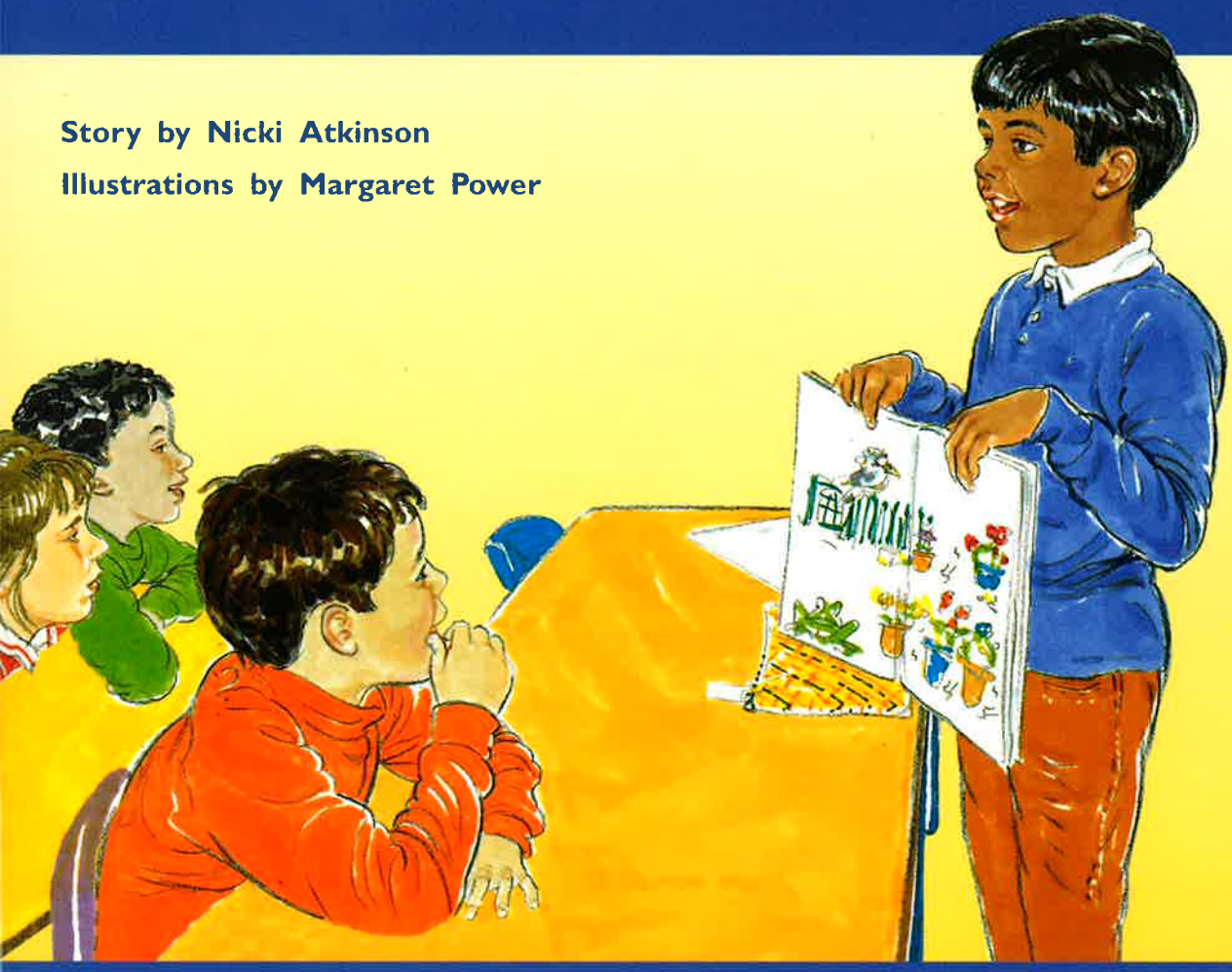
Anyone Can Have a Pet

PM+

Story by Nicki Atkinson

Illustrations by Margaret Power



Brad stared down at his desk. He was hoping that the teacher might forget to call his name today.

For teachers' inspection ONLY



For teachers' inspection ONLY

Everyone had been asked to talk about a pet.
Some children had even brought their pets to school.

But Brad didn't have a pet.
He lived on the ground floor of a big apartment block with his mum.

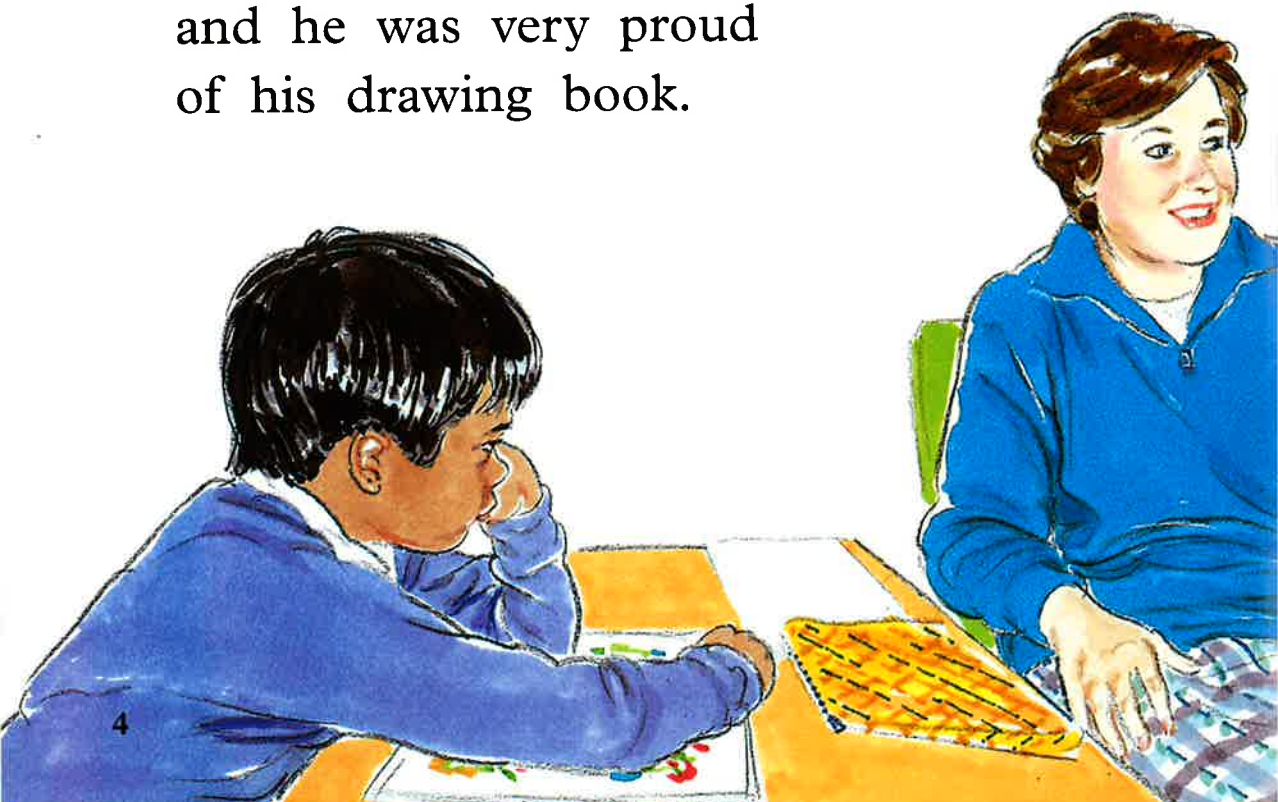
There was a sign on the wall that said... **NO PETS**.



For teachers' inspection ONLY

Brad wished his mother
had let him stay at home.

He moved his pencil case away
from his drawing book,
and looked down at his picture
of a kookaburra.
He had drawn it at home last night.
Brad loved art,
and he was very proud
of his drawing book.



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Brad's friend Josh was standing in front of the class.
He had his budgie in a cage.
The budgie had bright green feathers, and it was sitting on a little swing.
"Hello, boy!" it squawked to Josh.

Brad wished he had a budgie.



For teachers' inspection ONLY

Kelly had her turn next.
Brad knew she was going to talk about her cat, Skittles.

Kelly lived across the road
from the school,
and Brad sometimes stopped
to pat Skittles.
He was big and fat
and he had a grumpy face.
But he always came to see Brad.

