

LOST IN THE BUSH

by Serie Barford



Tēnā koutou
Katoa, tālofa lava, kia
orana, fakaalofa lahi atu,
tāloha ni, mālō e lelei, ni sa
bula, greetings!



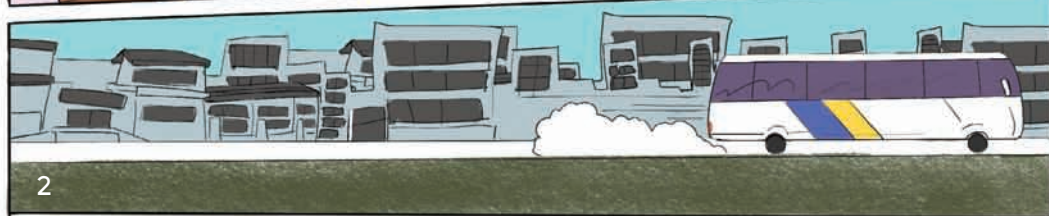
Where's PK?
It's time to go.

Here he
comes!

Wait for me!



Sorry.
I thought
today was
Saturday,
Miss.



Hi, I'm
Terri.

And I'm Steve, and this is Rufus. We work
for the Department of Conservation.



Welcome to
Te Awa reserve.

Just remember the
rules for staying
safe in the bush.

Rule one: stay
together. Rule two:
stay on the track.
Rule three: listen to
your group leader.

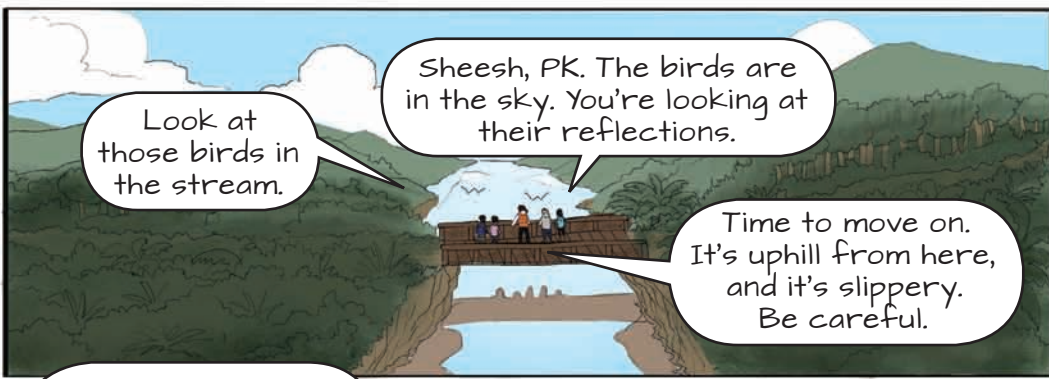


Here are your
worksheets.

Look at all
the trees and
plants we have
to find!

I didn't
know there
were so many
kinds of trees
in the bush.

I hope we
don't get lost.



Look at those birds in the stream.

Sheesh, PK. The birds are in the sky. You're looking at their reflections.

Time to move on. It's uphill from here, and it's slippery. Be careful.



I could run through that bush to find the nearest takeaway, no sweat.

Yeah, right ... how's your worksheet going, Fatu? I've done nikau, rangiora, ponga ...

Oh! I was so busy looking I forgot to draw.



Ewww! My shoes are muddy!



Mrs Lakatani!



Are you all right, Miss?

Oh, my leg hurts! I don't think I can walk.



I'm fast - I'll go and get help!



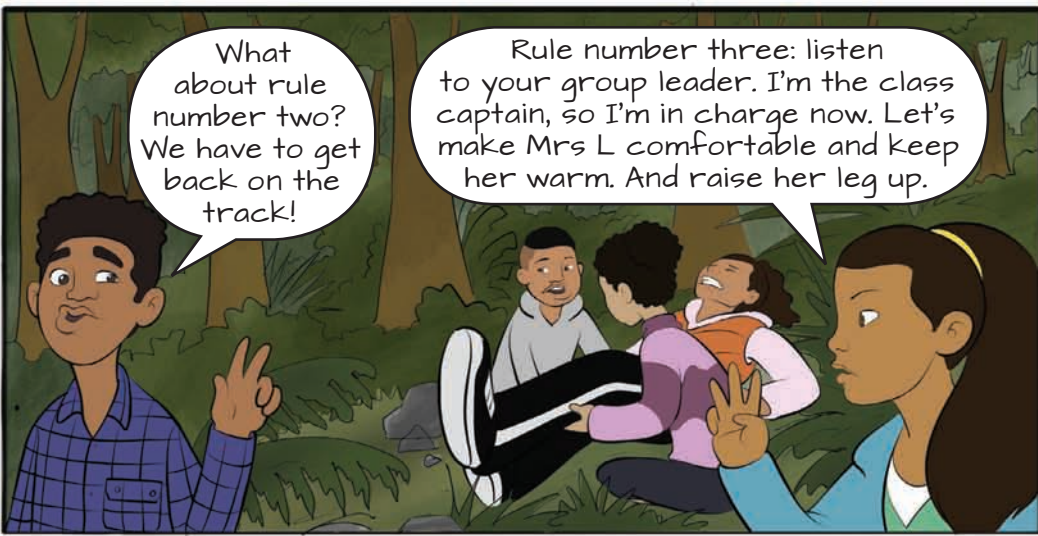
Rule number two: stay together.



That's rule number one. I'm going.



COME BACK, FATU!



What about rule number two? We have to get back on the track!

Rule number three: listen to your group leader. I'm the class captain, so I'm in charge now. Let's make Mrs L comfortable and keep her warm. And raise her leg up.



What happened, Sekola?

You slipped, Miss. Relax. Help will be here soon.



Cross fingers.

Shush, Mele!

We just have to stick together and think smart until help arrives.

We have to make a plan.



We can put a sign on the track so they know where we are.

Yes, we can lay a fern branch on the track white side up, so it looks like an arrow pointing down the bank. And I'll write a message on a rangiora leaf as well.



Why don't we just write a note on a piece of paper?

Because a rangiora leaf is waterproof, so the message won't get ruined if it rains.



Let's do both.

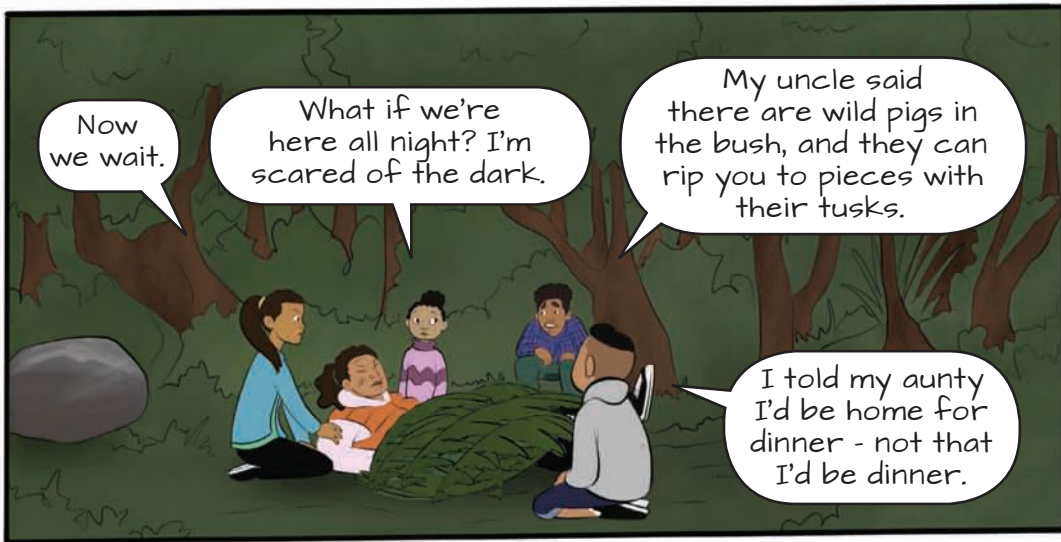


We can make a pile of stones too.

Mele and PK should climb up the bank together.

OK, Sekola. You and I can stay here with Mrs L.





Now we wait.

What if we're here all night? I'm scared of the dark.

My uncle said there are wild pigs in the bush, and they can rip you to pieces with their tusks.

I told my aunty I'd be home for dinner - not that I'd be dinner.



Calm down! If we follow the rules, we'll be OK.



PANT GRUNT SNIFF!



What's that?

Sounds like a wild pig!



It's getting closer!



We found your trail markers and messages on the track, so we knew you were down here.

We realised something had happened when you didn't come back at the right time. It looks like we'll need a stretcher. Steve is calling for help.



You guys did all the right things. Well done!



I'm already planning my speech - it's going to be called "How I saved everyone when we were lost in the bush".



How I saved everyone?



How we all saved each other!

illustrations by Munro Te Whata

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Published 2016 by the Ministry of Education
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www.education.govt.nz

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Enquiries should be made to the publisher.

ISBN 978 0 478 16769 6 (online)

Publishing Services: Lift Education E Tū

Editors: David Chadwick and Isaac Snoswell

Designer: Liz Tui Morris

Literacy Consultant: Melanie Winthrop

Consulting Editors: Hōne Apanui, Ross Calman, and Emeli Sione



SCHOOL JOURNAL LEVEL 2 NOVEMBER 2016

Curriculum learning areas

English
Health and Physical Education

Reading year level

Year 4

Keywords

accidents, action, bush, comics, Department of Conservation, first aid, graphic novel, graphic text, illustrations, leadership, lost, managing self, Pasifika, responsibility, safety, survival, teamwork