



From Cricket Media

babybug®



Kim and Carrots

by Clara Vulliamy



Kim and Mommy buy
a new wooden birdhouse.

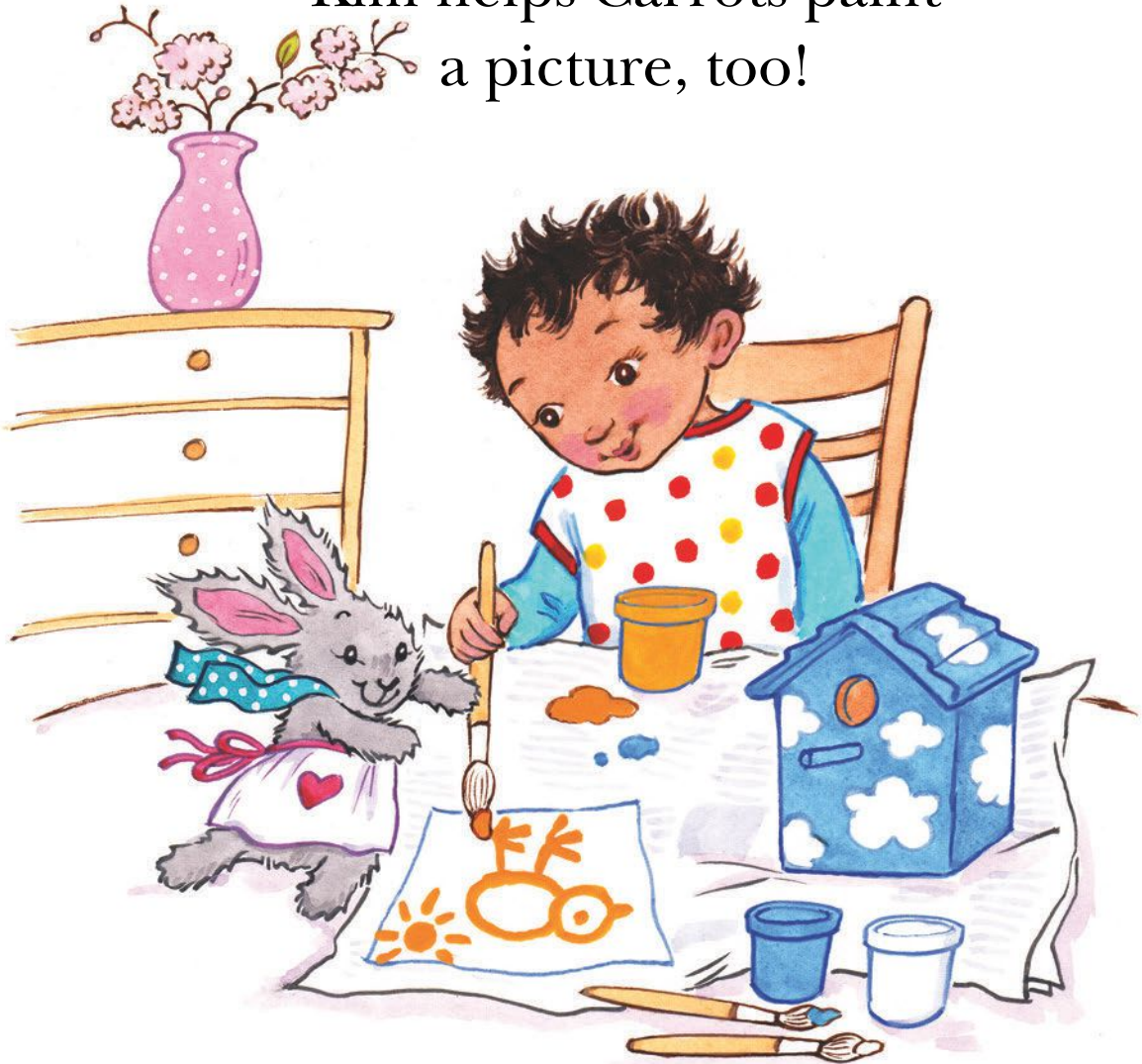
At home, Kim fetches the paints.
Carrots has a painting apron,
just like Kim.



Kim paints the birdhouse blue
like the sky . . .



and adds fluffy white clouds.
Kim helps Carrots paint
a picture, too!





Mommy hangs the colorful
birdhouse up in a tree.



Kim and Carrots see two birds arrive.
Welcome home, birds!

A FIRST CONCEPT

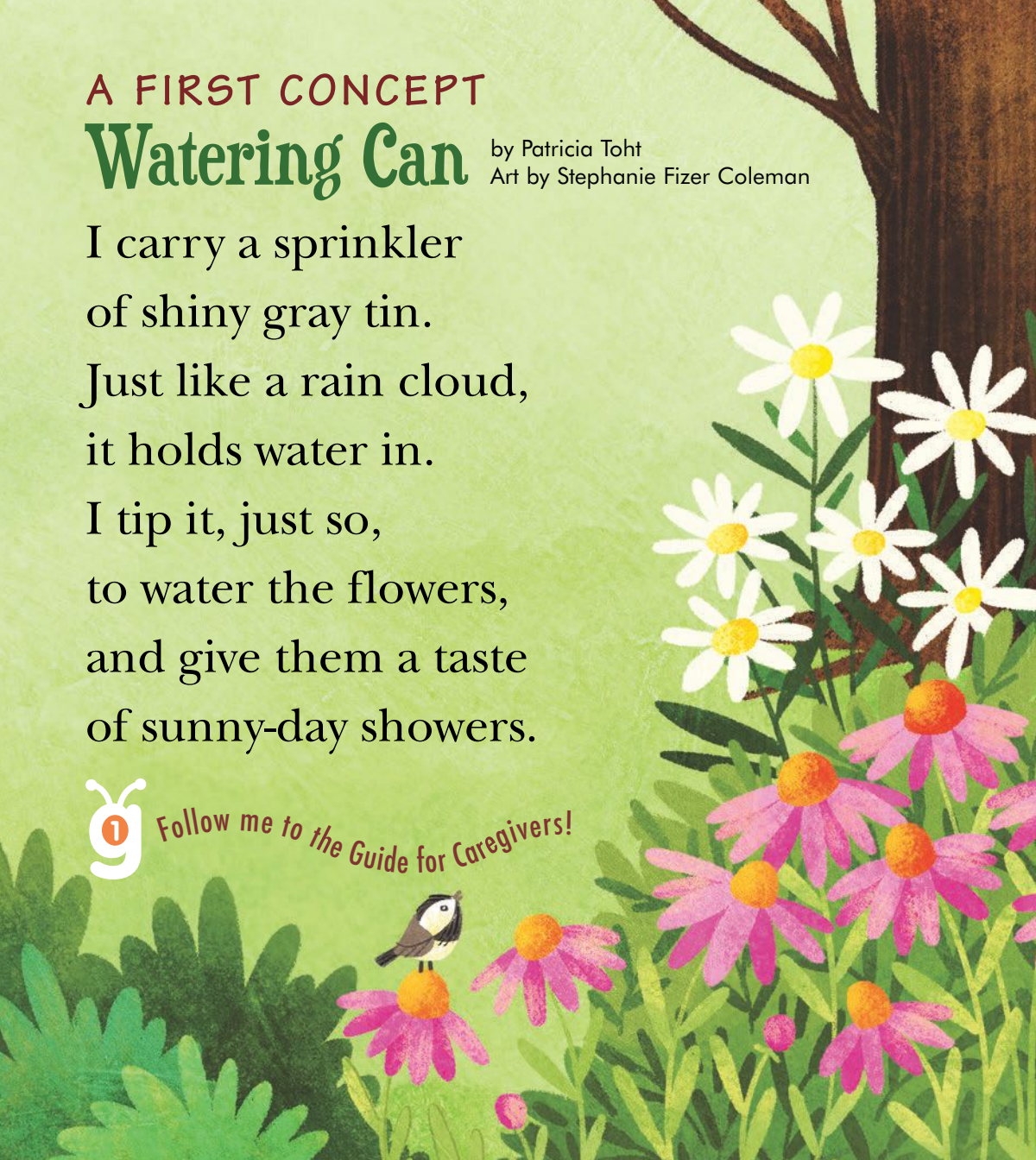
Watering Can

by Patricia Toht
Art by Stephanie Fizer Coleman

I carry a sprinkler
of shiny gray tin.
Just like a rain cloud,
it holds water in.
I tip it, just so,
to water the flowers,
and give them a taste
of sunny-day showers.



Follow me to the Guide for Caregivers!







Grasshopper Hops

by Laura E. Ward  Art by Kathy Couri



Grasshopper hops.



Worm wiggles.



Spider spins.



Jonathan giggles!

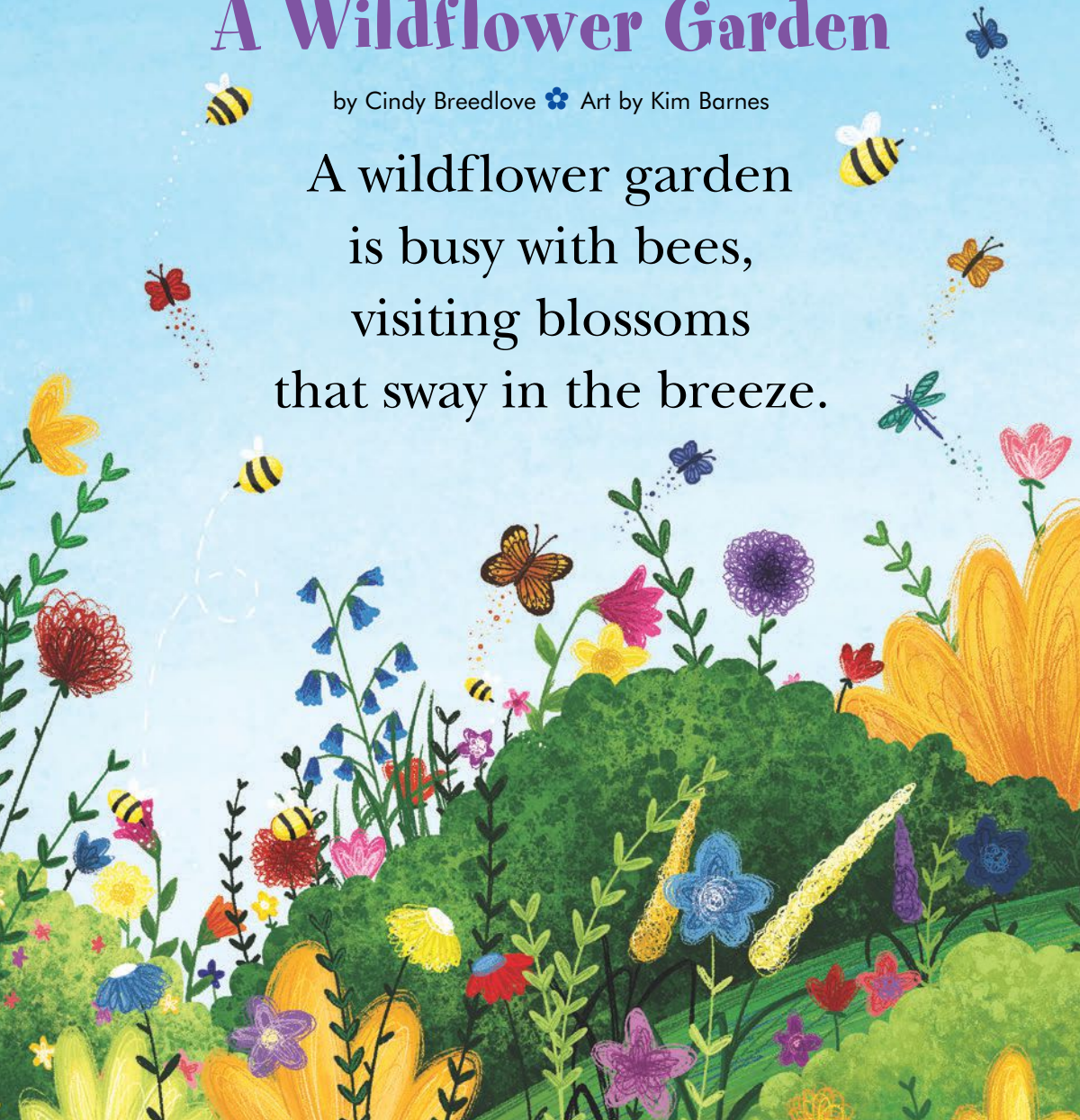




A Wildflower Garden

by Cindy Breedlove 🌸 Art by Kim Barnes

A wildflower garden
is busy with bees,
visiting blossoms
that sway in the breeze.





Butterflies, hummingbirds,
each take a share.



I love to watch
their ballet in the air.



Tom, the Piper's Son

A Mother Goose Rhyme 🍀 Art by Jana Christy

Tom with his pipe made such a noise,
That he pleased all the girls and boys.
Children danced while he did play,
“Over the hills and far away.”





I Like Music

by Marilyn Kratz ❁ Art by Tony Ross

When I hear music,
I smile and clap,
I bob up and down,
And my feet tap-tap.





LET'S EXPLORE
Dandelions



Dandelions feel
soft and tickly
in your hands.



by Robin Gather



You can wear them
as a golden crown.

Blow on their puffy
seeds and make
a wish.



Chase the seeds!



Watch Me

by Sheila Kerwin
Art by Manuela Adreani



Mommy bends low,
holding my hand.

She gently lets go—
look at me stand!





guide for caregivers



BABYBUG is for babies who love to be read to—and for adults who love to read to them. Here are a few tips to help you get the most out of this “garden dance” issue of BABYBUG.

1. Watering Can: Water is an almost perfect warm-weather toy. It’s relaxing, ever-changing, clean, and inexpensive. One way to empty a wading pool is to let your child scoop the water out with a watering can and water the garden. (Be sure to stay close by when your child plays near a wading pool.) Even sprinkling designs on the sidewalk can be good fun. You can easily make a toy watering can by poking holes in a plastic bottle.

2. Grasshopper Hops: Rolling, jumping, swaying, moving! That’s how babies and toddlers learn. In fact, for very young children, movement is essential to creating an understanding of both self and world. When something active catches your child’s eye, encourage her to imitate

what she sees. Then describe her actions as she zooms like an airplane, waddles like a duck, or hops like a grasshopper. You’ll be building vocabulary, fresh insights, and self-awareness.

3. Watch Me: It’s a breathtaking moment when a baby first balances ever-so-briefly on his own two feet. Although infant seats, swings, and baby carriers serve a purpose, all babies need plentiful opportunities for unconfined movement and floor play. Wiggling, scooting, and crawling build the coordination and muscle strength needed for physical stability and standing upright.

—Sally Nurrs, M.Ed.



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Front cover art by Stephanie Fizer Coleman
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