

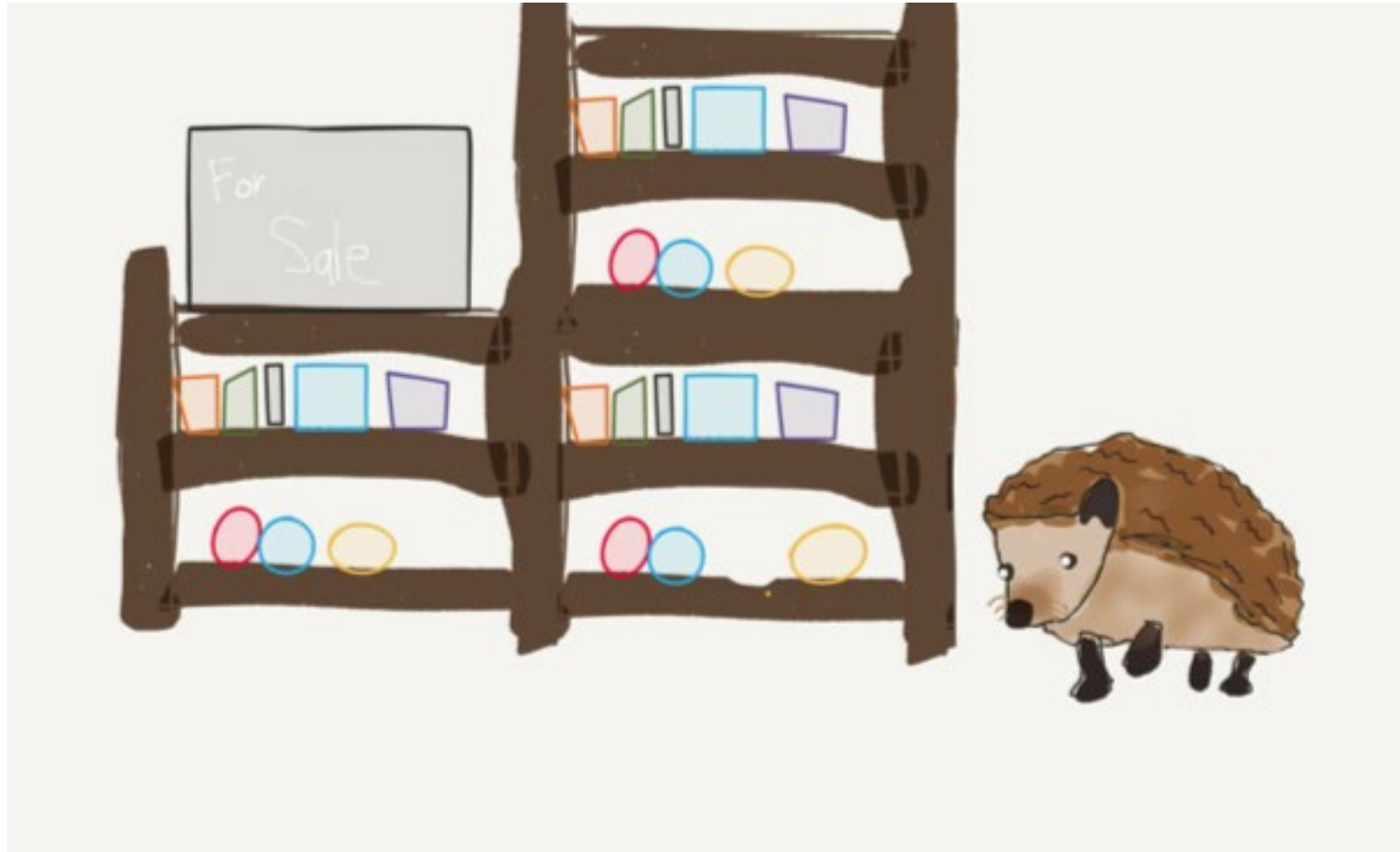
Podge's Honest Adventure



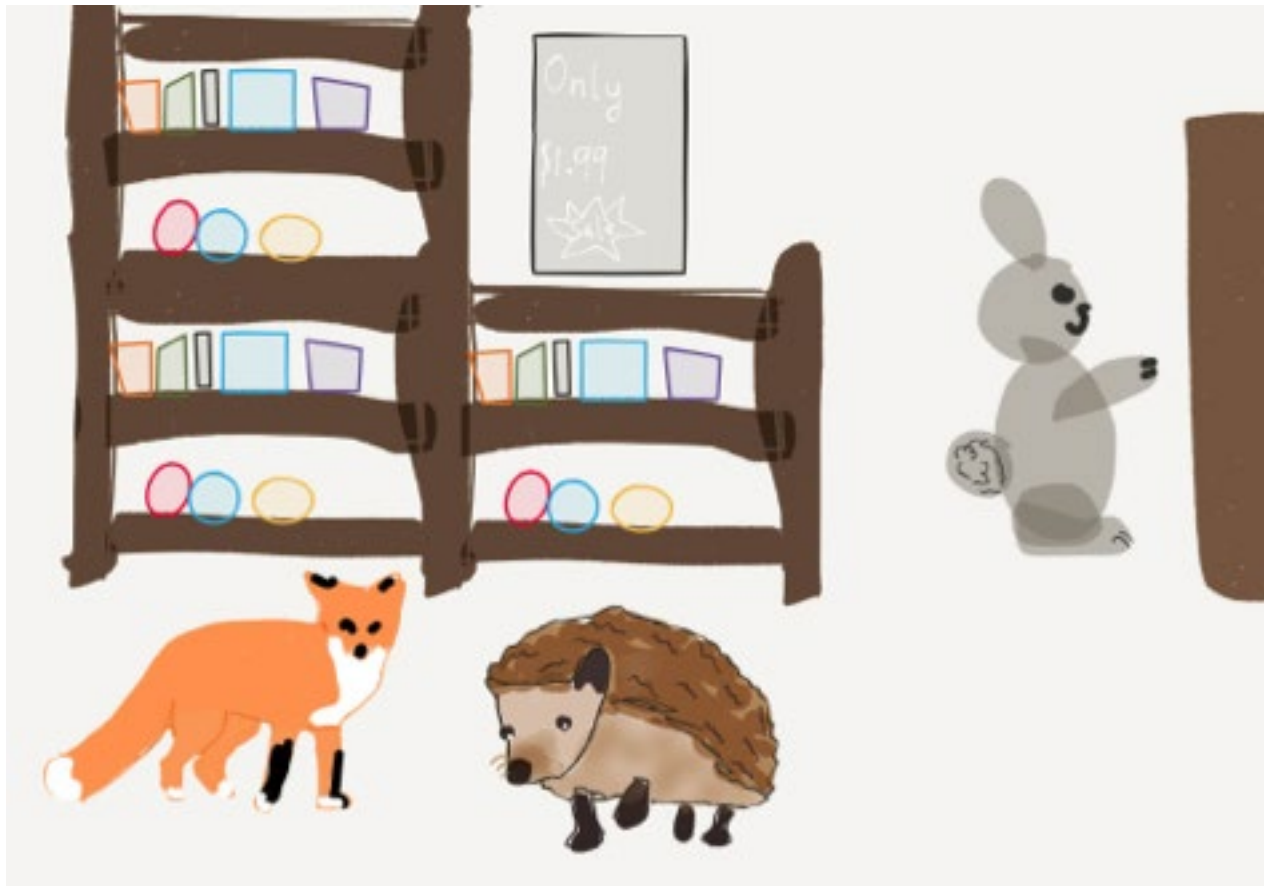
Written by Jane Wight



Podge the Hedgehog and Molly the Fox decided to go to the store.



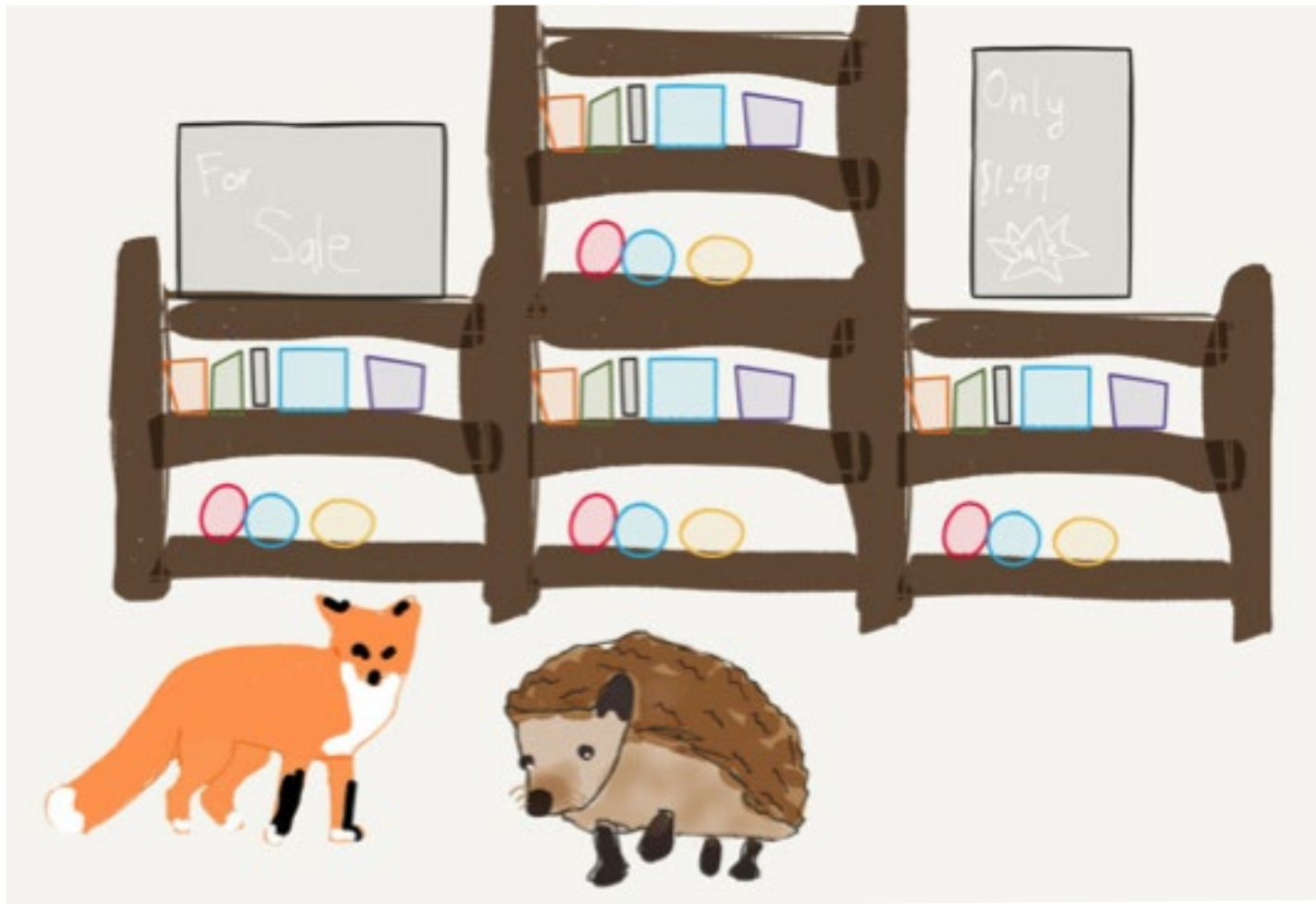
When they got there, Podge began to look around. He saw a super awesome bouncy ball, but Podge didn't have enough money to buy it.



Molly the Fox could tell that it made Podge sad that he could not buy the ball.

“Podge,” Molly called to get his attention.

“Maybe you should just take it, I am sure Mr. Rabbit won’t miss it,” she said.

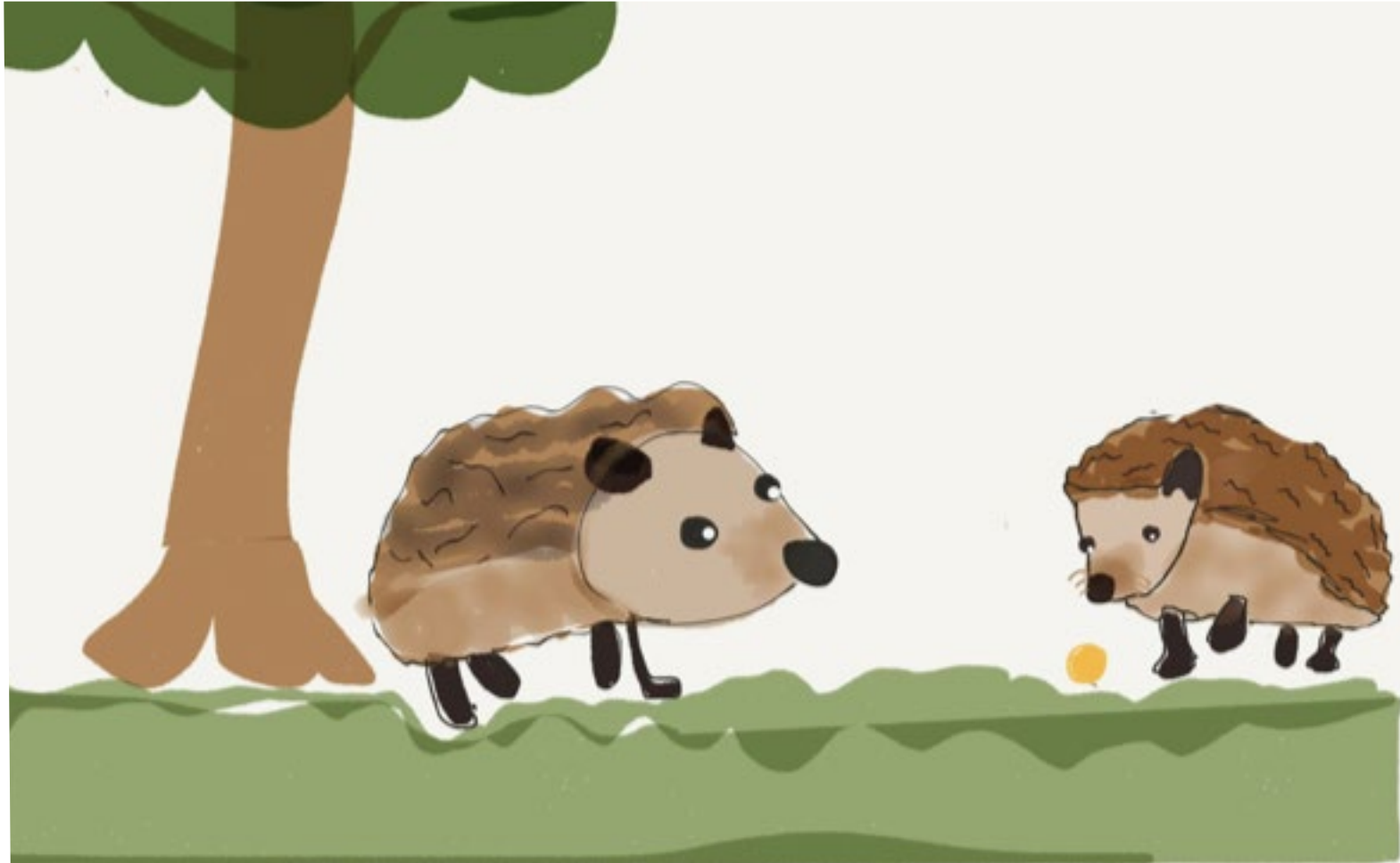


Podge thought that was a good idea. Mr. Rabbit had lots of bouncy balls, he would not miss it. When Mr. Rabbit wasn't looking Podge snuck the ball into his pocket. Molly and Podge walked out of the store and headed home.



Later Podge went outside to play with the ball. He bounced it on the porch and against the door. He was having so much fun! Although from inside Mama Hedgehog was watching him play with his new toy.

Mama Hedgehog remembered that ball from Mr. Rabbit's store. She knew Podge didn't have enough money to buy that bouncy ball. Mama Hedgehog went outside to talk to Podge.

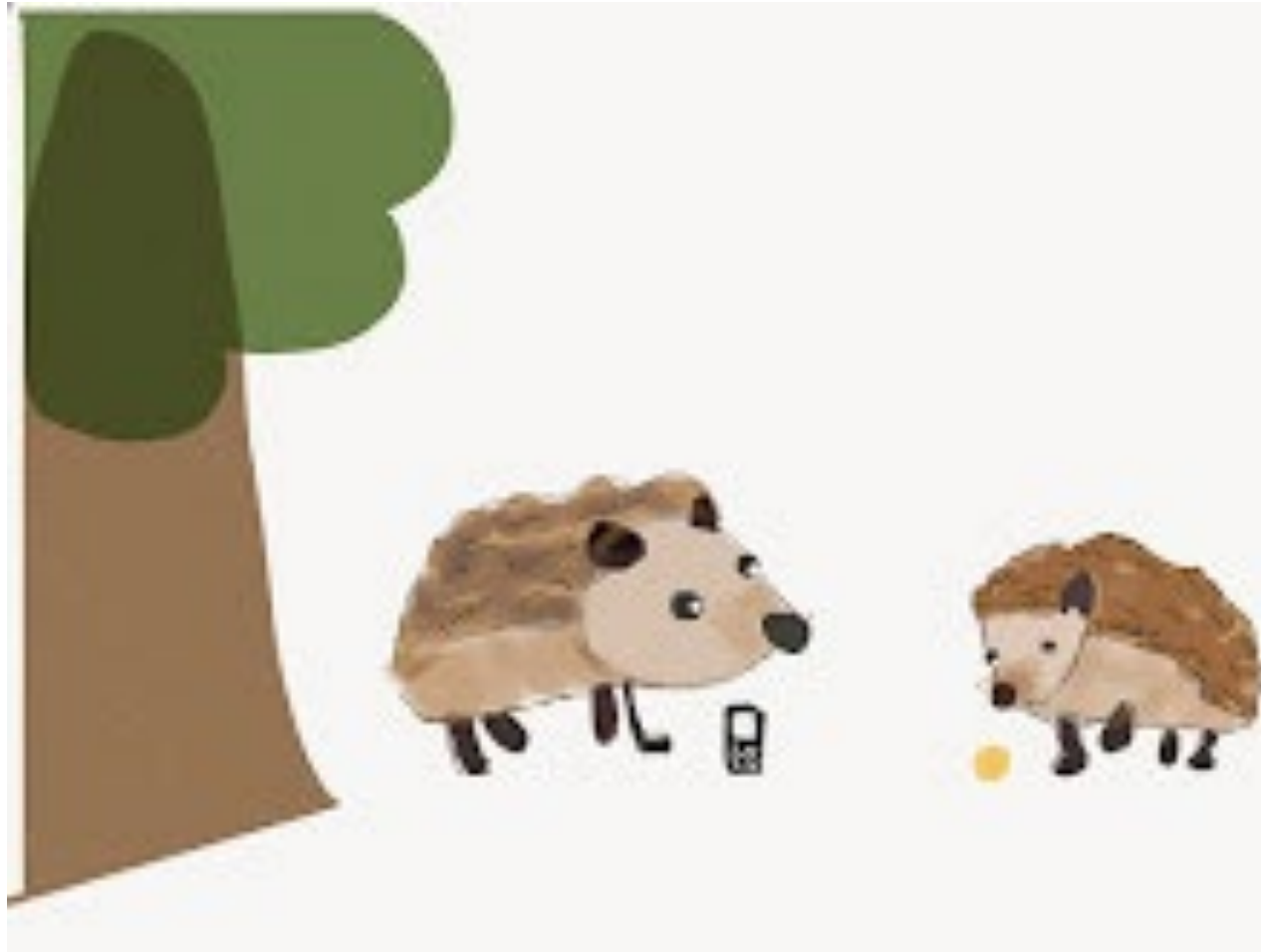


“Podge,” Mama Hedgehog said. “Did you steal that ball?”

Podge turned to look at Mama Hedgehog. He immediately knew that he did something wrong.



Podge knew he could not lie to Mama Hedgehog. “Yes,” Podge replied with shame, “Molly told me to do it.”

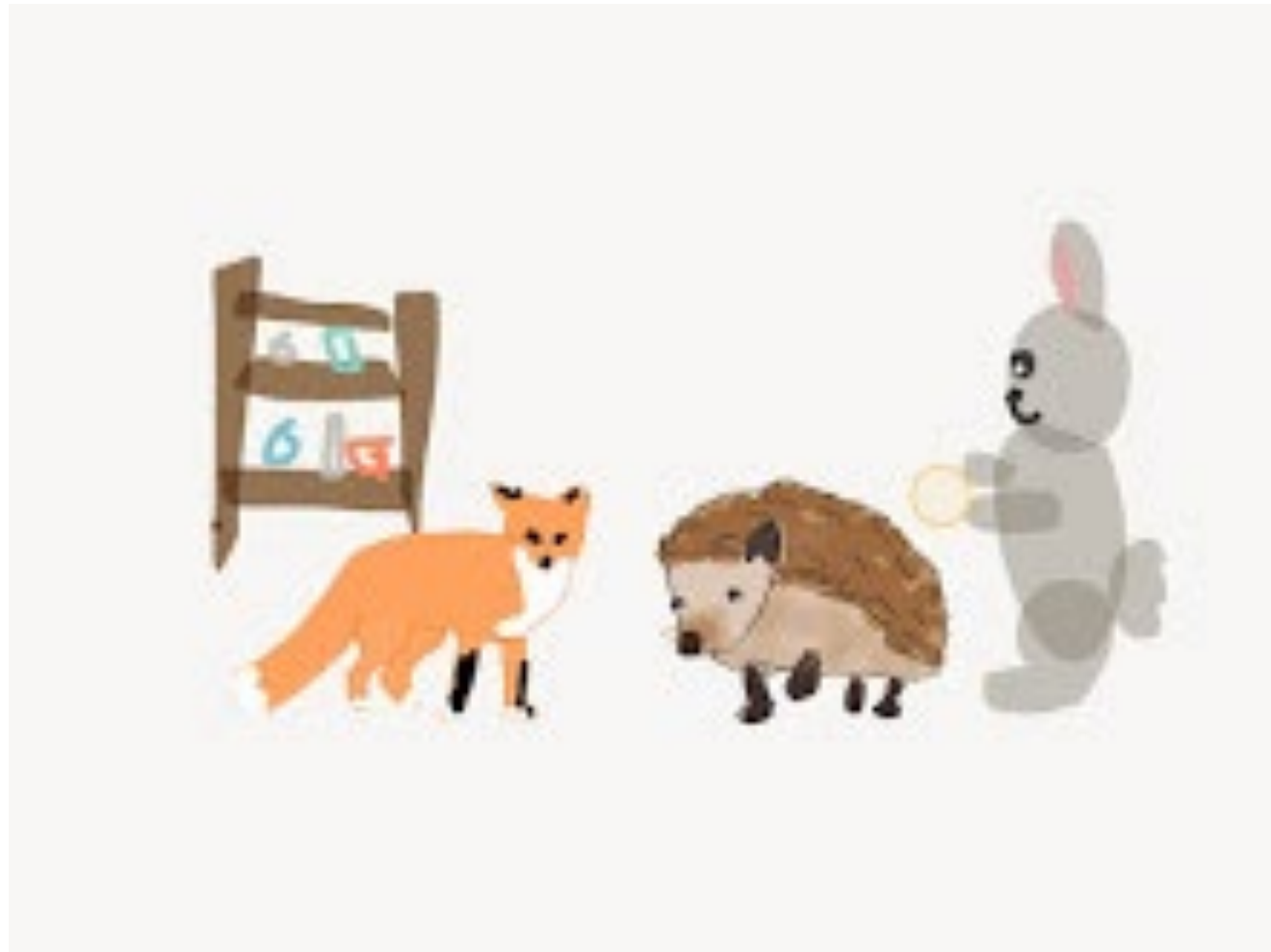


“Podge,” Mama Hedgehog said. “It is not nice to steal, I am sure Mr. Rabbit misses his ball very much, I will go call Molly’s parents and then you will go apologize to Mr. Rabbit for stealing.”



After Mama Hedgehog called Molly's parents they went over to Mr. Rabbit's store. Molly was already waiting there to apologize with Podge.

Podge went up to Mr. Rabbit and gave him back the ball. “I am sorry for stealing,” Podge said. “I promise to never steal again, I know it is wrong and it makes people sad.” Podge finished.



Mr. Rabbit looked at Podge. “Thank you Podge, I was wondering where my ball went. I missed it so much.” Mr. Rabbit put the ball back in its place and went on working in the shop.

Molly apologized to Podge for telling him to steal. “I will never pressure anyone into doing anything bad again,” Molly promised.



Podge and Molly learned that stealing is bad and that they should never ever do it again.



Jane Wight and Camryn Guzman are 8th grade middle schoolers. They both have a love for playing the violin and messing around with technology. They both have always loved to read and this is their very first picture book. They are so excited for this new book!