

# Te Au Pi'a Mēre

Emeli Sione



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# Te Au Pi'a Mēre



*nā Emeli Sione 'i tātā*

*tūtū nā Scott Pearson*

*'uri'ia e Tuaine-Nurse Tamarua Robati*

**E** 'apinga reka na 'Eleni te nūmero  
e te au tū 'ākara'anga. I te au pō ravarāi,  
e tārē ana 'aia mei te ta'i ki te ta'inga'uru  
i roto i te reo Tonga 'ē te 'Āmoa.

“Taha, ua, tolu, fā, nima, ono, fitu, valu, hiva, hongofulu.  
Tasi, lua, tolu, fā, lima, ono, fitu, valu, iva, sefulu.”



I tēta'i pō, kua 'akakite atu a Māmā kia 'Eleni  
no runga i te tārē'anga rāua ko tōna māmā rū'au  
iāia e tamariki ua ra i Tonga.

“E tārē ana mātou i te au punupunua puaka,”  
i nāna ei kia 'Eleni,  
“māri ra, e ākā 'anga'anga.  
Ka 'oro'oro ua rāi!”

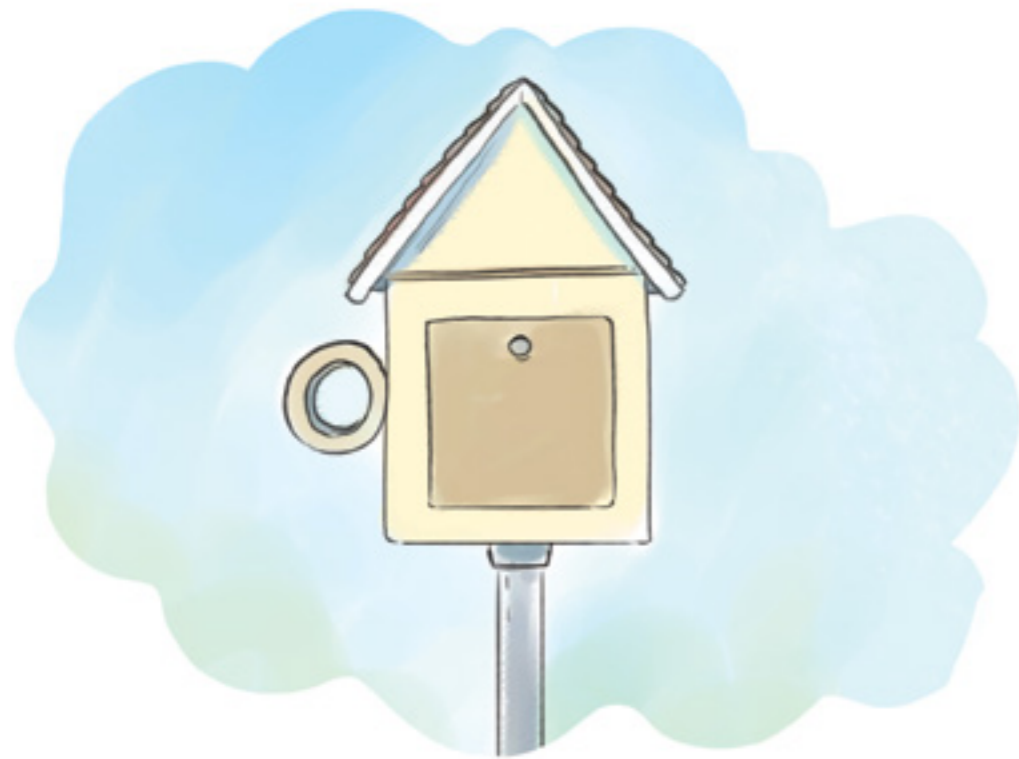


I tētā'i rā, iāia e 'aere ra ki te 'āpi'i punanga,  
kua tārē a 'Eleni i te ma'ata o te au pi'a mēre.  
“Ta'i, rua, toru, 'ā ...”

“Eleni, ea'a ta'au au tū 'ākara'anga e kite ra?”  
i na Māmā ei.

Kua to'u atu a 'Eleni ki te au tū 'ākara'anga.  
“Māmā, e tara'are tērā, e pi'a tērā,  
'ē, e punupunu tērā,” i na 'Eleni ei.





Ka kata koe i te tū 'ākara'anga o tētā'i au pi'a mēre.  
Ko tāna mea reka rava atu,  
ko te mea tū 'ākara'anga mei te 'are rāi.  
E tara'are te punu. E pi'a te ngūtupa.  
'Ē, e punupunu tētā'i no te nūtipēpā.



Kua 'āravei atu a Carla ia rāua,  
i to rāua tae'anga atu ki te 'āpi'i ā te tamariki rikiriki  
'ē kua tātomo ma'ata atu a Māmā iā 'Eleni  
ma te karanga atu e, "Ka kite!"

‘E mataora tikāi to ‘Eleni  
i te kite‘anga atu i tōna au taeake.  
Kāre e rauka ia rātou i te tiaki kia kite atu  
i ta Carla i teateamamao na rātou,  
no taua pōpongi.

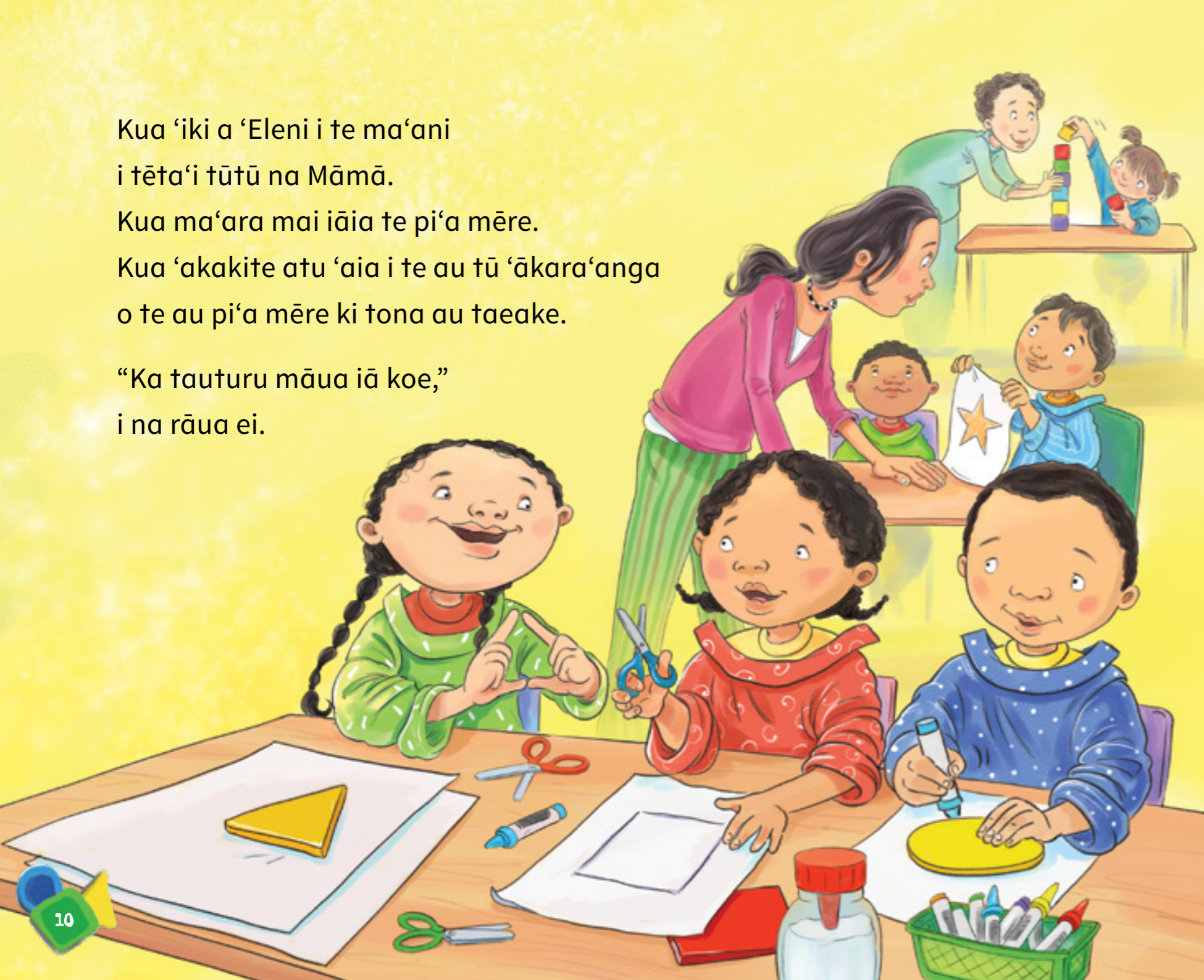
I muri ake i te pure, kua āru atu  
a ‘Eleni, ‘Alisa, ‘ē Sio iā Carla  
ki ko i te kaingakai ma‘ani ‘apinga.  
Tei reira te pēpa, te au pākoti,  
‘ē te tāpou tāpiripiri.

Kua karanga atu a Carla,  
“Tā‘anga‘anga‘ia teia au mea  
i te pākotikoti i te au tu ‘ākara‘anga  
ei ma‘ani tūtū no te kāinga.”



Kua 'iki a 'Eleni i te ma'ani  
i tēta'i tūtū na Māmā.  
Kua ma'ara mai iāia te pi'a mēre.  
Kua 'akakite atu 'aia i te au tū 'ākara'anga  
o te au pi'a mēre ki tona au taeake.

“Ka tauturu māua iā koe,”  
i na rāua ei.



Kua pākoti a 'Eleni i tēta'i tara'are.



Kua pākoti a 'Alisa i tēta'i pi'a.



Kua pākoti a Sio i tēta'i punupunu.

‘I reira, kua pākoti a ‘Eleni i tēta‘i pi‘a,  
‘ē kua ‘a‘atu ‘aia i te reira.

Te ‘ākara ua ra a ‘Alisa.

“Sio, ‘ākara‘ia ana.

‘E pi‘a takere ta ‘Eleni, māri ra,  
i teia taime, e tara‘are tāna!”

“E mea umere‘ia,” i na Sio ei.

Kua pākotikoti a ‘Alisa rāua ko Sio  
i tēta‘i au pi‘a ma te ‘a‘atu atu  
kia riro ei au tara‘are katoa.



Kua ‘akaāri atu rāua i ta rāua i kite kia Carla.

“Mako tikāi ta kōtou tokotoru ‘anga‘anga!

‘Ea‘a atu tēta‘i au tū ‘ākara‘anga  
ka rauka ia kōtou i te ma‘ani?”



Kua ‘a‘atu a Sio i tēta‘i punupunu. “‘Ākara mai,  
e Carla. Kua ma‘ani au i tēta‘i ‘āpa ‘ānani,”  
i nāna ei, ma te ‘akatūtū e, te kai ra ‘aia.





“Meitaki. ‘E mea reka rava atu nāku,  
te kai ‘ānani,” i na ‘Alisa ei,  
ma te mirimiri i tōna kōpū.

I reira, kua pākoti a ‘Alisa i tēta‘i po‘o-roa  
‘ē te ma‘ani atu e rua pi‘a.

“Kāre koe i te kanga,” i na tēta‘i pae ei,  
‘ē kua ma‘ani pi‘a katoa rātou.

I reira, kua rave atu rātou i ta rātou  
au tū ‘ākara‘anga ‘ē te tāpou tāpiripiri  
ma te ma‘ani atu e toru tūtū.



Kia tae mai a Māmā i te tiki ia ‘Eleni,  
kua ‘akaāri atu a ‘Eleni, ‘Alisa, ‘ē Sio  
i ta rātou au tūtū.

“‘E Sio, ‘ākara‘anga reka ia ra tērā au ‘ānani,”  
i na Māmā ei.

Kua ‘akaāri atu a ‘Alisa  
i tāna au pi‘a umere‘ia kia Māmā.  
Umere‘ia tikāi a Māmā.

‘E kua ‘akaāri atu a ‘Eleni i te tūtū ta rātou  
i ma‘ani o te pi‘a mēre.

“Kua ma‘ani mātou na‘au, e Māmā.”

“Meitaki ma‘ata,” i na Māmā ei.

“Ka tano ki runga i ta tātou kaparāta ‘akaanuanu kai.”



# Letterboxes

Emeli Sione



This picture book is for sharing with young children.

Early childhood kaiako and audio support for this text is available online at [www.tewhariki.tki.org.nz/PELP](http://www.tewhariki.tki.org.nz/PELP)

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# Letterboxes



by Emeli Sione

*illustrations by* Scott Pearson

**E**leni loves numbers and shapes. Every night,  
she counts from one to ten in Tongan and Samoan.  
“Taha, ua, tolu, fā, nima, ono, fitu, valu, hiva, hongofulu.  
Tasi, lua, tolu, fā, lima, ono, fitu, valu, iva, sefulu.”



One night, Grandma told ‘Eleni  
about counting with her grandmother  
when she was a little girl in Tonga.  
“We used to count the piglets,” she told ‘Eleni,  
“but it was very hard.  
They always ran away!”



One day, walking to kindy, 'Eleni was counting the number of letterboxes on the way.

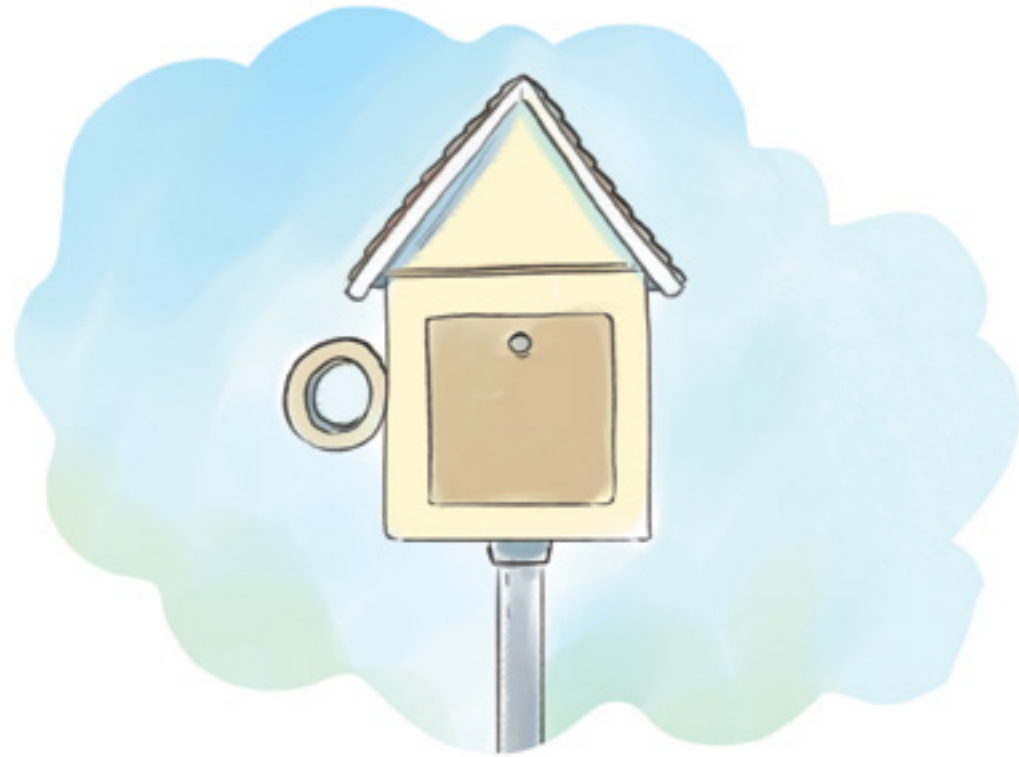
“Ta’i, rua, toru, ‘ā ...”

“Eleni, what shapes can you see?” asked Grandma.

'Eleni pointed to different shapes.

“Grandma, that’s a triangle, that’s a square and that’s a circle,” said 'Eleni.





Some of the letterboxes were very funny shapes.  
Her favourite one was shaped like a house.  
It had a triangular roof.  
It had a square door.  
And it had a circle for the newspapers.



Carla greeted them  
when they reached the kindergarten  
and Grandma gave 'Eleni a big hug  
and said she'd see her later.

'Eleni was excited to see her friends. They couldn't wait to see what Carla had planned for that morning.

After pure, 'Eleni, 'Alisa, and Sio went to the making table with Carla. There was paper, scissors, and glue.

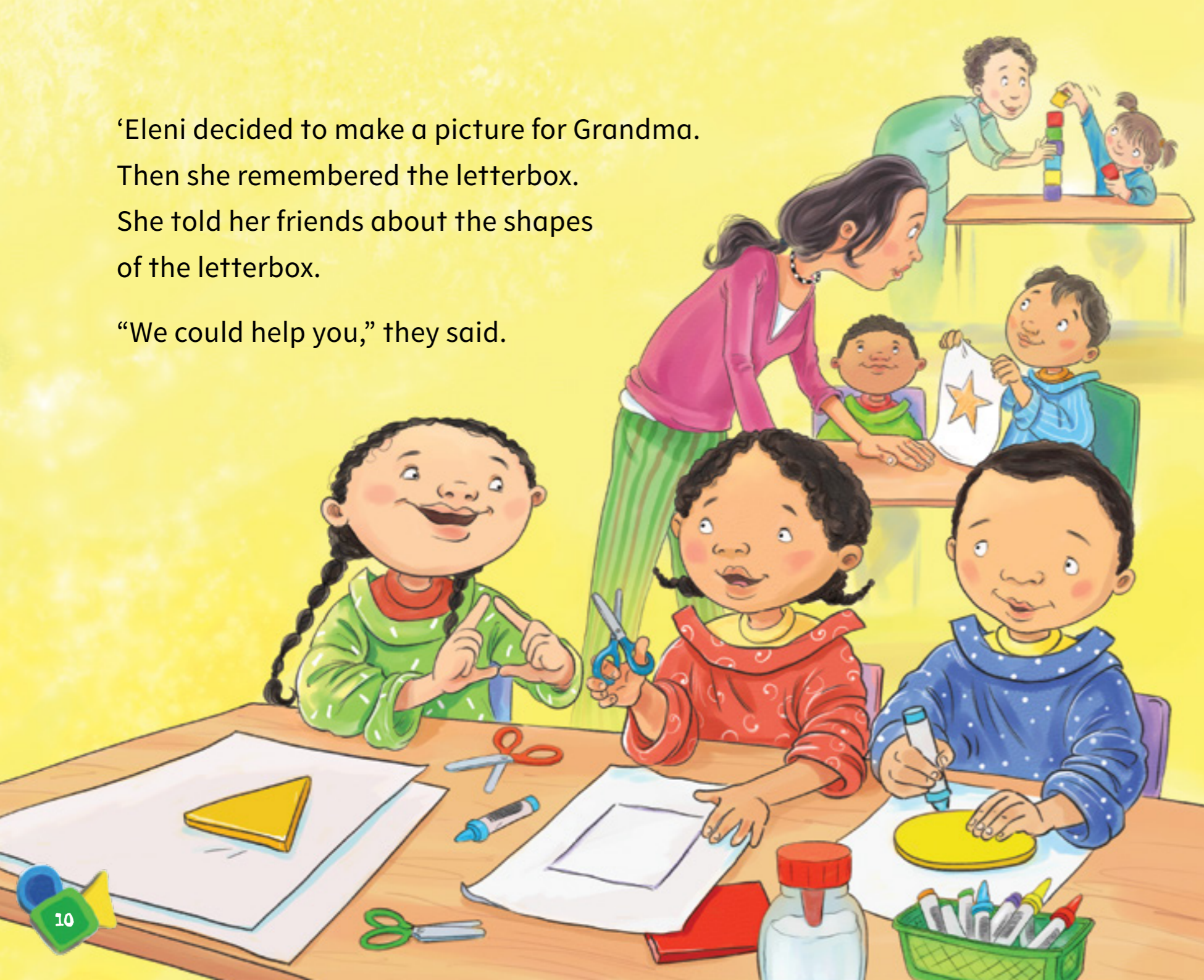
Carla said, "You could use these to cut out shapes and make pictures to take home."





'Eleni decided to make a picture for Grandma.  
Then she remembered the letterbox.  
She told her friends about the shapes  
of the letterbox.

"We could help you," they said.



'Eleni cut out a triangle.



'Alisa cut out a square.



Sio cut out a circle.

Then 'Eleni cut out a square and she folded it.

'Alisa was watching. "Look, Sio.

'Eleni had a square, but now she has a triangle!"

"That's amazing," said Sio.

'Alisa and Sio cut out some squares and folded them into triangles, too.



Then they showed Carla what they'd discovered.

"Great work, you three!

What other shapes can you make?"



Sio folded a circle.

"Look Carla. I've made half an orange," he said, pretending to eat it.



“Yummy. I love eating oranges,”  
said ‘Alisa, rubbing her tummy.

Then ‘Alisa cut a rectangle and made two squares.

“That’s awesome,” the others told her,  
and they made squares, too.

Then they used their shapes and the glue  
and made three pictures.



When Grandma arrived to walk home with ‘Eleni,  
‘Eleni, ‘Alisa, and Sio showed her their pictures.

“Those look like yummy oranges, Sio,”  
said Grandma.

‘Alisa showed Grandma her awesome squares  
Grandma was amazed.

And ‘Eleni showed her the picture  
they’d made of the letterbox.

“We made it for you, Grandma.”

“Meitaki ma‘ata,” said Grandma.

“This can go on our fridge.”

