

At the weekend, Mum took Sam on a surprise visit to the pet shop to look at a strange assortment of animals. It was not just a normal trip – it was an important investment in happiness, Mum had said, which sounded very serious for a Saturday morning.

Inside, there were fluffy kittens, wriggling puppies and even two tortoises having a slow treatment in a tiny bath. Sam pressed his nose against the glass of the fish tanks.

“Look at the bubbles!” he said, watching them fizzing and popping.

In the corner was the softest rabbit Sam had ever seen. Its fur was as fluffy as a cloud and as soft as the cosiest blanket he could imagine. He felt a burst of excitement and couldn't stop grinning.

While Mum was shopping, Sam was hopping, skipping and spinning around the cages. Suddenly, a puppy escaped and began running and skidding across the floor.

“Oh goodness!” laughed Mum. “This is the funniest pet shop ever!”

It was the loudest, happiest trip they had ever had – and possibly the messiest!