

More Than **CHILD'S PLAY**

by Clinton Tedja





“Play is not only a child’s inalienable right – it also influences physical, socio-emotional and cognitive development. The right to play is protected in Article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the right to sport, which is specifically contained in other international treaties.” - UNICEF 2014

More Than Child’s Play was written as part of a final year university assignment to address a community engagement issue. By working with UNICEF Australia and identifying that children’s rights is an important issue, we are pleased to provide this product to enable engagement such that every child can learn about their right to play.

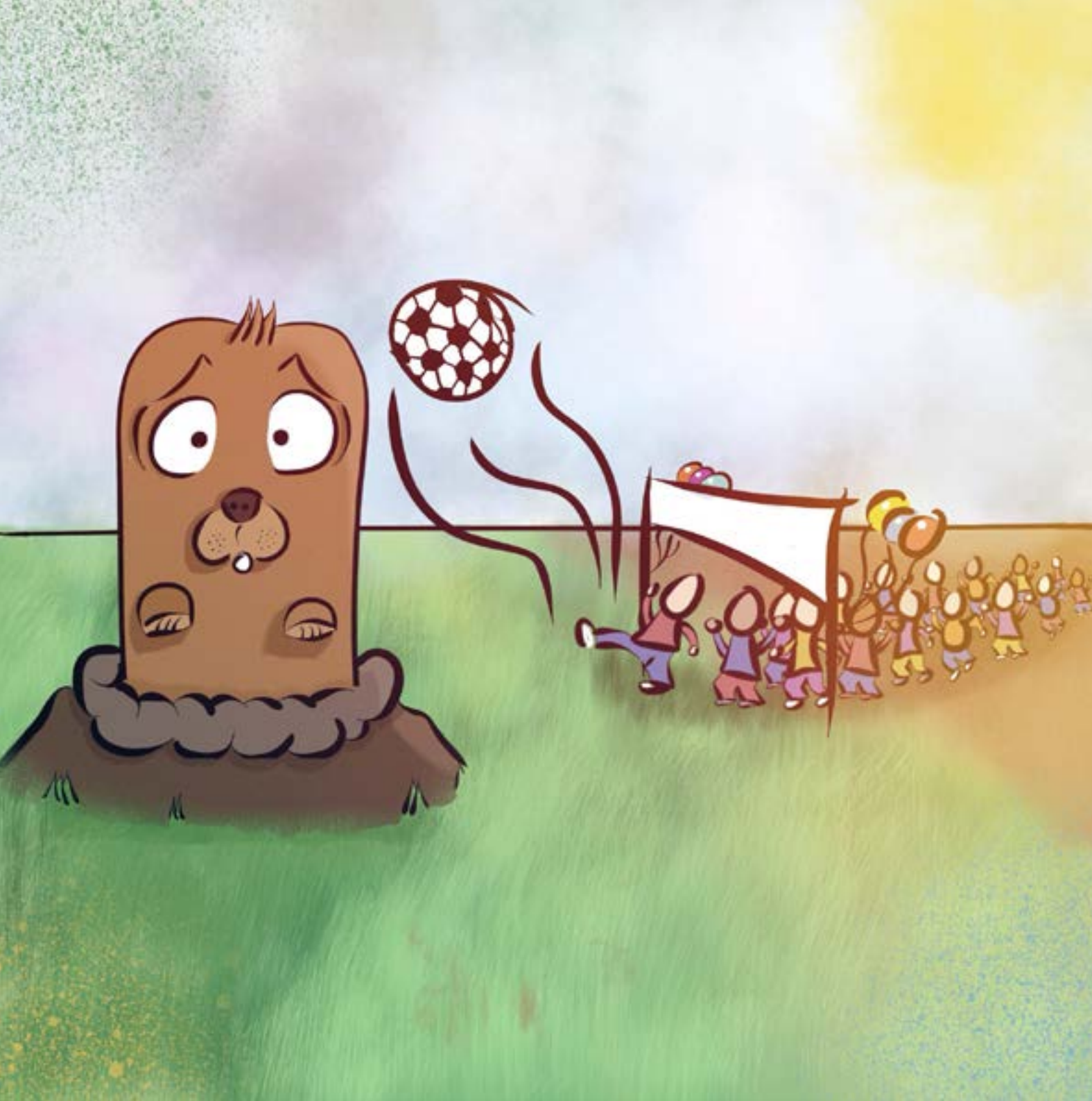
Come on a journey with four children as they overcome their obstacles and work together to help each other achieve their rights.

For every Nessa, Mikey, Georgey and Jordan out there.



HOORAY!

**Sports day was finally here!
The most wonderful day
of all the year.**

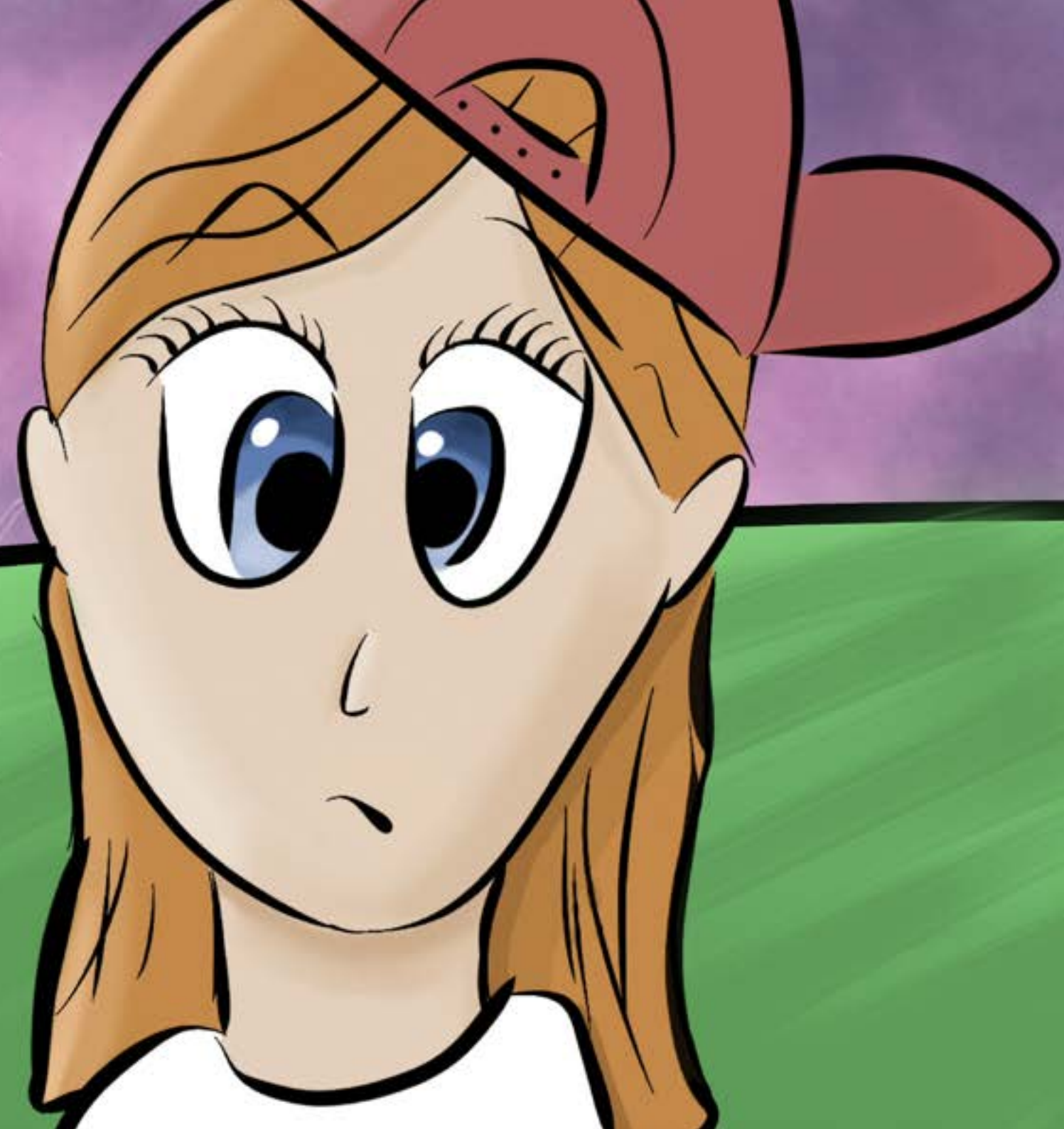


**Even the creatures deep
in the ground
could tell today was
quite profound.**

**For with a rumble, a tumble,
and a joyous sound,
All the children had come around!**

**But as you can tell,
Not all was well!**

**For Nessa was afraid
Of being the only girl.**



**SCARY and MEAN they seemed
from afar,
Like monsters roaring:**

HAR - HAR - HAR !

**My, oh my, did she feel afraid,
As she came close
and asked to play.**



But up close, they were
different indeed,
Like a circus group giggling:

TEE - HEE - HEE !

They waved to her and said:
“Hey, hey!
We’d **LOVE** for you
to come and play!”



“WOOHOO!” She yelled as she played.





The ball flew high and far and wide...

**and landed out
by Mikey's side!**

**But he did not kick it
back, and sighed...
he was feeling a
little bit shy.**

Mikey was from a distant place,
Where different words
are used to play.

And though he didn't
speak the same,
He sure **LOVED** a good sport game!



I'm Mikey!

I'm Nessa!





**Oh boy, was he happy
to join the game!**

MIKEY!

MIKEY!

MIKEY!

MIKEY!

MIKEY!

MIKEY!

MIKEY!

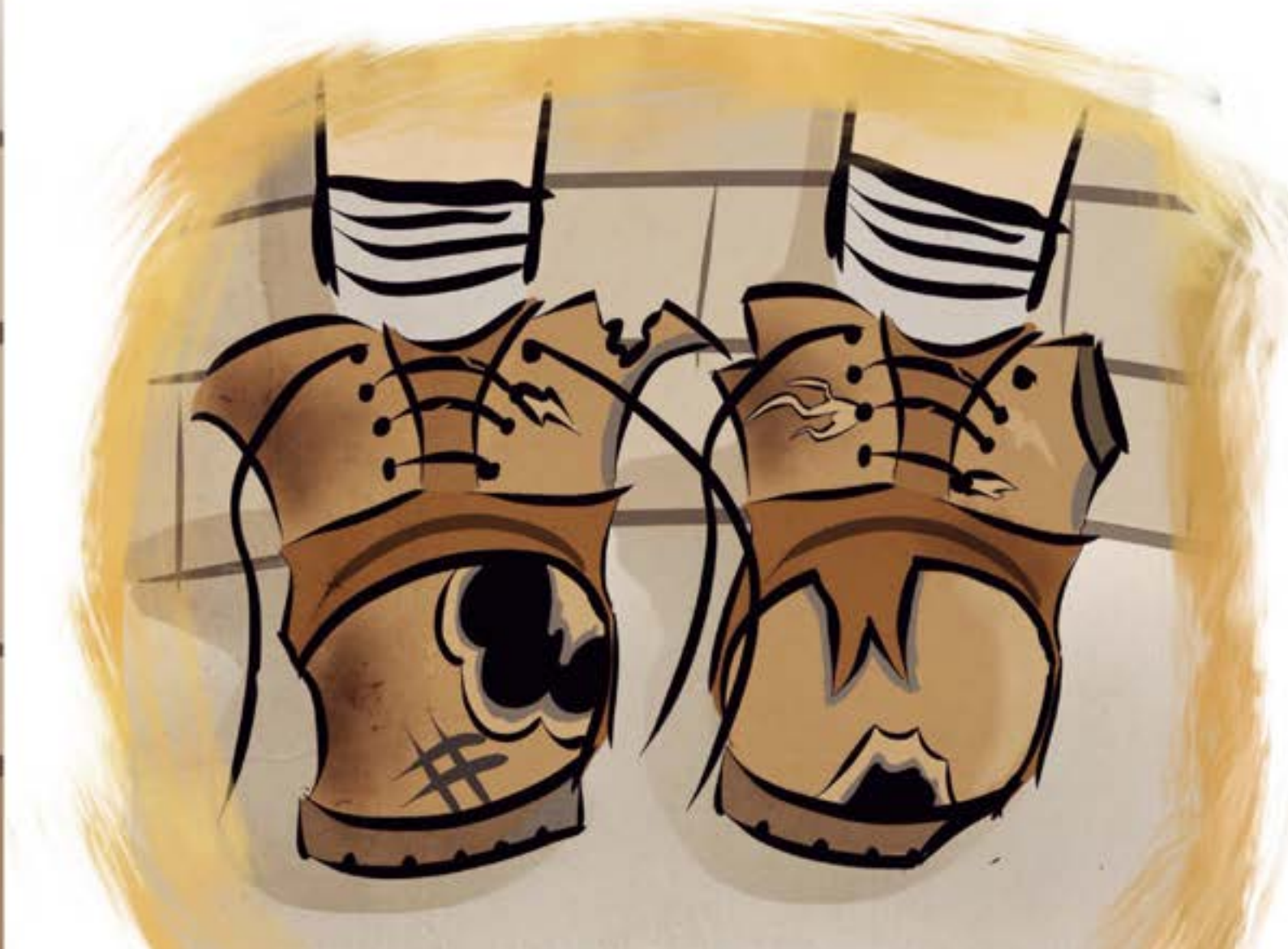
**It didn't matter from where he came.
They all learnt his name,
and cheered him to fame!**

**Then came half-time, with lemon
and lime,
and Mikey heard a
sniffling cry.**





It was Georgey, feeling **blue**.
He had no money for new shoes.



**So Mikey and Nessa had an idea,
and came back smiling ear-to-ear!**

**They said,
“We wanted you to come play too
so we have a little gift for you!”**



NEW SHOES!!!

He put them on straight away,
and hurried out to join them play!



WHAT A KICK!



The ball flew high,
through the sky...



THWACK!



And it broke Jordan's crutch...
Without it he could not walk much.



They said, “Never fear,

We can fix it here!”





**Jordan could not believe his eyes!
they'd fixed his crutch and helped
him now.**

WOW!
WOW!
WOW!



He said
“My crutch is like brand new!
And it’s all because of
friends like you...”

Now...
LET’S PLAY!”



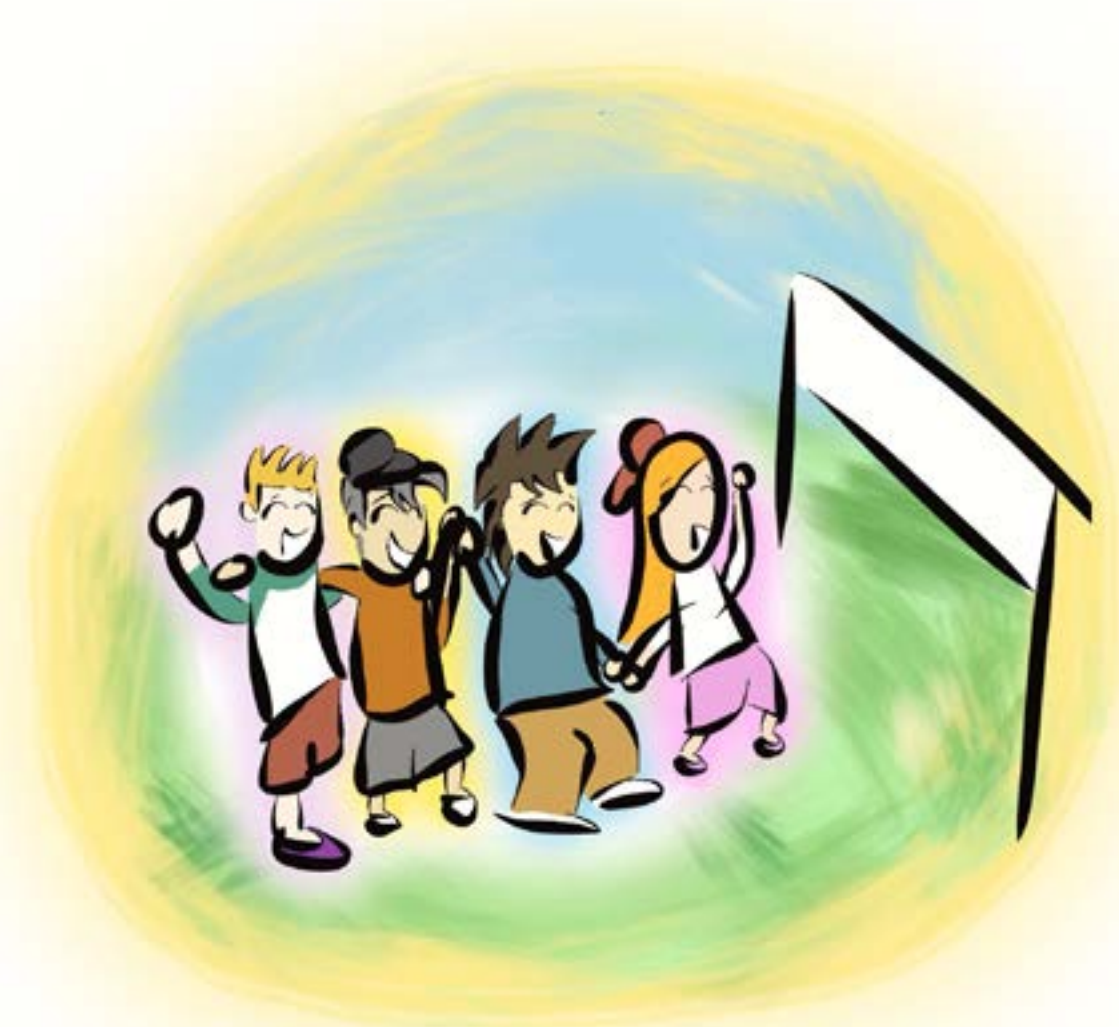


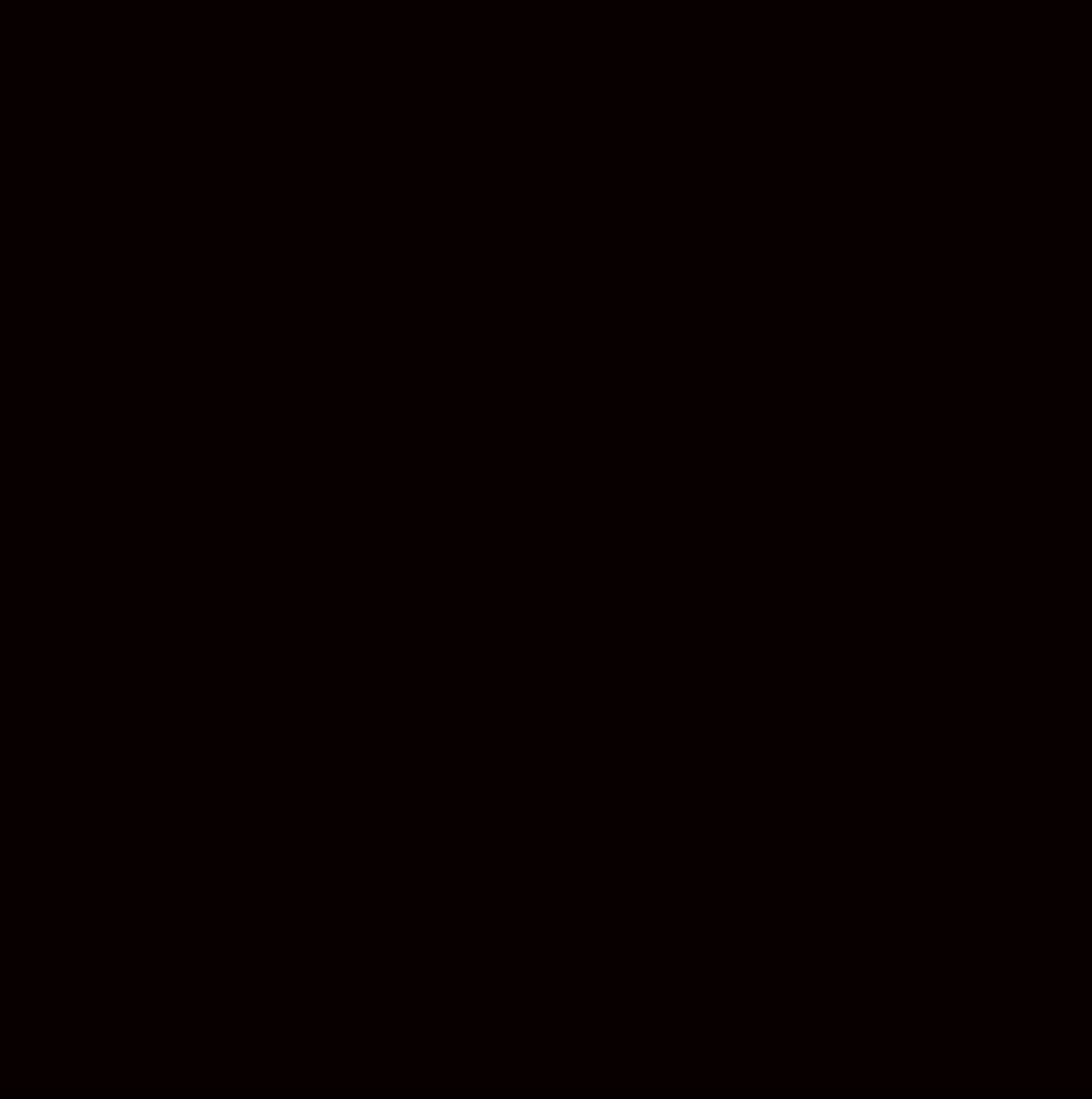


**“If we always helped others play,
We’d be this **happy** everyday!”**

**Soon enough, sports day
came to an end,
But by then they were
best of friends.**

**They smiled away
and together could say:**







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