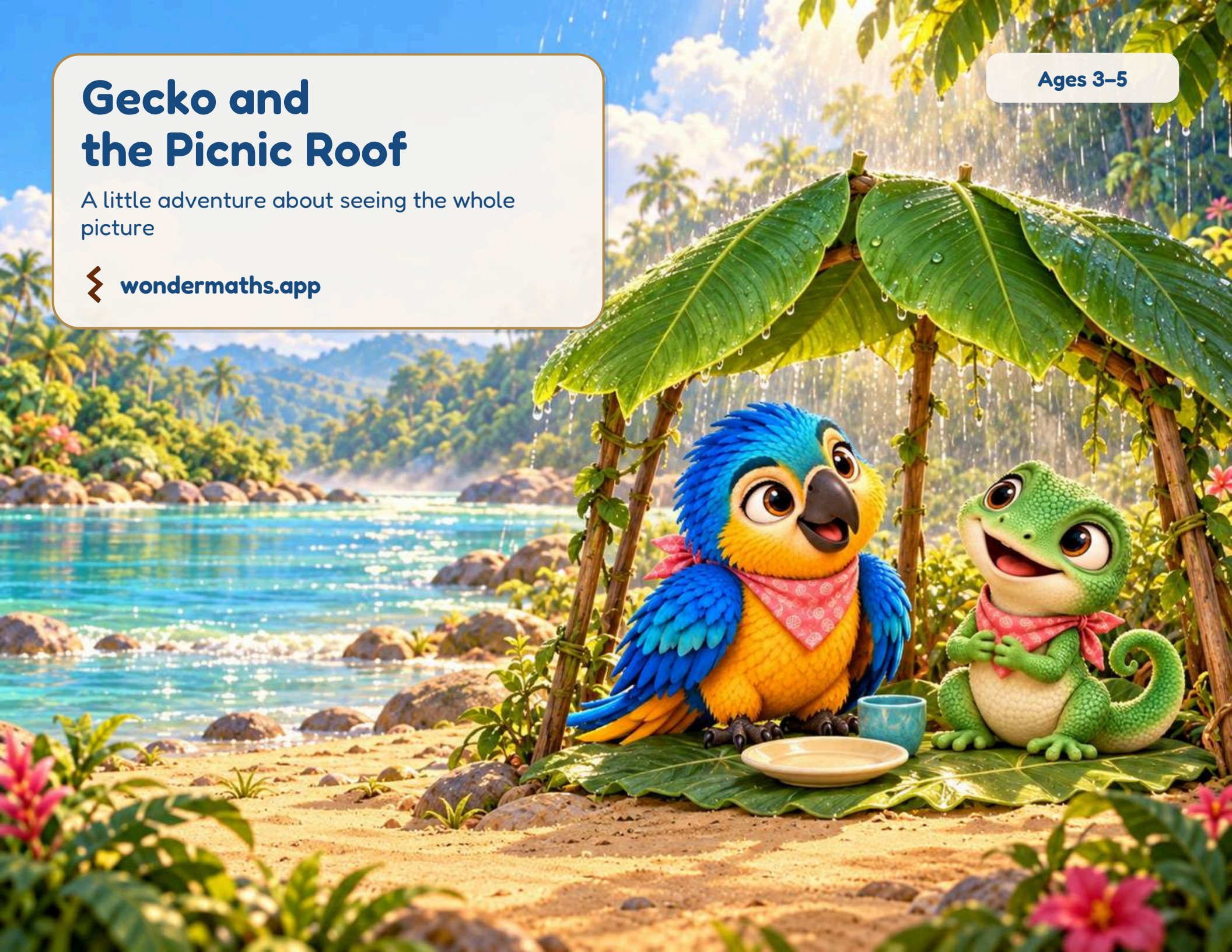
Gecko and the Picnic Roof

A little adventure about seeing the whole picture

wondermaths.app

Ages 3–5





By the Great River, a breeze whisked three leaves off Gecko's picnic roof! Come sit beside me. I'll tell you what happened underneath. Gecko had set out a cup and a plate. Aro the macaw was coming to share his picnic. "I wanted a cozy picnic for both of us. I'll put those leaves back."



The breeze set all three leaves on the stone. But a sprinkle had already found the gaps. A drop landed right in Gecko's cup. "Oh! My cup has started the picnic without me." Two quick drops landed by Aro's plate. Gecko tucked his tail around the cup. He wanted a dry place for both of them, with their picnic underneath. "I'd like to keep my plate dry, too. Shall I hold it for a moment?"



Gecko picked up one fallen leaf. He slid it over the gap above his cup. The cup stayed quiet. Gecko spread his toes in a pleased little wiggle. "There. A roof again!" But the other side was still open. Aro held her plate beneath her wing while the sprinkle pattered beside it. "Your side is still getting wet. I'll fix that."



Gecko moved his leaf across to Aro's side. He added another leaf beside it. Together, the two leaves covered the two gaps by her plate. That side grew quiet. "My plate is dry. Thank you." Gecko reached for his cup. His first gap was open again. A drop landed inside. "My cup really likes this picnic. But I haven't even had a sip!"



Gecko's hand hovered over the two leaves above Aro. He almost pulled one back. Then he stopped. Moving it would open her roof again. One dry side was not the whole picnic. "Stop. Check the whole thing." He checked his cup. He checked Aro's plate. The two leaves above her could stay right where they were. On the stone, one fallen leaf was still waiting.



"Aro, please hold these two steady. I'm going to cover my gap with this one." "I've got them. Go ahead." Gecko laid the last leaf above his cup. Aro held the others while he tucked their edges beneath the roof stems. One leaf on his side and two on hers, all three staying together. "Stop. Check the whole thing."



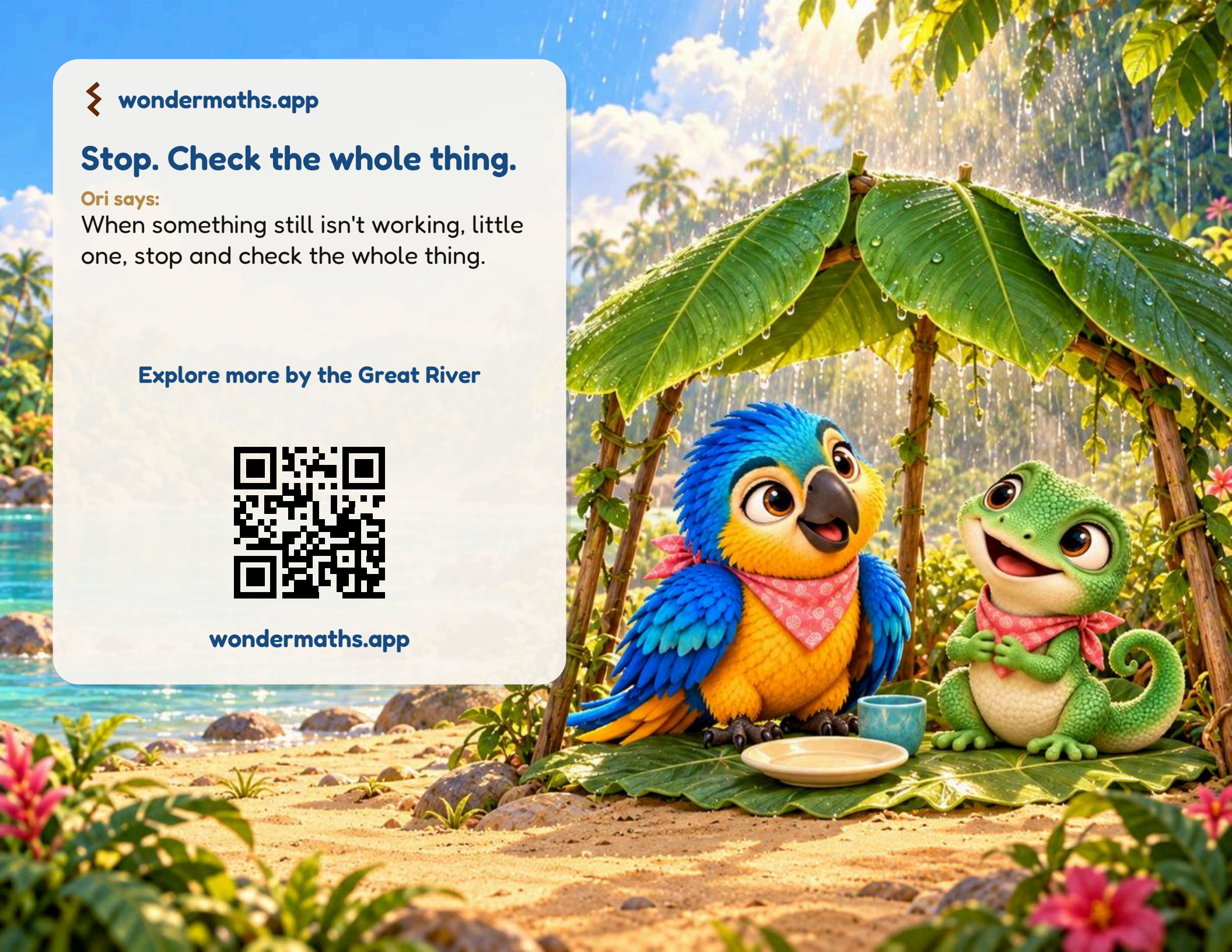
Gecko waited by his cup. Quiet. He waited by Aro's plate. Quiet there, too. Above them, the sprinkle tapped the leaves instead. Their little roof had become a picnic drum. "Now the rain can join us. Up there." "And my cup can finally wait its turn!"



Gecko carried their picnic beneath the roof. He set down his cup, then Aro's plate. His tail was already swaying to the soft tapping overhead. Aro followed it with a little sideways step. "Your tail has started the dance without you." "Stop. Check the whole thing. Cup, plate, tail. Yes. Everybody's here."



Gecko stepped after his tail. Aro stepped beside him. Their picnic stayed dry, and the rain played gently on all three leaves. Later, they carried the cup and plate home together. Gecko left the roof ready for their next picnic. When something still isn't working, little one, stop and check the whole thing.



wondermaths.app

Stop. Check the whole thing.

Ori says:

When something still isn't working, little one, stop and check the whole thing.

Explore more by the Great River

wondermaths.app