



**Santa Needs  
You!**

The reindeer weren't very happy when Rudolph told them that he had decided to take a break this year. Him and Santa were going to hold auditions to choose another animal to fly with the team in his space.

Blitzen was downright grumpy, "another kind of animal! But only reindeer have ever flown with Santa! It'll be a **disaster!**"



Rudolph's cheer wasn't put off though, "come on guys, it'll be great. Let's see what they can do!"



First up was Penguin, who started throwing all manner of Christmas things up into the air. After juggling them around for a moment, she started landing them, one at a time, on a nearby tree. Last of all, quick as a flash, she spun out strings of lights and tinsle. She'd decorated a whole Christmas tree in thirty seconds flat!





And the show went on, animal after animal. Next, Crab came out and did a Christmas rap!

*"It's Christmas Eve and woe is me  
I gotta get some gifts under my tree  
I gotta make a list and check it twice  
Gotta find presents that are really nice!"*

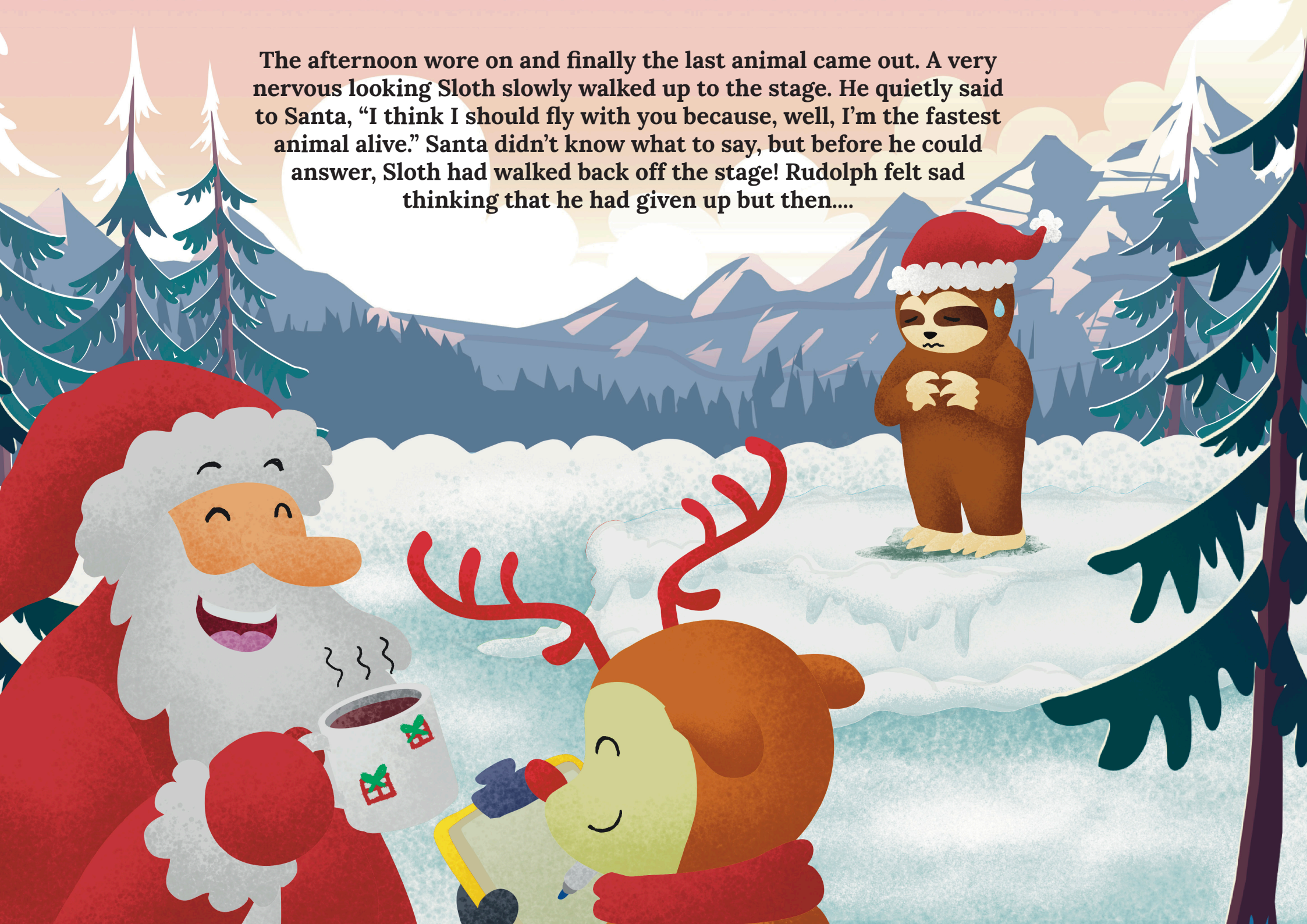


Bear **tried** to make everyone laugh with a Christmas joke, "here's one, what do ducks open at Christmas dinner? Christmas Quackers!"

Everything was quiet until suddenly Santa burst into a belly-jiggling laugh. "That's terrible! What a perfect cracker joke!"



The afternoon wore on and finally the last animal came out. A very nervous looking Sloth slowly walked up to the stage. He quietly said to Santa, "I think I should fly with you because, well, I'm the fastest animal alive." Santa didn't know what to say, but before he could answer, Sloth had walked back off the stage! Rudolph felt sad thinking that he had given up but then....





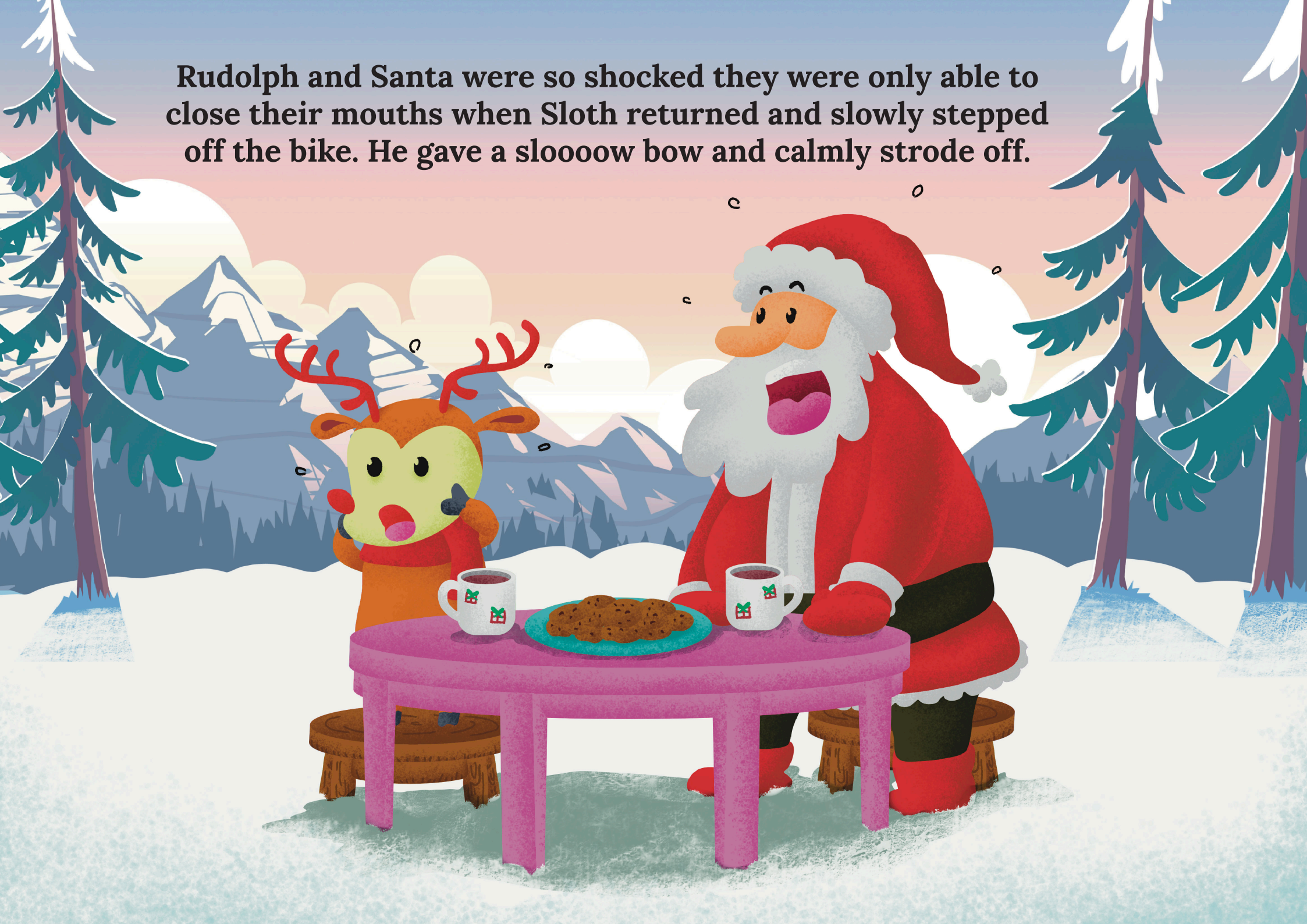
Vooooooooooooommmmmm

...Santa and Rudolph, jumped out of their chairs when they heard the sudden noise. A shiny red motorcycle zoomed past in a blur. Sloth was sitting on it, dressed in a biker's Santa suit. Riding up to a platform, he jumped high up into the sky. Finally he landed on the other side in a cloud of glitter.





Rudolph and Santa were so shocked they were only able to close their mouths when Sloth returned and slowly stepped off the bike. He gave a sloooow bow and calmly strode off.





After that they just had to declare the shy, but amazing, Sloth as the winner. All the other animals cheered for the speedy Sloth!





But he wasn't happy for long. Now that he actually had to do the flying, he was terribly nervous. He said to Rudolph, "without my motorbike I'm the **slowest** Christmas animal. Maybe I should just give up."





Seeing Sloth so upset the other animals came over to encourage and cheer him up. Penguin tried to show him how to fly, “look, it’s easy as flap, flap, flap,” and then he fell flat onto his face. “Oh yeah, I forgot penguins can’t fly!” he said laughing at himself. This caused Sloth to burst into laughter as well and cheered him right up.







The reindeer watched the animals helping Sloth and decided something. Maybe it wasn't so bad if different animals could also be part of the sleigh team, so they said...



...since they made such a great team, they should  
fly all together! (And give all of the reindeer a  
holiday!)





So if you hear a jingle of bells on Christmas Eve, it might not be a reindeer that lands on your roof, it might be a crab!

# Ho Ho Ho... Merry Christmas!

