

THE FROG HUNT

- 1 "Welcome home to Africa, young master. I'm sorry about your father. He was a good and wise chief. We all respected him."
"Thanks, Obi," replied Amazu quietly.



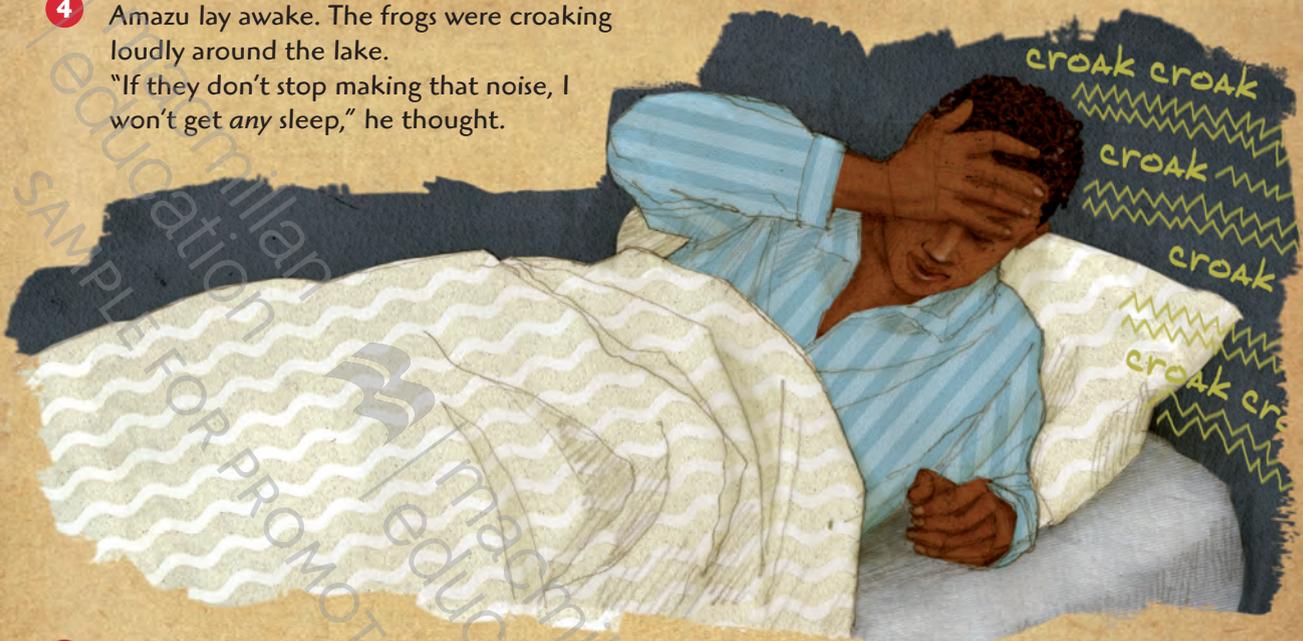
- 2 "Oh, Master Amazu, look at you!" Ifeoma hurried into the room. She used to take care of Amazu when he was a young boy. "You've been away at college for so long."



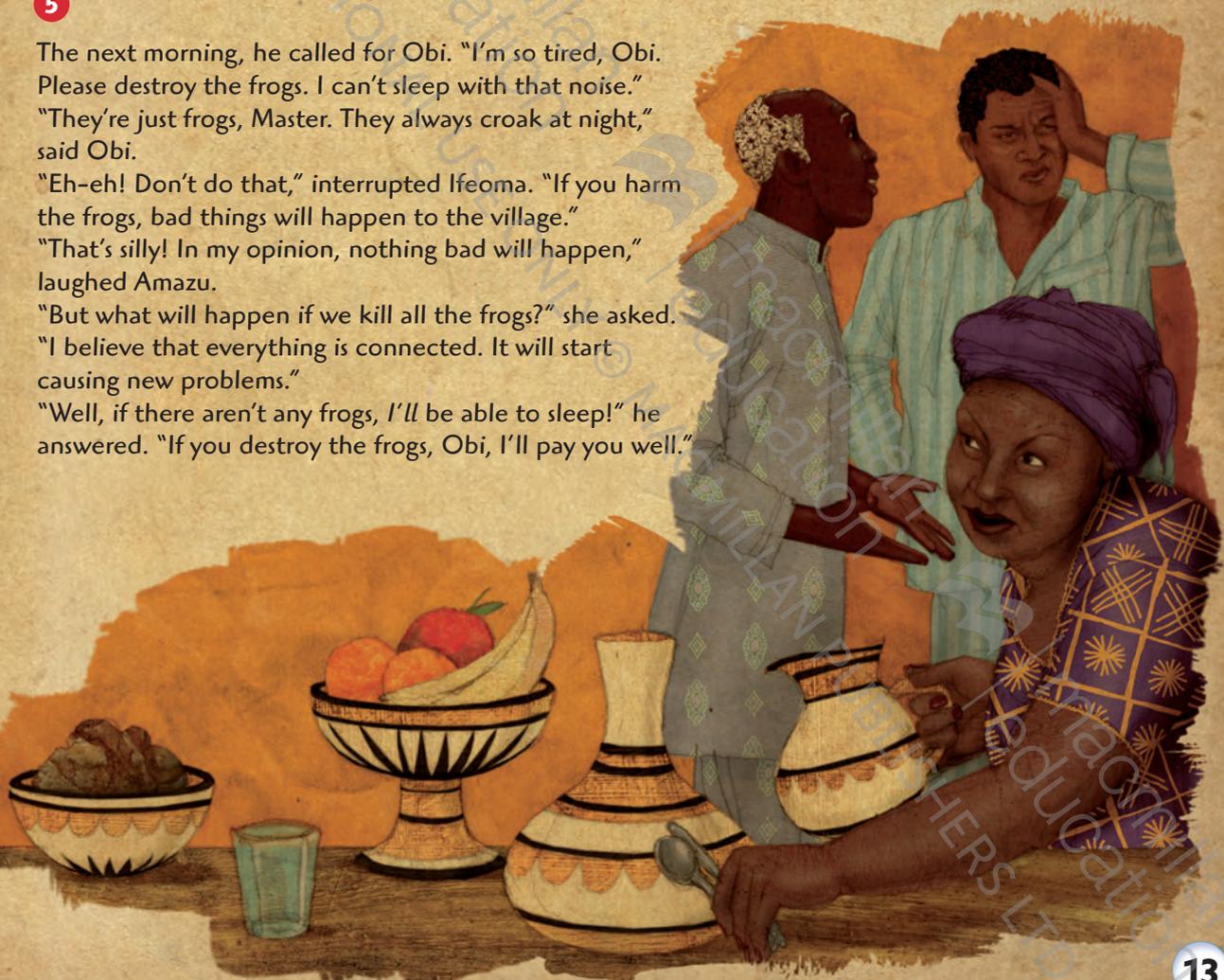
- 3 "Bring some juice. Master Amazu is tired." Ifeoma sat down next to Amazu. "Our lifestyle is simple here; I imagine it's different in the USA."
"Yes, very different," Amazu replied.
"But I missed everyone."
"Call if you need anything," said Obi, leaving the room.
"You're the Chief now, Amazu," Ifeoma whispered. "And I know you'll be a good one."



- 4 Amazu lay awake. The frogs were croaking loudly around the lake.
"If they don't stop making that noise, I won't get any sleep," he thought.



- 5 The next morning, he called for Obi. "I'm so tired, Obi. Please destroy the frogs. I can't sleep with that noise."
"They're just frogs, Master. They always croak at night," said Obi.
"Eh-eh! Don't do that," interrupted Ifeoma. "If you harm the frogs, bad things will happen to the village."
"That's silly! In my opinion, nothing bad will happen," laughed Amazu.
"But what will happen if we kill all the frogs?" she asked.
"I believe that everything is connected. It will start causing new problems."
"Well, if there aren't any frogs, I'll be able to sleep!" he answered. "If you destroy the frogs, Obi, I'll pay you well."



6 So Obi asked the villagers to help destroy the frogs. "But if we destroy the frogs, the snakes that eat them will be hungry," said a man. "What's more, there will be more insects."



7 After a few quiet nights, Amazu was woken by a buzzing noise. "What's that? Mosquitoes!"



8 The next morning, Amazu was tired and itchy. "Look at me! If those mosquitoes don't stop biting me, I'll be covered in spots," he said, scratching.

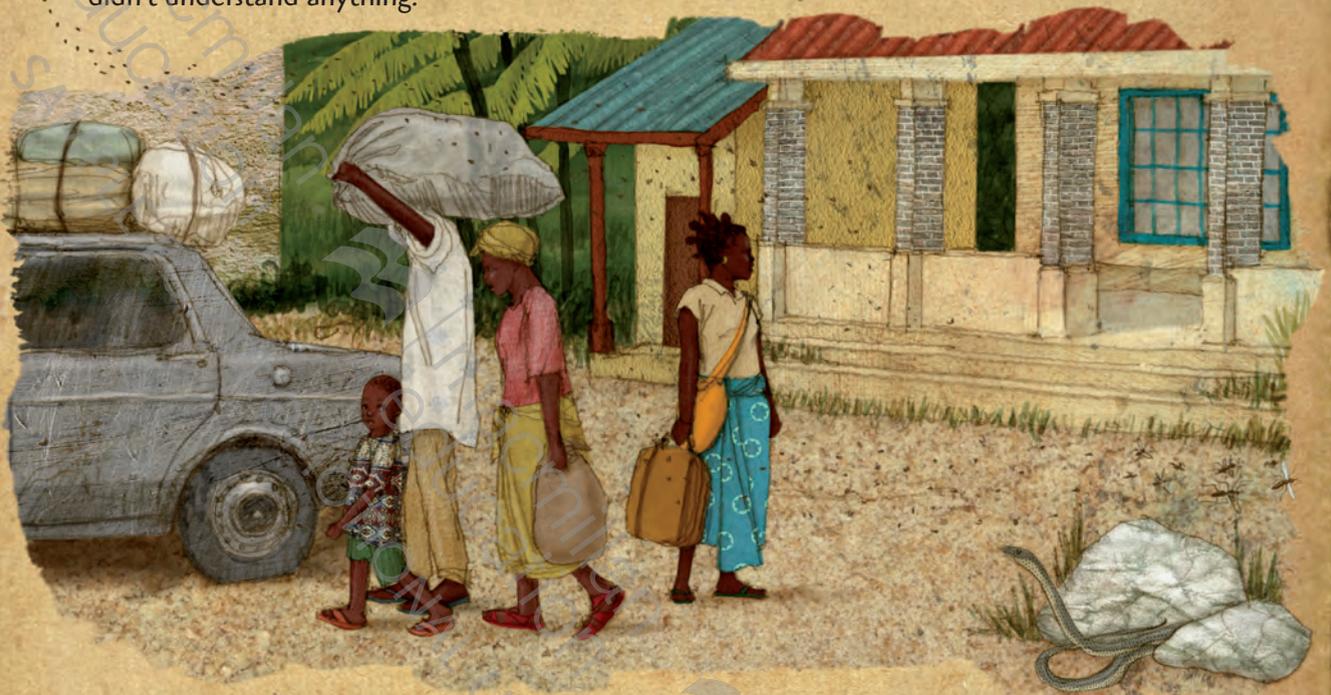
"Pull the net around your bed. If you burn some candles in your room, they will stay away," said Obi helpfully. "We don't use chemicals for killing insects here. They break down into the water and harm the fish. We have to try and save water."

"Remember, everything is connected," said Ifeoma. "There are too many mosquitoes because there aren't enough frogs to eat them."

"Obi, destroy all the mosquitoes!" Amazu shouted angrily.

"It's impossible to kill them all! What a waste of time," said the villagers.

- 9 As time passed, people became sick after they were bitten by mosquitoes. Dangerous snakes came to the village looking for food. Some people decided to pack up their houses and leave. Soon, the population of the village became very small. Everyone was talking about the foolish new chief who didn't understand anything.



- 10 Then one day, Ifeoma said, "I don't feel well, Amazu. I have a fever and a headache. I can't stay here." Amazu looked around him. "I'm so sorry, Ifeoma. I should have listened. Now I understand how everything is connected. We must all leave." Amazu helped Ifeoma and Obi carry their belongings. As they left, everything was quiet in the village except for the buzzing of mosquitoes.

