

# Gad and the Claws





I am Gad, a  
nice ghost.

All day I  
yawn. No one  
stops to play!

See those  
three? They  
hide, then  
jump out and  
scare a child.  
It is so rude!





Up in the trees,  
I spot kids at  
the park! Time  
to go and say  
hi. I put on my  
best grin.

Down the tree  
I go! 'I am  
Gad! Play with  
me!' But the  
kids bawl and  
run.





'Stop! I will  
not haunt!' I  
call. But they  
run off. I need  
a new plan.

I hide in fruit, all  
green and round.  
Aw, the boy runs  
past! That plan  
flops, so I float up  
with the balloons.





I drift to the kids.

'Just a balloon!'

The kids pause.

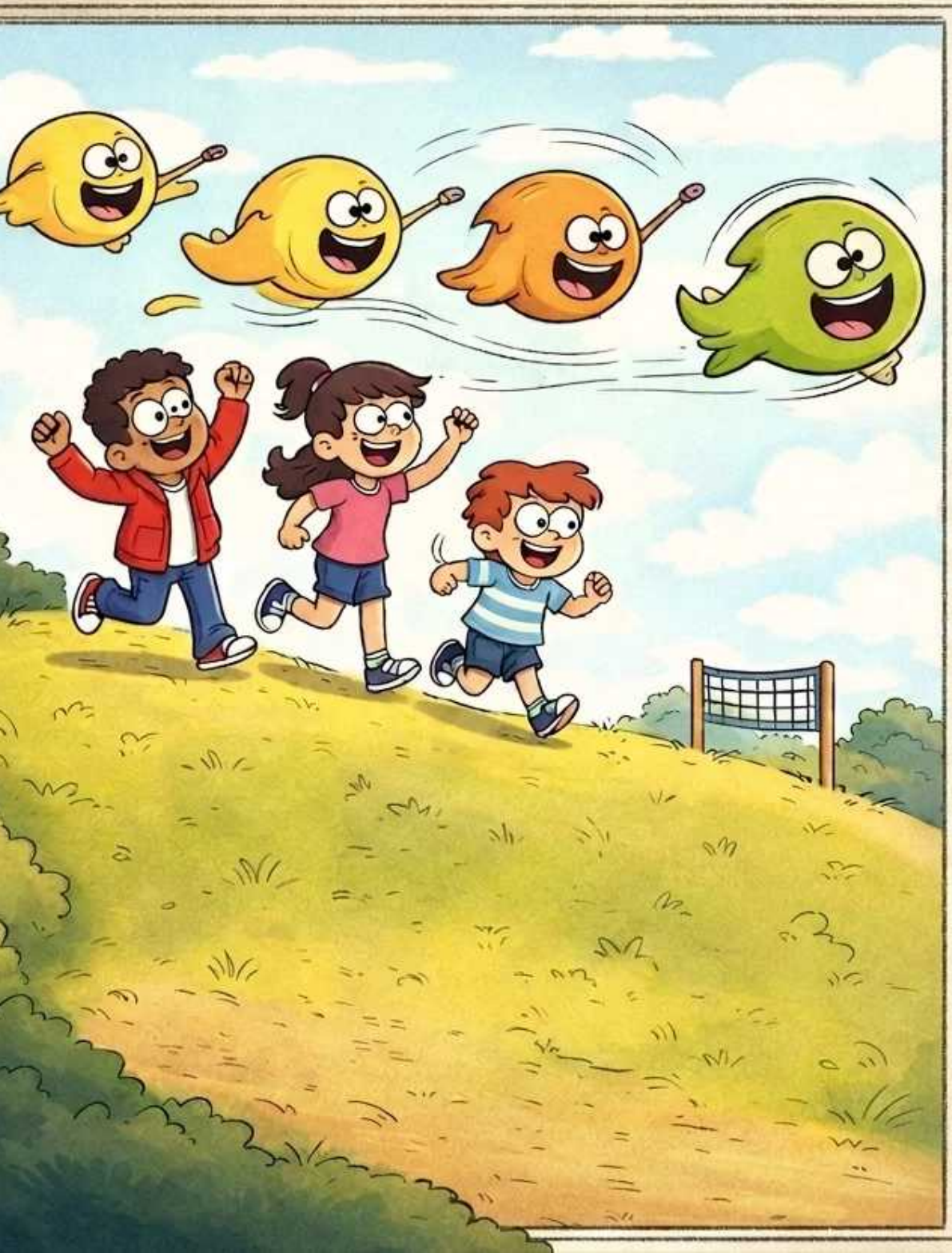
Then... meow!

Sharp claws!



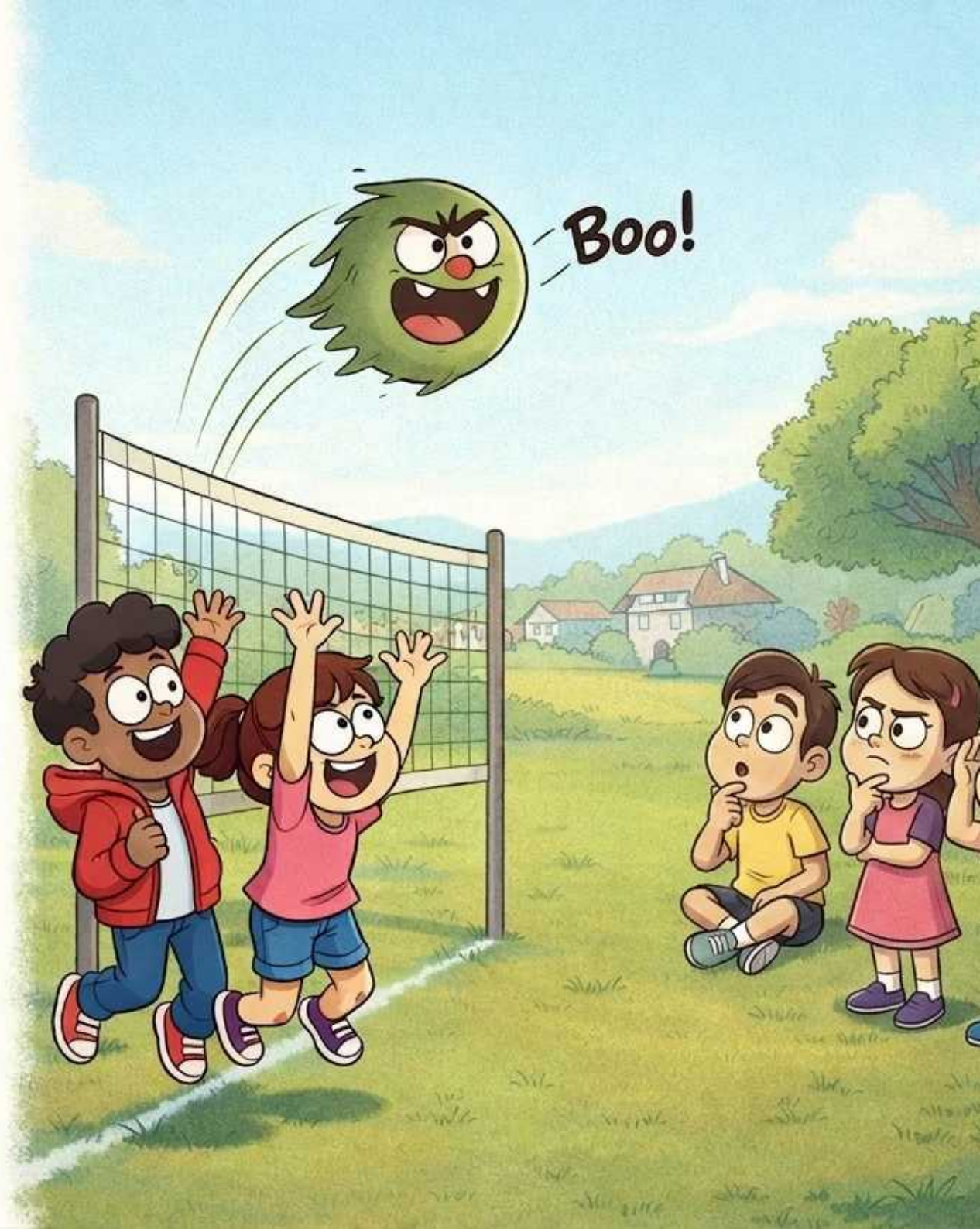
Sharp claws  
swipe! I bend  
and stretch. The  
cat flops flat.  
The kids grin.  
'Play with us!'





I zoom and spin on the lawn! The kids chase me in awe. Then they spot a net...

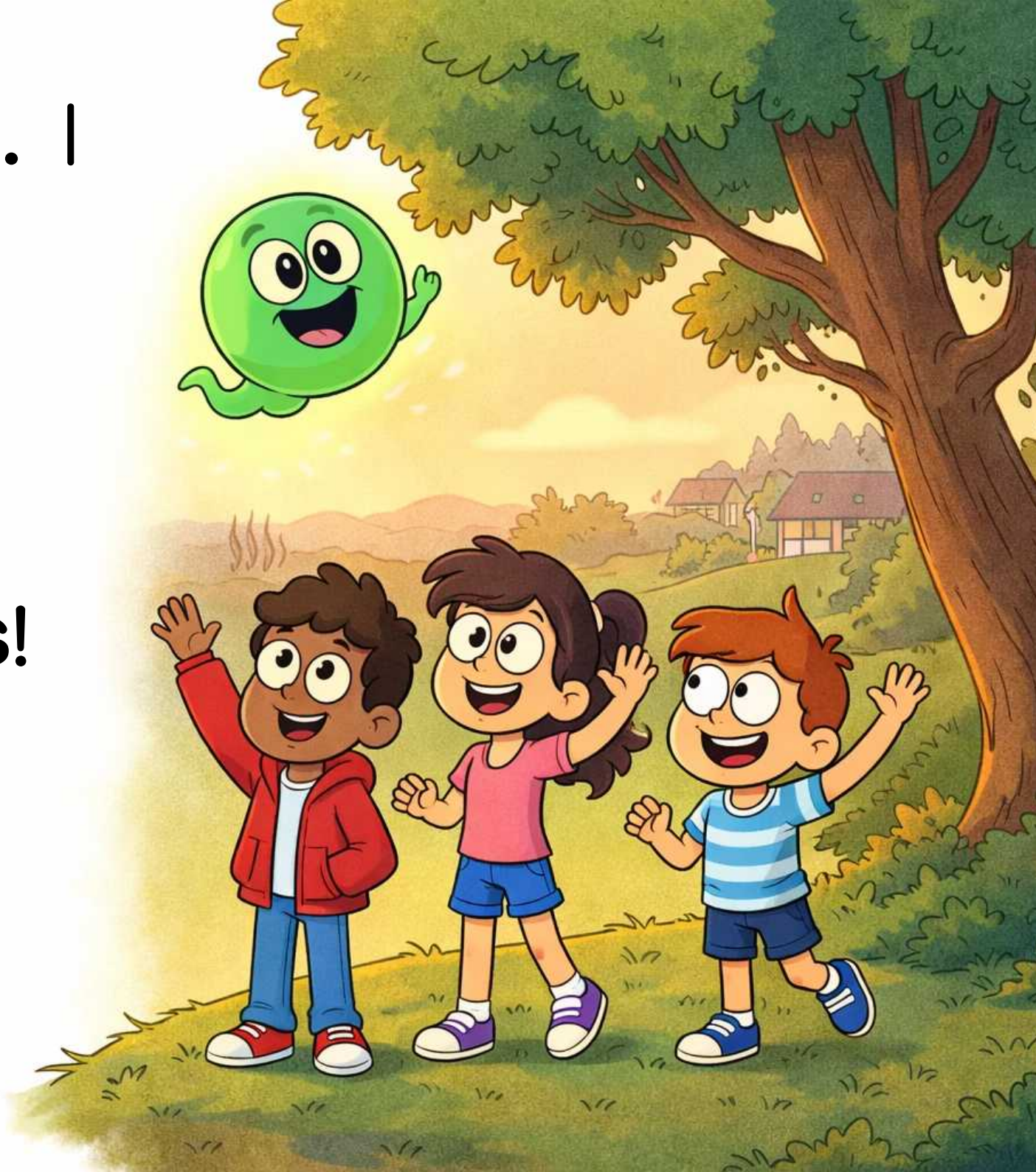
'Gad, be the  
ball!' I puff  
round. They  
toss me up.  
'Boo!' I yell.  
Jaws drop!



They hit me. I slip  
right through! 'The  
ghost is at fault!' they  
bawl. My team wins!



Sun is down. I  
wave to my  
mates. No  
more haunts!  
Next time, I  
am the ball!





## Gad and the Claws

Meet Gad, the friendliest ghost in the forest - but nobody wants to play with him! Can a lonely ghost find friends when everyone takes one look at his green skin and runs away screaming? Gad tries hiding in coconuts, floating with balloons, and dodging a very sharp-clawed cat. Will the kids ever stop being scared long enough to see how funny he really is? This decodable reader practices the aw/au phonogram in words like 'yawn,' 'claws,' 'pause,' and 'haunt.'

Reading Skills: <aw> <au>

aw, awe, bawl, claws, draw, fault, haunt, haunts, jaws, lawn, pause, yawn

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