

Spadefoot Toad Chapter 17 Summary

Hopes 希望/ Xīwàng, wearing 丰衣足食/ Fēngyīzúshí, protect 保护/ Bǎohù, to save 救/ Jiù, to fight 打/ Dǎ, remembers 记得/ Jìdé, collect 收集/ Shōují

Ben's box **comes from** Arizona. The things in the box **were** important to him.

But now, he **is not** very interested in them.

Ben **rides** his bike to Mrs. Tibbets's house. He **sees** Mrs. Tibbets, and Mrs. Tibbets's sister-in-law, named Tabitha. There **is** also a tall woman and a man **wearing** muddy boots.

The woman **is** a realtor. Her job **is to** sell land. She **has come to sell** the land and **build** houses.

The man **is** Hank. His job **is to protect** endangered animals. He **has come to save** the land and the frogs. He **wants to stop** the realtor from **building**.

Everyone **is** very nervous or upset.

They all **walk to** the vernal pool. But, the water and the toads **are** all gone.

Hank **says**, "If you **want to save** the frogs, we **need** proof the frogs **were** here. But right now, I **can't stop** the land sale. We **can't save** the frogs."

The realtor and Mrs. Tibbets's sister **are** glad there **are** no frogs. But, Mrs. Tibbets, Hank, and Ben **are** upset. Ben **is** more upset than Mrs. Tibbets. Mrs. Tibbets **doesn't want to fight**.

Mrs. Tibbets's sister, Hank, and the realtor **go**.

Inside Mrs. Tibbets's house, Ben **remembers** a picture of Tabitha and Mr. Tibbets.

The picture **is** very old and it **shows** Tabitha and Mr. Tibbets when they **were** very young. In the picture they **are holding** a big toad.

The back of the picture **says** "Overtoad."

Ben **gets** an idea and **takes** the picture.

Two days later, Ben, Jennie, and Ryan **go** the vernal pool. They **find** and **collect** fingernail clams, caddisfly cases, and a wood frog.

Then, Ben **takes** a picture of Ryan and Jennie **sitting** and **holding** the wood frog.

Ben **writes** his report. It **takes** him five days **to write** his report. Ben **thinks** the report **is** very good. He **thinks** the report is great!

Later it **is raining**. Ben **rides** his bike **to** Tabitha's house.

He **shows** her his report about the ecosystem. He **tells** her many facts about the vernal pool.

He **shows** her two pictures.

The first picture **is of** Tabitha and Mr. Tibbets when they **were** very young.

At the end **is** another picture. It **is** the picture of Jennie and Ryan **holding** the wood frog.

Ben **says to** Tabitha, "I **know** you **will sell** the land. But please **don't build** houses on it."

Tabitha **says**, "Thank you for **showing** me your report. **Can I have** the two pictures when you're finished?"

Ben **says**, "okay." Ben **hopes** she **will change** her *mind*.

The next day, Ben **brings** his report and the terrarium to class. His teacher, Mrs. Kutcher, **says**,

"Great work, Ben! Great, great work!"

Ben **grins**. It *is* great work and he **knows** it.