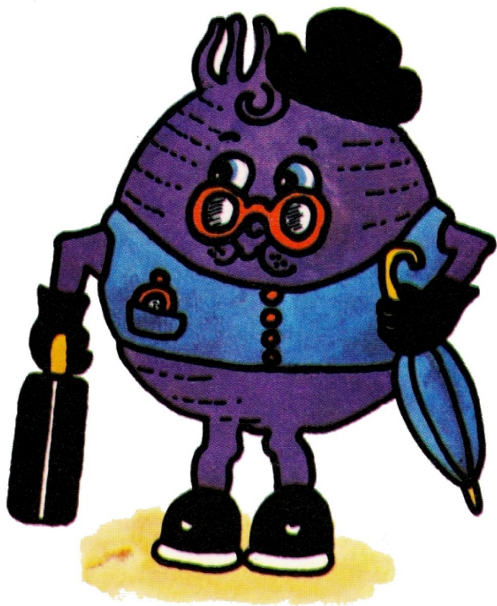


# BARNABUS BEETROOT



A **MUNCH  
BUNCH** Book

The Munch Bunch are a group of fruits, vegetables and nuts.

One day they ran away from the grocer's shop where they lived.

They made their new homes in and around an old, forgotten garden shed.

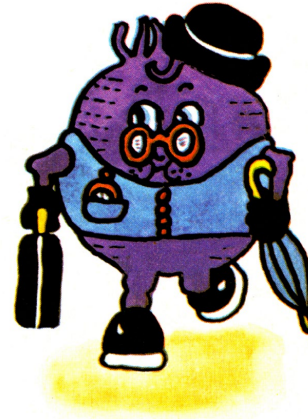
This is a story about Barnabus Beetroot, one of the Munch Bunch.

Illustrations by Angela Mitson

Written by Giles Reed

1980 Studio Publications (Ipswich) Limited

# BARNABUS BEETROOT

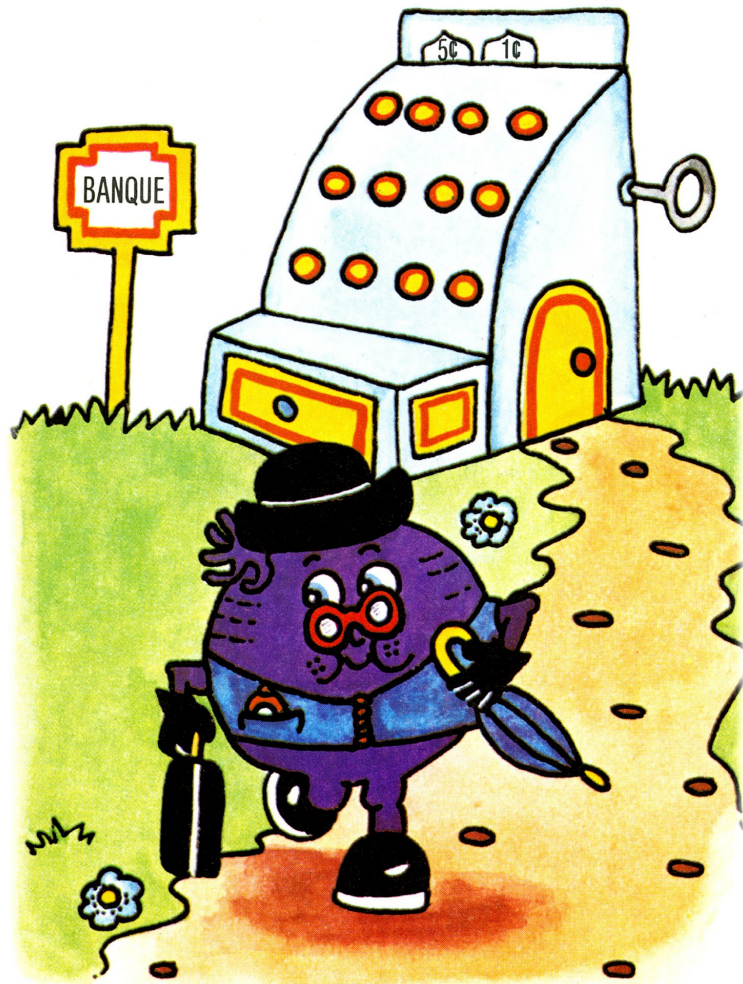


The **MUNCH  
BUNCH** Books

Barnabus Beetroot is one of the Munch Bunch.

He is very good at sums, and he lives in a till.

He is the manager of the Munch Bunch Bank.



Barnabus had just opened the bank when Spud walked in carrying a large silver cup under his arm.

« I would like you to put this valuable cup into the vault for safety please, Barnabus. It is a very special prize that is going to be presented this afternoon. »



Barnabus took the cup downstairs  
and walked into the vault.

There were spiders and cobwebs  
everywhere.

« This is very creepy, » he said out  
loud. « I haven't been down here for  
ages. »



The cup was safely locked away.

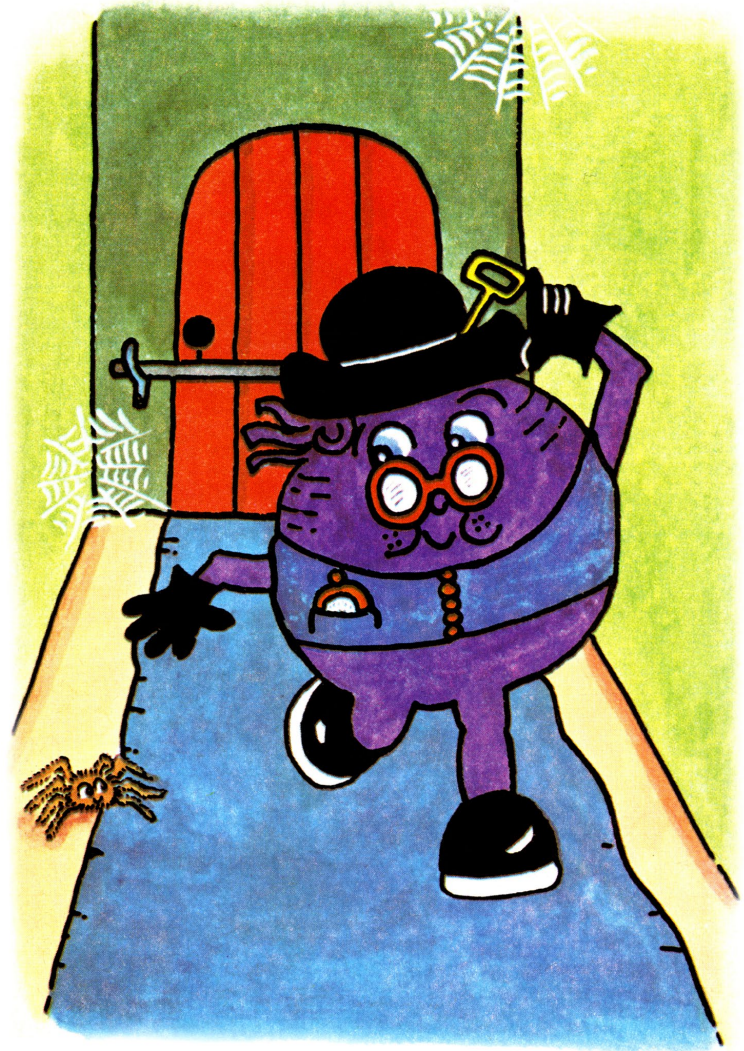
He pulled the door shut and turned  
the key.

He had just locked it when he heard  
the bell ringing upstairs.



« Ah, more customers, » he said to himself. « I had better not keep them waiting. »

In his hurry to get upstairs, Barnabus slipped the key into the brim of his hat. He thought it would be safe there.

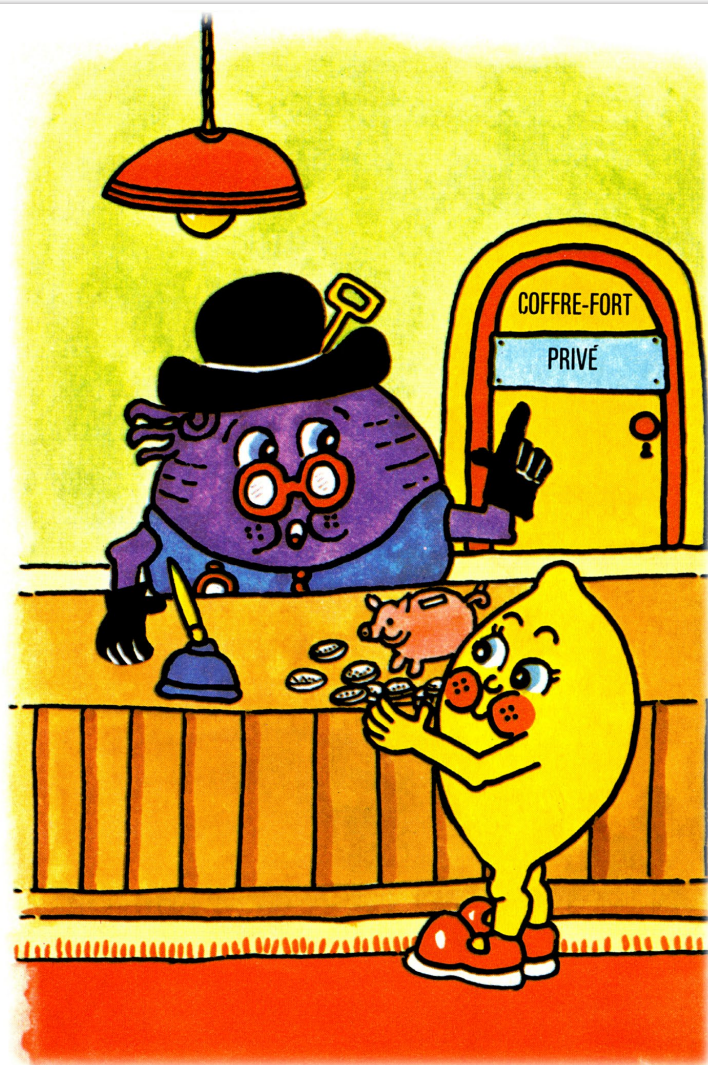


« Good morning, Lucy. »

« Hello, Barnabus, » replied Lucy.

« I've come to pay for all the change I  
have saved in my piggy bank. »

Barnabus took the money and thanked  
her for calling.



Suddenly, Barnabus had a terrible thought. « Wherever did I put that key? It must be around here somewhere. »

Poor Barnabus.

He had forgotten that he had put the key in his hat.



CRASH! BANG! CRASH!

« Whatever is going on? »

shrieked Lizzie Leek.

She could hardly believe her eyes.

Barnabus Beetroot, the Munch Bunch  
Bank Manager, was in the dustbin.

And he was hurling the tins and  
rubbish out

« It must be here, it must be here, »  
he muttered again and again.

But it wasn't.



Poor Barnabus! He just could not remember where he had put the key.

He crawled on his hands and knees, and looked under every stone in his pathway.

« Look at Barnabus, » whispered Tiny.  
« He must be searching for some more money. »



Barnabus was getting desperate.  
Soon, Spud would be back.

Barnabus looked everywhere for the  
key – even in the bushes.

« Good morning, » said Supercool and  
Suzie Celery. They were surprised to  
see Barnabus in the bush.

Barnabus just raised his hat to them.  
He did not realize how close he had  
come to finding the key!



« It is not good. I will have to go back and tell Spud that I've lost the key, » decided Barnabus.

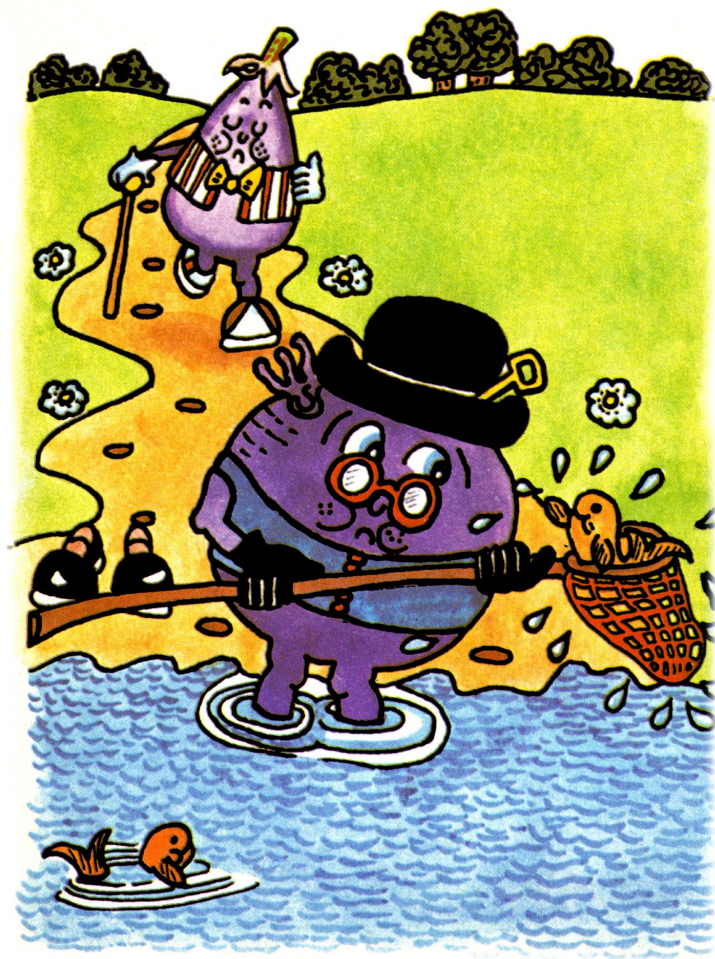
But he still kept searching and searching. « Perhaps Billy and Scruff have been up to their tricks again and hidden it in the jeep, » he thought.

But, for once they hadn't.



In one final attempt, Barnabus decided to look in Aubrey's moat.

« You won't find anything there, »  
said Aubrey, « unless you are looking  
for fish! »



Barnabus was exhausted when Spud arrived.

He was so upset because he knew the prize-giving would be ruined without a prize.

Spud looked at Barnabus' hat.  
« Why have you got the key stuck in your hat? I didn't expect you to guard it that closely! »

Barnabus was lost for words.

So that was where he had put it.



Barnabus was still getting over the shock when he watched the prize being presented to Professor Peabody.



« Thank you for looking after the cup so well, » said Spud. « I knew that I could rely on you. »



« If only he knew..., » thought Barnabus.

# The **MUNCH BUNCH** Books

ADAM AVOCADO	PEANUT
AUBREY AUBERGINE	PEDRO ORANGE
BARNABUS BEETROOT	PENNY PARSNIP
BILLY BLACKBERRY	PERCY PRUNE
BOUNCE	PETE PEPPER
BUTTON and TINY	PIPPA PEAR
CASPER CARROT	PROFESSOR PEABODY
CHUNKY PINEAPPLE	RORY RHUBARB
CORKY COCONUT	ROZZY RASPBERRY
CORNY-ON-THE-COB	RUNNER BEAN
DICK TURNIP	SALLY STRAWBERRY
EMMA APPLE	SCRUFF GOOSEBERRY
LIZZIE LEEK	SPUD
LUCY LEMON	SUPERCOOL
MERV MARROW	SUZIE CELERY
NURSE PLUM	THE BANANA BUNCH
OLIVE	TOM TOMATO
OLLY ONION	WALLY WALNUT



**SPUD**



**TOM TOMATO**



**OLLY ONION**



**CORNY-ON-THE-COB**



**PETE PEPPER**



**LIZZIE LEEK**



**PROFESSOR PEABODY**



**BUTTON and TINY**



**THE BANANA BUNCH**



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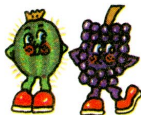
**BOUNCE OLIVE**



**SUPERCOOL**



**SUZIE CELERY**



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