

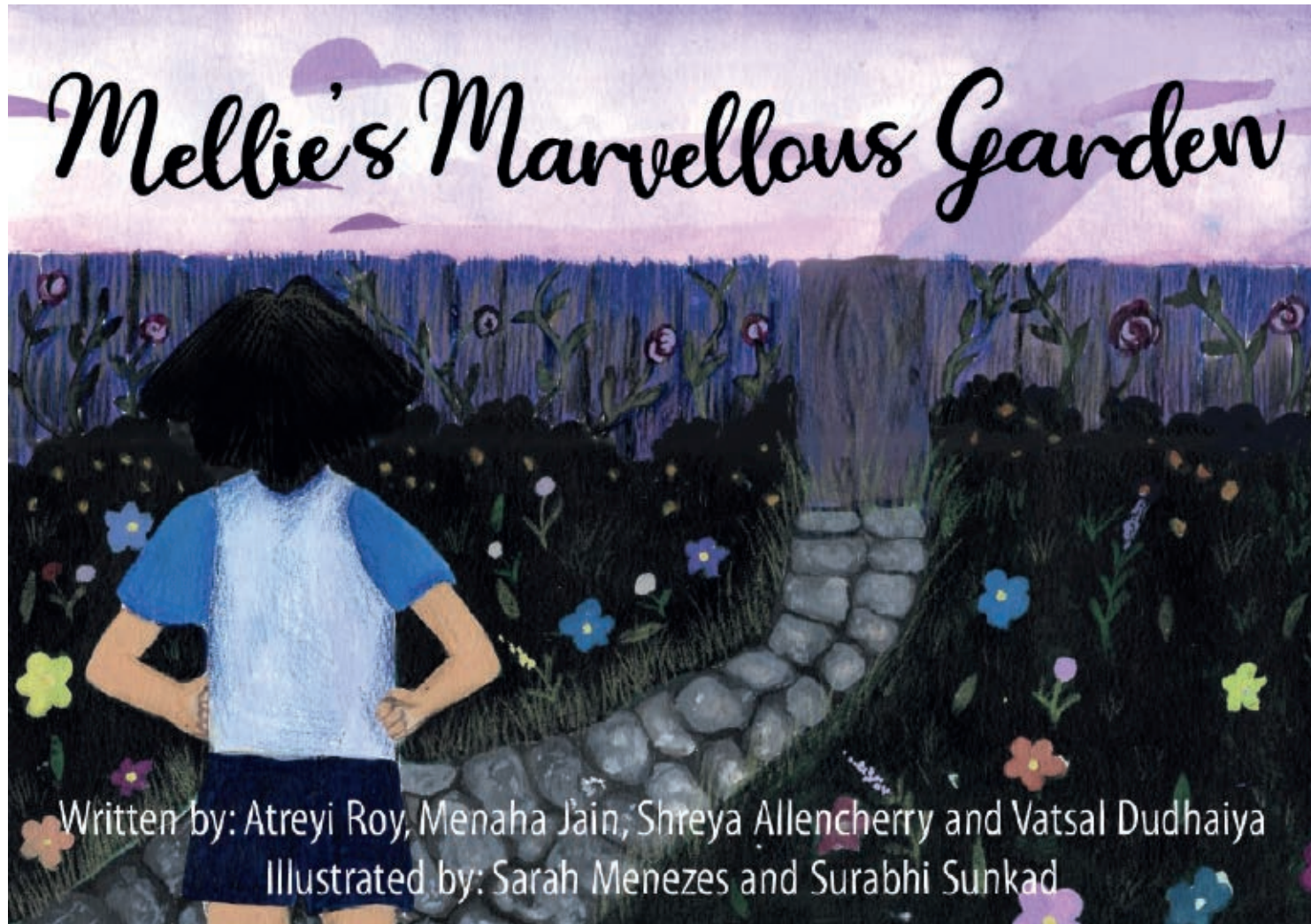
# Mellie's Marvellous Garden



Written by: Atreyi Roy, Menaha Jain, Shreya Allencherry and Vatsal Dudhaiya  
Illustrated by: Sarah Menezes and Surabhi Sunkad



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Dear Educators/ Parents/ Guardians,

The Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM) hopes that this complimentary copy of *Mellie's Marvellous Garden*, the winning story of Write for Kindness 2021, will come in handy in imparting lessons on the little acts of kindness that can be done by preschoolers to make a huge impact on the lives of the people around them.

Write for Kindness is a national story-writing competition organised by SKM. It is a platform for students from secondary schools, junior colleges, centralised institutes, international schools and madrasahs to promote kindness to preschoolers by creating age-appropriate and culturally relevant children's stories through creative writing and illustrations. The theme for Write for Kindness 2021 is 'Kindness Starts Small'.

You can also read the ebook version of this, as well as many other Write for Kindness stories on the Kindsville Website here:

**<https://kindsville.kindness.sg/stories/>**

Have fun reading and storytelling!

With love,

**The Singapore Kindness Movement**



Website: <http://kindsville.kindness.sg>

Email: [kindsville@kindness.sg](mailto:kindsville@kindness.sg)





## Acknowledgements

For all the young children of Singapore,  
to inspire them to create a garden of kindness, one flower at a time.

Special thanks to our teachers, Ms. Maria Tymosiewicz  
and Mr. Sakthivel Vijayarangam for their guidance and support.

Mellie looks at her garden and  
feels that it looks empty. She  
wishes to see it filled with  
colourful flowers one day.

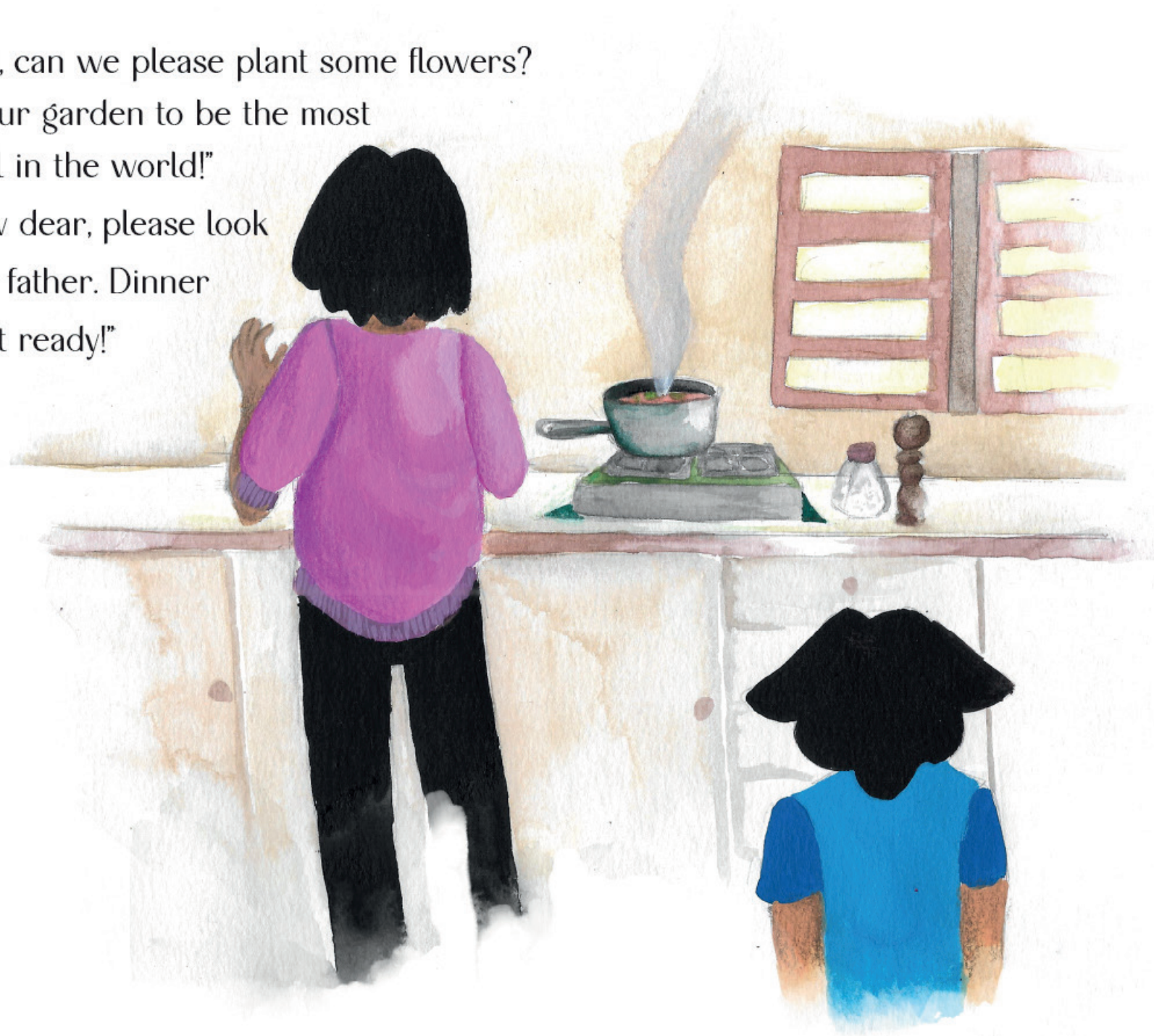




"Mummy, can we please plant some flowers?

I want our garden to be the most beautiful in the world!"

"Not now dear, please look for your father. Dinner is almost ready!"





Outside, she sees her father  
helping some children to get  
their football from a tree.

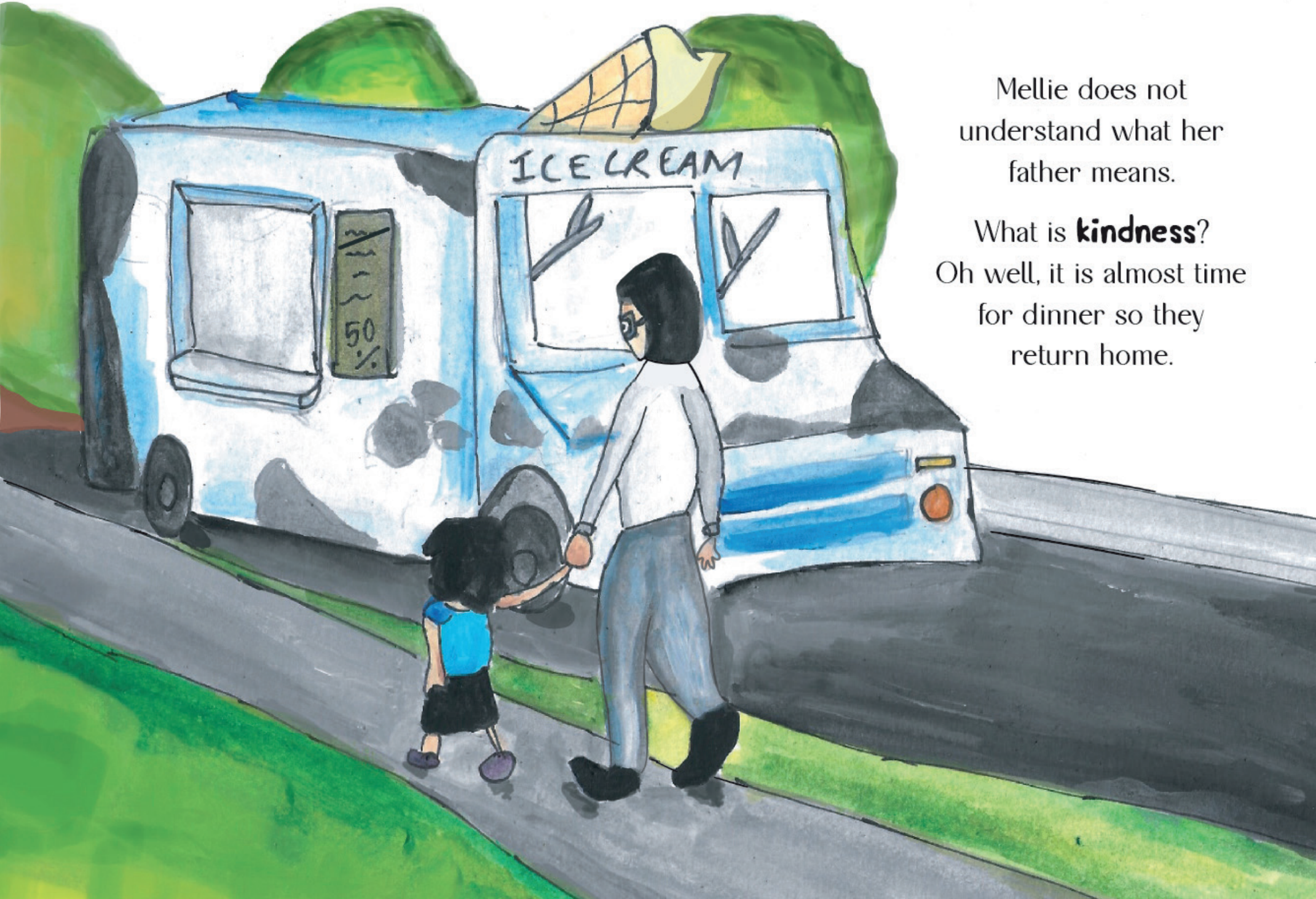




“Why did you help them, Daddy? Aren’t you tired?”  
she asks. Her father replies,  
“It was the **kind** thing to do.”







Mellie does not  
understand what her  
father means.

What is **kindness**?  
Oh well, it is almost time  
for dinner so they  
return home.



The next morning,  
Mellie and her mother take  
the bus to go to school.  
Luckily, they managed to  
get comfortable seats.



An old lady boards the bus. Mellie's mother offers her seat to the old lady.






Mellie is confused.  
Why did her mother give up  
her seat for this old lady?





Maybe Mellie's mother is doing  
a **kind** thing like her father.  
But what does it mean to be **kind**?



An illustration of a classroom. A woman, Ms. Fatimah, is sitting on a red chair, wearing a pink hijab, a black long-sleeved top, and purple pants. She is gesturing with her right hand. Behind her is a whiteboard with the letters 'A', 'B', and 'C' in pink, blue, and yellow respectively. To her right is a blackboard on a wooden stand, decorated with two small flowers. The wall is blue, and there are some papers pinned to it. In the foreground, the backs of three children's heads are visible, showing they are sitting on the floor listening to the teacher. The floor is white.

**"Kindness** is being friendly, generous, and considerate even when it is not needed."


At school, Ms Fatimah, Mellie's teacher, begins a lesson on **kindness**.



There is that word again! **Kindness!**  
Mellie thinks to herself.







Kind hearts are like gardens  
Kind words are their main roots  
Kind thoughts are like flowers  
That must grow and bloom

Care for your garden  
Plant plenty of flowers  
One day, you might just see  
Old kindness powers.

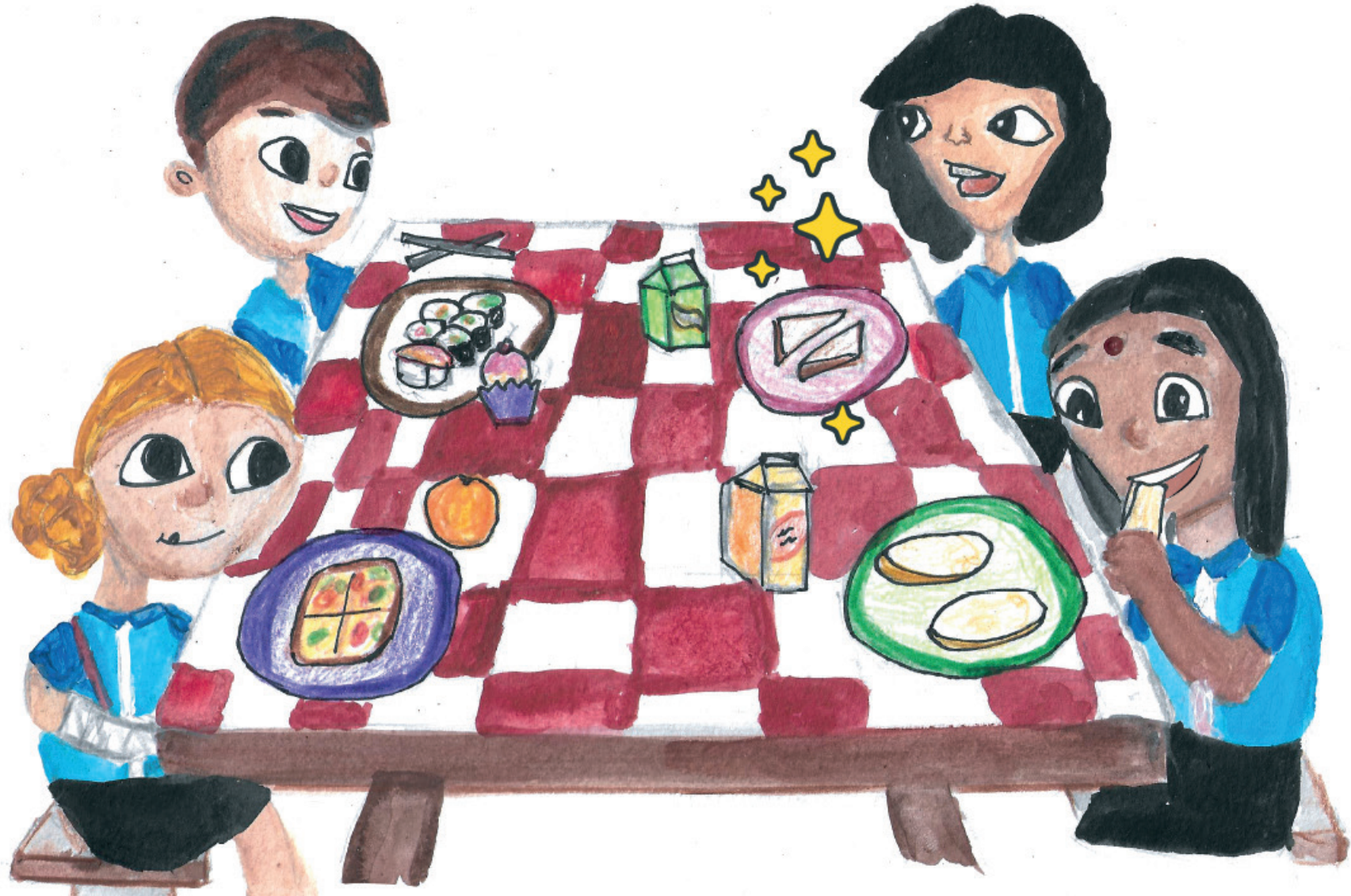
“Many people talk about  
**kindness**, it must  
be important,”  
Mellie thinks.



Mellie wonders  
what she can  
do to be **kind**.



At lunchtime, everyone brings their food to the table.  
Mellie opens her lunchbox to find her favourite food  
- kaya toast!



Suddenly, Riya drops her food  
on the table.





Mellie thinks to herself, "Oh no! Riya does not have lunch now. Should I share some of my food with her?"

Then she remembers what she learnt about kindness. She realised, "My **small** sacrifice will make a **BIG** difference to someone in need."



Mellie shares her kaya toast with Riya.

“Thank you, Mellie!” Riya replies gratefully.

Mellie is proud to have done a **kind** act. She wants to do it again.





The next morning, Mellie goes out and is surprised to see her garden filled with orchids, lilies and hibiscus.






"This is beautiful! How did the flowers appear?" Mellie asks curiously. Her mother replies, "When someone does a kind act, the world becomes more beautiful. The flowers must have grown because you have done a **kind** act."







Mellie lays in the grass. She is happy to learn how to be kind.  
Now, she knows that a **kind** act does not have to be big or grand.



Kindness can be...







Helping a friend in need

Helping with chores  
without being asked



Saying please, thank you and sorry



Cleaning up after yourself



AND SO MUCH MORE!!!



Mellie's garden has grown.  
How will you grow yours?



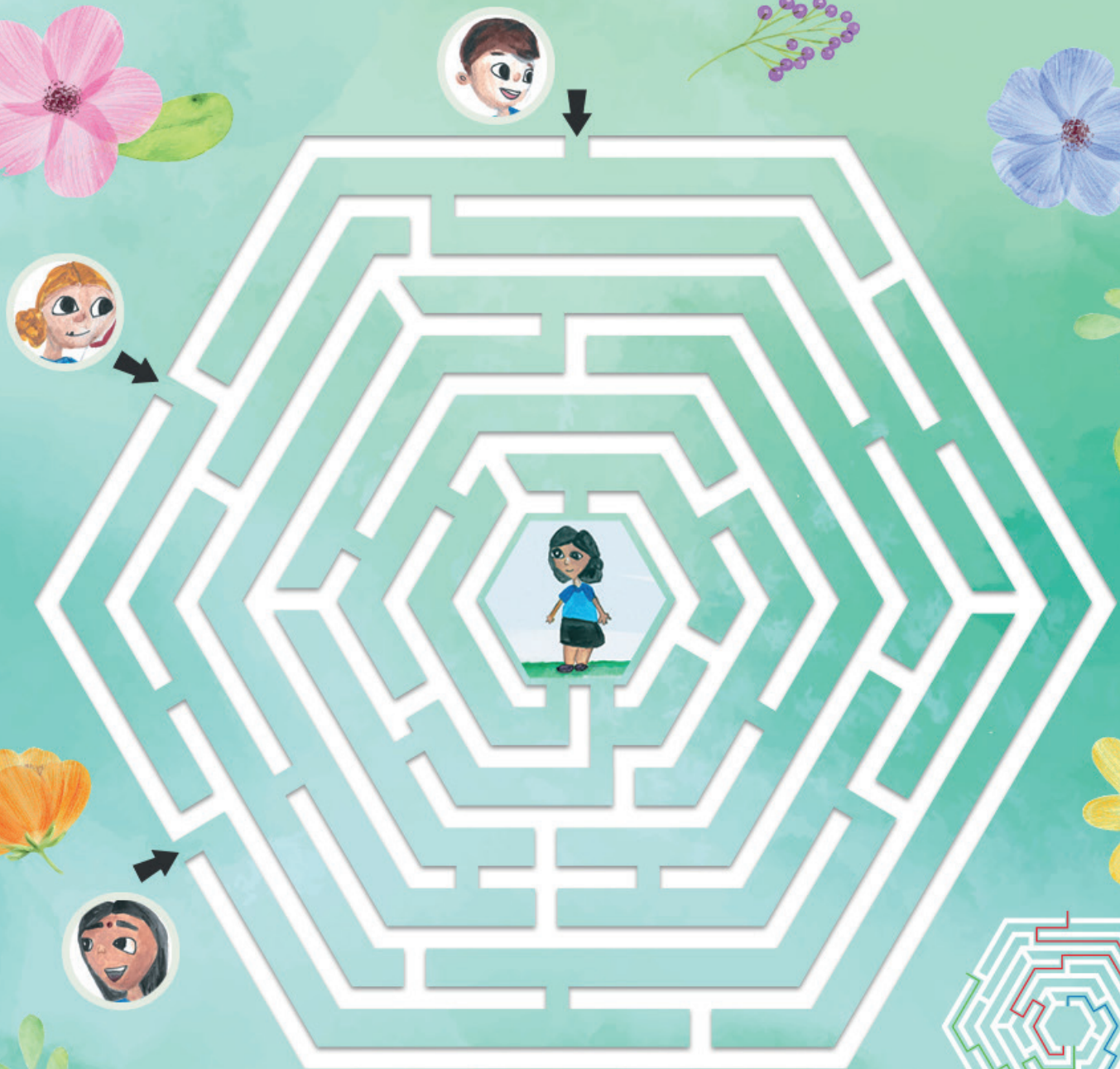


# Mellie is lost!

Help Mellie find her friends so that she can give them flowers from her garden!



Scan this QR code to get the printable copy of this activity so you can print out more copies for everyone!







# Meet Mellie.

She is a joyful young girl who loves her parents, friends and most importantly, her garden. One day, she sees strange new acts around her and is told that it is called kindness. Journey with Marvellous Mellie as she discovers the true meaning and importance of kindness.

Learn what kindness means to Mellie and the people around her, and how kindness brings light to our beautiful world.