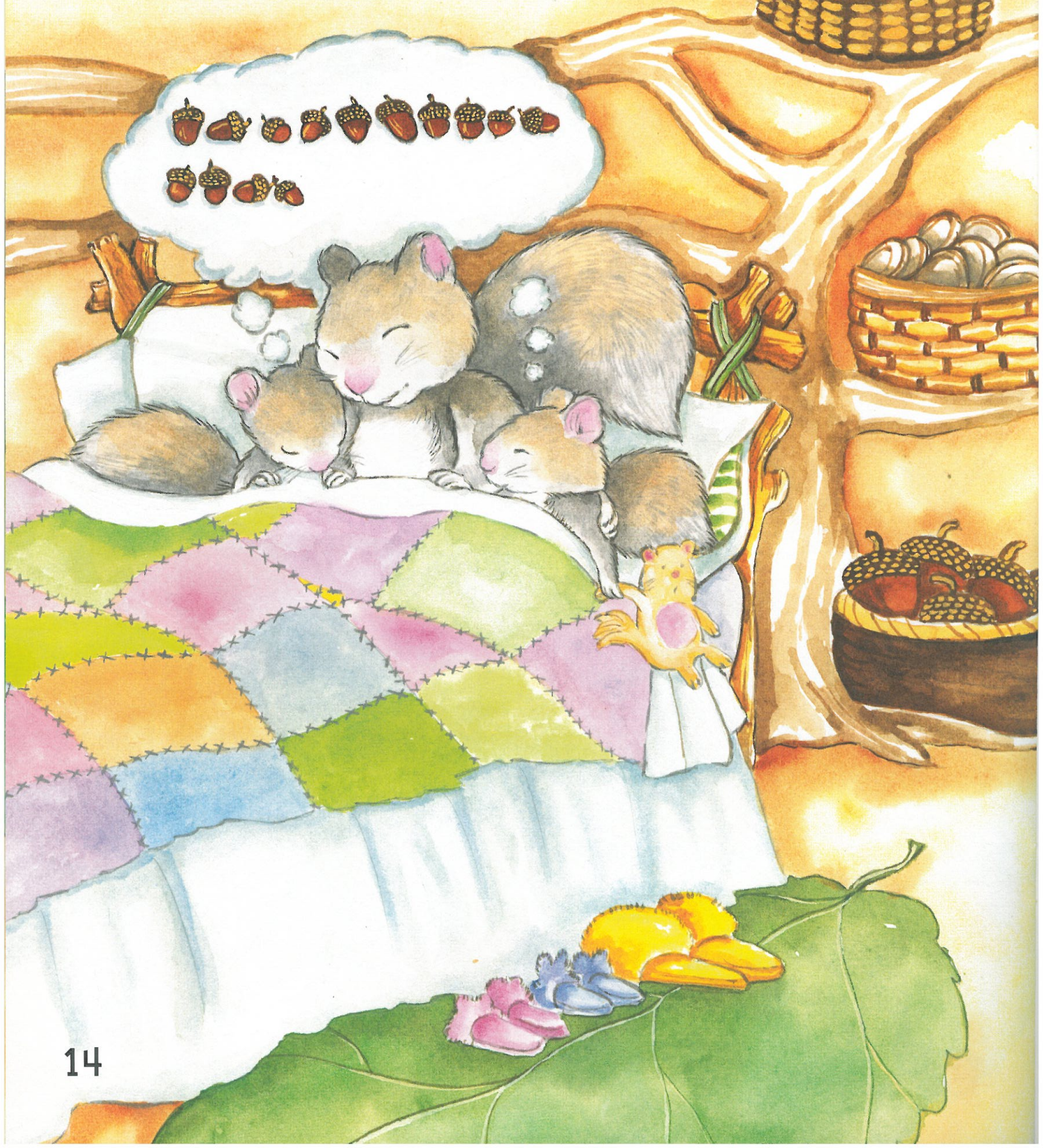
“Wow! We have lots of acorns now.  
We’ll store them in our tree.  
We have five, and we have six.  
And we have another three.”



“How many nuts in all?” they ask.  
“Let’s count them as a team.”  
They put the nuts in one long row  
And count up to fourteen.



“Fourteen acorns—that’s ten plus four  
Stored in our winter den.  
After a nice long nap, we’ll start  
Our acorn hunt again.”





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**Unit 5**  
**Working With Numbers**

**Pre-Kindergarten**



**BIG MATH** for Little Kids™