



CAMPING TRIP

Max Darwin lifted the glass lid of his brand-new bug tank and dumped in some fresh cucumber slices. “Here you go, Millie! Enough to last you through the weekend!”

Millie, his new pet millipede, nuzzled her way out of the moss she was hiding in and inched over to enjoy the food. Max grinned, bending over so he could watch her.

She is so cool! he thought. Max loved the way her long, segmented body seemed to glide over the hills and valleys of her little kingdom, her horseshoe-shaped feelers waving in front of her. It was amazing how her dozens of tiny legs worked together in total harmony.

In the next tank over, his walking sticks clambered around their own mini-jungle. Max made sure they had plenty of food, too.

“Max! I said it’s time to go!”

Max sighed. “Coming, Mom! I’m just making sure the bugs are okay.”

He gave Millie a longing look, wishing there was time to lift her gently out of her tank and let her crawl over his hands.