

Early★Reader

The Day of the Trolleys

The supermarkets have new Smart Trolleys to help people shop, but they're very rude! When Olly changes the settings, the trolleys go out of control! Can they be stopped?

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Heather Pindar

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By Heather Pindar
Illustrated by
Esther Hernando

'The Day of the Trolleys'

An original concept by Heather Pindar

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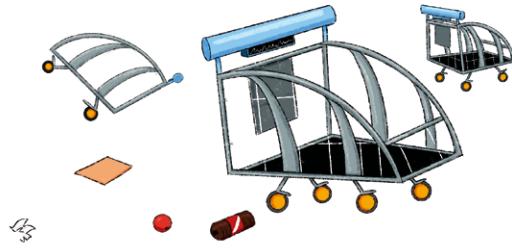
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Chapter 1

“Something’s wrong,” said Lissa as she walked into the car park of Megabuys Supermarket.

“Like what?” said her brother Glen.

“It’s the shoppers. They all look really... angry.”

Their sheepdog, Zip, pulled at his lead and gave an excited ‘woof!’

“Look! There’s Auntie Jean and Olly,” said Glen.

Auntie Jean was the manager of the supermarket. She was talking to a group of shoppers. Their cousin, Olly, saw Lissa and Glen. He waved and ran over to them.

“Hiya! I’m helping out Mum as it’s the school holidays. And guess what! We’ve got new trolleys,” he said. “They’re **Smart Trolleys** with a computer inside them. Come on! You’ve got to see this.”



Glen and Lissa tied Zip near the shop entrance and followed Olly inside.

“They’re Healthy Living Smart Trolleys,” said Olly. “Just say ‘smart shop’ and the trolley will roll along next to you.”

“That’s so clever! No need to push then?” said Lissa. She put a packet of her favourite biscuits in the trolley. The trolley beeped and the handle flashed red.



In its stiff robot voice, the trolley said, “STOP! Health warning: biscuits are not healthy. Have an apple instead.”

Glen giggled and put a chocolate bar in the trolley. It beeped and flashed red again.



“You’re not listening. Put that chocolate back on the shelf. Now we will go to the fruit and vegetables.” The Smart Trolley moved quickly down the aisle. “You’re too slow! Keep up. Perhaps you are not very fit.”

“Wow! That’s rude,” said Glen.

The trolley stopped next to a large box of apples. Lissa put one in the trolley. “Finally!” said the trolley. The handle flashed green.

“Ugh,” said Glen. “I like apples, but being told to like apples is so annoying. No wonder the shoppers are angry.”

“Mum doesn’t like the trolleys either,” said Olly.
“But the big boss at head office does. I know how to change the trolleys’ settings though. It’s in a little blue box which is fixed to a special ‘leader’ trolley. Just you wait and see, tonight I’m going to make these bossy Smart Trolleys a lot more **FUN**.”

