



BOOKS FROM TAIWAN



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**ABOUT
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CREATIVE
CONTENT
AGENCY**

Gifted with cultural and natural diversity, Taiwan has created admirable economic and political miracles over time that empowers many fascinating stories. Even though cultural industries in Taiwan have been prosperous and prolific, in response to the knowledge economy and evolving technologies, we stand at a critical point to adapt and innovate.

Founded in 2019, TAICCA is a professional intermediary organization supervised by the Ministry of Culture to facilitate cultural industry development, including but not limited to publishing, audiovisual, music, animation, comics, games, and cultural technology applications. TAICCA drives industrial investments, innovations, and formulates Taiwan's cultural brand that enriches the international cultural landscape through our diverse and rich cultural content.



**GRANT FOR THE
PUBLICATION OF
TAIWANESE WORKS IN
TRANSLATION (GPT)**

**MINISTRY OF CULTURE,
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)**

GPT is set up by The Ministry of Culture to encourage the publication of Taiwanese works in translation overseas, to raise the international visibility of Taiwanese cultural content, and to help Taiwan's publishing industry expand into non-Chinese international markets..

- Applicant Eligibility: Foreign publishing houses (legal persons) legally registered in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respective countries.
- Conditions:
 1. The so-called Taiwanese works must meet the following requirements:
 - A. Use traditional characters;
 - B. Written by a natural person holding an R.O.C. identity card;
 - C. Has been assigned an ISBN in Taiwan.
i.e., the author is a native of Taiwan, and the first 6 digits of the book's ISBN are 978-957-XXX-XXX-X or 978-986-XXX-XXX-X.
 2. Applications must include documents certifying that the copyright holder of the Taiwanese works consents to its translation and foreign publication (no restriction on its format).
 3. A translation sample of the Taiwanese work is required (no restriction on its format and length).
- Grant Items:
 1. The maximum grant available for each project is NT\$600,000, which covers:
 - A. Licensing fees (going to the copyright holder of the Taiwanese works);
 - B. Translation fees;
 - C. Marketing and promotion fees (limited to economy class air tickets for the R.O.C. writer to participate in overseas promotional activities related to the project);
 - D. Book production-oriented fees;
 - E. Tax (20% of the total award amount);
 - F. Remittance-related handling fees.
 2. Priority consideration is given to books that have received the Golden Tripod Award, the Golden Comic Award, or the Taiwan Literature Award.
- Application Period: Twice every year. The MOC reserves the right to change the application periods, and will announce said changes separately.
- Announcement of successful applications: Winners will be announced within three months of the end of the application period.
- Application Method: Please visit the Ministry's official website (https://grants.moc.gov.tw/Web_ENG/), and use the online application system.

For full details, please visit: https://grants.moc.gov.tw/Web_ENG/

Or contact: books@moc.gov.tw

About TAICCA Select

As book adaptations and interdisciplinary development gain momentum in recent years, TAICCA recommends outstanding titles in each issue to publishers, TV and film producers, and other media developers worldwide, with sample translations and related articles available online. For more details, email: booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com.

TAICCA

SELECT

SLEEPWALKING

夢遊

With his eyes closed, a little boy climbs out of bed and begins a big adventure. He walks across the ceiling, along an electricity cable, and takes a ride on a Ferris wheel. Where is he going? Wherever he goes, someone is following, secretly, silently, looking out for him.

Strange things can happen in the deep of night. With his eyes closed, a little boy climbs out of bed, walks across the ceiling, and out of the window into a big adventure! He walks along an electricity cable, over a lion (he isn't scared), rides on a Ferris wheel, dances on the sea, and walks through paddy fields, picking a bunch of beautiful flowers on the way. He seems to be hurrying, but where is he going? Wherever it is, someone is following, secretly, silently, looking out for him.

What is the world like at night? Is it like a dreamworld full of adventure and fantasy? The story starts with a child sleepwalking. As we follow him step by step, what appears to be a heroic adventure story takes a heartwarming turn. Open the book, and follow him on a sleepwalking adventure that is both real and unreal.



Text by Yen Chih Hao 顏志豪

Yen Chi Hao has a PhD in children's literature from National Taitung University, and is now a full-time writer. His other works include the children's novels *A Fool Sells Fragrant Farts* and *Ghost Game*.



Illustrated by Hsueh Hui-Yin 薛慧瑩

Hsueh Hui-Yin is an illustrator, mother, and housewife. Her work is often seen on covers of children's novels. Her comic book publications include *Big and Small: Everyday Battles between Mothers and Children*, and her picture books include *Mr. Alzheimer* and *Dear Grandma*.



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-

A THIRTY-MINUTE STORY THAT TOOK FIVE YEARS TO COMPLETE: AN INTERVIEW WITH THE AUTHOR AND THE ILLUSTRATOR OF *SLEEPWALKING*

Written by Bernie Yang

Translated by Sarah-Jayne Carver

At first glance, the large full moon on the front cover of *Sleepwalking* may remind you of the classic film *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* which also features a young boy who goes on a big adventure, but the picture book's plot twists and the pervading ingenuity of its illustrations help make readers feel the warmth of the affection that permeates its pages.

Stories Born from Childhood Memories

Sleepwalking is based on author Yen Chih Hao's own experience as he often sleepwalked when he was a child and it was something his father worried about constantly. Looking back on it as an adult, Yen Chih Hao wanted to thank his father and cherish the memory of his grandparents who had passed away, so he picked up a pen and composed this story which only took him thirty minutes to write. The publisher introduced him to illustrator Hsueh Hui-Yin and the way they collaborated was quite interesting: once Yen Chih Hao finished writing, he gave Hsueh Hui-Yin full responsibility and the two of them had zero contact until the draft was completed.

Hsueh Hui-Yin thought that it wouldn't take much time since the plot was simple and Yen Chih Hao had



Sketches of *Sleepwalking*

provided preliminary concepts for the images. She certainly hadn't expected her progress to be hampered by multiple factors, and the author didn't push her too much for the sake of quality. Thus, a story which was written in thirty minutes ended up taking five years to illustrate. In fact, it took so long that the editor who'd originally been responsible for the project had gotten



Finished Pages

married and had children in that time.

The turning point came when the two of them met after the rough drawings were completed. Yen Chih Hao thought the middle of the story was lacking an important turning point: a scene where the father hugs his son. The editor thought it could be omitted, but Yen Chih Hao persisted and decided to discuss it with Hsueh Hui-Yin in person. To his surprise, he found that Hsueh Hui-Yin also felt that they should add this scene and they both regretted not having met sooner.

Conveying Profound Issues in Picture Books

Sleepwalking describes a young boy who sleepwalks out of his house in the middle of the night and embarks on a great adventure. He travels far and wide, his anxious

father by his side and protecting him along the way before it transpires that the boy had been going to lay flowers at his grandparents' graves all along. The father and son embrace and the sleepwalking spell is broken, then their journey home is filled with warm father-son interactions. In the end, the boy returns to his bed and falls back into a peaceful sleep.

At the beginning it seems like an adventure story, but in the middle there's such an unexpected plot twist and the book ends with an affectionate note between father and son. When asked whether he deliberately planned it this way, Yen Chih Hao quickly replied that a common motive in life is to supplement our inner selves and as we slowly accumulate this material over time it naturally reveals itself so there's no need to purposely construct something new.

Surprisingly for someone who had already written many works over the course of his career, Yen Chih Hao's appreciation for children's literature occurred relatively late. It wasn't until he pursued a graduate degree in children's literature that he really came into contact with it and began to slowly figure out his own creative path. It could be said that children's literature is his safe haven and that he wants to give children hope and spark their imaginations through his works, and that this is where he finds his own creative joy.

While the book explores profound issues such as death and parent-child interactions which might seem a bit serious or difficult for young children to understand, Yen Chih Hao tries to tell the story in the style of a fairy tale. He takes a warm approach to reflecting on life and makes the child's thoughts the main highlight, which he

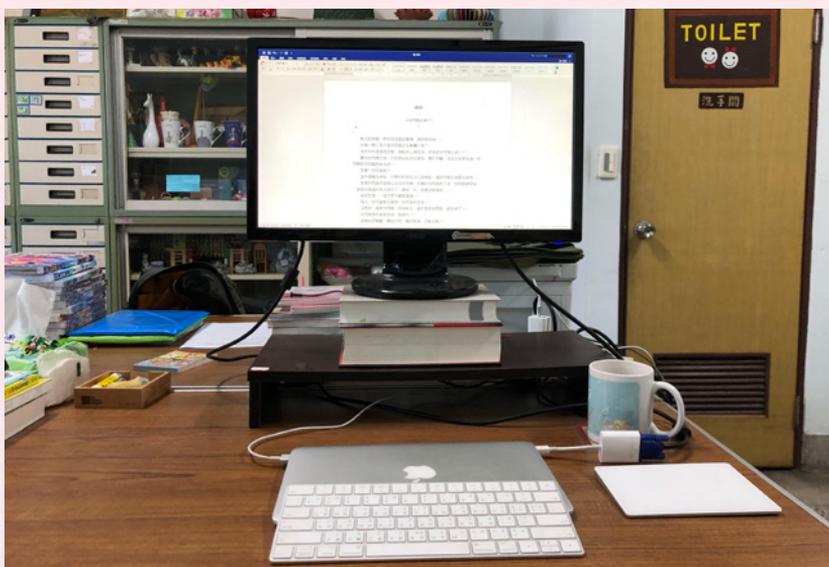
particularly emphasises by having the father stay silent on the journey. It's not just about hoping that parents can let their children fly, it's about wanting children to always have that strong backing and support.

The Shared Dance Between Author and Illustrator

In terms of collaboration between an author and an illustrator, Yen Chih Hao believes that an illustrator should respond to the text and the pictures should bring an additional layer of creativity. With *Sleepwalking*, Yen Chih Hao left Hsueh Hui-Yin a lot of space for expression: "It's like two people dancing together, it's just that I danced the first half then stepped aside so my partner could dance the second half." He hoped that by having their



Hsueh Hui-Yin's desk



Yen Chih Hao's desk

two life stories intertwine, they could create an even more beautiful third story. A good picture book should be like a film, where the text gets the ball rolling and the images immerse the reader in the story.

The book contains relatively few words and the latter half of the return journey is told entirely through images which gives the narrative a unique style of its own, although this lack of text also puts the illustrator's storytelling ability to the test. Hsueh Hui-Yin initially painted the images by hand but discovered the pictures looked too crowded so she did the illustrations digitally to reach the perfect balance. If you look carefully, you'll see that the pictures contain a lot of hidden details which Hsueh Hui-Yin deftly uses to bring the images to life, including the boy's stuffed animals, the way the moon moves across the night sky to signify the passage of time, and the illustrations in the second half which are in the opposite direction to show that they're on the return journey.

Hsueh Hui-Yin believes that relative to creating a single illustration or a book cover, illustrating a picture book is more like making an album. A picture book is a complete story, so it is important to pay close attention to the narrative structure and cohesion between plots. The composition and arrangement of images need to be carefully considered and the pictures must convey what

cannot be expressed by words.

Sleepwalking's landscapes are often filled with features that are distinctly Taiwanese, such as its wind turbines, trains, and convex traffic mirrors, all of which remind readers of the island's beauty. Combining this with the universal feelings conveyed by the story itself and the straightforward illustrations will surely help the book transcend language barriers and impress readers from all over the world.



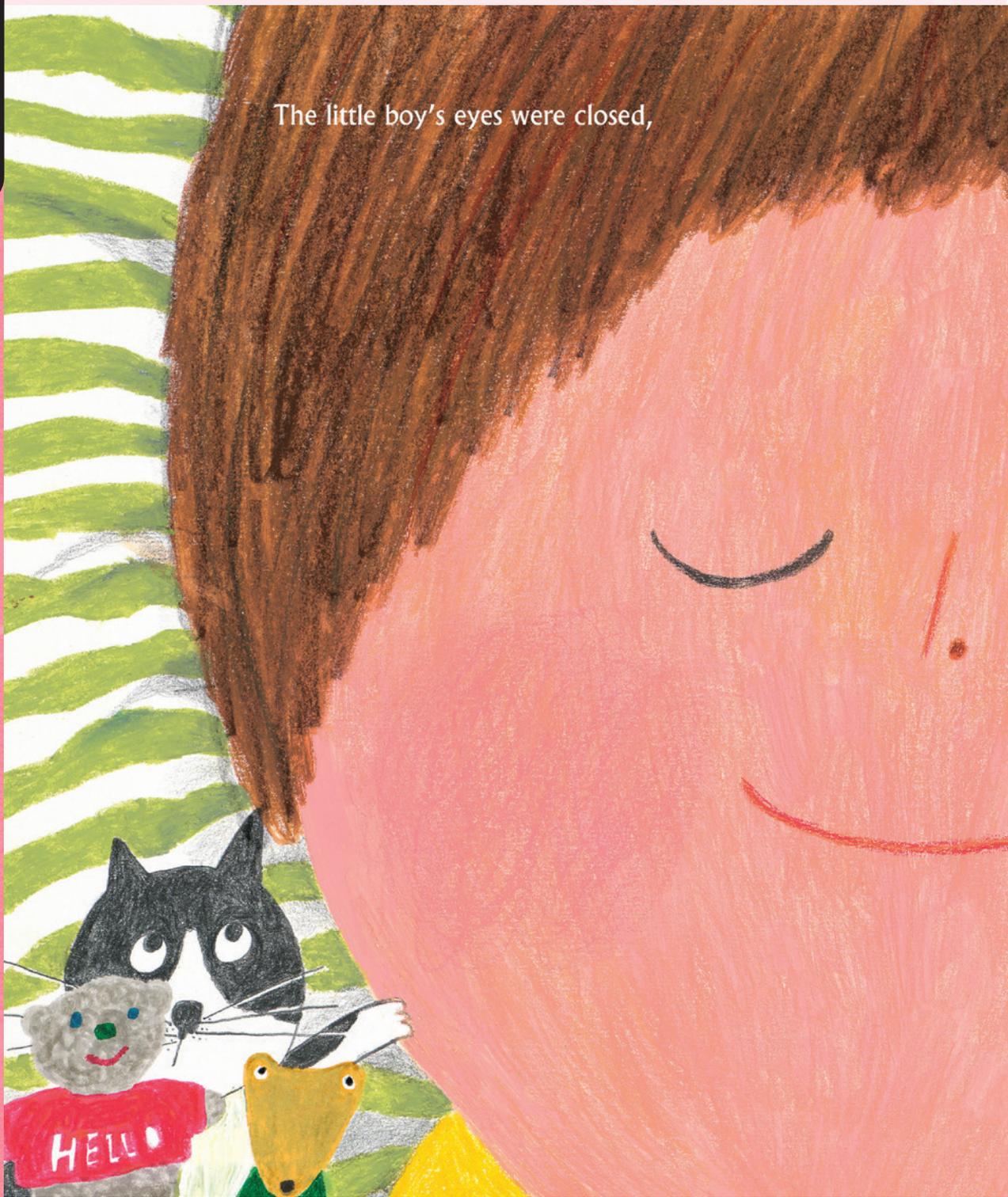
Sleepwalking in progress



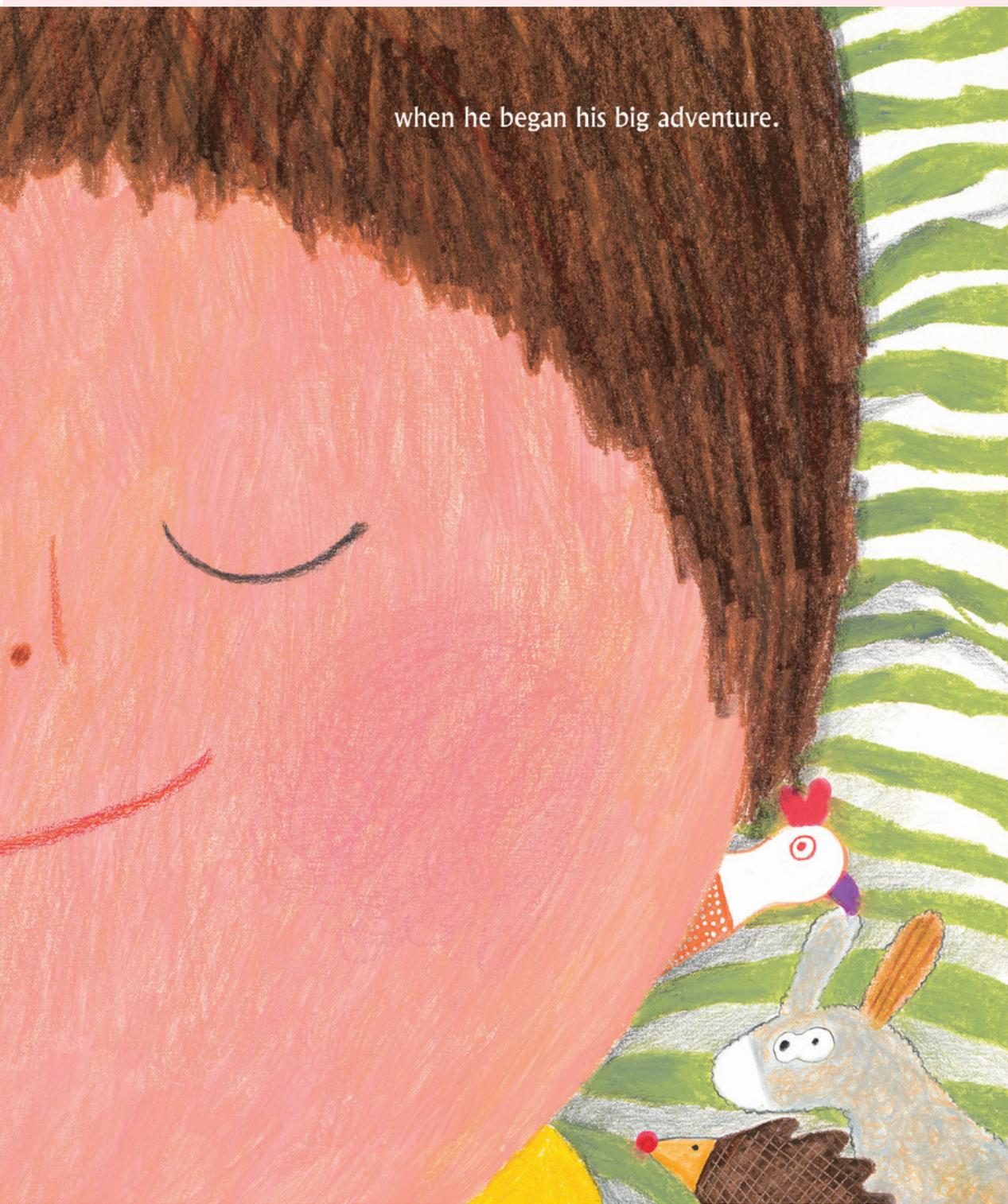
Strange things can happen
in the deep of night.



The little boy's eyes were closed,



when he began his big adventure.







He
walked
across
the
ceiling,
and
out
of
the
window.

FOX HATCHES AN EGG

狐狸孵蛋

A hungry fox finds a beautiful duck's egg, but would rather eat a tasty little duck, so he becomes a super-nanny, and waits patiently for the egg to hatch.

Fox is so hungry he can hardly move. He chances upon a beautiful smooth duck's egg. He is just about to crack it open and eat it, when a thought occurs to him: "If I hatch the egg, I'll be able to eat a tasty little duck!" So he takes the egg with him when he goes walking, and even takes it to bed with him. Over time, the egg becomes his friend. Then, one day, Fox is woken by a strange noise. He notices a little hole in the top of the egg, and sees a little duck's beak pecking away at the hole...

Fox Hatches an Egg has been a classic in the Taiwanese children's book world for twenty years. Reminiscent of Aesop's fables, Sun Chyng-Feng's story depicts with humour the relationship between Fox and the little duck, but turns the old-style fox-as-villain story into one with warmth and kindness. The new illustrations by Nan Jun are full of autumnal colour and atmosphere and are cleverly constructed, making this a wonderful reinterpretation of a classic.



Text by Sun Chyng-Feng 孫晴峰

Chyng-Feng Sun is Professor of Media Studies at the School of Professional Studies, New York University. She was previously a journalist at the children's edition of *Min Sheng Daily* in Taiwan, and an editor of children's books. She has published almost forty books for children: poetry, fairy tales, picture books, in English or Chinese, and has won the *China Times* Literary Prize for children's story books, the Hsin-Yi Children's Literature Award, the Golden Tripod Award, and other important children's literature awards in Taiwan.



Illustrated by Nan Jun 南君

Born in Pingtung, Nan Jun was inspired at primary school by page after page of exquisitely illustrated picture books to pursue a career in this field. He continues to work by hand, because he wants to have only one "draft". His work is retro in style and very finely executed. His picture books include *Wishing at 18 Degrees Below Zero*, and *The Girl from the Tower*.



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FEELINGS THAT TRANSCEND SPECIES: AN INTERVIEW WITH THE AUTHOR AND THE ILLUSTRATOR OF *FOX HATCHES AN EGG*

Written by Anting Lu

Translated by Sarah-Jayne Carver

We've all read Aesop's Fables and closed the book with a knowing smile, moved by the love, courage, and humour in the stories. However, many of the fables feature one animal who is never very likable: a solitary fox with sharp fangs who is always labelled as cunning and treacherous. As a lover of fables, children's book author Sun Chyng-Feng noticed that the fox had been treated "unfairly" over the years and decided to write *Fox Hatches an Egg* to gently invert the role.

Reversing the Character's Image and Shaping Its Ideal Values

In the interview with Sun Chyng-Feng, we started by discussing the fox's traditional role as a villain. She talked about how she started writing fairy tales in her third year of university and how she wanted to subvert the traditional way of thinking by challenging the various stereotypes surrounding widely-held gender and class distinctions. As topics like these are very important to

her, Sun Chyng-Feng's typical creative process is to start by deciding on the story's main notion or subject matter, and then running with a story to express it. For example, *Fox Hatches an Egg* discusses the process of transforming from "selfish" to "selfless".

Since Sun Chyng-Feng has lived in the US for many years, collaborating with illustrator Nan Jun on *Fox Hatches an Egg* was more like a relay race than co-creation. First, Sun Chyng-Feng completed the manuscript and then Nan Jun came up with the image concepts and drew the illustrations. This process gave both author and illustrator the most space for creativity. Talking about the content of the illustrations, Sun Chyng-Feng said there was one image which left a particularly deep impression on her: a white duck egg which takes up almost an entire page. This simple, bold composition captures that moment when Fox suddenly sees the duck egg in the undergrowth and he's so excited that everything else in his mind goes blank, as if the egg takes up the entire universe.

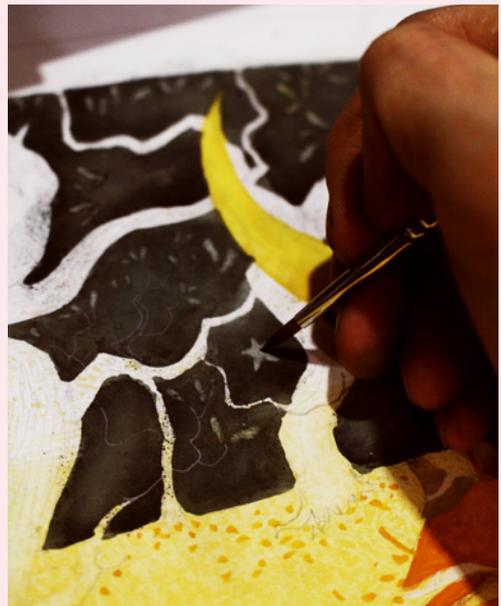


Nan Jun's studio

Love Between Species and the Warm Life of Companionship

For illustrator Nan Jun, the most moving part of the story was the cross-species friendship between Fox and the duck which was brought about by chance but eventually became inevitable. He recalls his own childhood home where his kind-hearted father would sometimes look after stray animals and even adopted piglets, ducklings, and other unusual "pets" by modern day standards. When reading *Fox Hatches an Egg* he could completely understand how after Fox and duck kept each other company, Fox can no longer see the duck as food and instead feels a wave of affection towards it.

This is why when we asked Nan Jun which image was his favourite, he immediately said the cover: a picture of Fox curled up around the egg and sleeping soundly, with the two characters framed by the shape of a house. Nan Jun admits that the painting process means that you can't always capture one hundred percent of



Fox Hatches an Egg in progress



Nan Jun's studio



Nan Jun's studio

the scene you imagined, but once he saw the completed cover he felt it had come out even better than he could have hoped. It really captured the warmth between Fox and the duck.

In addition to the subtly revealed affection between the two characters, Nan Jun set the book during autumn and meticulously planned the detailed settings. "The special thing about setting it during autumn was that even though the weather would be cold, the pictures would be filled with the kind of colours which would make readers feel that sense of warmth." He added that this all tied back in with the feelings between Fox and the duck.

True Feelings Can Transcend Languages and Borders

At the end of the interview, we chatted about the potential for *Fox Hatches an Egg* to reach an international

readership and Nan Jun stated he was particularly confident in the book's portrayal of the closeness between the characters: "*Fox Hatches an Egg* will resonate easily with people of all ages and races because emotions are a universal language. It's a book you can fall in love with as soon as you read it."

Sun Chyng-Feng also believes that the book tells a universal story about love, and that there are no specific cultural or geographical limitations to it. In the end, Fox is so upset by his actions that he becomes a vegetarian and is more than happy to make that sacrifice. These bittersweet sentiments are what makes this the perfect fable, and also bring a touch of real emotion to the story. This may be why the book resonates so much with readers.

Fox was so hungry he could hardly move.
His whole body felt weak.
He leaned his head against a tree while he caught his breath.
"I'm so hungry," he muttered to himself, "I think I might die."
Then everything went black.
Fox keeled over, and slept for thirteen hours.
When he woke, he felt brighter,
but he could still feel those two claws of hunger
grabbing and wringing his stomach,
making it difficult for him to breathe.

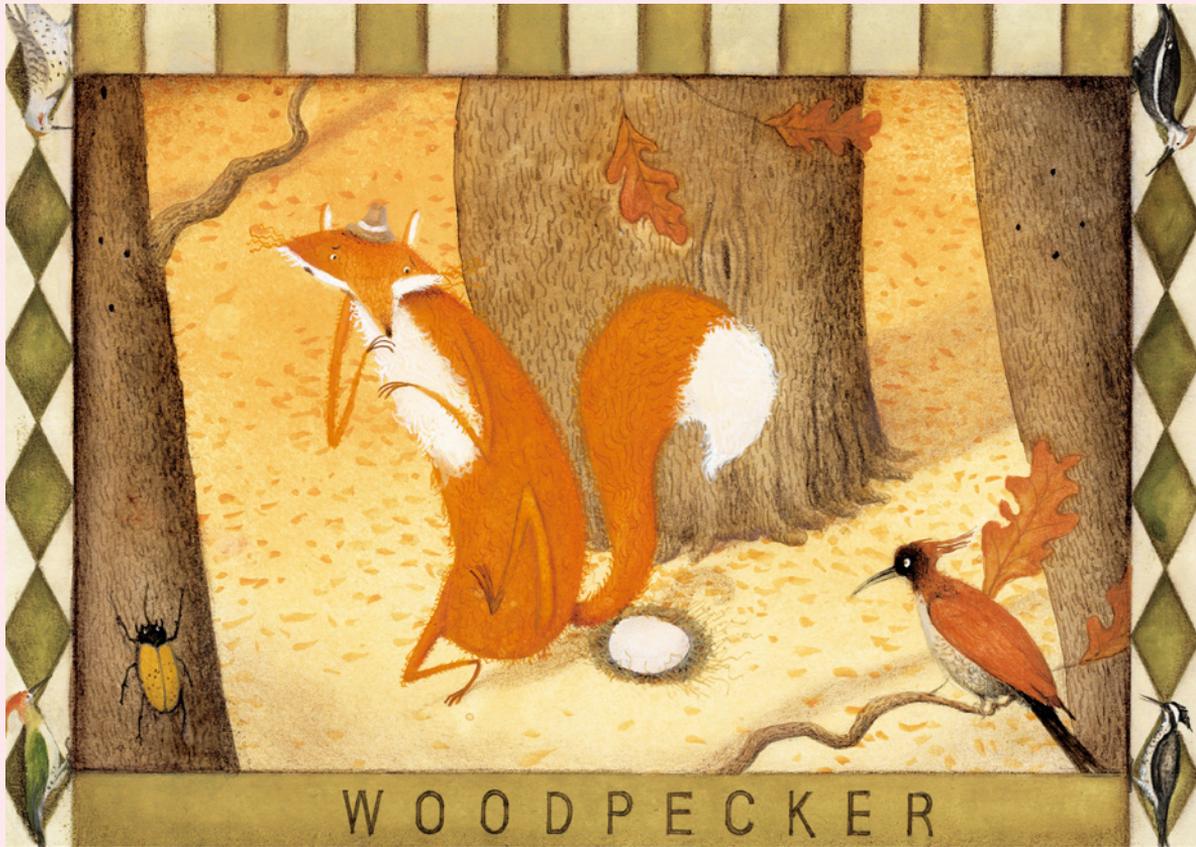
Clutching his belly, Fox searched in the long grass by the tree,
and found a prickly blackberry bush.
Without a moment's hesitation,
but dodging the prickles,
Fox picked the berries one by one.
He didn't care if they were sour, or if there were tiny spiders.
He ate them by the pawful.
The berries were small, but they did the job.
Feeling stronger now, and bored of blackberries,
Fox set off down the hill,
hoping to find some food by the pond.





Fox couldn't believe his eyes.
His mouth hung open for three whole seconds.
It was a miracle! A miracle!
In the grass by the pond lay an enormous white duck's egg!
His mind went blank for one second,
and the next thing he knew
the egg was in his mouth.

Fox was just about to bite into the egg
and let the delicious liquid run down his throat.
As his teeth scratched the shell, a voice boomed in his head:
"Which would you rather eat - a duck's egg or a duck?"
Fox opened his mouth so as not to break the shell.
"Wouldn't you rather eat a tasty little duck?" the voice boomed.
"Yes!"
Fox was excited:
"If I hatch the duck's egg, I'll have meat to eat! Roast duck, mmmmm!"
His mouth was watering, he had to keep swallowing.



Fox thought for a while.

He fetched two planks of wood and placed them on the ground.

He put his front paws on one, his back paws on the other,

then lowered his body so that his furry, warm belly was covering the egg,

but his body was not putting any weight on it.

Perfect!

But his excitement did not last five minutes.

Holding that position was torture:

his legs wouldn't stop trembling,

his back and belly started sagging.

Fox knew that if he went any lower, the egg would be crushed.

He leapt to his feet, and clutched the egg to his belly to keep it warm.

Fox didn't waste any time.
He pictured a mother duck hatching her eggs.
Then he dug a hole at the foot of a tree,
dropped a handful of dry grass in it,
and placed the egg on top.
He was just about to sit down, when he suddenly leapt up:
"I don't want to crush it? What else can I do?"



THE OVIRAPTOR

偷蛋龍

Watch out for the Oviraptor, the dinosaur that steals eggs and oval things! If it smells wee, it will sniff out the boy who wet the bed, and steal his balls. Didi hates wearing a nappy at night, and is determined not to let that happen.

Didi often wets his bed, but he doesn't like going to the toilet at bed-time, and he hates the feel of a wet nappy. One day, reading a book with Mum, he sees a picture of an oviraptor, a dinosaur that steals eggs and oval things, runs faster than the wind, and never comes home empty-handed. Didi checks his balls, and grows more and more worried that the Oviraptor will sniff him out. What if it steals his balls? Didi is determined not to let the Oviraptor get its claws on them!

The story of the Oviraptor was inspired by the experience of the author's son. This cute, reassuring story encourages very young children to overcome their fears. It shows them that it's better to face difficult things than to turn away from them. And that when the problem is solved, they know they have learned something and can be proud of what they have achieved!



Leo Tang 唐唐

A lover of anything creative, Leo Tang practices illustration as a way to return to the happiness of childhood. His illustrated titles have been licensed in Korea, Thailand, Turkey, Russia, and China. He has won several prizes, and his work has been included in the Catalonia Illustrator's Fair and bought by private collectors.



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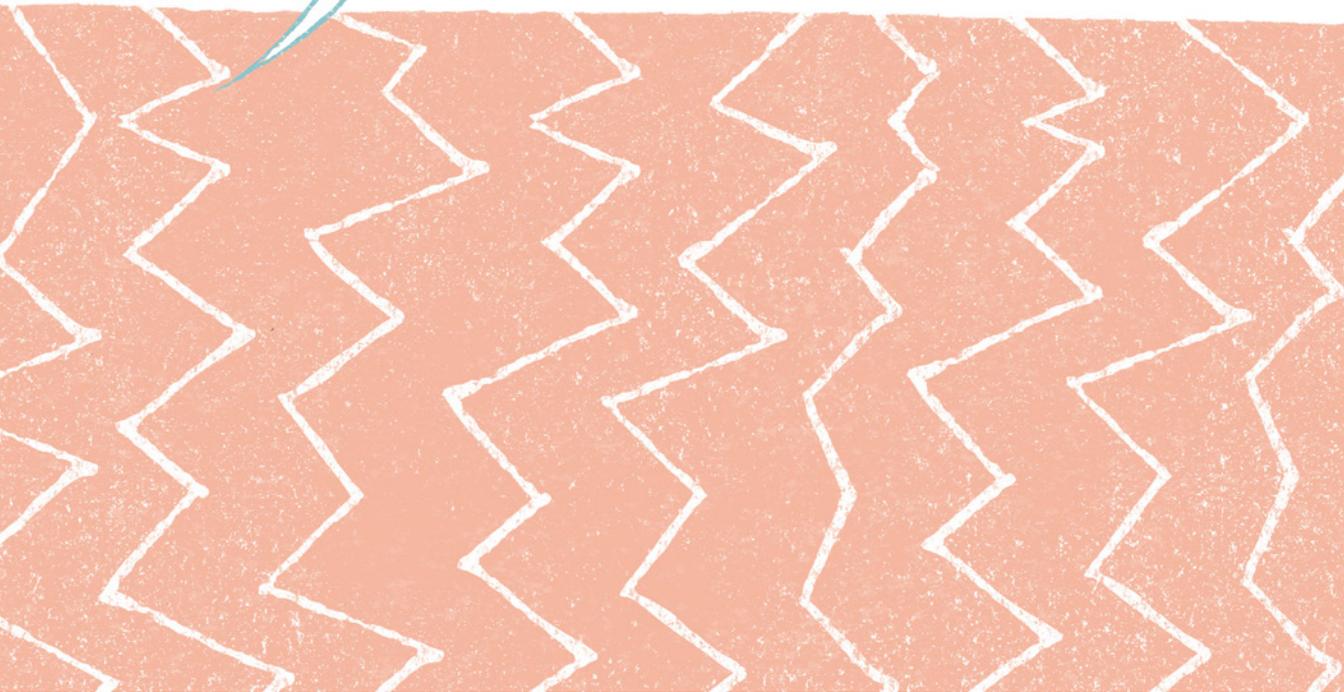


Didi often wet the bed, but he didn't like going to the toilet at bed-time.
As a last resort, Mum would fetch a nappy.
But as soon as Didi saw it, he'd start kicking and screaming.





*Nappies are hot and tight,
And wet and horrible.*



One morning, after removing Didi's wet nappy,
Mum read to him about an awesome dinosaur.

"Once upon a time, far far away,
lived the Oviraptor.
It stole eggs and oval things.
It had a sharp beak and a long tail
and it ran faster than the wind."

Didi listened and forgot he was angry.
Then, his eyes opened wide when he thought of his balls.





LEILONG THE LIBRARY BUS

騎著恐龍去圖書館

* This follows an earlier book *Going to School by Dinosaur* (English, French, Korean, Spanish, Slovak, and Simplified Chinese rights sold).

Can the children get to the library in time to hear the story? They can if they call for Leilong! But the brontosaurus can't go inside the library: he's too big and he doesn't have a library card. But he wants to hear the story too!

Maggie, Mo, and Max want to go to story time, but the library is at the other side of town, and they are running late. When Leilong comes to the rescue, they race down busy roads and speed past traffic, and reach the library just in time! But, the brontosaurus can't go inside: he is too big, and doesn't have a library card. He wants to hear the story, but how? The storyteller has an idea, and gives Leilong a special job!

From the same author and illustrator of *Going to School by Dinosaur*. This time Leilong takes the children to the library! Julia Liu's imaginative story and Bei Lynn's exquisite illustrations with a taste of Taiwan, combine in a book that children will love to read, and that will inspire them to become readers.



Text by Julia Liu 劉思源

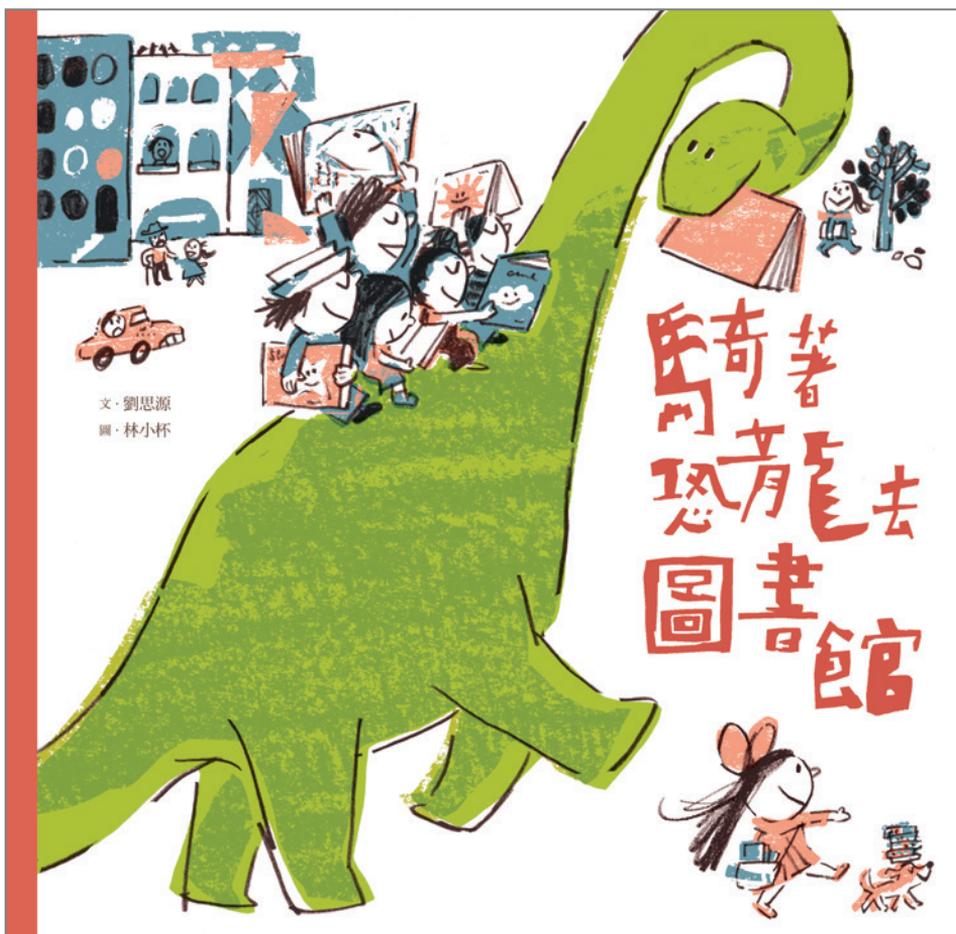
Editor by profession, reader and writer by necessity, Julia Liu lives for language and storytelling. She has served as an editor of children's fiction at several of Taiwan's biggest and most prestigious publishers, and has published picture books, illustrated biographies on Einstein and Archimedes and a collection of fairy tales.



Illustrated by Bei Lynn 林小杯

Bei Lynn is an award-winning illustrator who has written and illustrated over 20 picture books, stories, magazines and comics. Her works have been recognized by various awards and honors, including Hsin-Yi Children Literature Award, *China Times* Open Book Award, Taipei Public Library Best Children's Book, the Best Picture Book of Feng Zikai Award, Nami Concourse Distinction and Sankei Children's Book Award (Japan).

Bei Lynn loves to create stories that combine fantasy and life. Her illustrations are loose and joyous. She also enjoys telling stories for children, whether in the theater or on a small bridge. Her works have been published in French, English, Korean, and Japanese, including *Nous, on va à l'école en dinosaures!* (French), *Bibbit Jumps* (English) and many more.



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Leilong's friends are taking him to story time at the library.

"You'll love it there," Maggie tells him.

"They have books about everything," says Mo.



© Gecko Press

A brontosaurus needs a lot of fuel, so they stop to fill up.
“Grass cakes today,” says Max.



“Go fast, please,” Maggie begs. “We mustn’t be late.”

There might be a story about dinosaurs at the library, thinks Leilong.

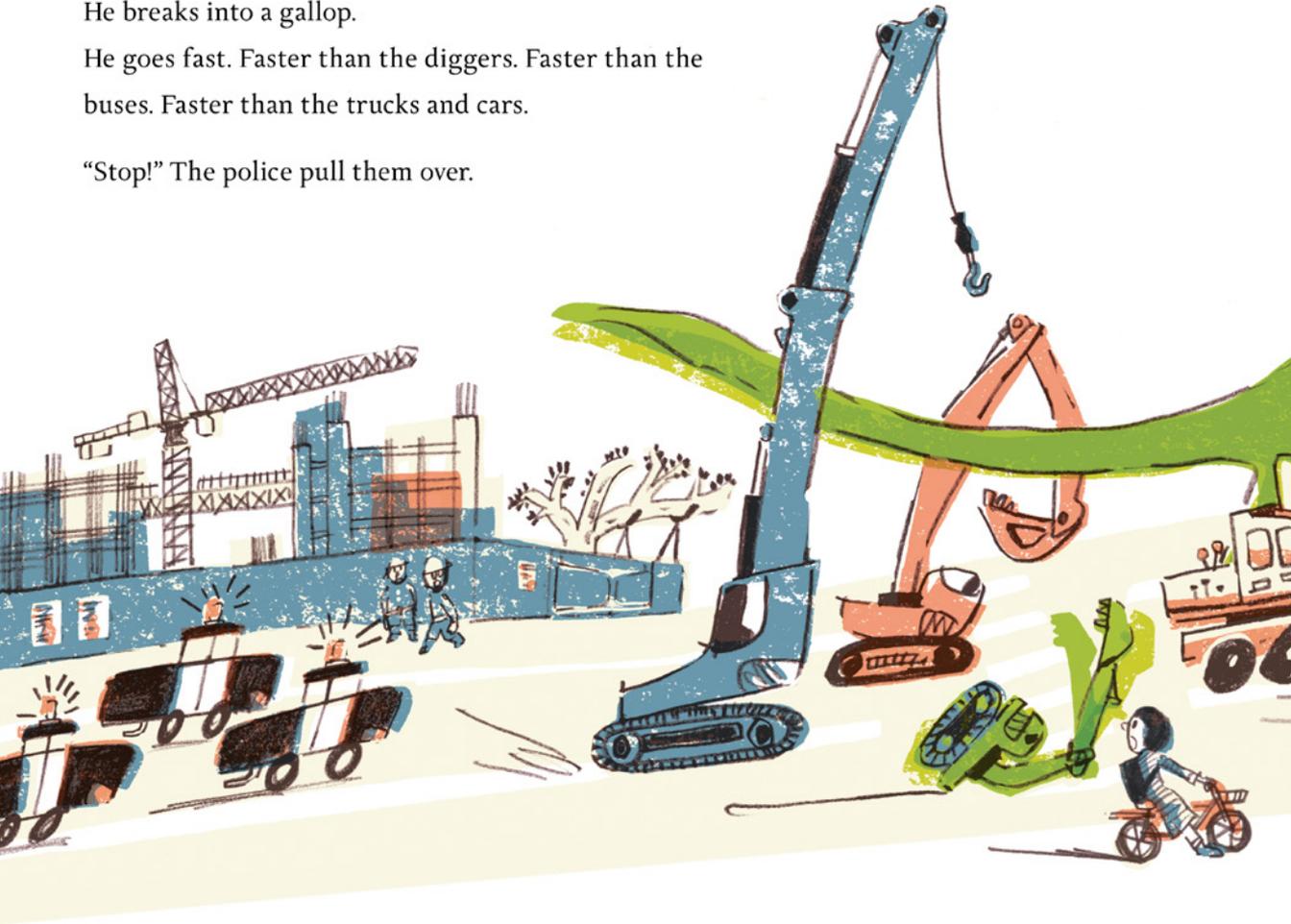


© Gecko Press

He breaks into a gallop.

He goes fast. Faster than the diggers. Faster than the buses. Faster than the trucks and cars.

“Stop!” The police pull them over.



“You must slow down. You have to observe the road rules.”

“Sorry,” says Maggie. “We’re excited about getting to the library.”

“We’ll go slower,” says Mo.



LITTLE MOUSE'S DREAM

小老鼠的夢想

Little Mouse dreams of travelling around the world. He envies his friend Big Mouse, who is always going somewhere. They live different lives and read different books, but it seems Little Mouse is closer to fulfilling his dream than he thinks.

Little Mouse is a very small chef. He's too busy at work to have time to stop. But he has a dream - to travel around the world! Big Mouse lives in a library, with a globe and a map of the world, and lots and lots of books. He enjoys sharing his news of the world with Little Mouse, who thinks his friend is very lucky. One day, Little Mouse is busier than ever at work, and doesn't realize how close he is to living his dream!

Every child has a dream, but how can they make that dream come true? *Little Mouse's Dream* is like a fable - with few words, and gorgeous illustrations, the story inspires the reader to dream and think about life.



Liu Hsu-Kung 劉旭恭

Liu Hsu-Kung was born in Taipei in 1973. A graduate of the Civil Engineering Department at National Taiwan University, he started to work in picture book illustration after taking part in the "Lucy Chen Handmade Picture Book Classroom". His works have won the Hsin-Yi Children's Literature Prize, *China Times* Open Book Award, the Golden Tripod Award and have been selected for exhibition at the Bologna Children's Book Fair. English, Thai, Japanese, French, Swedish, Korean, and Estonian rights have been sold for some of his works.



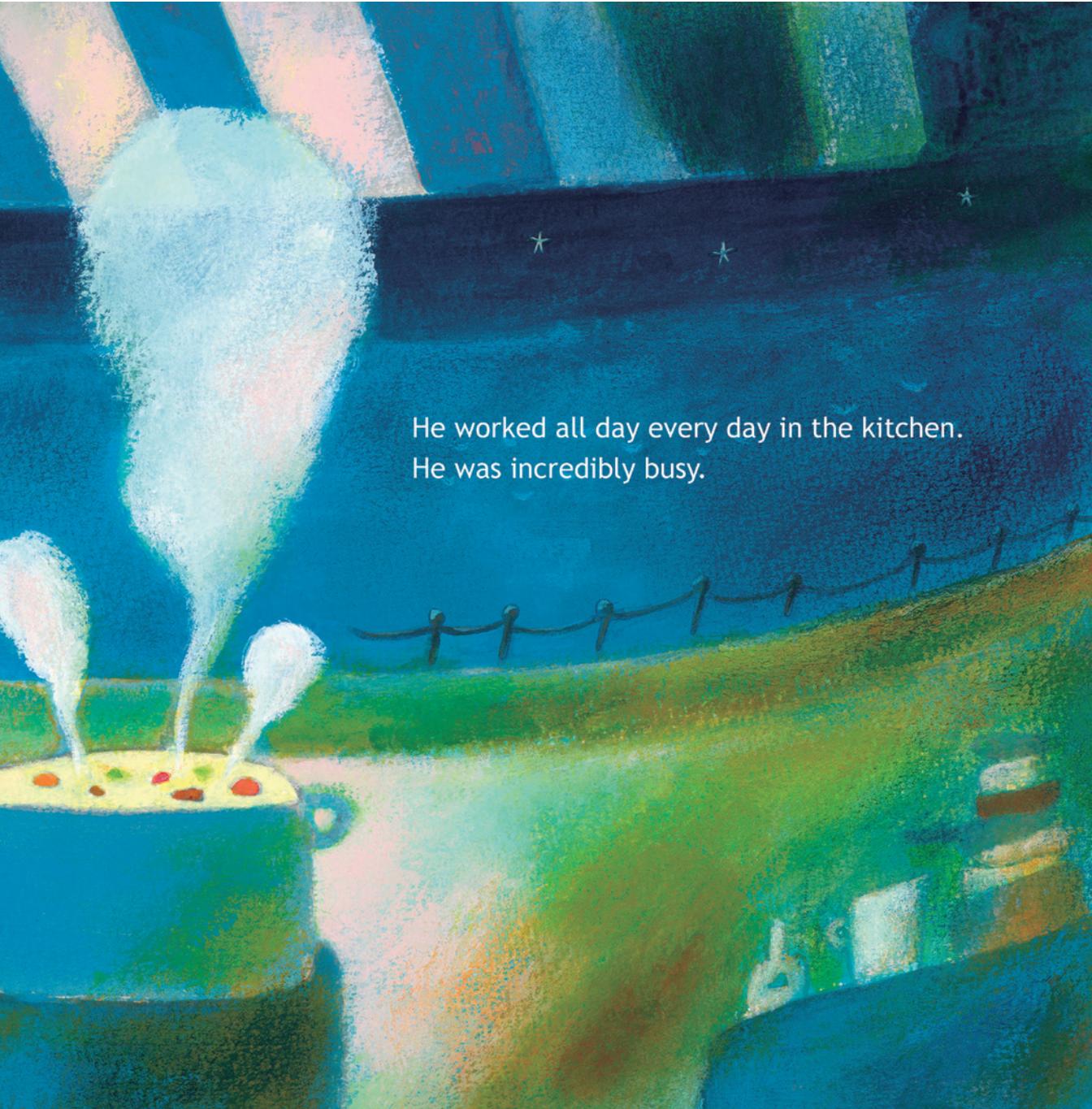
- **Category:** Picturebook
- **Publisher:** Les Gouttes
- **Date:** 8/2020
- **Rights contact:** booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 36
- **Size:** 25 x 25 cm
- **Age:** 3+
- **Rights sold:** Simplified Chinese (CheerFly)





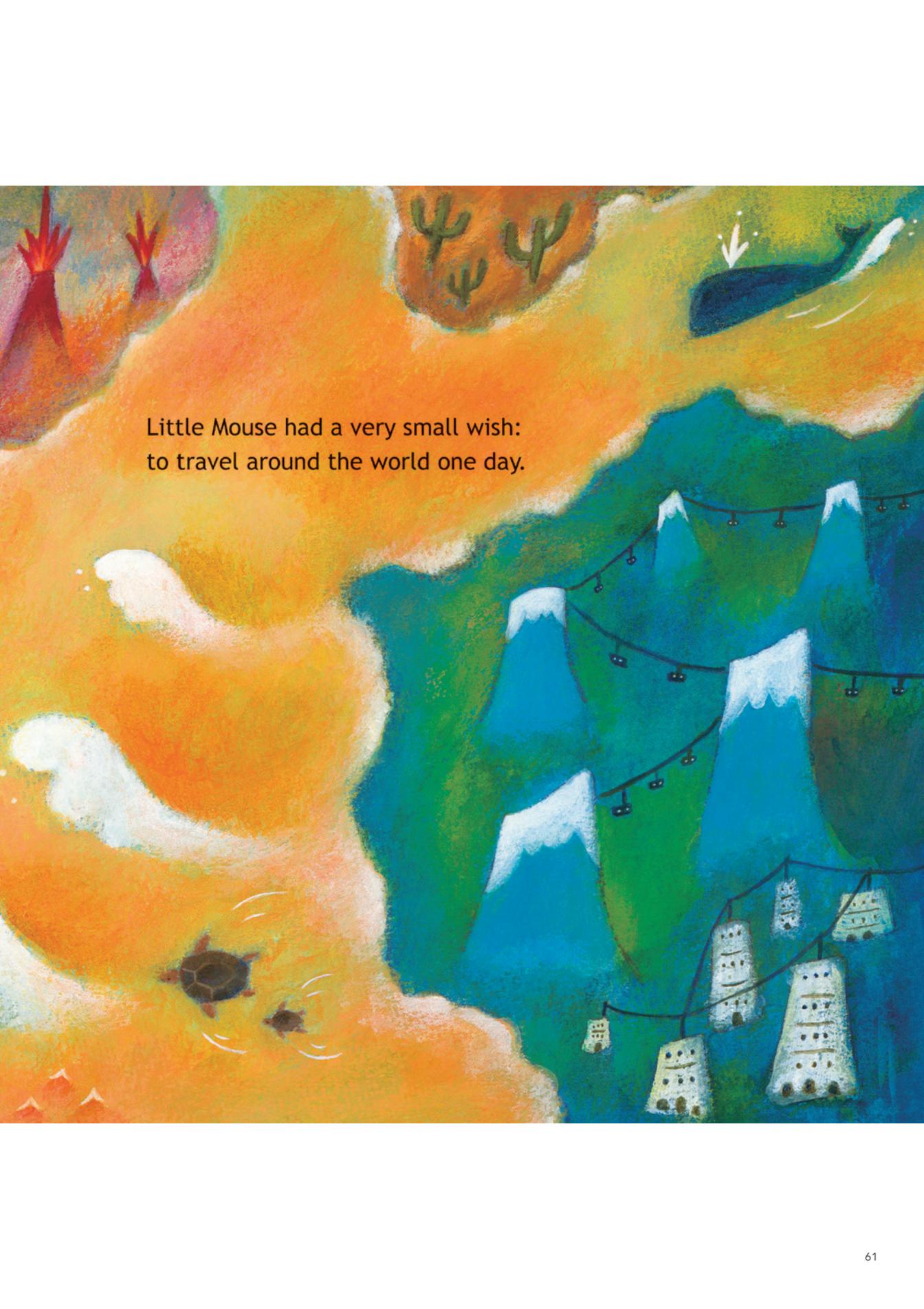
Little Mouse was a very small chef.





He worked all day every day in the kitchen.
He was incredibly busy.





Little Mouse had a very small wish:
to travel around the world one day.

THE CROW AND THE CHERRY BLOSSOM

小黑與櫻花

The crow and the cherry blossom meet at the beginning of spring, and part at the end of spring. In the shortest of friendships, each learns to appreciate the other's beauty, and a beautiful memory is created.

Spring has come. When the crow wakes and opens his eyes, he discovers that the cherry blossom throughout the town has opened too – all except one little bud, which is still sleeping. He waits patiently for the bud to unfurl and flower. After a thunderstorm, the crow's feathers are soaked through, but the cherry blossom is still intact. In the quiet of early morning, the crow tells the cherry blossom about his dream. He looks forward to meeting him again next spring. But can that really happen?

The Crow and the Cherry Blossom is an elegant and poetic picture book. The gentle narrative style and the detailed pencil drawings offer a calm and comforting reading experience. The crow is black, and the cherry blossom is pink. One moves, one is still. The crow and the cherry blossom are so different, yet they gradually open up to each other, and enjoy a friendship that is short, but deep.



Ni Shao 倪韶

Born in 1992, Ni Shao loves oceans and unicorns. She loves travelling too, and when she can't travel, she turns to books and movies. A graduate of the Department of Motion Pictures, National Taiwan University of Arts, she continues to experiment with different forms of visual narrative.



- **Category:** Picturebook
- **Publisher:** Hsin-Yi
- **Date:** 5/2020
- **Rights contact:** booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 36
- **Size:** 20 x 20 cm
- **Age:** 3+



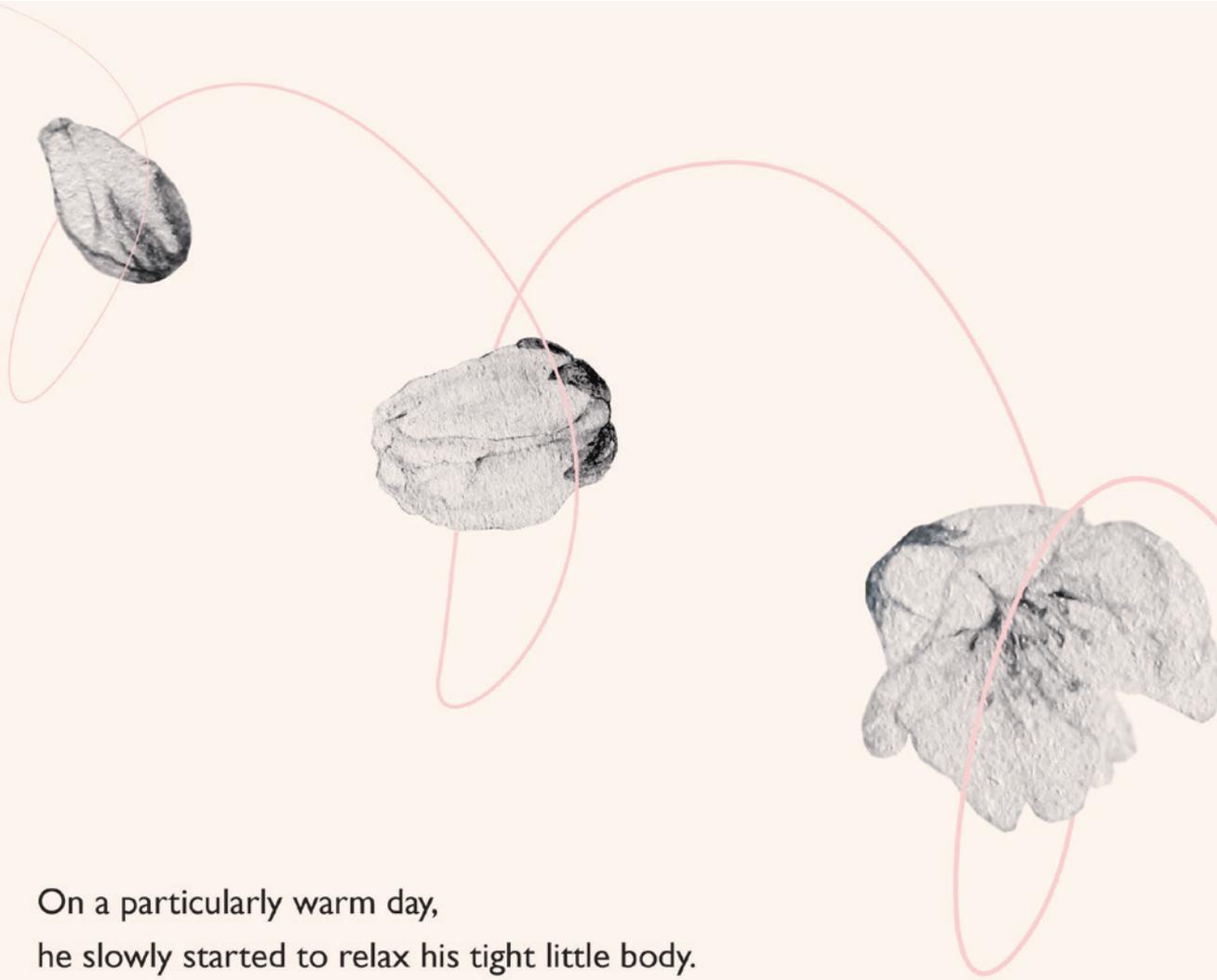
I remember, it was a very special morning.
When I opened my eyes, I thought I was in a dream.
The city's cherry trees had burst into flower overnight.
Mum said, "Spring's here."



I stopped on the cherry tree by the river,
and noticed a bud that was still fast asleep.

His curled up little body was quivering slightly,
as though he might be carried away by the wind at any moment.
I waited by the river for the last cherry bud of spring to blossom.





On a particularly warm day,
he slowly started to relax his tight little body.
The petals unfurling in the sunlight were the softest pink colour.

“Hello, you are the most beautiful cherry blossom I have ever seen.”

“Hello, you are the most beautiful crow I have ever seen.”



HEROES OF THE CITY

城市小英雄

An evil rat has come to town! How will little puppy Lucky and the cats catch him and become Heroes of the City? The latest masterpiece by Peter Pan Prize-winning picture book author and illustrator Chen Chih-Yuan is a detective story with details and clues hidden in the pictures – children will have fun reading the story and solving the mystery!

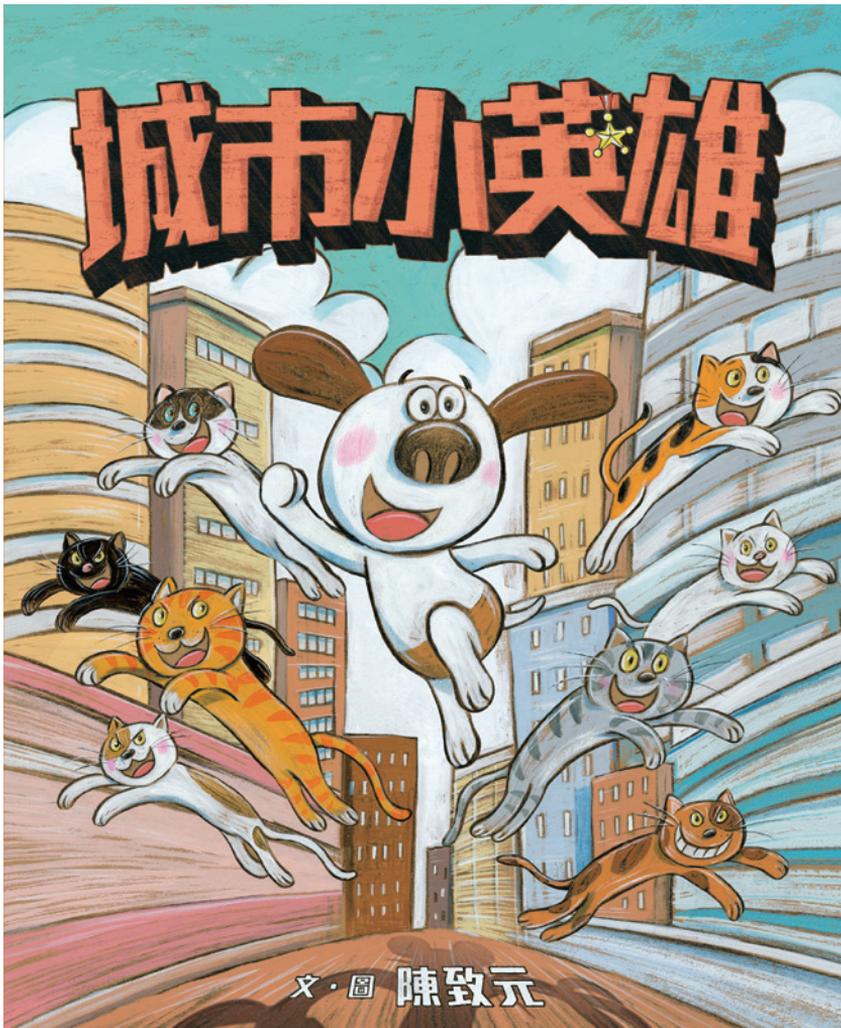
At the dog-breeders' there is a puppy with a pig-like snout and a funny-looking coat. The other puppies make fun of him. On the way to the pet shop, he falls out of the van, wanders the streets and meets a pack of vicious dogs! A group of cats rescues him, and takes him to Cat School, where they have lessons in a yoga, tightrope walking, and special techniques for catching mice. When a giant rat suddenly appears in the city, scaring everyone with his horrible antics, Lucky and the cats decide to help the police and become Heroes of the City.

This new masterpiece by international award-winning children's picture book illustrator Chen Chih-Yuan is a detective story in a colourful cartoon style. Children will have fun solving the mystery as they read the story and look for clues among the details in the pictures. Combining three favourite themes – an exciting adventure, a story of friendship, and personal courage – the story shows children that if they can play to their strengths and work well together, everyone can become a hero!

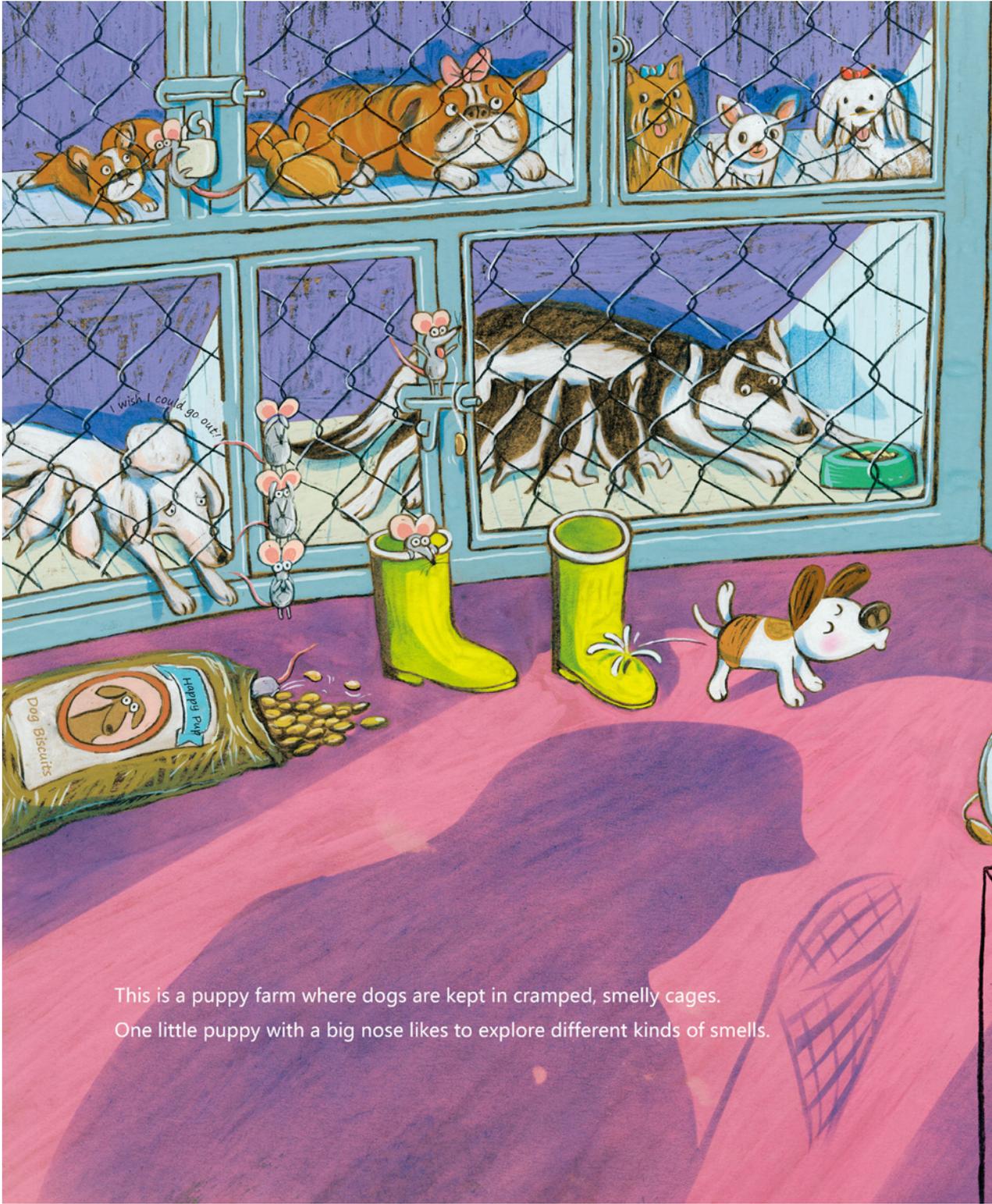


Chen Chih-Yuan 陳致元

Chen Chih-Yuan is a talented author and illustrator. His picture book *Guji Guji*, described by *The Washington Post* as “a treasure of a picture book”, received international acclaim and has been translated into almost 20 languages. He has won awards and commendations at home and abroad, including the Peter Pan Award (Sweden), National Teachers Association (USA) book of the year, *Publishers Weekly* (USA) book of the year, and a BolognaRagazzi Award (Italy). His other works include *On My Way to Buy Eggs*, *The Featherless Chicken*, and *Artie and Julie*.



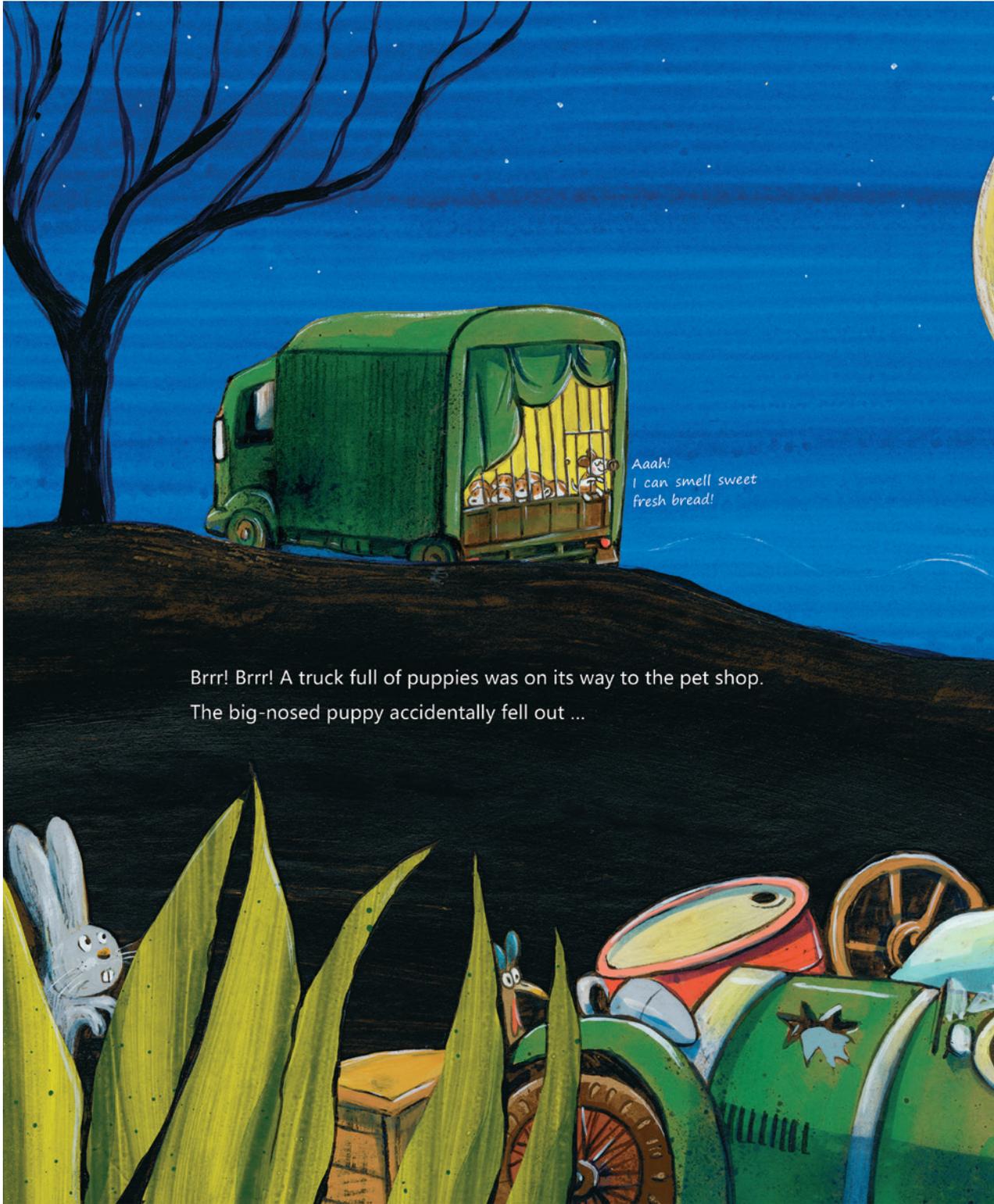
- **Category:** Picturebook
- **Publisher:** CommonWealth Education
- **Date:** 4/2020
- **Rights contact:** booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 52
- **Size:** 26 x 31.7 cm
- **Age:** 3+



This is a puppy farm where dogs are kept in cramped, smelly cages. One little puppy with a big nose likes to explore different kinds of smells.



As soon as the puppies were old enough, they would be sold to the pet shop. But, the big-nosed puppy had strange markings. Who would want to take home a dog that looked like it was wearing underpants...



Aaah!
I can smell sweet
fresh bread!

Brrr! Brrr! A truck full of puppies was on its way to the pet shop.
The big-nosed puppy accidentally fell out ...



THE SECRET OF ZHENG HE'S VOYAGES TO THE WEST

鄭和下西洋的秘密

Over 600 years ago, in the Ming dynasty, Zheng He's fleet prepared to sail to the west. A young carpenter called Wu was excited to be part of this grand undertaking. He thought he'd just be hammering and chiselling, a tiny screw in the whole project, but thanks to a packet of seeds from his grandfather he came to play a much larger role.

Over 600 years ago, before Magellan and Columbus set sail, the Chinese admiral Zheng He led an enormous fleet of ships into the southern seas. A carpenter called Wu was excited to be part of the plans. Although his job was to help build the ships, he dreamed of climbing on board and going to sea. He worked hard every day, but still found time to follow his grandfather's instructions - to plant the seeds he had brought with him, and grow vegetables that tasted of home. Wu never expected that doing something as small as planting seeds would bring about great changes for the fleet!

For a grand undertaking, when everyone must do what they do best, and everyone has a specific role, a tiny idea can have a massive impact. After consulting old texts and visiting historical remains, Lee Ru-Qing has written the glorious history of Zheng He's voyage in a completely new way - from the perspective of a lowly carpenter. Instead of writing about the ambitions of emperors and dignitaries, he shows the wisdom of a young carpenter, and how the astonishing power of seeds made the dream of conquering the oceans come true.



Lee Ru-Qing 李如青

Born on Kinmen, Lee Ru-Qing came to the Taiwanese mainland to seek a better life. After art school, Lee worked in advertising for ten years until in 2007, he started writing children's picture books. His published works include *The Spearfish King*, *Because I Love You*, *Brave 12: The War Pigeons* and *The Last Bodyguard of Lion Fortress*. He has won many awards, including the Golden Tripod Award.



- **Category:** Picturebook
- **Publisher:** SACCA
- **Date:** 7/2020
- **Rights contact:** booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 52
- **Size:** 22.2 x 30.6 cm
- **Age:** 4+
- **Rights sold:** Simplified Chinese (Phoenix)



The Yongle Emperor of the Ming dynasty was very ambitious. He wanted to open up trade, engage with more countries, and explore distant oceans...

To do so, he needed to find someone wise, learned and brave, and above all, someone with integrity and ability, someone with vision. But who could take on such a massive task?

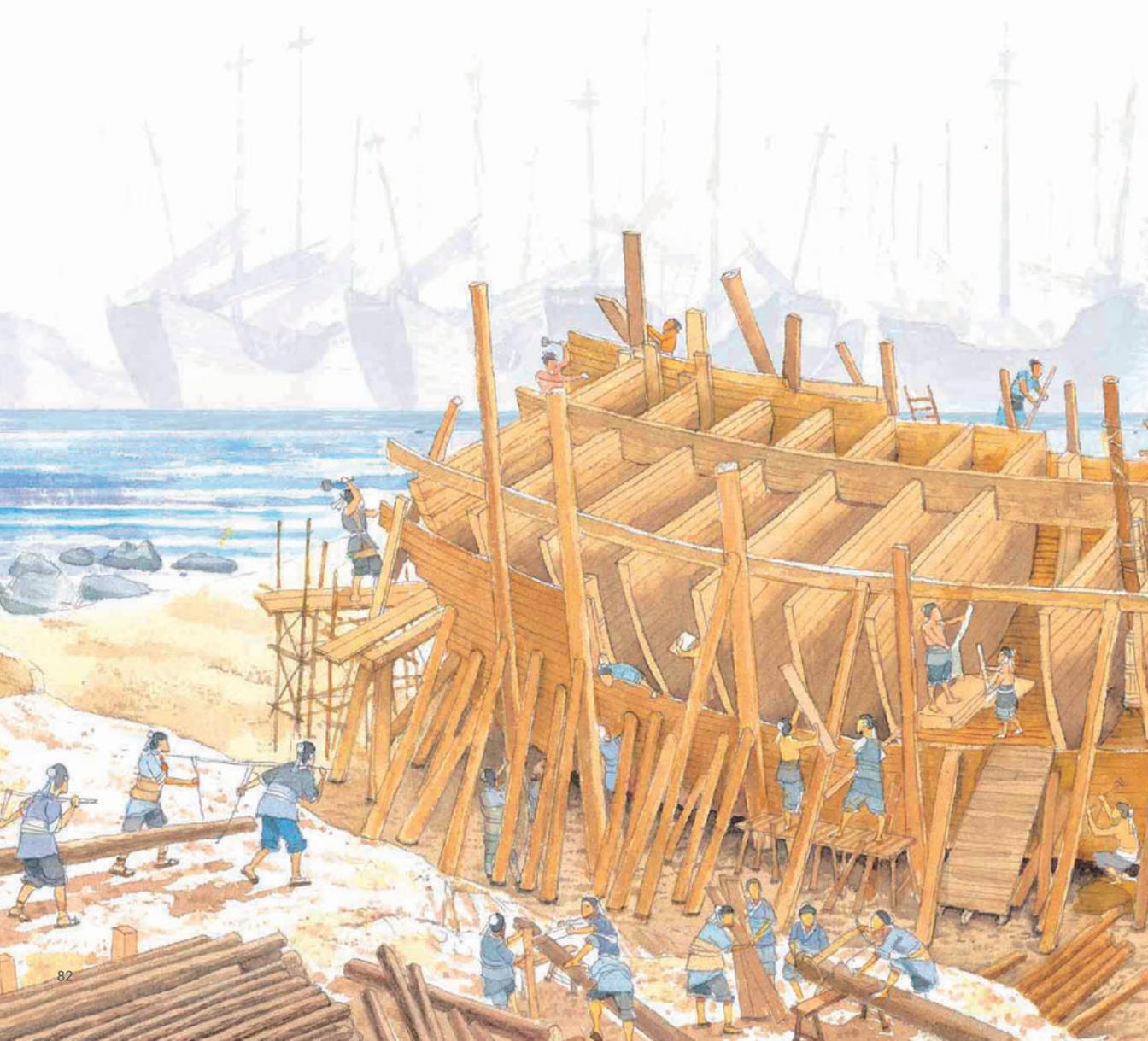


Zheng He was the ideal person.

But taking on this commission was a headache for Zheng He – what size of ships were needed to “go to the west”?

How many ships were needed to show the Emperor’s might?

How many brave men and how many cannons were needed to show the strength of the Great Ming dynasty?









How much silk and how much porcelain were needed to show the artistic accomplishments of our craftsmen?

TEENY TINY: WE ARE MICROBES! WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF BACTERIA, VIRUSES, AND FUNGI

小不隆咚

All around us are little things that are too tiny to see. They grow, divide, mutate, and evolve, without us even noticing. They may be small, but they affect all life on Earth and every movement we make!

Fuzz is a microbe. He's so tiny that the human eye can't see him! There are countless little things all around us that are too tiny to see. Where do they come from? How did humans discover them? How many different kinds are there? How are they relevant to our lives? Let Fuzz introduce you to the world of microbes!

Although microbes are tiny, they affect all life on earth. This beautifully illustrated book is packed with information. Lively and vivid, it makes reading and learning about microbes fun!



Text by Miki Lee

Miki Lee has a PhD in Evolutionary Biology from Harvard. Once a mad scientist who loved doing experiments and learning about the evolution of bacteria, she's now crazy about buying story books for her daughter and son, and doing scientific experiments at home.

Illustrated by Fun Art Studio 放藝術工作室

Hidden away in an old apartment in Hsinchu county, the Fun Art Studio focuses on children's art education, illustration and graphic design - including the popular science picture book *Grandpa's Book of Magic: Protecting Water and Soil*, and the board game *Magic Wonderland: Secrets of Water and Soil Conservation*.



- **Category:** Picturebook, Non-Fiction
- **Publisher:** San Min
- **Date:** 12/2019
- **Rights contact:** booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 48
- **Size:** 29.7×21 cm
- **Age:** 5+

HELLO!



← This is Fuzz.

Fuzz is a microbe.
Fuzz is tiny, very tiny, incredibly tiny.
No matter how good your eyesight is,
or how hard you try,
You will never see him with just your eyes.
He's on this tiny dot right now,

HERE →

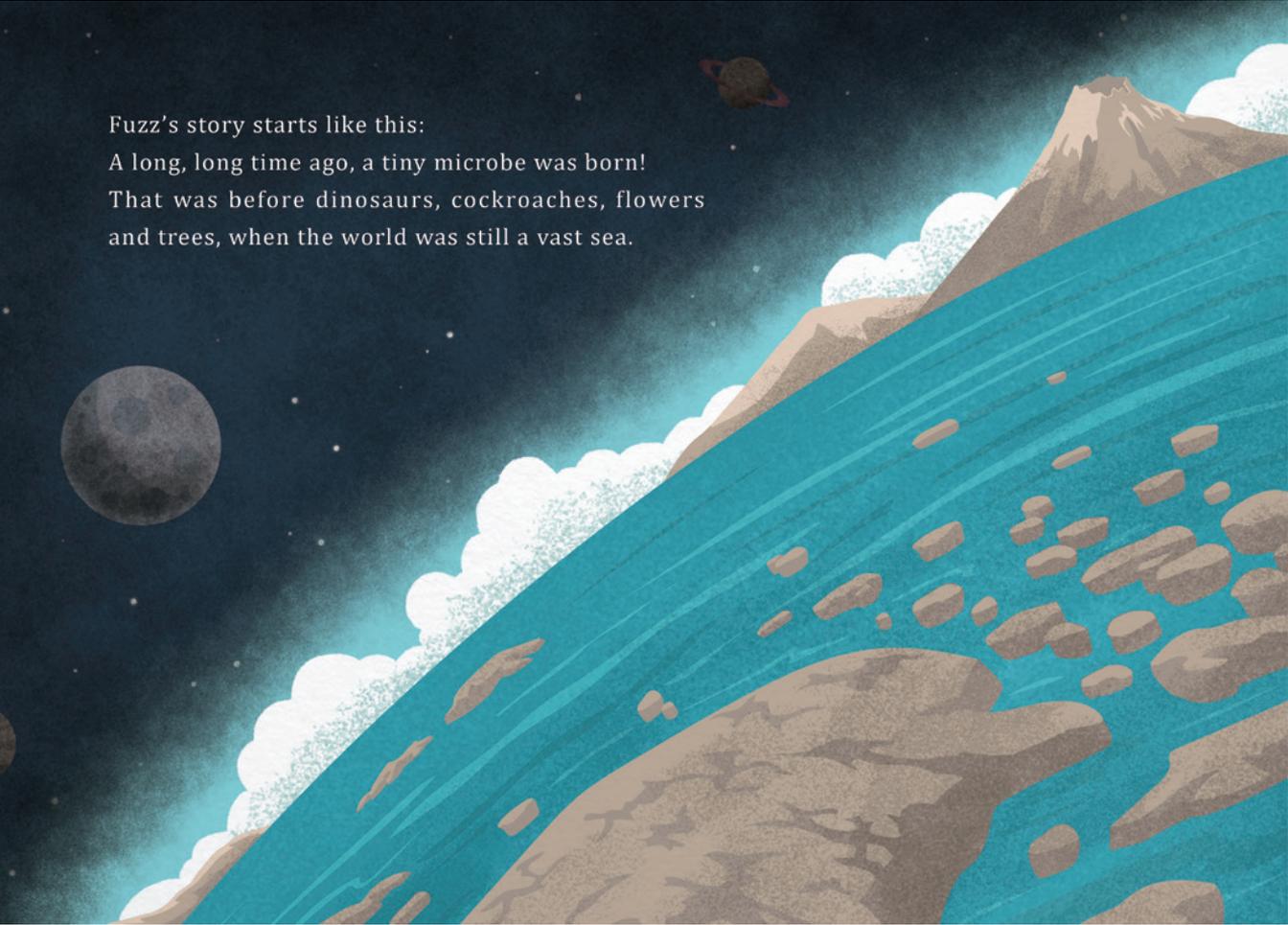
HELLO!!!

Can you shake his hand?

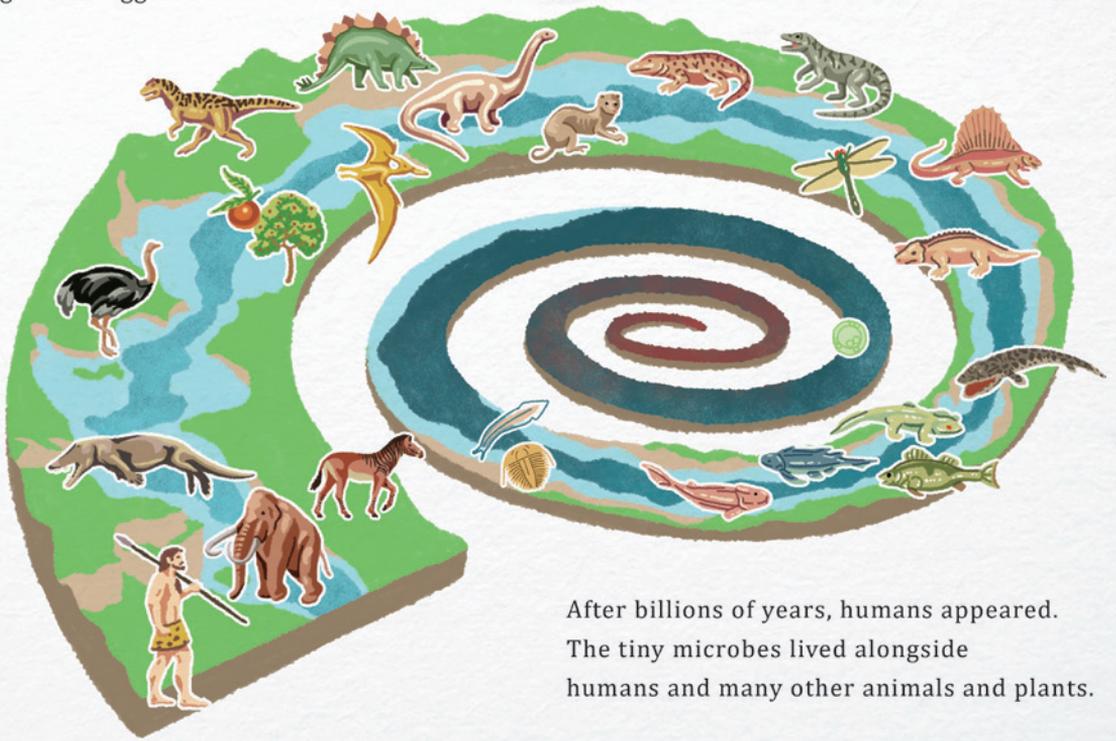


Fuzz's story starts like this:

A long, long time ago, a tiny microbe was born!
That was before dinosaurs, cockroaches, flowers
and trees, when the world was still a vast sea.

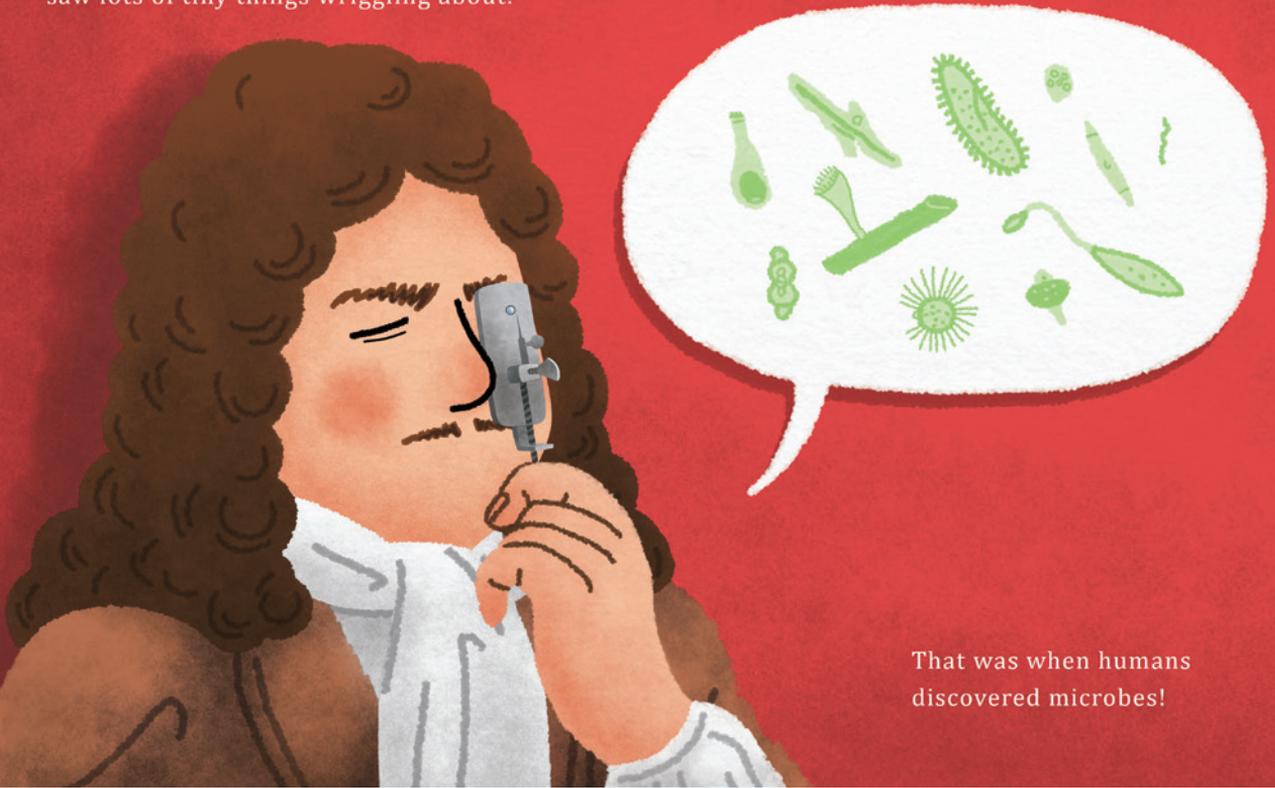


The tiny microbes lived on Earth, and as each day passed, more and more creatures appeared, and the microbe family grew bigger and bigger.



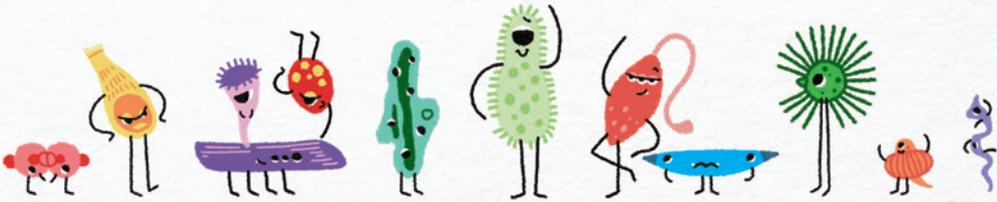
After billions of years, humans appeared. The tiny microbes lived alongside humans and many other animals and plants.

Millions more years passed. One day, a businessman called Antonie Philips van Leeuwenhoek started looking at everything around him through a special microscope he had invented himself. He suddenly saw lots of tiny things wriggling about.



That was when humans discovered microbes!

They were Fuzz's ancestors, the predecessors of his great-great-great-great-great grandparents.



Now, could you do me a favor?

Fuzz speaks very softly, could you please make your ears as **big** as you can and listen carefully?



Fuzz just landed on the dot. He's waving and saying Hello!

MS. PENNY TEACHES ... SCIENCE IS FUN!

Penny 老師教你創意玩科學：

黑膠唱片機、針孔相機、擴音喇叭……全部自己做，
25 個必學原理 × 75 個超酷實驗，在家上最有趣的
理化課！



- **Category:** Non-Fiction
- **Publisher:** Rye Field
- **Date:** 6/2017
- **Rights contact:**
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 272
- **Age:** 10+

Does science give you a headache? Do you find it impossible to get to grips with scientific principles and how to apply them? This book presents 25 essential scientific principles from everyday life, and 75 simple but super-cool scientific experiments and offers children a stress-free way of learning about science.

STEAM education is very popular at the moment, but do you tense up at the thought of physics and chemistry? Do you stress when you think about science? Then let Ms. Penny show you how to do amazing experiments and learn basic scientific principles. She'll show you the most fun ways to enter the world of science.

Designed as a 12-month course, this book presents 25 essential scientific principles from everyday life through 75 simple and fun experiments. There are clear diagrams explaining the scientific principles, lists of the materials needed and step-by-step instructions, making it super-easy for readers to carry out the experiments. As all the materials needed can be found at home, there's no need to spend more money on preparing specially. Interesting scientific facts and phenomena from the world around us are brought in too, making science easy to follow and relevant.

Ms. Penny has many years of experience in science education. She has specially designed this collection of experiments to suit the interests of students aged 11 to 15, so they will stop being afraid of science, and want to do experiments every day!



Ms. Penny (Chen Nai Chi) Penny 老師

Ms. Penny received her MSc from the Institute of Mineral Resources Engineering, National Taipei University of Technology. She has designed science courses for children and teacher training programs for multiple organizations and universities in Taiwan. She is currently the CEO of Sun Culture Enterprise Co., Ltd., and is dedicated to promoting popular science education activities. Sun Culture's brands combine scientific and cultural creativity, hand-made games, and TV media, and are welcomed by nearly a thousand primary and secondary schools in Taiwan.

Lesson

1

Science is Fun 1: Extracting DNA

Cells are so small that you need a microscope to see them, and DNA is found in the nucleus of a cell, so you'd definitely need a microscope to see it! This experiment shows you how to extract and examine DNA yourself!

Science is Fun 2: Collecting fingerprints

You leave a trace wherever you go, and you leave fingerprints on everything you touch. Everyone's fingerprints are unique. Let me show you a simple way, using things you have at home, to make invisible fingerprints visible!

Science is Fun 3: Cottage cheese

Protein is a very important component of the human body. It's also a source of calories. Through the cheese-making process we can understand how protein is broken down and how the human body then absorbs and reconstitutes the protein it needs.

Lesson

2

Science is Fun 4 & 5: How strong are leaf veins? Leaf skeleton bookmark

These two units about leaf-veins are essential for understanding Planet Earth. They explain the characteristics and functions of leaves, and leaf skeletons allow us to examine leaf-veins in detail. If you fold a paper according to the leaf-veins, even soft newspaper can stand up on its own.

Science is Fun 6: Banana tattoos

No ink is required for banana tattoos. Just break into the cells in the banana skin and expose the enzymes to the air! In this unit you'll learn about oxidization of fruit, and how to preserve different kinds of fruit.

Lesson

1

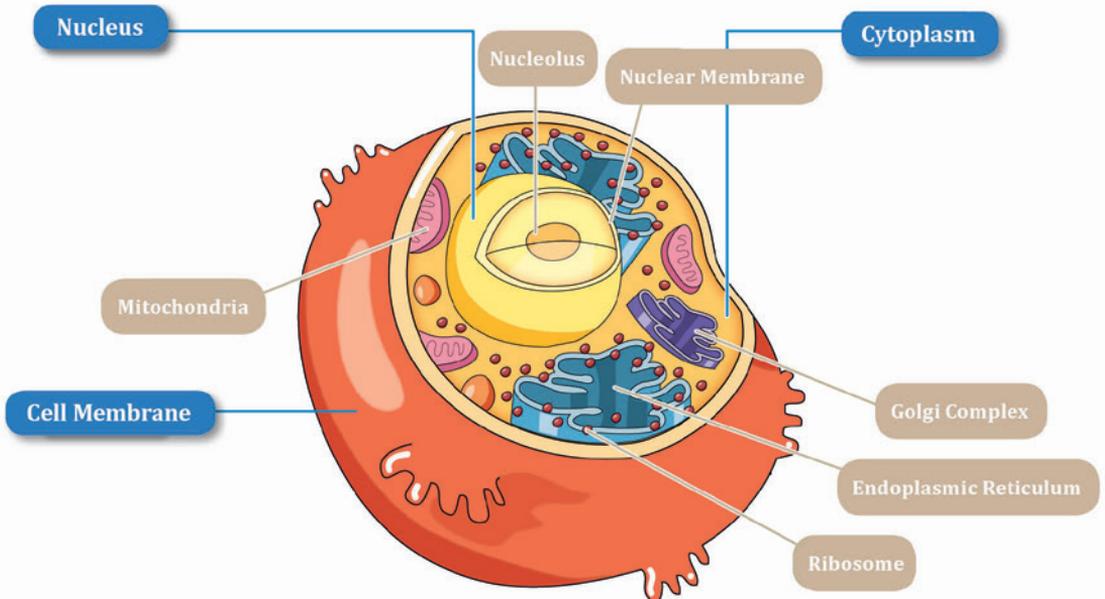
Where Life Begins! See your own DNA!

All creatures on earth, including animals, plants and bacteria, are formed of cells. The cell is the basic unit for all creatures, but different organs and different cell structures can create variations.

Cell structure

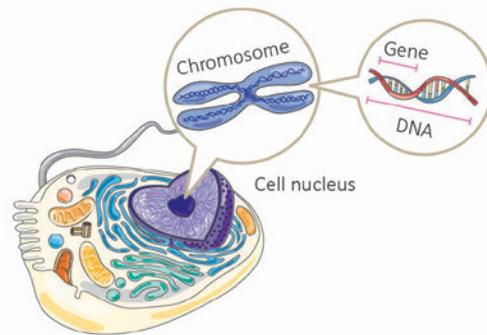
Cells are made up of three basic components: the cell membrane, the cytoplasm and the nucleus:

- The nucleus contains [genetic] material, including the DNA.
- The cytoplasm has different areas that function in different ways: for example, substances secreted in the cell are packaged and classified in the “golgi complex”, and proteins are synthesized in the “ribosomes”.
- The membrane is a thin wall around the cell that prevents substances entering or leaving the cell.



Genetic material: chromosomes, DNA, genes

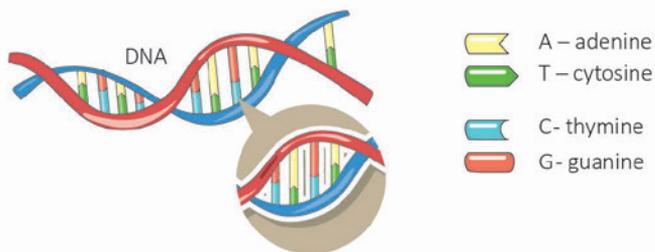
Inside the cell nucleus are chromosomes, and inside the chromosomes is the DNA. Inside the DNA are the genes. Genes come in pairs and have special functions. In terms of size: chromosome > DNA > gene.



- **Chromosomes** are found inside the cell nucleus. They are made of DNA and protein twisted together. Different creatures have a specific number of chromosomes in their cells: for example, humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes (a total of 46 chromosomes). 22 of these pairs are inherited, and another pair determines gender.

Do more intelligent creatures have more chromosomes? Not necessarily. In 2013 scientists discovered a kind of ciliate (a hairy single-celled organism) that had 15,600 chromosomes! It's just one of many simple organisms that have thousands of chromosomes!

- **DNA** is short for deoxyribonucleic acid (deoxyribo means that the oxygen [oxy] and sugar [ribo] has been removed [de] from the nucleic acid; the nucleic acid is the molecules that carry information in the cells). DNA is regarded as the genetic code. Everyone is different. DNA looks like a double-stranded helix, and is made up of four parts: A = adenine, G = guanine, C = thymine, and T = cytosine.



- **Genes** are the basic genetic units, and each gene is a piece of DNA with a special function. Genes are passed on from parents to the next generation. Humans have about 20,000 to 30,000 genes, which determine our appearance, intelligence, and also our health.

According to Mendel's laws, genes come in pairs - one from the father, one from the mother - and a single gene may be either dominant or recessive. For example, curly hair is a dominant gene, straight hair is a recessive gene, and when a dominant and a recessive gene come together, the dominant gene will usually dominate (as the name suggests!).

We can use the chessboard pattern to predict the appearance of the next generation. For example, if the gene for curly hair is H (dominant), and straight hair is h (recessive), and Dad has curly hair, and Mum has straight hair, can you work out what the children's hair gene will be?

Q1

If Dad has curly hair (HH) and Mum has straight hair (hh):

	H	H
h	Hh	Hh
h	Hh	Hh

It's clear that all their children will have the same hair gene (Hh) and curly hair.

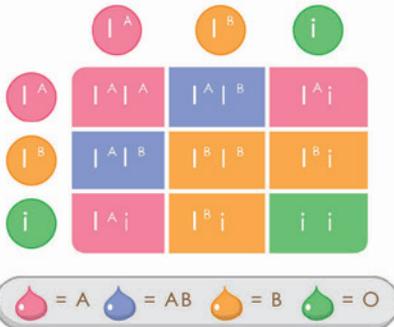
Q2

If Dad has curly hair (Hh) and Mum has straight hair (hh):

	H	h
h	Hh	hh
h	Hh	hh

As the chessboard pattern shows, there is a chance that some of their children may inherit two recessive genes (hh) and have straight hair!

- **Blood type:** the same method can be used to predict blood type. There are three genetic factors in blood types: I^A , I^B , and i , which give the following results:



- Type A can be $I^A I^A$ or $I^A i$
- Type B can be $I^B I^B$ or $I^B i$
- Type O is $i i$
- Type AB is $I^A I^B$



The key things you need to extract DNA



Shampoo

(Must contain sodium lauryl sulfate) – this will dissolve the cell membrane.



Tinned pineapple

The pineapple enzyme will dissolve the protein in the cell.



Salt

This will absorb the DNA, which is slightly negatively charged.



Ethanol (alcohol, 95%)

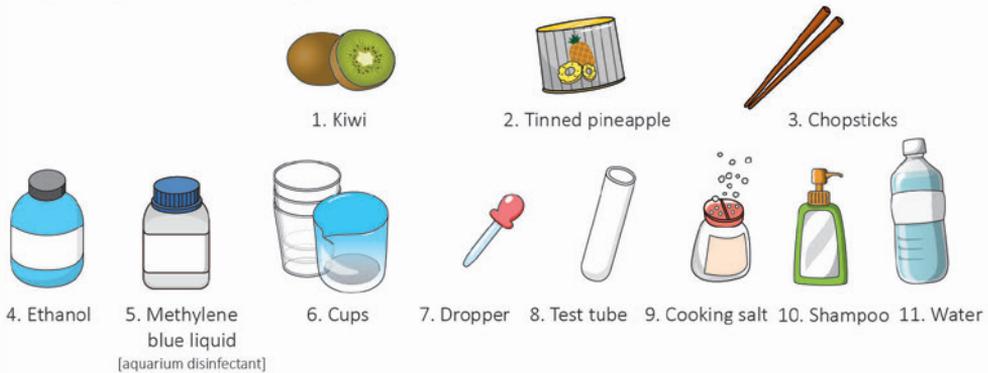
This will dehydrate the DNA solution, leaving only the DNA.

Level of difficulty: ★★★☆☆

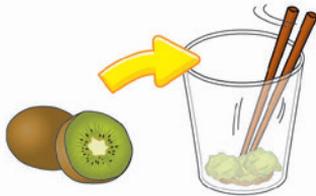
Needs adult supervision? Yes No

School Curriculum: Grade 7, Term 2. Chapter 2 – Genetics

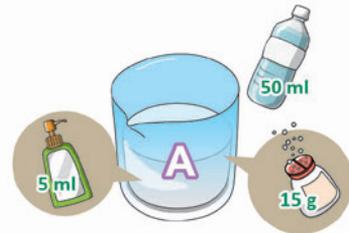
Materials needed



Step-by-step instructions



- 1** Put the kiwi in one cup, and mash it with the chopsticks.



- 2** In another cup, prepare Solution A – 5 ml shampoo, 15 g salt, 50 ml water.

A + mashed kiwi



- 3** Pour the mashed kiwi into Solution A, and stir with the chopsticks.



- 4** In another cup, prepare Solution B – 5 ml tinned pineapple juice, 95 ml water.

A + mashed kiwi + B



- 5** Pour Solution B into Solution A and mix well.

A + mashed kiwi + B



clear liquid

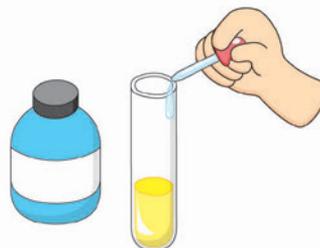


- 6** Strain the mixture through a filter.

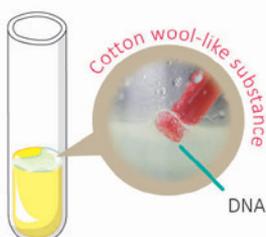
Clear liquid



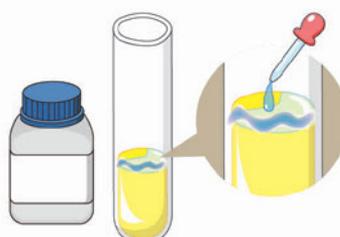
- 7** Pour the clear liquid into the test tube, up to about a third.



- 8** Using the dropper, let a few drops of ethanol run down the inside of the test tube.



- 9** When the ethanol meets the liquid a cotton wool-like substance (polymerized DNA) will appear.



- 10** Using the dropper, drop some methylene blue solution on to the cotton wool-like substance, to make it easier to see.



BOOKS FROM TAIWAN