



# Over in the Meadow

By Olive A. Wadsworth  
Illustrated by Faith Gowan



*Over in the Meadow* is a classic counting rhyme filled with many different creatures. Read along, and see!

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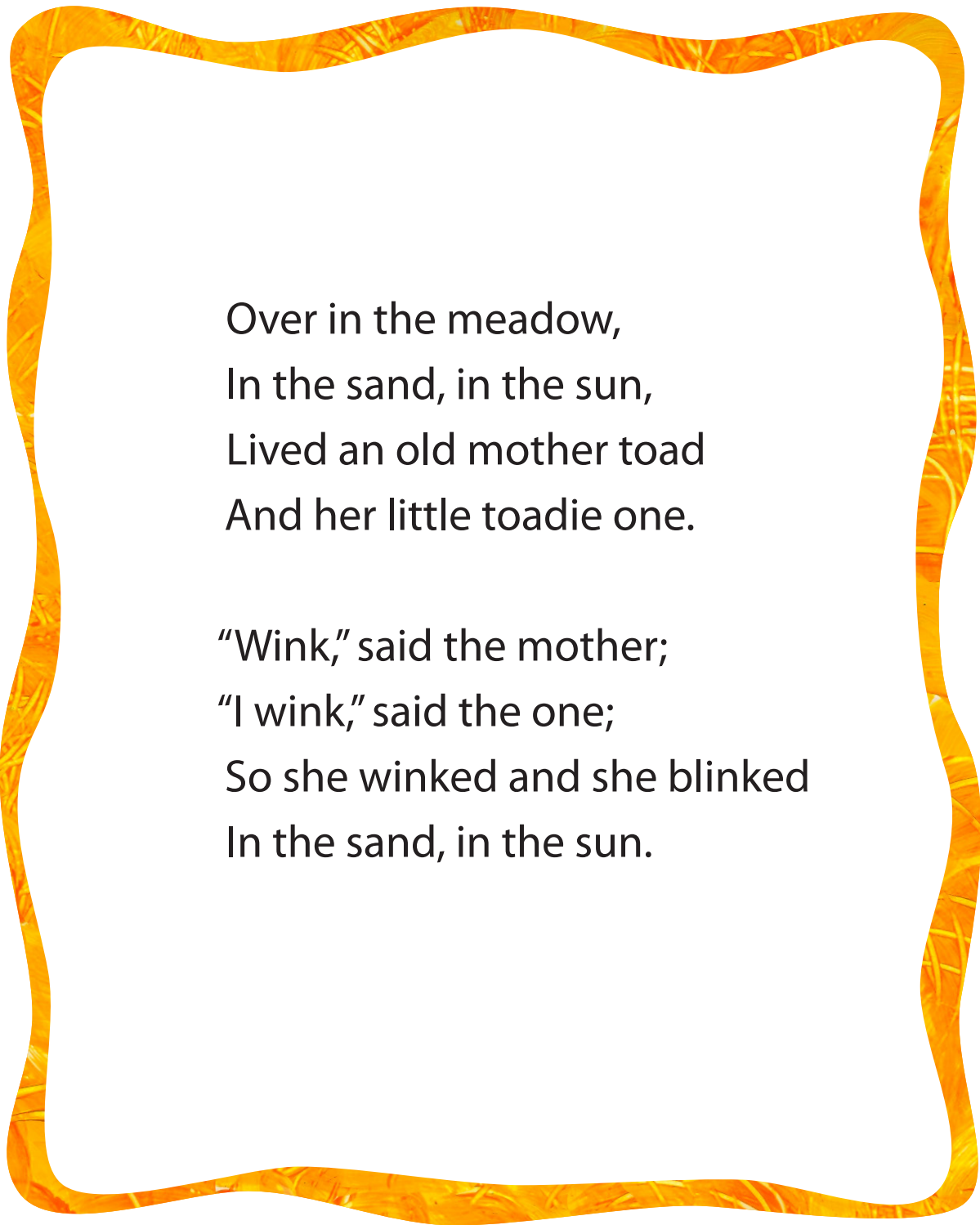
Illustrated by Faith Gowan



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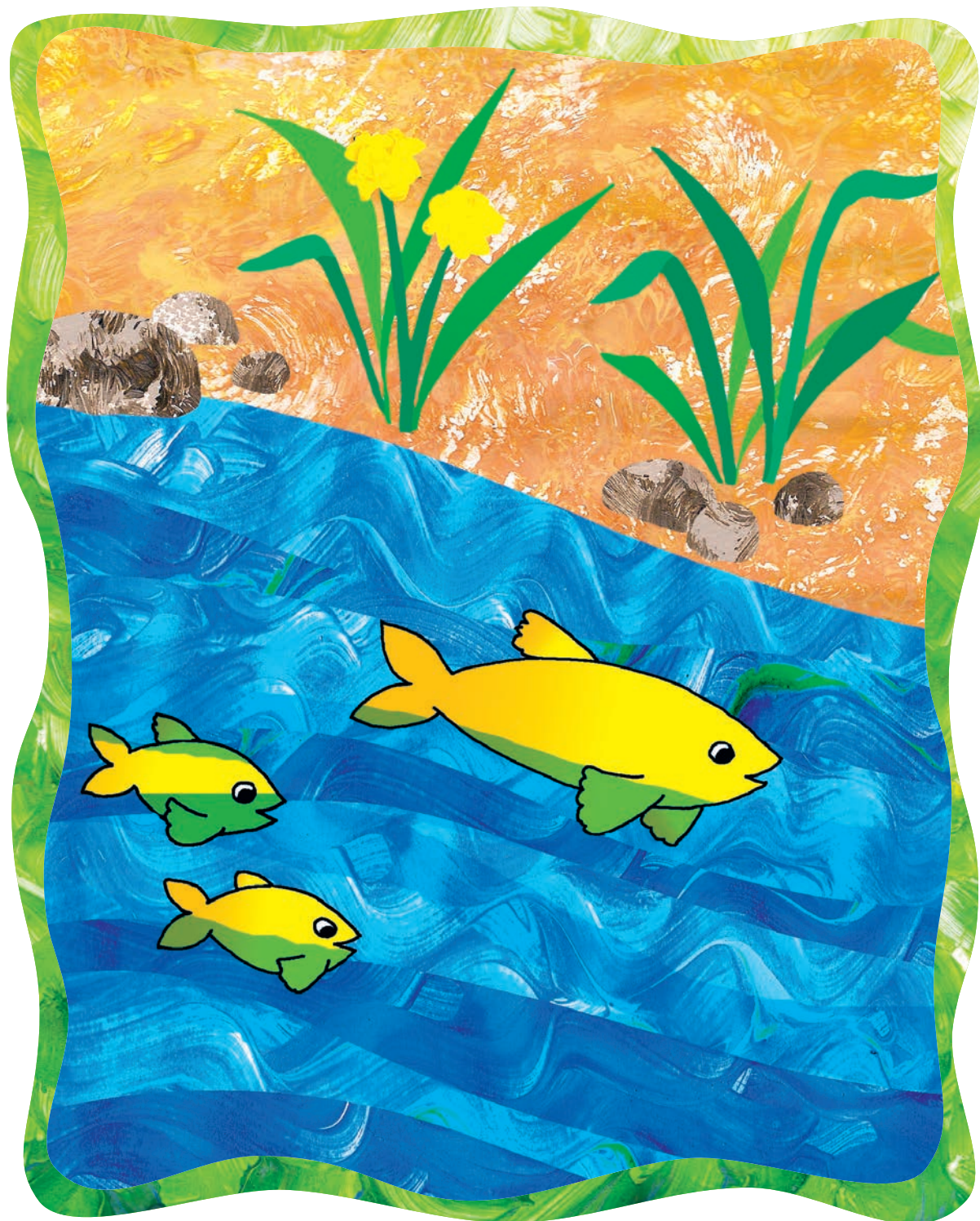
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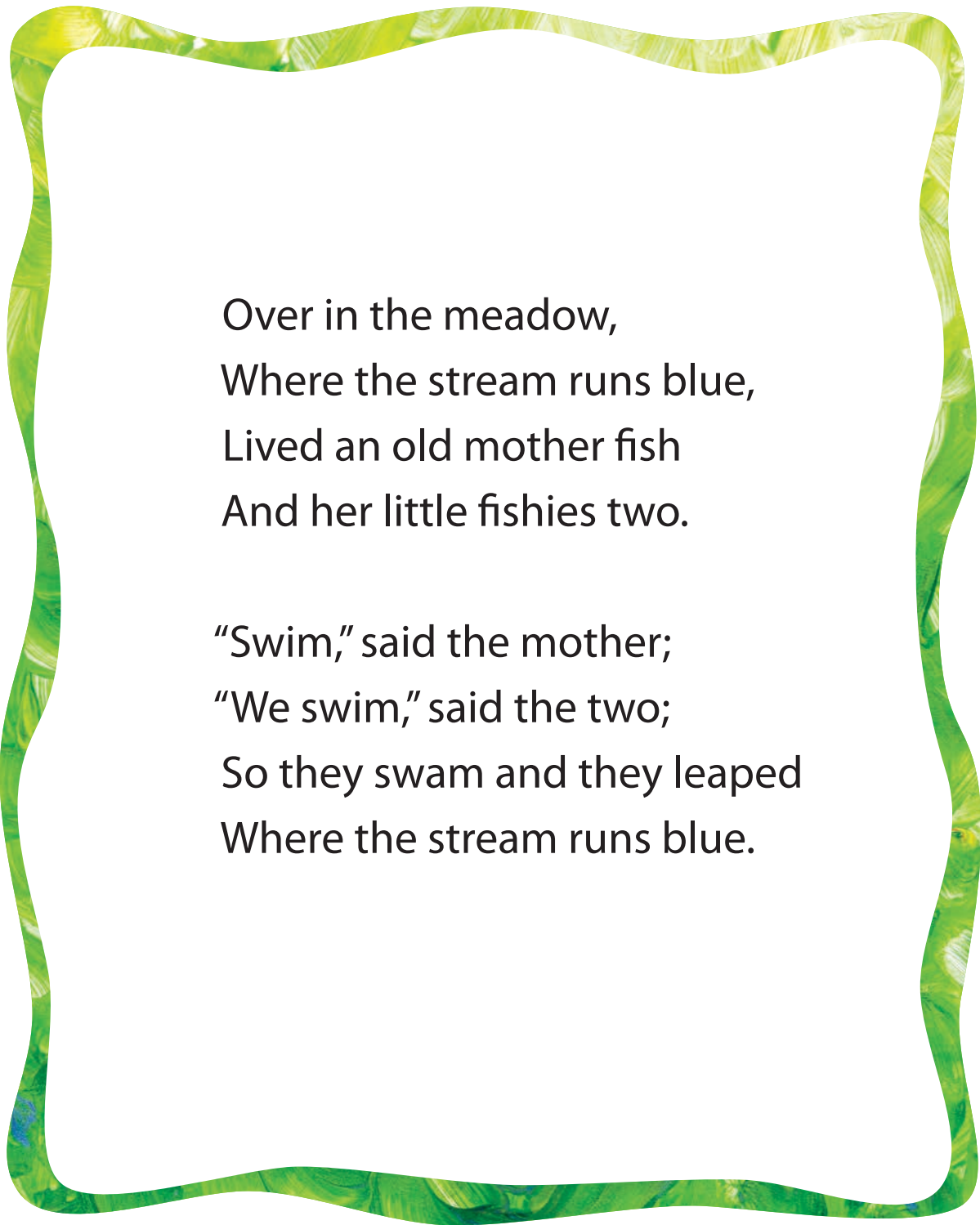




Over in the meadow,  
In the sand, in the sun,  
Lived an old mother toad  
And her little toadie one.

“Wink,” said the mother;  
“I wink,” said the one;  
So she winked and she blinked  
In the sand, in the sun.



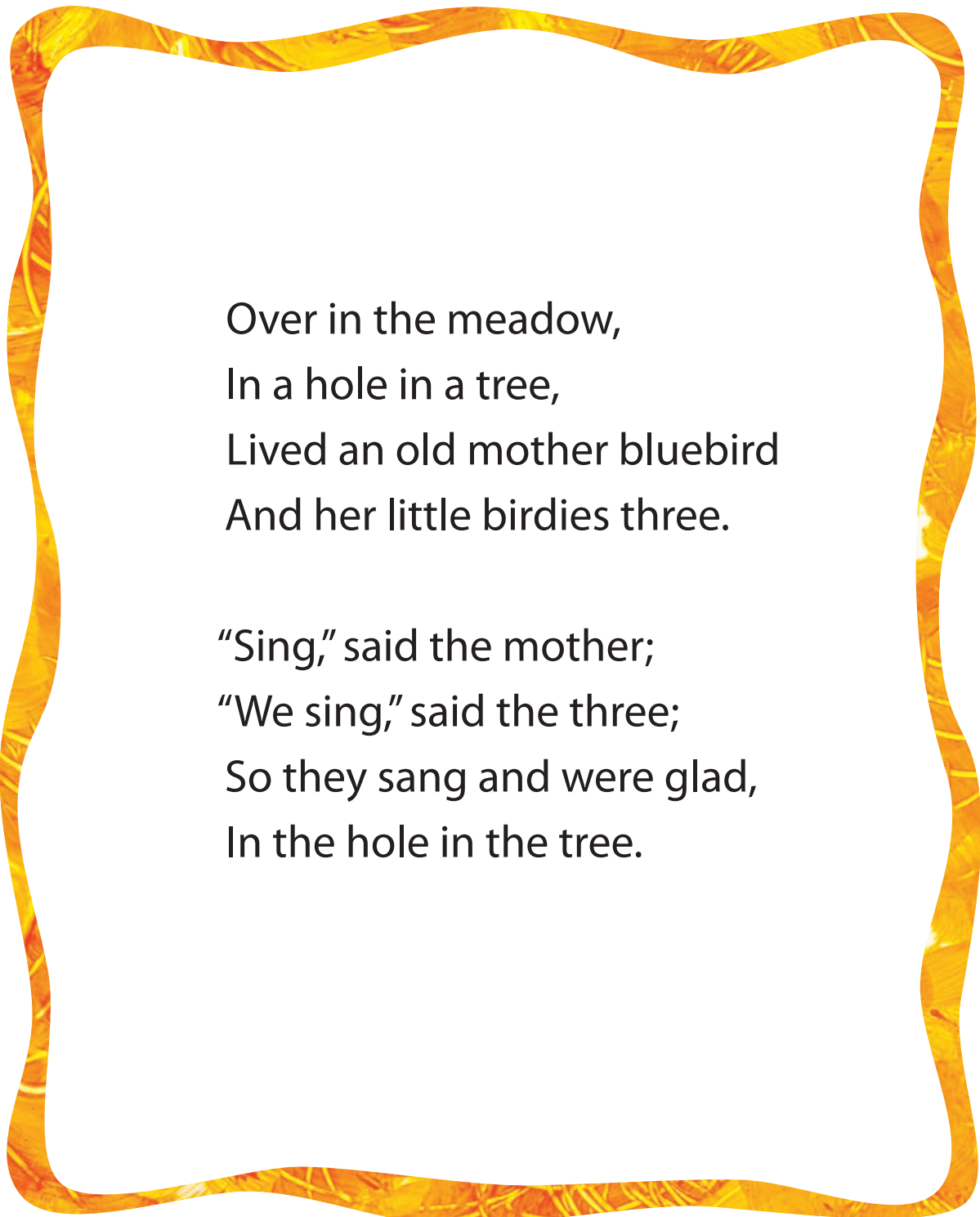


Over in the meadow,  
Where the stream runs blue,  
Lived an old mother fish  
And her little fishies two.

“Swim,” said the mother;  
“We swim,” said the two;  
So they swam and they leaped  
Where the stream runs blue.



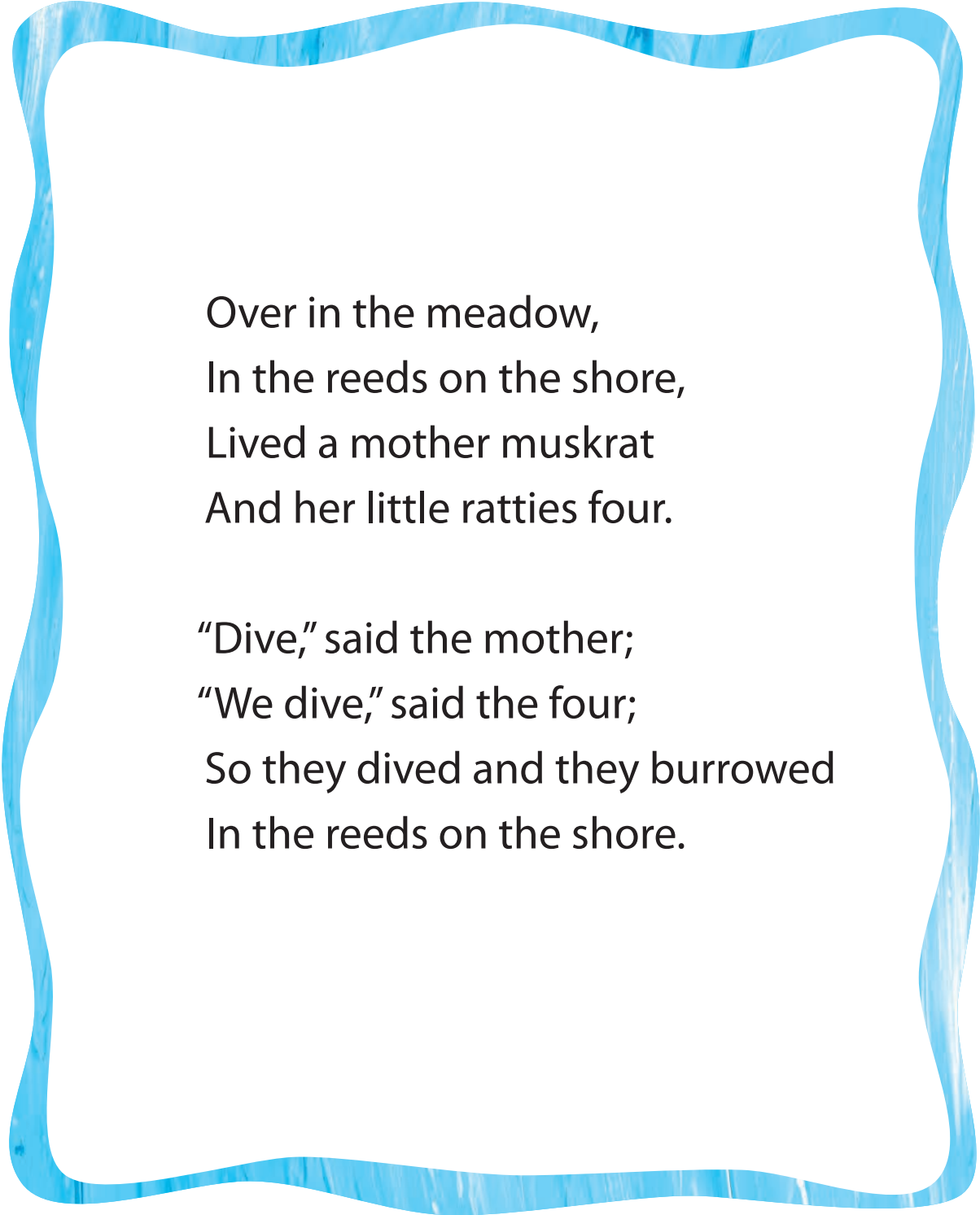




Over in the meadow,  
In a hole in a tree,  
Lived an old mother bluebird  
And her little birdies three.

“Sing,” said the mother;  
“We sing,” said the three;  
So they sang and were glad,  
In the hole in the tree.

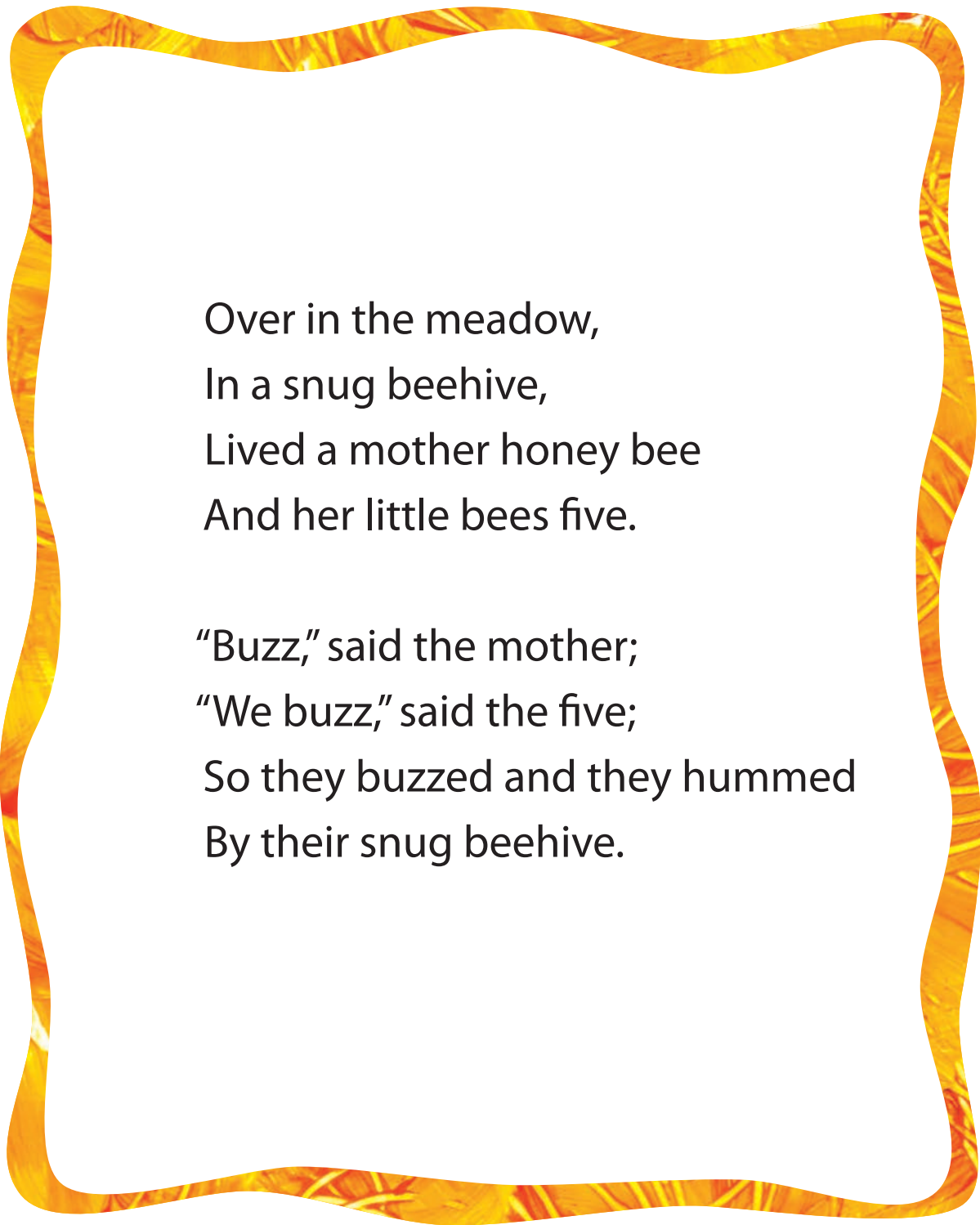




Over in the meadow,  
In the reeds on the shore,  
Lived a mother muskrat  
And her little ratties four.

“Dive,” said the mother;  
“We dive,” said the four;  
So they dived and they burrowed  
In the reeds on the shore.

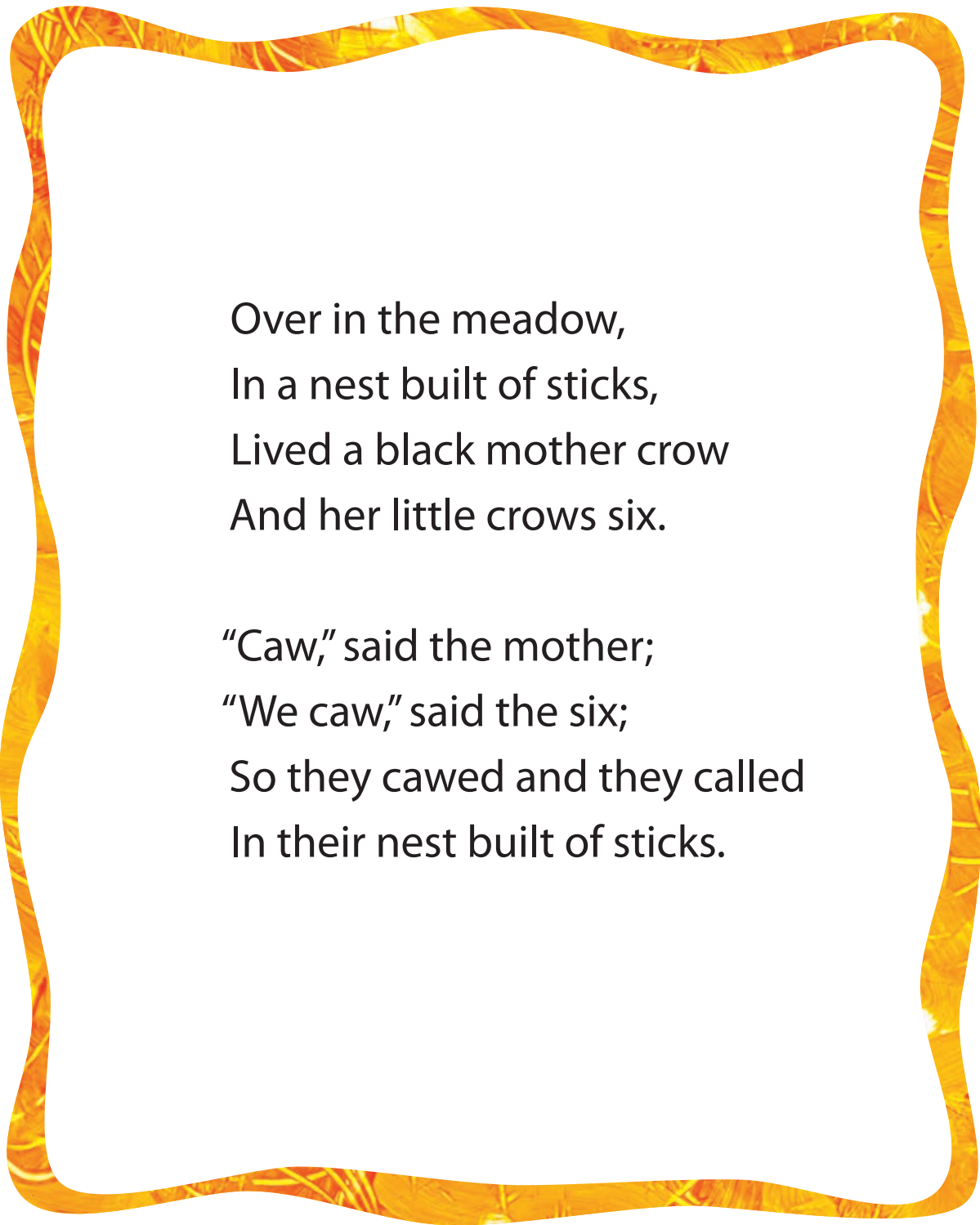




Over in the meadow,  
In a snug beehive,  
Lived a mother honey bee  
And her little bees five.

“Buzz,” said the mother;  
“We buzz,” said the five;  
So they buzzed and they hummed  
By their snug beehive.



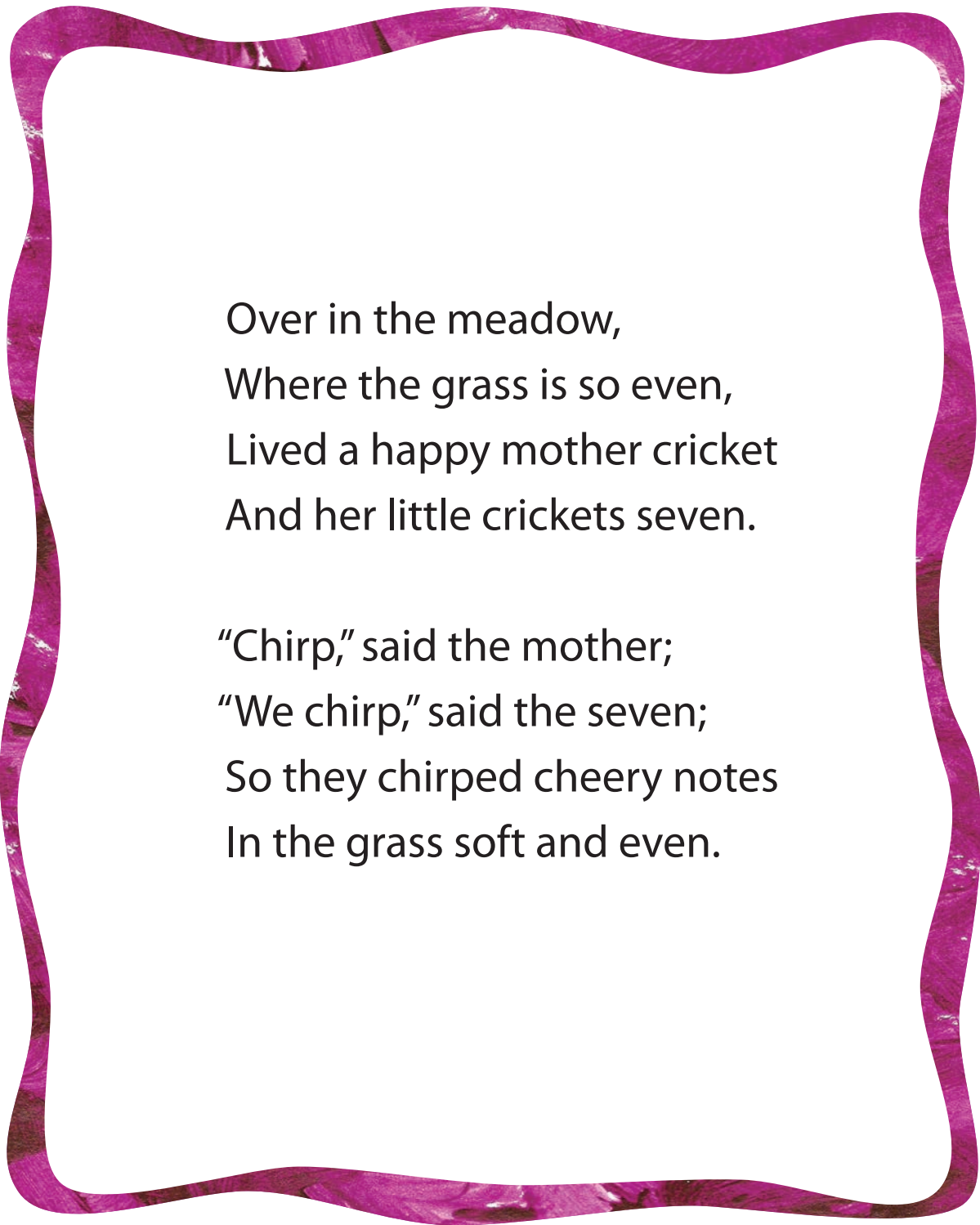


Over in the meadow,  
In a nest built of sticks,  
Lived a black mother crow  
And her little crows six.

“Caw,” said the mother;  
“We caw,” said the six;  
So they cawed and they called  
In their nest built of sticks.



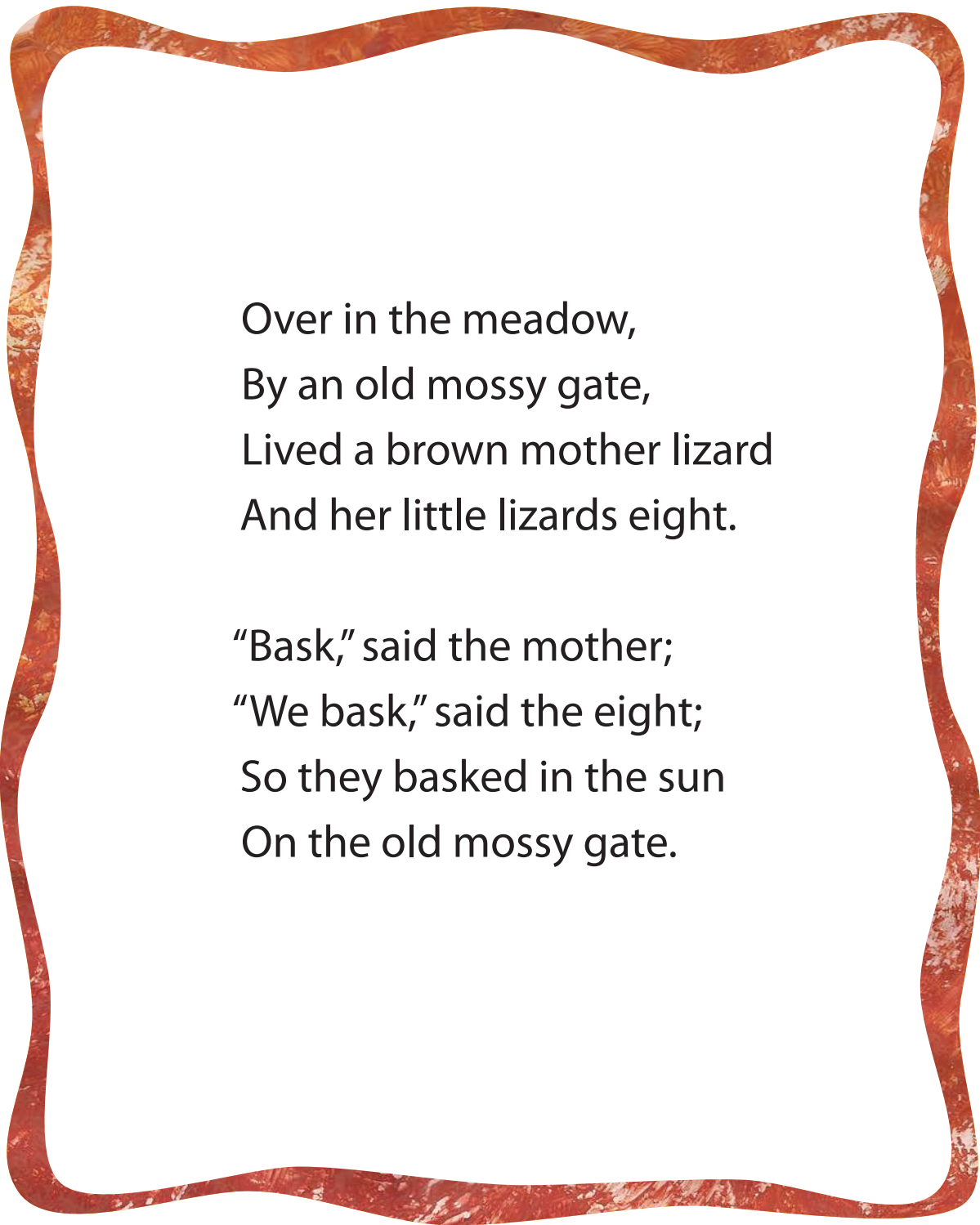




Over in the meadow,  
Where the grass is so even,  
Lived a happy mother cricket  
And her little crickets seven.

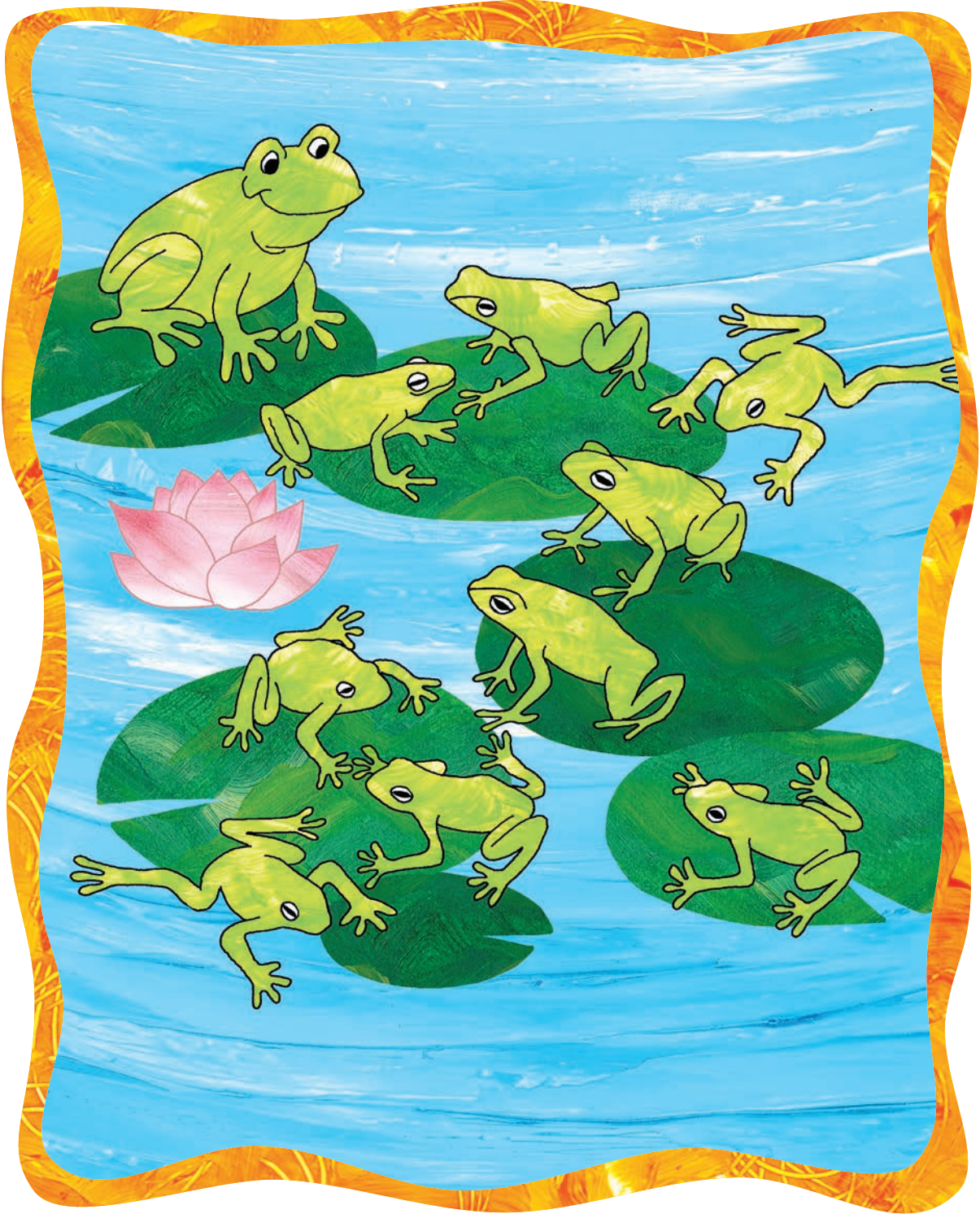
“Chirp,” said the mother;  
“We chirp,” said the seven;  
So they chirped cheery notes  
In the grass soft and even.

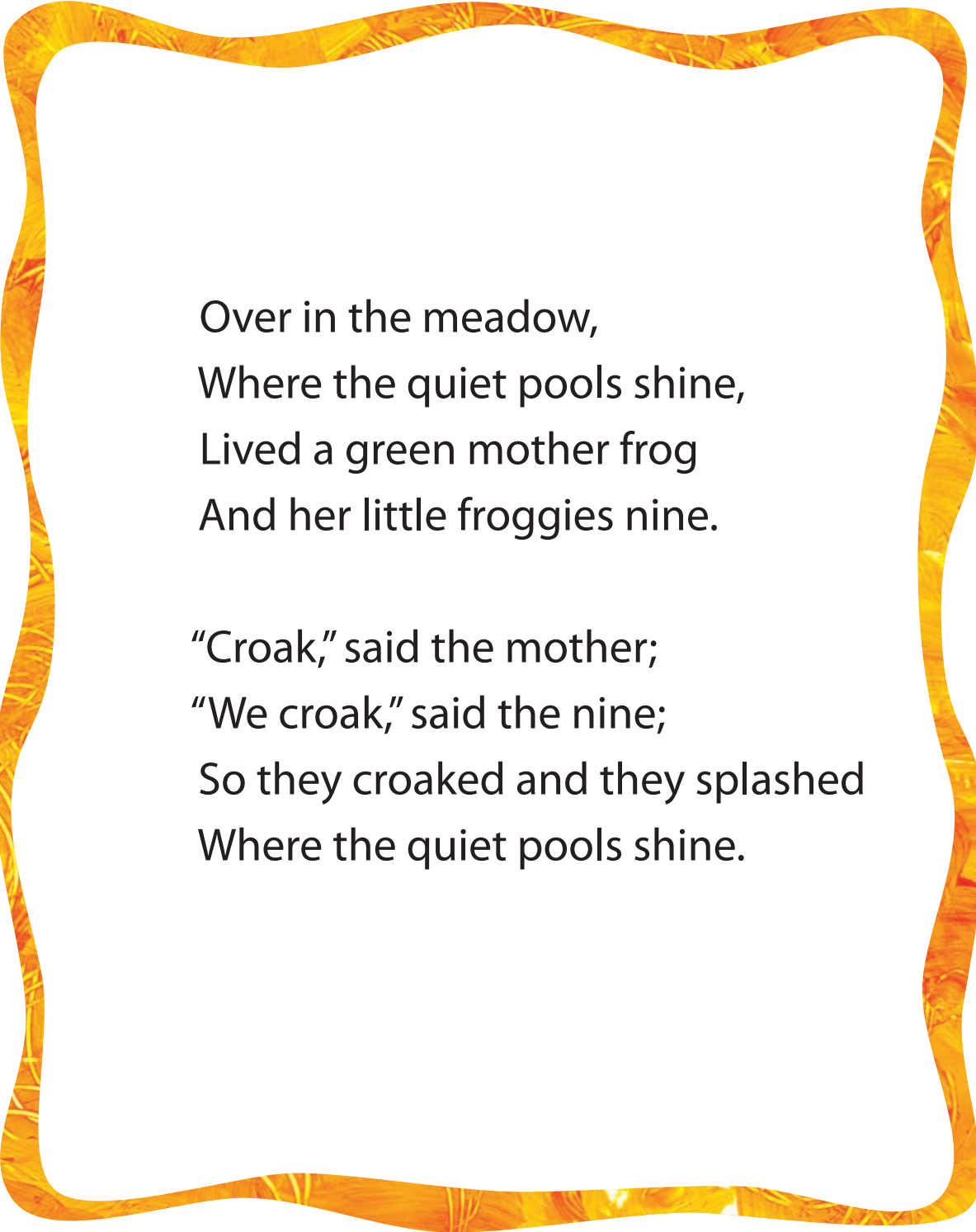




Over in the meadow,  
By an old mossy gate,  
Lived a brown mother lizard  
And her little lizards eight.

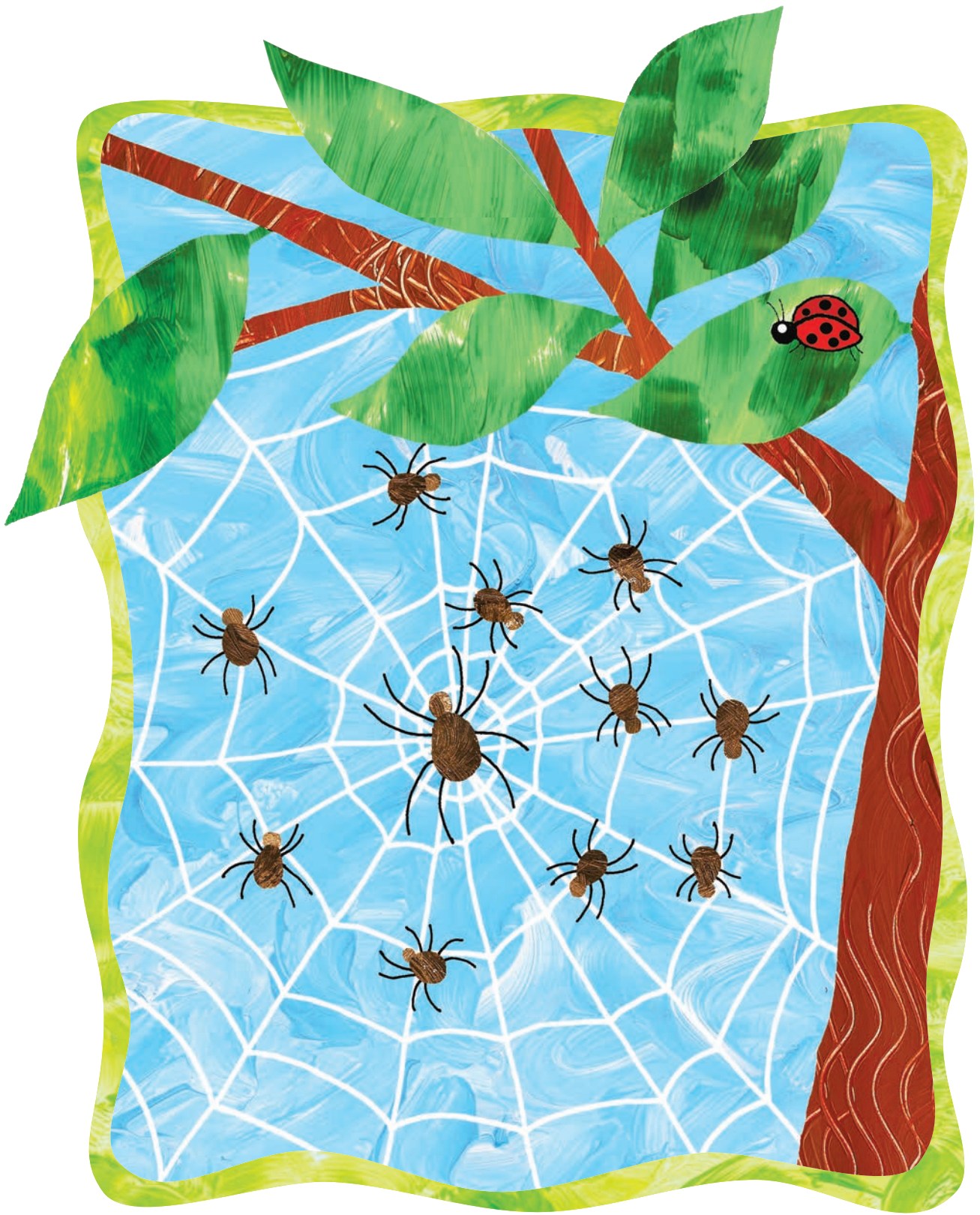
“Bask,” said the mother;  
“We bask,” said the eight;  
So they basked in the sun  
On the old mossy gate.

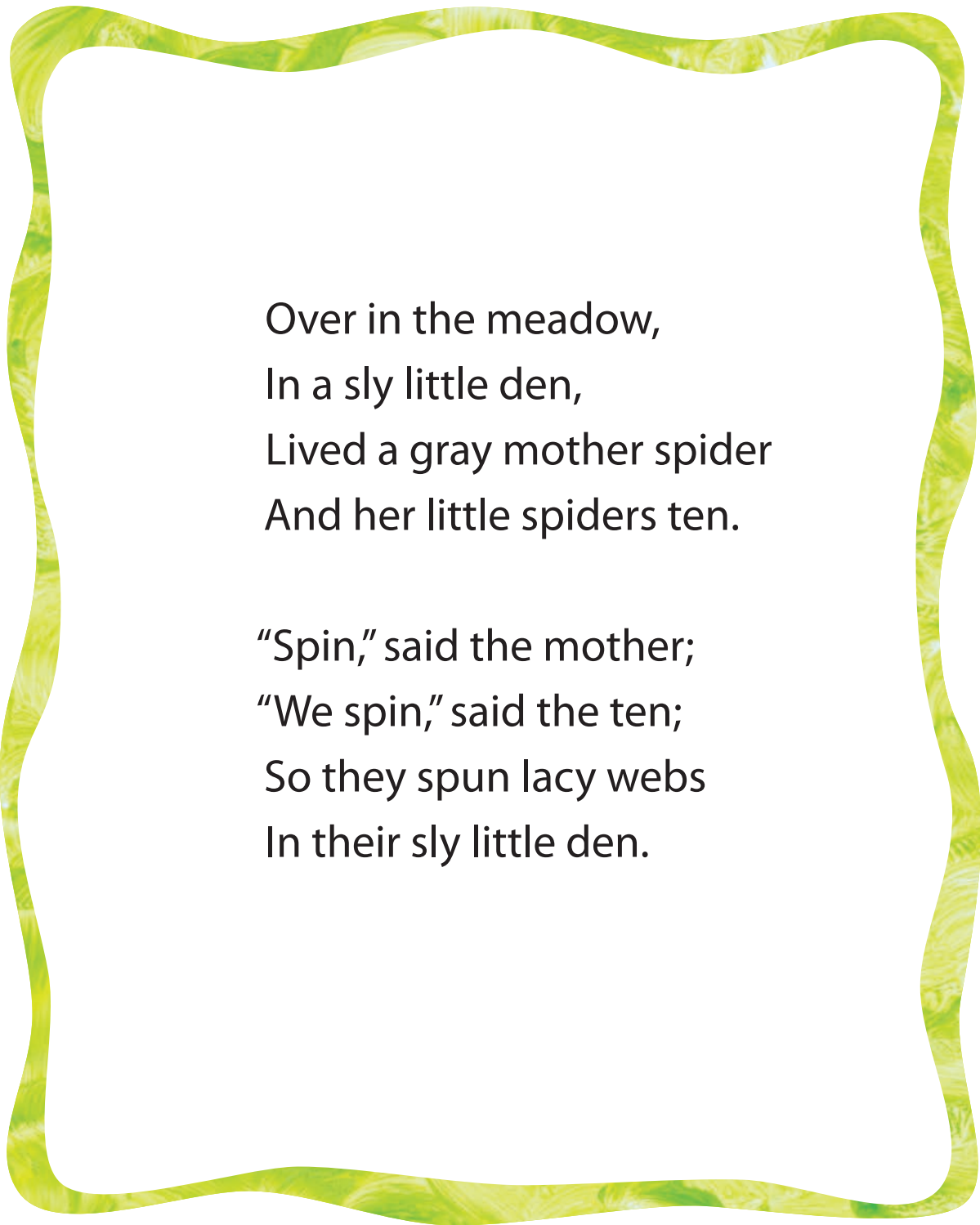




Over in the meadow,  
Where the quiet pools shine,  
Lived a green mother frog  
And her little froggies nine.

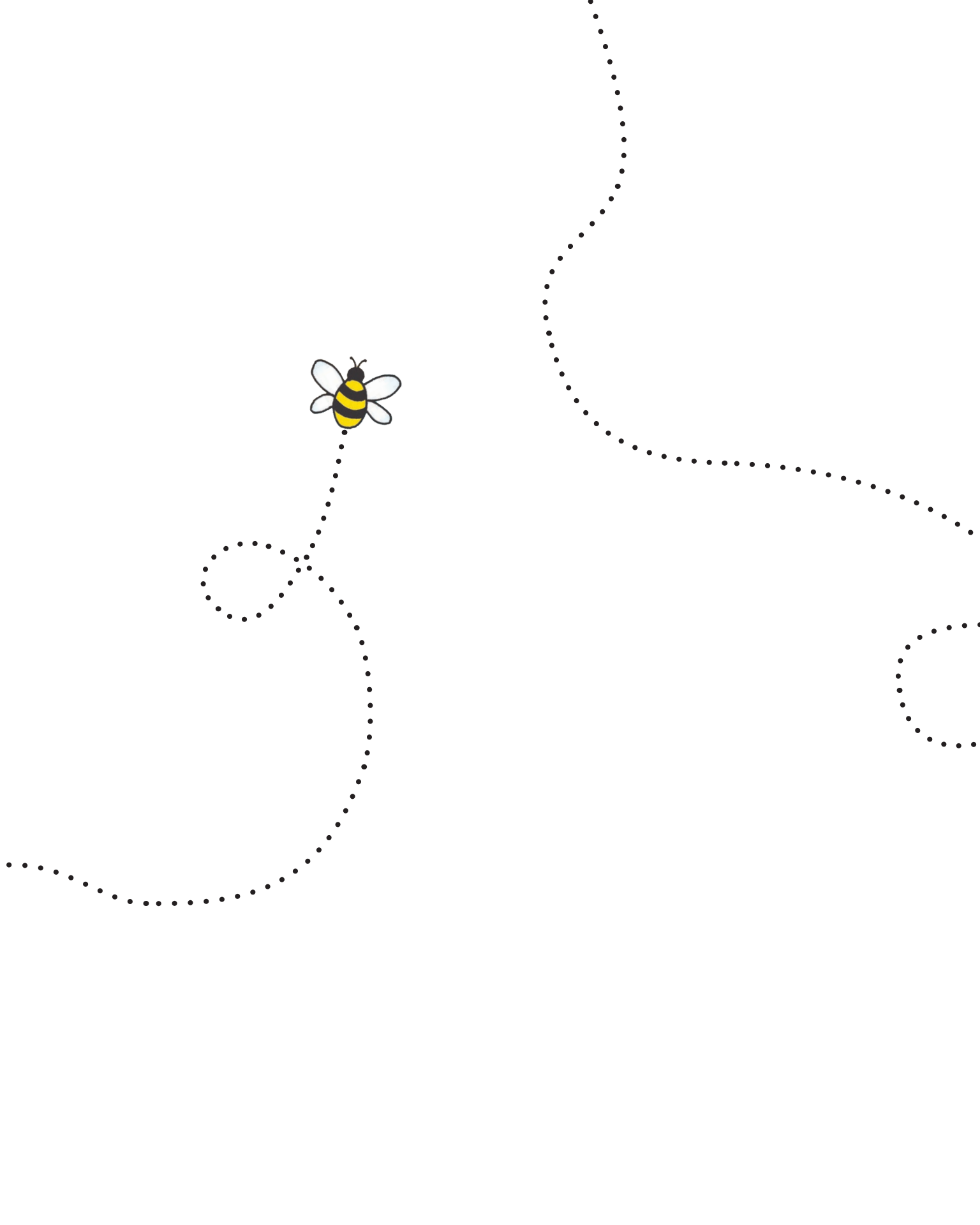
“Croak,” said the mother;  
“We croak,” said the nine;  
So they croaked and they splashed  
Where the quiet pools shine.





Over in the meadow,  
In a sly little den,  
Lived a gray mother spider  
And her little spiders ten.

“Spin,” said the mother;  
“We spin,” said the ten;  
So they spun lacy webs  
In their sly little den.





## About the Author

Back in the 19th century, many believed women should not be writers. It was so frowned upon that women writers often used a made-up name (or pen name) to hide their identity or protect their family honor. Olive A. Wadsworth (1835-1886), whose real name was Katherine Floyd Dana, was one such writer. In addition to writing "Over in the Meadow," Olive contributed to her husband's "Commercial & Financial Chronicle" and signed her work with the initials O.A.W. Only her closest friends knew the initials had a second, secret meaning: "only a woman."



## About the Illustrator

Faith Gowan grew up in a home buzzing with creative projects. Both of her parents were artists, and she and her sisters and brother were always encouraged to make things. To this day, Faith is happiest when working with her hands: shaping something out of clay, sewing a quilt, knitting a pair of mittens, or even preparing a tasty pot of soup! Faith lives in Colorado with her husband and two children.



Can you count from one to ten?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10