

LEVELED Book • J

When Bad Things Happen



Written by Page Burdick • Illustrated by Joel Snyder

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Today was not a good day.
My pet lizard died.
I don't understand why.
I did everything right. 🔊

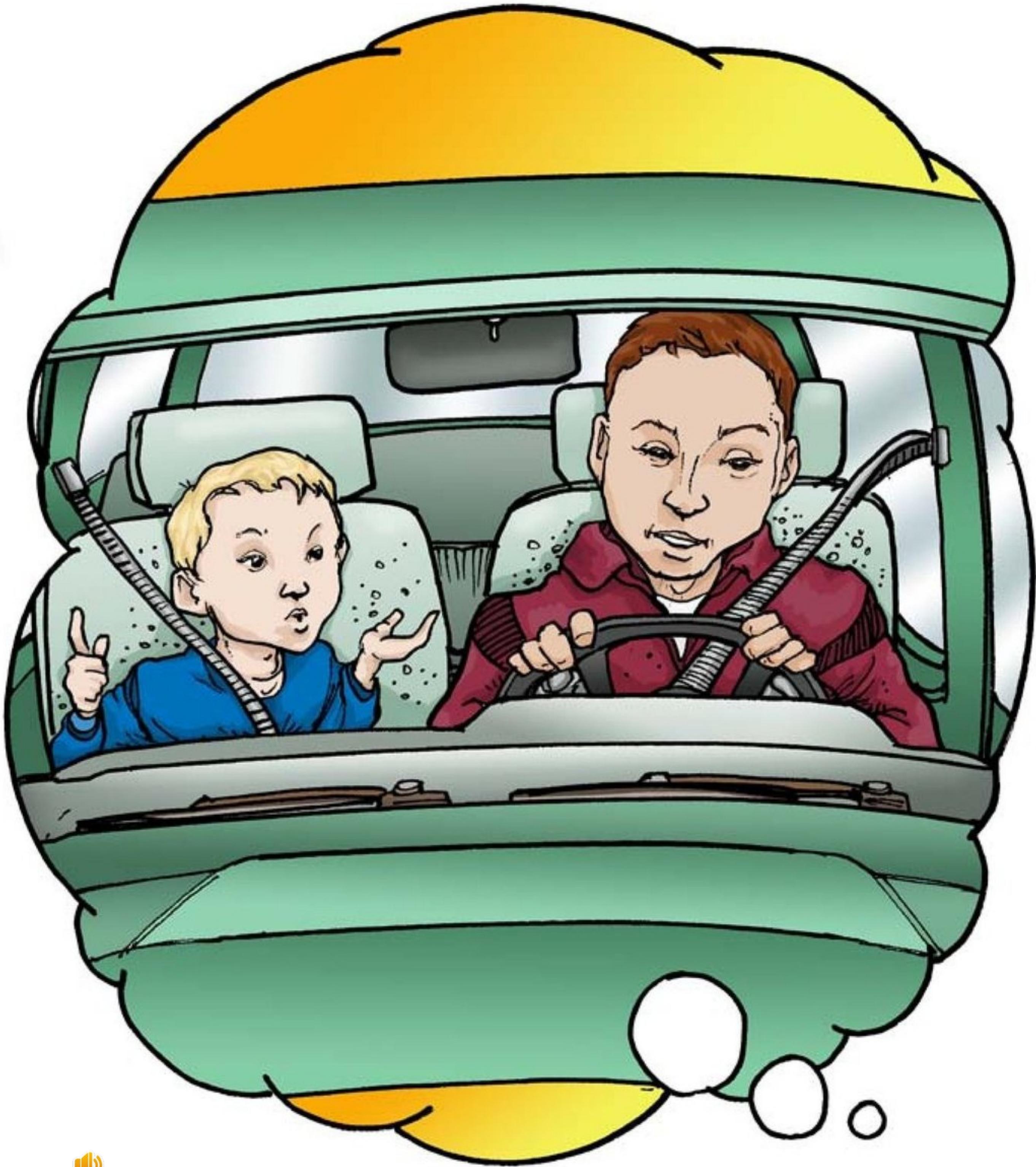
Izzy had a safe home.

Izzy had clean water.

Izzy had plenty of food.

But he died. 





My dad said sometimes bad
things happen, even when you do
everything right.
I understood what my dad told me.
But I still felt bad.

My mom said there were things I could do to help me feel better. She said some people make cards and then color them with bright colors.





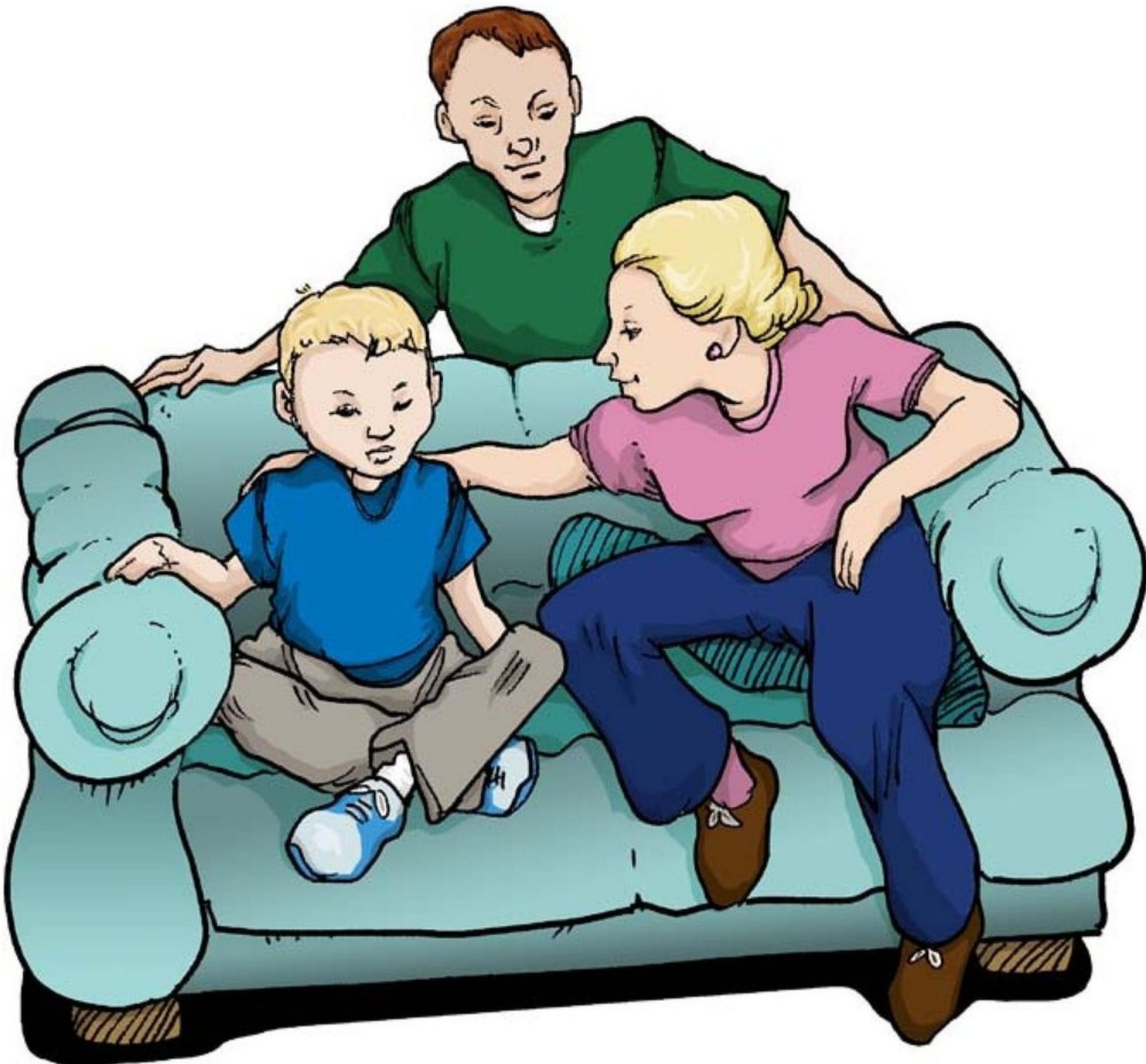
My dad said some people write
a letter when they lose a friend.
The letter tells about the good times
they had together.
He said I could write about how
Izzy sat on my shoulder when I did
my homework.
He said I might share how Izzy loved
to eat green beans.

My grandmother said that some people go to a church or another place of worship.

My mom said that some people light candles and pray.

She said other people put flowers next to a photo of their friend. 





My dad said that whatever I did to remember Izzy would help me feel less sad.

Mom added that in time I would feel much better.

But she also said I might feel sad again some days along the way. 

I chose to make Izzy a card.

I drew Izzy with a smile.

I drew a big heart because
I loved him.

I wrote that I missed him.



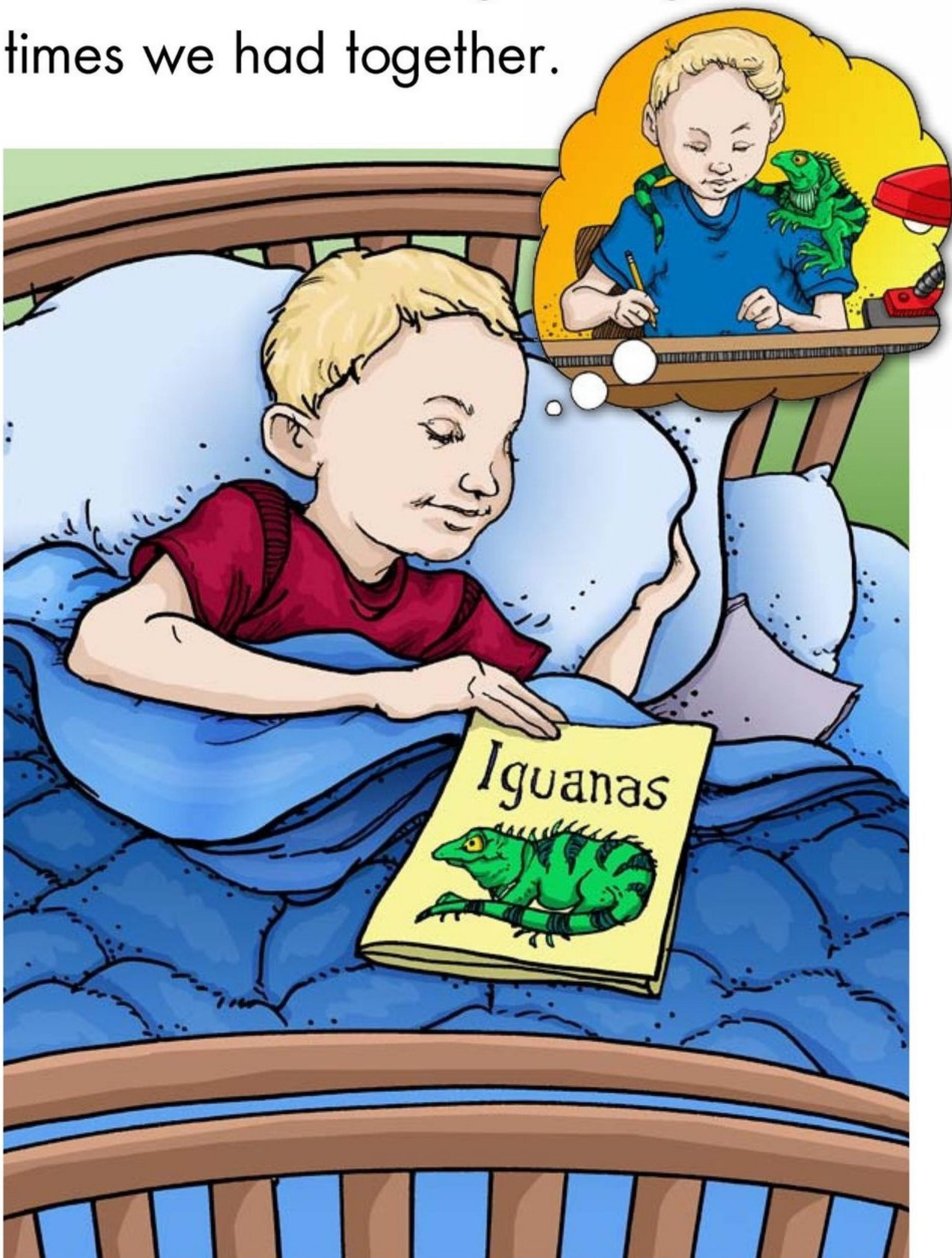
I wrote that I would remember him.





Tomorrow we will bury Izzy.
I chose a special place in the
backyard.
It is next to a clump of flowers.
I will put his favorite rock there.
I will put my card there, too.

My dad was right.
I do feel a little bit better.
I will always miss Izzy,
but I won't ever forget the good
times we had together.



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