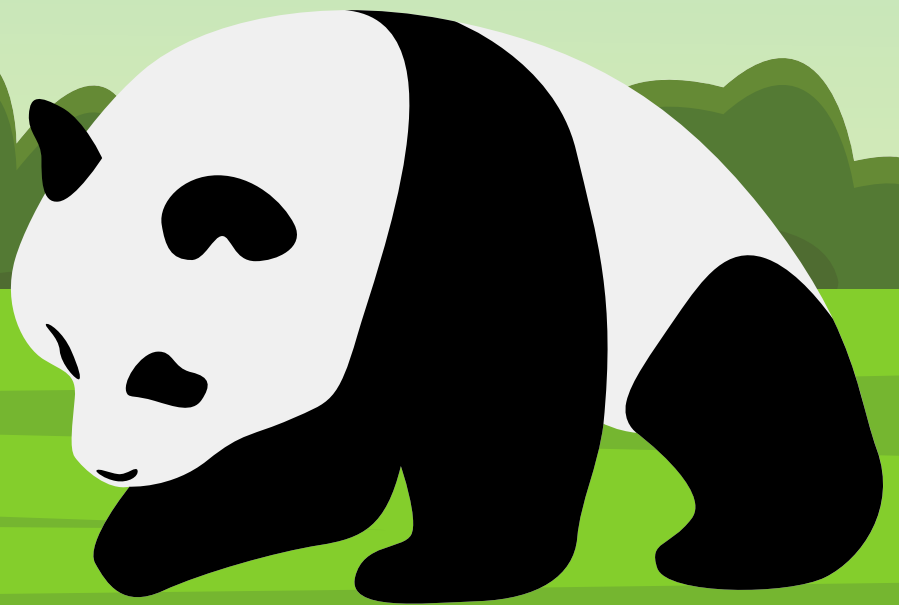
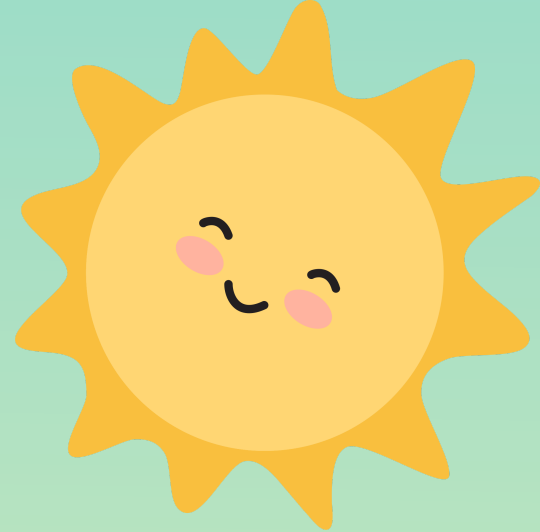




# Bear

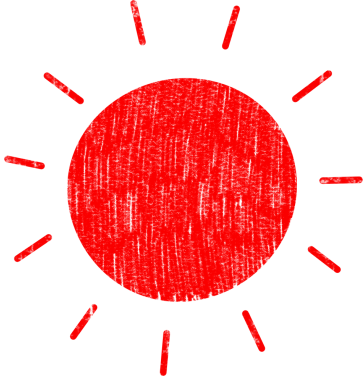






***Dedicated to Mrs. Requin***

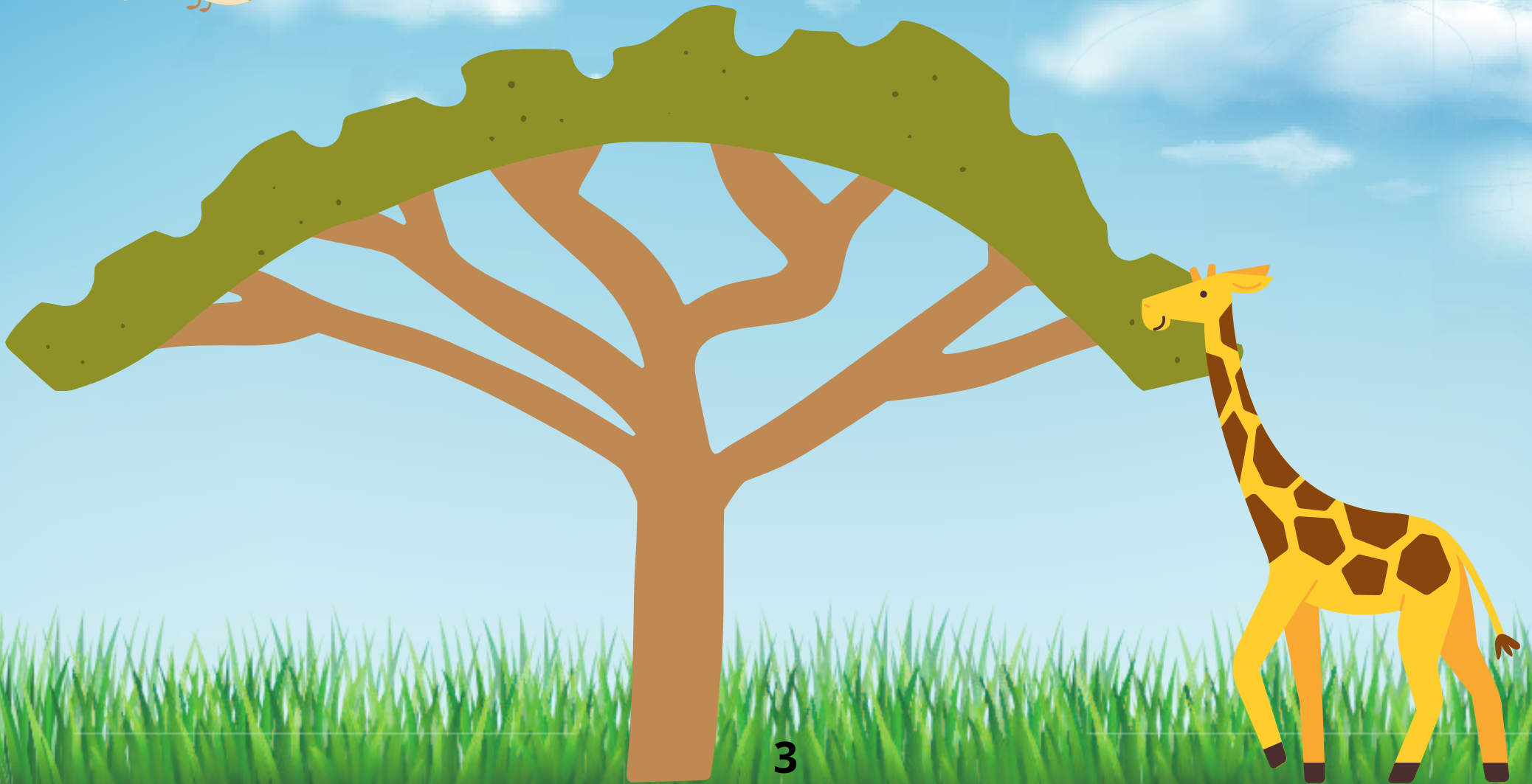
The scorching sun was a red ball of blazing fire. All of the wildlife were finding shady places to rest.



Cuddles the koala was busy snoozing while wrapping his chubby arms around a thick branch for support.



Gerald the giraffe, as usual, was munching on juicy leaves from towering acacia trees.

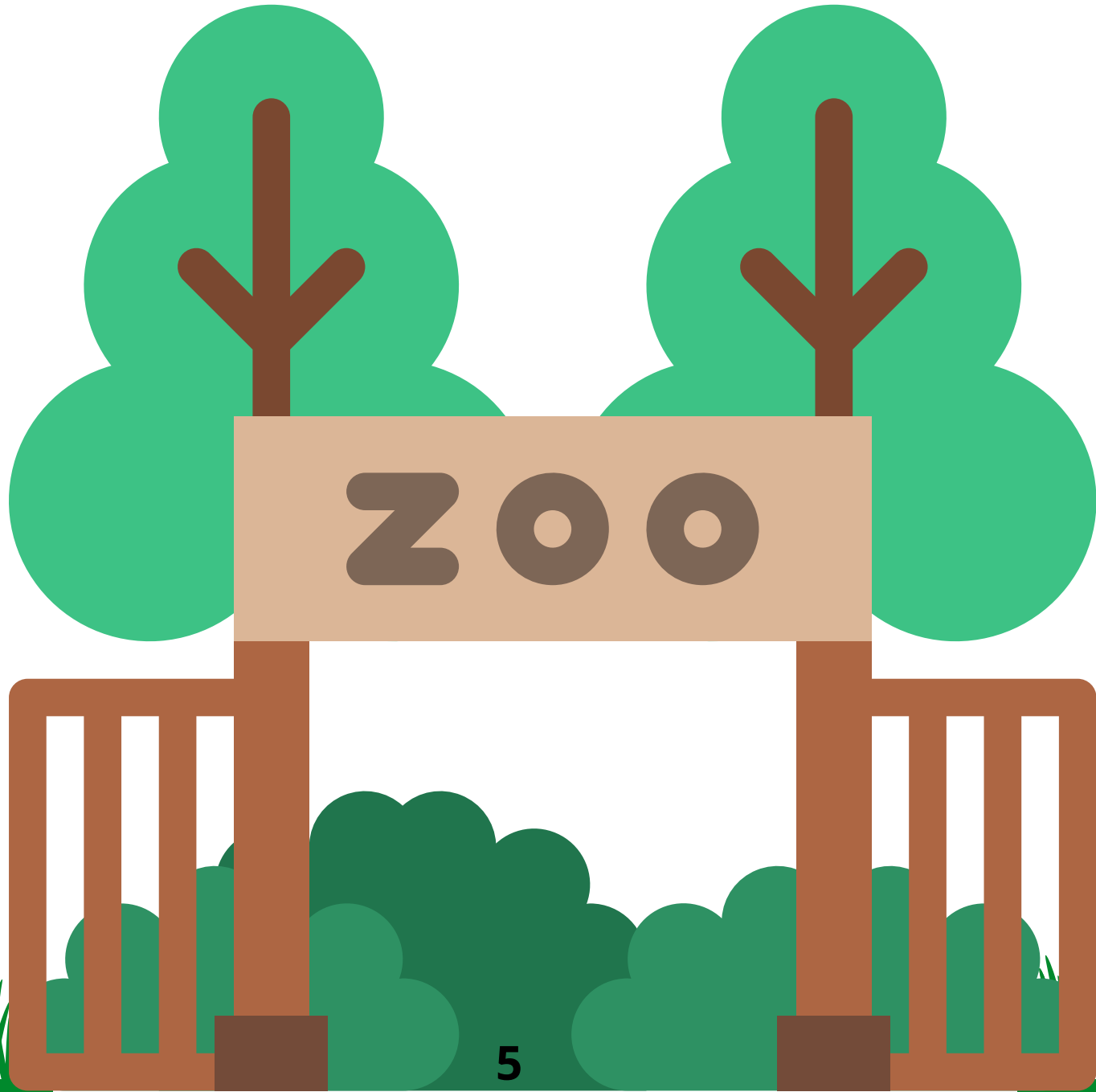




Penny the penguin was busy waddling around her surroundings playing games with friends.



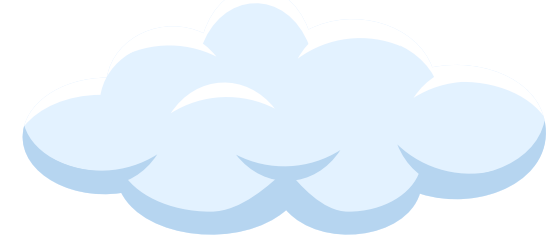
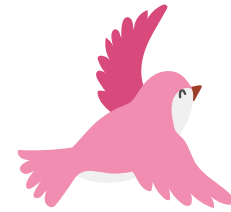
It was a busy day. The zoo was crowded with families of all sizes.



Toddlers wailed on and on, hoping for a piggyback. Children ran around the pathways wildly trying to find man-crushing pythons.



Teachers swung their arms around wildly trying their best to direct the pupils on a school trip.

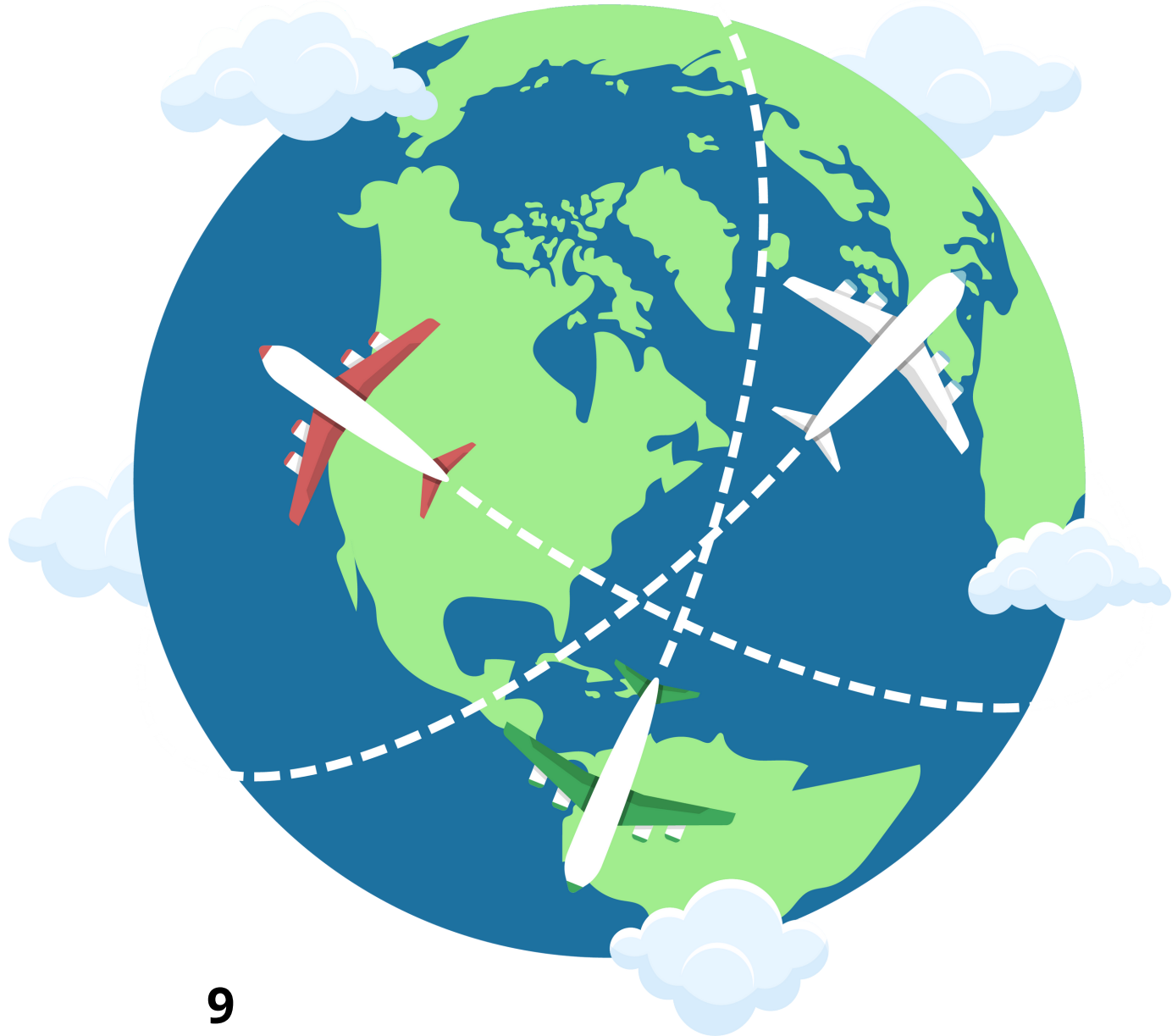




Out of all the exhibits, Bear and his mother, Chai, were in the spotlight. The crowd loved him and wanted to see more once the exhibition finished.



Unfortunately, Bear had to be separated from his mother. Chai was to be transported to China, the other side of the world, because she was too old.







Bear felt hopeless and helpless.  
He would never see Chai again.





He took a final glimpse of her as she boarded the lorry and slowly returned to his cage.

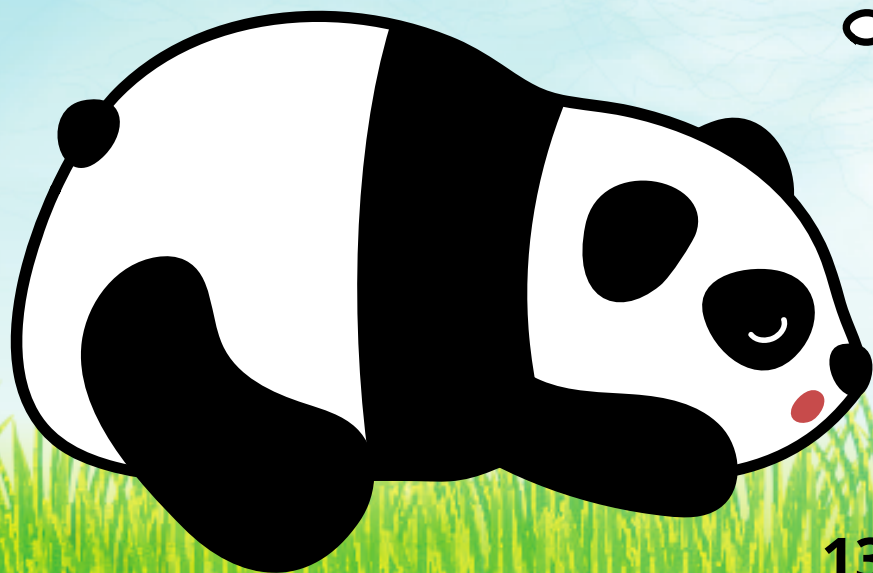
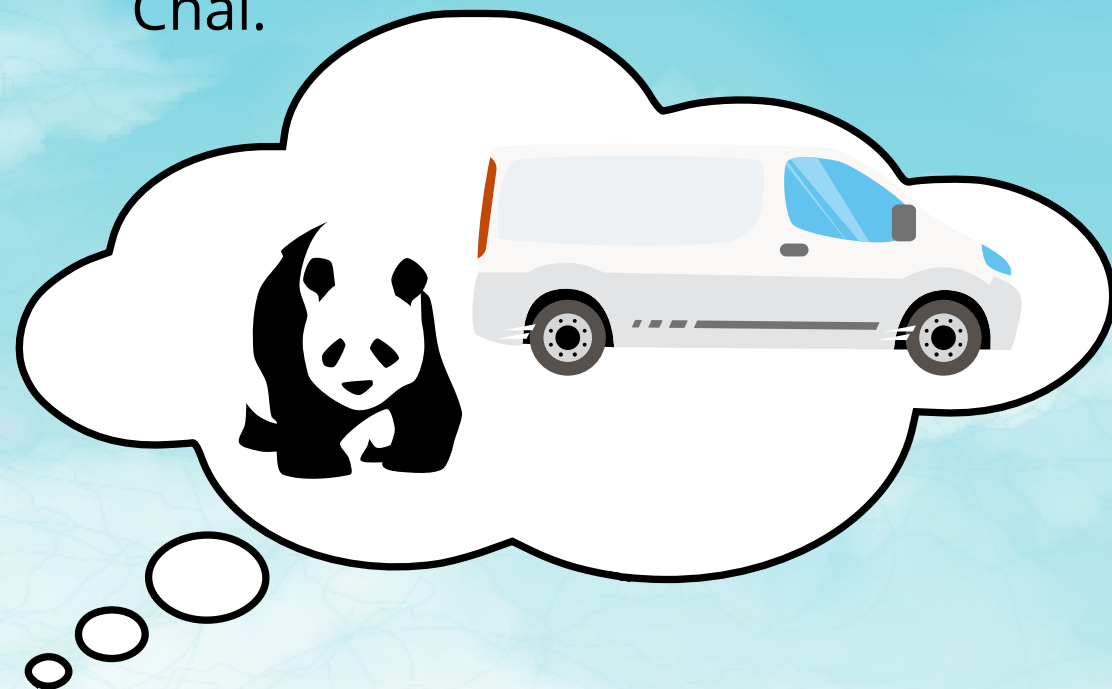


The crowds didn't seem to care. They only wanted to be amused by the cute, exquisite baby panda.





Years passed. Bear grew older and older and older.  
He never forgot the day he got separated from his mummy,  
Chai.





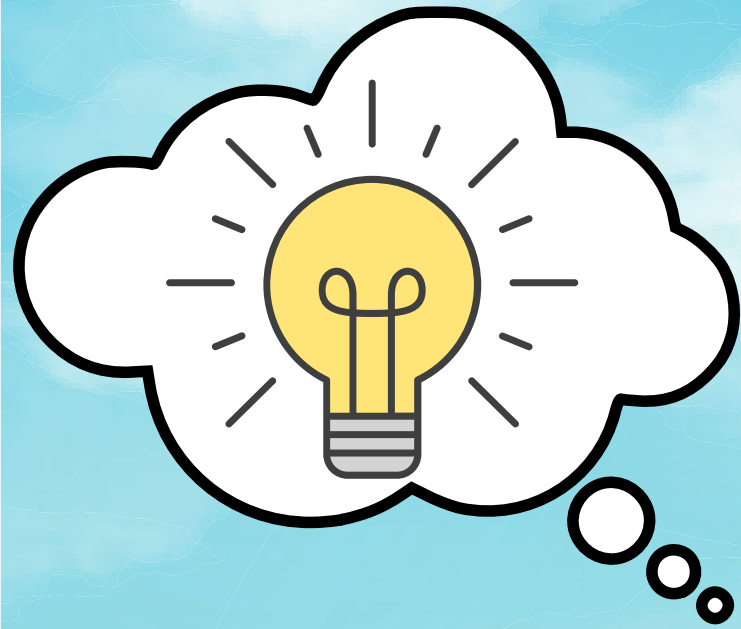
One day, he heard the news of the zoo creating a welcome home program.

Bear secretly prayed to the stars, whilst all the animals were asleep, that the lucky animal will be Chai.

Could he be so lucky?



His zookeeper, Anna, who understood his grief and knew how much he had missed his mother, tried her best to help the poor creature.







Bear hugged his mother tightly.  
He would never let her go again.



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



My name is Mia. I am twelve years old, and I am from Australia. I like playing video games, playing musical instruments, and reading books in my spare time.

I was inspired to write this book to lift the spirits of anyone feeling down or upset. I dream of being a surgeon in the future.





'Bear' tells the story of a young panda named Bear as he learns the importance of never giving up. When Bear gets separated from his mother, Chai, he is determined not to lose hope. Join Bear as she silently prays for her mother to come back home.

