

# MAZI!

Learns to Play!

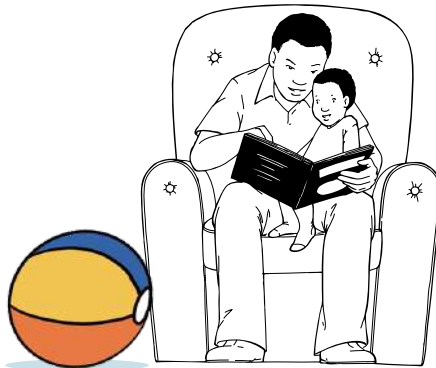


Tumisang Shongwe • Liam Longland • Jamie Calf

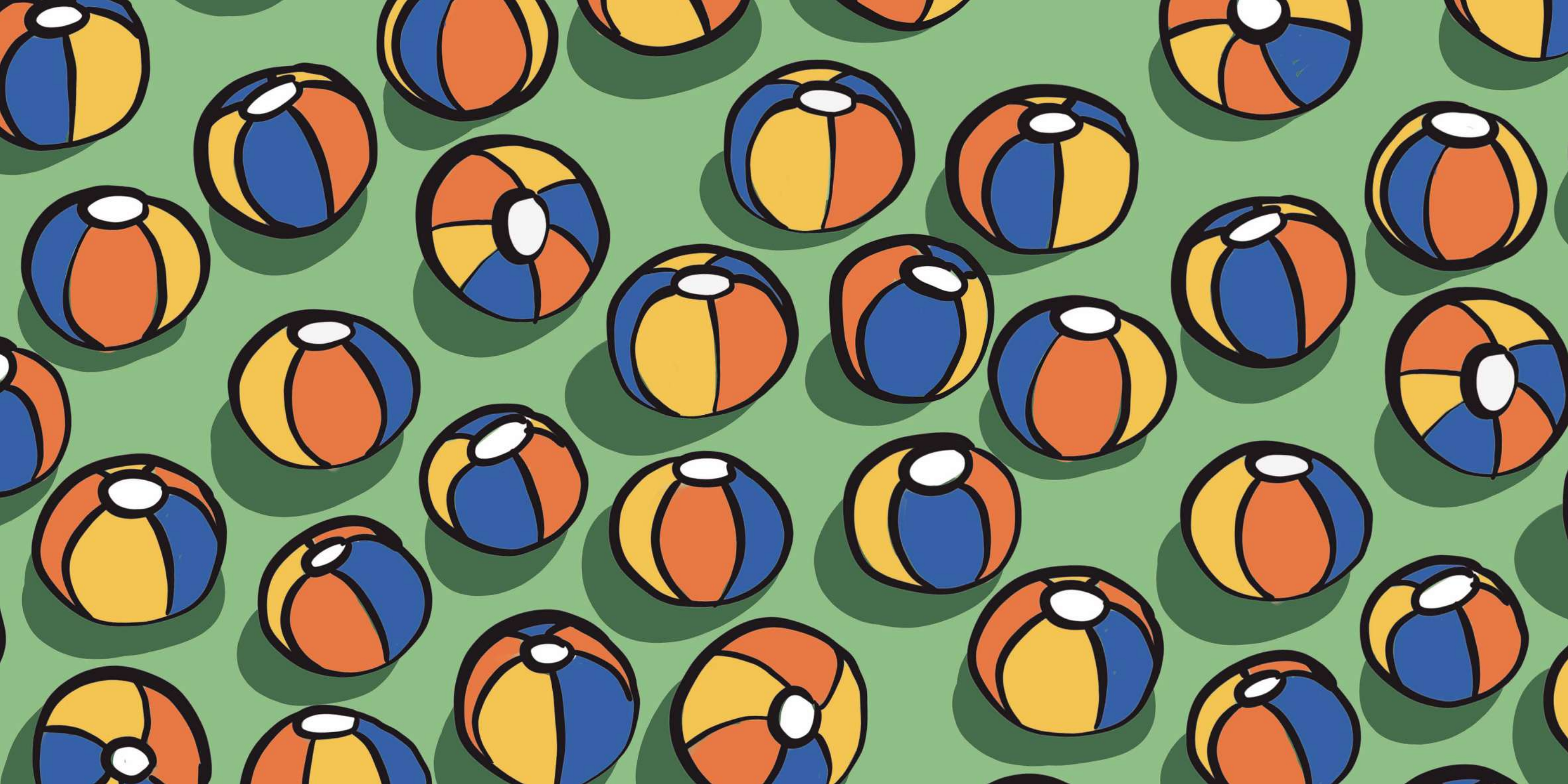
# Mazi Learns to Play!

This book belongs to

---











bookdash.org

Every child should own a hundred books by the age of five. To that end, Book Dash gathers creative volunteers to create new African storybooks that anyone can freely print, translate and distribute. Then we work with partners to give those books to preschool children to own.

To find out more, and to download beautiful, open-licensed, print-ready books, visit [bookdash.org](http://bookdash.org).

*Mazi Learns to Play!*

Illustrated by Liam Longland

Written by Tumisang Shongwe

Designed by Jamie Calf

Edited by Alison Ziki

with the help of the Book Dash participants in Johannesburg on 17 August 2024.

ISBN: 978-1-77632-586-3

Typeset in Quicksand

**This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence**  
(<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

You are free to share (copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format) and adapt (remix, transform, and build upon the material) this work for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the following license terms:

You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. No additional restrictions: You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.

# MAZi

## Learns to Play!

Tumisang Shongwe • Liam Longland • Jamie Calf



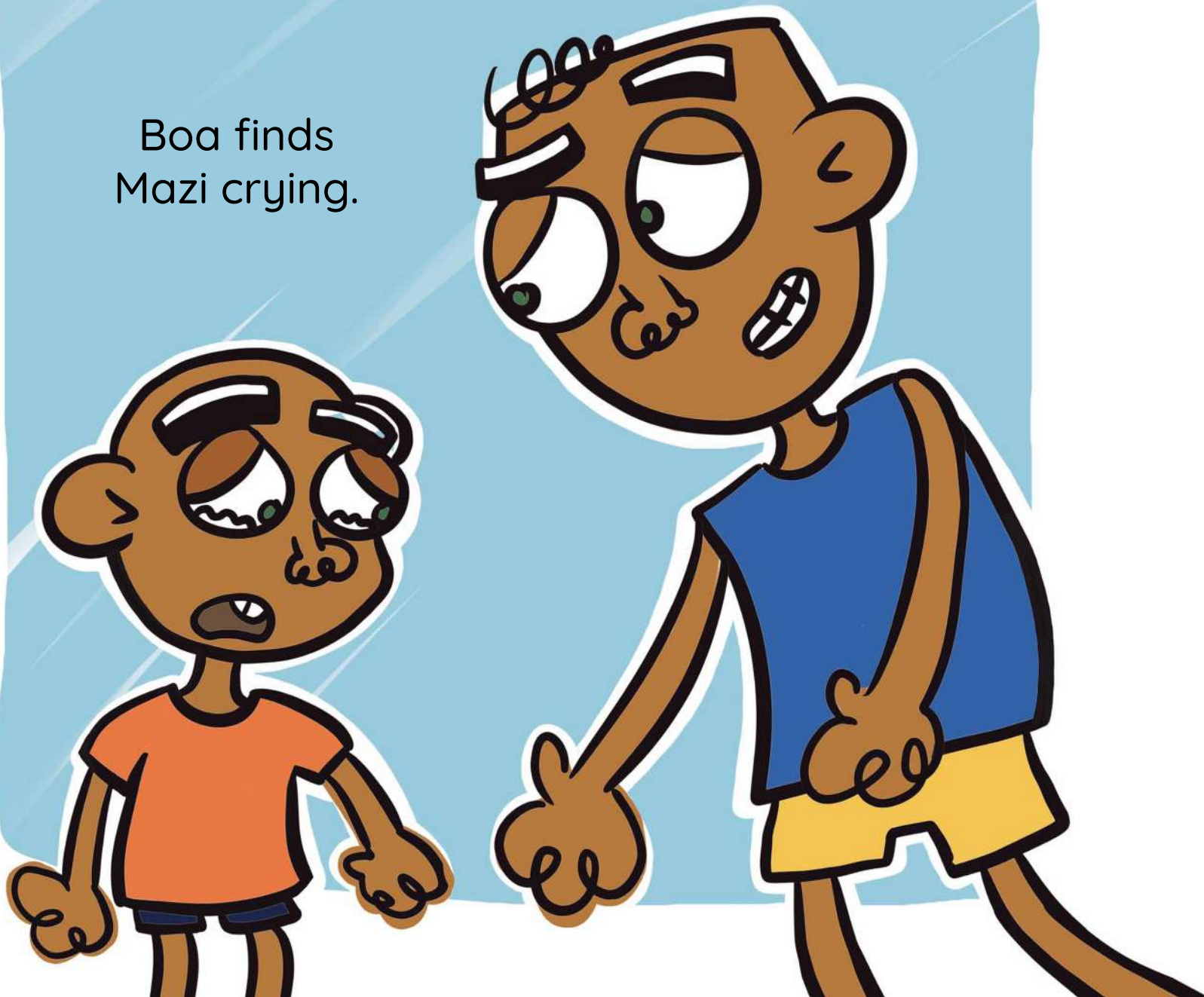


Mazi is sad.

His older brother Boa, and big sister  
Rona, don't want to play with him.

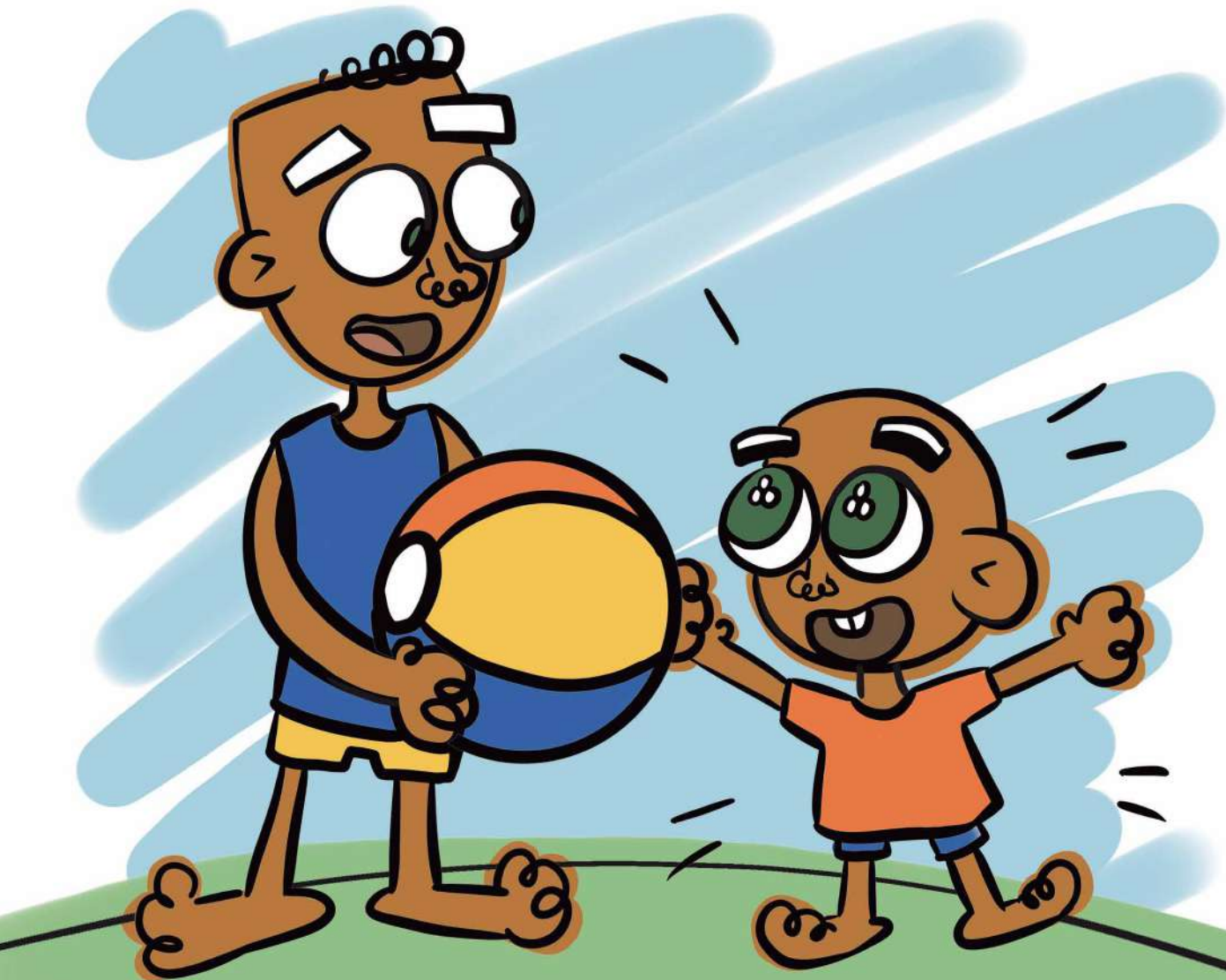


Boa finds  
Mazi crying.



“What’s wrong Mazi?”  
Boa asks.

“I want to play with you, but you  
don’t want to play with me,”  
cries Mazi.



Boa feels bad and allows Mazi to play dodgeball with them.

“But **no crying**, okay?”  
Boa tells Mazi.

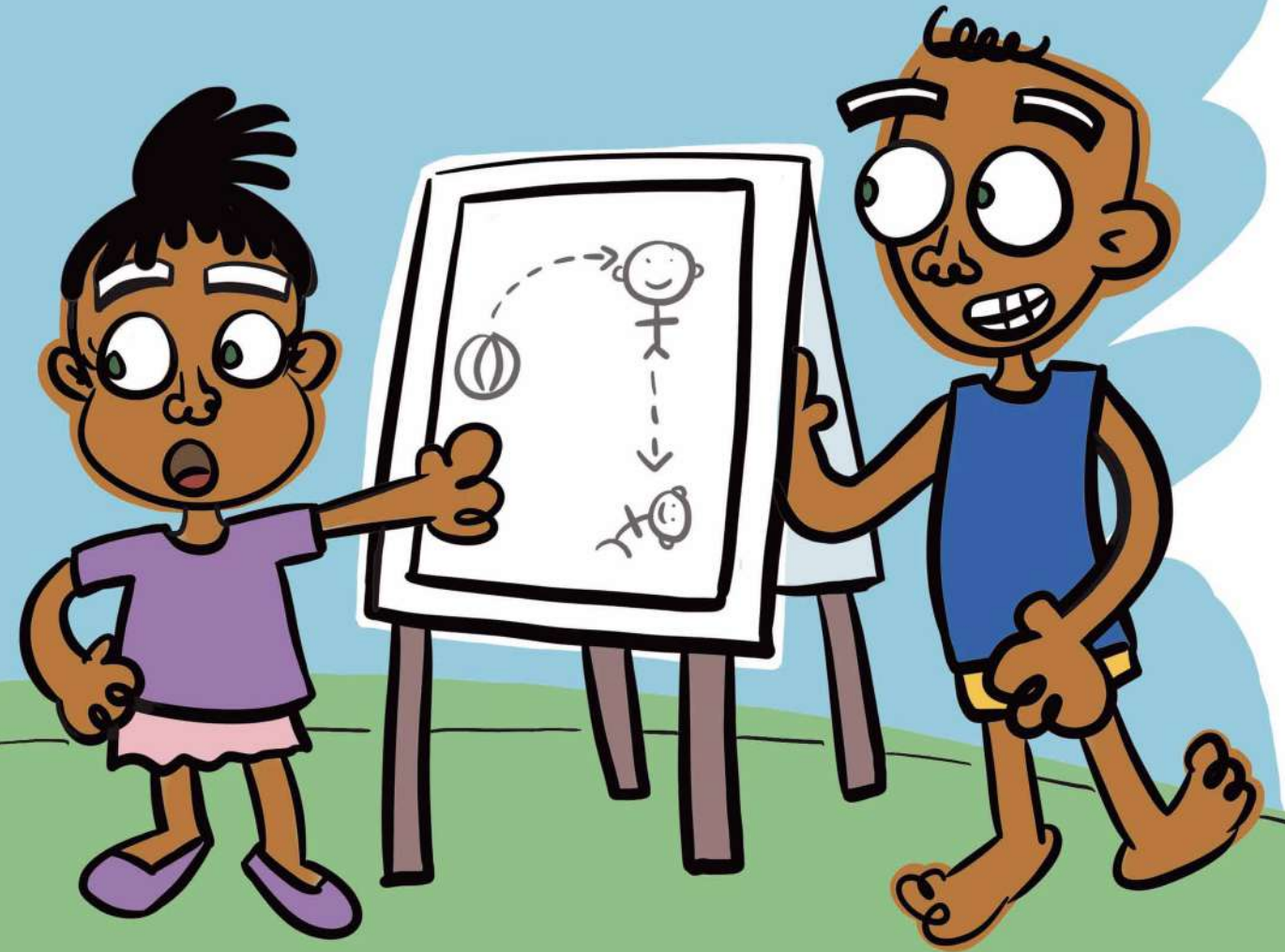
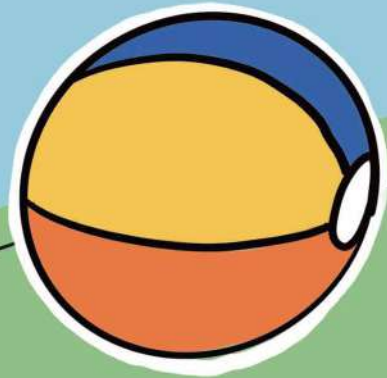


“Okay,”  
Mazi says, excited.



Boa and Rona explain the  
dodgeball game to Mazi.

He must stand in the middle  
and dodge the beachball  
while Boa and Rona try  
to hit him with it.







After they explain the  
game to Mazi, Rona  
throws the ball at him.

**“Dodge Mazi!”**  
she shouts.

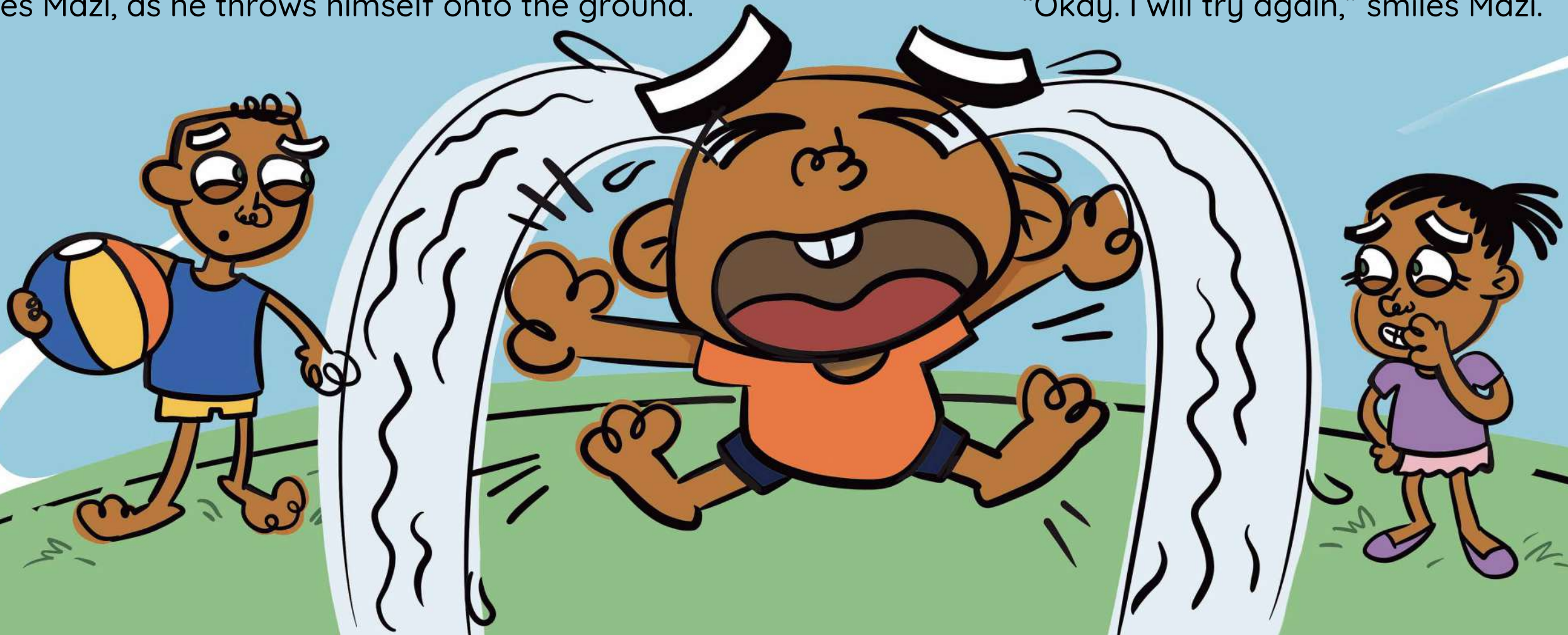
The ball hits him on the head.



# “Ouchiee!”

“You hit me with the ball!”  
cries Mazi, as he throws himself onto the ground.

“But that’s the game,” says Rona, laughing.  
“Okay. I will try again,” smiles Mazi.







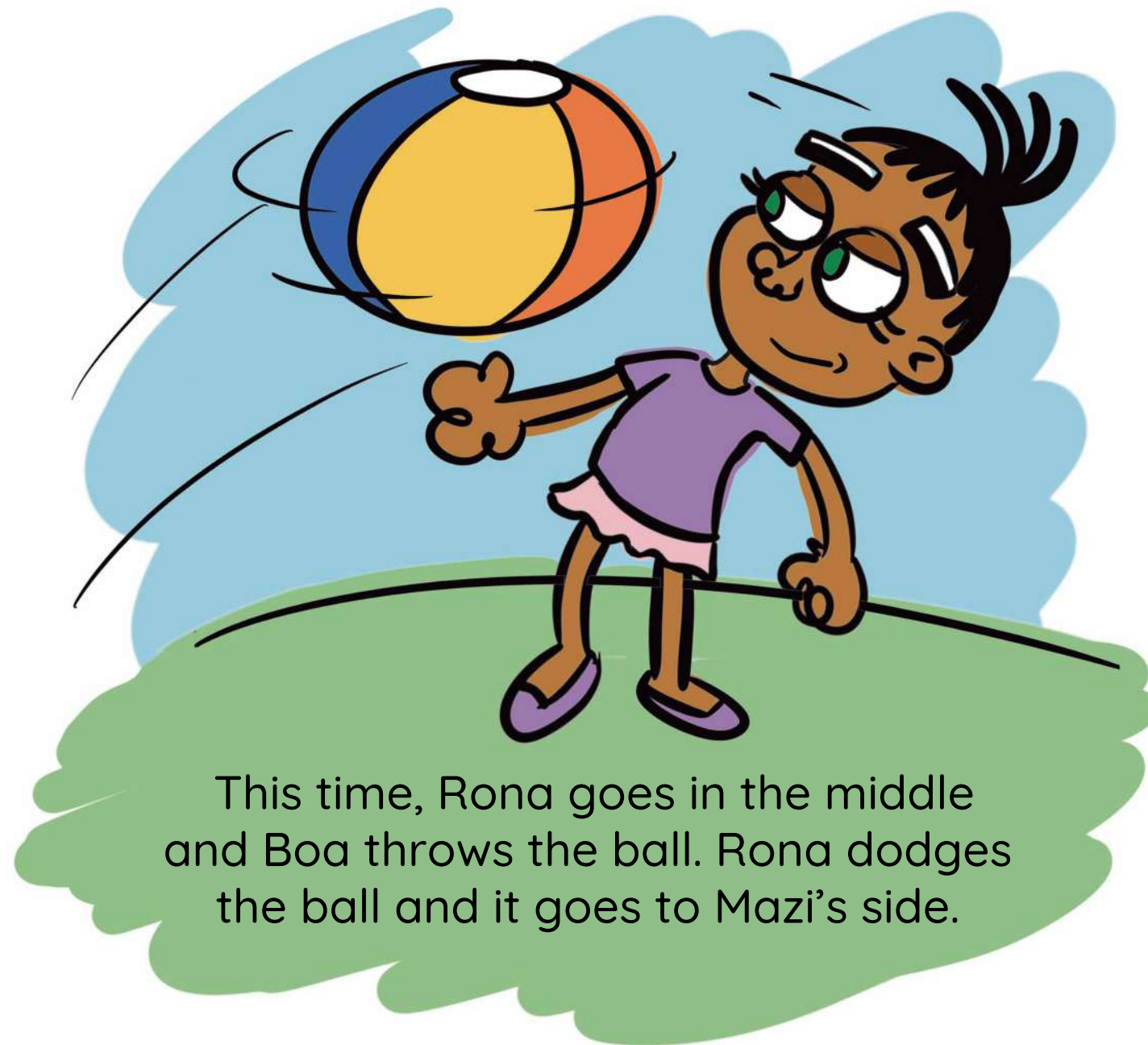
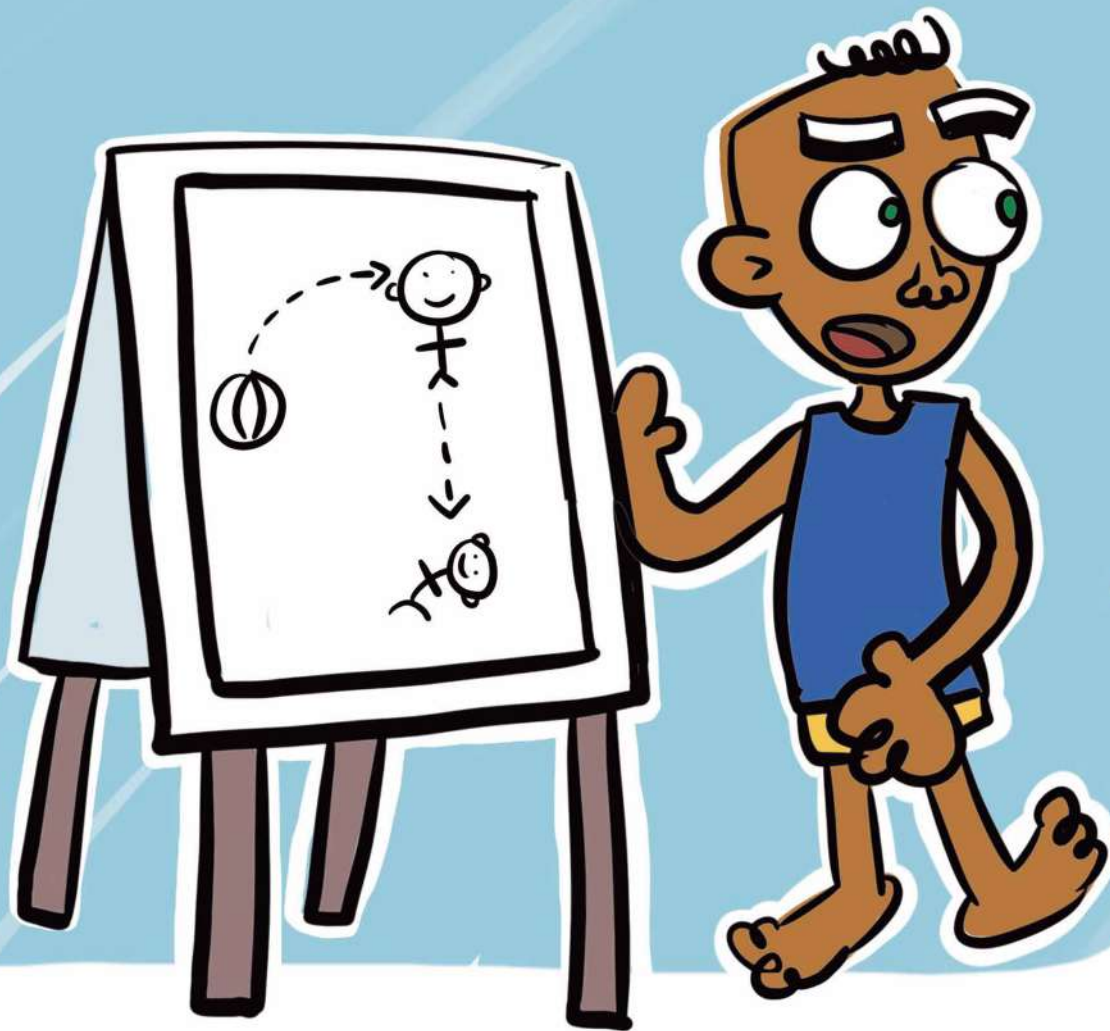
**“Mazi stop!”**  
Boa and Rona shout  
at the same time.

Boa throws the ball at Mazi, who's  
standing in the middle.

Mazi catches the ball and runs with  
it around the tree.

**“You can't catch me!”**  
he shouts.

Boa explains the rules to Mazi once more. Then they try again.



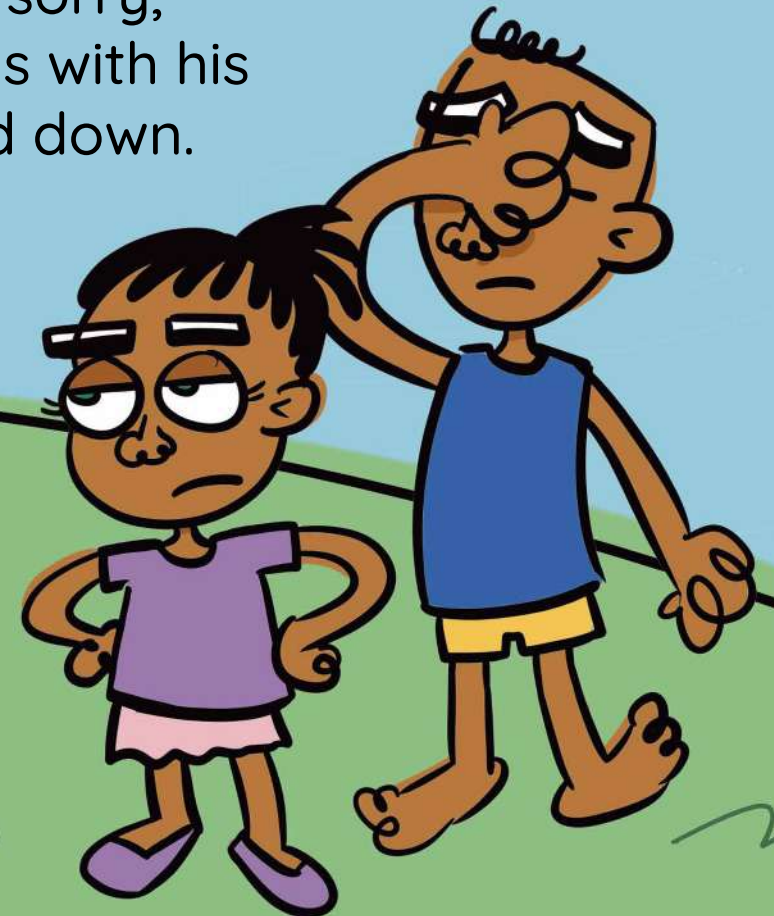
This time, Rona goes in the middle and Boa throws the ball. Rona dodges the ball and it goes to Mazi's side.

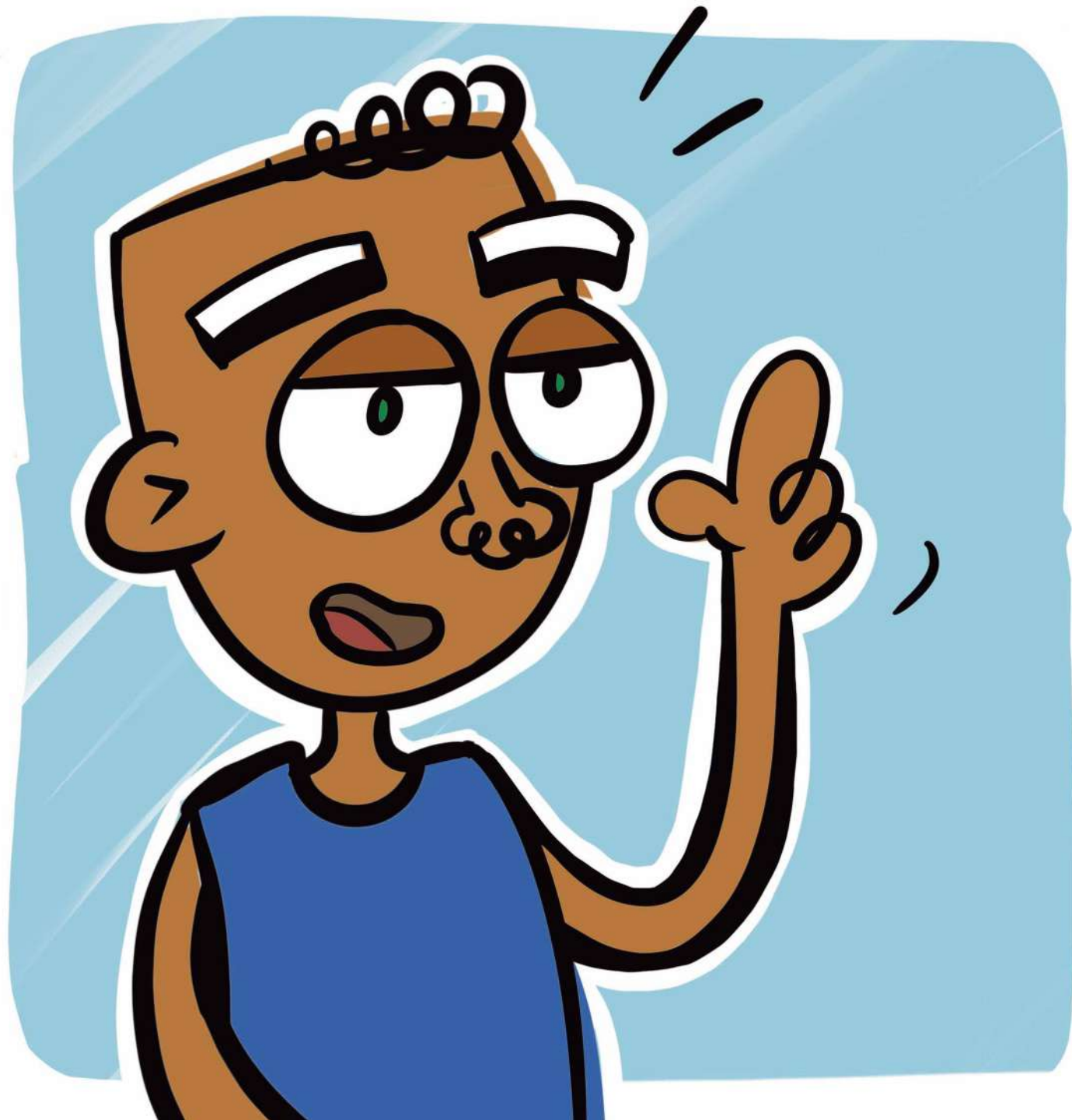


Mazi kicks the ball  
**so high**  
it gets stuck in  
the tree.

**“Maaziii!”**  
they shout in frustration.

“I’m sorry,”  
he says with his  
head down.





“You have to follow the rules  
of the game, Mazi, or else we  
won’t play with you,”  
Boa says.

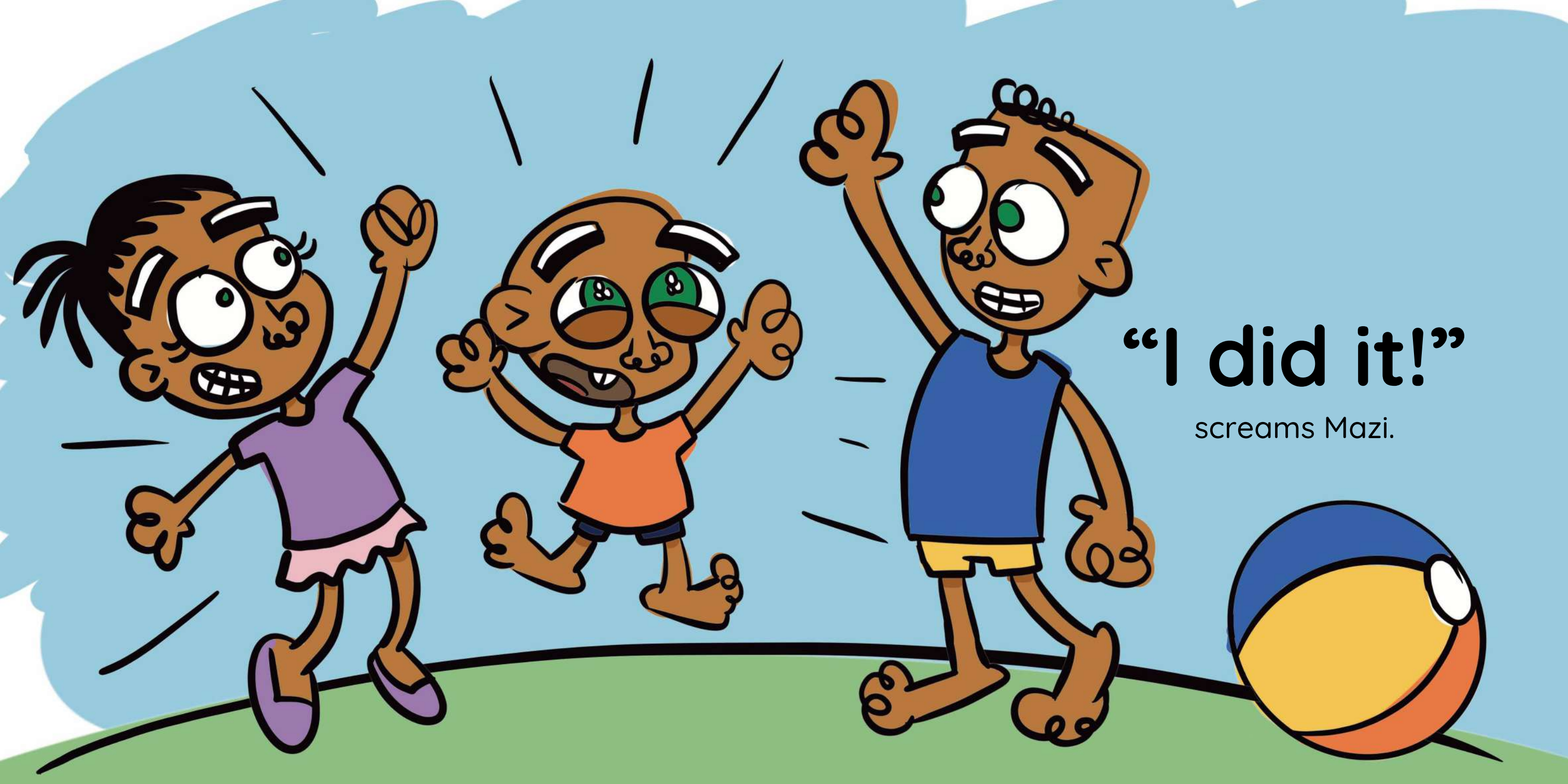
“Stand in the middle  
and let’s try again.”



Rona throws the ball, and this  
time Mazi dodges it.

**FINALLY!**





**“I did it!”**

screams Mazi.



