

# Wonders of Welland

Written by Marc MacDonald  
Illustrated by Javier Carranza



Edited by Paul Orlando  
Designed by Jane Walker-Scott

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# Thank you

Thank you to all of our partners who made this book possible. With the generous support of so many, the City can welcome newcomers and encourage lifelong residents to get out, experience, and enjoy everything Welland has to offer.

## Sponsors



## Partners



## Contributors

Suzanne Bélanger, Suzanne Coutu, Enzo De Divitiis, Stephanie Fiddler-Stanwyck, Carole Moss, Cole Warriner

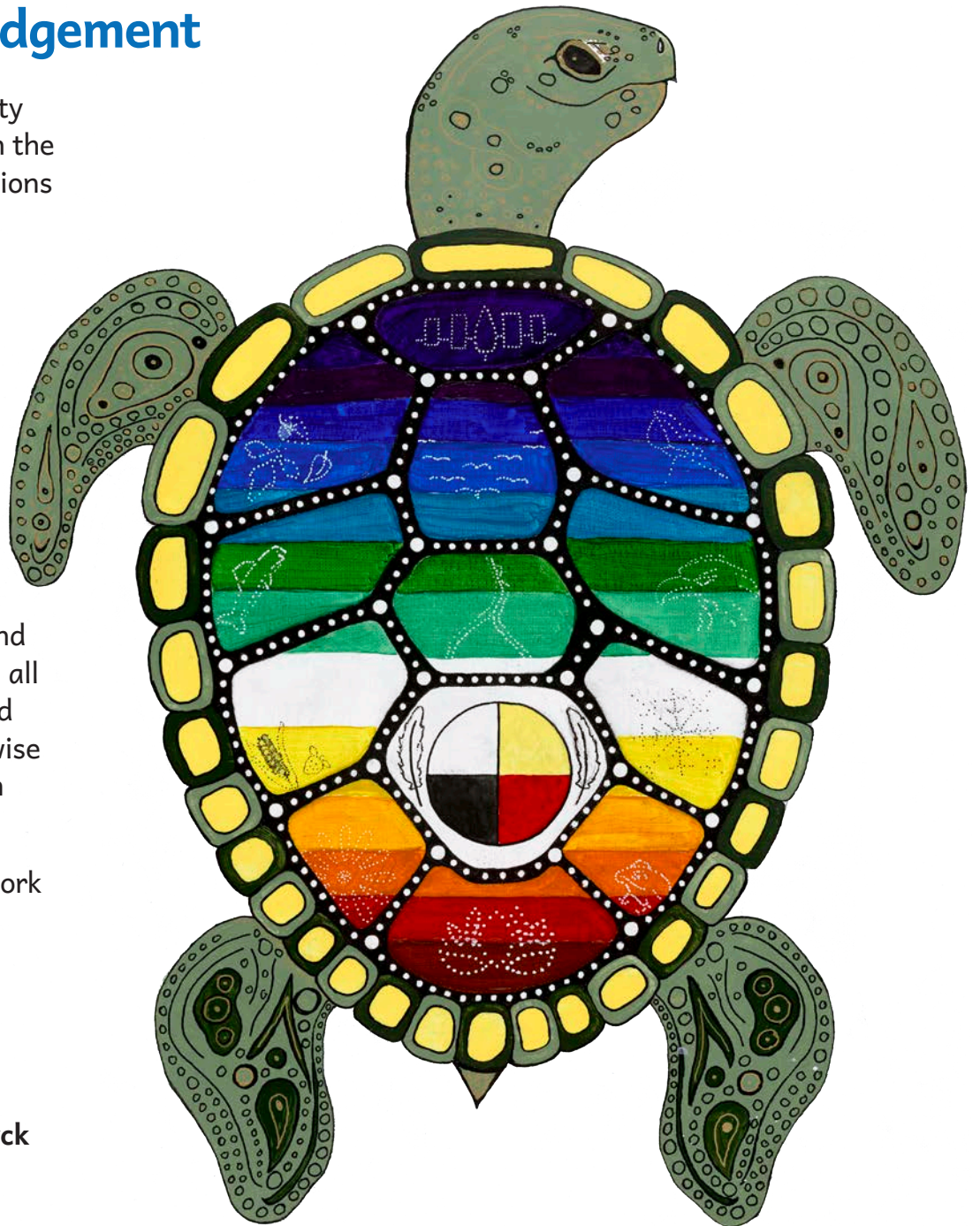


# Land Acknowledgement

Welland is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk (Hat-i-wen-DA-ronk), the Haudenosaunee (Hoe-den-no-SHOW-nee), and the Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-ih-NAH-bey), including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Welland today. Welland stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

Learn more about this artwork on page 35.

**Artwork by  
Stephanie Fiddler-Stanwyck**

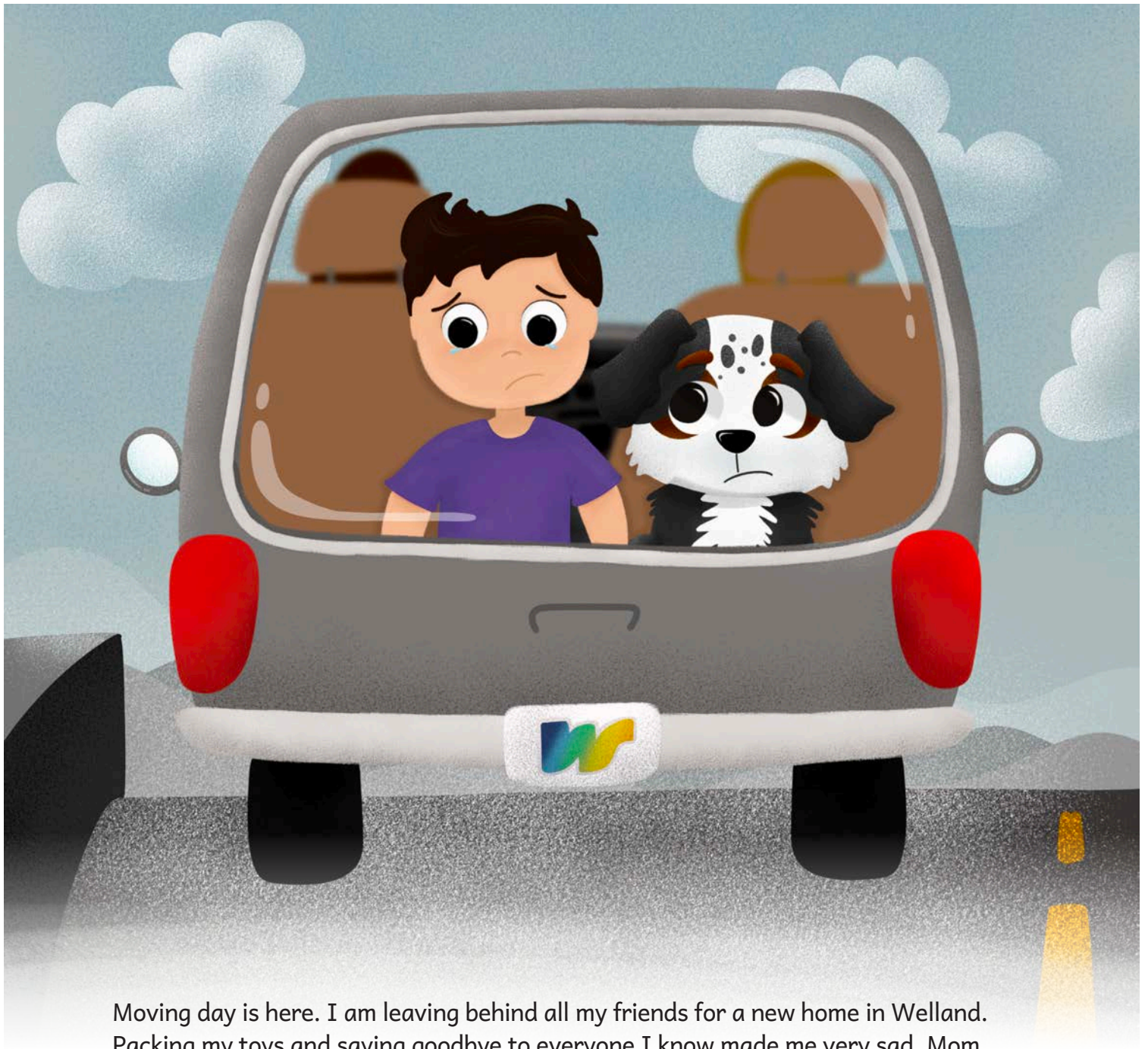




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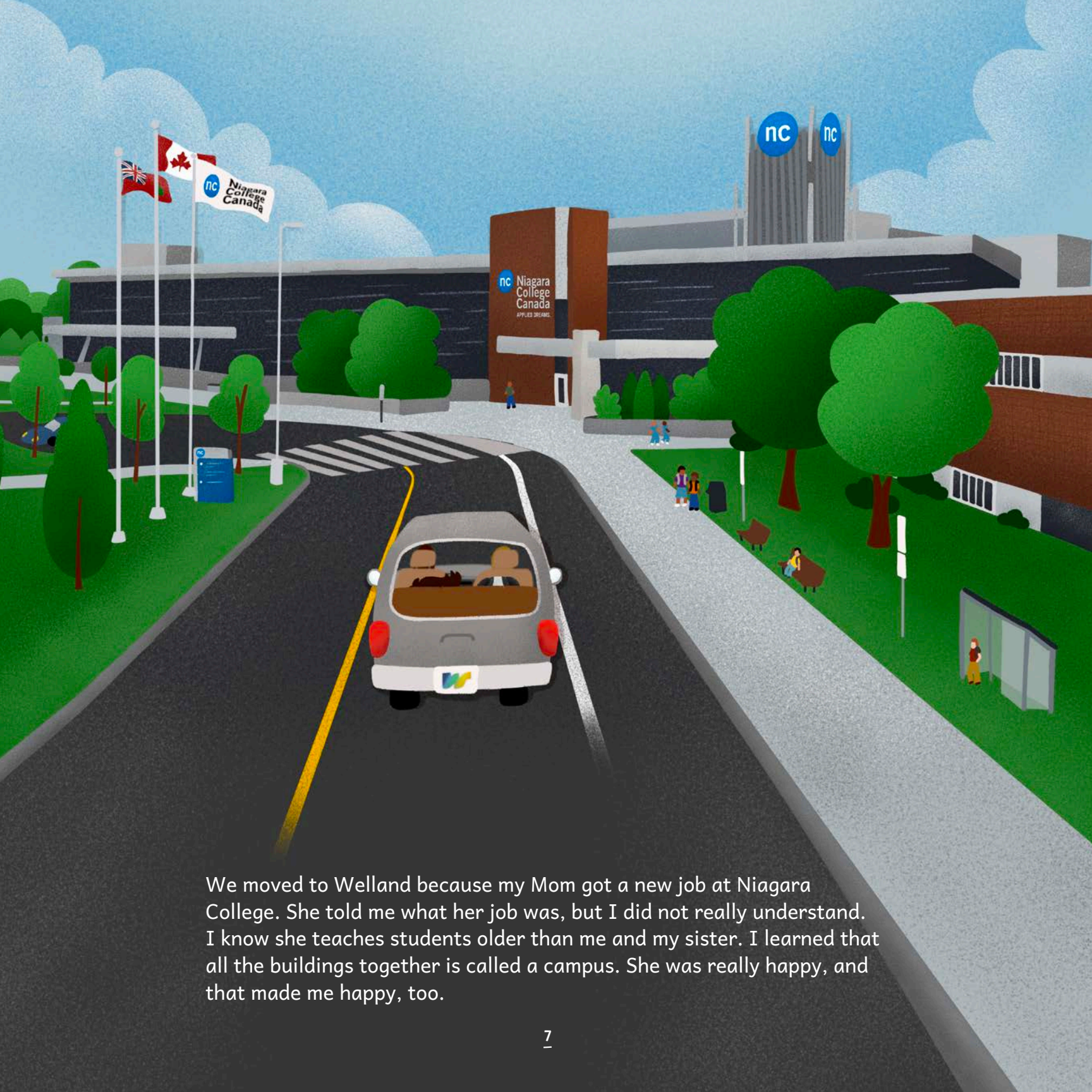
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Moving day is here. I am leaving behind all my friends for a new home in Welland. Packing my toys and saying goodbye to everyone I know made me very sad. Mom says it will not take long for us to get comfortable. I know I will make new friends and learn to love my new home if I give it a chance.





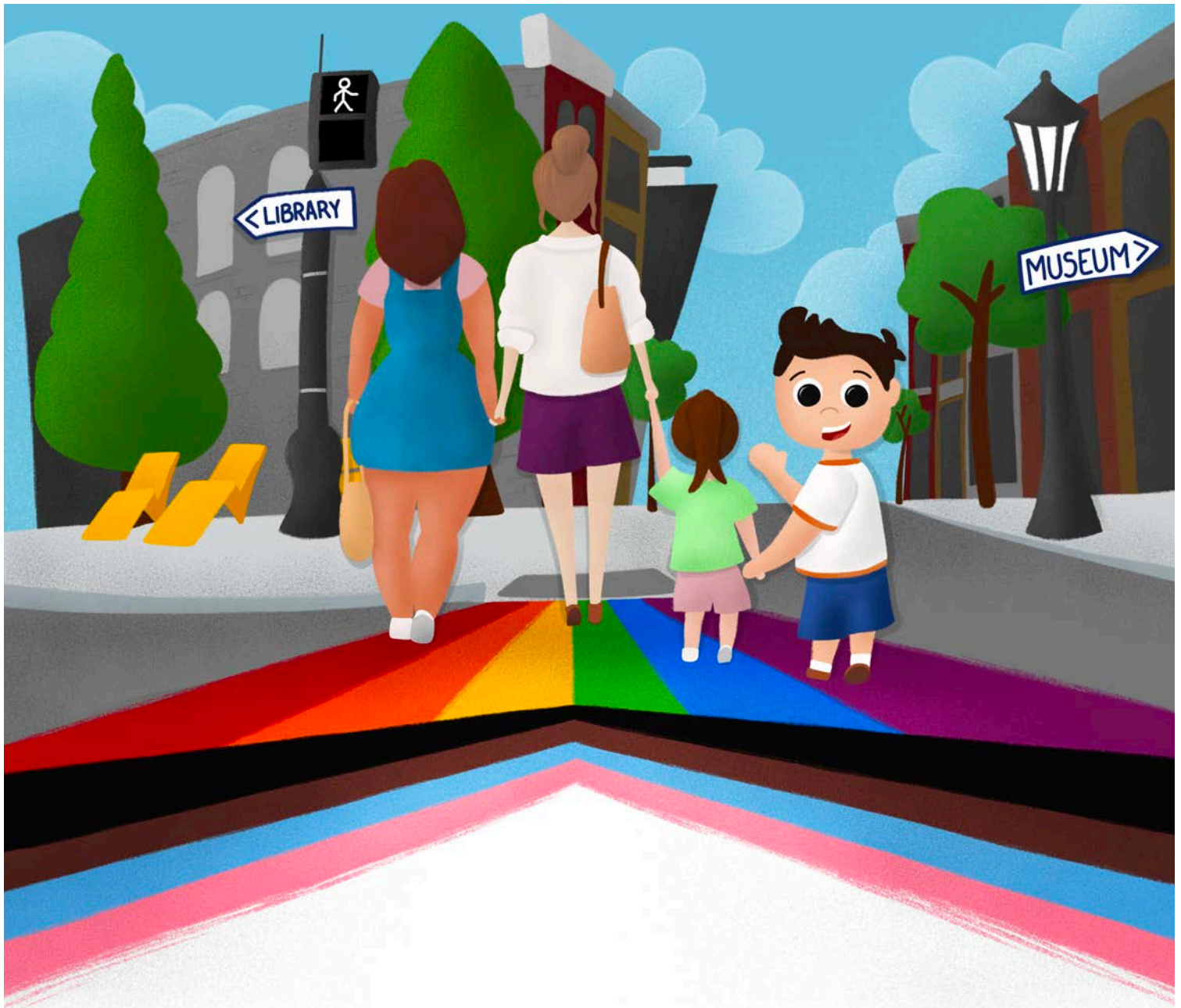
We moved to Welland because my Mom got a new job at Niagara College. She told me what her job was, but I did not really understand. I know she teaches students older than me and my sister. I learned that all the buildings together is called a campus. She was really happy, and that made me happy, too.



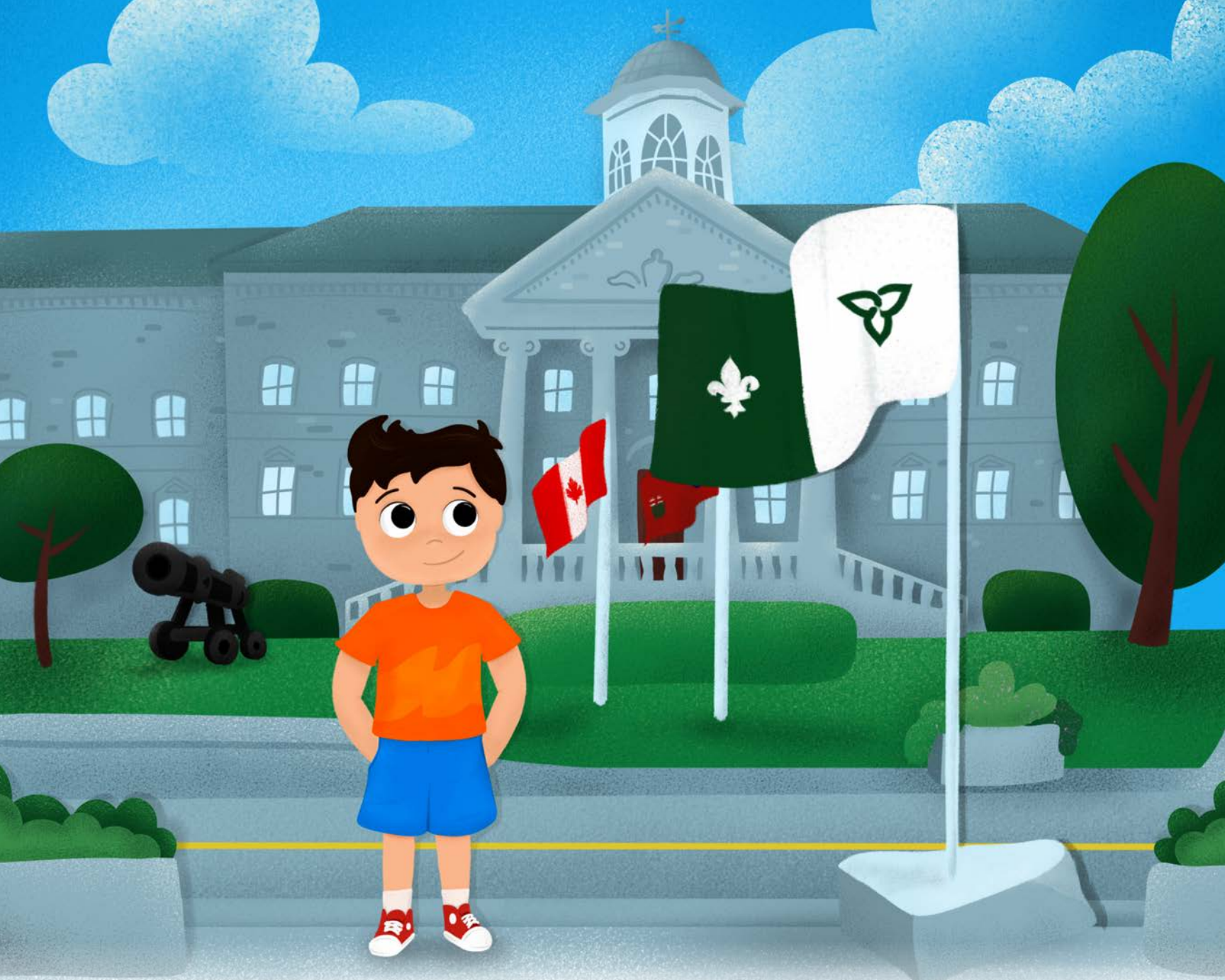


It feels like I just packed up my toys and books and now I have to unpack them. Chipper seems to think this move may not be a good idea either. But, as my Mom says, if we get out and explore our new home, we will find fun things to do.





We crossed a bridge and went over a canal to go downtown. My moms told me and my sister that we could explore in any direction. They had looked into all the great things we could discover. They knew that starting our adventure downtown would show us many things special to Welland.



There are lots of flags throughout the city. One that I had not seen before was green and white. What was this flag? My Mom told me that Welland has a large French community, and that I was looking at the Franco-Ontarian flag. Its colours are green for summer and white for winter. I also learned that *bonjour* means hello in French. *Bonjour, Welland!*





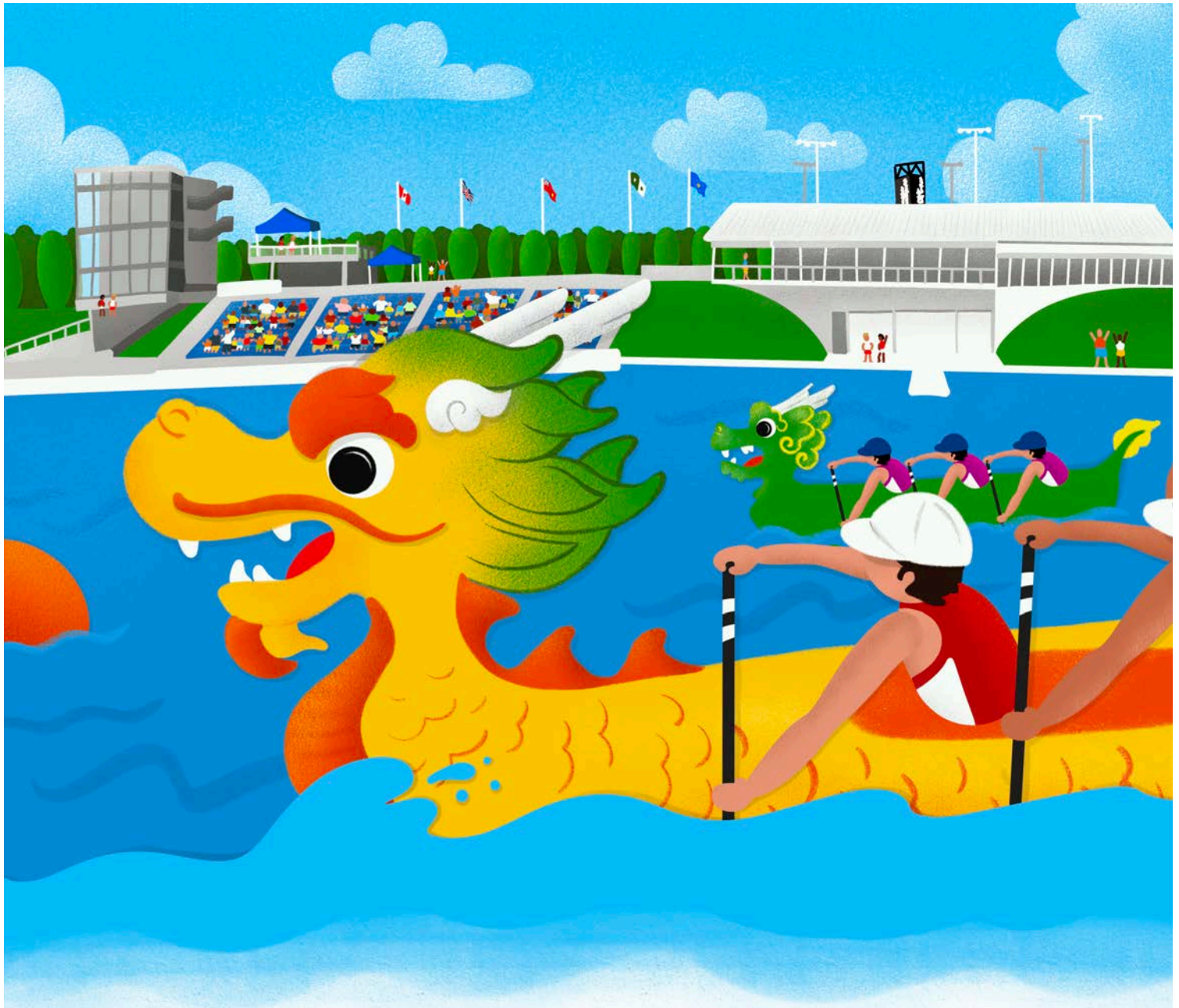
Today is my birthday! What treat should I pick? We go to the farmers market for fresh fruit and vegetables, but there are lots of other items here, too. I learned that some of the people who sell the food also grow and make it themselves. I did not know you could shop outside.





Eating ice cream on a hot day is the best! My favourite flavour is chocolate. My parents like vanilla. My sister always gets mint chocolate chip. When we go to the park with Chipper, he chases the squirrels. I have to chase Chipper because he should not run off by himself. Chasing each other is fun.





When we went to see a dragon boat race, I hoped there would be real dragons. Instead, I learned that is the name of a type of racing boat. I had never seen a dragon boat before. They are so colourful! Watching people race made our whole family cheer. When I get older, I want to join a team and be in a race, too.

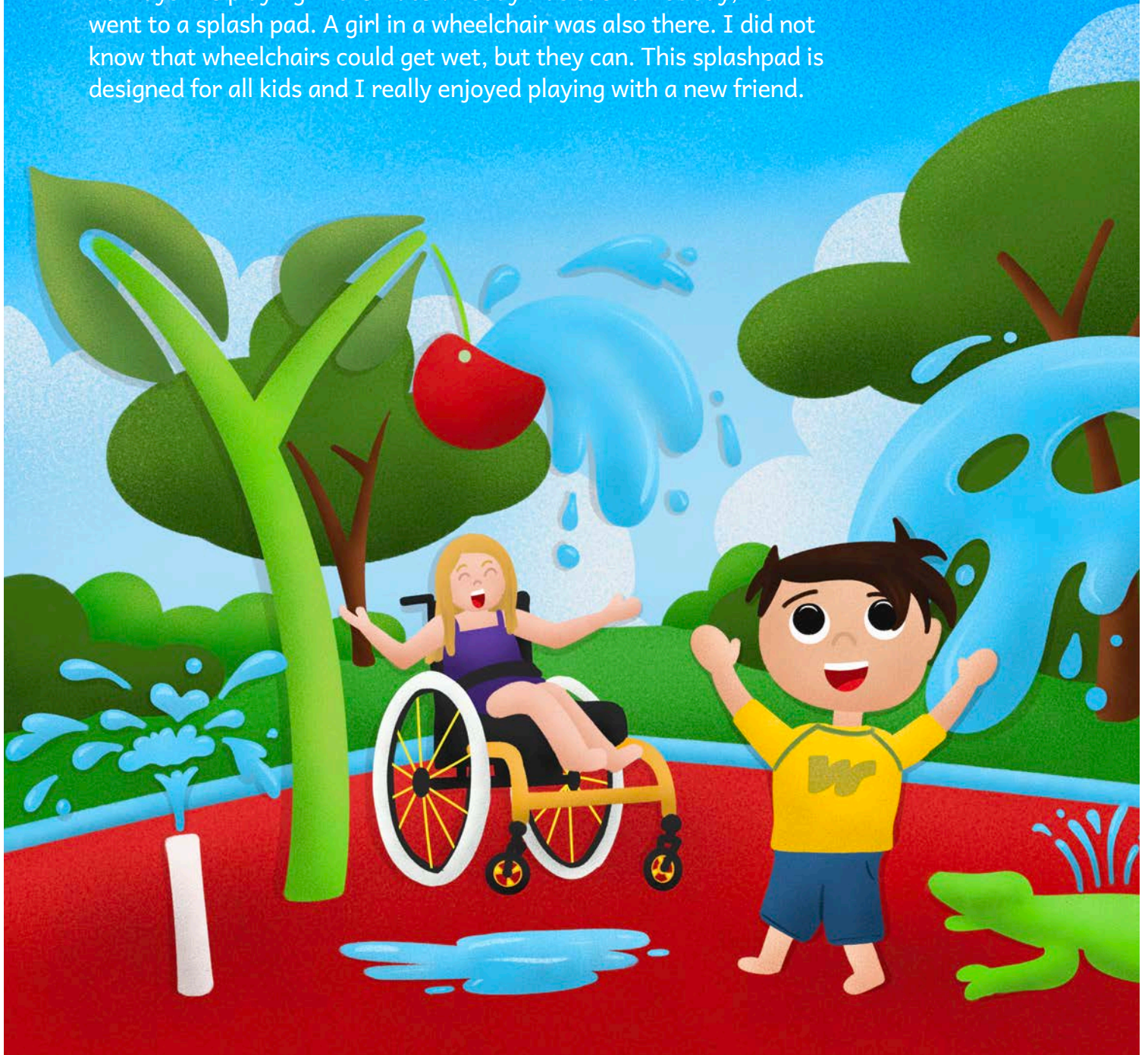




I kissed a fish! Gross! My sister and parents laughed at all the funny faces I made. I love everything about baseball and having a team in my new city is so exciting. We go to games during the day and at night. I like the night games more because the lights are bright and I get to stay up late. Go Jackfish!



I always like playing in the water. Today was such a hot day, we went to a splash pad. A girl in a wheelchair was also there. I did not know that wheelchairs could get wet, but they can. This splashpad is designed for all kids and I really enjoyed playing with a new friend.

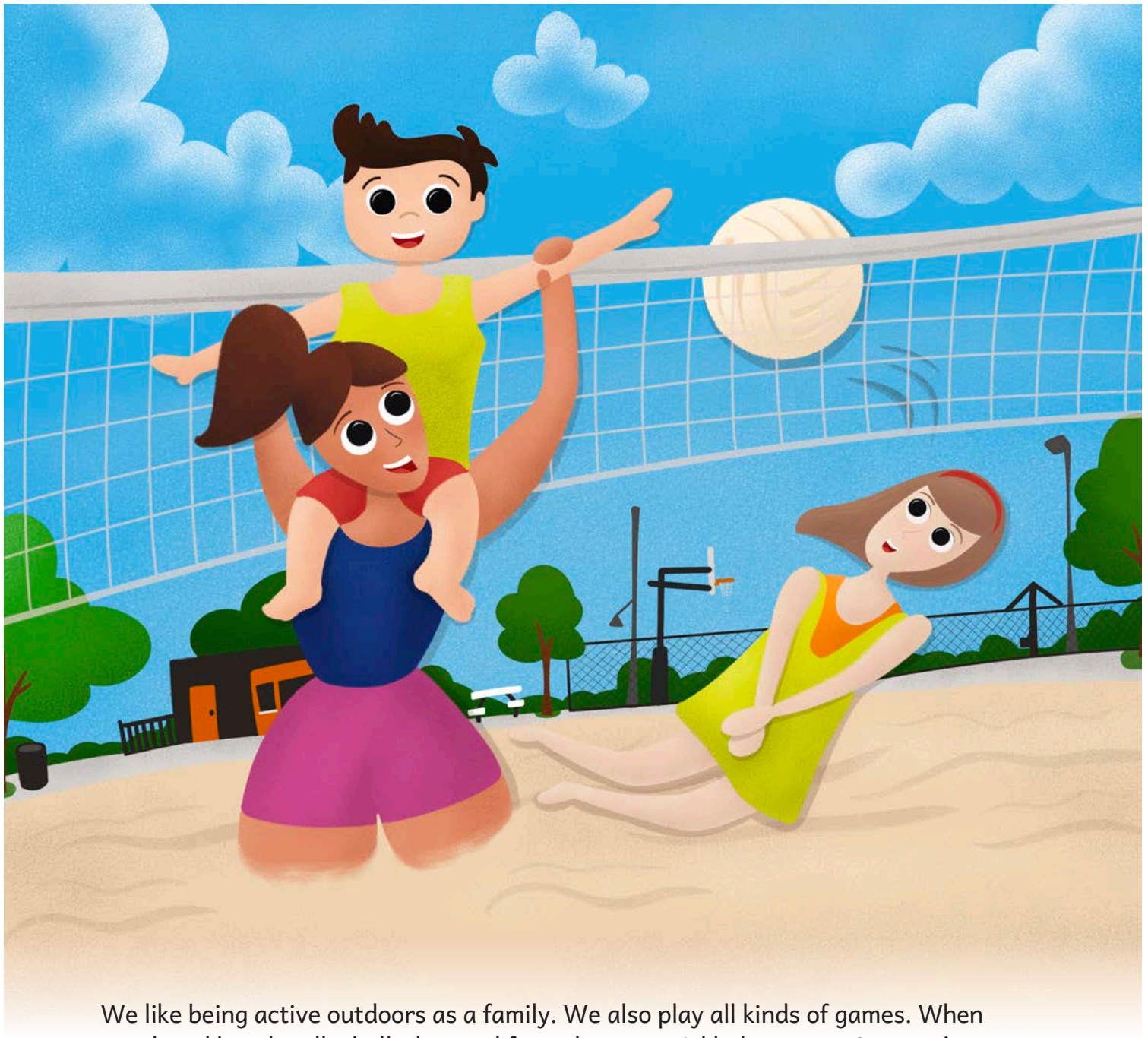






Kayaking or paddle boarding was never something we could do before because we did not live close to water. On our first try, we stayed close to the shore because we were just learning. We did OK. We only fell off once. I cannot wait to go back to rent a different type of boat.





We like being active outdoors as a family. We also play all kinds of games. When we played beach volleyball, the sand from the court tickled my toes. On Mom's shoulders, I am tall enough to block the ball. There are so many outdoor activities for us to do in Welland.



I did not know that you could have a concert on a stage in the water. I love to dance to all kinds of music. It was awesome dancing outside from day to night with lots of other people!







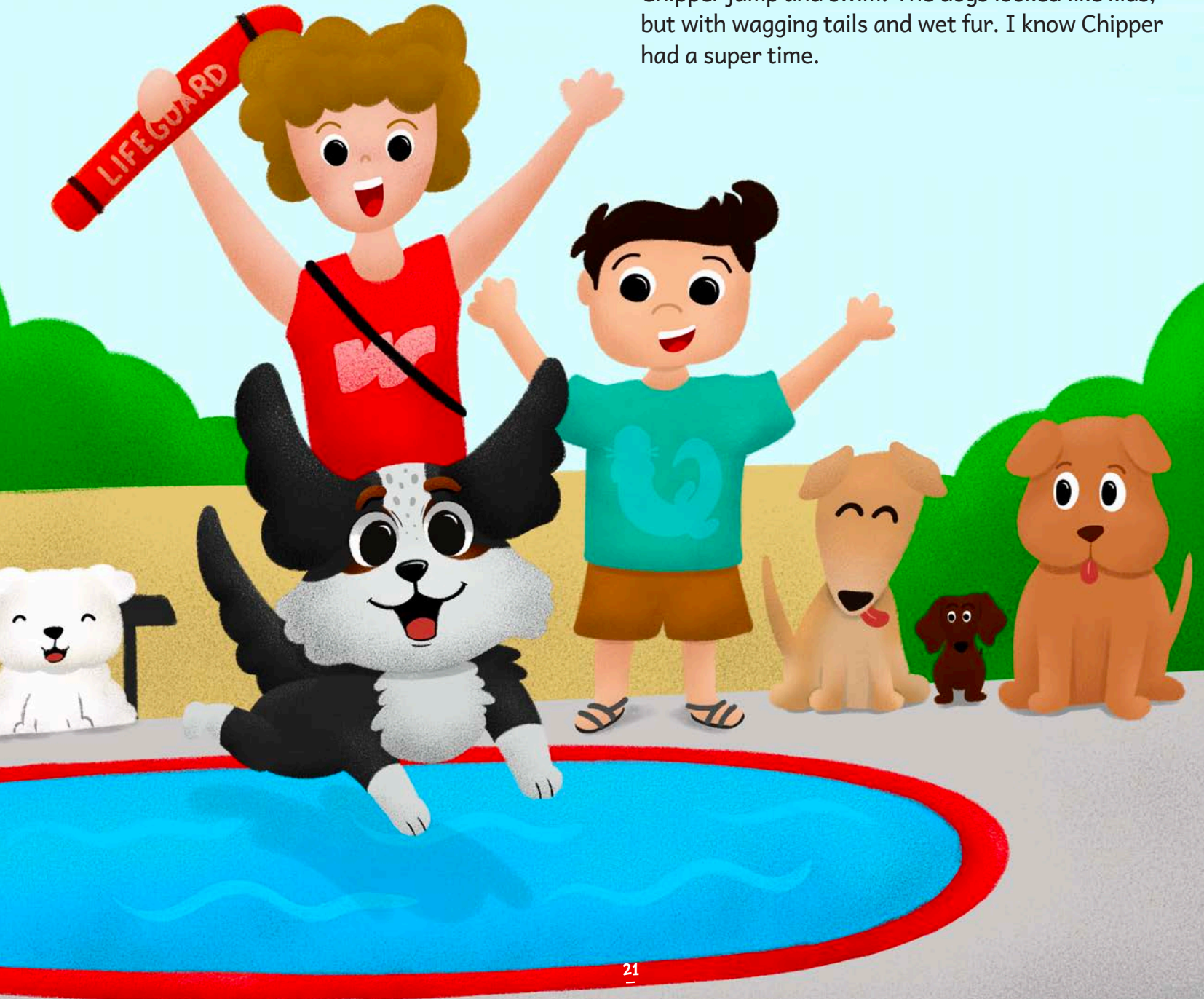




The first summer away from my old friends was hard. Sometimes it was even a little bit scary. At first, I was nervous about going to camp. After a few days I met many new friends. I could not wait to get dropped off each morning to see what we would do next. The people running the camp were the coolest!



This city has lots of parks and one special park just for dogs. The off-leash park is where dogs can run and play. Then, one day a year, dogs are even allowed at the pool. It was so cool watching Chipper jump and swim! The dogs looked like kids, but with wagging tails and wet fur. I know Chipper had a super time.





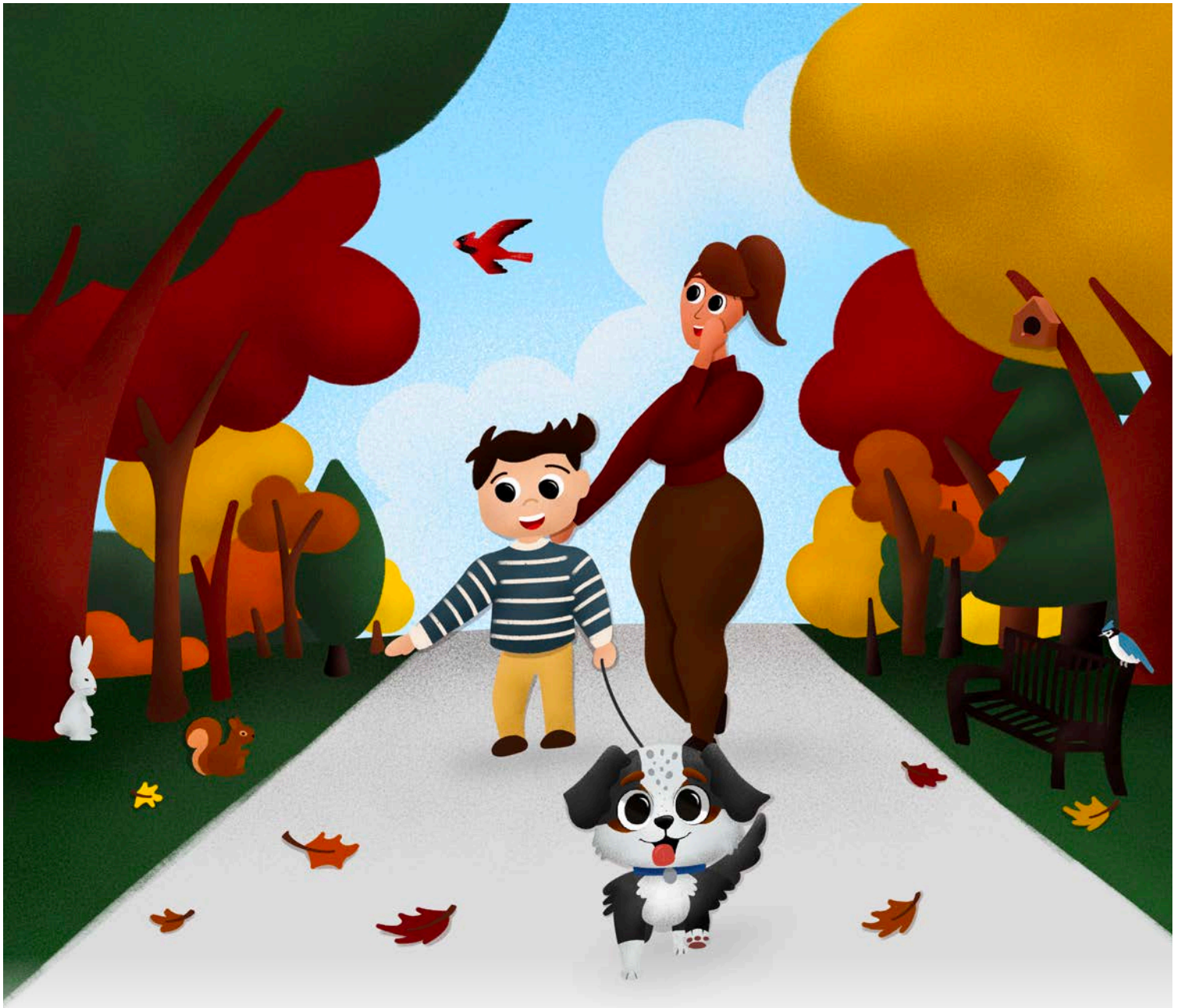
I am very thankful for my family. When we first moved to Welland, I did not think I would like being here. Now, I am thankful for my new home, the adventures we have had, and all the new friends I have made. There is so much here that my old home did not have.





Boo! Dressing up for Halloween is always a lot of fun. My sister and I went trick-or-treating at lots of houses. I am sure at least one house was haunted.





My parents love the fall colours. Red. Yellow. Orange. They do not have a favourite colour, but I do. Red is my favourite. I was so happy to see all the colours we love when walking at Merritt Island. Getting fresh air and being together in nature was a wonderful way to spend our day.





My great grandpa was in a war. He does not like to talk about it because it makes him sad. Every November 11, Remembrance Day, I take time to remember him. I know that he was very brave. Thank you, great grandpa.





I will not be able to sleep tonight because Santa is coming! I was scared he would not know we moved to Welland. Mom says that Santa always knows where to find us. She is even letting me stay up to watch for him. I love how our new house is decorated.



I have been skating since I was three years old. My sister is still learning and getting better. Before moving to Welland, we only ever skated inside an arena. Now, we have skated on outdoor rinks. I hope the weather stays cold enough so the ice does not melt. I hear adults say they are ready for spring. Not me, I want to keep skating!

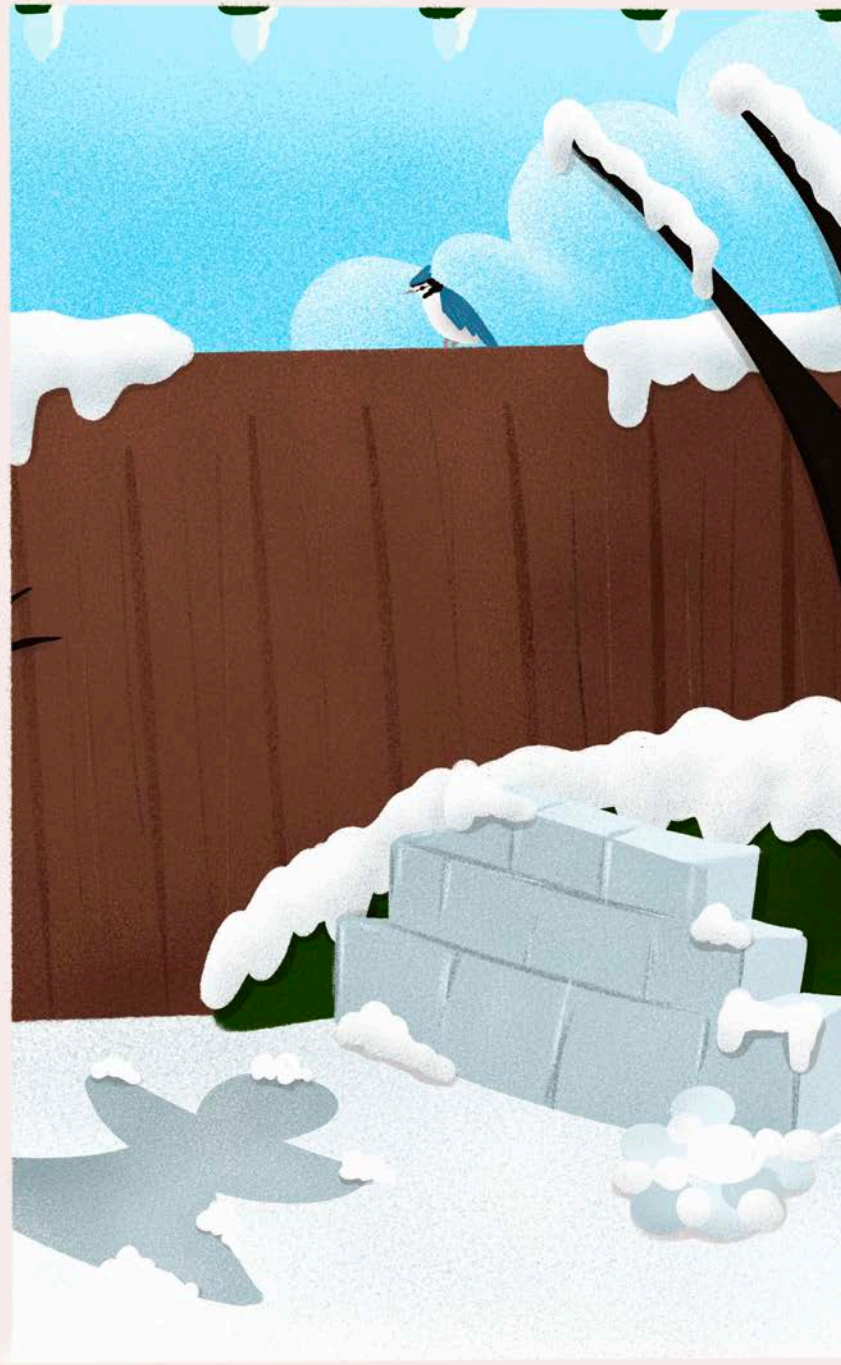




I thought the snow would never stop falling! It looked like we were at the North Pole. We bundled up and spent the entire day outside. When we were ready for a warm break, we munched on homemade cookies and sipped hot chocolate with marshmallows. What a tasty treat!

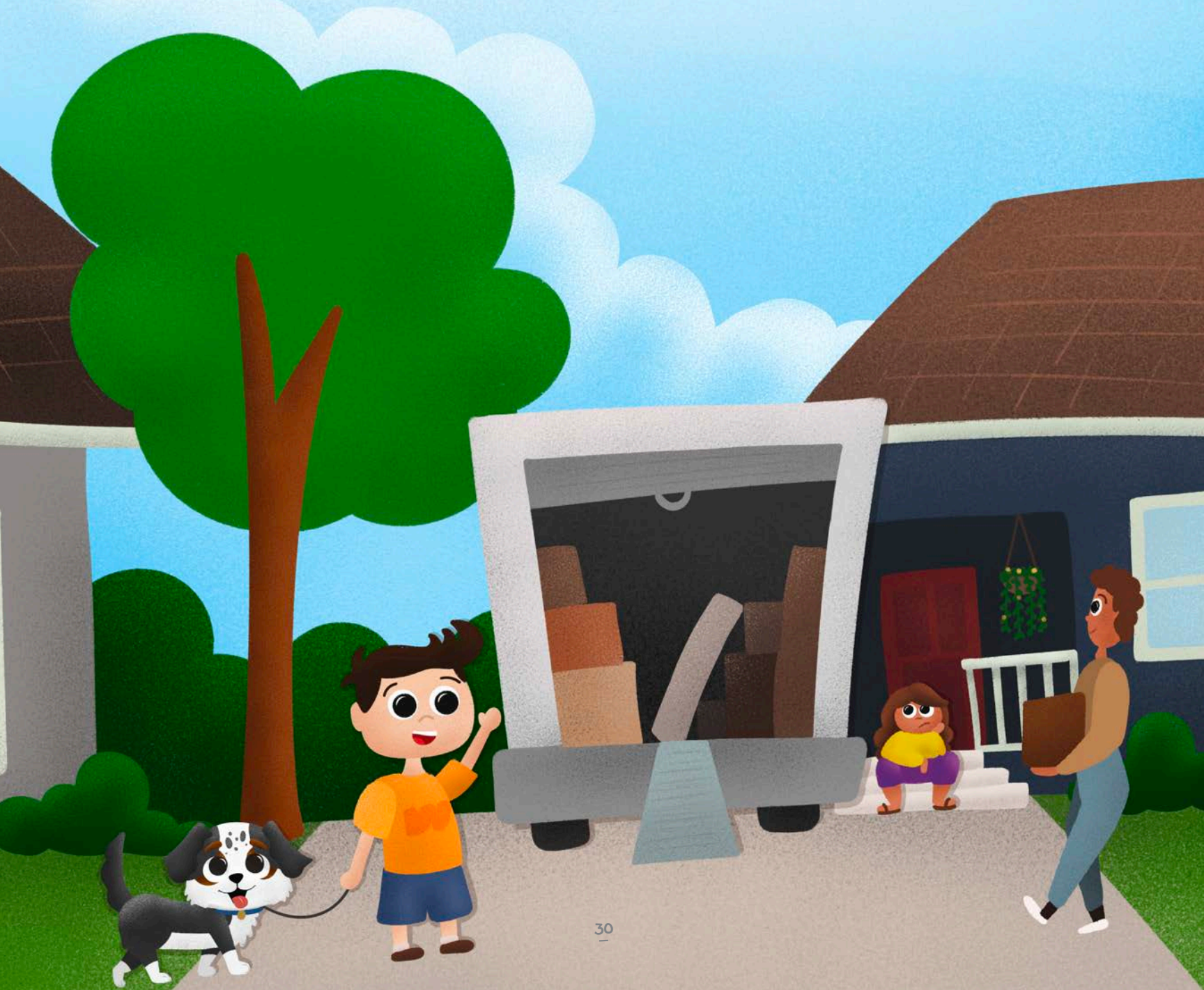








Someone new moved in next door. I wonder if she feels as sad and scared as I did. I know what it is like to move to a new place. Since coming to Welland, I have made so many new friends. I cannot wait to tell her about all the things to do in the city. Chipper is ready to make a new friend, and so am I!







Thank you for joining me, Chipper, and my family on our move to Welland. We did so many things that made this new place feel like home. There is still so much to do, and I cannot wait for what comes next. Now it is your turn to get out, experience Welland, and make lots of your own special memories.

Turn the page for some ideas to get you started.



# Welland Checklist

- Dip your toes in the canal
- Go for a walk at Merritt Island
- Borrow something from the Welland Public Library
- Have fun going down a slide at a park
- Cool off at a splash pad
- Lace up a pair of skates and go skating at the arena
- Do something active at the Empire Sportsplex. What did you play?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Visit the farmers market
- Collect leaves when they change colour
- Meet Jacques at a Welland Jackfish baseball game
- Enjoy an ice cream cone. What's your favourite flavour? \_\_\_\_\_
- Count the ducks at the Chippawa Park pond
- Go outside and look for the moon (when it gets dark, of course)
- Jump in a public pool
- Cheer at a dragon boat race
- Build a snowman
- Play at four different parks. Which parks have you visited?
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
- Check out the flags flying at City Hall
- Say hi to your next door neighbour
- Make a new friend





# Word Search

M X K D C C Q J A C K S O N Y N P K  
A T W H D D R A G O N B O A T C L M  
R S S P L A S H P A D P A R K A C X  
K W V J W I N T E R H M I J H N O I  
E I P F A M I L Y M D Q S A L A N C  
T M P A D D L E B O A R D C V L C E  
R M C F R I E N D S H K Q K Y Z E C  
H I M Z C H I P P E R S F F S E R R  
Q N J M Y V L S U M M E R I T P T E  
V G S P R I N G X C A M P S C T X A  
L M B P E F A L L J A N U H C E H M  
I A H L M V S K A T I N G B P K Q O

Search up and down to find the hidden words. Good luck!

CAMP  
CANAL  
CHIPPER  
CONCERT  
DRAGON BOAT  
FALL  
FAMILY

FRIENDS  
ICE CREAM  
JACKFISH  
JACKSON  
MARKET  
PADDLE BOARD  
PARK

SKATING  
SPLASH PAD  
SPRING  
SUMMER  
SWIMMING  
WINTER





# Search & Find

Flip back to pages 23 and 26 to find what we have hidden on the page. Good luck!

## Halloween — Page 23



6 skeletons



3 spiders



4 spider webs



3 jack-o-lanterns



2 witches



3 ghosts



3 tombstones



3 bats

## Christmas Eve — Page 26



6 candy canes



4 snowflakes



2 cookies



4 ornaments



2 stockings



3 presents



1 star



1 snowman



# Explaining the Land Acknowledgement Art

Did you know there is great detail and meaning behind the artwork you see on page 4?  
The turtle's shell holds the 13 moons that mark the passage of time and seasonal changes for First Nations Peoples.



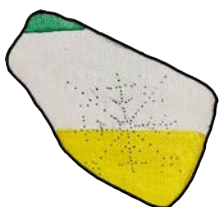
Zehgaaknege Giizis  
Gathering Moon  
(Haudenosaunee)



Dejebeboon Giizis  
Elder Moon (Mohawk)



Ziisbaakodike Giizis  
Eagle Moon (Cree)



Onaabeni Giizis  
New Moon of Hard Crusted  
Snow (Anishinaabe)



Nmebin Giizis  
Frog Moon (Cree)



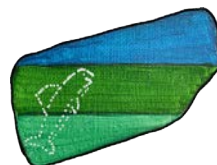
Onerahtokha (Haudenosaunee)  
Budding Moon (Anishinaabe)



Wabgonii Giizis  
Blossom Moon (Anishinaabe)



Mdaaminke Giizis  
Corn Moon (Haudenosaunee)



Nemegseh Giizis  
Trout Fishing Moon  
(Anishinaabe)



Kiloseh Giizis  
Leaves Falling Moon (Ojibwe)



Oniige Giizis  
Migrating Moon (Cree)



Tsyothorha (Haudenosaunee)  
Hoar Frost Moon (Anishinaabe)



Moving to a new city can be scary. For Jackson and his family, moving to Welland came with lots of questions. What would they do for fun? How would he make new friends? Where were the best spots? Explore a yearly view of the City of Welland as Jackson and his faithful companion Chipper experience their new city.

Experience the Wonders of Welland by scanning this code  
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