

# Ladybug®

the magazine for young children



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from the publisher of **Spider®** and **Cricket®**  
[www.cricketmag.com](http://www.cricketmag.com)

# I Spy

Art by  
Jane Dippold

Ahoy, mates! How many  
pairs of matching hearts  
can you spy?

art © 2013 by Jane Dippold

Answer on page 35

Keep an eye out for us! We are going to roll  
through this magazine with you!



# Max and Kate

Art by Brita Granström  
Story by Mick Manning



Is that  
some kind  
of doorbell?

It rings in  
the wind!

“Wow!” says Charlie, pointing at the wind chimes above the door.

Kate whispers to Max. They run inside giggling.



Kate gets out her craft box. Max makes little holes in an empty yogurt container with his mommy's help.



Kate cuts out some photos of Charlie's friends and family. Max ties them onto the container with colored yarn.



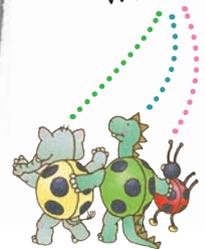
Higher, Max!

Max hangs a big picture of Charlie  
in the middle....





Yay, Kate!  
Hooray, Charlie!  
WOO, Max!

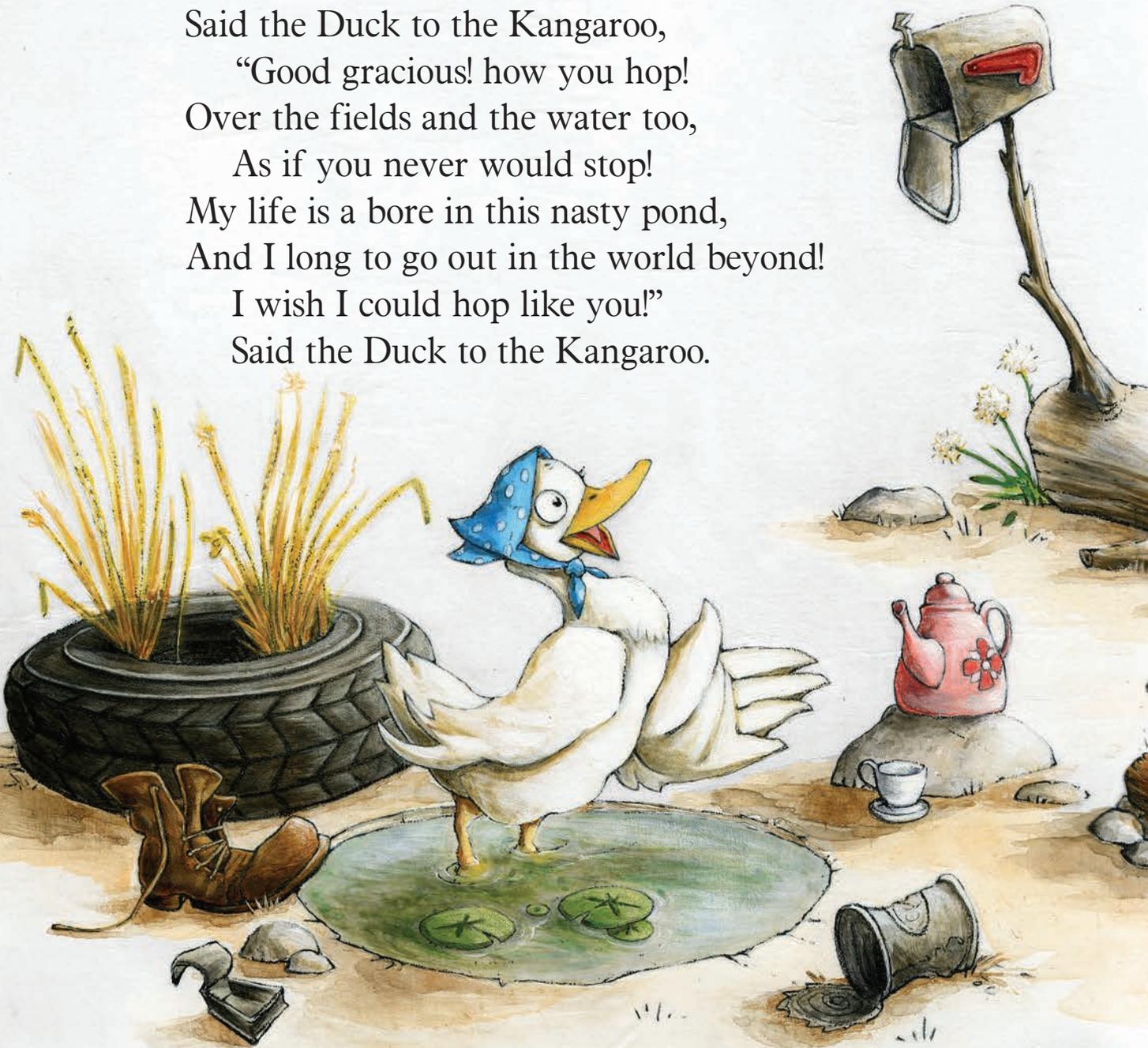


They have made Charlie a lovely mobile!  
It looks magical hanging above his playpen.  
“Me!” shouts Charlie.

# The Duck and the Kangaroo

by Edward Lear ♥ Art by Steve Lomazzo

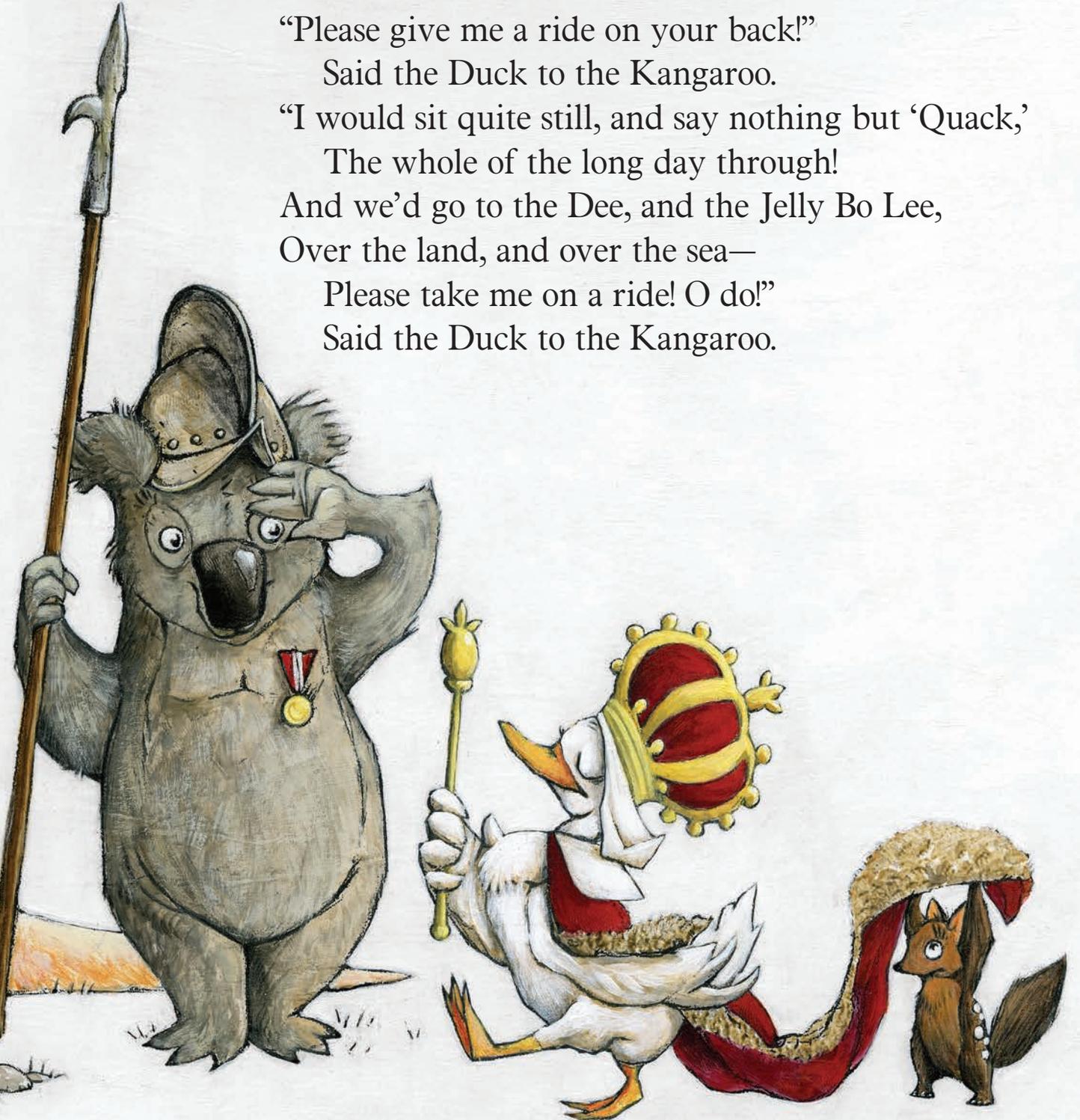
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo,  
“Good gracious! how you hop!  
Over the fields and the water too,  
As if you never would stop!  
My life is a bore in this nasty pond,  
And I long to go out in the world beyond!  
I wish I could hop like you!”  
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.





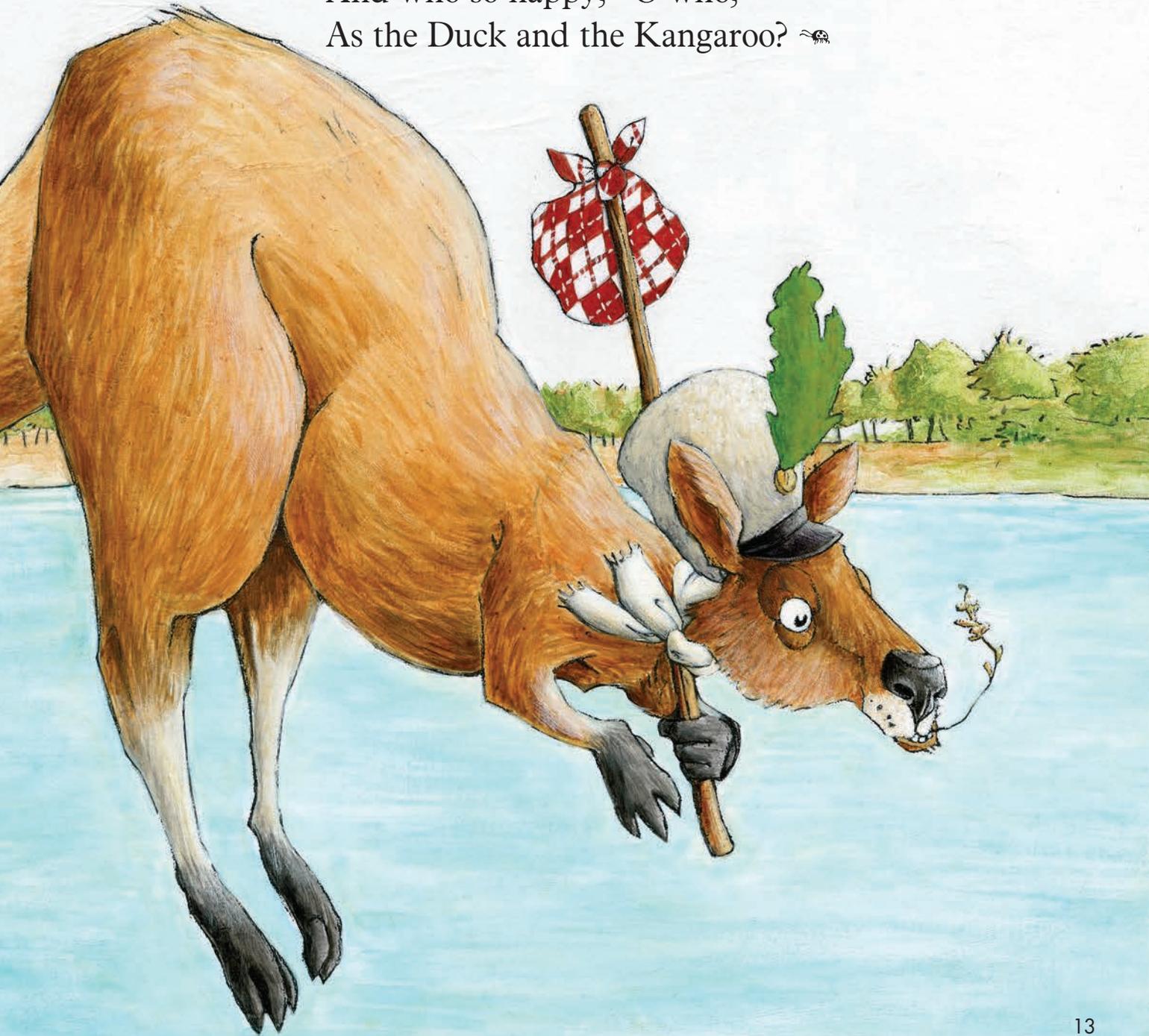


“Please give me a ride on your back!”  
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.  
“I would sit quite still, and say nothing but ‘Quack,’  
The whole of the long day through!  
And we’d go to the Dee, and the Jelly Bo Lee,  
Over the land, and over the sea—  
Please take me on a ride! O do!”  
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.





Said the Kangaroo, "I'm ready!  
All in the moonlight pale;  
But to balance me well, dear Duck, sit steady!  
And quite at the end of my tail!"  
So away they went with a hop and a bound,  
And they hopped the whole world three times round;  
And who so happy,—O who,  
As the Duck and the Kangaroo? 🦆



Can you  
do this?



# Kangaroo Dance

by Shannon Caster

Art by John Nez

Boing. Boing. Boing.  
Kangaroo jumps up high.



Boing. Boing. Boing.  
He almost touched the sky.

Boing. Boing. Boing.  
Around the old gum tree.



Boing. Boing. Boing.  
He almost jumped on me!

# February Funnies

Art by Terri Murphy



What kind of music did the kangaroos play at the Valentine's Day Ball?

*Hip-hop!*

What did the boy octopus say to the girl octopus?

*"Can I hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand?"*



HOO-HOOOO!



What do you call a very small valentine?

*A valen-tiny!*

Haw, haw-haw!

What did the duck do when he read all these jokes?

*He quacked up!*

Quack  
quack  
QUACK!



# Finger Painting Fun

by Rebecca Kai Dotlich ♥ Art by Kevin Hawkes

Today I'm finger painting.  
I make an apple tree.  
I make the earth.  
I make a star,  
a giant bumblebee.  
I splash the blue.  
I glop the green.  
I stir the red and white.  
I made a rainbow in the sky,  
a dragon, and a kite.  
My fingers swish and swirl about;  
here's yellow for the sun.  
Today I am an artist,  
having finger painting fun!

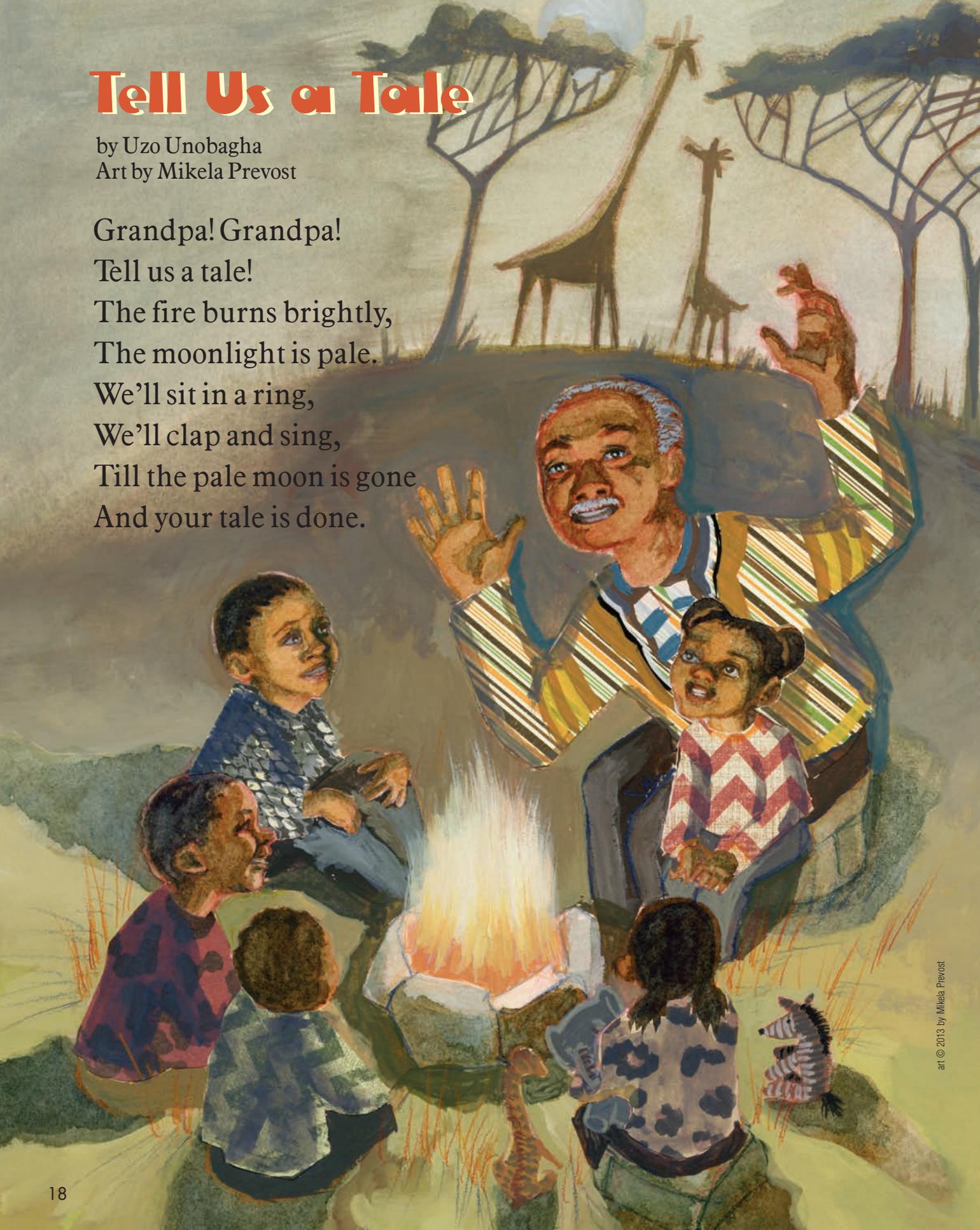




# Tell Us a Tale

by Uzo Unobagha  
Art by Mikela Prevost

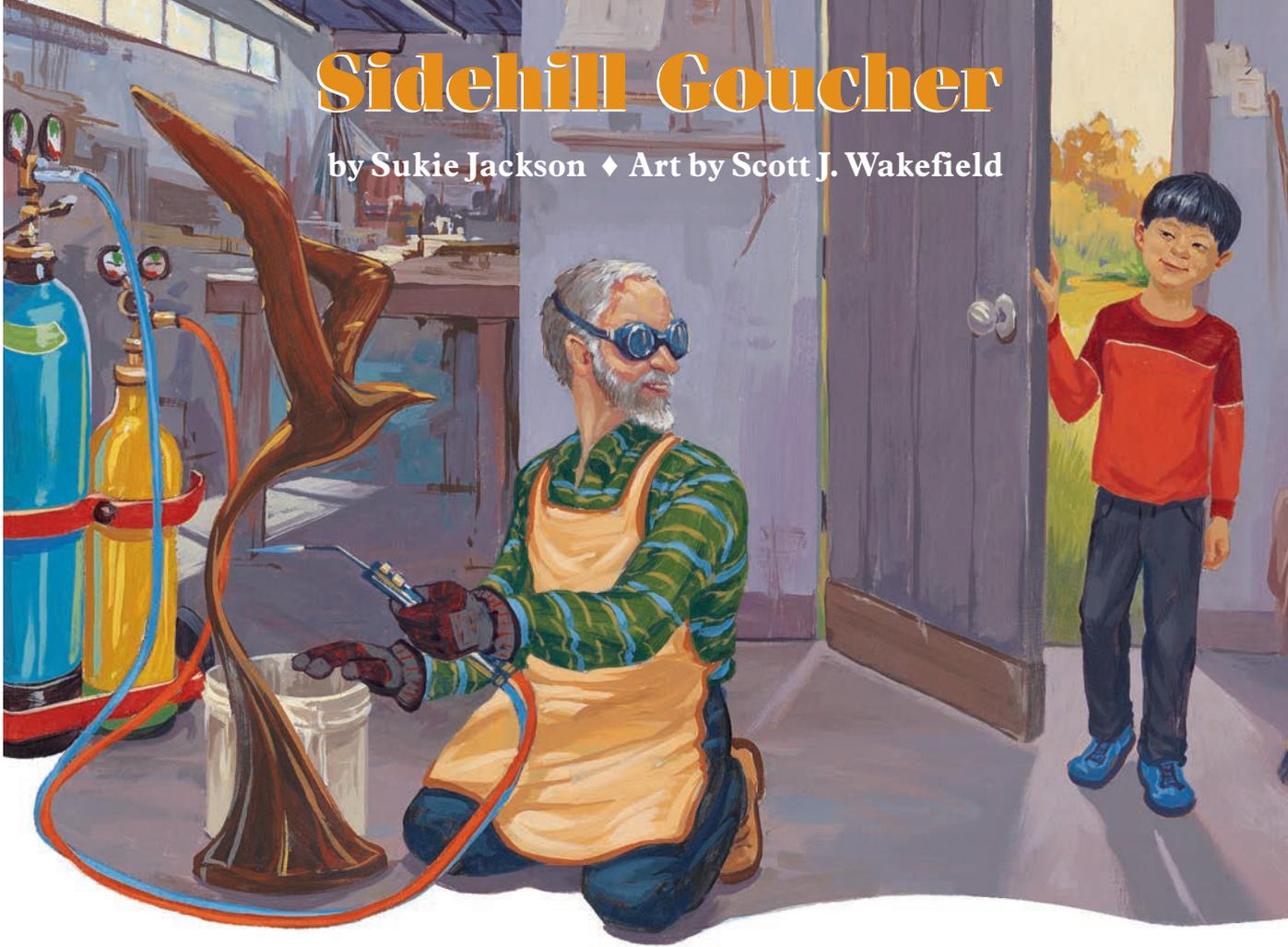
Grandpa! Grandpa!  
Tell us a tale!  
The fire burns brightly,  
The moonlight is pale.  
We'll sit in a ring,  
We'll clap and sing,  
Till the pale moon is gone  
And your tale is done.



art © 2013 by Mikela Prevost

# Sidehill Goucher

by Sukie Jackson ♦ Art by Scott J. Wakefield



“Hi, Boris!” Chris smiles when he peeks around the wooden door to Boris’s studio.

Boris is an artist. He melts bronze rods to make metal bird sculptures. Chris knows to stand back when Boris works with his torch and hot metals. From the doorway, he watches Boris add detail to the bronze wing of a gull that looks so real Chris thinks it could fly.

Boris turns off the torch. “Come in, Chris,” he says. “Have you ever seen a sidehill goucher?”

“No. What is it?” Chris asks.

We can make our own bird with stuff we already have!



First, put the smaller clay ball onto the large ball. Add the cone shape to that!



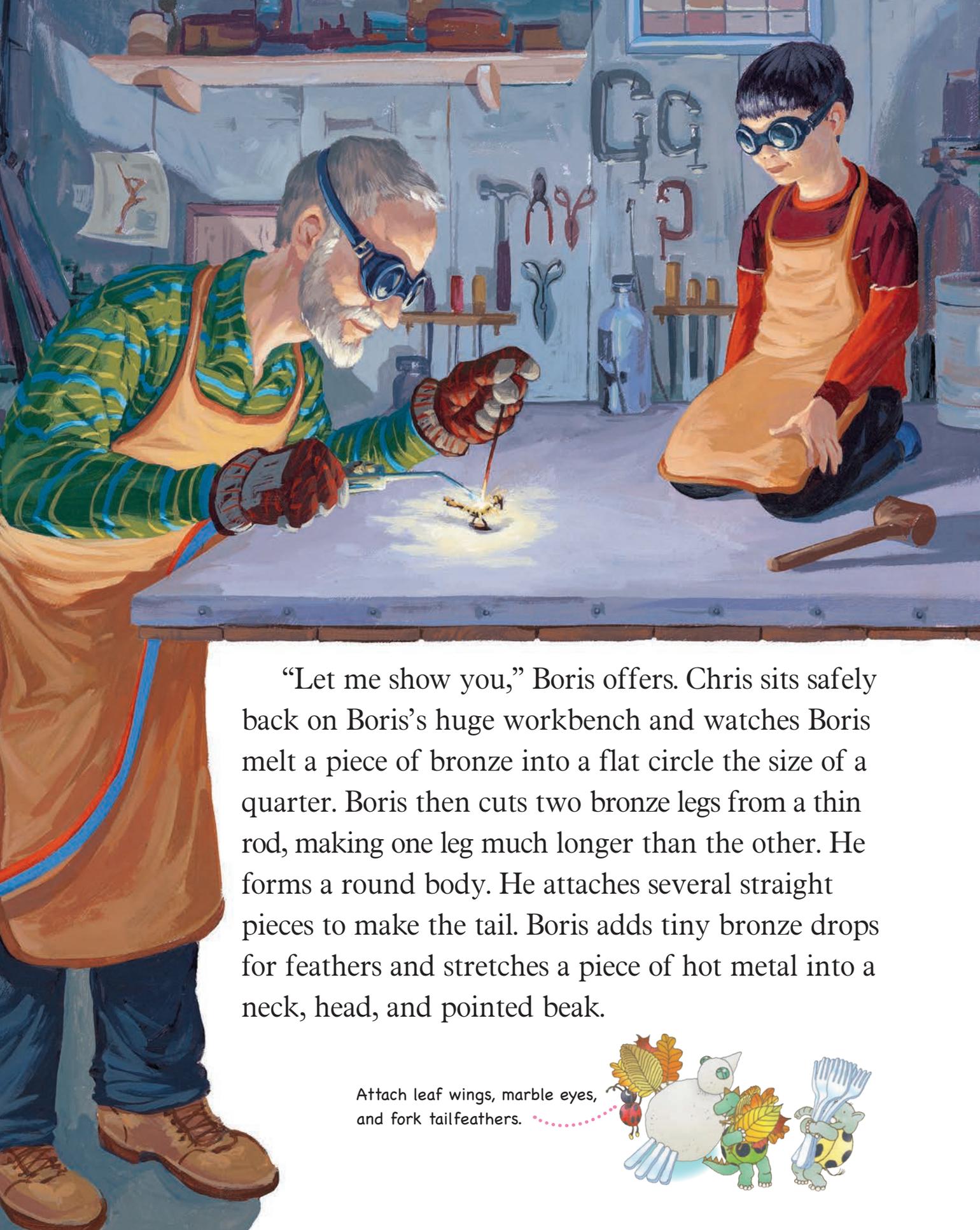
clay balls and cone



leaves, plastic forks



beans or marbles



“Let me show you,” Boris offers. Chris sits safely back on Boris’s huge workbench and watches Boris melt a piece of bronze into a flat circle the size of a quarter. Boris then cuts two bronze legs from a thin rod, making one leg much longer than the other. He forms a round body. He attaches several straight pieces to make the tail. Boris adds tiny bronze drops for feathers and stretches a piece of hot metal into a neck, head, and pointed beak.

Attach leaf wings, marble eyes,  
and fork tailfeathers.

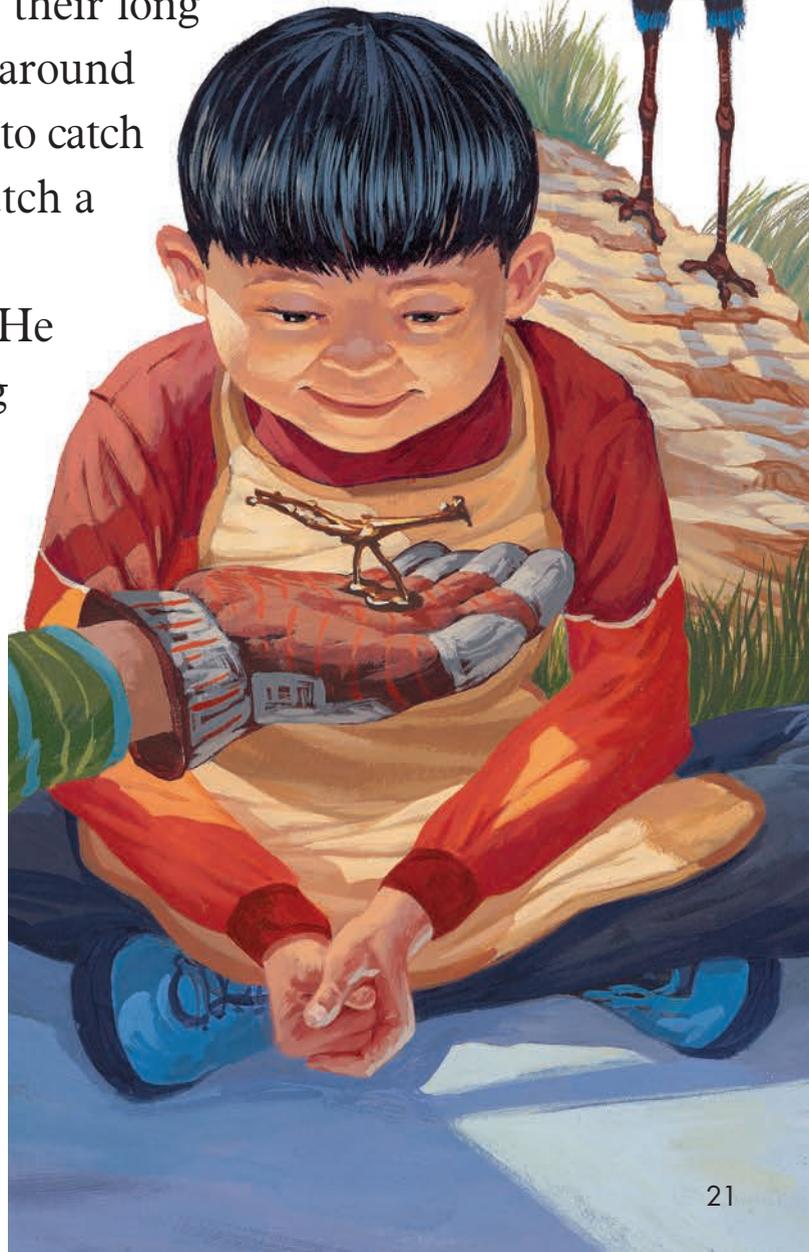


“This is a sidehill goucher,” he announces.

With one leg so much longer than the other, the bird looks comical. Chris smiles in wonder and appreciation. “I don’t think I’ve ever seen a sidehill goucher before, Boris,” he says.

“I used to see these birds all the time when I was a child in Russia,” Boris begins. “They lived on hillsides, which is why they have one leg longer than the other. Gouchers walk with their long leg downhill, to make getting around the hill easier. For fun we used to catch them. Do you know how to catch a sidehill goucher, Chris?”

Chris thinks for a minute. He imagines the goucher walking along a hillside, its long leg downhill. Wouldn’t a bird with such odd legs be lopsided? Chris wonders if Boris is pulling *his* leg. Boris looks completely serious.



Add the fork feet!



Ta-da!



“No, how do you catch a sidehill goucher?” Chris asks.

“You get in front of the sidehill goucher so that it has to turn around. And then you chase the goucher when it has its short leg downhill. They are very easy to catch then.”

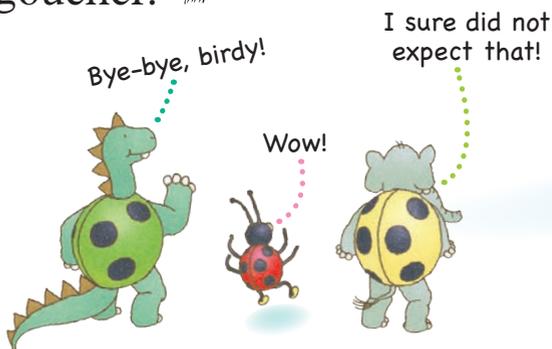
Boris breaks into one of his wonderful smiles, and Chris laughs. Now he knows that Boris is kidding. But he loves the idea of the goucher lurching around the hill, short leg down.

The bronze sidehill goucher has cooled, and Boris gives it to Chris. It feels heavy and valuable. Chris wonders if this is how gold feels. Boris turns back toward the bird sculpture he was working on when Chris first arrived.

Chris holds the sidehill goucher carefully. The bronze color looks like morning sun on the wood floor in Chris’s bedroom.

“Thank you, Boris,” Chris says.

He runs back home. He can’t wait to ask his mom and dad if they know how to catch a sidehill goucher. 🐞



# Underwater Art Class

Art by Linda Silvestri

Everyone in Mr. Eight-Arms's watery classroom loves to make art! Would you like to give a gold star to any of these silly students?



Hop to the Web to color  
your own masterpiece!



Watercolors!





# WHO AM I?

by L. B. Manz  
Art by Tatjana  
Mai-Wyss

I live in Japan during winter's cold, frosty months. It's a time when bamboo bends and pine trees sway and snowflakes dance on the whirling wind.

In February we welcome visitors from all over the world. They come to Sapporo for the great snow festival.

Sparkling ice castles line the streets. Bowls of hot soup, crammed with noodles, warm all the people as they *ooh* and *ahh* at each icy creation.





I'm not as grand as the snow sculptures of Sapporo. I'm far smaller, in fact. But I can warm your heart just as the ice castles do.

I can be found in front of anyone's home. I am as common as the frost on your windowpane.

Whoever likes to romp in winter's cold can conjure me from a simple mound of snow. Start with two balls of snow—one for my body and one for my head. My eyes are but two lumps of coal, and anything will do for my mouth and my nose.



Here in Japan, a hollow is often made in my middle. A candle inside is lit so that I glow like a shimmering lamp in the snow.

In my country, I'm called *Yukidaruma*. But you may know me by another name. Can you guess who I am?



I am the snowman who greets you beneath the morning sun or glistens in the moonlight as the stars dance high above. 🌨️

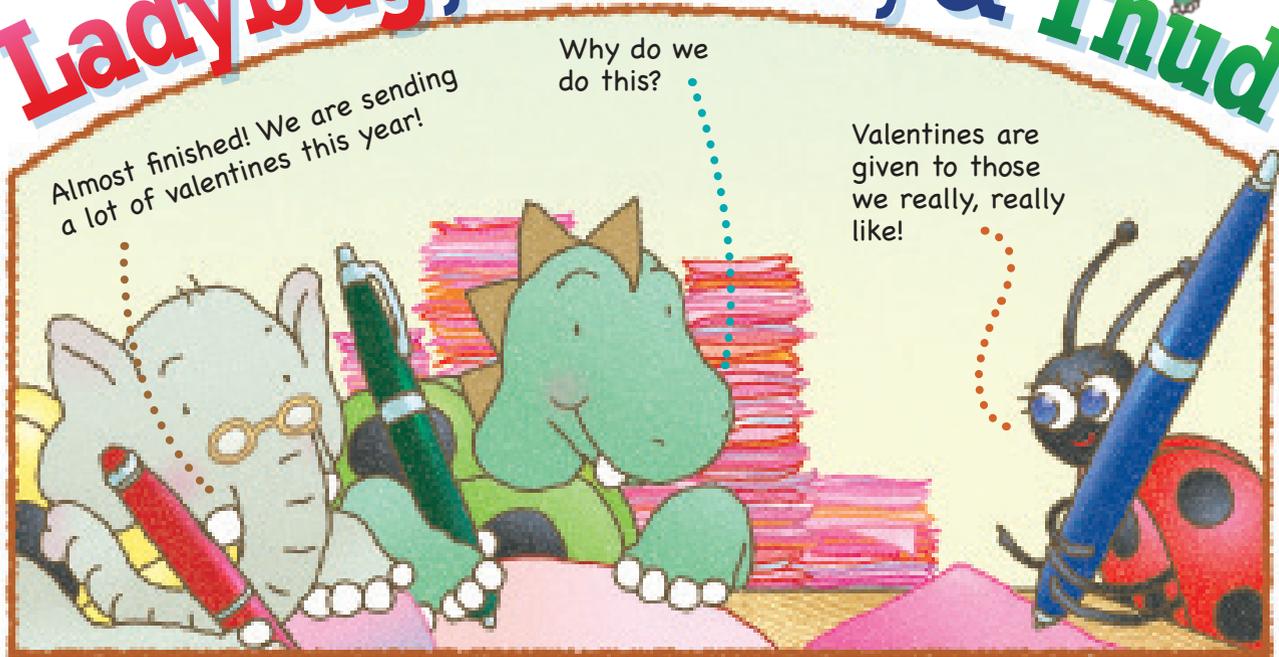
Time for Valentines!

# Ladybug, Muddle, & Thud

Almost finished! We are sending a lot of valentines this year!

Why do we do this?

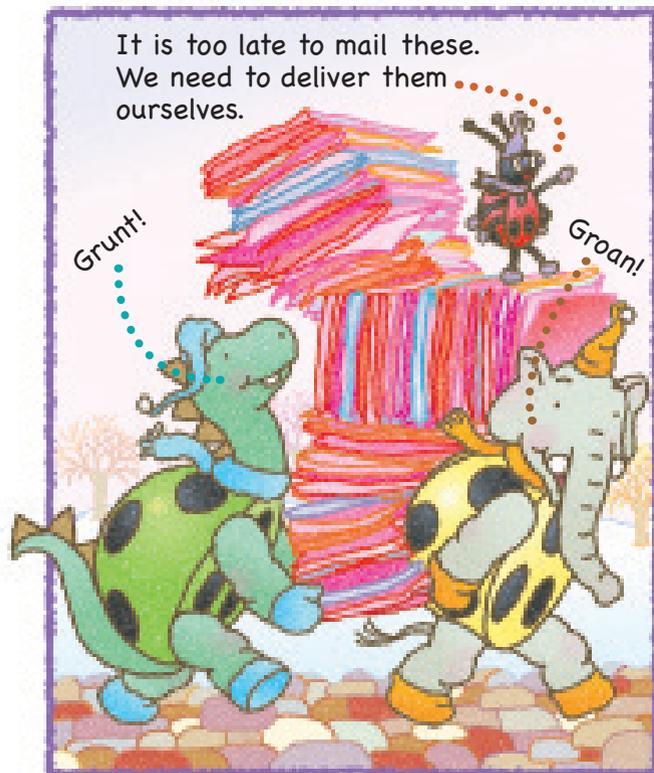
Valentines are given to those we really, really like!



It is too late to mail these. We need to deliver them ourselves.

Grunt!

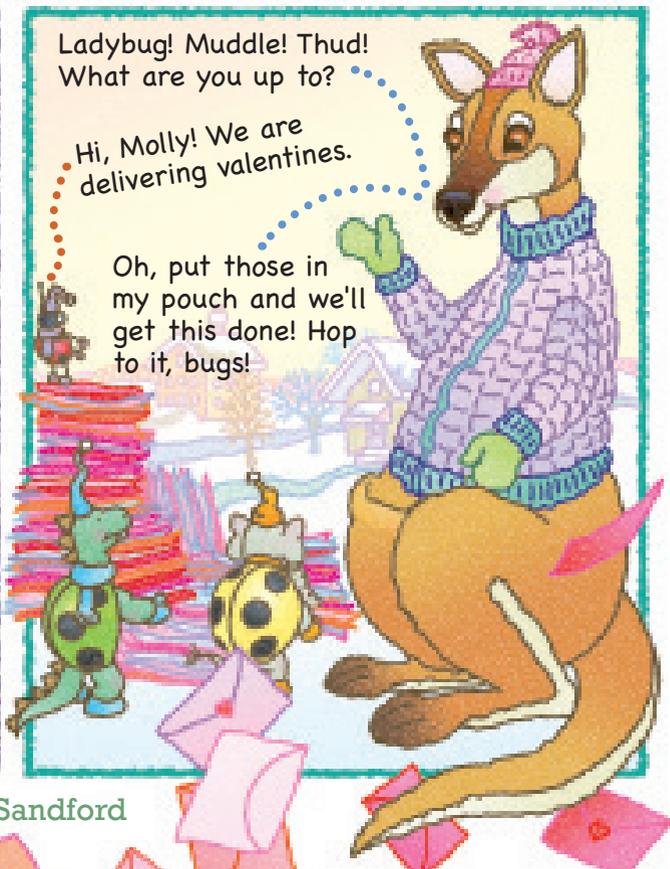
Groan!



Ladybug! Muddle! Thud! What are you up to?

Hi, Molly! We are delivering valentines.

Oh, put those in my pouch and we'll get this done! Hop to it, bugs!



by John Sandford

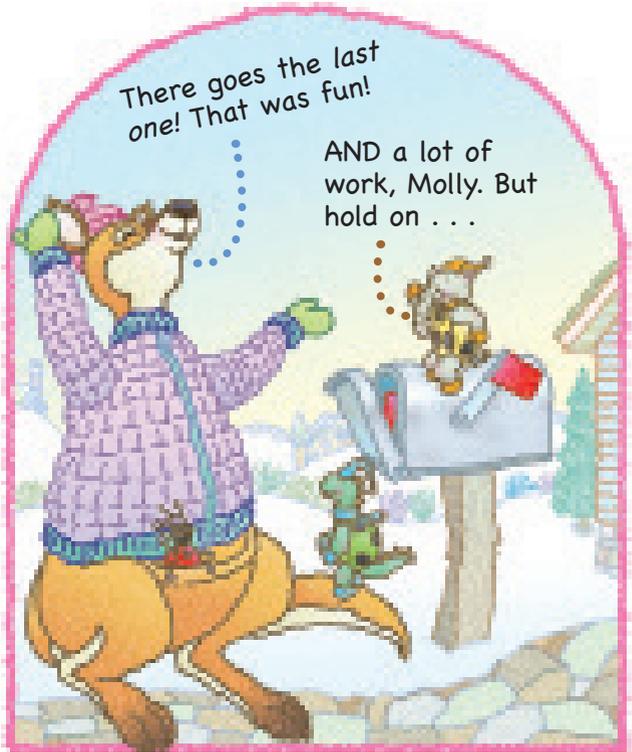
So Molly and the bugs delivered the cards to:



... and 233 others!

There goes the last one! That was fun!

AND a lot of work, Molly. But hold on . . .



This last one is for YOU!

THANKS!  
But bugs - I don't have any for you!

Molly, YOU are the best valentine we could ever have!  
You are a **great** friend!



Molly is a wallaby. Wallabies are like kangaroos, but smaller.

Did you know there are wallabies living in Hawaii? Yes! Really!

# Marshmallow Soup

by Kerry Aradhya

Art by Jacqueline Hudon-Verrelli

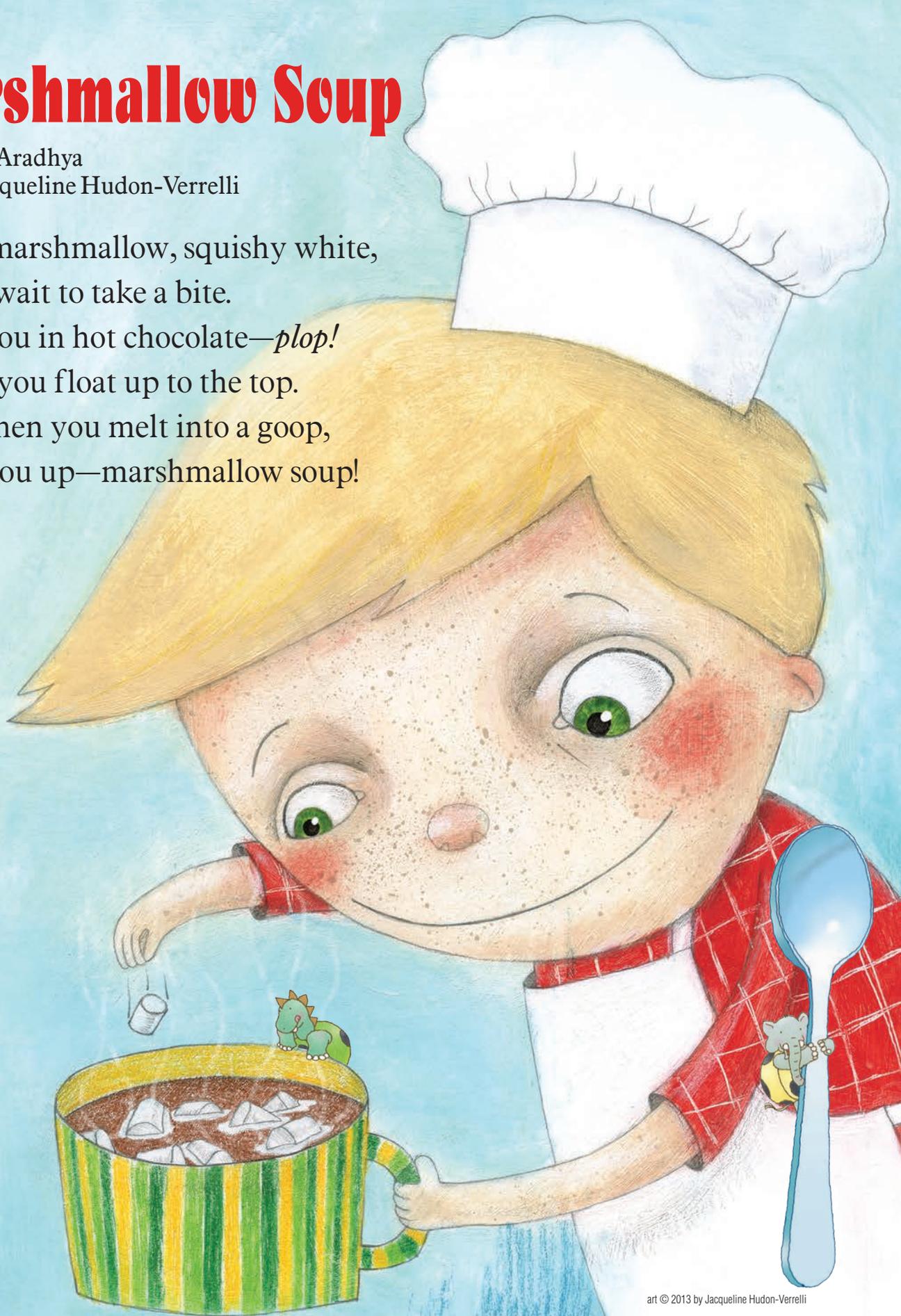
Sweet marshmallow, squishy white,  
I can't wait to take a bite.

Drop you in hot chocolate—*plop!*

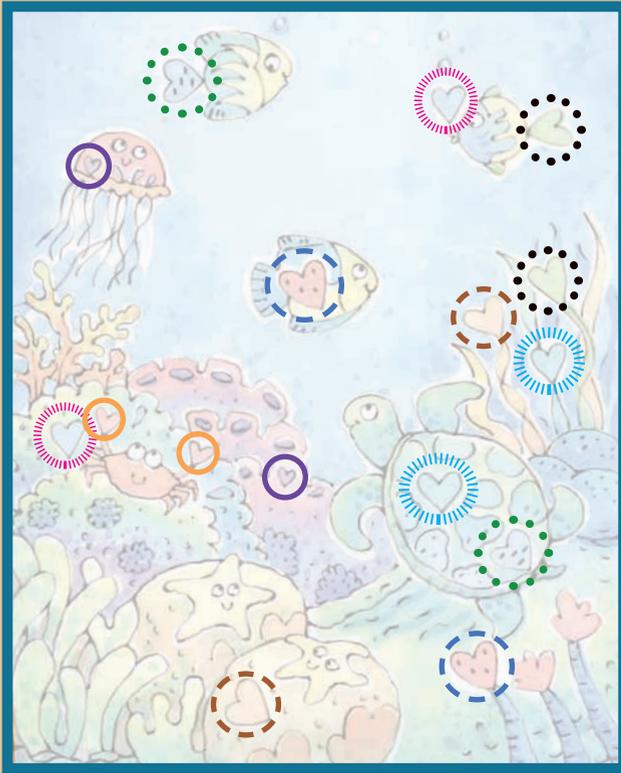
Watch you float up to the top.

And when you melt into a goop,

Slurp you up—marshmallow soup!



Answer to puzzle on page 2. Did you find all eight pairs?



**Your Turn!** Send us a drawing of a kangaroo. Be sure to include your complete name, age, and address. Your drawing must be signed by a parent or legal guardian, authorizing us to feature it on our website. Only first names and last initials will be used. Send to **LADYBUG KANGAROO**, 70 East Lake Street, Suite 300, Chicago, IL 60601, or email to [ladybug@ladybugmagkids.com](mailto:ladybug@ladybugmagkids.com). We'll post our favorites at [www.ladybugmagkids.com/yourturn](http://www.ladybugmagkids.com/yourturn).

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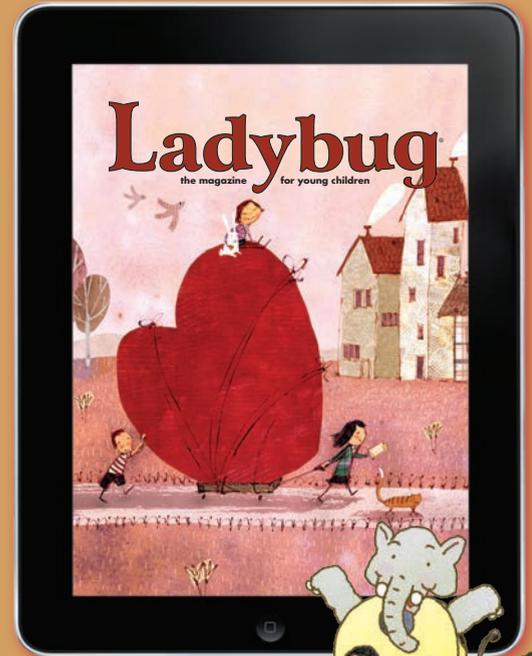
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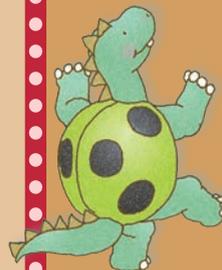
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# Vale Puz

by Suzanne Beck  
Art by Katherine

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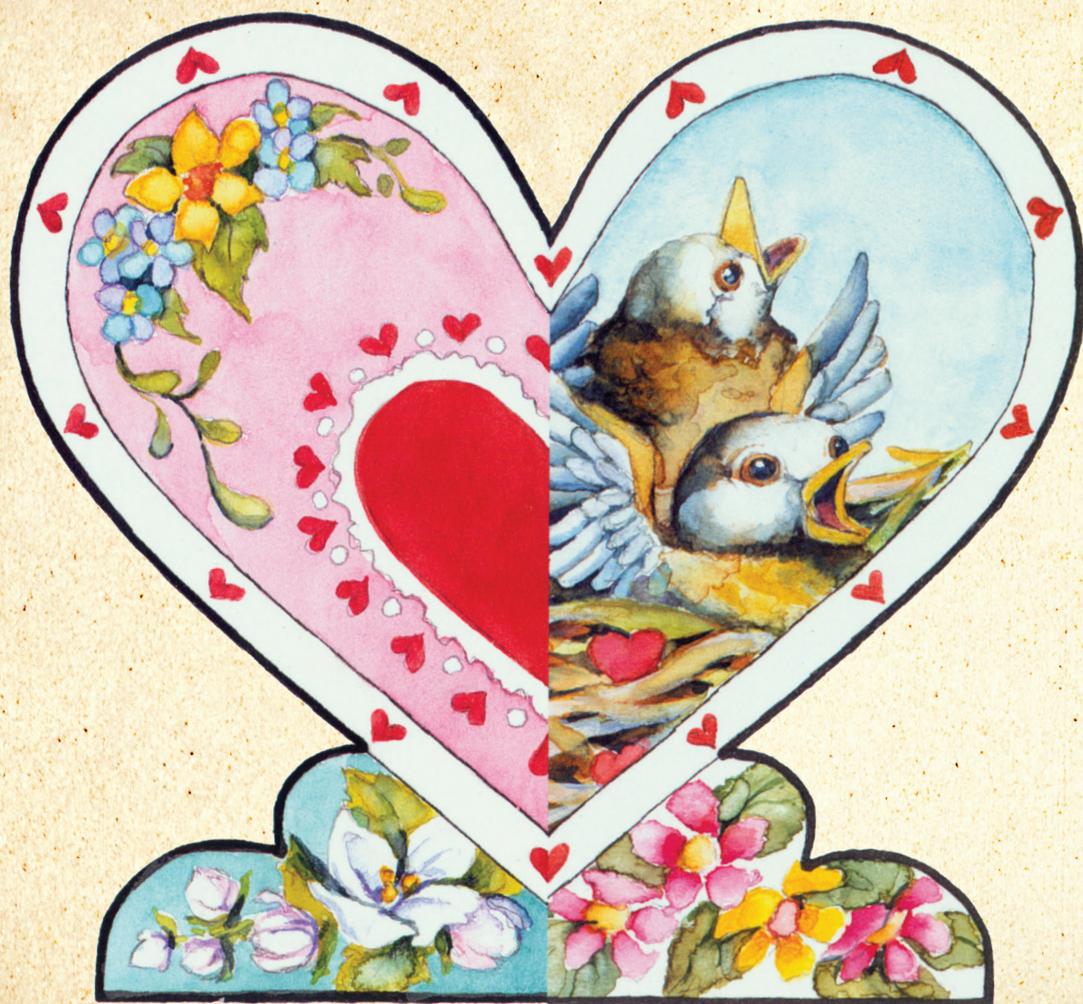
Cut out each heart along the thick black outline. Carefully cut halfway through each heart on the heavy black line. Don't cut too far!

Slip the two hearts together as shown to make one stand-up heart. Be careful! You'll need to match the pictures!

Use your stand-up heart as a decoration or give it to someone you love.

Happy Valentine's Day!

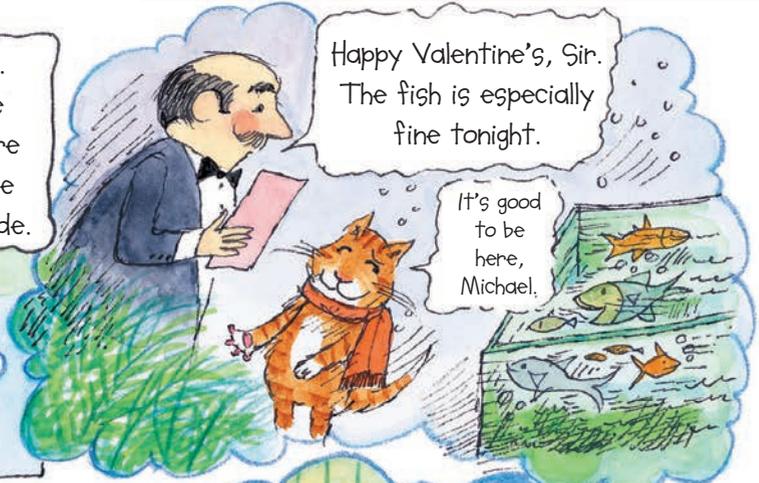
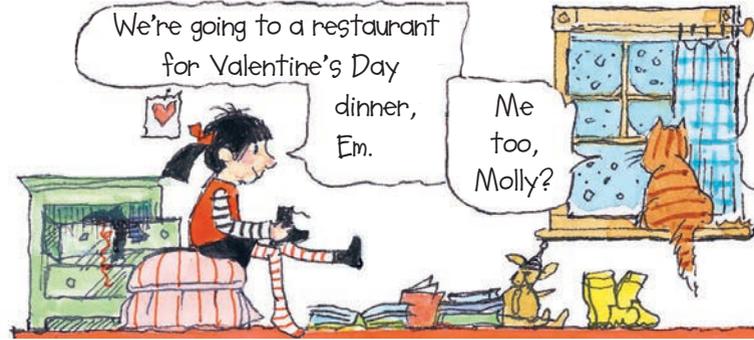






# MOLLY AND EMMETT

BY Marilyn Hafner



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