Spadefoot Toad Chapter 12 Summary

After School on Monday, Ben **tries** **to do** his homework.

He **has to write** about the desert.

But, he **thinks** of the desert, and then he **thinks** of lizards. Then he **thinks** about Lenny his pet lizard.

Then **thinks about** Toby, and that **makes** him  **feel** sad.

Ben **looks up** spadefoot toads on the computer. He **finds** pictures of spadefoot toads in the desert. And, he **finds** pictures of spadefoot toads in Massachusetts. The toads **are** in vernal springs.

He **finds** a website that **says**, “**Send** us a message.”

 Ben **types** “I need help. There**’s** a vernal pool with spadefoot toads near my house. The land **is being** **sold** and there **is** no place for the toads to **go.**  How **do** I **save** them?

Ben’s mother **tells** him **to finish** his homework.

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At school Ben **shows** the picture of the spadefoot toad to Ryan and Jenny. He **tells** them about the toads and frogs at Mrs. Tibbets house. He **tells** them about the Overtoad. They **think** it’**s** funny.

Ben **crosses** his eyes and Ryan **thinks** Ben is **teasing** Ryan. Ryan **has** a crossed eye. Ben **says** sorry but Ryan **is** sad.

At lunch, Frankie **teases** Ryan and Ben **tells** him **to stop**. Then Frankie **starts talking about** Mrs. Tibbets. He **says**, “Ribbets Tibbets.”  He **sounds like** a frog. He **says** she is dumb.

Ben **gets** angry. He **tells** Frankie **to** **stop**. He **tells** Frankie Mrs. Tibbets **is** smart and she **is** cool. He **tells** Frankie that she **has** snakes. **Ben** **thinks** maybe he **shouldn’t** **tell** people about the snakes.

 Ryan and Jenny **tell** the class that Ben **is telling** the truth. Then all the students **think** Ben **is telling** the truth. Frankie **stops talking about** Mrs. Tibbets.

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 At home, Ben **goes** outside. Agatha **wants to come**, but their mom **says** no.

 It **is** a beautiful day. The sky **is** blue. The sun **is** out. He **walks** on the trail to Mrs. Tibbets’s house.

He **smiles.** Somebody **answered** his message! They **wrote,** “A member of our staff **will** **give** it careful attention and will **get** **back** to you as soon as possible.”

Ben **sees** men in the woods. They **tell** Ben they **are surveying, looking** at the land because people **are going to build** houses there. They **tell** Ben that the land **is** valuable.

Then Ben **goes to** the vernal pool. He **sees** the water is very low, but he also **sees** many tadpoles!

He **runs** **to** Mrs. Tibbets’s house. He **tells** her about the tadpoles and the men surveying the land.

Ben **wants to save** the land, but Mrs. Tibbets **doesn’t want to.**  She **gives-up**.

Ben **tells**  her he sent a message, but Mrs. Tibbets **doesn’t** **think** the people **will** **help**. Also, she **doesn’t want to** make Tabitha angry. She **says, ”**It’**s** **going to be** all right.”

Ben **leaves**. He **says**, “How **can** it **be** so beautiful on such a rotten day?”