

The
Bees
and the
Wind



This book was produced to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Integrated Education in Northern Ireland. It has been developed to help open up discussions about Integrated Education with young children; both in the classroom and at home.

'The Bees and the Wind' is dedicated to all those who have supported Integrated Education over the last 40 years. Your hard work has enabled many young people to learn with, from and about each other, every day.

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An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

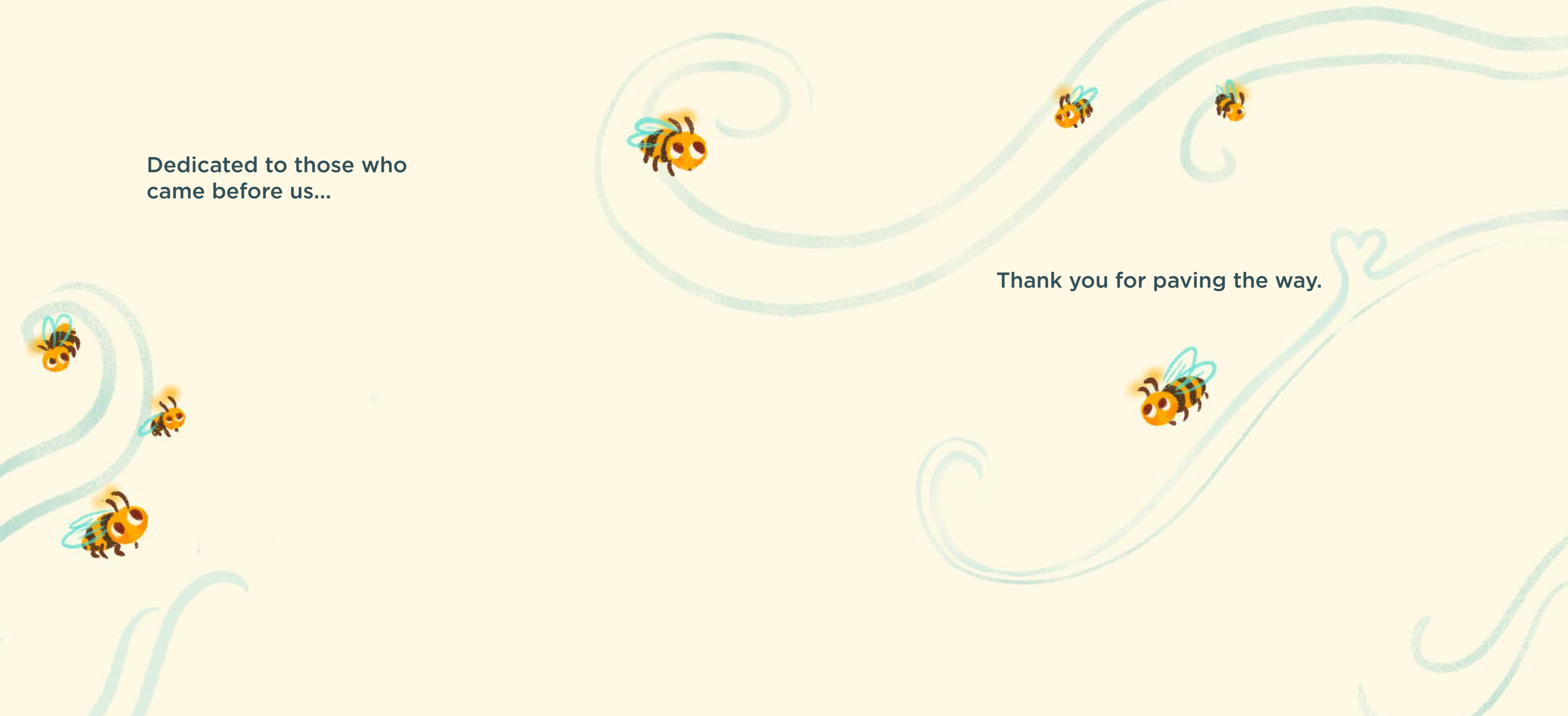
The Bees and the Wind

Developed and published by The Council for Integrated Education (NICIE) in celebration of 40 years of Integrated Education in Northern Ireland.

Story by Amelia Kai
Illustrations by Jamie Beard

Dedicated to those who
came before us...

Thank you for paving the way.





Beyond the school gates
and into the playground,

school children with chalks
drew pictures on the ground.



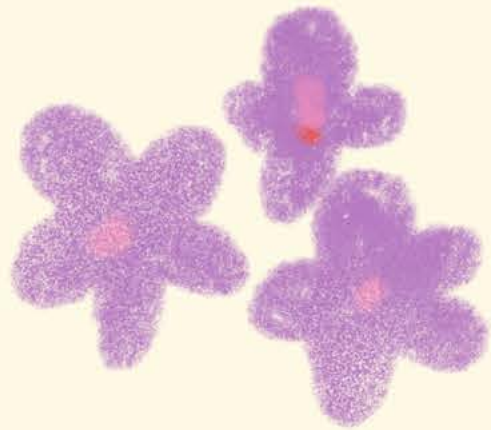
Their teacher stood watch
with a smile at their glee,

as the children drew their
pictures completely carefree.

Some of them drew bluebells,



violets,



and daisies.



Others drew roses,

buttercups,



and pansies.

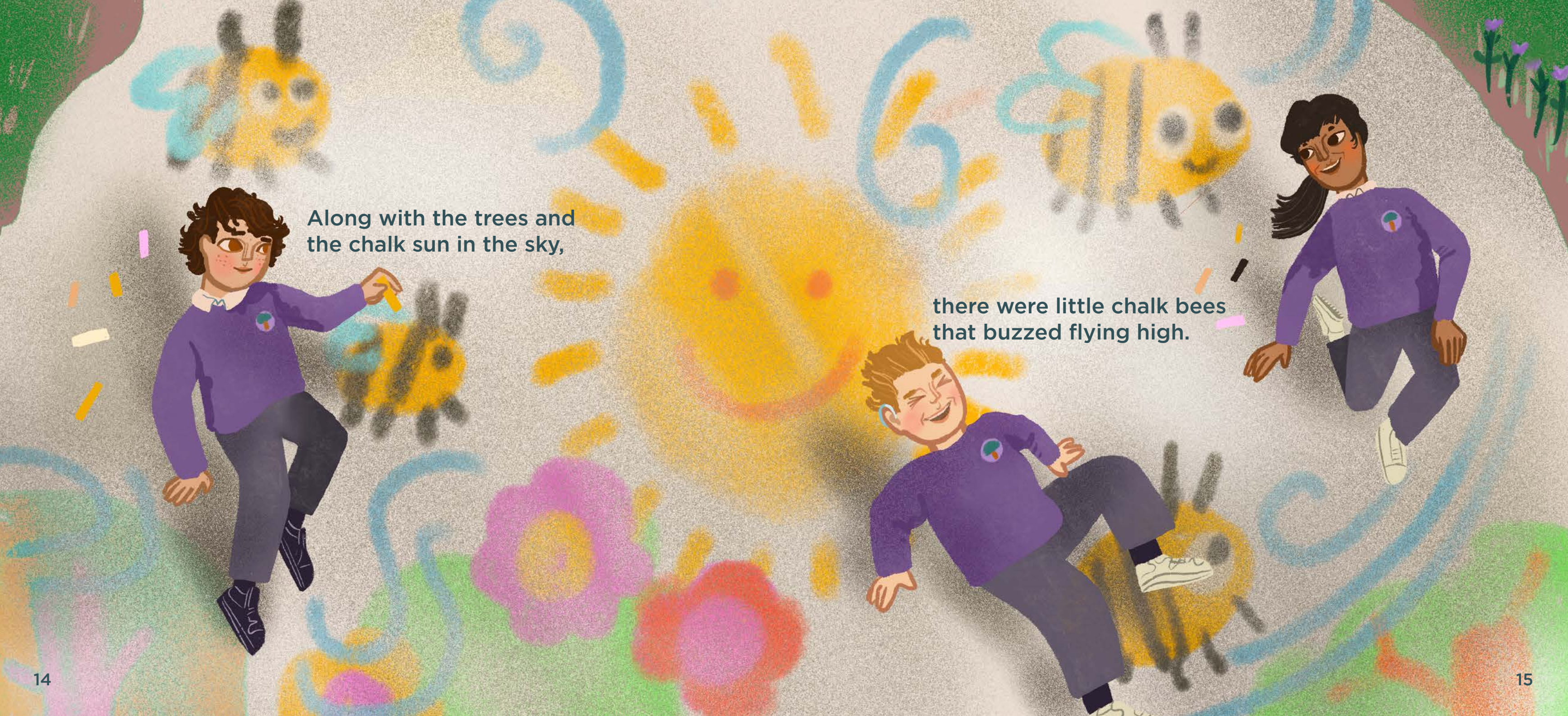


The flowers were drawn
amongst some big, tall trees,



and the trees had leaves
that blew in the breeze.





Along with the trees and
the chalk sun in the sky,

there were little chalk bees
that buzzed flying high.

Inspired by a story of how
their school came to be,


the children were giggling,
playful and happy.



so this is the tale of...

The Bees and the Wind

Now, it is your turn
for the story to begin,



A long time ago,
in a woodland of trees,

there lived great
gusts of Wind,

and a hive of
Honeybees.



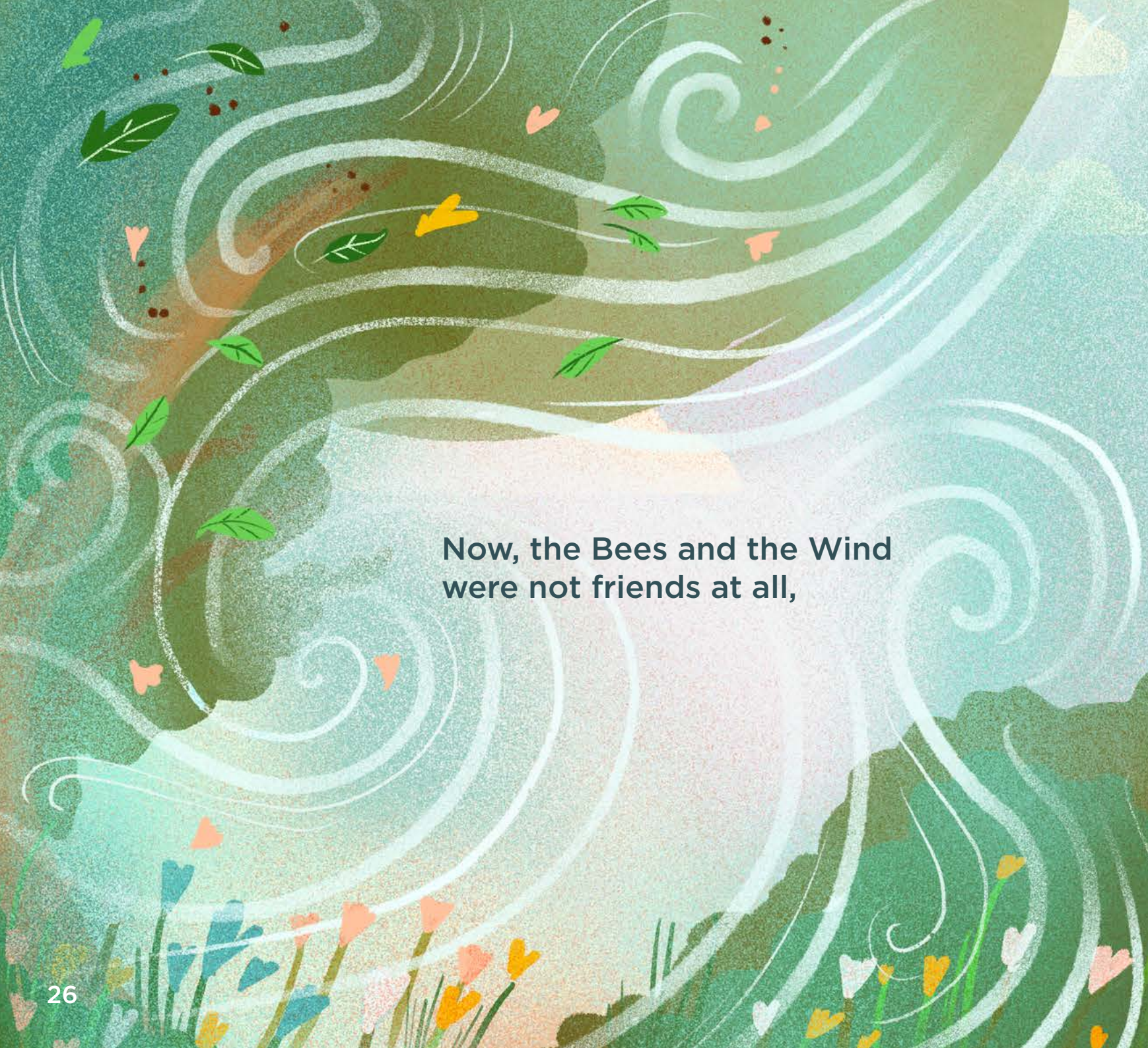
The Wind loved its job
spreading pollen and seeds;

growing beautiful flowers
in its gardens in the trees.



To help them make honey,
the Bees spread pollen with ease,


and this gave them their own
gardens in their part of the trees.



Now, the Bees and the Wind
were not friends at all,




they had a dislike for each
other that was far from small.




“The Bees are too noisy!”
the Wind would say,

“Do they really have to
keep buzzing all day?”




And over in their own
patch of the woods,

the Bees said, "That Wind
is always up to no good."



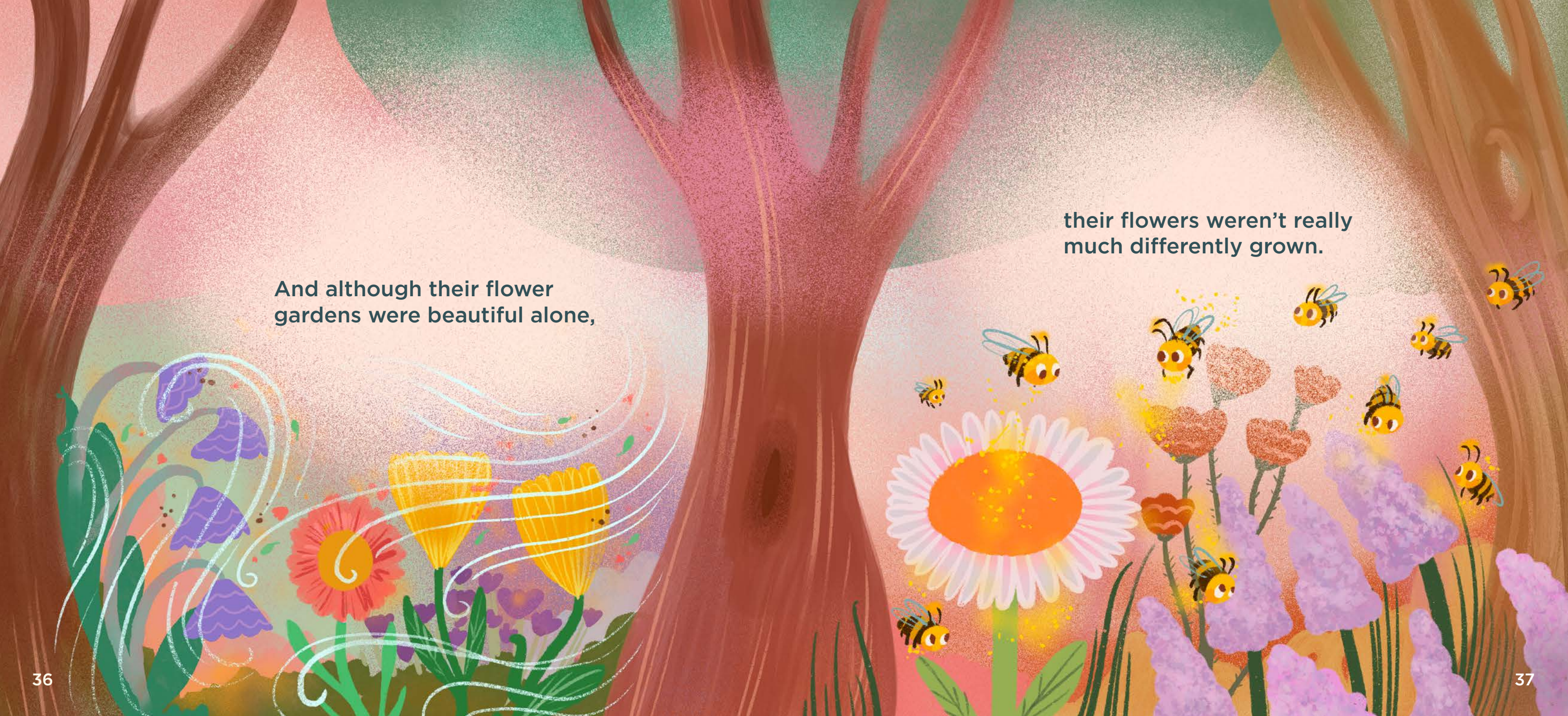
“It blows us off course,
and on purpose, too!”

That pesky Wind needs
something better to do.”

The illustration depicts a scene where bees and wind are interacting. In the foreground, the heads of three bees are visible, rendered in a stylized, flat style with yellow bodies and dark brown eyes. Their antennae are long, dark, and curved upwards. The background is a warm, orange-toned sky filled with white, swirling lines that represent wind currents. Scattered throughout the sky are various small, colorful elements: white daisies, pink and purple petals, green leaves, and small white and pink hearts. The overall style is whimsical and illustrative.

So the Bees and the Wind
didn't want to be friends,

and it seemed their dislike for
each other would never end.



And although their flower
gardens were beautiful alone,

their flowers weren't really
much differently grown.



Their gardens needed the same
for their flowers to spring.



Sunlight and rain;
they all needed those things.



But that didn't make a difference
for the Wind and the Bees,


so they continued to stay separate
in the Woodland of Trees.





Other creatures of the Woods
would watch them and say,


“Why don’t you help each other
instead, just act in a different way?”

A garden scene with various flowers like purple hydrangeas, orange tulips, and pink daisies. The background is filled with light green and yellow swirling lines representing wind. Small pink petals are scattered in the air.

Neither the Bees nor the Wind
wanted the other in their
gardens of flowers.

A garden scene with flowers and bees. A large yellow and black bee is in the foreground, looking towards the left. Other smaller bees are flying around. The background is a light green and yellow gradient.

Together, but separately, they would
say, "No, these gardens are *ours!*"



But on one sunny day,
a small gust of Wind
and a few of the Bees

decided to meet
in the middle of the trees.

“We both love to grow flowers,”
the gust of Wind began,

“and we want to grow
as many as we can.”





The Bees smiled,
“What if both of us decided to go




and try making a *new*
flower garden grow?”


In a new garden the gust of Wind
would work with those Bees,



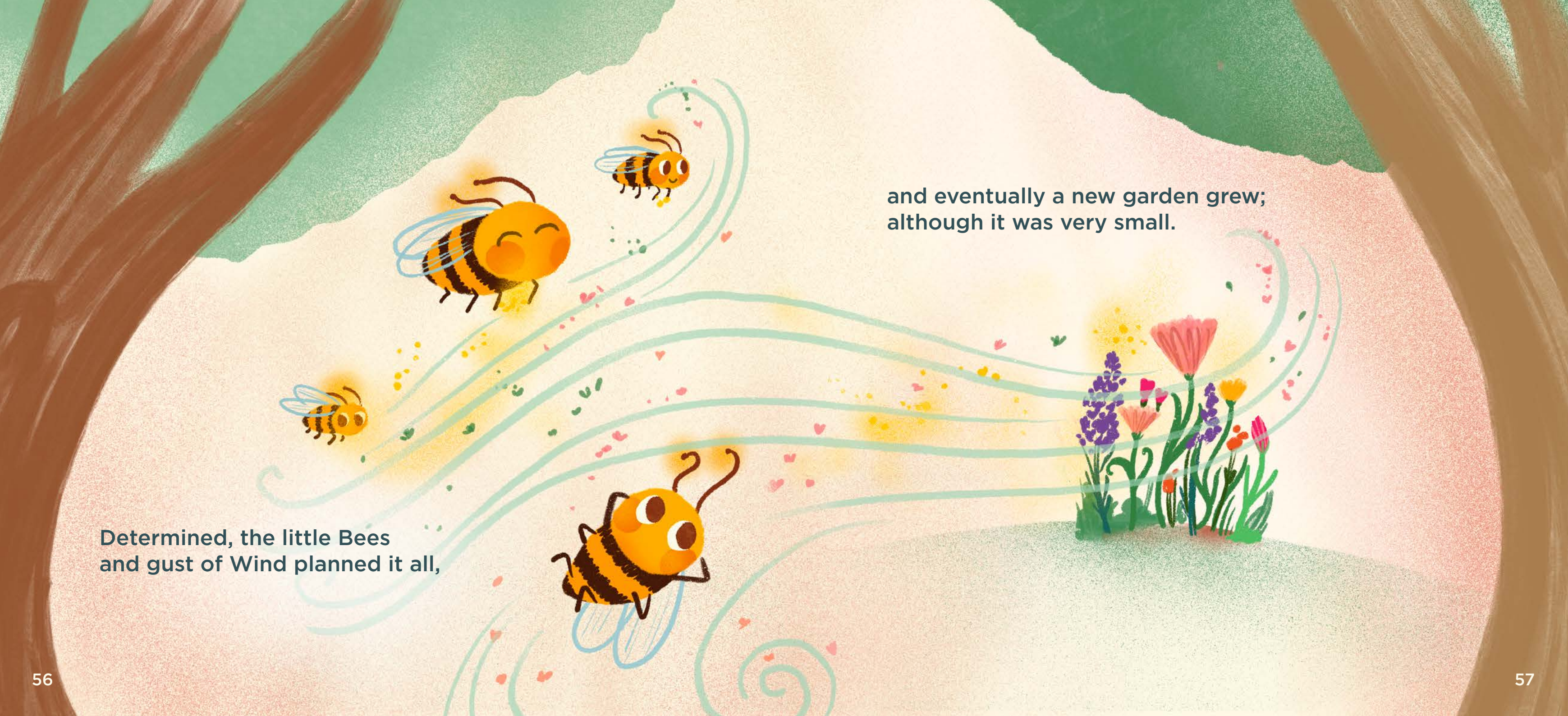
and they decided to grow it in
another part of the trees.



The Wind and the Bees
whose gardens were apart



didn't believe that the new
team's garden would even start.



and eventually a new garden grew;
although it was very small.

Determined, the little Bees
and gust of Wind planned it all,

But with effort and work,




that garden grew more,




it got bigger and bigger
than any flower garden before.





The Wind and the Bees
kept working together
to see what they could do,


and thanks to their teamwork,
all over the Woodland
more gardens grew.

An illustration of a garden scene. In the foreground, there are several flowers: purple grape clusters on the left, orange tulips, and pink daisies. The background is filled with light green and blue swirling lines representing wind. Numerous bees, depicted with yellow and black stripes and large eyes, are flying through the air, leaving a trail of yellow pollen. The overall style is whimsical and colorful.

Even some Wind and some Bees
whose gardens stood alone

An illustration of a garden scene, similar to the previous page. In the foreground, there are yellow tulips, red tulips, and purple grape clusters. The background features light green and blue swirling lines representing wind. Bees are flying through the air, leaving a trail of yellow pollen. The style is whimsical and colorful.

decided to transform
how their flowers were grown.




Today, the Bees and
the Wind grow 70
flower gardens galore,

but with time there are going
to be many, many more.



You see, the Bees and
the Wind realised one thing:

love is what really makes
a garden spring.



Now, *The Bees and the Wind*
is not only a story,

it's a tale of our history,
it's what is called an *allegory*.

This means the Bees and the Wind represent some very brave parents

whose actions came without hatred or judgement.





Through unity these parents played such an important role,

because they created a school where two halves made a whole.



Thank you to those parents,
the first pupils,
and their teachers,

thank you for giving us
more hopeful futures.

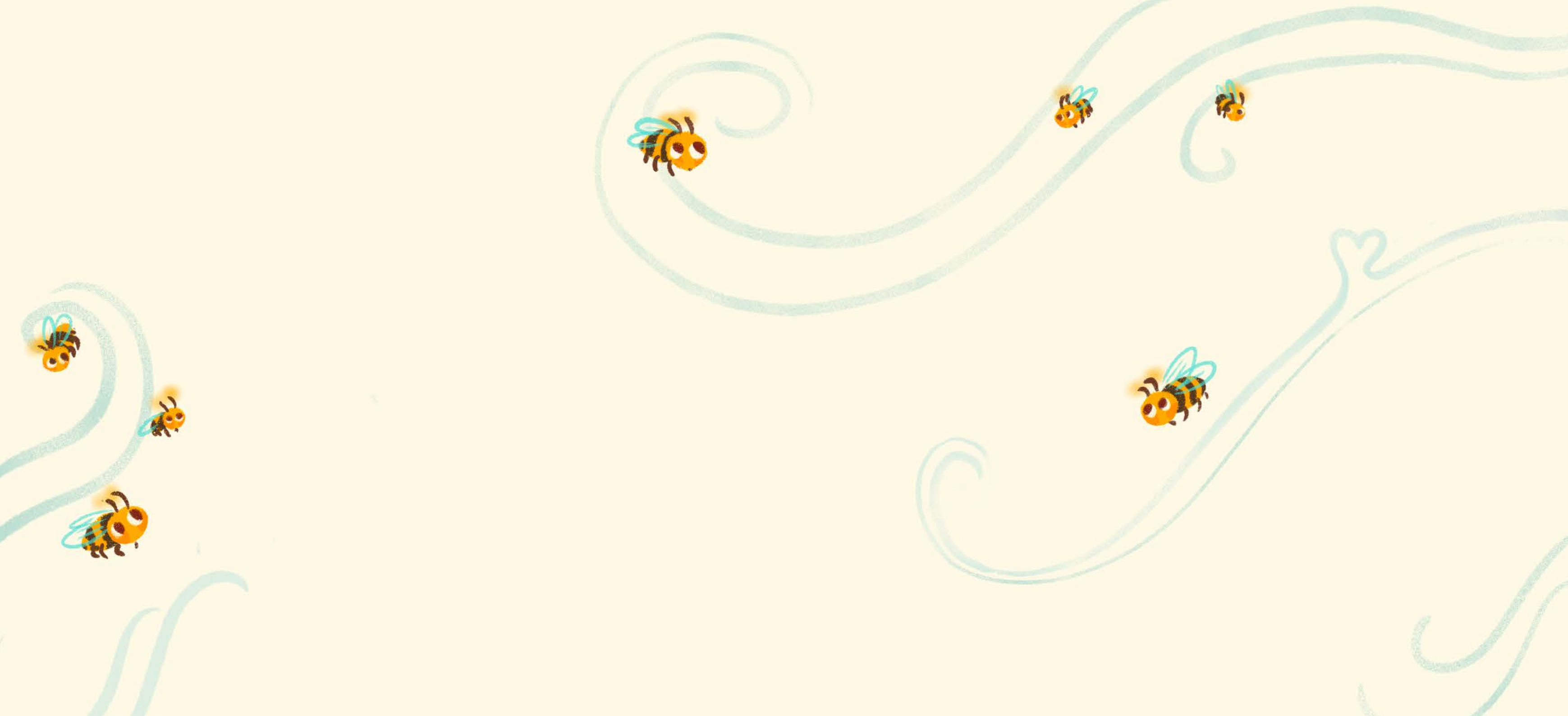
Learning
Together for a
Shared Society



ALL CHILDREN TOGETHER

You see, in our corner of the world
that is small and beautiful,

there is something quite amazing
about an Integrated school.





A long time ago in a woodland of trees...

**Council for
Integrated
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