

Anansi and Seven Bashes

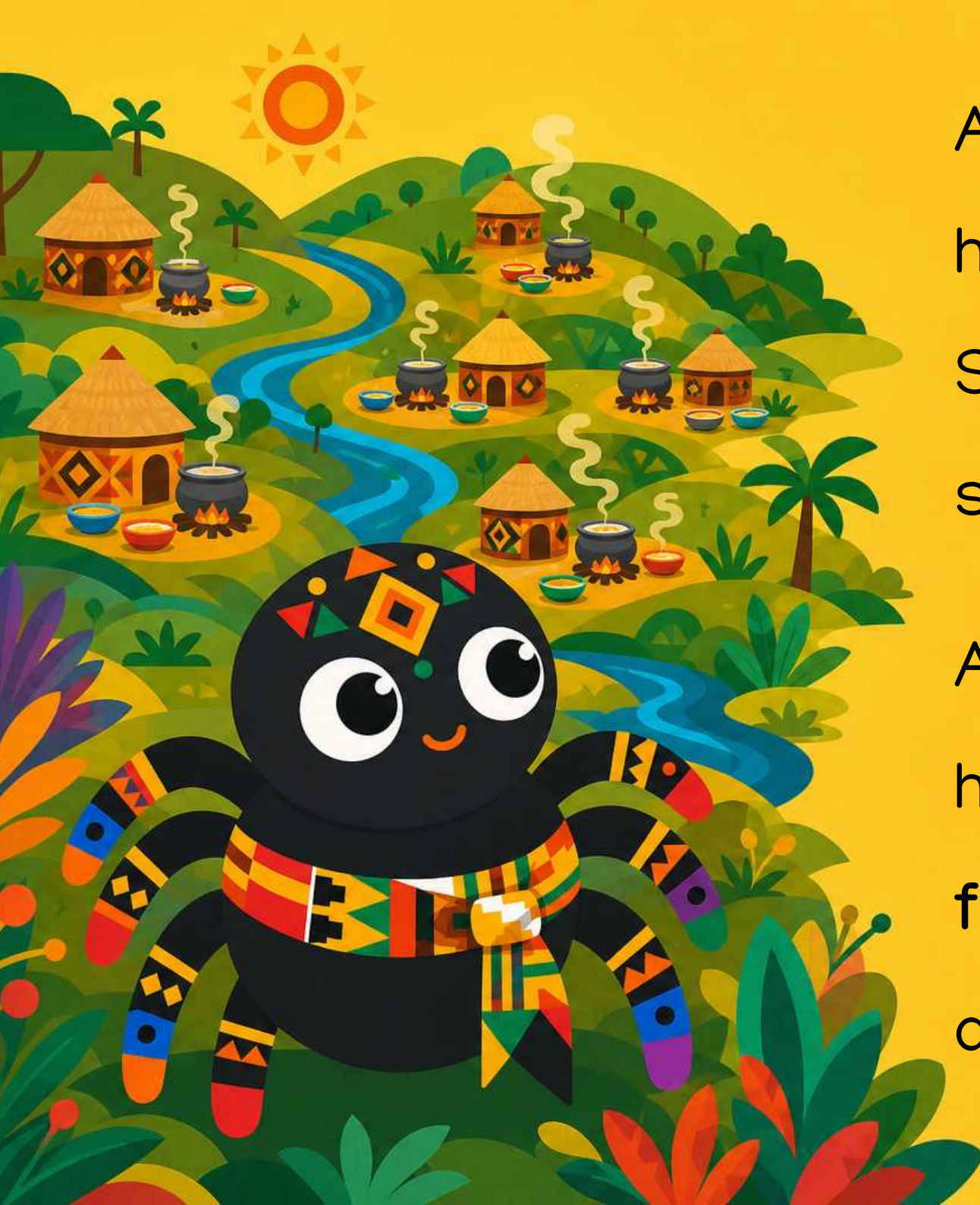


Anansi is a spider.

He has a big fat
belly. He stands in
the yard by his
home.

He pats his belly
and smiles. He is
so glad to be
Anansi.





All the hamlets will
have a big bash.

Seven hamlets,
seven bashes!

Anansi can smell the
hot dishes from far,
far off. He wants to
dine at them all.

Anansi will not pick just one bash. He stands where the paths part, and he thinks hard. Weaver Bird calls, 'Anansi, one bash is a lot!' But Anansi has a big plan.



Anansi is in his shop.

He cuts a big rope
into seven parts.

'One part for all
seven kings,' he says
with a smart smile.





Anansi trots far, from
hamlet to hamlet, with
the ropes. 'Tug the
rope when the bash
starts,' he tells all the
kings. Then he trots
back to his spot. He
hitches the seven ropes
to his waist and sits.

Anansi rests in his spot. He thinks of yams, hot pots, and yummy dishes. 'I will dine at all seven bashes,' he chuckles. 'I will dine from sunup to sunset. I am so **smart!**'



The pots are hot,
and the dishes smell
so grand. All seven
bashes start at the
same time.

All seven kings smile.
All seven kings grab
a rope and tug!





Yank, yank, yank!

The ropes yank

Anansi up off the
land. They pinch his
fat middle so hard.

Anansi spins and
spins. 'Help!' he
yells.

The ropes drag Anansi far to the west and far up the hills. All seven kings tug and tug so hard. The ropes pinch his middle, and his yell is just a tiny hiss.



At last, all seven kings
let go. Anansi drops to
the land with a thump.
He rests flat on his back
and gazes up.

Then he sits up. His fat
belly is split into two
parts. His middle is
pinched so thin. Anansi
is so glum.





Anansi darts from
hamlet to hamlet, but
he is so late. All the
tables are empty.

Weaver Bird looks at
his tiny waist.

'Anansi,' she says,
'that was not smart.'

And still, all spiders have a tiny waist, just like Anansi. When a kid has a dish that is so full, Gran pats it and says, 'Not so much, my **darling**. Think of Anansi and his tiny waist.'





Anansi and Seven Bashes

Anansi the spider has a fine round belly, and he loves to eat. When word spreads of seven feasts happening on the same day in seven far-off villages, Anansi refuses to pick just one. He stands where the paths part and thinks hard: what if he could dine at every single bash? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 77: ar /ar/), this book practices words like 'far', 'hard', 'smart', 'start', 'yard'.

Phonics Focus: ar /ar/

are, darling, darts, far, hard, part, parts, smart, start, starts, yard

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