

# Passages

## Reading Level 6



**Title:** Tucker's Countryside

**Author:** George Selden

### Sample From The Book

Tucker Mouse was definitely suffering from a touch of spring fever.

It happened every year toward the end of May. The course of the sun swung over just far enough, and a single bright ray was able to dart down through a grating on the sidewalk of Times Square, make its way through a maze of pipes and pillars in the subway station, and land, with a golden splash, right in front of the drain pipe where Tucker lived. Of course, in a week or so the sun would move on, and that ray would have to waste itself in the streets of New York. But for these few days Tucker

Mouse had sunshine on his doorstep – which is something very hard to have, if you live in the subway station at Times Square!

And he had something even more wonderful, too. Warmed by the sun, a few blades of grass were sprouting out of a pile of dirt right next to the drain pipe. Tucker didn't have any idea how the seeds could have gotten there in the first place. But there they were – three lovely green blades, poking up through all the soot and dust. Tucker called them his “garden” and watered them twice a day with whatever he could collect in a paper cup from a leaky pipe in the subway walls...



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