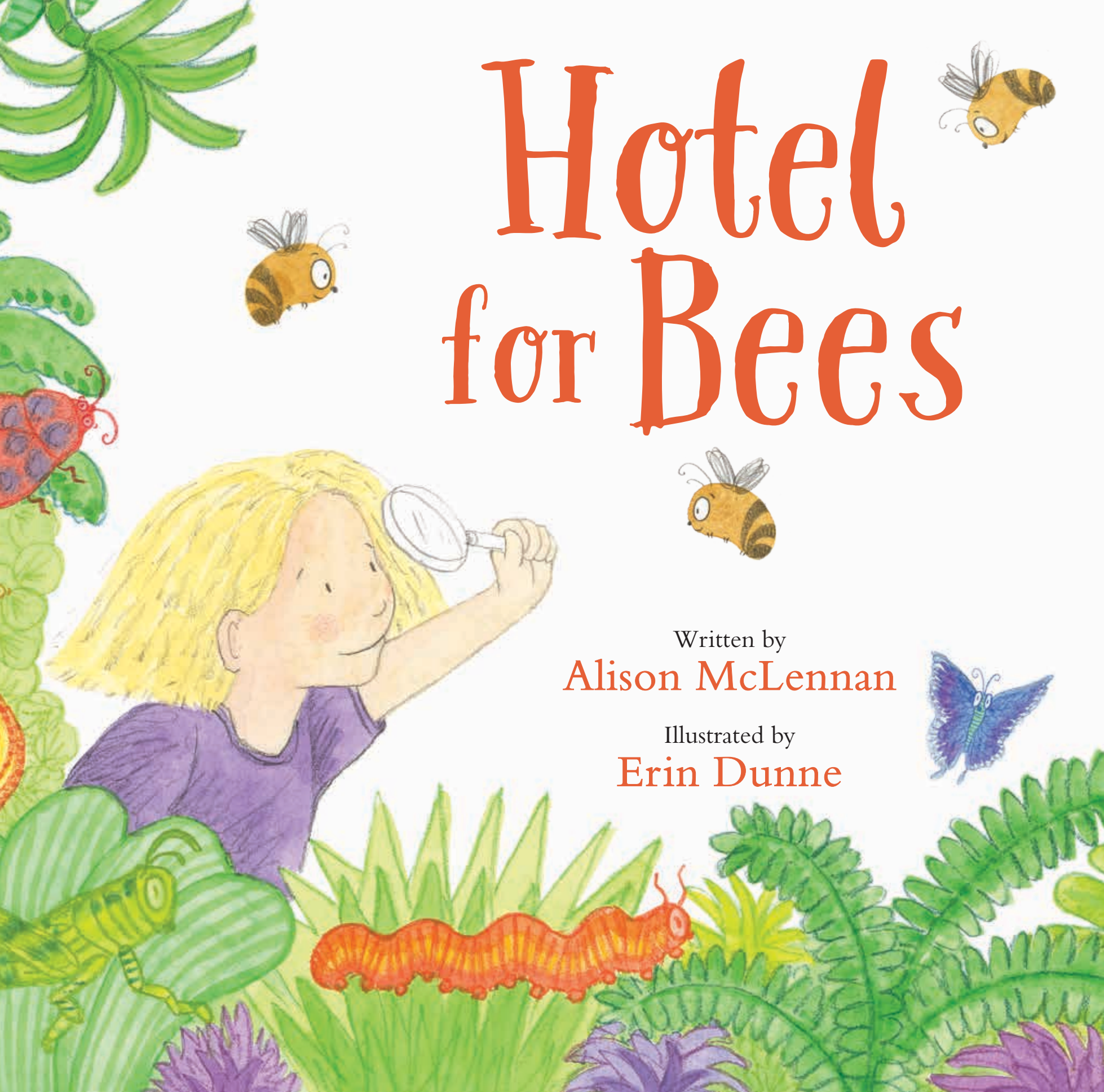


Hotel for Bees

Written by
Alison McLennan

Illustrated by
Erin Dunne





BOOKS IN THIS SERIES

Hotel for Bees

Written by Alison McLennan and illustrated by Erin Dunne

In the Deep End

Written and illustrated by Charlie Thomson

Is This Your Egg?

Written by Ella Kris and illustrated by Emma Cracknell

Koalas Like To ...

Written by Shae Millward and illustrated by Brent Wilson

My People

Written by Billie-Jean Taylor and illustrated by Dylan Mooney

Once, I Munched a Mango

Written by Samantha Wheeler and illustrated by Shannon Horsfall

One Remarkable Reef

Written by Kellie Byrnes and illustrated by Rachel Tribout

Shoosh!

Written and illustrated by Simon Howe

The Coloured Echidna

Written and illustrated by Eunice Day

The Cow That Swam Out to Sea

Written by Pamela Rushby and illustrated by Nicola Hooper

The Little Queenslanders' Alphabet Book

Written by Sally Scudamore and illustrated by Sophie Beer

Up and Down on a Rainy Day

Written by Kathryn Apel and illustrated by Janet Turner

Hotel for Bees





For my beautiful children, Connor and Kate,
who inspired me to start writing stories. **AM**

To Mum, Dad and Nana, for sharing the
magic of stories with me. **ED**



First published 2020 by State Library of Queensland
PO Box 3488, Brisbane 4101 Queensland Australia

Text copyright © Alison McLennan
Illustrations copyright © Erin Dunne

All rights reserved. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the *Copyright Act*, no part of this publication may be reproduced by any process whatsoever without the written permission of the author and the publisher.

Design, layout and cover by Joanna Hunt
Typeset in Bembo by Joanna Hunt
Printed in Australia by Ligare Pty Ltd



This book was produced by State Library of Queensland for First 5 Forever, a program providing strong early literacy foundations for all Queensland children aged 0–5 years. First 5 Forever is an initiative of the Queensland Government, coordinated by State Library of Queensland and delivered in partnership with local government.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the National Library of Australia.

ISBN 978-1-922467-09-6 (Hardback)
ISBN 978-1-922467-10-2 (PDF)
ISBN 978-1-922467-11-9 (Audio book)

www.slq.qld.gov.au



The paper this book is printed on is in accordance with the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council®. The FSC® promotes environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests.

Hotel for Bees



Written by
Alison McLennan

Illustrated by
Erin Dunne

Charlotte and her little brother played in their garden.

The garden was alive with small things that crawled, buzzed and flew.

But small, fuzzy flying things made Benji nervous.





He ran away.

One day, Benji found a bee in the kitchen.
He was scared.



‘Do not squish it!’ Charlotte squealed,
just in time.

‘Bees are the magicians of the sky.’



'The bees fly to one place

...buzzzzzzz...

'They collect pollen,' she said.
'Pollen makes flowers grow.'

and then another

...buzz buzz...

and the flowers come to life.
Like magic.'

'This bee looks tired,' Dad said.
'I will find out what kind of
bee it is,' Charlotte said.

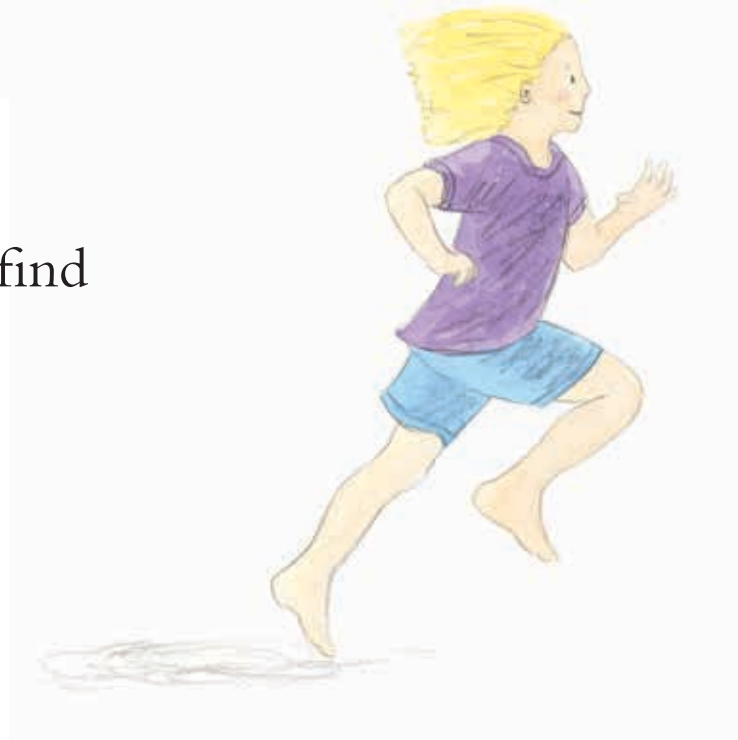


Charlotte flipped through her book.
'I found it!' she said.
'It is a Teddy Bear bee.'
'Hello, Teddy,' Benji said.



'It has a cute name. But it cannot
live in our house,' Dad said.

She dashed off to find
her library book.



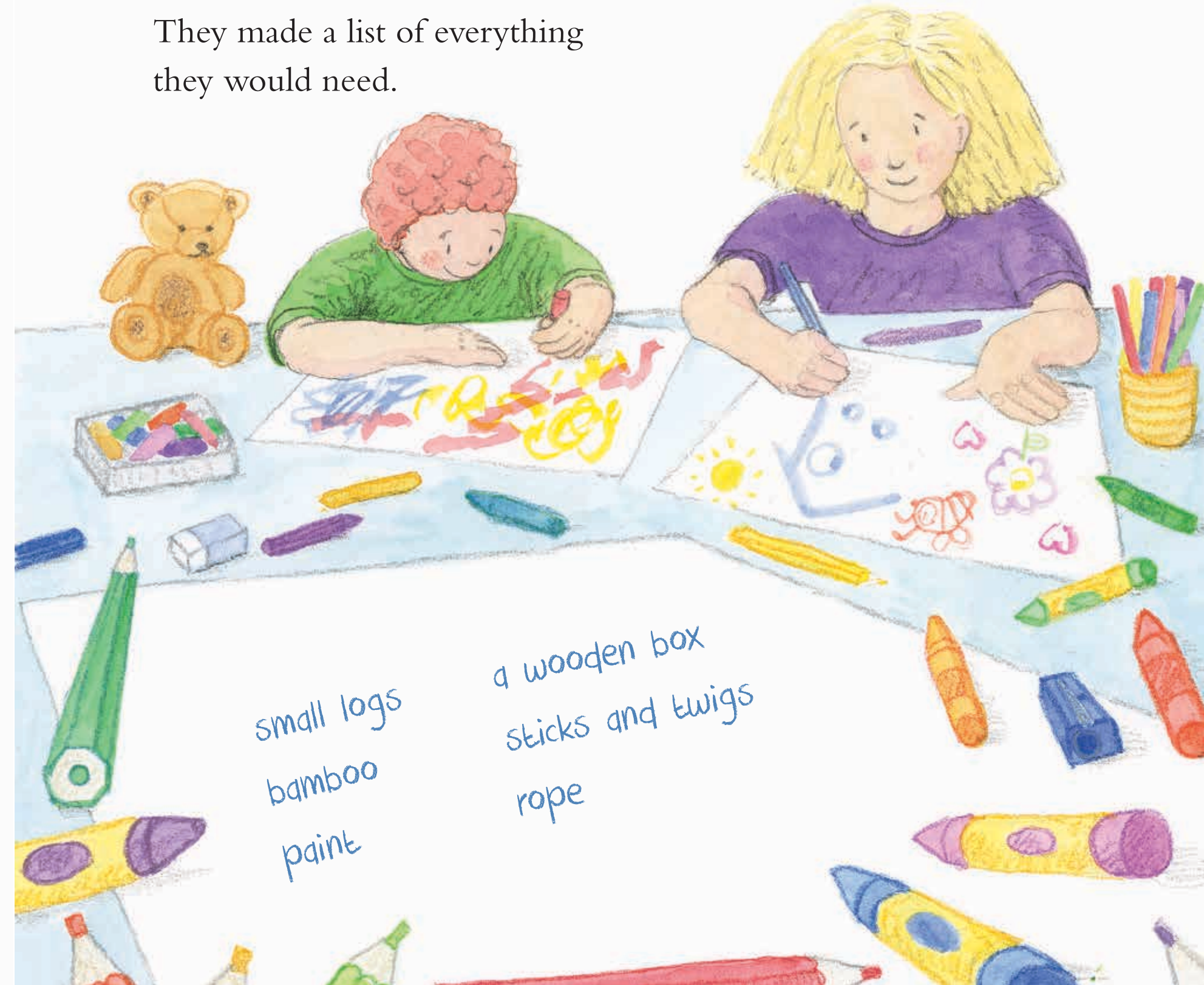
Charlotte had an idea.
'Benji and I could build a
hotel in the backyard.'

'Marvellous!' Dad said.



Charlotte drew plans for the bee hotel. Benji helped.

They made a list of everything
they would need.



small logs
bamboo
paint

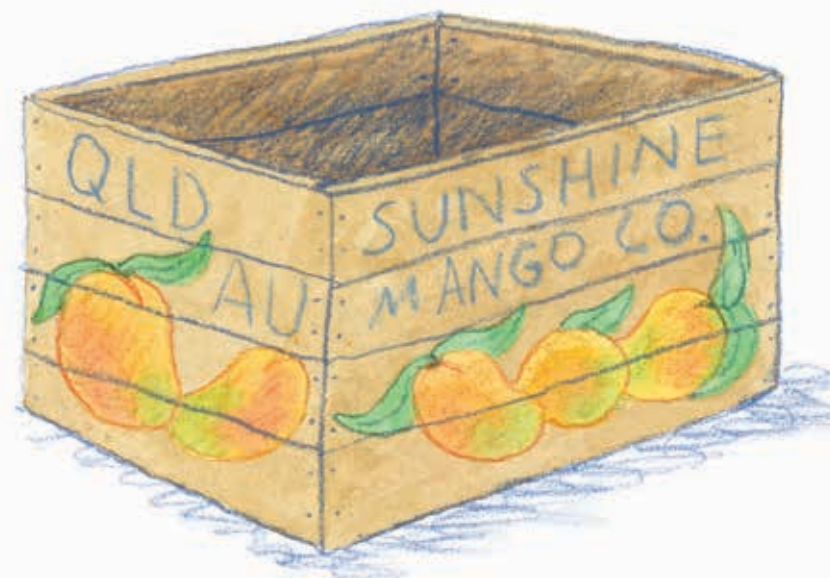
a wooden box
sticks and twigs
rope

First, they searched in Dad's shed.
It was just like a treasure hunt.

They found ...



a box,



a roof



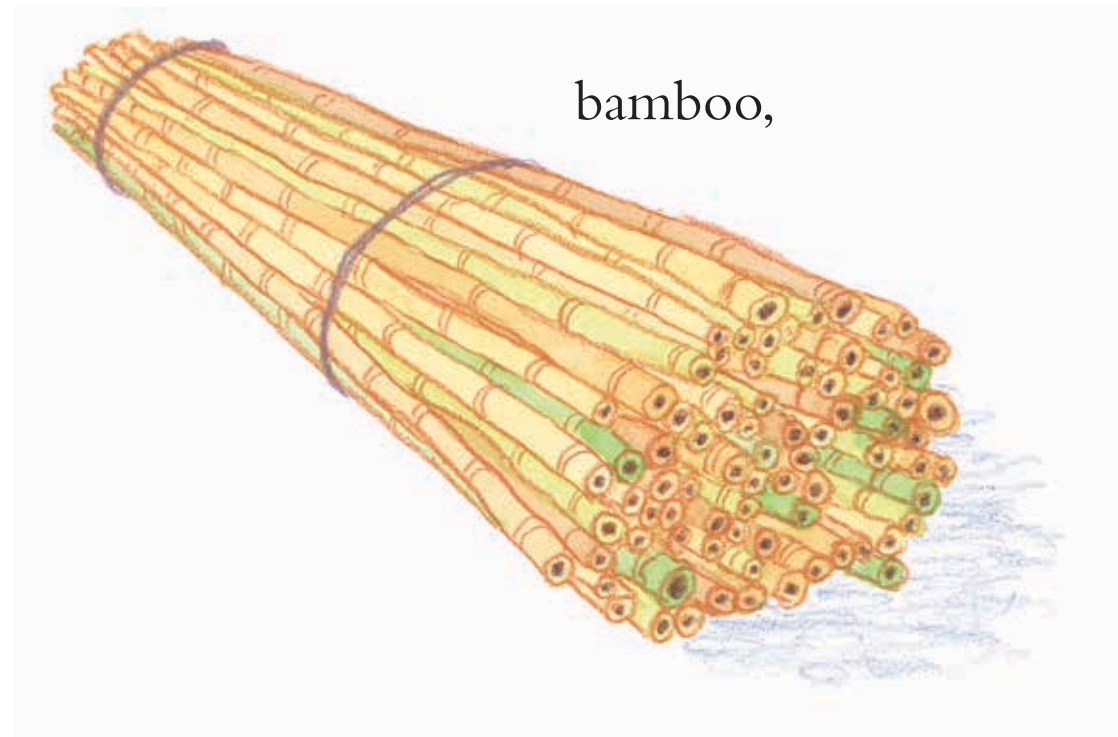
and some rope.





They went to the hardware store.

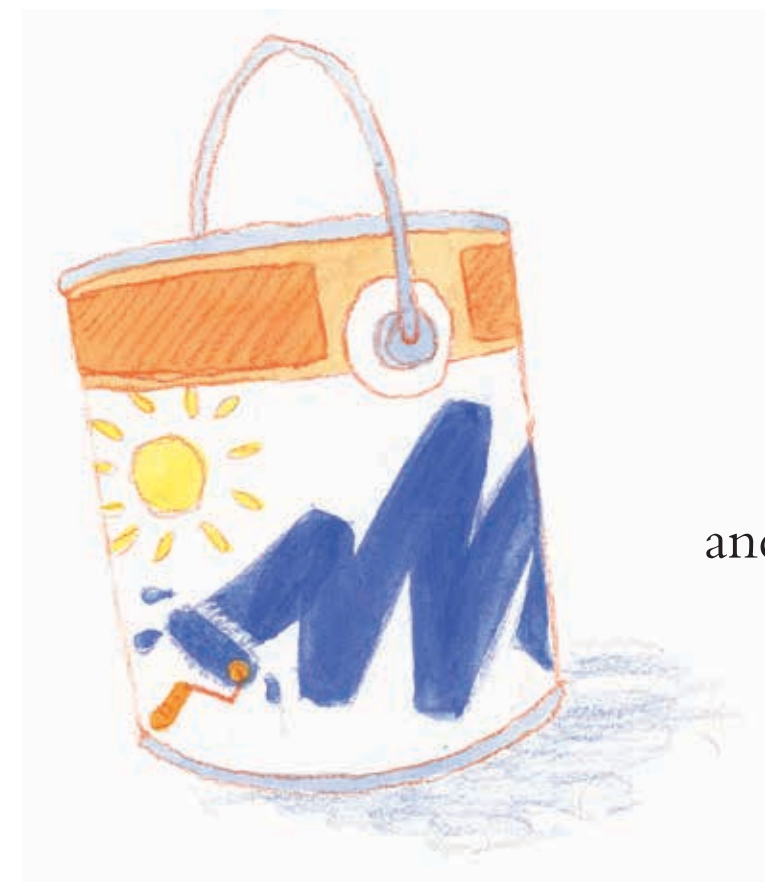
They bought ...



bamboo,

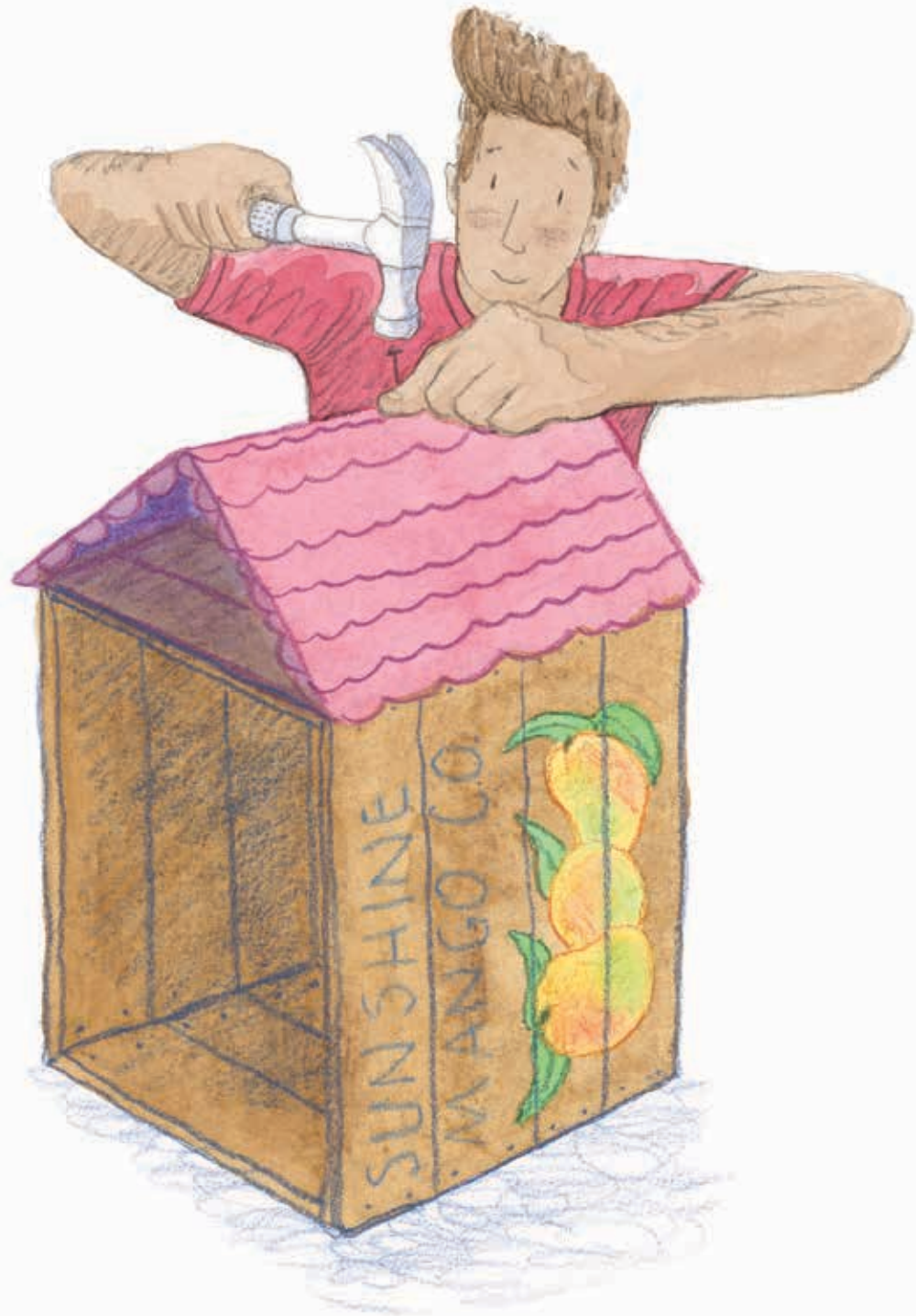


small logs



and some paint.

Then they put it all together.

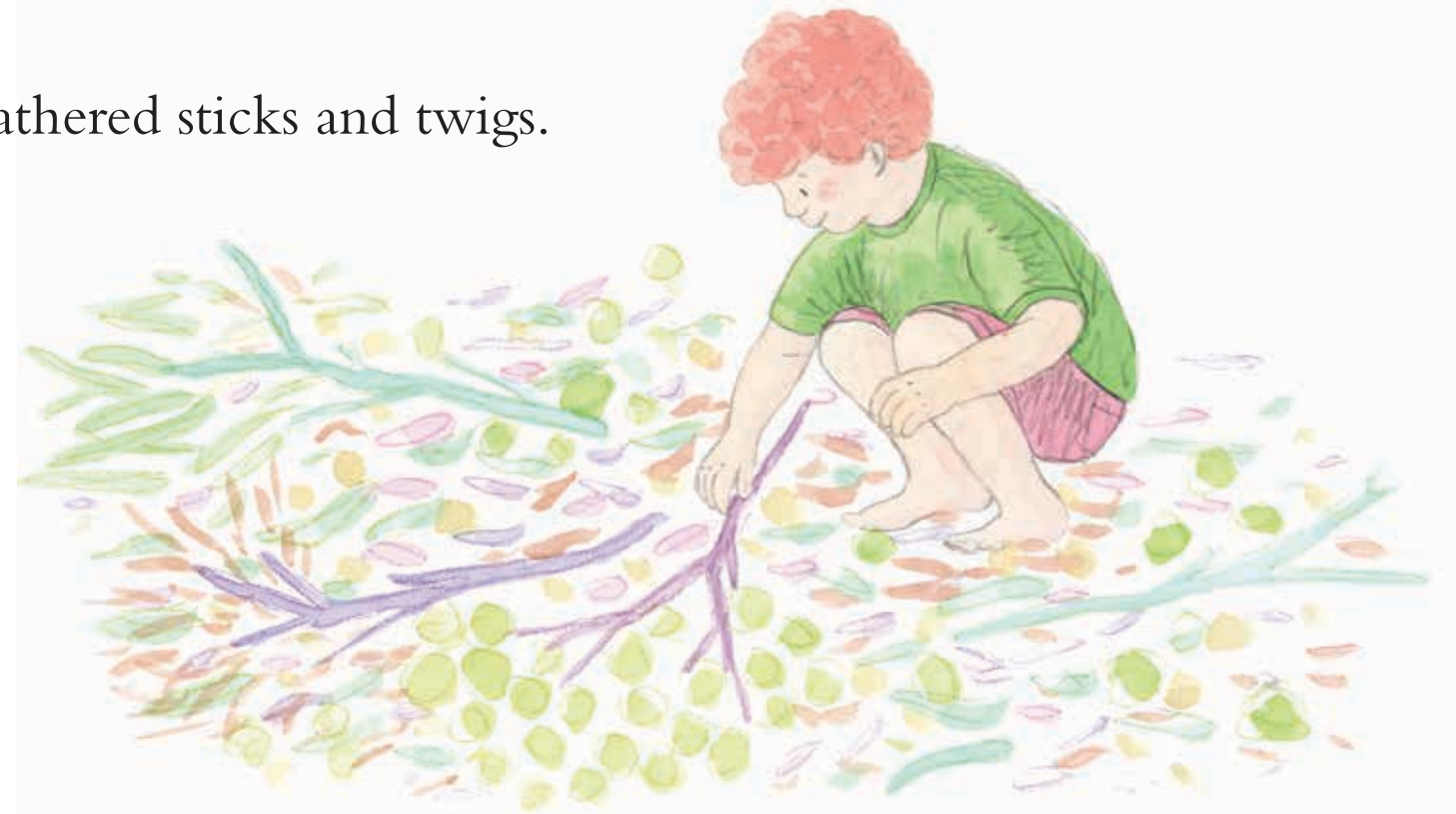


Dad hammered.



Charlotte painted.

Benji gathered sticks and twigs.





In no time at all, the hotel was ready.

‘Welcome to your new home, Teddy,’ Charlotte said.

More bees arrived.
Benji gave
them names.

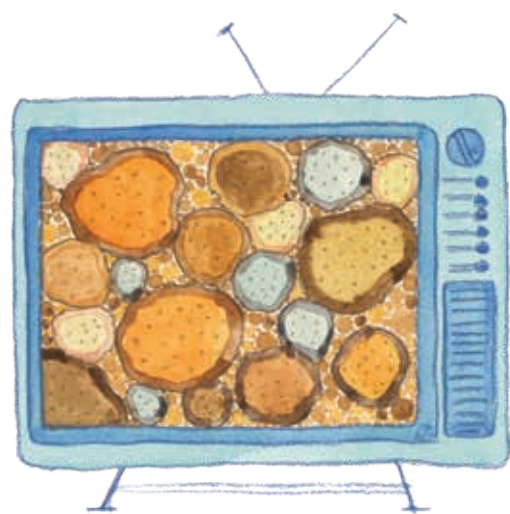
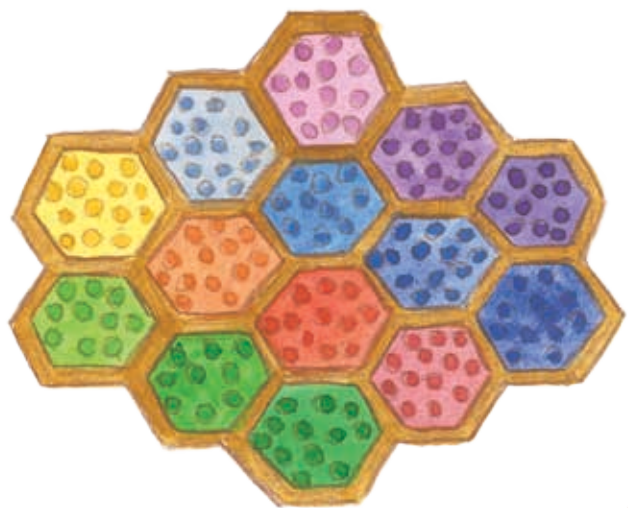


Charlotte recorded them in a guest book.



Teddy
Mr Fuzzy Feet
Mrs Bumbles
Trevor

Charlotte thought of another idea.
'We need to build more hotels,' she said.

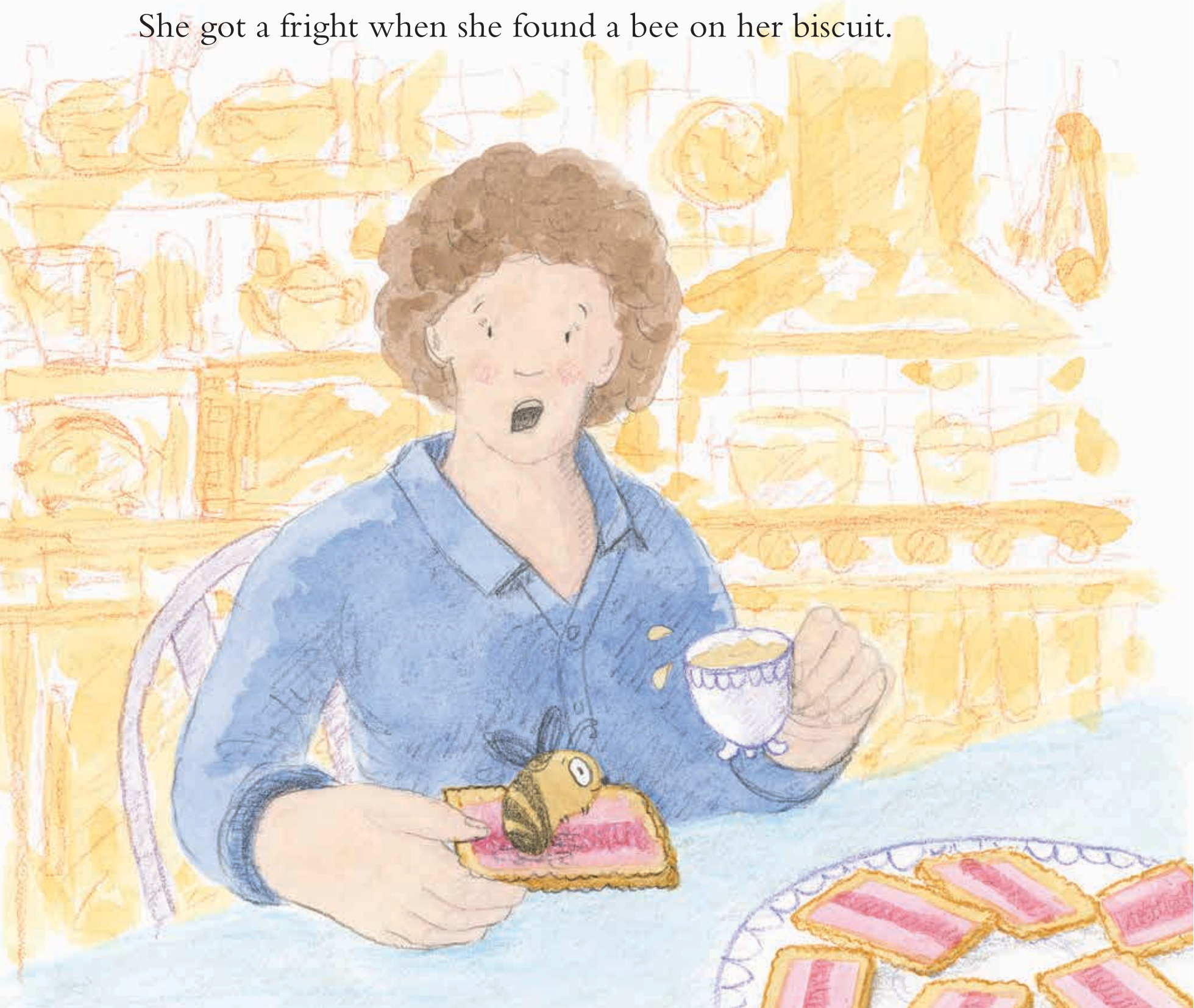


'A bee hotel in every backyard,'
Dad said. 'Marvellous!'
Charlotte and Benji drew their plans.



They gave the first hotel to their neighbour.

One day, their grandma popped in for a visit.
She got a fright when she found a bee on her biscuit.



‘Do not squish it!’ Benji squealed,
just in time.

‘Bees are the magicians
of the sky,’ he told her.







ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alison McLennan is a children's author based in Queensland. She grew up on the sunny Gold Coast, before making her home in Brisbane. Her graphic novel, *A Flood in the Village*, was published by Library For All in 2020 as part of their natural disaster series, and her second picture book, *Growing Pains*, will be released by EK Books in April 2021. Her short stories 'You Can Have Mine' (*The School Magazine*) and 'Daisy and the Deep Dark Forest' (*Spooky Stories for Brave Kids Anthology*) were published in 2019. She is a mother of two gorgeous teenagers and one fur baby. When not writing for children, she works as a voiceover artist, singer and content writer and has a background in performance, journalism and public relations.
www.alisonmclennan.org

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Erin Dunne is an artist and arts educator based in Central Queensland. Her work attempts to capture and distil a poetic and narrative sense of what it means to call regional Queensland home. She examines everyday experiences relating to place through an autobiographical lens. Recent achievements include winning the 2018 Queensland Regional Art Awards and 2019 Bayton Award for Central Queensland Artists.

ABOUT FIRST 5 FOREVER

In the first five years, little moments make a big difference.

Children learn best from those closest to them – and by talking, reading, singing and playing together every day, families support their child's brain development and help them build a lifelong love of learning and discovery.

First 5 Forever is an early literacy program supporting families to make the most of this time. The program offers free sessions for children 0–5 and their families throughout Queensland's public library and Indigenous Knowledge Centre network, and provides fun, informative and hands-on tips and advice online.

First 5 Forever is an initiative of the Queensland Government, coordinated by State Library of Queensland and delivered in partnership with local government. Each year, public libraries and Indigenous Knowledge Centres across Queensland welcome thousands of families to First 5 Forever activities.

To find out more about First 5 Forever, visit www.slq.qld.gov.au/first5forever

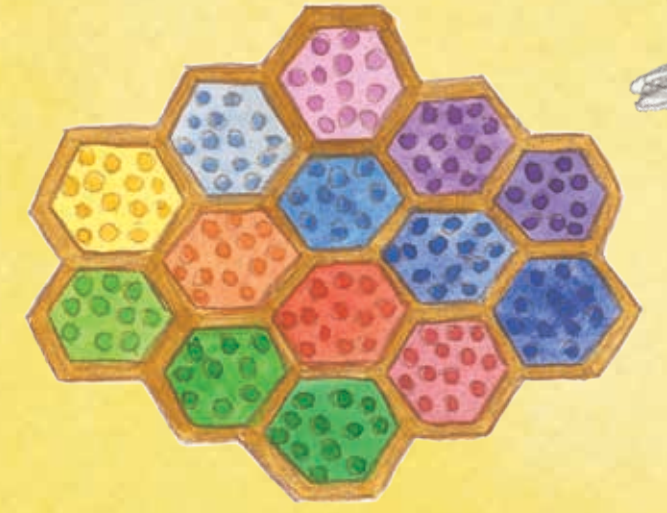
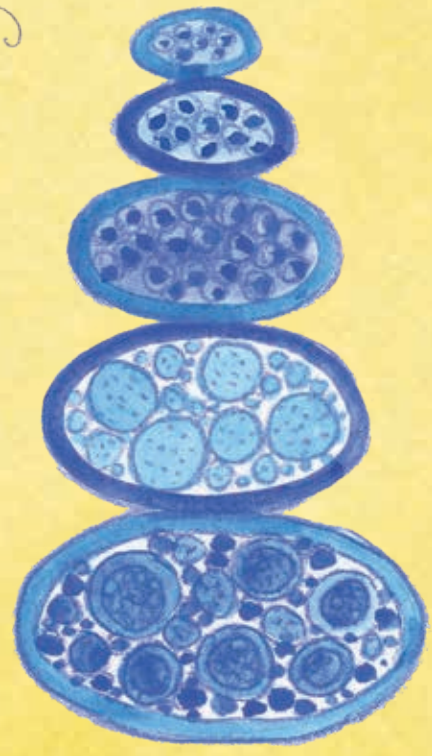
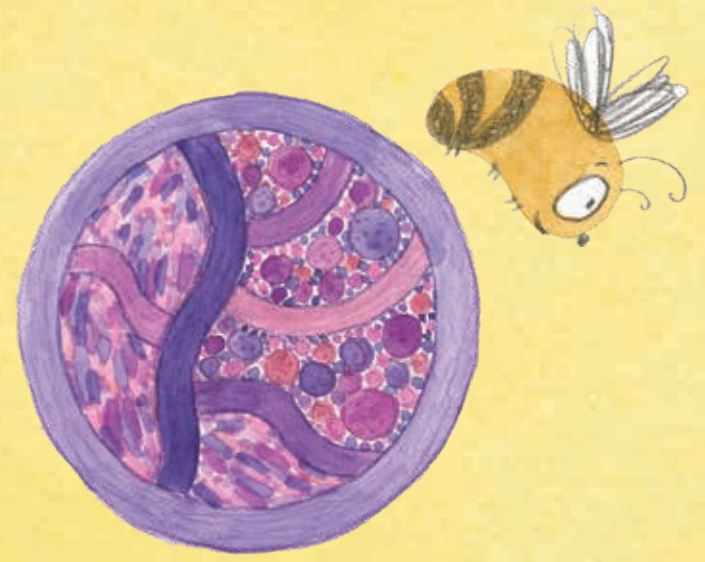
ABOUT THIS SERIES

State Library of Queensland has published twelve new children's picture books for Queensland's littlest readers as part of First 5 Forever. The books promote strong early literacy foundations through a range of subjects and styles: the amusing antics of Queensland's faunal emblem, the koala; educational aids such as counting and alphabet books; stories of belonging; journeys of discovery; true-life tales; and much more.

Produced exclusively for State Library of Queensland and First 5 Forever, this series reflects the diversity of Queensland, celebrates the uniqueness of our state, and aims to inspire a love of reading and discovery in a new generation of little Queenslanders.

The books also showcase writers and artists with a Queensland connection who are based throughout the state. They feature emerging and established talent, as well as First Nations writers and artists whose books were developed with State Library of Queensland's black&write! editorial team.







Benji is scared of bees. His big sister, Charlotte,
wants to teach him all about how special bees are.

Together, they make a plan that might
just change Benji's mind.

