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Mum and Dad Go to Work



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Mum and Dad Go to Work

A story by Michaela Küpper
Illustrations by Anna Karina Birkenstock



This book belongs to: _____

Today is a big day! Isabella and Elias are going on a trip to visit their mum at work. Mum has got a new job. She works at a chocolate factory. The children are very excited. Elias impatiently puts his cup in the dishwasher.

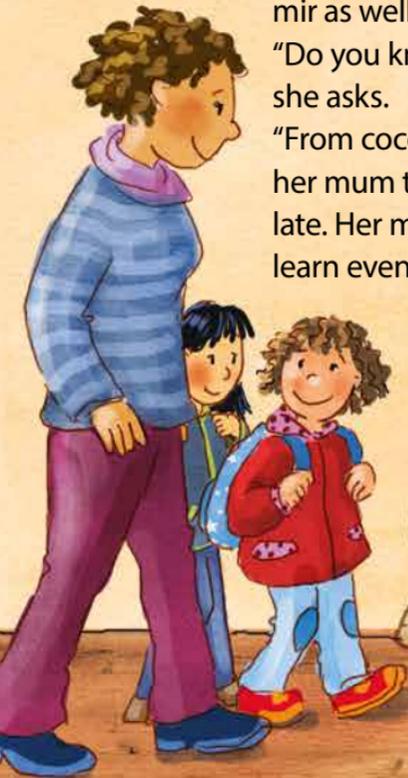


"You'll probably get hungry later," says Dad.
"Then we'll eat chocolate," Isabella exclaims.
Dad smiles. "I'd better pack you some sandwiches
and then we'll take the bus to see Mum at
the factory."

They've finally arrived! The children from the Sunshine day care centre, teacher Jörg and his colleague Monika are already waiting. Ms. Özdemir as well! She will show the children around.

"Do you know what chocolate is made of?" she asks.

"From cocoa beans," Isabella answers. That's what her mum told her. She knows a lot about chocolate. Her mum even sometimes goes on trips to learn even more about chocolate.





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

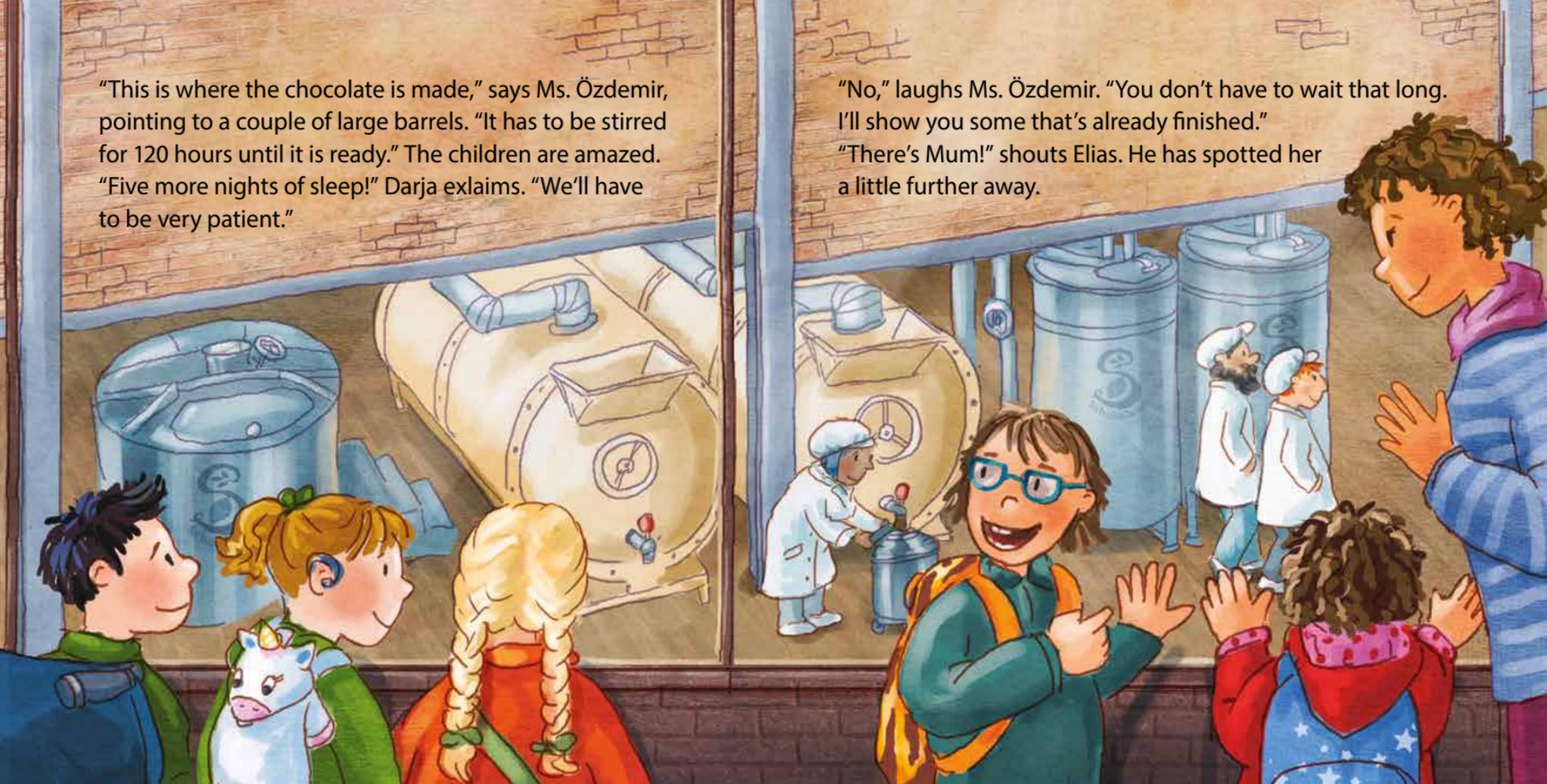
"I'd like to drive a forklift like that one day!" Maria exclaims enthusiastically.

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," laughs Ms. Özdemir. "You don't have to wait that long. I'll show you some that's already finished." "There's Mum!" shouts Elias. He has spotted her a little further away.



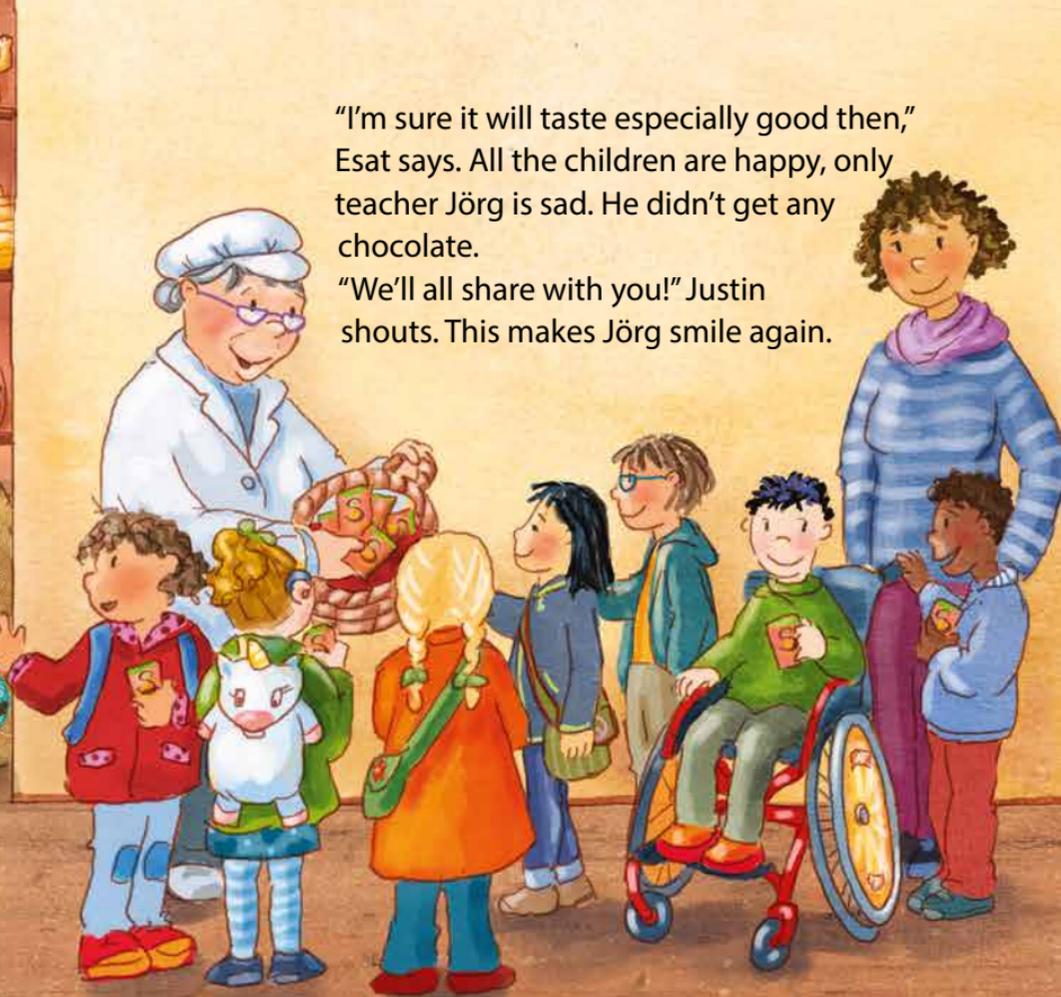
Mum is standing in front of a big machine. She is wearing white work clothes and a cap. "This is where the chocolate bars are made or sometimes delicious pralines. Elias' and Isabella's mum controls this machine," Ms. Özdemir explains.

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!" Justin shouts. This makes Jörg smile again.



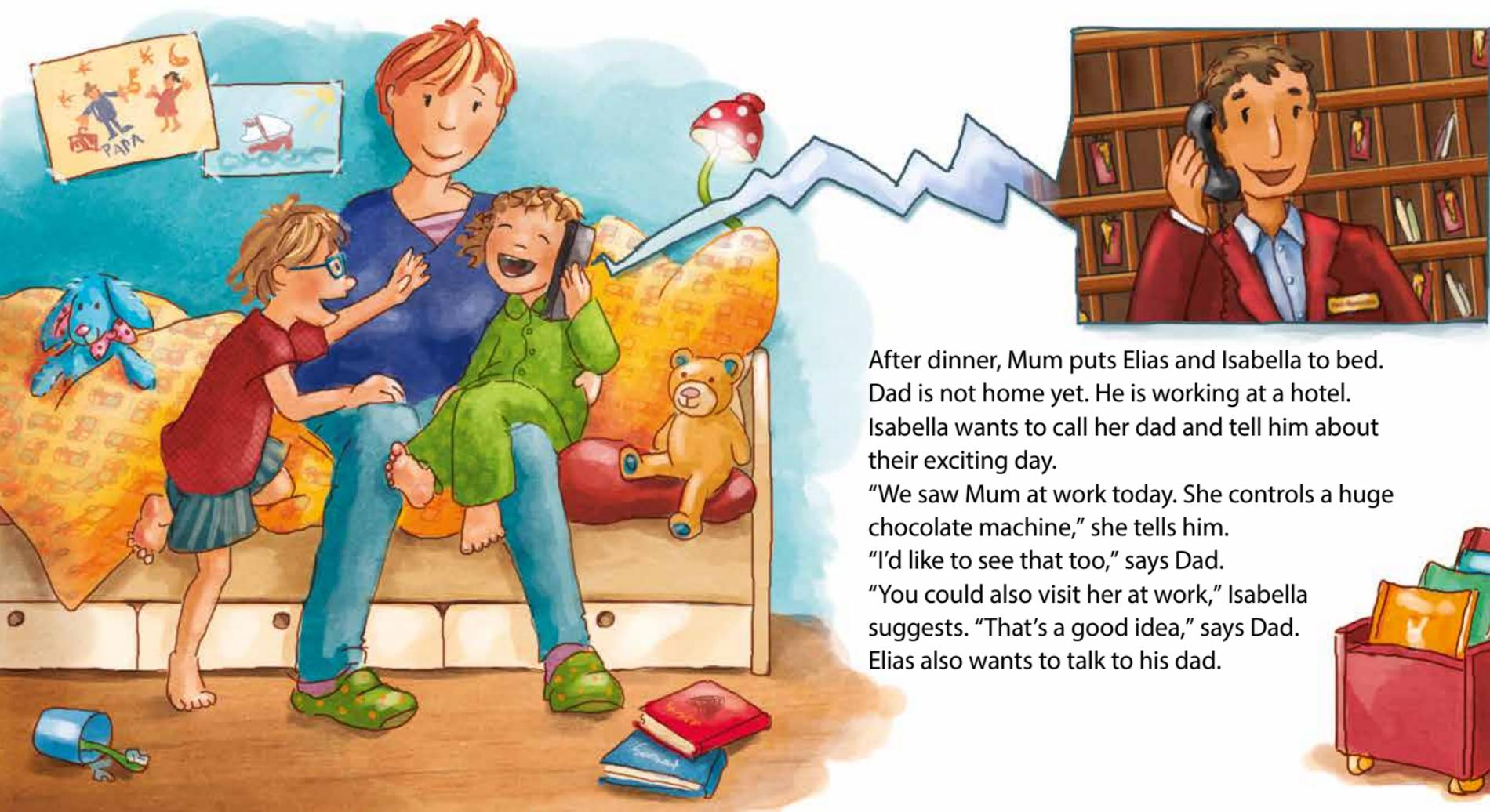
The children have returned to the Sunshine day care centre. "Let's build a chocolate machine!" Maria suggests. Immediately they get started. It turns out to be a great machine. "What does your mum do?" Isabella asks her friend Darja.

"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 picks up Isabella and Elias at the day care centre. Together they go home on the bus. "Did you like it at the chocolate factory?" Mum asks. "You bet we did!" the children shout. Mum is happy about that. "What do you want to eat tonight?" "Spaghetti bolognese and salad," Elias suggests. "And mum's chocolate for dessert," Isabelle adds. "Agreed," says mum. "But only one piece each."





After dinner, Mum puts Elias and Isabella to bed. Dad is not home yet. He is working at a hotel. Isabella wants to call her dad and tell him about their exciting day.

"We saw Mum at work today. She controls a huge chocolate machine," she tells him.

"I'd like to see that too," says Dad.

"You could also visit her at work," Isabella suggests. "That's a good idea," says Dad. Elias also wants to talk to his dad.



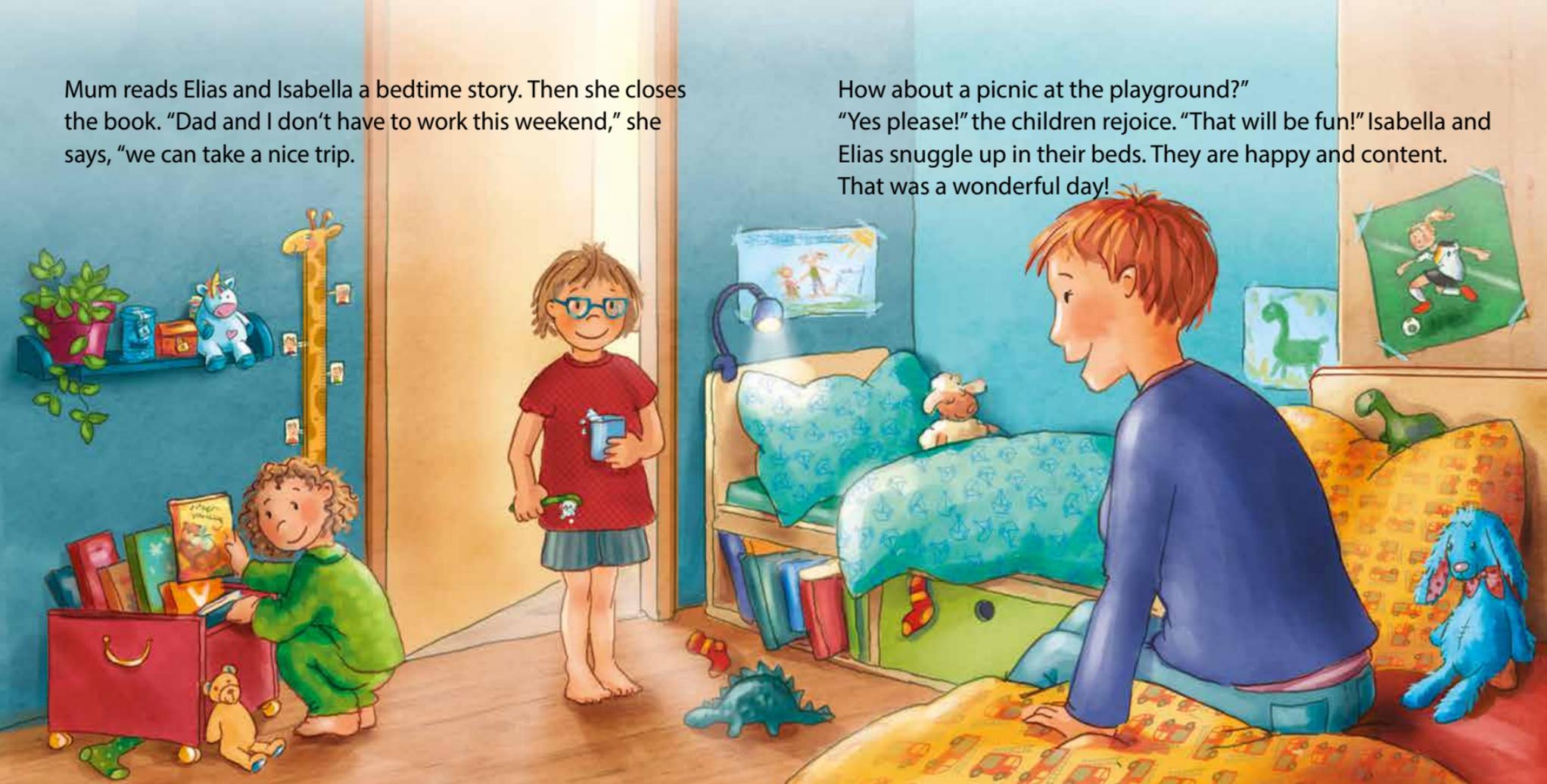
"Hi Dad. What are you doing right now?"
"I was just helping some guests. They come from another country and don't know their way around here very well."
"Do they understand you?" inquires Elias.
"Yes, because I speak their language," Dad replies.



"It's great that you can speak so many languages," Elias is pleased.
"It's really great fun," Dad agrees. "Some new guests are arriving right now. Good night, Elias. Good night, Isabella."

Mum reads Elias and Isabella a bedtime story. Then she closes the book. "Dad and I don't have to work this weekend," she says, "we can take a nice trip.

How about a picnic at the playground?"
"Yes please!" the children rejoice. "That will be fun!" Isabella and Elias snuggle up in their beds. They are happy and content. That was a wonderful day!



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Today is a great day: Isabella and Elias get to visit their mum at work in the chocolate factory. The children learn how chocolate is made and which machines Mum uses to make it. Dad takes Elias and Isabella to the factory. He works in a hotel and meets lots of people every day. Amazing what Mum and Dad can do.



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