



Firefly's Mission  
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Oh, the rain has stopped! It's time to go out. I have an important mission.



I need to find a special friend to build a nest with.



I also need to find the moonlight.



The moonlight will be my guide. But which one is the moonlight? There are so many lights here.



Aha, that light is the brightest. It's also more crowded. My special friend must be there. I will check it out.



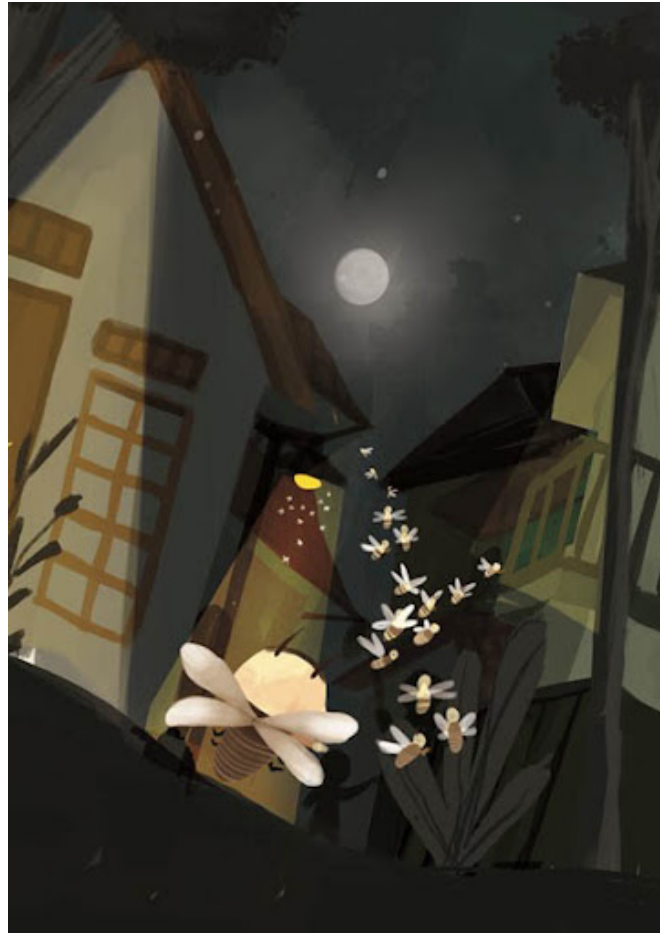
I must fly higher. The higher I go, the more fireflies there are to befriend.

<p style="text-align: left">



Ow, ow! What's going on? I keep getting bounced around.





I will look for another light! Maybe it will be easier to find a friend there.



Hey, what's that? It's big and scary-looking. It catches many fireflies in one swing.



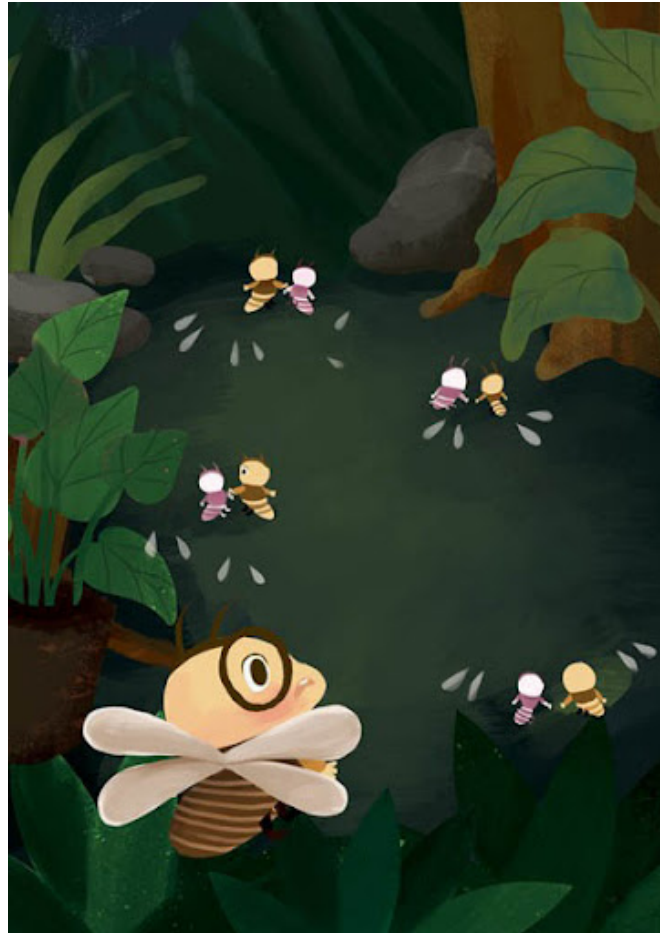
Oh no! Those human children are trying to catch us!



Shoo! Shoo!



Danger! I must get away from here.



Wow, they have all found friends already.  
Surely, I can find one too.



I can't give up!



Aha! There is a glimmer of light. Maybe that is the moonlight. I have to go there.





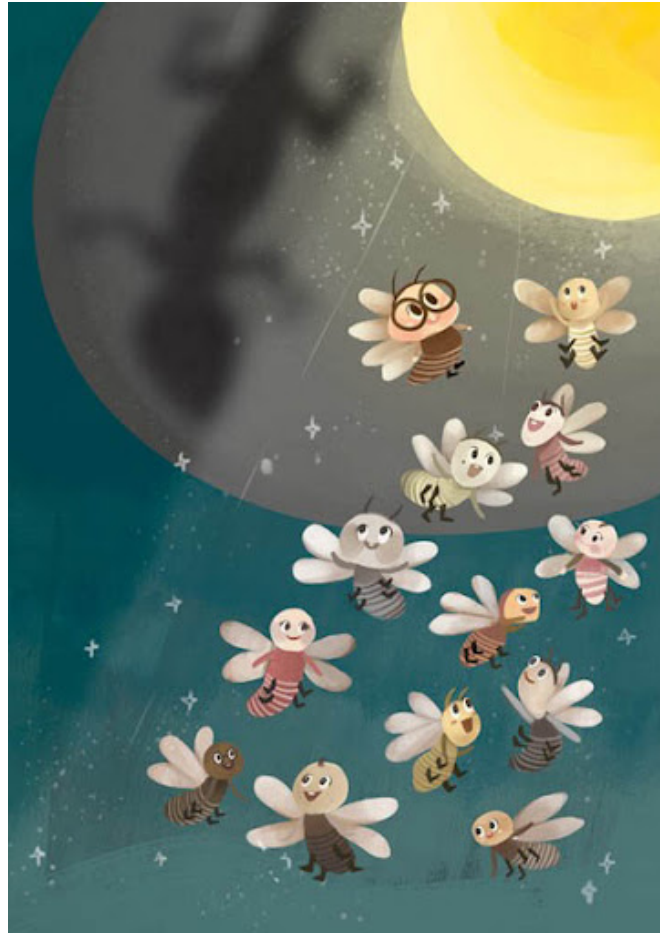
Oh, what kind of glimmer is that? Why is the light not as bright? I have to take a closer look.



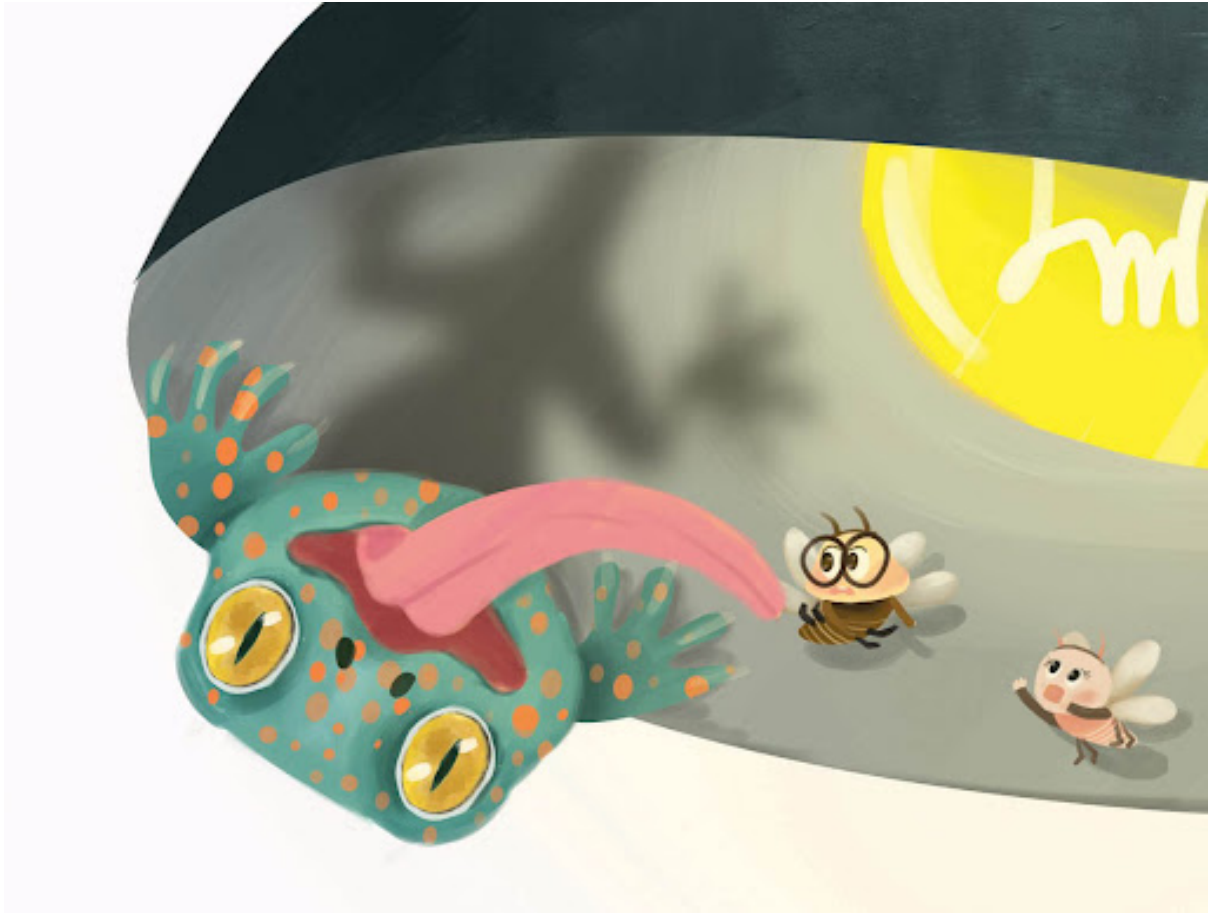
It turns out it's not a source of light. It's water!  
Why are there so many fireflies in it?



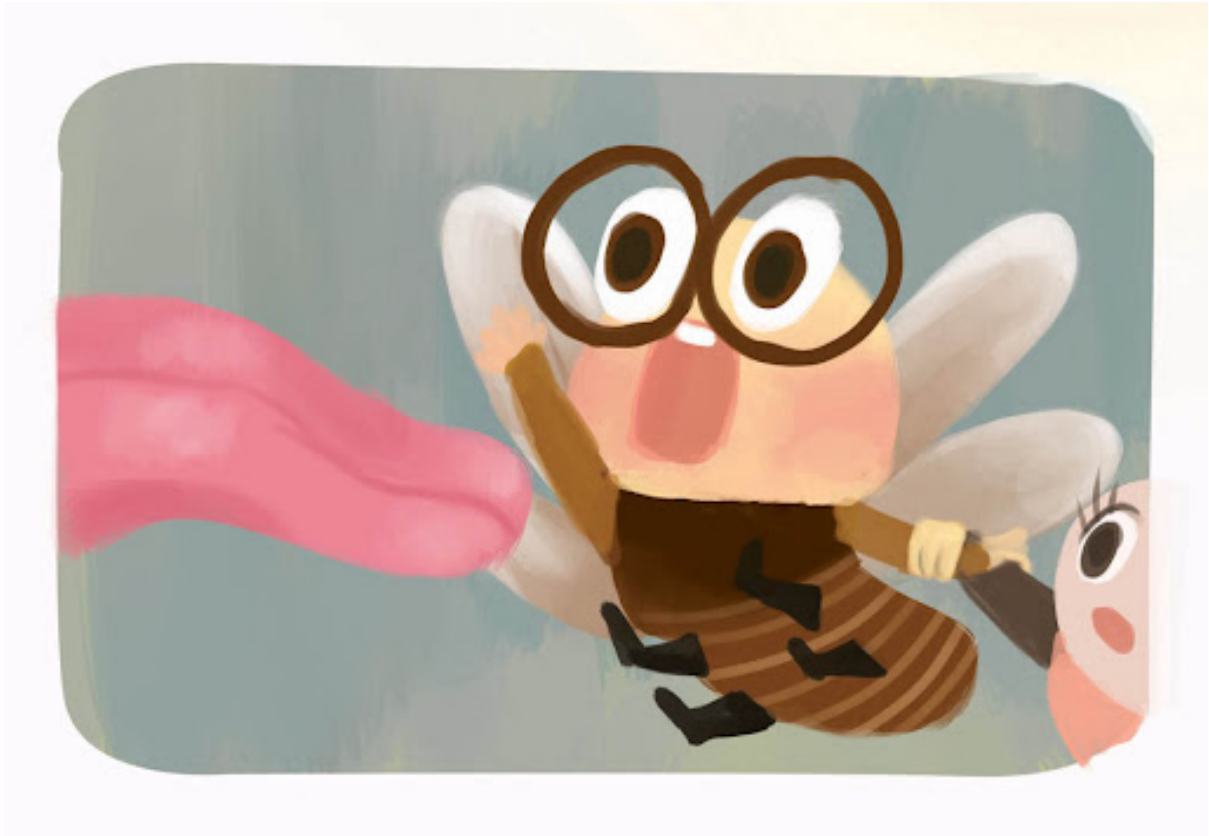
Could it be that they're trapped? I have to stay away.



Ah, there is a brighter and warmer light over there. Maybe that is the moonlight.



Oh, what creature is that? Its eyes are glaring.



Its tongue sticks out.



Watch out!



A firefly pulls me away. She moves so gracefully. Will she want to be my special friend?





Oh, her wings fell off! That means yes.



Mission accomplished! I have a special friend.  
Now I'm ready to build a new nest!



## **Let's Learn About: Fireflies and Termites**

Have you heard of an insect called a termite? It's a small creature that lives in groups (colonies). They like to eat wood, including the wood in your house. Fireflies are a type of termite.

They're the only type that have wings. The other two types of termites are worker termites and soldier termites. Worker termites are responsible for preparing the nest, finding food, and serving the other termites. Soldier termites are responsible for guarding the nest from other animals, like ants.





What is the role of a firefly? Fireflies have a different and very important role! Fireflies are responsible for finding mates to build nests, reproduce, and form new colonies.

When they start their mission, fireflies look for moonlight. Fireflies need the moonlight as a guide to fly long distances. However, in places with lots of light, fireflies get confused. They find it hard to distinguish the light. That's why we often see fireflies swarming around lights.

If fireflies don't find a mate, they can only survive for one night. If they succeed in finding a mate, they will form a new colony or group. Female fireflies can lay thirty thousand eggs in one day.



This book development project focuses on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (abbreviated as STEM) themes in children’s daily lives. This project involves almost all female writers, illustrators, editors, and designers. This book was developed through a book development workshop held in collaboration with Litara Foundation and The Asia Foundation through the Let’s Read program with the support of Estee

Lauder Companies Charity Foundation (ELCCF). Let's Read is a digital library platform with a collection of thousands of children's storybooks that can be accessed easily and for free. Mentoring along with story, text, illustration, and design editing are carried out by the Litara Foundation. The Litara Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting literacy through children's books.



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Let's Read is an initiative of The Asia Foundation's Books for Asia program that fosters young readers in Asia and the Pacific.

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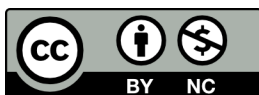
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Original Story

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