

Anansi in Leopard Den



Leopard has a fine coat. He sees Anansi in the tall grass. He puts one big paw on Anansi and holds him down flat.





'Anansi, the bug
took my fish and
my meat,' says
Leopard. 'At night, I
will eat Anansi.' He
drops him in the
den with a groan.

Anansi wants to **roam** free. But the
den walls are hard rock, and the gap
is blocked by Leopard, big as a door.



In a crack, Anansi
finds a pack of
hot seeds for
soup. He sniffs,
and his eyes **soak**
with tears. A plan
spins in his mind.





'Great Leopard,'
calls Anansi, 'a
plain bug is bad
food. All good
cooks know a
king must coat
his meat.'

'I eat prey as I catch it,' says
Leopard. But Anansi tries to
coax him. 'Nyame has hot seeds
on his food too.' His tail whips.



'A hot-seed tree is
three hills off,' says
Leopard. 'Anansi, this
is a trick.' 'No,' says
Anansi. 'But this is
the first bug in so
long. Do not eat it
plain — coat it well.'



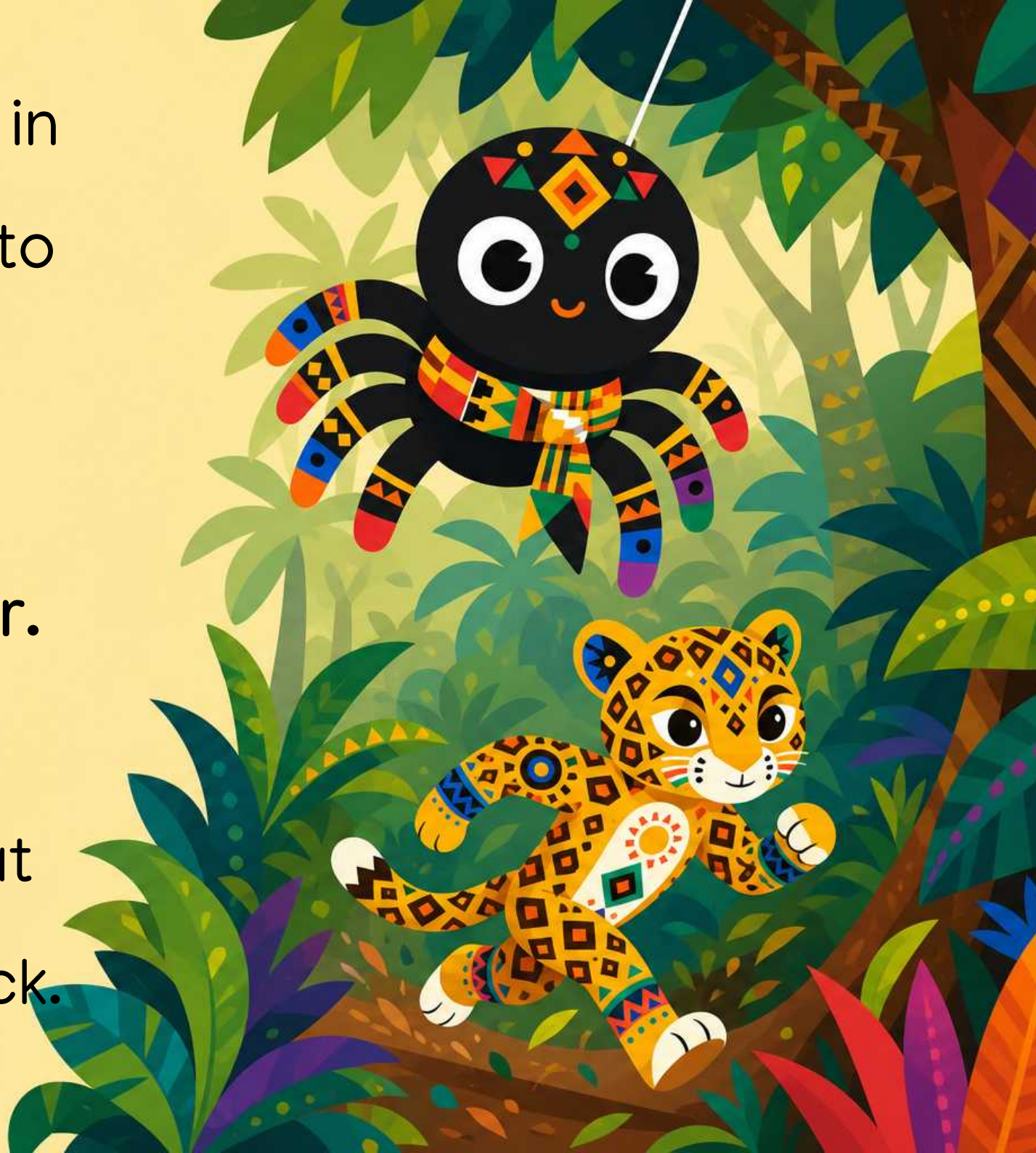


'I will go, but I will
web the gap so
Anansi can not
flee.' Leopard
pads old silk on
the gap and goes
off down the road.

Anansi slips out fast. He hides the hot seeds deep in the rock. Then he spins a new web on the gap, thin and fine as foam.



Anansi runs off in
the wood, tree to
tree. He hears
Leopard come
back with a roar.
There is no
hot-seed tree at
all. It is all a trick.





Leopard hits the web fast and gets stuck. He roars and groans, but the fine silk holds. Anansi calls back, 'A king must coat his meat!'

Anansi sits down in town and eats hot soup with hot seeds. The cook tells the whole tale. Now all the cooks say it too: a king must coat his meat.





Anansi in Leopard Den

Anansi the spider has been caught by Leopard, and tonight he is supper. Trapped in a den of solid rock with a hungry hunter guarding the only way out, how can one small spider outwit a beast who wears a fine 'coat' and lets out a mighty 'roar'? Will a clever trick and a plan to 'roam' free be enough before the sun goes down? This Bookbot level practices the /o/ sound with words like 'coat', 'roar', 'roam', and 'groan'.

Reading Skills: <oa>

coat, coax, foam, groan, road, roam, roar, soak

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