

LEVEL
4



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Jill's Big Hop



Jill had five coins in a little bag on her belt. She wanted to buy a new red ball, and Ned had balls for sale at his shop past the hill. "I will hop there fast!" she said.



Jill's hops were long and big. With each hop, the bag on her belt went up and down. Plop! A coin popped out and fell into the soil with a small noise. Jill did not hear it. Plop!



Plop! More coins fell out, but she kept on hopping. At the shop, Ned pointed to a bin of balls. "The red one is five coins," he said. Jill looked in her bag. Not one coin was in it!



"My coins must have popped out on the path," she said in a sad voice. Jill hopped back the way she came. This time she used small hops and looked down at the soil.



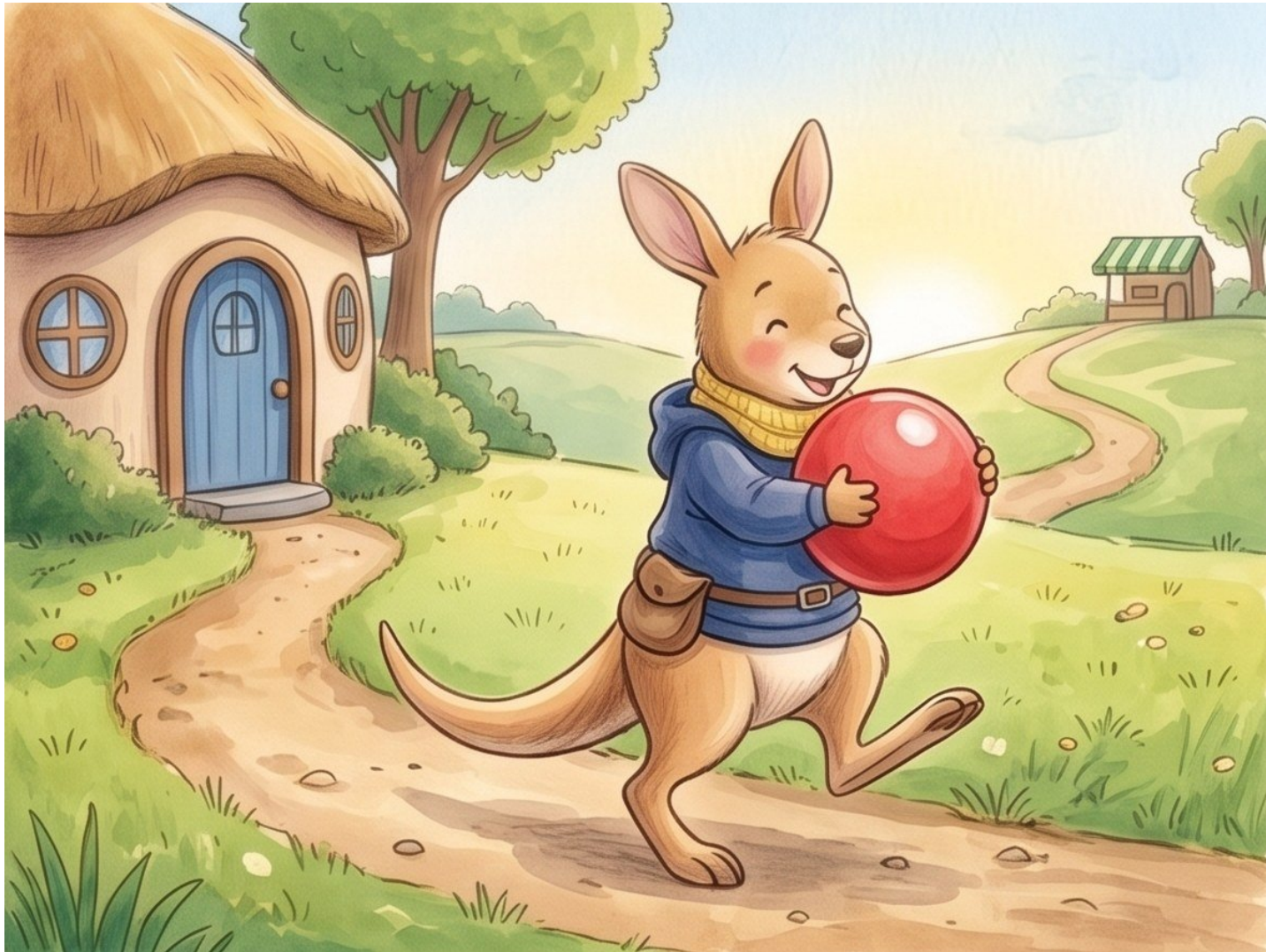
She saw a coin shine in the moist soil by the pond. Then she found one by a rock, two in the grass, and the last one by a stump.



Jill did not want them lost again. Her home was close to the path, so she went in and got some foil.



She wrapped the foil around all five coins and pressed it into one snug lump. Jill raced back to the shop with big, fast hops.



The lump did not pop out once. Ned got the red ball out of the bin. Then Jill hopped home and held the ball close, so it could not pop out like her coins.