

# The Chudditch Catastrophe

Written & illustrated by Amy Rose, Zion Fogarty and Tayla Della Bosca  
from Moorine Rock Primary School



ENVIRO stories

## Enviro-Stories

Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource management issues. Developed by PeekKdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area.

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

## Wheatbelt NRM

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Incorporated (Wheatbelt NRM) is an independent community-based organisation involved with natural resource management endeavours within the Avon River Basin.

**[www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au](http://www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au)**

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# The Chudditch Catastrophe

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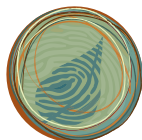
## Hotspot Heroes

The Hotspot Heroes Enviro-Stories Program involved schools from the Wheatbelt region of Western Australia learning about the biodiversity, threatened species and feral animals in the Wheatbelt area. A Hotspot Hero is someone who is willing to stand up and take action to help prevent our threatened plants and animals from fading into oblivion.

This project is supported by Wheatbelt NRM through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



**National  
Landcare  
Program**



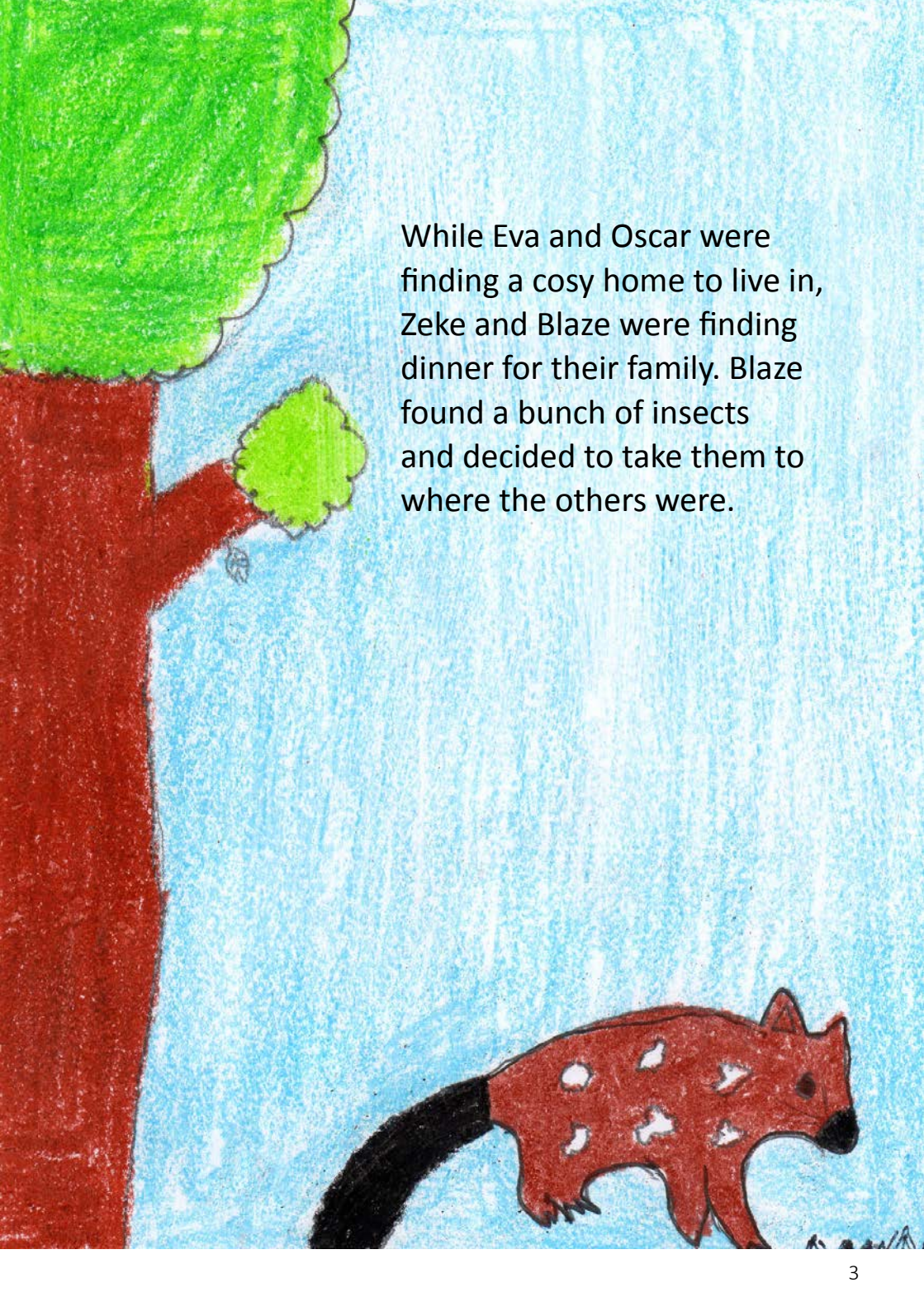
**wheatbelt  
natural resource  
management**

CRACKLE!!! Went the raging bushfire on the outskirts of Marvel Loch, terrorising all the native animals.

RRRUUUNNN!!!

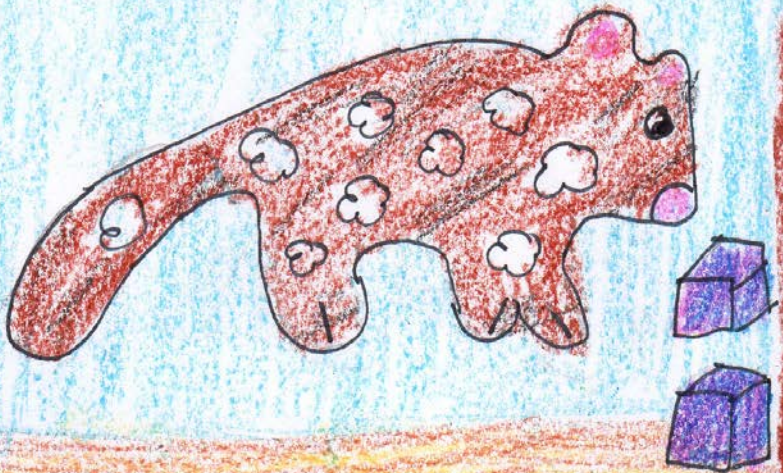
The Chuditch family had to run out of the mallee bushland. Zeke and Eva, the parents of Blaze and Oscar, had to think quickly about where to live as they knew their home was being destroyed.

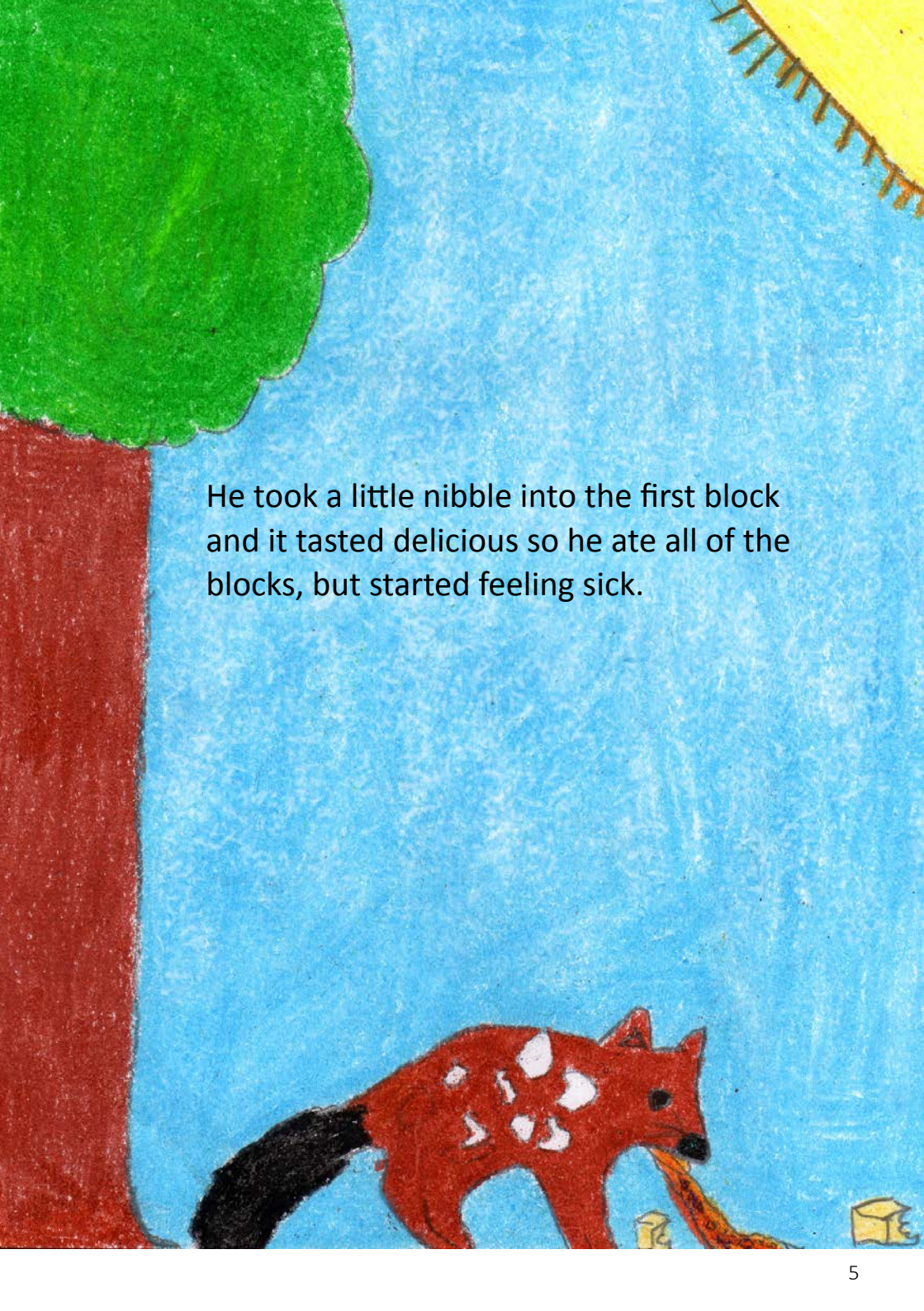


A child-drawn illustration. On the left, a large tree with a thick brown trunk and a large, rounded green canopy. A smaller branch with a smaller green canopy extends from the main trunk. The background is a light blue sky. In the bottom right corner, a red fox with white spots and a black tail is walking towards the right. The drawing style is simple and uses crayons or colored pencils.

While Eva and Oscar were finding a cosy home to live in, Zeke and Blaze were finding dinner for their family. Blaze found a bunch of insects and decided to take them to where the others were.

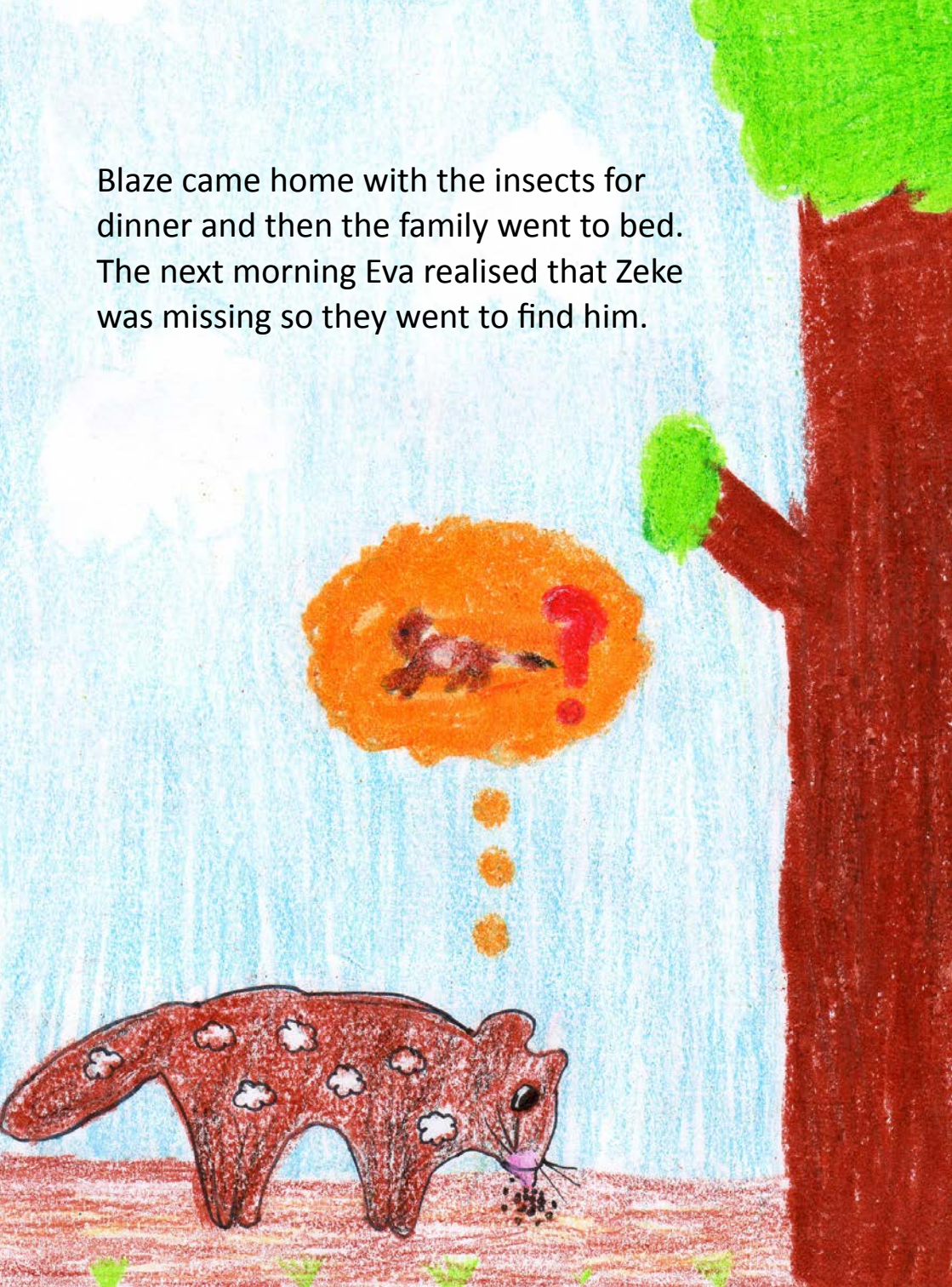
As Blaze was on his way back to his family with the insects, Zeke had found some colourful waxy blocks, but little did he know it was rat bait. He decided to be a bit naughty and eat them before Blaze got back.





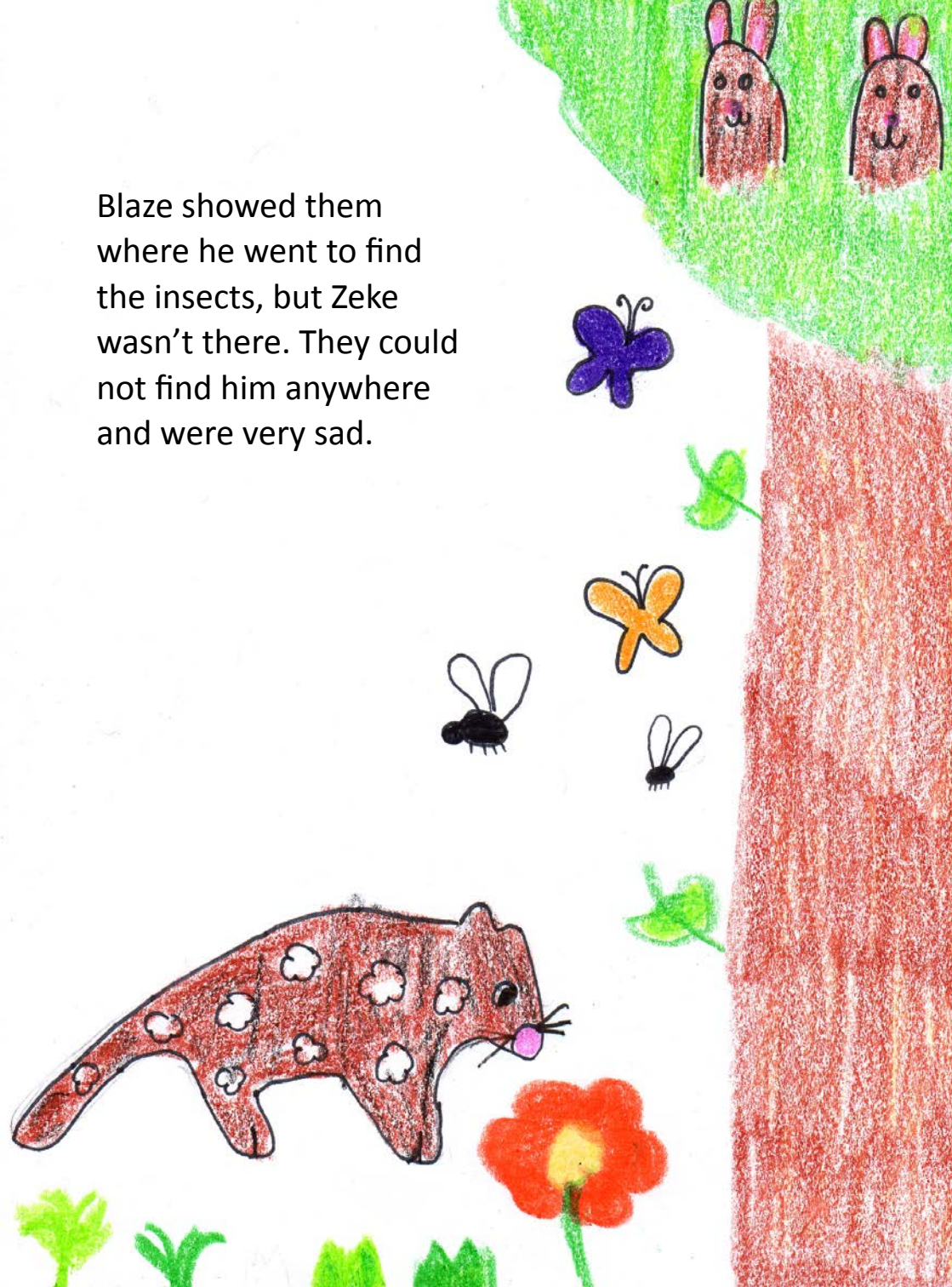
He took a little nibble into the first block and it tasted delicious so he ate all of the blocks, but started feeling sick.

Blaze came home with the insects for dinner and then the family went to bed. The next morning Eva realised that Zeke was missing so they went to find him.

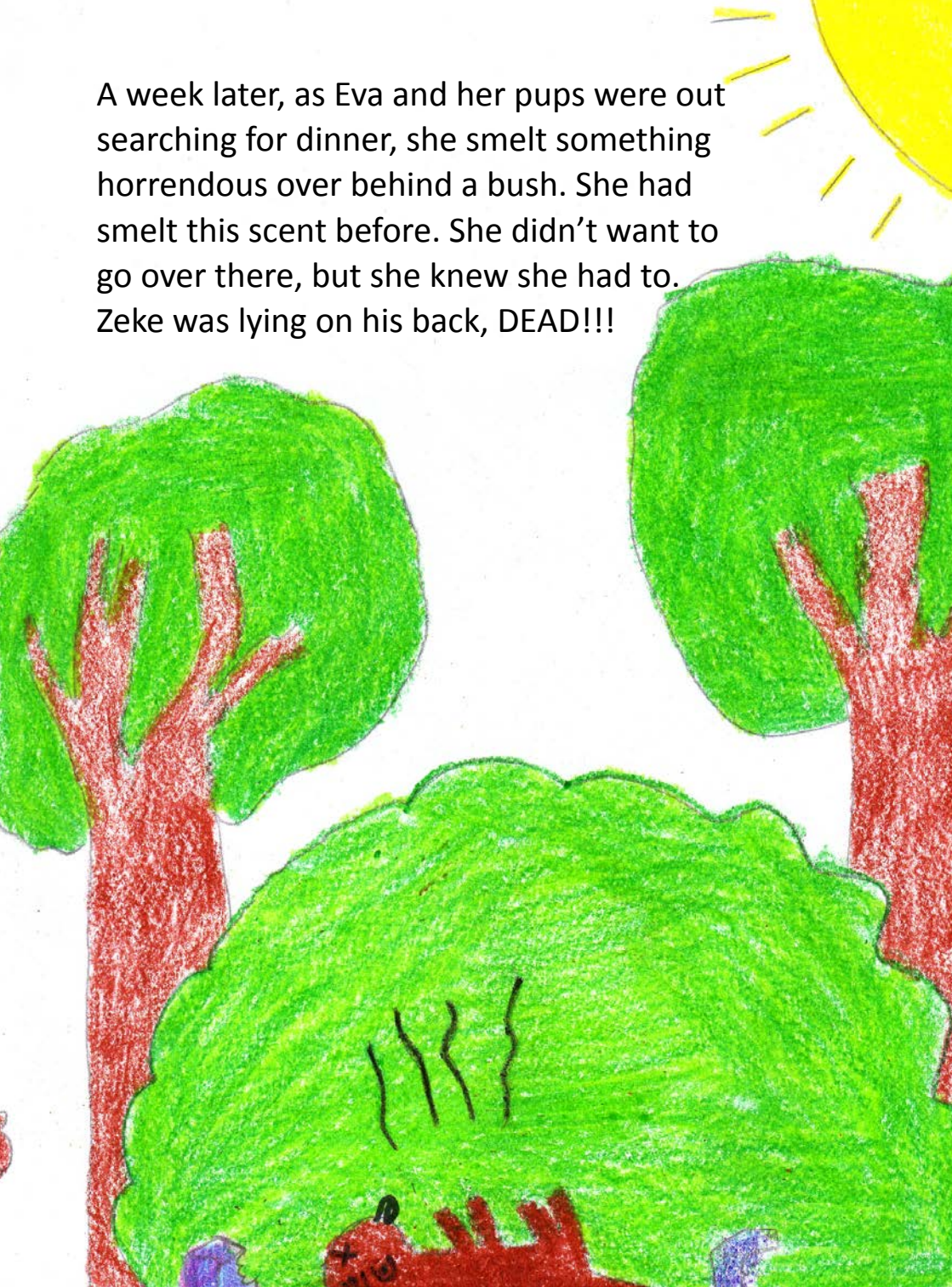


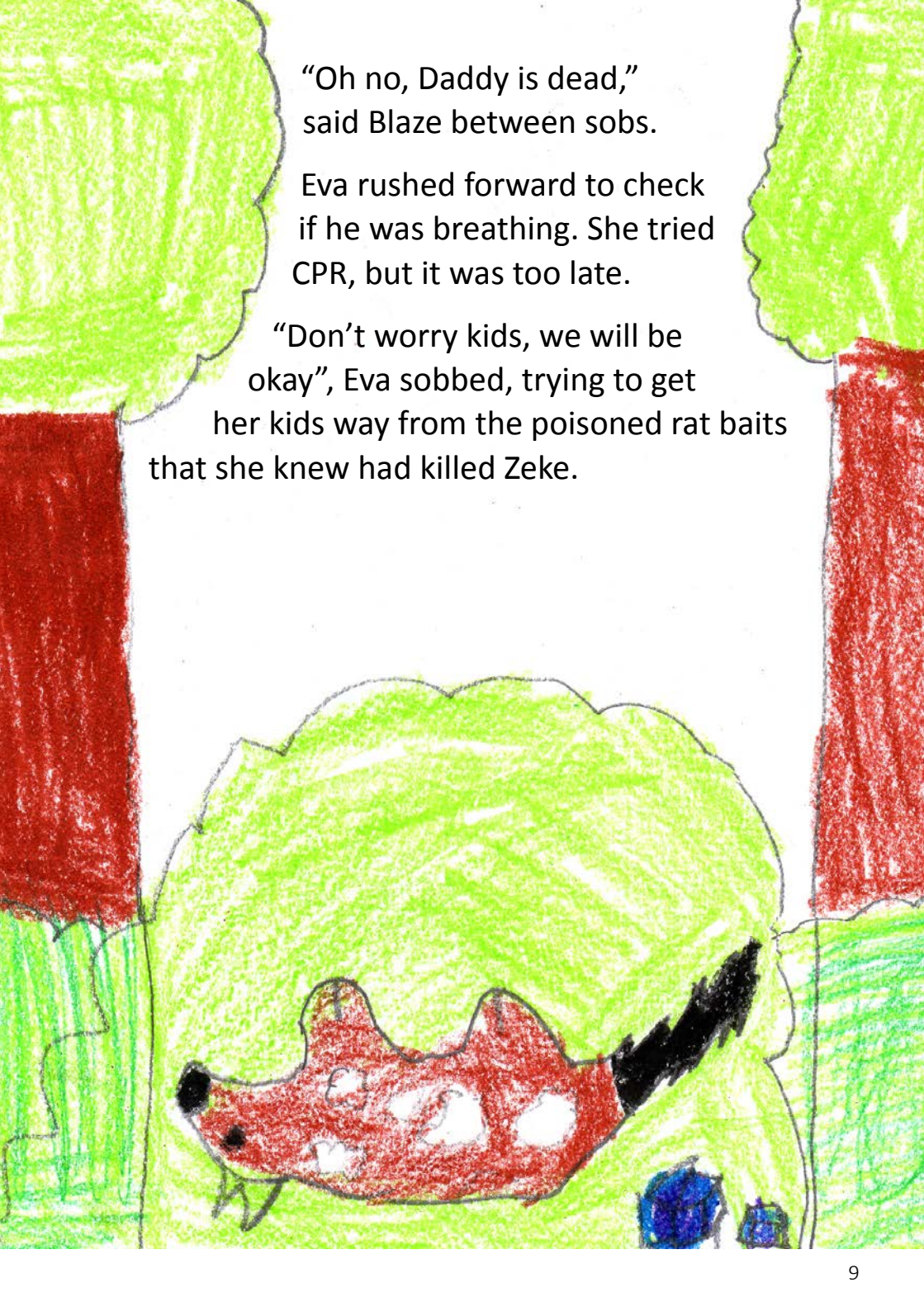


Blaze showed them where he went to find the insects, but Zeke wasn't there. They could not find him anywhere and were very sad.



A week later, as Eva and her pups were out searching for dinner, she smelt something horrendous over behind a bush. She had smelt this scent before. She didn't want to go over there, but she knew she had to. Zeke was lying on his back, DEAD!!!

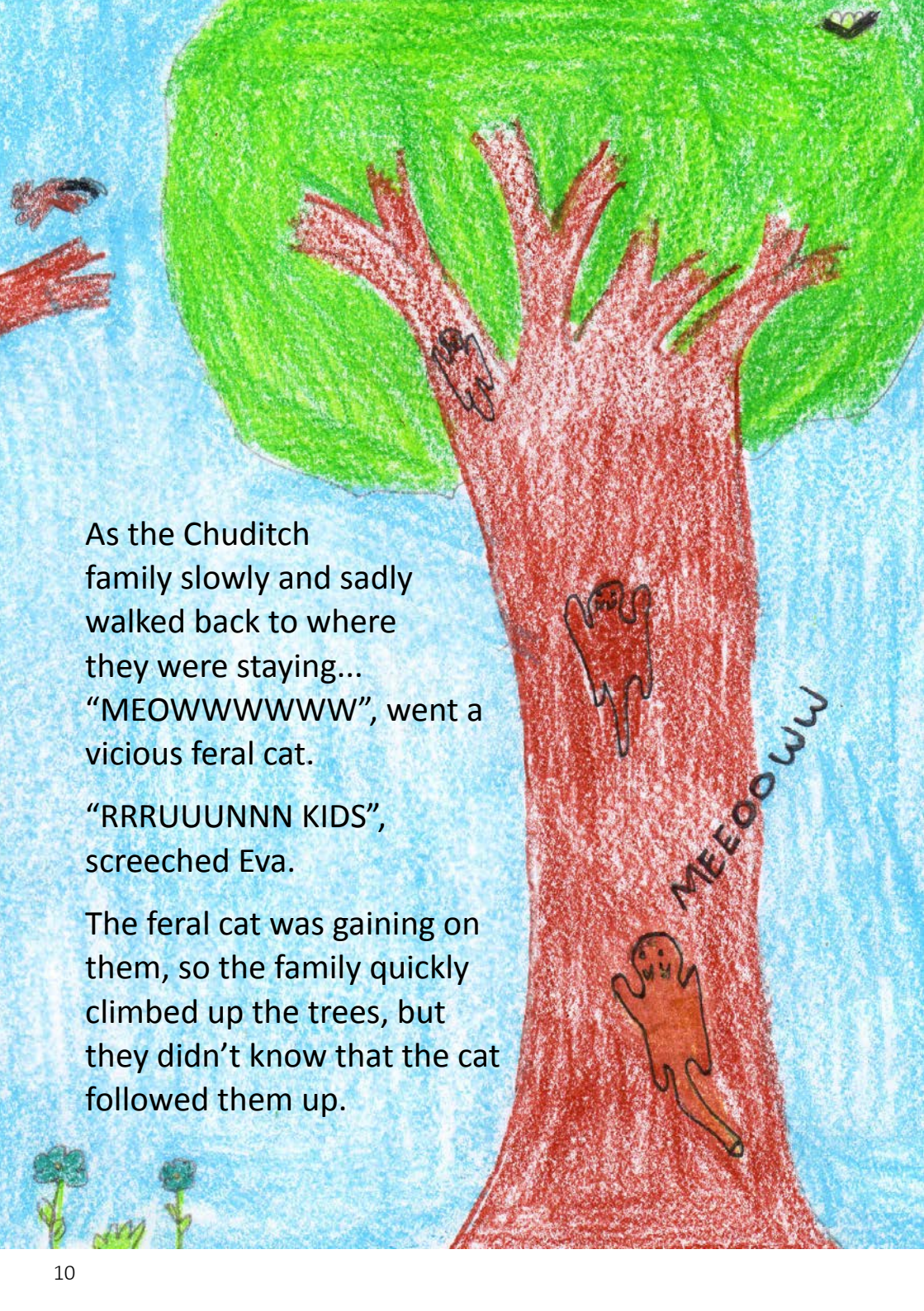


A child's drawing of a landscape. It features two tall trees with red trunks and green foliage on the left and right sides. In the center, there is a large, rounded green bush or tree. In the foreground, a red dog with white spots and a black tail is lying down. The background is a mix of green and blue colors, suggesting grass and sky. The drawing is done with crayons or colored pencils.

“Oh no, Daddy is dead,”  
said Blaze between sobs.

Eva rushed forward to check  
if he was breathing. She tried  
CPR, but it was too late.

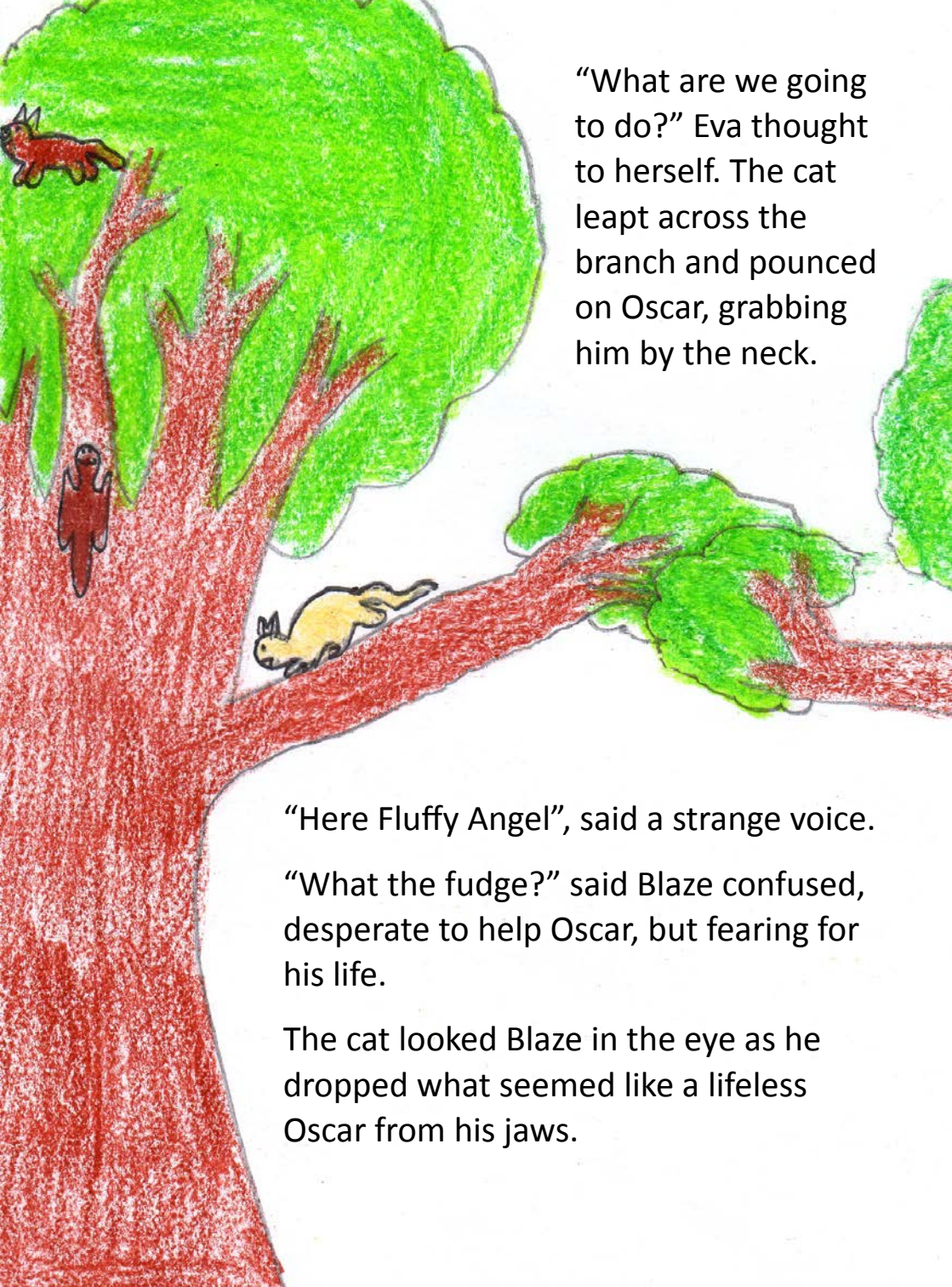
“Don’t worry kids, we will be  
okay”, Eva sobbed, trying to get  
her kids way from the poisoned rat baits  
that she knew had killed Zeke.



As the Chuditch family slowly and sadly walked back to where they were staying...  
“MEOUWWWW”, went a vicious feral cat.

“RRRUUNNN KIDS”,  
screached Eva.

The feral cat was gaining on them, so the family quickly climbed up the trees, but they didn’t know that the cat followed them up.

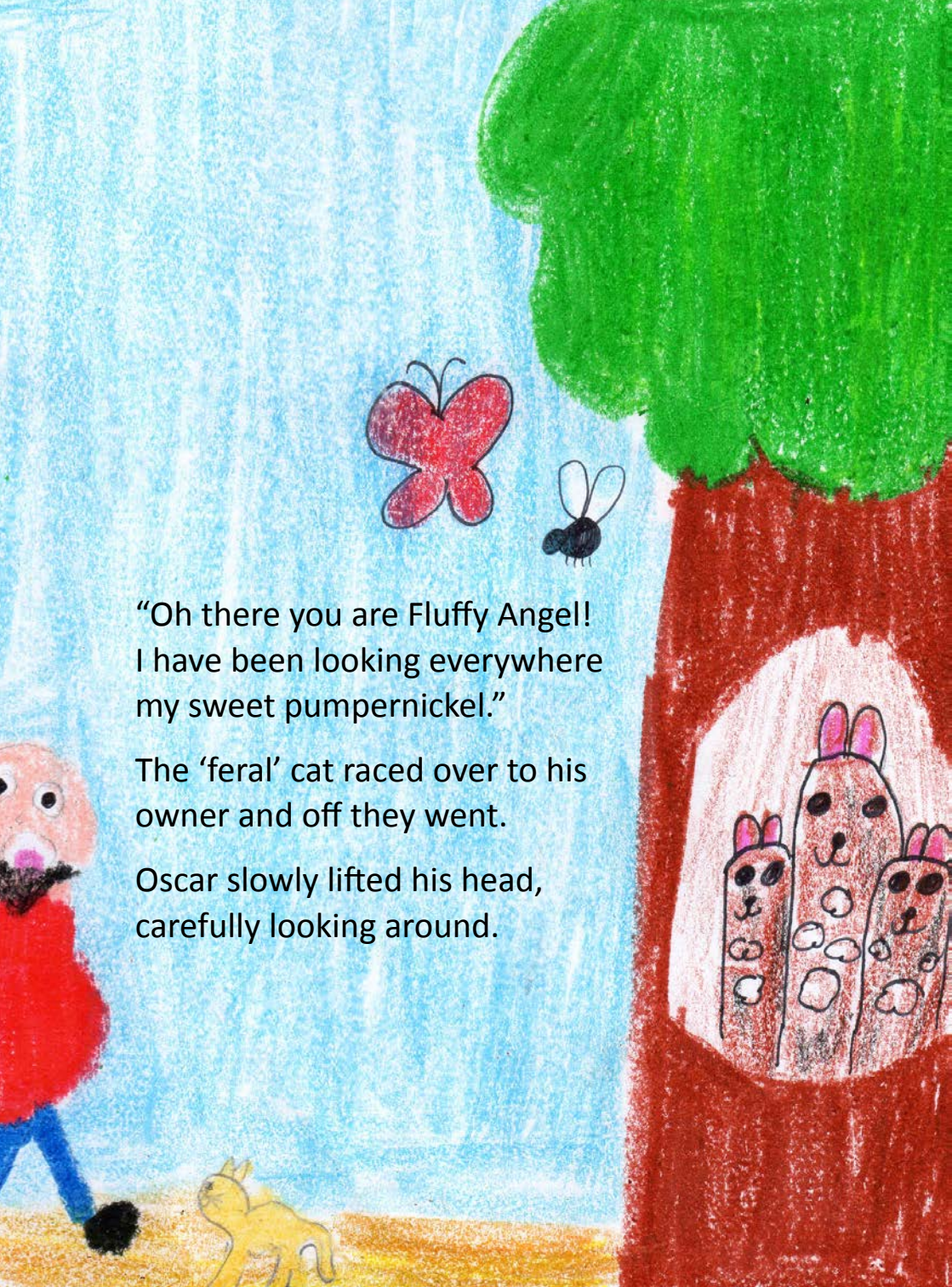


“What are we going to do?” Eva thought to herself. The cat leapt across the branch and pounced on Oscar, grabbing him by the neck.

“Here Fluffy Angel”, said a strange voice.

“What the fudge?” said Blaze confused, desperate to help Oscar, but fearing for his life.

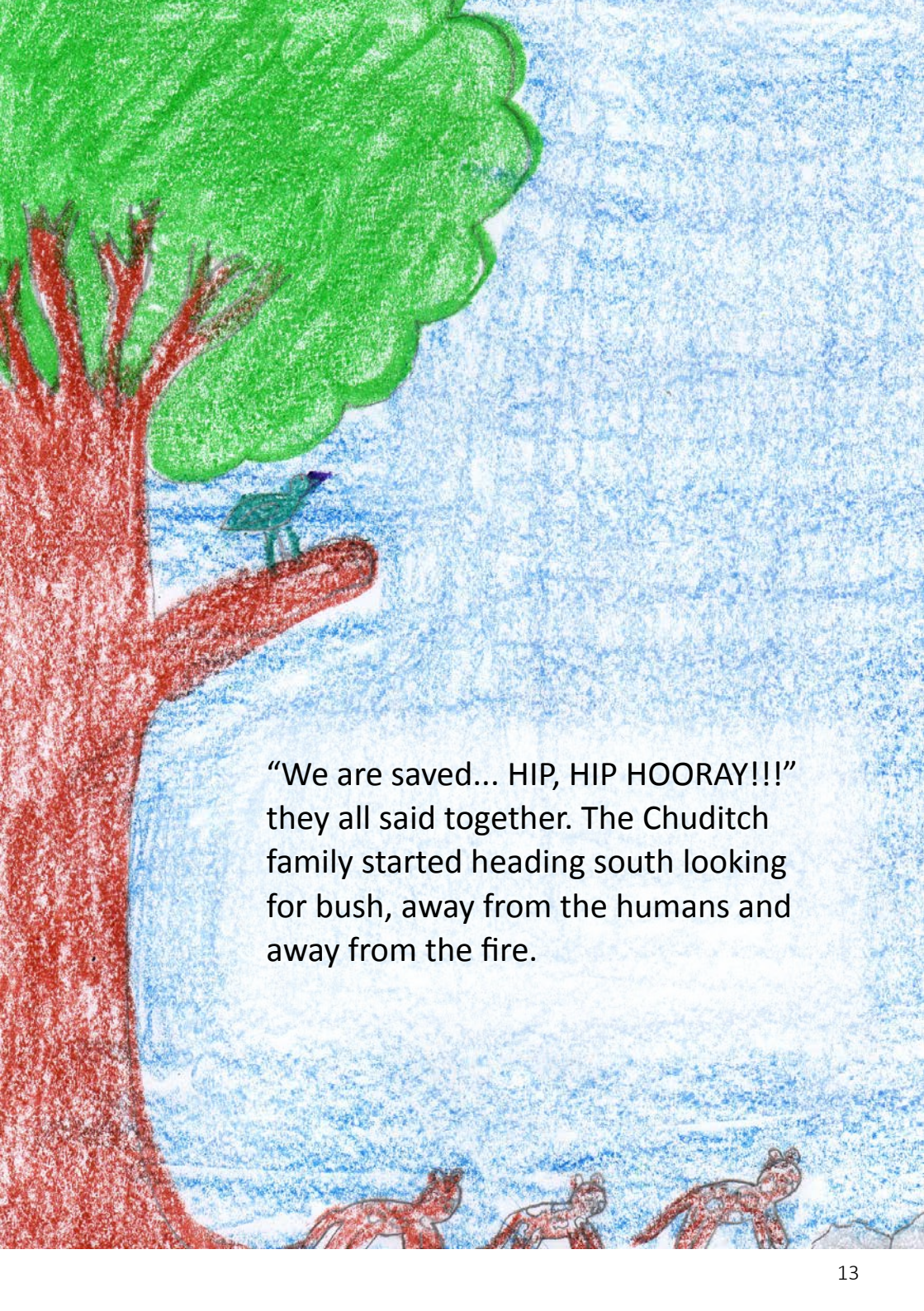
The cat looked Blaze in the eye as he dropped what seemed like a lifeless Oscar from his jaws.



“Oh there you are Fluffy Angel!  
I have been looking everywhere  
my sweet pumpernickel.”

The ‘feral’ cat raced over to his  
owner and off they went.

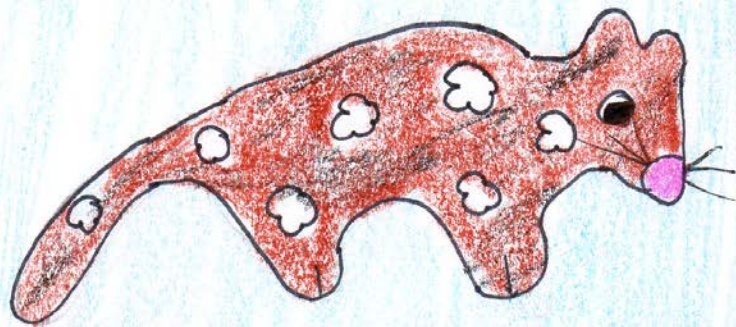
Oscar slowly lifted his head,  
carefully looking around.



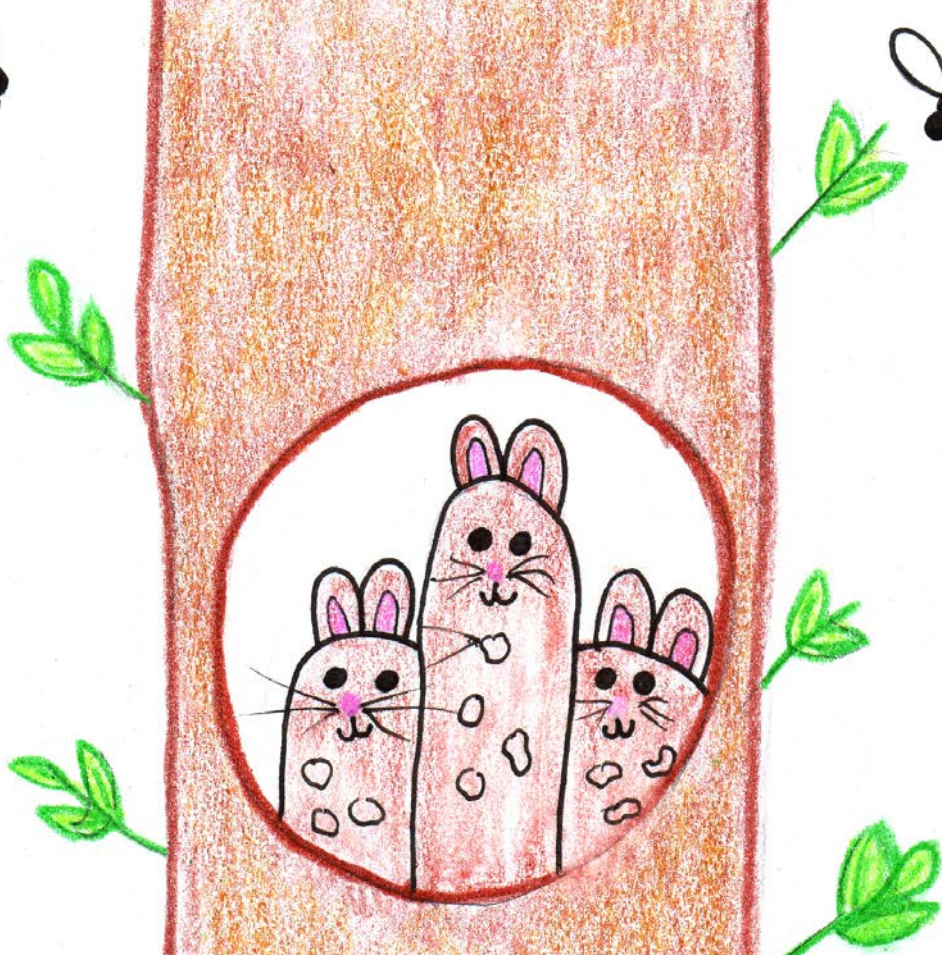
“We are saved... HIP, HIP HOORAY!!!”  
they all said together. The Chuditch  
family started heading south looking  
for bush, away from the humans and  
away from the fire.

12 hours later ...

“Hey, look over there,” said Eva.  
“It’s a nice hollow log for us to  
live in.” Eva was thrilled to have  
a nice place to live in again.

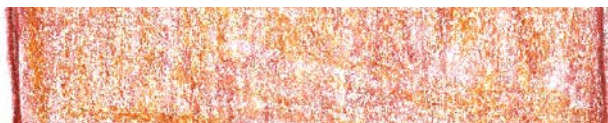






They used to be a family of four, now there were only three. To be safe, they needed a new home where they could escape the foxes and cats and a home that wasn't going to be destroyed.

This little Chuditch family hoped they had found exactly what they needed and that there would be friends like them living nearby.





**PLEASE HELP SAVE  
OUR CHUDITCH!!**



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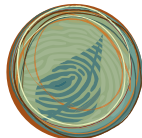


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Year 3-6, Morine Rock Primary School



National  
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