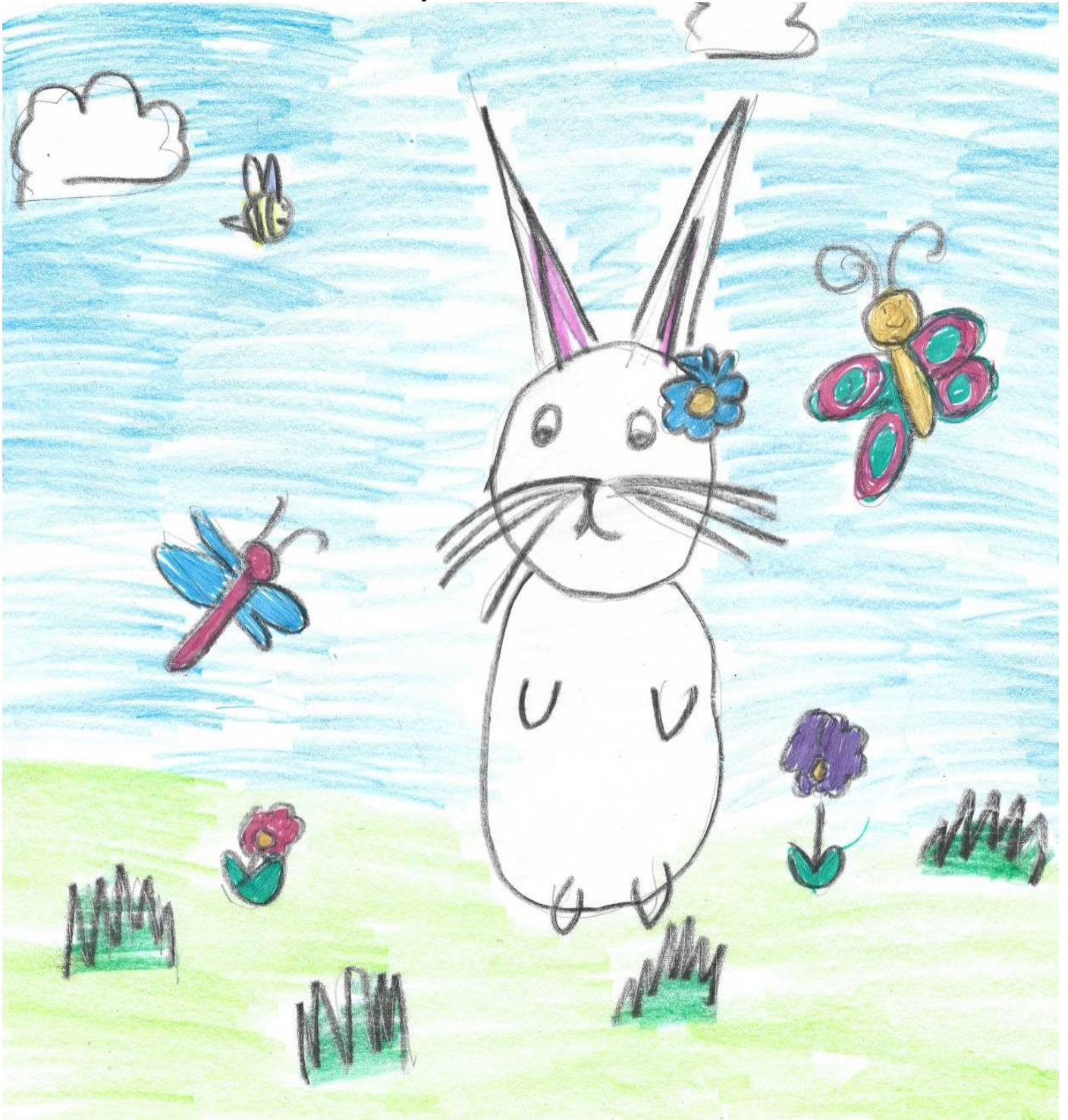


THE LITTLE RABBIT



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Arts & Ownership

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Preface

The primary goal of the current educational system is to mould a productive citizen and a caring family member who is equipped with knowledge and skills. The main responsibility of the school is to identify and recognize children's talents, as well as to sharpen their skills to meet the needs of the nation and the world.

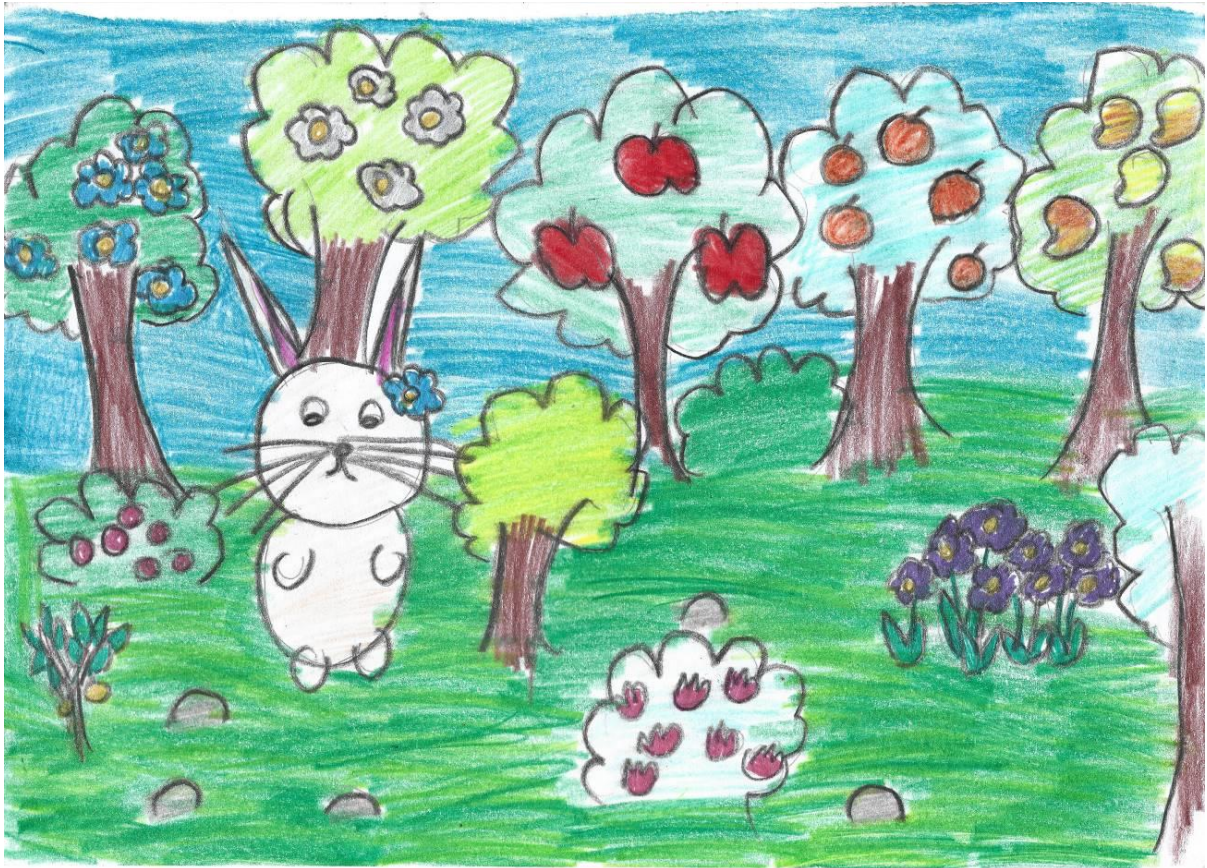
Our Alma Mater is constantly guiding and assisting children who are creative. This project has been an on-going process at our school for many years, particularly in terms of writing books. Many skilled and enthusiastic young writers participated in this exercise for years, producing novice writers to field of literature. We regard this as a great victory and a national need at this hour.

To continue this effort, we have adopted digital technologies and an e-book project this year. I am confident that this unique event provided youngsters with valuable experience and challenges that will benefit them in the future.

The Ministry of Education has hailed the project as an important step toward motivating young authors in schools. As principal of Mahamaya Girls' College, I am grateful to all of the students throughout the country who contributed to this endeavor. I commend and applaud all of the young authors of these-books for their perseverance and devotion in this difficult task.

I would like to thank our school management committee, employees, parents, for my students, administrators, and teachers from other schools who encouraged students to take part in this worthwhile effort.

Ms Shashikala Senadheera
Principal
Mahamaya Girls College - Kandy
2023. 11. 10



Once upon a time there was a little rabbit named Jessy. She lived in a jungle closed to a village. But she has never been to the village. One day she decided to visit the village. She hopped for a long distance. Then she saw a farm at the border of the jungle.

She kept her paws gently and got closer to the fence. Jessy had a peek over the fence. She was amazed by the site. Farmer has grown carrot, lettuce, beetroot, radish and cabbage. And many more in the green house also. That was a mouth-watering sight for Jessy because Jessy was so hungry after hopping for a long distance.



Without knowing Jessy hopped through the fence. She decided to fulfil her hunger. But when she gets closer to the bed of carrots she saw someone standing in the field. She thought it was a man. She quickly hid behind a bush. She waited without making a tiniest sound. Suddenly her tummy rumbled but the man did not look around. He did not move for a long time. So she went near the man and gave a little nock. But still he did not look around.





A parrot saw what Jessy did. The parrot said 'Hay what you are doing? That's just a scare-crow'

Jessy asked 'who is a scare-crow?'

The parrot replied 'it's not a real man. It's made of straw and old cloths. It's there to scare us away.'

'Oh really? Why do they scare us away?' Jessy asked.

'So that animals won't damage the vegetables' parrot replied and flew away.

'Thank you! Bye bye!' Jessy greeted.

Now Jessy is not scared anymore. She went through vegetable beds and ate some from every vegetable. Jessy has eaten so many vegetables. Her tummy is very full. She can't even move. She fell a sleep under a bush. The vegetable garden is not beautiful anymore because Jessy has damaged all vegetables.





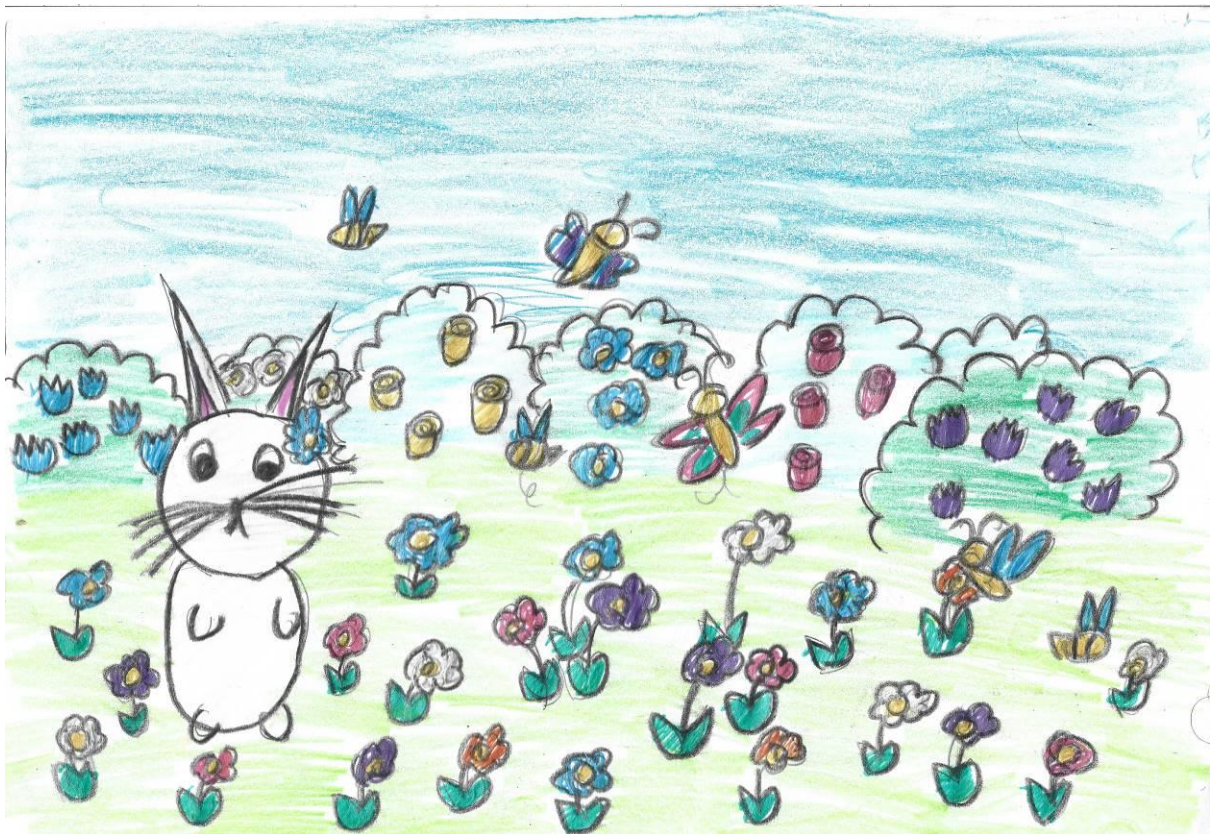
Suddenly Jessy woke up because she heard someone scolding. Someone like a scare-crow was walking around the garden. He screamed, 'oh no, who has damaged my vegetables?' Jessy thought 'it can't be a scare-crow' because parrot said 'Scare-crows can't move.' 'It should be the farmer'.

Jessy felt sad after seeing the farmer and the garden. She thought she did something very bad. 'I should not be that greedy' she told herself.



In the same time another person came to the farm. He had money in his hand and said 'Can I have a basket of vegetables?' The farmer said 'sorry all my vegetables are damaged. A greedy animal has damaged them all'. Now Jessy can understand. If you need vegetables you need money. But how can I get money? She hopped back to the jungle thinking it over and over again.

When she enters the jungle she saw beautiful wild flowers. Jessy thought farmer will like these flowers. May be if I give him a flower bunch he will forgive me. She collected the beautiful flowers from the jungle.





Jessy made a flower bunch. She hopped back to the farm. Jessy kept the flower bunch near the farmer's door and said 'I am very sorry to damage your vegetables. I will never do it again.'

Jessy felt happy again. But the same time she thought if I can eat those delicious vegetables one more time.

When she goes out from the farm she saw vegetables in a box. The box had a notice saying 'it's free'. Jessy thought 'the farmer is so kind and generous. Hereafter I will eat vegetables from this box. I will not damage farmer's vegetables again.' Jessy got some vegetables and went back to the jungle.

Jessy shared vegetables with her friends and lived happily ever after.



The moral of the story:
Stealing from others makes
you guilty but sharing the
excess makes everyone
happy.

THE END!



Afterword

As modern technology permeates the social and economic arenas, students tend to distance themselves from the creative process, relying more and more on technological tools. To reduce this risk and help aspiring young writers produce their own books, I sought and presented a research proposal to the Ministry of Education in 2014. It was a fantastic

opportunity for children to showcase their enthusiasm and knowledge. The students of Mahamaya Girls' College achieved a record for the most books written, paving the way for a new level of innovation.

The e-book project will enable the students to reach international readers, and I am confident that they have gained new experiences and challenges that will enable them to face the future with resolve.

I wish all of the young writers the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Senevirathna Mahalekm
Founder of Books Publishing Project Among School Children
2023.10.20