

MENTOR TEXT – BOOKLET 13

Do you know the difference between a predator and a prey? Well let me tell you how I discovered the difference in real life. My class went on the coolest field trip ever to the Asa Wright Nature Centre! It's way up in the mountains, and our teacher, Miss Ramdeen, said we might see all sorts of amazing birds and maybe, if we were quiet enough, some deer. I was super excited because I love animals.

We were walking quietly through the forest, our boots crunching on the leaves. Miss Ramdeen pointed out a toucan with its big, colourful beak and some hummingbirds that zipped around like tiny jewels. Then, my friend, Ravi, whispered, "Look!" There, through the trees, was a whole herd of deer! They were munching on leaves and didn't seem to notice us at first. There was one deer that was huge, way bigger than the others. It had these massive antlers that looked like branches of a tree.

Ravi and I slowly started to creep closer, trying to get a better look. We were being super quiet, stepping carefully behind bushes and trees. We wanted to see the big deer up close. Just when we thought we were gaining ground on the largest deer in the herd, I turned around and realised we were prey! Right on our heels, was a swarm of angry-looking bees! They were buzzing loudly, and they looked like they were heading straight for us.

"Run!" Miss Ramdeen shouted, and we didn't need to be told twice. Ravi and I turned around and ran as fast as our little legs could carry us. The buzzing sound was right behind us! We ducked and weaved through the trees, trying to get away from the angry bees. Finally, we burst out of the trees and onto a wider path. At that moment, the bees seemed to have given up on chasing us. We were all panting and a little bit scared, but also kind of laughing.

Miss Ramdeen checked to make sure no one got stung and explained that maybe we had accidentally stepped near or on their hive. Luckily, we all escaped without any ouchies. We didn't get a super close look at the big deer, but we definitely had an adventure! From then on, we were a lot more careful where we stepped in the forest. We learnt that sometimes, the ones doing the sneaking can end up being the ones who need to run away!

