

Lily O'Frilly and the Rainbow Cake

By Dr Kim Maslin
Illustrations John Field

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For Lottie

Lily O'Frilly awoke with delight,
So thrilled for the celebration that night.
To add to the festivities, she decided to make,
A scrumdiddlyumptious
Rainbow Cake.



This cake would be special, it would have all the frills.
Lily could do it, despite low cooking skills.
She had never made a cake, but how hard could it be?
She opened the pantry and threw in all she could see.



But to her shock and dismay, the cake was a flop.

It was **brown and bubbly**

and what was *that* on top!?

To make a cake with all frills,

She needed someone with better baking skills.



Her dad came along and was happy to help.
But when he saw her progress, he let out a yelp!
“Lily, you can’t be higgledy-piggledy when you bake.
You need steps! Let’s follow Nana’s recipe for the cake.”
Dad unlocked his tablet, and in Photos scrolled around
Until a screenshot of Nana’s handwritten steps was found.





The first step showed a white dusty powder.
What could it be?

Then, they cleared the counter to make enough room
To lay out the ingredients, a bowl, and a spoon.
Next, they turned on the oven and buttered the tin,
Ready to pour the cake batter in.





The second step showed something with a hard,
round shell.

What could it be?



Oh, yes!

Lily made a well with a fist-full of flour.



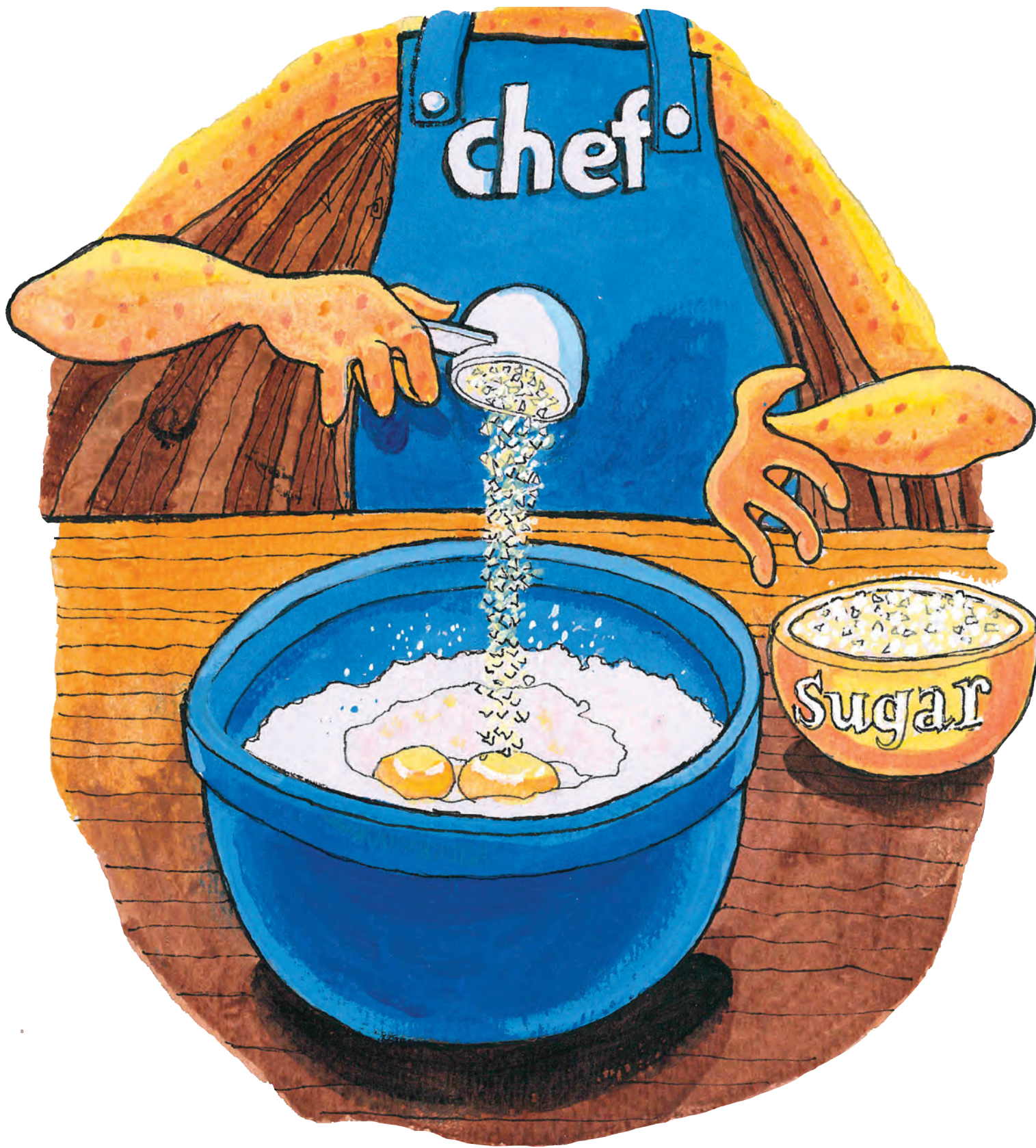
Oh, yes!

Lily cracked a couple eggs into the floury well.

The third step showed granules, white
with a twinkle.

What could it be?





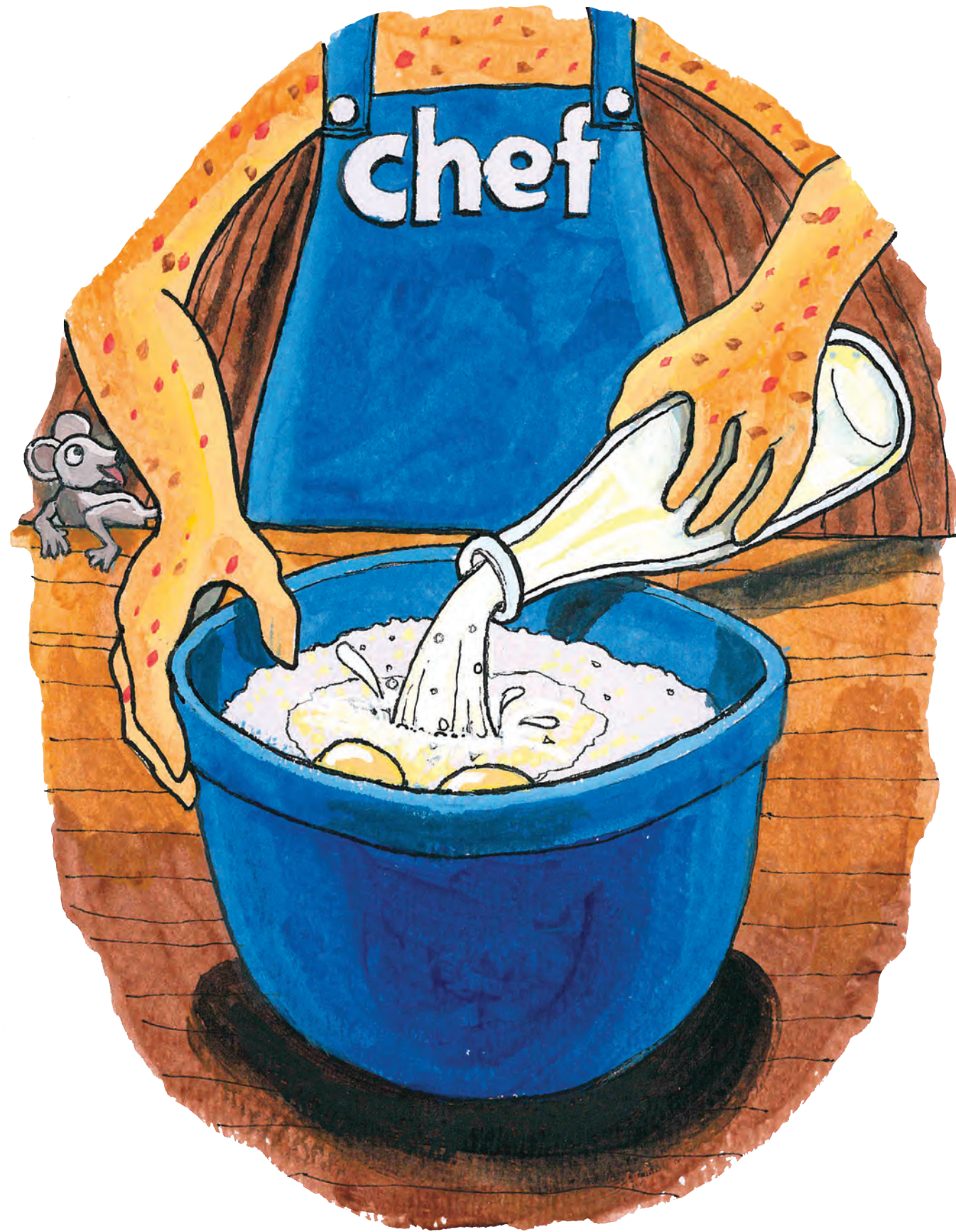
Oh, yes!

Lily added a smidge of sugar (just a sprinkle)!

The fourth step looked like wet, white silk.

What could it be?





Oh, yes!

Lily poured in a large splash of milk.

The fifth symbol looked like a sturdy
yellow stick.

What could it be?



Oh, yes!

Dad cut up some butter, nice and thick.

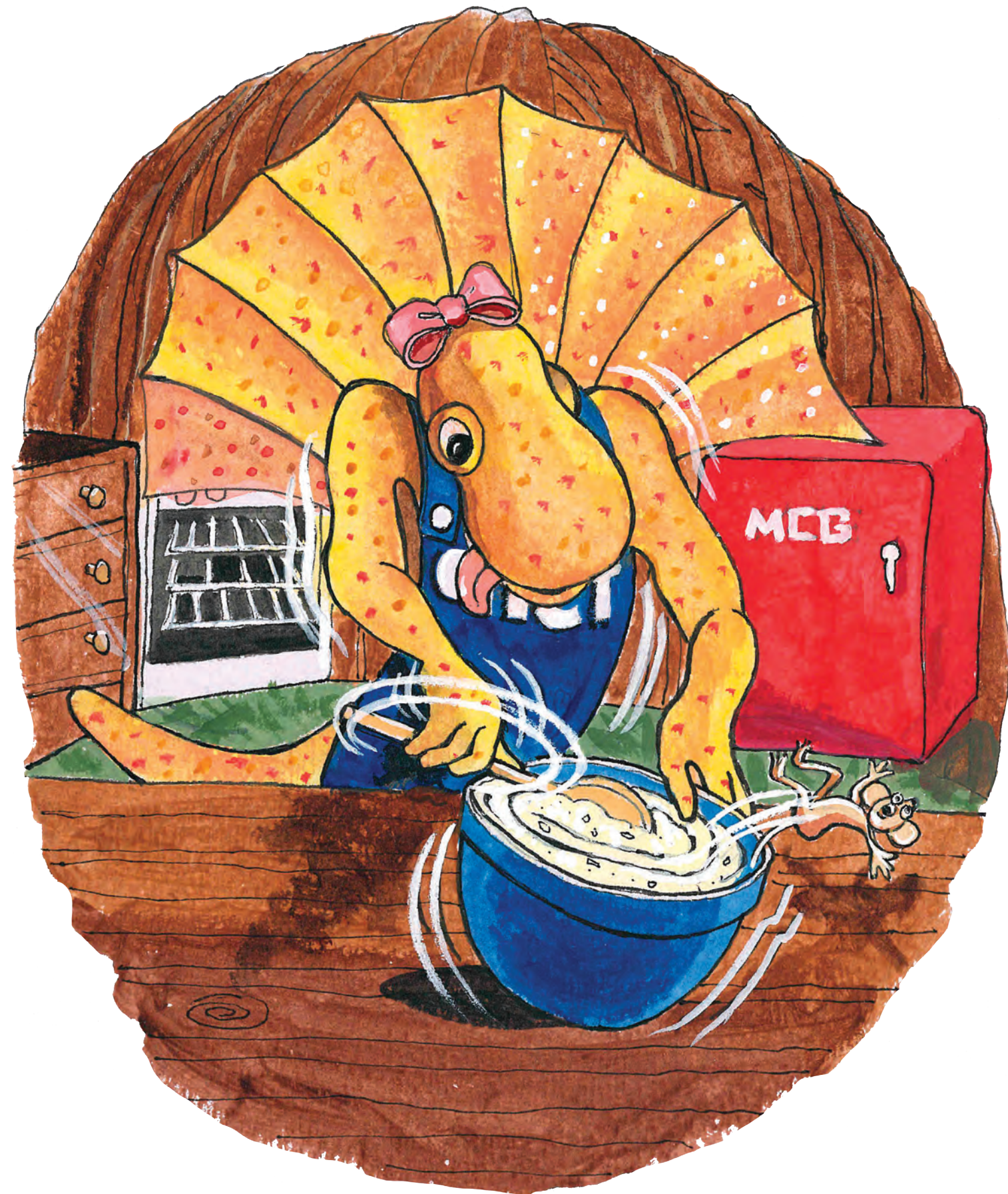


The next step showed the spoon, meaning it was time to stir!

Round and round Lily mixed, the batter a blur.

Then, the batter was poured into the pre-buttered tin.

Dad opened the oven and popped that tin in.



On the tablet they set the timer to forty-five
And Lily waited impatiently for the cake to arrive.
She peeked through the oven door and got such a surprise,
When she saw how the cake had started to rise!



Finally, the timer went off, the cake was now brown
And it was ready to come out and start to cool down.
They made the icing with sugar, butter, and coloured dye too.
Red, orange, yellow, green, indigo, violet... don't forget blue!





Following Nana's recipe was the best way to bake!

This looked the most

scrumdiddlyumptious

Rainbow Cake.

Using the tablet they decided to take
A photo for Nana, to show her the cake.
(She would be there tonight at eight,
but Lily just couldn't wait!)



By following Nana's steps, Lily learned some skills,
And baked a cake with all the frills!
And she knew that they had done it right,
When the rainbow cake was gobbled up that night!



Reflection questions

Let’s think about what happened in the story:

- 1. What did Lily O’Frilly want to bake for the family celebration?
- 2. Why did Lily O’Frilly’s first cake turn out to be ‘a flop’?
- 3. What ingredients did Lily O’Frilly use for her cake? Can you remember the order they went in?
- 4. If you were going to bake a cake for your family, what special colors or decorations would you include?

Let’s think about data representation and algorithms in the story:

- 5. Compare what happened when Lily O’Frilly made up a cake recipe and when she followed her Nana’s recipe.
- 6. Why do you think the recipe had pictures of ingredients, like the egg and the flour, instead of just words?
- 7. Can you think of other symbols or pictures on a device that help us know what to do? (E.g., play buttons, phone call buttons, or rubbish bin icons).
- 8. Imagine you are making a recipe for a friend. What symbols or pictures would you include to show the steps to follow?

Let’s think about the way technology was used in the story:

- 9. List the different ways Lily O’Frilly and her dad used the tablet. Were there other ways they could of used technology to help them?
- 10. Why did Lily’s dad need to unlock the tablet before they could see Nana’s recipe? Why do you think it’s important to have a password on devices?
- 11. Why did Lily and her dad decide to take a photo of the cake and send it to Nana before she arrived? How do you think it made Nana feel to see the picture?
- 12. Can you think of a time when you sent a photo, video, or message to a family member? How did that make you feel, and how do you think it made them feel?

About the creators



Dr Kim Maslin

Dr Kim Maslin is a digital technologies educator, researcher, and author. She has taught in early years, primary and secondary school contexts, and is the author of The Tweeting Galah series. Kim’s research focuses on children’s creativity with digital technologies. She currently lives in Esperance, Western Australia.



John Field

John Field was born in London, England. He has worked for many years in advertising and graphic design in both the United Kingdom and Australia. John currently lives in Perth, Western Australia.



From the author of The Tweeting Galah series...

Lily O'Frilly is so excited to celebrate with her family tonight!

She sets out to bake the most scumdiddlyumptious rainbow cake, but without a recipe it turns into a brown, bubbly flop! Luckily, Dad steps in to help by finding a screenshot of Nana's handwritten recipe on his tablet.

Join Lily O'Frilly, her dad, and just a smidge of sugar in this sweet story about learning to follow steps - and how a little technology can make real magic happen, and bring families closer together!



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