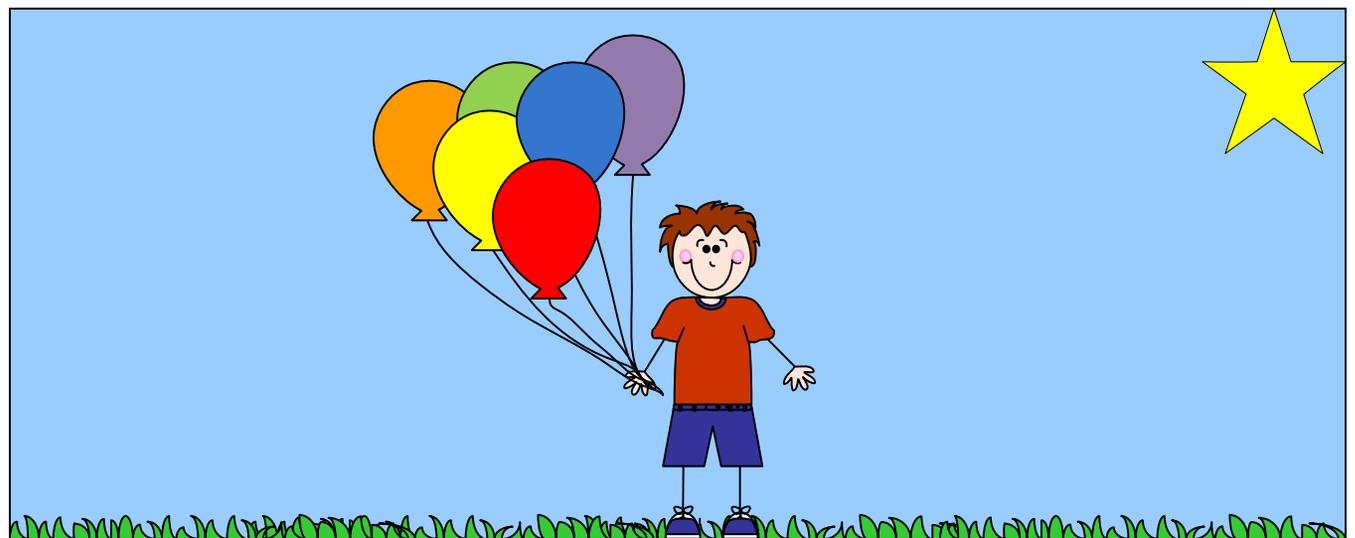




# Balloons

Written by Jill Allor  
Illustrated by Jennifer Cheatham

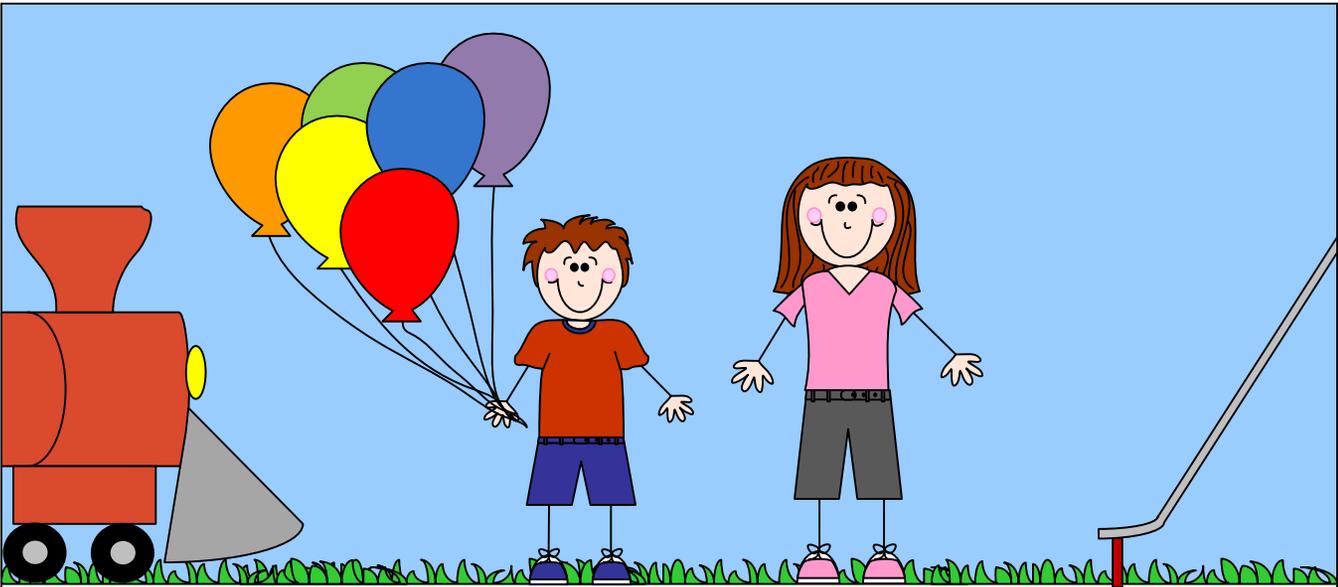
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# Balloons

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Jeff went to a party. At the end of the party, he got



six balloons.



“Look,” Jeff said to his mom. “Look at my balloons.”



Mom looked at the balloons.



“The balloons will be a lot of fun,” Mom said.

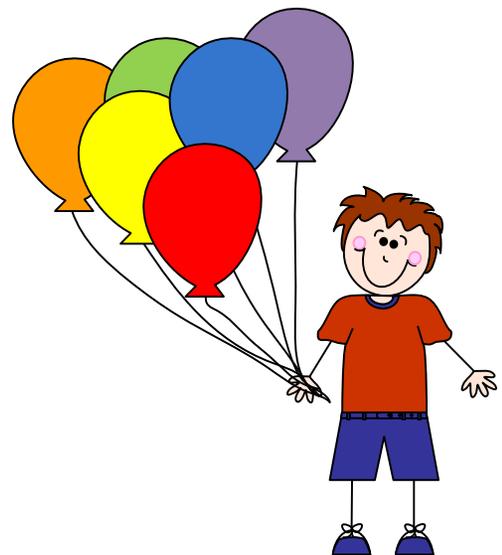


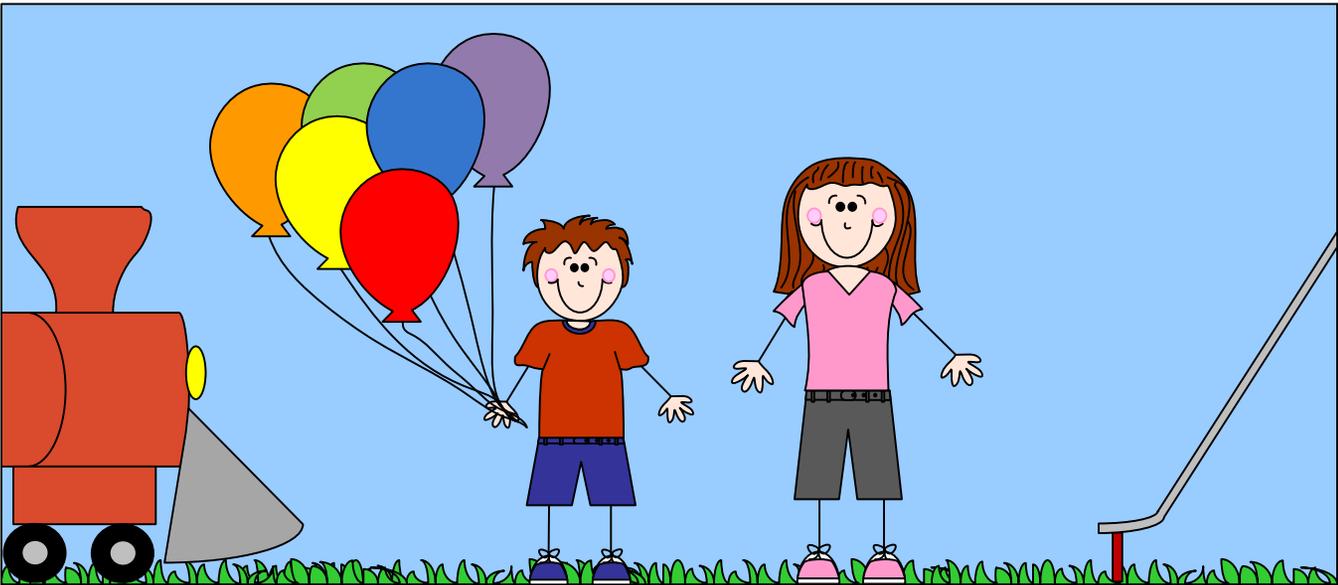
So Jeff went to play. He held the strings in his hand.

He looked up at the balloons. He liked the balloons a



lot. He felt very happy.





“Do you want to play?” Mom asked. “I will help pick up the mess from the party. You can go play. Do not

let go of the balloons.”



4



Then he felt the wind. It went fast and Jeff let go of the string.

“NO!” yelled Jeff. Jeff looked up at the balloons.



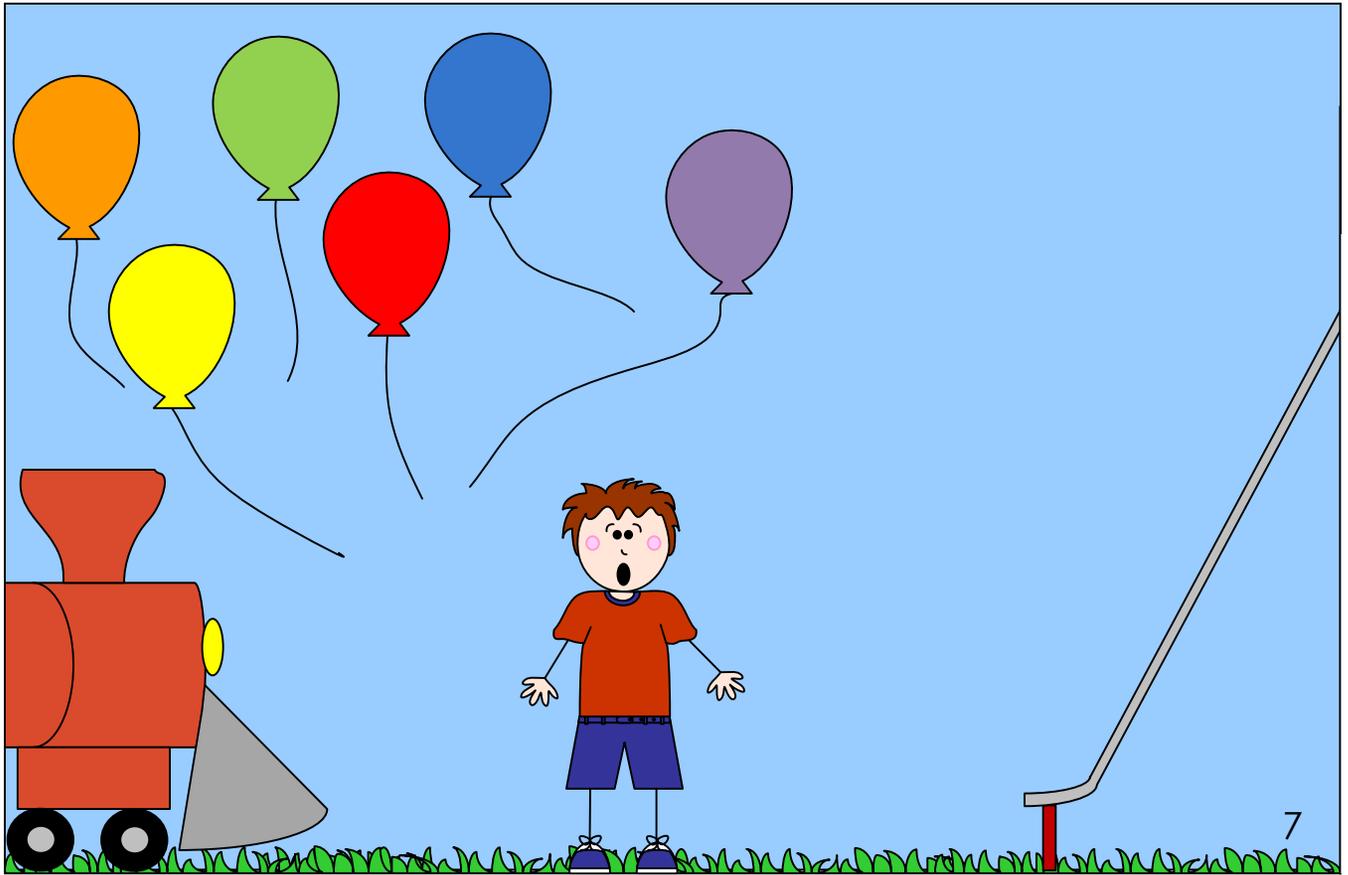
The balloons went UP, UP, UP! The balloons went up



in the wind. Jeff ran to get his balloons.



6



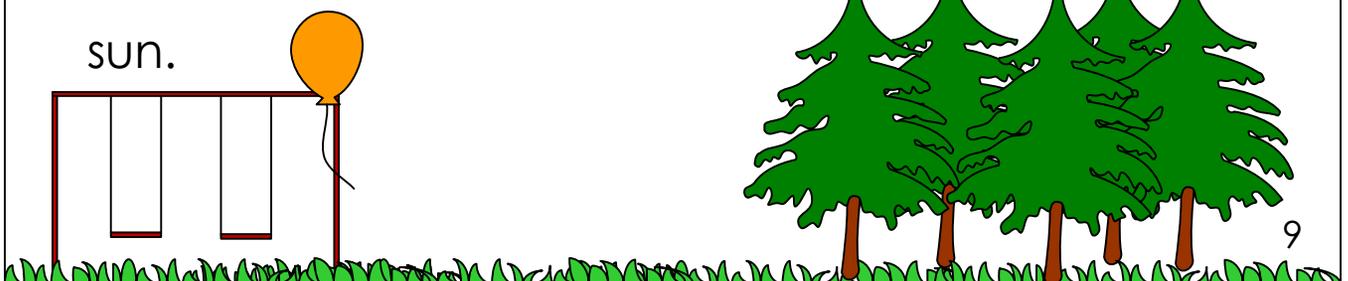
One balloon got stuck at the top of the  
swings. Jeff ran to the swings. Then that

balloon went POP!

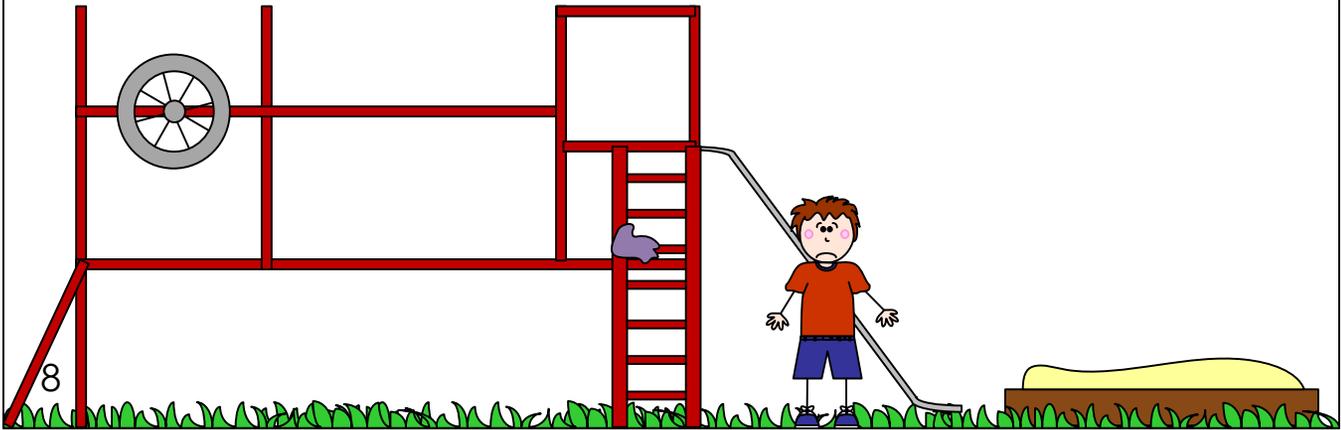
Jeff looked up. One balloon went up past the trees.

Jeff saw it spin in the wind. Then it popped in the hot

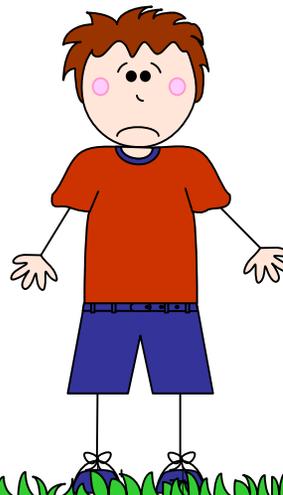
sun.



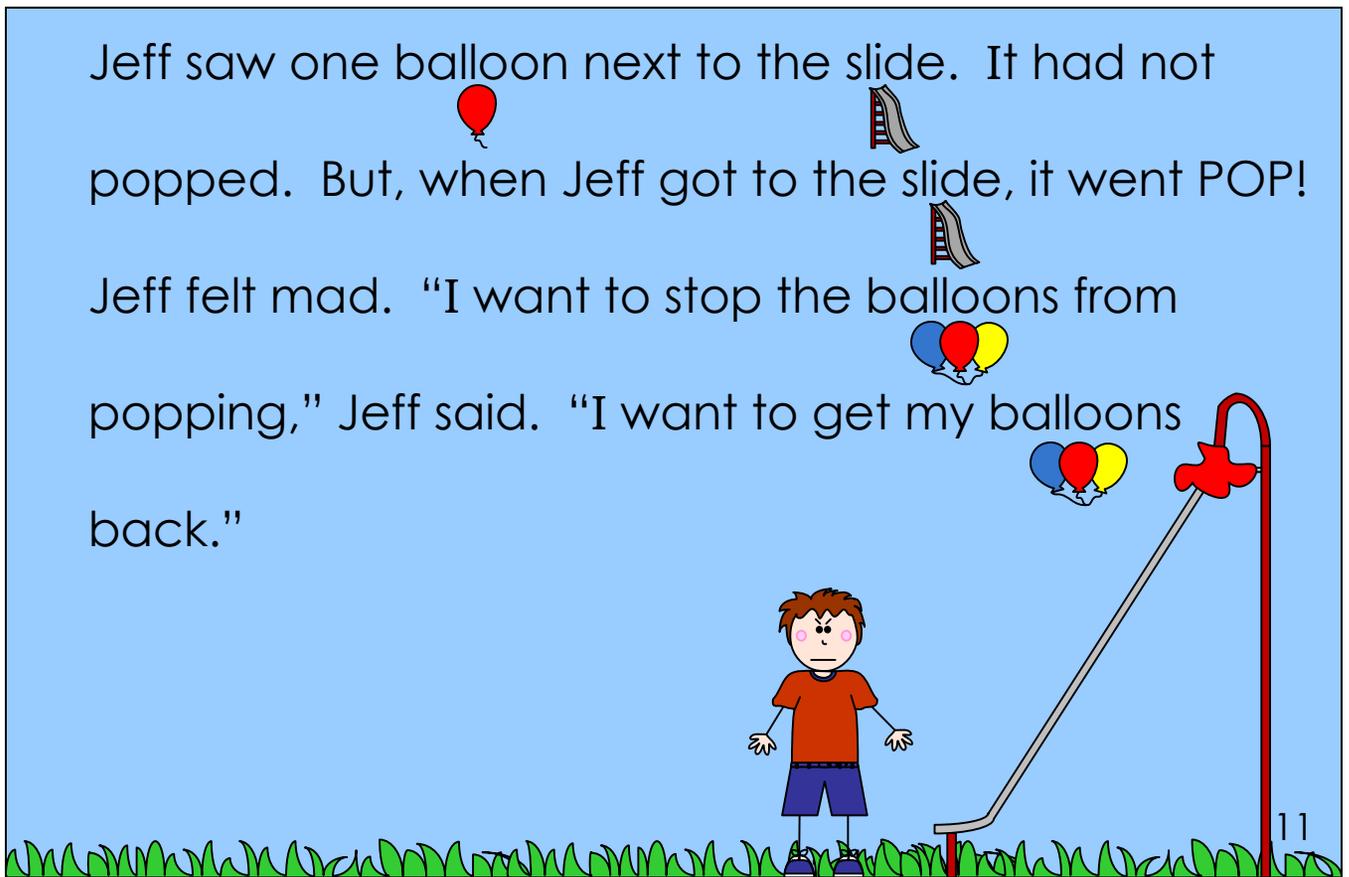
One balloon went past the sandbox and stopped at a ladder. Jeff ran to the ladder. But, when he got to the ladder, the balloon went POP! Jeff was so sad to see it pop.



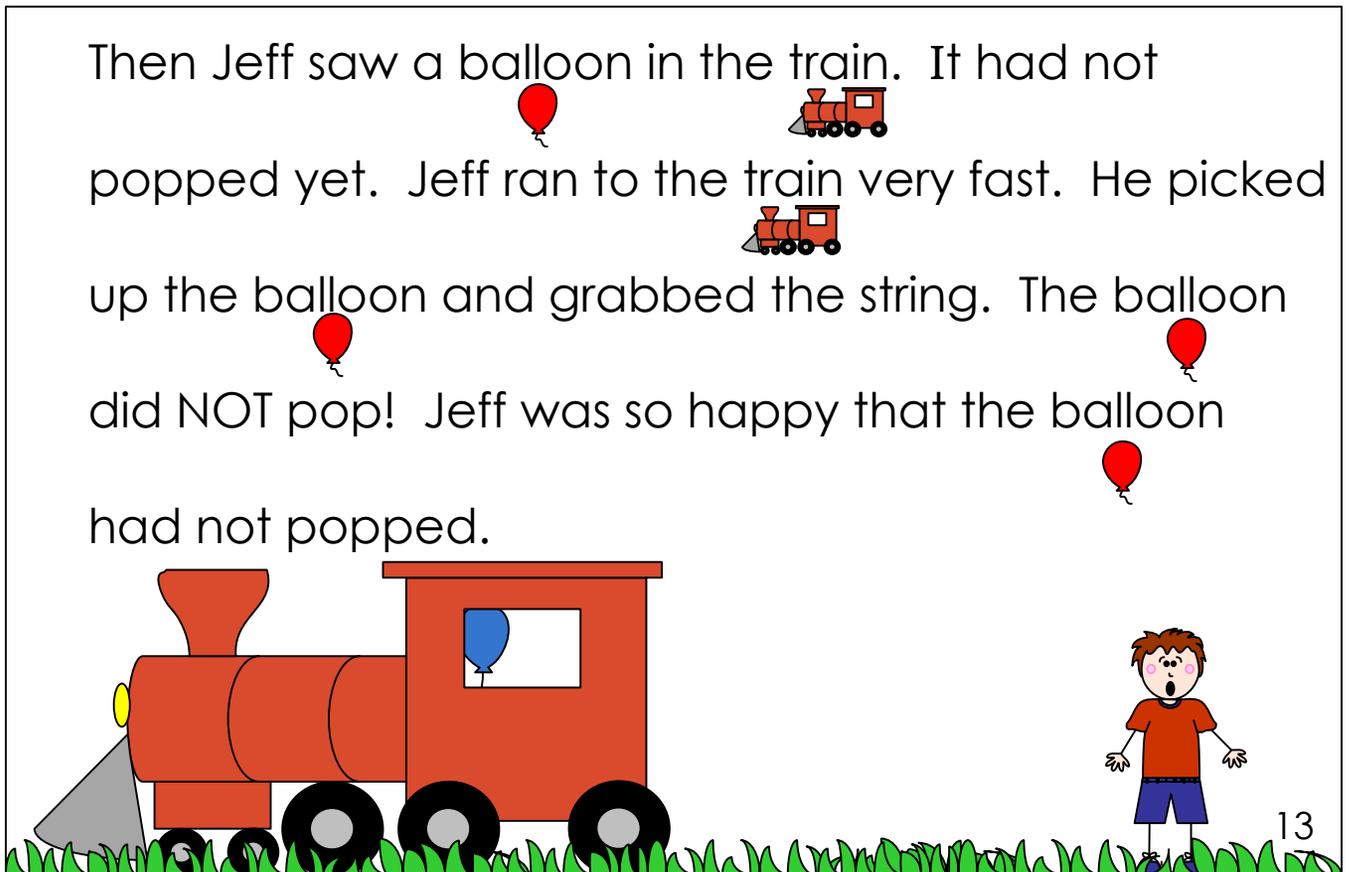
Jeff was very sad. He did not want his balloons to pop. Jeff wanted to find the rest of his balloons. He kept looking for his balloons.



Jeff saw one balloon next to the slide. It had not popped. But, when Jeff got to the slide, it went POP! Jeff felt mad. "I want to stop the balloons from popping," Jeff said. "I want to get my balloons back."



Then Jeff saw a balloon in the train. It had not popped yet. Jeff ran to the train very fast. He picked up the balloon and grabbed the string. The balloon did NOT pop! Jeff was so happy that the balloon had not popped.



Jeff looked up. One balloon was stuck in the top of the tree. Jeff wanted to get the balloon, but it was up at the very top of the tree.



Jeff looked back up at the balloon in the tree. It was still at the very top of the tree. Then he saw the tree bend in the wind. Then the balloon went up with the wind. It did not pop. It looked so little. Jeff kept looking at the balloon until at last he did not see it. Jeff was still happy. He had one balloon. That was good.

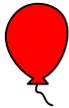
Jeff went back to see his mom.

“You have just one balloon,” said Mom.

“Yes,” said Jeff. “I am very glad I have one balloon left. The wind was fast and I dropped the string. One balloon went past the sandbox and popped on the ladder. The next one got stuck at the top of the swings and then popped. The next one went up past the trees and popped in the hot sun. The next one popped on the slide. Then one went up, up, up past the trees. It looked so little up there.”

## New Words

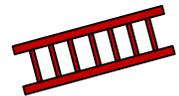
balloon



balloons



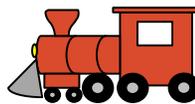
ladder



slide



train



tree



trees



“I have just one balloon left. I am glad I still have it. I  
am so glad it did not pop. It was not hot in the train,  
so it did not pop. I will not let go of this one.”

