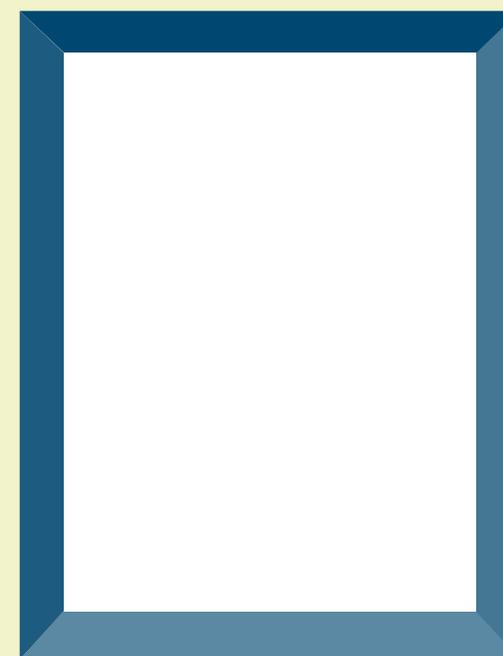




# Having Hearing Aids

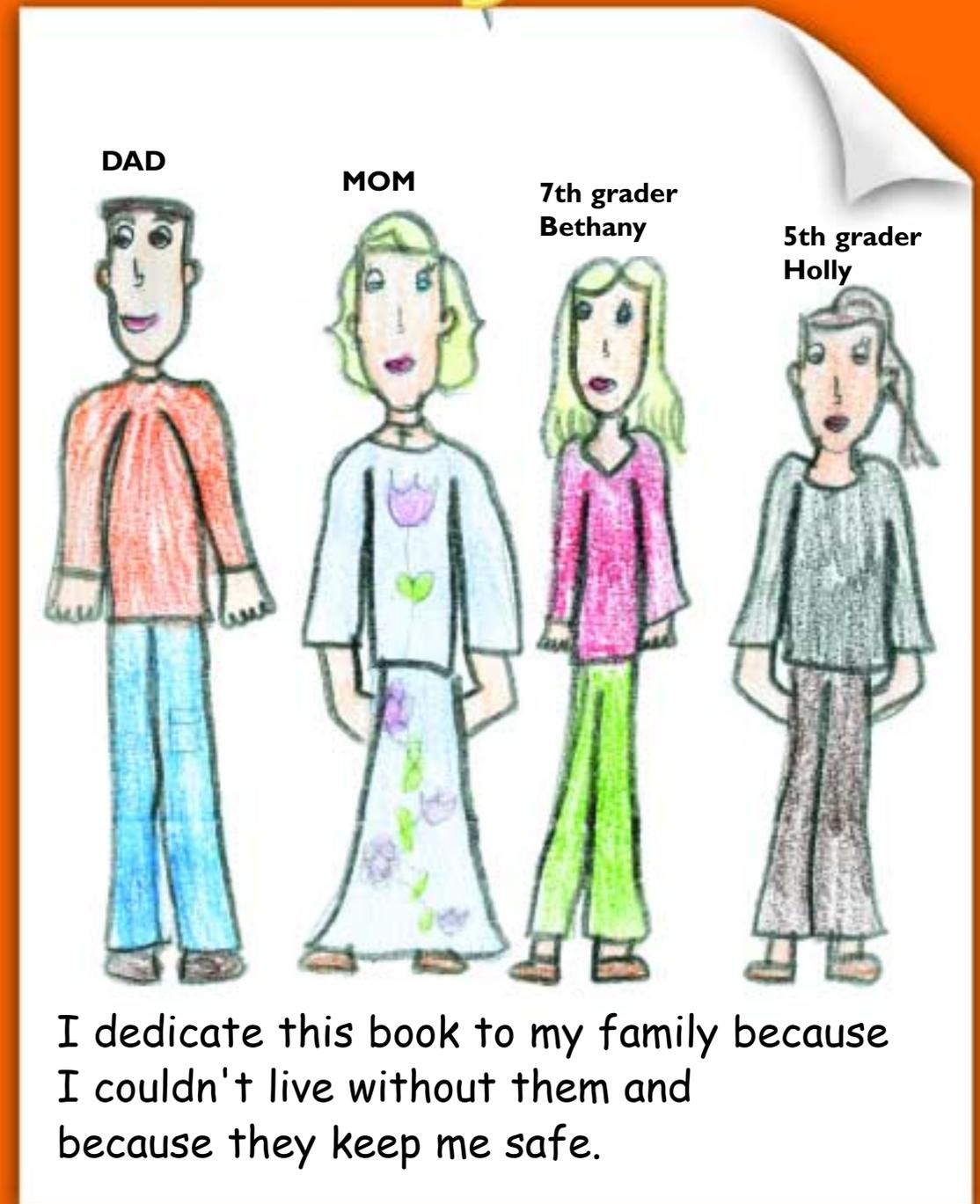
Written and Illustrated by Peter Augustine  
2003

This book belongs to:

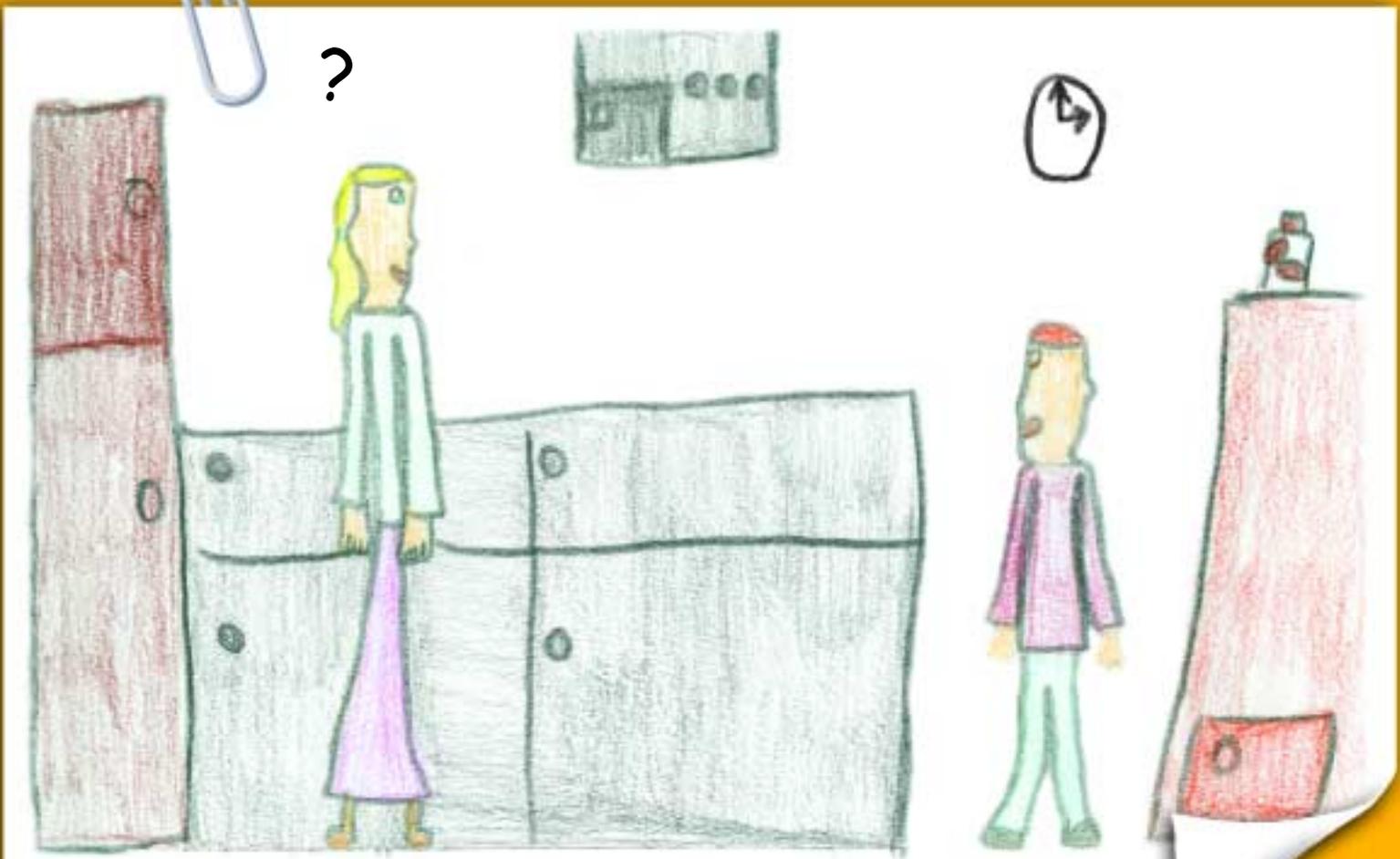




"My name is Peter. I am eight years old and live in Baltimore, Maryland. I like to draw, sing and play video games. I hope you enjoy this book and it helps you to love your new hearing aids!"



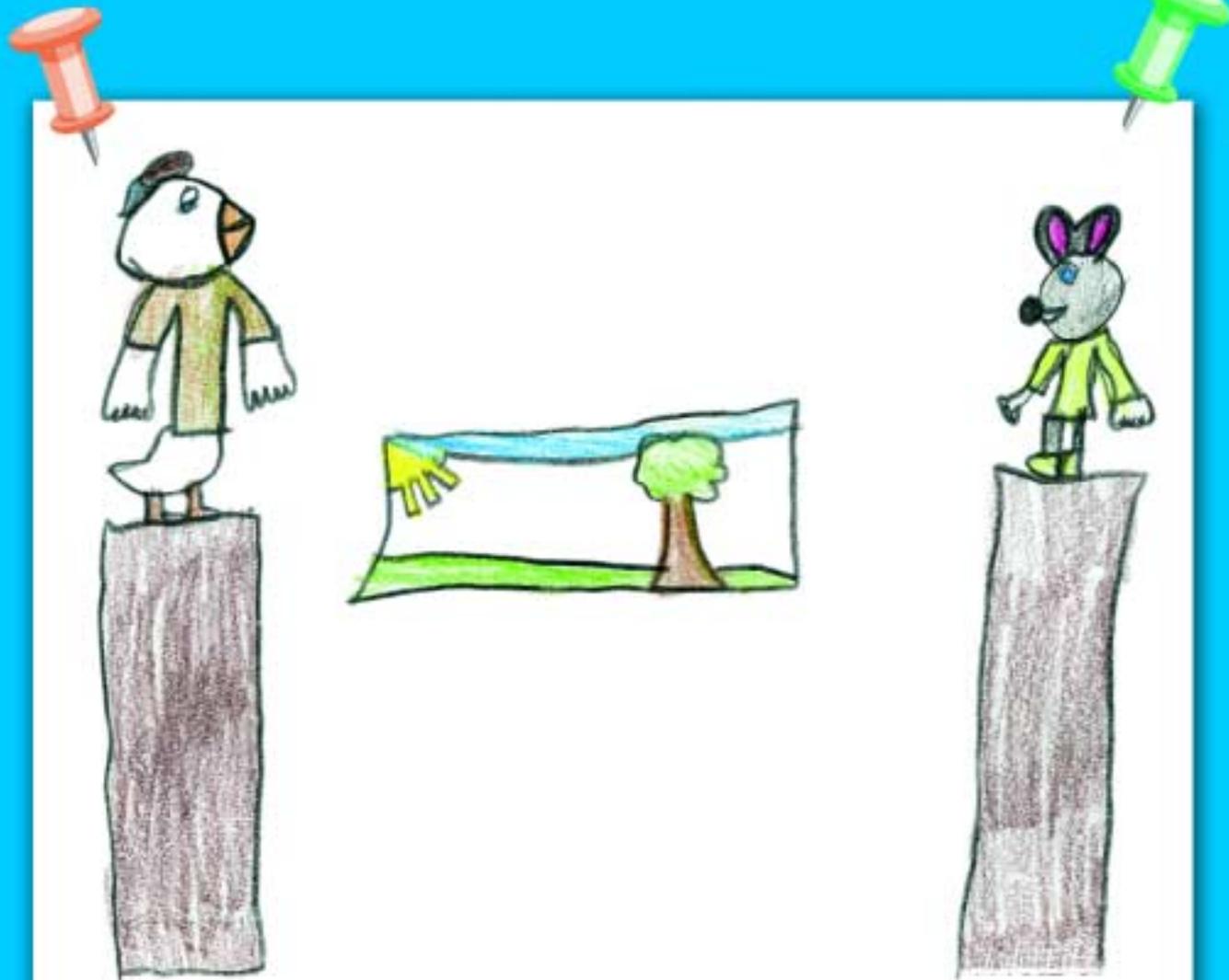
I dedicate this book to my family because I couldn't live without them and because they keep me safe.



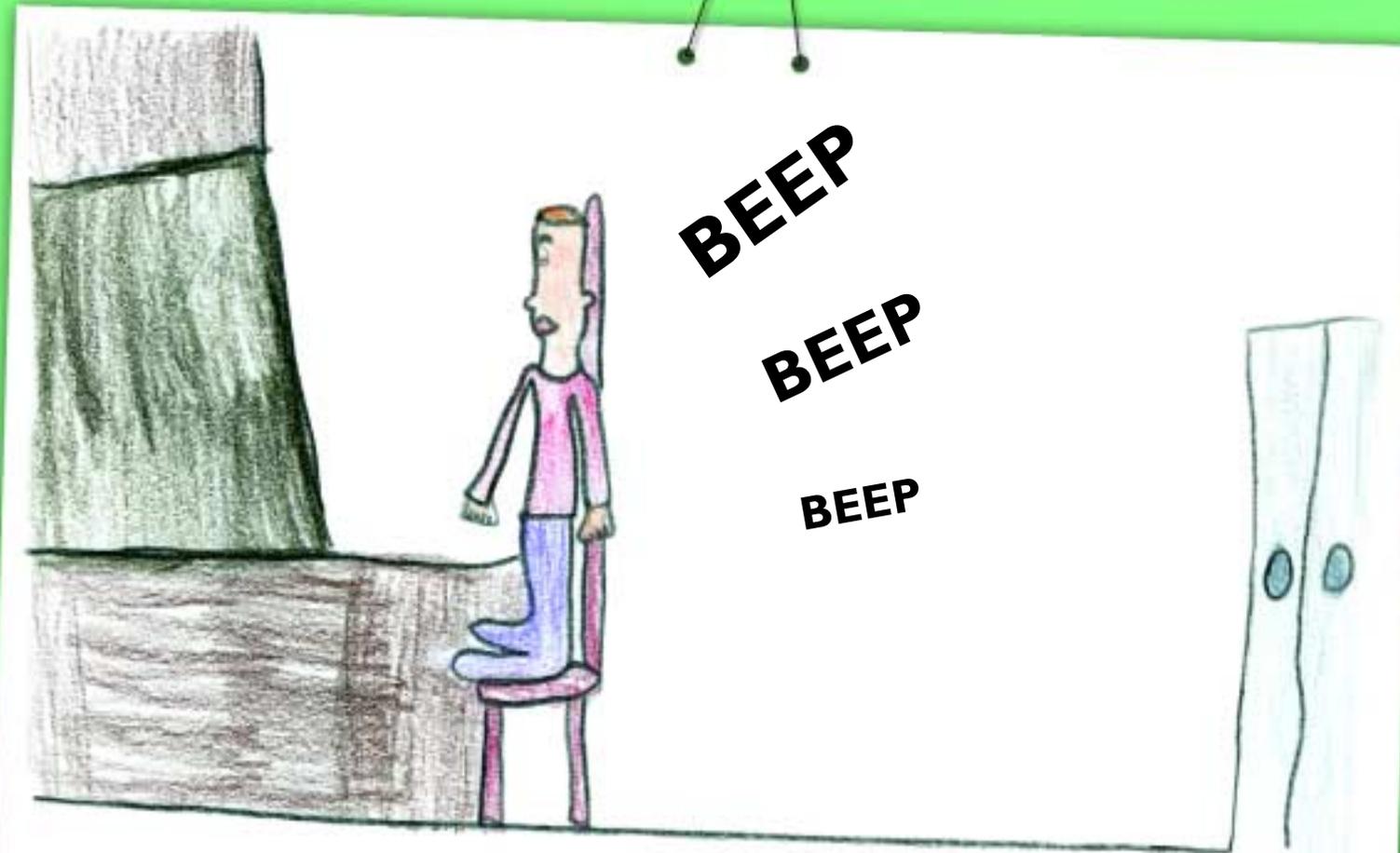
When I was 3, I was saying weird words.  
My mom couldn't understand my words.



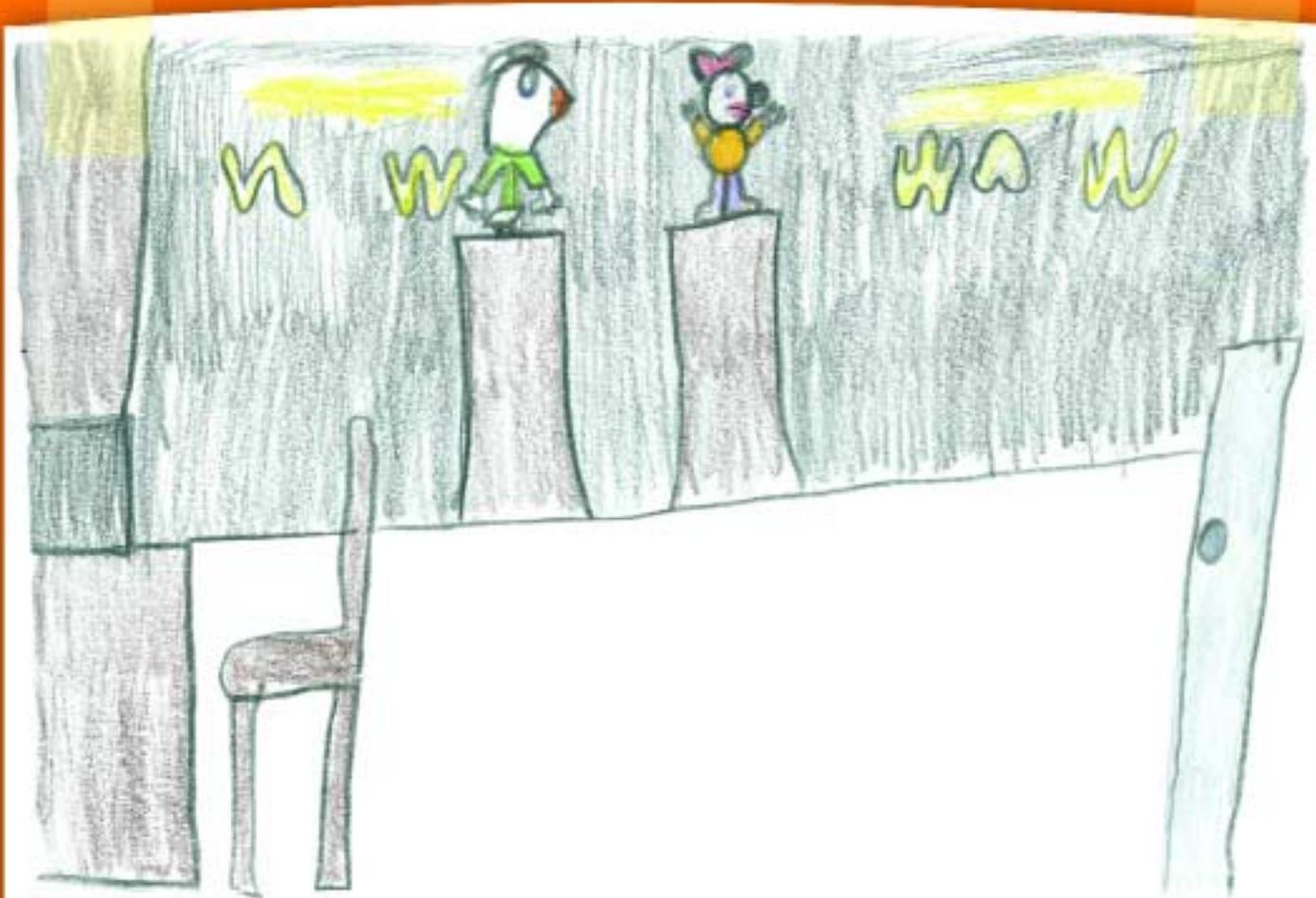
My mom took me to the doctor and the  
doctor said I needed a hearing test.



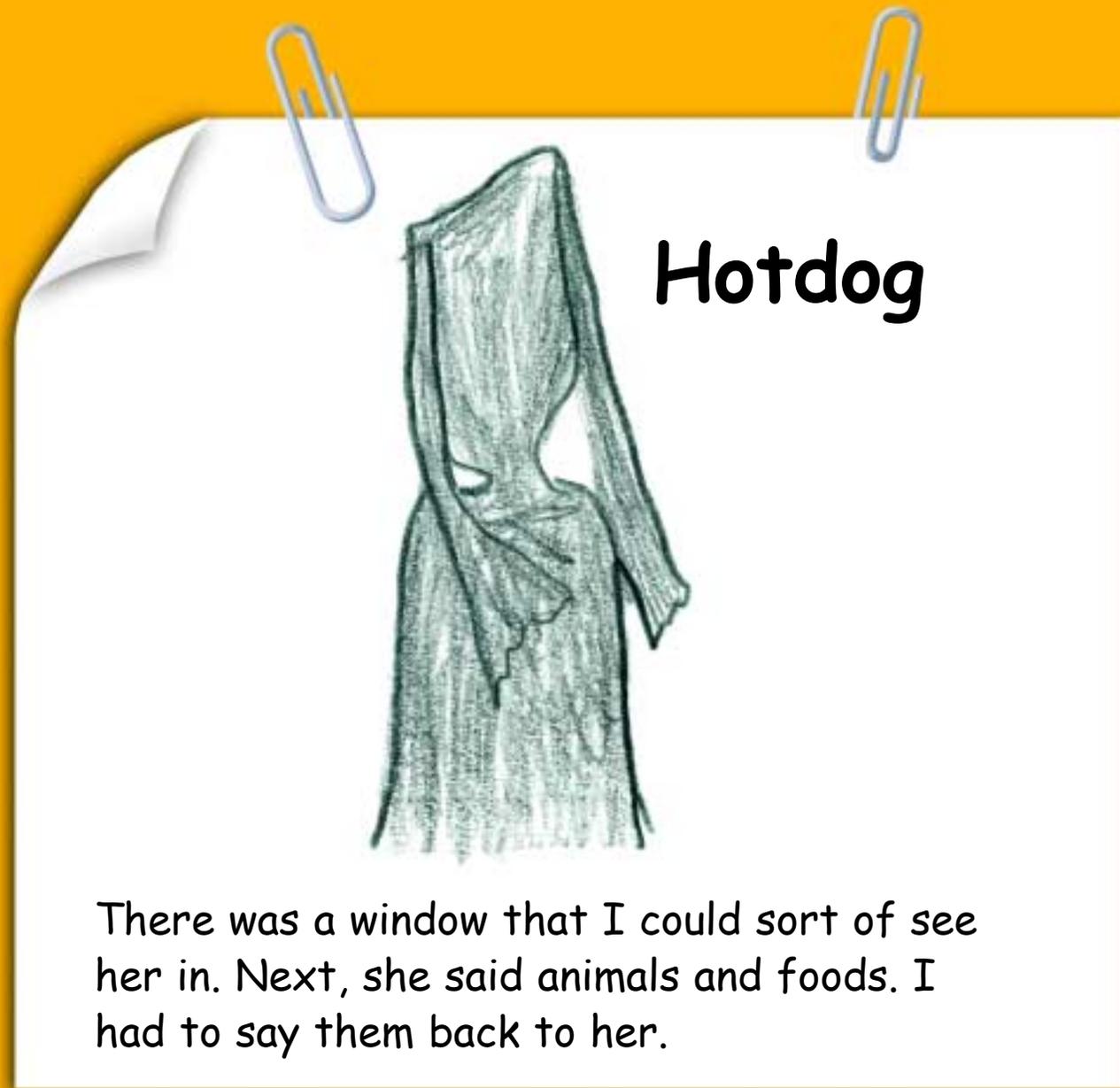
One day I got my hearing test. We played hearing games. There was a Mickey Mouse and a Donald Duck statue.



The person in the other room made them beep. Every time I heard it, I had to tell her. The beeps were loud at first, but they got softer.

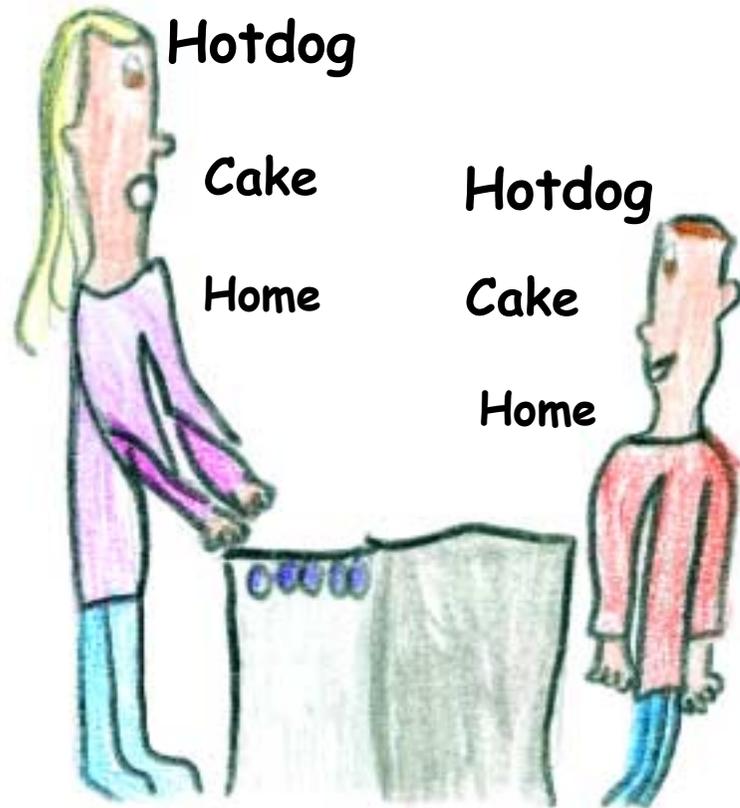


I liked it a lot. It was a little room. It was kind of dark. I needed headphones to hear the person in the other room.

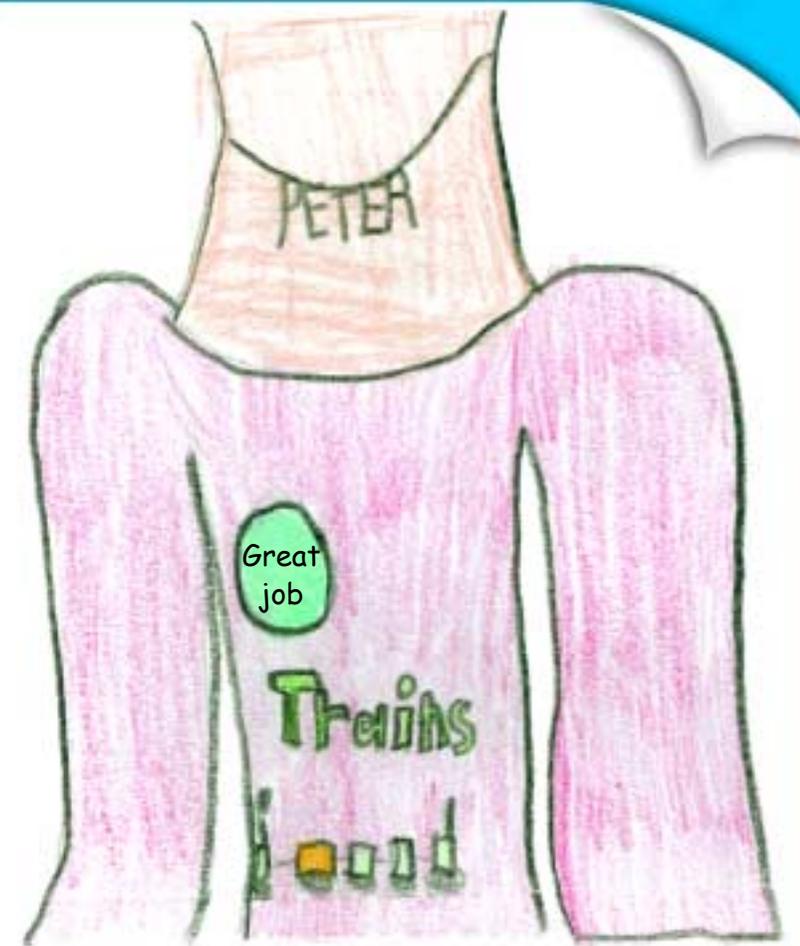


**Hotdog**

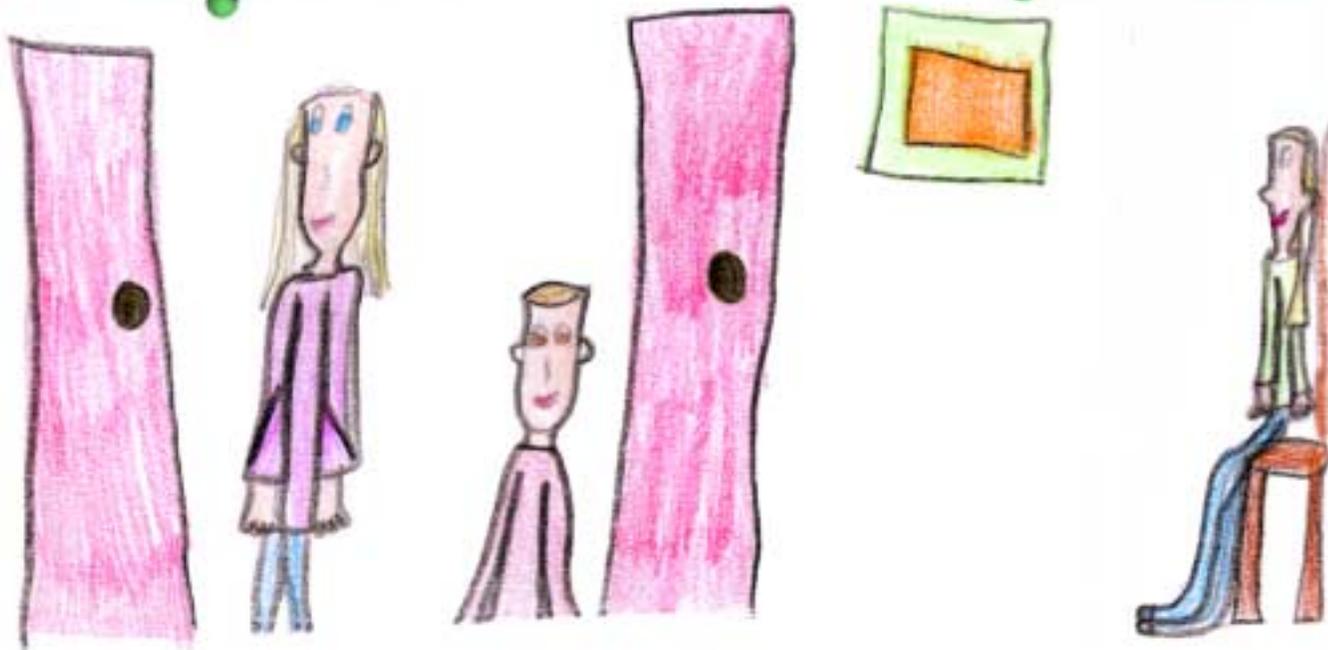
There was a window that I could sort of see her in. Next, she said animals and foods. I had to say them back to her.



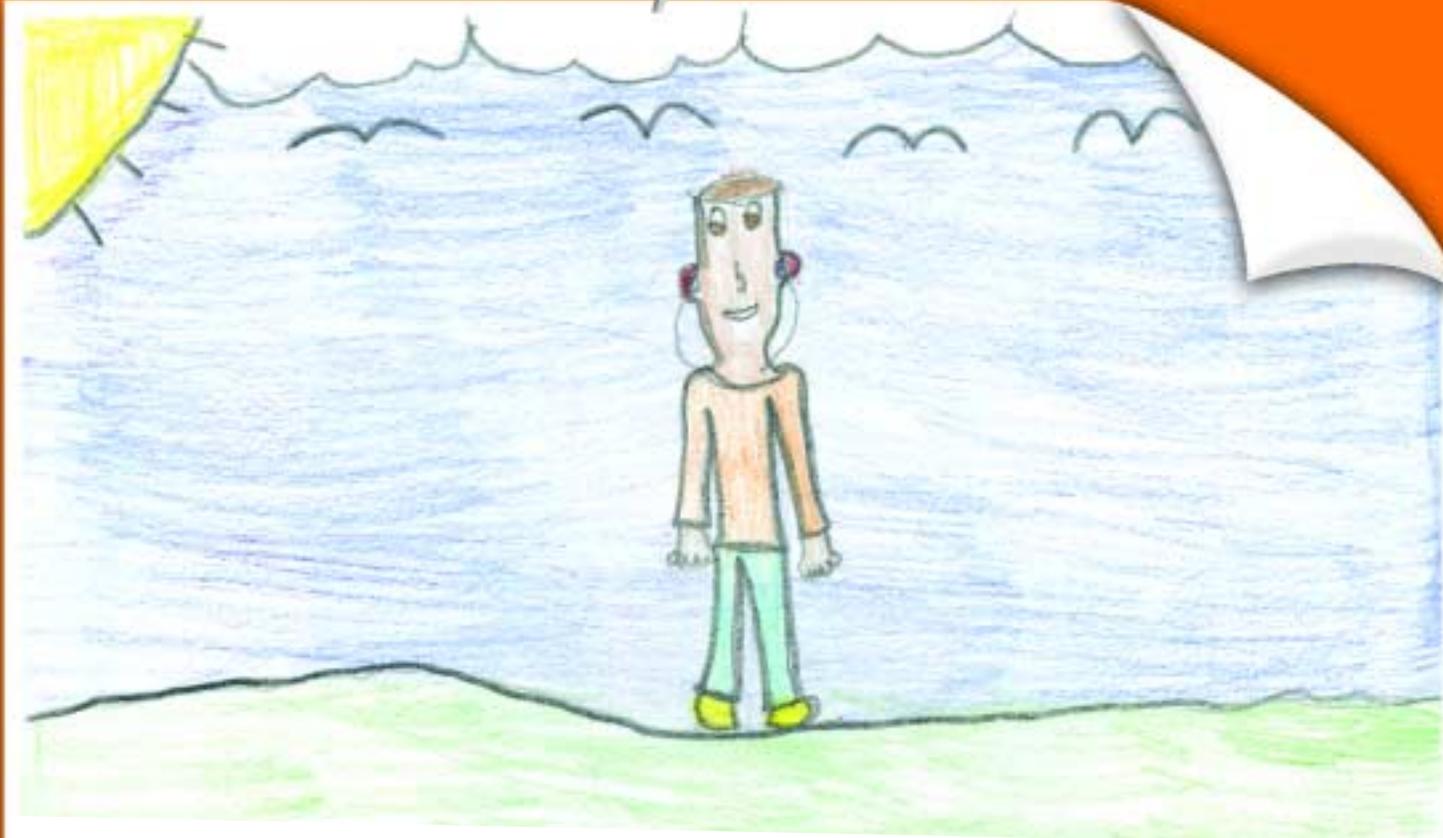
The more I got right the more the sounds got softer and softer.



When I was done I went to the other room to get a sticker for doing a great job. It feels good getting a sticker.



We walked in the hall and we went to my mom.  
Well, what happened was I got hearing aids!



I didn't get them right away, but when I did,  
everything was different. Everything was louder.  
It really changed things about my life. Now I  
can hear normally.



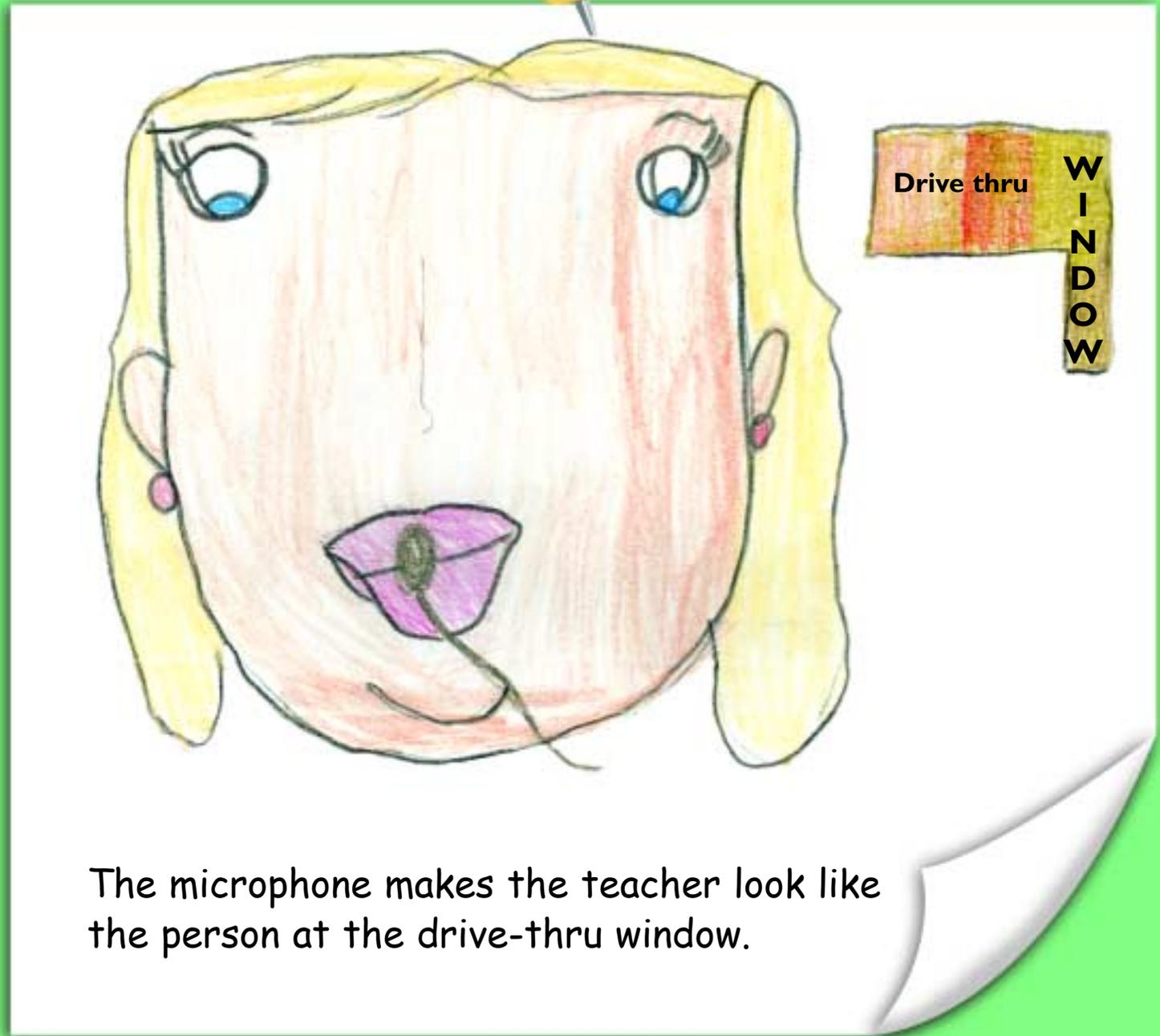
I told my mom and dad that I liked it a lot.  
My words were a little better.



I've had hearing aids for 5 years now.  
Now I go to speech sessions because  
they can teach me how to say words even  
better. Sometimes we play hearing games.  
My words keep getting better and better.



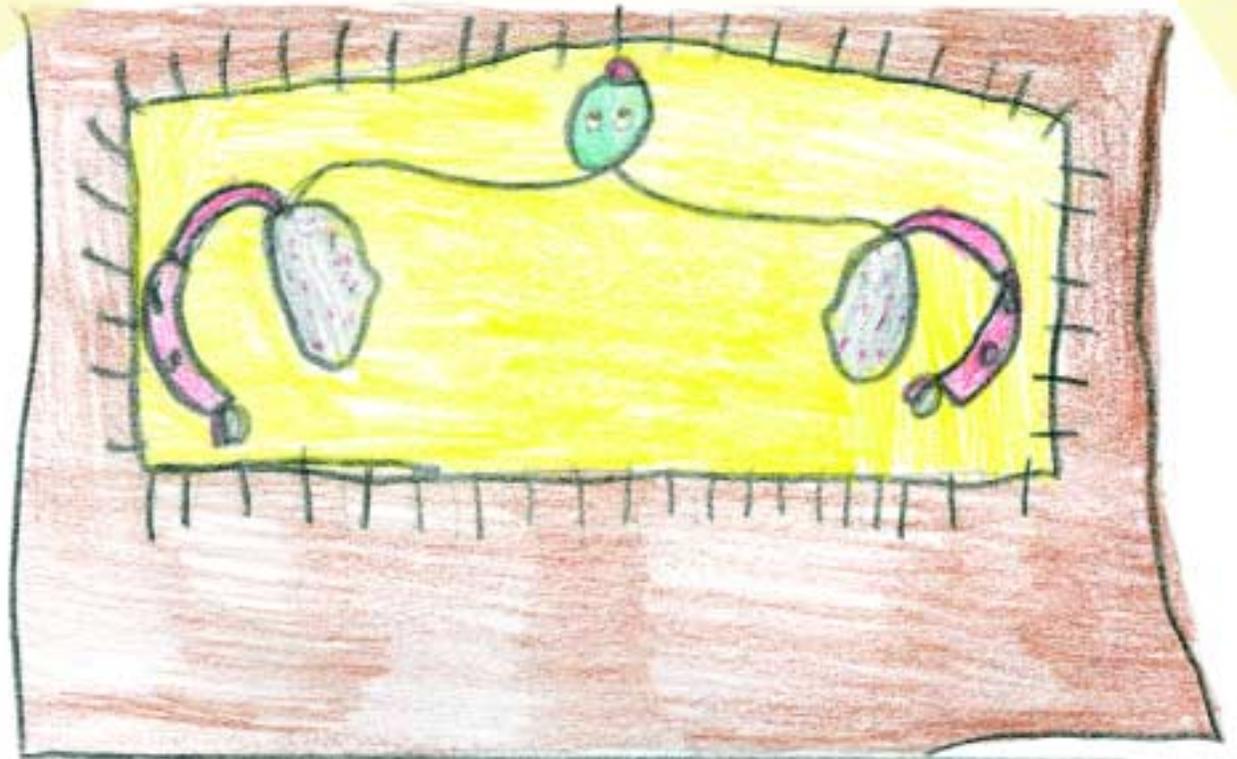
I love hearing aids! At school I use the FM system. The FM system helps you hear the teacher better. I have a speaker on my desk and the teacher wears a microphone.



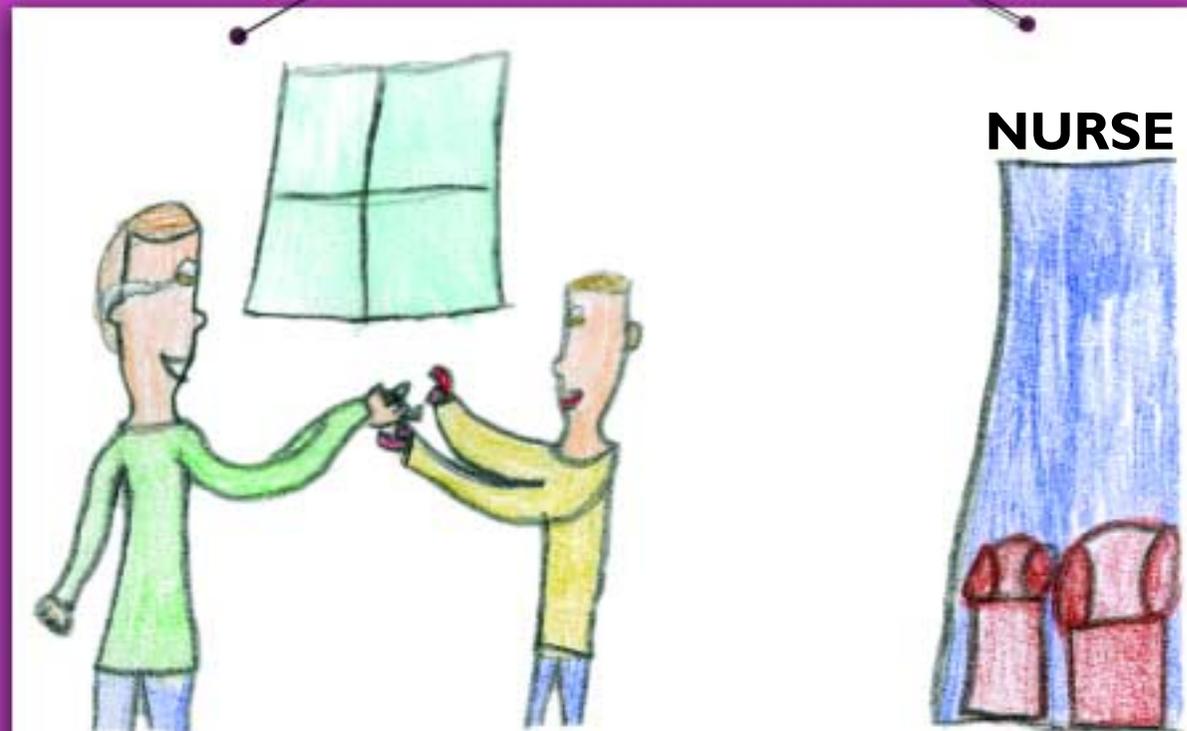
The microphone makes the teacher look like the person at the drive-thru window.



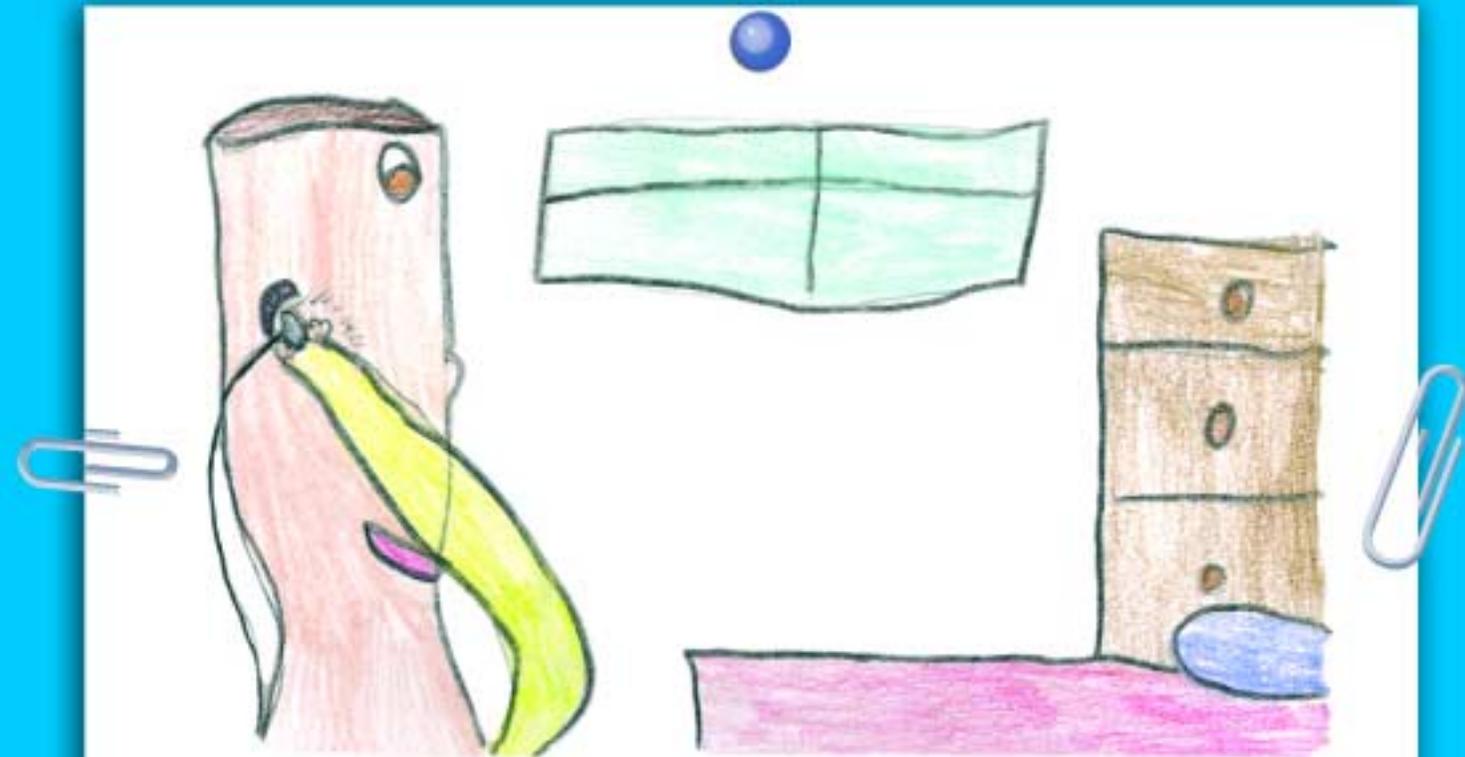
The FM system also helps my friends around me hear better.



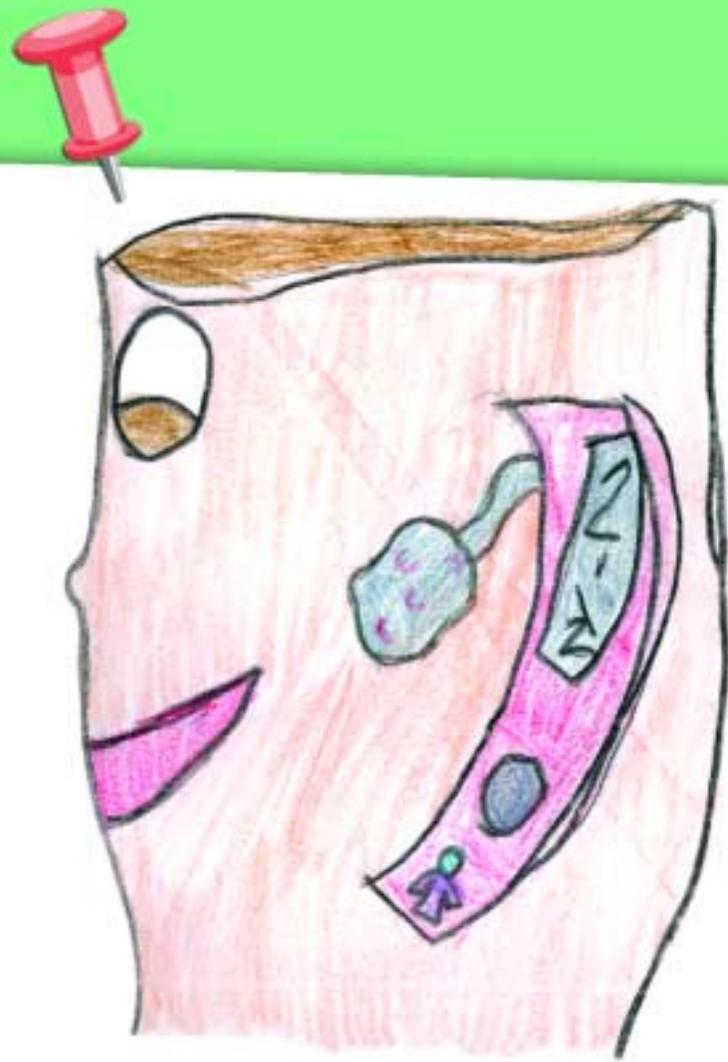
To take care of my hearing aids I have to put them on my mom's dresser at night and I have to open the battery doors so the battery can rest. If I forget to open them, they might run out and that means I have to change them. My mom has to take them apart and clean them.



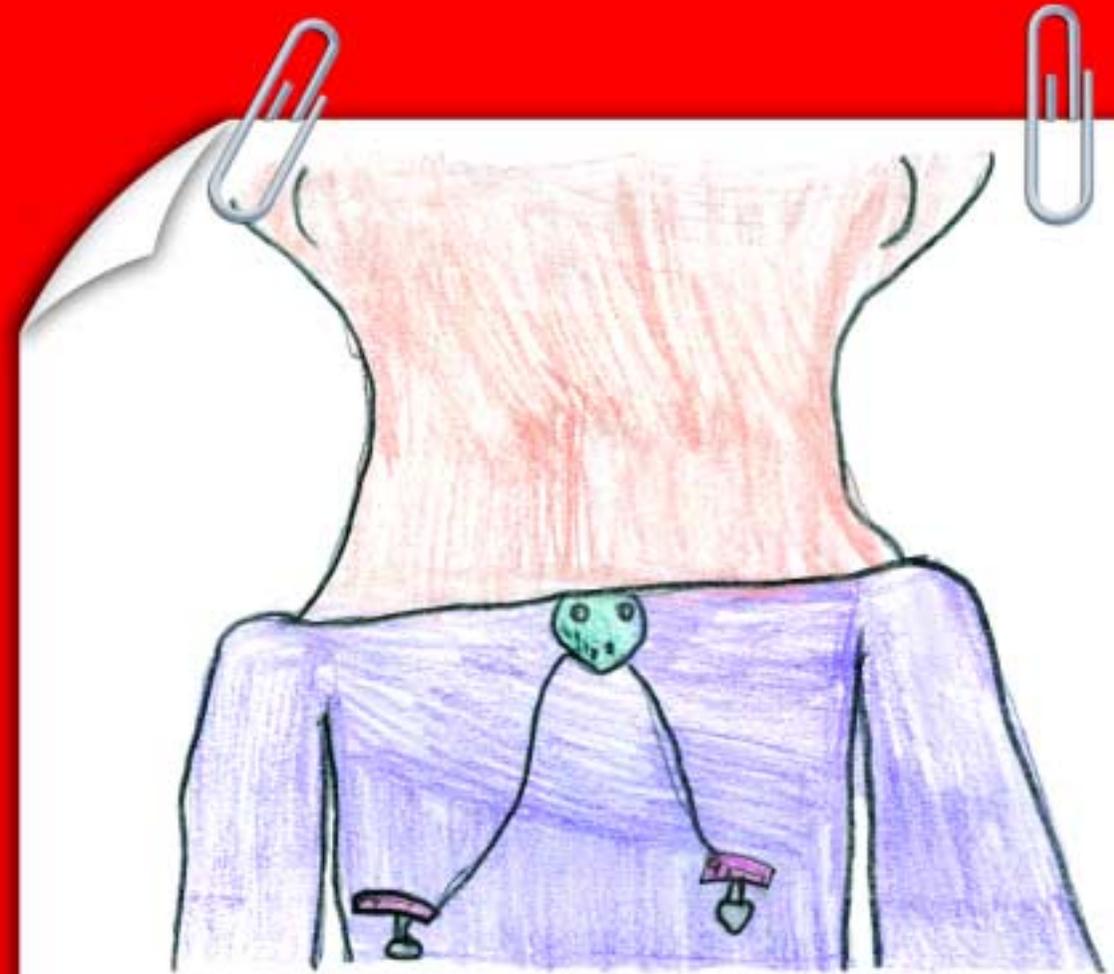
There is one battery in each hearing aid. Sometimes if my batteries run out at school, I have to go to the nurse and she will give me new hearing aid batteries.



This is how I know if they are dead or if they are alive. I put my hand over it and if it squeals, that means it's alive and if it doesn't squeal that means I need fresh hearing aid batteries. If only one battery is dead in one hearing aid, you change the other one even though it's not dead.



There is a volume switch so I can hear any volume I want. My volume is  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . I don't sleep with them because it might hurt my ears and it might squeal.

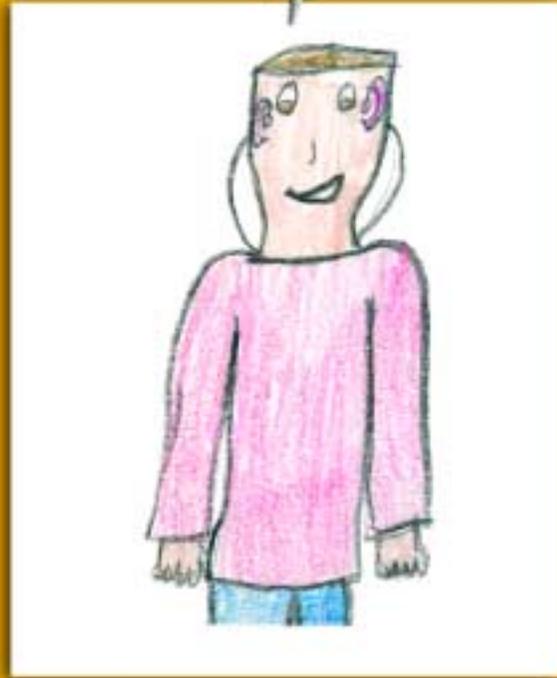


I can even put a sticker on my hearing aids. I wear a cool strap that attaches to my hearing aids and my shirt so I don't lose them if they fall out. My clip is a green alligator.

THEN



AFTER



Having hearing aids has been really helpful. It took me a couple of days to get used to having something in my ears, but now I like them because I know they help me hear.

Peter is 8 years old and a proud hearing aid user.

In this book he tells you his story of getting his first hearing aids - all the way from the hearing test to the daily use of his hearing aids, at home and in school.

Peter loves his hearing aids and wouldn't want to be without them.

