

The Story of Earth



TIPS TO SUPPORT LITERACY AT HOME

WHY READING AND SINGING WITH YOUR CHILD IS SO IMPORTANT

Daily reading with your child leads to increased academic achievement. Music and songs, specifically rhyming songs, are a fun and easy way to build early literacy and language development. Music skills correlate significantly with both phonological awareness and reading development. Singing helps build vocabulary and speech development. And reading and appreciating music together is a wonderful way to strengthen your relationship.

READ AND SING EVERY DAY!

TIPS FOR USING CANTATA LEARNING BOOKS AND SONGS DURING YOUR DAILY STORY TIME

1. As you sing and read, point out the different words on the page that rhyme. Suggest other words that rhyme.
2. Memorize simple rhymes such as *Itsy Bitsy Spider* and sing them together. This encourages comprehension skills and early literacy skills.
3. Use the questions in the back of each book to guide your singing and storytelling.
4. Read the included sheet music with your child while you listen to the song. How do the music notes correlate to the words of the song?
5. Sing along on the go and at home. Access music by going to www.cantatalearning.com. You can also stream or download the music for free to your computer, smartphone or mobile device.

Devoting time to daily reading shows that you are available for your child. Together, you are building language, literacy, and listening skills.

Have fun reading and singing!



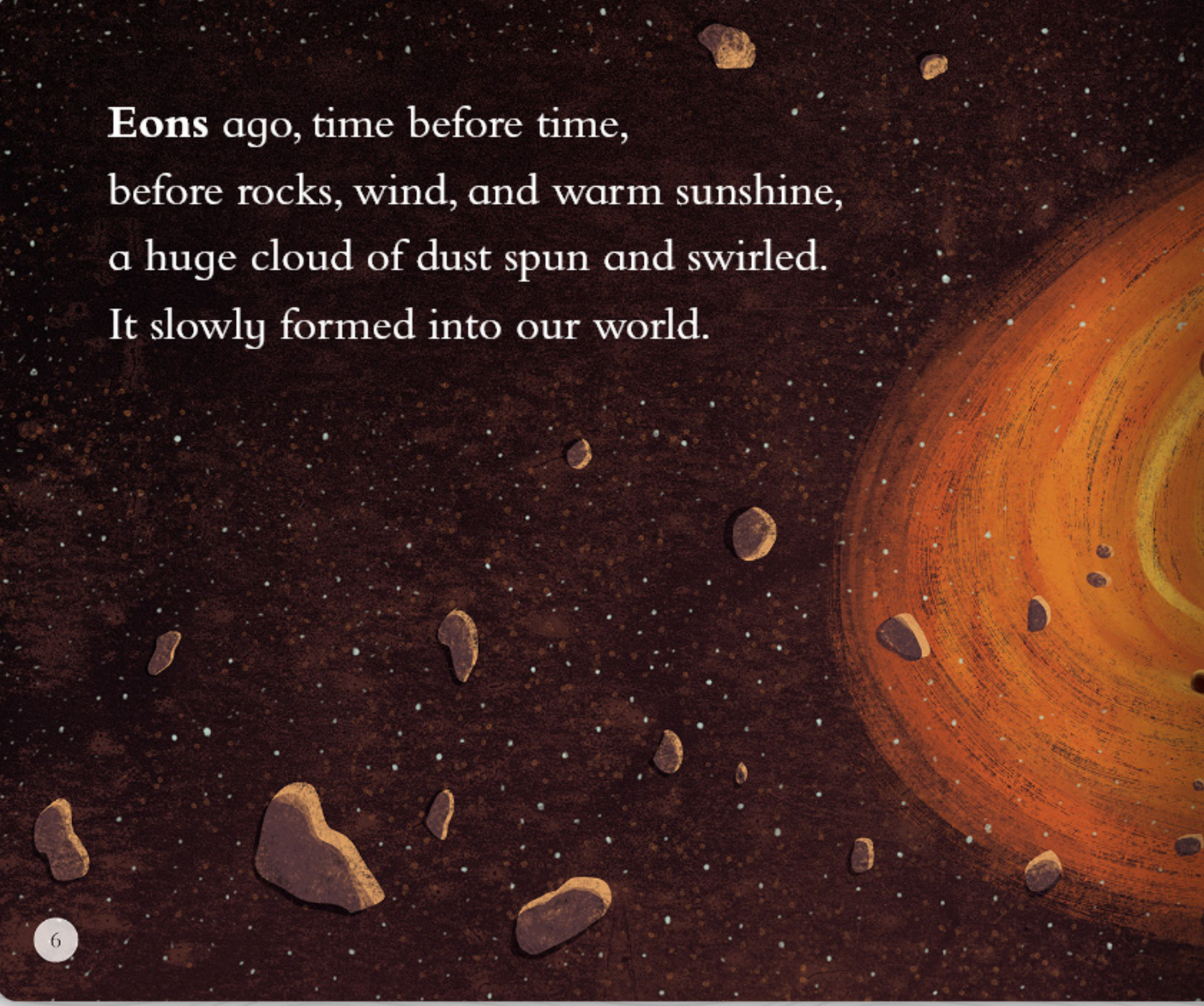
Earth formed a long, long time ago from a cloud of dust. Early on, our planet was a pretty scary place! Slowly but surely, it got better. After **billions** of years, life took off. Our planet became the home we know and love.

Turn the page. Sing your heart out to the story of Earth!

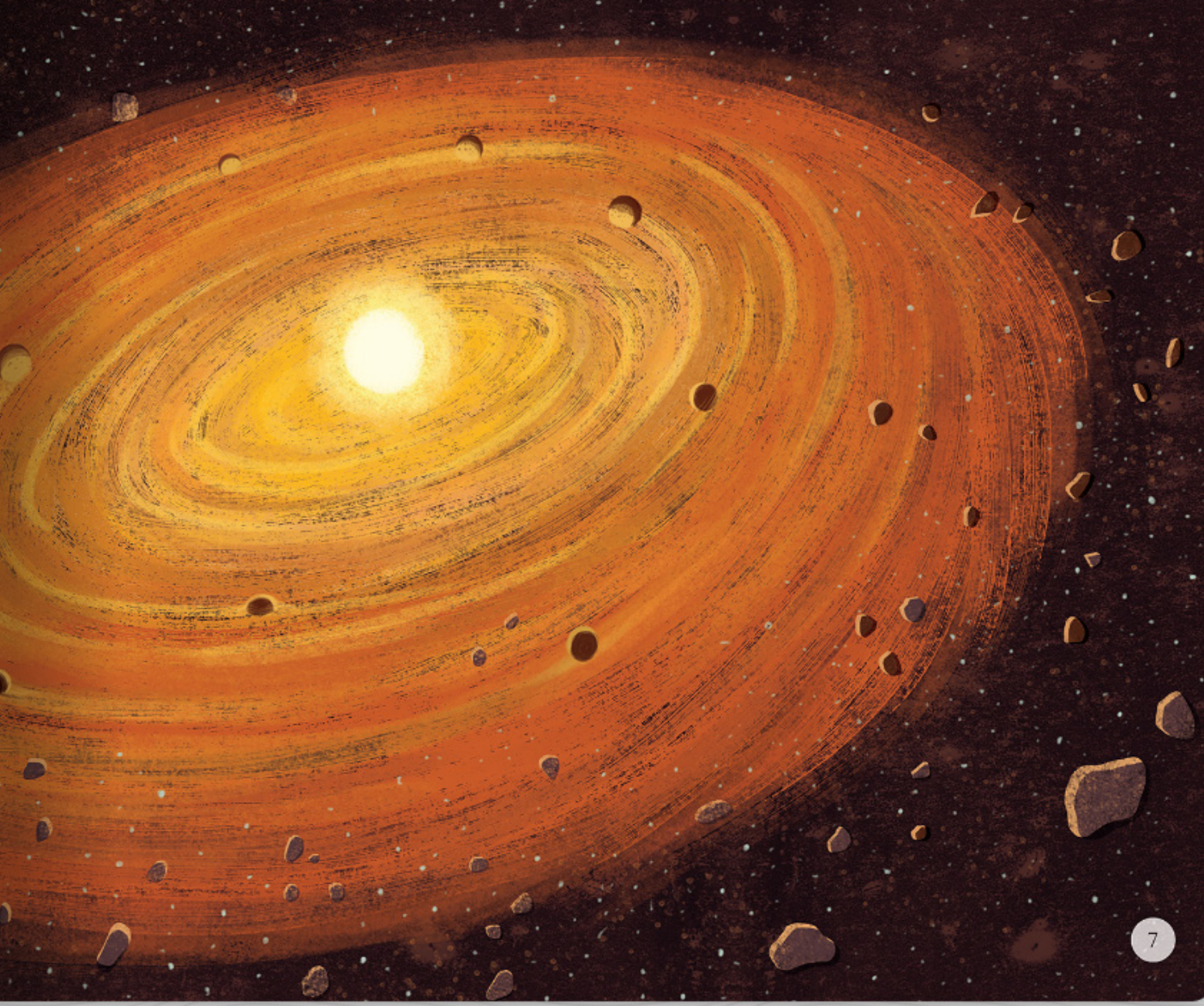


EARTH DAY





Eons ago, time before time,
before rocks, wind, and warm sunshine,
a huge cloud of dust spun and swirled.
It slowly formed into our world.





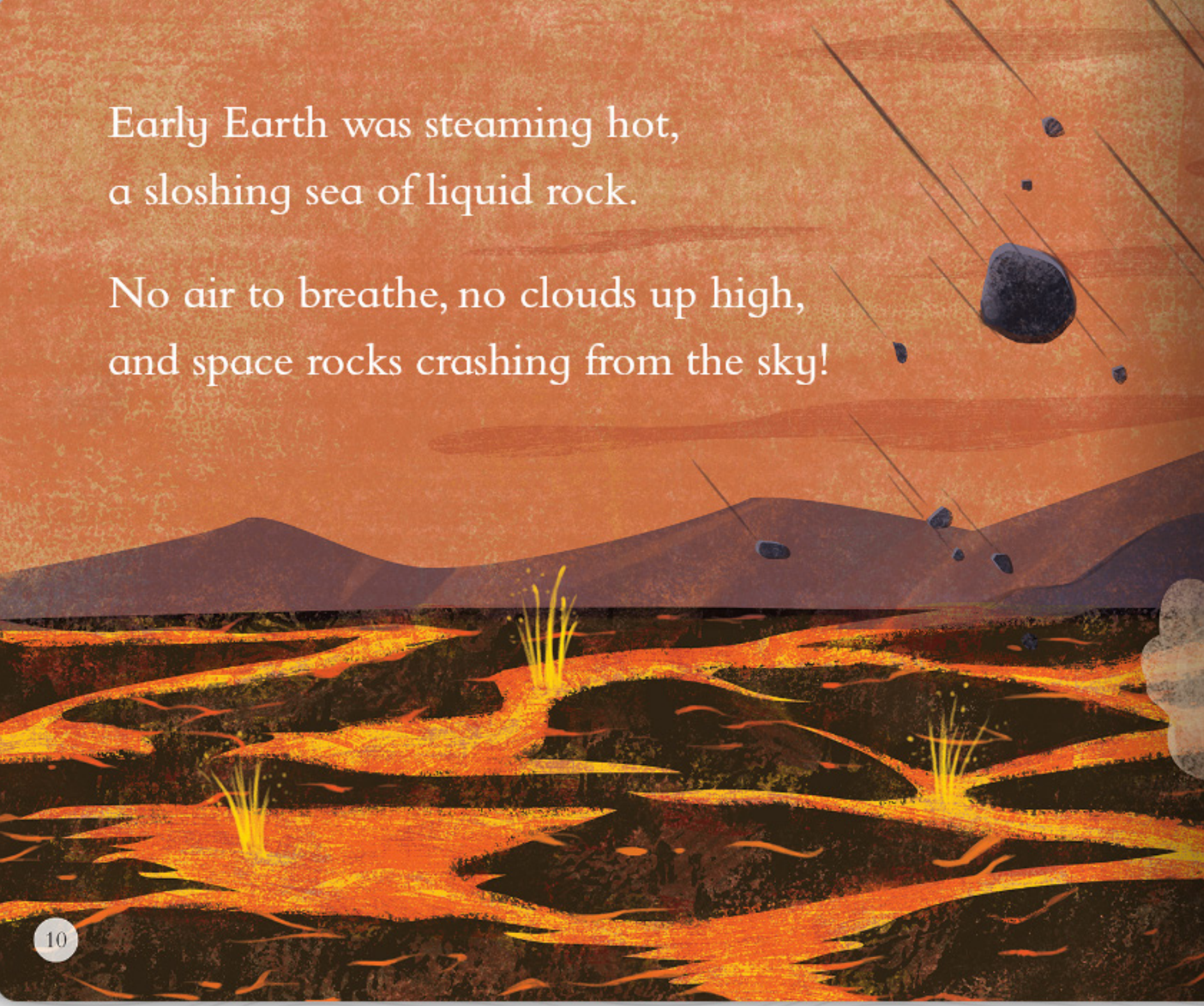
Our planet was not always blue,
with forests green and mountain views.

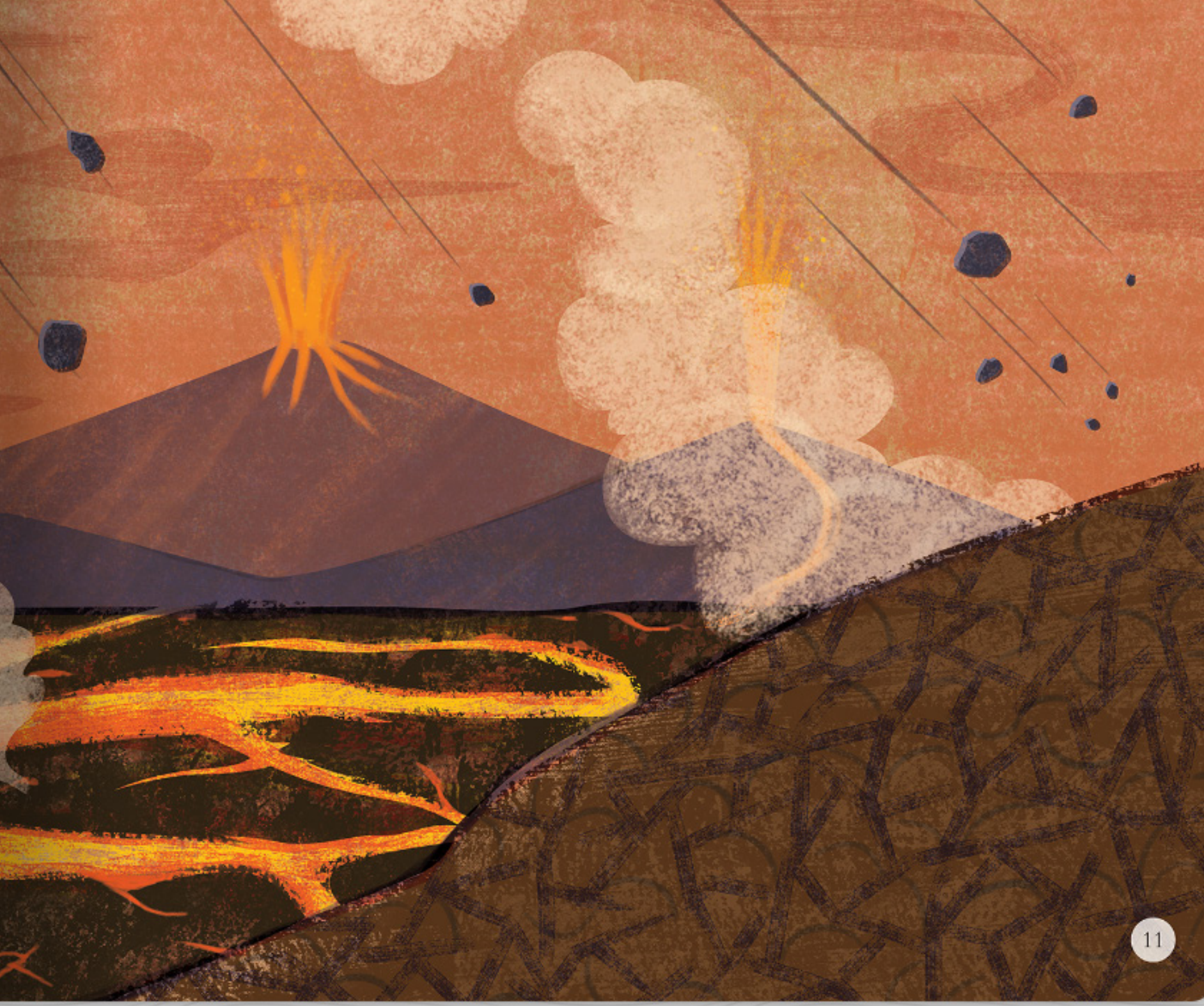
Through billions of years it came to be
a home just right for you and me.



Early Earth was steaming hot,
a sloshing sea of liquid rock.

No air to breathe, no clouds up high,
and space rocks crashing from the sky!







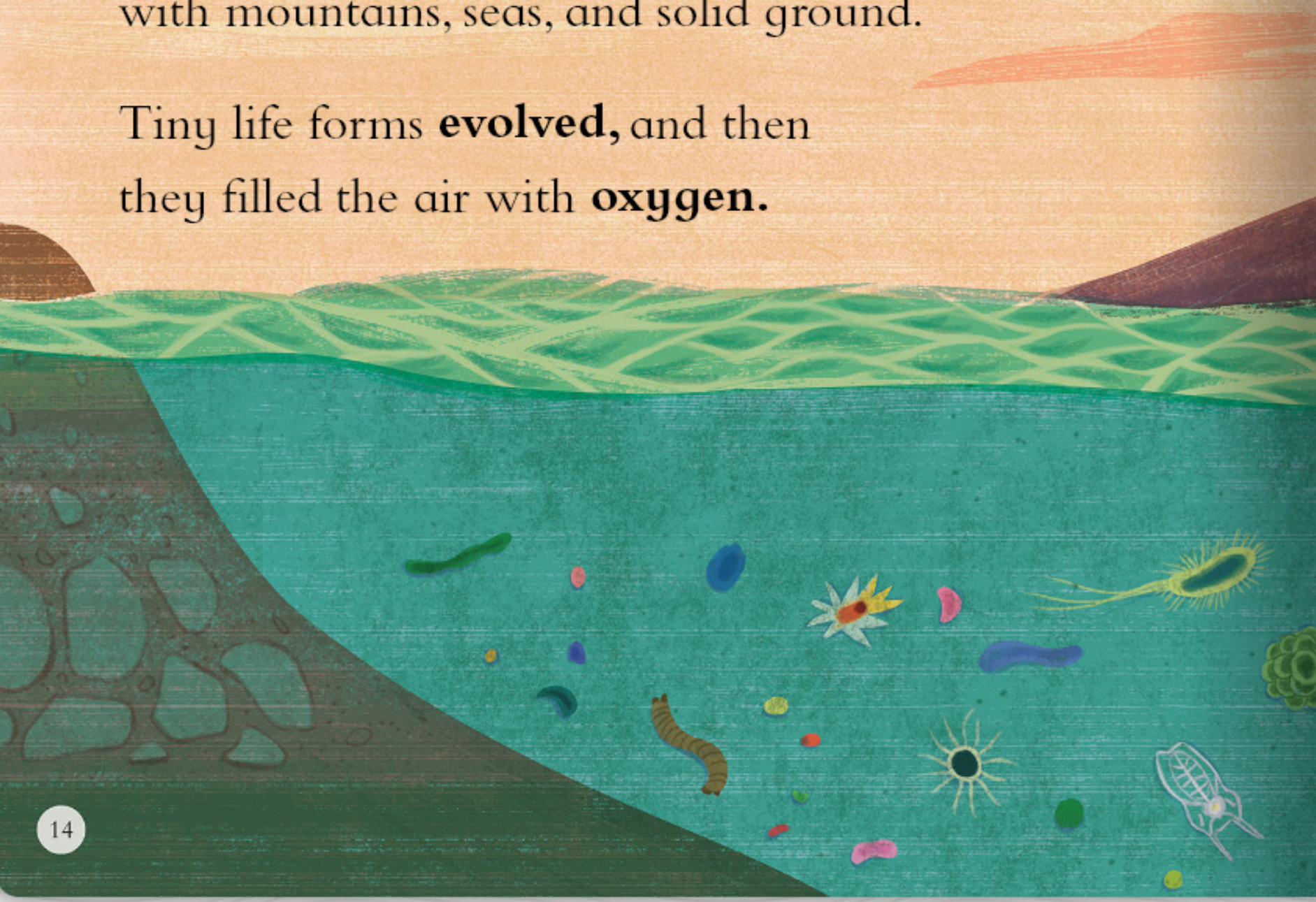
Our planet was not always blue
with forests green and mountain views.

Through billions of years it came to be
a home just right for you and me.

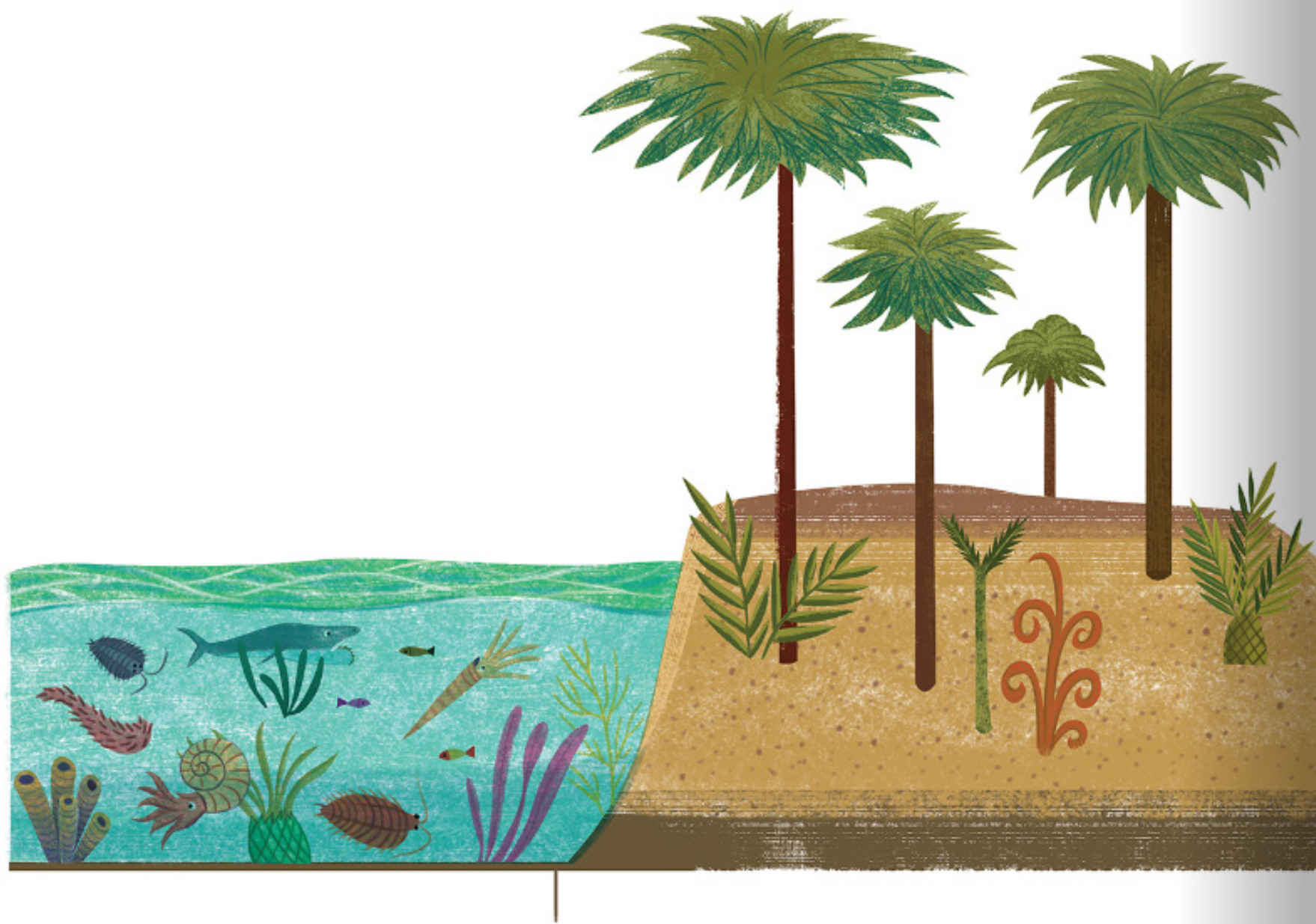


Eventually, Earth settled down
with mountains, seas, and solid ground.

Tiny life forms **evolved**, and then
they filled the air with **oxygen**.







The oceans filled with fish and clams.
Then plants began to grow on land.
Mighty dinosaurs ruled for an age.
Much later, humans took the stage.



Earth is changing. It's still shifting.
Lands are joining, lands are drifting.

Mountains grow and rivers fade.
The story of Earth is still being made.

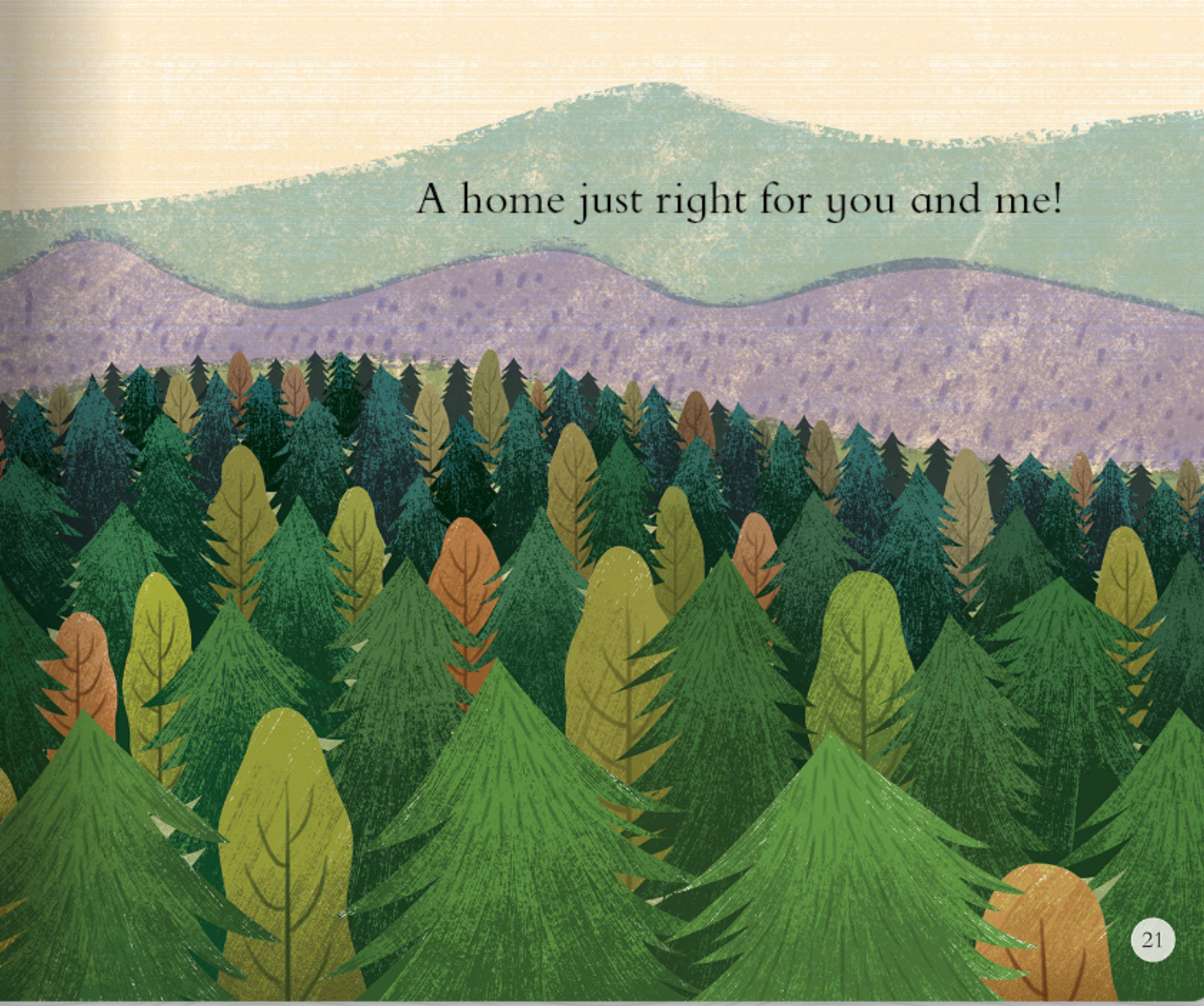




Our planet was not always blue,
with forests green and mountain views.

Through billions of years it came to be
a home just right for you and me.





A home just right for you and me!

SONG LYRICS

The Story of Earth

Eons ago, time before time,
before rocks, wind, and warm sunshine,
a huge cloud of dust spun and swirled.
It slowly formed into our world.

Our planet was not always blue,
with forests green and mountain views.
Through billions of years it came to be
a home just right for you and me.

Early Earth was steaming hot,
a sloshing sea of liquid rock.
No air to breathe, no clouds up high,
and space rocks crashing from the sky!

Our planet was not always blue
with forests green and mountain views.
Through billions of years it came to be
a home just right for you and me.

Eventually, Earth settled down
with mountains, seas, and solid ground.
Tiny life forms evolved, and then
they filled the air with oxygen.

The oceans filled with fish and clams.
Then plants began to grow on land.
Mighty dinosaurs ruled for an age.
Much later, humans took the stage.

Earth is changing. It's still shifting.
Lands are joining, lands are drifting.
Mountains grow and rivers fade.
The story of Earth is still being made.

Our planet was not always blue,
with forests green and mountain views.
Through billions of years it came to be
a home just right for you and me.

A home just right for you and me!



The Story of Earth

Americana
Joseph Faison IV

Verse



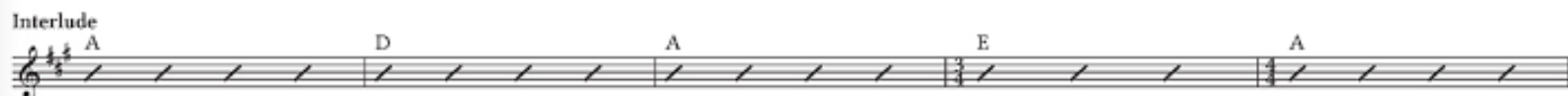
I. E - ons a - go, time be - fore time, be - fore rocks, wind, and warm sun - shine, a
huge cloud of dust spun and swirled, it slow - ly formed in - to our world.

Chorus



Our plan - et was not al - ways blue, with for - ests green and moun - tain views. Through bil - lions of years it came to be a
home just right for you and me. me. a home just right for you and me.

Interlude



Verse 2

Early Earth was steaming hot,
a sloshing sea of liquid rock.
No air to breathe, no clouds up high,
and space rocks crashing from the sky!

Chorus

Interlude

Verse 3

Eventually, Earth settled down
with mountains, seas, and solid ground.
Tiny life forms evolved, and then
they filled the air with oxygen.

Verse 4

The oceans filled with fish and clams.
Then plants began to grow on land.
Mighty dinosaurs ruled for an age.
Much later, humans took the stage.

Bridge



Earth is chang - ing. It's still shift - ing. Lands are join - ing, lands are drift - ing. Moun - tains grow and riv - ers fade. The sto - ry of Earth is still be - ing made.

Chorus

GLOSSARY

billion—a large number that has nine zeroes; a billion equals a thousand millions

eon—a very long period of time

evolved—changed slowly over a very long time

oxygen—a gas in the air that animals and plants need to live

GUIDED READING ACTIVITIES

1. What is your very favorite place on Earth? Draw a picture.
2. Listen to the song again. Every time you hear the word *planet*, make a big circle with your arms. Every time you hear the word *Earth*, give yourself a hug.
3. Draw a line. Use a ruler to make it 8 inches long. Now mark each inch. Imagine this line shows the time since Earth formed. Circle the seventh mark. That's how long it was before animals showed up.

TO LEARN MORE

Aston, Dianna Hutts. *A Rock Is Lively*. Mankato, MN: Amicus, 2014.

Bullard, Lisa. *Earth Day Every Day*. Minneapolis: Millbrook, 2012.

Hunter, Nick. *Earth*. Chicago: Raintree, 2013.

Rake, Matthew. *The Dawn of Planet Earth*. Minneapolis: Hungry Tomato, 2016.

