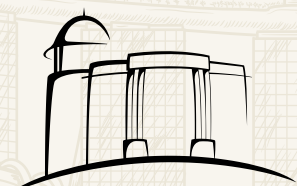


WE CAN

Create › Contribute › Care › Connect › Cherish



TAN CHIN TUAN FOUNDATION

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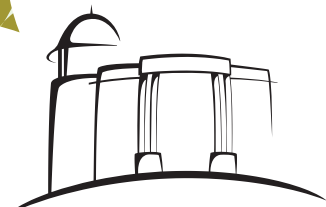
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Printed in Singapore.

WE CAN

This Book Belongs To





TAN CHIN TUAN FOUNDATION

About Tan Chin Tuan Foundation

The Tan Chin Tuan Foundation (TCTF) was set up in Singapore on 10 April 1976 by the late Tan Sri (Dr) Tan Chin Tuan to help the needy. Aligned with our founder's giving philosophy, the foundation supports causes and projects that are viable, sustainable and have positive impact on our society.



About More Than Words

In line with our focus on education and community development, this programme offers opportunities for children to learn and communicate creatively. Initiated in 2013 and fully funded by TCTF, the programme has reached more than 3,000 beneficiaries.

Enrichment workshops were also extended to charity staff to equip them with creative approaches to engage and connect with children and youth, who may come from vulnerable backgrounds. We hope to ignite their imagination and instil in them a love for learning beyond words.



Contents

4. Foreword

9. Create

27. Contribute

37. Care

55. Connect

63. Cherish

80. Glossary

82. Acknowledgements

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Foreword

by Yap Su-Yin

(EO of Tan Chin Tuan Foundation)



*"All of us have a talent.
Which talent will shine?"*

It is the one you nourish. The one you spend time to develop until it blossoms. Then it can be enjoyed by all, not just by you. When that happens, you have found a way for your talent to bring others comfort. You have discovered how to bring fulfilment and meaning to your life.





Since the More Than Words programme started in 2013, many talented children have found their voices. Talented arts trainers believed in them, adding to the children's confidence. Enlightened social workers encouraged them, by registering their beneficiaries for creative and educational workshops sponsored by TCTF.





The result was that children, who never got onto a stage before, seized their moment to perform international classics, such as “The Little Prince” and “The Tale of Peter Rabbit”. They expressed themselves through song. They danced to hip-hop, learned a new musical instrument and volunteered to be an emcee or storyteller. Others tapped on their imaginative juices to produce stories and poetry.





TCTF Deputy Chairman, Ms Chew Gek Khim, participating in a hat-making activity during the More Than Words Book Launch in 2017.

This is the fifth volume of TCTF's More Than Words book, which is a collection of original works of prose, poetry and illustrations by children from TCTF-supported charities.

The theme "WE CAN – Create, Contribute, Care, Connect, Cherish" is our applause to all those who believe as we do – that the child in us is ever-present, and that we are all inter-connected in this world.

When we learn to create, play, learn and laugh together, there is never a dull moment. When we care sincerely for one another, we will feel infinitely joyful. Thank you for journeying with us.



Signing "Thank You" in Sign Language to professional storytellers, Roger Jenkins and Gophi Nathan, as part of More Than Words book launch 2017's theme of inclusivity.



Over the Years...

2014



2015



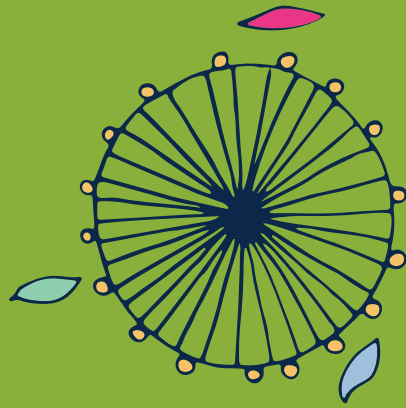
2016



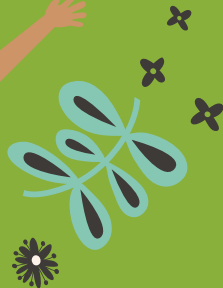
2017



You can find previous editions of our
More Than Words book at your nearest library!



Create



Create

CREATE represents the value that our first book in 2014, "Singapore 2114 My Dreams, our Future", emphasised. In 2014, our concept was to encourage children from TCTF-supported charities to have a stake in dreaming the Singapore of their future, by imagining how Singapore would be like in 2114.

This year, through an enrichment workshop, TCTF invited beneficiaries from PPIS Student Care Centre (Bedok) to create awareness on how to help save Earth from man-made environmental calamities. Taking the role of Eco-Warriors, they created inventions that would save and protect our Earth.



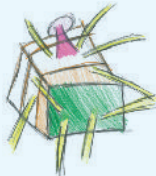
Our Eco-Inventions Can...



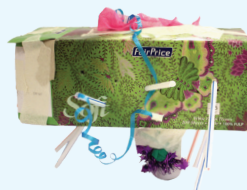
"Turn unwanted plastic to reusable plastic!"



"Transform waste materials into new products!"



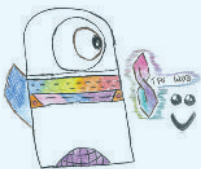
"Remove all trash from the waters!"



"Recycle waste from the street!"



"Convert aluminium cans into household items!"



"Clean up oil slicks from the oceans!"



The Clean, Green Recycling Machine, Recylobots!

Inspired by Putra Al Haqqim, Muhammad Danish Irfan, Mohammed Adryqin and Muhammad Iman Ghazzi



“Oh no!” Mazlan shouted in frustration as he fell flat on his back after stepping on a banana peel.

“Why does this have to happen every single time? Why can’t everyone throw their rubbish in the bins provided? Why is rubbish strewn all over the streets?” Mazlan started muttering to himself as he walked back home, feeling frustrated and dejected. He was disappointed that people were not taking care of the environment.

Mazlan trudged home with a heavy heart. “I need to do something about this!” Mazlan told himself. As he saw the advertisement for the annual Young Inventors Competition at the void deck, an idea struck him.

“What if I created a robot that could help clean the environment? I could submit my work

to the competition and everyone will benefit from it!”

Mazlan exclaimed excitedly.

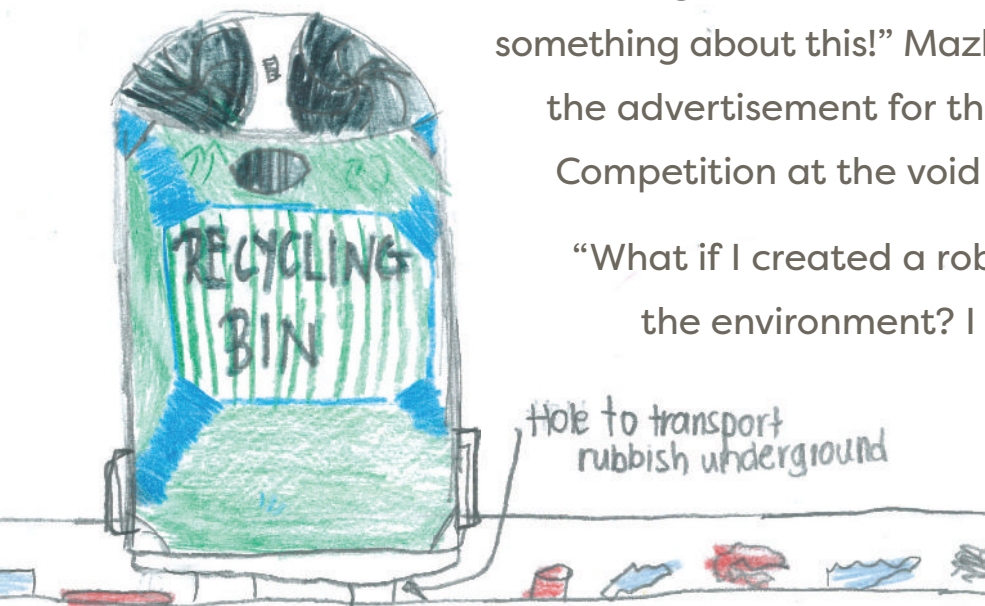


Illustration by Putra Al Haqqim, Muhammad Danish Irfan, Mohammed Adryqin and Muhammad Iman Ghazzi

With his new idea, Mazlan immediately whipped out his phone and signed up for the competition.

Over the next few days, he searched the neighbourhood for pieces of scrap metal and wood. He planned to build a robot with the materials he **painstakingly** collected.

After much tinkering and experimenting, Mazlan finally assembled his robot a day before the competition. He called it “Recylobot.” It was two meters tall with bright yellow **retractable** wings. Like all good inventors, Mazlan decided to test out his invention. He brought his Recylobot to the void deck and turned it on.

To Mazlan’s surprise, Recylobot zipped about quickly in different directions. It could collect rubbish on the street faster than he programmed. In addition, Recylobot’s wings worked well. He designed the wings to function like an air purifier, filtering the dirty air.

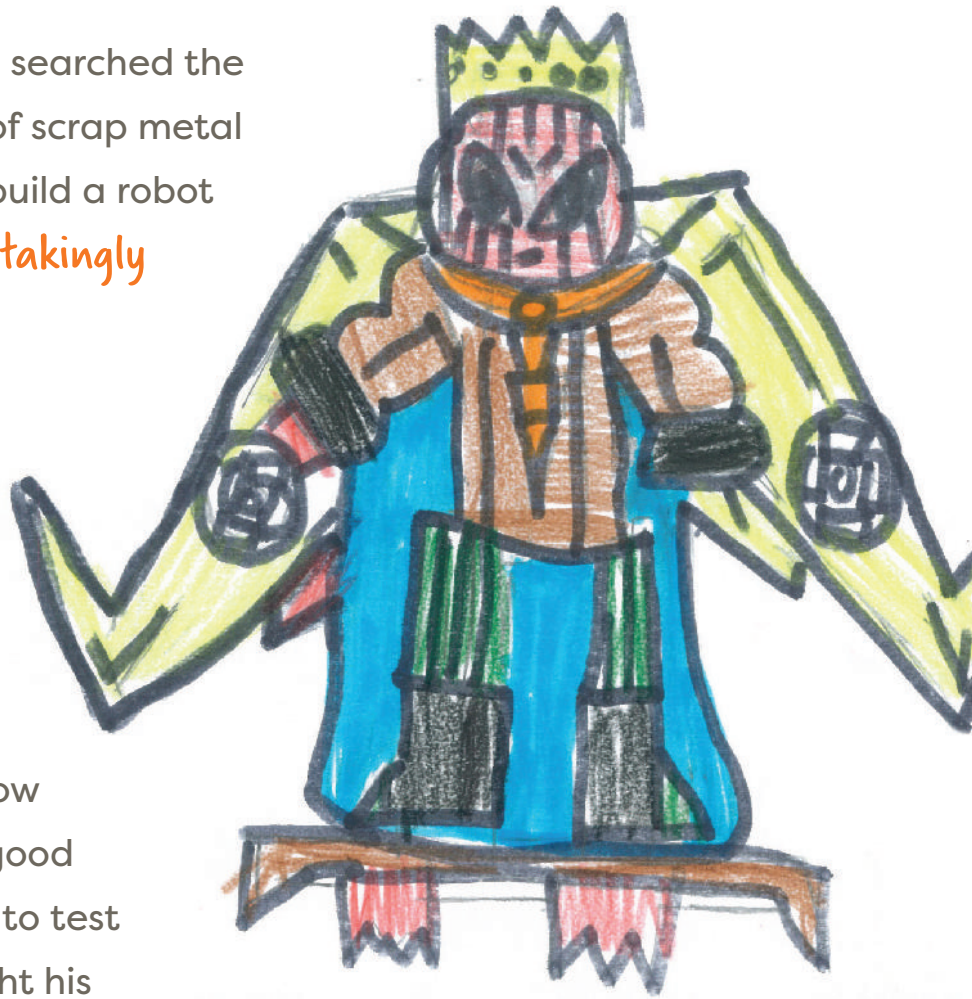


Illustration by Mohammed Adryqin



His invention was a success! Just looking at Recylobot moving around at lightning speed made Mazlan feel a sense of achievement.

The next day, Mazlan brought Recylobot to the competition. Everyone was amazed by his inventiveness. The judges were impressed too and Mazlan won the competition hands down. A **reputable** company was interested in his design and promised him that they would produce more Recylobots that were affordable. Glad to hear that his invention would help more people soon, Mazlan readily agreed.

Today, Recylobots are available to the public! They are now used on streets and in parks to keep the environment clean. Mazlan is very proud of his invention and hopes to invent more items that will help the environment. Whenever someone asks Mazlan how he came up with the design for Recyclobot, he will reply, “A banana peel inspired me!”

The Environmental Adventures of Recycle Girl



Inspired by Ong Shi Xuen, R. Danisyah, Sofya Shasmin and Aaliyah Zulaikha

Once upon a time, there lived a girl named Sofya. Sofya lived in a small town in Africa and had **luscious** long, brown locks. Sofya enjoyed helping the people from her town. She helped the grandmother next door water her plants. Every day, she would help the elderly cross the street. She even helped the garbage man pick up trash from the ground. Everyone knew Sofya and loved her. They always complimented her, “You’re a special girl.”

They were right. When Sofya turned 12, she realised she had a special ability. Her eyes could shoot lasers at litter and send them straight into the recycling bin. Sofya felt **empowered** and ready to help her town with a recycling initiative. The town folk gave her a superhero name: “Recycle Girl”!

They would inform Sofya whenever they saw someone who did not abide by the recycling rules. “Sofya! Did you hear about Michael, the guy who lives five blocks away?” exclaimed Mrs Jones one day, as she ran towards Sofya with a distressed look.



Illustration by Sofya Shasmin



“No, I have not. What’s wrong?” asked Sofya.

“He started to spring clean his house and threw away a lot of stuff. Some of these things can definitely be reused, so you need to help him!”

Sofya pursed her lips in concern. She gave Mrs Jones a nod of thanks and went to assess the situation.

Arriving at the scene, Sofya caught Michael red-handed. Michael was dumping cardboard boxes and plastic bottles behind some trees.

“Michael! You should not be throwing out those items which can be recycled,” said Sofya.

Michael jumped in surprise, shocked at Recycle Girl’s appearance. Confused, he asked, “Why not? I needed to clean my place.”

“Have you not heard of recycling? The world is currently facing a global warming issue and we need to do our part to save our environment.

Where do you think everything you throw away goes?” Sofya asked, her voice full of concern.

Michael simply shrugged his shoulders and shook his head. Sofya was astonished. “Your trash will be dumped in a landfill. It gets incinerated.



Illustration by ong Shi Xuen

This is very bad for the environment because it causes air pollution and global warming. Doesn't that sound terrible?" **lectured** Sofya.

Michael nodded and asked, "What can I do?"

"First, let's sort out your trash. We can reuse these items! This cardboard box can be used to organise your items at home and this plastic bottle can be a flower vase. We can recycle these soda cans and bottles by throwing them in the recycling bin. Most importantly, you should reduce the amount of rubbish you have, Michael," Sofya advised.

Michael felt enlightened and got to work. He separated the recyclable materials and threw them into the correct bin. He also took out some boxes to reuse.

Sofya was heartened by the sight and had an idea. With a quick snap of her fingers, she handed Michael a device to help with his recycling **endeavours**.

"Here's my favourite invention called 'Change Me'. Simply put the plastic into the corresponding tubes and you can easily reuse the plastic," explained Sofya.



Illustration by ong Shi Xuen, R. Danisyah,
Sofya Shasmin and Aaliyah Zulaikha

"Sofya, thank you for teaching me about reusing, reducing and recycling. I'll think twice before disposing my trash next time. You're my heroine!" thanked Michael.

Sofya smiled and gave Michael a hug, before moving on to her next adventure.



A Good Deed for the Environment

Inspired by Aaliyah Zulaikha, Nadyra, Arafah Almeera, Arrissya Reis, Sumayyah and Nur Isya Dasyika

“Hello BBR, haven’t heard from you in a while!” greeted Lili.

“Lili! I need your help. My machine broke down and I don’t know what to do,” cried BBR. BBR was Lili’s friend, who used to work at a water purifying company. His job was to clean waste oil and used water, so that the water could be reused.

Lili sprang out of her seat, put on her flying suit and flew to BBR’s apartment immediately. Upon arrival, she saw BBR in tears.

“What’s wrong?” Lili asked with concern.

BBR looked up and said, “The filters in my machine haven’t been used for a while so when I tried to purify the dishwashing water I collected, the machine made a horrible sound and broke down. Could you help me fix my filters please?”

“Don’t worry, BBR. I’ll get these rusty filters fixed in no time,” Lili rolled up her sleeves and got to work.

Upon inspection, Lili realised dried oil and debris had clogged the machine and was **hindering** it from filtering the dirty liquids. With a quick snap of her fingers, Lili cleaned up the mess in BBR’s filters. They looked shiny and as good as new!

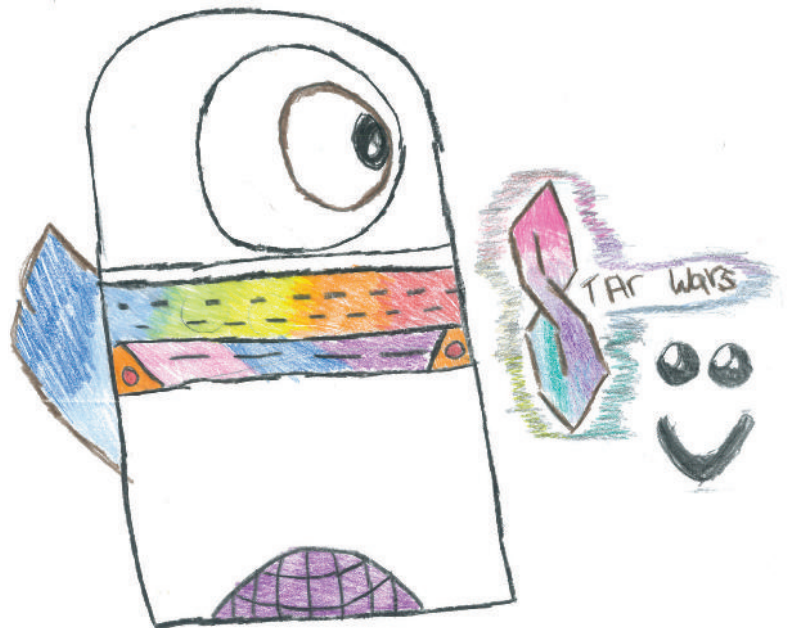


Illustration by Aaliyah Zulaikha, Nadyra, Arafah Almeera, Arrissya Reis, Sumayyah and Nur Isya Dasyika

BBR smiled and thanked Lili gratefully for her speedy assistance.

Meanwhile, Lili could not help but ask BBR about his previous job.

BBR’s face fell and he said, “I was fired. The machines were acting up and I could not repair them quickly enough. How I wish I could find another job. I really want to help the environment like the good old days - reusing and recycling different liquids.”

Lili had an idea. She made a quick call to the Town Mayor. Then both of them headed to the Town Mayor's office.

"Mayor Chris, this is the friend I was telling you about. BBR is able to collect dirty liquids and distil them by separating debris from the purified liquid. I believe BBR would be a fantastic addition to the town's environmental efforts!" exclaimed Lili.

"Wonderful! Just when we needed someone to help with the town's water and oil purification systems! BBR, I'm so happy to have you onboard. When can you start?" asked the Mayor with a twinkle in his eye.

"Now?" BBR said *incredulously*.

"Follow me, I'll show you around the factories," the Mayor said eagerly. BBR was over the moon! He thanked Lili and gave her a big hug, before skipping off with the Mayor.

Lili watched Mayor Chris and BBR enter the factory enthusiastically, and smiled to herself. She was glad to have helped a friend, whilst accomplishing another good deed for the environment.



The “Y” in Recycle is You

Inspired by Muhammad Abbas,
Muhammad Akhmal, Arafah Almeera
and Muhammad Ziyaad



Litter was scattered everywhere. Heaps of rubbish piled up high, almost reaching the sky. I noticed how the rubbish resembled mountains albeit made of aluminium cans, plastic bags and other waste. The **pungent** smell of rubbish made me sick to the stomach. I detested the place I was in.

“This is the work of Man,” a voice thundered behind me. I turned around and saw a magnificent robot. He had a rectangular face and a body clad in fancy armour. A portion of his armour was matte black, while the other half was aquatic blue.

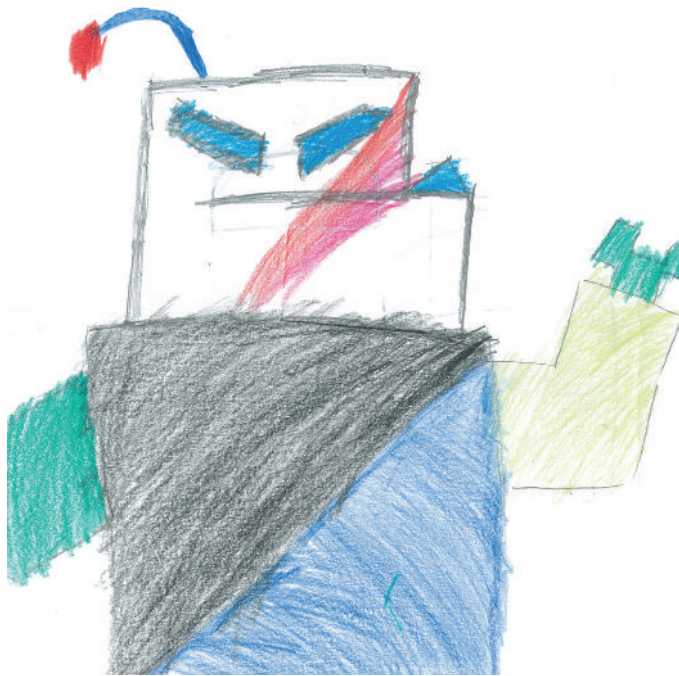


Illustration by Muhammad Abbas, Muhammad Akhmal,
Arafah Almeera and Muhammad Ziyaad

“Who are you?” I asked in **bewilderment**. I had never seen anything like him before.

“I am Transformabot. I transform by-products and waste materials creatively into new products for better environmental value.”

The robot introduced himself with a bow. “However, time has rusted my arms and legs and I am not as agile as I was before in

carrying out my duties,” he sighed. “Young warrior, will YOU be the one to step up and save your planet?”



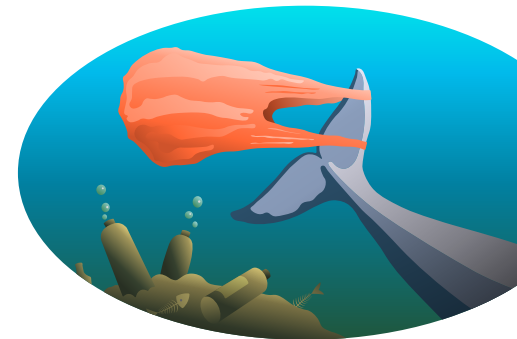
I looked into his earnest eyes and felt inspired by his call to action.

“Leave it to me!” I promised. I followed his instructions to sort out the rubbish according to its respective materials. Time passed in the blink of an eye. Aluminium cans were placed together in a pile, paper waste into another pile, and plastic bags were placed separately.

Delighted, I proudly announced, “Transformabot! I have finished the task of sorting that you assigned me!” Transformabot stared at my quick work in amazement and commended my efforts. “Now, we will proceed to send aluminium cans to the **incinerator** and these will be melted down for further purposes. Paper waste can be recycled to make new paper and used to make new books. However, plastic bags are non-biodegradable and the only way to recycle it is to reduce its usage.”

Hearing the words of Recyclebot, I felt discouraged and upset about the fate of plastic bags.

Not only were plastic bags dangerous to marine life, they also gave off harmful gases, which caused the **depletion** of the ozone layer. “Don’t worry



Transformabot! I’ll make sure to spread the word to reduce plastic usage!”

Transformabot flashed a wide grin at me and replied, “I have faith in humans. Recycling begins with YOU.”



I Can be a Superhero too!

Inspired by Muhammad Mikhail Irfan, Muhammad Abbas and Muhammad Akhmal



Illustration by Muhammad Akhmal

“Welcome to ‘Seashells on the Seashore!’

We are very excited to have you here with

us on this community service project to pick

up litter on the beaches and restore the **picturesque** beauty of our sandy

beaches! Once again, thank you for volunteering and have a great day

ahead!” boomed the voice of the emcee for the Eco Carnival.

As Jessica and her friends surveyed their surroundings, they realised the amount of litter polluting the once beautiful beach. “Oh no, there is so much litter around. How can we possibly clean everything by the end of the day? If only we had a superhero who could help us with this,” wished Jessica in desperation.

“Did somebody call for me?” asked a gentle voice. Jessica and her friends gasped in surprise. A dashing man with a colourful rainbow cape appeared suddenly. “I am Mr 3R. I heard your plea for help. How may I assist you?” he smiled cheerfully.

Without hesitation, Jessica and her friends told Mr 3R about the community service project. “You’ve come to the right person! Do you see this sword? It is called the Sword of **Restoration**. For every responsible act

of litter binning, the power of the Sword increases. When this happens, the energy to reduce, reuse and recycle litter is harnessed!” explained Mr 3R.

Embarking on their task with renewed energy, Jessica and her friends collected rubbish around them and threw the litter into the nearest bin. Instantly, the Sword of Restoration lit up to a bright neon orange. With a powerful swing of the Sword, the litter around Mr 3R vanished and new sprouts of grass and pretty flowers grew.

“That’s so amazing! We want to be able to do that as well!” said Jessica’s friends in admiration.

Mr 3R laughed in response and exclaimed, “Yes, you can do that too by reducing, reusing and recycling your litter! That way, you also get a cleaner and greener environment for everyone! You can be a superhero to Mother Earth too!”

Jessica and her friends remembered the words of Mr 3R from that day forth. They spread his advice to their friends and family members. With each act of throwing litter into the respective recycling bins, Jessica and her friends became superheroes in their own unique ways.



Illustration by
Muhammad Mikhail Irfan

Activity Page

Humans have created numerous eco-innovations.
Unscramble the letters to find out what some of them are!

1

Sneabi

It clears the debris from any water body.



2

Beiodbdregaal

----- Plastic Bags

Plastic bags made from cassava, a root vegetable grown throughout Southeast Asia.



Edbiel

----- Spoons

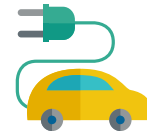
Spoons made with dough made from a mixture of sorghum, rice and wheat flour.



Ecefrlci

----- Car

A type of car that has a motor powered by a battery that can be recharged.



3

Melfa

----- Straws

Straws that are made of reusable and durable material that do not leach harmful chemicals.



5

Answers
1. Seabin
2. Biodegradable
3. Edible
4. Electric
5. Metal

Activity Page

Hello! I am Rachel, the Super-Recycler.
I have found some recyclable materials!
Can you help me dispose them
in the appropriate bins?





Contribute



Contribute

CONTRIBUTE represents our 2015 book, "C.H.A.N.G.E.", which chronicled how children felt about their community and home, aspirations they have for our nation and the impact they can make on the Environment.



This year, for this chapter, we conducted an exploratory field trip and brought lower primary beneficiaries from PPIS Student Care Centre (Bedok) to HortPark. Our objective was to create awareness of the global environmental crisis. It was a call to action for them to make a change even at a young age. They role-played being botanists and wrote about how their fictional new-found plant species could contribute back to the environment.



Our Young Botanists



Nur Aleeyah



Annisaa Soffiyyah



Mohammad Shahrul



Monirah Ma



Amir Muhammad 'Ibad



Muhammad Haaziq



Fiqy Hyqel



Tiara Qisfina



Maiya Sofea



Aasif Ahmad



Adam Zayan De Souza



Mika



Khayyira Qaseh



Muhriz Ar-Raiyan



Muhammad Aqil



Tiburcio Sophia



Mikhail Rashidy



Akmil Muiz



The Little Botanist

Written by Chris Chew



Hello, it's me, the Little Botanist.
I have always wanted to explore,
And my greatest wish
Is to know and see more.
But one day, I woke up confused.
Getting up from my bed,
I decided to feed my jay.
But to my dismay,
I left the cage open...by mistake.
He vanished and I felt bad;
But as he was free,
I was also glad.

Packing the cheese cake that my lovely mother made,
I arrived at the forest, exploring new plants,
Peering at the sun through tinted lens.
Then amongst the birds,
I saw my jay.
It was my beloved bird. Hurray!
On this adventure, we started a song:
Some paths are smooth,
Others are rough.
It's the way you brave the bumpy trails that counts,
Here's wishing you well.
Bonne journée until we meet again.
Bonne journée to you, keep smiling till then.



Illustration by Alicia Jong



We are out for a picnic!

Written by Chris Chew



We are having a picnic today.
We'll meet at the same place.
Some of us will travel from faraway.

We each have a basket,
Filled with sandwiches, fruits and juices.
With the family together,
It will be fantastic.

Around my neck is my camera,
To capture our moments of adventure.
I pray the weather will be fair
And the day filled with smiles.

A day filled with sunshine is precious
When it makes us smile.
A basket filled with laughter
With fun and giggles that will last a while.

Long after the sun goes down,
Long after we kiss goodbye,
We'll still feel happy and blessed forever.

The lad refused to eat his vegetables.
Suddenly, a little rabbit
With a small carrot appeared;

"Carrots orange, long and bright,
Make my snowman's nose tonight.
Carrots shredded thin and fair,
Make lovely, layered orange hair.
Carrots crunchy, cold and sweet,
Make my favourite snack to eat!
So, remember kids:
One vegetable a day keeps the doctor away!"





Crystal Plant

Inspired by Nguyen Gia Hung

Colourful, pretty and small,
Ready to see the world and all.
You may not think I can do much,
But like my botanist, I am special,
Bringing joy with my beautiful petals.

Like my young botanist,
I can make a difference!

My dream is for us little ones to do our part,
Let's keep our world happy,
Use our voices to raise awareness.
That's a start!



Illustration by Nguyen Gia Hung





Sonnet from the Butterfly's Nest

Inspired by Muhammad Ilhan Amanthy

A butterfly flies swiftly through the sky.
And as it flies, it hears the chirping birds.
The birds then join the butterfly and fly
until they see a plant that's beyond words.

A mysterious plant it surely is.
It really looks just like a butterfly,
all bright and colourful indeed, because
each day, it dreams of being a butterfly.

"Come leave your eggs in here with me," it said.
"I'll watch them grow into caterpillars,
and as they grow, they'll feed on me instead.
I just need water from those sturdy stalks."

Indeed this plant is a special Butterfly's haven,
that truly loves Amanthy and all fair maidens.



Illustration by
Muhammad Ilhan Amanthy



Money Plant

Inspired by Muhammad Arman

Money for me, money for you,
money for the entire world,

Our environment can be saved
with this money plant

And equipment I bought to help
protect Earth.

Everyone knows I'm the coolest
inventor and the best of the best!

You and I will be rich in happiness,
that is my wish for all!



Illustration by Muhammad Arman



Super Growing plant

Inspired by Jarad Huang

Saving the world with the super trees,
Up in the sky, leaves moving
In the wind, that's where we will be.
People from all over the world will
know who we are,
Excited for us to grow in number and
help those near and far.
Ready to be there for you and me!



Illustration by Jarad Huang

Kindness Plant

Inspired by Sheza Shanelle

Kindness and care, that is what I need,
I drink lots of water from rainfalls to make
strong and healthy seeds.
Though spreading joy and love to those
around me is what I love to do,
The Earth has been getting too hot for me
and it is difficult for me to keep cool.
Let's start by wasting less energy!
You have the power to keep me strong.



Illustration by Sheza Shanelle

Activity Page



Hi, I'm Billy, the Botanist.
Join me in discovering 20 new
plant species! Can you find
them all in the picture?

New Plants Species



Activity Page



Hello again, I'm Billy the Botanist.

I found some seeds of a new plant species that I want to grow.

Do you know what is needed for plants to grow?
Can you find all of them in the word puzzle?



List of Words

Water

Soil

oxygen

Fertiliser

Care

Sunlight



Care

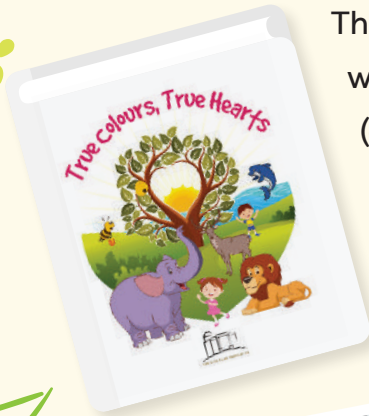




Care

CARE represents the value that our third book in 2016, "True colours, True Hearts", focused on. In 2016, this book delved into how to be true to ourselves and sincere in our relationships with others. It encouraged children to cherish the values of Compassion, Courage, Determination, Gratitude, and Respect in their hearts. In short, to always show care.

This year, for this chapter, we conducted a creative writing workshop with beneficiaries from Lakeside Student Care (Jurong East). It was to encourage the children to be aware of the plight of endangered animals. Once again, putting on the perspective of a Conservationist, they created a fictional animal that they wished to protect and came up with a descriptive profile of the animal.





Illustrations by
Nurul Fasha Amirah

Spotty the Owl

Inspired by Nurul Fasha Amirah

This is the story of an owl named Spotty.

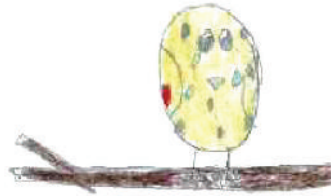
Spotty was an olive yellow owl with brown spots, like a leopard. It lived in the trees in South Korea's forests. Spotty loved to eat fish, rats and grapes.

It was a **sweltering** day in the middle of July in Seoul. Spotty had just finished a feast of tasty grapes and was resting on a tree branch. He slowly closed his eyes and felt the wind gently rustling his feathers.

These precious feathers were the reason why his species had become

endangered. Coveting the valuable feathers, selfish human beings

have been preying on owls to use their feathers for decoration! The owl **poachers** were a threat to Spotty and all his friends. They hunted down

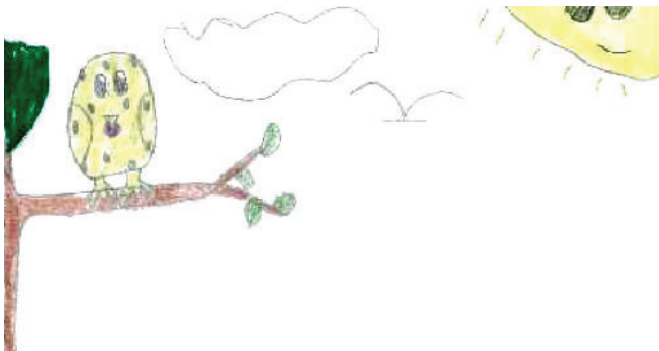


the locations of the owls, then shot them with stun guns so that they could pluck the owls' feathers.

Spotty shook his head sadly.

Suddenly, he heard a rustling sound in the bushes. Spotty's eyes opened

wide in fear. He looked around, careful not to make a sound. When he heard a rustling sound from his left, he turned his head quickly to the left. There was no one. When he heard another rustling sound on his right, he turned his head quickly to the right. There was no one there either!



That's strange, Spotty thought.

Oh well, maybe it was just the wind blowing through the leaves of the bushes.

Suddenly, there was a loud crack from the tree branches behind him.

Before Spotty could react, he saw a large net fly over his head. Horrified Spotty tried to fly away. But the harder he flapped his wings, the more he got entangled in the net. He was trapped!

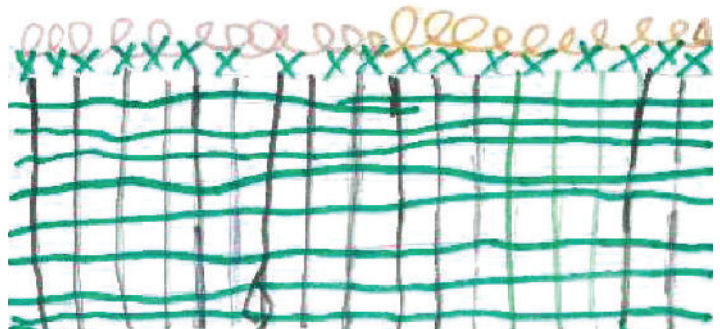
He saw a group of human beings holding on to the net. They started to pull the net towards the ground. Spotty had no choice but to stop struggling and give in. Slowly, the human beings lowered the net to the ground. One of the human beings took hold of Spotty and placed him in

a metal cage. Then, they carried him to a vehicle. Spotty felt the rumble of the vehicle's engine. Where were they bringing him? He **shivered with trepidation**.

After a long while, Spotty felt the engine stop. The door next to him opened. One of the human beings carried him out of the vehicle.

They brought him up a flight of stairs and into a building. Spotty saw some white tigers looking at him hungrily from behind a glass panel as he was carried past them. He looked away nervously. He also saw an Orang Utan and a Pangolin. They looked curiously at him from behind glass panels.

The human being then put Spotty's cage in the middle of a cold room. Wow, it went from summer to winter in an instant, he thought. The human being opened the cage door and gently carried Spotty out of the cage. Spotty was relieved to be free from that cramped environment. He quickly spread his wings to stretch them. The human being walked briskly and opened a door to reveal... a forest just like the one he lived in!



The human being put Spotty on a tree branch and carefully took a few steps back. Spotty took a look at his new environment. There were lots of trees just like before but there was a tall green fence surrounding the place!

A brown barn owl flew towards the branch that Spotty was on.

“Hello! You must be new here. I’m Bobby,” the other owl said.

“W-w-what is this place?” Spotty hooted. He was very confused.

“Oh, don’t worry! In this place, you’re given food, regular baths and most importantly, you’re safe from poachers!” Bobby said.

“Really? Why?” Spotty asked.

“Because animals like us are highly sought after by hunters, silly! By keeping us in here, these good human beings will keep us from becoming **extinct**,” Bobby replied.

Spotty was in awe.

“Especially for your breed! If I’m not wrong, I heard that there are only 56 of you olive yellow owls, with brown spots like a leopard, remaining on Earth!” Bobby added.

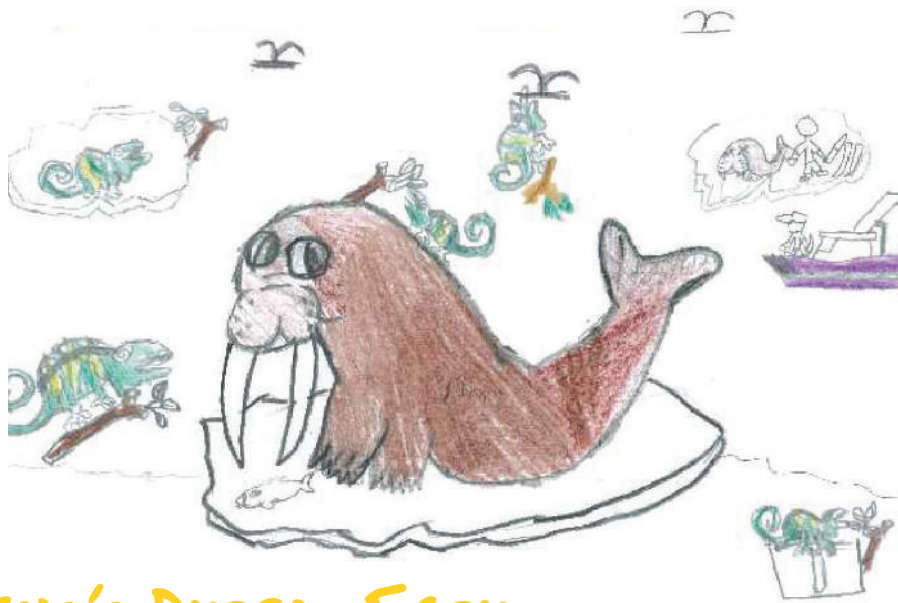
“Oh... wow. So I’m really safe here?” Spotty asked.

“Yes! You’ll be well taken care of over here. Trust me!” Bobby said.

Spotty nodded.

“Come, let me show you around the place, and you can meet the other owls,” Bobby said. Spotty followed Bobby to meet his new friends and had a tour around his new home!





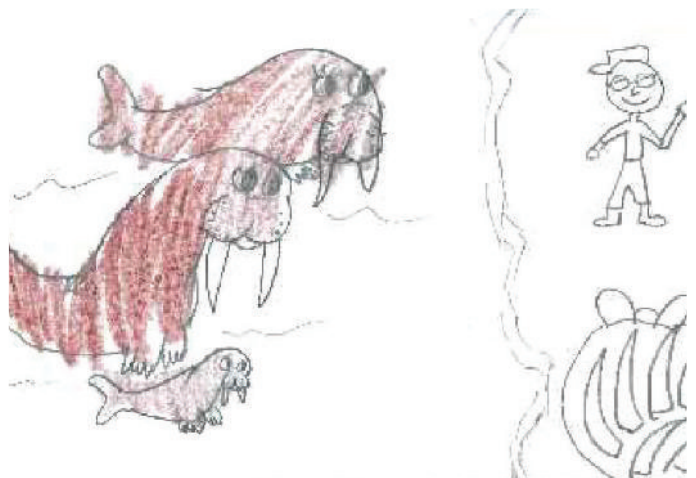
Illustrations by Sean Ng

Marcus's Dragon Scar

Inspired by Sean Ng

Walrus live in a faraway ice land at the North Pole. They love to eat fish and exhaust a lot of energy to swim and hunt. When they are not hunting, the walrus spend their time busking on ice. These walrus have long tusks to protect themselves and intimidate their enemies.

Marcus, together with his parents, were swimming and looking for a school of fish as he was learning to hunt. They were on a search for their feast when they came across a foreign object floating on the icy water. They never saw a ship before and their curiosity brought them near the ship.





The walrus had no idea of the **imminent** danger, as poachers on board were in pursuit of their ivory tusks. As they explored the outside of the ship, they could see shadows following their movements.

Splash! Splash! Splash!

A series of **harpoons** pierced the water. With quick reflexes, daddy and mummy walrus shielded Marcus from the harpoons and swiftly pushed Marcus into the water currents, away from the poachers. Marcus reached out helplessly to his parents who were being reeled onto the ship.

Marcus was carried by the currents to an icy shore. He woke up and whimpered over the loss of his parents. The pain from his injuries cut him deeply during the **mayhem**. Fortunately, there was a kind Eskimo who heard Marcus's **wails of distress**.

He quickly treated Marcus's injuries and reported the incident to the Marine Security. They were able to apprehend the poachers just in time before Marcus's parents and the other captured walrus were sold to an illegal trader.



The Marine Security reported that it was one of biggest **wildlife trafficking** cases in the past decade. The walrus was brought to a veterinarian for immediate medical attention and were cared for by kind volunteers. Good news arrived shortly after. Marcus's home was designated as a **conservation area**.

To date, you can still see Marcus with his dragon-like scar from his injury, swimming in the deep blue ocean. His scar will always remind him of how lucky he was to survive that ordeal.





Illustrations
by Danish Hilman

Sammy the Leatherback Turtle

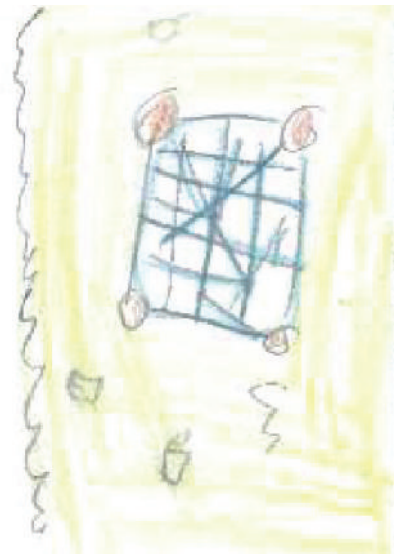
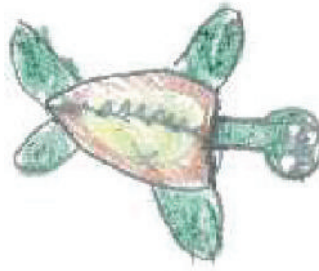
Inspired by Danish Hilman

The sea sparkled under the glistening sun and the gentle waves called out to Sammy, which paddled forward with his flippers.

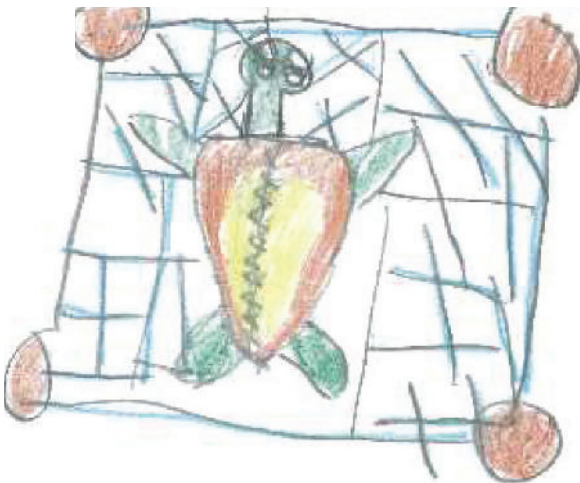
Sammy was a leatherback turtle and he was as old as time. His emerald green skin was a lovely contrast to his bronze shell, which had a spiral of black down the middle and deep chocolate brown along the sides. Although the years had worn Sammy down and he was a little slower and clumsier now, he was still as majestic as ever.

Born on the shores of Malaysia, there were only a few hundred of his kind left. Many of his friends had been **ensnared** by fishing nets or hunted for their eggs. He was lucky to be roaming the seas at this ripe old age.

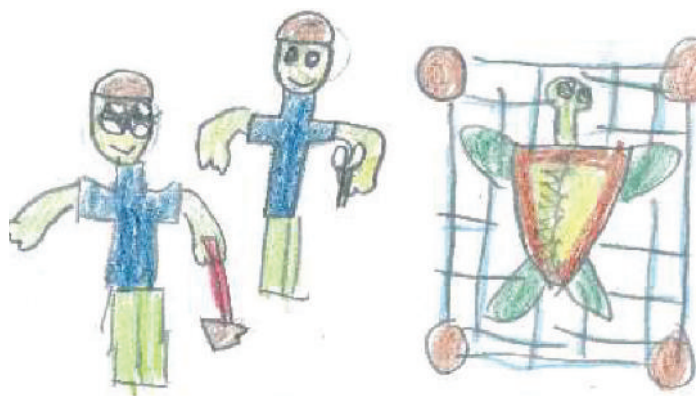
Minutes ticked into hours and Sammy was soon exhausted. His face lit up when he came across a little beach along the coast. From a distance, he saw broken bottles and plastic bags dotting the golden sands. However, he was too tired and **threw caution to the wind**. Little did he know that misfortune would soon befall him.



As Sammy swam towards the shore, he let out an unexpected cry when he felt a **vice-like grip** take a hold of him. It tugged him backwards once, twice, and a third time. It took Sammy moments to realise that the very thing he had feared his entire life was happening to him – he was trapped in a fishing net with no escape!



His heart stuttered in his chest as the rough rope **gnawed** at his skin. He tried to fight through the fog of pain, soft whimpers escaping his lips. Unfortunately, it was becoming increasingly difficult for Sammy to breathe. It was also growing eerily quiet all around him.



With his last ounce of energy, Sammy dragged himself ashore, a shard of broken glass digging into his flipper. Then, his world gave way to darkness.

Fortunately for Sammy, Lady Luck was shining down on him. A little

child called Tommy was running along that stretch of the beach at that very moment. Tommy was a kind-hearted boy and loved nature. He loved the sea and he loved all the creatures within. When he caught sight of Sammy, he willed his feet forward to have a closer look despite **fear coursing through his veins** at the sight of the gigantic turtle.

He reached Sammy's frail body and heaved a sigh of relief when he realised that Sammy's chest was still rising and falling. The boy tried desperately to untangle the fishing net with his bare hands. Unfortunately, the knots were too tight. Tears welled up in his eyes as he watched the helpless turtle suffer in pain.

On learning the news, other villagers soon stepped forward to help. One villager whipped out a pair of garden scissors, while another raised a bright red axe in the air. The two men nipped and slashed through the thick rope with all their might. After long agonising moments, Sammy was finally released from his makeshift prison.

As Tommy cradled him in his arms and tended to his wounds, Sammy slowly opened his eyes and gave the boy a grateful smile.

The entire ordeal was caught on camera and was posted on Facebook. It went viral and drew the attention of local government officials, who were ashamed that they had allowed mountains of litter to pile up on their beach. The careless fisherman who had left his fishing net to dry on the shore was also remorseful that his actions had endangered poor Sammy.

As a community, the people gathered together for a massive beach clean-up which took weeks to complete. Tommy was grateful as the leatherback turtles were now one step further from extinction. Somewhere out there in the deep blue sea, Sammy is still swimming on – a little slower, a little clumsier, but still as majestic as ever.

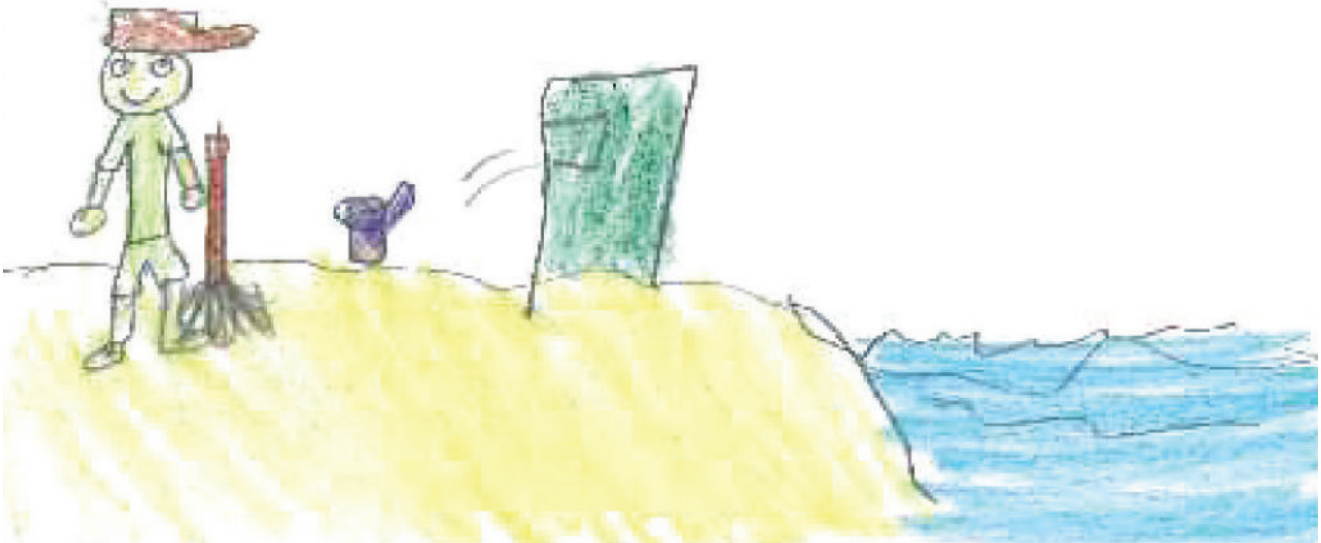




Illustration by
Cynthia Fong

Peachy and her Peanuts

Inspired by Cynthia Fong

Tap, tap, tap.

Everywhere Peachy went, this staccato beat would follow. Day in and day out, the little prickly creature could be seen with a peanut between her paws, tap-tap-tapping away on the forest floor.

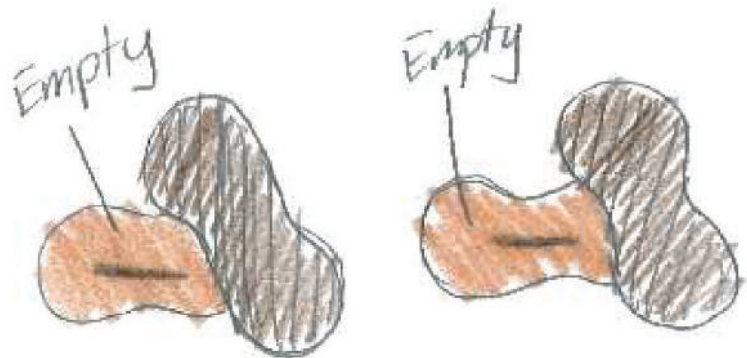
Despite her small size, Peachy could eat up a storm! Her favourite snack in the world was...yes, you guessed it! Peanuts. She loved them freshly roasted under the summer sun, sprinkled with a little salt. Her crescent-moon eyes would flutter shut from just the smell of peanuts floating in the air. One could say she was a little **obsessed** but Peachy would never admit it. Oh no, never indeed.



The forest which Peachy lived in was home to magnificent maple trees, wildflowers and peanuts of all shapes and sizes. There were thousands of Peachy's kind and the forest was their **haven**. They felt safe there for they never hungered.

However, as the seasons changed drastically over the years, the trees and flowers could not keep up. They withered away and the once beautiful and lush forest became **a shadow of its former self**. Light no longer danced across the enchanted woods and the peanuts shrivelled up one by one. All that was left were empty shells all over the forest floor.

Peachy spent weeks hiding away in her cave filled with her stash of peanuts, too afraid to share them with her friends. One by one, Peachy's friends left the forest to find greener pastures. On the day that the last of Peachy's friends left, guilt overwhelmed her. That very night, she tossed and turned under her leaf, unable to sleep. Peachy **resolved** to find a solution.





Bright and early the next morning, she gathered all her peanuts into her arms and curled away into a tight little ball. Then she rolled and rolled away towards the very edge of the forest where she hoped fertile

soil still remained. She carefully planted eleven of her biggest peanuts there and nudged them firmly into the ground. With her purple watering can – a beloved gift from her great-grandmother – Peachy watered them faithfully every single day. She even collected large, crinkly leaves to shield the buds when the sun was too scorching hot and the rain too bitterly cold.

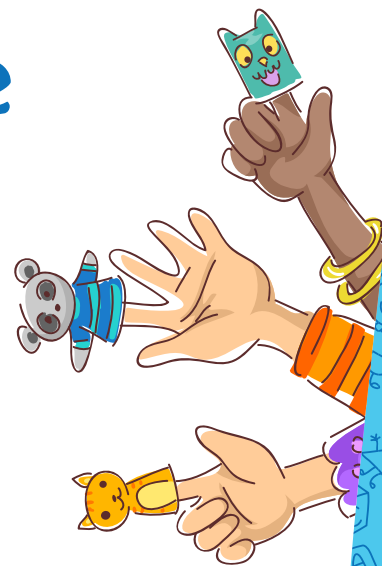
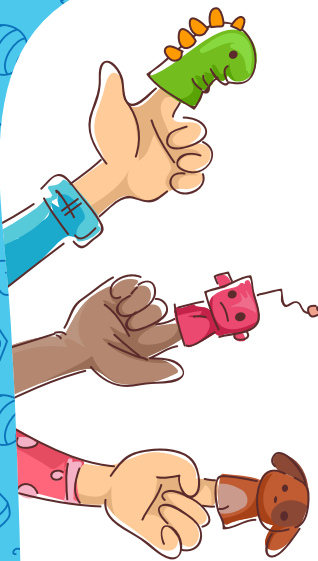
She watched as her plants grew and her heart burst with joy when she unearthed her first harvest. Her efforts had paid off and she knew she would never run out of peanuts ever again. With a bounce, Peachy sped off to share the good news. She knew her friends would rejoice in their newfound home.

Every sunlit day of late spring, Peachy and friends would harvest many glistening peanuts, as big as watermelons. They would store away half of the harvest. These peanuts will always remind them of an important lesson – to *save for a rainy day*.



Activity Page

Let's create some
finger puppets!
Paste your finger
puppets or sketch your
designs here!



Activity Page

Oh no! Some endangered marine animals are in trouble!
Rescue the animals by circling them in the picture below!

Legend



Green Turtle



Hawksbill Turtle



Shark



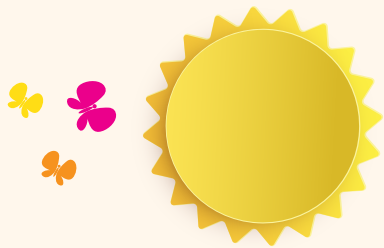
Bluefin Tuna



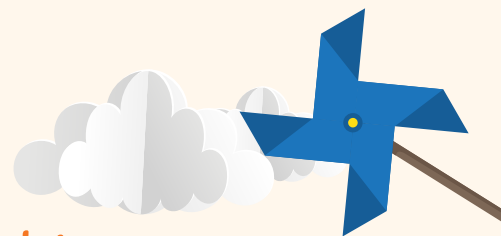


Connect





connect



CONNECT represents the value that our fourth book in 2017, "To Gather, Together", emphasised. In 2017, this book signified the strength of unity, that "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts". When we come together with open hearts and minds, we grow connections with one another through understanding and appreciation.



This year, for this chapter, the beneficiaries weaved the endangered animal that they wished to protect into an acrostic poem. Acrostic poems are poems where certain letters in each line spell out a word or phrase, all of which "connect" their message together.



Conserve Wild Cats

Inspired by Muhammad Izzul Juwaudy

Creatures of the Earth walk regally,
One step, two steps.
Natural heat causes
Sweat to trickle down their foreheads.
Eyes on the money for there's game
Readying guns, poachers identify their prey.
Verifying their targets, their weapons discharge,
Earth's to become an open grave in seconds.

Why do I not feel the blood running through my veins anymore?
Is it the end of my
Living days?
Do you know I am the last of my kind?

Cruel.
A species gone; such a shame!
There's nothing worse than being too late to
Save our planet from extinction.



Illustration by
Muhammad Izzul Juwaudy



Dragons

Inspired by Muhammad Zuraimi

Dragons hide away in a mystical land,
in the heart of thundering waterfalls.

Rasping breath of my ancestors had
no more sparks,

As he repeated the final story of his
brother, Komodo,

Going beyond the waterfall boundaries
where humans clipped

off his wings.

No one has ever seen him again.

Someday, maybe, a dragon's
curiosity might take flight beneath
the curtain of water and come
back with a story to tell.



Illustration by Muhammad Zuraimi

Help Horses

Inspired by Irfan Aqeel

Hues of the setting sun shone on
the beautiful Stallion, O-Leh.

Evergreen trees shivered in the blowing
breeze as he recalled his youth.

Like wildfire, he galloped hard,
his hoofs swift like arrows;

Perfect silhouette forging ahead,
leaving the rest to dust.

His aged legs now shaky,
his breathing heavy.

“O-leh O-leh O-leh O-leh!”
the crowd roared.

Rapidly plunging forward, he lunged
powerfully to the finishing line.

“Snap!” A sharp pain shot up
O-leh’s leg like fire.

Elite competitor, he once was.

Such majesty, now unable to race;
a mere shadow of the once great O-Leh.



Illustration by
Irfan Aqeel

Protect Pandas

Inspired by Dianisha Hanez and Muhammad Fahim

Pandas spend their lives eating and sleeping.

Relaxing in bamboo forests of Southwest China, they are

Omnivores, and can consume plants and meat.

They live till about 20 years in the wild.

Endangered, they once were,

Caused by farming and logging.

The perpetrator? Make a guess.

Pandas are cute and chubby as they keep

Accumulating fats because

None of them likes to exercise.

Dark and light, black and white.

Act now to preserve these furry friends.

Save them or else, they will end up as history to future generations.



Illustration by Dianisha Hanez



Illustration by Muhammad Fahim



Save Sharks

Inspired by Nur Huzairah



Sea monsters, we are called.

Are you sure? We are hunted by humans who removed our

Valuable fins and tossed us back into the ocean, drowning, to fill a bowl of

Extinction soup.

Save us, you have the power to stop

Hurting my family

And friends.

Remind everyone not to buy shark's fin. Be

Kind to me,

So my species can survive.

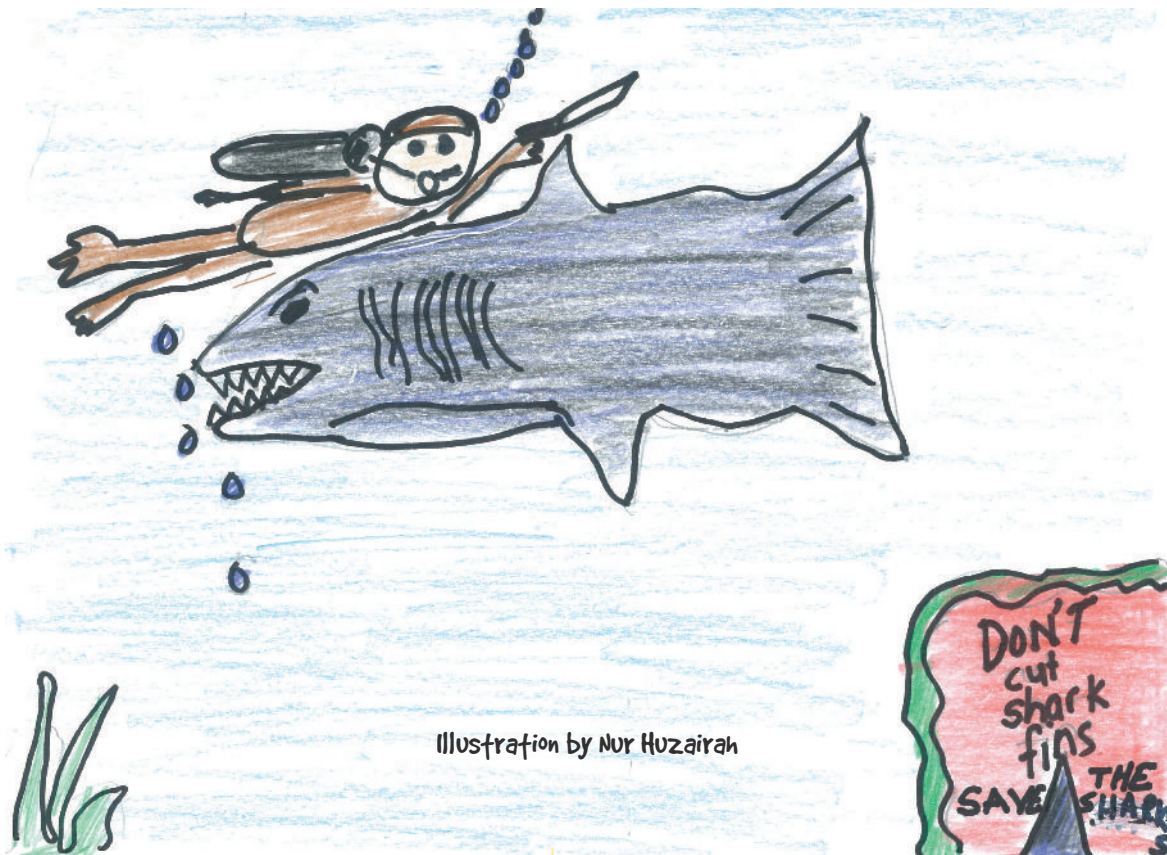
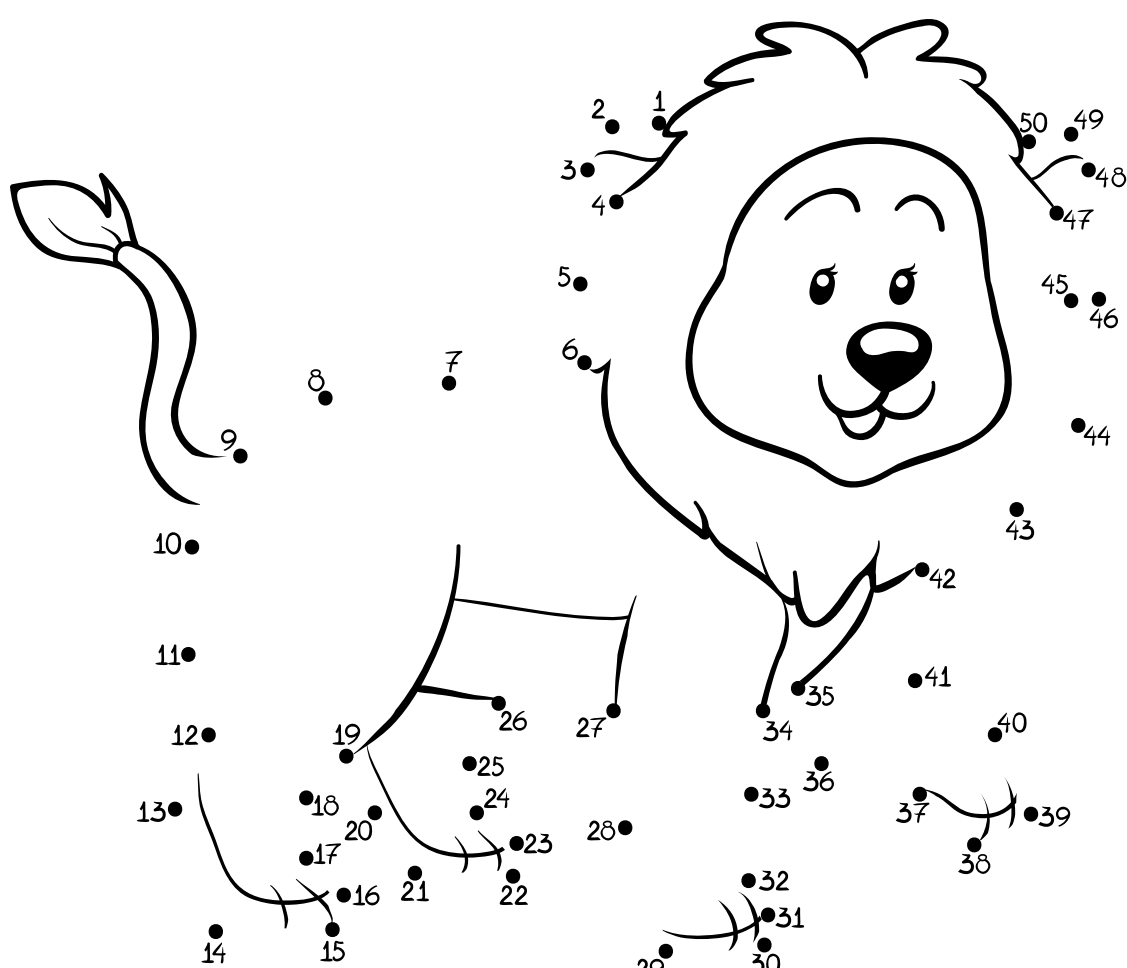


Illustration by Nur Huzairah

Activity Page

I am a Wildlife Biologist,
studying some animals today!
Connect the dots to see
what animal I am looking at now!
Connect numbers 1 to 50



Activity Page

Do you know these endangered animals?
Match the descriptions
to the correct animals!

Snow Leopard

Lives in the mountains
of Central Asia.



Sumatran Rhinoceros

Lives in the dense forests
of Malaysia, Indonesia
and possibly Myanmar.



Northern Spotted owl

Native to the province of
British Columbia in Canada
and the states of Washington,
Oregon and California in USA.



Hawksbill Sea Turtle

Found throughout the tropical
waters of the Atlantic, Pacific
and Indian Oceans.



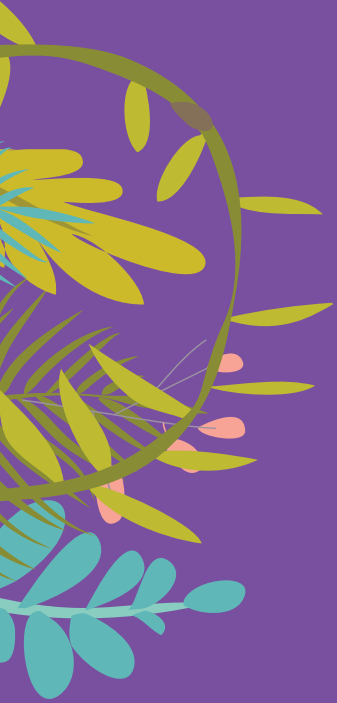
Orang Ufan

Lives in rainforests of the
Southeast Asian islands of
Borneo and Sumatra.





Cherish



Cherish

CHERISH conveys our message of this year's book,
"WE CAN - create, contribute, care, connect, cherish".
Our objective in 2018 is to cherish the contributions by children
and to commemorate the fifth year of our More Than Words book.

In this chapter, we incorporated original works from the contributors, who may not have had their works featured in the past. This special edition also contains works by our TCTF team, to round off this milestone mark of producing the children's books annually from 2014 to 2018.





The Young Marine Animal Rescuers

Inspired by Ahminurul Lisa
and Muhammad Ramadhan

Malia, Merlin and their parents, Mr and Mrs Chan, love to frequent the beach during the June holidays. One Sunday, Mr Chan decided to teach Merlin how to fish, while Mrs Chan decided to teach Malia how to swim.



Merlin and the Tiny Turtle

“Daddy, I think I’ve caught a fish!” Merlin shouted excitedly. Seeing that Merlin’s fishing line was taut, Mr Tan helped his son to reel the fish in. However, to their astonishment, Merlin had not caught a fish at all. Instead, at the end of the hook was what looked to be a big plastic bag - or so they thought.

“Help me, help me, I’m stuck!” a tiny voice squeaked from within the plastic bag.

“I think there’s something in the plastic bag,” cried Merlin, as he detached the plastic bag from the fishing hook.

Lifting the mystery object for his father to see, Merlin realised there was a tiny turtle in the plastic bag.

“Thank you for helping me, little boy,” said the tiny turtle. “Now I can finally swim home.”

Patting the turtle’s shell, Merlin smiled and gently lowered it back into the ocean. Then, taking the plastic bag, Merlin deposited it into the nearest recycling bin once he got back to land.

Upon seeing this, Mr Chan praised him and remarked, “If everyone did their part to recycle and dispose of their rubbish responsibly, no more marine animals would be harmed by the floating **debris**.”

Malia and the Small Seagull

Meanwhile, in the shallow waters near the shore, Mrs Chan was teaching Malia how to tread water.



As Malia was treading water, she heard some squawking from some rocks nearby. Tugging her mother along, Malia waded closer to the rocks and discovered a small seagull squawking in pain.

“Help, I’ve injured my foot!” cried the fragile seagull. Upon closer observation, Mrs Chan and Malia realized that the seagull had stepped on fragments of a broken glass bottle and injured itself.

Seeing this, Malia sprinted back to the shore to fetch the family's first aid kit. Then, Malia watched anxiously as her mother used a pair of tweezers to remove the pieces of glass from the seagull's left foot and bandaged it.

"Thank you for helping me, kind girl," said the seagull. "Now, I can join my flock and fly high in the sky!"

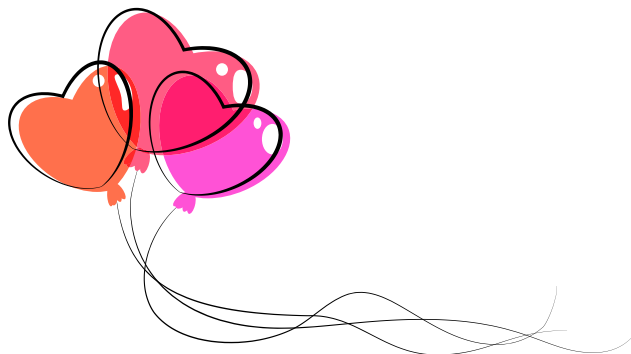
Malia waved and bid the small seagull goodbye. Then, using the pair of tweezers, Malia carefully collected the pieces of broken glass and placed them on the leftover cloth. Tying the **makeshift** cloth bag securely, Malia and Mrs Tan waded back to shore, depositing the pieces of glass into the nearby recycling bin.

Returning the cloth to her mother, Malia reflected, "From today onwards, I will do my part to protect marine animals by cherishing the environment through the 3Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle."



Friends Forever

Inspired by Ariel Lee and Joey Lee



Here's a short, sweet story
About a nice girl called Lovey,
Who was adored by all she knew.

She fell suddenly ill,
And had to stay home till
A month and a day went by.

Friends from school came to visit,
Brought flowers, cards and a movie ticket,
Because they wanted her up and about soon.

"Get Well Soon" wishes and colourful artwork
On gaily-hued cards
Brought a smile to her face.

She's better already with the love she received.
She hoped one thing that will never change
Is the innocent sincerity
Of her childhood days.

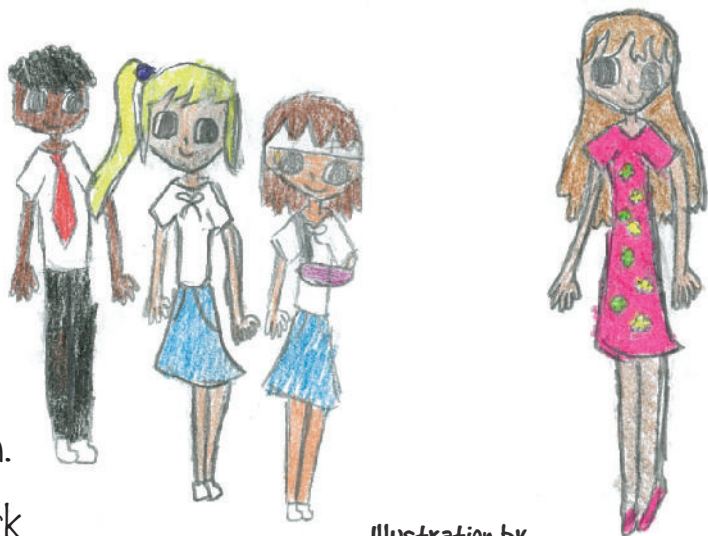


Illustration by
Ariel Lee and Joey Lee





You CAN be whoever you want to be

Inspired by Abdul Razak, Arissa Imani, Noor Haafiz, Nur Huzriyah and Zahirah

“I prayed for a daughter so I could do all these girlie activities with you. Things I would never have had the chance to do with your brothers.” Avery’s mother smile, as she braided Avery’s pigtails before slipping her daughter into a dress. She had chosen the frilly pink frock specially to celebrate the Christmas dinner with the family.



Illustration by Arissa Imani

However, if you knew Avery Smith, she was not the usual girl that one would expect. Avery loved to play soccer. She enjoyed watching her school’s soccer team chase the ball around the field every other day. She excitedly joined her father and brothers in their soccer practices every weekend. Her mother would frown in disapproval, labelling soccer a “boys’ game” and an activity that was unsuited for well-behaved girls.

Their home was beautifully decorated for Christmas celebrations. There were bright twills on the walls, a huge Christmas tree and a scrumptious spread across the dinner table. Every year, Avery easily guessed which present was hers. Amongst the conservatively wrapped ones, hers would be in pink wrapper with pink ribbons. She shrugged and walked to the front porch while waiting for dinner to be served. Perched on the balcony railing, she saw her neighbour Alex *pirouetting*.

She watched Alex perform his ballet piece, oblivious to his audience, and finally ending with a Grand Jeté. Avery found herself holding her breath in awe, clapping when it ended.



Alex glanced at Avery and glided effortlessly towards her. “I was picked for my school’s Swan Lake performance and my mother congratulated me by giving me a pair of new ballet flats for Christmas,” Alex announced proudly.

Flashing his new satin shoes at her, he continued, “I know you are thinking, what is a boy doing, dancing ballet? However, I think otherwise. Ballet is an art form where you express your emotions through movements. It takes countless hours of practice to perfect a dance routine. I would choose dance anytime, even if the boys in school think I am a disgrace.”

Avery looked down with embarrassment, “You are not a disgrace. Nobody who accepts who they are is ever a disgrace.” She added, “I feel embarrassed trying for the soccer team because I am afraid I can’t outrun the bigger boys. The boys in my school laughed at me when I tried for the team earlier. They commented that soccer is not a game for girls.”

“Nonsense! I am the only boy in my ballet class. Many told me that dancing is for girls and boys who dance are sissies. Do not get influenced by what others think! Keep your head up. Please promise me you’ll hold



on to your dreams.” Alex stuck out his pinky finger. Avery felt encouraged that she found her first supporter. She linked her pinky finger with his and promised that she would hold true to her dreams.

“AVERY!” Mrs Smith called.

“Uh-oh, thank you Alex. I have to go. Mum is calling me back for dinner.” Avery waved goodbye to Alex.

At the dinner table, Avery’s thoughts drifted to her earlier conversation with Alex. She did not pay attention to the jokes or conversations over the dinner table. “A penny for your thoughts, Avery?” asked her mother. Avery seized the opportunity to say, “Mum, I love soccer and I want to

try out for the school’s soccer team.” Everyone at the table, especially Mrs Smith, was taken aback by the sudden announcement. She looked at Avery’s father and slowly walked up to the table that was filled with presents. She picked up a present wrapped in pink and handed it to Avery.



As Avery unwrapped her present, her eyes widened in surprise. “This soccer ball is for you. I saw you the other day in school trying to score a goal. You tried so many times despite being laughed at by a group of boys. I was so proud of you. My child, I want you to keep practising, I believe in you. Here, have this too. This is from your father.”

Mrs Smith handed Avery a rolled-up present, **unravelling** a poster of Mia Hamm, considered to be the best female soccer player in history. It was in Mr Smith's study for the longest time! Her father scooped his little girl into his arms and whispered, "Be the Mia of your school's soccer team! Do us Smiths proud!"

That night, the Smiths watched the replay of Mia Hamm's debut for the United States women's national soccer team when she was just 15 years old! It was a memorable Christmas night of love and acceptance!

Avery trained hard and made it into her school team the following year. You see, the principal of the school was forming a female soccer team! She is still her mother's princess, dressing in tiaras and pink fluffy dresses sometimes. She learnt that she did not have to be a boy to learn how to pass a ball, skip in puddles, and score a goal! Alex too, became a star at his school. His Swan Lake performance was well received. He proved how outdated the **stigma** was of boys dancing ballet. Incidentally, Alex enjoyed soccer too. He just loved ballet more. Occasionally, you can see Alex with Avery at the soccer field, playing "Ballet soccer".

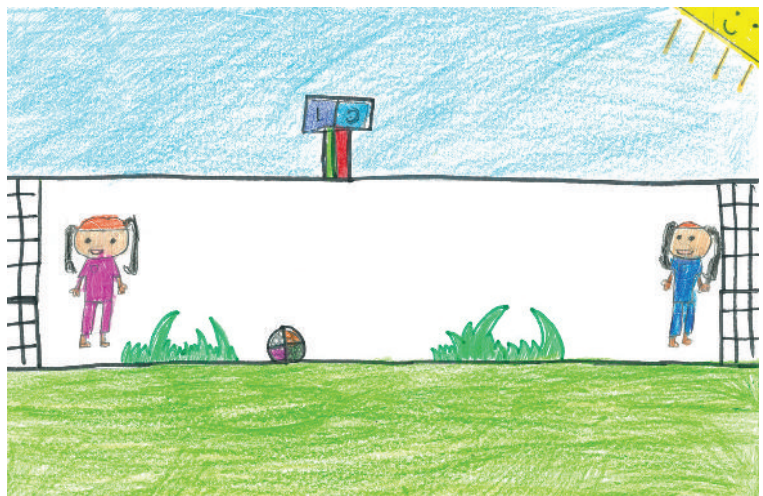


Illustration by Abdul Razak, Noor Haafiz and Nur Huzriyah

Haiku of a Dog's Week

By Yap Su-Yin

Monday

I am a puppy
Headed to the hills to play
Loving sunny days.

Tuesday

My shadow gambols
Up, down, twirling in circles
Watch us dance and prance.

Wednesday

A lazy siesta
It's too humid to do more
I dream of action.



The background is a warm, yellowish-tan color with scattered autumn leaves in shades of orange, red, and green. On the right side, there are two stylized trees with large, rounded canopies in orange and green, with red apples hanging from the branches. A brown tree trunk is visible on the far right. In the top left, there are two bones, one orange and one grey. A small blue bird is in the bottom left corner. A dashed green line winds through the scene, connecting the four thought bubbles.

Thursday

I buried two bones
They are my "perk-me-up" snack
Hope I remember.

Friday

Splashed into the lake
Drenched, my brown fur clings to me
Onshore, I shake dry.

A small brown dog with floppy ears is sitting on a yellow patch of ground, holding a green ball with a white center in its mouth.

Saturday

Go! Go! Go! Caught you!
Where has my ball vanished to?
I love Saturdays.

A small brown dog is lying on its back on a yellow patch of ground, looking up.

Sunday

It rains, I am bored
My furry neighbour visits
I am thrilled once more.

The Greatest Gift of All



Written by Ignatius Pereira



Illustration
by Ignatius Pereira

“Don’t forget your anklet!” Aunt Jess said to her niece, Prisca. “I’m already wearing it Aunt Jess!” Prisca replied, amused that her Aunt was **oblivious** to the tinkling sound it made whenever she made a step.

“Oh yes, silly me. I hadn’t noticed it! Well, since you are ready, let’s make our way to school now.” Aunt Jess said with a smile back at Prisca. She was happy that she was able to send Prisca to school today. Ever since Prisca’s parents died some years ago, Aunt Jess had taken it upon herself to provide for Prisca. She often worked double shifts at the post office just to **make ends meet**.

Today was an important day at school. As part of a show-and-tell lesson, Prisca and her classmates had to deliver a presentation in front of their family and classmates. Arriving at the school’s hall, Prisca looked around at her class and wondered what her classmates had brought for the presentation. Peter, the son of a rich businessman, was said to have brought along his newest mobile phone.

Mrs Brown the class form teacher reminded her students, “You will have to describe why the item you brought is the best gift you’ve had.”

Soon, the presentations began. Sure enough, Peter volunteered to be the first to showcase his gadget. “This is the best gift I had because it is the newest model that was just released and I am the only one in school who possesses it!” Peter boasted.



Illustration by Ignatius Pereira

Next, it was the town mayor’s son, Joey’s turn. He proceeded to brag about receiving a foreign-looking brooch from an exotic holiday with his family. “A nobleman in Poland presented it to my family,” Joey said **smugly**. “Only people with great **affluence** may possess it!”

Finally, it was Prisca’s turn to share. Looking at Peter’s expensive phone and Joey’s fancy brooch made Prisca feel inferior to her peers. However,

her spirits were lifted when she spotted her Aunt Jess in the crowd cheering her on. She smiled to herself, reached out to her leg, removed her anklet and lifted it up for everyone to see.

“This is actually the greatest gift that I ever received,” Prisca told everyone present. “You see, my parents died when I was really little and it was my Aunt Jess who raised me. She bought me this anklet after saving up from working double shifts. Although the anklet may seem inexpensive, I will forever cherish this as it represents my Aunt’s love for me. That is the most precious gift to me.”

At once, everyone in the hall stood up to give Prisca a **standing ovation**. “Well done, Prisca, you have taught us all the importance of **humility** and family,” Mrs Brown said. Aunt Jess went over to hug Prisca. With tears in her eyes, she said, “I am so proud of you Prisca.”

Let us all cherish our family, for the love of a family is truly life’s greatest gift of all!



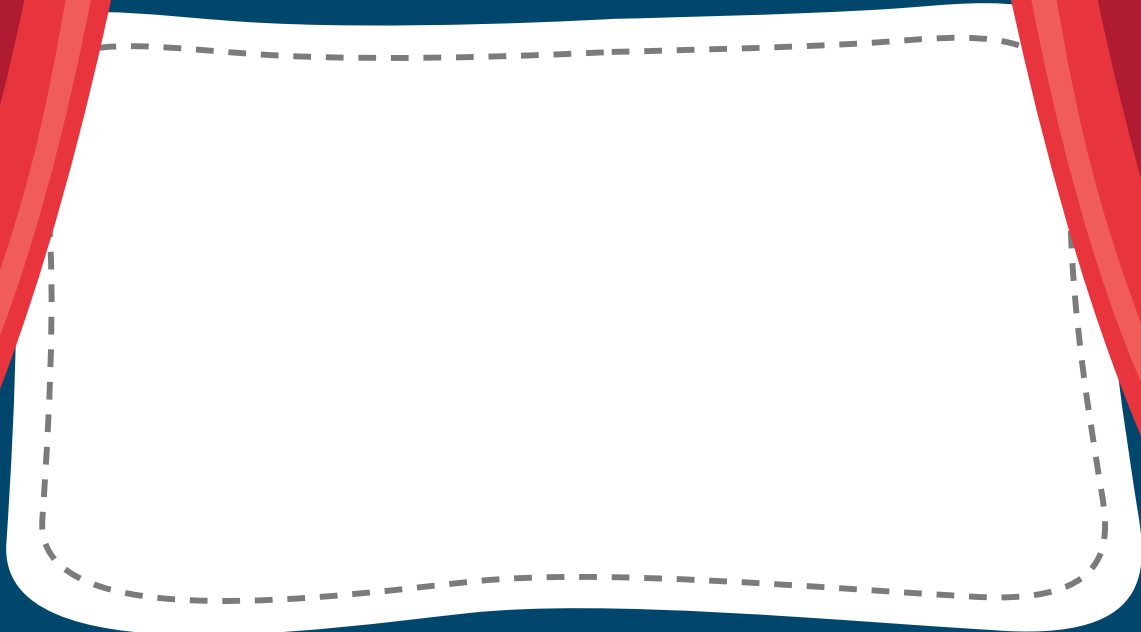
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Activity Page

Imagine you are presenting your greatest gift of all during Show and Tell, what is something you cherish the most?

Draw it in the box below!



It is something I cherish because...



Glossary

Create

The Clean, Green Recycling Machine, Recylobots!

Painstakingly: Took great efforts

Retractable: Able to be withdrawn

Reputable: Highly regarded

The Environmental Adventures of Recycle Girl

Luscious: Beautiful and attractive

Empowered: Given the authority to do something with confidence

Lectured: Scolded

Endeavours: Attempts to achieve something

A Good Deed for the Environment

Hindering: Making it difficult for something to happen

Incredulously: In disbelief

The “Y” in Recycle is YOU

Pungent: Strong taste or smell

Bewilderment: Confusion

Incinerator: A device for burning waste materials

Depletion: Greatly reduced or almost used up

I Can be a Superhero too!

Picturesque: Pretty and charming

Restoration: Return to its original condition

Care

Spotty the Owl

Sweltering: Uncomfortably hot

Endangered: At risk of extinction

Poachers: A person who hunts illegally

Shivered with trepidation: Trembling or shaking due to fear

Extinct: No longer in existence

Marcus’s Dragon Scar

Imminent: About to happen

Harpoons: Long spear-like instrument used for marine hunting

Mayhem: Chaotic disorder

Wails of distress: To make sounds in grief or suffering



Wildlife trafficking: Illegal trade of protected species

Conservation area: An area where land, plants, animals and or buildings are protected by law against undesired change

Sammy the Leatherback Turtle

Ensnared: Captured

Threw caution to the wind: Doing things without consideration

Vice-like grip: A very firm hold which causes pain

Gnawed: Inflict injury on

Fear coursing through his veins:
An expression to describe the experience of fear in one's body

Peachy and Her Peanuts

Obsessed: Occupy the mind constantly

Haven: A place of safety

A shadow of its former self: Less capable as compared to the past

Resolved: Firmly determined

Save for a rainy day: Put something aside for a future time of need

Cherish

The Young Marine Animal Rescuers

Debris: Scattered pieces of rubbish

Makeshift: A temporary substitute used when nothing better is available

You Can Be Whoever You Want to Be

Pirouetting: Spinning around while balancing on one's toes

Unravelling: To reveal something that was hidden

Stigma: Negative belief that society has on a group of people

The Greatest Gift of All

Oblivious: Unaware of

Make ends meet: Earn just enough money to provide for basic needs

Smugly: Excessive satisfaction or pride in oneself

Affluence: Wealthy

Standing ovation: Audience standing and clapping to show their support

Humility: Modest opinion of one's importance



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