

This book is part of the Inuutsiarniq Reading Series developed by the Department of Health in Nunavut. The Inuutsiarniq Reading Series is a unique, Nunavut-developed literacy initiative that infuses Northern values of healthy living and self-care into a culturally appropriate reading program.

The Inuutsiarniq Reading Series was developed to support the reading level guidelines outlined in the Department of Education's Inuktit reading program, Uqalimaariuqsaniq. Uqalimaariuqsaniq is a sequential and progressive Inuktit reading program that supports students in their development from emergent to independent readers.

Healthy behaviours start at home. Healthy children become healthy adults. For more information, visit www.gov.nu.ca/health and your local Health Centre.

Family Engagement/ It Starts at Home

A child's success as a reader is dependent on supportive home and school environments. Reading, and a love of reading, begins at home. The Department of Health has developed a series of levelled take-home books to support reading at home. The following is a list of things you can do to support children as they become independent readers.

Keep distractions to a minimum. Find a quiet place to read and talk about the book. Even the best readers have a difficult time focusing on reading when there are too many distractions.

Take turns. Read to the child, read with the child, and let the child demonstrate his or her reading skills to you. This will help you provide gentle corrections, and it will provide an opportunity for the child to show you how he or she is improving.

Read it again and again. It is good to read the book a few times. Repetition helps strengthen learning and develops a child's confidence in reading.

Ask questions. As you read through the book, pause and ask questions about what is going on. This will help the child think about what he or she is reading, and will reinforce reading comprehension.

Focus on successes, not mistakes. All early reading experiences should focus on praising success, as this will build confidence in the child.

Talk about the symbols or letters and sounds. Help the child learn the names of the symbols or letters and the sounds they make. Point out other things around the house that start with the same sound.

Read it and experience it. If possible, make connections between what the book is about and what happens in life. For example, if the book is about food, talk about food you eat together at home.

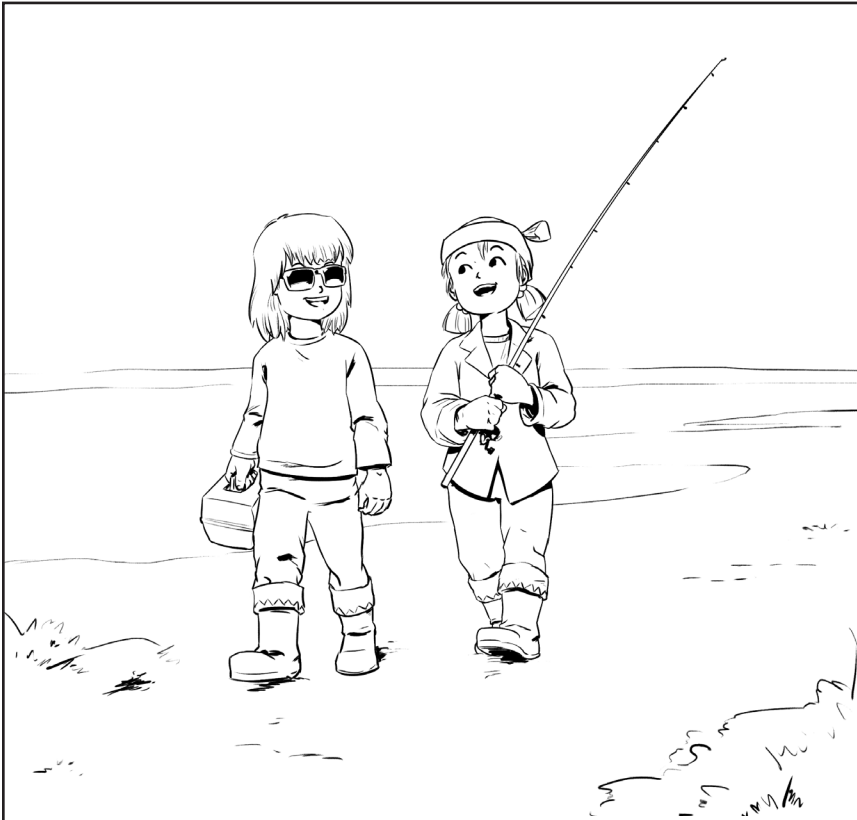
Book details

Level: 10

Text Type: Fiction

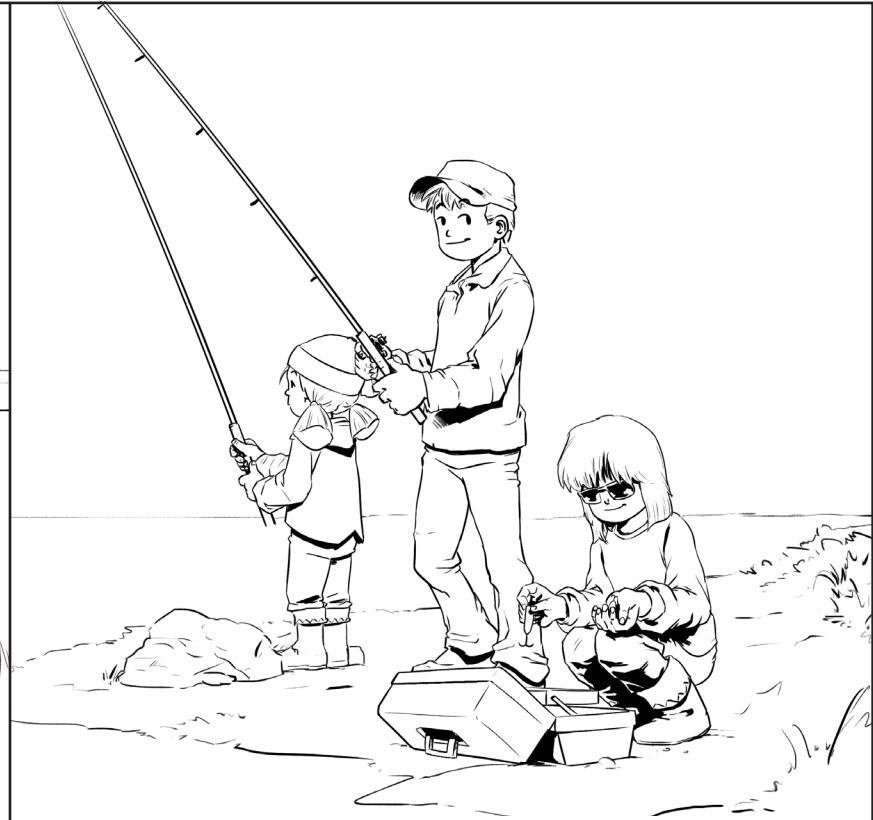
Subject/themes: Relationships with friends, fishing, getting into an argument, saying sorry

Key features: Dialogue, third-person point of view, past tense



It was a beautiful, sunny summer day for fishing. Myna and her best friend Olaika went to the river to catch Arctic char.

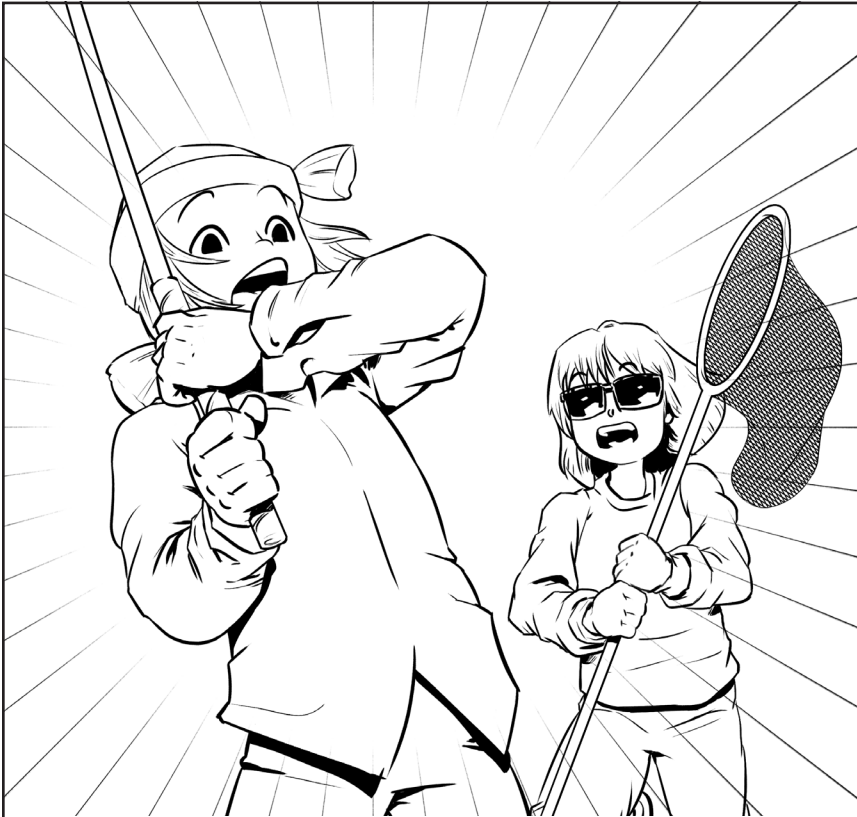
“I love fishing,” Olaika said.



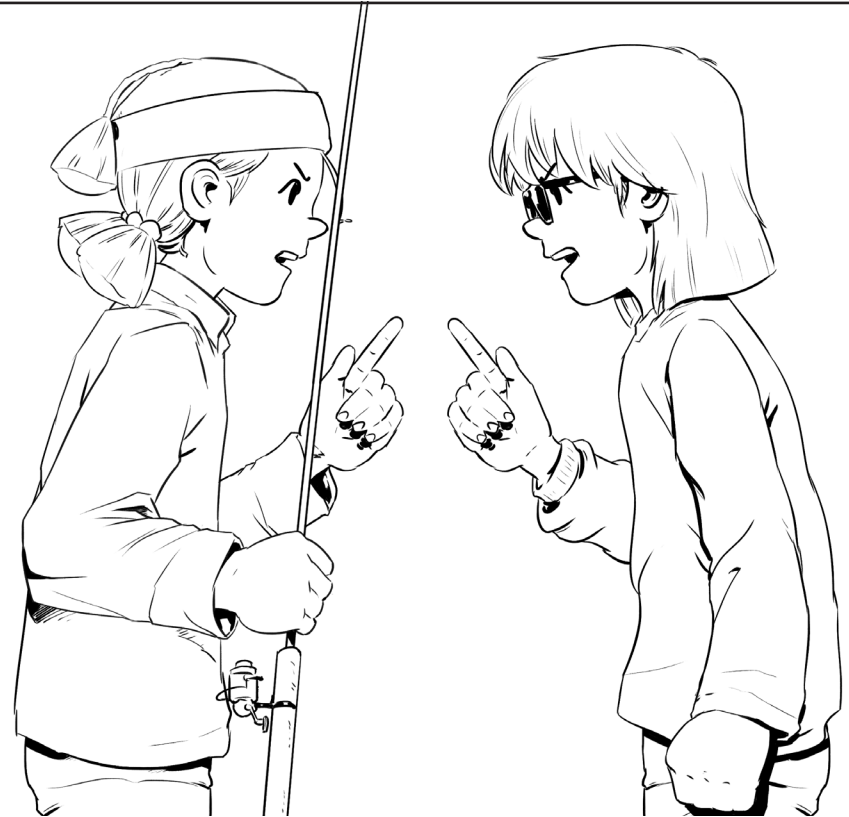
Olaika's older brother was close by to watch them. Myna borrowed some of his fishing lures.

“I can't wait to catch dinner for my family,” Myna said.

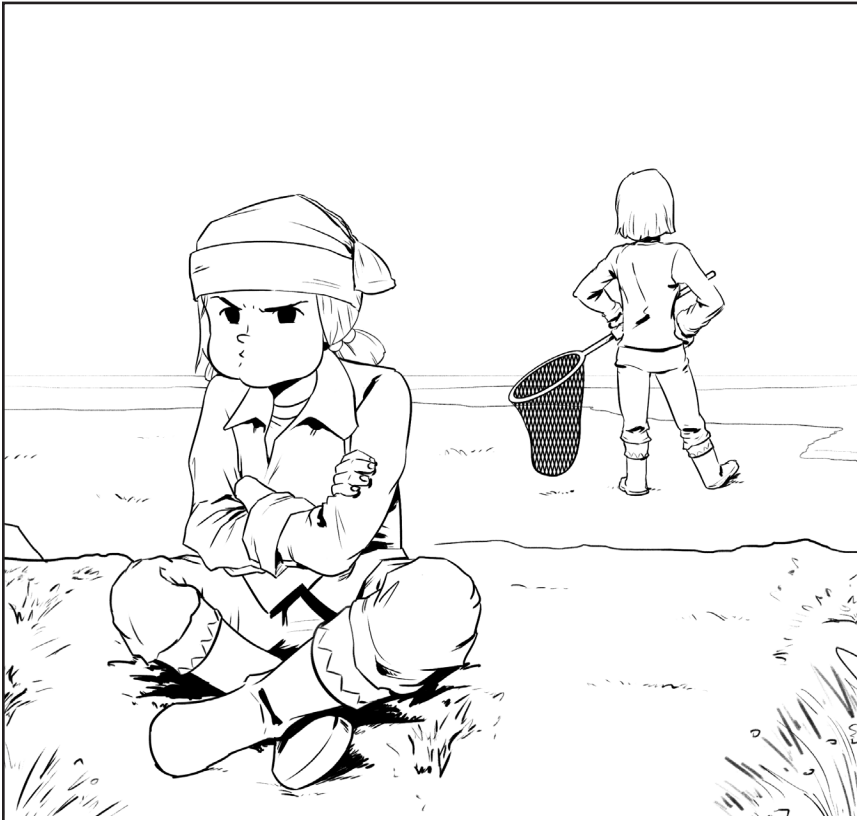
But after a couple of hours, the girls had no fish.



All of a sudden, Olaika felt something pull on her fishing line!
Myna rushed over to grab a net to catch the fish.
The slippery Arctic char jumped out of Myna's net and swam away.



Myna and Olaika were angry. As they watched the fish swim away, they grew more and more upset.
Olaika said to Myna, "You used the wrong lures!"
Olaika yelled, "You messed up the net."



Myna started crying and said, “You are the worst friend ever!”

“I don’t want to talk to you anymore,” Olaika said.

Olaika stormed off and plopped herself down in a patch of crowberry bushes.



Olaika wiped away tears as she picked the juicy, black berries. She remembered her grandmother had told her once to treat all friends like family. Myna and Olaika had been friends since they were little.

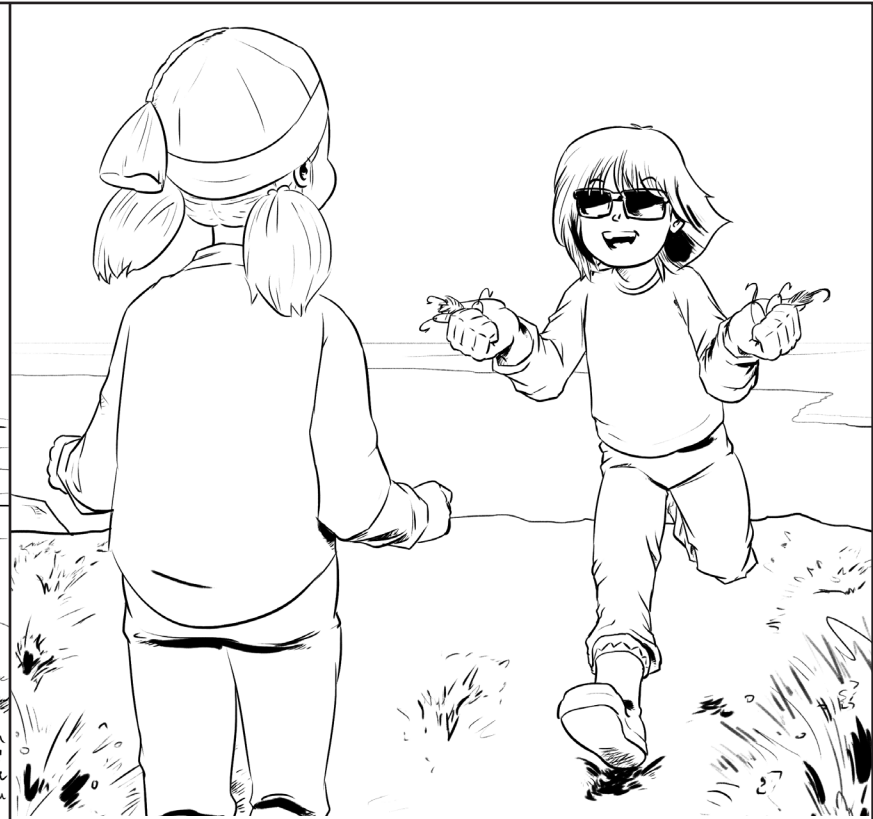
Olaika knew what she had to do.



Holding a bunch of crowberries, Olaika walked back to Myna. "I am sorry I shouted. You weren't really using the wrong lures," she said as she handed Myna the berries.

"You hurt my feelings, but now I feel better," Myna replied, taking the berries.

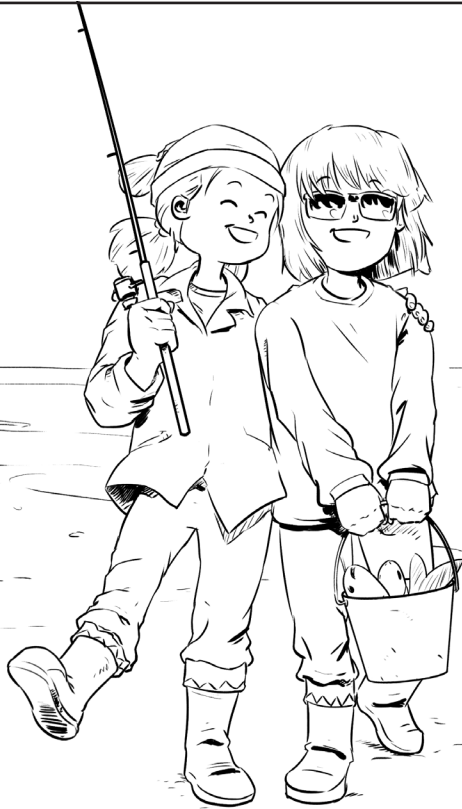
"I'm sorry I blamed you for messing up the net."



After giving each other big hugs, the girls still had a problem. They didn't have any fish!

Olaika ran off to her older brother and came back with more fishing lures. The girls attached the lures and started fishing again.

Before long, they caught a fish! "We did it!" Myna and Olaika yelled.



Myna ran back to give Olaika's brother his lures. She always returned what she borrowed.

Myna and Olaika knew that if they talked about their feelings, they would be best friends forever.

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