



It is hot sunny Saturday morning on the farm. Maya, Duksie and Doobie are helping Mama K in her

vegetable garden. The children work all morning. They dig compost into the soil. They weed and water. Then they harvest what is ripe and ready. Today each of the children will take home freshly picked strawberries, spinach and carrots.



Mama K always gives the children a treat for helping her. Sometimes its cake or chocolate, or she buys long

sweets that look like snakes.
Sometimes it's apples, pears or
oranges. Mama K has only one rule.
“Share it fair!” The children know
they must share the treats equally, so
they all get the same amount.



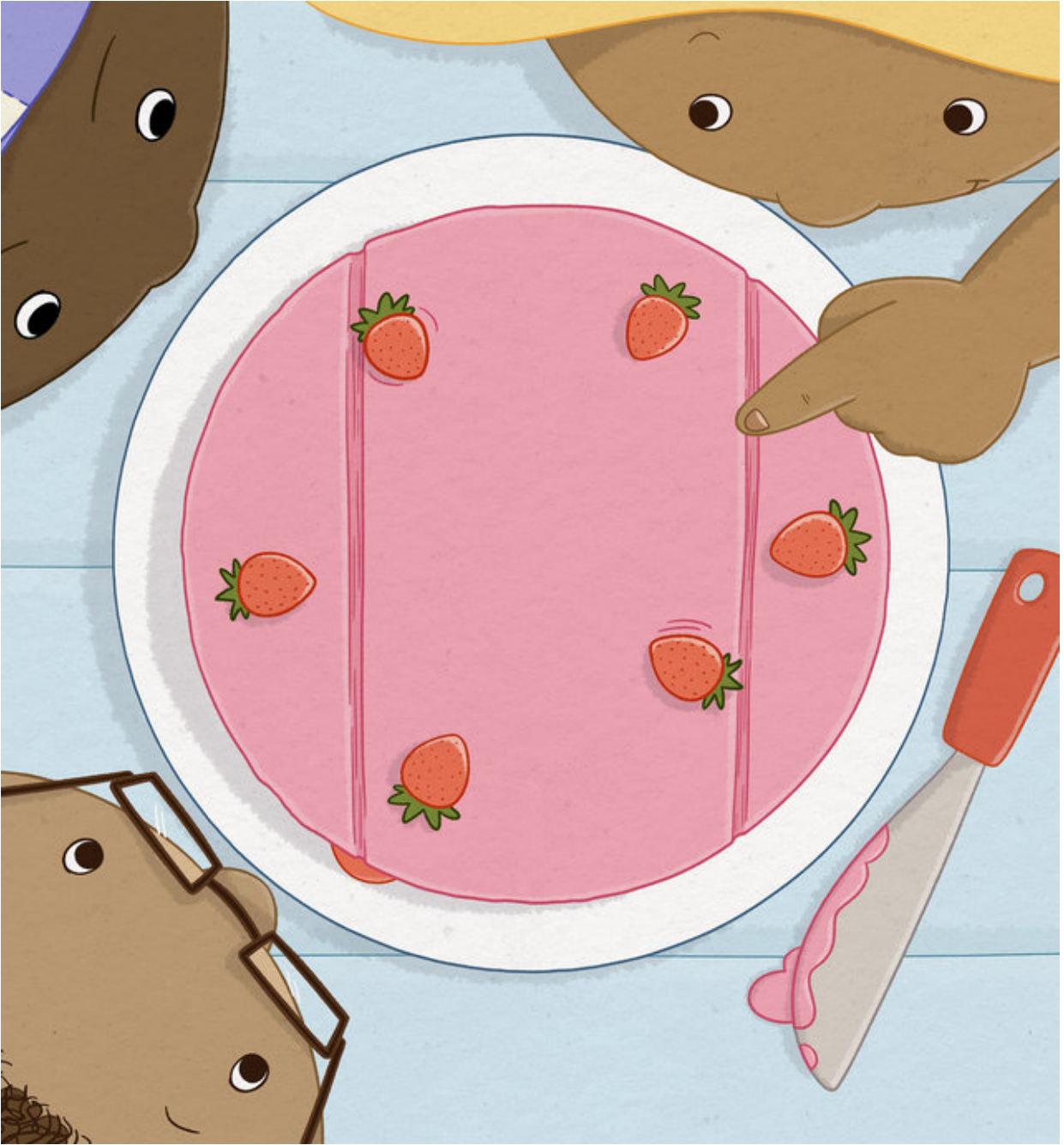
Today Mama K has baked a round strawberry cake with pink icing and berries from her garden. The children

wait on the grass for their treat. “Here you go!” smiles Mama K. “But remember the rule. Everyone must get the same. Share it fair! Don't fight!”



Maya has the first turn to share the cake. She uses the knife to trace lines in the icing. The others watch her. She

does not cut the cake yet. The others must first agree if her way is fair. “I think I will make two cuts down like this. Now we have three slices, all the same!” Maya shows them.



“No way!” says Duksie, “the one in the middle is much too big!” Doobie

also shakes his head. Maya laughs and shrugs and tells Duksie to try.



“Here! Pass me the knife, I’ll do it. Easy peasy!” chants Duksie. First she

rubs out Maya's pattern in the icing
 and licks her fingers.



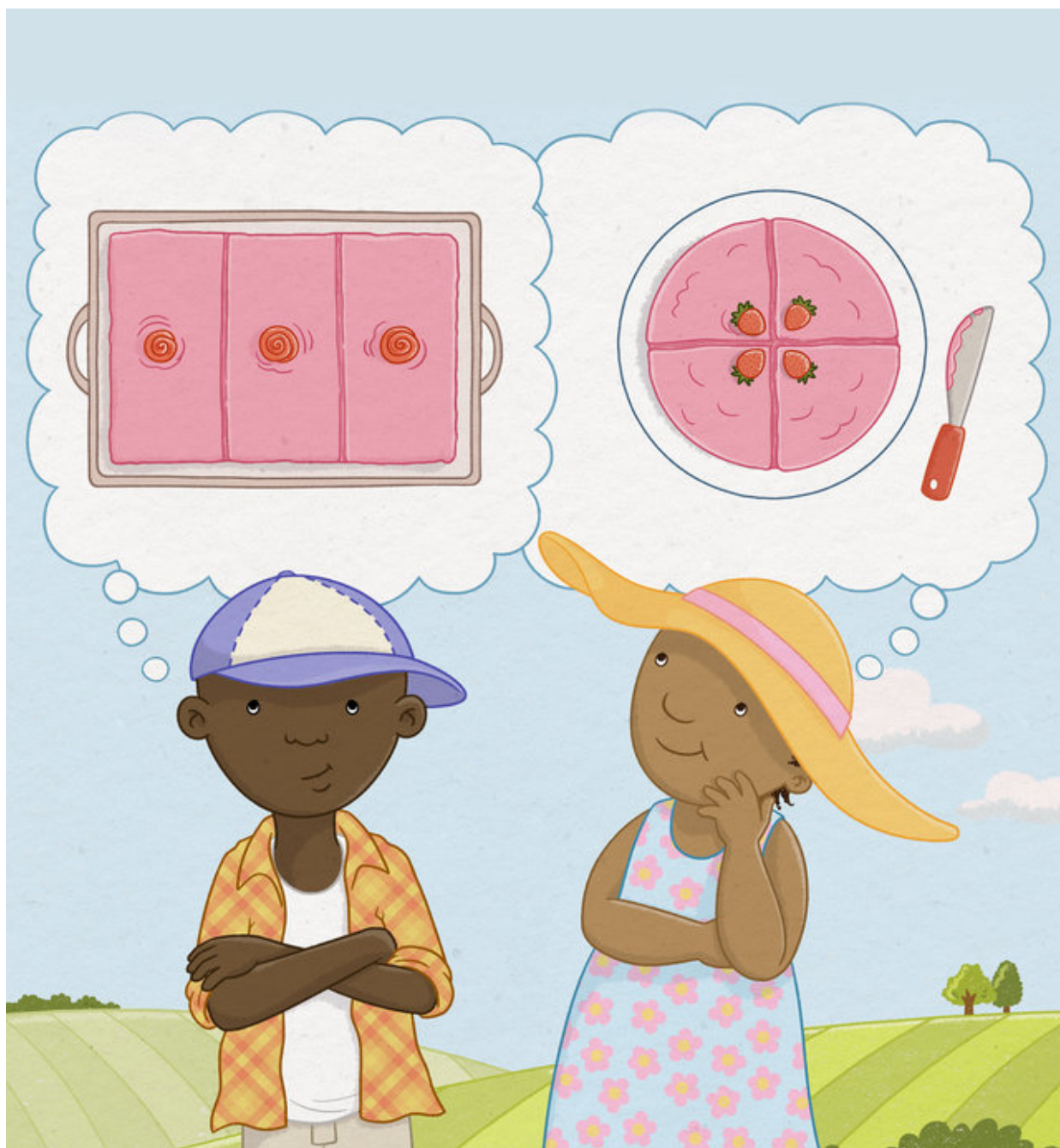
Then she makes one cut across and one down. “Look, I made my three

slices!” “That's not fair!” shout Maya and Doobie together.



“Share it fair! The pieces must be the same size and shape,” adds Doobie.
“Why don't you try Doobie, Smarty

Pants?” smirks Duksie. “I bet you can't do it!”



“I wish the cake was a square or a rectangle, and then it would be easy!” says Doobie thoughtfully. “Or, if there

were four of us to share the round cake that would also be easy,” says Maya.



And then! A picture comes into Doobie's head. He sees the sparkling silver badge at the front of his father's

big red truck. On Sundays he helps his dad to wash the truck, and to polish the shiny badge. “I've got it! I've got it! I know how to do it,” yells Doobie.



“You are full of surprises, Doobie,” says Duksie sweetly. “How did you work it out?” Maya asks. Doobie

smiles to himself. For now it his secret. Later, he will tell his dad.



First he uses a knife to smooth
Duksie's lines in the icing. Then he
traces three lines on the cake. It looks

just like the badge on his dad's truck,
with three equal parts.



Just then Mama K comes out of her house. She is carrying a tray with three glasses of cold strawberry juice.

“Look Mama K! Doobie found the way to cut the cake into three equal pieces,” Maya tells her. “Well done Doobie, three equal slices! You shared fairly, I'm proud of you all. Now cut the cake and drink your juice. It's time to go home. I will give you plates to take your pieces of cake.”



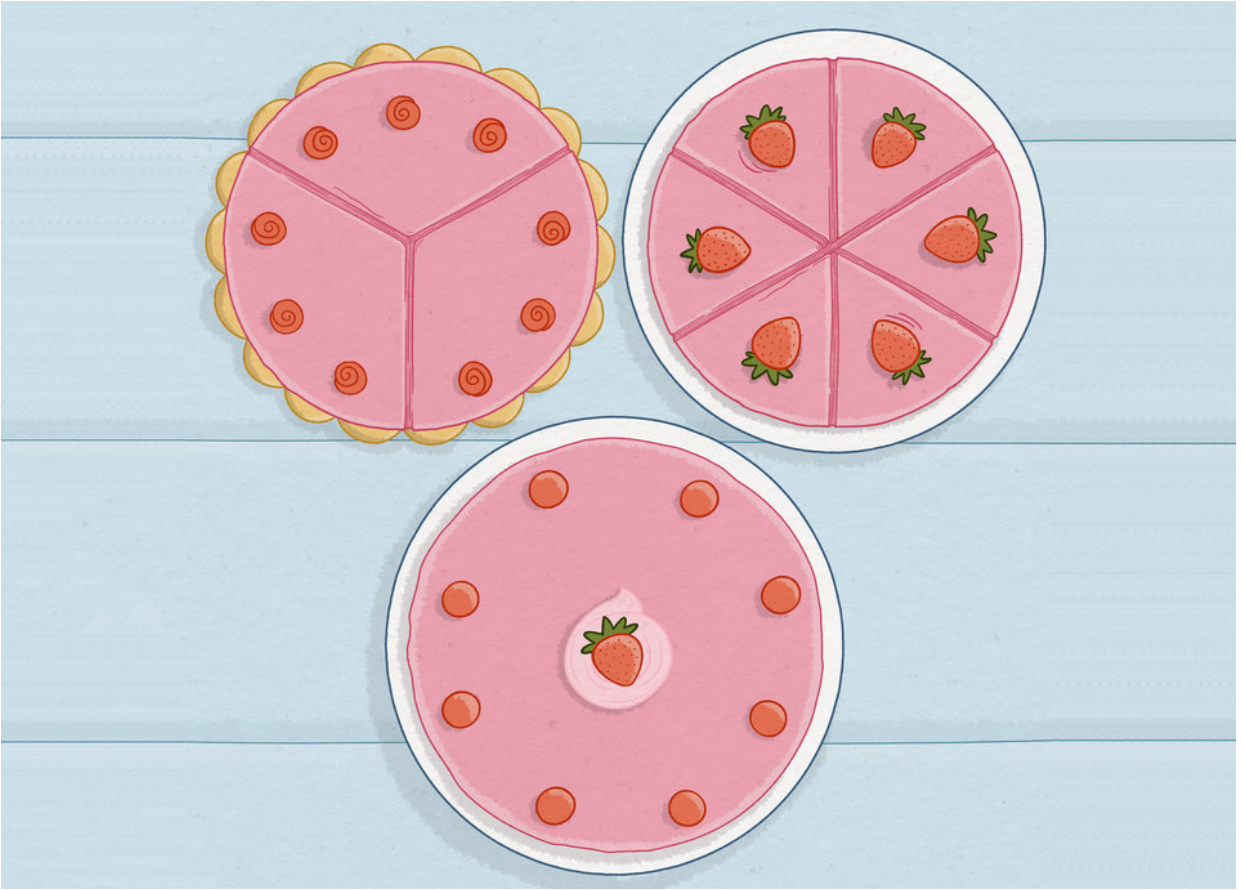
Maya cuts along Doobie's lines to make three equal slices. Just for fun, the children stack the slices on top of

each other to check that they are the same size. Yes they are!



Doobie's dad arrives to pick up the children, and Doobie runs off to meet him. He can't wait to tell his dad how

the badge on the truck helped him to
solve a very tricky problem!



Share it Fair! (English)

A math story about the importance of sharing it fairly, even when it difficult to share equally.

This is a Level 4 book for children who can read fluently and with confidence.