



volunteer woodpeckers

by Julie Anderson
&
illustrated by Giulia Orsetti



Volunteer Woodpeckers
Julie Anderson
Illustrated by Giulia Orsetti
Edited by Susannah Farrow

Copyright © 2019 Dixi Books

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted to any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information and retrieval system, without written permission from the publisher.

First published in May 2019
ISBN: 978-619-7458-39-8

Dixi Books
46 Harrier Mews SE28 0DQ London
www.dixibooks.com
info@dixibooks.com

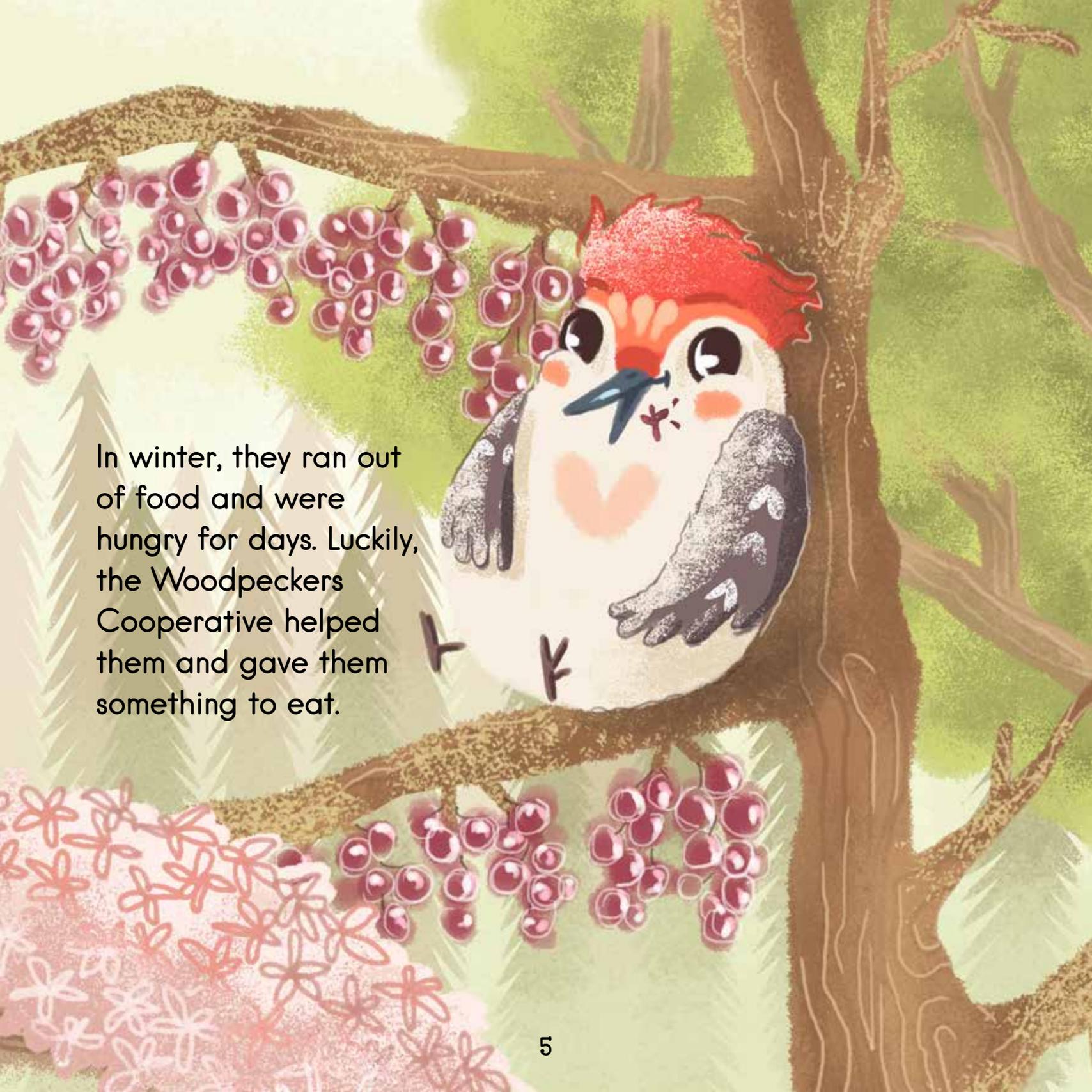
volunteer woodpeckers

by Julie Anderson
&
illustrated by Giulia Orsetti





Win and Willa welcome the spring sunshine. They play all day and fill their tummies with berries from the trees.

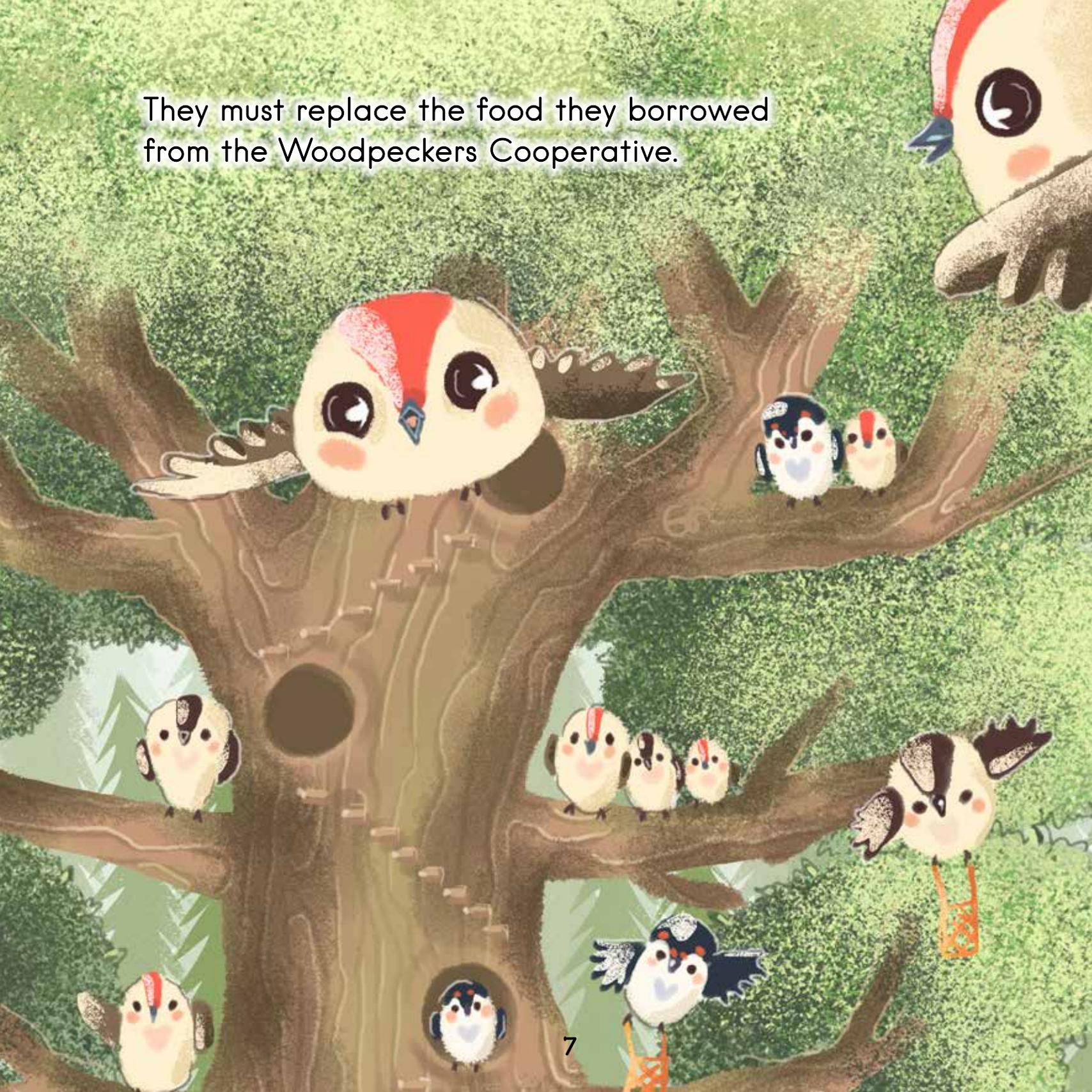


In winter, they ran out of food and were hungry for days. Luckily, the Woodpeckers Cooperative helped them and gave them something to eat.

Now that the winter snow has melted,
their first job is clear.



They must replace the food they borrowed from the Woodpeckers Cooperative.



Working the whole day is not a good idea. The hot weather, the soft blue sky and the beautiful lakes are too good not to play.

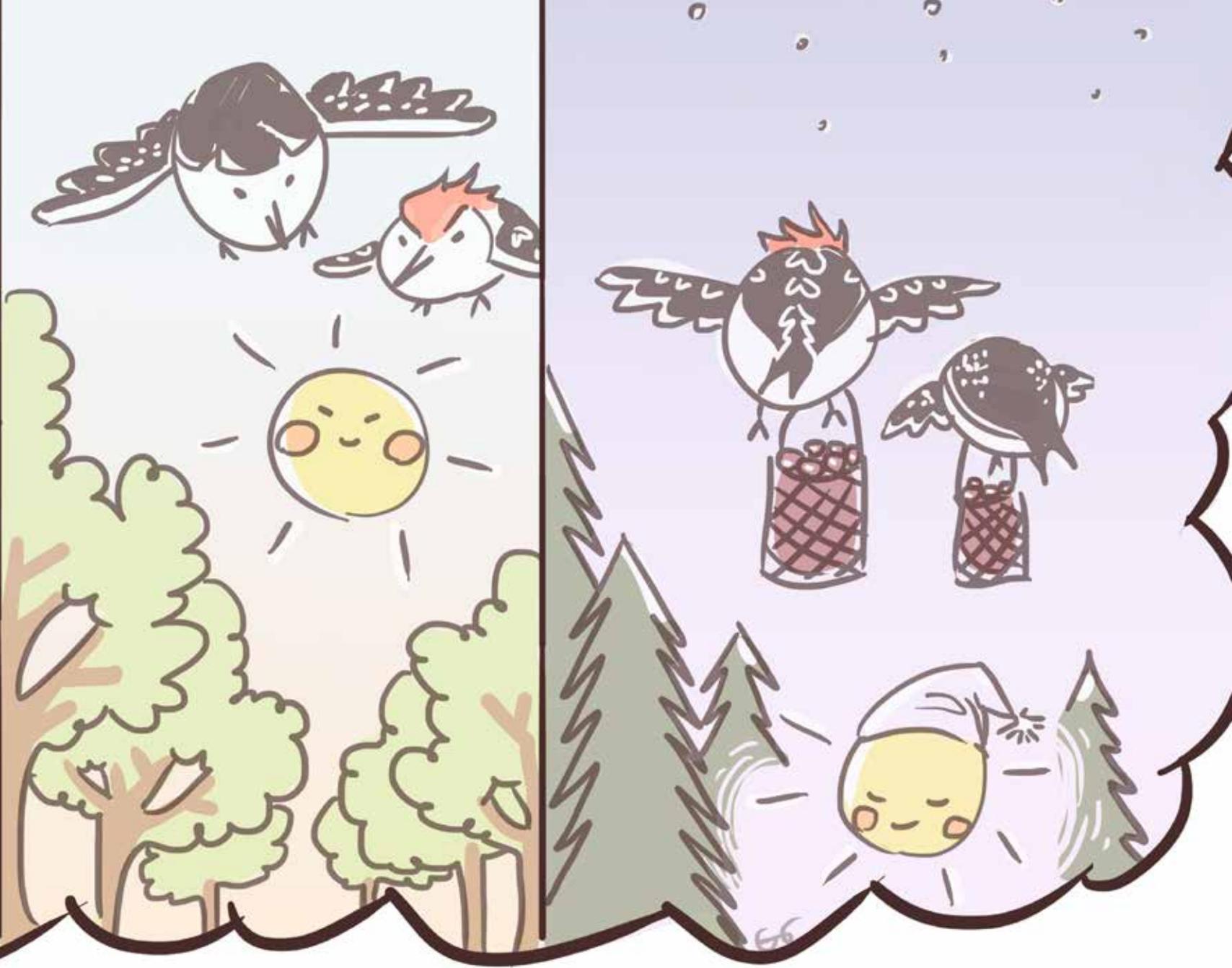


So, the woodpeckers come
up with a very smart plan.





They'll divide the day into parts. In the morning, they'll play. Later, they'll have some rest and then collect berries for the Woodpeckers Cooperative.



In the afternoon, they'll fly around and discover new trees.
Until dark, they'll collect more berries.

But there is a problem. Win has a wounded wing. They put cream made from leaves on it, but it didn't help.

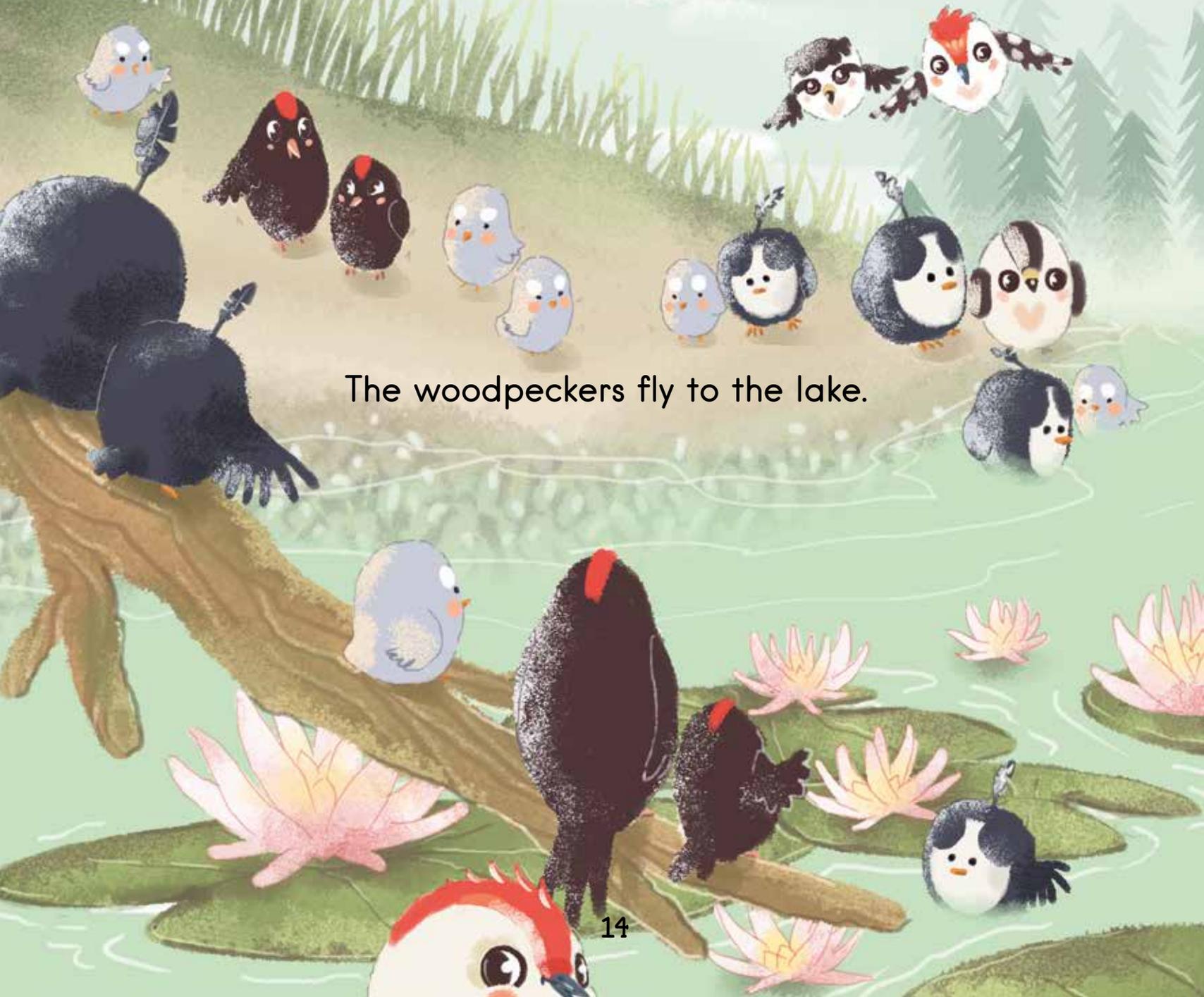
They go to visit Doctor Woodpecker.
He examines the wound.



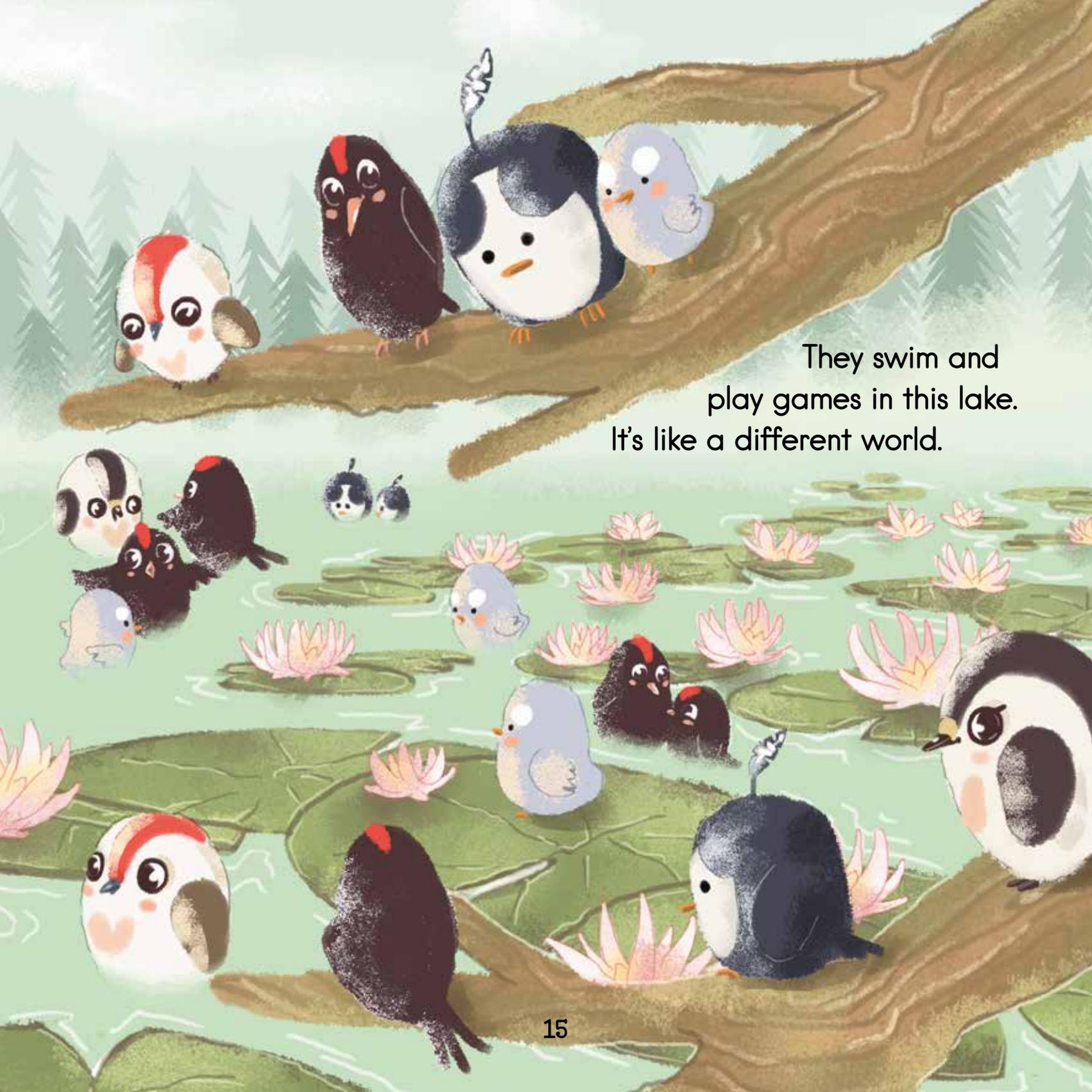
“The only way this will get better,” he says, “is to wash it in the sparkling water of our magnificent lake.”



The lake at the end of the forest is beautiful. It's a wonderful place with clear water and lotus flowers. Thousands of birds live there.



The woodpeckers fly to the lake.



They swim and
play games in this lake.
It's like a different world.

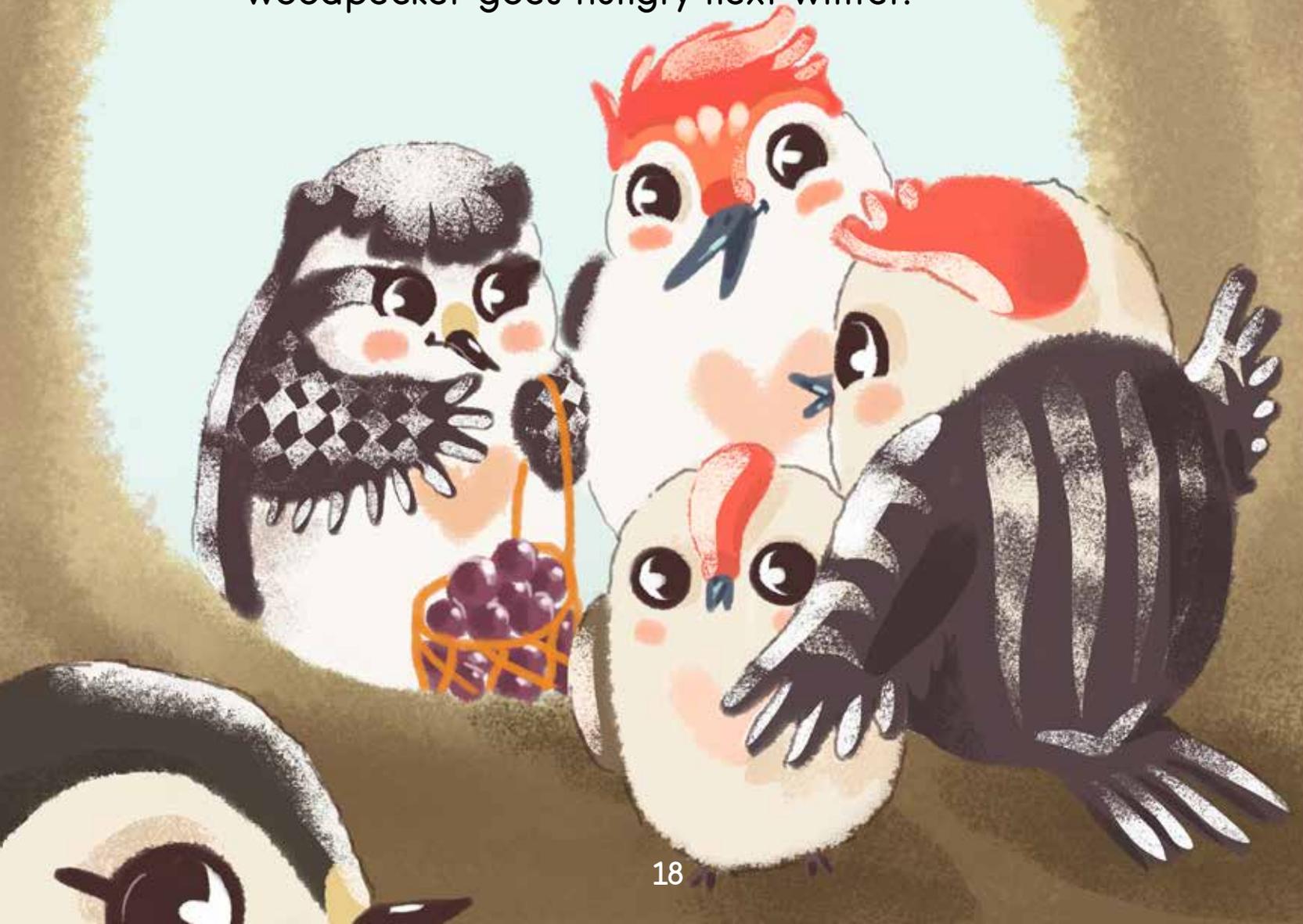
In spring, the trees have lots of delicious berries.



"Trees are so smart," Willa says.



Every day,
they collect berries and
take them to the Woodpeckers Cooperative.
They want the food store to be full so that no
woodpecker goes hungry next winter.





The best thing about collecting berries is chatting with their new friends at the cooperative.



Their favourite new friend loves reading books. Anna is calm, clever and knows lots of interesting things. She is happy to answer all their questions.

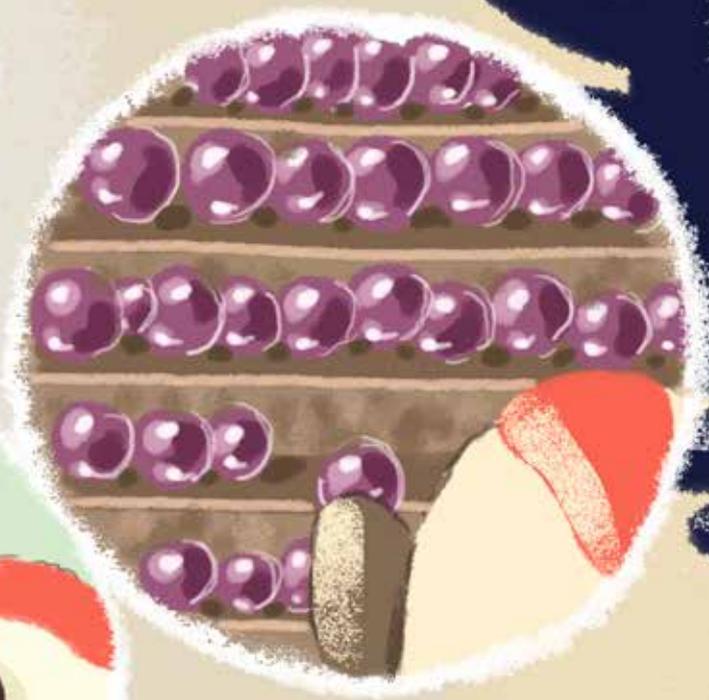


Anna has a very soft voice. She tells them about the books she reads, about different countries, forests and all the animals that live in them.



The woodpeckers learn that *the world is a very big place.*

They also learn that the cooperative needs volunteers to count berries, store them on the shelves and give them to birds who need them.



Win and Willa are confused.
"What's a volunteer?"

“Well,” says Anna, “a volunteer is someone who helps others but expects nothing in return.”



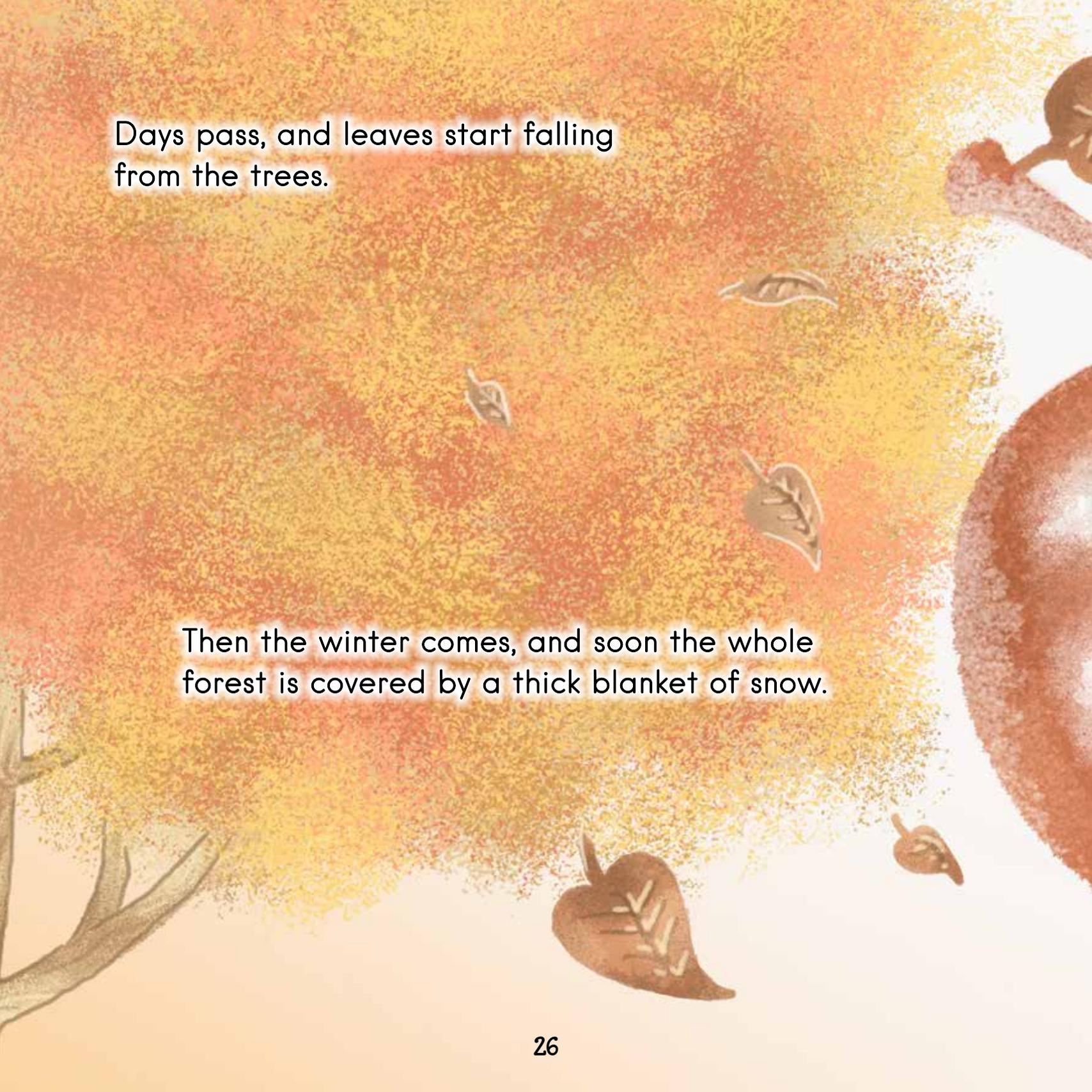
*“We can be volunteers!”
Win and Willa cry.*

“We can count the berries and put them on the shelves. We’ll be good at that.”





“And we’ll meet more new friends!”



Days pass, and leaves start falling
from the trees.

Then the winter comes, and soon the whole
forest is covered by a thick blanket of snow.





One very cold day, a crow comes to the Woodpeckers Cooperative. “Can I have some berries?” he asks. Soon other birds come too: pigeons, sparrows, doves, and more crows.





None of them have collected enough food for the winter.

"We need to share our food with the other birds,"
Willa says. "If we don't, they'll go hungry like we did last
winter."

They talk about sharing their food with the other birds.



In the end, the Woodpeckers Cooperative opens its doors to all the hungry birds in the forest.





Win and Willa use their beaks to carve a big sign on the door:
"No bird in the forest will ever be hungry again."