

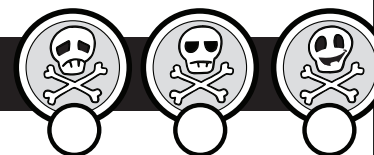
The Key

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When the coast was clear, Captain Starling and her crew crept out of the bushes where they had been hiding. They couldn't believe their luck! Captain Blackheart and his cronies had been chased off the island, leaving the treasure chest behind. What's more, they had saved Captain Starling and her crew hours of hard work by digging the chest up for them. Now all they had to do was open it! They were just working out the best way to break the lock when one of the cheeky monkeys leapt forward with the key in his hand and offered it to Captain Starling! She quickly took the key and tried it in the keyhole. The key slowly turned in the lock and they all heard a wonderful click as it opened. Captain Starling took a deep breath and swung the lid open. What were they going to find? They hoped for gold, of course. However, they were not prepared for what they did see. The chest was empty! Except for one item that was lying in the bottom corner! A banana! But not even a banana that the monkeys could eat! This banana was made out of stone!



I can use different words for 'said'.



The pirates were very excited when the key was returned.

Cross out 'said' and replace it with one of the words from the pieces of wood.



1 "Does the key open the lock?"
said Barnaby.

4 "But why did the monkey give us back the key?"
said Barnaby.

2 "Yes! It's a perfect fit,"
said Captain Starling.

5 "I never expected that!" said Egg.

3 "I am so excited!" said Egg.

6 "I can't wait! Quick! Open the lid!"
said Stragglebeard.

However, they were very disappointed when they saw what was in the chest.



7 Now write some sentences that the pirates might have said when they saw the stone banana, using the words from the pieces of wood.

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Extension

Use a thesaurus to find more words for 'said' and write sentences of your own using them.

The Banana

"A stone banana! That's the most useless thing I've ever seen! The monkeys can't even eat it!" groaned Stragglebeard.

"Surely there is something better than a banana in the chest!" moaned Barnaby.

"This is the most disappointing day of my life!" wailed Egg.

"This is the worst day ever!" grumbled Barnaby.

"It's certainly less than I expected!" agreed Captain Starling.

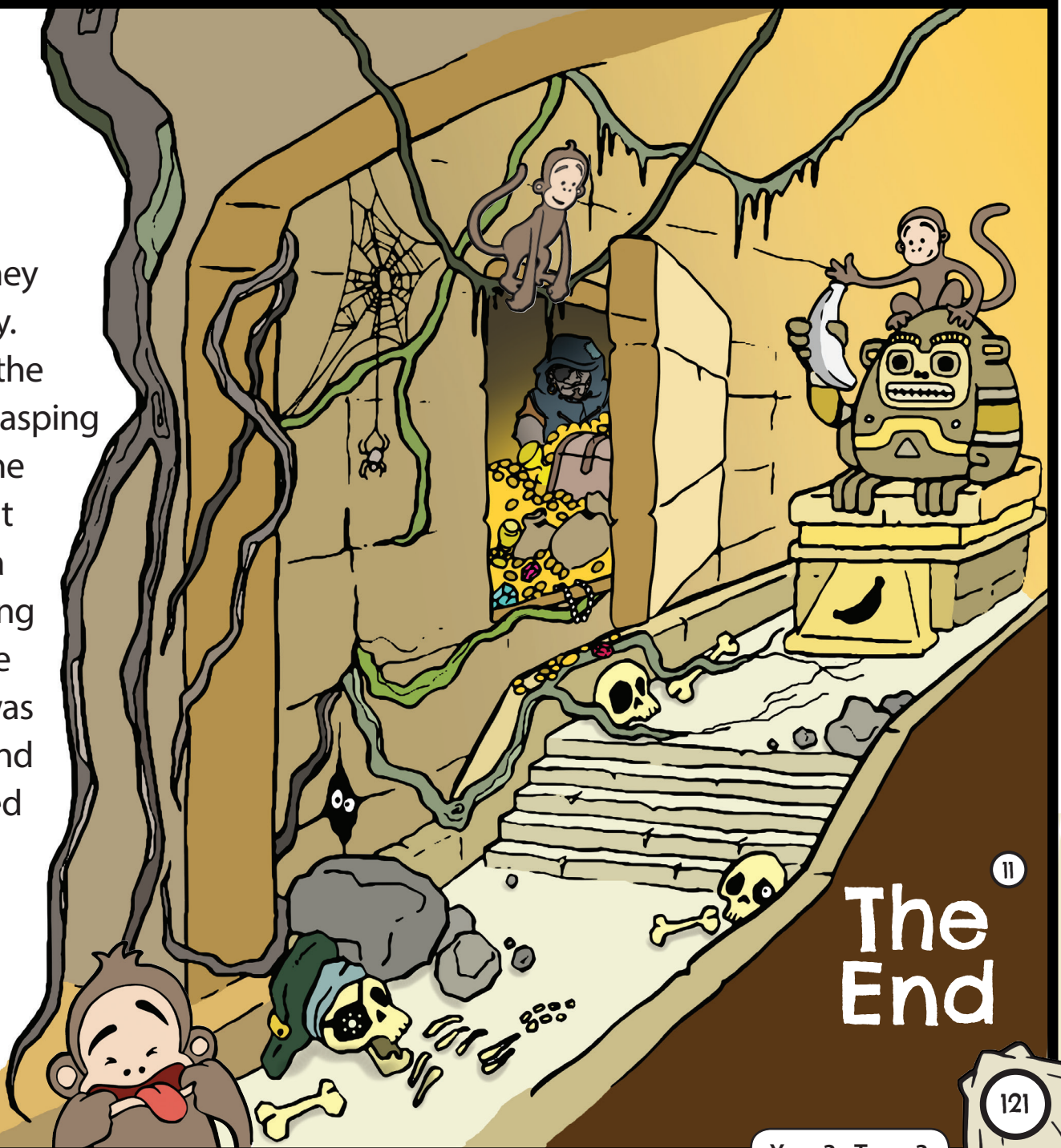
"I've seen better surprises in a Christmas cracker!" complained Stragglebeard.

"We had best head back to the Greedy Minnow before the natives return," suggested Captain Starling. "It's more important we leave with our lives than with the treasure!"

The four disappointed pirates left the stone banana in the chest and headed back towards their ship. There was to be no treasure for them that day. This would be the last time they went treasure hunting for a very long time indeed!



When the pirates had gone the monkeys started to chatter excitedly. They grabbed the stone banana and quickly scampered off with it. They headed towards the temple where they found the stone statue of the monkey. (Remember the monkey statue with the hand that seemed as if it should be clasping something?) Carefully, they placed the stone banana into the statue's hand. It was like having the combination for a safe. Immediately, there was a grinding noise and a secret door opened in the stone wall. Beyond the secret door was a chamber full of gold and treasure and jewels. If only the pirates had followed the monkeys! If only Captain Starling had remembered that strange tattoo of the monkey on the pirate's arm it might have been a very different ending!



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**The
End**