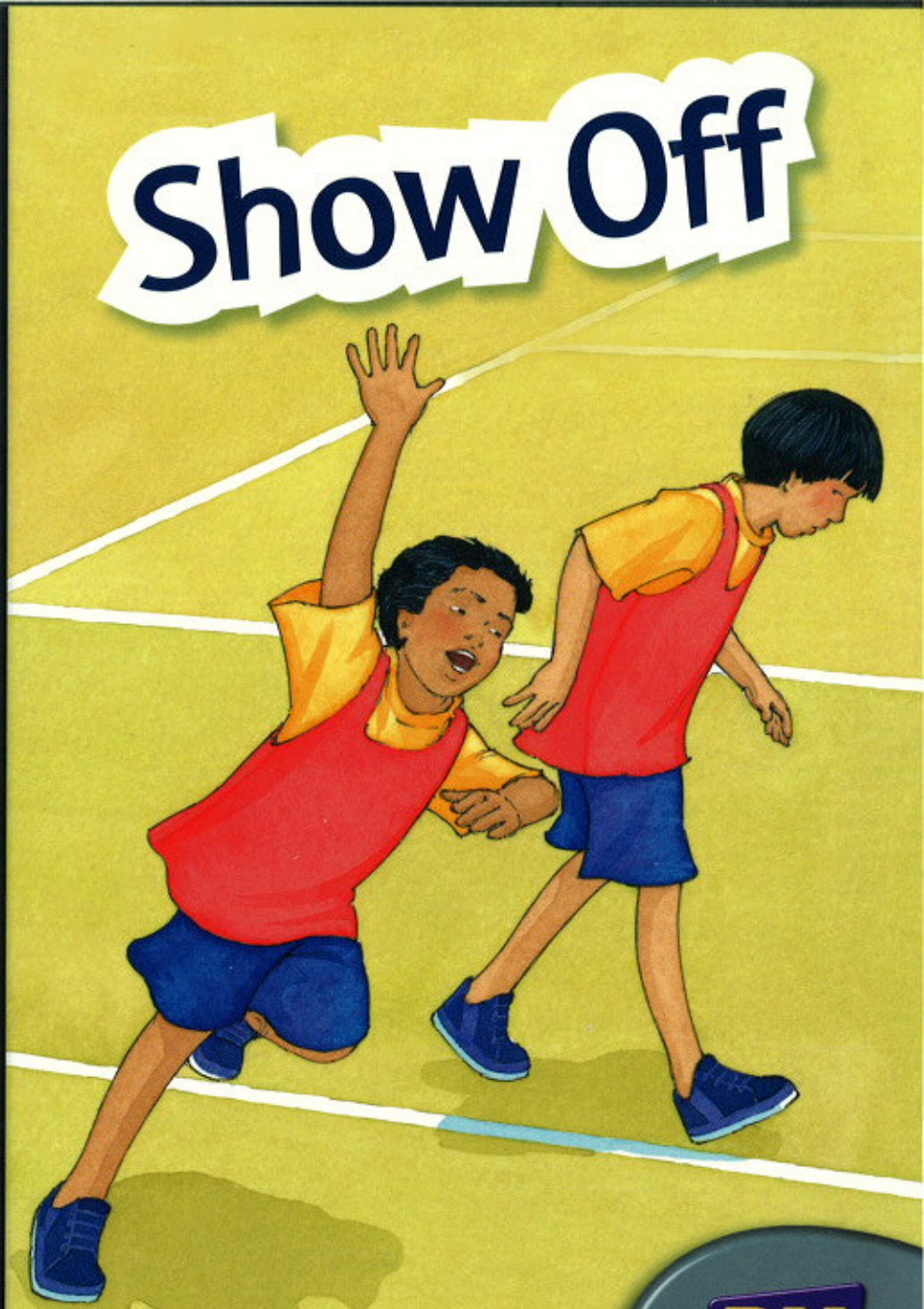
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Story by Carmel Reilly
Illustrations by Pat Reynolds

PM Early Chapters

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Level 24

Running Words	Complete text	928
Reading Record	Pages 8–12	227

Key Teaching Points

- Revisit the PM Early Chapter Books listed, as an orientation to this story.
- Anticipate how Eddie would have been feeling when he saw Dylan.
- Discuss the increasing tension when Dylan wasn't chosen to play.

Key Questions

- Why did Nina go to the game with Eddie and his dad? *(Literal)*
- Do you think Brad was right to leave Dylan out? Why? *(Inferential)*
- How do you think Dylan felt when Brad didn't choose him? *(Inferential)*
- Do you think Eddie and Dylan will become friends? Why? *(Inferential)*
- Explain why Brad 'looked hard' at Dylan before he let him play (on page 18). *(Applied knowledge)*

Vocabulary Enrichment

- Identify verbs that convey action; e.g. *punched, dribbled, swooped.*
- Write new words formed by using the prefix *re-*: e.g. *rebound, reassure.*
- Compare the meanings of these adjectives: *big, large, huge, enormous, gigantic.*

Links with other PM Books

PM Early Chapters	Level 20	The Boy at the Park
PM Early Chapters	Level 22	Junior Super Stars

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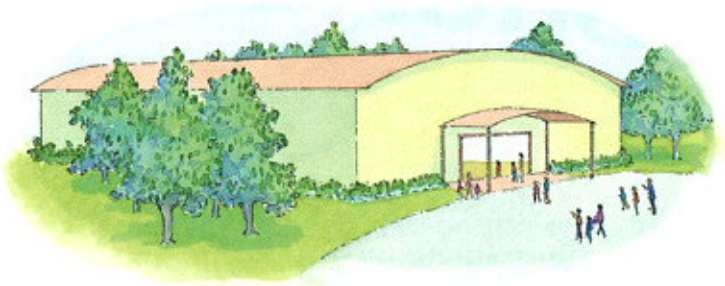
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Chapter 2	Choosing the Team	6
Chapter 3	The Game	14
Chapter 4	Team Players	20

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Chapter 1

At the Stadium



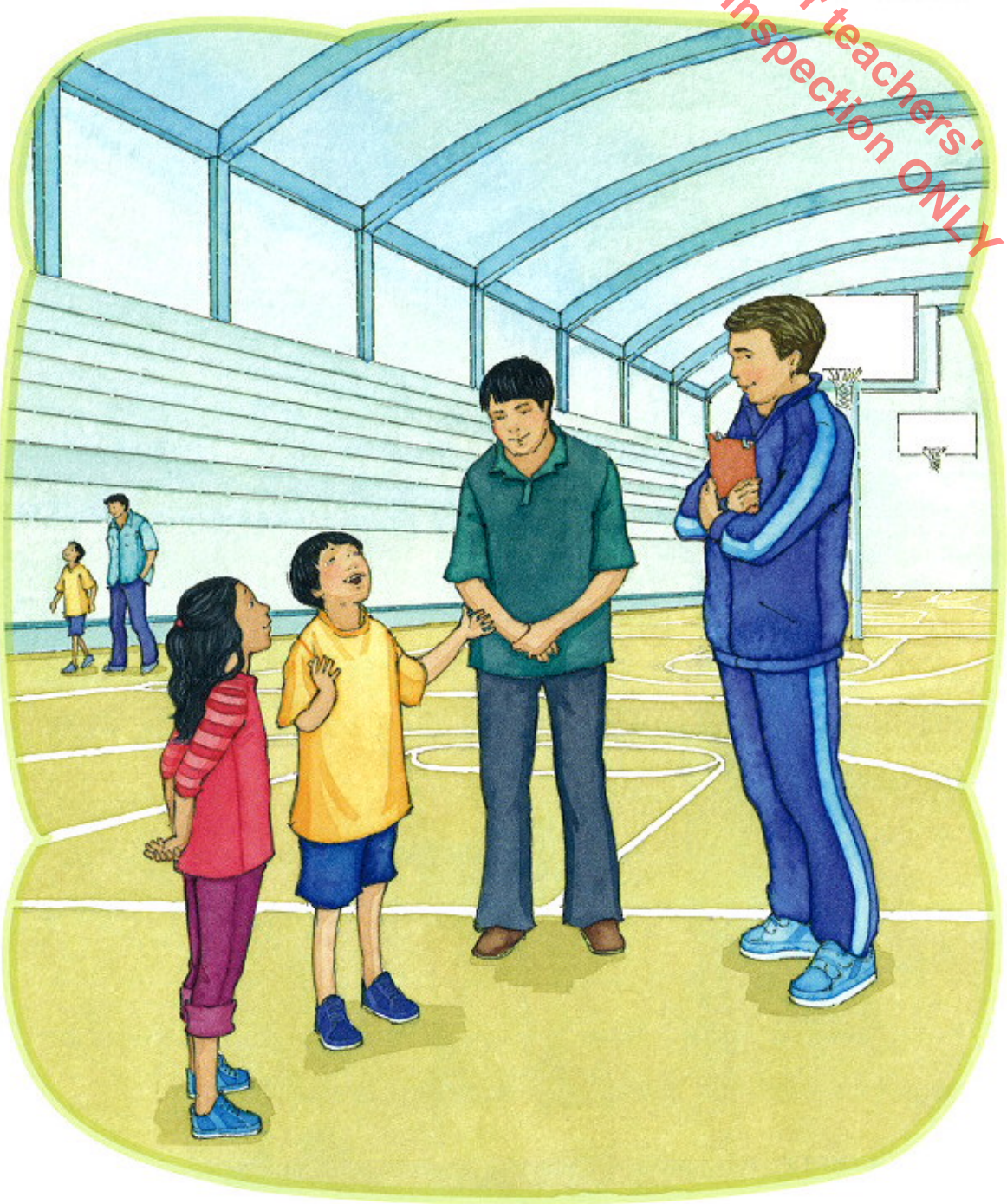
"Wow," said Eddie as he arrived for his first training session with the Junior Super Stars. "This place is enormous!"

Brad Hill, Eddie's new coach, grinned. "We have five courts here at the stadium," he said, "so there's lots of room for all our teams to practise."

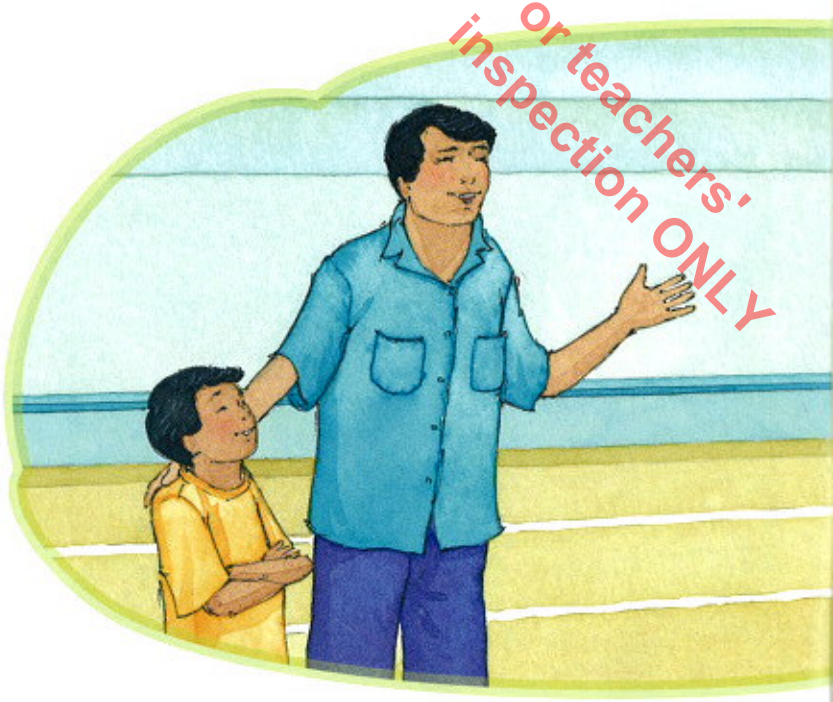
Eddie stood with his dad and his friend, Nina, and waited for the other players to arrive.

Nina nudged Eddie. "Look," she said. "There's that boy Dylan we met at the park a while ago. He must be in the team, too."

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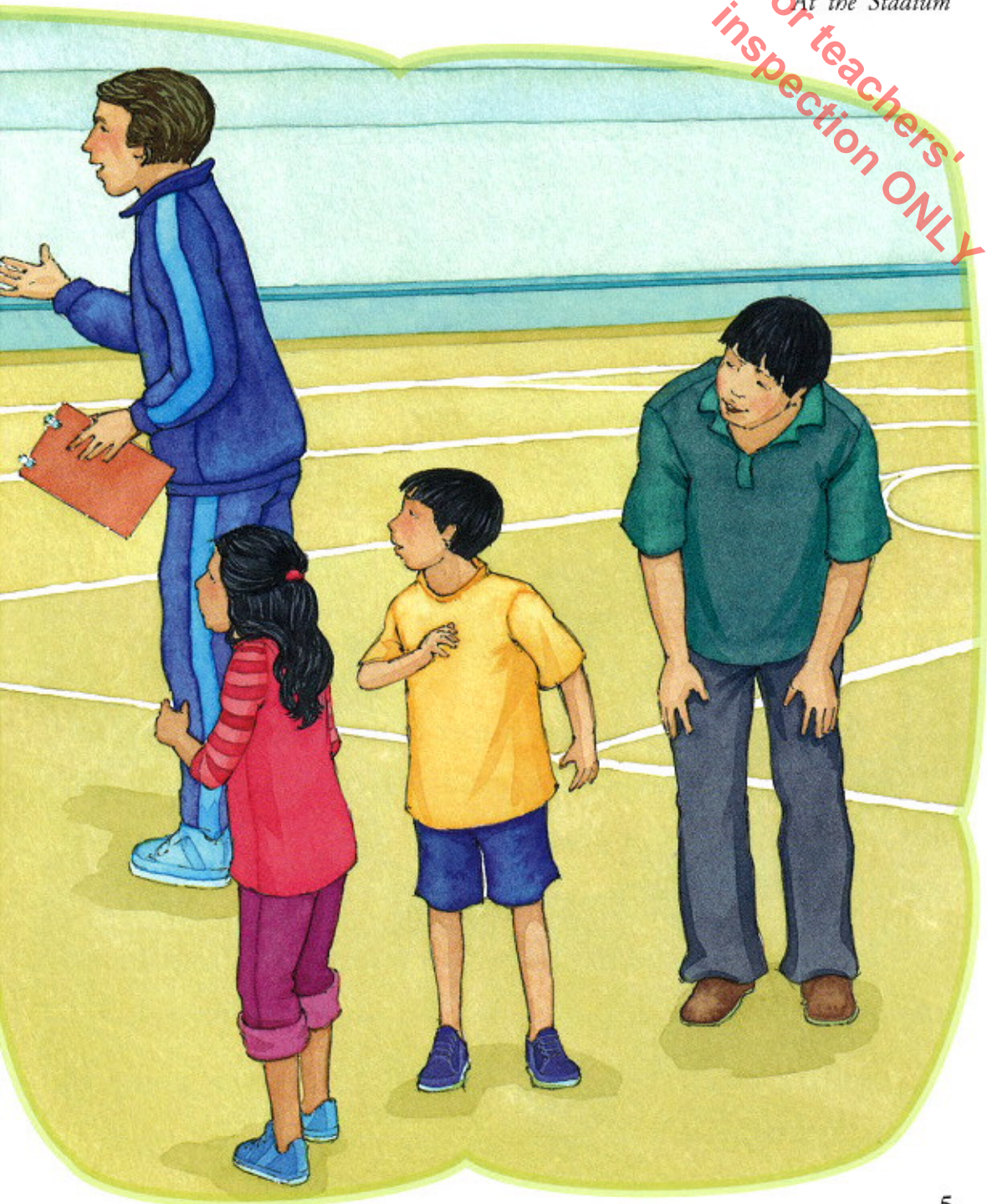
Eddie turned around and watched Dylan and his dad as they walked over to talk to Brad Hill. He remembered that Dylan's dad used to play for the City Super Stars when he was younger.

"It's not going to be much fun playing with Dylan," groaned Eddie. "He's an amazing player, but he is such a show off."

"Brad wouldn't have chosen him if he didn't think he could fit into the team," Eddie's dad reassured him.

"I hope so," said Nina.

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Chapter 2

Choosing the Team



Brad Hill called the players over.

"Welcome to the Junior Super Stars, everyone," he said. "Today I need to choose the main players for the team this Saturday. We'll have a practice game now so I can see how you all work together."

Brad put the children into two teams. "You five are on one side," he said, "and you five are on the other side."

Eddie's heart sank when he saw that he was going to be on the same side as Dylan.