

NUTS!

An illustration of a forest scene. In the foreground, a squirrel with a large orange tail and a white shirt with a blue bowtie stands on a grey rock. To its right, a green turtle with a blue and green striped shell is on the ground. A pile of nuts is scattered on the ground near the turtle. The background shows several trees with brown trunks and yellowish-green foliage. The ground is covered with many small, brown nuts. The overall style is a textured, painterly illustration.

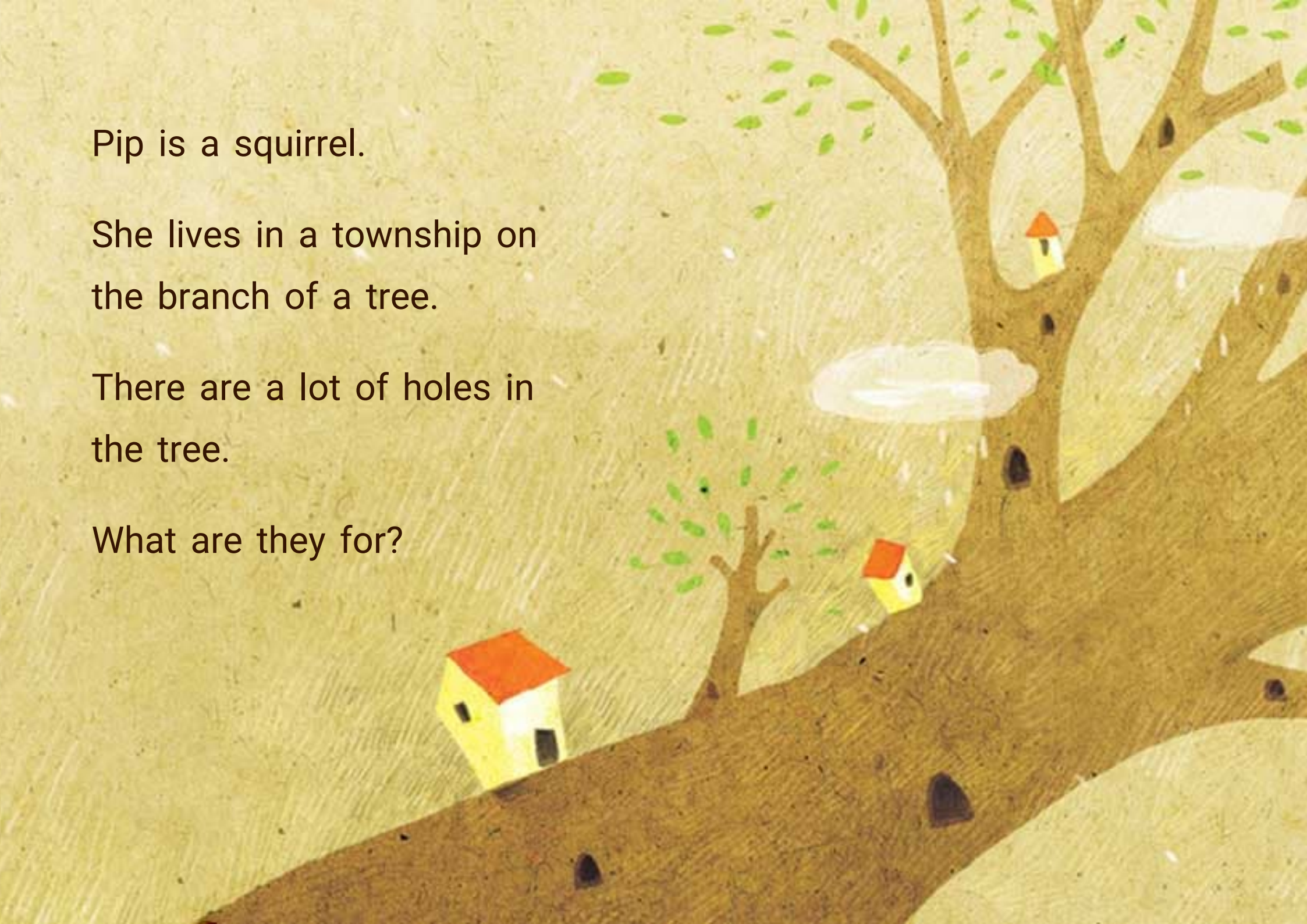
illustrated by
Nguyen Thi Ngoc Bich

Pip is a squirrel.

She lives in a township on
the branch of a tree.

There are a lot of holes in
the tree.

What are they for?





Pip stores nuts in the tree for when the winter comes.

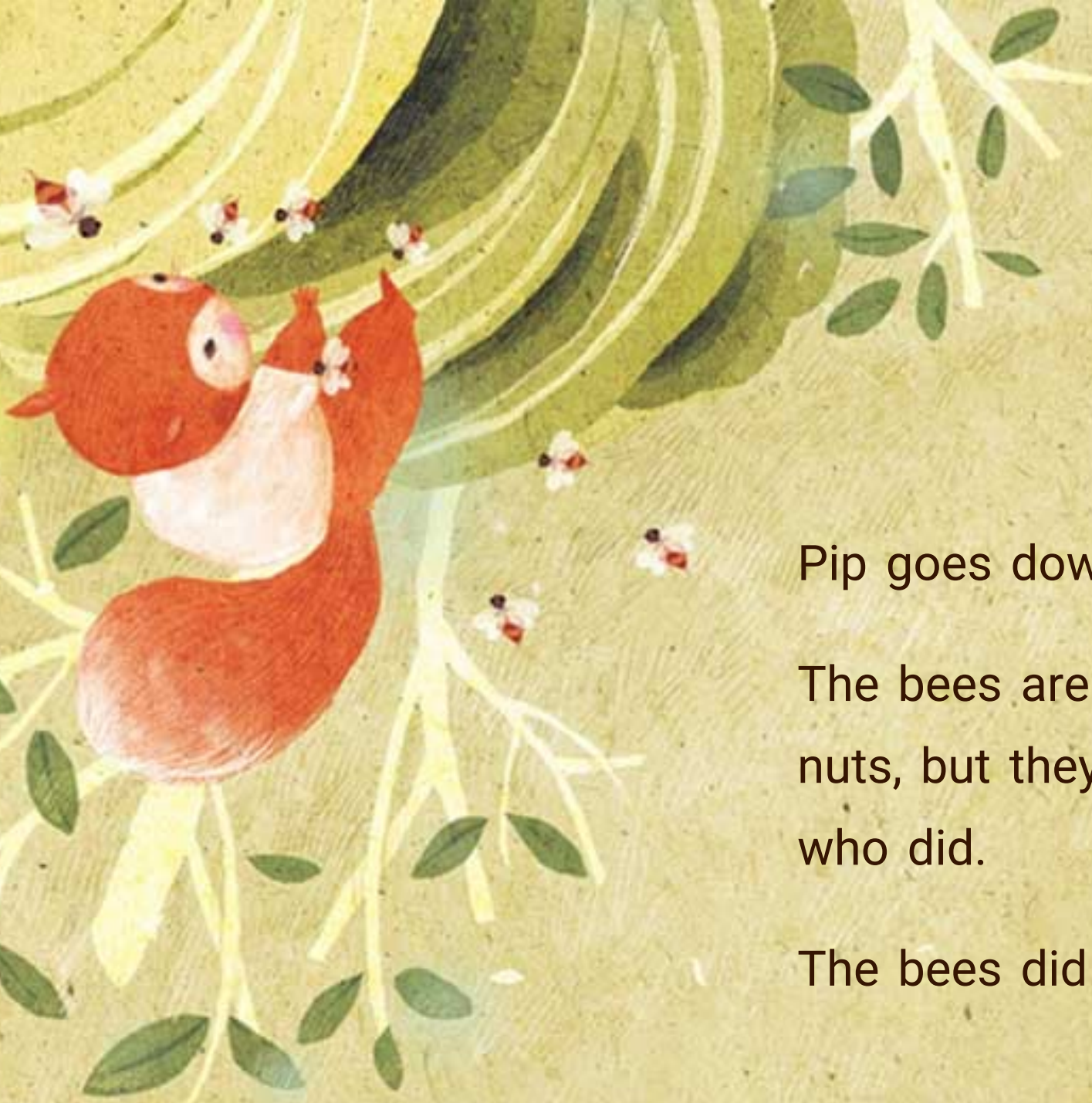
It is too cold to look for food in winter.

She needs a good stock of snacks to get her through.



Pip checks on her nuts and finds that they are all gone!

She chats to a bird that lives in the tree, but the bird did not take her nuts.



Pip goes down to the beehive.

The bees are too small to take nuts, but they might have seen who did.

The bees did not see a thing.



Pip thinks that the bees are not telling the truth.

She is so upset about the nuts that she cannot think straight.

The bees make her leave.

Pip asks a fly if he can help her to find the lost nuts.

The fly has his own things to go. Pip will have to keep up with the search by herself.



Her friend asks if Pip would like to share some of her fruit.

Pip thanks her but says no. She does not want her friend to run out of food.





Liz does not think that their friends in the tree would steal Pip's nuts.

They all see how hard she works to find and store them.



Her words open Pip's mind.

If the nuts were not taken, how else could they have gone missing? She goes all the way down the trunk of the tree.

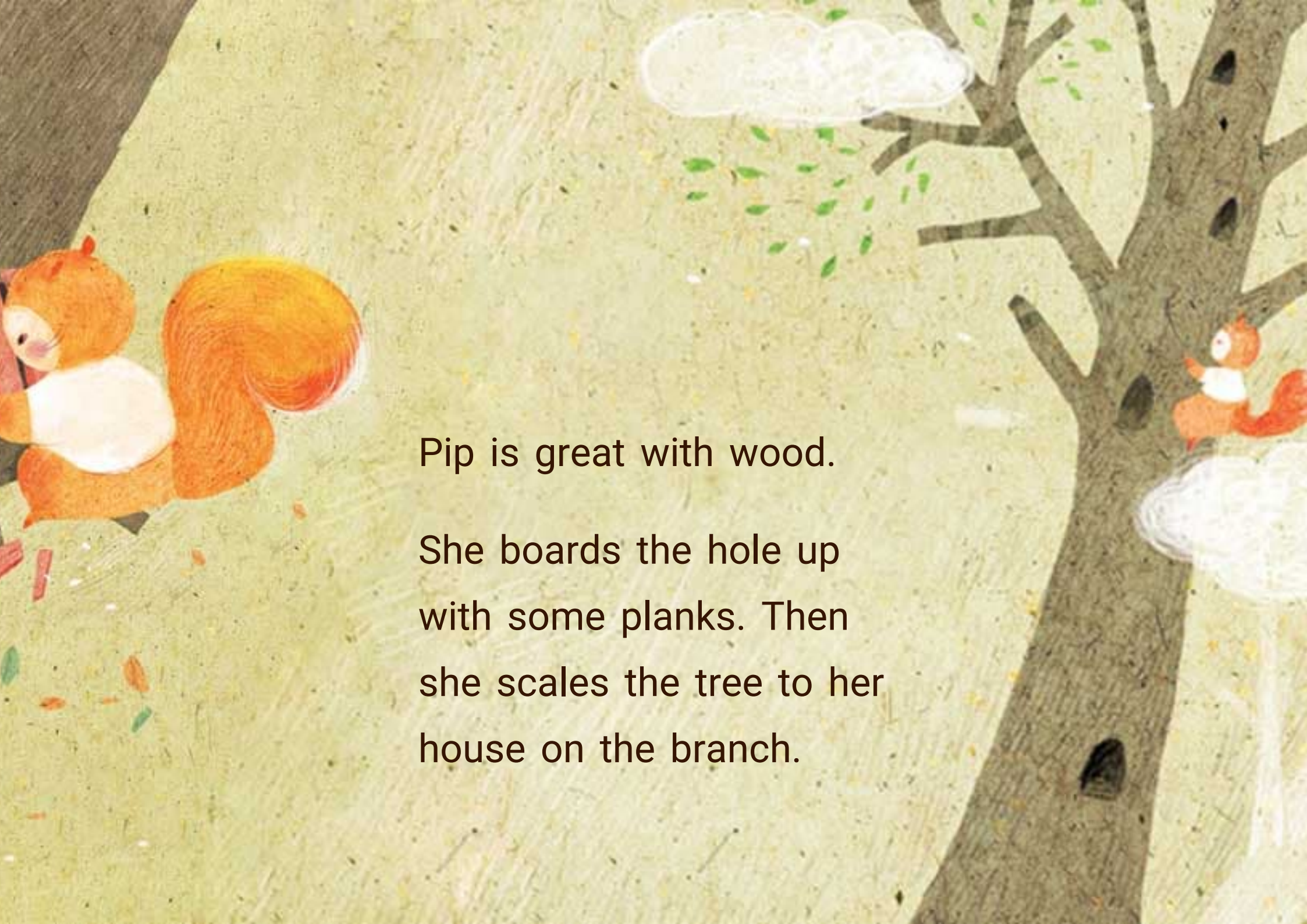
This creature dug a hole in the tree to store his own food.

His plan backfired, and Pip's store of nuts fell out.

It was a mistake.

He helps her to pick them up.



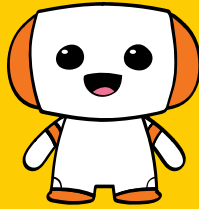


Pip is great with wood.

She boards the hole up
with some planks. Then
she scales the tree to her
house on the branch.



Now Pip has her nest egg for when winter comes. She will have to thank Liz for helping her to look at things from a new point of view.



S1

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