

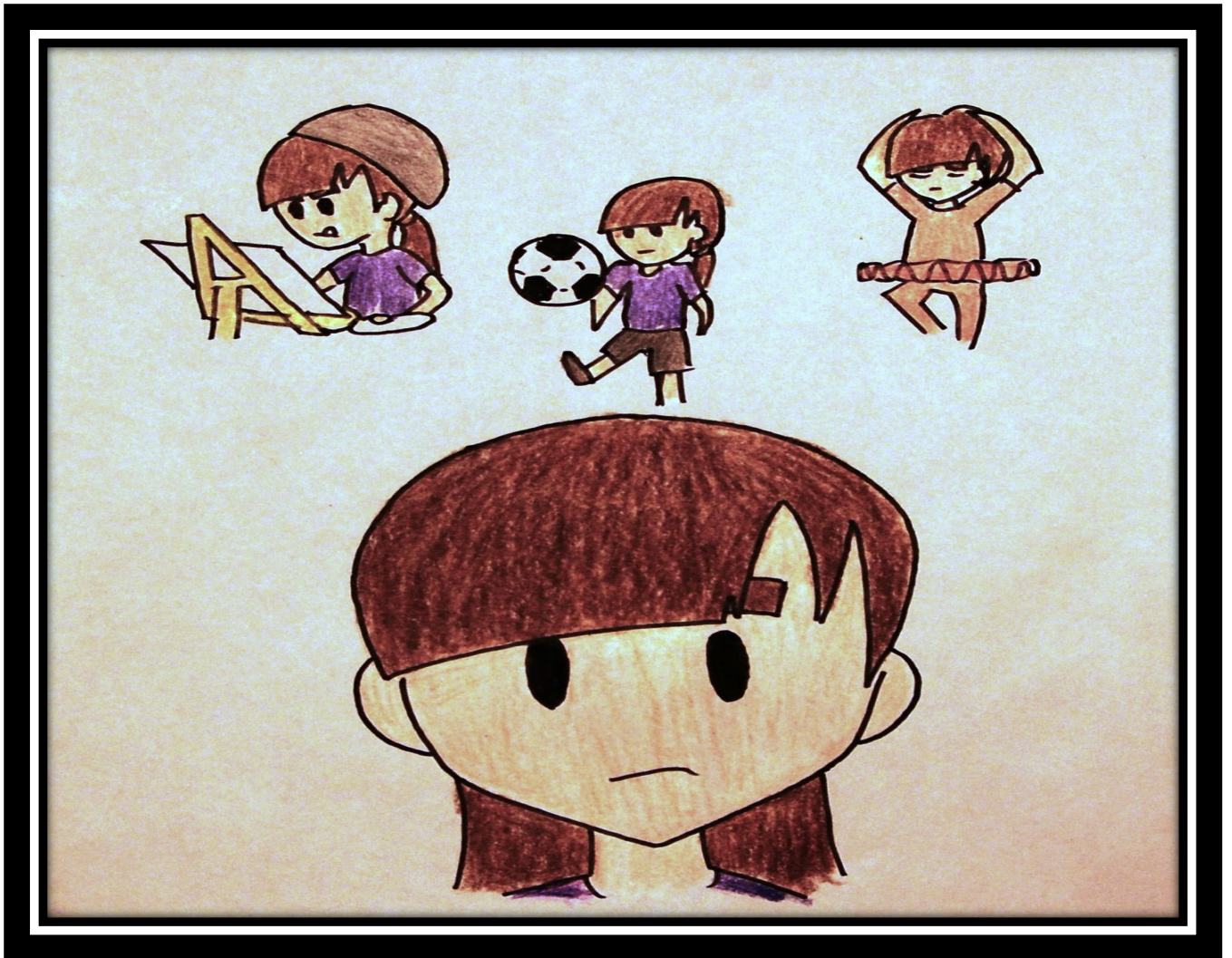
My Very Own Talent



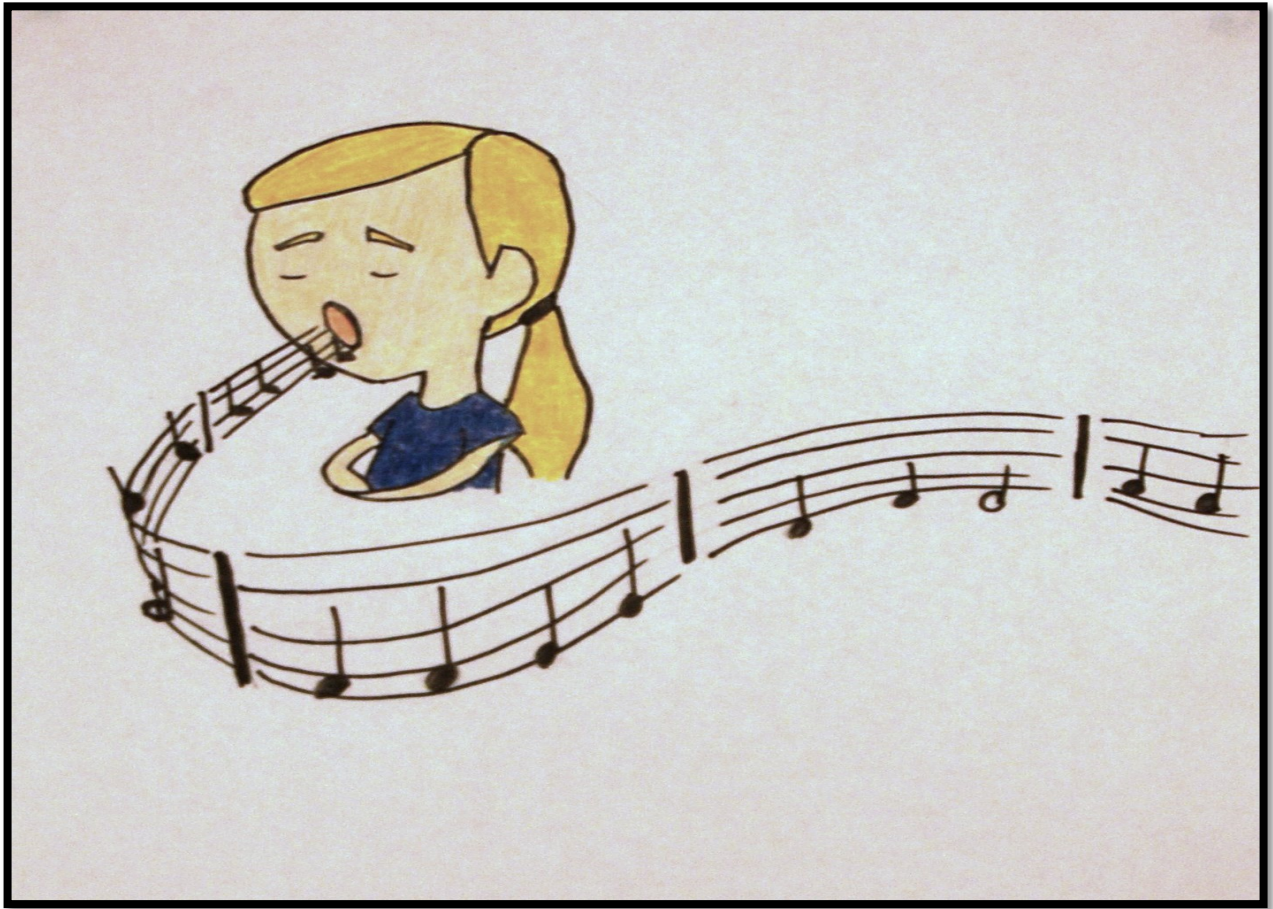
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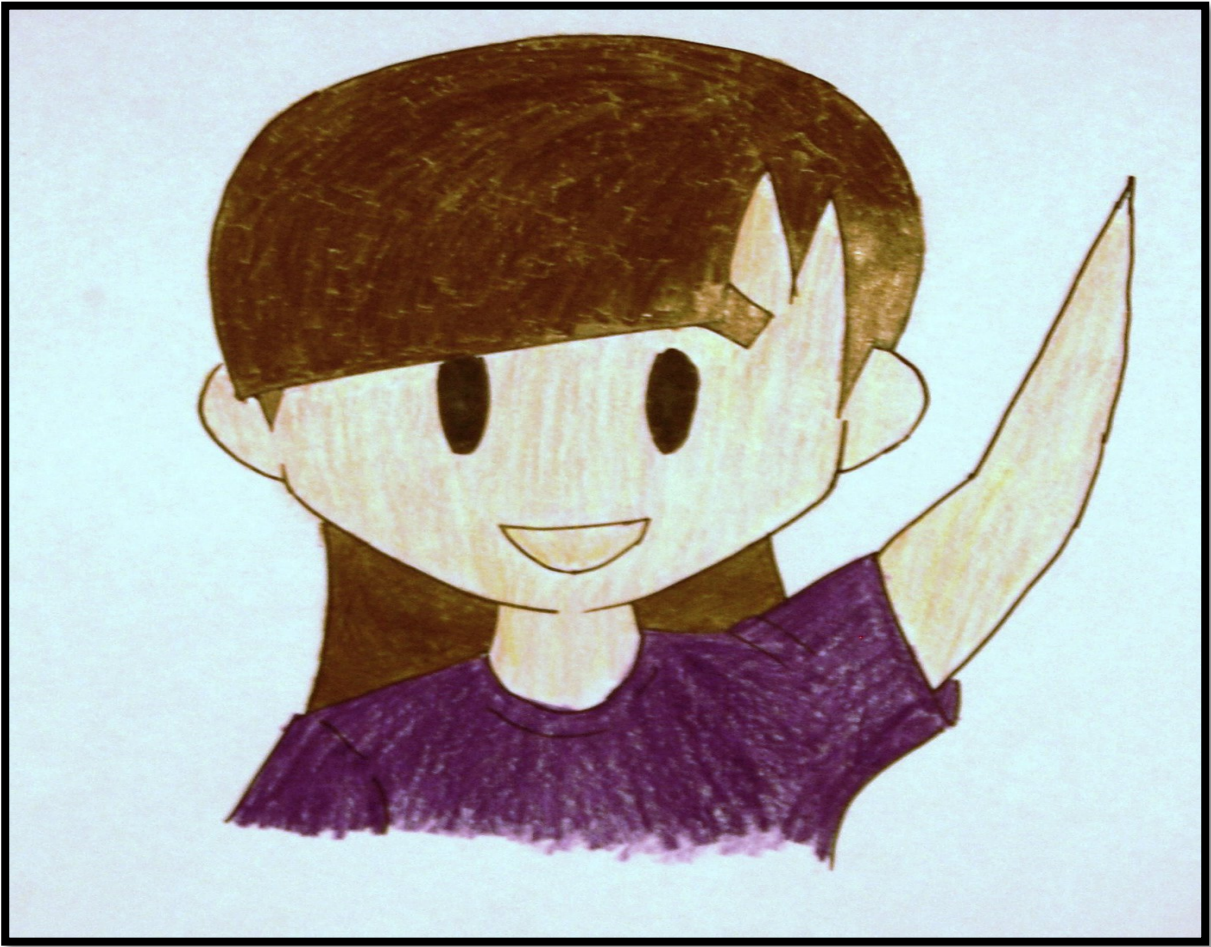
To Everyone Who Helped
Me To Find My Talents
That Make Me Who I Am Today.



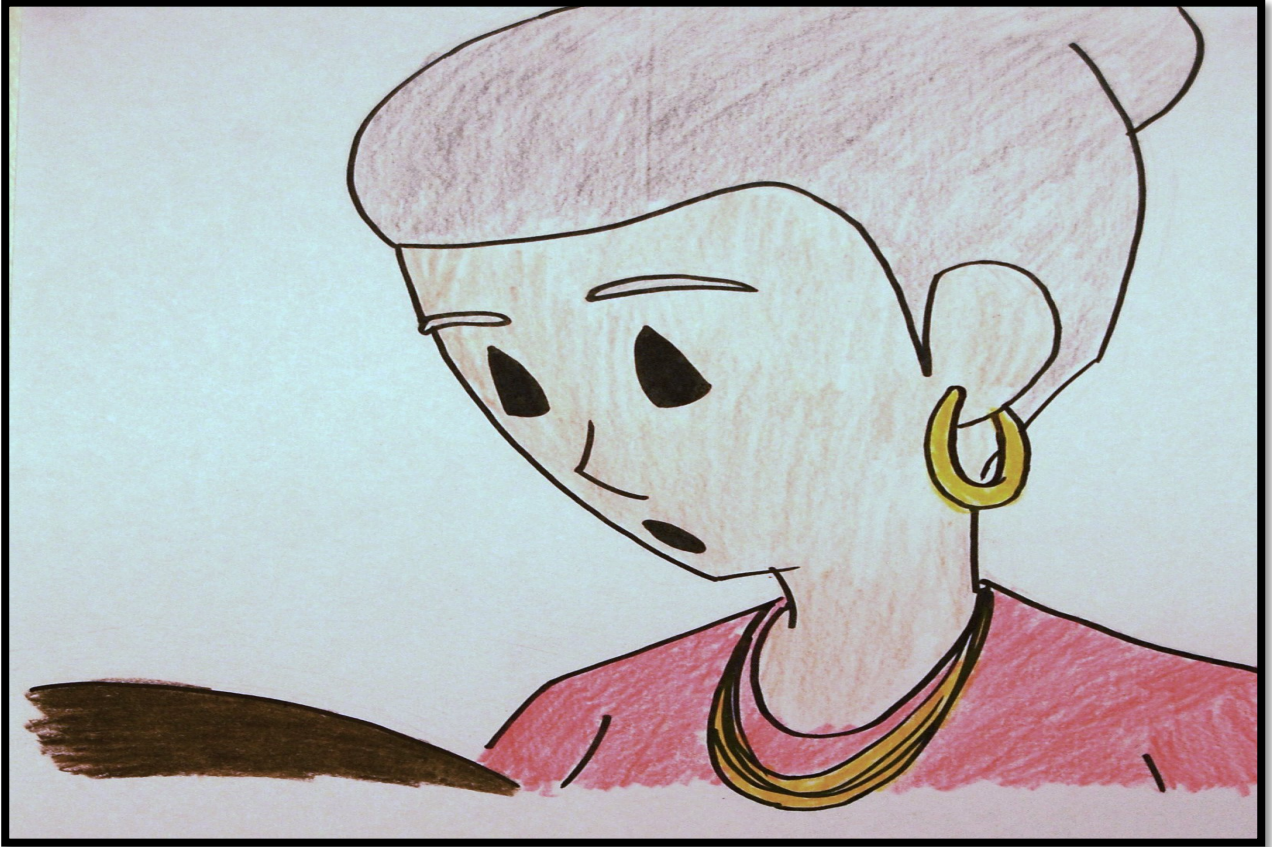
My Name is Susie, and I want to be like everyone else who all seem to be talented in one way or another. Others can sing, or are good at playing soccer, but what is my talent?



I tried to paint, but that didn't go to well... I also asked my friend named Lucy how she was so talented at singing, and she said, "I take lessons, and I practice." I tried to sing too, though people found it boring because I didn't really know what to sing, so I just sang random notes.



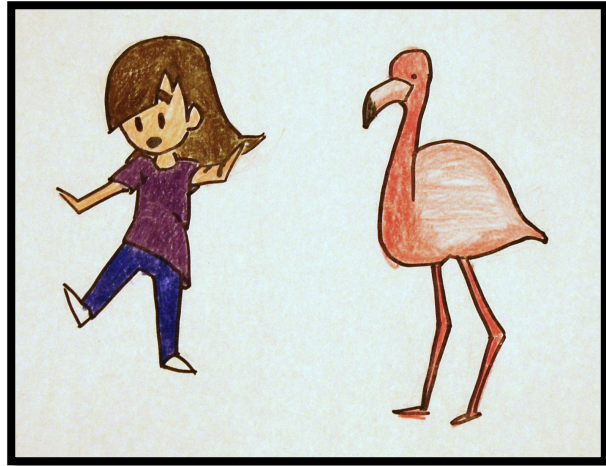
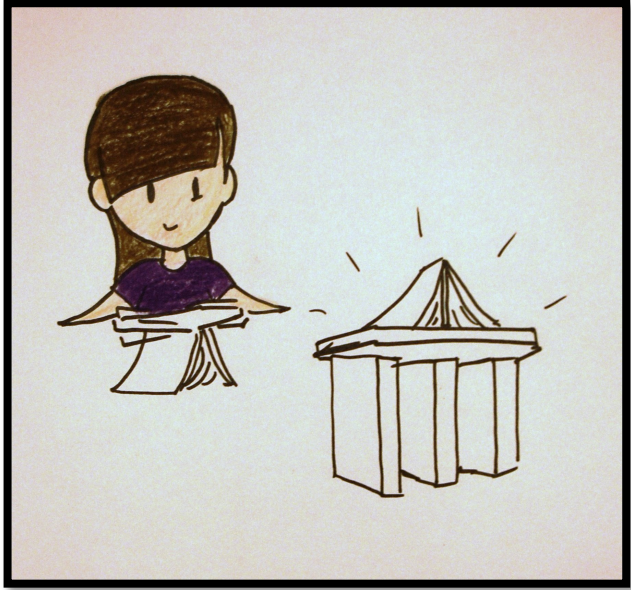
Each day is the same, but not today. Today, I am going to find my talent! When I got to school today, I went to my teacher and asked, “Mrs. Lauren, how do you get talent?”



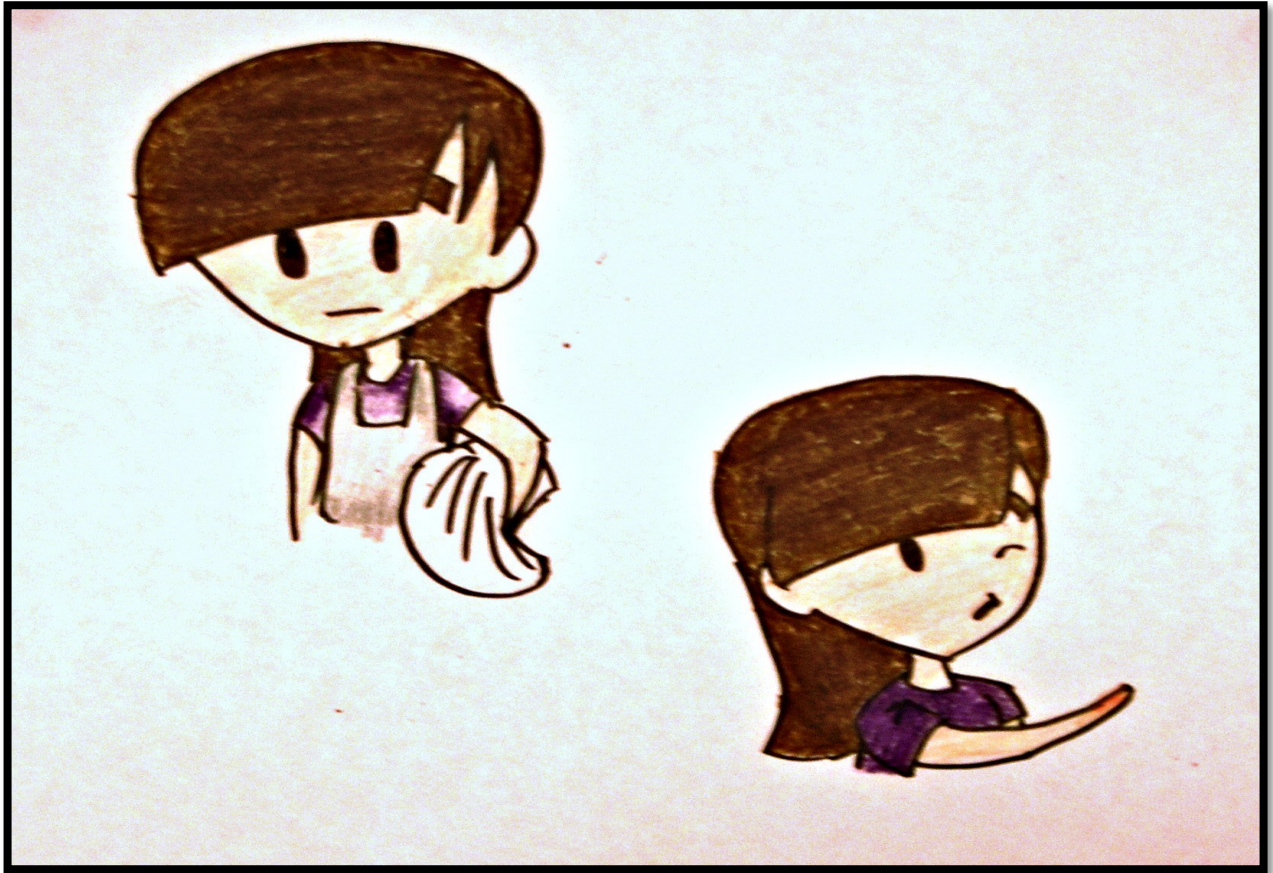
“You can’t get a talent, you earn a talent,” Mrs. Lauren said, smiling. I thought about what Mrs. Lauren had said, trying hard to think of what I might be good at.



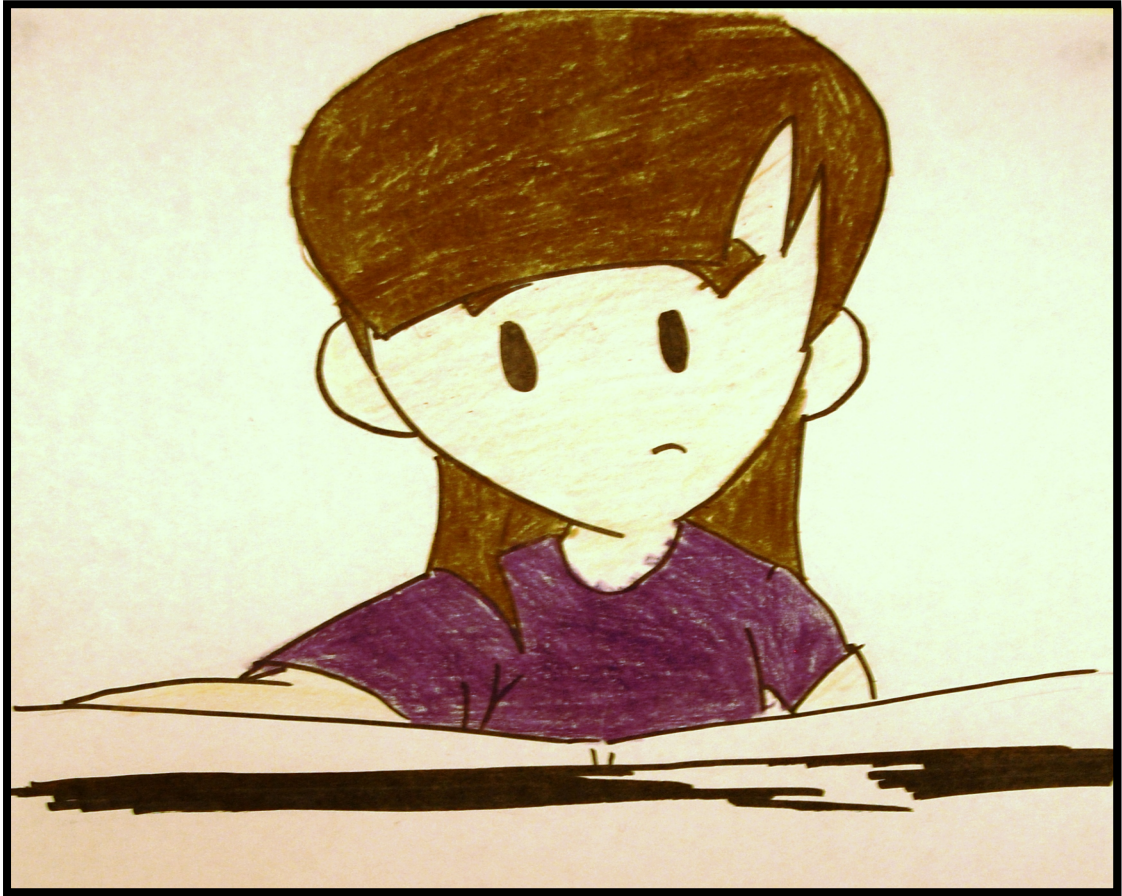
For days, I tried new things, like cooking and sewing... Yet I kept getting dirty and poking my fingers. But soon... I started to find things that I can do well, like reading. Yet, I was not satisfied. I wanted to find something I was really good at.



I tried to build something outstanding, but Nathan made something better... I also tried to dance, but I only looked like a flamingo, with my arms spread weirdly, and I couldn't balance well.



I thought about all the things that I had tried, and decided, “I’m going to do something that I haven’t tried before.”



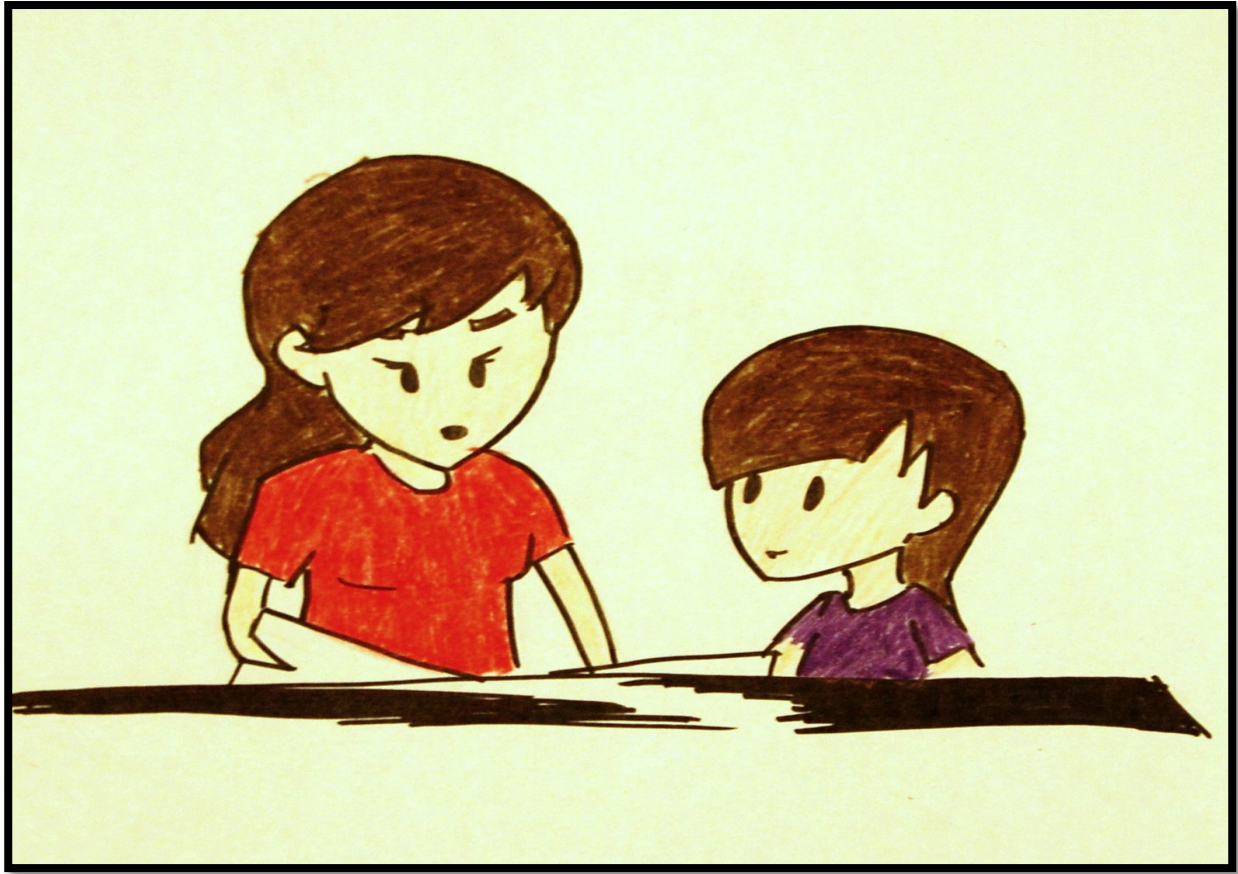
The next day, when I got home, I went over to the old piano in our living room with confidence. I had never played the piano before. I opened the sheet music and set it up, though I started to doubt myself.



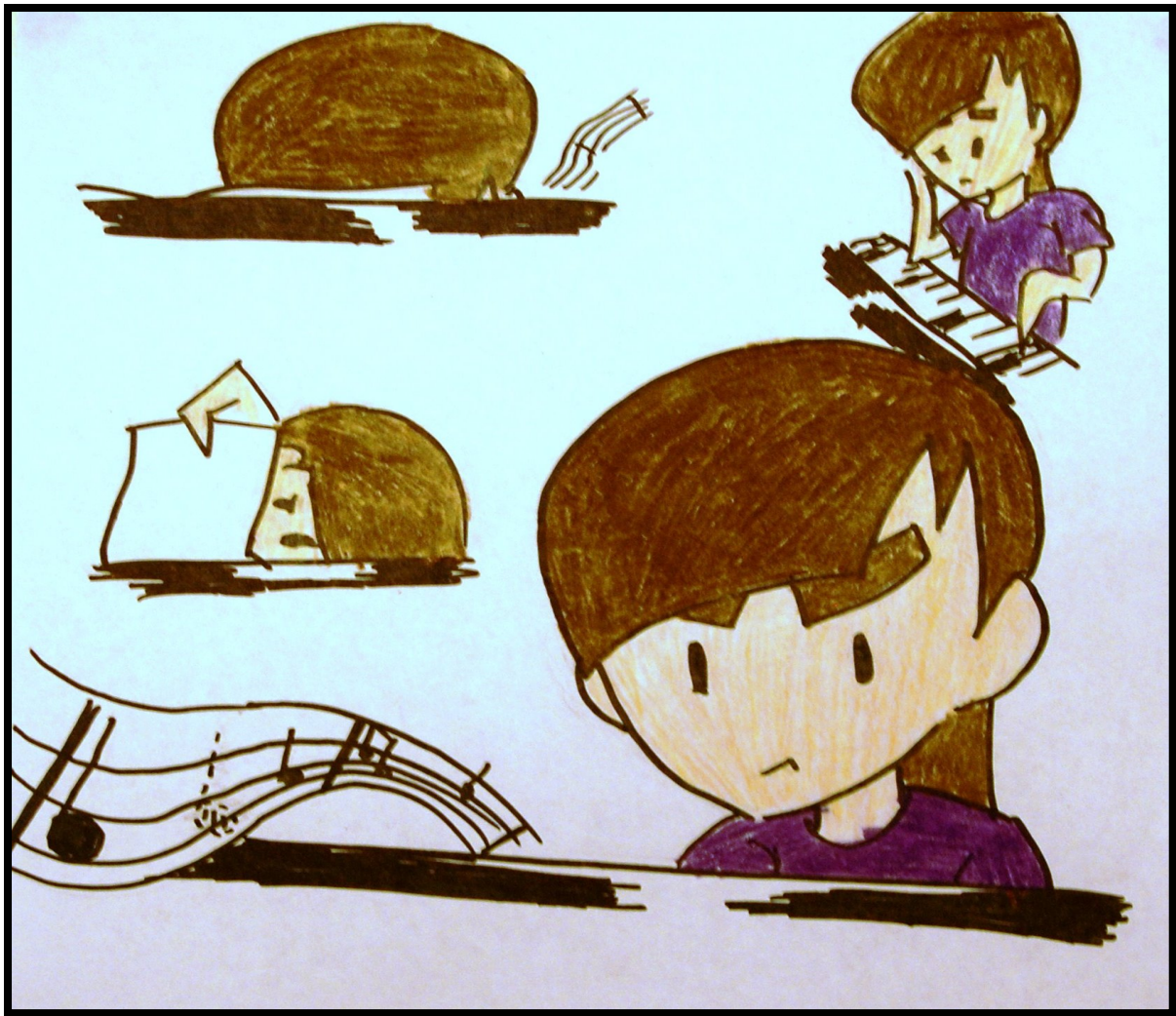
I asked my mom, who was standing beside me,
“Mom, could you help me please?”

“With what?” My mom asked.

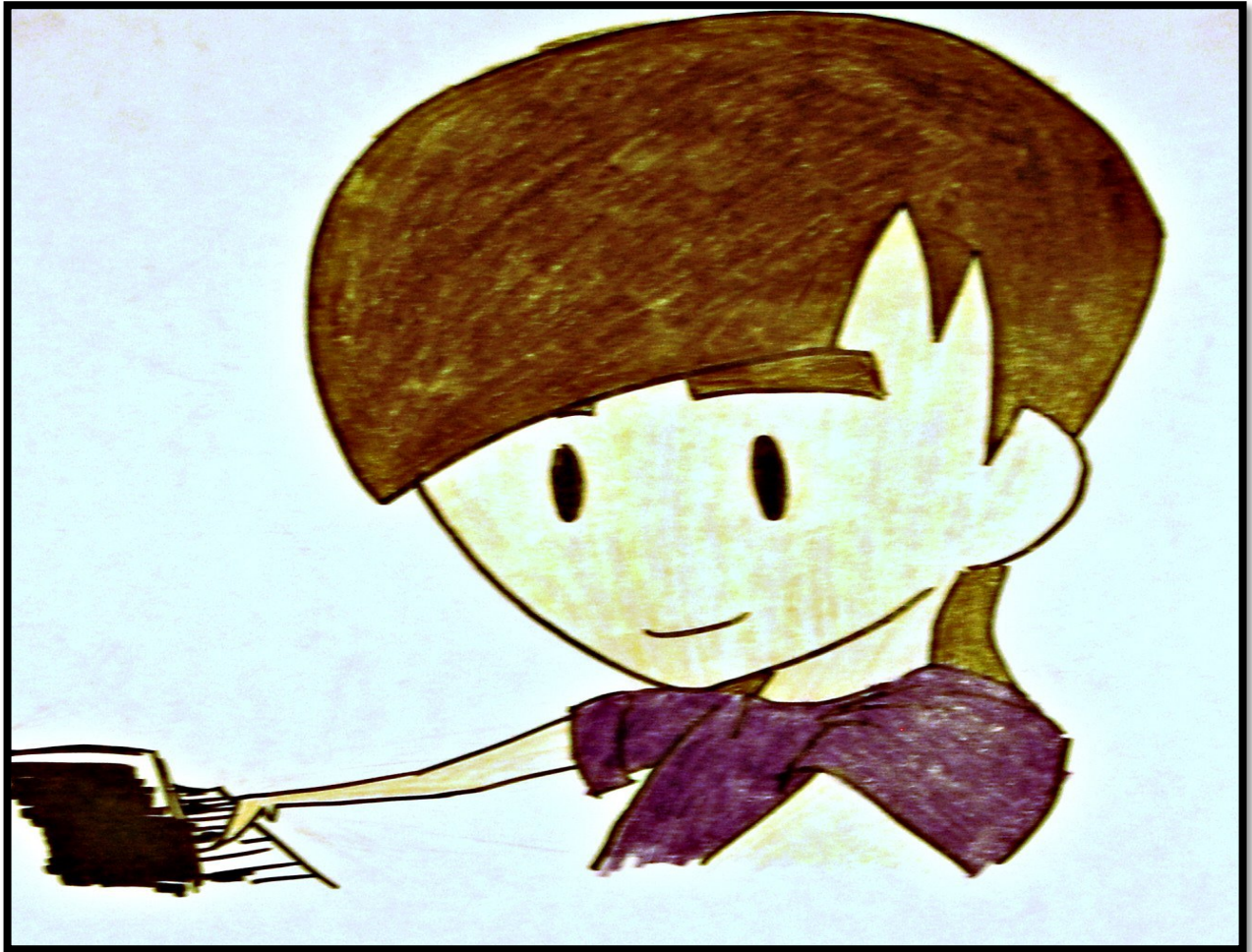
“I want to know how to play.” I replied.



“How about we start with the notes,” my mom said. My mom then helped me to learn the notes, and also the basics of playing. She was really good at helping me, because she used to be a professional music teacher.

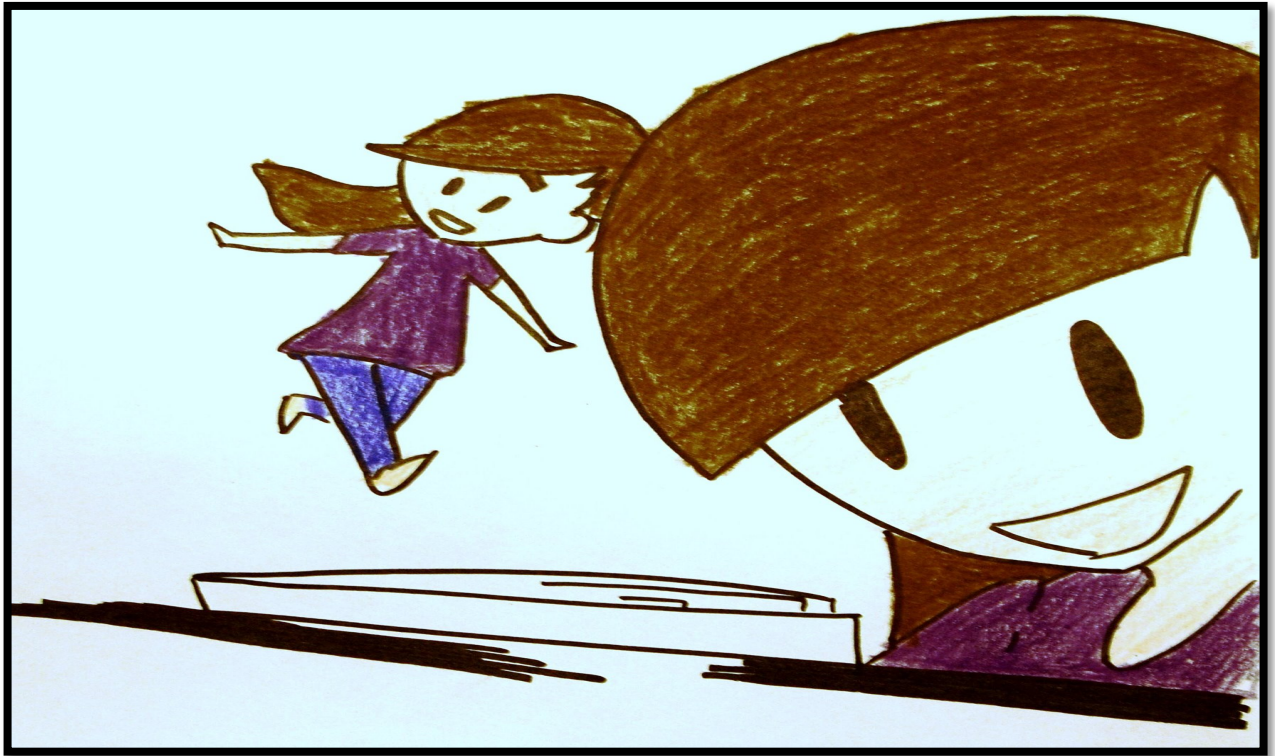


For days, I practiced. I practiced the notes and the dynamics of the song. I tried my best to accomplish my goal. Though, at first, I thought that I could not do this. I kept telling myself, “You’re not playing it right,” or, “You’re never going to be really good at this.” The days grew into weeks and months.



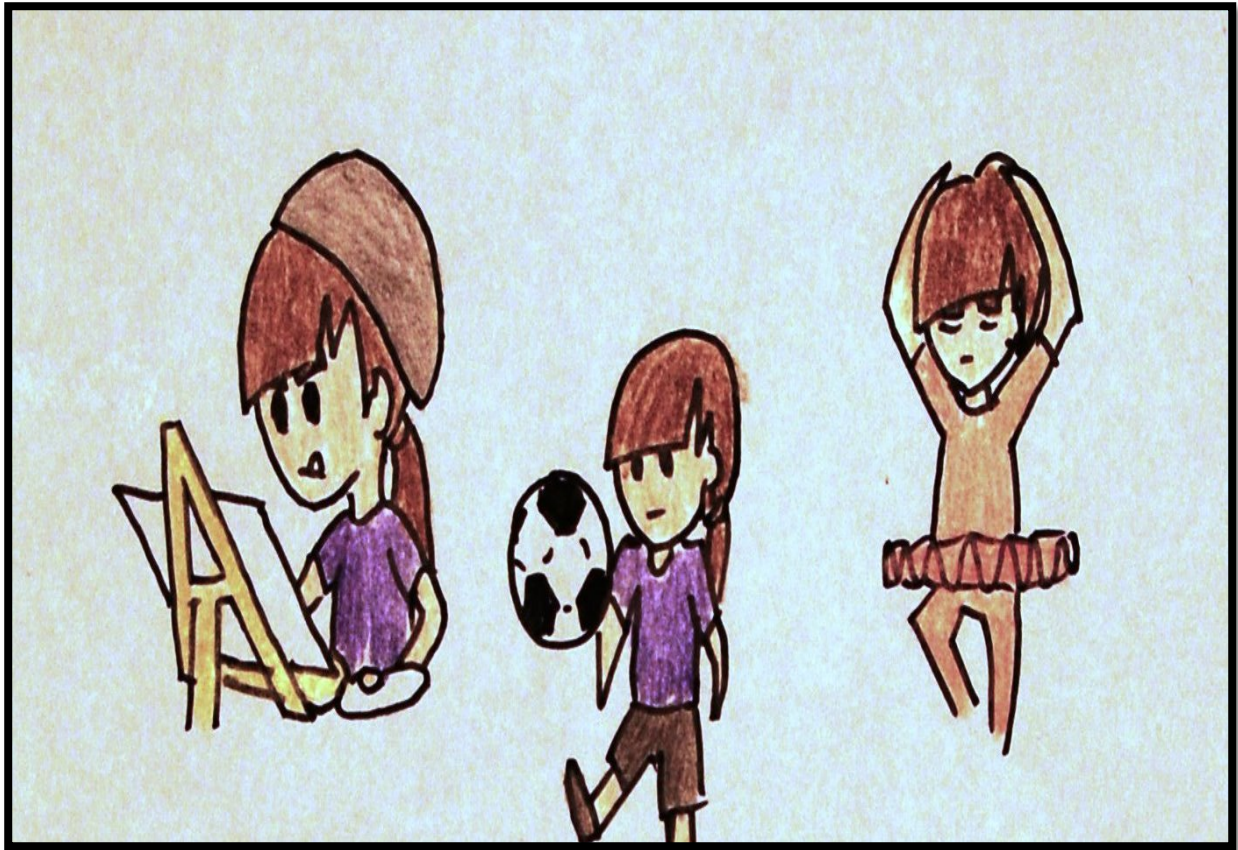
All the while I practiced and practiced, and listened to my mother's advice, and then practiced some more.

My mom helped me though, telling me that I was doing an excellent job, and how I should always continue to practice. Soon, I was able to play music with little, to no mistakes. I really loved hearing the music.



Soon, I could play many songs. People would gather around the piano and sing while I played. We had such fun. Then, suddenly, one of them turned to me and thanked me for sharing my talent for the piano.

I felt so light on my feet; I slipped down the halls and was constantly smiling. I had found my talent, after all that work.



I realized that I didn't have to be like everyone else. I could earn my own talents, and accomplish my own goals. In fact, I could earn as many talents as I wanted.

Glossary:

Accomplish: To complete something

Confidence: Believing that you can do something

Constantly: All the time/ not stopping

Doubt: To believe that you can't do something

Dynamics: The small changes in a song that make it better

Flamingo: A large, pink bird that is usually found around water

Outstanding: To do something very well

Professional: To be really, really good at

Satisfied: Feeling happy about something

This story is to advertise the idea that we all have our own talents, and we all need to try in order to find them. Nothing comes easily, so you need to practice in order to accomplish your goals. This ties into the first grade curriculum through finding a variation with different people in one kind of group. Also, this ties in by showing to do simple experiments, and be able to tell about what they learned.