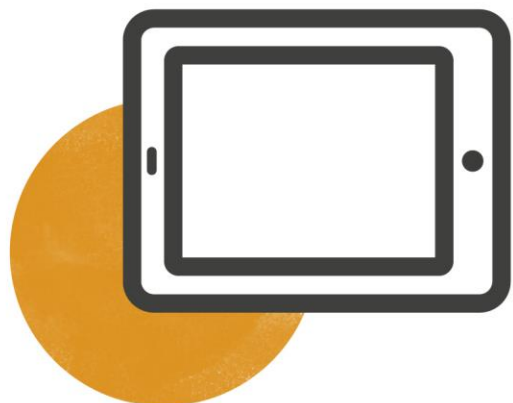
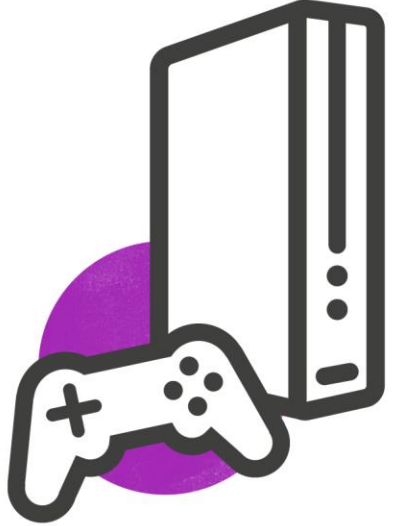




What is Safer Internet Day?



What devices do you use to find information online?

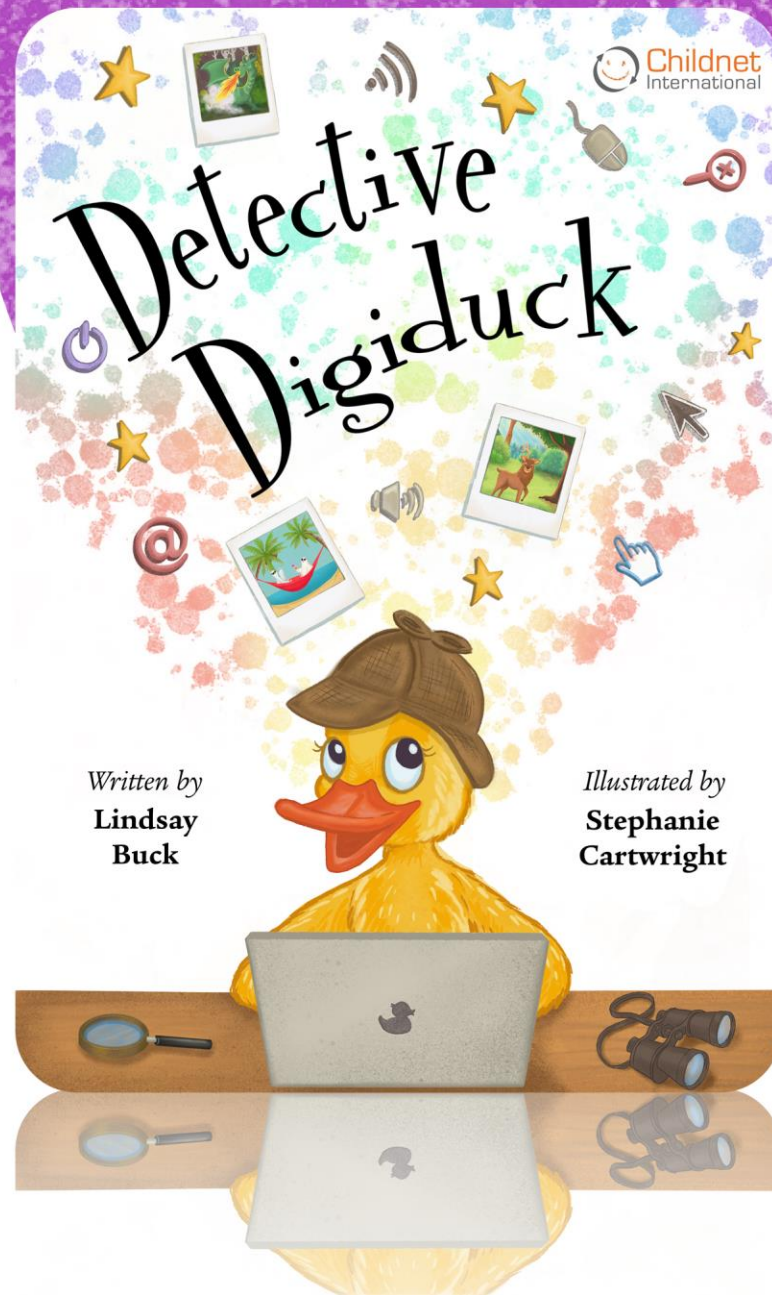




What do you like
to do online?



Is everything you see or read online true?



School had nearly finished for the year, and Digiduck had one last project.



His teacher Mrs Goose had asked the class to find out about animals that live in the forest.

Digiduck knew his parents had friends in the forest, but he'd never been.

Forests were a mystery!



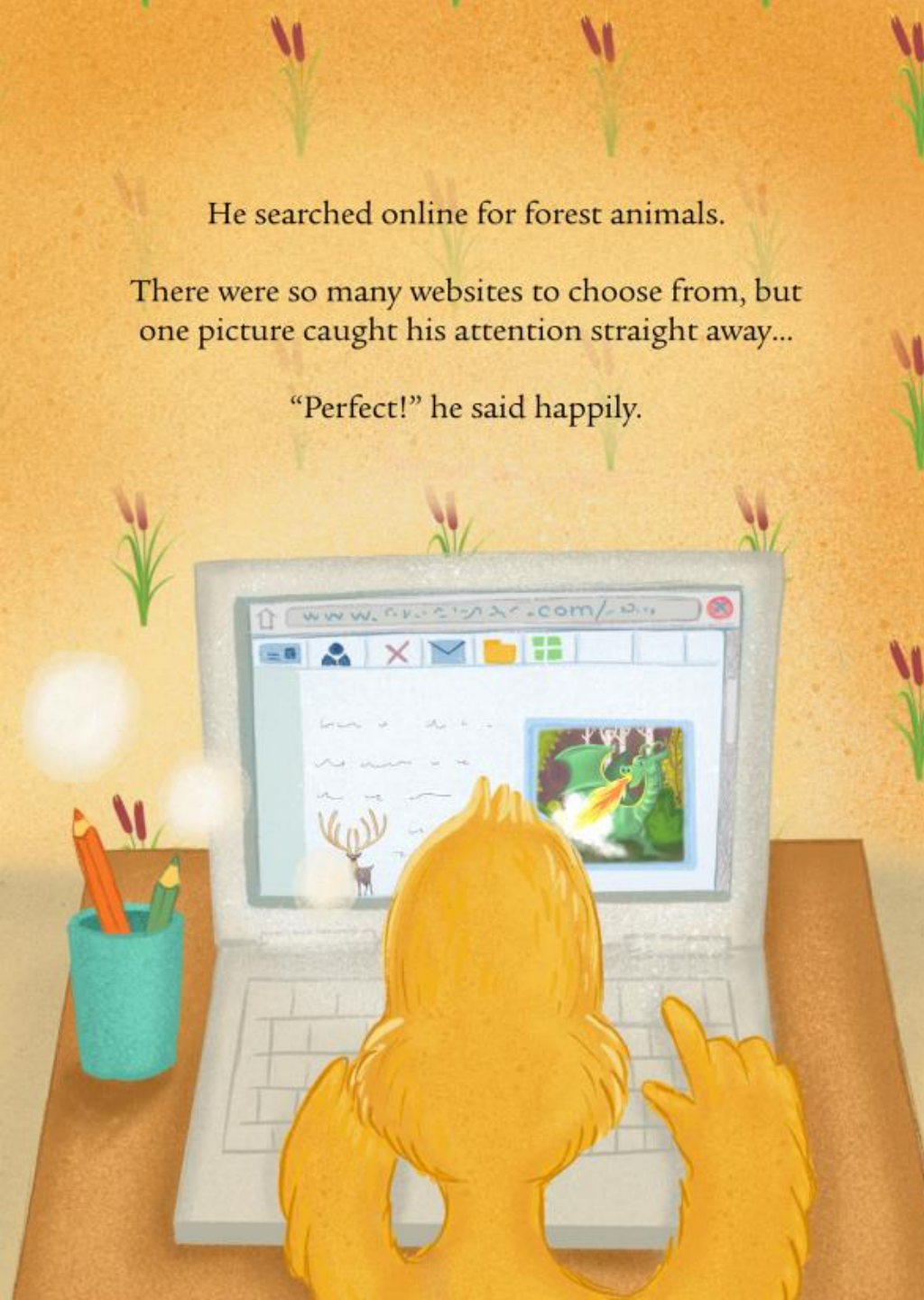
He needed to rush though! Krazy_cat and Footie_fox were on his Family Farmyard games team and they were so close to winning...

If he could do this quickly, they could still play before bedtime.

He searched online for forest animals.

There were so many websites to choose from, but one picture caught his attention straight away...

“Perfect!” he said happily.





Digiduck discovered that a deer's antlers are the fastest growing body-part of any animal in the world, and once they start growing, they don't stop.

Doves travel for thousands of miles when they migrate, and are happiest in cold weather.



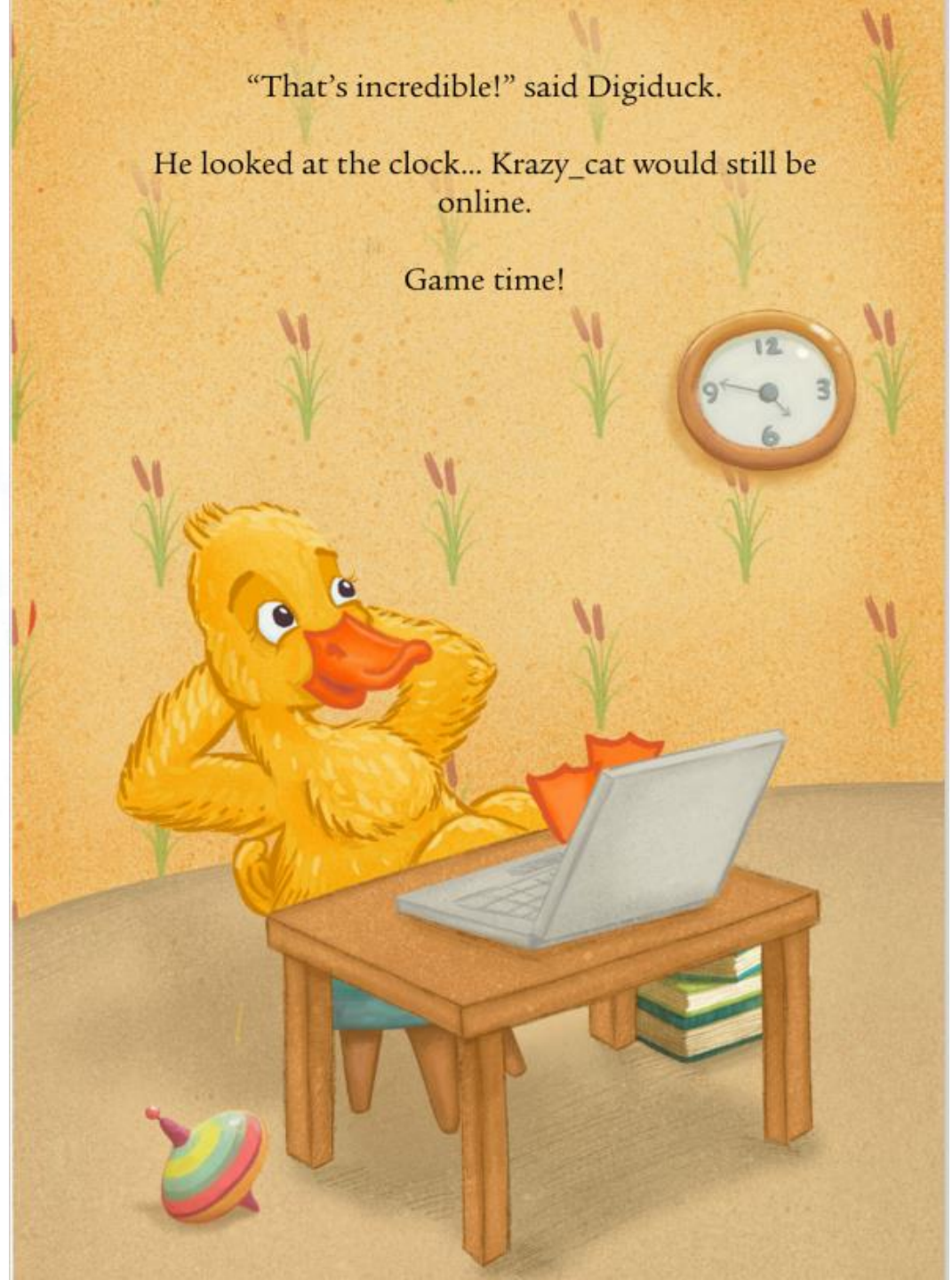
All dragons can fly and breathe fire. They live in the deepest darkest forests.



“That’s incredible!” said Digiduck.

He looked at the clock... Krazy_cat would still be online.

Game time!



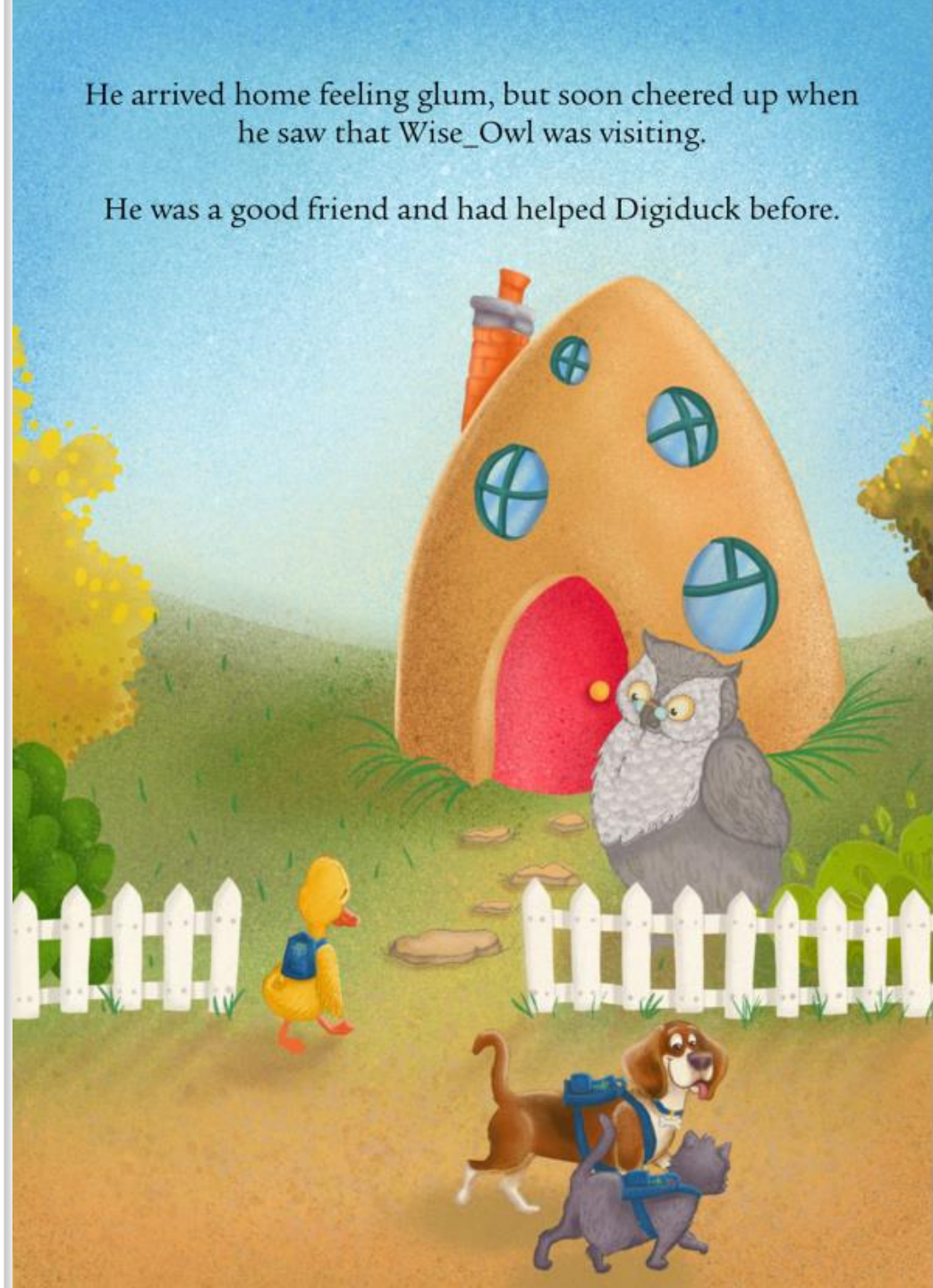
Later that week, when Mrs Goose returned his work,
he was surprised.

“Oh no!” he exclaimed. “I wonder where I went
wrong?”



He arrived home feeling glum, but soon cheered up when
he saw that Wise_Owl was visiting.

He was a good friend and had helped Digiduck before.



“I don’t understand,” said Digiduck, showing them his work.

“The website I chose had lots of information and fantastic pictures. I thought they were all facts. How can I tell the difference?”



“Something is only a fact if you can prove, or show, that it’s true,” explained Wise_Owl, “like the fact that all birds have beaks. We can see that; we know that it’s true.”



“So if I said all birds have... umm... eight legs, that is not a fact. I know it’s untrue because I am one!” replied Digiduck.

“Precisely!” said Wise_Owl.





Also, things you read or see online might just be ideas that people have. I could say on the internet that Brave.bat is the best superhero, but you might think that Daring.duck is better! We can't say who's right or wrong; because they're our opinions - or feelings that we have."

"To check if something is a fact, you have to be a detective, Digiduck and look for information, or clues, in other places too."



Digiduck leaped up enthusiastically, "Detective Digiduck, on the case!"



He quickly stopped in his tracks, “Hang on... where else are we going to look for information?”

“I’m going to teach you three things that you can do, to help decide if what you’ve found on the internet is a fact or not. We’ll use a different one for each forest animal,” explained Wise_Owl.



“We’ll video call one of the animals, we’ll chat with your parents, and we’ll look on another website too.”



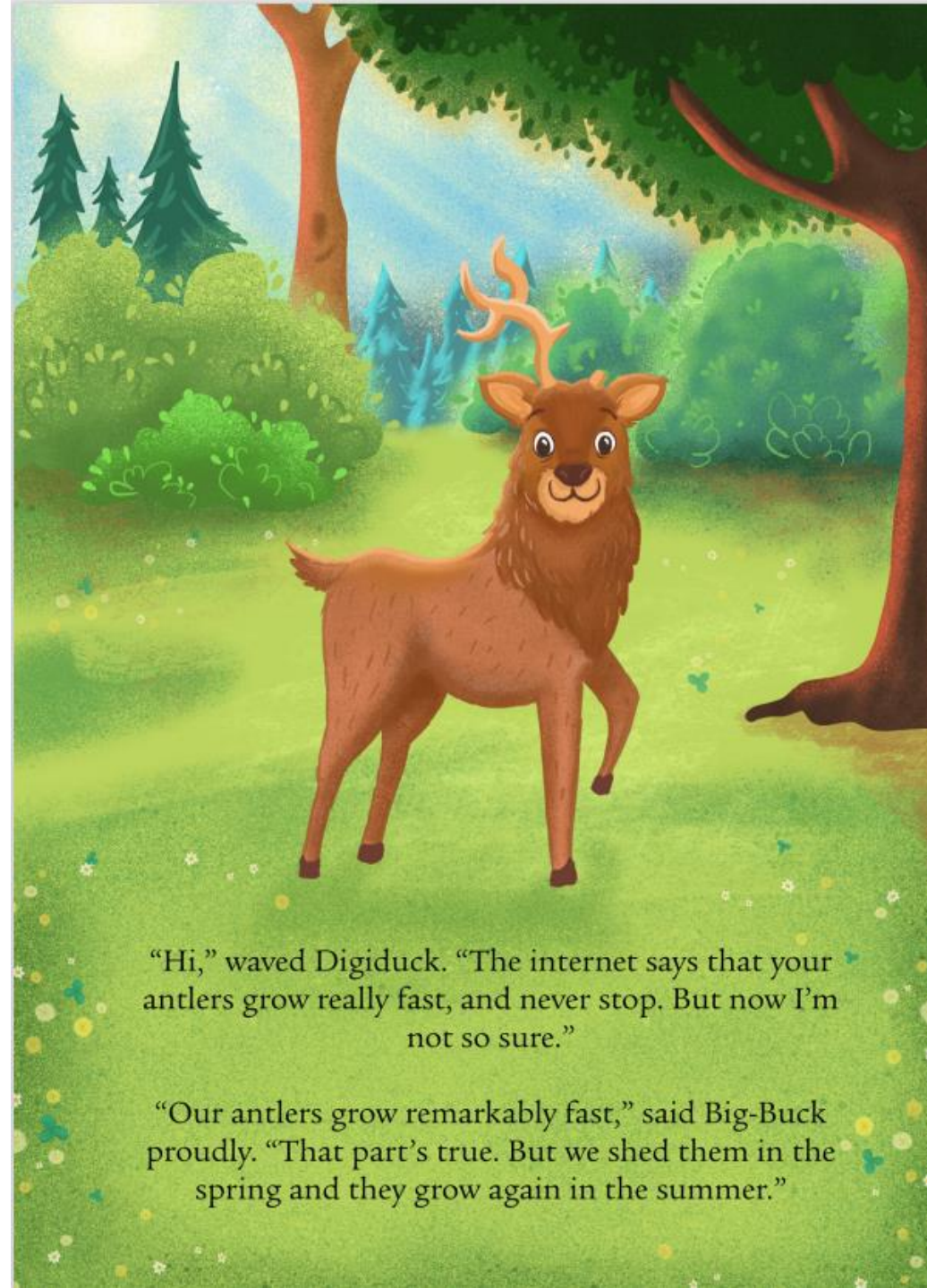
“This is going to be amazing!” yelled Digiduck. “Please can we call the dragon first? Pleeease!”



“We’ll save the dragon for later, but we’ll call my friend Big-Buck first; no one knows more about being a deer, than a deer himself.”



The call connected and a magnificent stag appeared on screen. His antlers were quite unexpected though...



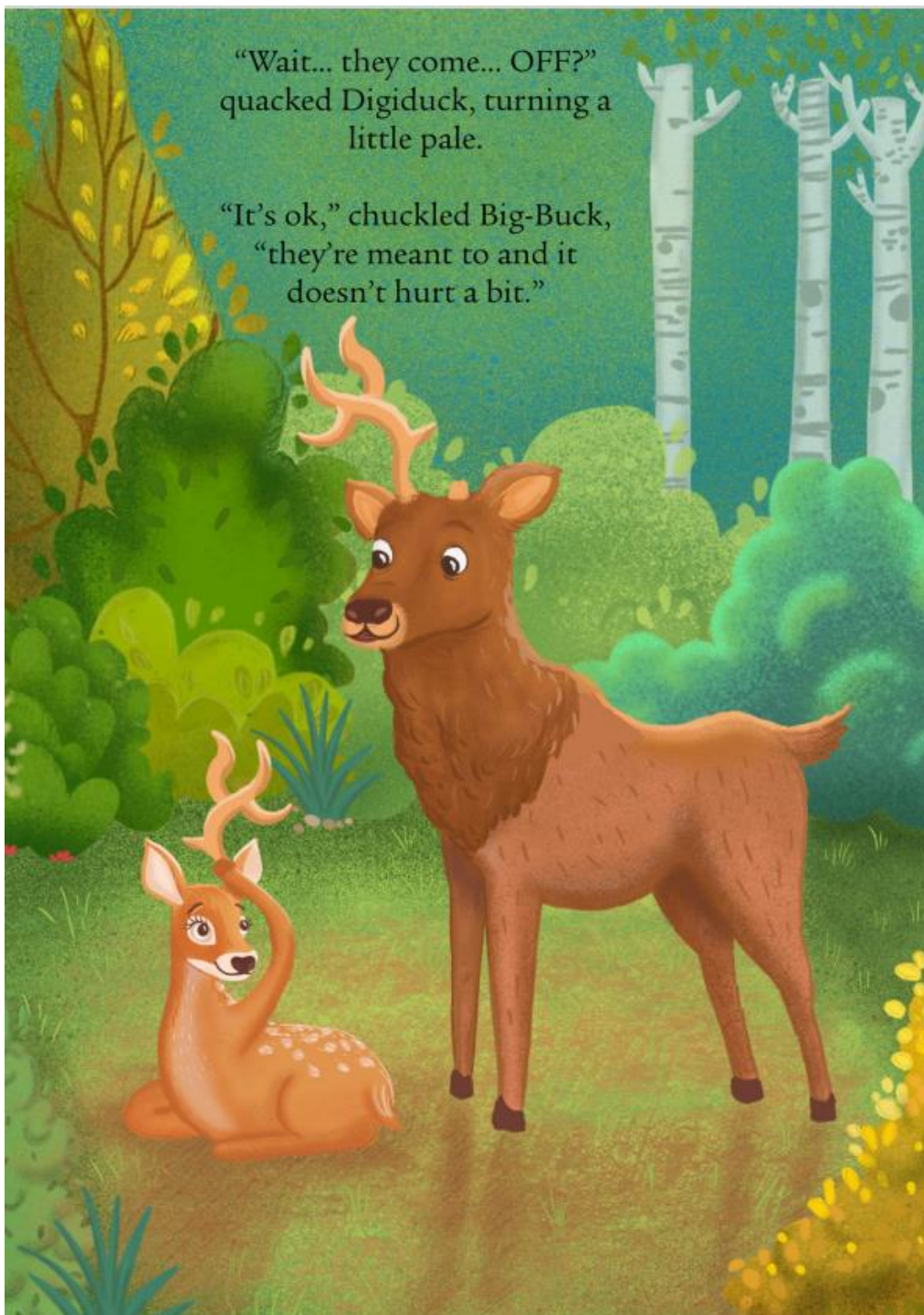
“Hi,” waved Digiduck. “The internet says that your antlers grow really fast, and never stop. But now I’m not so sure.”

“Our antlers grow remarkably fast,” said Big-Buck proudly. “That part’s true. But we shed them in the spring and they grow again in the summer.”



“Wait... they come... OFF?”
quacked Digiduck, turning a
little pale.

“It’s ok,” chuckled Big-Buck,
“they’re meant to and it
doesn’t hurt a bit.”



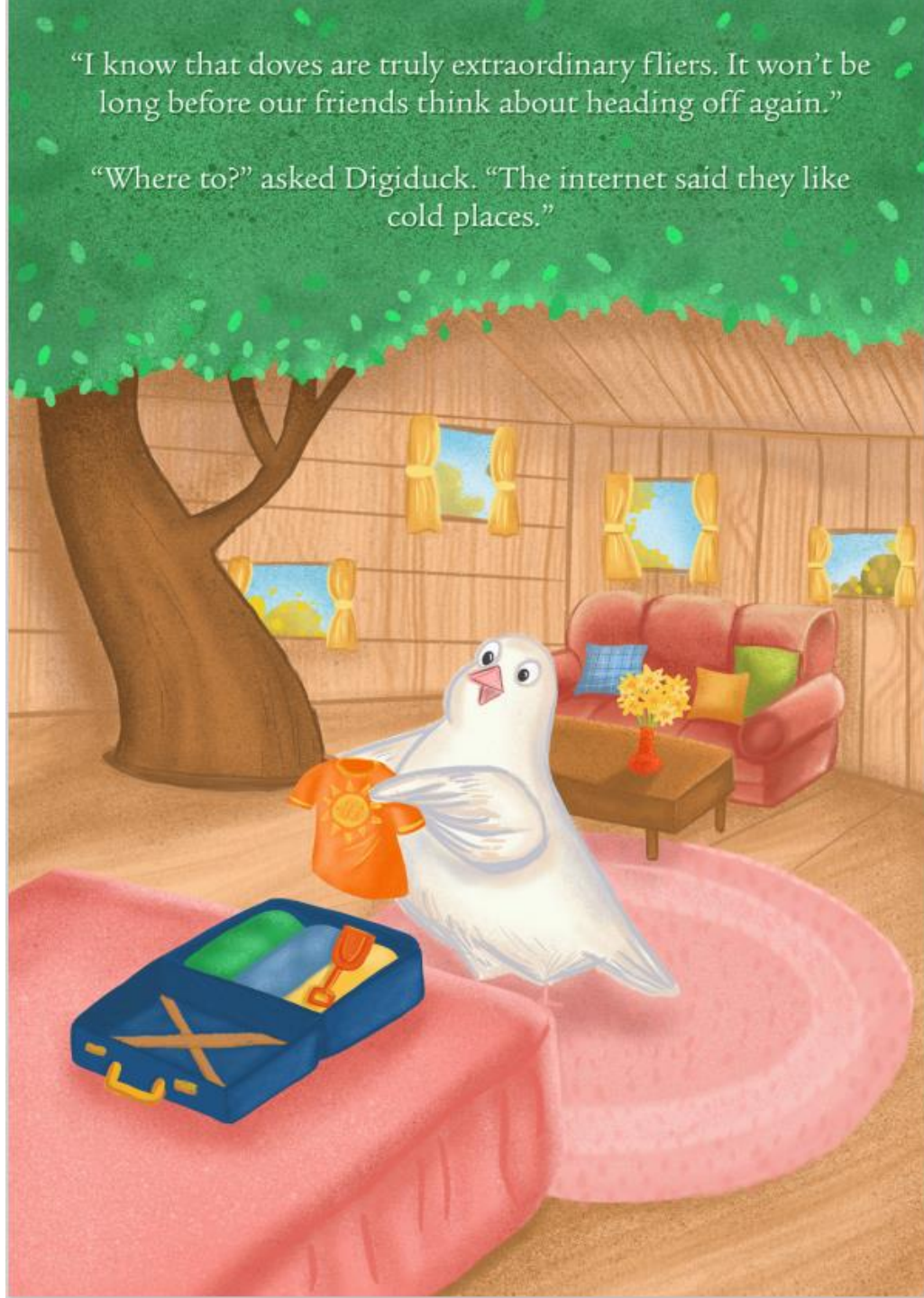
They returned to the project over dinner.

“Mummy Duck, can you tell us anything about doves?”
asked Wise_Owl.

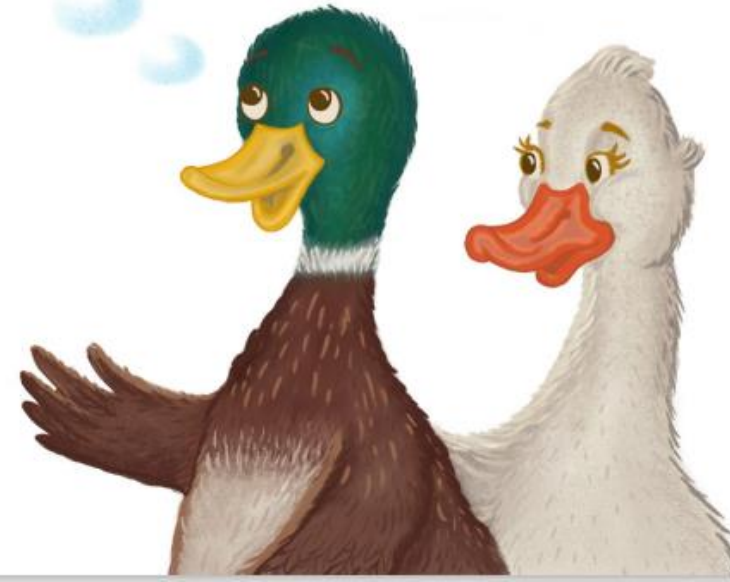


“I know that doves are truly extraordinary fliers. It won’t be long before our friends think about heading off again.”

“Where to?” asked Digiduck. “The internet said they like cold places.”



“Not all doves are the same, but some fly an exceptionally long way to get to warmer places, and this migration lasts many months. Oh, the stories they tell...” replied Mummy Duck wistfully.



“Right Detective, what have you learned so far?” asked Wise_Owl.

Digiduck studied his notebook, “To check the information you find online, you need to talk about it with an adult. You might even know an expert who can help too!”



“Very good,” replied Wise_Owl. “That just leaves the dragon.”

“Ooh I can’t wait!” said Digiduck, hopping excitedly.

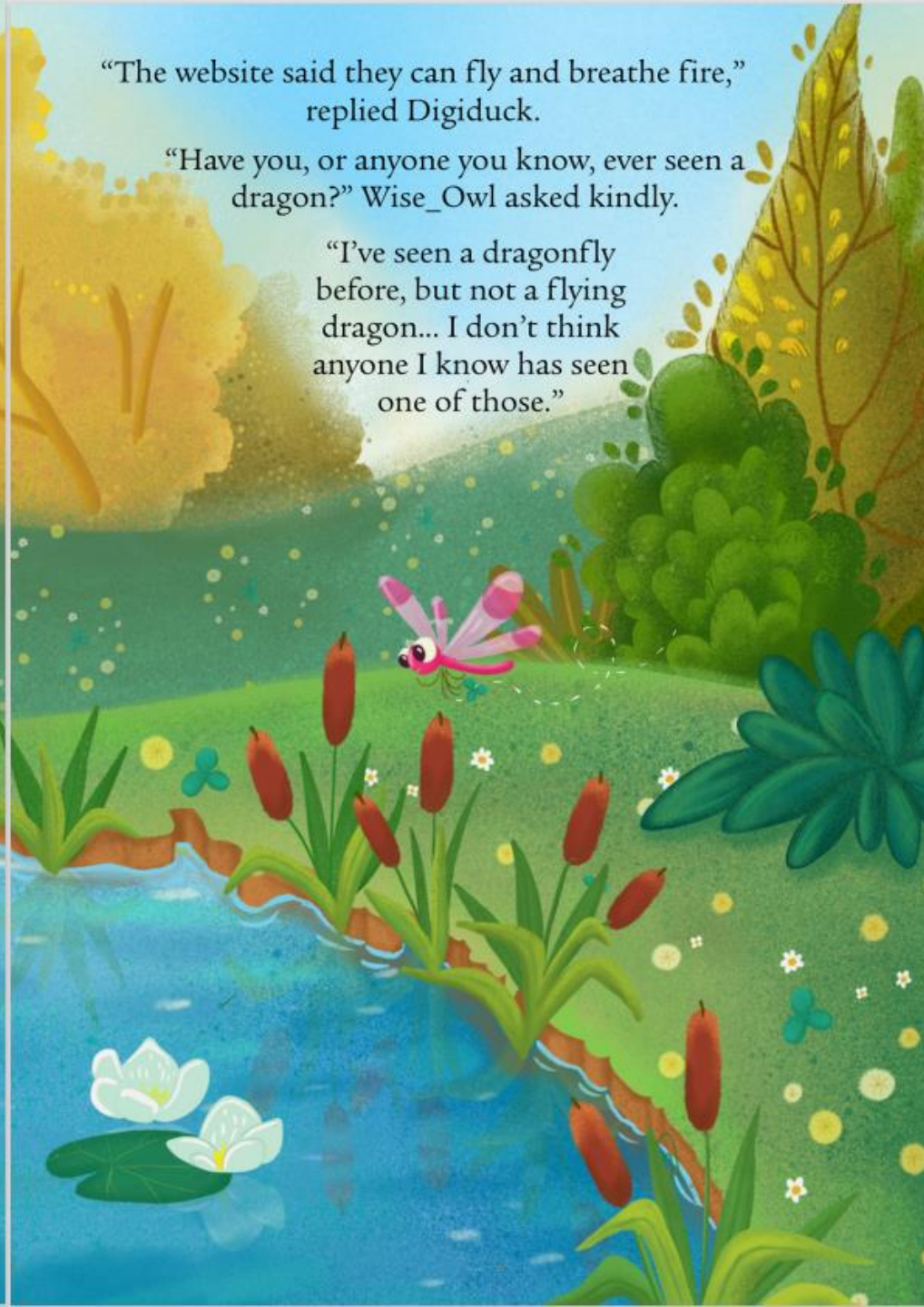
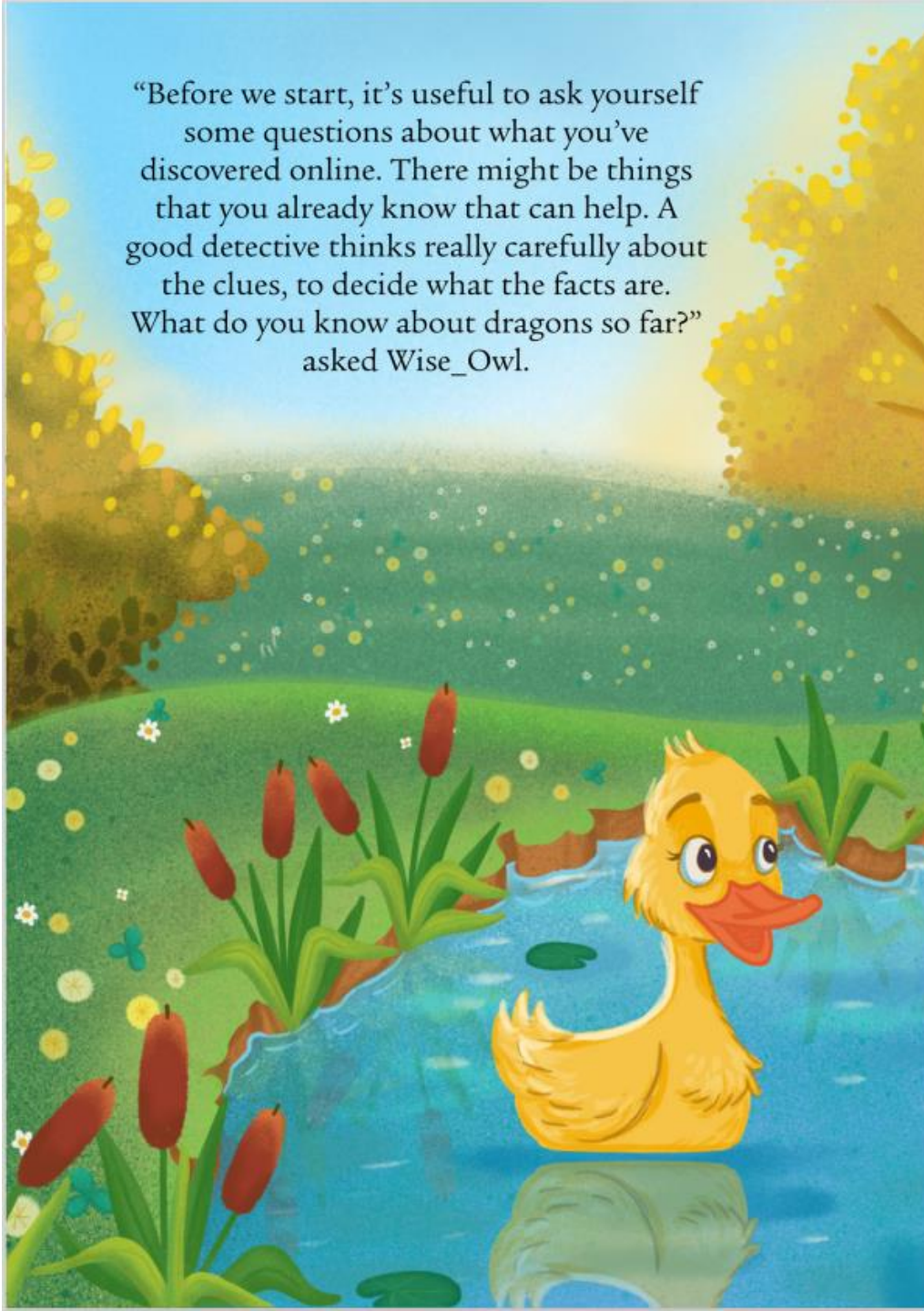


“Before we start, it’s useful to ask yourself some questions about what you’ve discovered online. There might be things that you already know that can help. A good detective thinks really carefully about the clues, to decide what the facts are. What do you know about dragons so far?” asked Wise_Owl.

“The website said they can fly and breathe fire,” replied Digiduck.

“Have you, or anyone you know, ever seen a dragon?” Wise_Owl asked kindly.

“I’ve seen a dragonfly before, but not a flying dragon... I don’t think anyone I know has seen one of those.”



“Have you seen any other photographs, videos, or news reports about dragons - in your books, on TV or anywhere online?”



“I watched a video about Komodo dragons, but they’re actually the biggest lizards in the world! There are fire-breathing dragons in my bedtime stories, but lots of made up things happen there too.”



Digiduck sat quietly, considering the clues in his mind. After a while he said with a little sigh, "I think dragons might not be real."

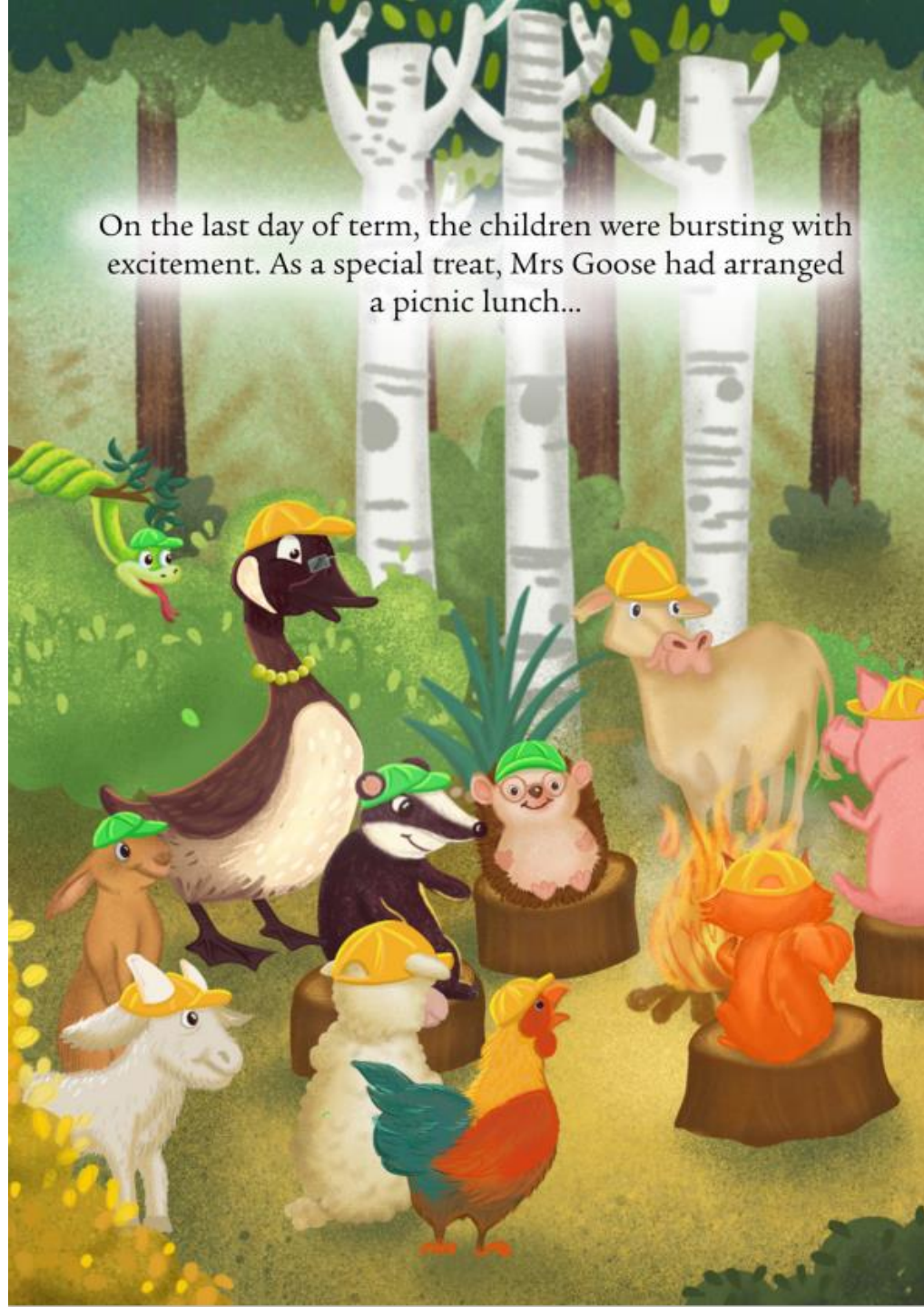
"I'm afraid they aren't," comforted Wise_Owl. "The information you found about dragons was untrue. They only live in made-up stories. But what terrific stories they are!"



Wise_Owl and Digiduck searched online for a different animal to complete his project. The Family Farmyard had lots of interesting forest facts, and Digiduck also checked a website that Mrs Goose had shown them.



On the last day of term, the children were bursting with excitement. As a special treat, Mrs Goose had arranged a picnic lunch...



...at the
forest school!



What did you think?



Top Tips For Searching Online

Wise_Owl's advice:

- ✓ Talk about it with an adult.
- ✓ Check another website.
- ✓ Use books to help.
- ✓ Look out for things that seem strange.
- ✓ Think about what you know already.

Can you think of any of your own?





Dear Wise_Owl,

From

Fact Opinion True False
Untrue Correct Incorrect
Make-believe Trustworthy
Pretend Fake Real



**Safer
Internet
Day 2021** | **Tuesday**
9th February
saferinternetday.org.uk



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