

Adverbs

Happily!

Frantically!

Quickly!



written by Ann Heinrichs

illustrated by Dan McGeehan and David Moore

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ann Heinrichs was lucky. Every year from grade three through grade eight, she had a big, fat grammar textbook and a grammar workbook. She feels that this prepared her for life. She is now the author of more than 100 books for children and young adults. She has also enjoyed successful careers as a children's book editor and an advertising copywriter. Ann grew up in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and lives in Chicago, Illinois.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATORS

Dan McGeehan spent his younger years as an actor, author, playwright, cartoonist, editor, and even as a casket maker. Now he spends his days drawing little monsters!

David Moore is an illustration instructor at a university who loves painting and flying airplanes. Watching his youngest daughter draw inspires David to illustrate children's books.



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What Is an Adverb?

I licked my ice cream **quickly**.

My turtle escaped **yesterday**.

Aunt Annie lives **here**.

All the colored words above are **adverbs**. Adverbs describe how, when, or where.



How did you lick your ice cream?



Quickly!



How did you lick your ice cream? Quickly.
When did your turtle escape? Yesterday.
Where does Aunt Annie live? Here.

How: (Notice how these often end in /y)

slowly quietly easily happily quickly

When:

now yesterday today tomorrow soon recently

Where:

here everywhere nowhere away
there anywhere far nearby

When, How, Where It Happened

The kangaroo escaped *yesterday*.

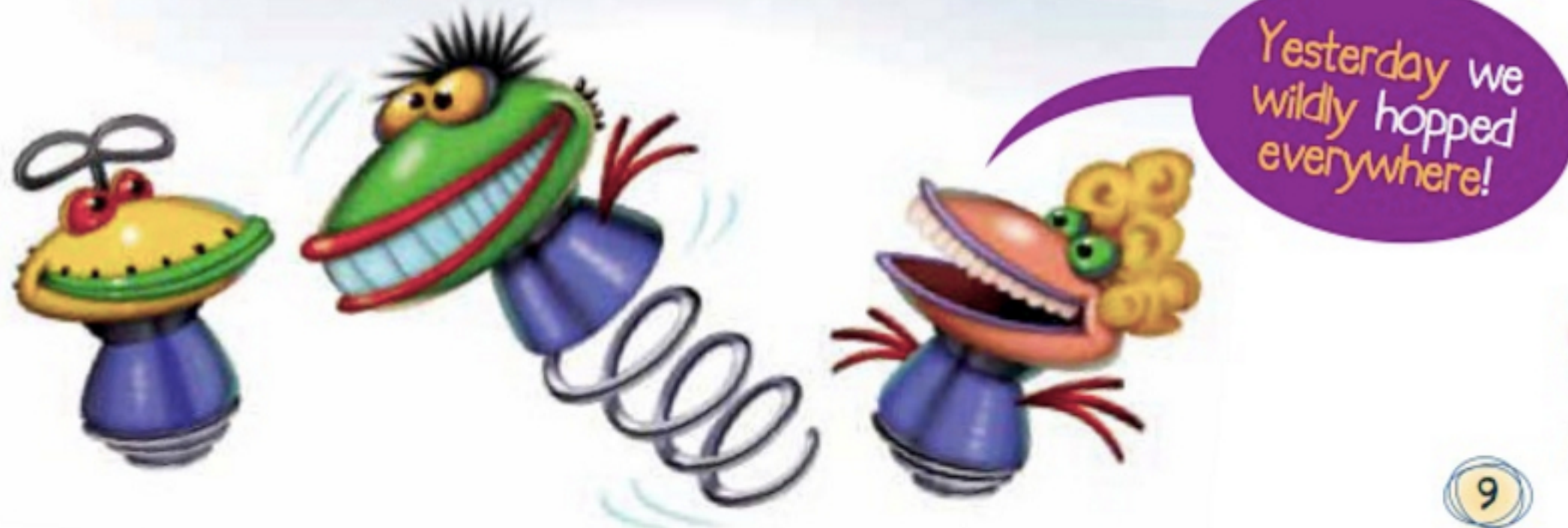
It hopped *wildly* around the zoo.

It went *everywhere*!

Adverbs work with other words. Sometimes, adverbs partner up with **verbs**. A verb is an action word. A verb describes things to do or ways to be. *Escaped*, *hopped*, and *went* are verbs.

Yesterday, *wildly*, and *everywhere* are adverbs. Notice how they tell when, how, or where the action happened:

Verb	Adverb	What Adverb Tells
escaped	<i>yesterday</i>	When it escaped
hopped	<i>wildly</i>	How it hopped
went	<i>everywhere</i>	Where it went



How Cool Was That Concert?



The concert was
totally cool.

The alien was *completely* blue.

The mummy is *extremely* old.

How blue is the alien? *Completely* blue. How old is the mummy? *Extremely* old!

If you want to make a strong point, use an adverb! Adverbs add meaning to **adjectives** like *cool*, *blue*, and *old*. An adjective is a word that describes a **noun**—a person, place, or thing.

Adverb	Adjective
<i>totally</i>	cool
<i>completely</i>	blue
<i>extremely</i>	old

Teaming Up

The snake slithers **so smoothly**.

Cheetahs run **incredibly fast**.

The tooth fairy visits me **fairly often**.

Each of these examples has two adverbs in a row:

so + smoothly
incredibly + fast
fairly + often

Sometimes adverbs even team up with other adverbs to describe how, when, or where.

How do cheetahs run? **Fast**. How fast? **Incredibly fast!**



Where Does the Adverb Go?

Slowly the tiger turned toward me.

The tiger slowly turned toward me.

The tiger turned slowly toward me.

The tiger turned toward me slowly.

Where does an adverb go? Sometimes adverbs can jump around in a sentence. In the example above, no matter where the adverb is, the meaning stays the same.

The monster slowly turned and ran away.

The monster turned and slowly ran away.

Sometimes it does matter where the adverb goes. Did the monster turn slowly, or did it run slowly? The meaning changes when you move the adverb.



Who Runs Faster?

If two kids run *fast*, one probably runs *faster*. You can use adverbs to **compare** two things. Just add *er* to adverbs such as *fast* or *hard*.

If two turtles crawl *slowly*, one probably crawls *more slowly*. When adverbs end in *ly* or *ily*, use the words *more* and *less* to compare them.

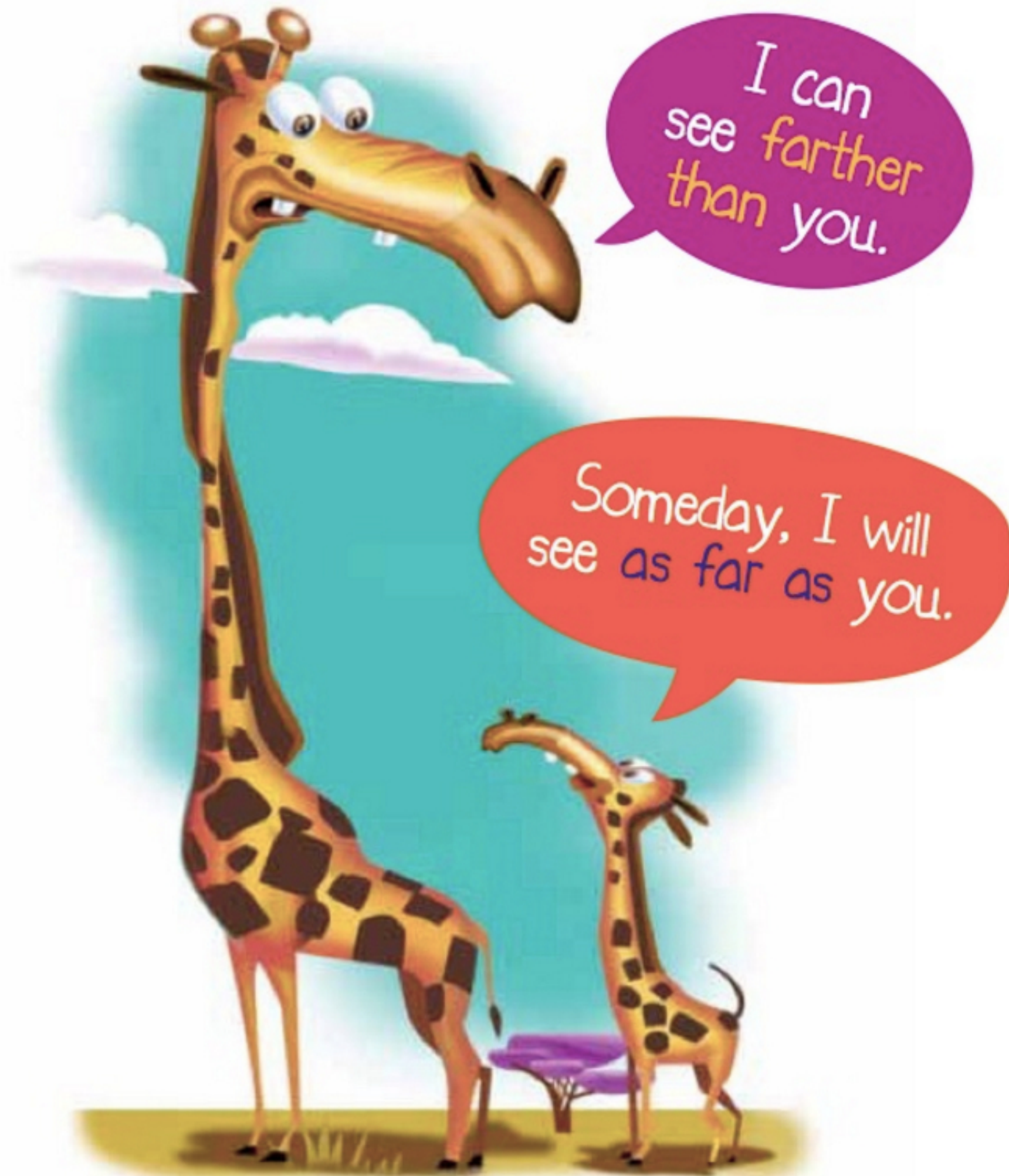


You can also use **than** to compare two different things:

The frog jumps **higher than** the mouse.

If the two things are **similar**, use **as**.

Liv ran **as quickly as** Will.



Waiting the Most Patiently

When you want to compare many things, you often use **most** or **least**. Often, the word *the* goes before **most** or **least**.

The monster waits **patiently**.

The alien waits **more patiently**.

The boogeyman waits **the most patiently**.



Sometimes, instead of using **most** or **least**, you can use an adverb that ends in *est*.

Alissa runs **the farthest** of anyone and tries **the hardest**.

Well-better-best are also adverbs that compare several things.

The cake turned out **well**, the muffins turned out **better**, but the cookies turned out the **best** of all!

Have you ever cooked or baked? Can you use adverbs to describe what happened?

This pizza turned out **better**!



This hot dog turned out the **best**!



How to Learn More

AT THE LIBRARY

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ON THE WEB

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