

The background is a teal color with white dots. A light blue leafy vine arches across the center. On the left, a girl with red curly hair and freckles (Ruby) is shown from the chest up, wearing an orange shirt with a red heart. On the right, a boy with brown skin and large eyes is shown from the chest up, wearing a yellow shirt with a red heart. Above the vine, there are three cartoon characters: a white character with a single eye and a red antenna, a white character with a rectangular face and a smile, and a grey character with a rectangular face and a smile. The title 'Ruby and the Powerpals' is written in a colorful, playful font in the center.

Ruby and the Powerpals

A delightful collection
of rhythm and rhyme tales

Designed by Eskom to teach young children about electricity.



Parental and Teacher Guide





Ruby and the Powerpals was created by Eskom to teach young children about the safe and wise use of electricity and the value it adds to our lives. Research has shown that the earlier lessons like these are absorbed, the more effective the life-long learning will be. Ultimately, Eskom would like to create a new generation of energy-conscious children and adults who know the principles behind electricity and appreciate the role it plays in their lives.

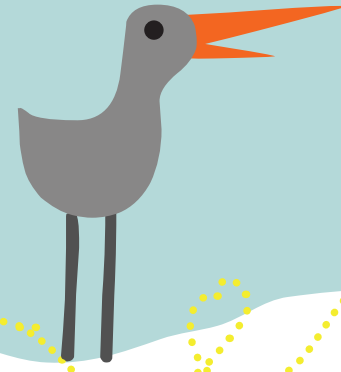
This charming picture book introduces children to Ruby, a sweet little girl who engages with animated appliances in her home. The stories take place in different situations that affect her awareness and her behaviour as she uses her imagination and intelligence to absorb the messages. The introductory story takes the form of an ingenious A – Z rhyme, where Ruby teaches her little brother all about electricity, how to appreciate and value

it, and how it enriches their lives. She imprints on him the need to understand that electricity takes time and resources to get to our homes and the need to be mindful of how we use it. Each story is framed within Ruby's everyday world. The messages are presented in four delightful rhythm and rhyme tales in picture and verse.

Parents and teachers can read the book aloud to children to expand their literacy and comprehension. In time, the children will be able to recite the book, retain the messages and begin reading it for themselves.

This book is an ideal bedtime story, first reader and is great for classroom reading. Electricity awareness can be embedded at an early age which makes the behavioural change a consistent and important part of children's lives.





Credits

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Project produced by Creatrix

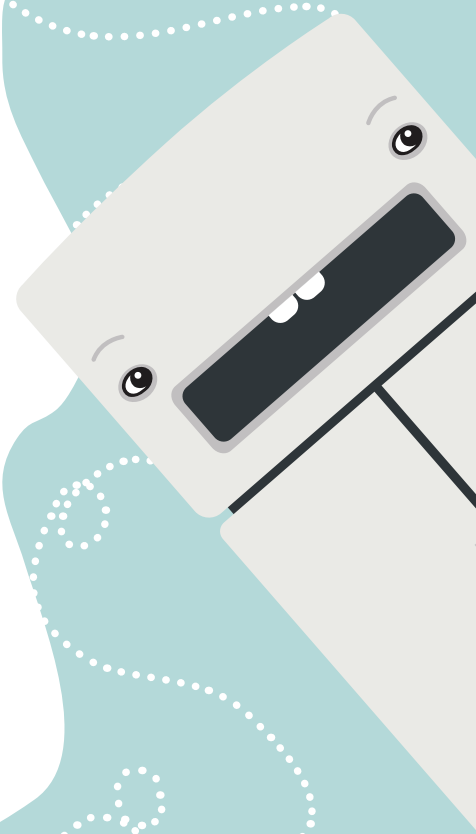
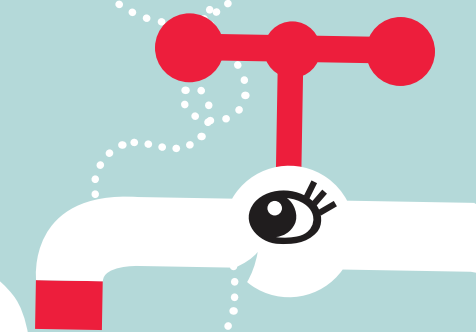
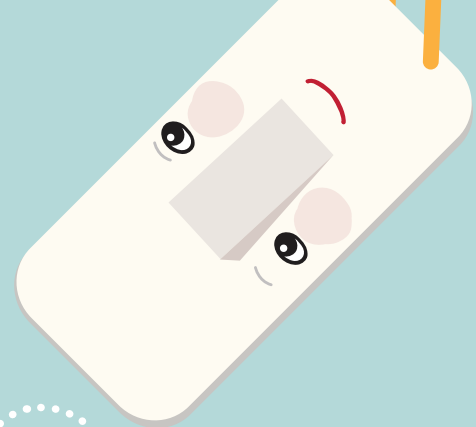




Ruby and the Powerpals

A delightful collection of rhythm and rhyme tales.

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Ruby's

A-Z of electricity

A is for **always available** fun,
you just flick the switch and the lights will come on.

B is **be clever**, it costs lots of money,
so please never waste it – I'm not being funny.

C is for **careful** to always respect
the power of electricity – you must never forget!

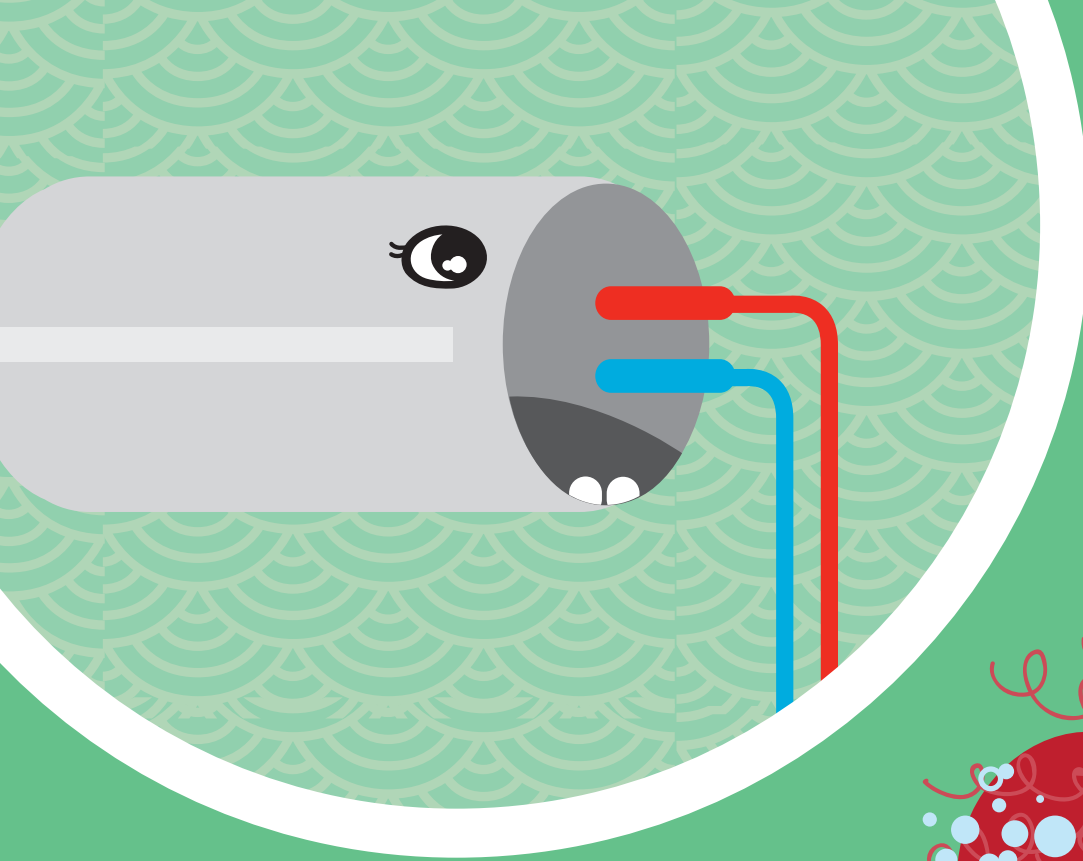
 **D** – **do** you know where electricity is from?
We get it from coal and from water and sun.



E - **electricity**, powering your home,
your fridge and your geyser, your lights and mom's phone.
Take care of the power and try to be good.
We care for the planet – we think we all should.



F is for **fridge**, where young Freddie is bold.
Don't leave him wide open – you're losing the cold!



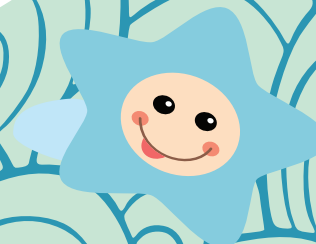
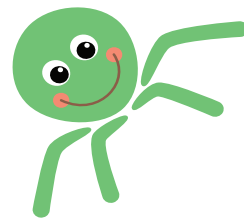
G is the **good** you do when you save on hot water,
through **Gertie the Geyser** and
H - Hottie, her daughter.



I is **invisible**,
so please take care,
although you can't see it,
the power is there.



J is for **jump** and **jolly** – there can be no doubt.
If we all use it wisely, we'll never run out.



K is for **kilowatt-hours*** - that's how we measure
when we use electricity for lights or for leisure.

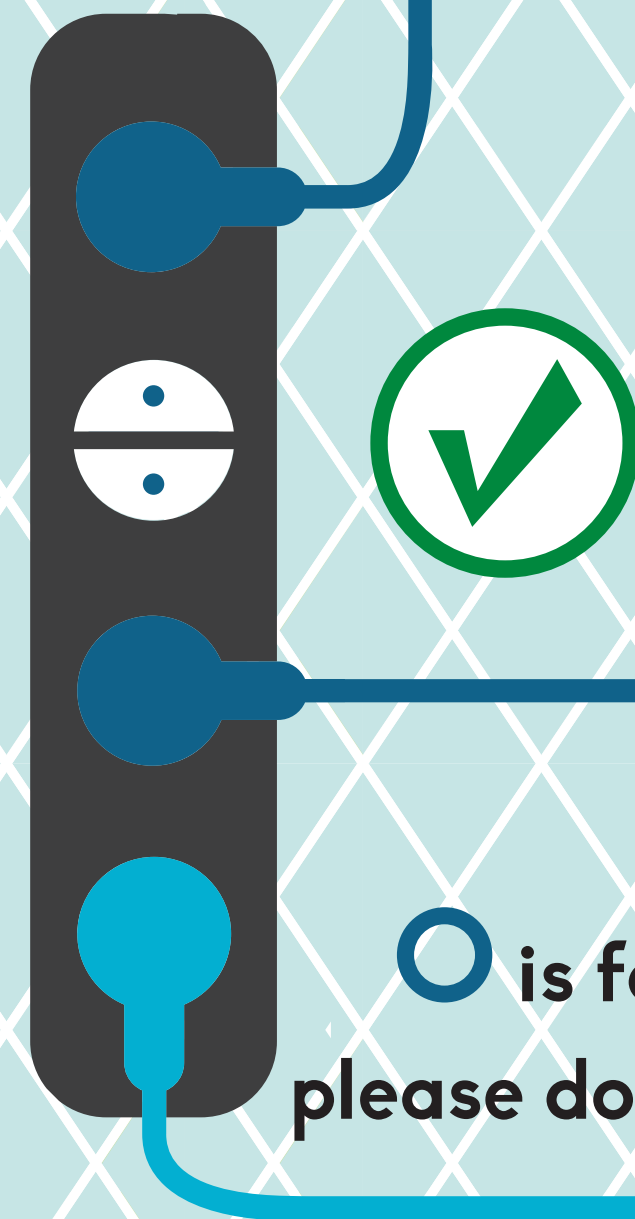
L is for **Laaitie**,
who sings his own tune;

“ Please switch off the lights when leaving a room. ”

M is for **money**,
because that's what it costs.
Without it our TV, lights
and fridge will be lost.

*1000 W x 1 hour = 1 kilowatt-hour

N is for **nobody** gets it for free;
it makes life much better for you and for me.



O is for 'Oh no,
please don't **overload**

too many plugs in one socket;
it could explode!

P is for **purpose** and **power station**
where power is made for our rainbow nation.



🎵 Electricity,
powering your home,
your fridge and your geyser,
your lights and mom's phone.
Take care of the power
and try to be good.
We care for the planet –
we think we all should. 🎵

Q is for questions; please ask what to do
to be safe with electricity for me and for you.

R is for **Ruby**,
please always remember,
don't touch broken cables
in any kind of weather.



S is for **savings**,
we really must share
to make sure there's enough,
we have to be fair.

T is **teach** everyone
this little song
about electricity,
so we never go wrong.

U - **understand**
what it takes
to bring power
to the kettle, the stove,
and hot water to shower

V is the **value**
you get when you see
the millions of things
that all use electricity.

W is for **watts**,
little bundles of power,
we use them and pay for
each and every hour.

X marks the spot
where we all stand together

Y - **you're** saving our planet
forever and ever

Z is for **zero**, there's no more to say,
except, electricity – it sure saves the day.



The night
Laaitie
called it a
day



Sweet little Ruby was going to sleep
The big moon was **shining**,
stars started to **peep**.



She put on her pyjamas,
she **jumped** into bed.
She loved bedtime stories –
they had to be **read**.

And Laaitie the lightswitch,
he **switched on** the light,
so Ruby and mommy
could read with delight.



And after the story had come to an end:
She turned round to Laaitie
her best light switch friend,

“goodnight,

Laaitie lightswitch,
Laaitie lightswitch,

goodnight,

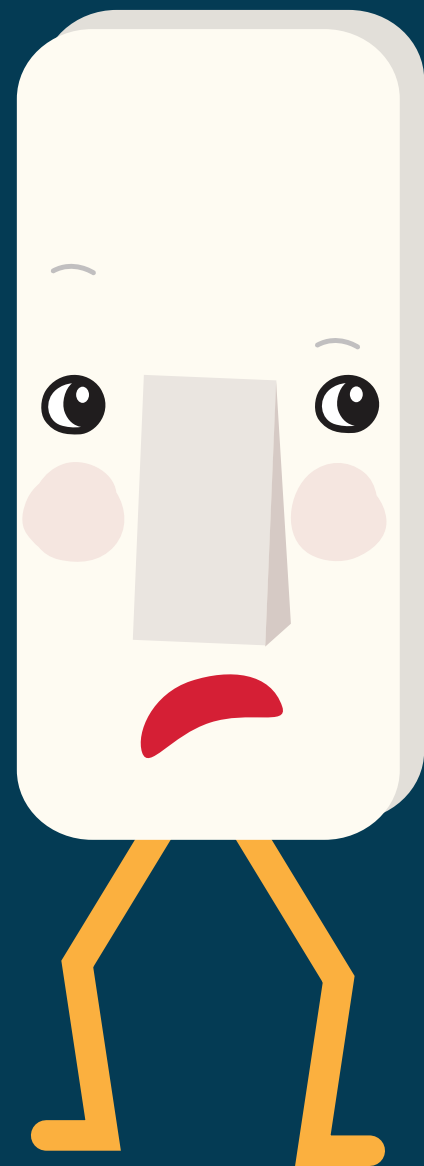
we're switching
you off to save
power and
light.”



Then Laaitie and Ruby
they both sang this tune:

🎵 Please **switch off** the **light**
when leaving a room.
There's **no** point at all
for a light burning bright
when **nobody's** there,
so please **switch off** the light.
So always, but always
remember this rule:
It **wastes** electricity
and that's not cool! 🎵

Flick



Click

So Laaitie went 'flick' and off went the light.
Then Laaitie the lightswitch, he got quite a fright.
"What was that strange sound? Did you hear that 'click'?
Did I switch myself off? Check, I just lost my flick!"

"Hey, Laaitie," said Ruby,
"I'm scared of the night.
There's all shapes and shadows,
please switch on the light!"

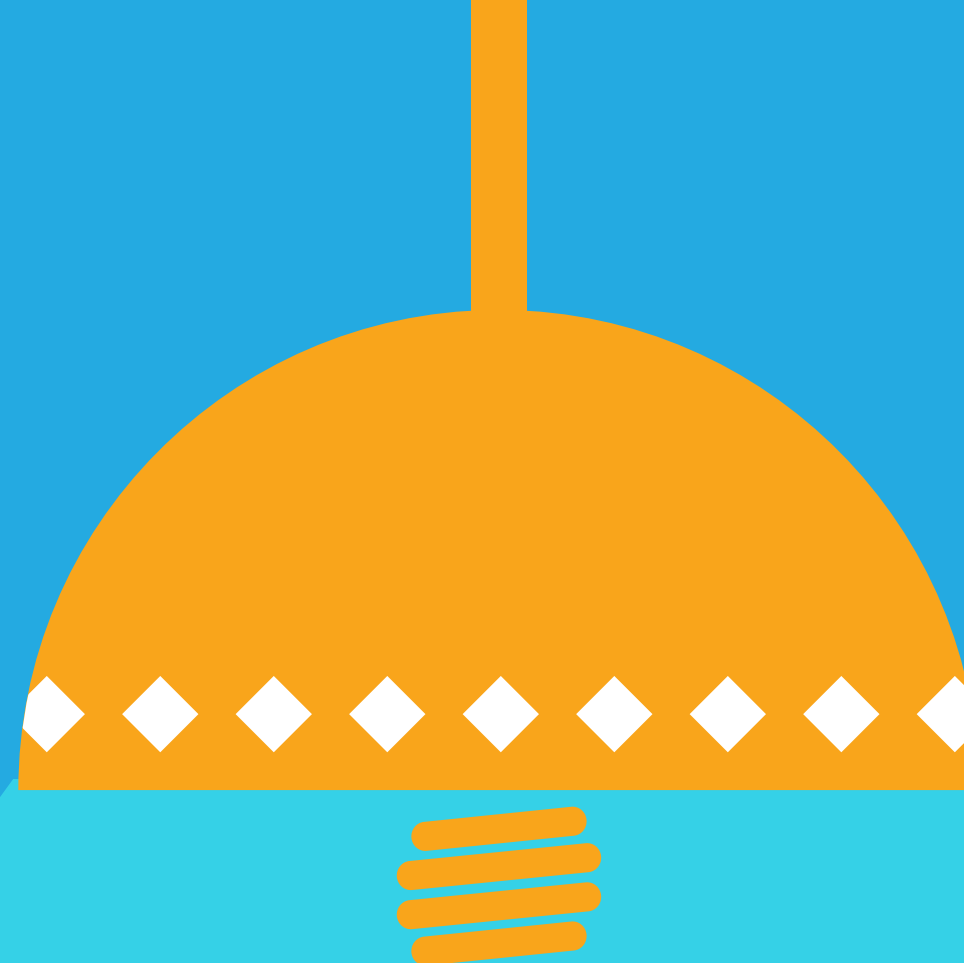
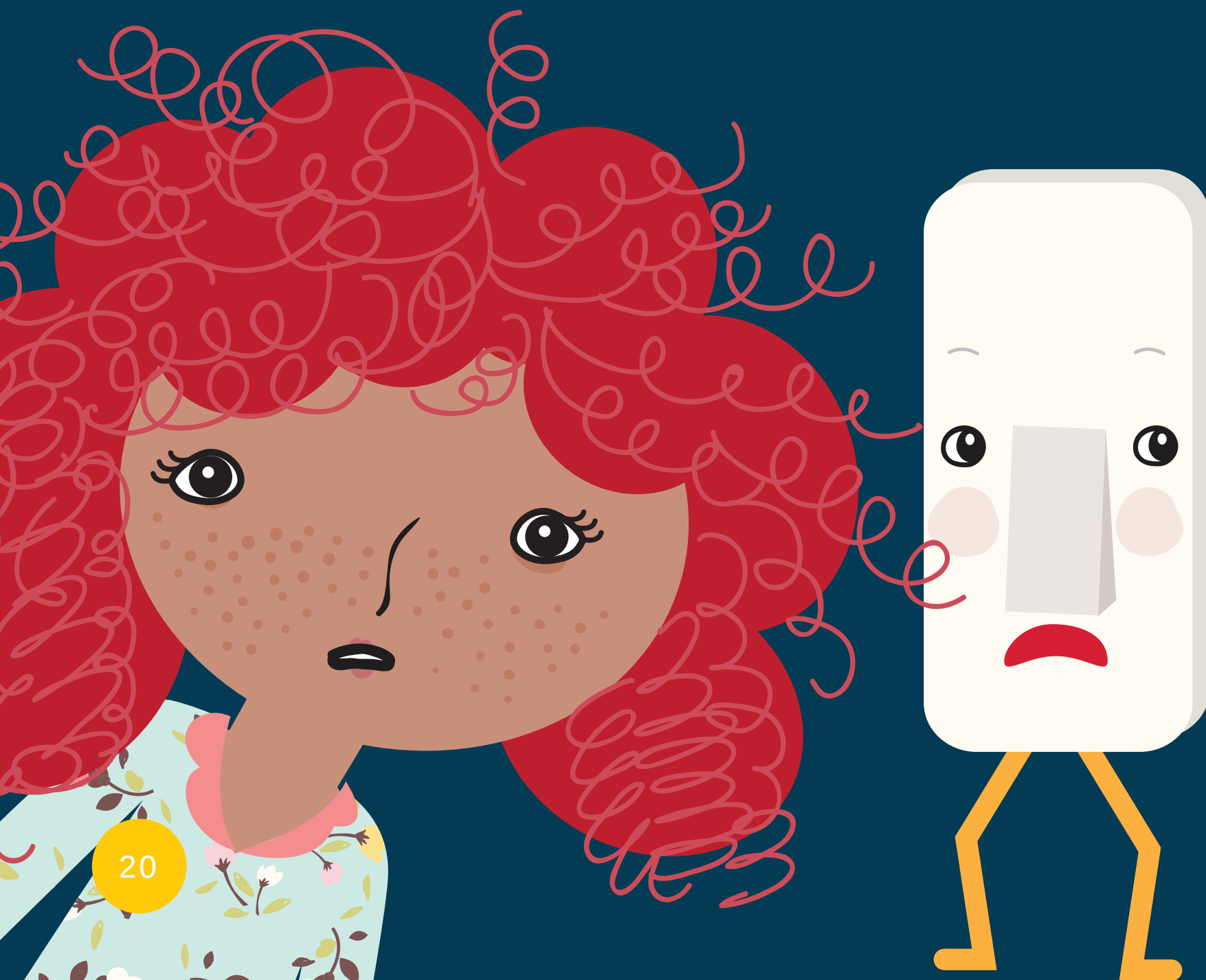




"I see bears doing ballet
and a fox in a hole,
and thorny white roses
and a mole on a pole.
That great big bad wolf,
is that him by the door -
with his great jagged teeth
and a big
shaggy paw?"

"Look, I'll help you,"
said Laaitie,

"I'll **switch on** so you can peep.
And then, you must promise to close
your eyes and sleep."



"OK, Laaitie lightswitch,
please show me the
light."

So Laaitie switched on,
and instead of a

fright

- Ruby saw daddy's coat hanging over a chair,
and a feathery plant was the dress of the bear,
and the fox and the mole were just shapes in the air -
and brave little Ruby got over her fear.



Then Ruby and Laaitie both gave a big yawn,
so they switched off the light and they slept until dawn.

The
end

Ruby

gets into
hot water



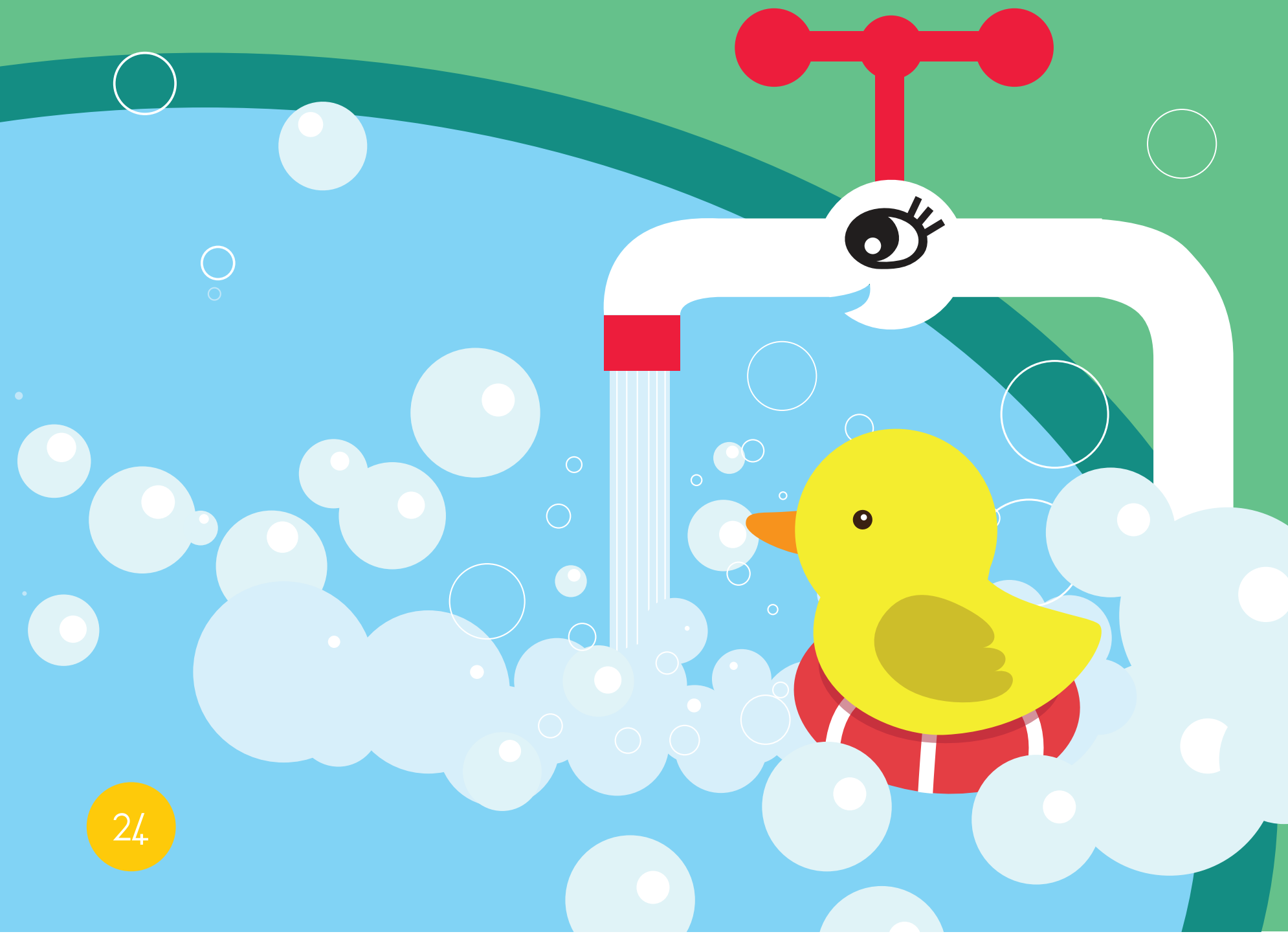
Sweet little Ruby she just loved to **bath**,
she'd paddle and babble and giggle and laugh.



She loved to have baths where the water would pour
right up to the top, "Mommy, fill it some more.
The longer, the warmer, the better," she'd say,
"I do so love bathing

"I could do it all day!"

And Hottie the Hot Tap just wanted to **please** her,
but Hottie depended on Gertie the Geyser.
And when too much **hot** water was used...



Gertie would shout,



But sweet little Ruby just wanted to play,
and more precious hot
water wasted away.

As Ruby, in daydreams, went back to the day
that they went to the beach on their last holiday.





She saw herrings in fishnets and salmon in pink,
and big purple starfish and seagulls that wink,
and giant sandcastles they built in the sand,
and penguins that ate from the palm of her hand.

Sweet little Ruby then opened her eyes.
She was still in the water and what a surprise:
The bath had gone cold and run over the brim,

and Hottie the **hot**
tap was **angry** and
grim.





It was soggy and boggy and smelly and wet,

and Ruby did not like it, not one little bit.
So, even though Ruby was only just playing,
she now had to hear what that Hot Tap was saying.

"It takes so much
power
To make a hot bath.
It's better to shower,
it's cheaper by half."



Take care of your share of
hot water -
you know it's the right thing to do.
You just take a shower,
we're saving the power
because others are needing it too,
like you!

At bath time now, Ruby plays the "don't waste water" game.
She sometimes takes a shower, it's like standing in warm rain.
And Hottie is so happy and Gertie's calm again
because Ruby never lets hot water just go down the drain.

The
end

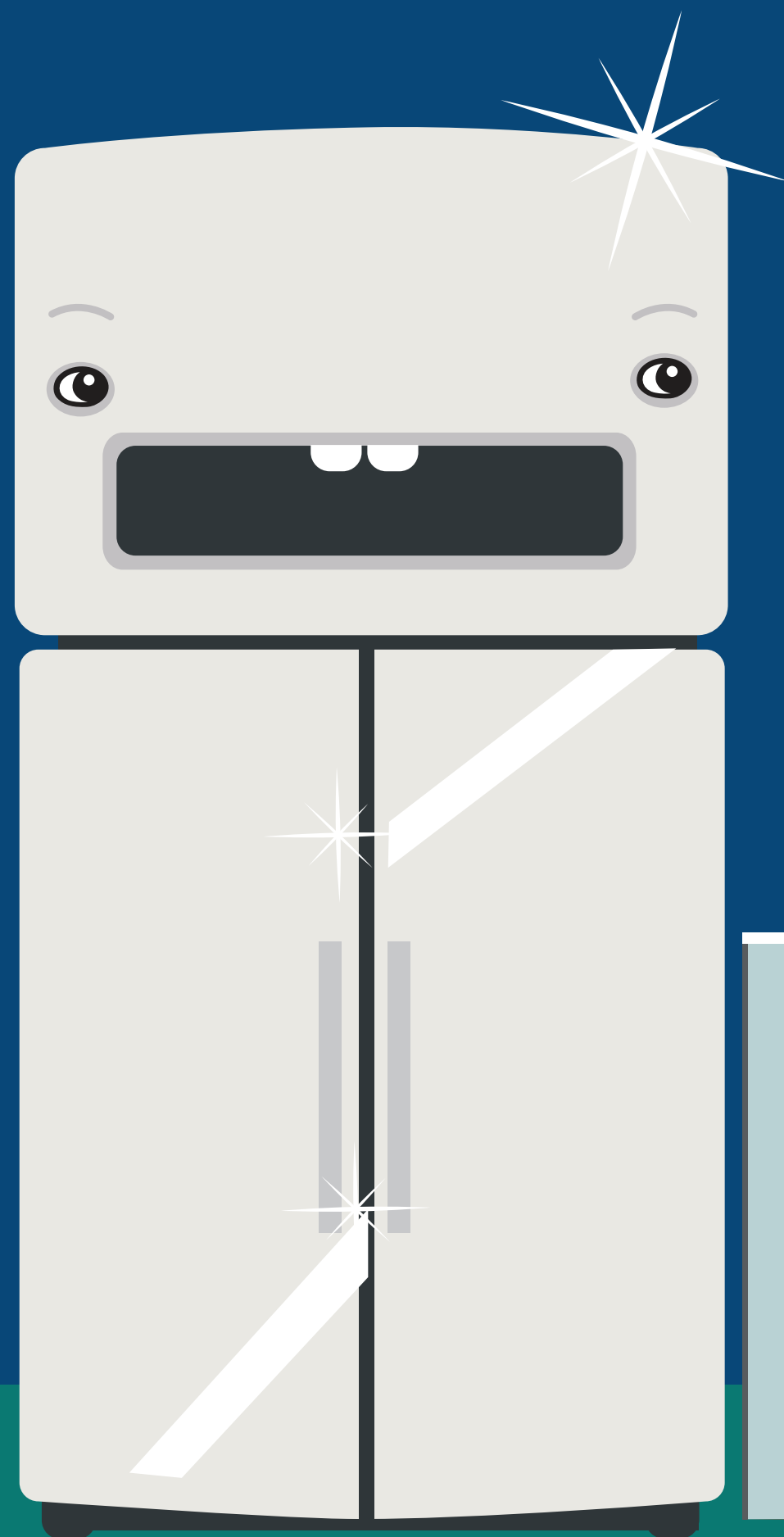
Freddie the Fridge

has a meltdown



Ruby was hungry and mommy had said,
"You **promise** me never to climb out of bed."
But mommy was sleeping,
so Ruby was creeping
to the dimly lit kitchen with food in her head.





And there stood young Freddie, a fridge for his time,
quite slinky and bold in his white fridgy shine.
And Freddie lit up to see Ruby so sweet,
he knew she was there to get something to eat.



"I'm peckish," she said
as she opened the door.
"Oooh, leftover sandwiches,
the ones I adore.
Shall I have some fresh cream
with a big fat red cherry?
Or a sip of green cool drink
and a tasty strawberry?"



So Ruby chose a **cupcake**
with an **eskimo** on top.
And then she chose another one,
She couldn't seem to stop!

Then all the little eskimos
began a mournful **tune**,
“Please Ruby, do not **eat** us all,
you just don't have the room!”



And while sweet Ruby munched away
breaking mommy's night-time rule,
the fridge doors were wide open
and poor Freddie **lost** his **cool**.
The cold it started pouring out
with **fridge** doors open wide,
and all the chill from **inside**
was quite clearly now **outside**.



like never before,



on the cold kitchen floor.

Freddie the Fridge's meltdown lament .

“Please Ruby, sweet Ruby,
do you always need to be told?
Don't leave me wide open
you know it makes me lose my cold.

When you stand there with me open,
the cold inside me comes out,
and it takes so much power
to get me back up and about.

Think quick,
think of the food you'll pick,
open the fridge real quick,
take the food that you chose
make sure you quickly close.”





“I'm so sorry Freddie,” said Ruby in tears.
“We all want you with us for many more years.
When your doors are wide open,
you work too hard to be told,
so we're ready, Freddie, we're steady Freddie,
we're going to help you stop losing your cold.”

So don't open Freddie
and stand there and chill,
he'll just have a meltdown
and be really ill.
So choose what you need
and quick-quick close the door,
and Freddie the Fridge
will live on evermore.

The
end

Ruby and the Powerpals

is an educational resource, produced by Eskom to encourage electricity awareness and appreciation among young children.

Ruby and the Powerpals

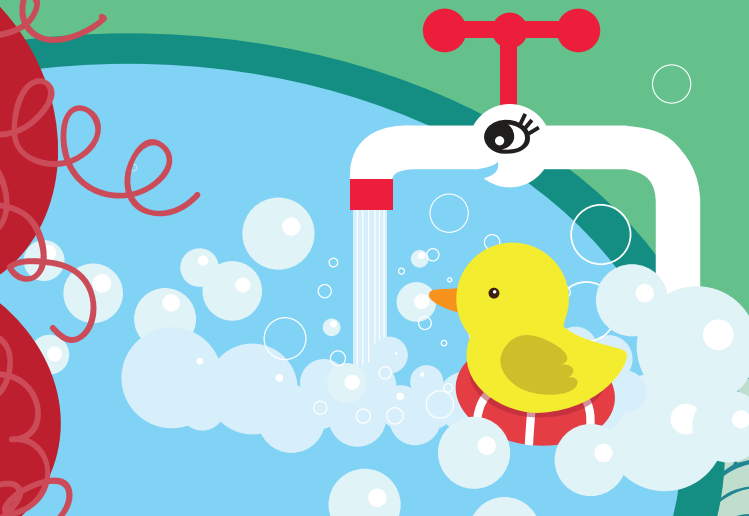
forms an integral part of the ongoing Eskom education programme, providing electricity resource material to educators and parents.

Ruby and the Powerpals

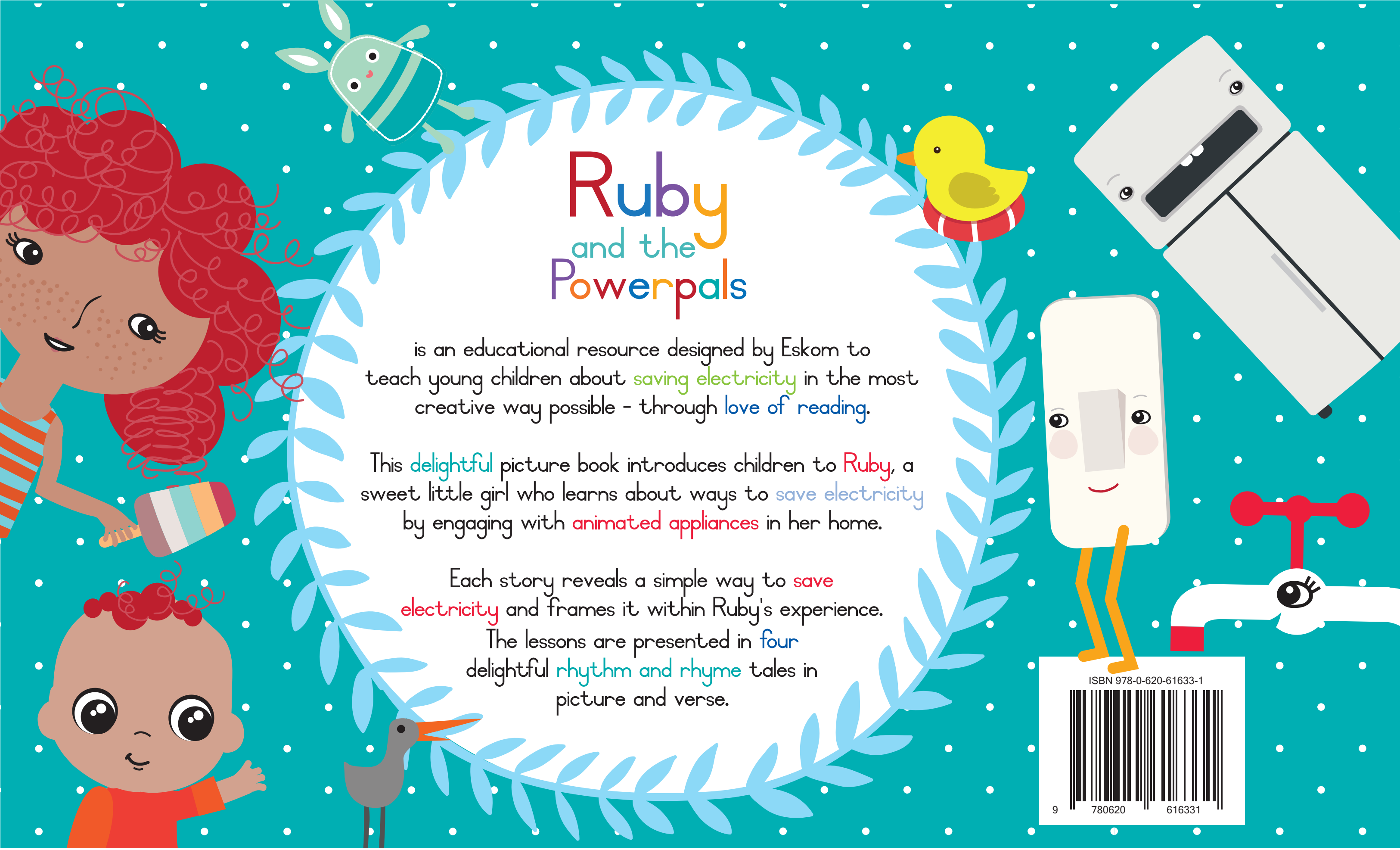
is not for sale but can be used for educational purposes at home and in the classroom. The book is available as a free pdf download at www.eskom.co.za/idm

Ruby and the Powerpals

is also available as an audio story in sound and song. To download your free audio version, go to www.eskom.co.za/idm



Ruby
and the
Powerpals



Ruby and the Powerpals

is an educational resource designed by Eskom to teach young children about **saving electricity** in the most creative way possible - through **love of reading**.

This **delightful** picture book introduces children to **Ruby**, a sweet little girl who learns about ways to **save electricity** by engaging with **animated appliances** in her home.

Each story reveals a simple way to **save electricity** and frames it within Ruby's experience.

The lessons are presented in **four** delightful **rhythm and rhyme** tales in picture and verse.

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