Page 1:
The friendly zookeeper visits the monkey house to give bananas to Lil’ Monkey and his parents. Lil’ Monkey says, “Can I have one, please?” And the zookeeper says, “Here you are, Lil’ Monkey.”

Page 2:
While the zookeeper is handing out bananas to Lil’ Monkey’s parents, Lil’ Monkey finishes his banana and turns the doorknob to see if the door is locked. The zookeeper must have forgotten to lock the door, so when the door opens up easily, Lil’ Monkey decides to go for a walk around the zoo.

Page 3:
Right outside the monkey house is a big outdoor birdcage where Lil’ Monkey sees a red bird flying over to see him. There’s a big smile on Lil’ Monkey’s face as he meets his neighbor.

Page 4:
Now Lil’ Monkey can see two birds flying inside the birdcage, flapping their wings. Lil’ Monkey flaps his arms to copy them. I think he wants to fly, too.

Page 5:
Lil’ Monkey has a big smile on his face as he flaps his arms and jumps up in the air. He is trying to fly like a bird. I wish I could tell him, “Hey, Lil’ Monkey! Monkeys can’t fly, so don’t jump off the bench!”

Page 6:
Oh, no! Lil’ Monkey jumped off the bench and landed with a crash. Now he’s feeling sore and dizzy. The red bird is worried that Lil’ Monkey might be hurt. So am I. If I were Lil’ Monkey, I would feel embarrassed to have done something so silly.

Page 7:
Feeling dizzy and sore from crashing, and feeling bad about doing something so silly, Lil’ Monkey continues his stroll around the zoo. He notices a seal bouncing a beach ball off his head in the seal pool.
Page 8:
Now Lil’ Monkey can see that two seals are bouncing the beach ball back and forth. He watches them with great interest. He is thinking, “Maybe I can play that game with the seals.”

Page 9:
Now Lil’ Monkey is waving his arms to the seals and yelling, “Hey, bounce the beach ball to me. I want to play with you.” And one of the seals is bouncing the beach ball right to him.

Page 10:
Uh-oh! Lil’ Monkey bounced the ball off his head, and the seal near him looks worried. I wonder where the ball is going to land.

Page 11:
The beach ball flew over the edge of the seal pool and smashed into an ice cream cone that a little girl was eating. Look! The beach ball splashed some ice cream on her face and on her father’s green shirt. I don’t think the little girl and her father will be very happy about that. Playing ball with the seals didn’t turn out well for the little girl and her father...or for Lil’ Monkey.

Page 12:
Everyone seems disappointed: the seals, the little girl, her father, and most of all, Lil’ Monkey—who walks away from the seal pond with his head down, avoiding everyone’s gaze. He was feeling so awful, he forgot to say, “I’m sorry.”

Page 13:
Lil’ Monkey finally looks up, just in time to see Mother Goose and her goslings march by—on the other side of a wire fence. Hmmm. Maybe going for a stroll with the Goose family would be a good way for Lil’ Monkey to take his mind off the seal pond.

Page 14:
Lil’ Monkey is climbing the fence so he can join the goose parade. Looks like fun to me. I love parades. All he has to do is jump down quietly so Mother Goose doesn’t know he’s there.

Page 15:
Now Lil’ Monkey has joined the parade. He is third in line, after Mother Goose and one of the goslings. He is doing a perfect job of keeping in step with Mother Goose and the gosling. I wonder what Mother Goose will think if she sees him. She seems to be looking around—to see if all her goslings are staying in line.

Page 16:
Oh, no! Mother Goose found Lil’ Monkey marching behind her, and she’s very mad. She’s flapping her wings and pecking at him to drive him away. I think she’s worried Lil’ Monkey might harm her little goslings. Lil’ Monkey was just having fun. He had no idea that marching with the Goose family would make Mother Goose so upset.
Page 17:
Lil’ Monkey is running as fast as he can to get away from Mother Goose—as she gathers her goslings around her to make sure they are OK.

Page 18:
As Lil’ Monkey runs away from Mother Goose, he slows down when he notices a balloon caught in the branch of a tree and a family of people looking at it. He guesses that the balloon blew away and the little boy wants it back.

Page 19:
Lil’ Monkey understands that the little boy wants to get his balloon back. So Lil’ Monkey climbs the tree and will try to untie the tangled balloon string. The little boy and his parents are happy that Lil’ Monkey is climbing the tree to rescue the balloon.

Page 20:
Lil’ Monkey has to climb out on the tree branch to untangle the balloon string. I’d be too scared to try that, but it looks like his plan to rescue the balloon will work.

Page 21:
He did it! Lil’ Monkey untied the balloon and brought it back to the little boy. The little boy’s parents are saying, “What do you say to the nice little monkey who rescued your balloon from the tree?” The shy little boy is so happy he can’t say a word. But Lil’ Monkey says, “It was nothing. Any friendly monkey would have done the same thing.”

Page 22:
Now Lil’ Monkey is very happy. The friendly zookeeper gave him his own red balloon and is thanking him for rescuing the balloon for the little boy. He’s probably telling Lil’ Monkey that although he can’t fly like a bird, head a beach ball like the seals, or march with the geese, he can use his friendliness and climbing skills to help others.

Page 23:
The friendly zookeeper brings Lil’ Monkey back to his home. Lil’ Monkey’s parents are happy to see him. They must have missed him and worried about him while he was away. The zookeeper tells them how Lil’ Monkey helped the little boy get his balloon back. They are proud of Lil’ Monkey.

Page 24:
The little boy and his family visit the monkey house to thank Lil’ Monkey and his parents. Look—the boy and his family are arranged in the same way that Lil’ Monkey and his parents are, with the little boy and Lil’ Monkey and their balloons between their father and mother. Who’s copying whom? It doesn’t matter. They’re all so happy to see each other, and Lil’ Monkey’s parents are so proud to see how happy Lil’ Monkey made the little boy and his parents.