



Little Mole cannot wait to see his special star. Big Mole said it would point him to awesome things. The young mole goes in search of his star and finds it in the most unexpected place.

Join Little Mole on his journey to independence in this starry tale about discovering one's place in the world.



"...a must-read for children of all ages... comes highly recommended."

~ Readers' Favorite

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Emily Lim-Leh

Little Mole's Awesome Star

Marshall Cavendish Children

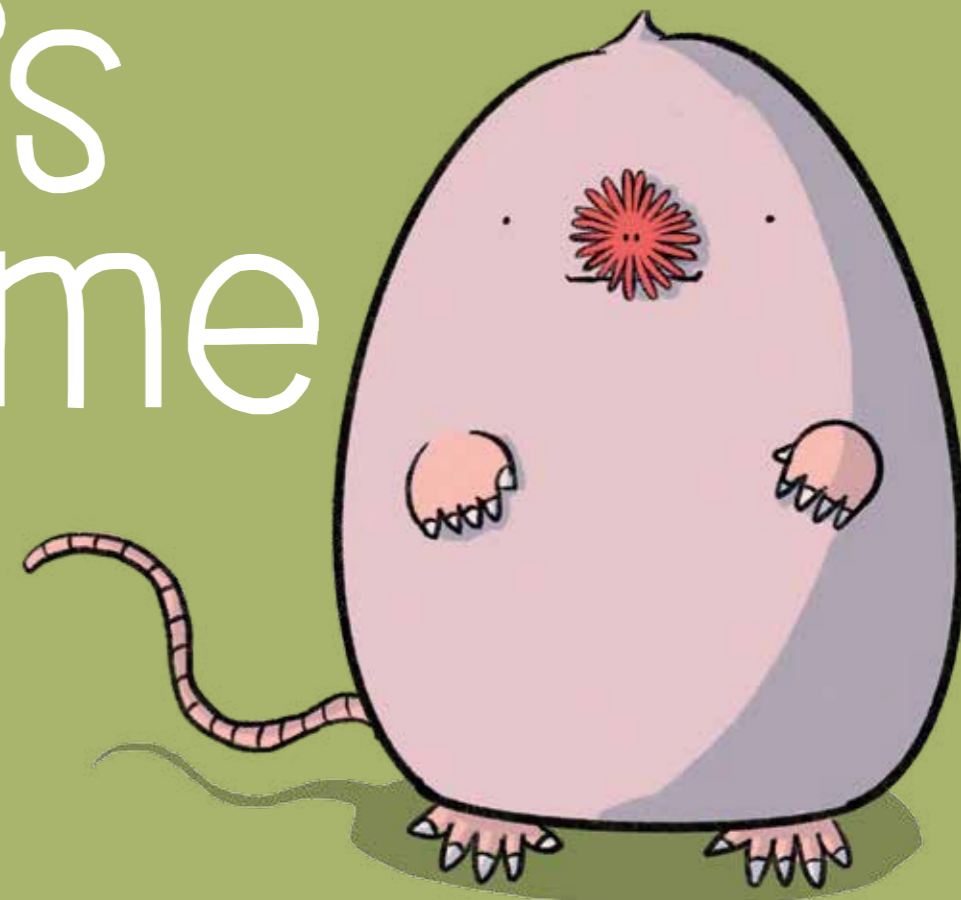
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From the Creators of *Little Godwit Finds His Wings*

Little Mole's Awesome Star

Emily Lim-Leh

Illustrated by John Lim



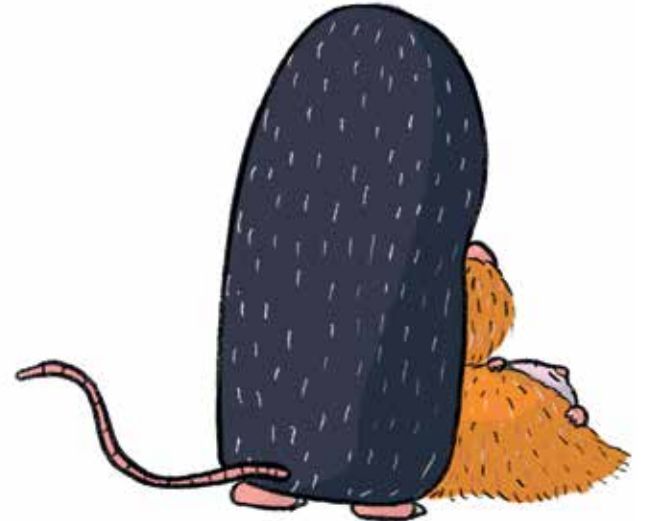
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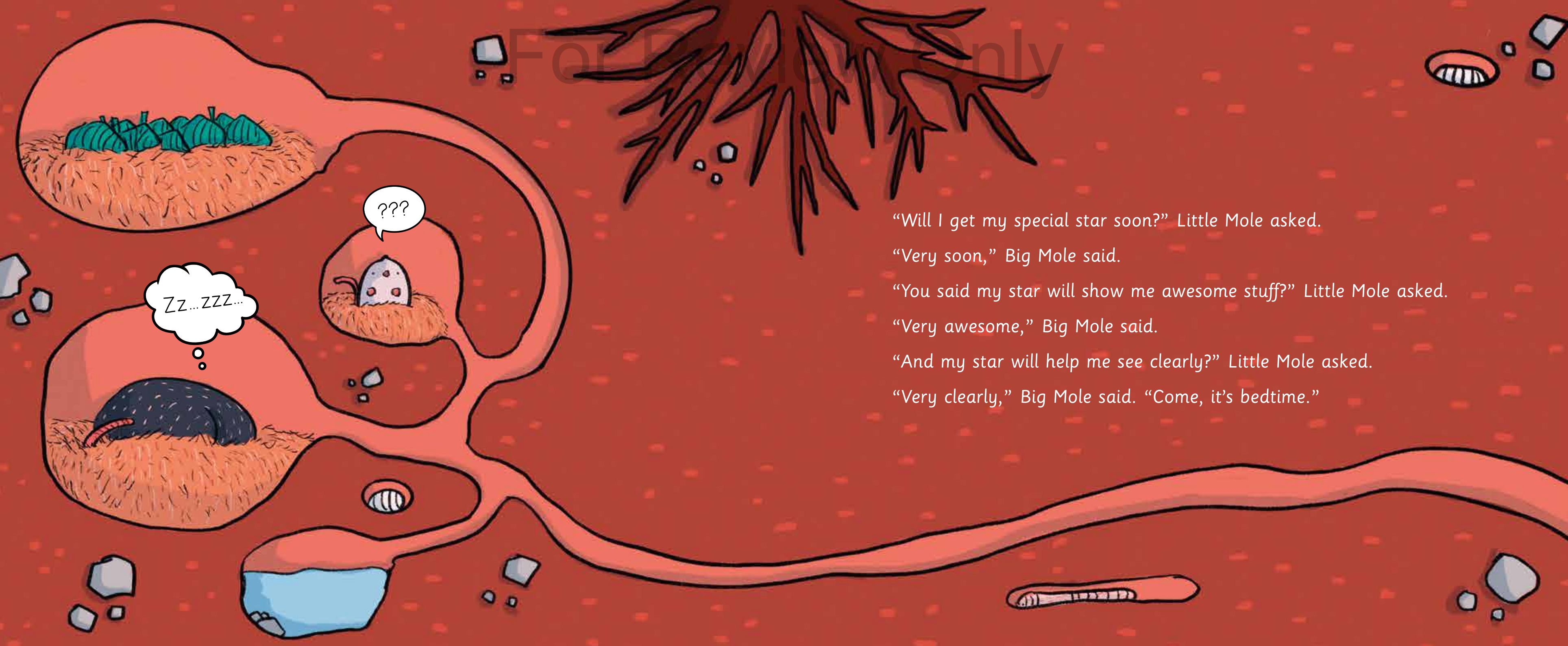
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Children





“Will I get my special star soon?” Little Mole asked.


“Very soon,” Big Mole said.

“You said my star will show me awesome stuff?” Little Mole asked.


“Very awesome,” Big Mole said.

“And my star will help me see clearly?” Little Mole asked.

“Very clearly,” Big Mole said. “Come, it’s bedtime.”



But Little Mole could not sleep.
He stayed still until Big Mole started snoring.
Then, he sneaked into the night.



“Can I find my star here?” Little Mole squeaked.
Squirrel leaned out from her tree. “Follow me and see.”
Little Mole huffed and puffed as he trailed Squirrel
to the treetop.



“Look!” Squirrel pointed to the brightest star.
“That star lights my way. It helps me see
where I’m going.”



Little Mole craned his head upwards.
Squint! Squint! He saw a big blurry light.
Little Mole sighed. “That’s not it.
My star should help me see clearly.”



Little Mole stumbled back down the tree. He had no idea where to go. He heard waves crashing nearby and scampered there.



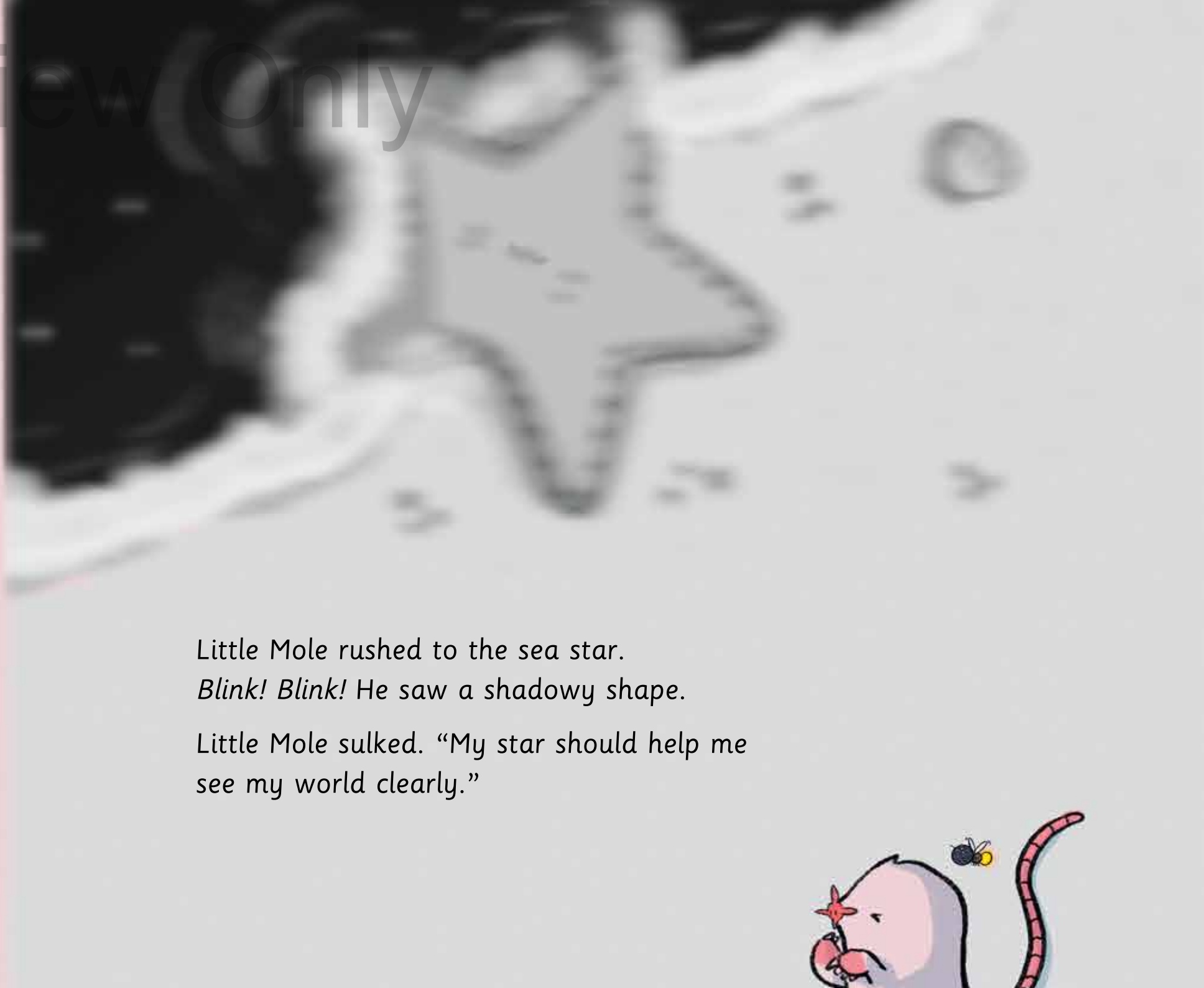
“Can I find my star here?” Little Mole asked. Turtle peered out from her shell. “Follow me and see.” Little Mole shuffled along as Turtle waddled.



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“Look!” Turtle pointed to a washed-up sea star. “This star shows the sea tide has changed. Now, I know my world better.”



Little Mole rushed to the sea star.
Blink! Blink! He saw a shadowy shape.
Little Mole sulked. “My star should help me see my world clearly.”



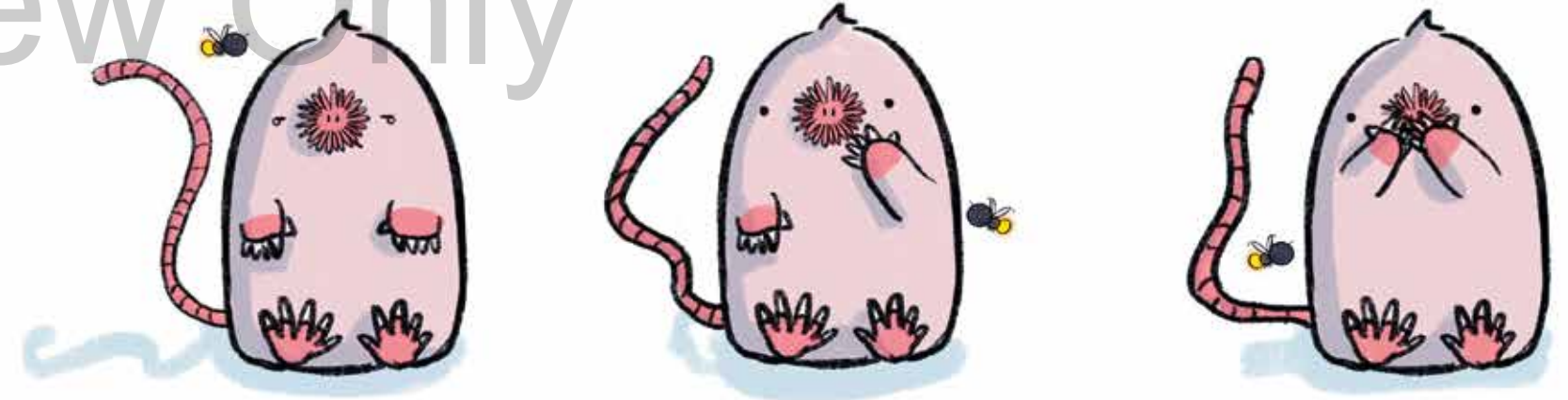
“Look!” Rabbit pointed to the starflowers.
“These stars show my carrot patch is here.”



Little Mole dashed towards the flowers.
Sniff, sniff! He saw only fuzzy patches.
Little Mole sobbed. “My star should show me
awesome stuff.”

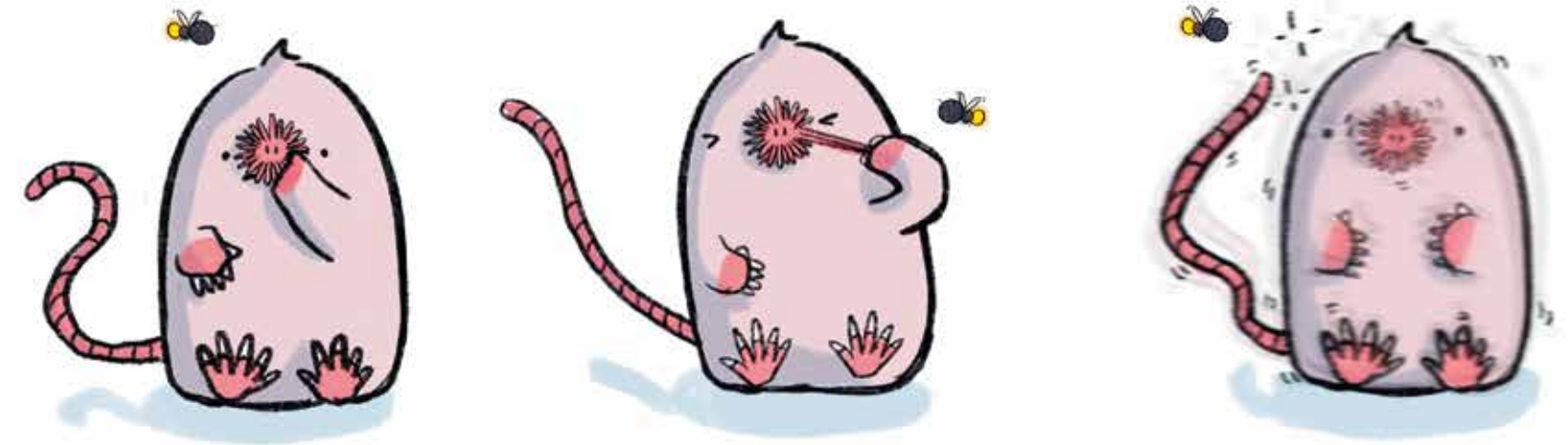
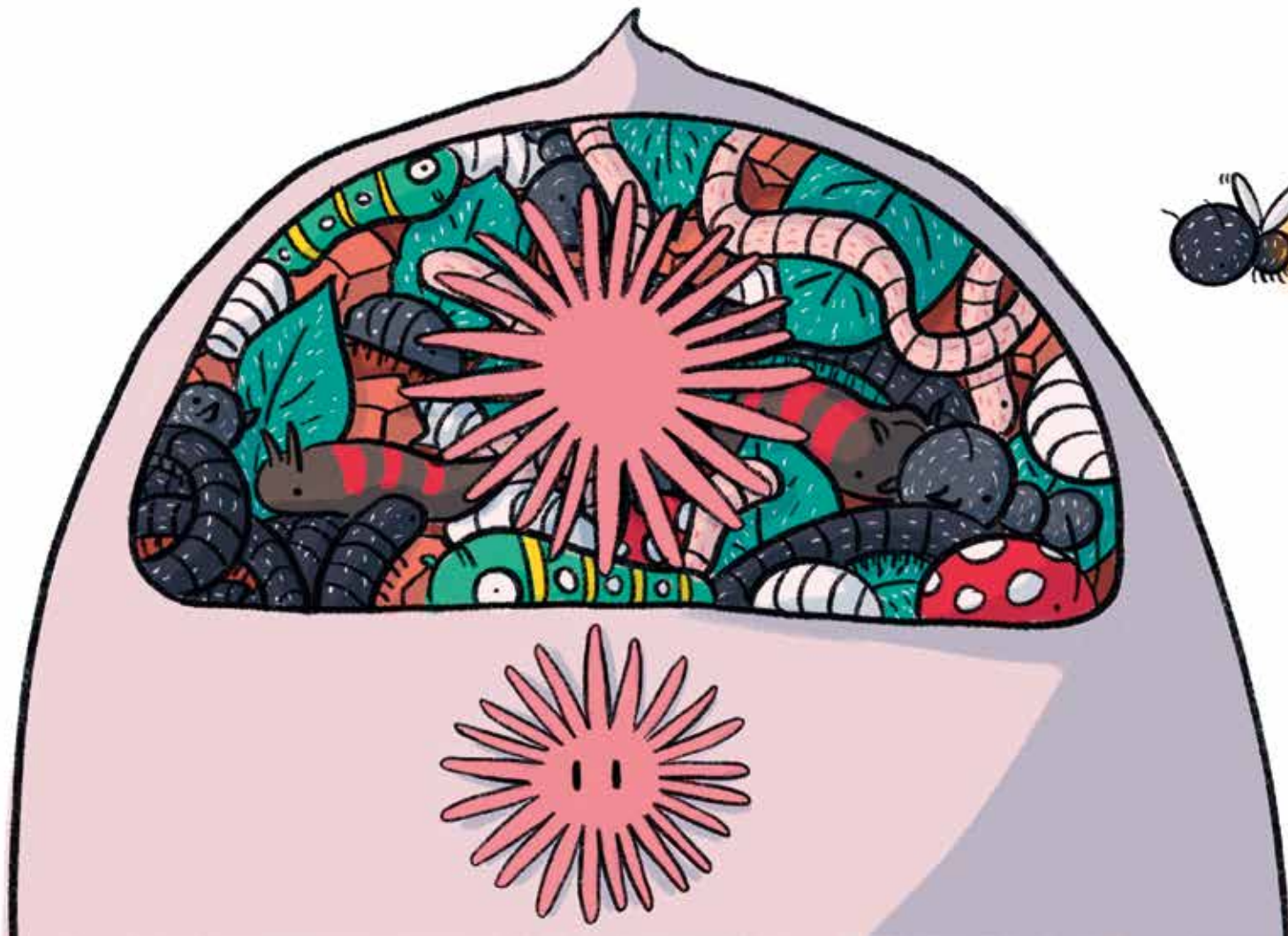
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Little Mole saw the ground before him clearly.



He sat up and rubbed his nose. Strange rays were sticking out from it.

“What’s this?”



Little Mole tried to pull them off. But they stayed on.

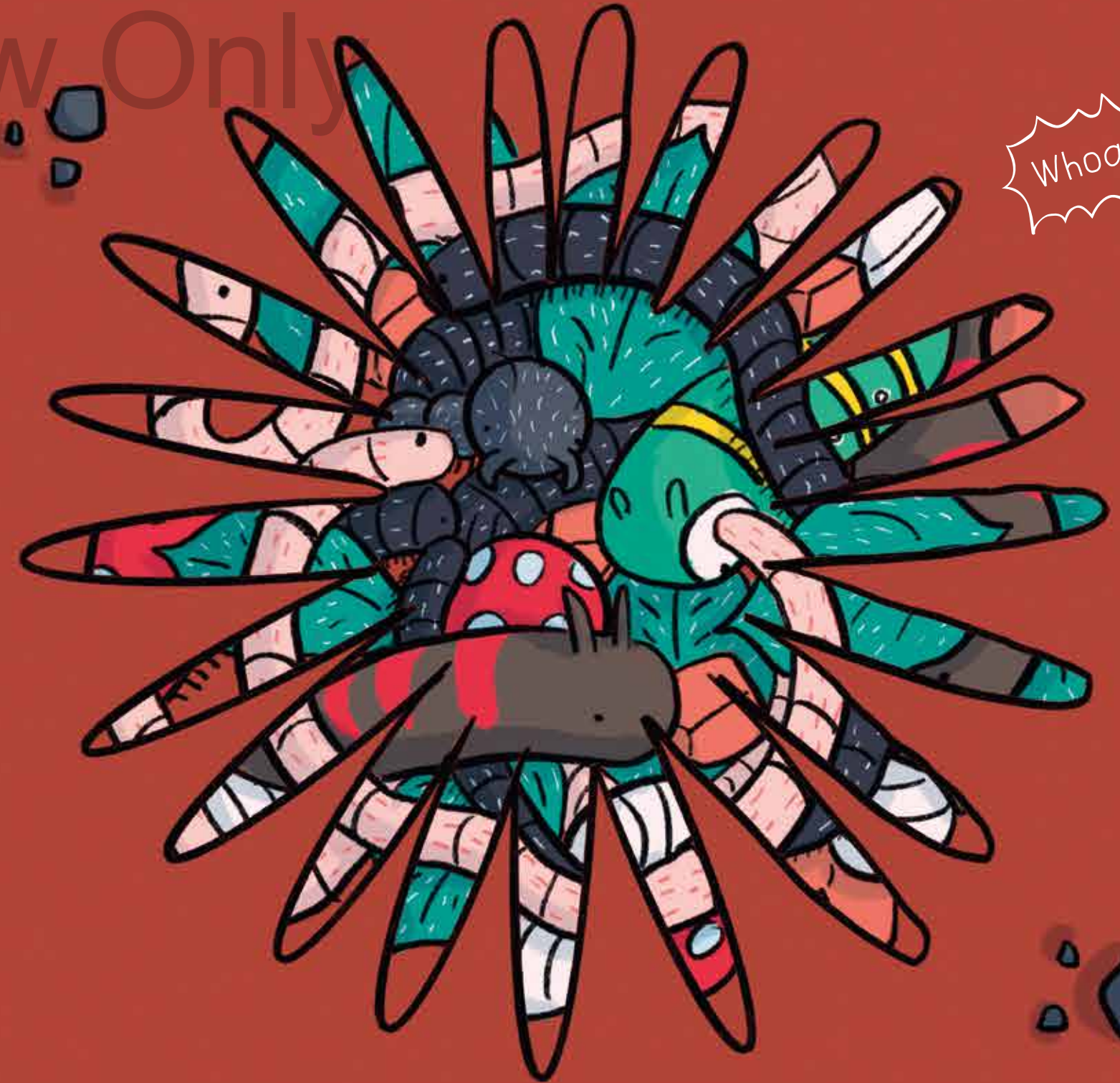
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“Hang on!” Little Mole said.



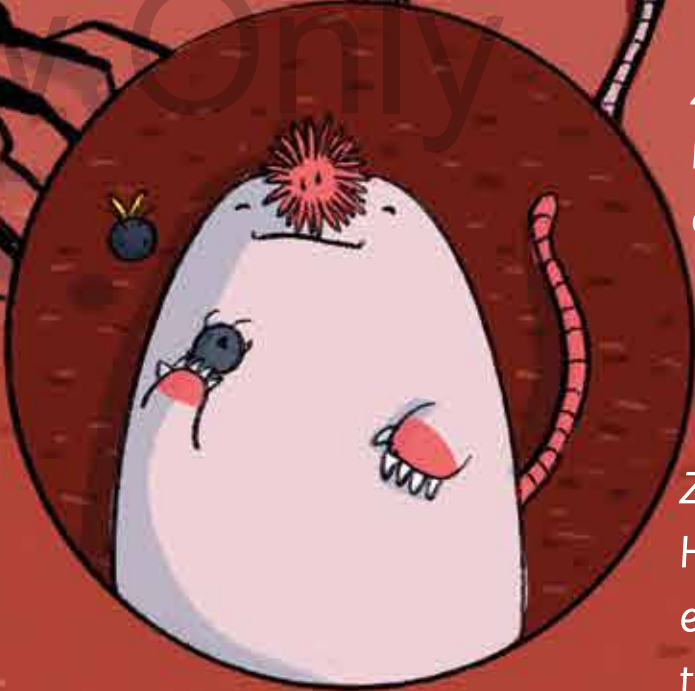
He pressed his nose to the ground.
He saw a clear star-shaped view
of his world.




Whoa!




Little Mole tunnelled underground.
He used his scoop claws to burrow deeper.
His nose showed the way as he hunted at
super-speed.



Zip!
He snapped up
ants to his left.



Zap!
He gobbled
earthworms
to his right.



Zoop!
He slurped up slugs
within split seconds.
“Awesome!”

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Little Mole gave a star-studded grin.
“I already have!”

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Let's Discuss








-  What were two things that Big Mole said Little Mole's star could do?
-  What star did Squirrel point Little Mole to?
How did this star help Squirrel?
-  What star did Turtle show Little Mole?
What did this star tell Turtle?
-  What stars did Rabbit bring Little Mole to?
What did these stars show Rabbit?
-  Where was Little Mole's star?
-  How did Little Mole use his star to 'see'?
-  What awesome stuff did Little Mole discover using his star?



Image courtesy of Tim Glackin

More About Star-nosed Moles

The star-nosed mole is a small furry mammal about the size of a hamster. It has a long, hairy tail and sharp claws for digging. Its name comes from its power-packed nose, which has 22 small pink feelers, spread out like a star.

Did You Know?

- The star-nosed mole has very poor eyesight. It relies on its unique 'star' of 22 pink, fleshy feelers to sense its underground world. Each time the mole presses its star-nose to the soil, it 'sees' a picture of the soil in a star shape — like the shape of its nose! What the mole senses with its nose is similar to how we see with our eyes.
- The star-nosed mole's unique star gives it the best sense of touch of any mammal. This star is smaller than a human fingertip, but five times more sensitive than human hands. It is covered with 25,000 tiny bumps or touch receptors known as Eimer's organs. With each touch, these bumps send information through 100,000 nerve fibres to the mole's brain.
- The star-nosed mole is one of the world's fastest hunters. It hunts by bopping its star against the soil to feel its surroundings and find insects and worms. Its star feelers move very rapidly, touching as many as 12 different objects per second.
- The star-nosed mole is the world's fastest eater. Once it senses an insect or worm, it can gobble it up in a quarter of a second!

Scan these QR codes to find out more about the star-nosed mole.



National Geographic



Biokids



Science Daily



Fact Animal

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The Star-nosed Mole's First Steps

Little Mole's Awesome Star is inspired by many fascinating facts of the star-nosed mole. In the story, Little Mole's star takes longer than it usually would to unfold. In his eagerness to get his star, Little Mole takes his first steps into the world ahead of his time.

Here's how the star-nosed mole finds its way in the world in real life:

- When the star-nosed mole is born, it weighs about 1.5 g and is approximately 49 mm long. It is blind and hairless, and the feelers on its nose are folded up towards its eyes.
- After two weeks, the star unwraps and begins to function. The eyes open for the first time.
- Around the third week, it is weaned.
- After about a month, the star-nosed mole becomes fully independent and leaves its parents.



Reference:
<https://as.vanderbilt.edu/catianialab/research/star-nosed-mole/>
http://www.biokids.umich.edu/critters/Condylura_cristata/



About the Author

Emily Lim-Leh spent the early years of her working life globe-trotting in search of stars. Her journey took her back home where she discovered that special star within, after finding her place in the world as an author. Emily has won multiple awards as a children's book author. She received three medals at the IPPY awards (the world's largest book awards) and she is also the first in South East Asia to win the Moonbeam Children's Book Award.



Scan the QR code to read more about Emily.
<https://mummumstheword.wordpress.com>

About the Illustrator

John Lim is constantly searching for stars in his journey to better understand himself. His explorations have led him to discover that his special star is his creative mind. John enjoys illustrating children's books to help young readers discover their own special stars. He has worked on more than 10 children's storybooks and some of his work has been featured at different events in Singapore.

Scan these QR codes to find out more about John. <http://seesaw.work/> and https://www.instagram.com/see_n_saw/



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*Caleb and Zach,
Annabel and Isabelle
May Christ always be your North Star!*

~ E.L

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Marshall Cavendish Corporation, 99 white Plains Road, Tarrytown NY 10591-9001, USA •
Marshall Cavendish International (Thailand) Co Ltd, 253 Asoke, 12th Flr, Sukhumvit 21 Road, Klongtoey Nua, Wattana, Bangkok 10110, Thailand • Marshall Cavendish (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, Times Subang, Lot 46, Subang Hi-Tech Industrial Park, Batu Tiga, 40000 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

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