

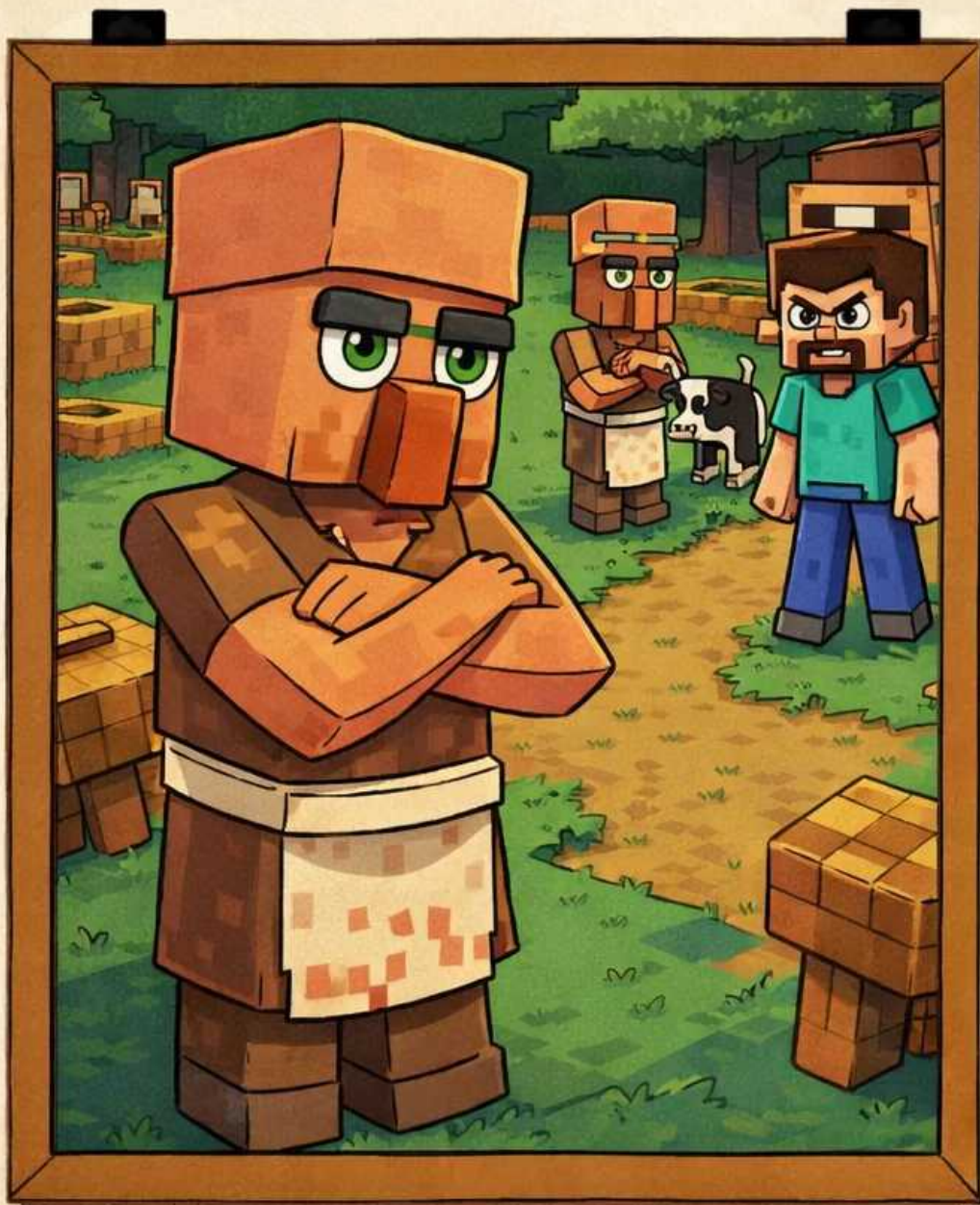
Steve and a Dinky Sun



Steve stands in the hot sun. He feels loopy, as if he lost part of the morn.

He tucks the green emerald deep in his pocket. He is hungry and must get food fast.





A stocky Villager stands on the path. He looks grumpy, and he does not grin at Steve. Steve spots a cook. He plans to barter the emerald for a hot roast.

Steve steps up to the cook and taps his arm. Hum, hum! The cook nods at him.

A hot roast for an emerald! Steve grins. This is a handy, dandy plan.





Steve lifts the emerald up, but the cook jumps back in a panic. Hum, hum, hum! The mob is jumpy and upset. Steve tucks the emerald back in his pocket, and the din stops. All is still. This is creepy.

Steve peeks into a dim hut. Two grouchy men stand in it, and both look at him.

He must hunt for food. It is risky, but his gut is empty.





In the next hut,
Steve flips up the lid
on a chest. Lucky
him! He spots food in
it and gulps it fast.

Then he drops string
and a stick in the
chest for the men.

In the corner, Steve spots a cat and pats it. But it is rock! It is a statue.

Then Cat darts in and skids to a stop. Cat sits solid and still, and it does not blink. This is spooky.





Steve steps back. A
step, two steps, three.

Then Cat blinks,
twitches, and darts
out **swiftly**. It is the
emerald! The cursed
emerald can stop a
cat, and it can stop
Steve.

At dusk, Steve stands on the porch. The sun sets, and all is **misty** gold.

The emerald hums in his pocket. It wishes for him to peek at it.

But Steve grips the rail hard. He is **crafty**, and he must not peek at the cursed emerald.





Steve and a Dinky Sun

Steve's stomach growls loud enough to scare a chicken, and the shiny green gem in his pocket seems to be doing something strange to time itself. When a stocky villager turns grumpy instead of trading, Steve must sneak off to find food another way, risky and empty-bellied. But what is this hungry, jumpy village so afraid of? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 2, Unit 1: y saying /ee/), this book practices words like 'grumpy', 'hungry', 'jumpy', 'risky', 'spooky'.

Phonics Focus: <y> <saying>

crafty, creepy, dandy, empty, grouchy, grumpy, handy, hungry, jumpy, loopy, lucky, misty, risky, spooky, stocky, swiftly

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