

## Pepper Nose and the windy day

By Martin S. Beckley

One morning, Pepper Nose and Lemon Head were eating breakfast and listening to the wind outside. It made loud whistling noises as it blew around the house. It blew the garden gate open and closed – BANG, BANG, BANG. Lemon Head shivered. 'It looks too cold to play outside.' Pepper Nose thought for a moment and then remembered he had a kite. It was still in the box, waiting for a windy day like today. 'Come on Lemon Head, let's fly our kite.' Lemon Head blew the dust off the box, opened it and took out the kite. The dust tickled Pepper Nose's nose and he sneezed, sending Lemon Head crashing into the wall. 'Ouch!' said Lemon Head. 'Sorry,' said Pepper Nose. They took the kite outside. Pepper Nose held the string and Lemon Head held the kite above his head. 'It looks very pretty with all the colourful spots,' he said. Just then, the wind blew hard and lifted the kite and Lemon Head into the air. Before he could let go, Lemon Head was flying. 'Help!' he called. Pepper Nose pulled the string to bring Lemon Head back down. The wind blew harder and harder. Pepper Nose pulled harder and harder. SNAP!

The string broke. The wind blew Lemon Head high in the sky. 'HELP!' he shouted as he flew over the trees. Pepper Nose ran as fast as he could, but Lemon Head was soon out of sight.

Pepper Nose searched all morning, but he could not find Lemon Head anywhere. Finally the wind stopped. Pepper Nose sat down under a tall tree for a rest. Now that it was quiet, he could hear Lemon Head calling for help. He sounded a long way off. Pepper Nose listened to see which direction Lemon Head's voice

was coming from. 'Help.' It sounded as if his voice was coming from the left and the right at the same time. 'Where are you?' called Pepper Nose. 'I'm up here.' Pepper Nose looked up. At the top of the very tall tree, he could see the spotty kite tangled in the top branch. Lemon Head hung on to the kite. 'Hello, can you get me down please,' he called. Pepper Nose tried to climb the tree but the branches were too high. There was no wind to blow Lemon Head off the tree, not even a breeze. Then Pepper Nose had an idea. He could use his sneeze. He tried to sneeze, but nothing happened. He looked down at the dusty floor and had another idea. He ran in circles, faster and faster until a small cloud of dust blew up. Pepper Nose stood in the dust cloud. It was working. The dust tickled his nose. A big sneeze blasted up towards Lemon Head, freeing the kite. Lemon Head floated down, using the kite like a parachute. They were both very tired now. 'Come on,' said Pepper Nose, 'let's go home and have some tea.'

