

Animals at school

Created by 6th Grade



Hello everybody!

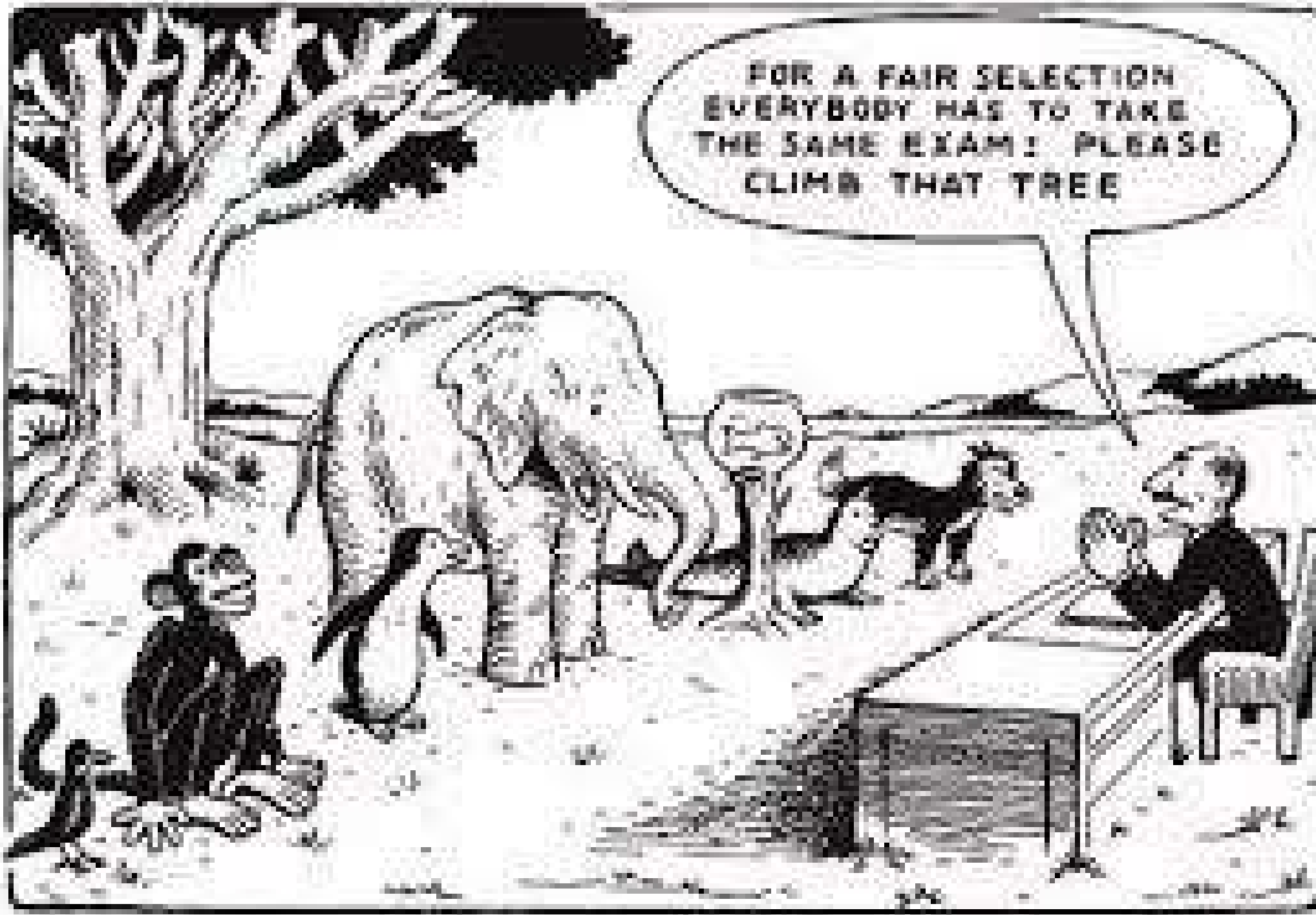



We are the students of 6th Grade of the Primary School of Kato Scholari. Our story was created after hours of working together and having fun! We took inspiration from the famous quote and the following drawing about our educational system....

"Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid."

We hope that you will enjoy our story!







Once upon a time, in place far far away, there was Makis, the little black and white penguin. Makis attended school daily with his other six classmates, Dodo the elephant, Dimitroula the seal, Fifi the fish, Ruby the bird, Babis the monkey and Mia the dog.

On a sunny day, their strict teacher, Mr Noidea asked all the students to perform a challenging task so that he could be able to test their skills and grade them for their final exams.

“The chosen task has to be the same for each student because I want to be fair”, he said.

He asked them to climb up a tree.

A task of stamina and skill that he was sure that each and every student in his class was able to complete.







Makis, the little penguin was devastated when he heard the news. However, he decided to try his best. He tried and tried to climb the tree but he failed all the times. He was so sure that he could manage to do so. After all, he was a diligent student who paid attention to his teacher throughout the school year and he loved school so much! But climbing a tree? He found that impossible!

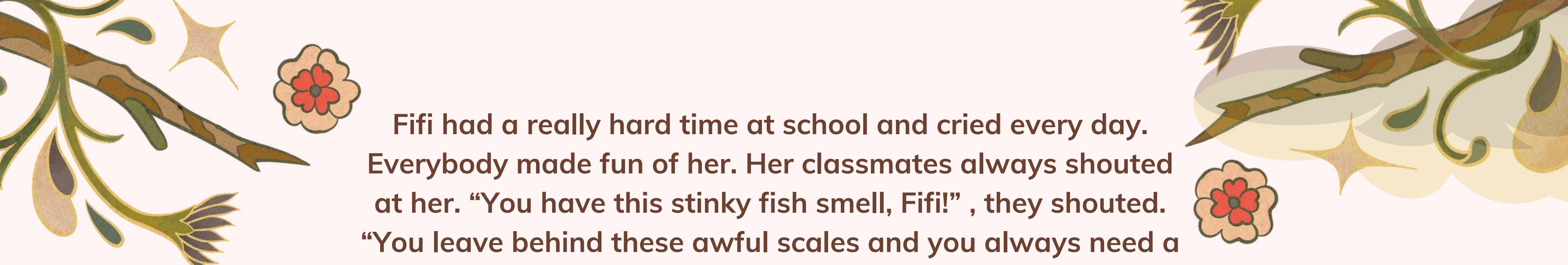
After having failed so many times, a thought came to his mind "I may not be able to climb this tree" he said "but I can do so many other things! I can swim and find fish in the sea and I am so good at finding true love!"

"I am not hopeless, I am just different!!!" "WHY CAN'T MY TEACHER SEE THIS?"



He was sitting under a tree, feeling disappointed and lonely when he noticed Fifi, the fish, sitting by the little lake with the same look on her face





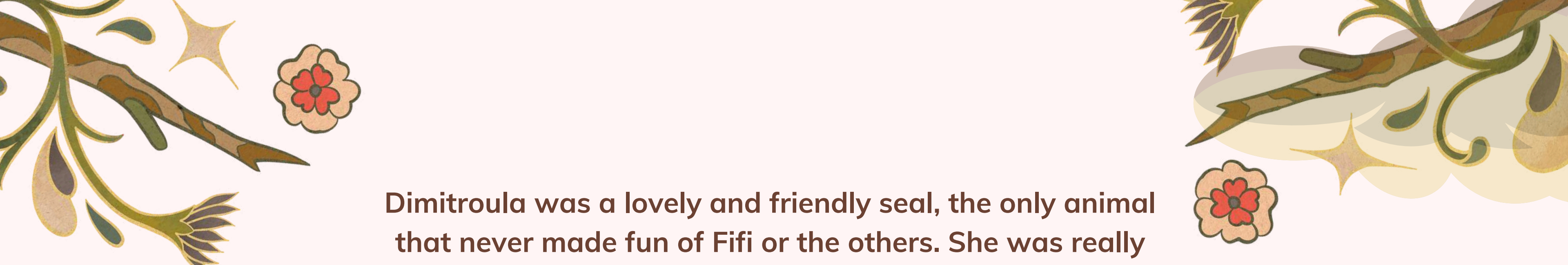
Fifi had a really hard time at school and cried every day. Everybody made fun of her. Her classmates always shouted at her. “You have this stinky fish smell, Fifi!” , they shouted. “You leave behind these awful scales and you always need a trolley to move around!”. And now her teacher. Fifi expected that he would have been the only person at school that would show more understanding and affection. But that never happened. He had been asking Fifi to climb a tree! She tried and tried when she thought “I can live underneath the water surface and swim fast and hide behind seaweeds and I know so many things about sea life! I am a real marine Encyclopedia...!”

“I am not hopeless, I am just different!!!”
“WHY CAN’T MY TEACHER SEE THIS?”




She was sitting by the little pond, feeling disappointed and lonely when she noticed Dimitroula, the seal, sitting on a bench with the same look on her face

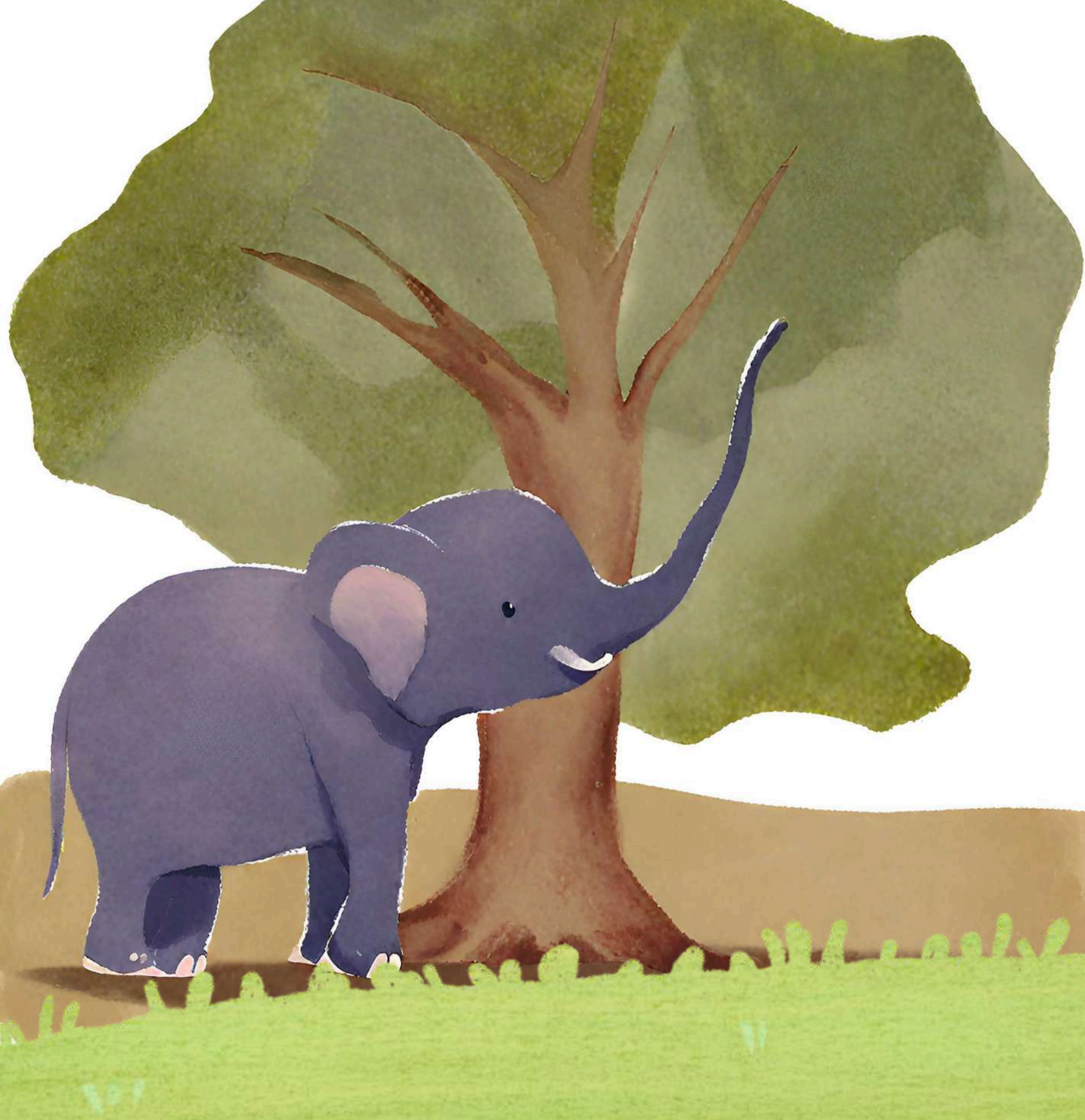




Dimitroula was a lovely and friendly seal, the only animal that never made fun of Fifi or the others. She was really playful and always happy. But during exam periods, she lost that beautiful smile from her pretty face. She couldn't manage to accomplish any task her teacher had assigned and she ended up with really bad grades at school. But Dimitroula knew that she could do so many things... “I can be friendly with everyone and swim and breathe underwater! I can even hold a ball on my nose and make my friends happy!”

“I am not hopeless, I am just different!!!”, “WHY CAN'T MY TEACHER SEE THIS?”





She was sitting on the bench, feeling disappointed and lonely when she noticed Dodo, the elephant, sitting next to a tree with the same look on his face



When Dodo heard the news about the exam, he was panicked. He was ashamed of his weight and terrified by the idea of breaking a tree branch or even the entire tree trunk in his attempt to climb it up. He didn't want his classmates to make fun of him!

“I'm not good at climbing trees but I am so good at drinking water using my trunk or spraying water and play with my friends! I can also use my trunk to spray water and put out fires or find the most delicious fruits and leaves from tree tops and pick them up” “but this??I can't do this! I can't climb up a tree!”

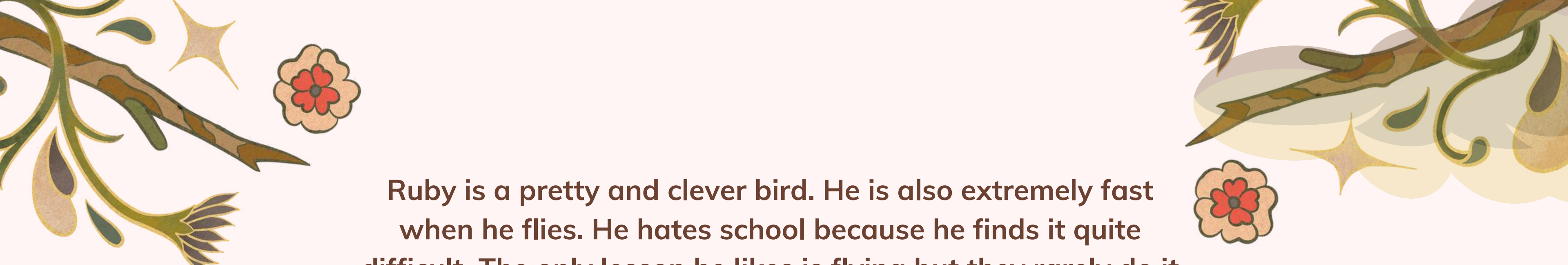
“I am not hopeless, I am just different!!!”, “WHY CAN'T MY TEACHER SEE THIS?”





Dodo was sitting behind the bamboo tree, feeling disappointed and lonely when he noticed Ruby, the bird sitting on a tree branch with the same look on his face






Ruby is a pretty and clever bird. He is also extremely fast when he flies. He hates school because he finds it quite difficult. The only lesson he likes is flying but they rarely do it lately. The teacher says that it's a waste of time and they have to focus on more important lessons. When Mr Noidea assigned the task, Ruby had an idea. He might not be able to climb since his legs are short and thin but he could definitely fly from branch to branch to the top of the tree without being noticed by his teacher.

“Buuut wait....” he thought “that would be really mischievous and unfair to my classmates”. So he tried and tried to climb up the tree unsuccessfully. He felt so frustrated!

“I am not hopeless, I am just different!!!”, “WHY CAN'T MY TEACHER SEE THIS?”





Ruby was sitting on the tree branch, feeling disappointed and lonely when he noticed Mia, the dog, hiding behind the swings in the playground with the same look on her face.





Mia was a very good dog. She never bothered other dogs, she was strong and an excellent guard dog. She was a Labrador and very proud of her family background since everybody at school knew how fast they were and how good they are at taking care of people. But..... trees? She knew nothing about trees, let alone climbing them! She was so sad!

“I am not hopeless, I am just different!!!”, “WHY CAN’T MY TEACHER SEE THIS?”



Mia was hiding behind the swings, feeling disappointed and lonely when she noticed Babis the monkey with an extremely TROUBLED look on his face.



Babis felt so happy when he heard about the task. That would be a piece of cake for him! He had been climbing trees since he was a baby. He was fast and had so much fun when he did it and now he couldn't be happier! He was asked to do something that he loved! Buuuut.....wait a second....

He took a look around him and noticed all his classmates on the schoolyard. They looked so unhappy and disappointed.


He soon realised how unfair that was.

“My friends can swim, run fast and do so many other exciting things which I can't but they can't climb trees!

That's so unfair!”

So he decided to have a talk with his teacher.






“Mr Noidea, CAN’T YOU SEE THIS?” he said!
“I will be the only one who will succeed the exam because the task is so easy for me but what about the rest of my class?”
“I can’t see your point Babis” answered the teacher.
“Look at my classmates! They are excellent swimmers, runners and fliers! They are different but they can all be good at what they love. And they all try and try to do what you ask them for. But this is so unfair!!”

Mr Noidea listened carefully to Babis’ words.....

“EVERYBODY IS A GENIUS. BUT IF YOU JUDGE A FISH (A SEAL, A DOG, A BIRD,AN ELEPHANT OR A PENGUIN) BY THEIR ABILITY TO CLIMB A TREE, THEY WILL LIVE THEIR WHOLE LIVES BELIEVING THAT THEY ARE STUPID!” said Babis.



It was that moment when Mr Noidea realised how important it was to understand and show respect to what his students loved and how beautifully different they were!!!

And they lived happily ever after!





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