April 2021 | ₹50

Highlights Genies

Hello, Spring!

Find this hidden apple!

Pages 14–15

Ages 2–6

Picnic at the Tulip Garden

Page 20

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America's leading early-childhood magazine is now in India!

Dear Readers

Spring is Here!

I have the advantage of living in the twin cities of Mumbai and Delhi. If the blooming red flowers of the flame-of-the-forest announce spring in Delhi, the soothing pink and white Indian cherry blossoms announce spring in Mumbai. Spring is the best time to take children outdoors and talk about nature. Discuss birds and their eggs—a pigeon laid two eggs outside our window—or walk around the neighborhood and see how many different kinds of flowers you can spot.

From tulips in Srinagar to growing vegetables, we have covered spring in this month's *Highlights Genies*. The stories provide a great way to talk to your child about the change of seasons and evolution of life. So go ahead and take a walk with your little one outside, before the mercury hits red, and enjoy this season.

Sincerely,

Richa Shah, Managing Editor
Email me at editor.genies@delhipress.in

Highlights Genies celebrates the early years of childhood—a time of discovery when learning happens at every turn. Our magazine is dedicated to helping parents, educators, and other caregivers nurture young children by

- *encouraging their natural sense of wonder about the world;*
- *promoting reasoning, problem solving, and creative self-expression;*
- *fostering a love of language and a rich vocabulary;*
- *and inspiring them to be kind, to get along with others, and to grow in self-confidence.*

Think Green!
Finished with this issue? Save it to reread in the future, or pass it along to a friend, classroom, or library. If it's too worn to be read anymore, please recycle it.

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2021!

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Verse

Dragonfly

By Bill Johnson • Art by Amy Schimler

A dazzling-colored dragonfly
darts back and forth near me.
I pause and watch her hover there
so close that I can see
two bulging eyes,
four sparkling wings.
She then begins to fly.
Oh, how I wish
that I could join
this dragon in the sky!

PAINT SPILLS ON SPOT

Episode #160

By Marileta Robinson • Art by Ron Zalme

"Look out, Spot!"

Oops!

Now what?

Paint is sticky!

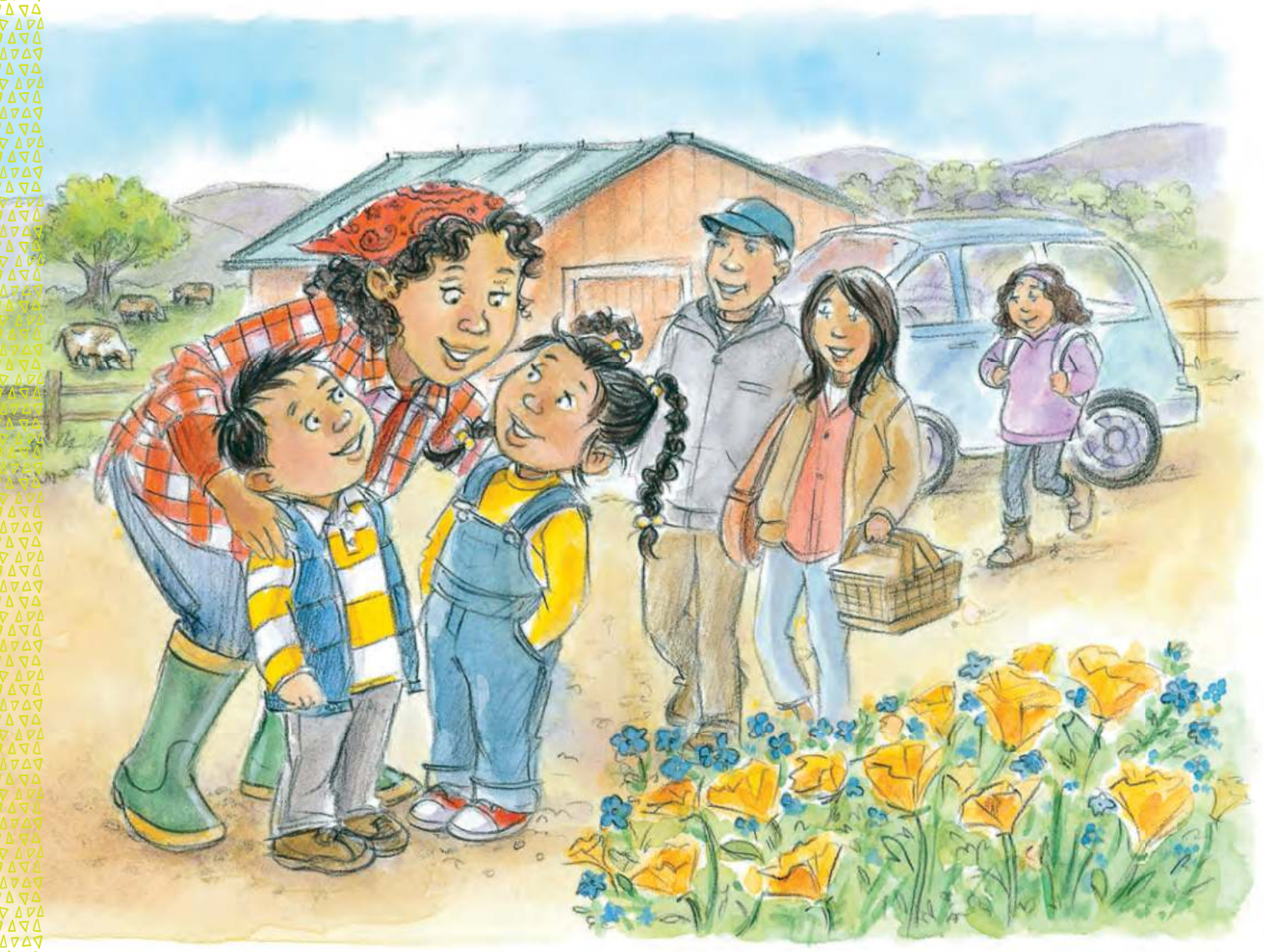
"What is that?"

"It's Spot!"

Tex & Indi

New Things

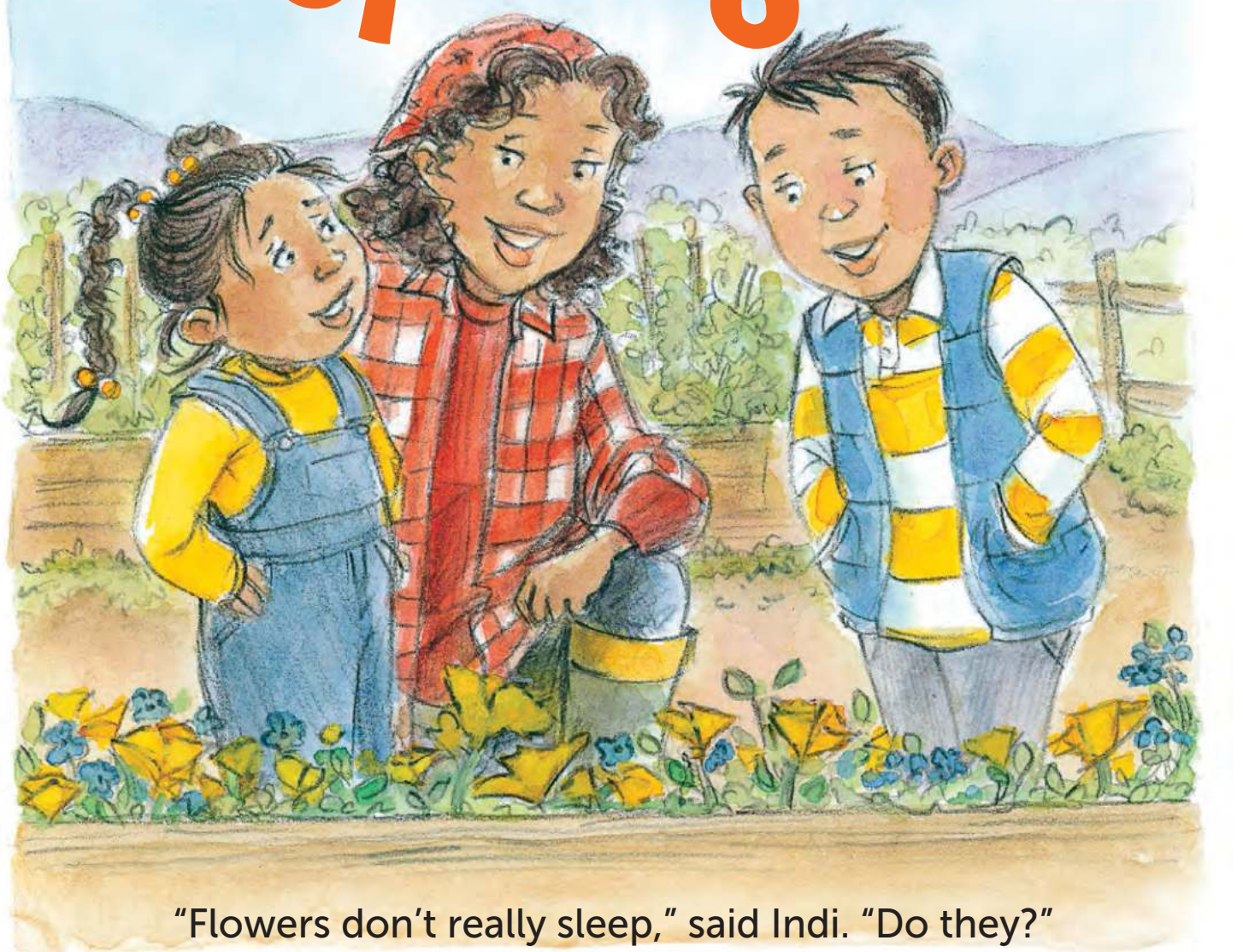
By Lissa Rovetch • Art by Amy Wummer



Tex, Indi, and their family were visiting Aunt Jen and her farm.

"Welcome back," said Aunt Jen. "You're just in time to see the wildflowers wake up!"

in Spring



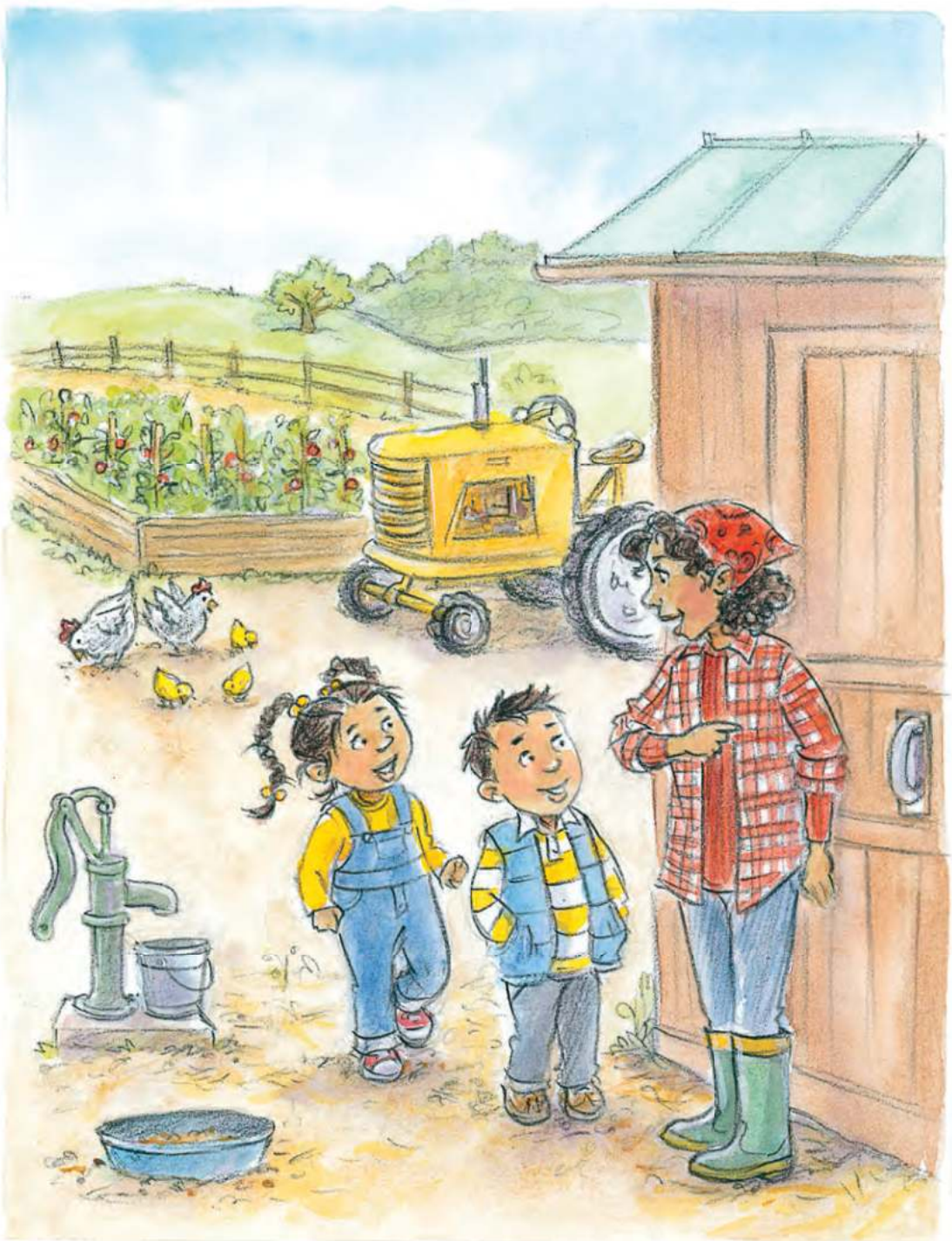
"Flowers don't really sleep," said Indi. "Do they?"

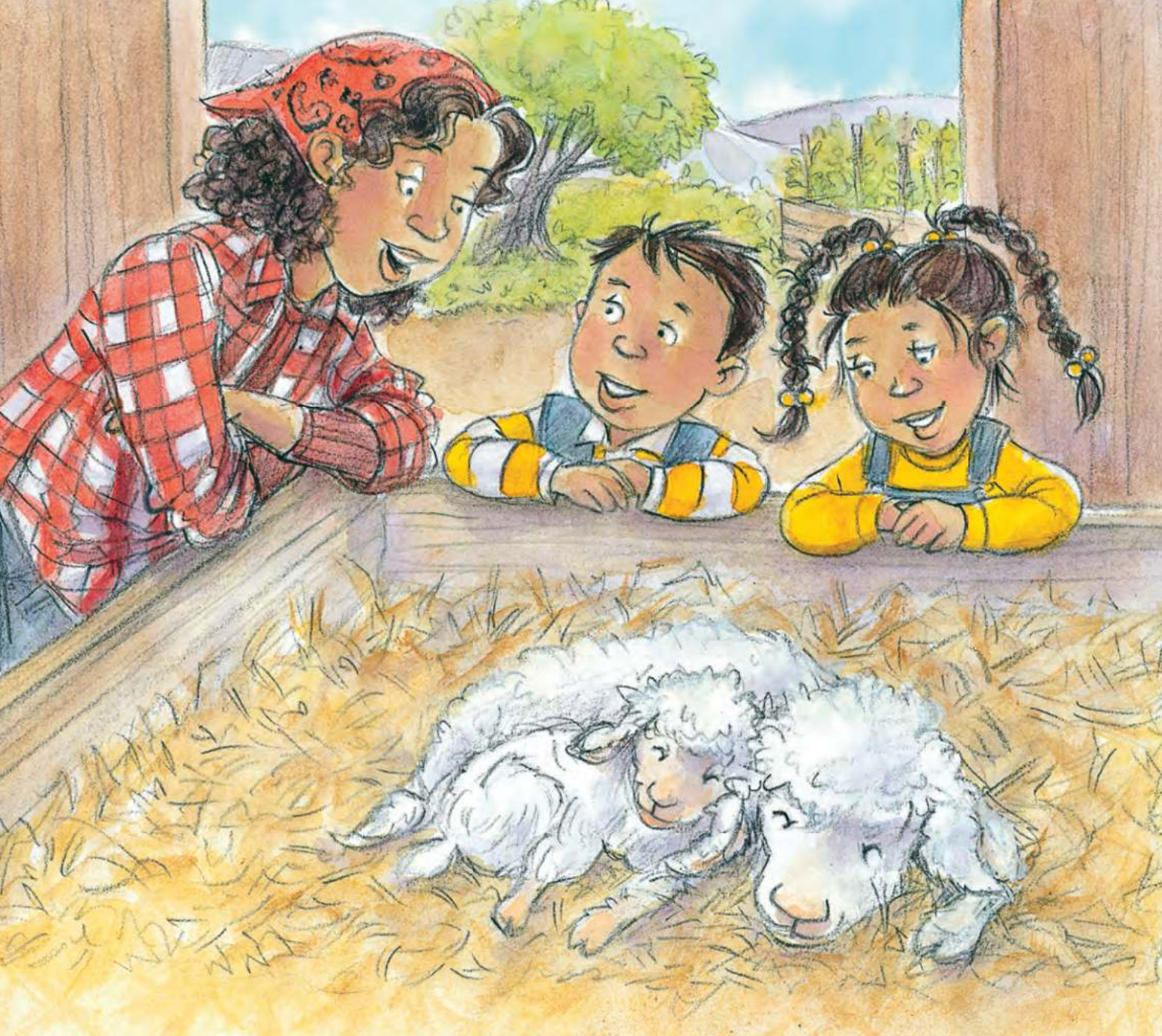
"Not like we do," said Aunt Jen. "But sometimes they rest underground through the cold winter months. When spring comes, their roots grow down to drink rainwater, their stems reach up to feel sunshine, and then they bloom!"

"They're so pretty!" said Tex.

"These aren't our only springtime surprises," said Aunt Jen. "Just wait till you see our new little Rosebud!"

The family walked past the vegetable garden, and the chickens, and the big yellow tractor.





"Here she is," Aunt Jen smiled. "Our new little Rosebud!"

"You tricked us!" giggled Indi. "We thought you were showing us a flower, not a baby lamb."

"She was born yesterday," said Aunt Jen.

"Awww," said Tex. "I wish we could take her home."

"Rosebud needs to stay here," said Aunt Jen. "But you can visit her again when you come blackberry picking this summer."

"And apple picking in the fall!" said the twins together.

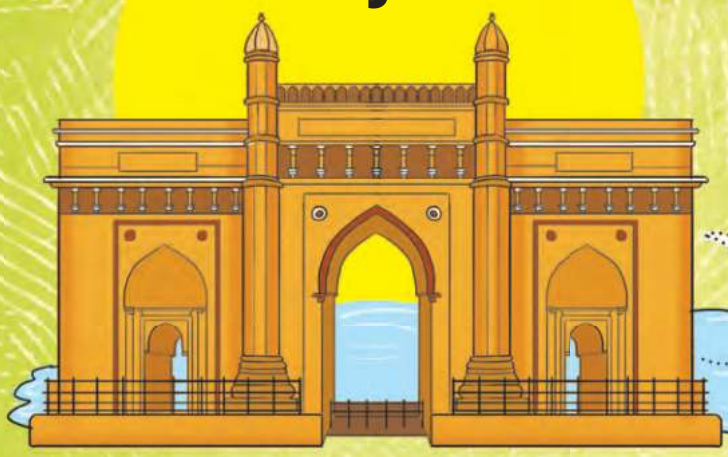
Game

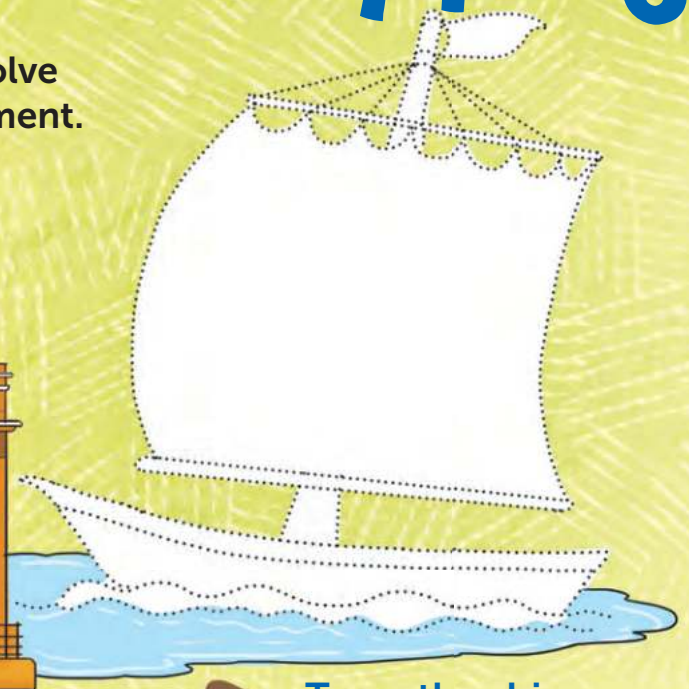
Monument Hopping

Art by Sonal

World Heritage Day is on April 18. Solve each activity to reach the next monument.

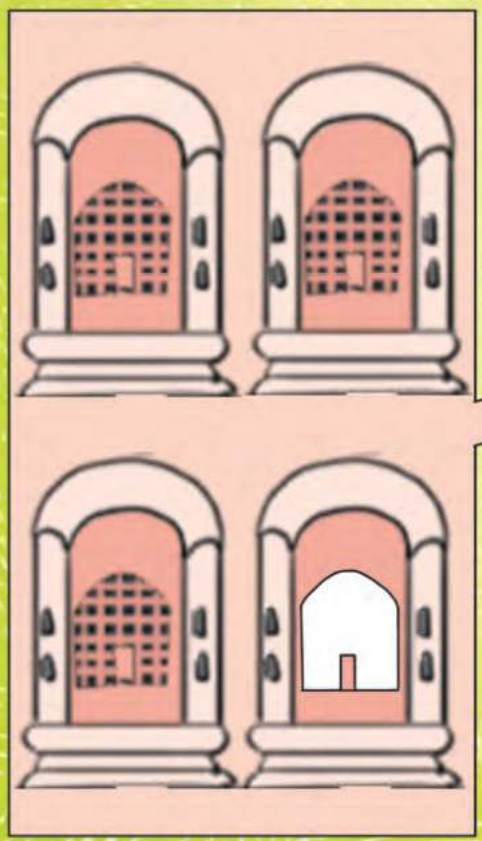
Gateway of India





Trace the ship.

Complete the window.



Hawa Mahal

Original Genies Content

Qutub Minar

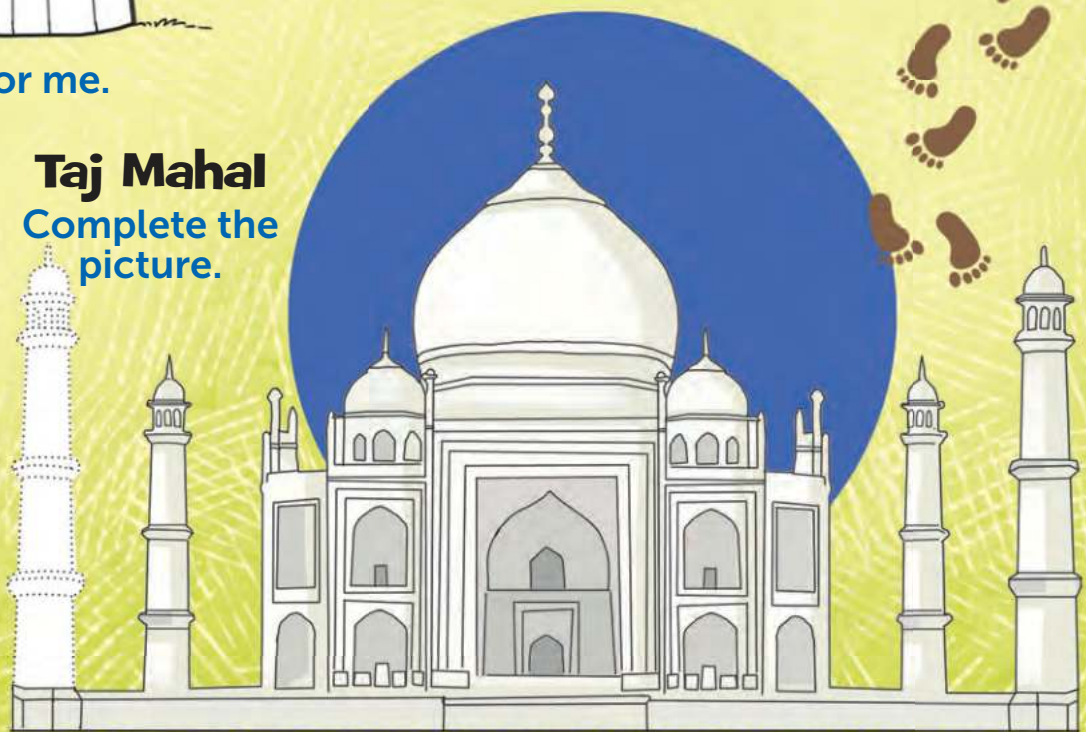
Color me.

Konark Sun Temple

Spot five differences.

Taj Mahal

Complete the picture.



Nonfiction

Eggs

By Heidi Bee Roemer • Art by Melanie Mikecz

Ostriches lay large eggs on the ground.

Hummingbirds lay small eggs in a tree.

Butterflies lay teensy eggs on a leaf.
Eggs come in all sizes, you see!

My First Hidden Pictures

Time for a Trim

Art by Amy Wilcox

Bread

Crayon

Spool of Thread

Apple

Flower

Find the objects hidden in the picture!

Funnel

Slice of Watermelon

Snail

Ball

Poem Puzzle

Picture Perfect

By Rikki B. Romerez • Art by Eric Barclay

Miss Jeena Willow
sits on a pillow
in the museum's art chamber.

It's hard to hold still,
but Jeena will
because Leo is trying to
paint her.

Look for squares and rectangles in the picture.

What else do you see?

What do you like to paint?

That's Silly!

Art by Katie McDee

All Aboard

the Train

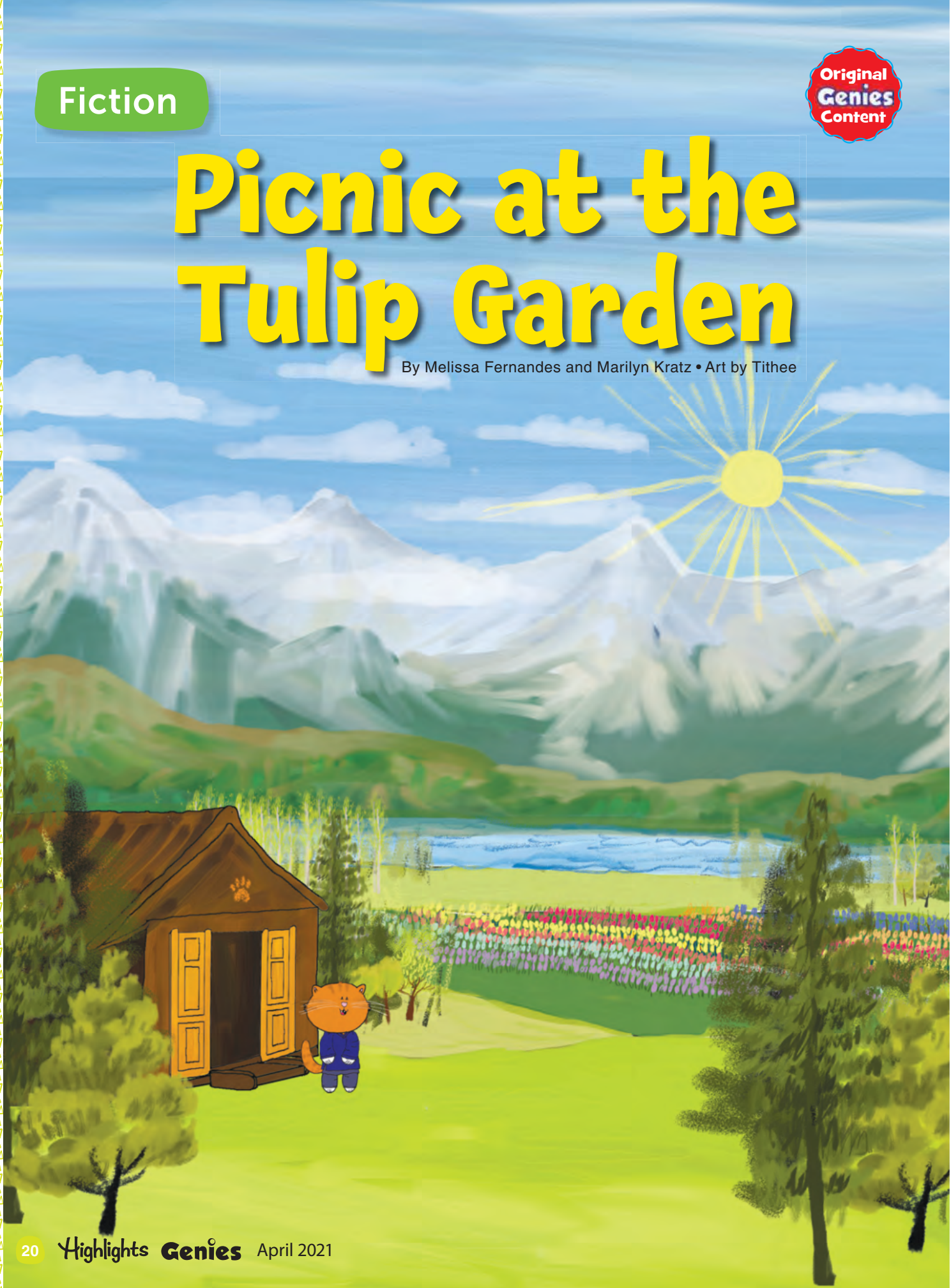
What silly things do you see?

Fiction

Original Genies Content

Picnic at the Tulip Garden

By Melissa Fernandes and Marilyn Kratz • Art by Tithee



"What a beautiful sunny day," Pawsy said, poking his nose outside. "The valley is covered in blossoms and every inch of the tulip garden is blooming. It's the perfect day for a picnic."

He hurried inside to pack a picnic basket and invite his friends over.

"Surprise!" Pawsy shouted when his friends arrived. "It's the Tulip Festival here in Srinagar. We're going to have a picnic."

"Yipee! I'll carry the picnic basket," said Hula.

"I'll carry the blanket," said Ginny.

Pawsy and his friends walked to the tulip garden nearby.

"Red, green, blue, yellow, purple! Tulips come in so many colors!" he said.

"Look at that one! It has two colors—red and yellow!" pointed Hula.

As they walked further, Ginny saw multi-colored tulips and said, "This one is like a rainbow!"

"Look at the tulips dancing in the wind!" said Pawsy.

"Let's sit by Dal Lake," said Ginny. "We can watch the *shikaras*."

They spread the blanket and sat down for a colorful picnic.

Recipe

By Zeba Hetavkar (Baked Favour)

Easter Egg

You Need:

- 250 grams chopped white chocolate
- Easter egg mould
- Food coloring
- Small candies (gems, chocolate chips, marshmallows)
- Sprinkles

Original Genies Content

How to make:

1. In a microwave-safe bowl, melt the white chocolate and divide it equally between three bowls.

2. Add a few drops of food coloring to the melted chocolate and mix.

3. Pour the chocolate into the moulds. Chill them in the fridge for an hour.

4. Unmould and fill one half of the moulds with candies.

5. Cover with the other half, using melted chocolate to stick the halves together. Do this for each egg.

Smash Balls

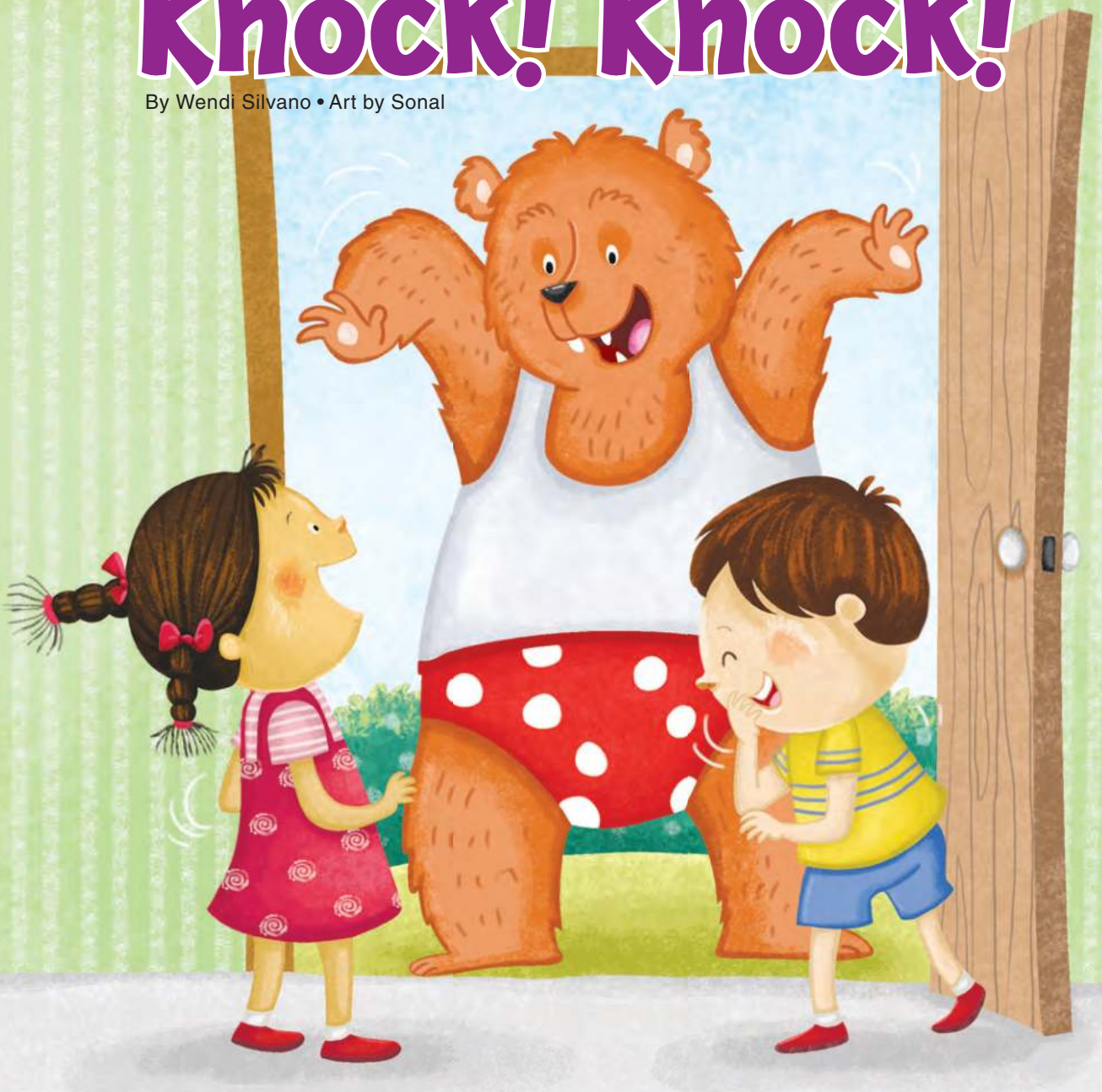
6. Decorate with chocolate drizzle and sprinkles.

Meera and Kiran

Original Genies Content

Knock! Knock!

By Wendi Silvano • Art by Sonal



"Kiran! It's April Fools' Day! What should we do?" asked Meera excitedly.

"I know a game," said Kiran. "Knock! Knock!."

"Who's there?" asked Meera.

"A grizzly bear in his underwear!" giggled Kiran.

Now, it was Meera's turn.
"Knock! Knock!" said Meera.
"Who is it?"
"A platypus who's come for a visit!" said Meera.

"Knock! Knock!"
"Who could it be?" asked Meera.
"A speckled pig who is trying to ski!" said Kiran.

"Knock! Knock!" said Meera, laughing uncontrollably.

"What's all the fuss?" asked Kiran.

"Ten kangaroos in a minibus," replied Meera.

"Knock! Knock!"

"Who wants in?"

"A singing goat with a violin," replied Kiran.

"Knock! Knock!"
"Who's outside?"
"A flamingo band with a dude named Clyde!"

"Knock! Knock!" said Meera.

"Close the door! I can't take it anymore!" giggled Kiran, falling to the floor.

Graphic Story

OFFICER DOG

By Mr. E • Art by Paula J. Becker

P
P
P
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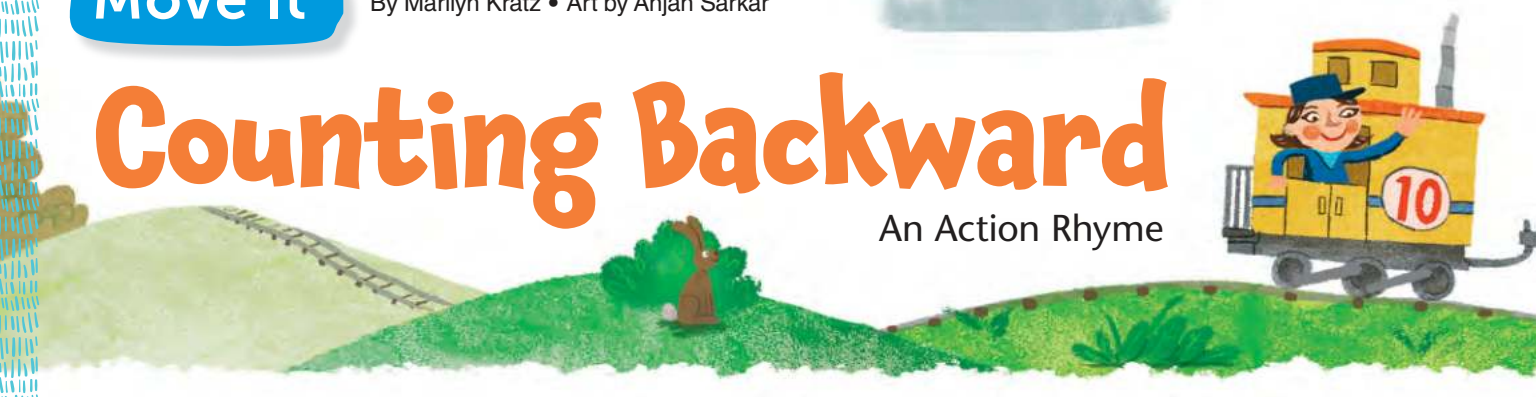
Move It

By Marilyn Kratz • Art by Anjan Sarkar

Counting Backward

An Action Rhyme



Four steps forward.

Three steps back.

Two deep bends.

Photos by Guy Cali Associates, Inc.

One jumping jack.

Hop and count:
Four, Three, Two, One.
Counting backward is such fun!

Craft

By Lisa Glover • Photos by Jim Filipski, Guy Cali Associates, Inc.

Veggie Garden

You Need:

- Scissors
- Brown felt
- Craft foam
- Glue
- Paper cups
- Rubber band

Before you begin:
Adult: Cut a 5-inch square out of felt. Cut a "+" shape in the center.

1 Cut.

Cut out a veggie and a leaf from craft foam.

2 Glue.

Glue the leaf to the vegetable.

Veggie Time!

Put your veggie in the cup. Pull it out to watch it "grow"!

3 Cut.

Cut down the side of a cup. Cut off the bottom.

4 Secure.

Put the felt over the top of the cup and secure with a rubber band.

5 Place.

Place the cup inside another cup.

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