



**ECO
SUPERHEROES**



**THE COMIC BOOK
ABOUT ECOLOGY
FOR CHILDREN**

**“ECO SUPERHEROES” – THE EDUCATIONAL COMIC BOOK
ABOUT ECOLOGY FOR CHILDREN**

The “ECO Superheroes” comic book was created within
the “ECO Superhero” project

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The project “ECO Superhero” is co-financed by the
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The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable
regional cooperation in Central Europe.

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• Visegrad Fund
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**THE EDUCATIONAL COMIC
BOOK ABOUT ECOLOGY
FOR CHILDREN**



Meet our ECO Superheroes!

Between the Spry-Brook and Fairy Lake there's a mysterious Old Forest. That's where the two elves – **Sarah Elderberry** and **Greg Hawthorn** – spend their cheerful days!

However, they are not only inhabitants, but also the guardians of huge trees, mushrooms, plants and animals. The two elves know all creatures living around them very well. They are friends of animals, plants and the people of Old Village.



GREG

SARAH



**THE WISE
OAK**



THE MAYOR
of the Village



MR. PUDDY
a friendly bear



WALTER
from the
Thousand-Drops Sea

1

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

... it is possible to make a fleece sweatshirt out of 50 PET bottles because fleece is a „plastic material“?

... every glass bottle reused can save the energy needed to watch TV for 6 hours?

... garbage trucks are divided into chambers inside, so that different types of waste do not mix?

REMEMBER!

Segregating is not throwing away! Paper, glass and plastic are not rubbish - they are valuable raw materials.

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SEGREGATION





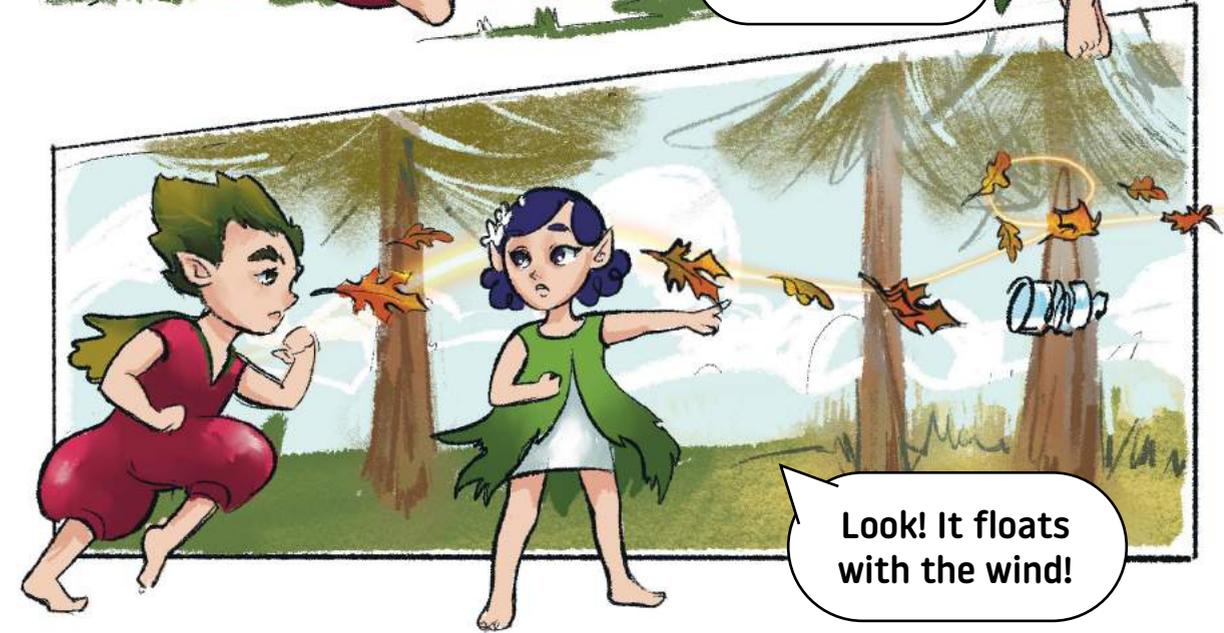
Sarah and Greg were watching blowing leaves when suddenly...



What is it?

I don't know. It's neither a butterfly nor a leaf.

Let's follow it!



Look! It floats with the wind!



What are these?

I don't know. Let's put them into my bag and take to The Wise Oak. He'll help us.

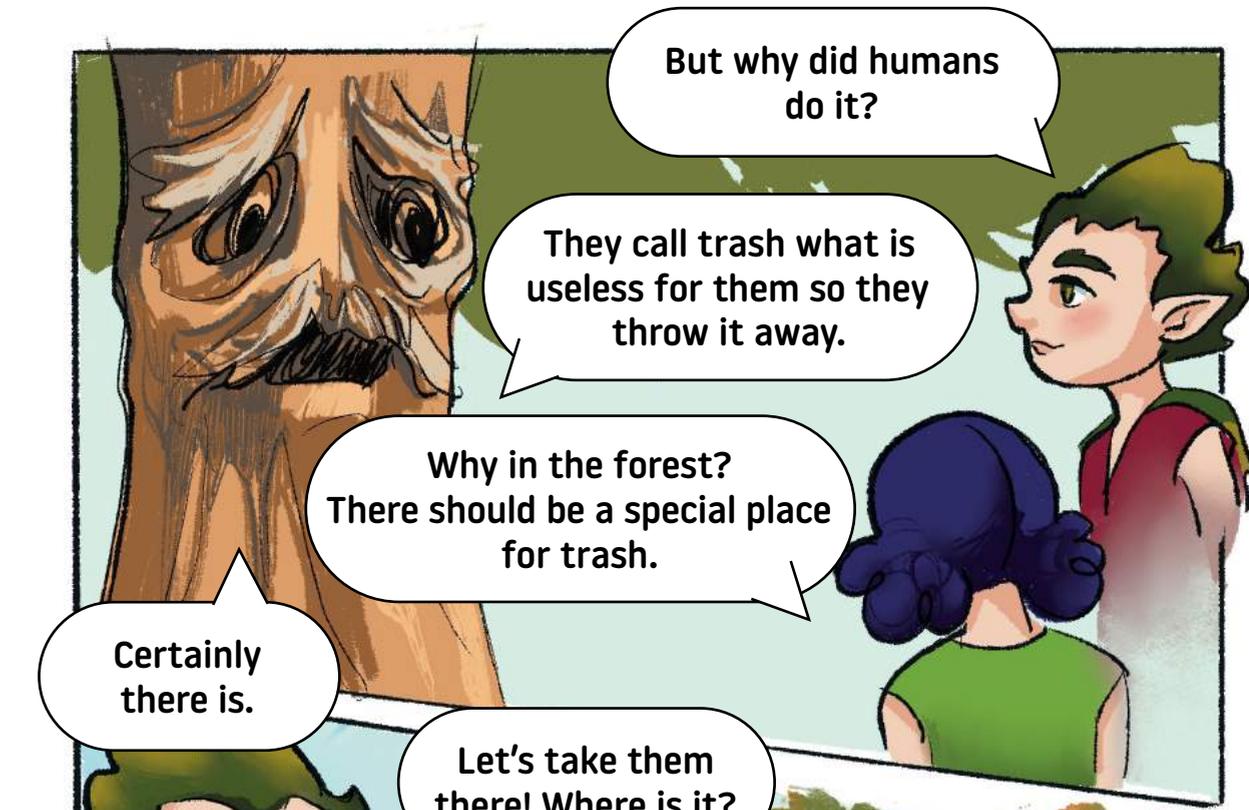
Have a lot of sunshine, Wise Oak!

Look! We've found this stuff in the forest. Do you know where it's from?



Well, I know... It was thrown away by humans.

The same to you, my little friends!



But why did humans do it?

They call trash what is useless for them so they throw it away.

Why in the forest? There should be a special place for trash.

Certainly there is.

Let's take them there! Where is it?



Can you see this place with containers very next to us? It's Junkyard. Things humans no longer need should go there.

All sorts of trash? Let's put them into that black box!

Not all of these are trash. Objects which can be reused are called waste and they must be collected separately. They have their own place.



Do you see this undamaged milk bottle? You can keep and reuse it. Take it to Lady Elderberry. She'll pour some juice into it. Put this broken one into the green bin where the glass is stored for later recycling.



This paper roll and this piece of newspaper are creased so we can't use them anymore. Put them into the blue bin where the paper is stored.



This PET-bottle and the bag are made of plastic and both of them are damaged. Their place is among other plastic things in the yellow bin.



What shall I do with this one?

Well, if you can't reuse it, you should put it into the grey container where the metal objects are.

I'd rather make an instrument or a rattle from it!

Where shall we put this?

We can't reuse it. Such things must go to the black bin.

Why do we have to collect them separately? How will humans reuse them?

If everything gets to the right place, humans will know what's there and what they can use it for.



Humans can make new plastic cups and bottles from the collected plastic. New bottles can be made from the broken glass, and new tin cans from metal things.

It's getting late and we still have lots of things to gather in the forest.



Let's go home and have a rest!

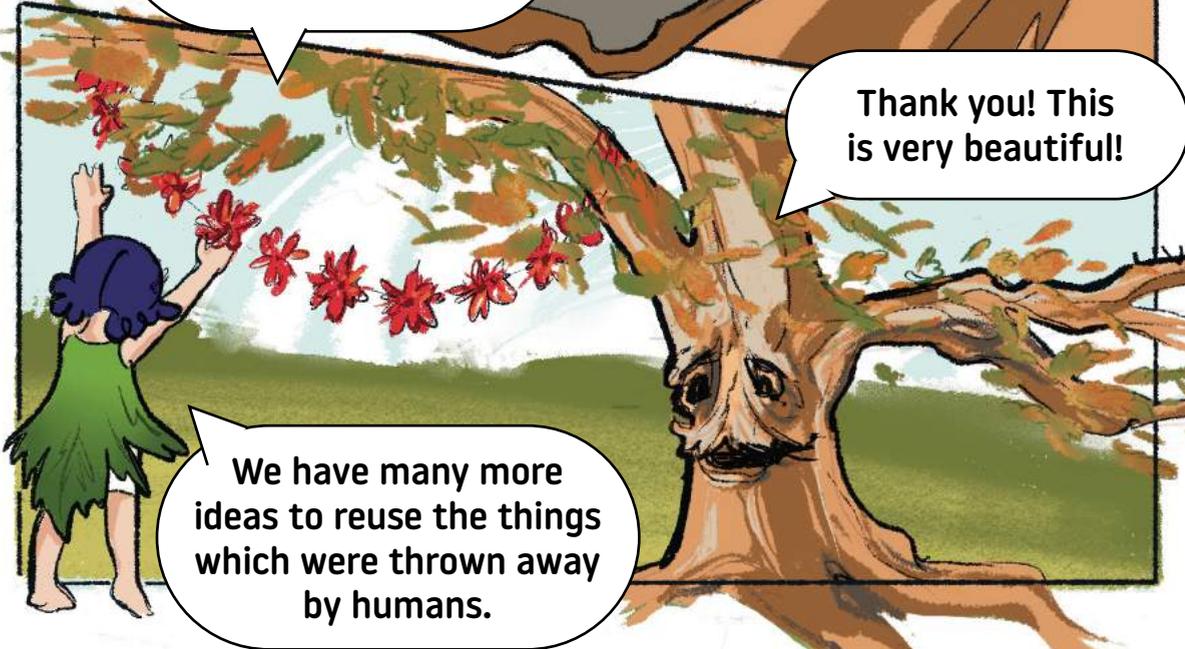


Look! I've kept this one. I will make a gift from it for the Oak.

That would be marvelous!

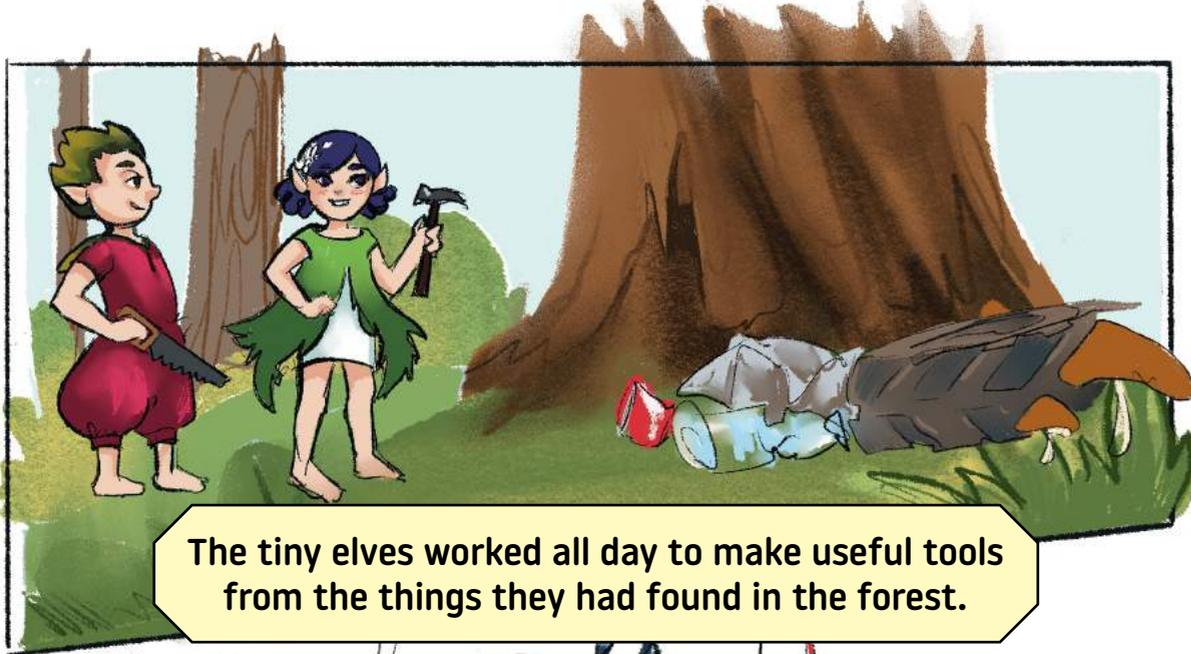


Look! This garland is made for you! I reused a piece of plastic.



Thank you! This is very beautiful!

We have many more ideas to reuse the things which were thrown away by humans.



The tiny elves worked all day to make useful tools from the things they had found in the forest.



Well done, little friends!

Hurray! The black bin is almost empty! Why don't humans treat the waste in this way?

Not everyone knows how it works!

We should tell villagers about it!

That would be great, my little friends!



They visited the school first.

Then they went to the firehouse to inform fire-fighters.



Later they talked to police officers.



They even visited the Mayor.

From that day on people always think twice before they put something into the litter bin. They separate trash. They put plastic into the yellow, paper into the blue, glass into the green, metal to the grey container. They do not often use black bin, so maybe it will never be full again.



Regarding the Old Forest, humans throw nothing away over there. They truly hope that the two Heroes talk about them proudly in the forest. They've learned that waste can be an asset, which we have to treat well to make our EARTH a better place to live.



DID YOU KNOW THAT...

... 2700 litres of fresh water are needed to produce one T-shirt? Such an amount is enough drinking water for one person for 2,5 years.

... nearly 9 million tons of food are wasted in Poland per year? That is 247 kg for each person! For you, your mother and dad.

... if all this thrown away food was put in one train, it would have 220 thousand carriages, and its length would equal the length of the Polish border?

Remember!

Buy and prepare only as much food as you know you will eat.

Instead of throwing away unworn clothes or unused toys, you can give them to others and make them happy!

2

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND ZERO HUNGER

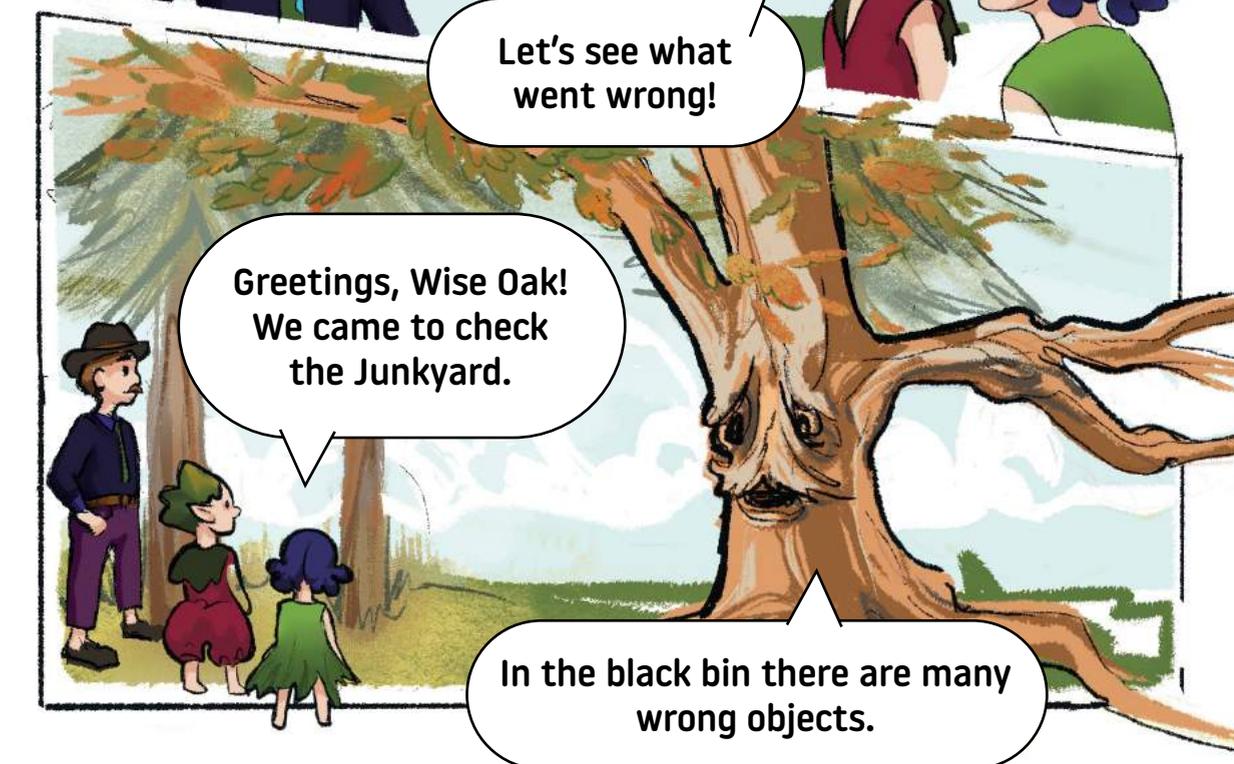




Finally I've found you!



The Black Container is almost full!



Let's see what went wrong!

Greetings, Wise Oak!
We came to check the Junkyard.

In the black bin there are many wrong objects.

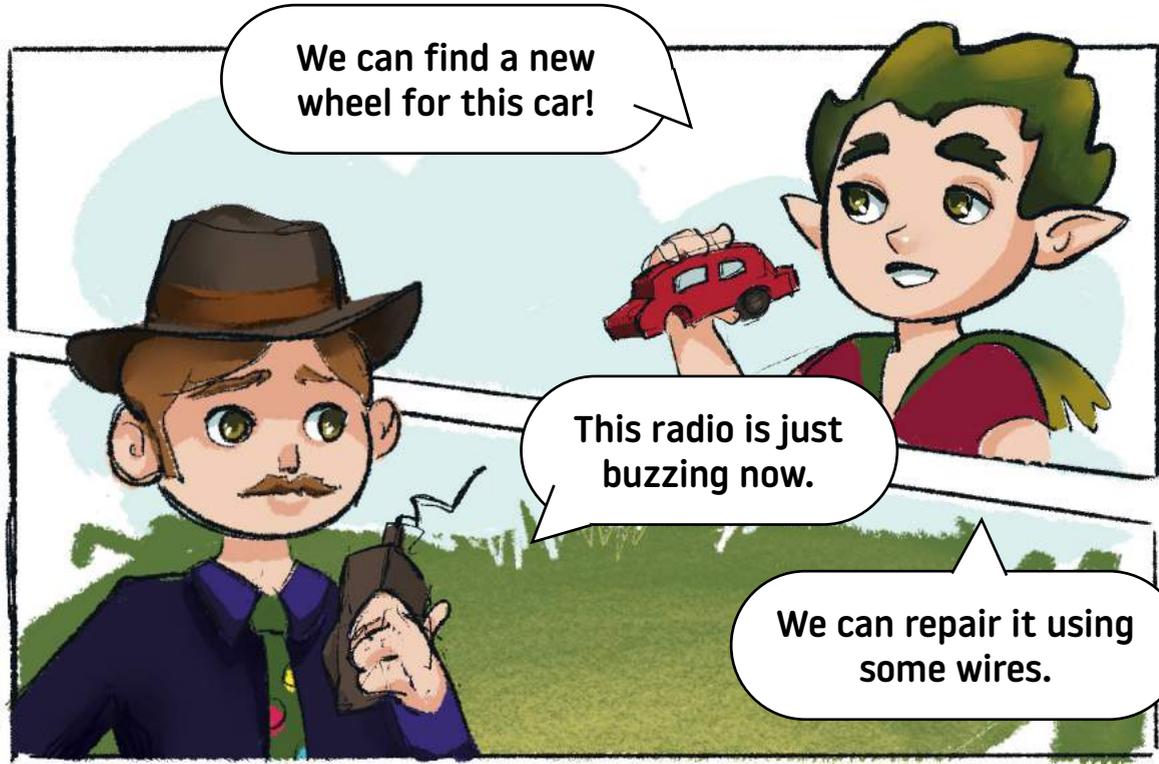
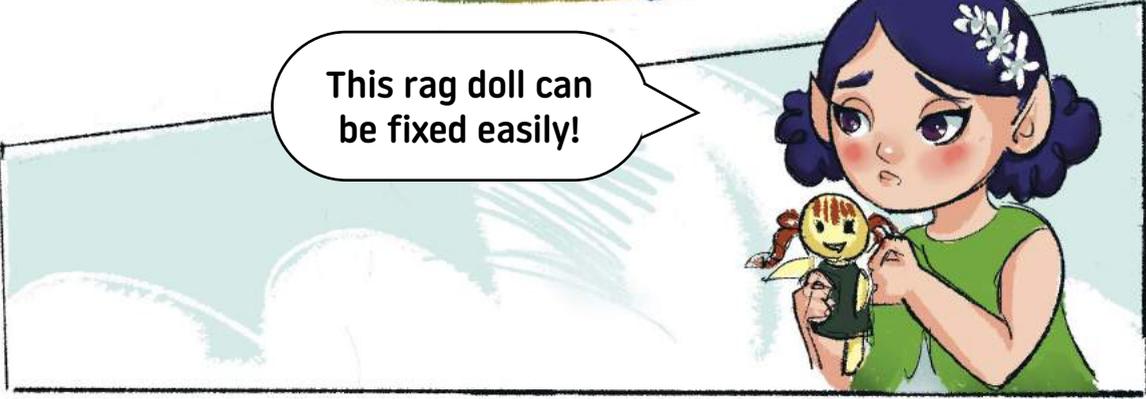


Many things shouldn't be here!

These things shouldn't have been thrown away!



This rag doll can be fixed easily!



We can find a new wheel for this car!

This radio is just buzzing now.

We can repair it using some wires.

There are so many food scraps in here!

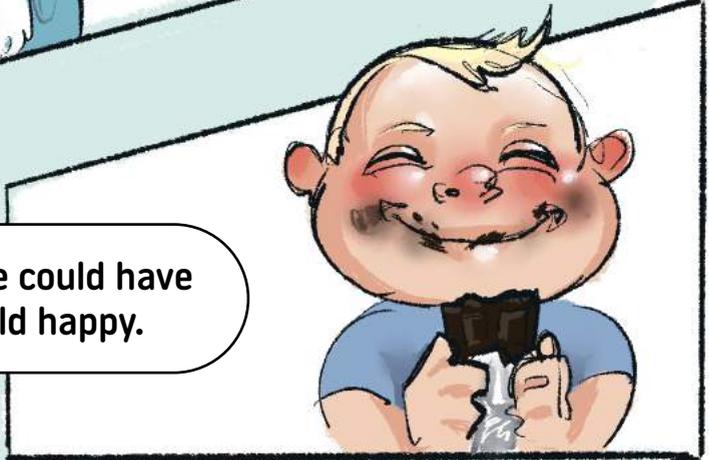


The villagers often get more food than they need.

But they shouldn't throw it away!



Lady Elderberry could have grated this half an apple to make filling for a cinnamon apple pie.



This chocolate could have made a child happy.



These clothes shouldn't be here either!



I could patch these socks easily. The vest could be given to a younger child.



I know a family which would be happy having this vest.



There is some food left in these boxes.



This food in such boxes is delivered from the Fairy Lake.



The Fairy Lake is too far from here! The villagers should get vegetables in a Silk Paradise instead!

We should tell them about it!



Why is this book in the litter bin?

Someone may have already read it!

They should have given it to someone who hasn't read it yet.

I'll take it to the library!



We will fix and clean everything till tomorrow!



...and find new owners for them in the Old Village!



We've saved many things!



Hurray! The Black Container is almost empty!

The elves have been working hard all night to finish till dawn.



After the exhausting work they went to the Village to deliver what they'd repaired.

Meanwhile, the mayor gathered the people of Old Village.



From that day on the people of Old Village always fix broken objects.



Also Sarah and Greg had arrived by the end of the meeting.



They've found new owners for all stuff repaired.

They always donate old clothes and they borrow books from the library if they want to read one.



Now the villagers get fruit and vegetables in the Silk Paradise. They always get fresh and healthy local goods, so they don't need so many plastic boxes and vans for deliveries.



DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- ... one battery from an electronic watch can pollute up to 400 litres of water?
- ... most of the energy in your home is used to heat rooms and other premises? It is 64%!
- ... producing 6 new cans from scrap metal saves energy equal to burning 1 litre of petrol?

REMEMBER!

Do not dispose of the battery in your household garbage can. Put them in a special container in the store or give them away at the appropriate point.

Turn off the lights when you leave the room and switch off the TV or computer when you are no longer using them. This is how you save energy!

3

CLEAN ENERGY



Elderberry Sarah and Hawthorn Greg are the best-known elves from the Old Forest. Friends of animals, plants and the people of Old Village.

On a sunny morning Sarah and Greg were looking for snowdrops on their favorite path in the forest. Then a strong wind turned up.

Let's find a shelter in Mr. Puddy's cave!

What's wrong with the air here? I'm short of breath.

Mr. Puddy may know the answer.

Happy bird chirping day, Mr. Puddy! We're looking for a shelter!

Come inside, little fellows!



We'll leave as soon as the wind calms down.



You can help me look for some food in the forest.

As the wind had calmed down, they started to seek some food for the bear.



So few plants are around here! And it's hard to breathe.

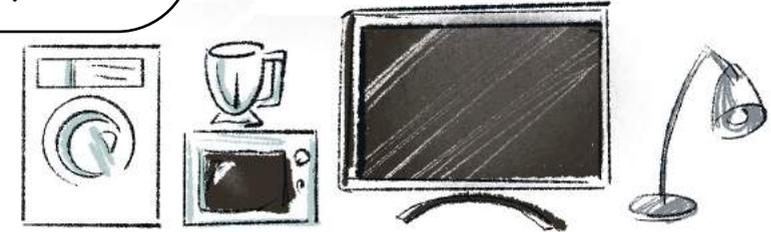
It's due to the smoke coming from the coal power plant.

What is it for? Why is it smoking?



It's smoking because it burns coal to make Electricity.

And what is Electricity for?



Humans use Electricity in their homes for lighting, TV and many other household appliances.



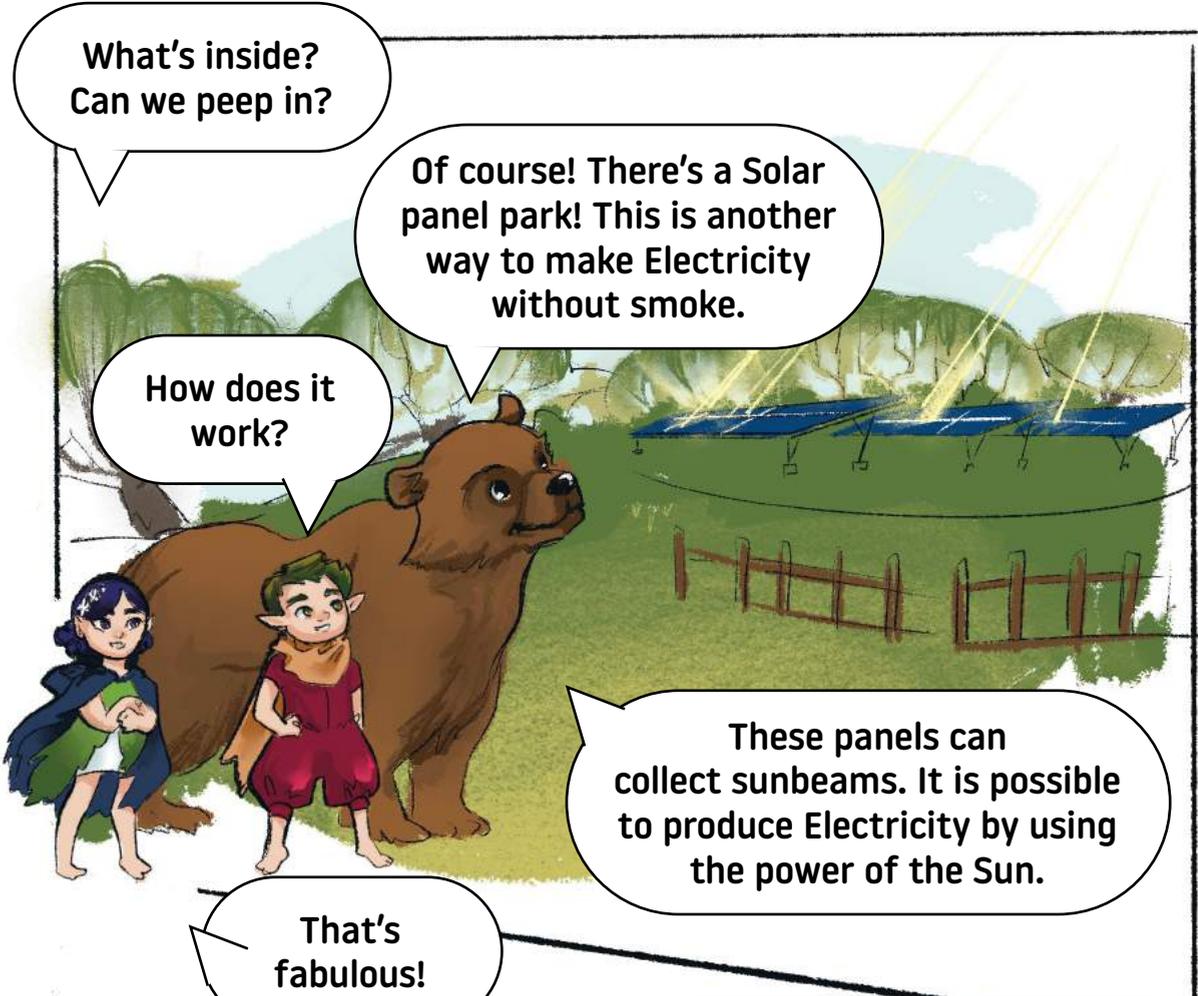
There are ways to make Electricity with no smoke. I will show you something!

What are these?



These are Wind turbines. They use Wind power.

The air is fresh and clean since the Wind turbines are here!



What's inside? Can we peep in?

Of course! There's a Solar panel park! This is another way to make Electricity without smoke.

How does it work?

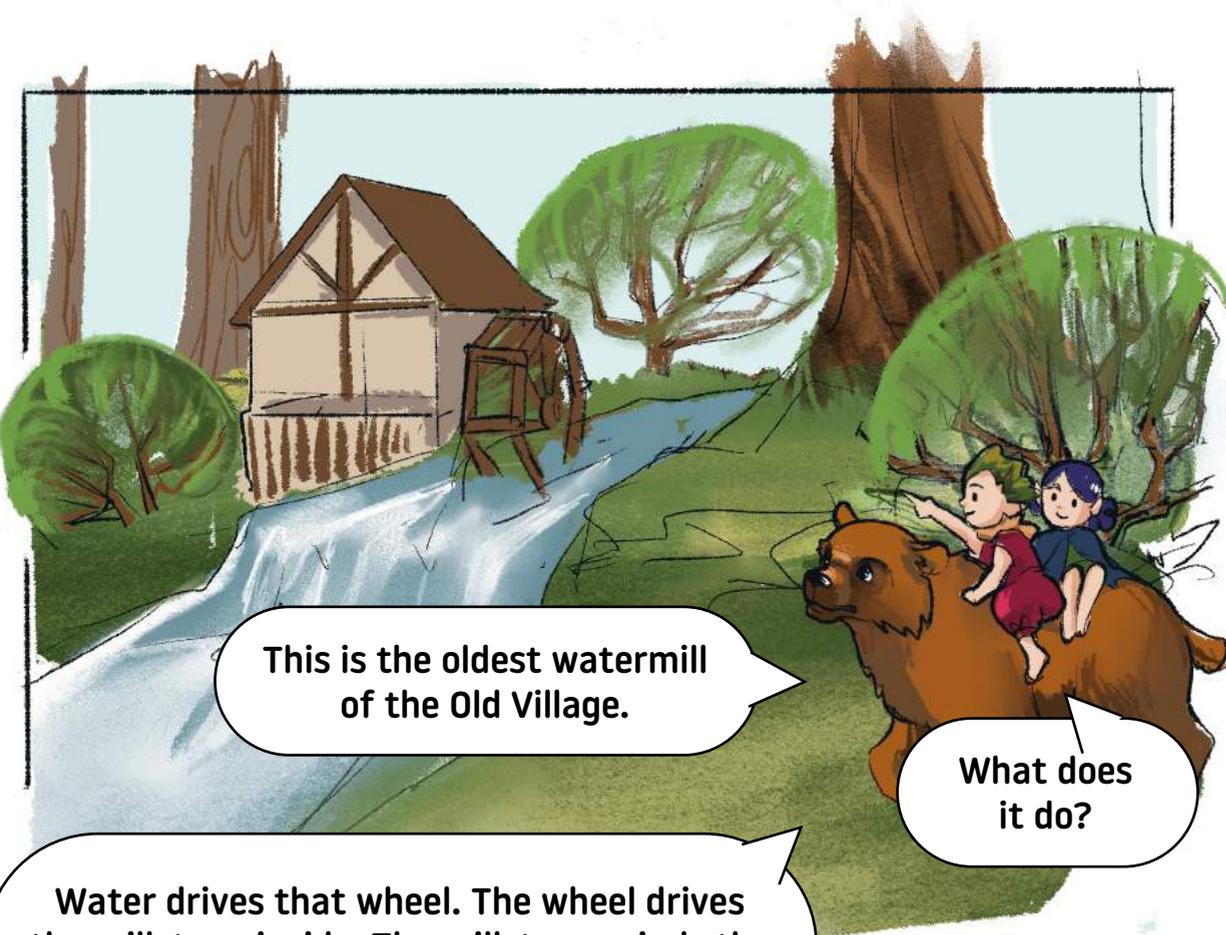
These panels can collect sunbeams. It is possible to produce Electricity by using the power of the Sun.

That's fabulous!

So it doesn't disturb the animals and the birds at all!



I think, we can show you something similar, Mr. Puddy! Come with us to the brookside!



This is the oldest watermill of the Old Village.

What does it do?

Water drives that wheel. The wheel drives the millstone inside. The millstone grinds the wheat. And this is how the flour is made.



If only everybody used the power of the Sun, water, and wind to produce Electricity!

We will inform people!



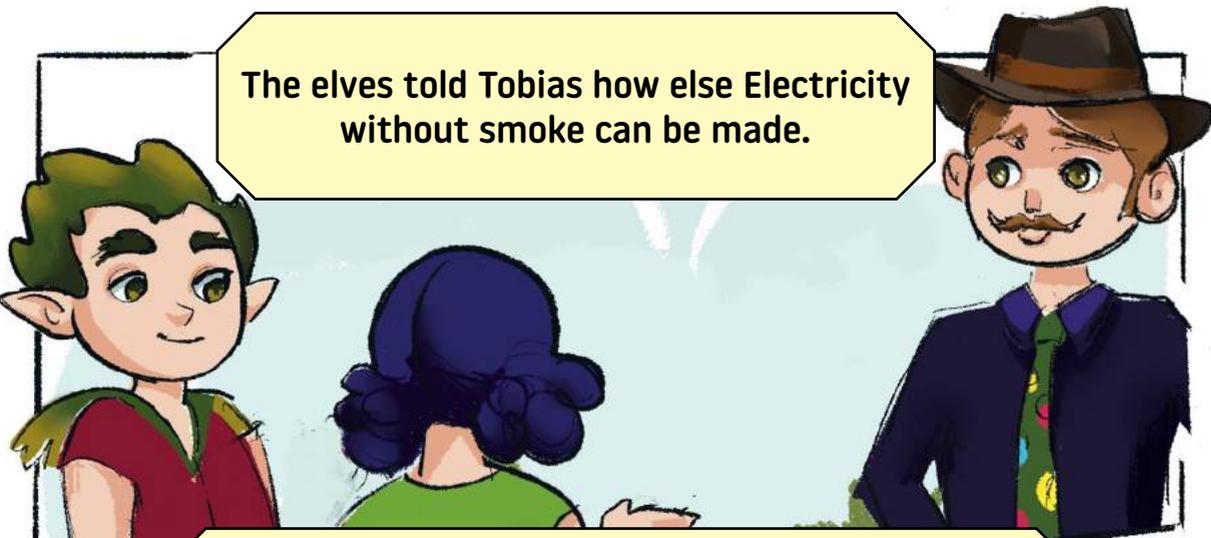
I must leave now to get some food on the way home. Goodbye my friends!

Goodbye, Mr Puddy! We are going to the Old Village.

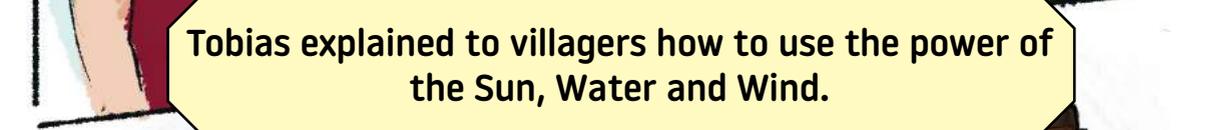
Let's go straight to the mayor Tobias!



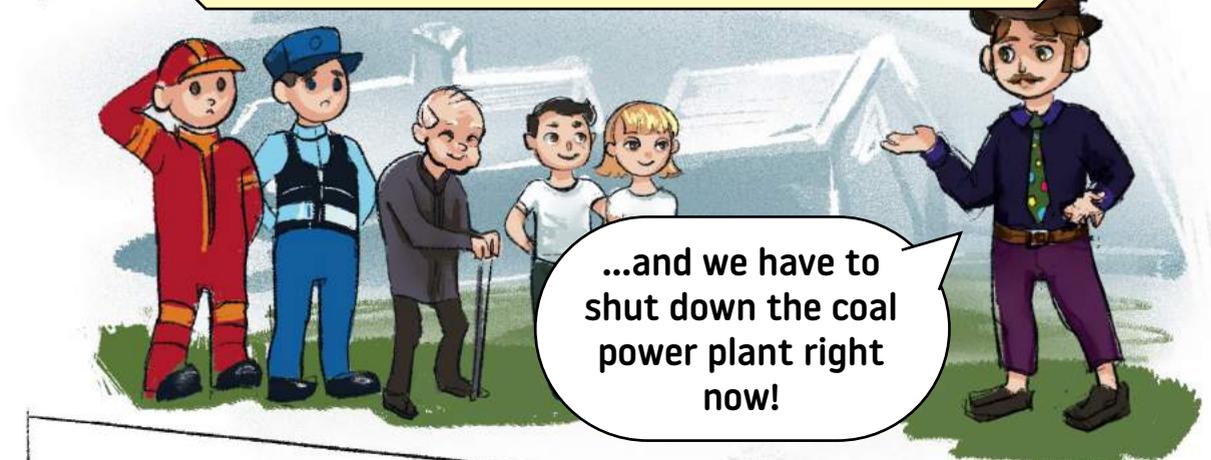
Great idea! I would like to tell him how they can replace the coal power plant.



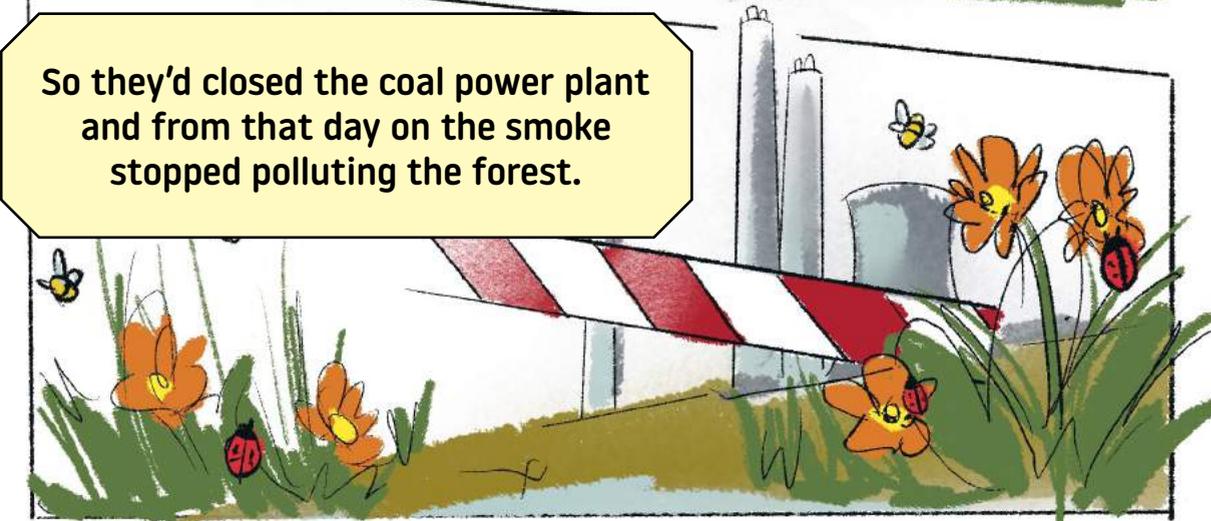
The elves told Tobias how else Electricity without smoke can be made.



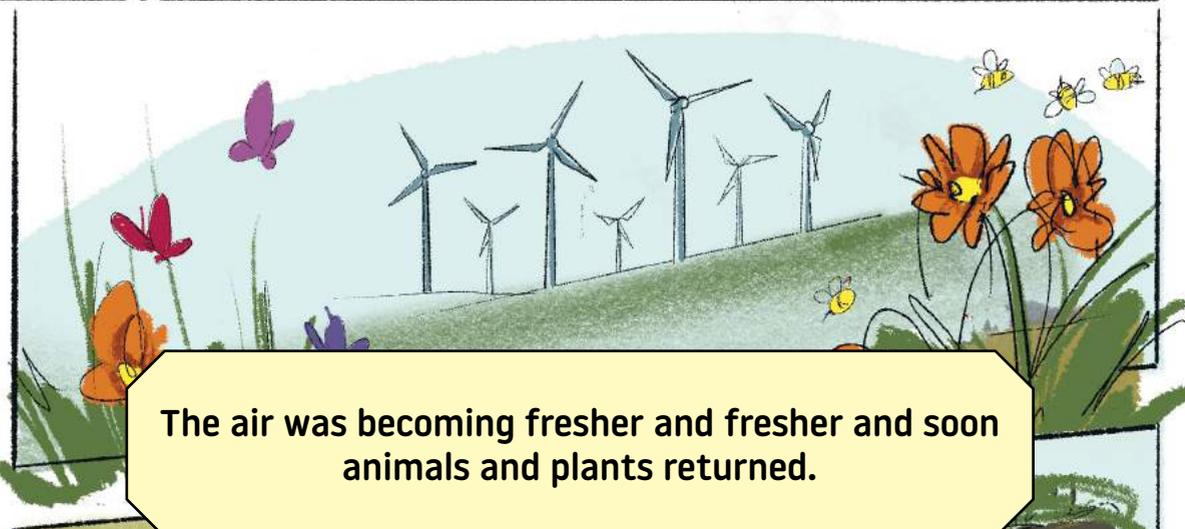
Tobias explained to villagers how to use the power of the Sun, Water and Wind.



...and we have to shut down the coal power plant right now!



So they'd closed the coal power plant and from that day on the smoke stopped polluting the forest.



The air was becoming fresher and fresher and soon animals and plants returned.



Even Mr. Puddy can find food close to his cave and hear birds chirping around him again.



Animals are so grateful to the two Heroes who made the forest an eco-friendly place.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

... the oldest tree in the world is over 4600 years old? How many years are you missing to be the same age?

... one tree produces enough oxygen for 10 people in a year and to save it only 60 kg of waste paper is needed?

... a plastic bottle thrown in the forest will decompose, i.e. disappear, only after 500 years and chewing gum only after 5 years?

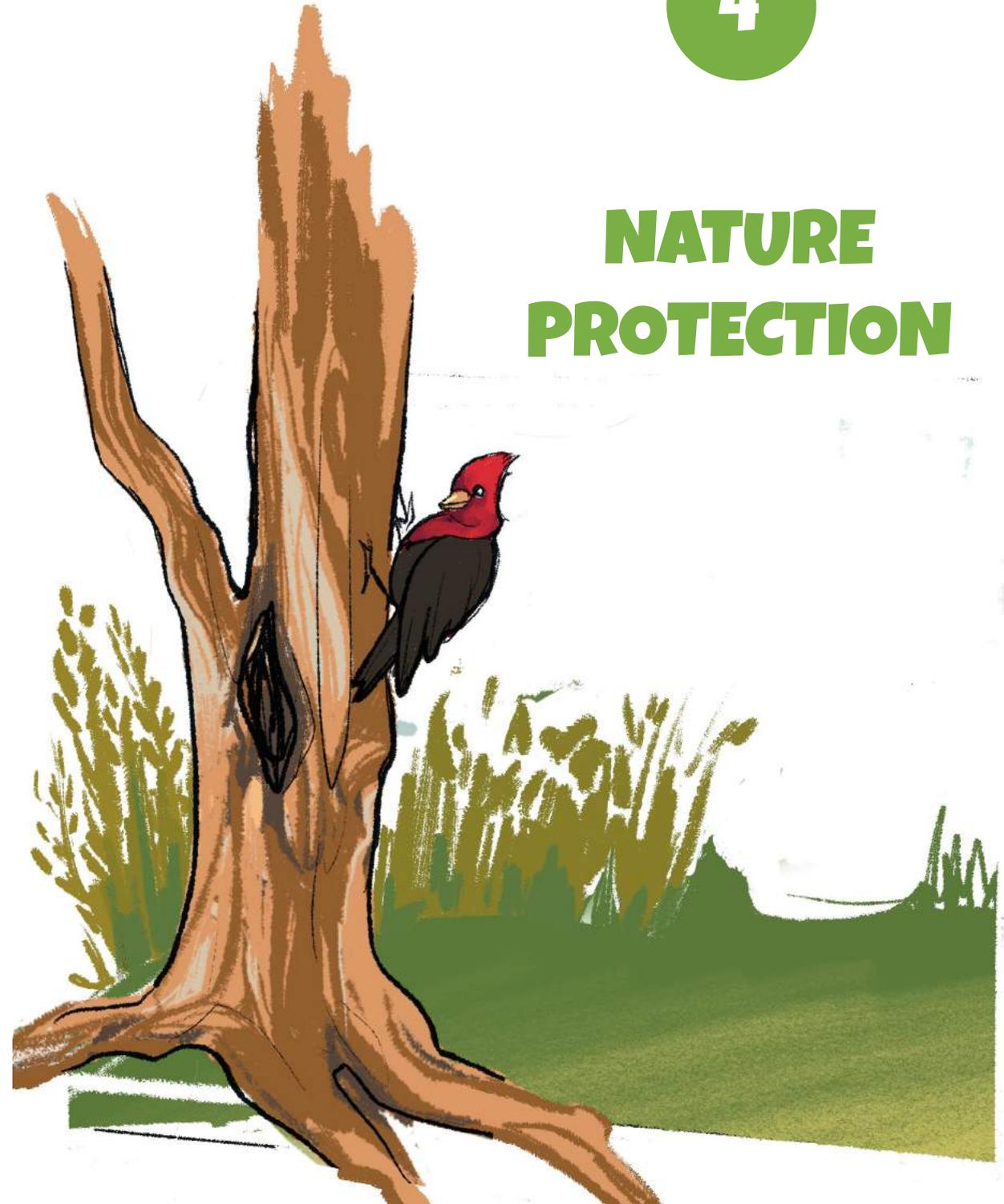
Remember!

Do not litter in the forest and respect nature. Forest, park or meadow are houses of animals, birds and insects.

When drawing, use both sides of a piece of paper. This way you protect the trees from which the paper is made from being cut down!

4

NATURE PROTECTION





Have you ever wandered near the mossy paths of the Old Forest? That's where the elves Sarah Elderberry and Greg Hawthorn spend their cheerful days!

However, they are not only inhabitants, but also the guardians of huge trees, mushrooms, plants and animals.

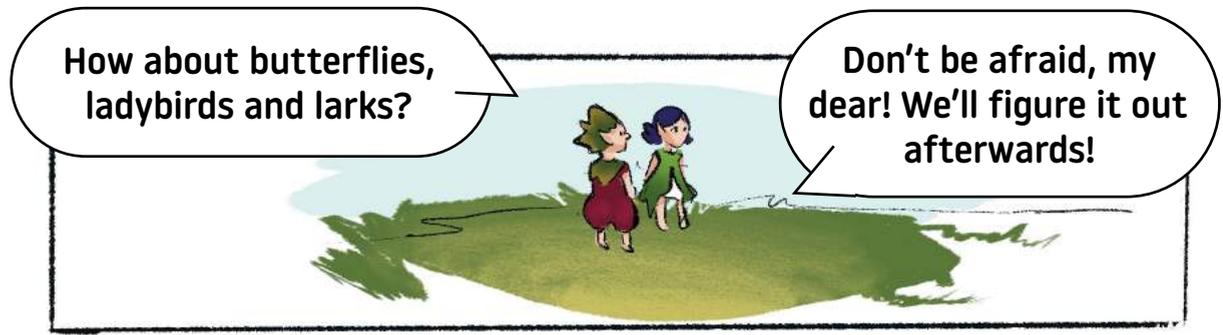


We haven't been there for a long time. Let's look for military orchids.



Oh no, what could have happened here Greg?

All the flowers are gone!



How about butterflies, ladybirds and larks?

Don't be afraid, my dear! We'll figure it out afterwards!



Can you see? These flowers must have been torn out!

Who could have done this?

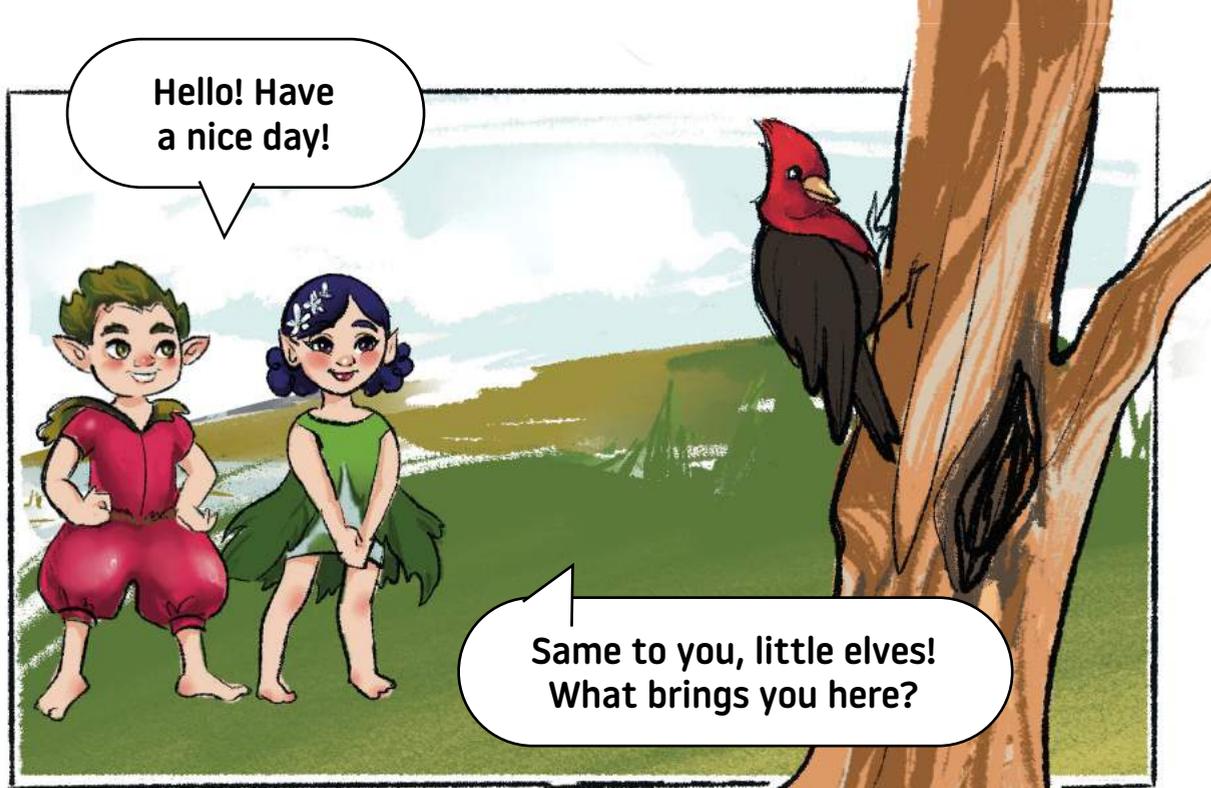
I guess Woodpecker knows the answers.



Who can be this Polly Esther?

We'll find it out! I promise...

HERE WAS POLLY ESTHER ♡

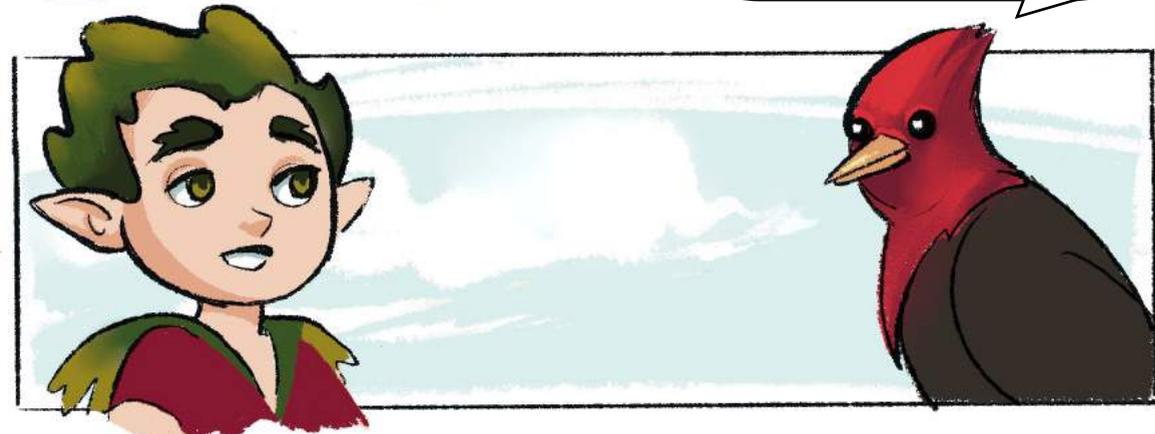


Hello! Have a nice day!

Same to you, little elves! What brings you here?

Have you seen anything unusual recently? And do you know Polly?

Yes, a group of pupils from New City came here! I guess Polly is one of them.



If they pick up all flowers, you won't see any here in future!

Well, seemingly they have not thought about that...

We need to visit New City to tell Polly Esther and her friends about it.

Follow me! I know the way.

So, they had departed, and marched until they reached Spry-Brook.



What the muddy-smurf happened here?

The dwellers of New City often come here and leave trash.

But what about animals?

They had to find another, peaceful place to live.

That's not fair! We have to get to New City as soon as possible.

Oh no! Last time trees and bushes were scattered here!

A large amount of elderly trees were cut down to make place for this road.

Less and less place remains for the animals!

Humans try to replace old trees with some saplings, but it takes them years to grow.

But this is exactly why they should save old trees!

Various plants provide shelter for various animals. That is why it is so diverse the forests all around. Polly Esther should be told to know that!

Where should we go first to find Polly Esther?

I think she might be at school.

Everything is so gloomy in here! How do people know how to care for plants and animals?

Now it's our mission to teach them!

Could you please tell us who Polly Esther is?

Follow me! I know where she is at the moment.



Polly was in the classroom with her friends. The children were astonished when they saw the two elves. They have never met such amazing creatures before.



The next day the elves organised a schooltrip to the Old Forest. Also Principal Priscilla, all teachers, children and even their parents were invited!

Sarah and Greg told everyone stories about mushrooms, mosses, plants and animals. They told them why it's forbidden to pick leaves and flowers, and why it's so hard to replace the oldest trees.



Polly had almost sunk with shame. She promised not to pick a single leaf or a flower while walking in the forest or on fields.



From that day on the people of New City make space for new trees and shrubs and care for clean forests or parks. They build shelters and birdhouses for animals to take care of them in winter.

They've decided to be far more careful and prudent when walking in the forest.



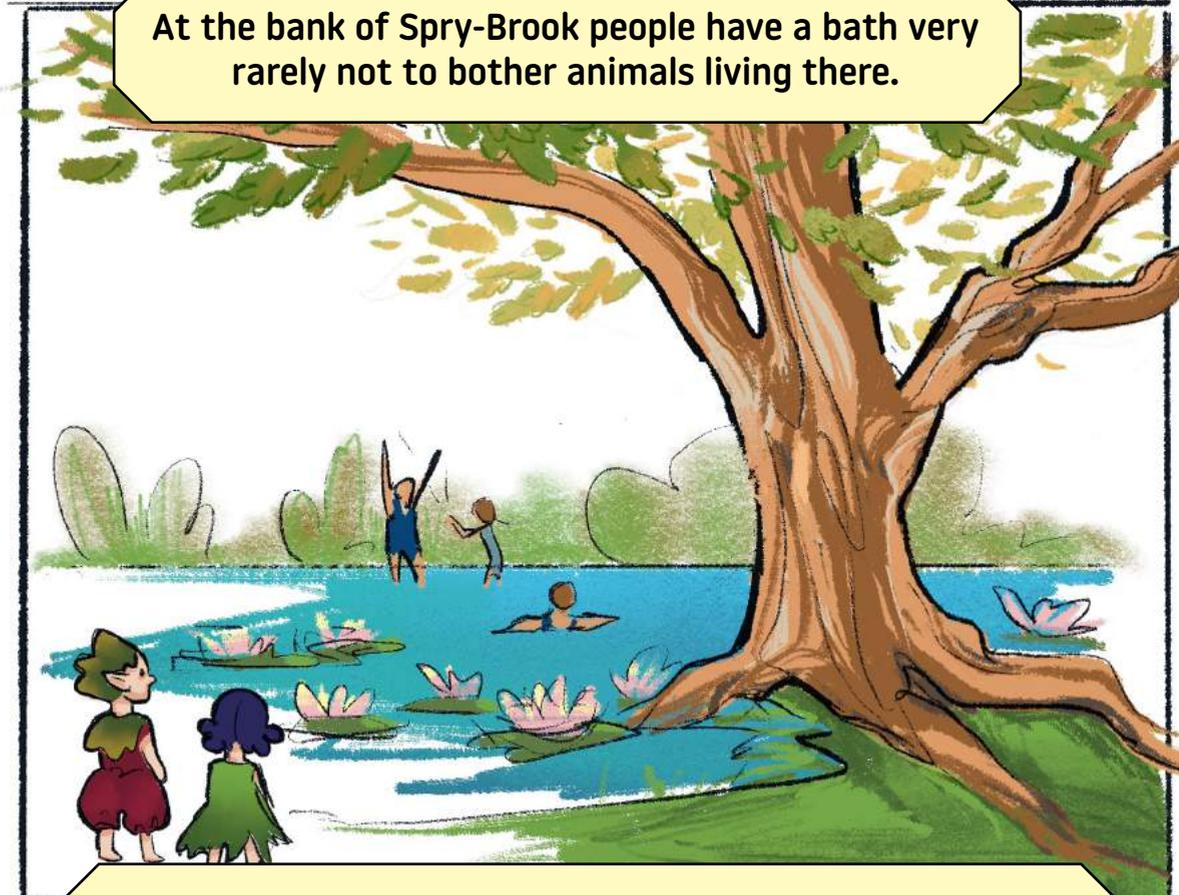
And if they're going to build something new, they'll be attentive not to cut down any old trees.



They devoted themselves to Lark Field so much that they always fence the field for the military-orchid blooming time. At that time the dwellers of New City can admire a colourful, honey-scented carnival.



At the bank of Spry-Brook people have a bath very rarely not to bother animals living there.



Sarah Elderberry and Gregory Hawthorn can proudly walk around the forest again as humans are now happy to have helpers saving the planet.



DID YOU KNOW THAT...

... most of the rubbish in the seas is plastic? There is over 80% of it!

... in about 25 years there will be more plastic in the oceans than sea creatures?

... the amount of water on Earth does not change? This means that some of the water we drink during our lifetime will be the same water that the dinosaurs came in contact with!

Remember!

You have an impact on fish life in rivers and lakes. When you are by the water be sure to keep it clean and reprimand others when they litter.

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND LIFE UNDERWATER



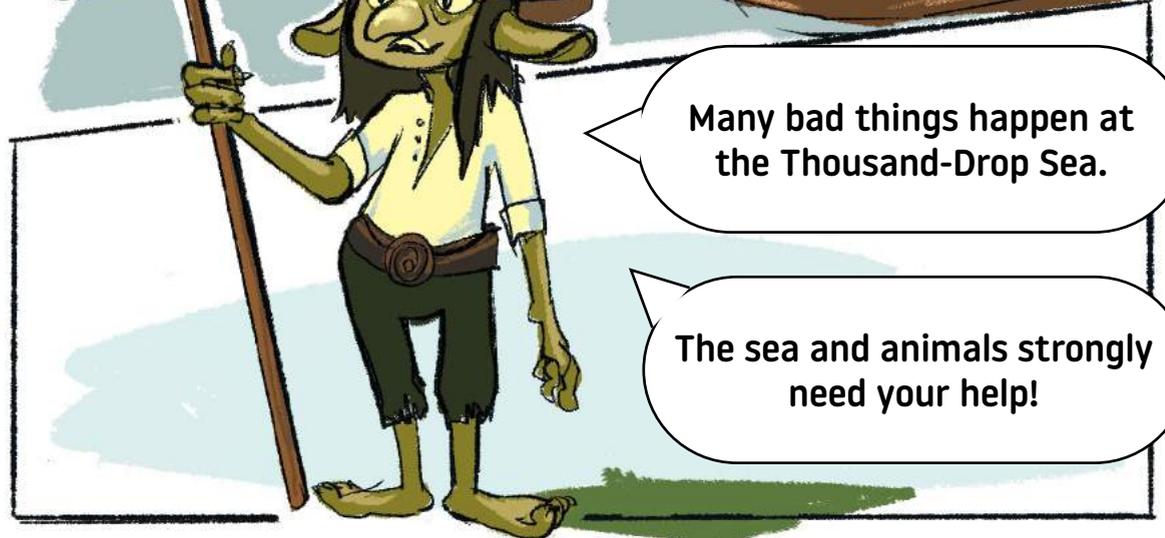
Between the Spry-Brook and Fairy Lake there's a mysterious Old Forest - Sarah and Greg's home. The two elves know all creatures living around them very well.



One day they were laying in the sun on the shore of Sbry-Brook, when a familiar whistle hit their ears.



Heyho, Walter! What brings you here?

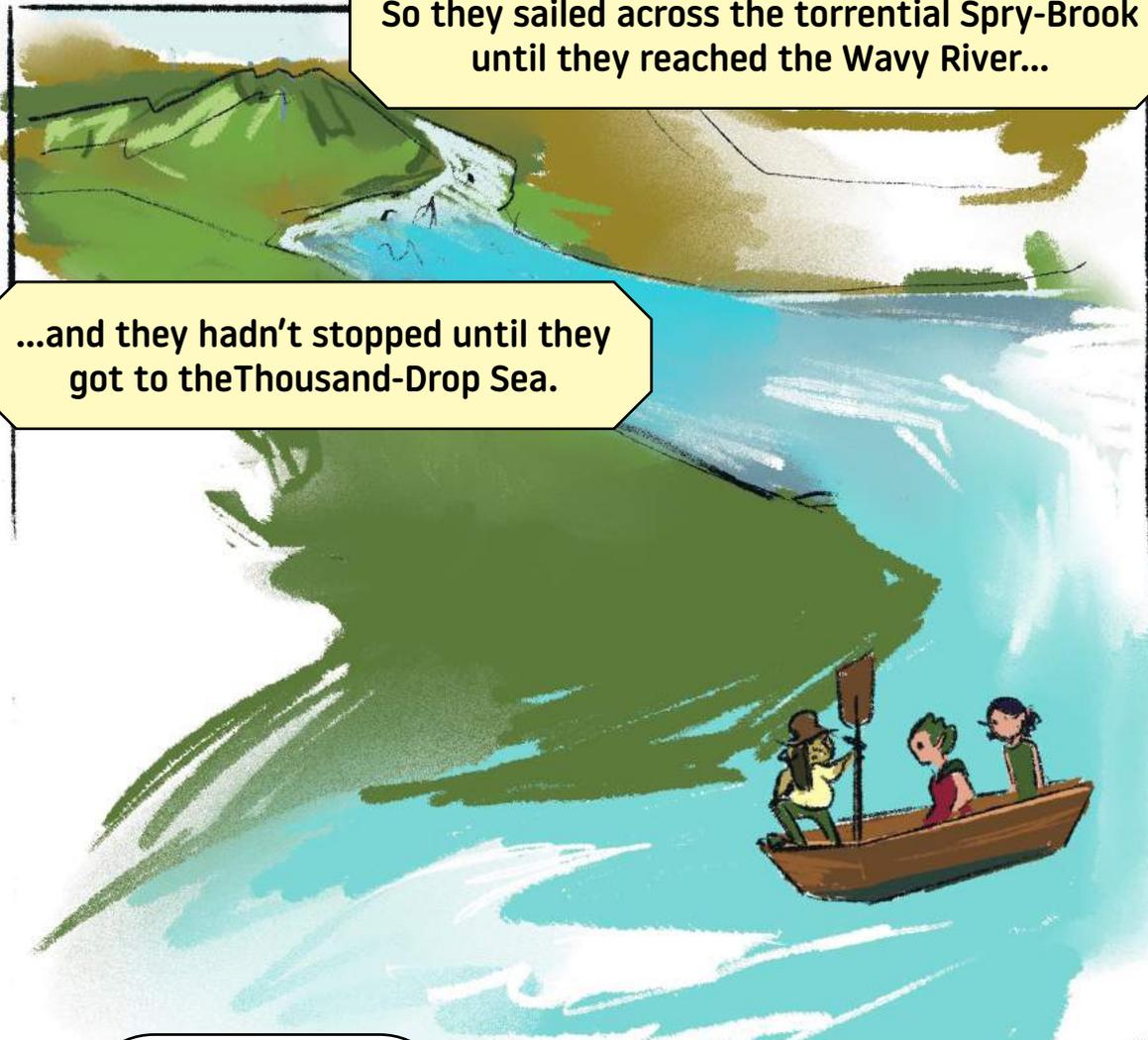


Many bad things happen at the Thousand-Drop Sea.

The sea and animals strongly need your help!

So they sailed across the torrential Spry-Brook until they reached the Wavy River...

...and they hadn't stopped until they got to the Thousand-Drop Sea.



Why is it so deserted?

Animals had to leave this place. Let's sail to the Tiny Island and I'll tell you more!



So where are the animals?

The Corals had died out so the fish had to find another home...



The fish have found other Corals, but the dwellers of Tufty City trawl more of them than necessary.



Wow, your island is so small!



It's getting smaller each year because the sea level rises.

What causes it to rise?

The icy mountains in the north are melting, so there's more and more water...

Why are icebergs melting?
Are they too hot?



Yes, they are! If you sail up to the Seal-bay, you can see they're slowly vanishing due to the heat.

No more time to waste...
Let's go to the Seal-bay!

What are those seals doing?



They are resting on the icebergs.

And this is the last that remained.



They'll have no place for rest soon!

Let's go to the City now!

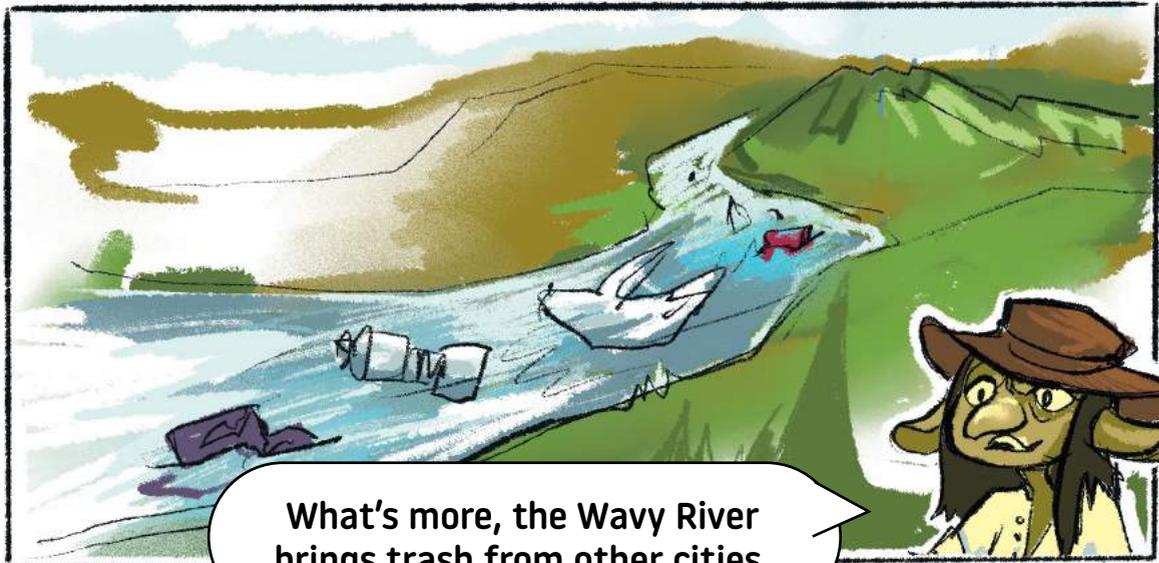
What the smurf is this?



This must be a harmful oil stain!

We need to tell everyone how harmful smoke is!





What's more, the Wavy River brings trash from other cities.

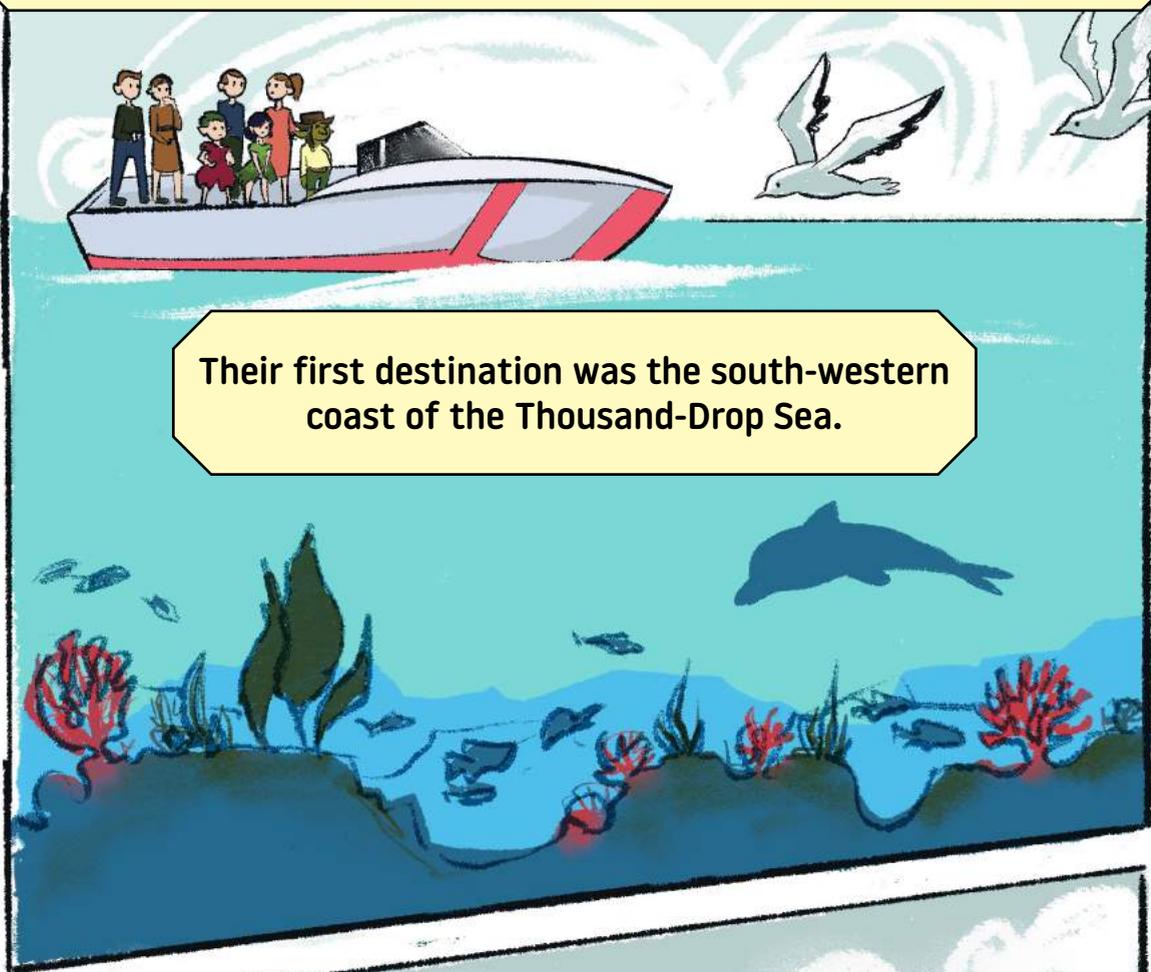


And the dwellers of Tufty City fish more than necessary.



At the harbour, when Sarah, Greg and Walter reached the City, they announced an extraordinary boat-trip!

The next day a huge sailboat got crowded with curious people.



Their first destination was the south-western coast of the Thousand-Drop Sea.

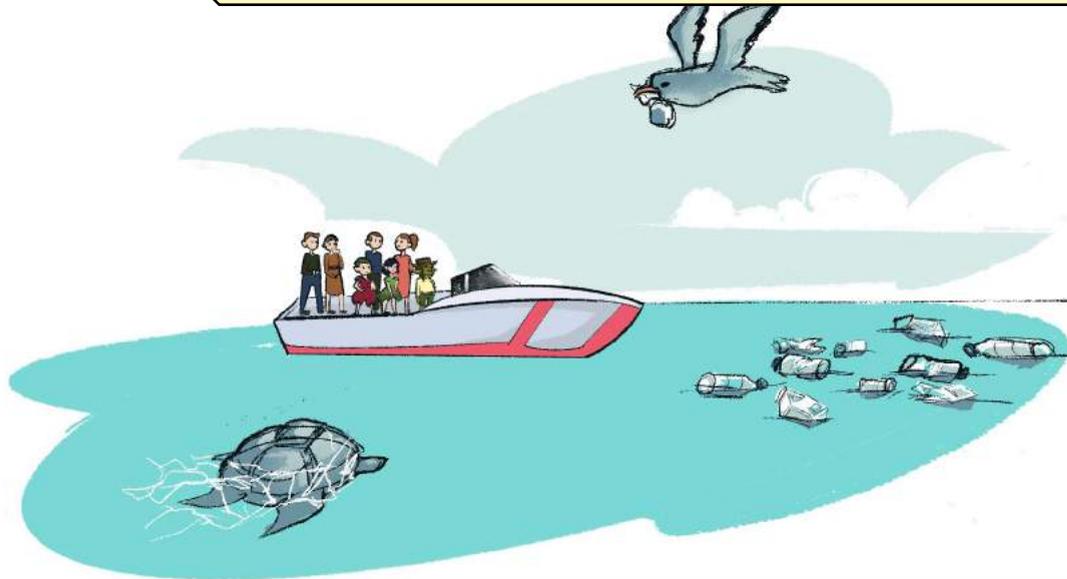


Then people could see how little space had been left for animals in the north.

The elves warned the residents of Tufty City against releasing too much smoke into the air...



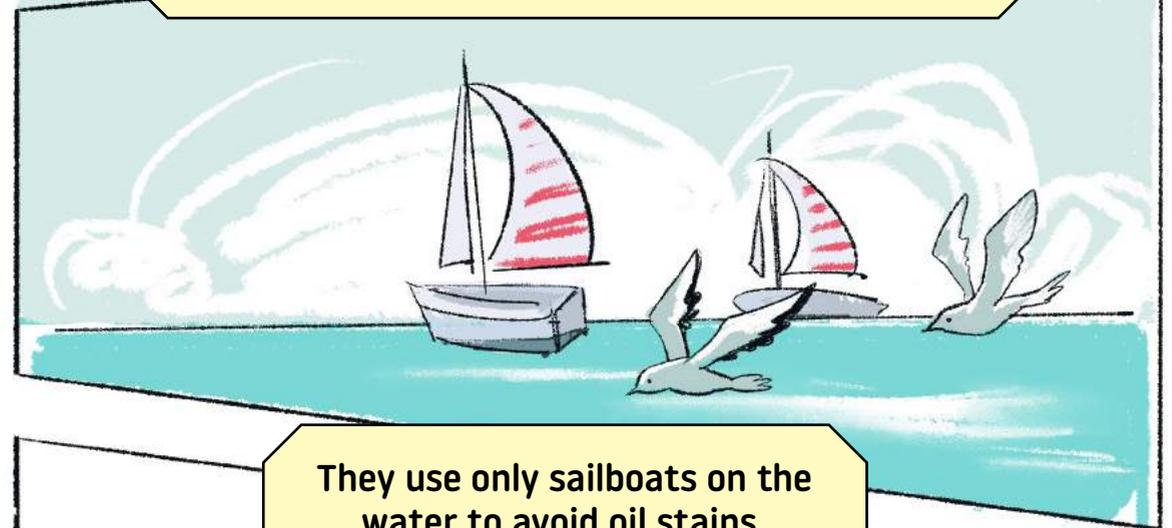
...and said how it might impact the sea life.



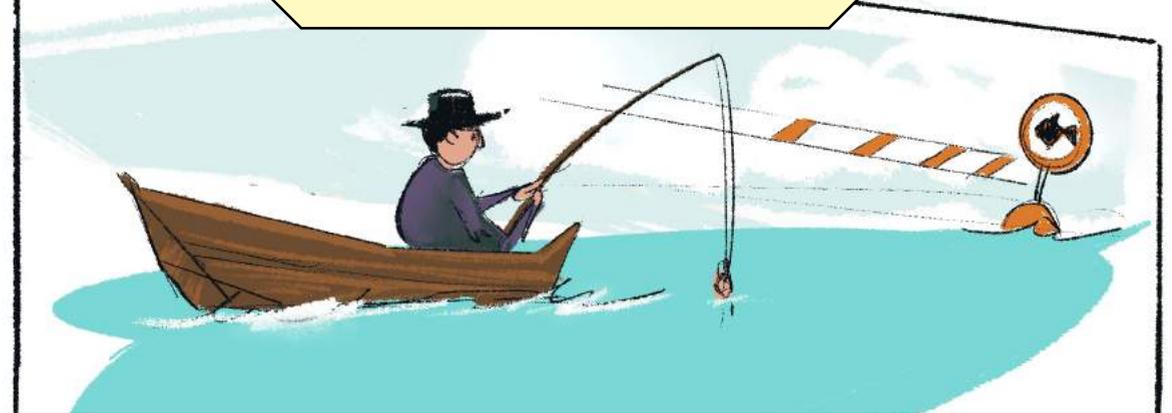
...not to mention how harmful oil stains and other dirts could be.



From that day on people modernise their large, smoking factories and they use bikes instead of cars.



They use only sailboats on the water to avoid oil stains.



And the Fishery Office allows to fish at the designated areas only.

They also take care of sea corals that provide shelters for many animals.



The dwellers of the Thousand-Drop Sea and Tufty City are still very grateful to the two elves for teaching them that even the smallest act matters to save the planet!



The comic “ECO Superheroes” contains 5 stories dedicated to:

1. Waste management and segregation,
2. Responsible consumption and zero hunger,
3. Clean energy,
4. Nature protection,
5. Global climate change and life underwater.

The elves Sarah and Greg explain children difficult and sometimes even complicated topics related to ecology in a way that is easy for the youngest to understand.



The project “ECO Superhero” is co-financed by the Governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad Grants from International Visegrad Fund. The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe.



YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS THE RESULT OF WORK OF THREE ORGANIZATIONS STRONGLY INTERESTED IN ECOLOGY, WHICH WILL HELP **BRING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES** TO YOUR PUPILS.

THE COMIC WAS CREATED AS A HELP **FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS AND EARLY SCHOOL EDUCATORS**, WHO WANT TO INTRODUCE A NEW, INTERESTING TOOL TO THEIR DAILY WORK.

THERE ARE **5 STORIES** WAITING FOR YOU INSIDE, **EACH OF THEM DEALING WITH A DIFFERENT ECO-TOPIC.**

DIVE INTO THE WORLD OF THE ELVES FROM THE OLD FOREST!

SARAH AND GREG INVITE YOU TO ACCOMPANY THEM ON THEIR WAY ALONG THE MOSSY PATHS OF THEIR FOREST HOME... AND MUCH FURTHER!

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