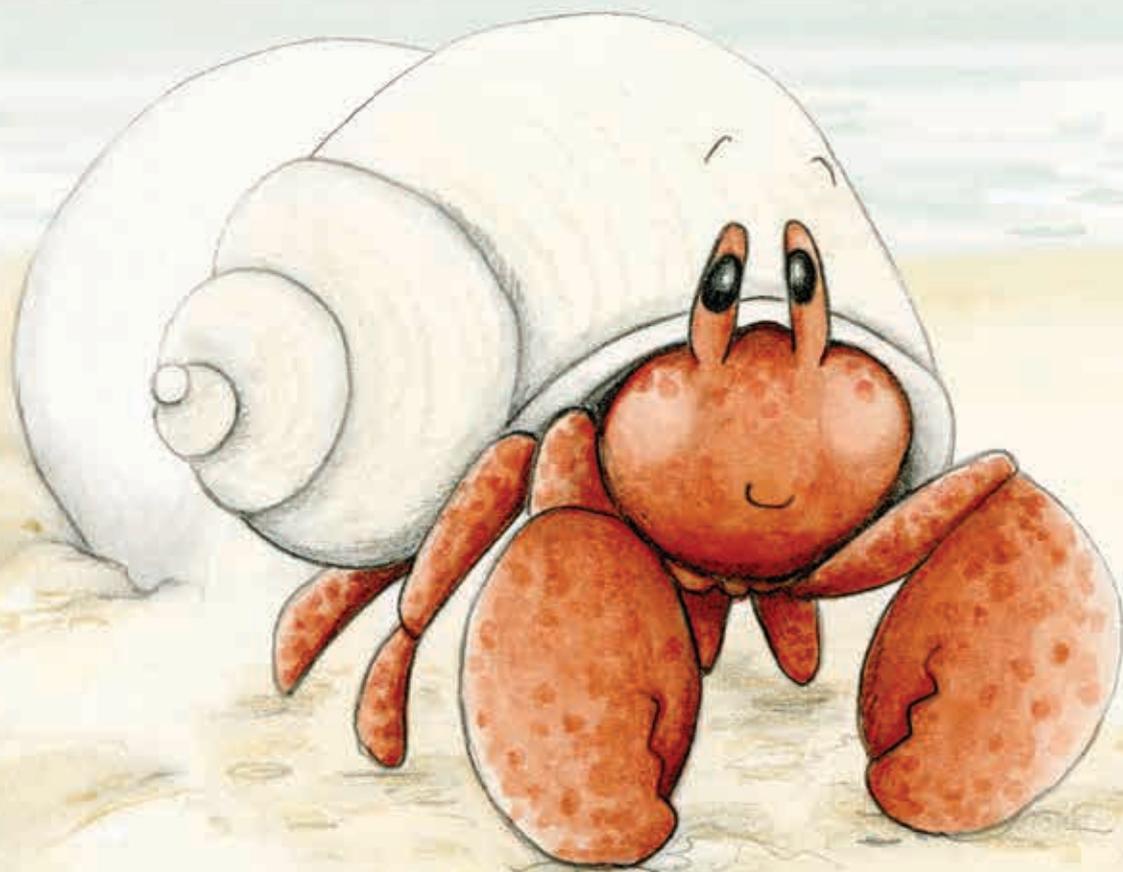


# Is this your egg?



Written by  
**Ella Kris**

Illustrated by  
**Emma Cracknell**



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Written by Kathryn Apel and illustrated by Janet Turner

# Is this your egg?



**State Library of Queensland**



I would like to dedicate this book to my Fada,  
Bully Awa Saylor of Erub Island. Thank you for  
taking this sailor on many sea voyages.

Love and respect always. **EK**

For Ezra and Grace, with love always. **EC**



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

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Design, layout and cover by Joanna Hunt  
Typeset in Berkeley Old Style Book 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.

This book was developed with State Library of Queensland's black&write! editorial team. black&write! is a national project with a dual focus on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander writing and editing.

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

ISBN 978-1-922467-06-5 (Hardback)  
ISBN 978-1-922467-07-2 (PDF)  
ISBN 978-1-922467-08-9 (Audio book)

[www.slq.qld.gov.au](http://www.slq.qld.gov.au)



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# Is this your egg?



Written by  
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**H**enry the Hermit Crab found a small, soft, round egg on the beach.



‘I wonder who this belongs to.’

Henry rolled the egg along the hot sand.  
He came across a tern bird.



‘Hello Serar. Is this your egg?’  
‘No. My eggs are grey-brown.  
They have black markings.’



Henry rolled the egg between the tall, dry grass.  
He came across a snake.



‘Hello Tabo. Is this your egg?’  
‘No. My eggs are oval. They have a tough shell.’



Henry rolled the egg along the mudflats.  
He came across a crab.

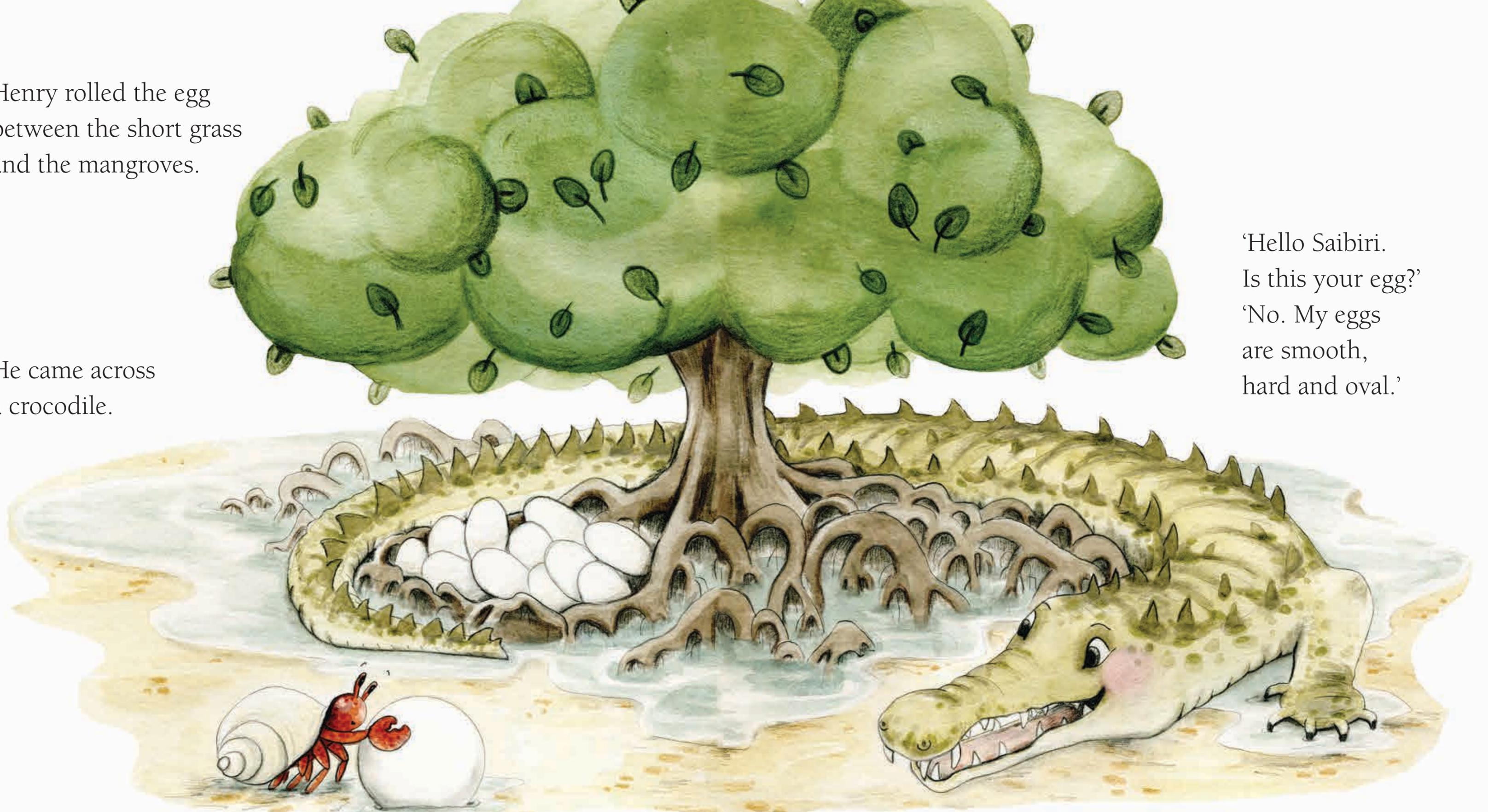
‘Hello Kerkeri. Is this your egg?’  
‘No. My eggs are under my belly for now.’

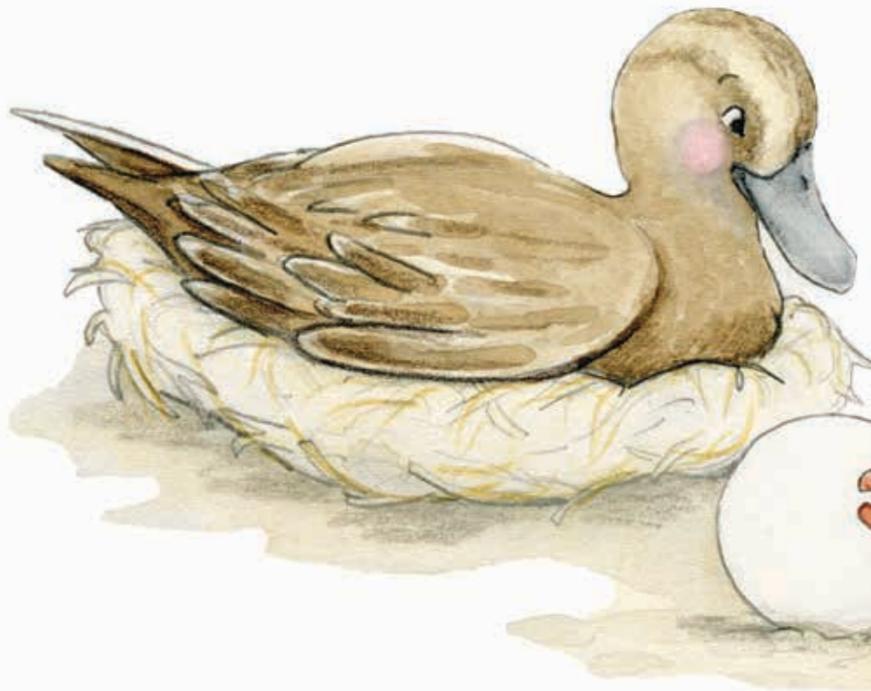


Henry rolled the egg  
between the short grass  
and the mangroves.

He came across  
a crocodile.

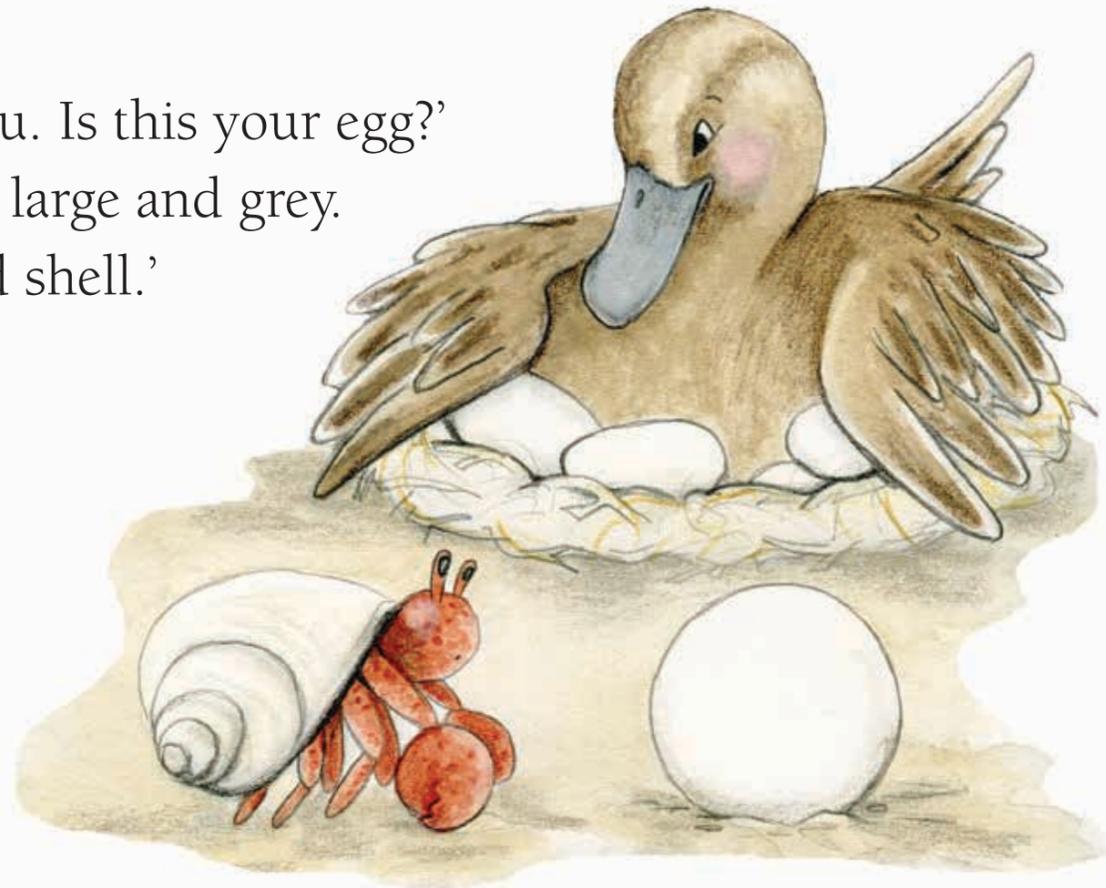
‘Hello Saibiri.  
Is this your egg?’  
‘No. My eggs  
are smooth,  
hard and oval.’





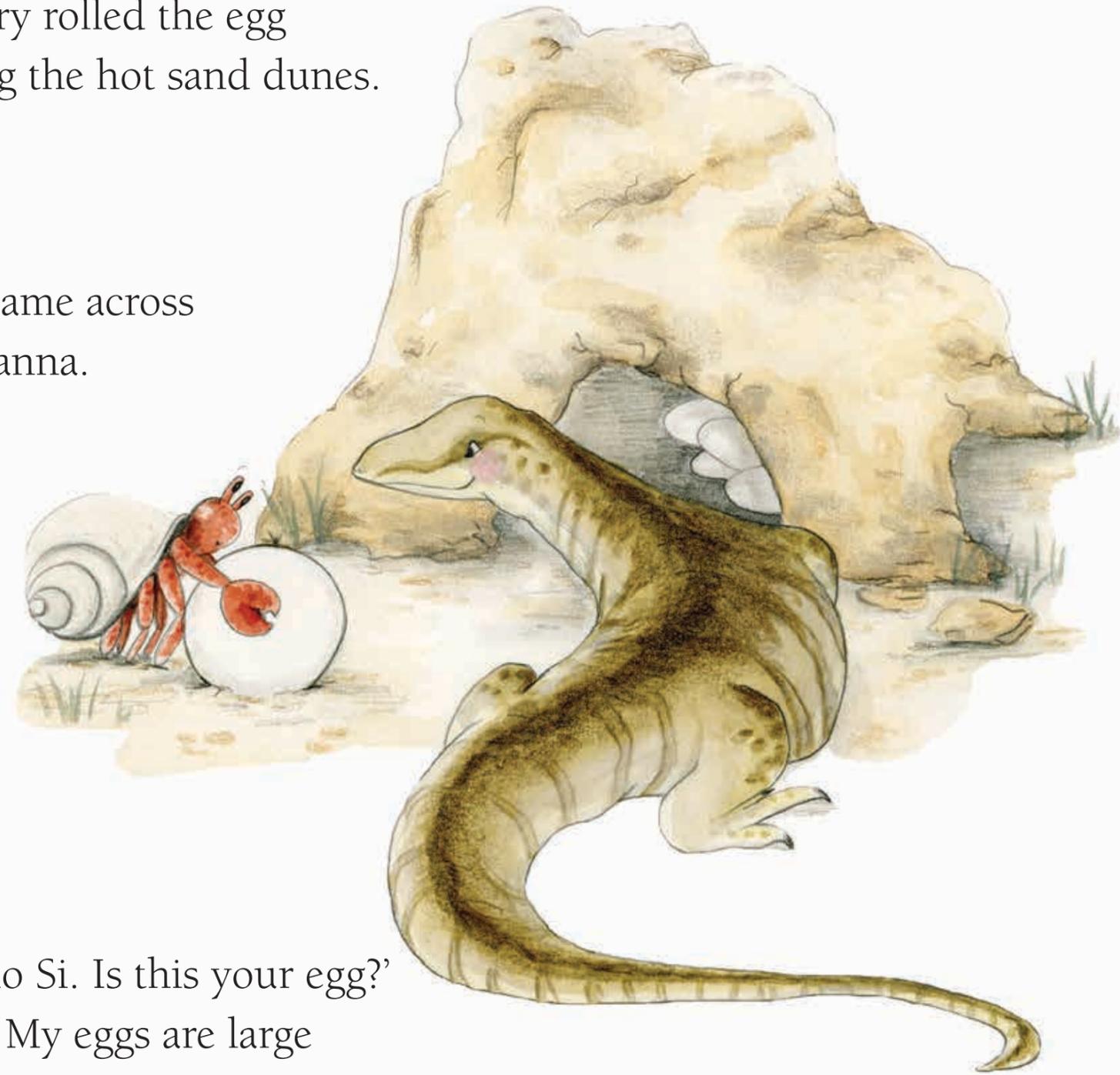
Henry rolled the egg along  
the short grass. He came  
across a duck.

‘Hello Ni Pirupiru. Is this your egg?’  
‘No. My eggs are large and grey.  
They have a hard shell.’



Henry rolled the egg  
along the hot sand dunes.

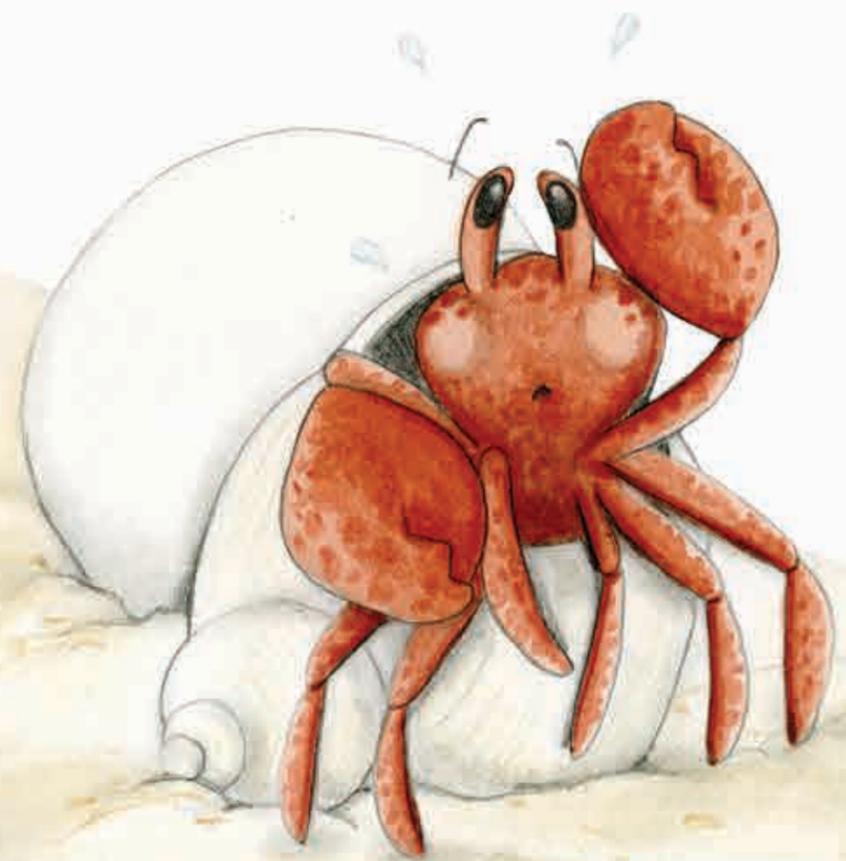
He came across  
a goanna.



‘Hello Si. Is this your egg?’  
‘No. My eggs are large  
and oval.’

Henry kept rolling the egg along the hot sand.

*Pheeww!*



He came across a large green sea turtle.

‘Hello Nam. Is this your egg?’

‘No, it is not my egg. My eggs are slightly larger. But if you put it in my nest with the rest of my eggs, it will be safe.

They will hatch in a few weeks.’



Henry pushed the small, soft, round egg into the nest with Nam’s eggs. Nam covered the nest with sand and crawled out to sea.

A few weeks later, a little turtle called Kebi Baug crawled out of the hot, sandy nest.

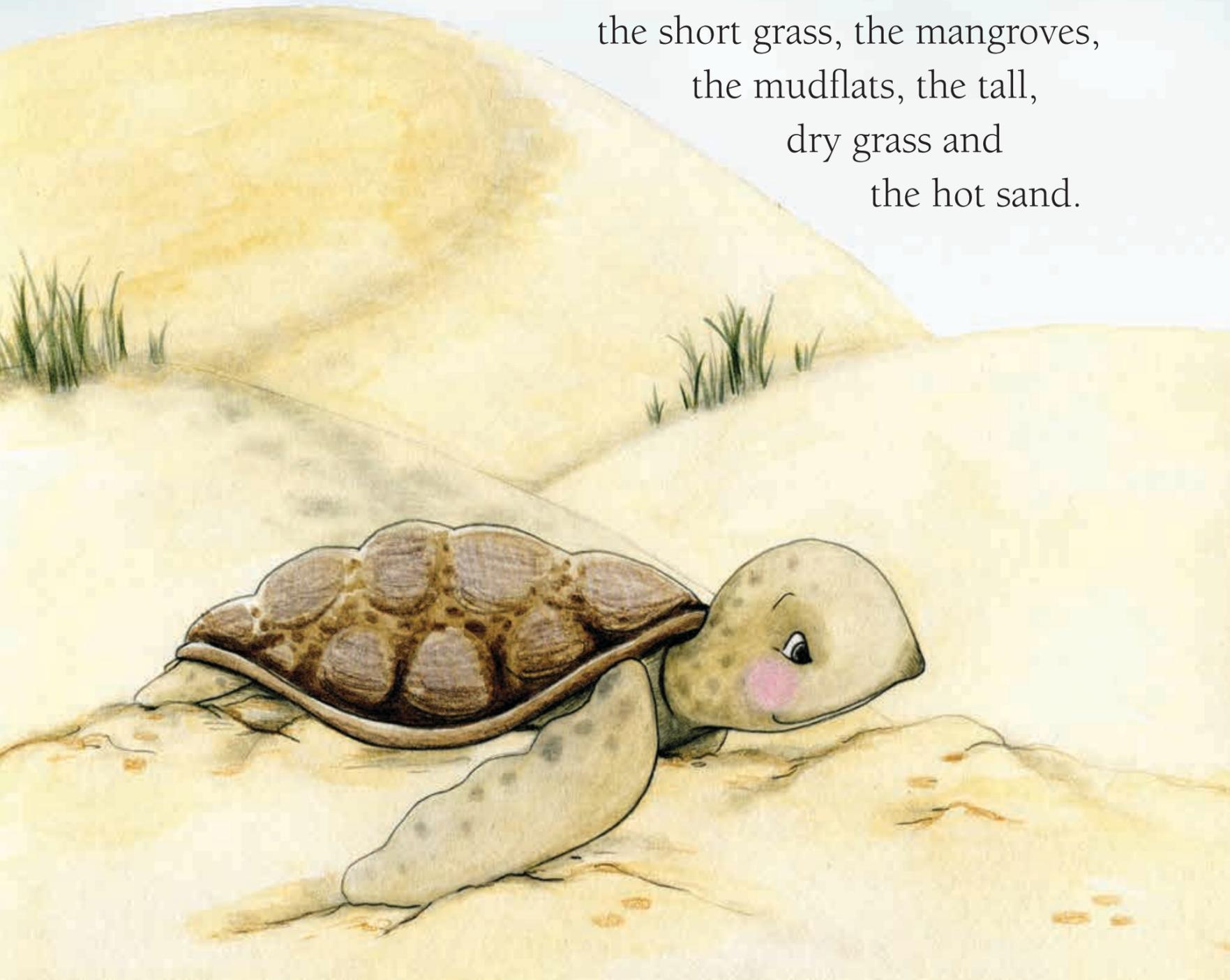
She was not like the other turtles next to her. Kebi Baug had an oval brown shell. Her tummy was light brown. She had a sharp beak.

The other little turtles were called Kebi Num. They had black shells. Their tummies were white.

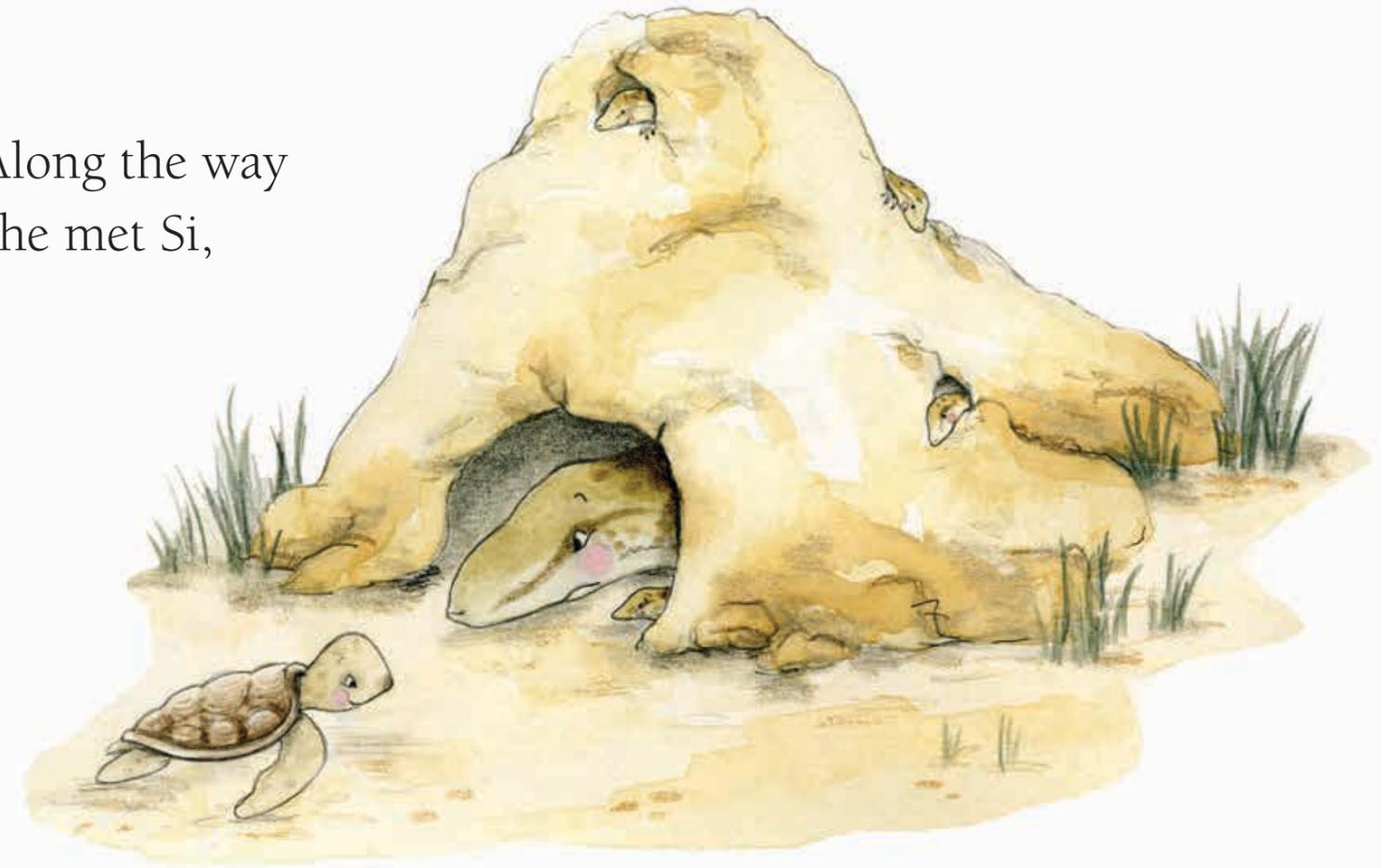


Kebi Baug decided to find her own nest.

She crawled along the sand dunes,  
the short grass, the mangroves,  
the mudflats, the tall,  
dry grass and  
the hot sand.

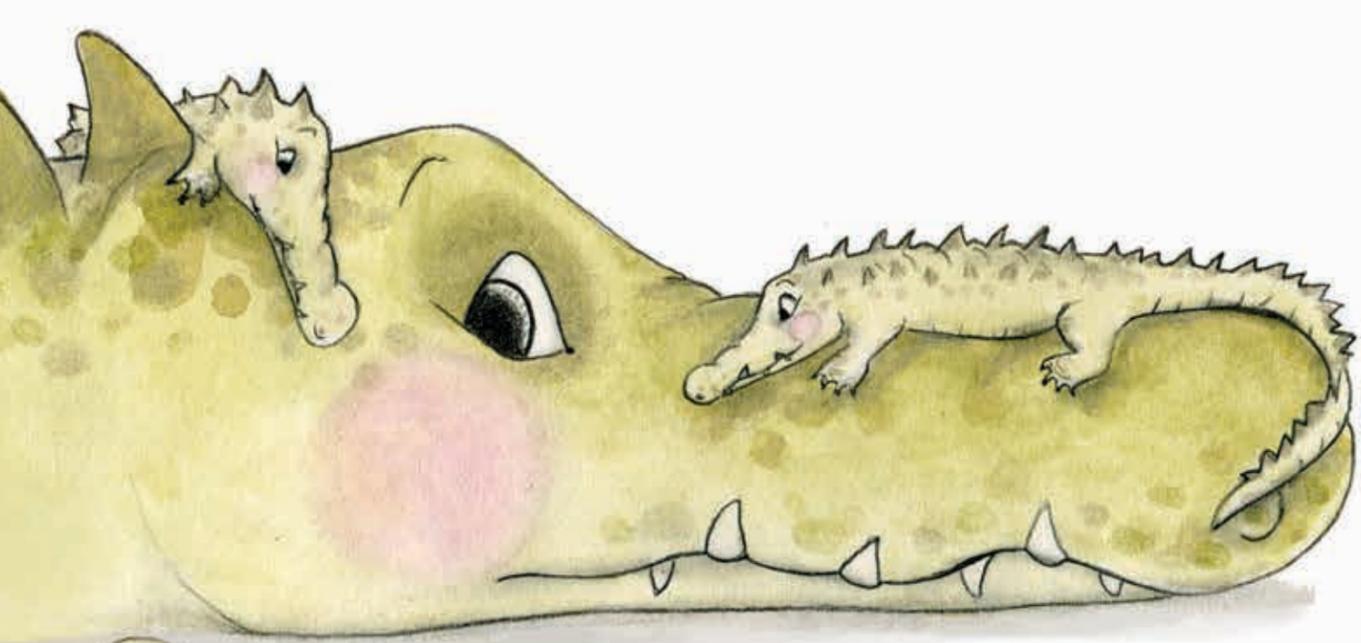


Along the way  
she met Si,



Ni Pirupiru,





Saibiri,



Kerkeri,



Tabo



and Serar.

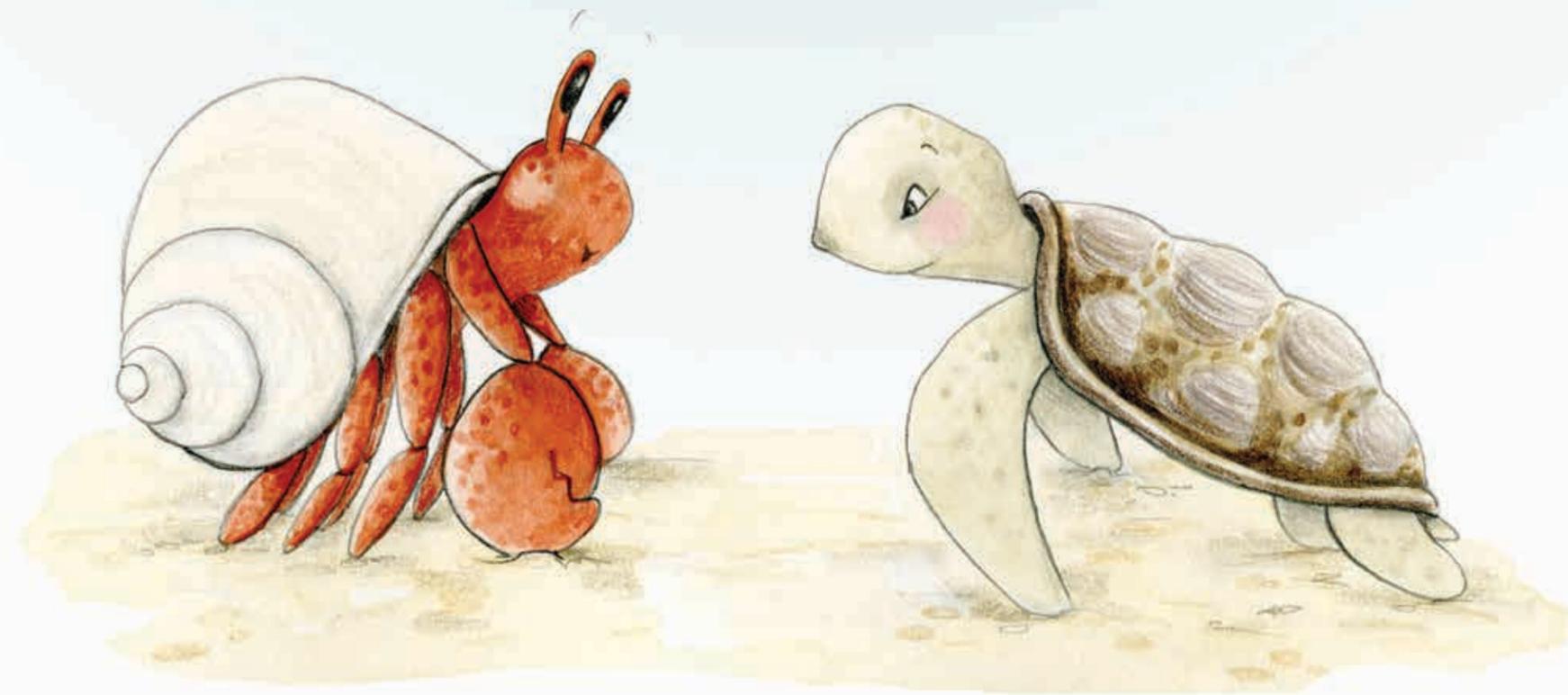
Kebi Baug asked them all,  
'Do I belong to your nests?'  
They all said no.

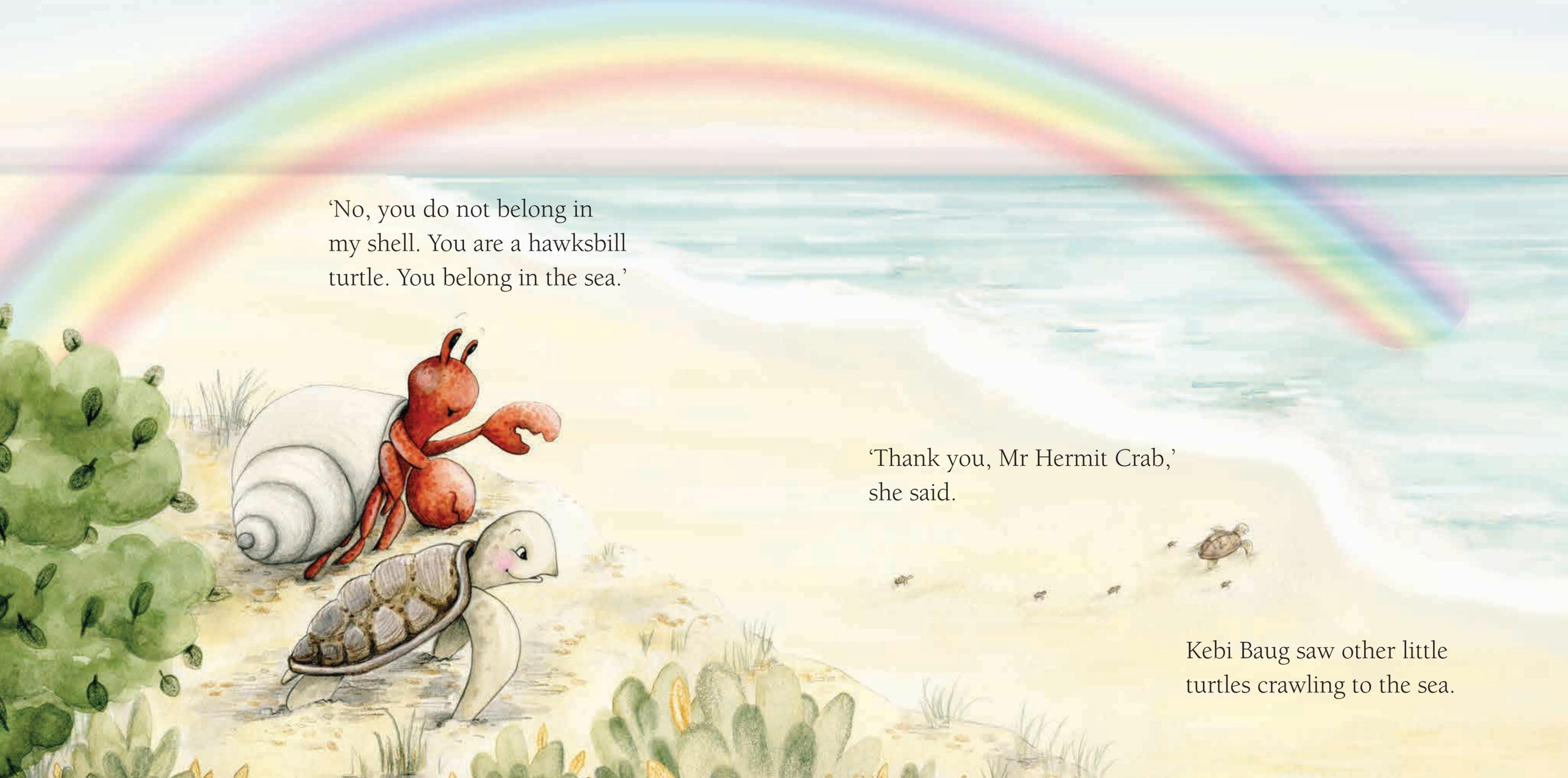
Kebi Baug stopped on the edge of the beach. She felt sad and lonely.



Henry crawled out of his shell.  
'Hello. Who are you?'

'Hello Mr Hermit Crab. I am  
Kebi Baug. I do not belong to  
Si, Ni Pirupiru, Saibiri,  
Kerkeri, Tabo or Serar.  
Do I belong in your shell?'

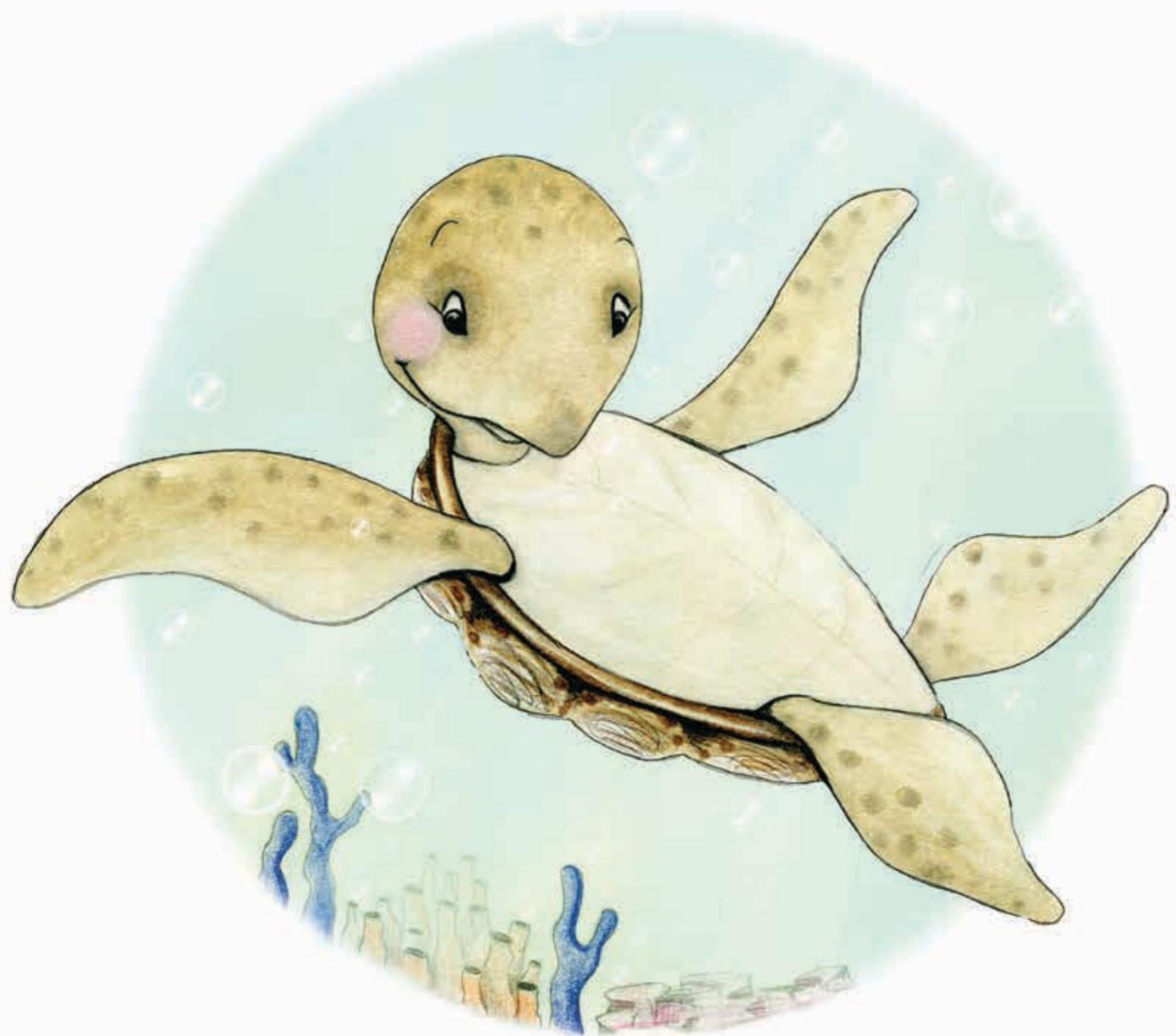




‘No, you do not belong in my shell. You are a hawksbill turtle. You belong in the sea.’

‘Thank you, Mr Hermit Crab,’ she said.

Kebi Baug saw other little turtles crawling to the sea.



She quickly joined them.  
And followed them towards her new home.

## Glossary

### Meriam Mer

### Pronunciation

### English

Serar

Se rar

Tern bird

Tabo

Ta bo

Snake

Kerkeri

Ker ker i

Crab

Saibiri

Sai bi ri

Crocodile

Ni Pirupiru

Ni Pir u pir u

Duck

Si

See

Goanna

Nam

Nam

Adult green sea turtle

Kebi Baug

Ke bi Ba ug

Baby hawksbill turtle

Kebi Num

Ke bi Num

Baby green sea turtle



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ella Kris grew up in the remote community of Thursday Island without any technology, so reading opened her mind to the world around her. It encouraged her imagination and creativity, and this led to exploring places and made her listen to empty spaces, which are full of noises. As a young adult she discovered technology and a deeper love for wild open spaces. Reading, technology and open spaces have become important parts of her life and throughout her life's journey she will continue to explore and listen and to use technology to paint words through poems, songs and children's stories.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Emma Cracknell was born in Boonah, a small country town in Queensland, and now lives in Ipswich, west of Brisbane. She has been drawing, painting and creating since she was a young child. Emma is a self-taught artist, mostly working with traditional media such as watercolour, gouache paints and pencil sketches. Her particular niche as an illustrator is in Australian flora and fauna. She also works part time as a library officer and freelance illustrator. [www.emmacracknell.com](http://www.emmacracknell.com)



## 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](http://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.





Henry the Hermit crab is on a mission.  
He has found a small egg and must travel  
through the mudflats, the hot sand and the  
tall grass to find it a home. Where will it  
belong when it hatches?

