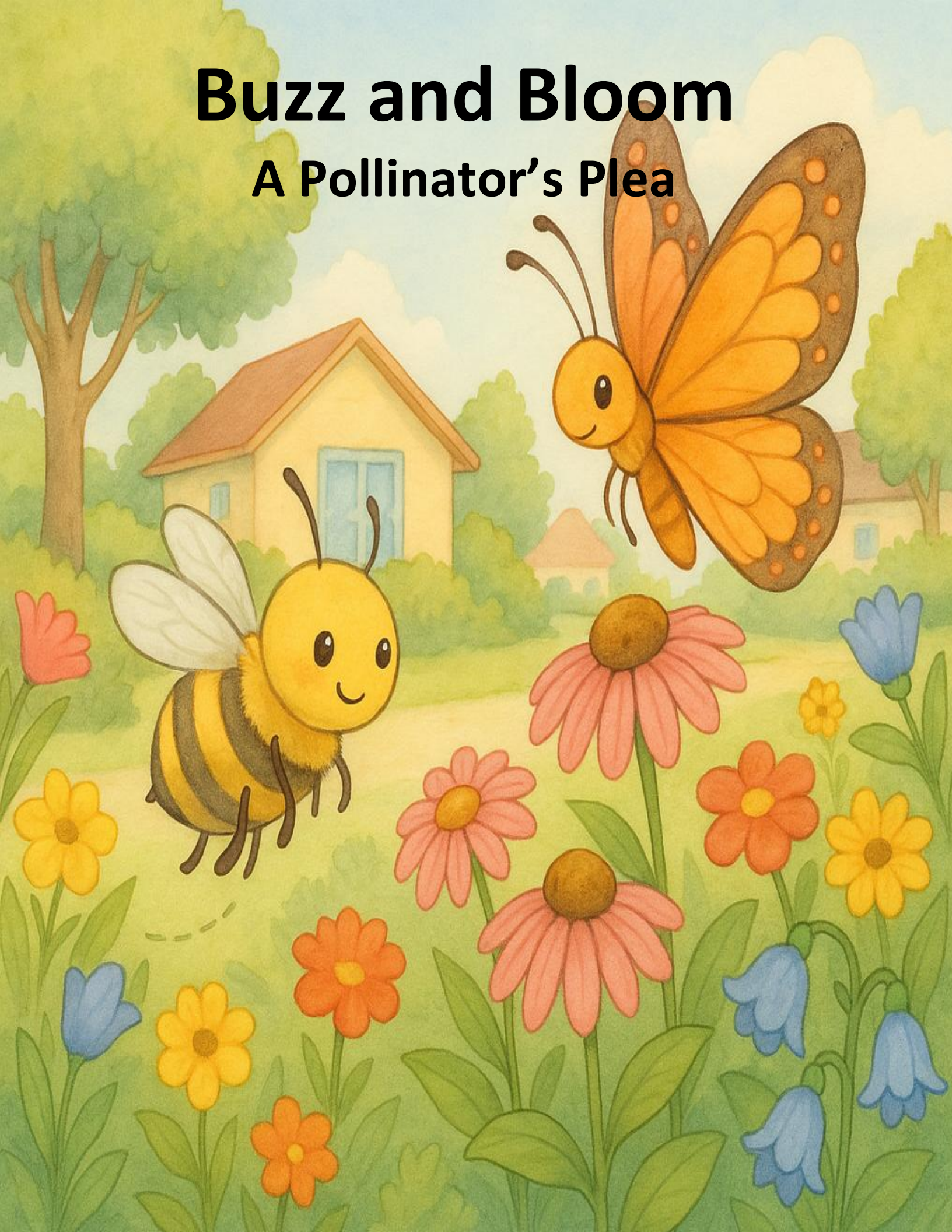


Buzz and Bloom

A Pollinator's Plea



Forward

This storybook was created by the Outer Banks Coastal Conservation (OBCC), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to foster environmental stewardship and a deeper connection to the Outer Banks of North Carolina through outreach, education, and conservation efforts.

We believe that small stories can spark big change. That is why we have made this book available as a free resource for parents, teachers, and community members.

All materials in this book may be freely downloaded, shared, printed and used for educational or nonprofit purposes.

To learn more, access additional resources at: www.theobcc.org.



Once upon a time, in a sunny neighborhood filled with flowers and trees, lived a busy little bee named Buzz and a fluttery butterfly named Bloom.



One day, Buzz flew into a yard and stopped in mid-air.
“Something smells... strange,” Buzz said, wrinkling his tiny nose.

Bloom landed beside him. “Oh no... I think someone sprayed chemicals again!”



Buzz hovered near a daisy, but the petals looked droopy.
“This spray makes it hard to find clean nectar,” he said sadly.

“And it makes me dizzy,” Bloom added, fluttering away from a patch of grass.



In another yard nearby, a boy named Eli was watching from the porch.

“Why are there fewer bees and butterflies this summer?” he asked his mom. “They help my sunflowers grow.”



Eli's mom looked concerned.

"We sprayed the lawn last week to keep bugs away... but maybe it also hurt the good ones."

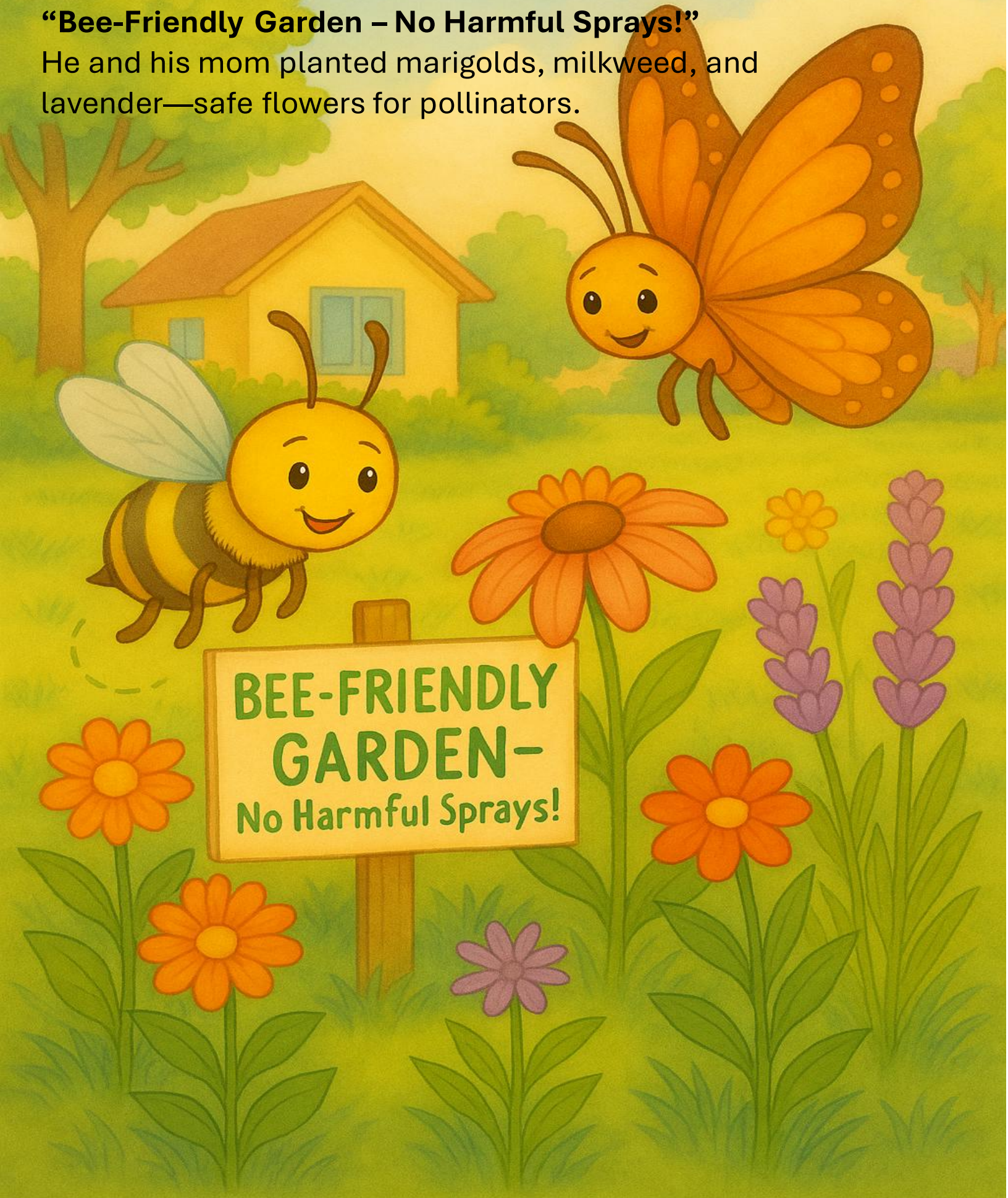
Eli frowned. "Like Buzz and Bloom?"



That night, Eli made a sign for their front yard:

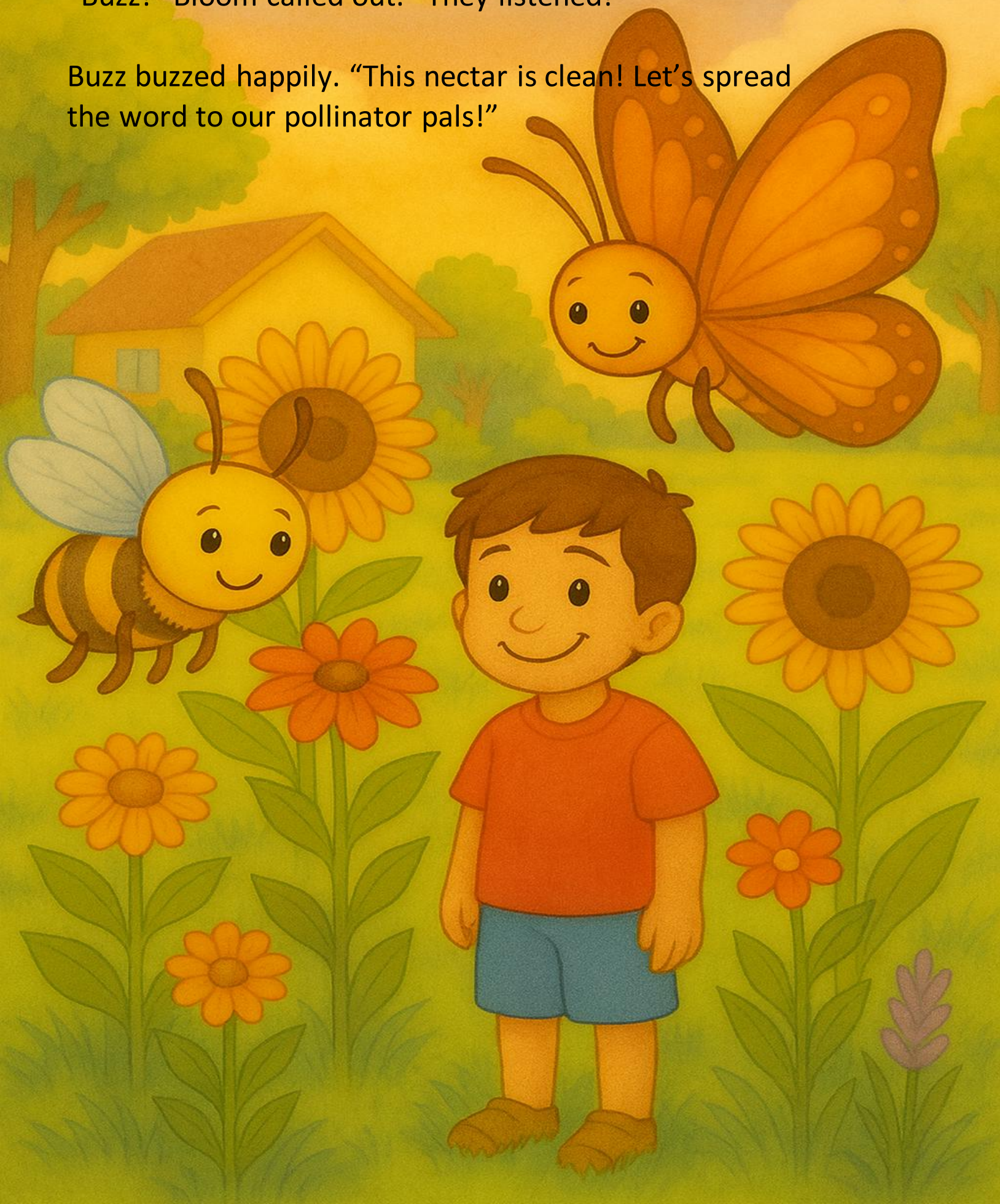
“Bee-Friendly Garden – No Harmful Sprays!”

He and his mom planted marigolds, milkweed, and lavender—safe flowers for pollinators.



Buzz and Bloom returned the next morning.
“Buzz!” Bloom called out. “They listened!”

Buzz buzzed happily. “This nectar is clean! Let’s spread
the word to our pollinator pals!”



From that day on, Eli's yard bloomed with butterflies and bees.
His sunflowers stood tall, smiling toward the sun.

And Eli knew: a little care helps *everyone* grow.

