

The Best of Friends-

A story of Friendship and Alopecia



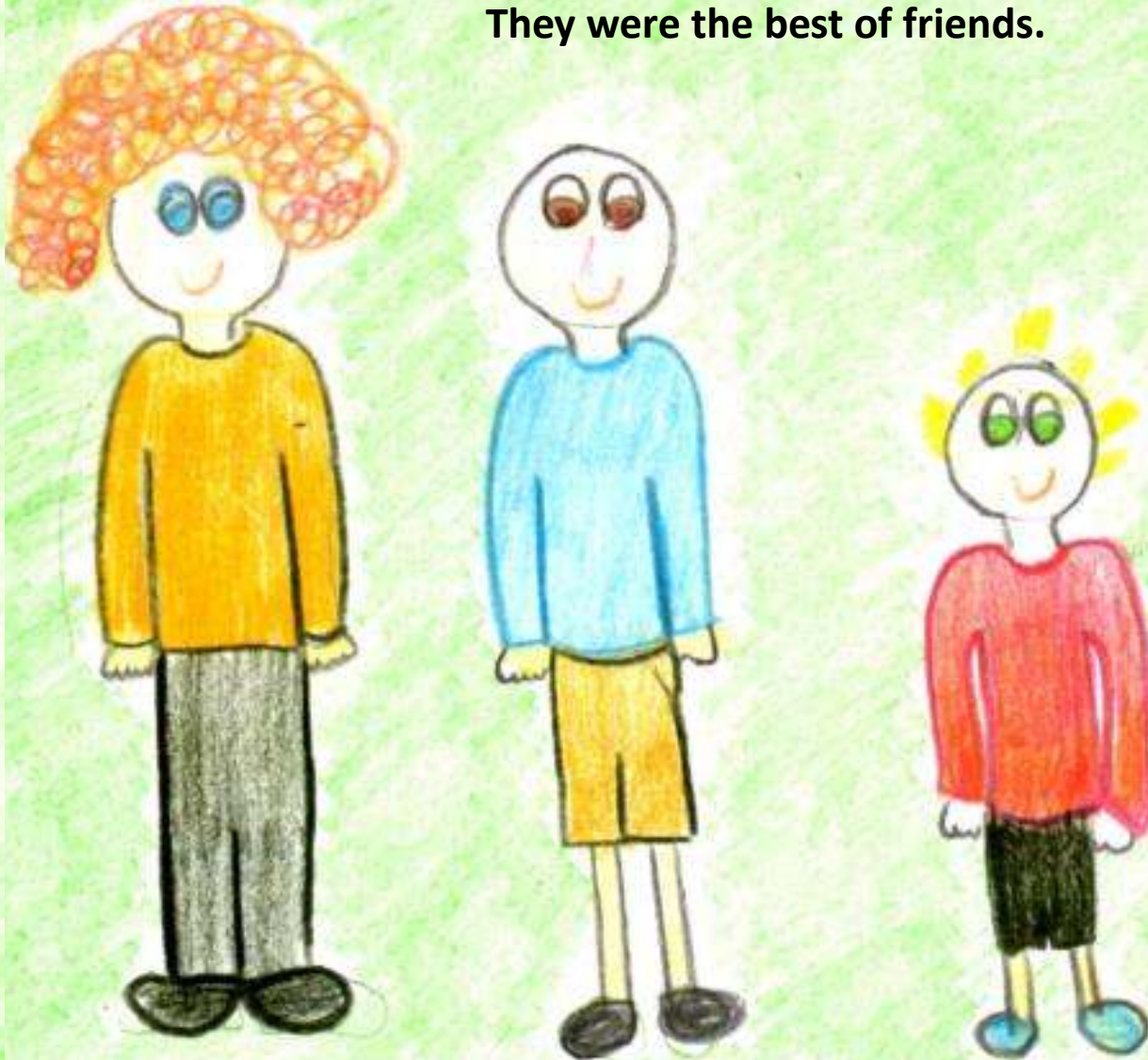
Written by Katie Cromie

Illustrated by Lily Cromie & Genevieve Broadbent

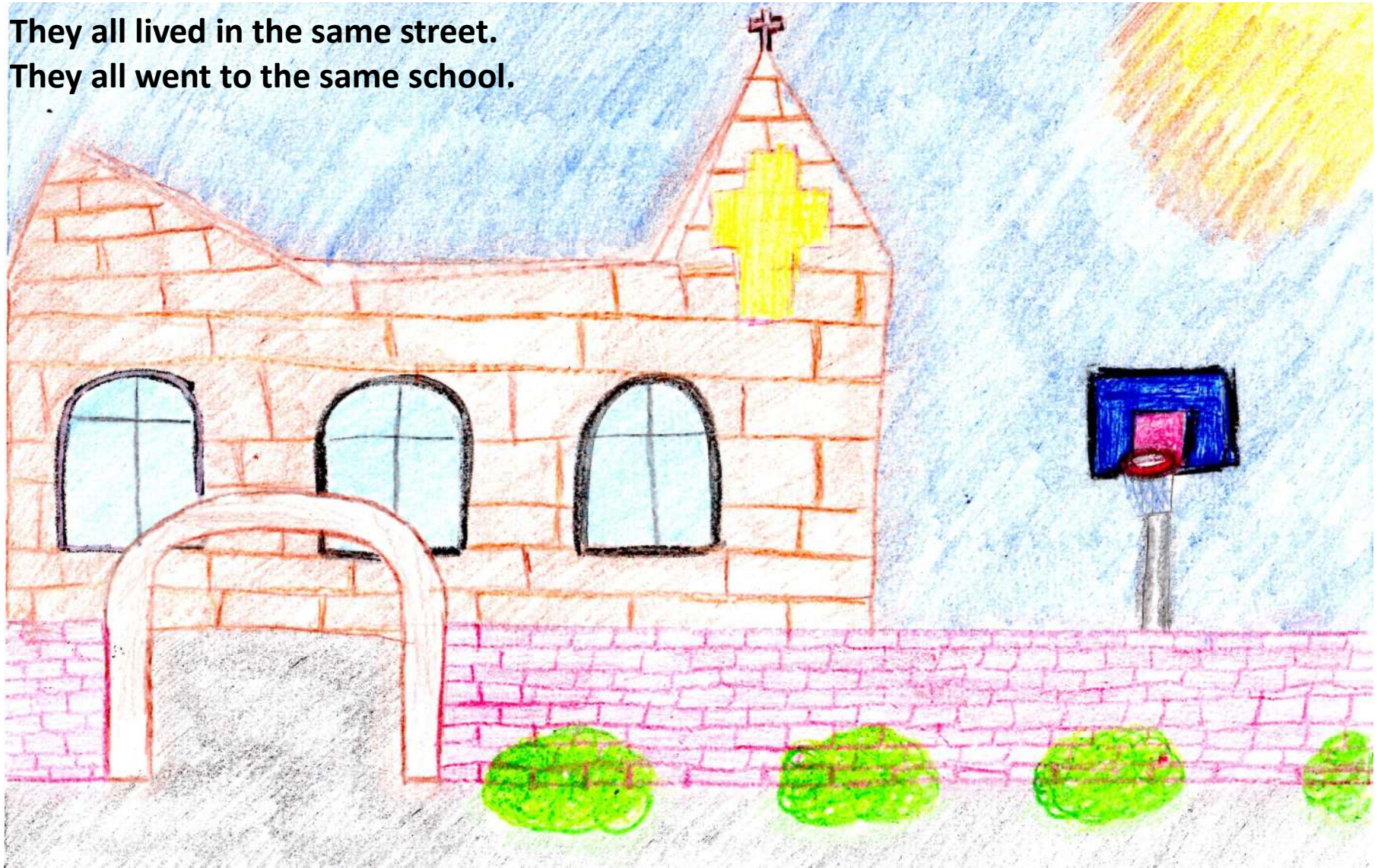
Copyright © 2016

This work is copyright . Apart from any use permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced by any process, nor may any other exclusive right be exercised, without the written permission of Katherine Louise Cromie, Eltham, Australia 2016.

**This is a story about three boys from Brisbane;
Hairy Harry, Patchy Pete and Bald Benny.
They were the best of friends.**

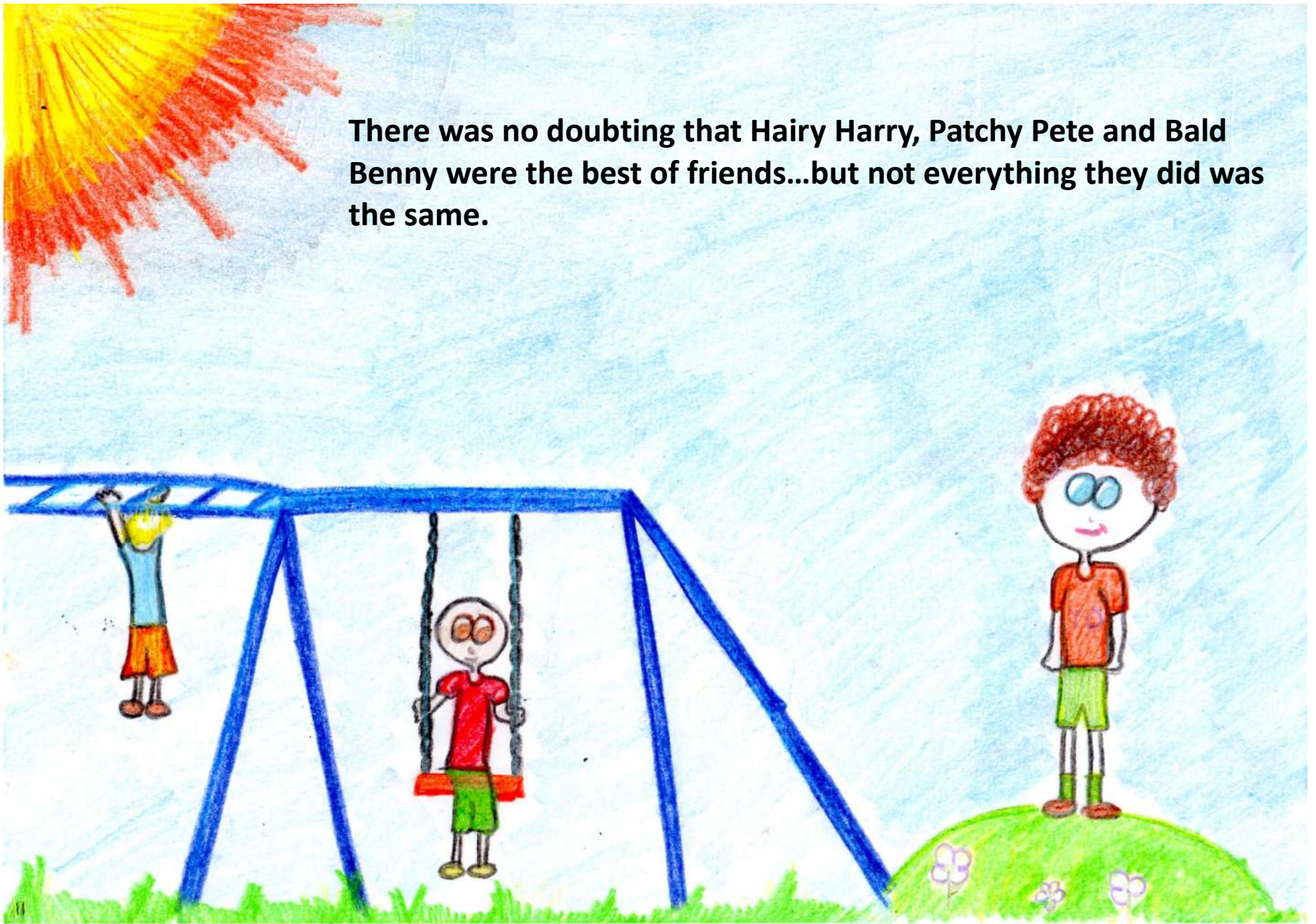


**They all lived in the same street.
They all went to the same school.**

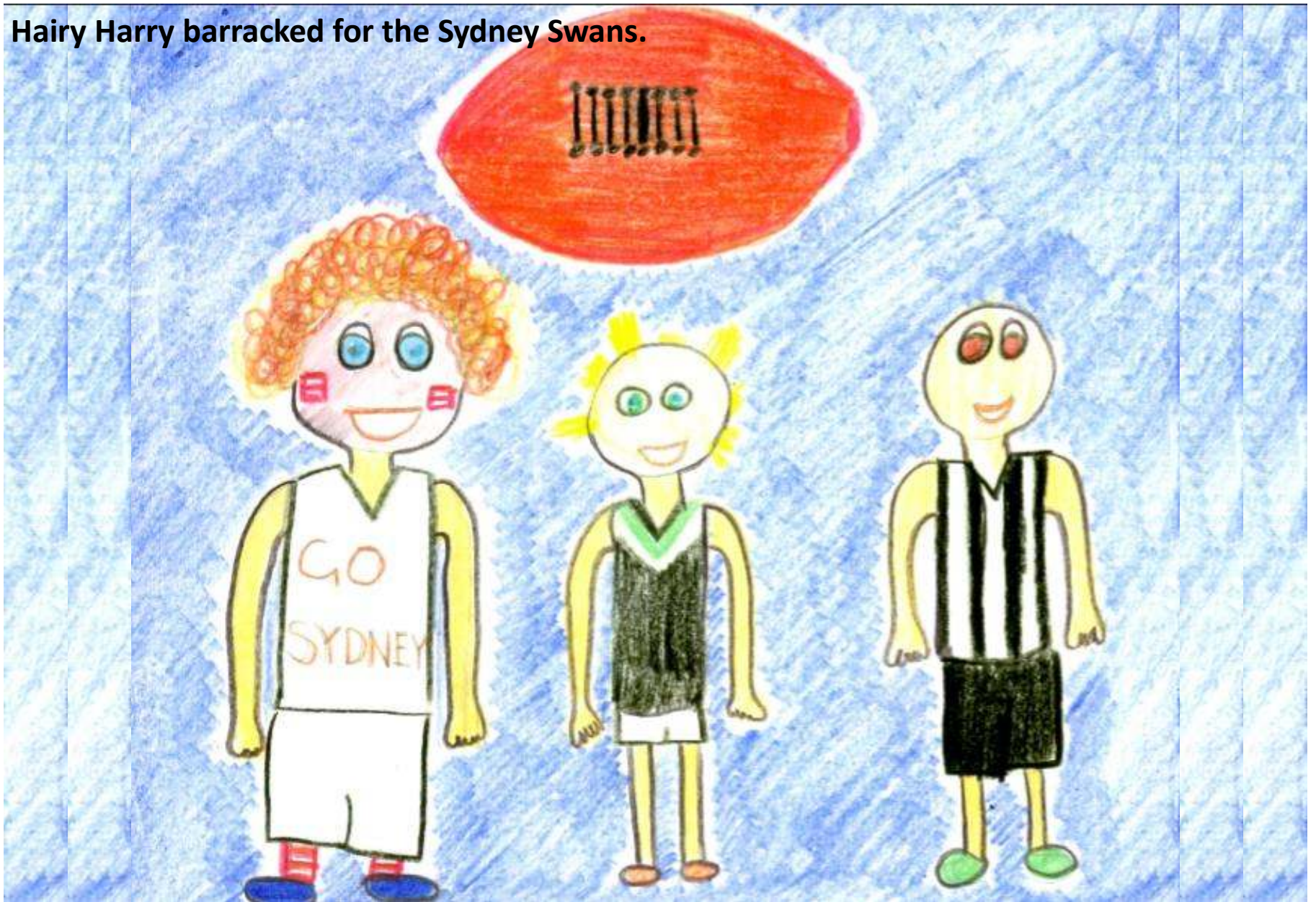


**They all played on the same basketball team and they even all liked the same food-
Pepperoni Pizza was their favourite!**

There was no doubting that Hairy Harry, Patchy Pete and Bald Benny were the best of friends...but not everything they did was the same.

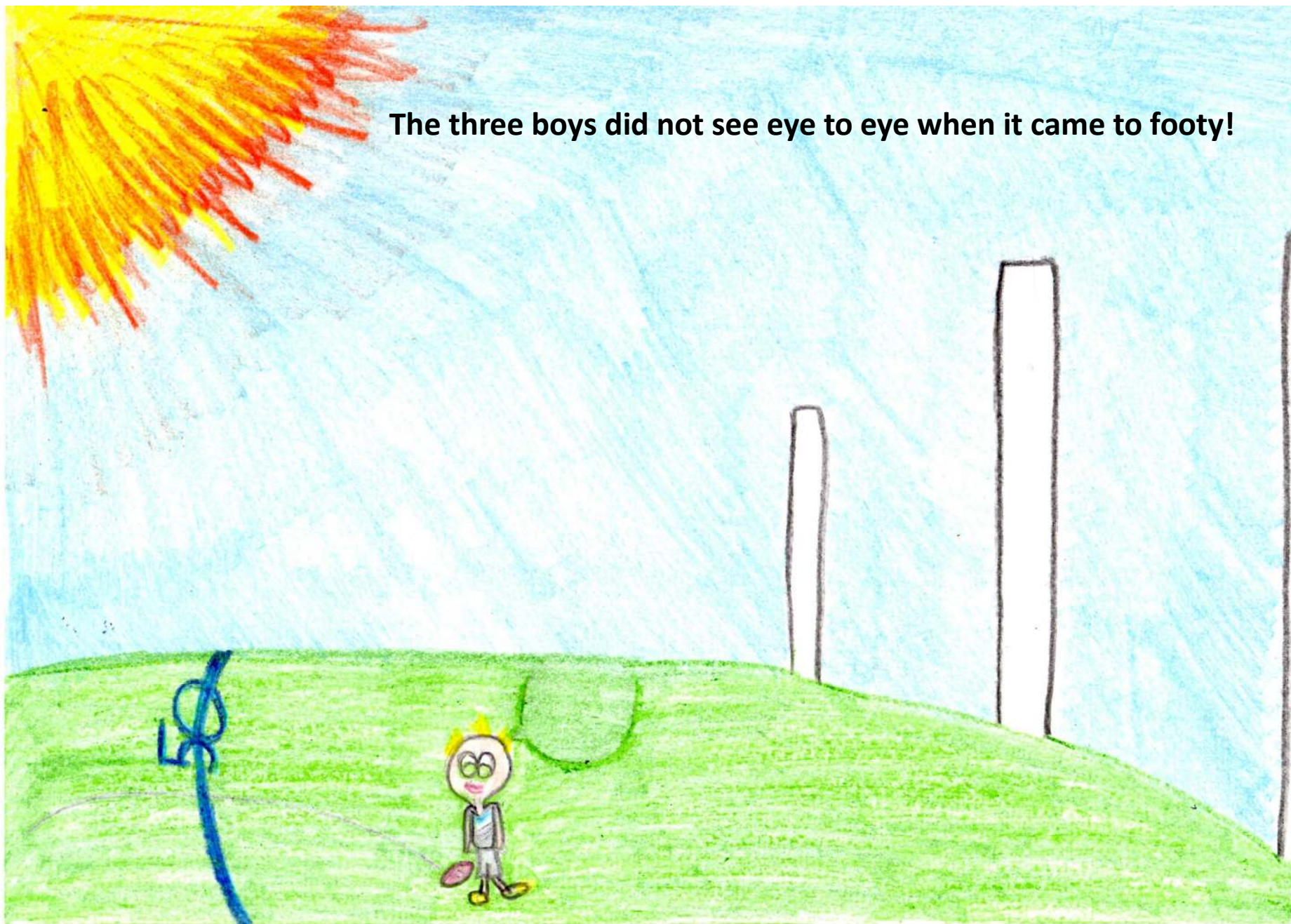


Hairy Harry barracked for the Sydney Swans.

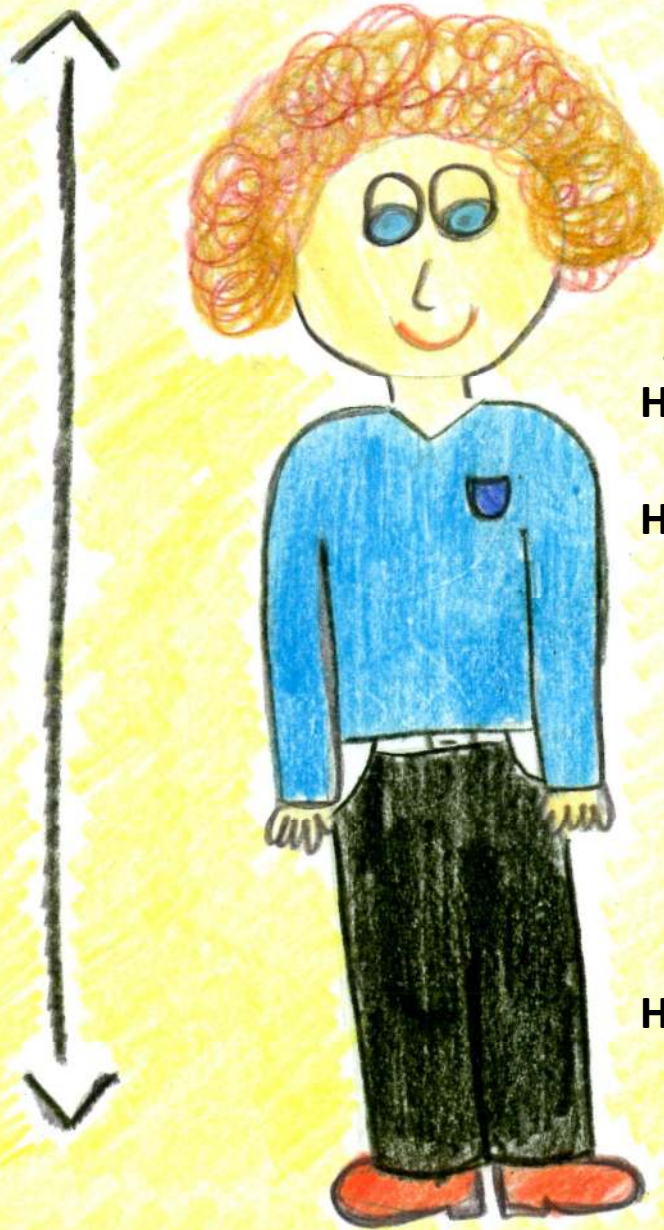


Patchy Pete barracked for Port Adelaide and Bald Benny just loved the Magpies.

The three boys did not see eye to eye when it came to footy!



The 3 boys did not look like each other at all either.



Hairy Harry was really tall.

He could rebound a ball like no one else!

He had curly brown hair...and lots of it too!

Patchy Pete was short and skinny, but boy was he quick on the basketball court!



Patchy Pete had fluffy blonde hair with a few bits missing. Patchy Pete had Alopecia Areata which meant that sometimes his hair fell out all on its own.

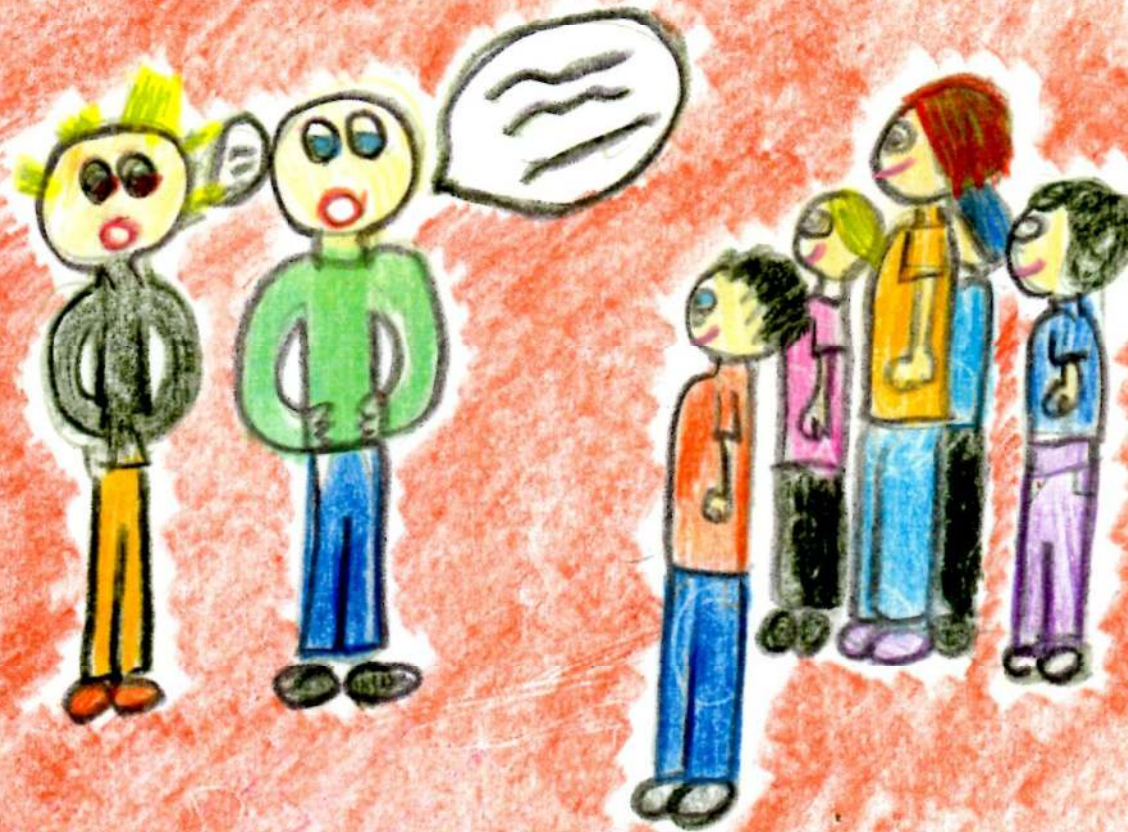
Bald Benny was just your typical, average height but was amazing at doing tricks with the basketball!



Bald Benny had no hair, no hair at all. Bald Benny had Alopecia Universalis. When he was younger his hair started to fall out. Bit by bit, more and more hair fell out until he had no hair left at all.

Sometimes Patchy Pete and Bald Benny felt a bit worried that their hair looked different.

But Patchy Pete and Bald Benny let their friends know that Alopecia didn't hurt, they weren't sick and you couldn't catch it like you can catch a cold.



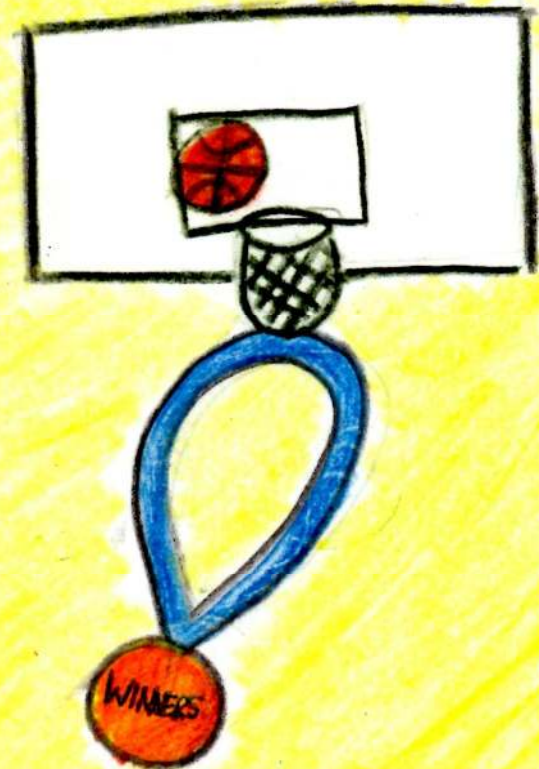
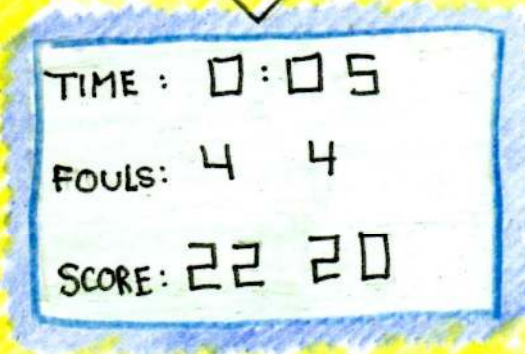
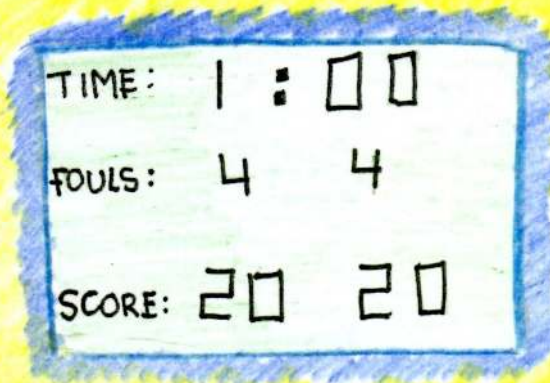
Soon their friends realised that having lots of hair, patchy hair or no hair at all was just like having blue eyes or brown eyes, being tall or being short- it made no difference at all.



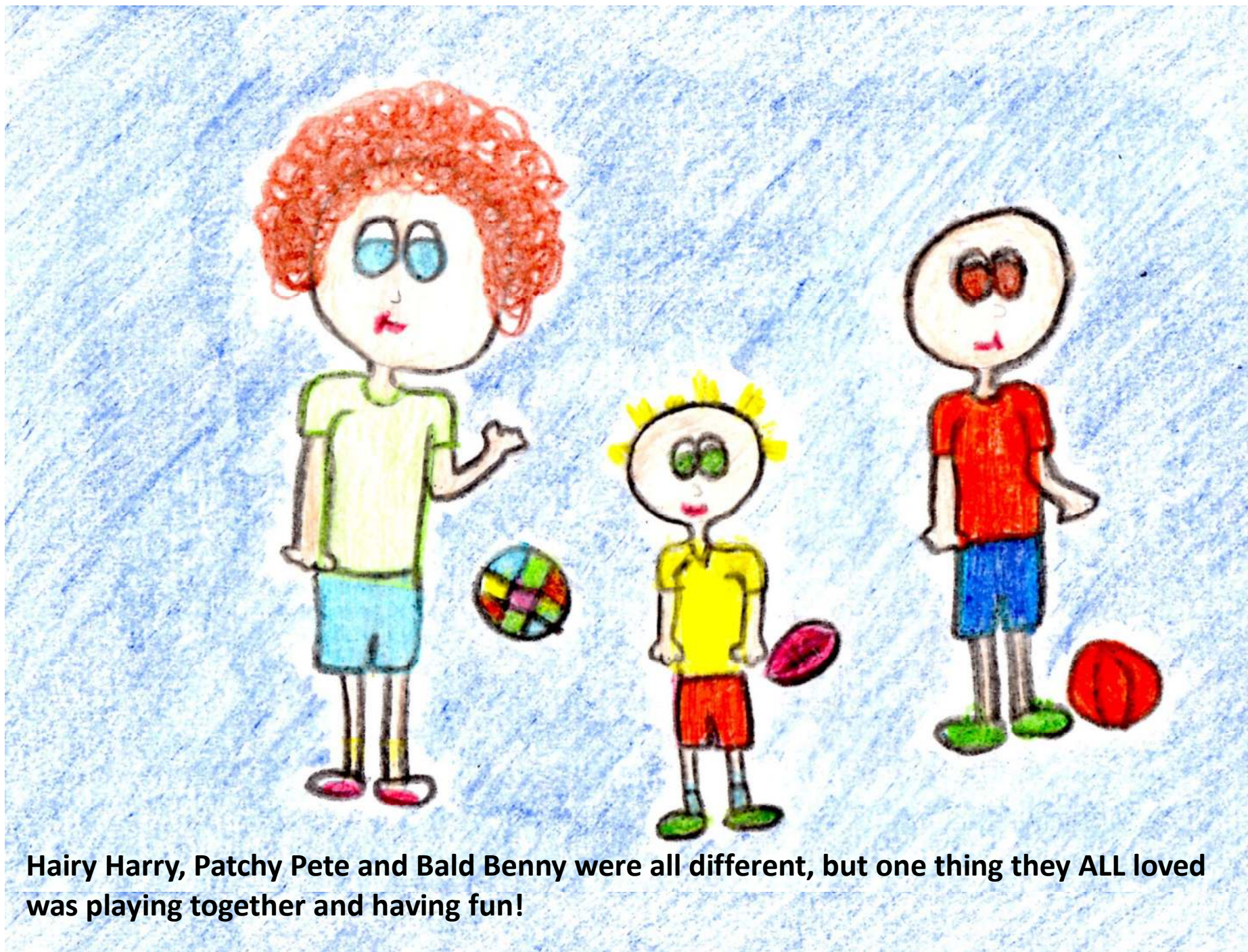
The boys made it into the district grand final for basketball but they were playing the Wildcats, the toughest team in town. The scores were tied with only a minute to go...



...Wildcats missed a shot, Hairy Harry rebounded the ball, passed it to Bald Benny who made one of his famous round the back moves to Patchy Pete who darted up the court and scored.



The boys had worked together and won the match!



Hairy Harry, Patchy Pete and Bald Benny were all different, but one thing they ALL loved was playing together and having fun!