

7-9 AGE

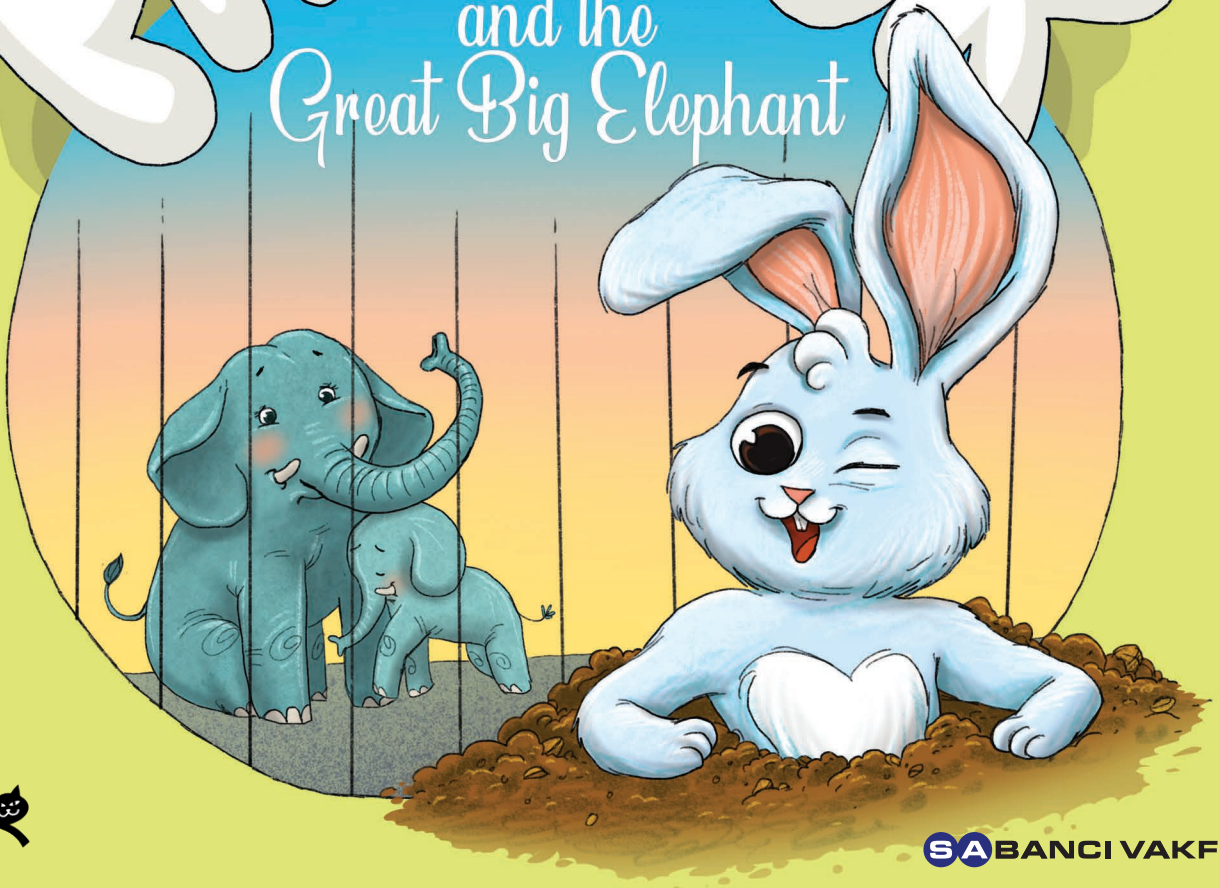
Written by: Tolga Öztörün - Lider Hepgenç

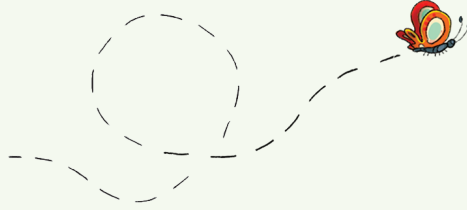
Illustrated by: Ece Zeber

Translated by: Sevin Okyay

PARVODUK

and the
Great Big Elephant

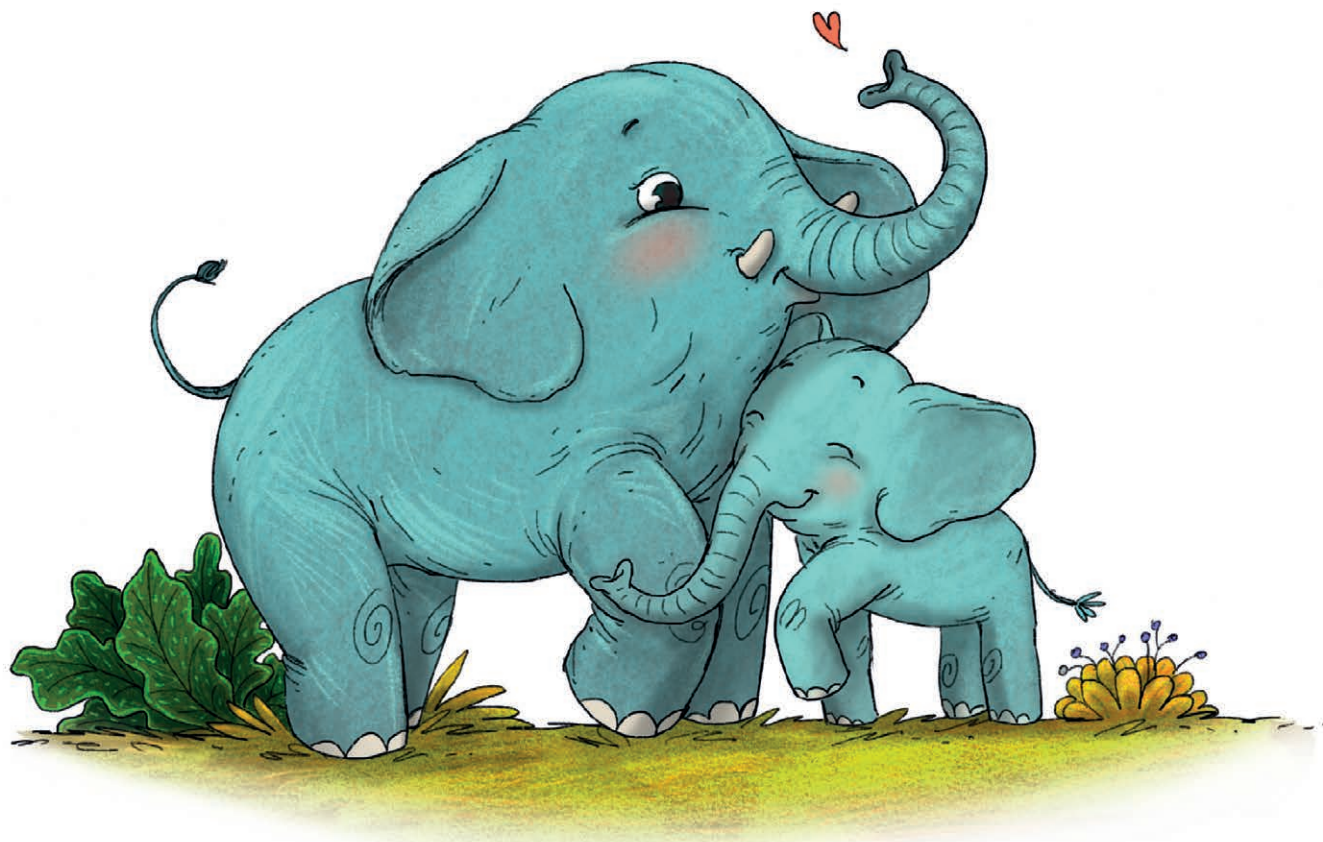




Wishing that Papuduk, the hero of the fairy tale my precious Great-Grandmother Lady Hayriye Erduran used to tell us children of several generations, will contribute to raising them to posterity with love for animals and environmental consciousness.

Serra Sabancı

PAPUDUK and the GREAT BIG ELEPHANT



As the hot noon sun is over now,
Papuduk might go the woods to browse around a little.
It called out to its mother:

"Mom, can I go
to the woods?"



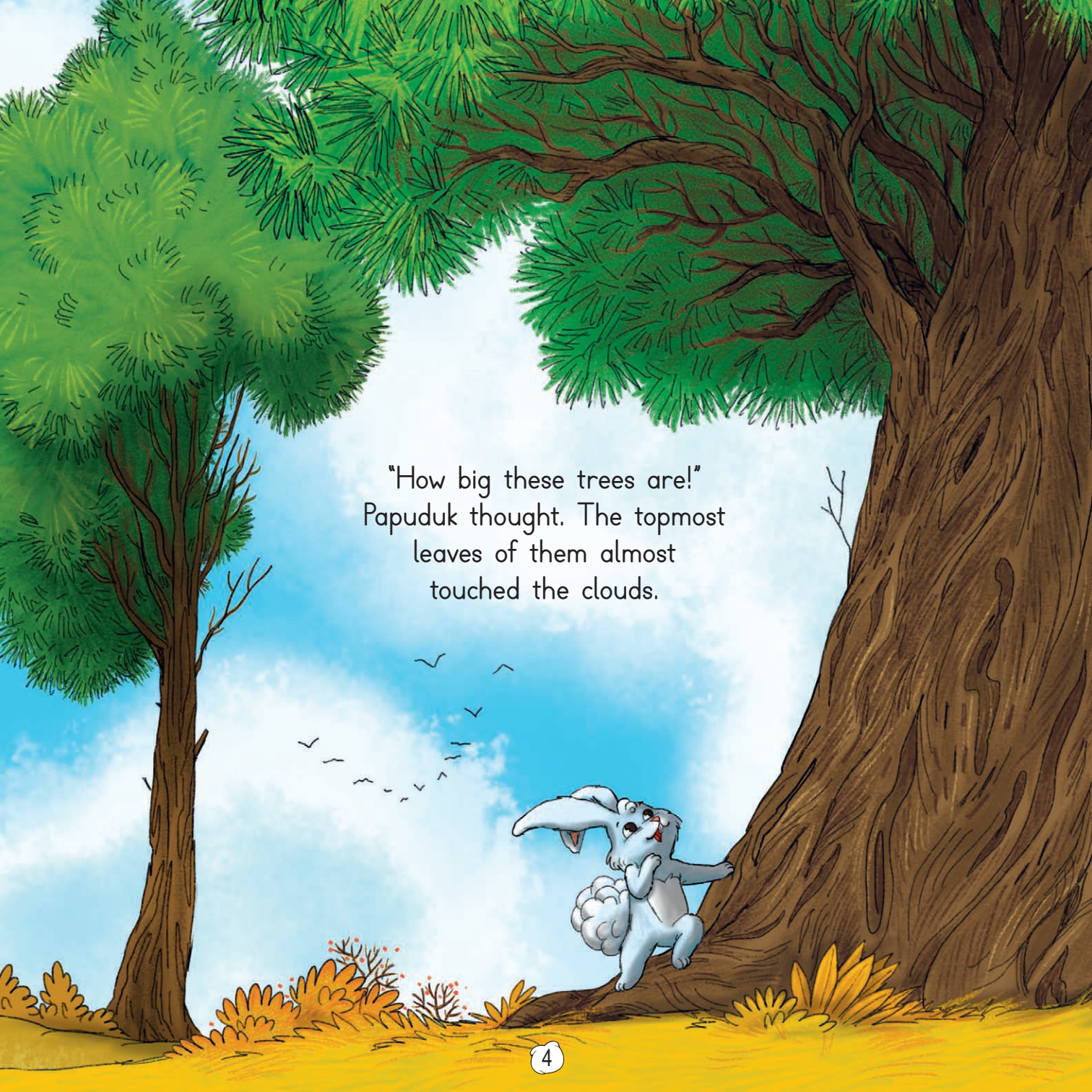
Its mother answered Papuduk:
"Be careful, don't go far away and be home before dark."



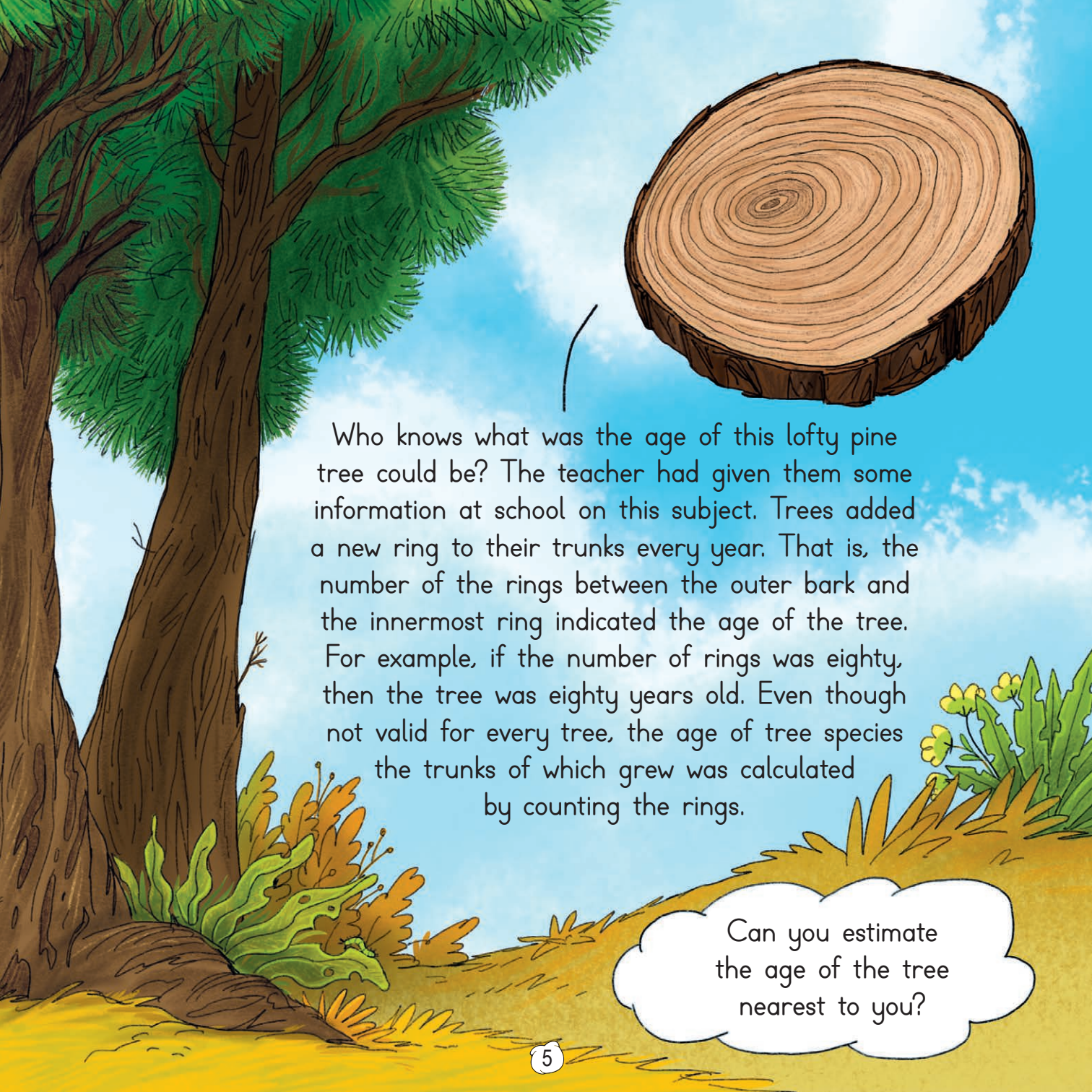
Beginning to walk around among the very green clovers and flowers of all colors, Papuduk was enjoying this beautiful day. It greeted the porcupines, mice, and birds that it passed by:

"Hello, hello, hello!"

In fact, Papuduk was thinking of picking flower seeds for its mother and make her happy. As it was about to get some seeds from the lovely pink flowers, the grand trees somewhat further away attracted its attention and it headed towards them.



"How big these trees are!"
Papuduk thought. The topmost
leaves of them almost
touched the clouds.



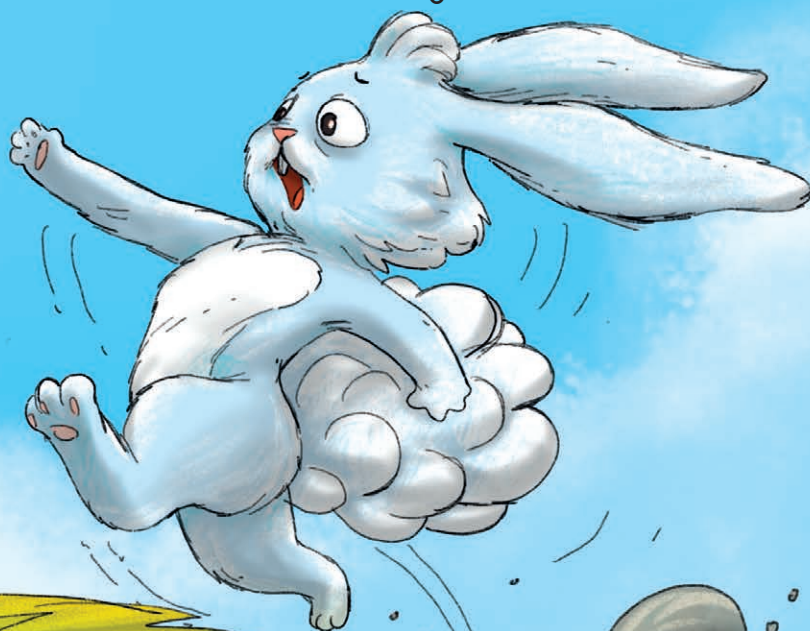
Who knows what was the age of this lofty pine tree could be? The teacher had given them some information at school on this subject. Trees added a new ring to their trunks every year. That is, the number of the rings between the outer bark and the innermost ring indicated the age of the tree. For example, if the number of rings was eighty, then the tree was eighty years old. Even though not valid for every tree, the age of tree species the trunks of which grew was calculated by counting the rings.

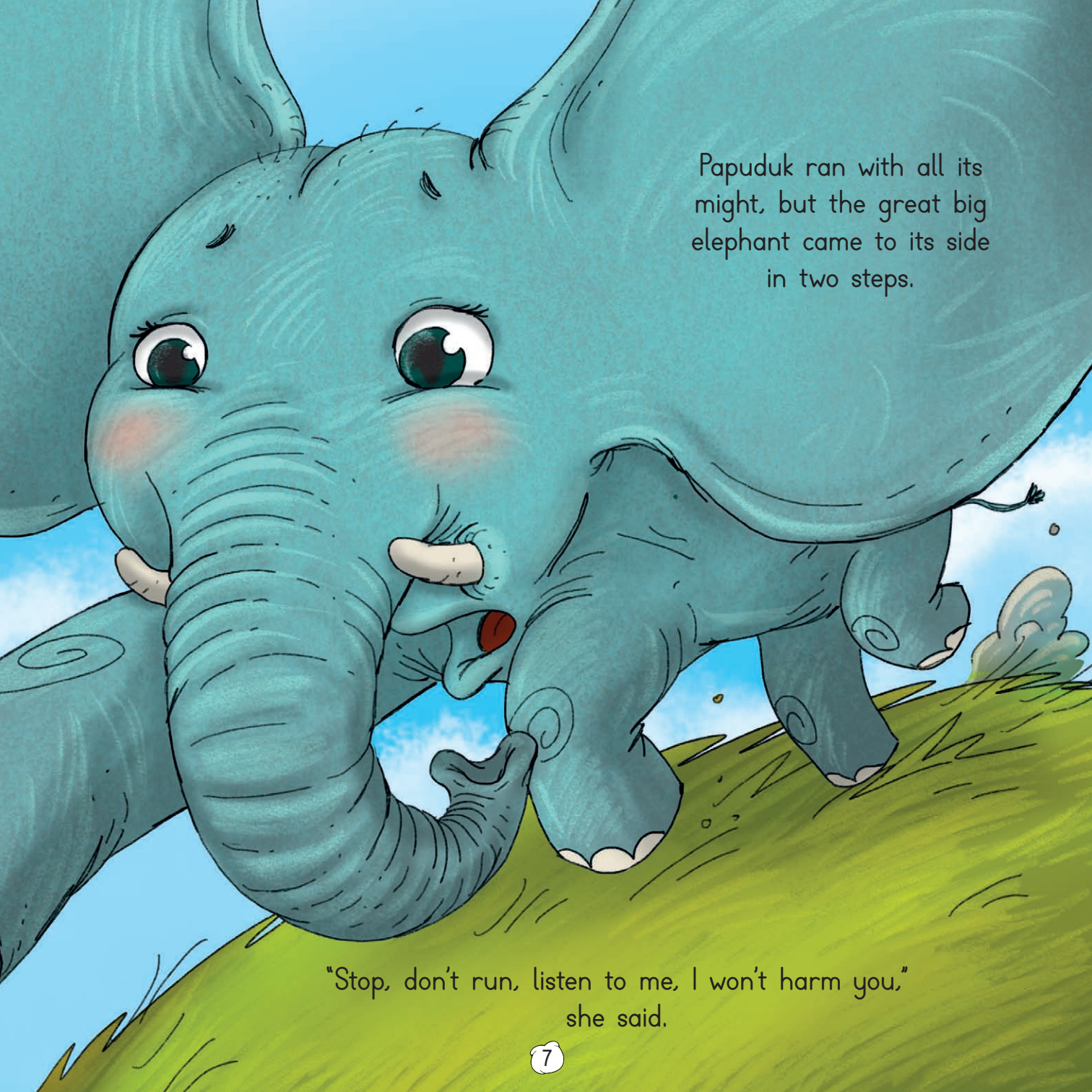
Can you estimate the age of the tree nearest to you?

But what was that appearing behind that tree ahead?

Papuduk, whose curiosity got the better of it, tried to understand that thing it saw. It advanced running among the trees. As it got closer, that thing it saw got bigger.

Papuduk's eyes opened in wonder. The thing behind the trees was a gigantic elephant. Papuduk, who became more tiny compared to the great big elephant was very frightened. After a pause of some seconds, it started to run without looking back.

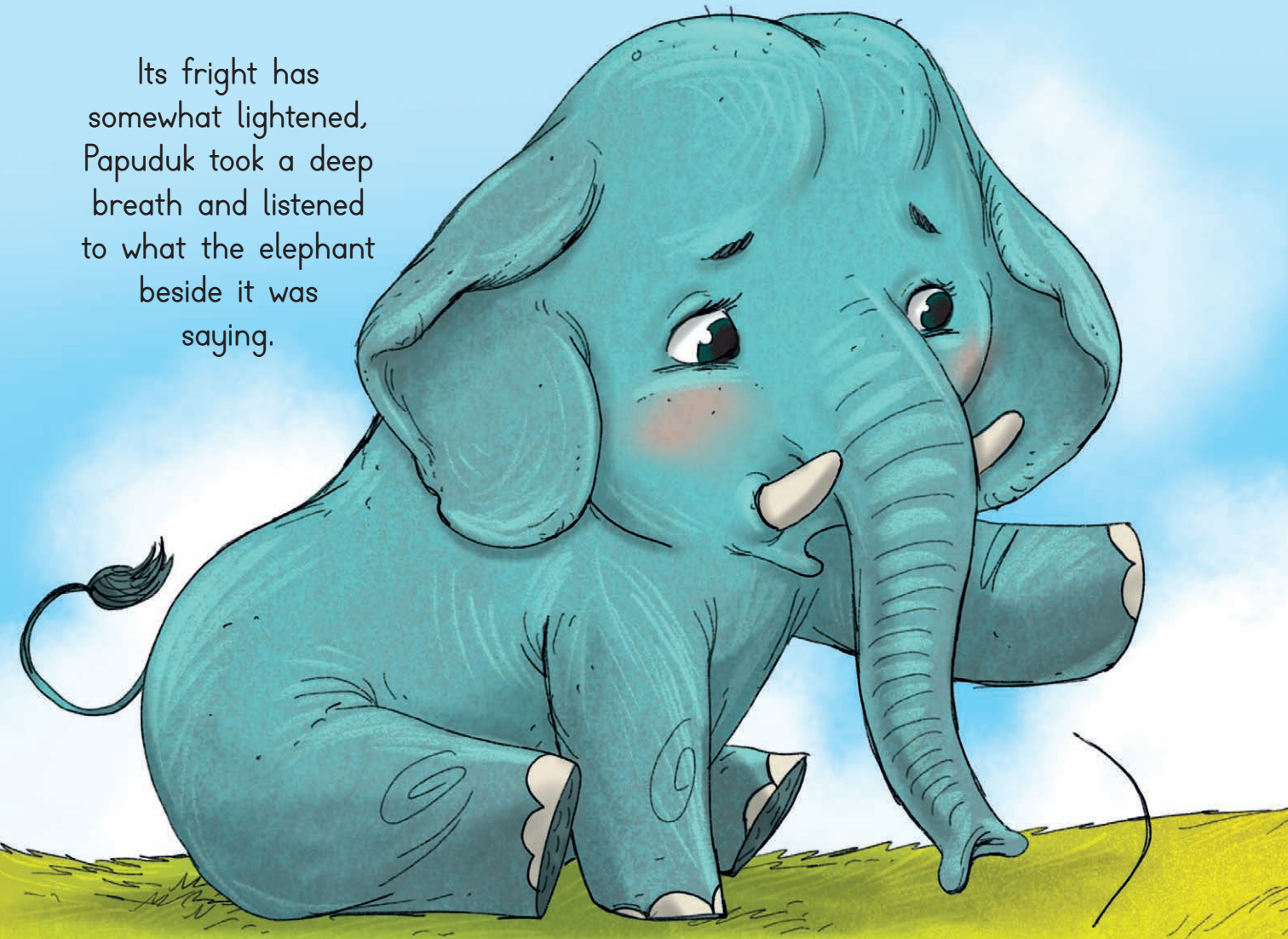




Papuduk ran with all its
might, but the great big
elephant came to its side
in two steps.

"Stop, don't run, listen to me, I won't harm you,"
she said.

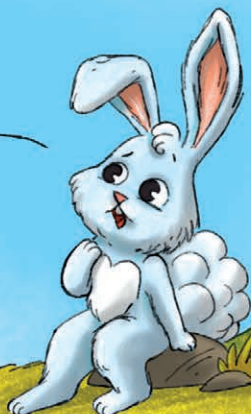
Its fright has
somewhat lightened,
Papuduk took a deep
breath and listened
to what the elephant
beside it was
saying.



"My name is Dudu, I'm an Asian elephant. We Asian elephants are the biggest elephants in the world. I was born captive in a zoo. Normally elephants live in very large groups but I never had any elephant friends. As I had always lived in cages, I hadn't stepped on soil all my life and today I escaped from the zoo. There I had a little one named Raja and many animal friends of other species. You should help me, we must rescue all my friends from there."

"But what is
bad about being in
the zoo?"

said Papuduk.




Poor Dudu sighed and started to tell it.

"Just think of me, I've never lived free, my child Raja was also born behind rails like me. It could never run among these lofty trees, couldn't drink water from the rivers, could never eat fresh plants.

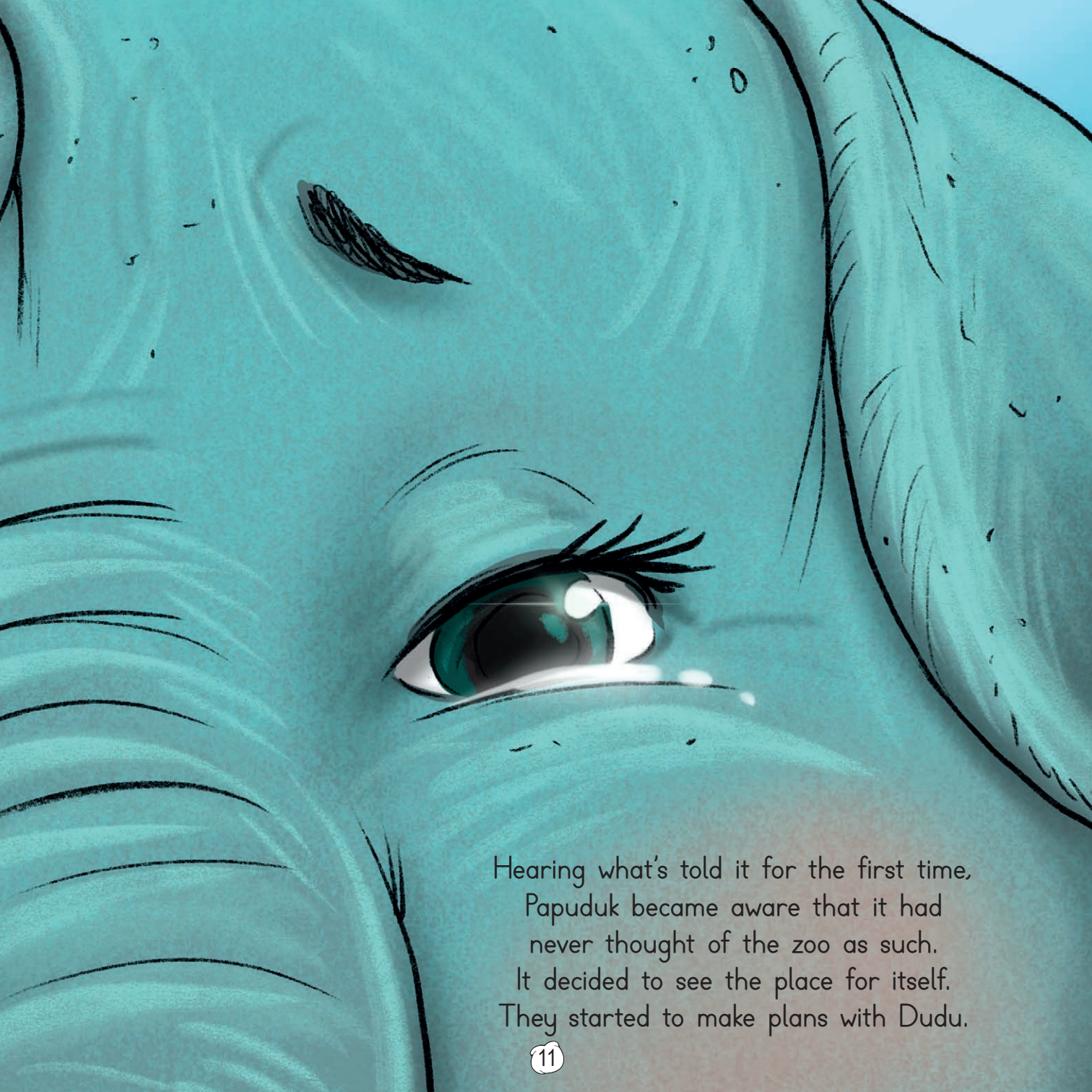
We lived in a tiny concrete cage for many years. My neighbor the lion, right in the opposite cage never saw its family. It couldn't play with a lion that's its peer, could not sleep lazily in branches of trees."

How many
of your friends are
your peers?



"Well then, are there rabbits, too?"
asked Papuduk.

"I'm sorry but your rabbit siblings are behind iron rails
like all other species, they live on concrete floors.
They cannot dig tunnels in soil, cannot pick fresh seeds,
can never pluck and eat their carrots from the field.
Their life starting as captives also ends in prison."



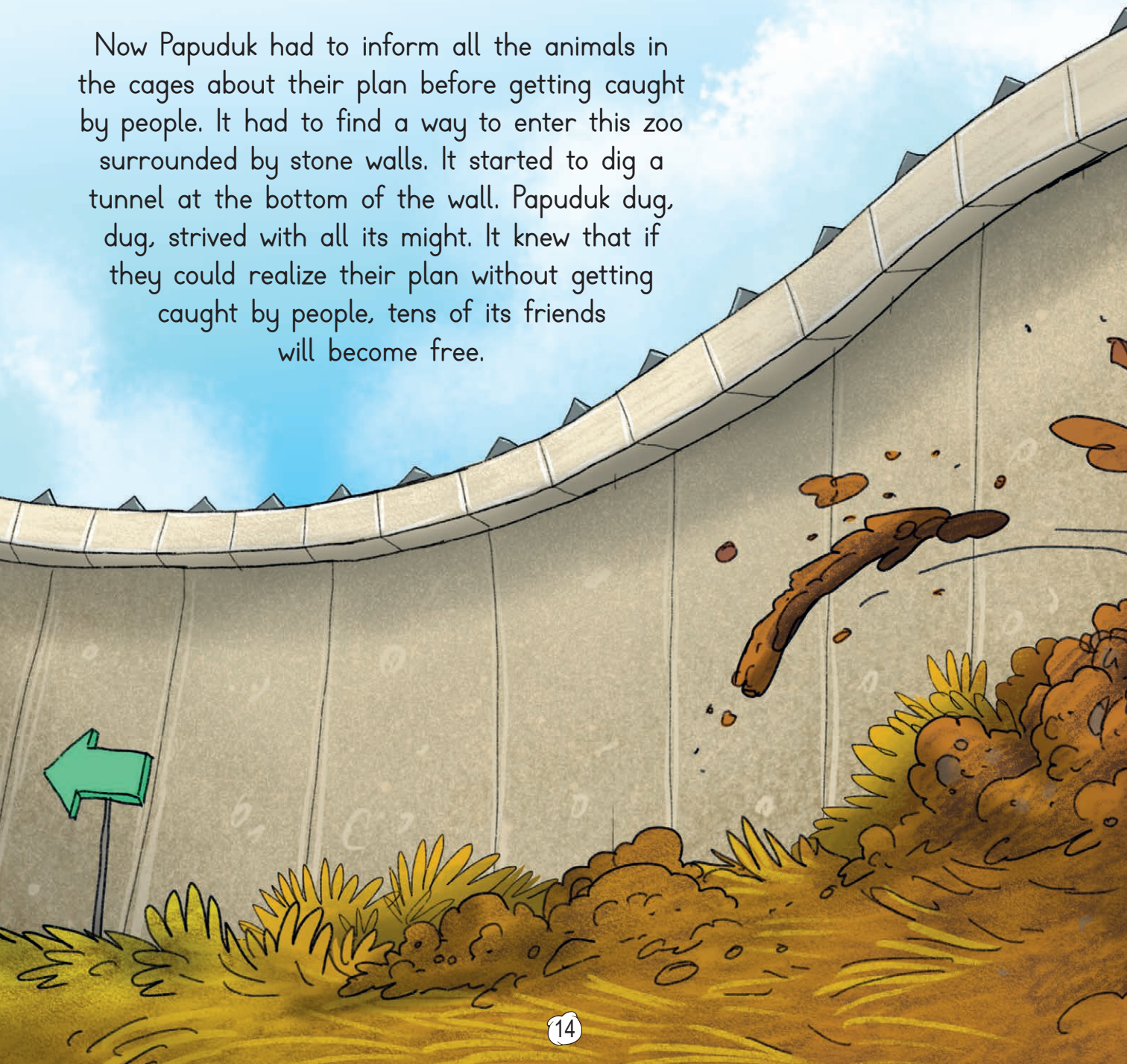
Hearing what's told it for the first time,
Papuduk became aware that it had
never thought of the zoo as such.
It decided to see the place for itself.
They started to make plans with Dudu.



They agreed that Dudu will hide in the area with the lofty trees to wait for Papuduk. And Papuduk made for the zoo, hopping with all its might. While running, it was also thinking of what Dudu had told it shortly before.



Now Papuduk had to inform all the animals in the cages about their plan before getting caught by people. It had to find a way to enter this zoo surrounded by stone walls. It started to dig a tunnel at the bottom of the wall. Papuduk dug, dug, strived with all its might. It knew that if they could realize their plan without getting caught by people, tens of its friends will become free.

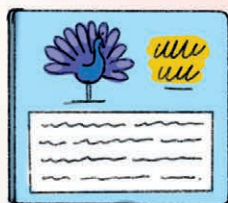




Papuduk got very tired but it finally saw the sun at the end of the tunnel.
It started to wander among the cages without getting caught by anyone.



In the first cage,
it saw a peacock of
matchless beauty with
a tail of all colors.
It called out
in a low voice:



"Hey... Peacock... Come closer to me, I'm the friend of Dudu who
escaped from the cage. I came here for you all. This evening
we will come to liberate you, let everybody know."

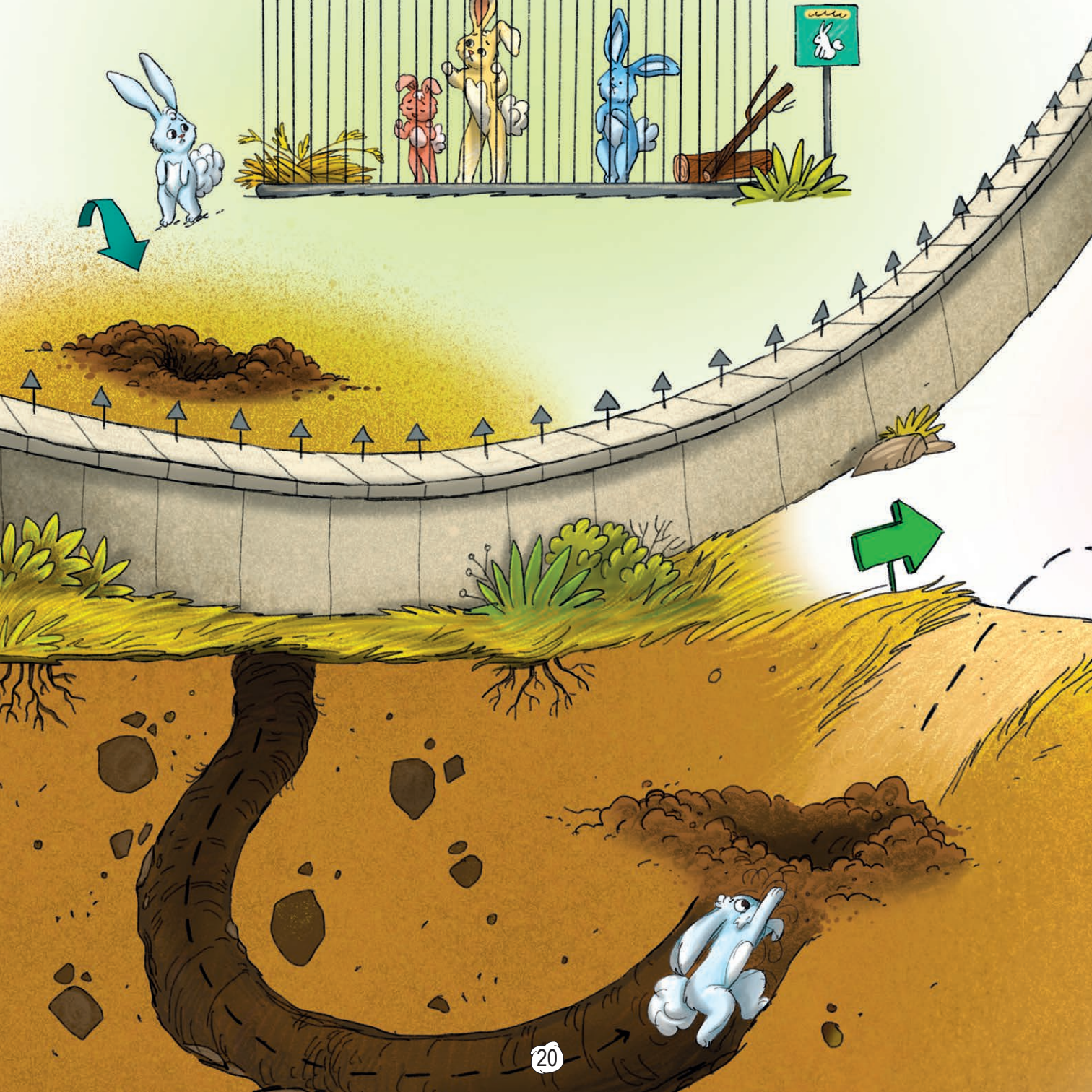
Next Papuduk ran to the other cage.
The moment it saw the small elephant there, it realised that it was Raja.
It was going back and forth between the wall and the rails.



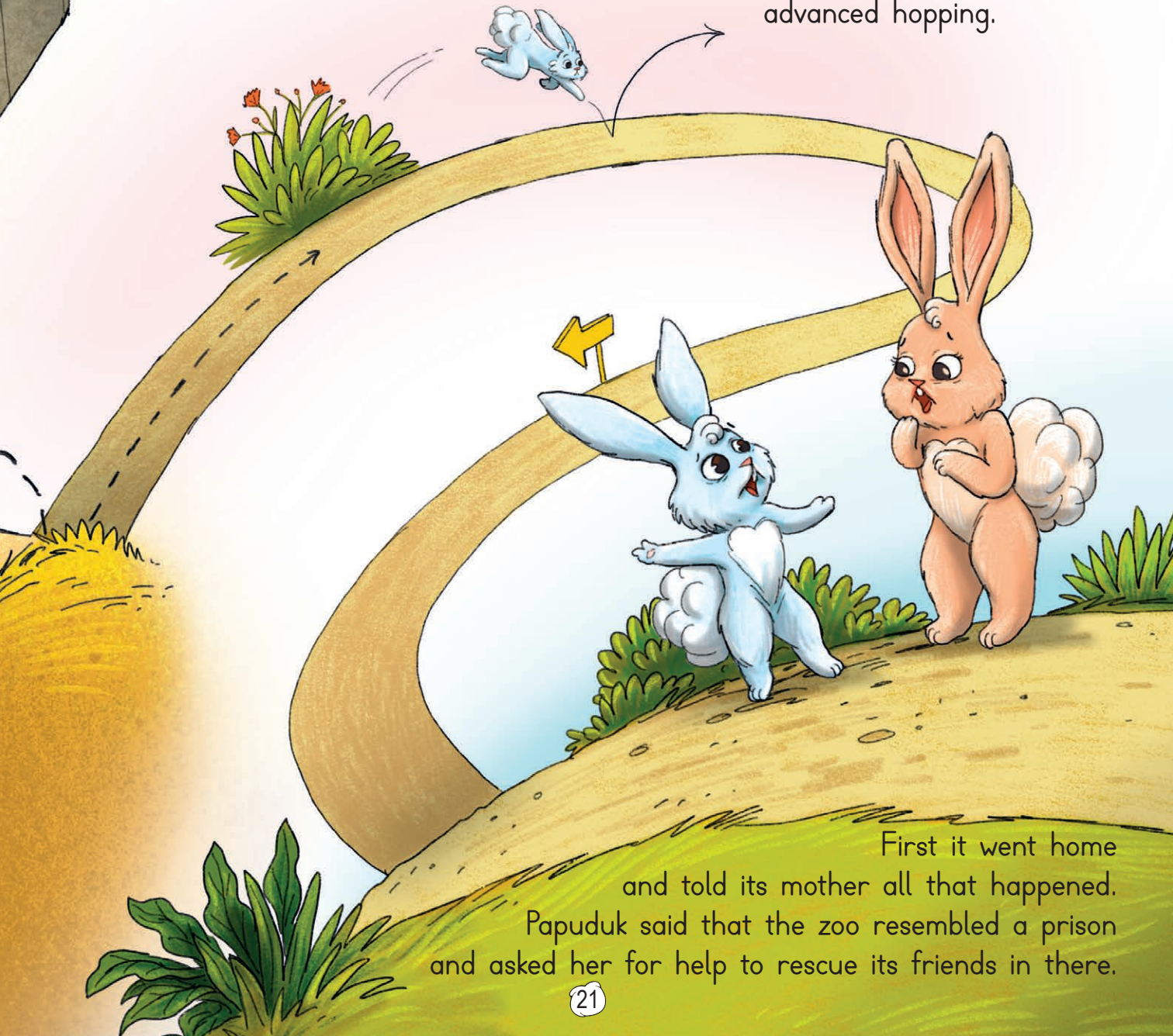
Papuduk whispered:
"Raja, I have news from your mother."



Very glad to hear that there was news from its mother Raja began to beat its ears as if it was to fly. Papuduk entered the cage passing through the rails, told something in Raja's ear and then began to run to the cage of the rabbits.



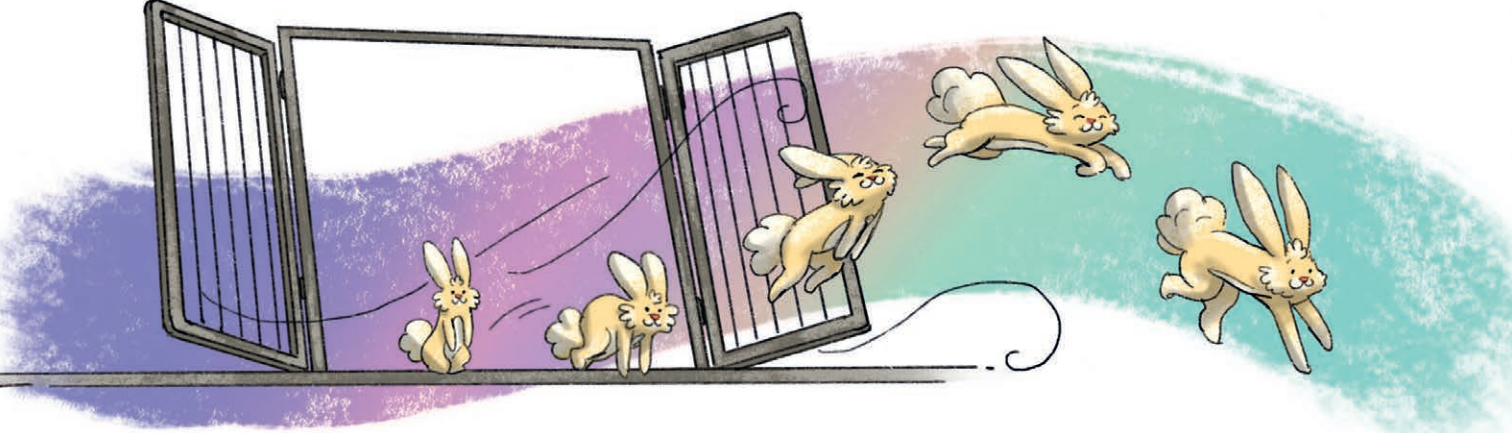
As soon as it saw the rabbits in the cage, Papuduk's eyes filled with tears. After it told them about its plan, it again jumped into the tunnel and advanced hopping.



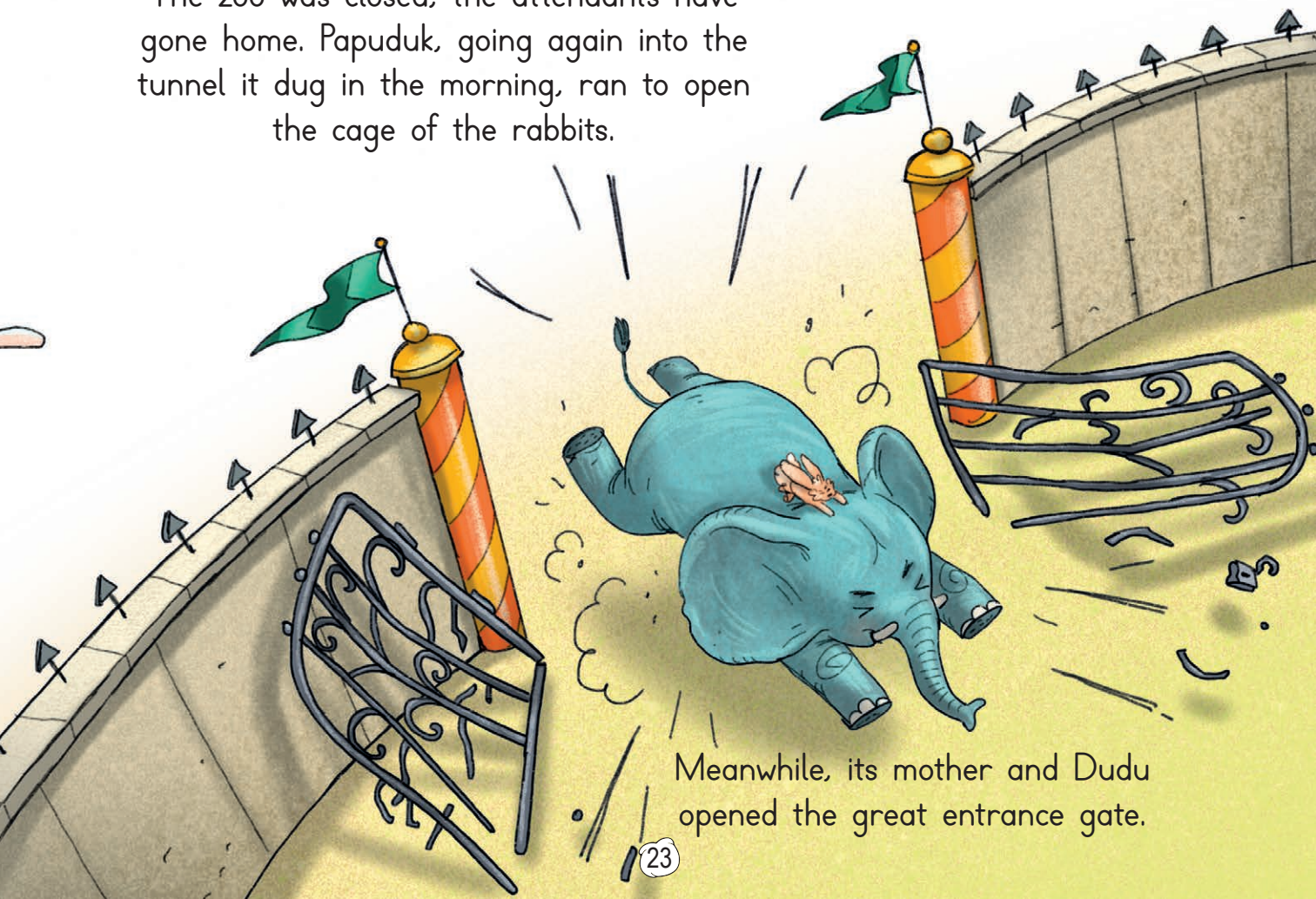
First it went home and told its mother all that happened. Papuduk said that the zoo resembled a prison and asked her for help to rescue its friends in there.



They started out to meet Dudu waiting in the forest of lofty trees.
When Dudu saw them, she took Papuduk and its mother
on her back and they reached the zoo as it was getting dark.



The zoo was closed, the attendants have gone home. Papuduk, going again into the tunnel it dug in the morning, ran to open the cage of the rabbits.



Meanwhile, its mother and Dudu opened the great entrance gate.



Rabbits spread in the zoo and opening all cages to set all species free. Many animals would be emancipated again. As for some, they would go to the woods for the first time.

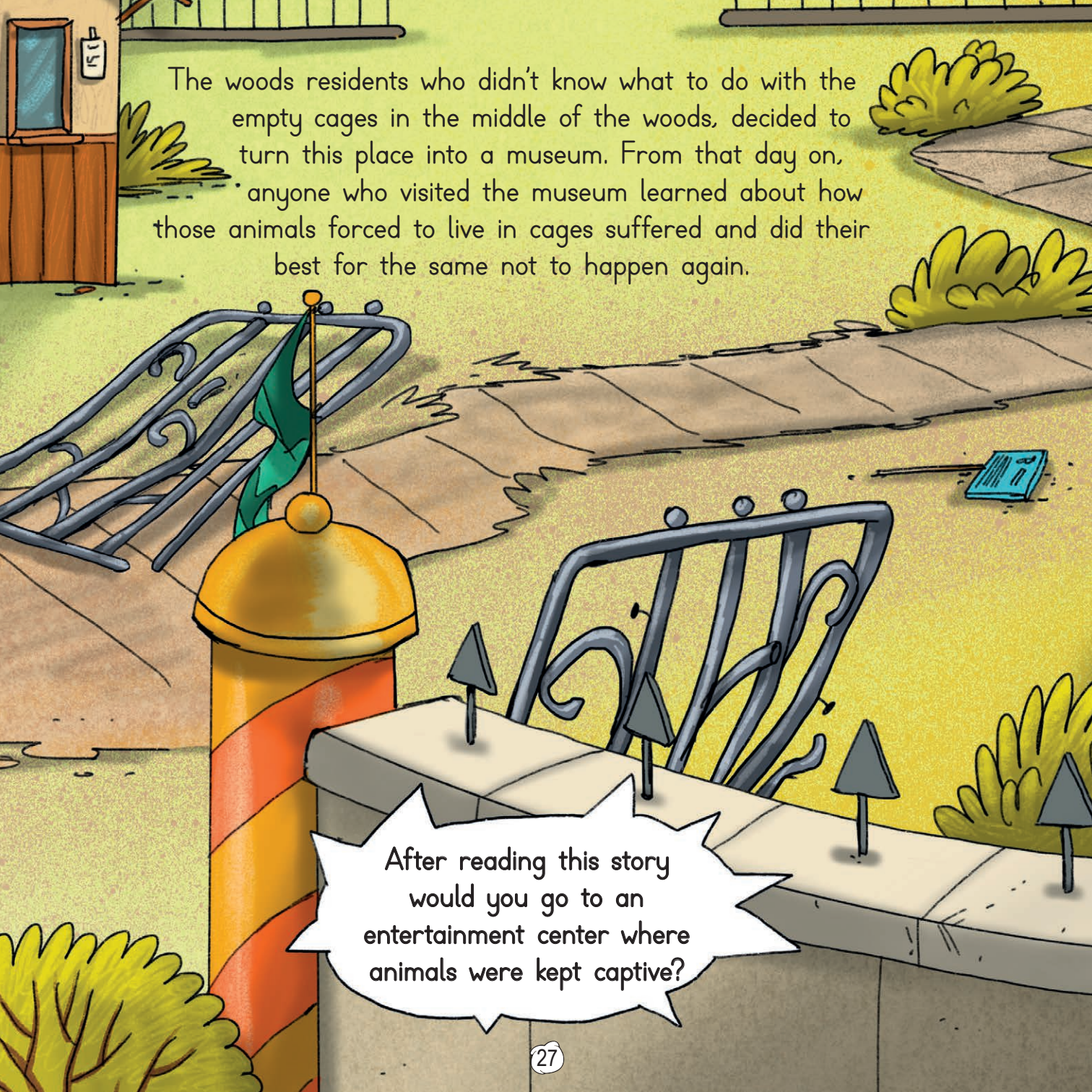




Papuduk opened Raja's cage finally and mingling in the crowd, ran towards the entrance gate. Seeing its mother at the front of the door, Raja hugged her straightaway. Then all the animals thanked Papuduk and also Dudu who didn't leave them and go away even though she had managed to escape. They congratulated them on their bravery and ran into the depths of the woods with all their might.



The next day the attendants did not know what to do when they came to the zoo and found all the cages empty. They left the zoo with no animals as it was and went home, never to return.



The woods residents who didn't know what to do with the empty cages in the middle of the woods, decided to turn this place into a museum. From that day on, anyone who visited the museum learned about how those animals forced to live in cages suffered and did their best for the same not to happen again.

After reading this story
would you go to an
entertainment center where
animals were kept captive?


PLAYTIME

A museum in the middle of the woods made up of empty cages! Just think how these animals forced to live in these cages suffered! But the good side of it is the idea to set up such a museum. Thus the other creatures who visit the museum will have the opportunity to see and experience under what circumstances the animals once lived here.

Come now, let us also help the founding of this museum. First of all, we have to find a name for the museum. What should the name of this museum be?



WHEN YOU FIND A NAME FOR
THE MUSEUM SAY IT OUT LOUD






Since we have found a name for the museum, we can pass to the next stage.




You should have seen it if you have gone to other museums. Beside the works of art in the museum there are information panels for them as well. On these panels there is information like where that work of art was found, which era did it belong to, and what was it used for.



We need such an information panel for our museum also, but our panel will be a little bit different.

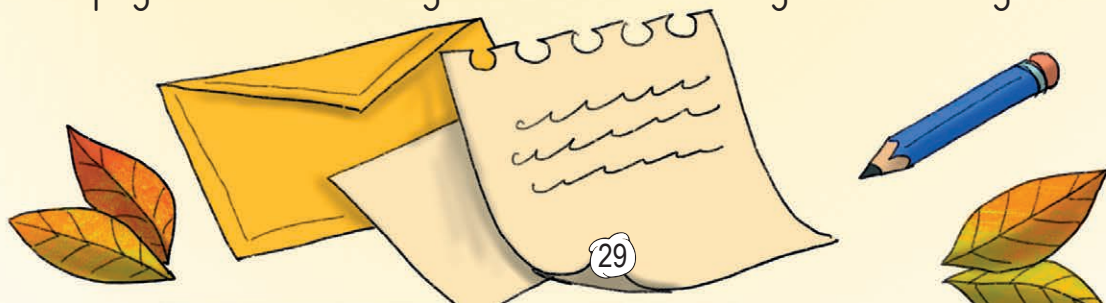


Our information panels will be at the entrance of every cage; on them which animal lived in that cage, what it felt while living here and what it couldn't do in nature while it was stranded in here will be written. In fact, you can think of these information panels as letters written to visitors.



Here we go. Put yourself in some animal's place: You have been held captive in these cages under difficult conditions. You were forced to live here. What did you feel through this process? What would you like to tell the people coming to visit this cage?

If you write what you want to say in the form of a letter and put it between the pages of this book, your words will also give ideas to your friends.



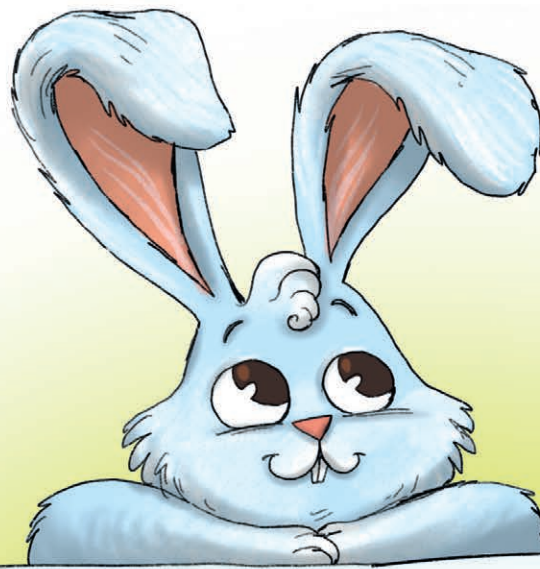
LET'S ANSWER

1. Do you remember the lofty pine trees that I encountered in the woods before I saw the zoo? Can you tell how we determined the age of these lofty trees?

2. When I first saw Dudu in the woods I was somewhat frightened and started to run away. Why do you think I was afraid and felt the need to run away?

3. After listening to the zoo story that Dudu told me I decided to help her. How about you? What do you do if a friend asks for any help from you? Your first answer may be "I would help". But what I want to hear from you is under what conditions would you help the person who asks you for help and under what conditions you wouldn't.

4. There's a very simple question that troubles me: Why do humans build zoos and lock animals up in these cages?



5. There are some animals that are face to face with the danger of becoming extinct. Some people assist these animals so that they will not become extinct. Come, let's prepare with you a new content for a zoo. It will be a zoo where animals under the danger of extinction or in need of care will stay or get treated for a short while. What do you think should be the features of this new generation zoo?

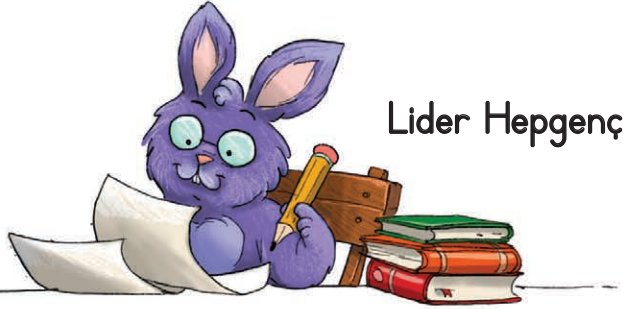
6. I'm not sure if you know it but safari tours are being organized in Africa. The aim of these tours is to see and study animals in wildlife at close range. People while in this tour of course go around in sheltered vehicles and see the animals closely without disturbing them.
Can you compare these safari tours with zoos?

Tolga Öztoran



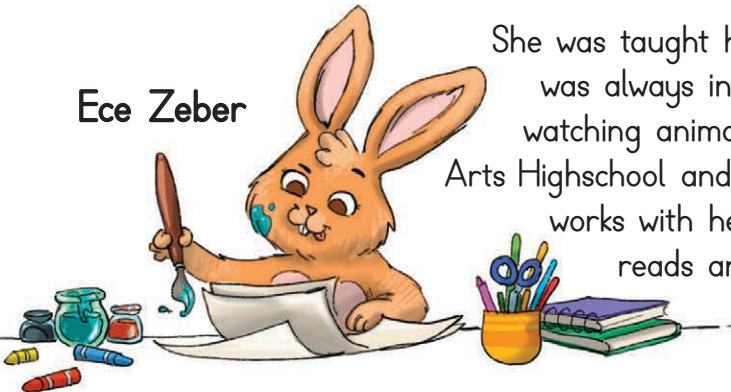
Born in Istanbul in 1977, he graduated from Sakarya University and worked in event companies. He dedicated half of his life to the freedom struggle of stray animals. He shot short films, made radio programs, trained children. He was chosen as Difference Maker by the Sabancı Foundation. He lives in Istanbul and shares his home with a great number of disabled animals.

Lider Hepgenç

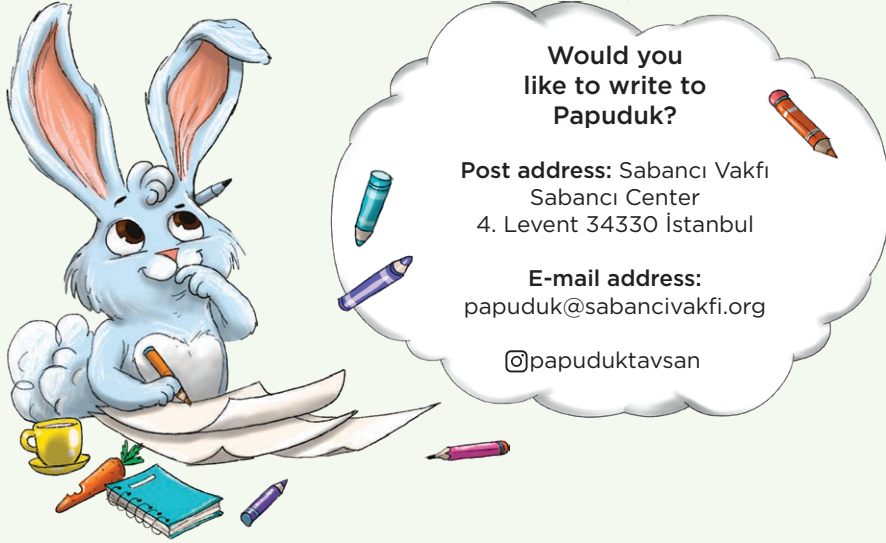


He was born in Izmir in 1987. While serving as sergeant, he decided to let go of his military career and go ahead with his life as creative drama instructor. Ever since, he has carried on creative drama work with children in museums, bookstores, and schools, also writing children's books. He tries to lead a life full of games with his son Adem, his cats Sütlaç and Sufle.

Ece Zeber



She was taught how to draw by her mother and father. She was always interested in drawing, also reading books and watching animation films. She studied Art at Balıkesir Fine Arts Highschool and Animation at Anatolia University. Now she works with her husband from home in Eskişehir. She still reads and illustrates children's books and fantasizes.



Papuduk and the Great Big Elephant

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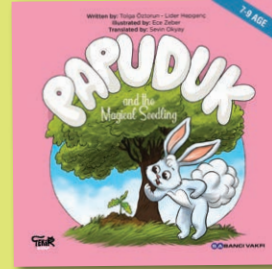
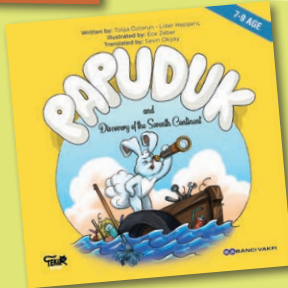
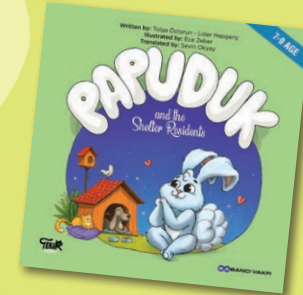
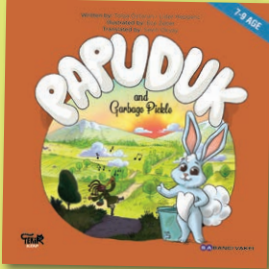
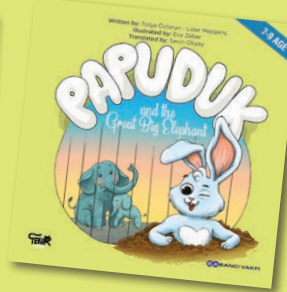
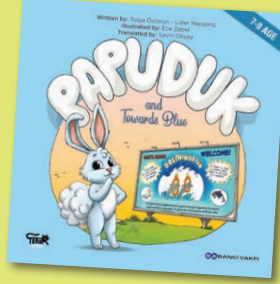
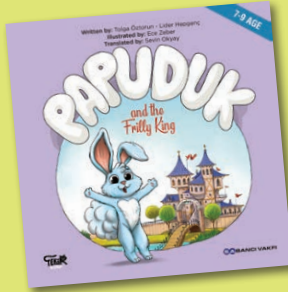
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SABANCI VAKFI





You will love Papuduk who embarks on a new adventure in each book to dissuade people from acts that harm animals and nature.