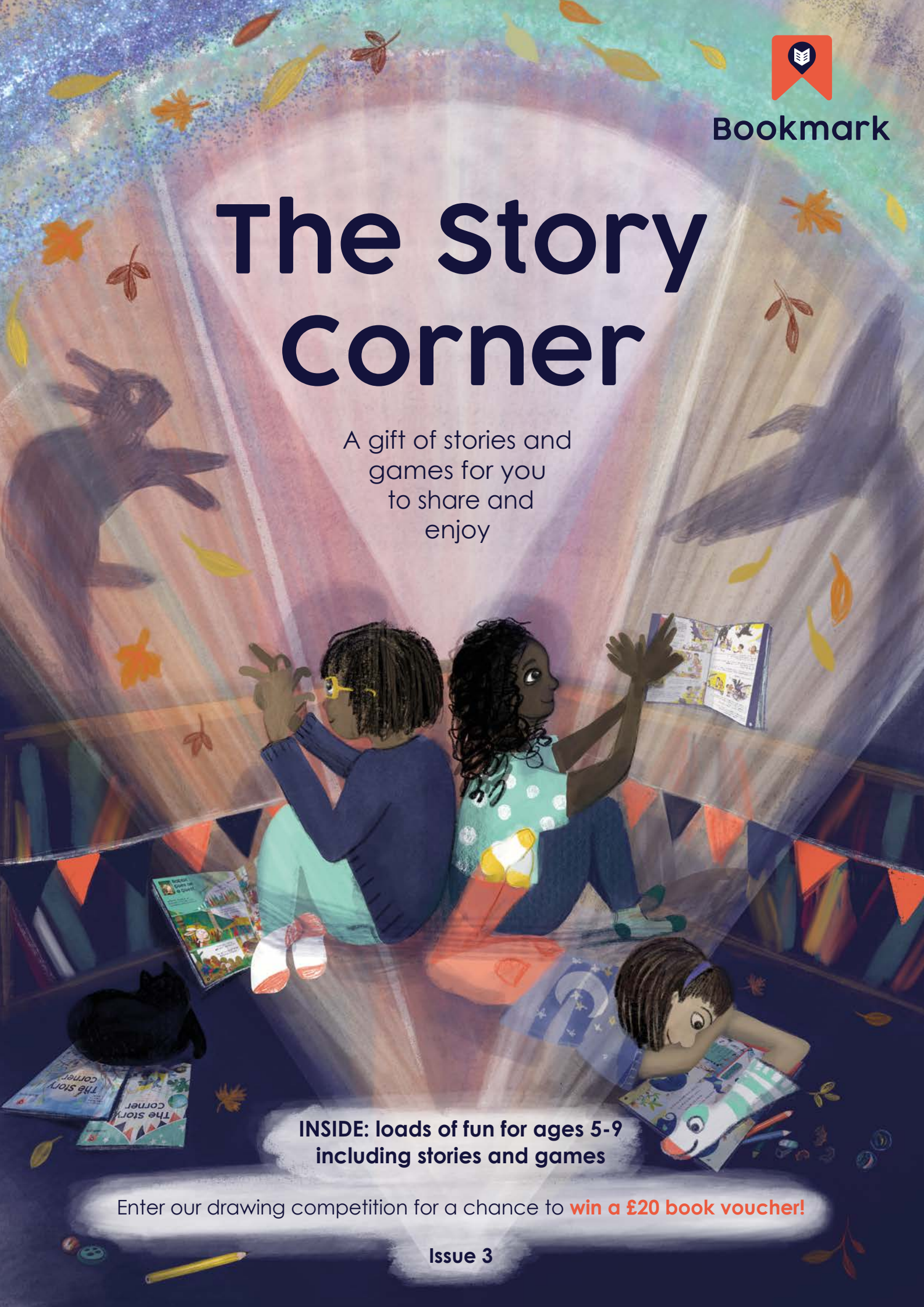




Bookmark

The Story Corner

A gift of stories and
games for you
to share and
enjoy



**INSIDE: loads of fun for ages 5-9
including stories and games**

Enter our drawing competition for a chance to **win a £20 book voucher!**

Issue 3

Hello! My name is Chris Callaghan and I'm a children's author who has always loved writing crazy stories.

Even when I was in the military or as an environmental scientist, I would find time to scribble what was in my imagination.

Whenever I write, I try to sneak in something personal. This is why my new series of books includes a fluffy cockapoo called Milo – just like my own dog! Maybe you can find some stories about your pet or favourite animal – or you could write your own.

Whenever there are animals around, there are always great stories too!

Take care and happy reading.



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You and your favourite animal.

Little Sock and the Tiny Creatures



written by Jon Keevy,
illustrated by Lili Probart,
designed by Chani Coetzee,
edited by Helen Moffett



It's wash day for the Socks.

**OH
NO!**

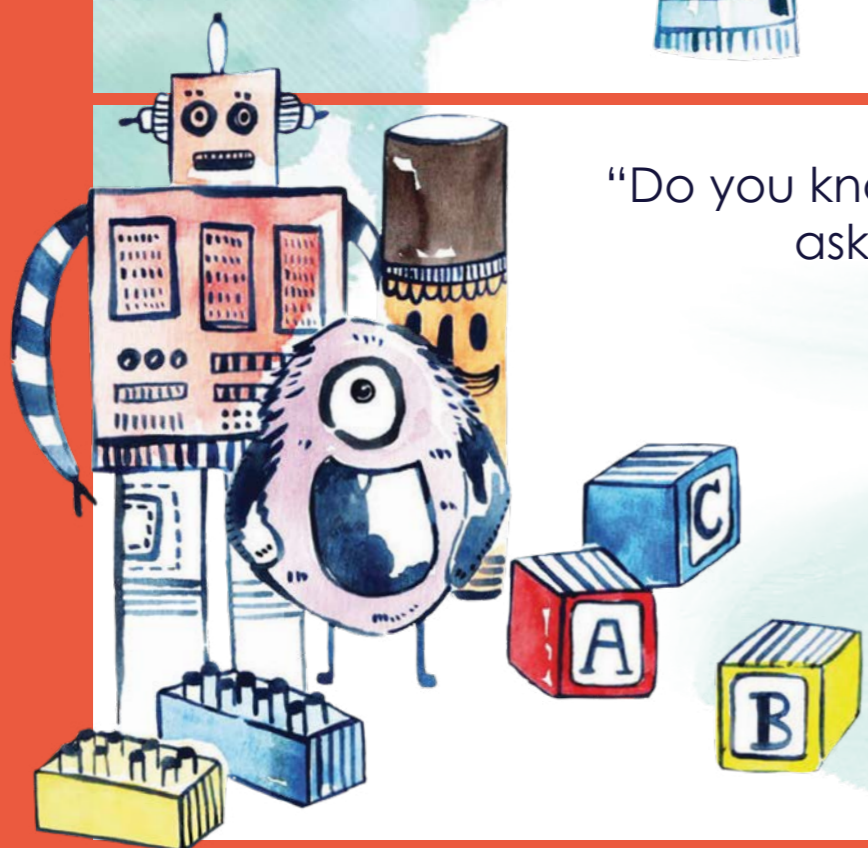
Little Sock falls out!



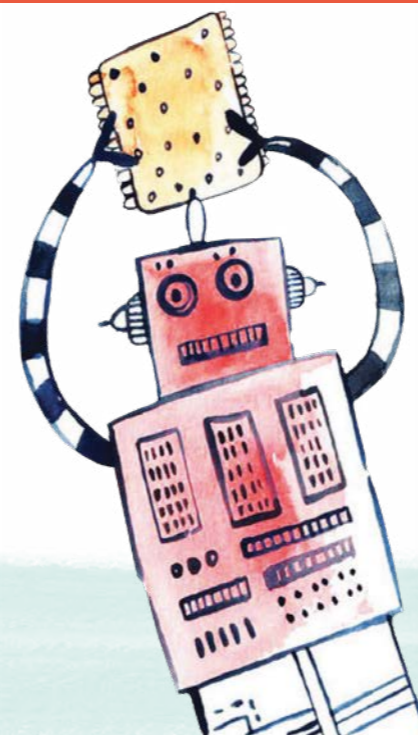
Have you ever
lost a sock?



"I have to get home,"
says Little Sock.



"Do you know the way home?"
asks Little Sock.



"No, but take this," says the Robot.



"Do you know the way home?"
asks Little Sock.

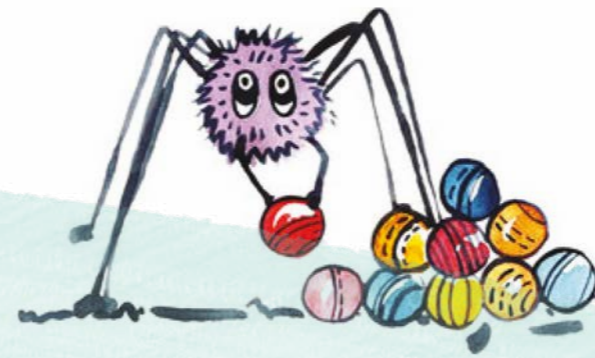


"No, but take this," says the Mouse.





"Do you know the way home?" asks Little Sock.



"No, but take..."

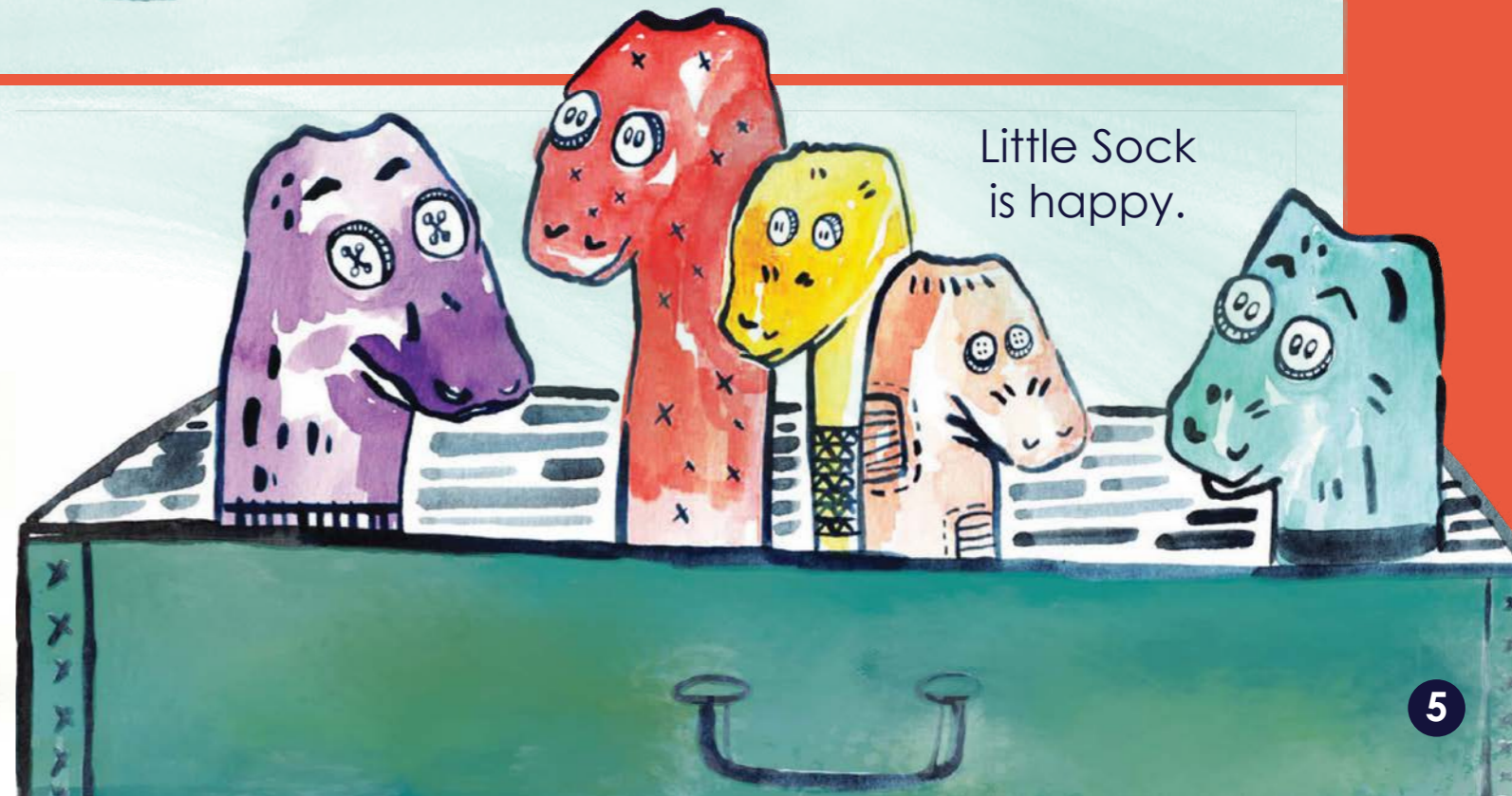
OOPS!!!



"Maybe the marble knows the way home," says Little Sock.

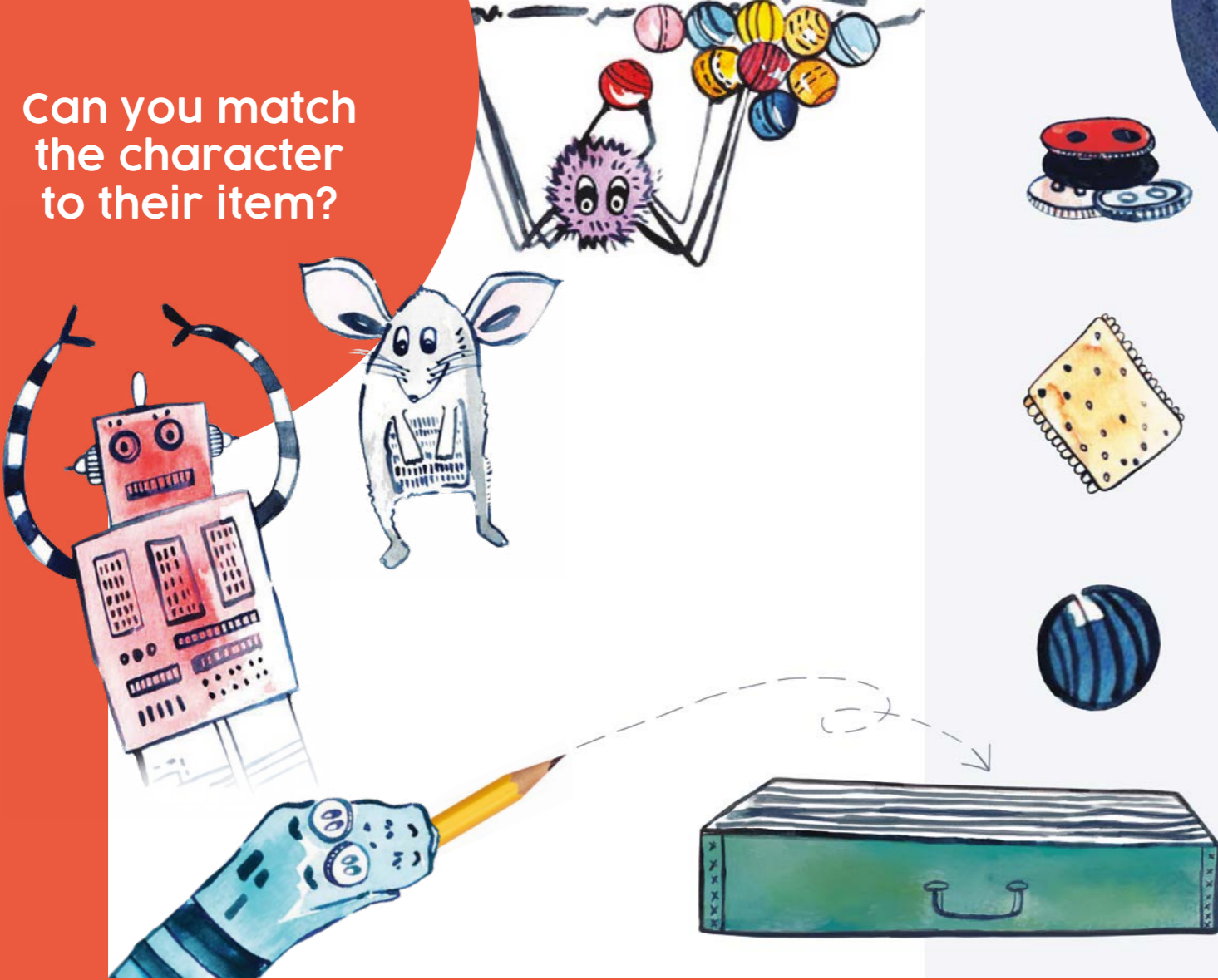


"It does!" says Little Sock.



Little Sock is happy.

Can you match the character to their item?

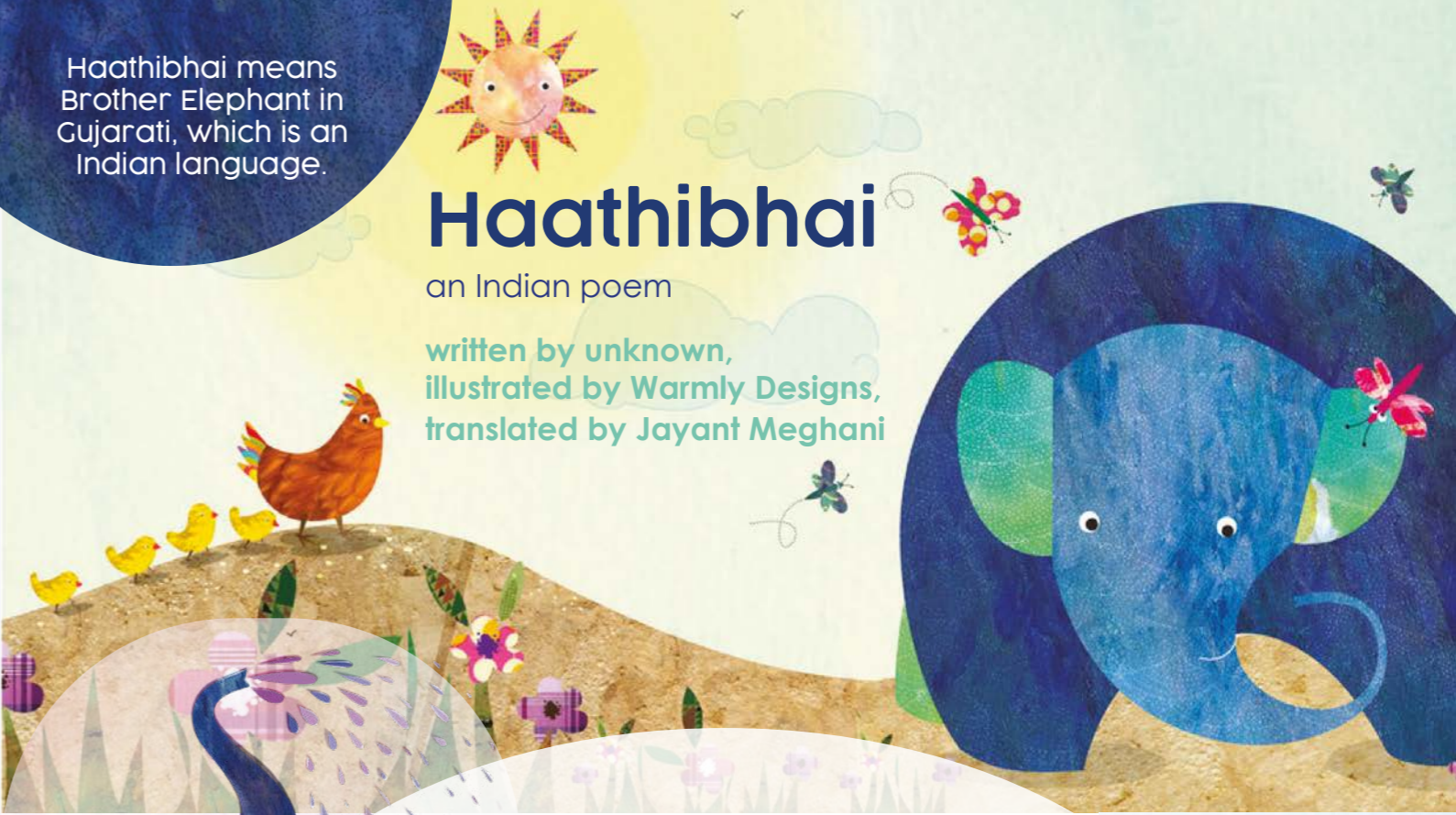


Haathibhai means Brother Elephant in Gujarati, which is an Indian language.

Haathibhai

an Indian poem

written by unknown,
illustrated by Warmly Designs,
translated by Jayant Meghani

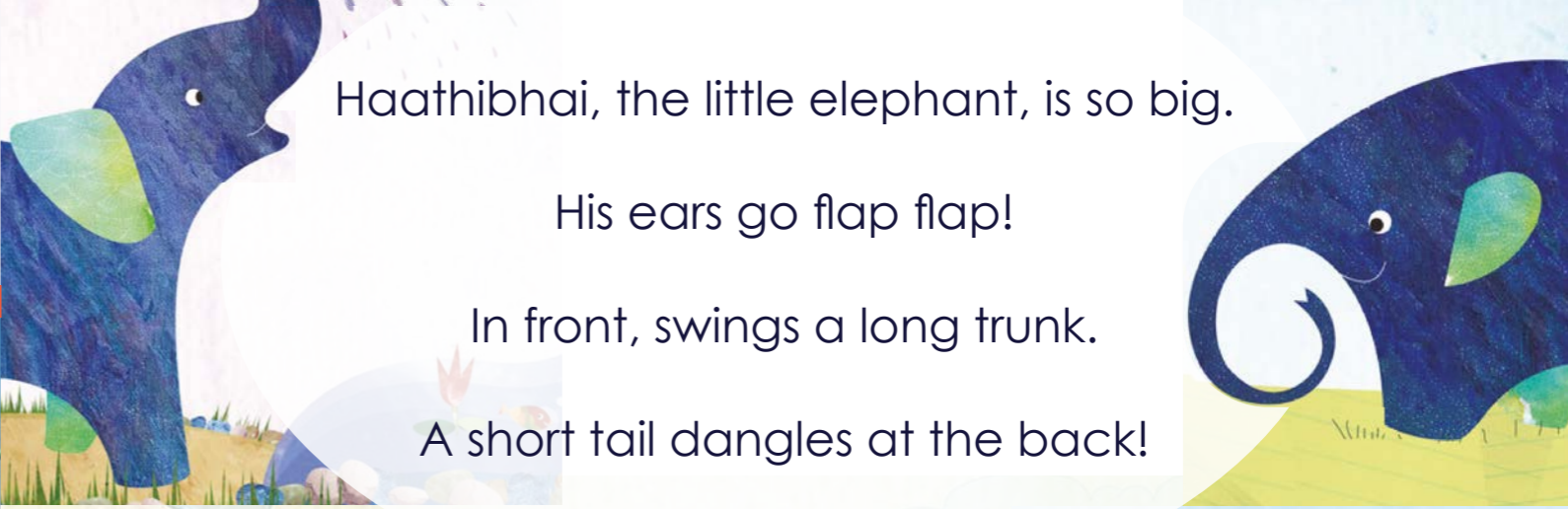


Haathibhai, the little elephant, is so big.

His ears go flap flap!

In front, swings a long trunk.

A short tail dangles at the back!



Make your own little Sock

Different socks have different personalities, so pick your favourite.

Your will need:

- a sock
- two buttons
- a needle and thread
- a grown-up to help

Instructions:

- Ask your grown-up to sew the buttons onto the sock
- Put your hand inside the sock and you have made a new friend!





Rabbit Goes on a Quest

written by Kavita Singh,
illustrated by Suvidha Mistry,
translated by Brian Kavanagh



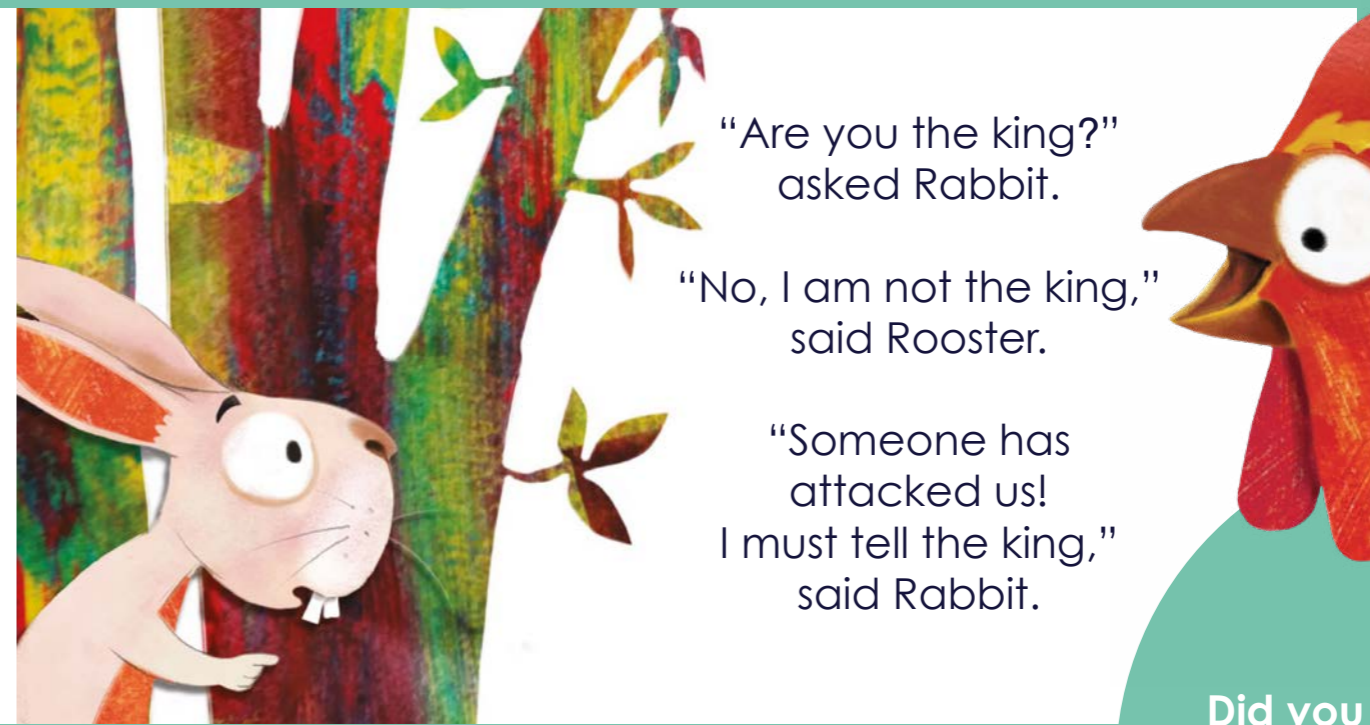
"oh!
Thank goodness..."



...The arrows missed.
I am safe," said Rabbit.



"Someone has attacked
the forest! I must tell the
king!" said Rabbit.



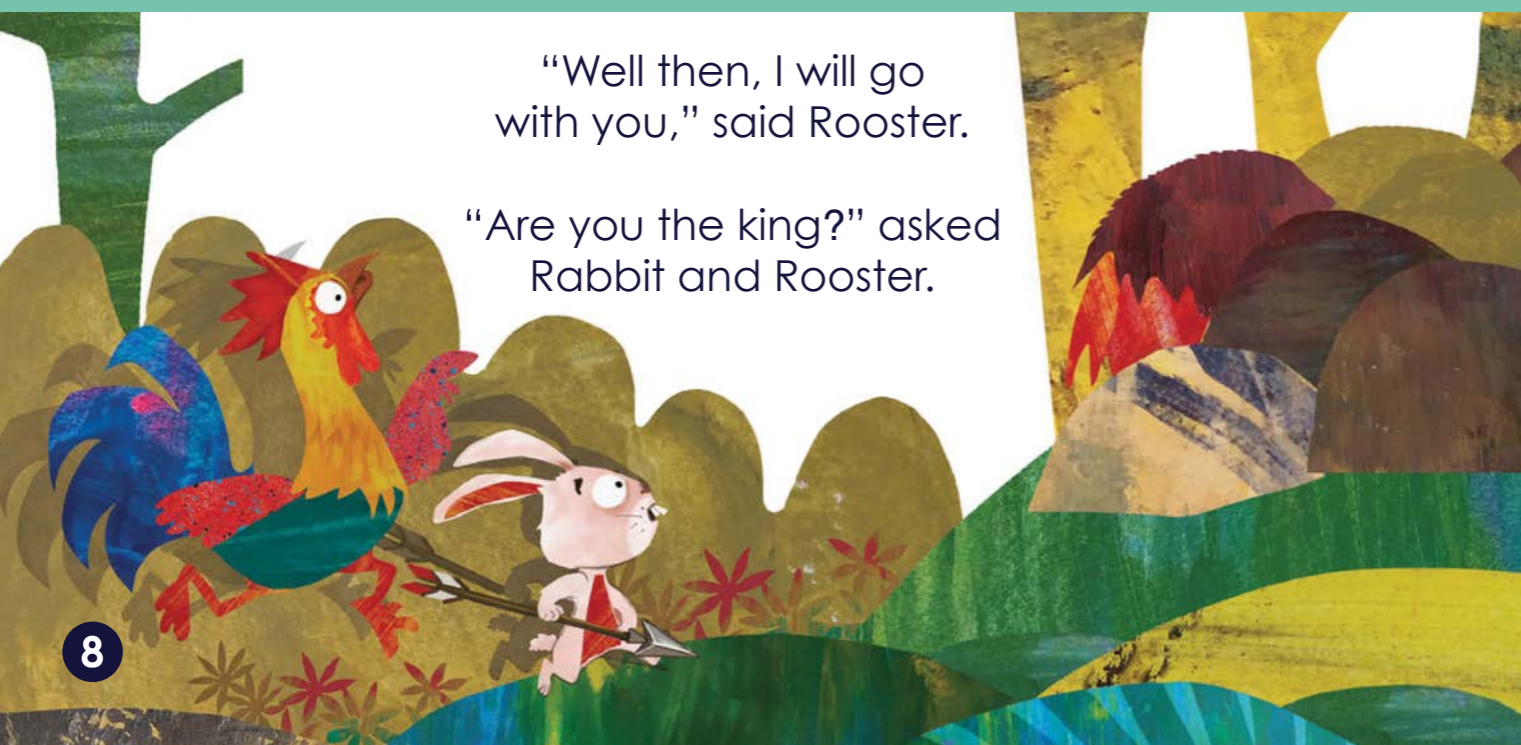
"Are you the king?"
asked Rabbit.

"No, I am not the king,"
said Rooster.

"Someone has
attacked us!
I must tell the king,"
said Rabbit.

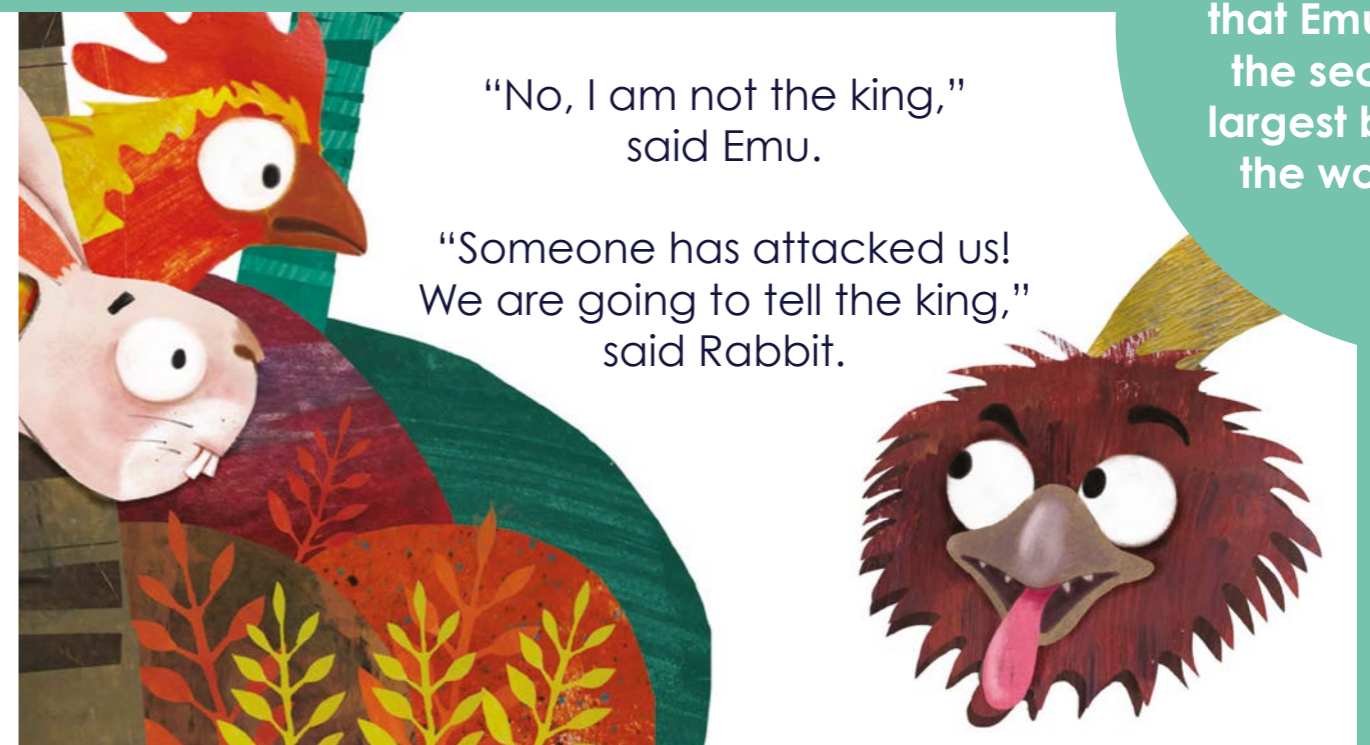


Did you know
that Emus are
the second
largest bird in
the world?



"Well then, I will go
with you," said Rooster.

"Are you the king?" asked
Rabbit and Rooster.



"No, I am not the king,"
said Emu.

"Someone has attacked us!
We are going to tell the king,"
said Rabbit.



"Well then, I will go with you," said Emu.

"Are you the king?" asked Rabbit
and Rooster and Emu.



"No, I am not the king," said Hippo.

"Someone has attacked us.
We are going to tell the king," said Rabbit.



What words
would you use
to describe
Rabbit?

"Well then, I will go with you," said Hippo.



"Are you the king?"
asked Rabbit and Rooster
and Emu and Hippo.

"No, I am not the king,"
said Gorilla.

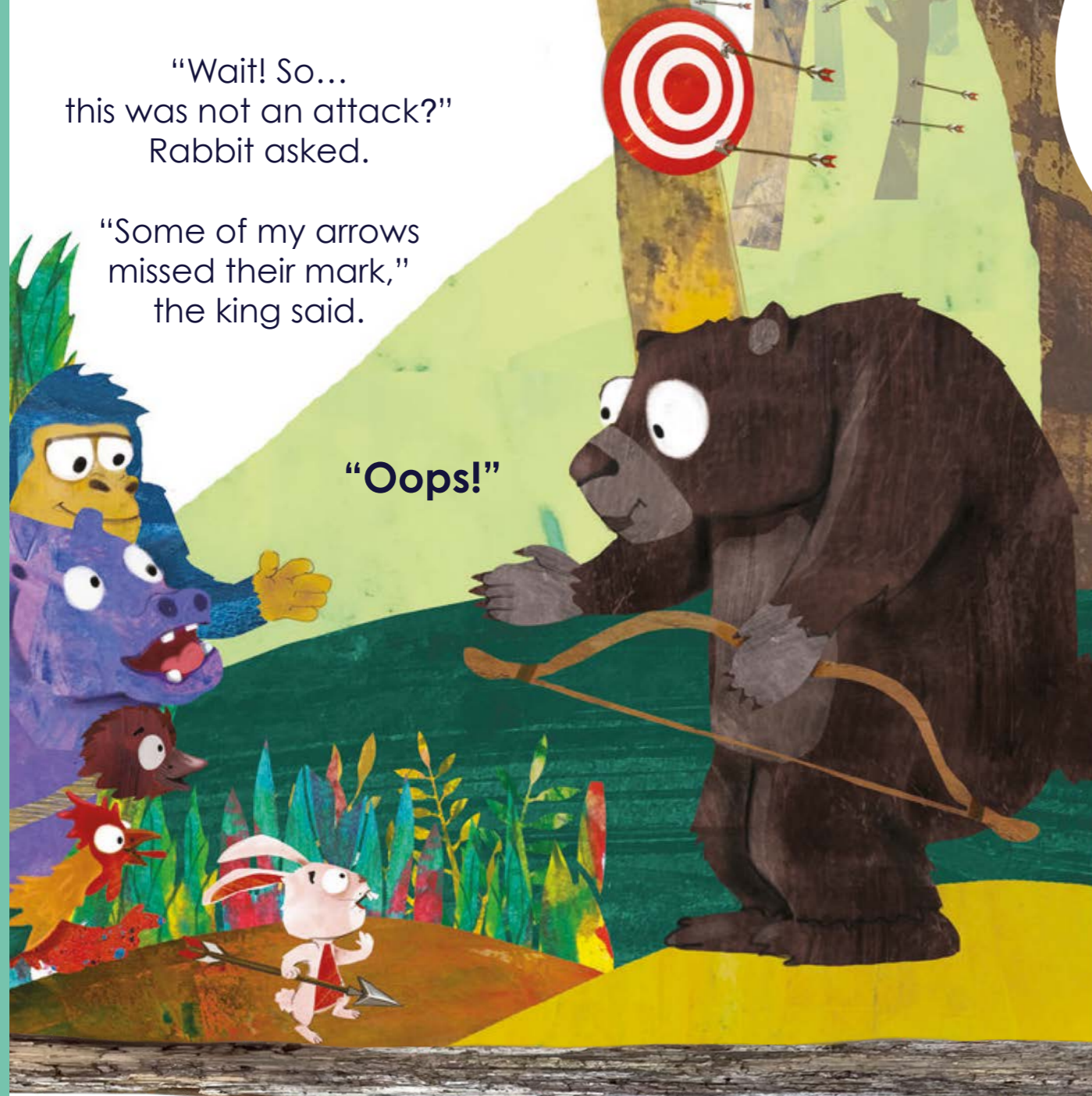
"The king is inside."



"Wait! So...
this was not an attack?"
Rabbit asked.

"Some of my arrows
missed their mark,"
the king said.

"Oops!"



Can you
spot these
words?

Find the following
words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden
→ and ↓.

forest

rabbit

gorilla

arrow

rooster

p	y	a	w	r	a	b	b	i	t	e	e
s	l	l	h	q	u	e	s	t	r	m	f
j	s	e	b	v	k	i	n	g	c	u	o
a	r	r	o	w	l	z	e	e	m	q	o
w	v	e	c	f	f	o	r	e	s	t	s
h	i	p	p	o	p	o	t	a	m	u	s
l	r	o	o	s	t	e	r	t	e	j	x
b	e	a	r	g	o	r	i	l	l	a	w



hippopotamus

quest

king

emu

bear

The Joke Corner

What do you call an elephant that never takes a shower?

A smellyphant!

What is large, grey, and wears glass slippers?

Cinderelphant

When should a mouse carry an umbrella?

When it is raining cats and dogs!

What do you call a rabbit who is angry over getting burnt?

A hot cross bunny

What do you call a dinosaur with no eyes?

Adoyouthinkhesawsus?

Read this story from the top of the page to the bottom. ↓



Kaakaasaurus

written by Shalini Srinivasan, illustrated by Prabha Mallya

Raji was sitting peacefully under a tree, reading a book and eating a bajji, when a crow walked up to her.

"Hi Kaaka!" Raji said.

Raji opened her mouth to take a bite of bajji.

The crow flew up, grabbed the bajji, and flew away.

Raji jumped up, leapt over the compound wall and started running down the road.

"Give that back, you useless, food-stealing, peanut-brained crow!" Raji shouted.

What do you think a bajji tastes like?



The crow was flying slowly. Its body was getting bigger and heavier. Worse, its wings were getting smaller. "I'll get you soon!" Raji said.

Salim came cycling down the road. The tired crow dropped from the sky and fell on Salim and his cycle: **CRASH!** Raji ran up to them.

Salim was lying on the ground with his cycle. There was a weird creature on his head, flapping wildly. It was large and strong. And it had teeth.

It bit Salim, hard. **CHOMP!**



"Aaaarghh!" screamed Salim. "Your crow is eating me!" "That's not my crow," Raji said. "Actually, it's not a crow at all." They looked at the not-crow. "You're right. That's a dinosaur!" yelled Salim.

The crow-dinosaur flapped and ran towards the bazaar. "What if it bites more people?" asked Raji. "We should stop it," Salim replied.



The crowd-dinosaur stomped through the bazaar, yelling **KAA KRAAAAA** and knocking everyone over.

Only Prof. Aunty watched it with wonder:

"Is that...?"

Am I losing my mind?

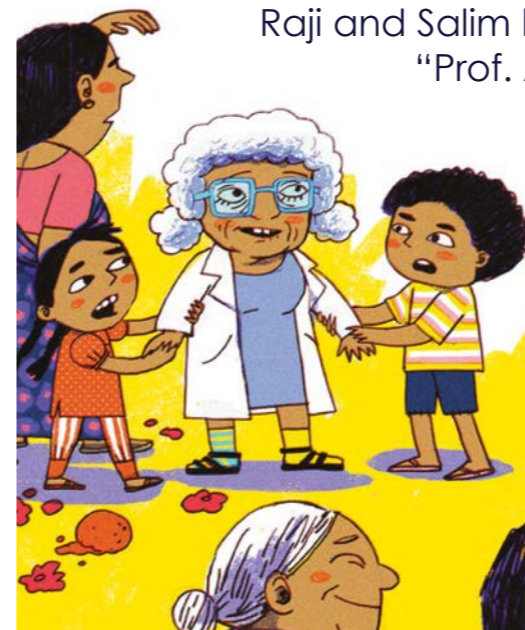
Could it be a real live theropod?"

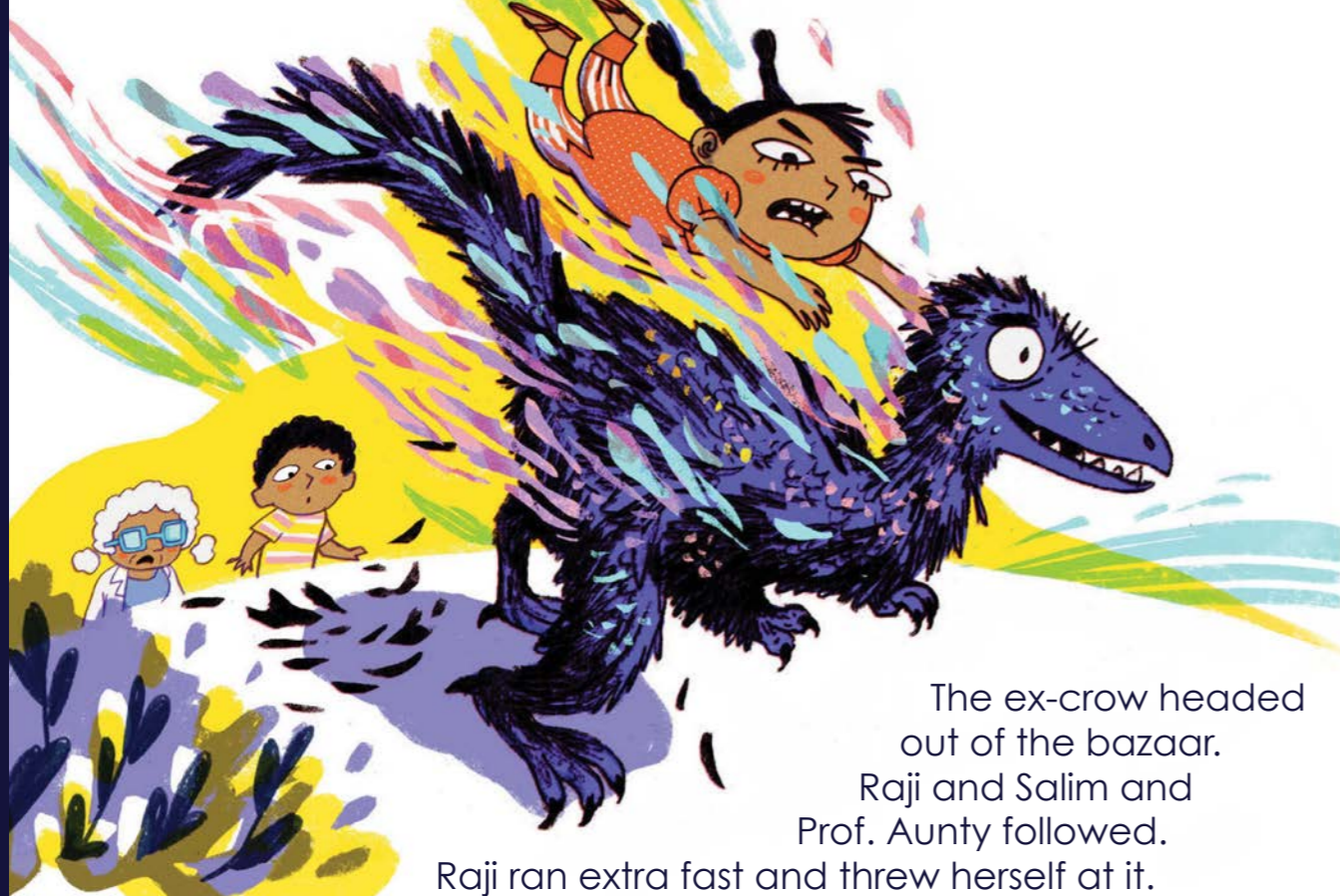


Raji and Salim helped Prof. Aunty up. "Prof. Aunty, have you seen...?" asked Raji and Salim.

She said, "A bird-dinosaur? Yes, I have."

Where did you get that creature?" she said. "They're supposed to be extinct! I've been studying them all my life and I've only seen old bones."





The ex-crow headed out of the bazaar. Raji and Salim and Prof. Aunty followed.

Raji ran extra fast and threw herself at it.

"Got you!" Raji held the crow-dinosaur close. Salim sat down and said, "It's turning into a T-Rex!"

"They are... aah... the same... hamaa... family," panted Prof. Aunty. "Birds and dinosaurs, I mean. It's evolving backwards."

A lizard ran by and the dinosaur snapped at it. "Yuck, gross, cannibal!" shouted Raji.

"It's like if I ate my cousins!" said Salim.

"No, it isn't," Prof. Aunty said. "Birds are descended from dinosaurs. So they're fairly close to crocodiles. But lizards are an entirely different kind of reptile."



The crow-dinosaur curled up on the ground and made an unhappy noise: **Kraa-kroomp**. "I think it's sad it can no longer fly," said Salim. Raji patted its snout kindly. They went to Prof. Aunty's house. On the table was a plate of bajjis.



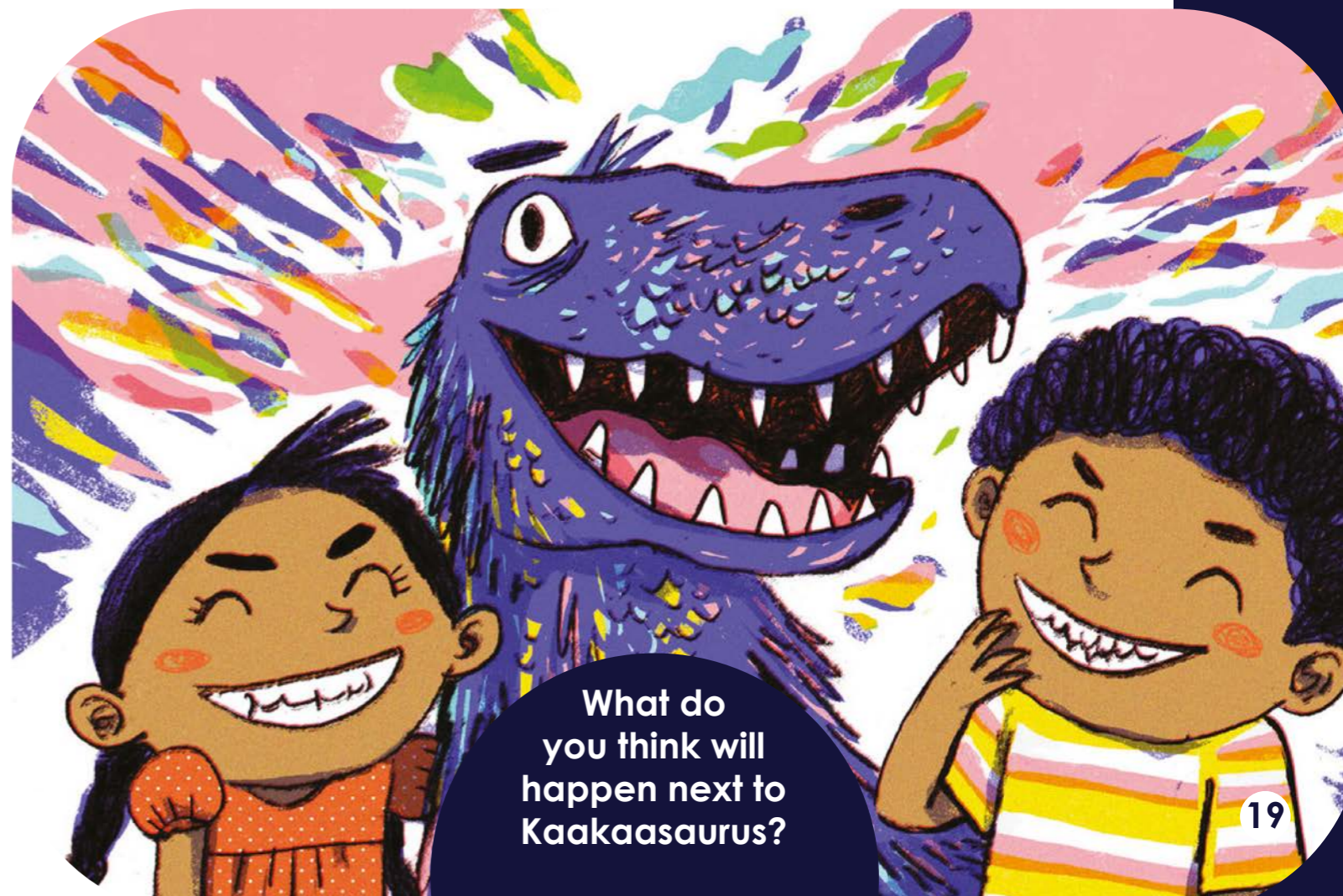
"Mmm," Raji said.

"**Kraaa!**" said the dinosaur. It stretched as tall as Prof. Aunty, snatched the entire plate, crunched the bajjis and the steel.

Then it made a loud **BURP**, and stuck all its teeth out in a huge, happy grin: **Kaaaa!**

Raji and Salim exchanged a grin and said together,

"Kaakaasaurus Rex!"



What do you think will happen next to Kaakaasaurus?

Why not try acting out parts of the story? Like...

The crow flying *slowly*, the crow's body getting **bigger** and **heavier** and its wings getting smaller

Or

Kaakaasaurus eating a whole plate of bajjis

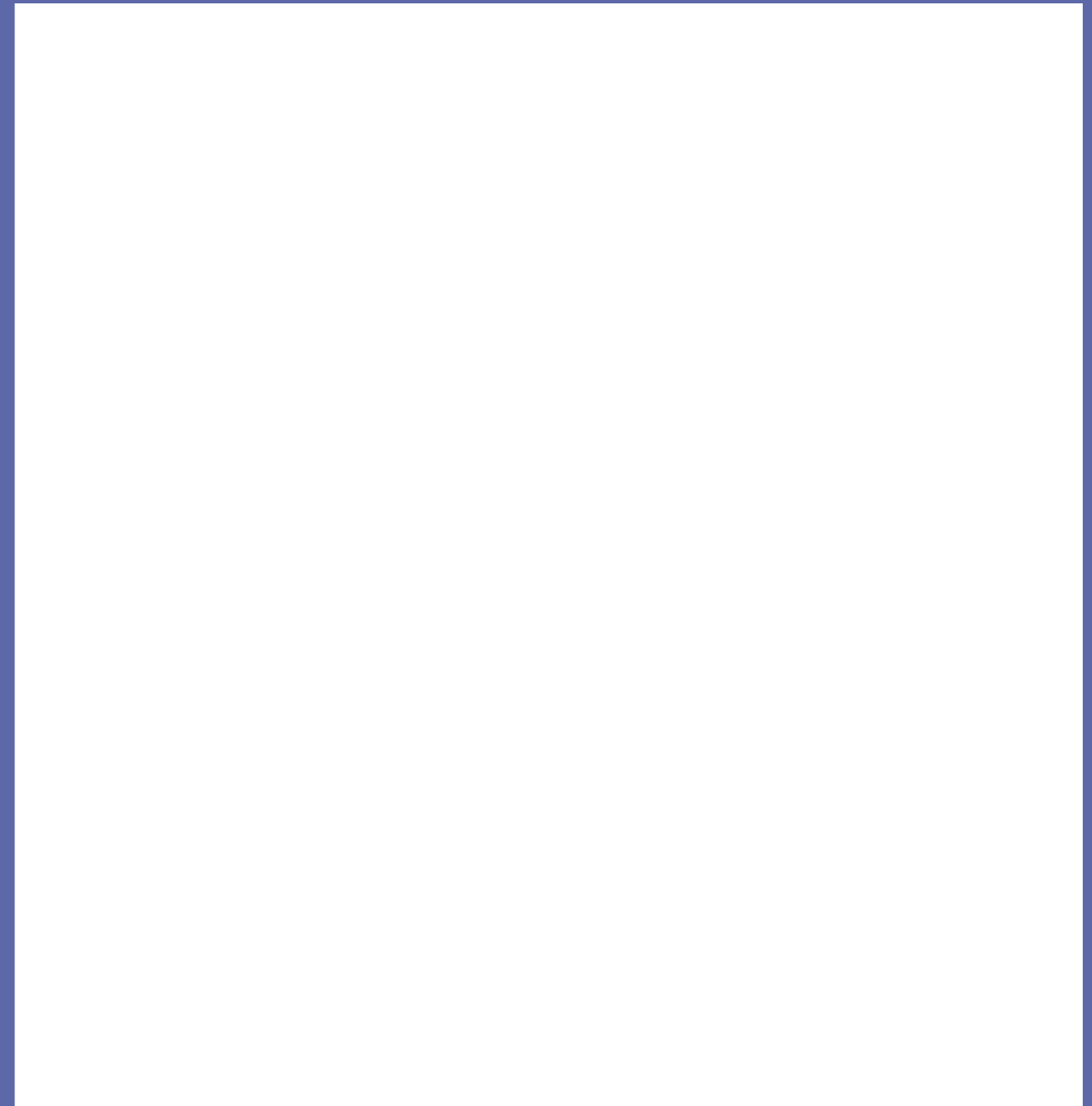
Or

Kaakaasaurus *burping!*

Enter our Drawing Competition

Draw a picture in the frame to show us you and your favourite animal somewhere exciting. Your animal can be real or imaginary.

For the chance to WIN a £20 book voucher!



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Haathibhai (English), translated by Jayant Meghani, based on original story હાથીબૈ (Gujarati), written by Unknown, illustrated by Warmly Designs, published by Pratham Books (© Pratham Books, 2018) www.prathambooks.org *

Rabbit Goes on a Quest (English), translated by Brian Kavanagh, based on original story हमला हुआ है! (Hindi), written by Kavita Singh, illustrated by Suvridha Mistry, published by Room to Read (© Room to Read, 2015) www.roomtoread.org *

Kaakaasaurus (English), written by Shalini Srinivasan, illustrated by Prabha Mallya, supported by Oracle, guest editor & art director: Vinayak Varma, published by Pratham Books (© Pratham Books, 2017) www.prathambooks.org *

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Once you have finished your drawing, ask a grown-up to take a picture and send it to thestorycorner@bookmarkreading.org

*Message to the grown-ups - Terms and conditions, including closing date available on our website. bookmarkreading.org/the-story-corner

A note for the grown-ups



Hello,

At Bookmark, we want every child to read. We recruit and train volunteers to provide reading support for children in primary school. To find out more about us or sign up as a volunteer, visit our website, or follow us on social media.

The Bookmark Team

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bookmarkreading.org

Find out what they like to read

Finding out what your child's favourite book is will give you a good starting point to understanding what books they might enjoy. If they can't name a particular book, genre, or type of book, ask them about their favourite hobbies or films. Some children much prefer non-fiction to story books!

Top tips for encouraging your child to enjoy reading

Use drama

Encourage your child to use drama when reading. Perform a small part of the book. It's fun, it gets the child moving and is another way to get them thinking about the characters and story.

Key words

Go through the book before you read it with your child and teach them the words they'll need to understand the story. This means they'll be able read the book more easily and they'll be motivated to keep reading.

Praise reading

Always remember to praise your child's reading efforts. Motivation and praise can inspire reading for pleasure and reading for life!



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