

LEVELED BOOK • M

# The Other Book of World Records



MULTI  
level  
J•M•P

Written by Torran Anderson  
Illustrated by Jeff Ebbeler

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## Focus Question

How did Shorty get into "The Other Book of World Records"?

## Words to Know

concentrate  
making  
pogo stick

records  
recruited  
witness

The Other Book of World Records

Level M Leveled Book

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### Correlation

LEVEL M	
Fountas & Pinnell	L
Reading Recovery	19
DRA	24

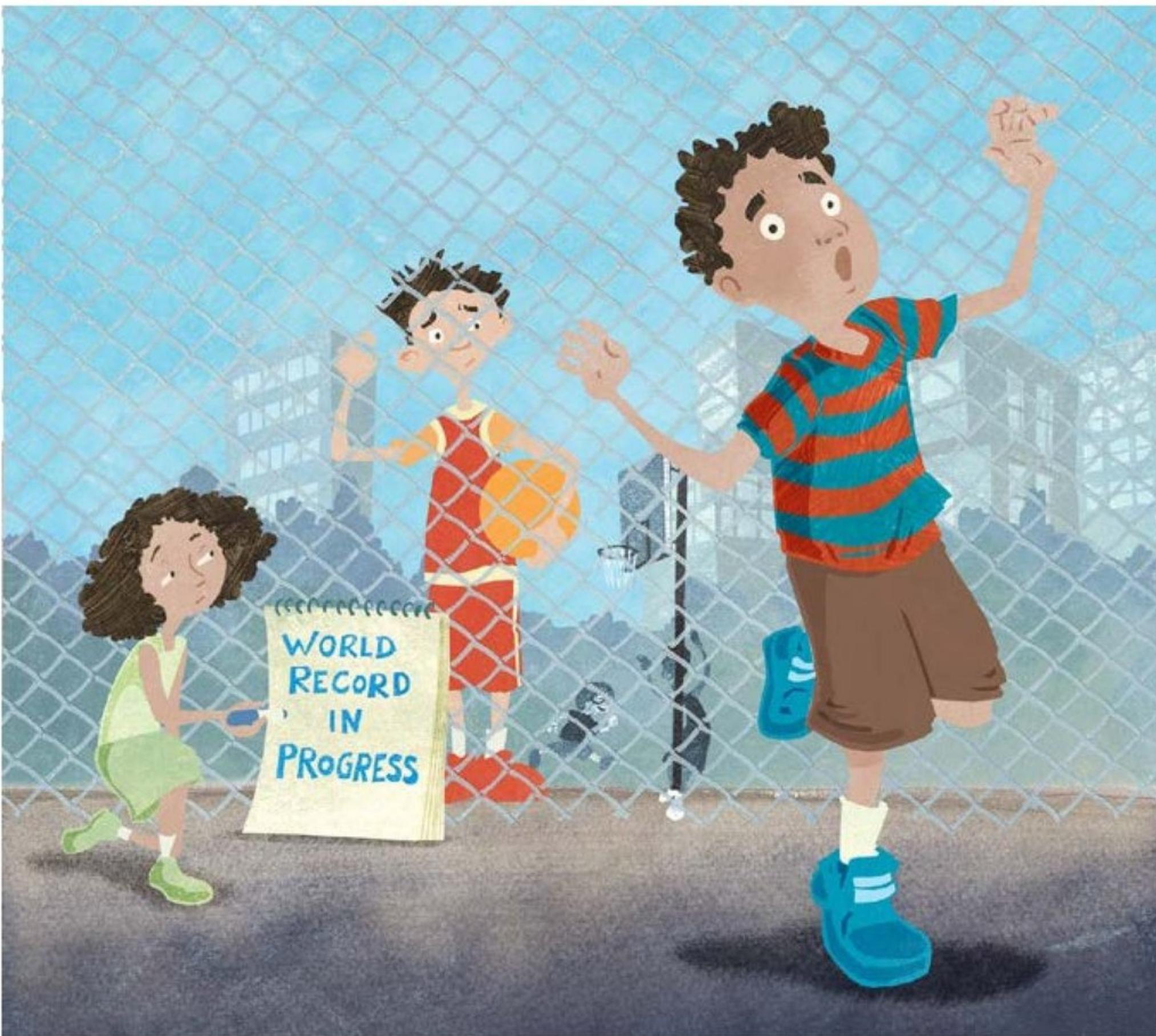


“Today you’re getting into ‘The Other Book of World Records,’” Ruby told her brother.

“What’s that?” Shorty asked.

Ruby held up a pad of paper. “It’s the record book I’m working on. The *other* book,” she said.

“But I don’t have my **pogo stick**,” Shorty said.



"You don't need it," Ruby said.

"Stand on one leg and recite  
the ABCs."

Shorty stood on one leg and began  
the alphabet: "A-B-C-D-E—"

The kids on the basketball court  
stopped their game to stare at  
Shorty. A kid named Ben came over.

“ABCs, huh?” he said. “What are you in—kindergarten?”

“He’s setting a record, and he needs to **concentrate**,” Ruby said.

Ben turned to look at Ruby. “What’s your job?” Ben asked.

“I’m the officiator,” Ruby said. “The **witness**, to prove he really did it.”

“Did what?” Ben asked. “Anyone could do what he’s doing.”





“Oh, yeah?” Ruby said. “Well, my brother is going to do it while chewing bubble gum.”

Ruby pulled out a piece of gum and tossed it to her brother.

Shorty popped the gum in his mouth and continued reciting the alphabet: “F–G–H–I–J–K–L–M–N –O–P–”

“Aw, that’s nothing,” Ben said. “You oughta blow bubbles instead. And if you want to set a real record, let me get my pogo stick.”

Ben dashed into the nearest apartment building. Shorty winked at Ruby—Ben didn’t know that Shorty was a pogo stick master.

Ben came back with his pogo stick. “Try jumping on one leg,” he said.



Shorty picked up the pogo stick and began bouncing. Once he got going, he started jumping on one leg. Everyone from the playground came to see what was happening.

“Aw, that’s not so hard,” Ben said.  
“Let’s see him jump through a human maze.”

“There’s no such thing as a human maze,” Ruby said.

“Sure there is,” Ben said. “It’s a maze made out of people.”

Shorty bounced on the pogo stick.  
“Can I switch legs?” he asked.

Ben and Ruby both shook their heads.



“Call everybody you know,” Ruby announced. “My brother is going to set a new world record inside a human maze.”

“Tell them to come quick!” Shorty yelled.

Some people pulled out their phones and started calling their friends.

Others ran into the building to invite their families. Ben raced to the tennis courts and **recruited** more kids for the maze.





“Hurry up!” Shorty screamed. “I’m getting tired.”

Shorty was sweating on the pogo stick. Still jumping, he started to move through the human maze. People cheered him on as he blew his biggest bubble, bouncing all the while.

Shorty turned a corner in the maze. The pogo stick wobbled, but Shorty did not fall off. At the end of the maze, he leapt off the pogo stick and collapsed on the ground.

“A new world record!” Ruby yelled.





Everyone cheered and rushed over to Shorty. He reached up his hand to give high fives to everybody. Before he had finished, Ruby had already written that up as a new record, too.



“Not bad, Shorty,” Ben said.

“Thanks,” Shorty said to Ben.

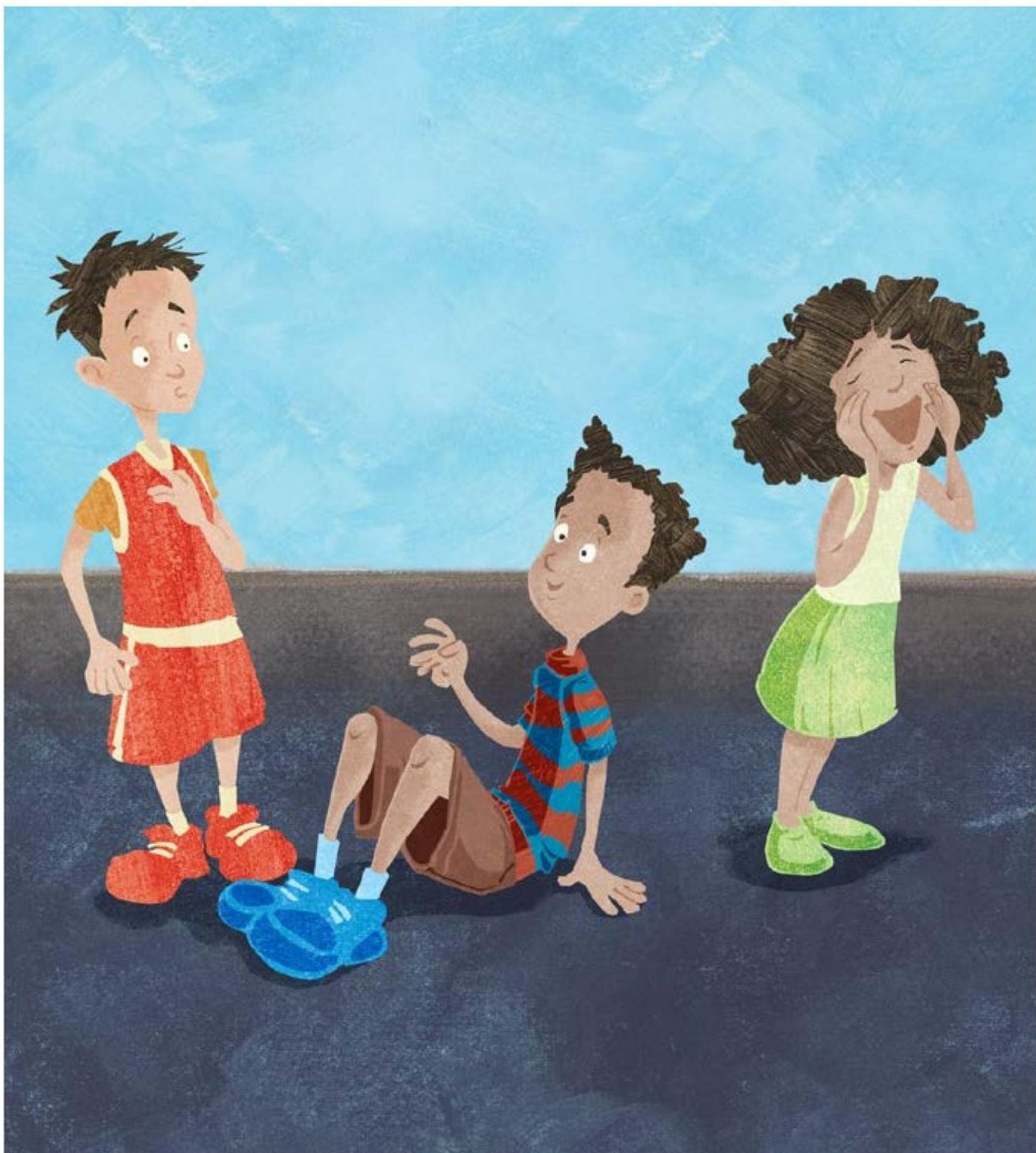
“Now it’s your turn.”

Ben high-fived him and stepped back.

“No,” Shorty said. “Your turn to get into ‘The Other Book of World Records.’”

Ben looked shocked. “Me?” he gasped. “No! I don’t—”

Ruby winked at Shorty. “Step right up!” she yelled. “We’ve got a new world record in the **making!**”



## Glossary

**concentrate** (v.) to pay close attention to something (p. 5)

**making** (n.) the act of forming or coming into being (p. 15)

**pogo stick** (n.) a pole with handles at the top, a spring at the bottom, and two footrests on which a person stands to bounce up and down (p. 3)

**records** (n.) events or achievements that have never been exceeded (p. 3)

**recruited** (v.) brought someone in to join (p. 10)

**witness** (n.) a person who has seen an event happen, such as a crime, accident, or ceremony (p. 5)

# The Other Book of World Records

A Reading A-Z Level M Leveled Book

Word Count: 579

## Connections

### Writing and Art

What do you think Ben will do to set his own world record? Add a new page to the story that shows what happens next with Ben.

### Social Studies

Choose five records from *Guinness World Records*. For each one, label on a map the country and city where the record was set. Compare your map with a partner's.

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