



# Drai Fores

Cristina Romero Ríos

Texts and illustrations





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El ambiente  
es de todos


Minambiente



**DryFlor**

Red Florística del Bosque Seco Estacional

**azo**  
libros



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Wat if wih mek a trip ihna wih main?

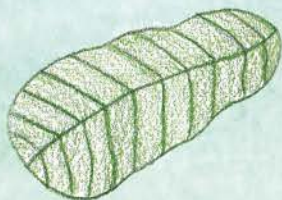
A vibrant, stylized illustration of a field. The background is a bright green, textured with numerous small, dark green, vertical strokes representing grass. Scattered throughout the field are several pink flowers with yellow centers. In the bottom left corner, the top of a person's head is visible, featuring dark, curly hair. On the right side, a large, circular object with concentric black and orange stripes is partially shown, resembling a wide-brimmed hat or a large wheel. The overall style is colorful and artistic.

Les go!



Clouz yo aiz ahn leck dih soun fahn dih  
liif rap yo op.

Dih plies iz very hat, ahn dih singing af  
dih in'lov cicadas deh invied the plies.

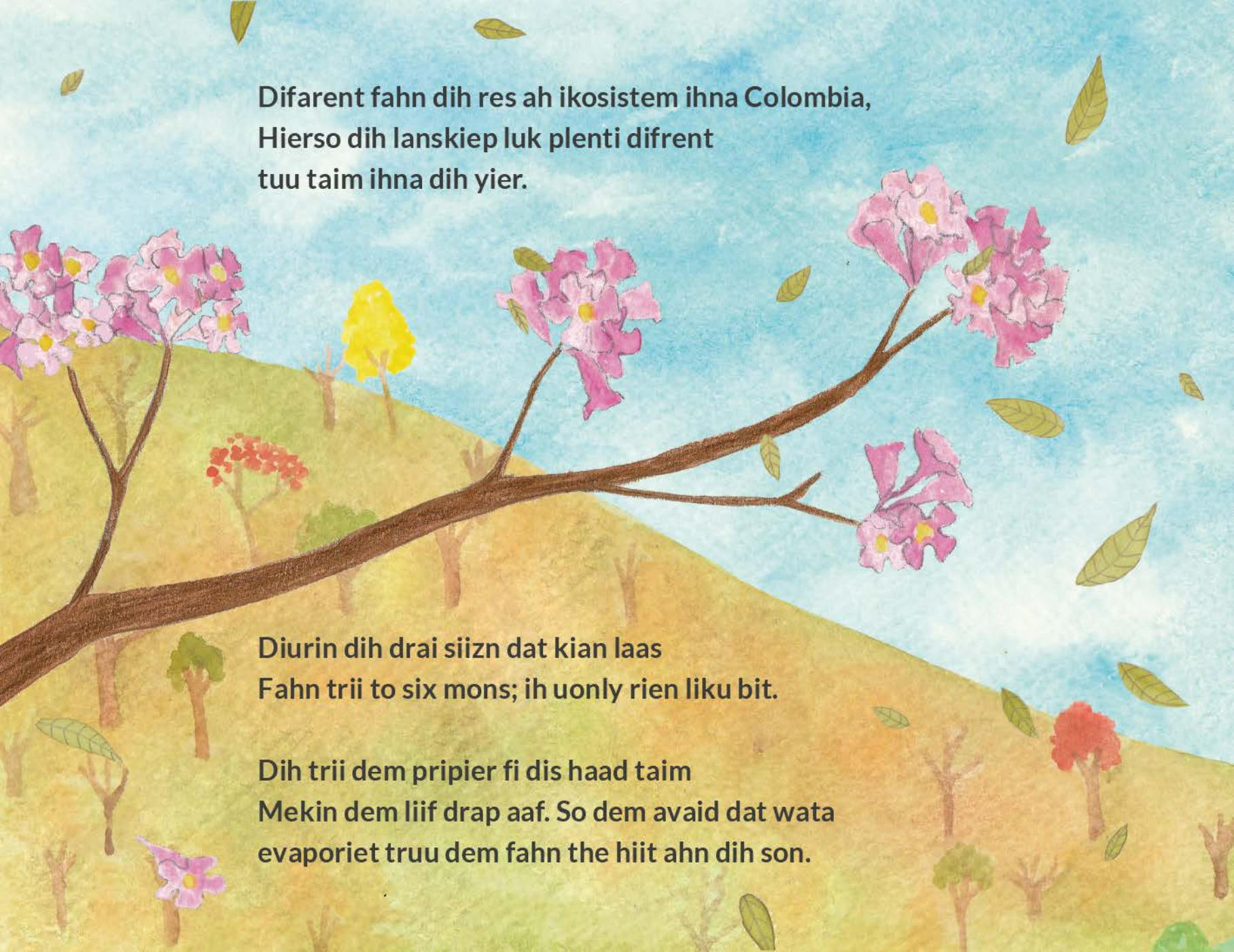


Chiiiiiii






Wih deh ihna di tropical drai fores!



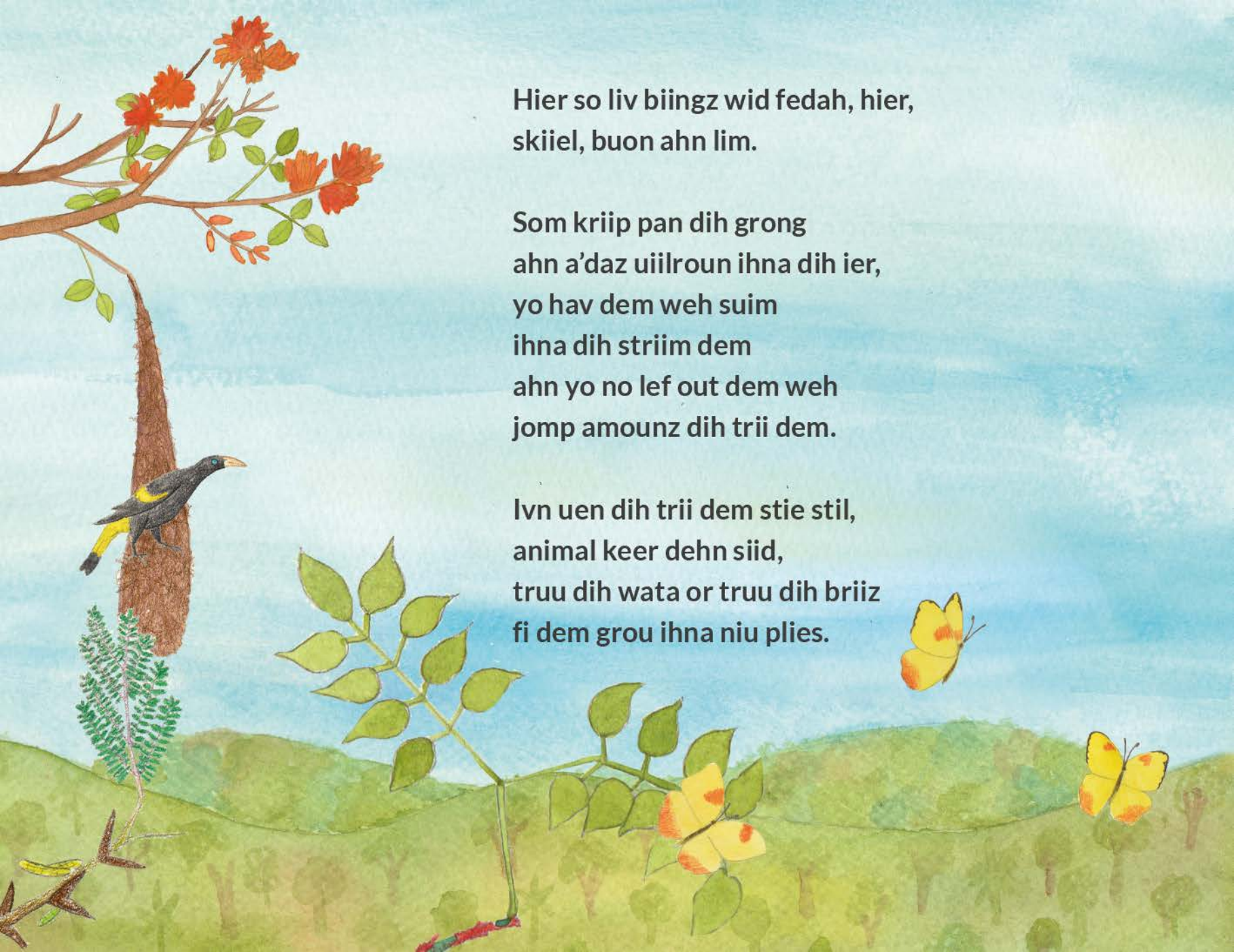
Difarent fahn dih res ah ikosistem ihna Colombia,  
Hierso dih lanskiep luk plenti difrent  
tuu taim ihna dih yier.

Diurin dih drai siizn dat kian laas  
Fahn trii to six mons; ih uonly rien liku bit.

Dih trii dem pripier fi dis haad taim  
Mekin dem liif drap aaf. So dem avaid dat wata  
evaporiet truu dem fahn the hiit ahn dih son.



Wen dih rien siizn kom, iz laik  
if dih fores wiek op fahn ah diip driim:  
deh liif dem sprout, ahn niu inhabitant kom  
ahn aal bout fulop af ah inmens freshnis.

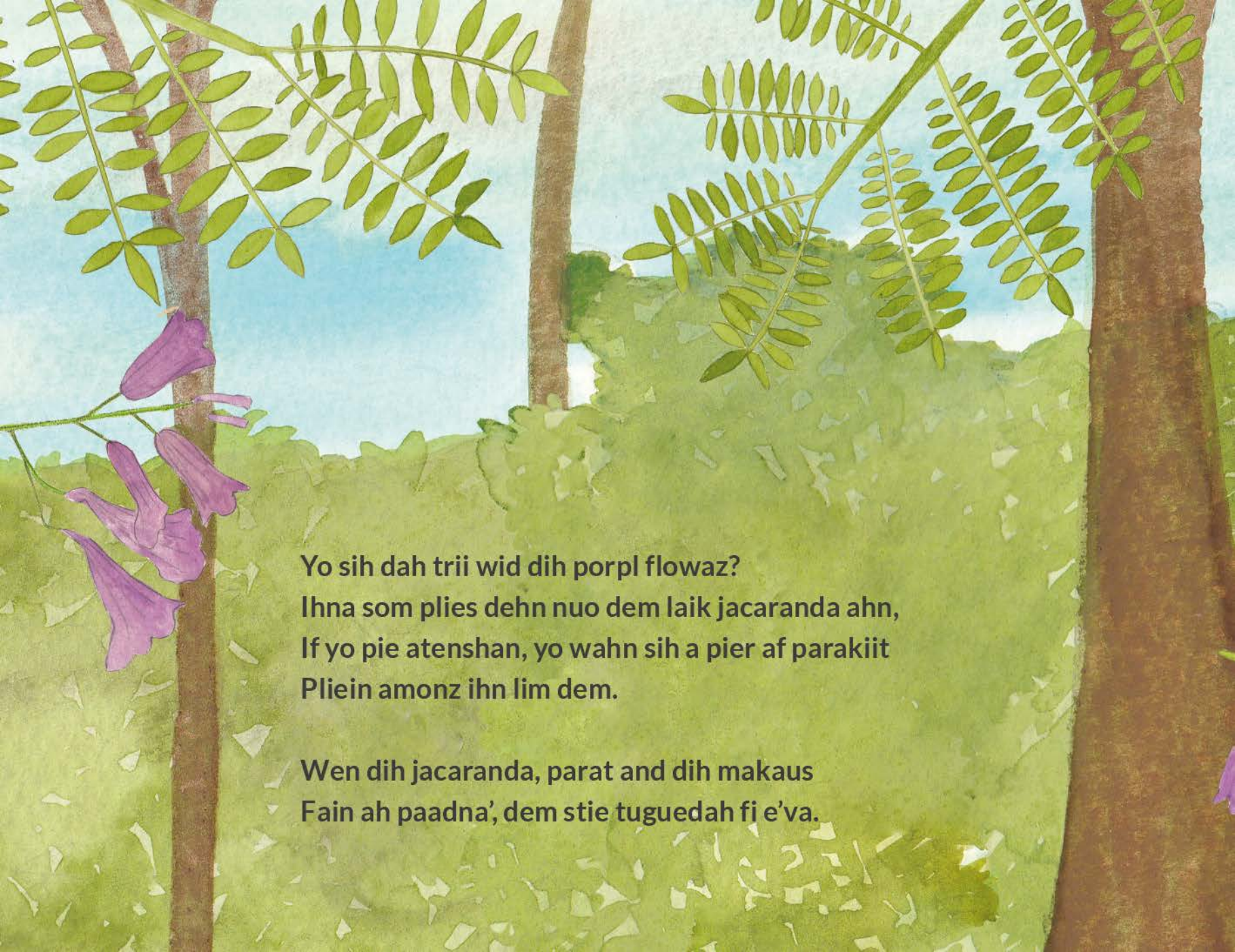


Hier so liv biingz wid fedah, hier,  
skiiel, buon ahn lim.

Som kriip pan dih grong  
ahn a'daz uilroun ihna dih ier,  
yo hav dem weh suim  
ihna dih striim dem  
ahn yo no lef out dem weh  
jomp amounz dih trii dem.

Ivn uen dih trii dem stie stil,  
animal keer dehn siid,  
truu dih wata or truu dih briiz  
fi dem grou ihna niu plies.





Yo sih dah trii wid dih porpl flowaz?  
Ihna som plies dehn nuo dem laik jacaranda ahn,  
If yo pie atenshan, yo wahn sih a pier af parakiit  
Pliein amonz ihn lim dem.

Wen dih jacaranda, parat and dih makaus  
Fain ah paadna', dem stie tuguedah fi e'va.



**Luk! Uan ah dem di'idi.**


**Uach jou dehn laik iit fruut. Dehn di'idi  
fulah siid dat dehn spred ihnah dih fores  
ahn so dem plaant niu triiz.**



Nou luk pahn dih fluo, yo siit? Dah uan dong biitl  
deh giadah ihm diely fuud: A baal ah di'idi!  
Dem transpout-ih pieshently tu lietah injai  
dih wel diserv bankuet.





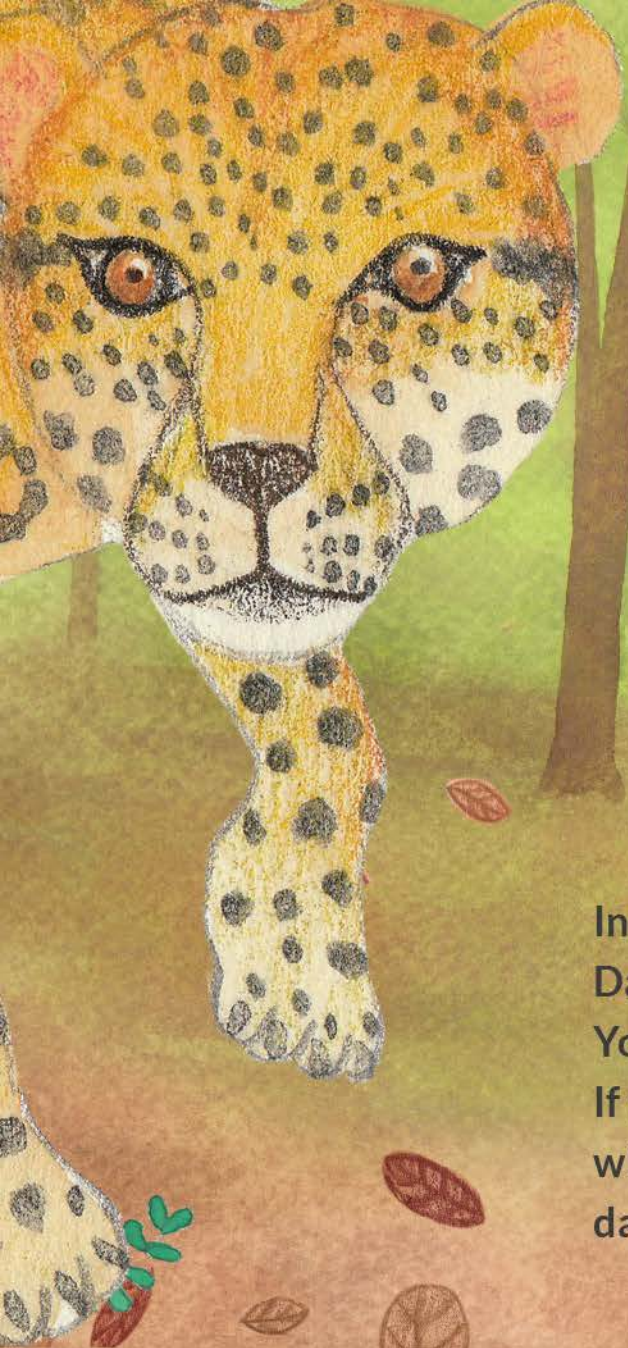


Do yuu hier dah sound?


Crac  
crac

Dah uan gouti,  
weh dah uan gardener bai aksident.  
Dis ruodent haid siid aanda dih dort  
fi iit dem ihna dih drai siizn, and som  
taim ihm figat weh ihn put dem.  
weh dis figatful porson deh duh,  
ahn no nuo, iz plaanting triiz.





In sailens ahn kaashiosly ihn luk ihna dih distans...  
Dah uan jaguar!  
Yo wehn nuo seh dah deh bigist feliin ihna America?  
If yo ever hier seh dehn gat ah jaguar nier waak  
wid rispec and hapinis, wel ihm presens indikiet  
dat di fores deh ihna harmony.

An illustration of a tree branch with a bird perched on it. Several seeds are falling from the branch. The background is a light blue sky. The ground is green with small trees and bushes.

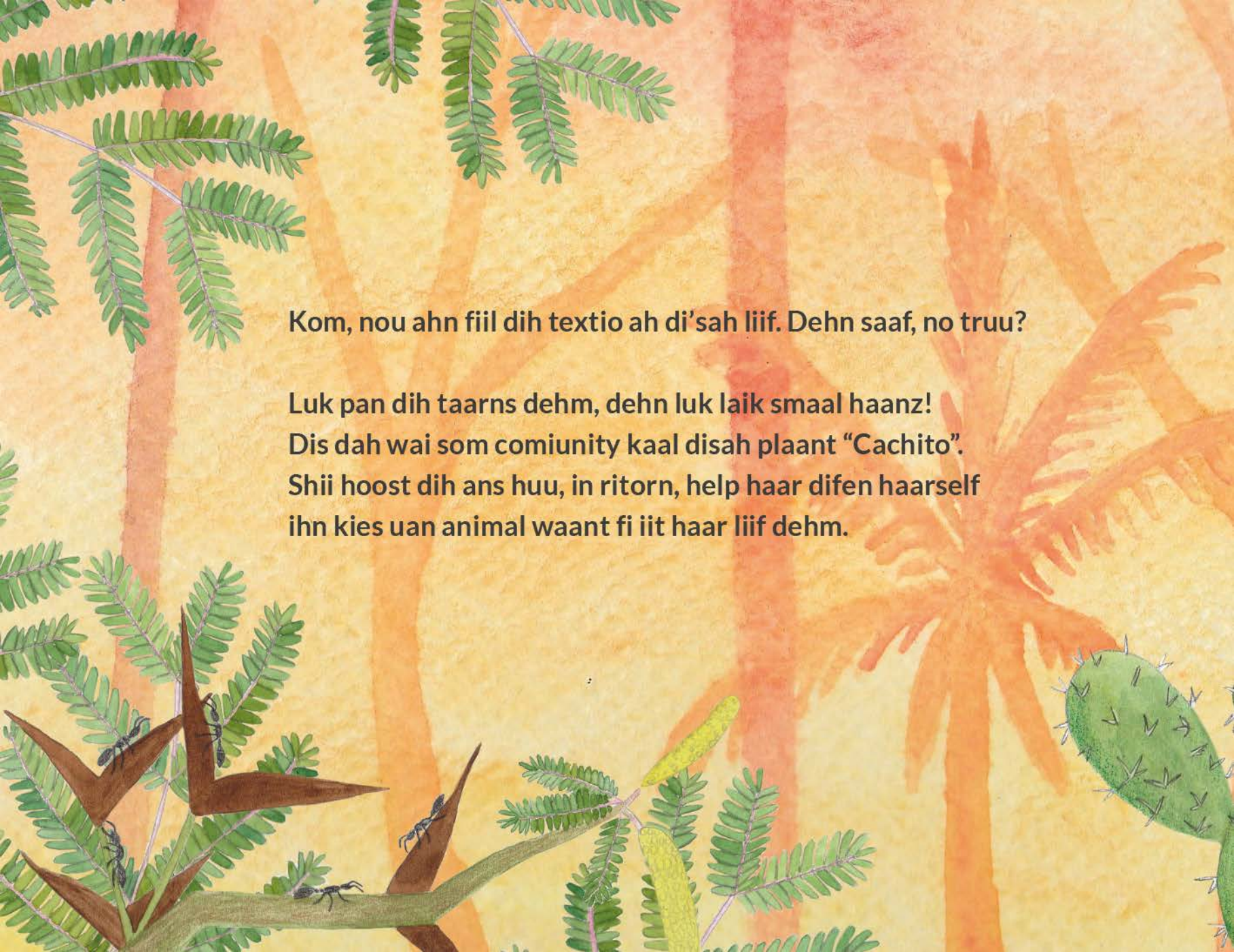
Ups! Ih luk laik ah fruoit faal fahn hev'n,  
Dah when dih katn-tap tamarin jomping  
fahn trii tu trii!  
Kian yuu jomp so hai laik dehm?

Dih fores af dih Colombian Caribbean  
dah dih uonly plies ihna dih planit weh dehm  
eksis. Laik guud pipl fahn dih kuos dehn ful  
dih plies ah jai.

Dih grii weh dehn deh pan  
Dah uan sanbacks trii: Uan naizy plaant!  
Ihm fruoit dehm bos' so haad  
Dat som pipl nuo ih laik "tondah".  
Dis ekpluoshian shuut siid  
ihna al dairekshian.

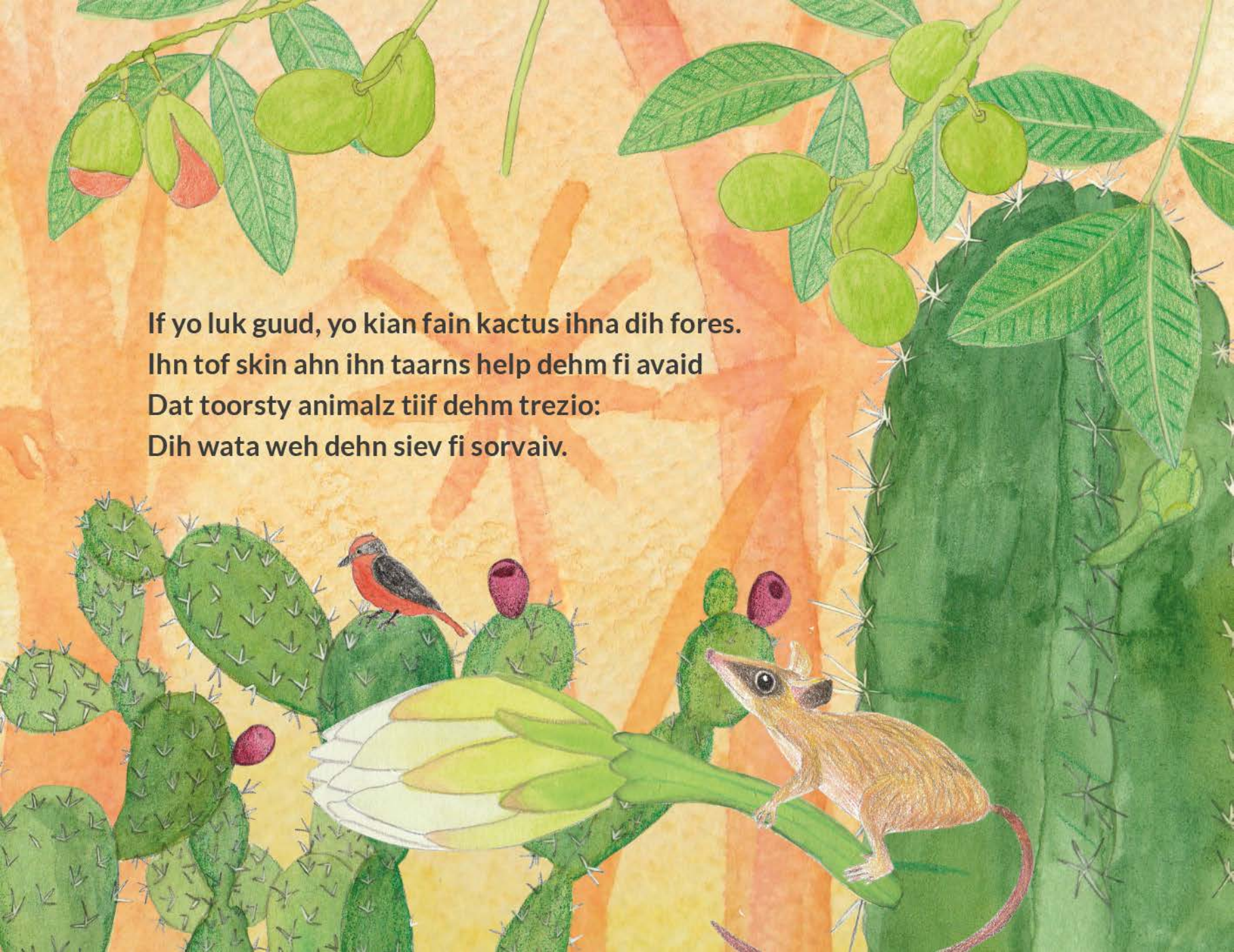
*PUM!*





**Kom, nou ahn fiil dih textio ah di'sah liif. Dehn saaf, no truu?**

**Luk pan dih taarns dehm, dehn luk laik smaal haanz!  
Dis dah wai som comiunity kaal disah plaant "Cachito".  
Shii hoost dih ans huu, in ritorn, help haar difen haarselb  
ihn kies uan animal waant fi iit haar liif dehm.**



If yo luk guud, yo kian fain kactus ihna dih fores.  
Ihn tof skin ahn ihn taarns help dehm fi avaid  
Dat toorsty animalz tiif dehm trezio:  
Dih wata weh dehn siev fi sorvaiv.

Dih drai fores dehn hav guud sail, ahn plaants fi hiuman  
fuud grou deh laik dih cherimoya, dih sapote dih kinep  
ahn dih achiote.

- Mai fievarit fruut dah  
dih cherimoya! Wat dah fii yuu?
- Ai laik sapote. Spreshaly dehm weh  
grou fahn dih plies weh mai granmadah  
kom fahn.







Plenty yierz aback, ihna dih riijan fi yo granmadah dehn had drai fores wid taal triiz and plenty wail animalz.

Tudeh aalmous aal weh deh deh dah rais plaant, shuga kien ahn Afrikan paam. Wih sih tu plenty graas lan fi riez kou, and lan weh dehm praktis maining, wuud ekstrakshian amongz a'da aktivitis.



So profound dih chieng dehm dat wii human  
jinariet ihna diiz teritoriz, dat dih drai fores  
ihn Colombia ihna dienjer fi disapier.



Ivn' dih fiutor af dih drai fores iz onsert'n, dehm hav  
Ah griet capacity fi riiginariet back. If wih ridius dih aktivitis  
Weh deh wiikin dehm, yo gat dih pasability fi dehn grou back.

Jios laik dih rien siis'n rifresh deh injabitants af dih fores  
afta dih drai, les mek dat laif grou ihna aal  
dih teritori wid ah brienstaam.

Visit, Waak ahn fiil  
dih drai fores.

Luk fi informieshan  
fi keep laaning bout  
drai fores.

Plaant nietiv plaants.

Sopout local bizniz  
dat rispansabl wid dih  
invayament.





Rispec aal livin biins. No ivz  
wail animal aaz pet nar abandong  
domestic animalz ihna dih fores  
(niida no weh els).

Supout organizieshan  
fahn drai fores dat wori  
fi kier fi dehm.

Avoid baing lomba',  
fayawud or charkvol  
dat kom fahn onrilaiabl  
riisoursis.

Weh aidia kom tu yo main fi kier fi dih drai fores?

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Wid so meni propoozal dis brienstaam ton'ihna uan fresh staam!



Chiiiiiii

Wen dih rien kom, dih triiz dehn riniu dehn liif dehm, niu  
singin ahn dih saikl ah laif riniu. Dih cicadas deh kling  
tu dih liims, kiip aan singin fih fain riil lov.

Dis ekspedishan finish fih tudeh, bot dih drai fores  
wih hav ihn paat-wie opn' fih dih visitaz.





Nou yuu kian opn' yo aiz.







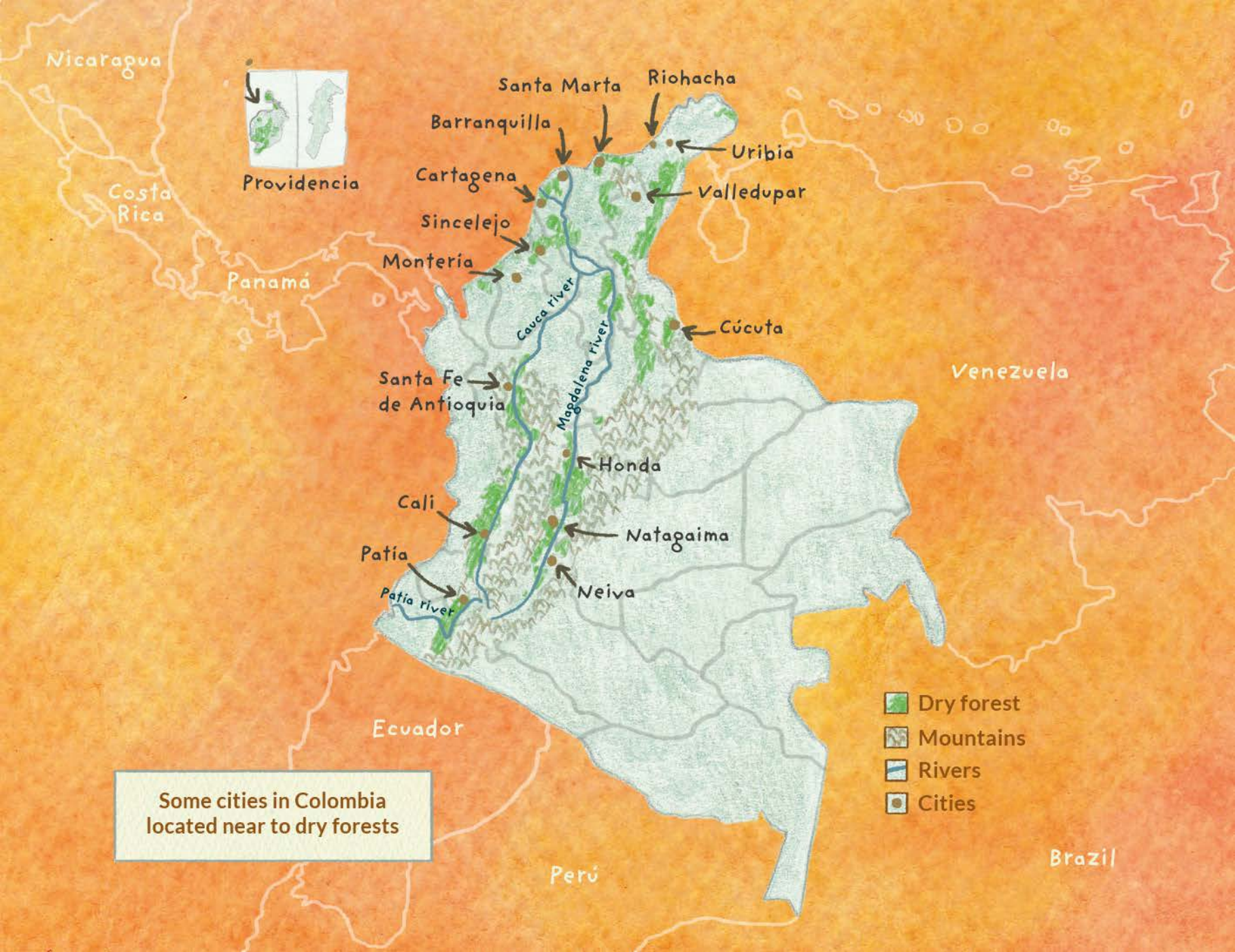
## Why is it important to take care of the dry forests in Colombia?

Historically, humid forests, such as the Amazon and Chocó jungles, have been the most recognized ecosystems in the tropics ... But they are not the only ones that exist. In fact, there is a very particular forest that is capable of withstanding harsh droughts and turning green when the rains arrive, do you know which one is it? It is the tropical dry forest, one of the most threatened ecosystems in the world.

These forests have fertile soils, have fewer pests than in the humid areas, and the environmental conditions are very pleasant to build cities. Among the benefits that these ecosystems offer people are wood for firewood and construction, materials for making handicrafts, plants for medicines, and fruits and animals for consumption. In addition, they help keep the environment cool, serve as a barrier against hurricanes and make water available. As important as they are to the well-being of humans and all the fascinating beings that live there, the way we have inhabited and used them for centuries has not been careful.

As a consequence, of the initial 9 million hectares of dry forest in Colombia, by 2021 only 8% will remain, represented by small patches of forest scattered throughout the country. To make it more alarming, very little of the territory that still exists is guarded by the country's National System of Protected Areas.

In nature everything is connected. The actions we carry out locally have global effects. It is in our hands to become guardians of the dry forests and help their recovery. In this way we will ensure that all beings that inhabit them, including human communities, have a prosperous future.



Nicaragua

Costa Rica

Panamá

Venezuela

Ecuador

Perú

Brazil

Some cities in Colombia located near to dry forests



Santa Marta  
Riohacha  
Barranquilla  
Uribia  
Cartagena  
Valledupar  
Sincelejo  
Montería  
Cúcuta  
Santa Fe de Antioquia  
Honda  
Cali  
Natagaima  
Patía  
Neiva  
Patía river  
Cauca river  
Magdalena river

Providencia

Dry forest  
Mountains  
Rivers  
Cities



Krestid karakara  
*Caracara cheriway*



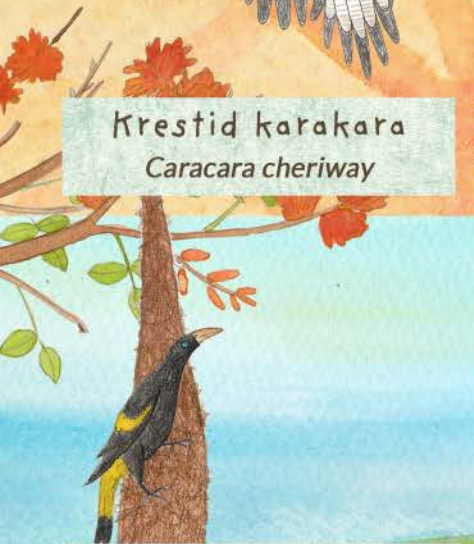
Cicada  
Familia Cicadidae

Which ones of these friends did you find in the forest?

Do you call them by other names?



Yeloh botafleih  
*Phoebis philea*



Yeloh roomp kasiikeh  
*Cacicus cela*



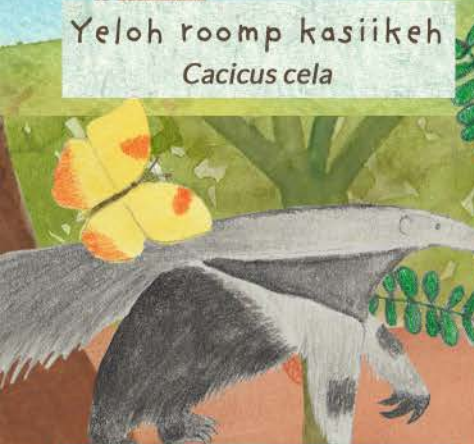
Sniek wietin buai  
*Tretioscincus bifasciatus*



Parakii  
*Brotogeris jugularis*



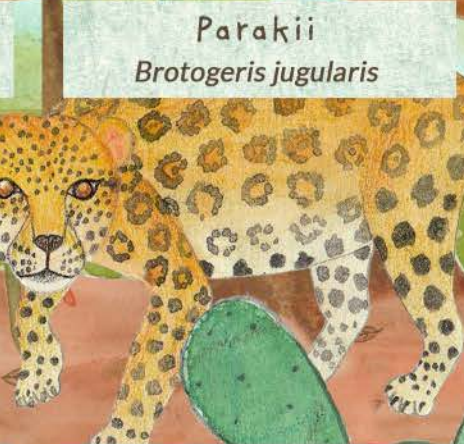
Dong biitl  
*Oxysternon conspicillatum*



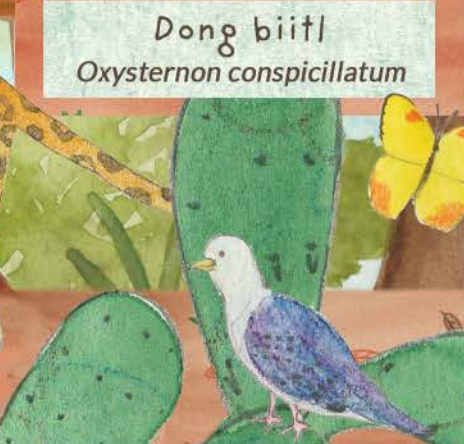
Jahyant ans-iitah  
*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*



Gouti  
*Dasyprocta punctata*



Jaguar  
*Panthera onca*

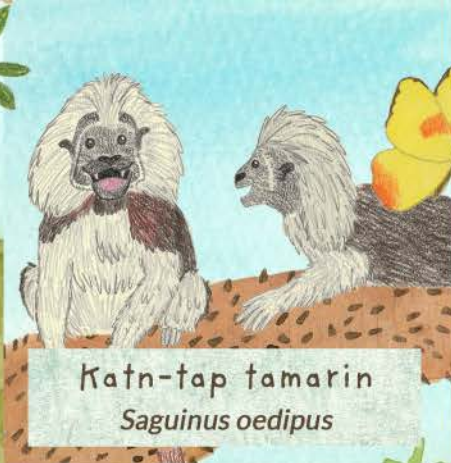


Kaman grong dov'  
*Claravis pretiosa*

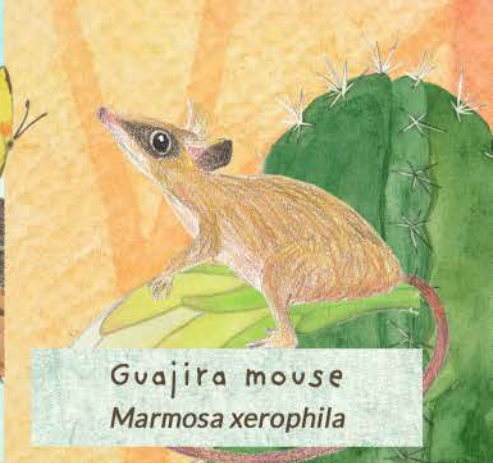


Guanah  
*Iguana iguana*

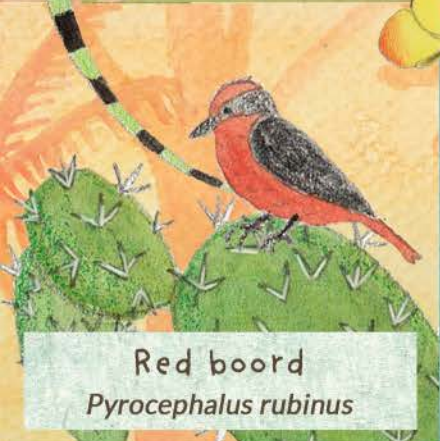
Wail dov'  
*Leptotila verreauxi*



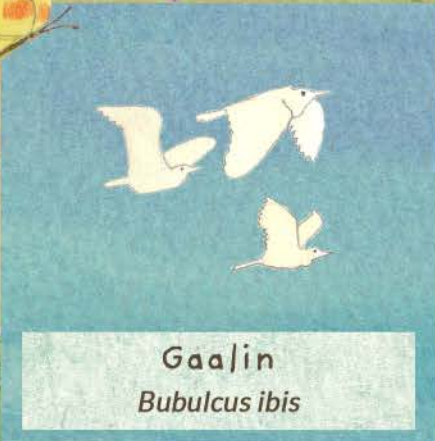
Katn-tap tamarin  
*Saguinus oedipus*



Guajira mouse  
*Marmosa xerophila*



Red boord  
*Pyrocephalus rubinus*



Gaalin  
*Bubulcus ibis*



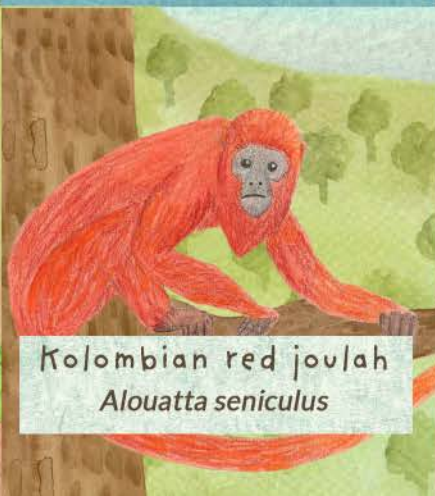
Flags paarat  
*Ara macao*



Spekl' botaflah  
*Hamadryas sp.*



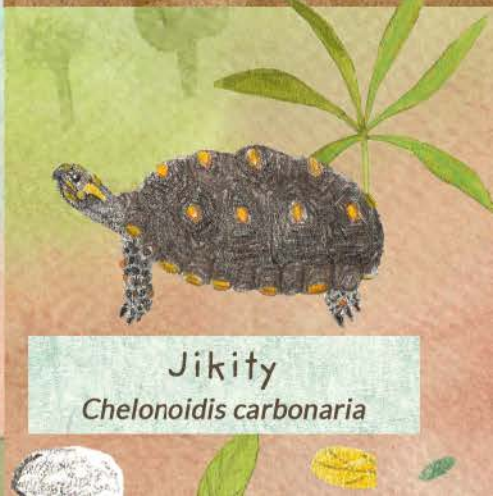
Yeloh trii-frag  
*Dendropsophis microcephalus*



Kolombian red joulah  
*Alouatta seniculus*



Kiil-bil tokan  
*Ramphastos sulfuratus*



Jikity  
*Chelonoidis carbonaria*



## Cristina Romero Ríos

Since I was a child I have been sensitive to nature and have been excited to learn about it and how to take care of it.

I studied Environmental Engineering in Medellín, my hometown, and then I traveled to the UK to pursue a master's degree in Science Communication and Public Engagement. This book is the result of my postgraduate studies. Here I was able to express my passion for the ecosystems of Colombia, my concern about the danger that dry forests face and my desire to tell many people how important it is to act from our possibilities.

The dream of publishing this book was made possible thanks to the support of the Humboldt Institute and the DRYFLOR Network, two organizations that work for studying and protecting dry forests and other ecosystems in Colombia and Latin America respectively. Also to Lazo Libros, a publishing house that tells Colombian stories for curious children.



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