



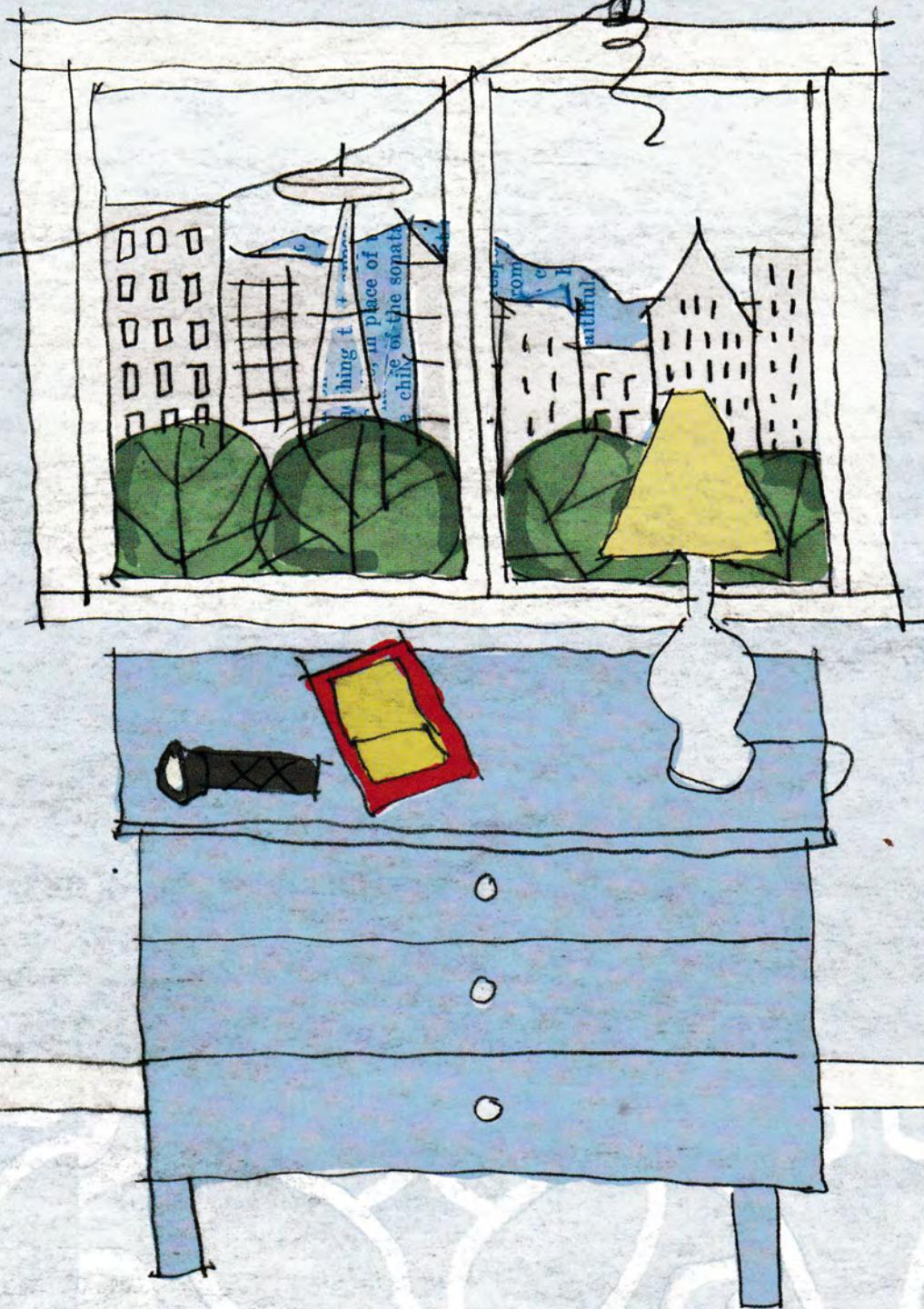
# THE CAMPING TRIP



Jennifer K. Mann

 SCHOLASTIC

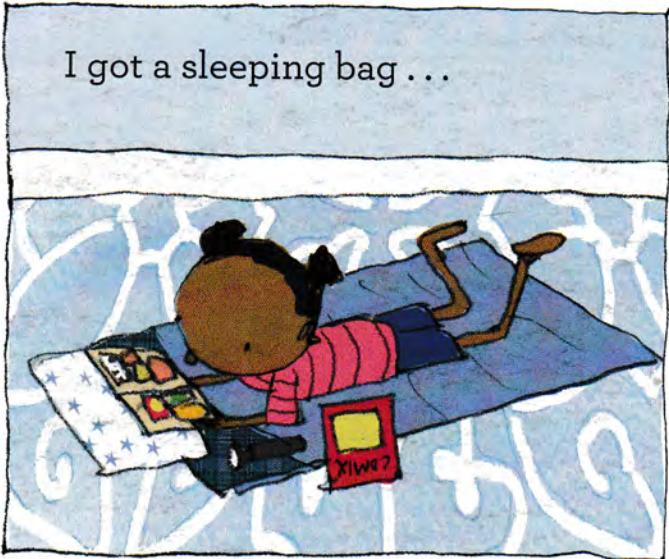




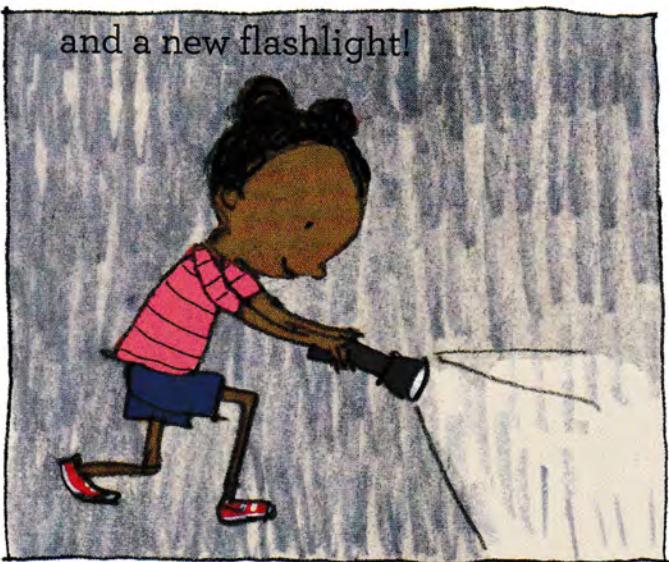
MY AUNT JACKIE invited me to go camping with her and my cousin Samantha this weekend, and my dad said yes!

I've never been camping before, but I know I will love it.

I got a sleeping bag ...



and a new flashlight!



And Dad and I made some trail mix,  
just for camping.



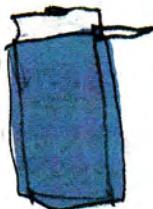
Aunt Jackie sent a list of things  
to pack:



hat



sneakers



water bottle



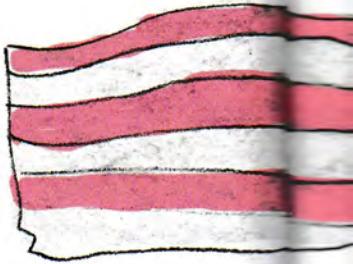
flashlight



backpack



pajamas



towel



camera



sleeping bag



pillow



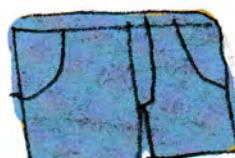
sunblock



underwear



swimsuit .



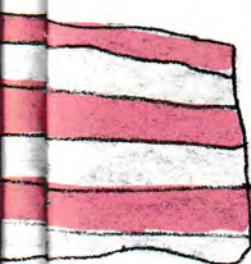
shorts



Foxy



sunglasses



bandages



T-shirt



sweatshirt



socks



swim mask



comic books

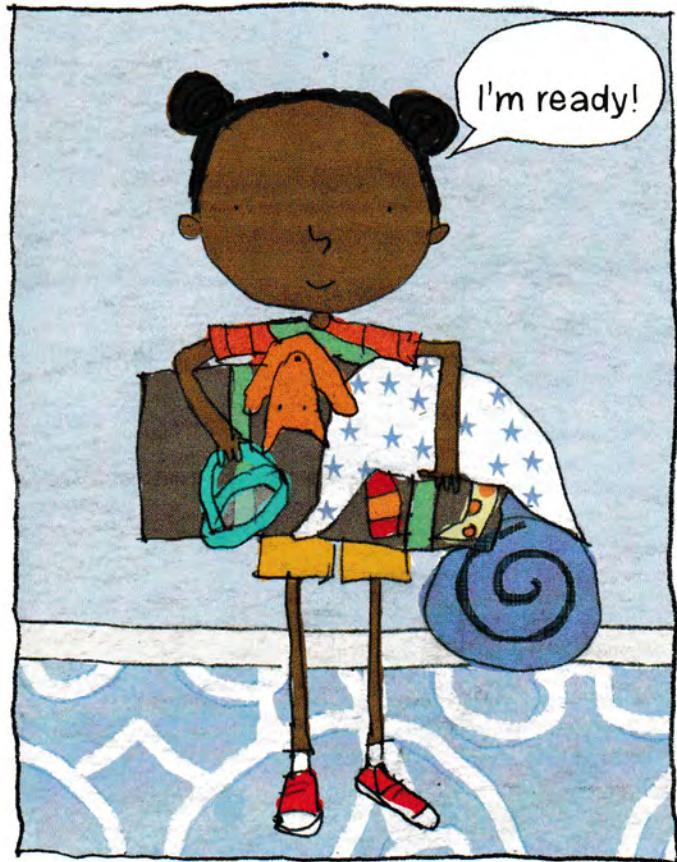
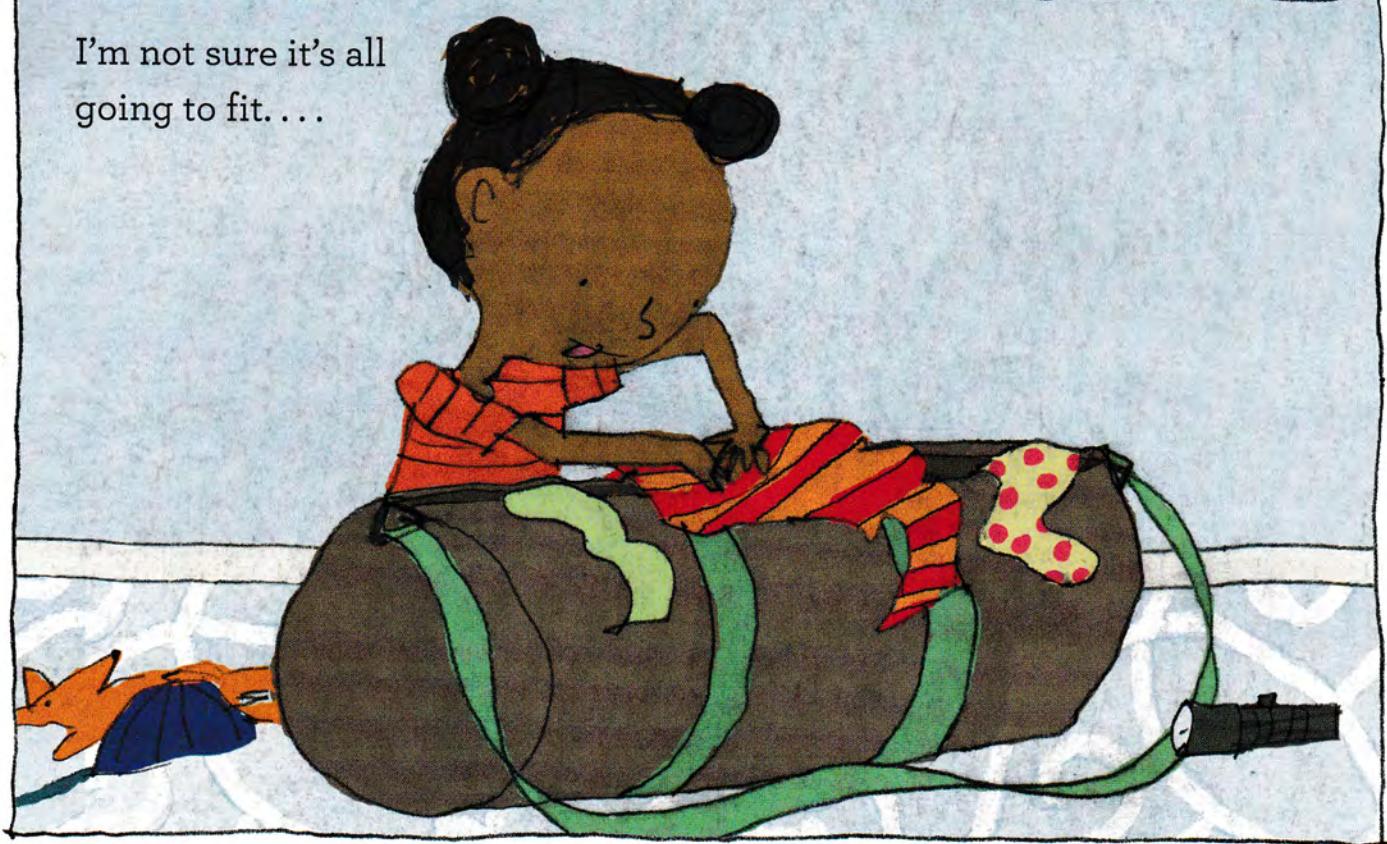


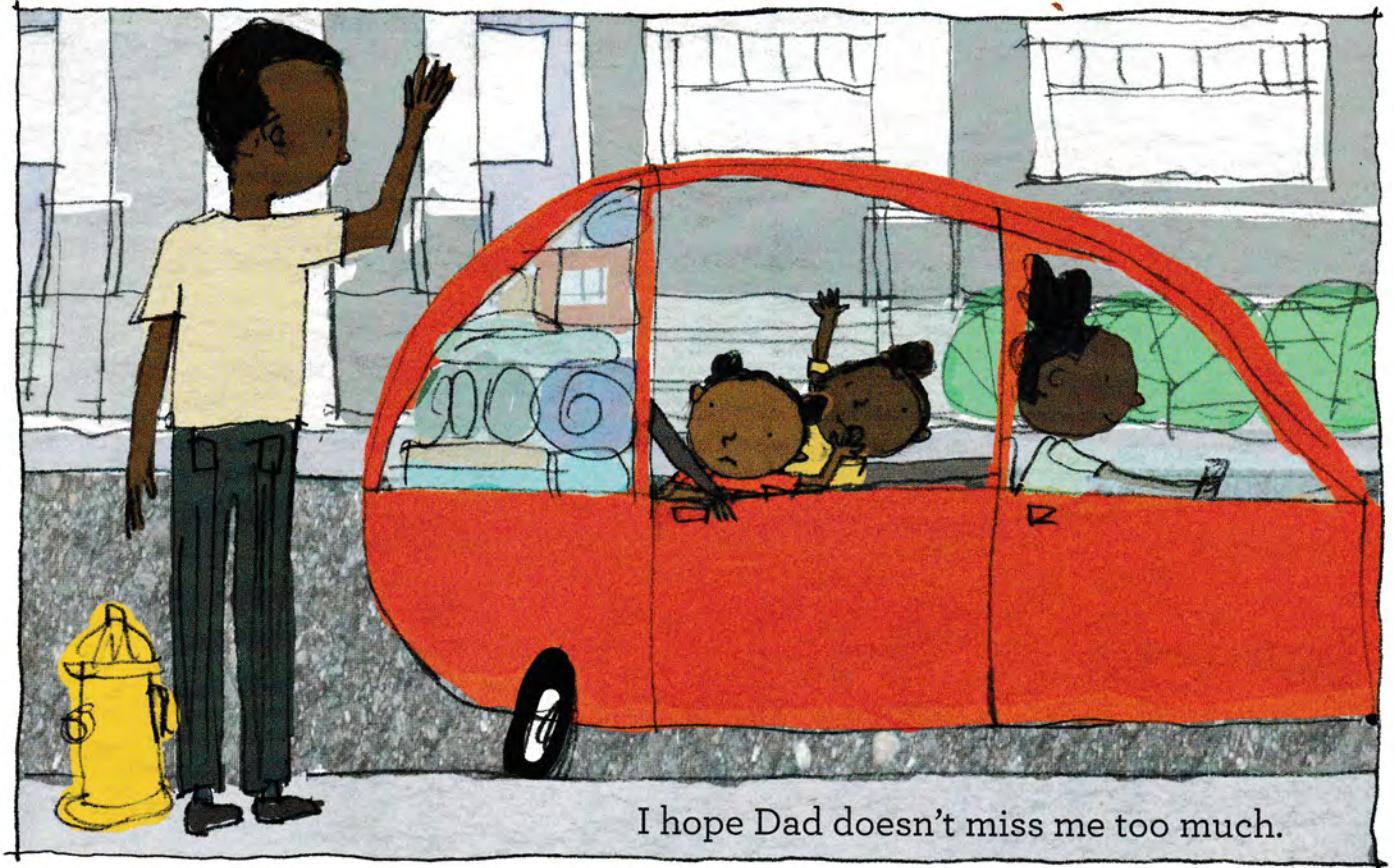
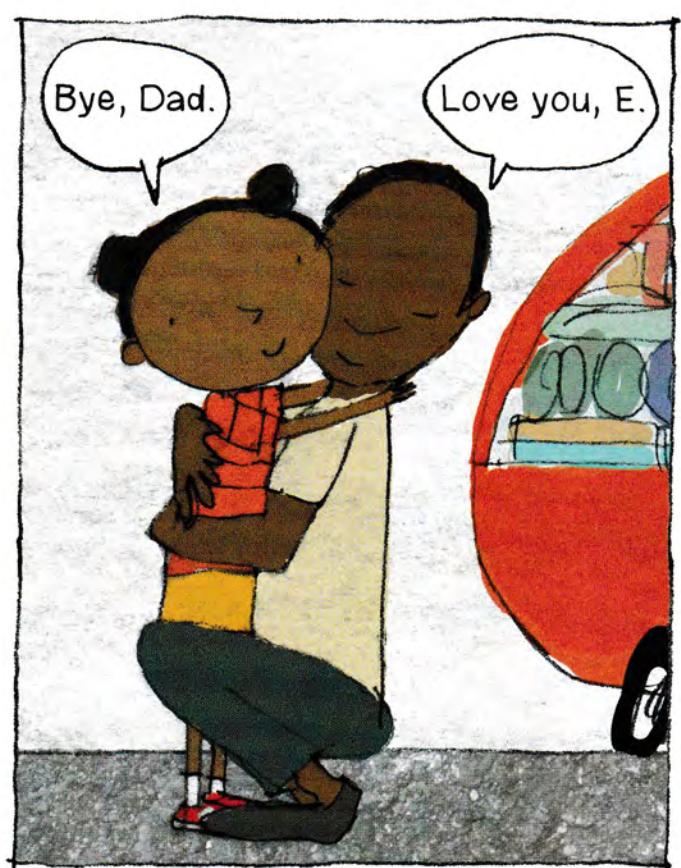
whistle



trail mix

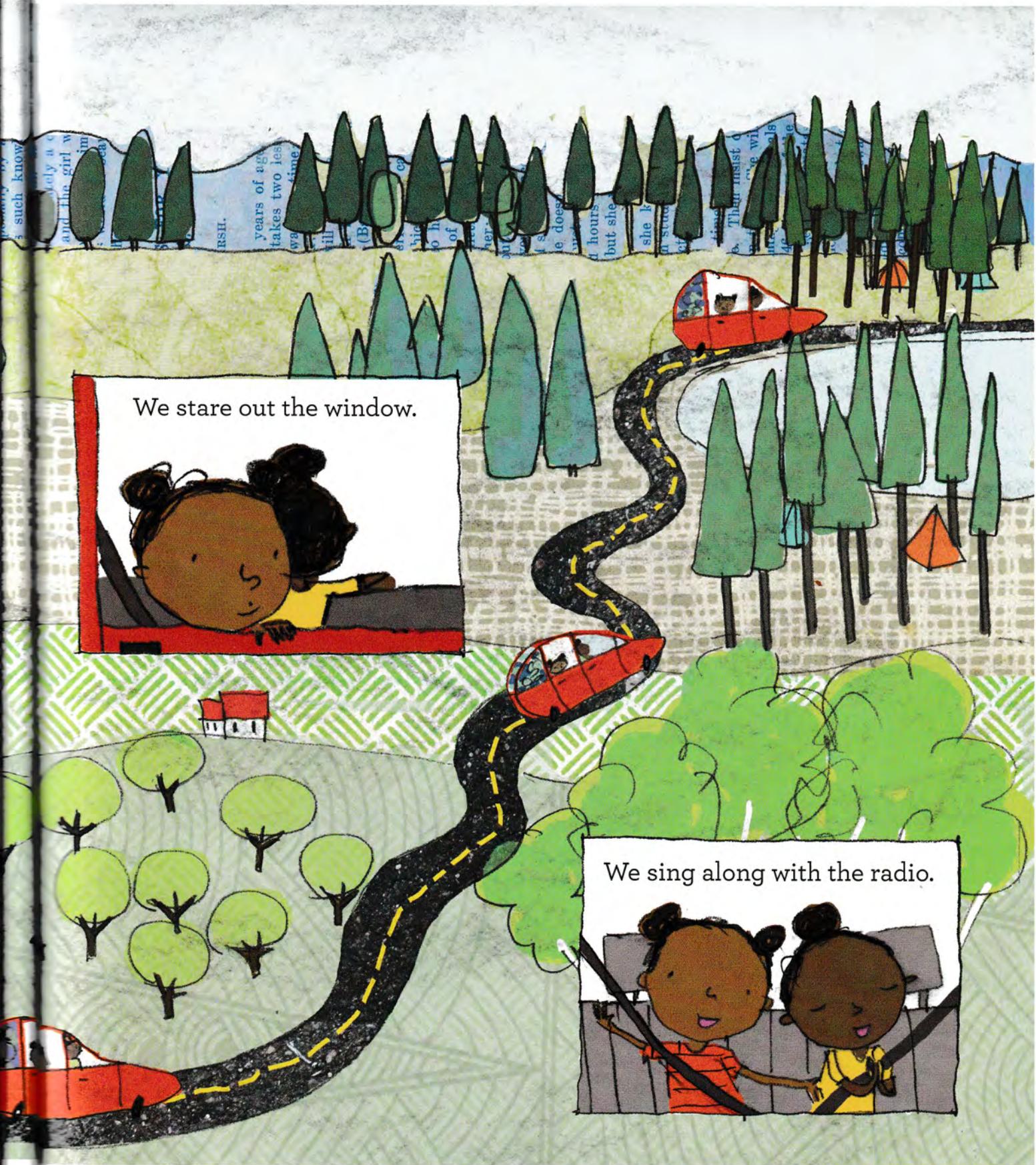
I'm not sure it's all  
going to fit....



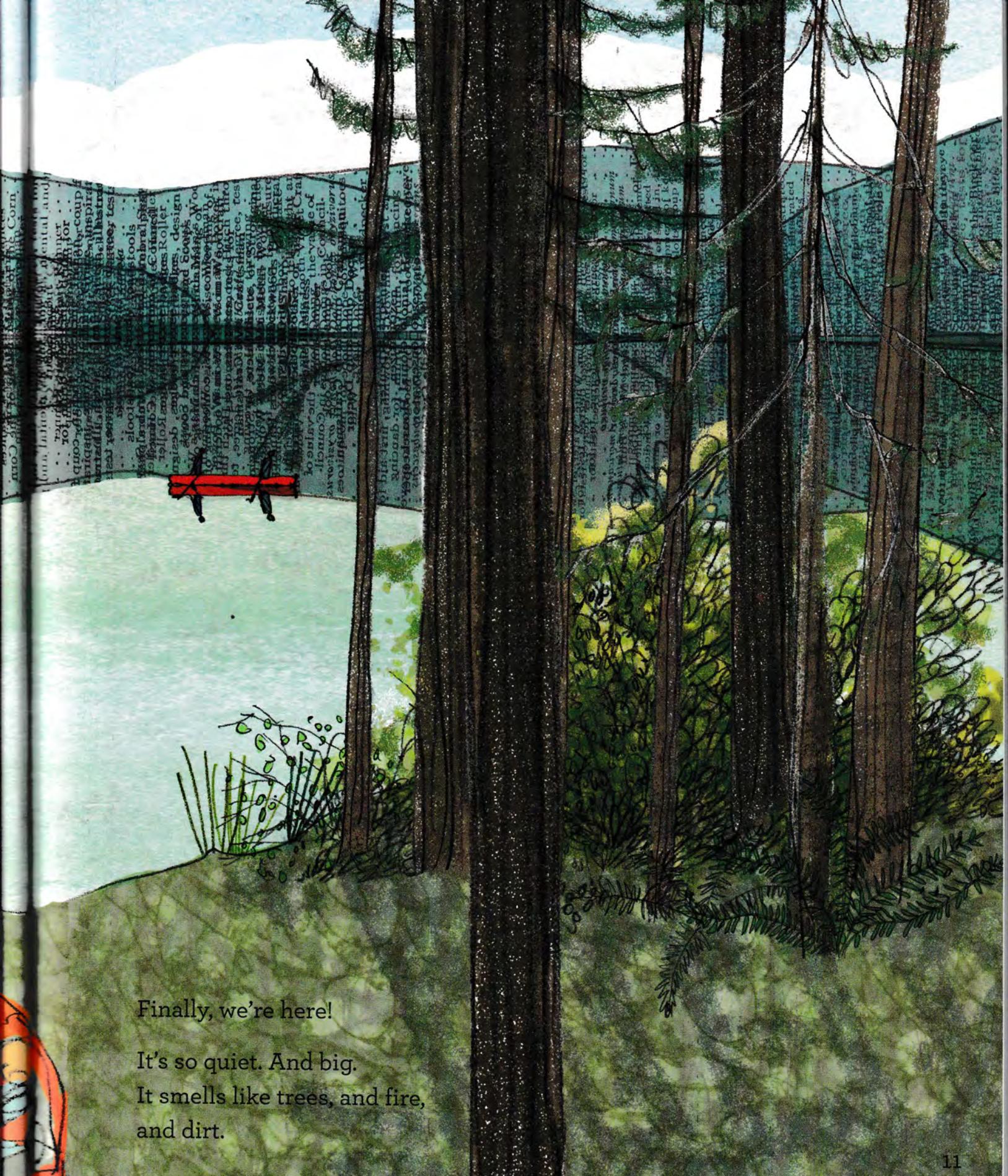


It's a long drive to Cedar Tree Campground.









Finally, we're here!

It's so quiet. And big.  
It smells like trees, and fire,  
and dirt.

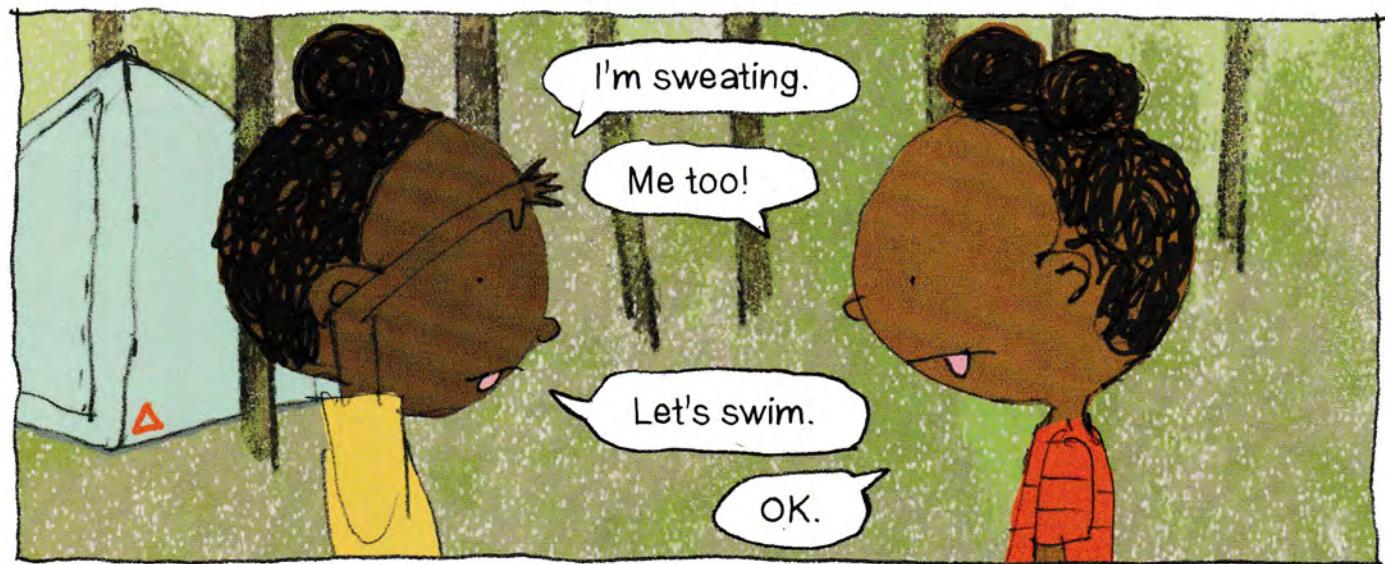
You need a lot  
of stuff to go  
camping, so it  
takes a long  
time to unpack.



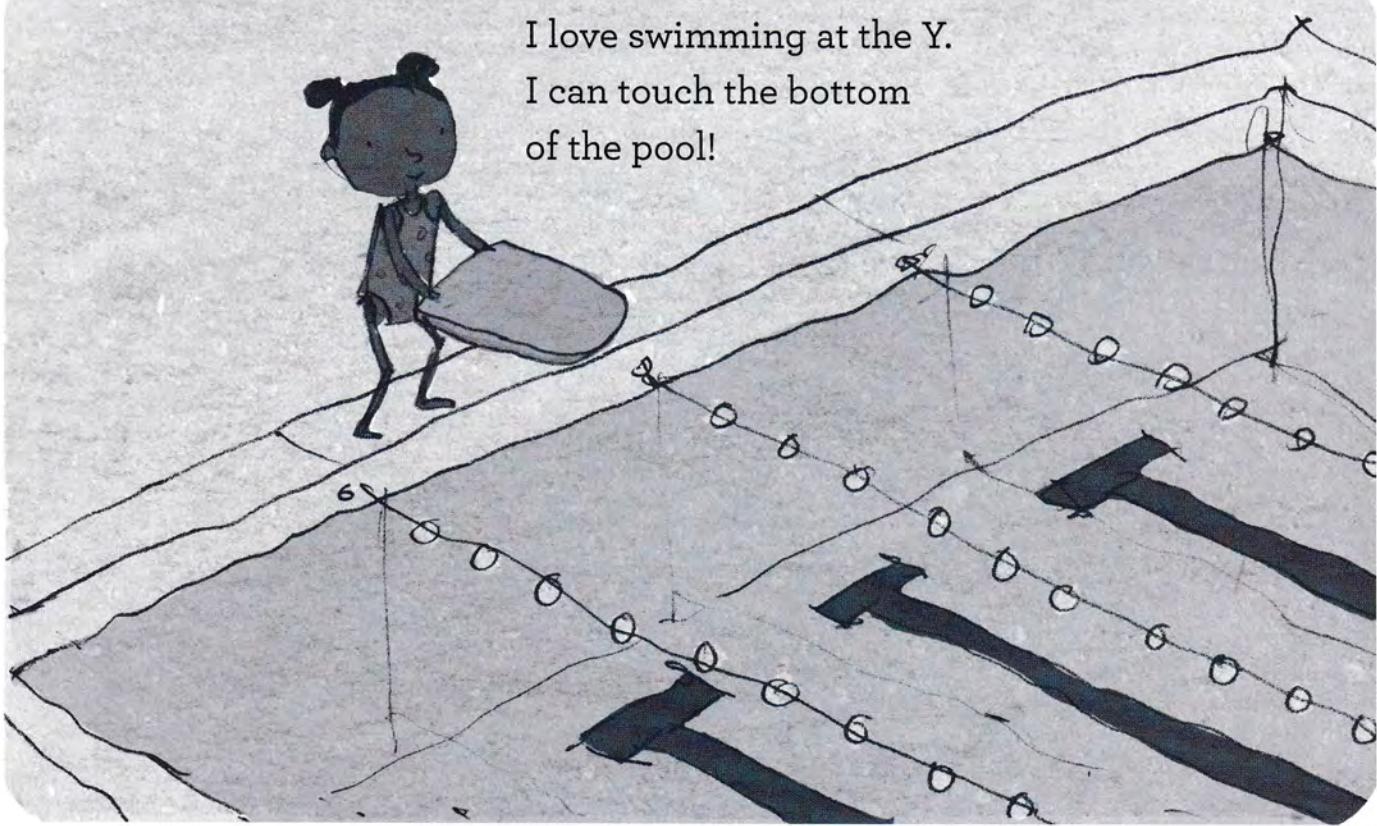
Samantha and I decide to set up the tent. I build forts all the time at home, so this should be easy.

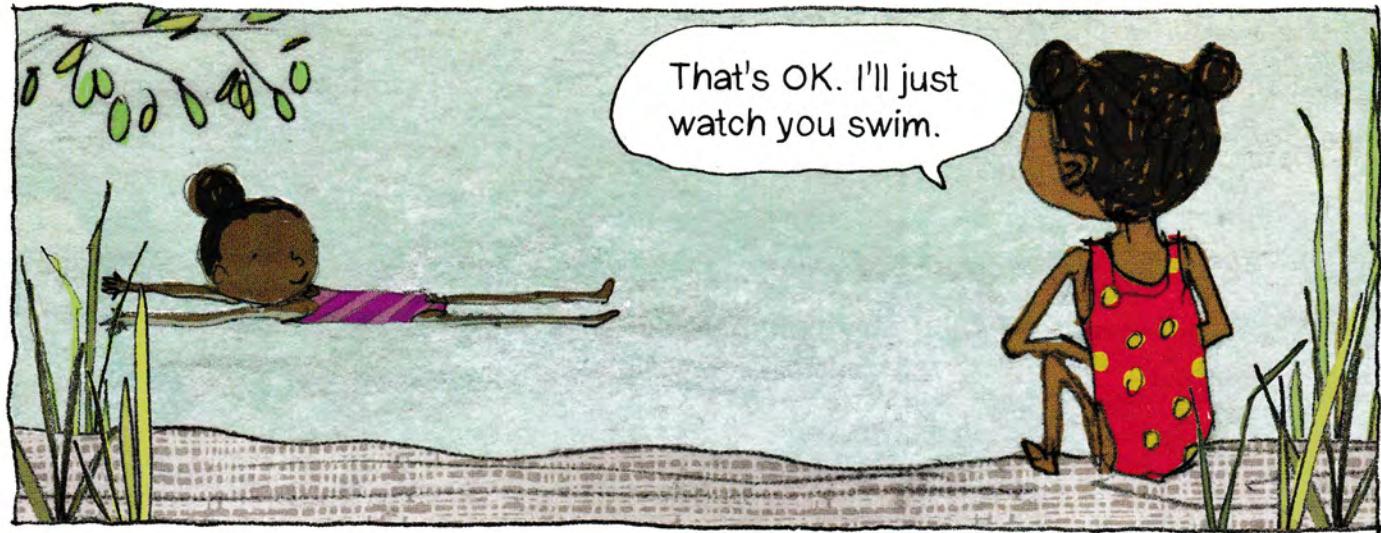
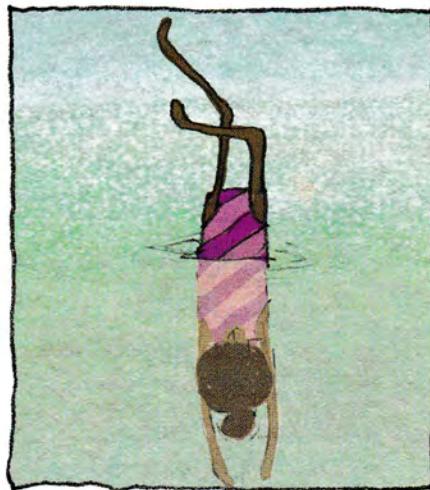


It's not one bit easy.



I love swimming at the Y.  
I can touch the bottom  
of the pool!

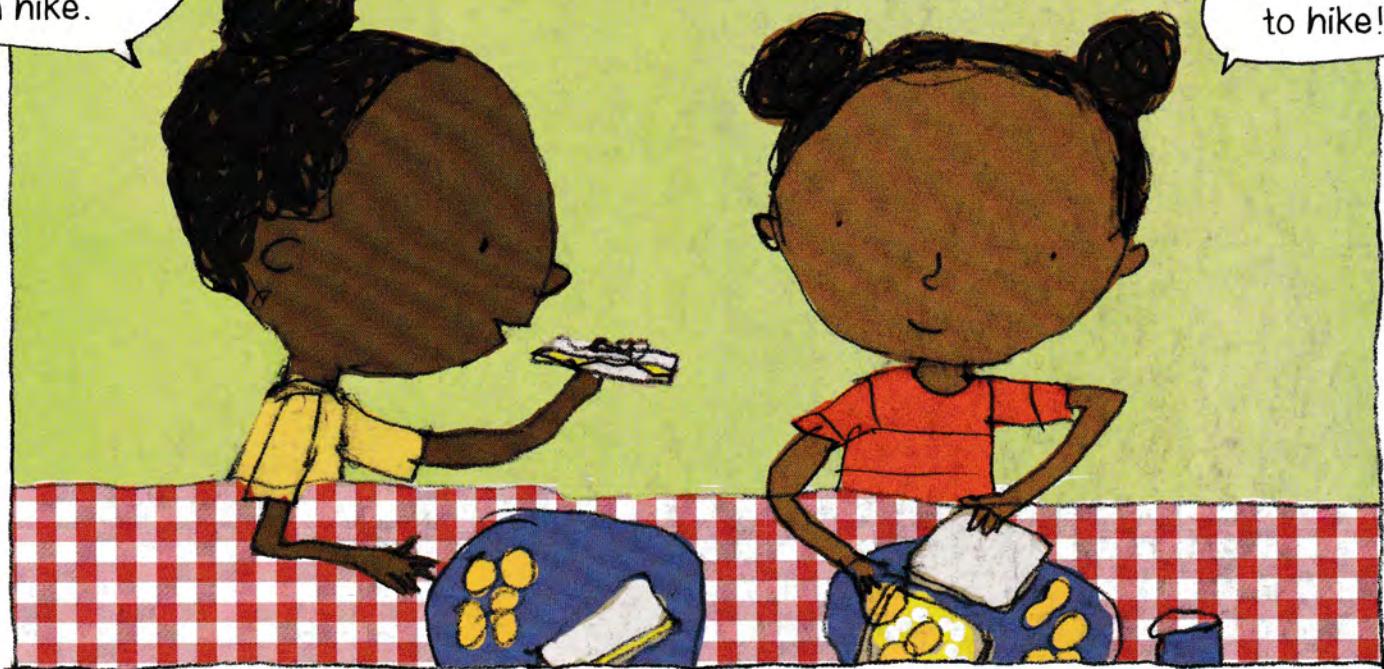




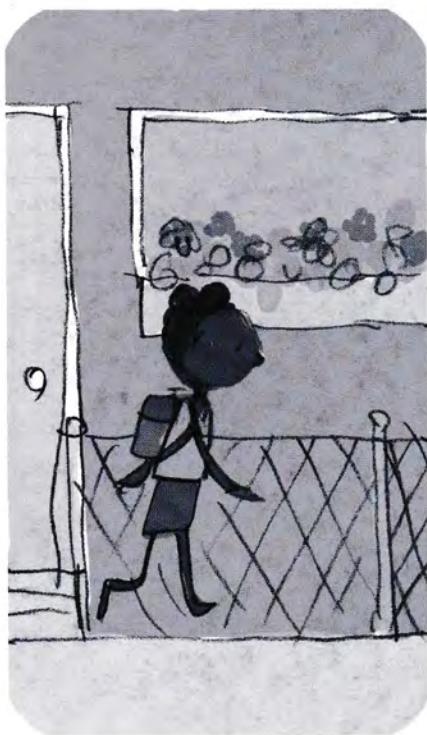
When Samantha is finally done swimming, we eat lunch.

Let's go on  
a hike.

I love  
to hike!



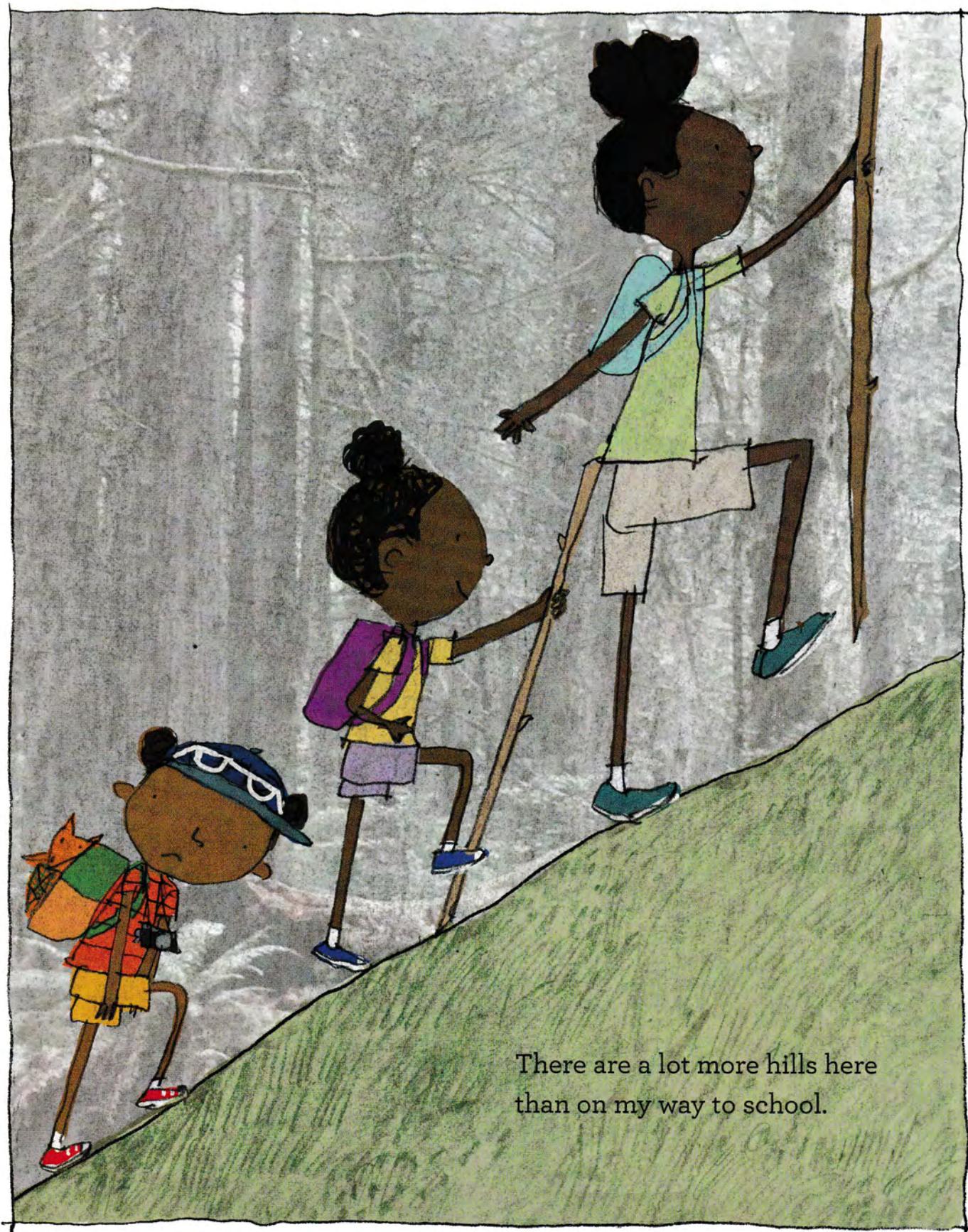
My dad says hiking is just walking—but in nature instead of in the city—and I walk to school every day.





Here's what I need  
to go hiking:

backpack  
hat  
sunglasses  
whistle  
camera  
water bottle  
sunblock  
granola bar  
trail mix  
apple  
raisins  
leftover chips  
cheese sticks  
peanut butter crackers  
cookies  
bandages  
Foxy



There are a lot more hills here  
than on my way to school.

My feet are tired  
already.

Maybe I brought too  
much stuff.

I think I need a water  
break.



When we finally stop, I eat a lot so my backpack will be lighter on the way back!





This is the biggest tree ever!

It's  
HUGE!

Don't slip.



I won't.



It's a banana slug!

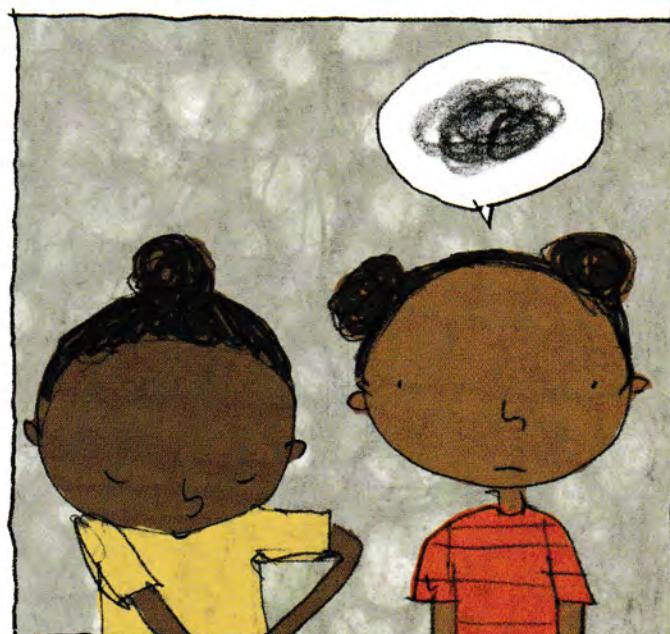
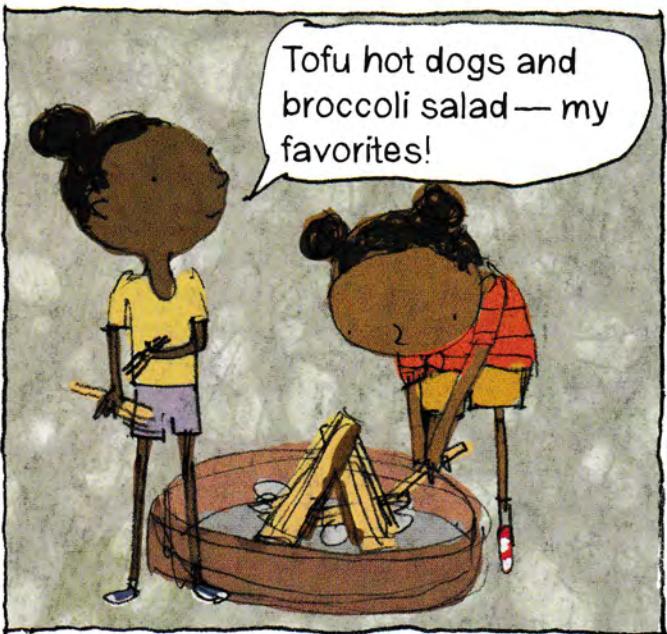


There is so much to explore!

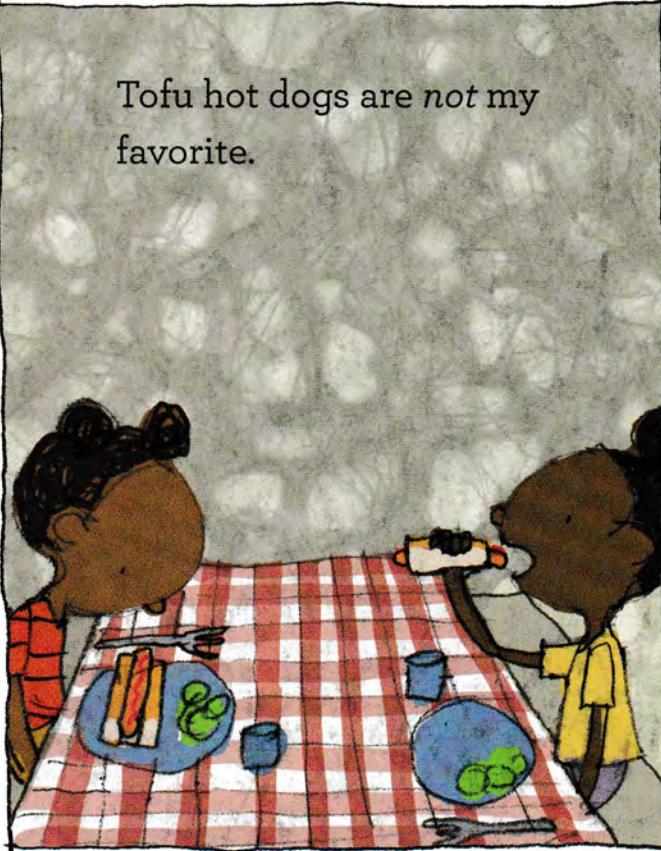


It's way easier to hike downhill.

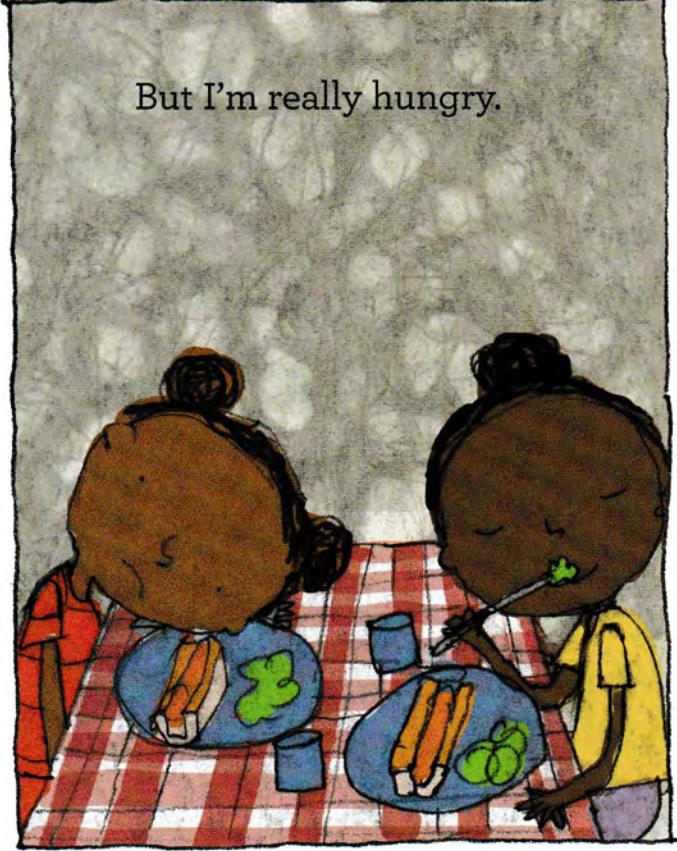
When we get back to the campsite, Samantha and I set up the campfire.



Tofu hot dogs are *not* my favorite.



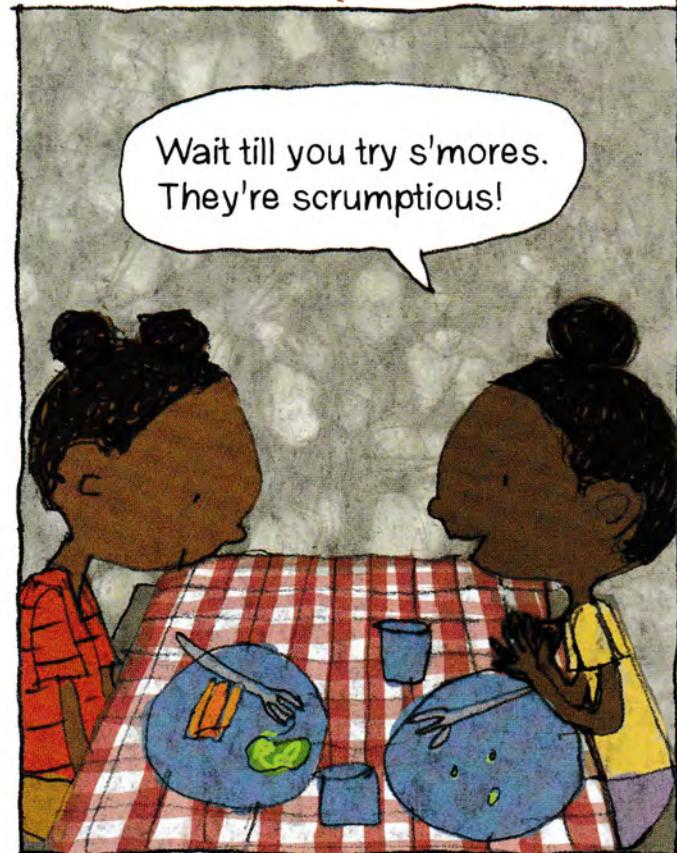
But I'm really hungry.



This broccoli salad is good!



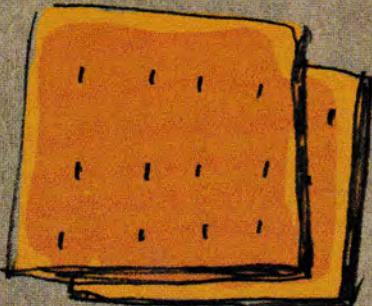
Wait till you try s'mores. They're scrumptious!



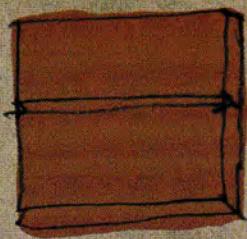
This is what you need  
for s'mores:



marshmallow



graham crackers



chocolate



a marshmallow-roasting fork

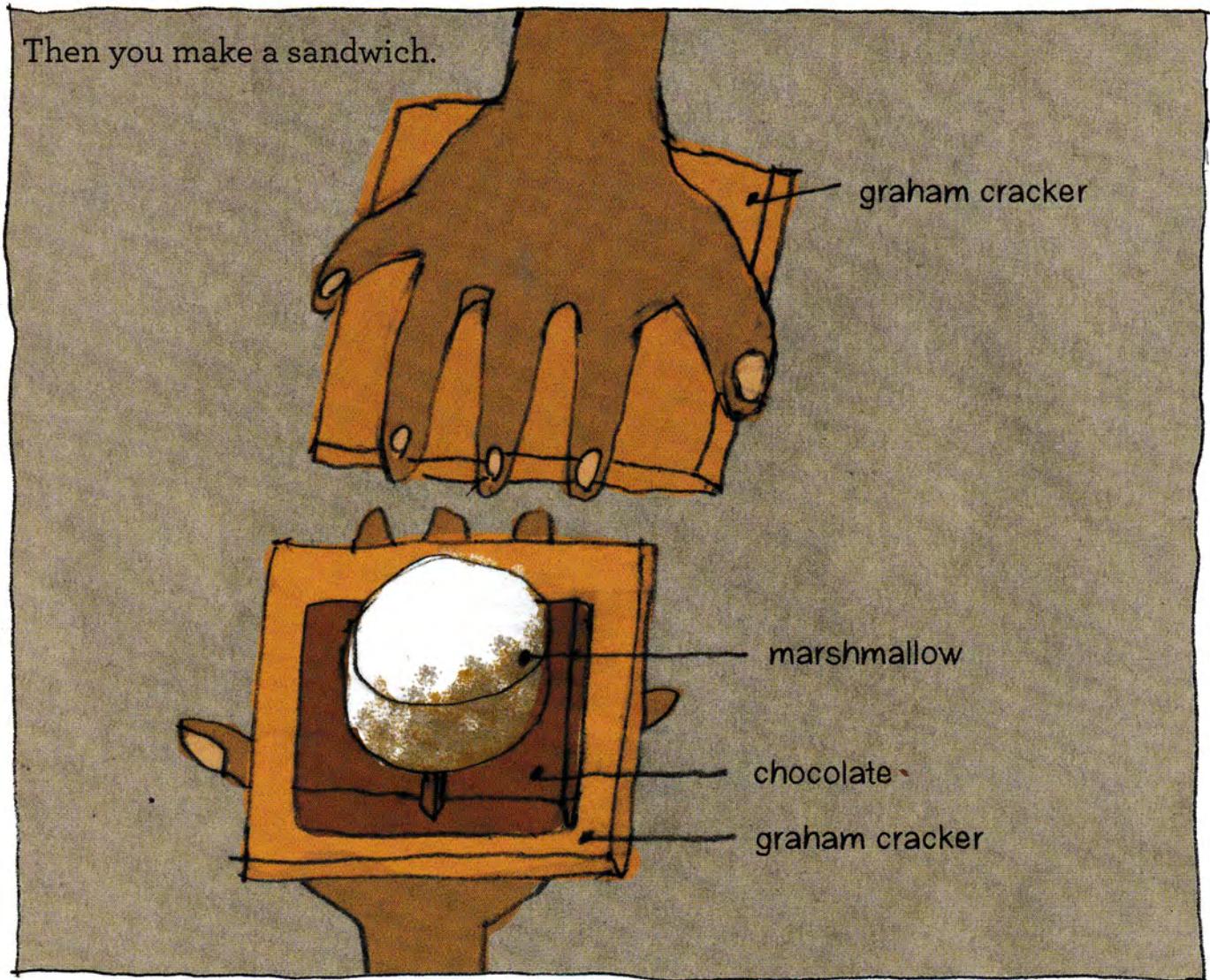
Mine is perfect!

Mine's on fire!



First you roast your marshmallow over a campfire.

Then you make a sandwich.

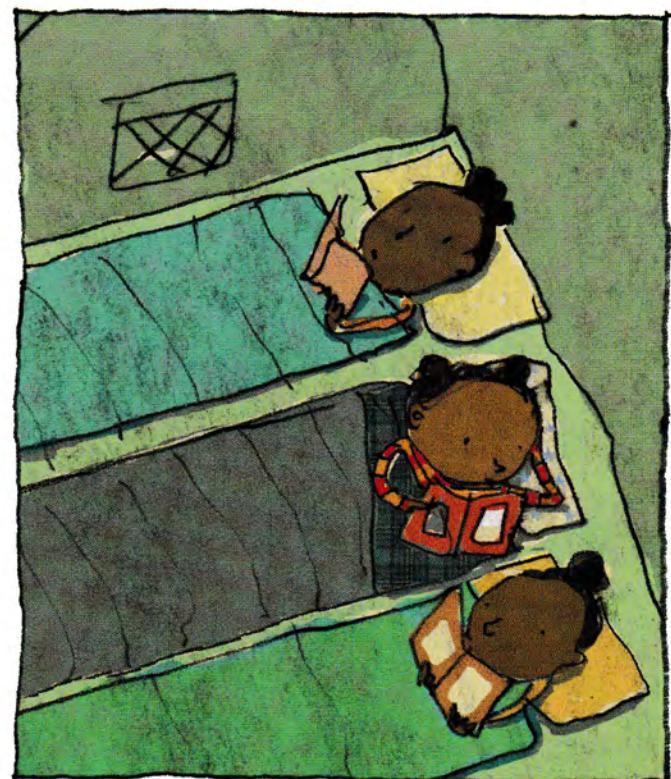
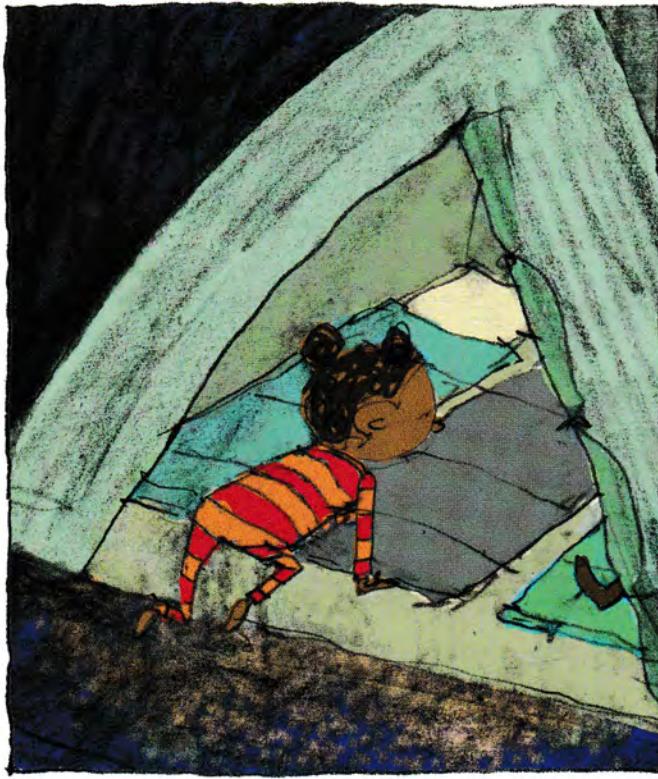


And then you eat it. S'mores are scrumptious!



Before we know it, night is all around us.





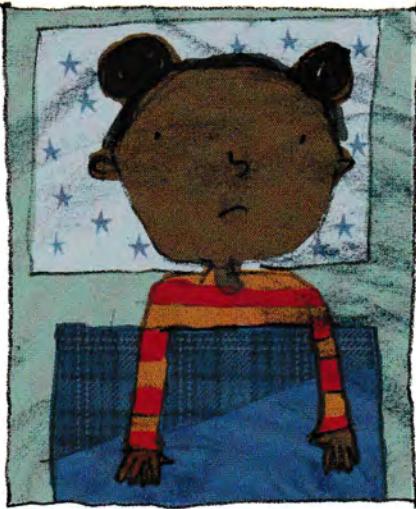
I crawl into my sleeping bag, and we read with light from  
Aunt Jackie's lantern until she says it's time to sleep.



Two seconds later, Aunt Jackie and Samantha are snoring. But I can't sleep.



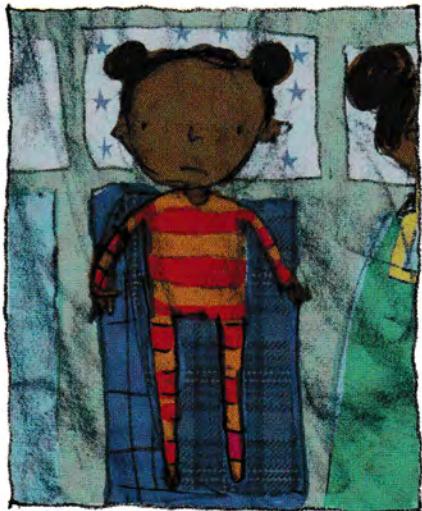
I'm boiling.



I need to get my socks off!



Where's my water bottle?



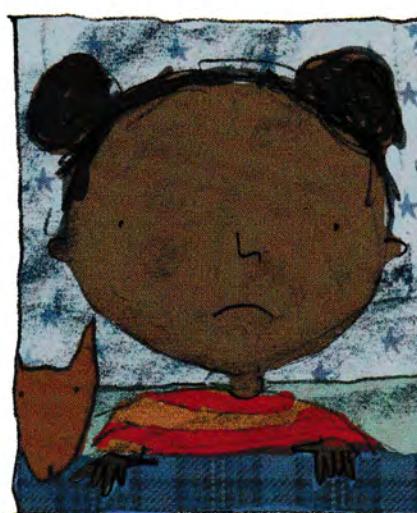
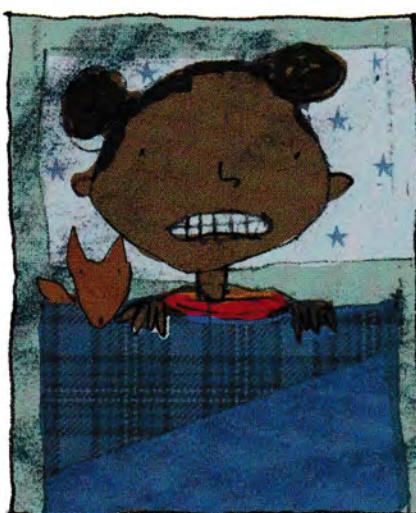
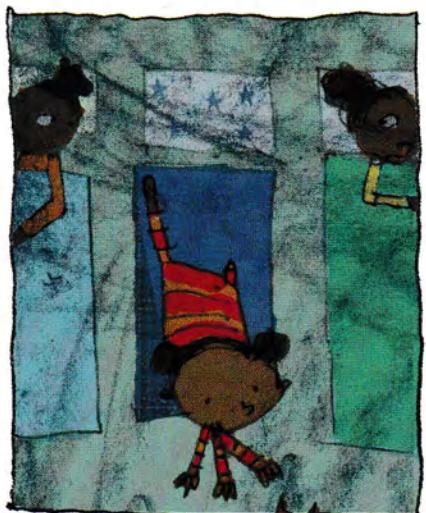
Where is Foxy?



I'm freezing.

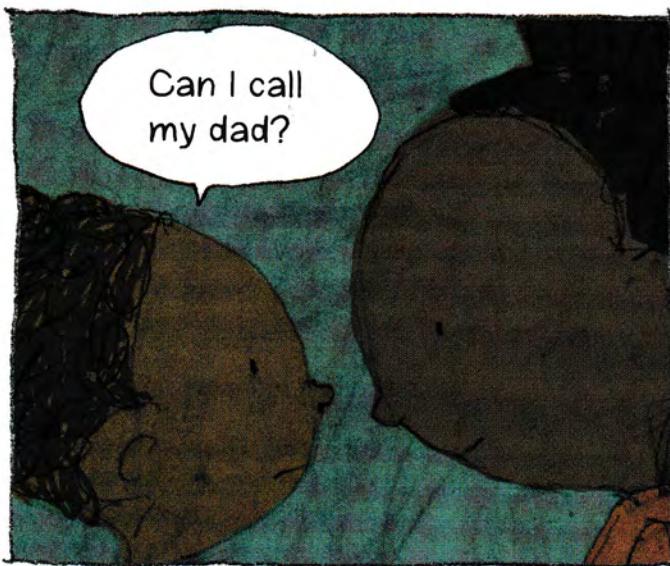


Is anyone else awake?



Is Dad awake?







It's really dark.







A dark, atmospheric illustration of three children looking up at a starry night sky. A bright white streak of light, resembling a shooting star, cuts across the top left. The children's silhouettes are visible against the dark background. One child on the left has their arm raised. Three speech bubbles contain the text: "Look—a shooting star!", "Wow!", and "Make a wish, girls!".

Look—a shooting star!

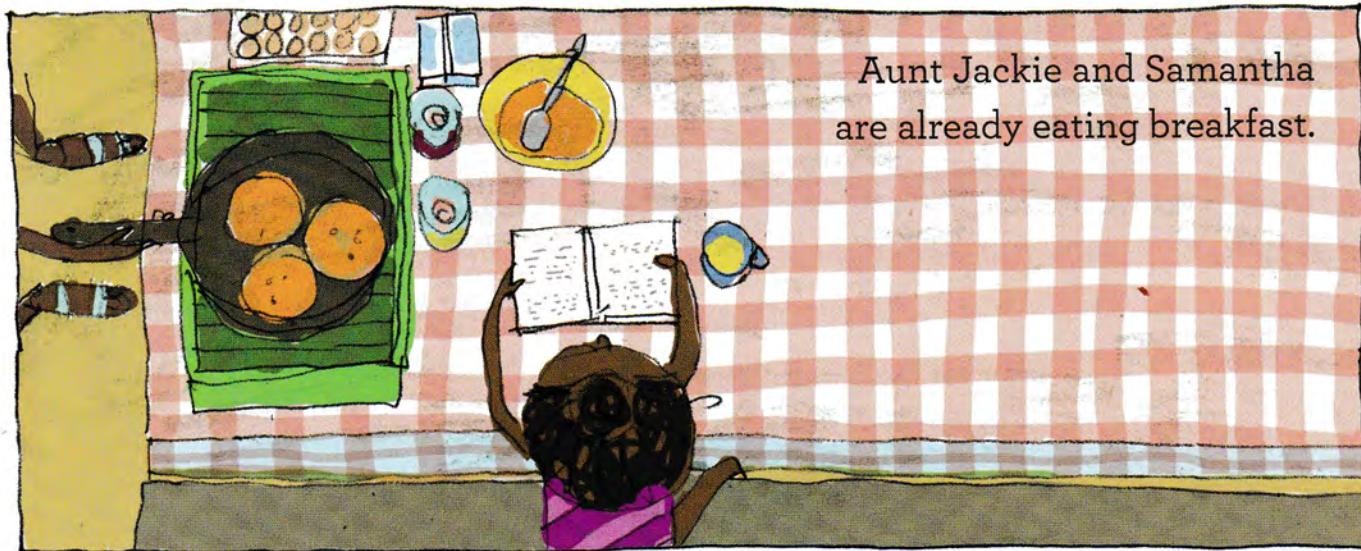
Wow!

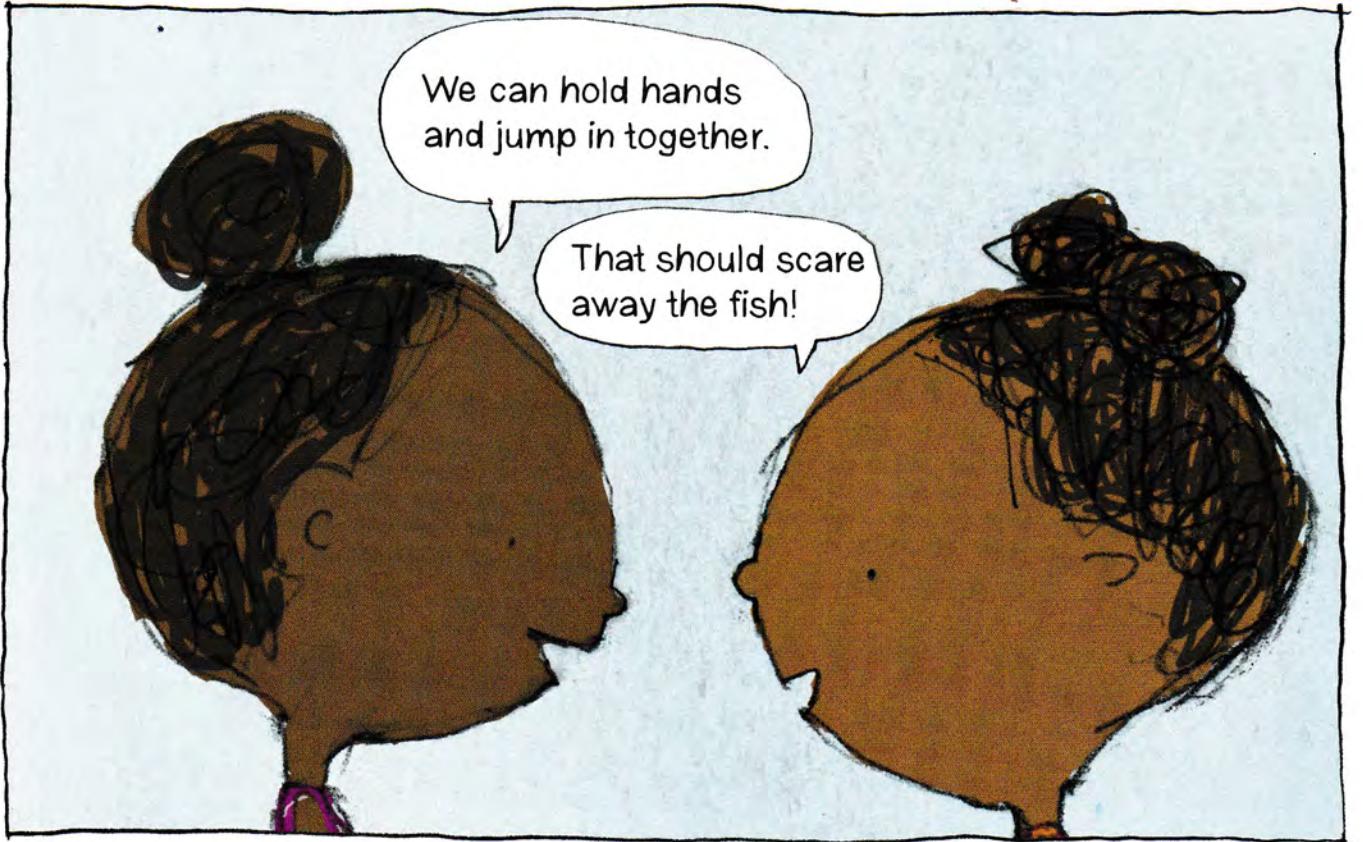
Make a wish, girls!



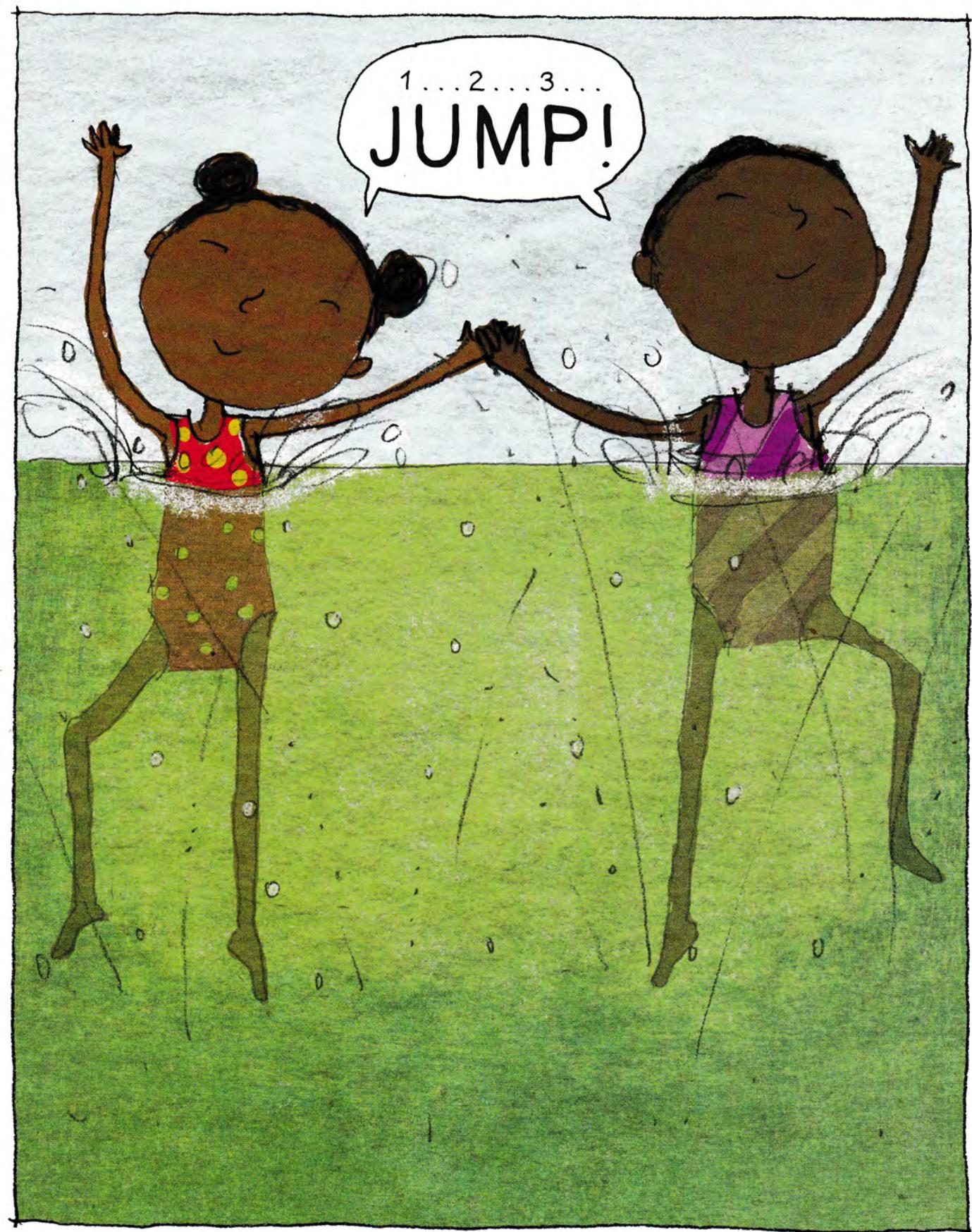


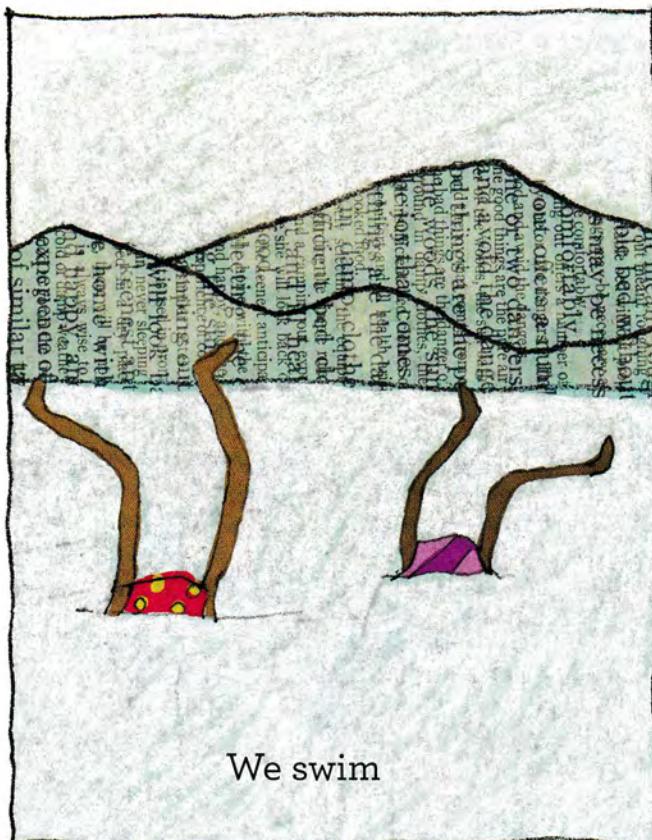
When I wake up in the morning,  
the tent is warm and bright.



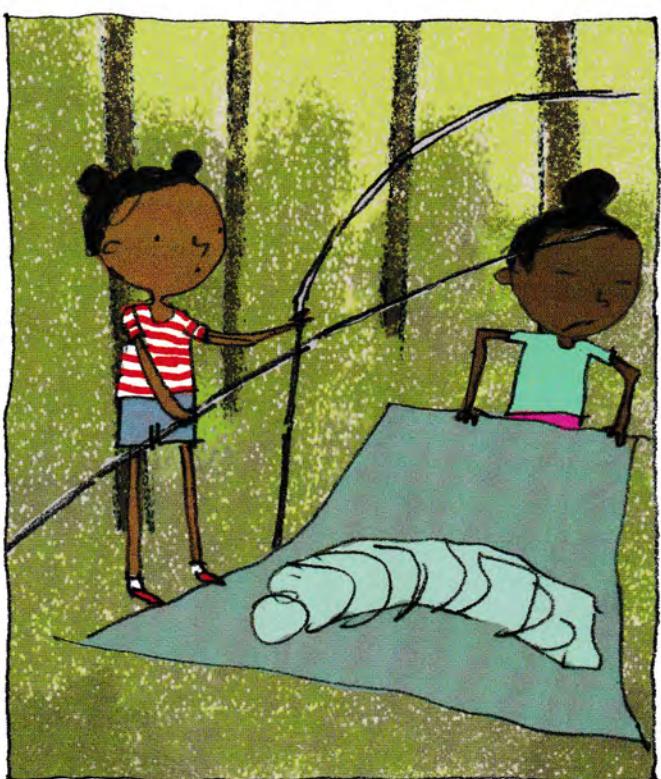
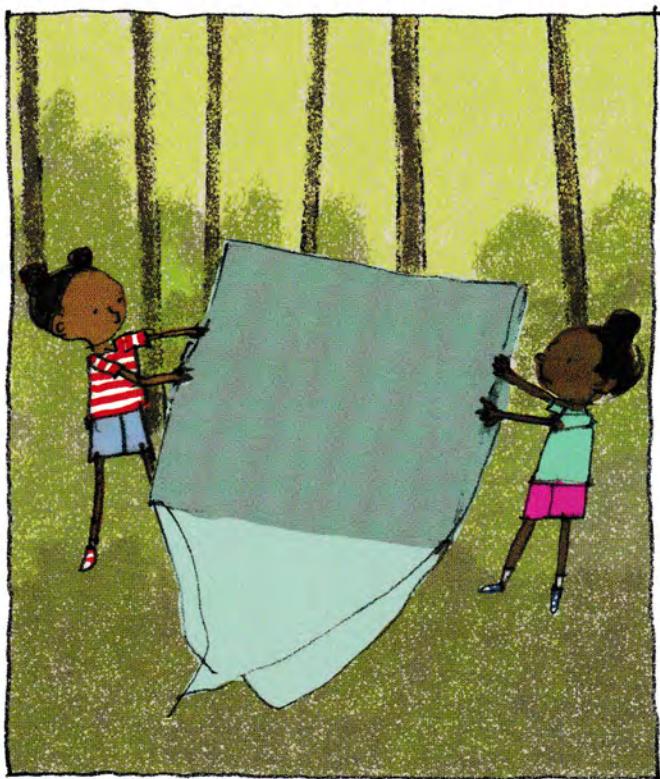


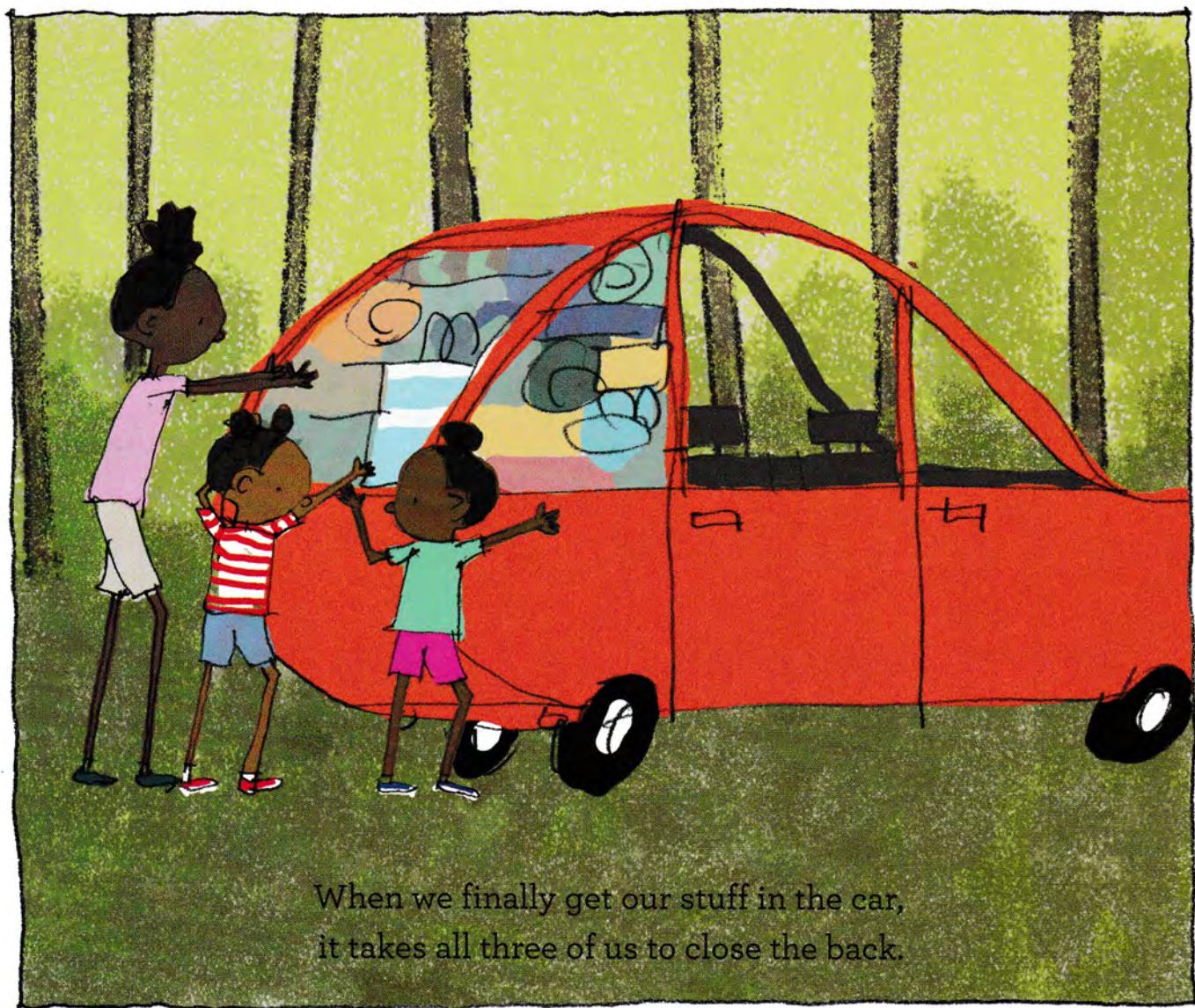
1...2...3...  
**JUMP!**





Packing up is even harder than unpacking.





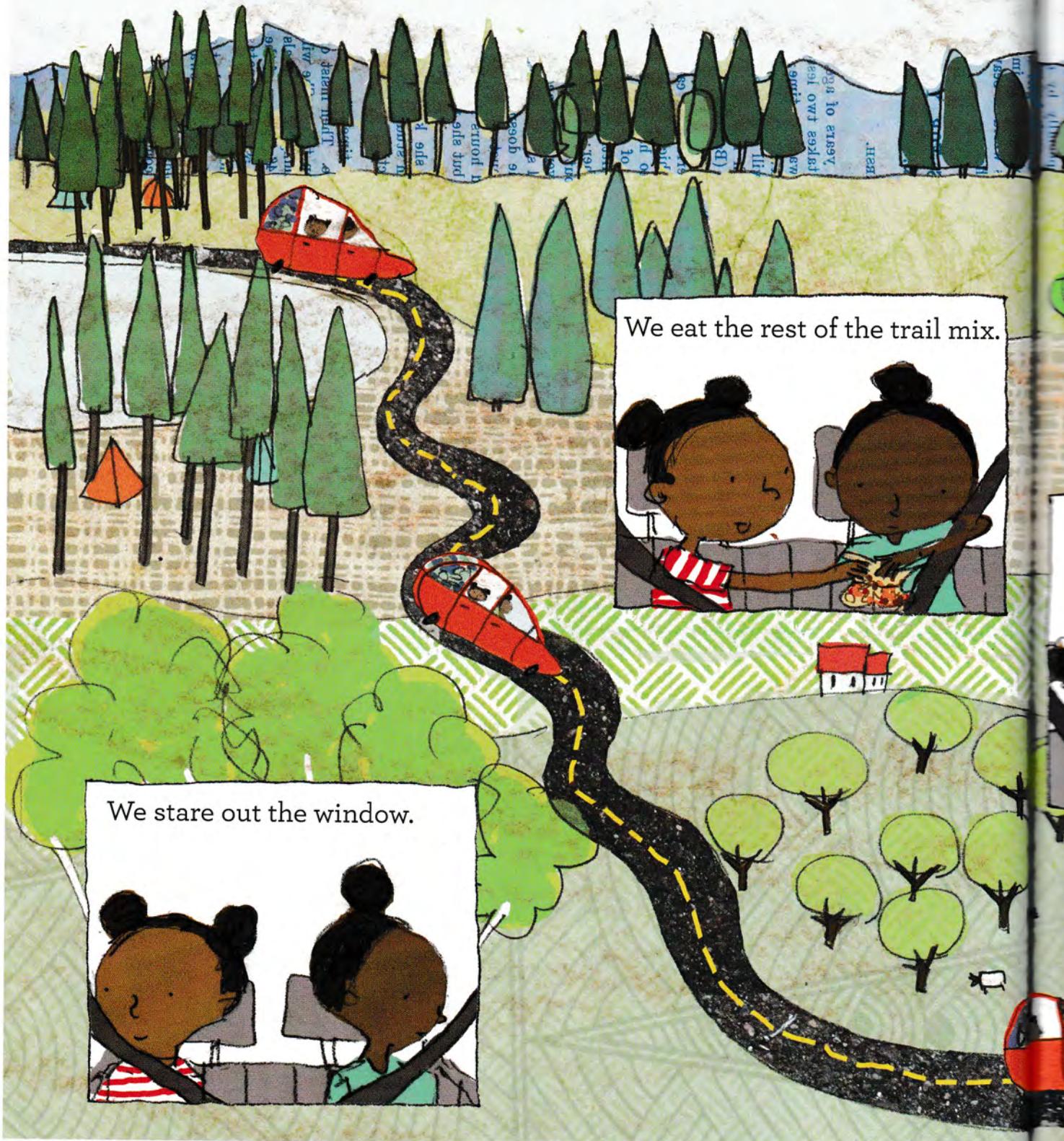
When we finally get our stuff in the car,  
it takes all three of us to close the back.

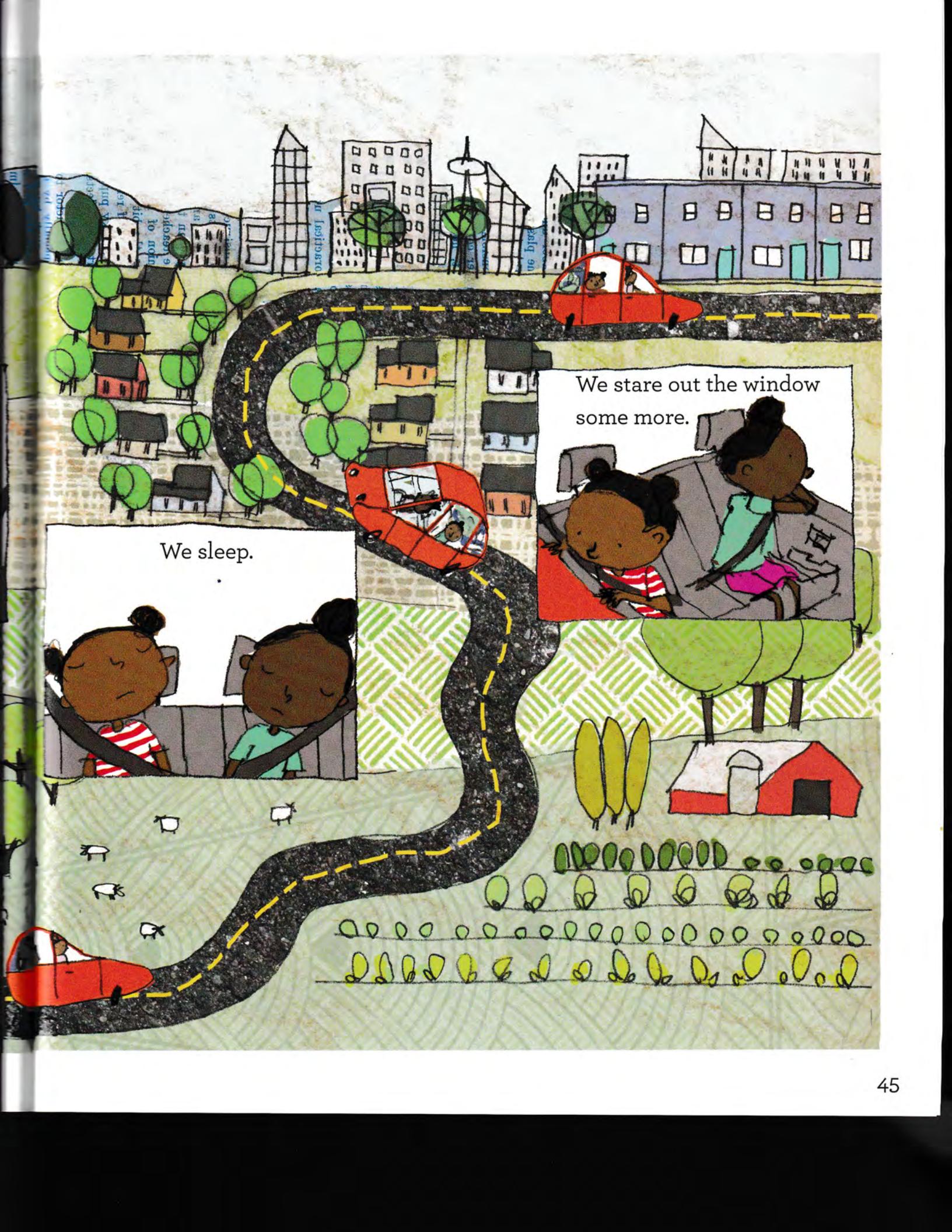
Goodbye, Cedar Tree Campground! I can't wait to come back next year.

Me too!



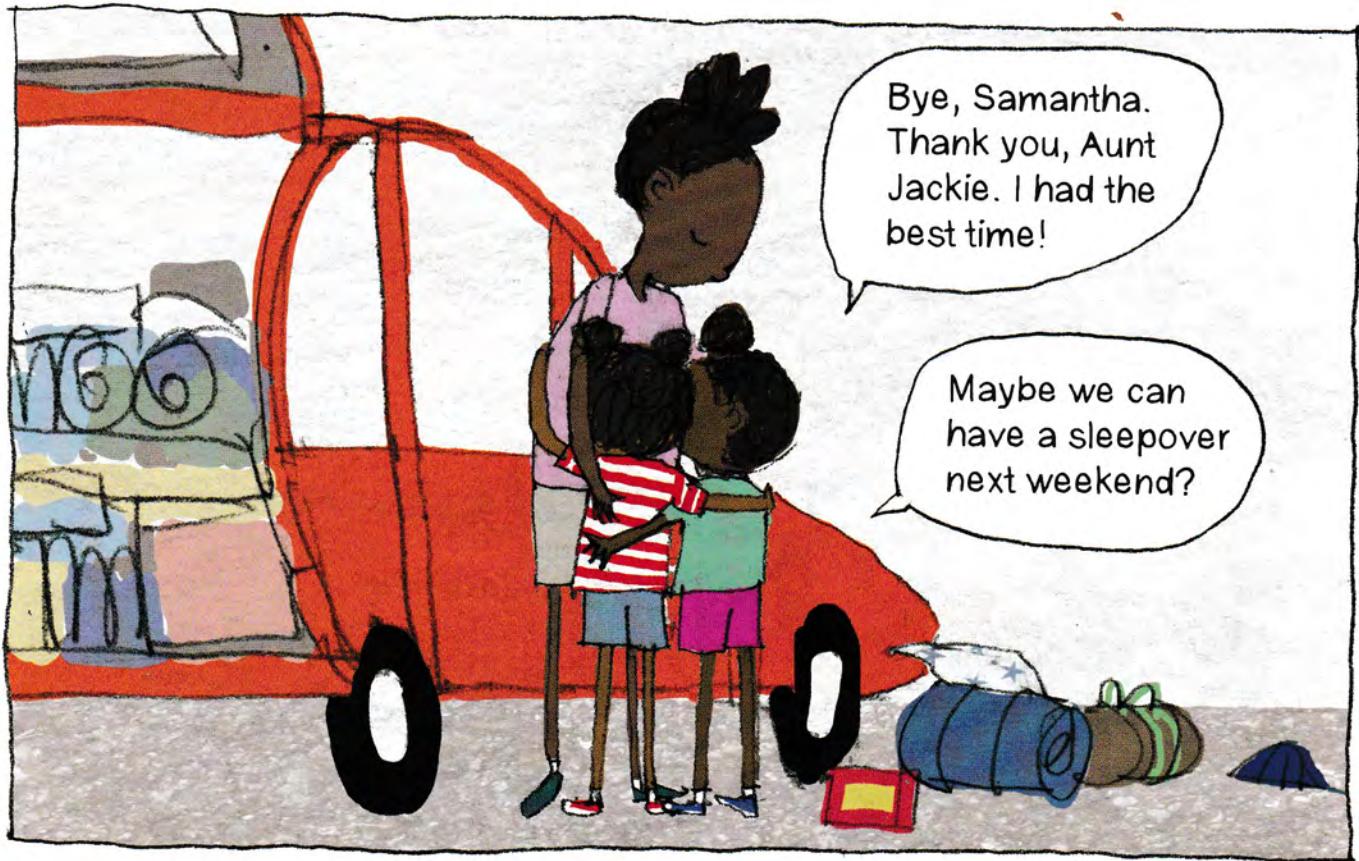
It's a long drive back home.





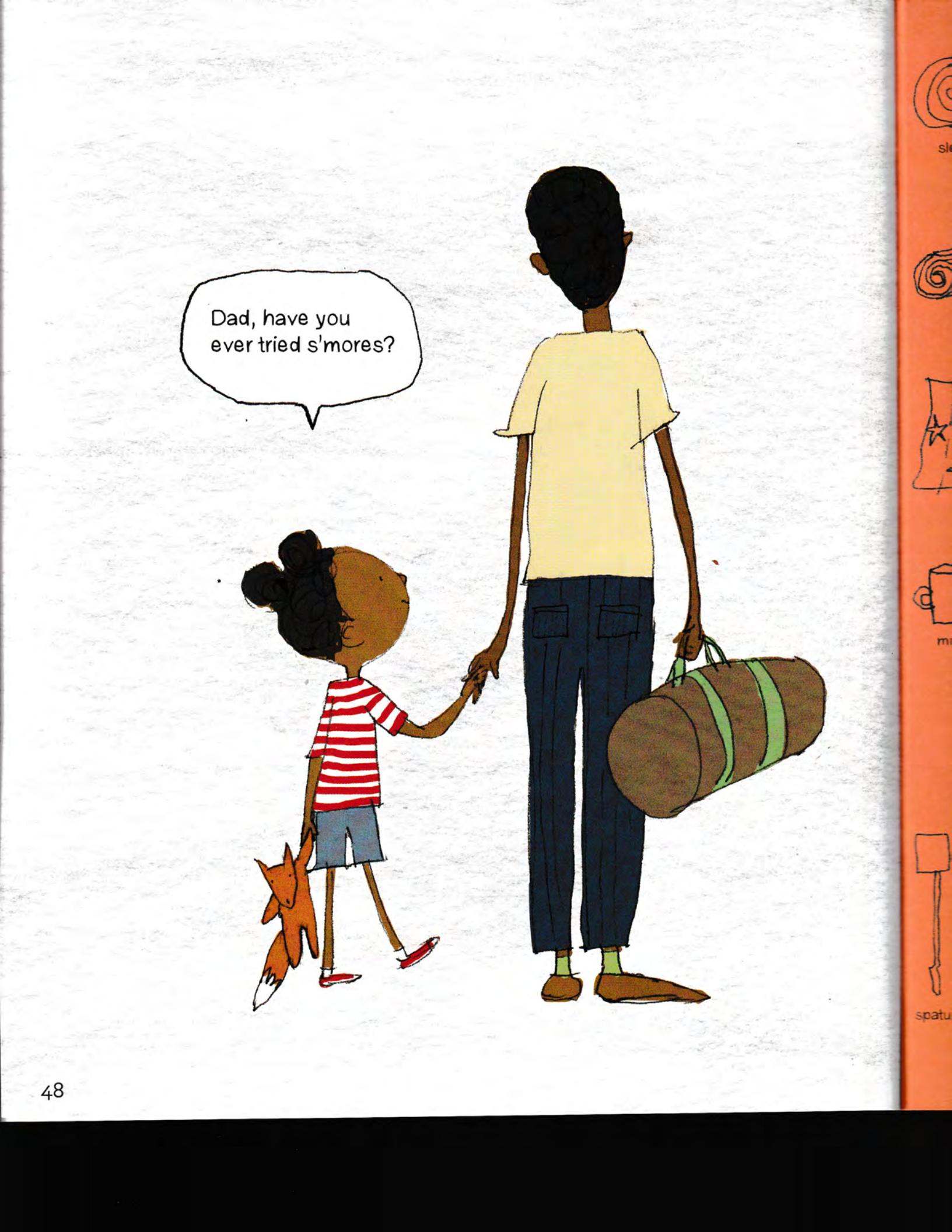
We sleep.

We stare out the window  
some more.





I think Dad missed me.



Dad, have you  
ever tried s'mores?