

# A Magic Stick

by Helen Squires



Have you heard about the magic stick that walks? It is not made of wood. It is a small insect. And it is called a walking stick.

Most walking sticks are as long as your finger. But they are not as wide. They have long, thin legs. They look like small sticks!

When the walking stick is a baby, it is green. Then it turns brown.

Birds like to eat the walking stick. But it tricks them. It sits still for a long time. The birds think it is a stick. They leave. Something else is their lunch!

That is the magic trick of the walking stick.



## COMPREHENSION

A Read each question. Write *a* or *b*.

- 1 What is this story about?
  - a A stick that can do magic tricks
  - b An insect called a walking stick
- 2 Where is a good place for baby walking sticks to sit to trick birds?
  - a On green leaves
  - b On brown leaves
- 3 What do birds *not* like to eat?
  - a Walking sticks
  - b Sticks from trees
- 4 How does a walking stick trick a bird?
  - a It makes the bird think it is a stick.
  - b It makes the bird think it is lunch.
- 5 What is the magic trick of the walking stick?
  - a It looks like a stick when it does not move.
  - b It turns from green to brown when it wants to hide.

## LEARN ABOUT WORDS

B  $p + ick = pick$

Look at each row of letters. Add one letter or group of letters from each row to *ick* to make a word. Write the word.

- |   |            |       |
|---|------------|-------|
| 1 | wr, tr, gh | + ick |
| 2 | st, bl, dr |       |
| 3 | b, k, v    |       |
| 4 | x, qu, kr  |       |
| 5 | c, s, f    |       |



## LEARN ABOUT WORDS (continued)

C Read the words you wrote. Which one best fits in each sentence? Write the word.

- 6 A walking stick plays a \_\_\_\_\_ on birds.
- 7 If a bird ate a real stick, it might get \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 The boy will \_\_\_\_\_ the ball over the bird.
- 9 Birds have to be \_\_\_\_\_, not slow, to get a walking stick.
- 10 A walking \_\_\_\_\_ has long, thin legs.

## THINK ABOUT IT

D *Grow* and *know* end the same way. They rhyme. Read each pair of sentences. Which word in ( ) rhymes with the underlined word? Write the word.

- 1 A walking stick is not made of wood.  
A real stick does not taste very (sweet, good).
- 2 A baby walking stick is green.  
It does the best trick I have ever (seen, found).
- 3 A walking stick cannot be found.  
It sits still while birds fly (around, above).
- 4 A hungry bird may look all day.  
When it cannot find food, it flies (there, away).
- 5 A walking stick lives in a tree.  
This small insect is hard to (find, see).

## Comprehension

- A**
- 1 b
  - 2 a
  - 3 b
  - 4 a
  - 5 a

## Learn about Words

- B**
- 1 trick
  - 2 stick
  - 3 kick
  - 4 quick
  - 5 sick

- C**
- 6 trick
  - 7 sick
  - 8 kick
  - 9 quick
  - 10 stick

## Think about It

- D**
- 1 good
  - 2 seen
  - 3 around
  - 4 away
  - 5 see