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then the little flying vehicle banked sharply and flew away.

'Phew! That was close!' said Gloop. He had always been Max's favourite Goozilla, but Max liked him even more now. He'd just saved his life, after all. 'Now come on, before it comes back!'

Gloop rolled upright, and grabbed Max by the hand. '**WHAT'S GOING ON?**' Max yelped, as the Goozilla dragged him around to the other side of the Bogey Bus.

'Explain later,' said Gloop. 'Hide now!'

As Max stumbled around the Bogey Bus, he found the other Goozillas, all taking cover. The gun-toting Gunk and the dry-and-crunchy Captain Crust both swung their weapons towards him, and Max threw

up his hands in surrender.

'Wait! It's just me!' he said, then he threw himself to the ground as another rain of pellets RATTLED against the Bogey Bus like the world's fastest drum solo. Several of

the bus's windows **SHATTERED**, showering the inside with glass. 'What's going on?' he yelped.

'Bubble Kitten came back while you were gone,' explained Joe, removing his Gadget Glasses and cleaning them on his slimy belly. When he put them back on, they were even dirtier than they had been. 'She's got the third piece of the **GOLDEN GLOB**.'

Max **GASPED**. The Goozillas needed all six parts of the **GOLDEN GLOB** to bring the **slime** back to their volcano. Without the **slime** the whole place would eventually dry out—the Goozillas included. Bubble Kitten was determined to keep the **slime** from returning so she and her Sicklies

could escape World of Pets and live in the volcano instead.

'Someone thought we could get it ourselves without your help,' said Atishoo, the smallest of Max's flubbery friends. He was sitting on Captain Crust's hat, and shot Gunk an accusing look.

'**THIS AIN'T MY FAULT, BUB**,' Gunk growled. 'How was I supposed to know she'd figure out how to use the flying . . . things?'

'Precisely the point,' sniffed Captain Crust, his moustache twitching angrily.

‘You had no idea what we were walking into. You just rushed in without thinking—as usual!’

Gunk shrugged. ‘Hey, things ain’t that bad.’

More pellets peppered the side of the Bogey Bus, **DENTING** the metal and **SHATTERING** another of the windows.

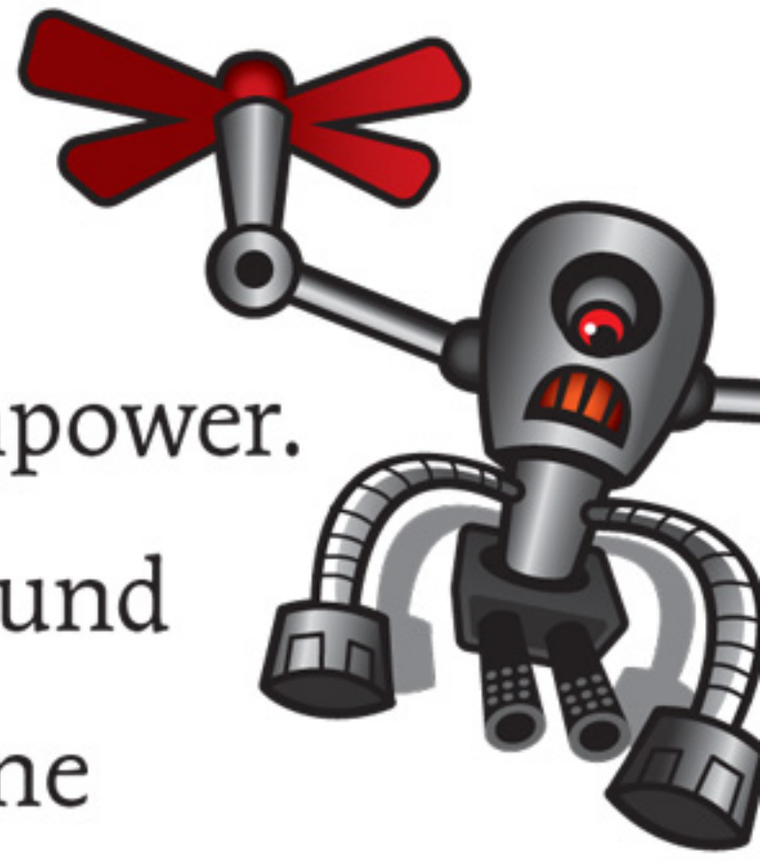
‘OK, they’re pretty bad,’ Gunk admitted.

Big Blob, the largest of the Goozillas, peered at Max for a moment, blinking slowly. After what felt like a long time, his face broke into a gummy smile. ‘**HEY, LOOK! MAX IS HERE**,’ he announced.

‘Hi, Blob,’ said Max, waving to the big guy. Big Blob was the strongest Goozilla ever, but all those strength points meant there

hadn't been any left over for brainpower.

Gloop and Joe both peeked around the side of the Bogey Bus. The drone was banking around again, getting ready for another attack. 'It's coming back,' Joe whispered. 'What are we going to do?'



Max thought for a moment. He was about to suggest a plan when Gunk threw himself against the side of the Bogey Bus and began clambering towards the roof.

'LEAVE IT TO ME,' Gunk announced. **'I'M TAKING THIS THING DOWN!'**

Pulling himself onto the top of the bus, Gunk ran to the edge then threw himself towards the oncoming drone.

'I GOT THIS!

I GOT THIS!'

he roared.

The drone dodged sharply left. Gunk's eyes went wide and he frantically flapped his stubby arms. A second later, he hit the ground with a damp **SPLAT**.

Captain Crust tutted beneath his moustache. ‘Rushing in, as usual,’ he muttered.

‘Can’t you just shoot it down?’ asked Max.

‘Negative,’ said the captain. ‘We’ve tried. The blasted thing’s **INDESTRUCTIBLE**.’

Max shook his head. ‘No, it’s not. I’ve played this level and beaten the drones before. They’ve got a weakness.’

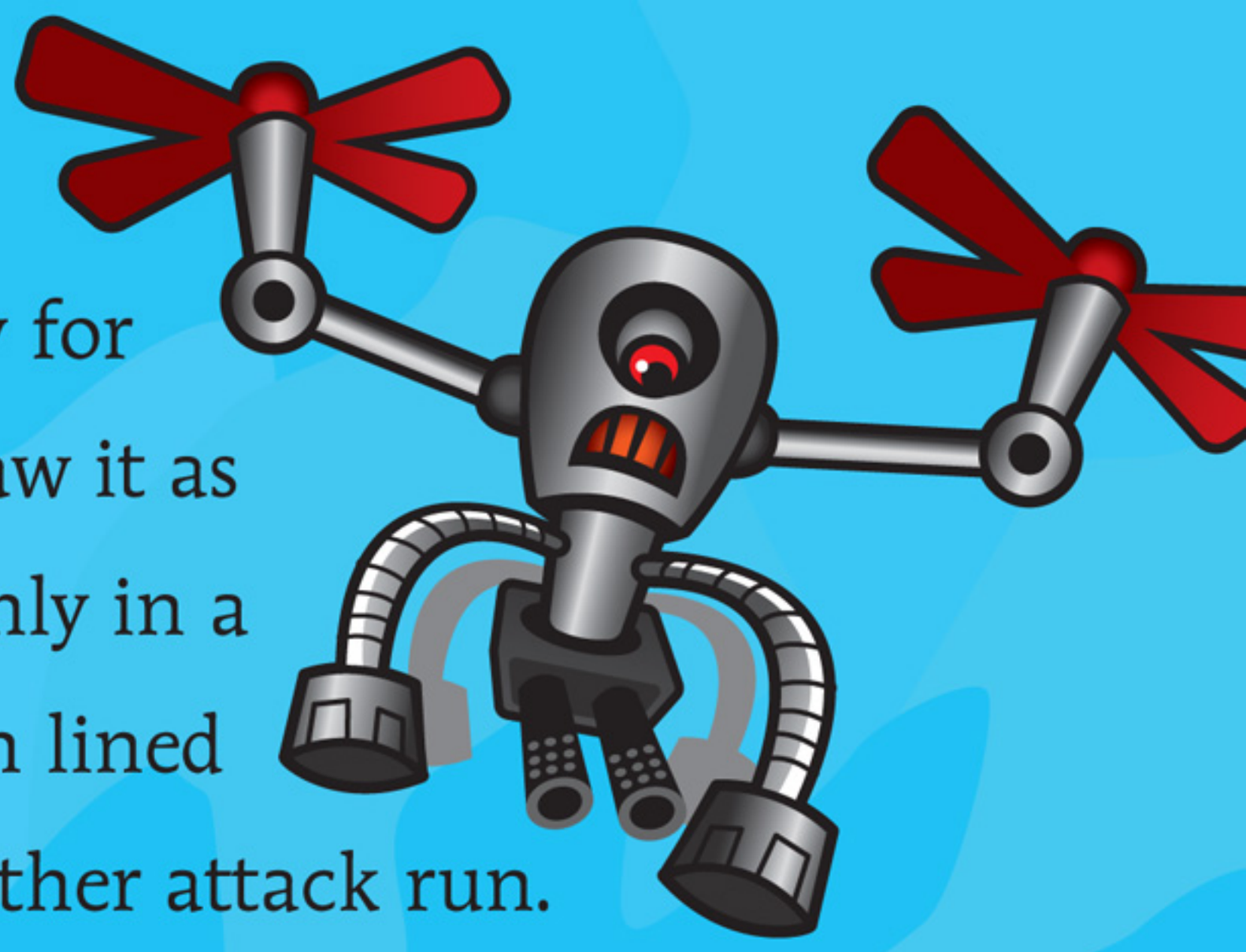
‘Great!’ Gloop cheered. ‘What is it?’

Max frowned. ‘Um . . . I can’t remember.’

‘Joe, your Gadget Glasses!’ Max cried. ‘Can you scan the drone and find its weak point?’

‘I can try,’ said Joe.

Ducking around the side of the bus, Joe



searched the sky for the drone. He saw it as it curved smoothly in a semi-circle, then lined itself up for another attack run.

'Scanning now,' he announced, tapping a tiny button on the side of his frames. The lenses of his glasses lit up red. 'There! In that trench in the bottom! There's a reset button. One hit should do it.'

'Great work!' Max cheered. He turned to Captain Crust. 'Gunk's still down, so it's up to you, Captain. Use your **SNOTSHOOTER** to take that thing out.'

Captain Crust looked at the cane in his hands. It was one of the most basic weapons in the game, and nowhere near as powerful