

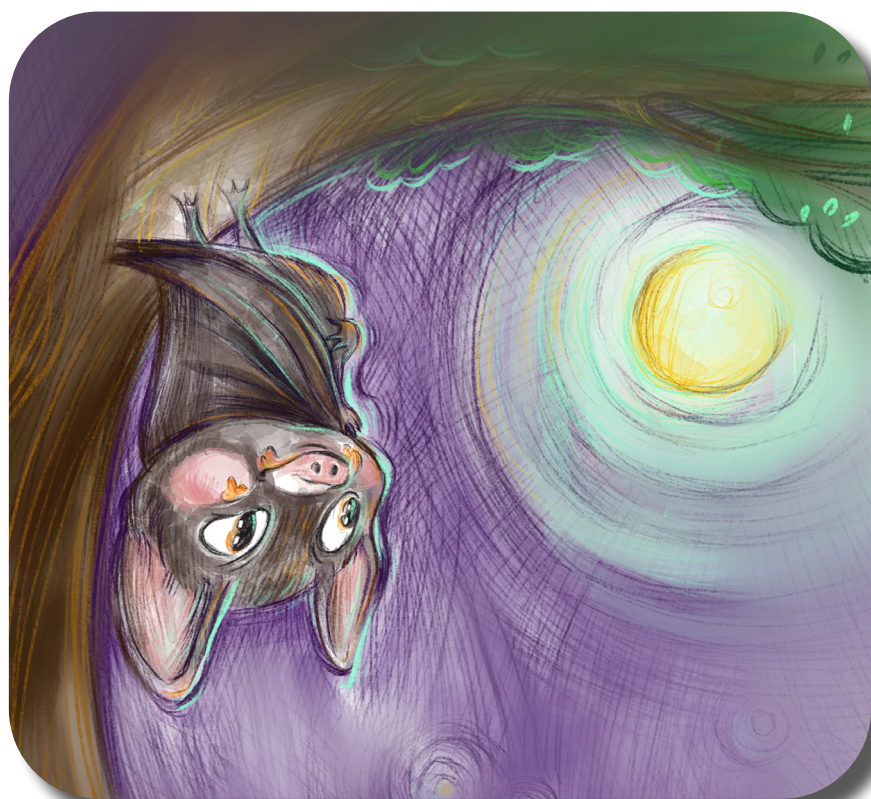
Level 5



Sweet Sweet Fruity Bat

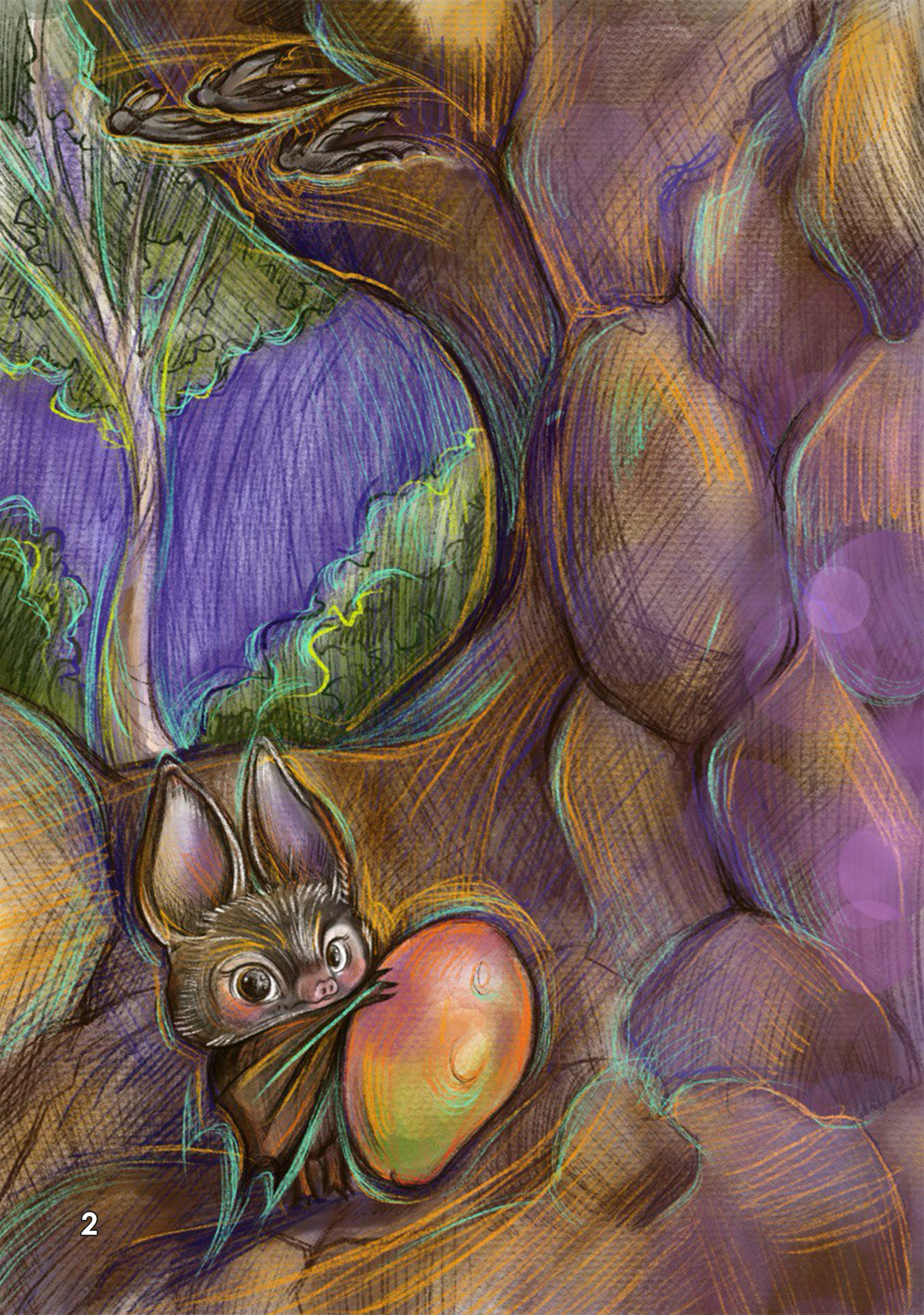
By Annie Benua
Illustrated by Viktoria Khmelnickaya

Sweet Sweet Fruity Bat



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In a cozy cave, high up in the mountains, lived a little bat called Sweet Sweet Fruity.

Unlike most bats, who loved flying around at night hunting for bugs, Fruity had a different craving — he loved fruit! His favorite thing to do was nibble on the juiciest and sweetest fruit he could find.

Every night, while his bat friends flew off in search of bugs and insects, Fruity would flap his tiny wings towards the fruit trees in the nearby forest. His favourite fruit was the mango — bright yellow and so sweet that it made his wings tingle with joy.

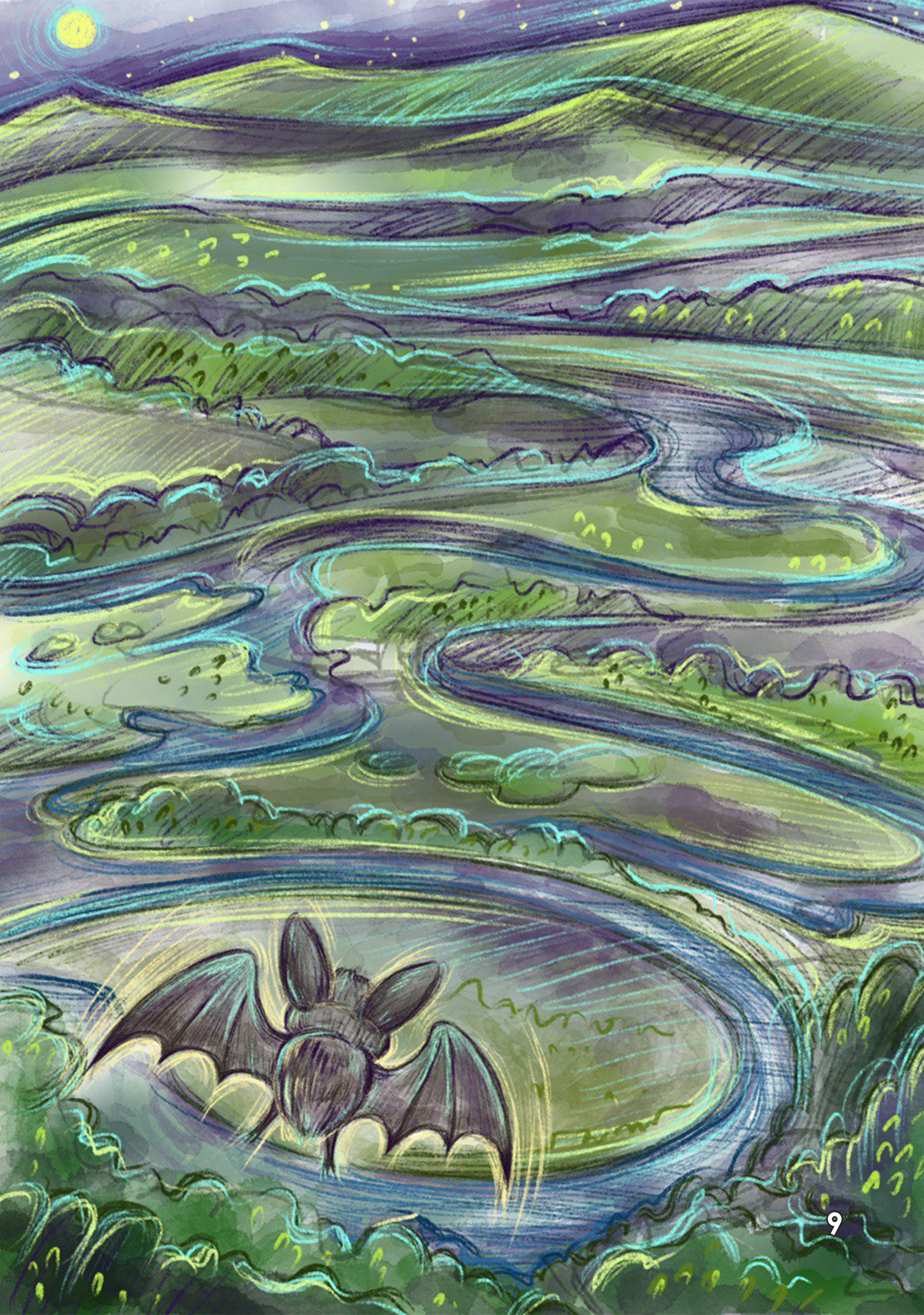




One bright night, under the full moon, Fruity set off on a new adventure. He had heard stories about a magical tree deep in the forest. This tree grew the biggest, juiciest fruit in the whole world.

“If I find that tree,” Fruity said, “I’ll never have to search for fruit again!”

So off he flew, flying over hills, rivers and meadows. His little nose twitched as he sniffed the air for the sweet scent of the magical fruit.





After a long flight, Fruity spotted something shimmering in the moonlight. There it was — the magical tree! Its branches were heavy with colourful fruit, each one glowing softly in the dark.

Fruity's eyes grew wide. He flew straight to the tree and nibbled on a bright, shining apple.

"Mmm..." he squeaked. "This is the sweetest fruit I've ever tasted!" He munched on oranges, plums and pineapples, each one tastier than the last.



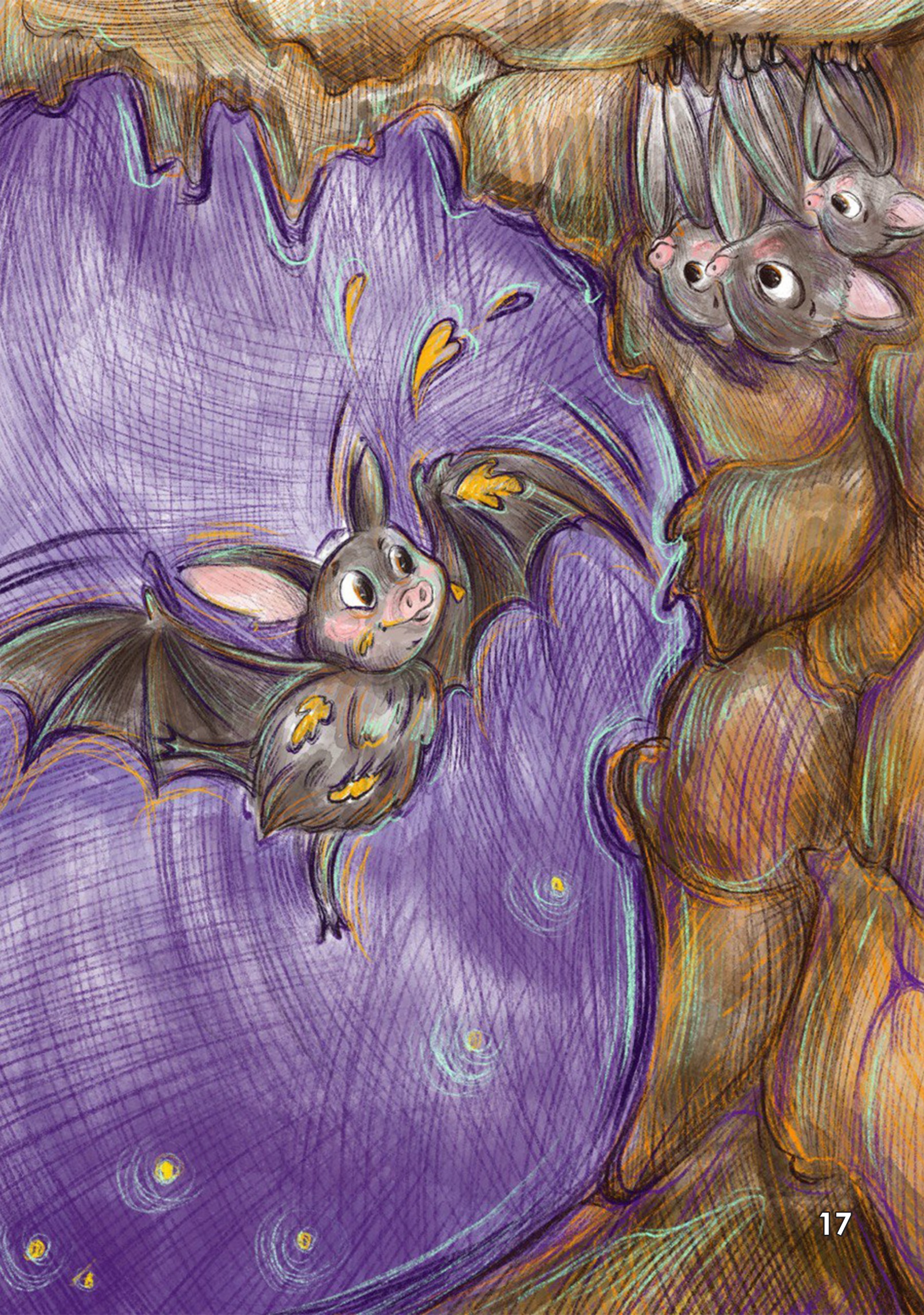


But soon, Fruity realised something. "I've eaten so much, but it's no fun eating alone." He looked around, his belly full but his heart feeling a little lonely. "Maybe my friends would like this fruit, too?"

Fruity flew back to the cave and told all his bat friends about the magical tree. At first, they were unsure.

“But we like bugs better!” they said.

Fruity smiled and handed them a small, juicy mango. “Just try it,” he said.





To their surprise, the bats loved it! They all flapped their wings with excitement and followed Fruity to the magical tree.

Together, they ate the delicious fruit, laughing and playing under the stars.

From that night on, Fruity wasn't alone in his fruit adventures. He had his friends with him, and they all agreed that sometimes a little sweetness made everything better.



**You can use these questions
to talk about this book with
your family, friends and
teachers.**



What was Fruity's favorite food?

**How did the other bats react
when they tried the fruit from
the magical tree?**



**Why do you think Fruity felt
lonely even though he was eating
delicious fruit?**



**What food do you enjoy sharing
with friends?**

**Imagine you are a bat. Put some
fruit in different parts of your
house or classroom, then go on
an imaginary journey to collect it
all for sharing later.**



About the author

Annie Benua was born in Santo and currently lives in Port Vila. She hopes her story will inspire a love of reading in children, especially since her own favourite story as a child was *Little Red Riding Hood*. When Annie is with family, she likes fishing, collecting fruit and playing games.



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Original illustrations by Viktoria Khmelnickaya

Sweet Sweet Fruity Bat

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Sweet Sweet Fruity is a little bat who loves eating fruit. All of his friends prefer bugs, but Sweet Sweet Fruity wants to share all the tasty fruit he finds!



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