No Animals Harmed

I had asked Brody to make a prediction as to what would happen to the squirrel when two hungry birds fought over it in *Red Squirrel’s Adventure*. At the end of the story I commended him for making an accurate prediction. He said, “Of course, I’m right. They wouldn’t kill an animal in a children’s book!”

*Denise VanCleave*
Reading Recovery Teacher
Rincon, Georgia

Translation, Please

My little 5-year-old student brought me something she had written in her classroom to show me. It read, “I like to do crod.” I asked her what *crod* was.

She replied, “Karate, of course!” I gave her lots of positive reinforcement for being able to hear sounds in words in sequence so well!

*Sandy Poole*
Reading Recovery Teacher Leader
Canby, Oregon

Author, Author

Today Heidi was reading *The Hungry Giant’s Birthday Cake* by Joy Cowley. On page 11 she read, “I am going to eat it all by myself.” She did not notice that she’d added in the word *by*.

When she finished the page, I brought this to her attention. She read it correctly, but then said, “That doesn’t sound right.”

“Well, you and I would say ’all by myself,’ but that’s not what’s here, so we have to read it this way,” I replied.

She responded, “We have to read what the author put. Maybe the author didn’t know how to write ‘all by myself’.”

*Angela Surber*
Reading Recovery Teacher Leader
Gwinnett, Georgia