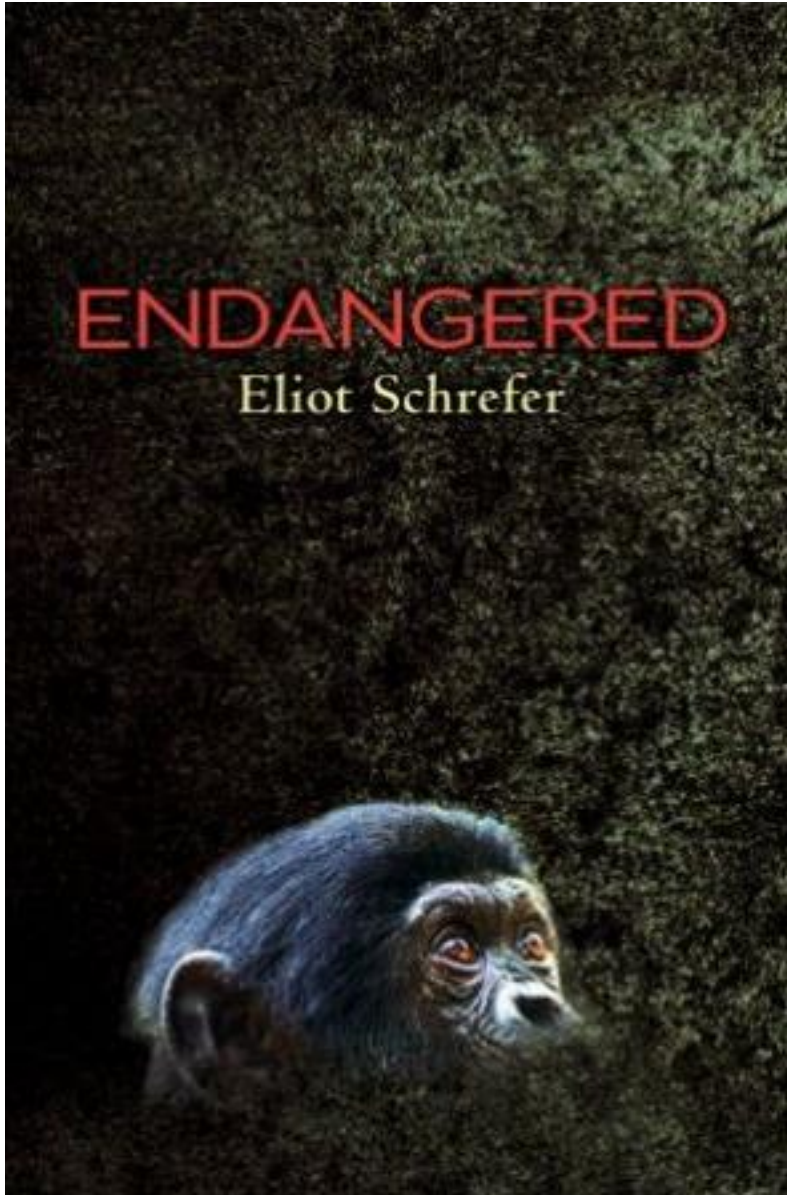


# ENDANGERED

Eliot Schrefer

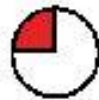


# Endangered



by Eliot Schrefer

PART ONE: Otto



1



ONE

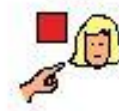
1

It is summer vacation in the United States. Fourteen-year-old



14

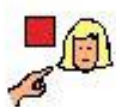
Sophie flies to the Congo, to stay with her mother.



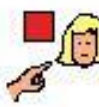
Sophie's parents are divorced. When they divorced, Sophie

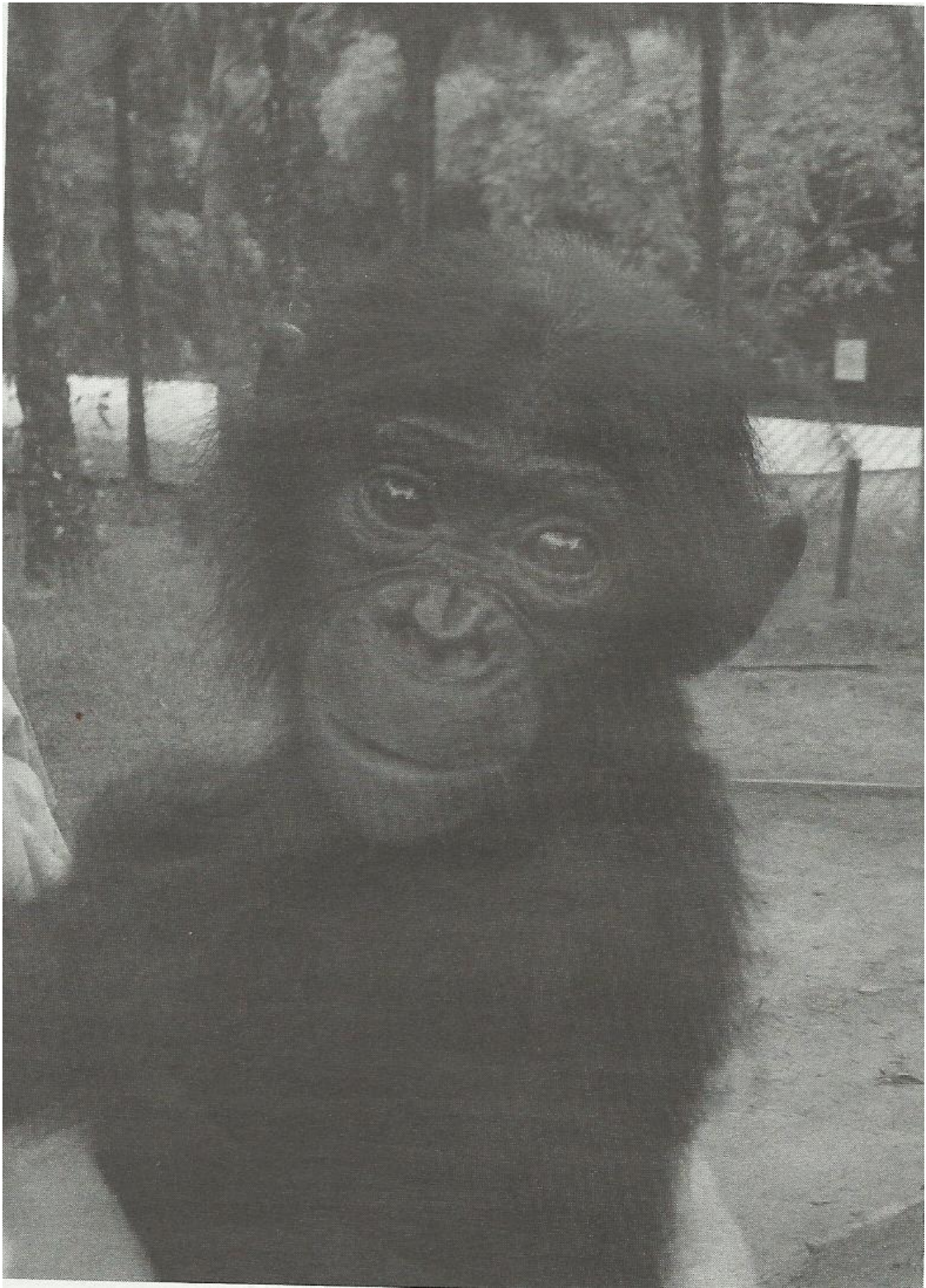


went to live with her white American father in Florida,



and visits her black Congolese mother in Africa each

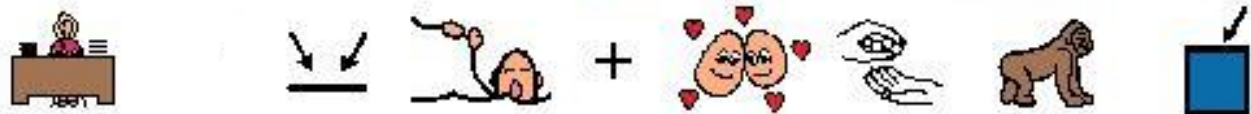




summer. Sophie's mother lives in the Congo because her



job is to save and care for bonobos. It



is dangerous in the city. On her way from



the airport to her mother's house, Sophie sees a poor



man trying to sell a baby bonobo. She feels



sorry for the animal and buys him with her own



money. Back in the jeep, she sees that the



bonobo is very skinny, sick, and is missing two fingers.







TWO

# 2

Sophie arrives at her mother's home for the bonobos.



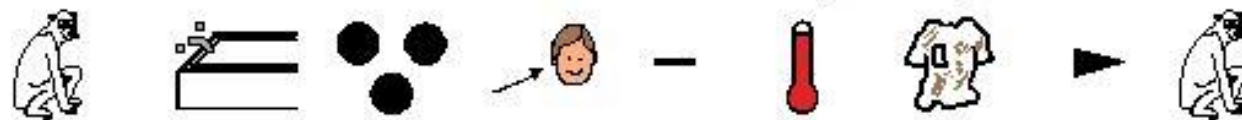
The animal doctor sees the baby bonobo and checks him.



He needs water very badly. Sophie gives the baby



bonobo a bath because he is very dirty. The bonobo



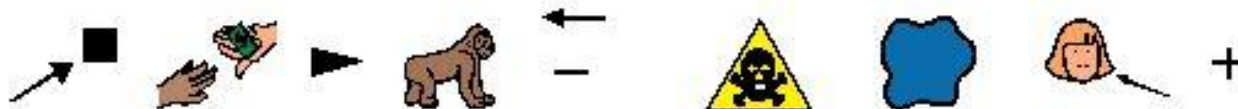
loves Sophie touching and hugging him. Sophie's mother comes



in. She looks at the baby bonobo and tells Sophie



that buying the bonobo was a dangerous thing. She and



Sophie decide to stay in the nursery that night



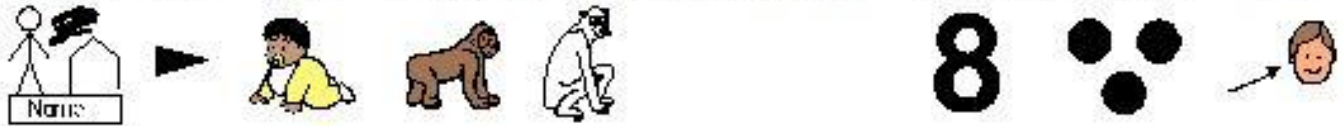
to take care of the baby. Sophie video chats with



her dad in the United States. She decides to



name the baby bonobo Otto (which means "eight") because he



only has 8 fingers. Sophie tries to give Otto



milk all night.







THREE

3

The animal shelter has three parts: the main building with



offices and clinic, the nursery for baby bonobos with a



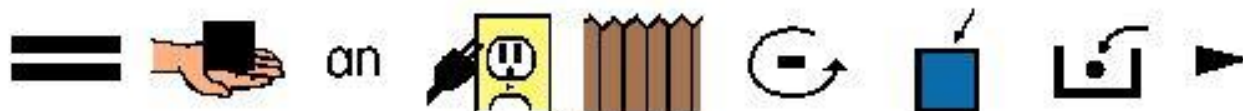
small fenced yard, and a large jungle area with



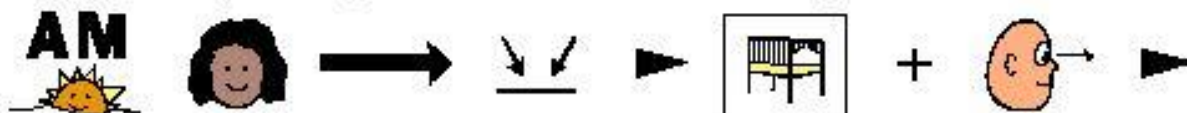
trees, river, and many plants and animals. This large



area has an electric fence around it. In the



morning, Sophie goes to the nursery and sees the

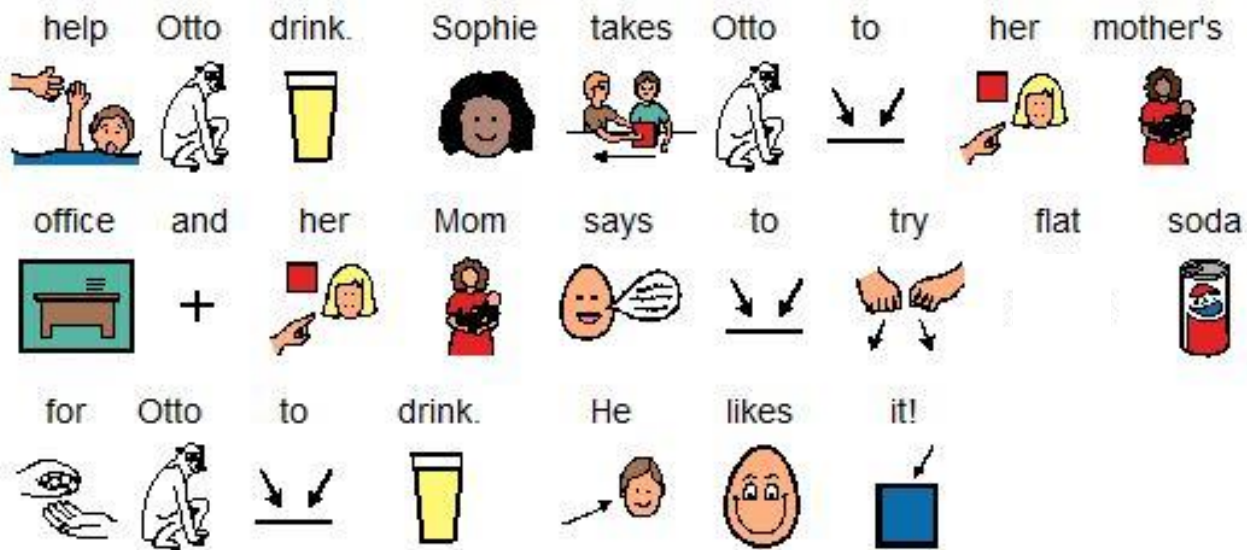


"mother caregivers" for the other bonobo babies. Sophie wants



to get some advice from the smart caregivers to





FOUR

# 4

Sophie used to love living in the Congo, but now



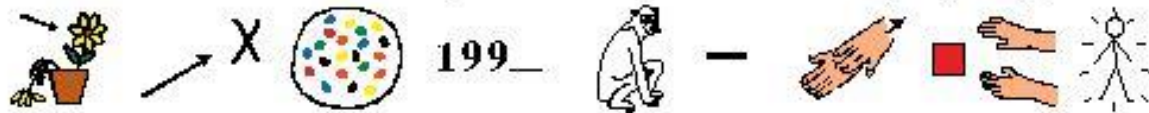
she sees the dangers and poverty there. She still likes



to visit her mother, but is glad she does not



live there all year. Otto is slowly getting well.



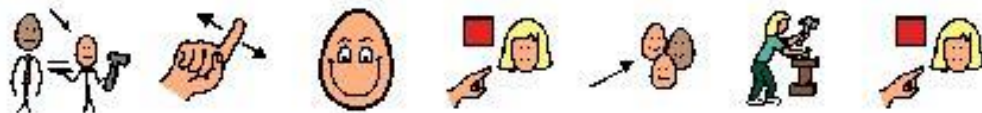
He and Sophie spend all their time together. Otto



finally smiles and laughs. Although Sophie thinks the animal



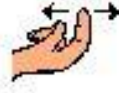
care workers do not like her, they make her a



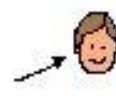
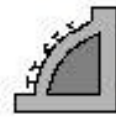
special, "American-style" meal. One day, the poor man who



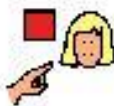
sold Otto to Sophie comes to the animal shelter to



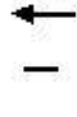
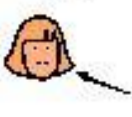
sell more baby bonobos. Sophie is angry at him



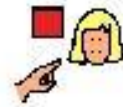
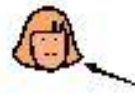
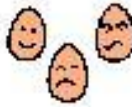
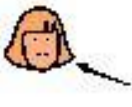
and her mother is very upset. Sophie understands that



she was wrong to buy Otto from that man.



She feels sad because she made her mother



disappointed.



FIVE

# 5

The next morning, Sophie's mother prepares to bring some



grown bonobos to a safe jungle area. Sophie is



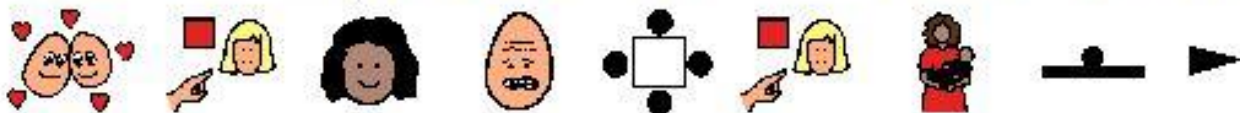
sad that her mother has to leave before the



summer is over. Sophie tells her mother that she



loves her. Sophie worries about her mother on the



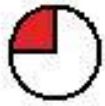
long trip to the jungle. The Congo is becoming more



dangerous.

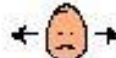


PART TWO: A COUNTRY NO MORE



2

a



SIX

6

Otto is learning to be a skilled climber. He and



-

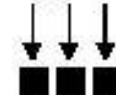


a

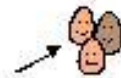


+

Sophie spend most of the time alone with each other.



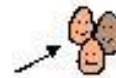
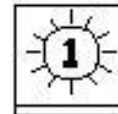
When they are out of the yard one day, they



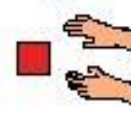
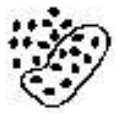
=



>



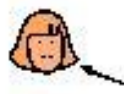
meet some bad soldiers. Sophie gets back home



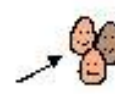
safely, but she is scared. Later that night, they



,



-



are listening to the radio. The president of Congo has

=



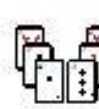
>



been shot. The country is at war and many soldiers



-



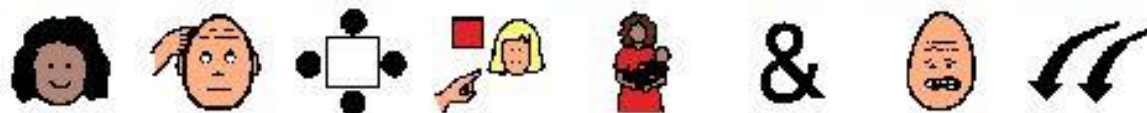
+



are trying to take over. Everyone is in danger.



Sophie thinks about her mother and worries again. Cell



phone and internet service is down. All the workers



need to stay at the animal shelter for the night. They



hear on the radio that American citizens can leave



on United Nation airplanes. Sophie can leave the



country. She does not think Otto will live if she



leaves him to go back to the United States.





SEVEN

# 7

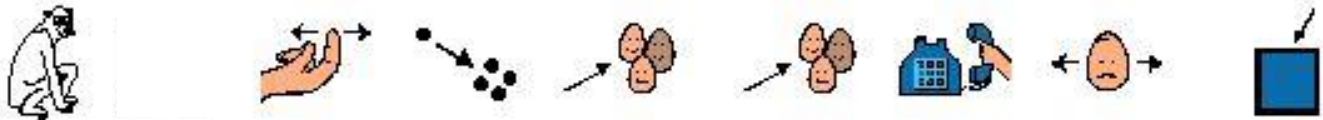
The van from the United Nations comes to take Sophie



safely back to the United States. She asks if



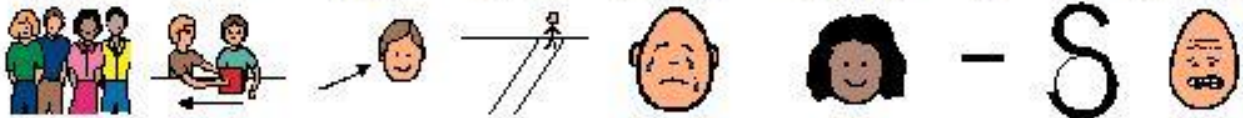
Otto can come with them. They answer, "No." It



is hard to pull Otto off of Sophie, but the



adults take him away, crying. Sophie is so worried



about Otto that she jumps out of the van, picks



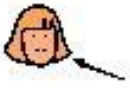
him up and runs into the large jungle area with



the electric fence around it. In her hurry,



she



drops



her



suitcase



filled



with



food



and

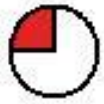
+

clothes





PART THREE: ENCLOSURE



3

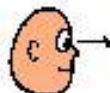
EIGHT

8

Sophie climbs a tree to see if the van has



a



left.

No

one

is

following

her.

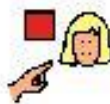
From

the

tree



1



top,

she

sees

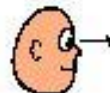
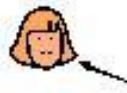
a

nearby village

on

fire

and



a



+

many

villagers

have

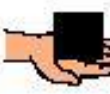
been

killed.

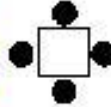
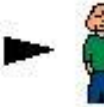
Sophie tries

to

warn



the adults about the danger from the bad soldiers, but



they

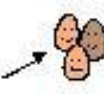
are already

at the animal shelter,

killing

her

friends.



=



To

stay

safe

from

the

bad

soldiers,

Sophie

goes



deeper



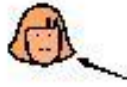
into



the jungle.



She



and



Otto



have



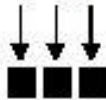
to



help



each



other



stay



alive.





NINE

# 9

Some teenager bonobos come over to Sophie and Otto.



They are curious, but do not hurt them. More bonobos



come and let Sophie know who is boss in the



large area (not Sophie!). Sophie is getting very



hungry and thirsty. They find a pond and drink

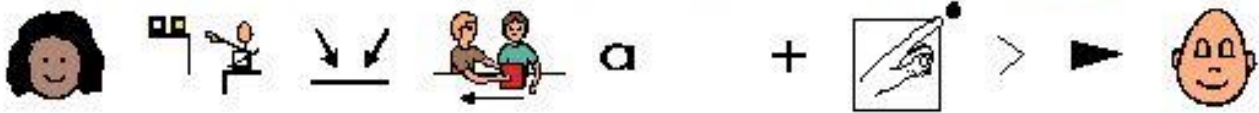


some of the water.

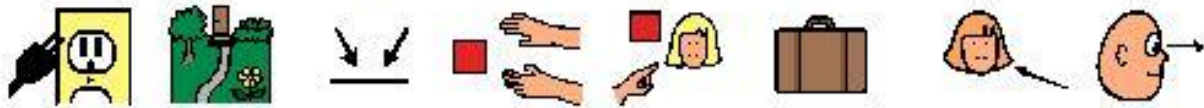


TEN  
**10**

Sophie decides to take a risk and go out of the safe,



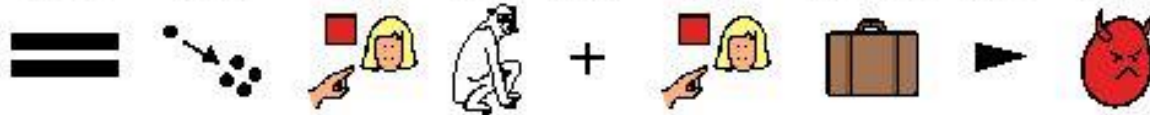
electric yard to get her suitcase. She sees



another baby bonobo and takes her into the large



area with her, Otto, and her suitcase. The bad



soldiers hear them but cannot get past the electric



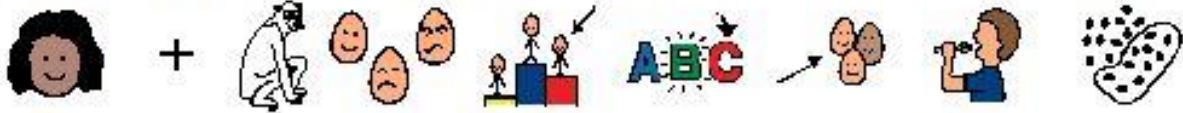
fence.





# 11

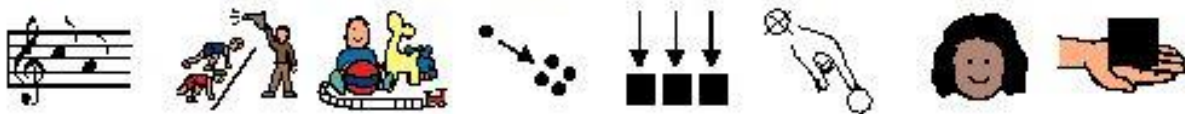
Sophie and Otto feel better after they eat some



food from the suitcase. Otto and the other baby bonobo,



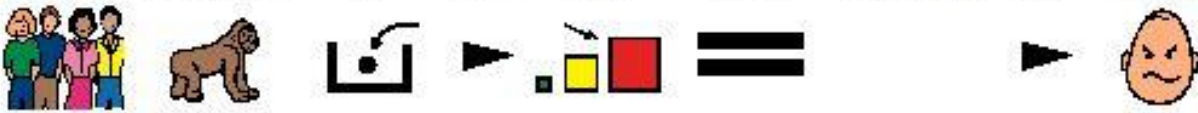
Songololo, start playing with each other. Sophie has



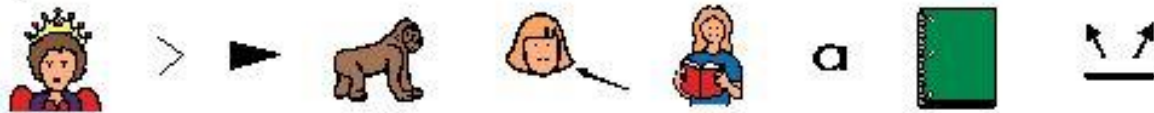
to find a way to get along with the other



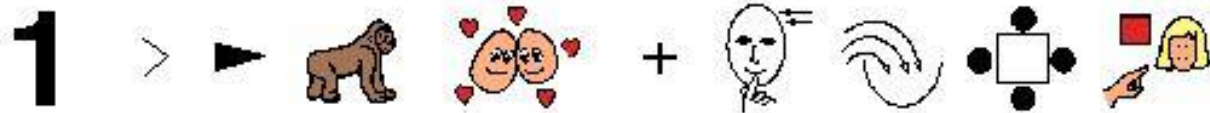
adult bonobos in the large area, especially the angry



queen of the bonobos. She reads a notebook from



one of the bonobo caregivers and learns more about her



bonobo "neighbors".



# 12

When it starts to rain, Sophie watches the bonobos.



They make swings from leaves between branches of the



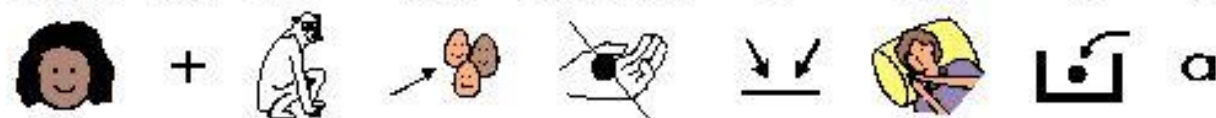
trees. Sophie tries to make one, but can't. A



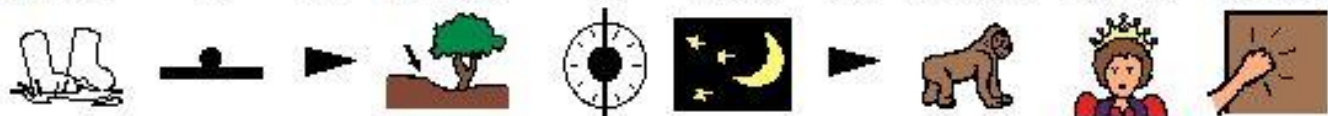
friendly bonobo comes over and makes a leaf swing for



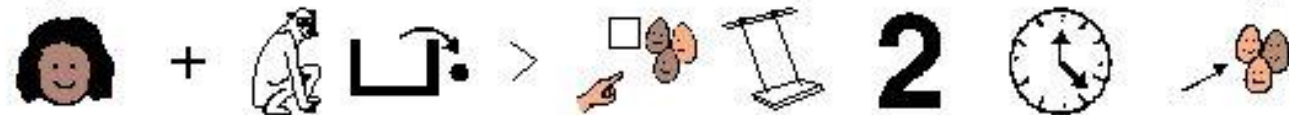
Sophie and Otto. They don't have to sleep in a



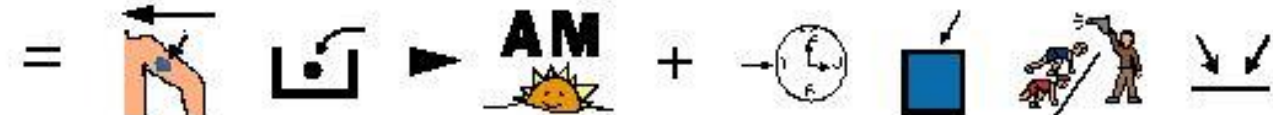
puddle on the ground. At night, the bonobo queen knocks



Sophie and Otto out of their swing two times. They



are bruised in the morning and then it starts to



rain



again.



Some



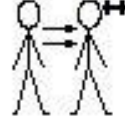
of the



bonobos



become



friendlier



with



Sophie



and



Otto,



but



not



the

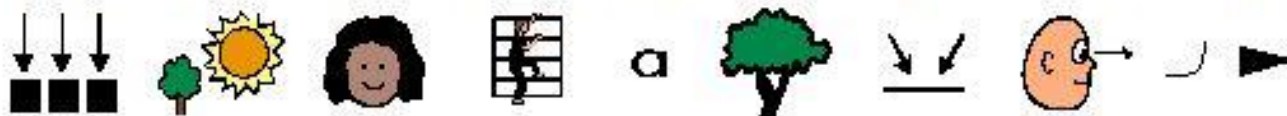


queen.

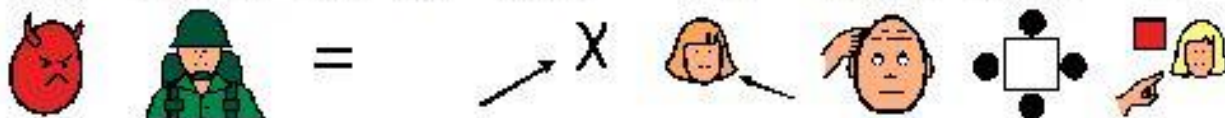


# 13

Each day Sophie climbs a tree to see if the



bad soldiers are still there. She thinks about her



parents and how she might get rescued some day.



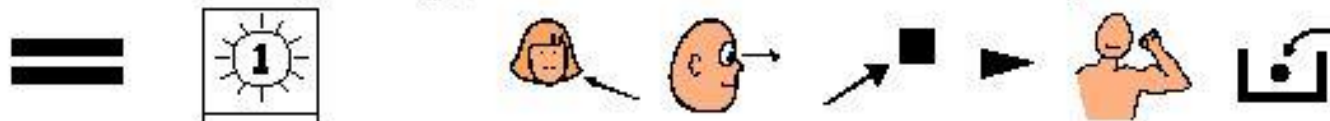
Sophie gets to know the different bonobos and starts



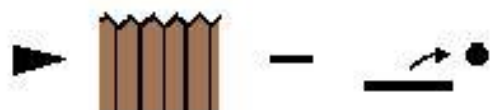
to feel more safe and comfortable in the electric



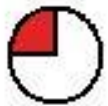
area. One day, though, she sees that the power in



the fence is off!



PART FOUR: WHAT REMAINED OUTSIDE



4



FOURTEEN

14

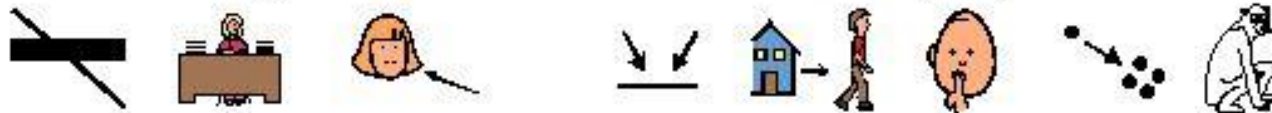
Sophie decides she and Otto need to escape at



sunrise before the bad soldiers know the electric fence



is not working. She tries to leave quietly with Otto



but other bonobos follow her and wake up the bad



soldiers. The bad soldiers shoot one of the bonobos,



but Sophie, Otto and the others run away. They find some



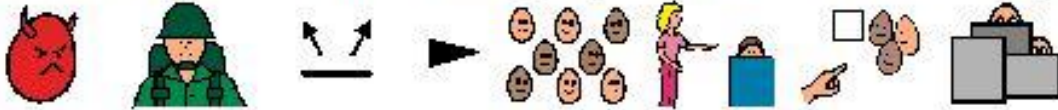
food in the jungle and sleep.



# 15

One bad soldier from the group finds their hiding

# 1



place and tries to shoot the bonobos to eat



them. A brave old bonobo saves the group by



scaring the soldier away. Sophie keeps going toward the



big city to find help. The bonobo group follows



her.









## 16

Sophie and the bonobos reach the edge of the jungle. They



come to a manioc farm, but no farmers are



there. She puts some manioc in her bag for



later. She can eat the leaves raw and cook the



roots. Sophie decides that the farm and empty village are



a good place to leave the bonobos ( except for



Otto). She uses the sleeping pills from her suitcase



to make the bonobos sleep. She and Otto can





get away and travel towards the big city. Sophie



meets a kind man with a group of hungry and



sick boys. The man is their teacher and they



live at his school. Otto makes the boys laugh.



They stay and rest for four days. The teacher



gives Sophie a small motor bike when she leaves.



# 17

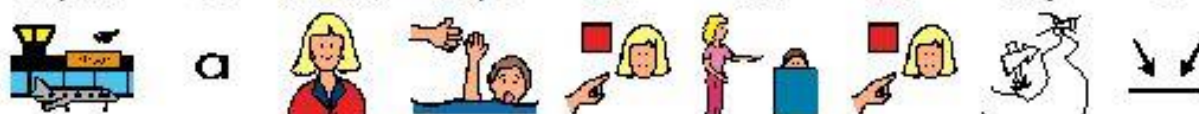
Sophie rides the bike towards the river. She gets



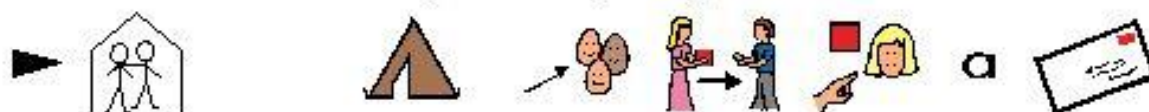
stopped by many people trying to get to the



airport. A woman helps her find her way to



the United Nations camp. They give her a letter



from her mother. The good camp soldier tries to



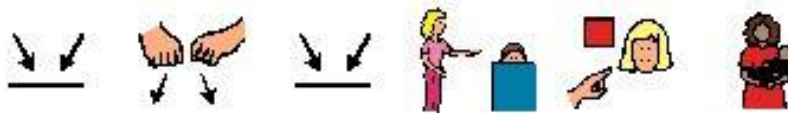
help Sophie. He tells her she must give



up Otto. Sophie and Otto leave the United Nations camp



to try to find her mother.





# 18

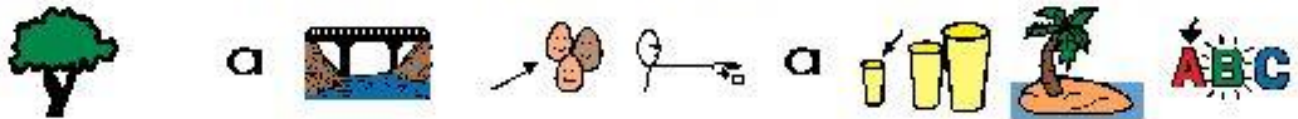
Sophie and Otto head toward the river. She has



to cross some low water first, but Otto uses the



trees as a bridge. They reach a small island before



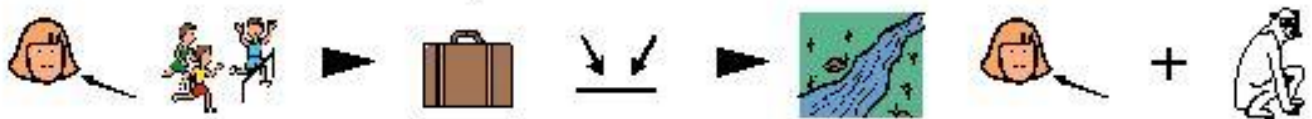
night and fall asleep. In the morning, Sophie has



an itchy rash and bugs on her. At daylight



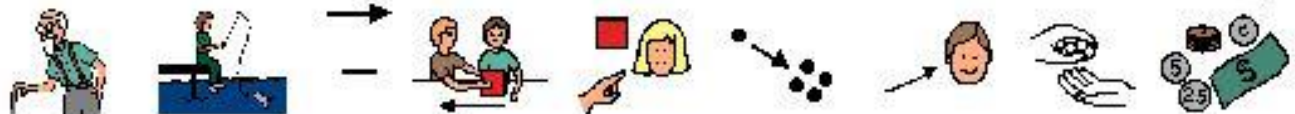
she finishes the trip to the river. She and Otto



wait for the right fisherman going up stream. An



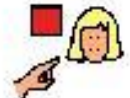
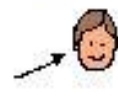
old fisherman will take her with him for money.



Sophie does not have money but she gives him her



but



necklace.

They

start

padding

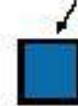
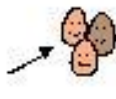
up

the

river.

It

is



hard

work.







# 19

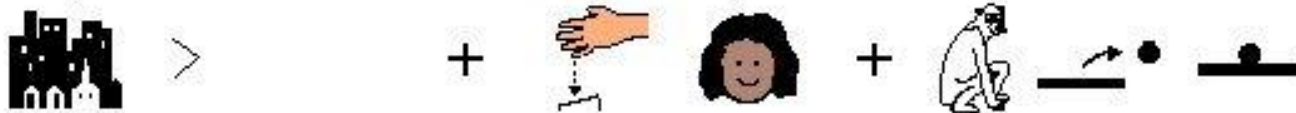
The old fisherman trades soap for food as he paddles



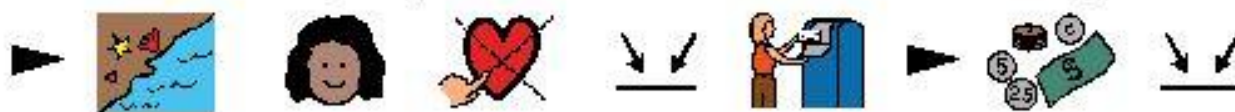
up the river. He stops the canoe near the



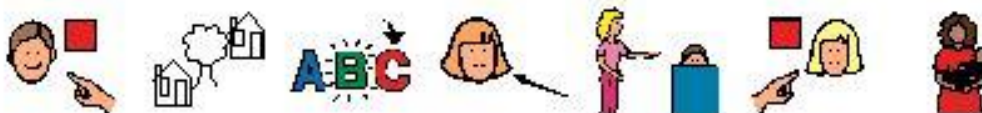
city of Mbandaka and drops Sophie and Otto off on



the shore. Sophie promises to send the money to



his village after she finds her mother.



TWENTY

20

PART



FIVE:

5

EVERYTHING



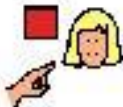
IS



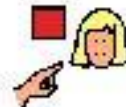
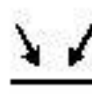
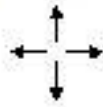
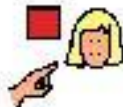
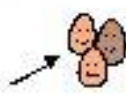
RAINING



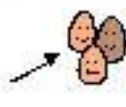
Sophie shares her water with some friendly girls.



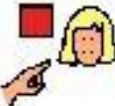
They give her directions to her mother's town.



They follow a trail through the jungle. Sophie is



very tired and misses her mother. At night, hundreds



100

of caterpillars fall from the trees. Otto eats them



up and Sophie even eats some!

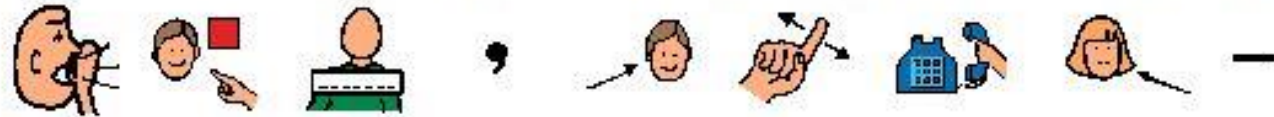


# 21

When Sophie wakes up, Otto is not with her. She



calls his name, but he does not answer. She is



afraid that he is hurt. She looks for him



in the jungle and finds him tied between two



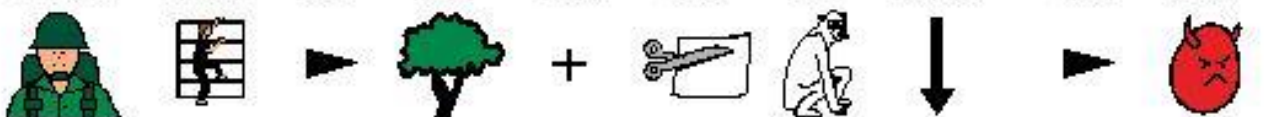
trees. He is caught in a trap. Two bad



soldiers come to the trap. Sophie hides. The girl



soldier climbs the tree and cuts Otto down. The bad



soldiers take Otto to the city. Sophie quietly follows.



# 22

In the leader's house, Sophie sees that Otto is not



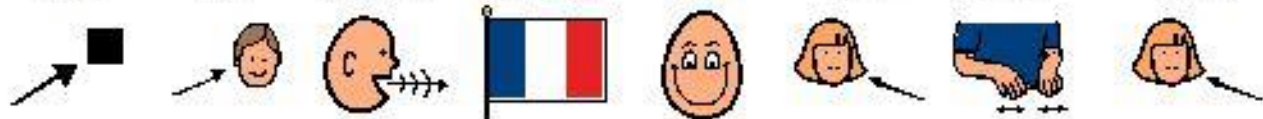
hurt. The leader speaks in a different language and is



drunk. He looks young and scary. Sophie discovers



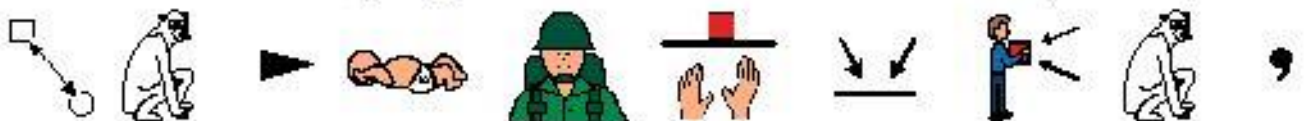
that he speaks French, like she does. She



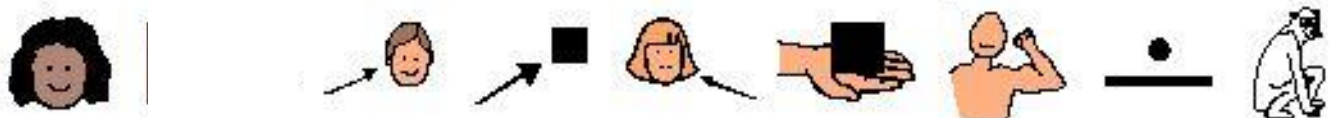
gets him talking so he won't think of hurting her



or Otto. The young soldier wants to keep Otto, but



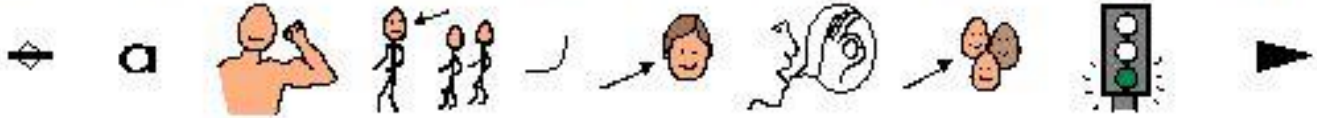
Sophie shows him that she has power over Otto.



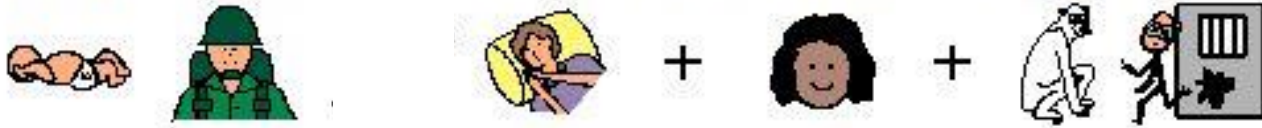
She tells him that Otto's power can help him



be a stronger leader if he lets them go. The



young soldier falls asleep and Sophie and Otto escape.





23



6



It is hard for Sophie to travel through the



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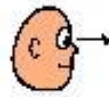
city in the dark. She follows a path toward



a



her mother's town, passing many sad sights. Otto is



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sick and both he and Sophie really need water



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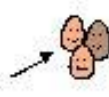


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and food. Finally they come to a village and a

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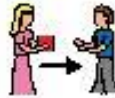
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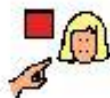
friendly mother gives them water and food. Sophie asks



+



if anyone knows her mother. They take her to

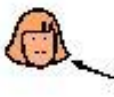


a house, and there she is!! Sophie and her mother

a



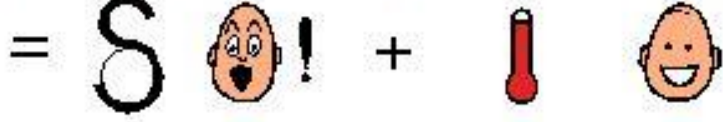
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are so surprised and very happy.





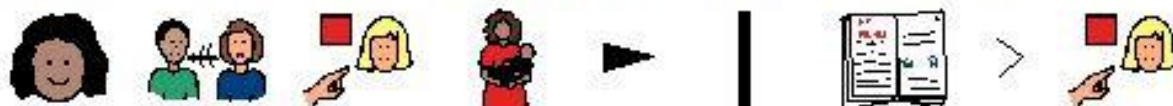


# 24

Sophie and her mother hug for a long time.



Sophie tells her mother the long story of her



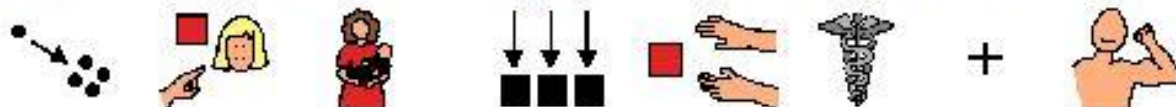
trip to find her. It is still very dangerous



to travel, so Sophie and Otto stay in the town



with her mother. Everyone gets healthy and stronger.



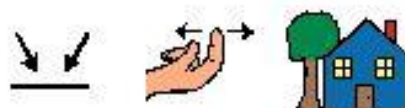
After a month, the phone works and Sophie's father calls.



He has flown to the Congo and wants them



to come home.



# 25

They are picked up at the airport by Sophie's father and



they drive to the animal shelter. Two of the workers



are still alive as well as one bonobo They started building

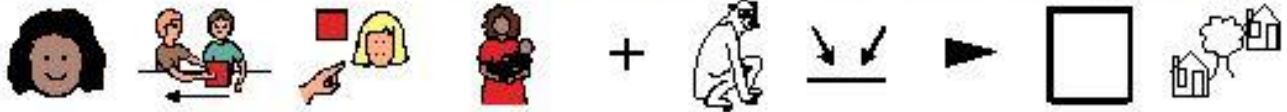


their home and the animal shelter again.



# 26

Sophie takes her mother and Otto to the empty village



and manioc farm where she had left the other



bonobos. One adult, one child and one baby



bonobo come out of the jungle. They are alive and



healthy. Sophie and her mother take them back to



the animal shelter. Sophie stays in the Congo to help













her mother get the animal shelter going again. She



gets a call from the country's leader who has





found eighteen bonobos needing a home. They take them  
 **18**   a  They  take  them   
to the animal shelter.  
  

Sophie stays in the Congo for high school and then



goes to college in the United States. She meets and



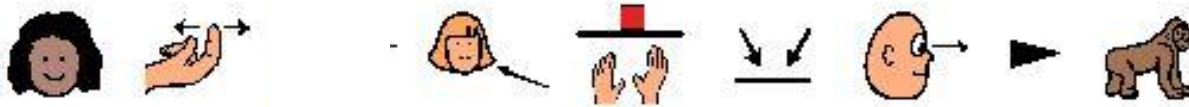
gets engaged to an African man at college. After



graduation, they come to live in the Congo. When



Sophie comes back, she wants to see the bonobos



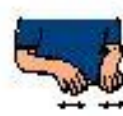
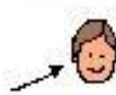
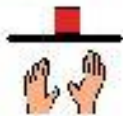
that are ready to go to the safe jungle area.



Otto has been there for several years and Sophie



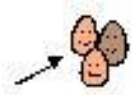
wants to find him. When she does, he



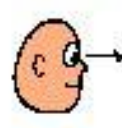
has a family. They are so happy to see



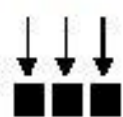
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each other. Sophie saved Otto's life and Otto saved Sophie's.



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