

The illustration features a bright blue water drop character with a white face, large eyes, and a wide smile, standing on a patch of green grass. In the background, a purple spaceship with a yellow cockpit and several yellow lights is flying through a light blue sky filled with white clouds, yellow stars, and white streaks. The title text is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right.

A Water Wally Adventure: The Surprise Visitor

By Linn Shekinah

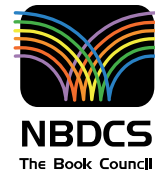
Illustrations by Yap Jian Shen

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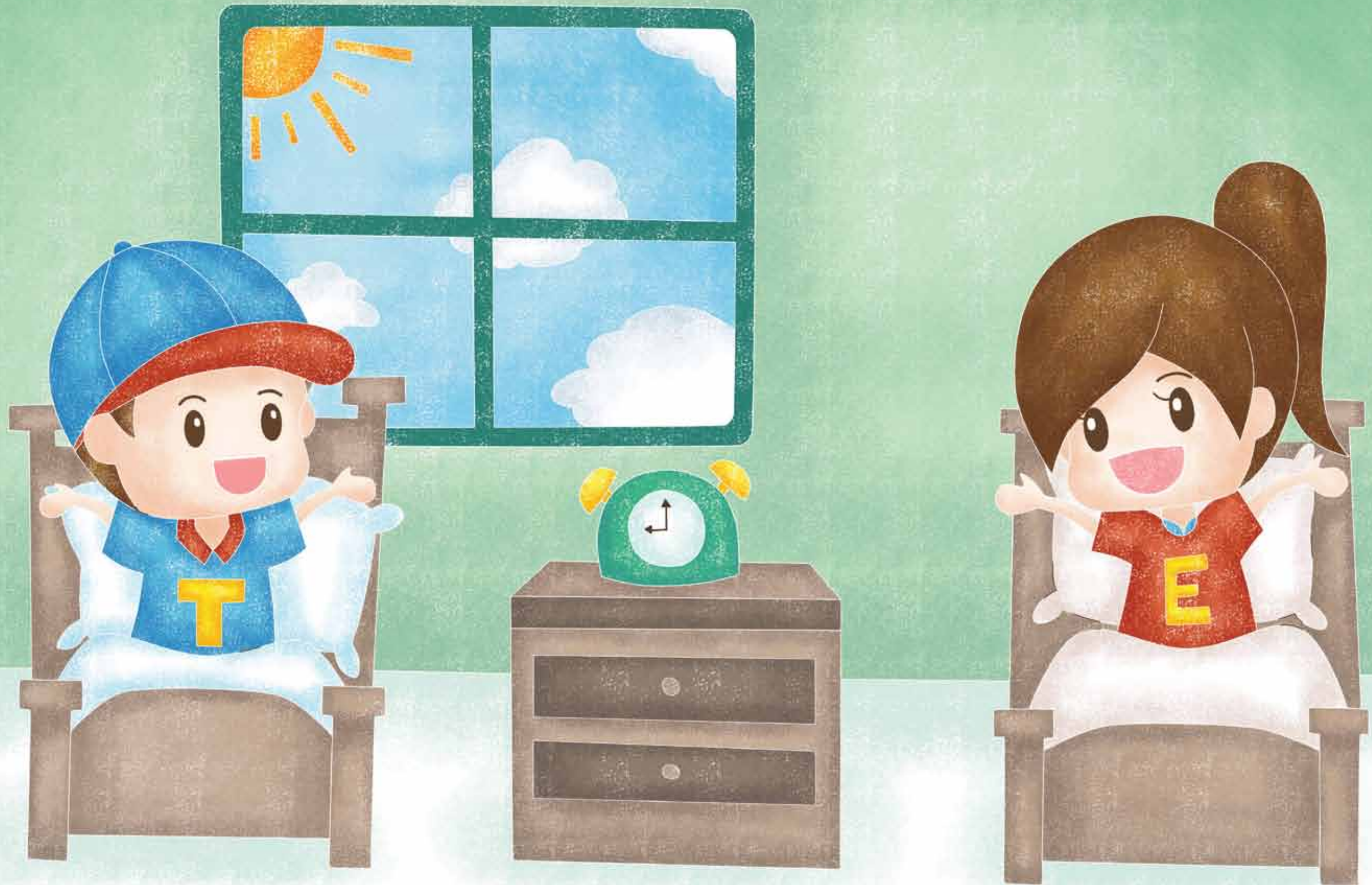
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The twins, Tate and Elle, have been spending their school holidays at Aunt Whoopi's house. Today, their friends are coming over to play.



As always, Aunt Whoopi goes about doing her household chores.



Elle always starts her day by brushing her teeth and washing her face. This morning, Elle notices a new sponge. She plays with it and accidentally drops it into the basin.



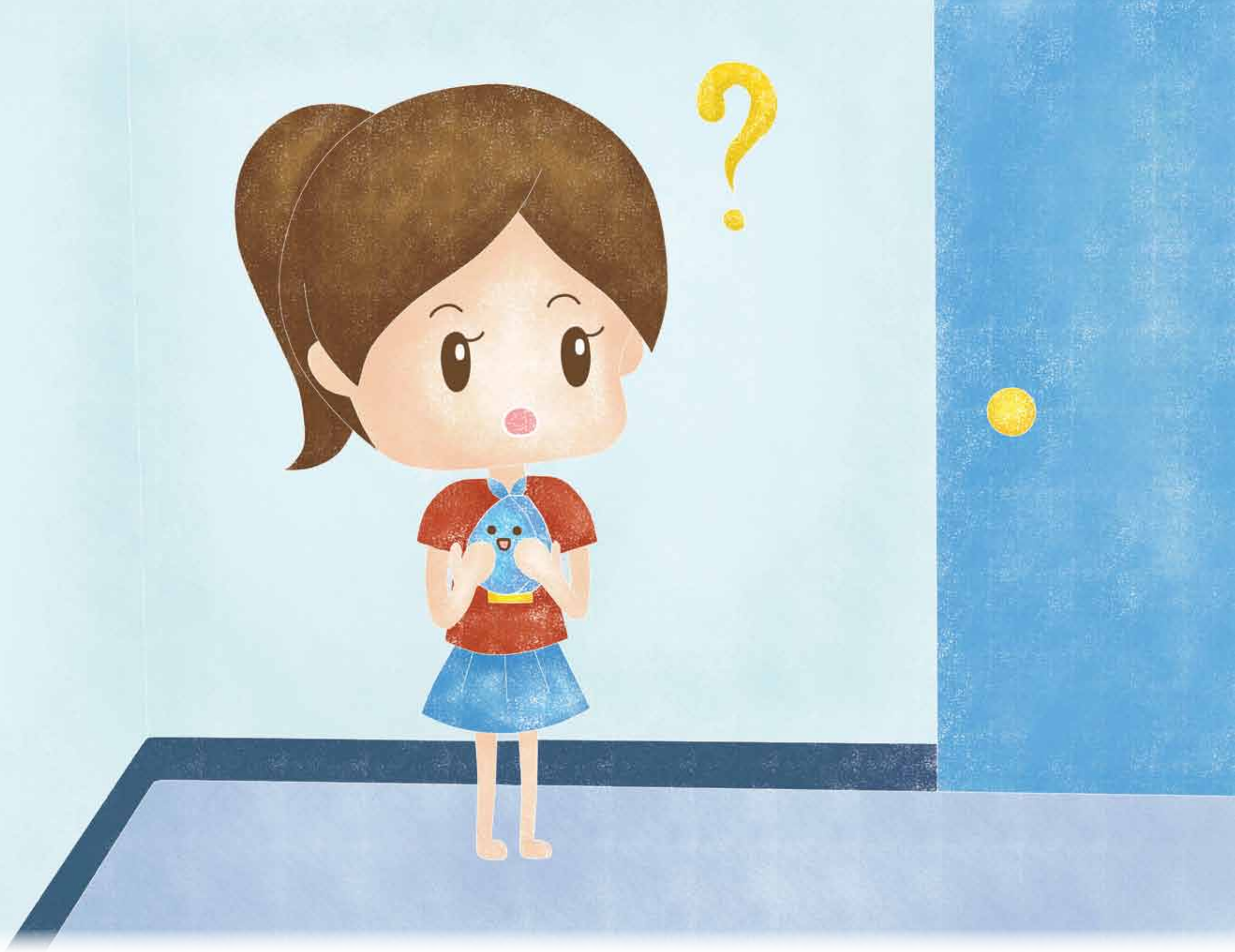
The sponge begins to grow bigger and bigger. Soon, it springs out of the basin. Standing in front of her is a life-sized water droplet.



“Hi, I am Water Wally, a water droplet. Let’s turn off the tap. We are wasting too much water. Whenever you play with water, and this sponge gets soaked in water, I change into a life-sized water droplet.”



“Elle, here’s a mug with a toothbrush for your teeth...”
“...and a wet towel for your face.”



Elle notices Water Wally has vanished. She picks up the sponge, stretches and squeezes it.

Elle, I need to bathe!
Hurry up!

Knock
Knock !!



Has she been dreaming? Suddenly, Tate pounds loudly on the door.



Tate always starts his day with a bath. Soon he turns the bathtub into an ocean and sets off on a journey. "Ahoy! Come aboard!" he cries.



Meanwhile, the sponge in the bathtub has grown bigger and bigger.



A low rumbling voice makes Tate jump. "Hello, Tate!"
Tate asks, "Who are you? You look like the sponge!"



“Hi, I am Water Wally. Sorry for interrupting your sea adventure. Let’s turn off the tap. We are wasting too much water. Whenever you play with water, and this sponge gets soaked in water, I change into a life-sized water droplet.”



“Tate, use the shower instead of the bathtub. Shower for no more than five minutes, turning off the water when you are soaping.”



With that, Water Wally disappears. Tate spots the sponge sitting snugly in the bathtub.



Later, Aunt Whoopi tells the twins, “Children, the floor is dry! I’m glad you didn’t play with water today.”

Did you have a
surprise visitor in the
bathroom?



Elle whispers, “Did you have a surprise visitor in the bathroom?”
Tate nods his head. The twins begin to talk about Water Wally.



When their friends, Adi, Razi and Wan Li, turn up, the twins surprise Aunt Whoopi. They want to help her with the housework!



She is more than happy to get them to water the plants and wash the car. The children end up fooling around with the hose.



The twins agree it is the perfect time to introduce their friends to Water Wally. They tell everyone that a surprise visitor will turn up.



The twins fill a pail with water and toss the sponge into it. Their friends squeal and scream as the sponge expands, springs to life and speaks. Aunt Whoopi shrieks!



“Wh-Wh-Who are you? Where did you come from? What do you want?” asks Aunt Whoopi.



Tate explains, "Aunt Whoopi, he is Water Wally. He's here to play!" Now everyone is curious about Water Wally.



“It’s playtime!” cries Water Wally. “Come, join me in this adventure. All your questions will be answered.”



Aunt Whoopi protests, "I can't. I've work to do."
"Oh come on, you are going to have a blast!" says Water Wally.



Water Wally tells them, “Children, you can help protect the water we have on our planet. You see, there are more people on earth now than thousands of years ago. But the amount of water stays the same.”



Wan Li questions, “How is it possible that the planet has the same amount of water? We have more people, fewer trees and fewer animals now. Even dinosaurs do not exist any more.”



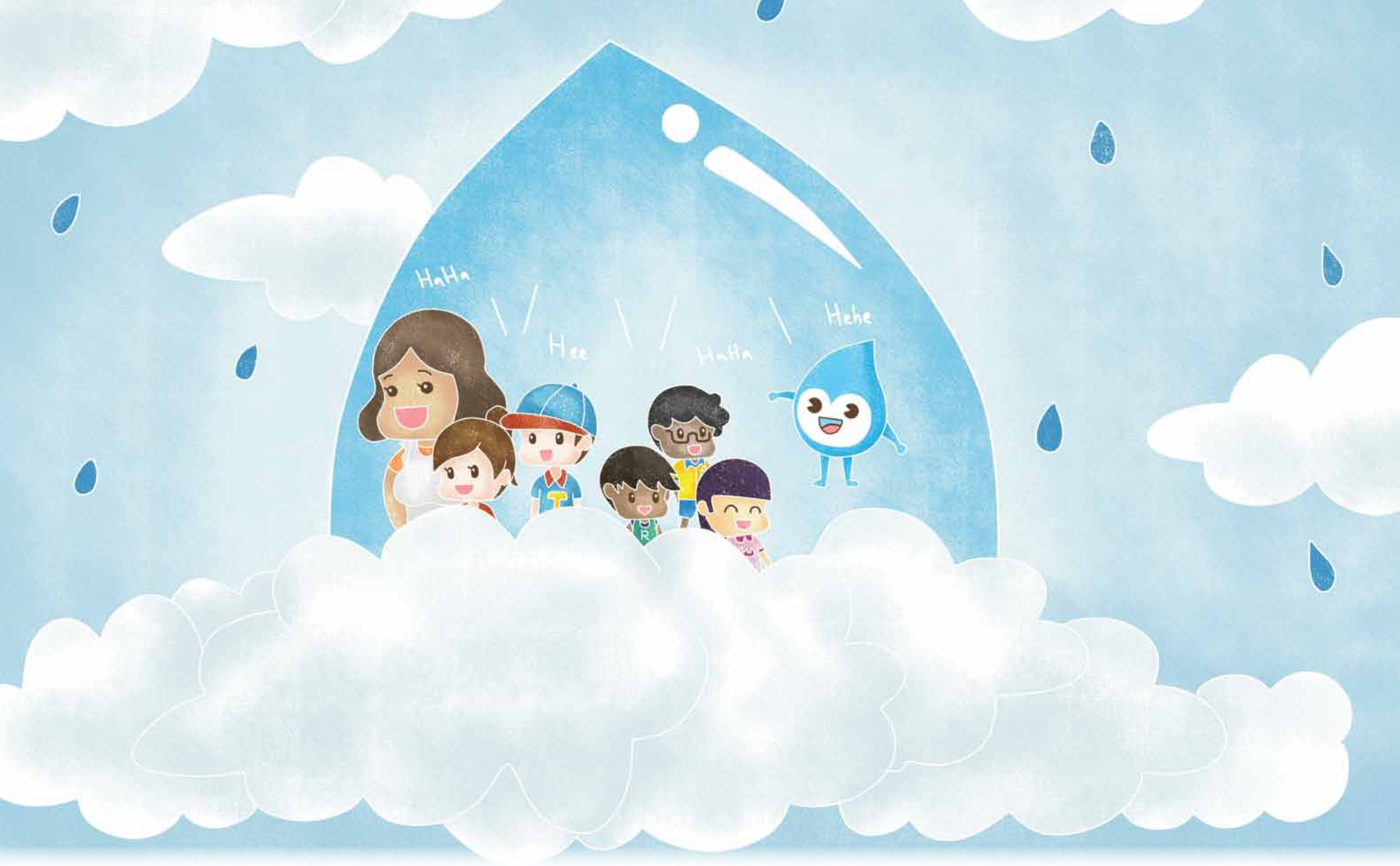
Water Wally replies, “Water works differently. Today, we will go on a journey that water goes through all the time. When the sun comes out, the sky absorbs water on the ground.”



“So the sun will dry us up?” asks Elle. “Will we disappear?”
Water Wally explains, “Nope. When water dries up, it changes into small particles and joins the clouds. Let’s watch this.”



Water Wally points out, “Look, more water particles are getting into the cloud. The cloud is growing heavier. Do you know what will happen when the cloud stores up too much water?”



“I know, I know!” cries Razi. “The clouds burst into tears!” Everyone laughs. Water Wally says, “You are right. It rains! The clouds release the particles that will turn into water droplets again.”



Water Wally continues, “The water droplets falling to the ground will always land on different areas. Some of the water feeds the plants, the trees, soil and animals. Some water flows into rivers, reservoirs and the ground.”



“Oh, so we might not land in Aunt Whoopi’s garden!” says Wan Li.



Elle says, “Water Wally, I get it. Water goes up and comes down all the time. That explains why after all these years, our planet has the same amount of water.”



Adi adds on, “And water falls anywhere. In some parts of the world, people do not have water to drink or bathe.”



Tate says, "So we are lucky. Whenever we turn on the tap, we have water. I should not be playing with water."



Elle nods her head. Water Wally smiles and says,
“We must be thankful that we have water.”



Back in Aunt Whoopi's house, the children think of ways to save water. Adi suggests, "Instead of a hose, we can use a pail and a cloth to wash the car." Wan Li adds on, "And we should use a watering can to water the plants."



Water Wally says, "So what are you waiting for? Let's do it!"



After the children finish the household chores, Water Wally gets ready to leave. "Now I've to go and tell other kids about saving water." He smiles and waves goodbye.



Tate and Elle love to play with water. One day, while they are playing with water in the bathroom, a surprise visitor drops in! The surprise visitor takes the twins and their friends on an adventure that is about the importance of saving water.