



Aarna and Iris' Big Task

Author: Reshma Thapa Gurung

Illustrator: Pankaj Saikia

Level 3

Aarna and Iris had been given a big task! The task of showing Norgay, the new student, around. "Make him feel welcome," Rai Guruama, their class teacher, said in her stern voice.





As soon as the morning bell rang, they went up to Norgay, and invited him to the next class.

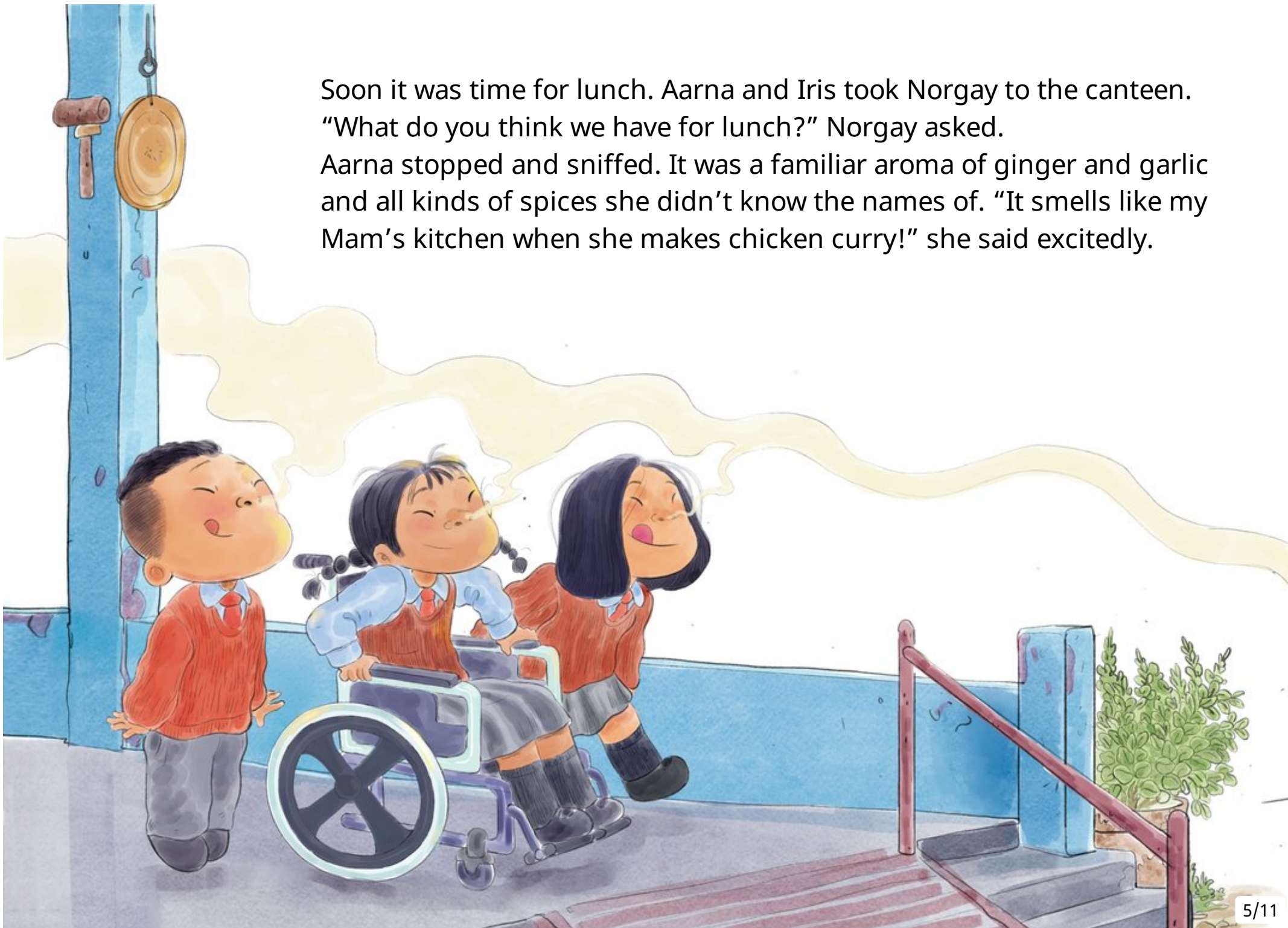


In Dharma class, Lopen La brought out a big singing bowl. "Let's get ready for meditation," he said. Lopen La tapped the bowl with a wooden mallet. There was a loud CLANG. He moved the stick along the rim of the bowl. A humming sound filled the room — like many bees buzzing. Aarna felt the vibration on her skin. She peered at Norgay and saw him smiling at the singing bowl.

Soon it was time for lunch. Aarna and Iris took Norgay to the canteen.

"What do you think we have for lunch?" Norgay asked.

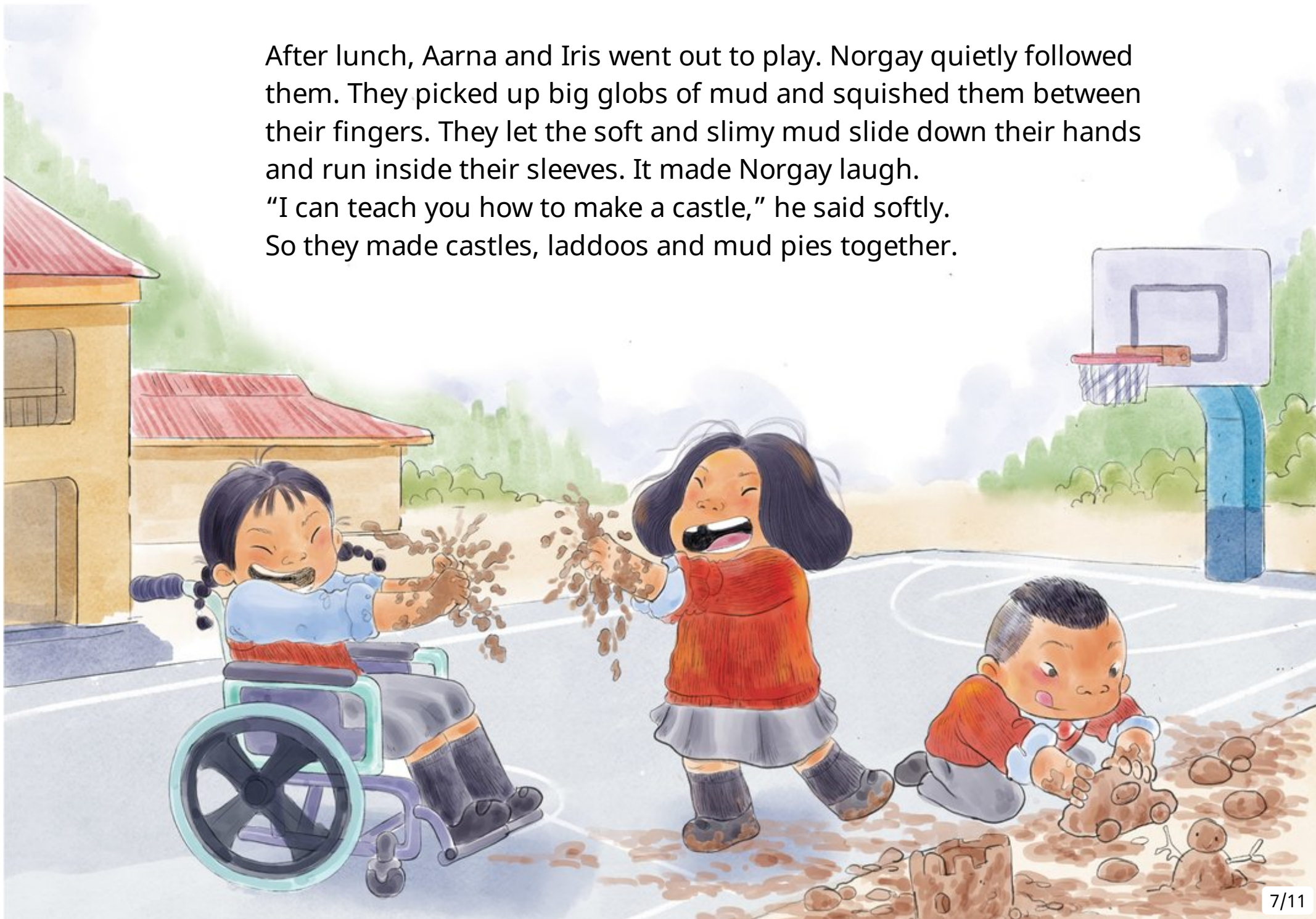
Aarna stopped and sniffed. It was a familiar aroma of ginger and garlic and all kinds of spices she didn't know the names of. "It smells like my Mam's kitchen when she makes chicken curry!" she said excitedly.



Indeed, there was fluffy white rice and soft and juicy chicken curry. They gobbled up the food, smacking their lips and licking their fingers. Even Norgay!



After lunch, Aarna and Iris went out to play. Norgay quietly followed them. They picked up big globs of mud and squished them between their fingers. They let the soft and slimy mud slide down their hands and run inside their sleeves. It made Norgay laugh. "I can teach you how to make a castle," he said softly. So they made castles, laddoos and mud pies together.



Just then, it started to drizzle!

"Let's taste the rain," Norgay suggested, feeling the droplets hitting his skin. He opened his mouth, stuck his tongue out and let the raindrops fall. His friends did the same.

"It tastes like tap water," said Iris.

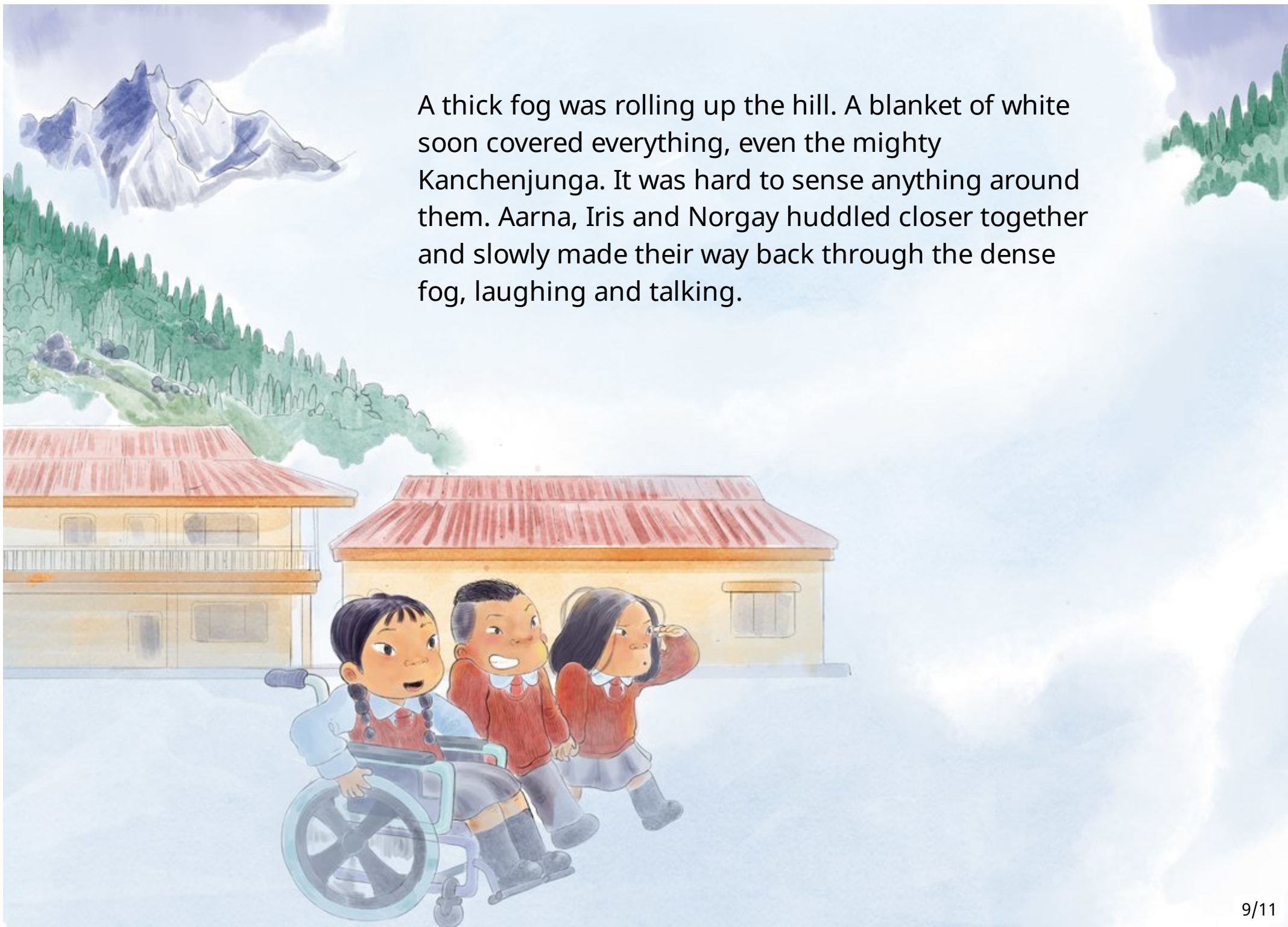
"It tastes like nothing!" said Norgay.

Aarna thought it tasted sweet, just like the water from the stream that came down the mountains.

The bell rang for science class. But as they ran back to their classroom...



A thick fog was rolling up the hill. A blanket of white soon covered everything, even the mighty Kanchenjunga. It was hard to sense anything around them. Aarna, Iris and Norgay huddled closer together and slowly made their way back through the dense fog, laughing and talking.



Their new friend was so much fun and they couldn't wait for another day of adventures with him.





OUR SENSES



What do you think allows us to experience a spicy chicken curry, squishy mud, and everything else around us? Humans have sense organs that help us see, smell, hear, taste and touch.

Not everyone experiences the world in the same way. Nevertheless, we all use our senses to learn about and navigate the world around us.

Imagine you are playing with your friends just like Aarna, Norgay and Iris. Describe your experience with your friends using sensory words. Sensory words describe how we smell, see, hear, taste or feel something.

Can you spot the sensory words in this story?



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Aarna and Iris' Big Task

(English)

Aarna and Iris have a new task! There's a new student in class, and they have to help him settle in. So they set about introducing Norgay to their school in a novel way — by using their senses.

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



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