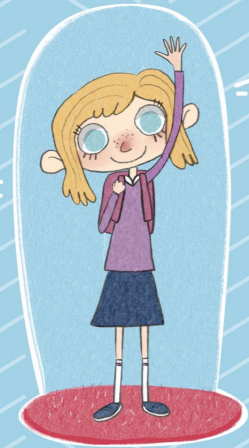


NOT SULLY AGAIN!

written by: Nour El Souki

illustrated by: Mariam Haidar



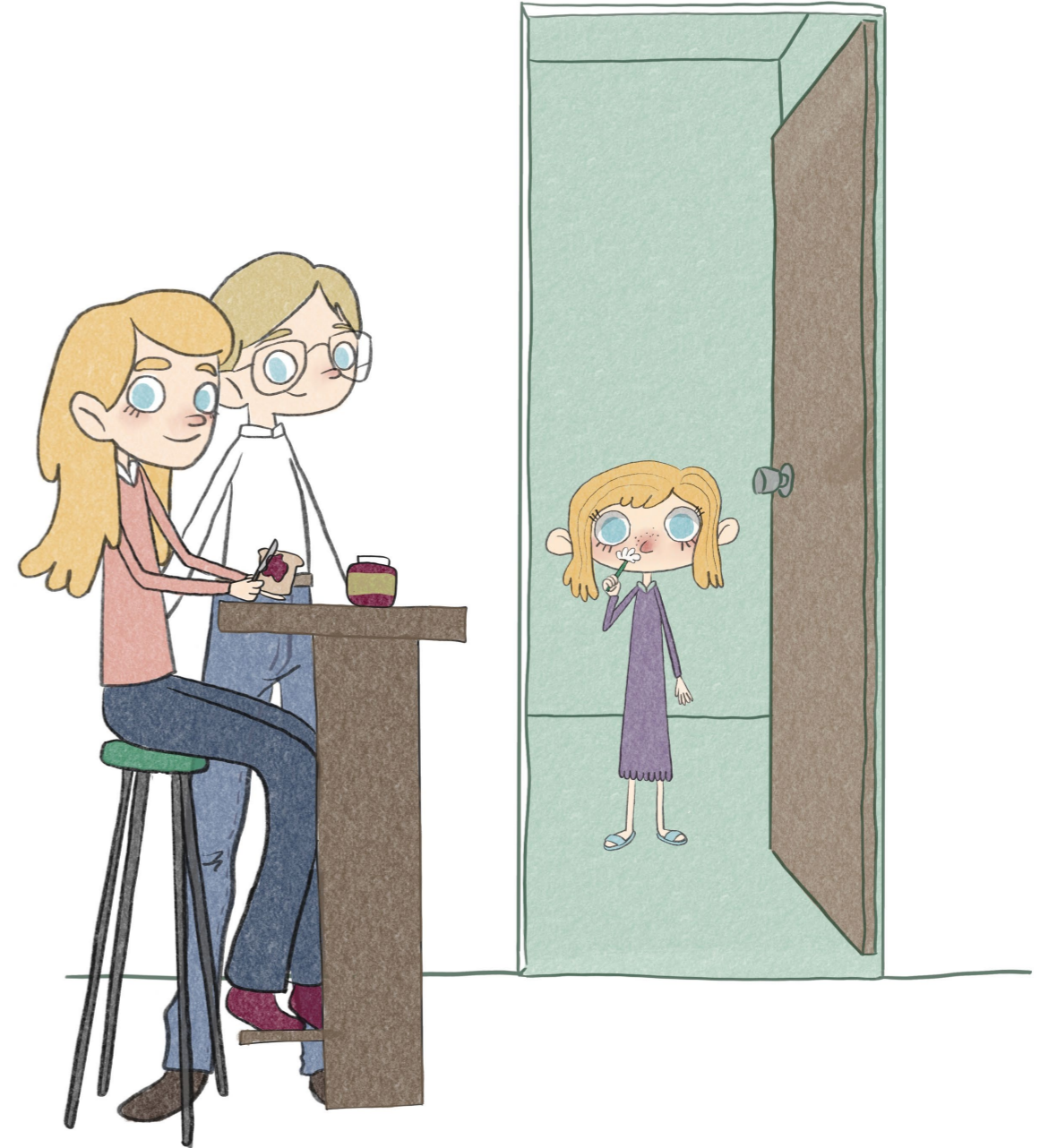
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Trrrr! The alarm went off and Sully began to get ready for her first day of school after spending Christmas break in her homeland, Sweden. Sully looked out her window with so much fear but the view of the rain pouring down the streets of Hamra made her relax and she began to get ready.

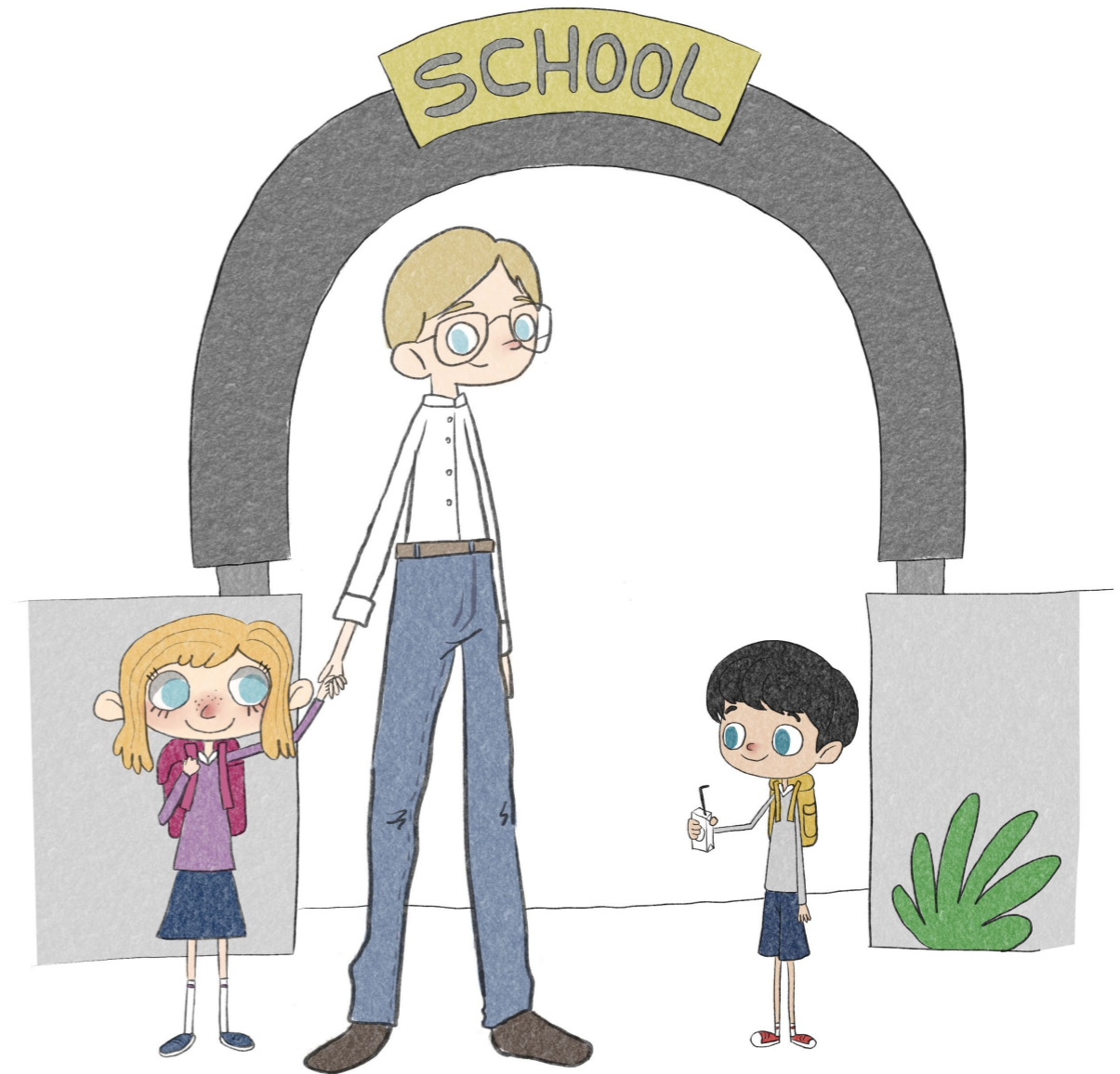
Mrs. Eva, Sully's mother, made her zaatar and olive oil sandwich which is Sully's favorite Lebanese sandwich filling. She took her sandwich and kissed her mom goodbye. Mr. Tod, Sully's father was waiting for her by the door so that he could drop her off to school.



As Mr. Tod was dropping Sully off to school, they met Sully's classmate, Issam walking to the school gate. Mr. Todd asked Sully why she didn't walk to class with Issam.

Sully replied "Dad, you know my classmates do not like me because I still cannot read fluently like them!".

"Good things come to the ones that work hard and I know you do," said Mr. Todd as he hugged Sully and dropped her off at her class.



When Sully took in her first steps in class, Ejiro yelled “Not Sully Again!”

Mrs. Samrithi, their homeroom teacher said “could we all respect each other, this is a new year!”

The bell rang and everybody sat down on their desks. They were all filled with excitement to start a new school quarter. Mrs. Samrithi asked the class to get out their reading books and open to a new story which was titled The Bossy Gallito.

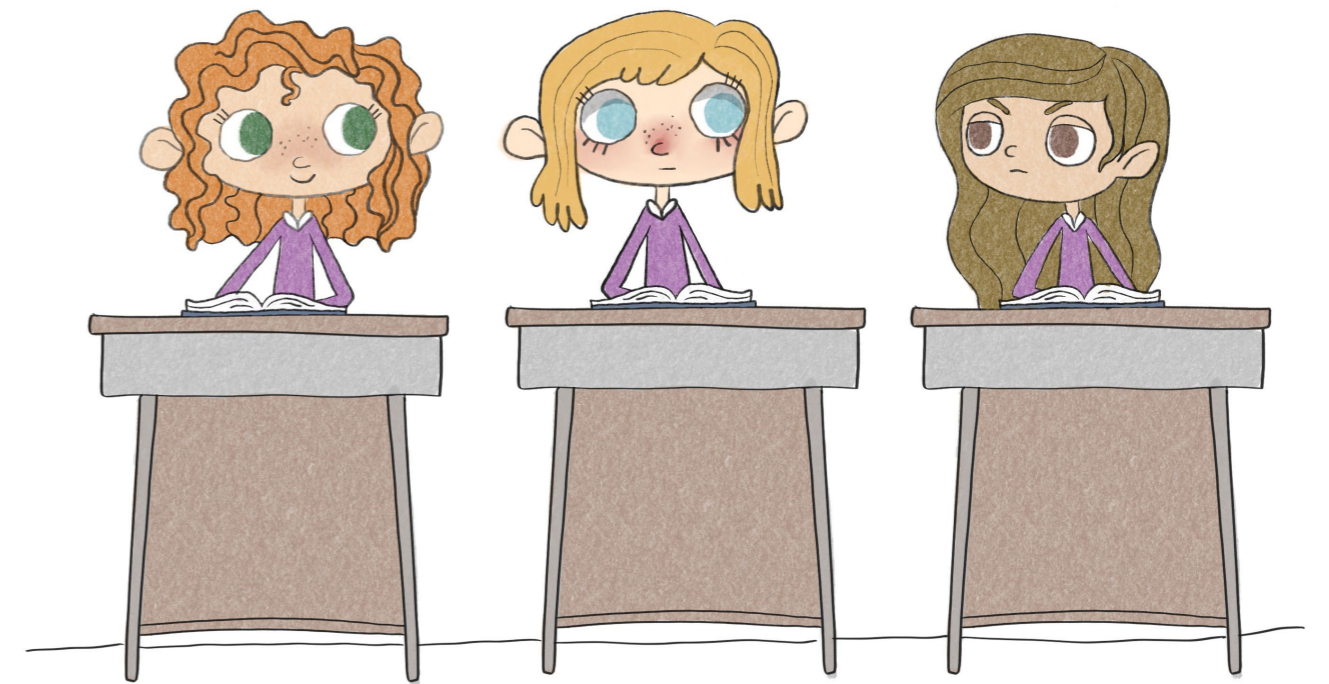


Mrs. Samrithi assigned the first paragraph to Iman and the second paragraph to Sully. Everyone began to murmur, and Isabella being a very honest girl yelled out “Not Sully Again!”

Sully felt so embarrassed and her round pale face turned red.

Mrs. Samrithi said “Excuse me young lady, if you may apologize to Sully right now because we all need each other to learn!”

Isabella did apologize and that made Sully feel less timid and a little more confident because of what Mrs. Samrithi said which was we all need each other to learn.



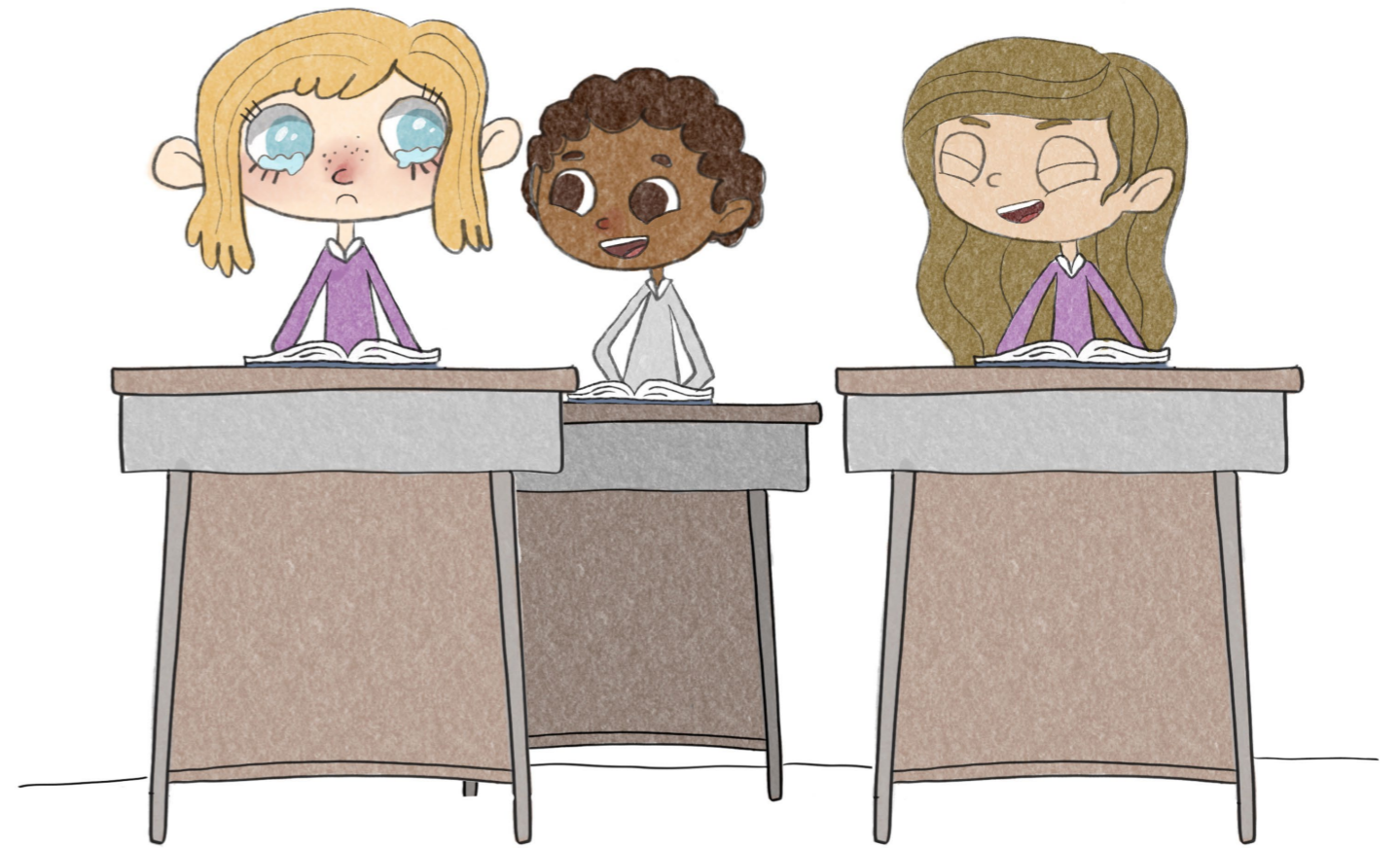
Ghada began to read and all that Sully was thinking about is how beautifully Ghada read her paragraph. It was Sully's turn and she began to read but while reading she took short pauses, read slowly, and stopped at the word population.

She started lowering her voice and stuttered a little. Sully looked up at Mrs. Samrithi with tears in her eyes and said, "Can someone else please take my turn?"

"I will gladly do it," said Bryan.

Mrs. Samrithi said "No one will take your turn, Sully. How about we all try to read the word together?"

Mrs. Samrithi wrote on the black board po-pu-lation and asked the whole class to read it out loud and told Sully to try to read out with the class.



“Great job,” said Mrs. Simrithi and she told Sully not to worry, she will make sure to tell Mr. Feras to go over 2 syllable words and words that end with tion.

“Mr. Feras that does Sully’s work for her,” yelled Bryan.

“NO!” cried out Sully with tears in her eyes.

Mrs. Samrithi decided to dismiss the class and called Miss. Aj, the moral instructions teacher because everyone was not being at their best behavior.



Mrs. Aj asked Jaenn and Lee to rearrange the chairs in a circle and move all the desks to the back of the class.

As they all sat in a circle, Mrs Aj asked the class what was the problem. She went on talking to them and telling them she knows that they are all full of energy after the Christmas break but that does not mean that you should misbehave and say negative comments about your classmates. She kept telling them that Mrs. Samrithi was very disappointed with them and students their age should not even act in such a manner. The class seemed to be really engaged in what Mrs.Aj was telling them. You could feel how most of the students had their faces facing the floor because of how ashamed they felt.



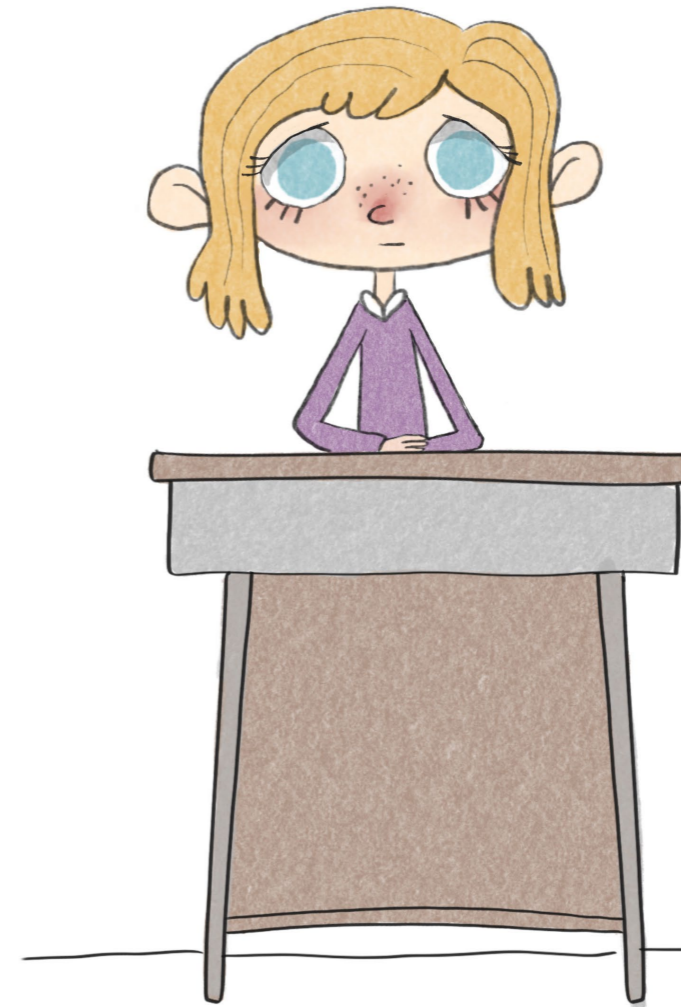
Mrs. Aj asked the class to each say one positive thing about themselves and one thing they would love to improve themselves on. Isabella's turn was first, next came Unyime's turn, and then it was Sully's turn. Everybody wanted to listen to what Sully had to say.

Sully did not have one positive thing to say about herself. Then asked Mrs. Aj, "What is one thing you would want to improve on?"

Without any hesitation Sully said, "My reading of course!"

Mrs. Aj asked Sully why she wanted to improve her reading.

"I am a special child that has difficulties in reading and this is why I leave class three times a week with Mr. Feras. He helps me a lot and he always tells me that I am improving a lot from when I began my pull out sessions,"

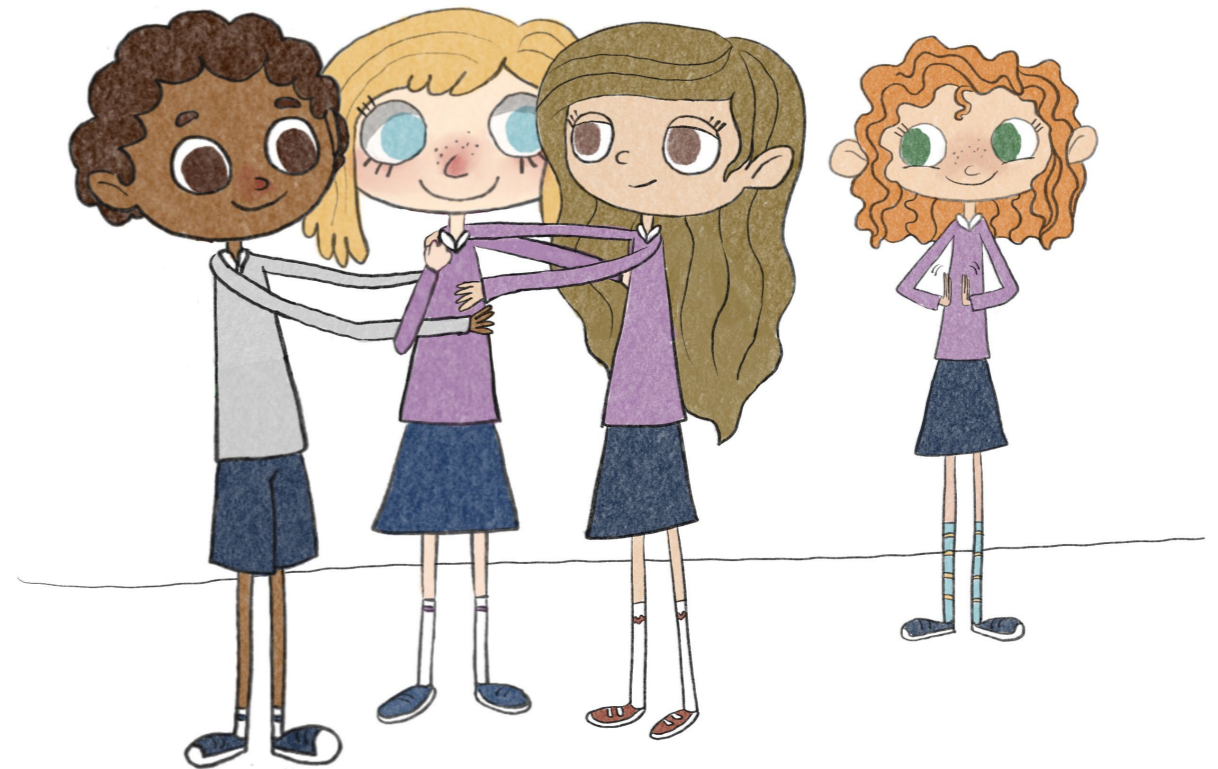


Ghada clapped for Sully and thanked her for sharing this special information with the whole class and also told her that she is a very honest girl.

Then Jaenn stood up and told Sully that she is not only an honest girl but she is very helpful and he did thank her for always helping him in art.

Bryan felt ashamed and apologized to Sully and asked “Will you please forgive me?”.

“But before answering Bryan, will you also accept my apology and forgive me for yelling in class, Not Sully Again!”.



With tears in her eyes and a big smile that was not being able to be contained. Sully started hugging everybody in class and thanking them.

“Alright now quiet down everyone and please go back to your seats,” said Mrs. Aj.

Mrs. Aj, went on to tell them that the lesson here is that being different or not excelling at a particular task does not mean that the person is a failure or that we have the right to bully them. She also told the class that they should all learn to love, respect, and help one another because we all need each other to learn.

From that day onwards the class made a promise to always be there for each other no matter what the situation is because our differences make us unique no matter what.

THE END



NOT
SULLY
AGAIN!