Collins

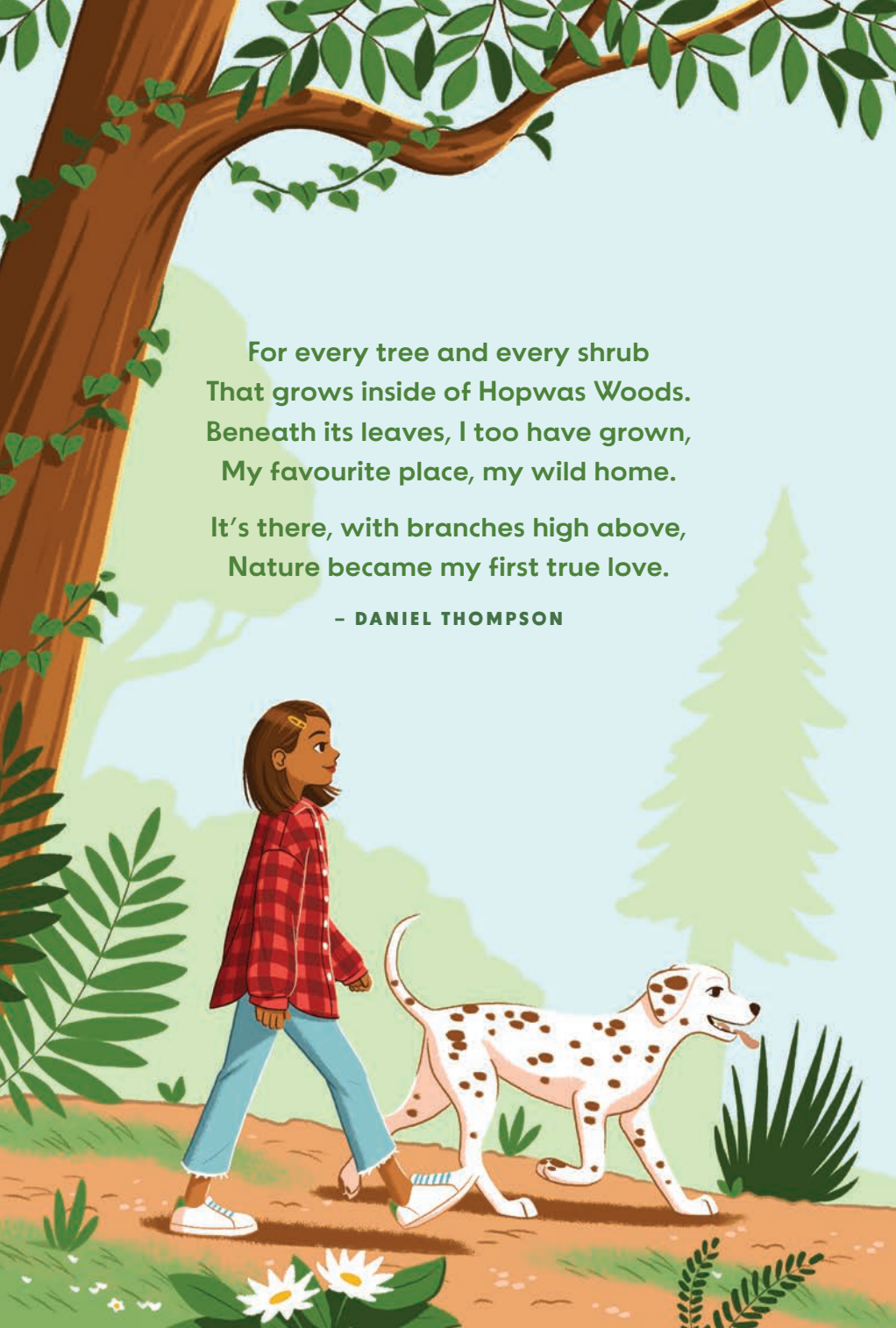
OUTSIDE IN

NATURE POEMS

written by
DANIEL THOMPSON

illustrated by
JULIA MURRAY

OUTSIDE IN



For every tree and every shrub
That grows inside of Hopwas Woods.
Beneath its leaves, I too have grown,
My favourite place, my wild home.

It's there, with branches high above,
Nature became my first true love.

– DANIEL THOMPSON

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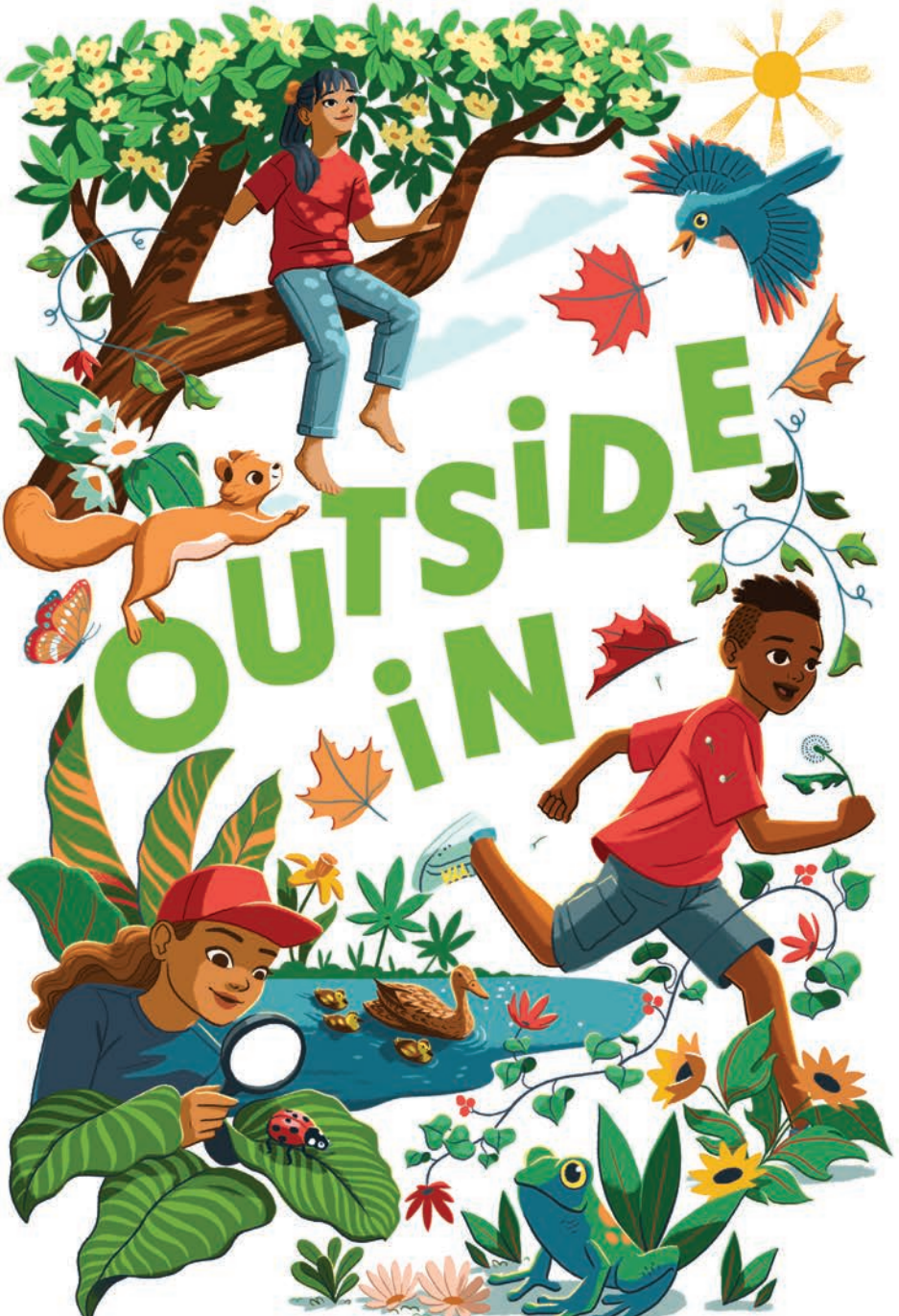
OUTSIDE
IN

I walk beneath the canopies
Of mighty oak and chestnut trees.
I feel my worries start to ease,
And let the outside in.

I hear the choir of birds in song,
I watch the squirrels dance along.
I feel it's here that I belong,
And let the outside in.

I watch the weaving river flow,
I count the ducklings in their row.
I feel a sense of wellness grow,
And let the outside in.

I stand before the ocean wide,
And tiptoe barefoot in the tide.
I feel a wave of joy inside,
And let the outside in.

I sit before the fading sun,
And watch its colours start to run.
I feel the world and I at one,
And let the outside in.

I sleep beneath the endless skies
Of twinkling stars that fill my eyes.
I feel a gentle calm arise,
And let the outside in.

EXPLORING'S NEVER BORING

If your days are a bore,
If you want something more,
Take a break from your norm!
Go out your front door.
Out there are your answers,
Out there is your cure,
Out there is a wonderful
World to explore.

You could take a quick dip in a natural spring fountain,
On your way to the top of an Icelandic mountain.
You can sail on the waves of the Mozambique Channel,
Or cross the Sahara on the hump of a camel.

You could snorkel the shores of the Great Barrier Reef,
As you gaze in amazement at what lies beneath.
You could count tiger stripes in the Nepalese jungles,
Or watch as the edge of the Arctic shelf crumbles.

You could trek through the depths of Nevada's Grand Canyon,
With the howls of the wolves as your only companion.
You could sleep on the beach of a lost desert island,
Or swim the loch waters of Scotland's wild Highlands.

And if, after that, you're still lacking a purpose,
Don't worry, that list barely scratches the surface.
In fact, if you tried, I expect you would find,
You could fill your whole life up a few hundred times.

And that is the reason,
I'm perfectly sure,
Once you make the decision,
To open your door,
And go out in the world,
And begin to explore,
You'll find you're not bored
Of your days anymore.

RAINHOOPS

There's been a rainbow scandal,
And the whole world's in cahoots.
I don't know where it started,
Or from where it took its roots.

But I have information!
Listen closely, here's the scoop:
A rainbow's not a rain bow,
No, a rainbow is a hoop.

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