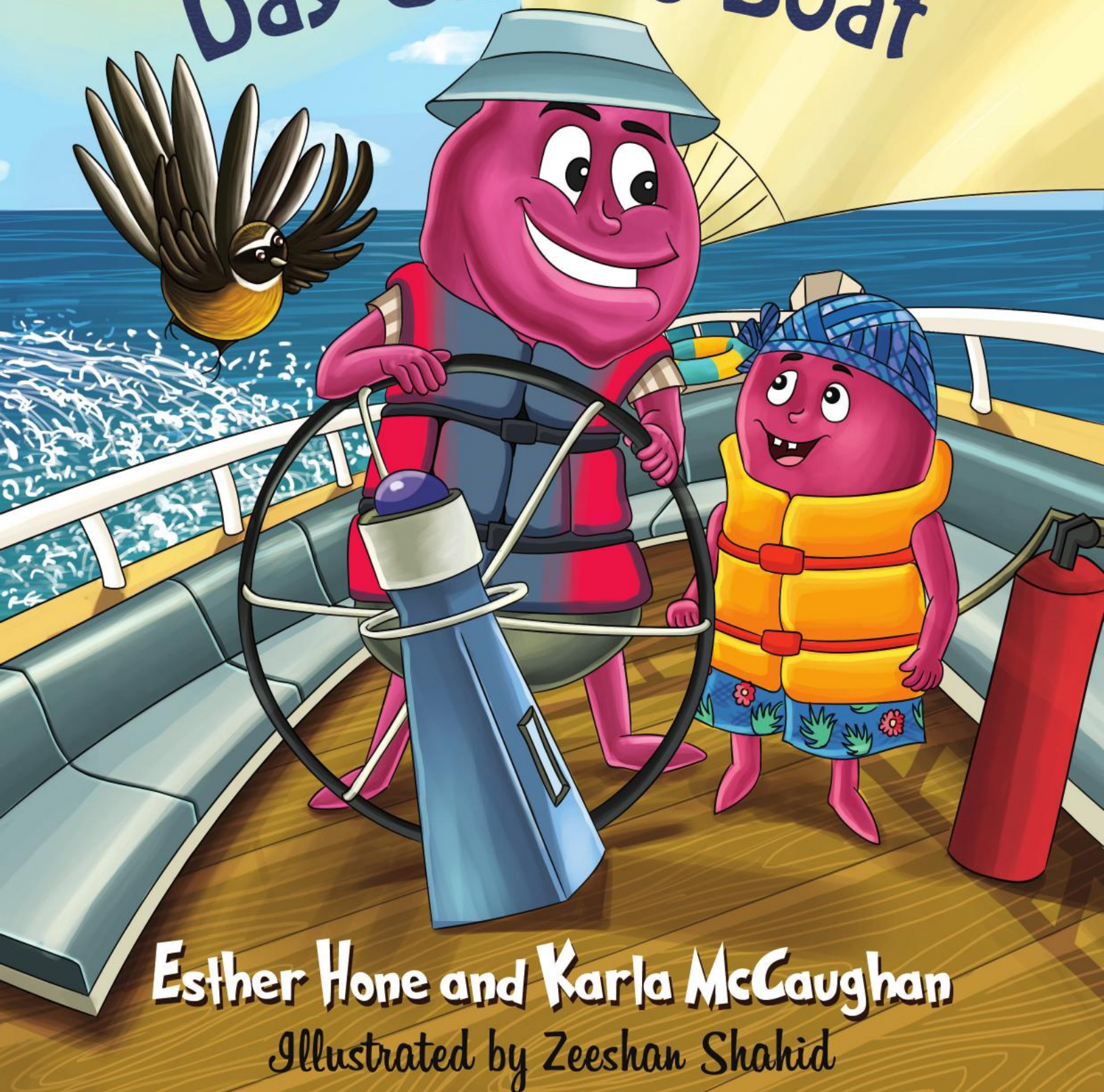


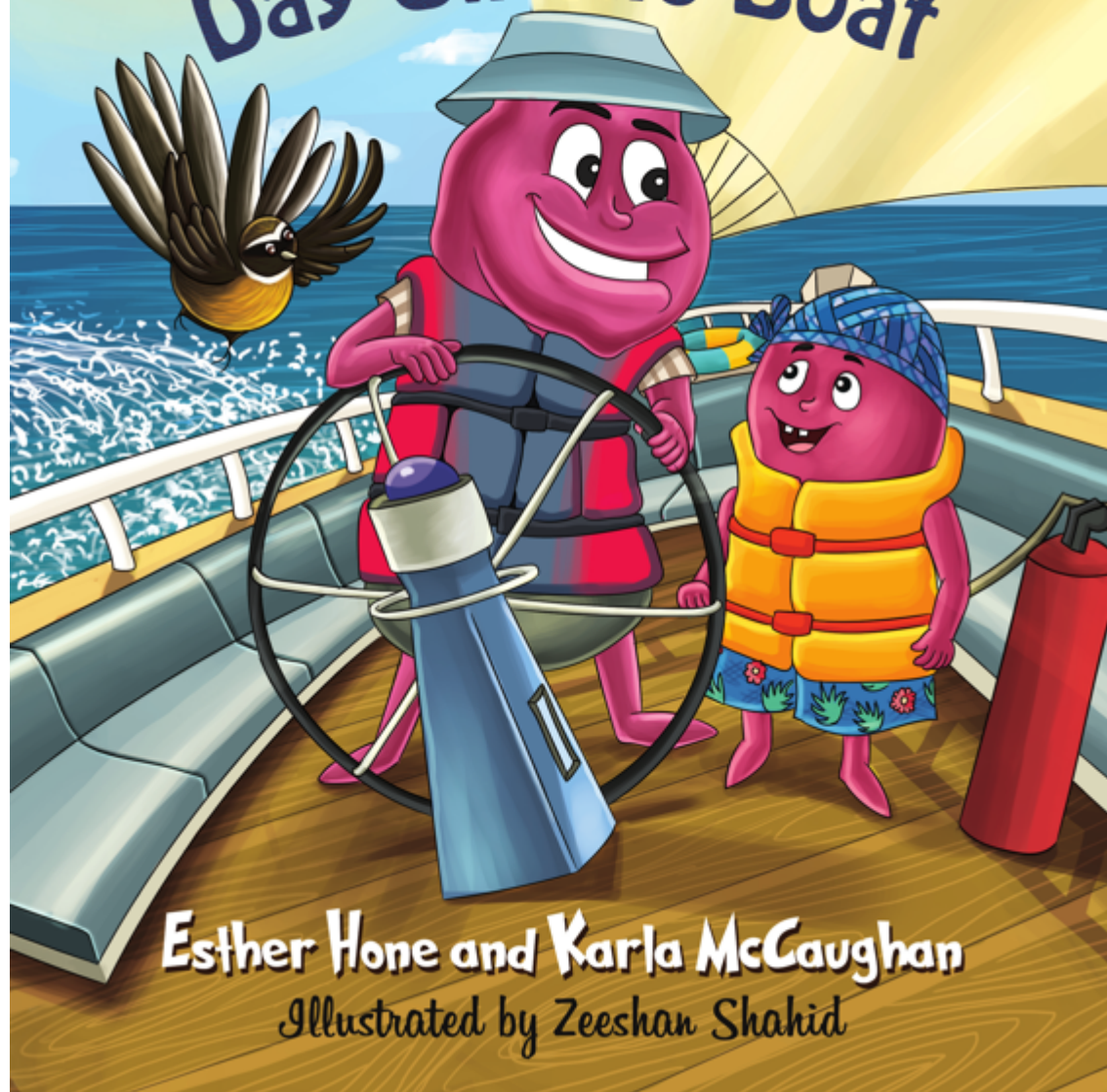
# Kurious Kumara's Day On The Boat



**Esther Hone and Karla McCaughan**  
Illustrated by Zeeshan Shahid



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**Esther Hone and Karla McCaughan**  
*Illustrated by Zeeshan Shahid*

This book is created as part of a resource for Water Skills for Life education programme, targeting students in Year 1 – 8 at primary school.

Research suggests that aquatic skills are developed faster and retained for longer, when they are experienced and learnt in natural environments.

Water Safety New Zealand is making water safety and Water Skills for Life an integral part of a child's learning through the Health & PE Curriculum. Furthermore, to ensure a generational improvement in children's knowledge, attitudes and behaviour around water, we will embed Water Skills for Life into authentic environmental education to make water safety skills training reflective of real-life experiences.

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Kurious Kumara got up one day and looked out past the paddocks far far away. Far in the distance way over there, he could hear the waves' crashing and smell the sea air.





So, he ran to the kitchen, looking for Mum, calling for Dad.  
"We are off boating today," he said, "there's fun to be had."





So, they climbed in their truck and headed on their way,  
towing their boat to the boat ramp on that warm, sunny day.



Then down flew Piwi, Kurious Kumara's piwakawaka friend, darting past the truck as it came round the bend.

Kurios Kumara jumped out, as excited as could be.  
"Kurios Kumara, wait", called Dad, "You must wait for me."

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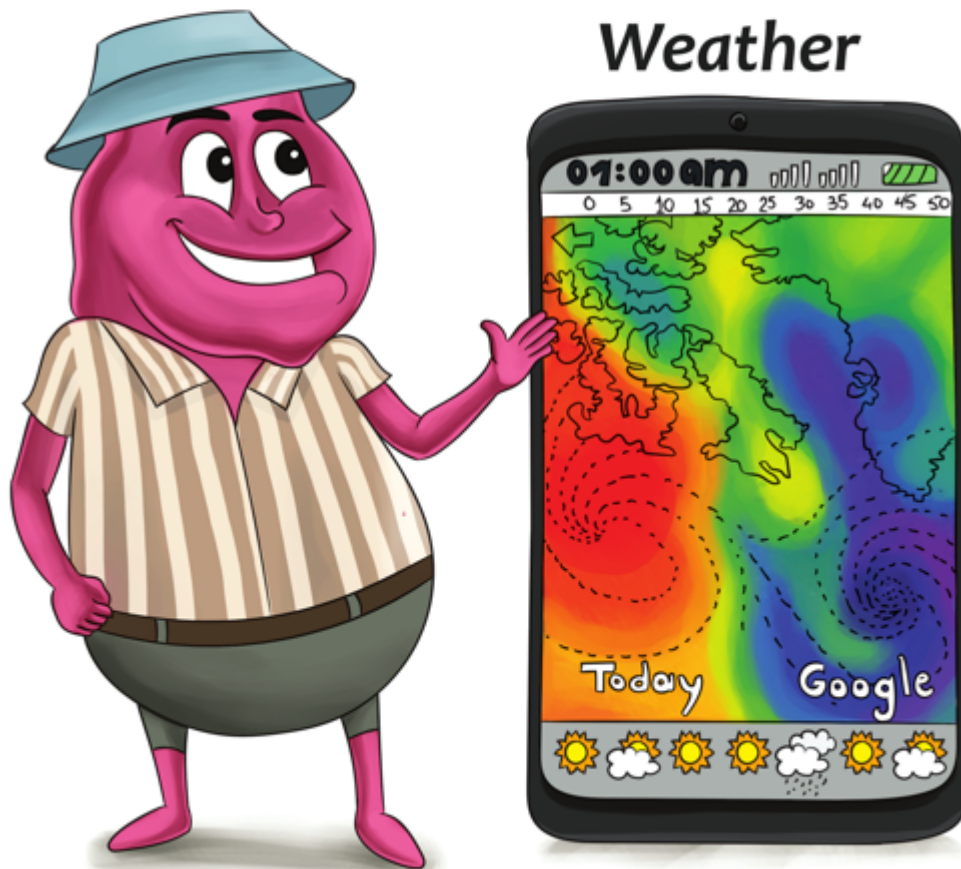
Mum said, "hold up, son", and "there are important things to consider." Dad said, "remember W.E.T.",

"W stands for the weather."

"We must always check the marine weather Kurious Kumara",

"We must be sure and without a doubt  
that the weather will remain fine, and if in doubt, we don't go out."

"The conditions can change rapidly if the wind starts to blow.  
So, we must always check the weather because it can change before we know."







"E stands for equipment," Mum said, "I've packed all the essentials I could." Dad said, "We also need to check Kurious Kumara", that our P.F.D.'s fit us like they should."

"What's a P.F.D.?" said Kurious Kumara, "I don't know what P.F.D. stands for." "A personal flotation device or lifejacket," said Mum, "And we need those to fit for sure."

"I'll check the anchor and its chain and rope and make sure we have some bailers too."

"We need two ways to communicate, so let's take a V.H.F. and our phone. That way, we will have two ways to contact home if we get in trouble at sea."

"Distress signals are important too," chirped Piwi, as he darted past happily, "They can help rescuers locate you if you get lost out at sea."





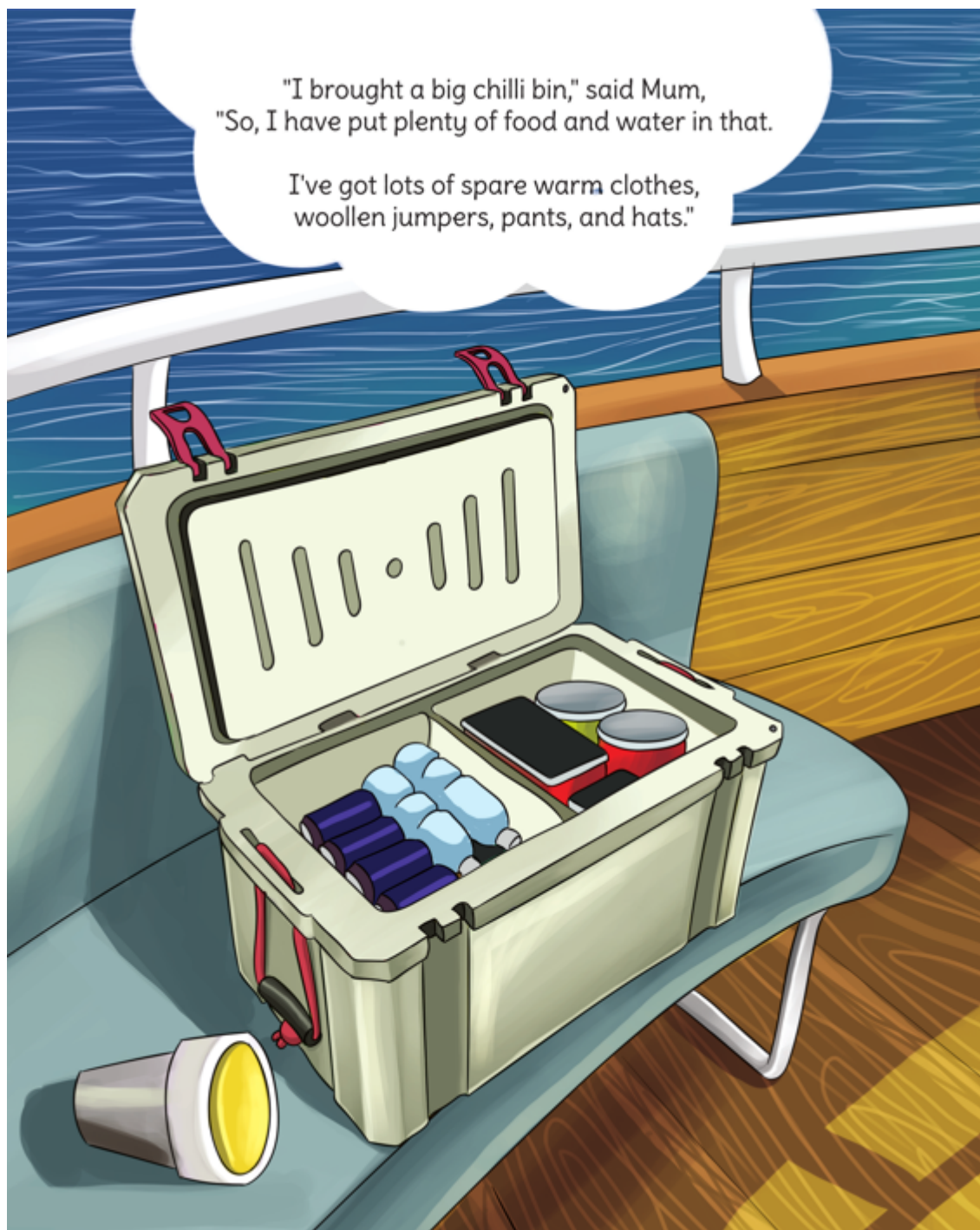


"I will check we have plenty of fuel" said Dad, "And even some spare oars; that way, if the engine fails, we can row ourselves to shore."

"We also need a fire extinguisher, just in case a fire starts, and to make sure we know where we are going; we need our compass, maps, and charts."

"I brought a big chilli bin," said Mum,  
"So, I have put plenty of food and water in that."

I've got lots of spare warm clothes,  
woollen jumpers, pants, and hats."





"There's so much stuff to take," said Kurious Kumara,  
"Where's it all going to fit?"

"There are a few more essentials to remember", chirped Piwi,  
"Don't forget a knife and the first aid kit."





"So, W, E and what comes next?" Kurious Kumara said,  
"T and it stands for tell" said Mum,  
"Always tell someone where you're going to and leaving from,  
whether for fishing or out to have fun."

"You should tell them how many people are going  
and when you will return.  
These are all important boat safety rules  
that are important for you to learn."

Mum said, "I've filled in the trip report;  
now I will send it to the coastguard.  
If we get lost, they'll know where to look,  
and it would make finding is not quite as hard."

But Kurious Kumara was getting impatient, he was bored, and he was hot. He wanted to get out on the water, whether the adults were ready or not.

"This is taking too long," he thought, "Maybe I should go for a swim."  
"I think ill go bomb off the jetty," he said, running off with a big, cheeky grin.





"Stop", chirped Piwi, his piwakawaka friend.  
"You're forgetting the safety rules from beginning to end."

But Kurious Kumara wasn't listening as he pulled his sunhat off his head.  
"Stop and remember", chirped Piwi, "What Mum and Dad said."



"Please don't jump in, Kurious Kumara; you know that you shouldn't. You haven't got an adult with you, and Mum and Dad said you couldn't."





But Kurious Kumara wasn't listening and went to jump into the sea.  
"Stop and wait", chirped Piwi, "Stop and listen to me."

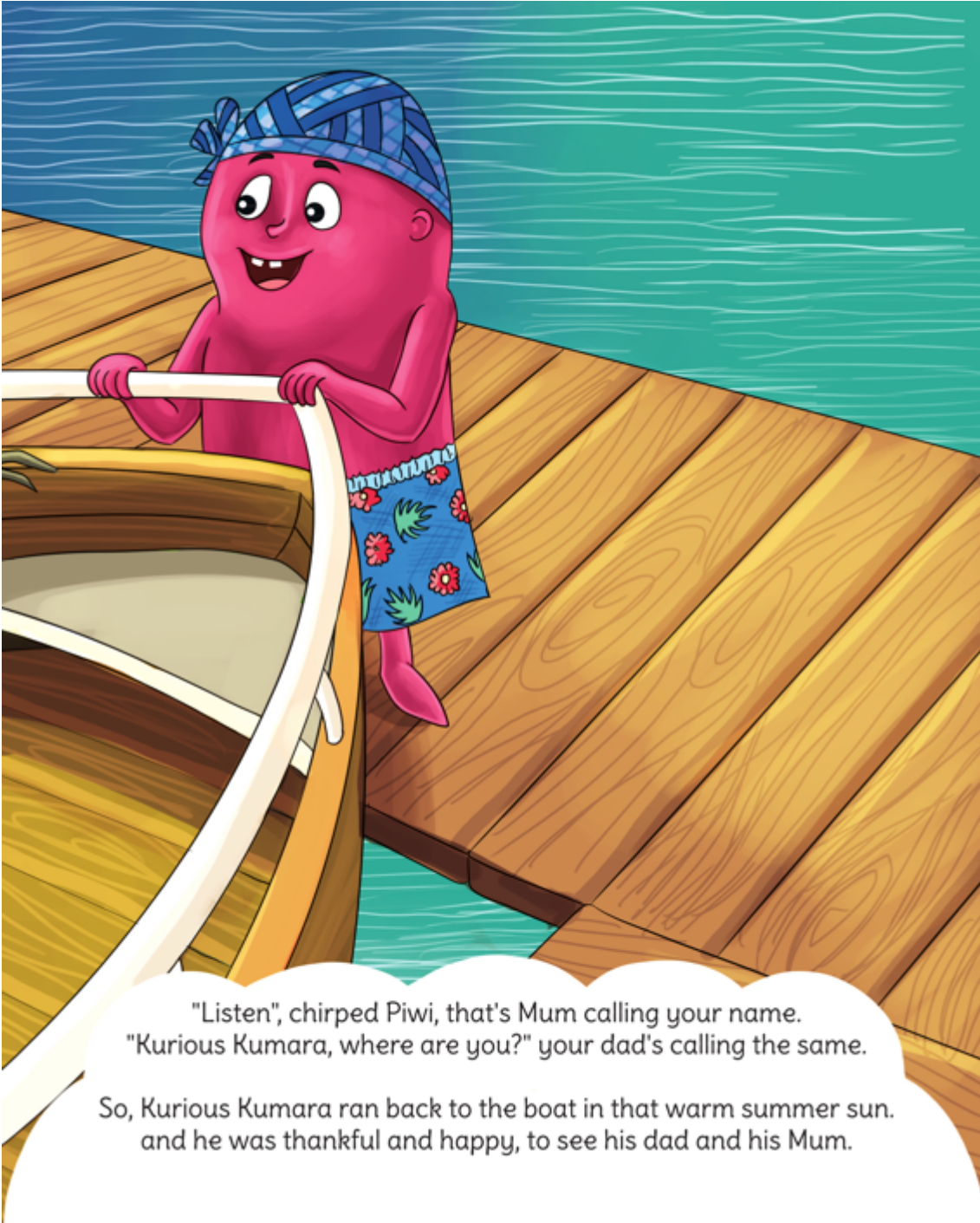
Piwi chirped louder, "Kurious Kumara, you've made a big mistake;  
if you are going to jump into the water, an adult you must take."

"You must always swim with an adult Kurious Kumara,  
no matter what you do.  
You must always swim with an adult,  
and they must be watching you."









"Listen", chirped Piwi, that's Mum calling your name.  
"Kurious Kumara, where are you?" your dad's calling the same.

So, Kurious Kumara ran back to the boat in that warm summer sun.  
and he was thankful and happy, to see his dad and his Mum.

"Kurious Kumara", Mum said with a sigh of relief.  
"Kurious Kumara", Dad smiled a smile that showed his teeth.

"Kurious Kumara, we were worried," said his Mum and dad.  
"If something had happened, our hearts would be sad."

"I'm sorry," said Kurious Kumara, "I forgot the rule."  
"I must always have an adult at the wharf or the pool."

"I remember now," said Kurious Kumara. "It doesn't matter where I am."  
"I can only go swimming when an adult says I can."







Mum said, "We love you, Kurious Kumara  
and our safety checks are nearly done."  
"Dad said, "Let's finish up and go boating in the sun."

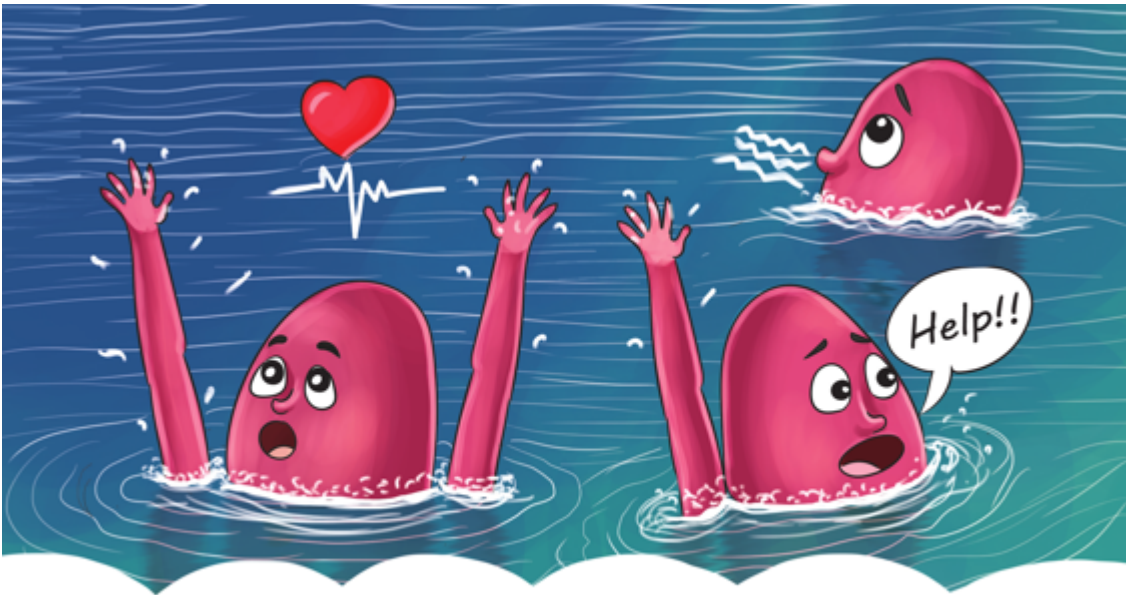
"But first we must put on our lifejackets,  
Kurious Kumara. Which one will you pick?"  
"The one that fits you snugly," Mum said,  
"And we will make it zip and make it click."

"I will zip the zip for you," said Dad,  
"And I will clip the belt," said Mum,  
"We will make sure it is fitting properly  
and then we will head off and have some fun."

"I think that is it," said Dad, "Knowing the other rules is up to me; as the skipper of this boat, I am in charge out at sea."

"There are heaps to remember," said Kurious Kumara about going on a boat. Most important is to wear my lifejacket, so I will float if I fall in."





"Well, if you fall overboard, Kurious Kumara,  
try to cover your mouth with your hand.  
Over breathing can make you hyperventilate;  
now, that's a big word to understand."

"Hyperventilating makes us feel dizzy, so dizzy we might pass out.  
And if we do go unconscious, we are in danger without a doubt."

"Suddenly falling into cold water can make us breathe too fast.  
And if we swallow too much water, our lungs will not last."

"So, to help prevent cold water shock, We follow a 1.10.1 rule.  
One minute to control your breathing, stay calm, and keep your cool."

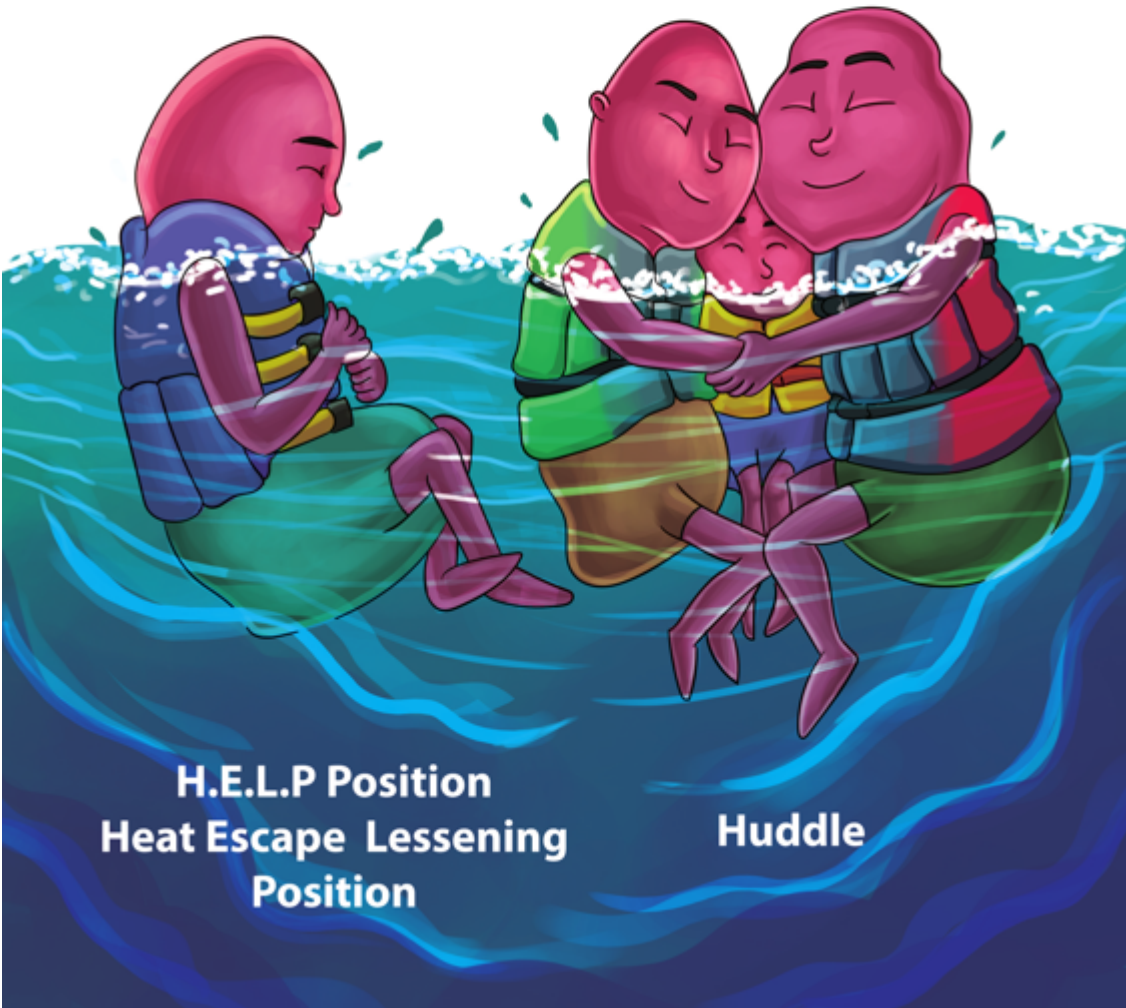
"10 minutes to call for help, to swim for safety or try to climb out.  
But remember, only start to swim if you think you can make it, without a doubt."

"The last one stands for 1 hour; that's when hypothermia can happen too.  
That's when the body can't warm itself up again.  
To help prevent this, there are things you can do."



"You must remember the H.E.L.P. position to try  
and keep your vital organs warm.  
And if there is more than one of you,  
a group huddle you should form."

"Tuck your legs in tight and fold your arms across your chest;  
trying to stay huddled up will be for the best."



"I think that is it," said Dad, "Knowing the other rules is up to me; as the skipper of this boat, I am in charge out at sea."

"There are heaps to remember," said Kurious Kumara about going on a boat. Most important is to wear my lifejacket, so I will float if I fall in."





"I am glad we are ready to go boating and have some fun.  
Ready with my lifejacket on and supervised by Dad and Mum."

"I'm happy now", chirped Piwi, his piwakawaka friend.  
"You're following the water safety rules from beginning to end."





Find out more about

# Kurious Kumara's Adventurous Days

