

# Hold On, Brother!



His brother **snatches** his purple toy and pulls it away. He grabs it and pulls back hard. 'Mine!' he yells.

He **wishes** his brother would just leave his stuff alone. He does not want to fight, but his brother never asks.





Their mom marches in, looking mad. Broken dishes and a toy lie on the floor. She points at both of them. 'Bed. Now.'

He rubs his eye. His brother hangs his head. It is not fair. His brother always starts it, but they both get in trouble.

He **fixes** things for his brother. He shares his food. He gives him all he can.

But sometimes he **wishes** he could have something just for himself. His little toy tractor sits on the ground beside him, the only thing that is his alone.





He spots something big in the yard, right past the **bushes!** He sneaks out past his mom and **dashes** across the grass. He jumps up onto its back and holds on tight. It **stretches** its trunk up and starts to walk. What a ride!

As they ride across the open plains, he **watches** the land stretch out under the bright blue sky. Then he spots a shape under a big tree.

It is his brother! His brother **crouches** low on the grass as if he is playing a game. But something does not look right.





A big mad beast  
rushes at his brother!  
His brother dashes  
across the grass, but  
the beast is so much  
faster. It crunches  
across the open  
ground right behind  
him. Can he get  
away?

His brother **reaches** the tree and pulls himself up to the high **branches**.

Good move! He holds on to the wood so tight.

He **watches** from far away and **wishes** his brother stays safe up there. He does not want his brother to get hurt.





He pushes his pet to go faster. 'Come on!' he yells. It stretches its legs and reaches forward with every stride. They have to make it to the tree so he can save his brother. Not far now.

The mad pet **snatches**  
a low branch with its  
trunk. It pulls and pulls.  
The branch **crunches**  
and bends. His brother  
**watches** from above,  
eyes wide. Can the  
mad pet crack that  
strong branch?





He **reaches** the tree and jumps off his pet onto a low branch. He **stretches** his arm up to his brother. 'Grab on!'

His brother **reaches** back down. His brother **wishes** he could stretch just a bit more. Their fingers almost touch.

A long trunk  
snatches Boy and  
pulls him out of the  
tree! He kicks and  
reaches out, calling  
for his brother. Even  
now, all he wishes is  
that his brother  
stays safe.





'Boy! Wake up!' Mom says, her hand warm on his head. 'You were shouting in your sleep.'

Boy blinks and sees his bedroom, his blanket, his pillow. Brother watches him with soft eyes, and Boy wishes this safe moment could last.



## Hold On, Brother!

Boy's little brother snatches everything - even his favorite purple toy! When Mom marches in and sends them both to bed, Boy wishes, just once, he could have something all his own. But what happens when a wild adventure with an enormous elephant puts his brother in real danger? Will Boy reach him in time? This decodable reader practices es plurals in words like 'bushes,' 'dishes,' 'branches,' and 'crosses.'

Reading Skills: <es>

branches, bushes, clutches, crosses, crouches, crunches, dashes, dishes, fixes, marches, pushes, reaches, rushes, snatches, stretches, watches, wishes

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