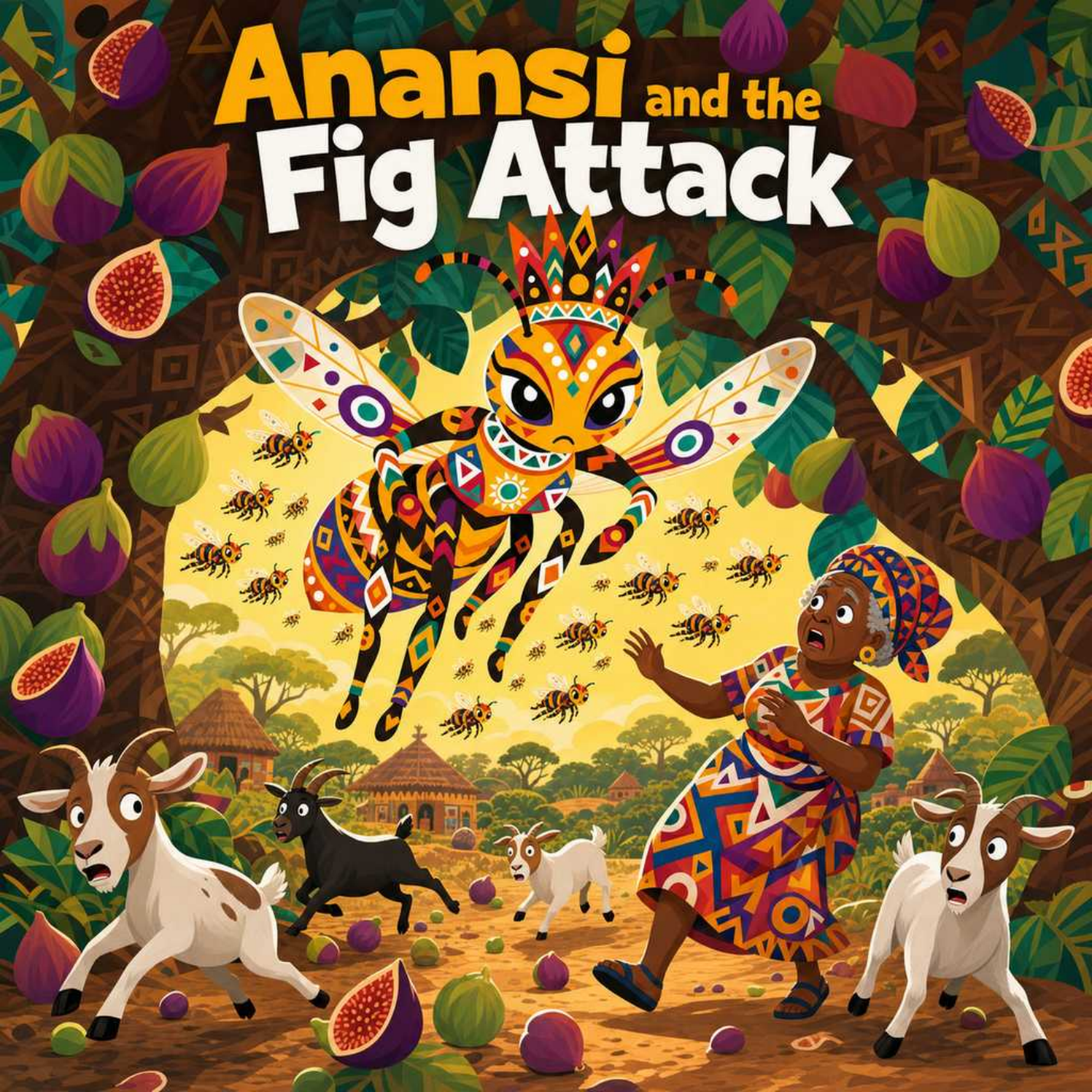


Anansi and the Fig Attack



Look at the grand
fig tree. Red figs
pack it from top to
root.

But a hornet
swarm is on the
tree, and all look
on, sad and hungry.





The hornets prick
all that come up to
the tree! Old
Grandmother
Akosua drops her
sack and runs
quick. Not a fig for
the kids. Not a fig
at all.

Anansi the trickster looks up at the
hornet swarm and grins. 'I have a plan,'
he said. 'It just needs pluck and luck.'



Anansi hands a
coin to Kofi. 'Kofi,
lug this drum to
the glen and hit it.
Do not stop, and
do not be slack.'

Kofi nods and
grips his drum.





Anansi picks a branch and creeps up. 'Grand hornets,' he sings, 'I have a tip.' The hum stops. All the hornets look at him.

'A big swarm is in the glen,' said
Anansi. 'It mocks the hornet hum.'

The Hornet Queen is mad. 'Hum
loud! We hum best!'

Anansi slips back and grins.



Thump, thump! Kofi
smacks his drum in
the deep glen.

The hornets get a
shock. Is that a big
swarm in the glen?





'That hum mocks us,' said
Anansi to The Hornet
Queen.

The Hornet Queen has a
hot look. 'Come, swarm! We
must dash to the glen and
win!'

Anansi steps back and
nods.

The swarm rushes to the glen. Kofi picks up his drum and sprints into the deep wood. The hornets check the rocks and the roots, but the glen is empty.



Anansi rushes back.
'Come quick! Pick the
figs!'

All rush out and pick
figs fast. Old
Grandmother Akosua
packs her sacks.

But look! The swarm
hums back past the
river.





Anansi grabs a last fat fig and zips off on his silk cord.

The swarm gets back, but the tree has not a fig on it. What a **shock** for The Hornet Queen!

At dusk all sit and munch figs and nut
food. The drums thump, and the kids sing
and skip. Anansi sits in the best spot with
a big fig **stack**. What a **trick**! What **luck**!





Anansi and the Fig Attack

Anansi the trickster loves figs, but a swarm of hornets has claimed every single one on the village's grandest tree. With the whole village hungry and no plan of their own, can a clever spider outwit a furious swarm before anyone else gets stung? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 2, Unit 3: ck as in duck), this book practices words like 'pick', 'quick', 'stack', 'trick', 'sack'.

Phonics Focus: <ck>

back, check, luck, mocks, pack, packs, pick, picks, pluck, prick, quick, rocks, sack, sacks, shock, slack, smacks, stack, trick, trickster

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