

A Nap at Last



Sloth was **sleepy**. Not just a little **sleepy**. Not stayed-up-too-late **sleepy**. Sloth was so **sleepy** his arms felt like noodles, his legs felt like **jelly**, and his eyes felt like two **heavy** rocks **trying** to roll right out of his head. 'I need a nap,' he yawned. 'Not just any nap. The biggest, longest, **mightiest** nap this jungle has ever seen. All I need is the perfect spot.'





Sloth spotted a tall tree with loads of branches.

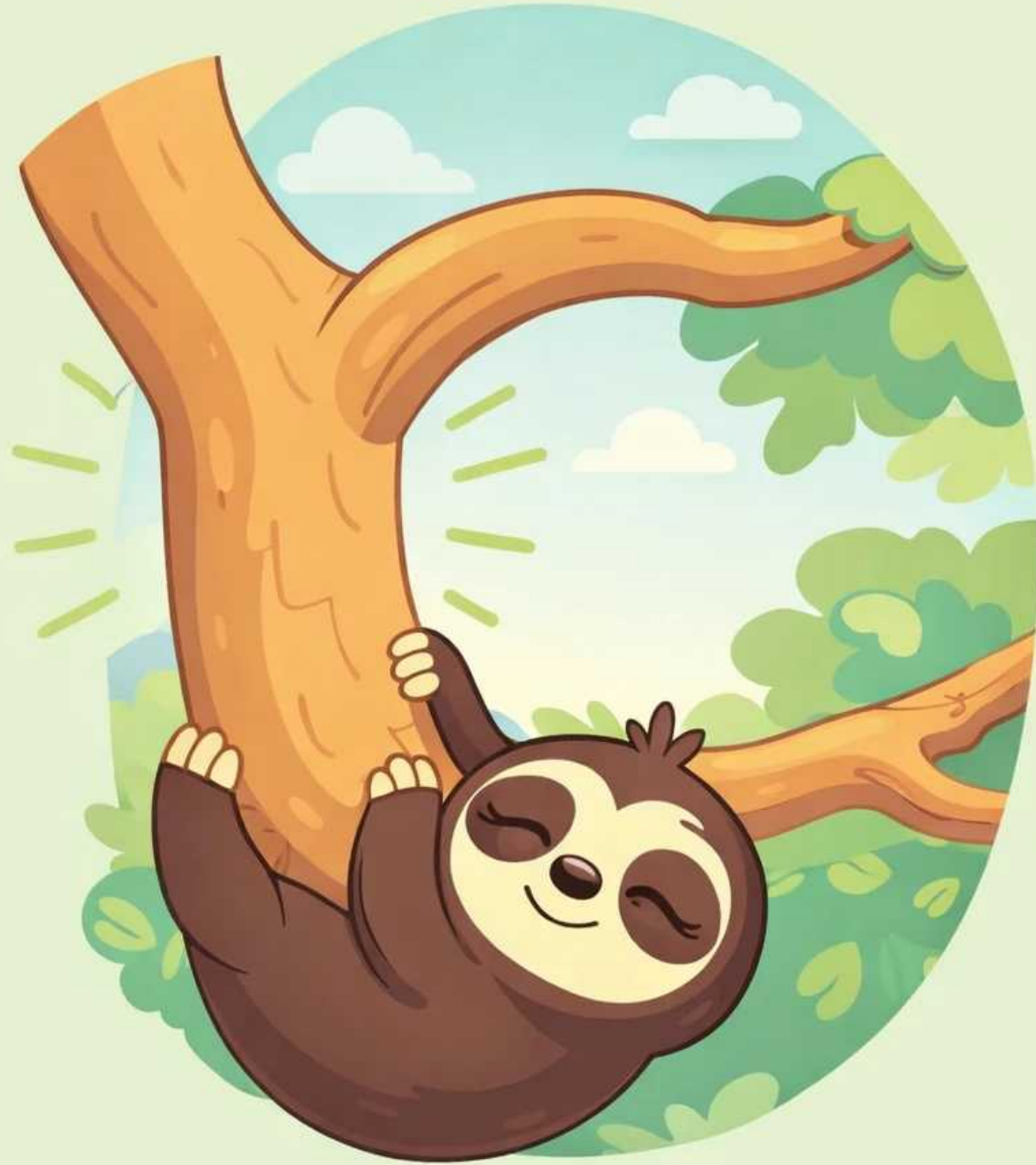
'That's the one,' he whispered. 'I can feel it in my claws.'

He gripped the trunk and started to climb. Slowly. Very, very slowly. Because that is how sloths do everything. But his eyes were full of hope, fixed on the bright **sky**, and his heart was full of dreams about the perfect nap.

High up on the trunk, Sloth found a branch with a perfect curve to it. Like a swing made of wood.

He flipped upside down, hooked on with all four paws, and let out a long, **happy** sigh. 'This is it. This is the spot. Nothing could possibly go wrong.'

He closed his eyes. He should not have said that.





Ow! Something big and wet clamped down on Sloth's back. Sloth looked up. A **hungry** Giraffe was chewing on him. 'Excuse me!' Sloth yelped. 'I am not a snack!'

But the green moss on Sloth's fur did look an awful lot like leaves. Giraffe took one more nibble, just to be sure.

'Not. A. Snack!' Sloth scrambled higher up the tree. So much for that spot.

Sloth found a new branch,
higher up, far from Giraffe and
his **hungry** mouth. He hugged
the trunk tight and smiled.

Butterflies drifted past. A soft
breeze tickled his **fluffy** fur.
'This is the spot,' he said. 'No
Giraffe. No leaf mix-up. Just
peace and quiet and the world's
most perfect nap. Nothing could
possibly go wrong.' He closed
his eyes. Sloth really needed to
stop saying that.





Buzz. A beehive. A **lumpy**,
buzzing beehive, hanging
from the very same branch.

One bee landed on Sloth's
nose. Then another on his
chin. Then three more on his
tummy.

'I am just going to... go,' Sloth
whispered, slowly unhooking
one paw at a time. 'Lovely
hive. Very fine hive. Please do
not sting me.'

Higher still, Sloth hugged the trunk and looked up. Something dangled from the branch above. Something long and thin and scaly. 'Is that... a tail?' Sloth squinted. It was a tail, all right. 'Hello?' he called. 'Is something attached to that tail? Friendly tail? **Sleepy** tail? Please-do-not-eat-me tail?'





Hiss! Snake uncoiled from the branch and shoved its face right into Sloth's. Fangs out. 'Taken!' Snake hissed. 'This branch is taken! I found this spot first! Go find another spot!' 'I am going!' said Sloth. And he scrambled up **crazily** fast. For a sloth, anyway.

Sloth could hardly keep his eyes open. His paws were sore. Sloth was so tired and **worried** he might never find his spot.

Above him, a bird sat on one branch. But the branch just below? **Empty**. Free. Bright.

'Please,' Sloth whispered. 'Please let this be the spot. I will not say that thing about nothing going wrong. I just want to sleep.'





'Caw-caw! Caw-caw! Caw-caw!' Bird threw back its head and screamed at the **sky** again and again. Sloth hung upside down, one eye twitching. 'Bird. Is it like this all day?' 'Caw-caw!' Bird **replied noisily**. 'I will take that as a yes,' said Sloth.

There was only one place left.
The very tip-top of the tree.
Sloth climbed the last stretch
on nothing but tired paws and
one big dream. He wrapped all
four paws around the trunk. He
settled into a blanket of soft,
green leaves. No Giraffe. No
bees. No snakes. No birds. Just
sky and quiet. Sloth closed his
eyes. And this time, he kept
them closed.





As the sun set, the tree filled up for the night. Sloth snoozed at the very top, **happy** at last. Bird perched in the middle, growing **sleepy**. Snake coiled on a lower branch, still grumpy. Giraffe stood at the bottom, staring up with a long face.

'Where am I supposed to nap?' said Giraffe.

Nobody **replied**. They were all asleep. Well. All but the bees.



A Nap at Last

Sloth is so sleepy he can barely keep his eyes open, but every branch he tries turns out to be someone else's spot. A hungry giraffe, a lumpy beehive, a grumpy snake, and a noisy bird all get in the way of his nap. Will he ever find the perfect place to sleep? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 110: -y to i Rule), this book practices words like 'sleepy', 'happy', 'crazily', 'worried', 'tummy'.

Phonics Focus: -y to i Rule

butterflies, crazily, empty, fluffy, happy, heavy, hungry, jelly, lumpy, mightiest, noisily, replied, sky, sleepy, trying, tummy, worried

Bookbot is not endorsed by or affiliated with UFLI (the University of Florida Literacy Institute) or Jolly Learning Ltd. UFLI Foundations and Jolly Phonics are trademarks of their respective owners.

Learn to read with confidence

The Bookbot app and its carefully designed decodable books help children practise the sounds and words they are learning, building strong phonics and reading skills one step at a time. In the app, children can listen to stories read aloud, follow highlighted words as they are spoken, and read independently when they are ready. Together, the decodable books and oral reading support help develop accuracy, fluency, confidence and a love of reading. Learn more at www.bookbotkids.com.

