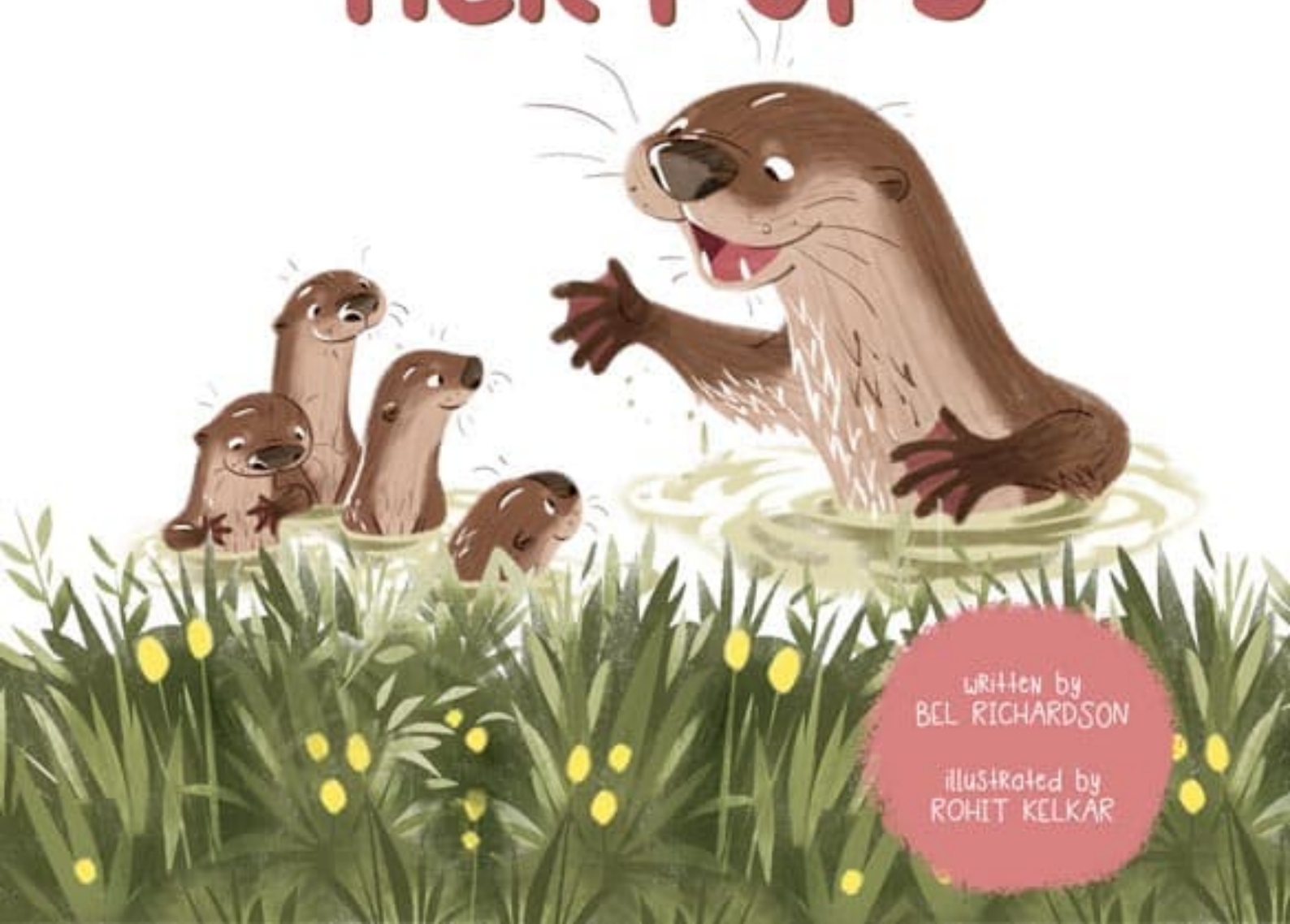


OTTER AND HER PUPS



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Here is an otter and her pups.
There are a lot of things that
she needs to teach them. As
they get older, they will grow.
She needs to look after them
until then.



One of her lessons is in swimming. She shows the pups how to dive for food. She shows them how to twist and turn in case they need to get away quickly.



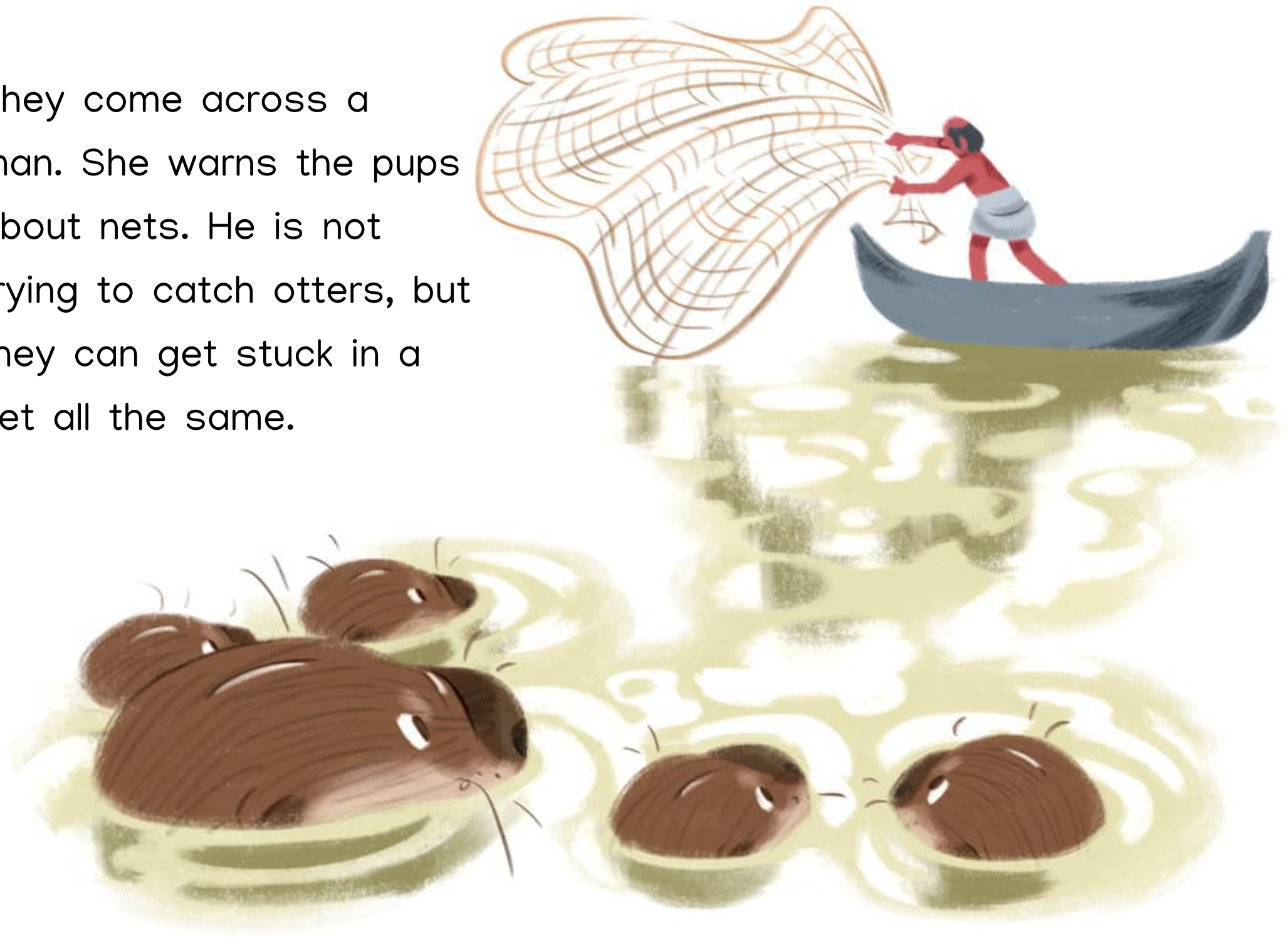


She shows them good spots to hide. Otters can slink into spots that a predator might not fit. They pups can climb into this old log. It will protect them.

Time for her to have a nap. The pups protest. They want to do some more swimming lessons. Their mum says it is good to rest so that they have the energy to do things when they need to.



They come across a man. She warns the pups about nets. He is not trying to catch otters, but they can get stuck in a net all the same.



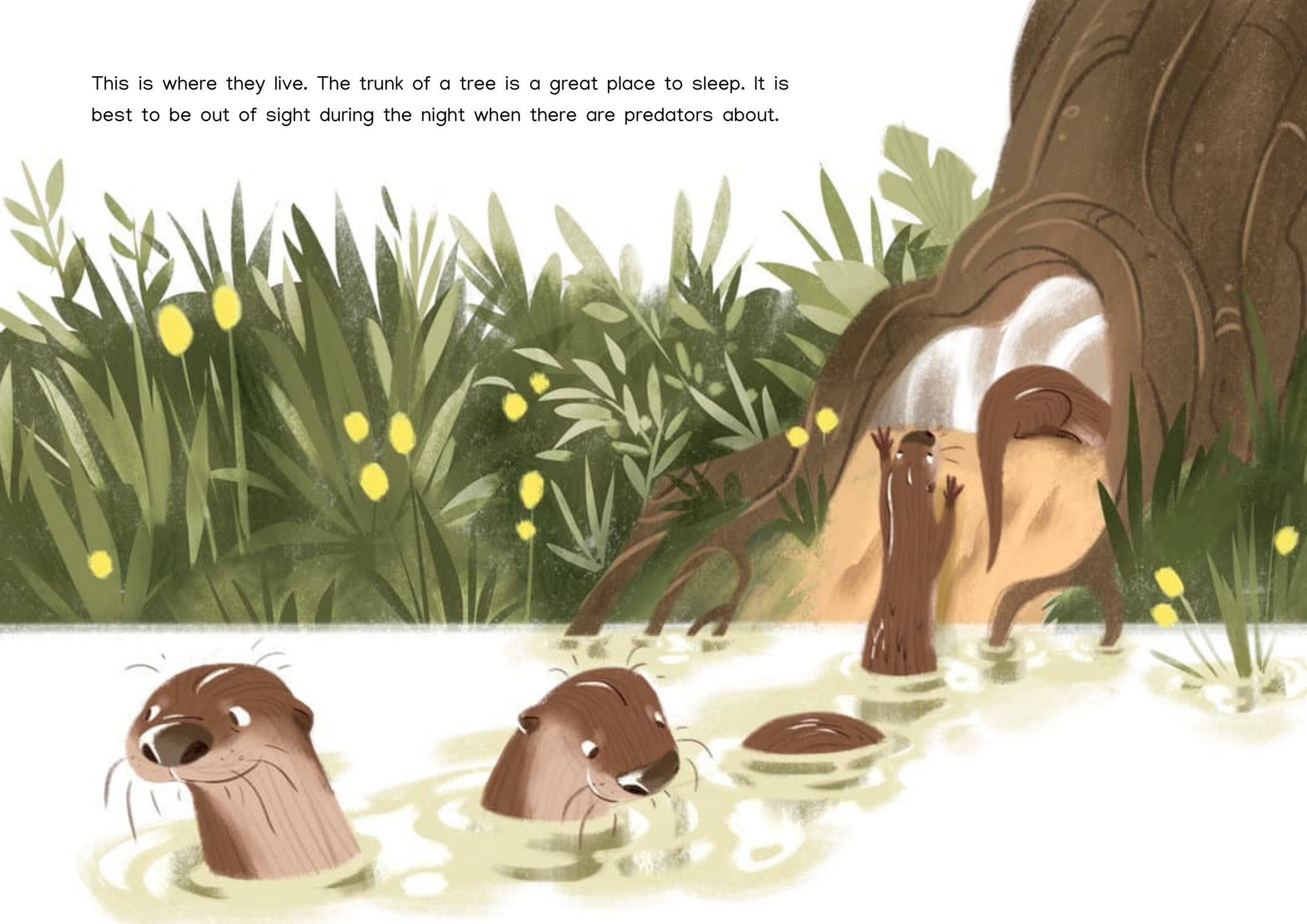


She shows them a trap. The otters think that the trap has sharp teeth. Their mum says that it will snap shut if they touch it. They must never go near a trap.

The pups slink by a croc as they learn more. They can skip up on rocks and stay safe. They do not get too close to the croc. A croc's jaws are bad news.

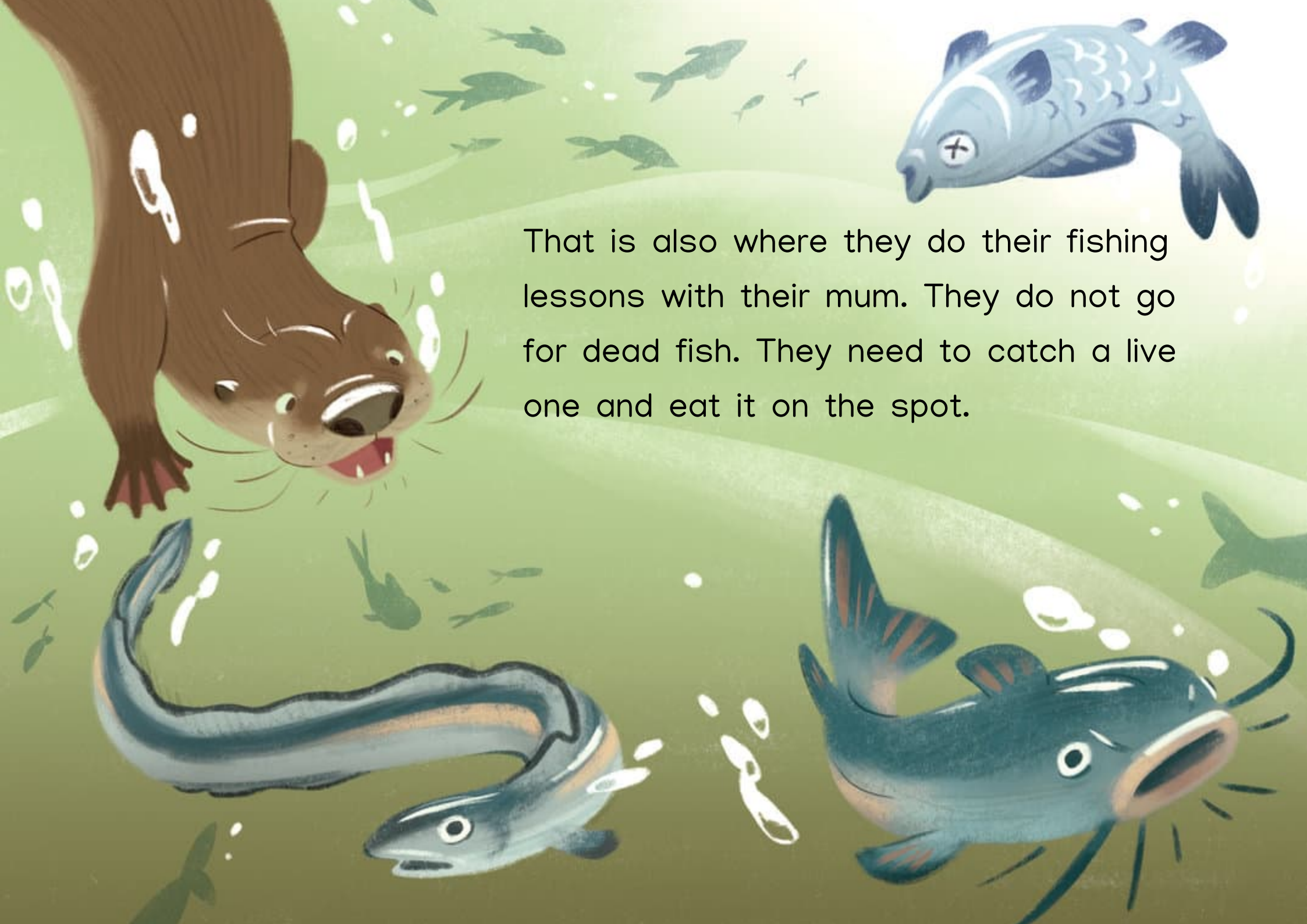


This is where they live. The trunk of a tree is a great place to sleep. It is best to be out of sight during the night when there are predators about.



The banks provide a good spot to play and rest during the day. Play is a good way to learn while they have fun.





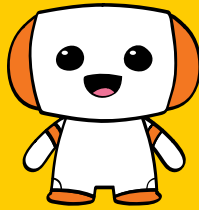
That is also where they do their fishing lessons with their mum. They do not go for dead fish. They need to catch a live one and eat it on the spot.

Fish are not an easy thing to keep a hold of. They slip out of their claws and flop back into the water. With time, the pups will get better at catching and eating fish.





Until then, their mum will share. She is the best at catching fish. Their mum can do it all! They can't wait to grow up and be just like her. She will provide and protect for them until they can do it all themselves.



S5

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