

A PLATFORM
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HORNBY BALL PARK
 ON
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5th
 AT 8 O'CLOCK
 in aid of Building Fund of Hornby Women's Institute
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The Adventures of Flitt the Butterfly

by Robin Wynn

FLITT AND JACKIE PACK-RAT

"Another lovely morning," thought Flitt, as he ate his breakfast of toast and honey. "I wonder what will happen in the Green Forest today?"

And just at that moment there was the scamp of tiny feet outside his door. Flitt went to see who could be visiting him so early in the morning. There stood Baby Squirrel, puffing and puffing like a little steam engine. He was so out of breath he could hardly talk.

"Come in and sit down for awhile," said Flitt.

"Thank you," said Baby Squirrel, seating himself. "But I just had to get here as fast as I could to tell you that someone has stolen nearly all of our winter store of nuts!"

"Dear me," said Flitt. "I must see about this at once!"

Quickly he brushed his wings and feelers, and soon was winging his way to the Squirrel's store house. Baby Squirrel was right — there were only a very few nuts left in the store house. But what was this? Here were some odd pieces of string, many twigs, an old rusty nail, and of all things, the arm of a little doll! Flitt was very puzzled.

"Let's hide and watch to see if we can find out who is taking the nuts," he said.

They all stayed as quiet as a mouse. It seemed such a long time till they heard the rustling sound of someone coming thro the long grass, and then out into the clearing came the tumbling little animal you could ever imagine! He was about the size of baby squirrel's Big Brother, dark brown with a short, thin tail. His little sparkly eyes seemed to be looking everywhere at once. But what was wrong with his face? His cheeks were pulled out just as tho' he were trying to blow up a balloon!

Suddenly Flitt started to laugh and laugh. Then he called out, "Hello, Jackie Pack Rat."

The startled little animal opened his mouth and out dropped a little pine cone. "Hello Flitt. What is the matter?"

They all crowded around the little pack rat while Flitt explained that pack rats don't really steal. If they see something they want, they take it but always bring something back in return. Jackie Pack Rat was bringing a pine cone to pay for the nuts he had just taken away.


Flitt explained to Jackie that the nuts belonged to the Squirrel family and were to be their food for the winter. Jackie was really surprised and felt very badly about having caused the Squirrel family any worry.

"I'm so sorry," he said to the Squirrels. "But if you will come with me, I'll show where there are heaps and heaps of nuts."

Off they went with Mr Pack Rat, through the forest. They came to the mountain and climbed part way up. "Right here," said Jackie, as he walked to the edge of a big rock. "They all crept carefully up beside him and looked over the edge of

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the rock. Sure enough, down below on another big rock were piles of nuts. You see, these were nut trees growing higher up and as the nuts ripened, they fell down to the rocky ledge. The Squirrels' eyes just sparkled as they looked at all those lovely nuts. What a wonderful store for the winter they would make, if they could only get them! But the rock walls were so jutting out and steep, it would be almost impossible to get them up.

Father Squirrel turned to Flitt. "How can we get those nuts up here, Flitt? It seems a shame to let them go to waste."

Just at that moment there was a sparkly flash of light, and there sat Mr. Sunbeam on the edge of a rock. "What goes on here?" he said.

Flitt explained the difficulty, and then said, "I think I have an idea. Will you help us, Mr. Sunbeam?"

"Surest thing," said Mr. Sunbeam. "What can I do?"

"Please go and ask the Beaver family to come to help us get the nuts for the Squirrels," said Flitt.

In a flash, Mr. Sunbeam was gone to the big pond in the Green Forest where the Beaver family lived.

Before long, they could hear the Beaver family coming and soon saw them coming up the mountain, with Mother and the Beaver family skipping around the trees playing tag with Mr. Sunbeam! When they arrived, Mr. Sunbeam and the little Beavers were quite out of breath.

Flitt explained the plan to Father Beaver and in no time at all Mother and Father Beaver were making down a tall, thin tree close by. Soon there was a squeaking sound, and down came the tree. Mr. Beaver stood back and wiped the perspiration from his forehead.

Now, he said to all the little Beavers, "You must push this end of the tree up."

Shoving and carefully they pushed the tree over the edge of the rock and then suddenly it went plunk, and the big end of the tree bobbed on the rocky ledge where the nuts were. Flitt, Jackie and the little Squirrels, a each one scurried to be first down the tree ladder. Up and down, up and down, went the Squirrel family — and Jackie Pack Rat, bringing the nut from the rock below.

As the pile of nuts grew, Flitt thought to himself, "It's quite a long way from here to the Squirrel's store house. It will take them some time to get these home."

Just about this time, Mr. Pelican was flying home over the mountains. As we all know, Mr. Pelican has a big pouch under his chin which he used as a suitcase. Seeing the many little people gathered below him, he swooped down beside the Squirrel.

"Hiya," he said cheerfully. "What's all the excitement?"

Mrs. Squirrel explained how they had gathered all the nuts from the rocky ledge.

Mr. Pelican was a helpful fellow, so he said now, "Why don't I just pack all those nuts in my suitcase and save you all many trips to get them?"

"A wonderful idea," said Father Squirrel. "Thank you. And the Pelican opened his big bill and they packed all the nuts inside. In no time at all, the nuts were on their way to the winter store house.

As they scampered home, Baby Squirrel said to Mother Squirrel, "Whatever would we do without Flitt to solve our problems?"

And his Mother and all the other little Green Forest folk agreed with him.

BALLINAFAD

The members of the Mission Band were entertained at a picnic Wednesday afternoon at the summer home of Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Reid. An enjoyable time was spent in playing games and contests under the direction of Mrs. R. Shortill Jr. and Mrs. Leo Jamieson. At the supper hour the children were treated to ice cream and other good things by their hosts.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Burt on the birth of their only daughter, born July 20th at Guelph General Hospital.

Bonny and Wayne Cotton entertained sixteen of their playmates on Friday afternoon it being the occasion of their birthday.

Ballinafad eliminated Hillsburgh ball team in their semi-final series Wednesday evening.

Rev. A. Bennie, formerly of Acton, will have charge of the services next Sunday at the three points. The following Sunday will be under the auspices of the W.M.S.

Jim and Shirley Kirkwood are attending the Stay-at-Home Camp in Georgetown. The highlight of last week was a trip to Casa Loma. Mr. and Mrs. Archie Lawr and family are spending a week's holiday at Sauble Beach.

Installation plan buying in England is known as the "hire purchase" system.