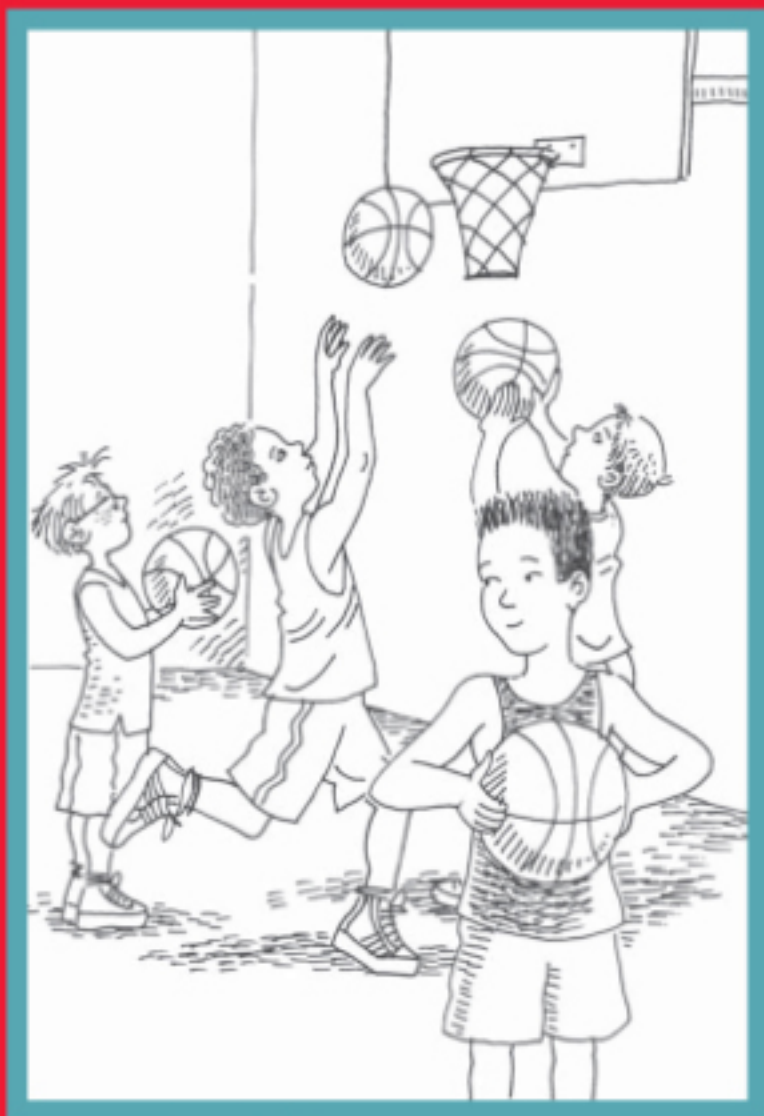


Basketball Dreams

By Sheila Clark-Edmands

Illustrated by George Ulrich



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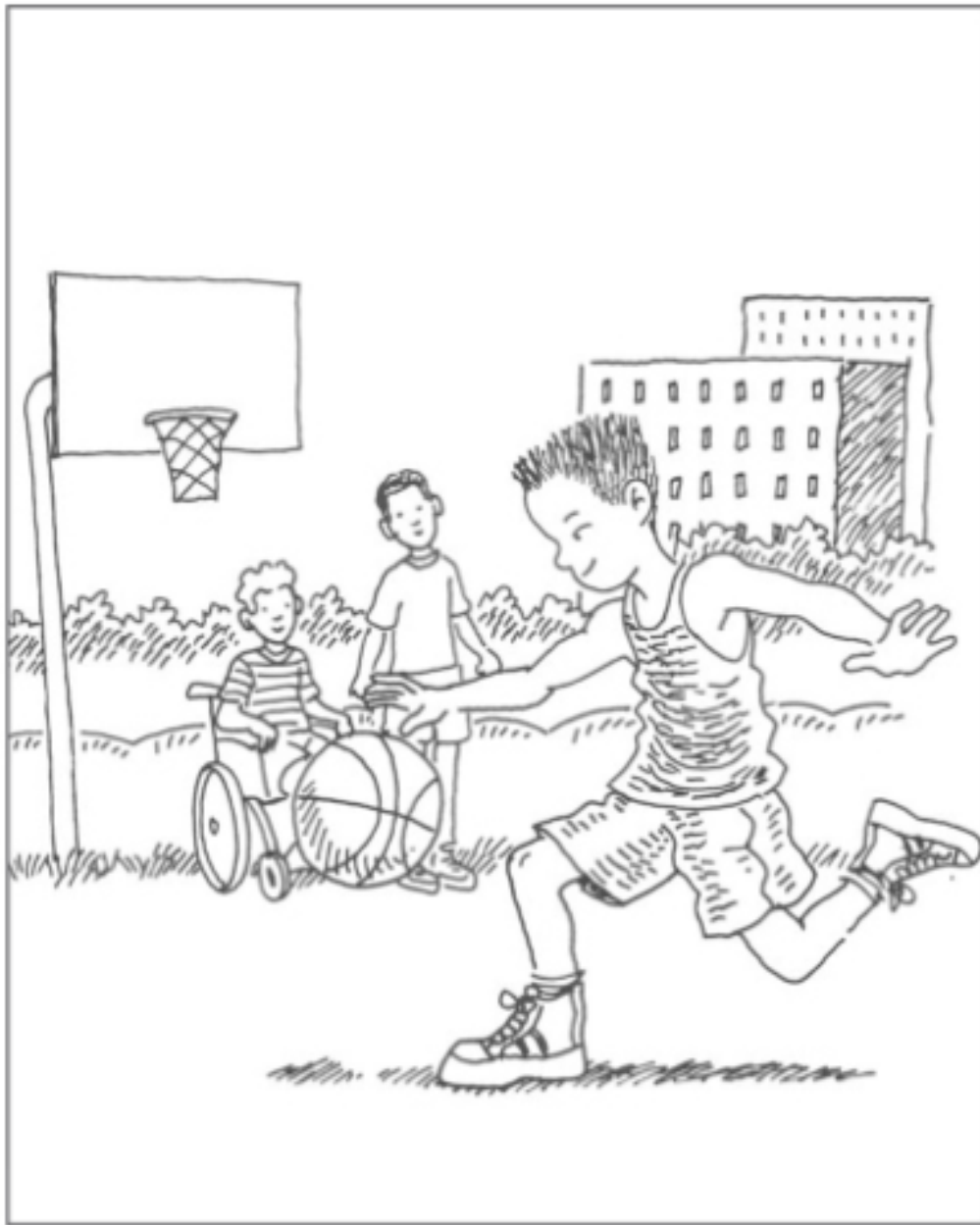
Note to Teachers and Parents

Focus Concept

Previously Taught Skills



Some kids dream of being in a rock band. Some want to act in films. Dean Hong dreamed of playing basketball. He spent all his spare time on his basketball skills.



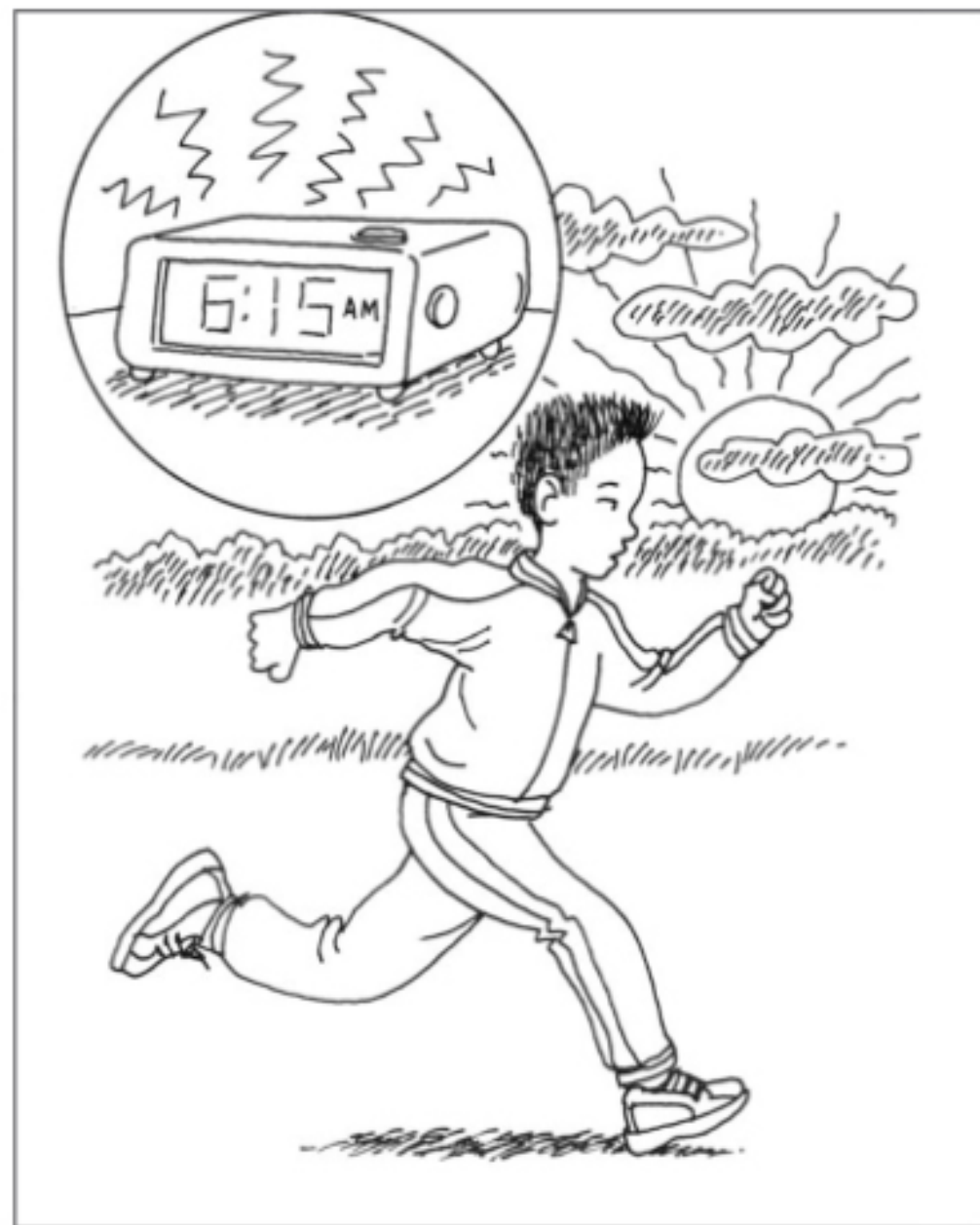
He could run fast. He could pass well. He could make his shots. He was small, but he could leap up and touch the rim of the basket. His pals felt he could make the team.



"You play like a real champ!" said Rex. "I love to watch you dunk the ball!"



"And you are a great passer!" said Mick. "You get the ball just where a player can reach it to make the shot."



On the day of the tryouts, Dean woke up at six. To get in shape, he ran before breakfast.



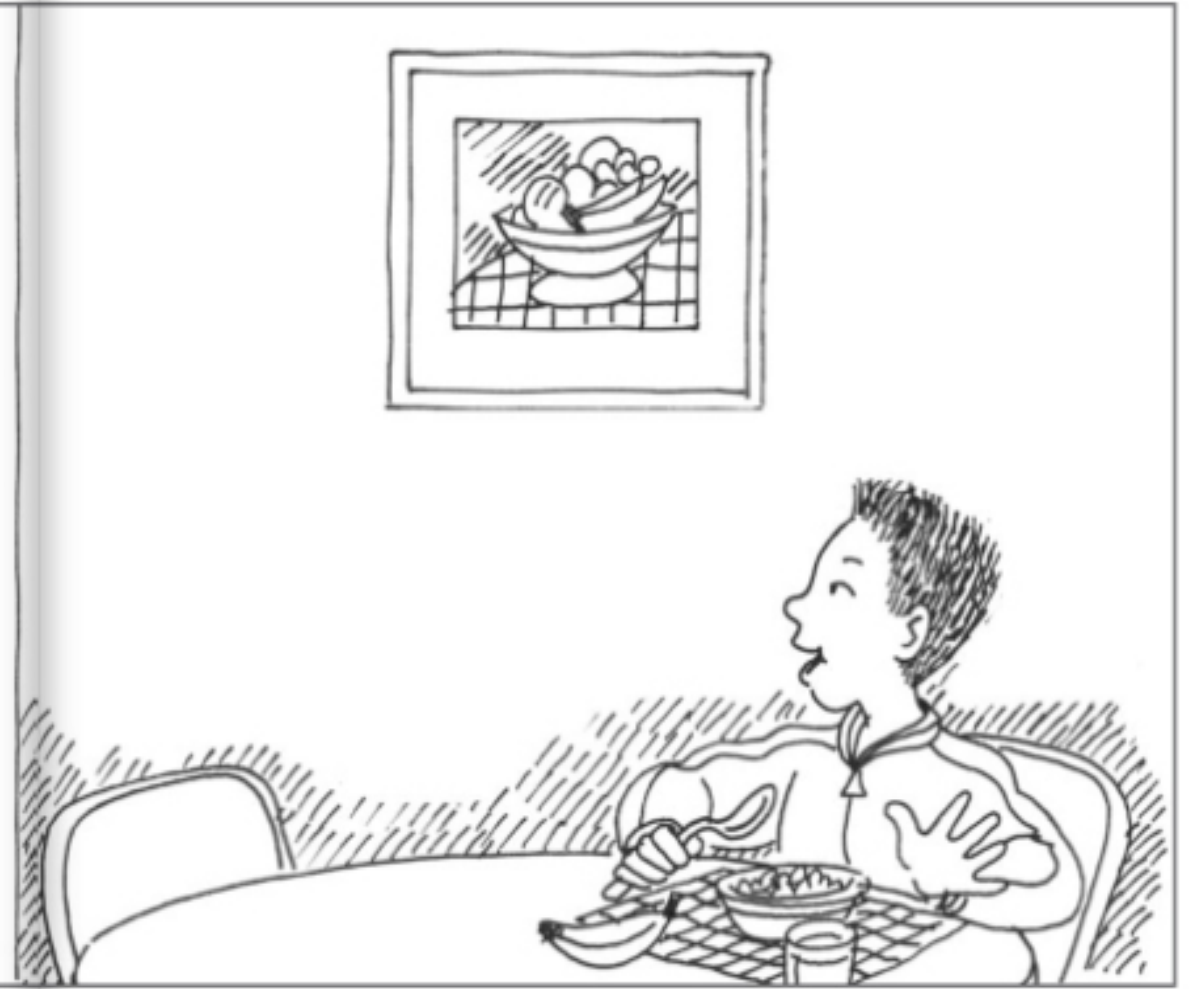
When he got back, he walked into the kitchen. Dad was there.



"Dad, I take care of myself. I am fit and healthy," he said. "I have played basketball each day to get better. Do you think I will make the team?"

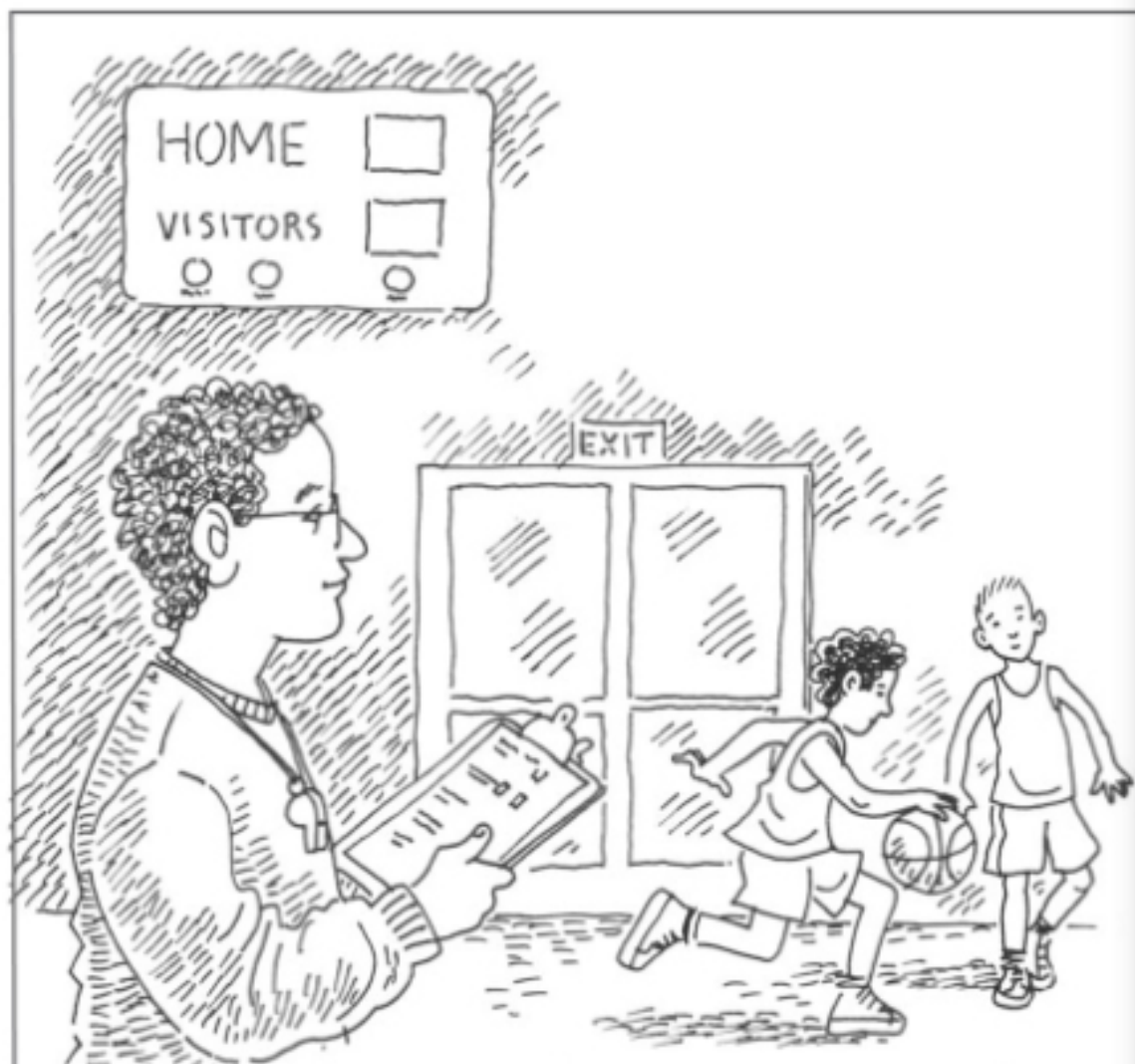


"You are in peak shape," Dad said. "Try not to think so much about the tryouts. Just do the best you can. I think you will be fine. If you do not make the team this time, there is always the next time to try."

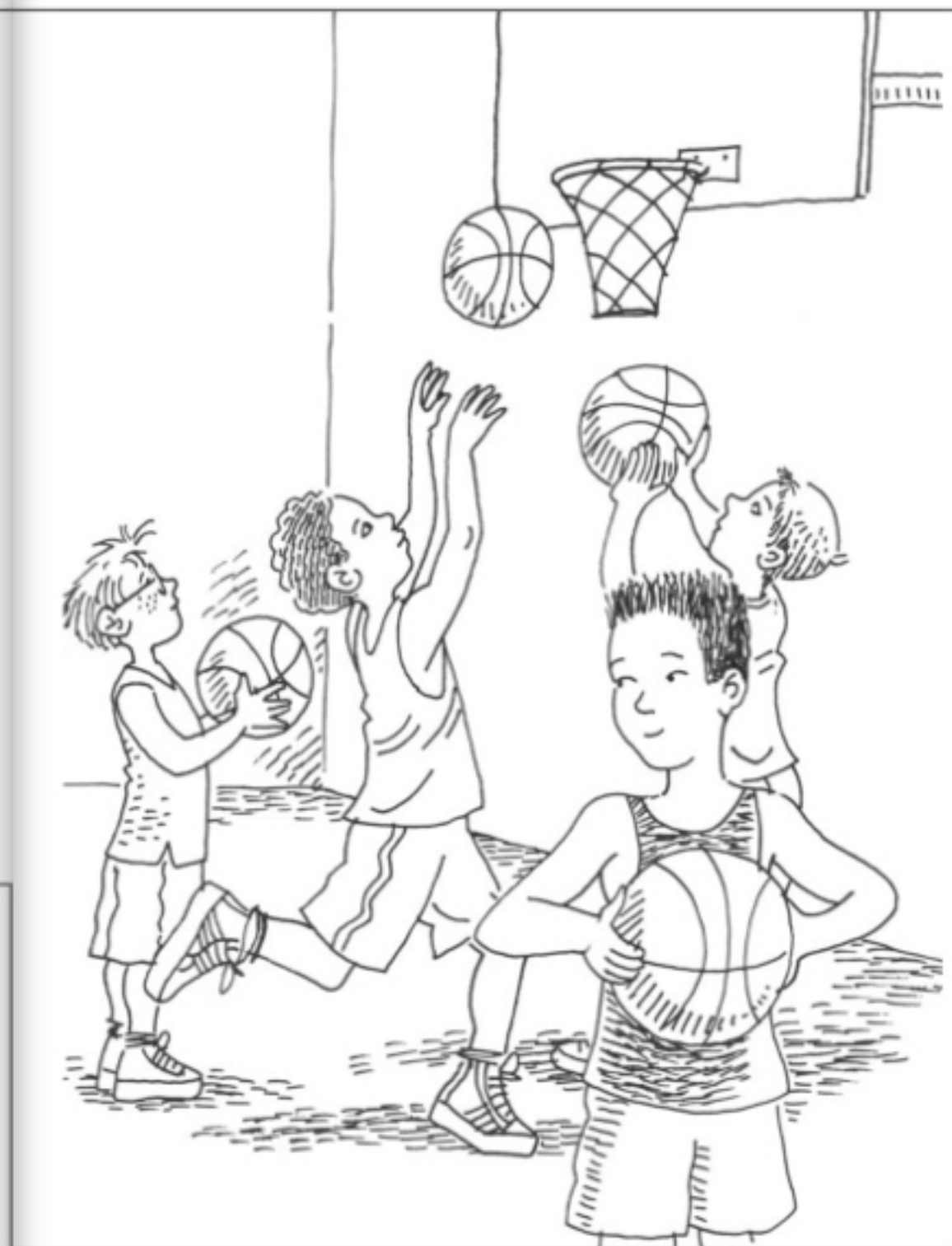


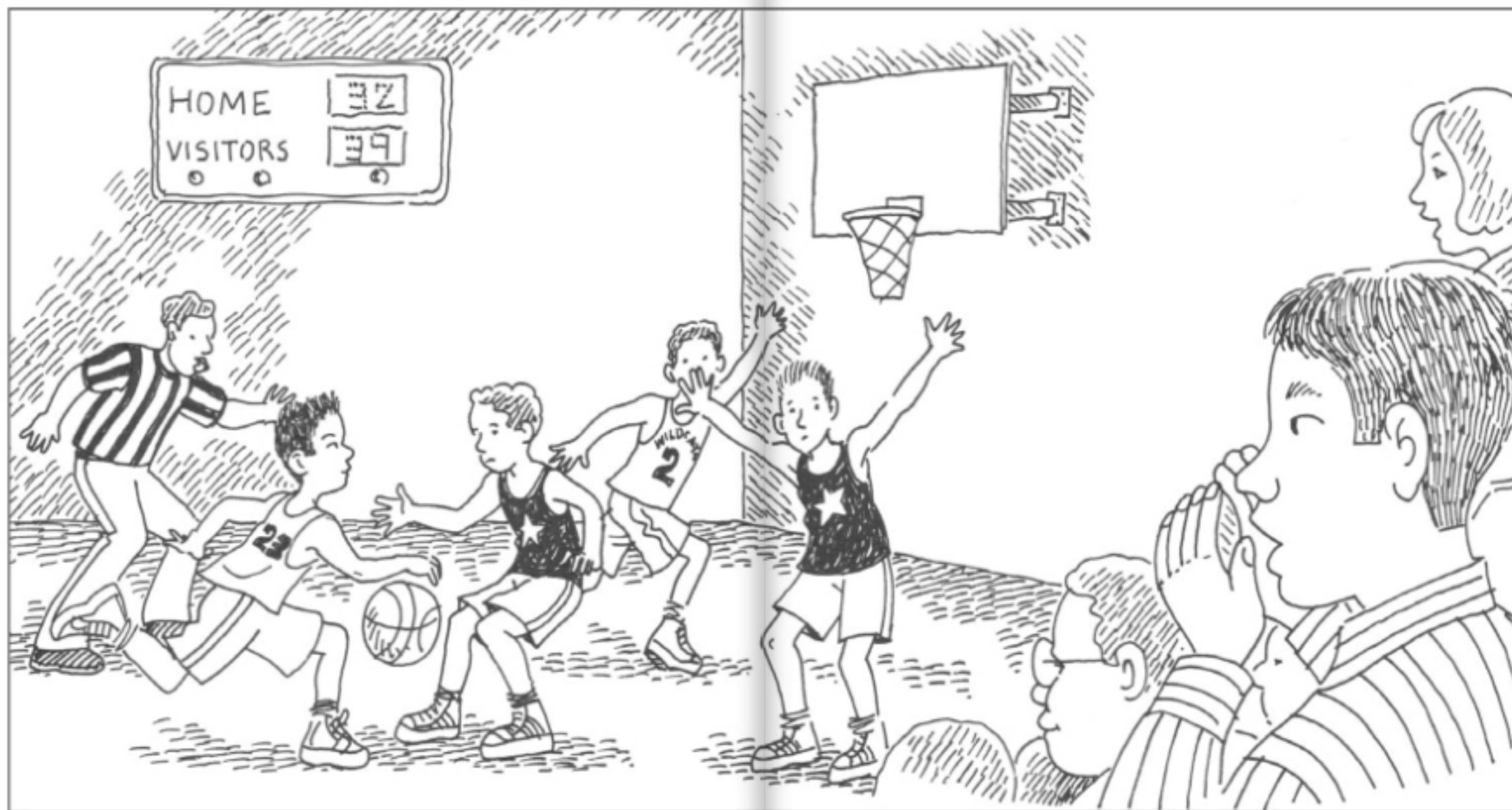
"Thanks, Dad," said Dean. "Wish me luck!"

"I wish you luck," said Dad. "But you can't go yet. Sit here and have a big breakfast!"



At tryouts, Dean was ready. He played well. He was hopeful that the team would pick him. The next day, the team list was posted. Dean had made the team.





Dean's team, the Wildcats, went on to play well that year. He had a great time playing. And his dad and his pals

had a great time watching him play. Dean and his team did not win at the County Games, but they came close.



"The Wildcats will win it all next year," said Dad.

"That would be great," said Dean.

Note to Teachers and Parents

All children should have the opportunity to experience success when reading. The decodable ebooks in this engaging series begin with simple words and sentences and increase in difficulty from level to level. Children may begin reading anywhere in the series, depending on their reading ability. The focus concept and sight words for this title, as well as a list of phonics skills children may already be familiar with, can be found at the end of this book.

This decodable ebook is perfect for independent reading. Encourage children to find a quiet spot to read, away from distractions. Help children build confidence by having them read aloud to you or to a friend or sibling.

Before beginning, you may wish to have children read the list of focus concept and sight words. When children have finished the story, encourage them to find these words on each page. To extend children's experience with these phonics concepts, encourage them to name or write down other words that follow the same phonics pattern. For example, if the focus concept is short *o*, they might write *log*, *pot*, and *frog*.

The presentation of phonics concepts in this series of ebooks was developed for the S.P.I.R.E.[®] reading program, a product of Educators Publishing Service.

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eat	bread	steak
Dean	breakfast	great
Dean's	healthy	
dream	ready	
dreamed		
dreams		
each		
leap		
peak		
reach		
real		
team		
year		

Sight Words*

a, are, could, do, have, his, I, into, is, love, of, said,
some, the, The, there, they, to, was, where, would,
you

*Sight words are nonpatterned or very low-patterned words of high frequency.

**Consonant Sounds**

all consonants
sh (ship)
ch (chin)
th (this, thin)
wh (whisk)
ck (clock)
tch (catch)

ff (cliff)
ll (will)
ss (miss)

qu (quilt)

Vse

Welded Sounds

ang (sang)
ing (ring)
ong (strong)
ung (stung)
ank (bank)
ink (wink)
onk (honk)
unk (trunk)

Syllable Patterns

open single syllables (so, he, fly)
closed syllable exceptions
(child, cold, find, post, roll)
twin-consonant syllable division
nontwin-consonant syllable division

Vowel Sounds

a (ax)
i (hit)
o (ox)
u (up)
e (bed)

al (ball)
wa (wasp)

a (lake)
i (bike)
o (rode)
u (tune)
e (Pete)

ay (spray)
ou (mound, cousin, doughnut, you)

Affixes

suffix -ed (melted, smelled, winked)
suffixes -s, -es, -ing, -er, -est, -en,
-ish, -ly, -y, -ful, -ness, -less
suffix -age (package)
prefix a- (alike)



Specialized Program Individualizing Reading Excellence

**Basketball Dreams**

ea (eat, bread, steak)

A Great Mess

Consonant-le

Rob's Wish

oa (goat)

Just Like Old Times

ai (paint)

A Fearful Tale

ee (sheep)

Live Your Dream

ee (sheep)

Shooting Hoops

oo (food, cook)

Goofy Zoo

oo (food, cook)

Light

igh (light)

The Oak and the Reeds

ie (pie, chief)

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