

Egyptian Digla



Journey to Wadi Digla protectorate

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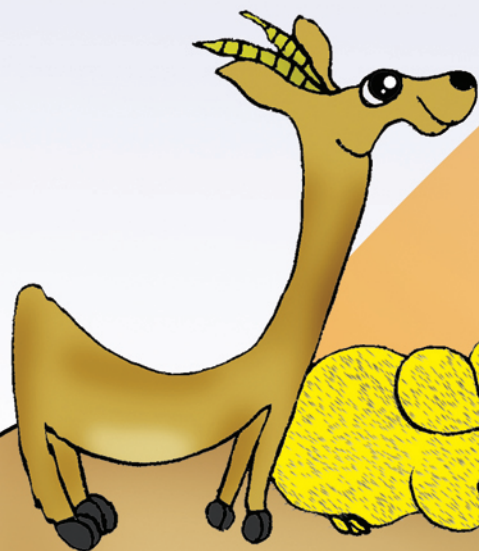
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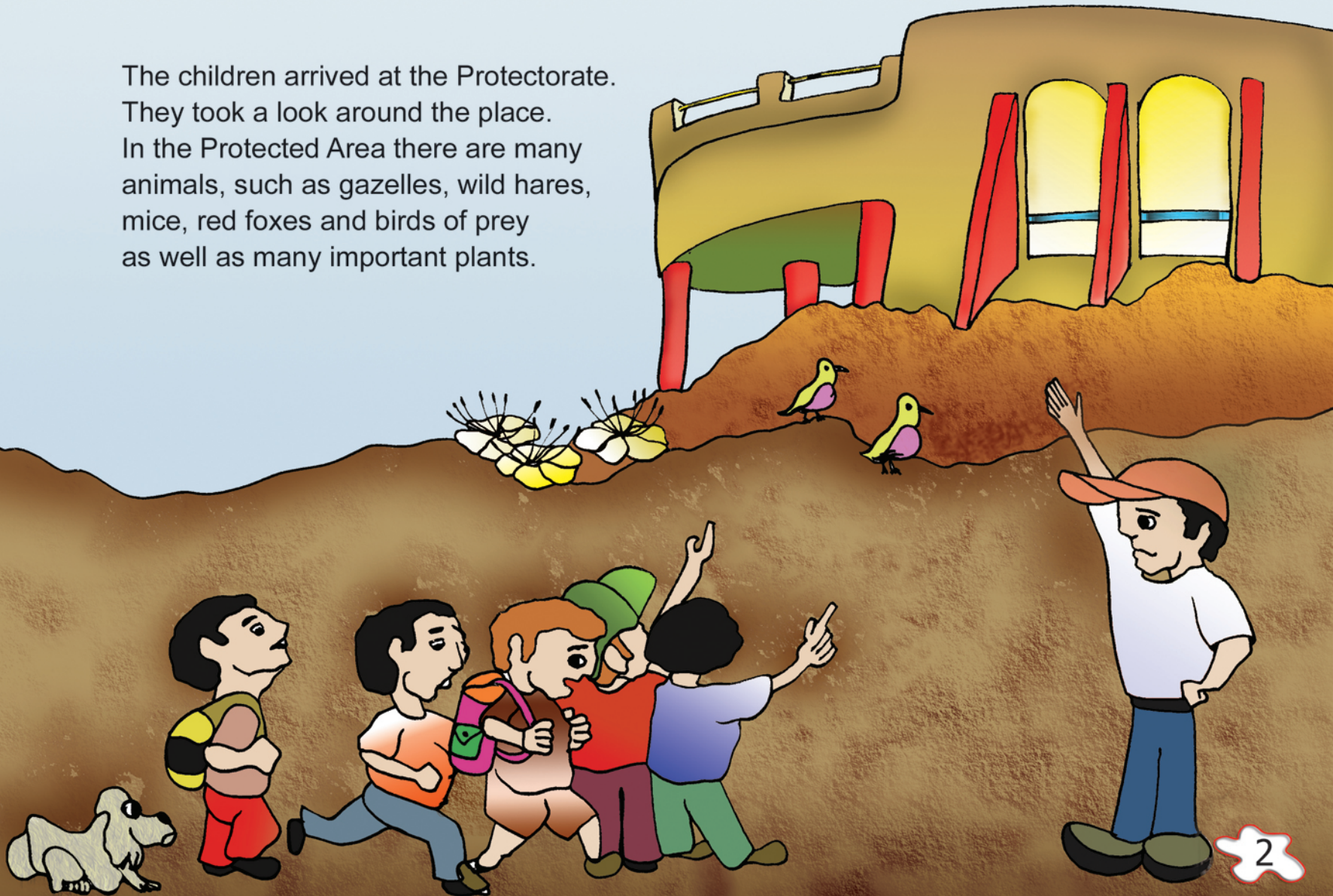


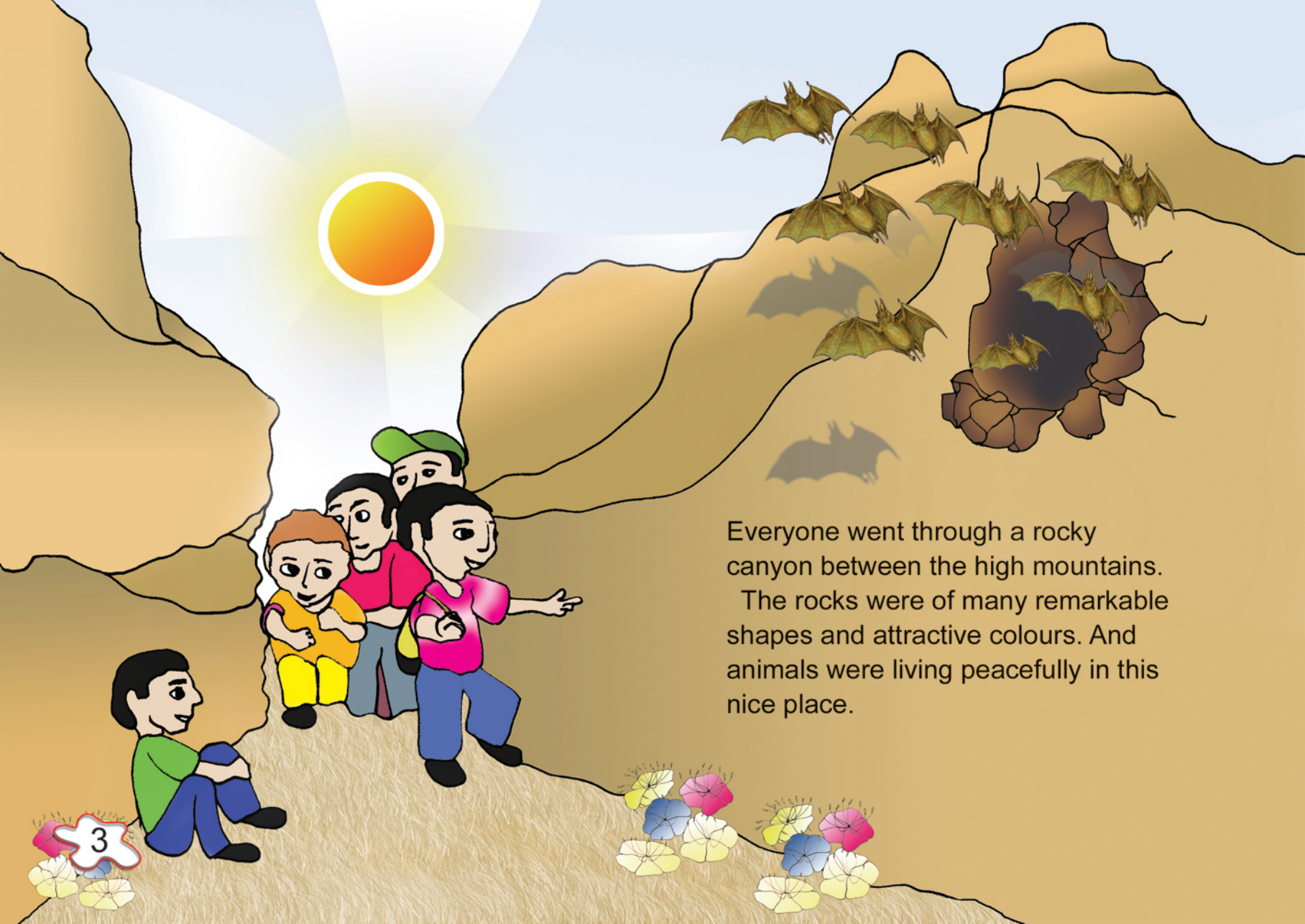


One day, El-Zohour school decided to take a trip to Wadi Digla in Maadi to the south of Cairo. Everybody was there in the early morning. Kareem brought his dog Filfil with him. Everyone got onto the bus to start their trip.



The children arrived at the Protectorate.
They took a look around the place.
In the Protected Area there are many
animals, such as gazelles, wild hares,
mice, red foxes and birds of prey
as well as many important plants.





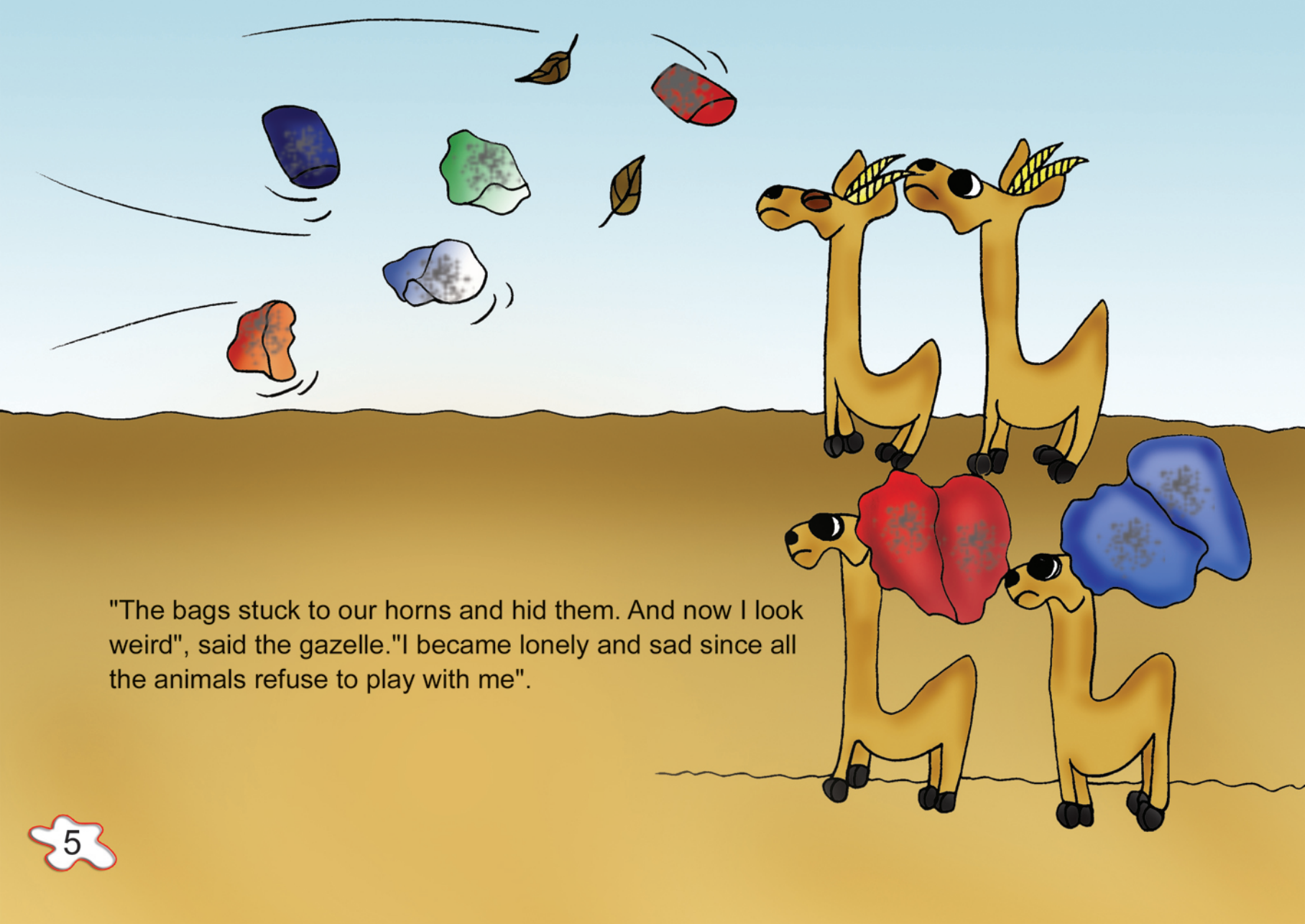
Everyone went through a rocky canyon between the high mountains.

The rocks were of many remarkable shapes and attractive colours. And animals were living peacefully in this nice place.



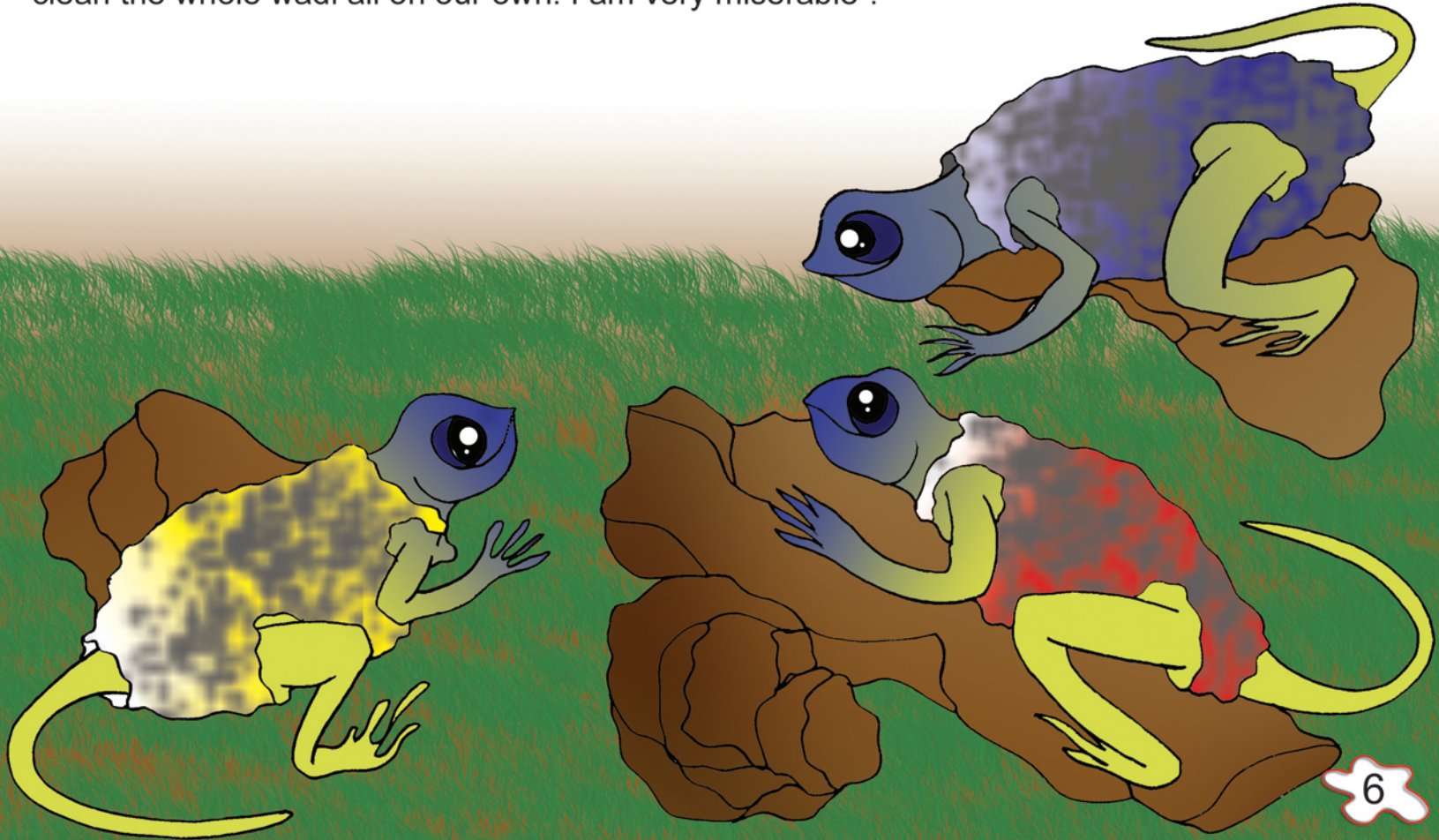
Kareem noticed that his dog was not there anymore. He looked for it everywhere. His dog was standing among strange-looking animals.

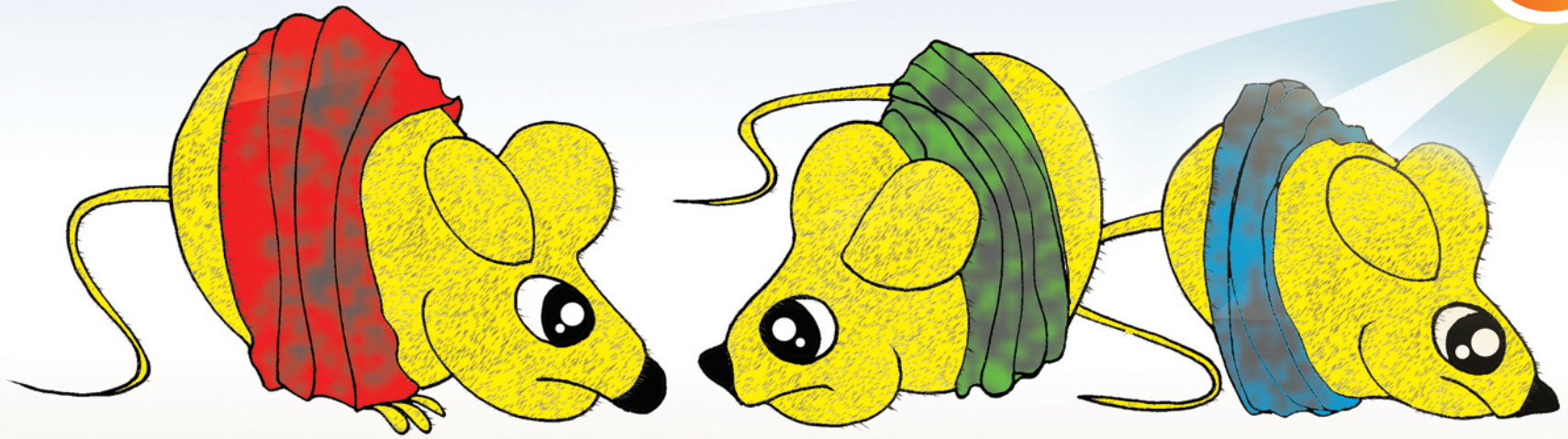
The animals told Filfil that they were ordinary animals, but a storm had come carrying many plastic bags that covered their bodies and changed their looks. Since then, the other animals thought they were aliens brought with the wind.



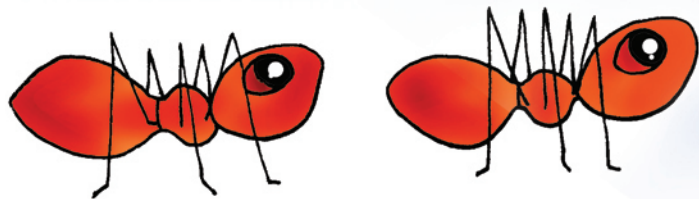
"The bags stuck to our horns and hid them. And now I look weird", said the gazelle. "I became lonely and sad since all the animals refuse to play with me".

“The bags covered my body and I don't look like the other lizards any more”, a lizard said.
“Other animals thought we were garbage collectors, and we now have to serve them and clean the whole wadi all on our own. I am very miserable”.

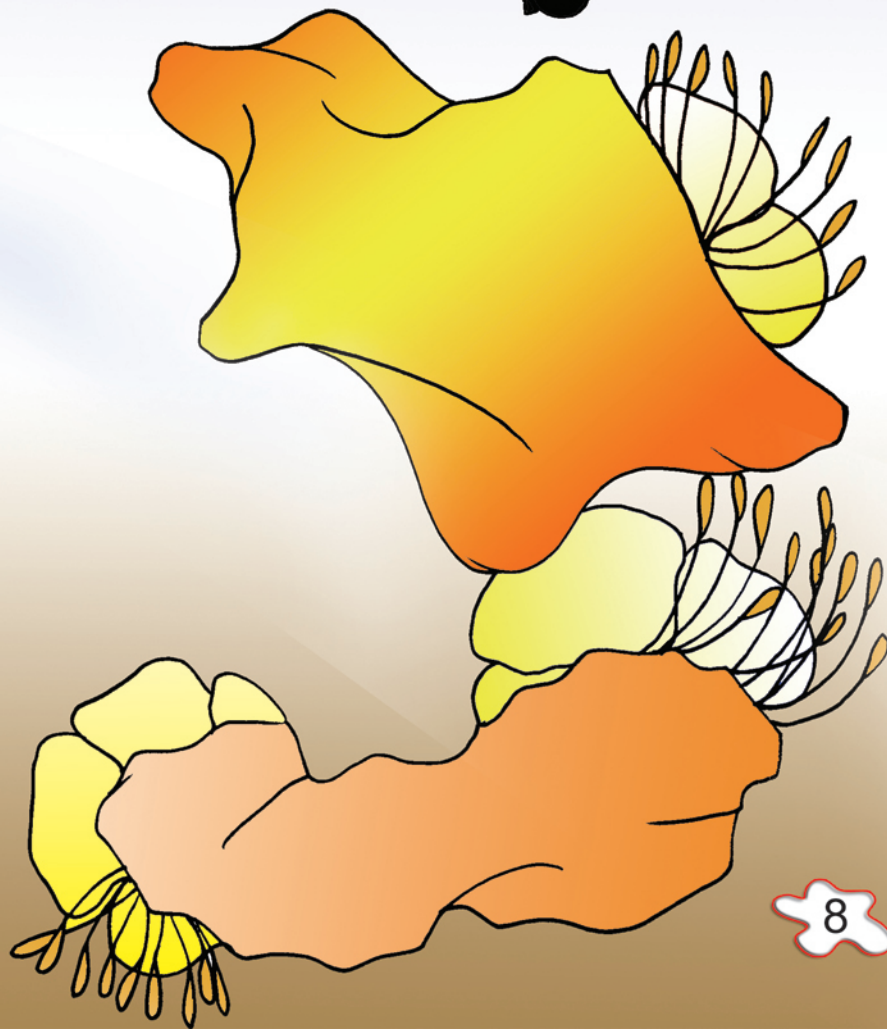




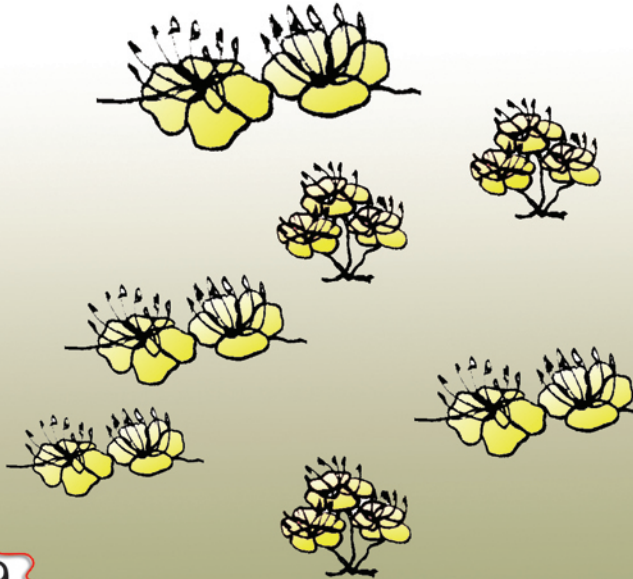
The spiny mice were also sad, because ever since the bags stuck to them, everyone treated them harshly. The animals called them "the wadi cooks". They were forced to cook and serve everyone.



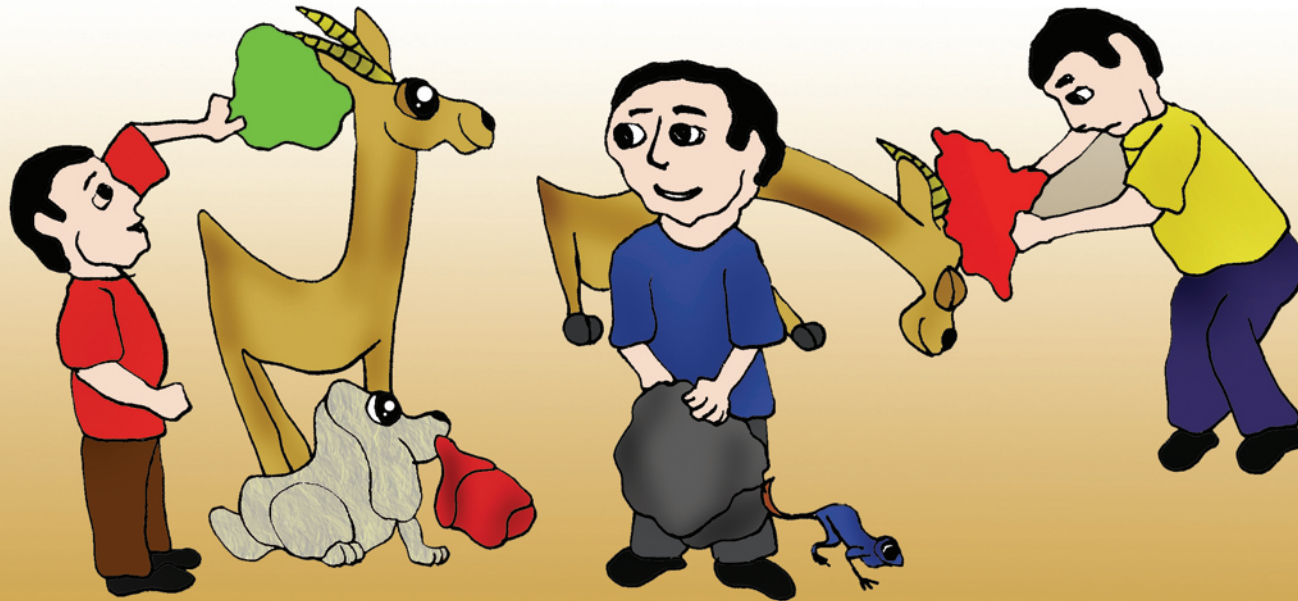
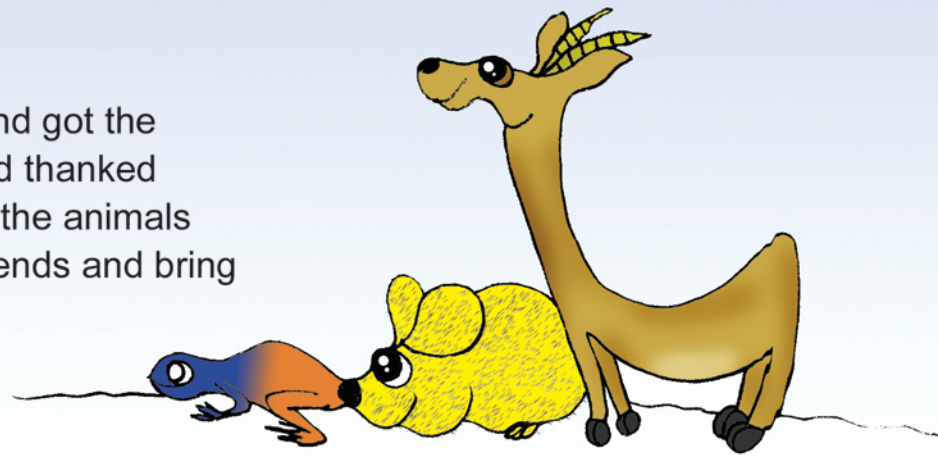
"I can't see the sunlight. My leaves are fading and wilting, and I can't even see my bee friends who visit me everyday", said the caper plant in a broken voice.



“People use my leaves as a cure for some diseases. If I am totally covered under these bags and rubbish, I shall die. Then people wouldn't be able to cure those diseases”.



Kareem helped the poor animals and plants and got the bags off them. They were extremely happy and thanked Kareem. "But there are more in need of help", the animals said. Kareem told them he would go tell his friends and bring them all to help.





Kareem went to his friends and told them the whole story.
They were all willing to help, and hurriedly everybody went.



The children took off all the bags and dirt that covered the animals and plants. The animals and plants were very happy and thanked them all for their efforts. They also asked the children to come visit them again.



Information about Digla Protected Area

- There are two main types of wastes, solid and liquid wastes. These wastes disrupt the environment around us.
- Activities such as waste disposal without regulation may cause a serious disturbance to ecosystems and expose the animals to danger.
- The protectorate is beautiful place where wildlife is safe.
- Wadi Digla is an example of Egypt's Protected Areas exposed to waste disposal.
- There are many animals in Wadi Digla such as spiny mice, red foxes, gazelles and bats that live in the caves in the protectorate.

What can I do?

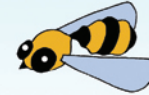
- Dispose of garbage in its designated places in the Protected Area. Stick to tracks designed for walks and don't bring pets such as dogs or cats unless you have permission.
- Keep school, home, club and street clean. Try as much as possible to collect up plastic bags.
- Take part in the volunteer activities arranged by the Protectorate for cleaning and maintaining wildlife.
- Talk to your friends about how garbage can damage wildlife.

The message

- Wildlife is beautiful.
- Waste, especially plastics, damages our environment.
- We should preserve our environment and keep it clean.

Questions?

- 1.What is the name of the Protected Area the children visited?
- 2.What animals live there?
- 3.How did Kareem help the animals and plants?
- 4.Would you like to visit the Protected Area?

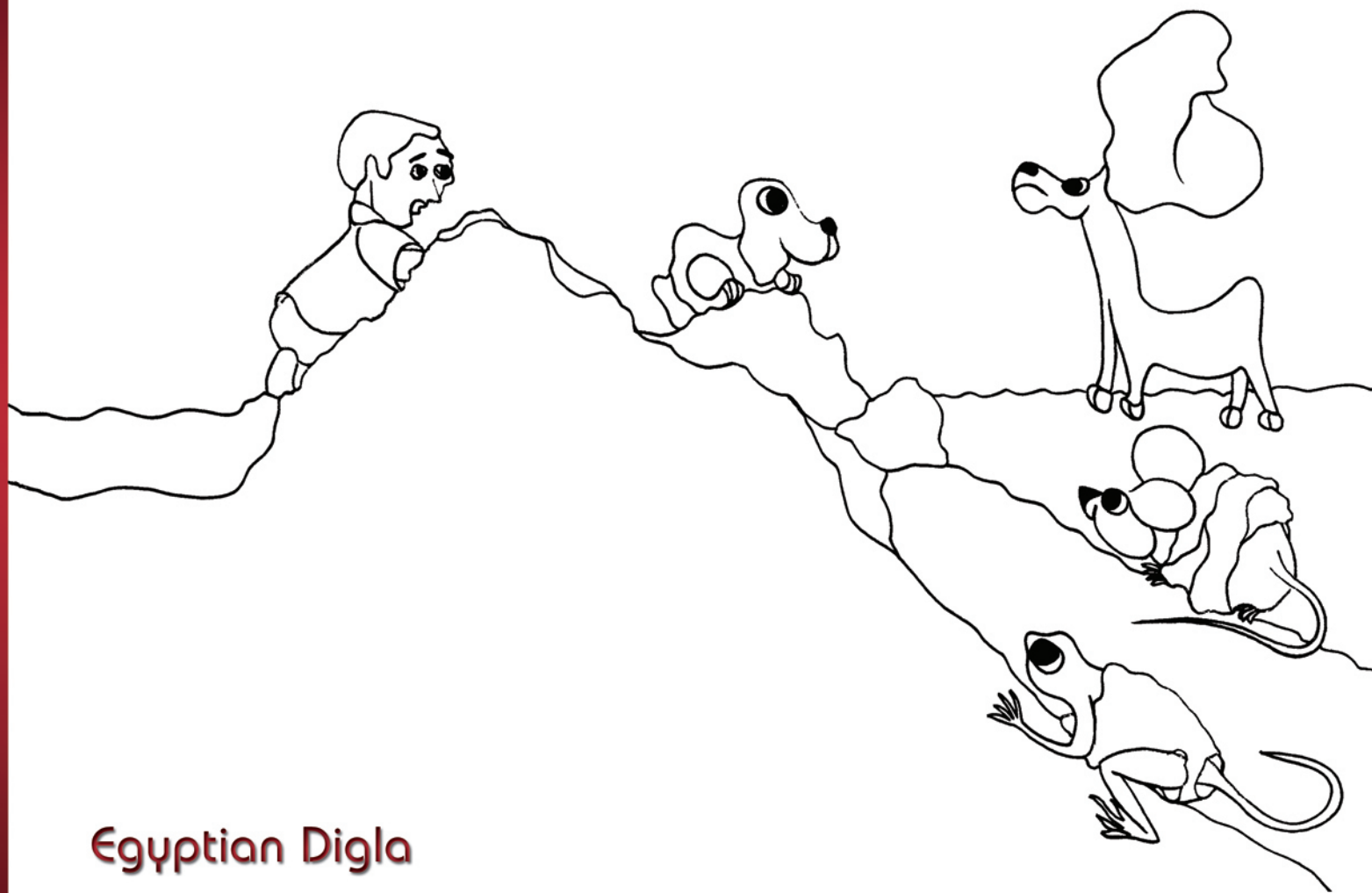


plastic - lizard - fade - caper -
wadi - gazelle - bees - storm

P	L	A	S	T	I	C
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Egyptian Digla

Help conserve the wildlife of Wadi Digla protectorate

Ministry of State For Environmental Affairs

BIODIVERSITY MONITORING & ASSESSMENT PROJECT (BioMAP)

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