

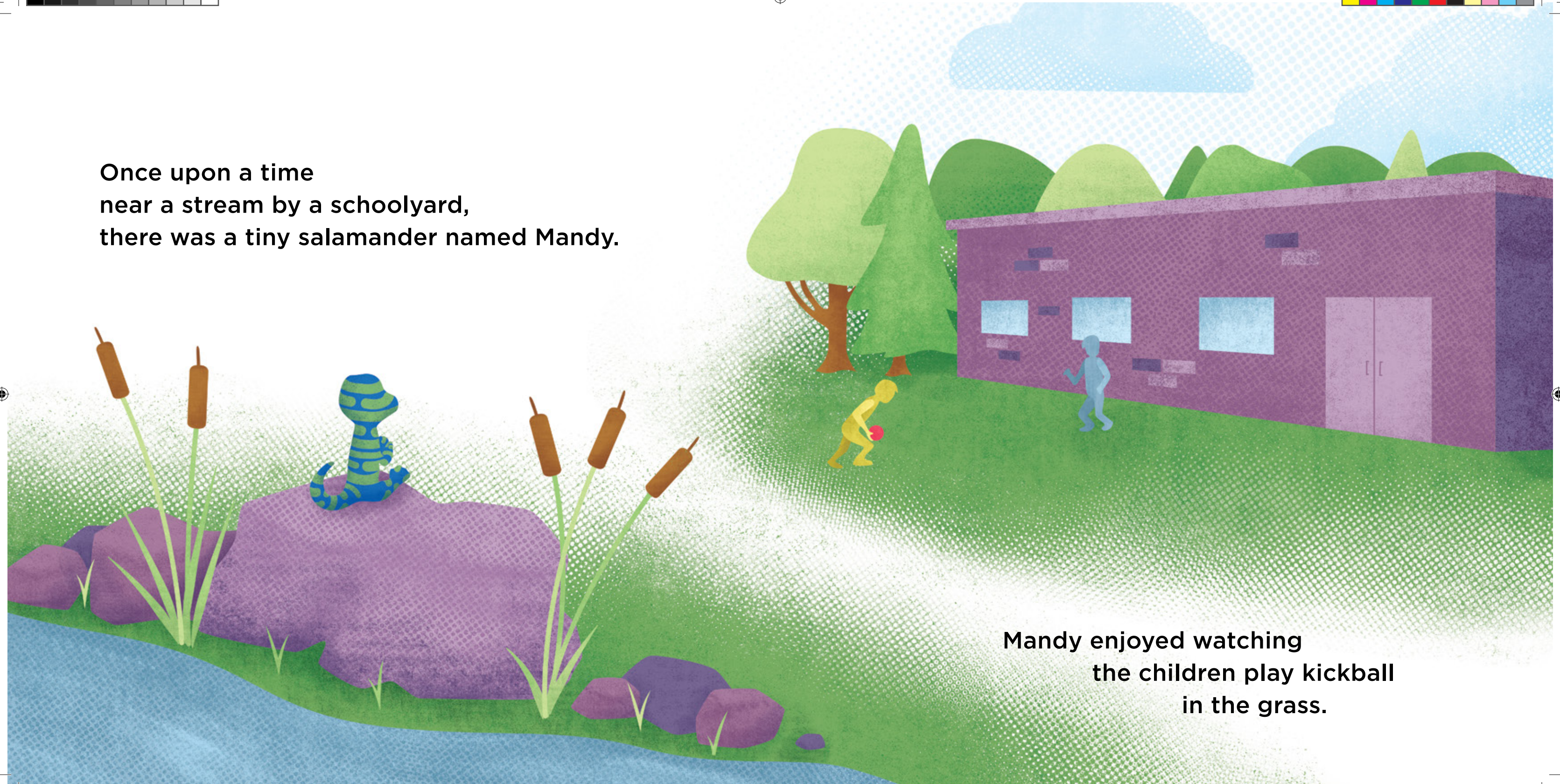


MANDY THE SALAMANDER

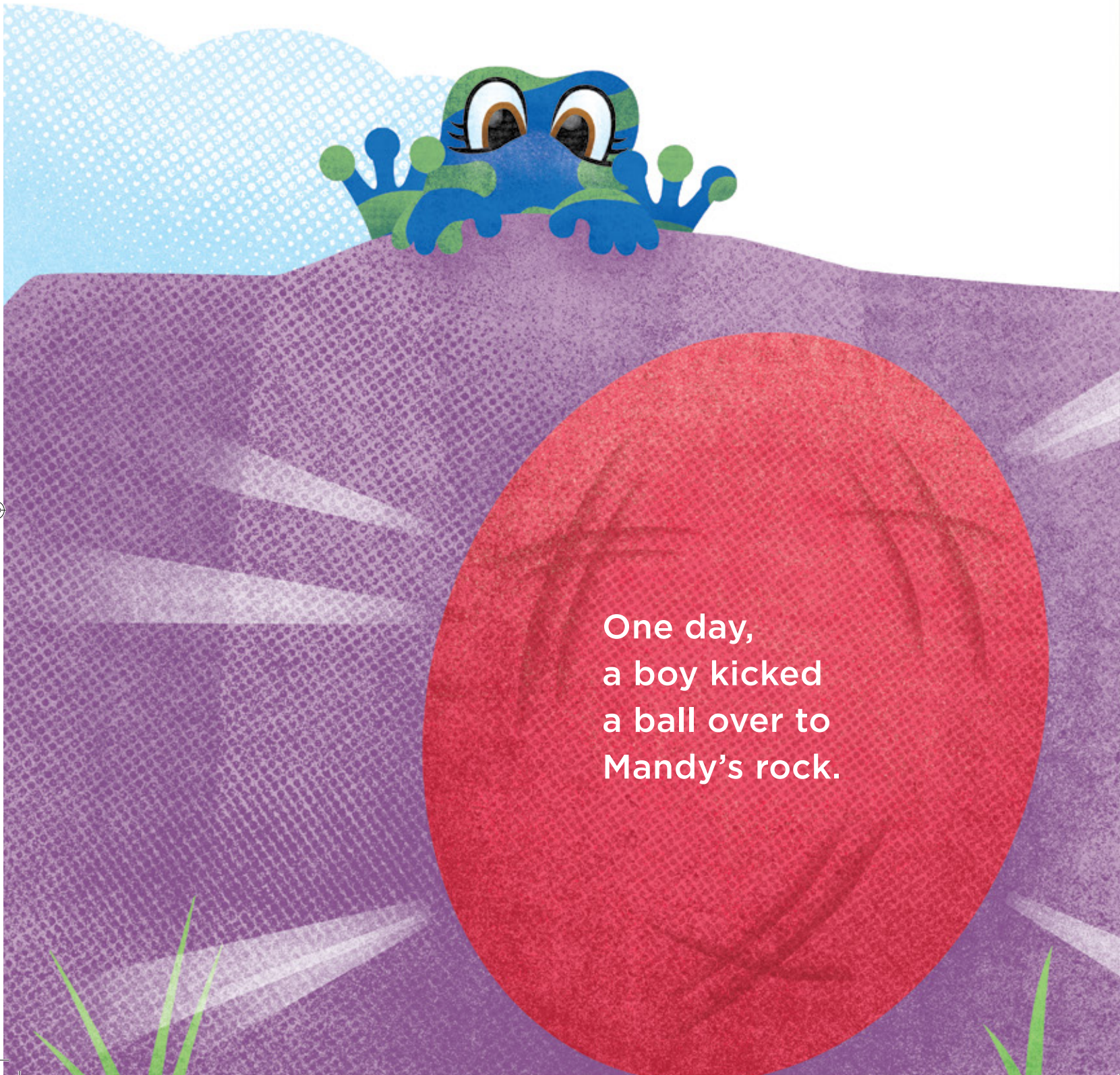




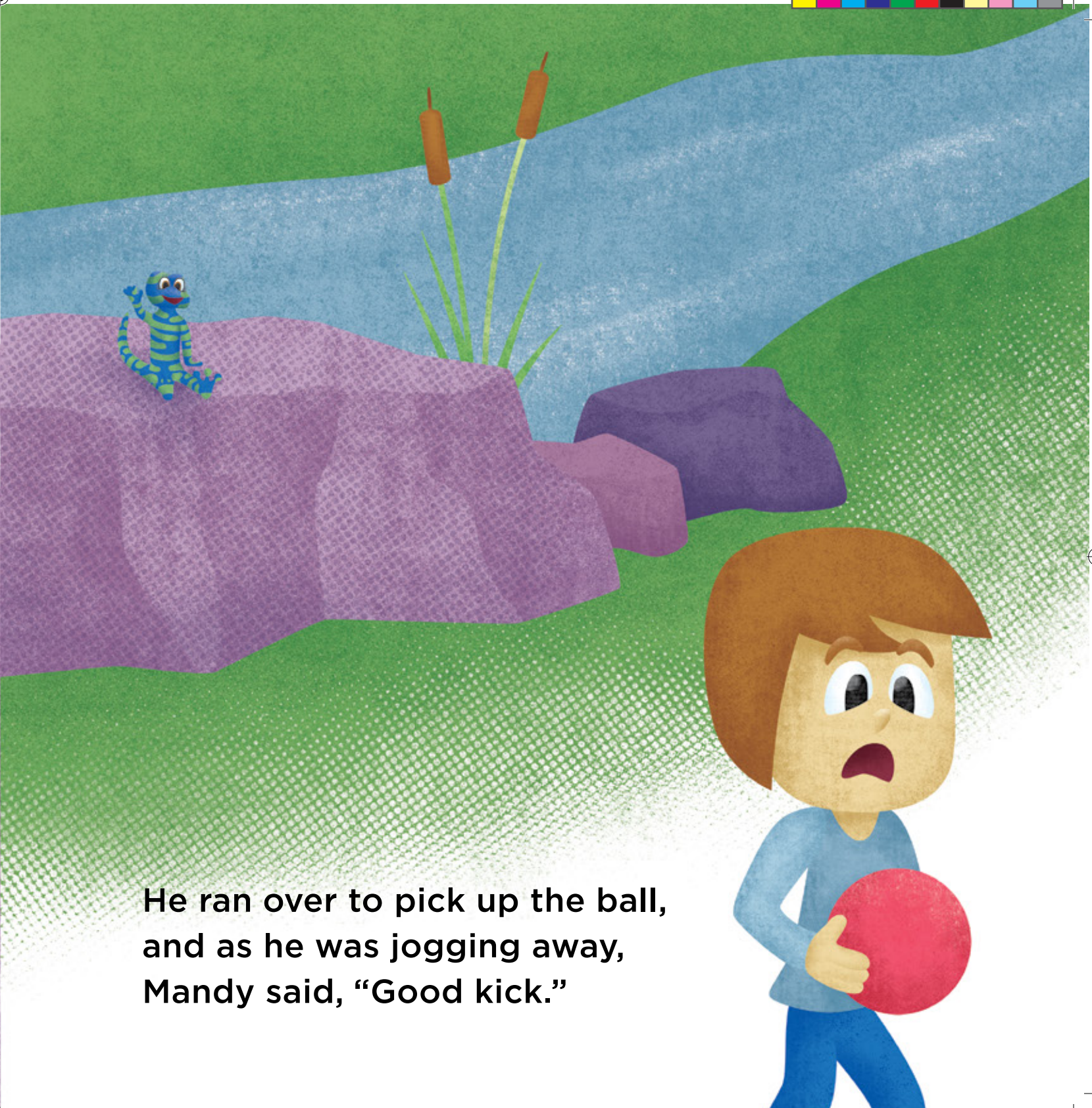
Once upon a time
near a stream by a schoolyard,
there was a tiny salamander named Mandy.



Mandy enjoyed watching
the children play kickball
in the grass.



One day,
a boy kicked
a ball over to
Mandy's rock.



He ran over to pick up the ball,
and as he was jogging away,
Mandy said, "Good kick."



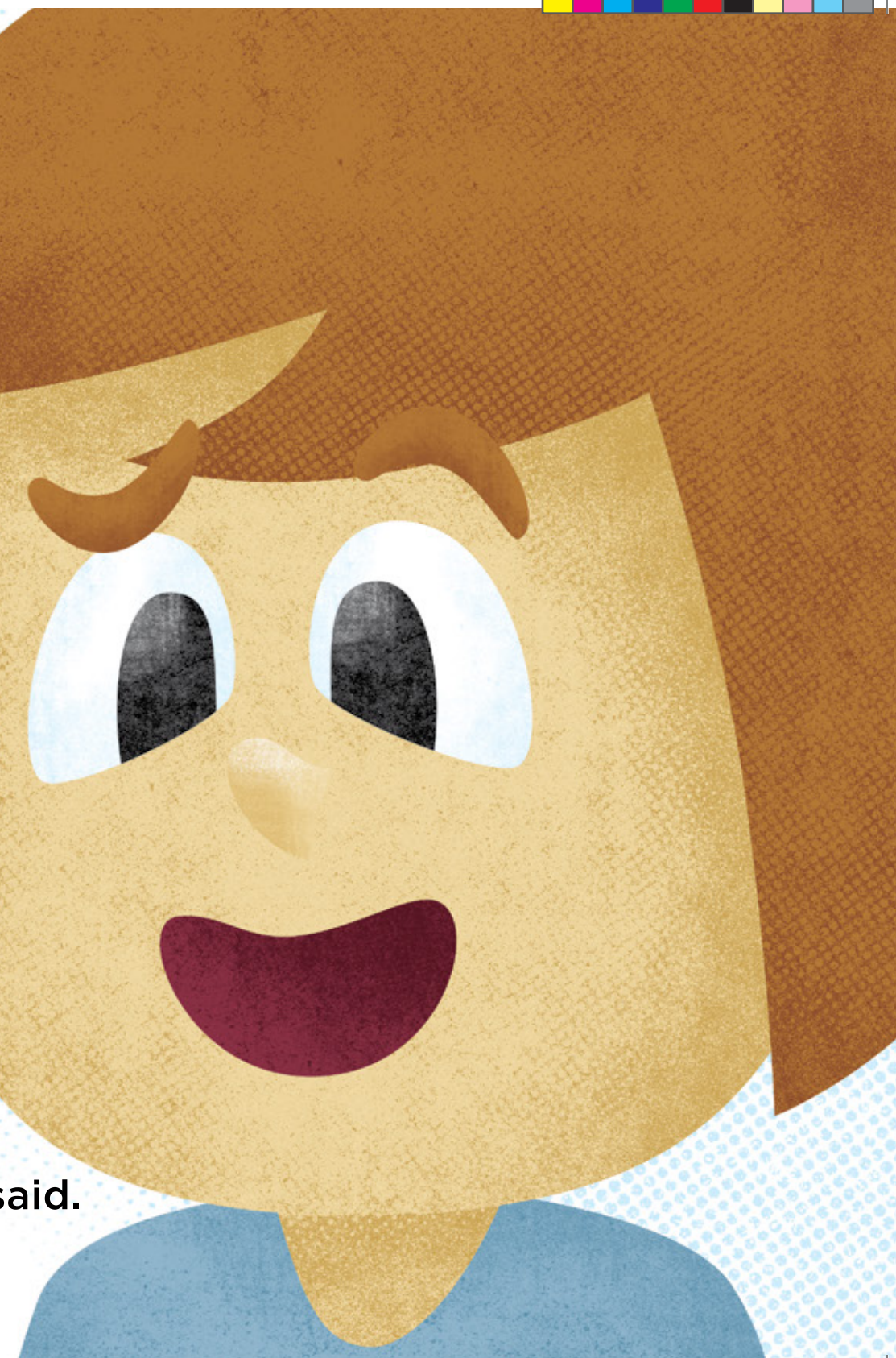
The startled boy turned around and asked,
“Um... Did you just say something?”

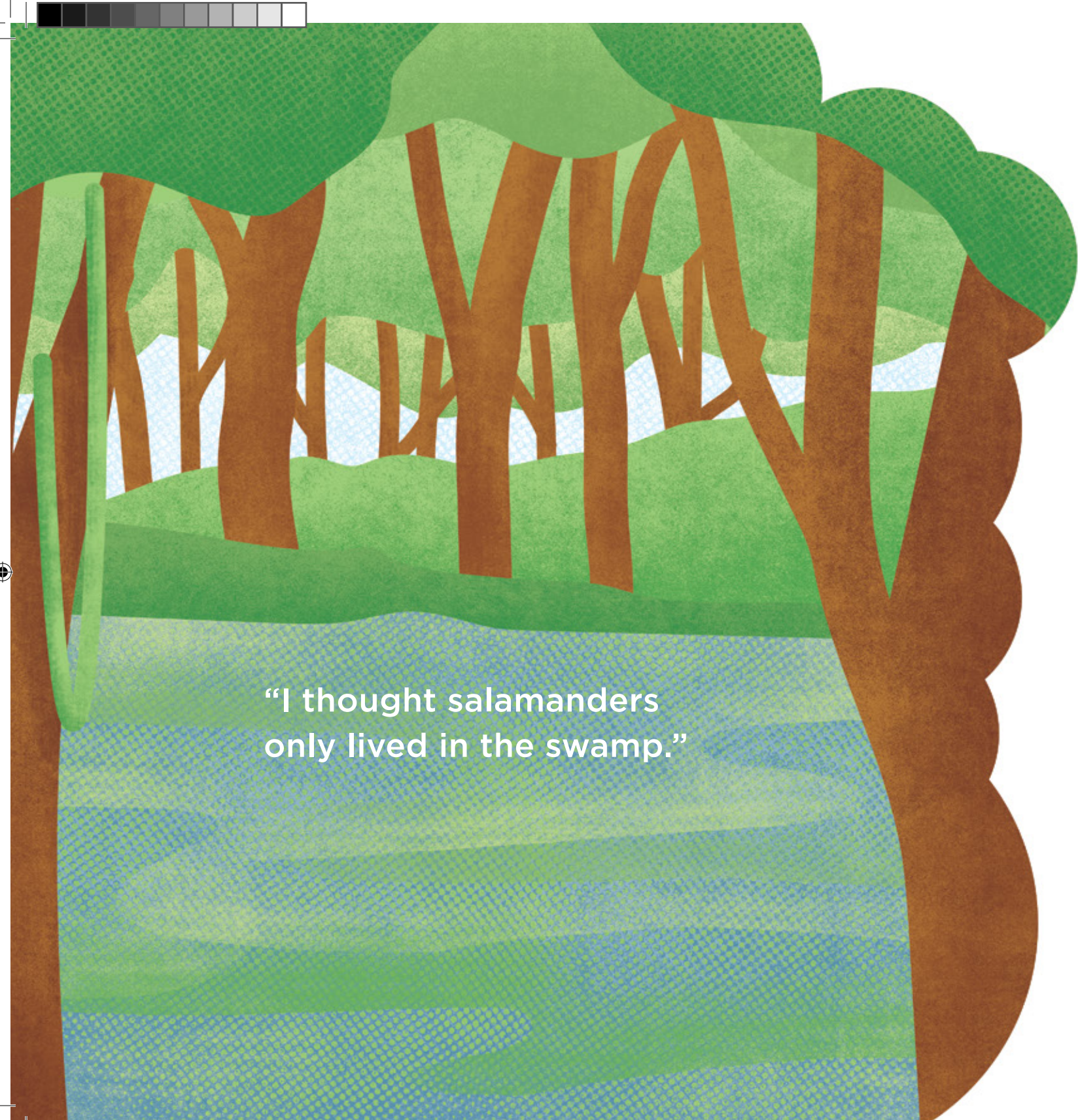


“Yes,” she giggled.
“My name is Mandy, and
I’m a Tiger Salamander.”



“Hi Mandy,
I’m Zack!” he said.





“We Tiger Salamanders live in lots of places – like right here in Louisville. We live in the streams as babies, then move to the banks.

“This is my home stream, where I was born.”

“Whoa!” Zack said.
“Do you like living in a stream?”




“When my stream is nice and clean like this,
there’s no better place in the world for a
salamander like me,” said Mandy.

“Who’s in charge of keeping your stream clean?”
asked Zack.

“It takes everyone to help keep streams clean!
All the ways we live, play and work affects our
waterways,” said Mandy.

“Really? What does me playing
have to do with your stream?”





“Well, think about your ball. Had you not come looking for it, it would’ve eventually washed downstream. Anything left behind pollutes our waterways.

Even tiny particles you can’t see can make a big impact. Those tiny pollution particles are found in things like lawn chemicals, road salt – and even dog poo!”

“Dog poo. Eww! That goes into your stream?” asked Zack.

“Think of it this way – every time you pick up after your dog, you are helping make my stream a little safer and cleaner.”



“But my home is
nowhere near this
stream,” Zack said.



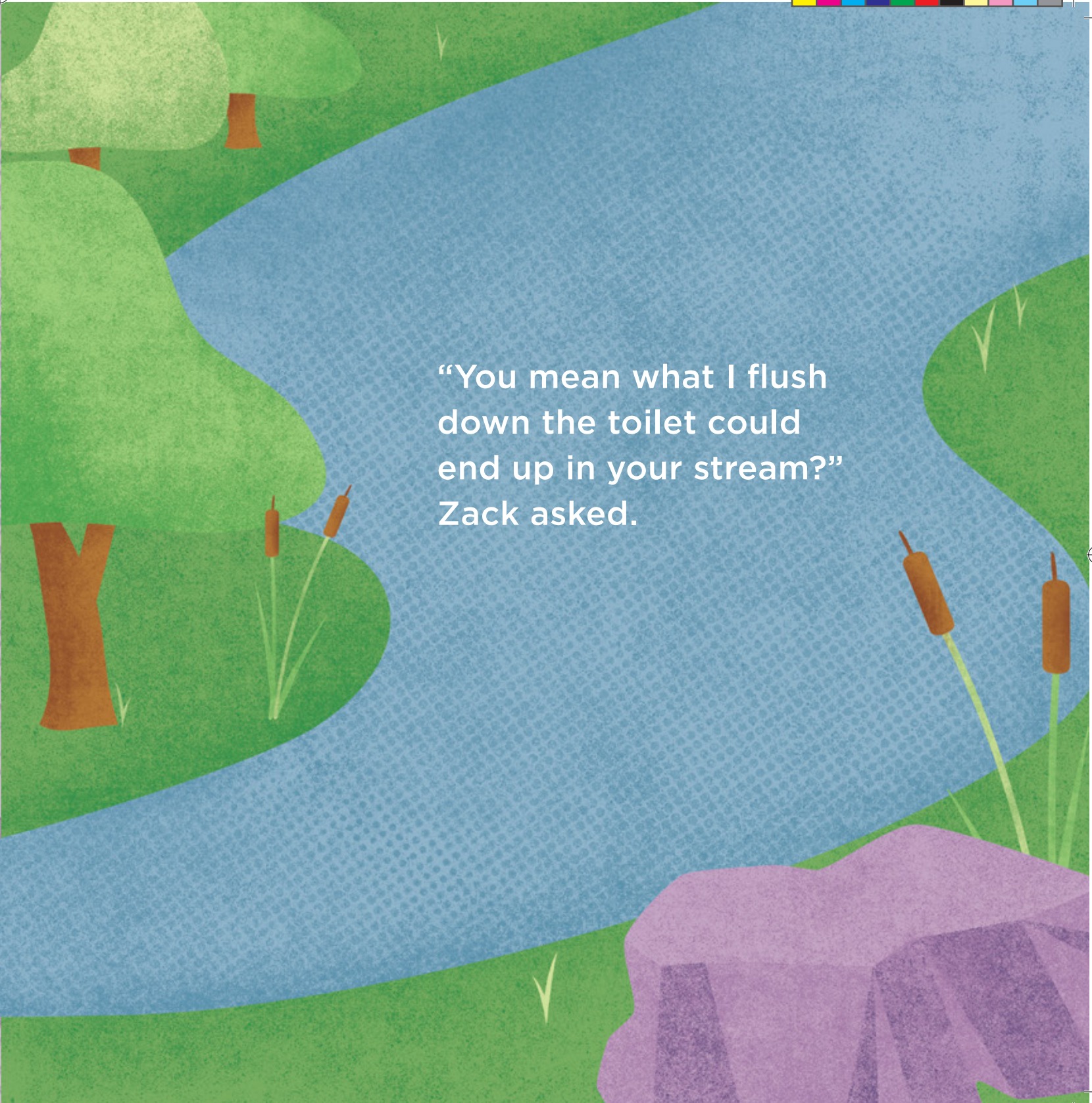
DRAINS TO STREAM

“Have you seen storm
drains along the road in
front of your house? Those drains
connect to underground pipes that
flow into my stream,” replied Mandy.


“Wow! What about the drains
that are inside my house?”



“Those drains go to Louisville MSD – they have a water quality treatment center upstream. It cleans the water you drain in your sink or flush down your toilet, then returns it to waterways like my stream.”



“You mean what I flush down the toilet could end up in your stream?” Zack asked.



“Not before it’s treated.
Wastewater from homes and
schools goes in dirty and
comes out sparkling clean.”

“Want to help keep
my stream clean?”



“Make sure you only flush the three Ps:



Never flush things like paper towels or wet wipes – and keep small toys away from drains. They can cause big problems.”

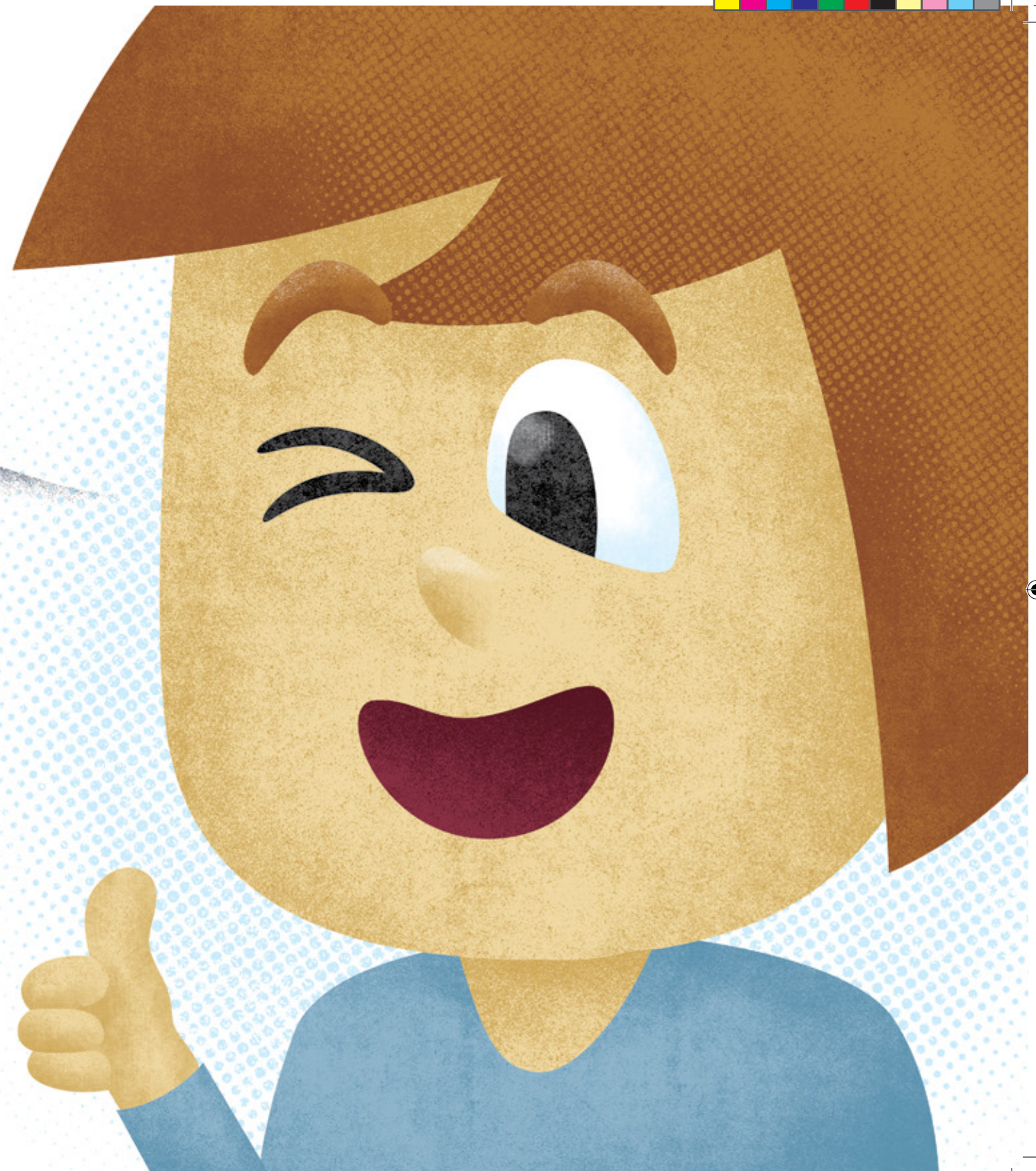


“You got it, Mandy,” Zack replied.



“Thank you so much,”
Mandy exclaimed.

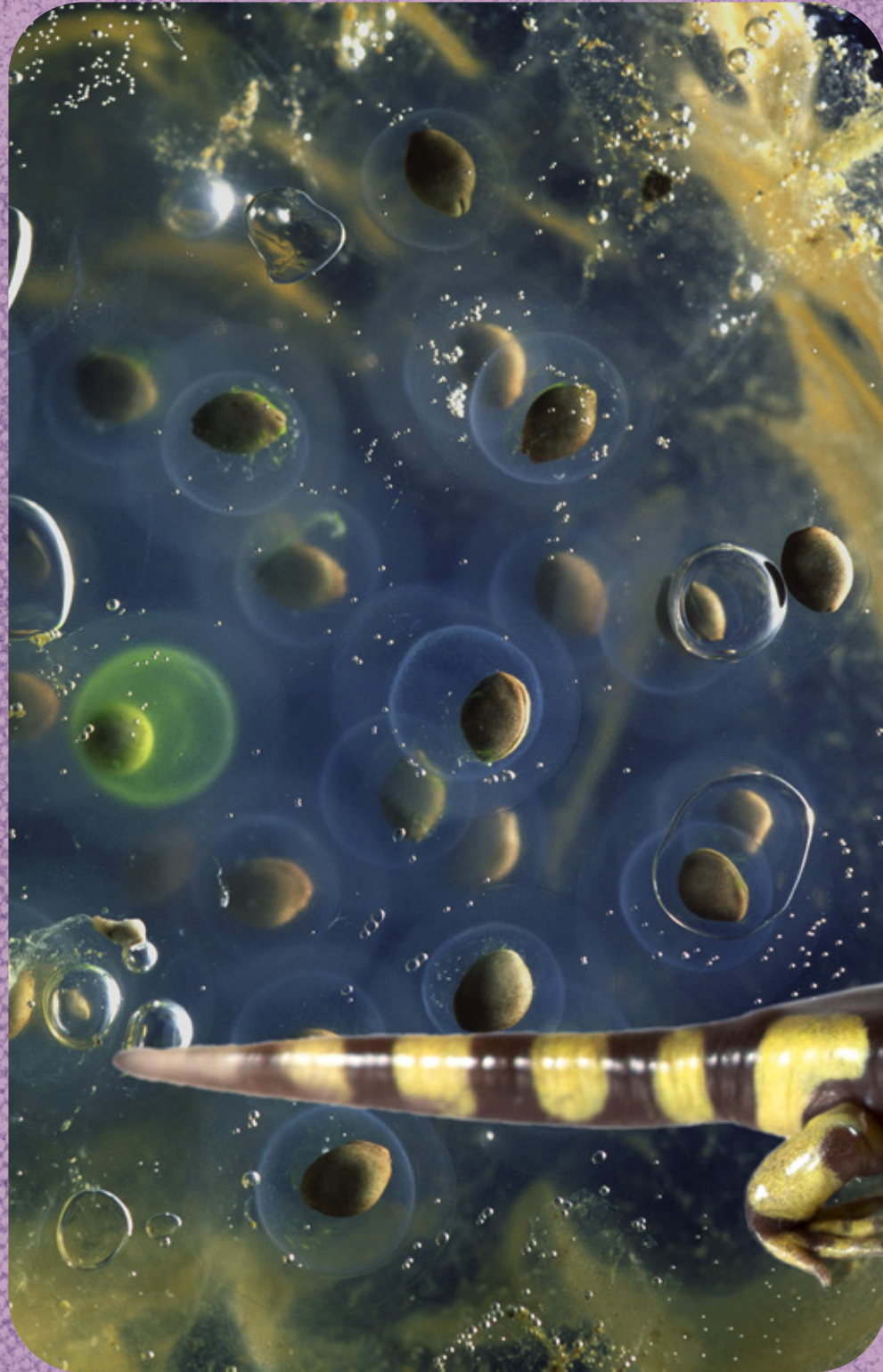
“And please tell
your friends about
the three Ps.”





“I will, Mandy,” he said.
Then he ran off to play
with his friends on that
sunny summer day.





For more information on
Eastern Tiger Salamanders go to
LouisvilleMSD.org/education





LouisvilleMSD.org

