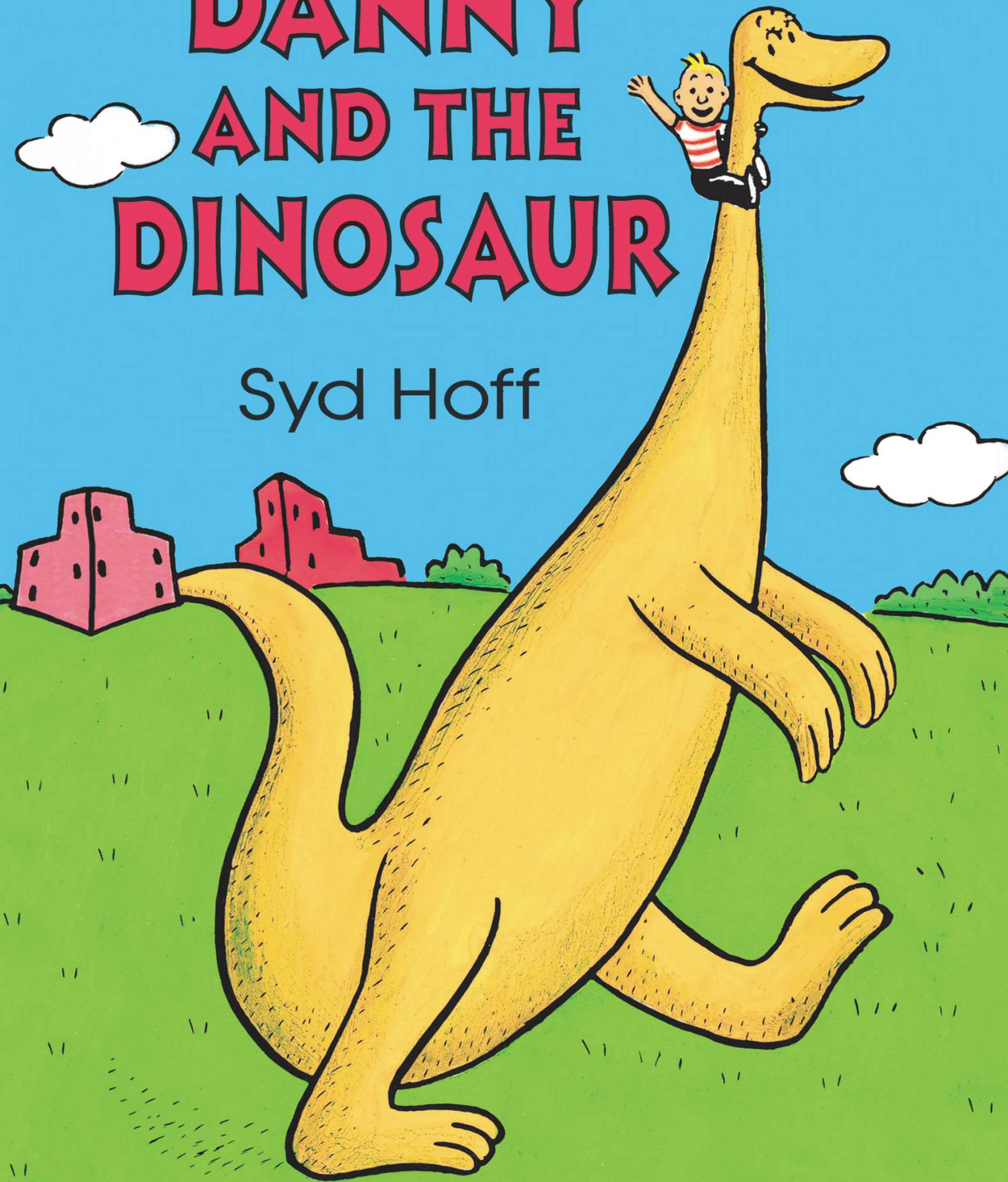


I Can Read!™

BEGINNING
1
READING

DANNY AND THE DINOSAUR

Syd Hoff





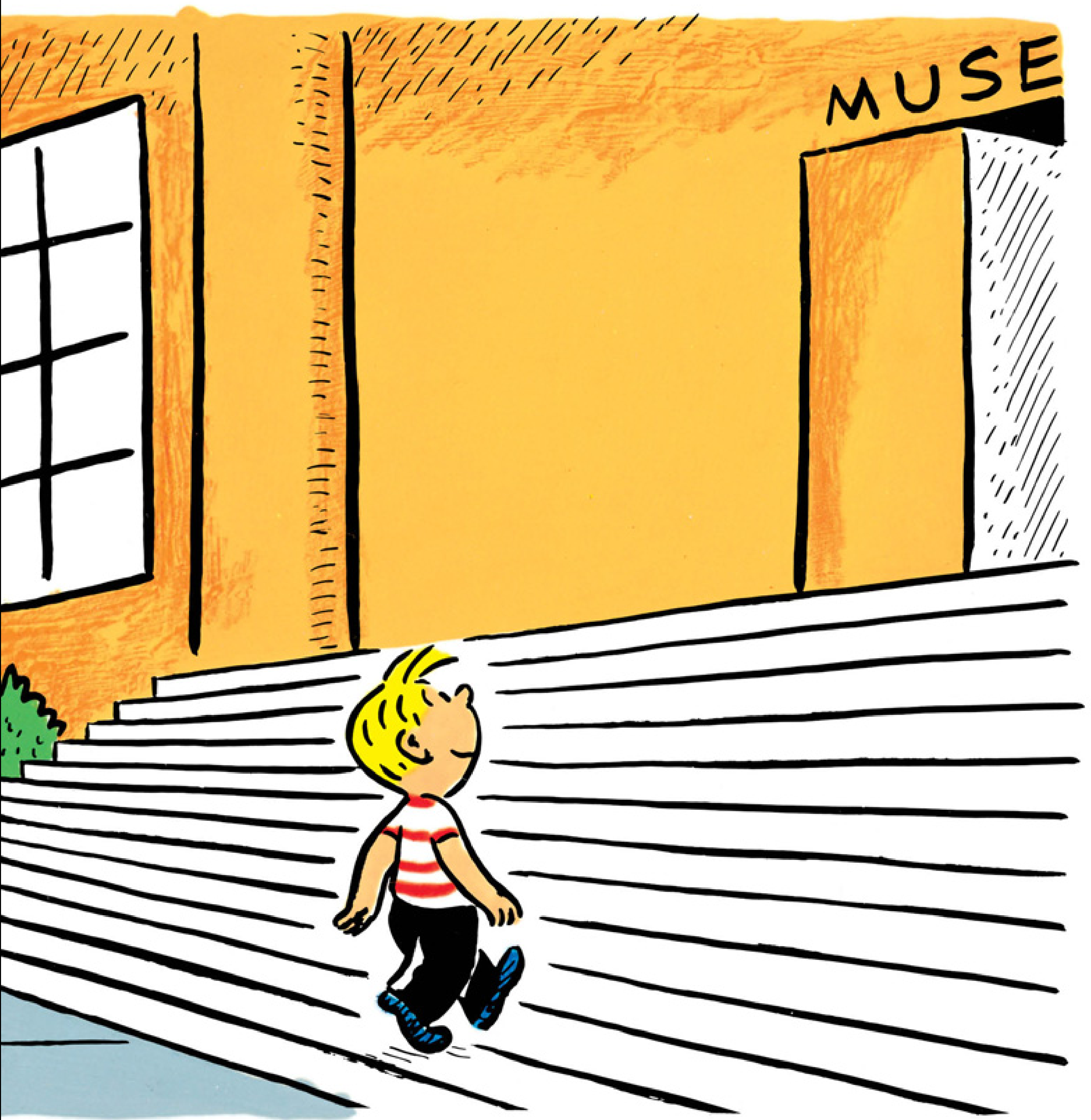
DANNY AND THE DINOSAUR

Story and Pictures
by Syd Hoff



HARPER

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One day Danny went
to the museum.

He wanted to see what was inside.



He saw Indians.

He saw bears.

He saw Eskimos.



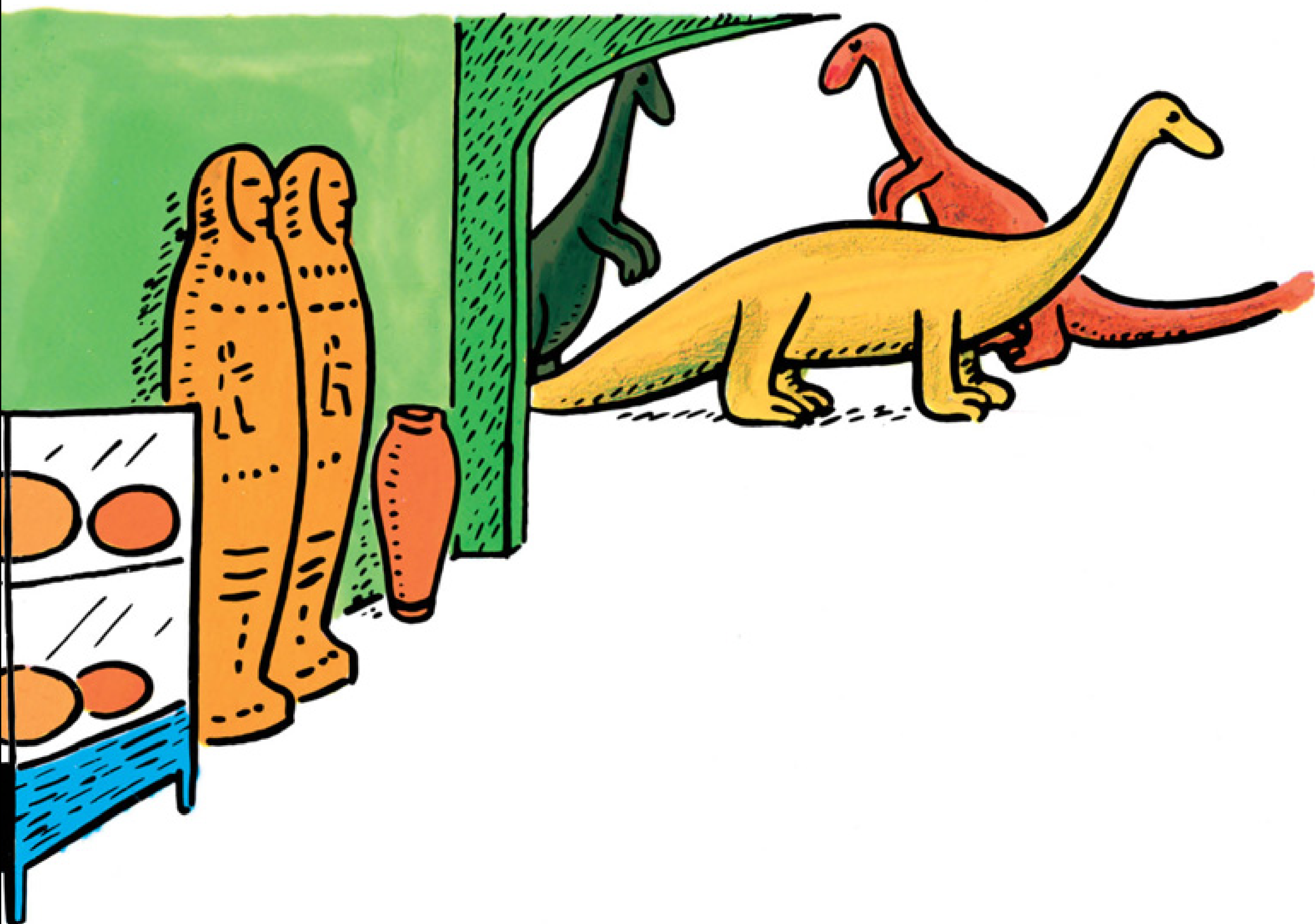
He saw guns.

He saw swords.

And he saw . . .



DINOSAURS!



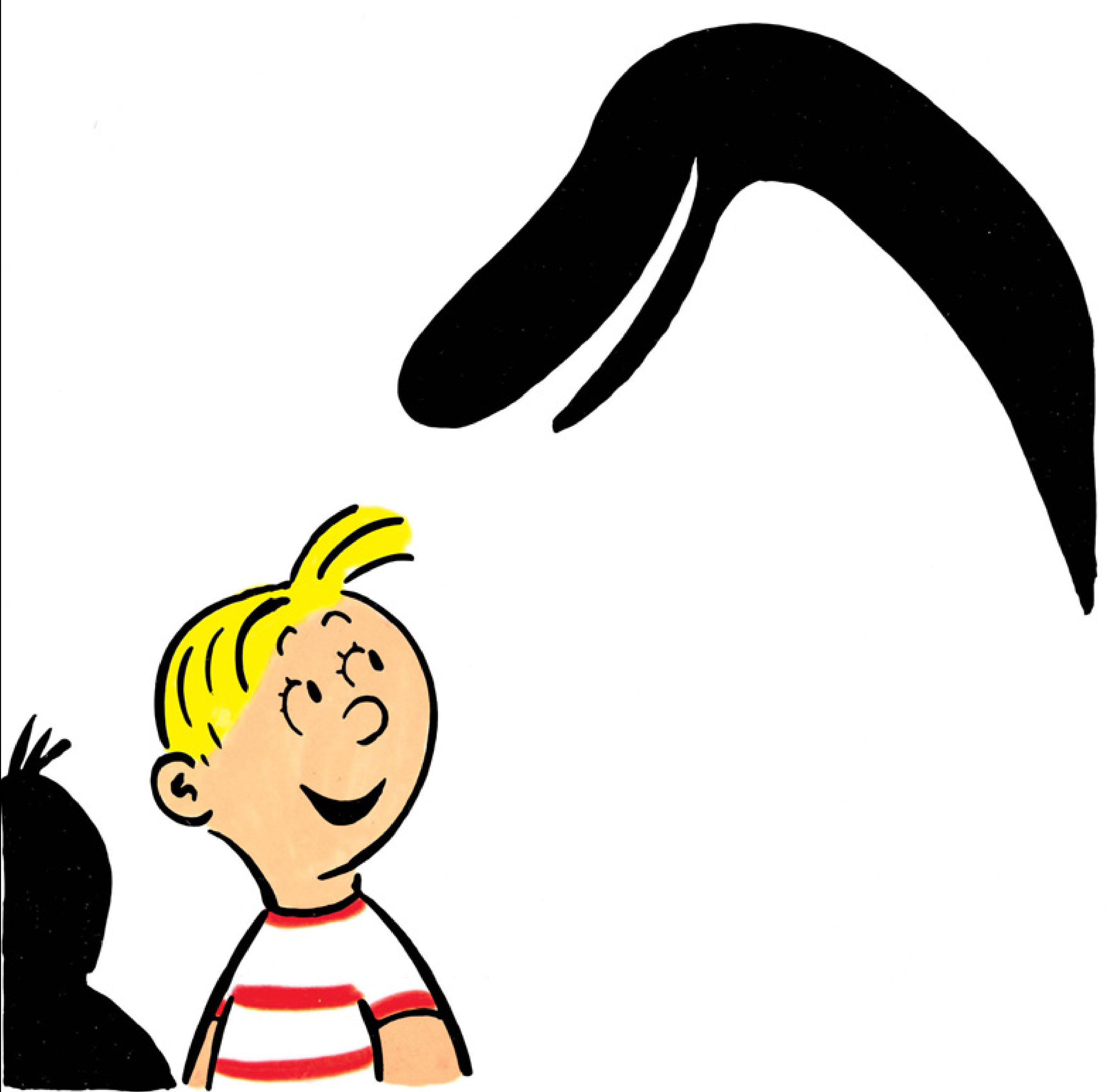
Danny loved dinosaurs.

He wished he had one.



“I’m sorry they are not real,”
said Danny.

“It would be nice
to play with a dinosaur.”



“And I think it would be nice
to play with you,”
said a voice.

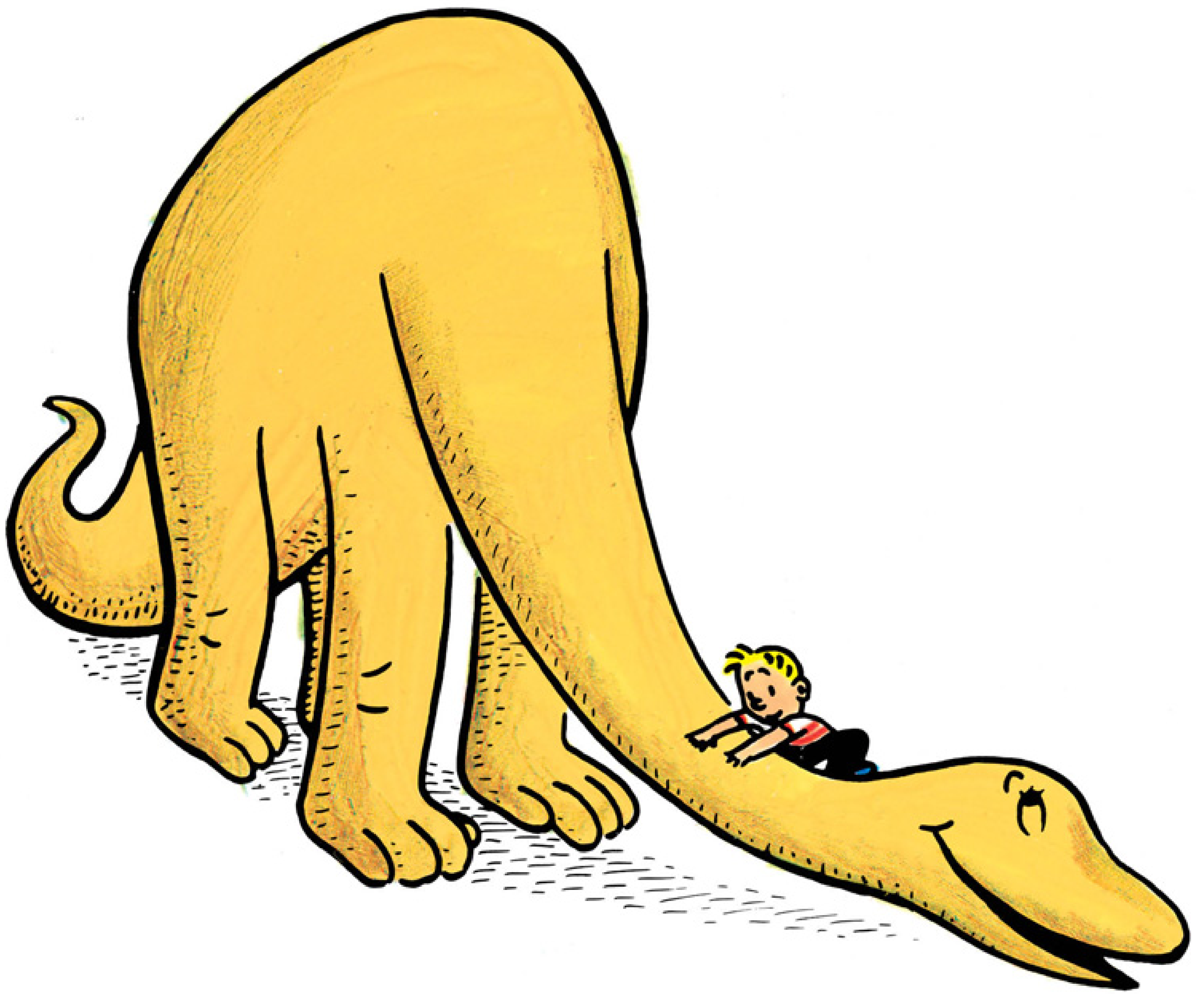
“Can you?” said Danny.



“Yes,” said the dinosaur.

“Oh, good,” said Danny.

“What can we do?”



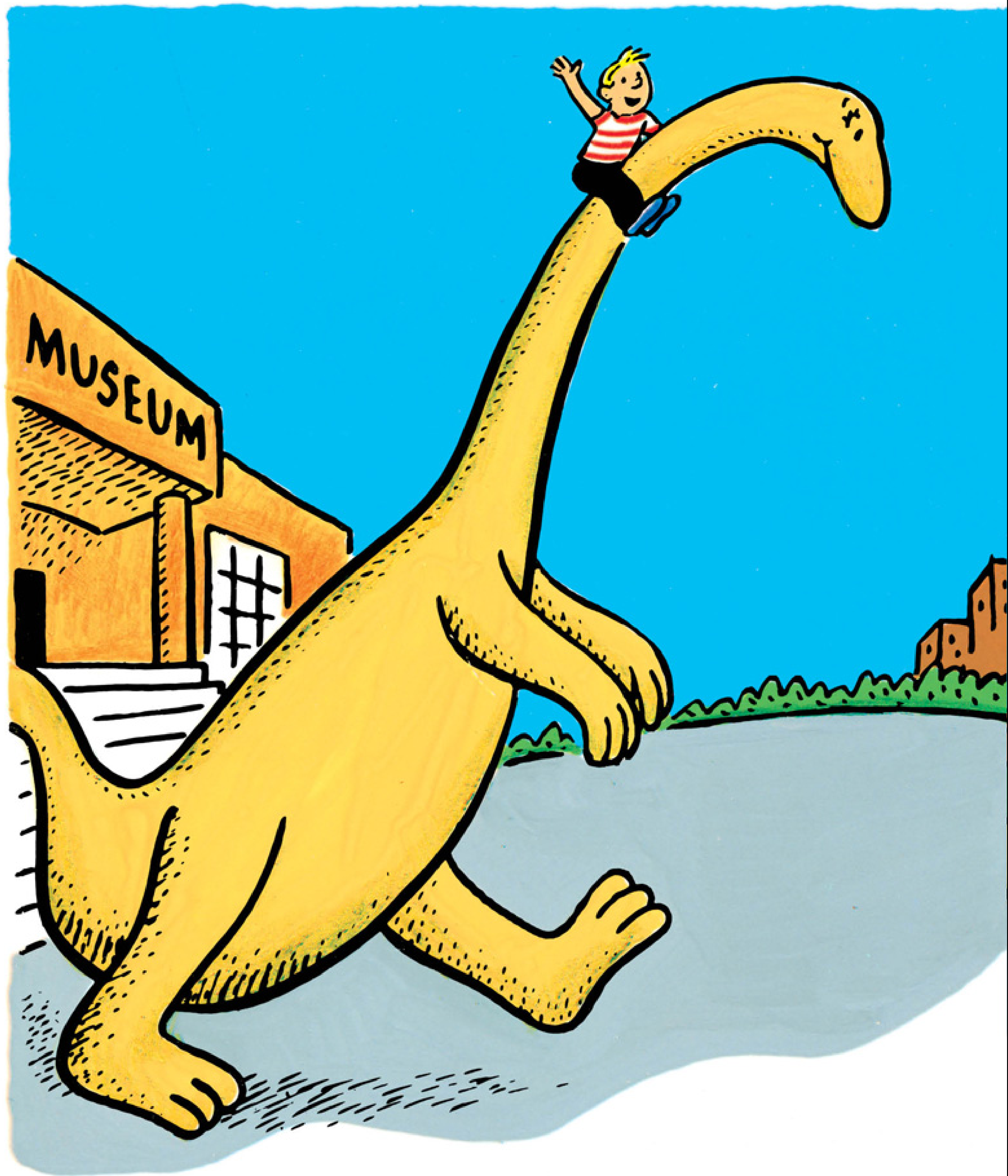
“I can take you for a ride,”

said the dinosaur.

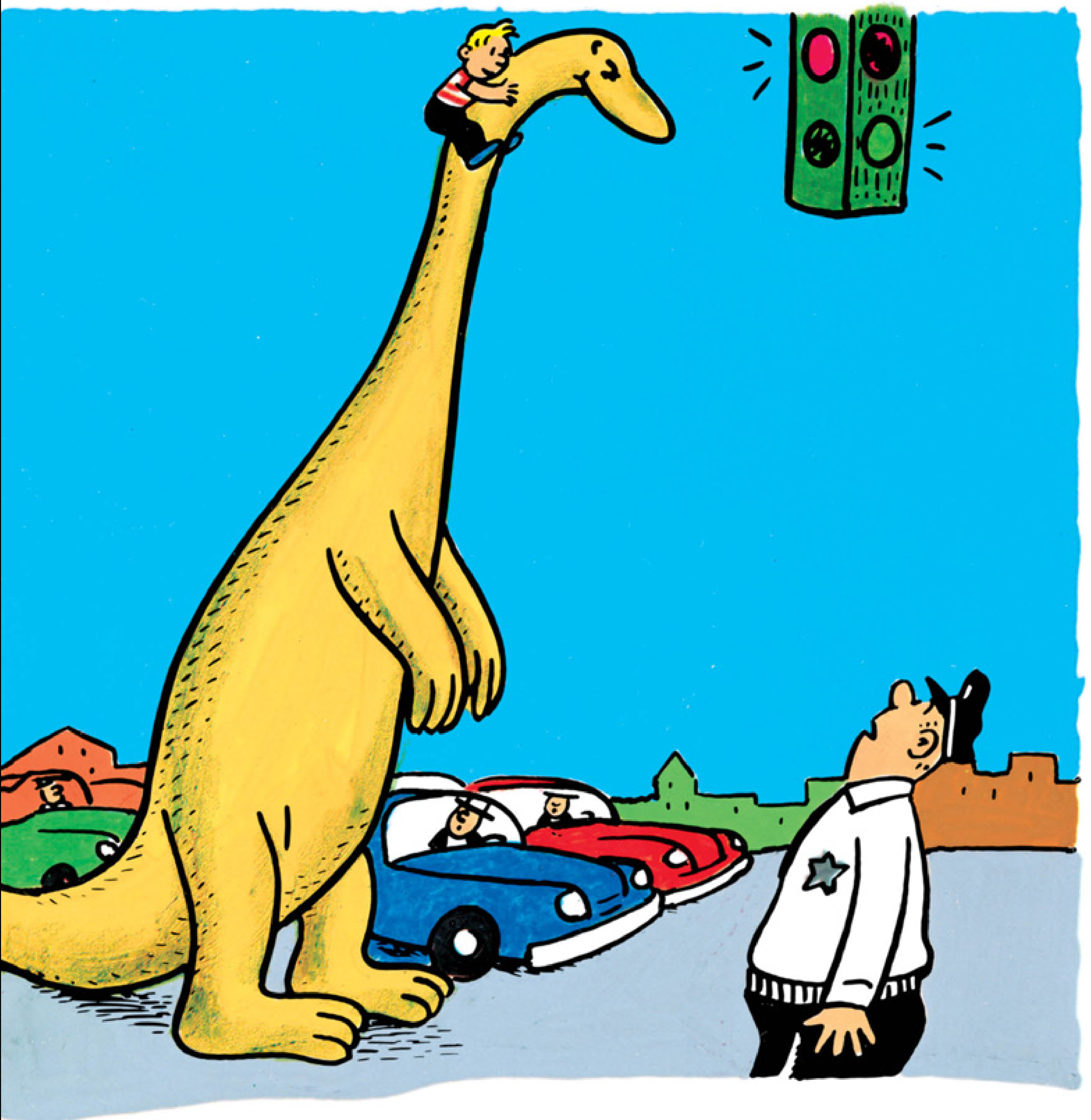
He put his head down

so Danny could

get on him.



“Let’s go!” said Danny.



A policeman stared at them.

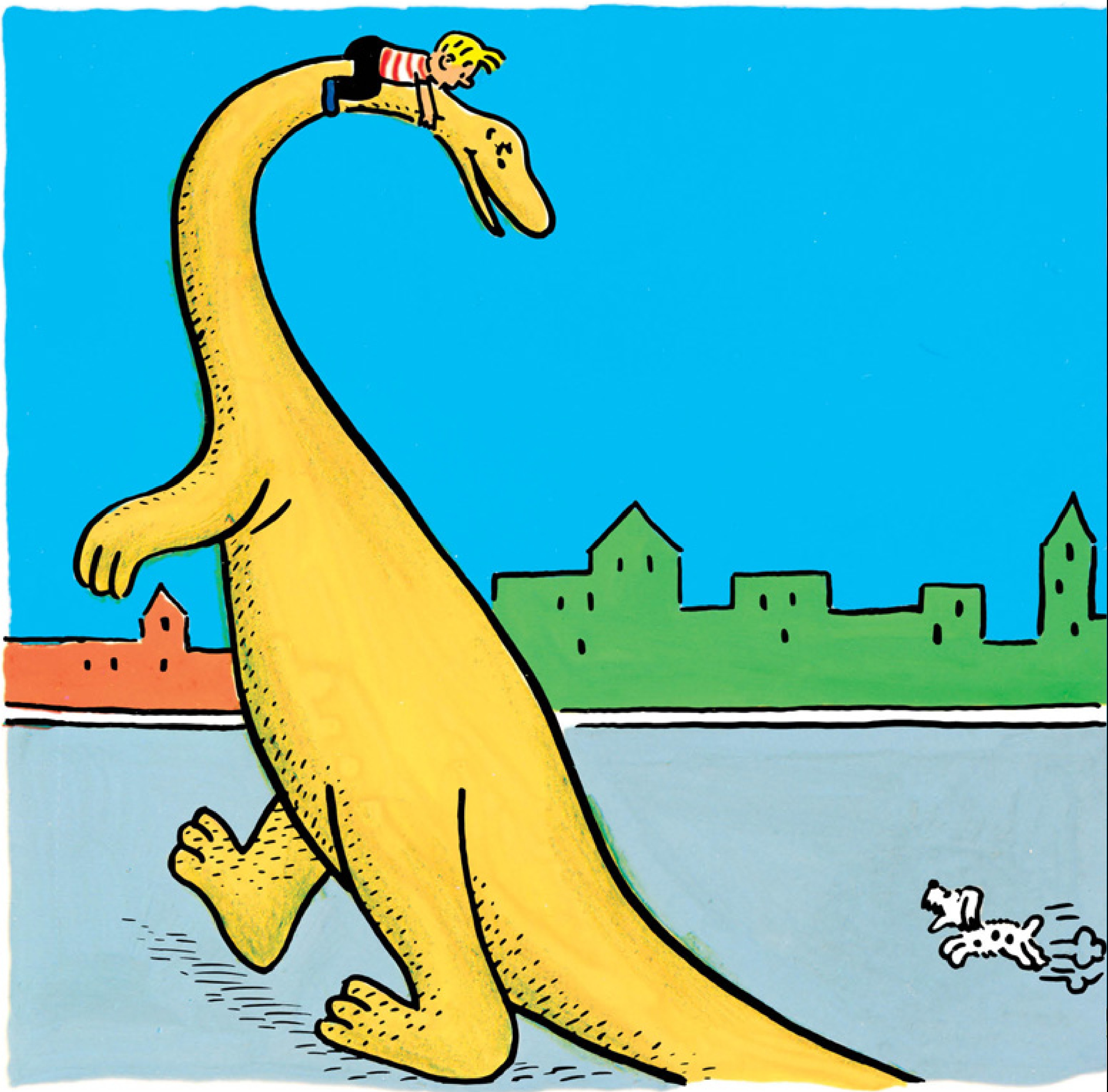
He had never seen a dinosaur stop
for a red light.



The dinosaur was so tall Danny had
to hold up the ropes for him.



“Look out!” said Danny.



“Bow wow!” said a dog.

“He thinks you are a car,” said Danny.

“Go away, dog. We are not a car.”



“I can make a noise like a car,”
said the dinosaur.

“Honk! Honk! Honk!”



“What big rocks,”
said the dinosaur.

“They are not rocks,” said Danny.

“They are buildings.”



“I love to climb,”
said the dinosaur.

“Down, boy!” said Danny.



The dinosaur had to be very careful
not to knock over houses or stores
with his long tail.



Some people were
waiting for a bus.
They rode on the
dinosaur's tail instead.



“All who want
to cross the street
may walk on my back,”
said the dinosaur.



“It’s very nice of you to help me
with my bundles,” said a lady.



Danny and the dinosaur went
all over town and had lots of fun.

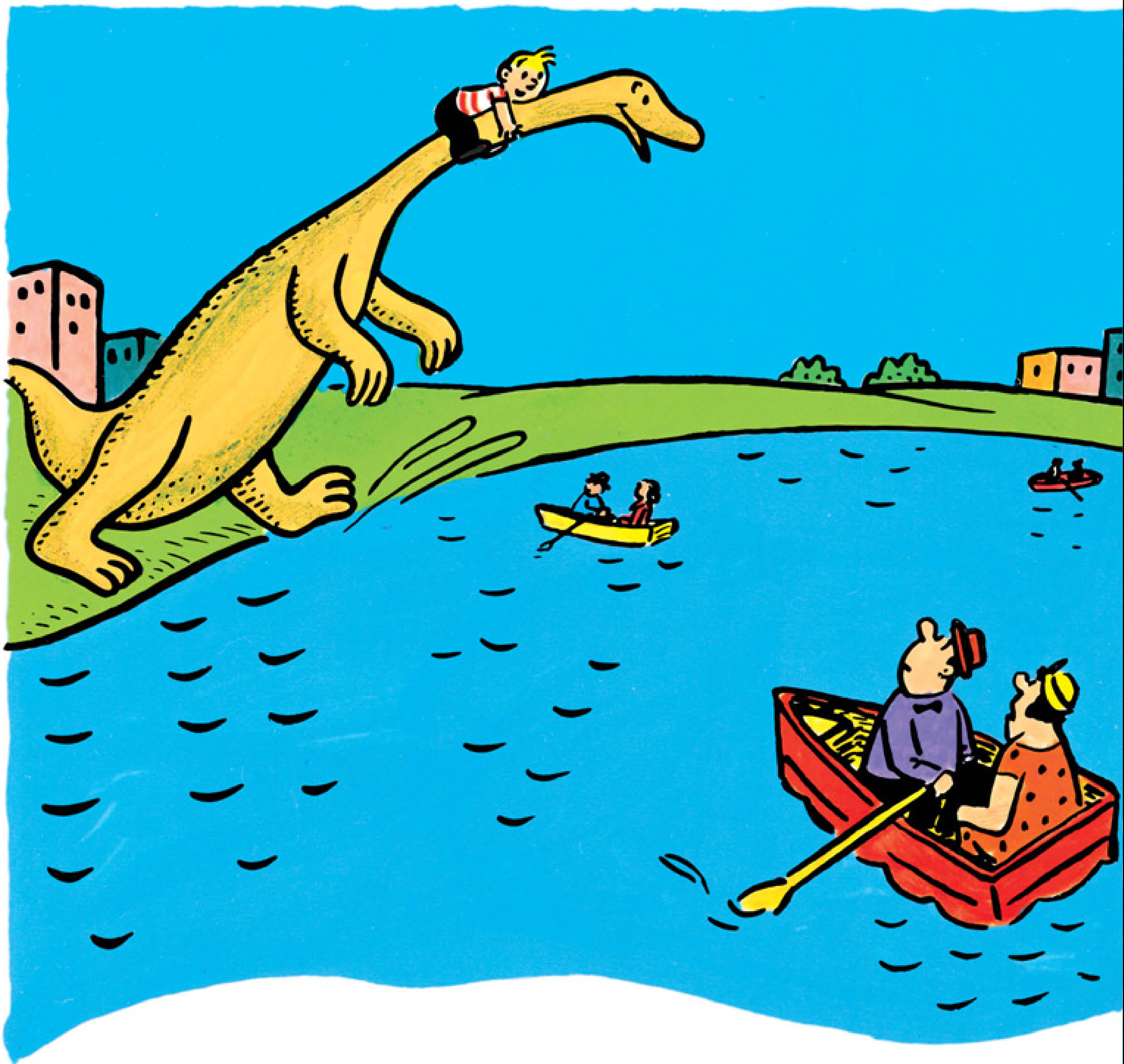
“It’s good to take
an hour or two off
after a hundred million years,”
said the dinosaur.



They even looked at
the ball game.

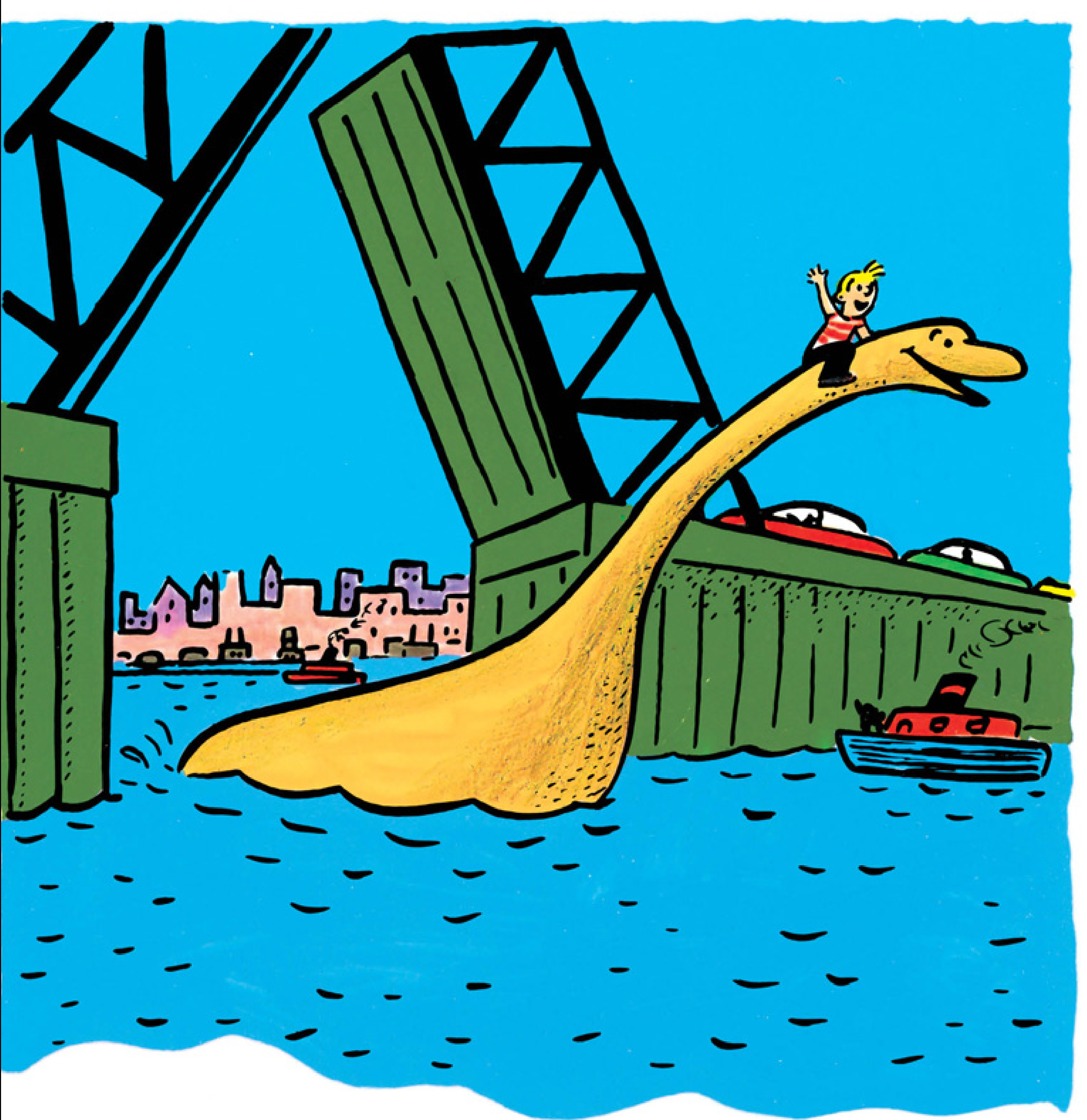
“Hit the ball,”
said Danny.

“Hit a home run,”
said the dinosaur.



“I wish we had a boat,”
said Danny.

“Who needs a boat?
I can swim,”
said the dinosaur.

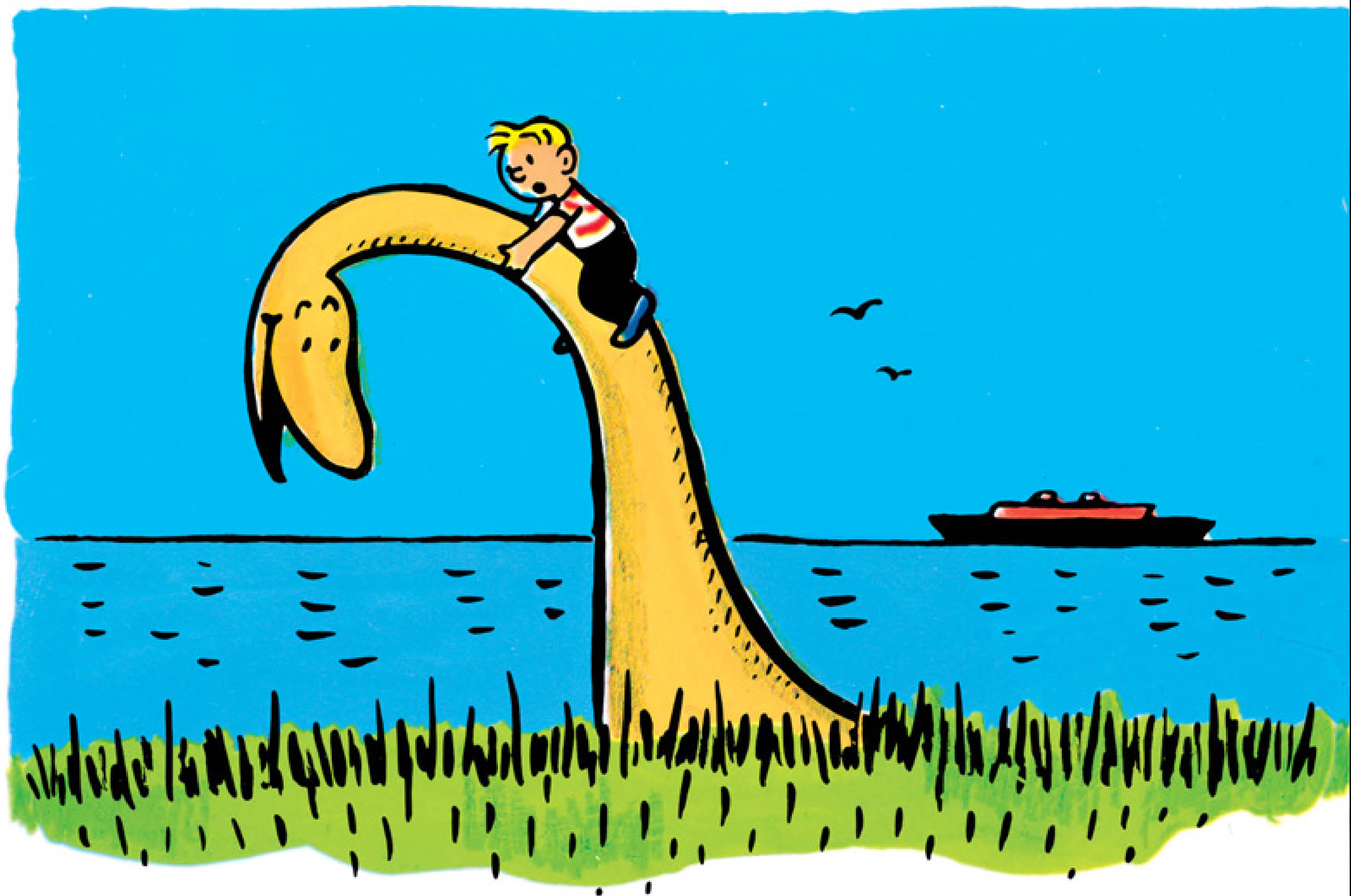


“Toot, toot!”

went the boats.

“Toot, toot!” went Danny

and the dinosaur.



“Oh, what lovely green grass!”
said the dinosaur.

“I haven’t eaten any of that
for a very long time.”

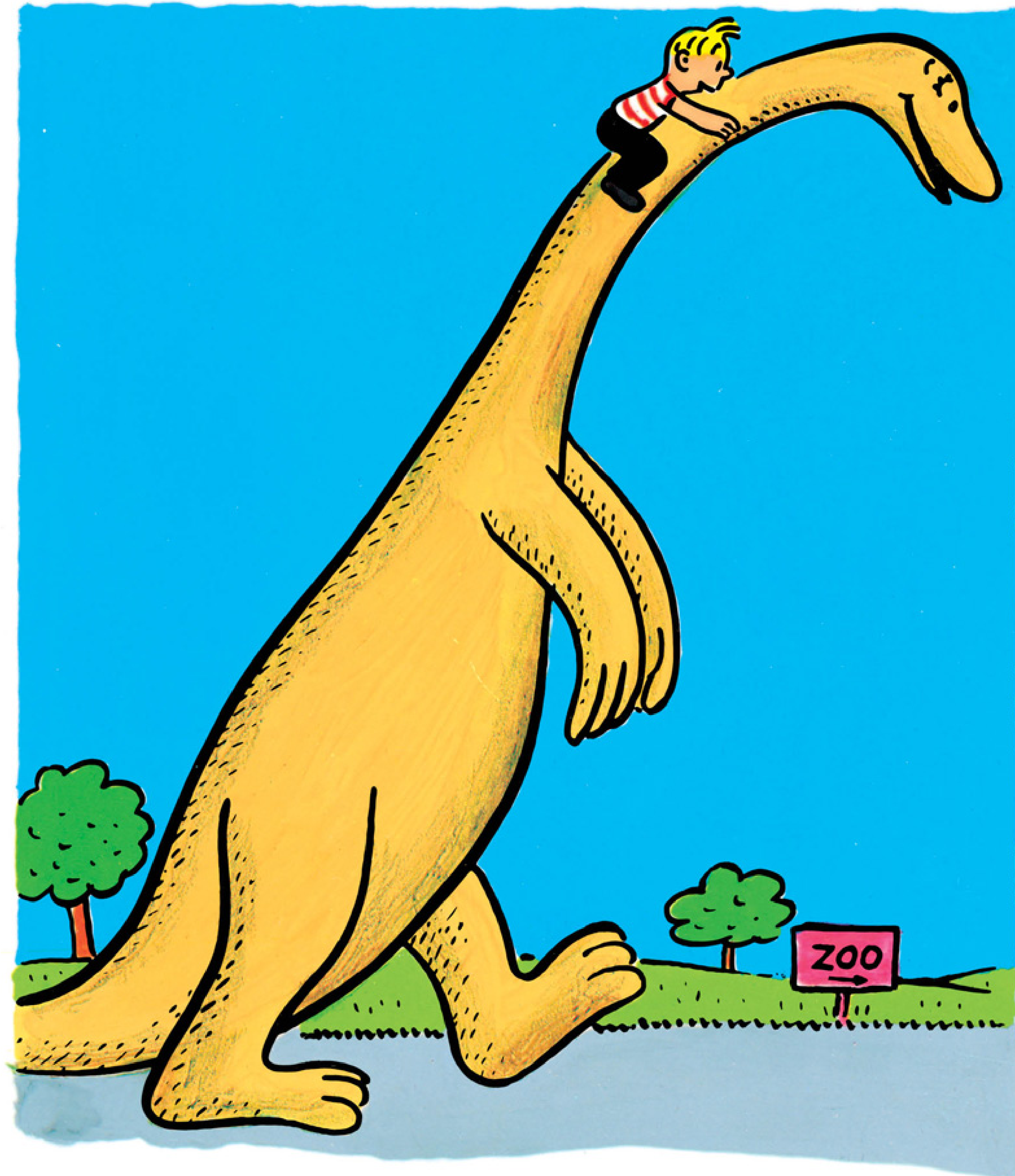
“Wait,” said Danny.

“See what it says.”





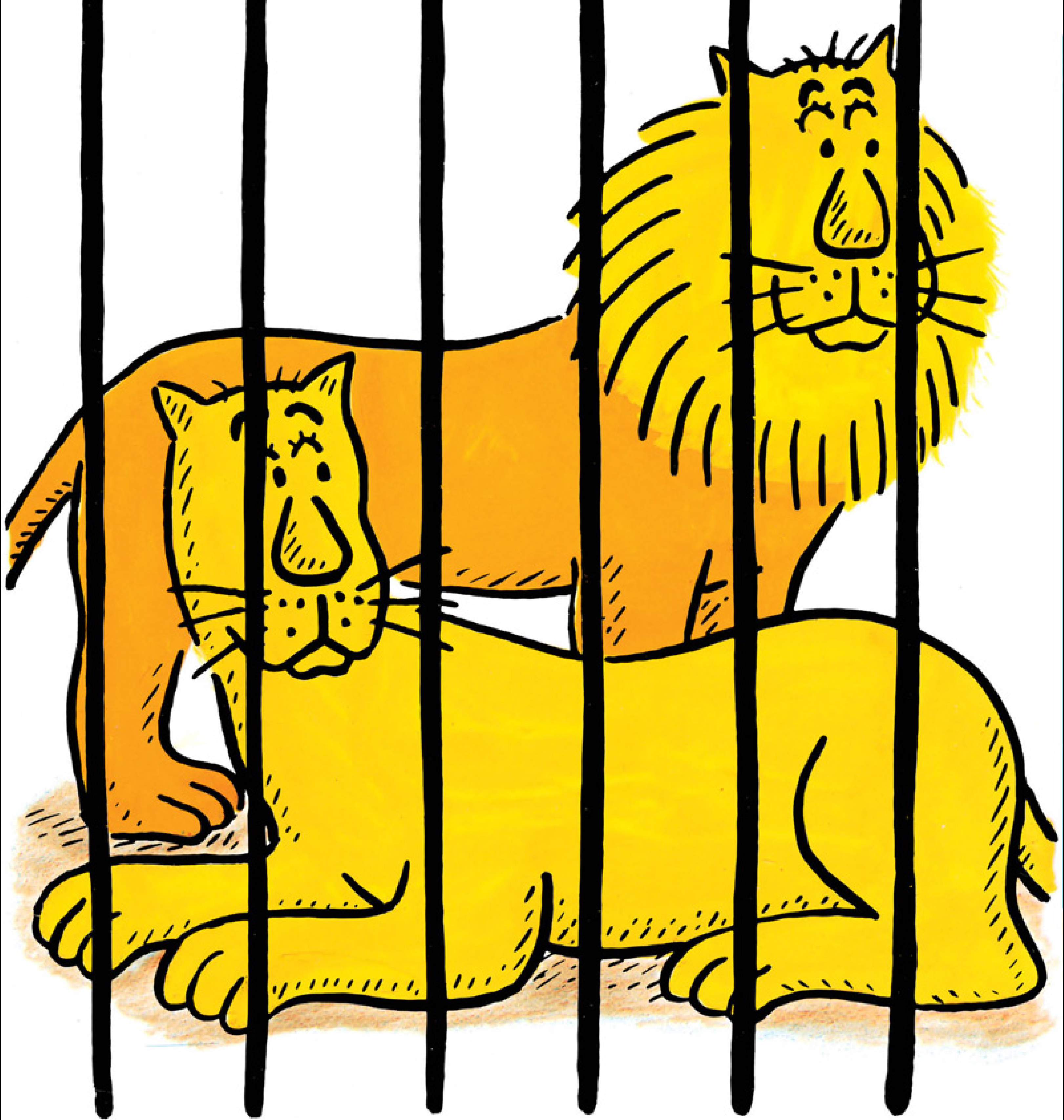
They both had ice cream instead.



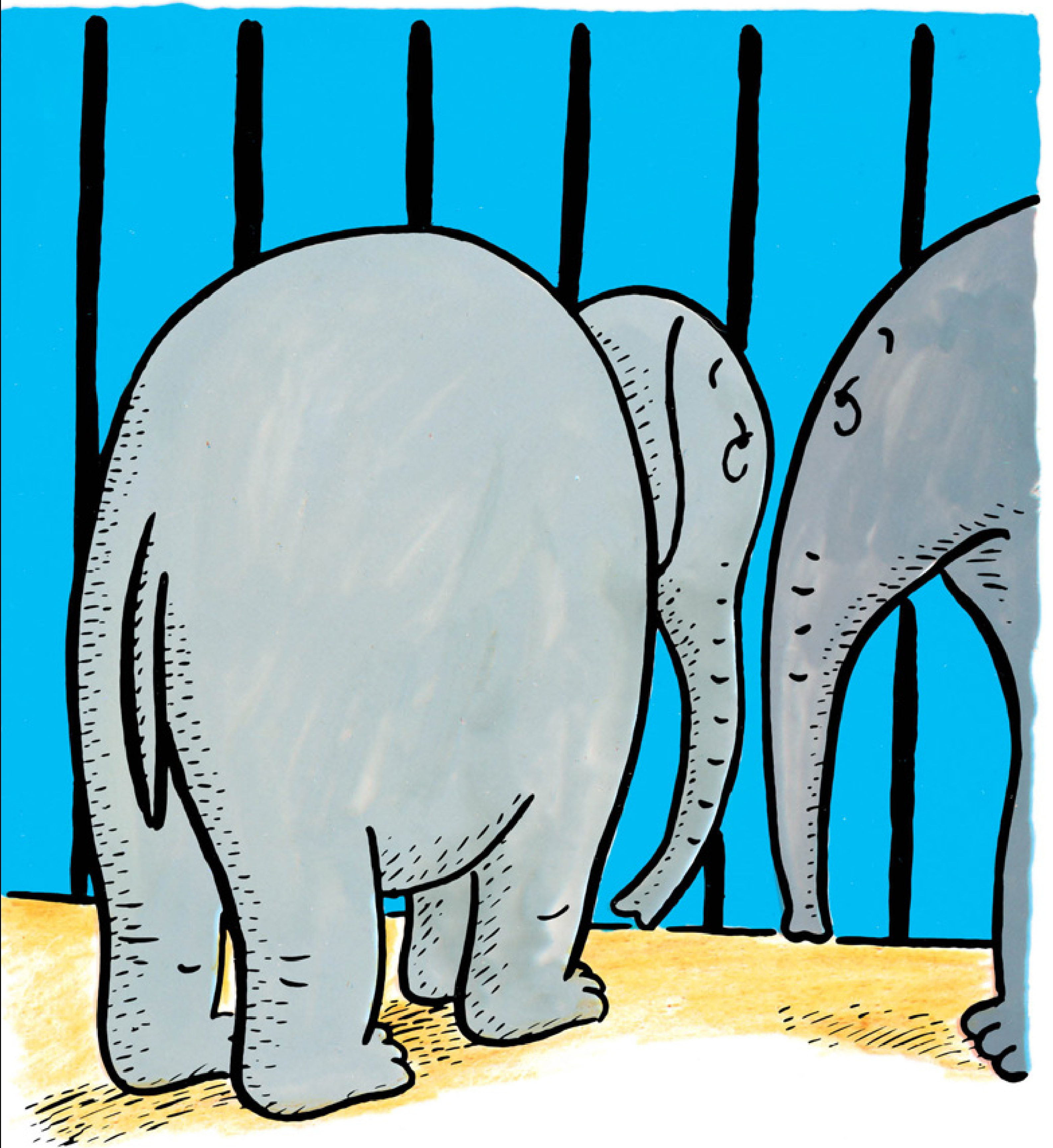
“Let’s go to the zoo
and see the animals,” said Danny.



Everybody came running
to see the dinosaur.



Nobody stayed to see
the lions.



Nobody stayed to see
the elephants.



Nobody stayed to see
the monkeys.

And nobody stayed to see
the seals,
giraffes or hippos,
either.



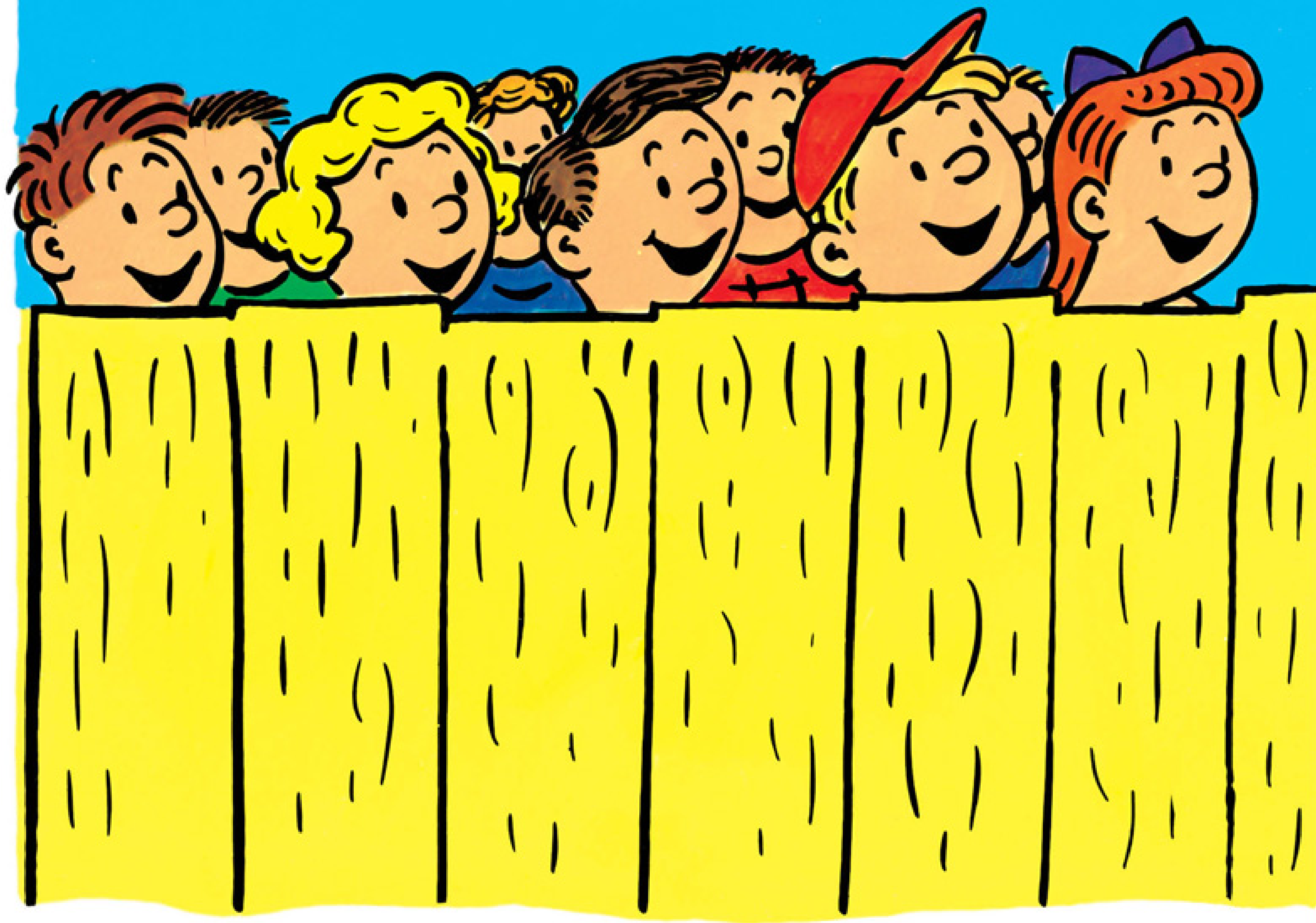


“Please go away
so the animals
will get looked at,”
said the zoo man.



“Let’s find my friends,”
said Danny.

“Very well,”
said the dinosaur.



“There they are,” said Danny.

“Why, it’s Danny
riding on a dinosaur,”
said a child.

“Maybe he’ll give us a ride.”



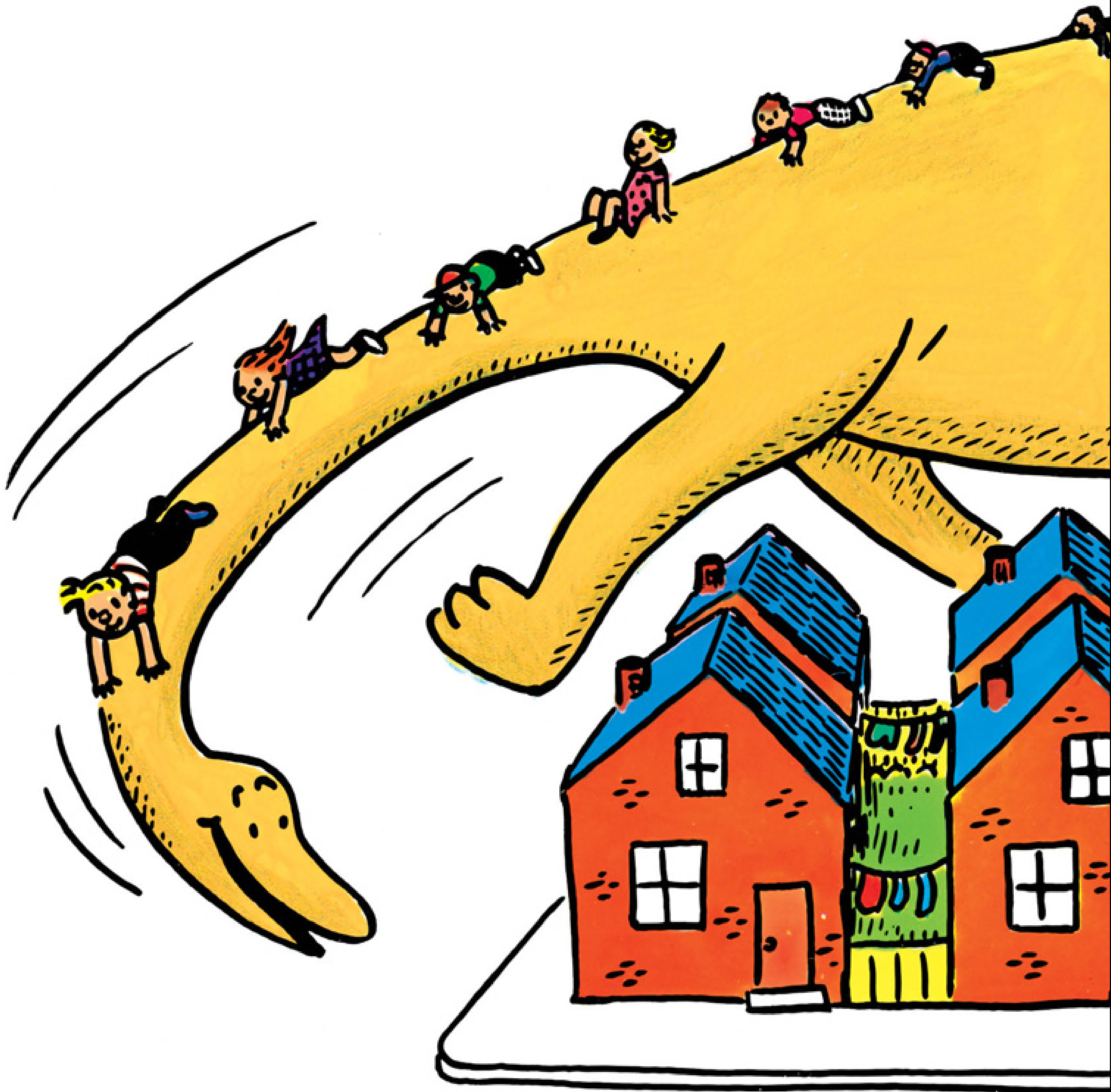
“May we have a ride?”

asked the children.

“I’d be delighted,”

said the dinosaur.

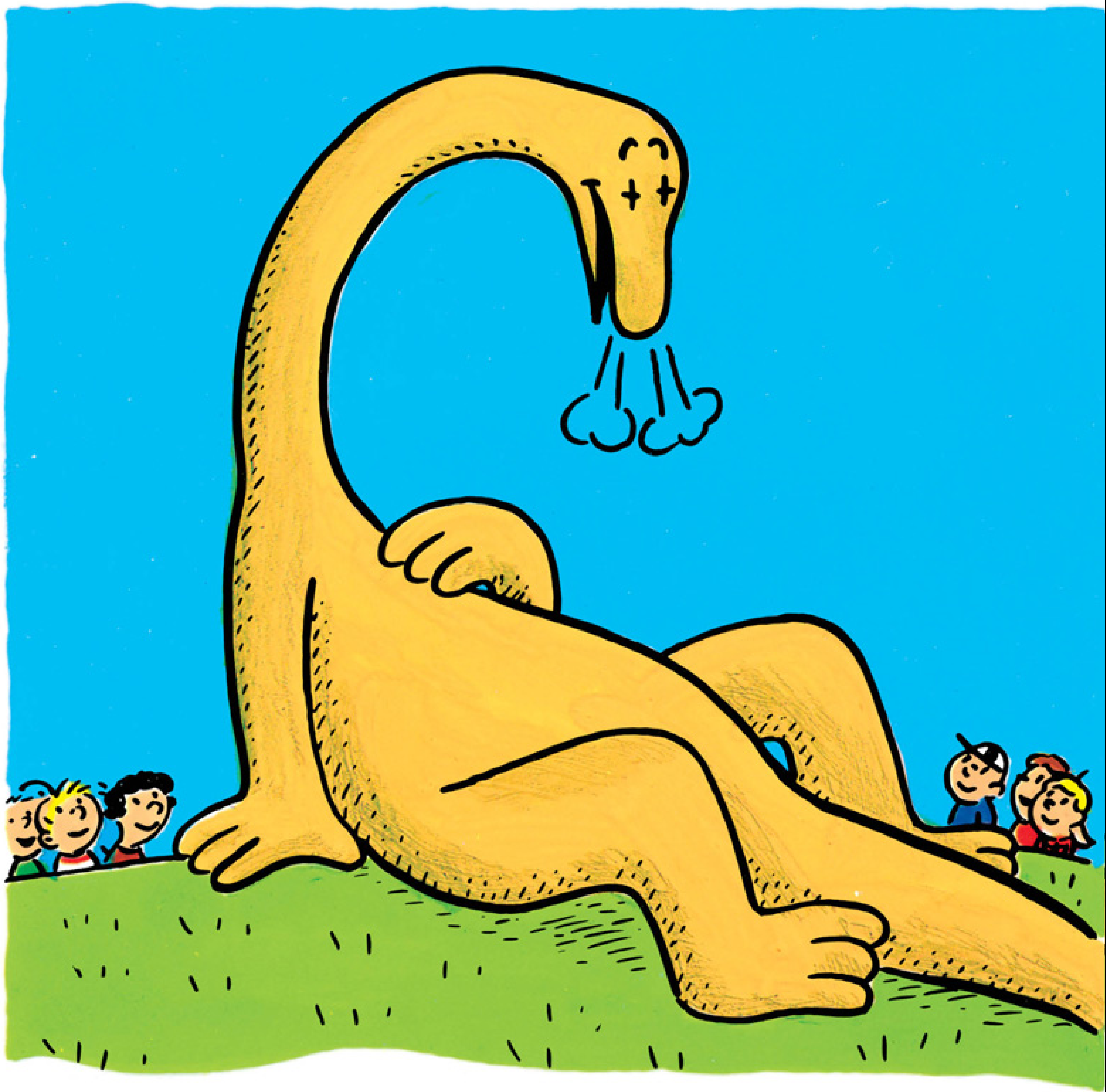
“Hold on tight,” said Danny.



Around and around
the block ran the dinosaur,
faster and faster and faster.

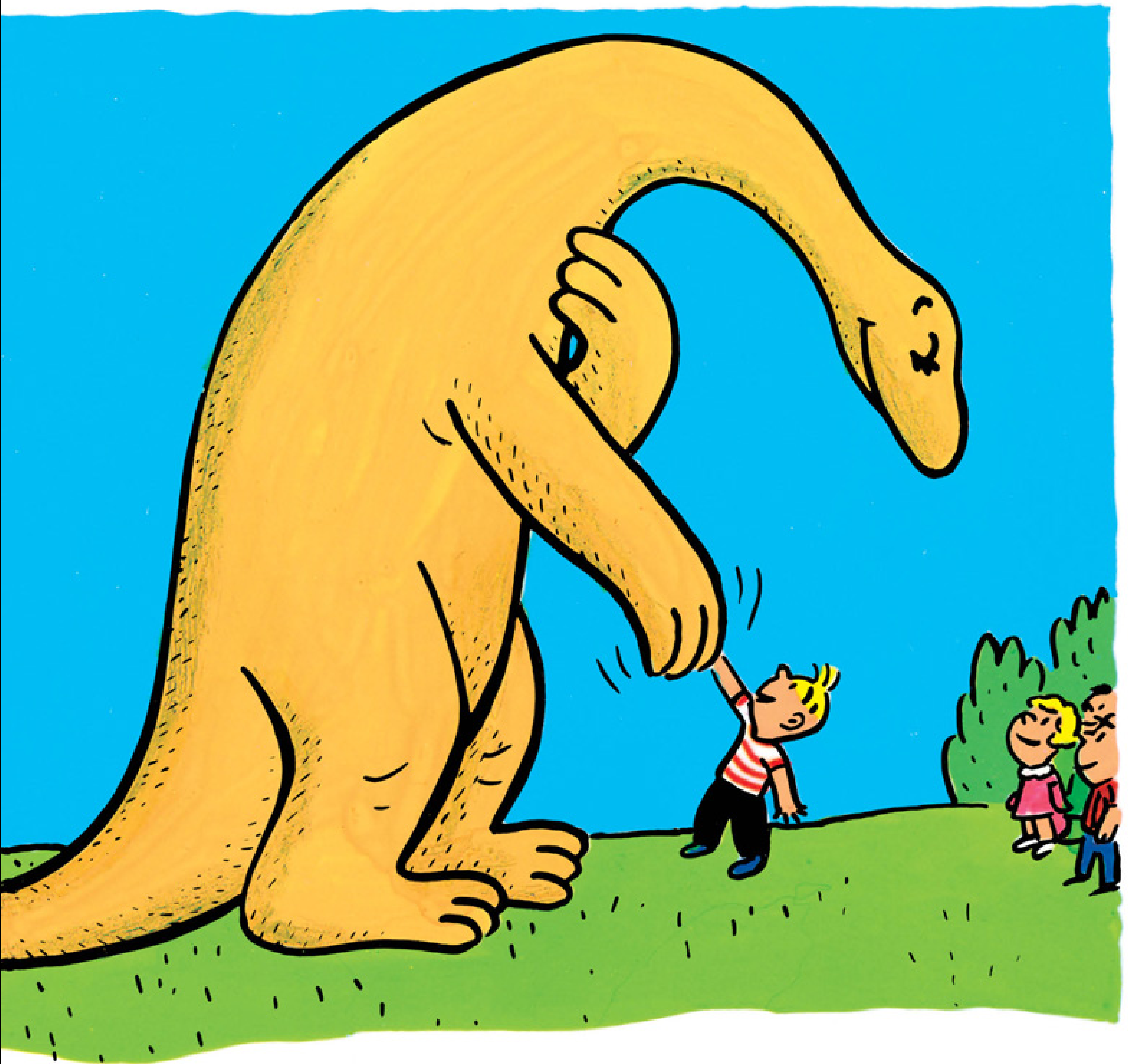


“This is better than
a merry-go-round,”
the children said.



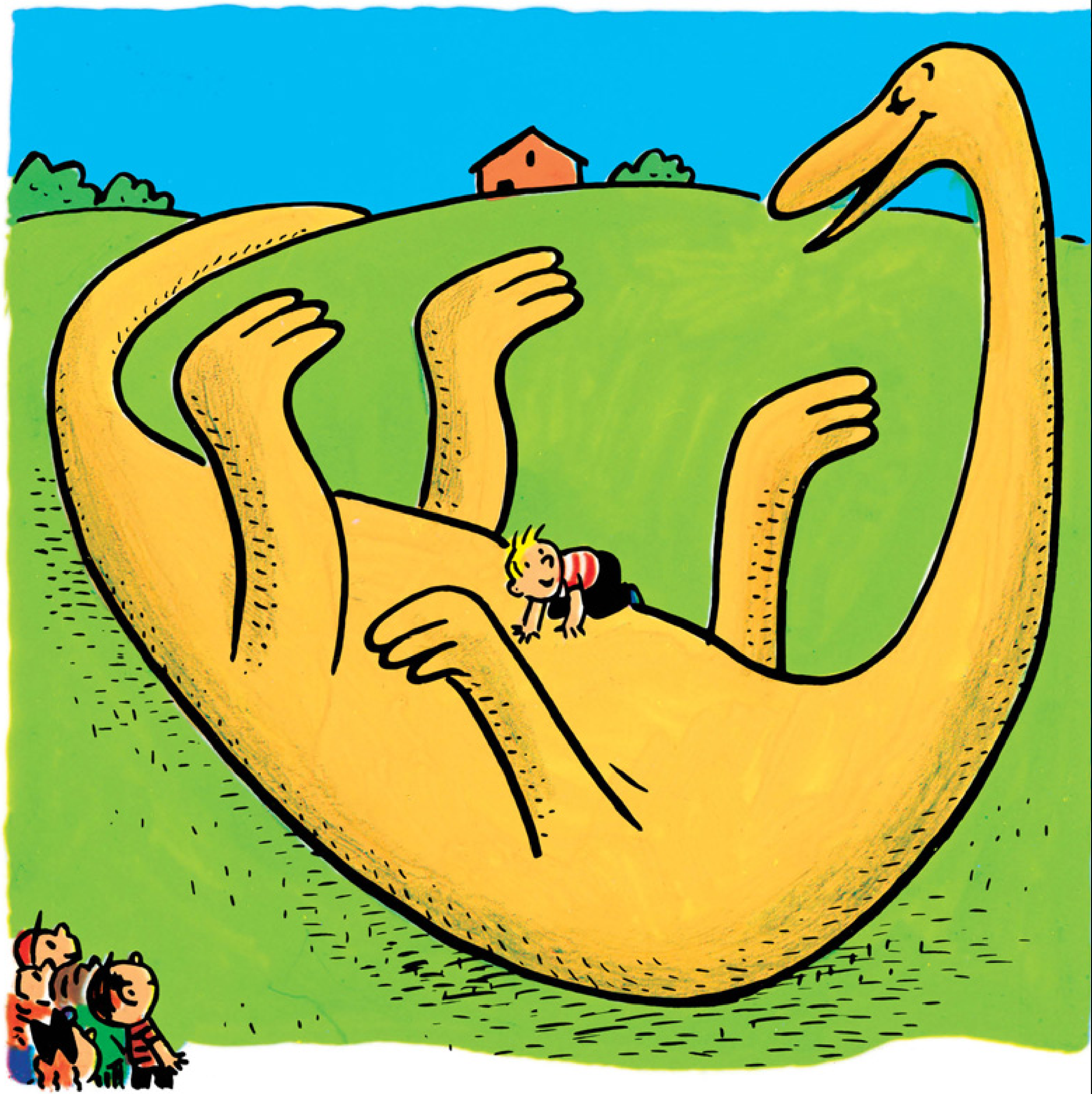
The dinosaur was
out of breath.

“Teach him tricks,”
said the children.



Danny taught the dinosaur
how to shake hands.

“Can you roll over on your back?”
asked the children.

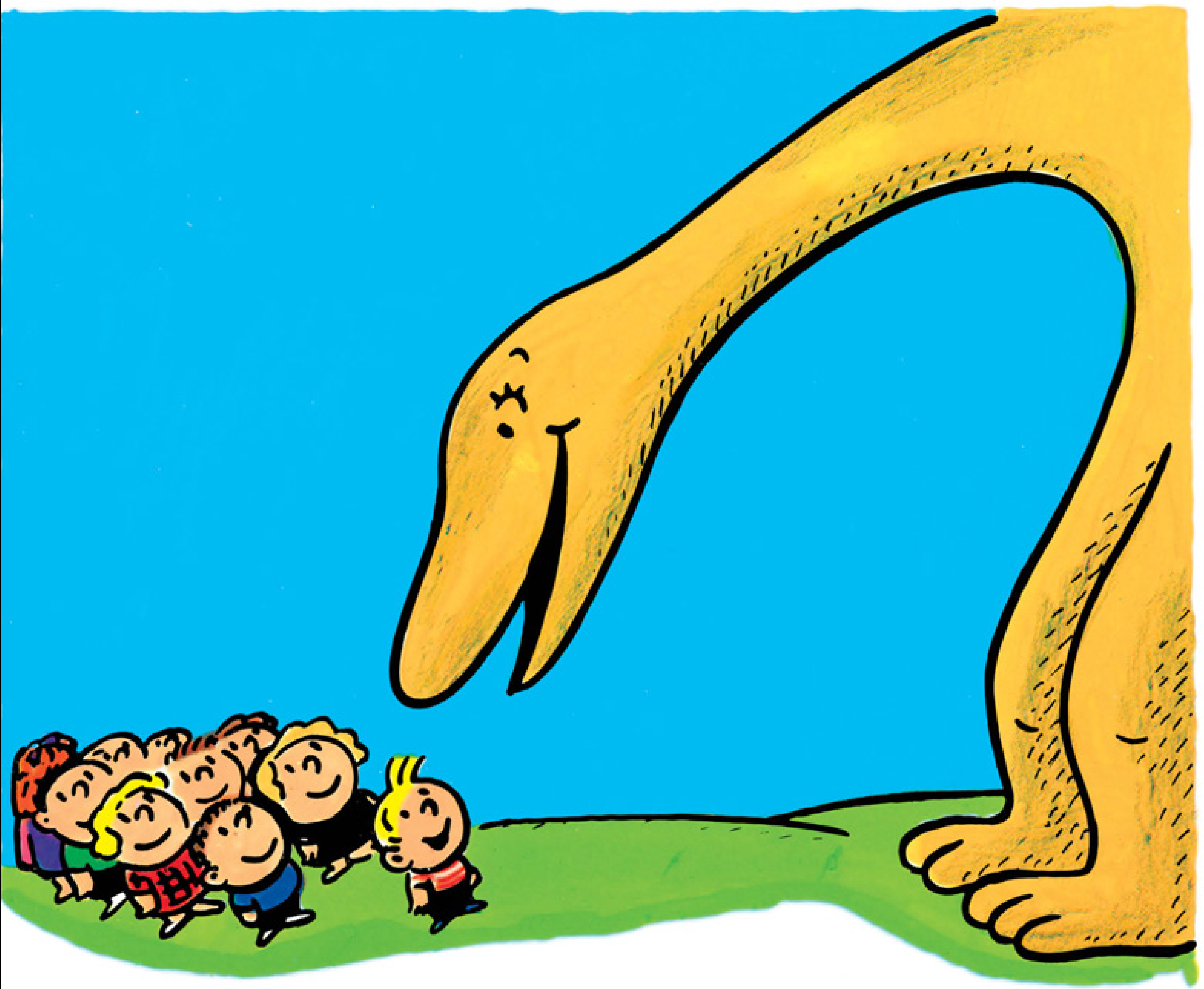


“That’s easy,”

said the dinosaur.

“He’s smart,” said Danny,

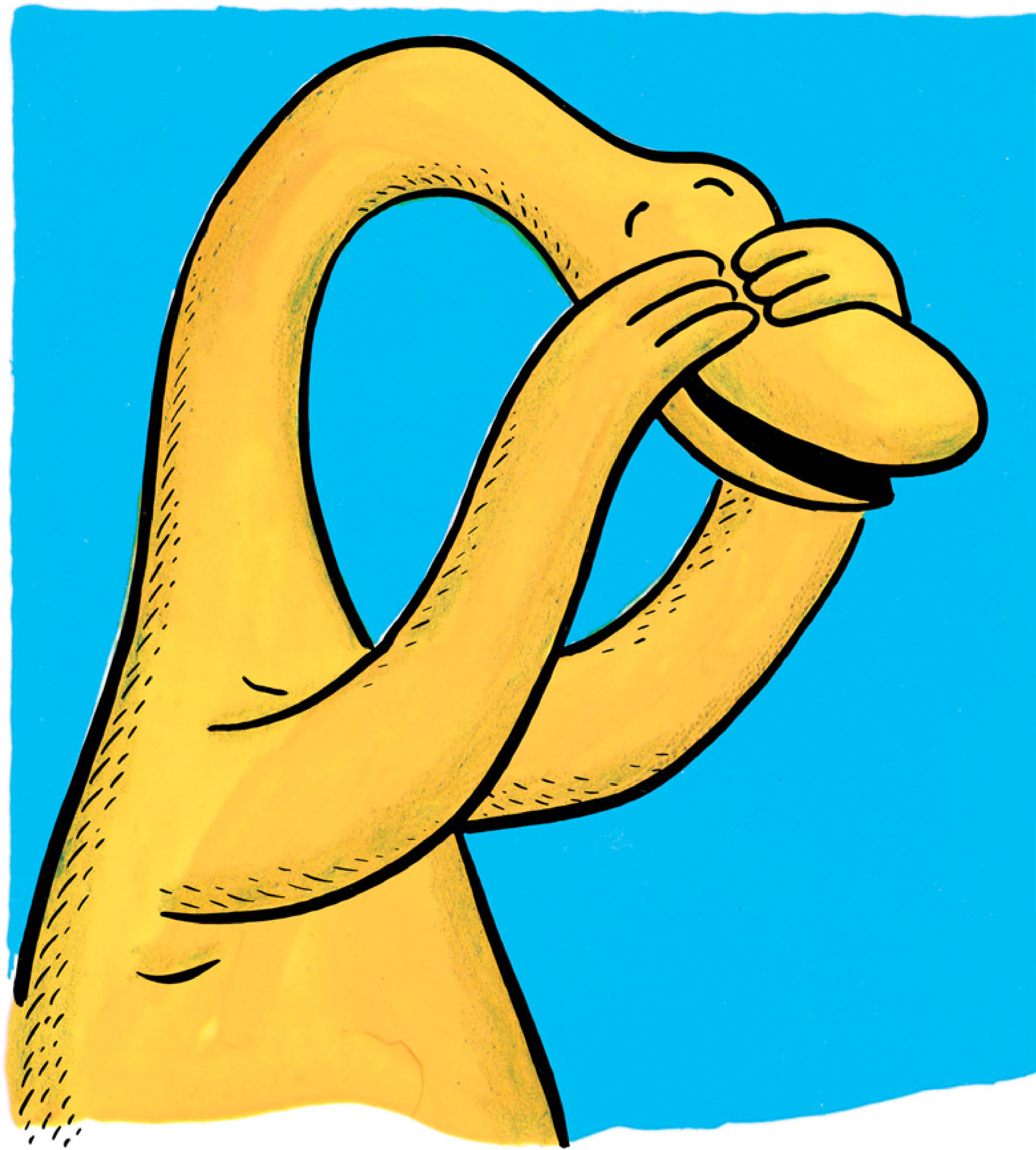
patting the dinosaur.



“Let’s play hide and seek,”
said the children.

“How do you play it?”
said the dinosaur.

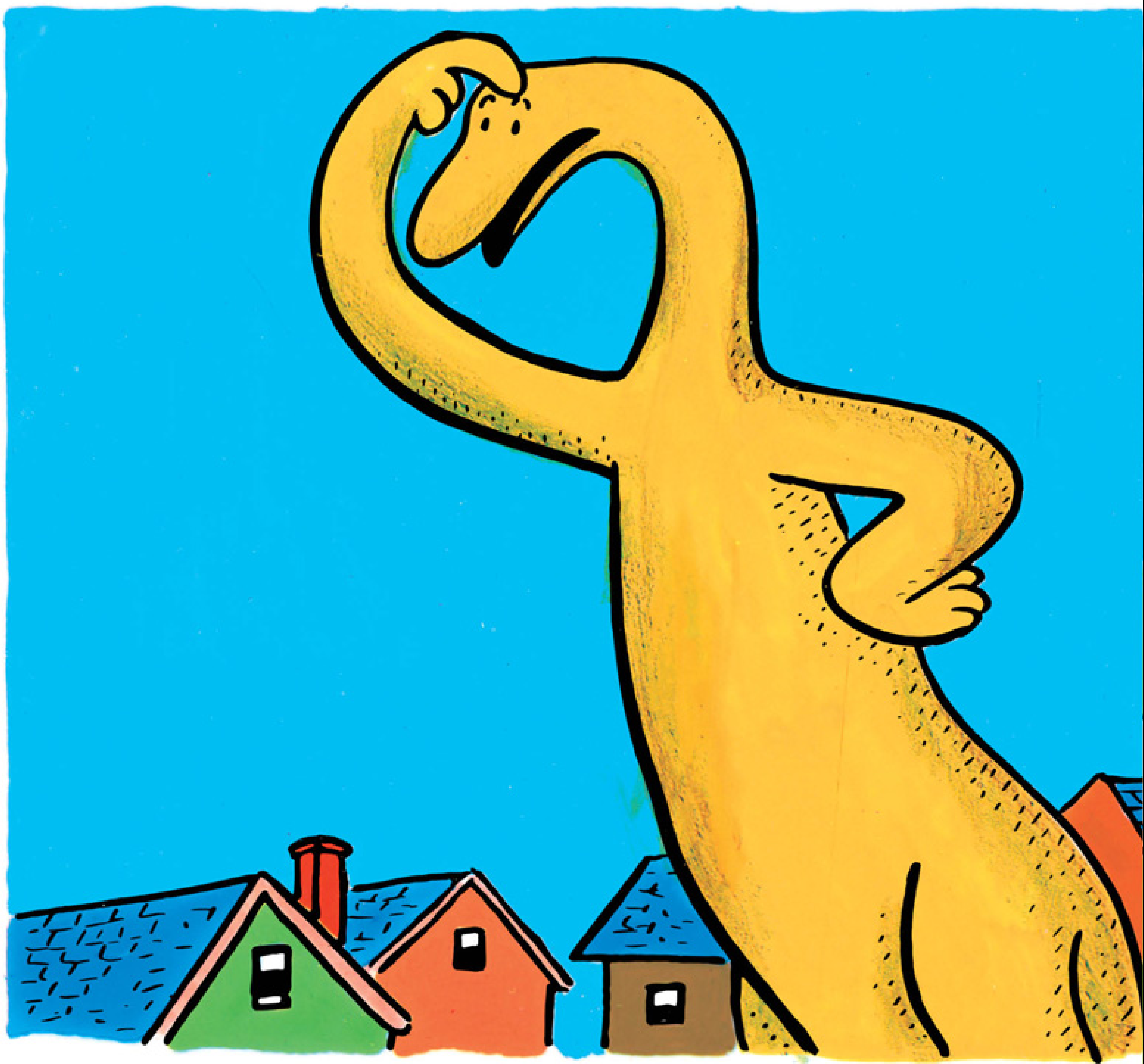
“We hide and you try
to find us,” said Danny.



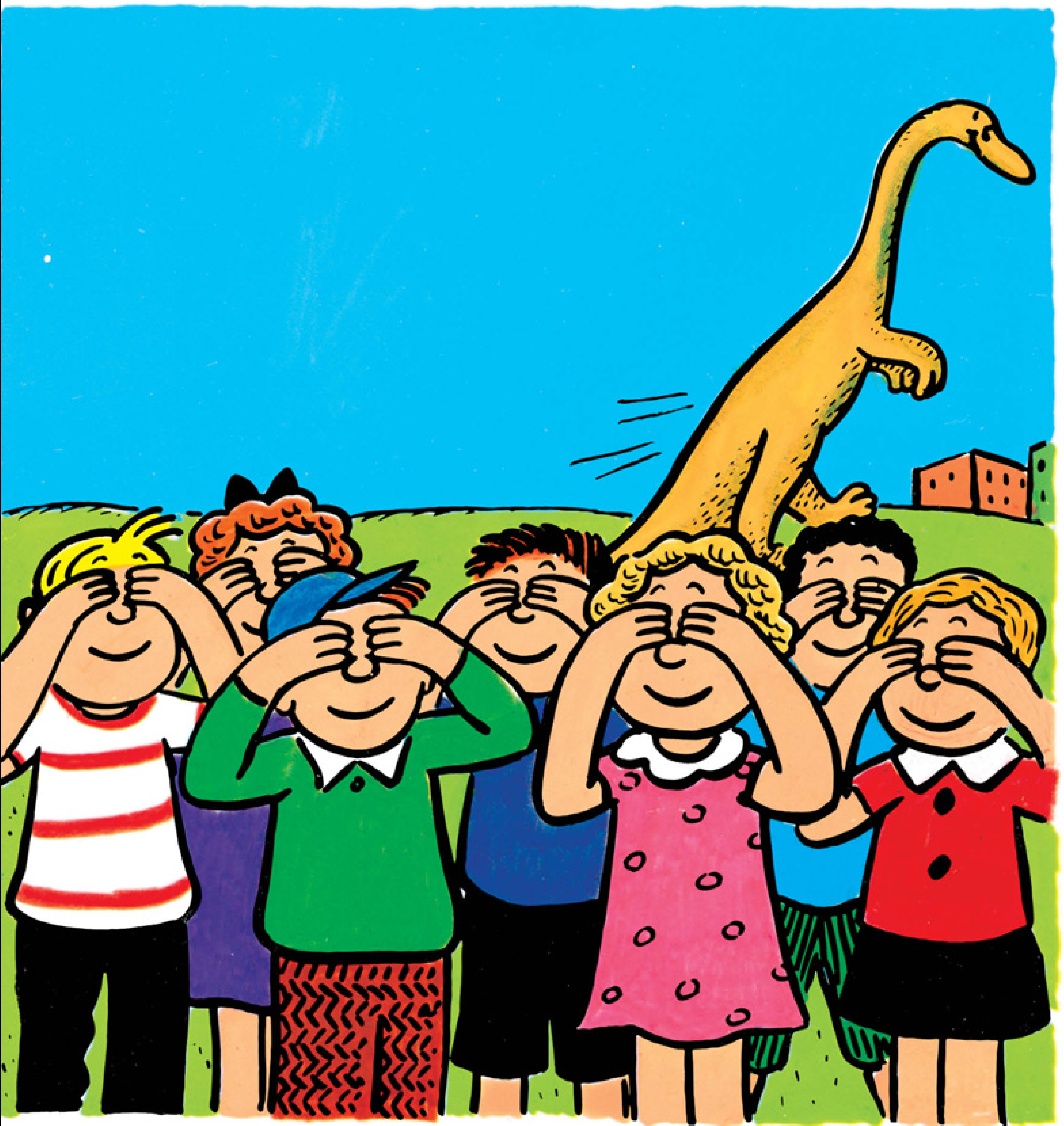
The dinosaur covered
his eyes.



All the children ran
to hide.

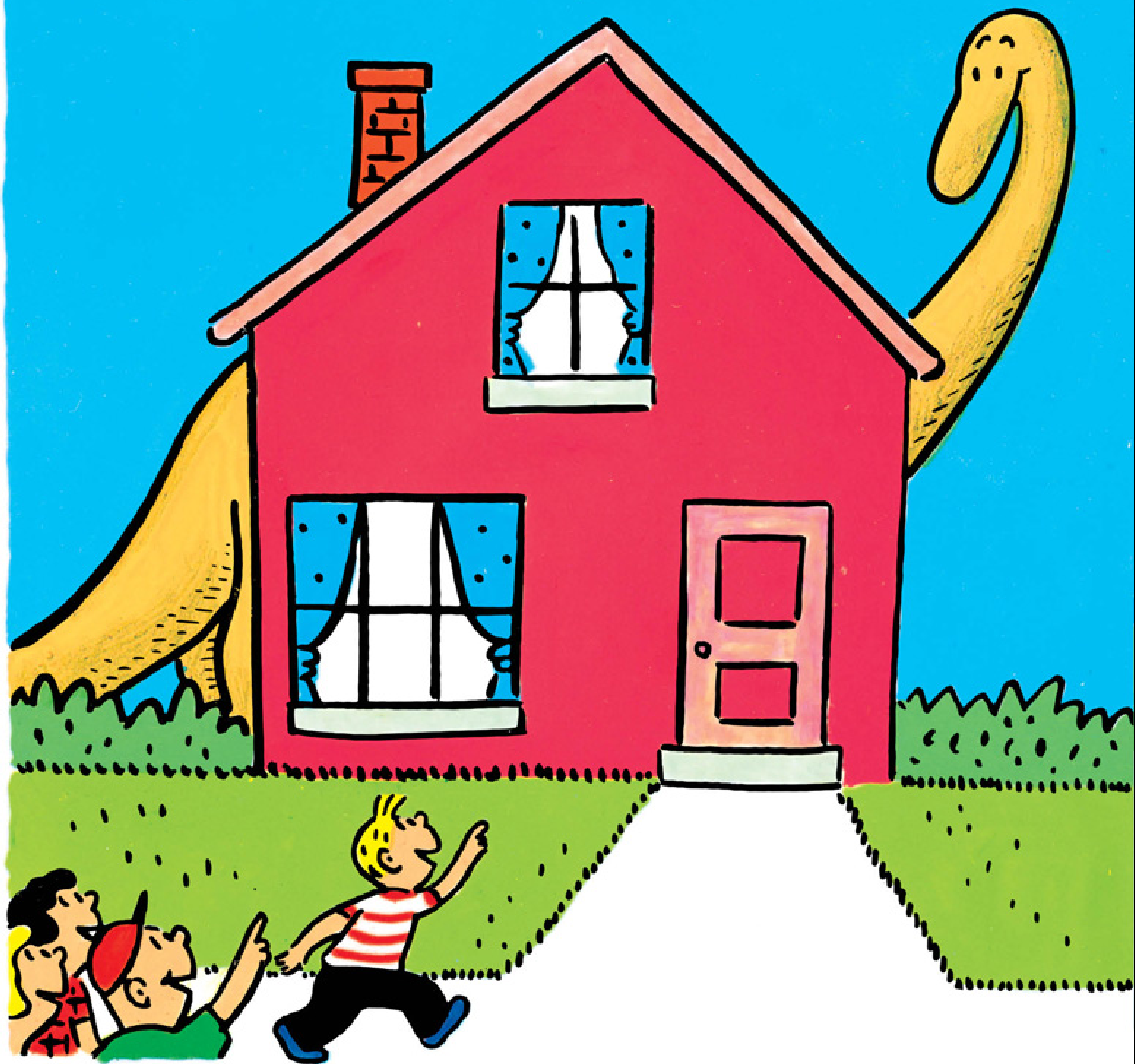


The dinosaur
looked and looked
but he couldn't find the children.
“I give up,” he said.



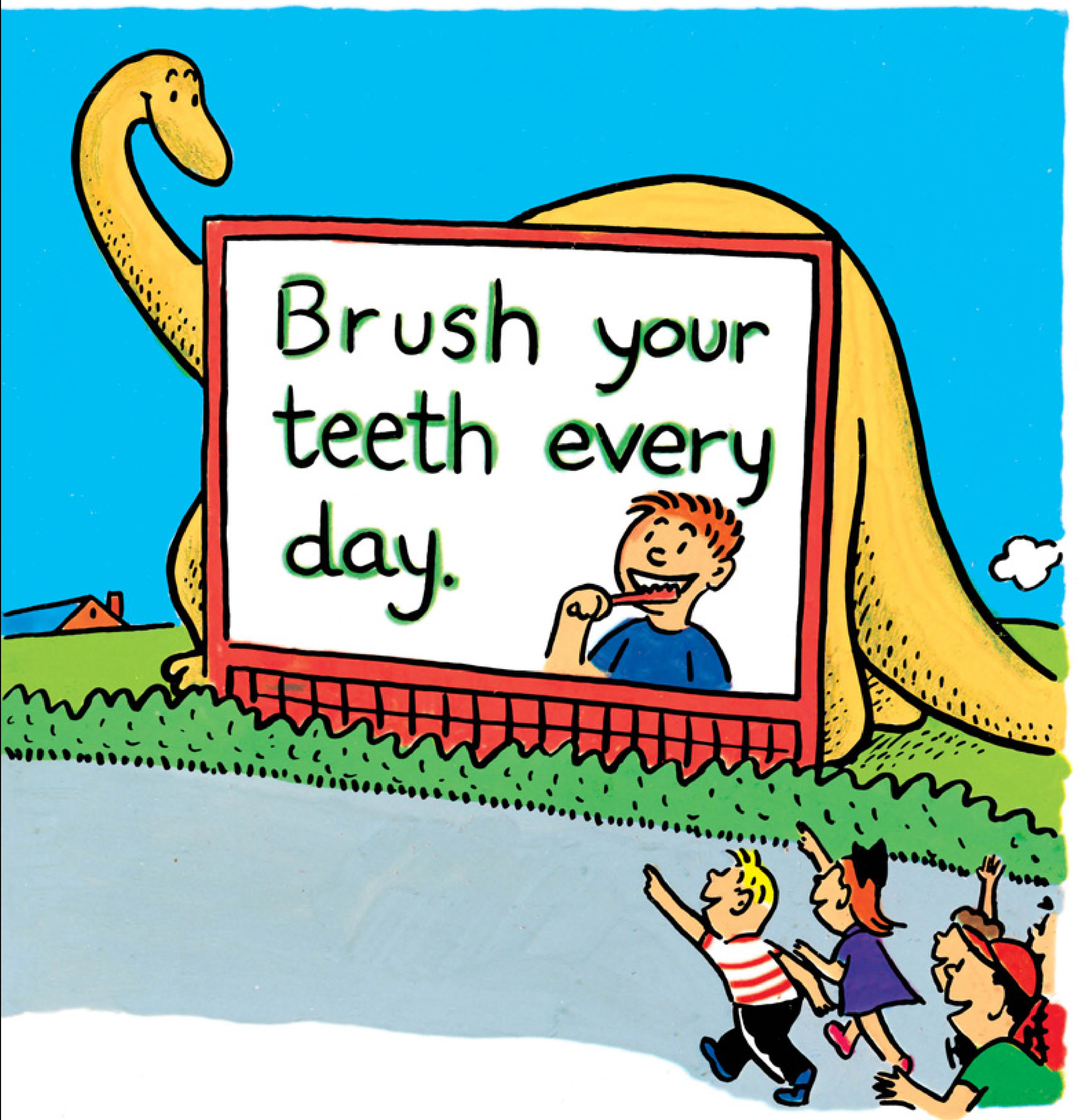
Now it was the dinosaur's turn
to hide.

The children covered their eyes.



The dinosaur hid
behind a house.

The children found him.



He hid behind a sign.

The children
found him.



He hid behind a big gas tank.

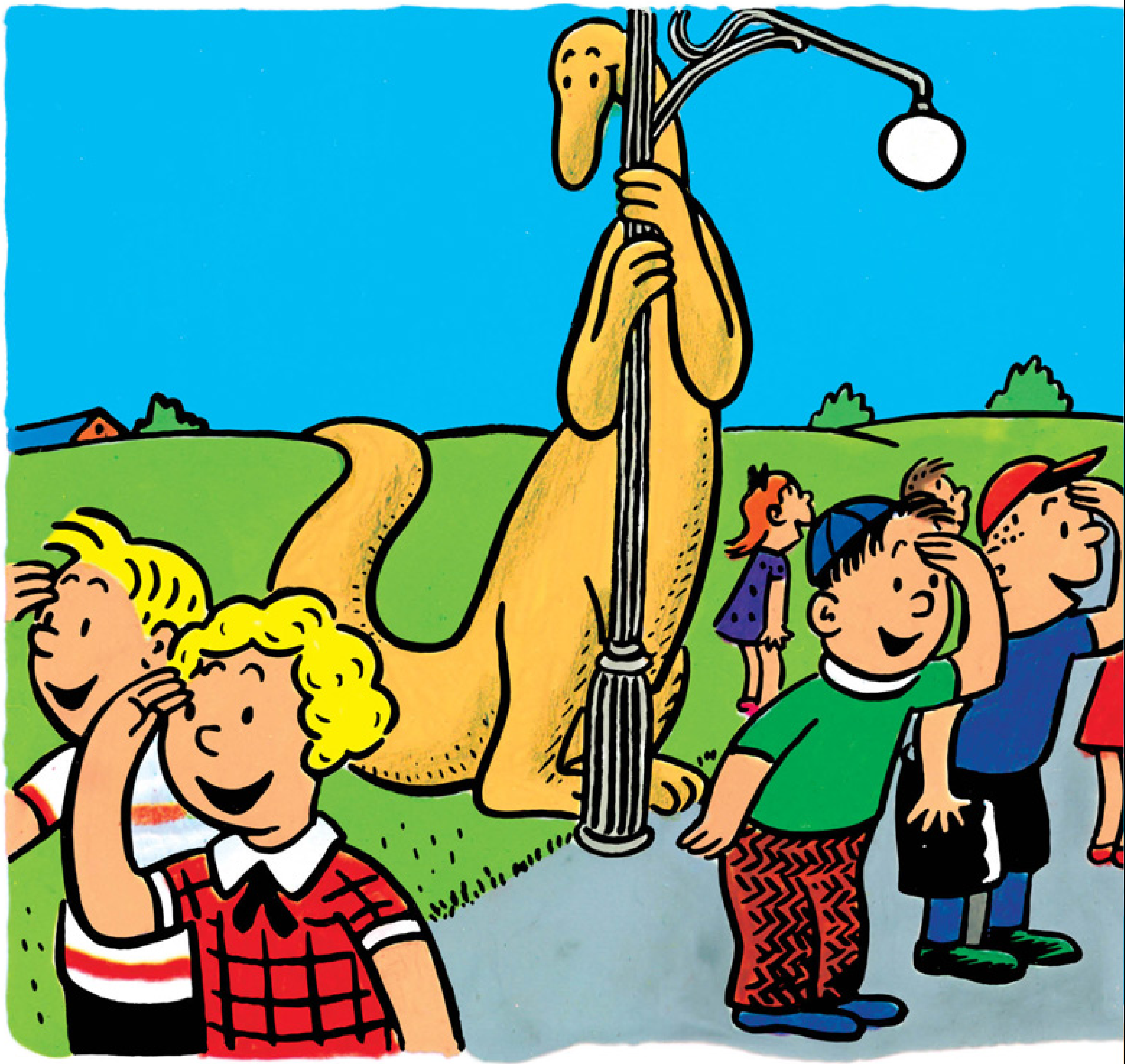
The children found him.

They found him again
and again and again.



“I guess there’s no place
for me to hide,”
said the dinosaur.

“Let’s make believe
we can’t find him,” Danny said.

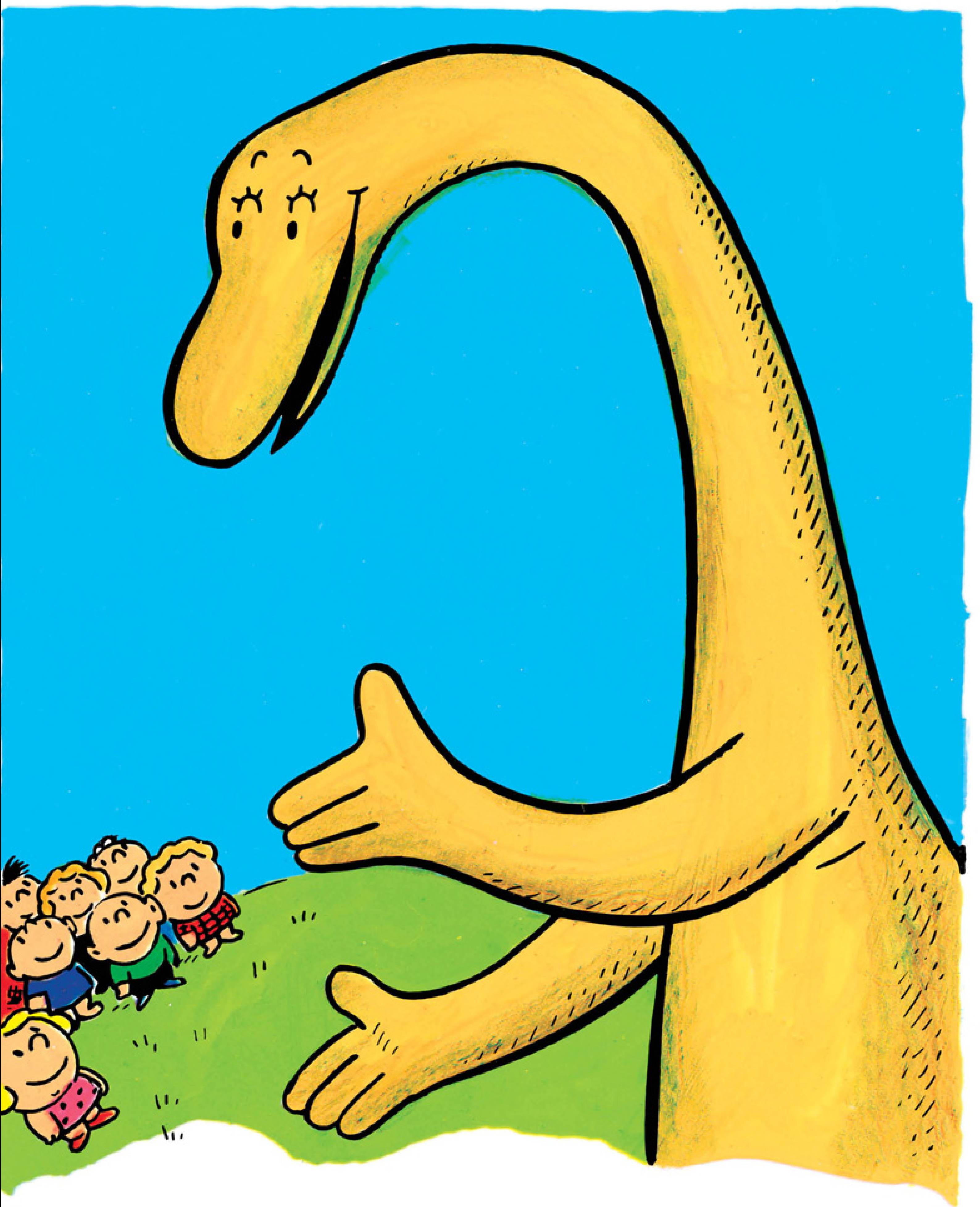


“Where can he be?

Where, oh, where is that dinosaur?

Where did he go?

We give up,” said the children.



“Here I am,” said the dinosaur.



“The dinosaur wins,”
said the children.

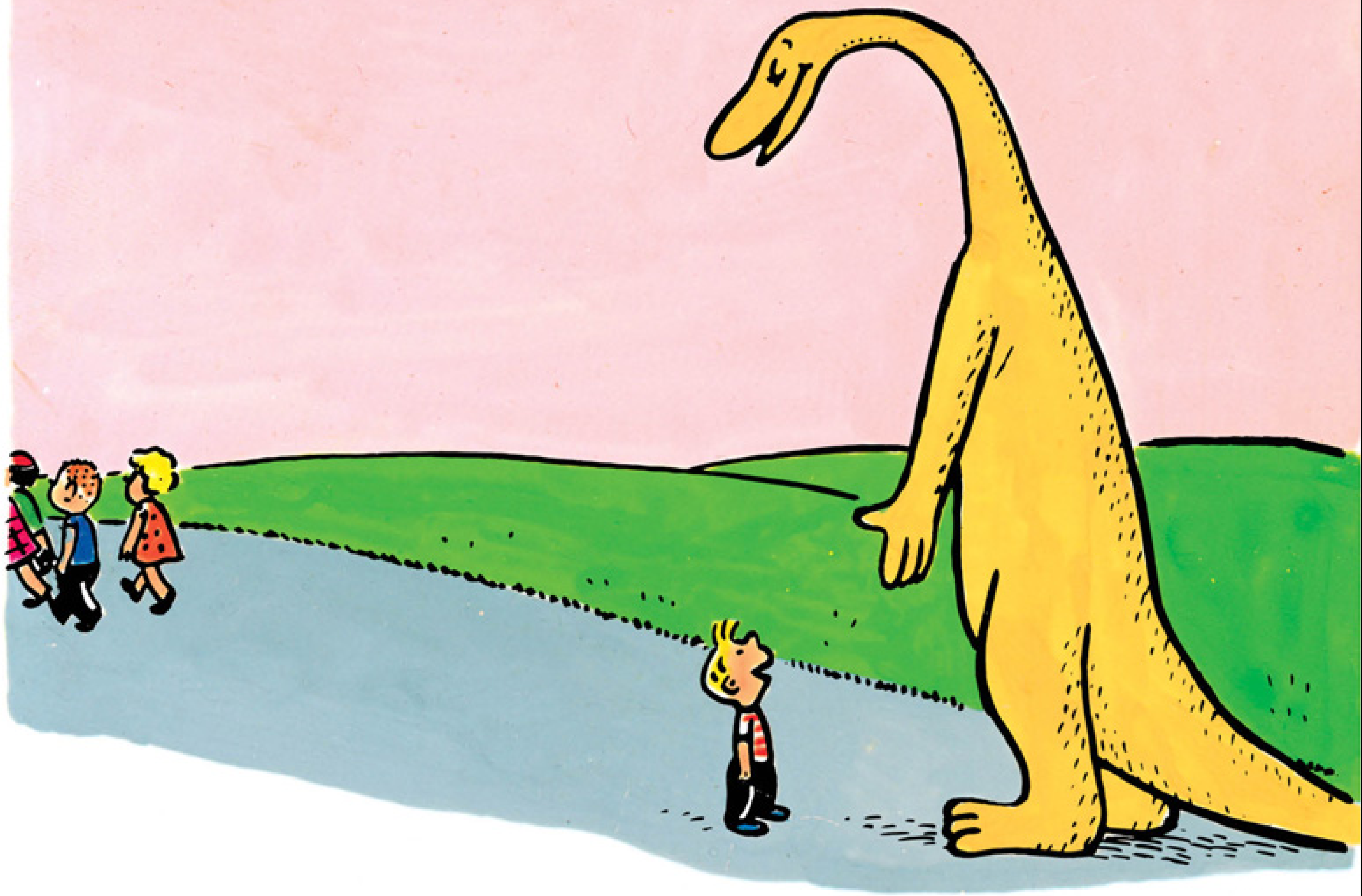
“We couldn’t find him.
He fooled us.”



“Hurrah for the dinosaur!”

the children cried.

“Hurray! Hurray!”



It got late and
the other children left.
Danny and the dinosaur
were alone.
“Well, goodbye, Danny,”
said the dinosaur.

“Can’t you come
and stay with me?”
said Danny.

“We could have fun.”

“No,” said the dinosaur.

“I’ve had a good time—
the best I’ve had
in a hundred million years.
But now I must get back
to the museum.

They need me there.”

“Oh,” said Danny.

“Well, goodbye.”



Danny watched
until the long tail
was out of sight.



Then he went home alone.



“Oh, well,” thought Danny,
“we don’t have room
for a pet that size, anyway.
But we did have
a wonderful day.”