

# Ike and the Schooled Out Crew



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*This beautiful storybook  
belongs to*

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Ike and the Schooled Out Crew  
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ISBN: 978-978-770-021-1

A catalogue record for this book is available at the National Library of Nigeria.

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Ike would be delighted to stay home and play with his toys all day, every day!

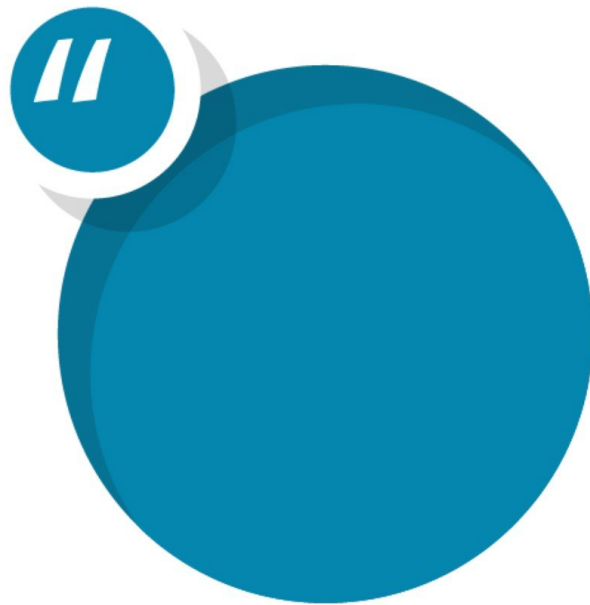


But Dad and Mum insisted that he went to school from Monday to Friday.

"But why?"  
Ike would ask.



**“I can give you one thousand and one reasons from my life why school is a good idea. But there is no time for that now,” his daddy answered.**



Most days, Ike got to school late.



One day, his daddy took the old market road to his school because the regular route had a long traffic jam.



Poof! Went the car tyre.



Dad came down to change  
to a spare.

While that was going on, Ike looked around the area.  
He noticed some children.

They were not dressed in school uniforms. They had  
no school bags.



**A boy in a yellow shirt and red knickers was pushing a wheelbarrow.**

**A girl in a blue dress was carrying a tray of oranges.**

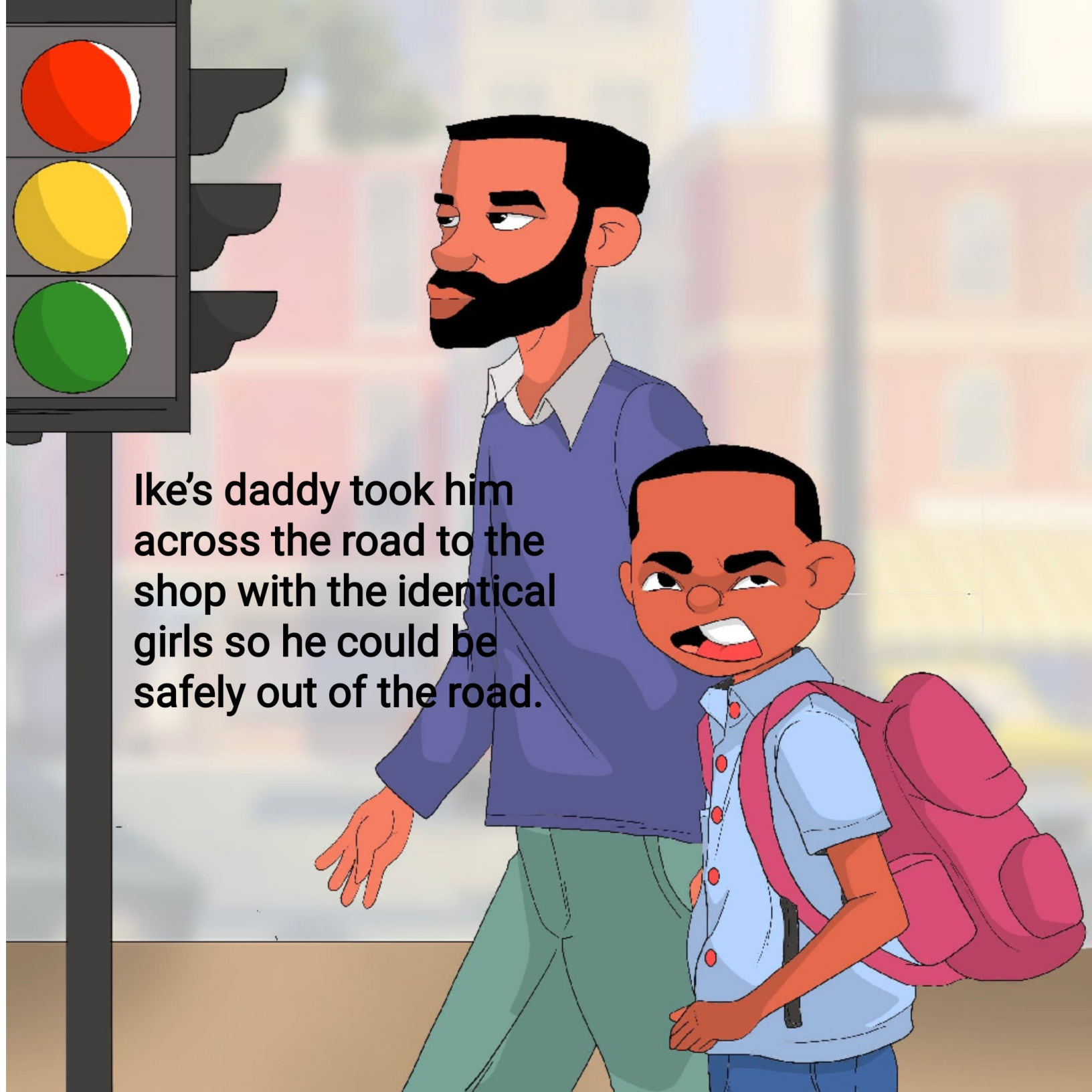
**A boy in a long purple robe was leading a blind man.**



A girl in a green dress was opening a shop door.  
Then she came back out with another girl in a pink  
dress. They must be twins—identical!

Swoosh! A boy in a dusty white shirt rode past so  
fast on a bicycle, carrying a keg.





Ike's daddy took him  
across the road to the  
shop with the identical  
girls so he could be  
safely out of the road.

**“Why are you here and not in school?” Ike asked the identical girls.**



**The girls gave each other quizzical looks and, with some giggles, answered Ike, “That’s because we are here—working.”**

Soon, the other children gathered at the identical girls' shop.

They were now all chatting.



Everyone had a reason for not going to school.

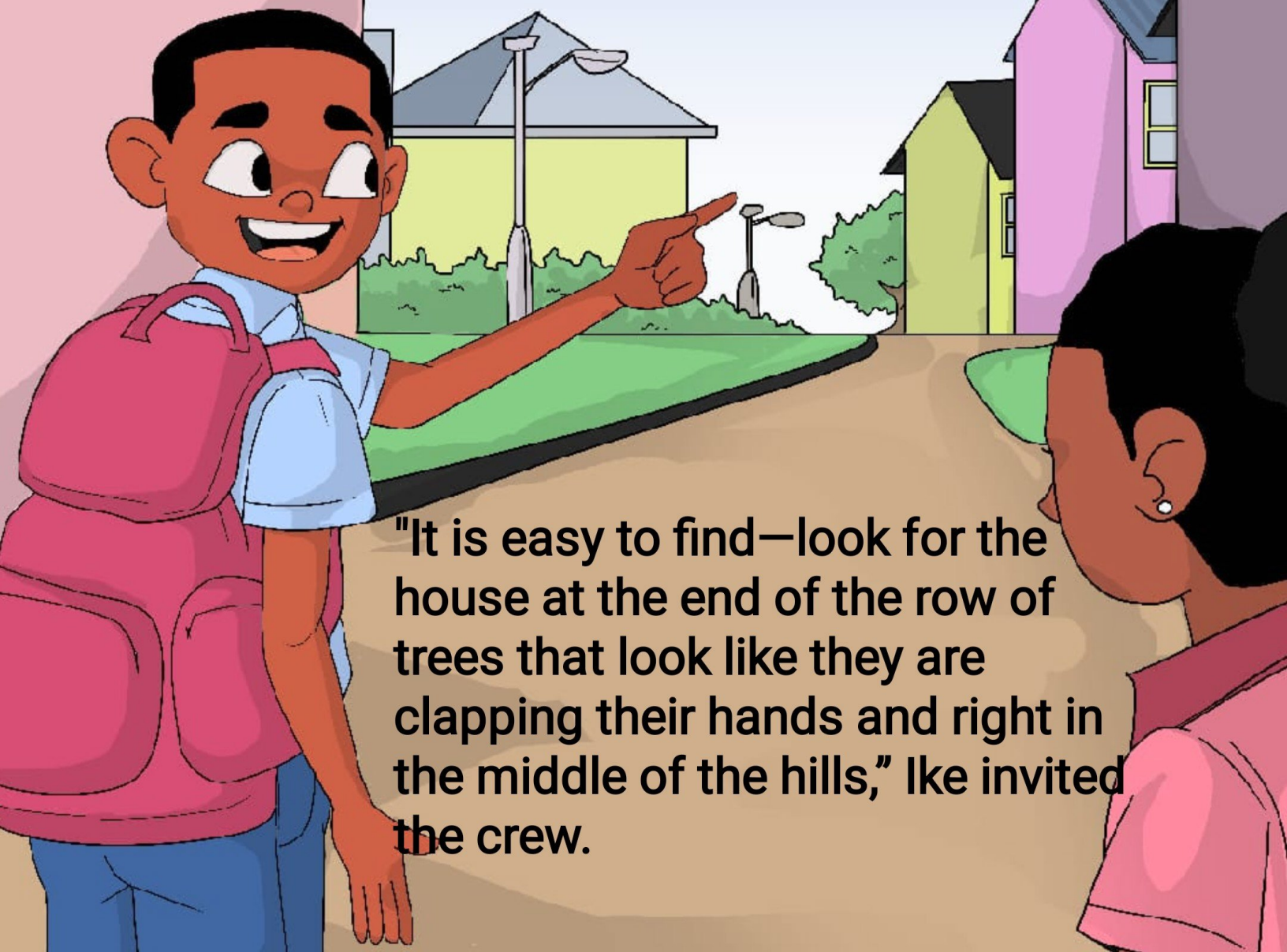
They all sounded pretty serious to Ike.  
They seemed not to have any choice.

**“So, what is school like and what do you learn there?” asked the boy in the dusty white shirt.**

**“You know what? How about I show you...”  
“...if you will come to my house. It is not very far from here actually,” Ike told them.**



**“But where is your house exactly?”  
asked the purple-robed boy.**



**"It is easy to find—look for the  
house at the end of the row of  
trees that look like they are  
clapping their hands and right in  
the middle of the hills," Ike invited  
the crew.**

**“When?” asked the yellow-topped girl.**

**“I think 5 o'clock every evening will be fine,” Ike suggested. “That is when I do my homework,” he explained.**

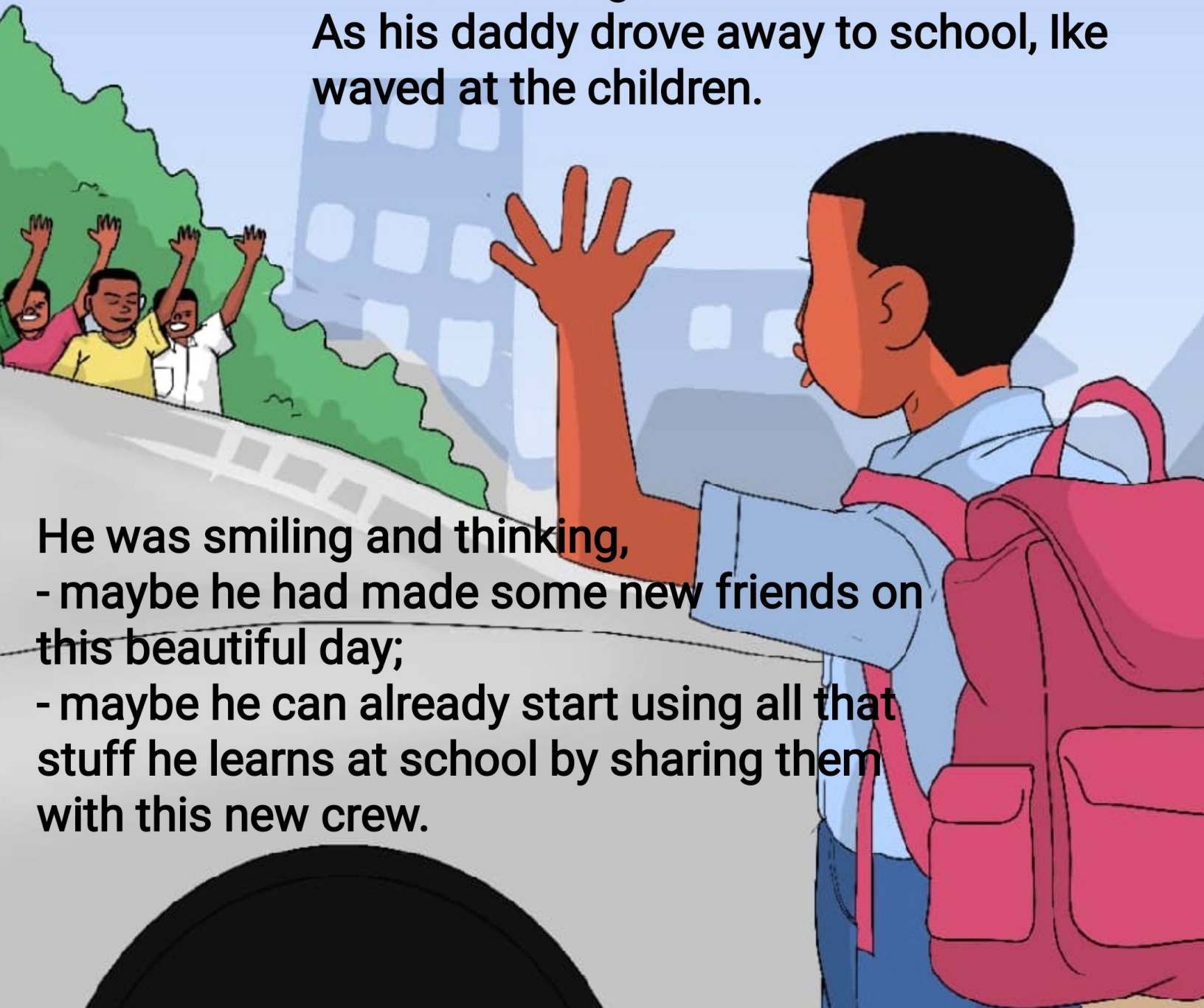
**“What will we be doing precisely?” asked the pink-dressed girl.**

**“I can share what I learnt in school each school day with you all,” Ike offered.**



The crew was excited at Ike's offer, and while at it, Ike's daddy called out to him. It was time to go. As his daddy drove away to school, Ike waved at the children.

He was smiling and thinking,  
- maybe he had made some new friends on this beautiful day;  
- maybe he can already start using all that stuff he learns at school by sharing them with this new crew.



**“Daddy, please drive faster! I need to get to school as soon as possible,” Ike said.**

**“Someone is keen to get to school all of a sudden,” his daddy observed.**

**The end.**



# Activities

**Counting:** *How many children are out of school in the story?*

**Creativity:** *If you were to give each unnamed child a name, what would it be?*

**Comprehension:** *Why was Ike suddenly excited about going to school?*

**Craft:** *Make a "Welcome to School Card" for a new schoolmate.*

**Crossword:**

*Across: 5 letter word for what pupils do at school.*

*Down: 7 letter word for the person who teaches pupils at a school.*

# Answers

# Note to Readers

All children have a right to quality education no matter their place and circumstances of birth.

However, many children are out of school for various reasons, including but not limited to:

- lack of schools in their community;
- overpopulation of schools in their community;
- poverty in their families;
- child labour;
- violence at their schools;
- destruction of their schools by conflict in the communities; and
- cultural aversion to schooling.

There are efforts to address these challenges worldwide.

Visit [unicef.org](http://unicef.org) for more information.

Give a thought today to how you can help, as we hope you find a way to do it.

CEA



## About the book

Ike is not a fan of going to school.  
But one late day to school, a burst car tyre,  
and a chance meeting of some out of school  
children, all have Ike changing his mind  
about school. It is no longer just about him.

"Daddy, please drive faster!  
I need to get to school as soon as possible,"



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