

7-9 AGE

Written by: Tolga Öztörün - Lider Hepgenç

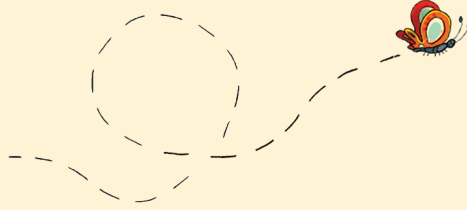
Illustrated by: Ece Zeber

Translated by: Sevin Okyay

PARVODUK

and
Discovery of the Seventh Continent





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 DISCOVERY OF THE SEVENTH CONTINENT



That morning Papuduk woke up with the sunlight filtering in through the window. As it opened its eyes it immediately looked at the calendar.

"Hooray! Today is the 21st day of March!" it rejoiced. As it learned at school, March 21st was the day that spring began! Papuduk liked summer best but the coming of spring also excited it a lot.



"First, flowers of all colours will bloom, migratory birds will come back, trees will turn green, it will become warmer day by day and finally a wonderful summer will start!" Papuduk thought. It remembered that last year they went to the sea with friends and family, imagining it was again swimming with them.



Under the influence of its happy reveries, Papuduk had its breakfast joyfully. Just when it finished it, someone knocked on the door.

Standing at the door was Curly Lamb, Papuduk's close friend from school.

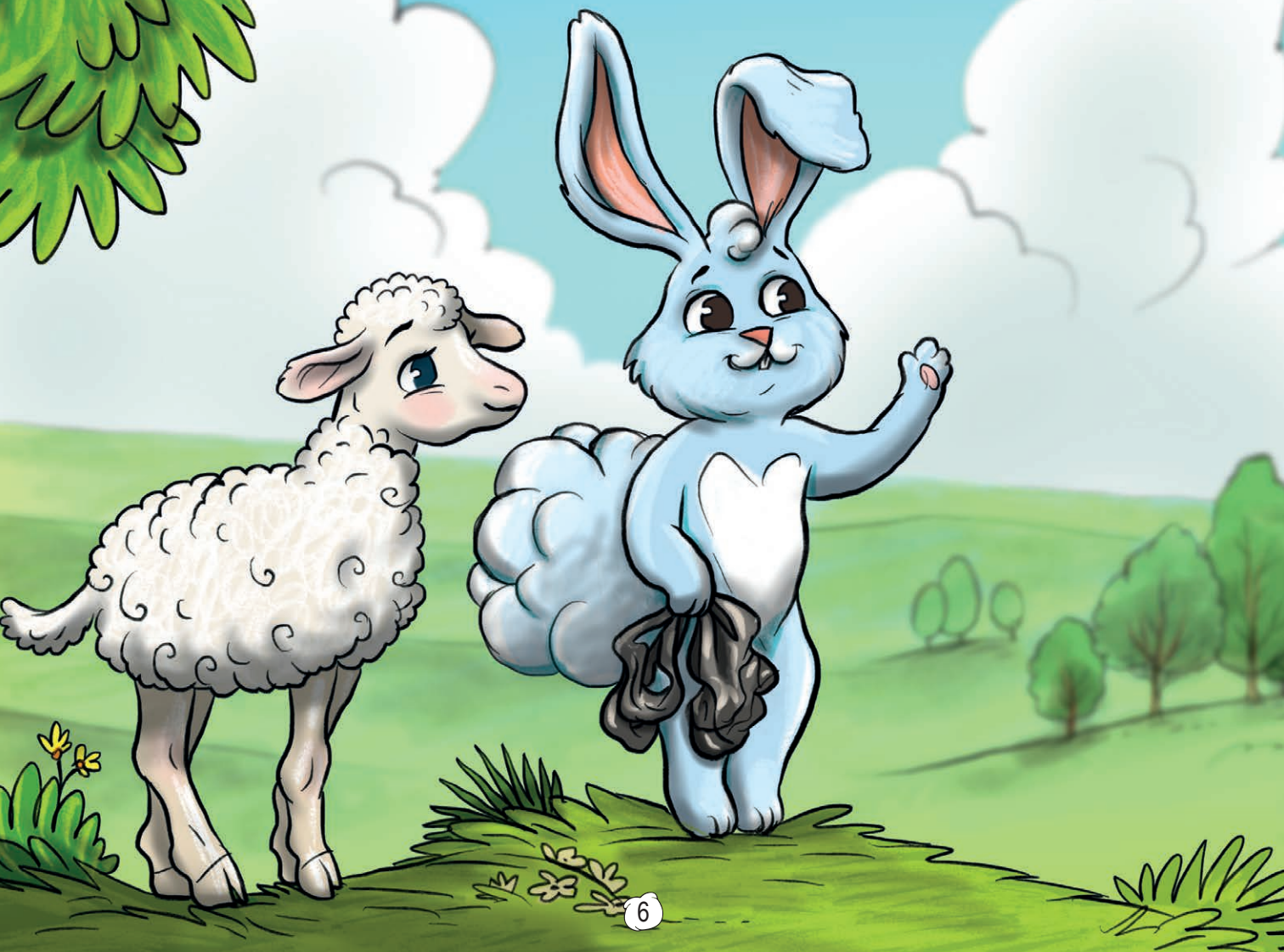


Getting its mother's permission, Papuduk set off with Curly Lamb to go to the seaside. They had a long walk in the woods. They met their school friends, had chats with them, played games and proceeded towards the shore.

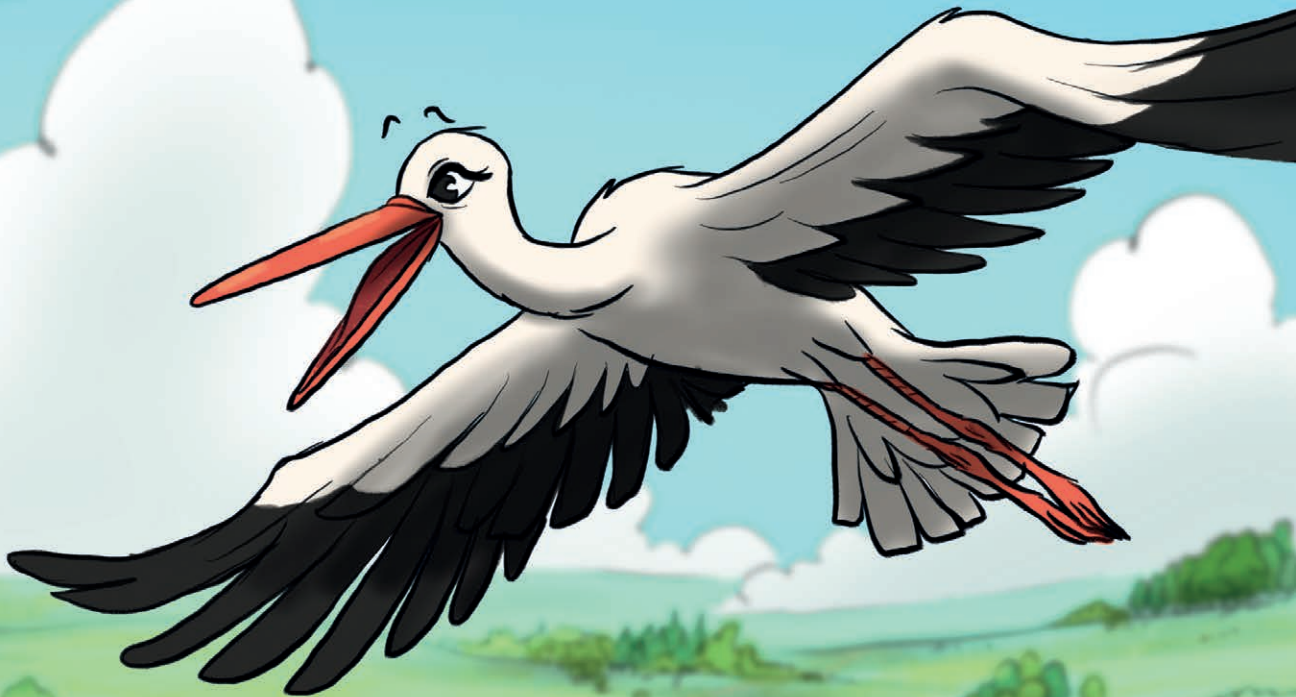


On the way there, they saw a stork standing in the middle of the woods with its lanky legs and very sharp bill. Papuduk turned to its friend at once and told it that storks who migrate in autumn come back in March. When they got close to the stork, they noticed that a plastic bag was wrapped around its bill. The stork who couldn't get rid of the bag looked very upset.

Calling it, they said that they can help. Papuduk, climbing on the back of Curly Lamb, took the bag from the bill of the stork. Thanking them, the stork told that when looking for food this bag wrapped around its bill.

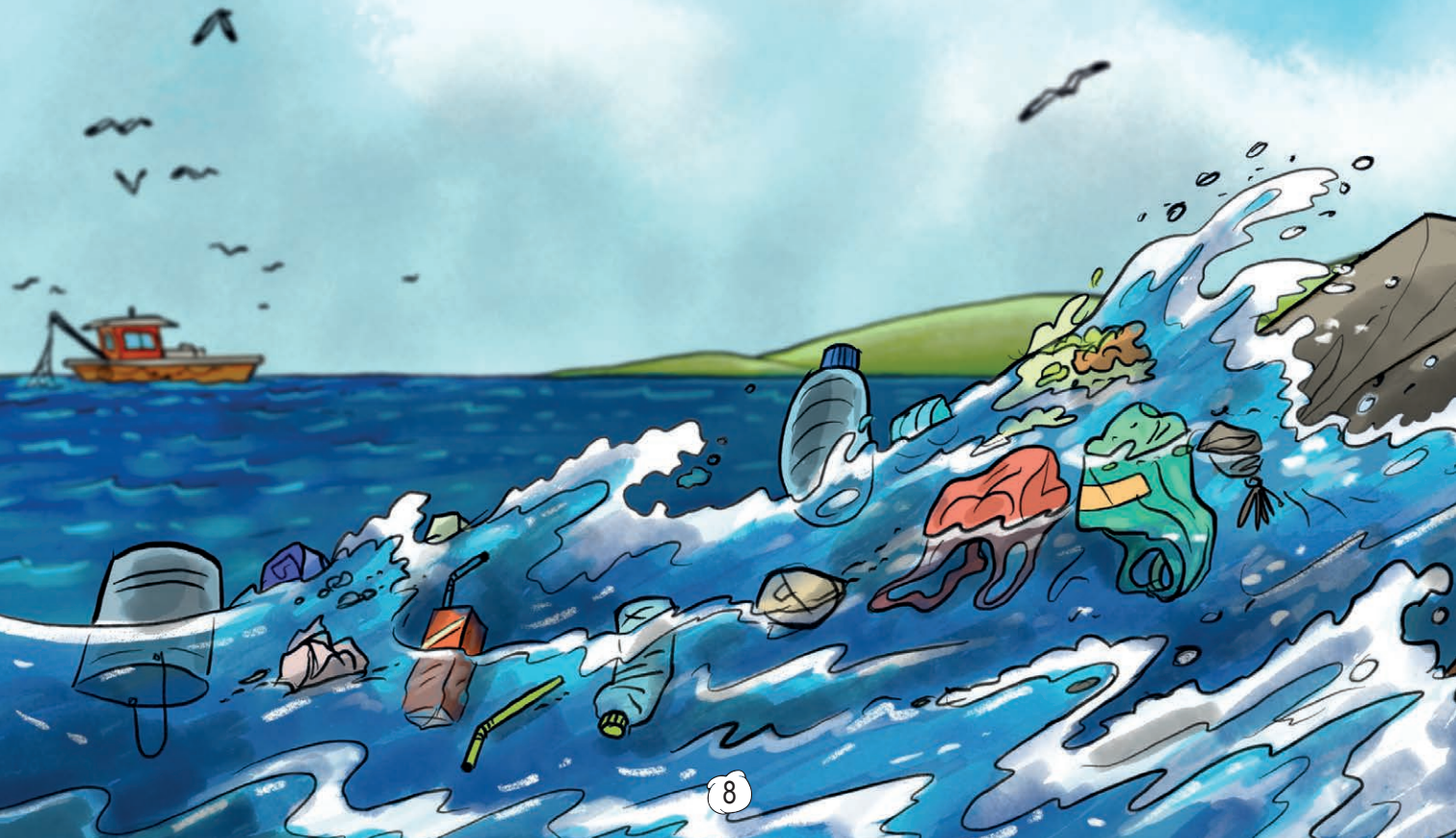


"If you didn't help me, I don't know how I would manage to get rid of it," it added. Thanking them again it flew afar.



Papuduk and Curly Lamb, very happy to have helped the stork, went on their way. Papuduk was much excited that it was about to see the beautiful sea it imagined when it woke up in the morning. When it reached the shore however,

Papuduk was shocked and very upset. Because the sea was not like what it expected at all. The shore was full of garbage. The sand was covered with a lot of plastic, paper and all kinds of food waste. When those lovely waves beat the shore they would embrace the garbage and then the sea would be covered with it. Papuduk was surprised that this much garbage could collect here, because the most it saw collected anywhere was in the garbage bin at home.

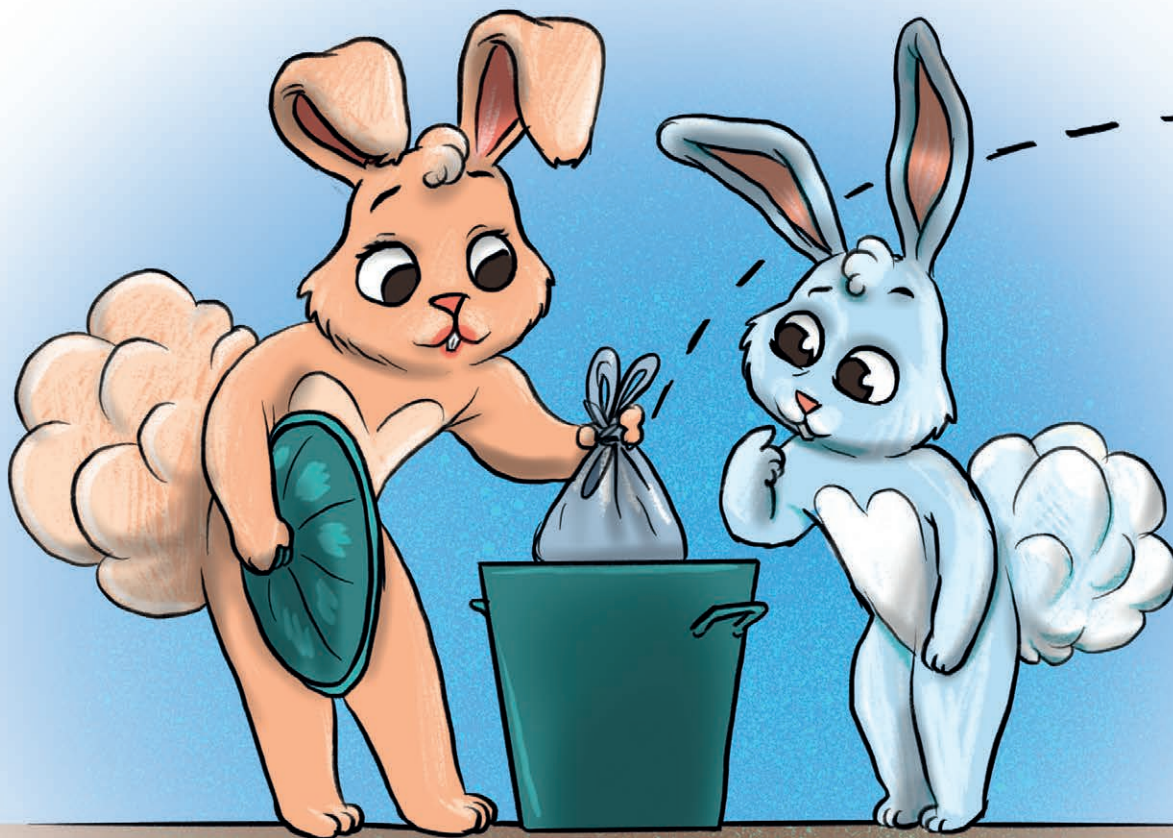




The minute it arrived at home, Papuduk went to the garbage bin. It opened the lid of the bin and started looking at what was inside.

The first thing that drew its attention was the plastic bags that it used to throw the garbage in. Papuduk thought of how many bags like these it saw at the shore. The garbage bin was also full of plastic water bottles that it saw at the sea; apple and carrot waste, paper napkins left over from breakfast, jam jars, tin cans and straws.

So many of the straws of all colours that they used at each meal! And there were also fruit juice boxes and a carrot pizza in the garbage.



Papuduk thought that for just two persons this garbage was too much.

It felt that it should do something about these wastes.



And Papuduk decided to search on the internet for whatever it could do on the subject of garbage. While searching, it learned something entirely new. Garbage did not only collect on their shores, but plastic wastes also collected in seas and oceans elsewhere. In fact, the collection in the Pacific Ocean was so huge that it was called the "Seventh Continent" as it was as large as a continent.



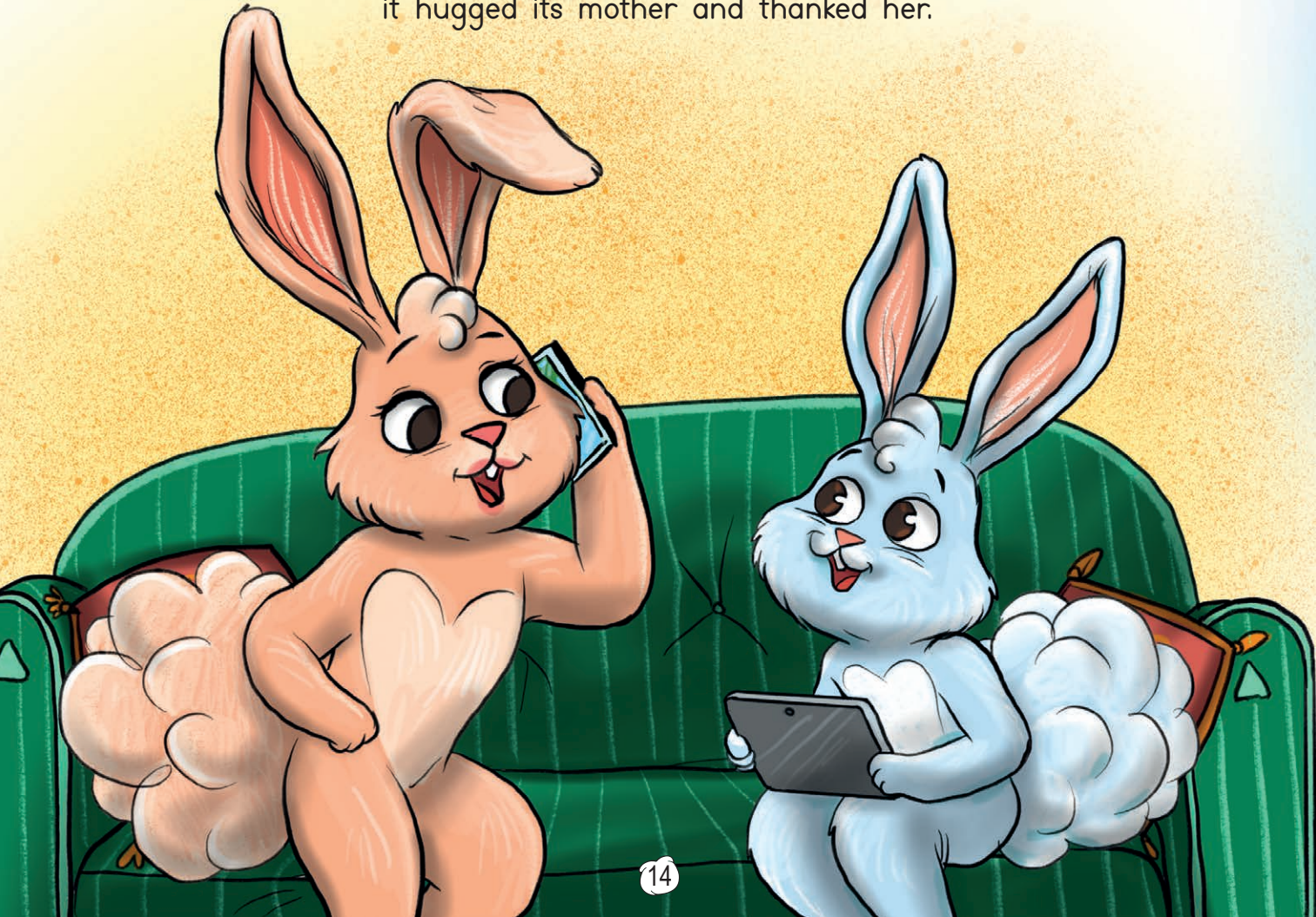
What about you? Did you ever search the internet?

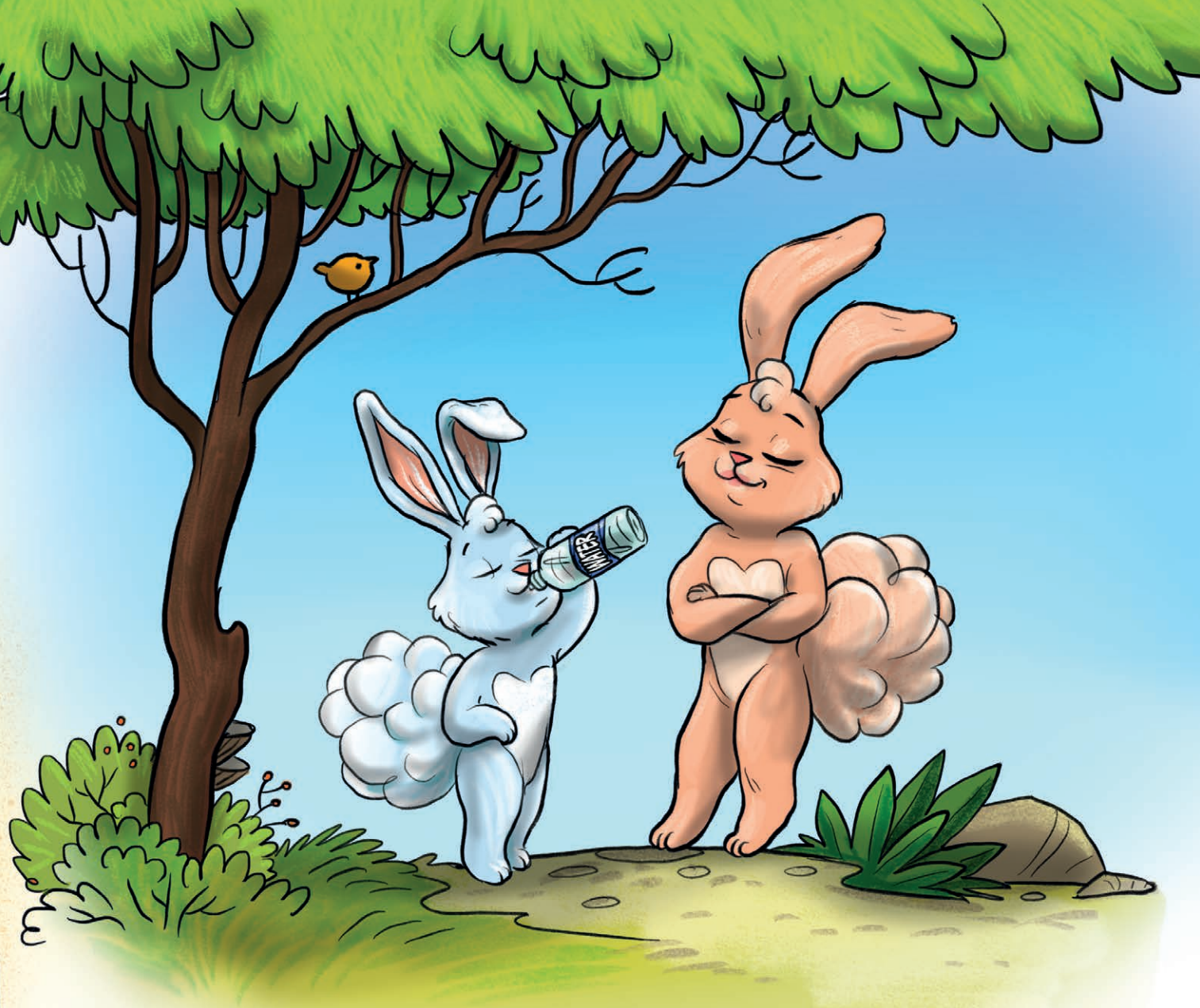
A specialist talking on video said:



Too much plastic is used in our world and it always ends up as garbage. However nature cannot dispose of these plastics. So these plastics are carried by the currents in the seas and re-collected in the middle of the ocean and a new continent is formed. Unfortunately we have created this Seventh Continent made up of plastic wastes all together. The person who discovered this continent is a ship captain Charles Moore. While he sailed to California with his ship and crew, right at the North Pacific Cycle they came across this new continent the existence of which no one knew of.

Papuduk told all that it learned from the internet to its mother. It asked her what to do about these plastic wastes. Its mother told Papuduk that if it wanted she could take it to the garbage collection and waste center and that they can be informed by the authorities there on this subject. The thought that it would both learn new things and may be of service to the world made Papuduk happy. Bursting with joy, it hugged its mother and thanked her.



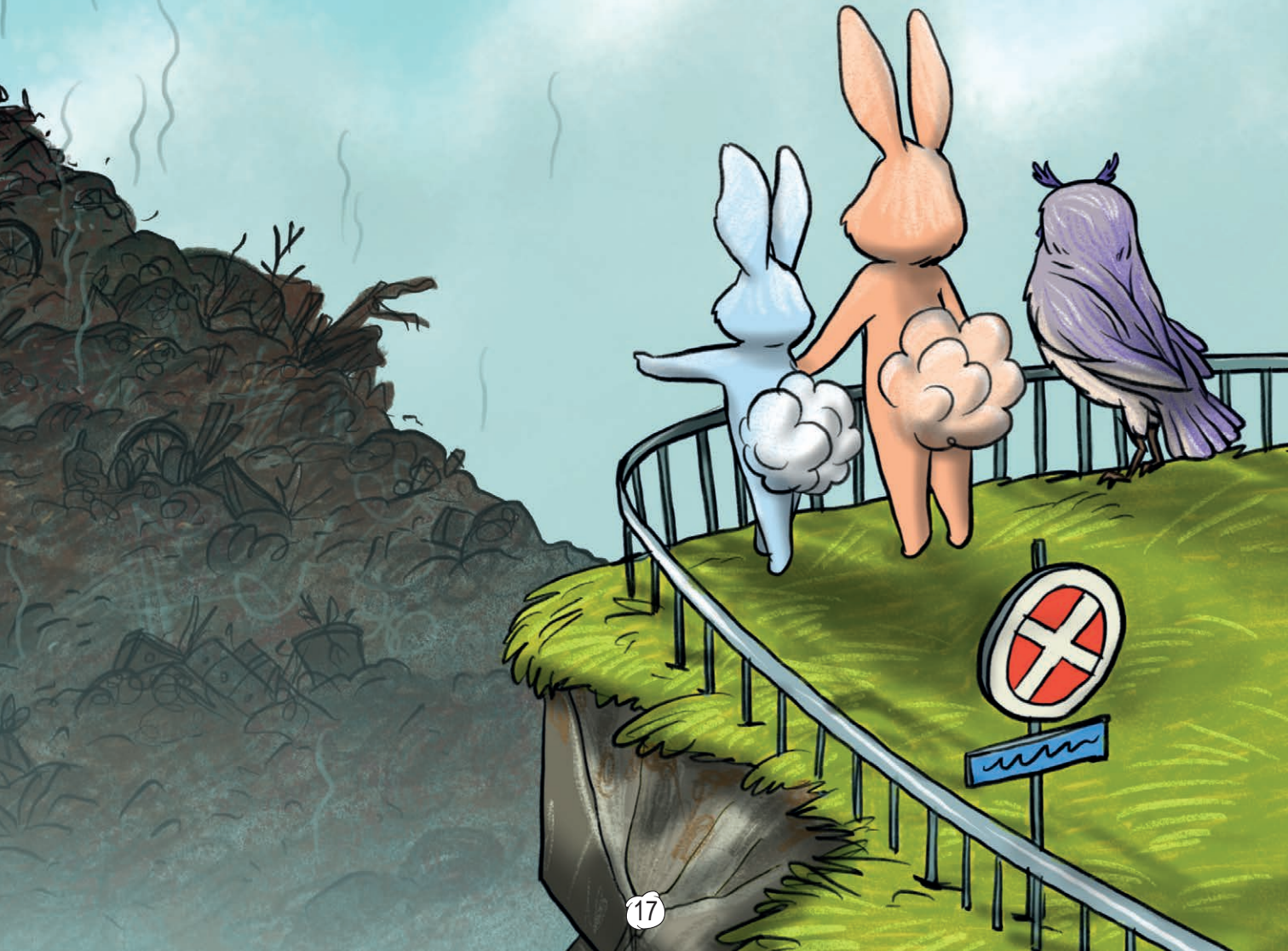


Its mother immediately called the waste center and made an appointment. They set off after lunch. It was so hot that Papuduk became thirsty in a short while. They bought a small bottle of water and then went on their way.

When they got to the center,
they were welcomed by the owl.
After they met and greeted each other,
Papuduk told it about the stork they
encountered, the situation at the shore
and the Seventh Continent. The owl
rejoiced that a tiny rabbit was aware of
all these issues. It took Papuduk and its
mother to the place where the garbage
collected from the woods was stored.



So much garbage was there! Papuduk thought,
"If such enormous garbage comes out of this place only, then it's
normal to have a new continent of garbage in the world."



Afterwards they went back to the center.
The owl went on talking.



Papuduk! The bottle in your hand
will go to waste when you drink the water in it.
From now on you should also live as
a "volunteer" as regards waste.

Papuduk was a little ashamed that it was damaging the Earth without being aware of it.

Well then,
what can I do
about it?

In fact there are
things that anyone could
do. First of all, we are
responsible of our waste.



For example, you
can use a flask instead of a
disposable plastic water bottle.
Thus, every day several water
bottles will not go to waste.

When shopping,
you use a string bag
or cloth bag instead of
plastic bags.



Papuduk and its mother were proud
to tell it that they were already using cloth bags.

The owl then started to tell them about straws:



"The plastic straw that we only use for two minutes, takes about four hundred years to dissolve in nature. Instead of them you can use metal straws - actually can use one many times. But if you prefer to amuse then why not try macaroni like a straw? Or stop using straws for good."

Do you think we can live without using straws?



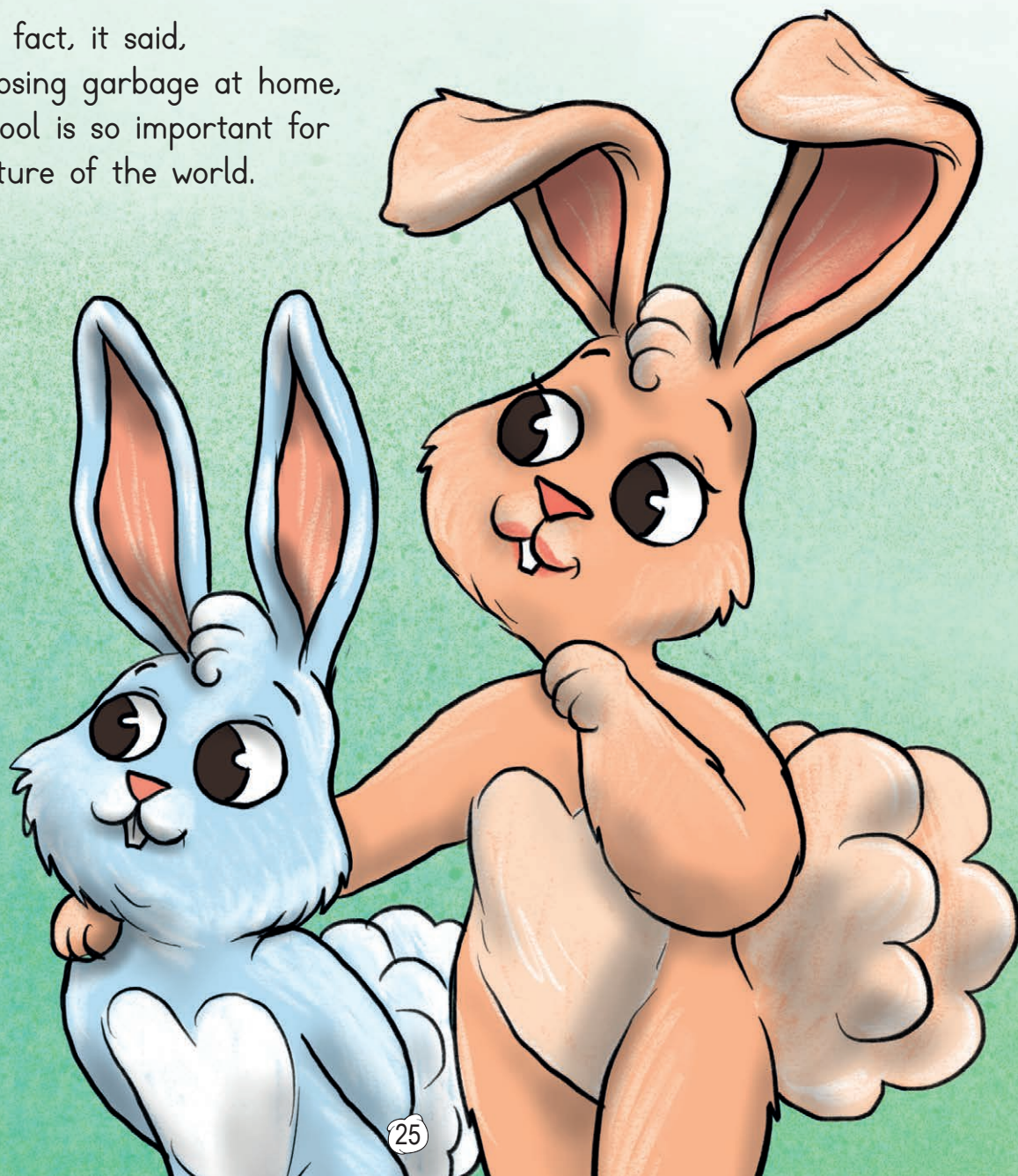
The owl said that fruit juice boxes do not enter recycling, and go to garbage without being re-evaluated. It added that as paper napkins also cannot go into recycling, towels can be used instead. So what is this recycling? It is the task of acquiring new products from stuff that are at the end of their bench life.



Then the owl turned the conversation to packaged foods. It told them that rather than packaged biscuits to buy cookies from bakeries or to consume cookies made at home. It also added that it's a splendid idea to put these cookies into paper bags that they can make at home. It told them that we can forestall squander by "shopping as much as we need" and thus we will prevent food we cannot consume timely to go to waste.



In fact, it said,
how decomposing garbage at home,
even at school is so important for
the future of the world.



Papuduk asked wonderingly:

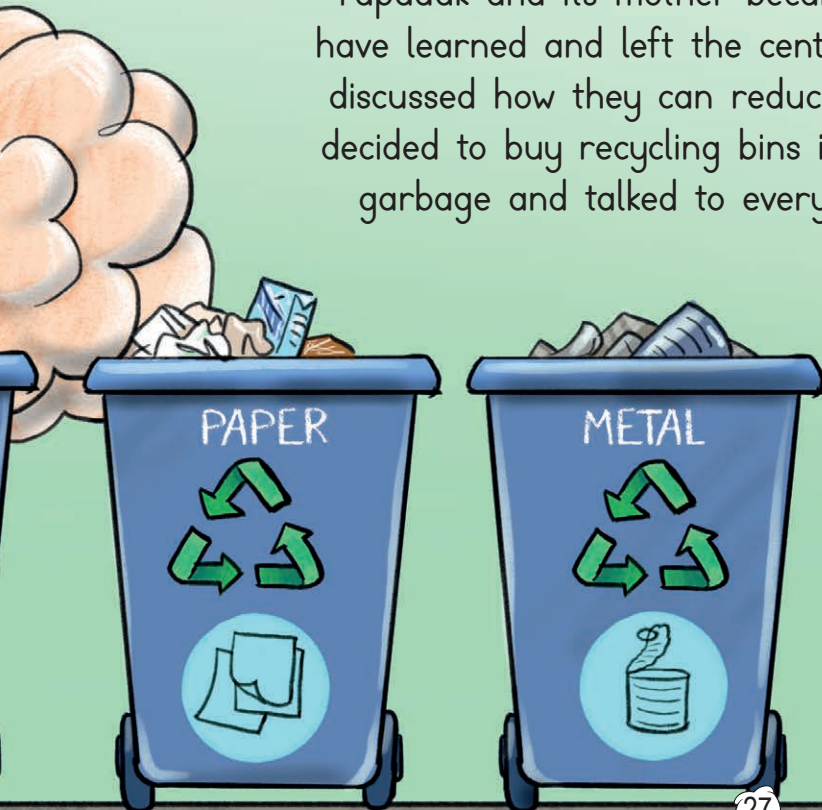
"How can we decompose garbage?"



The owl started to explain:

"Instead of putting all your garbage in a single bag, you can separate it as paper, glass, electronic waste, plastic, metal and domestic organic wastes. Thus many wastes can go to recycling and may be re-used and you will show the Earth the care it deserves, Papuduk."

Papuduk and its mother became very happy with what they have learned and left the center, thanking. Walking back, they discussed how they can reduce their own plastic waste. They decided to buy recycling bins in order to decompose domestic garbage and talked to everyone around them about this.



After reading
this story will you also
decompose waste?





PLAYTIME

Poor stork... How would it be now if we hadn't encountered it on the road? What if there are other animals affected by this garbage?

What if the Seventh Continent consisting of garbage gets bigger and bigger and covers all the seas? What will we do then?

How will all creatures living in the sea, and even the whole ecosystem be affected by this?

Don't let's depress ourselves anymore. The damage is done. Let us focus on what to do after this, how we can prevent this situation to turn into a larger disaster. What we will do is in fact very simple.

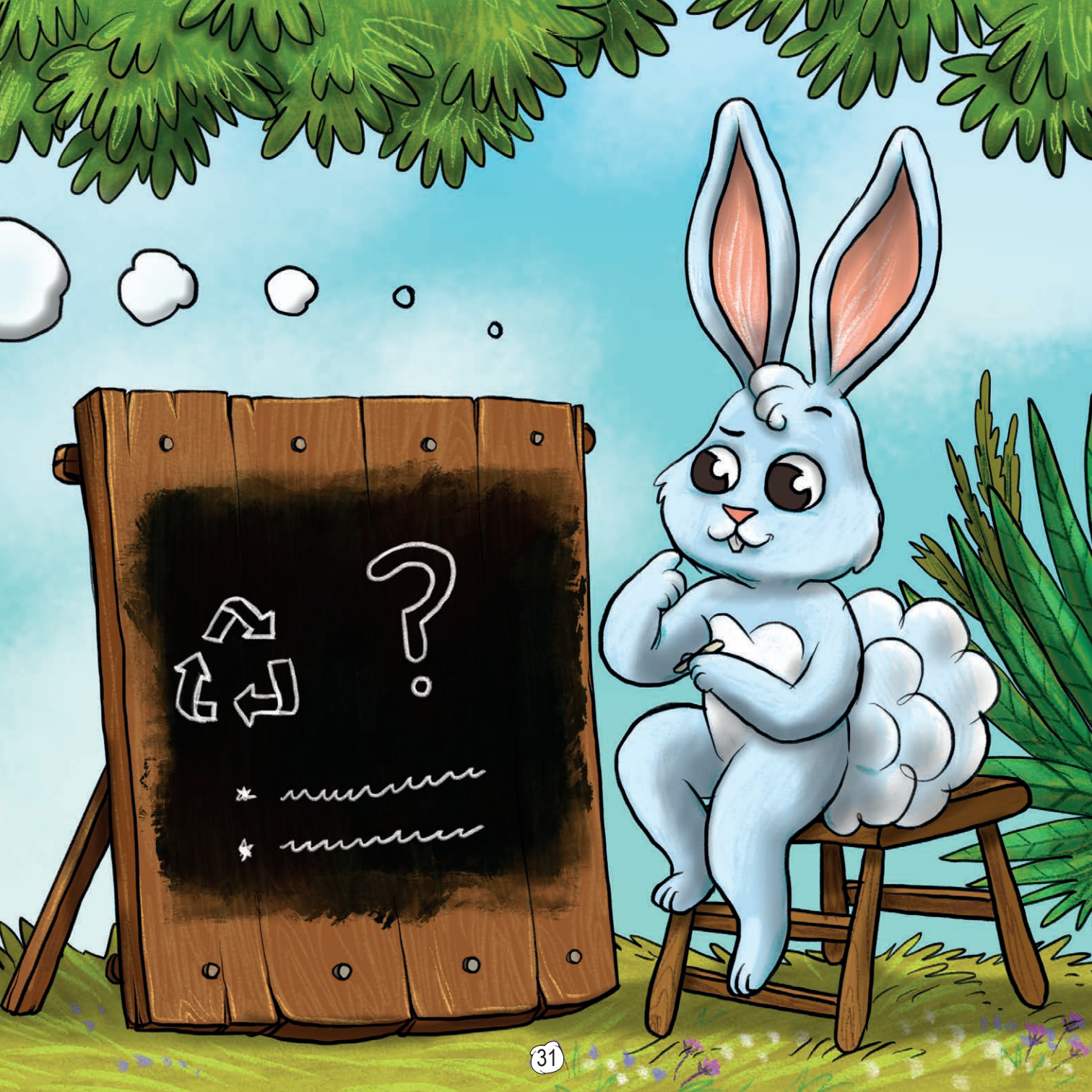
We'll start with our own house. We will decompose and collect the garbage of our house and throw it out in the waste bins in the neighborhood for recycling. If there are no waste bins in your neighborhood for garbage you have collected and decomposed, then you can leave them at a collection and waste center yourself. Or else you may get in contact with your municipality and request them to put waste bins in your neighborhood.

Moreover, it helps to use as little plastic material as possible. The less we use plastic, the lifetime of our world will be longer.

Don't forget: There is only one world we live on and we have to take good care of it.

LET'S ANSWER

1. Do you remember which continent made up of garbage is the one in the middle of the ocean?
2. From where and how would this garbage that merges and makes up a huge continent in the middle of the ocean may have come from?
3. The gigantic continent composed of garbage was accidentally discovered by a ship captain. There may be environmental disasters of this kind in the world that we are not aware of. What can be done so that we will not leave keeping abreast of such environment disasters to chance? (Following the associations and NGOs that carry on work on environment and websites and journals that make such publication, and so on) What comes to your mind?
4. Right now there is an enormous garbage continent in the middle of the ocean. How can we clean this garbage? Furthermore, let's suppose that we did clean it and as a result, decomposed waste that could be reintroduced to recycling from this garbage. What processes would these wastes go through to enter use again?
5. We drink some boxed beverages with a straw because a tiny hole has been opened on it. We cannot drink them if there were without straws. Alright then, what if there was a beverage box that left no need to straw? I think that you can design such a beverage box. What about sharing your design with the people in the universe?
6. Thinking that there is no other planet for us to live on apart from Earth which is our one and only home, what do you think can be done to make people more sensitive to the subject of environment?



Tolga Öztoran



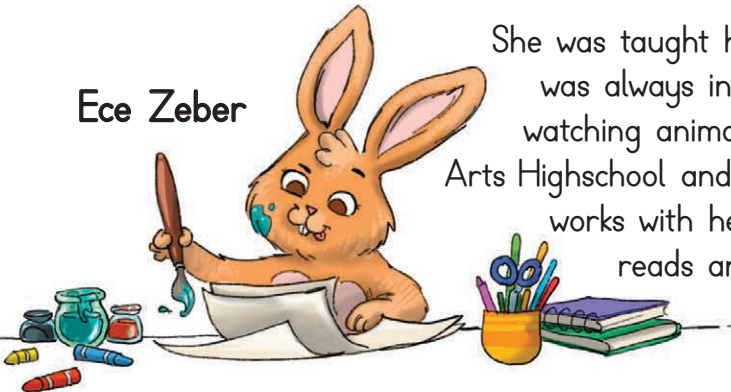
Born in Istanbul in 1977, he graduated from Sakarya University and worked in event companies. He dedicated half of his life to the freedom struggle of stray animals. He shot short films, made radio programs, trained children. He was chosen as Difference Maker by the Sabancı Foundation. He lives in Istanbul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

Lider Hepgenç

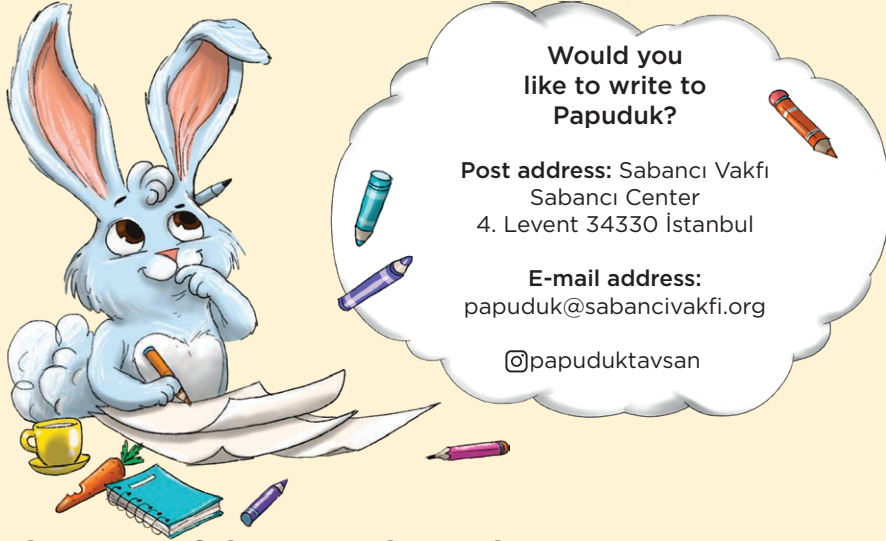


He was born in Izmir in 1987. While serving as sergeant, he decided to let go of his military career and go ahead with his life as creative drama instructor. Ever since, he has carried on creative drama work with children in museums, bookstores, and schools, also writing children's books. He tries to 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 Discovery of the Seventh Continent

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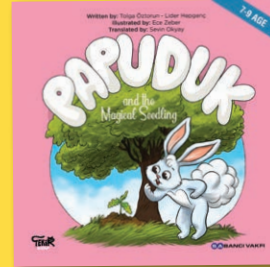
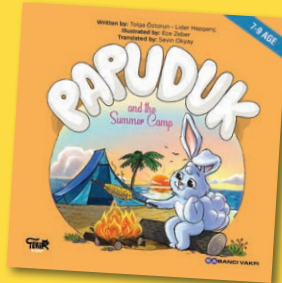
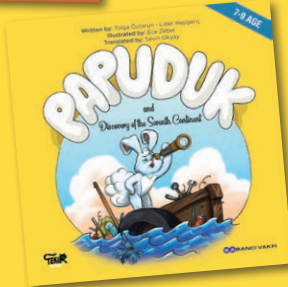
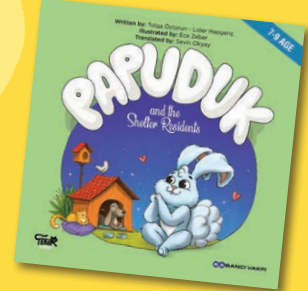
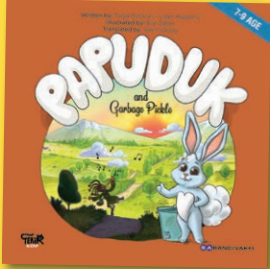
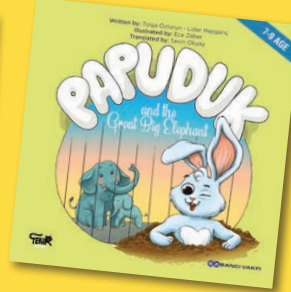
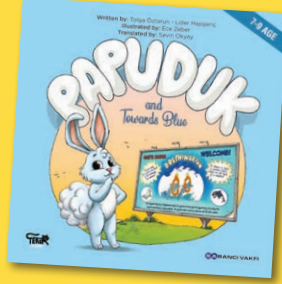
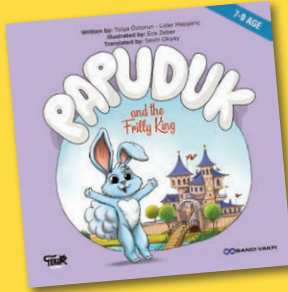
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SABANCI VAKFI





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