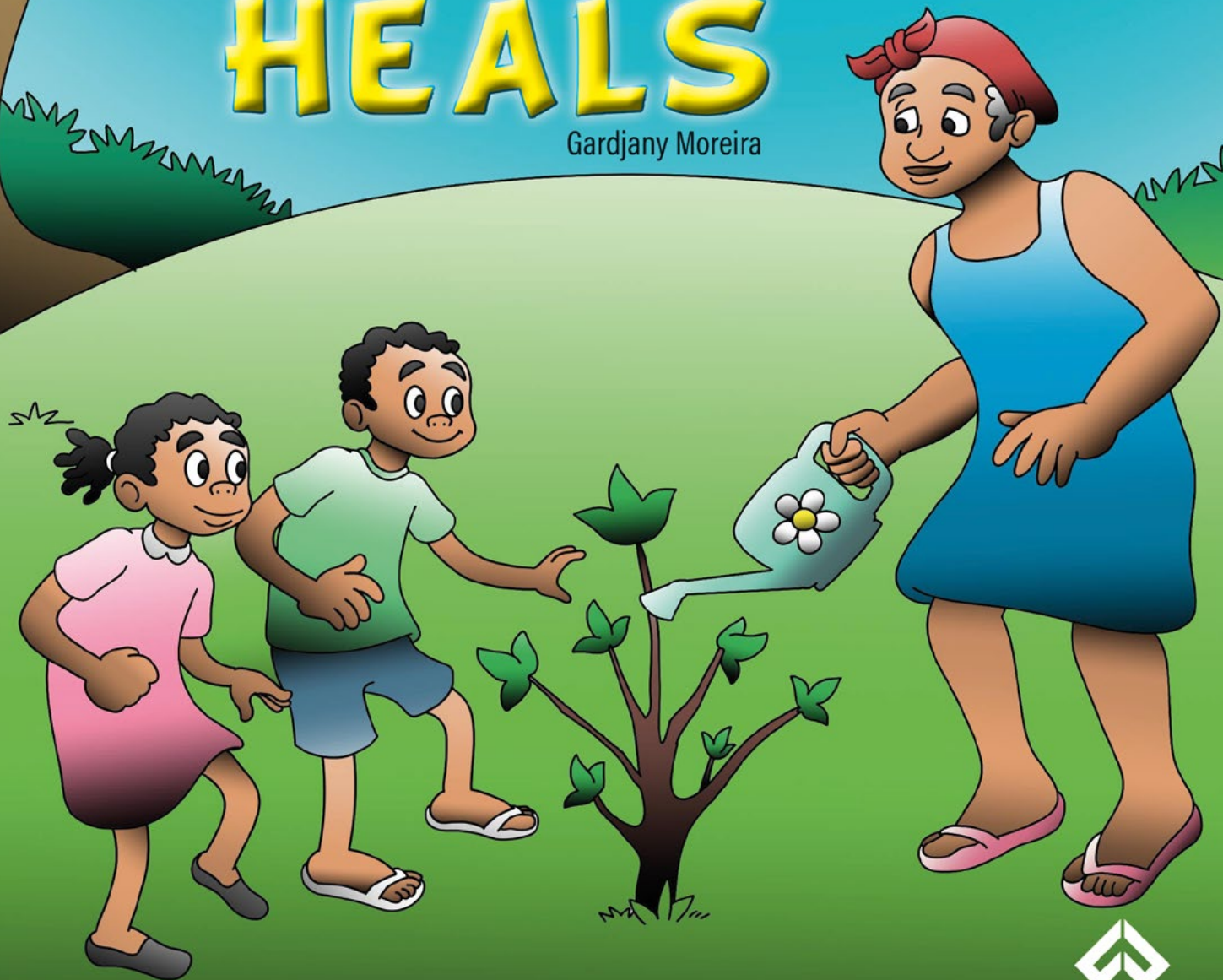


The Cerrado that **HEALS**

Gardjany Moreira



FONTELE
PUBLICAÇÕES

This work aims to awaken in children the interest in research, in addition to seeking knowledge about the use of medicinal plants. To show the quilombola community Mimbó, situated in the municipality of Amarante/PI/BR, as one of the peoples who use natural resources in their daily lives and work for the conservation and preservation of these means.



Gardjany Moreira

Born in Floriano/PI/BR, graduated in Biological Sciences from IFPI / Floriano Campus, specialists in Ecology and Biodiversity from UCAM - Universidade Cândido Mendes and currently a Master's student of the Postgraduate Program in Conservation of Natural Resources of the Cerrado (CRENAC) by the Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology Goiano - IF Goiano. Public servant of the State of Tocantins as a Biology Teacher.

A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring a variety of green leaves, vines, and flowers in shades of pink, red, and white. The border is composed of several repeating patterns of foliage and flowers, creating a lush, natural frame for the central text.

Presentation

This story is a project designed as a “technical product” for the educated lay public presented to the Post-Graduate Course “Conservação de Recursos Naturais do Cerrado” [“Conservation of Natural Resources of the Cerrado”] of the Instituto Federal Goiano (IFGoiano), Urutaí-Goiás campus, Brazil, which together with other two activities, i.e., the documentary “Plantas Medicinais do Quilombo Mimbó” and the master’s degree thesis entitled “Comunidade Quilombola Mimbó, Amarante, Piauí: um enfoque etnobotânico”, expresses the results of my work. Therefore, the current product is focused on the Quilombola communities, considering that my area of study was traditional communities that are home to descendants of enslaved populations who took refuge in the forest house descendant of enslaved that took refuge in the forest in order to escape execution.



In the center of a town there was a Quilombola community, where two very smart kids, Mimbo and Nala, used to live.

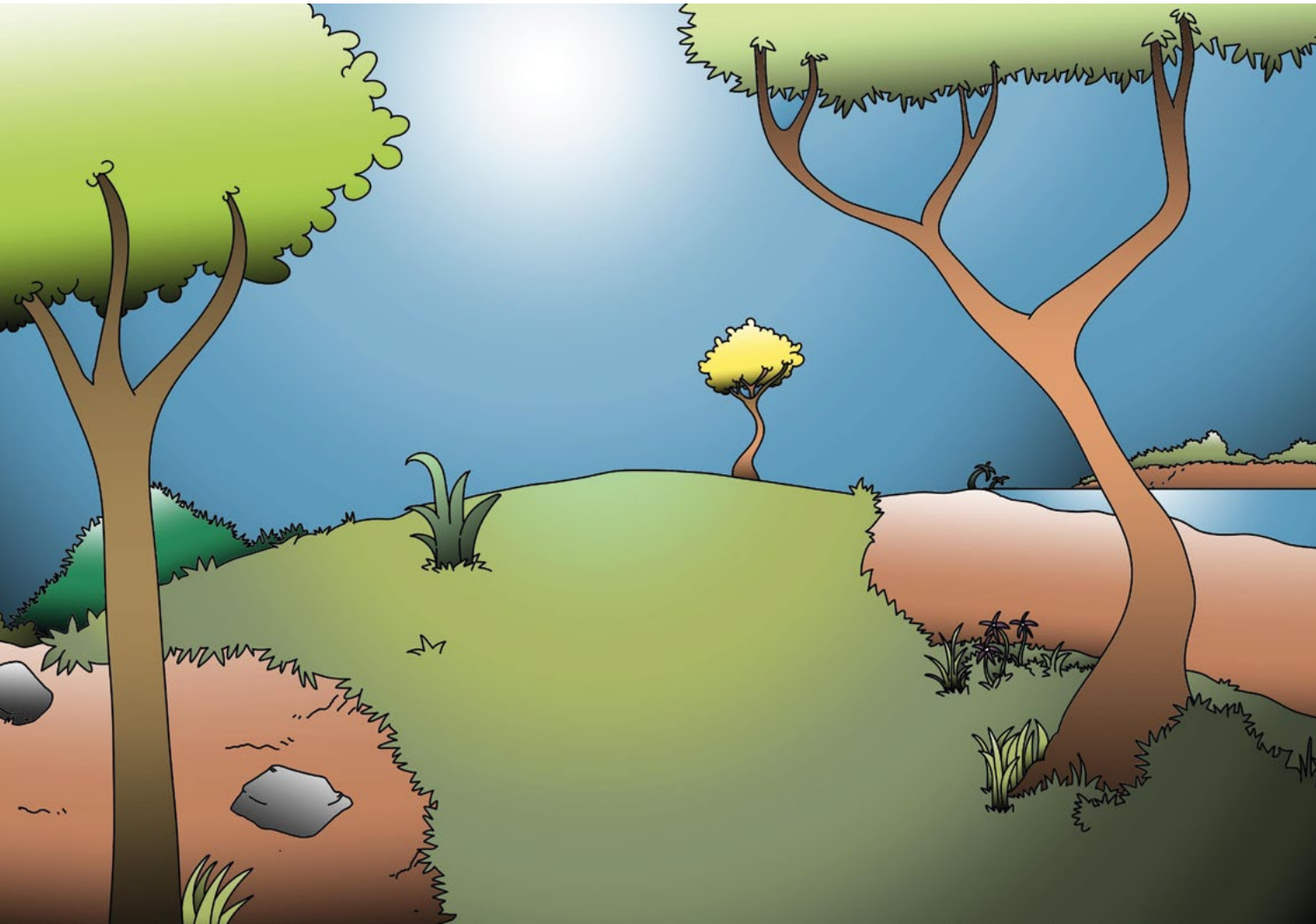
They loved seeing their grandmother prepare homemade medicines, and they also paid a lot of attention to the stories that she used to tell about their ancestors and the infinite medicinal properties of the plants, as well as how they have helped the community.





Every morning, just after feeding the animals, Mimbo and Nala stepped into the Cerrado vegetation, where they used to spend lot of time observing and studying the biodiversity in that place.

They used to be enchanted by the characteristics of the Cerrado plants, e.g., trees with crooked trunks and resistance to dry conditions, as well as the numerous streams and perennial rivers.





They used to find a number of fruiting trees. Some of these fruits were used by their grandmother to eat right off the plant (in natura) or to make sweets, juices, tea, tincture, and infusions in order to treat sick people in the community. Several different plants were used, such as Boldo, Cajuzinho, Buriti, Ipê, Pequi, Erva-Cidreira, Capim-Santo and others.

One day, Mimbo and Nala went to the woodland as usual, and they heard a very loud and terrifying noise. They noticed then animals running away and hiding themselves in their dens, while the horrible sound of branches breaking spread through the air.





Nala, fearless, walked towards the tremendous noise, while Mimbo watched the light coming from the top of the trees.
– Pssst! Come on! Come on! Said Nala.
Mimbo reached Nala, and they both hid themselves behind a big Jatobá tree.

They saw a tall white man whose face was obscured by his hat. He had a big tool in his hand, for cutting cut any trees standing there.





Mimbo and Nala, scared, ran home looking for their grandmother, who came to meet them and asked:

- What happened Nala and Mimbo? What is going on?
- Grandma! There is a tall man, with a big hat, cutting down all the trees!
- Oh, no! We need to stop that!

The grandmother and the kids returned to the field, apprehensive and wondering who could be doing such a thing; then, they reached a huge area of deforestation in the middle of the area. Too late! Many trees were on the ground, felled and cut up.





Nala and Mimbo found the trail left by the one who had committed that sin on with the environment. Together with their grandmother, they followed the clues.

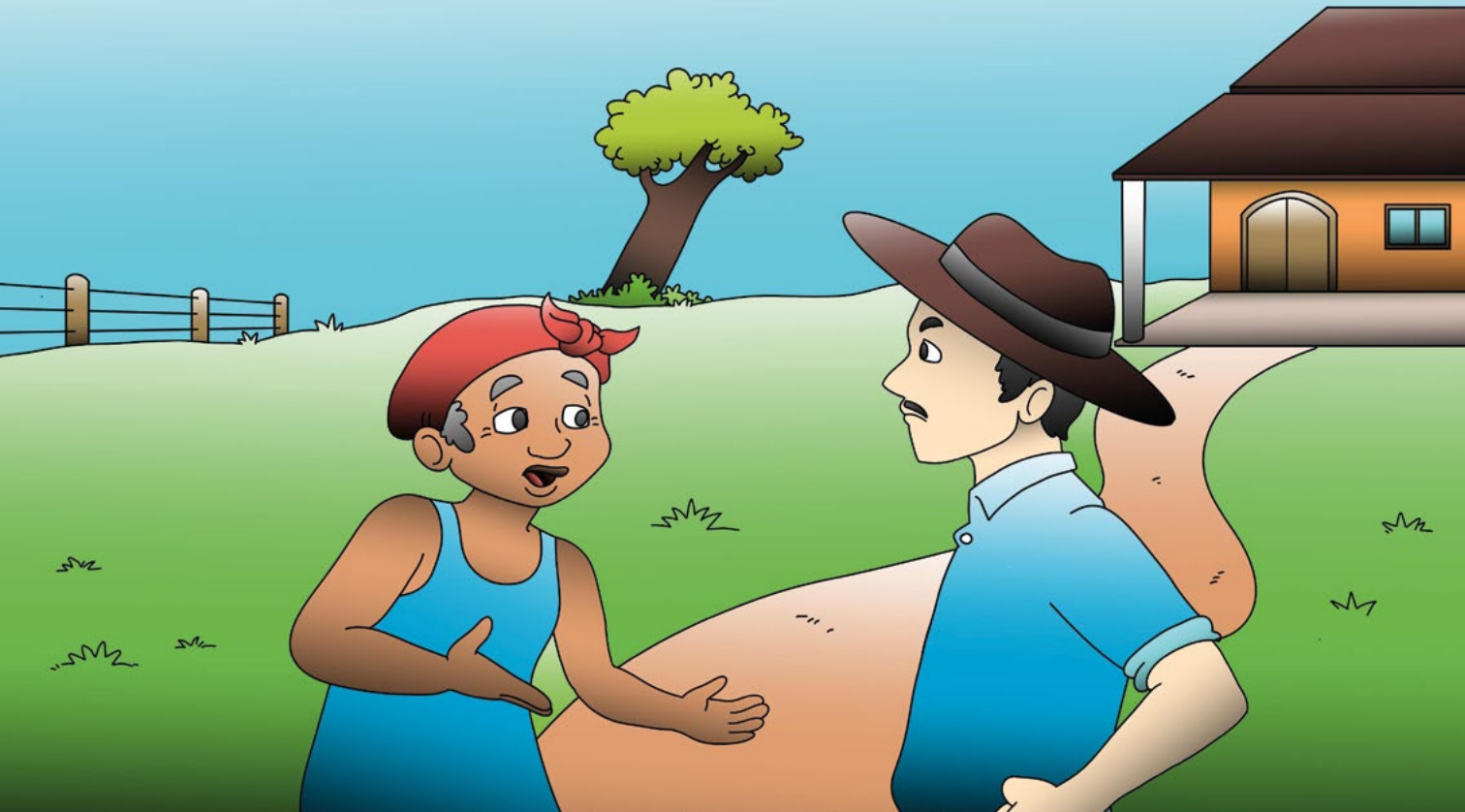
After a long walk they reached a farm and saw the tall white man with the big hat.

Their grandmother called the man, who came to the gate and say:

– What do you want here?

– Sir, please, we came here to ask why you have cut down the trees.

– I have a lot of cattle and I need a large area of pasture for them. The animals need to eat.

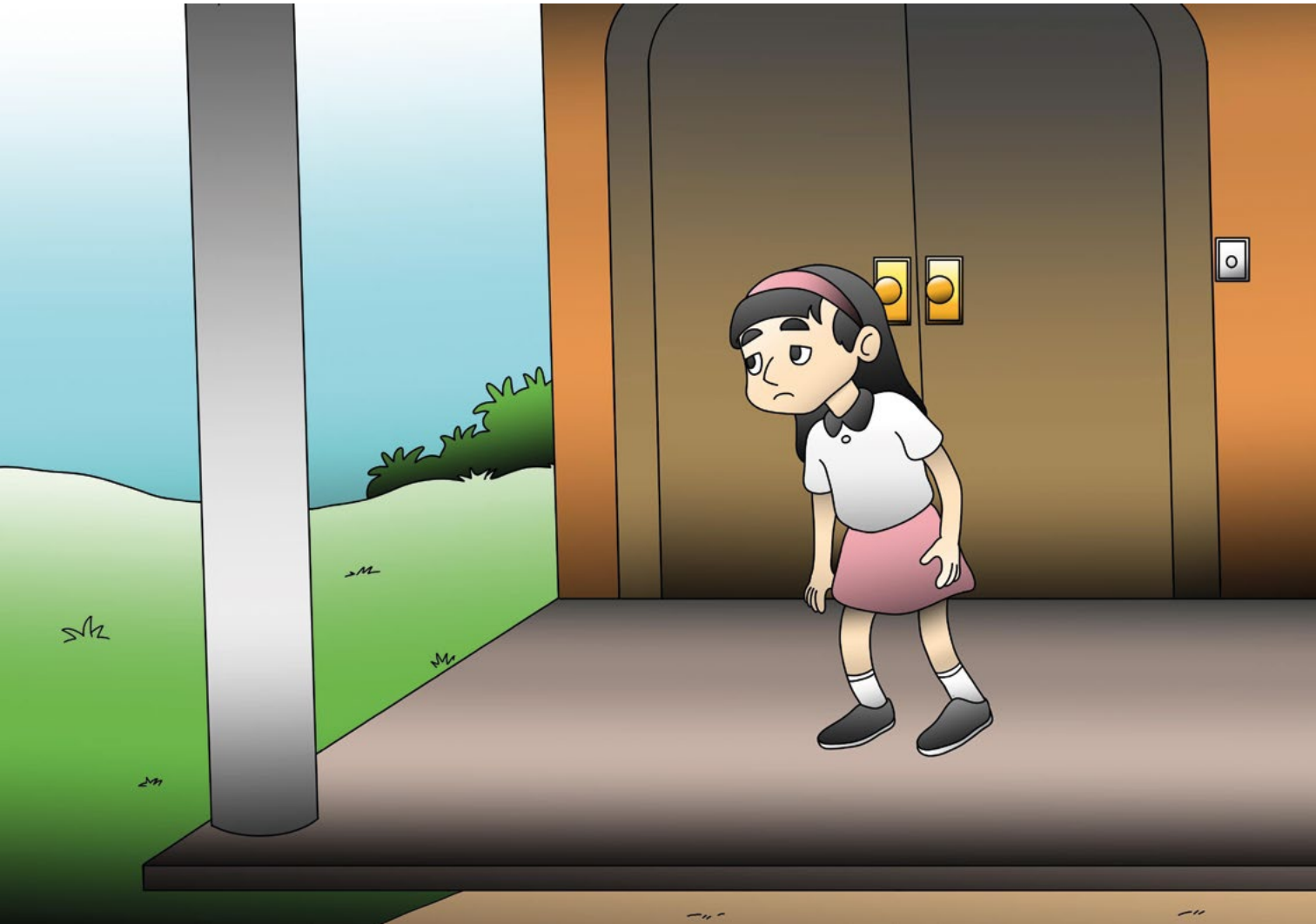


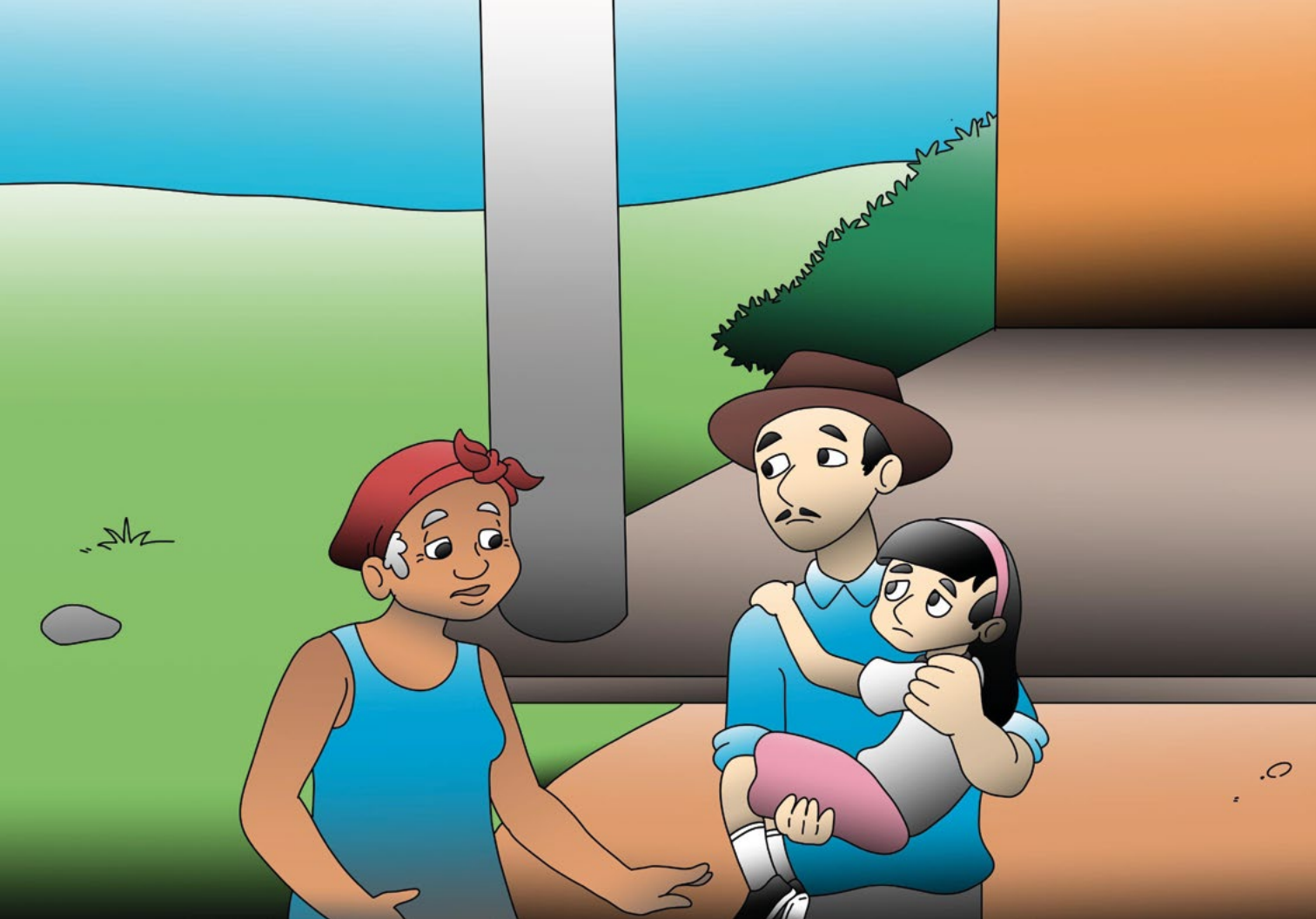


Then, the grandmother explained to him:

– Sir, I beg you, do not destroy our Cerrado; it protects the survival of all the animals, including human beings, that live in this region. It hosts all the treasures that the world can offer us: the fruiting plants and the medicinal plants.

The man ignored what the grandmother was saying, but his daughter showed up in front of the house, weak and sick, asking for help. Everyone rushed to help her.





Reaching the girl, who was supported by her father, the grandmother asked:

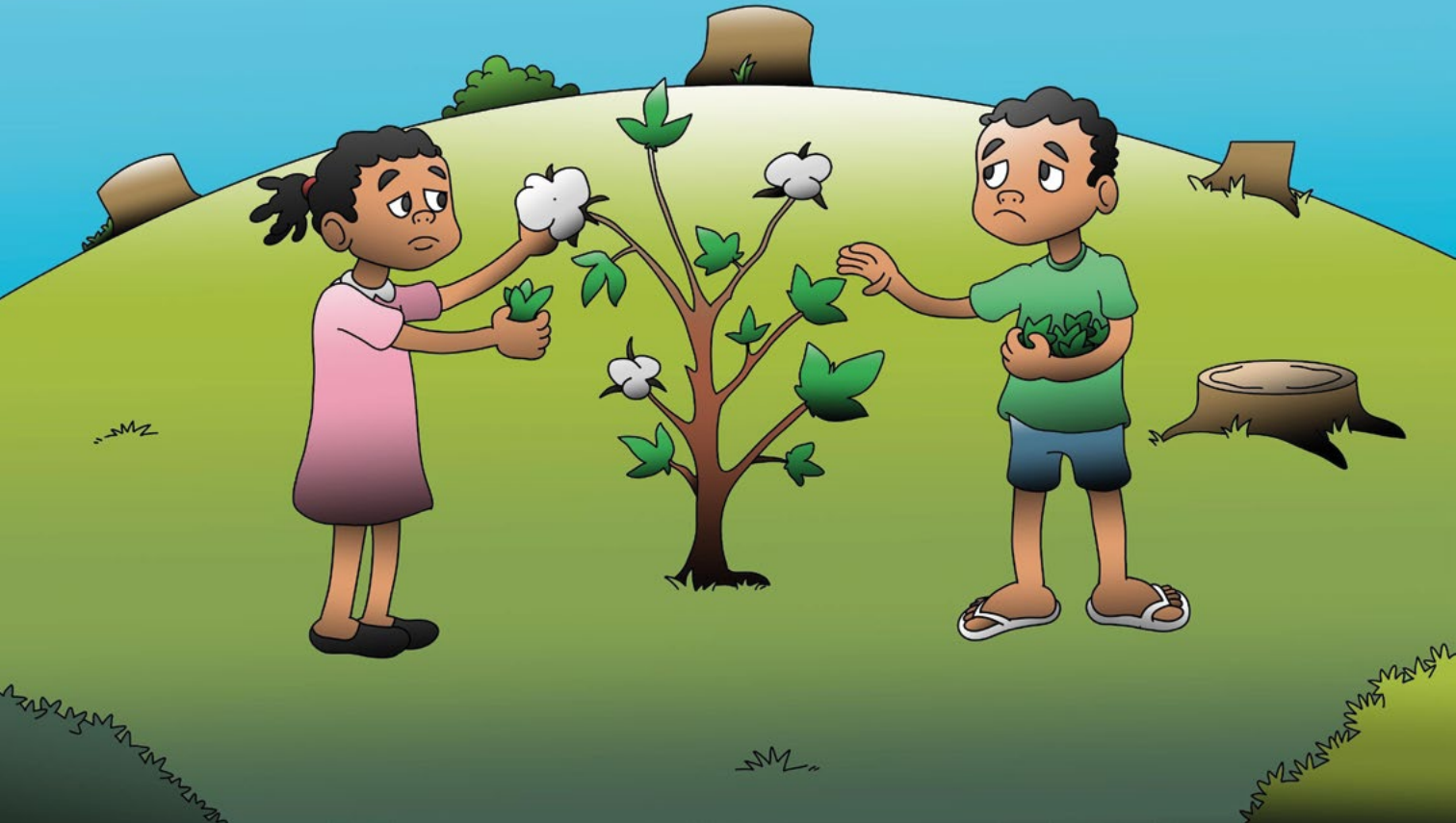
– What is happening to her? What is she feeling?

The man answered:

– For weeks she has not been eating properly; she is also in pain.

The grandmother asked Nala and Mimbo to bring leaves of the “Algodãozinho-do-Cerrado” from the woodland. Nala and Mimbo went to find the plant; they remembered having seen it around the deforested area.



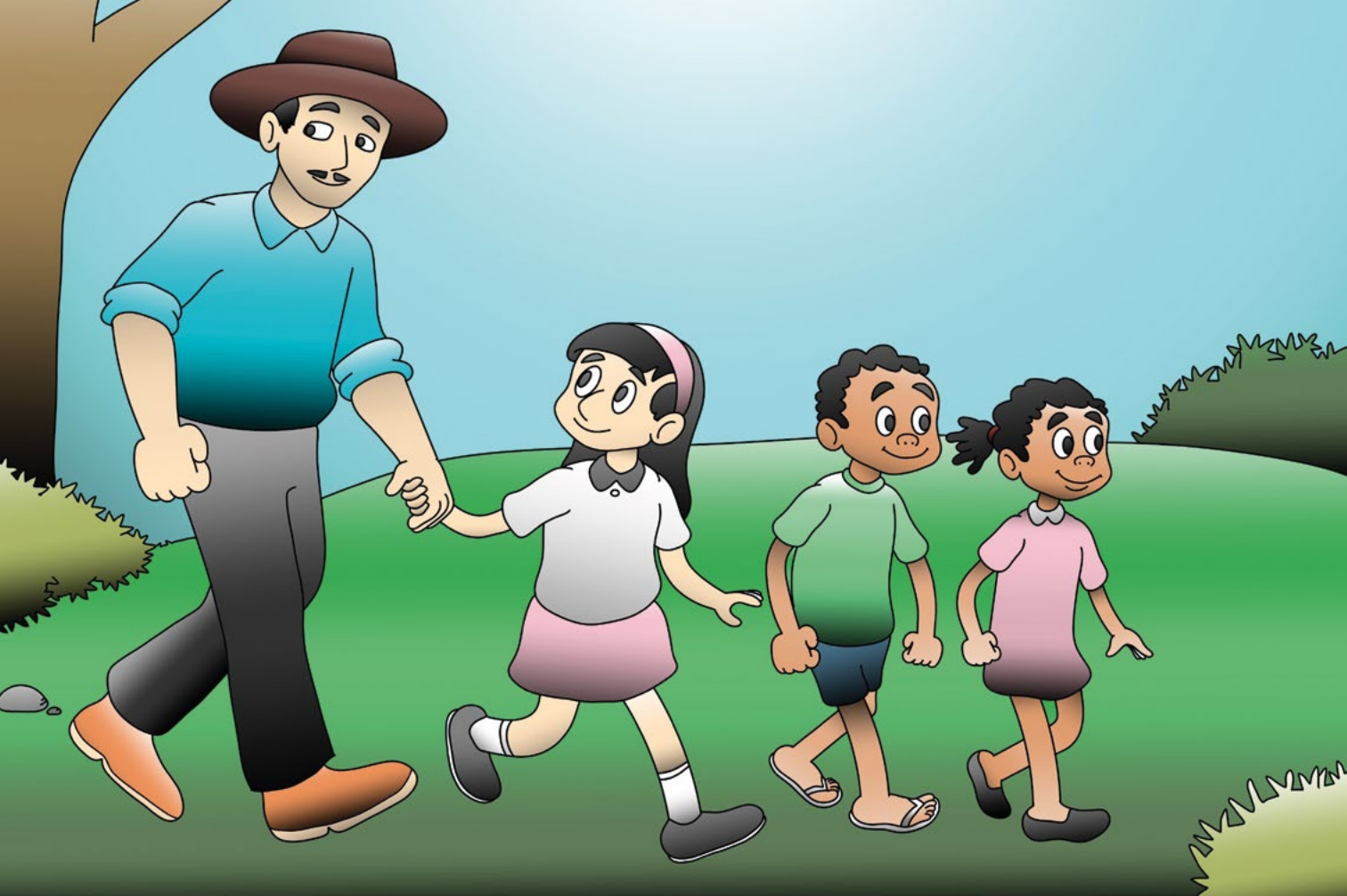


Arriving there, surrounded by the broken trunks and branches, they found it, a survivor of the plant requested by the grandmother.

They felt sorry for having to collect leaves from the lonely plant. Nara and Mimbo collected the last leaves and brought them to the grandmother.

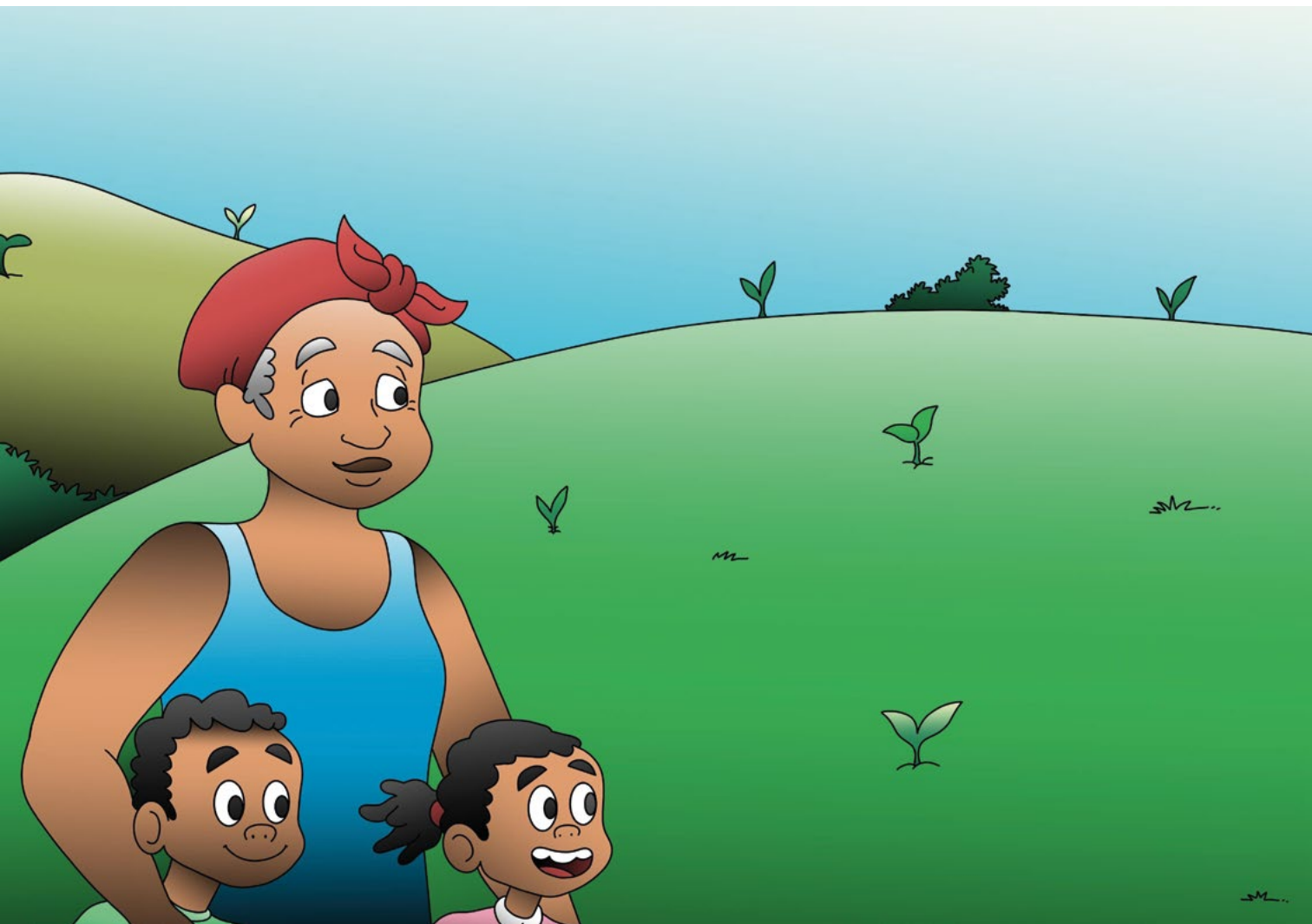
Back at the farm, Nala and Mimbo gave the leaves to the grandmother, who immediately made a tea and gave it to the farmer's daughter to drink; then she asked him to keep treating his daughter with the tea. Nala, Mimbo, and grandmother left the farm and returned to their community.





Weeks passed, and two people approached through the woodland. Nala and Mimbó called grandmother; they were scared of strangers, but was the farmer and his child, smiling and happy because the young woman was healthy. The man apologized for having destroyed the environment, regretting what he had done. He asked Nala, Mimbo, and the grandmother to take him to the place where everything has started.

Arriving there, Nala, Mimbo, and grandmother all got emotional and happy, because the farmer has planted a number of trees, replacing some of those he had cut down. Nevertheless, it was missing a very special one, the “Algodãozinho-do-Cerrado”, the one used to treat his daughter.





The grandmother told everyone not to worry; she extended her arm and opened her hand, and there she held a seedling of “Algodãozinho-do-Cerrado”. From that day on, everyone understood the importance of preserving the Cerrado. It is where we can find the best medicines: the fresh air, contact with the nature, and traditional remedies.

A decorative border surrounds the page, featuring various green leaves, vines, and small pink and white flowers. The border is thicker at the top and bottom, framing the central text.

Researcher Time

Ask help from a grown-up. Find a plant or part of it (root, leaves, flowers, and/or seeds). Glue it in the place indicated below. Write down the following information.

Flora of Cerrado

Collector name: _____

Locality of sampling: _____

Date of sampling ____ / ____ / ____

Plant organs:


() Root () Leaves () Flower () Seed

Vernacular name:

Scientific name:

Did you help collect the sample?

How did you recognize this plant?

A decorative border of various plants and flowers surrounds the text. The border includes green leaves, pink flowers, white flowers, and green foliage. The text is centered within the border.

Collect part of a plant (root, leaves, flower, fruit or seed). Press it in a book and let it dry for a few days. Then, glue it in the space below.

WORD SEARCH

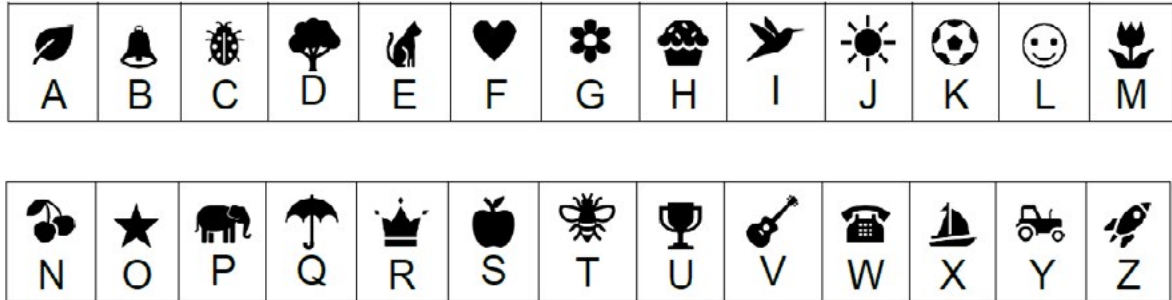
Cerrado is the second largest type of vegetation in Brazil; only Amazonia is bigger. A lot of study is still necessary in this area.

Find on the square the popular name of plants presented below:

**PEQUI - MANGABA - BURITI - JURUBEBA - JATOBÁ - MURICI -
BACURI - IPÊ - ANGICO - COPAÍBA - FEDEGOSO - JENIPAPO**

C	T	Q	S	M	S	O	L	L	A	J	E	J	H	F
O	F	W	Á	E	J	E	N	I	P	A	P	O	U	E
P	E	E	H	R	P	W	C	L	I	T	P	C	R	D
A	Y	R	I	P	L	R	A	M	R	O	E	I	J	E
Í	Z	M	O	E	E	T	R	Q	Z	B	U	G	I	G
B	C	U	K	Q	N	G	T	Y	M	Á	K	N	B	O
A	V	R	H	U	U	H	O	Z	U	R	E	A	O	S
R	U	I	R	I	P	Ê	N	E	A	H	Q	U	I	O
B	A	C	U	R	I	J	U	B	U	R	I	T	I	S
P	O	I	E	T	P	N	E	A	B	A	G	N	A	M
Ç	L	O	N	I	S	M	Q	B	A	C	I	A	I	M
J	U	R	B	E	B	A	F	E	D	E	R	O	L	O

WHAT PLANT IS THIS?

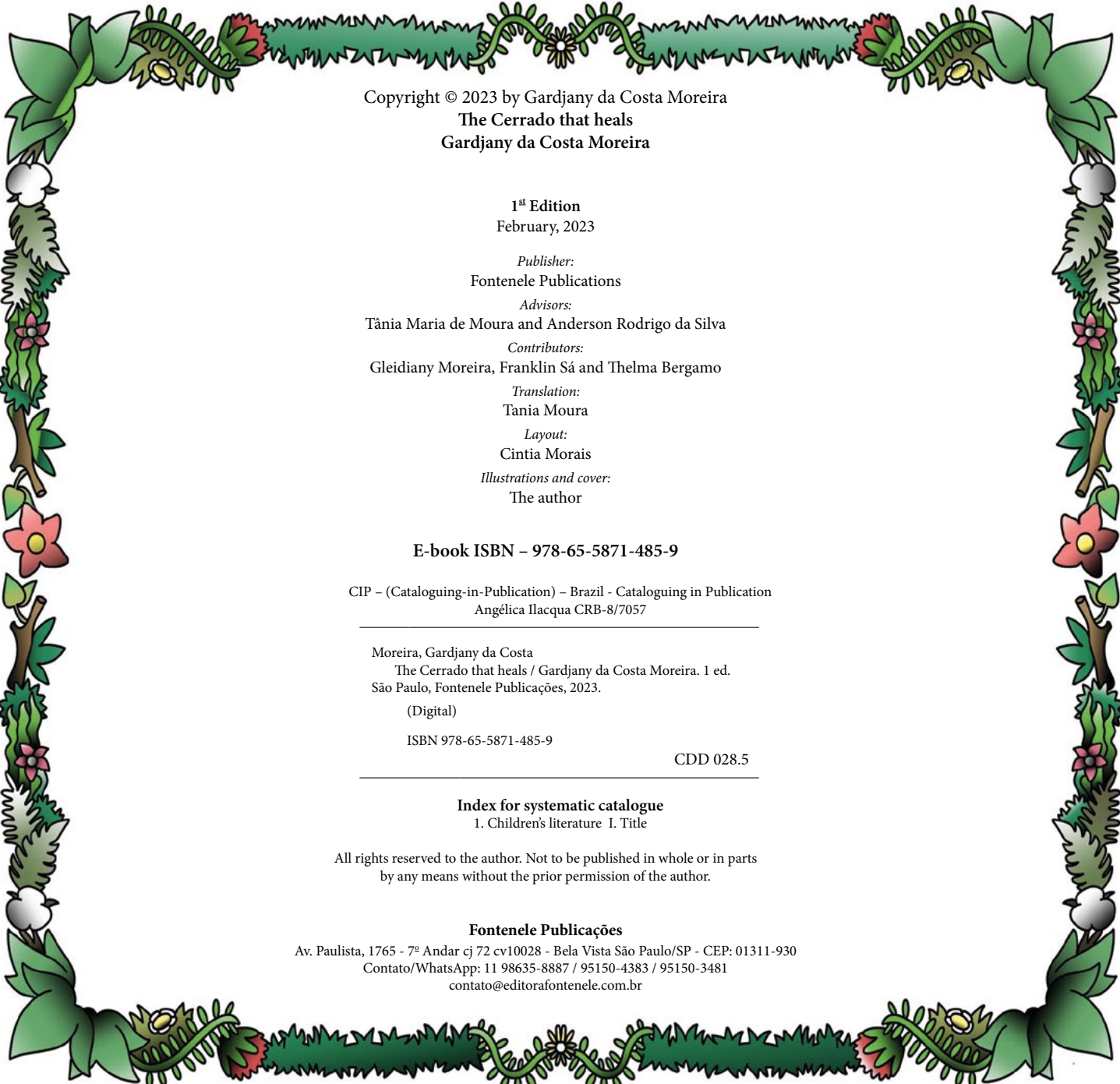


Leafy canopy tree, up to 12 m tall, with big leaves; the fruit is native to the Cerrado and its name comes from the Tupi language and means "prickly skin".



Big tree, up to 40 m tall, its leaves are like a cow hoof; its name comes from the Tupi language and means "the one with hard bark".





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