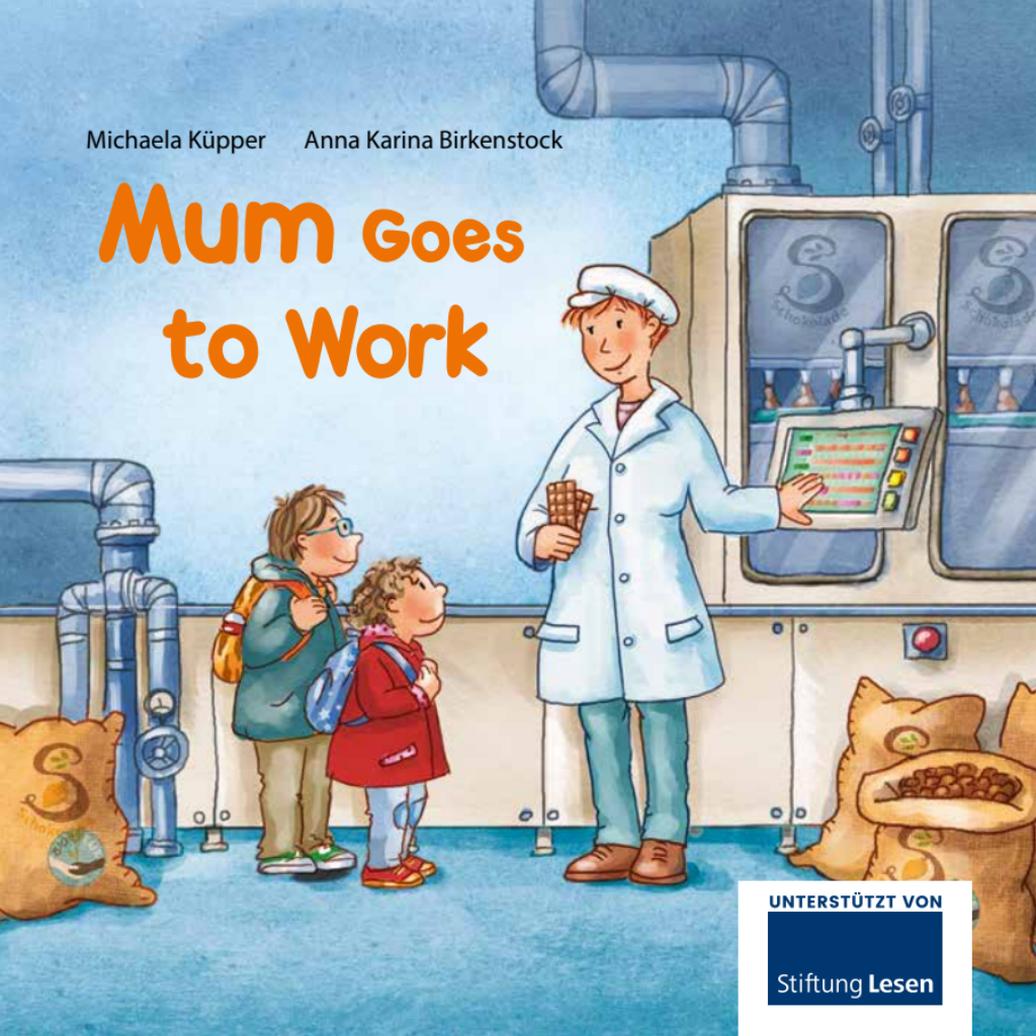


Michaela Küpper Anna Karina Birkenstock

Mum Goes to Work



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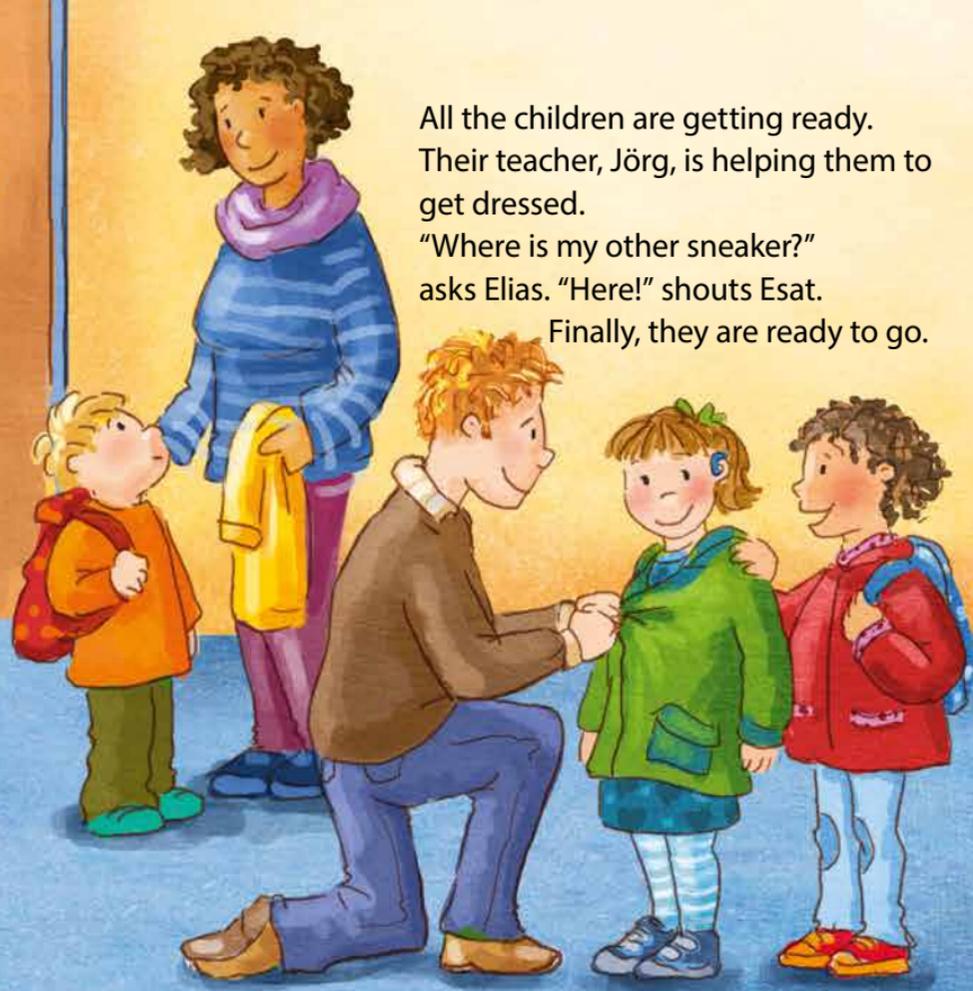
A story by Michaela Küpper
Illustrations by Anna Karina Birkenstock



This book belongs to: _____



Today is a big day! The Sunshine day care centre is going on a trip to the chocolate factory. All the children are happy, especially Isabella and Elias. Their mum has recently started working at the chocolate factory and now they can go and visit her!



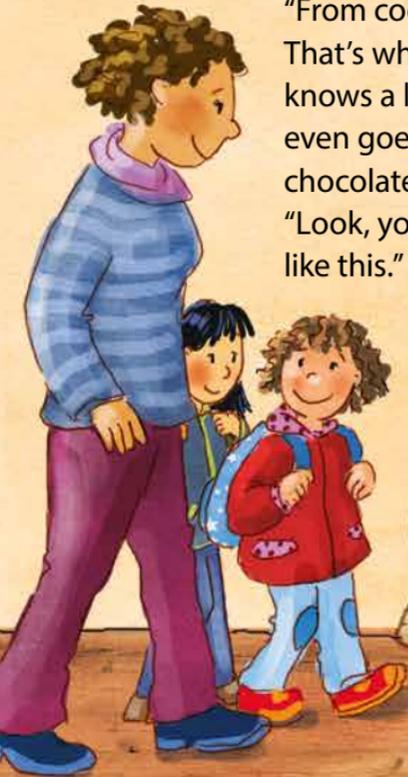
All the children are getting ready. Their teacher, Jörg, is helping them to get dressed. "Where is my other sneaker?" asks Elias. "Here!" shouts Esat. Finally, they are ready to go.

Here comes the bus. All aboard! There are a lot of people on the bus. "We'll go through to the back," says Jörg. Isabella sits with Maria, Justin and Darja. Elias shares a seat with his friend Esat.

The bus is driving through the city. Isabella asks: "Are we almost there?" "Two more stops," Jörg answers. The bus drops them off in front of the chocolate factory. "I wonder if we'll be allowed to try some of the chocolate," Esat ponders.



There's Ms. Özdemir already! She will show the children around. Ms. Özdemir asks: "Do you know what chocolate is made of?" "From cocoa beans," Isabella answers. That's what her mum told her. Isabella's mum knows a lot about chocolate. She sometimes even goes on trips to learn even more about chocolate. "That's right!" Ms. Özdemir praises. "Look, you get the beans from a cocoa fruit like this."





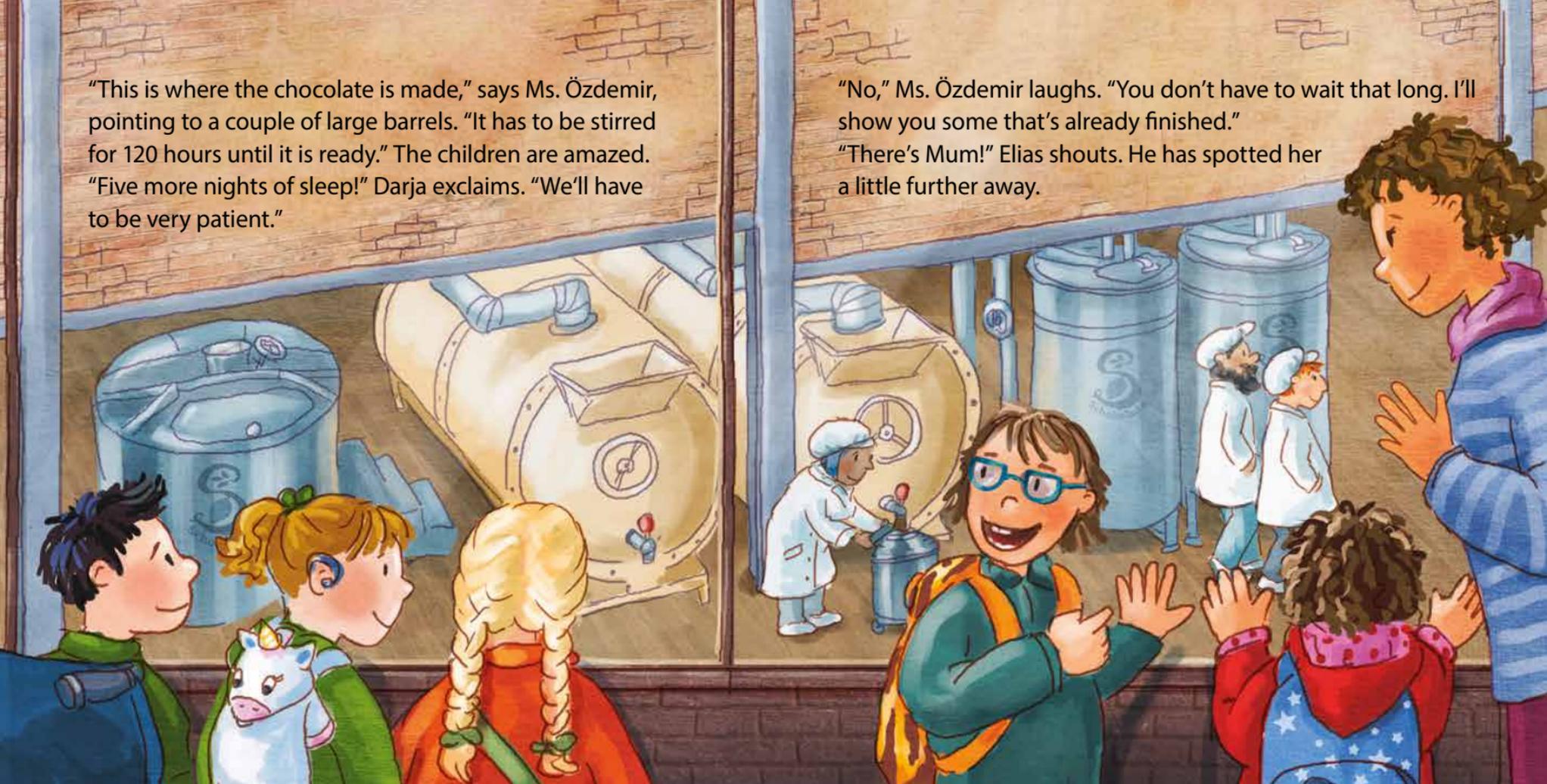
"The cocoa beans arrive here in big bags," Ms. Özdemir explains. "They are very heavy, so they can only be moved with forklifts."

"I'd like to drive a forklift like that one day!" Maria exclaims enthusiastically.

Ms. Özdemir leads the children to a large machine. "Here, the beans are cleaned first. To do this, they are shaken thoroughly. That's quite loud."

"This is where the chocolate is made," says Ms. Özdemir, pointing to a couple of large barrels. "It has to be stirred for 120 hours until it is ready." The children are amazed. "Five more nights of sleep!" Darja exclaims. "We'll have to be very patient."

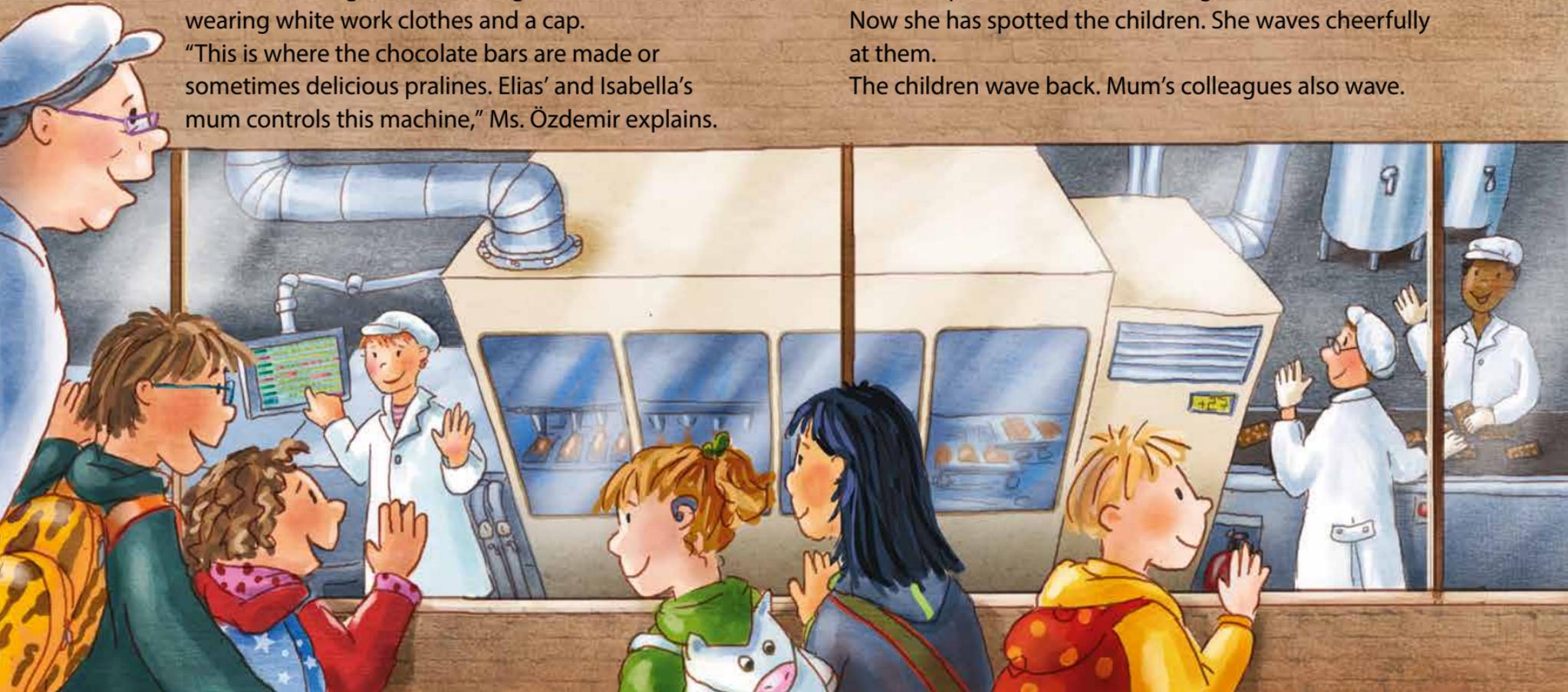
"No," Ms. Özdemir laughs. "You don't have to wait that long. I'll show you some that's already finished." "There's Mum!" Elias shouts. He has spotted her a little further away.



Mum is standing in front of a big machine. She is wearing white work clothes and a cap. "This is where the chocolate bars are made or sometimes delicious pralines. Elias' and Isabella's mum controls this machine," Ms. Özdemir explains.

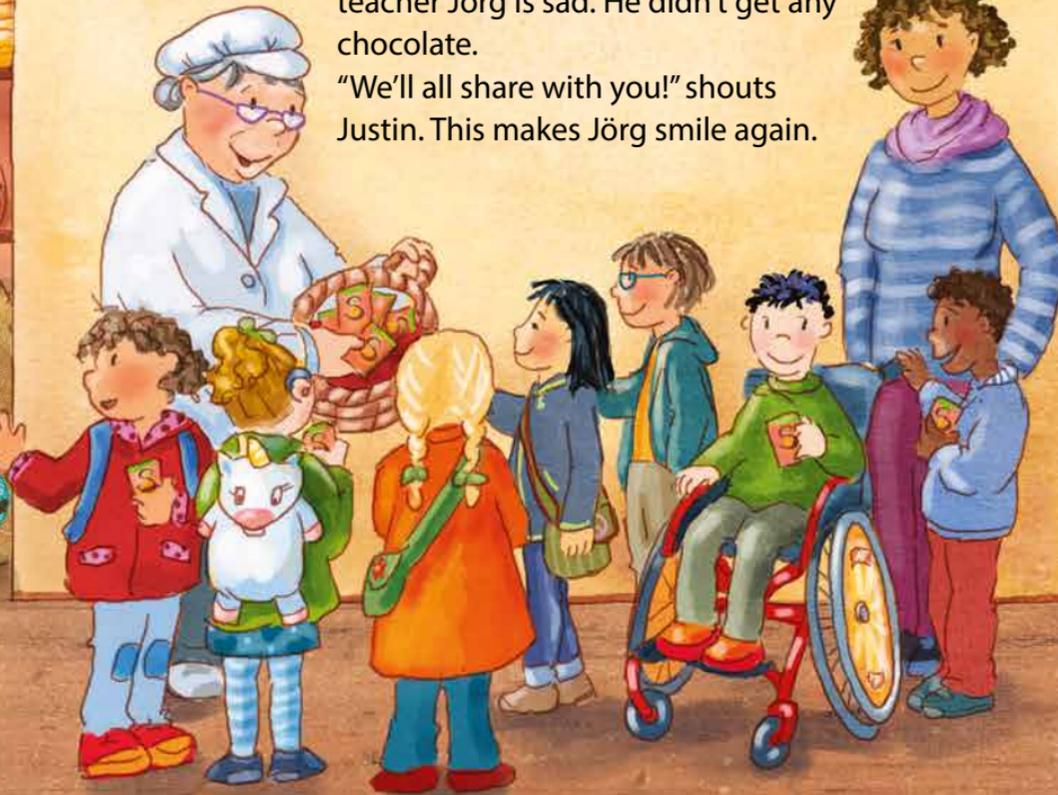
Elias is impressed with all the things his mum can do! Now she has spotted the children. She waves cheerfully at them.

The children wave back. Mum's colleagues also wave.





"Now you have seen how chocolate is made," says Ms. Özdemir. As a farewell gift, she gives each child a beautifully wrapped chocolate bar. "My mum made it," Elias announces proudly.



"I'm sure it will taste especially good then," Esat says. All the children are happy, only teacher Jörg is sad. He didn't get any chocolate. "We'll all share with you!" shouts Justin. This makes Jörg smile again.



The children have returned to the Sunshine day care centre. "Let's build a chocolate machine!" Maria suggests. Immediately they get started. It turns out to be a great machine. "What does your mum do?" Isabella asks her friend Darja.

"My mum works in a laboratory," Darja explains. "She examines different things. She has a microscope for that. When she looks through it, she can see everything large and clear. "It's great how many different jobs there are!" Elias says happily.



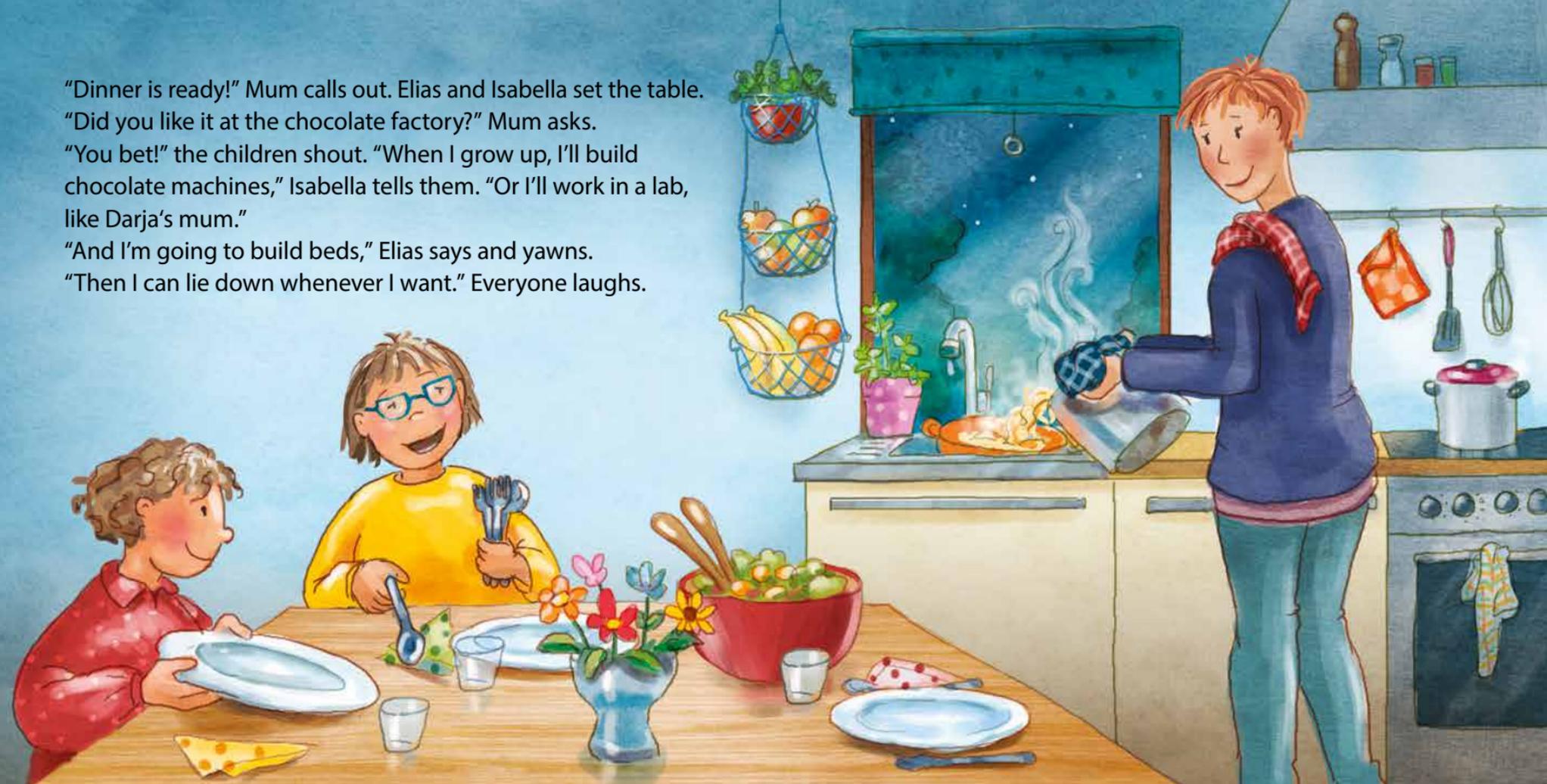
Mum has finished work and is picking up Isabella and Elias at the day care centre. Immediately all the children come running. "Can you make hazelnut chocolate too?" Maria asks. Mum nods. "Yes, I can make that too." "Are you allowed to eat the chocolates on your breaks?" Justin inquires. "I prefer to eat an apple at break time," Mum replies. She asks Elias and Isabella, "So what do you want to eat tonight?"

"Spaghetti bolognese!"

"Good, then we'll go shopping now."



"Dinner is ready!" Mum calls out. Elias and Isabella set the table.
"Did you like it at the chocolate factory?" Mum asks.
"You bet!" the children shout. "When I grow up, I'll build chocolate machines," Isabella tells them. "Or I'll work in a lab, like Darja's mum."
"And I'm going to build beds," Elias says and yawns.
"Then I can lie down whenever I want." Everyone laughs.



After the children have brushed their teeth, Mum puts Elias and Isabella to bed. "I don't have to work this weekend. So let's go on a nice trip," she suggests. "How about a picnic at the playground?"

"Yes please!", the children cheer. "That will be fun!" Mum reads them a bedtime story. Isabella and Elias snuggle up in their beds. They are happy and content. What a wonderful day!



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V.i.S.d.P.:

Sabine Schwarz

Jörg Reiner

Monika Teriet

90328 Nürnberg

www.arbeitsagentur.de

www.einfachvorlesen.de

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Today is a big day: Isabella and Elias get to visit their mum at work in the chocolate factory. They learn how chocolate is made and which machines Mum uses to make it.
Amazing what Mum can do.



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