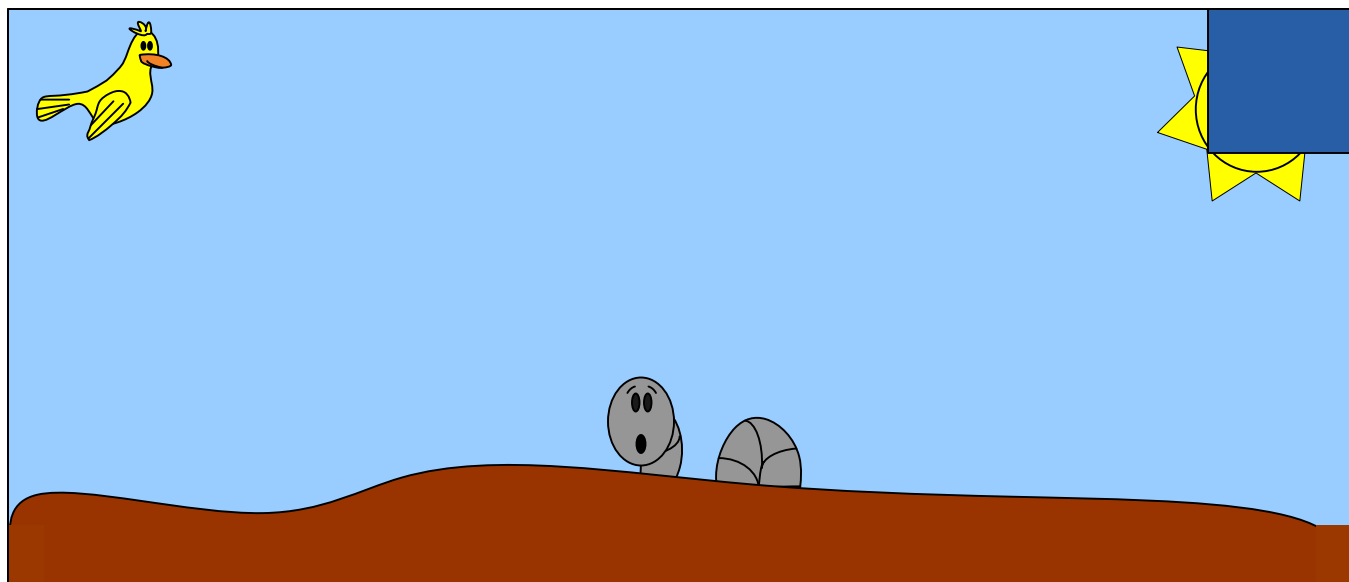


Wilbert on the Run

Written and Illustrated by Jennifer Cheatham

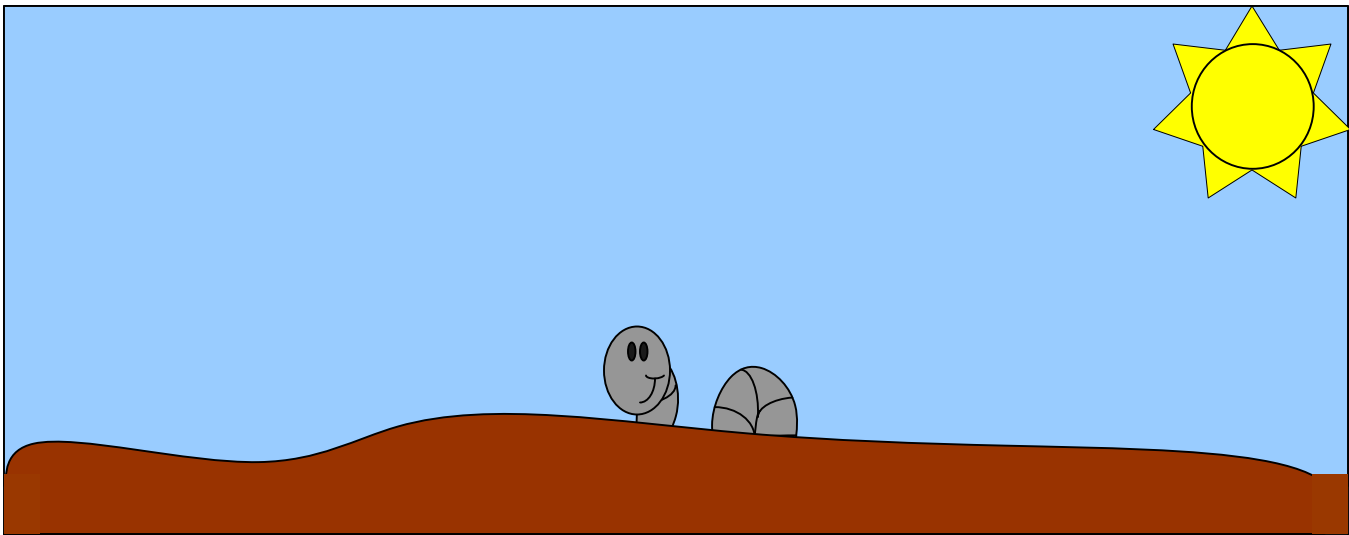
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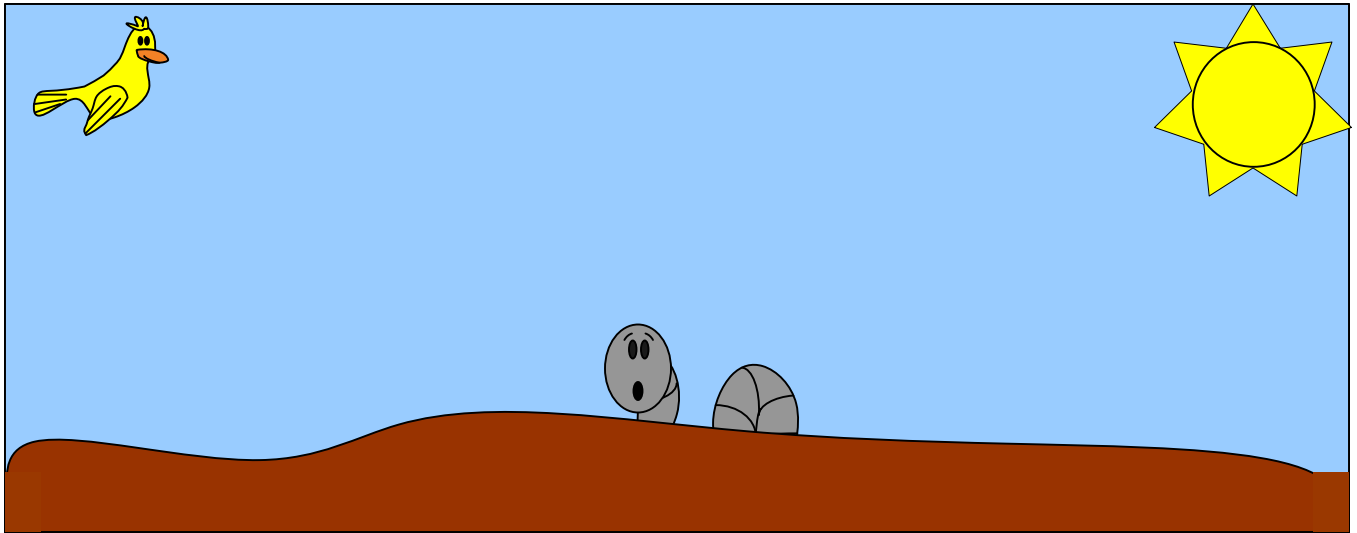
Wilbert on the Run

Written and Illustrated by Jennifer Cheatham

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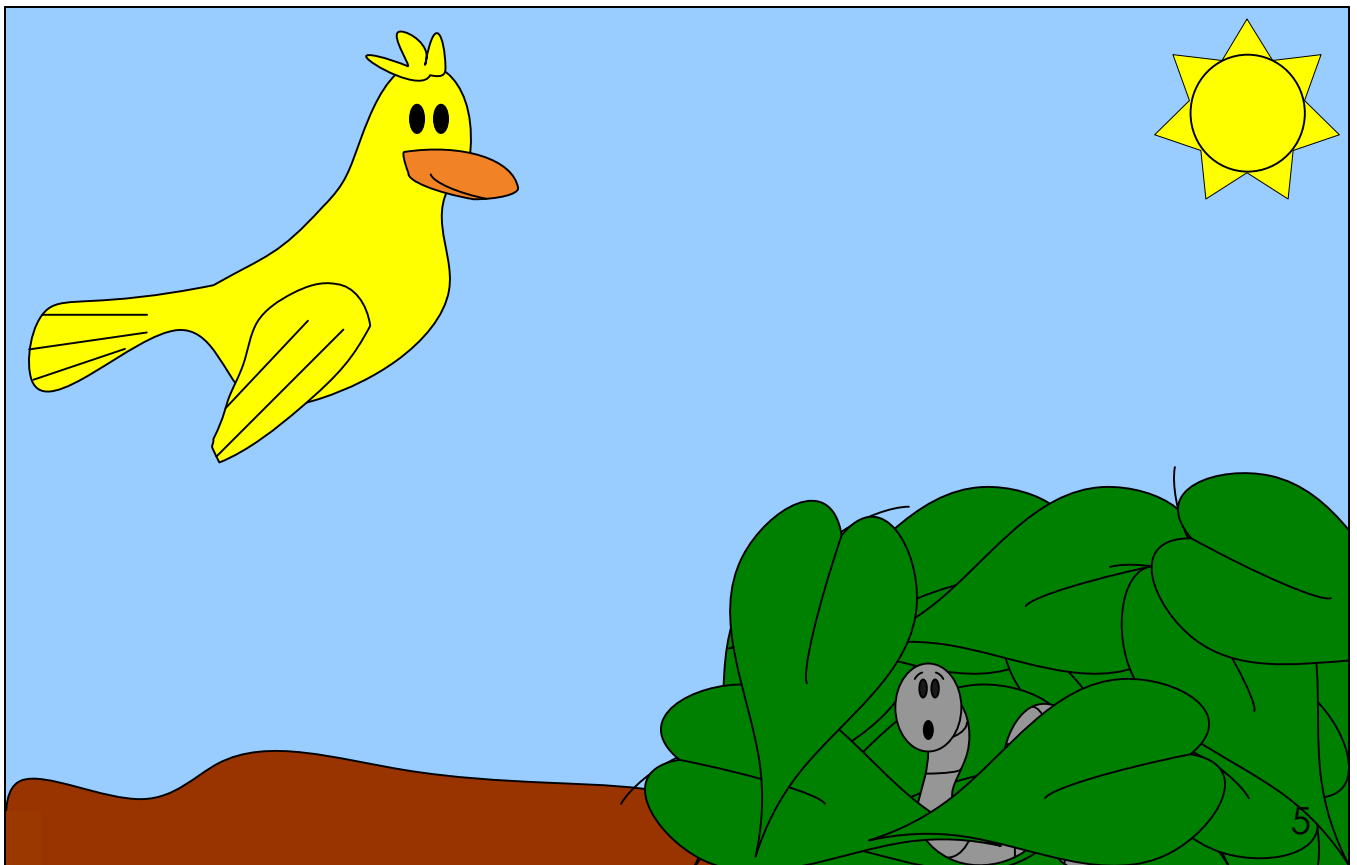


Wilbert was a happy worm. He sat in the mud almost every day. When wanted something to eat, there was dirt all around him. Wilbert did not have to worry about much. He could just relax in the mud.



One time, when Wilbert was relaxing in the mud, he saw something. It was something in the sky. It was moving. It was large. What was it? Wilbert thought about what it could be. When it got near Wilbert, he could see what it was. It was a bird!

3

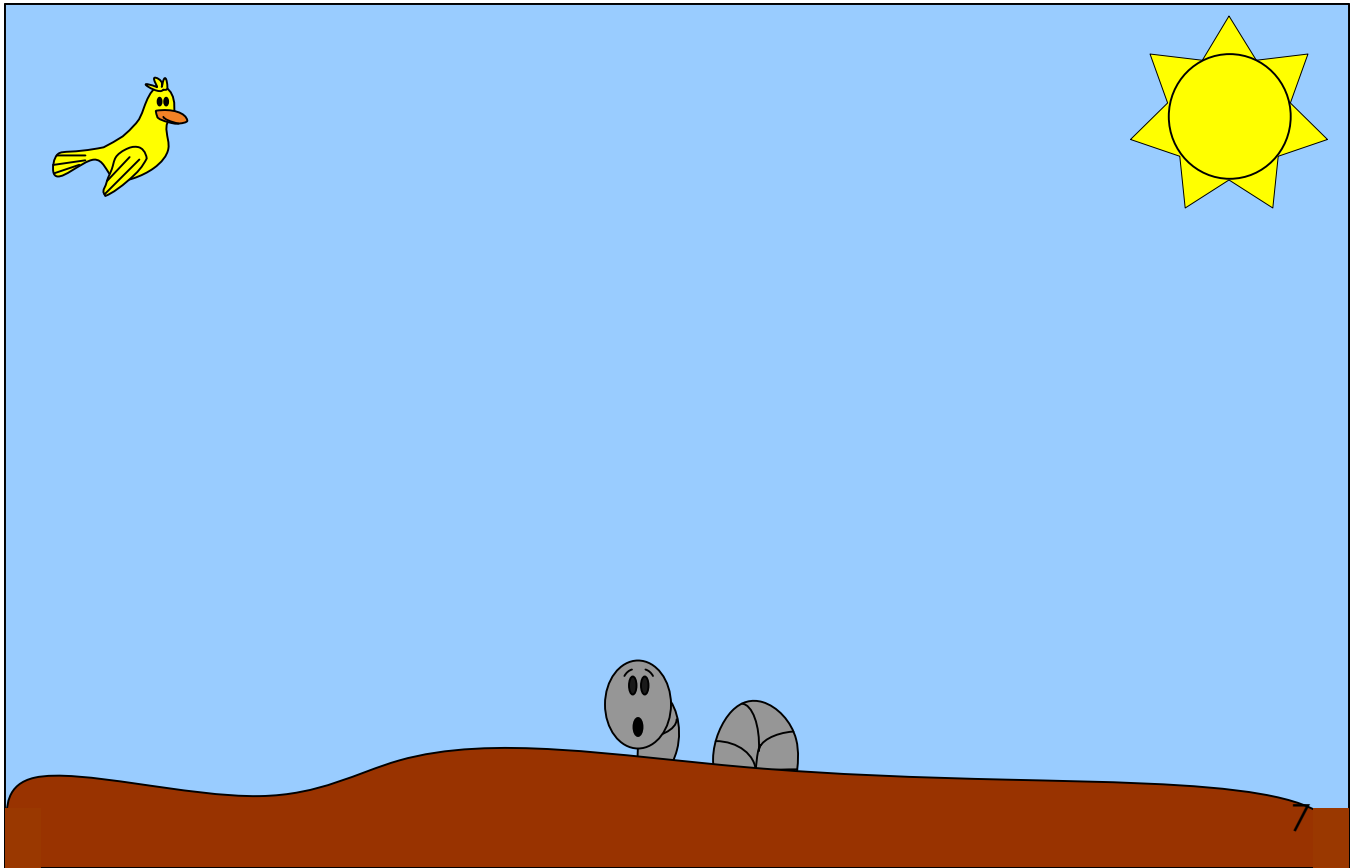


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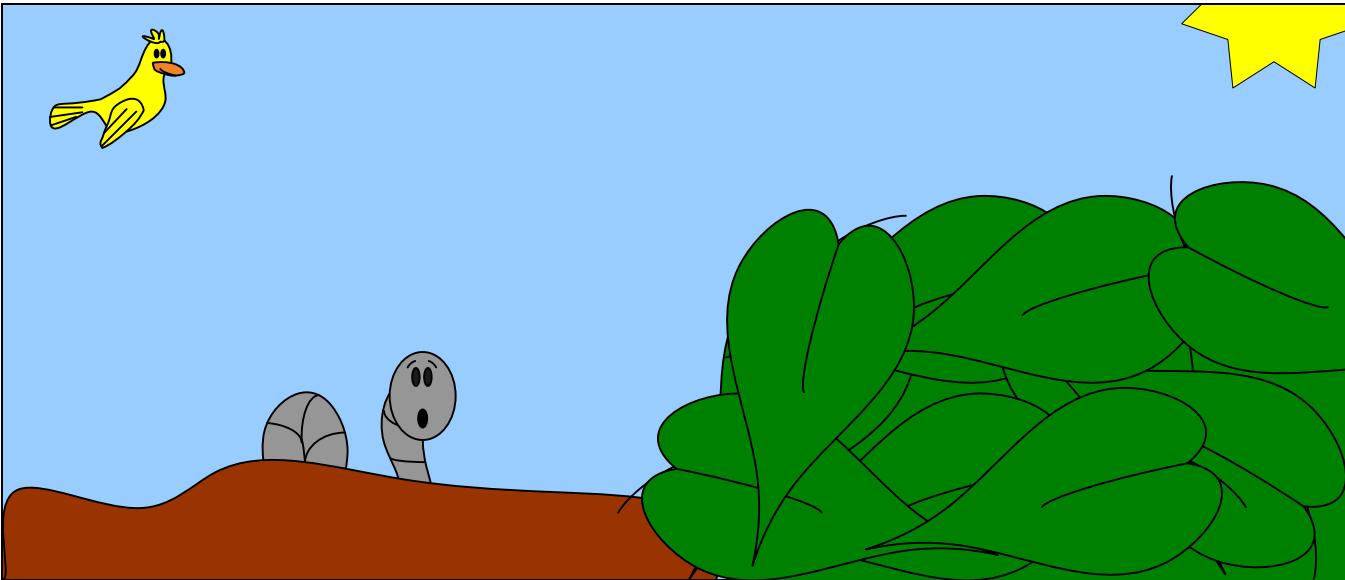
Wilbert grew scared because birds eat worms!

Wilbert knew he needed to hide. He ran over to a pile of leaves. Wilbert hid under the leaves. He was very still. He did not want the bird to know where he was hiding.

Wilbert thought the bird went away. He came out from under the leaves and went back into the mud. Wilbert was glad that was over. Now he could just relax in the mud. But Wilbert had only been back in the mud a little bit when he saw the bird flying the sky again!



Wilbert saw a large rock. He could hide under the rock. Wilbert ran over to the rock as fast as he could. The bird was looking for him! He pushed the dirt away from the rock. He got right under the rock. He sat very still again. He tried to hear if the bird was near him. He was not sure, but he did not want to look. If he stuck his head out the bird might see him.



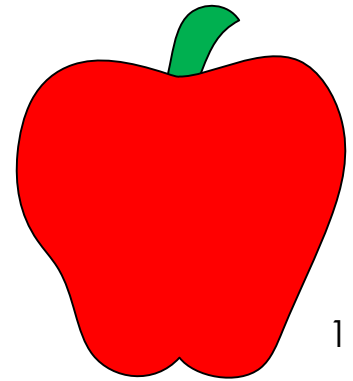
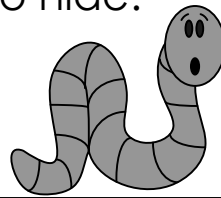
Wilbert looked around quickly. Where could he hide? The leaves worked as a hiding place last time, but would they work again? It was risky.

8

Wilbert did not hear anything. The bird flew away. This time Wilbert was not going to go back to the mud. He was just going to go to his house. The bird must want something to eat. Wilbert did not want to be the bird's snack. He could go home and rest there without having to worry about being eaten by the bird.

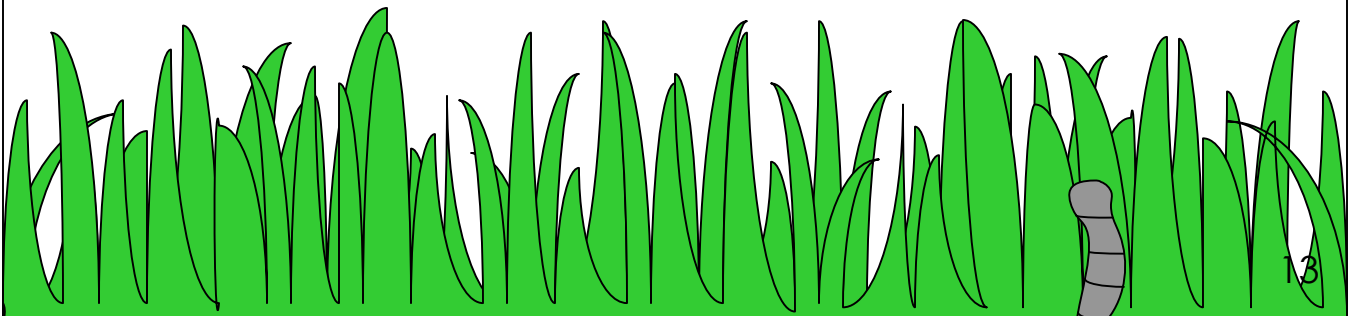
10

Wilbert started on the path to his house. He had not made it very far when he saw the bird again! Where could he hide? Was the bird going to catch him? Wilbert looked around. He saw a small apple. Wilbert ran to the apple. He dug a hole in the apple to hide from the bird. He was sure the bird would not find him in the apple. The apple was a good place to hide.



11

Wilbert did not see any place to hide. Wilbert jumped up as high as he could and dug a hole down in the ground. He was worried that he could not dig down where the bird could not see him. He did not want his tail to stick out of the ground.

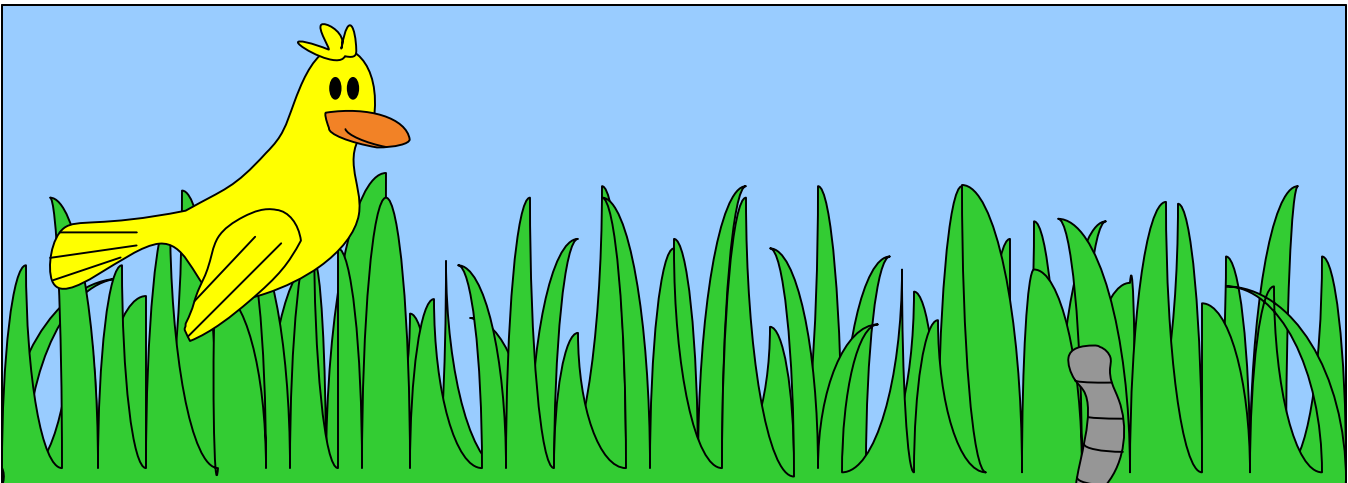
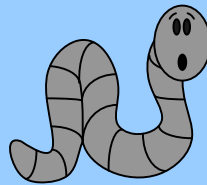


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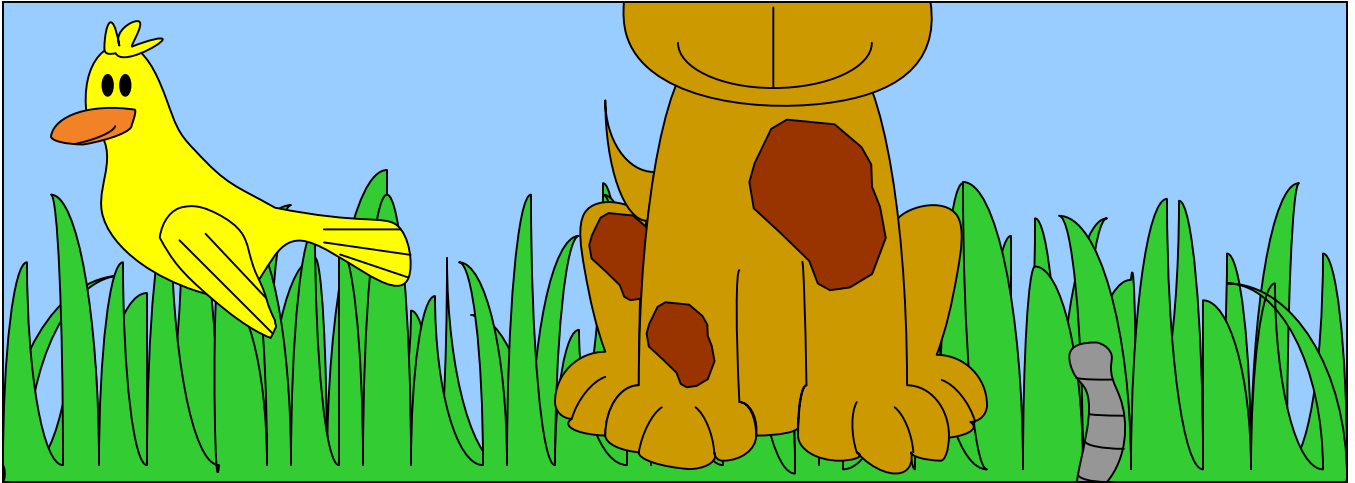
Wilbert waited for the bird to fly away. Then he dug a hole out of the apple. He ran to his house as fast as he could. He was almost home when he saw the bird flying again. Wilbert looked all around. Where could he hide from the bird this time? There were no leaves. There were no rocks. There were no apples.

12



Wilbert dug as fast and as hard as he could. He could hear the bird flying. The bird was near him. Was the bird going to get his tail? Wilbert felt like his tail was still in the hot sun! What could he do? The sound of the bird was getting louder and louder! It was almost there! Wilbert was so worried!

14



Just when Wilbert was sure the bird was going to get him, there was a new sound. "Woof, woof!" There was a dog! The dog ran at the bird and the bird flew away! The dog saved Wilbert from the bird! Wilbert was very happy. The dog would not try to eat him. He was safe.

Wilbert dug a hole out of the ground and ran to his house as fast as he could. It was a stressful day for Wilbert. He needed to take a nap. Who knew what the rest of the day would be like? Wilbert needed to rest. He might be on the run from the bird again later.

