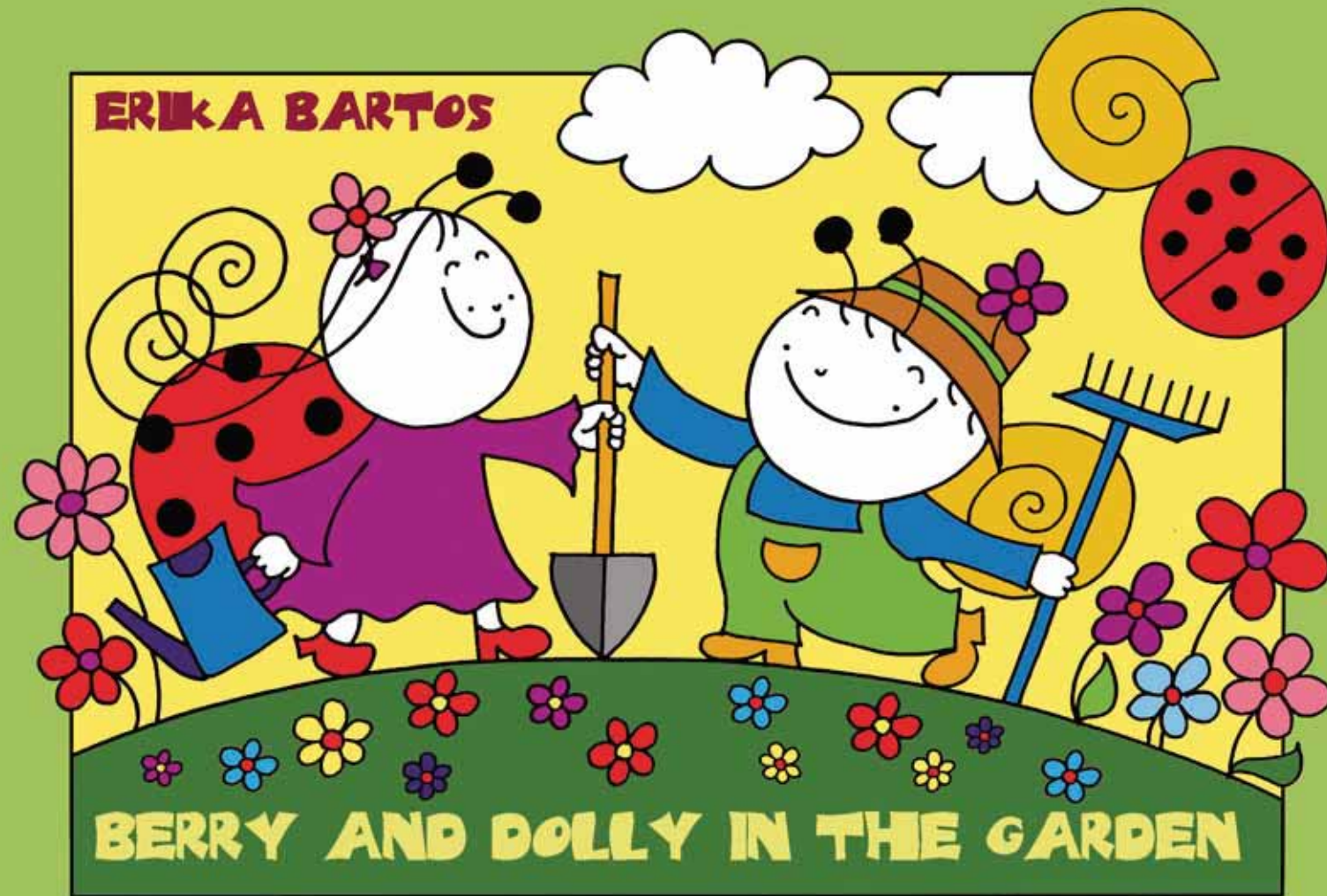


**ERIKA BARTOS**



**BERRY AND DOLLY IN THE GARDEN**



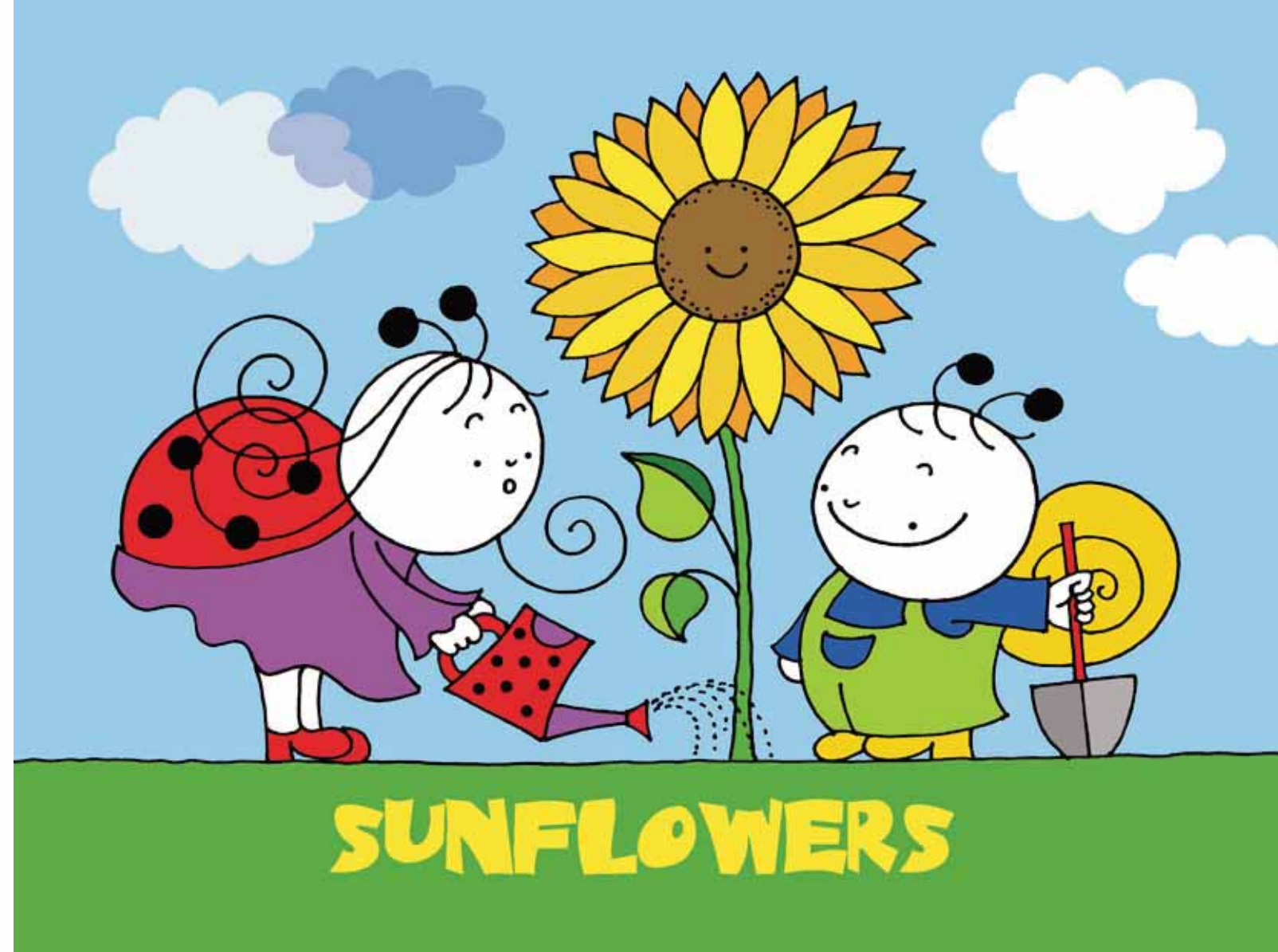




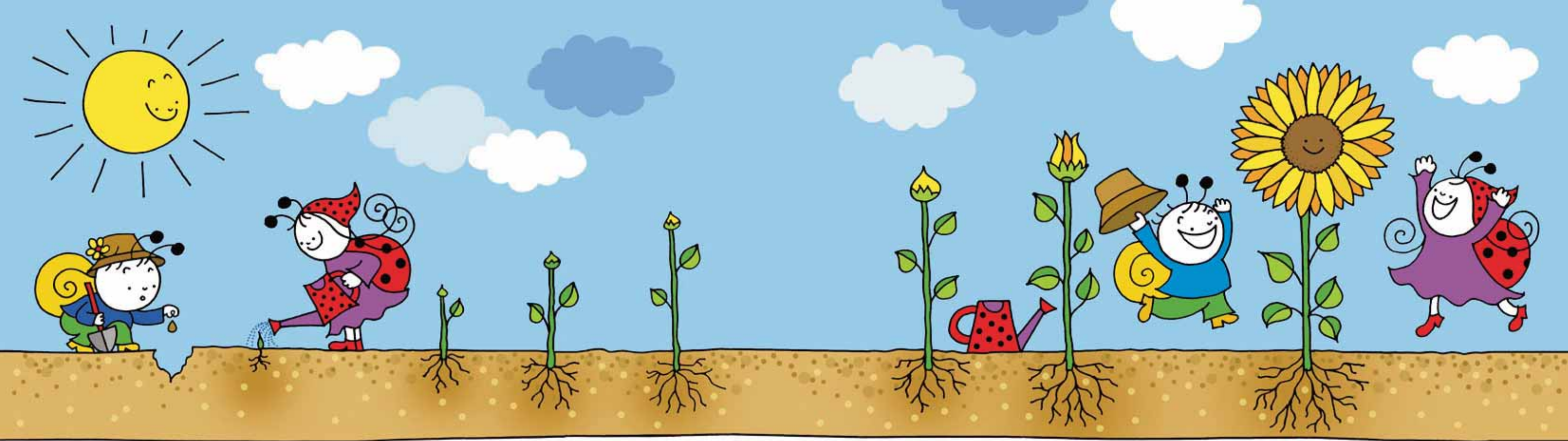
**ERIKA BARTOS**  
**BERRY AND DOLLY IN THE GARDEN**

**SUNFLOWERS**  
**THE MUSHROOM'S CAP**





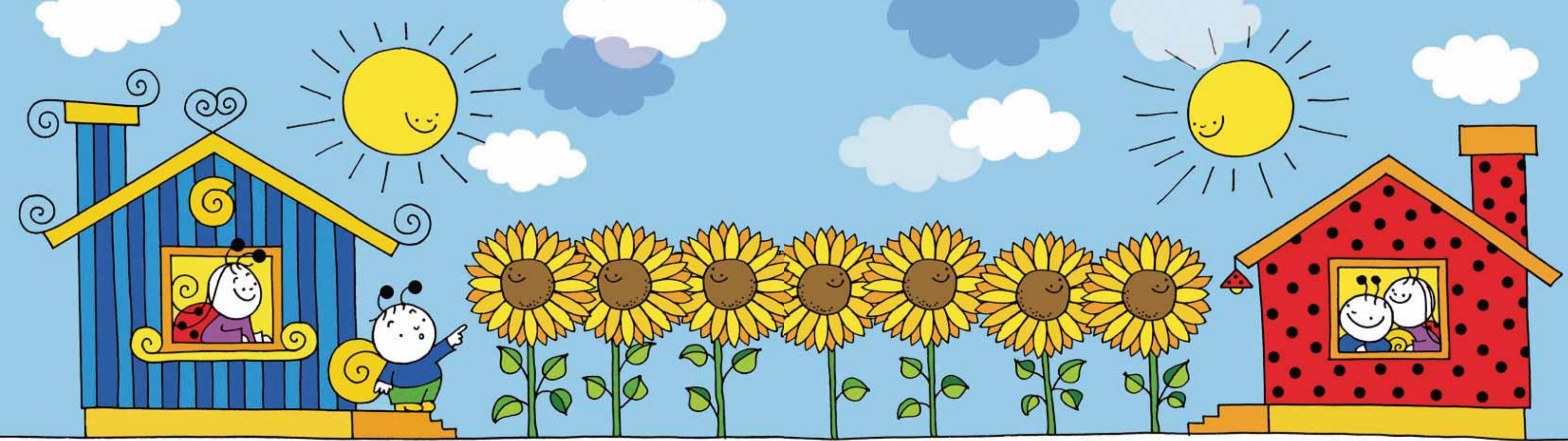




Berry and Dolly planted sunflower seeds in the spring. They took good care of their garden and watered the seeds until little shoots soon appeared.

The shoots grew into little plants that grew into big plants. Then buds appeared that opened into lovely yellow flowers in the summer.  
“Hurray!” the friends cheered when they saw the lovely flowers.





Berry noticed that the flowers pointed one way in the morning and another in the afternoon.

"Look, Dolly, they're turning their heads! Why do they do that?"

"Because they always turn to face the sun. That's why they're called sunflowers!"

Berry and Dolly decided to have breakfast every morning at the little snail's house and supper at the little ladybird's house. This meant that they could see the sunflowers smiling at them in the morning and in the evening. They did this all through the long, hot summer.





When the sun went down, the sunflowers hung their heads and went to sleep. "Bye, Berry! See you tomorrow!" the little ladybird said with a sleepy yawn and waved to her friend.



Dolly soon fell fast asleep. Berry headed back for his house. When he got home, he popped his pyjamas on and jumped into bed.





All the forest friends were woken the next morning by shouts of panic. "Oh dear, what's happened? Our lovely sunflowers!" Dolly cried. "Who could have done such a terrible thing?" Berry wept. "Someone has chewed through the stems of our sunflowers!"



Balthazar the bee soon came over to see what all the fuss was about. He was joined by Stanley the stag beetle and Flutter the butterfly. They all stood around the droopy sunflowers.





Flutter washed their wounds with fresh dew and Dolly bandaged them with soft blades of grass. The sunflowers slowly started to smile again.

The friends all gathered in Balthazar's house to decide what to do next.  
"What are we going to do?" Berry sobbed.  
"Someone needs to stand guard at night! I'll go first!" said Dolly bravely.





The little ladybird hid quietly behind the bush and kept a close eye on the sunflowers. She didn't have to wait for very long!

A hamster soon appeared in the friends' flower garden and started to chew at the stems of the sunflowers. Dolly jumped out from her hiding place and shouted as loud as she could. "Shoo!" This surprised the hamster and he ran away. He didn't come back again that night.

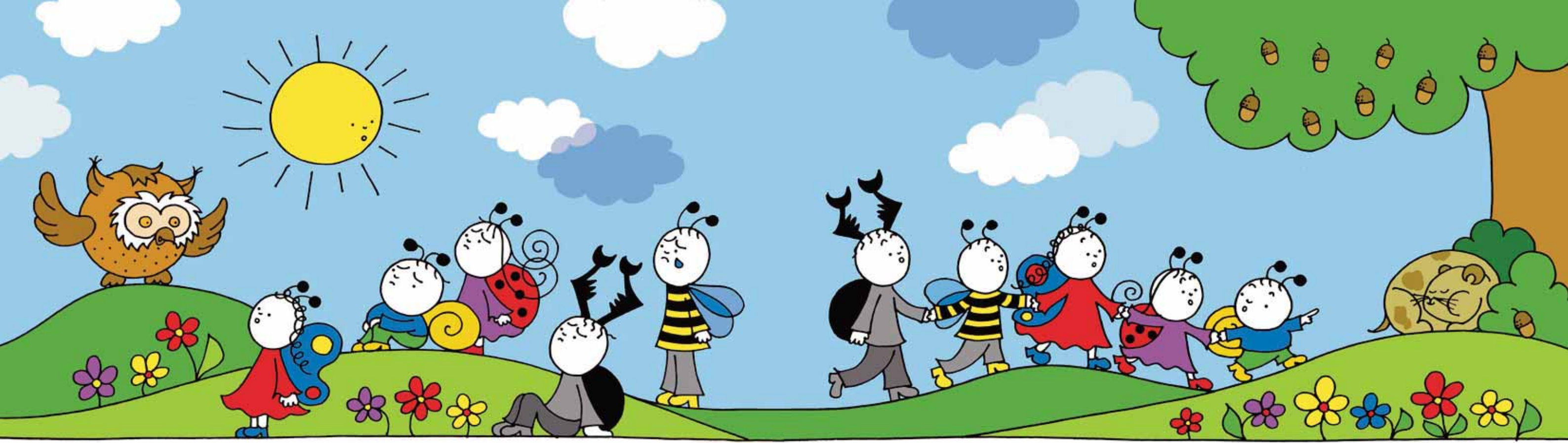




Flutter guarded the sunflowers the next night and then Balthazar and then Stanley. Soon it was Berry's turn. The little snail hid quietly behind the bush and waited. He waited and waited until he eventually fell asleep. He wasn't even woken by the sound of the hamster chewing at the sunflower stems.

"Oh dear, I must have fallen asleep! I didn't guard the sunflowers!" Berry sobbed when he saw the sadly sagging sunflowers the following morning. The others all ran over and were shocked by what they saw. "Berry fell asleep! He slept while the hamster chewed the stems again!"

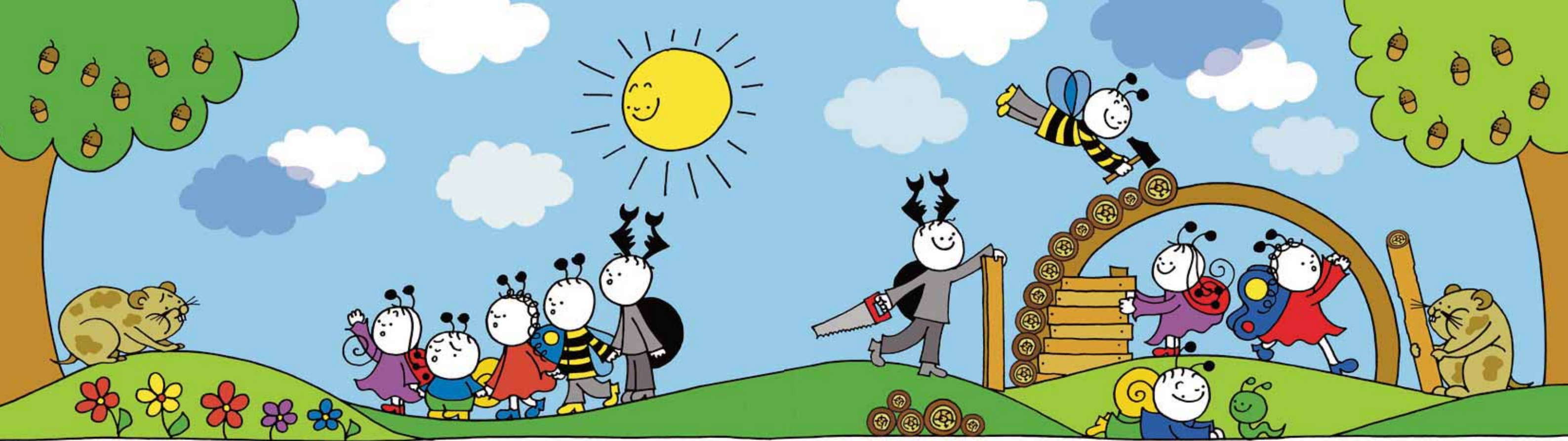




"Why do you all look so sad?" asked Doctor Owl.  
Dolly told him what had happened to the sunflowers.  
"I think you should talk to the hamster. Ask him not to hurt the sunflowers," Doctor Owl suggested. "He's sleeping over there under the big oak tree."

"It's worth a try..." Flutter said with a shaky voice.  
So the friends all walked over to the oak tree.  
"There he is! He's asleep in the bush!" Berry whispered loudly to the others.  
The noise woke the sleeping hamster.





The hamster looked scared of the friends and the friends felt frightened of the hamster. "There's no need to be scared of us," Dolly reassured him. "We just wanted to ask you not to chew our sunflowers!" "But then what will I eat?" the hamster said sadly. "We'll bring you plenty of apples and carrots to nibble on. Where do you live?" the little snail asked.

"I haven't got a house of my own," the hamster told them. "You haven't got a house?" Balthazar repeated in surprise. "Then we'll build you one!" They all set to work sawing and hammering until they had built the hamster a log cabin all of his own. The hamster was happy to help.





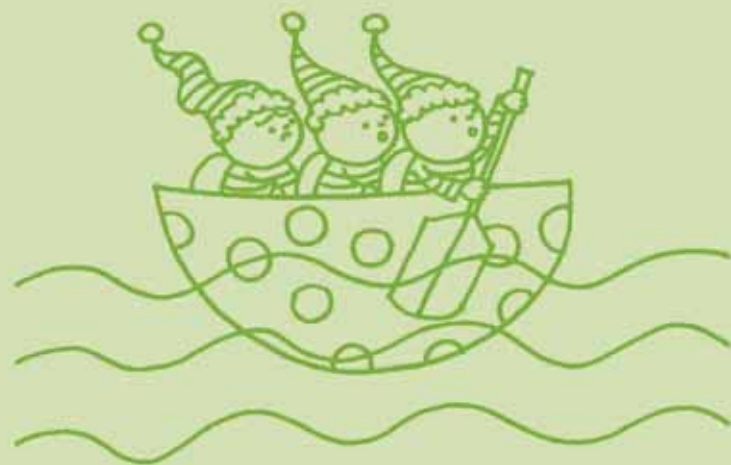
"And now we'll bring you something to eat!" they all said together. Dolly brought apples, Berry brought seeds, Flutter brought raisins, Balthazar brought dandelion leaves and Stanley brought carrots.

"My new house is really super!" the hamster said with a cheery smile. "And thank you so much for all the yummy food!"



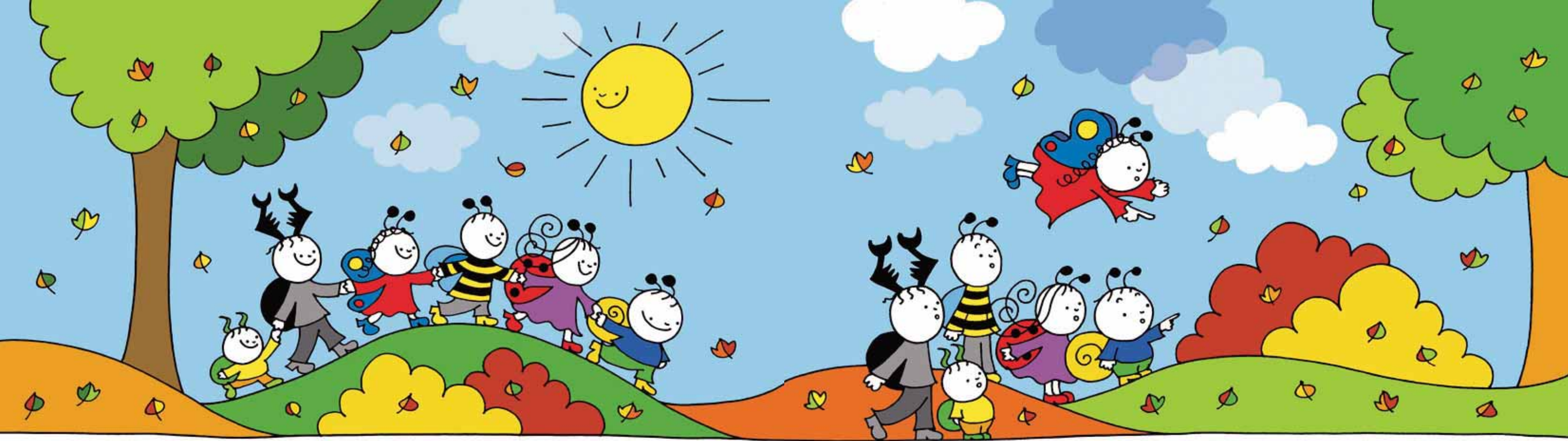


The hamster never chewed the sunflower stems again and they smiled happily at Berry and Dolly and all their friends for the rest of the summer.



**THE MUSHROOM'S CAP**





Berry, Dolly, Balthazar, Flutter, Stanley and Bubble all set off for a long walk in the woods.

They were strolling happily along when they heard someone crying.  
"It's coming from behind that bush," Berry whispered to the others.

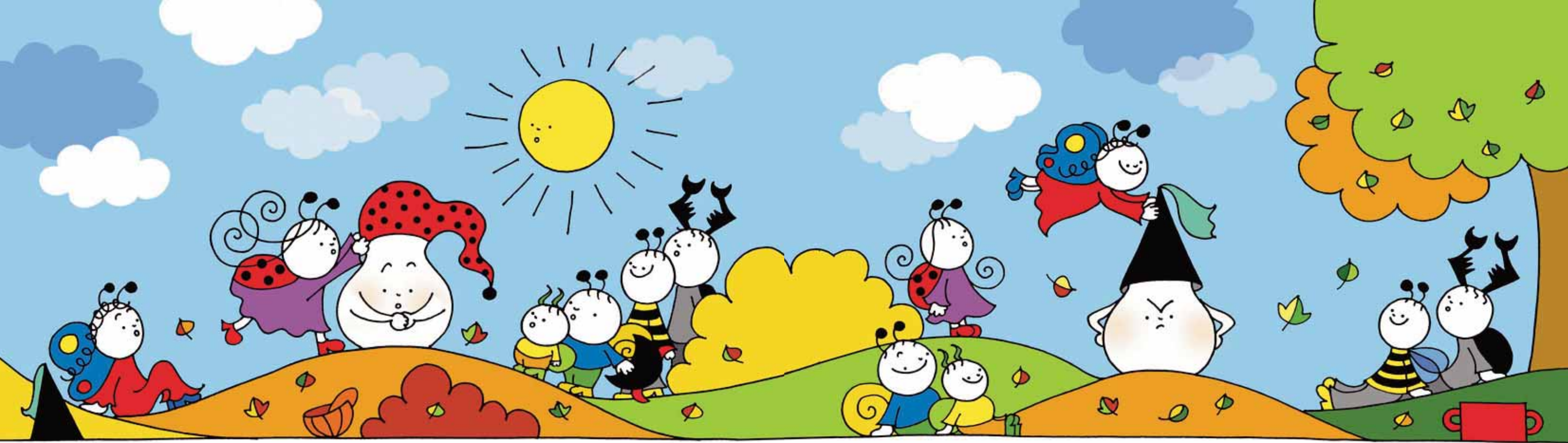




They saw a little mushroom crying and he looked odd because he had not cap.  
“Who took your cap?” Dolly asked in her kindest voice.

“I don’t know! It was missing when I woke up this morning!” the mushroom snivelled.  
“Don’t worry, we’ll help you! We’ll find you another cap!” Berry reassured the miserable mushroom.  
The friends all ran back to their houses and returned carrying all kinds of different caps and hats.





"We've brought some new caps to try!" they said and tried them all on the mushroom's head in turn. Dolly put her dotted hat on him first but it didn't seem to suit the mushroom at all.

Then Flutter put her witch's hat on his head.  
"But I don't want to be a nasty witch," the mushroom grumbled.





"I've brought two hats! This is my gardening hat and this is my devil's hat!"  
The gardening hat looked funny on the mushroom's head but he wasn't happy.  
"I don't like this one!" he said in a sullen voice.





The devil's hat made him even angrier.  
"I'm not a little devil, you know!" he shouted with a red face.

But he got most upset when Balthazar showed him the red saucepan that the snowman wore in the winter.  
"But this is a saucepan! I can't go around with a silly saucepan on my head!" the mushroom moaned.  
"It's not a normal saucepan!" Balthazar replied a little sharply. "It's our snowman's hat!"





The last one to try was Stanley the stag beetle who had brought a top hat for the mushroom to try on. "Oh, I quite like the look of this one," the mushroom enthused. "But can't you find my old cap? That's the one I want to wear the most!"

So the forest friends started to search for the mushroom's spotty cap. They looked under bushes and behind trees, they looked in the grass and on the path, but they couldn't find it anywhere.

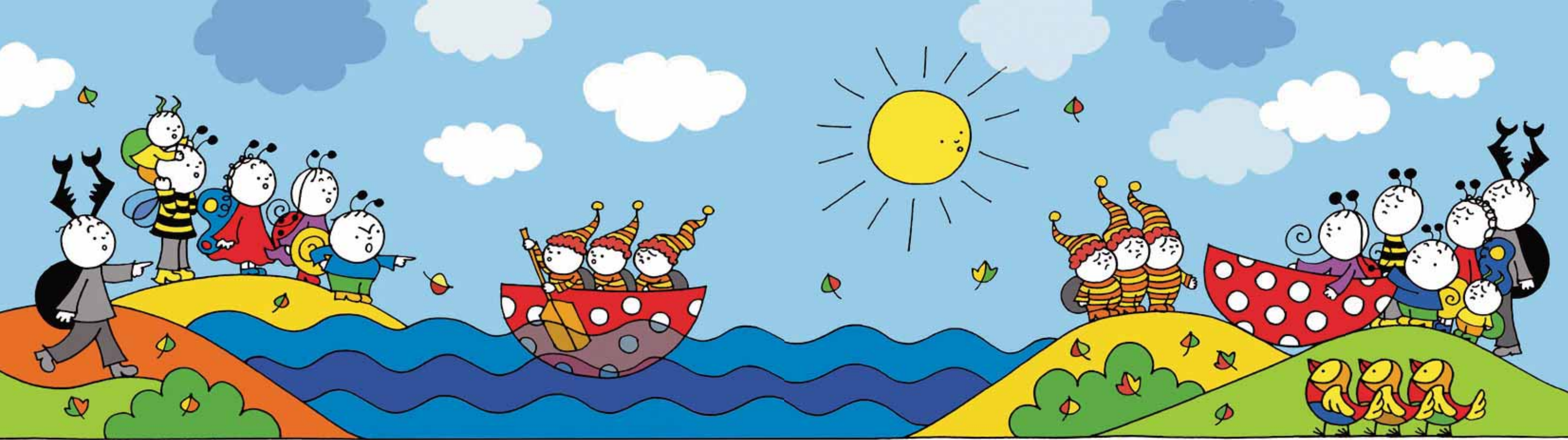




Three canary chicks suddenly flew by.  
“We know where the mushroom’s cap is! We saw three woodworms using it for a rowing boat!” they tweeted.

“Everyone down to the stream!” Dolly shouted.  
They all soon arrived at the water’s edge.





And, sure enough, three woodworms were singing and rowing along in the mushroom's cap.

"Give the mushroom his cap back!" Berry shouted.

"But we promised to go and visit our friends the fleas! We need a boat to get to their house."

"But that's a cap, not a boat! And it belongs to the mushroom! Give it him back!" Berry argued.

The woodworms eventually gave in and gave the cap back.

"But how will we go and see the fleas now?" they asked sadly.





"We can take you? We're flying to the little island!" the three canary chicks twittered.  
"Hurray! We're going to fly!" the woodworms shouted and jumped for joy.

"But we have to take the mushroom his cap back first," Dolly told them.  
"You mean the boat!" the naughty woodworms chuckled but Dolly gave them one of her serious looks and they stopped laughing.  
They all lifted the cap up together and took it to the mushroom.





"Oh, thank you so much!" the mushroom said with a big smile and he put it on his head.  
"It fits just perfectly!"

The woodworms hopped onto the canaries' backs.  
"Have a safe trip!" the mushroom shouted.  
"Enjoy the flight!" the others added.





The forest friends all said a final goodbye to the mushroom and walked home with their hats on their heads.









Berry and Dolly Series:

Berry and Dolly  
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Berry and Dolly Flying High  
Berry and Dolly at Kindergarten  
Berry and Dolly See the World  
Berry and Dolly Feel Ill  
Berry and Dolly Make Music  
Berry and Dolly's Relatives  
Berry and Dolly on Ice  
Berry and Dolly Celebrate  
Berry and Dolly Dress Up  
Berry and Dolly Help Out  
Berry and Dolly Build  
Berry and Dolly Get Cooking  
Berry and Dolly in the Garden  
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