

We All Need Practice



This book is part of the Tulliniliara Reading Series, developed by the Department of Family Services in Nunavut. The Tulliniliara Reading Series is a unique, Nunavut-developed literacy initiative that infuses awareness of skills, interests, and careers into a culturally appropriate reading program.

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

The Tulliniliara Reading Series will inform readers about jobs available in their community. It will also provide opportunities for readers to consider their own interests and skills when thinking about future work. Awareness of career possibilities at a young age will better prepare children to understand the opportunities that are open to them and the importance of staying in school.

These books represent the Department of Family Services' investment in the early development of our future workforce.

Book details

Level:	10
Text Type:	Fiction
Subjects/themes:	Different people practising different skills; the importance of practice
Key features:	Past tense, dialogue, third-person point of view

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Written by
Emma Renda

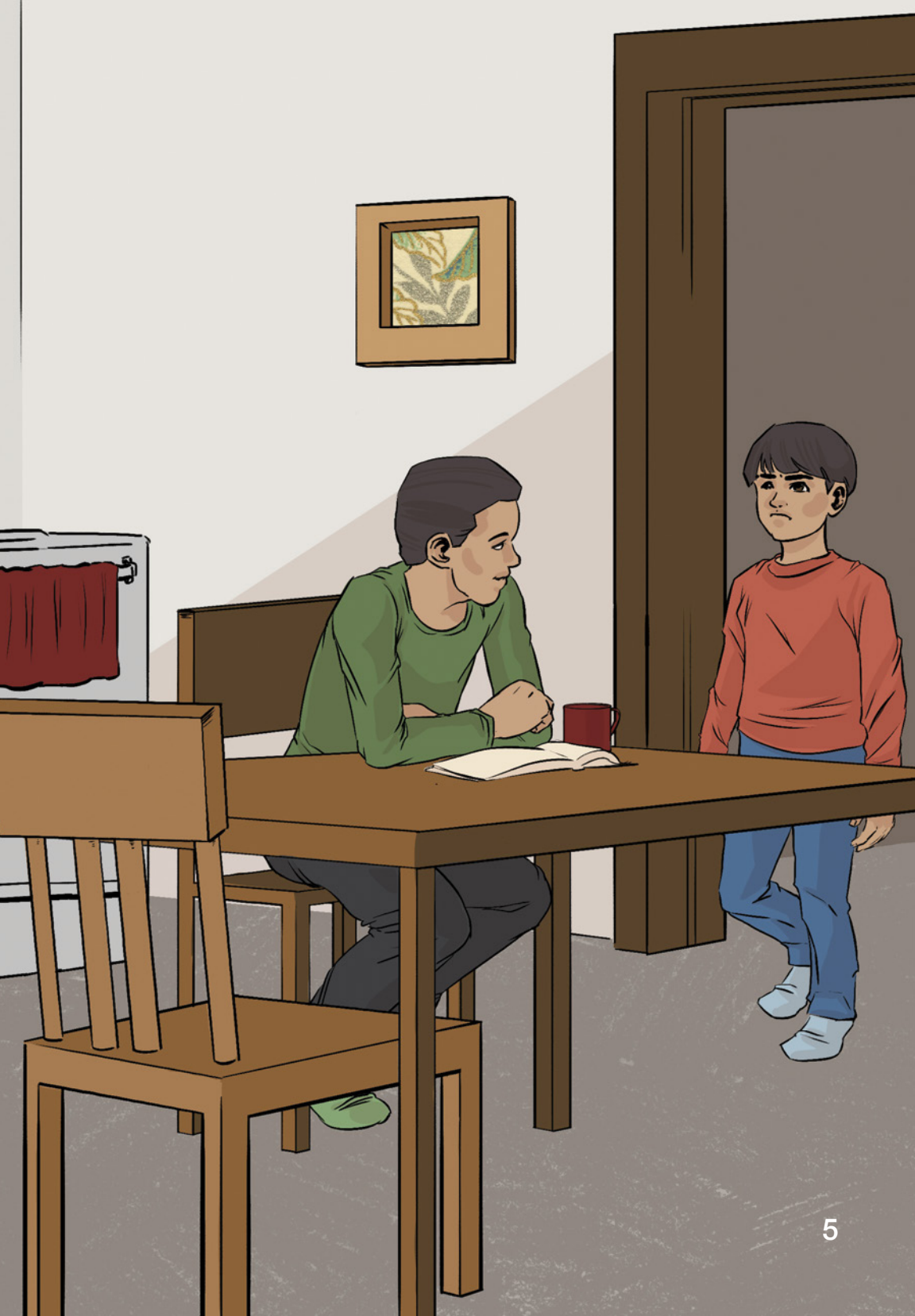
Illustrated by
Eric Kim



When Tony woke up on Saturday morning, he was very grumpy. His dad and brother were going ptarmigan hunting, but he couldn't go with them. He had to read a book and write a report about it for school.

Tony thought reading was boring. He wanted to be out on the land instead. He was so good at spotting ptarmigan!

He stomped into the kitchen, scowling.





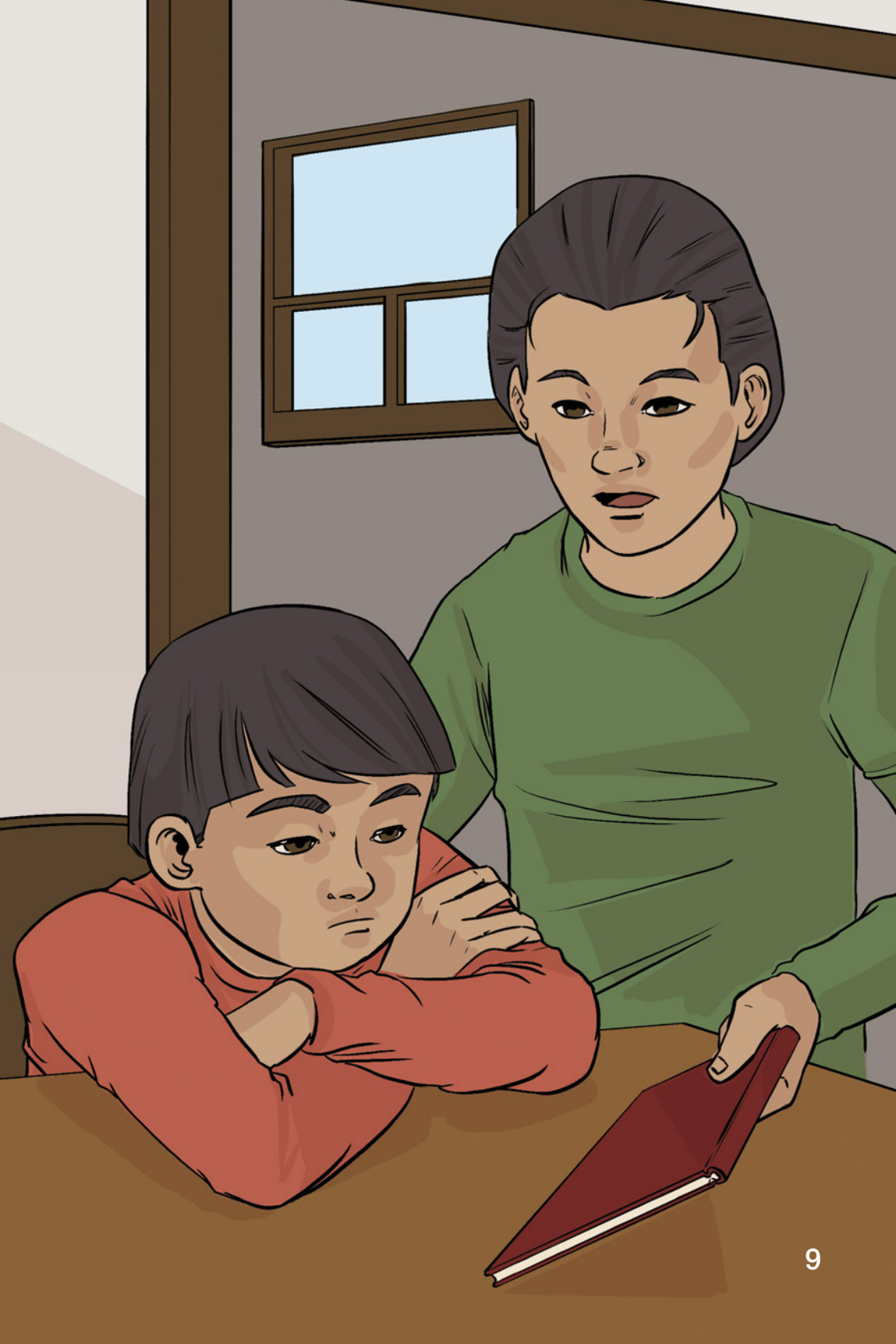
“Hey, Tony, what’s wrong?”
his older brother Andrew asked.

“I can’t go hunting with you
because I have to stay home
and read,” Tony said.

“That sounds like fun,”
Andrew said. “I love reading!”

Tony buried his head in his arms. “I don’t like reading!” he said. “It’s hard, and it takes me forever.”

“Reading can be hard at first, but it gets a lot easier and more fun if you practise!” Andrew said.





“But I don’t want to practise,” Tony said. “I just want to be good at it now!” He slumped down in his chair.

“Everyone has to practise new things before they can be good at them,” Andrew said.

Tony's mom and dad walked into the kitchen. His dad was already wearing his long johns and was carrying his sealskin mittens for the hunt.

“I bet Ataata doesn't practise anything!” Tony said.
“He's good at everything!”





“I wish that were true!”
Tony’s dad said and laughed. “I
had to practise hitting a target
with my rifle for many months
before I could hit a ptarmigan.”

He set his mittens on the
table and poured himself a cup
of tea.

Tony's mom picked up the mittens. "I had to practise sewing with my grandmother for many years before I was able to make these sealskin mittens," she said.

Tony loved the mittens that his mother made. They were so warm, even in the coldest weather!





Andrew returned to the kitchen in his parka.

“Sometimes when I feel frustrated about learning something new, I like to take a walk. It helps me think,” Andrew said. “Let’s take a walk together.”

Tony was still upset, but he pulled on his parka and boots.

Outside, Tony saw his neighbour Anita playing hockey on the road. He watched her score a great goal in the top corner of the net.





“Wow! How did you do that?”
Tony said.

Anita turned around and waved.
“I practise every day after school. I
even practise when no one can play
in net for me,” Anita replied.

Tony had always known Anita was good at hockey. He didn't realize she spent so much time practising.

“Maybe you can play in net sometime and help me practise!” Anita said.

“I would like that!” Tony said.





At the house on the corner, they saw their father's friend Jonathan outside. He was working on his snowmobile.

“I finally fixed it!” Jonathan said with a smile. He started up the snowmobile.

“How did you know what was wrong with it?” Andrew asked.

“I’ve been fixing snowmobiles for many years,” Jonathan said. “It takes a lot of practice to understand how machines work.”





“I’ve been practising how to fix my dad’s truck,” Andrew said. “It’s hard work, but I want to get better at fixing machines.”

Tony remembered that Andrew spent a lot of time working on the truck. Now he knew why!

“Andrew, when we get home, will you help me practise reading?” Tony asked.

“Yes, of course!” Andrew said.

Tony felt better. Now he knew that everyone needs practice to become good at things.



Published in Canada by **Inhabit Education**
www.inhabiteducation.com

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Printed and bound in Canada

ISBN: 978-0-2287-0077-7



