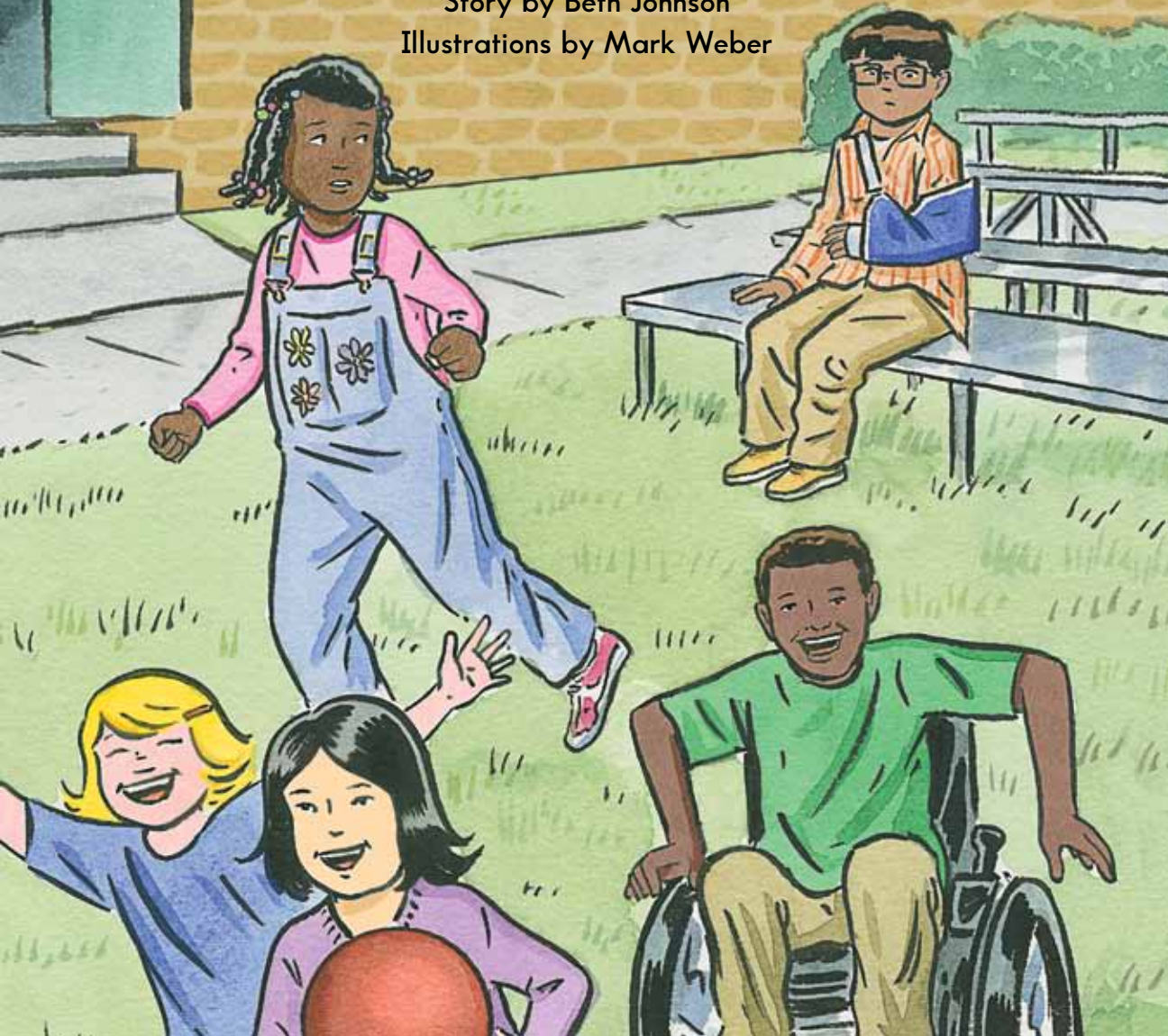


Circle of Kindness

Story by Beth Johnson
Illustrations by Mark Weber



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Dr. Judith Nadell, Series Editor

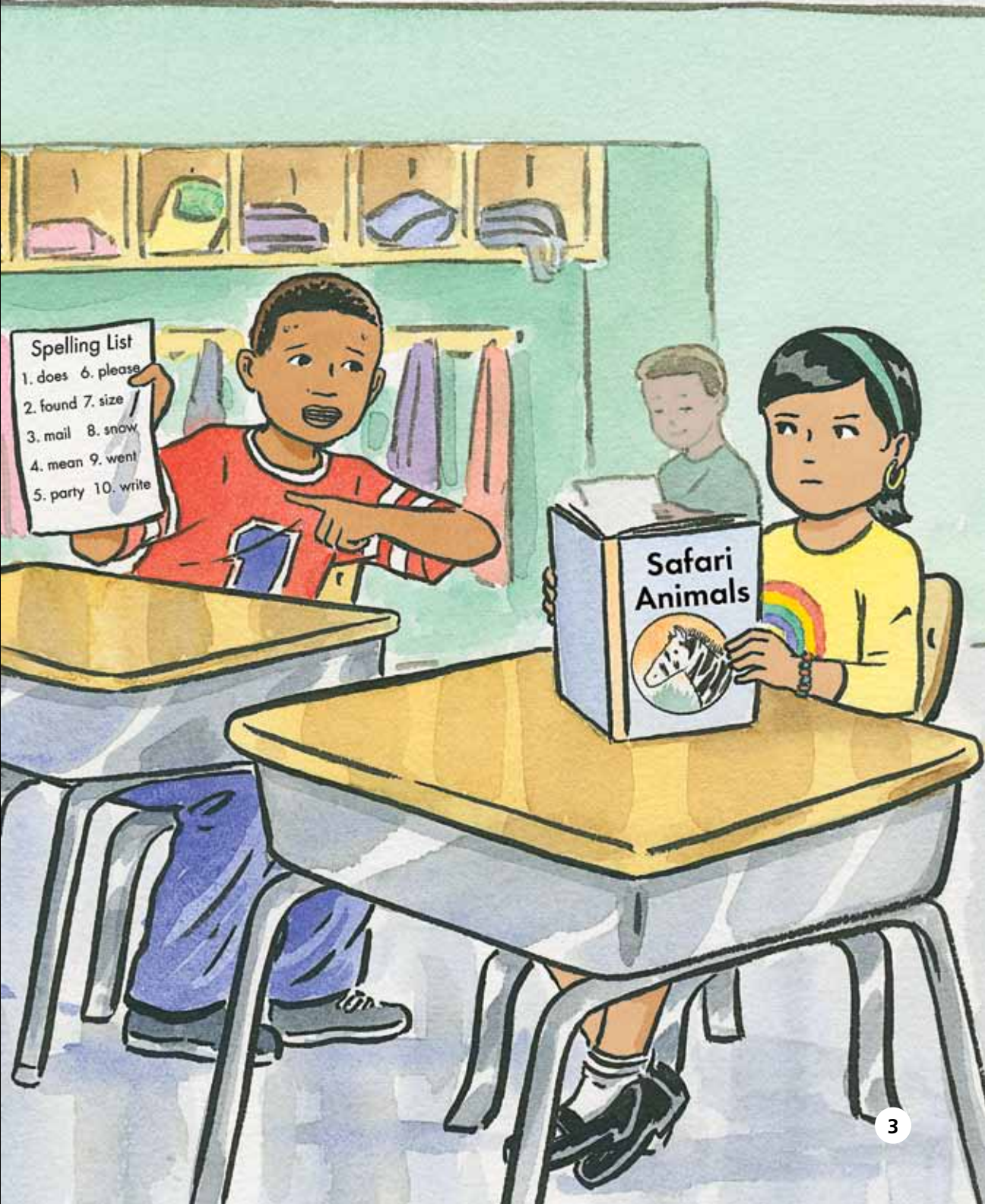
Chapter 1

Jasmin loved the beginning of the school day. Every morning, she put her books neatly in her desk. She got her homework ready to hand in. Then she quietly read a book until it was time for class to begin.

But one morning, Jasmin couldn't concentrate on her book. Derek was making way too much noise. He was talking loudly, spelling the same words over and over.

Finally Jasmin said, "Derek, what are you doing? You're too loud!"

Derek looked very unhappy. "I'm reviewing our spelling words," he said. "I forgot we have a test today. I didn't study at all last night. I'm afraid I'll fail the test!"



Spelling List

- 1. does 6. please
- 2. found 7. size
- 3. mail 8. snow
- 4. mean 9. went
- 5. party 10. write

**Safari
Animals**



Jasmin wanted to keep reading her book. But she saw how upset Derek was.

She said, “Do you want me to help you review the words?”

“Yes, please!” said Derek. “P-L-E-A-Z-E?”

“No, it’s P-L-E-A-S-E,” Jasmin said nicely. “Now spell **found**.”

Jasmin helped Derek review the spelling words a few more times.

Derek felt much better. “Thanks, Jasmin!”

When they took the test, Derek got almost all the words right!



Derek
90%
please party
found mail
write went
does Size
Xmeen Show

Chapter 2

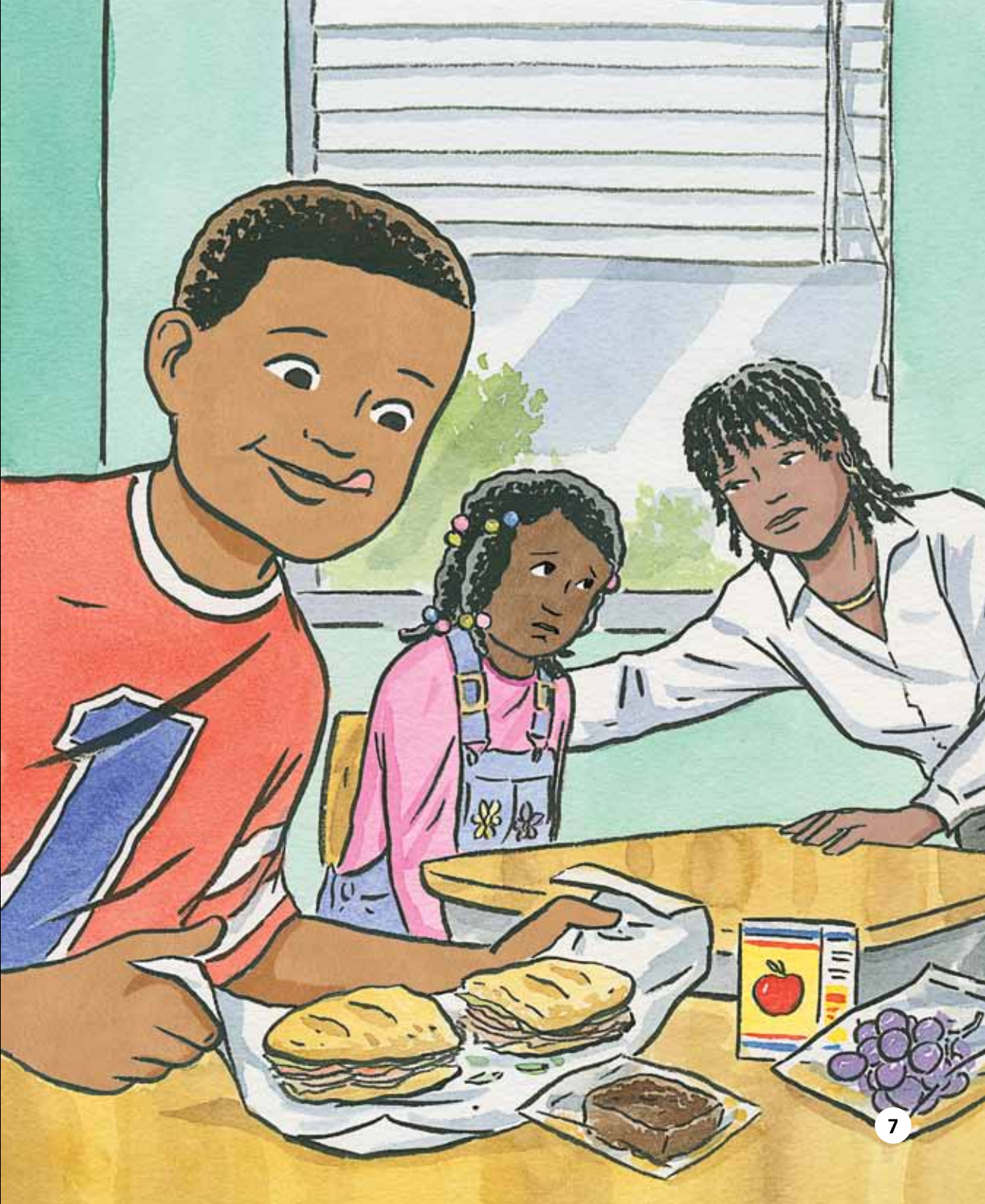
That week, the school cafeteria was closed for repairs. Everyone brought their lunch and ate in class.

At noon, Derek got out his lunch bag. He opened it and smiled.

There was a large turkey sandwich. There was a juice box. There was a big bunch of grapes. There was even a brownie. Yum!

*This is a **great** lunch,* he thought.

Then Derek looked over at Kendra, who seemed upset.



“I think I left my lunch box on the bus,”
Kendra said.

“Oh no,” said Mrs. Hall. “Well, don’t worry.
I have some cheese and crackers in my desk.”

Derek tried to concentrate on his delicious
lunch. But then he remembered how kind Jasmin had
been to him that morning.

He raised his hand.

“I’ll share my lunch with Kendra,”
he volunteered. “I have more than I need.”

“Thanks, Derek!” said Kendra. “You’re
the best!”



At recess, Kendra couldn't wait to play kickball. She ran out to the playground.

She ran right past Victor, who was sitting on a bench. His arm was in a sling. He had hurt his wrist playing basketball the week before. Now he had to sit and watch the other kids play.

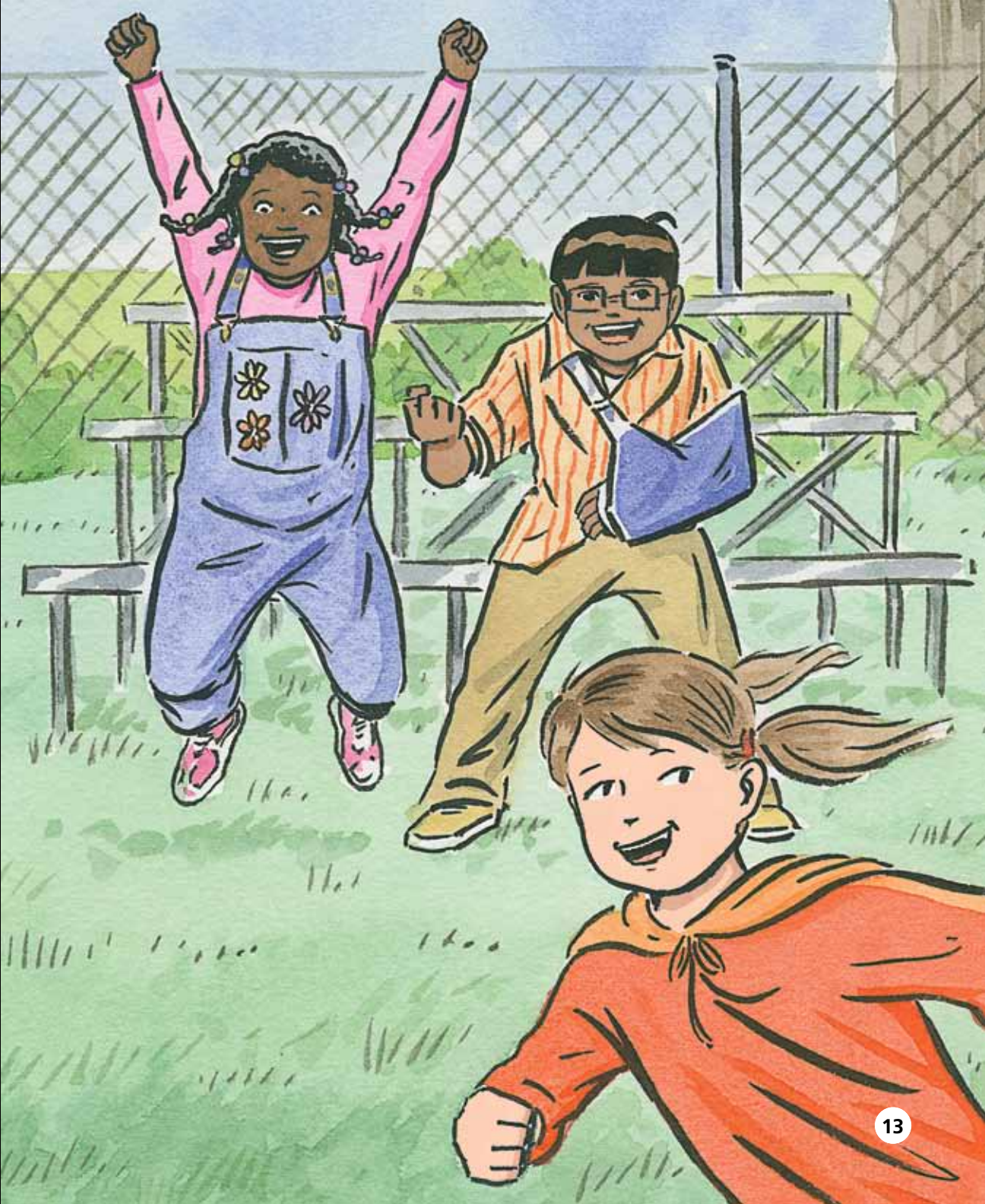


Victor looked sad and lonely, but Kendra really wanted to play.

Then she remembered how kind Derek had been when she forgot her lunch.

“Hey, Victor,” she said. “Can I sit and watch the game with you?”

Victor smiled a great big smile. “Sure! That would be great!”



Chapter 3

It was raining at the end of the day, so Victor hurried toward the bus.

Just ahead, he saw the strap break on Jasmin's book bag. The bag fell off her shoulder, spilling her books and papers all over the wet ground.

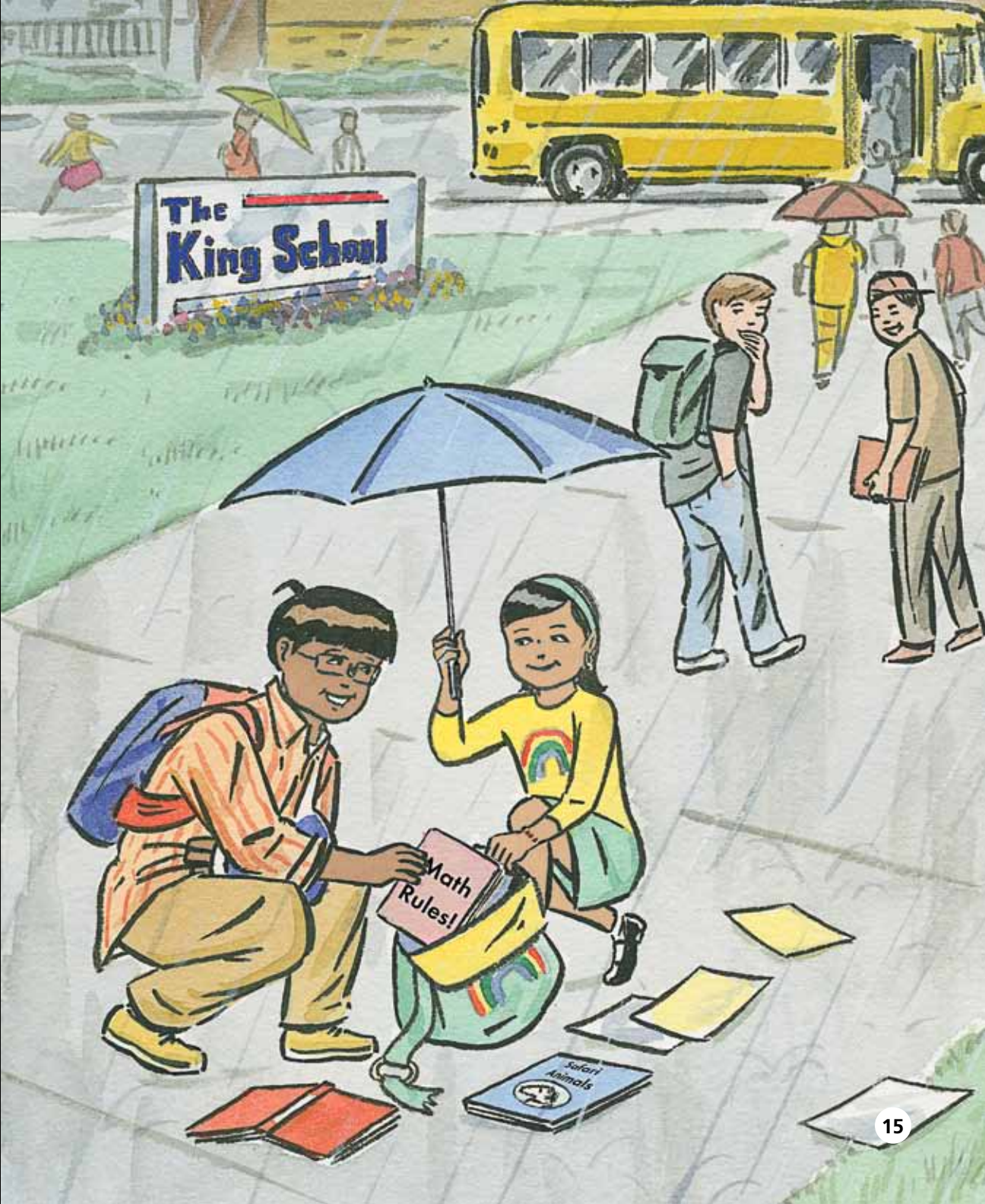
Some older kids laughed and pointed at Jasmin. She looked embarrassed.

Victor really wanted to get out of the rain.

Then he remembered how kind Kendra was to him during recess.

"I can help you, Jasmin," Victor volunteered.

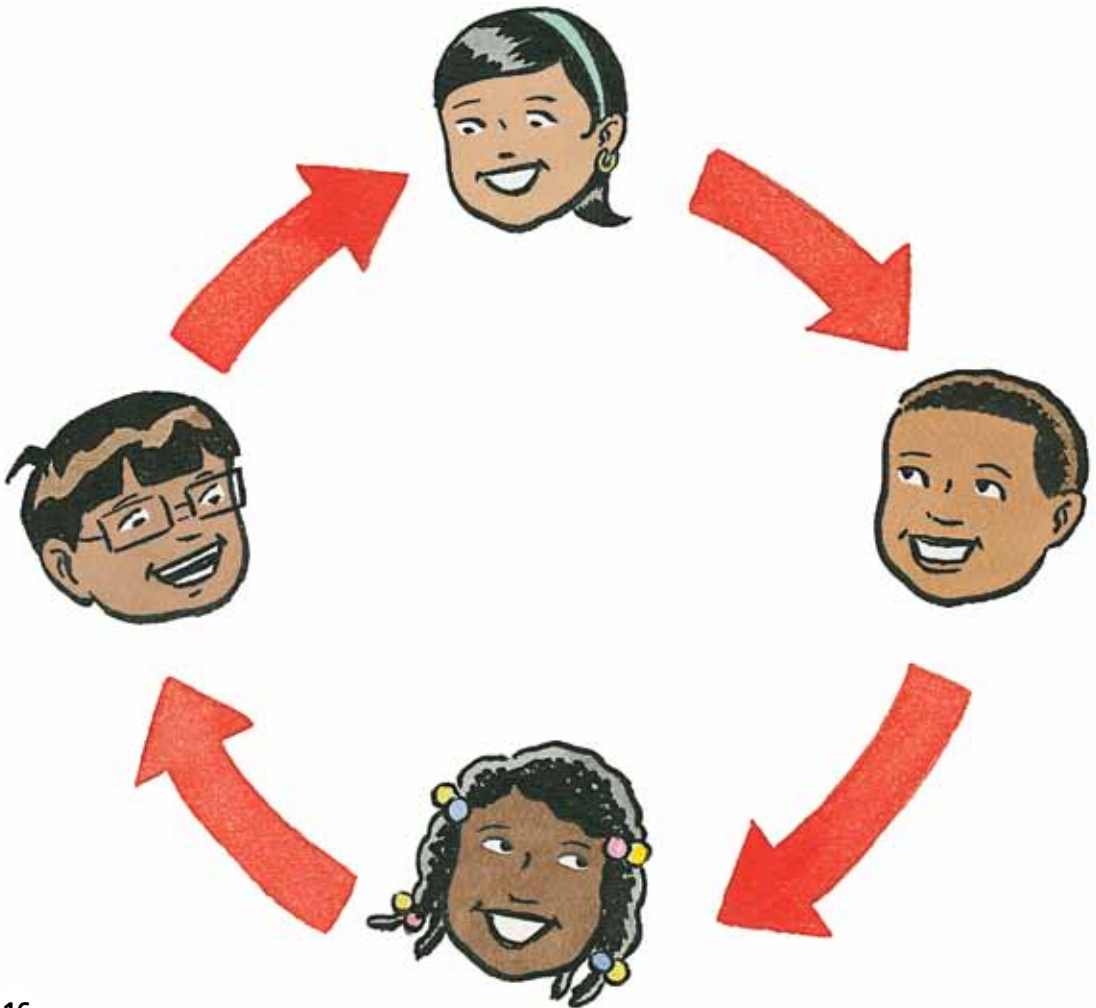
He helped Jasmin pick up her things. He joked with her and made her laugh. She forgot all about the mean kids and feeling embarrassed.



Jasmin helped Derek. Derek helped Kendra.
Kendra helped Victor. Victor helped Jasmin.

They didn't know it, but they made a circle that day. It was a circle of kindness.

Kindness made everybody's day better!



THE KING SCHOOL SERIES

Dr. Judith Nadell, Series Editor
Eliza Comodromos, Associate Editor

Circle of Kindness

Word Count: 568

Level 19–20

Second Grade

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Illustrations by Mark Weber
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