

Exploring the Forest with Sally and Timmy

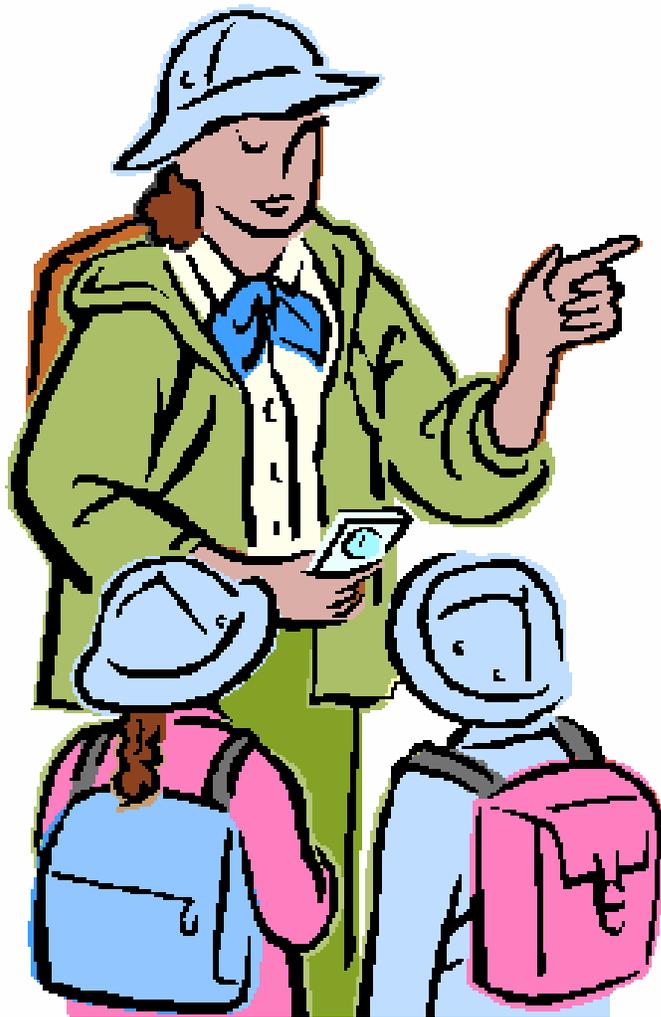


by Tiffany M. Hall,
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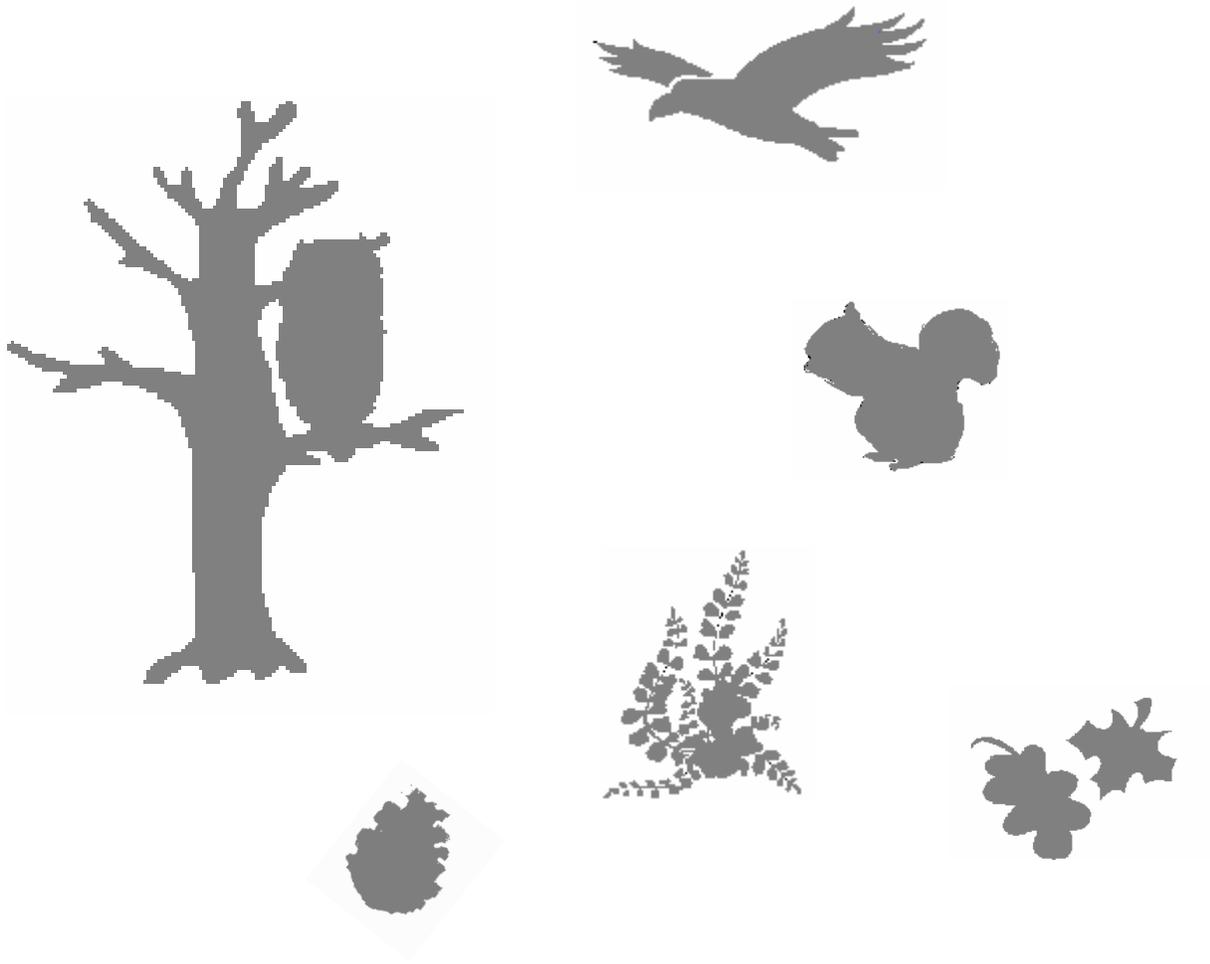
Sally and Timmy went camping with their family at Camp Ladybug. They gathered their backpacks and went on a nature walk to explore the forest.



Sally and Timmy ran all through the forest exploring everything in sight. They were having so much fun that they did not realize how far they had wandered away from the campsite.



While in the forest, Sally and Timmy saw wonderful things like deer and humongous trees with long branches and lots of leaves. They noticed that the long branches and leaves made shadows on the ground. The children looked at their own shadows and started doing funny things to make their shadows move around.



The children went deeper into the forest looking for shadows and trying to guess what made the shadows. They saw many shadows, but were having some trouble guessing what made the shadows. Can you help them figure out which objects made the shadows they found in the forest?



While Sally and Timmy were exploring the forest, they saw a river. Excitedly, they began tossing rocks and other things into the river. The children noticed that some of the things they threw into the river quickly disappeared under the water, but that some others just floated on top of the water.



They decided to look for more things to put in the water. They also took some things out of their backpacks to toss in. The children had a penny, a leaf, a feather, a rock, a stick, an orange, an apple, a pine cone, and a cork to put in the water. Which items do you think will sink? Which do you think will float?



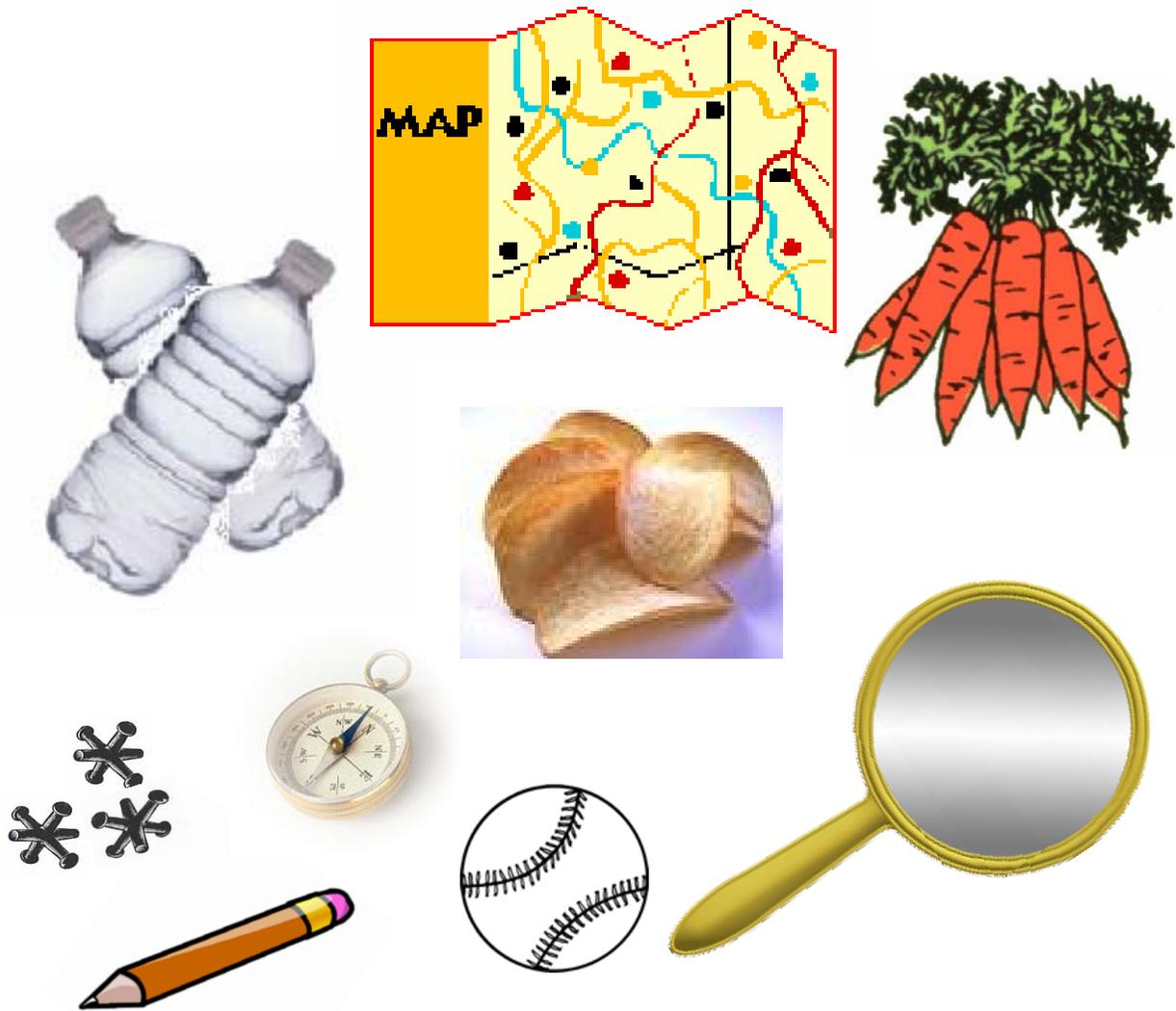
Sally and Timmy noticed that some of the things, like leaves and twigs, floated on down the river. The children chased the leaves and twigs until they splashed over a waterfall, and then watched as the water carried them further down the river. They could see that nothing floated back up the river!



Sally and Timmy have done so much in the forest. They have seen shadows and talked about what could be making the shadows. They have thrown things into the river to see what would sink and what would float. Now the children were getting tired and hungry, so they decided to go back to the campsite.



They turned around to see which way they should go to get back and realized that they did not know. Sally and Timmy did not know where they were. They had done so much exploring deep in the forest that they had gotten lost and didn't know their way back to the campsite.



Sally and Timmy sat down to think about how to get back. Both children were hungry and opened their backpacks to see what they had to eat. They took out a pencil, a baseball, some jacks, a mirror, two bottles of water, a campground map, a bag of chips, a bag of carrots, and a compass.



They began munching on their snacks while trying to remember the way back to the campsite. What can the children do to get back to the campsite? Can they use the items in their backpacks to help them?

What do you think happened next?