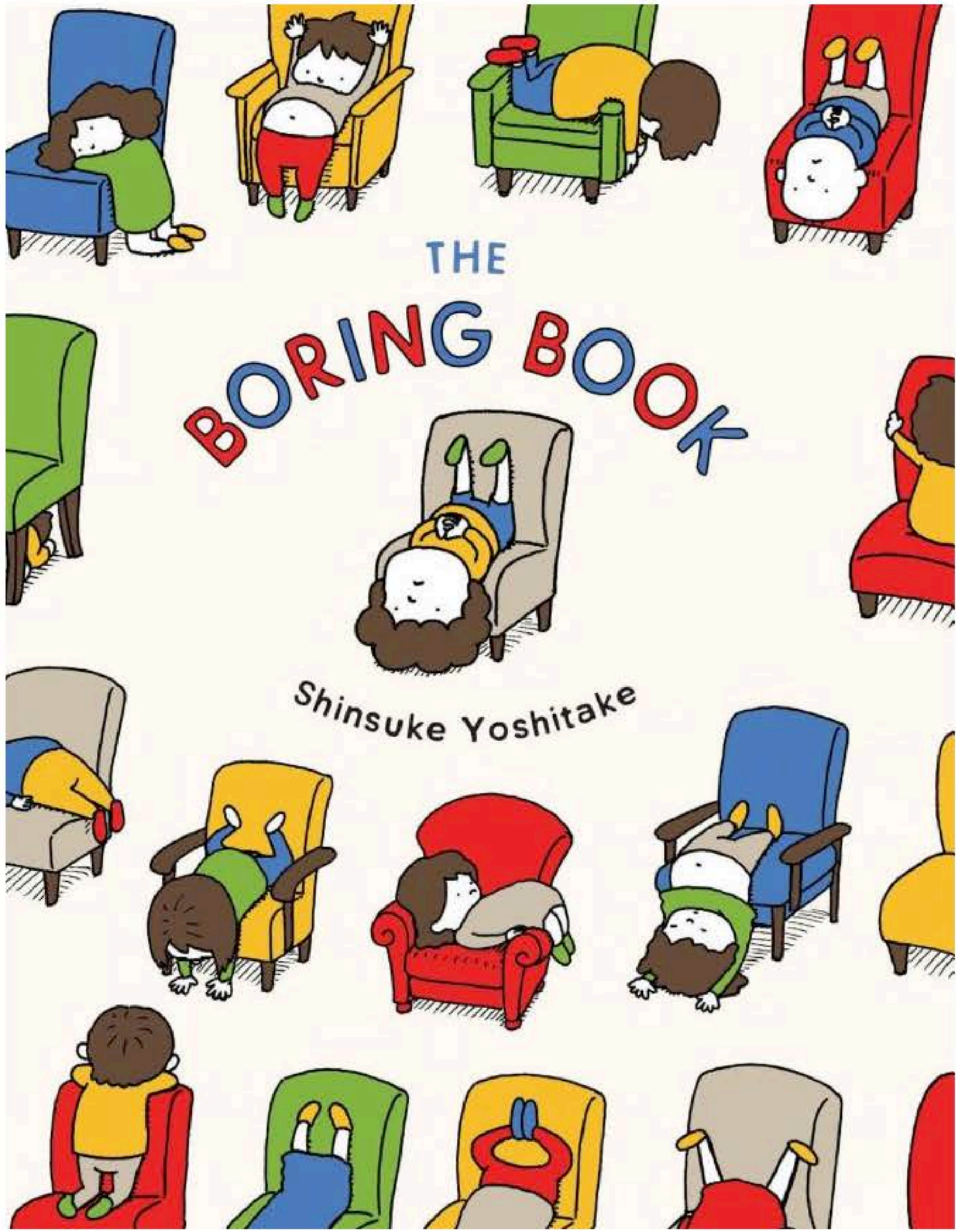


THE BORING BOOK

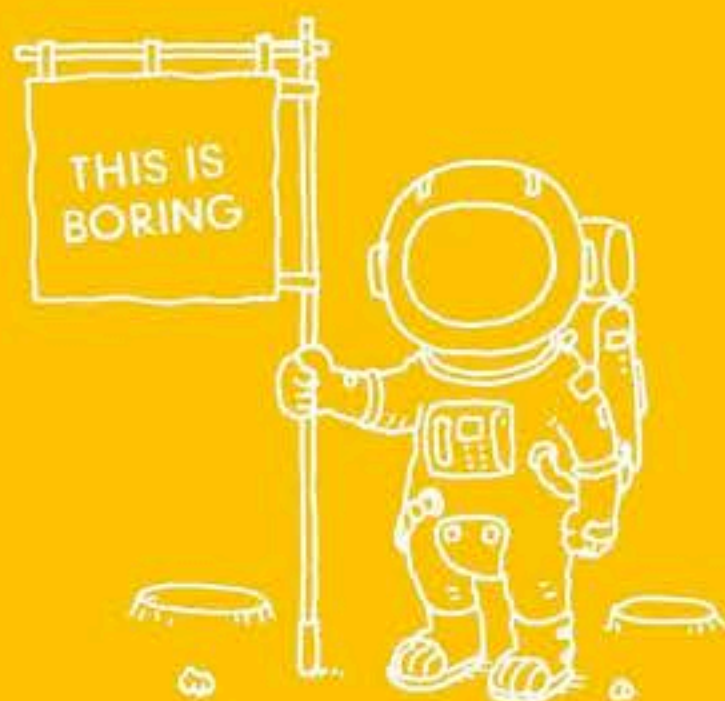
Shinsuke Yoshitake



THE BORING BOOK

Shinsuke Yoshitake





First published in the United States of America
in 1988 by Chronicle Books LLC.

Originally published in Japan in 2017 under the title
Tsumamori Tsumamori
by HAKUJINSHA.

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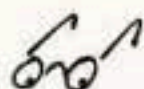
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Shinsuke Yoshitake




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A cartoon illustration of a child with curly brown hair, wearing a yellow shirt and blue pants, sitting on a beige sofa. The child has a bored expression. To the left of the sofa is a potted plant with green leaves in a tan pot. Further left is a bookshelf with several books. To the right of the sofa is a doorway with a light switch on the wall. The floor is light-colored.

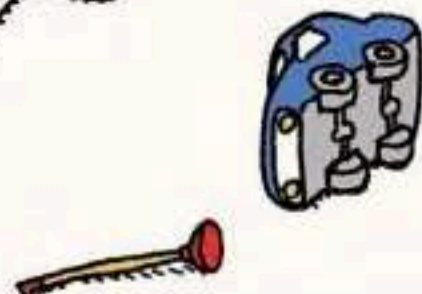
I'm bored. So bored!

A small blue book with a white spine, lying flat on the floor.

My toys are boring.

A white stuffed dog with floppy ears, lying on its side on the floor.

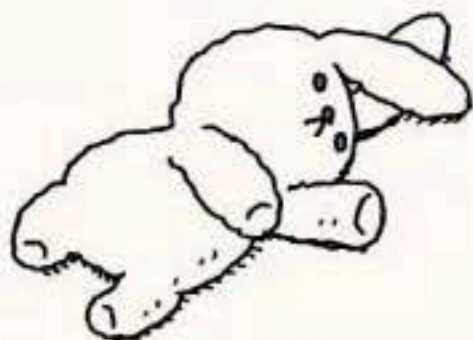
There's nothing to watch on TV.





Wait—what makes
things boring?

Why am I bored?



What does “boring”
mean, anyway?



What if I were stuffed
into a big donut?



That sounds like fun . . .



but after being in there
for a while . . .



I'd probably be bored.

Um, how much longer
will I be in here?



Maybe it's boring to stay in the same place.



So, what if I constantly changed how I sit?

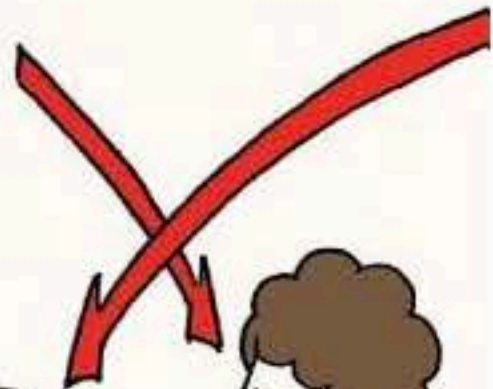
I'll try it!



Rustle



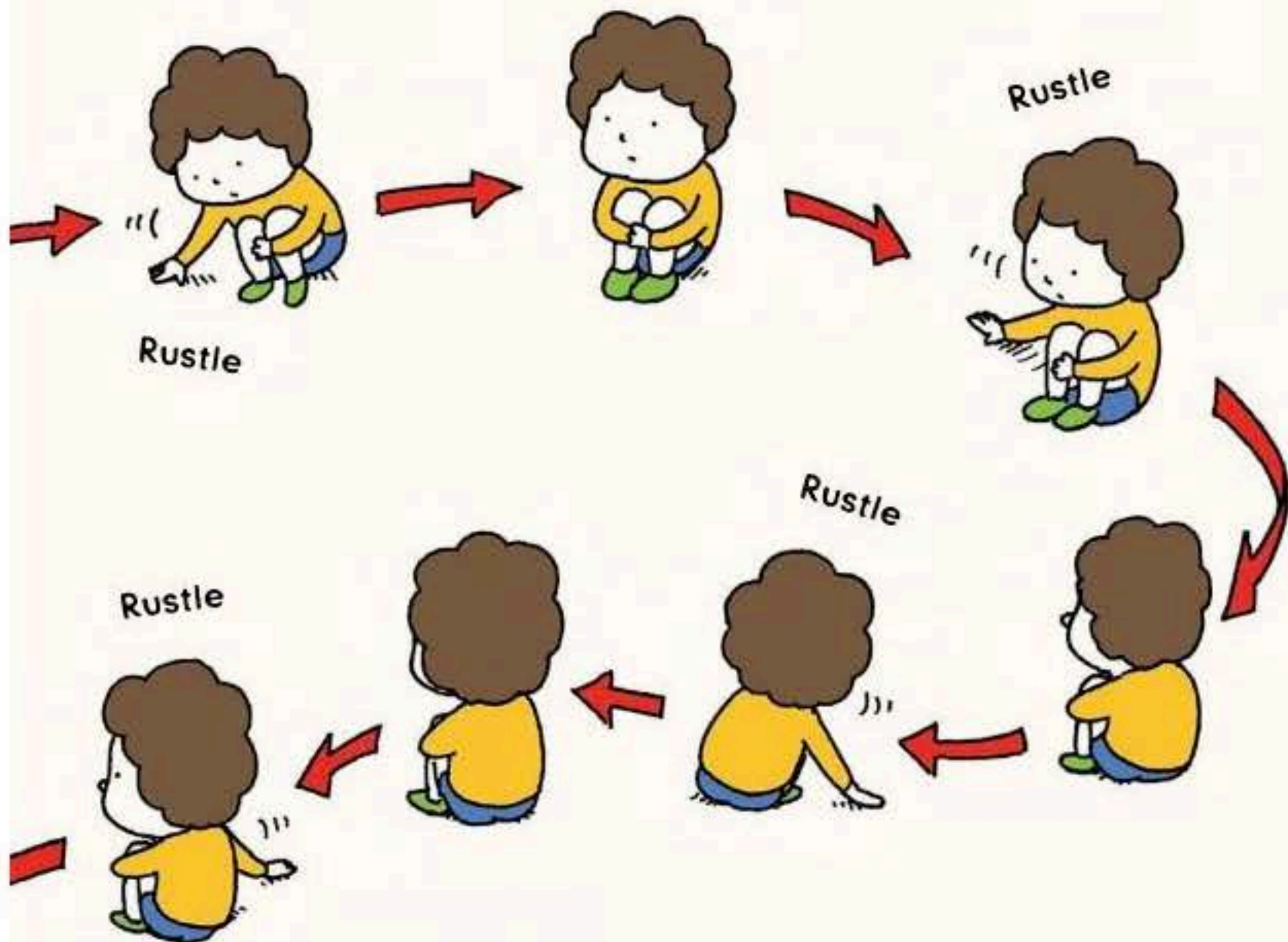
Rustle



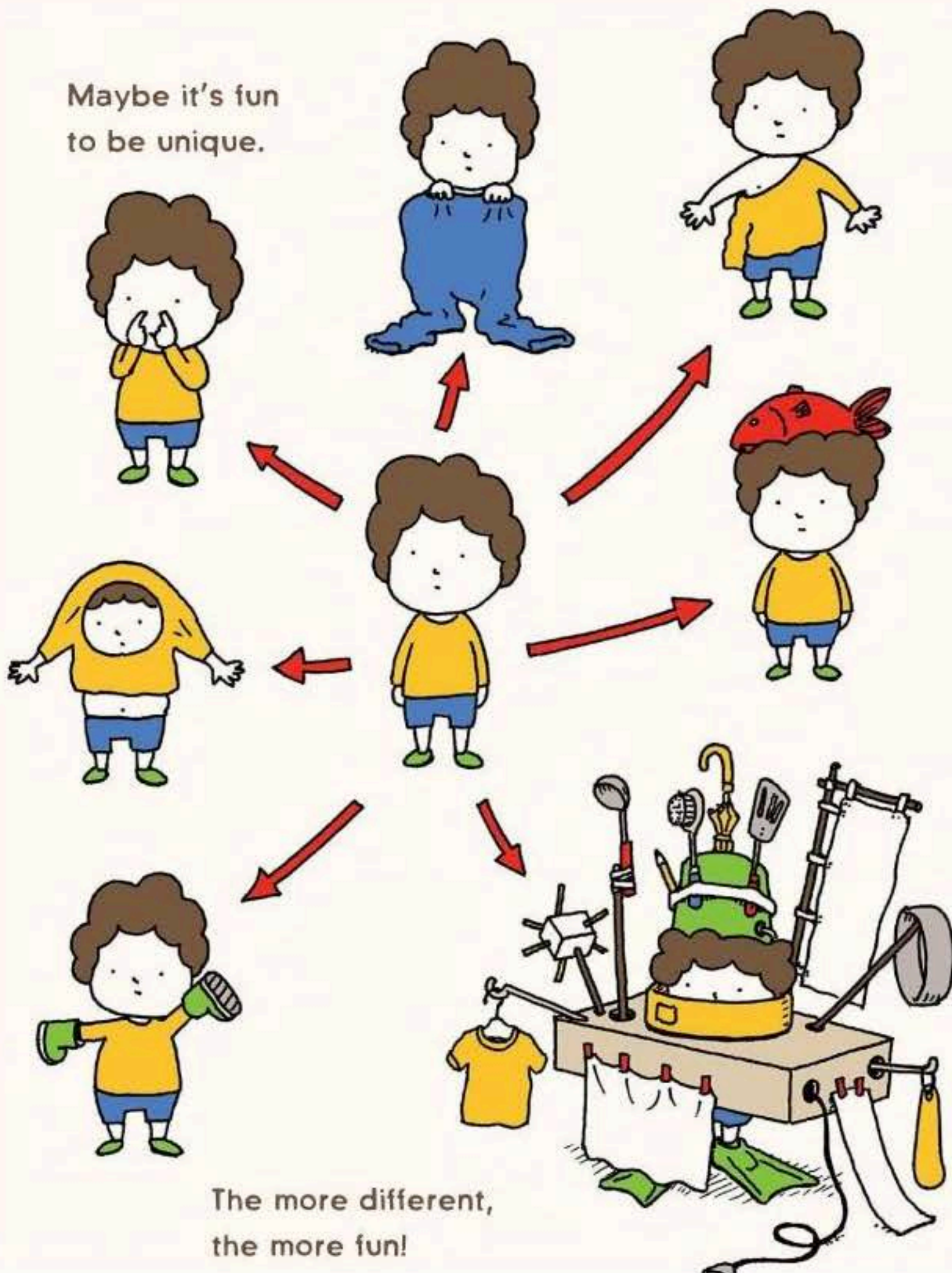
Hey, this is kind of fun!



Rustle

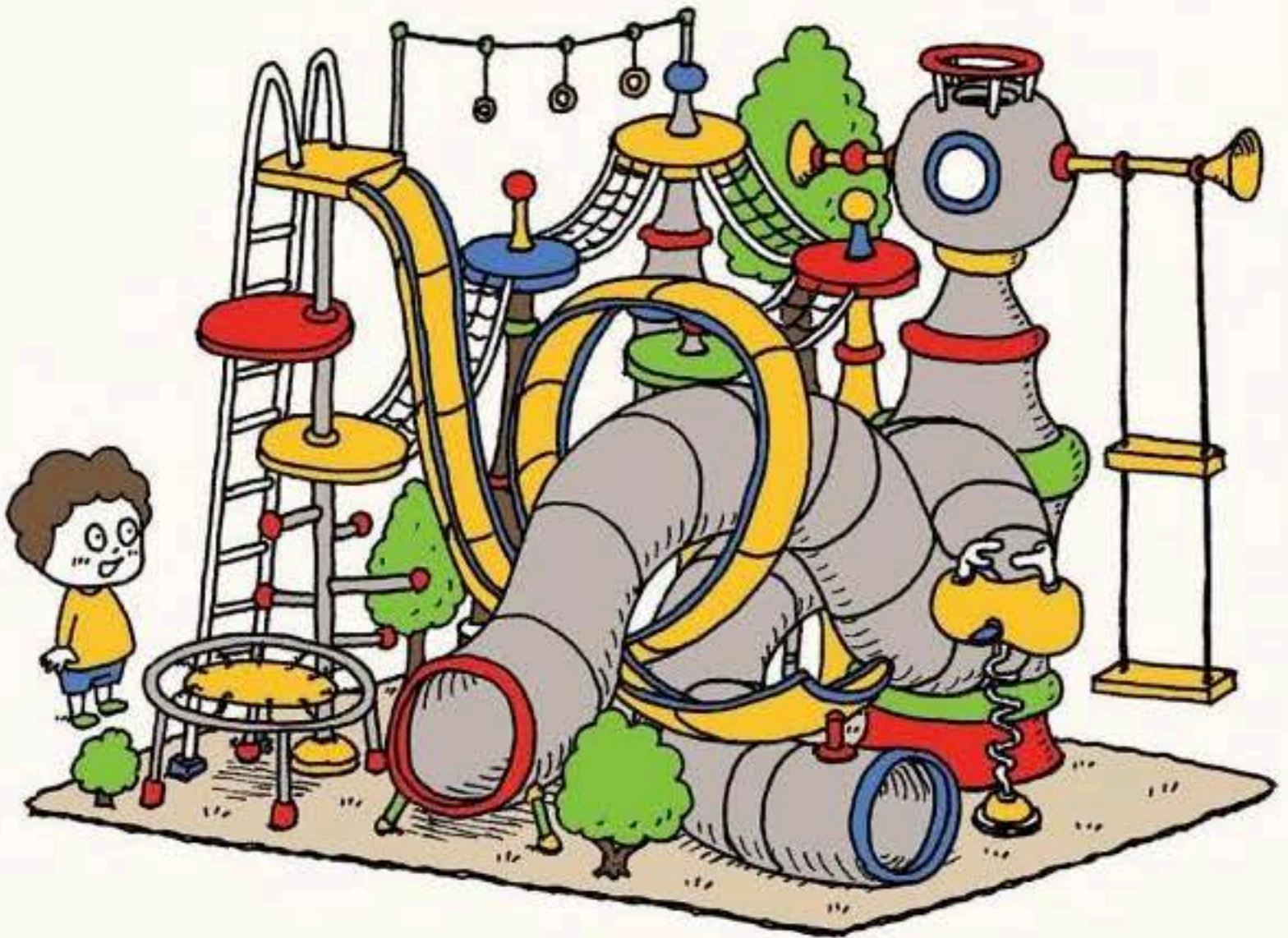


Maybe it's fun
to be unique.

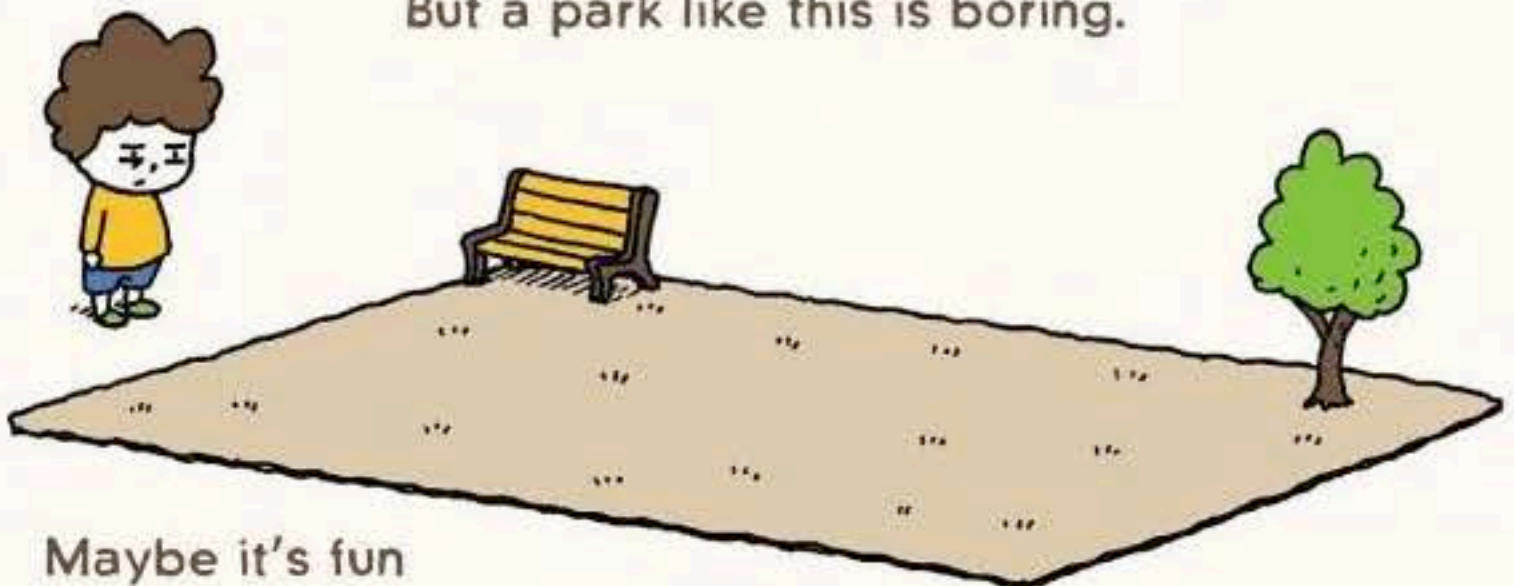


The more different,
the more fun!

A park like this looks fun.



But a park like this is boring.

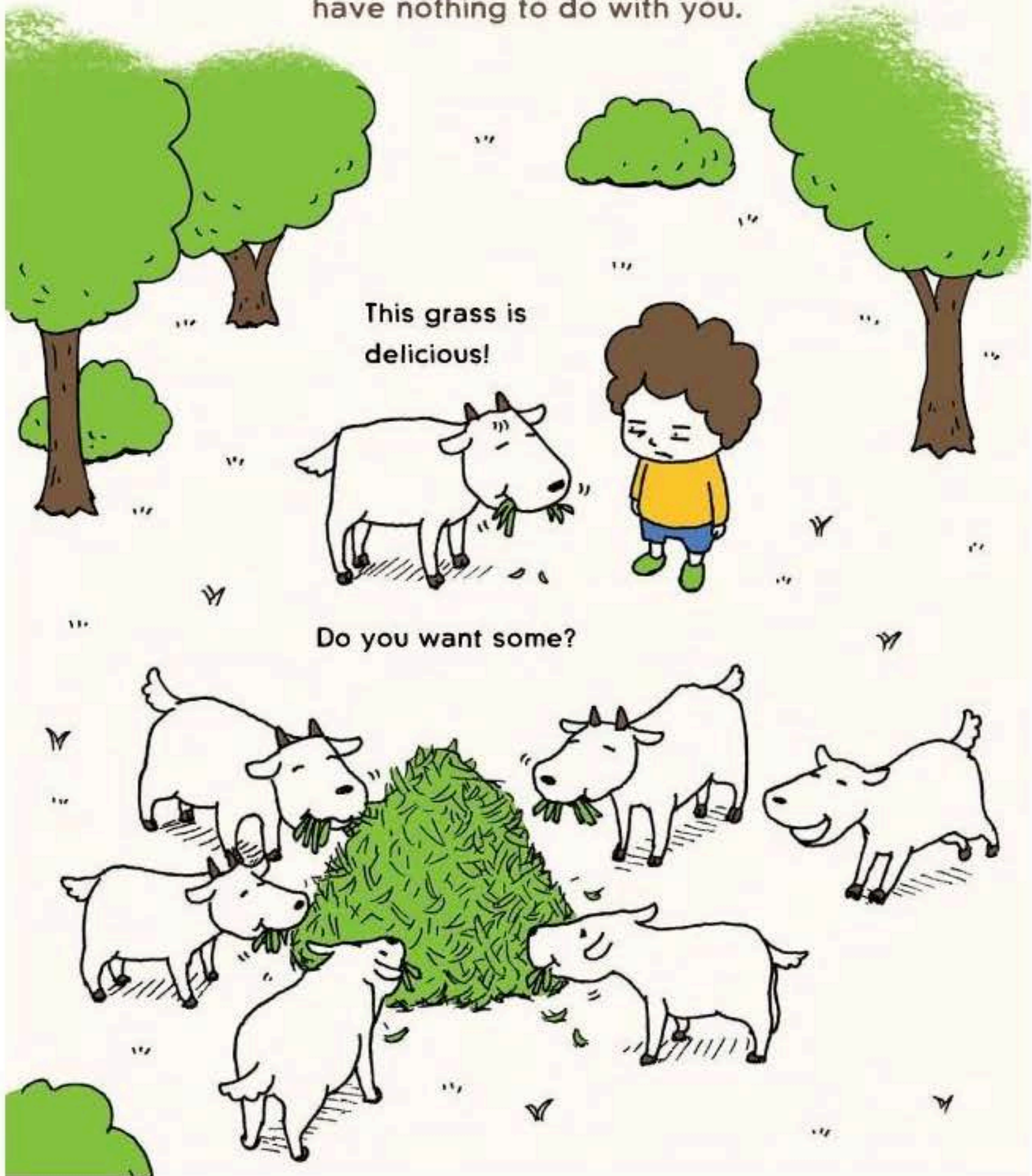


Maybe it's fun
when things are crowded.

Maybe it's boring when things
have nothing to do with you.

This grass is
delicious!

Do you want some?



Maybe it's boring when things
don't go as planned.

Ah, I see!
A hippo!



I wonder if a pill bug ever
thinks *am bored* .



How about a
vending machine?



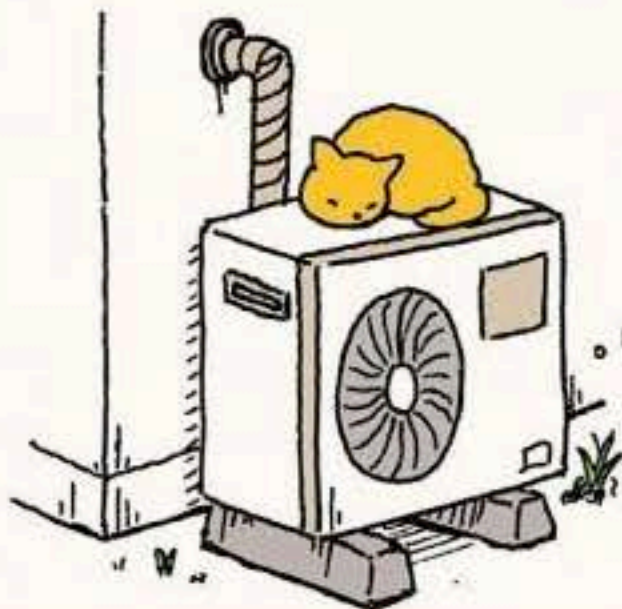
Or a rock
on the street?



Or my
teddy bear?



What about a
straw wrapper?



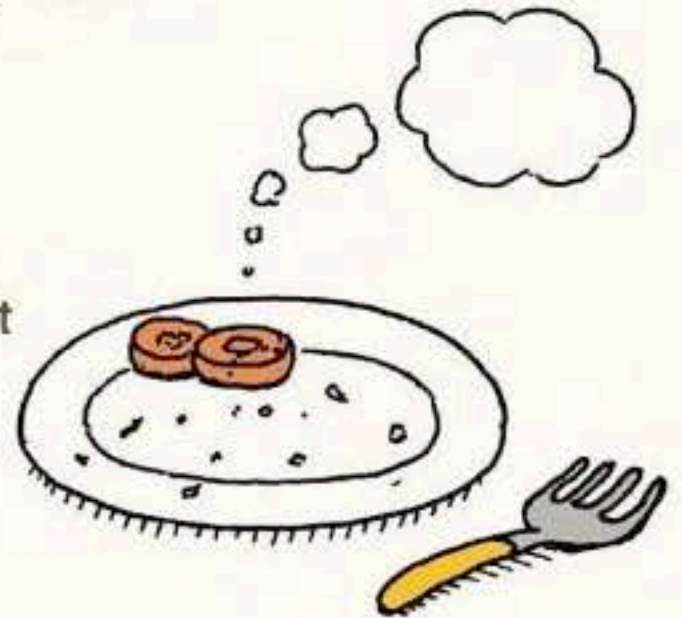
Or an air
conditioner?



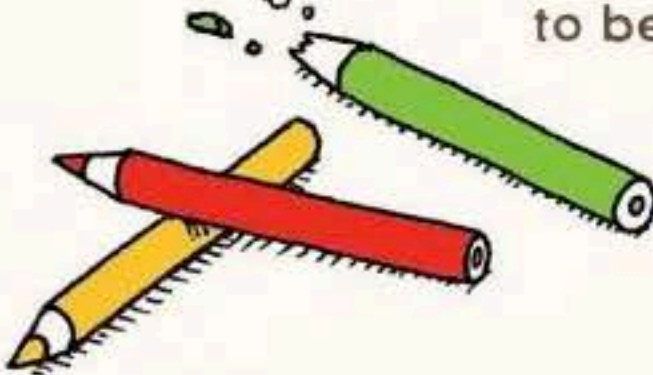
Or the shoes I never wear because they hurt my feet?



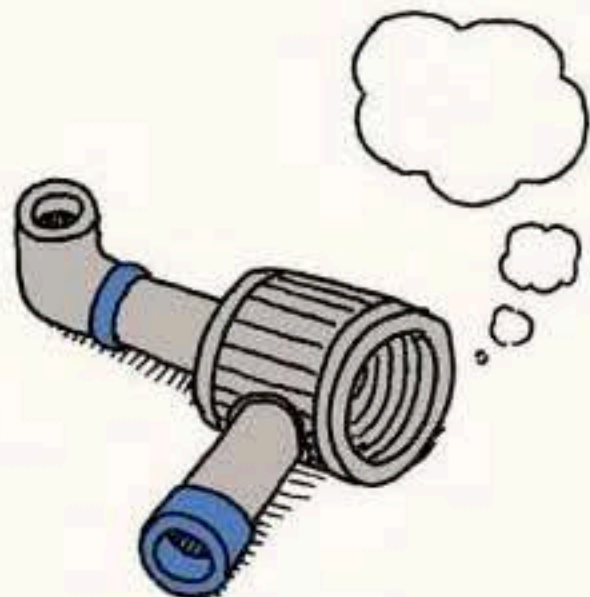
Or the carrots I didn't eat because they were undercooked?



Or a pencil that needs to be sharpened?



Or a random component that fell off something?

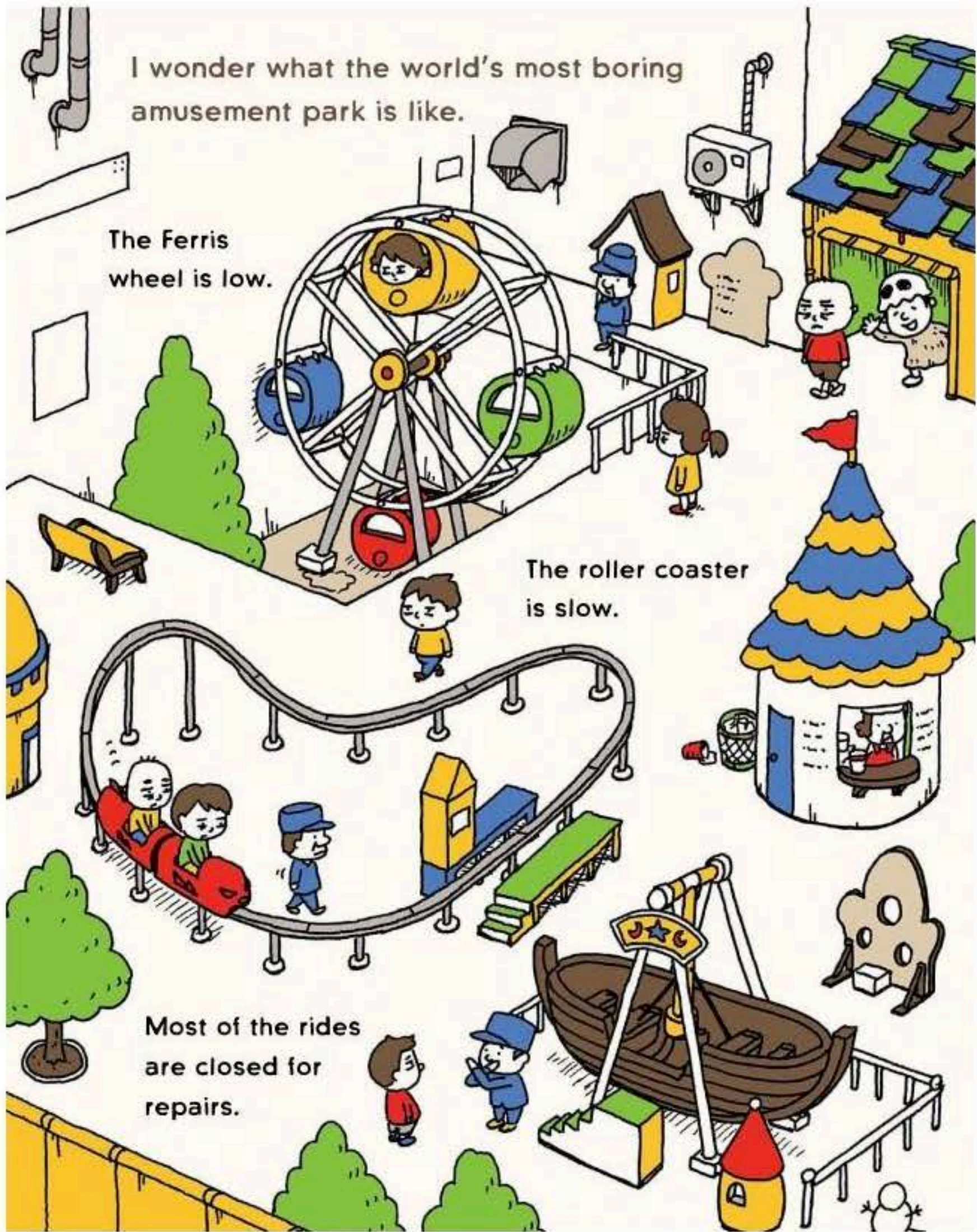


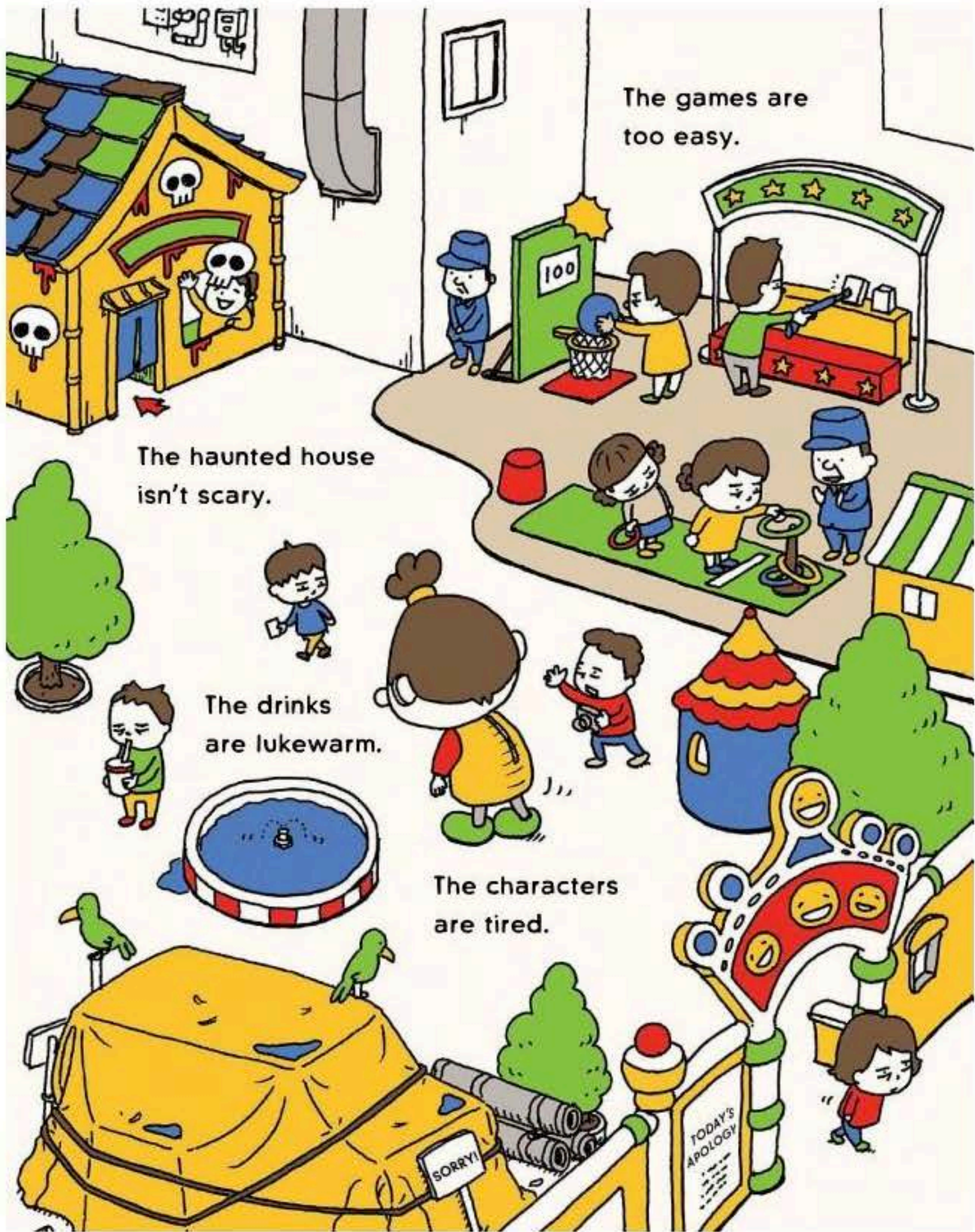
I wonder what the world's most boring amusement park is like.

The Ferris wheel is low.

The roller coaster is slow.

Most of the rides are closed for repairs.





The games are too easy.

The haunted house isn't scary.

The drinks are lukewarm.

The characters are tired.



But, wait!
How strange . . .

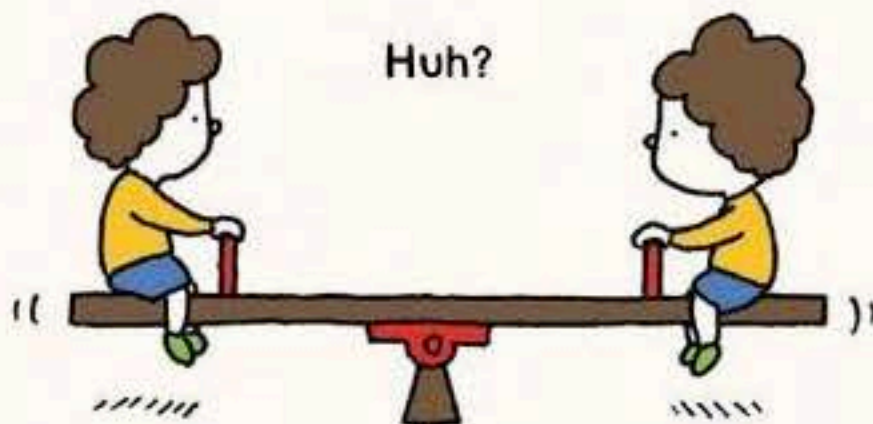
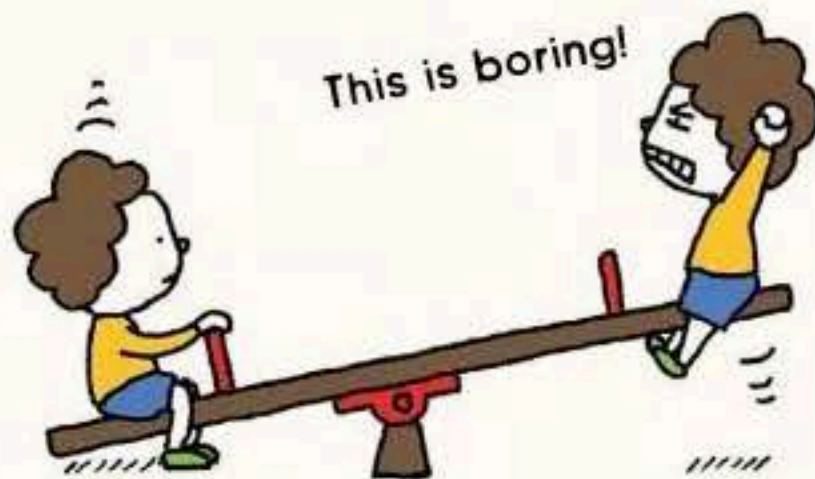
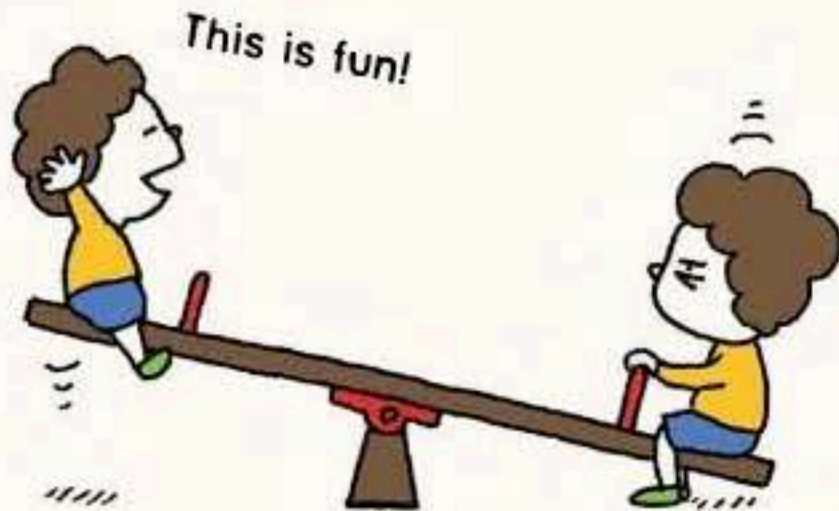
it's actually fun to think
about "boring" things.



I mean, they're boring,
but they're also fun.

Weird!

Can everything in the world be
divided into "fun" and "boring"?



Sometimes, I'm not bored or having fun. I'm actually not thinking about anything at all.

Like when I'm
changing my clothes,

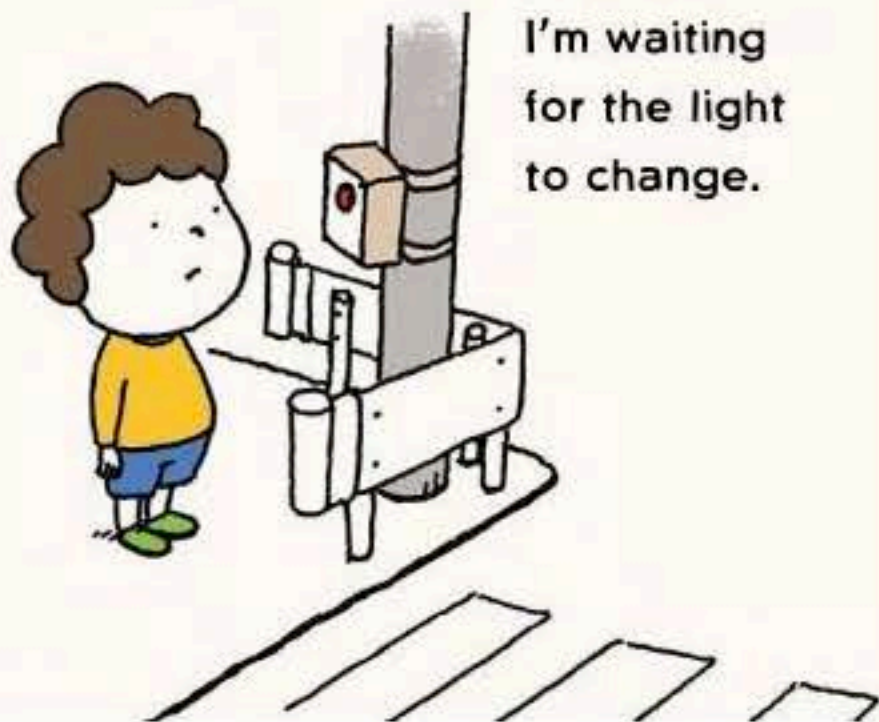


or when I'm in
the bathroom,



or when I'm
brushing my teeth,

or when
I'm waiting
for the light
to change.



I wouldn't say that doing those things is fun, but it isn't boring, either. I wonder if there's a word for that experience.

Like when I'm peeling
a hard-boiled egg,

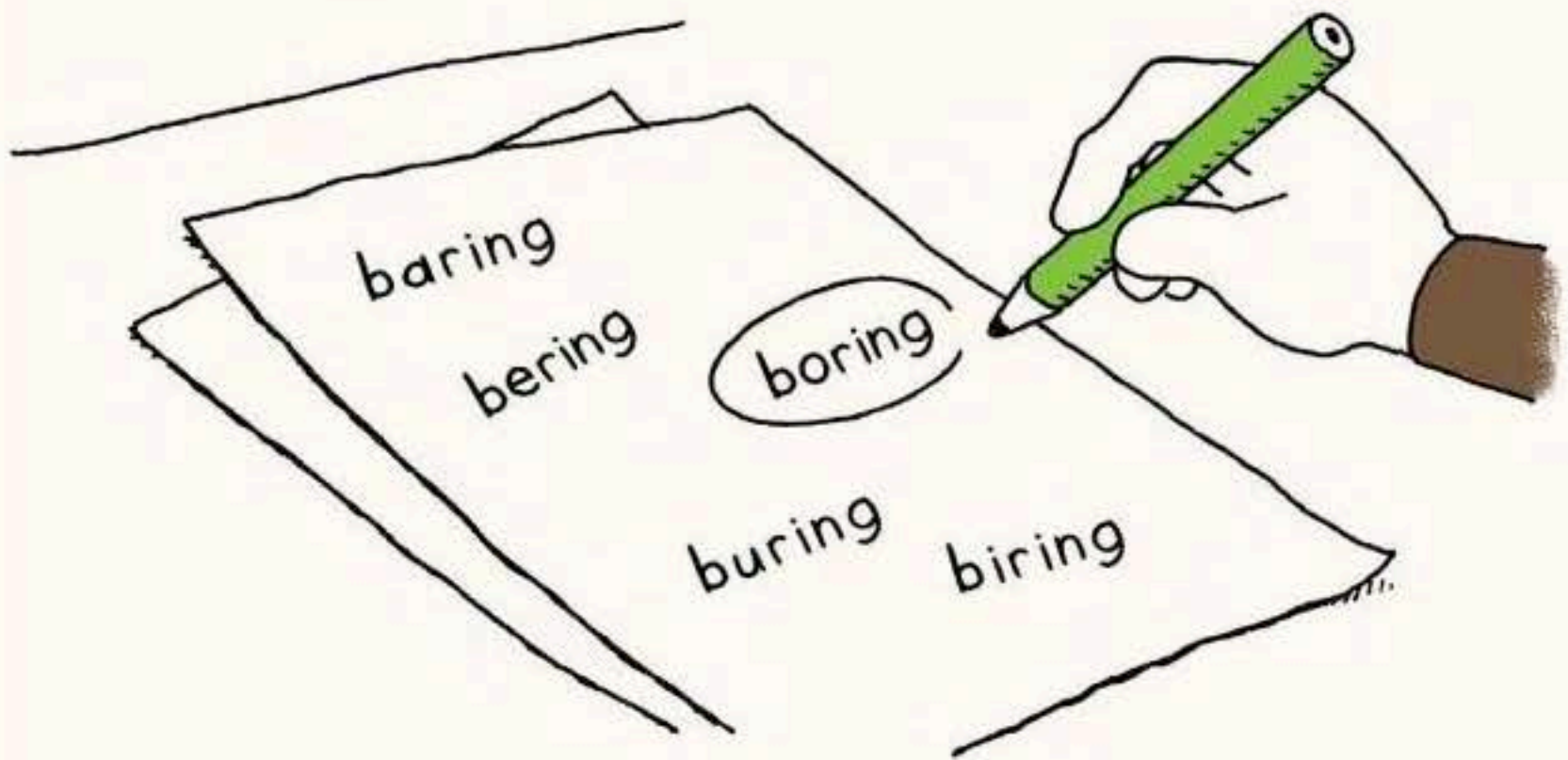


or when I wake up
earlier than usual,

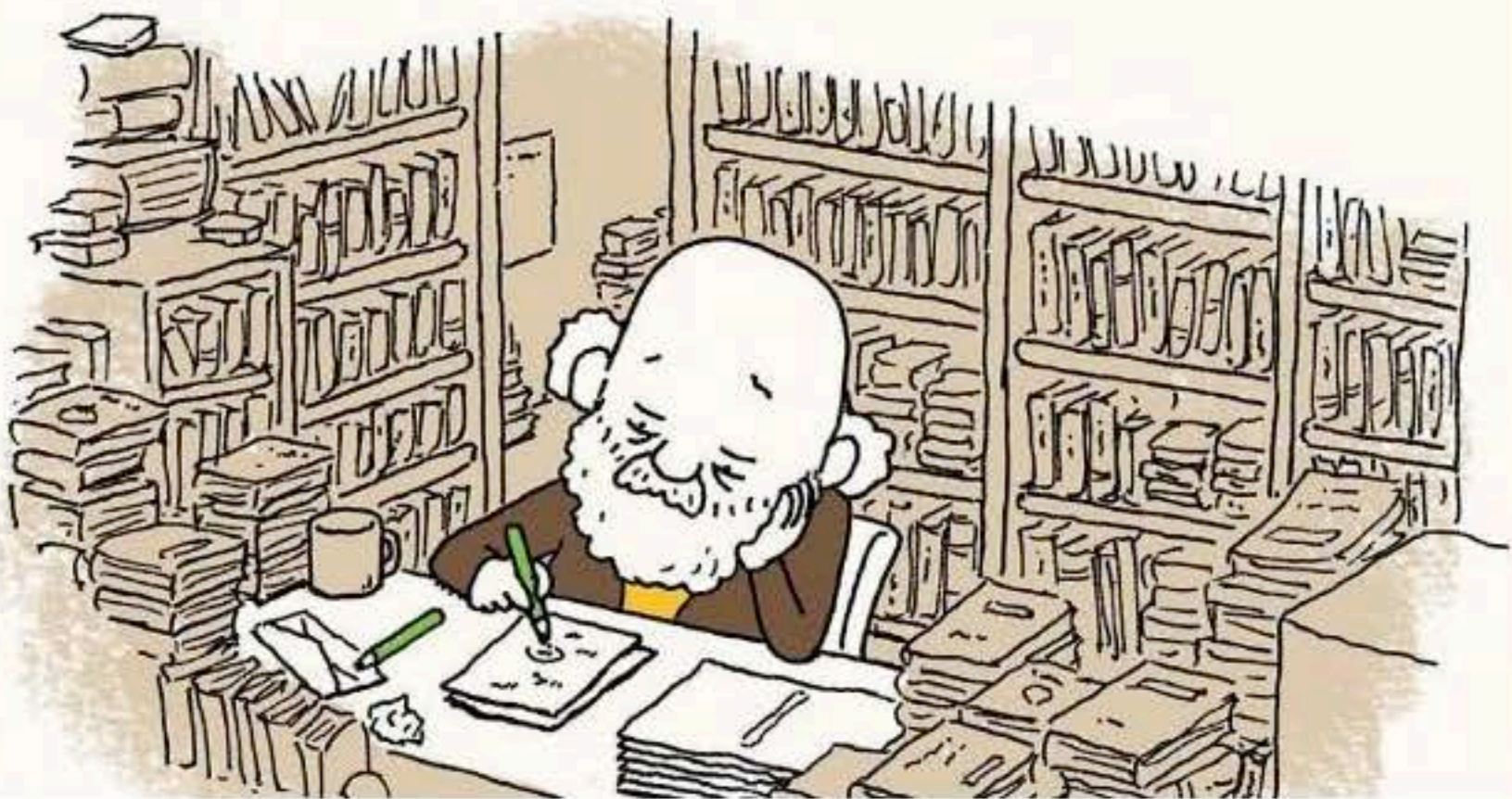


or when I'm
riding the bus.

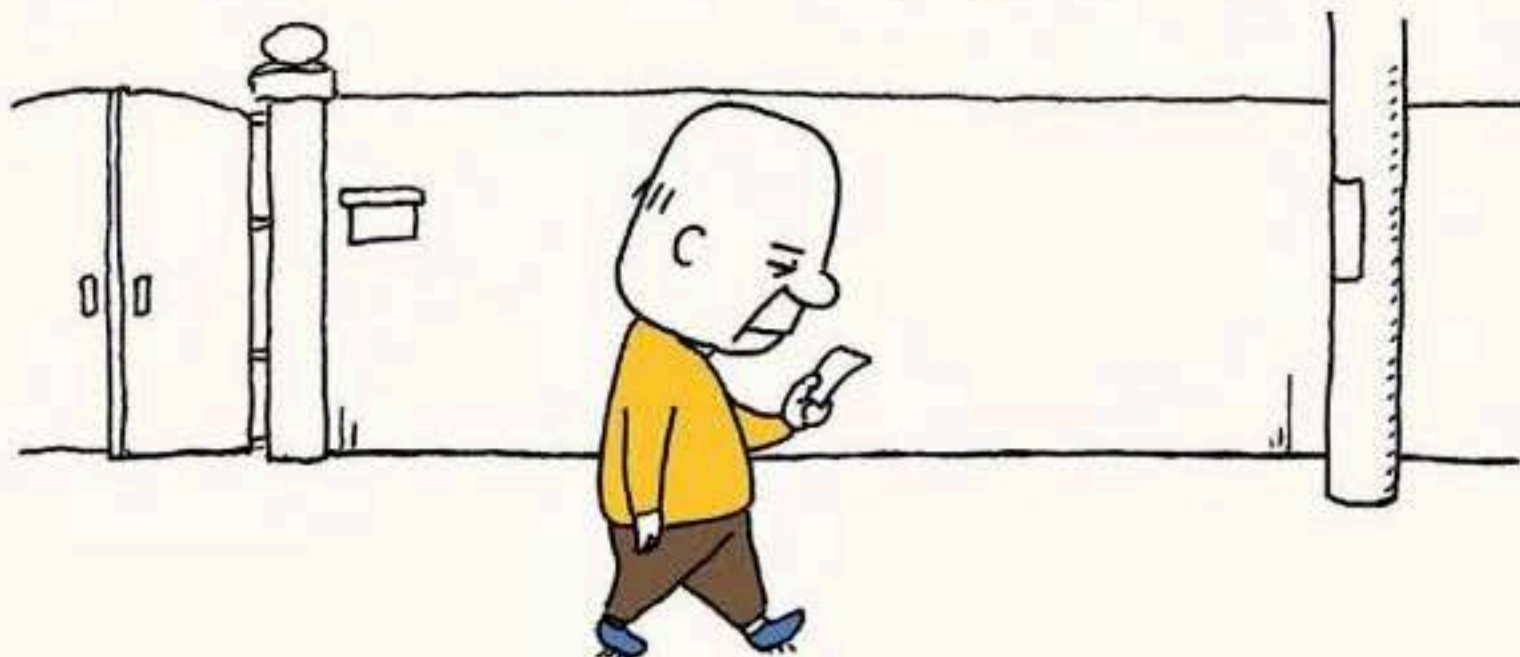
Who came up with the word "boring" anyway?



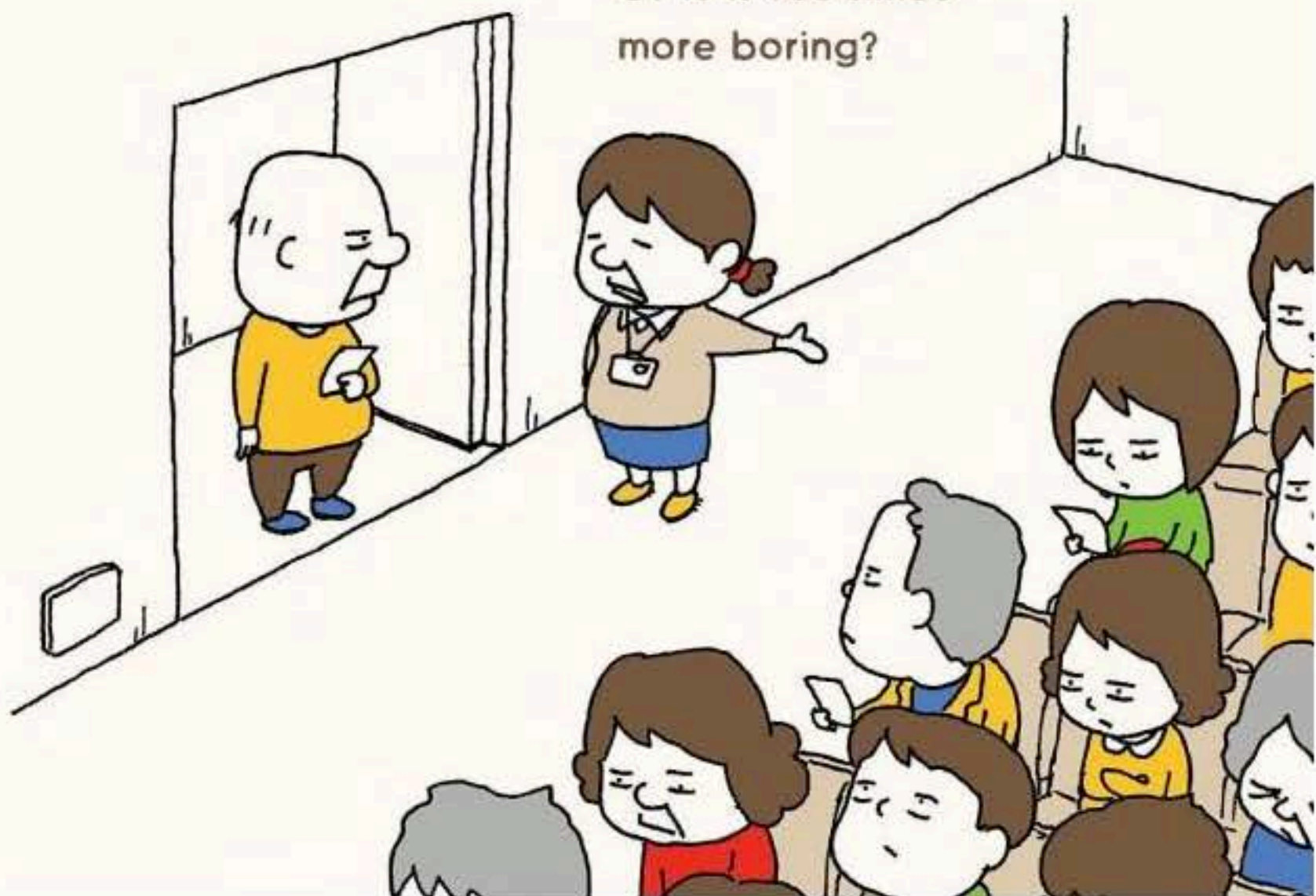
Was that person bored?



Is it fun when 300 bored people get together?



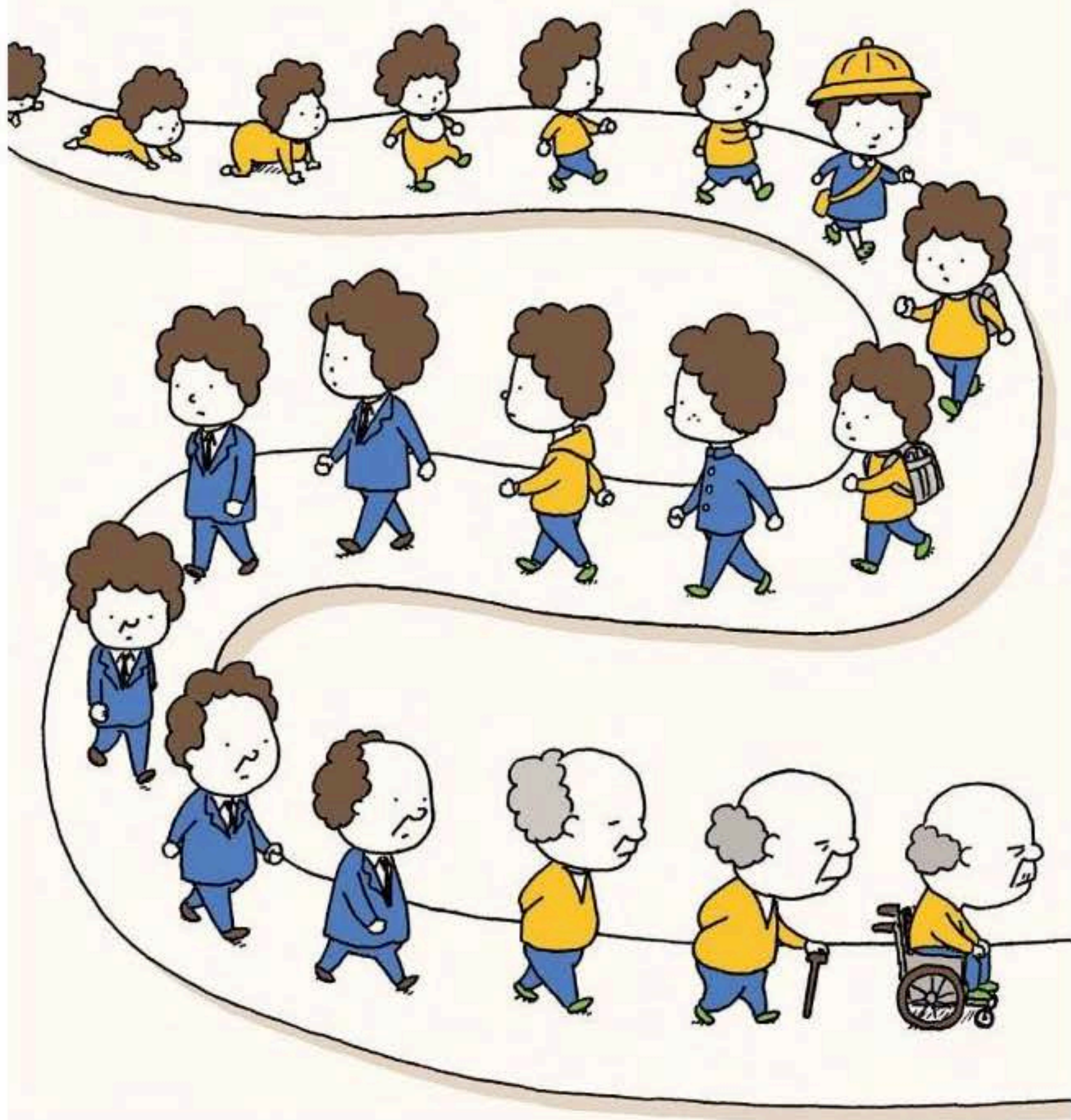
Or is it 300 times
more boring?







I wonder what the most boring age in
a person's life is.

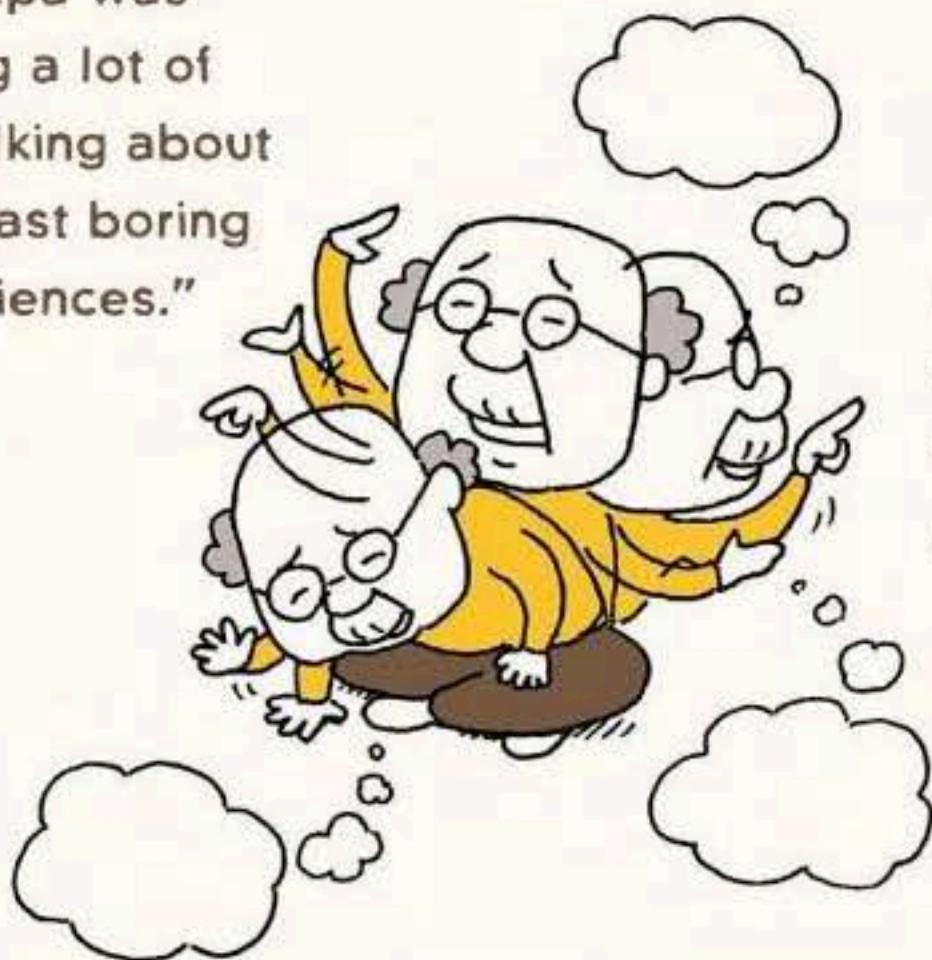


Grandpa, what was
the most boring thing
that ever happened
to you?

Hmmm . . .



Grandpa was
having a lot of
fun talking about
his "past boring
experiences."

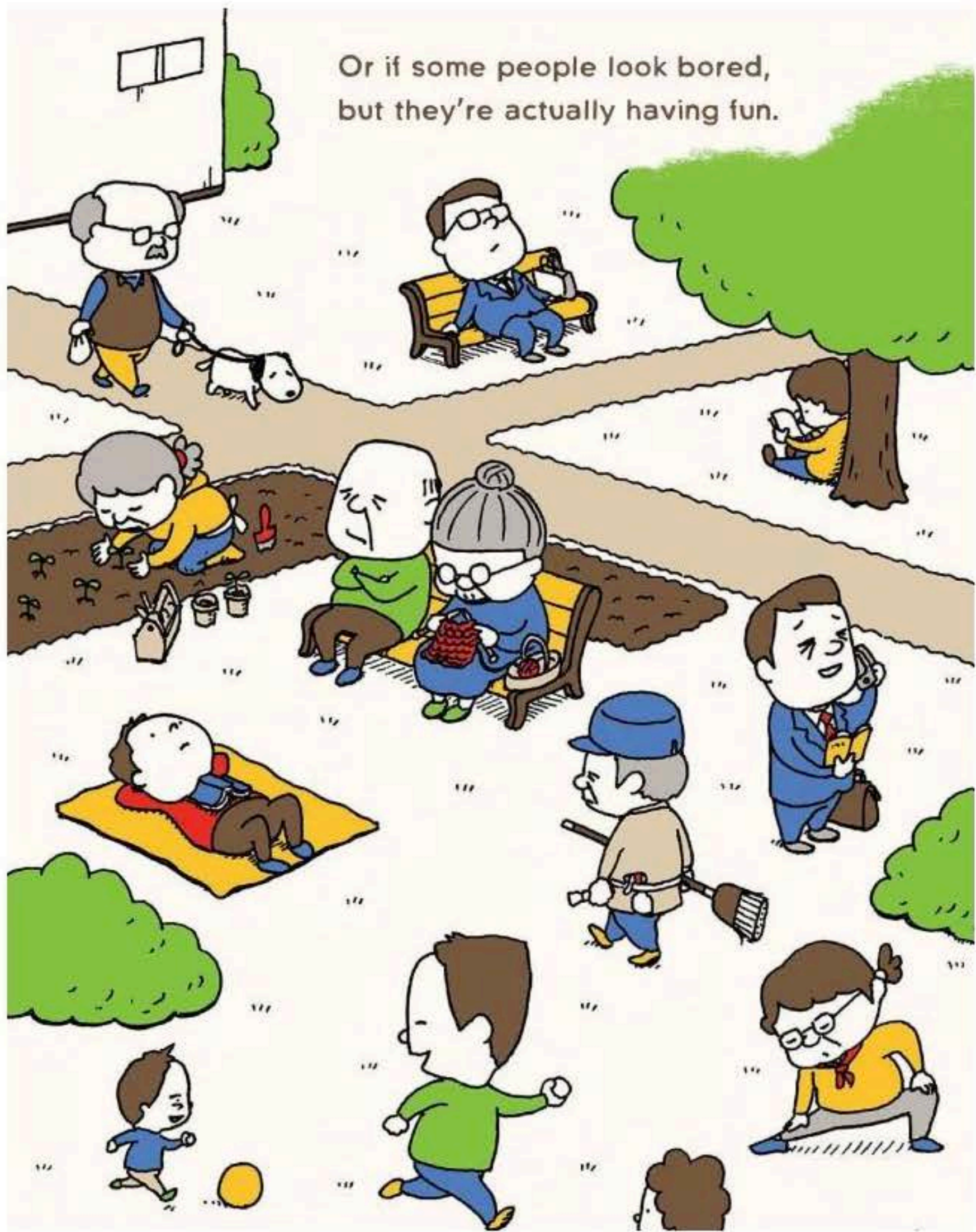


Maybe boring
things turn into
fun things after
a while.

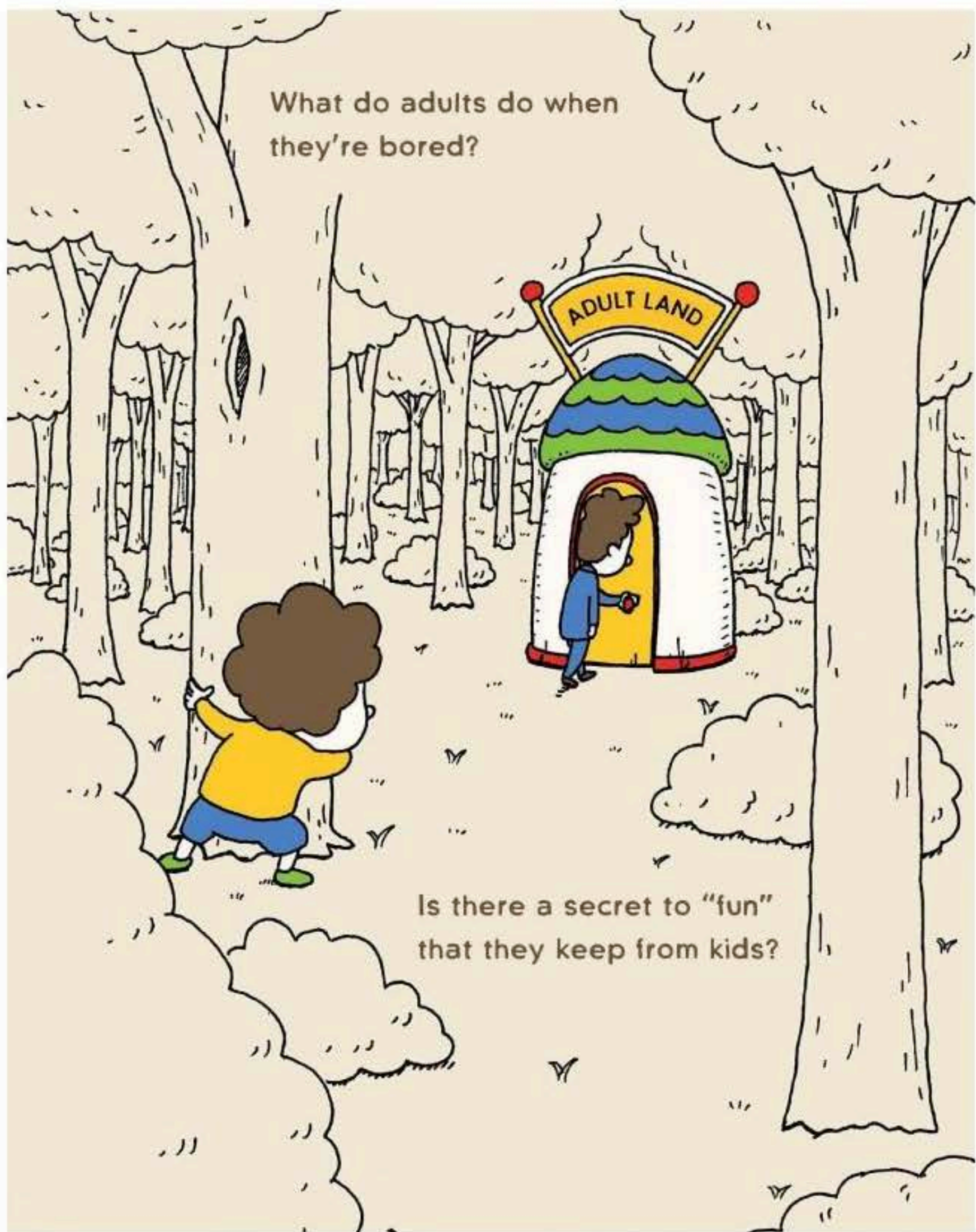
I wonder if some people look
like they're having fun, but
they're actually bored.



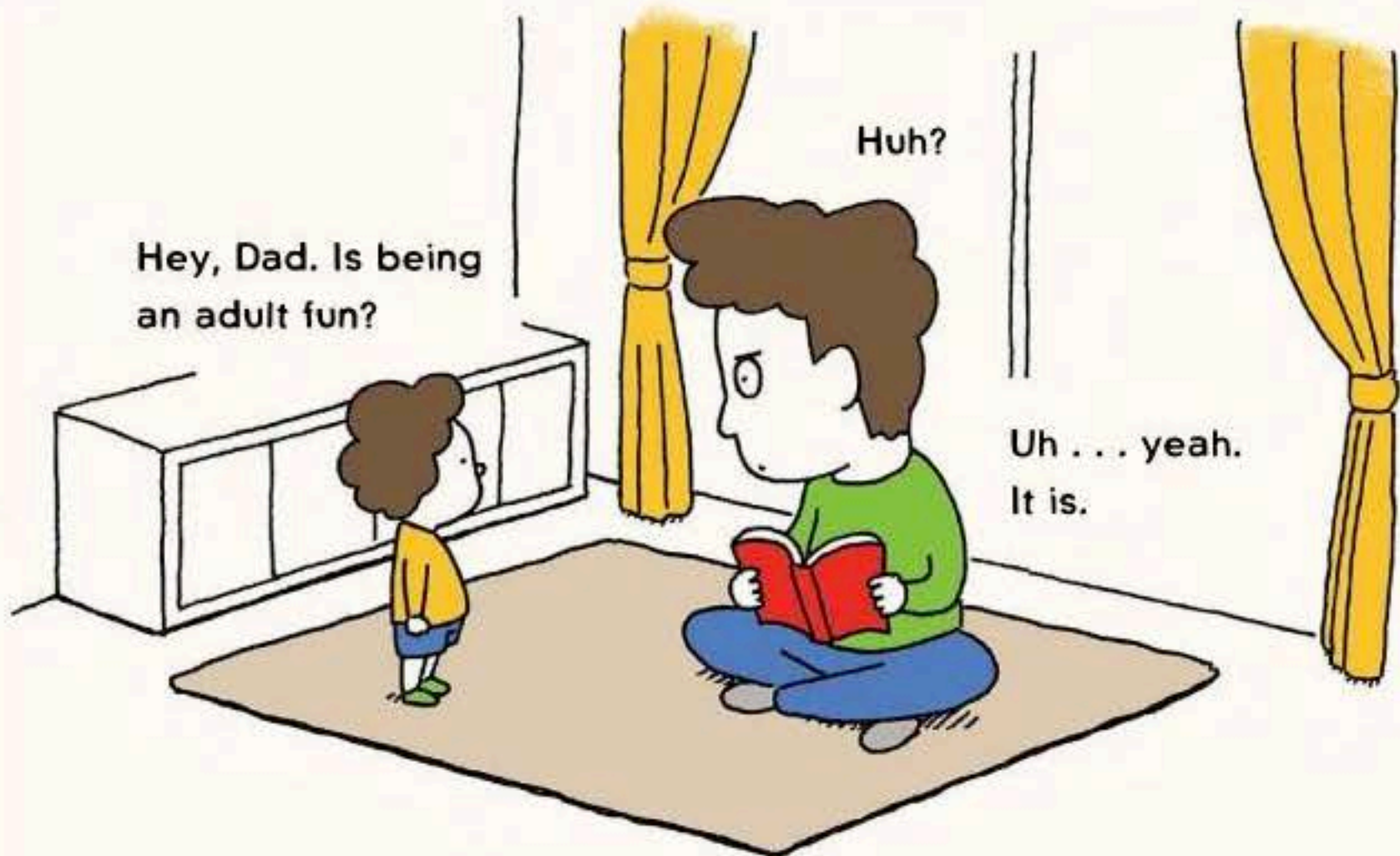
Or if some people look bored,
but they're actually having fun.



What do adults do when
they're bored?



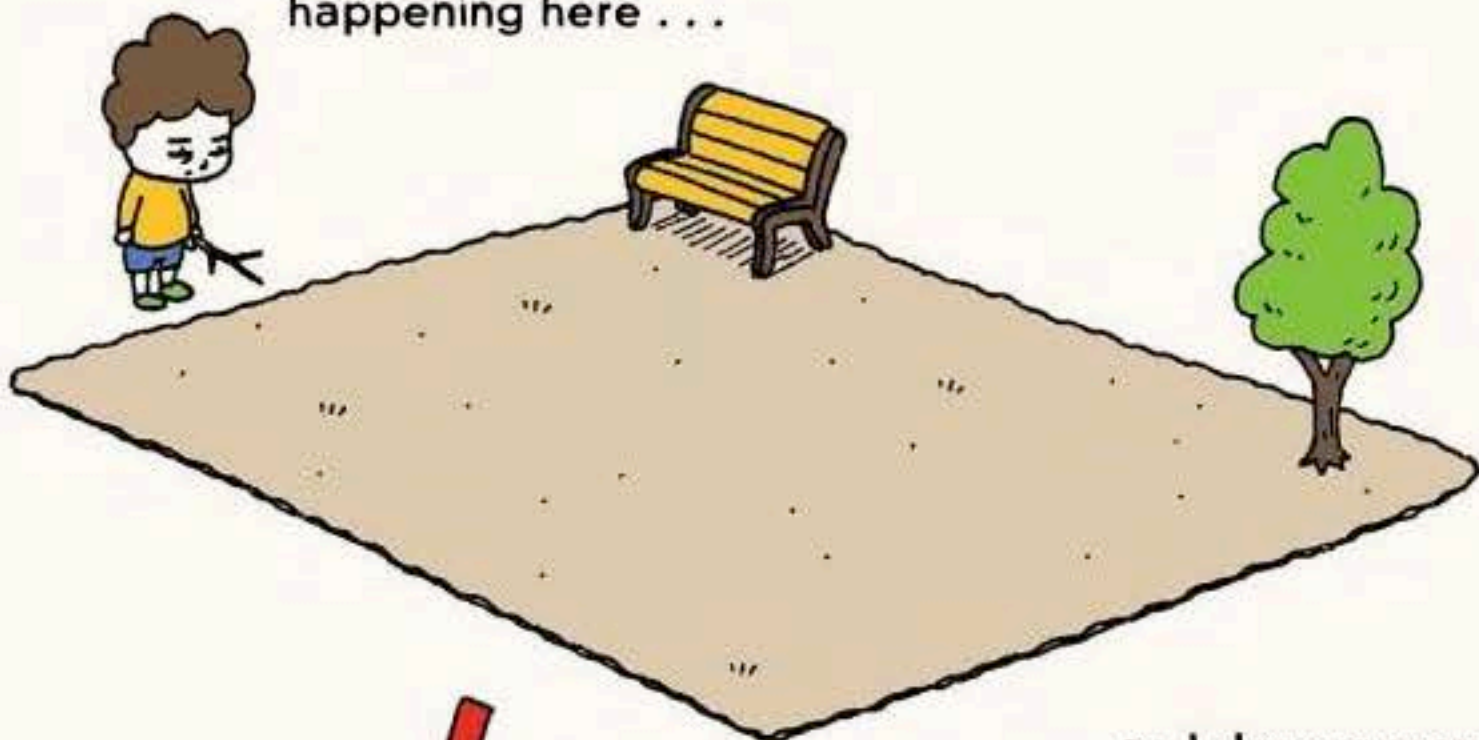
Is there a secret to "fun"
that they keep from kids?



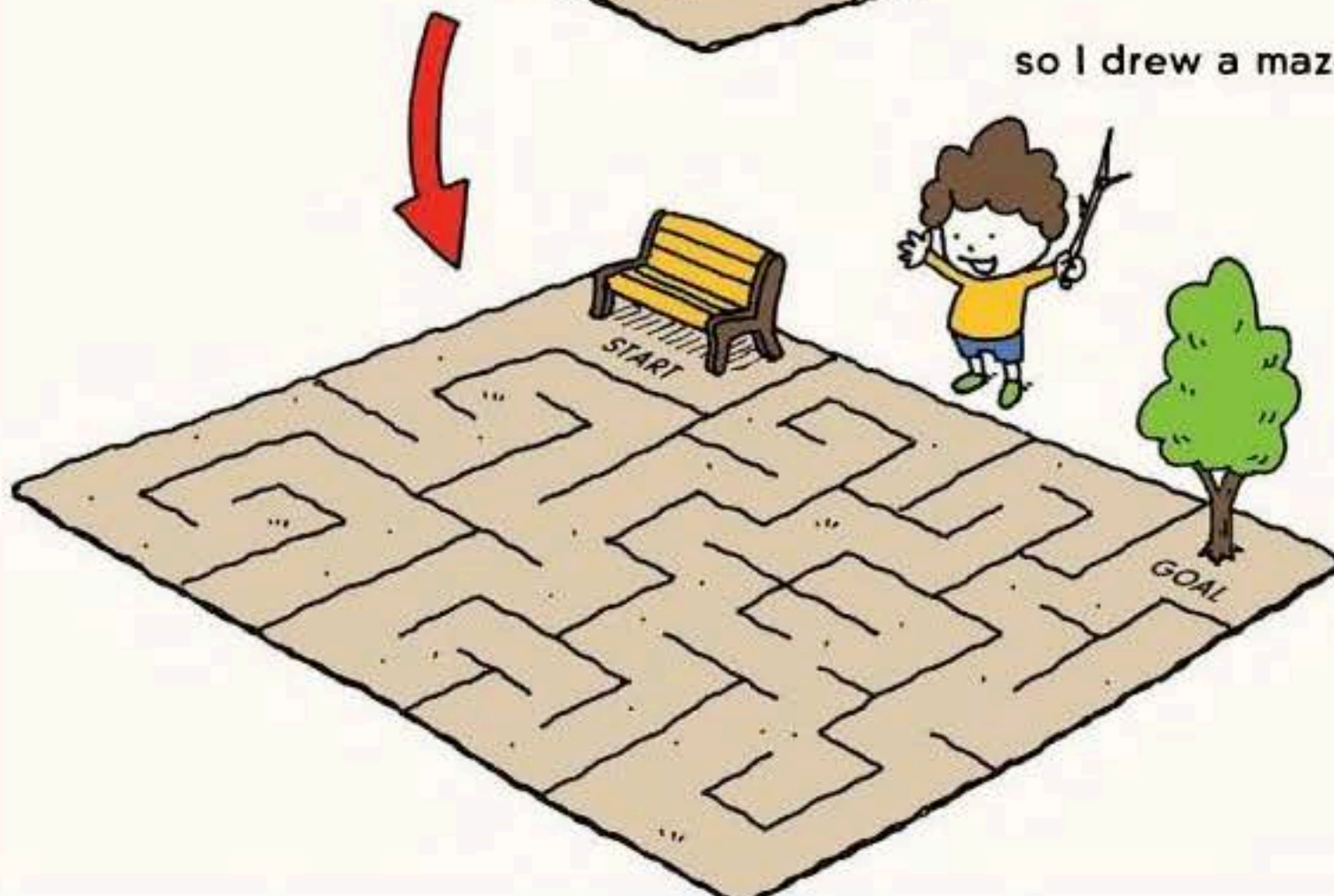


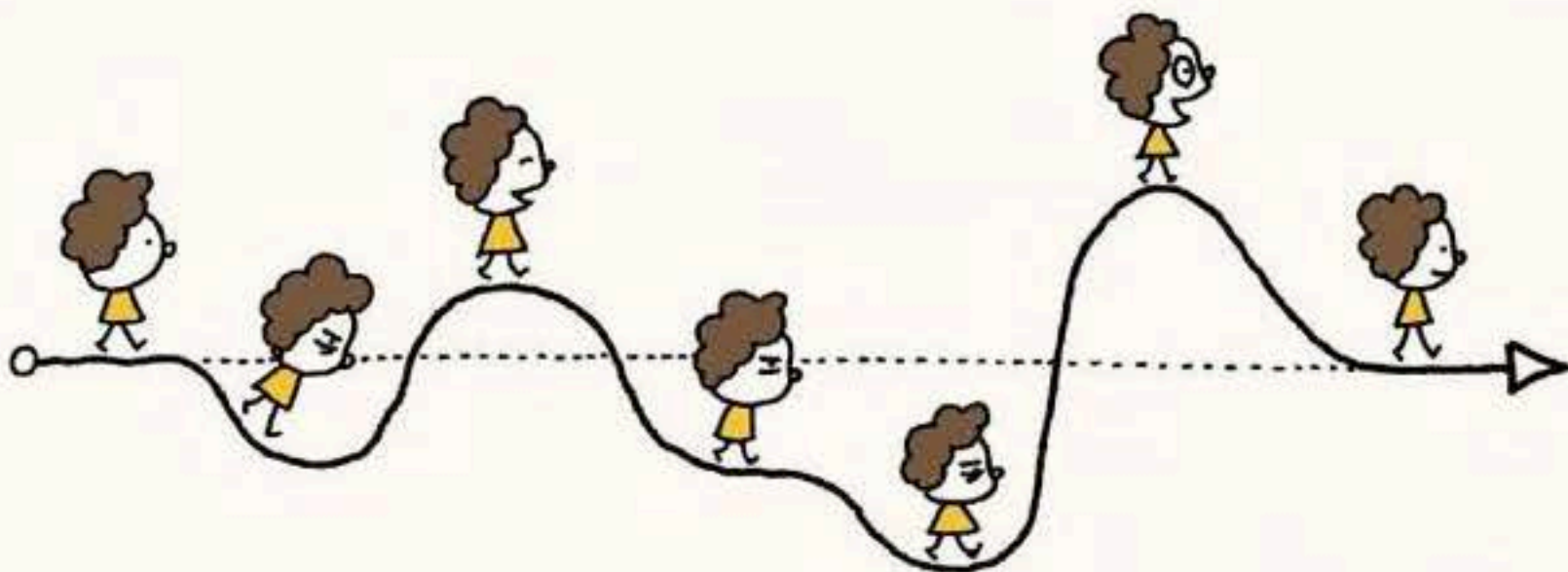
But no matter how bored you are,
it's up to you to make things fun.

There's nothing
happening here . . .

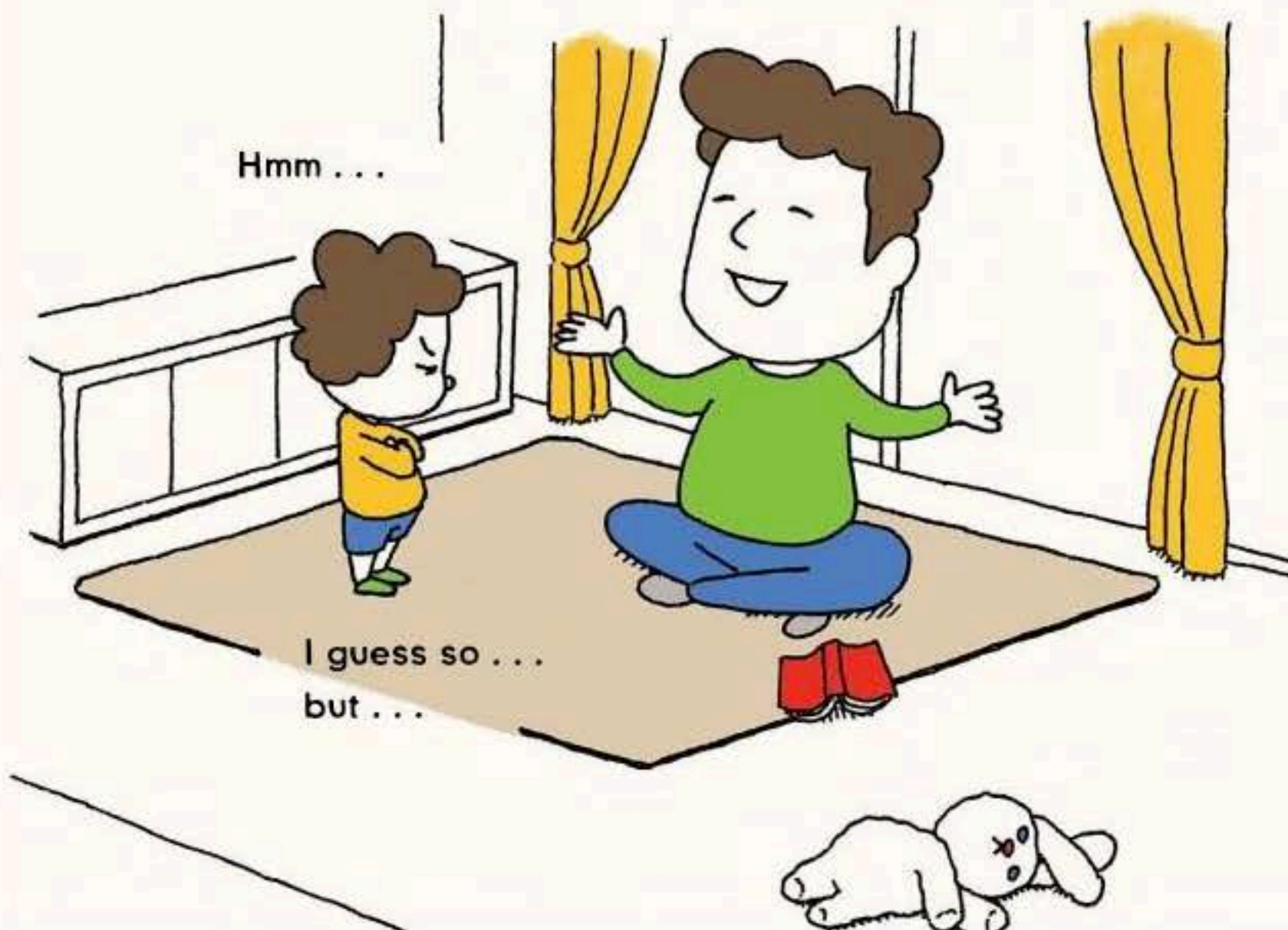


so I drew a maze!





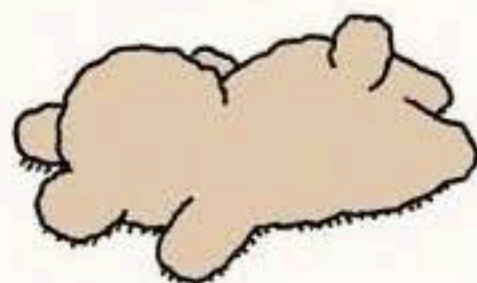
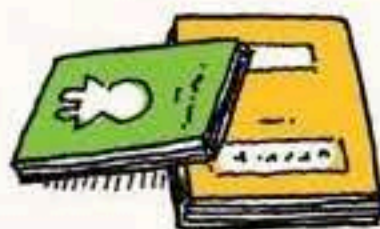
And because you get bored sometimes,
the fun experiences are even more exciting, right?





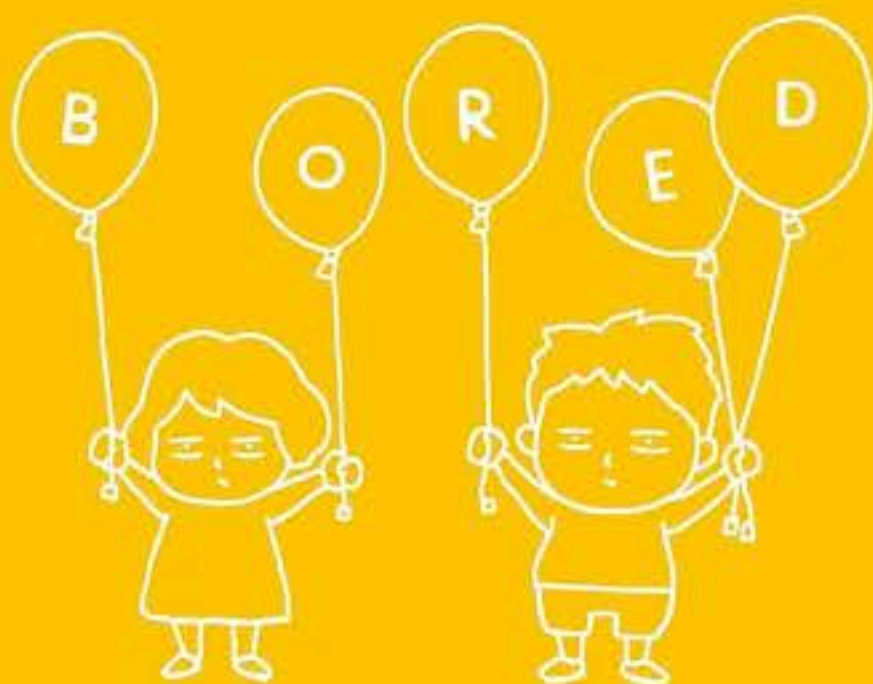
I've heard
that before . . .

so IT'S BORING!



Shinsuke Yoshitake is the
author-illustrator of *Wonder*

Bookstore and the creator of
award-winning picture books.
He lives in Japan.







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