

THE MONARCH



A Note for Parents or Caregivers

This comic book is intended for children with epidermolysis bullosa (EB) and their families to enjoy together. The protagonist of this story is a girl, Emmie, who has EB but is defined by so much more than her disease. She is imaginative, studious, friendly, kind, and a self-fashioned superhero.

We hope that, in the process of reading, you can also enjoy the storyline, and we have provided some tips below on how to make reading comic books even more exciting for your child:

- 1** Choose characters that you and your child will portray and read their lines in the comic book.
- 2** At the end of every other page, ask your child what they think will happen next. Then read on and see if they guessed right!
- 3** Ask your child who each character reminds them of in their life.
- 4** Once finished, ask your child what they learned from the book. Ask them if they would have ended the story differently.

How to Read a Comic Book

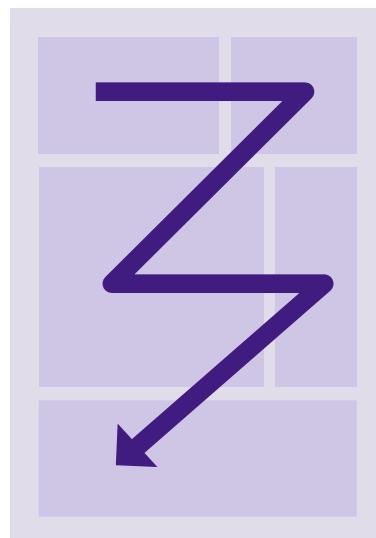
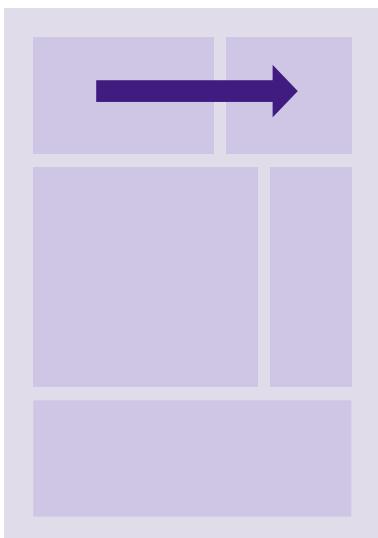


This symbol is called a “talking bubble.” It shows you what a character is saying out loud.

This symbol is called a “thought bubble.” It shows you what a character is thinking (and not saying out loud).

You should read comics left to right...

...and top to bottom



An orange box is a “caption.” Captions tell us more about what’s happening in the story and help to set the stage.



Let's Meet the Characters!



Emily "Emmie" B

Our fearless hero



Lucy - Emmie's Best Friend

Loves to play Farmer's Town, a farming game, with Emmie



Mr. B - Emmie's Dad

Teaches physics at the local community college



Mrs. B - Emmie's Mom

Plans Emmie's day and works in an office in the city



Sienna - Emmie's New Friend

Able to talk to anyone and a member of The Butterfly Buddiez



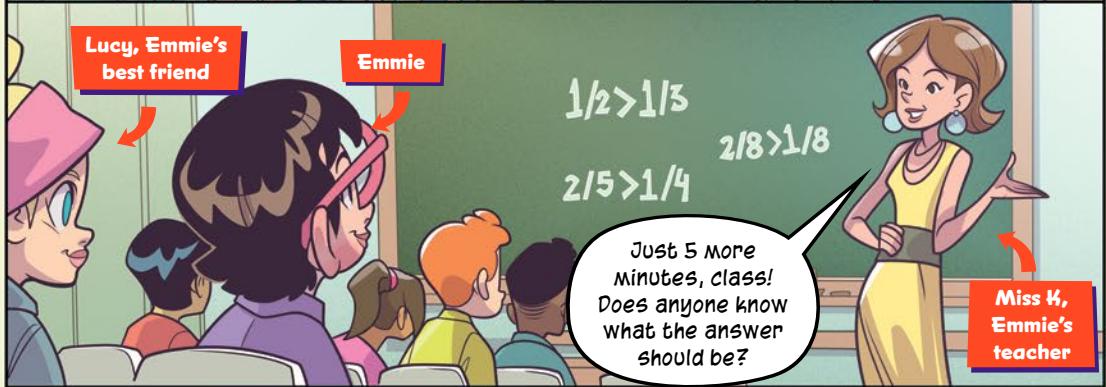
Nana B - Emmie's Grandma

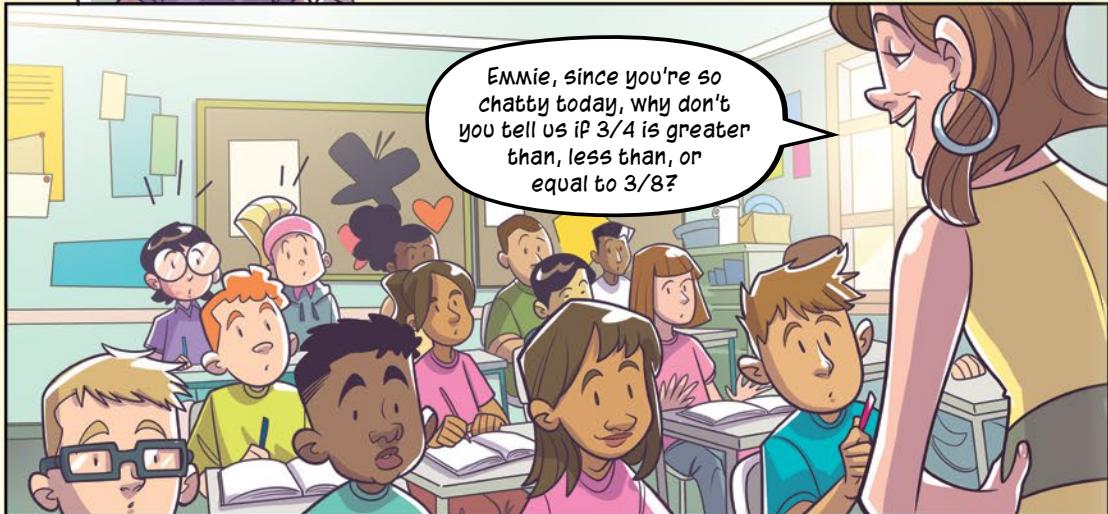
Fluttermore Fishing Champion and former figure skater



Greetings, heroes and sidekicks!

Today is just another day in the quiet town of Fluttervale. The kids are in school and our hero, Emmie, is in her final class of the day. Little does she know what's in store for her! Is she ready for the challenges she might face? Get ready, reader... Emmie is no ordinary girl.





Emmie loves a challenge. The gears in her brain start turning.

Well, you see...it's quite easy...

We must first draw pie charts for each fraction...

Let's imagine two pies split into 4 and 8 equal pieces...

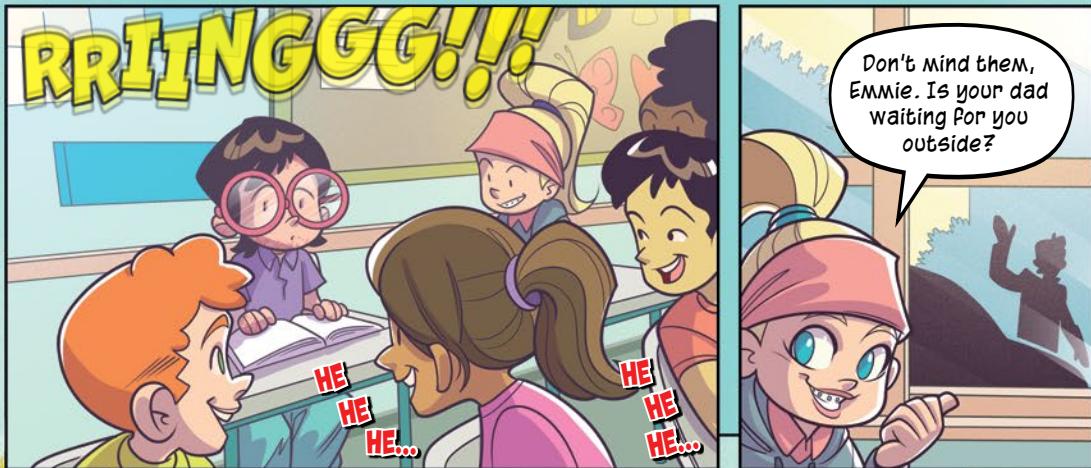
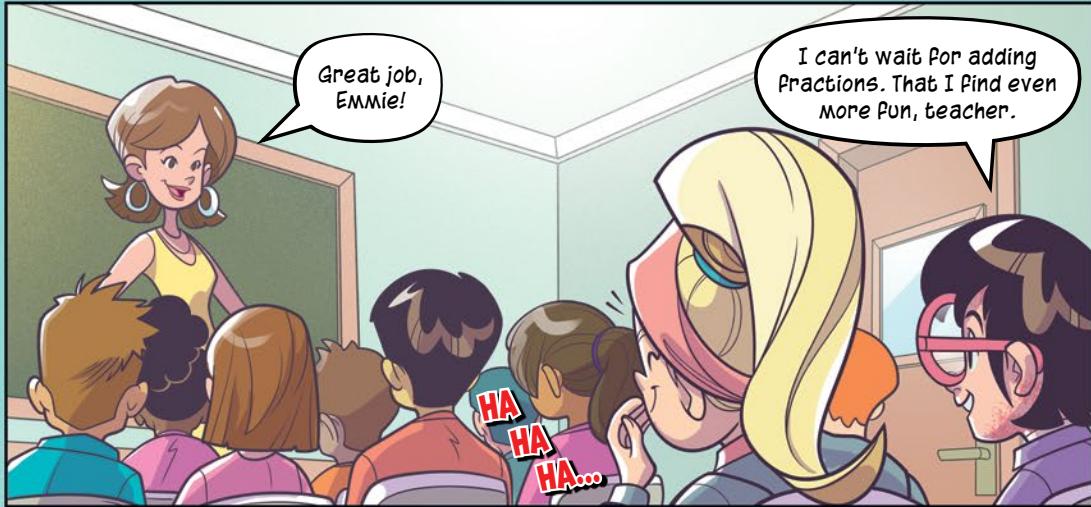
We then fill in 3 pieces of both pies...

And when we do that...

We see, then, that $\frac{3}{4}$ is clearly greater.

Making the answer, Miss K, $\frac{3}{4}$ is greater than $\frac{3}{8}$.

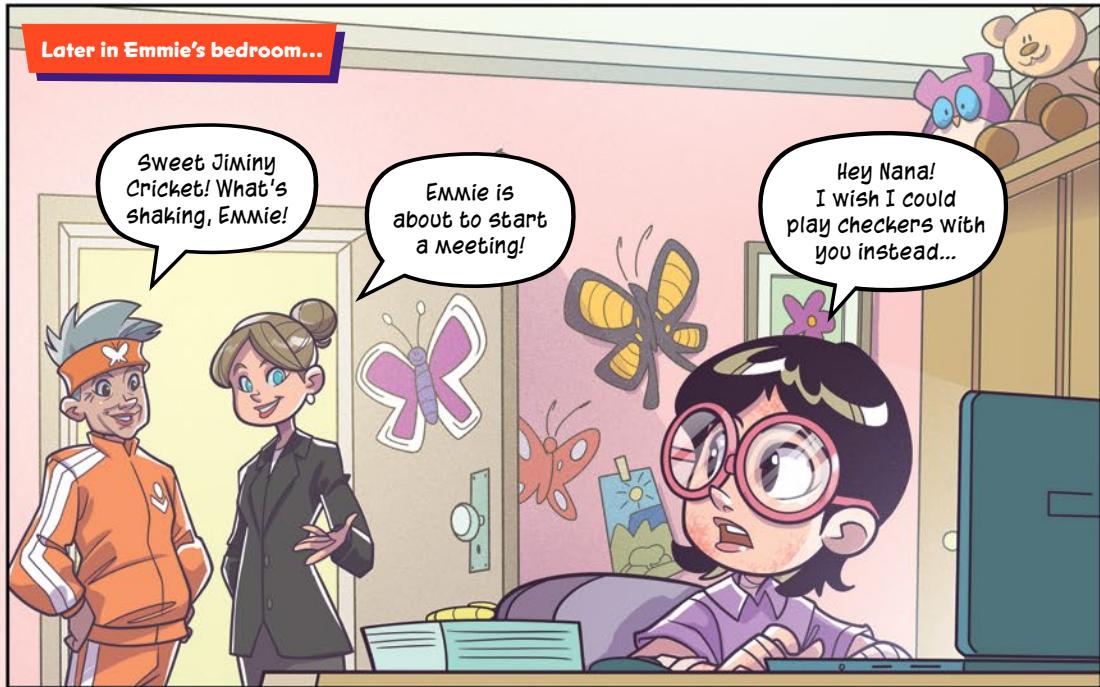




After teaching classes at the local college, Mr. B picks up Emmie at school.



Later in Emmie's bedroom...



And just like that, Emmie meets the Butterfly Buddiez for the first time!

Hello everyone! Today, we have one new member joining us! Could we all introduce ourselves?

My name's Lexi! I love those drawings in your room.

I'M Robert but you can call me Robbie! Nice to meet you!

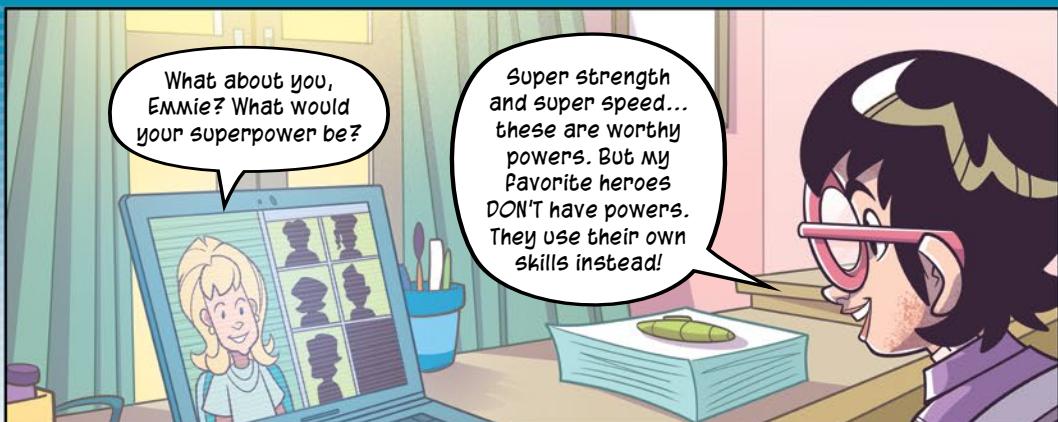
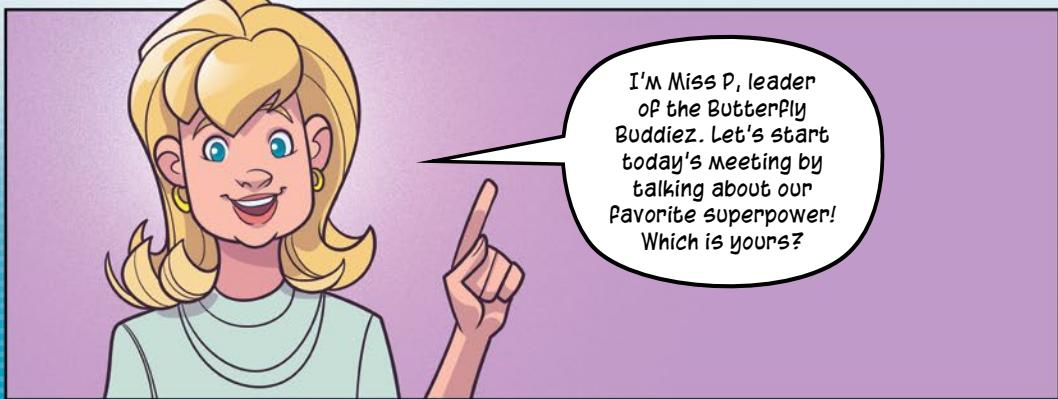


Hi! I'M Sienna!

Justin, here!

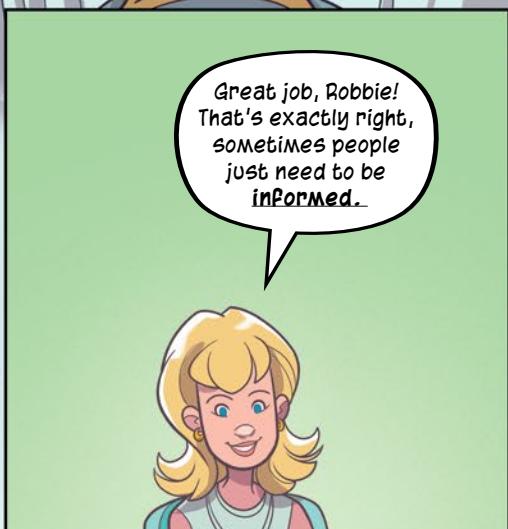
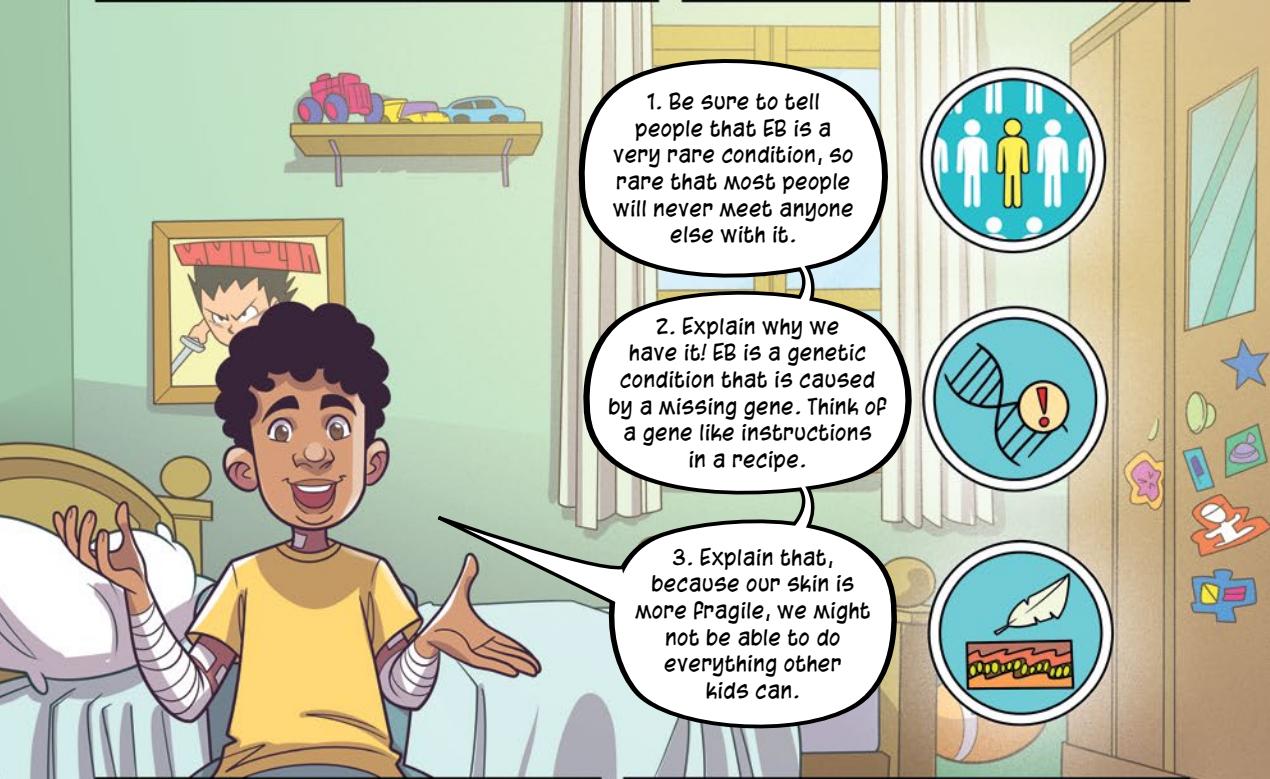
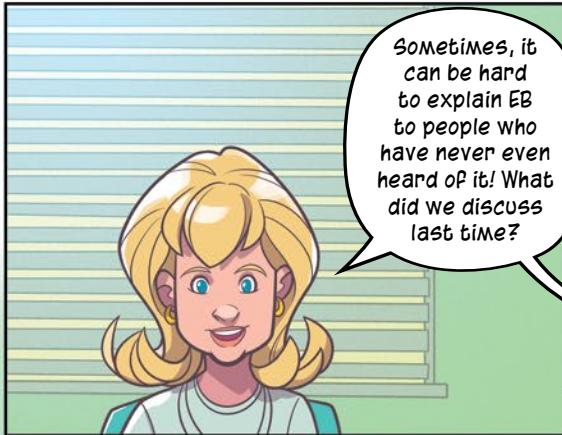
Hiiii, I'M Angelica!

Woah! I've never met so many people with EB.



I like that, EMMIE!
Now let's get serious.
What are some of the
ways EB affected you
this week?





After the meeting, Emmie messages Sienna...

TODAY

Hey Sienna! U go to Fluttervale park too??

Yes, do u live in Fluttervale!!?

I do!

No way! Which part of town?

South Green, wbu?

Near Station Street

We should Meet at the playground sometime!!!

Saturday? we need to go early before that group I was talking about gets there

Sounds like a plan!



Late into the night, Emmie paints and draws all the designs she can think of. Designs for what? Only time will tell...

That Saturday, at the
Fluterville Playground...



Where is she?
It's almost
11:30...

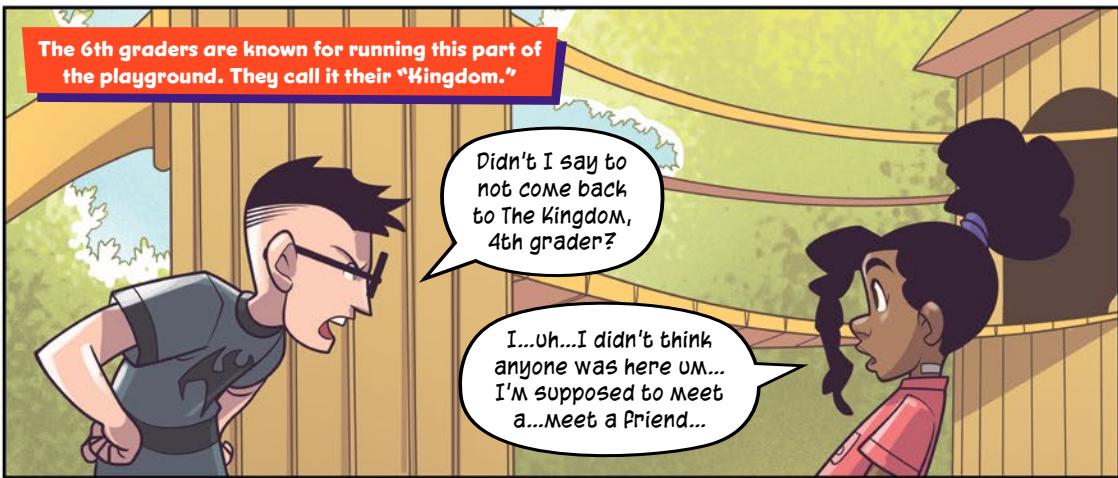


HALT!
Who goes
there?

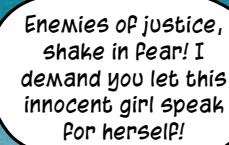
What do you
want 4th
grader?

Oh no! 6th
graders!

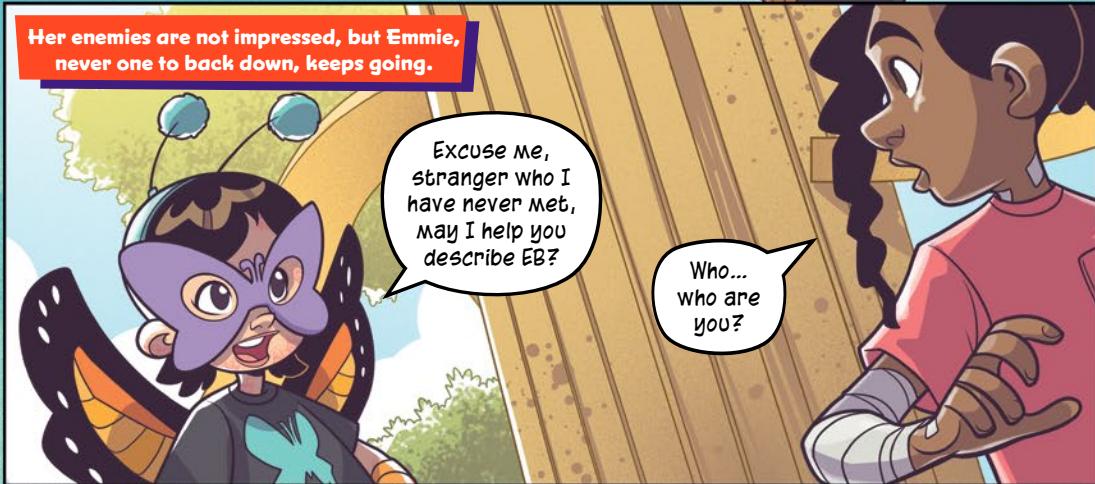
The 6th graders are known for running this part of the playground. They call it their "Kingdom."







Her enemies are not impressed, but Emmie, never one to back down, keeps going.





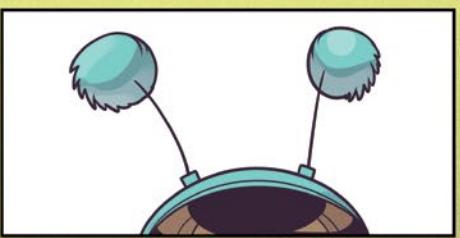
This super-protective fabric is a special material I developed in my lab...

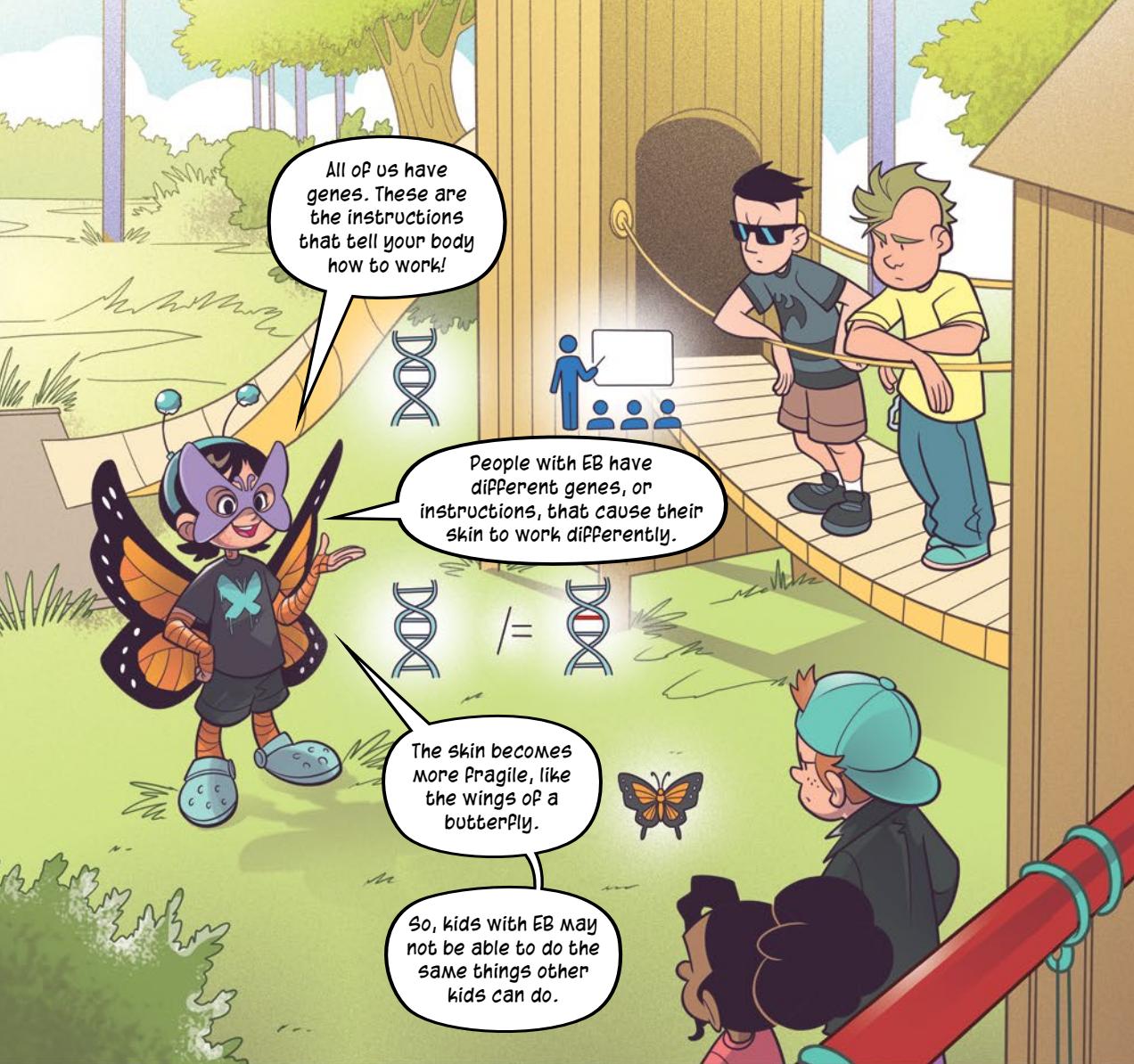


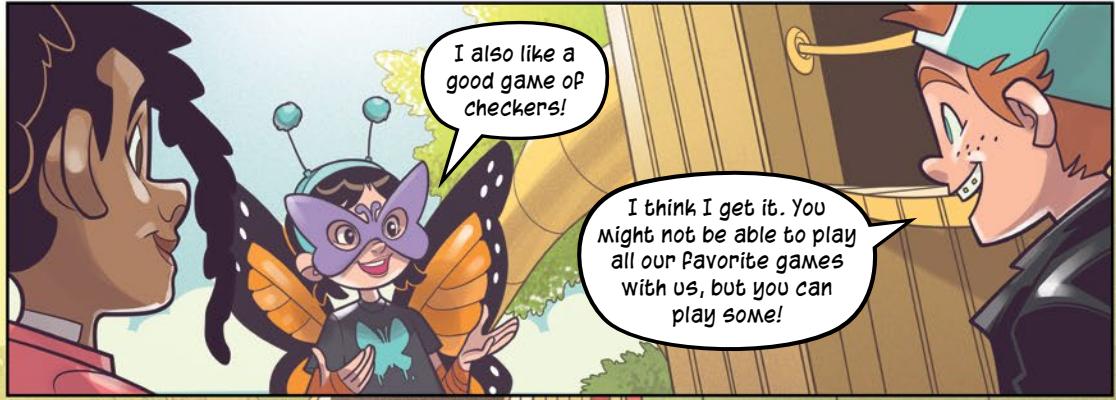
My wings are flexible and light-weight, helping me to move quickly...



And my antenna is a special receiver for electromagnetic and radio waves...







Underneath the slide...

See you later, butterfly girl!

Excuse me, stranger, do you have a second?

Yes! My name is Sienna by the way.

Sienna, my sources tell me you are a member of The Butterfly Buddiez. Take this!

What is it?

It's a Butterfly Walkie Talkie! Press the wing on the side whenever you need my help.

I will. Thank you!

I must leave you now!



Later in
Mr. B's car...

That certainly
was a quick
play date!

Yes, Dad.
Superheroes
always work
fast.

Did you say,
"superheroes"?

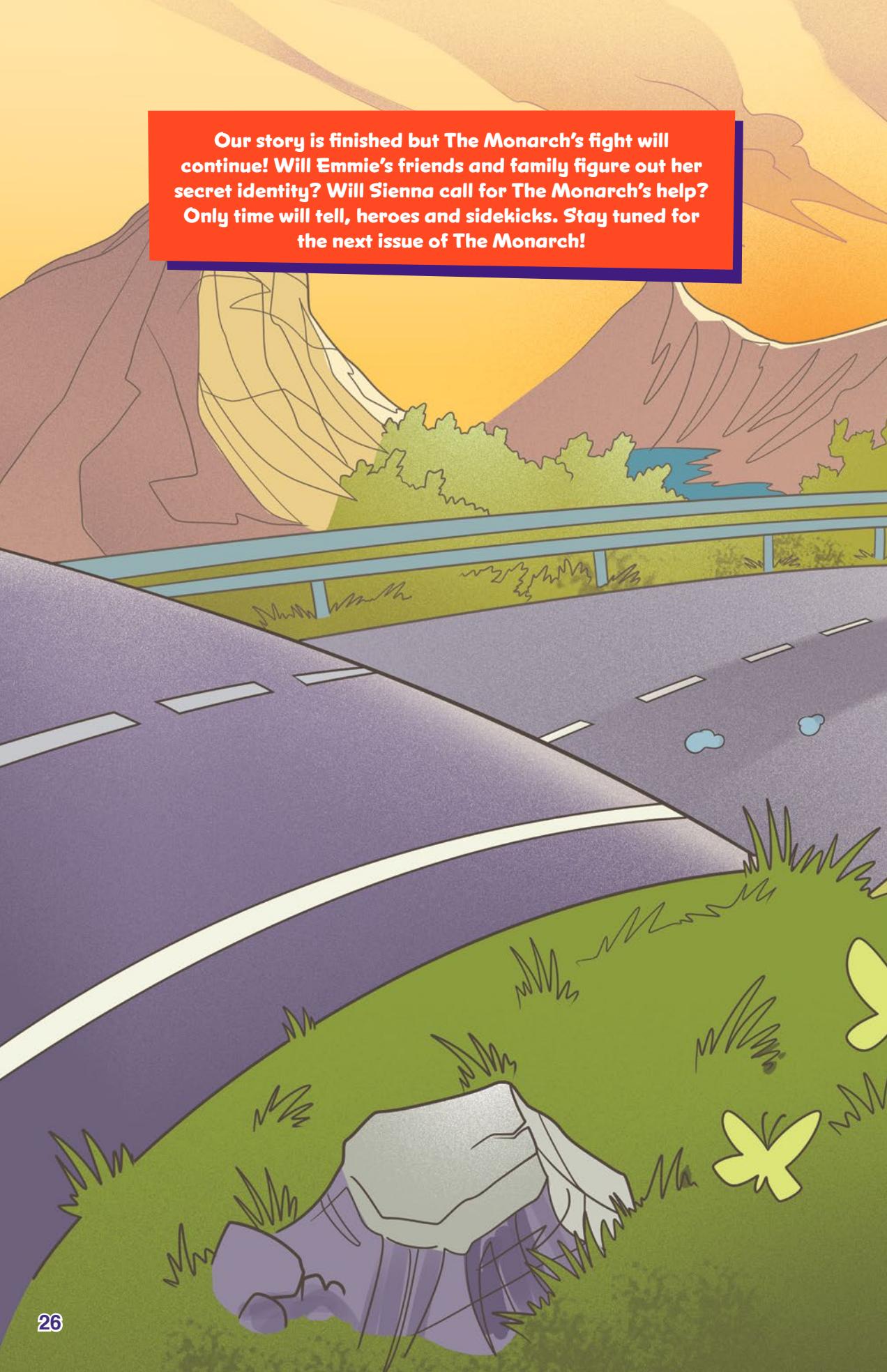
You didn't hear about it yet? A superhero
just visited Fluttervale park. It must be
all over the news by now!

I didn't hear
anything.
What is this
superhero's
name?

She did not
say. But I
believe her
name is...The
Monarch!



Our story is finished but The Monarch's fight will continue! Will Emmie's friends and family figure out her secret identity? Will Sienna call for The Monarch's help? Only time will tell, heroes and sidekicks. Stay tuned for the next issue of The Monarch!





Thank you for tagging along with me on our adventure!

As you can see, my friends and family helped me to become the hero I needed to be and, with a little imagination, we can all find a way to help others.

I hope you learned more about yourself today and I hope you know that you too are a superhero, who can inspire the whole world! See you next time!

THE MONARCH



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