

Sunny and Grandma love Grandpa's favourite tree. But when Sunny accidentally damages the trunk, the race is on to find the mysterious Special Tree People. Grandma knows that the Special Tree People make their parks and gardens green and beautiful. But Grandma and Sunny need to find them first. Along the way, they will encounter different wildlife species and learn what they should and should not do. If Sunny and Grandma do the right thing, they might be able to save Grandpa's favourite tree!

 **National Parks** NParks' Publication



The Special Tree People

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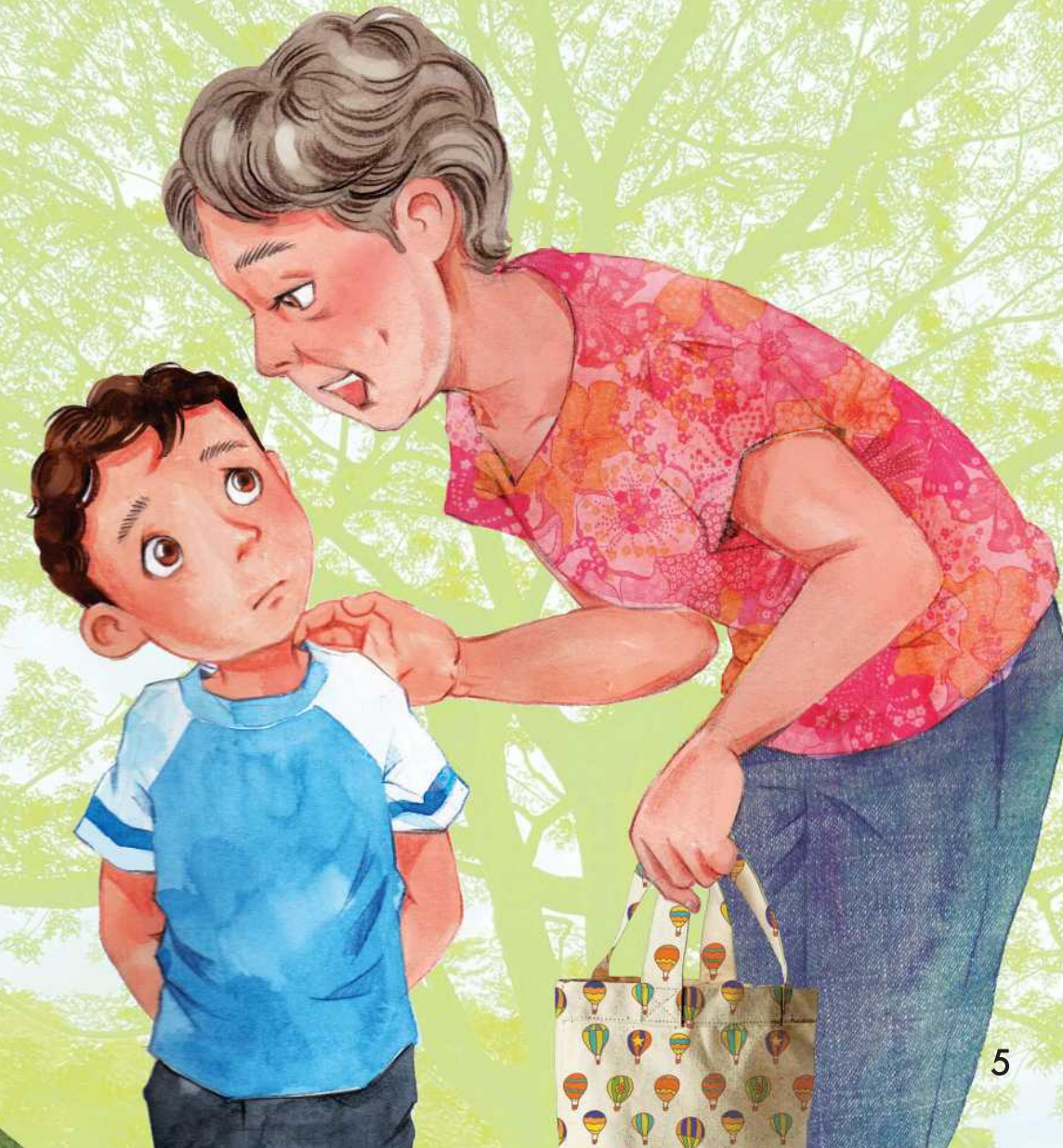
Sunny and Grandma love their special tree.
The tree was planted for a special person.
“This is Grandpa’s favourite Nature Park,” says Sunny.



“We can quietly share our tree with others,” says Grandma.
But Sunny tries to ‘shoo’ a bird away.
He trips and bumps into the trunk!

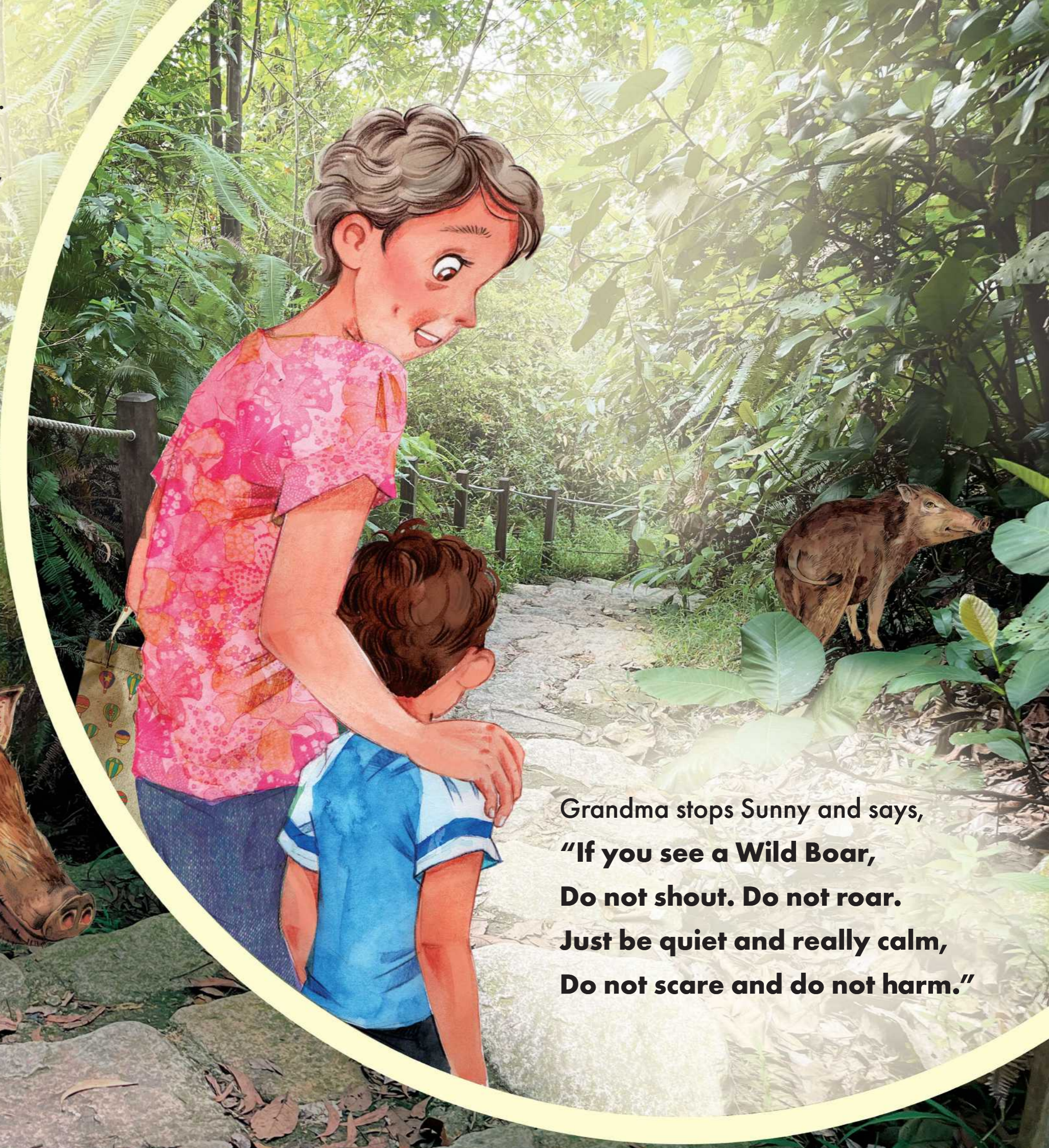


The leaves shake. The branches wobble.
The trunk looks like it might fall!
"Oh no! I've broken our tree," says Sunny.
"Can anyone help us?"



Grandma smiles and whispers,
"We must find the special tree people.
They make our parks green and beautiful."

Sunny and Grandma look for the tree people.
A large animal blocks their path.
"That's a boar," says Grandma. "Be careful."
But Sunny chases the boar!



Grandma stops Sunny and says,
**"If you see a Wild Boar,
Do not shout. Do not roar.
Just be quiet and really calm,
Do not scare and do not harm."**



Grandma and Sunny stop to eat under a cool tree.
"I can feed our monkeys, too," says Sunny.
The Long-tailed Macaques climb down the trunk.



Grandma snatches Sunny's lunch bag.
The monkeys return to the trees.
Grandma says,
**"The trees give monkeys food to eat.
They do not need your little treat."**

They reach a river and hear a squeaking sound.

“They are Smooth-coated Otters,” says Grandma.

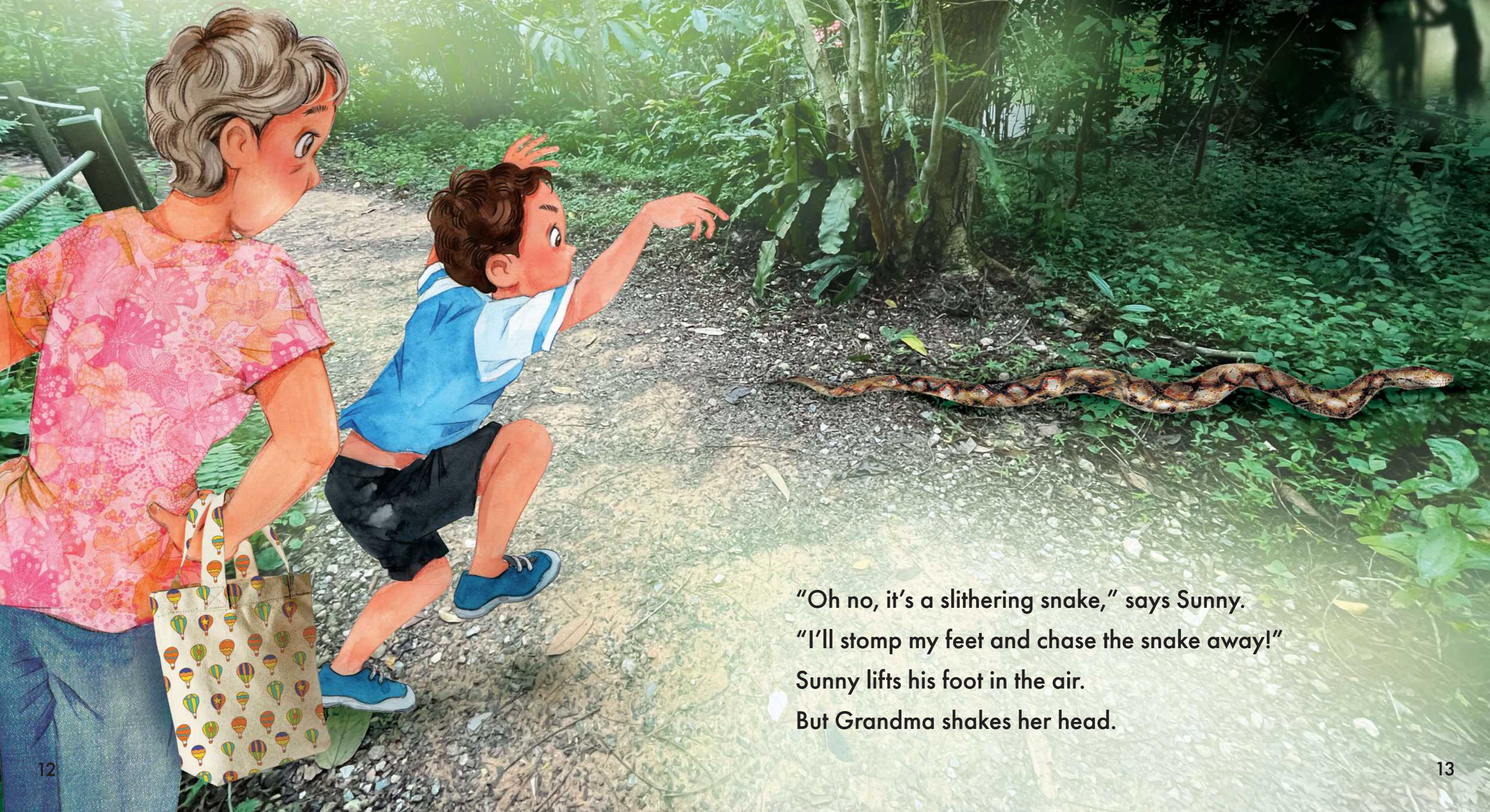
“Great! Let’s take a selfie,” says Sunny.

But the otters turn and swim away.




Grandma smiles and says,
**“In our parks, when we walk by,
Animals may get very shy
Try to stand far away
Then, they’ll relax and eat and play.”**

After the river, Sunny sees some shadows.
“They might be the tree people,” says Grandma.
Sunny runs to meet them.
But something blocks his path!




“Oh no, it’s a slithering snake,” says Sunny.
“I’ll stomp my feet and chase the snake away!”
Sunny lifts his foot in the air.
But Grandma shakes her head.



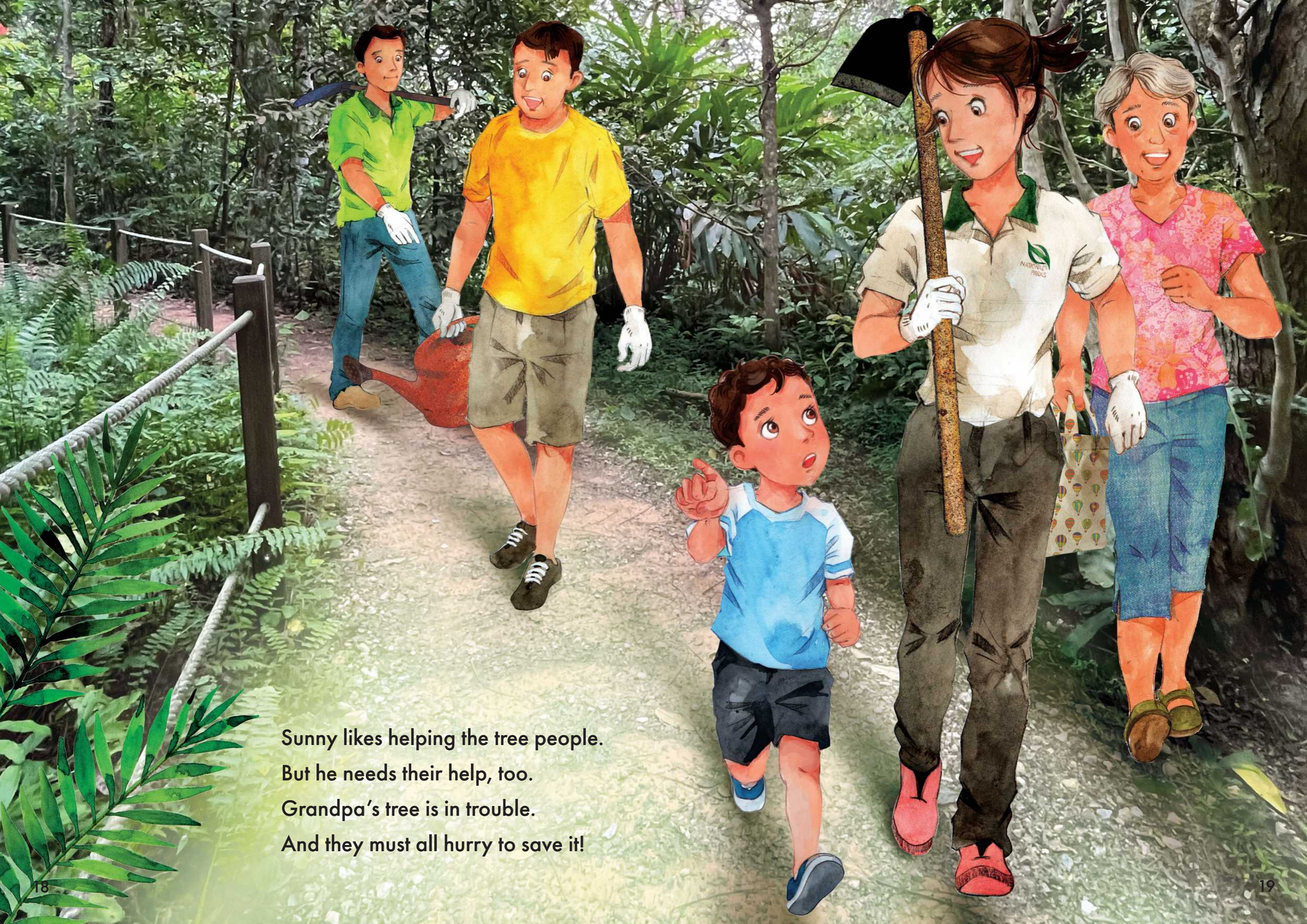
Sunny remembers Grandma's words.
He says,
**"In our parks, when we walk by,
Animals may get very shy
Try to stand far away
Then, they'll relax and eat and play."**

Sunny and Grandma
walk closer to the shadows.
They hear tools banging.
They hear heavy digging.
They hear loud grunting!



Sunny and Grandma have found the tree people!
“They want to plant one million more trees,” says Grandma.
“They work all over the island for us.”
“Why do we need so many trees?” Sunny asks.

Grandma says,
“To make our air even cleaner,
We need to make our island greener
And every time we plant a tree,
The parks get better for you and me.”



Sunny likes helping the tree people.
But he needs their help, too.
Grandpa's tree is in trouble.
And they must all hurry to save it!

Grandma and Sunny reach Grandpa's tree just in time.
Their new friends repair the trunk.
Grandma adds some soil
and Sunny gives the tree a drink.
This is thirsty work for everyone ...



... but they save Grandpa's tree!

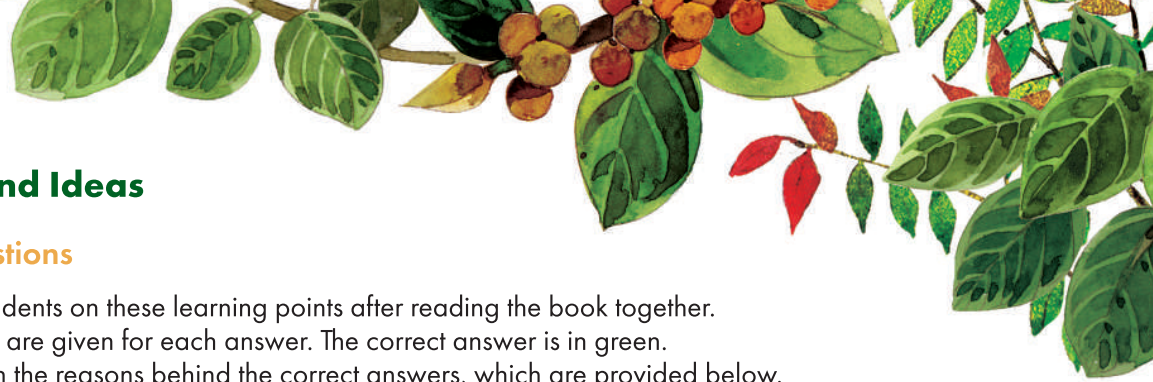
"I am now one of the special tree people,"
says a proud Sunny.

"And why are they special?" Grandma asks.

Sunny smiles and says,

**"Because every time we plant a tree,
The parks get better for you and me."**





Teaching Notes and Ideas

Multiple Choice Questions

Teachers can quiz their students on these learning points after reading the book together.

For simplicity, two choices are given for each answer. The correct answer is in green.

Teachers can elaborate on the reasons behind the correct answers, which are provided below.

- If we see a wild boar, should we (a) shout really loudly or (b) **be quiet, stand at a distance and calmly observe?**
- When monkeys are hungry, should we (a) feed the monkeys or (b) **leave them to find their own food in the trees?**
- If we see otters, should we (a) go really close and take selfies or (b) **watch them from a safe distance?**
- If we see a snake on the path, should we (a) **walk away from the snake, slowly and quietly** or (b) stomp our feet and chase the snake away?
- In Singapore, by 2030, do we want to plant (a) one thousand more trees or (b) **one million more trees?**
- If we plant more trees, do they make our air (a) **better** or (b) worse?
- If we plant more trees, do they make our parks (a) messier or (b) **greener?**
- In Singapore, should we plant (a) **more trees** or (b) fewer trees?



Follow-up Questions

Q: Why should we stay nice and quiet in Nature Parks?

A: Nature Parks are quiet places for people and wildlife to relax and enjoy the peaceful green spaces. Nature Parks also help to protect the wildlife living in the Nature Reserves. By keeping our volume down, we are respecting the other visitors and wildlife.

Q: Why should we keep a safe distance from wildlife?

A: They want to keep themselves and their families safe and may feel threatened if we come too close.

Q: Why should we not feed monkeys?

A: They have enough food in the trees. Human food can be harmful for monkeys. Human food can also encourage monkeys to interact with people, which may be dangerous for both monkeys and humans. Also, the forests benefit when monkeys eat their fruits and spread the seeds around. Then, other fruits can grow!

Q: Why should we plant more trees?

A: They help to make the air cleaner. They provide homes and shelter for wildlife. Trees also make our parks greener and are an important part of our City in Nature.

Q: Why are trees so important?

A: They provide wildlife with food and shelter. They give us shade. They make our City in Nature cooler. They make the air cleaner. They make Singapore greener. They make our surroundings beautiful.

Fun Facts about the OneMillionTrees Movement

- The OneMillionTrees movement aims to plant a million more trees across Singapore by 2030.
- In 2030, there will be more than eight million trees in Singapore!
- The trees will be planted all over Singapore, including along our streets and in our gardens, parks, Nature Reserves and Nature Parks.
- NParks, which looks after our green spaces, is working with the community which includes volunteers, schools, gardeners, nature groups, corporate partners and other organisations to plant the trees.
- The OneMillionTrees movement is one way to achieve our vision of making Singapore a City in Nature, where we live together with all our wildlife, safely and peacefully.

Suggested Activities

- In a role-playing exercise, children can act out key scenes in the book, taking turns to play different animals to act out the right and wrong ways to behave. E.g. Feed the animals and it all goes wrong! Do not feed the animals and it all goes right!
- Play a What Am I game with different animals. E.g. I play in the trees. I have a long tail. I like to eat the fruits and leaves in trees. You should not feed me. What am I? A monkey!

