



# Sleeping Tiger

written and illustrated  
by Vasanti Unka

## Characters

**TIGER**

**RABBIT**

**ELEPHANT**

**MONKEY**

**SNAKE**

**FROG**

**SCENE:** Early in the morning.

TIGER is yawning as he plods slowly through the jungle.

**TIGER** (yawning). I'm so tired and hungry! I've been hunting all night, but I haven't found a thing to eat. I need to get some rest before I go hunting again. Ahh, here's the perfect spot. I'll just curl up in this long, soft grass. Yawn!

*TIGER snuggles down in the grass and falls asleep. A moment later, RABBIT comes hopping along.*

**RABBIT.** Hop, hop, hoppity hop. I'm off to find some breakfast berries. My babies are very hungry. Hop, hop, hoppity ... oops! A tiger! I need to get out of here before I become someone's breakfast! Hippity, hoppity, hop – I'm off!

*A moment later, ELEPHANT comes stomping along, shaking the ground with every stomp.*

**ELEPHANT.** Stomp, stomp, thump, thump! How I love to shake the ground! I'm so big, and I'm so loud! Stomp, stomp, thump ... uh-oh! A tiger! Maybe I should not be so loud – or so big. Maybe I should just disappear. Tip-toe, tip-toe, tippity-toe – away I go!

*ELEPHANT tiptoes away.*



*A moment later, MONKEY comes swinging down on a vine.*

**MONKEY.** La, la, lay, lay, la. It's a perfect day for singing while I'm swinging on a vine. La, la, lay, lay ... laah! A tiger! Time to go. The singing can wait till lay, lay ... later. I'm swinging far away from here. Bye, bye. Time to go. Bye, bye.

*MONKEY swings back into the trees.  
A moment later, SNAKE comes sliding along.*

**SNAKE.** Hiss-s-s, hiss-s-s, s-s-slither, s-s-slither. I'm s-s-starving. I need s-s-something s-s-sweet to eat. S-s-something that's-s-s eas-s-sy to s-s-swallow. Hiss-s-s, hiss-s-s, s-s-slither ... eek! A tiger! I need to s-s-sneak away, before I'm the one who gets-s-s s-s-swallowed! S-s-slither, s-s-slither – I'm off!

*SNAKE slithers away up a tree. A moment later, FROG comes jumping along.*



**FROG.** Flip, flop, flippity flop. Hip, hop, hippity, hop. I'm looking for some fun today. Flip, flop, flip, flop ... Aha! A tiger! A **sleeping** tiger. A scruffy, **old** sleeping tiger. That tiger is so old and tired he won't wake up. Let the fun begin!

*FROG prances and dances round the sleeping tiger. SNAKE is watching FROG from high up in the tree.*

**SNAKE.** S-s-silly Frog. What is-s-s he doing?

**FROG** (standing in front of TIGER and pulling funny faces). Ha, ha, hee, hee! Sleeping tiger can't see me! Tired old tiger, you're fast asleep!

*TIGER snores.*

**FROG** (clapping his hands together). Ha, ha, hee, hee! You can't see me! You can't hear me! Silly old sleeping tiger! Silly old **snoring** tiger!



MONKEY *is also watching* FROG.

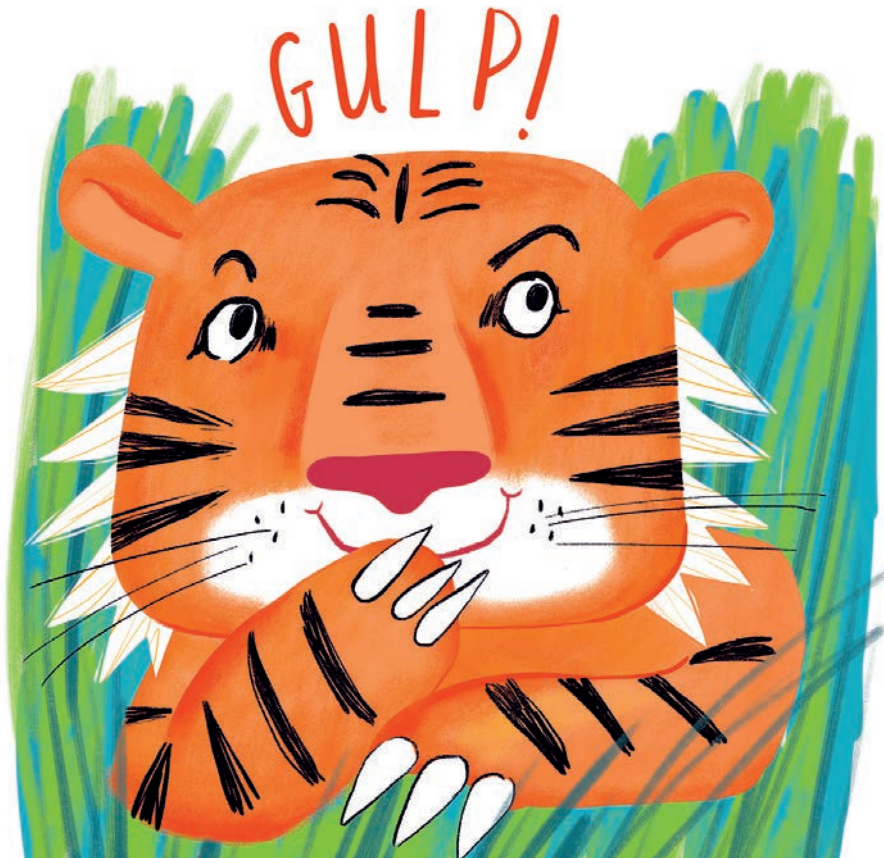
**MONKEY.** Frog, get away from there! Go and play your silly games somewhere else.

FROG *ignores* MONKEY *and jumps closer to* TIGER.

**FROG.** Ha, ha, hee, hee. Tired old tiger. I can touch your paw. I can tug your whisker. I can even tickle your nose!

FROG *reaches out to tickle* TIGER's nose.

**TIGER** (*gobbling up* FROG). **GULP!** That was a nice breakfast! Perfect for a tired old tiger like me! Yum-yum, yumyity-yum – **ROAR!**



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