

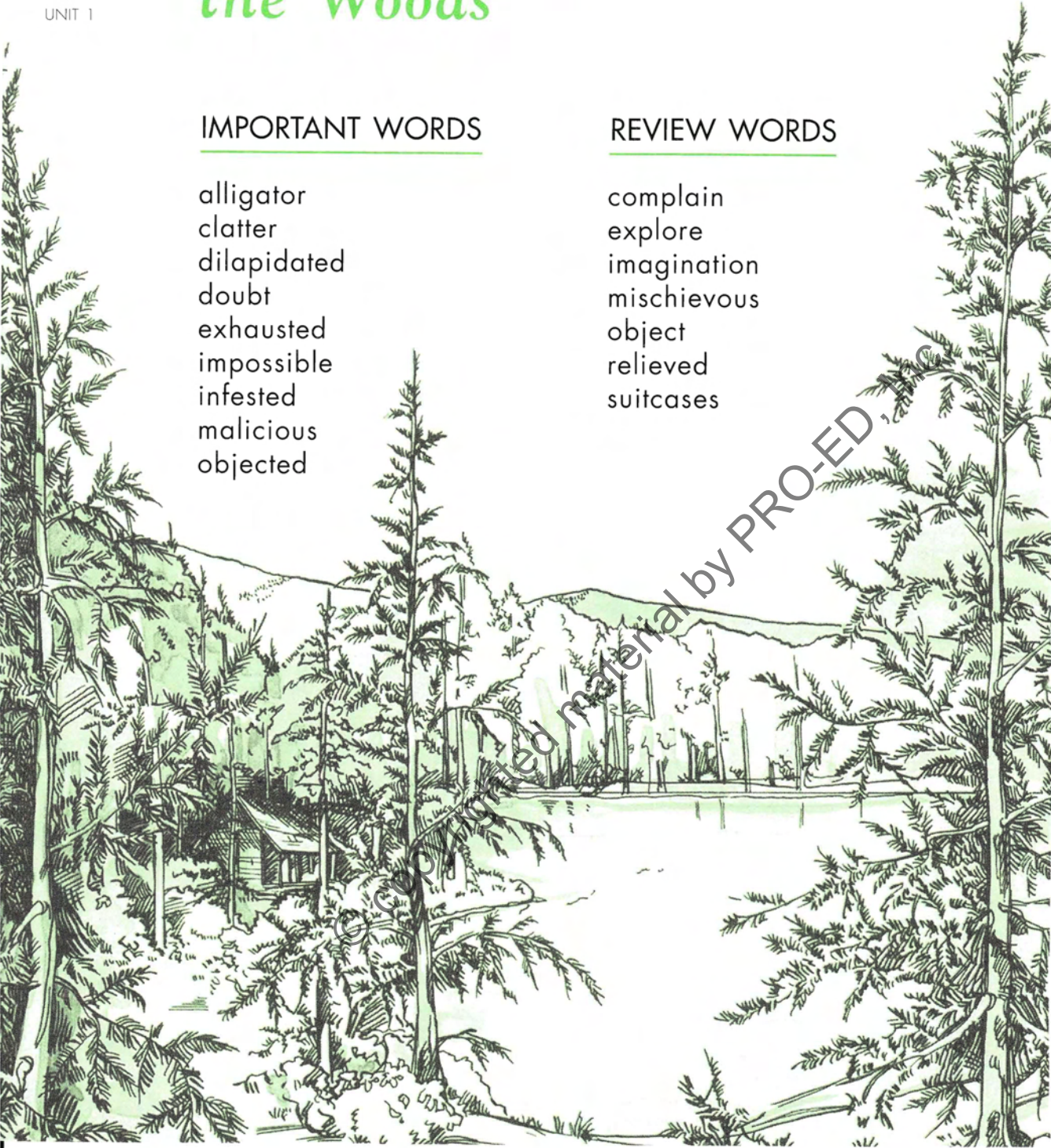
# The Witch in the Woods

## IMPORTANT WORDS

alligator  
clatter  
dilapidated  
doubt  
exhausted  
impossible  
infested  
malicious  
objected

## REVIEW WORDS

complain  
explore  
imagination  
mischievous  
object  
relieved  
suitcases

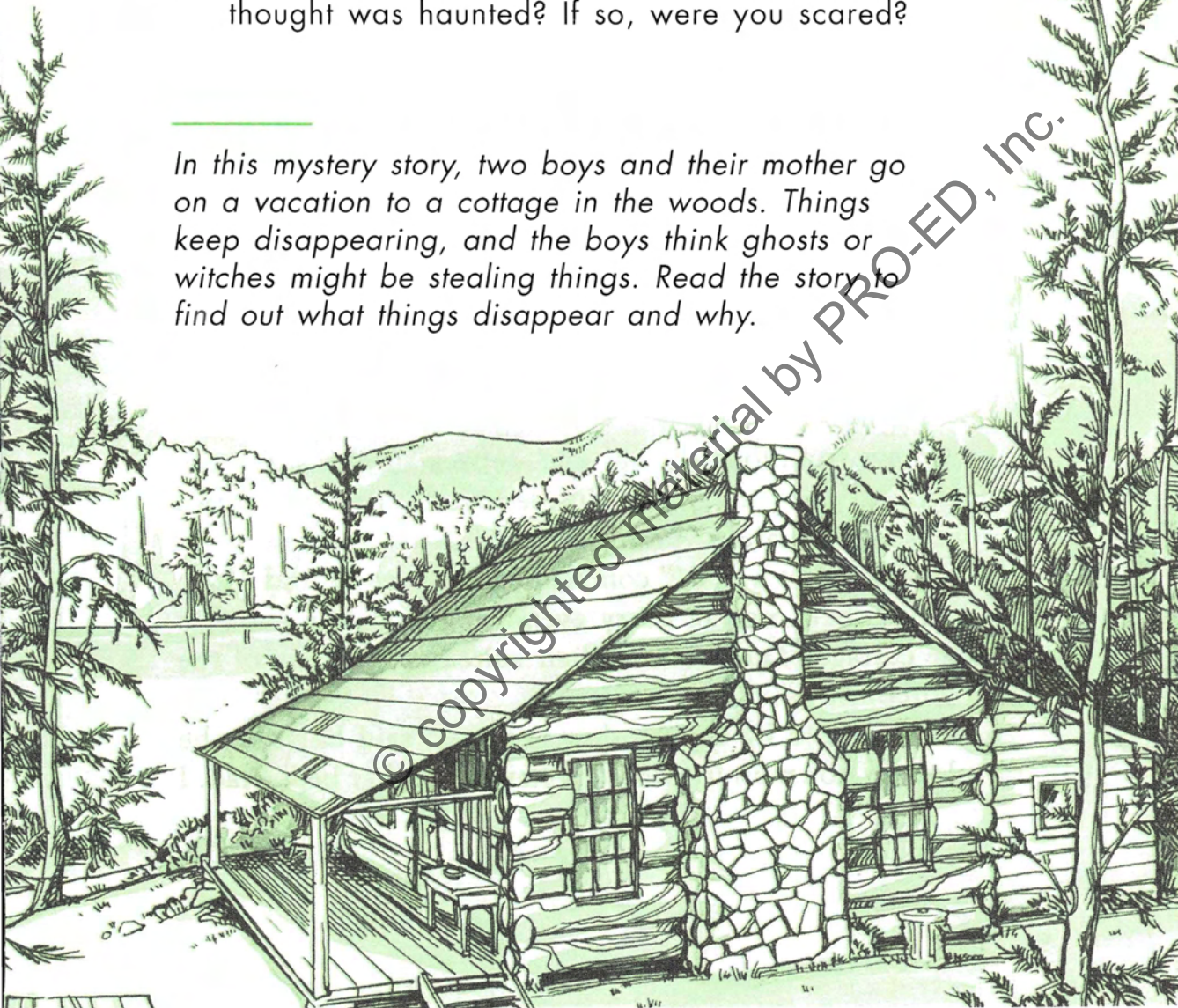




## PREVIEW

1. Have you ever gone on a vacation? If so, where did you go?
2. Do you think there are such things as ghosts?
3. Do you think there are such things as witches?
4. Have you ever seen an old house that you thought was haunted? If so, were you scared?

*In this mystery story, two boys and their mother go on a vacation to a cottage in the woods. Things keep disappearing, and the boys think ghosts or witches might be stealing things. Read the story to find out what things disappear and why.*



The station wagon, loaded with suitcases and boxes, pulled into the gravel driveway by a small log cabin. Kevin and Brad jumped out of the car and stretched. It had been a long ride from the city to this cottage in the woods.

"Hey, look!" exclaimed Brad to Kevin, his older brother. "Look at the lake. Let's go!"

Both boys started to run down the path to the clear, blue lake.

"Boys!" yelled their mother. "Wait a minute—not so fast! You'll have plenty of time to explore later. Right now we have to unload the car and unpack suitcases. I'm not going to carry everything inside myself. You'll have two weeks to fish and swim in the lake."

"Oh, what a drag!" complained Brad, as he and Kevin helped their mother carry everything from the car into the cottage. They carried their suitcases into one of the bedrooms.

"This bed by the window is mine," said Kevin as he plopped down on it. "You can have the other bed, Brad. I want to look out the window at night and see the lake."