

**QUINN.** I'm so excited about our wearable arts show.

**ARIANA.** Me too! I love making stuff and dressing up.

**BROOKLYN.** Who else is in our group? (She checks her notice.)

Jessie, Luca, and Hayley – where are they?

**QUINN.** There's Jessie. (*He waves.*) Hey, Jessie, over here.

**JESSIE** *comes over and joins them.* 

**JESSIE.** Is this about the show? I'd rather be playing basketball.

Is it going to take long?

**BROOKLYN.** Now we're all here except Luca and Hayley.

**QUINN.** Luca always forgets things.

**ARIANA.** Who's Hayley?

**JESSIE.** I think she's new.

**BROOKLYN.** We're running out of time. Can you all go and look for them?

**QUINN**, **ARIANA**, and **JESSIE** spread out across the stage, yelling for **LUCA** and **HAYLEY**, who come running in.

**LUCA** (*breathlessly*). I'm here! Sorry, I forgot we had a meeting.

**HAYLEY.** And I got lost. Your school is so confusing!

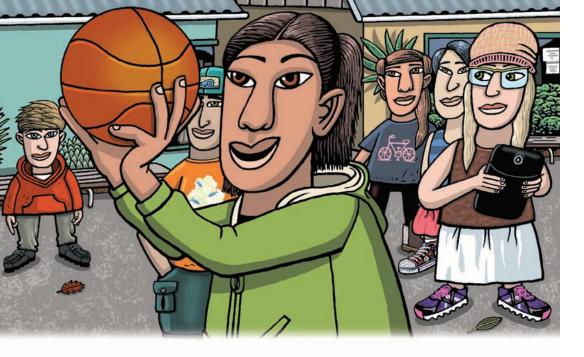
**QUINN.** Hi, are you Hayley? I'm Quinn, and this is (*pointing*) Ariana and Jessie and Luca and Brooklyn.

HAYLEY. Hi, everyone.

**BROOKLYN.** Now, first of all, we have to decide on a theme for our costume. There are five categories. (*She reads from the notice*.) Superheroes, In the Garden, Secret Surprise, Oranges and Lemons, and Time Passes.

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**JESSIE.** We should definitely do Superheroes! We can have a superhero whose superpower is shooting hoops!

**LUCA.** I like Secret Surprise, but I don't know what the surprise could be.

**QUINN.** We could all eat hundreds of oranges and save the orange peel to make a massive orange monster.

**ARIANA.** My nan has a big garden. We could ask her if we can pick lots of daffodils and kowhai flowers for In the Garden! Hayley, what do you think?

**HAYLEY.** Well, we did wearable arts at my last school, and – **BROOKLYN.** OK, **some** of those are good ideas, but we can't sit around and talk all day. I've got a great idea. We can do that. *The bell rings*.

**JESSIE.** Lunchtime – basketball! Yay!

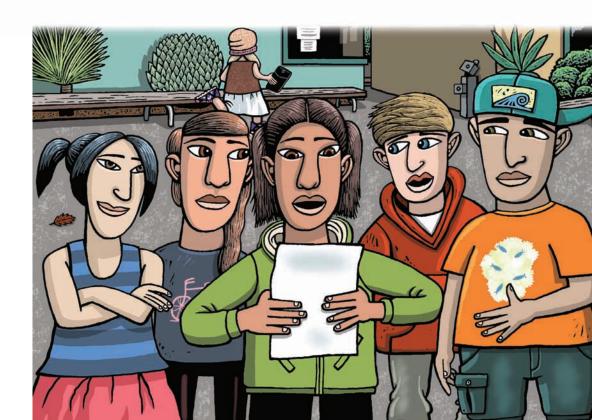
**BROOKLYN.** Hold it! (*She writes furiously on a piece of paper and then hands it to JESSIE*.) I've drawn up a list of stuff that we'll need for tomorrow. We'll meet up again first thing in the morning.

**BROOKLYN** walks off.

**HAYLEY.** Is she always like that? She's very ... um ... organised! **JESSIE** (*reading*). Wool, clothes pegs, cellophane, a clean white

T-shirt ...

**QUINN.** A roll of bubble wrap, flowers from the garden ... **LUCA.** Six different kinds of fabric and a giant-sized pack of coloured card – we have to get all that by tomorrow morning? *The* **STUDENTS** *exit*.





**BROOKLYN.** Is everyone here? Where's all our stuff?

**QUINN.** I didn't have time to look for anything. My grandmother came to visit.

ARIANA. Me, neither. I had Guides.

**QUINN.** Our cat had kittens last night. I had to look after them.

**ARIANA.** It was too wet to go out into the garden. Anyway, my nan said it's not the right season for spring flowers.

**JESSIE.** I was at basketball practice.

**HAYLEY.** All our stuff is still in boxes from our move.

**LUCA.** I forgot, sorry.

**BROOKLYN.** This is a disaster! We haven't got anything to use for our costume!

**JESSIE.** Well, did you bring anything?

**BROOKLYN.** No, I'm the organiser. I was busy planning how to make it!

**HAYLEY.** Calm down, we'll just have to go and find some stuff.

**BROOKLYN. Find** some stuff?

**HAYLEY.** Sure. When we did wearable arts at my last school, we just looked around and found stuff. Then we thought about what it reminded us of.

**JESSIE.** That's a great idea.

**QUINN.** Come on, everyone, let's go.

**ARIANA.** Hayley, you come with me so you don't get lost again.

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**BROOKLYN.** Where do we find stuff? I can't see anything.

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**BROOKLYN** stands in the middle of the stage while the other **STUDENTS** scatter to all corners, collecting stuff. They meet up again with their discoveries.

**ARIANA.** Look, Hayley and I got these beautiful leaves from under the trees. They're amazing colours – red, orange, and gold.

**HAYLEY.** And I found these berries and seed pods as well.

**QUINN.** I got a pile of cardboard tubes and newspapers from the staffroom.

**JESSIE.** Mr Jones the caretaker gave us some plastic bottles from the recycling bins.

**LUCA.** Mrs Sua in the office said we could use her scissors, and she gave us some magazines and glue sticks and sticky tape.

**BROOKLYN.** You've all found such amazing stuff, and I haven't got anything.

**ARIANA.** That doesn't matter – we're a team. We can share stuff.

**BROOKLYN.** Wait on – I got a brand-new packet of felt pens for my birthday. Would they be helpful?

**QUINN.** That would be great – and my friend in that group over there said we could have some glitter that they don't need.

**ARIANA.** These leaves remind me of the colourful wings of a butterfly.

**LUCA.** The cardboard tubes make me think of a caterpillar curled up in a chrysalis.

**QUINN.** Maybe we could combine them into one costume – caterpillar to butterfly!

BROOKLYN. That sounds amazing, but which category does it fit into? Superheroes, In the Garden, Secret Surprise, Oranges and Lemons, or Time Passes?

**HAYLEY.** Time passes when a caterpillar turns into a butterfly.

**JESSIE.** Caterpillars are definitely superheroes with a superpower of changing shape!

**LUCA.** It's a surprise when a butterfly comes out from a chrysalis.

**QUINN.** Some of the leaves are orange.

**ARIANA.** And we found them in the garden!

**LUCA.** Cool! We can enter all five categories!

**ARIANA.** This is going to be a brilliant costume ... or should that be five brilliant costumes?

**JESSIE.** OK, guys – let's get to work!



## **The Best Team Ever**

by Philippa Werry

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