

Comprehension

Genre

Realistic Fiction is a made-up story that could happen in real life.



Story Structure

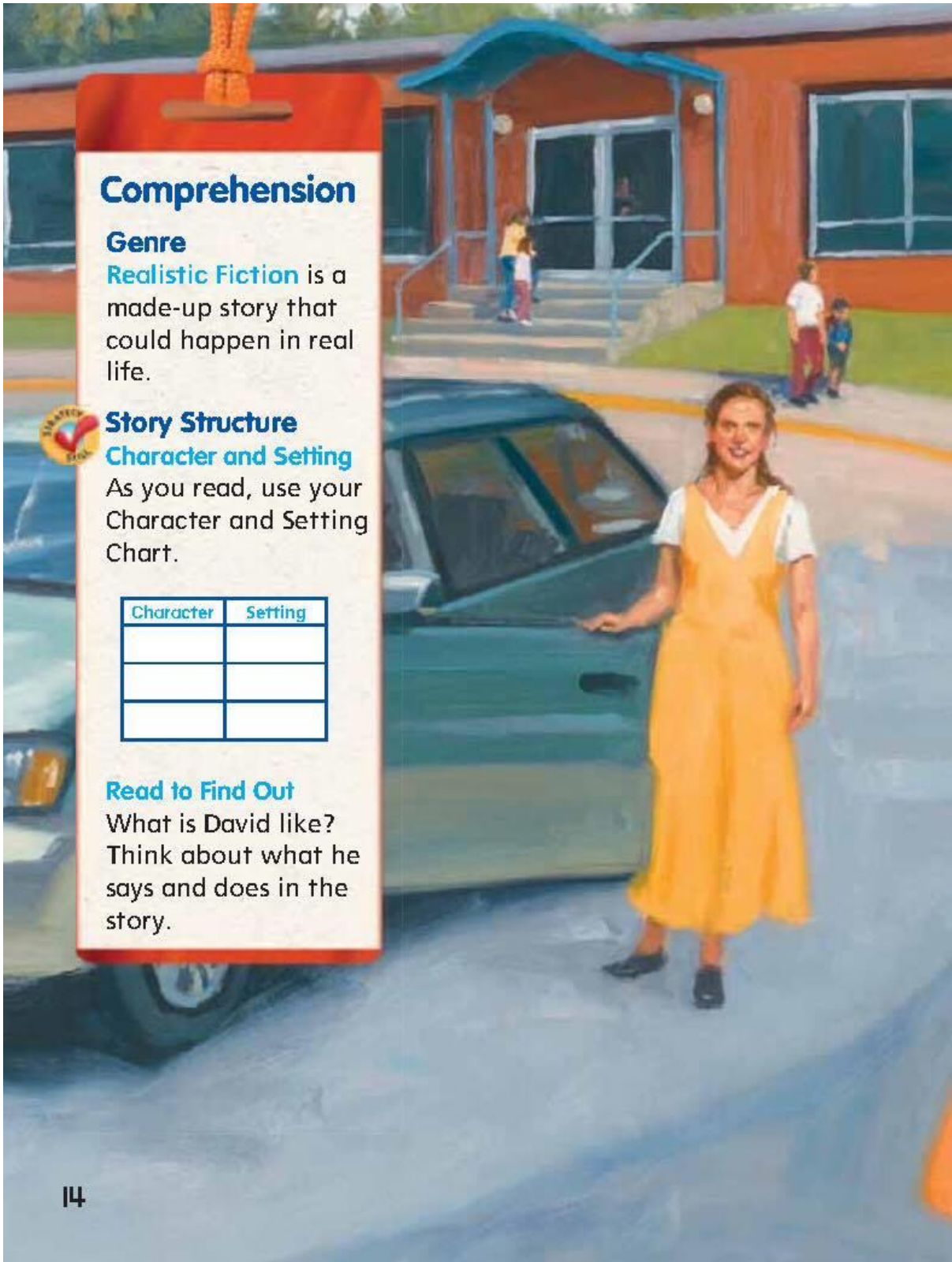
Character and Setting

As you read, use your Character and Setting Chart.

Character	Setting

Read to Find Out

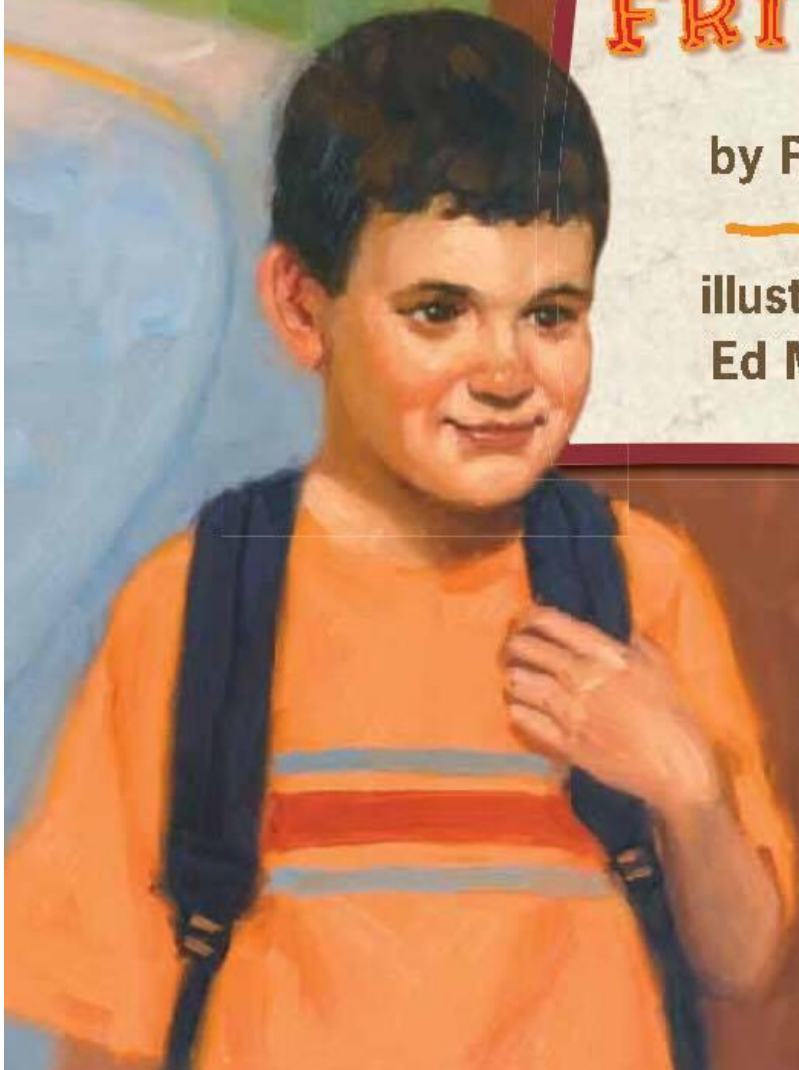
What is David like?
Think about what he says and does in the story.

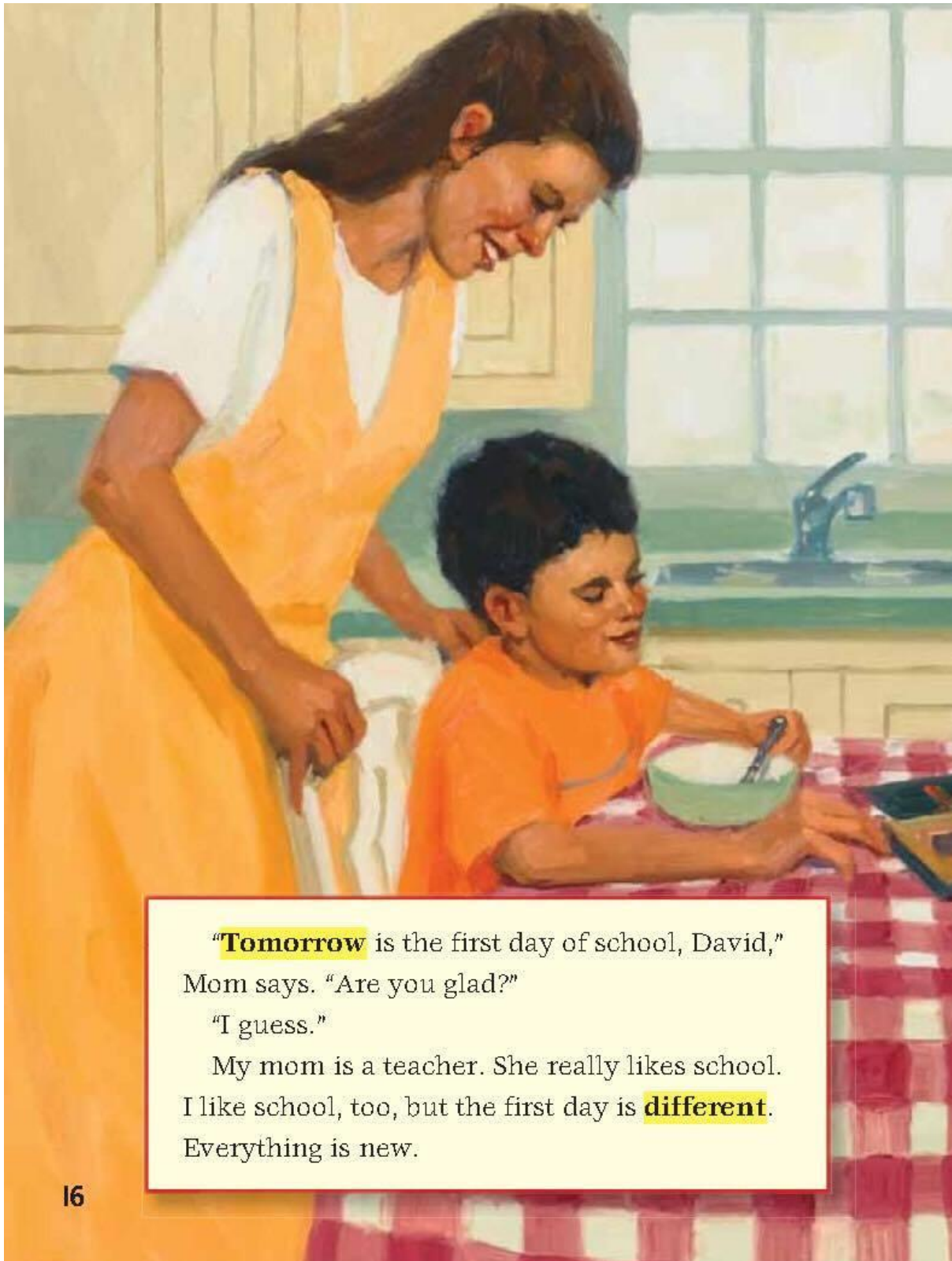


DAVID'S NEW FRIENDS

by Pat Mora

illustrated by
Ed Martinez

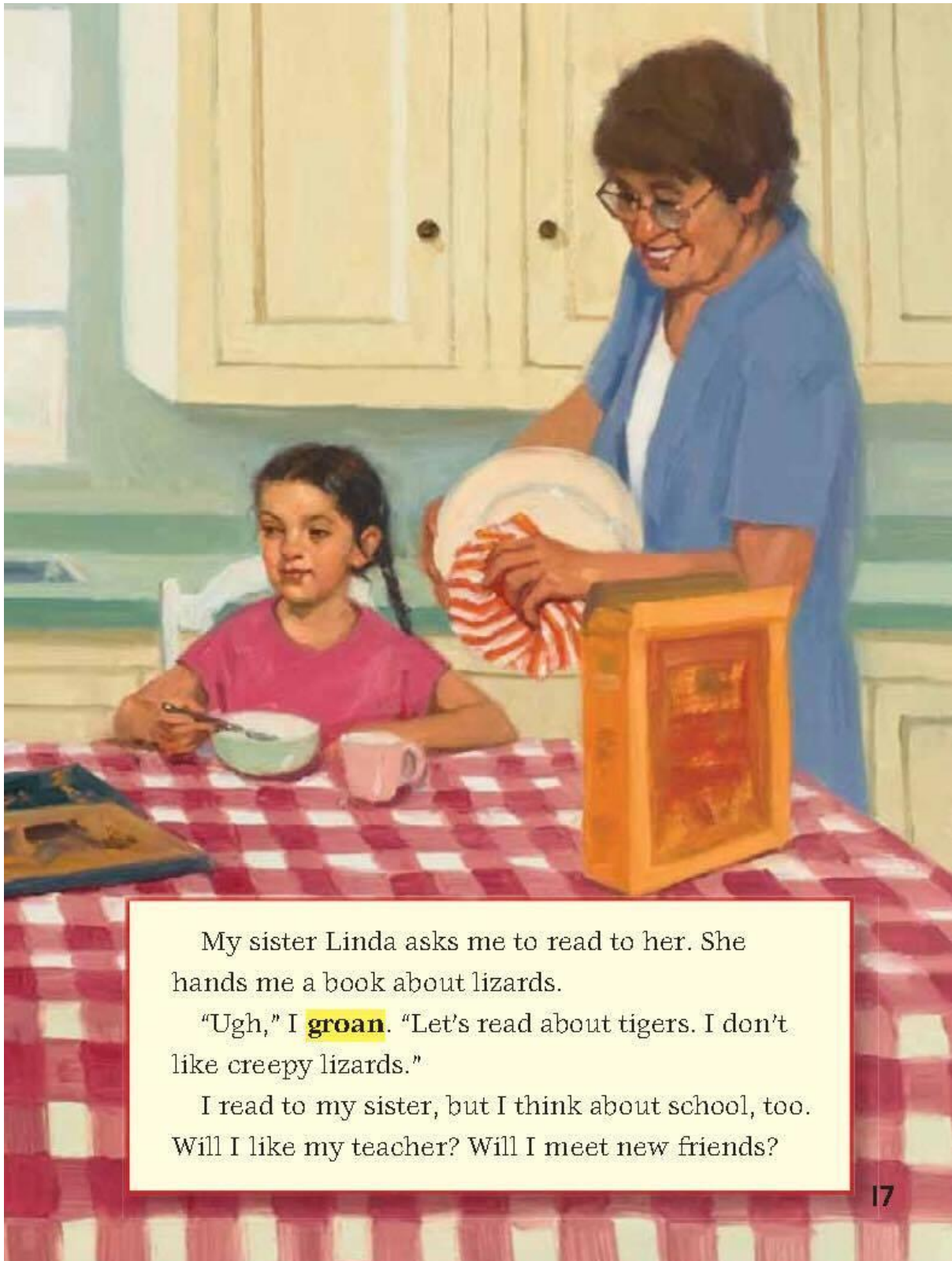




"Tomorrow is the first day of school, David," Mom says. "Are you glad?"

"I guess."

My mom is a teacher. She really likes school. I like school, too, but the first day is **different**. Everything is new.



My sister Linda asks me to read to her. She hands me a book about lizards.

"Ugh," I **groan**. "Let's read about tigers. I don't like creepy lizards."

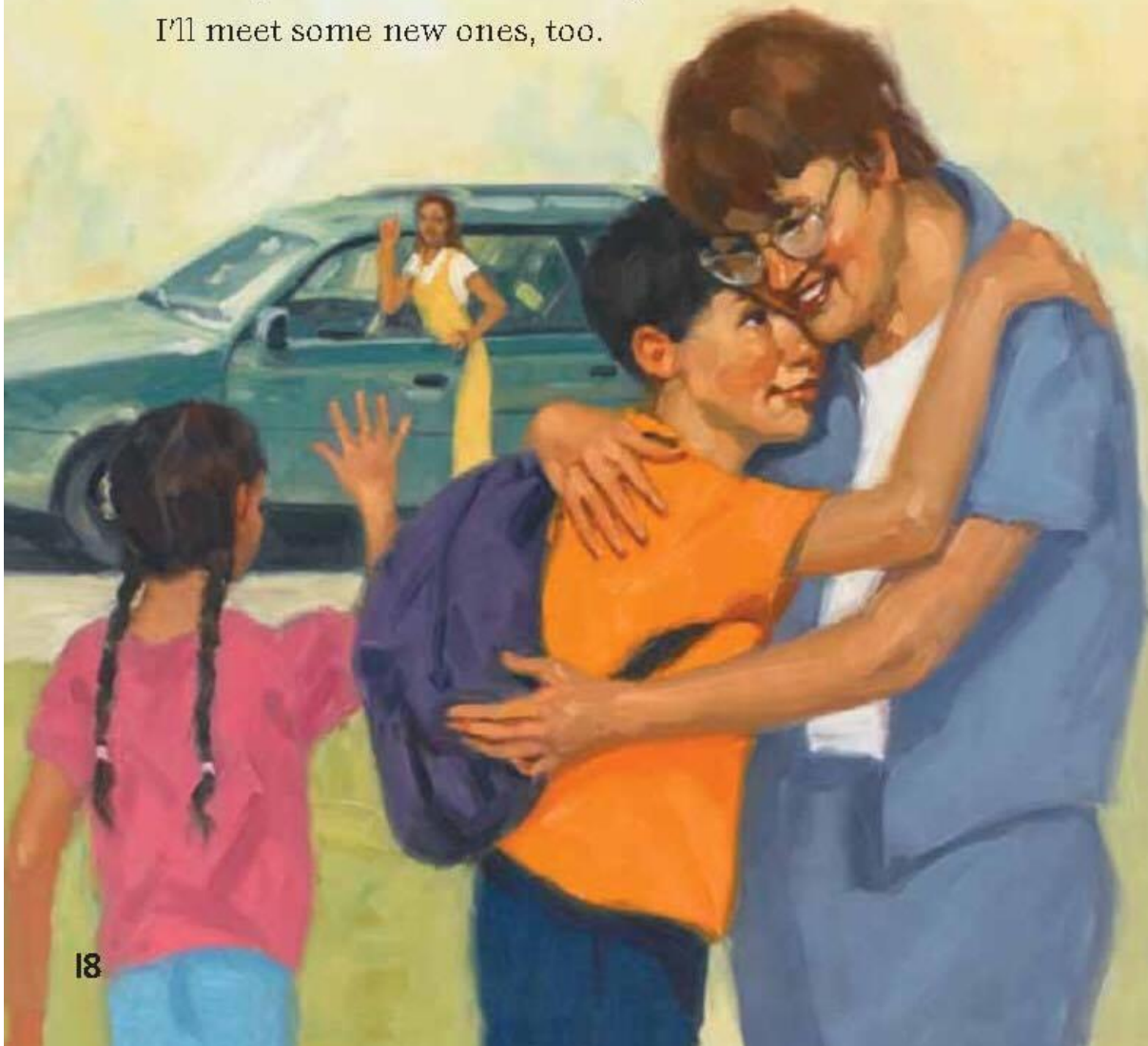
I read to my sister, but I think about school, too. Will I like my teacher? Will I meet new friends?

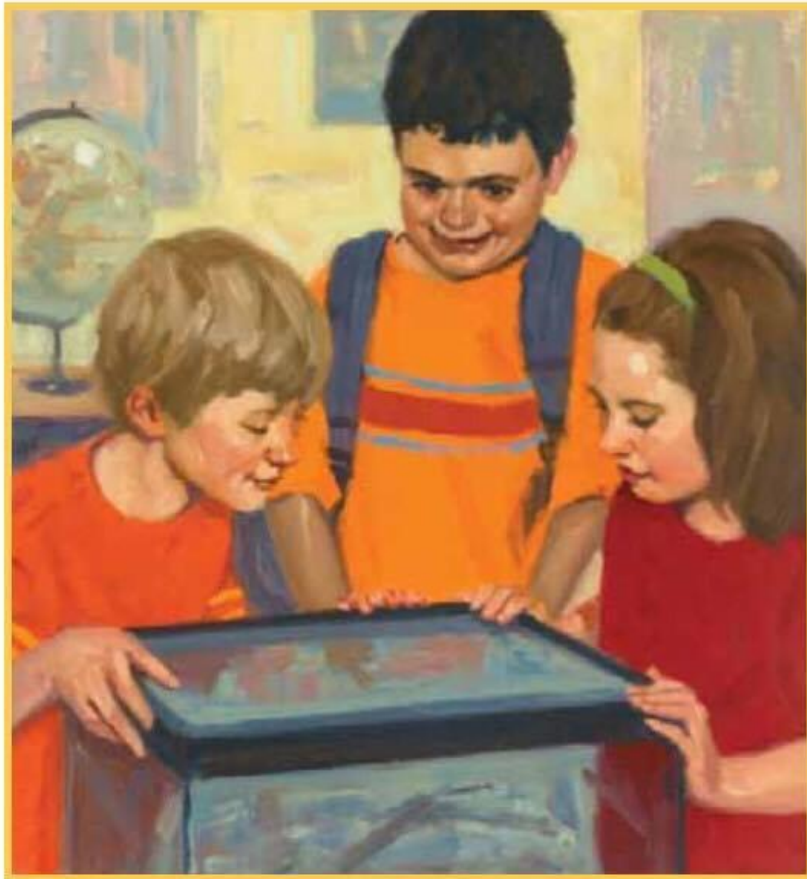
The next morning, Grandma hands me my backpack. "You are a big boy now," she says. "You're in second grade!"

I try to act big. Then I give her a hug.
Mom drives me to school.

"Aren't you **excited**, David? You're going to see your school friends."

"Yes," I answer. But also I hope I'll meet some new ones, too.





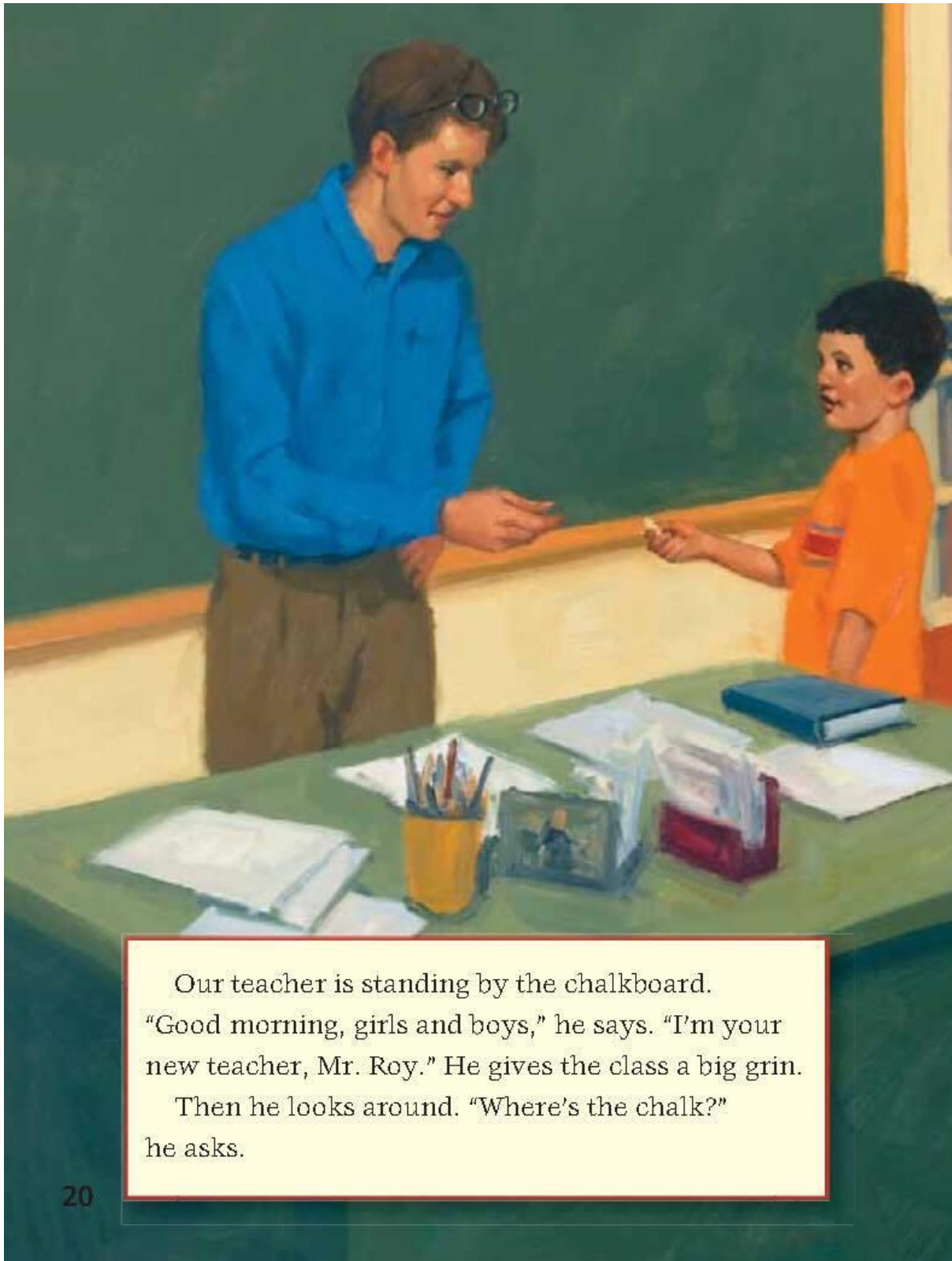
My new classroom is full of neat stuff. Maybe this year *will* be fun.

I see Ron and Josie near the fish tank. I want to tell them about my trip to the zoo. Then I see the lizard. Ugh! I sit on the other side of the room.



Character and Setting

What does David see in his classroom? How does it make him feel?



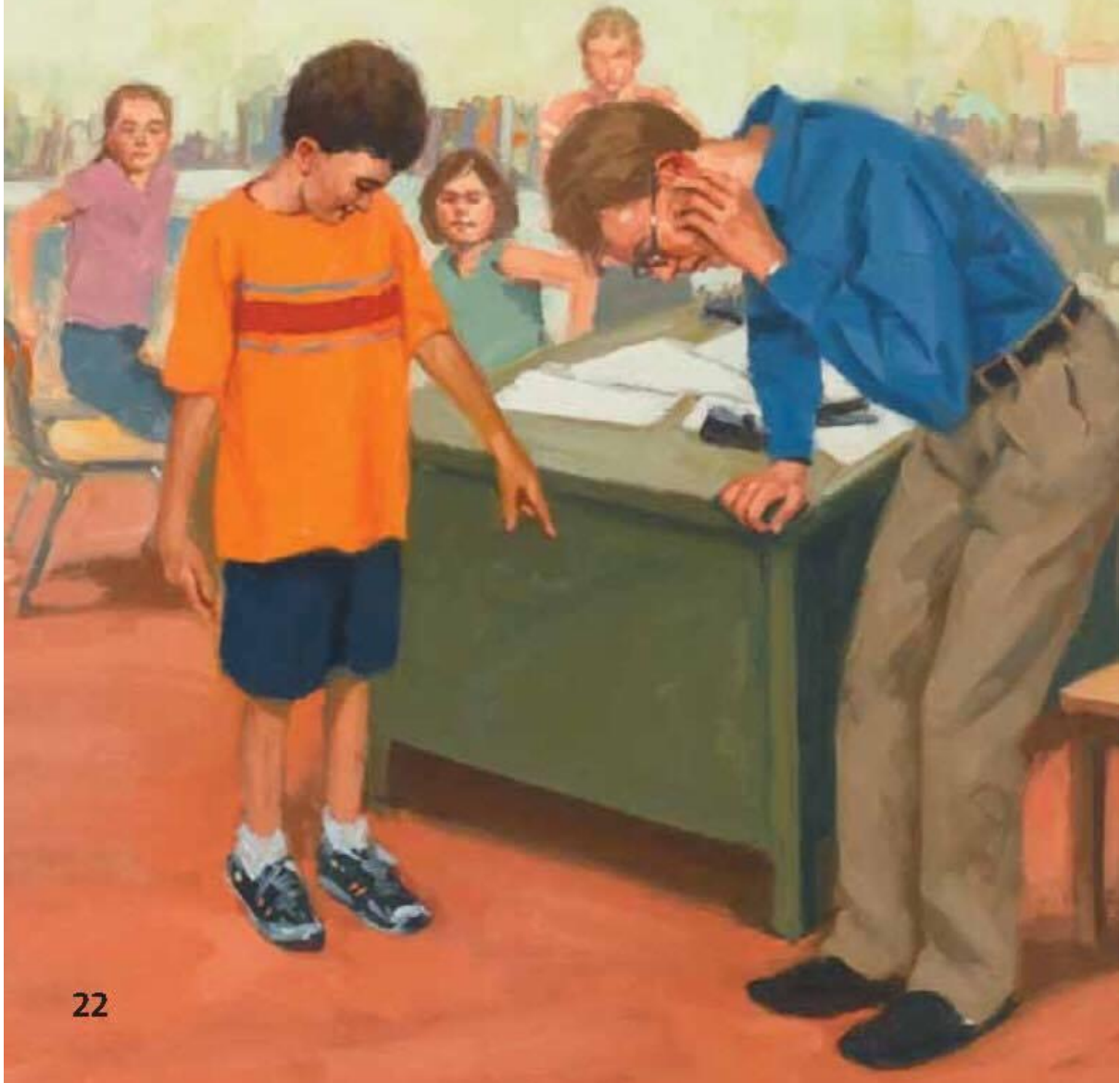
Our teacher is standing by the chalkboard.
“Good morning, girls and boys,” he says. “I’m your
new teacher, Mr. Roy.” He gives the class a big grin.
Then he looks around. “Where’s the chalk?”
he asks.



I get up and hand him some chalk.
Mr. Roy smiles. "Thanks, David."
"Okay," Mr. Roy says. "Let's begin!" He looks
around. "Now, where are my glasses?"
I point to his head.
"What are you doing up there?" he asks his
glasses. Everyone laughs. Mr. Roy gives me a wink.
I like this teacher.

We finish math at 10:00. Then it's snack time. Everyone gets juice to drink. Mr. Roy spills some on his shoes. I give him my napkin.

Mr. Roy says to me, "Oh no, David! These are my slippers. I was so excited this morning, I forgot to put on my shoes!" We laugh together.





"Okay, girls and boys," says Mr. Roy. "It's time to meet a friend of mine." He picks up the lizard.

"Oh no!" I say to myself. "Not the lizard!"

"His name is Slim," says Mr. Roy. "He's thin like me."

The class giggles.

Mr. Roy says, "I hold him **carefully** so I don't hurt him."

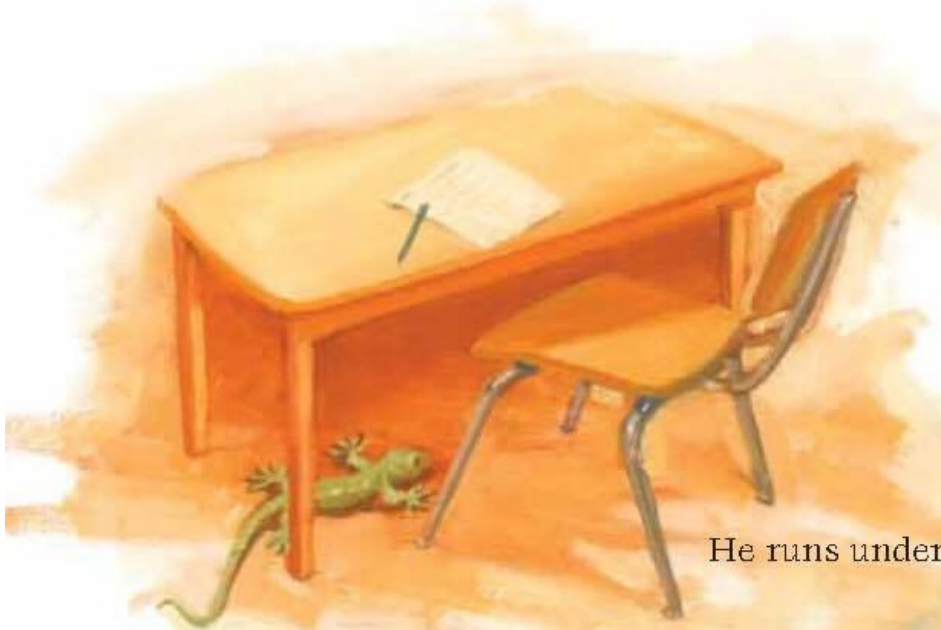


Character and Setting

How do you think David feels about Slim?

Just then, Slim slips out of Mr. Roy's hand.
Everyone starts yelling.
Slim is as fast as a whip.





He runs under desks.

He runs over feet.



He runs around the trashcan.

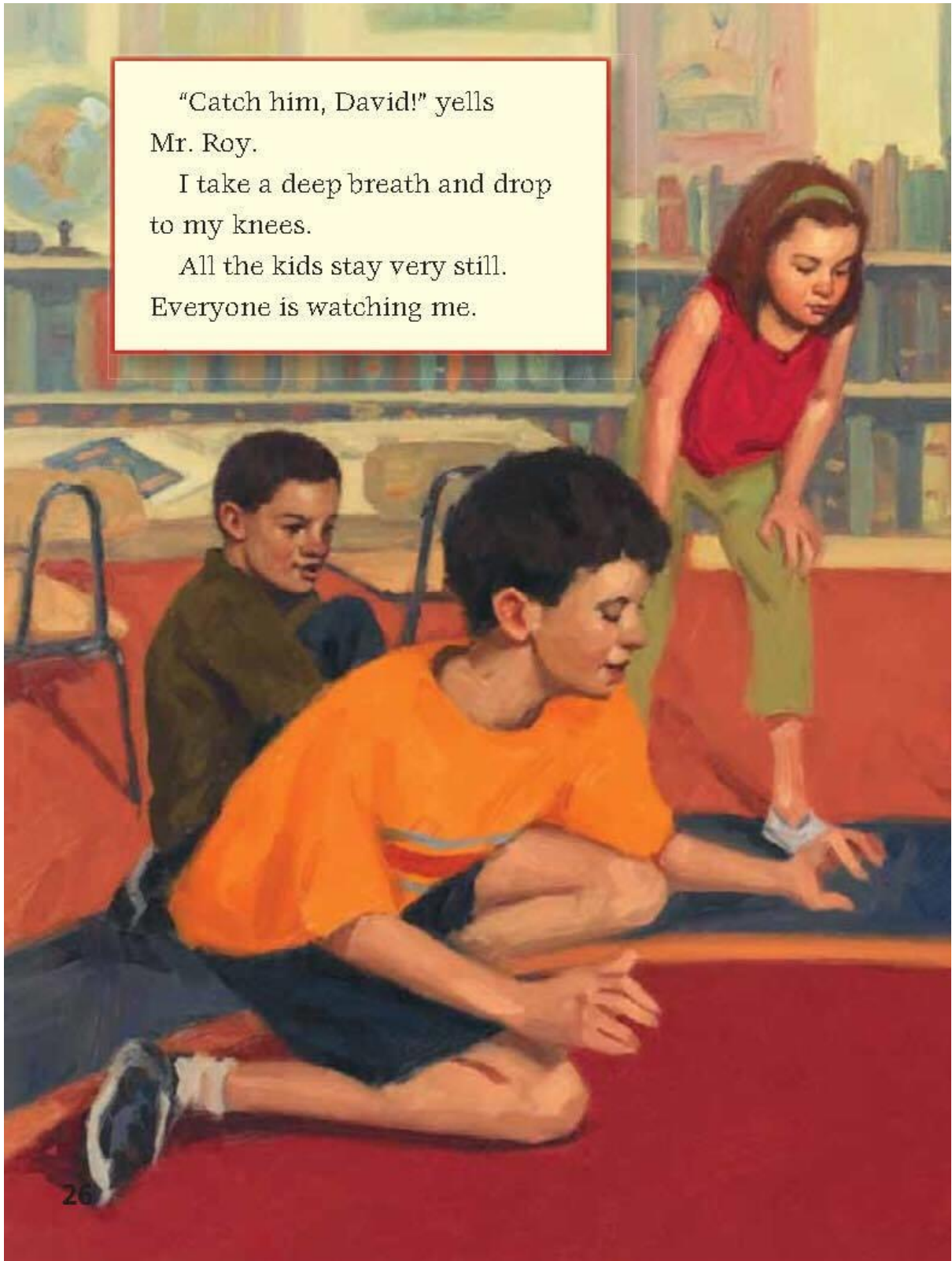


Then he runs right at me!

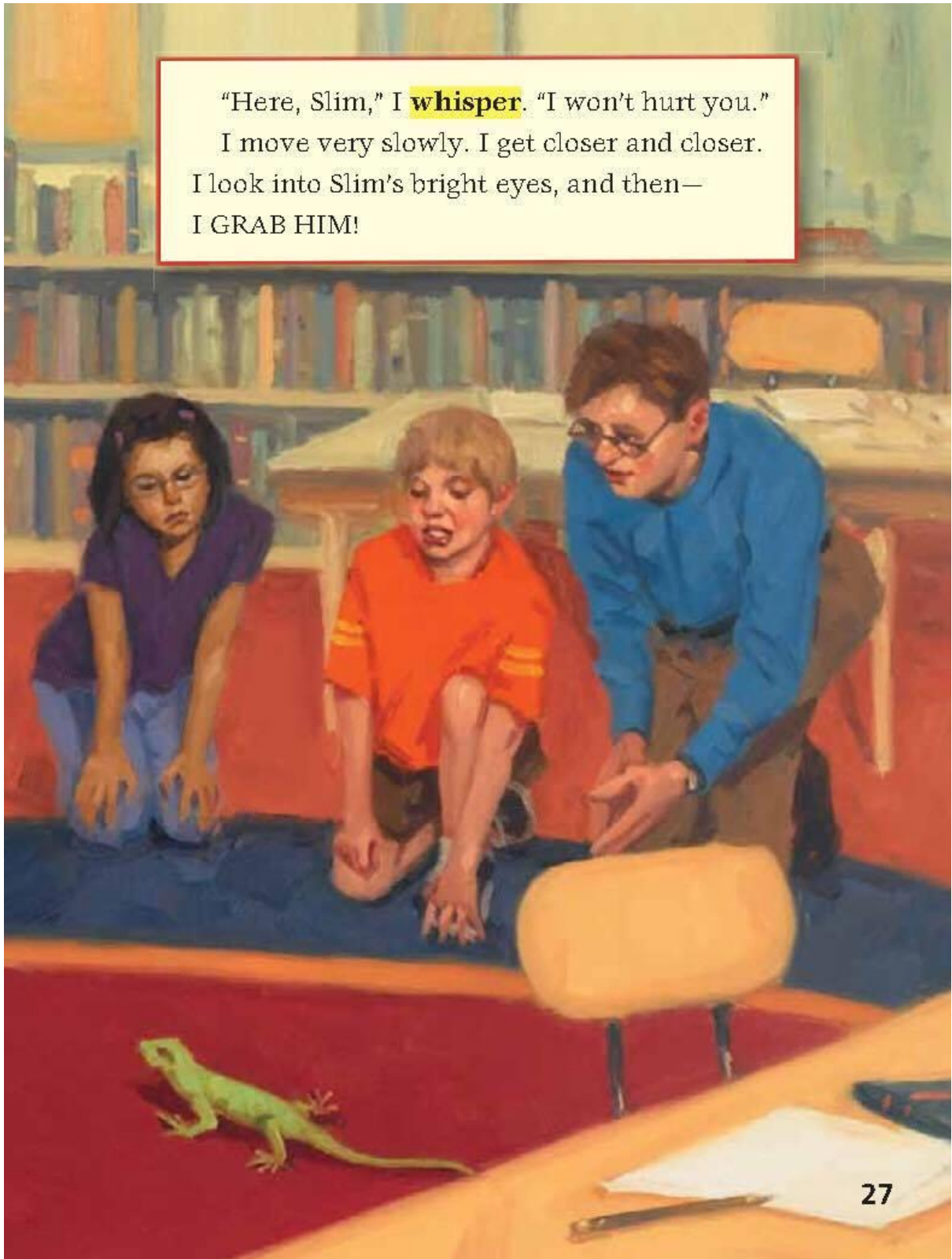
"Catch him, David!" yells
Mr. Roy.

I take a deep breath and drop
to my knees.

All the kids stay very still.
Everyone is watching me.



“Here, Slim,” I **whisper**. “I won’t hurt you.”
I move very slowly. I get closer and closer.
I look into Slim’s bright eyes, and then—
I GRAB HIM!





I feel Slim wiggle in my hands. I can tell that he's afraid.

"Don't worry, Slim," I say quietly. "We won't hurt you."

I put Slim back in the tank. He runs under a twig and then peeks out. He winks at me!

Mr. Roy says, "I think he likes you, David."

I think I like him, too.

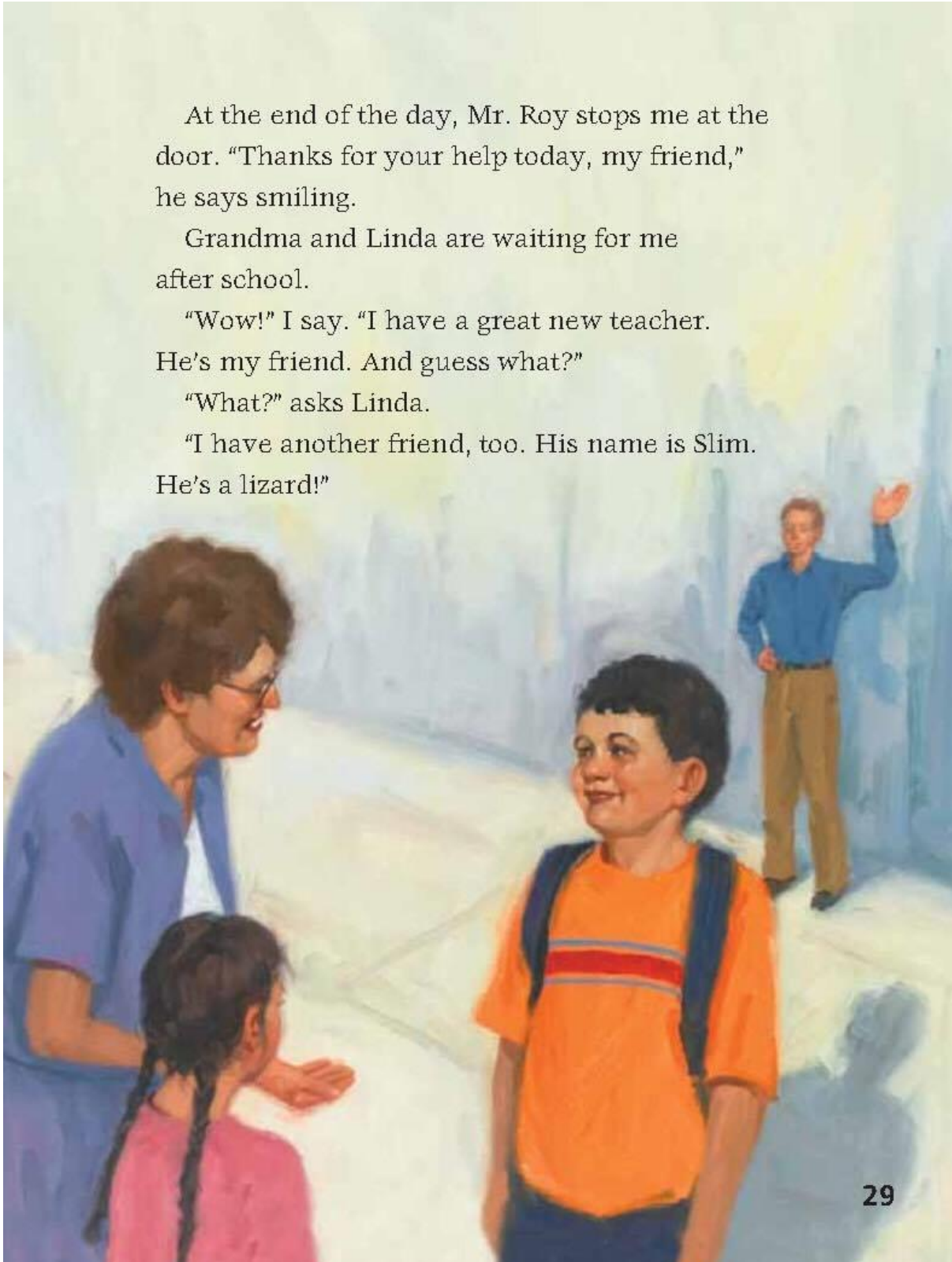
At the end of the day, Mr. Roy stops me at the door. "Thanks for your help today, my friend," he says smiling.

Grandma and Linda are waiting for me after school.

"Wow!" I say. "I have a great new teacher. He's my friend. And guess what?"

"What?" asks Linda.

"I have another friend, too. His name is Slim. He's a lizard!"



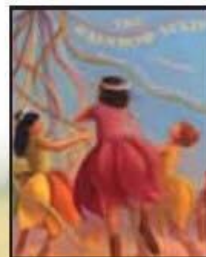
MEET NEW FRIENDS PAT AND ED

Author **PAT MORA** says many of the ideas for her books come from the things she likes best. Some things she likes are families and folk tales. Pat is special because she can speak and write in both English and Spanish!



When artist **ED MARTINEZ** was in college, he saw a TV show about children's book illustrators. He decided then that he wanted to illustrate books too.

Other books written by Pat Mora



LOG ON

Find out more about Pat Mora and Ed Martinez at www.macmillanmh.com

Author's Purpose

Pat Mora wrote this story for you to enjoy. Think about your first day of second grade. Who did you meet? Write about that day.



Comprehension Check

Retell the Story

Use the Retelling Cards to retell the story.



Retelling Cards

Think and Compare

1. How does David feel about school when he is at home? Does he feel **different** after the first day?

Character	Setting

Story Structure: Character and Setting

2. Reread pages 16–19. How does David feel before he goes to school? Use the text to explain how you know. **Analyze**
3. Would you like to have Mr. Roy as your teacher? Why or why not? **Evaluate**
4. Why might David think lizards are creepy? **Analyze**
5. Read “School Is Starting” on pages 12–13. How is Matt like David? Tell how you know.

Reading/Writing Across Texts

