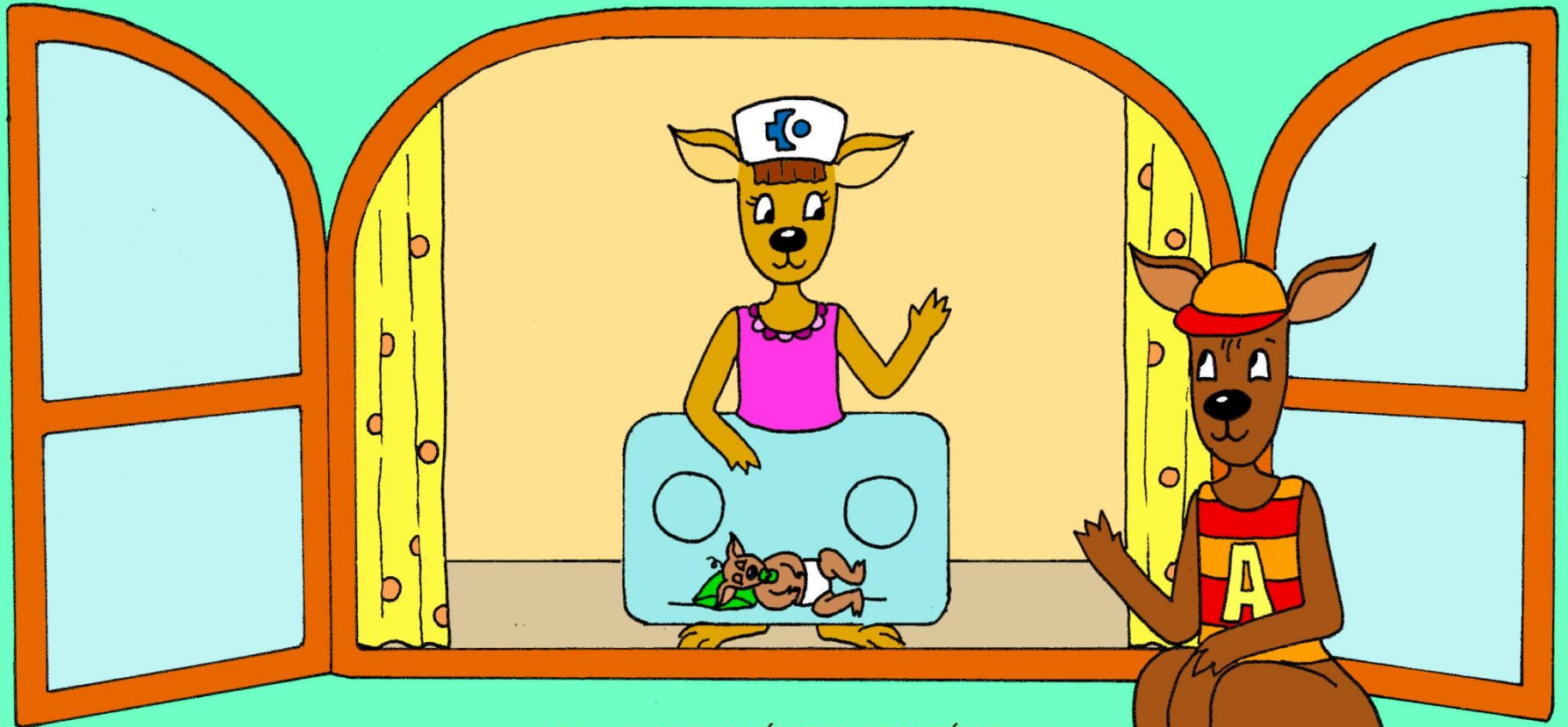


ARTHUR THE LITTLE KANGAROO

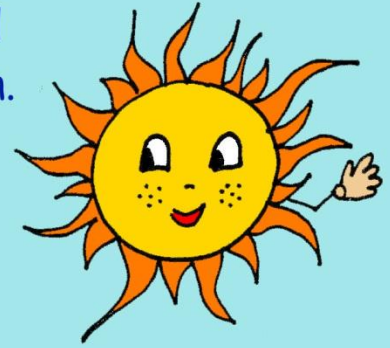


Texts: ANA M^a GARCÍA DE MOTILLOA GÁMIZ

Illustrations: RAQUEL GONZALO GARCÍA DE MOTILLOA

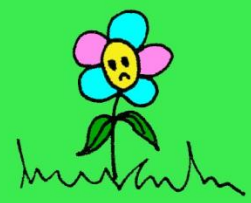
Design and color: MAIALEN GONZALO GARCÍA DE MOTILLOA

Arthur was a really naughty little kangaroo.
But he was full of joy and you could
always see him jumping up and down.

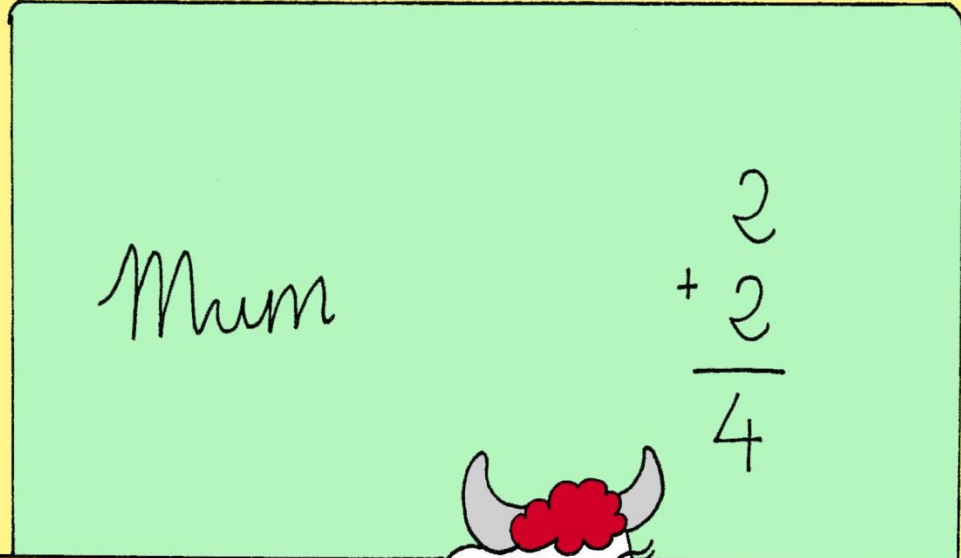




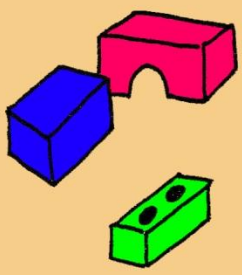
However he looked sad lately.
He wouldn't play with his friends and
sometimes you could see him crying.

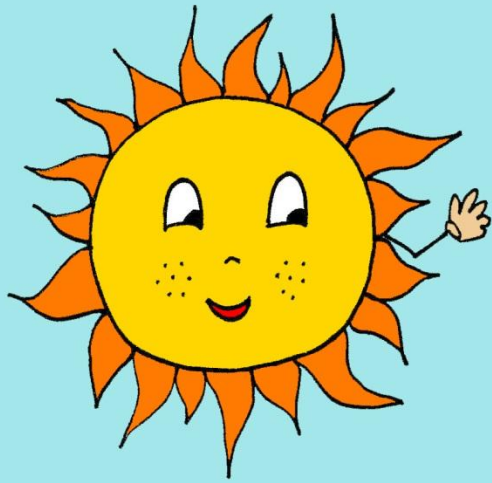


One day at school his teacher Flora asked him:

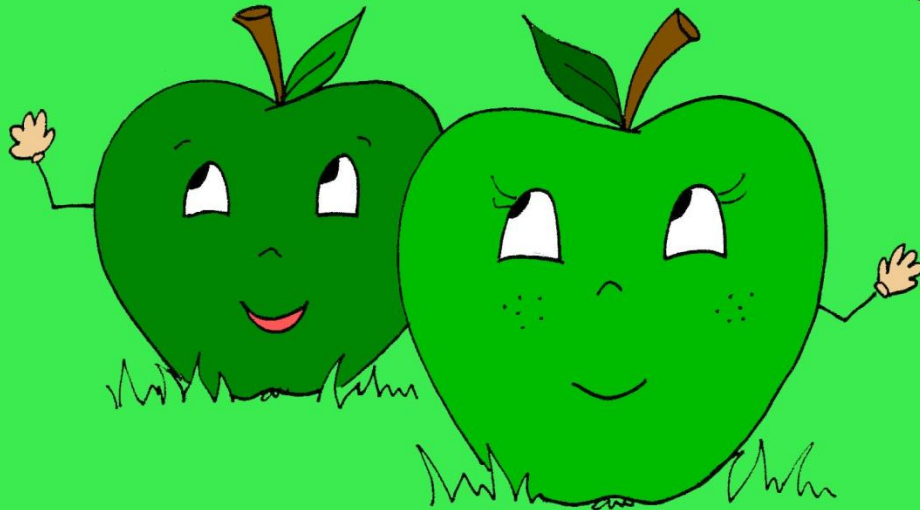


- What's the matter, Arthur?

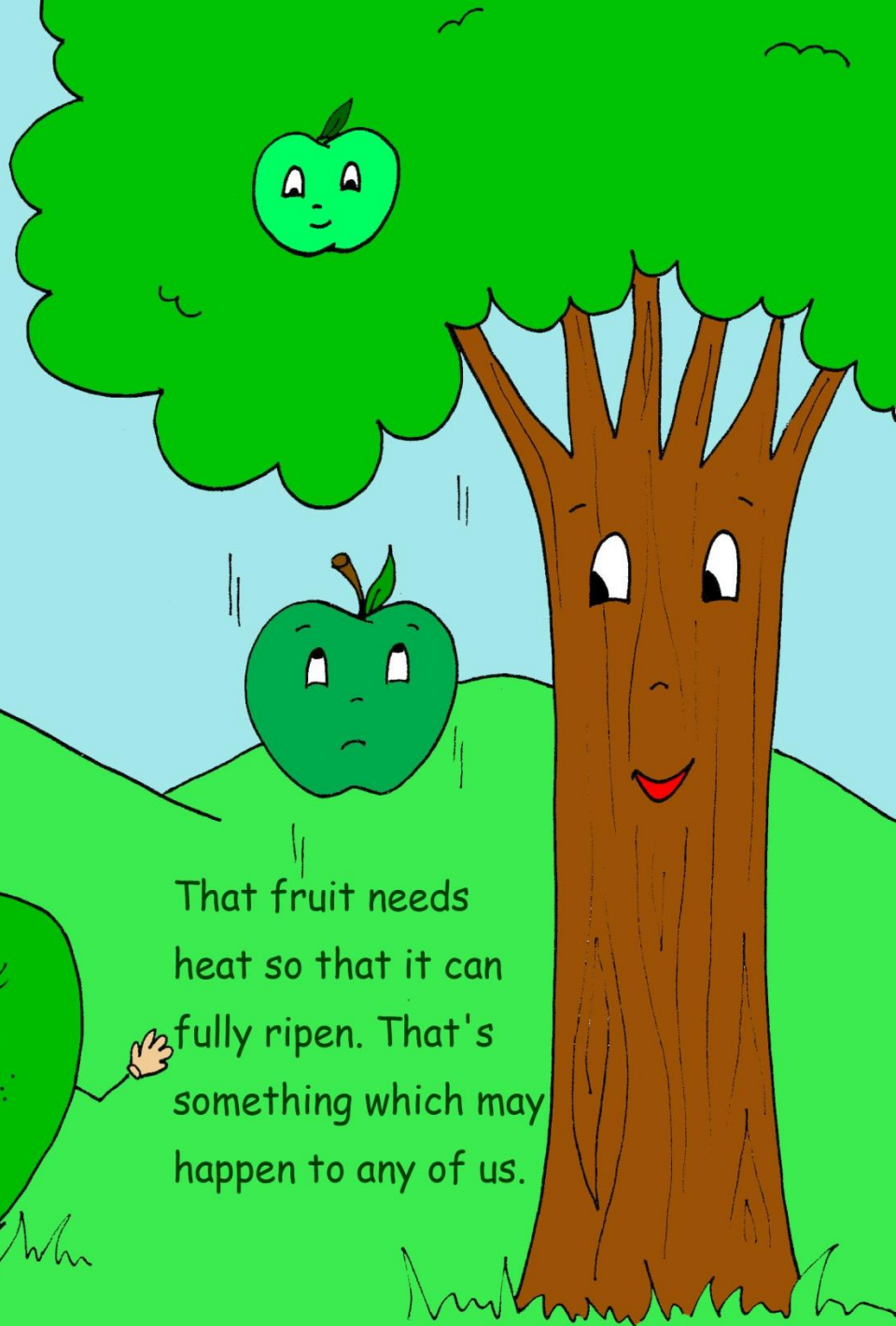




I was born too early myself.
Just like fruit falling off trees unripened.

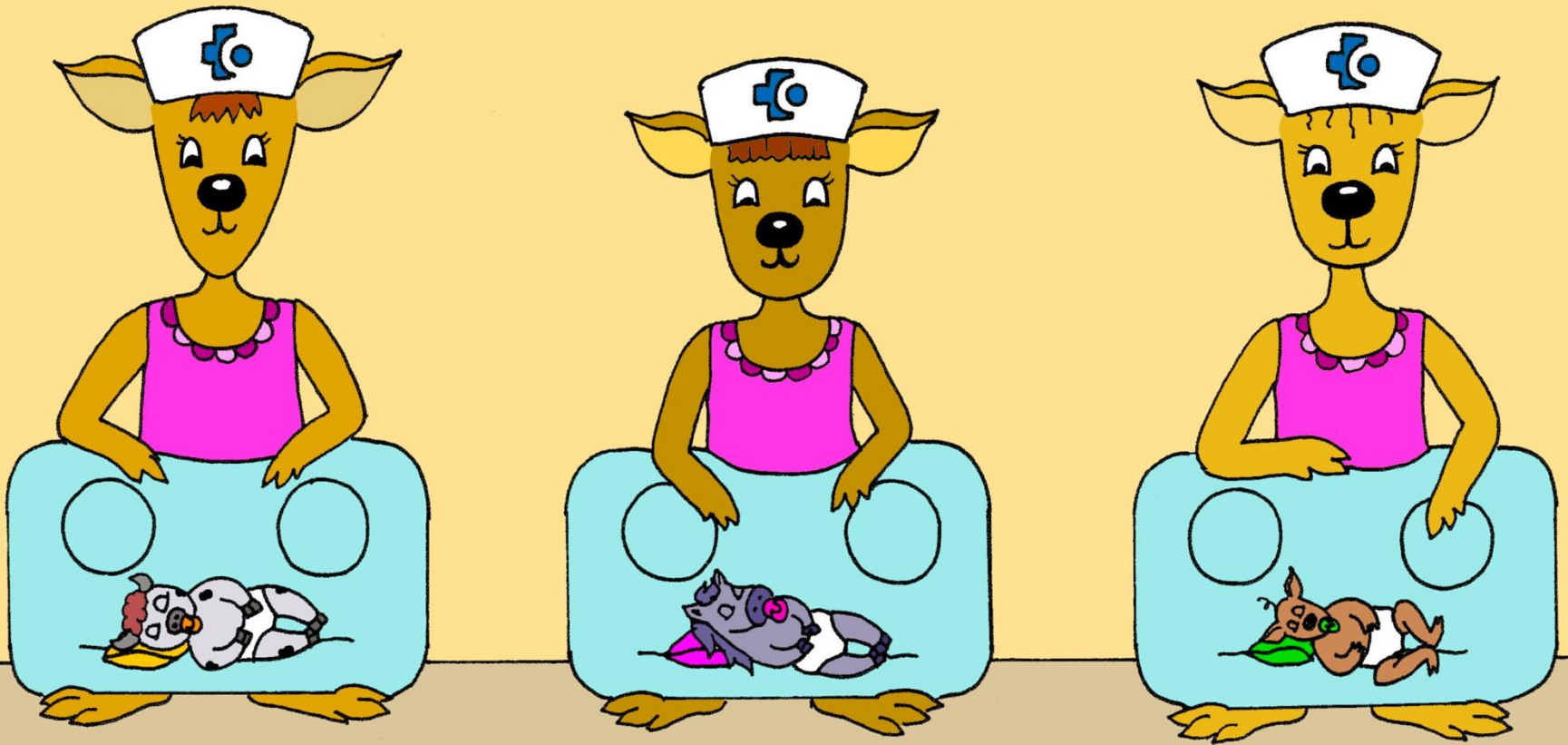


That fruit needs
heat so that it can
fully ripen. That's
something which may
happen to any of us.

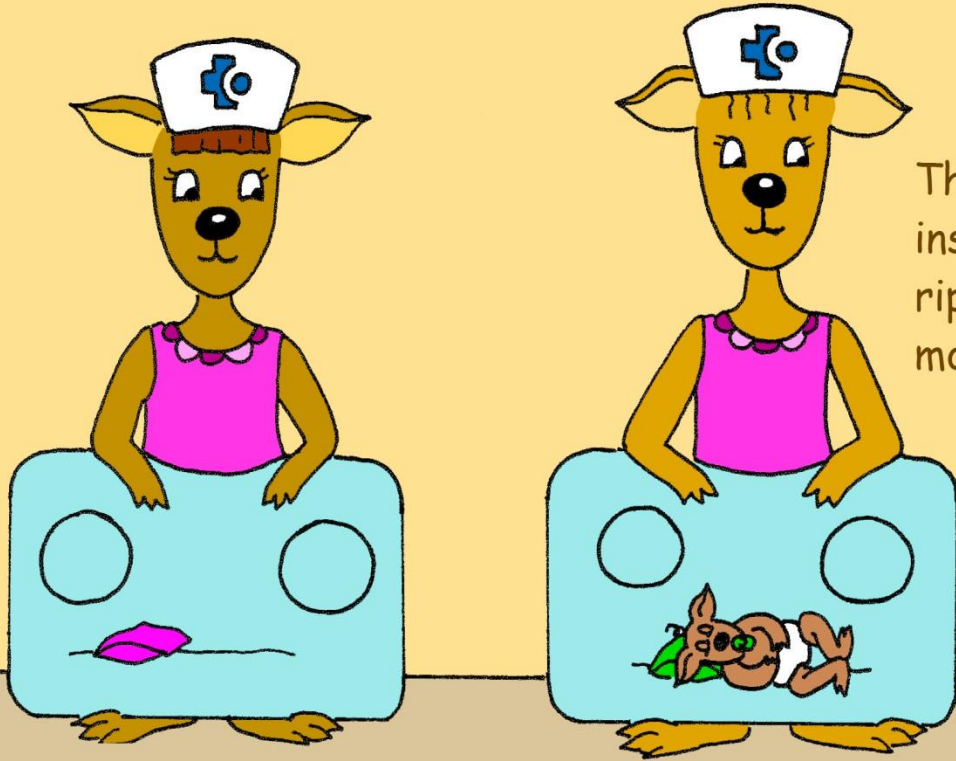


And when that happens we have to stay in the hospital for animals and we are put inside KANGARATORS. Humans call them INCUBATORS.

- And ... what are those kangarators?, asked Arthur out of curiosity.



- They are a particular sort of mother kangaroos which are born with a crystal pouch. When they grow up they work at hospital looking after the babies inside their pouch.

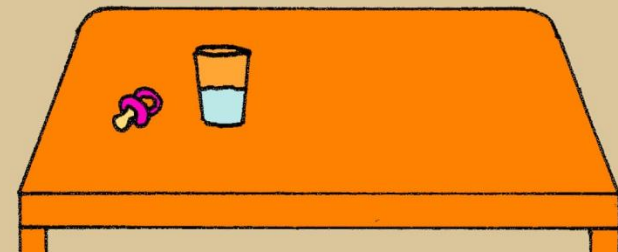
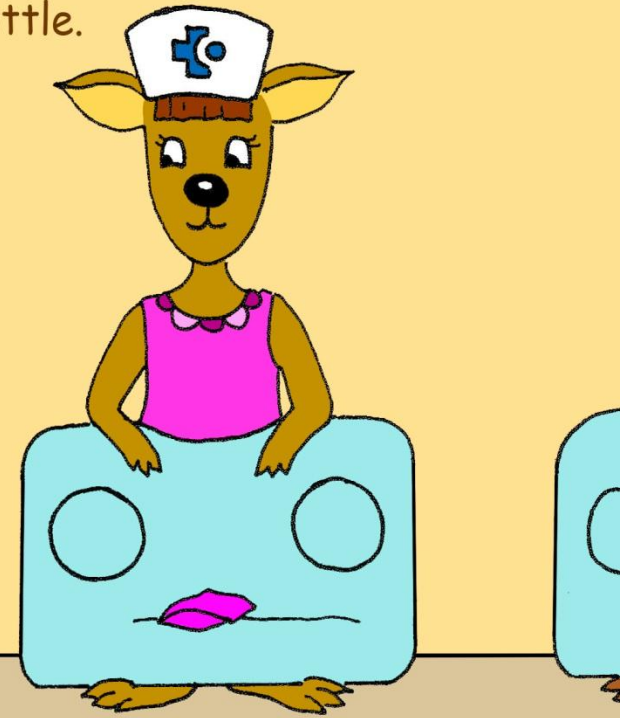


The little animals are really comfortable inside them feeling warm ... until they ripen. In other words, till they gain a bit more weight.

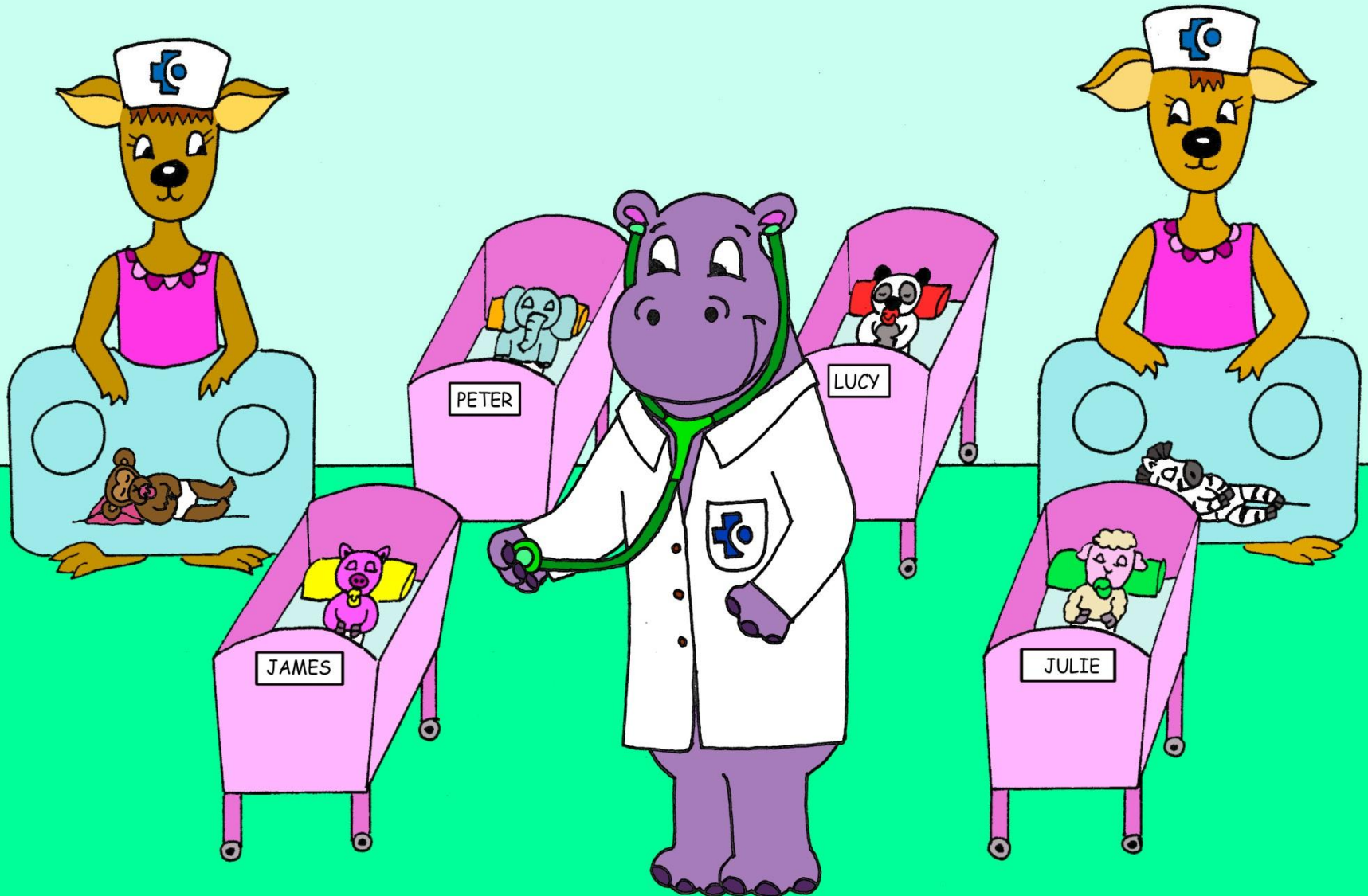
They just come out to feel their mother's breast and the skin, the look, the voice and the smell of both their mum and dad.



Sometimes the little animals are given a baby bottle.



There are also those animals which after being born get ill and have to spend a few days in a cradle or inside kangurators in hospital. They are taken to a place called NEONATAL UNIT. There doctors, nurses and orderlies help them get better so that they can soon be at home.





Arthur got really pleased after hearing the story his teacher Flora had told him. He even thought he would draw a honey tree for his brother Daniel.

After a few days, Arthur's parents left the hospital carrying the little kangaroo inside his mother's pouch.



Once at home, at last Arthur was able to hold his brother Daniel in his arms. They looked into each other's eyes and their cheeks touched ... SKIN TO SKIN.



When a baby is born too early, the little siblings can hardly understand why the newborn has to stay in hospital.

The aim of this tale is **to help** them cope with this unexpected situation through similar stories which mirror their own circumstances.

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