

# CITY ABOVE THE CLOUDS

GABRIEL SHEN



*Dedicated to Moni*

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The artwork in this book was created with watercolor and felt tip pens.

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One day, Lulu was playing outside  
on a patch of grass...







She tried picking the flower, but it  
wouldn't come out of the ground.  
She pulled as hard as she could...

...and she pulled a huge pile of  
dirt with it!





Lulu was covered in a mound of dirt. The dirt pile started to rumble and float.

The dirt around Lulu began  
to rise, and she saw that  
she was in the sky!

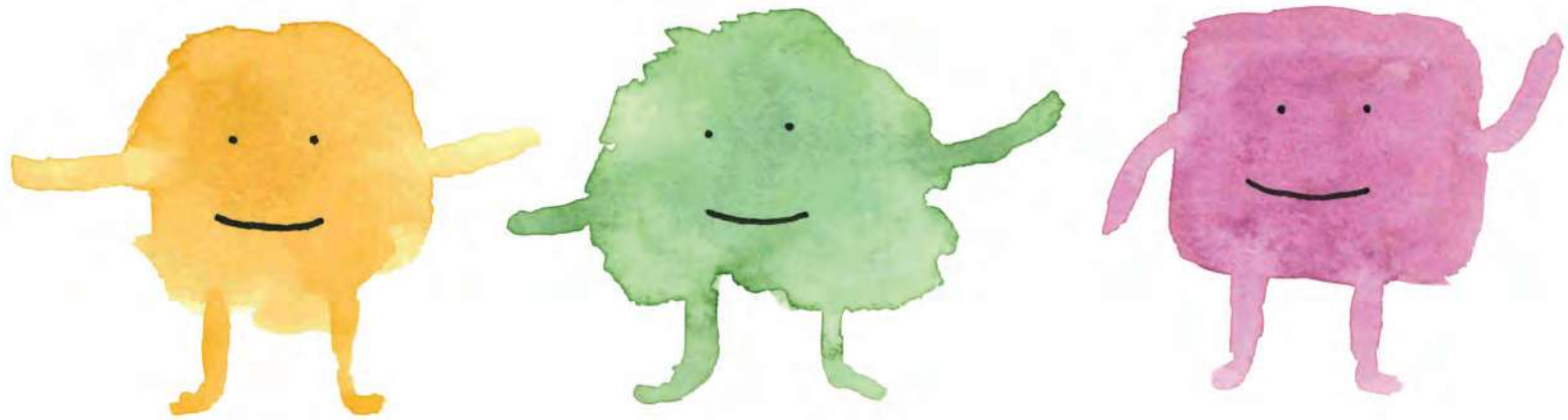






She saw three kids in the distance  
and walked over to them.





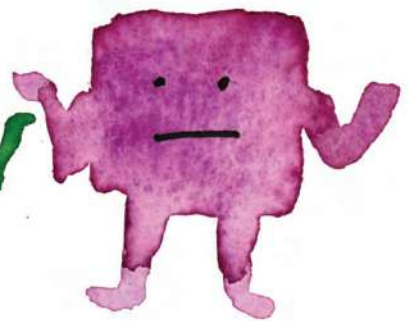
As she came closer, she realized they weren't humans. They were some other type of creature.

“What are your names?” Lulu asked.

“I don’t know,” said the first.

“I don’t know,” replied the second.

“I don’t think I have a name,” said the third.



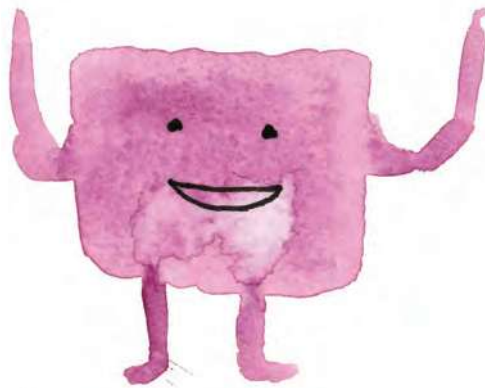
“Everyone should have a name,” Lulu said. The creatures thought for a while.





“I’ll be Bob,” said one.

“I want my name to be Ella,” said the next one.



“And I’ll be Splork,” said the last.



Now that Lulu knew the creatures' names, she talked with them.

They didn't know much about their past or their parents. For all they knew, they had been standing in the same place forever.

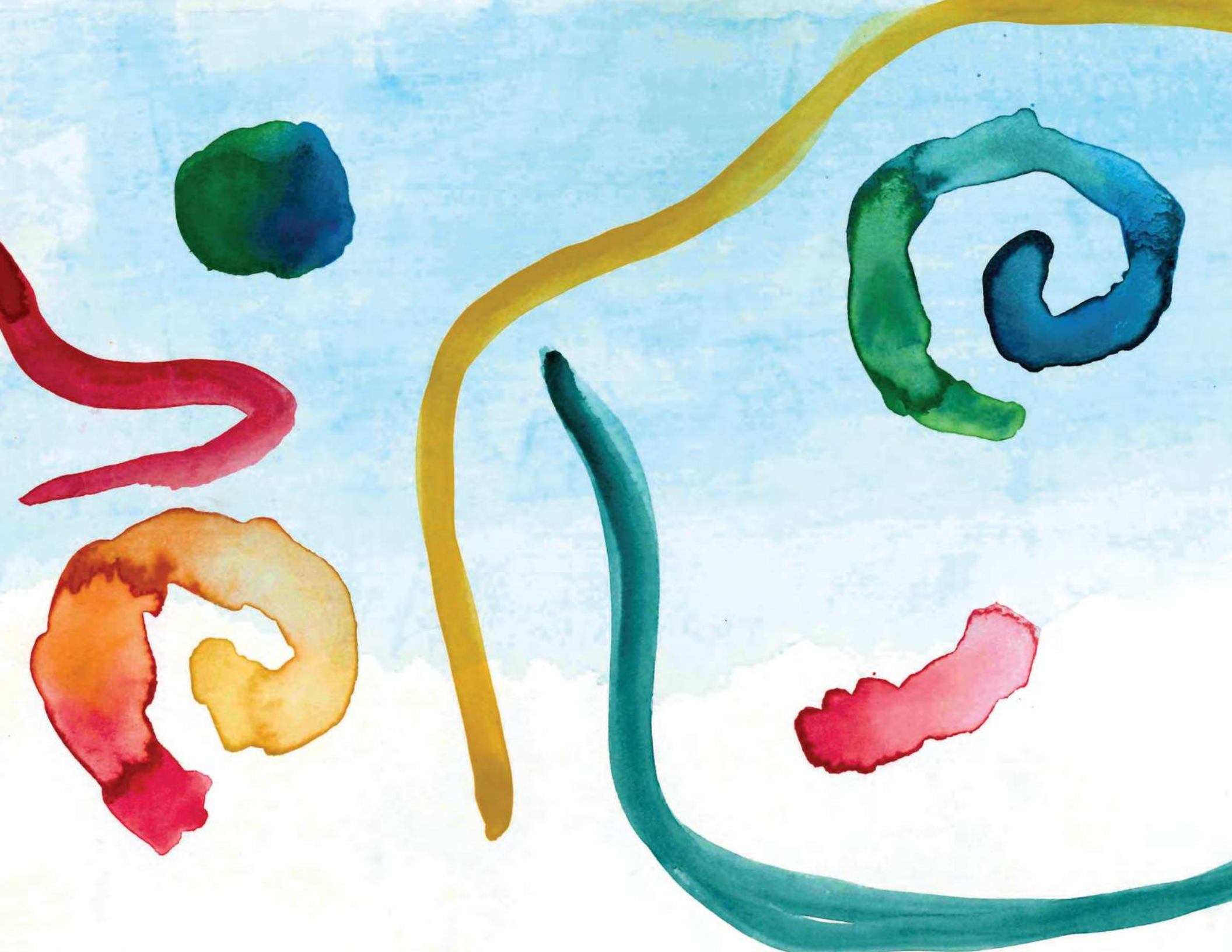




Soon, they became friends. But Lulu knew something wasn't right. She wanted to help the creatures, but she didn't know how.

Suddenly, Lulu had an idea. The creatures had never been anywhere else. So Lulu led them all on an adventure.

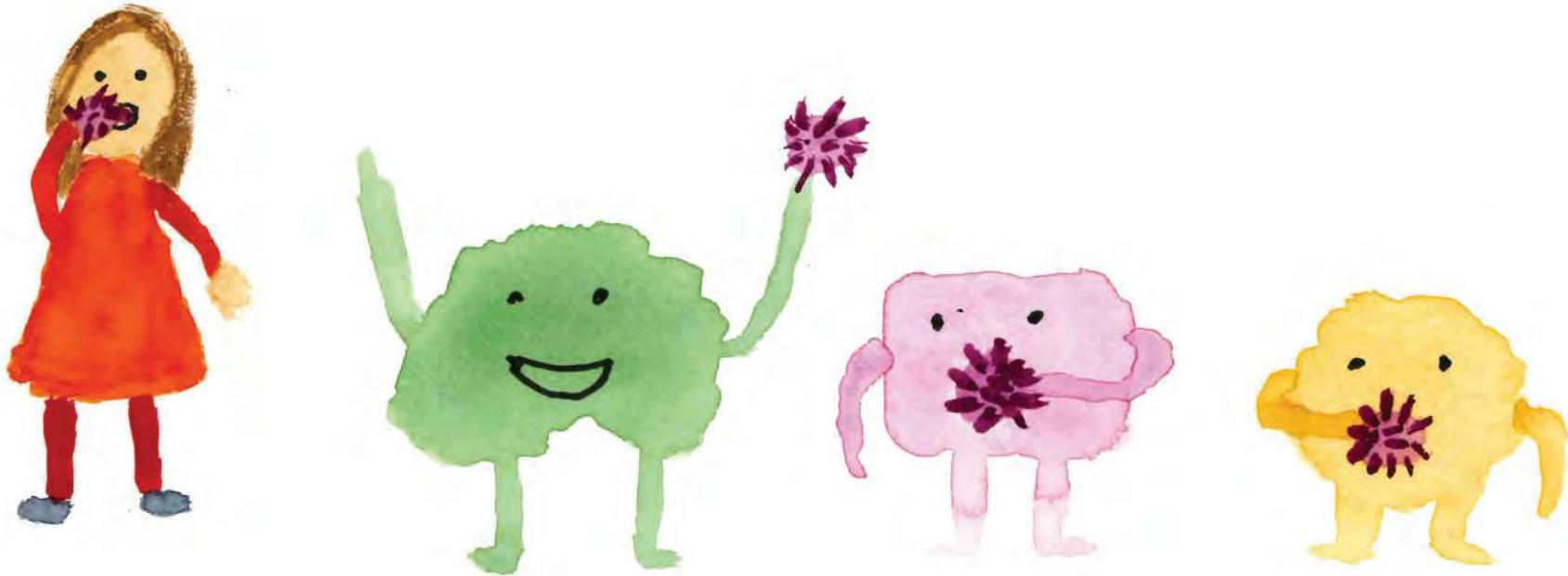






They found a tree with funny-looking fruit.  
The creatures had never tasted food before.





“This is amazing!” Ella exclaimed. The four of them kept eating the fruits until they were full.

“I’m tired,” said Bob.



“Then let’s rest,” said Lulu.

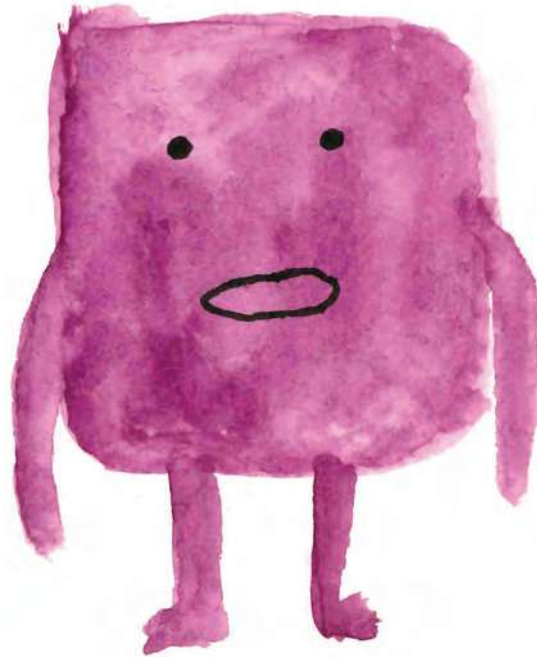


They cleared out a spot in the clouds and lay down. Lulu told them about the world beneath the clouds.

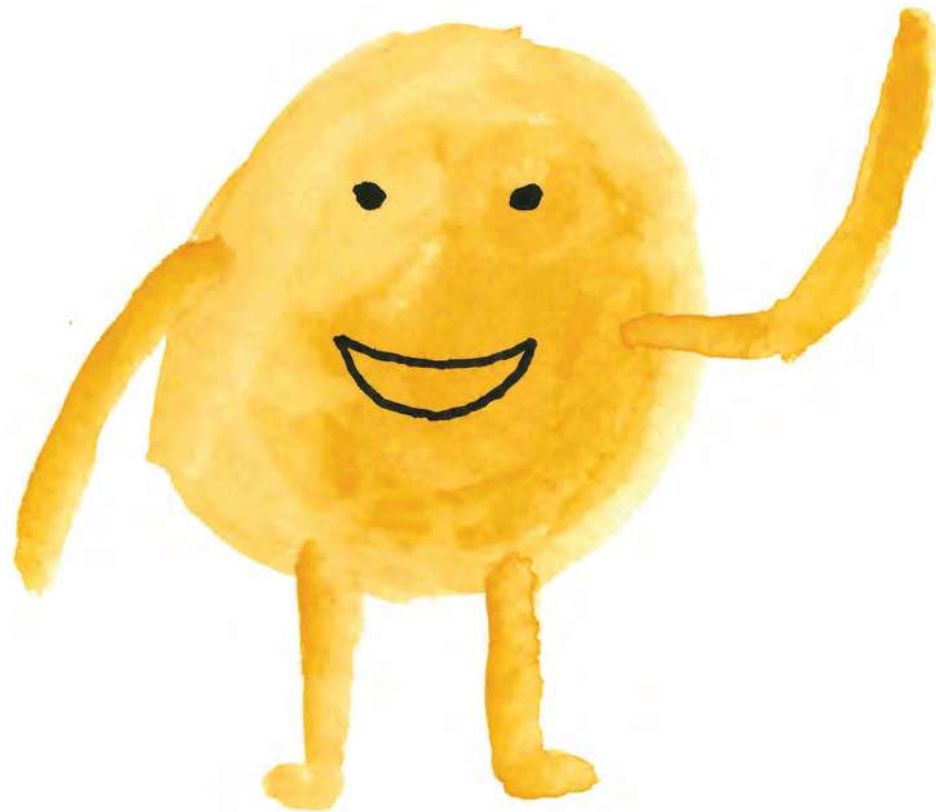




Lulu talked about things the creatures had never heard of, like ice cream, bathtubs, and dogs.



Splork spoke: “I wish I could visit the world beneath the clouds. Life above the clouds is boring. And sad.”

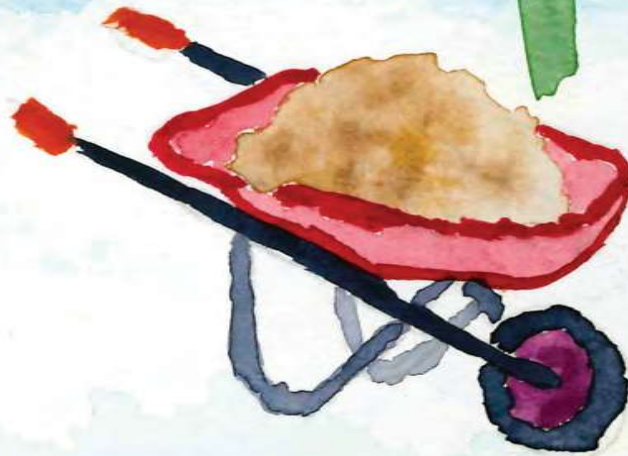


Bob had an idea. “Why don’t we create our own city above the clouds? We can make it perfect, with everything we want!”



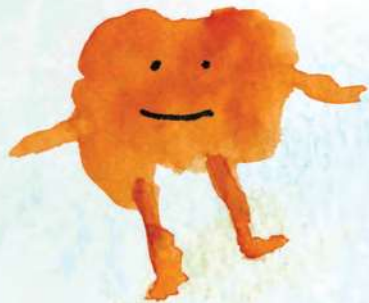
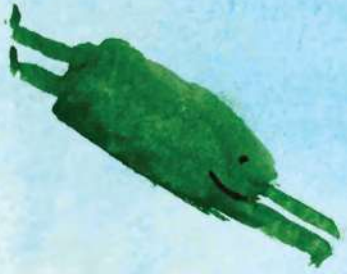
The others thought that was a great idea, so they started to build the city.

Splork drew out a plan for the city.  
Lulu and Bob made buildings out of  
the clouds.  
Ella searched for new materials.





But something peculiar happened.  
More and more cloud kids appeared.  
At first, just one. Then, many more.

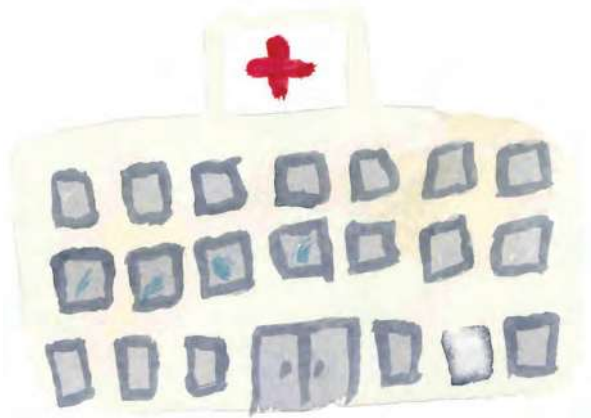


Each new creature wanted  
to help build the city and had  
ideas to make it better.



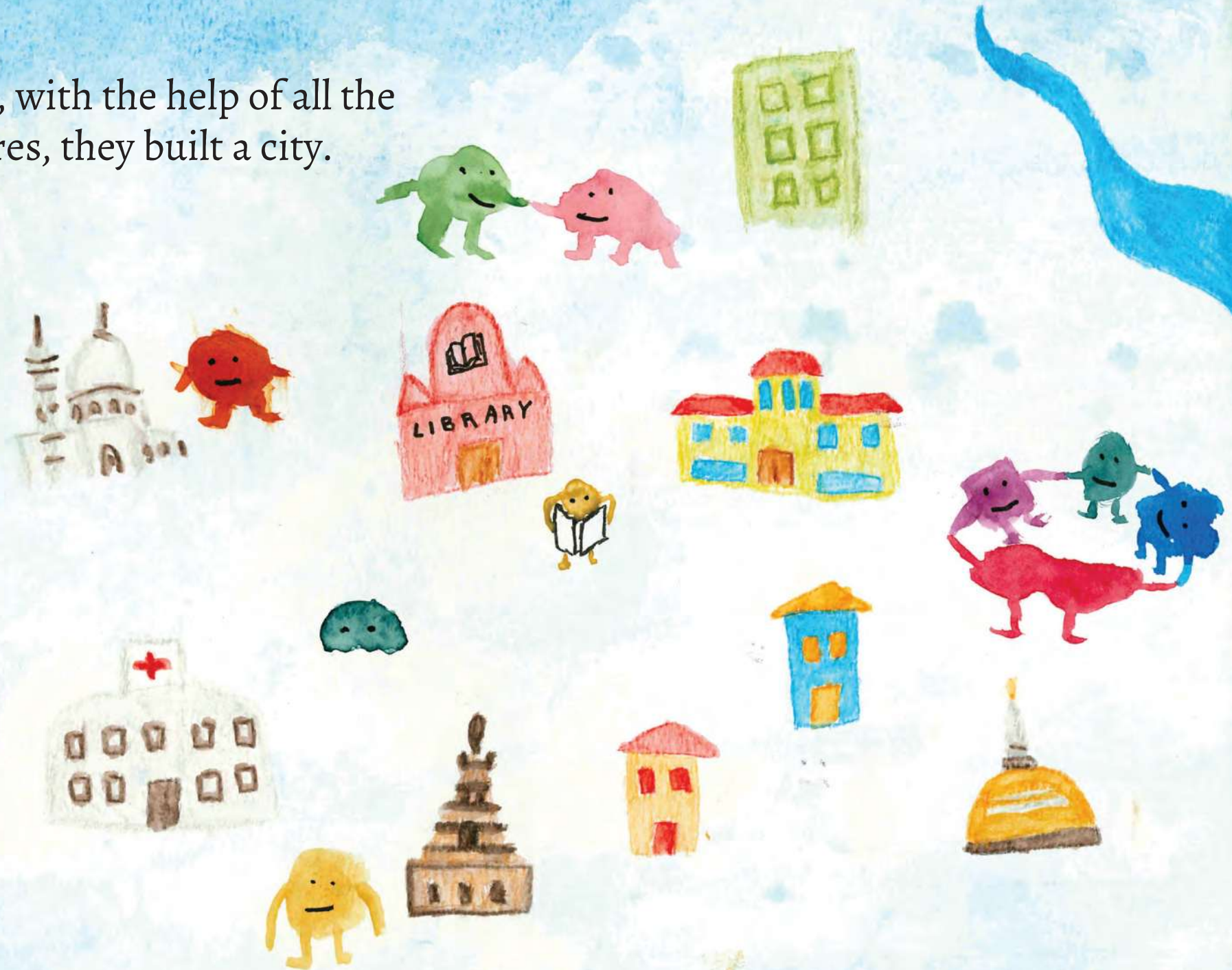
“Let’s add a school so we can learn new things,” said one.

“We should have a park where we can play,” said another.



“And a hospital to help us when we’re sick!” said the last one.

Finally, with the help of all the creatures, they built a city.





The city was perfect, and everyone celebrated.

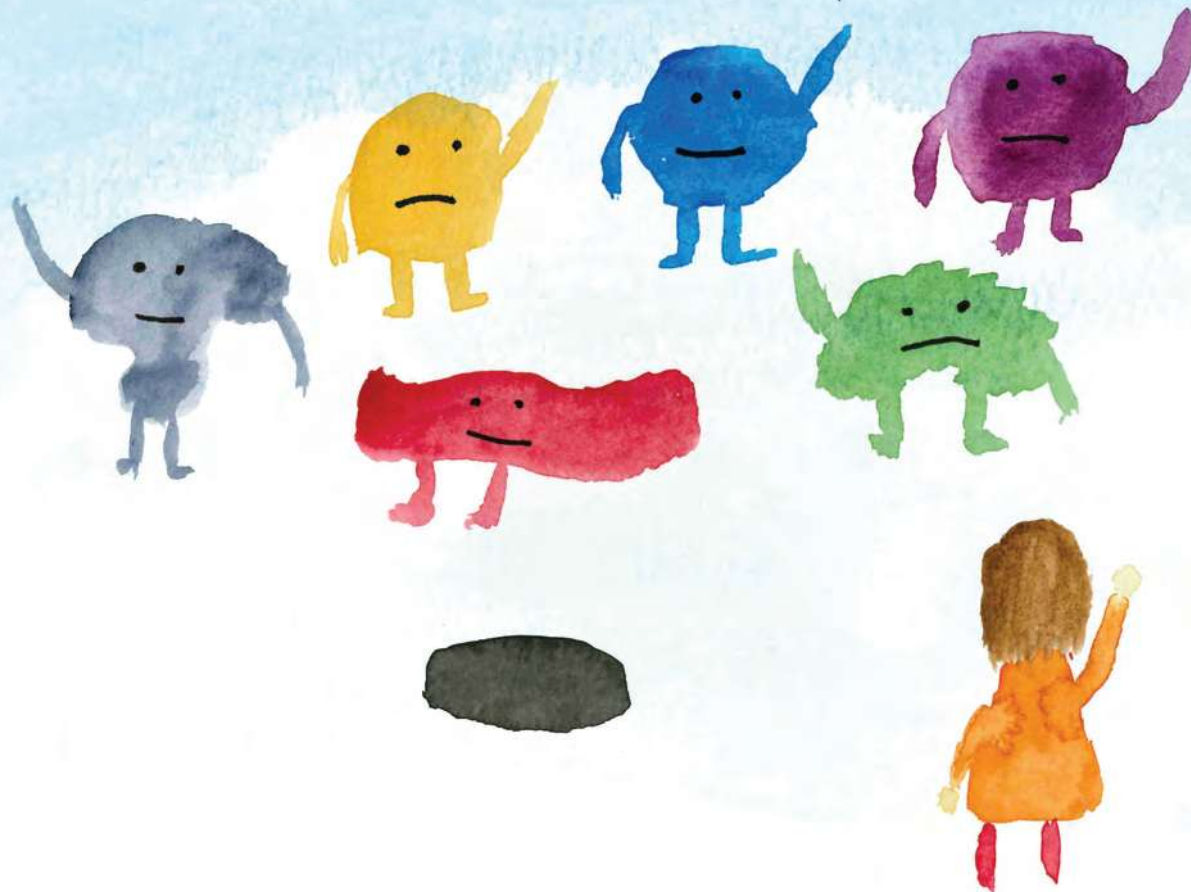


But Lulu was sad.



She missed her family and  
her life beneath the clouds.

So, all the creatures helped Lulu dig a hole in the clouds. They were all sad to see her go. "I will miss you," Lulu said.



Lulu jumped through the hole and fell.

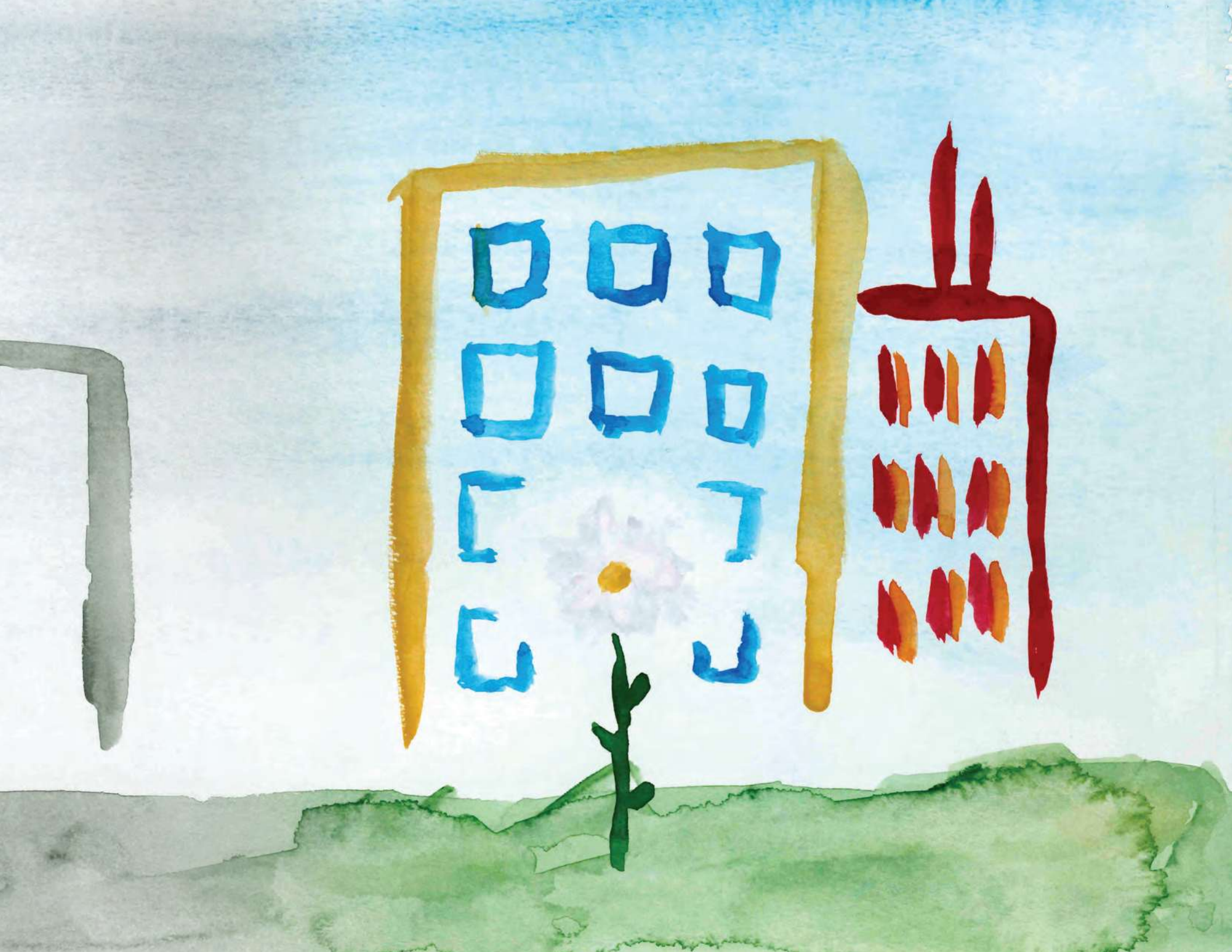


She landed in the same patch of grass. The daisy fell on her head.



She missed the city  
above the clouds.





# Child Rights

Every child has **certain rights**. A right is something **everyone should have**. These are the rights featured in this book and the pages they are on. **Try to find them all!**

- Right to a name - pages 14 to 17
- Right to good, healthy food - 25
- Right to rest - 26
- Right to know about the world and have access to information - 22 to 23, 28, 36 to 37
- Right to say your opinions - 29 to 30, 34 to 35
- Right to start and join groups - 34
- Right to education - 35 to 36
- Right to play, have fun, and be creative - 36 to 37
- Right to be healthy - 35 to 37
- Right to be with your family after being away from them - 39



These rights, and many more, are all listed in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, made by the United Nations.



Every child has these rights, and it is the responsibility of parents, teachers, and the government to make sure that all children have access to them.

Learn more at [unicef.org](https://www.unicef.org) or by scanning this QR code.



# Acknowledgments

This book and several others are the result of a Blake Middle School project in Minneapolis, Minnesota – one of the country’s first sites of the UNICEF USA initiative “Child Friendly Cities.” The authors and illustrators are students who have studied human rights, child rights, and the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. The Reach Out and Read program, a co-sponsor of this effort and recipient of these books, is a nationwide literacy initiative that links children’s visits to hospitals and clinics with book donations.