

Pepper Nose and the tent

By Martin S. Beckley

One day, Lemon Head suggested that they visit his friend Mrs. Appleyard. She had a campsite on her farm and they could stay in a tent. 'Alright,' said Pepper Nose. 'But make sure there are no cows near us, because they make me sneeze.' They packed their things and set off. On the way, Lemon Head stopped at Mrs. Bun's shop and bought a big lemon meringue pie. 'We can eat this in our tent tonight,' he told Pepper Nose. It was a very long way to the farm but the thought of eating the pie kept Lemon Head going.

Finally, they arrived at the farm and Mrs. Appleyard showed them where they could put their tent. 'Can I eat the pie now please?' asked Lemon Head excitedly. 'No, we have to put the tent up first,' said Pepper Nose. 'Ok, I'll hold the pie,' said Lemon Head. Pepper Nose fitted the poles together to make the frame. Then he struggled with the tent pulling it over the frame. Lemon Head watched and held the pie. Pepper Nose said, 'You can bang the pegs in the ground to hold the tent down.' Lemon Head looked around for somewhere to put his pie. He did not want to put it on the floor because the field was full of people walking

around, and he did not want anyone to squash it. He noticed that the playground was empty, so he went over and put the pie on one end of the seesaw. He ran to the tent, grabbed the peg bag and the little hammer and started to bang the pegs in. However, he was too busy thinking about eating the pie and did not put the pegs in properly. 'Finished!' Lemon Head called as he dropped the hammer and pegs and ran off to get the pie. Just then, a strong wind blew; it pulled their tent and the pegs all popped out of the ground. Lemon Head and Pepper Nose watched as their tent flew across the field and landed on the tractor that Mrs. Appleyard was driving. She could not see where she was going and crashed through the gate into the cow's field. The cows were frightened as the tractor weaved this way and that, so they ran out through the broken gate. The cows trampled over all the other tents; everyone ran into the playground to get away from the cows. The cows ran past the playground and into the next field. Pepper Nose's nose twitched. It felt tickly. Lemon Head pushed his way towards the seesaw and his lemon meringue pie. Pepper Nose sneezed a very loud sneeze, which made a large man jump with fright. He bumped into Lemon Head, who fell onto one end of the seesaw. His pie shot high into the air. Up and up it went. Then down and down it fell. 'Oh dear,' said Lemon Head as the pie landed on his head, SPLAT!

