

KYLE LEARNS ABOUT FRESHWATER



**KEEP
FRESHWATER
CLEAN!**

Kyle Learns About Freshwater

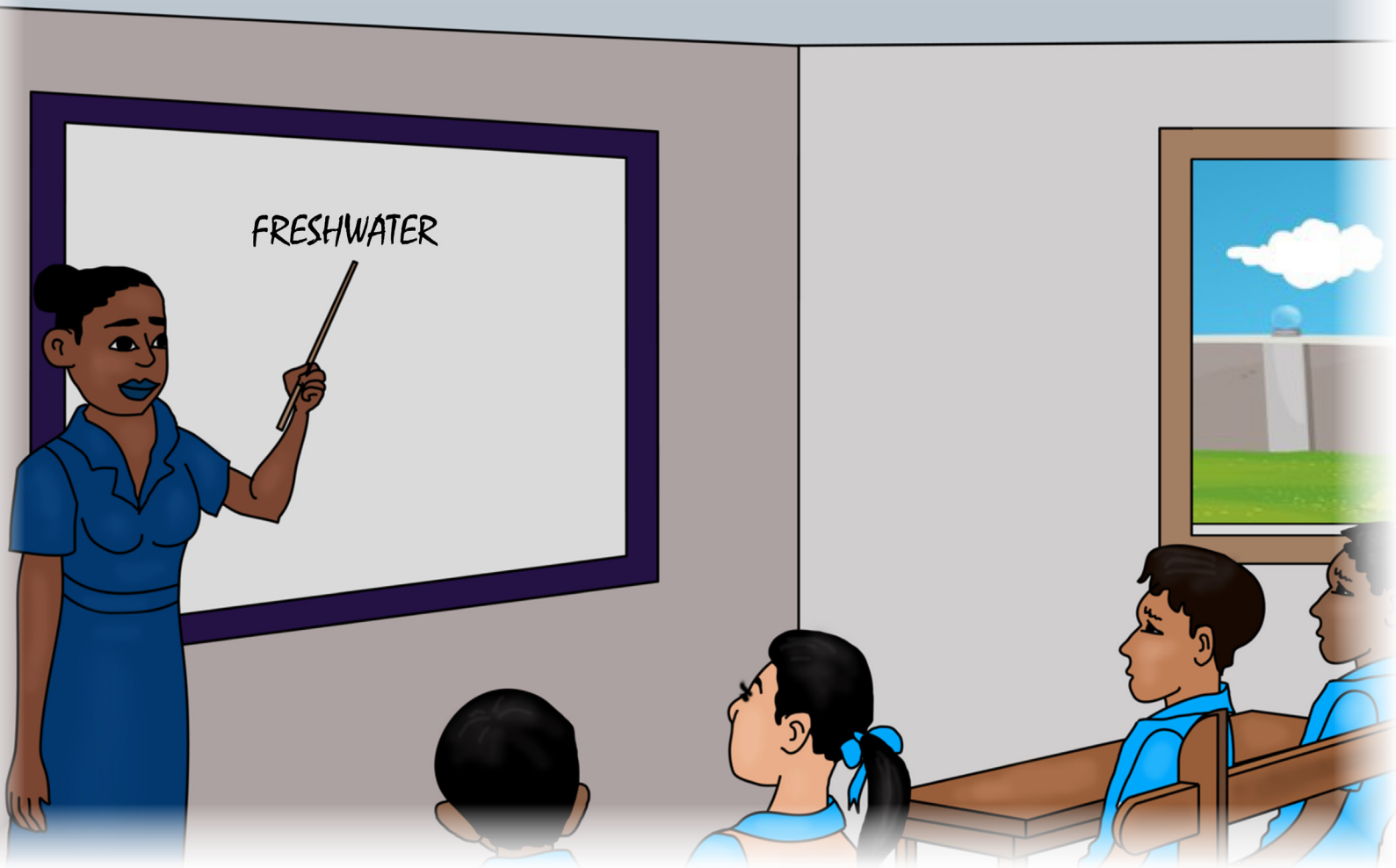
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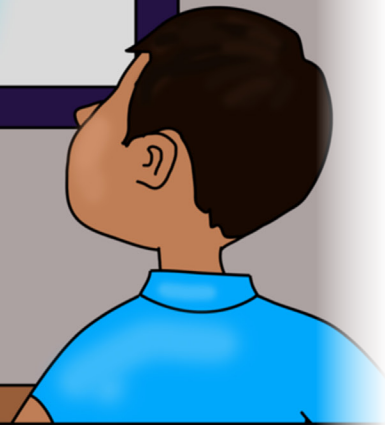
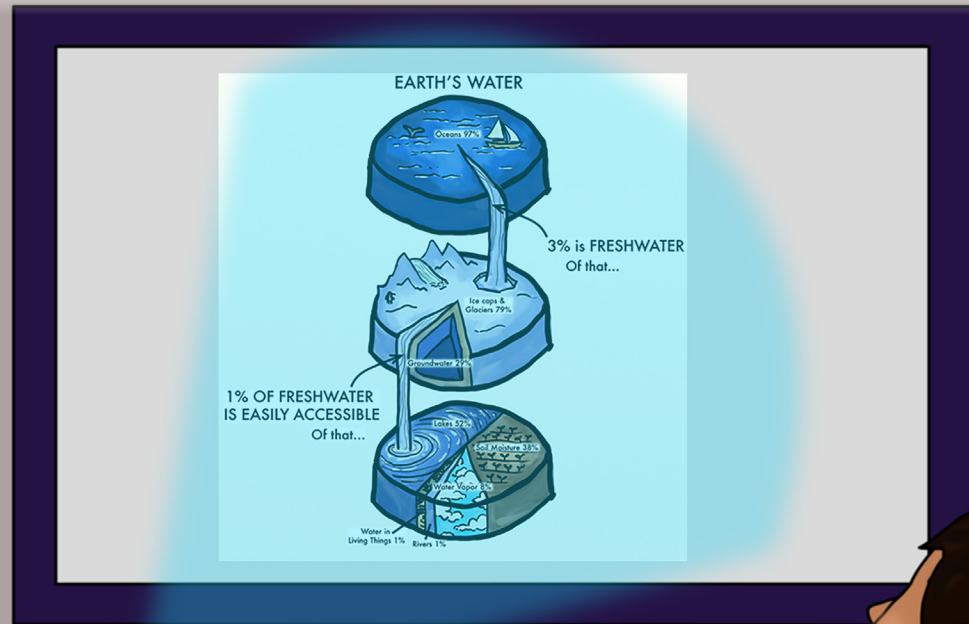
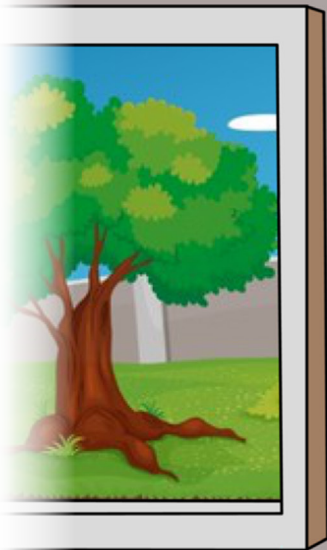
**Compiled by
Calvin Chapman**



Today at school we all learnt about a very important resource that we need to survive, 'FRESHWATER.'



We watched a River Guardian video about the amount of freshwater around the world. Could you believe only 3% of all the water is fresh? And only 1% is available for us to use but it is being polluted.



“OMG!” I just realized that although humans need freshwater, our fishes do too, like the giant Arapaima, Daray and Biara. “So I must do something to save our freshwater!”



I went home and I asked, "Mom! What can we do to keep our rivers and creeks clean?"
And she said, "Let's find out".



It turns out that a lot of freshwater is wasted when we do everyday things like brushing our teeth, washing our hands and bathing.

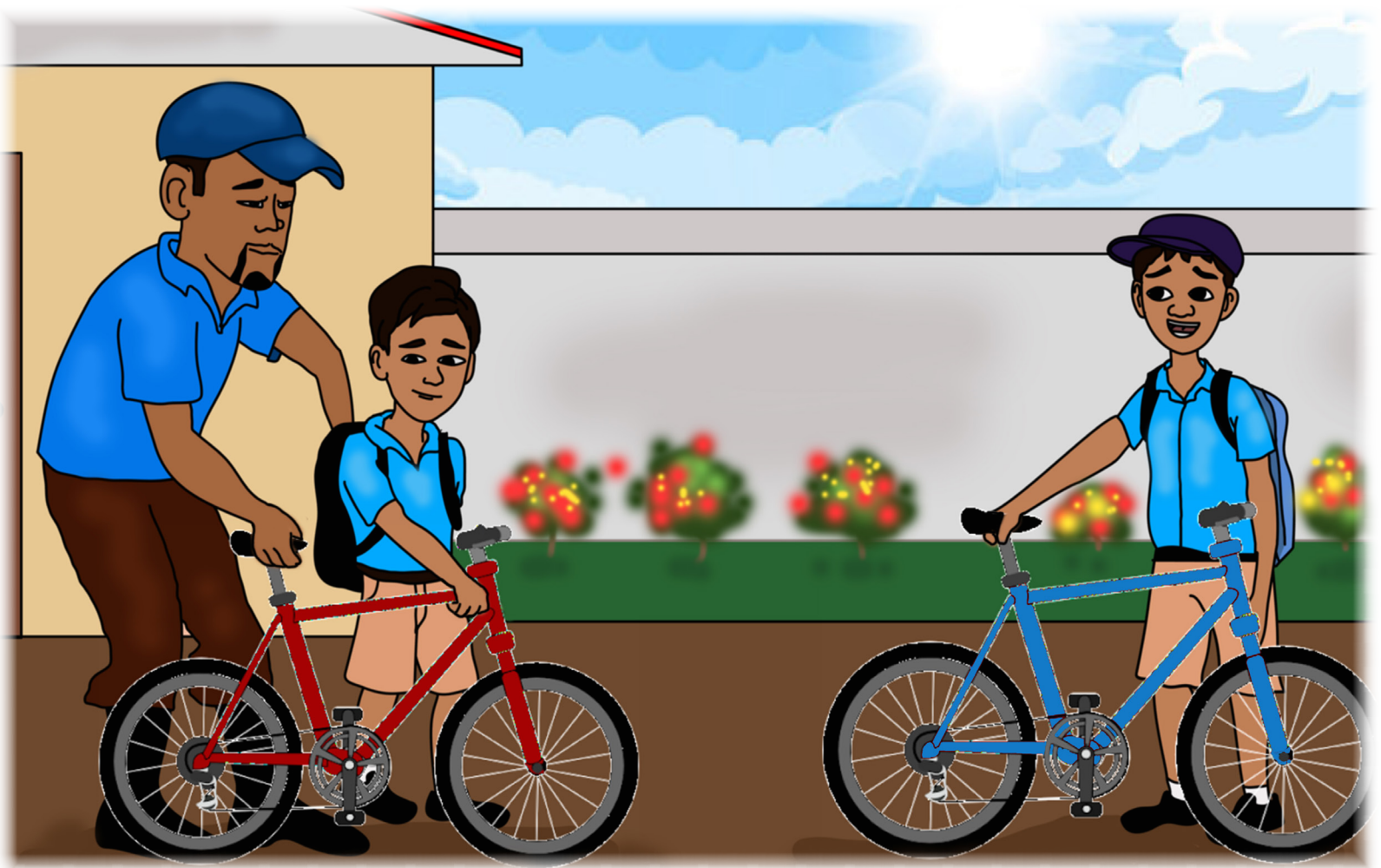
“We have to Save Water!” I said as I turned off all the pipes that persons were using.



The next morning when my brother was brushing his teeth, I turned the pipe off and reminded him not to leave it running.

“Saving water helps the Giant River Otter and the Jabiru”, I said





As I prepared for school, I thought of not taking a taxi to school instead I will ride my bicycle. I told my dad who agreed that it was a brilliant idea and assured me that bicycles are perfect for short distances and the environment.

After school, my friends and I thought about our fresh-water sources such as the rivers and creeks, and we realized that most were polluted.



We then talked about different things we can do in our communities to save water.



The next day we decided to make signs that said: Healthy Rivers = Healthy People! Reduce Mercury Use! Save Our Rivers! Mercury is Poisonous! Then we put the signs everywhere to remind everyone how they can help too. Our Town Council was very happy to see children care about the rivers.

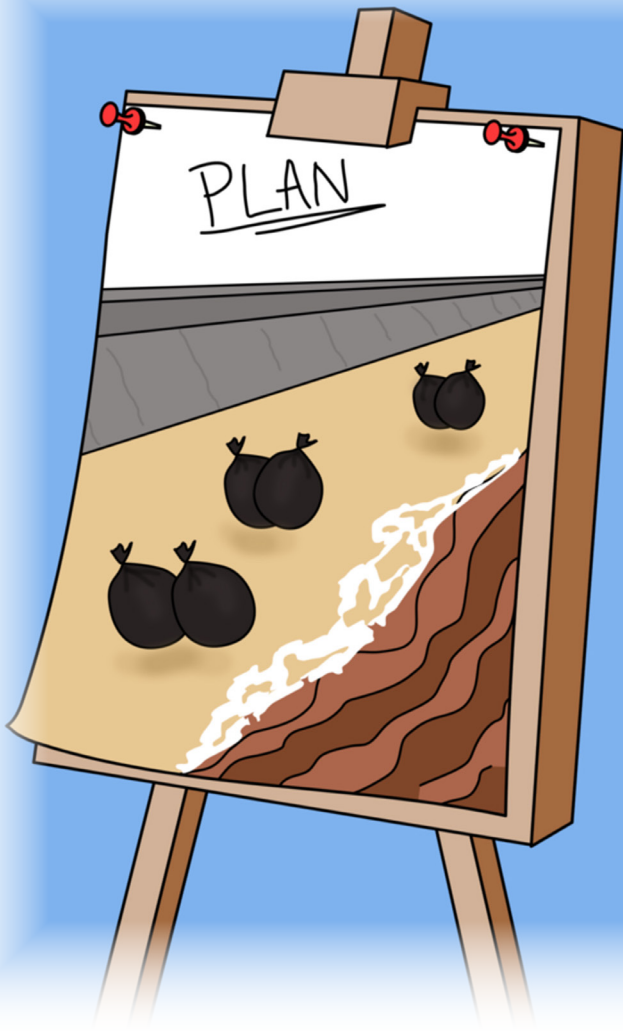
That night I couldn't sleep, so I went to the kitchen for a snack. While eating I saw a sign that said: Clean-up.





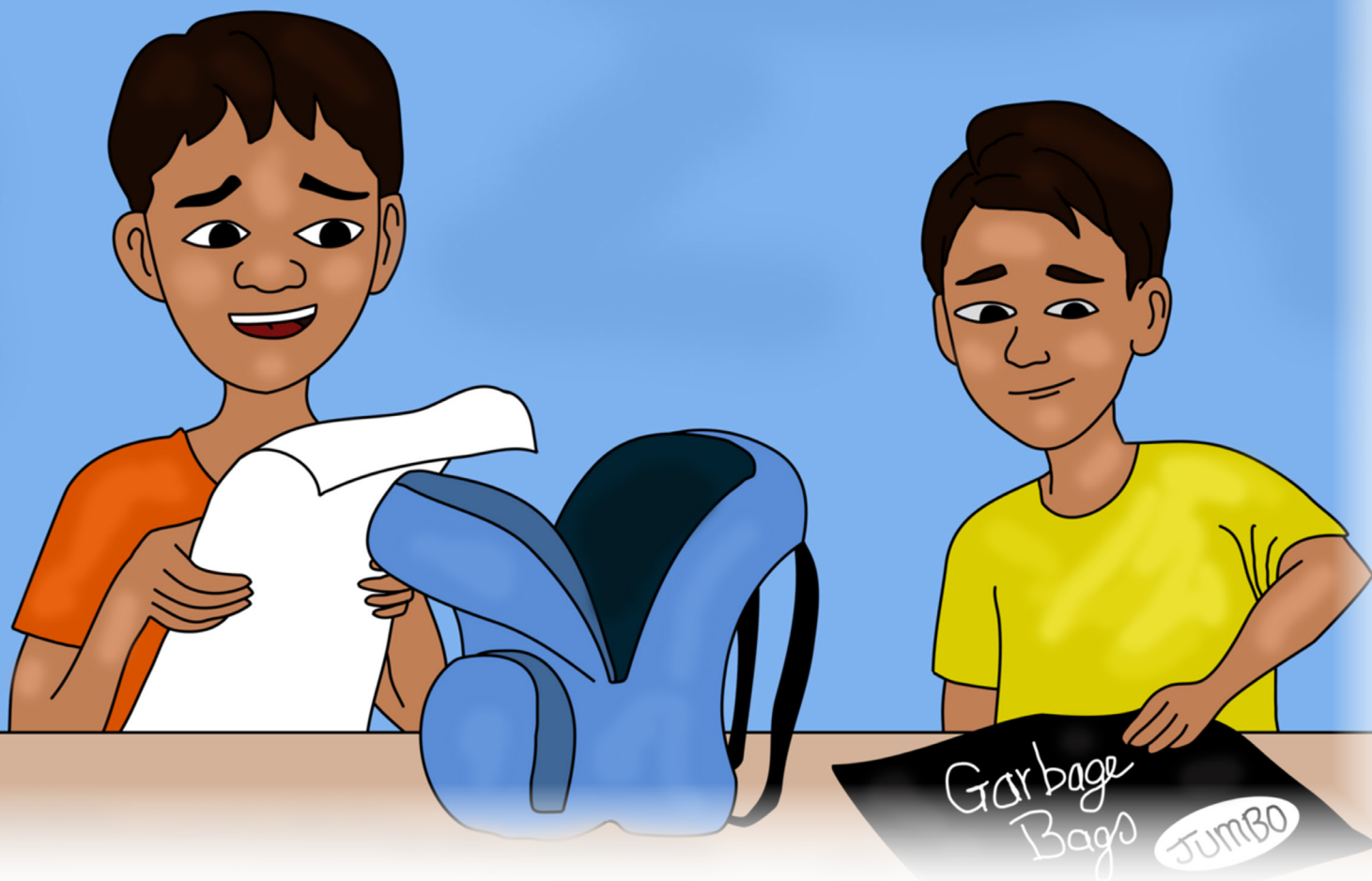
That's it! I yelled. "I know how to save both the animals and us. I have to clean up the rivers and creeks!"

The next morning, I got right to work. Just like mom, I made a list: of all the polluted water sources in Bartica, and what I would need to clean them.

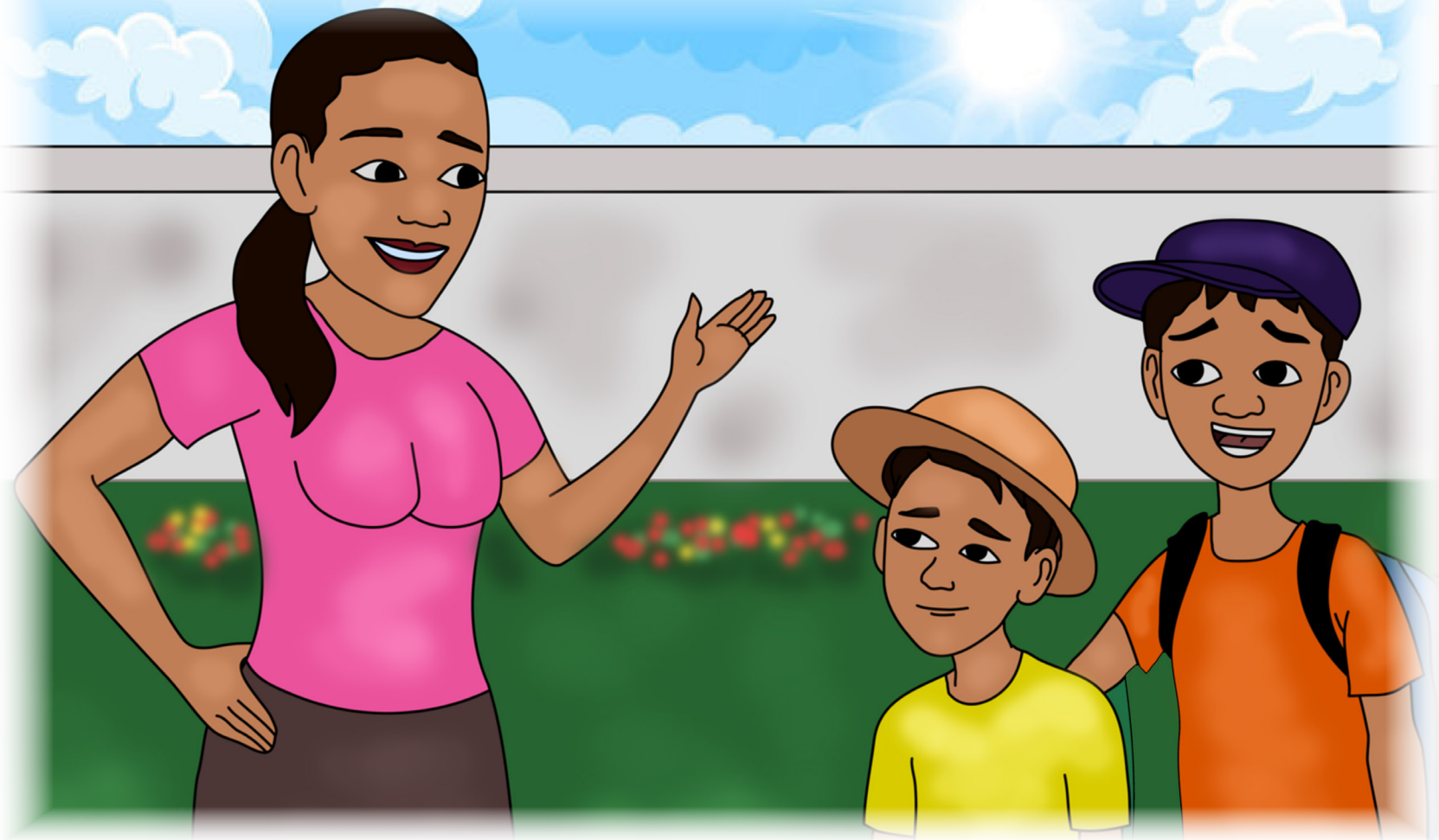


Next, I came up with a plan just like Dad.

My big brother Kaden helped collect everything on the list. The most important things were gloves and garbage bags. Kaden and I then set out for the beach all suited up.



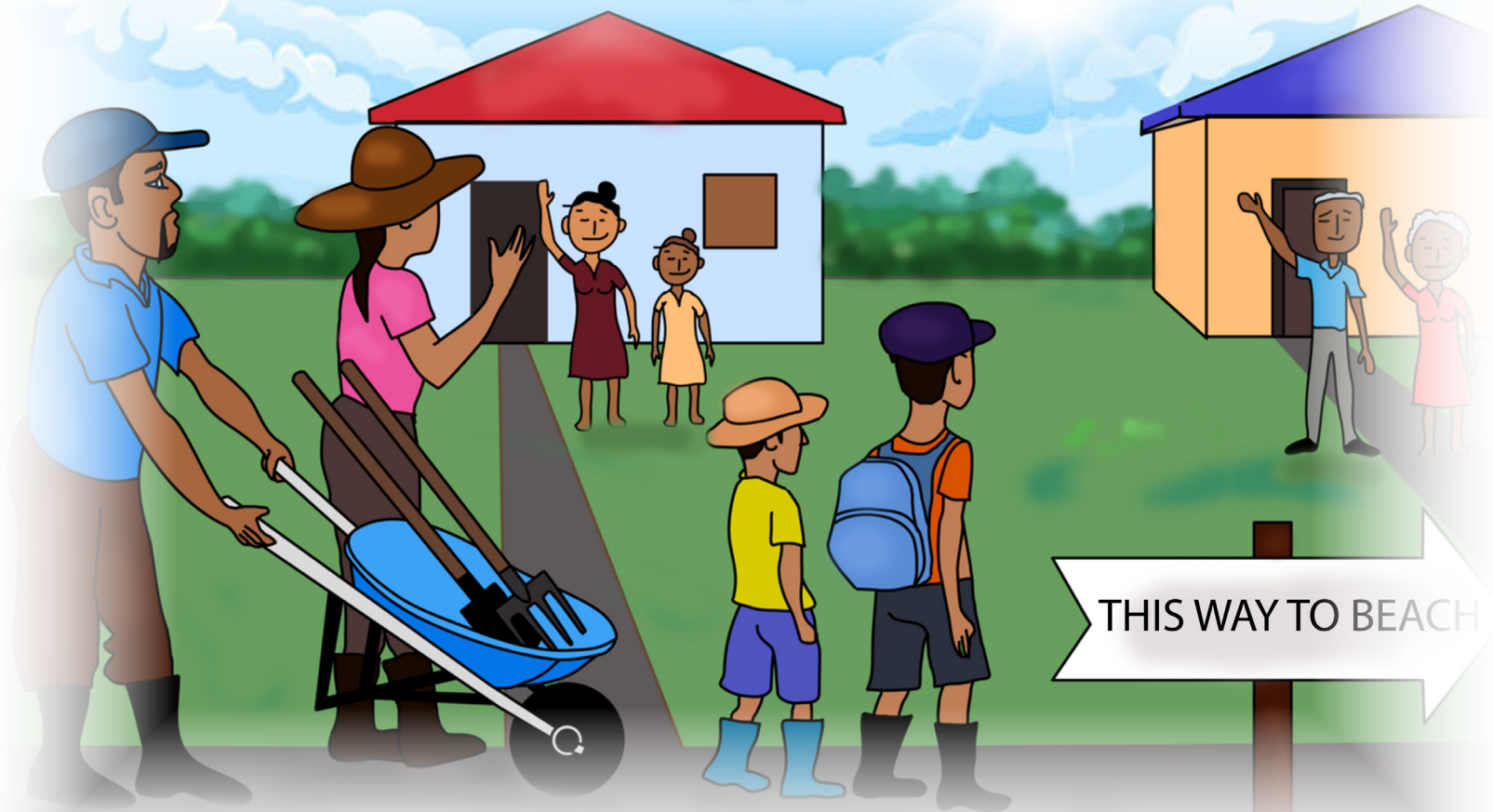
“Kaden and Kyle, where are you guys going?” Mom asked. “To clean Bartica Beachfront”, I answered, “it will make more fresh water available for us and all the plants and animals”. “Very good!” she said, “but the two of you shouldn’t go alone. Wait till your father is finished working and we will go together”.



When dad was finished working, he helped mom get rakes, a wheelbarrow and long boots for all of us. Can't believe I forgot to put those things on the list. A few minutes later, we started our journey to the beach.



On our way to the beach, we passed Ms Persaud and her daughter, Ms Pearce with her husband and a few of my friends from school.



They all wanted to know what we were doing so I told them that we're about to clean up Bartica's Golden Beach. So, we can keep our little freshwater resources clean.

We finally reached the beach. Kaden and I picked up all the garbage that was on the beach. While Dad used the rake to pull the garbage out of the river and placed it into the wheelbarrow that mom had.



Before we knew it, Golden Beach was clean!

I was so proud of myself but that feeling quickly disappeared as I thought about the many other polluted rivers and creeks in Guyana.



I will never be able to save our freshwater.

“That’s not true,” said Dad. “Because of you, your mom and I now use a bucket when bathing. And even Kaden now turns off the water when brushing his teeth”.



“Many in the community have learnt so much more about how mercury and gold mining have been affecting our freshwater”.

Then Dad added “You and your friends put up signs around the communities that taught persons why freshwater should be protected. Our Mayor is discussing ways he can continue what you’ve started to ensure that freshwater is protected”.



An illustration of two young boys standing in a river, acting as 'River Guardians'. The boy on the left is wearing a yellow shirt and blue shorts, with a yellow cape. The boy on the right is wearing an orange shirt and dark shorts, with a red cape. Both have their arms raised in a celebratory gesture. In the background, there is a grey wall with a sign that says 'KEEP FRESH WATER CLEAN!'. To the left of the sign, there is a black trash bag. The sky is blue with white clouds.

**KEEP
FRESH WATER
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“Wow! We definitely are River Guardians because everything we do can help us save our rivers. Let’s not forget the Daray and Vampire Fish!” Yaay!!!!

The End.



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