

**No One Can
Defeat Me!**



'Come out, come out, Alex!' Steve yells.

He stands by a big leafy tree at sunset. Steve will seek, and Alex will hide.

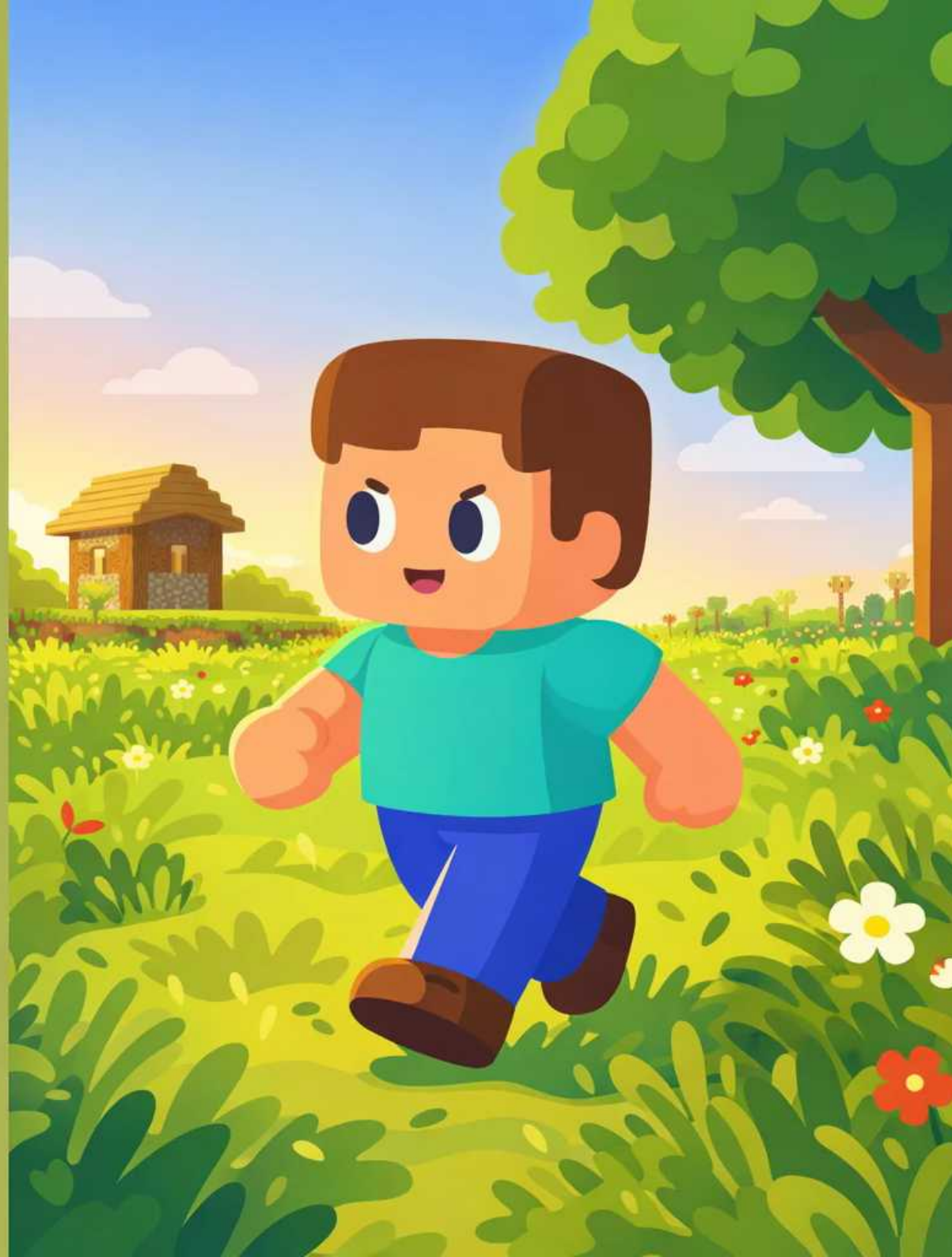




Alex runs fast in
the grass. She
dreams of a
sneaky spot to hide
in. 'This is easy!'
she grins. 'Steve
will never see me.'

Steve marches in
the tall grass. Left,
right, left, right.

He checks each
tree. He checks
each rock. 'Alex will
not beat me,' he
says.





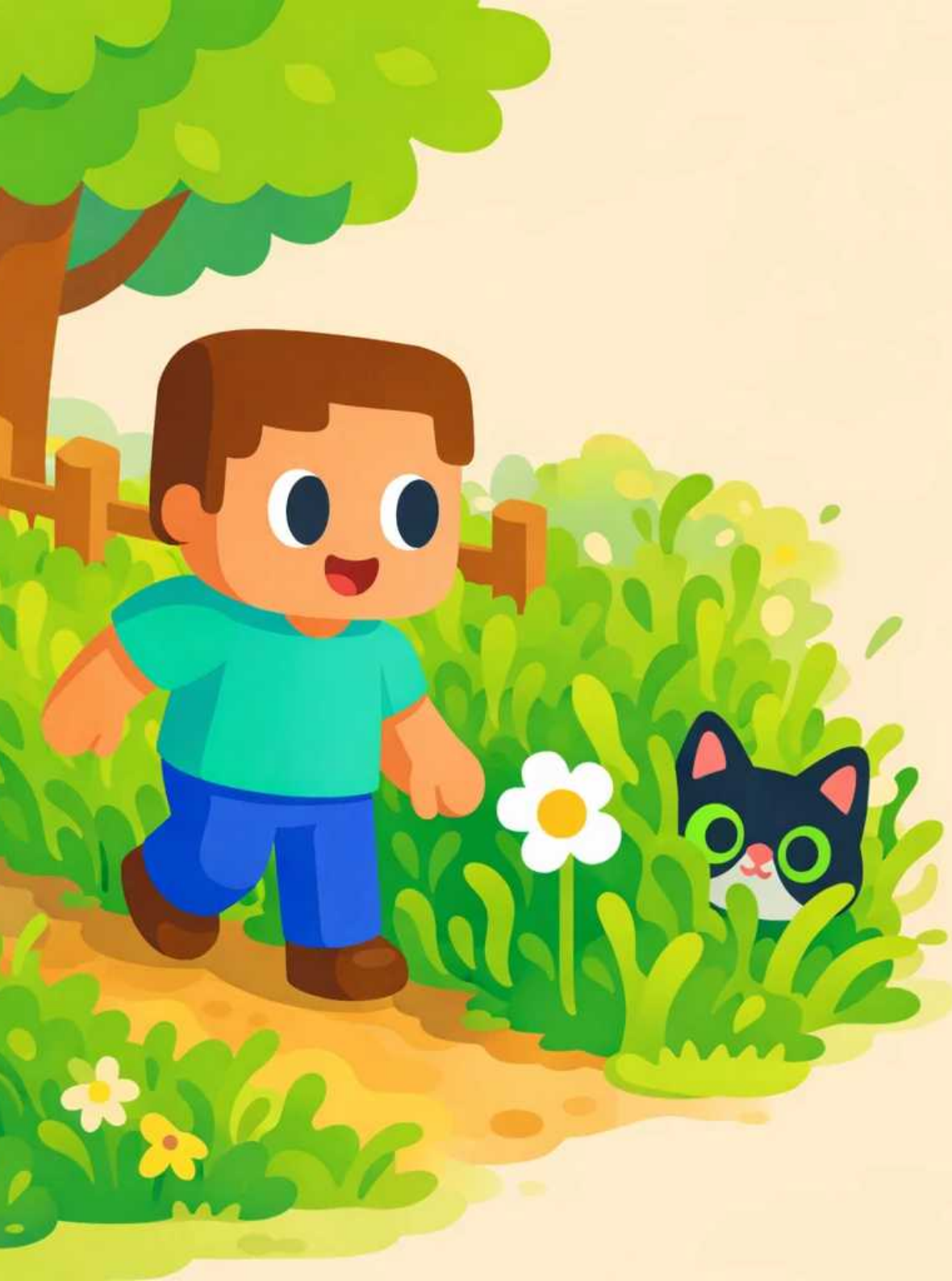
Snap! A twig
cracks. A thing is
in the grass!

Steve leaps at it.
'I got Alex!' he
yells. But no. It is
not Alex.

It is a dog! A
happy, fluffy dog
wags its tail.

'A dog is not Alex,'
Steve groans. The
dog trots off to
sniff a stinky heap.





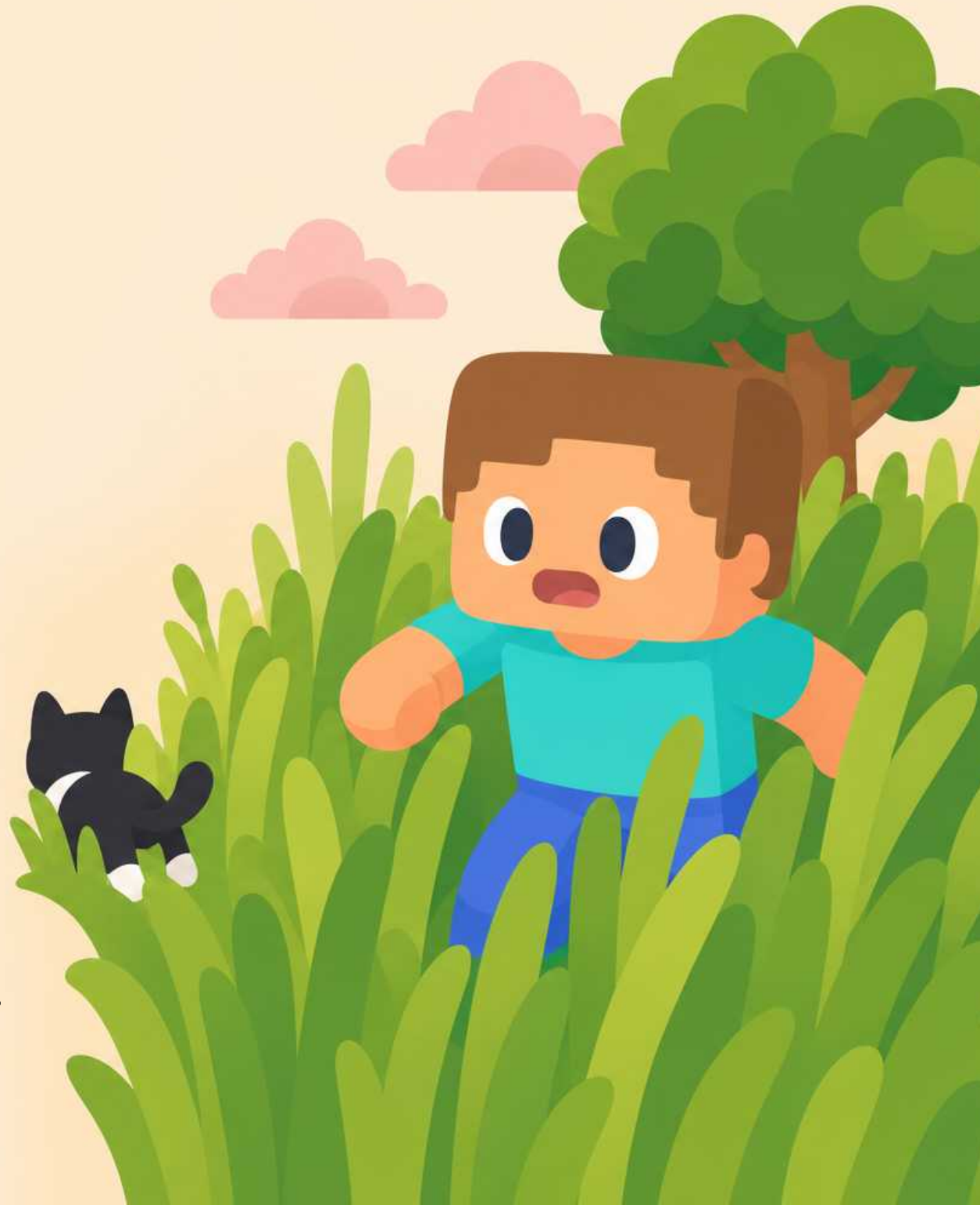
A thing peeks at
Steve from the deep
grass.

'Alex is sneaking in
there!' he says.

Steve creeps up,
step by step by
step.

It is a cat! A
grumpy black and
white cat.

The cat **sneaks** off
in the grass. 'That
mean cat is not
Alex,' Steve groans.





Steve sees a big
deep hole. A hen
with a neat beak
peeks in it. Steve
peeks in too. 'Alex!
Alex!' he calls. But
the hen is not Alex.

A hen is stuck on a
stone shelf in the
hole.

Steve makes a ramp
so the hen can
reach the top. 'One
hen is safe,' he says.
'But still no Alex.'





Steve slumps in a
heap by the
plants.

He is weak from
all this seeking.

'Alex wins,' he
groans. 'I am beat.'

Then Steve sees
a leg peek out
by the big tree. It
is Alex! She is so
close! Steve
leaps up with a
big grin.





Steve sneaks up and reaches out. Tap! 'Tag!' he yells.

Alex spins and squeals. 'Steve got me!'

'Alex seeks next,' Steve grins. 'And Alex, look out for the hole!'



No One Can Defeat Me!

Steve is sure he's the world's greatest seeker, marching through the tall grass with big, important steps as he checks each tree and each rock. But a dog, a grumpy cat, and a stuck hen all turn out to be sneaky decoys, not Alex, so where on earth is she really hiding? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 2, Unit 8: ea as in sea), this book practices words like 'each', 'sneaky', 'beat', 'dreams', 'easy'.

Phonics Focus: <ea>

beak, beat, dreams, each, easy, heap, leafy, leaps, mean, neat, reach, reaches, sneaking, sneaks, sneaky, squeals, weak

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