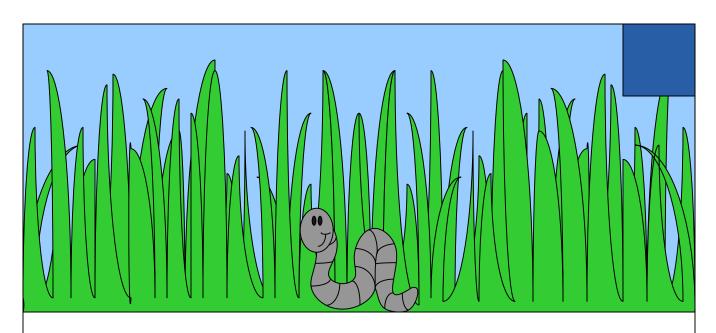


Wally the Worm

Written and Illustrated by Jennifer Cheatham

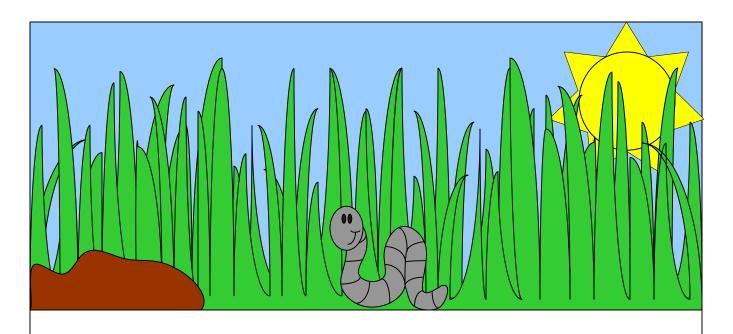
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Wally the Worm

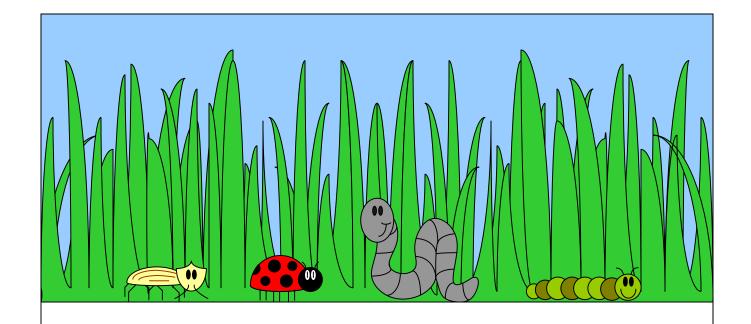
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Wally was a happy worm. Life was good for Wally. He spent his days in the sun, munching on dirt and old plants, and playing in the mud.

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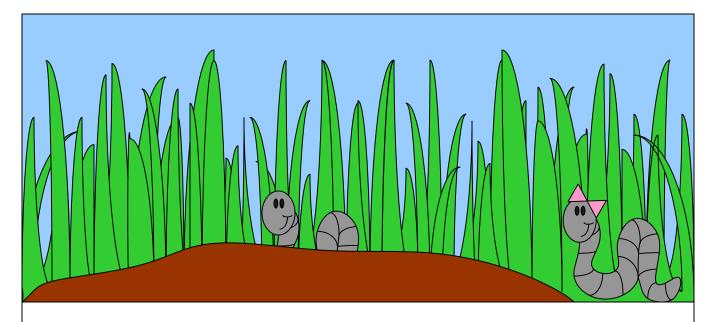
He had lots of friends, lots of food, and lots of fun things to do. Wally had everything he wanted. That is, until one day...

3

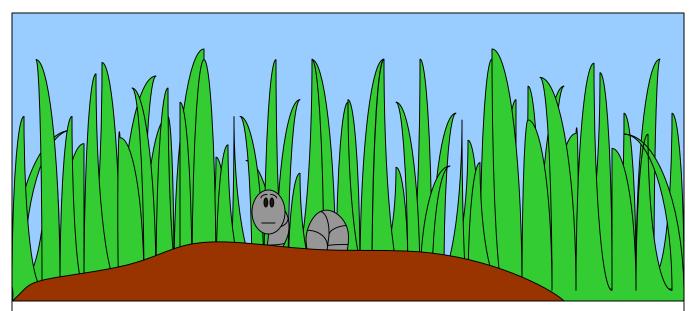
"Pat, do you want to soak in the mud with me?" asked Wally.

"I can't, Wally," said Pat. "I need to tell my dad about Carlee. Did you hear about Carlee the Caterpillar?" "No, what happened?" replied Wally.

"Oh, it is fantastic! Carlee is a butterfly now!" yelled Pat with glee. "She is so pretty!"



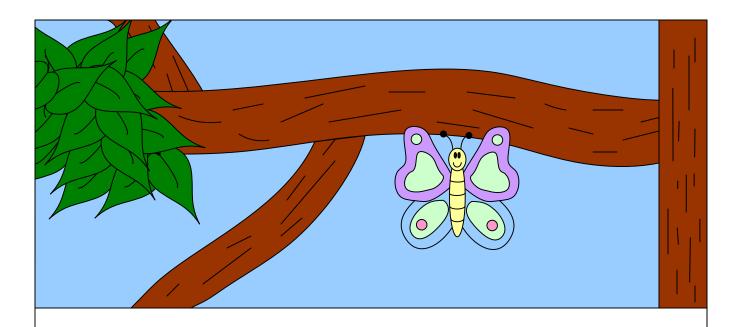
The day started out like every other day. Wally woke up, munched on some dirt and old plants, laid in the sun, and cooled off in the mud. When he was in the mud, smiling to himself and thinking how great his life was, Pat came by.



Wally did not know what to think. Carlee was a butterfly? What did she look like? How did she go from being a caterpillar to a butterfly? He had to find out.

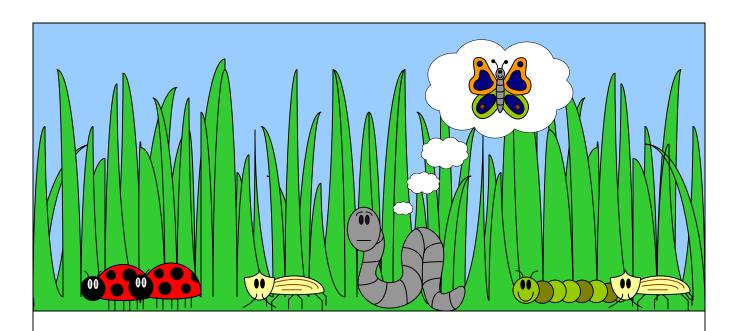
Wally went to Carlee's house as fast as he could.

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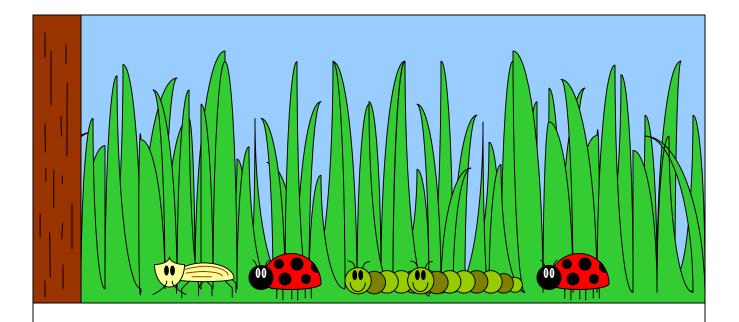


Carlee was flying around outside her house. She really was very pretty. Lots of Wally's friends were on the ground asking Carlee all kinds of things. Wally just stood and thought.

7

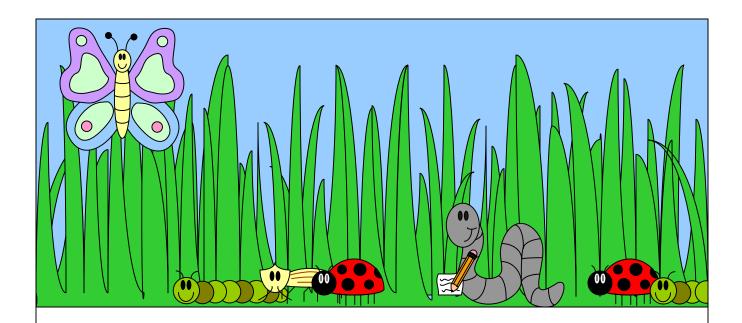


Wally thought to himself, "I want to be pretty. I want to fly around. I think my life would be better if I were a butterfly like Carlee."

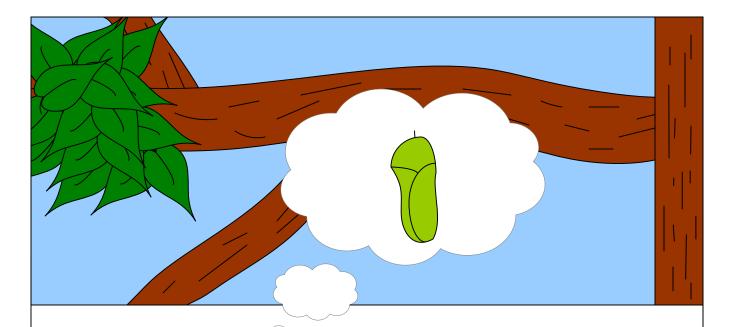


Carlee was so pretty. She could fly around any place she wanted to fly. Wally thought about it. Her life seemed like it was more fun than his life.

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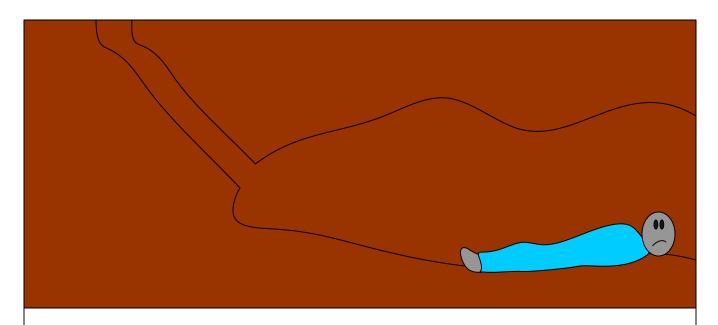


Wally listened to Carlee tell about how she became a butterfly and what she was going to do next. Wally took notes so he could be a butterfly, too.

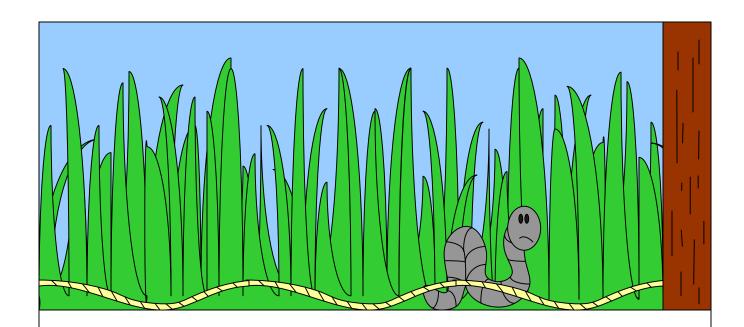


Carlee said she made a pupa. So Wally tried to make a pupa. She said she made a pupa with silk and stayed inside until she was a butterfly.

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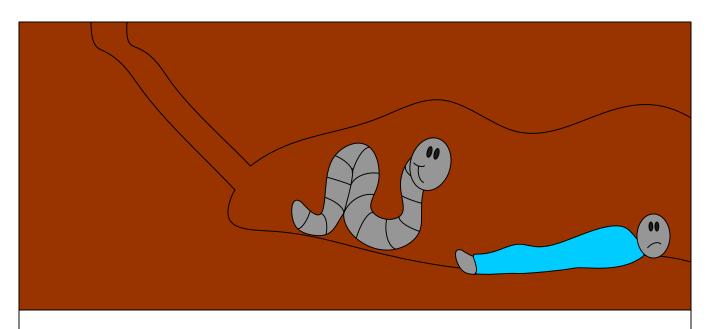


Wally really wanted to become a butterfly, but he couldn't. He just was not made to become a butterfly. Wally was so sad. He could not be pretty. He could not fly around. He went home and laid in his bed.



But Wally didn't have silk to make the pupa like Carlee did. He tried some string, but that did not work. Wally did not know what to do.

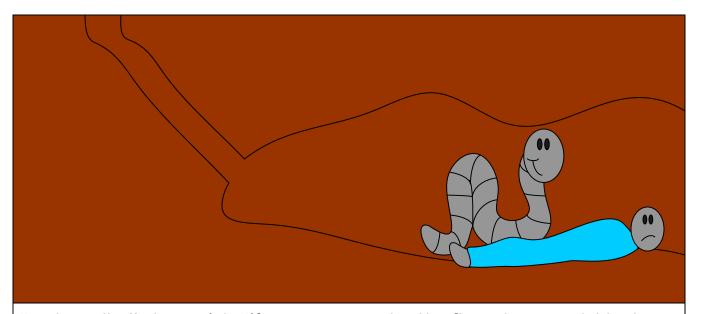
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Wally's mom came in.

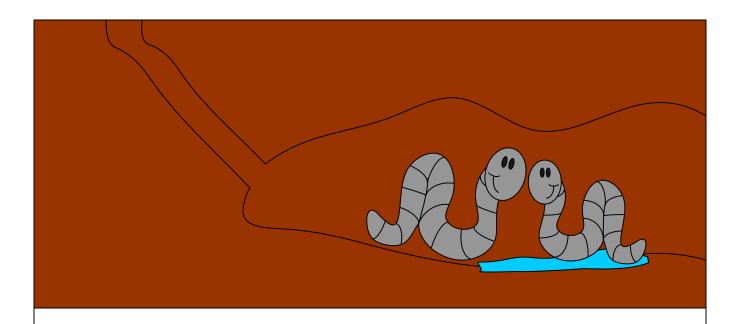
"Why are you so sad, Wally?" she asked.

"I really want to be a butterfly and be beautiful and fly around, Mom," he said, "but I don't know how."



"But Wally," she said, "if you were a butterfly, who would help me around the house? Who would help make the soil good for plants by eating it? Who would help get rid of old plants? Who would lay with me in the mud after getting hot in the sun?"

Wally thought about it.



"You are right, Mom!" said Wally. "It is OK that Carlee is a butterfly and I am not. I need to be me because I am the only one who can be me!"

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