

Little Al in Big Trouble



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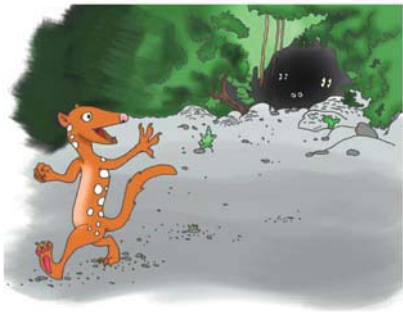
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Little Al is a very cheeky quoll.
He is always getting in trouble.
He is not afraid of humans
like his brothers.
He likes to play tricks.



There are many funny stories
to tell about Al the quoll.

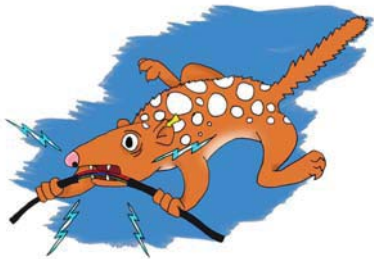
Like the day he learned how to get a free dinner by eating the bait out of a trap set by the researcher. Every day, for one whole month, he would crawl inside the trap at night, eat the food, and wait to be released the next morning.



- Oh no! Not you again!
the researcher would say.

Or the day he invaded the consul's house and chewed the wires of his sound speakers.

He was chased for a week after that!



- What a naughty quoll!

He even nibbled one of those strange cane toads that people brought to the village.

That was a bad idea!
He was sick for days!



But I am not here to tell you these stories.

I am here to tell you about the day Little Al got into REALLY big trouble.

One day when it was getting dark
Little Al went for a walk to the edge
of the forest to see if he could find
some food.



He was walking close to the village
when he saw something
so wonderful that he couldn't
believe his eyes.

He saw many colourful
strange objects that
he had never seen before.

Little Al was curious.
He sniffed and licked
and finally made up his mind.



- It must be food!
There is so much of it
that I will invite all my friends
and we are going to have a great feast!

Everybody came to
Little Al's party.

They ate and danced
the whole night.



But when they
woke up the next day,
they realized that something
was terribly wrong.

Cassy the Cassowary had
his legs trapped in plastic rings.

Carol the Cuscus had
chewing gum all over her fur.



Tony the Turtle had
his long neck entangled in plastic bags.

Ken the Tree Kangaroo had
a bottle stuck on his head.

Little Al had a can of soft drink
stuck around his neck!

And everybody was feeling
very sick and grumpy.



- You tried to kill us!
the animals accused Little Al.

- It's not my fault.

I got as sick as everybody else,
Little Al defended himself.

- The humans did this to us.

I am declaring war against them!
said Little Al very boldly.



And the animals were
very surprised and afraid.

- This is indeed a crazy quoll,
everybody agreed.

Little Al convinced his cousins
Peter the Pygmy-possum and
Sully the Sugar Glider and

his friends Walter the Water Rat
and Ben the Long-beaked Echidna

to join him in his war
against the humans.



They painted themselves
in war colours and

borrowed some bird of paradise
feathers to put on their heads.



When they were ready
they set up camp on the
top of the garbage pile and
waited for the humans.

The next morning a boy and his little brother came to leave more empty cans on the garbage pile.



But before they got close,

Little Al and his friends started throwing plastic bottles at them.

The boys had to run
and hide under a cardboard box
to protect themselves
from the rain of plastic bottles.



- Please stop! cried the boy.
Why are you doing this to us?

At first, they thought that they were being attacked by boys from the other village.



Imagine their surprise when a quoll dressed up in war colours came down from the top of the garbage pile!

- This is war! exclaimed the quoll.

- You humans tried to poison us.
Now we are fighting back.



- I don't know what
you are talking about,
said the boy.

- Hey, aren't you the cheeky quoll
that keeps getting
in trouble in our village?

- Well... that is me, admitted Little Al.
I am a bit naughty sometimes.

But I never tried to poison anybody!
Why did you leave all this colourful food
around, if it was going to make us ill?



- Did you try to eat the garbage?
Asked the boy in surprise.

You silly quoll, this is not food.
You were not supposed to eat it.

- How was I supposed to know that?
We animals can't tell garbage from food.

- We ate it and now look at us!
Little Al pointed out his sick friends.



- Oh! I am really sorry about this!

- But I think I can help you and
your friends, suggested the boy.

The boy and his brother helped all the animals to bury the garbage.

When they were finally done he proposed a treaty with Little Al.



- Let's go to the village and talk to the people.

We need to find a solution to stop animals from eating our garbage.

Little Al agreed and off they went to the village.

Little Al and the boy did their best to explain their problem to the people in the village.



They could easily see how bad it was having garbage everywhere. The fishermen had been complaining for a long time about it.

They were tired of seeing dead fish and turtles in the water because the animals were eating the plastic and cans in the river.

It was a long meeting, but in the end the animals and the humans made a peace agreement.



Little Al agreed to stop playing tricks on the humans. He wouldn't try to get free lunches from the traps or chew the electric wires.

He even fixed the consul's new sound system!

In exchange the humans promised to be more careful with their rubbish.

- Especially no garbage in the river! reminded Little Al, who really liked Piggy the pig-nosed turtle and didn't want to see her sick.



They chose an area away from forests, lakes and rivers, where they could leave their garbage and eventually bury it. As long as the garbage is not where the animals can reach it!

Some very smart people decided to make new things out of the garbage. Little Al was particularly impressed by the canoes the boy made out of plastic bottles!

After a while everybody realized
what a good deal that was.

Even the hunters were happier!
So many more animals in the forest!



Less animals getting sick and dying
because of the garbage
meant more animals
the hunters could catch.

The village was looking much more clean and beautiful without all the garbage around.

Both people and animals were happier and healthier now.

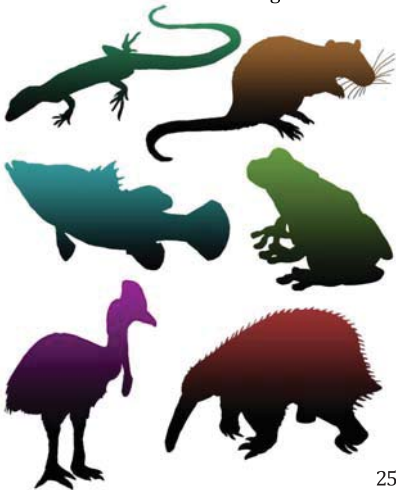


And of course! No more cheeky Little Al the quoll playing his tricks on the people of the village!

THE END

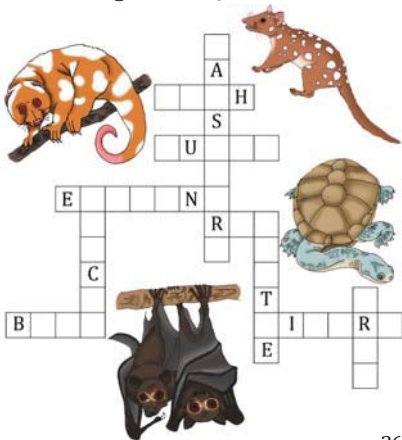
GAMES!

1) Which of these shadows belongs to Fran the Frog?



2) Fit all these animals' names into the puzzle below to solve it!

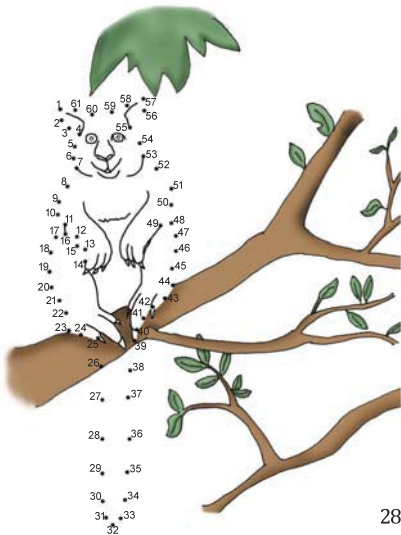
Bats, Cassowary, Cuscus, Echidna, Fish, Frog, Lizard, Quoll, Rat, Turtle



3) Can you help the little boy to find his rugby ball? What colour is his ball?



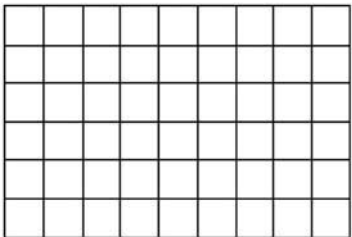
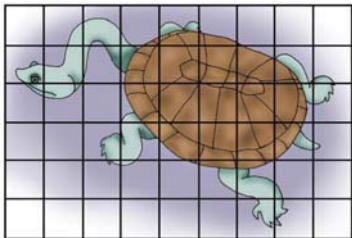
4) Connect the dots to find out who is hiding in the tree?



5) Can you help Sully and his family back to their home?



6) Use the grid to help you draw
Tony the long-necked turtle.



7) Circle which of the following garbage waste can make an animal sick if you throw it in the forest:

Cooked **vegetables**, **Fruits**,
 soft **drink** can, rusty **metal**,
 fish **bones**, **banana** skin,
bottles, **garden** greens,
pork meat, **plastic** bags,
 Egg **shell**, **Chewing** gum,
Paper bags, Broken **glass**.



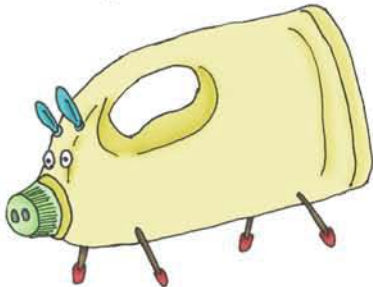
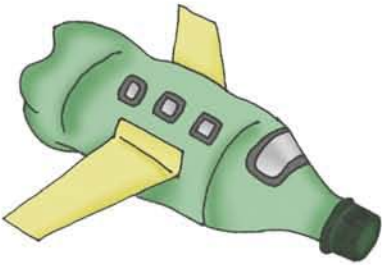
Can you find the **red words** in the word search below?

A	Q	E	D	C	G	L	A	D	B	I	N	K	G	Z	F
R	E	B	R	S	N	S	H	C	D	B	P	O	R	K	P
V	E	A	I	T	S	F	E	A	K	E	V	R	A	E	O
O	L	N	B	I	H	I	J	V	A	V	V	I	D	N	F
M	L	A	O	C	D	C	H	E	W	I	N	G	E	M	A
A	S	N	T	X	T	H	A	G	N	L	O	L	K	B	P
U	J	A	G	S	F	N	L	E	I	P	P	N	A	N	A
O	P	I	A	K	R	A	I	T	S	A	U	G	B	B	G
G	T	W	R	L	U	X	U	A	Q	P	T	U	L	O	O
L	M	D	D	W	I	N	G	B	L	E	R	M	E	T	X
A	C	V	E	P	T	W	R	L	Z	R	K	E	C	T	A
S	B	O	N	E	S	S	C	E	A	M	E	T	A	L	O
S	G	R	G	R	K	D	Y	S	H	E	L	L	B	E	M
H	Z	E	U	P	L	A	S	T	I	C	B	E	M	S	E

8) How many pictures of Little Al the quoll can you find on this page?



9) Link the new toys made out of recycled garbage with their original material.



10) Lift-out Game: Village Race

Help Little Al and his friends Carol, Sully, Walter and Peter to cross the village safely:

A fence! It will be really hard to go over or under it. Go back 3 spaces.

A fence! The boy opens the gate for you. Move forward 2 spaces.

You are very careful and choose the right spots to hide. Move forward 3 spaces.

The boy shares his bananas with you. Move forward 2 spaces.

Dogs in the way! You have to climb a tree and wait. Stay one round without playing.

Dogs in the way! But you are very smart. Dogs can't catch you. Move forward 2 spaces.

You got your foot stuck in a plastic bottle! Go back 4 spaces.

You ate chewing gum. Now you are very sick and can't continue. Go back to the beginning.

Start!

You ate a nice breakfast and you are feeling very strong. Move forward 3 spaces.

You got inside the researchers trap. Stay one round without playing.

You are very silent while crossing the village. Nobody hears you. Move forward 3 spaces.

Playing with cane toads was a bad idea. You are not feeling very well. Go back 2 spaces.

You ran over broken glass. You can't continue. Go back to the beginning.

Congratulations! You are the first to cross the village safely. You won the race!!!

End!

There is a wedding in the village. Nobody notices you walking around. Move forward 2 spaces.

11) Which Carol the Cuscus is different from the others?
Can you find the seven differences?



12) Spot the 8 animals hiding in the bush:



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**PIKU
UWO**

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