



National Center on
Improving Literacy

Early
Reader
Comic

the ANDRE CHRONICLES



Rhyme Detective

Dear Caregivers,

As part of our commitment to fostering a love of reading and learning, we are excited to share some tips on how you can support your child's onset and rime skills while reading together at home. This book is designed to make reading enjoyable and educational and to help your child build a strong foundation in phonological awareness.

Why Onset and Rime* are Important

Onset and rime are important building blocks in learning to read. The onset is the initial consonant sound of a word (like the "c" in "cat"), and the rime is the vowel and any following consonants in the syllable (like the "at" in "cat"). Understanding how these parts come together help children recognize word patterns, making it easier for them to break words into smaller parts, decode new words and develop their reading skills.

**Rime refers to the vowel and everything after it in a syllable, while rhyme is the poetic concept where words sound alike at the end.*

Tips for Reading Together

Make It Fun: Reading should be a joyful experience. Use expressive voices, ask questions, and let your child predict what might happen next in the story.

Create a Routine: Set aside a specific time each day for reading together. This could be right before bed, during a quiet afternoon, or any time that works best for you and your child.

Encourage Participation: Let your child turn the pages, point to pictures, and even read along with you when they can. This helps them feel involved and excited about the story.

Practicing Onset and Rime at Home

Here are a few activities you can do with your child to reinforce onset and rime after reading time:

Play Word Games: Use simple word games to help your child practice onset and rime. For example, say a word like "cat" and ask your child to change the onset to make new words (e.g., "bat," "hat," "rat").

Rhyming Practice: Encourage your child to find words that rhyme. This not only reinforces rime but also helps them hear and identify different sounds in words.

Create Word Families: Write down different rimes (like "at," "op," "in") and help your child think of words that share the same rime. This can be a fun way to see how many words they can come up with in each word family.

By incorporating these strategies into your reading routine, you will help your child build strong onset and rime skills. Thank you for being such a wonderful and supportive part of your child's learning journey. We hope this book brings you many joyful moments together and helps your child develop a lifelong love of reading.

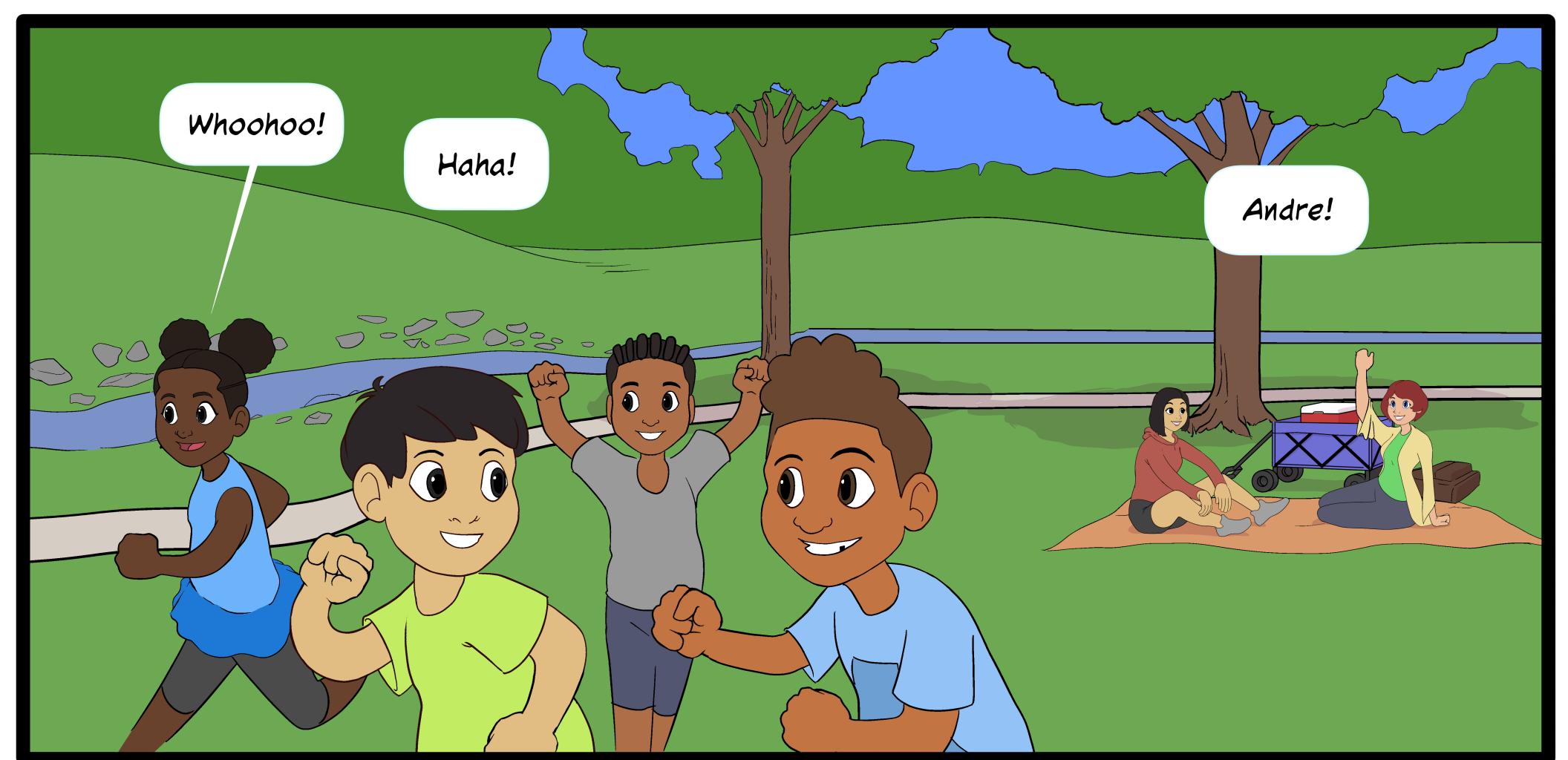
For at home activities

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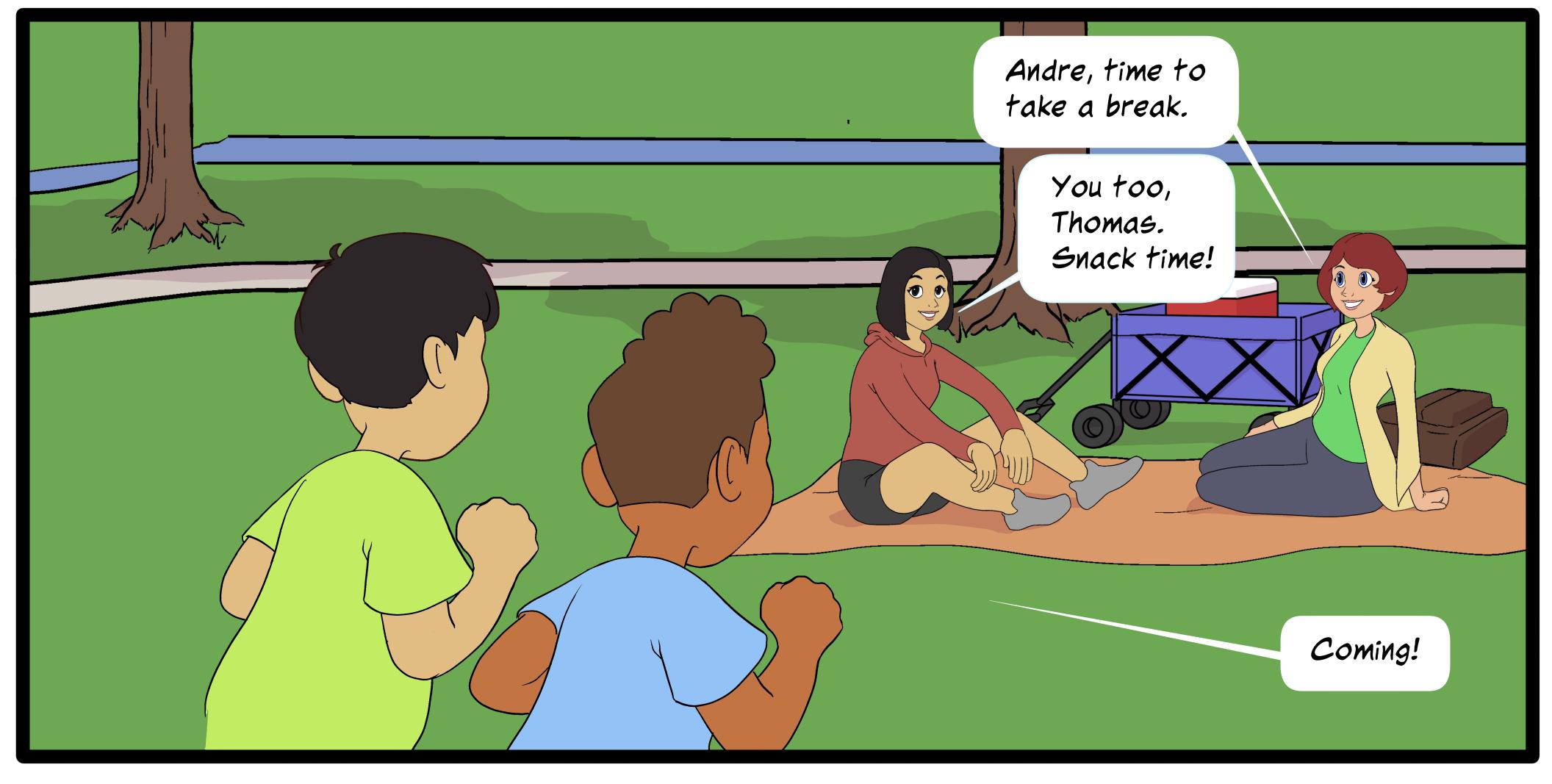
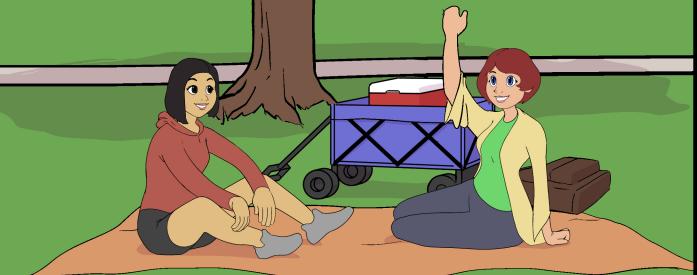
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Whooohoo!

Haha!

Andre!



Andre, time to take a break.

You too,
Thomas.
Snack time!

Coming!

Hey everybody! My name is Andre!

GREAT!
SOUND OUT
EACH PART AND
PUT THEM
TOGETHER.

You might know my sister Kayla...

"...FIRE AND
REACHES OUT
WITH ITS...

...CL-

ANS"

...but this is
my story!

Red Masked Girl

Yellow Masked Girl

Blue Boy

Purple Girl

Green Boy

Grey Boy

Having fun out there, boys?

Yes ma'am, we played Superheroes at home. I was Home Man!

And I was Back Yarde!

Sounds like a lot of fun. I am glad we have such brave heroes protecting our homes.

Then we played tree monsters! We raced to the top of the slide and the winner roared like a monster!

It was great!

I bet it was. Hey, who wants to play another game?

Whoa, these are so cool!

This is called the Sound Detective game.

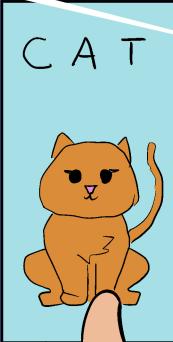


In this game, you take turns drawing one card. After looking at your card, think of how you break the word apart. Remember how we learned about word parts?

I remember that!



We can do one together to get started. A word breaks down first by the beginning sound, and the second part is the rest of the word. The first sound we hear on this card is 'c' and the rest is...



'at'!

Right! When we break up the sounds in cat, we get 'c' and 'at'!

Now, in this game you will break the word apart and then the other puts it back together.

Got it!

For a bonus treat, go try to find something around us in the park that ends with the same sound! Are you ready?

Ready!

Andre gets to pull the first card. What do you see?

This word is dog...

Now break the word into two parts, Andre.

/d/ /og/



Great job, Andre!

Can you put the word back together, Thomas?

I think so. Dog?

Right!

What can you find in the park that ends with the same sound as dog?

Follow me, Detective. I see a mighty river up a head!

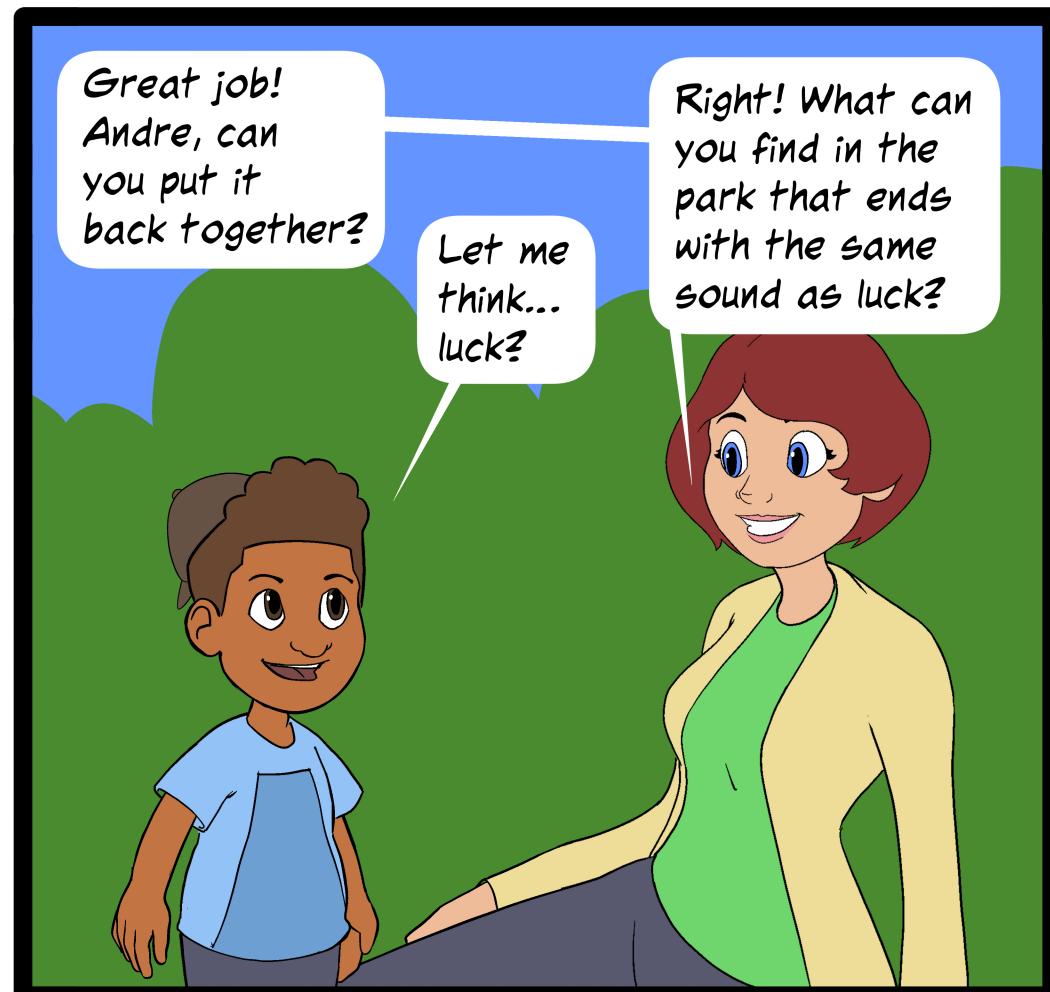
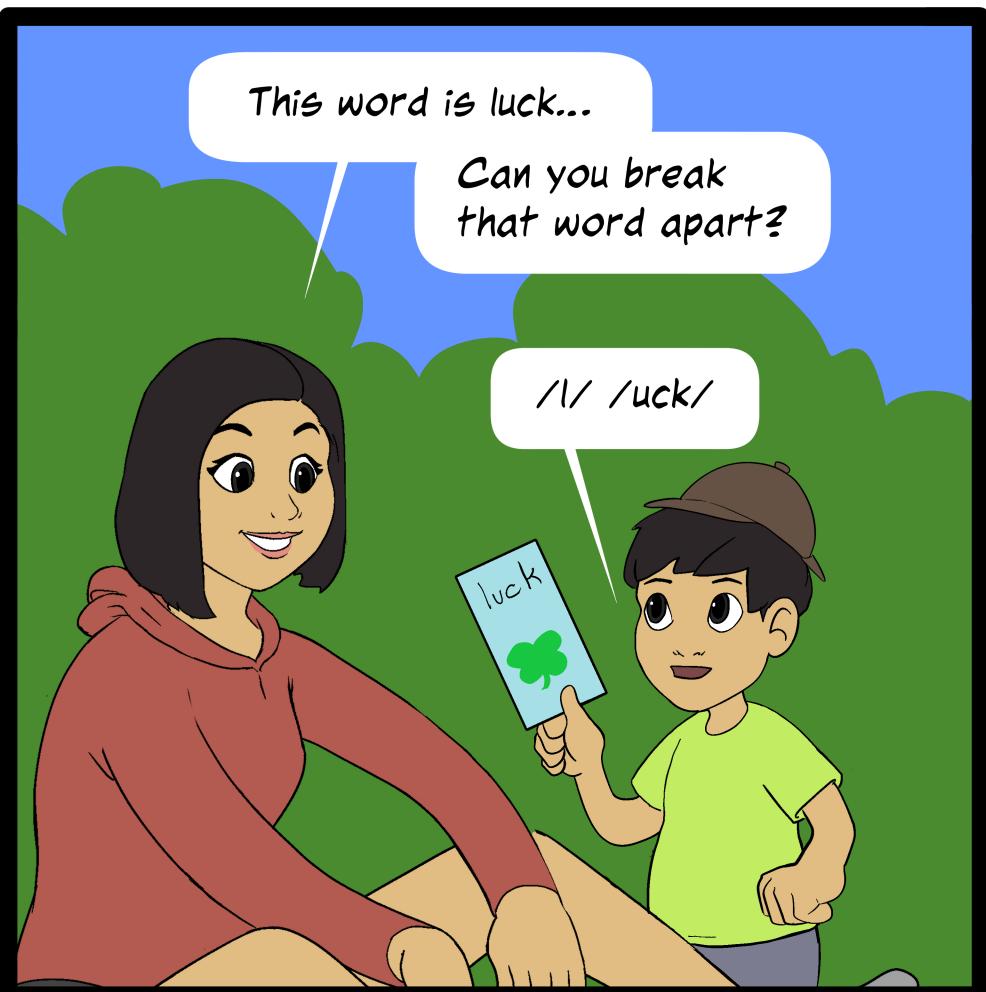
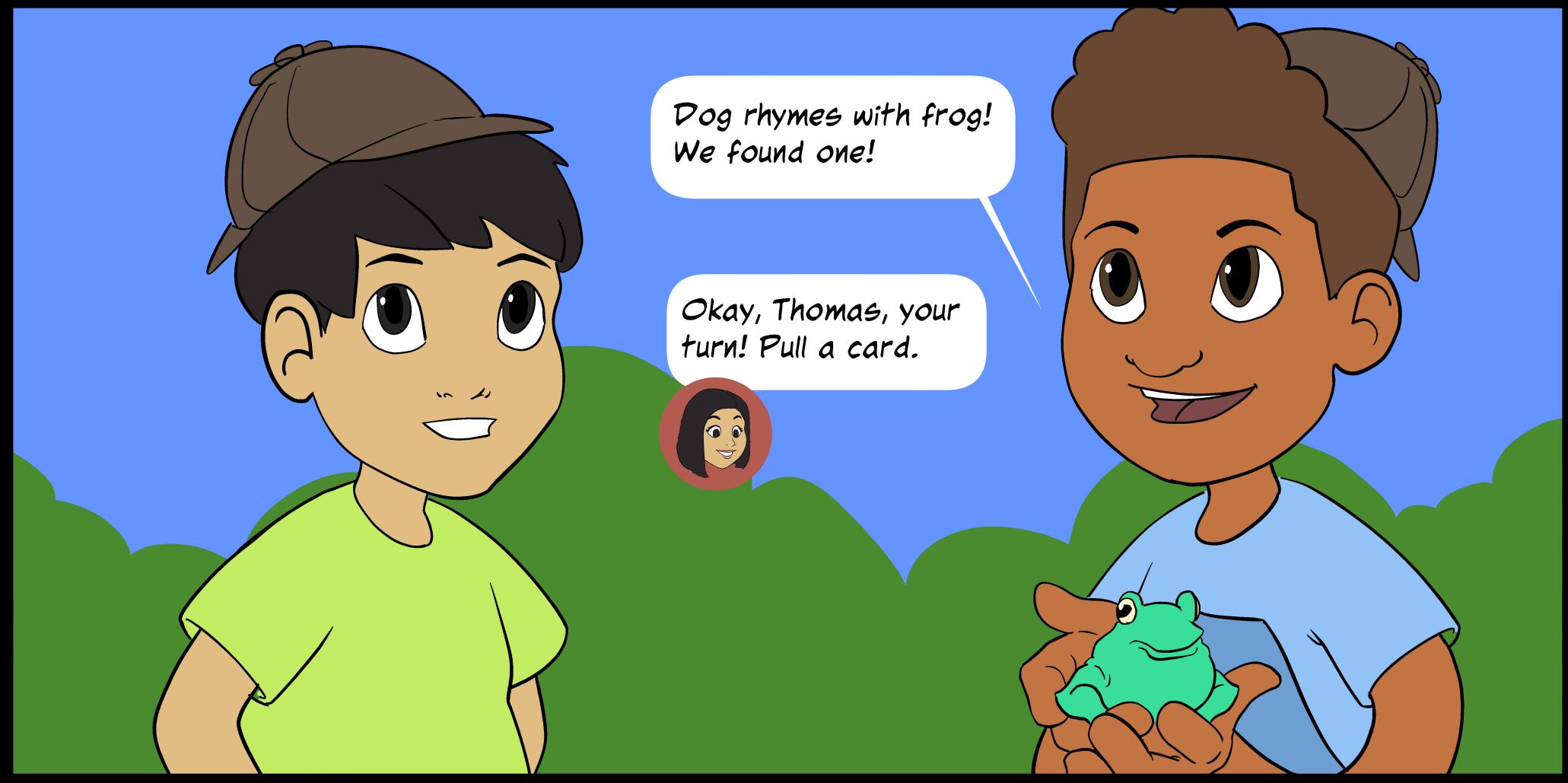
You got it, Detective! Look at that river!

Where should we go next?

This way! I see a giant frog! Dog and frog rhyme!

A giant frog?! Cool!

I got it!



Follow me, Detective.
I know this area well.

Sure thing, Detective!

Do you see anything yet?!

Ducks straight ahead!
Luck and duck rhyme!

We just want to
say hello to you!
Come back!

No! They flew away!

Hey Mom! Duck and luck rhyme!

That's right!



Andre, pull another card.

This is a bee...

Please break this word apart, Andre.

/b/ /ee/

Great job, Andre!

Can you put the word back together, Thomas?

Let me think... bee?

Right!

What can you find in the park that ends with the same sound as bee?

Follow me, Detective. We should retrace our steps.

Good idea, Detective!



After your monster roar, did you see anything that ends with the same sound as the word bee?

ROAR

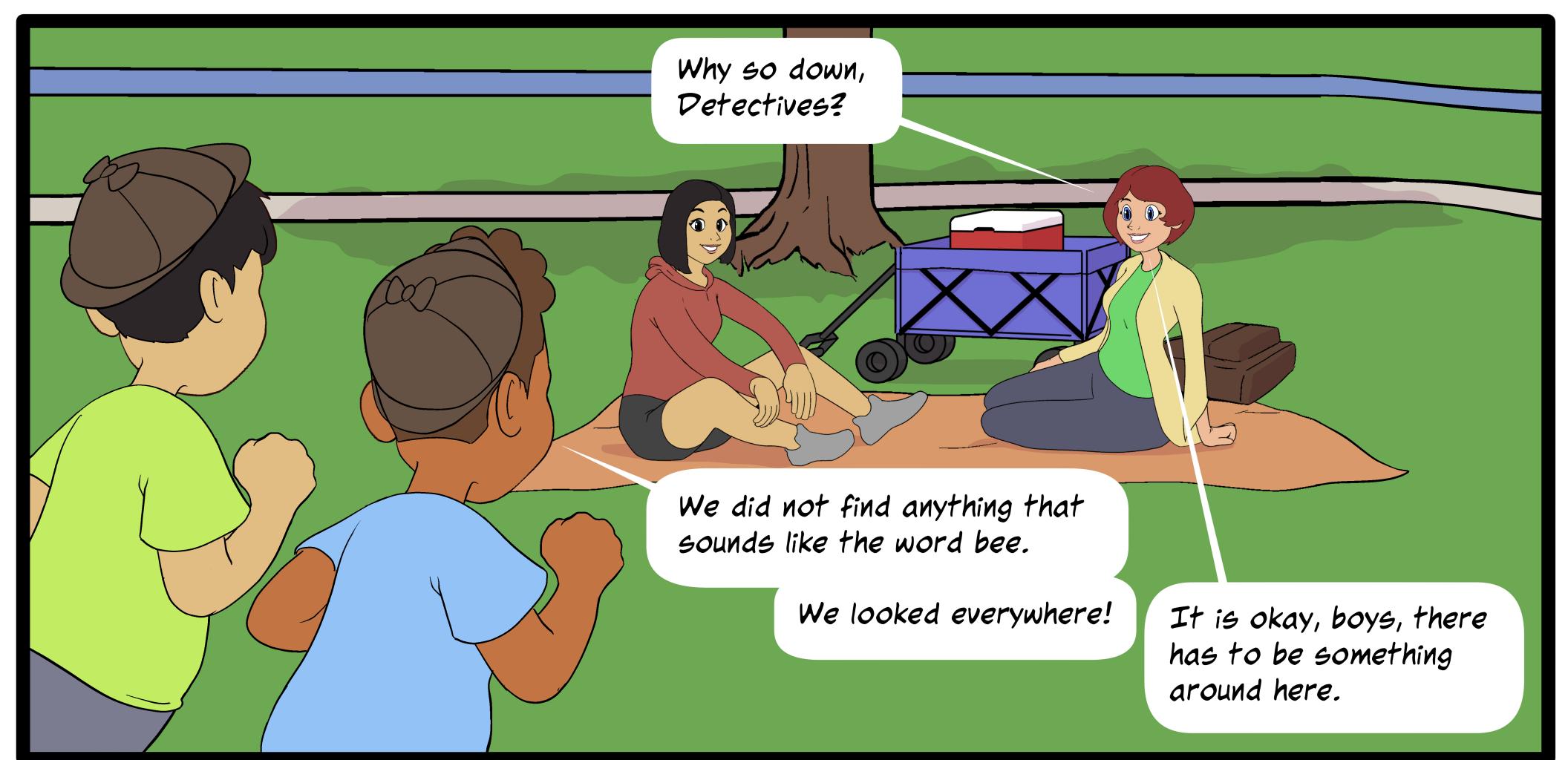


After saving the kitchen from the trash being taken out did either of you see a word that sounds like the word bee?

Hmmm... no.

What do we do now?



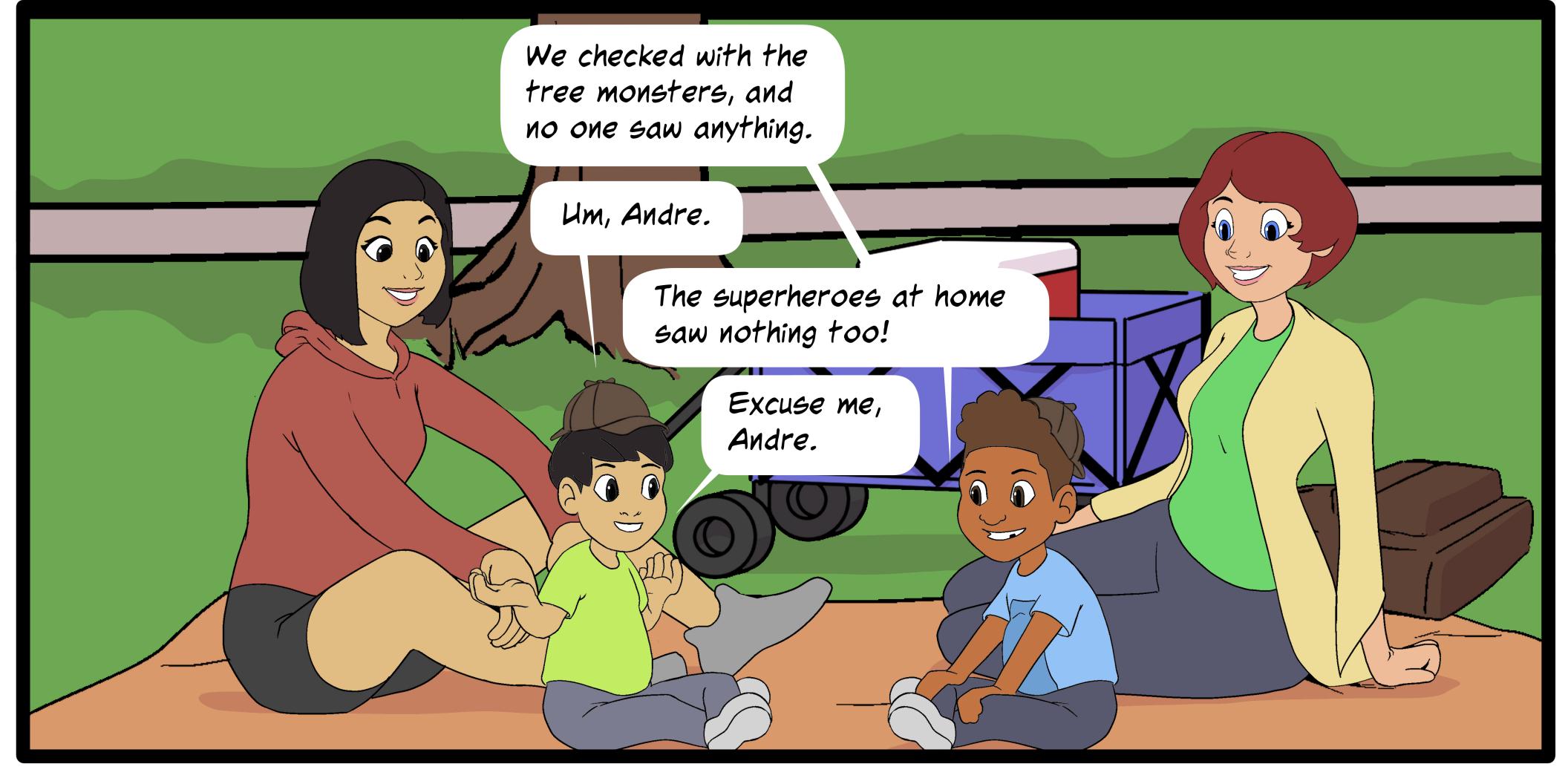


Why so down, Detectives?

We did not find anything that sounds like the word bee.

We looked everywhere!

It is okay, boys, there has to be something around here.



We checked with the tree monsters, and no one saw anything.

Um, Andre.

The superheroes at home saw nothing too!

Excuse me, Andre.

Look, a tree!



You did it, Detective!



Great job boys!

Did you have a good time playing this game?



Yes!



What was your favorite part?



The ducks in the stream were so beautiful!

The look on the monster's face when we walked up!

Hey Andre, Thomas, want to play?!

May we go play, please?



You bet!



Thanks, mom!



I want to be
on your team!



Hey, pass the ball!

