

Open the door



Gabriella Jardine

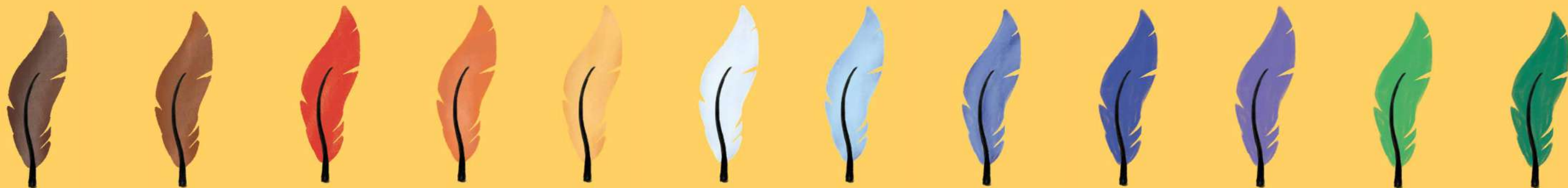
Jen Thorpe

Jacqui Botha

Open the door

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with the help of the Book Dash participants in Cape Town on 14 October 2023.

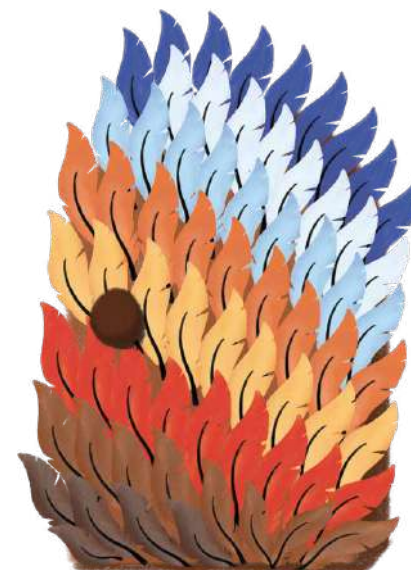
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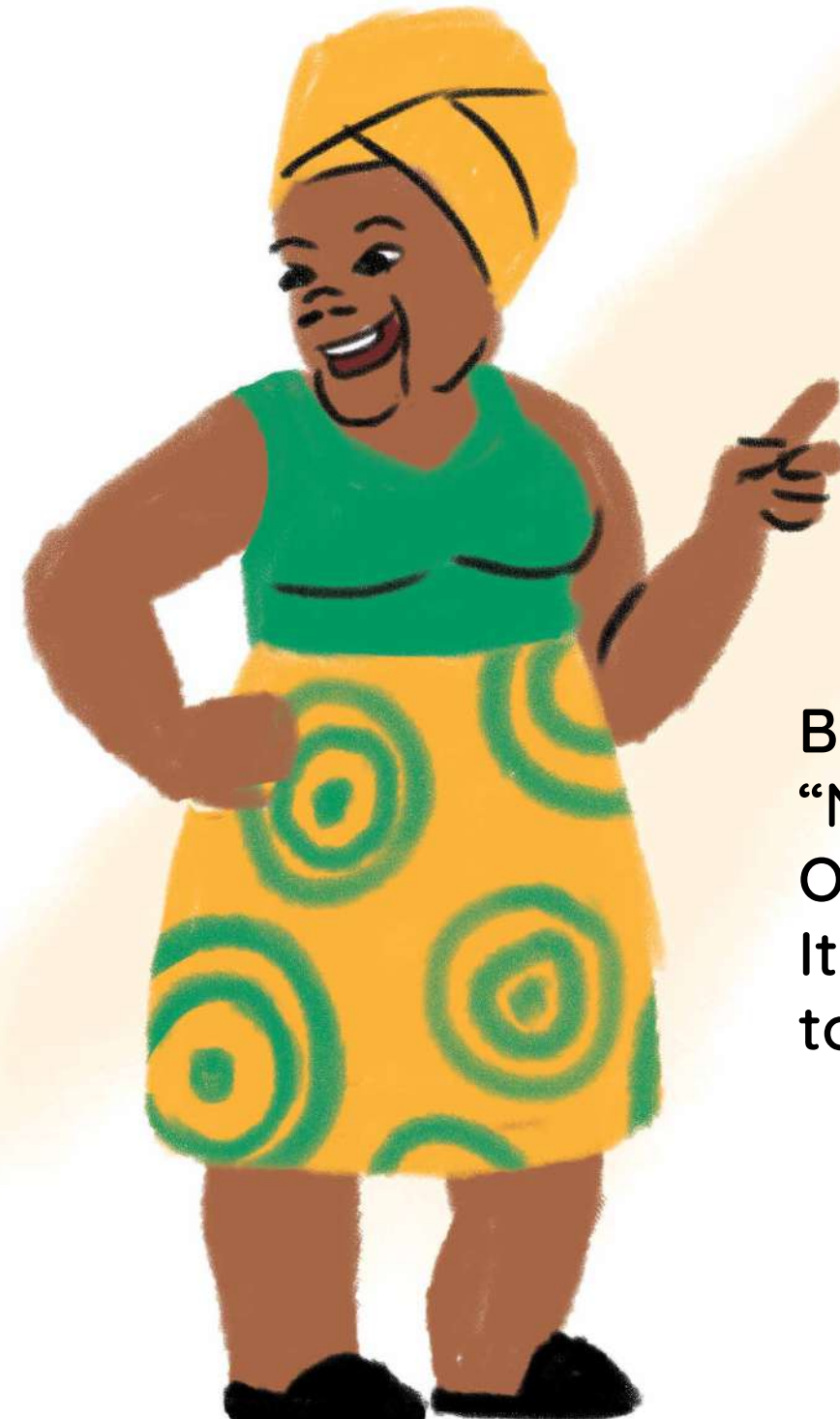
Jen Thorpe



Jacqui Botha

Olwethu wants to play pretend.

“I want to fly like a bird, swim like a mermaid, roar like a lion,” she tells Gogo.



But Gogo says,
“Not now,
Olwethu.
It’s time to go
to school.”

STOMP! STOMP!

Olwethu's feet go as she walks slowly to school.

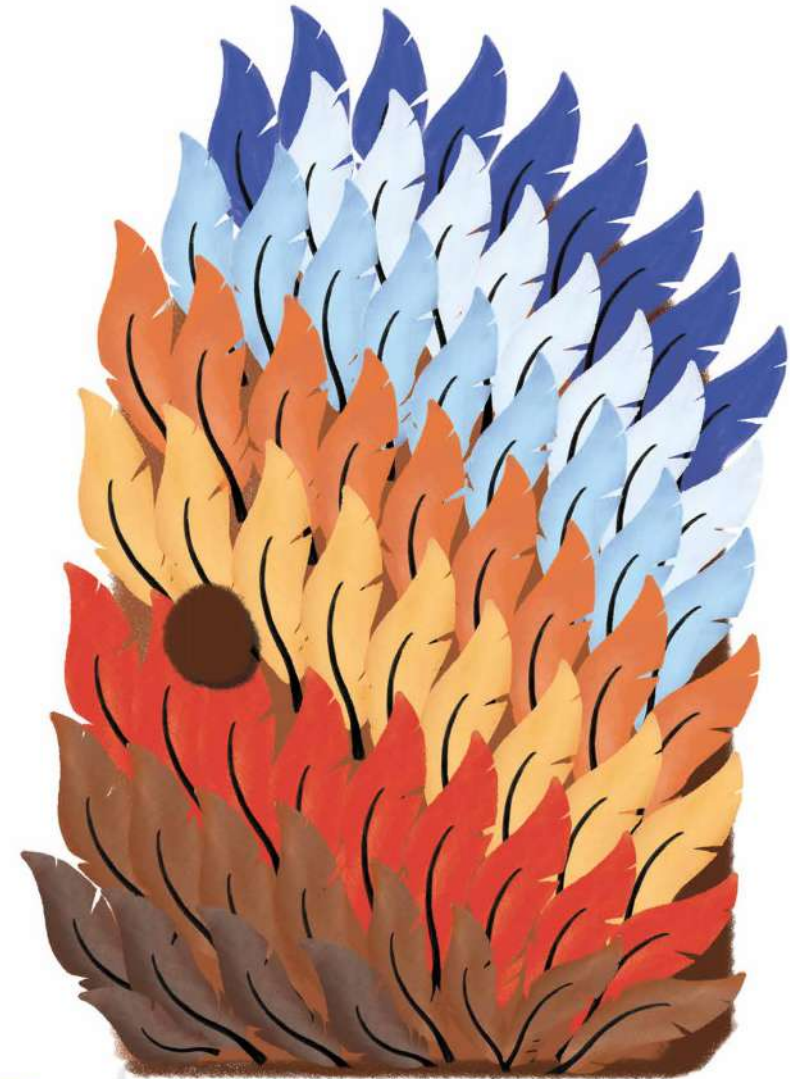


But
what
is *this*?



There's a door,
covered in
feathers.

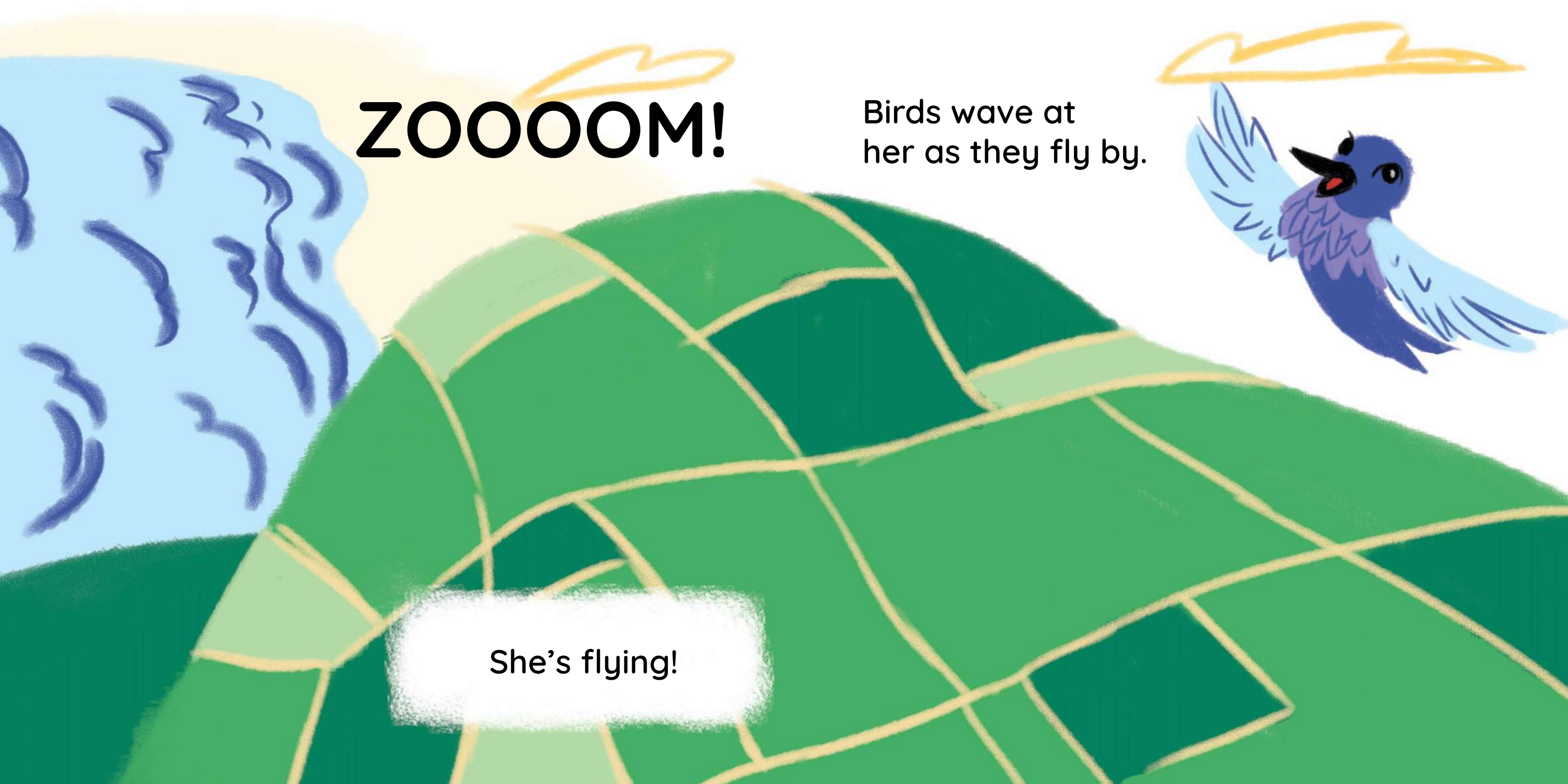
Olwethu walks
up to it and...



WHOOSH!



Olwethu is a bird in the sky!



ZOOOOM!

Birds wave at
her as they fly by.



She's flying!



But what is *this*?

There's another door,
covered in scales.



FLAP!
FLAP!



She flies over,
touches the
door and...



SPLISH! SPLOSH!!

Olwethu is
a mermaid in
the ocean!

The fish smile at her
as she swims by.

But what is *this*?

There's another door, shining bright
like the sun.



She swims over, and...



“GRRRRRRRRRR!”



Olwethu is a lion in
the savannah.

She opens her
mouth and...



“ROOOAAARRRR!”

Her voice is loud and powerful.
But what is *this*?

There's another
door, covered
with photos of
her friends.

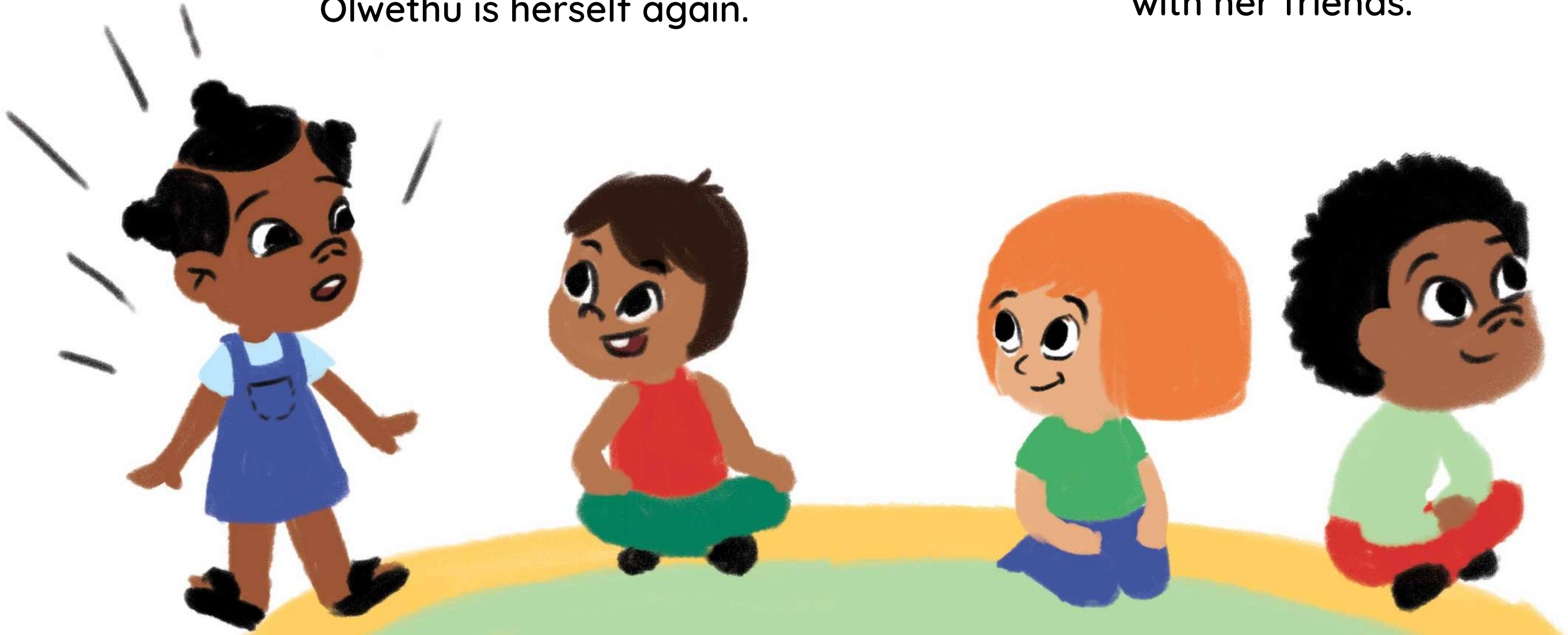
She prowls
over, holds
up her paw,
and...



WHIZZ!

Olwethu is herself again.

She's in her classroom
with her friends.



Teacher Songelwa says,
“HMMMMMM...”

...where have
you been,
Olwethu?”





“WOW!

Teacher, I’ve been
everywhere!”



