

# Little Coffee Bean's Adventure on a Study Tour



Written by Christy NG

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Translated by ICAC



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## Preface

The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) believes that integrity education should begin at a young age. Nurturing children's proper values from early childhood helps them develop good character, enabling them to resist corruption temptations when they grow up and become a new generation with integrity and law-abidingness.

The "Little Coffee Bean Picture Book Series" is designed for kindergarten and junior primary students, featuring different moral themes through the stories of the ICAC's original cartoon characters, Little Coffee Bean and friends. With vivid illustrations, simple narratives and elements relevant to daily life, these picture books not only spark children's interest in reading but also support teachers and parents in instilling proper values such as honesty, fairness and responsibility through shared reading and discussions with children, thereby nurturing good character.

# Little Coffee Bean and Friends



## Little Coffee Bean

- A raw coffee bean ready to germinate and grow, or be roasted to smell really good
- Works hard and never gives up on his dreams
- Honest and always stands up for what is right



## Soybean

- A sports lover with healthy daily habits
- Takes action and gets things done
- Speaks honestly and directly

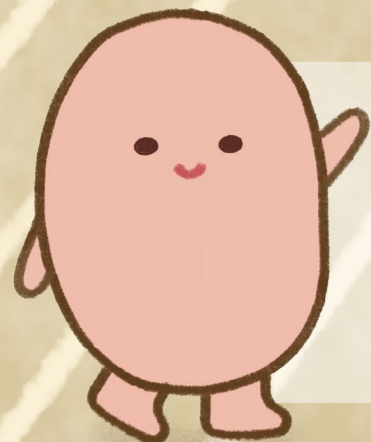
## Mung Bean

- Cheerful and full of energy
- Always curious and loves to ask questions
- Timid



## Snow Pea

- Enjoys reading and learning new things
- Gentle and polite
- A little shy



## Red Bean

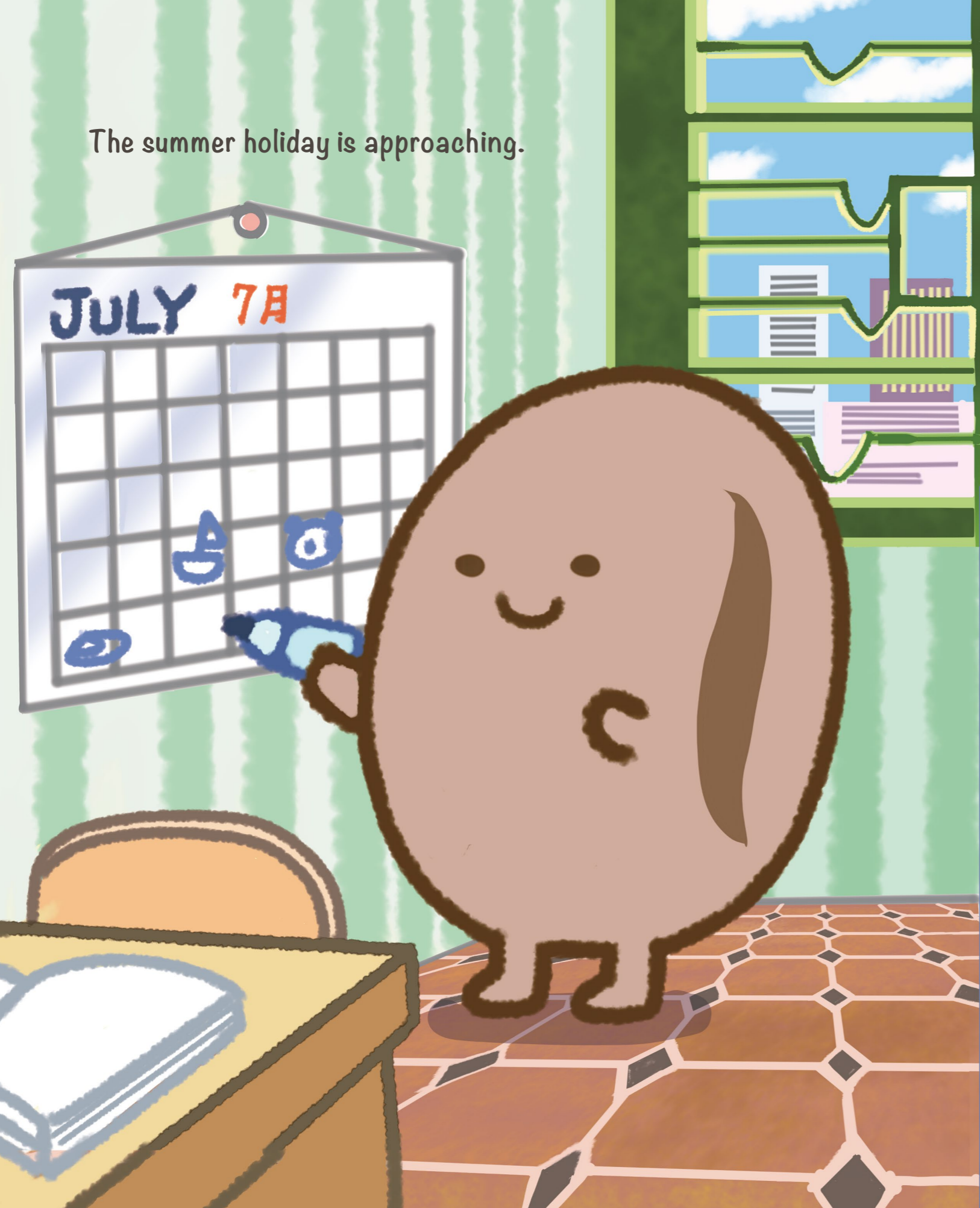
- Warm and friendly to everyone
- Caring and considerate
- Loves to make new friends



## Black Bean

- Takes things seriously and has high expectations for himself and others
- Grumbles at times
- Often wears a serious expression

The summer holiday is approaching.



Today, Teacher Snow Pea has announced the school's study tour to Sichuan.

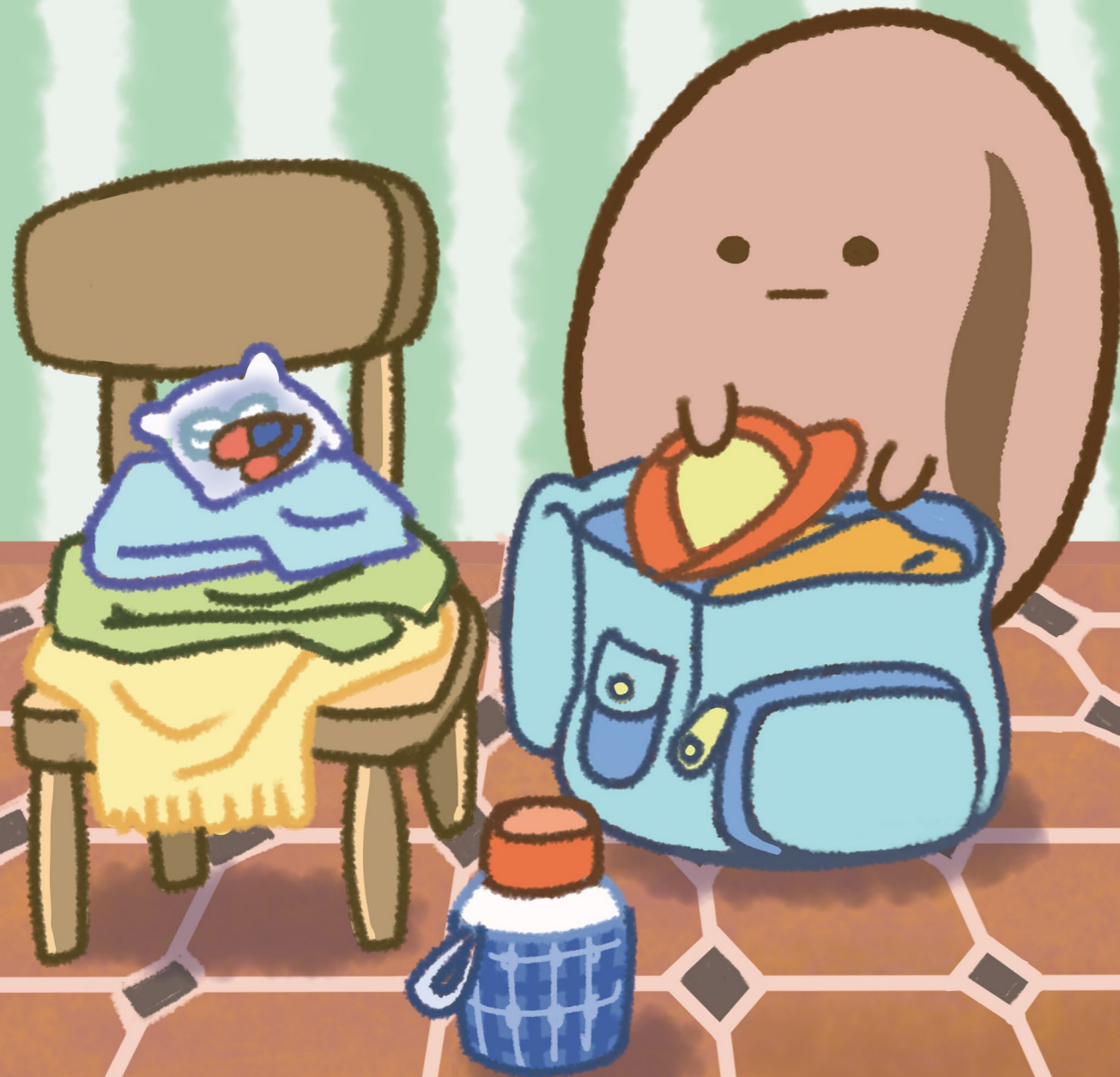


Little Coffee Bean feels butterflies in his tummy.

“Without family around... and Black Bean can’t join us because his leg was hurt...”

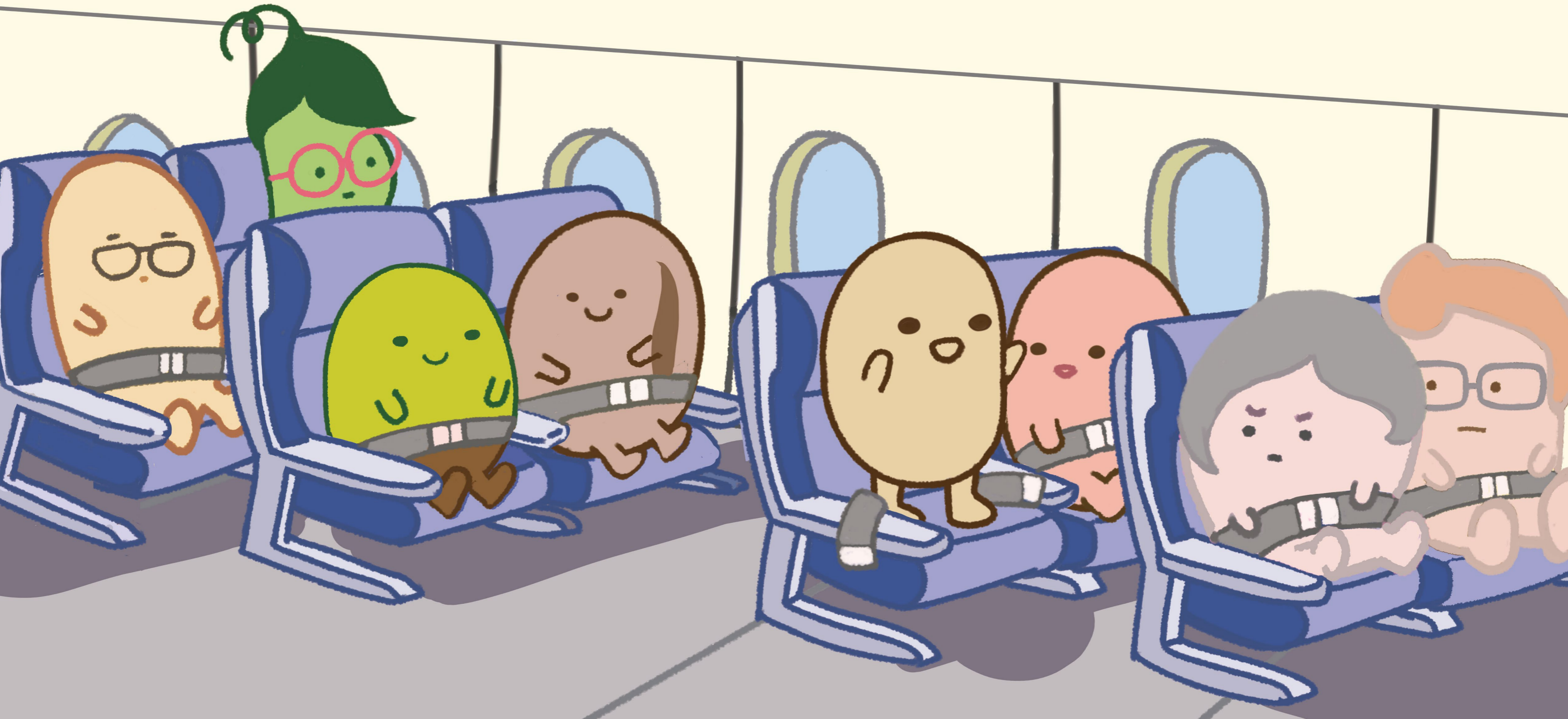
“You’ll be absolutely fine,” Mom says, cheering Little Coffee Bean on while packing his daily necessities.

Seeing the fully packed luggage, Little Coffee Bean frowns. “Everything in here is essential,” Mom explains.



This is the Beans' first trip away from home,  
and everyone is thrilled.

Soybean shouts with excitement,  
"I've got to see how the captain flies the plane!"



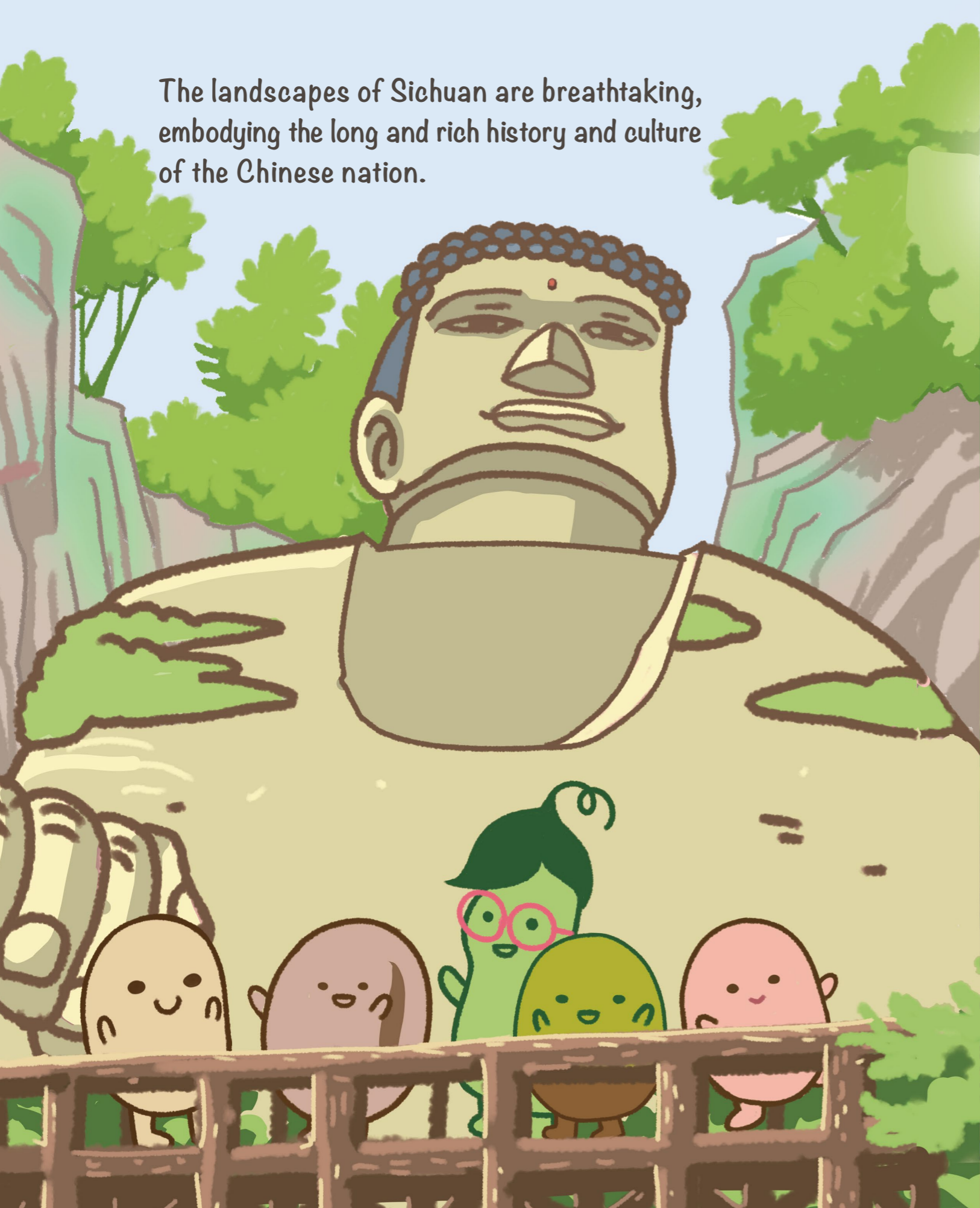
Red Bean gives Soybean a little tug, and Soybean finally sits down and fastens the seat belt.



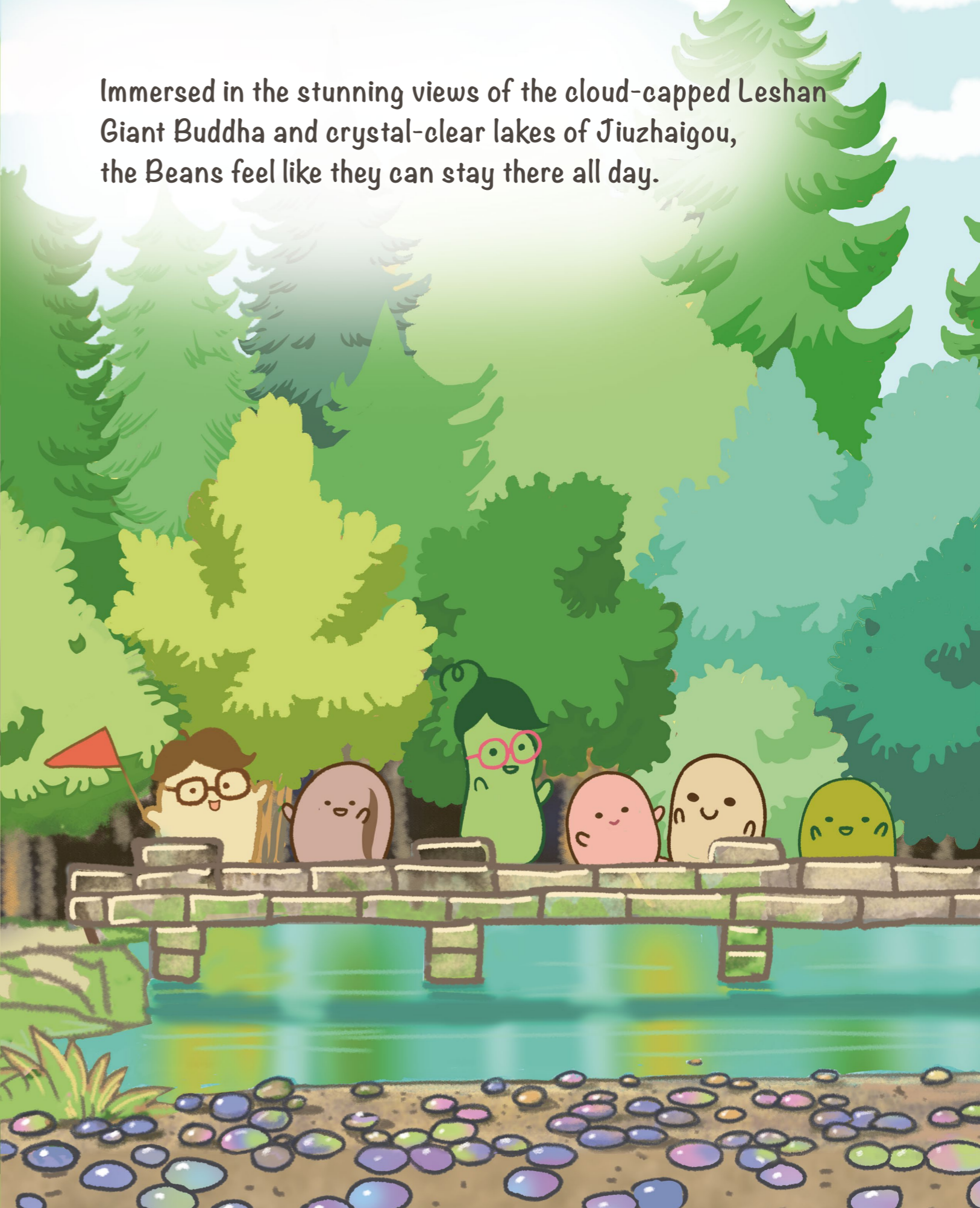
Shhh...

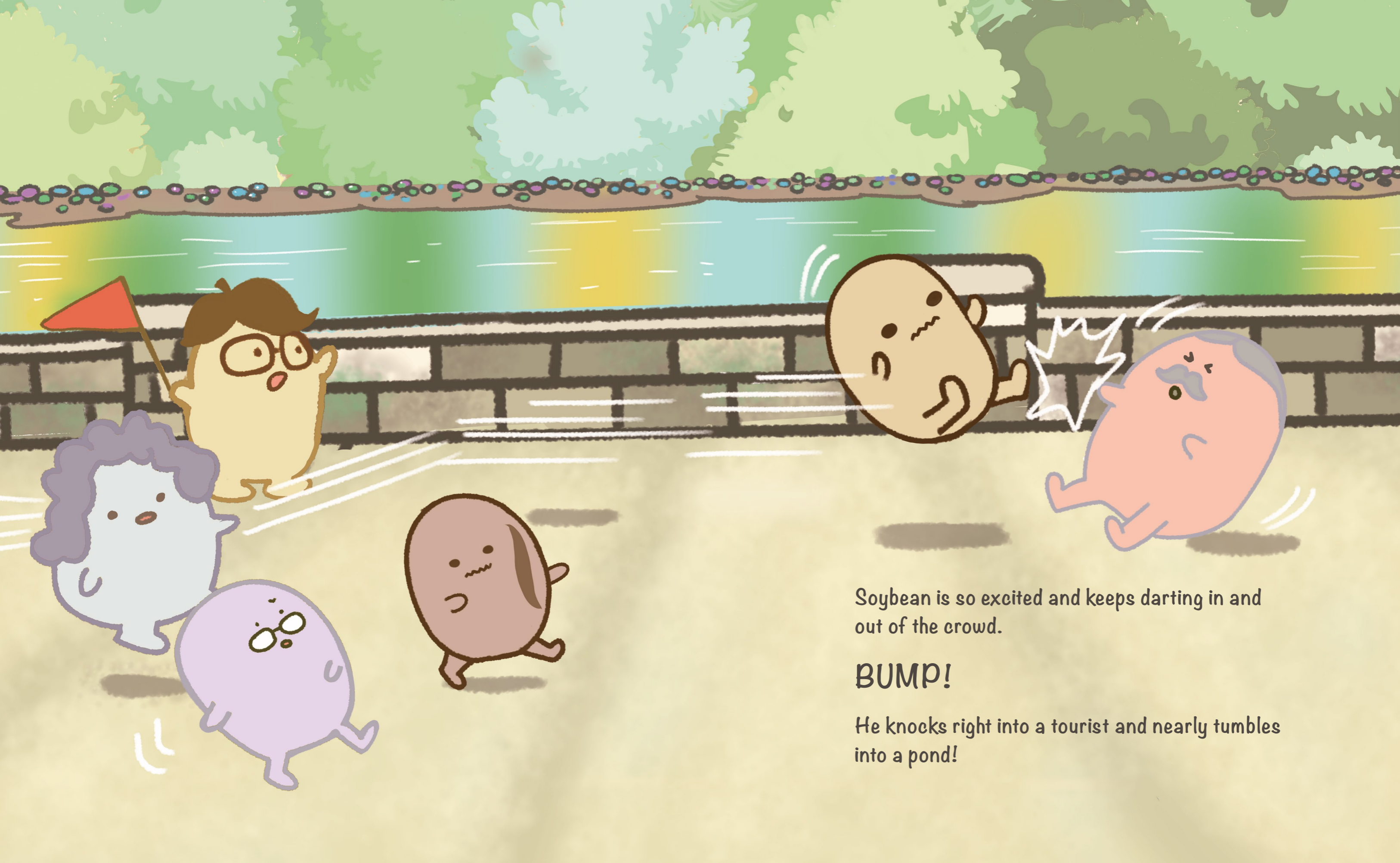
"I just want to see the cockpit," Soybean whispers. "Why can't I?"

The landscapes of Sichuan are breathtaking, embodying the long and rich history and culture of the Chinese nation.



Immersed in the stunning views of the cloud-capped Leshan Giant Buddha and crystal-clear lakes of Jiuzhaigou, the Beans feel like they can stay there all day.





Soybean is so excited and keeps darting in and out of the crowd.

**BUMP!**

He knocks right into a tourist and nearly tumbles into a pond!



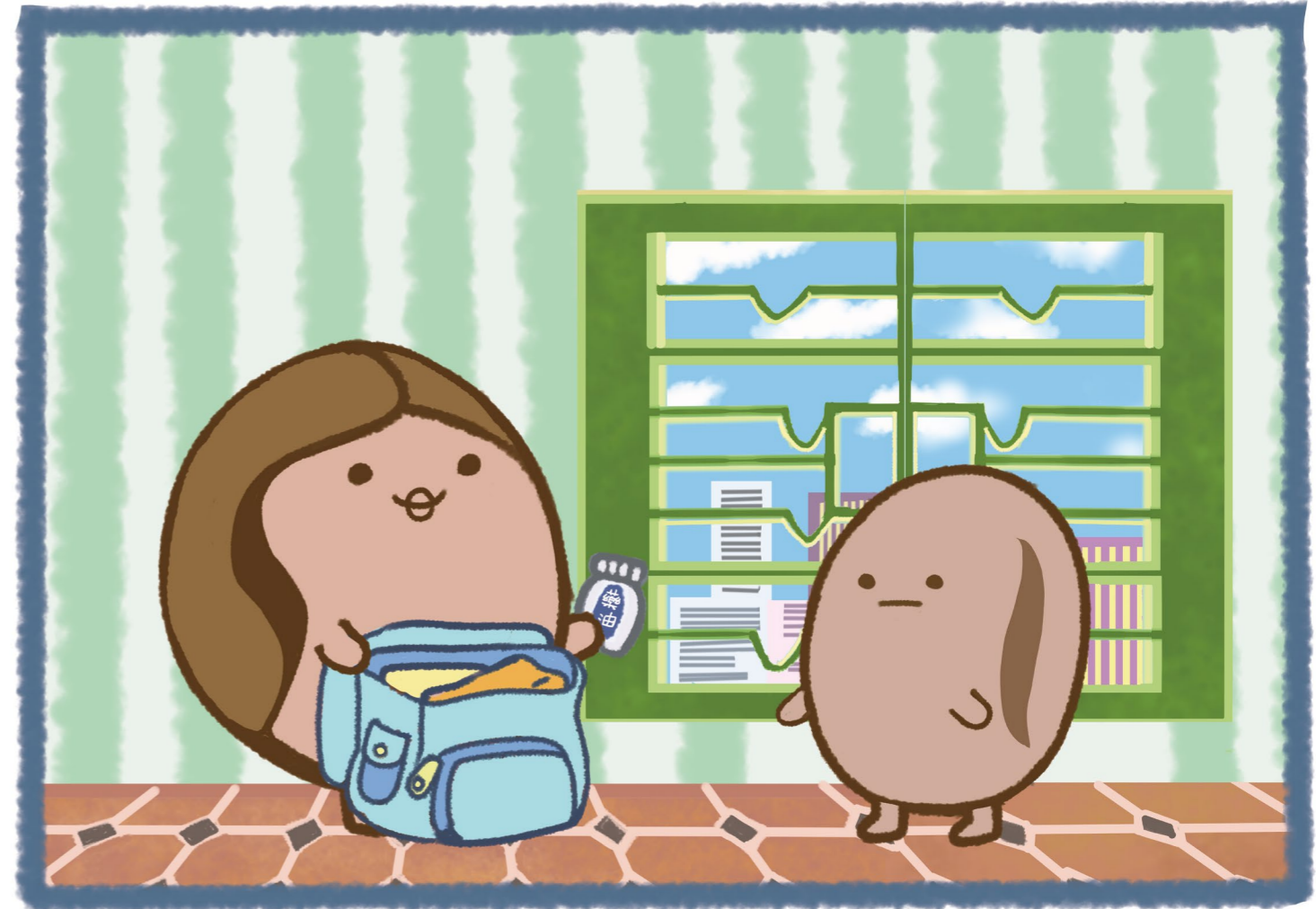
Little Coffee Bean hurries over, calling out to Soybean, "Teacher said we should all stay together! Why did you leave the group on your own?"

"I've just walked a bit faster," says Soybean, looking puzzled. "Why can't I?"

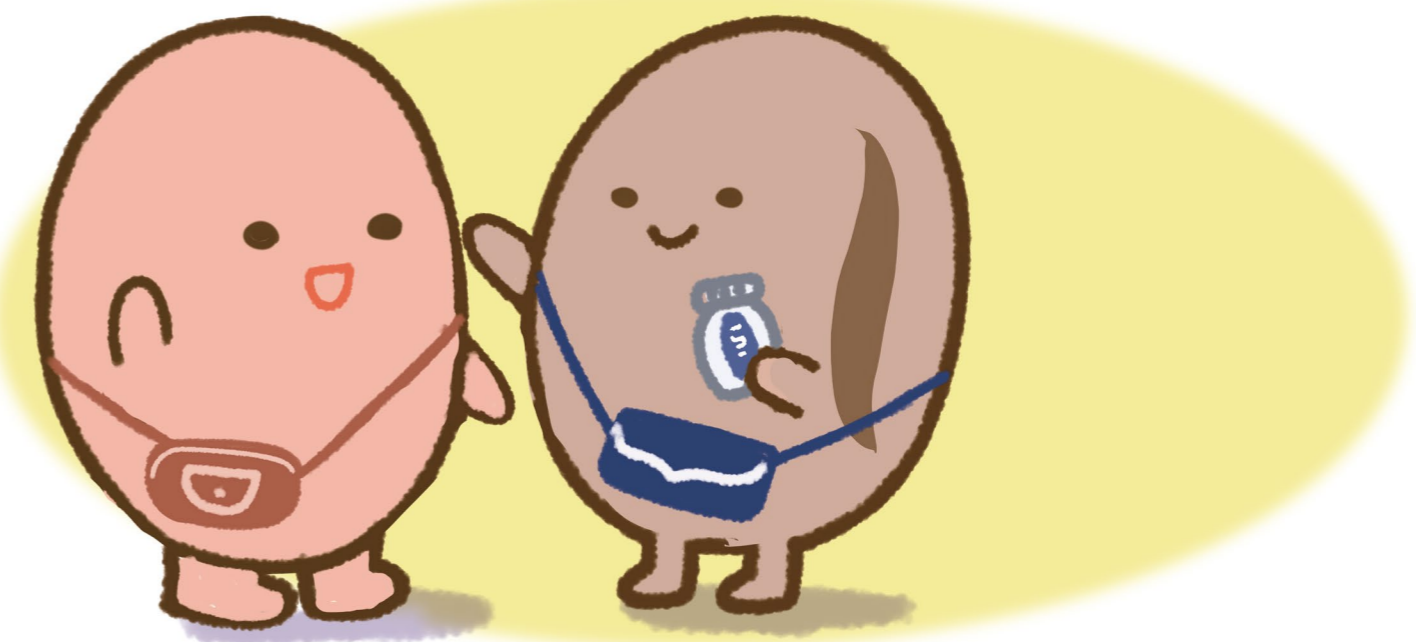
The magical face-changing show starts!  
Everyone gasps in wonder as the colourful  
masks whoosh off in the blink of an eye!

Little Coffee Bean turns around and finds  
Red Bean looking pale as milk.

“Perhaps it’s too hot, I feel a bit  
dizzy...” whispers Red Bean.

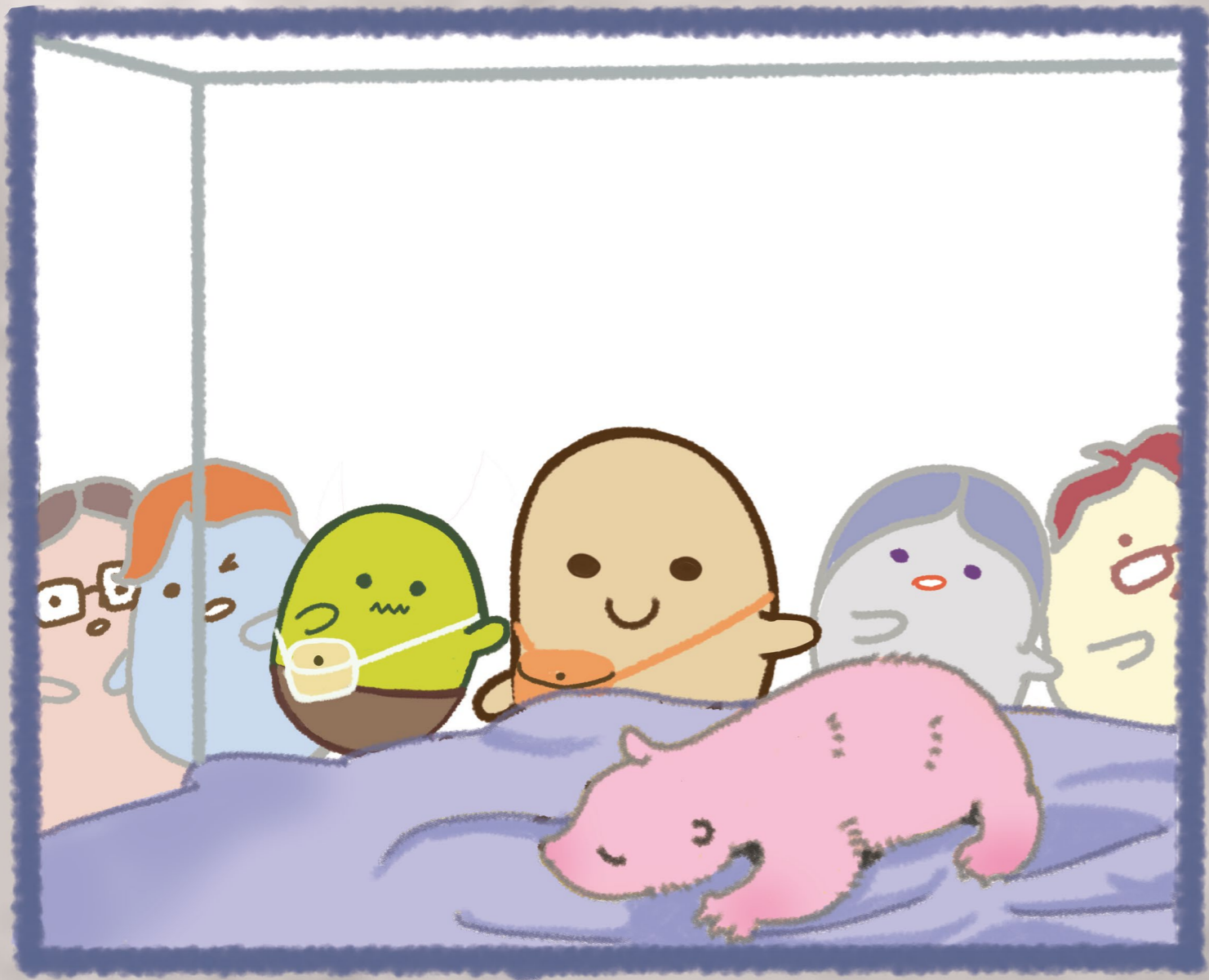


Little Coffee Bean swiftly takes out Mom’s medicated oil  
from his backpack and hands it to Red Bean.



Finally, the Beans arrive at the long-awaited Giant Panda Breeding Research Base.





Mung Bean stands on tiptoes to get a better view.

“Come with me!” cries Soybean, grabbing Mung Bean’s hand and pushing through to the very front.



Surrounded by grumbles and complaints, Mung Bean feels embarrassed.

“You always break the rules and run around recklessly!”

Soybean feels aggrieved.

“I just want to get you a better view,” Soybean says.

“Why can’t I?”



“We all know your good intentions, but running around recklessly will affect others,” says Teacher Snow Pea, trying to pacify Soybean.

“Look! It’s the giant panda mom and her baby!”  
Teacher Snow Pea exclaims.

The Beans cannot take their eyes off the giant pandas.  
All their faces beam with joy.

“If everyone shows discipline and queues up properly, we can all enjoy meeting the giant pandas,” Little Coffee Bean says.



As Little Coffee Bean watches the interactions between giant panda mom and her baby, he thinks of his mom's love and gentle care. A warm feeling fills his heart.




When they leave, the rain begins to fall heavily.

Little Coffee Bean calmly opens the umbrella Mom has packed for him.

“If Black Bean were here, it would have been perfect,” Red Bean says.

“How about we write a postcard and send it to Black Bean?” Teacher Snow Pea suggests.





Dear Black Bean,  
The Giant Buddha is really tall!  
The history and culture of our  
motherland are so fascinating!

There are beautiful lakes and  
mountains in Jiuzhaigou, and  
also plenty of natural stones by  
the lakes. Looking forward to  
our next adventure!



I love panda babies :)



I really wanted to bring you  
a piece of stone. However,  
the teacher said if everyone  
took one, there would soon be  
no stones left.

Is it really not allowed?



Goodbye, Sichuan!





Did the Beans take the stones in the end?

## Reading Guide

As a common saying goes, “Reading thousands of books is not as valuable as travelling thousands of miles”. While times have changed, learning is no longer confined to classrooms and textbooks. Study tours are now an integral part of school life today, allowing students to broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of the world.

Little Coffee Bean and friends joined a study tour to Sichuan, where they explored majestic scenic spots like Jiuzhaigou and the Leshan Giant Buddha, enjoyed Sichuan Opera face-changing show, and visited the Giant Panda Breeding Research Base to observe up close the living habits of giant pandas. Apart from appreciating the natural beauty of the motherland and experiencing the charm of Chinese culture, they also strengthened their sense of national identity. During the trip, they did encounter some hiccups: Little Coffee Bean, who was away from home for the first time, felt anxious and threw a tantrum with his mom. Soybean, who was lively and energetic, got overly excited and almost caused troubles though with good intentions. Fortunately, Little Coffee Bean eventually learned to appreciate his mom’s attentive care, whereas Soybean realised the importance of following rules. The story ends with a little mystery – did the Beans secretly take the beautiful stones? If it were you, what choice would you make? And what impact would that have on others and the natural environment?

Throughout the journey, curious Soybean had been eager to see a little more and go a bit further. On the plane, he sought to peek into the cockpit. During the visit, he tried to cut the queue so that his friend could get a better view. These behaviours seemed perfectly natural to him, and yet he was repeatedly stopped, leaving him puzzled and wondering, “Why can’t I?”. These are common points of confusion during a child’s development. They love discovering new things and exploring their surroundings, but their immature understanding of the world makes it hard for them to judge the appropriateness of their behaviours. As a result, they may sometimes feel frustrated when told to stop.

Through companionship and patient guidance, teachers and parents may help children understand the importance of rules and order, and learn to respect others. While exploring the world, children also learn to interact with others and their surroundings, and to develop positive values such as self-discipline, law-abidingness and benevolence, etc.



Web version of the picture book and guiding questions are available at:  
<https://me.icac.hk/book-corner/picture-book/index.html>

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