

I jumped out of bed and grabbed my softball bat. I ran down the hall towards the kitchen. Nobody was going to hurt my mum while I was here to look after her.

I was halfway down the hall when I heard Mum's voice again. This time her voice sounded more angry. She screamed,

**"Take that!
And that!
And that!"**

Sample pages

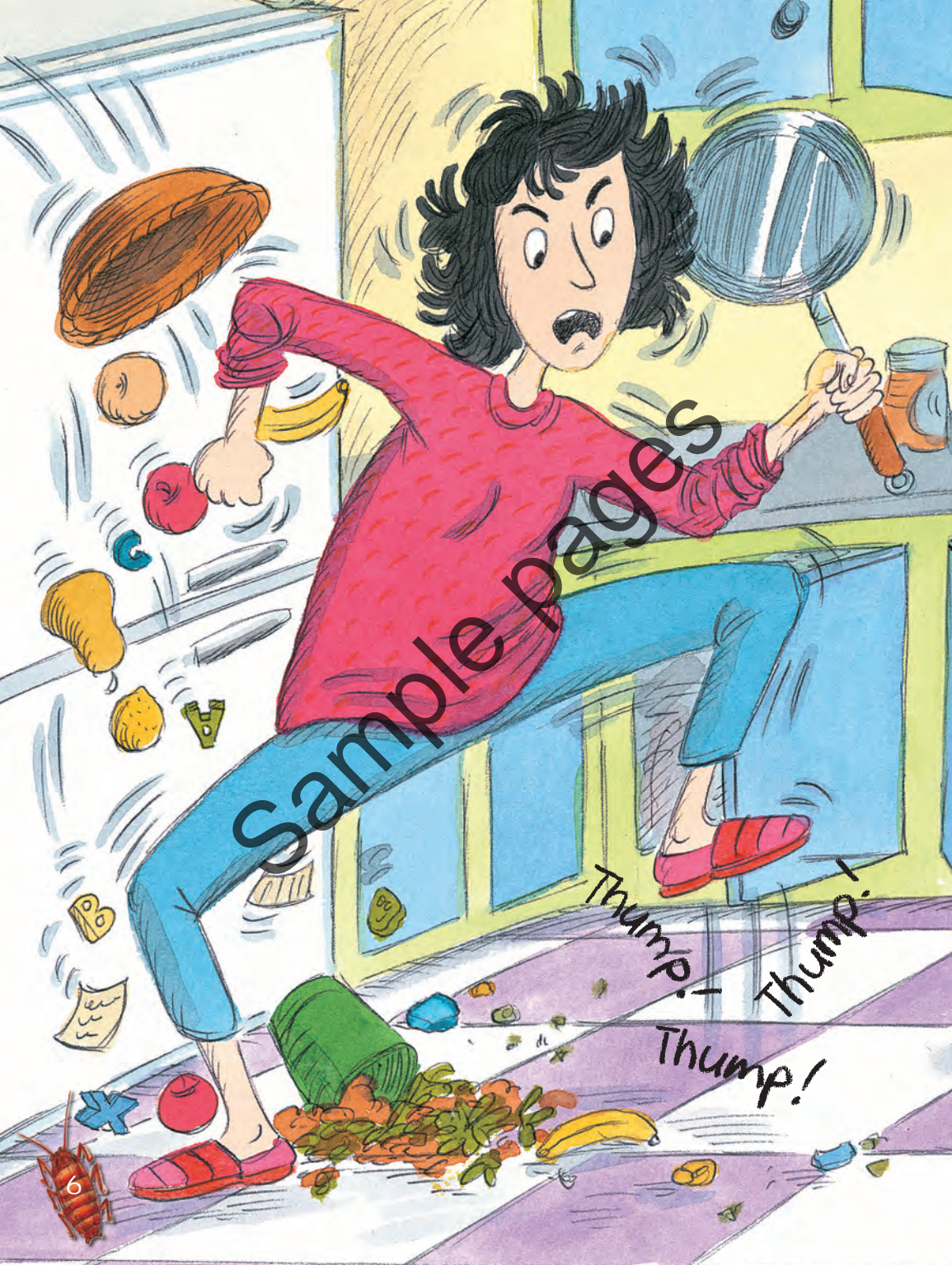
And that!
And that!

Take that!





Sample pages



Sample pages

Thump!
Thump!
Thump!



Thump! Thump! Thump!

When I got to the kitchen, Mum was jumping up and down like a wild thing. Her hair was flying. Her feet were stomping. She looked like a crazy dancer. Something terrible was happening. I had never seen my mum like this before.

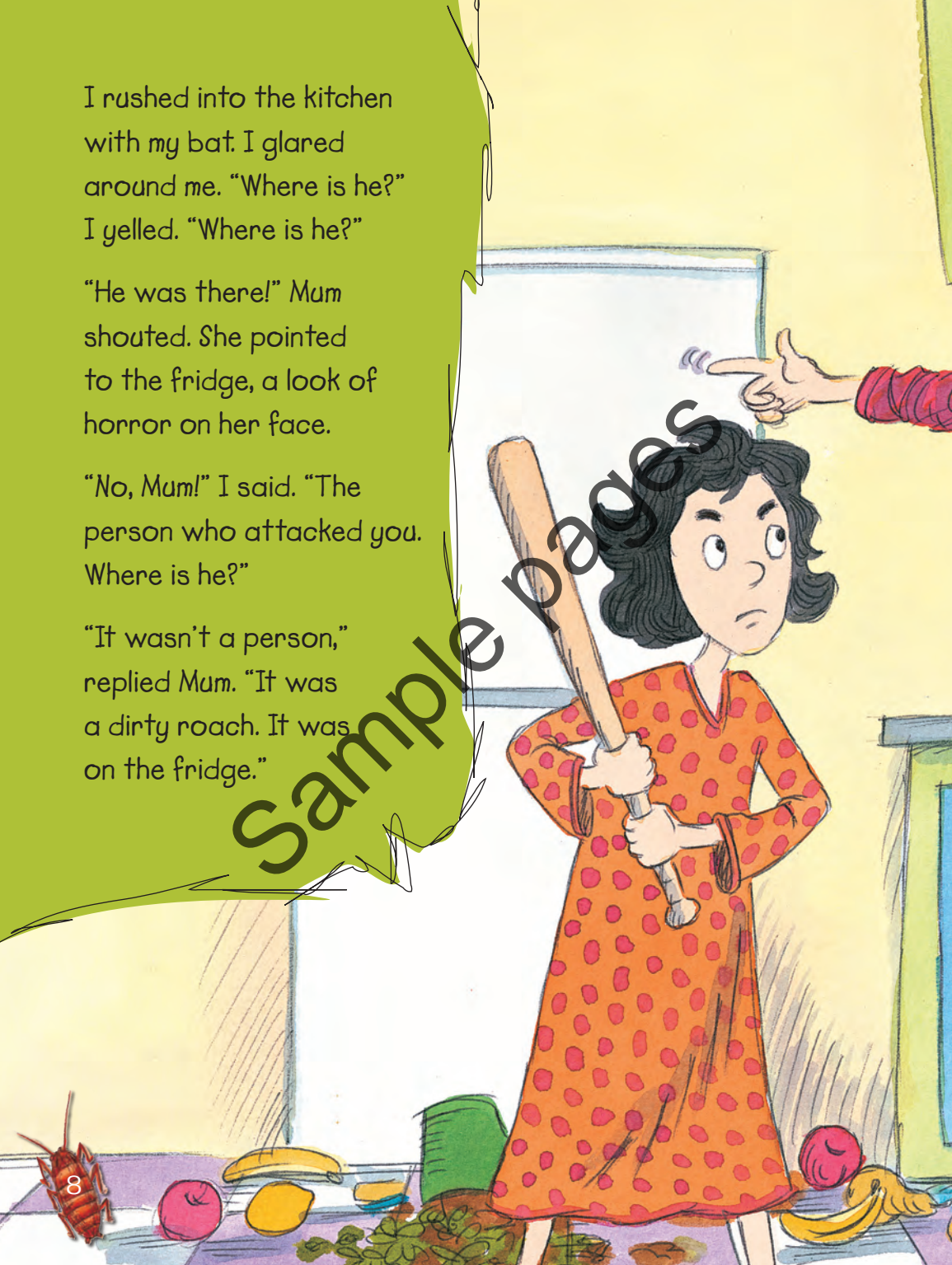


I rushed into the kitchen with my bat. I glared around me. "Where is he?" I yelled. "Where is he?"

"He was there!" Mum shouted. She pointed to the fridge, a look of horror on her face.

"No, Mum!" I said. "The person who attacked you. Where is he?"

"It wasn't a person," replied Mum. "It was a dirty roach. It was on the fridge."



Sample pages



"I thought you were in danger!" I yelled at Mum. "I thought you were dying . . . and it was just a roach?"

"It was a giant roach," said Mum. "A big, brown monster with orange spots. Oooooo!" she said, shivering. "I can't live with roaches in the house. I'm phoning pest control right now."

She rolled up her sleeves and said, "I'm also scrubbing this house!"



Mum shifted the fridge, the freezer and the stove out from the walls. She got the vacuum cleaner and cleaned behind them.

**"Out! Out! Out!
Get out of my house,
you little creeps!"**

she shouted.

She took all of the food out and scrubbed the cupboards. She mopped the floor. She took down the curtains and washed them.

Mum scrubbed and mopped everything, everywhere. She didn't stop once in the whole day. Even places that were too small for roaches to hide in were scrubbed and sprayed. She removed the mirrors from the walls, the lights from the ceiling and the door knocker from the front door.







When Dad got home, Mum was under the house hunting for roach nests. She came crawling out on her knees. Cobwebs were tangled in her hair and ears. Her clothes were dirty and there were black marks on her face.

“Hi!” said Dad, smiling. “I like your new look. Have you been to the hairdresser today?”





Mum ignored Dad's joke. He was just being silly.

"I'm hungry," said Dad. "What shall we make for dinner tonight?"

"We're not cooking in that kitchen," said Mum. "We're going out for dinner. Pest control's coming on Monday."

"Pest control?" said Dad.

"I need a cup of tea," said Mum. "Then I'll tell you."



Soon my brother Brian arrived home.

“Put a clean shirt on,” said Mum. “We’re going out for dinner.”

“Why?” asked Brian.

“Roaches,” said Mum. “We’ve got roaches. I found a big one on the fridge.”

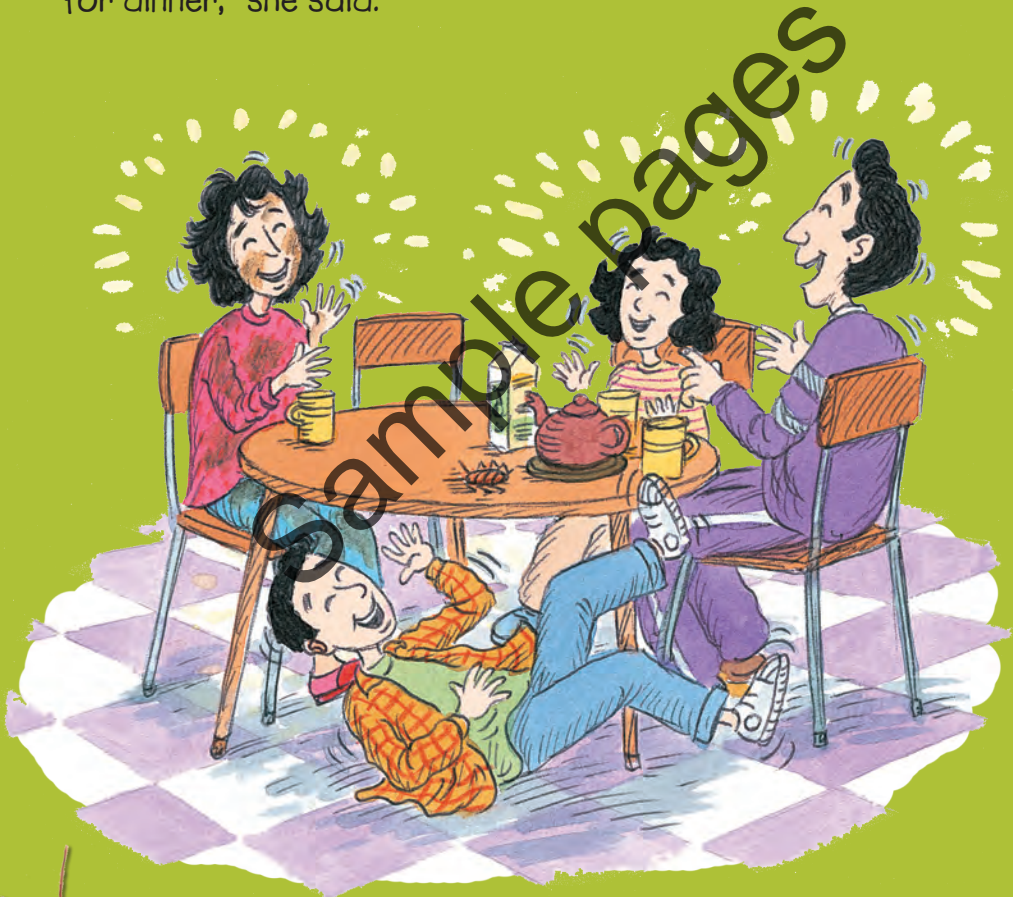
“Oh!” said Brian, smiling. “Was it like this one?”
He took a plastic giant roach from his pocket.
“It’s a fridge magnet,” he said. “I stuck one on the fridge this morning.”





I started to giggle. Mum looked around the kitchen. It was spotless. She looked at herself. She was a mess. She had done all that work for nothing. She started to giggle, too. Soon we were all laughing together.

Then Mum stopped laughing. "We're still going out for dinner," she said.






TONI'S

Sample pages

A Roach on the Fridge is a **Recount**.

A **recount** tells . . .

- **who** the story is about (the characters)
- **when** the story happened
- **where** the story is set.

Who	When	Where
	<p>Yesterday, when I was asleep in bed.</p>	



A recount tells what happens.



A recount has a **conclusion**.



Guide Notes

Title: A Roach on the Fridge

Stage: Fluency

Text Form: Recount

Approach: Guided Reading

Processes: Thinking Critically, Exploring Language, Processing Information

Written and Visual Focus: Illustrative Text, Thought Bubble

THINKING CRITICALLY

(sample questions)

- What do you think this story could be about? Look at the title and discuss.
- Look at the cover. How do you think the woman is feeling? Why do you think that?
- Look at pages 4 and 5. Do you think the girl should have grabbed a softball bat and run down the hall? Why or why not?
- Look at pages 6 and 7. Why do you think Mum looked like a *crazy dancer*?
- Look at pages 8 and 9. Why do you think the girl thinks there is a person in the room?
- Look at pages 10 and 11. Do you think Mum is doing too much cleaning? Why or why not?
- Look at pages 12 and 13. Why do you think Dad makes a joke when he comes home?
- Look at pages 14 and 15. What sort of a person do you think Brian is? Why do you think that?
- Look at pages 16 and 17. How do you know that Mum isn't upset with Brian?

EXPLORING LANGUAGE

Terminology

Spread, author and illustrator credits, imprint information, ISBN number

Vocabulary

Clarify: roach, spotless, magnet, tangled, vacuum cleaner, attacked

Adjectives: *terrible* yell, *crazy* dancer, *giant* roach, *black* marks

Pronouns: I, my, she, he, we, you

Simile: jumping up and down *like a wild thing*

Focus the students' attention on **homonyms**, **antonyms** and **synonyms** if appropriate.