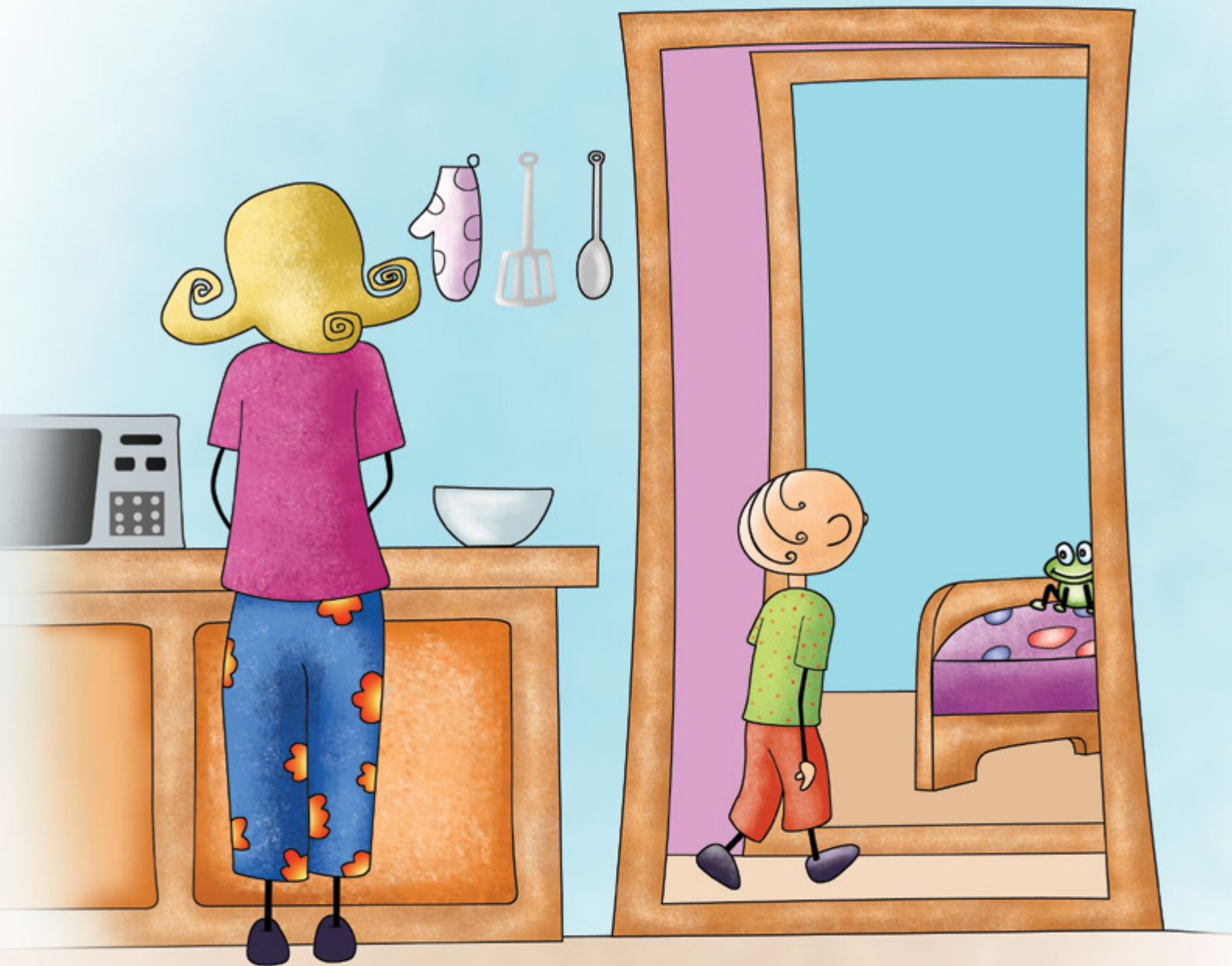


Even though I have grandchildren
of my own, it seems like it was only yesterday
when I returned home from school
to find a frog in my bedroom.



My mother just chuckled when I yelled out,
“I found a frog on my bed.”
Now, she knew that I would eventually find one
but she let me discover a wonder of Nature
that many people miss.



I am glad she did.

You see, a little earlier that spring,
when I was 6 years old; I saw some little,
black fish in a pond.
Since I didn't have any pets I went home and asked my
mother if I could have one.



After we talked about my catching
some of the fish I saw, and
the responsibility of having a pet, she agreed.



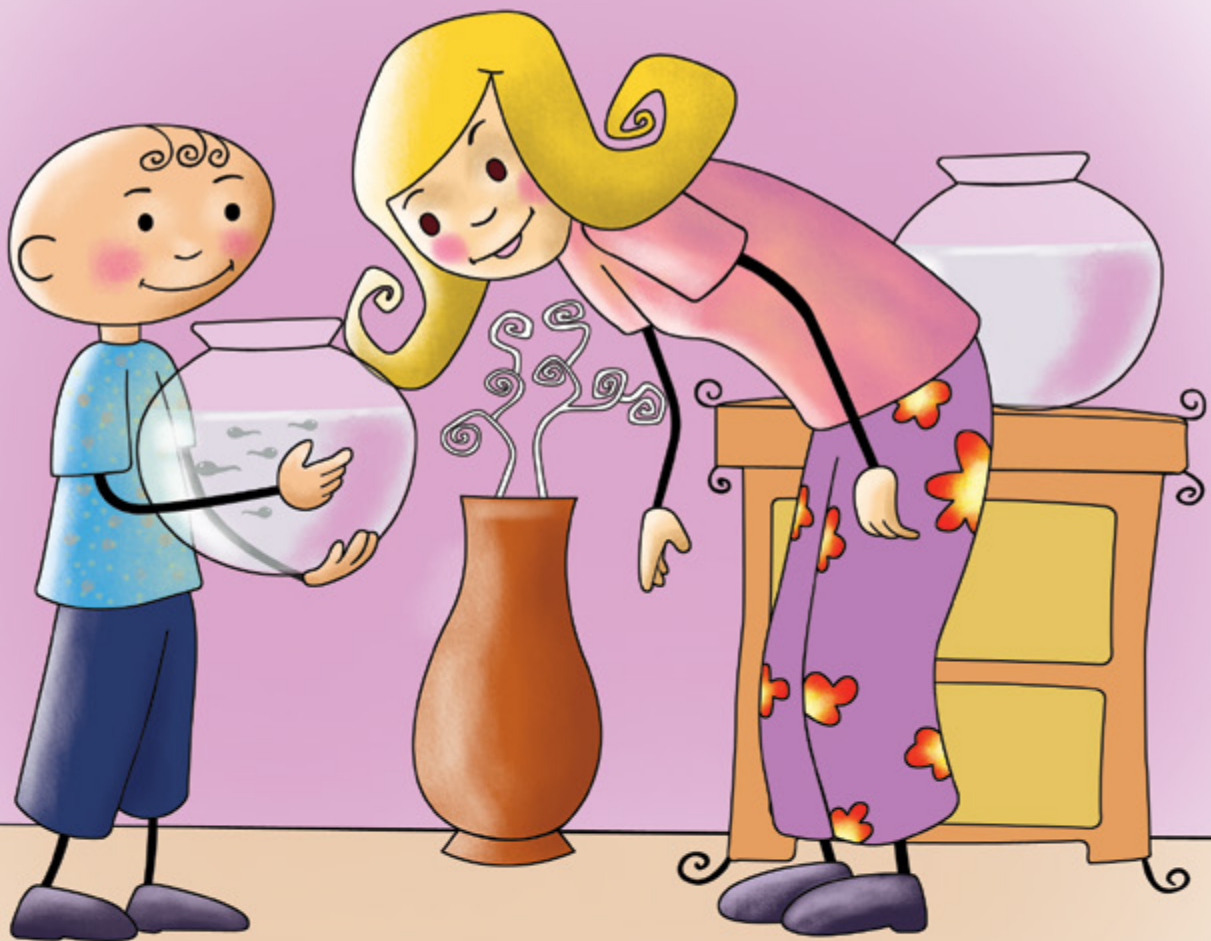
She gave me a bowl,
told me to go catch a few, and said that while
I was out she would prepare their new home.
Off I went.



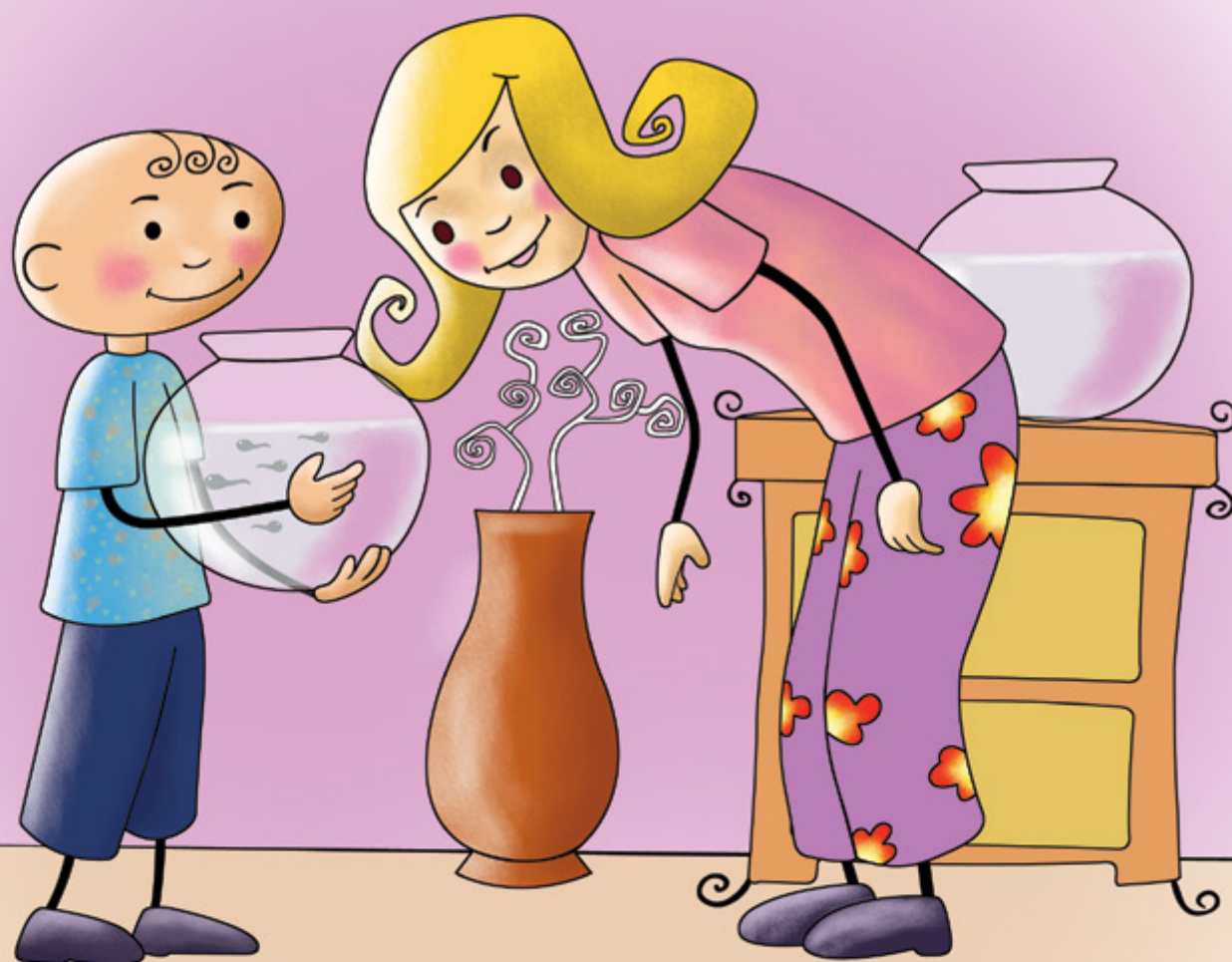
There were so many that they were easy to catch.
I filled the bowl and ran home.



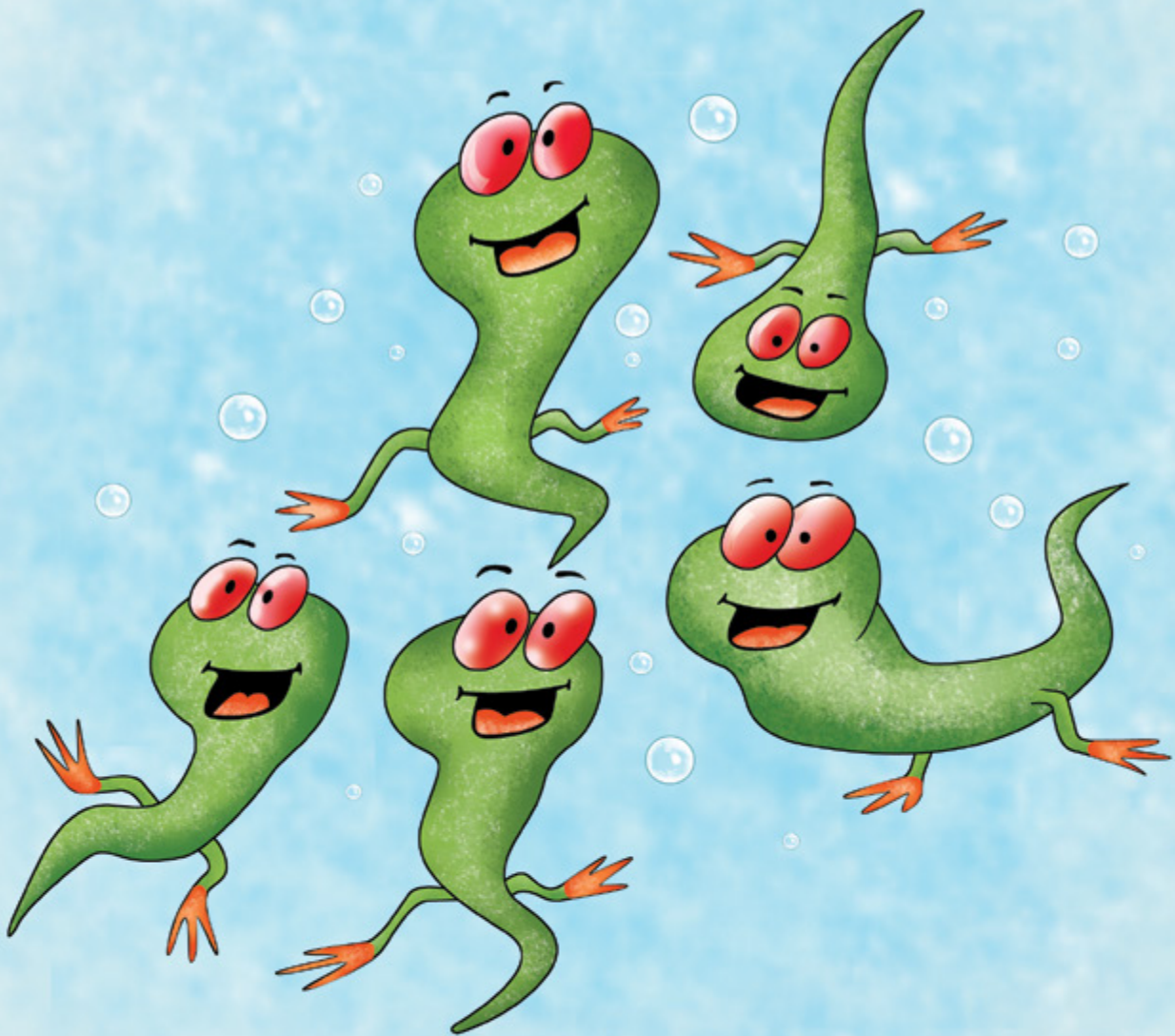
When I got home, my mother had an
old fish bowl filled with water
sitting on the corner of my desk.
She asked to see the fish, looked,
and with a big smile said,
“Tadpoles. – Wow! You are in for a surprise.”



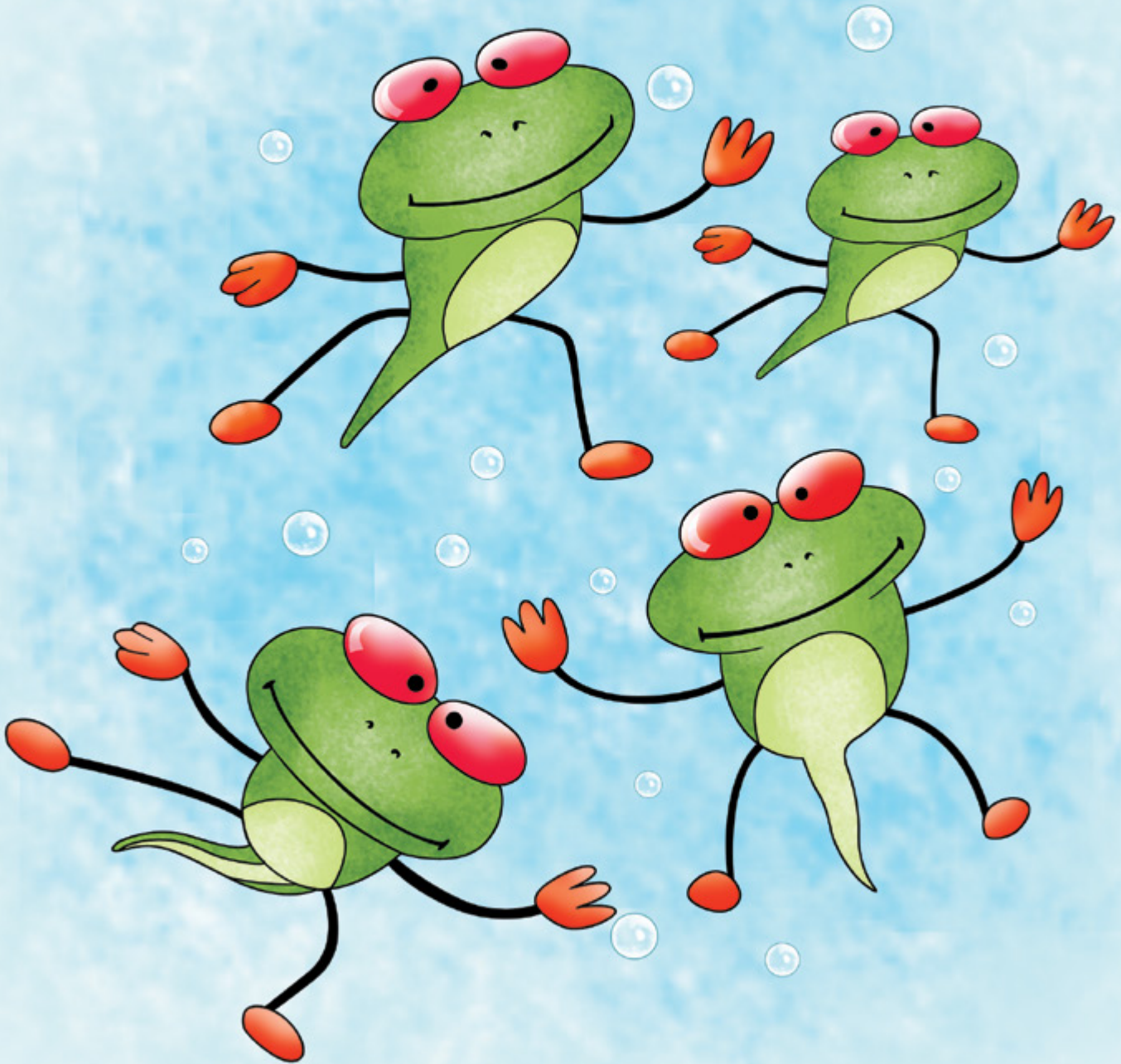
I asked what she meant and
she just said that I would have to
wait and see, but to watch my fish carefully.



After a few weeks,
I noticed some were changing.
“Mom,” I yelled with excitement.
“Come here, my fish are growing legs.”
She came into my room, looked, smiled, and told
me to keep watching.

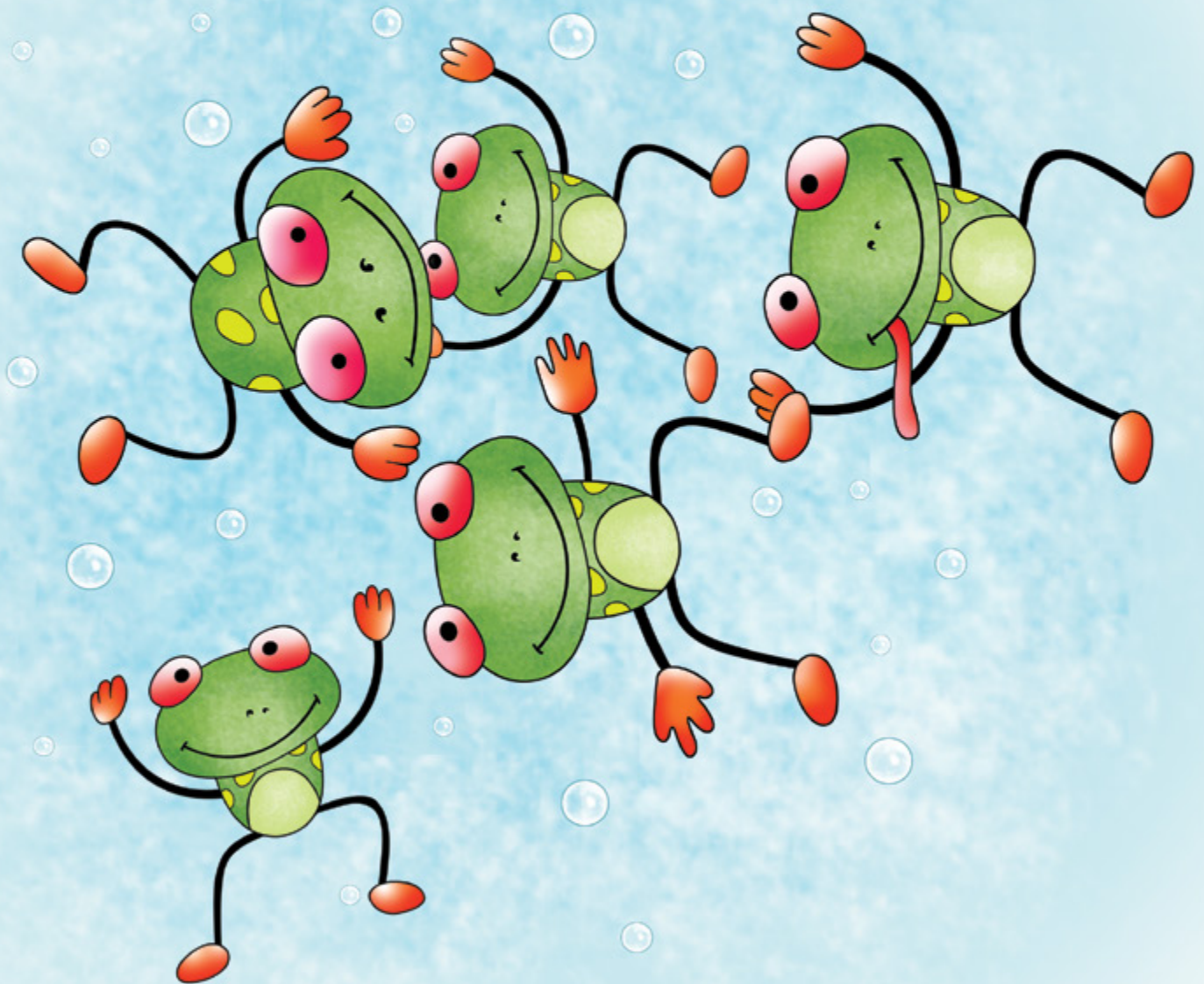


After several more weeks,
there were more changes.
“Mom,” I yelled with excitement.
“Come here, my fish are growing front legs
and their tail is going away.”



She came into my room, looked, smiled,
and told me to keep watching.

A week or so later when I got up,
I was amazed. There were more changes.
My fish didn't have tails, their legs were
bigger, and they didn't look like
the little black fish I had caught
earlier in the Spring.

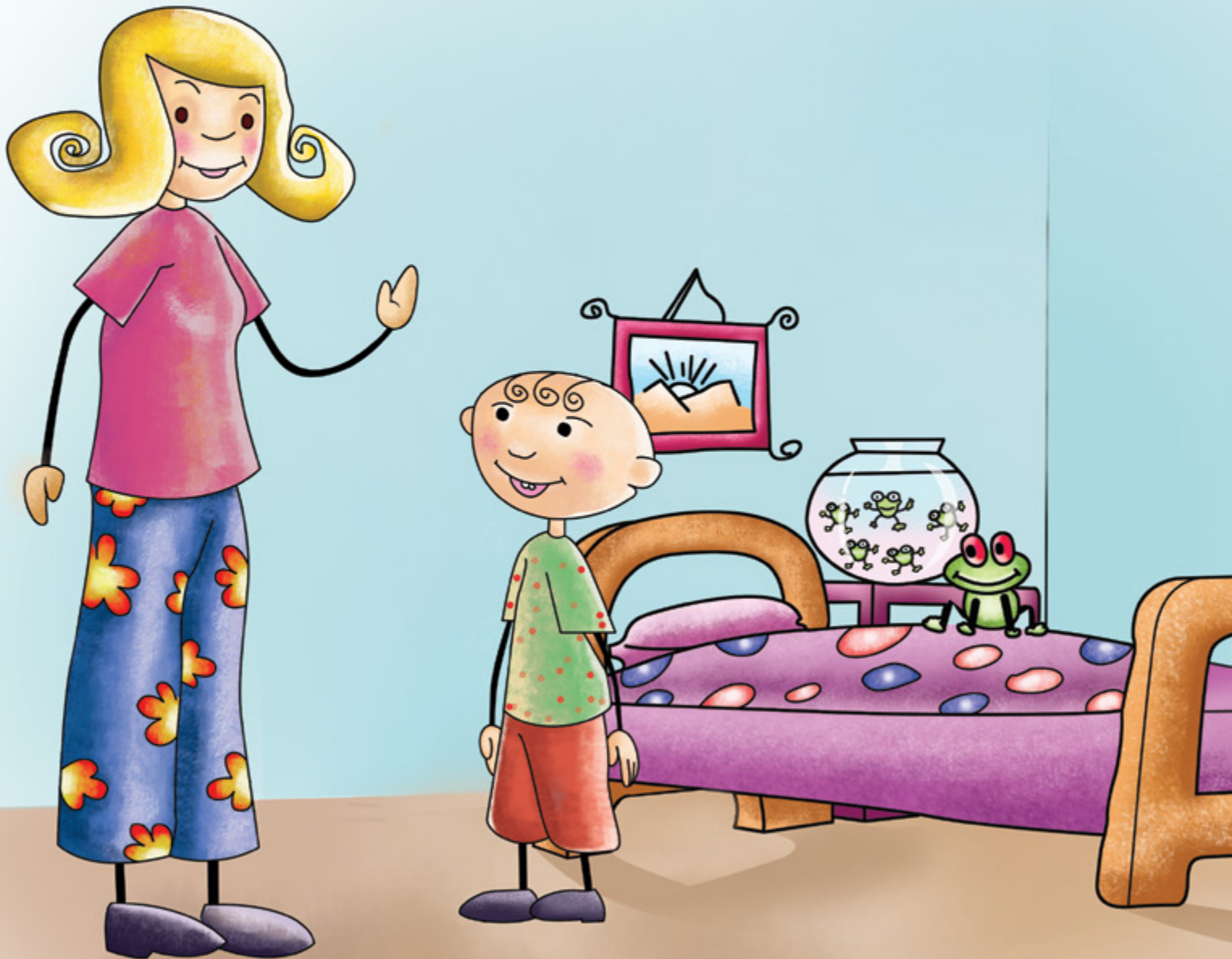


"Mom," I yelled with excitement.
"Come here, my fish are really different."
She came into my room, looked, smiled, and told me that a
surprise was very close.

That day, when I returned home
from school, is when I yelled out,
“I found a frog on my bed.”



“Surprise,” yelled mom.
“You watched a miracle
right before your eyes. A fish
changed into a frog.



Now you had better catch and take him
and the other almost frogs back to the pond.
I don't need 50 more surprises
tomorrow morning.”

Off I went.

