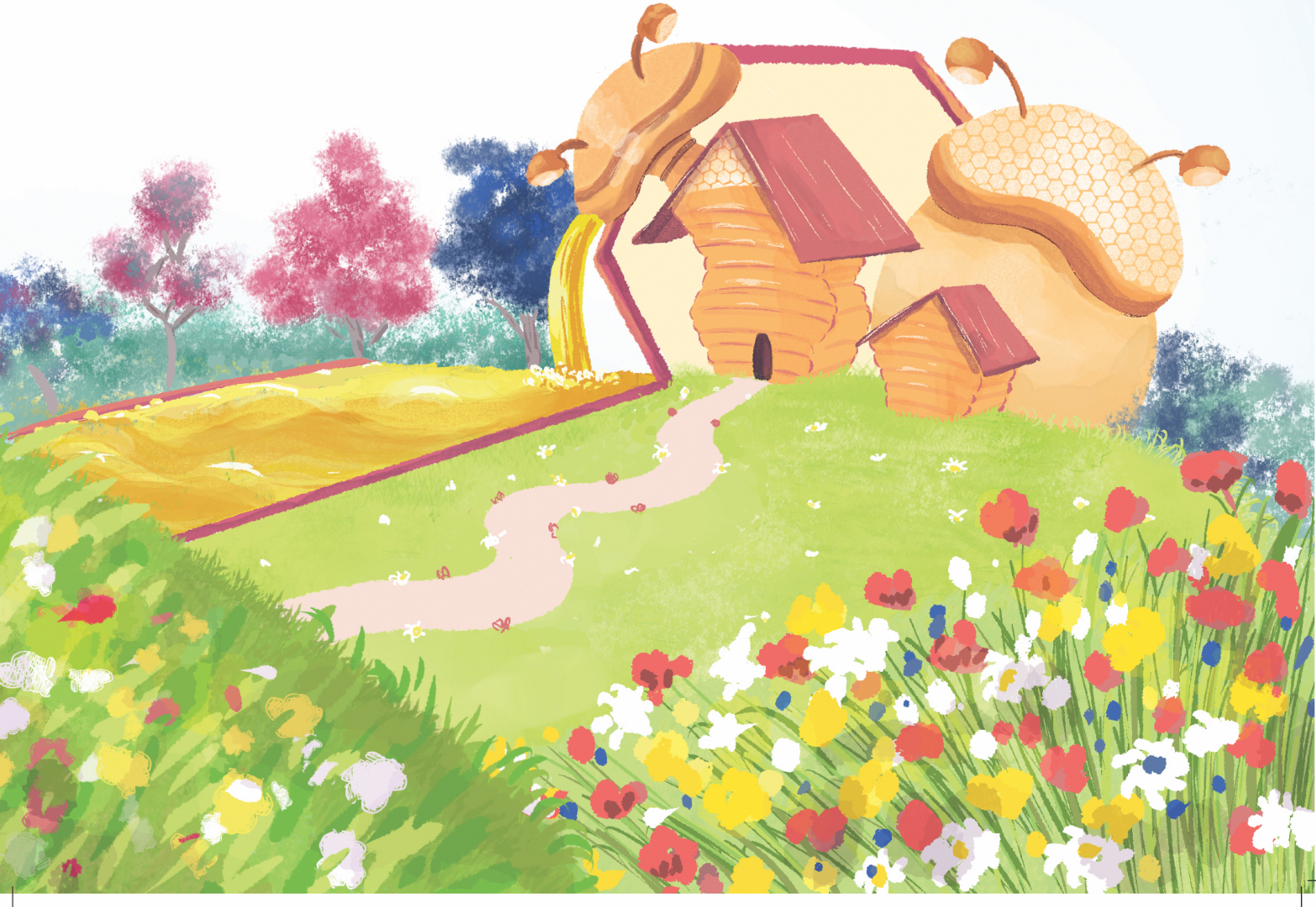
Oris Regina Bond

BUZZ
the Premier Bee

Dalia Awad

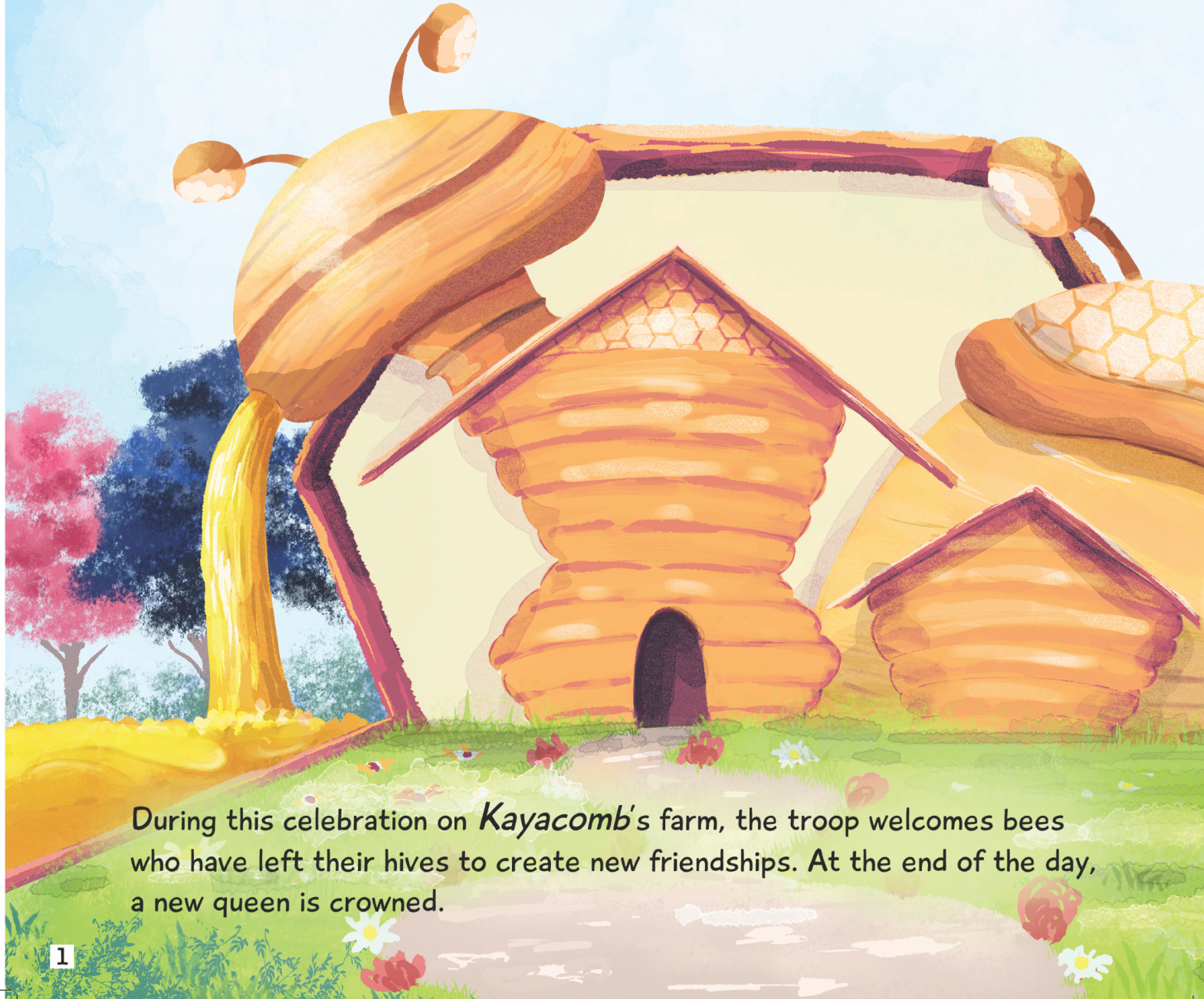
In honor of Chauncey Lee Hodge Sr.



Welcome to Kayacomb

Buzz makes her home with other honeybees in the beautiful town of *Kayacomb*. *Kayacomb* means "harmonious harvest." Living up to the town's name, the honeybees are known for their devotion to *Kayacomb*'s awe-inspiring Harvest Holiday.

Buzz knows all of the neighboring towns admire Kayacomb's magnificent landscape and extraordinary honeycomb. But even more than that, she knows how grateful they are for its Pollination Bee Troop.



During this celebration on *Kayacomb*'s farm, the troop welcomes bees who have left their hives to create new friendships. At the end of the day, a new queen is crowned.

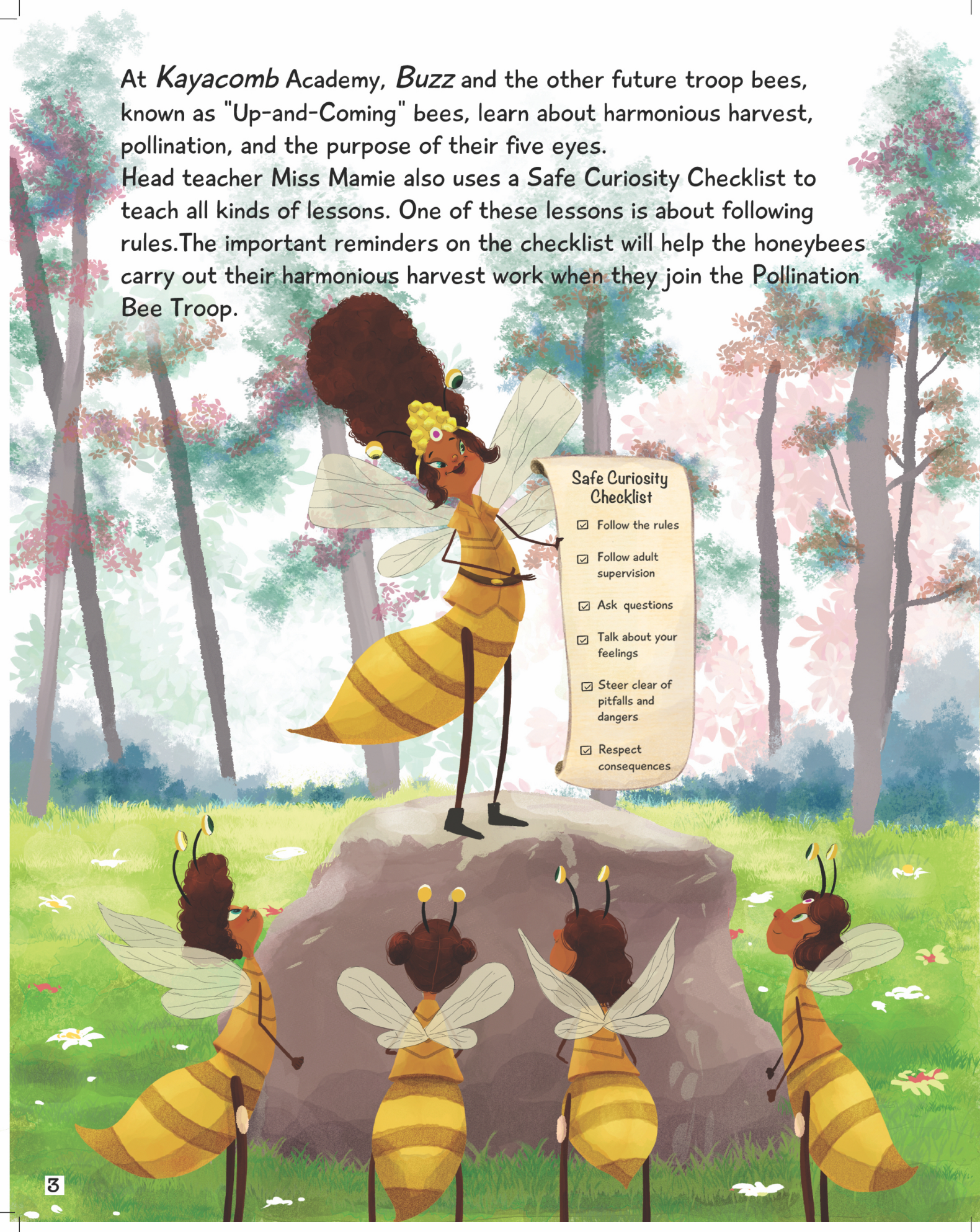


The troop's work with *Kayacomb*'s plants and the new queen's loyalty to her troop are the recipe for amazing friendships. The troop bees help eye-catching plants grow big and strong and ensure that the hives are filled with delicious honey.

The troop's carefully formed friendships with *Kayacomb*'s plants are thrilling to the bees and a delight to the town. These friendships create the Miracle of Pollination and represent harmonious harvest at its best.

At *Kayacomb* Academy, *Buzz* and the other future troop bees, known as "Up-and-Coming" bees, learn about harmonious harvest, pollination, and the purpose of their five eyes.

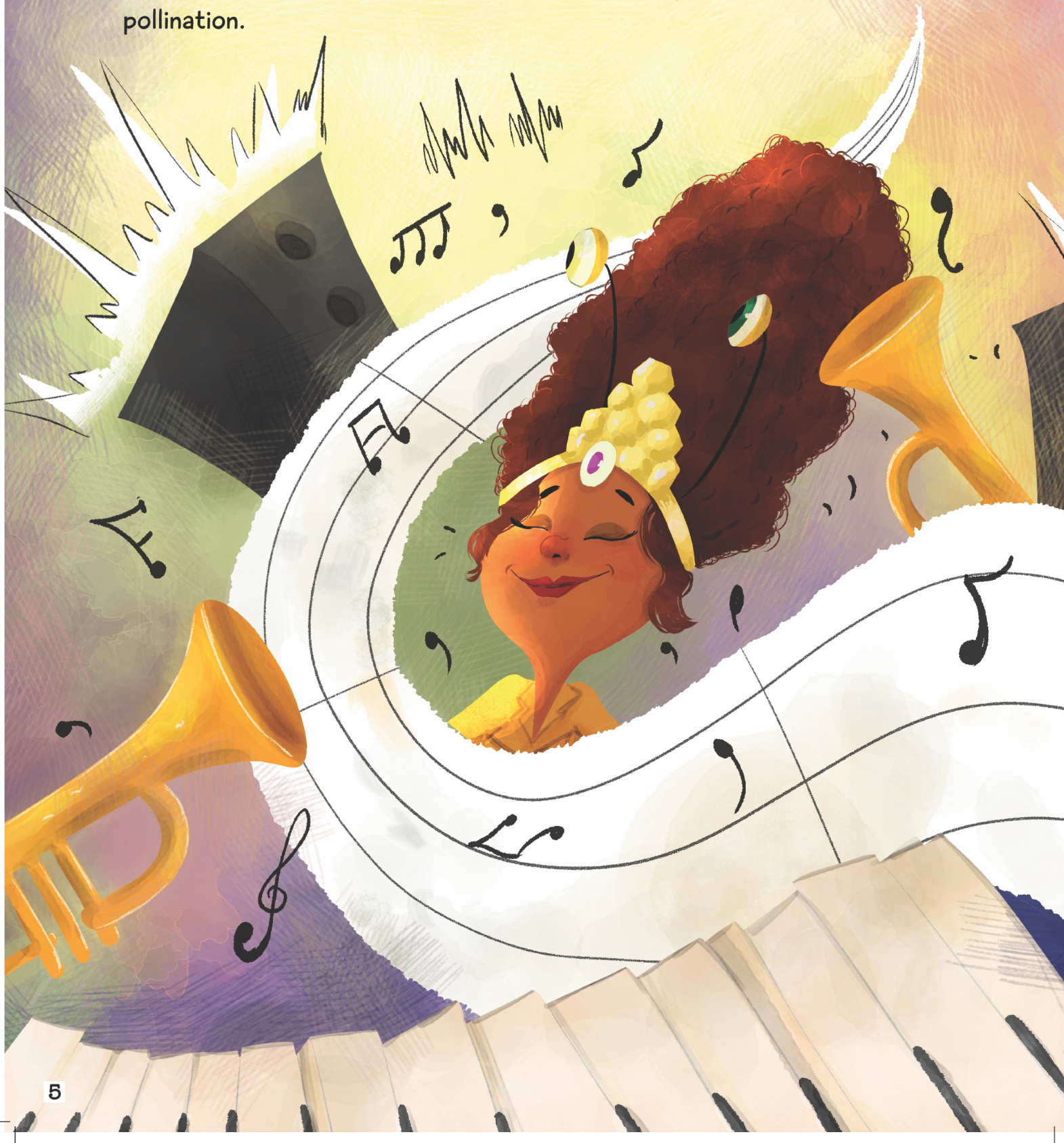
Head teacher Miss Mamie also uses a Safe Curiosity Checklist to teach all kinds of lessons. One of these lessons is about following rules.The important reminders on the checklist will help the honeybees carry out their harmonious harvest work when they join the Pollination Bee Troop.





Miss Mamie, *Kayacomb's* lead queen bee, is so proud of the Up-and-Coming bees. She fondly compares her impression of them to her grand honeycomb-shaped beehive hairdo, which seems to always overflow with honey!
Soon she will grant the Up-and-Coming bees their full rights to participate in Harvest Holiday pollination activities!

Music streams over the academy loudspeaker, signaling a new school day. Miss Mamie smiles widely at the sweet sound of piano keys, the roar of a trumpet, and the rumble of conga drums. She loves the sound these instruments make together. Their harmony reflects the beauty of pollination.



The rhythm of the conga drums, Miss Mamie's favorite instrument, unites the academy bees and maintains order on Harvest Holiday. With the help of the music, *Kayacomb* and its harmonious harvest will always be revered.



Miss Mamie's Lessons

Miss Mamie observes *Buzz* holding her copy of the Pollination Troop Bee guidebook, which is given to all the honeybees on their first day at the academy.

Buzz is working toward earning the title of Pollination Troop Premier Bee, queen of the troop. The queen's main duty is to inspire the troop with her courage and wisdom to live up to *Kayacomb*'s name.

The queen's mantra, "I am loyal," helps her stay focused and act out the harmonious harvest.



Miss Mamie teaches *Buzz* and the other bees about the favorable friendship between bees and plants.

"Species like bees and plants help each other grow and stay alive," she tells them.

As the bees travel from plant to plant, they slurp sweet fluid known as nectar. Nectar is their source of food and what honey is made from. The bees also collect a powder called pollen and carry it to a special feature of each plant. This friendly transfer of pollen is the process that helps new eye-catching plants grow.



Miss Mamie explains to the bees with a wink, "This is the Miracle of Pollination and harmonious harvest at its best!" Throughout their academy training, the honeybees learn all about the value of working in harmony not only with the plants, but also with each other.

Miss Mamie's beehive hairdo is chock-full of facts. She constantly pulls them out to be one-hundred-bee-percent sure the bees will be well-prepared for Harvest Holiday pollination activities.

Miss Mamie shows the bees lots of dances. Each one will be used to find nectar sources and good plant paths during the Harvest Holiday celebration. The Up-and-Coming bees watch while Miss Mamie waggles, taps, does the jitterbug, bee bops, salsas, fox trots, and joy dances.

