



Ronnie learns to swim

Written by Carole Krake
Translated by Rawia Mahmoud
Illustrated by Becky Smith

Ronnie learns to swim

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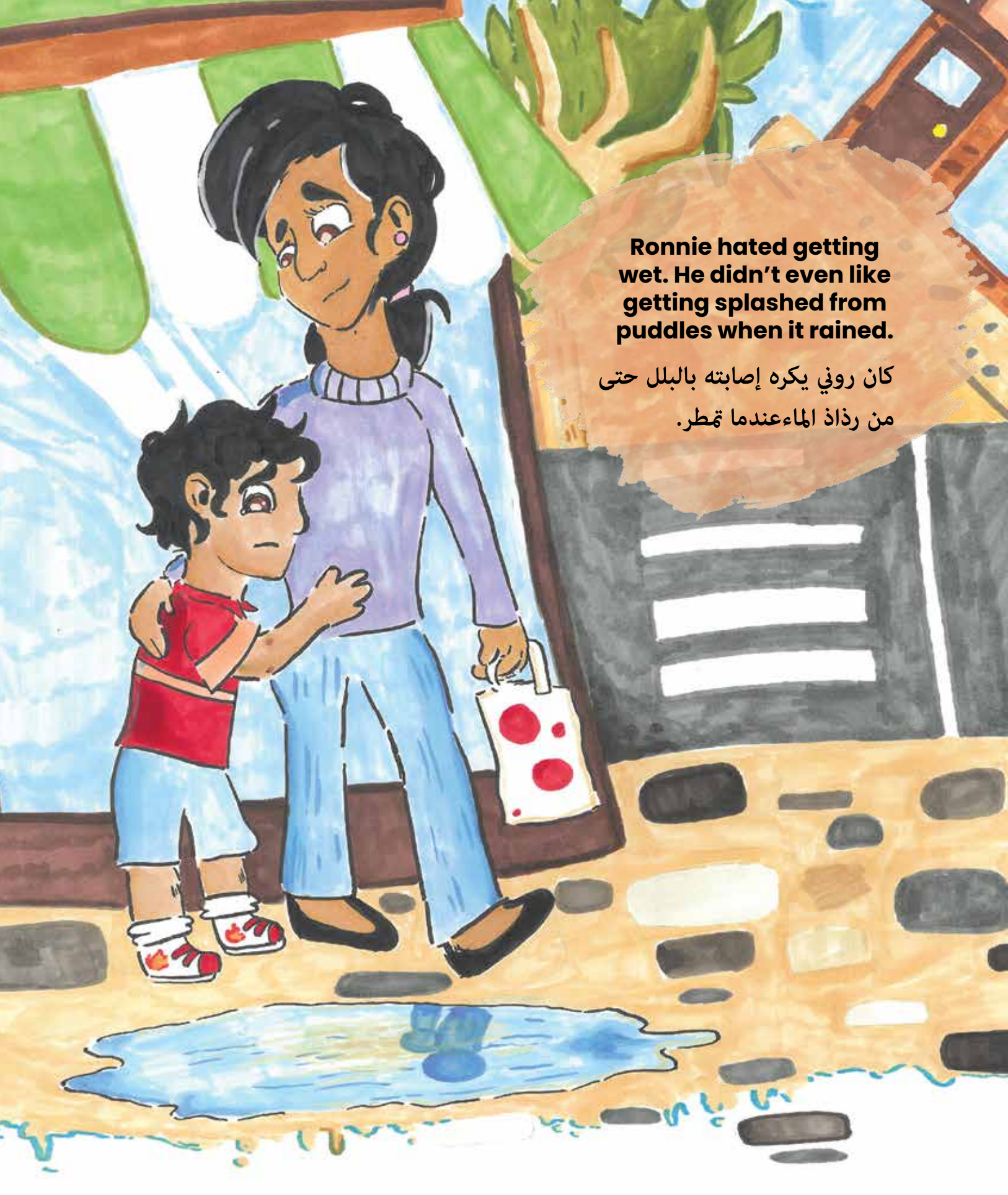
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Tiana D'Amico, Neo Flore, Emily Hocking, Isabella McIntyre, Josiah Tresize

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Mildura Rural City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors.

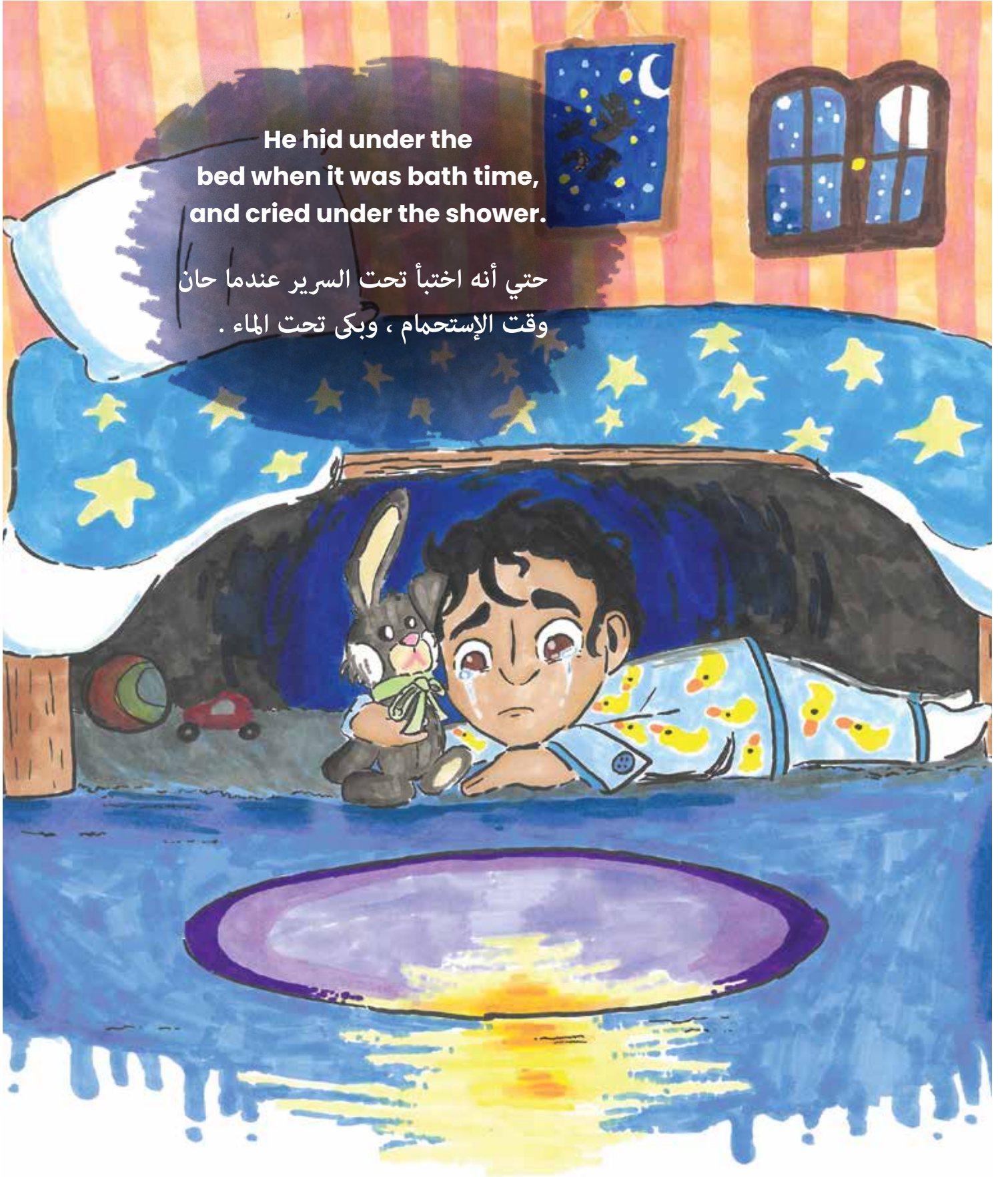


Ronnie hated getting wet. He didn't even like getting splashed from puddles when it rained.

كان روني يكره إصابته بالبلل حتى
من رذاذ الماء عندما تمطر.

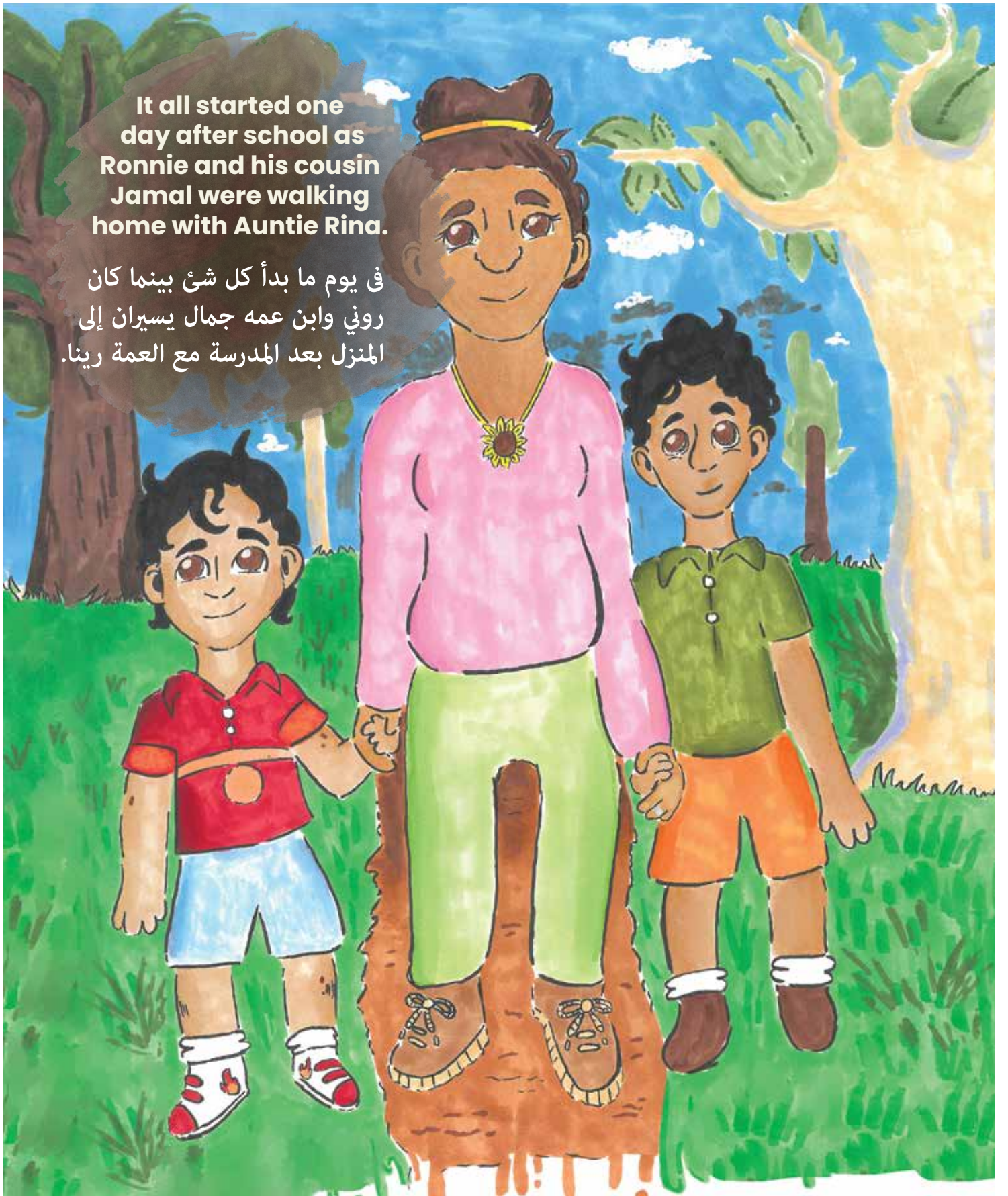
He hid under the
bed when it was bath time,
and cried under the shower.

حتى أنه اختبأ تحت السرير عندما حان
وقت الإستحمام ، وبكى تحت الماء .



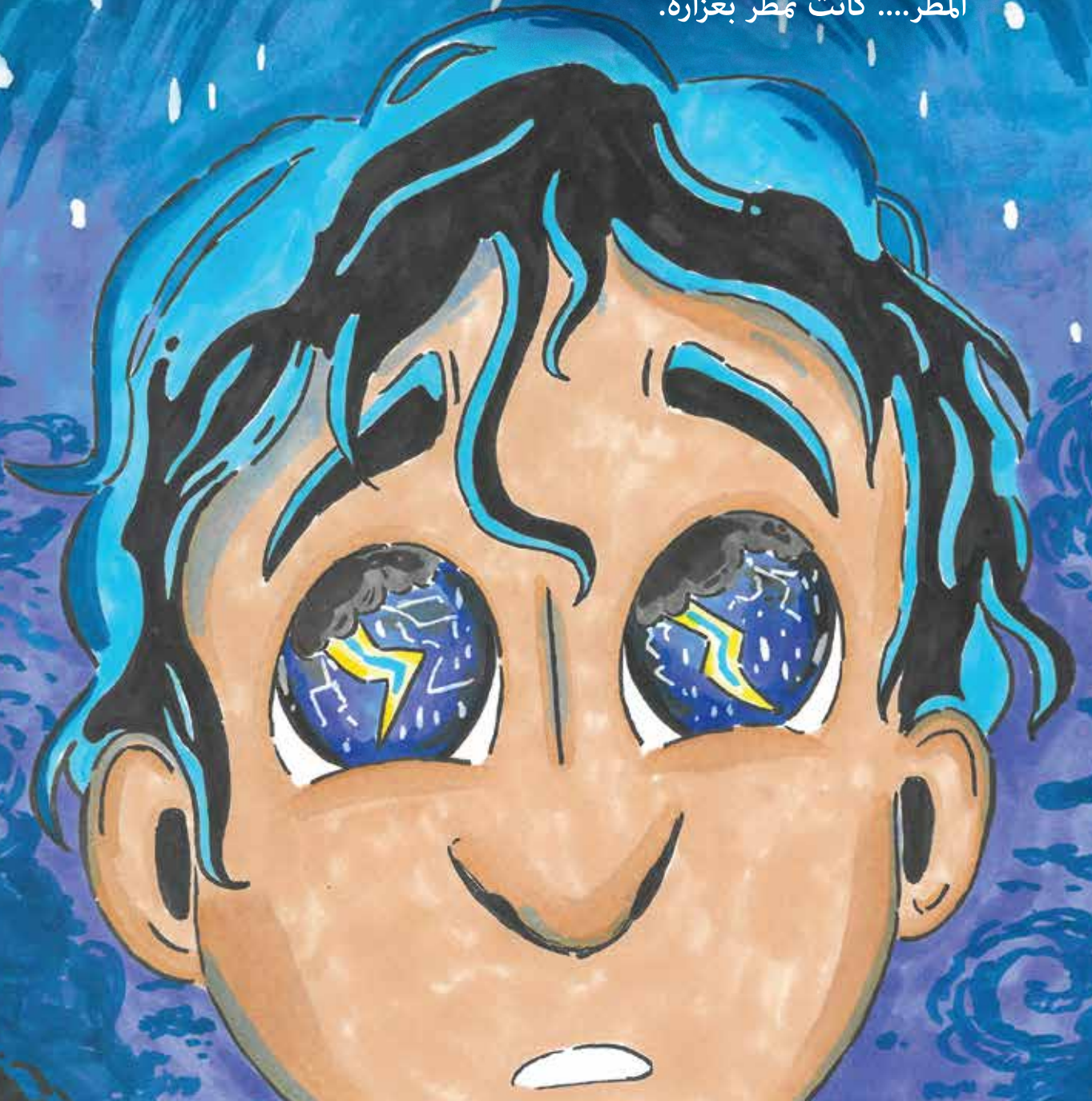
It all started one day after school as Ronnie and his cousin Jamal were walking home with Auntie Rina.

في يوم ما بدأ كل شئ بينما كان روني وابن عمه جمال يسيران إلى المنزل بعد المدرسة مع العمة رينا.



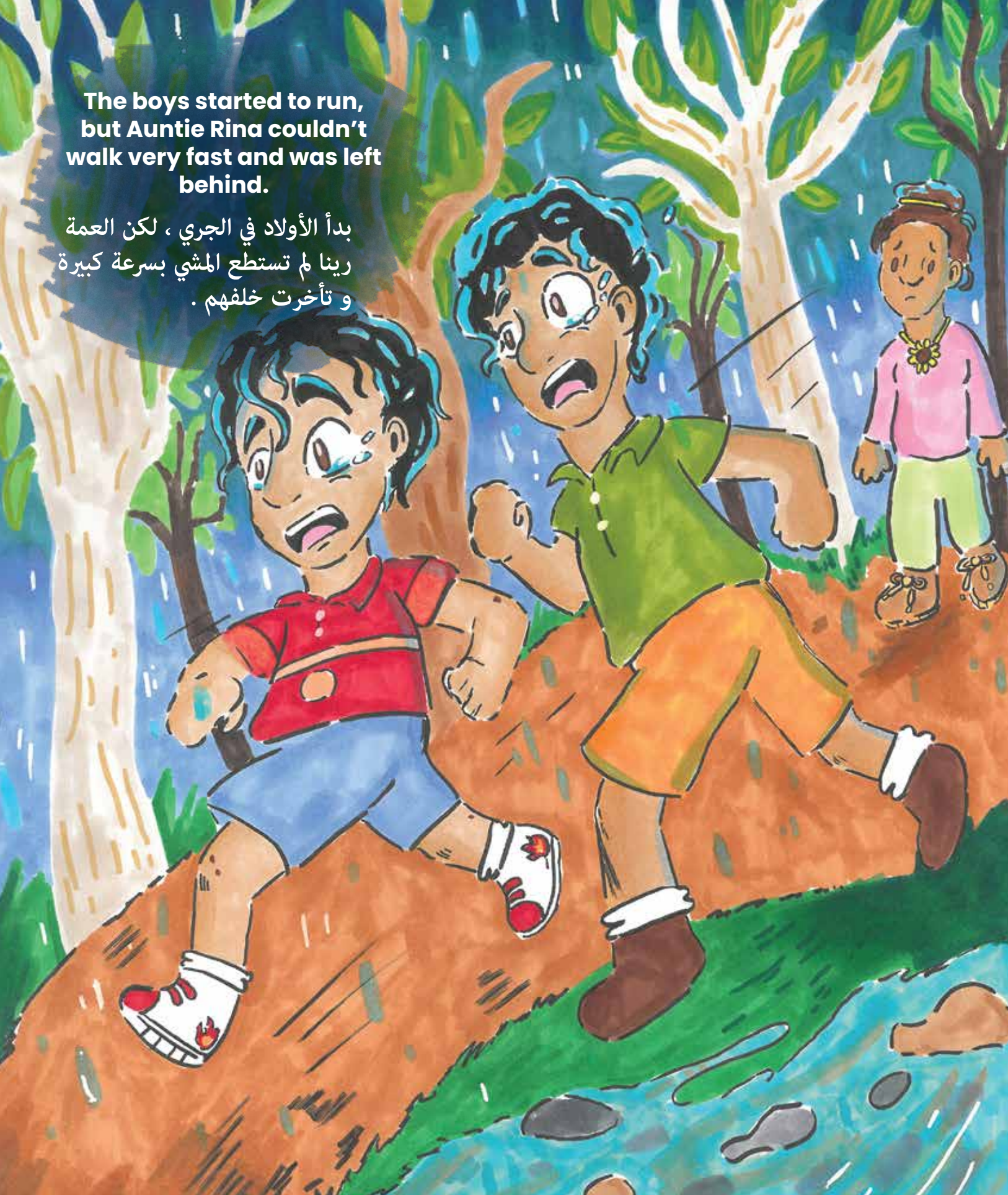
**There was a loud boom
of thunder and a flash of
lightening, then it began
to rain... It poured.**

كان هناك دوي صوت عال من
الرعد ووميض البرق ، ثم بدأ
المطر.... كانت تمطر بغزارة.



The boys started to run,
but Auntie Rina couldn't
walk very fast and was left
behind.

بدأ الأولاد في الجري ، لكن العمّة
رينا لم تستطع المشي بسرعة كبيرة
و تأخرت خلفهم .





كان روني وجمال يركضان بالقرب
من المجرى المائي المتمدد و فجأة
سقط فرع شجرة ضخمة أمامهما على
الطريق.

**Ronnie and Jamal were
running near the swollen creek
when suddenly a huge branch fell
across the path in front of them.**

كان روني وجمال يركضان بالقرب
من المجرى المائي المتمدد حيث سقط
فجأة فرع شجرة ضخمة أمامهما
على الطريق .

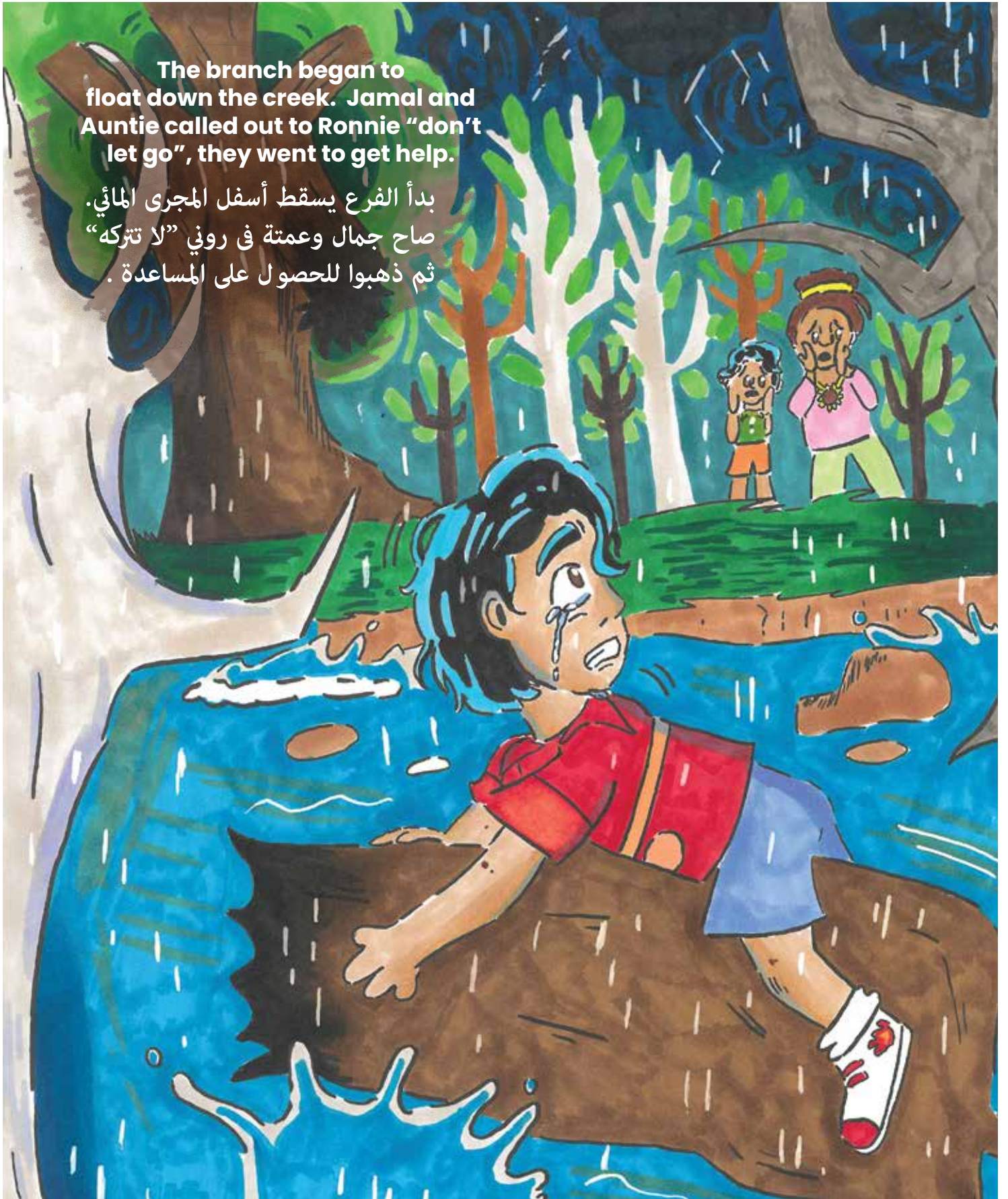
Auntie Rina called out to stop, but as Ronnie started to scramble over the branch, it began to slide into the creek with Ronnie holding on tight.

طلبت العمّة رينا التوقف، ولكن
بدأ روني في التثبيت فوق الفرع ،
بدأ الفرع في الإنزلاق إلى المجرى
المائي وكان روني يمسك به بإحكام.



The branch began to float down the creek. Jamal and Auntie called out to Ronnie "don't let go", they went to get help.

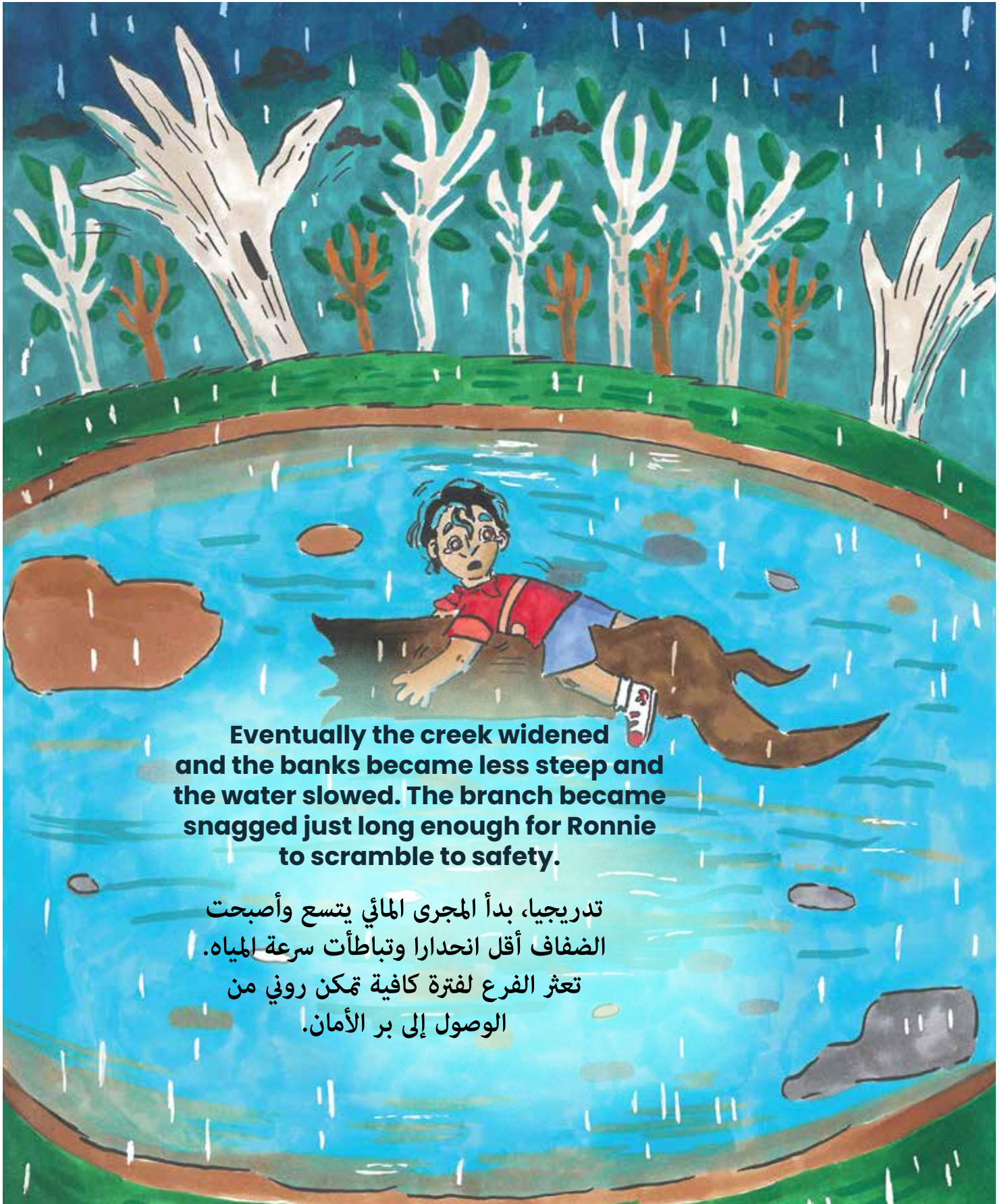
بدأ الفرع يسقط أسفل المجرى المائي.
صاح جمال وعمته في روني "لا تتركه"
ثم ذهبوا للحصول على المساعدة.



**Then the branch carrying
Ronnie disappeared from
sight.**

ثم اختفى الفرع الذي يحمل
روني عن الأنظار.



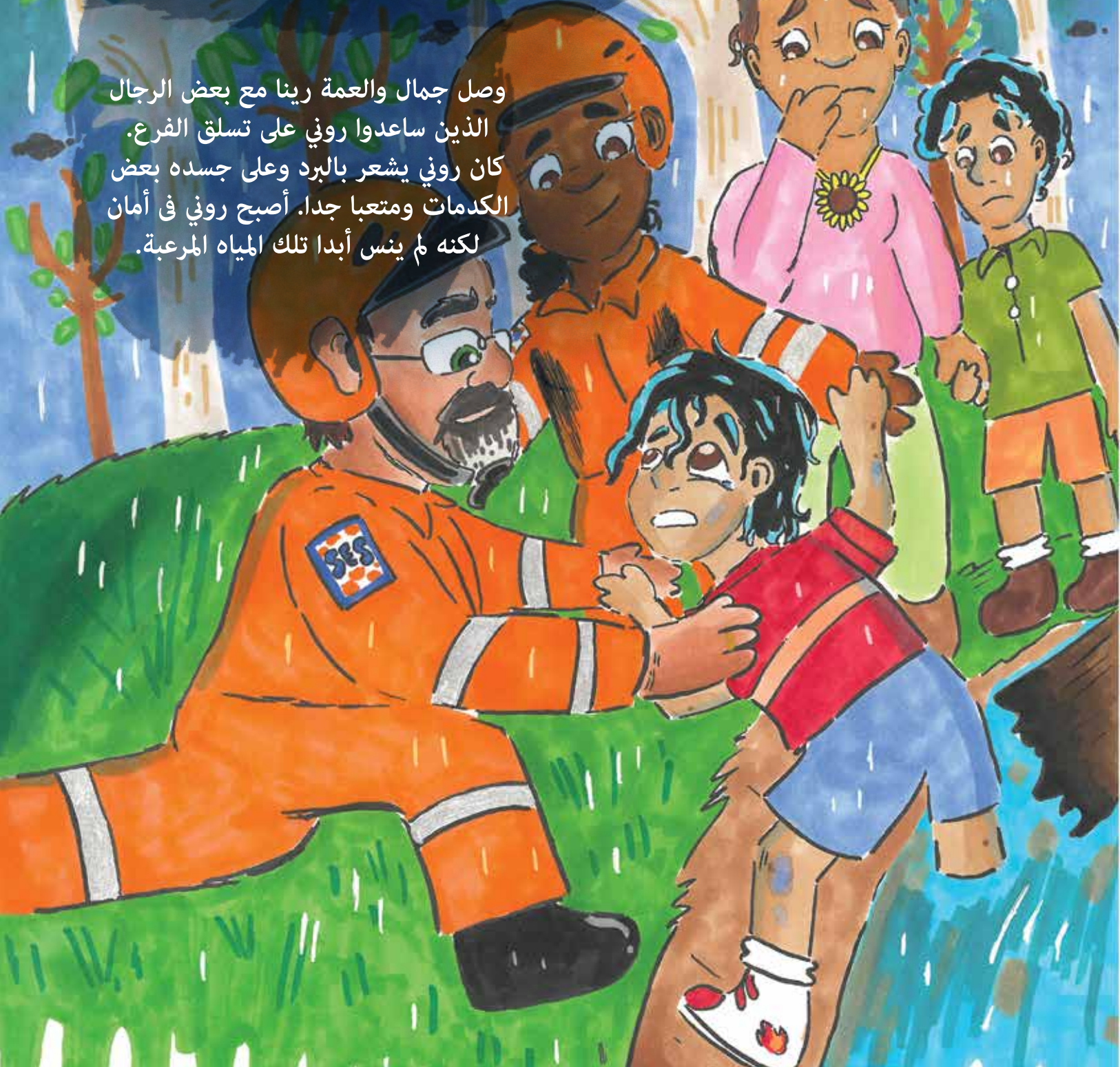


**Eventually the creek widened
and the banks became less steep and
the water slowed. The branch became
snagged just long enough for Ronnie
to scramble to safety.**

تدرجيا، بدأ المجرى المائي يتسع وأصبحت
الضفاف أقل انحدارا وتباطأت سرعة المياه.
تعثر الفرع لفترة كافية تمكن روني من
الوصول إلى بر الأمان.

Jamal and Auntie Rina arrived with some men who helped Ronnie climb up on the branch. Ronnie was cold, bruised and very tired. He was safe but would never forget the terrifying water.

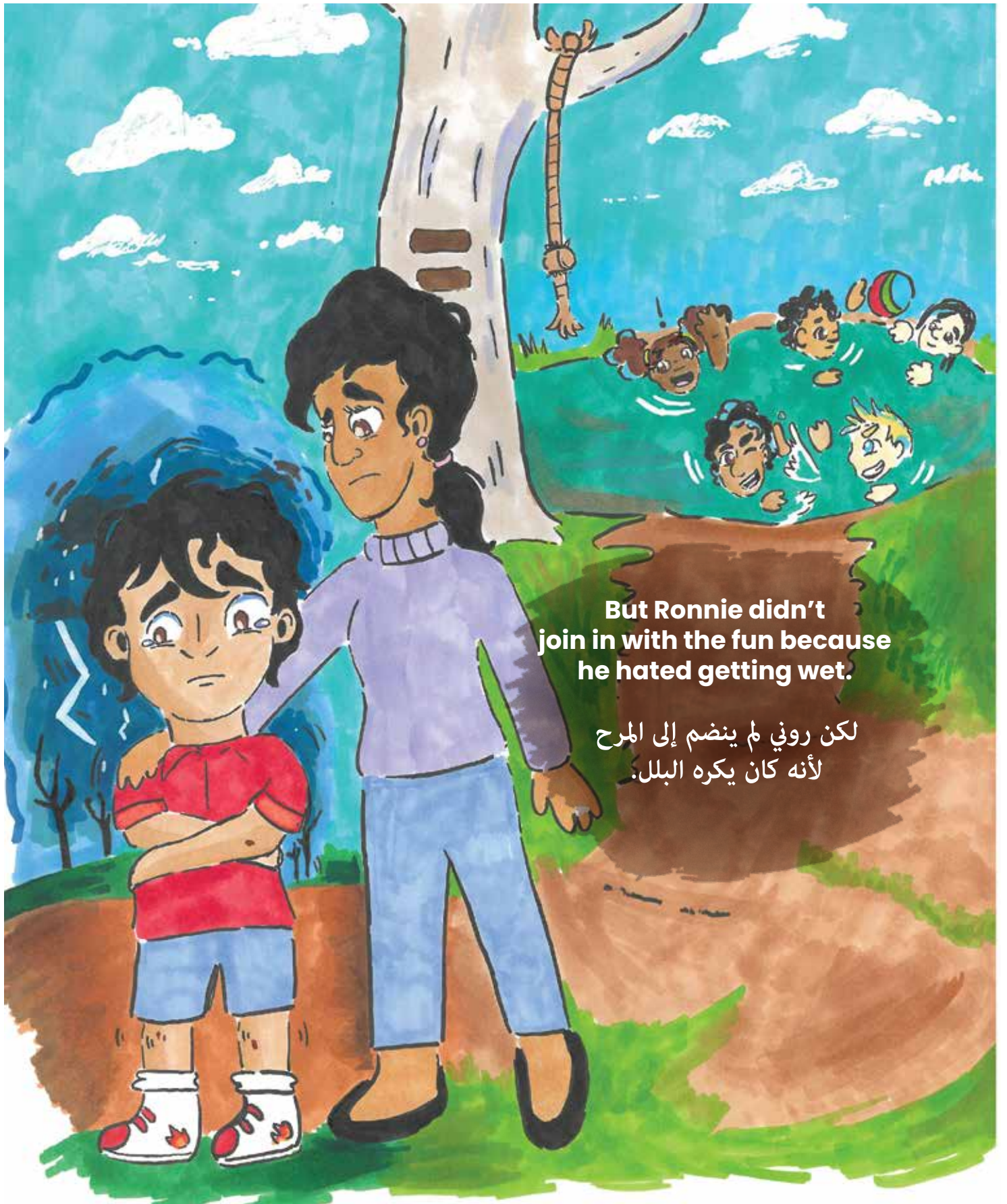
وصل جمال والعممة رينا مع بعض الرجال الذين ساعدوا روني على تسلق الفرع. كان روني يشعر بالبرد وعلى جسده بعض الكدمات ومنتعبا جدا. أصبح روني في أمان لكنه لم ينس أبدا تلك المياه المرعبة.





Jamal and Ronnie's friends loved summer. On hot days they swam like fish in the nearby billabong and swung from a rope to land with a splash in the water

أحب أصدقاء جمال وروني الصيف. في الأيام الحارة، كانوا يسبحون مثل الأسماك بالقرب من ترعة المياه ويتأرجحون من الحبل للهبوط محدثين رذاذا من الماء.



**But Ronnie didn't
join in with the fun because
he hated getting wet.**

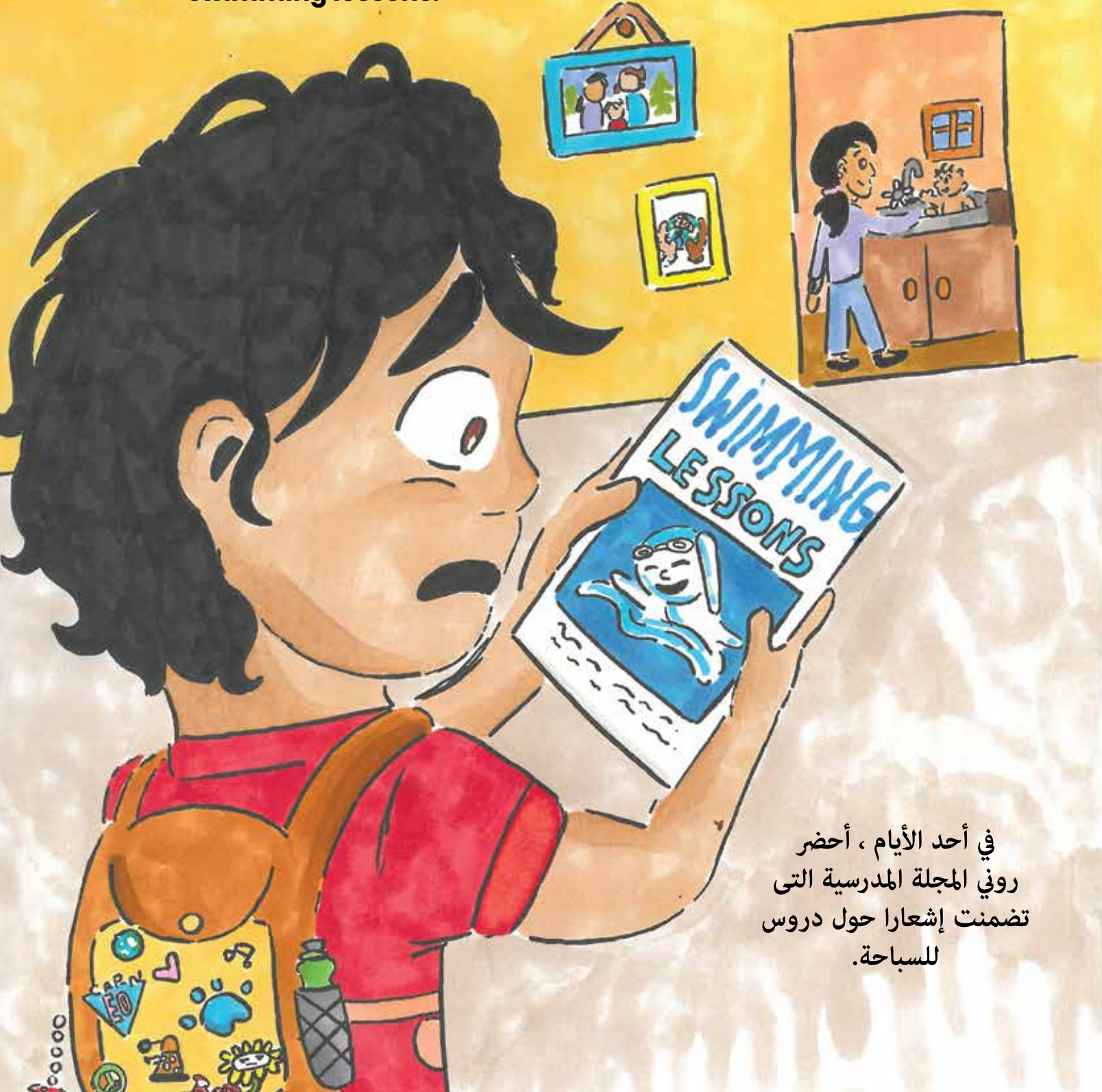
لكن روني لم ينضم إلى المرح
لأنه كان يكره البلل.

**Ronnie was so scared
of water his mother didn't
know how to help him.**

كان روني خائفا جدا من الماء ولم
تعرف والدته كيف تساعد.



One day Ronnie brought a newsletter home from school that featured a notice about swimming lessons.



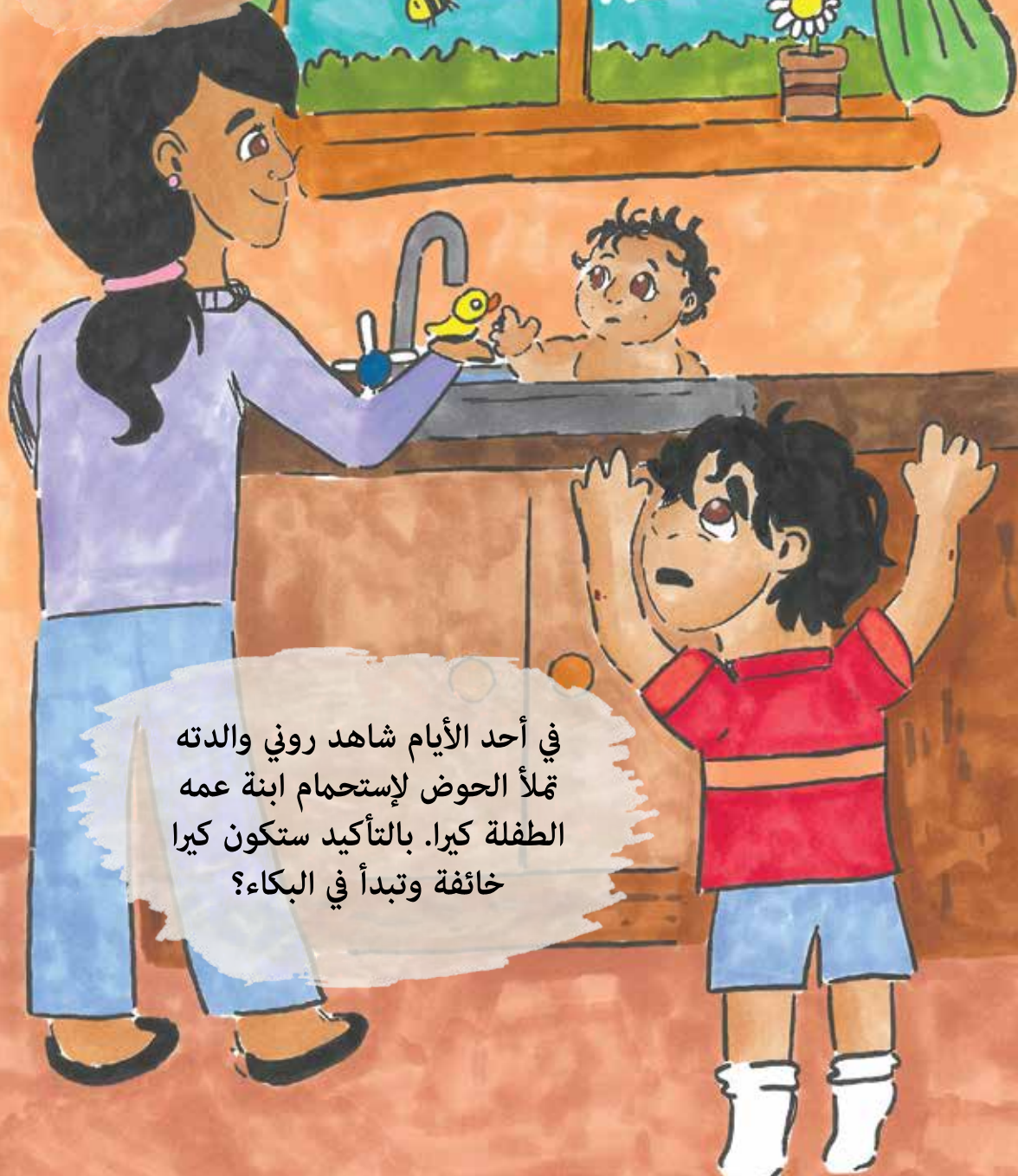
في أحد الأيام ، أحضر
روني المجلة المدرسية التي
تضمنت إشعارا حول دروس
للسباحة.

No, Ronnie didn't want to learn to swim, because he hated getting wet.

ولكن لا ، لم يرغب روني في تعلم السباحة ، لأنه كان يكره البلل.



One day Ronnie watched his mother fill the sink for his baby cousin Kirra's bath. Surely Kirra would be frightened and start crying?



في أحد الأيام شاهد روني والدته
تملأ الحوض لإستحمام ابنة عمه
الطفلة كيرا. بالتأكيد ستكون كيرا
خائفة وتبدأ في البكاء؟



But to his amazement Kirra started wriggling and giggling, splashing water everywhere. Ronnie got water all over him too and started laughing at Kirra having fun in the sink.

ولكن لدهشته ، بدأت كيرا باللعب والضحك ،
ورش الماء في كل مكان. ابتل روني تماما بالماء
وبدأ يضحك على كيرا وهي تستمتع في الحوض.

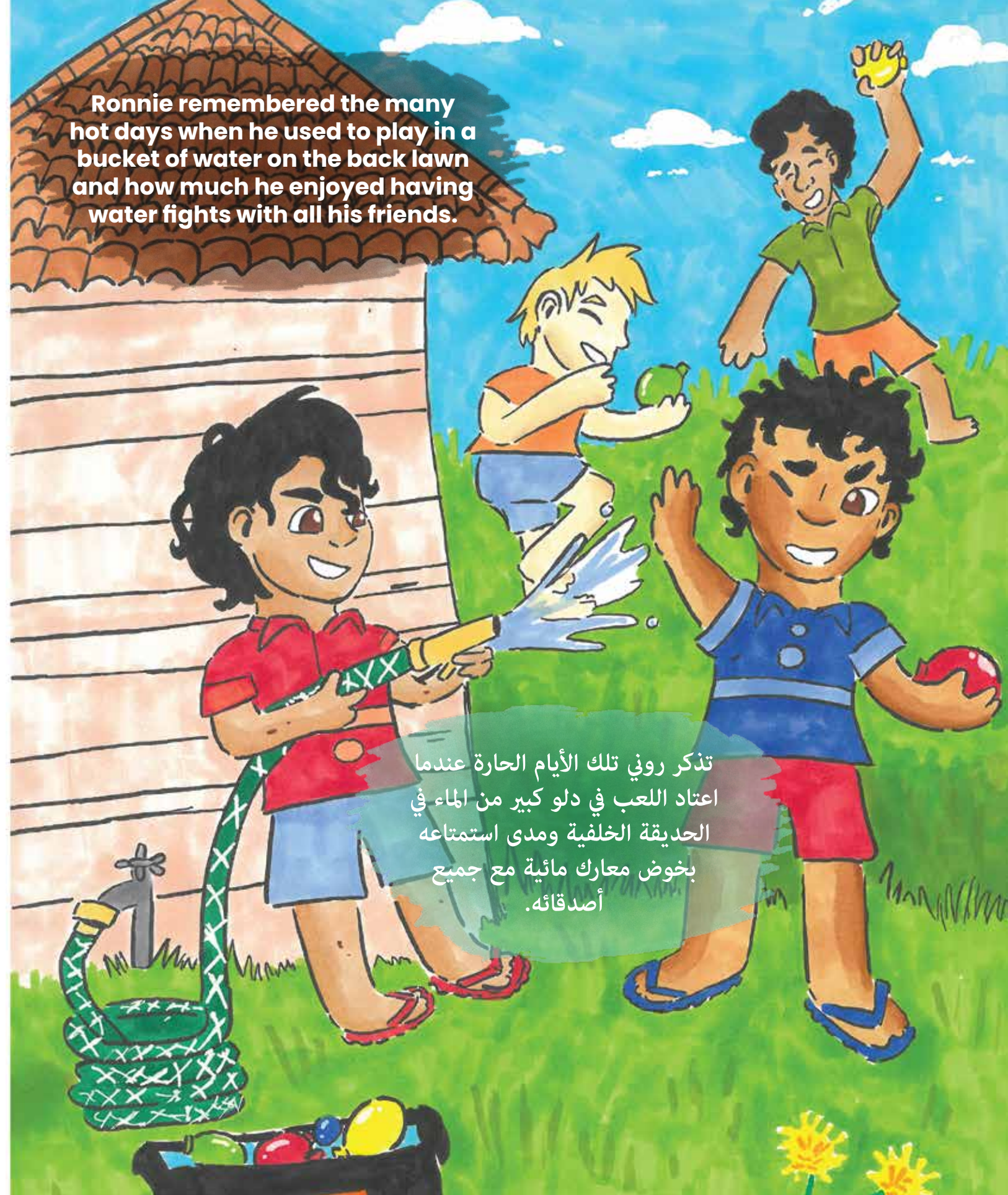
Ronnie's mother told him that he used to like his bath too, but that was before the accident in the creek.



أخبرته والدته أنه كان أيضا يحب
الإستحمام ، ولكن ذلك كان قبل
حادث المجرى المائي.

Ronnie remembered the many hot days when he used to play in a bucket of water on the back lawn and how much he enjoyed having water fights with all his friends.

تذكر روني تلك الأيام الحارة عندما
اعتاد اللعب في دلو كبير من الماء في
الحديقة الخلفية ومدى استمتاعه
بخوض معارك مائة مع جميع
أصدقائه.



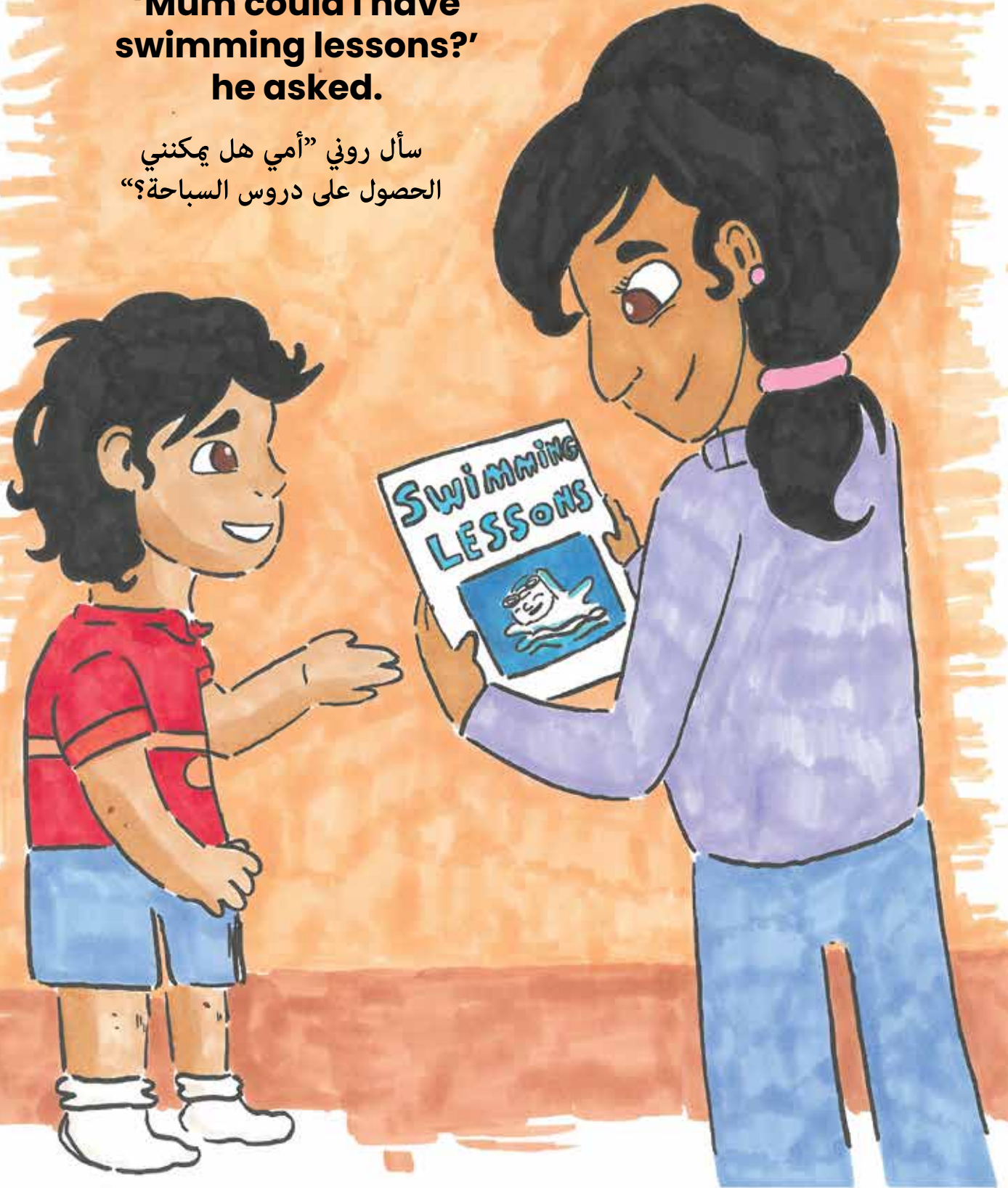
He loved his mother sponging water over his head. Ronnie missed going to the Billabong to swim and go fishing.

كان يحب أن تضع والدته الماء فوق رأسه.
افتقد روني الذهاب إلى ترعة المياه للسباحة
وصيد الأسماك.



**'Mum could I have
swimming lessons?'
he asked.**

سأل روني "أمي هل يمكنني
الحصول على دروس السباحة؟"



Ronnie was brave. He listened carefully to the swim coach. He discovered he loved getting wet. He didn't mind getting splashed in puddles when it rained.

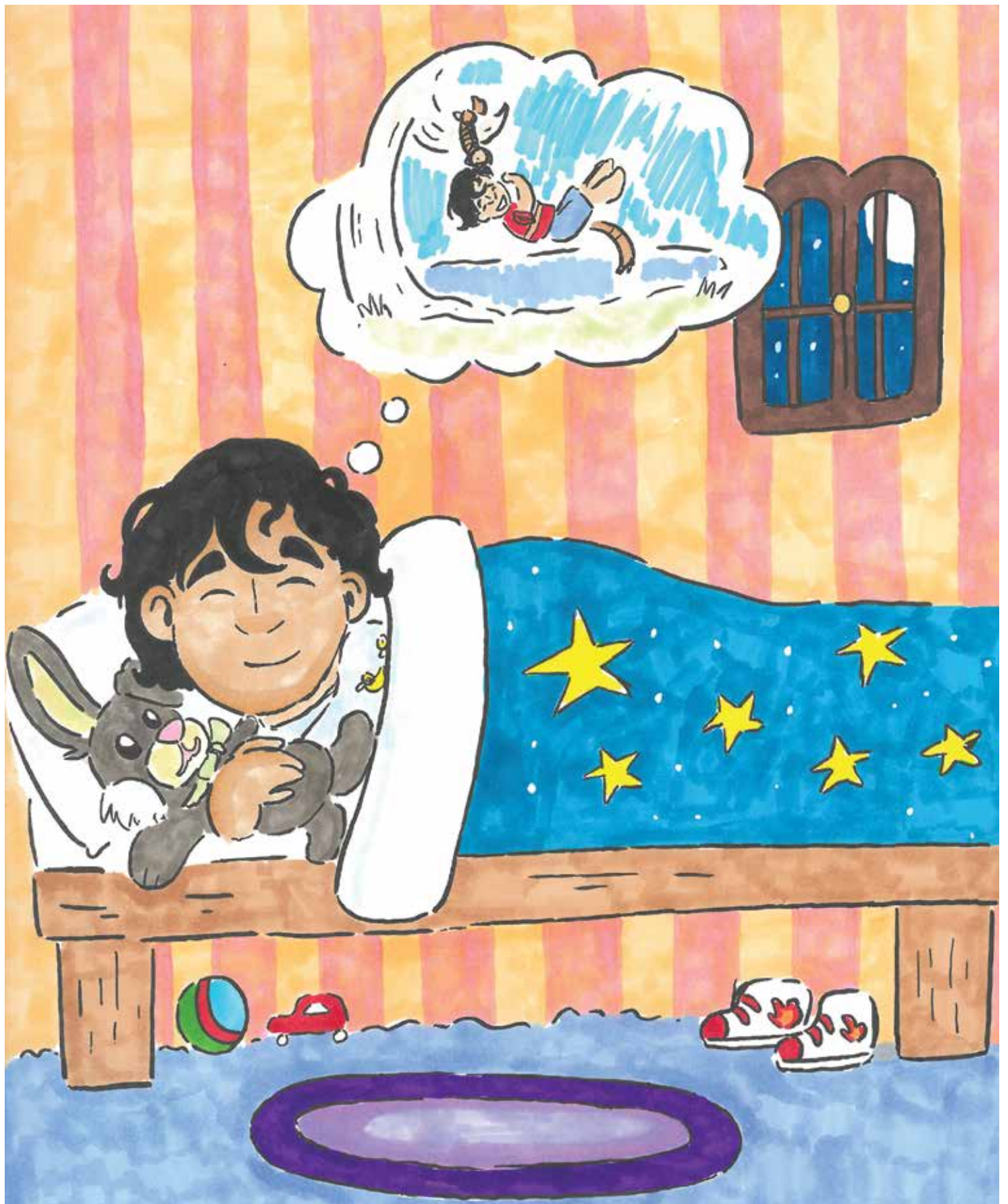
كان روني شجاعا. استمع بعناية إلى مدرب السباحة. عندها اكتشف أنه يحب البلل. لم يعد يمانع في البلل والرذاذ عندما تمطر.



He wasn't scared of water anymore since the swimming lessons. Ronnie could dive like a duck and float on his back.

لم يعد خائفاً من الماء منذ دروس السباحة. استطاع روني أن يغوص مثل البطة ويطفو على ظهره.





Swimming was so much fun, Ronnie pretended he was a fish. Ronnie couldn't wait until it was hot again, so he could go to the billabong to swim with his friends.

كانت السباحة ممتعة للغاية ، تظاهر روني بأنه سمكة. لم يستطع روني الانتظار حتى يصبح الجو حارا مرة أخرى ، حتى يتمكن من الذهاب إلى ترعة المياه للسباحة مع أصدقائه.



Carole Krake

Carole has always been creative. Her past passions include chalk art, dance choreography, costume design, advertising editorial and ministerial brief writing. More recently she has developed a flair for home design, gardening, sketching, painting on large canvas and of course story writing. Keeping busy with several minor projects, she also has a book in draft ready for publication aimed at advanced primary and teenage readers, titled 'Lamb Tales'. Carole Lives in Mildura with her husband and three Cocker Spaniels, Cara, Mia and Crystal. She is retired, has three daughters and seven grandchildren.



Rebecca Smith

Rebecca (Becky) Smith is an 18 year old (at the time of publication!) artist and illustrator currently based in Mildura but has lived in several towns across Victoria throughout her life. Her illustrations are bright and whimsical with a childlike quality. She draws inspiration from music, books and other media. She hopes to continue illustrating children's books and other creative projects in the future.



Rawia Mahmoud

Rawia has a bachelor's degree in Architecture. Born and raised in Egypt, her mother tongue is Arabic. Rawia enjoyed the opportunity in this project to help other Arabic speakers.

MILDURA 2023 BILINGUAL CHILDREN'S STORY BOOK PROJECT

This story book was created as part of the Mildura Bilingual Children's Story Book project. This project initially brought interested community members together to some children's story book writing workshops. From those workshops, initial stories were drafted, which were then edited by educators experienced in working with primary students with little English. More community members then volunteered to assist with translation and illustration of the books, and with the graphic design and layout.

Scan the QR code below to go to the website where you can hear and see each story being read in English and in other community languages.

