

Drought to Flood



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Enviro-Stories

Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by PeeKdesigns, 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

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Drought to Flood

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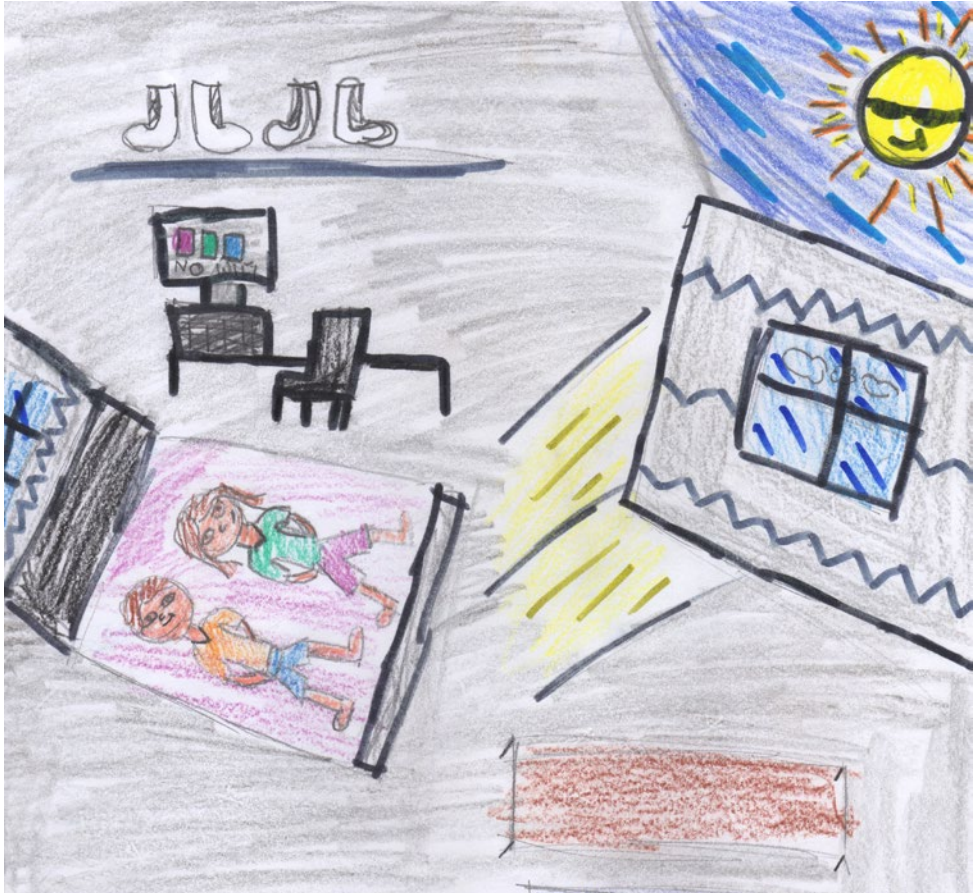
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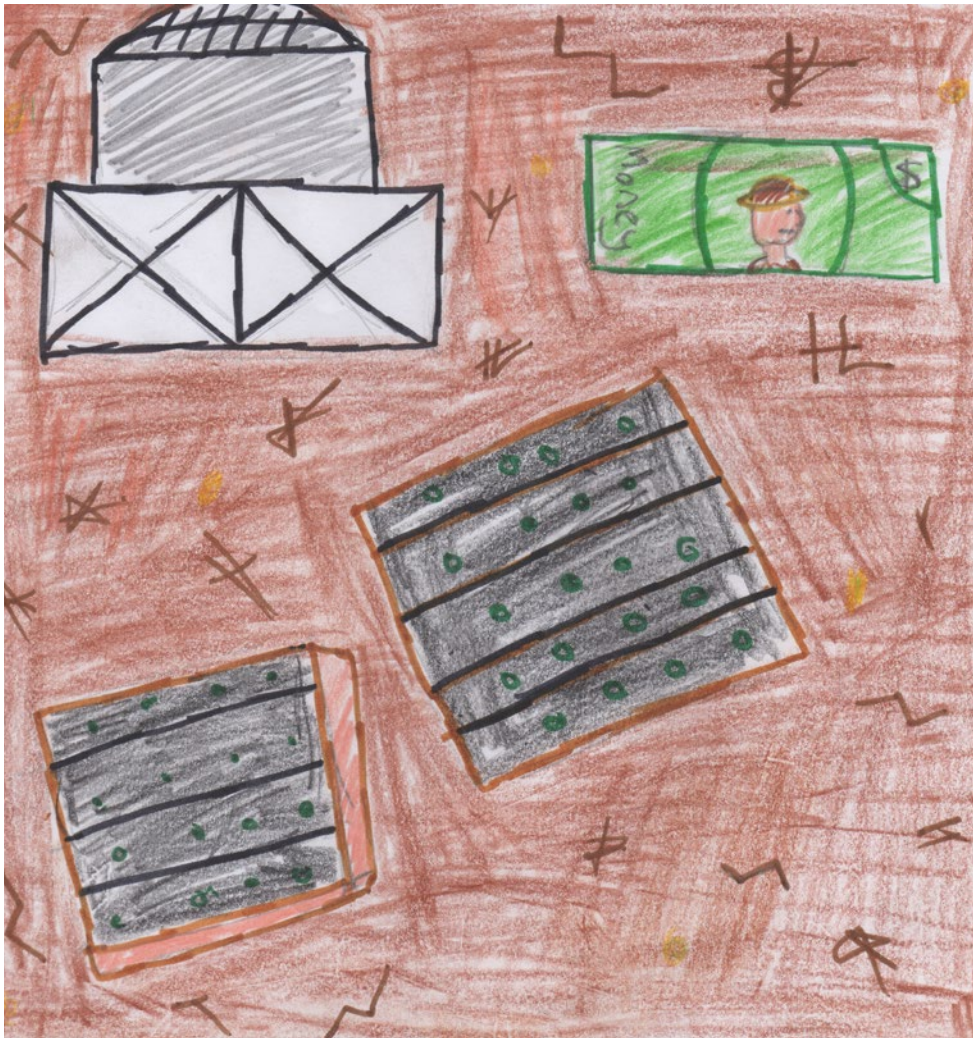
Cock-a-doodle-doo!

A hot beam of boiling sunlight hit Lily and Brian as they woke up dreading another day of the drought.

All they could hear was the cattle mooing loudly hoping for a feed. The drought was very bad right now and Brian worried that he didn't have any more supplies for the cattle. Nearly all the water and food supplies on the farm had already been given to the cows because they needed it.

The pastures that the cows usually rely on for food were barren, so now they have next to nothing. Lily can barely even afford to get anything for Chocolate, their dog.

All that they have now is rainwater from their household water tank.





Small, grey clouds started to appear in the sky. Chocolate was wondering why it was so dark, but he wasn't the only dog or human thinking that.

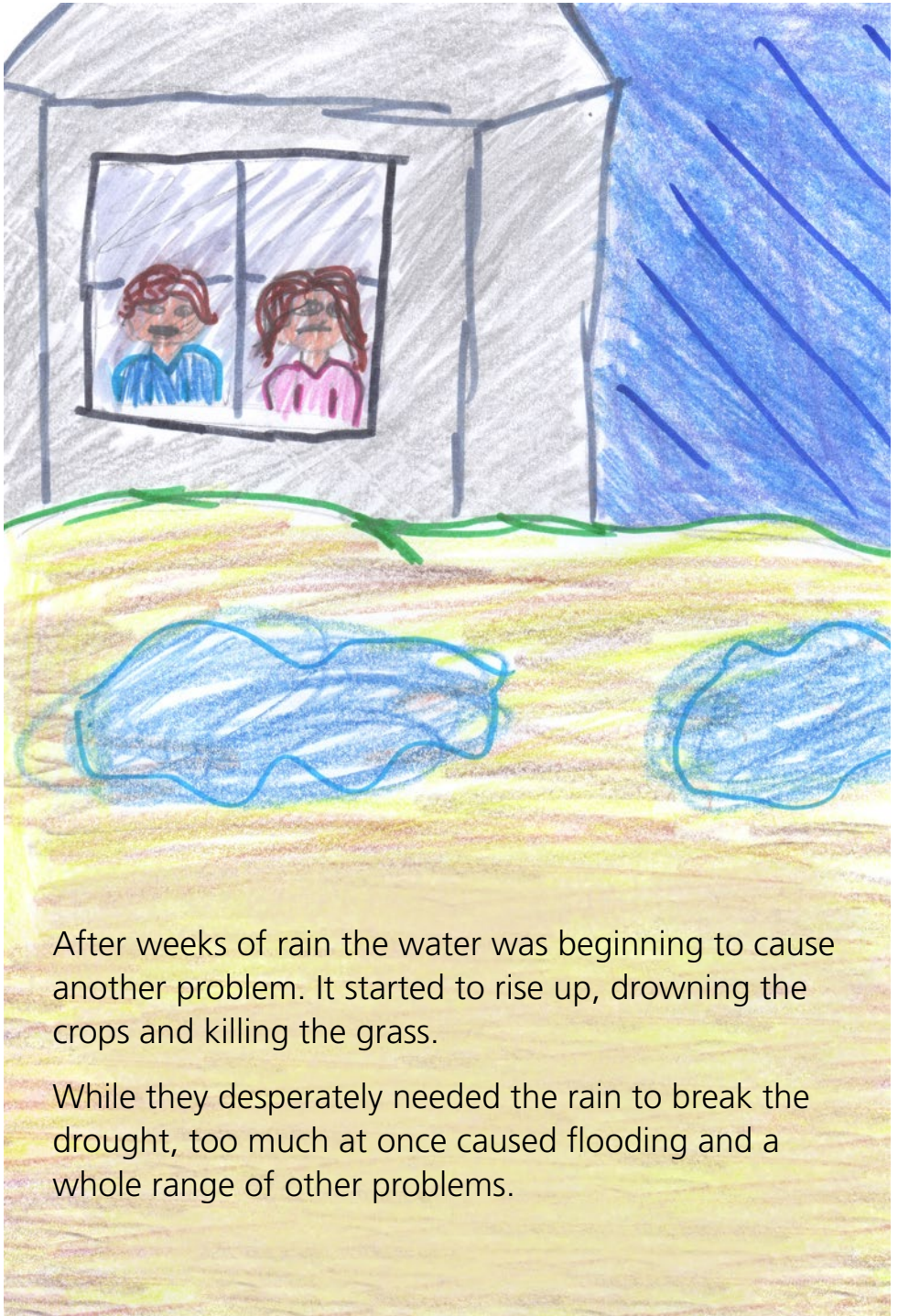
Throughout the whole neighbourhood people were outside praying for rain. It started to sprinkle lightly and then increased to a shower. People began to cheer because little puddles started to form and water started to run back into all their dry dams.



Chocolate, Lily and Brian went out to play in the rain. They hadn't felt the touch of this much rain in years and this made them extremely happy.

Everyone was so grateful to finally get some rain. Even the cows mooed loudly in approval.

After a few days of showers, the cattle feed and crops started to sprout again. Things were looking up after the long drought.

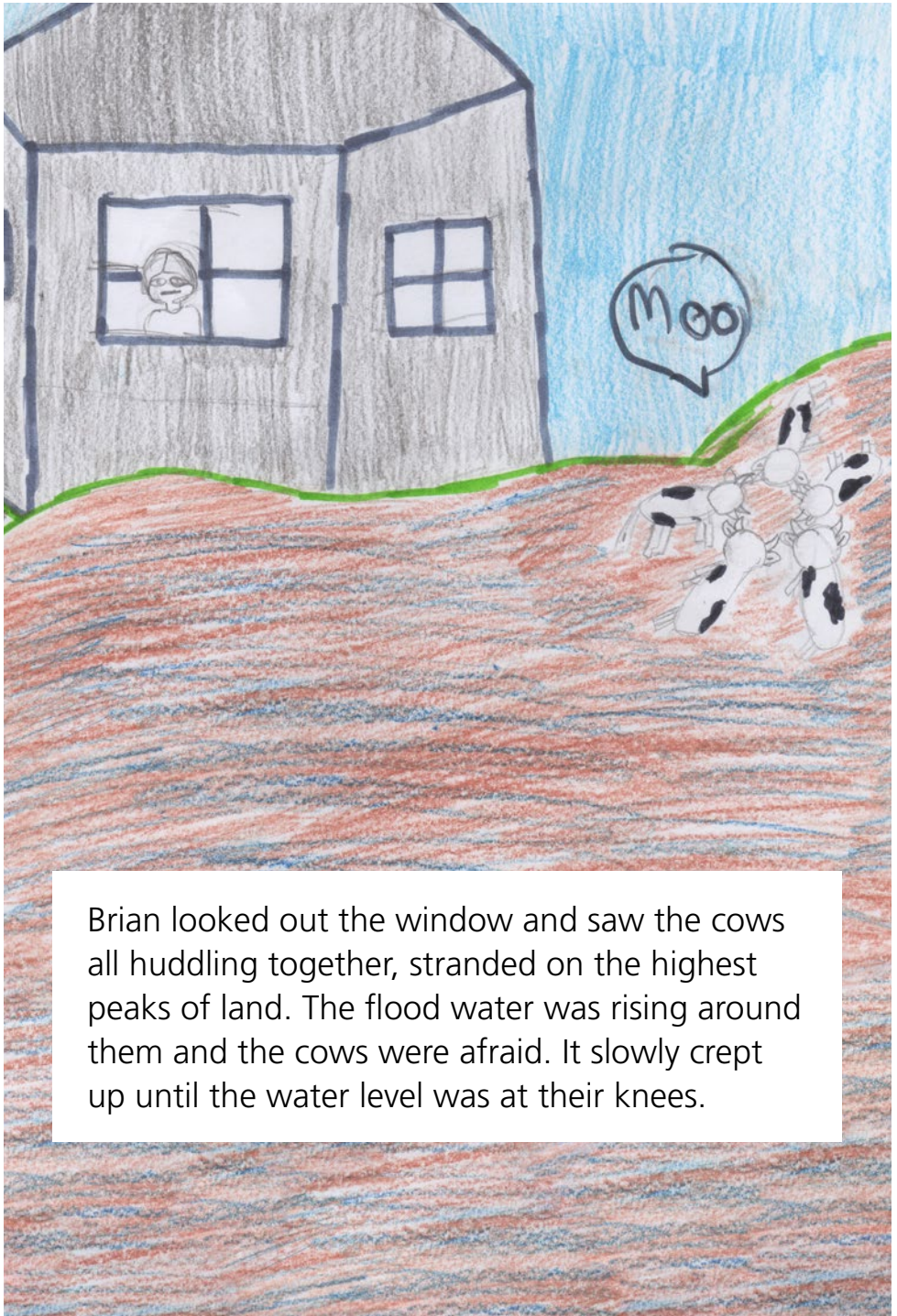


After weeks of rain the water was beginning to cause another problem. It started to rise up, drowning the crops and killing the grass.

While they desperately needed the rain to break the drought, too much at once caused flooding and a whole range of other problems.

They heard the thunder roar and saw lightning strikes hit the ground around the farm. Lily noticed all the roads filling up as the water poured across the land.





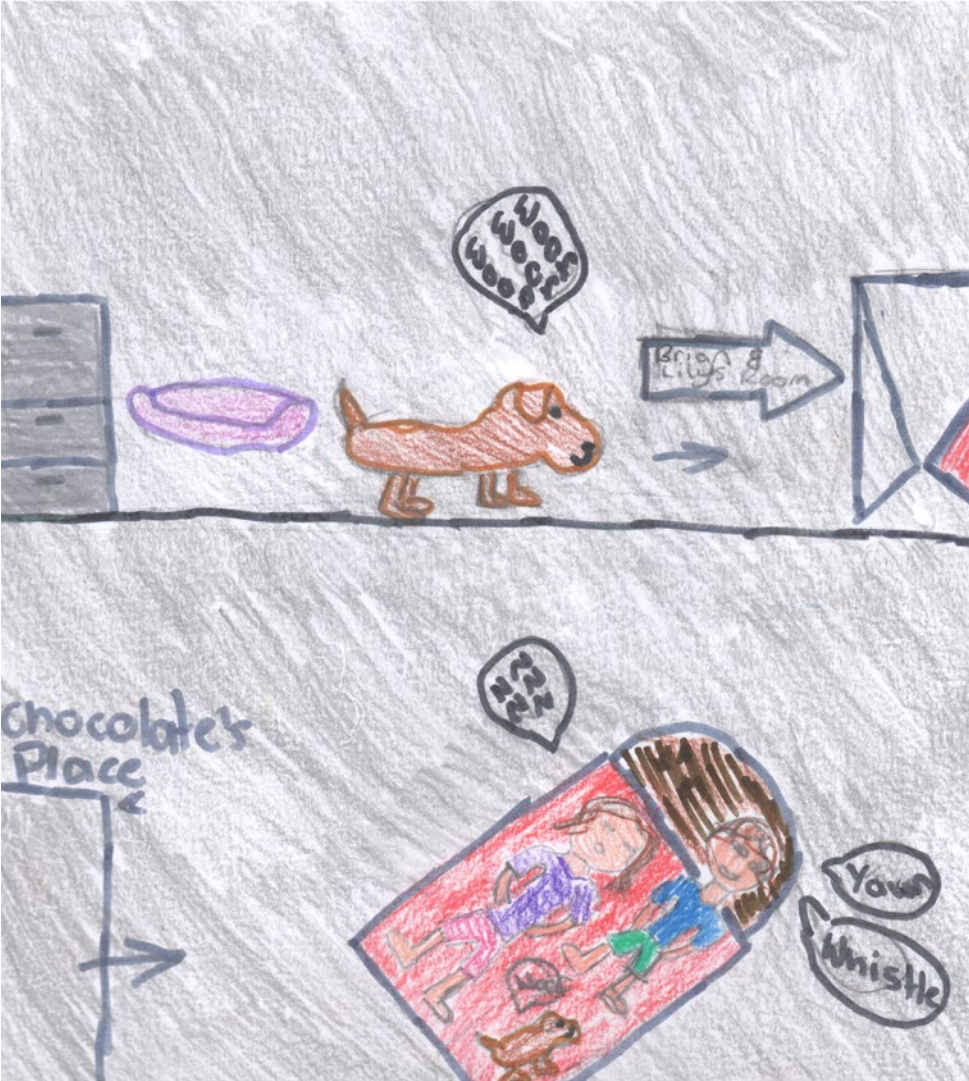
Brian looked out the window and saw the cows all huddling together, stranded on the highest peaks of land. The flood water was rising around them and the cows were afraid. It slowly crept up until the water level was at their knees.



Brian and Lily were really worried. They were nervous because they were thinking about all of the things that could possibly go wrong during floods, like trees falling, fences being wrecked and the cows drowning.

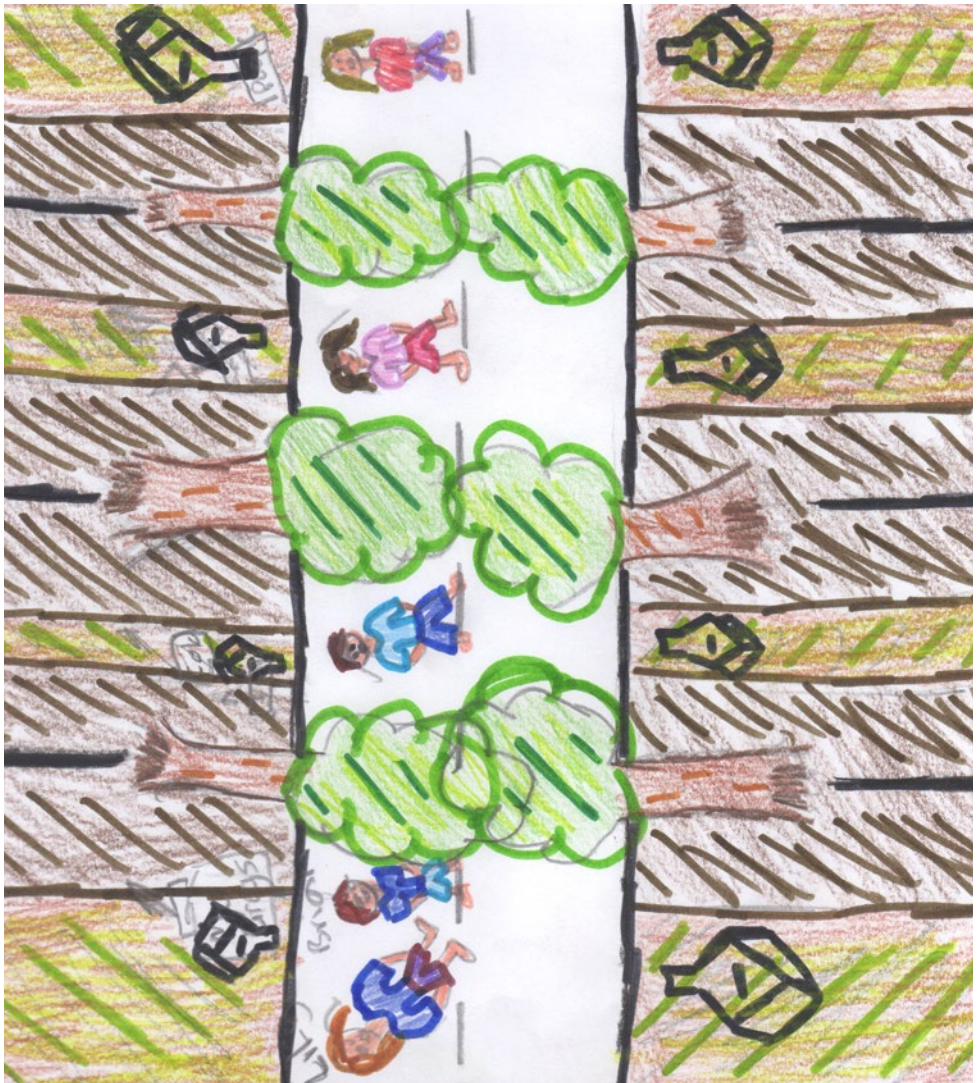
Just when they thought nothing else could go wrong, there was a big crack of thunder and the powerlines fell down and all the power went out. They sat in darkness wondering what they would find when the rain cleared.

Chocolate was very scared and couldn't get to sleep, so Brian whistled for him to come into their room. He settled down quickly knowing he was safe and secure with his owners.



The next morning everyone in the neighbourhood came out of their houses to look at all the destruction and damage that had happened last night.

It was a very sad day for everyone as they had already been through so much.





The community came together to think of a solution to fix all the destruction and fallen trees. They started to work together to help each other out.



People in weird bright yellow safety gear came into the town calling themselves the SES.

They proudly told the farmers. "We are the State Emergency Services and we are here to help you clean up the mess."



Brain and Lily were very thankful to have the SES around to help, especially when they had lost almost everything.

They learnt that the SES was made up largely of kind-hearted volunteers who give their time to help communities in need.



The government also sent some care packages to Brian and Lily's community. Huge helicopters came flying over and dropped the packages carrying food and water supplies for the people and animals.



With all the relief provided Brian and Lily began hearing people call the helicopters 'angels in the sky'. They guessed this was because they were so helpful, saving their farms and animals. Brian and Lily never forgot the help given during that time.



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