Hi! My name is Tarby. I’m super excited because today is my 4th birthday! I get to ride my brand new rocket and swat flies. Those are two of my favorite things to do.

Buckle up! I’ll show you around my park. Three, two, one, BLAST OFF!
This is where I like to play with my friends.

Wow! What a great day to swat flies! I see a swarm of them by the tree!
Welcome to Manimal Park
Holy Galapagos! I was going too fast, and now I am stuck!

Oh dear...I suppose it must be that flying tortoise again.
Oh, no! Now I am going to miss my birthday party! I won’t be able to get my presents and cake and Mom and Dad will worry and it will be dark and I might turn five before I get out of here! Oh me! Oh my! What to do, what to do?

Move aLONG now, you are going too fast!

He is going faster than I can run!

I must have mud in my ears! I can’t understand a word he said.
I’ll do anything. Just help me get out of this tree!

My dear Tarby, I do believe we can help you get out of the tree. You must learn to speak slowly. Otherwise, those intelligent animals will not be able to understand your turbulent tortoise nonsense.
Germaine, Professor Owl told me I need to learn how to speak slowly! Help me! Help me!

Well Tarby / first / you must not use / such long sentences. / Make sure / to break them up / into smaller parts.

Friends, can you help Tarby / break up the sentences below / into smaller parts?

1. Giraffes are / the tallest animals / on land.
2. Giraffes have / pink and black tongues / in their mouths.
3. Giraffes can sleep / standing up.
4. Giraffes do not / like to eat / birthday cake.
Thanks Germaine / and friends. / You did a great job / of teaching me / how to break up / my sentences / into smaller parts.

I feel like / I am going / a little slower / already.

I’m going to / move down the tree / for some more help!
Hey Cheats! I need some more help talking slowly. Germaine taught me to break up my sentences. What can you teach me?

Well Germaine gave you good advice. Now let’s try stopping between the breaks like this:

Can you help Tarby break up the sentences below into smaller parts and stop after each break?

1. Cheetahs are the fastest animals on land.
2. Cheetahs can run as fast as cars can drive.
3. Cheetahs are a type of cat.
4. Cheetahs don’t need rockets on their back to go fast!
Thanks Cheats () and friends. () You did a great job () of teaching me () how to stop () when I break up my sentences () into smaller parts.

Before I go () I’ll see if Sally Mud () has any more tips () for me.
Hey Sally, I’m so close to getting out of this tree. I learned to break up my sentences and stop after each break. I think I only need to learn one more thing. Can you help me, Sally Mud?

Of course, Tarby! You sound great! The only thing you need to learn is to talk when it is your turn. My friends will help you but you must remember to take turns!
Ok friends, let’s help Tarby learn how to take turns! We can ask Tarby some fun questions!

I wonder what turtles eat.

I like () lots of things () like plants and flies, () but I really want () some birthday cake.

Maybe you can tell us if you have any brothers or sisters.

My brother Toby () is almost 100 () years old () and he lives () in the sea.

I bet you’re the fastest turtle on the swim team.

I will be now () with my cool new rocket () on my back.
Thanks Sally () and friends.() You did a great job () of teaching me () how to take turns.

I can () go home.() First, () I need to see () Professor Owl.
Professor Owl, () thanks to you () and your friends, () I learned () how to speak slowly. () I finally made it out () of the tree. () I am off () to my birthday party!

Congratulations Tarby! You learned how to break up your sentences, stop after the breaks, and take turns!
I have plenty more to teach you, Tarby. I’m sure I will see you again. Please keep that blasted rocket out of my tree!

I’ll see you around, ()
Professor Owl.
() I gotta bounce ()
outta here () to my party.