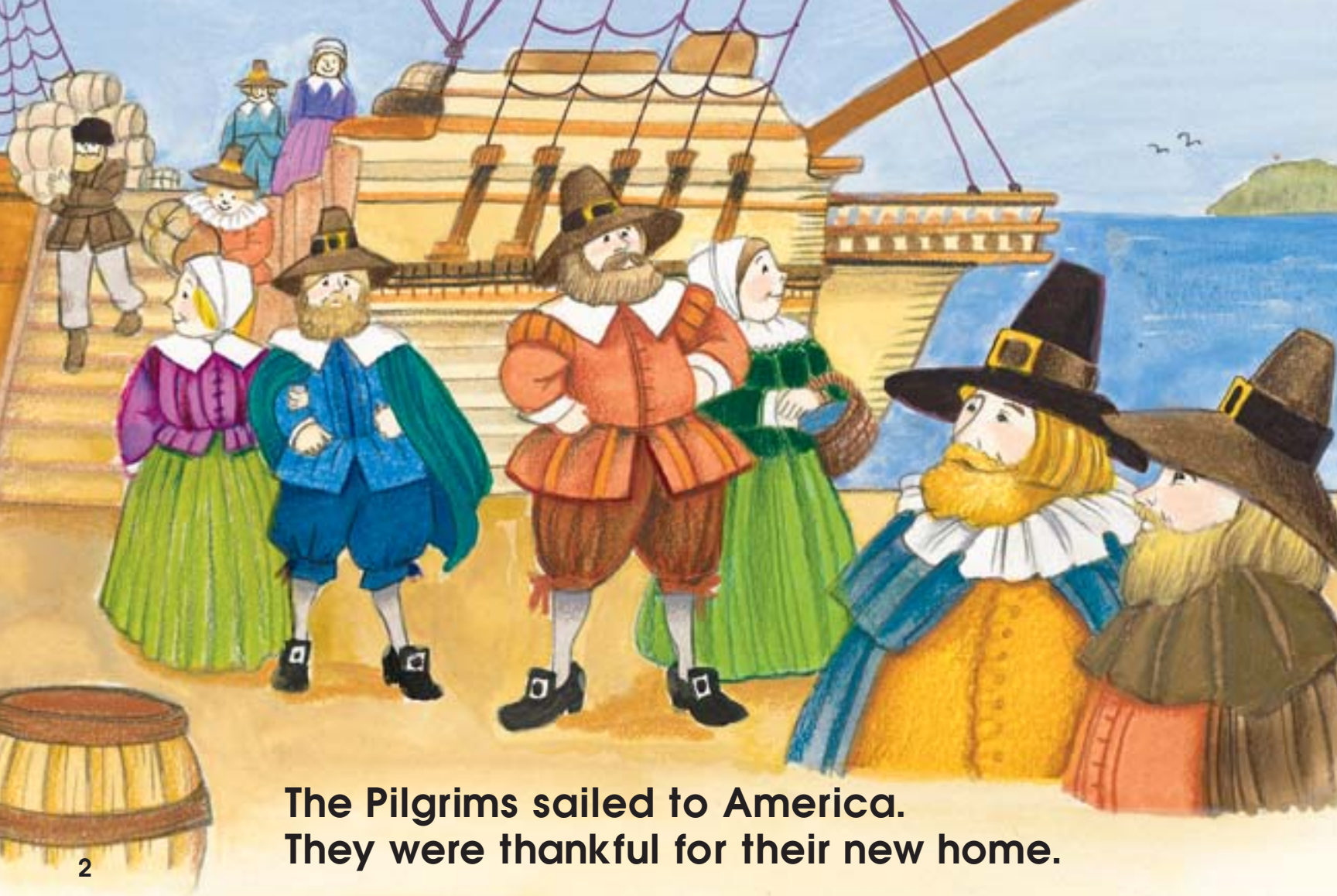


Giving Thanks





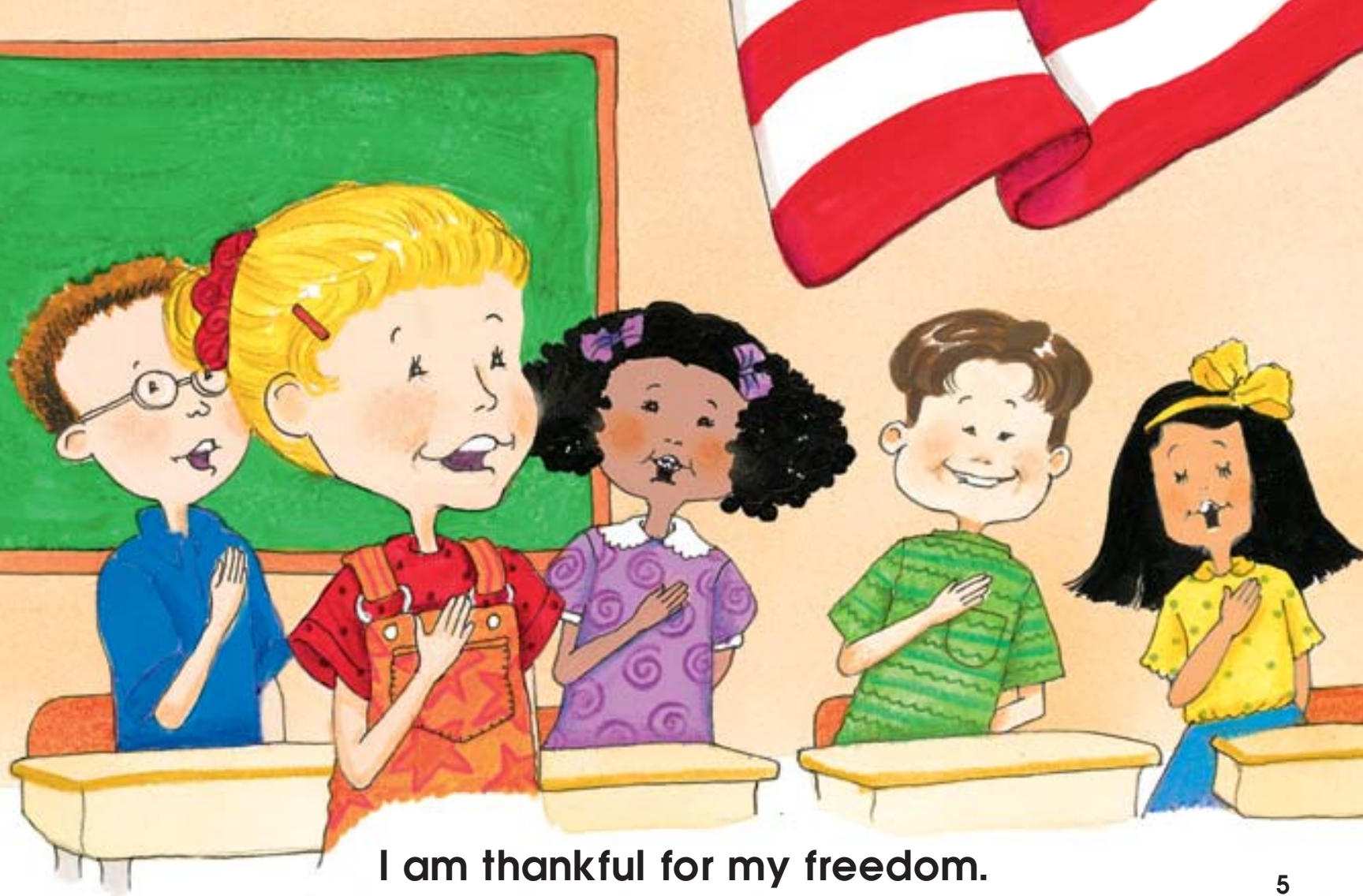
**The Pilgrims sailed to America.
They were thankful for their new home.**



I am thankful for my new home.



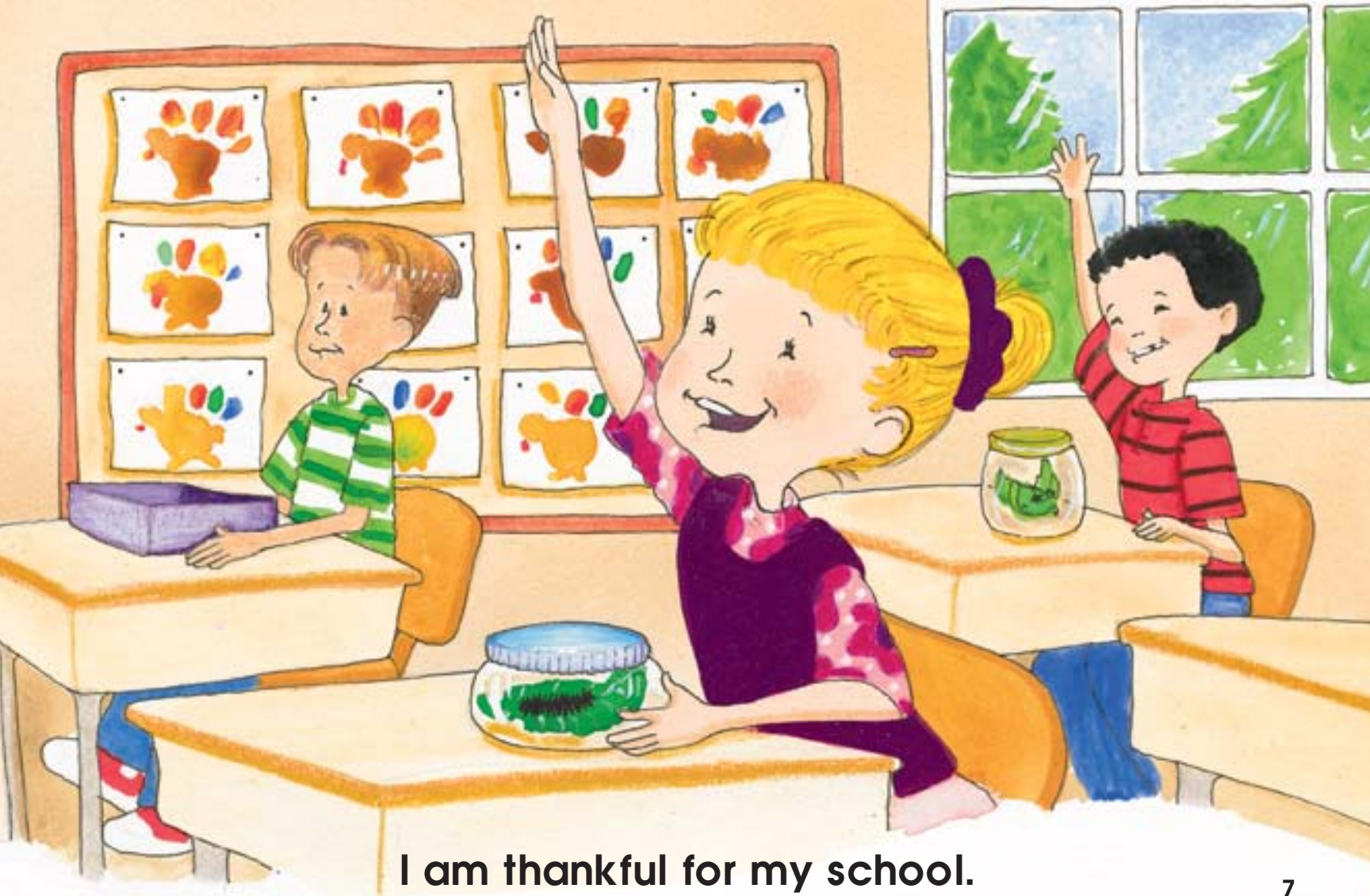
**The Pilgrims came to America to be free.
They were thankful for their freedom.**



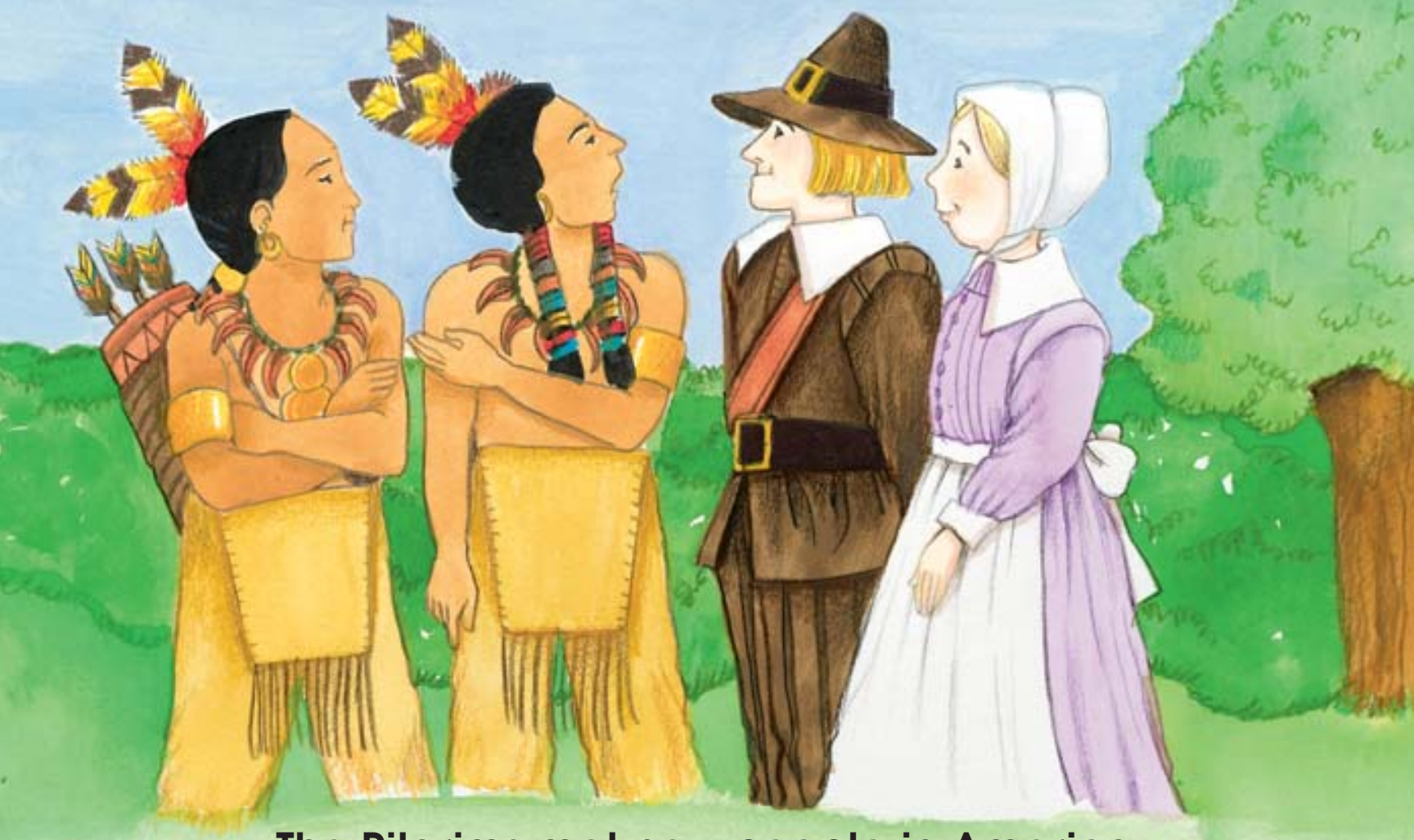
I am thankful for my freedom.



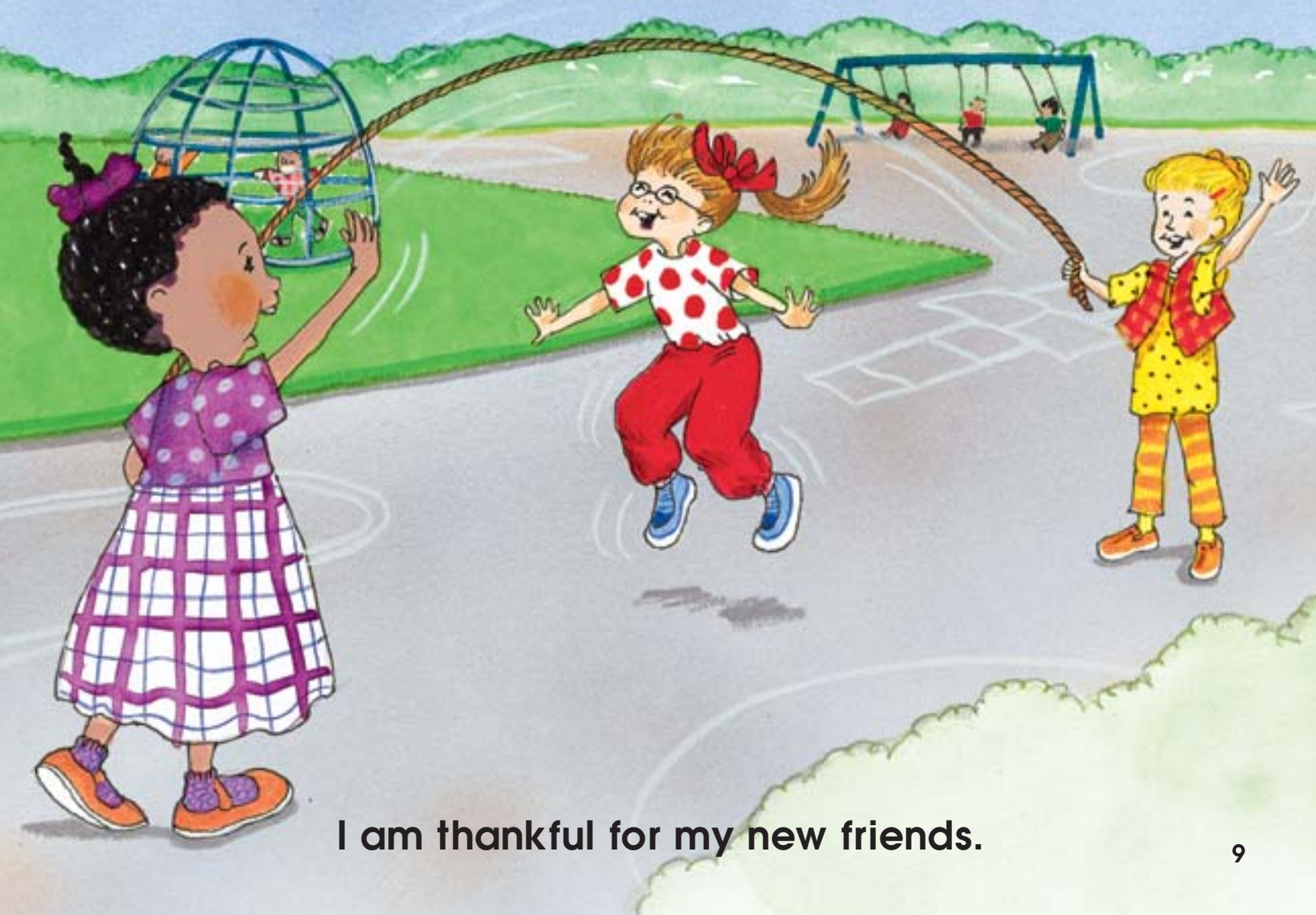
**The Pilgrims wanted to learn about the world.
They were thankful for their schools.**



I am thankful for my school.



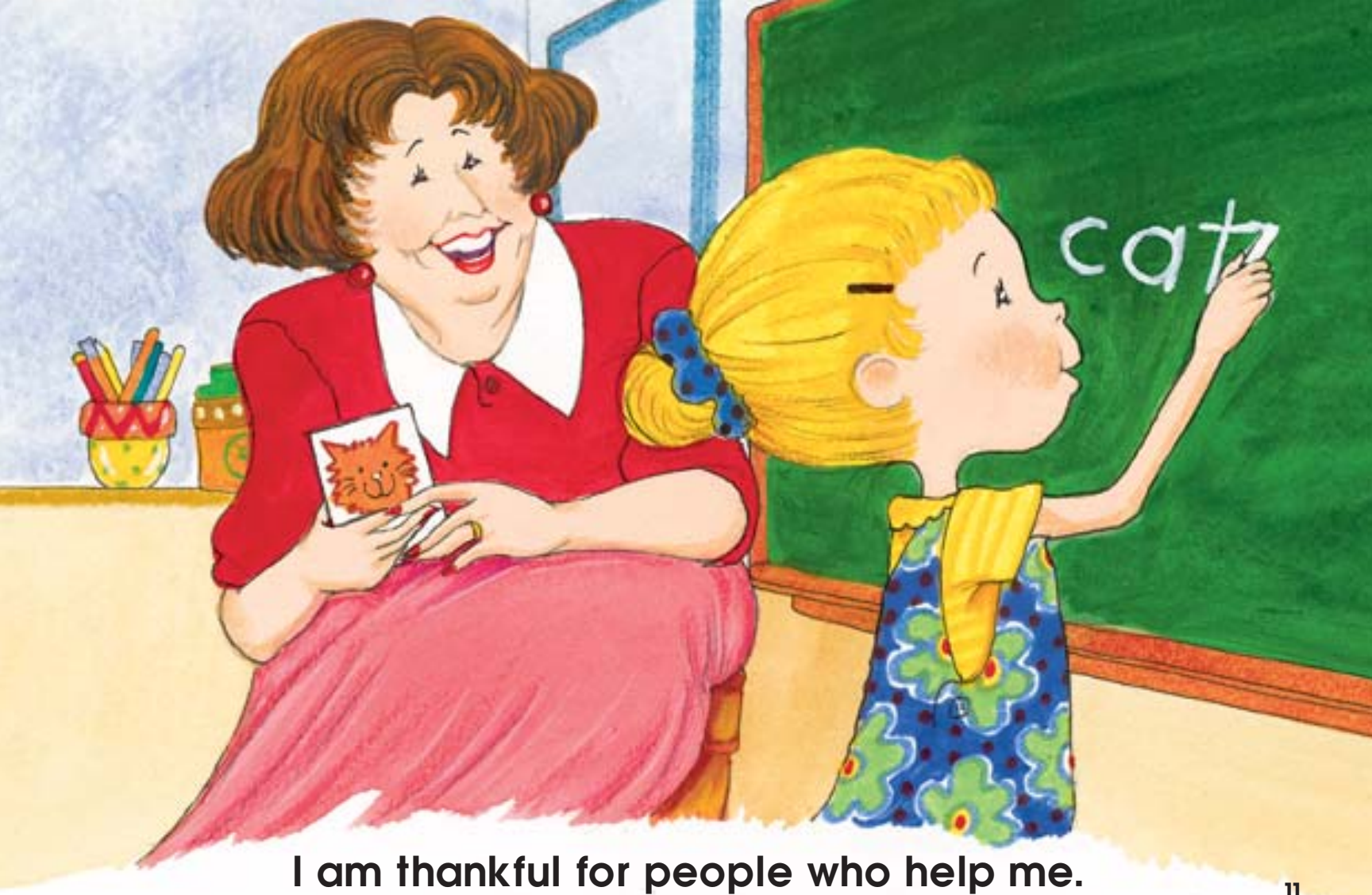
**The Pilgrims met new people in America.
They were thankful for their new friends.**



I am thankful for my new friends.



**The Pilgrims had a hard winter.
They were thankful for people who helped them.**



I am thankful for people who help me.



**The Pilgrims' families worked together.
They were thankful for their families.**



I am thankful for my family.



**On the first Thanksgiving,
the Pilgrims were thankful for their feast.**



This Thanksgiving, I am thankful for my feast.



And I am thankful for the Pilgrims.

Celebrating Thanksgiving: Giving Thanks

About Thanksgiving

Because Thanksgiving was historically a holiday to celebrate a bountiful harvest, it is held in the late autumn, after all the crops have been harvested. The first Thanksgiving was held in 1621, one year after the Pilgrims arrived in Plymouth. The winter of 1620, the Pilgrims' first winter in America, was a harsh one in which many people died and supplies ran dangerously low. With the help of the Native Americans they befriended, the Pilgrims learned to plant corn and other crops and to hunt and gather natural resources. Following the successful harvest in 1621, the Pilgrims held a feast to give thanks for their survival; for their new friends, the Native Americans; and for all that their new friends had taught them. Today, Thanksgiving provides an opportunity for people to express their gratitude for all that enriches their lives.

Thankfulness Turkeys

Have each child make a fist and hold out his or her thumb. Ask children to trace around their fist on white construction paper to create an outline of a turkey. (The outstretched thumb forms the head. The fist forms the body.) Then, give each child six long, narrow strips of colored construction paper. Have students label the edge of each strip with one of the following titles: *Family, Health, Possessions, Experiences, Nature, and Friends*. Invite children to list on each strip things for which they are thankful. For example, a child may list family members' names on the *Family* strip, a bicycle on the *Possessions* strip, and flowers on the *Nature* strip. Finally, have children decorate the turkey outline and attach the strips as "feathers" to the back of the turkey.

Learn to Read Holiday Series

CTP 4522 Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day
CTP 4523 Celebrating Presidents' Day
CTP 4524 Celebrating Chinese New Year
CTP 4525 Celebrating Valentine's Day
CTP 4526 Celebrating Easter
CTP 4527 Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

CTP 4528 Celebrating Mother's Day
CTP 4529 Celebrating Patriotic Holidays
CTP 4530 Celebrating Father's Day
CTP 4531 Celebrating Thanksgiving
CTP 4532 Celebrating Chanukah
CTP 4533 Celebrating Christmas