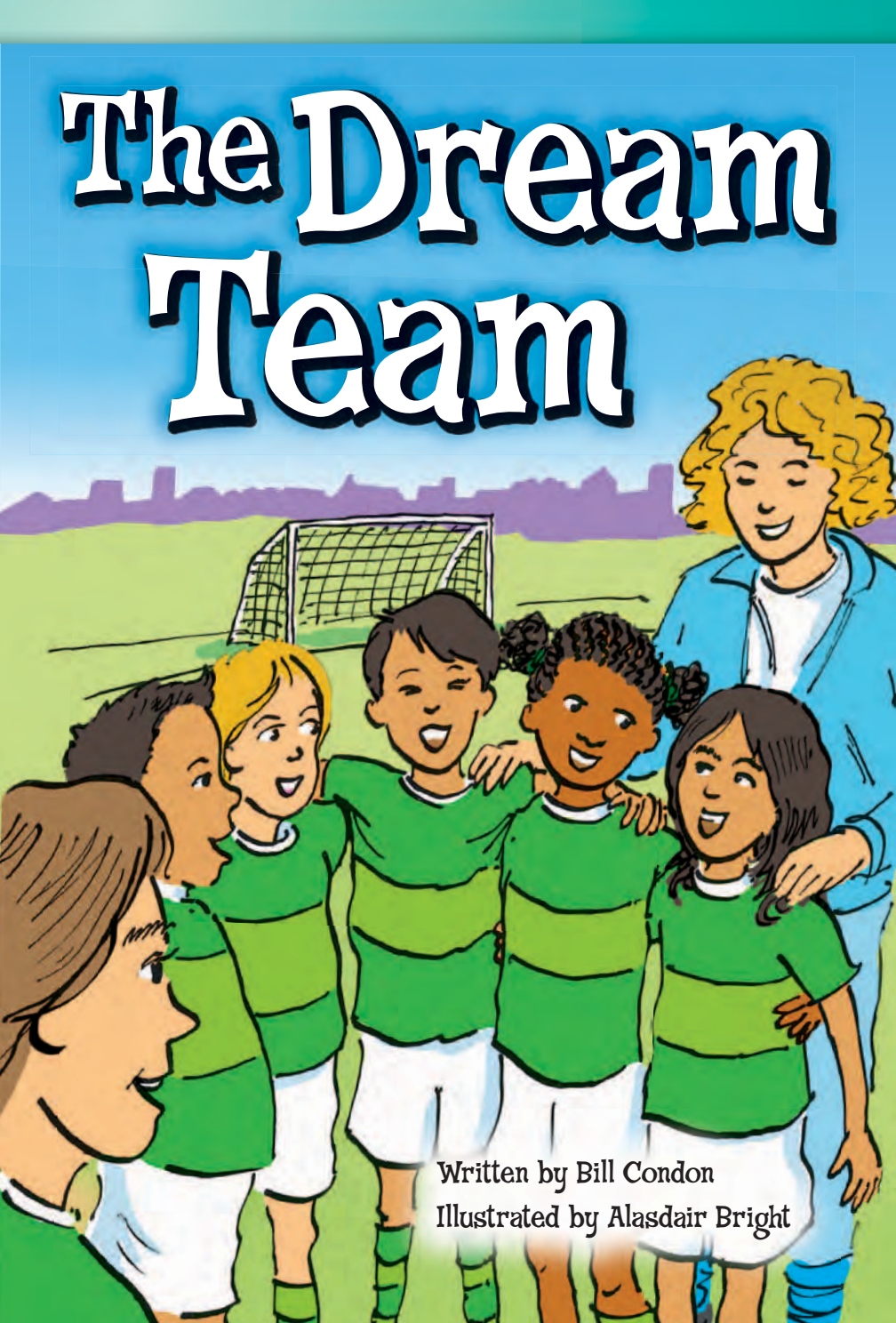
The Dream Team



Written by Bill Condon

Illustrated by Alasdair Bright

Contents

Chapter One
The Team 3

Chapter Two
The Game. 9

Chapter Three
After the Game 15

Chapter Four
Training 21

Chapter Five
Soccer Stars. 27

For teachers' inspection ONLY



Chapter One

The Team

Rebecca wanted to find something her friends could do together. One day, she saw an ad on the gym bulletin board.

JUNIOR PLAYERS WANTED FOR SOCCER LEAGUE

Rebecca thought her friends Manny, Silvio, Rosa, Nuong, and Camilla might be interested. *Wouldn't it be cool if we all played soccer together*? she thought.

The next day, Rebecca asked her friends if they wanted to join a soccer team, and they all said yes. Their teacher, Ms. Dunleavy, said she would be their coach.

"The first thing we need to do is choose a team name. Does anyone have any ideas?" asked Ms. Dunleavy.

Six hands shot up.

"Me, me!" the students cried.

Ms. Dunleavy looked at Rebecca. "Since this was your idea, you can choose the name."

"Let's call our team The Caterpillars. I like caterpillars!" Rebecca said.

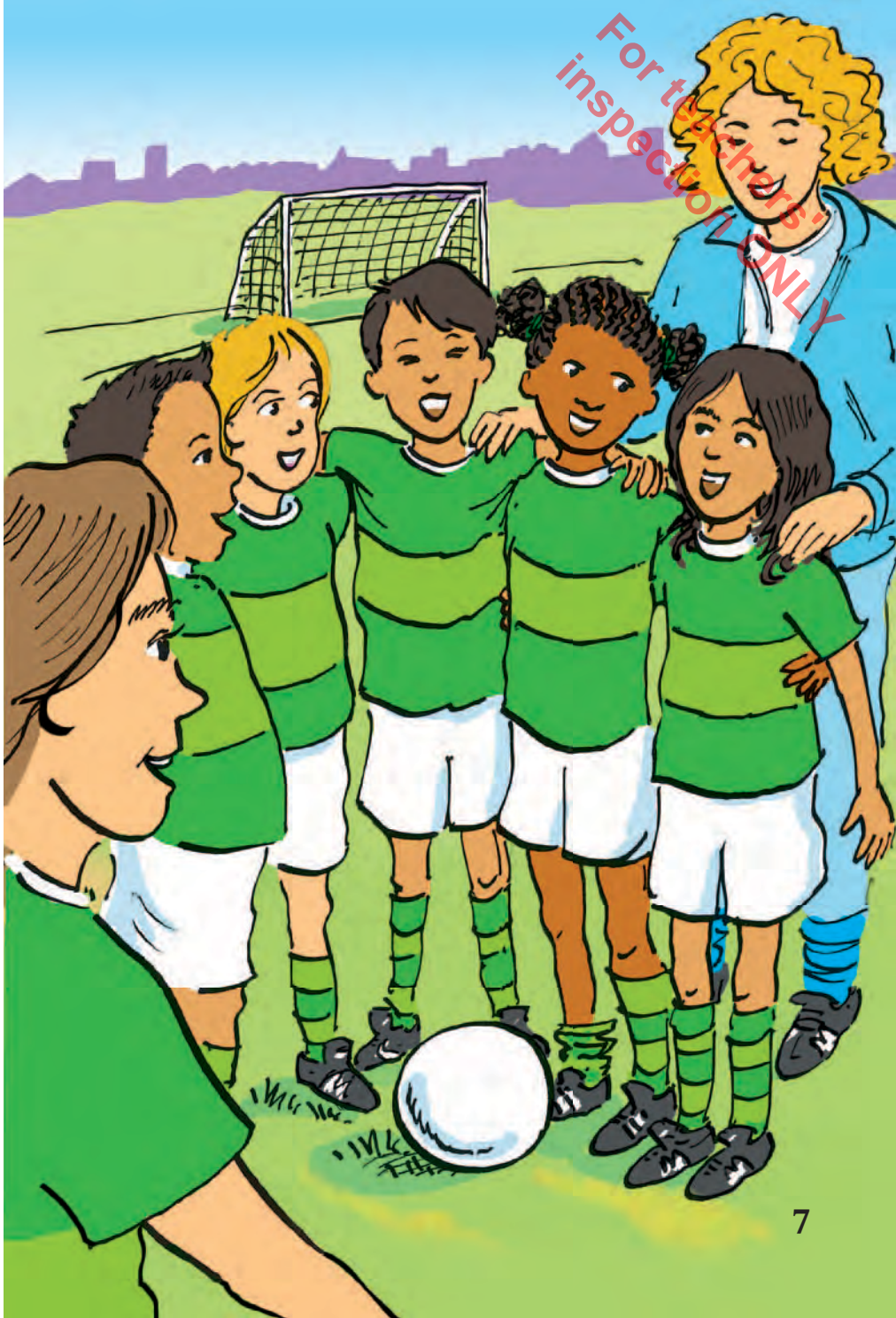


For teachers' inspection ONLY

"That's a great name!" Ms. Dunleavy said. "Caterpillars become something else—something surprising. You'll be every bit as good as the Tigers and the Lions," she told them. "You'll be faster than the Panthers and too smart for the Rhinos. The Caterpillars will be a dream team!"

The first game was only a few days away, and everyone was very excited. Their uniforms were brand new—and green, just like caterpillars. Their cleats were shiny and clean. Nuong and Silvio had even written a song for them. The team sang it as they waited for the game to start:

We're the Caterpillars, yes, we are.
We're the best, and we'll go far!
We kick the ball so straight and true.
We're gonna Caterpillar you!



For teachers' inspection ONLY

For teachers' inspection ONLY



Chapter Two

The Game

Finally, it was time to play the first game of the season. During the first five minutes, the score was close. The Anacondas had scored one goal. The Caterpillars were looking for their first goal.