

Funny Bone Books

FIRST CHAPTERS

# Ick and Crud

## The Big Crunch



words by Wiley Blevins  
pictures by Jim Paillot  
*New York Times* best-selling illustrator

## Funny Bone Books

and Funny Bone Readers are produced and published by  
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### About the Author

**Wiley Blevins** has taught elementary school in both the United States and South America. He has also written over 60 books for children and 15 for teachers, as well as created reading programs for schools in the U.S. and Asia with Scholastic, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill, Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt, and other publishers. Wiley currently lives and writes in New York City.



### About the Artist

**Jim Paillot** is a dad, husband and illustrator. He lives in Arizona with his family and two dogs and any other animal that wants to come in out of the hot sun. When not illustrating, Jim likes to hike, watch cartoons and collect robots.

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# Meet the Characters



Crud



Ick



Miss Puffy



Bob

# Follow the Crunch



“**W**hy are we running?” asked Ick.

“You’ll see,” said Crud.

They raced through their yard, jumped over the fence, and landed in Mrs. Martin’s flower bed, which was still all mud.

“Oh not again,” said Crud. “Rats!”

“Rats?” asked Ick. “Where?”



“No, not rats,” said Crud, wiping off the mud. “Oh, crud, crud, crud!”

“Why are you yelling your name?” asked Ick. “Did you forget it?” Crud rolled his eyes. “I mean *oh nuts*,” he said.

“Now you’re making me hungry,” said Ick. The two stood up and starting dripping across the yard. Just then a crunching noise drifted in from the woods.

“Did you hear that?” asked Crud.

“Hear what?” asked Ick.

“That crunching sound,” said Crud. He pointed to the woods and then took off.





Ick ran double time to keep up with him. “Why are we running?” asked Ick.

“That crunching sound is our food. Someone is stealing it.”

“Hold the doggie door,” said Ick. He skidded to a stop. “I thought *you* were eating all our food.”

“And why would you think that?” asked Crud. Ick pointed to Crud’s big belly.

“I’m storing up for winter,” said Crud.

“But it’s only June,” said Ick.

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