

# Joey and the Bushfire

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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.

# Joey and the Bushfire

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## “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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One scorching  
December  
morning, Frankie  
and his family  
were in their hot  
bird box munching  
on some tasty  
seeds.





After they finished lunch Maggie and Frankie went out looking for a wheat paddock for tomorrow morning's picnic. They were having a picnic to spend some family time together.

Once Frankie and Maggie found the paddock, they went back to tell Pearl and Joey. They were so excited to have found the perfect paddock for their family outing.

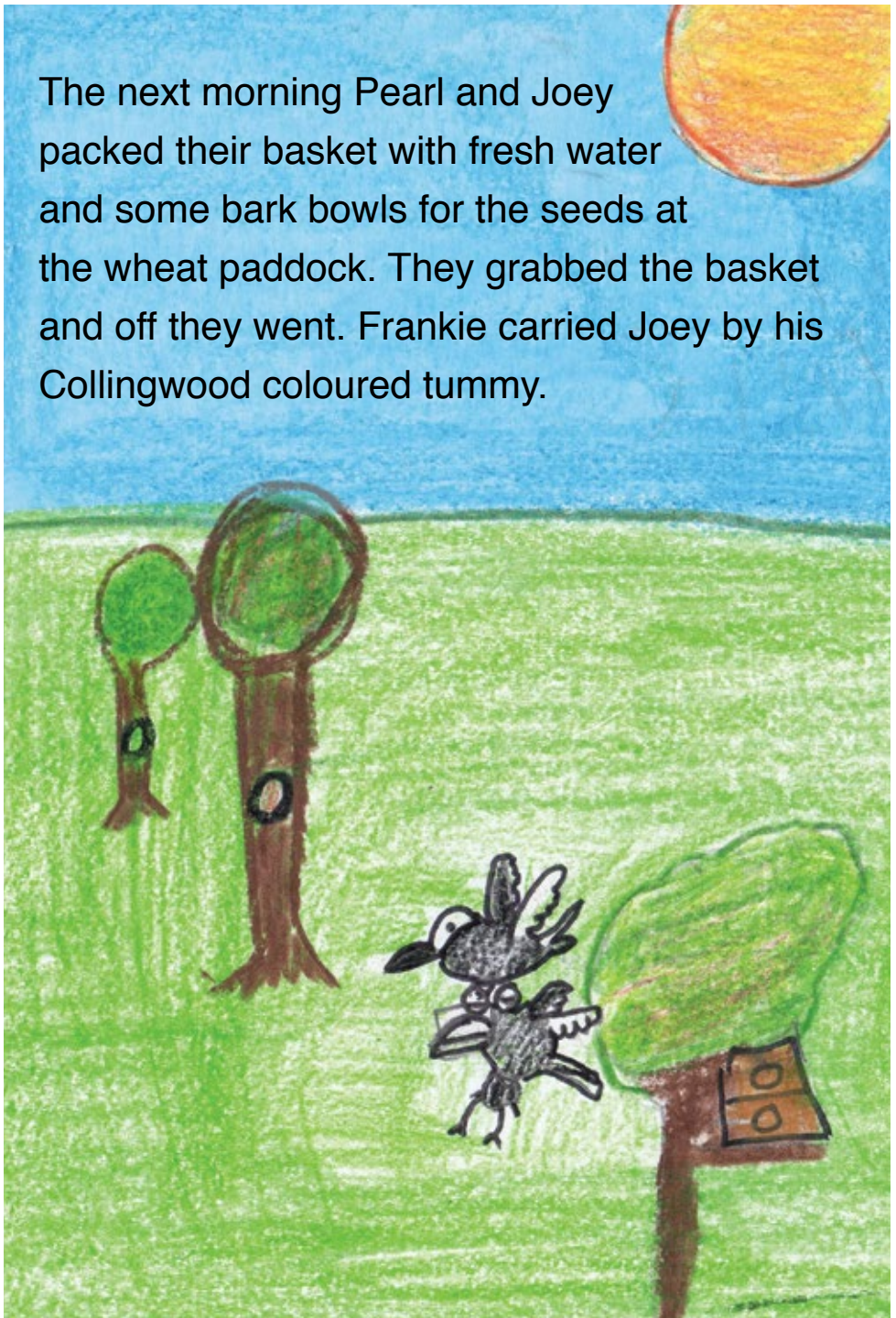
Later that night, they had tea and then Frankie tucked Joey into bed.

Joey told Frankie that he was upset that he couldn't fly and wouldn't be able to go on their family picnic.

Frankie reassured him that he would still be able to go on their fun get-together.



The next morning Pearl and Joey packed their basket with fresh water and some bark bowls for the seeds at the wheat paddock. They grabbed the basket and off they went. Frankie carried Joey by his Collingwood coloured tummy.



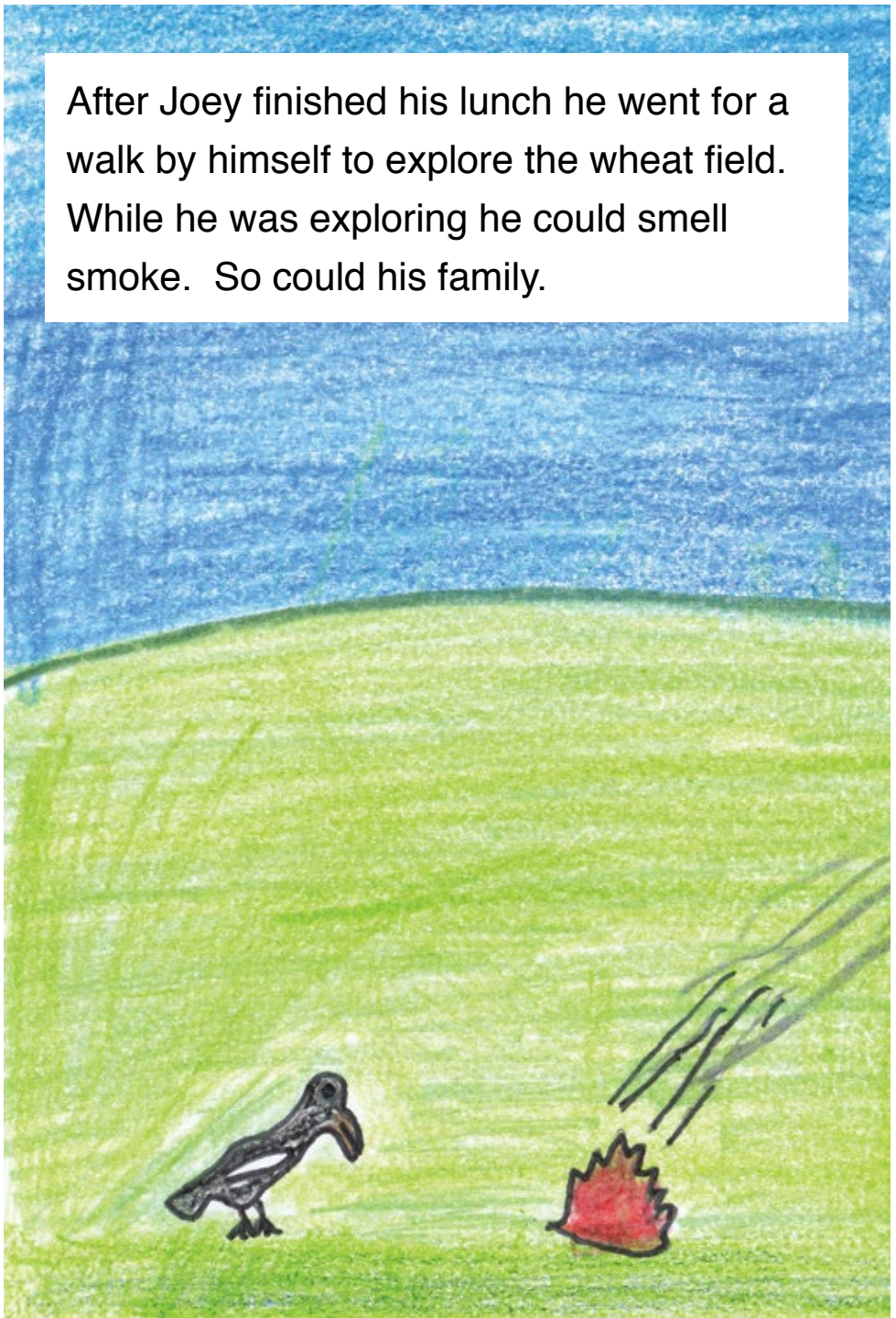


When they arrived at the wheat paddock, they found the spot that Frankie and Maggie had located the previous day. They set up for their family picnic.

Frankie went and gathered four shafts of wheat for him and his family to eat. They then sat down to enjoy a beautiful lunch.



After Joey finished his lunch he went for a walk by himself to explore the wheat field. While he was exploring he could smell smoke. So could his family.

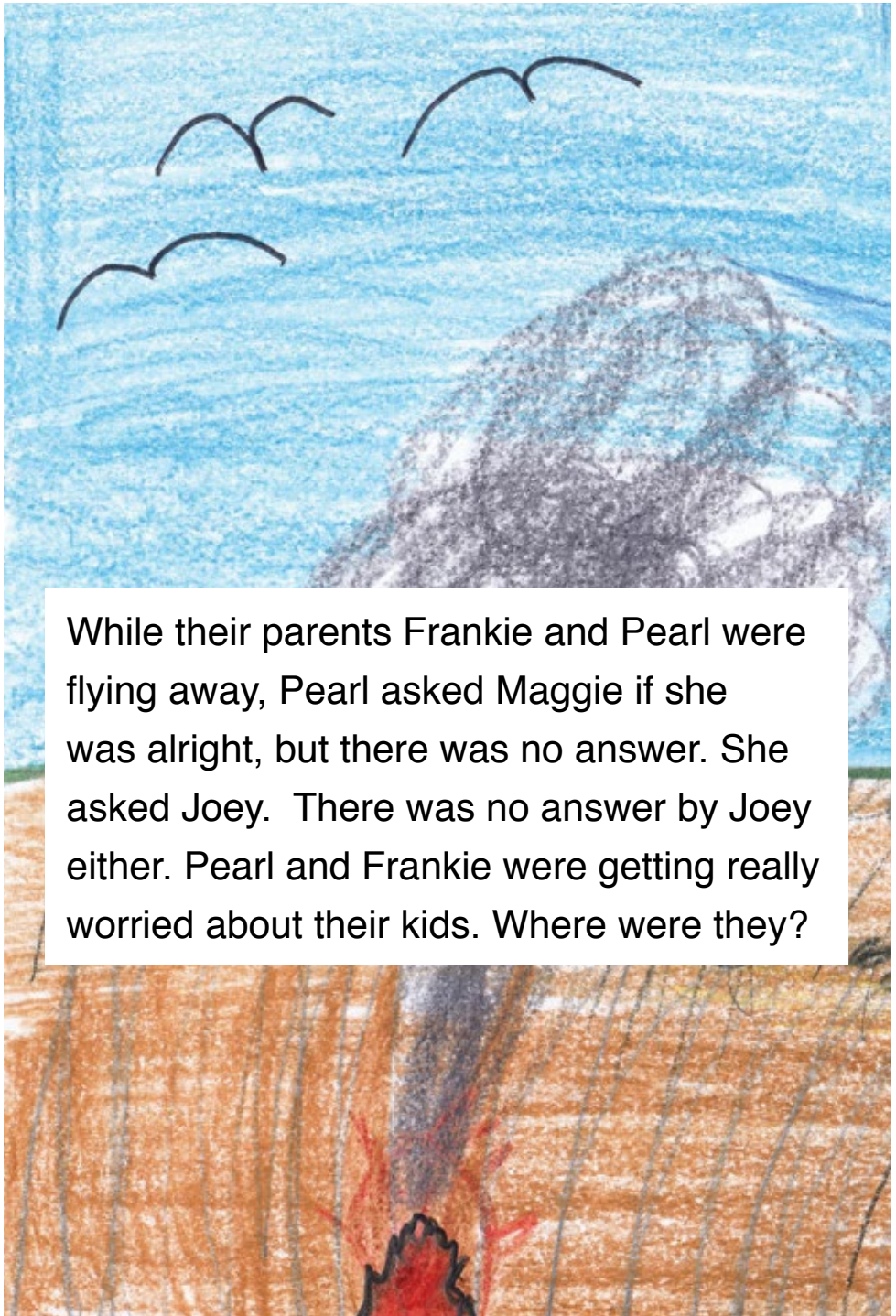




As soon as his family saw the smoke they rushed off, forgetting about Joey. When they got half way home Maggie realised that Joey was missing. She flew back in a hurry to find him.

Meanwhile, Joey was panicking so he ran back to where his family were, but they weren't there.

Maggie found Joey and scooped him up in her claws and flew away. Then she realised that she hadn't told her parents that she had gone to get Joey. Their parents probably thought they were both missing now.



While their parents Frankie and Pearl were flying away, Pearl asked Maggie if she was alright, but there was no answer. She asked Joey. There was no answer by Joey either. Pearl and Frankie were getting really worried about their kids. Where were they?

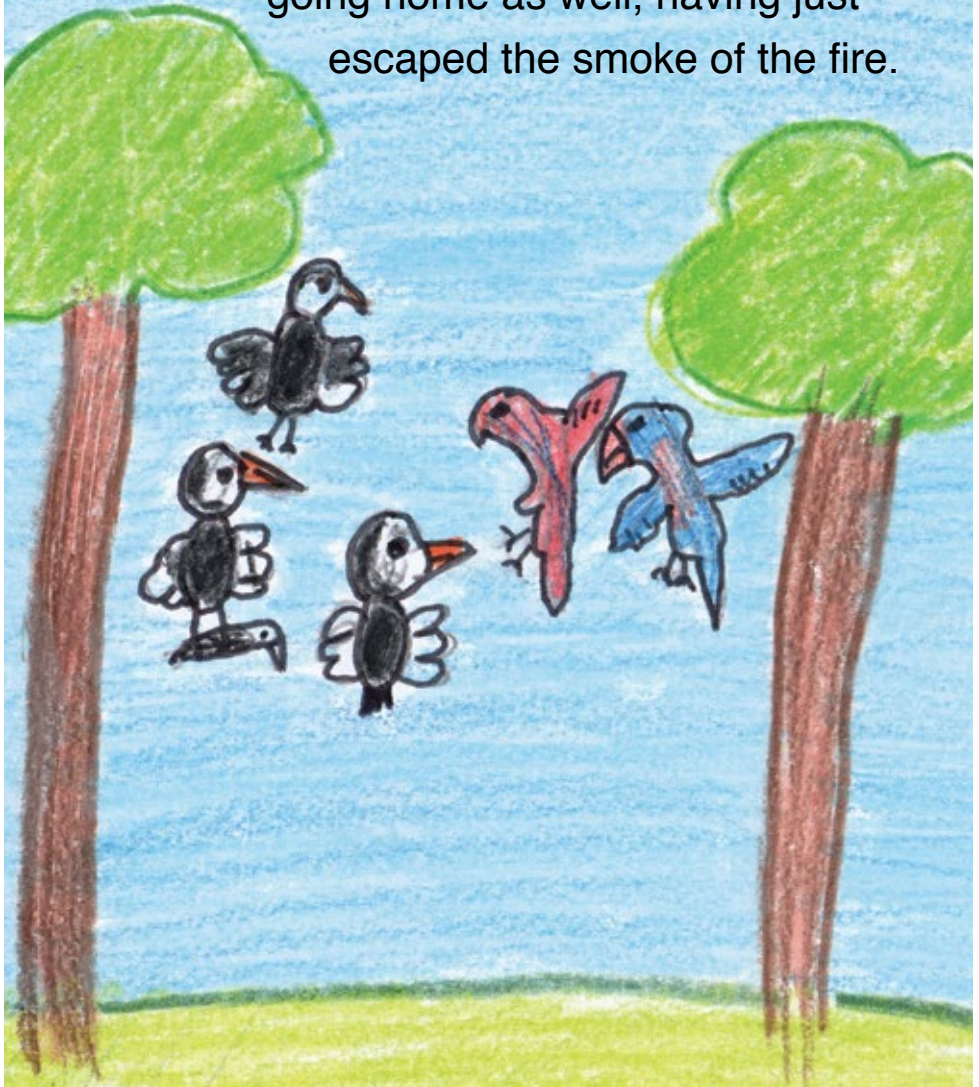
Maggie was tired, Joey was getting heavier and heavier. She dropped to the ground, struggling to launch again to get out of the fire. But somehow she found the strength to keep on going.

She flew close to the ground and almost got bitten by a snake. As she saw the snake disappear she flew directly into her parents.



Pearl and Frankie were so relieved that they had found their kids.

When they were flying home they ran into their neighbours, the Crimson Rosellas. They were going home as well, having just escaped the smoke of the fire.





When Frankie and his family got home they were devastated to see that their home was destroyed by a goanna family. The goannas had eaten all their food, and were sheltering from the fire in their beds.

The birds quickly flew away and found a place to rest. Maggie was so exhausted from carrying Joey that she passed out. Her parents were so worried about losing their home.

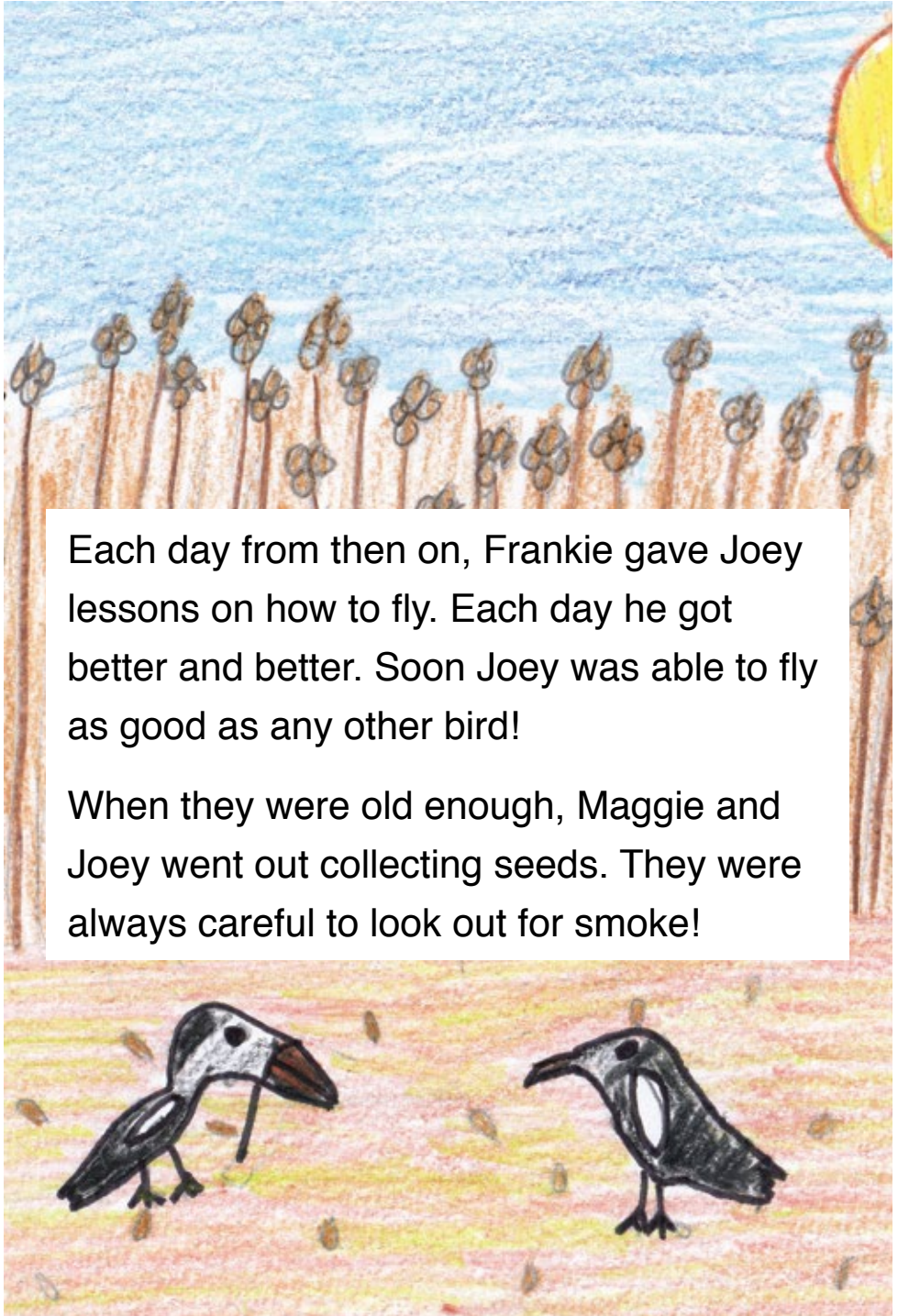




While the kids were asleep their parents went out to find a new home to live in. When they got back the kids were awake so they told them that they had found the perfect tree over at the Billabong Creek. The kids were so excited they started doing somersaults in the air.

The next day Frankie and his family went to their new home at the Billabong Creek. When they got there they started making new comfy furniture for their home out of bark, leaves and twigs from the luscious creek's edge.

After their new home was established, they went out to collect some food for the family. Over dinner, Frankie thought it was time he give Joey some flying lessons.



Each day from then on, Frankie gave Joey lessons on how to fly. Each day he got better and better. Soon Joey was able to fly as good as any other bird!

When they were old enough, Maggie and Joey went out collecting seeds. They were always careful to look out for smoke!





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