

Sneaky Chirpy Crickets





Chirp! Chirp! Chirp! Pup flopped down by his bush, his best spot in the yard for a **sleepy** afternoon nap. He let out a great big, **sloppy** yawn. The day was **sunny** and warm and just right for a snooze. He shut one eye. Then he shut the other eye. Just one **tiny** nap was all he wanted.

Chirp! Chirp! 'Come on, not now!' Pup said with a loud groan. 'I just need one nap. Just one! Who is making all that fuss?'

Pup dropped his nose to the ground. Sniff, sniff, sniff. He crept along, **sneaky** and quiet.

'I will find you, chirper,' he said. 'I will find you, and I will ask you, **very politely**, to stop.'

He checked behind a **twiggy** bush. Nothing. He poked his nose into a **weedy** patch. Still nothing! But the chirping just got louder. Chirp! Chirp!





Pup burst out of the tall grass and bumped right into Trunk. Trunk was big and **stocky**, with a long, **snaky** trunk and **floppy** gray ears. 'I spy you!' Pup barked. 'It is you! You are the chirper! Own up!' Trunk blinked his big eyes. He opened his big mouth. He gave it his **very** best try. 'Honk!' went Trunk. That was not a chirp. That was not a chirp at all. Not even close.

Chirp! Chirp! There it was again! Pup pushed through the bushes and spotted Spike, all puffed up and **spiky**. 'Was that you?' Pup asked. Spike puffed up even bigger and opened his **pointy** little mouth. 'Hiss,' said Spike. Pup let out a long sigh. 'Never mind, Spike.'



'It must be a bird!' Pup said.
'Birds are the ones who chirp!'
He ran up a big tree and hung
upside down from a branch. He
held on tight with all four paws.
His nose was just inches from
a row of birds with big, **shiny**
beaks. 'All right!' he barked.
'Which of you is the chirper?
Own up right now!' The birds
just stared at him. Not one of
them chirped. Not one of them
said a word. Not even a peep.





Then Pup heard it, right above his head. Chirp! Chirp! Four **tiny** crickets sat on a leaf, chirping their little hearts out.

Pup stared up at them. They stared right back. His eyes went wide. 'You?' Pup whispered. 'It was you all this time? You **silly** little things?'

The crickets looked at each other. They shrugged their **tiny** wings. Then they all went quiet. And Pup, at long last, curled up on the soft grass and fell fast asleep. Not a sound. Not a peep. Not a chirp. Sweet dreams, Pup.



123

Who Is That Chirper?

Pup just wants one tiny nap, but a chirping sound keeps breaking into his sleepy afternoon. He hunts everywhere, from a twiggy bush to a weedy patch, sniffing out clue after clue. He even bumps into a stocky friend with a long, snaky trunk. Who could that sneaky little chirper be? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 123: -y), this book practices words like 'tiny', 'sleepy', 'sloppy', 'twiggy', 'snaky'.

Phonics Focus: -y

floppy, pointy, politely, shiny, silly, sleepy, sloppy, snaky, sneaky, spiky, stocky, sunny, tiny, twiggy, very, weedy

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.



www.bookbotkids.com