

# Where is Sinkay

Story : Nathatai Wanachalerm  
Illustrations : Kittipong Nuchsawat

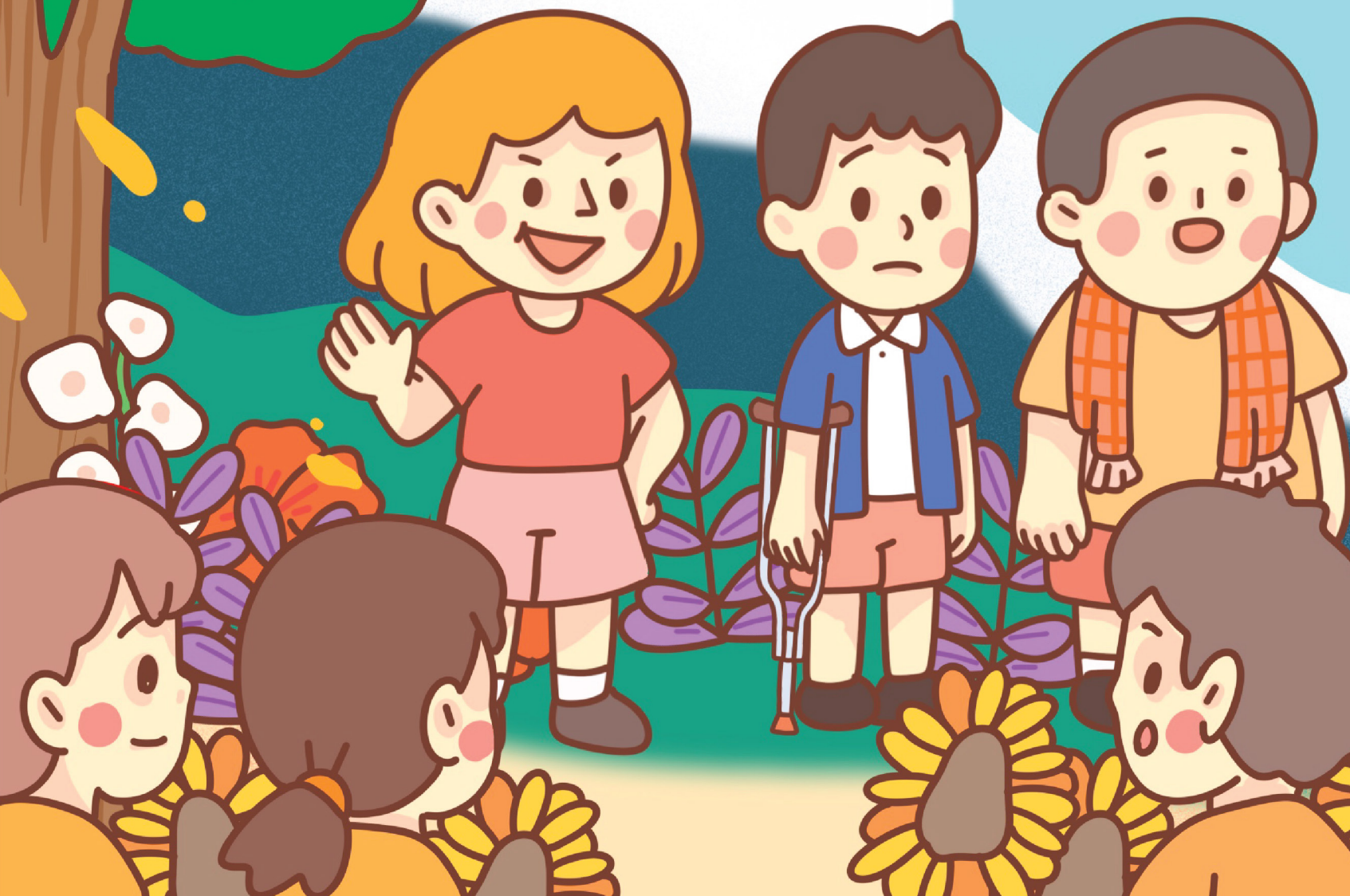


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Today the weather is beautiful, and Teacher Noi is taking the kids on a field trip to the city of Khon Kaen. There are three new friends today — Miguel, Joy, and Ahu. “Hi everyone, my name is Miguel!” “Hey guys, I’m Joy!” “H-H-Hello! I-I am A-A-Ahu!”



The kids looked at their new friends with curiosity in their eyes. Teacher Noi pointed at the flowers in the garden. There are many kinds, which makes the garden beautiful. People are like this too — different and diverse, and that’s what makes the world beautiful.





During the walk to Wat That, Teacher Noi asked,  
 “Who here knows where the name ‘Khon Kaen’ comes from?”  
 The children fell silent. Teacher Noi smiled and said,  
 “Tonight’s homework is to go home and ask your elders.  
 Tomorrow, we’ll share what we learn!”



Once they arrived at Phra Phuttha Phra Lab,  
 the Buddha image of Khon Kaen,  
 Miguel and Ahu helped Joy up the stairs to pay their respects.





The kids then got on one of Khon Kaen's service buses to the City Pillar Shrine. Teacher Noi told them,  
 "The City Pillar Shrine, or San Lak Mueng,  
 is home to guardian angels who watch over the city."

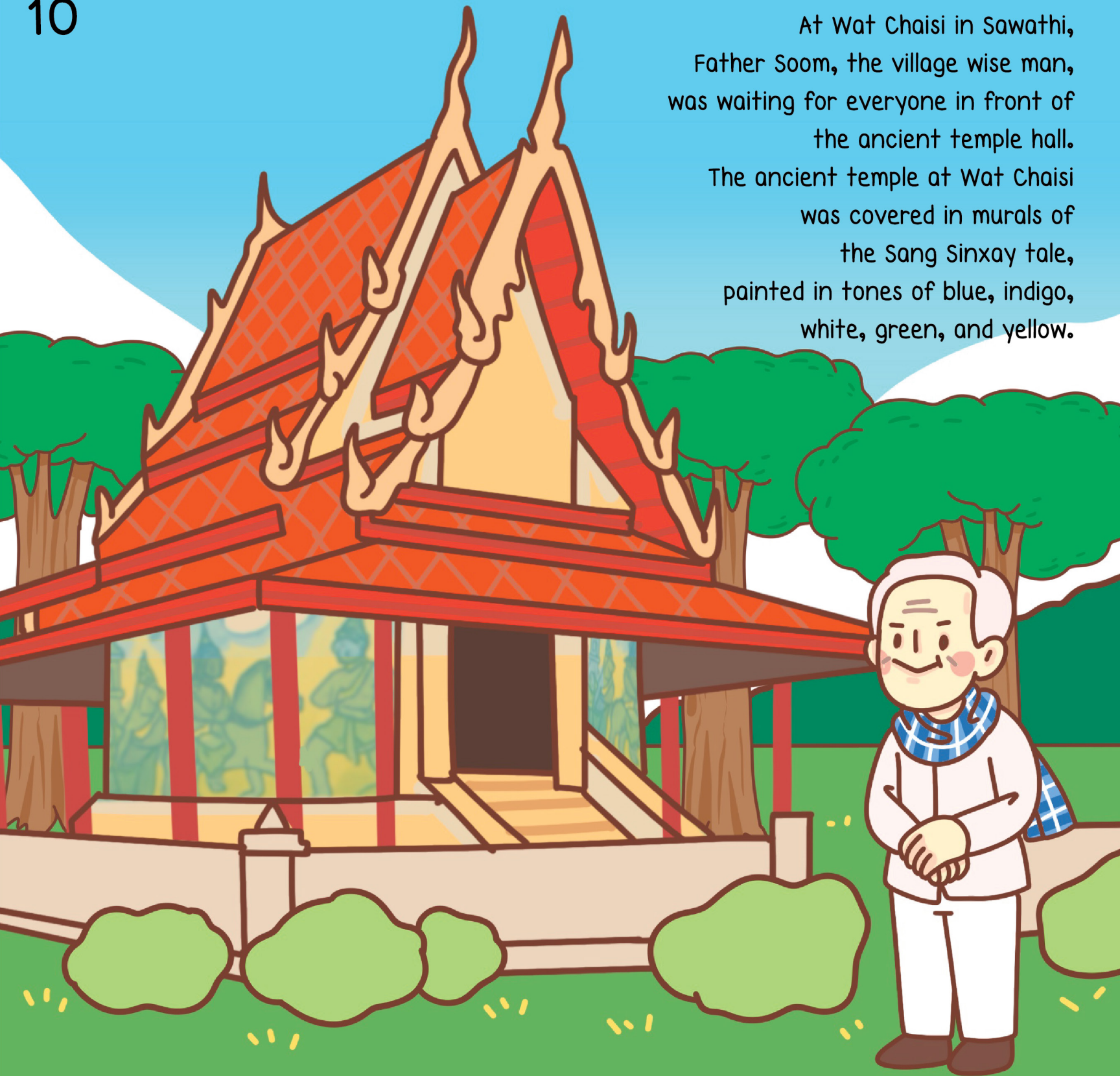


One of the kids raised his hand and asked, "Why are there many pillars?"  
 Teacher Noi let all the kids guess before revealing :  
 "It's because we've moved the city many times due to droughts  
 and natural disasters before finally settling here, as it is bountiful!"





At Wat Chaisi in Sawathi,  
 Father Soom, the village wise man,  
 was waiting for everyone in front of  
 the ancient temple hall.  
 The ancient temple at Wat Chaisi  
 was covered in murals of  
 the Sang Sinxay tale,  
 painted in tones of blue, indigo,  
 white, green, and yellow.

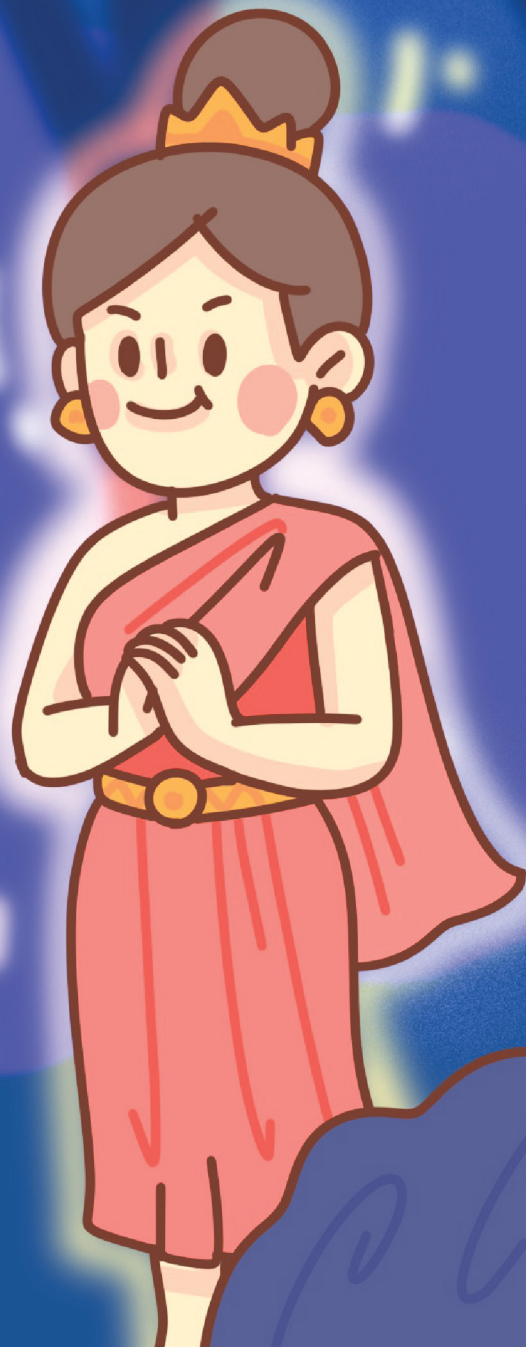


Father Soom led the kids through the murals, reciting verses from  
 the Sang Sinxay epic : “... Indra inscribed the boy’s name in the golden book  
 — Sang Sinxay, the mighty and renowned...” By then, the children had dozed off,  
 leaning against the glass walls around the sim.





When they woke up again, they found themselves in a forest. They held on tight to each other's hands as they saw a shadow appearing in front of them. "Hello! My name is Sumonta. My duty is to bring you kids back to the real world — but before we can go back, everyone has to overcome obstacles, just like Sang Sinxay!" "What's the obstacle? And who's Sinxay?" asked Miguel. "You'll find out," answered Sumonta, before disappearing once more.



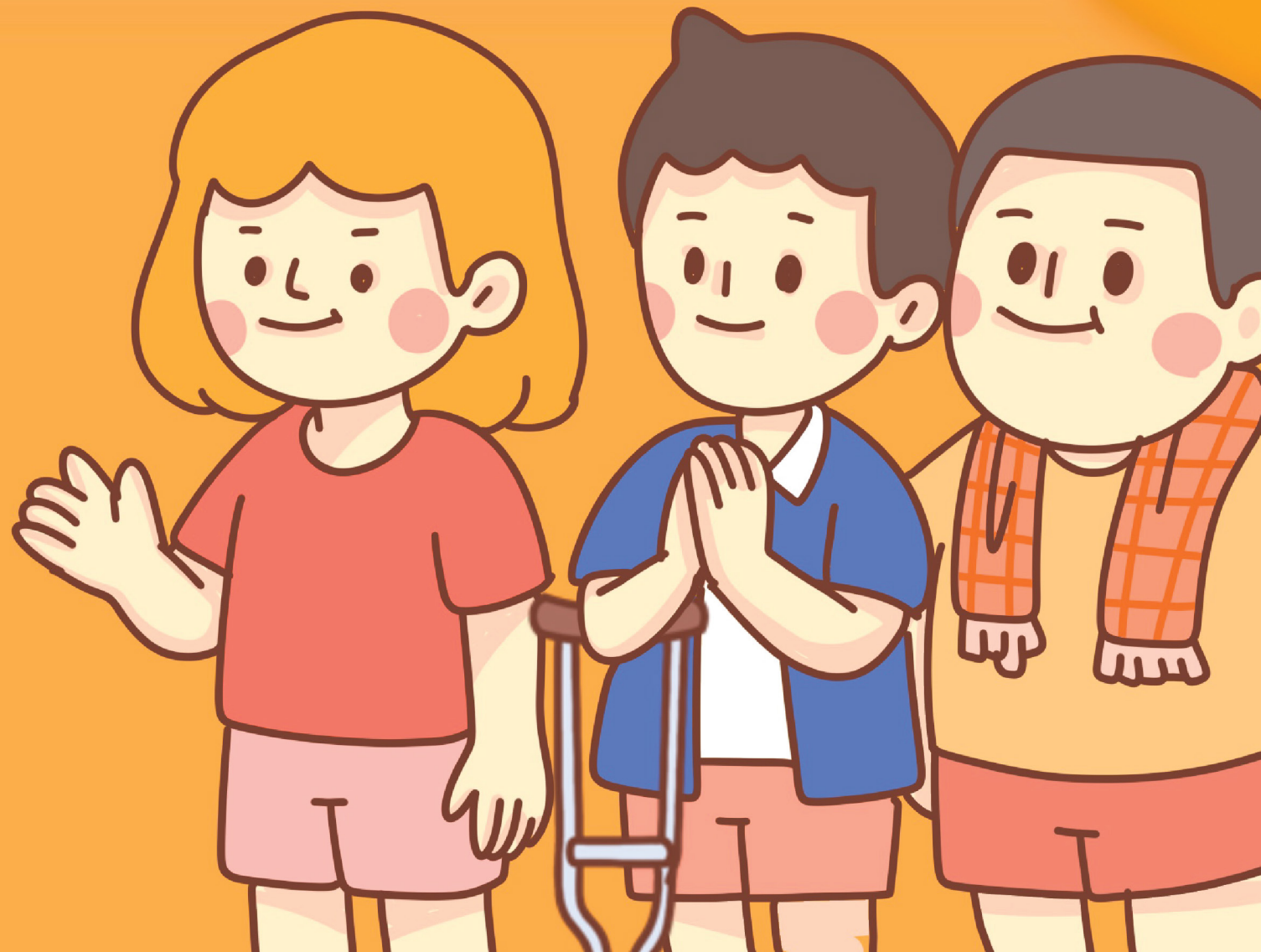
The children walked quietly through the forest, the only sound being the rustling of leaves. Suddenly, a giant black snake slithered across their path. "I am Suang the Snake, guardian of the first trial," it hissed coldly. "I will let only two of you pass. Who will stay behind?"

The children froze and looked at each other in shock. "Choose! Only two may pass," the snake demanded.





Miguel took a deep breath and said politely, "I'm sorry, Suang... We're here as a team. Is there any way for all of us to pass?" Joy put his hands together and pleaded, "We don't leave anyone behind. Could we please talk this through?" Suang was silent for a moment, then said, "You speak bravely and reasonably — no shouting, no stubbornness. I like that." He smiled and slithered out of the way. "Remember... being polite and sincere can change the minds of grown-ups." The children smiled wide, and all three walked forward together.



The kids walked along the red dirt path until a tall wall loomed before them. Suddenly, a fearsome ogre jumped down in front of them. "Haha! Anyone who wants to pass must answer my riddle," he boomed, shaking the leaves on nearby trees. "What is not sharp, not a weapon, cannot be touched, but still can hurt?"

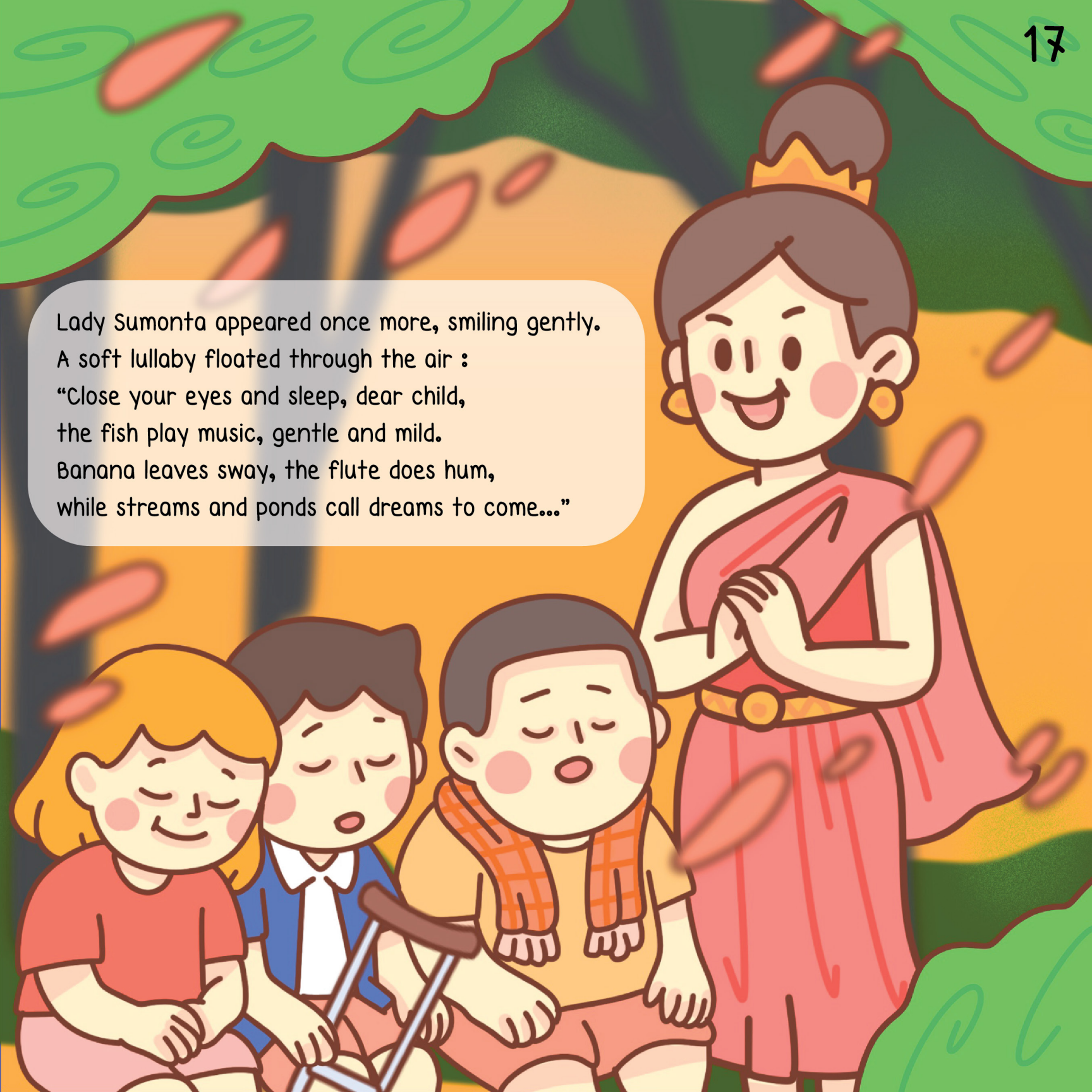




The children thought hard together.  
 Then Ahu said, "Hurtful words... like bullying."  
 Joy added, "they make people feel sad..."  
 Miguel said, "teasing doesn't make anyone better  
 — it just makes your friends feel worse."  
 The ogre was silent for a moment. Then,  
 a big smile spread across his fierce face.  
 The wall vanished, and the children continued on,  
 the ogre's warm laughter echoing behind them.



Lady Sumonta appeared once more, smiling gently.  
 A soft lullaby floated through the air :  
 "Close your eyes and sleep, dear child,  
 the fish play music, gentle and mild.  
 Banana leaves sway, the flute does hum,  
 while streams and ponds call dreams to come..."







The lullaby faded into the distance.  
The children opened their eyes all at once.  
“You’re awake! Did you enjoy your journey,  
Sinxay gang?” Father Soom knelt and smiled at them.  
The kids smiled back. In their eyes,  
they saw the image of a brave young man  
with a sword and bow.  
It turned out, Sinxay wasn’t somewhere far away  
— he had been in the hearts of us all.



# End-of-Book Note

The Local Knowledge Picture Book is a core activity of the One Book One City project, implemented across ten provinces by the Thailand Knowledge Park (TK Park). The initiative aims to create a platform for exchanging knowledge in order to produce children's picture books inspired by the intellectual and cultural heritage of each locality. The project is designed to encourage participation from representatives of all provincial network partners, guided by experts in children's picture book production. The process covers every stage - from generating ideas, outlining stories, writing manuscripts, and illustrating, to publishing - ensuring that each book is not only a genuine source of local pride, but also meets professional quality standards. These books convey embedded local wisdom that can be shared with readers both in Thailand and around the world.



For the Khon Kaen edition, the local partners who joined the project and co-created this storybook for the children of Khon Kaen include..

1. Mrs. Sirorat Ketthirakul

2. Ms. Nisarath Rasamee

3. Mr. Witthawat Yisarpat

4. Mr. Jirawin Sonthe

5. Ms. Jirawan Khunna

6. Ms. Praeploy Atsawapattanakul

7. Mr. Thanaphong Phunchai

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- Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Khon Kaen

- Provincial Office of Culture, Khon Kaen

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- Librarian, Khon Kaen Provincial Administrative Organization

- Educational Officer, Khon Kaen Provincial Administrative Organization

- Khon Kaen Municipality

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- Khon Kaen Provincial Youth Council

- Children's Library, Khon Kaen Municipality

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- Khon Kaen City Development (KKTT) Social Enterprise Co., Ltd.

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- Head of Health Commission Khon Khon province

- Brain Bank Project

- Khon Kaen Consumer Association

- Elderly and Vulnerable Groups & Autism Advocacy Network

- Hongsinsai Cultural Learning Center

- Isan Community Arts and Culture Media Network

- Northeastern Writers' Club

- Khon Kaen Municipality

- Vice President for Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy Khon Kaen University

- Promotion of Local Administration Foundation

- Khon Kaen Provincial Youth Council

- Khon Kaen Municipality

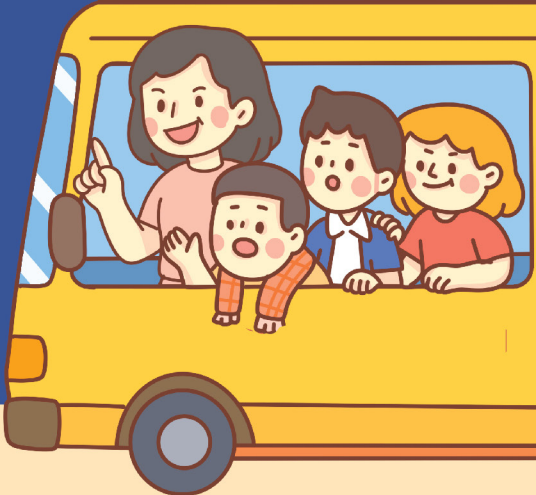
- Khon Kaen Municipality

- Assistant Education Officer

- Illustrations

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- Writer





# “Sinxay Inside Me”

## Goals

- Help children understand Sinxay’s good qualities
- Let them see the good inside themselves
- Encourage them to do the right thing in real life



## Start with a short talk

"Did you know? Every child has Sinxay inside. You don't need magic to be a hero! Just be brave, kind, patient, and gentle — That's what we call 'Sinxay Inside Me.'"

## Activity 1 Find Sinxay in Me

Ask simple questions  
When did you do the right thing, even if it was hard?  
Have you ever helped or forgiven a friend?  
What is something you kept trying even when it was difficult?  
Younger children can draw their answers.

## Activity 2 Be Sinxay for a Moment

Use role-play situations and ask "What would Sinxay do?"

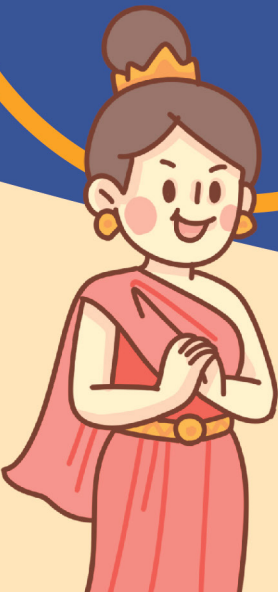
- Examples :
- A friend is being teased
  - A new kid has no one to play with
  - The teacher asks who made a mistake

## Activity 3 Sinxay Promise

Give each child a heart-shaped paper and ask them to write: "From now on, I will be like Sinxay by..."  
(Examples : "Not teasing others", "Telling the truth", "Forgiving my little brother")  
Let them decorate and display their promises in the classroom.

## Note for Teachers and Parents

This activity helps children value themselves and others. They don't need to be perfect - Just making good choices every day can make them a real-life hero, just like Sinxay.



## Writer : Nathatai Wanachalerm



Nathatai Wanachalerm holds both undergraduate and graduate degrees from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Khon Kaen University. She was awarded the Naiin Award for Best Cultural Nonfiction for her work "Tracing the Footsteps of Sinxay." Currently, she contributes regularly to columns in Aunrak, Isan Journal (Thang Isan), and The Cloud, while continuing her work as a practicing veterinarian.

## Illustration : Kittipong Nuchsawat (Katuar)

An artist and an illustrator. Also an owner of art and design tutor. He is a person who likes to paint and doing about visual storytelling. Love to support many art activities and creative art that moving by fun.



## Where Is Sinxay?

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