

## Alan! Let's Go! – Auley, Year 3, VIC

Library assistant, Hilary, announces to the listeners of Rochester village on 91.5fm that the first person to reach the local library will win a bright yellow, ninja warrior, bouncy castle. Who will get there first? Will it be Alan, the loveable, nine-year-old hero of our story, his arch nemesis, Jeffery, the old lady from next door, Miss Scratch, the cheeky toddler Peter, or Alan's best friend and neighbour, Lily? You choose.

Alan's first hurdle was to beat Miss Scratch. She had won three competitions in a row and was fiercely competitive. She smelled of cat wee and her house was right next door to Alan's.

Alan's choice was to go round the long way round the back of the houses (GO TO 1), or sneak the short way passed the front of her house (GO TO 2).

- 1** Peeking between the fences, he sees Miss Scratch leaving her house on her mobility scooter. He sighs with relief, deciding to go the long way was the best decision, he thinks. The race was on. He runs, crouching behind wheelie bins as he goes.

He approaches the end of the alleyway. Should he go down Enamel Road (GO TO 3) or catch the bus (GO TO 4).

- 2** Miss Scratch comes out of her house on her mobility scooter. Alan gets knocked off his feet with a graze on his hand. Miss Scratch cackles as she drives away, he is left in her dust.

His friend, Lily, appears. She kneels, with a band aid in her bag. She gives it to Alan. She explains where she is trying to go. She asks whether he wants to go with her.

Does Alan go with Lily (GO TO 11) or on his own route (GO TO 12)?

- 3** As Alan races down Enamel Road, he sees the bright, white door of Mr. Extract's dentist surgery open and out runs Mr. Extract with floss trailing from the soles of his shoes and a bunch of toothpicks gripped in his fist.

With spit flying from his mouth, Alan knows that Mr. Extract is racing for the bouncy castle prize too.

Realising his laces are undone, Mr. Extract stops, bends down and begins to hurriedly tie his laces back up. Should Alan kick him up the beeeeeee-hind (GO TO 5), or pingggggg his pants elastic (GO TO 6)?

- 4 Alan runs down Mistletoe Road towards the bus stop. Luckily as he approaches, the number 5000 bus pulls up.

Alan rummages in his pocket and pulls out fluff, a sweet wrapper, a crumpled love note from his Mum, a button, some string, a Lego brick, then his fingers find \$1, which he pops onto the counter for the driver.

The driver turns his head slowly, like a sloth, “What..... is..... that...?”

Alan replies, “\$1 it’s all I’ve got mate.”

“That’s... not... enough,” answers the driver.

Alan glances out the window and notices Miss Scratch approaching on her mobility scooter, “Step on it, Trevor, I need to beat that old witch.”

“You... mean.... My... wife...?....OK!” Trevor puts the pedal to the metal and races around the corner at break neck speed, slamming Alan from side to side. Suddenly, the bus driver loses his spectacles and screeches to a halt.

As Alan is helping to search for them, he realises Miss Scratch is fast approaching. Should he stay on the bus (GO TO 9) or get off (GO TO 10).

- 5 Alan kicks him hard and although he feels quite bad it is quite funny to watch his least favourite person in town, in pain. After all Mr. Extract had pulled one of his baby teeth out last year and it was really painful.

Alan sprints down the pathway to the bakery. Should he go into the bakery (GO TO 7) or carry on past (GO TO 8)?

- 6 Mr. Extract begins to continue his journey when Alan nimbly flings out his hands towards Mr. Extract’s undies and pulls hard on his pant elastic, with a gigantic *ping* Mr. Extract is flown forwards through the air.

However, before Alan can get away, Mr. Extract catches him, pliers in one hand, his other hand over Alan’s mouth... Alan is trapped, you chose the wrong path. Try again.

- 7 Alan chooses quickly so to not waste time but as he is paying for his \$1 jam donut, he notices Jeffery, Miss Scratch and Mr. Prowl, all on their way to the library. Just as Alan is wondering how he’s going to beat everyone, he shoves the donut into his mouth, which gives him the boost of energy he needs.

Just then, to his great surprise, his acrobatic cousins, Billy and Elizabeth come roller skating past him. As Elizabeth grabs hold of Alan's ankles, she swings him up onto her shoulders. Simultaneously, Billy lifts Elizabeth by her waist, up on to his shoulders and the three of them take flight, a triple decker roller skating tower, all the way to the library.

Well done, Alan reaches the library first and wins the prize!

- 8** Too hungry to run, Alan slows to a walk. At the same time, Jeffery races past, box of donuts cradled in his arm. Jeffery stumbles, drops the donuts, which causes Alan to trip and twist his ankle. Jeffery doesn't stop but races on ahead with Alan laying on the ground.

Bad Luck, Alan is out of the race, the paramedics come to rescue him. Jeffery makes it to the library first and collects his prize. Try again.

- 9** Alan jumps on Trevor's lap and seizes the steering wheel. He presses the accelerator with his right foot and the bus lurches forwards. He drives straight over the roundabout, flattening the pansies. Trevor is screaming with his eyes squeezed tight shut.

Alan doesn't stop as Miss Scratch is neck and neck with the bus. Suddenly, Alan realizes the needle of the fuel gauge is sitting on E for empty!

As he sees the library ahead, the bus splutters to a halt and Miss Scratch zooms ahead to claim the bouncy castle. Try again.

- 10** He jumps off the bus and sprints down the road, racing Miss Scratch on her mobility scooter. As he passes the skate park, Alan notices Uncle Chuck's custom built mini.

"Hey mate, hop in," says Uncle Chuck.

"I'm trying to win a race to the library," explains Alan, "Trust me." Alan hops into the mini.

"Hold on tight and buckle up mate, it's gonna be a bumpy ride." Uncle chuck does a few flips and tricks and presses the red button! The boot folds out and a giant rocket booster reveals.

Miss Scratch nearly faints as Uncle Chuck zooms ahead and Alan wins the competition. The bouncy castle is Alan's for the win!

- 11** They run past the bakery, they both feel hungry and Alan wants to stop for a donut.

Lily says, “That will take too long and anyway I’ve got donuts in my bag.”

They think he won’t be trouble. Then they see Miss Scratch riding right passed the toddler overtaking. Lily hurls a bandage, wraps it around Miss Scratch’s mobility scooter, takes a skateboard from her bag and the two of them skate along behind Miss Scratch attached via the bandage.

Up ahead, Alan notices the sharp corner at the end of Berry Street. Should he and Lily detach themselves from the bandage-mobility-skateboard- ride (GO TO 13) or risk it and take the corner with Miss Scratch (GO TO 14)?

- 12** He carries on without Lily but then he sees the spooky Mr. Prowl.

Alan has a choice, turn back (GO TO 15) or sneak past Mr. Prowl (GO TO 16).

- 13** They reel off in the other direction but there is a hill. They zoom down to the library. They make it to the library. Peter is almost at the door when they zoom in front. Lily reaches the library assistant first. She’s overjoyed to have won the bouncy castle.

Alan and Lily live next door to each other and because they’re the best of friends, they smash down their garden fences and share the bouncy castle between the two gardens.

- 14** They all tumble to the ground at the corner, Miss Scratch’s tires were too worn out to take the corner with the weight of all three of them. They crash to the ground, seeing Peter the toddler waddling by. As they all writhe and moan on the tarmac, Peter saunters into the library and wins the competition.

- 15** Alan takes a shortcut that he knows but his tummy starts to rumble. Should he go into the bakery (GO TO 7) or carry on past (GO TO 8)?

- 16** He sneaks past Mr. Prowl, turns the corner, then realizes he’s at the main crossroad.

Does he go left down Enamel Road (GO TO 3), where the town dentist, Mr. Extract, has his dental surgery, or right down Candy Lane, where his favourite bakery is (GO TO 15)?