

Milo and the Shimmer Show

A STORY BY ARKEDELIC



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Contents

1

Story

3-11

2

Activity

12-13

3

Fascinating Facts

14-15

4

Complete the Story

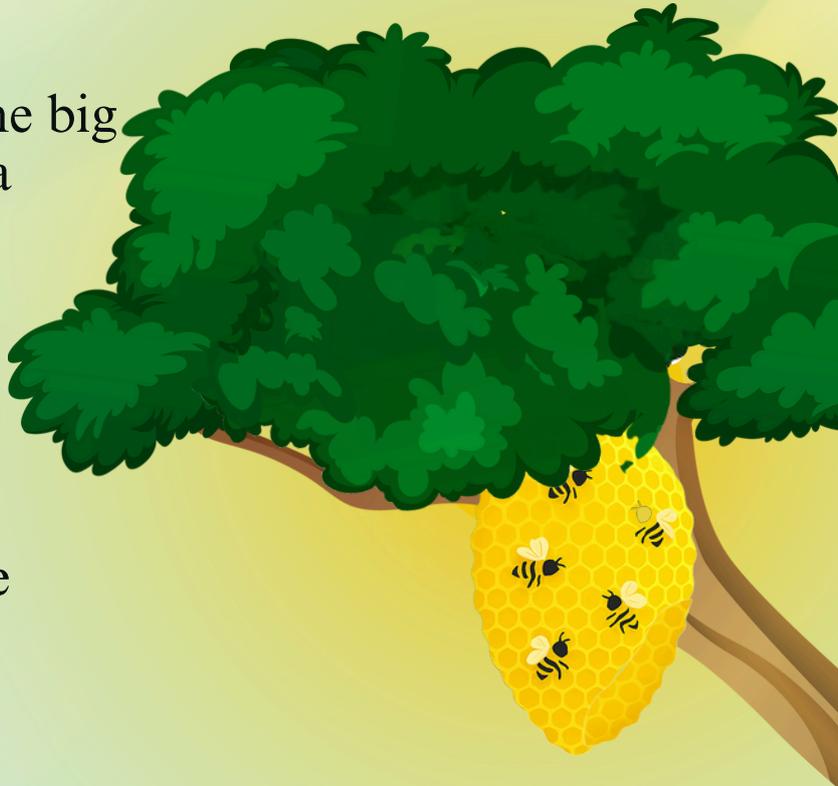
16

One sunny day in Booshkata, the bees did something new.

They built their wax wall by the big pond — not in a hive, not on a branch — but right where the sunlight hit just right.

The wall caught the light.
It gleamed.
It shimmered.
And when the wind moved the water just so... It danced.

Shapes from across the jungle swirled and floated on the waxy shine — leopards leaping, hornbills hopping, ants in perfect lines.



Milo saw it first.

“LOOK!” he squealed. “It’s a show! A shimmer show!”

Zeldon clapped. Danny spun. Kimaya tilted her head.
“It’s like a mirror, but it’s not us in it!”

All morning, they watched the pond shimmer.

They oohed. They aahed. They laughed when a waddling
warthog flopped into the mud — and the shimmer
showed it twice.

But by lunchtime, everyone wandered off.
Everyone except Milo.



The next day, Milo came back early.

He watched the shimmer before the bees even buzzed in.

By midday, he hadn't eaten.

By evening, he missed nap-time.

The next morning, he skipped log-hop.

The next-next morning, he skipped stick-tug.

The morning after that, he didn't notice when Max got stuck in a puddle.



“Milo?” Kimaya asked softly.
“Are you coming to play?”

“Can’t. I’ll miss something!” he said,
eyes glued to the shimmer wall.

“It’s just shapes,” Zeldon whispered.
“He could be climbing trees with us!”

“It’s never just shapes,”
said Milo dreamily. “It’s the whole
jungle! But better. No buzzing bugs. No
itchy grass. Just... shimmer.”





Kimaya frowned.

That evening, she sat beside him.

“Do you know,” she said, “that once, a baby bird flew into its own reflection... and got scared it wasn’t real?”

Milo blinked. “That’s silly.”

“Maybe,” Kimaya said. “But sometimes, staring too long at shimmer makes you forget how to flap your own wings.”

The next morning, the bees changed their wax wall.

Now it had two new panels — one high, one low.
Each shimmered different things.

Milo stood in the middle,
turning his head side to side.

Left shimmer. Right shimmer.
Left again.

He laughed. He slipped. He
bumped into a log. “Ow.”

That’s when Kimaya stepped
in. “Alright, my sweet sparkle-
lover. New rule.”

Milo pouted. “Rules?”



“Only one shimmer time a day.
And only when the sun hits the middle.
That’s when the reflections are clearest and kindest.”

“But I like the shiny times!” Milo whined.

“I know,” she said. “But too much looking makes your eyes forget how to see. And too much shimmer makes your brain forget how to be curious.”

Milo blinked.



“Besides,” she added, “do you know who decides what goes in the shimmer?”

Milo tilted his head.
“The bees,” she said. “Not you. So best to look... but not let the bees do all your thinking.”

Milo looked at the wall. Then at Kimaya. Then at the forest.

The rustling trees. The giggling friends. The real leopards leaping.

“Okay,” he said at last.
“One shimmer a day. And after that, I come back to play.”

Kimaya smiled. “Deal.”

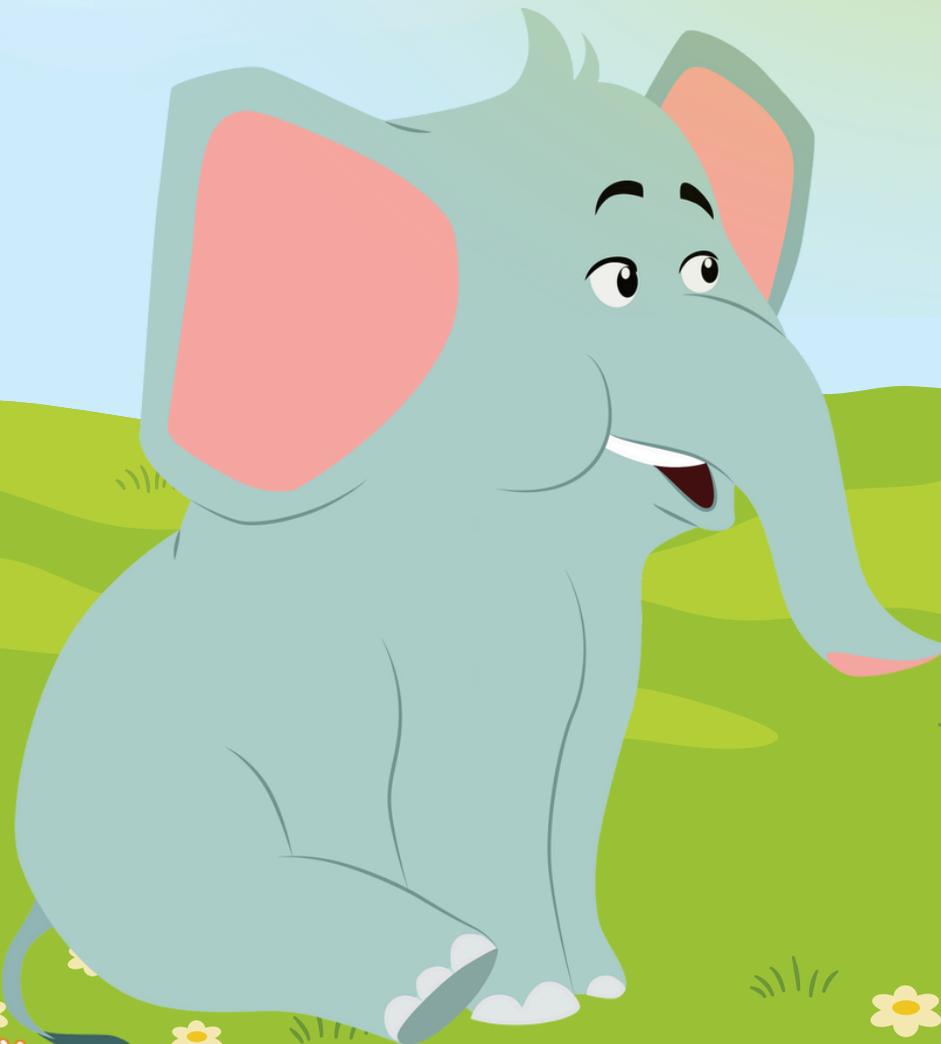
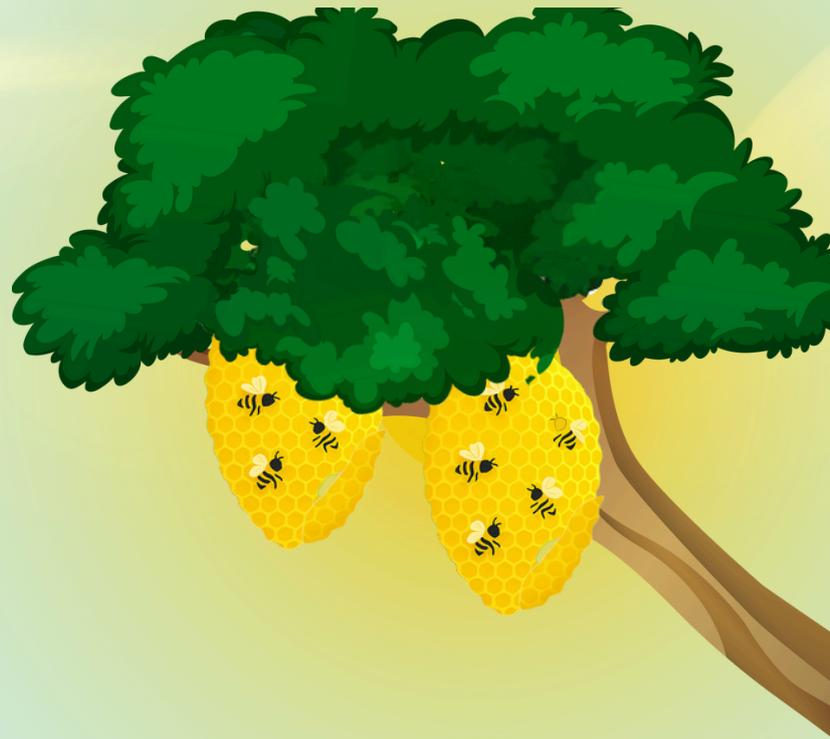


And from then on, Milo still watched the shimmer show — But only once. Only when the sun was just right.

And never, ever, when Zeldon needed help chasing butterflies.

Because some things — like helping friends and leaping logs just don't shimmer. They shine.

— THE END —



ACTIVITY

My Shimmer Timer

YOU'LL NEED:

- A small jar or clear plastic cup
- Sand, glitter, or tiny beads (safe size for children)
- A stopwatch or timer (or a smartphone with timer function)
- Crayons or stickers to decorate the jar/cup
- A small piece of paper and tape

HOW TO DO IT:

1. Help your child fill the jar or cup halfway with sand, glitter, or beads. Seal it well so it can't spill.
2. Decorate the outside with crayons, stickers, or drawings — making it look magical and “shimmery.”
3. Turn it over and let the sand or glitter flow to the bottom while your child watches.



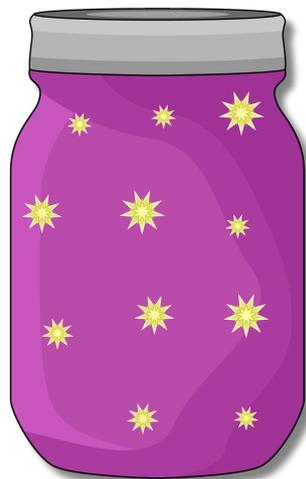
ACTIVITY

My Shimmer Timer

4. Explain that this is their “Shimmer Timer” — they can watch or play with it until all the sand has settled.
5. When the timer ends, it’s time to do something else — go outside, play, read, or help with a chore.
6. Write “One shimmer time, then play time” on the paper and tape it to the jar as a reminder.

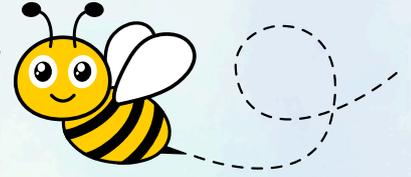
WHAT IT BUILDS:

This activity gives children a fun, visual way to understand limits and transitions. Just like Milo’s “one shimmer a day,” it teaches them that enjoying something shiny or screen-like is fine — but balance and variety make the day brighter.



5 FUN FACTS

About How Bees Build and See



Bees Make Their Own Building Material

Honeybees produce wax from special glands on their bodies. They chew the wax to soften it and then shape it into perfect hexagons.

Imagine making your own bricks just by chewing and spitting and having them come out in perfect shapes!

Bee Vision is Super Colourful

Bees can see ultraviolet light, which humans can't. This helps them spot patterns on flowers that guide them to nectar.

Imagine if flowers had secret signs only you and your friends could see!



Wax Walls Keep the Hive Strong

The hexagon shape bees build with isn't just pretty — it's the strongest way to store lots of honey without wasting space.

Imagine stacking toy blocks so neatly that not even a crumb could fall through!

5 FUN FACTS

About How Bees Build and See



Bees Use Their Eyes to Find the Best Spots

When building, bees look for places with just the right light and warmth to keep their hive healthy. Imagine picking the sunniest corner of your room so your blanket fort always feels cosy.

Bees Communicate with Dance

To share where the best flowers are, bees perform a “waggle dance,” moving in a special pattern that tells others the direction and distance.

Imagine giving your friends treasure map directions — but only by wiggling!



Complete the story

The Glow in the Cave

Tiko the little bat loved exploring, but one evening he found something that stopped him mid-flap — a wall deep inside the cave that shimmered with tiny specks of light.

The glow was soft at first, but when he hovered closer, the colours began to swirl — blues like river water, golds like the morning sun. Tiko forgot to hunt, forgot to stretch his wings. He just watched the colours dance.

Night after night, Tiko went back to the glowing wall. Soon, he stopped playing with his friends. He skipped flying races. Even the taste of sweet cave fruit didn't tempt him.

Then, one night, the glow began to change — showing strange shapes he didn't recognise. Some made him happy. Some made him uneasy.

Now your child completes the story



- What happens next?
- Does Tiko keep watching, or decide to take a break?
- Does he tell his friends about the glow?
- Or does he find a way to enjoy the glow without losing the joy of flying?



See you next Monday
with another interesting story!

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