

# My Family



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 Inuktut guided reading program, Uqalimaariuqsaniq. Uqalimaariuqsaniq is a sequential and progressive Inuktut reading program that supports students in their development from emergent to fluent readers.

Healthy students are better learners and become healthy adults. For more information, visit [www.gov.nu.ca/health](http://www.gov.nu.ca/health) and your local Health Centre.

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### Book details

**Level:** 10

**Text Type:** Fiction

**Subject/themes:** Family relationships, changing family structures, jobs and responsibilities, positive daily health habits

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

# My Family



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Aujarluk was fast asleep.  
He felt a hand on his shoulder.  
His father said, "It is time to wake up,  
Aujarluk!" Aujarluk sat up in his bed,  
feeling confused. His mother usually  
woke him up.





Aujarluk remembered that his mother had started her new job today. She had to be up early to go to her office. That meant it was now his father's job to wake Aujarluk up for school.

Aujarluk went into the kitchen. He wanted his favourite breakfast of whole wheat toast with jam and a glass of milk. But on the table, he saw a plate of scrambled eggs, a glass of water, and an apple.





“This isn’t what Mom makes me,”  
Aujarluk said, frowning.

Aujarluk’s father said, “Now that she’s  
away during the day, it’s my job to cook  
our meals and keep the house clean.  
This is my favourite breakfast.  
Will you try it?”

Aujarluk refused.

His father said, “Okay, but I need your help to tidy up the house after school. Your mom will be away more at her job and I still need to go hunting. That means we’ll need your help around the house.”





Aujarluk didn't answer.  
He never used to have to tidy up!  
His father offered to walk him to school,  
but Aujarluk said no. He ran all the way  
to school. He was upset about the  
changes at home.

At lunchtime, Aujarluk was very hungry. He had not eaten his breakfast and only had a snack of almonds at recess. Aujarluk went outside to be picked up, but his father was parked in the wrong spot! His mother always parked in the parking lot. This upset Aujarluk.

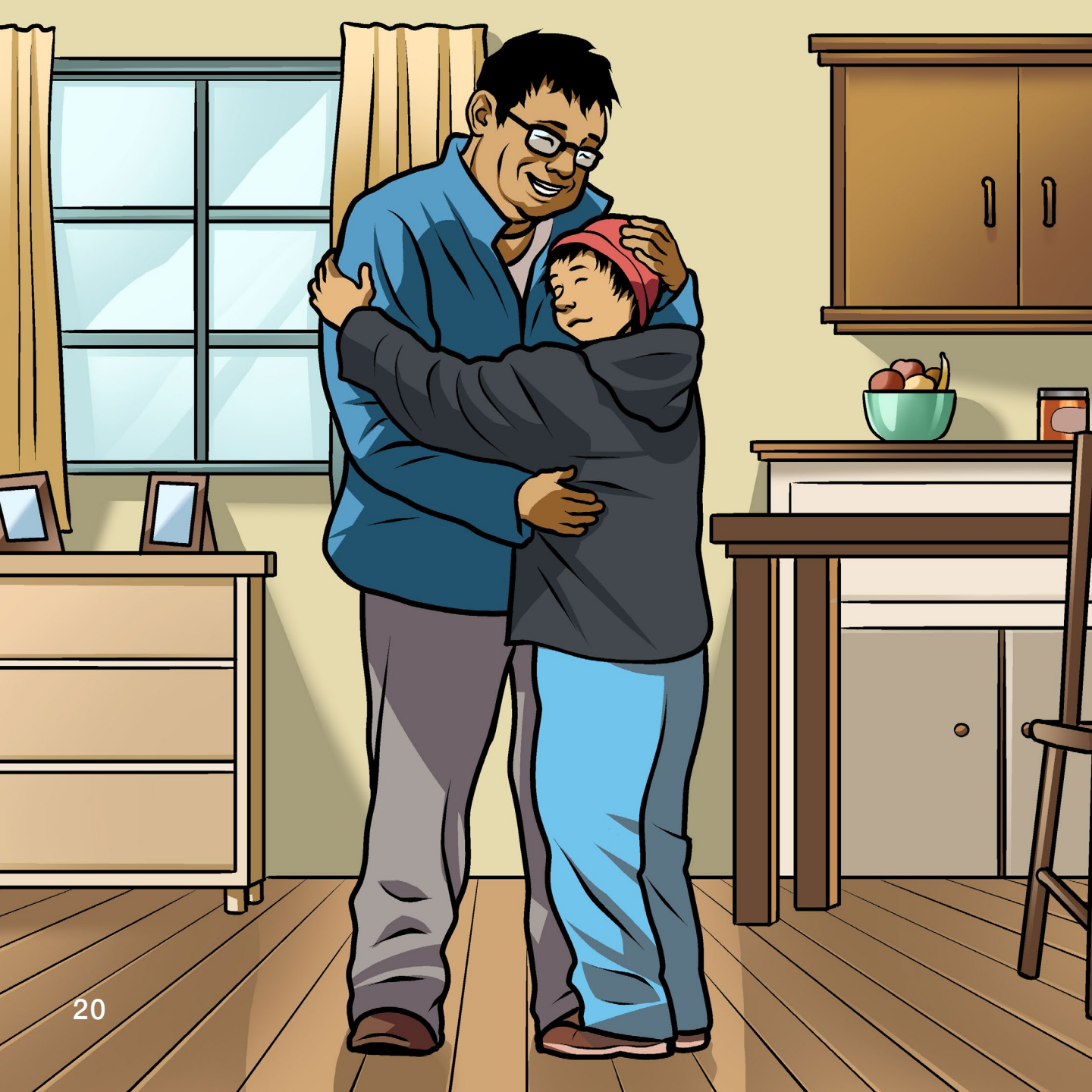




When they got home, lunch was ready. It wasn't the ham sandwich with carrot sticks his mother made. Instead, his father had made him a turkey sandwich with celery sticks on the side and a glass of milk.

Aujarluk did not want to try his lunch.  
But he was so hungry he picked up his  
sandwich and took a bite.  
It was delicious! Aujarluk ate his lunch  
so quickly that he finished eating  
before he even sat down!





“I’m sorry about how I acted this morning, Dad,” Aujarluk said.

“Aujarluk, I know you were nervous about your mom being away more,” his dad said. “I was nervous, too. Let’s work together, okay?”

Aujarluk hugged his father.

Afterwards, Ajarluk went back to school.  
At the end of the day, Ajarluk and his  
friends decided to play hockey outside the school.  
Ajarluk's father arrived.  
Ajarluk's friend Davidee asked,  
"Why is your father picking you up?"





Aujarluk said, “Because my mother is at her new job.”

“That’s great you get to hang out with your dad,” Davidee said.  
“My aunt takes care of me.”

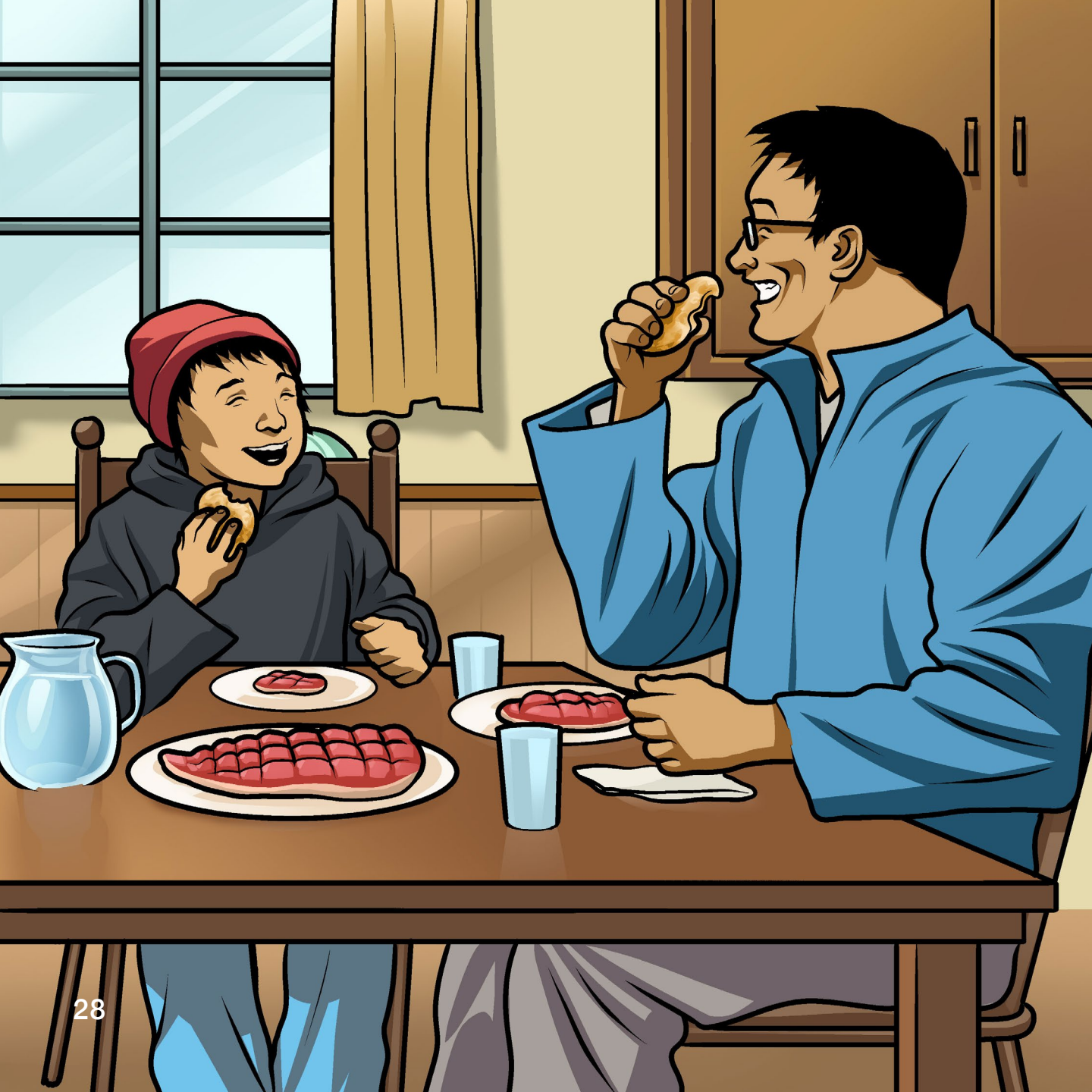
“I usually stay with my grandpa after school,” said another friend.

“Does your dad play hockey?”  
Davidee asked.

“Yeah! He’s the best goalie in the  
whole community!” Aujarluk said.

Aujarluk’s father joined the hockey game.  
Aujarluk’s classmates wanted his father  
to play hockey with them every day.  
Aujarluk was so happy.





When Aujarluk and his father got home, they had bannock and Arctic char for a snack and water to drink.

Aujarluk said to his father, “I was worried that everything would be different with Mom at work. I didn’t want things to change.”

“But the changes weren’t bad,”  
Aujarluk said. “I like your food and you are fun  
to have around more.”

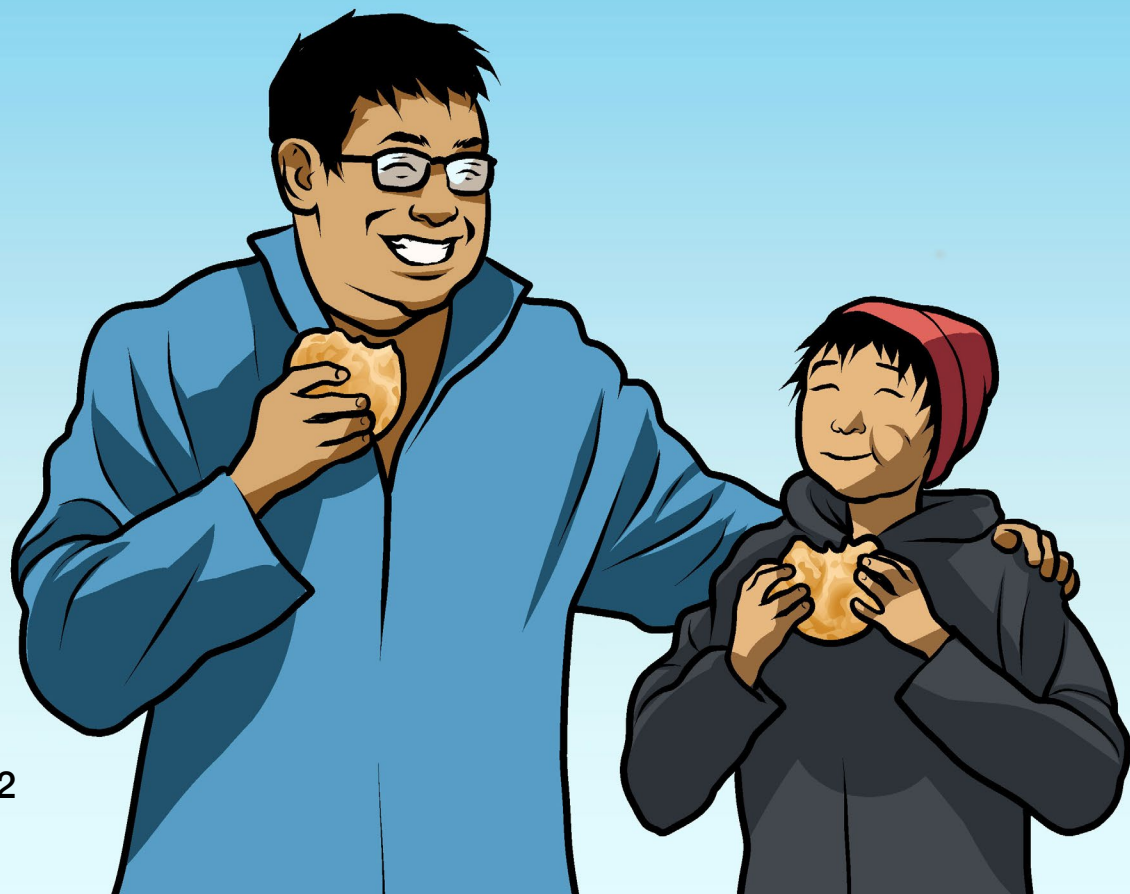
Aujarluk’s father said, “Sometimes,  
we need to make changes to help  
our family. But all that matters is that  
a family loves and supports each other.”



“Can we still go jigging on the weekend?”  
Aujarluk asked.

“Of course!” said his father. “Now, let’s get dinner  
ready for when Mom comes home.”

Aujarluk agreed. He knew he was going to like  
spending more time with his father!



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