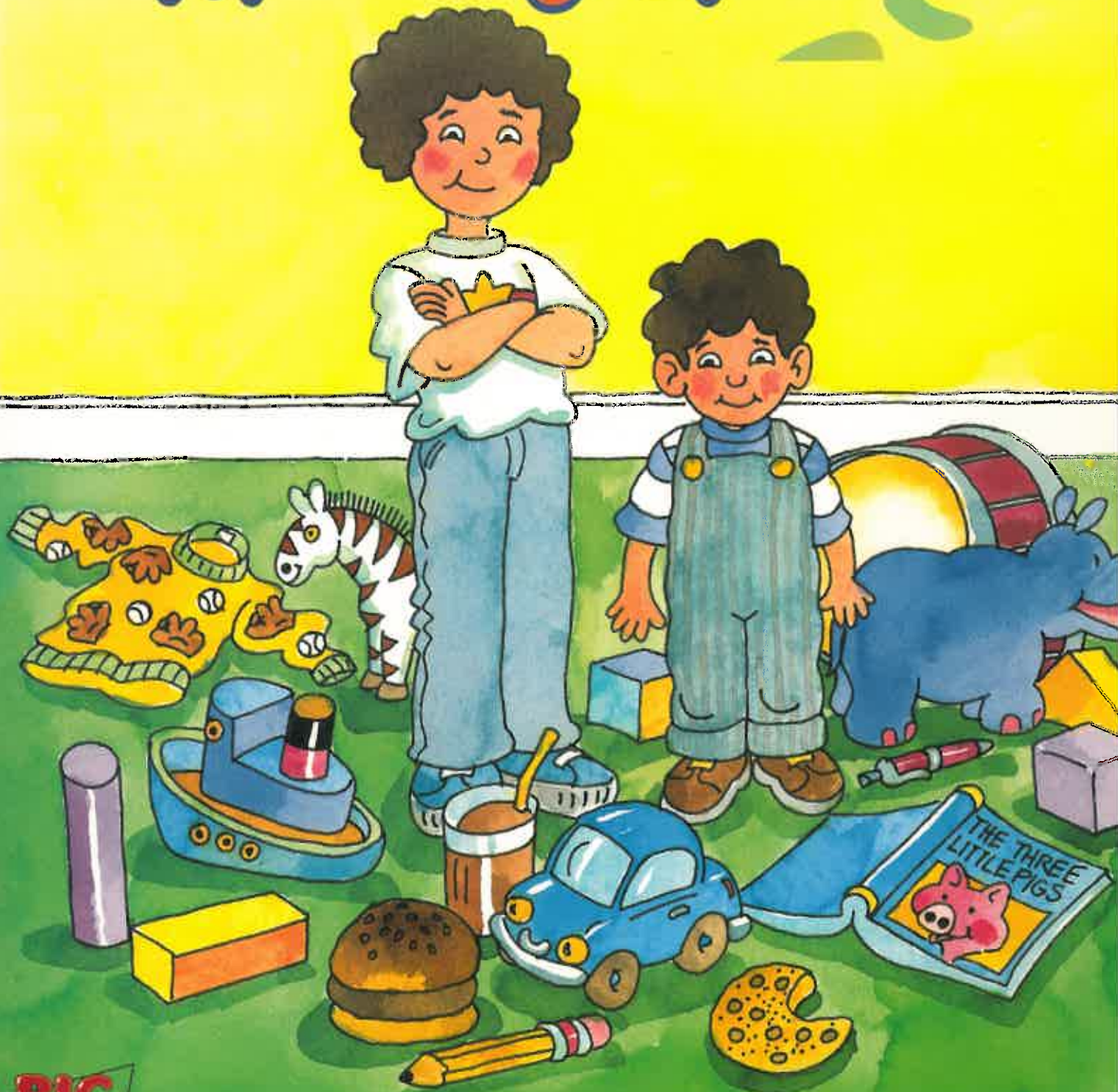


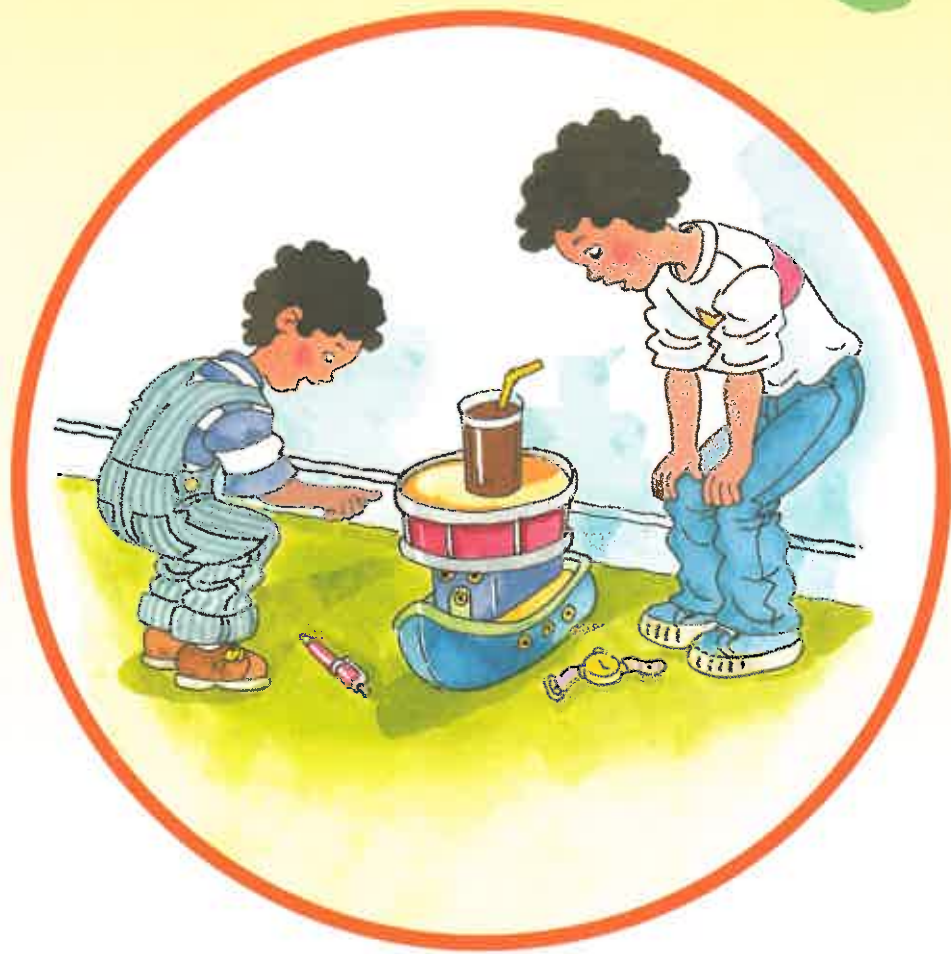
Rafael's Messy Room



**BIG
MATH**

Herbert P. Ginsburg
Robert Balfanz Canale Greenes

Rafael's Messy Room



A STORY FOR YOU FROM
Big Math for Little Kids™

Herbert P. Ginsburg Robert Balfanz Carole Greenes
Illustrated by George Ulrich



National Science Foundation

This material is based on work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. ESI-9730683. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

Copyright © 2003 by Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Dale Seymour Publications, an imprint of Pearson Learning Group, 299 Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. For information regarding permission(s), write to Rights and Permissions Department.

Big Math for Little Kids™ is a trademark of Pearson Education, Inc.

Dale Seymour Publications® is a registered trademark of Dale Seymour Publications, Inc.

ISBN 0-7690-2871-3

Printed in the United States of America

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 05 04 03 02



My name is Sarita. Sometimes I help take care of my little brother, Rafael. He's very cute, but he doesn't know very much.



He doesn't know how to tie his shoes. He doesn't know how to skip rope. He doesn't know anything! But I try to teach him things. I try to make him smart.



One day I told Rafael, "I'm going to show you how messy your room is. A cookie is on top of your pillow. An apple is under your bed and so is a napkin."

Rafael said, "Wa-wa."



I said, "Look! The mouse is inside your drawer.
And look! The dog is behind the mouse."

Rafael said, "Wa-wa."



I said, "Your pajamas are in front of the lamp.
And your hamburger is next to the pajamas."
Rafael said, "Wa-wa."



“Your balloon is up on the ceiling. And your ice-cream cone is down on the floor.”

Rafael said, “Wa-wa.”



“Look at this!” I said. “You put your dirty left hand on the wall. And you put your sticky right hand on the window!”

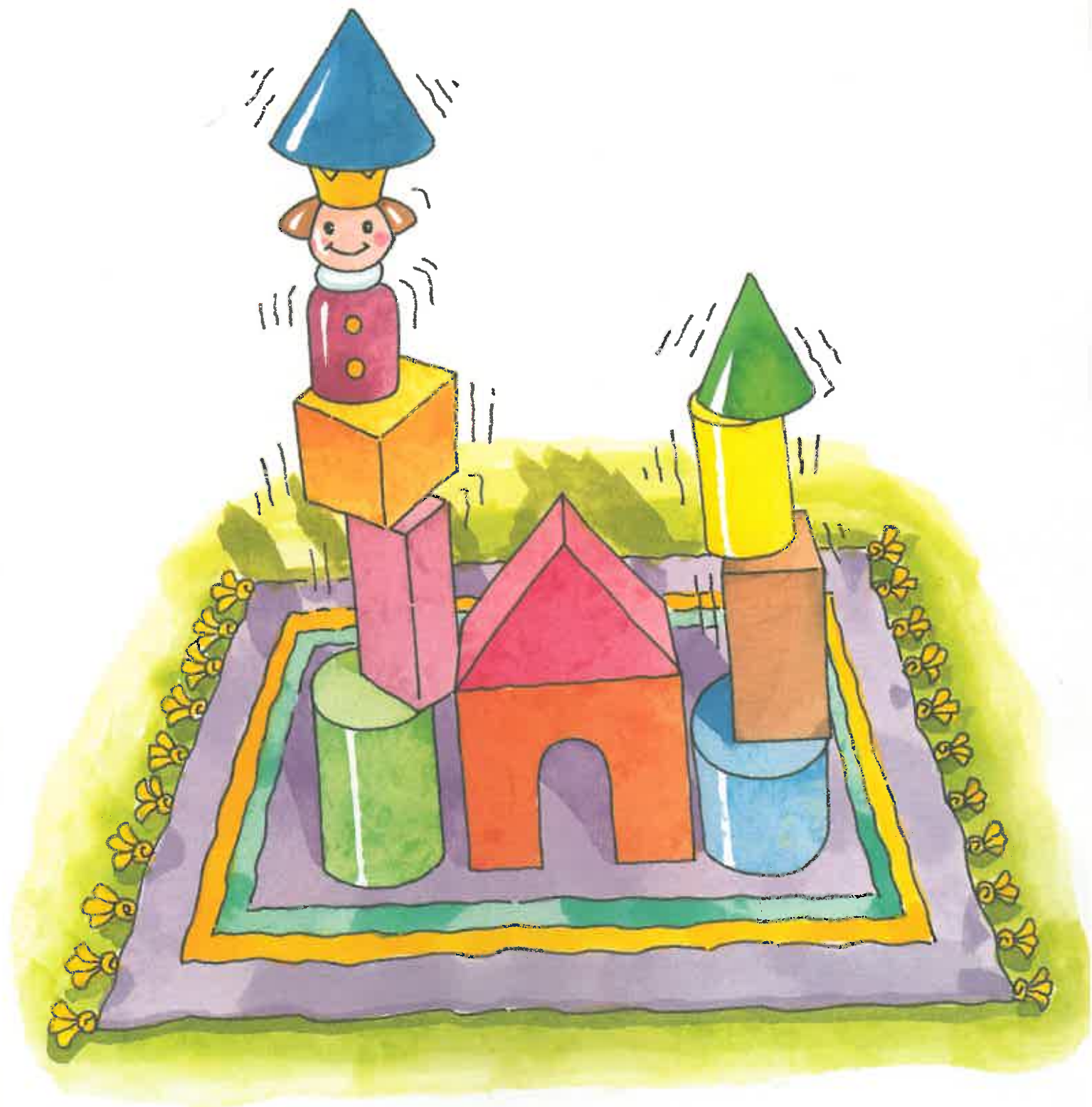


“Look at this messy pile!” I said. “Your car is on the bottom. Your book is in the middle. And a tube of toothpaste is on the top.”



“And look at this! Your castle is about to fall down. The king is below the cone. The king is also above the cube.”

Rafael said, “Wa-wa.”



I decided that I had taught Rafael a lot about the mess in his room. I told him, "Now I will give you a test."



I showed him a pile. You won't believe what he said.

Rafael said, "The boat is on the bottom. My drum is in the middle. A glass of chocolate milk is on the top. And the chocolate milk is inside the glass."

I said, "Wow!"



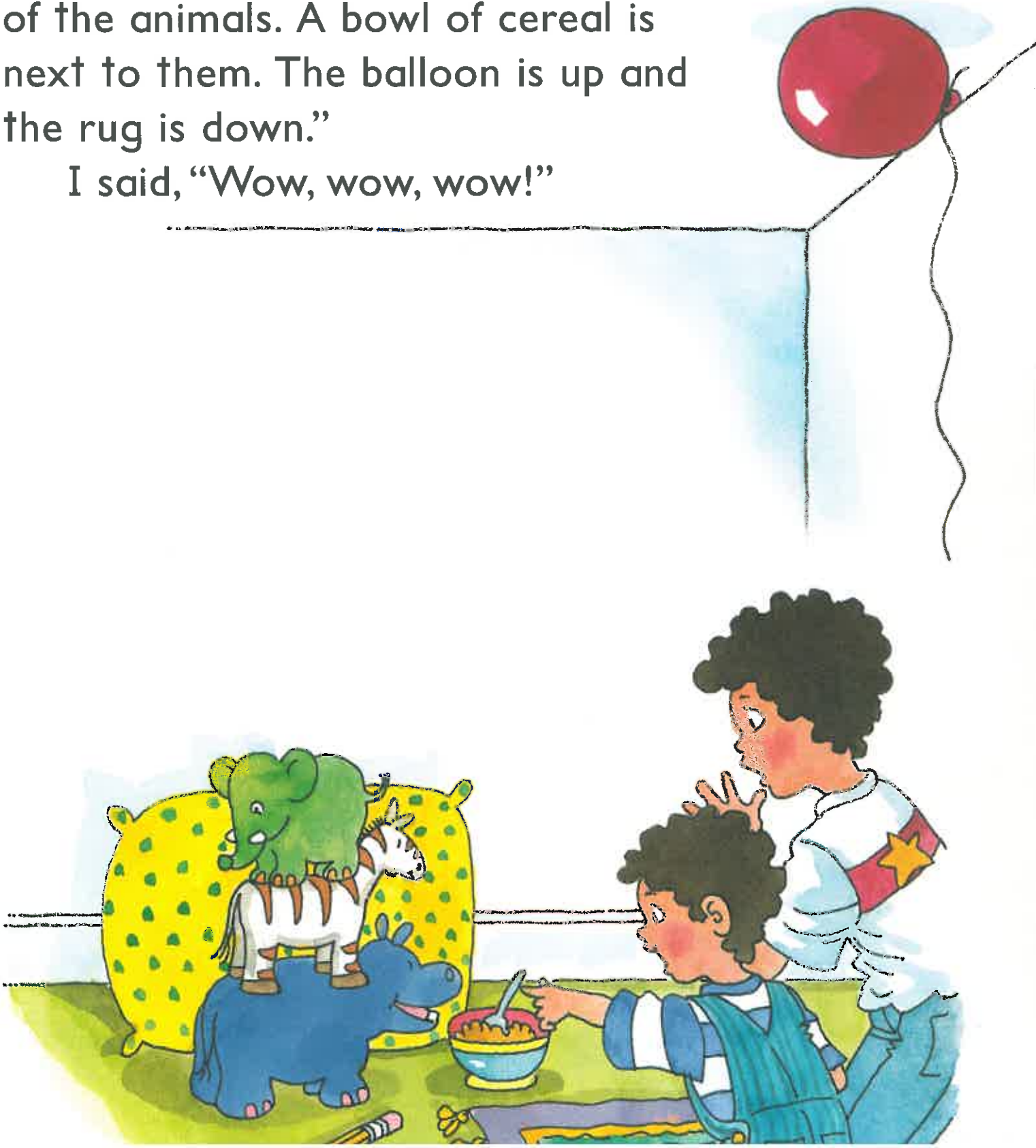
Then he said, "Furthermore, the drum is under the chocolate milk. And the boat is under the drum. Or you could say that the chocolate milk is above the drum. And the drum is above the boat. And did you see that a watch is to the right and a pen is to the left?"

I said, "Wow, wow!"



Then I asked Rafael about this pile. He said, "The zebra is below the elephant. The zebra is also on top of the hippo. There is a pillow behind the animals. There is a pencil in front of the animals. A bowl of cereal is next to them. The balloon is up and the rug is down."

I said, "Wow, wow, wow!"



After that, Rafael and I straightened up his whole room. He sure learned a lot. But I learned something, too. Rafael is the smartest little brother in the whole world. But that's because I am the greatest teacher!

