

- The ducks would swim in the lake with their ducklings. The ants would take little leaves to their anthill. There would be flowers everywhere.
- But what they like best about summer is eating all the delicious flavors of ice cream!

25

### Fall Has Arrived

by Ángel Nieto

Illustrated by Viví Escrivá

- Every year it happens: the summer leaves and the beautiful fall arrives. The trees wear leaves of a thousand colors: brown, orange, yellow and red.
- The dewdrops shine on a spider web. The birds sing and the squirrels squeak. And in a little lake, some ducks take a bath.
- Antoñita's grandmother lives in a little cabin in the forest. Very early on Sunday morning, the two of them go to take a walk through a mountain forest.
- Antoñita asks why some trees lose their leaves in the fall. "Because it's time for them to rest," answers Grandmother.
- "First the green goes out of them and they change colors. Then they have a long party of many-colored leaves to say good-bye to the summer.
- "Then they drop their leaves. And this way they start to dream about the spring, which will return after the winter."
- Antoñita wants her grandmother to teach her more things about the fall. Her grandmother teaches her very lovingly.
- "Grandmother, do the animals go to sleep?" "Yes, Antoñita. Many of them do. The grumpy bear goes into her cave and dreams about good food.
- "Some of them like to hide in their houses under the ground: the moles, ants and worms, snakes, beetles and toads.
- "Other animals, like the nightingales and the storks, look for a warmer place to spend the fall.
- "But the squirrels don't sleep or leave. They always go around busily looking for chestnuts, pine nuts and seeds."
- "And what are those, Grandmother?" "They're mushrooms. They come up in the fall among the dry leaves and wood. They're not harmful and you can eat them."
- "Did you like the walk, Antoñita?" "Yes, Grandmother. Now I know what happens in the forest in the fall!"  
"Well, my child, it's time to go back!"
- Antoñita and her grandmother return from their walk on this beautiful fall Sunday. The wind moves the trees and a rain of colored leaves falls on them.

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### Oh, My Back!

by Carlos Ponce

Illustrated by Ilja Bereznickas

- Monday, Oscar the Elephant went skiing with his friends. On his way down a hill, Oscar slipped, fell and hurt his back.
- Tuesday, Oscar asked the beaver: "How can I make my back better?" "Go to the doctor," answered the beaver. But Oscar didn't take his advice.
- Wednesday, Oscar asked his neighbor the partridge: "How can I make my back better?"
- "Make a wooden bed and sleep on it," the partridge told him. Oscar slept on the wooden bed, but the pain didn't go away.
- Thursday, Oscar went to the island to ask his friend the fish: "How can I make my back better?"
- "Scratch your nose," the fish told him. Oscar scratched and scratched his nose, but that wasn't the answer.
- Friday, Oscar asked a fast-flying fly: "How can I make my back better?"

- "Eat two dishes of rice and corn," the fast fly told him. But when Oscar finished eating the rice and corn, his back didn't get better.
- Saturday Oscar asked a big bad wolf he saw in the forest: "How can I make my back better?"
- "Sleep in the moonlight," the big bad wolf told him. And, even though Oscar slept in the moonlight, this advice didn't help him at all.
- Sunday, tired out from so much asking, Oscar said: "Enough advice! I'm going to the doctor, who's not far away!"
- "Doctor, can you make my back better?" asked Oscar. "Yes," answered the doctor: "To make your back better, you're going to have to stretch."
- "Raise your arms and... up, down, left and right!" And in no time at all, Oscar felt better again!
- Now Oscar is happy. He's gone to the snow with his friend the partridge and the rest of their friends. But before they go skiing, they're all going to stretch!

27

### Bees and Honey

by Carolina Conde

Illustrated by Anthony Lewis

- At school these children study lots of different things. They have reading, art, and math classes, and many others. Tuesdays they have science class. Today the children are going to study how bees make honey.
- The body of the bee has three parts: head, thorax and abdomen. In the head, they have eyes, mouth and antennae. In the thorax, they have the wings and the legs. At the end of the abdomen they have a stinger that pricks very hard!
- The bees' house is called a hive. Some hives hang high up in the trees. The hives have small divisions called cells. More than a thousand bees can live in one hive. Everything is very neat!
- Three kinds of bees live in the hive: the queen, the drones and the workers. The worker bees are the ones that make the delicious honey.
- At sunrise, the worker bees fly out to find flowers. Some of them go north; others go south. They spend the day flying from flower to flower.
- When they land on the flowers, the bees suck out their nectar. Nectar is a very sweet liquid flowers have.
- When they're all full, the bees go back to the hive with the nectar. When they get there, they put the nectar in the cells.
- Then, the bees move their wings very fast. This way they dry up the water in the nectar and little by little, the nectar becomes thick and sweet.
- Finally the nectar turns gold, and that's the honey. Now the bees cover the cell with wax so the honey won't dry out.
- We should appreciate the work of the little bees. Bees have to make many, many trips to give us one teaspoon of honey. To end our lesson, here we have the bees' delicious gift, pancakes with honey!

28

### A Stupendous Aquarium

by Clarita Kohen

Illustrated by Abby Carter

- "Hello, friends. I'm a sea horse and I'm going to show you the aquarium. There we'll see lots of fish and other aquatic animals.
- "The Information Office is very important. Here they'll tell you where to start. They'll also tell you everything you want to know. Let's begin!"
- "Fish hatch from eggs. They use gills for breathing. They're covered with scales and have fins for swimming.
- "Fish need to be in the water. They can't live out of water. And if you take them out, the fish will die.