

Tues, Jan. 23, 1975

Chapter 1.

"That will be all for today, children," said Mr. Beetle, just as the bell rang for dismissal. "Don't forget to study your spelling words," he added, glancing at Fred Firefly, who was the worst speller in the class.

Mr. Beetle was a teacher of 3rd grade at Springfield Station Elementary School. He was kind and lenient, and much liked by people in the school.

Mr. Beetle did believe in widening student knowledge, ^{however,} and wasn't the kind of person who would sign a petition to ban homework.

Mr. Beetle lived, with many other mice and insects, in a big subway station, in New York City. It was the ideal spot for a beetle to live, and Mr. Beetle seemed to agree.

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Chapter 2.

Mr. Beetle entered his house and collapsed on his couch. He sat there a few minutes and finally went over to see how his garden was doing. It consisted of a few blades of grass, placed in a bottle cap full of soil. Seeing his garden was drooping, he walked over and filled a thimble full of water, with which he sprinkled lightly on his garden. ^{inside} Inside his house he had a fireplace made out of a pipe, a couch made out of a cigarette ^{package}, and a

