

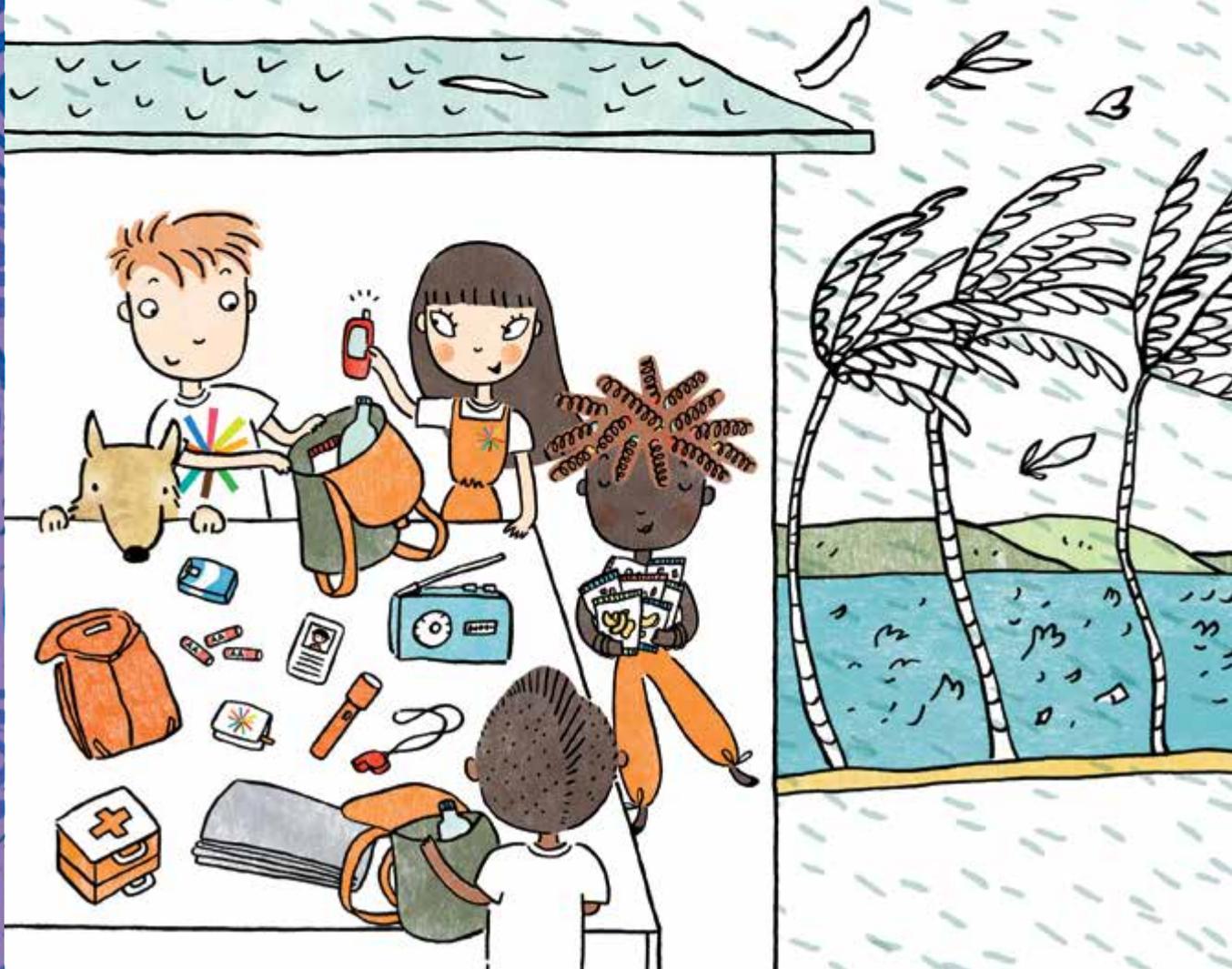


COPE

.....  
Be ready for disasters!  
.....

# CYCLONES

By Martha Keswick + Mariko Jesse + Timothy Sim



## What are natural hazards ...and disasters?

Forces of nature that happen with little warning and occur all over the world, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, landslides, tropical cyclones, storm surges, heatwaves, wildfires, droughts and volcanoes. When these **natural hazards** pose a threat to humans or the environment they can lead to **disasters** and cause destruction in a community.

## What are tropical cyclones?

Circular storms that form over warm areas of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans. When **tropical cyclones** hit land, they bring heavy rain, strong winds and storm surges. The winds are so powerful, they can destroy buildings and rip out trees by their roots.

**Tropical cyclones** have different names depending on their location. In the South Pacific and Indian Oceans they are called **cyclones**. In the Western North Pacific Ocean, strong tropical cyclones are known as **typhoons** and in the North Atlantic and the Northeast Pacific oceans, **hurricanes**.

*COPE will teach you how to  
STAY SAFE during tropical cyclones!*







**Be ready for disasters – Cyclones**

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Mariko Jesse & Timothy Sim.  
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*AUTHOR* Martha Keswick

*ILLUSTRATOR* Mariko Jesse

*EDITOR* Timothy Sim  
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*DESIGNER* Reita Wong

*PROJECT MANAGER* Christine Messervy  
.....

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*SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR*





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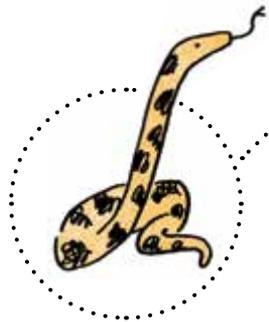
*Who is  
Grand Mistress Fu?*

A famous Chinese martial arts teacher and founder of the Mount Emei Wushu School. Grand Mistress Fu, also known as Shifu, is disciplined and tough yet has an enormous heart. She narrowly escaped death as her school collapsed during the Wenchuan Earthquake in May 2008 and has since dedicated her life to Disaster Risk Reduction.



*What is  
The COPE Academy?*

An international disaster hub, hidden in Sichuan Province, set up by Grand Mistress Fu. The COPE Squad – Candy, Ollie, Ping and Eddy are teenage orphans who were plucked out of their care homes to live at The COPE Academy and trained to be disaster risk reduction agents.

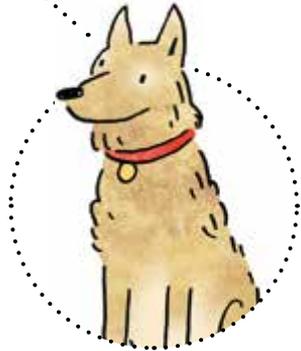


*Sense*  
**THE SNAKE**

A beautiful 25-year-old python. Sense has a special gift for predicting disasters. Grand Mistress Fu feeds her mice every month.

*Rescue*  
**THE DOG**

A huge 8-year-old Kunming Wolf Dog, Rescue tracks missing people. His favourite hobby is catching flies.



# The COPE Squad



**Candy**

**THE CARER**

12 years old from Kranshoek, South Africa, Candy is kind, strong, lively and loves playing drums and hula-hooping. Her role is to care for vulnerable groups affected by disasters such as children, elderly or disabled.

*Disaster Experience:*  
*Wildfires*



**Ollie**

**THE SCIENTIST**

13 years old from Christchurch, New Zealand, Ollie is clever, popular, sporty and loves astronomy and rugby. His role is to understand weather patterns, climates and ecology.

*Disaster Experience:*  
*Earthquakes*



**Ping**

**THE NETWORKER**

12 years old from Hong Kong, Ping is practical, chatty, creative and loves cooking and Wushu. Ping is the networker and spokesperson within the COPE squad.

*Disaster Experience:*  
*Floods*



**Eddy**

**THE ENGINEER**

12 years old from Bahia, Brazil. Eddy is curious, witty, chilled out and loves Lego and skateboarding. Eddy is a talented engineer focusing on the safety of buildings.

*Disaster Experience:*  
*Landslides*



**COPE Signs**

Since Eddy is hearing impaired, COPE sometimes chat using the Brazilian sign language, Libras. Can you spot the signs for **safe**, **cyclones** and **ready**?

The March mist had set in Sichuan Province.

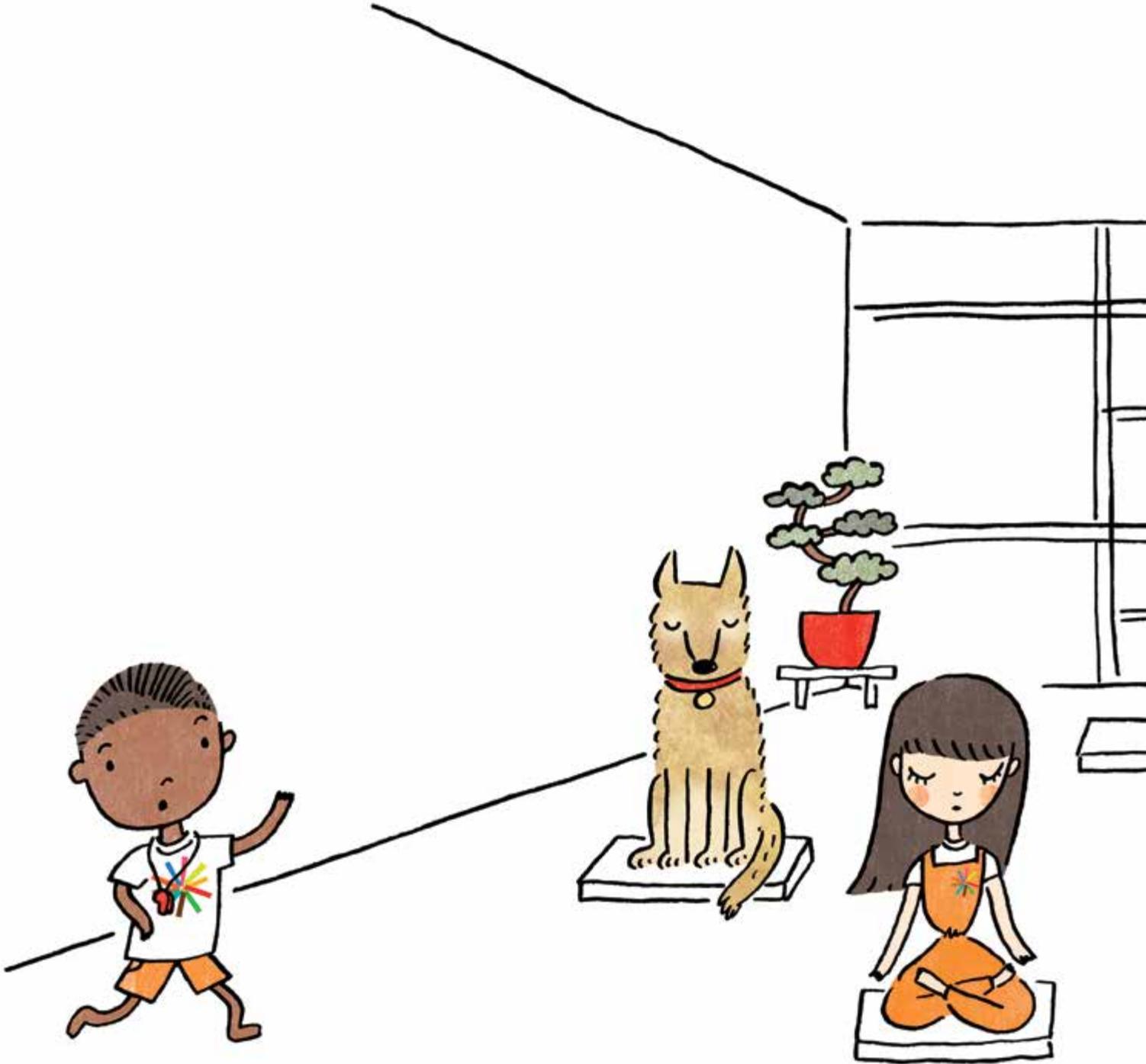
Where is Grand Mistress Fu?!

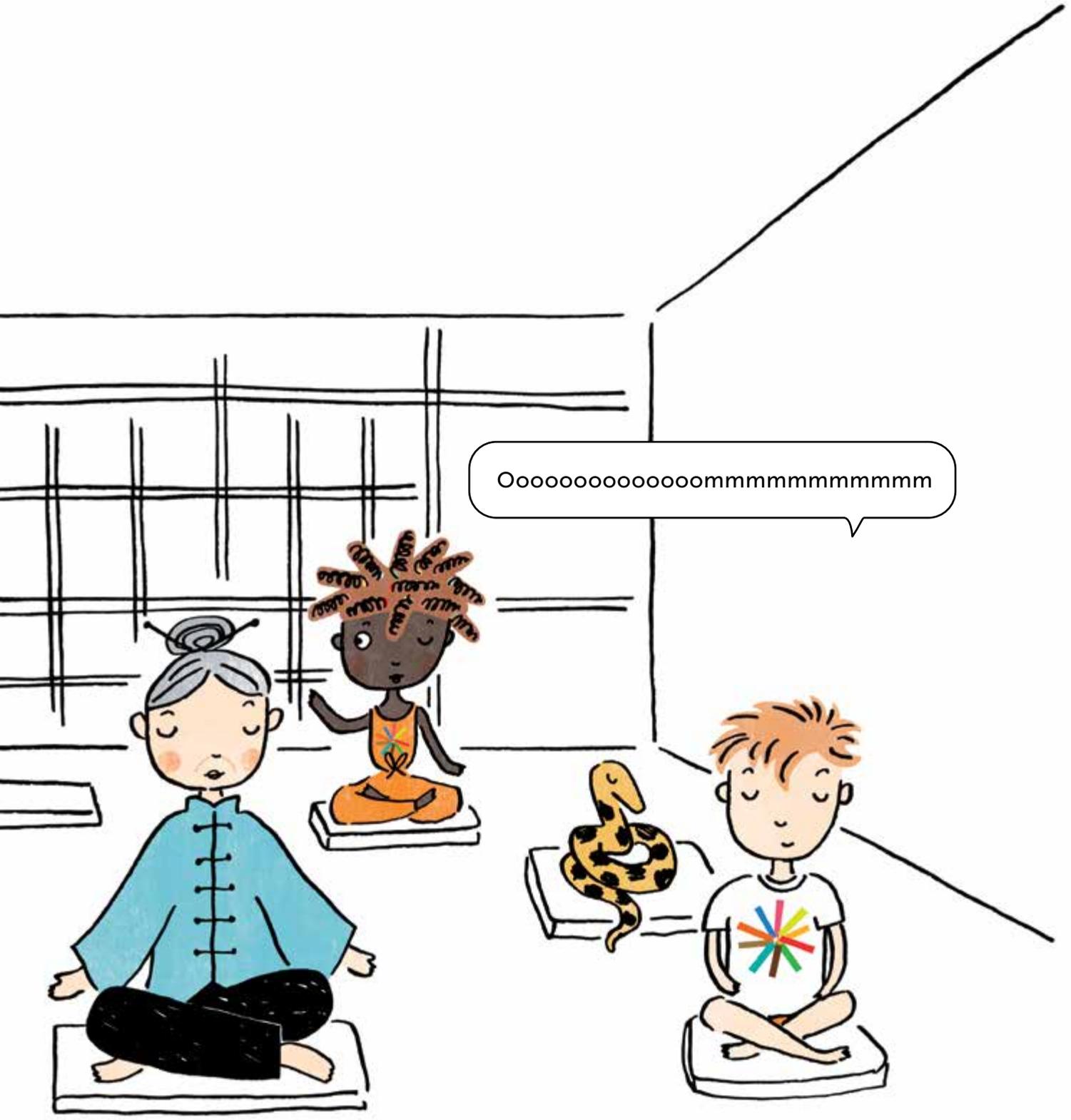




Inside The Academy, COPE were up early, even Eddy!

They settled down for morning meditation.





Oooooooooooooooooommmmmmmmmmmmm

COPE went off to collect the eggs..... and pick fruit for breakfast.

1,2,3,4...5 this morning.



I can't reach.....

thanks Sense!



Today we will focus on *cyclones!*

And learn how to

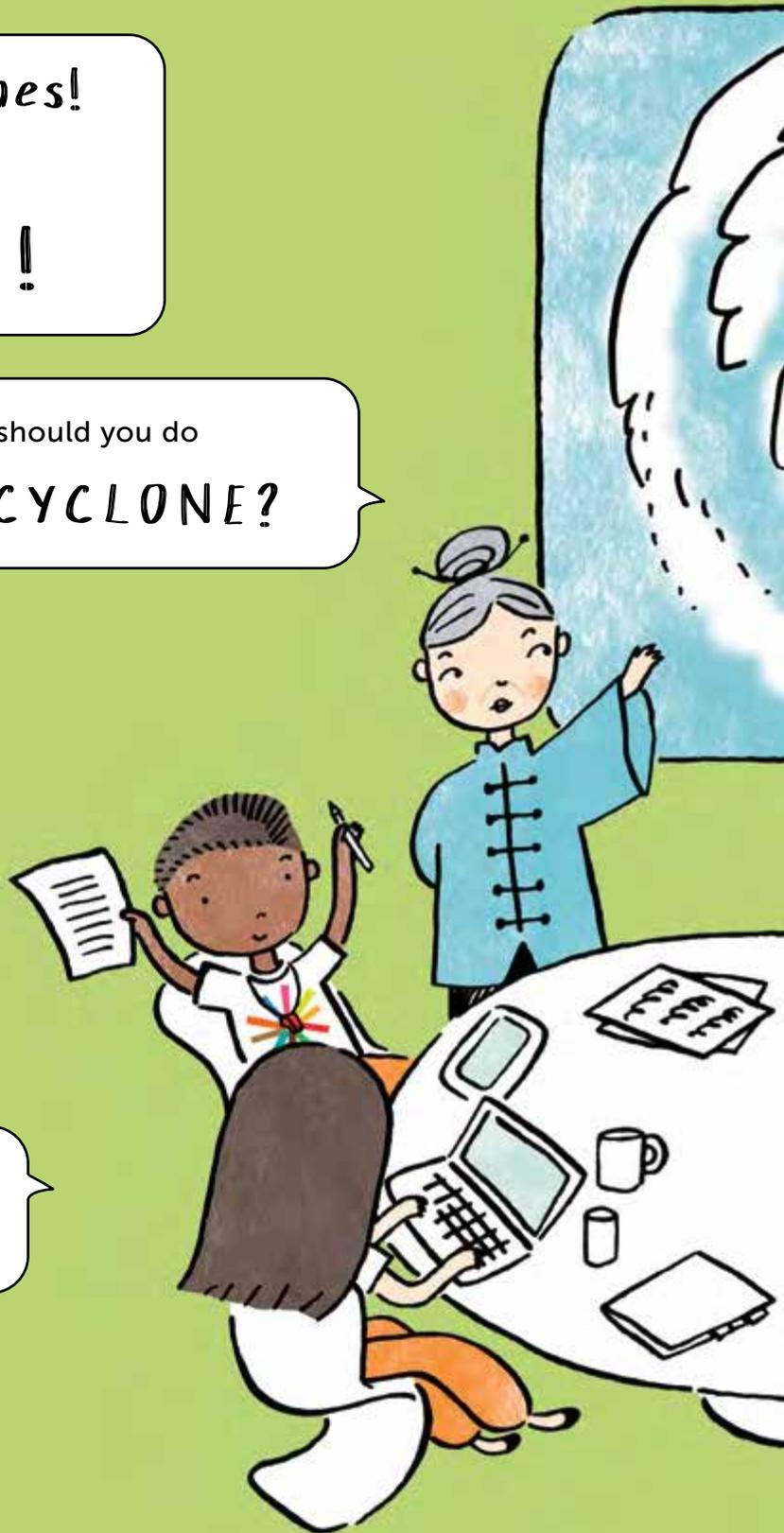
**STAY SAFE!**

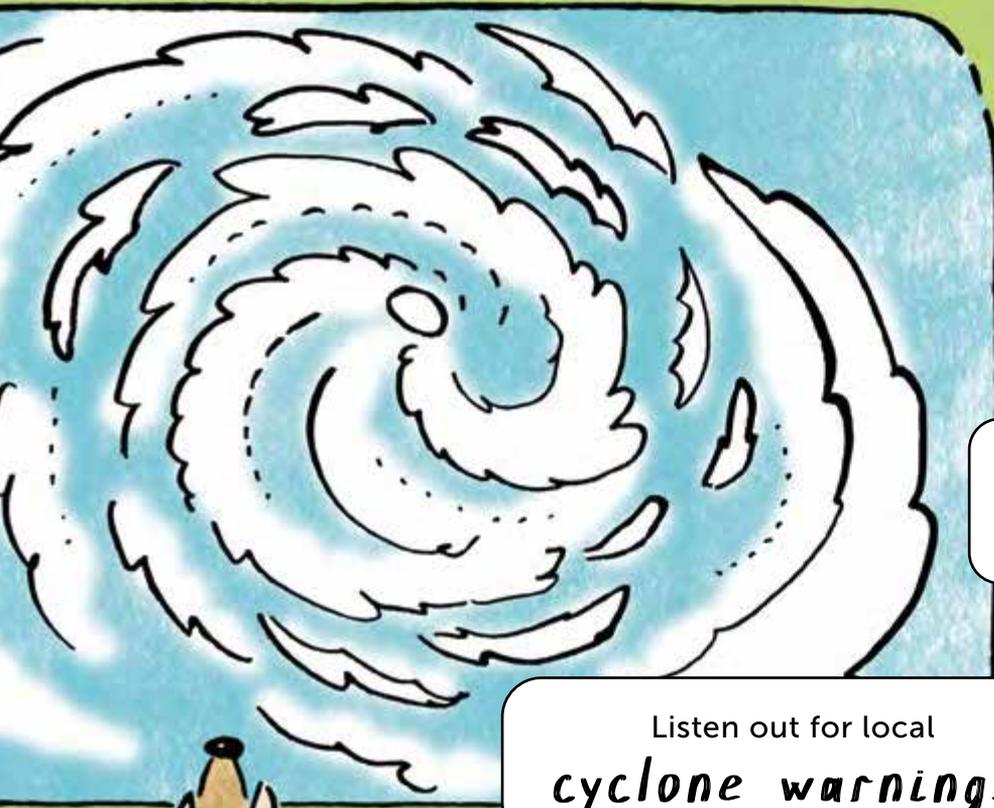
Now, COPE, what should you do

**BEFORE A CYCLONE?**

Make a *contact plan*  
with your family.

Get your house  
*ready.*





Pack a cyclone *survival bag*.

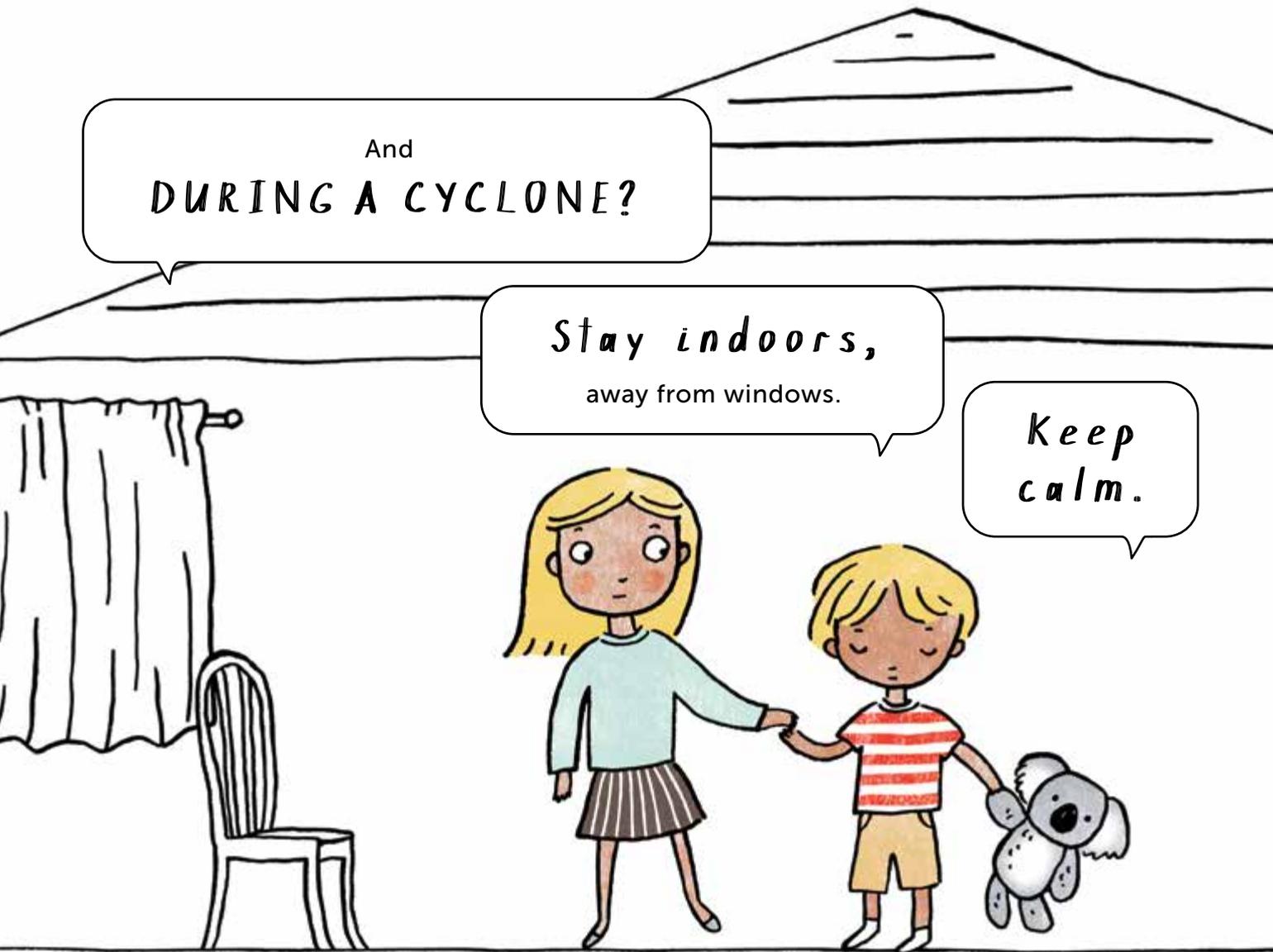
Listen out for local *cyclone warnings*.



And  
**DURING A CYCLONE?**

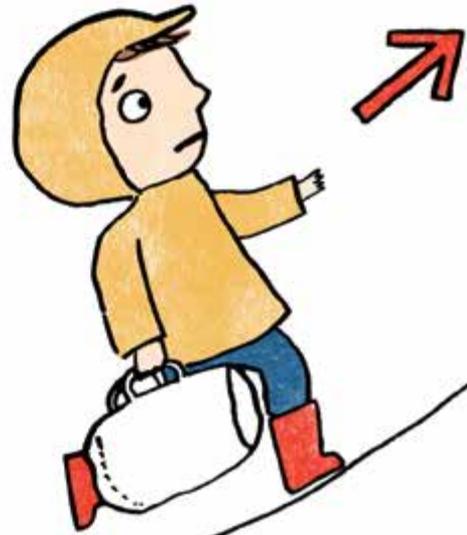
*Stay indoors,*  
away from windows.

*Keep  
calm.*

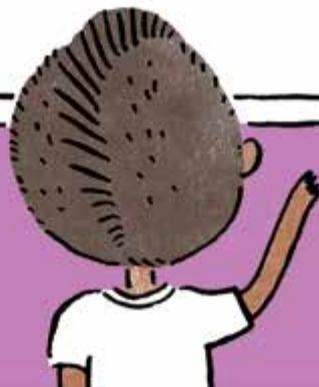


# STAY SAFE

If asked to  
*evacuate*,  
do so immediately.



*Listen out*  
for cyclone updates.



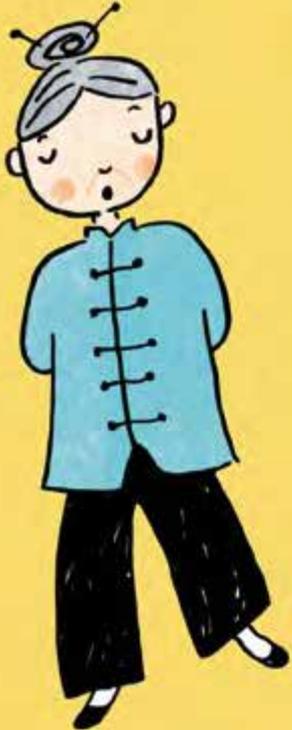
And  
**AFTER A CYCLONE?**



Do not go outside  
until it is *safe*.



*Keep updated*  
with weather news.



Stay away from damaged buildings, power lines, fallen trees or hillsides.



Do not play in flood water.



Let's spread the word.

First stop,  
*Airlie Beach,*  
*Queensland,*  
*Australia!*





Ten minutes to landing, over.

Check out those beaches, over!

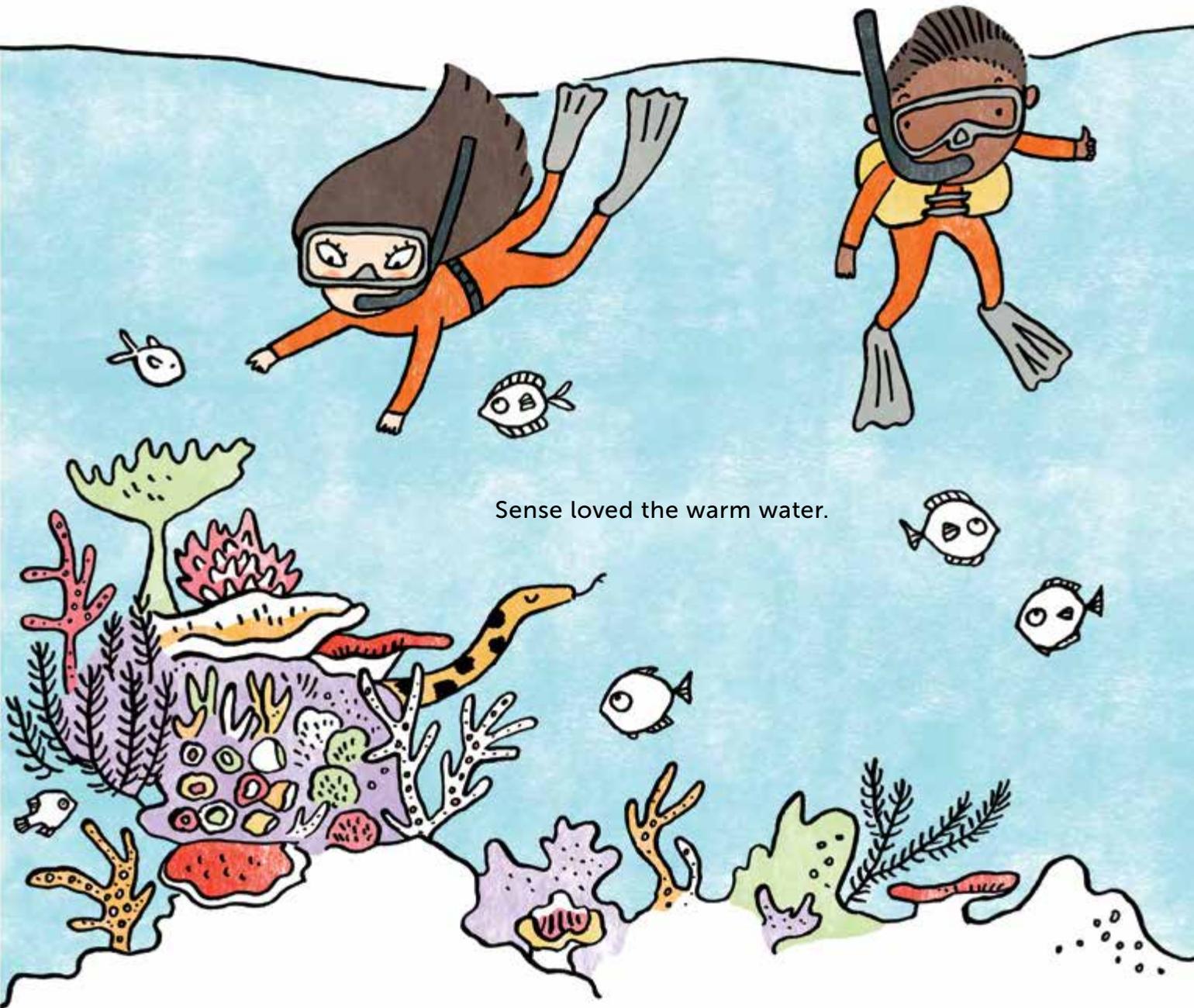


COPE stayed at a hostel.  
They played beach rugby.

Snorkelling was fun! Eddy remembered to take out his hearing aid before swimming.

Beautiful coral!!

Sense loved the warm water.



That night they went to a BBQ.

Yummy prawns!

Calamari, my favourite.



No, Rescue!

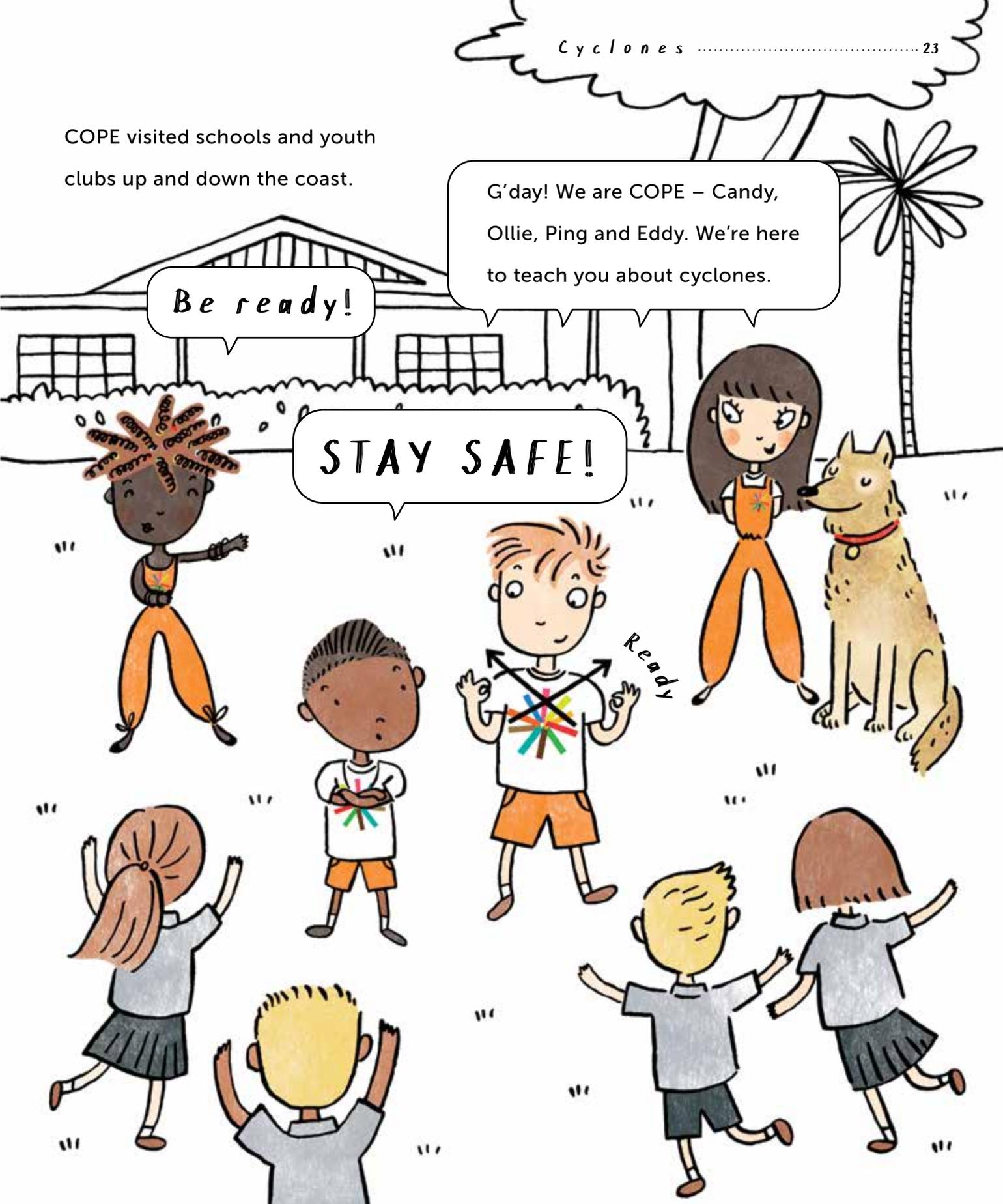
COPE visited schools and youth clubs up and down the coast.

G'day! We are COPE – Candy, Ollie, Ping and Eddy. We're here to teach you about cyclones.

*Be ready!*

**STAY SAFE!**

*Ready*



COPE packed cyclone survival bags.





Phone



First aid kit



Contact card



Whistle



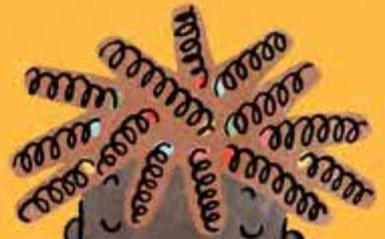
Tissue paper



Water



Rain coat



Write your parent's phone numbers and put a photo on your *contact cards*.

Great work!



Pack a *survival bag* for your pet.

Bella's collar and food can go here.



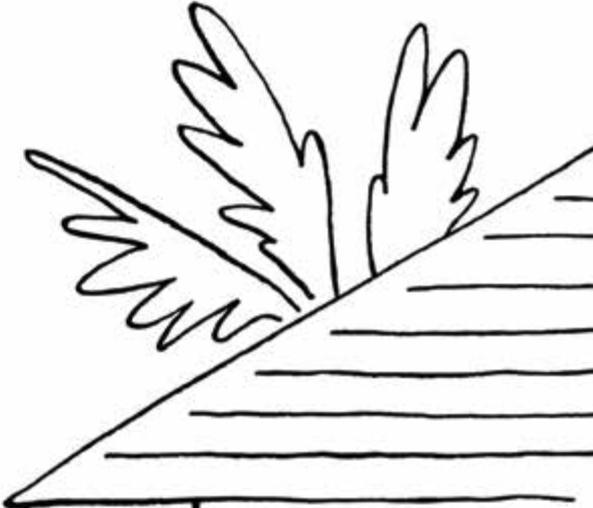
COPE showed families how to get their homes ready.



Lower the netball post.

Move flowerpots and toys.

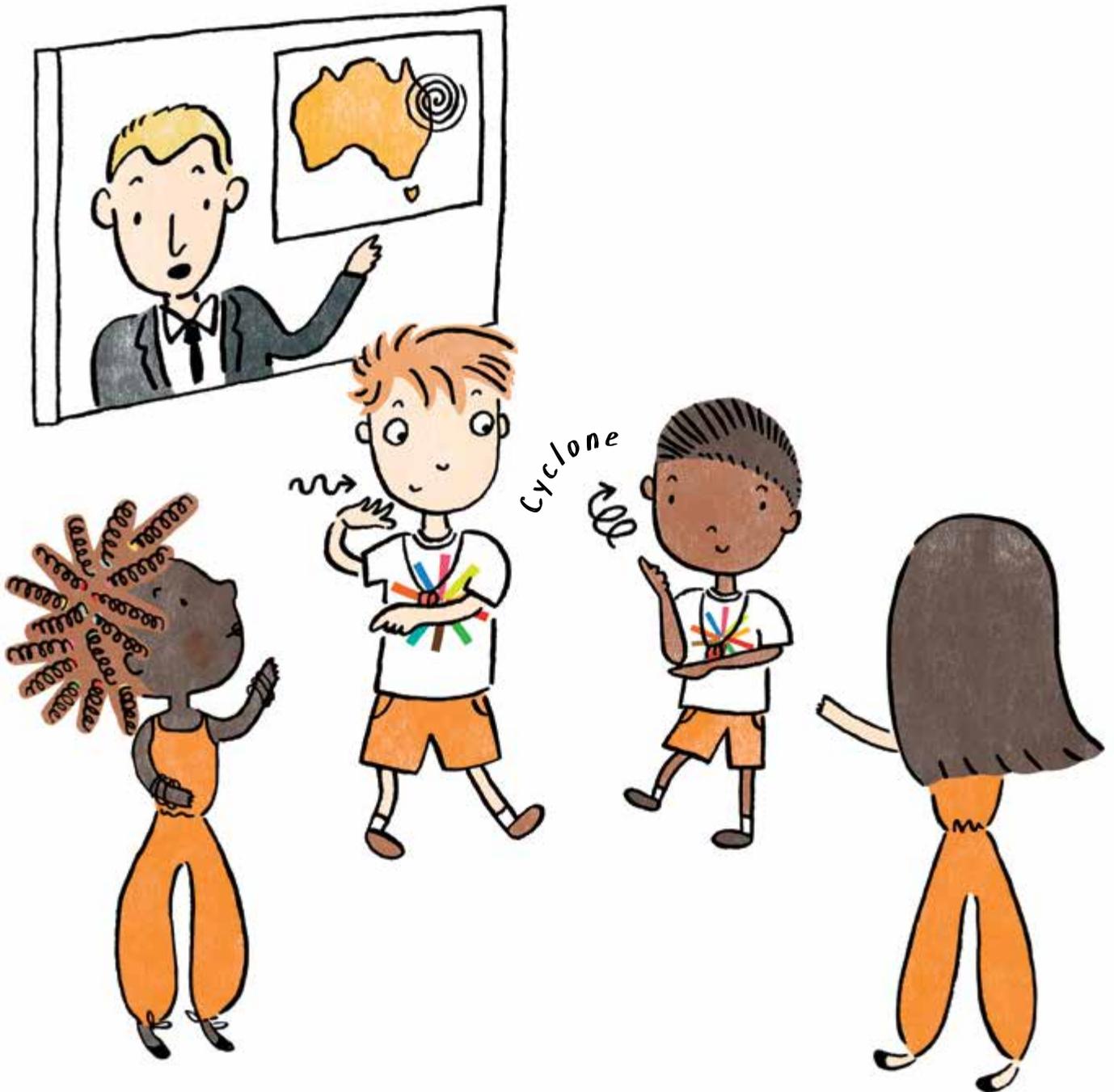
Stock up on  
**food and ...**  
water



Don't forget Bella's ball!



Just as COPE were about to move on, there were reports of a tropical cyclone named Debbie.



Sense started going around in circles, just like the eye of a cyclone.

The wind had picked up. Waves were swelling. Rain was lashing.

Soon it was a *category 2 cyclone*.

Schools shut. Flights cancelled.

Families in flood prone areas

were evacuated.



COPE went from house to house with  
*Tropical Cyclone Debbie* warnings.

**STAY SAFE!**



Twelve hours later, it was a *category 4 cyclone*.

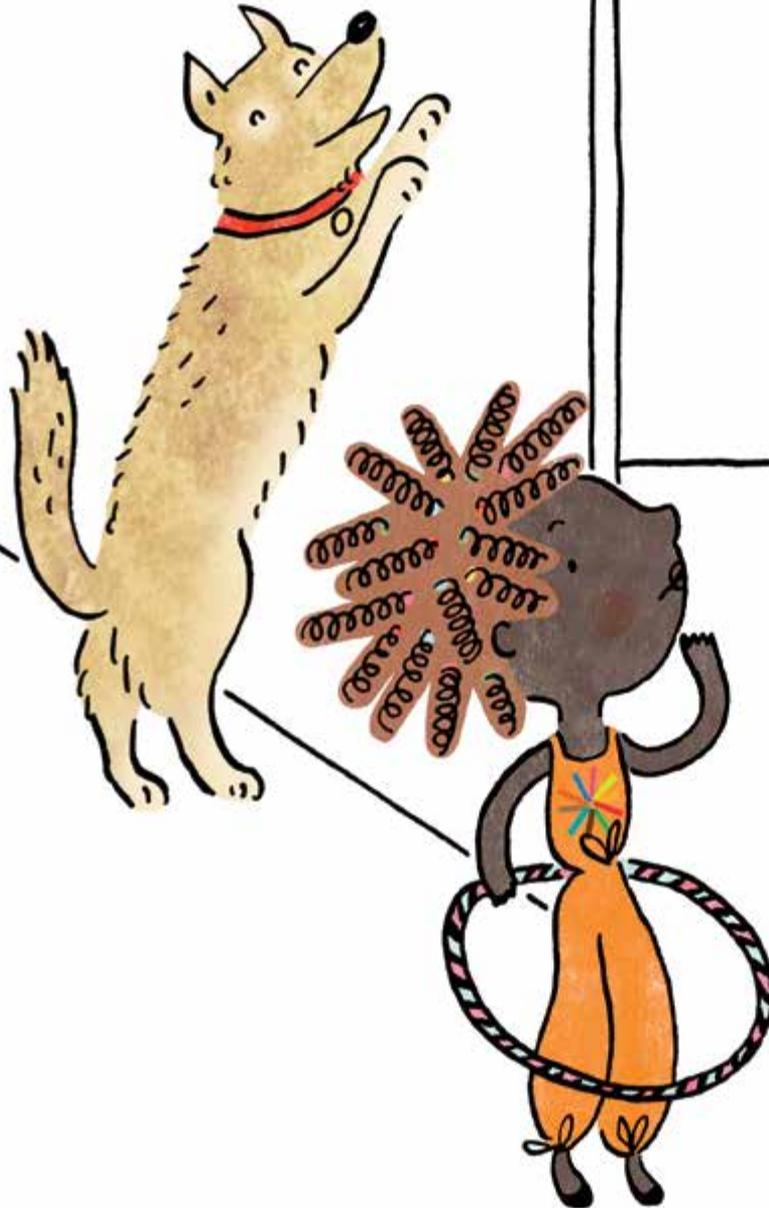


Back in their hostel, COPE waited in the kitchen, away from the window.

To pass the time Eddy taught some *sign language*.



Candy practiced her hula hooping.  
Rescue caught some flies. They  
played board games.....and  
*kept calm.*



Winds were up to **263 kmh.**



There was a howling noise like a train. Rain smashed against the window.  
Tiles flew off the roofs. A trampoline flew through the air.



Suddenly all the lights went off.



Oh no!

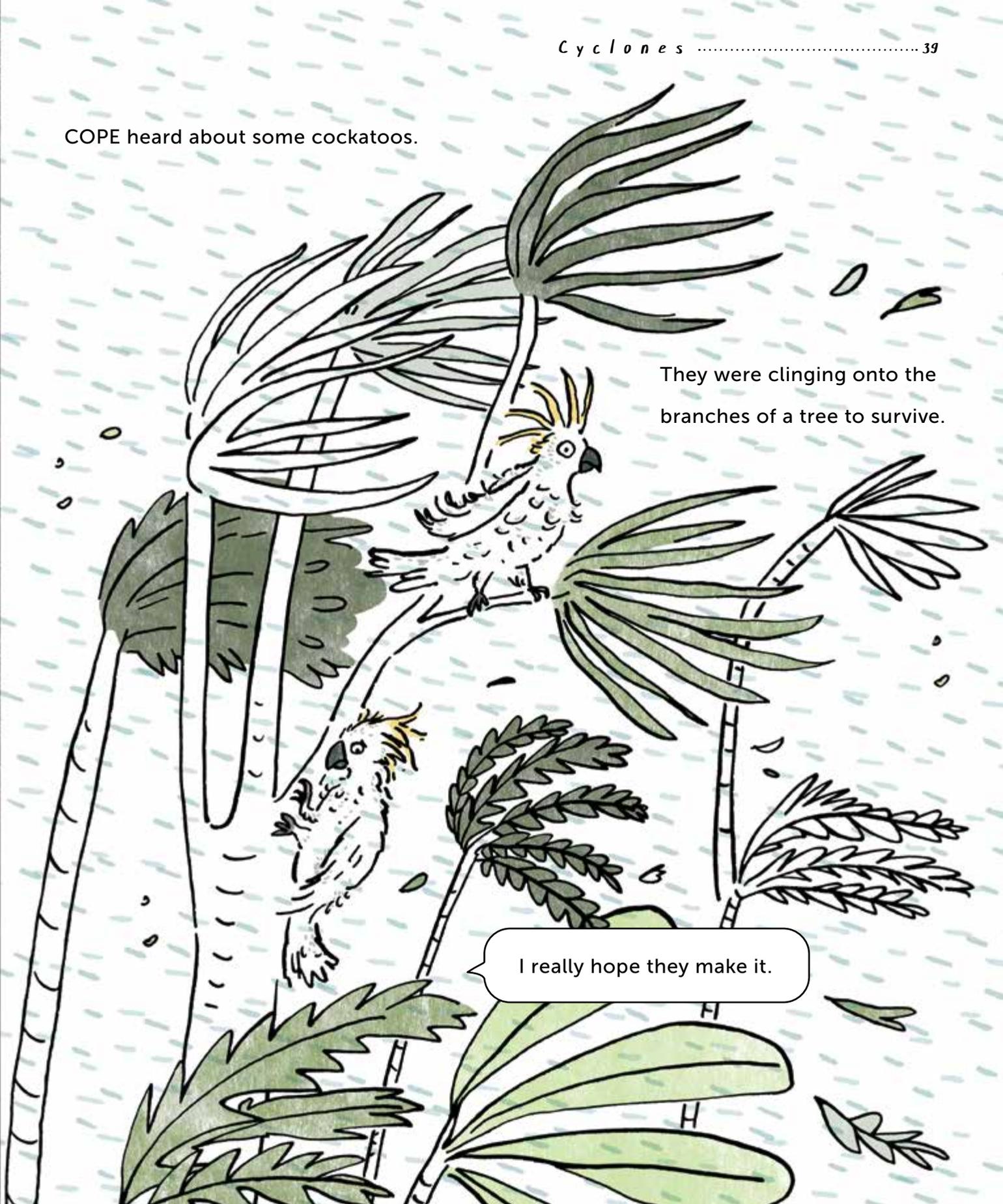
Don't panic. I'll get my torch.

Woof. Woof.

COPE heard about some cockatoos.

They were clinging onto the branches of a tree to survive.

I really hope they make it.



The next morning was calmer. It was *safe to go outside.*

COPE went to see the cockatoos. One was named Debbie after the cyclone.

She had lost all her feathers.



So cute! I wish we could take Debbie home.

That is a lovely idea, Candy, but she is too weak to travel.



Debbie had caused too much damage:  
Homes destroyed. Crops ruined. Trees uprooted.



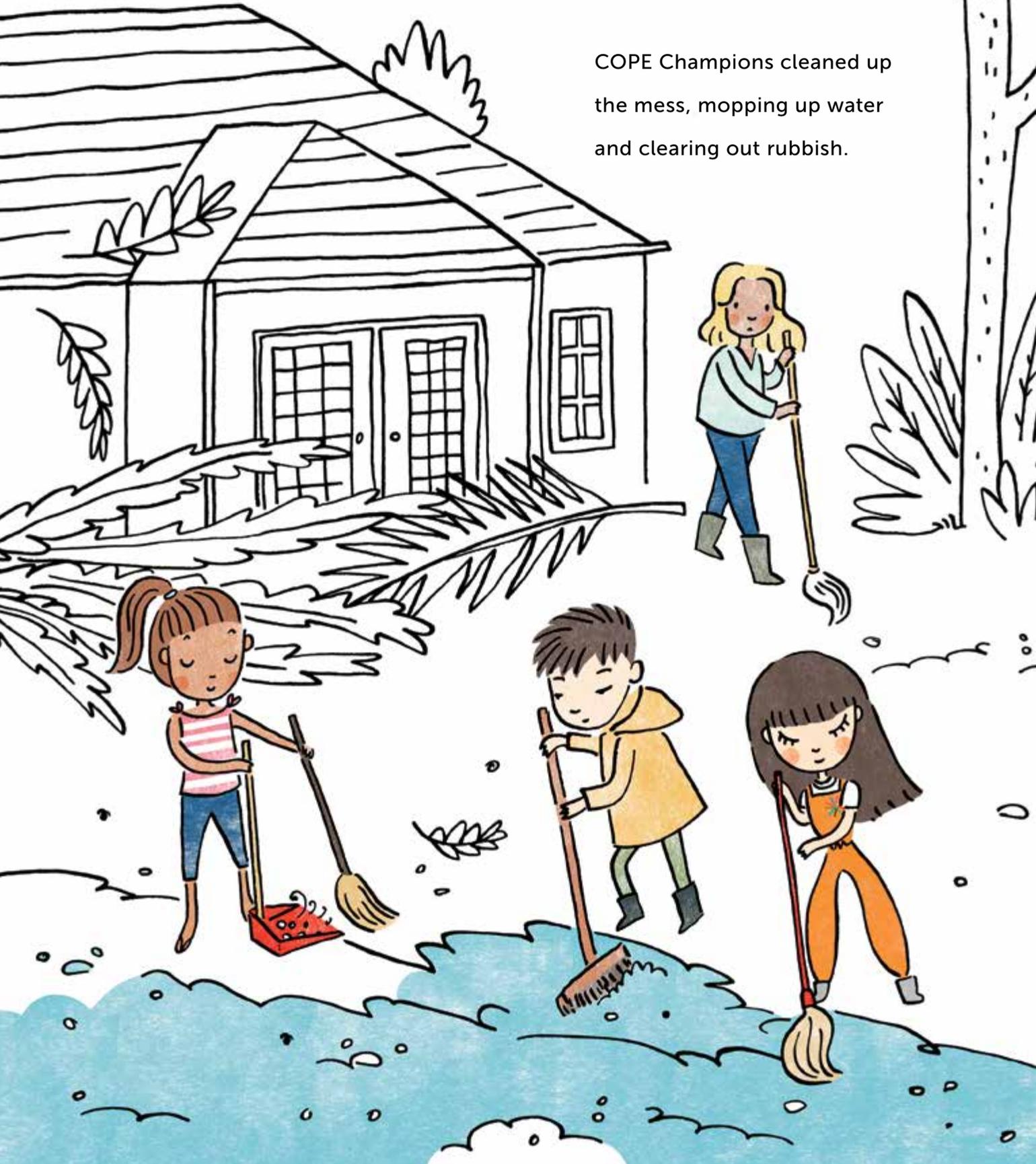
Although the cyclone had passed, the rain did not stop.

There was the threat of severe *floods*.



More families were evacuated.

COPE Champions cleaned up the mess, mopping up water and clearing out rubbish.



A few days later COPE had to leave for their next mission.

We'll be back to help again soon!



Grand Mistress Fu was proud of her squad.

They had *stayed safe* in the face of Tropical Cyclone Debbie.





The mist had lifted as they landed back on Mount Emei.



COPE, we are home, over.



## T H E C O P E C O N T R I B U T O R S



## Martha Keswick

**COPE  
AUTHOR**

Martha Keswick is the author of the popular bilingual *Max and Mei* picture book series, the factual *Zhongguo Mingren Series* about famous people of China and the action-packed *Pangu* comic book series. Martha's work for the Keswick Foundation often supports disaster related projects in China.

Martha lives in Hong Kong with her husband, their four children and two dogs.



## Mariko Jesse

**COPE  
ILLUSTRATOR**

Mariko Jesse studied at Central St Martins, where she went on to be an Associate Lecturer. She is an acclaimed freelance illustrator, working on a variety of projects around the world from picture books to ceramics.

Mariko lives in Tokyo where she is always in a state of preparedness for earthquakes.



## Timothy Sim

**COPE  
EDITOR**

Dr Timothy Sim is an Associate Professor in the Department of Applied Social Sciences at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Tim started out as a social worker, specialising in family therapy, and now focuses on disaster risk reduction, writing many books in both Chinese and English.

Tim lives in Hong Kong and works with people from all over the world researching disaster preparedness.



We all too often underestimate children, their innate wisdom and ability to manage crisis without drama. However, these wonderful COPE books, so creatively and intelligently written, keep the child in mind. They are born of a recognition that the most powerful way to protect the young is not by sheltering them from such uncomfortable truths, but by giving them the tools and understanding necessary to survive.

— **LAUREN CHILD MBE**  
Children's Book Author and Illustrator

Cyclones are part of life in Australia and we are excited to have the COPE squad on board with child-friendly advice to keep communities safe. With engaging characters, simple language and beautiful illustrations, Cyclones shines a light on children as leaders in disaster risk reduction.

— **AMANDA LECK**  
Executive Director, Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

By embracing lovely characters, exquisite drawing and riveting stories, the COPE series did a commendable job in prompting awareness and preparedness for various natural disasters and conveying relevant lifesaving knowledge for children and their family members.

— **DR LEE TSZ-CHEUNG**  
Senior Scientific Officer, Hong Kong Observatory

## COPE Academy, Sichuan Province.

Under Grand Mistress Fu, the COPE squad learn all about natural hazards and undergo intensive disaster training. Join their Cyclones mission to Airlie Beach, Queensland, Australia where they actually have to put their disaster risk reduction skills into action.



[www.cope-disaster-champions.com](http://www.cope-disaster-champions.com)

  COPEdisasterchampions

- COPE TITLES
- ☉ Earthquakes
  - ☉ Floods
  - **Cyclones**
  - ☉ Landslides
  - ☉ Storm Surges
  - ☉ Droughts
  - ☉ Tsunamis
  - ☉ Wildfires
  - ☉ Heatwaves
  - ☉ Volcanoes



COPE

.....  
*Make the Difference.  
Be Ready!*