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Level H

# The Skunk with No Stripes

by Julia Noonan

illustrated by Lorinda Bryan Cauley



**The Skunk with No Stripes**

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**Heinemann**

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*Offices and agents throughout the world*

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Three baby skunks lived  
with their mother.

“Look at me,” said Brother Skunk.

“I have soft, black fur.

I have a long, bushy tail.

I have two white stripes  
down my back.”

“Look at **me**,” said Sister Skunk.

“I have soft, black fur.

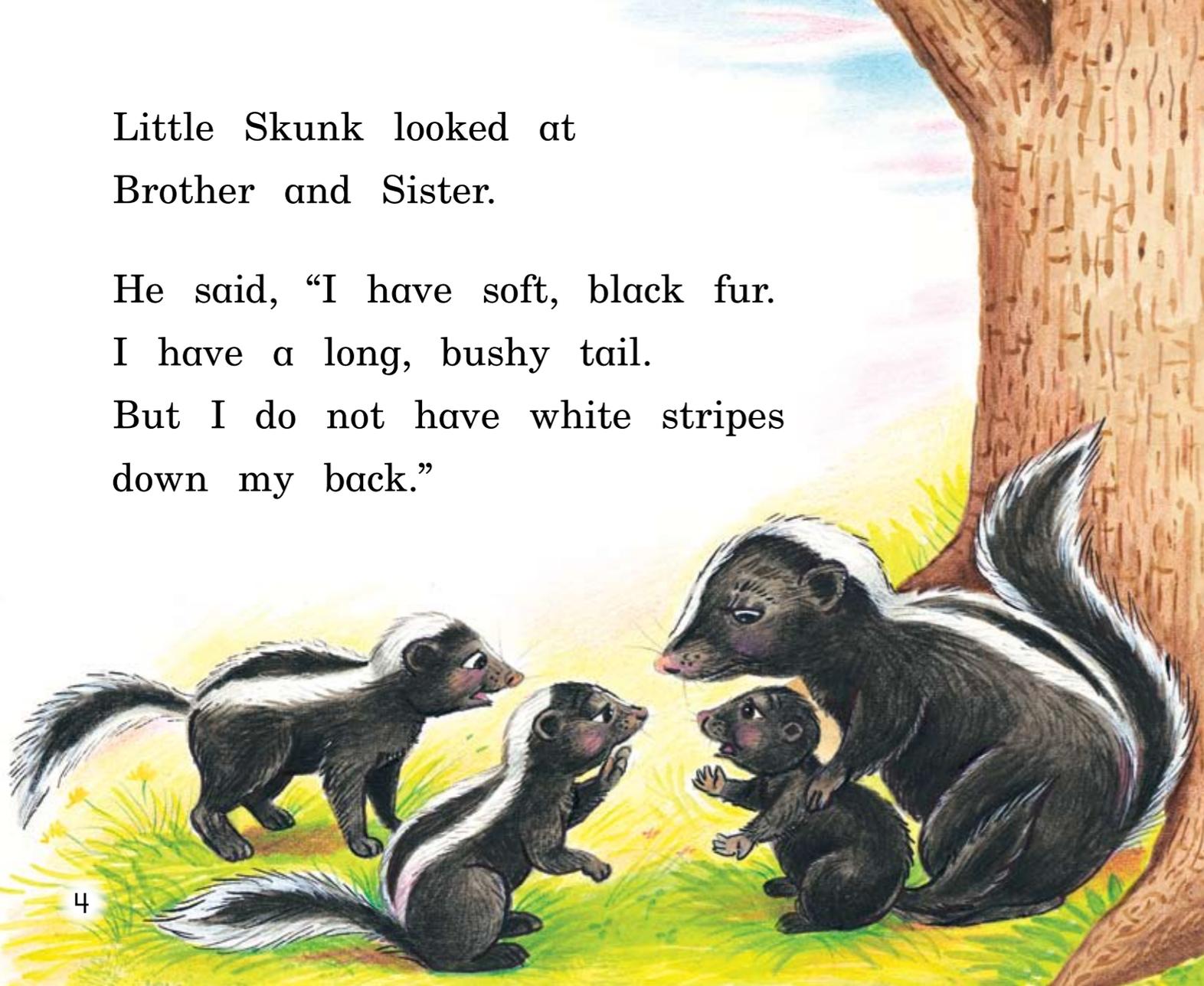
I have a long, bushy tail.

I have two white stripes  
down my back.”



Little Skunk looked at  
Brother and Sister.

He said, "I have soft, black fur.  
I have a long, bushy tail.  
But I do not have white stripes  
down my back."



Brother Skunk said,  
"All skunks have stripes.  
You do not have stripes,  
so maybe you are not  
a skunk."

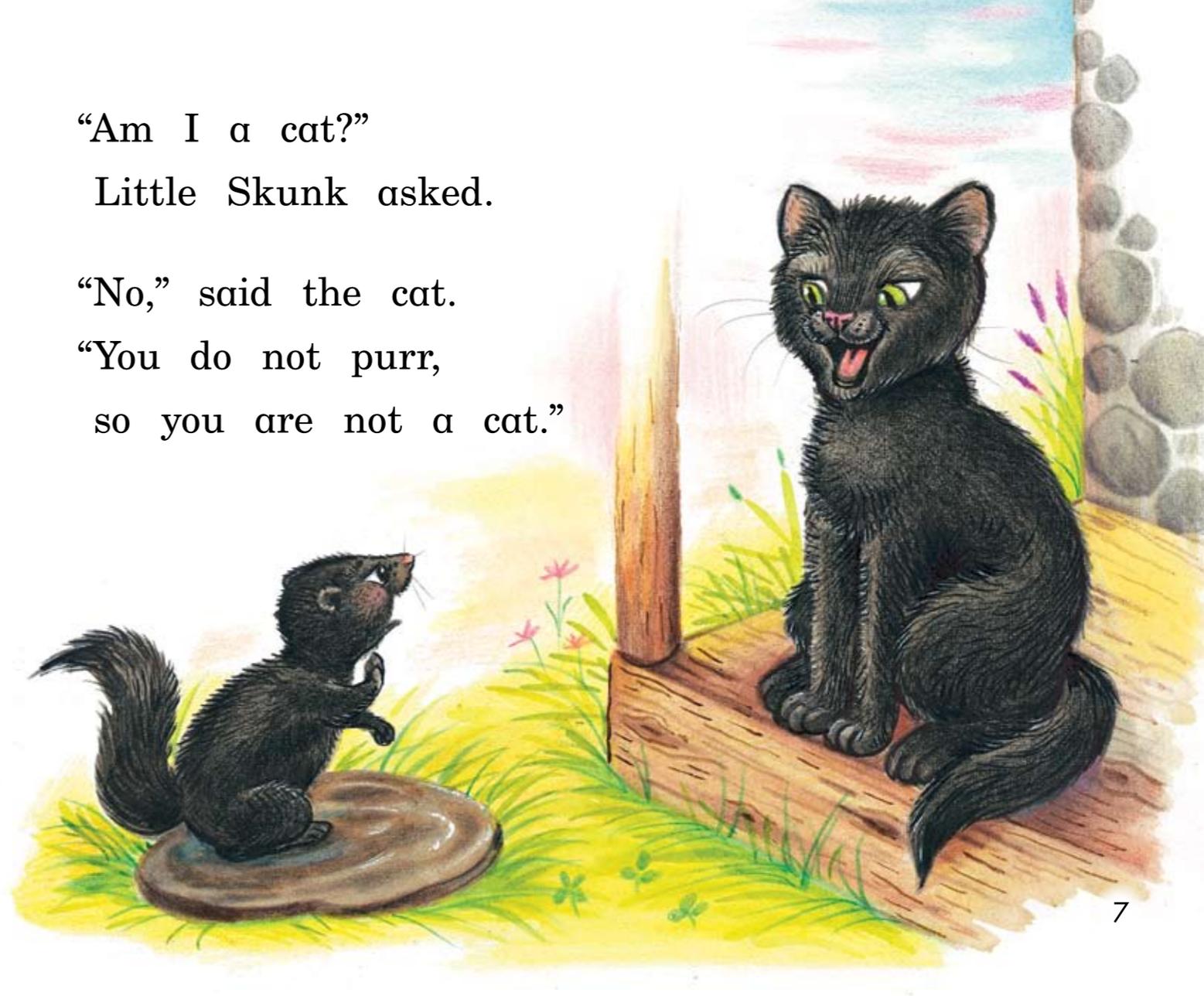


“Look at the cat,”  
said Sister Skunk.  
“She has soft, black fur  
and a bushy tail.  
But she has no stripes.  
Maybe you are a cat.”



“Am I a cat?”  
Little Skunk asked.

“No,” said the cat.  
“You do not purr,  
so you are not a cat.”

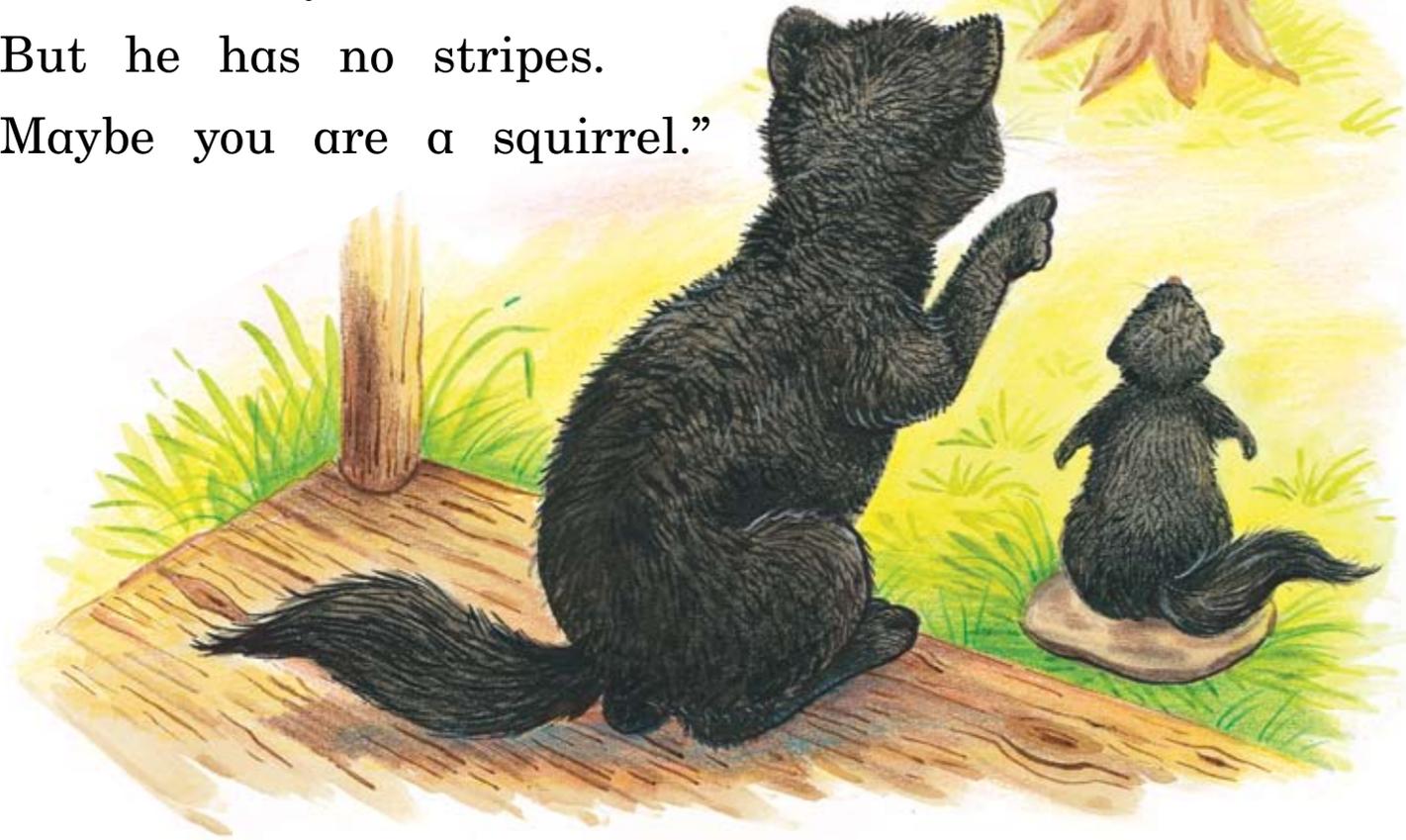


“Look at that squirrel,”  
said the cat.

“He has soft, black fur  
and a bushy tail.

But he has no stripes.

Maybe you are a squirrel.”



“Am I a squirrel?”

Little Skunk asked.

“No,” said the squirrel.

“You can not run up a tree,  
so you are not a squirrel.”



“Look at that bear,”  
said the squirrel.

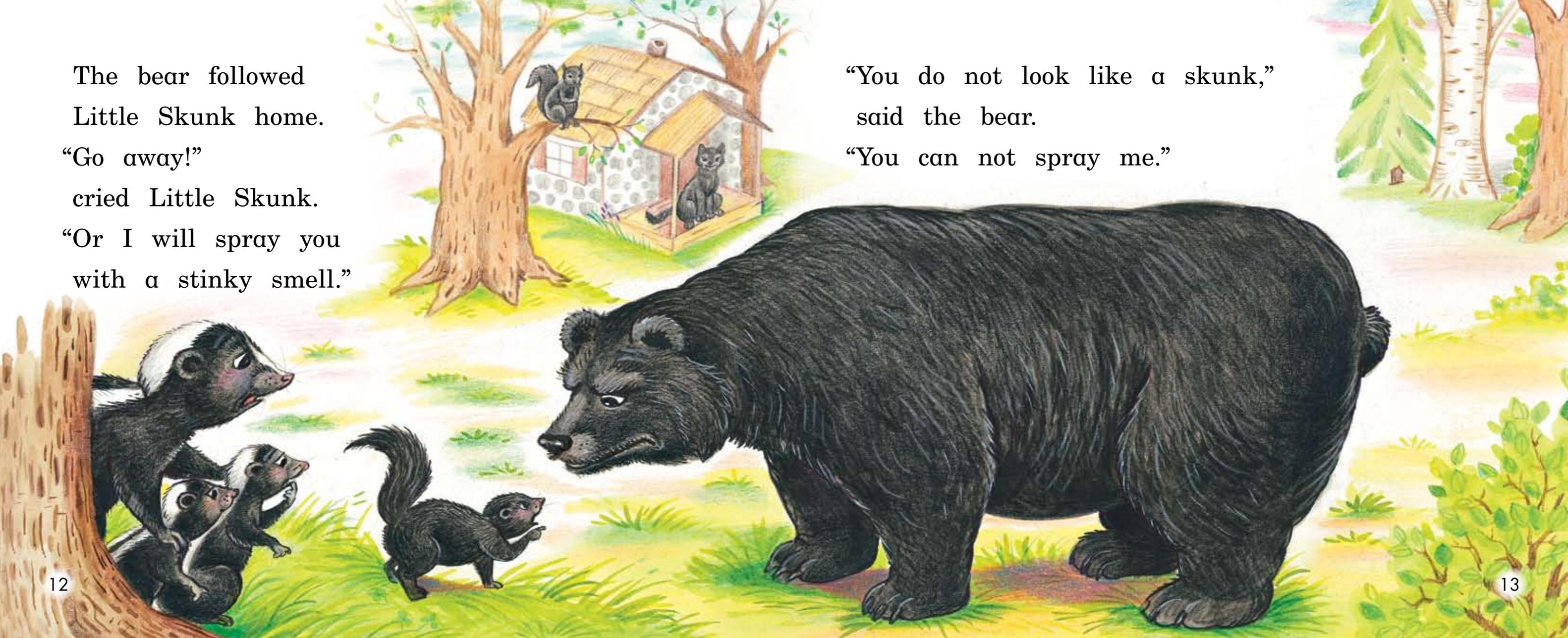
“He has soft, black fur.  
But he has no stripes.  
Maybe you are a bear.”



“That bear has a short,  
stubby tail,” said Little Skunk.  
“I have a long, bushy tail.  
I am not a bear.”

The bear followed  
Little Skunk home.  
“Go away!”  
cried Little Skunk.  
“Or I will spray you  
with a stinky smell.”

“You do not look like a skunk,”  
said the bear.  
“You can not spray me.”





Little Skunk raised his long, bushy tail. Then he sprayed a stinky smell on the bear.

The bear roared, "Oh, no! You **are** a skunk!" Then he ran away.



“Wow!” said Little Skunk.

“I sprayed a yucky,  
stinky smell on that bear.  
Stripes or no stripes,  
I **am** a skunk for sure!”

