

The Rainbow Broom Growls





A **note** comes to The **Rainbow Tower** just as the sun turns gold.

The **Rainbow** Queen reads it out. 'The Wind Princess will visit us! She will be here when the sun comes up.'

Kate gasps. 'When the sun comes up? **Wow!** That is so soon!'

All the team rush to help.
They grab mops and rags and
buckets. They zoom up the
steps. They zoom down the
steps.

'Make it all **glow!**' calls Kate,
her arms full. 'From the
bedrooms to the front step!'

But Kate still needs one
broom. The big one. The
magic one. The one that
growls.





The **Rainbow** Broom sits in its dark corner. It looks so mad. 'Come on,' says Kate. 'We have a big job to do.' The broom **growls**. A real **growl!** It jerks back so fast that Kate trips. Her hands are empty. 'Fine,' says Kate. She grabs at it. The broom slides left. Kate dives right. The broom is just too mad.

Then the broom shoots
up and zooms fast, and
Kate holds on!

'Stop, broom, stop!' she
yells. Her feet swing past
a shelf with glass plates.
Her foot hits a gold cup.
It spins. It does not fall.

And the broom does not
slow down.



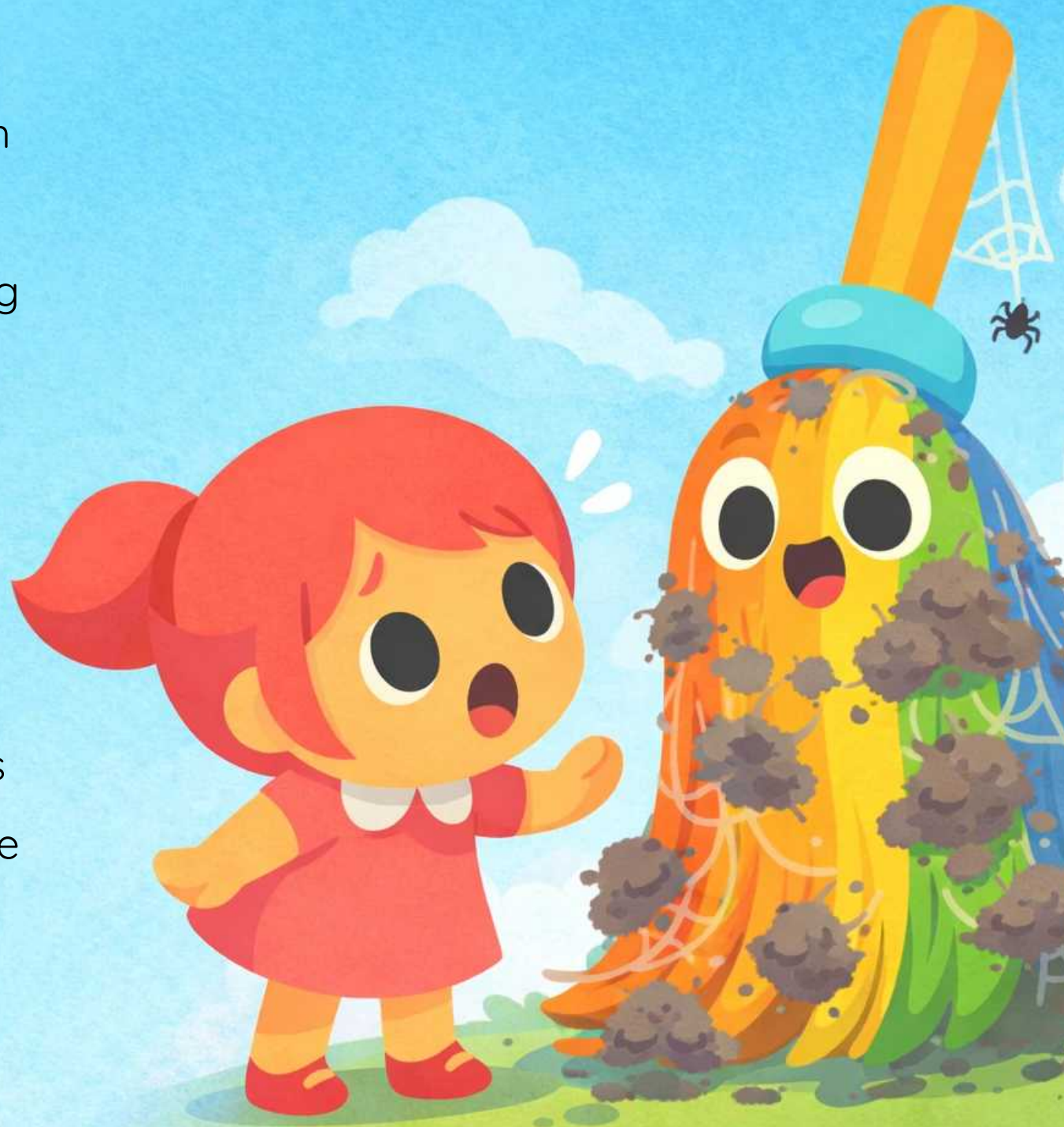


The broom bursts out a **window** and up into the sky. Kate lets go, flies, and lands right on top. She grips it tight. 'I said stop!'

The broom bucks and twists, but Kate holds on. She pulls it down, down, down, and they crash on the hilltop in a heap.

Below them, a **crowd** looks up, mouths wide open.

Kate sits up and gets a good look at the broom. 'Oh no.' The **Rainbow** Broom is grey with dirt. Cobwebs hang from it, and a little bug swings from its **pole**. Kate **groans**. **Now** she sees why. After each big job, she just puts the broom back in its dark corner. She never gives it a bath. 'So that is why the broom is so mad,' Kate says. 'I would be mad too.'





Kate takes the broom
inside and sets it in the
tub. 'Hold still,' she says.
'Time for a bath.'

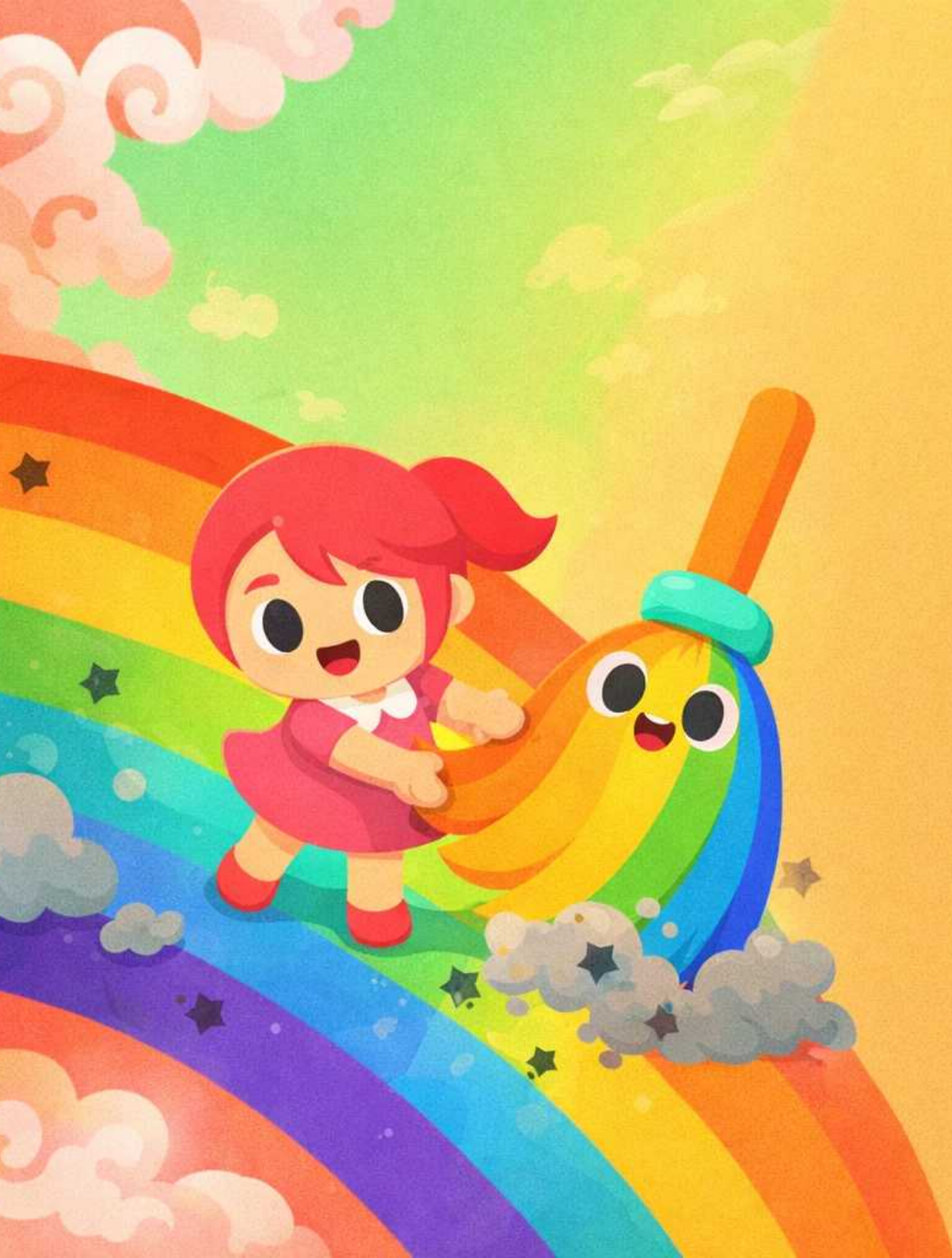
She **soaks** it and scrubs it
with **soap**. Pink **foam**
floats up and pops on
Kate's **nose**.

The broom shivers. Then it
sighs. Then, at last, it stops
growling.

Next, Kate grabs a big tool and pulls it **slowly** along the broom. Tug, tug, tug! One by one, the stripes **glow. Yellow.** Green. Blue. Each stripe shines more than the last.

The broom looks down at itself. Its eyes go wide. Then it grins. A real grin. The kind that starts small and then fills its face.





The broom shoots up, and this time Kate is quick. She grabs on, and up they go to the grand **rainbow** high in the sky. Dust and grime sit on it like a grey **coat**. 'Time to make it **glow!**' Kate shouts. They sweep the red stripe. They sweep the **yellow**, the green, and the blue. The broom hums a happy tune and flicks the dust into the clouds.

Kate wipes her **brow** and looks down. All the land shines. Then a shout comes from the hillside **below**.

Silver wind swirls down from the clouds. It is the Wind Princess! Her long blue locks stream behind her.

'She is here!' Kate gasps.

'She is here right **now!**'





The **Rainbow** Queen stands at the top of her **tower** as the grand **rainbow** blazes. 'Come, old friend!' she calls.

The Wind Princess gazes up at the **rainbow** and holds a hand to her chest. 'It has never had such a **glow.**'

Kate looks up too, and a grin fills her face.

The Wind Princess turns to the team. 'What a grand job,' she says, gazing up at the **rainbow** one last time. Kate beams.

Then she looks at the broom, still bright and happy in her hands. She grabs a soft cloth and wipes it until all its stripes **glow**. 'There,' she says, tucking it into its **own** spot on the shelf. 'Clean broom, happy broom.'

From the shelf, the broom gives one last happy grin.





The Rainbow Broom Growls

Kate is racing to get The Rainbow Tower spotless before the Wind Princess arrives at sunrise, but one broom refuses to help. It growls, it dodges, it even drags her clean off her feet and out into the sky. Why is this one broom so furious, and can Kate ever get it working again in time? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 3, Unit 7: /oa/ mixed), this book practises words like 'glow', 'below', 'growl', 'slow', 'soap'.

Phonics Focus: <mixed>

below, brow, coat, crowd, floats, foam, glow, groans, growl, growls, nose, note, now, own, pole, rainbow, slow, slowly, soaks, soap, tower, window, wow, yellow

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