

I Can Do It!



COVER: (photo) Andrew Rich/E+/Getty Images; (illustrator) Luciana Navarro Powell.

mhreadingwonders.com



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**I Can
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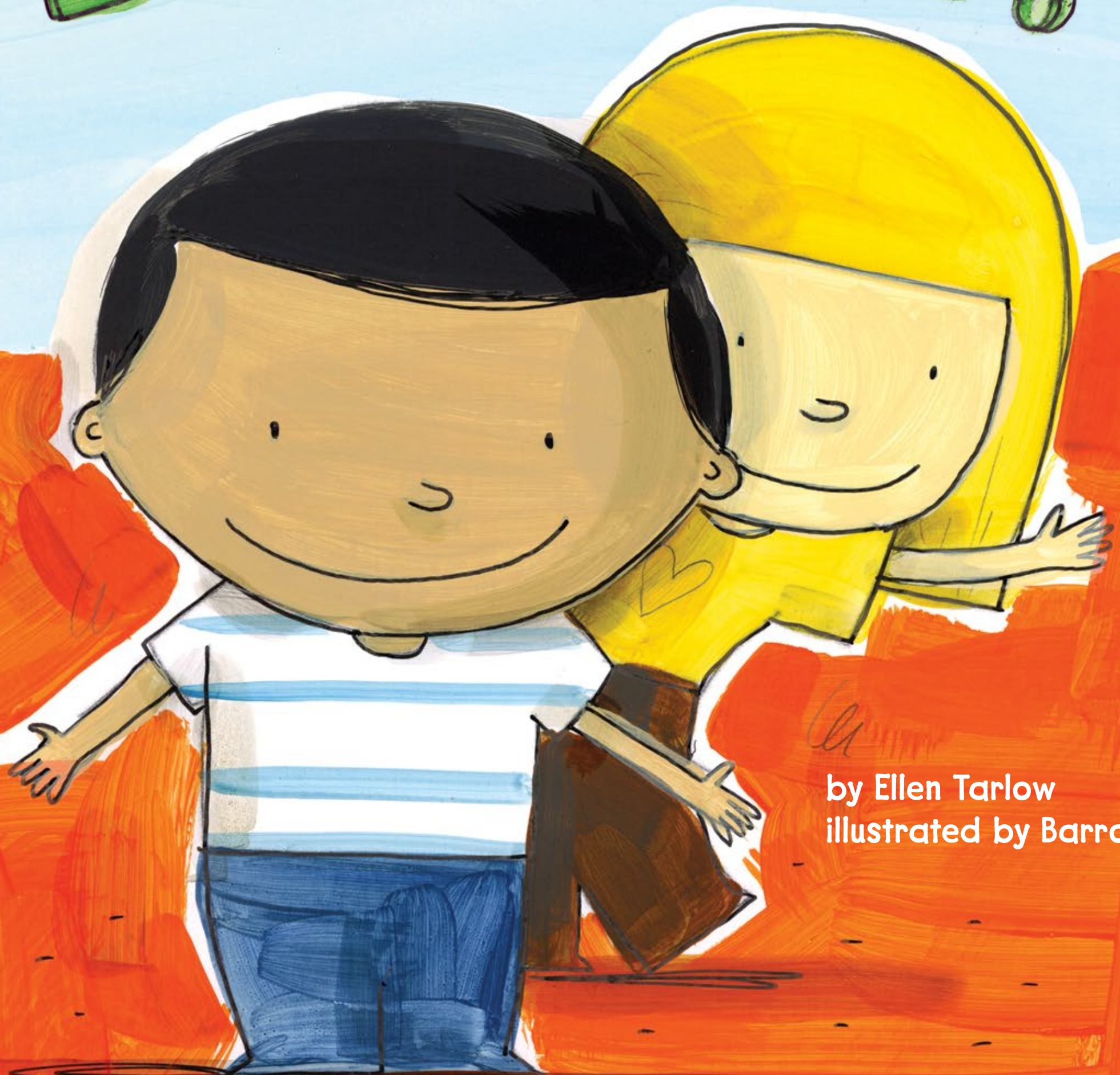
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LOOK at ME!



by Ellen Tarlow
illustrated by Barroux

Look at me!
I am three.
Just as perfect
as I can be.





Look at me!
I am four.
So much more
than I was before.

See all that we can do,
that we couldn't do
when we were one or two.

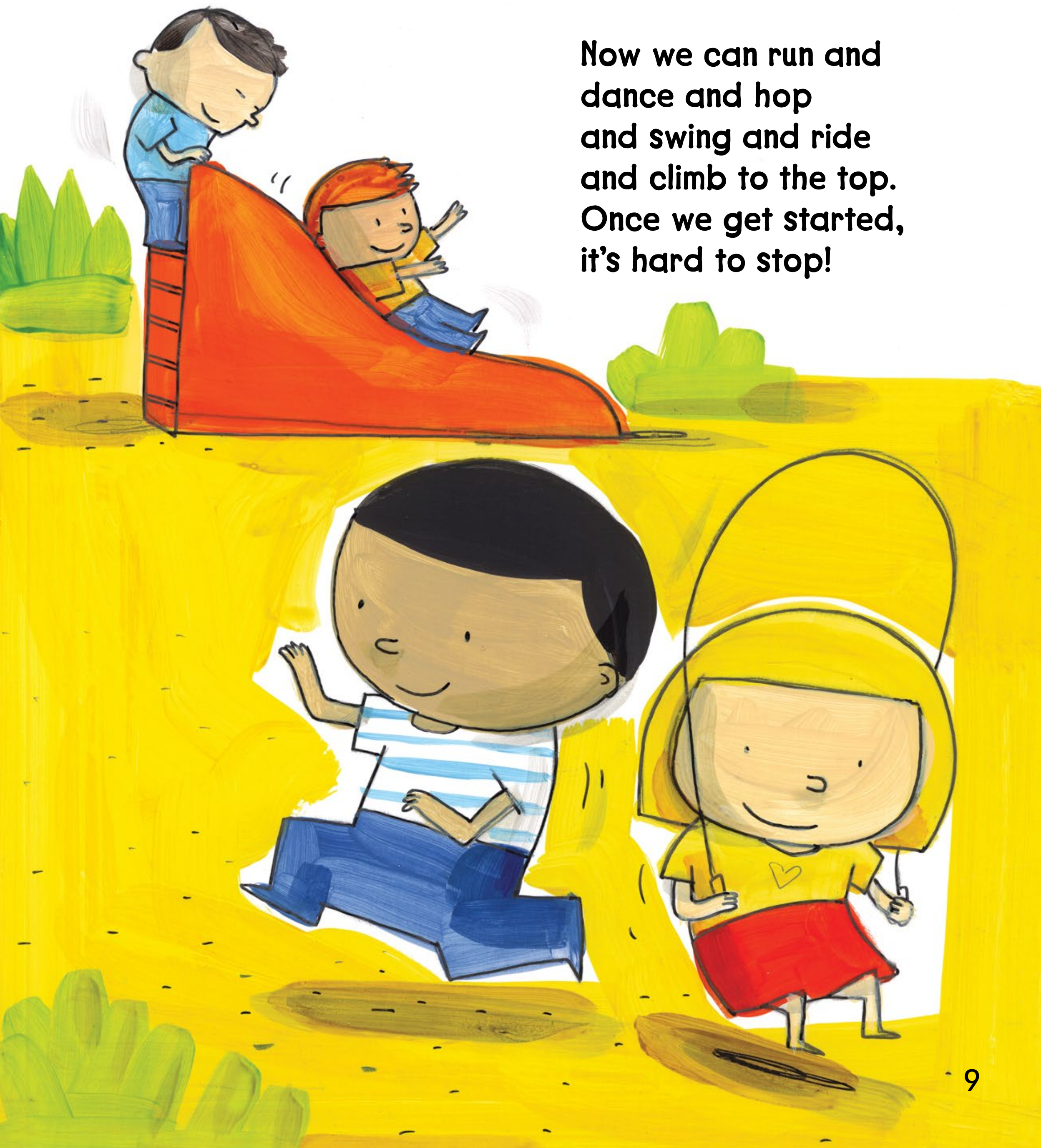




When I was small, I couldn't stand or walk at all.
If I wanted something, I had to crawl.
Or even worse, I was carried in a purse.



Now we can run and
dance and hop
and swing and ride
and climb to the top.
Once we get started,
it's hard to stop!



Look at how I used to eat.
I had a bib and a bottle and a special high seat.
And the food I was eating now seems icky;
all mushy and gooey and drippy and sticky.





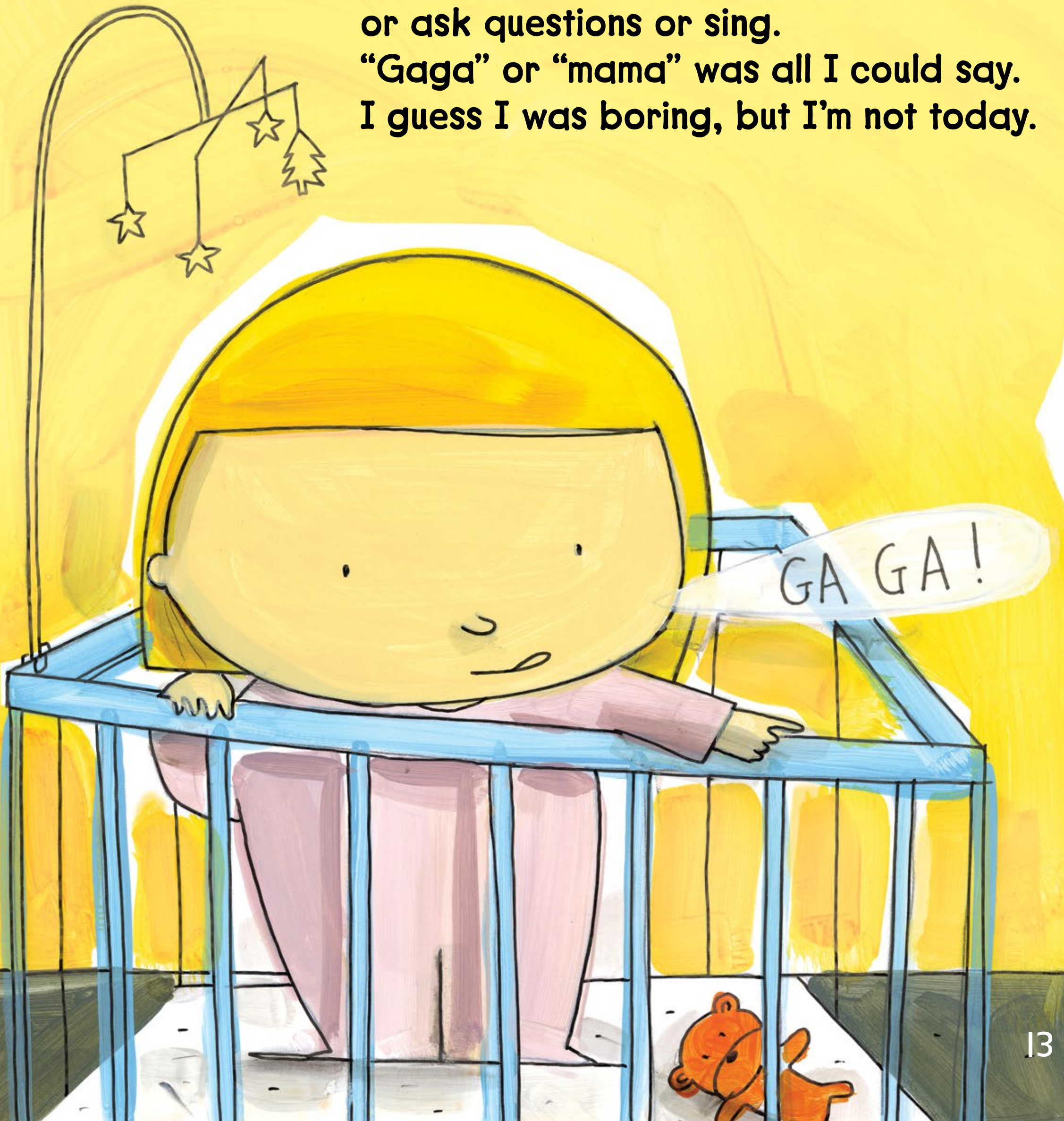
Now we are able to sit at the table.
We use a fork and a spoon,
and a knife pretty soon.

And we get to eat whatever we please.
Pass the bread and jelly.
More macaroni and cheese!

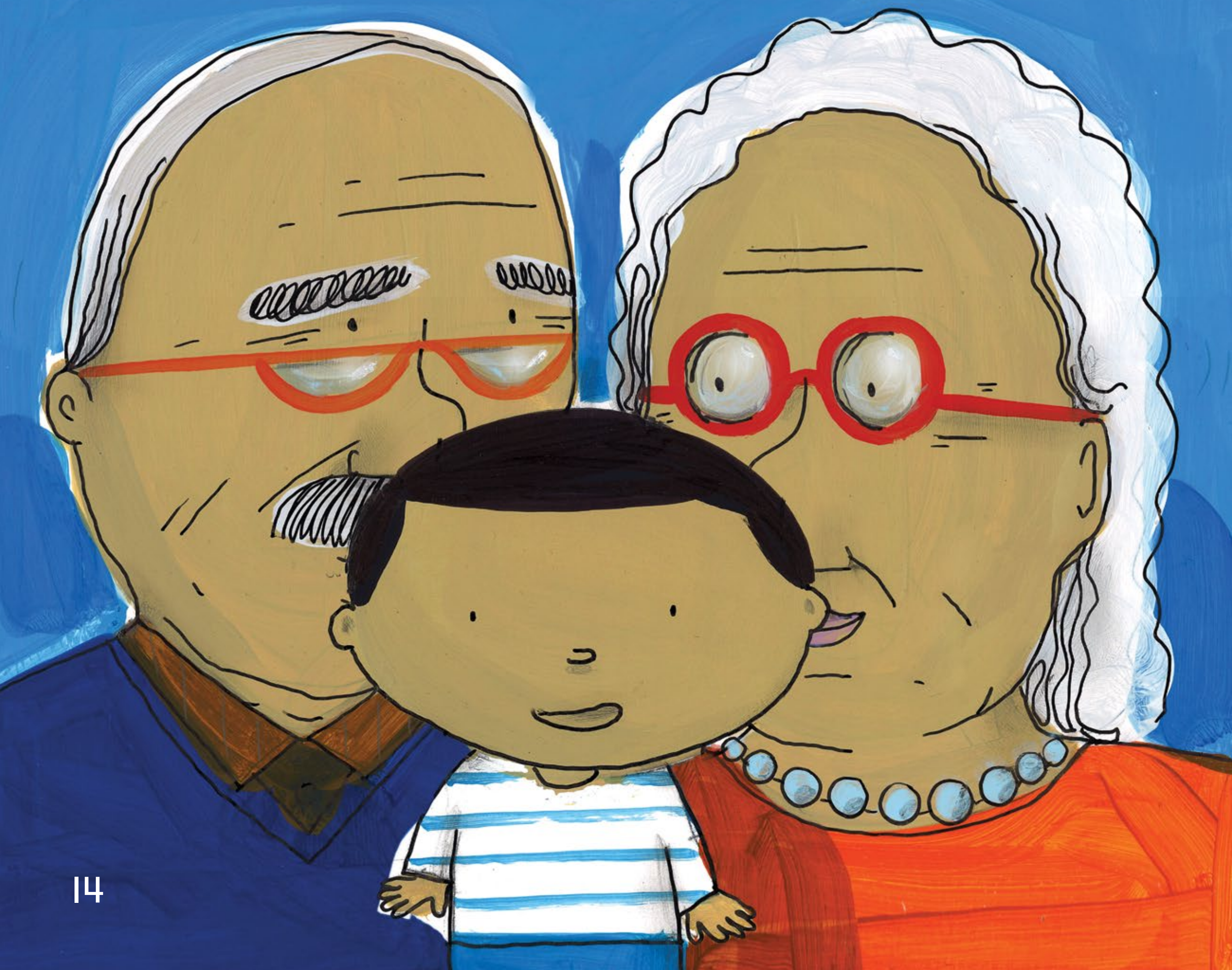


**Talking is one of the new things I do.
Listen to all I am saying to you.
There are so many thoughts I want to get out.
I have to remember not to shout.**

But talking was not always
my very best thing.
Once, I couldn't tell stories
or ask questions or sing.
“Gaga” or “mama” was all I could say.
I guess I was boring, but I'm not today.



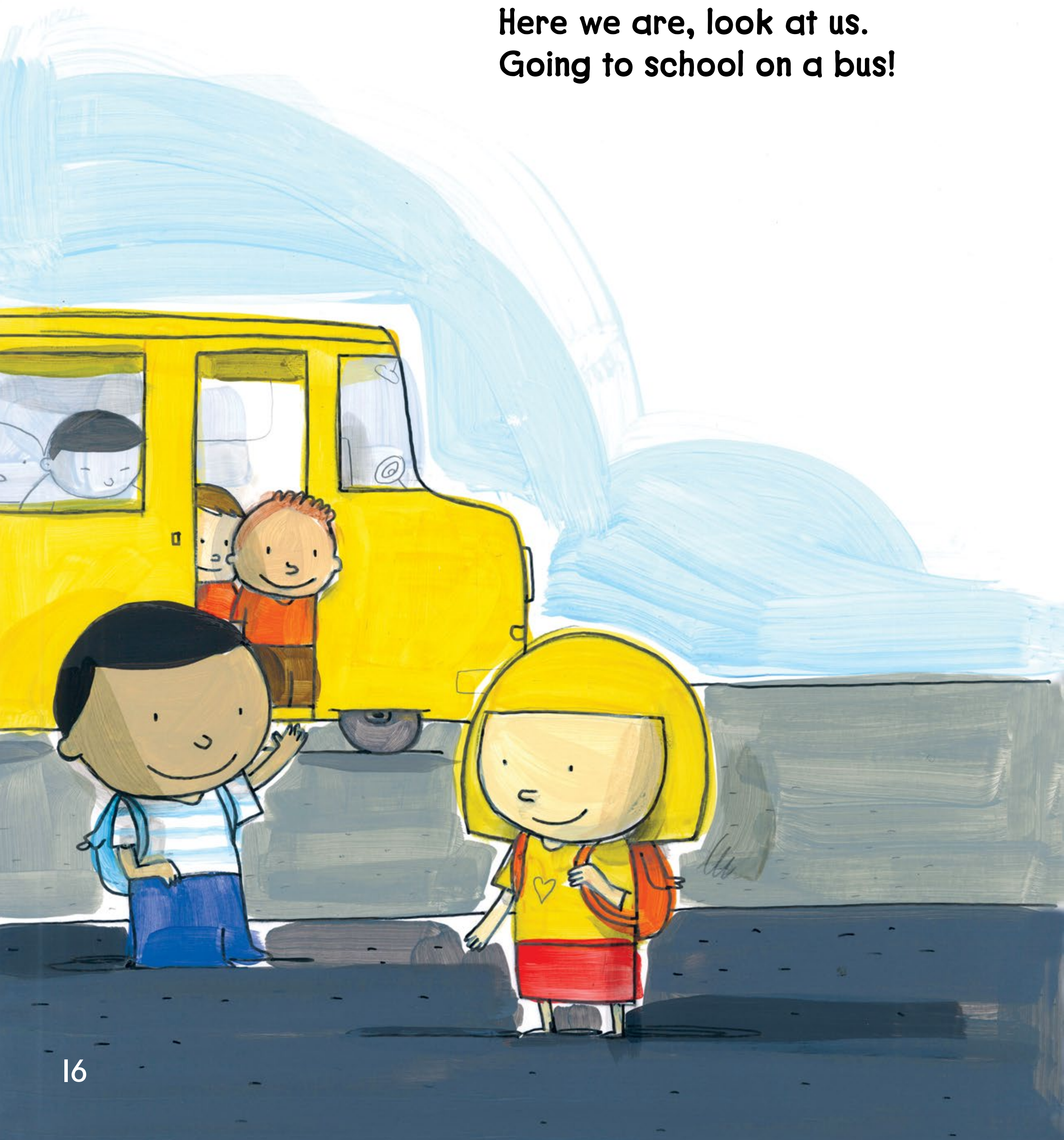
Who played with me when I was a baby?
Grandma and grandpa and my auntie, maybe.
Sure there was lots of hugging and kissing.
I liked that a lot, but do you know what was missing?



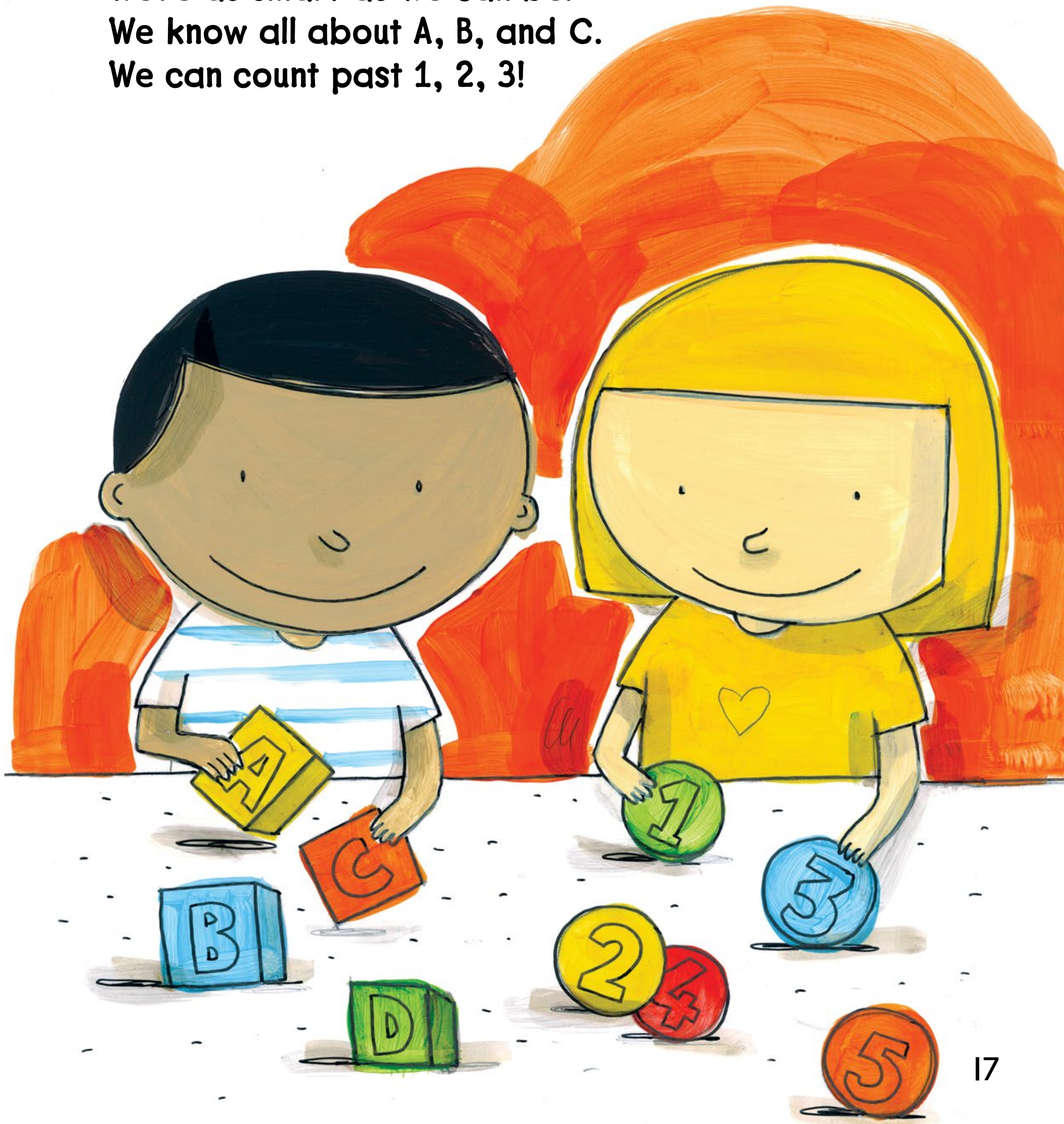
I'll tell you what, since I now have so many,
Bella and Carlos and Riley and Jenny.
These are my friends, and I have even more.
Playing and fun, that's what friends are for!



Here we are, look at us.
Going to school on a bus!



We're as smart as we can be.
We know all about A, B, and C.
We can count past 1, 2, 3!



Who will we be in a year or two?
What will we be able to do?
We can't wait to see!

Can you?

