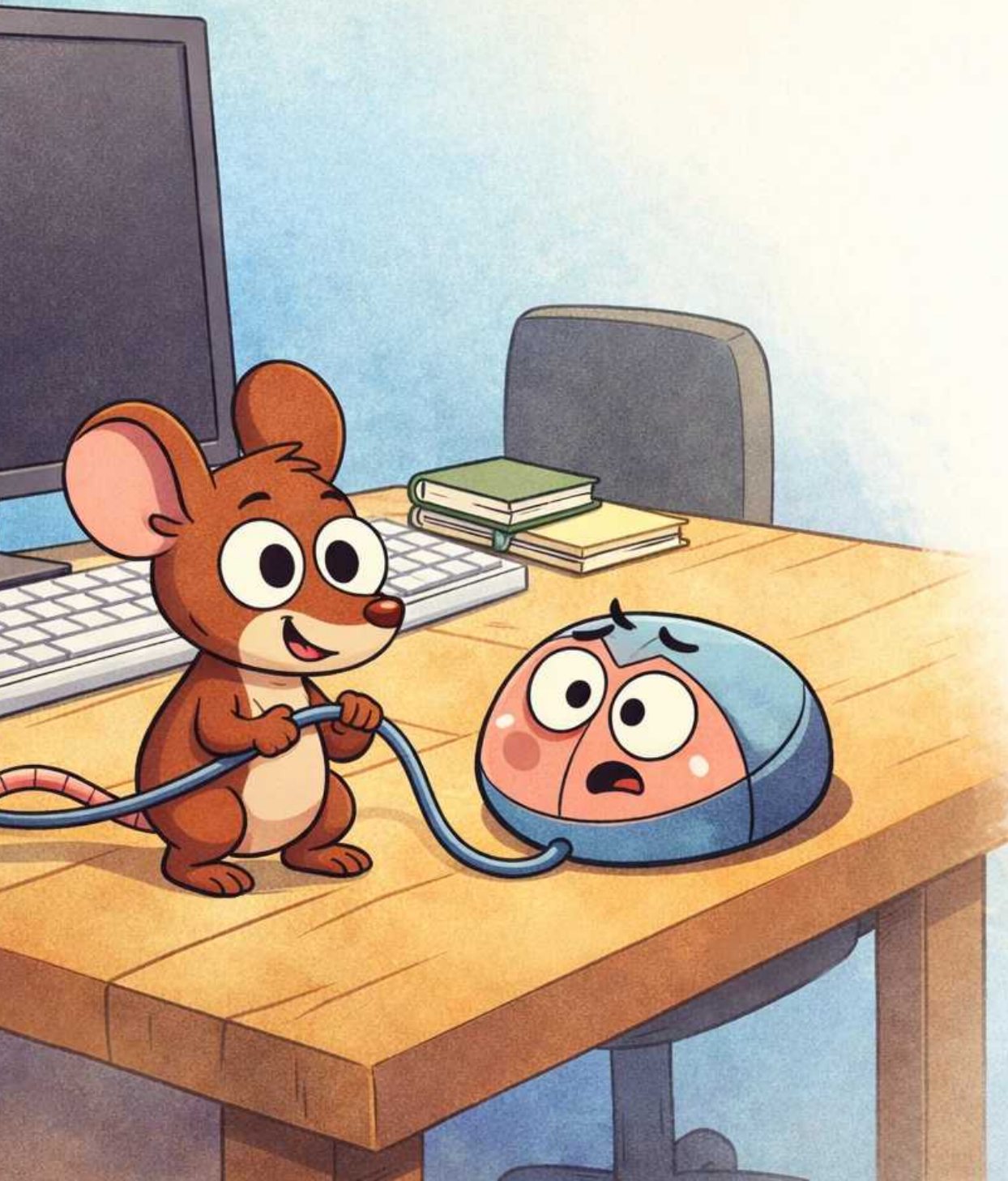


Tik Saw a Rope



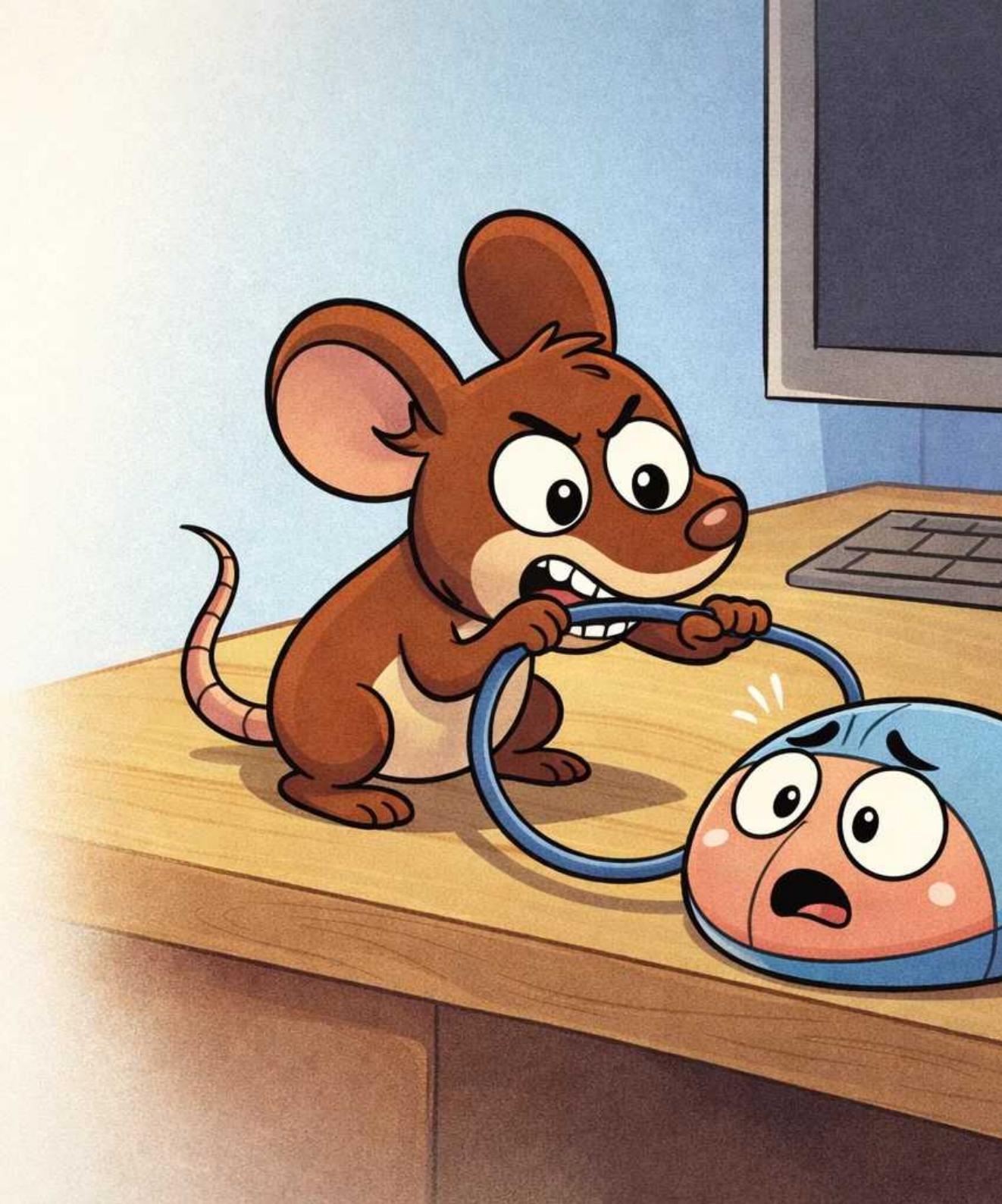
Pip sees a home. It is just right. The window is open. The room is dark. Best of all, no one is inside. 'No cats,' says Pip. 'No dogs. No people.' He crawls up to the sill and peeks in. 'Just me.'



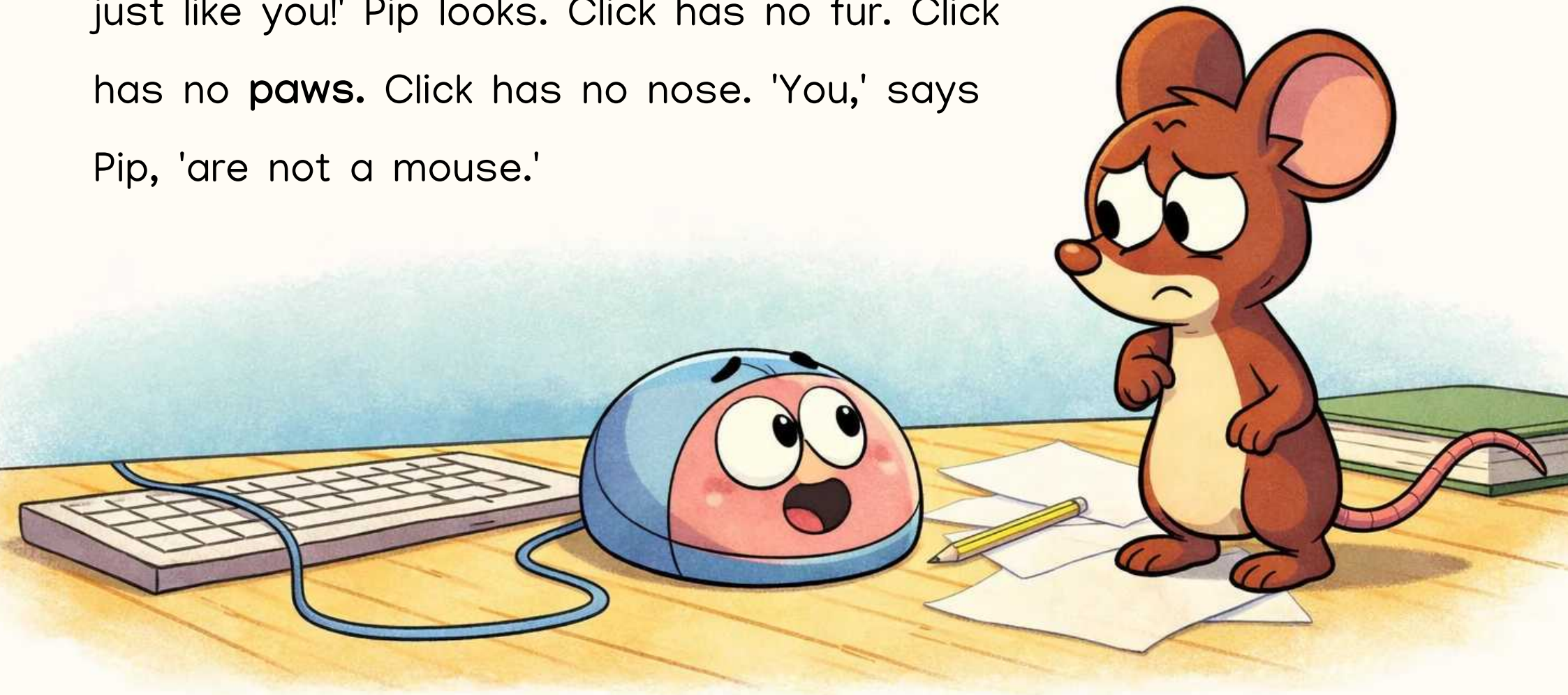


Pip gets on the desk.
Pens. Papers. A bright
screen. Then he sees a
rope. It goes right across
the desk. 'Ooh!' says Pip.
He grips it in both **paws**.
'This could be the best
rope yet!' He pulls hard.
He pulls harder. He pulls
with all his might.

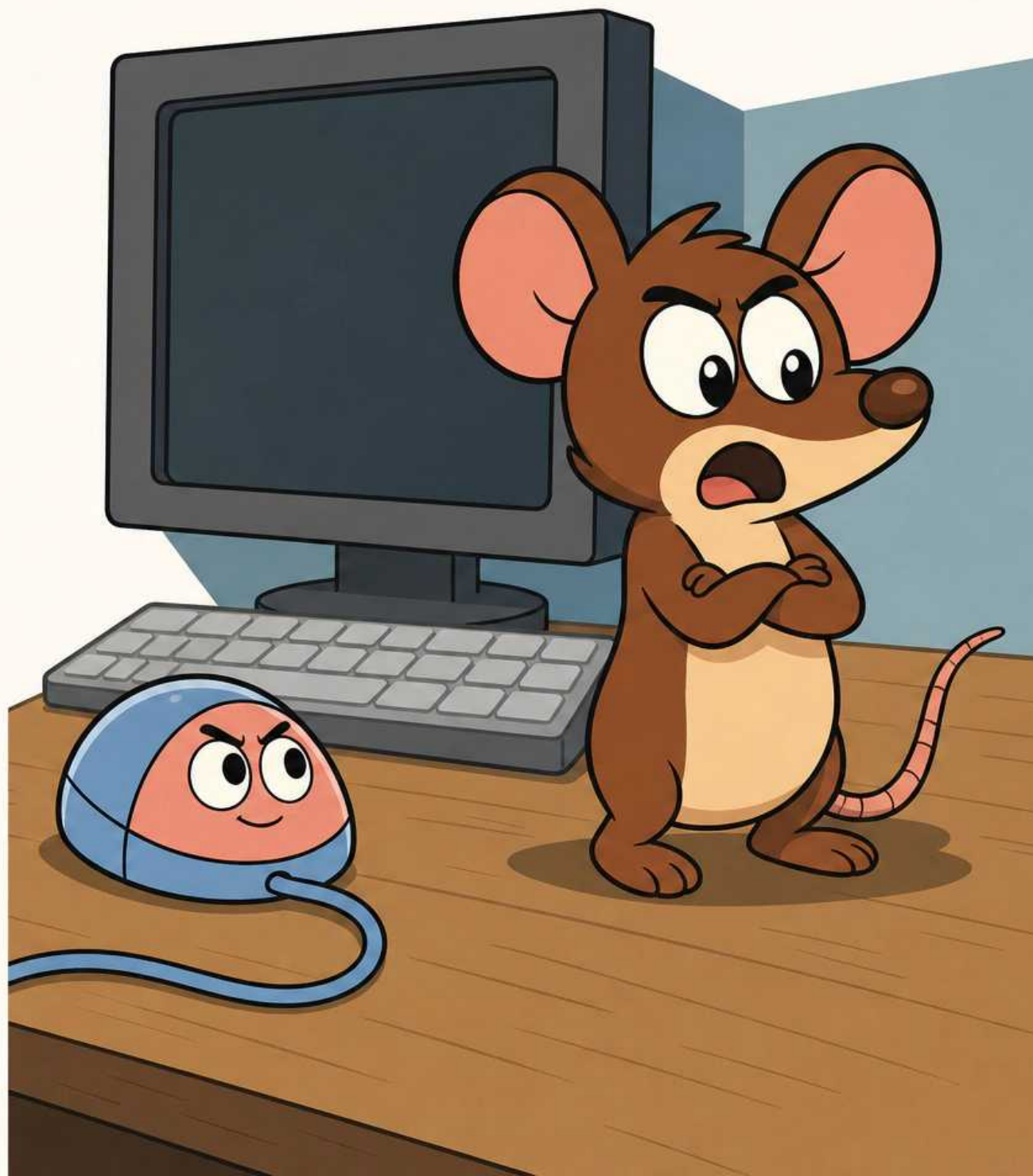
The rope does not move. So Pip does what any smart mouse would do. He bites it. Crunch! 'Stop!' squawks a small thing. 'Stop stop stop! That is my tail, you big nut!'



Pip turns and **gawks**. On the desk sits the small thing, with a cute face and a cord for a tail. It has a pink face and a blue back. 'My name is Click,' it says. 'And I am a mouse, just like you!' Pip looks. Click has no fur. Click has no **paws**. Click has no nose. 'You,' says Pip, 'are not a mouse.'



'I am too!' says Click. 'I click! I scroll! I can **draw** on the screen! Can you?' 'I can chew a hole in a wall,' says Pip. 'I can open forty tabs at once,' says Click. 'That is not a real thing,' says Pip. 'You need me,' says Click. 'You look like a pal who needs help.'





'Fine,' says Pip. 'Can you find me food? I have not had a meal in days.' 'Yes, I can!' says Click. 'And the cat,' Pip adds. 'There is a big cat in this home. Can you help me hide?' Click is not **daunted**. 'That cat will take one look at me and run!' Pip looks at Click. Click is the size of a peanut. 'Yep,' says Pip.

Then Pip freezes. A low, deep purr. And the soft pad, pad, pad of huge paws. The cat is close. It is not a small cat. It snarls. Its claws scratch the desk. Pip has nowhere to go. 'Click!' Pip yells. 'Click! Help!'

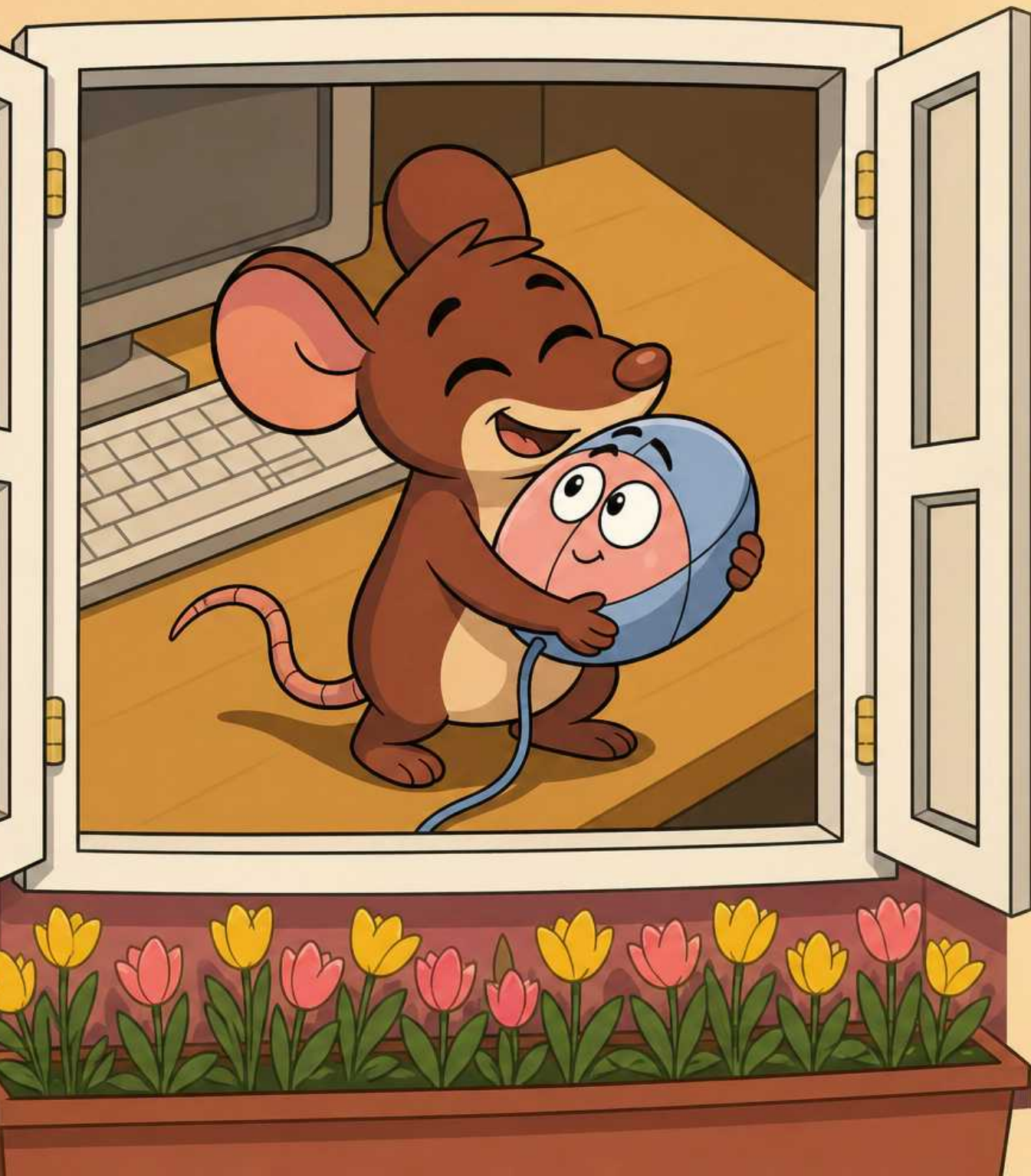




The cat lunges. Pip
dodges left. The cat
swipes. Pip dodges right.
'Click! This is your **fault!**
You said the cat would
run!' 'I am on it!' yells Click.
'Give me a moment!' 'I do
not have a moment!' The
cat's **paw** slams the desk.
Papers fly. Pip runs for his
life.

Then the screen lights up.
A huge dog with big jaws
barks from the screen.
'Woof! Woof! Woof!' booms
the dog. The cat freezes.
Its fur stands up. It bolts
off the desk, runs for the
door, and flees the room so
fast it leaves skid marks on
the floor. Click sits on the
desk, looking smug. 'Forty
tabs,' says Click. 'Told you.'





Pip lifts Click up in both **paws** and gives him a big hug. The cord swings back and forth. 'You,' says Pip, 'are one silly mouse.' 'The best mouse!' says Click. Pip smiles. 'Yes,' he says. 'The best mouse.'



Tik Saw a Rope

A mouse finds a strange little creature that swears it's a mouse too, no paws, no claws, no fur, just a screen and a cord for a tail. When a huge cat comes prowling with its claws out, can this odd little helper really save the day? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 93: au, aw, augh /aw/), this book practices words like 'paws', 'claws', 'gawks', 'draw', and 'fault'.

Phonics Focus: au, aw, augh /aw/

claws, crawls, daunted, draw, fault, gawks, jaws, paw, paws, squawks

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