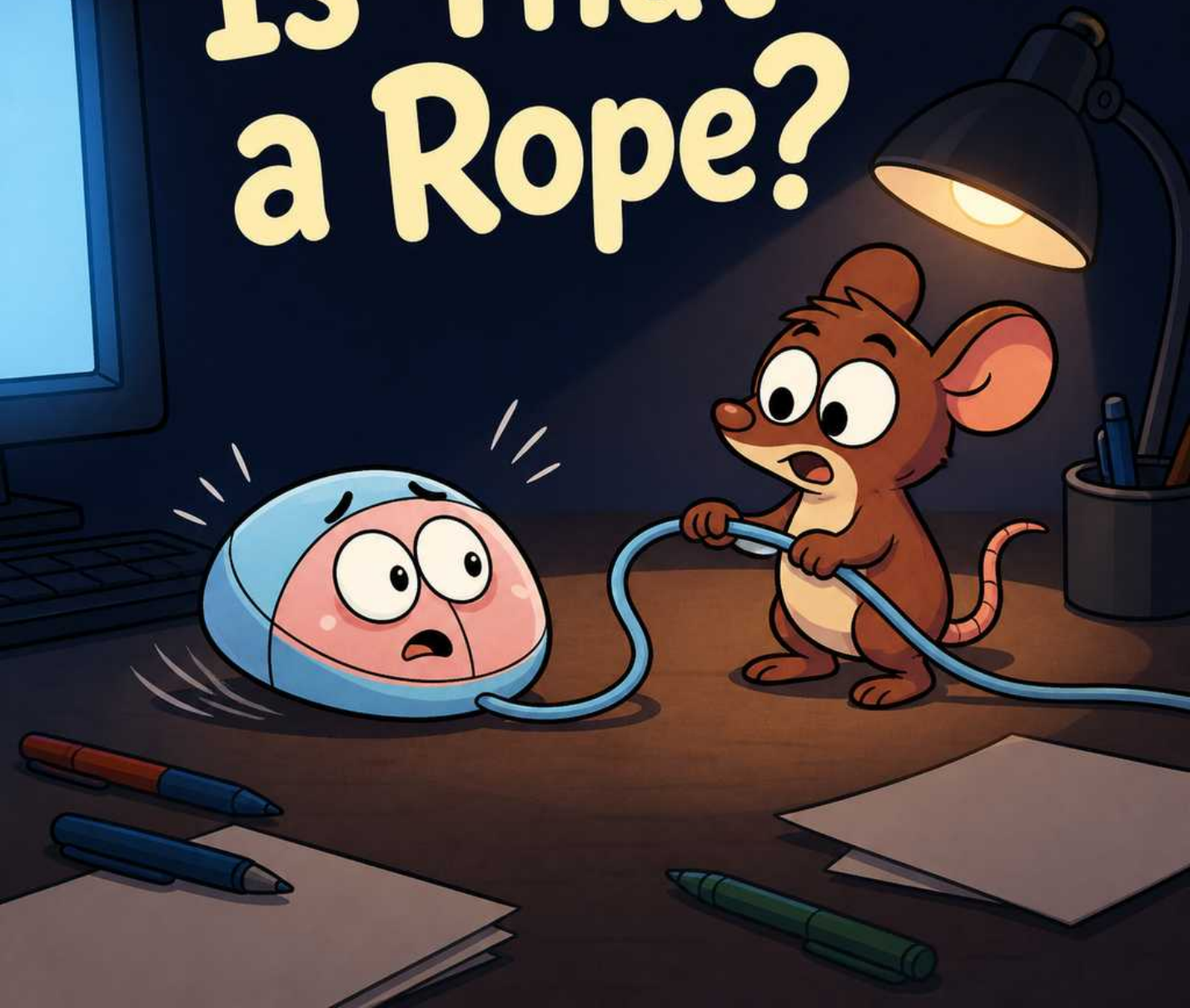


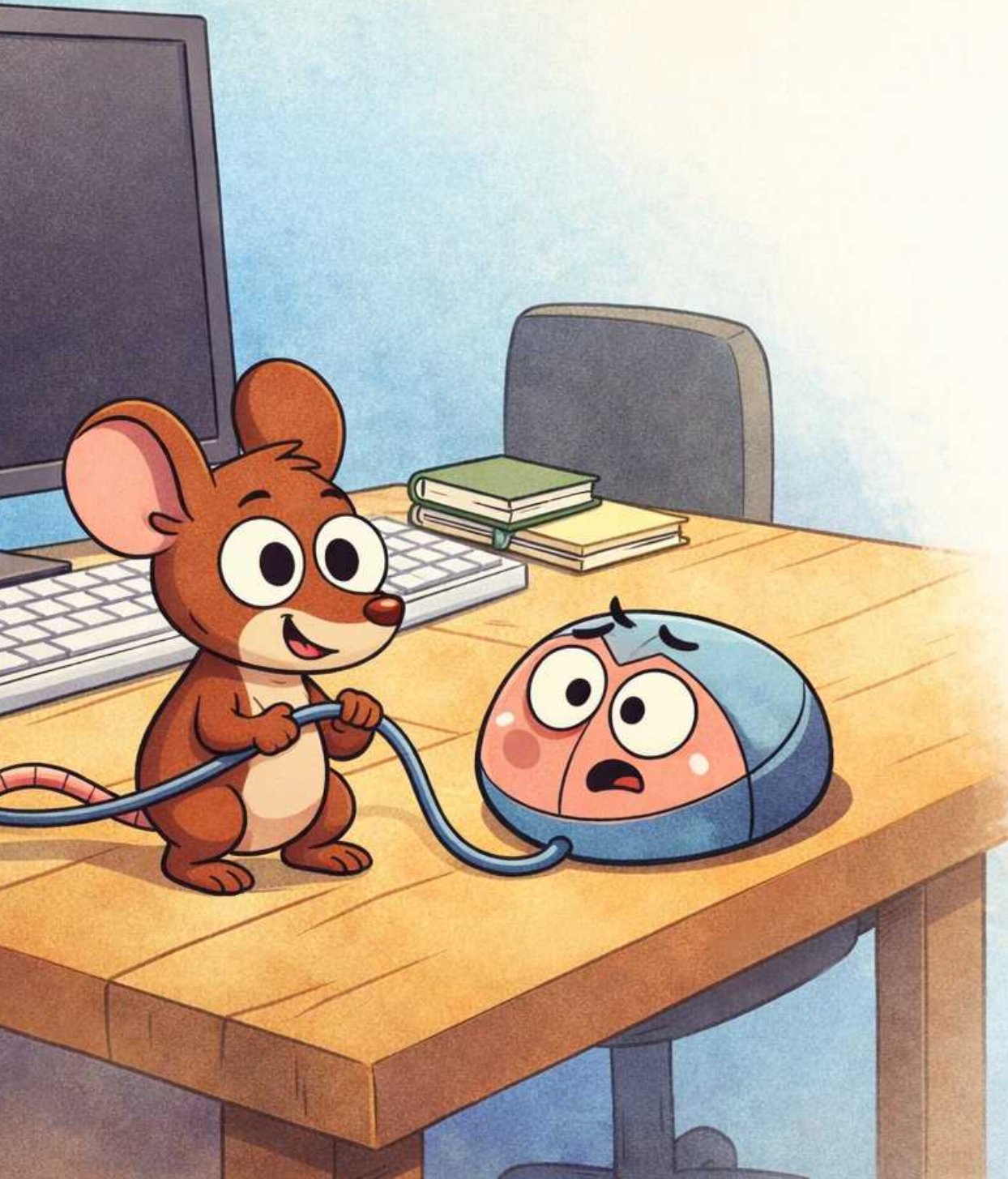
Is That a Rope?



Pip the mouse comes
to a big house. He
sits on the sill and
peeks in. The room
is dark and empty.

'No cat. No dog. Just me,' Pip grins. 'This is a fine home for me.'





Pip hops onto the desk. He spots a long blue rope on it.

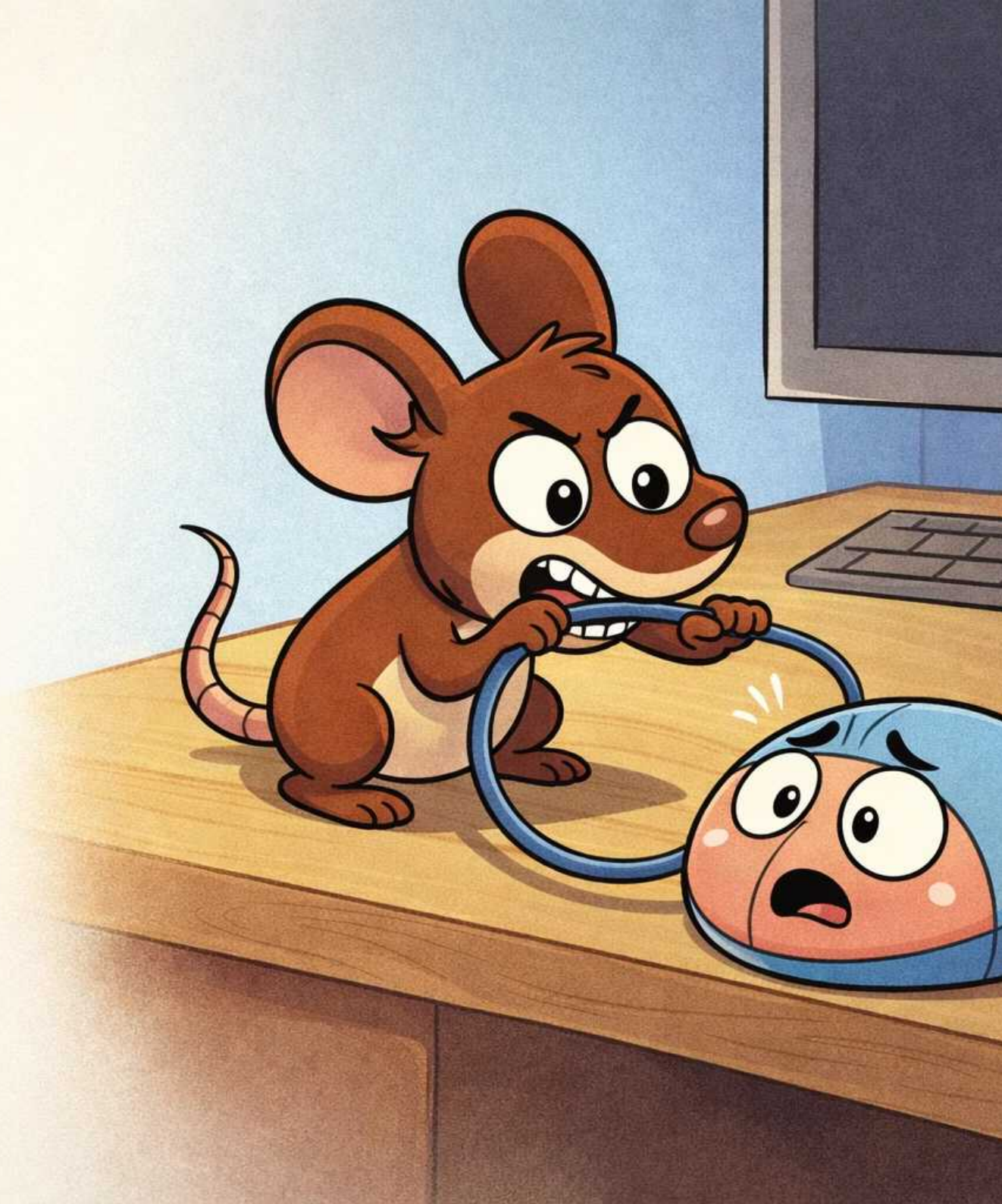
'A fine rope!' he yells.

Pip grips the rope and tugs. He tugs and tugs, but the rope will not shift.

So Pip **bites** the
rope. Crunch!

'Stop, stop!' yells
a tiny voice.

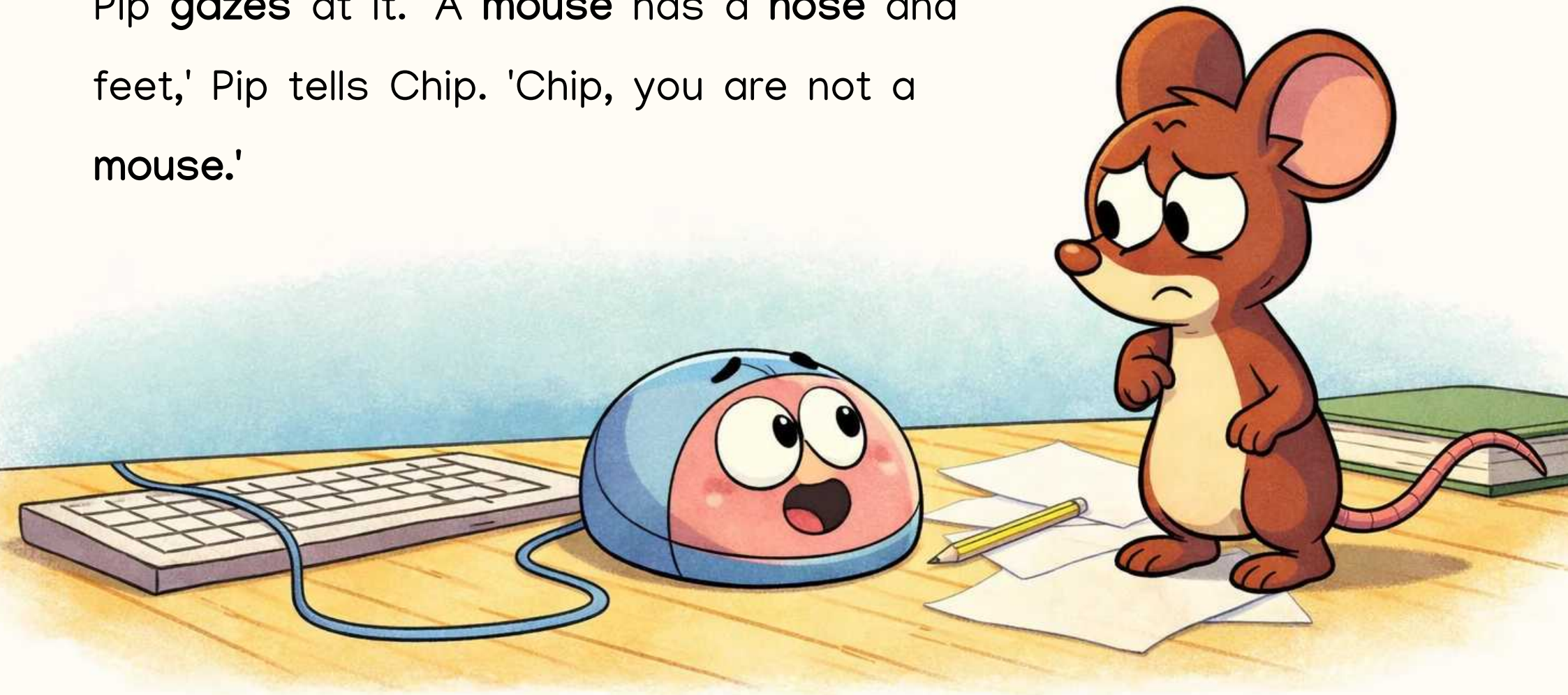
'That is not a
rope. That is a
tail!'



Pip spins round. A small blue thing sits on the desk.

'I am Chip,' it tells Pip, 'and I am a mouse.'

Pip gazes at it. 'A mouse has a nose and feet,' Pip tells Chip. 'Chip, you are not a mouse.'



'I am a mouse!' yells Chip. 'I am a smart mouse. I click and I tap. I can help!' 'No,' Pip tells Chip. 'A mouse can run and hide. You just sit there.'





'Can you get a snack for me?' asks Pip. 'And a big cat lives here. Can you help me **hide**?' 'Yes!' yells Chip. 'That cat will **take** a look at me and run!'

Pad, pad, pad. A big cat creeps up onto the desk. It has sharp nails and a grim look. Pip stands still. He is afraid.

'Chip!' yells Pip.
'Help! Help me hide!'

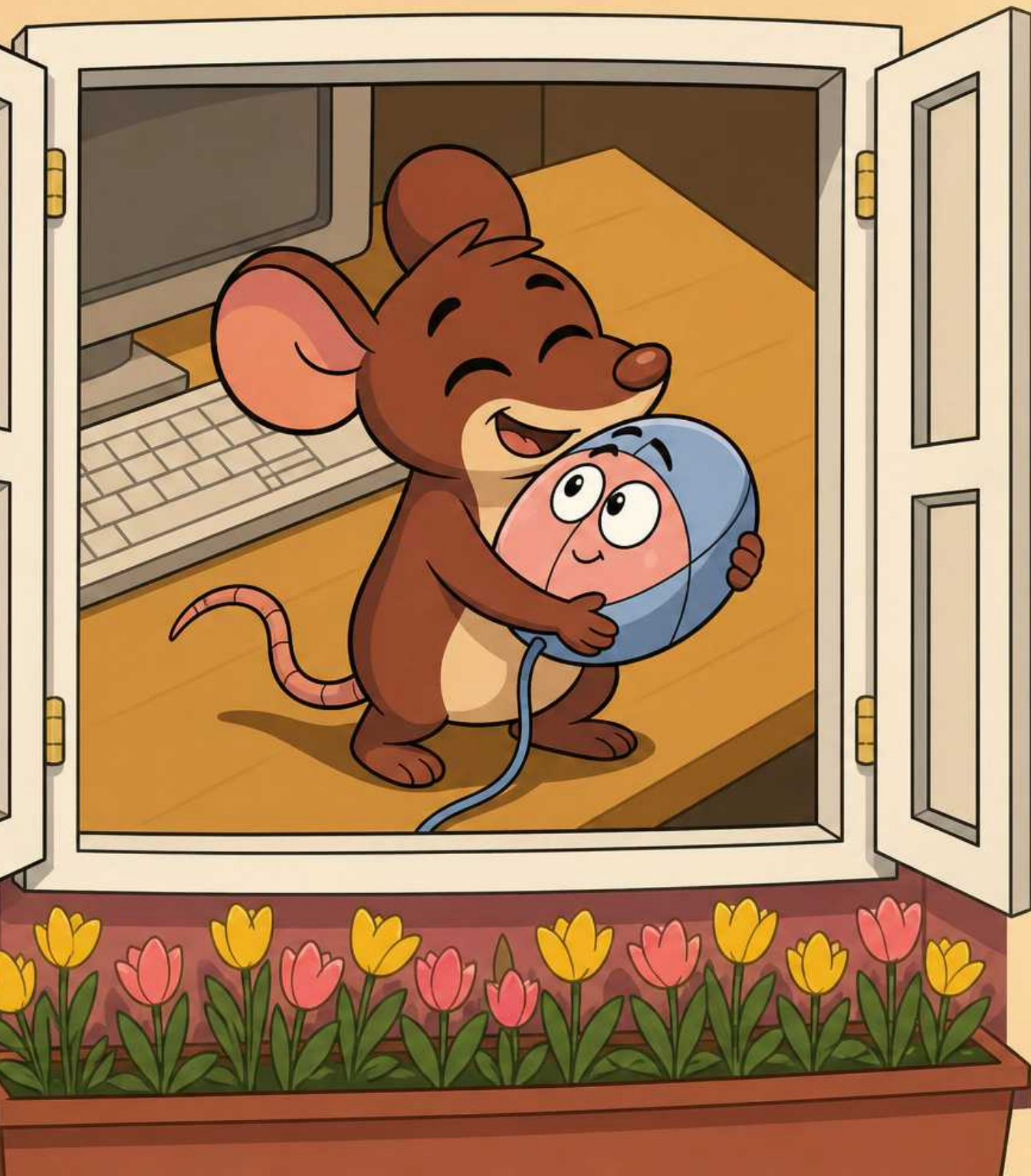




The cat jumps at Pip.
Pip hops left. The cat
swipes with sharp
nails and **chases** Pip.
Pip runs fast. 'Chip!' yells Pip. 'Help me! Quick!' 'Wait!' yells Chip. 'I can fix this!'

Then Chip clicks. The screen is lit. Woof! Woof! A big dog barks on the screen. The cat **takes** a look at the dog and runs off the desk fast. 'See that!' yells Chip. 'The cat runs from me!' Chip looks so proud.





Pip lifts Chip up in a big hug. 'Chip, you are an odd mouse,' Pip tells Chip, 'but you are the best mouse ever.' Chip smiles. 'Yes! The best!' Pip smiles a wide smile too.



Is That a Rope?

Pip the mouse finds a big, empty house and thinks he has it all to himself. But when he tugs at a strange rope on the desk, it turns out to have a mind of its own. Could this odd little "mouse" actually help him hide from the giant cat prowling the house? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 2, Unit 5: magic e (a_e i_e o_e)), this book practices words like 'hope', 'nose', 'smile', 'gazes', 'chases'.

Phonics Focus: <magic> <e> <(a_e) <i_e> <o_e)>

bites, chases, comes, fine, gazes, gripe, hide, home, hope, lives, mouse, nose, rope, site, smile, smiles, spine, swipes, take, takes, wide

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