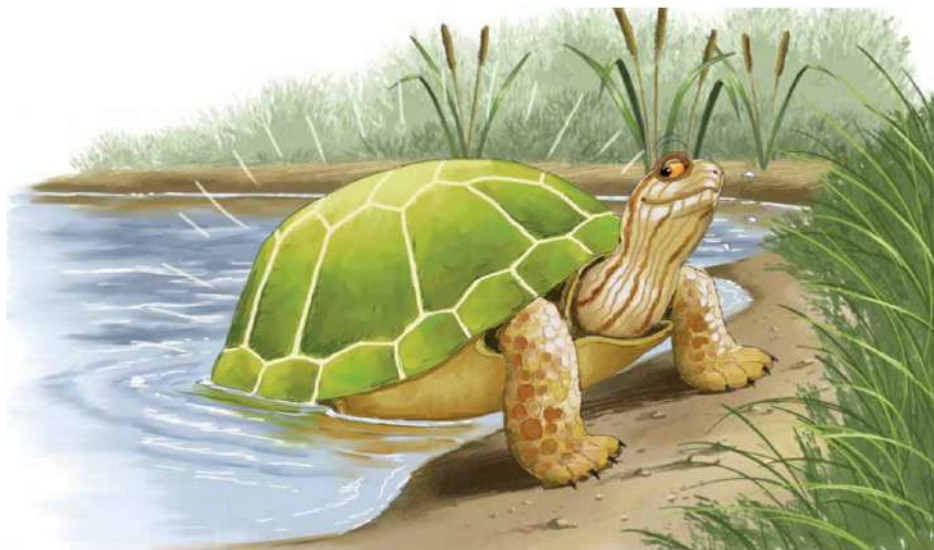


How Turtle Cracked His Shell



by Joseph Bruchac
Retold by Rosie McCormick
Illustrated by Gail McIntosh
and Barbara Gibson





One autumn day, Turtle was talking with the birds. They said, “Winter is coming. Soon it’s going to be very cold here. We’re getting ready to fly south where it is warm.”

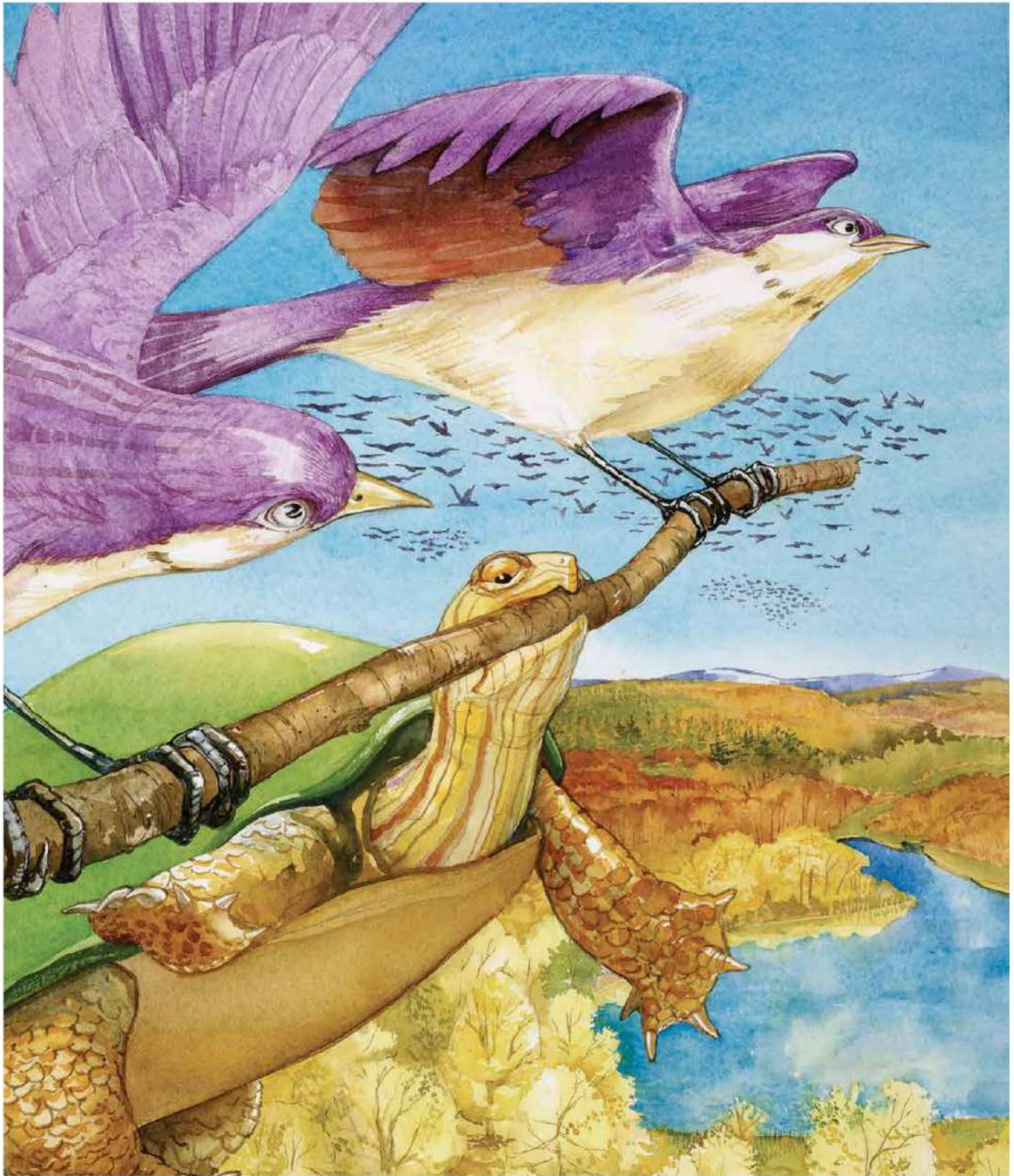


“Can I come with you?” asked Turtle. At first, the birds said, “No!” Turtle pleaded, “There must be some way I can go with you!” Finally, the birds agreed.

“Use your mouth to hold on tightly to this stick,” the birds explained. Turtle did just that.



Then the two big birds grabbed the ends of the stick. Soon they were all high in the sky—including Turtle.



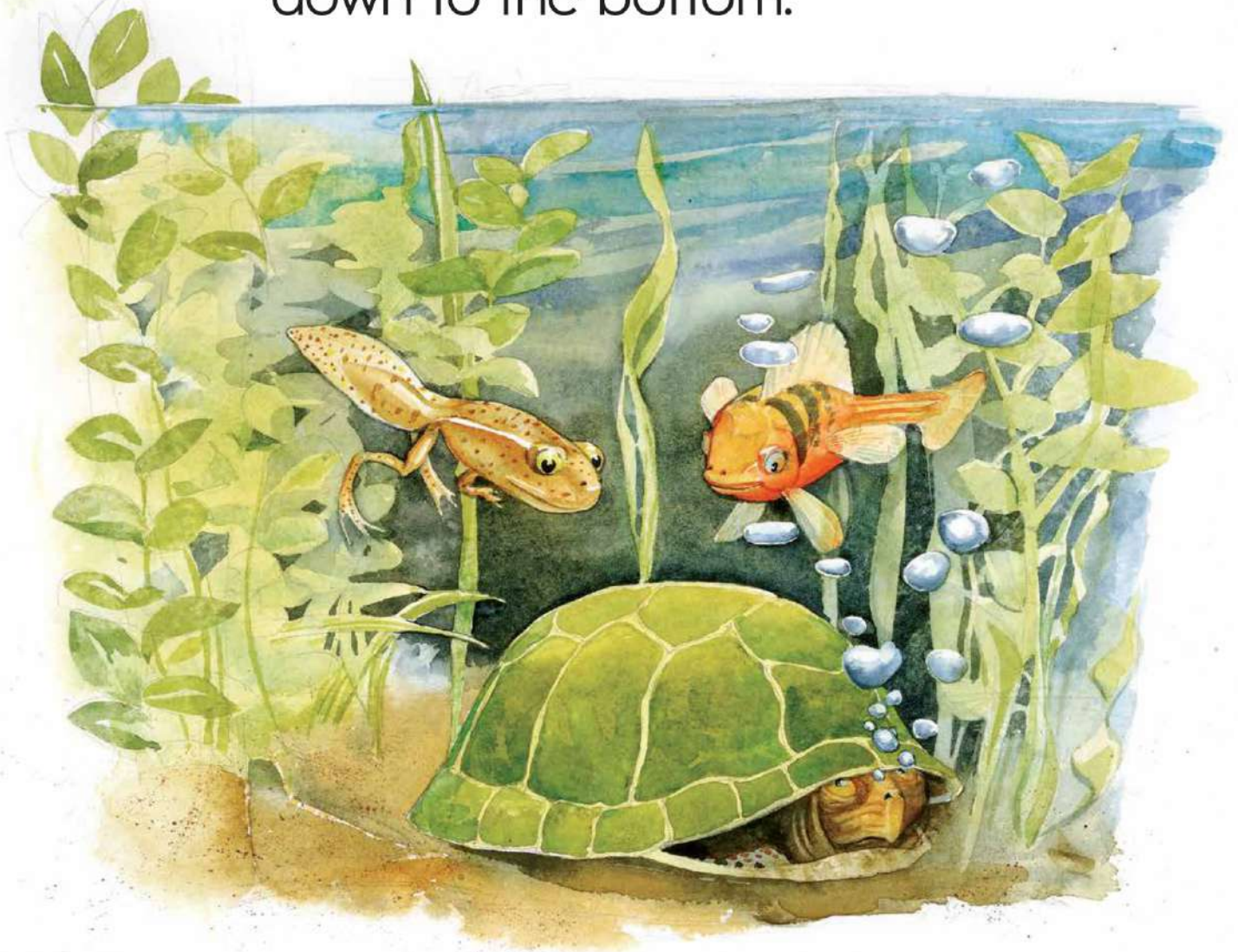
Turtle had never been so high off the ground before. He could look down and see how small everything looked. He wondered how far they had come, and how far they had to go.

Turtle tried to get the birds' attention. He rolled his eyes at them, but they did not notice. He waved his legs too.



Frustrated, Turtle opened his mouth to speak. At that moment he let go of the stick and began to fall! He fell down from the sky and hit the ground hard.

Turtle's body ached. He ached so much he did not notice that his shell had cracked all over. He crawled into a pond and swam down to the bottom.



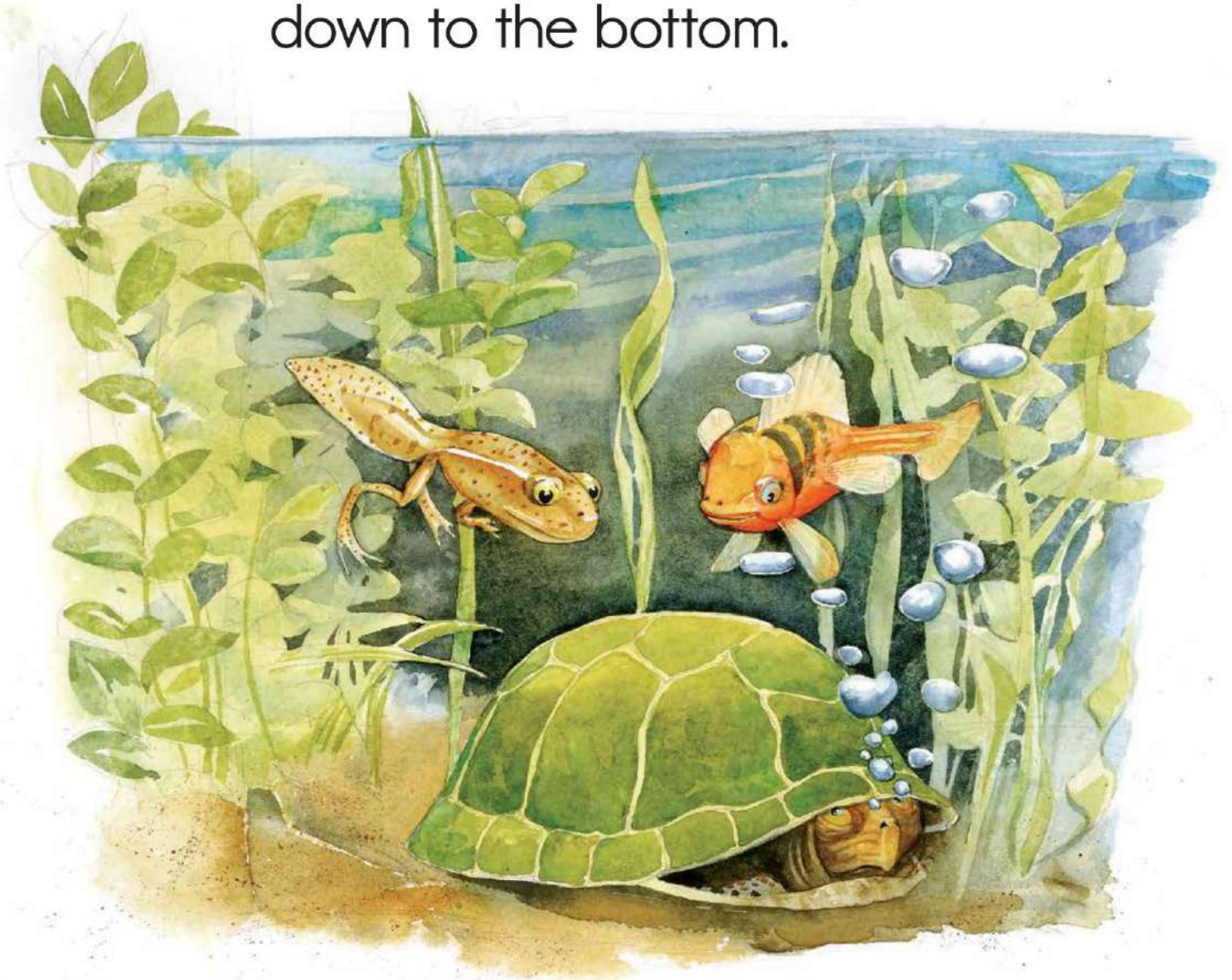
There he dug a hole in the mud and slept all winter long.

In the spring, Turtle woke up. He was very proud of the cracks on his shell.



Ever since then, every turtle's shell looks like it has cracks all over it.

Turtle's body ached. He ached so much he did not notice that his shell had cracked all over. He crawled into a pond and swam down to the bottom.



THE END



Classic Tales Activity Pages

PRECHOOL

Core Knowledge Language Arts®



Dear Family Member,

Today your child listened to the story "How Turtle Cracked His Shell." Read the abridged story below to your child and then help your child do the accompanying activity page. Encourage your child to retell the story to you later this week.



How Turtle Cracked His Shell

by Joseph Bruchac

Retold by Rosie McCormick

Illustrated by Gail McIntosh and
Barbara Gibson

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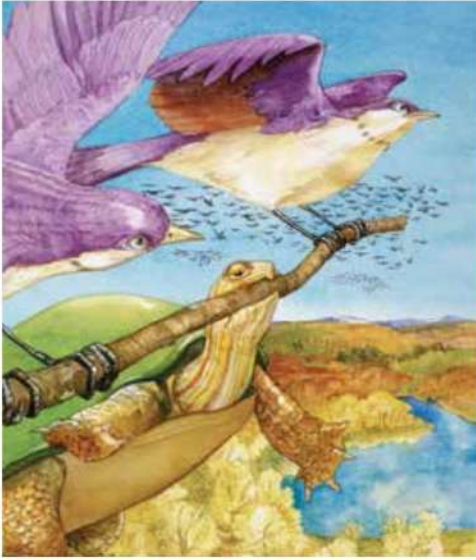


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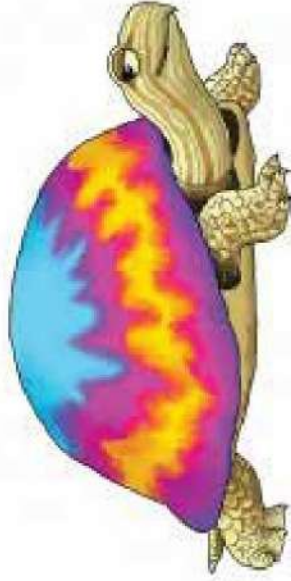


Turtle's Shell

Directions: Talk with your child and help her retell the story of "How Turtle Got His Shell." Then read the question below, pointing to the words as you read them. Help your child make a decision by asking her to describe what is on each turtle's shell. Then ask whether it shows what happened to the turtle in the story.



What happened to Turtle's shell?



Make Your Own Book

Directions: Students will make their own book using four pictures from the story. Help students cut out pictures or cut out pictures for students prior to starting activity. Have students sequence the images and glue or tape them into the pages of a book. Finally, have each student retell/read the story using his/her pretend book.



Remember

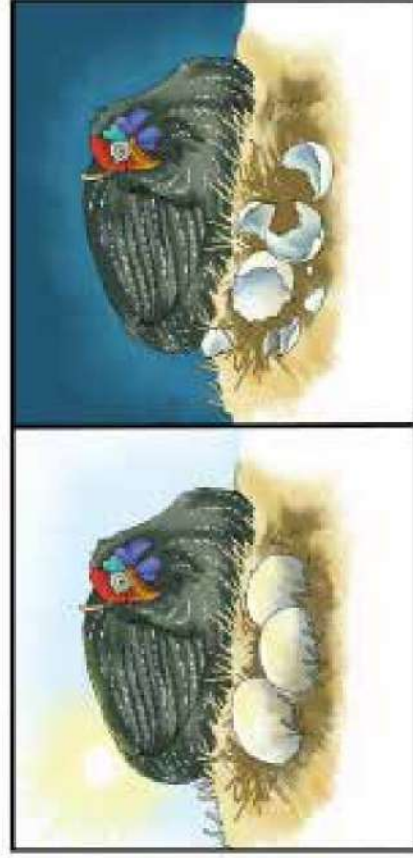
Why Flies Buzz

Directions: Tell students to listen to each question and circle the picture that shows the correct answer. Slide your finger under each word as you read the questions. Use the word 'because' to prompt the answer. For example, for the first question, ask, "Did the man and woman go into the jungle because they wanted to gather fruit or because they wanted to meet a friend?"

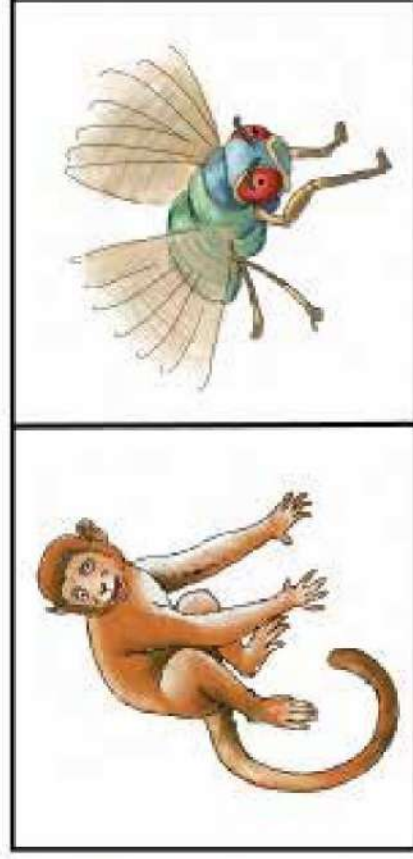


1. Why did the man and woman go into the jungle?

2. What made the hippopotamus angry?



3. What happened to the bushfowl's nest?



4. The lion decided that all the problems occurred because of one animal. Which animal?

ANSWERS: 1) To gather food (first image: man is pointing to coconuts in the tree) 2) A mango fell on his head. (first image) 3) The hippo broke her eggs. (second image) 4) The fly (second image)

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How Turtle Cracked His Shell adapted by Rosie McCormick
from **How the Turtle Flew South for the Winter** by Joseph
Bruchac courtesy of Fulcrum Publishing, Inc.

All other stories adapted and retold by Rosie McCormick, Linda
Bevilacqua, and Susan Hitchcock

IMAGES

Barbara L. Gibson 1A-1 (Top); 1A-4; 2A-1 (Front bottom left);
2B-1 (city house); 2B-1 (country house); 2B-1
(fancy food); 2B-2; 2B-3; 3A-1; 3A-3; 3B-1;
3B-2; 3B-3; 3B-4; 3B-5; 4A-2; 4B-1; 4B-2;
5A-1; 5B-1; 6A-1; 6A-3; 6B-1; 6B-2; 6B-3;
7A-1; 7A-3; 7A-4; 7B-1; 7B-2; 8A-1 (Front
middle); 8A-2; 8B-1 (Bottom right); 9A-1;
9A-2 (Front left); 9A-2 (Front 2 bottom left);
10A-1; 10A-2; 10A-4

Gail McIntosh 1A-3; 1B-1; 2A-1 (Front top left); 2A-1 (Front
top right); 2A-1 (Front bottom right); 2A-1
(Back); 2B-1 (fancy clothes); 2B-1 (plain
clothes); 2B-1 (simple food); 2B-1 (city
mouse); 2B-1 (country mouse); 3A-2; 4A-1;
6A-2; 7A-2; 8A-1 (Front top); 8A-1 (Front
bottom); 8A-1 (Back); 8B-1 (Top left); 8B-1
(Top right); 8B-1 (Bottom left); 9A-2 (Front
right); 9A-2 (Back); 9A-2 (Front 2); 10A-3

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

These materials are the result of the work, advice, and encouragement of numerous individuals over many years. Some of those singled out here already know the depth of our gratitude; others may be surprised to find themselves thanked publicly for help they gave quietly and generously for the sake of the enterprise alone. To helpers named and unnamed we are deeply grateful.

CONTRIBUTORS TO EARLIER VERSIONS OF THESE MATERIALS

Susan B. Albaugh, Kazuko Ashizawa, Nancy Braier, Kathryn M. Cummings, Michelle De Groot, Diana Espinal, Mary E. Forbes, Michael L. Ford, Ted Hirsch, Danielle Knecht, James K. Lee, Diane Henry Leipzig, Martha G. Mack, Liana Mahoney, Isabel McLean, Steve Morrison, Juliane K. Munson, Elizabeth B. Rasmussen, Laura Tortorelli, Rachael L. Shaw, Sivan B. Sherman, Miriam E. Vidaver, Catherine S. Whittington, Jeannette A. Williams

We would like to extend special recognition to Program Directors Matthew Davis and Souzanne Wright who were instrumental to the early development of this program.

SCHOOLS

We are truly grateful to the teachers, students, and administrators of the following schools for their willingness to field test these materials and for their invaluable advice: Capitol View Elementary, Challenge Foundation Academy (IN), Community Academy Public Charter School, Lake Lure Classical Academy, Lepanto Elementary School, New Holland Core Knowledge Academy, Paramount School of Excellence, Pioneer Challenge Foundation Academy, New York City PS 26R (The Carteret School), PS 30X (Wilton School), PS 50X (Clara Barton School), PS 96Q, PS 102X (Joseph O. Loretan), PS 104Q (The Bays Water), PS 214K (Michael Friedsam), PS 223Q (Lyndon B. Johnson School), PS 308K (Clara Cardwell), PS 333Q (Goldie Maple Academy), Sequoyah Elementary School, South Shore Charter Public School, Spartanburg Charter School, Steed Elementary School, Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy, Three Oaks Elementary, West Manor Elementary.

And a special thanks to the CKLA Pilot Coordinators Anita Henderson, Yasmin Lugo-Hernandez, and Susan Smith, whose suggestions and day-to-day support to teachers using these materials in their classrooms was critical.





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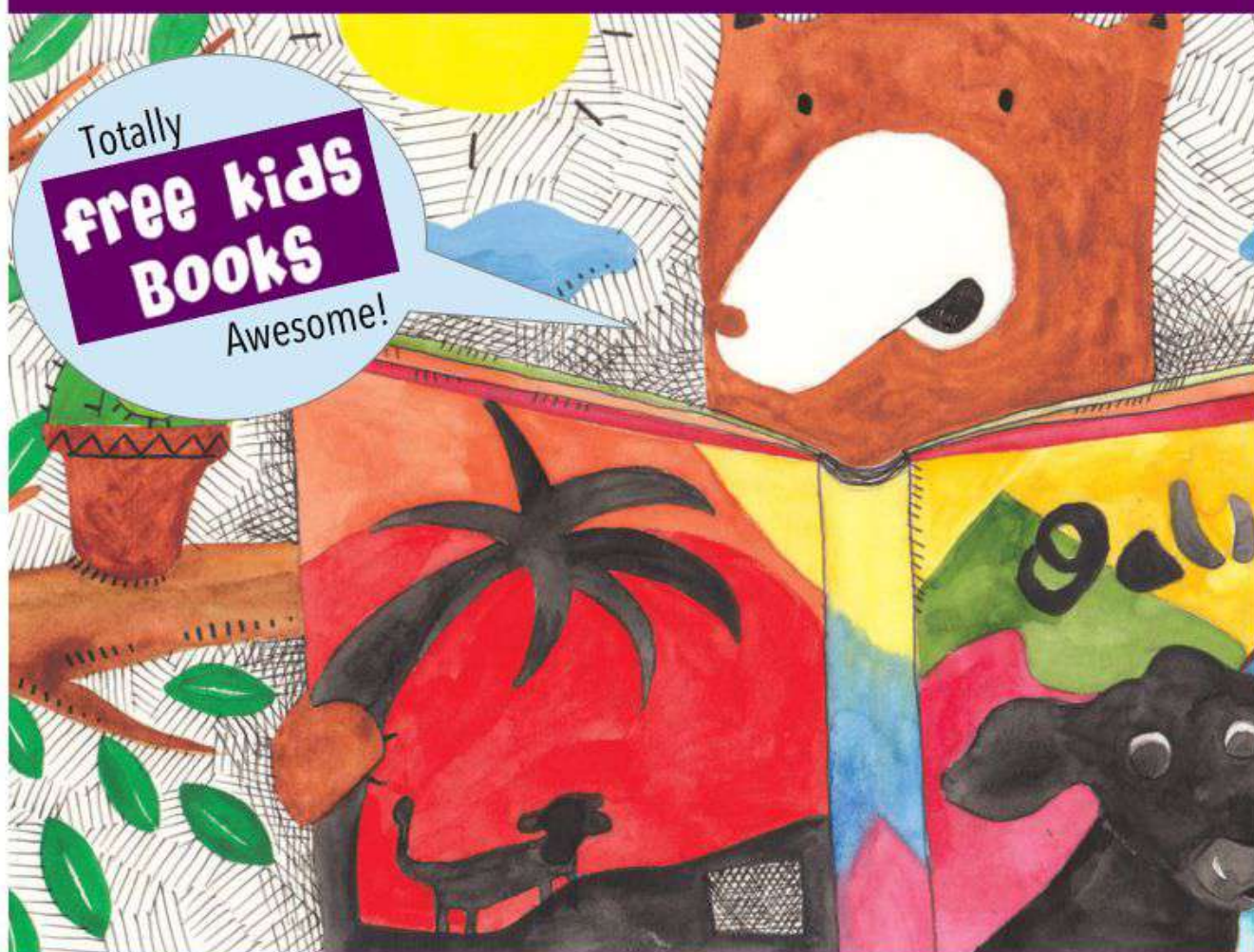
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