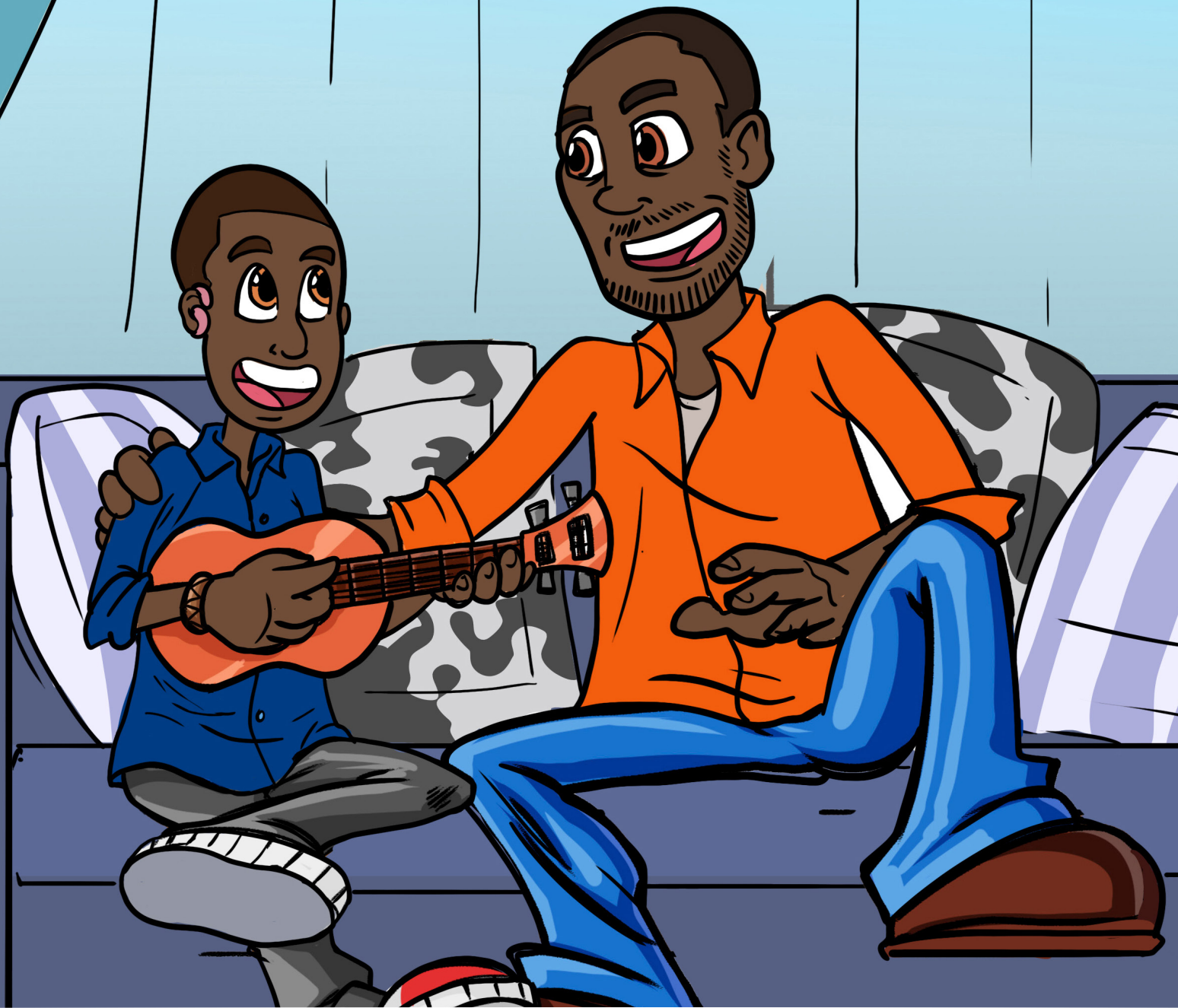


Relationship
Skills

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FOR ALL | Learning

PLINK, PLANK, PLUNK



By Michelle Wanasundera
Illustrated by Romulo Reyes III

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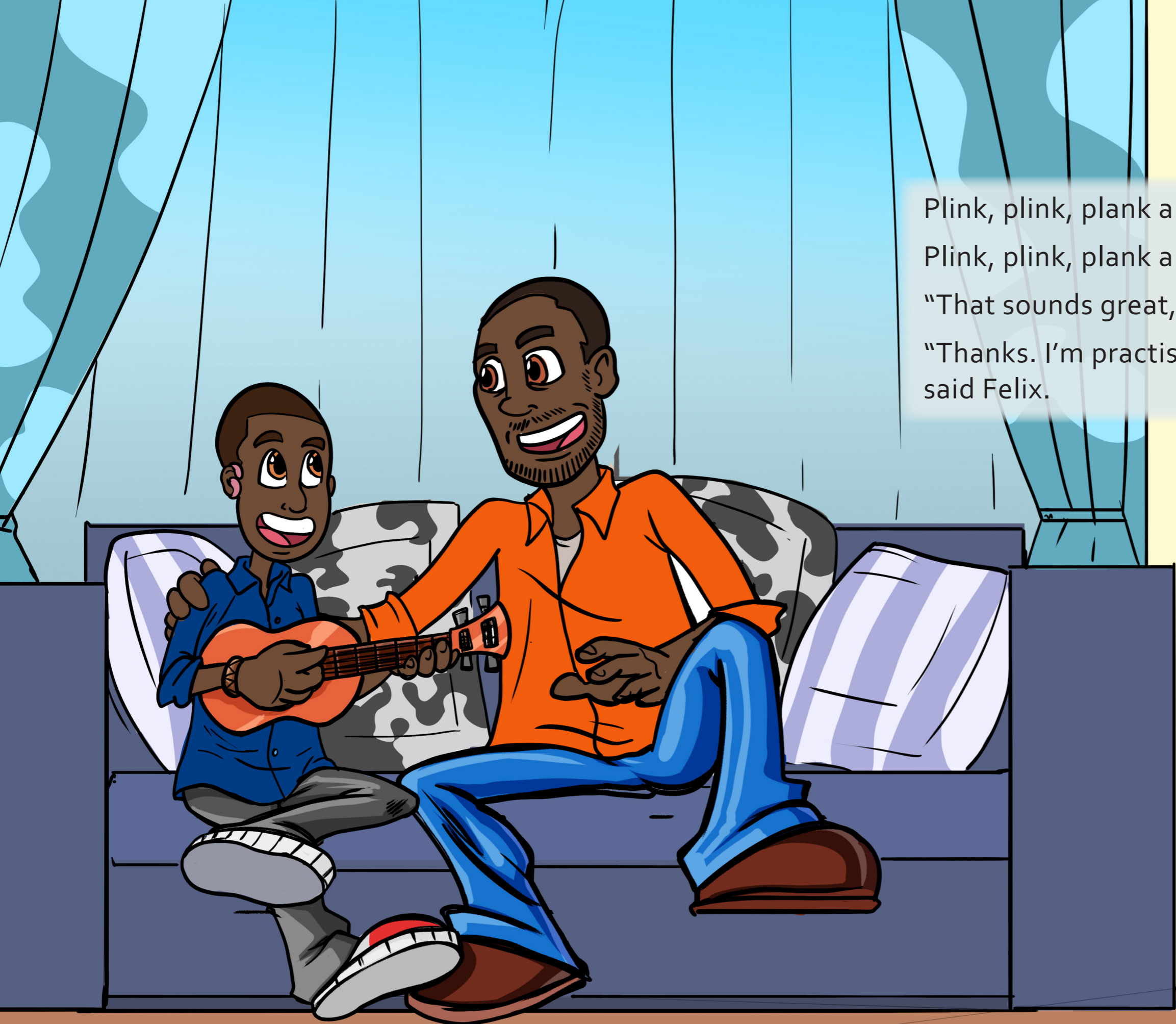
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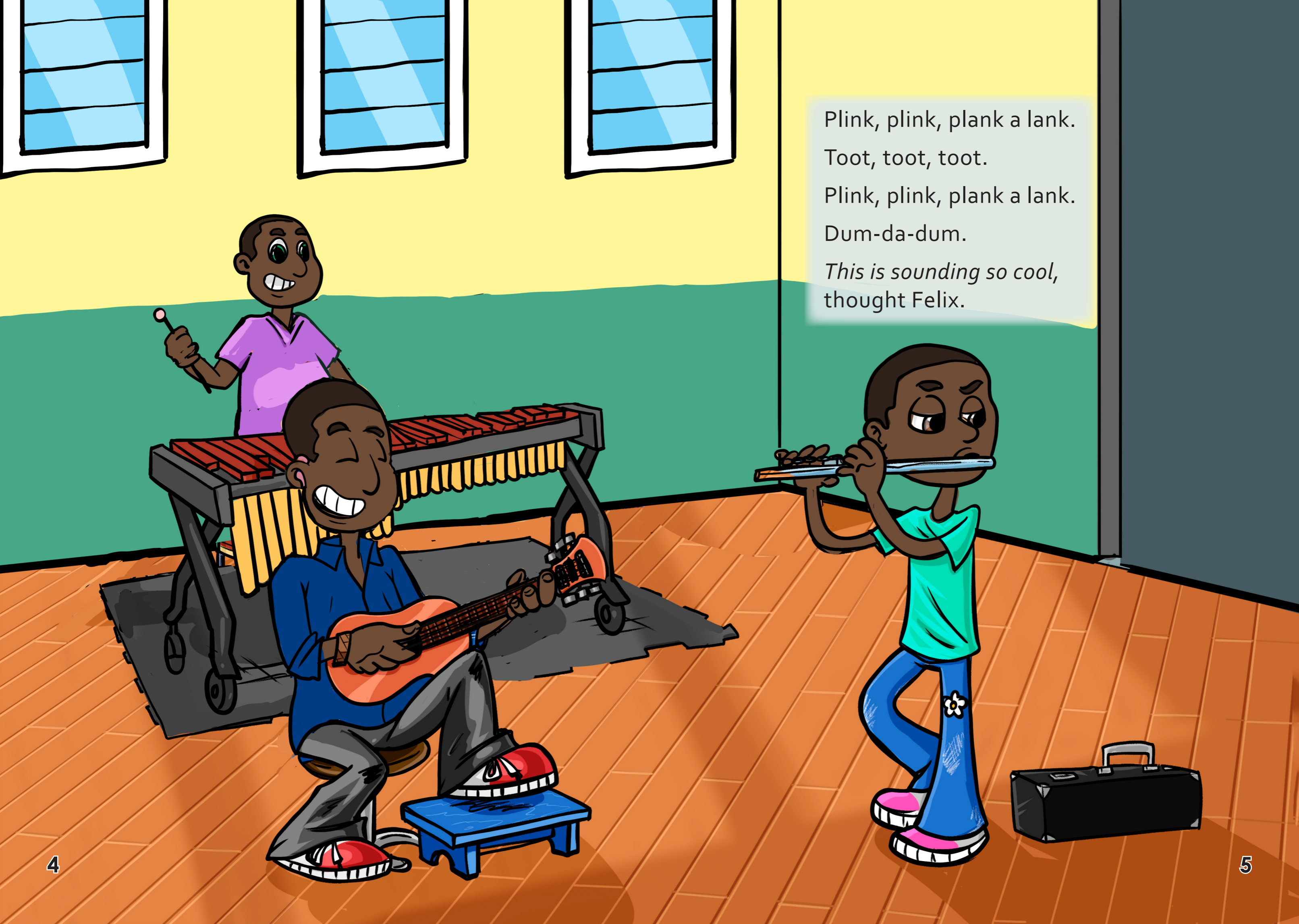
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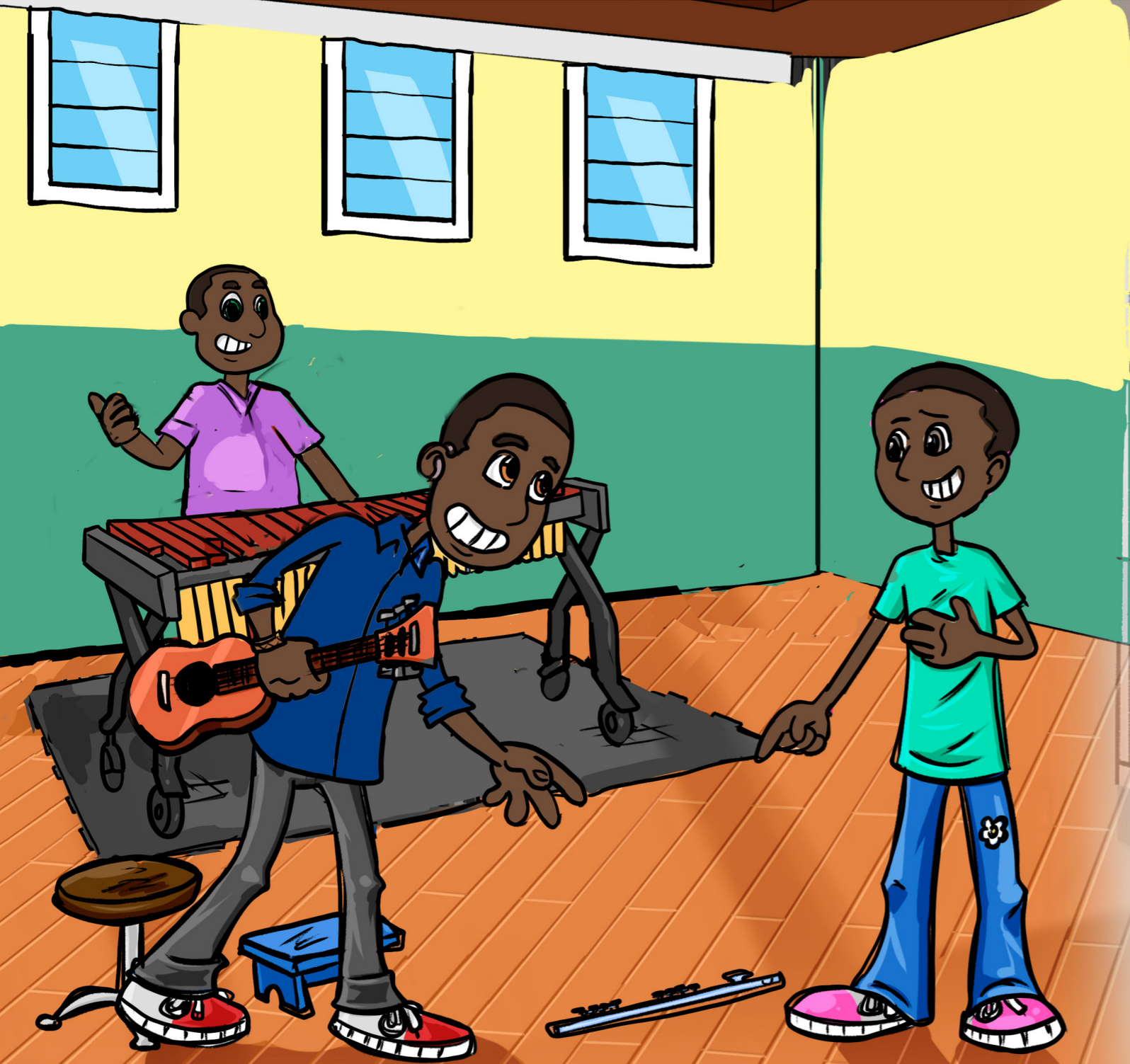
**PLINK, PLANK,
PLUNK**



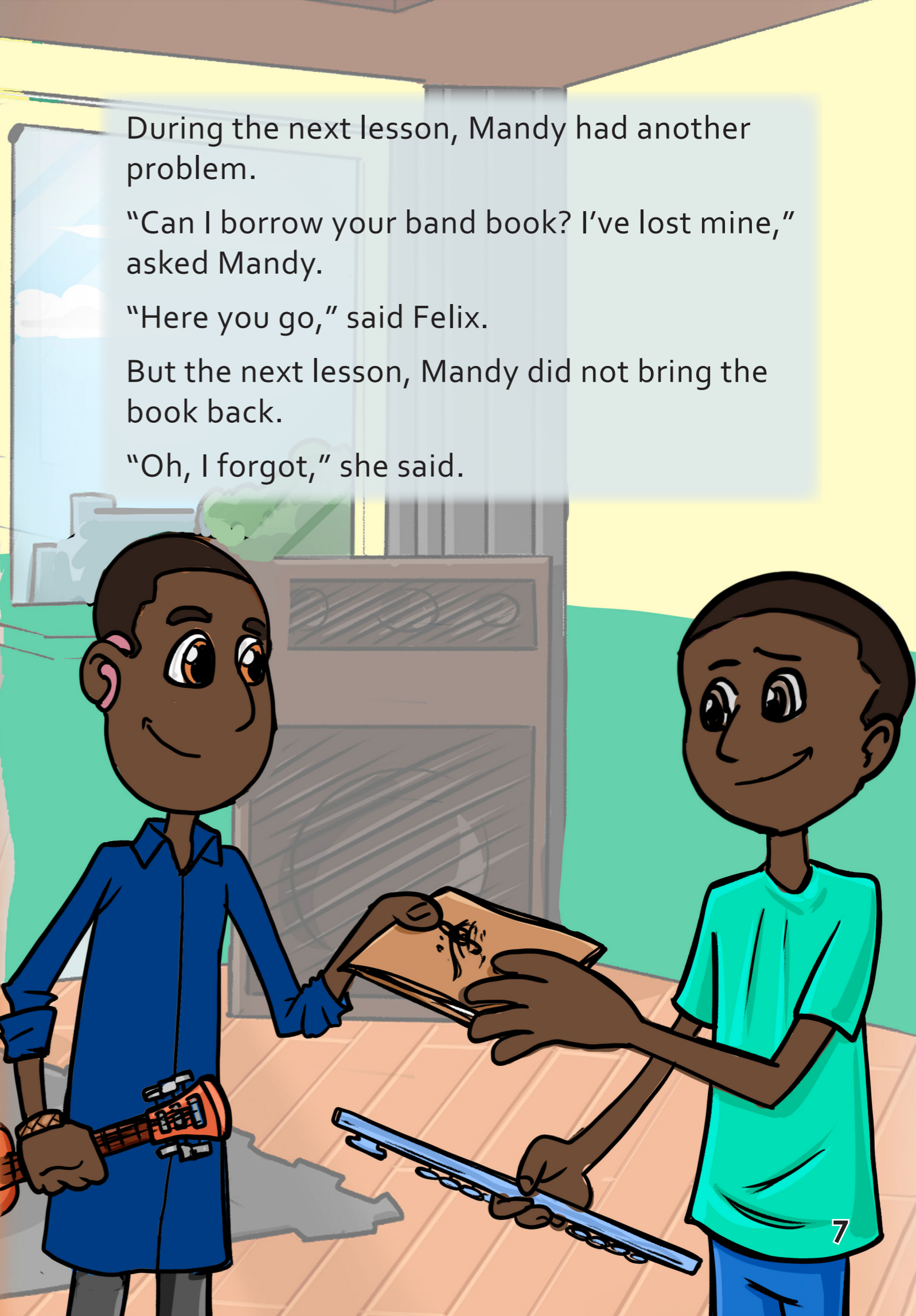
Plink, plink, plank a lank, plunk, plunk, plunk.
Plink, plink, plank a lank, plunk, plunk, plunk!
“That sounds great,” said Felix’s dad.
“Thanks. I’m practising for a band. I love it!”
said Felix.



Plink, plink, plank a lank.
Toot, toot, toot.
Plink, plink, plank a lank.
Dum-da-dum.
*This is sounding so cool,
thought Felix.*



Plink, plink, plank a lank.
Boink!
"Hey, can you pick that up for me?" asked Mandy. She was new in the band. Felix was happy to help.
"Here you go," said Felix.



During the next lesson, Mandy had another problem.
"Can I borrow your band book? I've lost mine," asked Mandy.
"Here you go," said Felix.
But the next lesson, Mandy did not bring the book back.
"Oh, I forgot," she said.



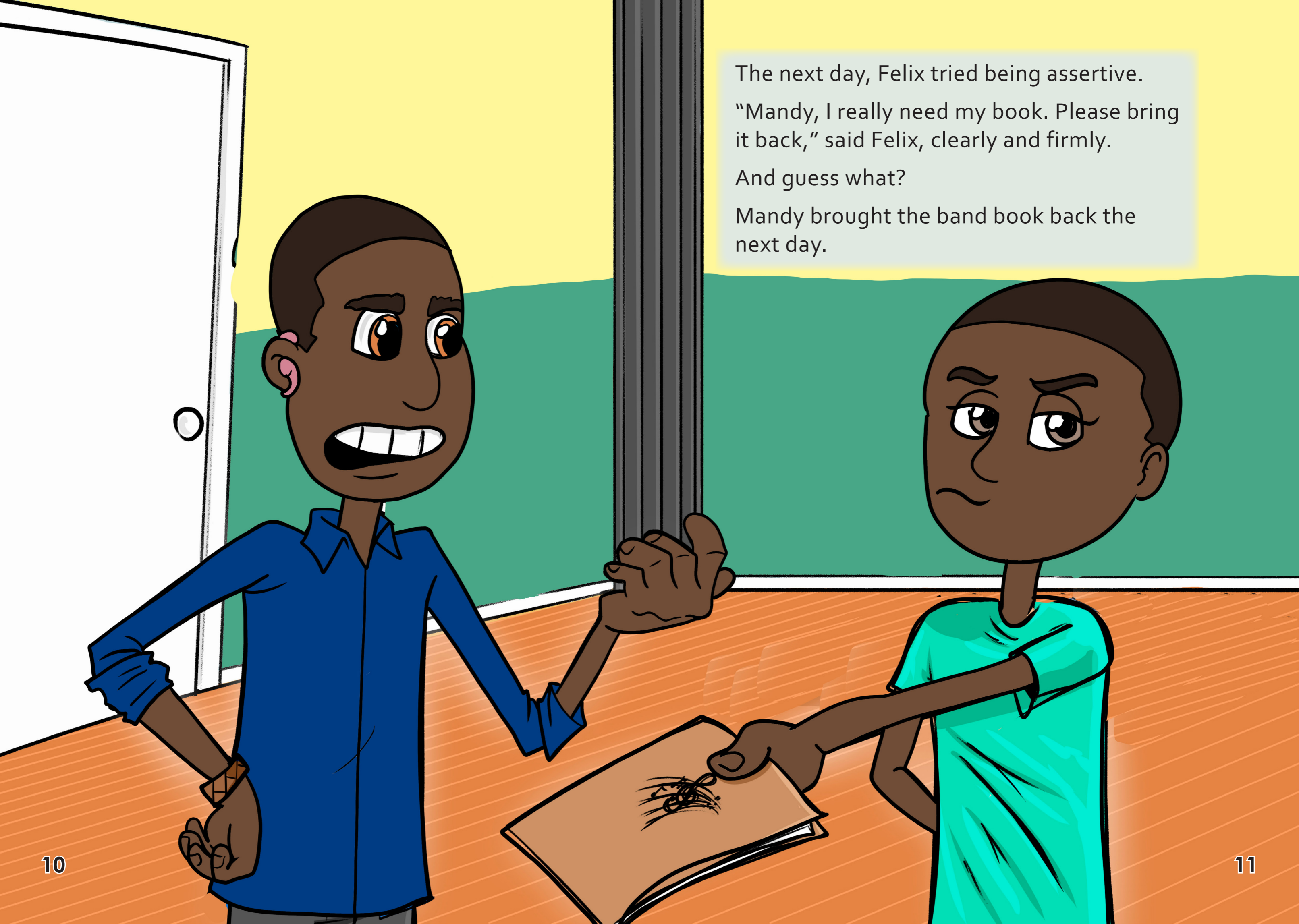
"You need to ask her in an assertive voice," said Felix's dad.

"Assertive?"

"Assertive means firmly and clearly."

"I hear no plink, plank, plunk tonight," said Felix's dad when the family was cooking dinner that night.

"Mandy from the band hasn't brought my book back," said Felix. "I tried to remind her, but she didn't listen to me."



The next day, Felix tried being assertive. "Mandy, I really need my book. Please bring it back," said Felix, clearly and firmly. And guess what? Mandy brought the band book back the next day.

But then, a few days later, Mandy seemed to need more help from Felix.

“Can you finish my homework? It’s too hard for me,” said Mandy.

And, before he could reply, Mandy had left the work with him.

The next day, she did it again.

And the day after that, Felix once again did her homework for her.





“But she will get mad at me,” said Felix.
“Try,” said his dad. “And if that doesn’t work, it might be time to tell your teacher.”
“I’ll try first,” said Felix, feeling good that his dad was there to help.

That night, Felix’s dad said, “I hear no plink, plank, plunk lately.”
Felix explained that it was difficult to say no to Mandy’s demands.
“You need to tell her that you won’t be doing her homework anymore. Firmly and clearly,” said his dad.

"I will not do any more of your homework, Mandy," said Felix assertively.

Mandy took her homework book back.

Felix was proud his assertive way of speaking worked.

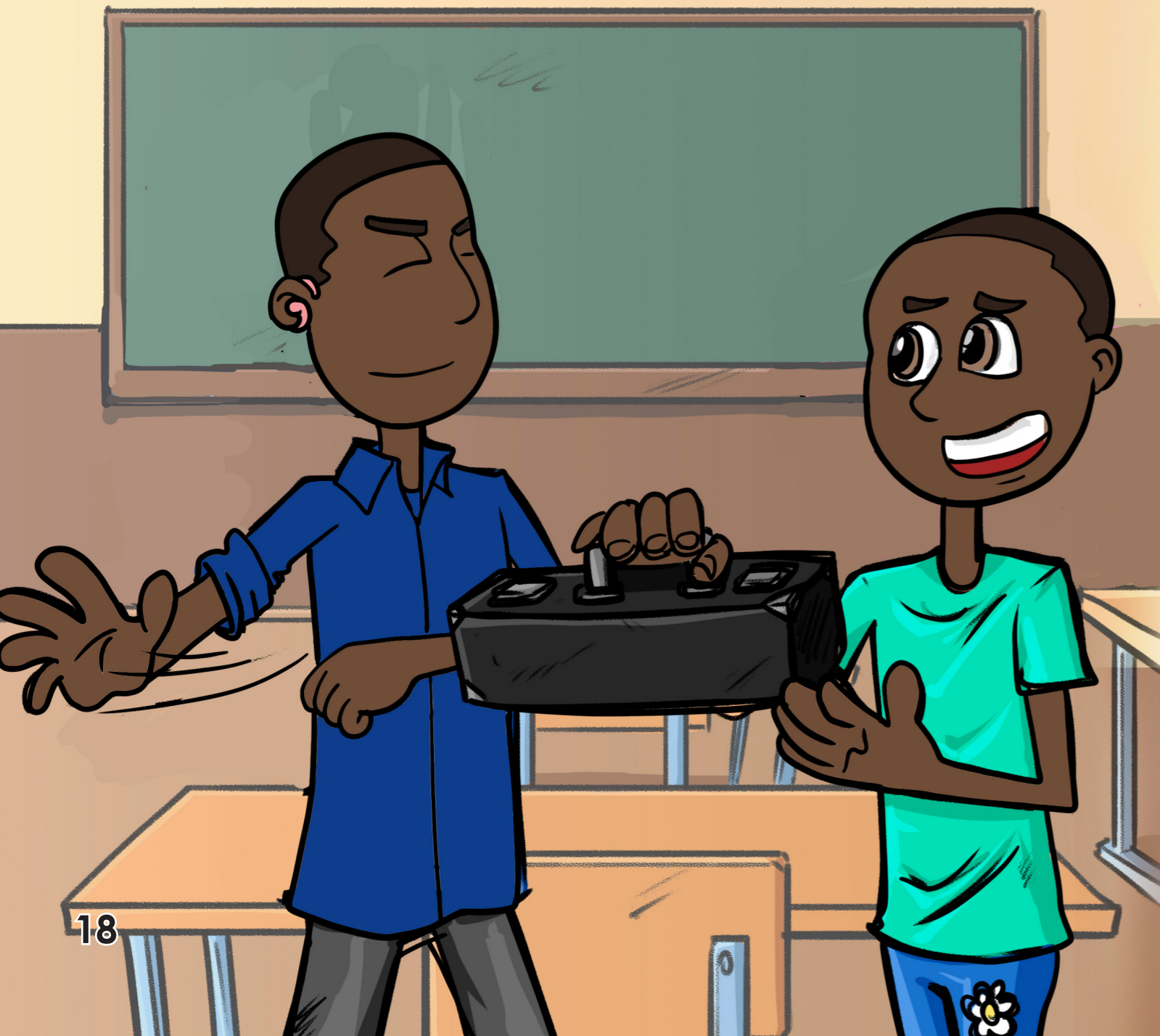




But the next day...

"Can you carry my flute? It's too heavy," said Mandy.

"No," said Felix, firmly and clearly.

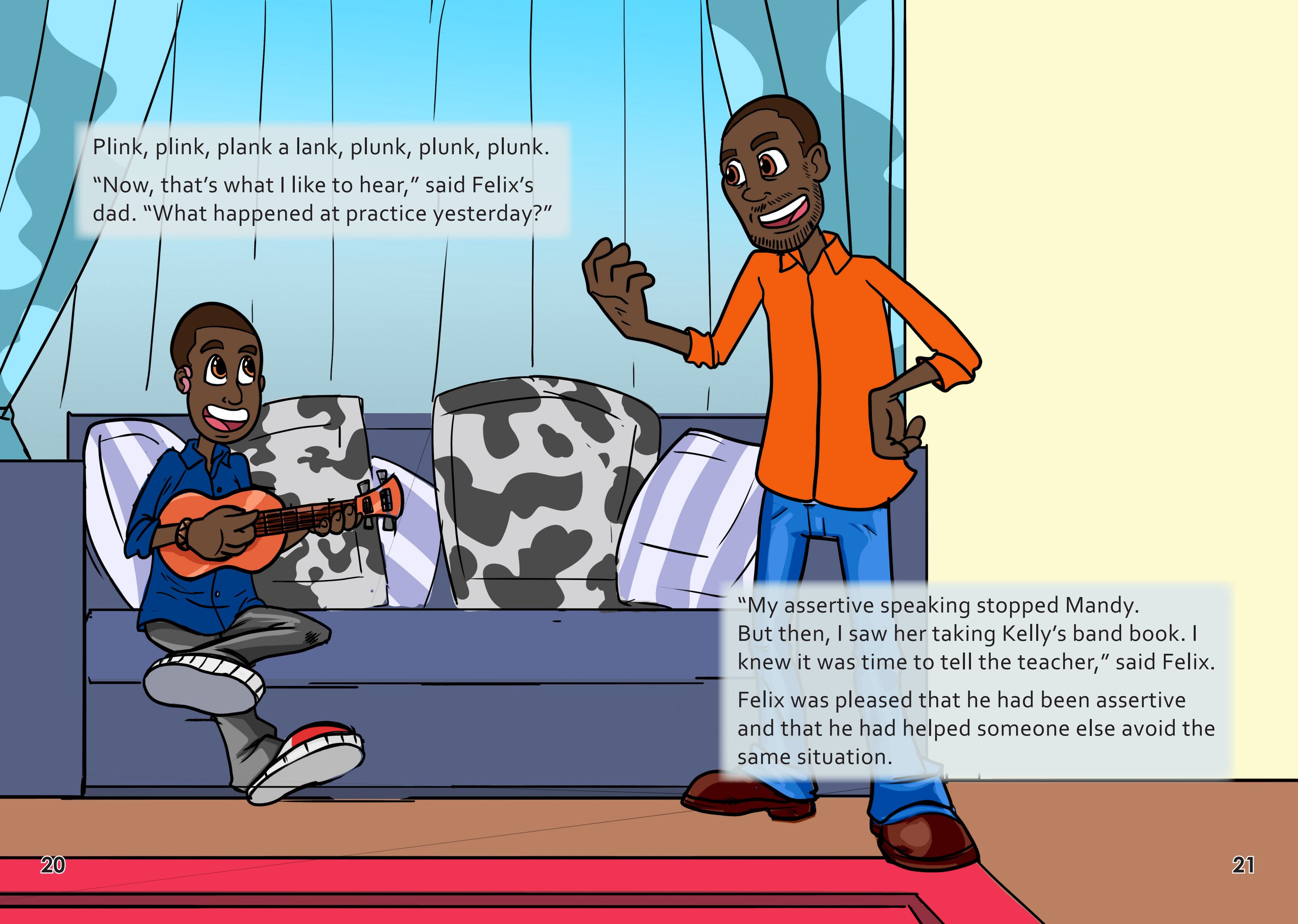


Mandy walked away.

Being assertive really works, thought Felix.

But, when Felix saw Mandy ask another girl, Kelly, to borrow her band book, Felix knew it was time to tell the teacher.

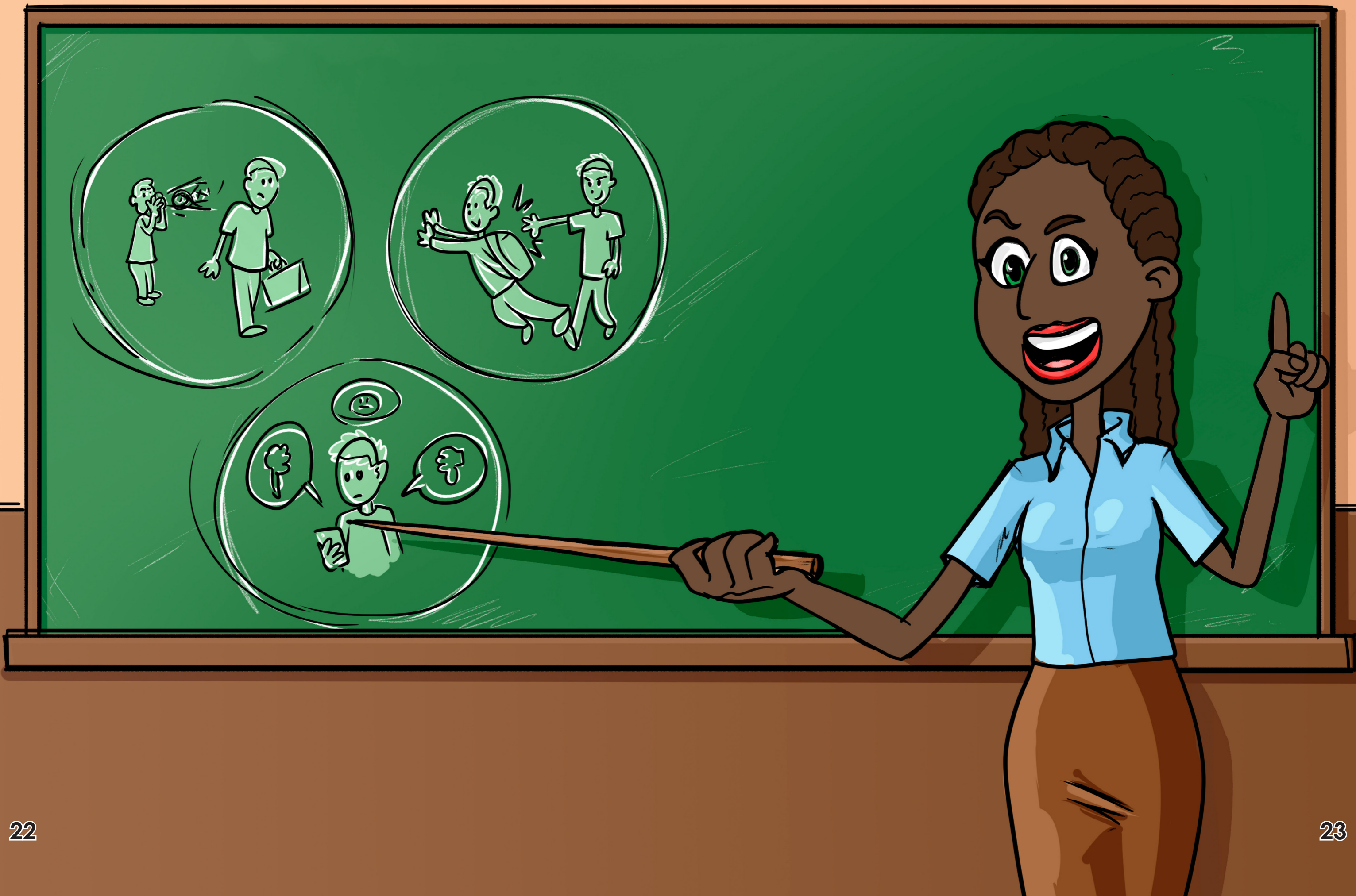


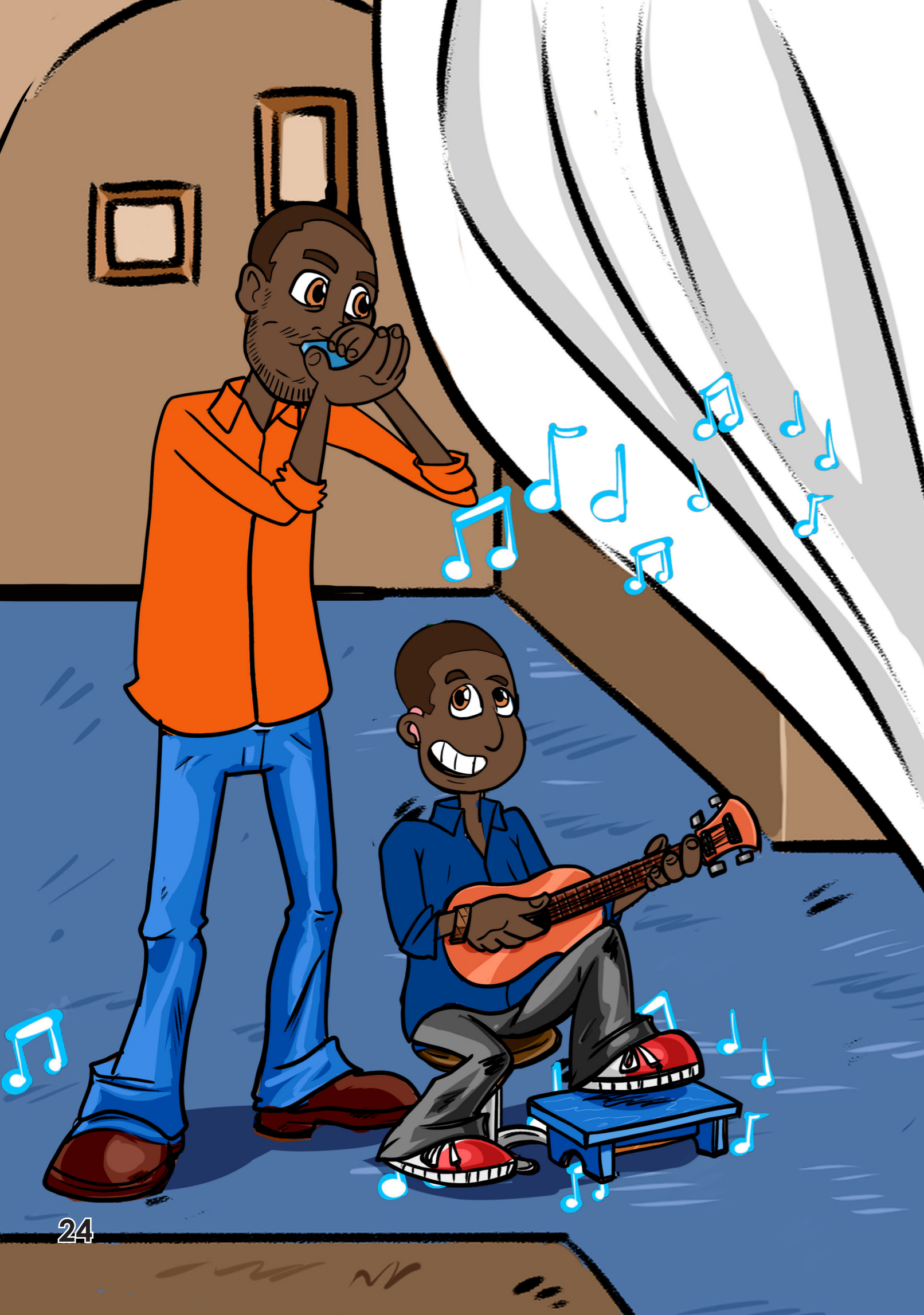


Plink, plink, plank a lank, plunk, plunk, plunk.

“Now, that’s what I like to hear,” said Felix’s dad. “What happened at practice yesterday?”

“My assertive speaking stopped Mandy. But then, I saw her taking Kelly’s band book. I knew it was time to tell the teacher,” said Felix. Felix was pleased that he had been assertive and that he had helped someone else avoid the same situation.





I guess some people don't even realise they are bullying, thought Felix. I'm glad I learned how to deal with it.

"Thanks for your help, Dad," said Felix.

"My pleasure. Let's play!" said Felix's dad.

Plink, plink, plank a lank.

Taka laka, toot.

You can use these questions to talk about this book with your family, friends and teachers.



What instruments are in the band?

Why is it good to be assertive?



What kind of music could they be playing?



What kind of music do you like listening to?

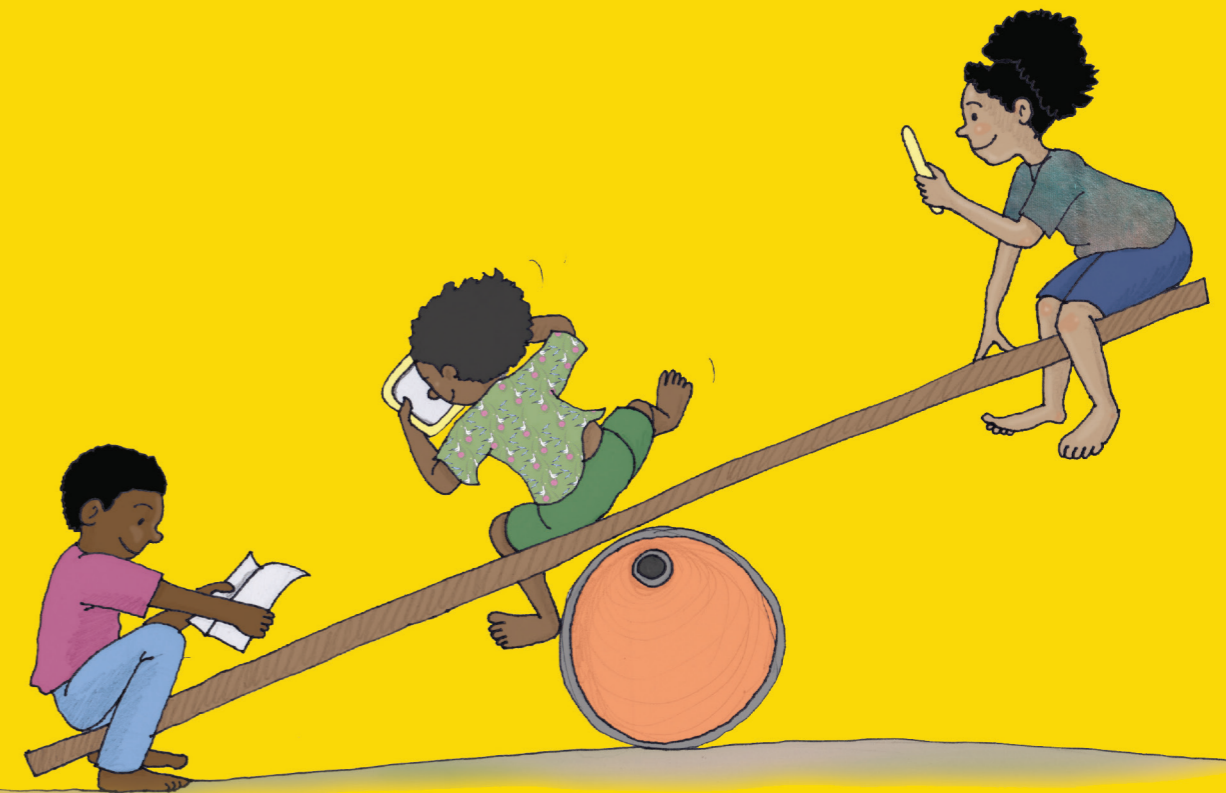


Time to make your dream band! Grab a piece of paper and fold it in half, then in half again. So, now when you open it up, you have four squares. Then, in each square draw the members of your band.

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