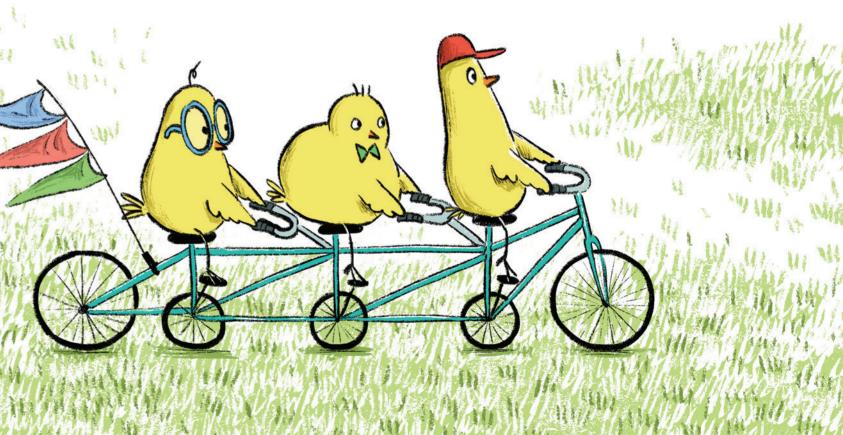
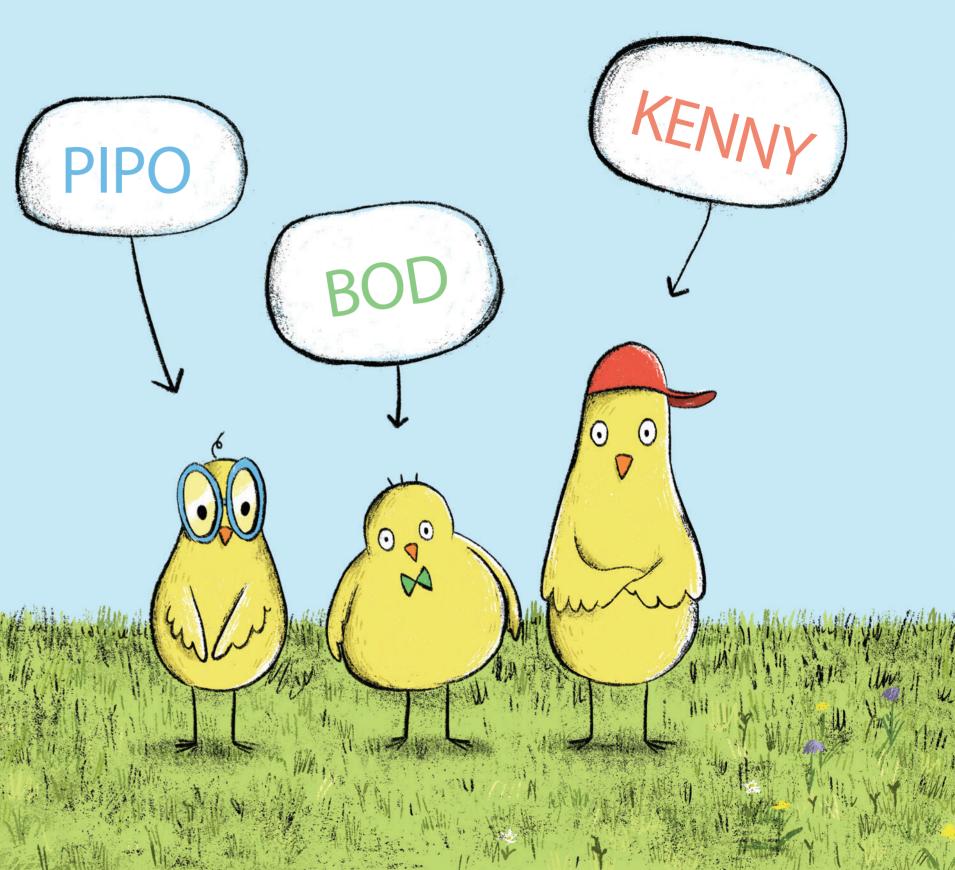
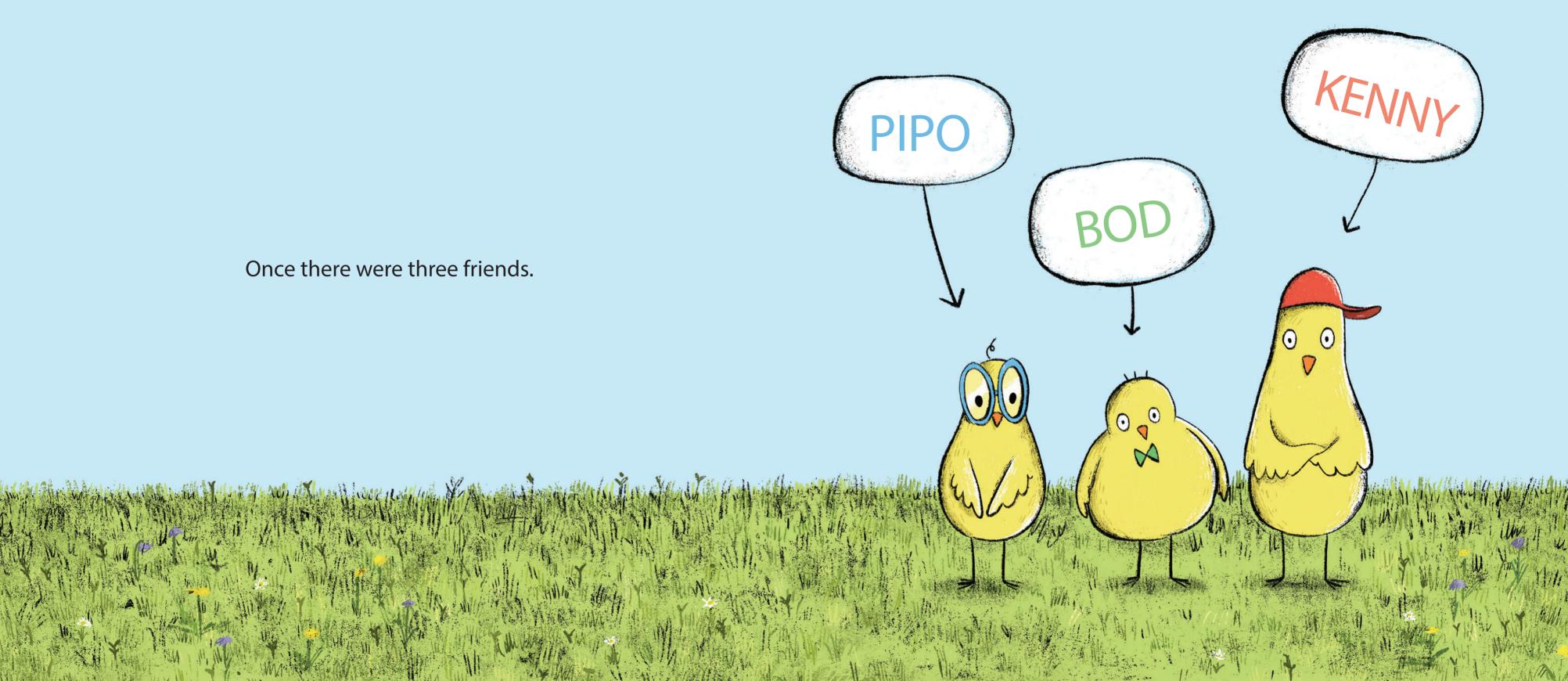


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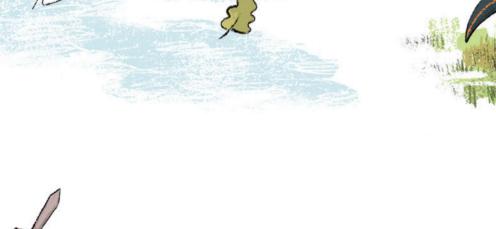
## A Big Tasty Earthworm

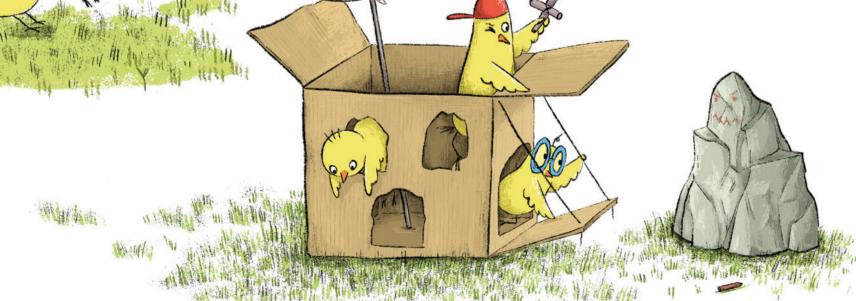




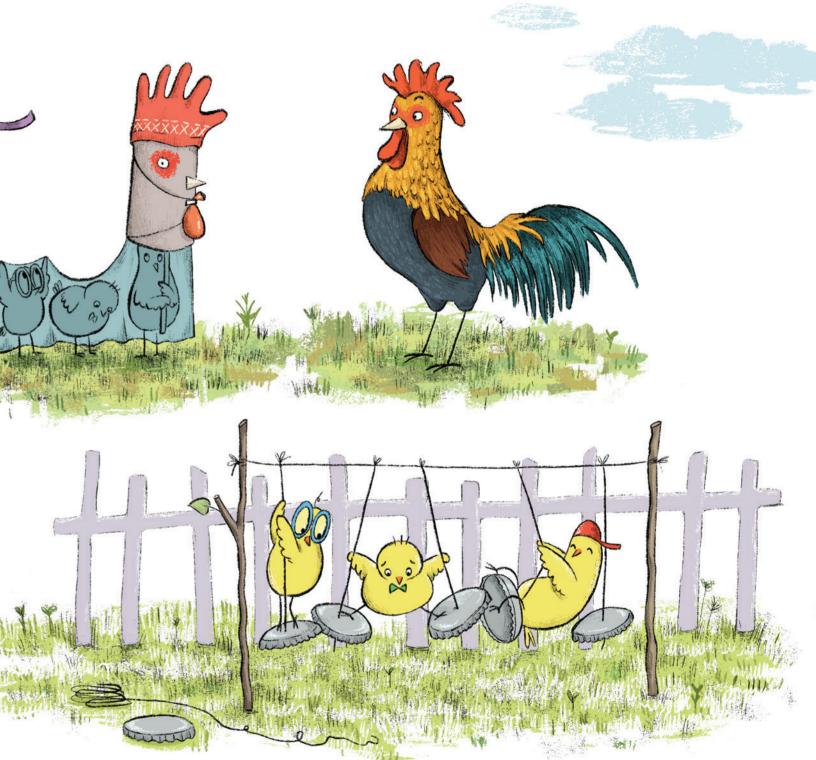


They were always thinking up new ways to play.



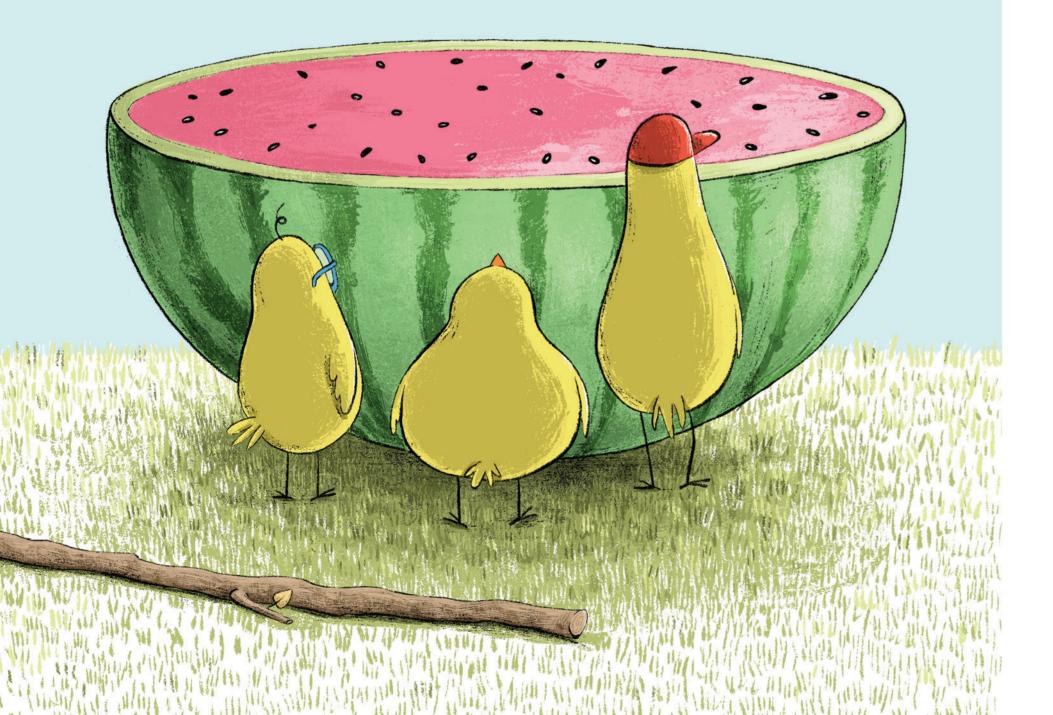


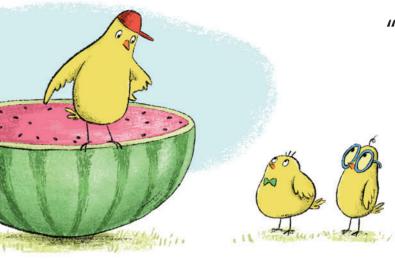
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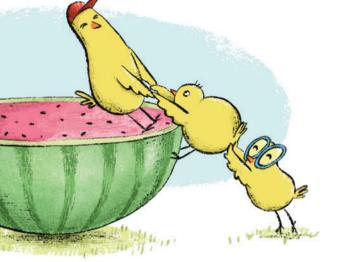
But it didn't really matter what they played, the main thing was that they were together.

## One day, the friends found a WATERMELON.



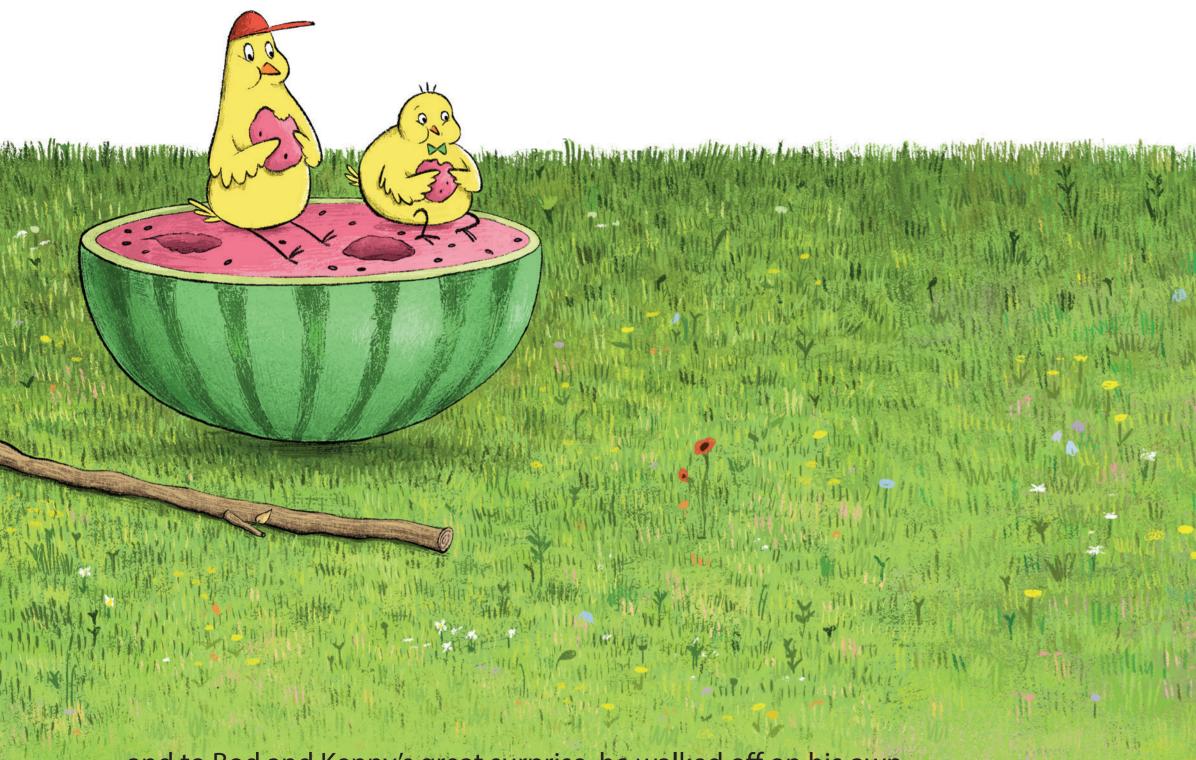


## "Let's eat it," said Kenny.



"Oh yes, yummy!" agreed Bod.

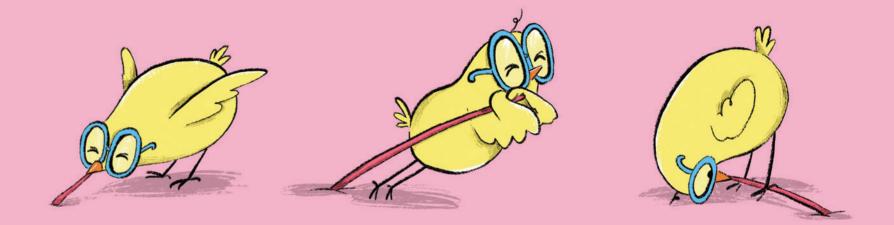
But Pipo didn't fancy eating the watermelon, ...



... and to Bod and Kenny's great surprise, he walked off on his own.

He'd decided to look for something else to eat.



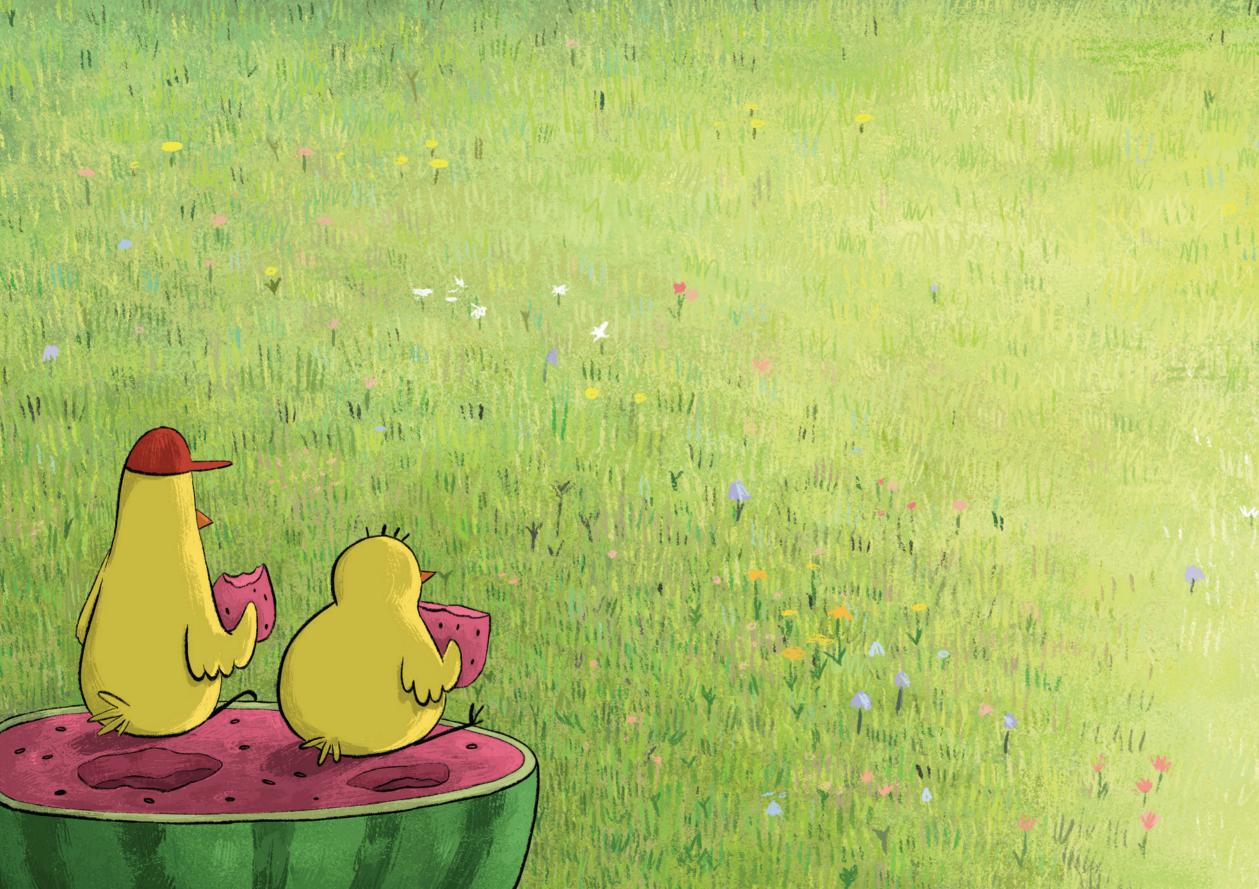




Like a big tasty earthworm.

He pulled and tugged and heaved as hard as he could, ...

... but he just couldn't budge it, not even a millimetre. Bother!



It was a very unusual earthworm.

But when Pipo set his mind to something, nothing could hold him back.

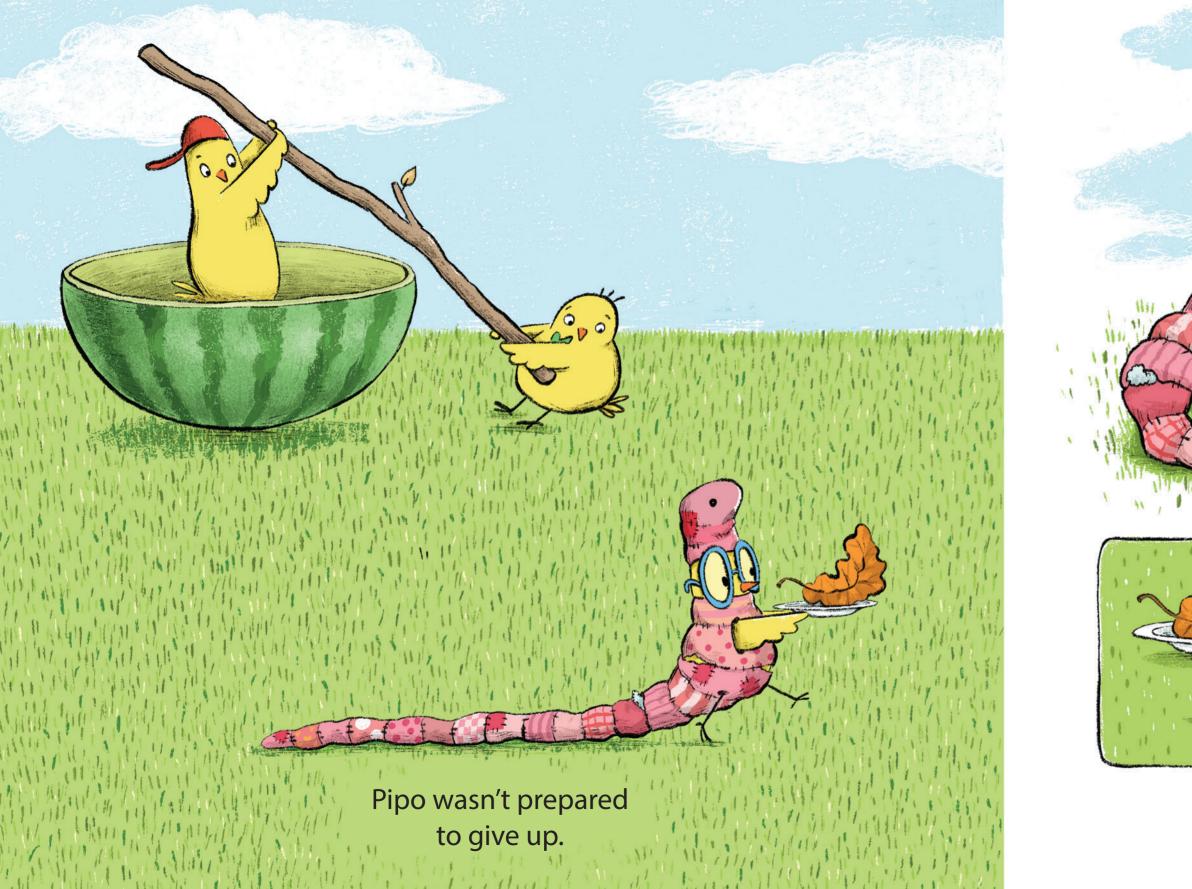
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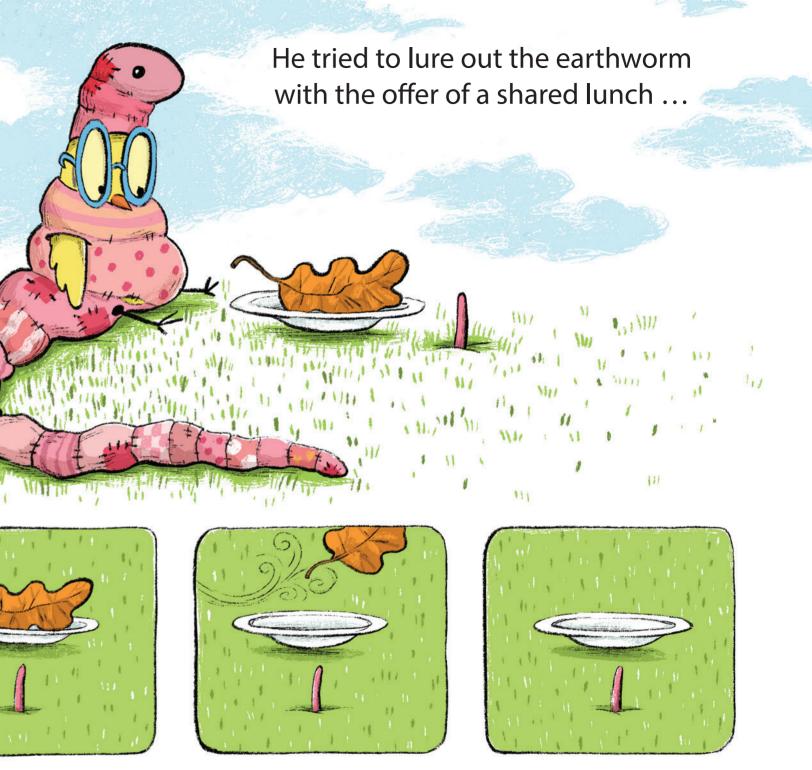




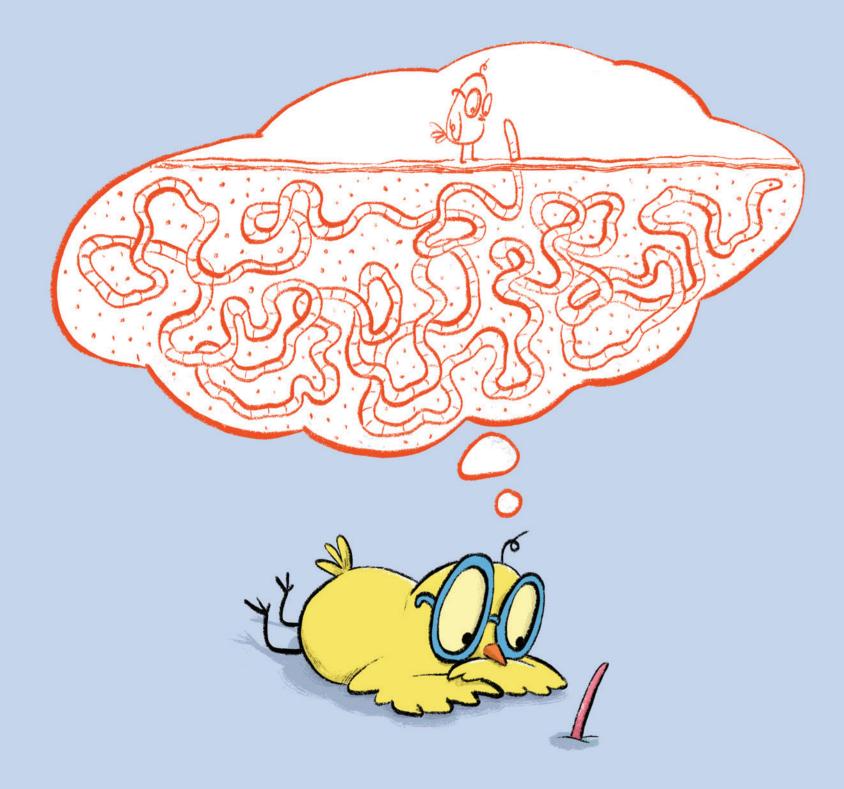
"Perhaps it only comes out at night," he thought.

But whether it was daytime or appeared to be nighttime, the earthworm remained rooted in the earth.





... but it didn't move a muscle.



It truly was an UNUSUAL earthworm.





And an unusual earthworm called for an unusual way of unearthing it.

He pulled with all his strength ...

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... until he finally yanked it out...



"A boot!" cried the delighted Pipo. It wasn't just any old boot.

OTT



It was a tower for diving, ...





a secret cave...

... and a climbing wall.



Playing with the boot was a lot of fun. But it would have been even better with his friends.



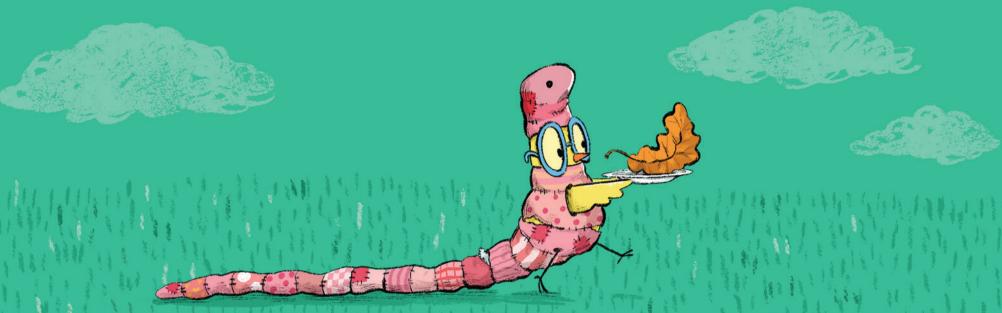
Bod and Kenny were also missing Pipo, and it was turning out to be a very hot day.



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Once there were three friends, Pipo, Bod and Kenny, who were always thinking up new ways to play. They were always at their happiest when they were together. Until one day Pipo didn't fancy eating watermelon like the others. Off he went and found an unusual earthworm, which wasn't going to leave the earth without a bitter struggle. After battling and defeating his adversary, Pipo discovered something he hadn't expected ...

A funny new story for spring by a renowned author of popular children's books about how nice it is sometimes to do something different.

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