

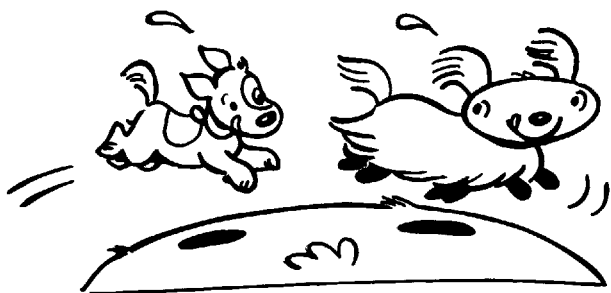


**Tommy Tales are downloadable and printable
books only available on the Internet
from the following Web sites:
www.learningpage.com
www.readinga-z.com**

**Tommy Tales feature the lovable rascal
Tommy Tomkins and his friends.**

**Supporting material is available on the
Learning Page Web site, including
teaching notes, worksheets, and fact files.**

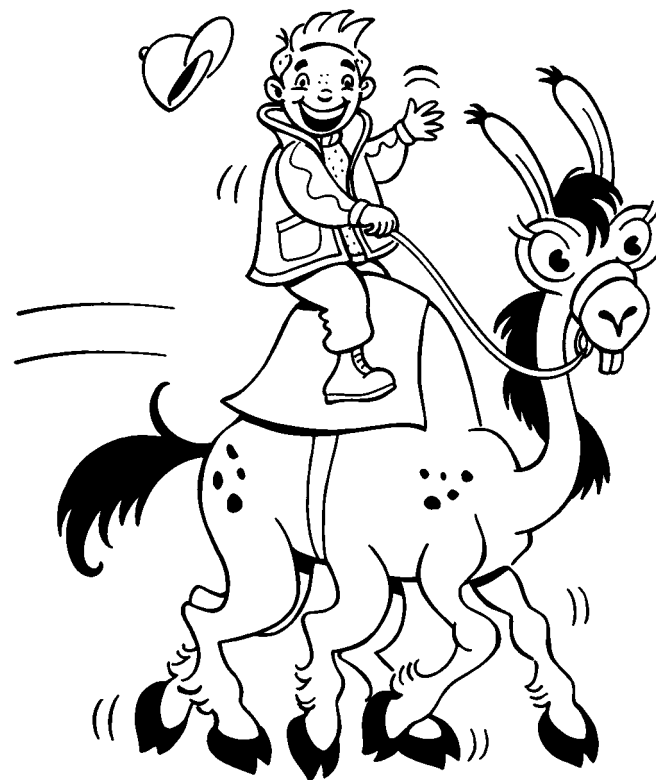
**Look for the next Tommy Tales adventure—
coming soon from Learning Page.**



BOOK 19



Tommy Goes to Blueland



Tommy Tales

Tommy met his friends at the park after school. It was early evening, but it was already dark. It became dark early during those short winter days. The sky was clear, and many stars were shining brightly.

"I wonder which star RK-5 comes from," said Lucy as she looked up at the sky.

"I come from none of those stars," said a voice from Tommy's pocket.

Tommy carefully pulled his little robot friend from his pocket.

"Well, which star do you come from?" asked Tommy.



"I come from a planet called Gendroz. You can't see it from Earth. It's too far away," explained RK-5.

"Can you take us to Gendroz?" asked Andy.

"I cannot take you to Gendroz. My powers are not strong enough to take you that far. I can take you to a closer star, if you'd like," said RK-5.

"Oh, yes, that would be cool. We'd be space travelers," said Sam.

"Pick a star you can see, and I will take you there," said RK-5.





Tommy pointed to a star in the western sky. "What about that one?" he said.

RK-5 looked up at the star. He made some calculations and told Tommy which numbers to press on his number pad.

"Oh, dear! I think this is going to be dangerous," said Kim. "Won't we need space suits?"

"No space suits are needed to go to Sketty," said RK-5, as Tommy pressed on his number pad.

There was a flash of light and a cloud of blue smoke. The five friends, along with their dog and monkey, were on their way to the planet Sketty.

Within seconds, the friends had arrived on Sketty. They looked around, and the first thing they noticed was that everything was blue.

The grass was blue, the trees were blue, the birds were blue, and the sheep were blue. Everything they saw was a shade of blue.

"There's a road over there," said Tommy. "Let's see where it leads."

They ran to the road. It was a wide, blue brick road. After walking for a while, they saw a sign that said BIG TOWN – 5,000 paces.



"We're on our way to Big Town," said Andy cheerfully.

They had only walked another twenty paces when they heard a loud noise behind them. Before they could even turn around, they were surrounded by five soldiers. The blue soldiers were riding what seemed to be half horses and half camels. But these animals were blue and had six legs.

"Who are you, and what business do you have in Blueland?" shouted one of the soldiers.



"We're from Earth. We're just visiting," stammered Tommy.

"Non-blue beings are not allowed in Blueland," said the soldier. "You are the strangest creatures I have ever seen. You are all arrested and must appear before our leader, His Blueness."

The soldiers tied the children's hands. Then they rode with the children toward the town.





After about ten minutes, they turned a bend and saw the town in the distance. It was a magnificent sight. All the buildings were shiny blue. There were three tall towers in the center of the town. The towers were part of the palace of His Blueness. This is where they were headed.

When they reached the town, the blue townspeople stared at them and pointed. Small blue children ran after them but couldn't keep up. The animals were galloping quickly through the town.

The gates of the palace opened as they approached. The animals galloped through the gate. The lead soldier yelled to the gatekeepers, "Captured spies to appear before His Blueness!"

The gates slammed shut behind them.





His Blueness sat on a huge chair. The chair was on a platform in the middle of the room. His Blueness looked unhappy. In fact, everyone in Blueland looked unhappy.

“What do we have here?” asked the ruler of Blueland.

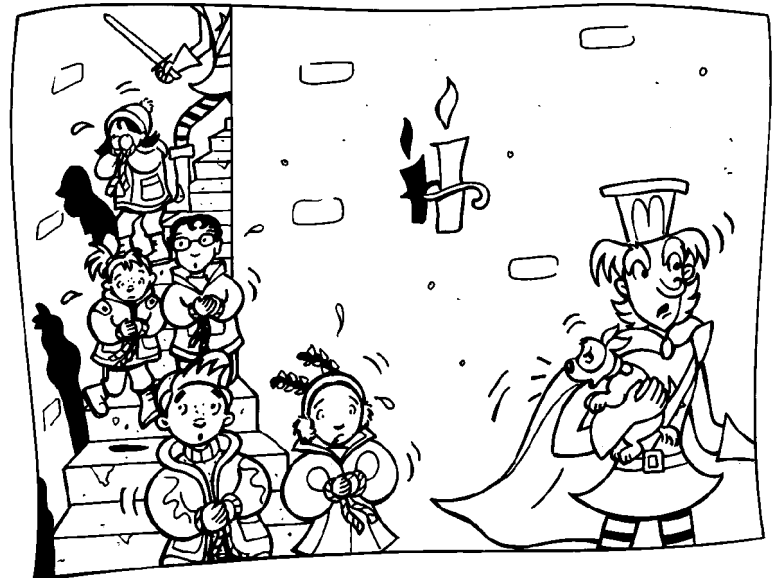
“We found these spies outside of town,” answered one of the soldiers.

“We’re not spies,” shouted Tommy. “We’ve done nothing wrong.”

“You’re not blue,” said His Blueness. “It’s against the law to be in Blueland if you are not blue. Who sent you? Was it those nasty yellow-bellies? Or was it those evil red-heads? Lock them up in the dungeon!” ordered His Blueness.

Before Tommy could answer, the soldiers grabbed the five friends and their dog and led them away.

The soldiers took the frightened children through a big blue gate and down some steep stone stairs.





Tommy and his friends were locked up in a cold, damp cell. A cold breeze blew down from the single, small window. There was a small wooden bench in the corner. The floor was covered with blue straw.

"What are we going to do now?" sobbed Kim. "Can we get RK-5 to take us back?"

Tommy felt in his pocket. RK-5 was not there.

"Bad news," said Tommy. "I think RK-5 fell out of my pocket when the soldiers caught us."

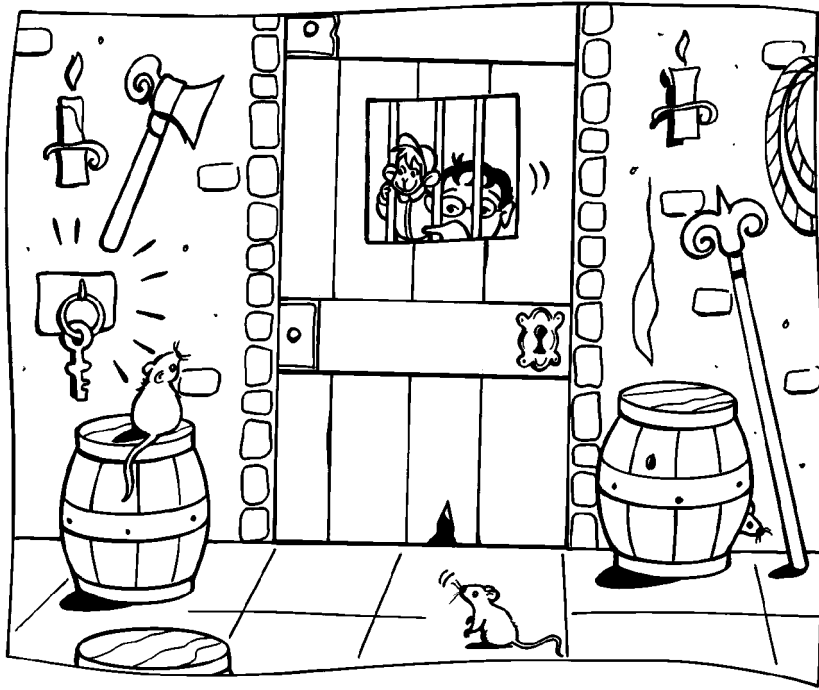
"Has anyone seen Bongo?" asked Andy. "He's missing, too."

"He was climbing a tree when the soldiers came," said Lucy. "I haven't seen him since."

At that moment, a noise came from the window above them. They all looked up and saw a little face looking down at them. It was Bongo.

Bongo climbed down the stone wall and jumped onto Andy's shoulder.





"Bongo, you've got to help us get out of here. Can you climb through the bars and get that key?" asked Andy, pointing to a big key hanging on the wall outside the cell.

Bongo managed to squeeze through the bars of the cell. He ran over to where the key was hanging and grabbed it with both hands. Bongo gave the key to Andy, who quickly unlocked the door of the cell.

"We need to make a plan," said Tommy.
 "If we all try to escape now, we'll soon be caught again. It will be best if I go with Bongo and find RK-5. I'll bring RK-5 back here. Then he can take us all back home."

They all agreed that this was the best plan.

Tommy and Bongo quietly left the cell. Tommy looked back at his friends and said, "Don't worry. I'll be back with RK-5 as soon as I can."

