

# CAREER DAY

Story by **MIREILLE MESSIER**

Illustrated by **ANNE-MARIE BOURGEOIS**





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Dairy Farmers of Canada would like to acknowledge the contributions made by Indigenous partners in the representation of the book's Mi'kmaw character, Nadine.

## MI'KMAW MOTIF DESIGNS

**The double curve motif design associated with the Mi'kmaq nation can be traced back to pre-contact petroglyph art found in the traditional coastal regions of the Maritime provinces. What sets these motif patterns and designs apart from those of other Indigenous nations is their floral representation. These patterns would traditionally be found on clothing (look for the motif at the bottom of Nadine's shirt when reading the book), birch bark canoes, furnishings and body art.**

## THE MI'KMAQ

**The Mi'kmaq, who also call themselves L'nu, are the coastal Indigenous peoples of the Maritime provinces (and the Gaspé Peninsula) and are known as People of the Dawn. They are part of the Wabanaki Confederacy, which is made up of the Abenaki, Mi'kmaq, Penobscot, Peskotomuhkati, and Wolastoqiyik. There are seven districts within traditional Mi'kmaq territory, which includes the coastal regions of the Maritimes and the province of Quebec.**





Mr. Lewis has an important announcement to make.  
His students pay close attention.

“Friday is Career Day!  
Each of you will come to the front of the class  
and tell us what you would like to do when you grow up.”





Mr. Lewis explains how Career Day  
is always lots of fun.  
The students are excited and have  
a LOT of questions!



"Can we dress up?" asks Emma.  
"Yes," says Mr. Lewis.  
"Can we bring props?" asks Colin.  
"Of course," says Mr. Lewis.  
"Props . . . that we can eat?" asks Nadine.  
"Absolutely," says Mr. Lewis, rubbing his tummy.







At recess, the students have lots of ideas about what they'd like to be when they grow up.

"When I'm older, I'm going to be a chef. I'll have a fancy restaurant and I'll serve delicious food," says Nadine.

"When I'm older, I'm going to be a bus driver, like my uncle. And not just any kind of bus—it will be a bright red double-decker bus," says Colin.

"When I'm older, I'm going to be a dairy farmer, like my parents and grandmother. I'll take great care of the cows and they will produce yummy milk," says Emma.



Robin hems and haws.  
He scratches his head. He sighs.

“I really don’t know what I want to be when I grow up.  
There are so many careers to choose from!”

“What are you going to be when you grow up, Robin?”  
asks Emma.







Robin's friends have all sorts of suggestions.

"You could be a mail carrier,"  
says Nadine.

"Or a photographer,"  
says Emma.



"Or a cheesemaker,"  
says Colin.



"Mail carrier, photographer,  
cheesemaker—those are all great  
ideas. How am I going to choose?"  
asks Robin.

"You could make believe  
and see which one you like the best,"  
suggests Emma.





Robin loves Emma's idea.  
He starts by pretending to be a mail carrier.

"Your mail, madame. Your package, sir. Boy, it's hot out here!  
Oh no! A dog is chasing me. Save the letters!"

Robin's friends laugh.

"You would be a great  
mail carrier," says Nadine.

"Thank you," says Robin.





Next, Robin pretends to be a photographer.

"Say 'cheese!' Perfect. Now move a bit to the left.  
Oh no! I had my finger on the lens!"

Robin's friends laugh even more.

"You would be a fantastic photographer,"  
says Emma.

"Thank you," says Robin.







Then Robin pretends to be a cheesemaker.

"Who would like to try my delicious cheese? Gouda, cheddar, I even have some yummy brie. Hurry, before it's all gone!"

Robin's friends are rolling with laughter.

"You would be an amazing cheesemaker," says Colin.

"Thank you very much," says Robin.  
"But I think I've figured out what I'm going to be when I grow up."





"It's mail carrier, right? I knew it!"  
says Nadine.



"No, it's photographer,"  
says Emma.

"I think it's cheesemaker,"  
says Colin.

Robin smiles.

"It's a secret. You'll see on Friday," he whispers.





All week, the students in Mr. Lewis's class work on their Career Day presentations.

Emma puts together a beautiful photo album with pictures of dairy farms, cows and tractors.







Colin builds a fantastic model  
of a red double-decker bus.  
He also makes a cool bus driver cap  
out of blue cardboard.







With the help of her dad, Nadine creates her own delicious smoothie recipe, Raspberry-Spinach Twist. She will make the recipe in front of the class and share it with everyone.





And what is Robin doing?  
Nobody knows—but he seems to be having a lot of fun!

Mr. Lewis and the students are all very curious  
to know which career Robin has chosen.





On Friday, Robin is the last student to present. He brings a mysterious box to the front of the class. What could be inside?

Robin smiles. He takes his time. He slowly opens the box.

Everyone is whispering.

"I think he wants to be a mover."

"Or a magician."

"Or a box collector."

"Quiet, please," says Mr. Lewis.



The students fall silent and watch Robin.

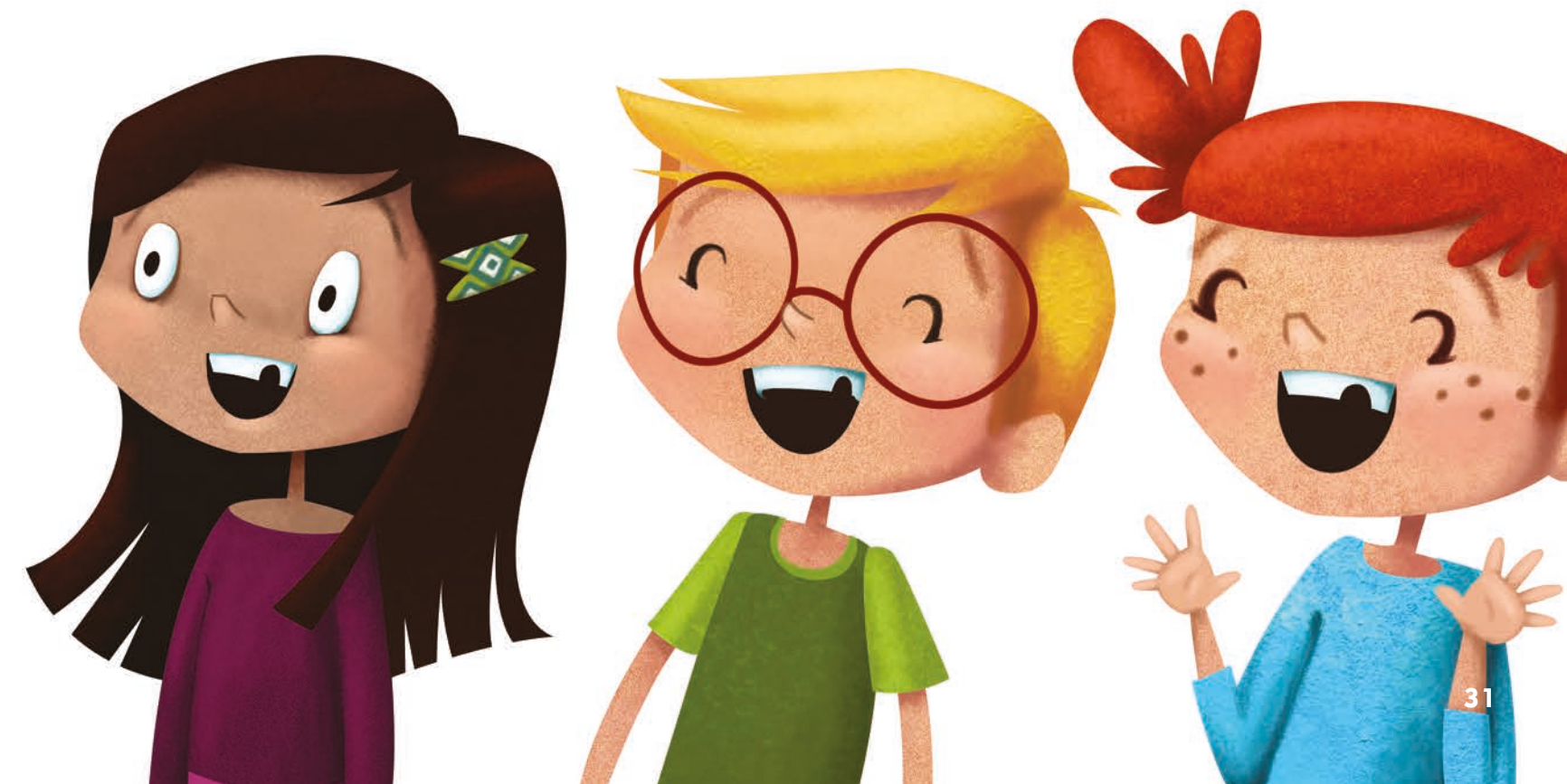




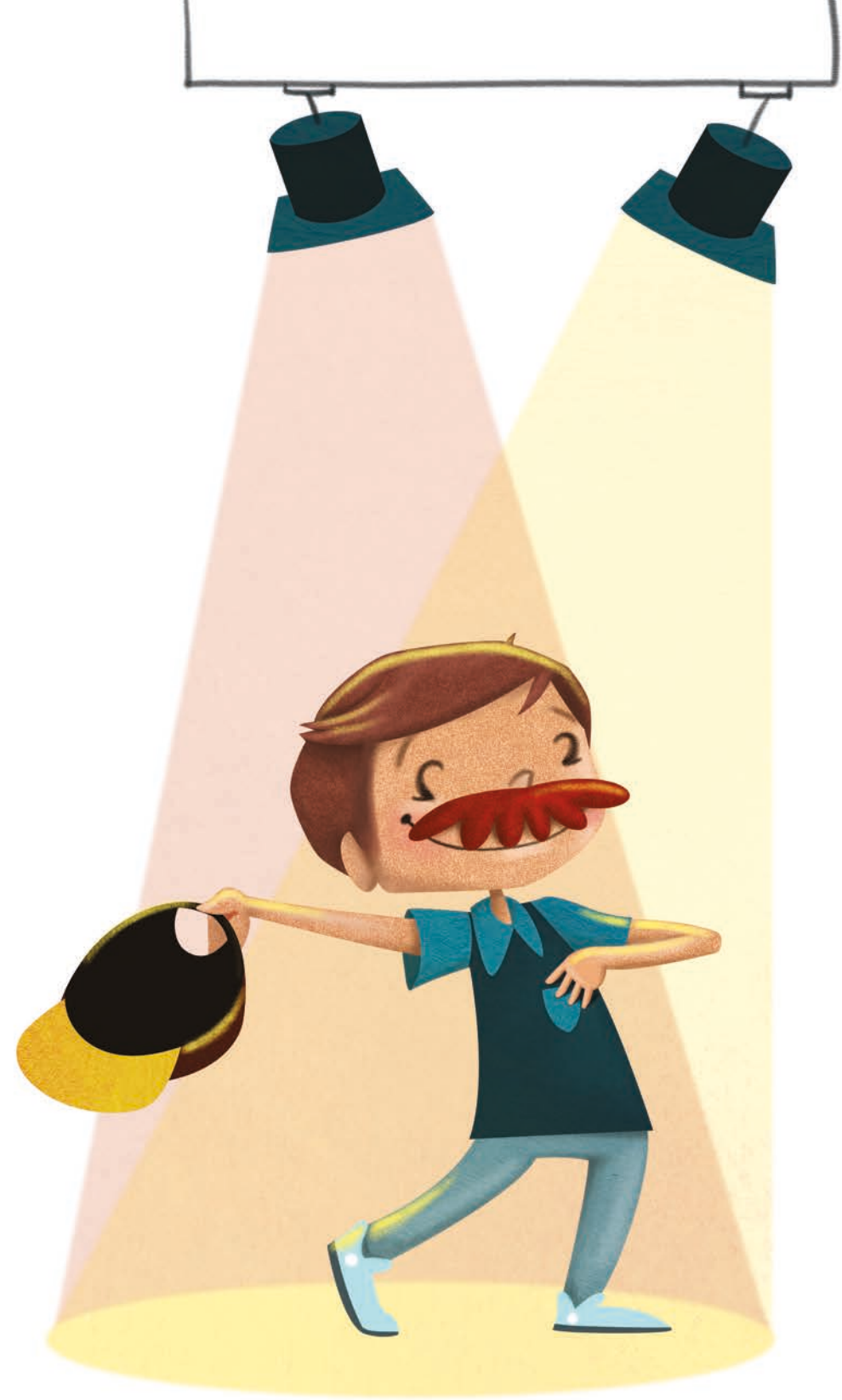
From his mysterious box, Robin pulls out . . .  
a fake moustache! He sticks the moustache under his nose.

The students laugh. Robin smiles.  
Then, with his most dramatic voice, he declares:

“When I’m older, I’m going to be . . .”



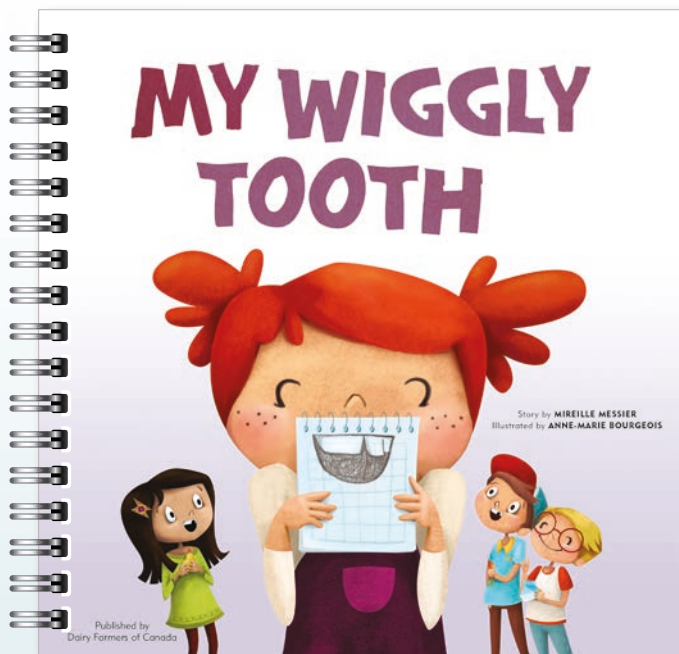




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