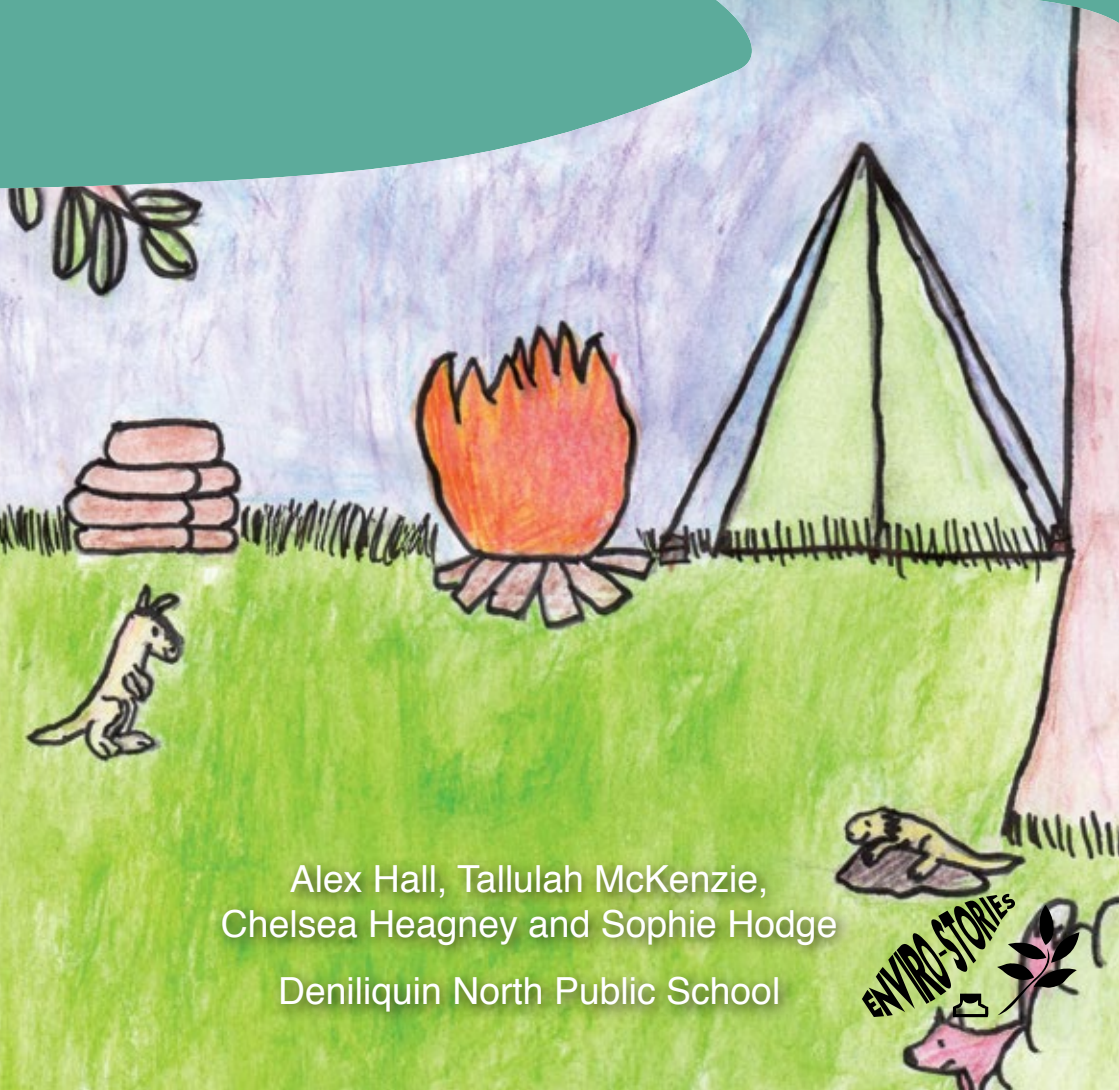


# Harlow and Tjunda's Great Adventure



Alex Hall, Tallulah McKenzie,  
Chelsea Heagney and Sophie Hodge

Deniliquin North Public School

ENVIRO-STORIES





Enviro-Stories is an environmental education program that has been developed by PeeKdesigns.



**[www.envirostories.com.au](http://www.envirostories.com.au)**

This program provides an education and learning experience for kids through their active engagement with natural resource and catchment management issues. The final product is a published story written about local issues, by local kids, for local kids and future generations.

# Harlow and Tjunda's Great Adventure

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School: Deniliquin North Public School

## “Biodiversity of the Murray Catchment” Enviro-Stories Education Program

In 2012, the Creative Catchment Kids program delivered the “Biodiversity of the Murray Catchment” Enviro-Stories Education Program. The project was initiated by the Murray Darling Association and Burrumbuttock Public School. It was generously funded by the Murray and Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authorities, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and Teys Australia, Wagga. Additional support came from the Wirraminna and Riverina Environmental Education Centres.



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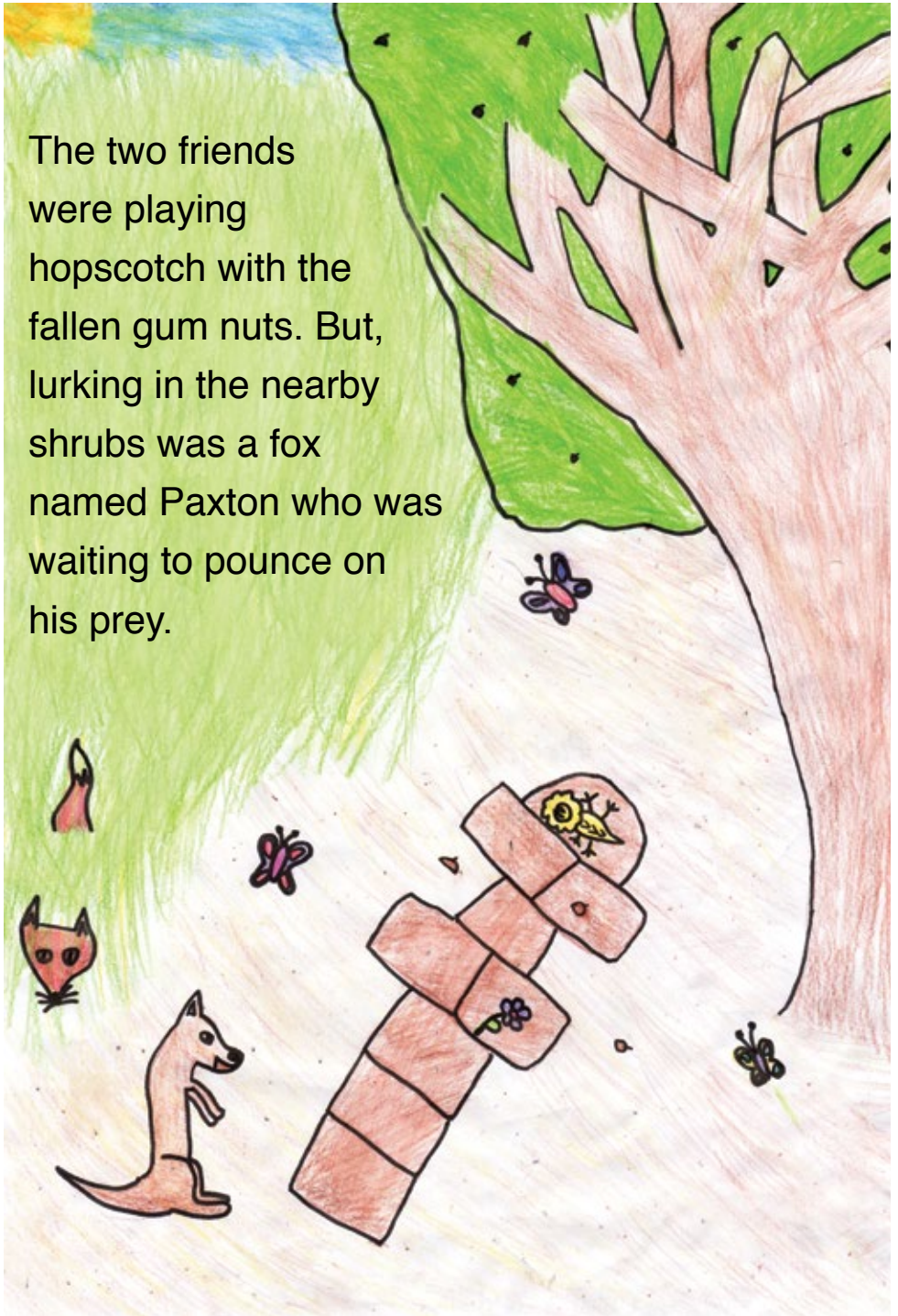
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In the scrubby bushland near Deniliquin, two friends Harlow the Joey and Tjunda the Bearded Dragon were playing near their favourite gum tree.





The two friends were playing hopscotch with the fallen gum nuts. But, lurking in the nearby shrubs was a fox named Paxton who was waiting to pounce on his prey.



A lone nut fell and rolled near the shrubs so Harlow and Tjunda ran to retrieve it. Paxton leaped out of the shrubs and scared the wits out of them.



Tjunda was so terrified that he jumped on Harlow's back and Harlow bolted as fast as he could. Paxton started chasing them determined to catch his dinner.



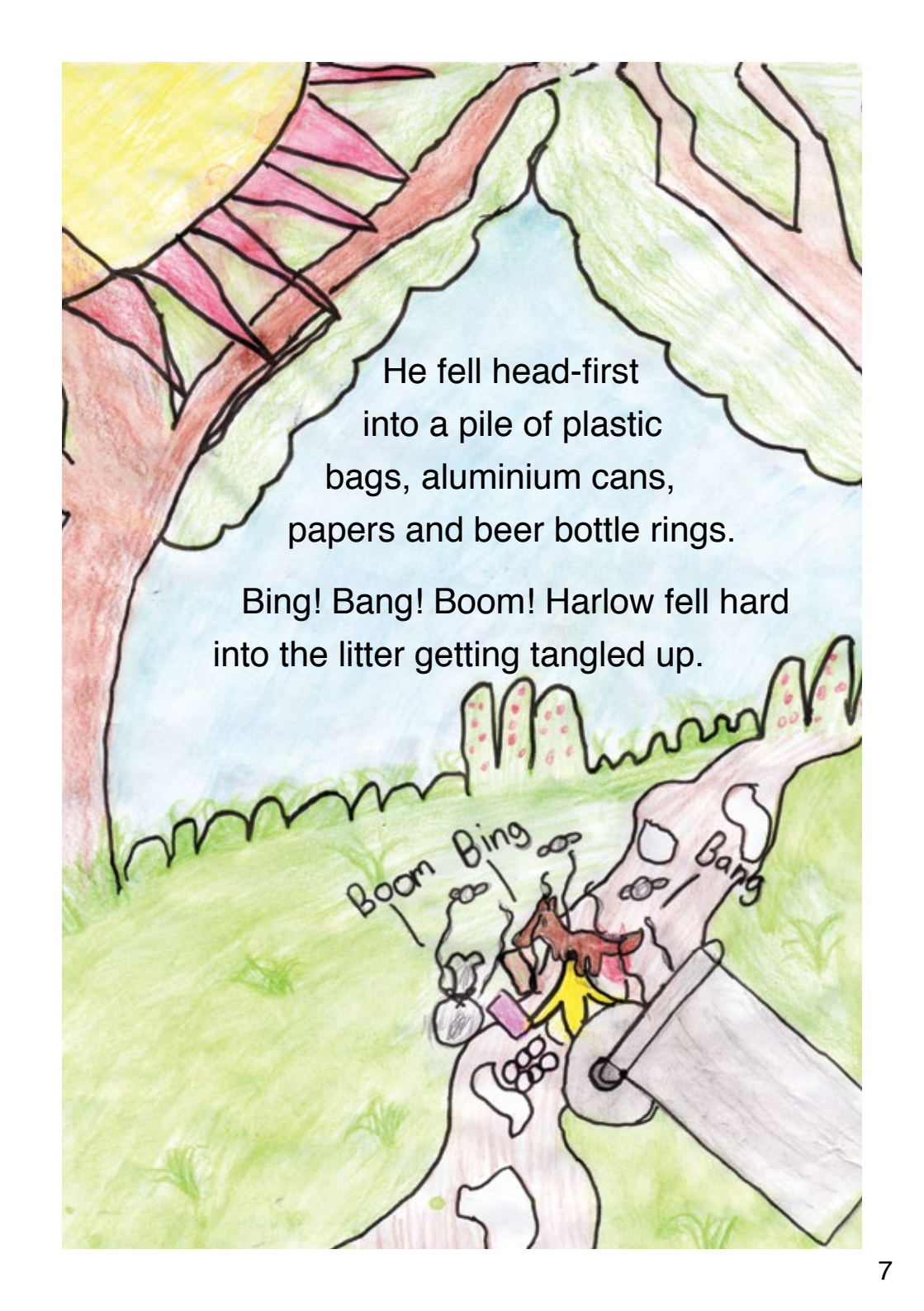
Paxton ran fast and soon caught up to Harlow and Tjunda. He was right behind them when the path split in two different directions.



Harlow made a sharp turn that caused Tjunda to fall off his back. Dazed and confused Tjunda started to run the opposite direction to Harlow. Paxton saw Tjunda's juicy tail and decided to follow him.





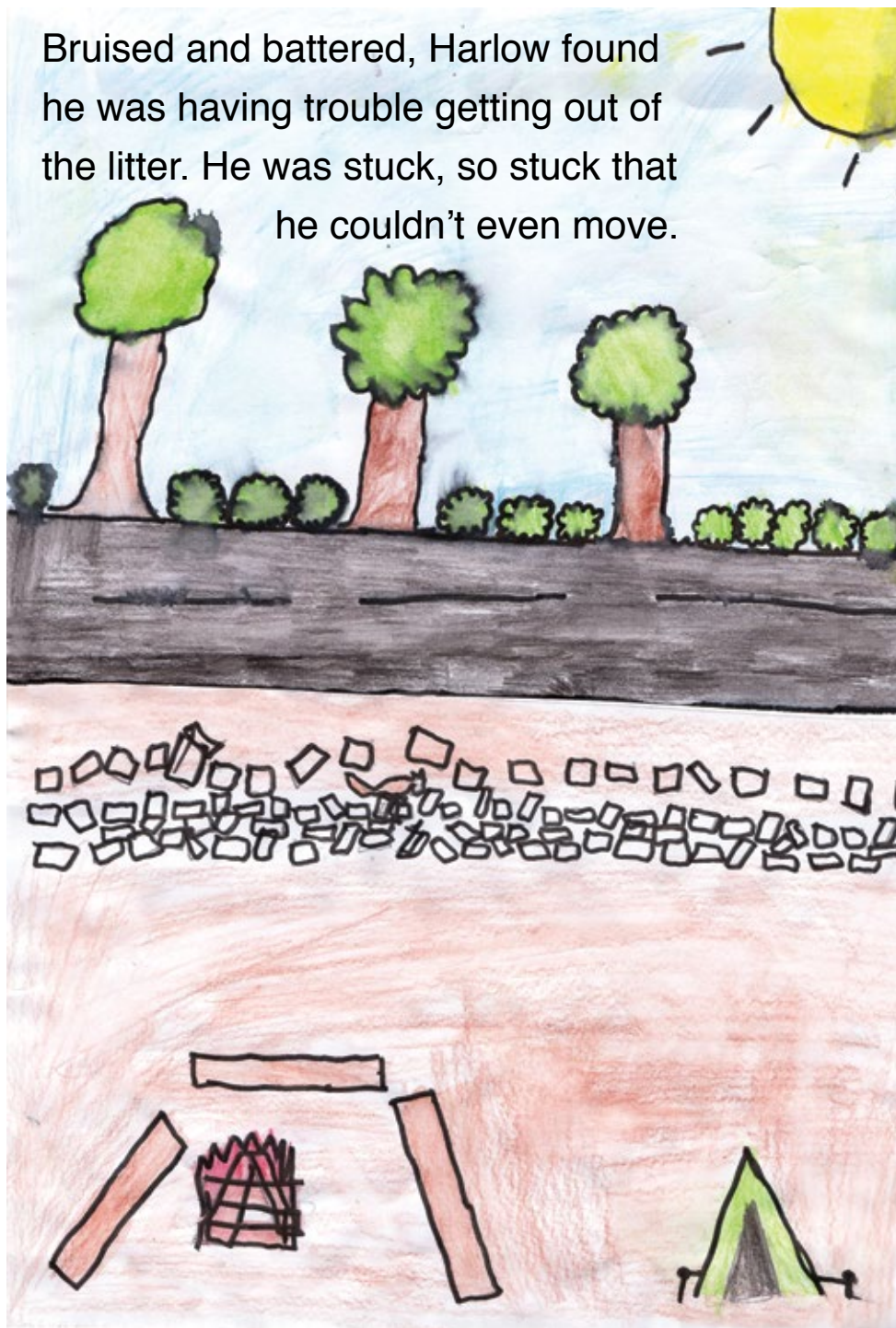


He fell head-first  
into a pile of plastic  
bags, aluminium cans,  
papers and beer bottle rings.

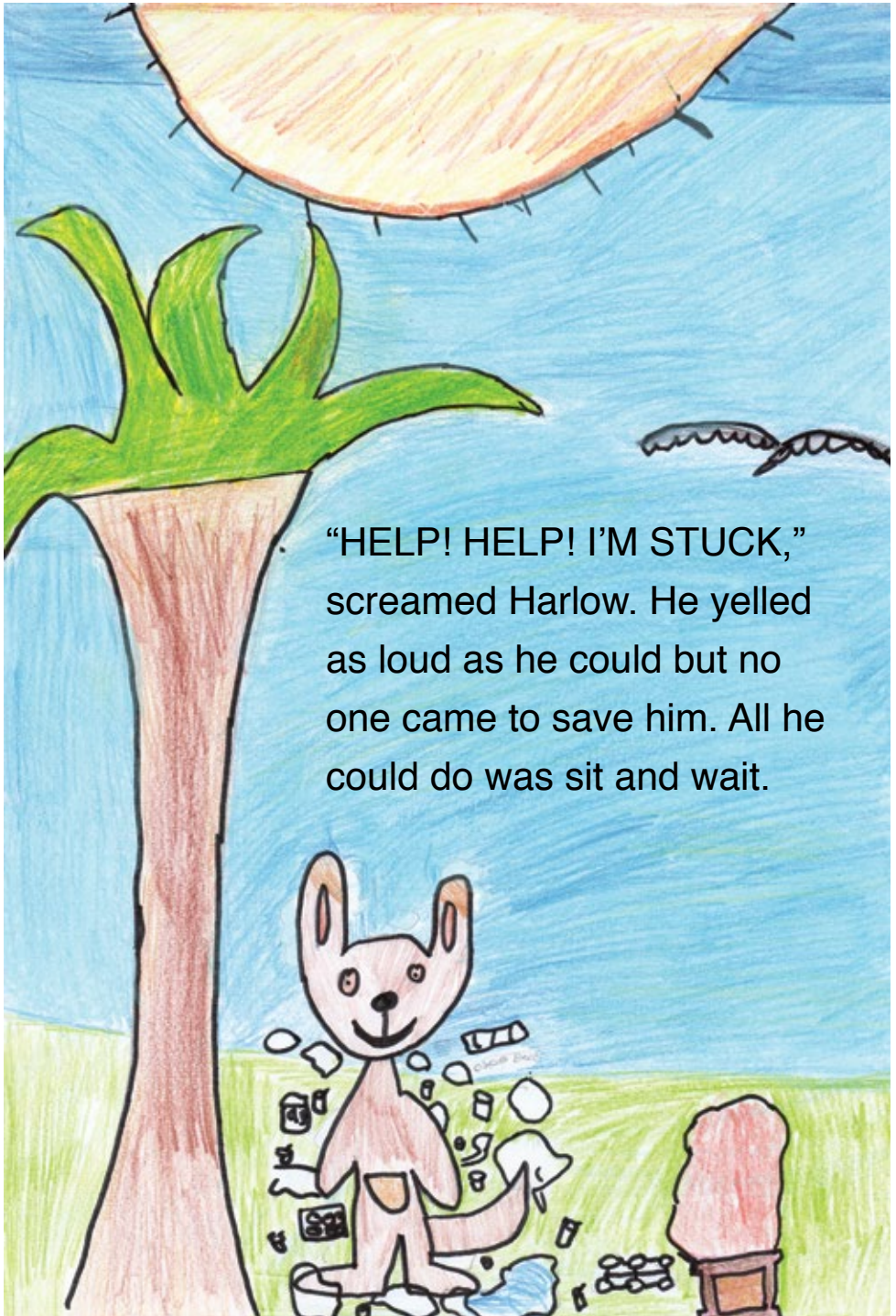
Bing! Bang! Boom! Harlow fell hard  
into the litter getting tangled up.

Boom Bing Bang

Bruised and battered, Harlow found he was having trouble getting out of the litter. He was stuck, so stuck that he couldn't even move.







“HELP! HELP! I’M STUCK,”  
screamed Harlow. He yelled  
as loud as he could but no  
one came to save him. All he  
could do was sit and wait.



Meanwhile, Tjunda was still running away from Paxton. Tjunda made a sharp right turn, disappearing into the bush. Paxton did not see him turn and continued running forward along the path.



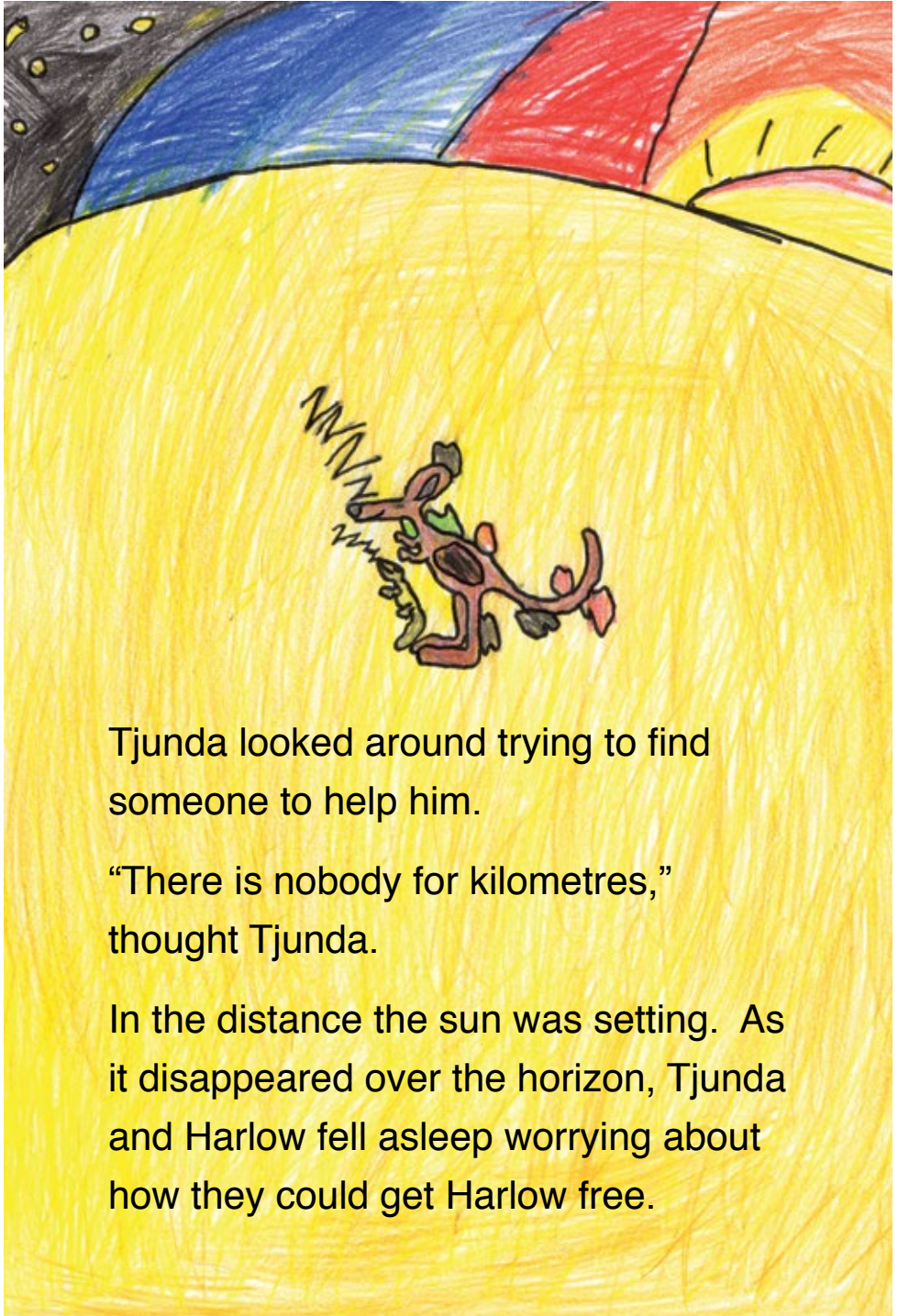
When the coast was clear, Tjunda ran out of the bushes and started to head back to the crossroads to find Harlow.

After twenty minutes of searching the bush high and low, Tjunda finally found Harlow and realised that he was trapped in rubbish.

Tjunda ran up to Harlow and tried to pull him out. It was no use, Tjunda wasn't strong enough.







Tjunda looked around trying to find someone to help him.

“There is nobody for kilometres,” thought Tjunda.

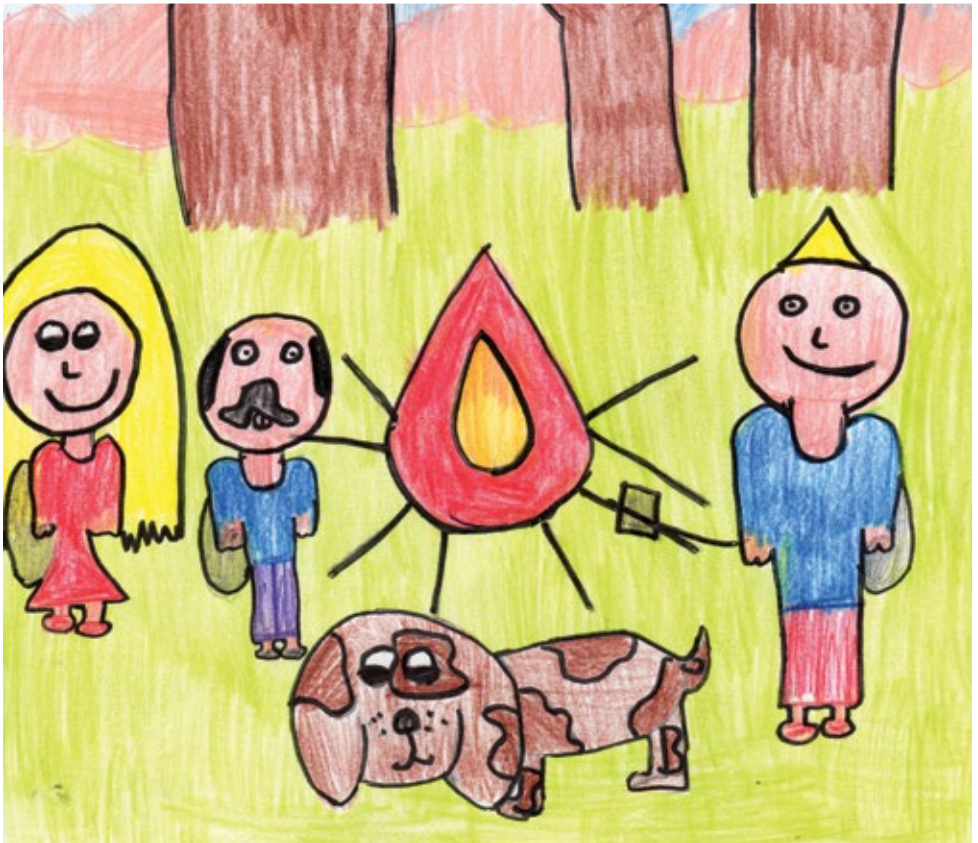
In the distance the sun was setting. As it disappeared over the horizon, Tjunda and Harlow fell asleep worrying about how they could get Harlow free.





When Tjunda and Harlow woke up, they could hear the chatter of humans between the crackles of a campfire.

Surrounding the campfire was a little boy named Peter with his two parents. Alongside Peter was a little Jack Russell dog named Kevin.



Peter decided to go for a walk to see if he could find some good fishing spots. Peter came across some rubbish on the track and went to pick it up to take to a bin.

As soon as his hand touched a plastic bag, Harlow the joey started jumping around. Peter got scared and backtracked a few metres.



Peter came closer to the plastic bag and realised that there was a joey inside. He ran back to camp and told his parents.

Peter and his parents went back to help Harlow and, to their surprise, found a bearded dragon standing guard. They gently freed Harlow with Tjunda watching them very carefully.

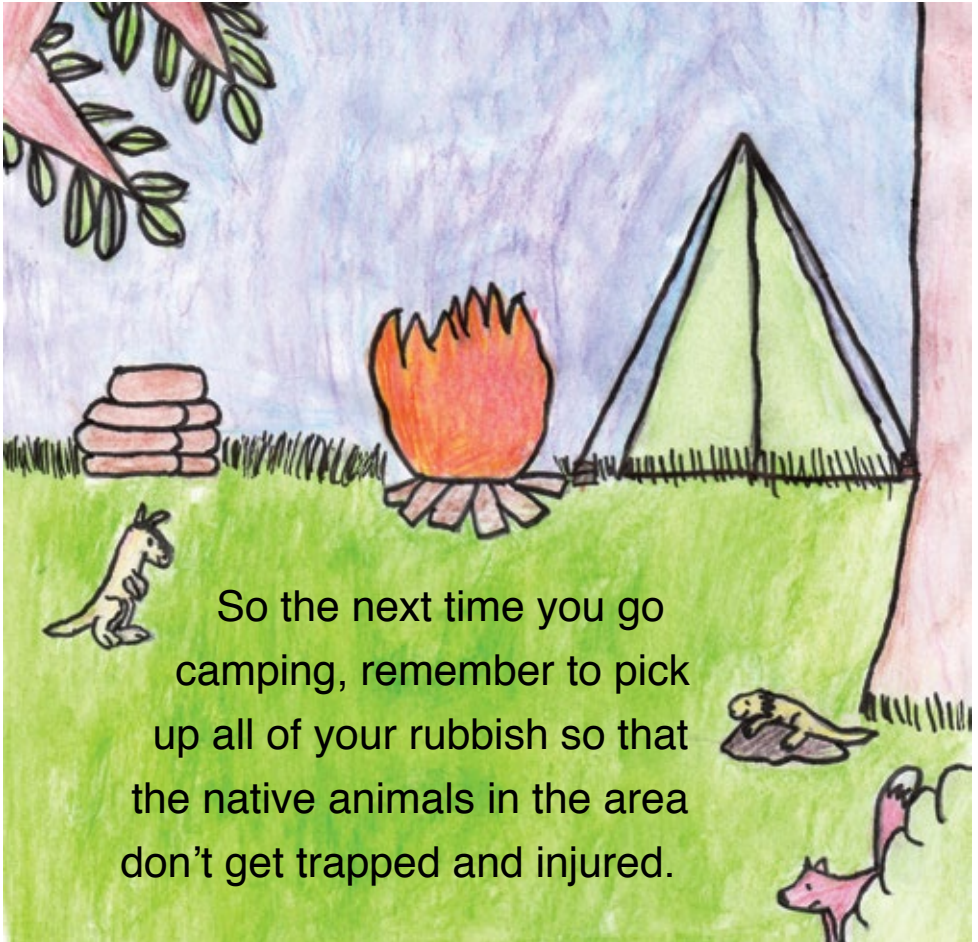




Peter and his parents took Harlow to the wildlife vet to make sure he was okay. The vet checked him over and said that he was OK.



Harlow was released back into his patch of bush to be with Tjunda. They were lucky that such nice humans had found them.



So the next time you go camping, remember to pick up all of your rubbish so that the native animals in the area don't get trapped and injured.





Alex Hall, Tallulah McKenzie, Chelsea Heagney  
and Sophie Hodge

2012 Year 4/5, Deniliquin North Public School

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