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Themba, the ocean captain

Pre-reading question

Look at the picture on page 2. What uniform is Themba wearing?

New words

creature – A mole is a creature that lives underground.

various – There are many different kinds of creatures, like various types of birds.

describe – Describe the creatures and tell me what they look like.

dozens – There are a lot of seashells on the beach. I think there are dozens.

When Themba was a small boy, his dad told him the isiZulu story of the ocean goddess. Since then, he has loved everything about the ocean.



danger – We could be in danger when something bad happens, like a storm at sea.

ocean – Life in the ocean is in danger because of pollution.

captain – The soccer captain led her team to victory.

He was most interested in animals that lived in the water. Sometimes he went to the library to read about different sea creatures.



At school, Themba learnt about various sea creatures.

He was excited to tell his dad what he had learnt about.

But he had forgotten the names of the creatures.



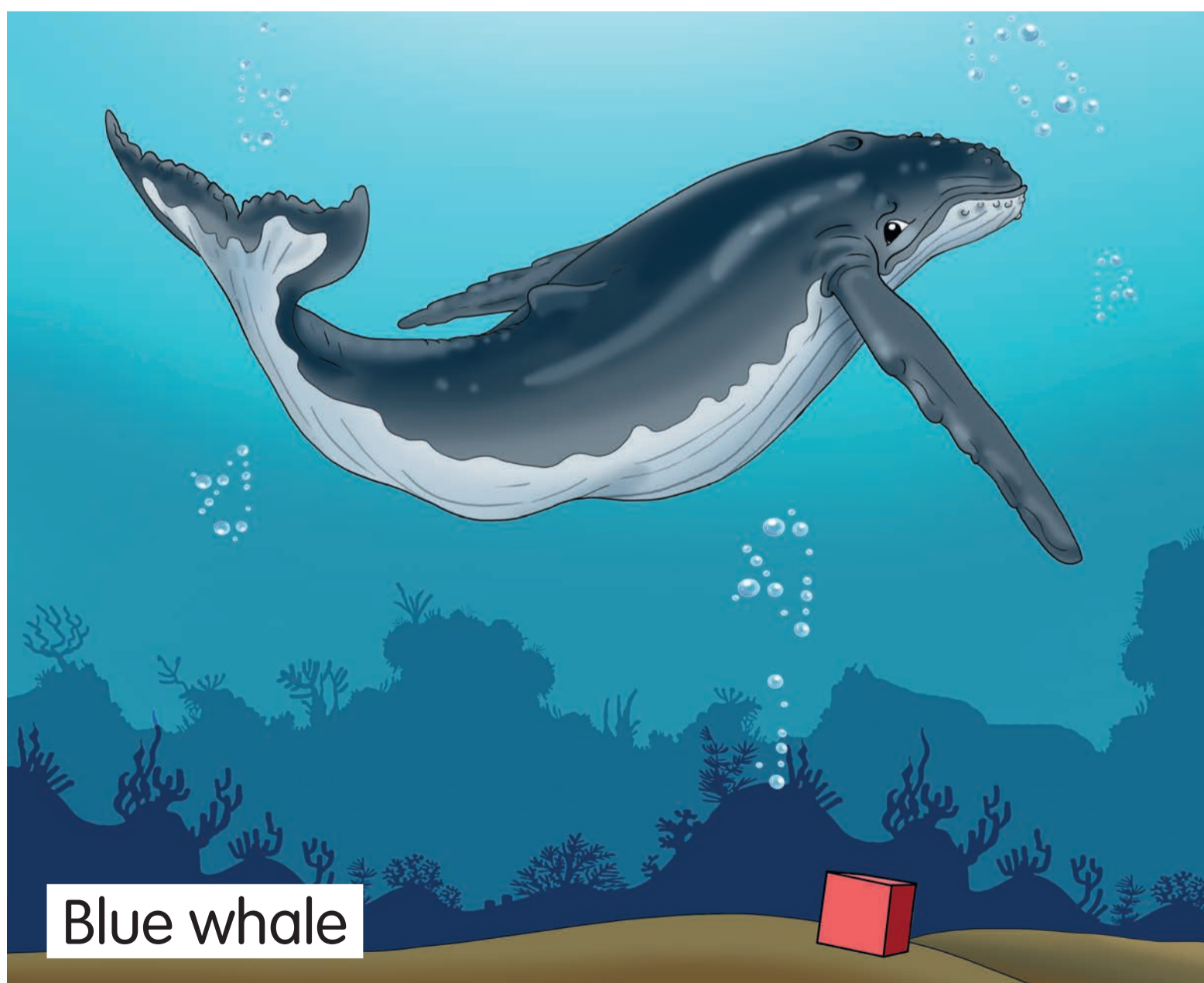
“Can you describe the sea creatures?” asked Dad.

“One sea creature is huge; my teacher says this ocean creature is

even bigger than a bus,” Themba said.

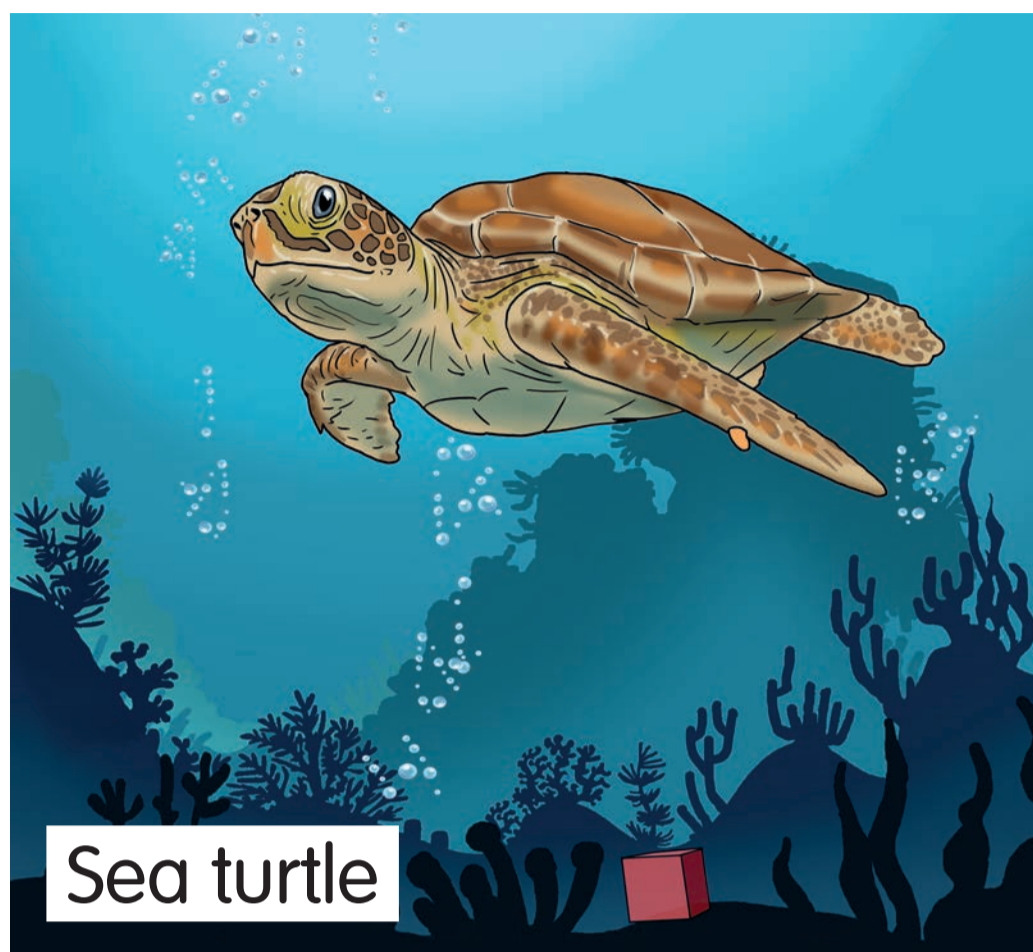
“Do you know what it is, Dad?” asked Themba.

“Hmm! That is definitely a blue whale,” said Dad.



Blue whale

“We also learnt about the slowest animal: a sea turtle,” Themba said. “They lay dozens of eggs in the sand and hide them.”



“When our teacher told us about the danger these animals face, I decided I was going to be an ocean captain,” Themba told his dad.

Did you know?

Sea turtles outlived dinosaurs.

“I will stop people from throwing trash, paper and plastic into the ocean. I will catch the people who steal turtle eggs,” said Themba. “We must protect our environment!”

“That’s a good idea, Themba,” Dad said. “No! Not Themba, it’s Themba, the ocean captain!” he announced.

Themba and his dad both laughed.



Did you know?

Ocean pollution can be swallowed by sea creatures and can kill them.

Post-reading questions

1. Which creatures was Themba most interested in?
2. Why did he want to become an ocean captain?
3. How did he think he could save the sea creatures?

Fix Uncle Fred's Farm

Pre-reading question

Look at the picture on page 8. Why do you think the old man feels happy?

New words

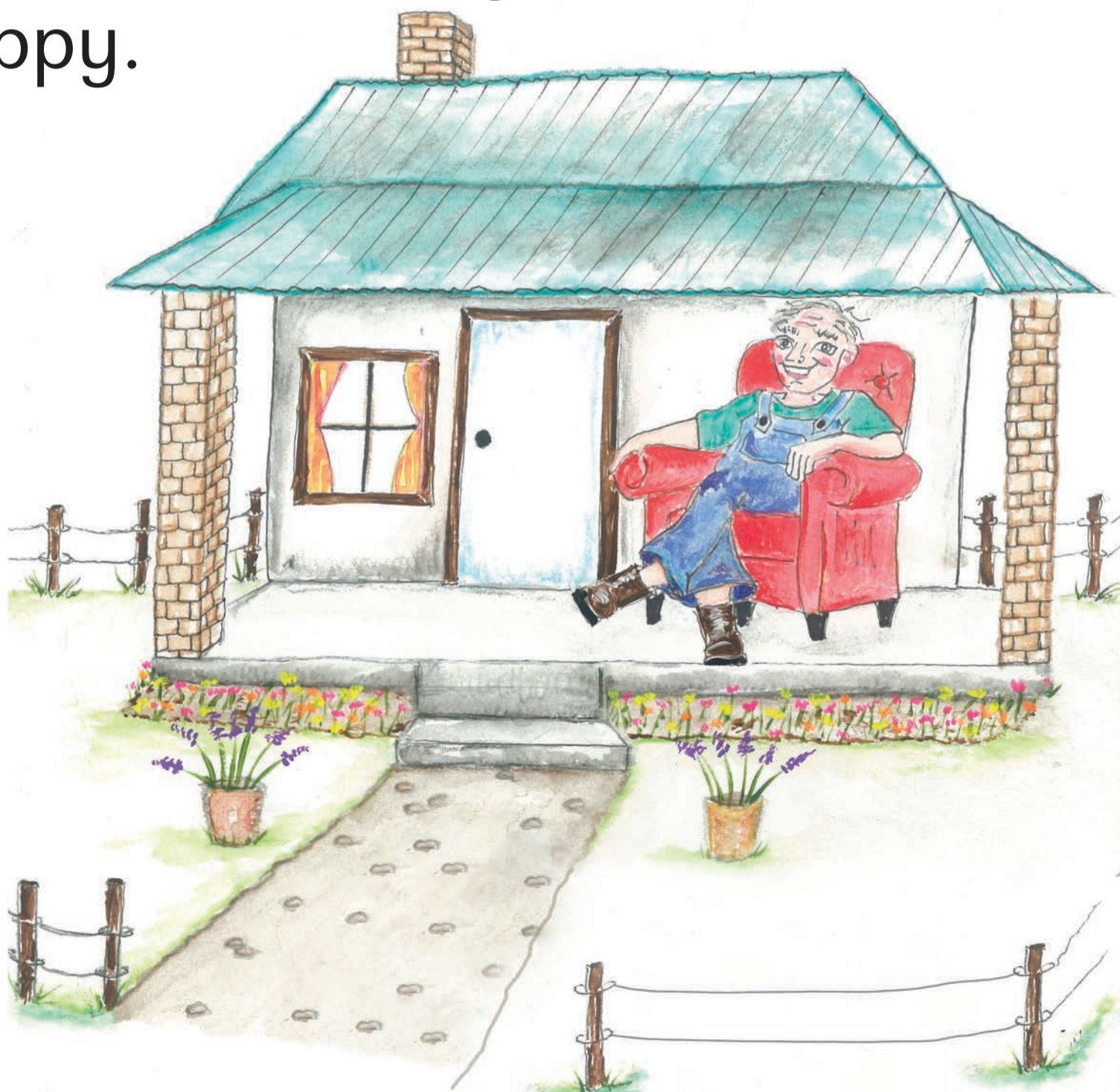
chicken coop – The chickens sleep in the chicken coop at night.

shed – The cow shed keeps the cows safe at night.

homes – All the animals have safe homes to protect them from bad weather.

destroy – The storm broke the chicken coop and destroyed the shed.

Uncle Fred is a very old man but he is happy.



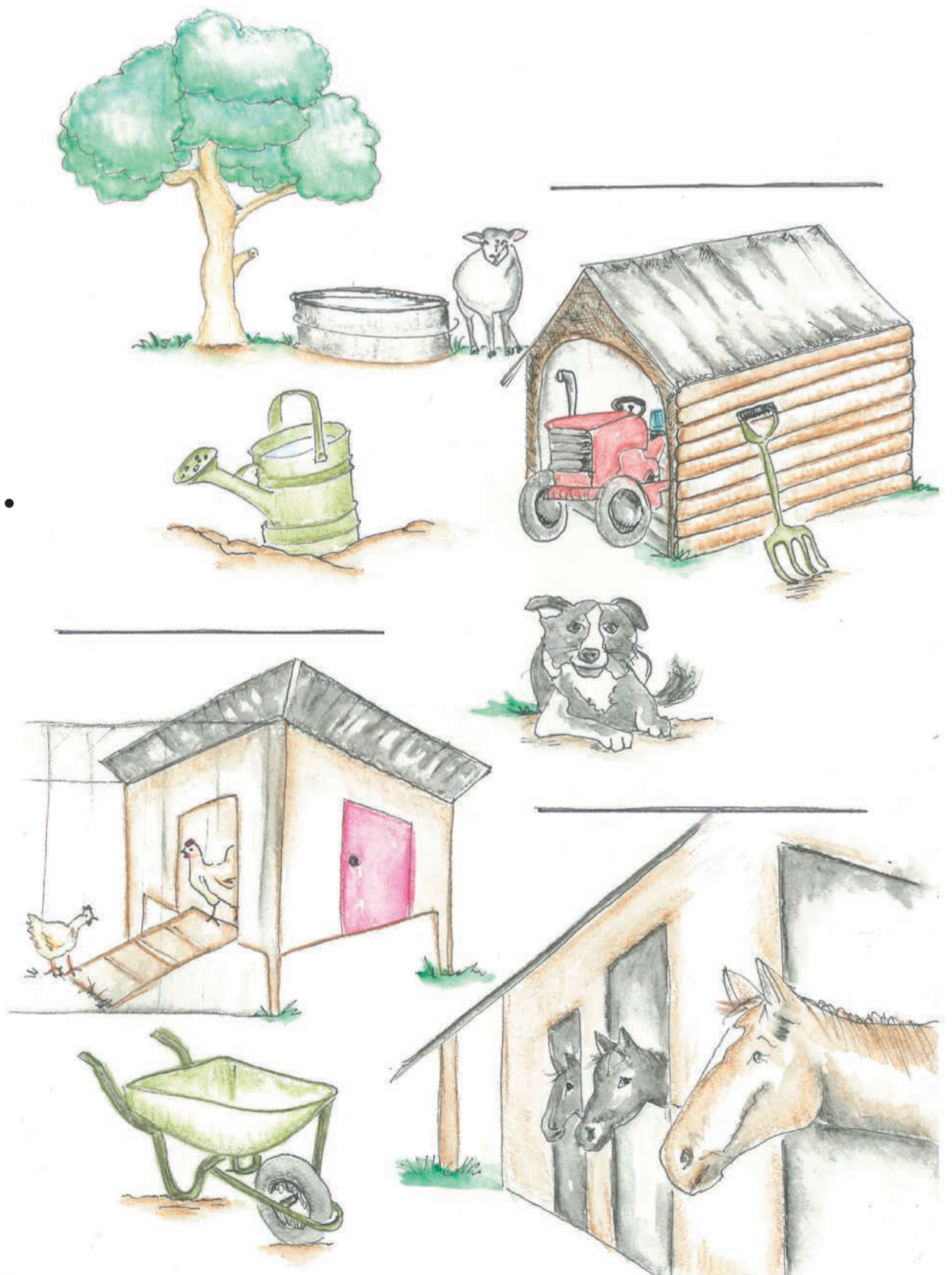
repair – The farmer had to repair many animal homes after the storm.

build – The builder used strong wooden planks to build a new shed.

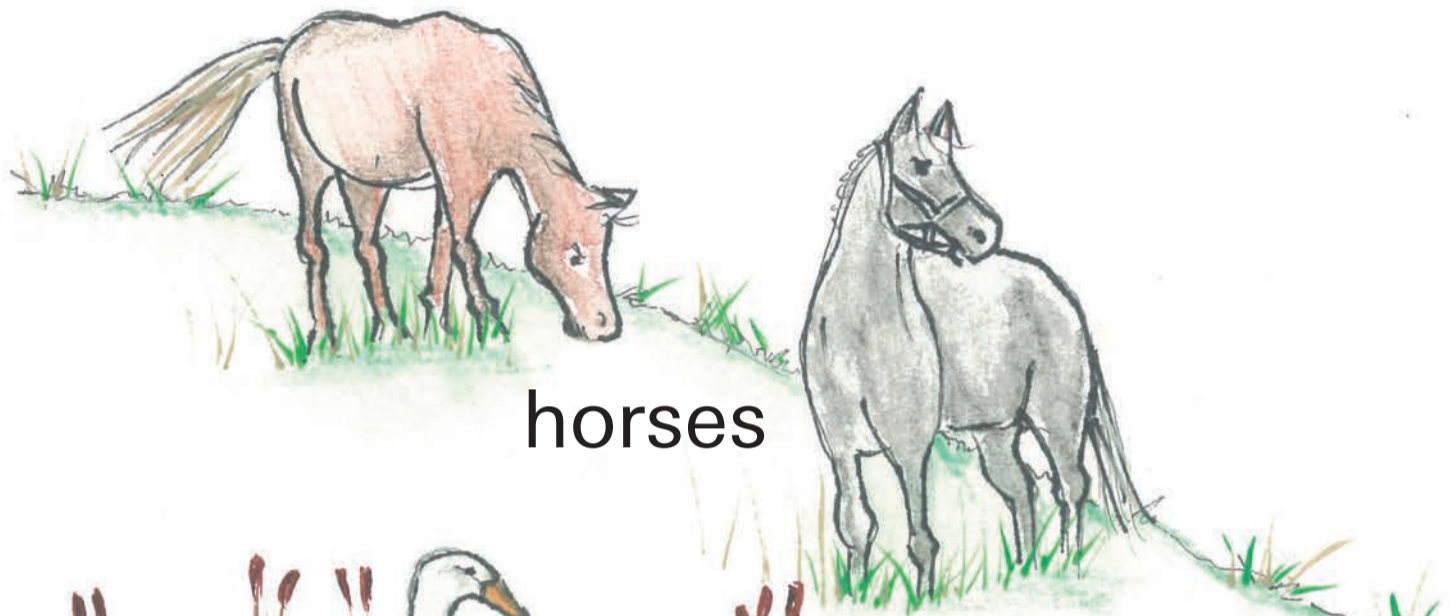
proud – She was very proud when her cow won first prize at the show.

thankful – She was thankful for her healthy herd of cows.

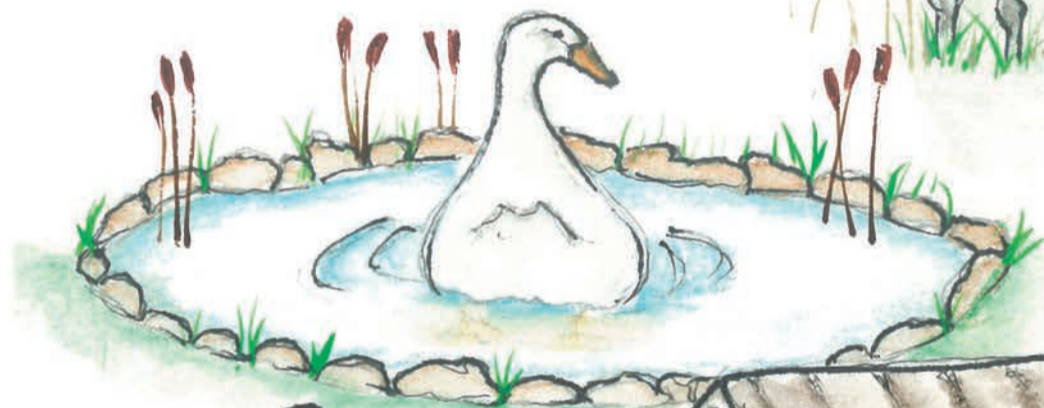
He lives on his beautiful farm with lots of animals. He takes care of them each day.



Uncle Fred has ducks and chickens.
He keeps them in the chicken coop.
He also has horses and donkeys.
He keeps his cows in the shed.



horses



ducks



COWS

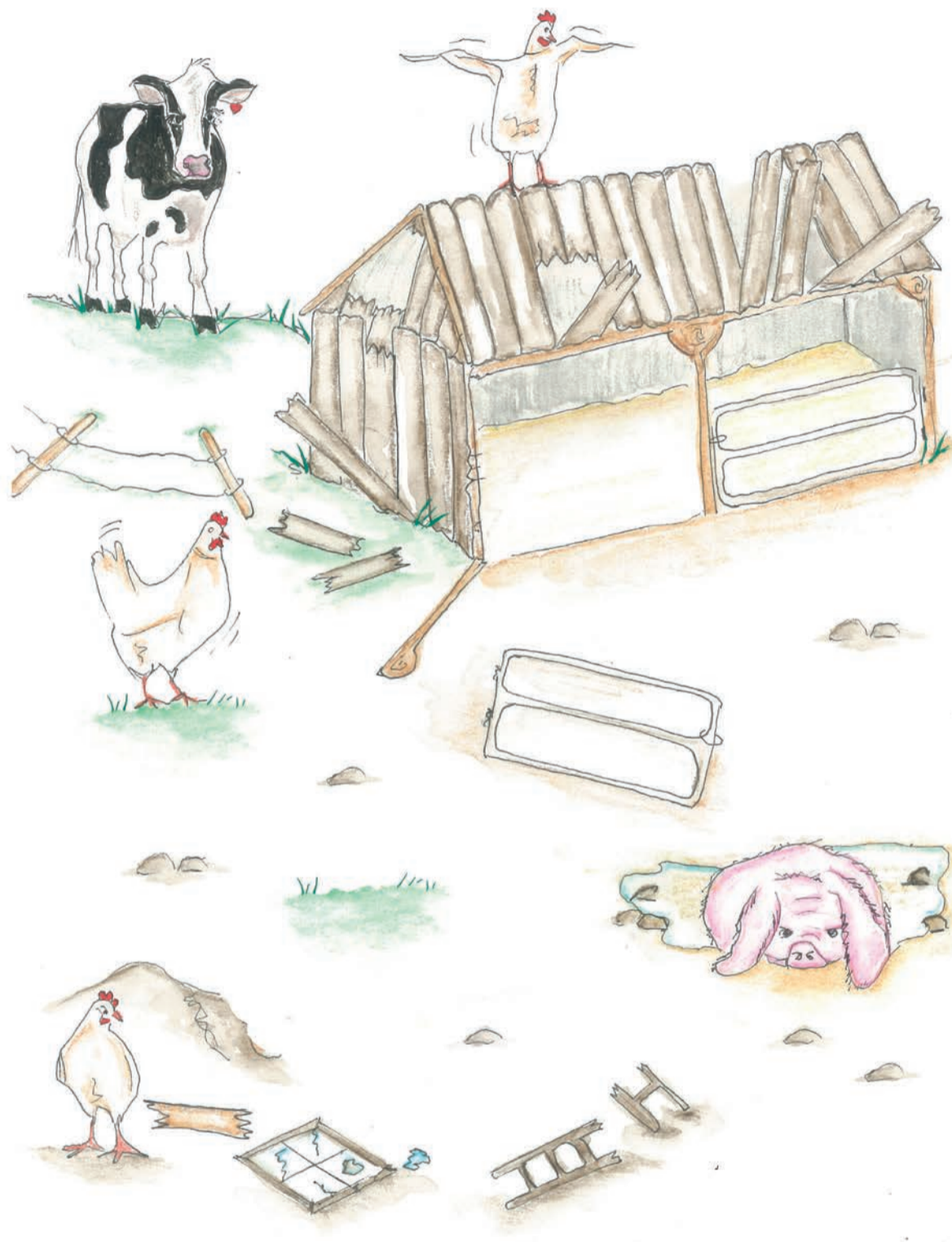


donkey



chickens

One day, there was a big storm that destroyed the farm. The rain and wind blew across the farm. The animals had no homes and they were frightened.



Let's think!

Uncle Fred lives alone. Who will help him to repair the animal homes?

When it was calm again, Jody and his friends helped Uncle Fred. They felt sorry for the old man. “We will build new strong homes for your animals,” they told Uncle Fred.

Jody and his friends will help Uncle Fred!

