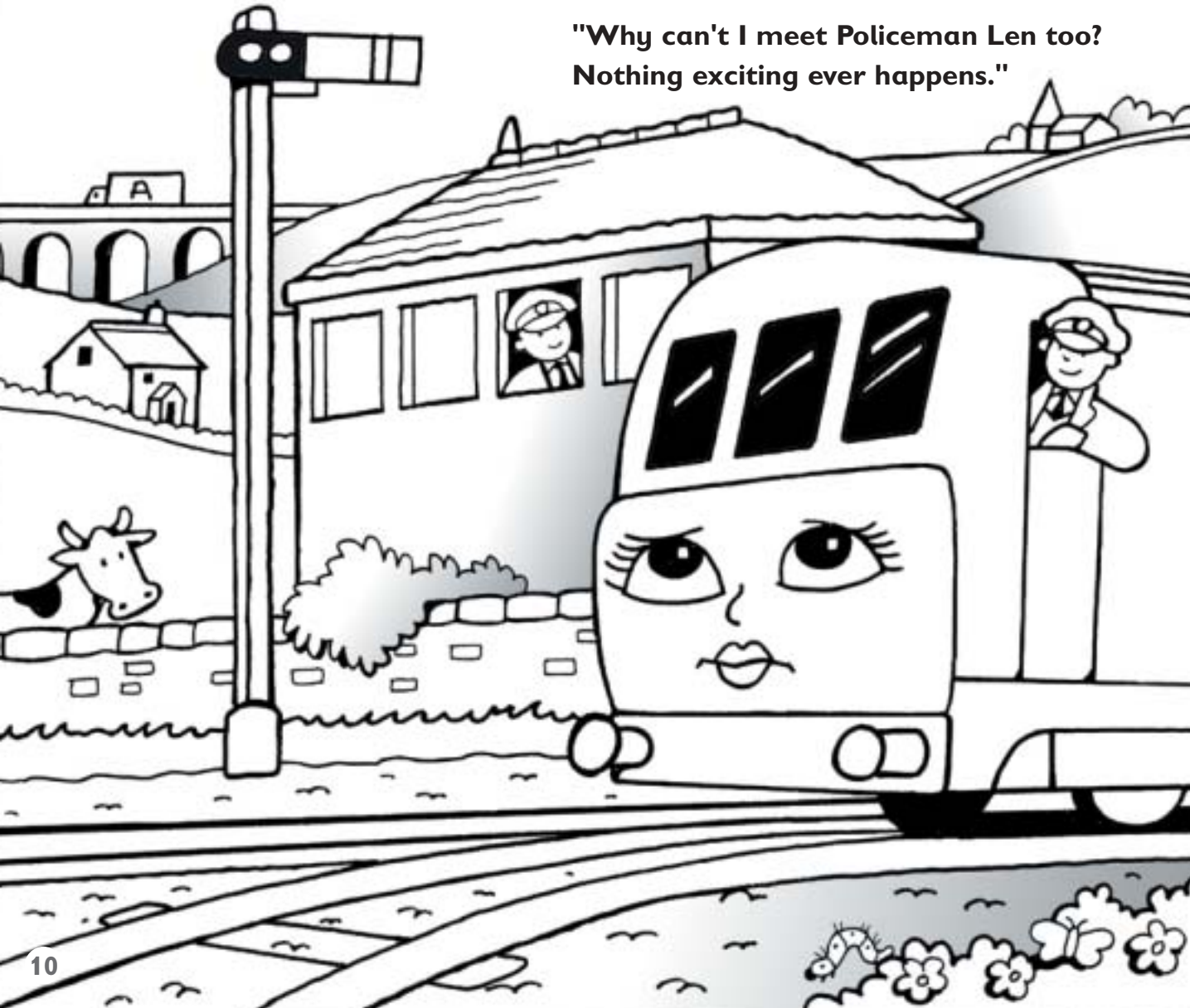


A Near Miss for Daisy

Daisy the diesel railcar was upset. "It's not fair," she grumbled as she ran towards the Junction where Thomas' branch joined the main line.

"Why can't I meet Policeman Len too? Nothing exciting ever happens."





"Think yourself lucky,"
laughed her driver.
"You don't want anything
nasty to happen to you, do you?"
"Well no," admitted Daisy,
"but why doesn't anything
interesting ever happen to me?"



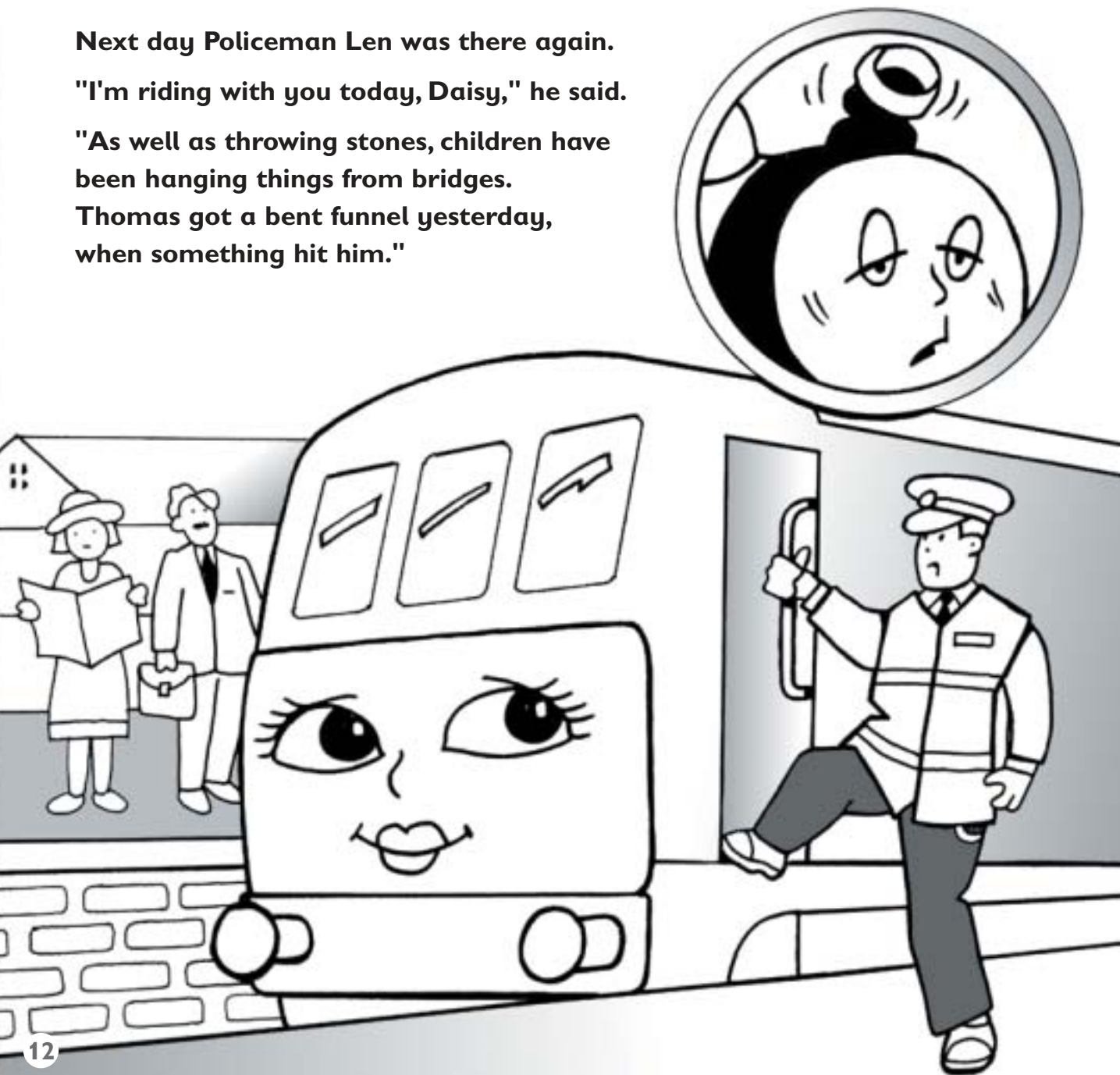
At the Junction
they found
Policeman Len.

"Children have
been throwing
stones at Thomas,"
he said.

"We must stop it."

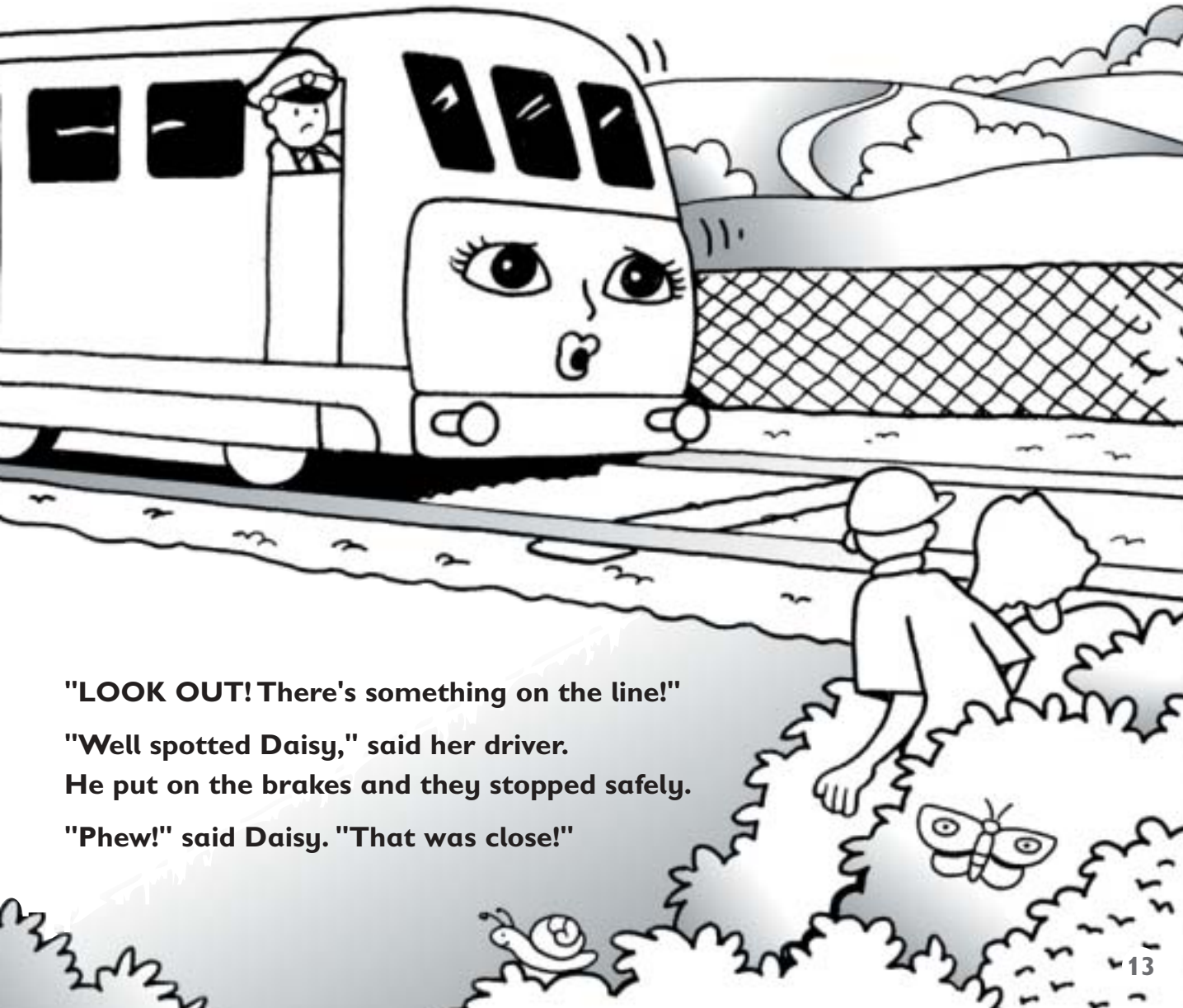


Next day Policeman Len was there again.
"I'm riding with you today, Daisy," he said.
"As well as throwing stones, children have
been hanging things from bridges.
Thomas got a bent funnel yesterday,
when something hit him."



Daisy told Policeman Len that the evening before she had seen two children on the railway.

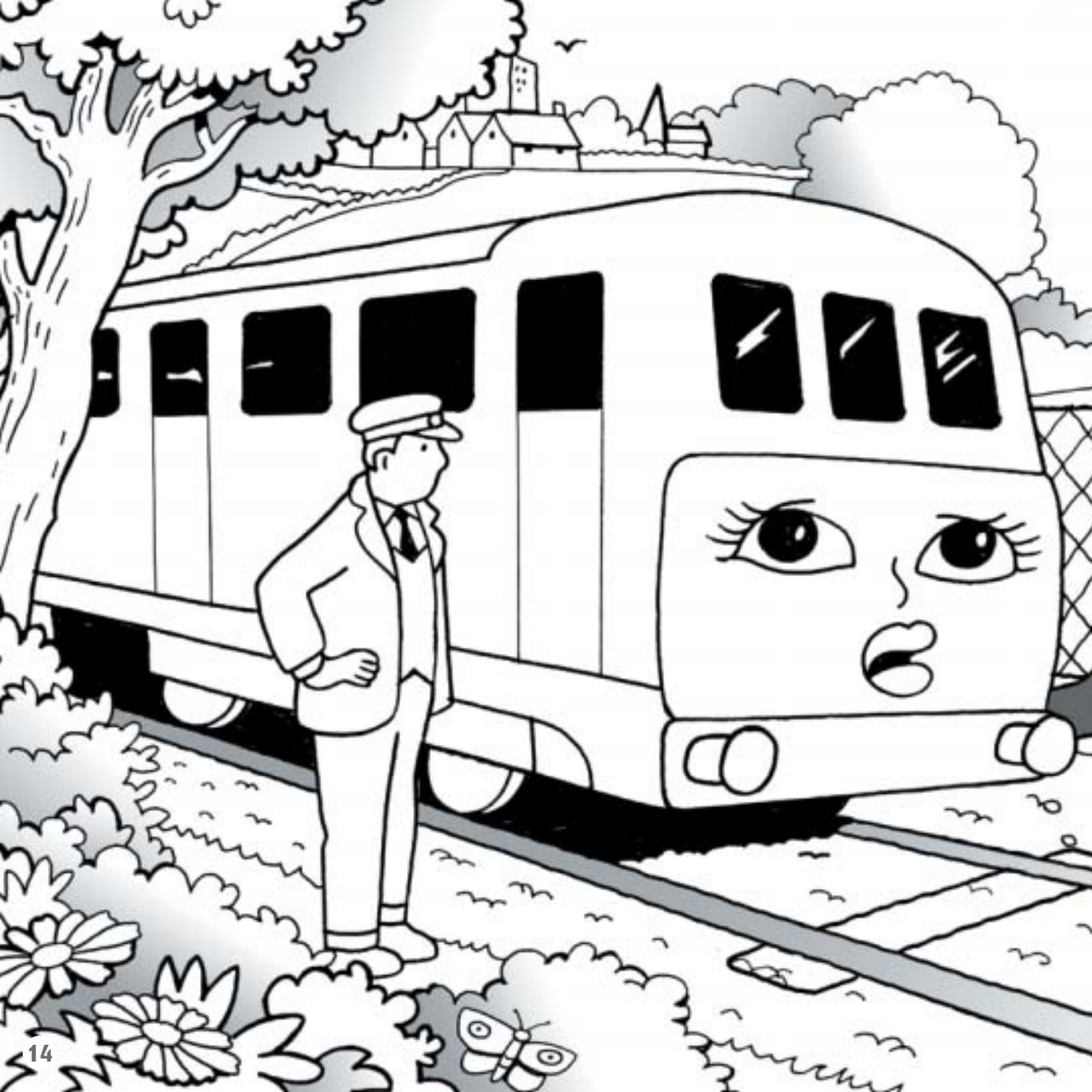
"There they are again!" exclaimed Daisy.



"LOOK OUT! There's something on the line!"

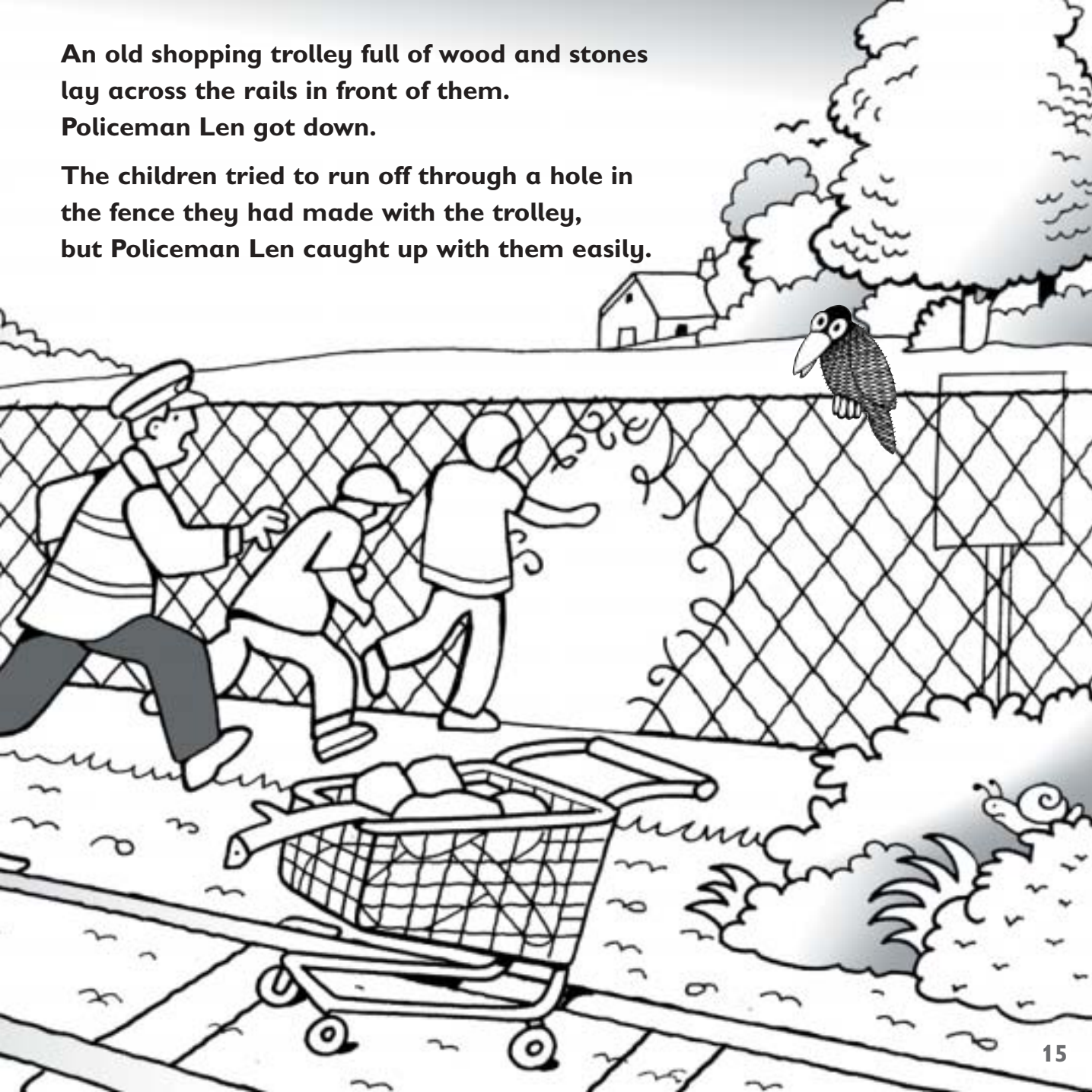
"Well spotted Daisy," said her driver.
He put on the brakes and they stopped safely.

"Phew!" said Daisy. "That was close!"



An old shopping trolley full of wood and stones lay across the rails in front of them.
Policeman Len got down.

The children tried to run off through a hole in the fence they had made with the trolley, but Policeman Len caught up with them easily.



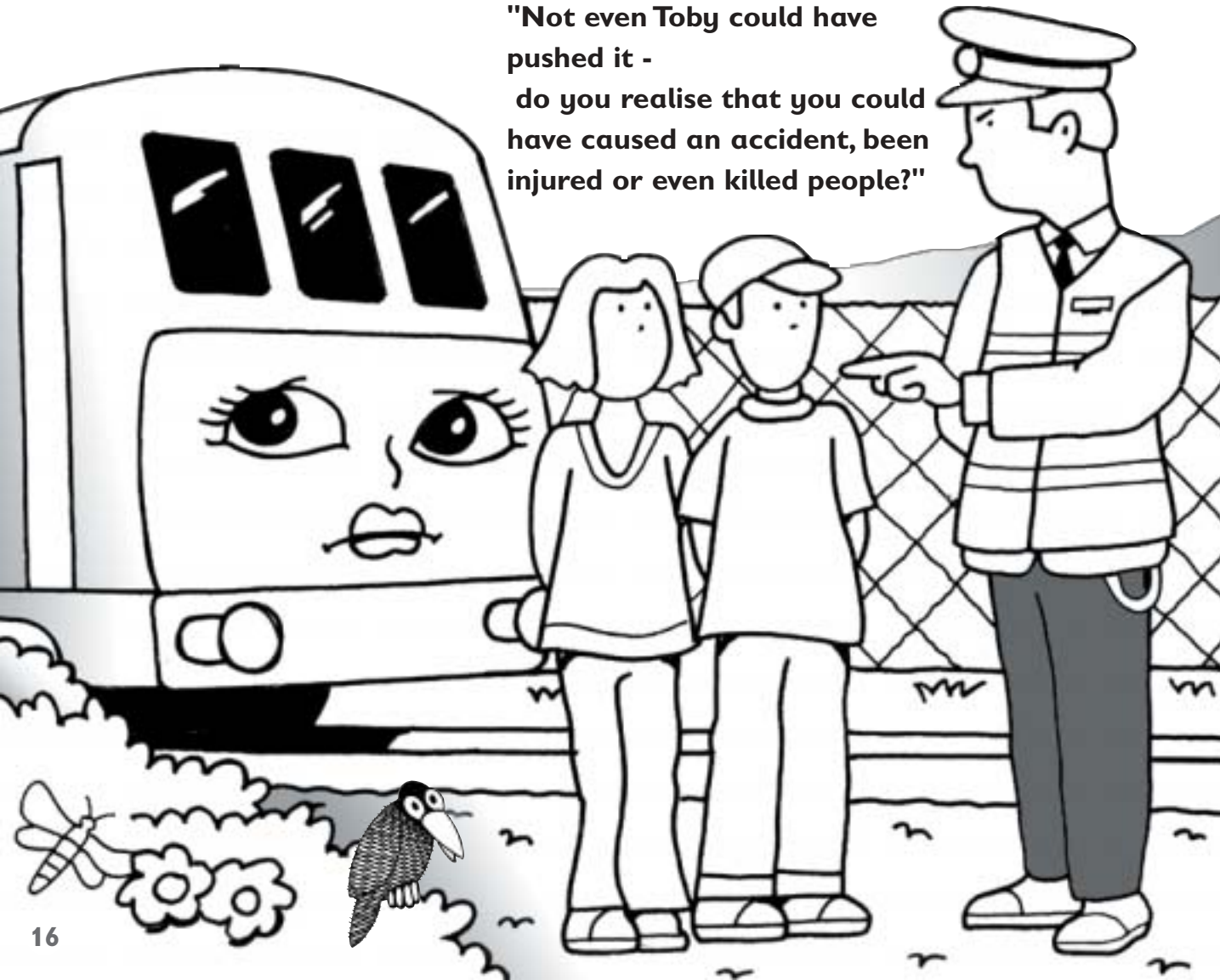
"Did you put that trolley on the rails?" Policeman Len asked.

"We found it dumped by the side of the fence," the children said.

"We thought the engine would be Toby. We wanted to see if he could push it with his cowcatcher thing."

Policeman Len said angrily,
"Not even Toby could have
pushed it -

do you realise that you could
have caused an accident, been
injured or even killed people?"



"You are in a lot of trouble," said Policeman Len.

"You deliberately made a hole in the fence and put something on the line.

He then said in a stern voice, "This is very serious indeed and you will have to be reported."

The children were in a lot of trouble with the police, their parents and their school.

Daisy never saw the children near the railway line ever again.

