

Dr Xargle's

Book of Earthlets



JEANNE WILLIS

TONY ROSS

Dr Xargle's Book of Earthlets



First published in Great Britain in 1988 by Andersen Press Ltd.,
20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2SA.

This ebook edition first published in 2014
by Andersen Press Ltd.

Text and illustration Copyright © Tony Ross, 1988.
The rights of Tony Ross to be identified as the author and
illustrator of this work have been asserted by him in
accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act, 1988.

All rights reserved.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data available.

ISBN: 978 1 44818 757 7 (this ebook edition)

JEANNE WILLIS

TONY ROSS

Andersen Press



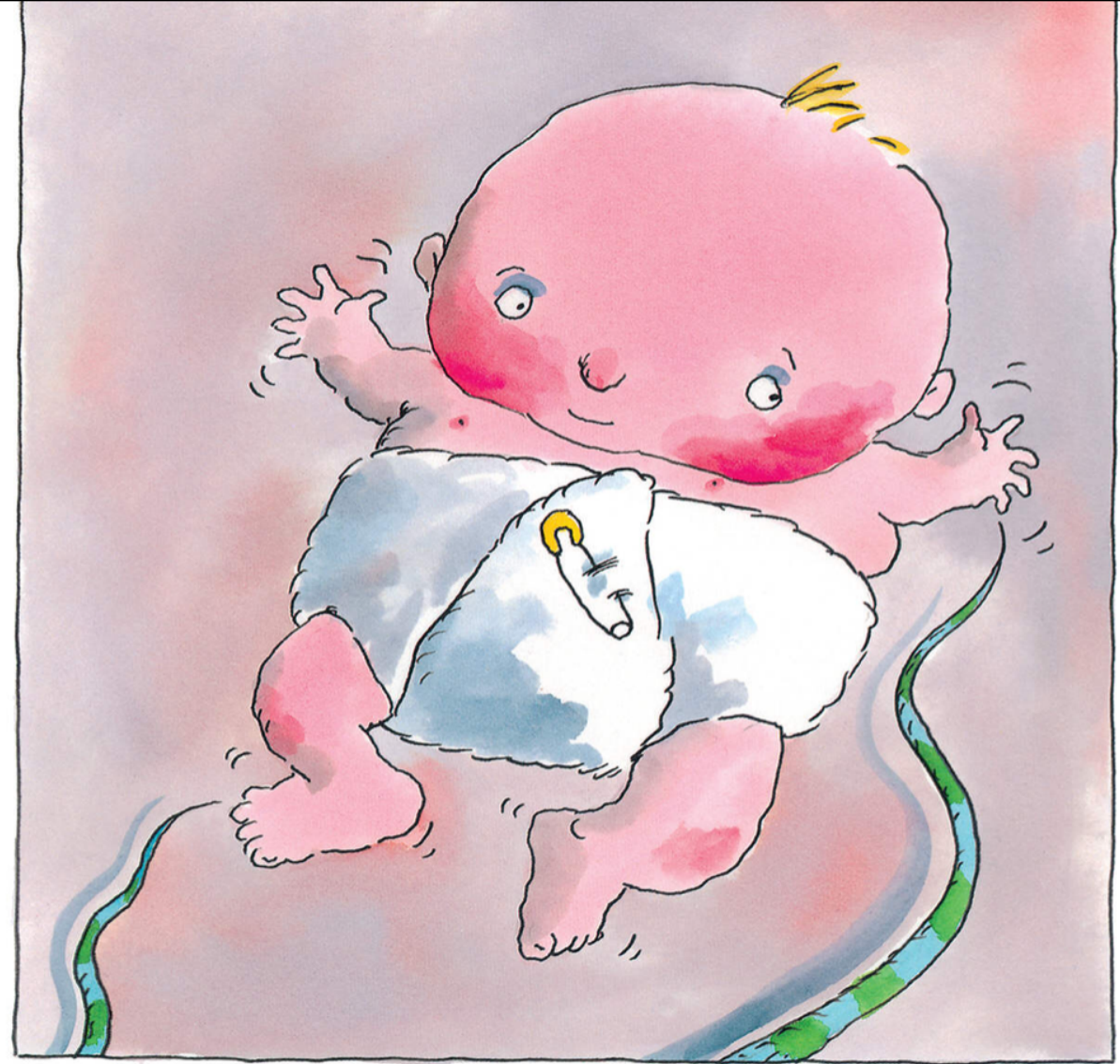
Good morning, class.



Today we are going to learn about Earthlets.



They come in many colours . . . but not green.



They have one head and only two eyes, two short tentacles with pheelers on the end and two long tentacles called leggies.



They have square claws which they use to frighten off wild beasts known as Tibbles and Marmaduke.



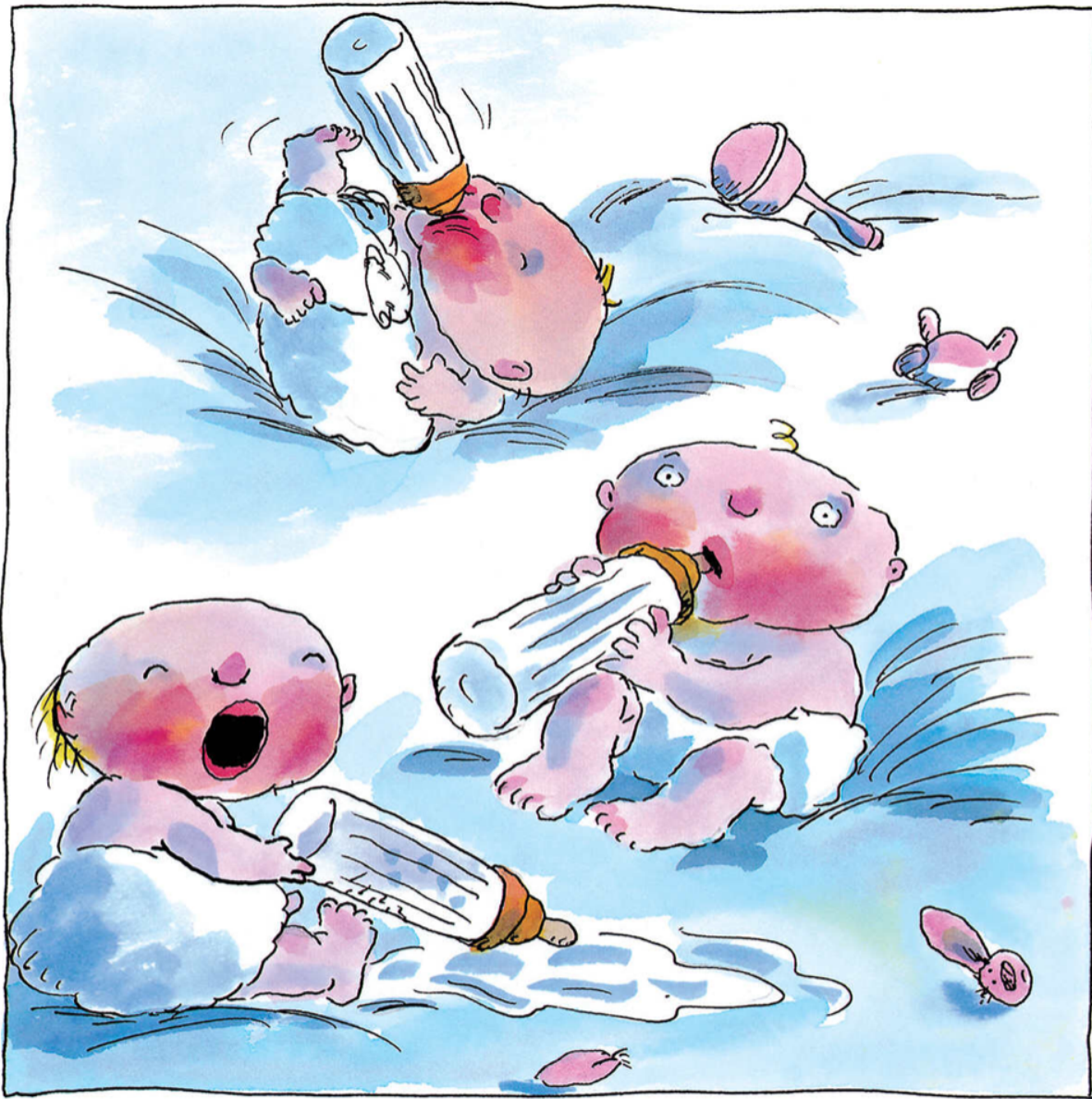
Earthlets grow fur on their heads but not enough to keep them warm.



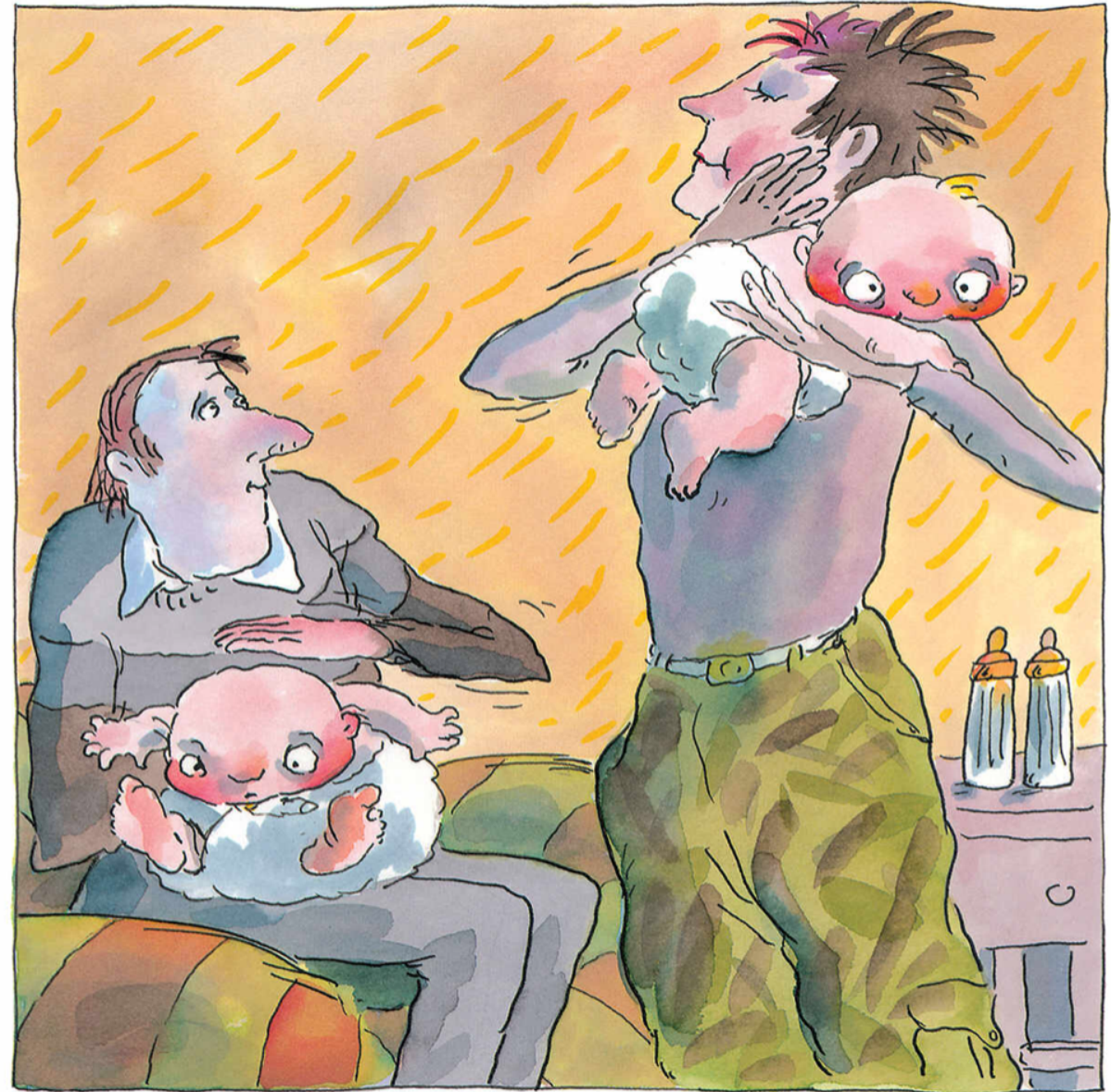
They must be wrapped in the hairdo of a sheep.



Very old Earthlings (or "Grannies") unravel the sheep and with two pointed sticks they make Earthlet wrappers in blue and white and pink.



Earthlets have no fangs at birth. For many days they drink only milk through a hole in their face.



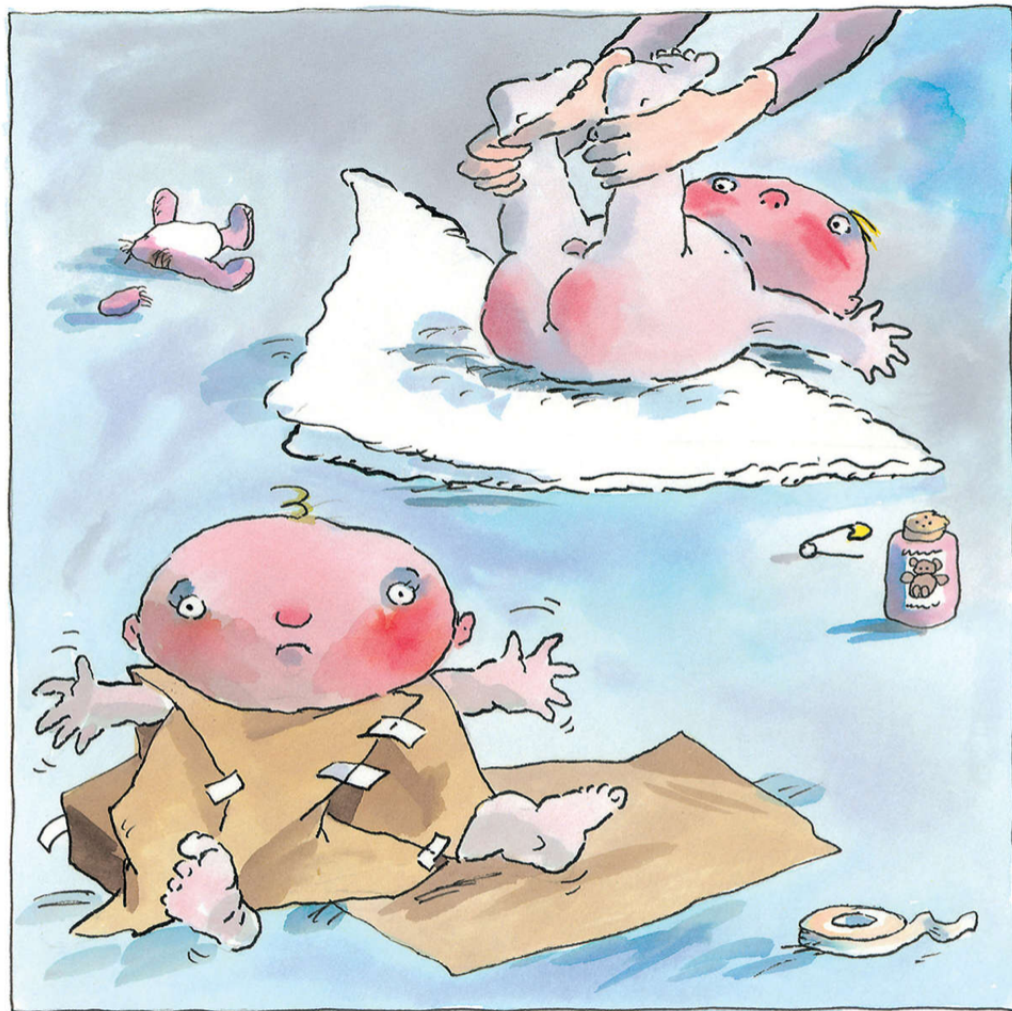
When they have finished the milk they must be patted and squeezed to stop them exploding.



When they grow a fang, the parent Earthling takes the egg of a hen and mangles it with a prong.



Then she puts the egg-mangle on a small spade and tips it into the Earthlet's mouth, nose and ears.



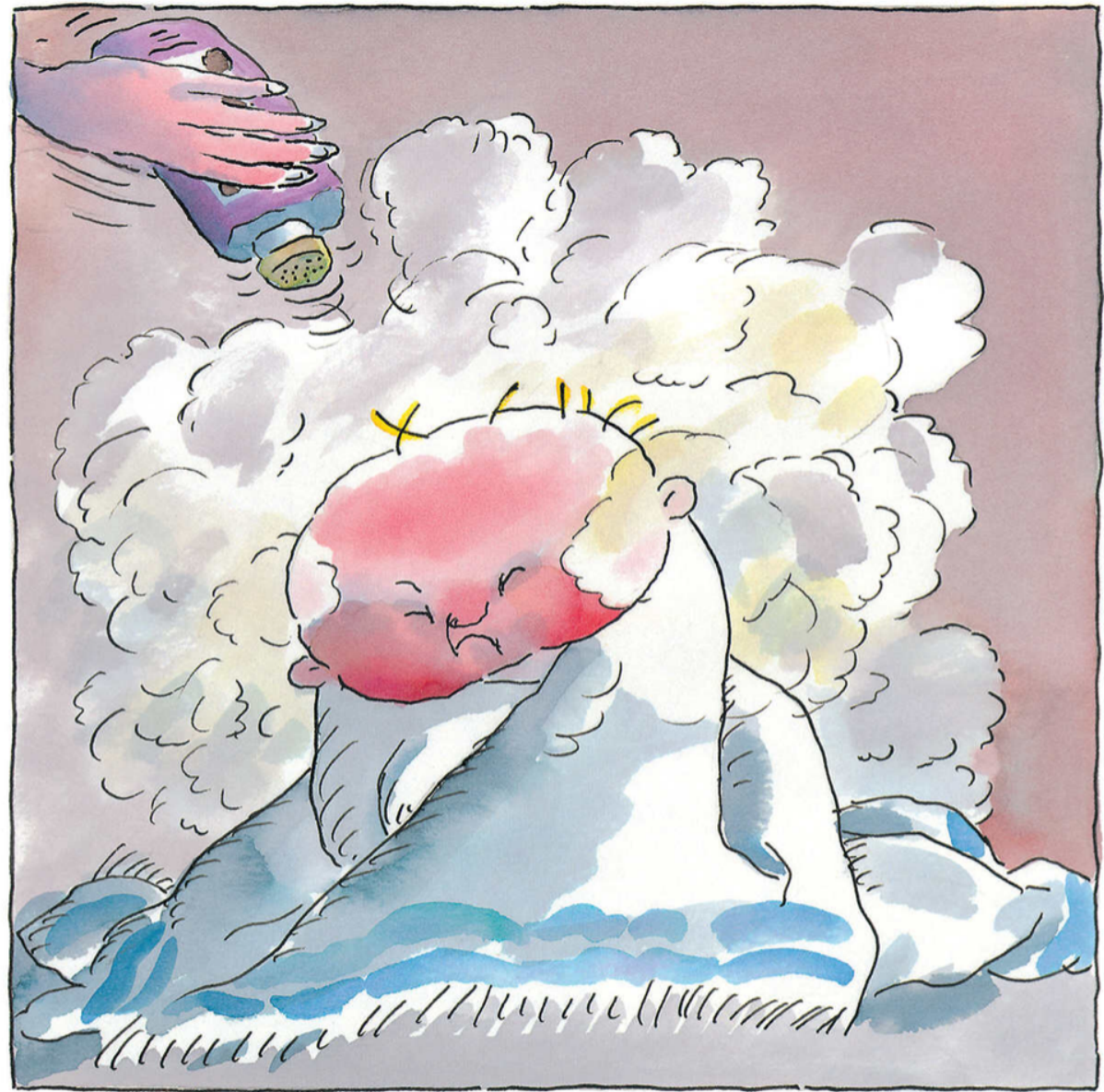
To stop them leaking, Earthlets must be pulled up by the back tentacles and folded in half. Then they must be wrapped quickly in a fluffy triangle or sealed with paper and glue.



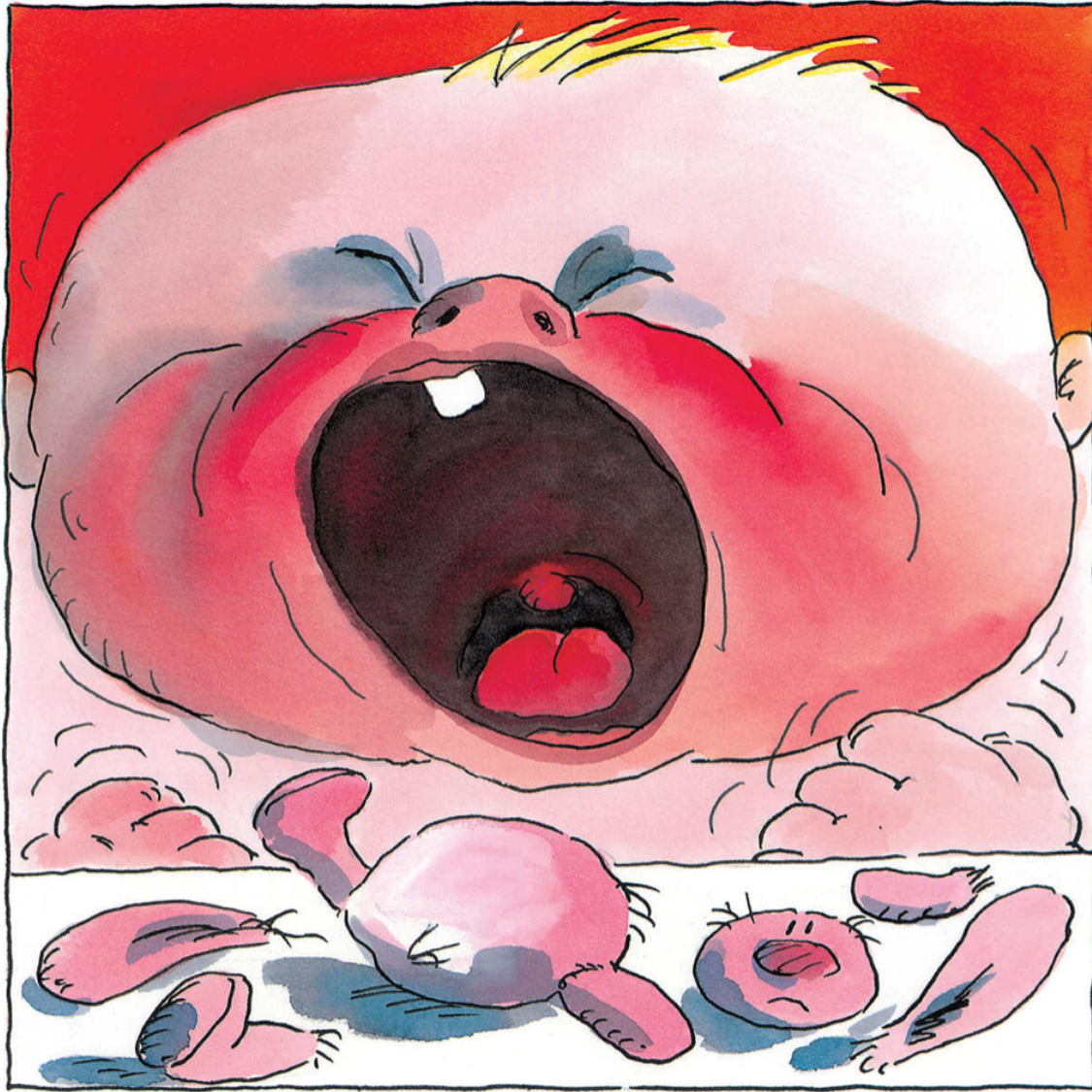
During the day, Earthlets collect the hairs of Tibbles and Marmaduke, mud, egg-mangle and banana.



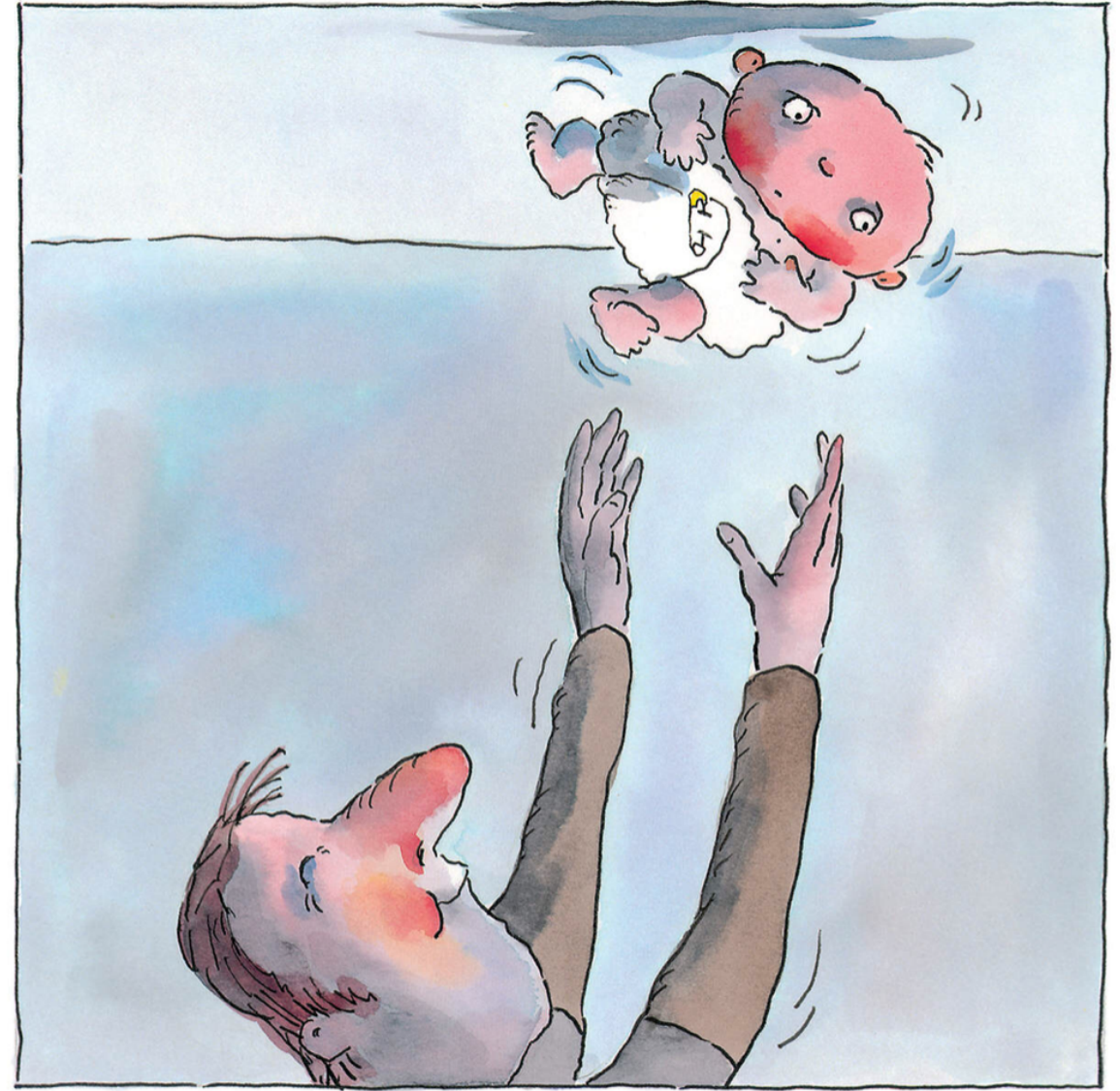
They are placed in plastic capsules with warm water and a yellow floating bird.



After soaking, Earthlets must be dried carefully to stop them shrinking. Then they are sprinkled with dust to stop them sticking to things.



Earthlets can be recognised by their fierce cry,
“WAAAAAAA!”



To stop them doing this, the Earthling daddy picks
them up and flings them into the atmosphere.



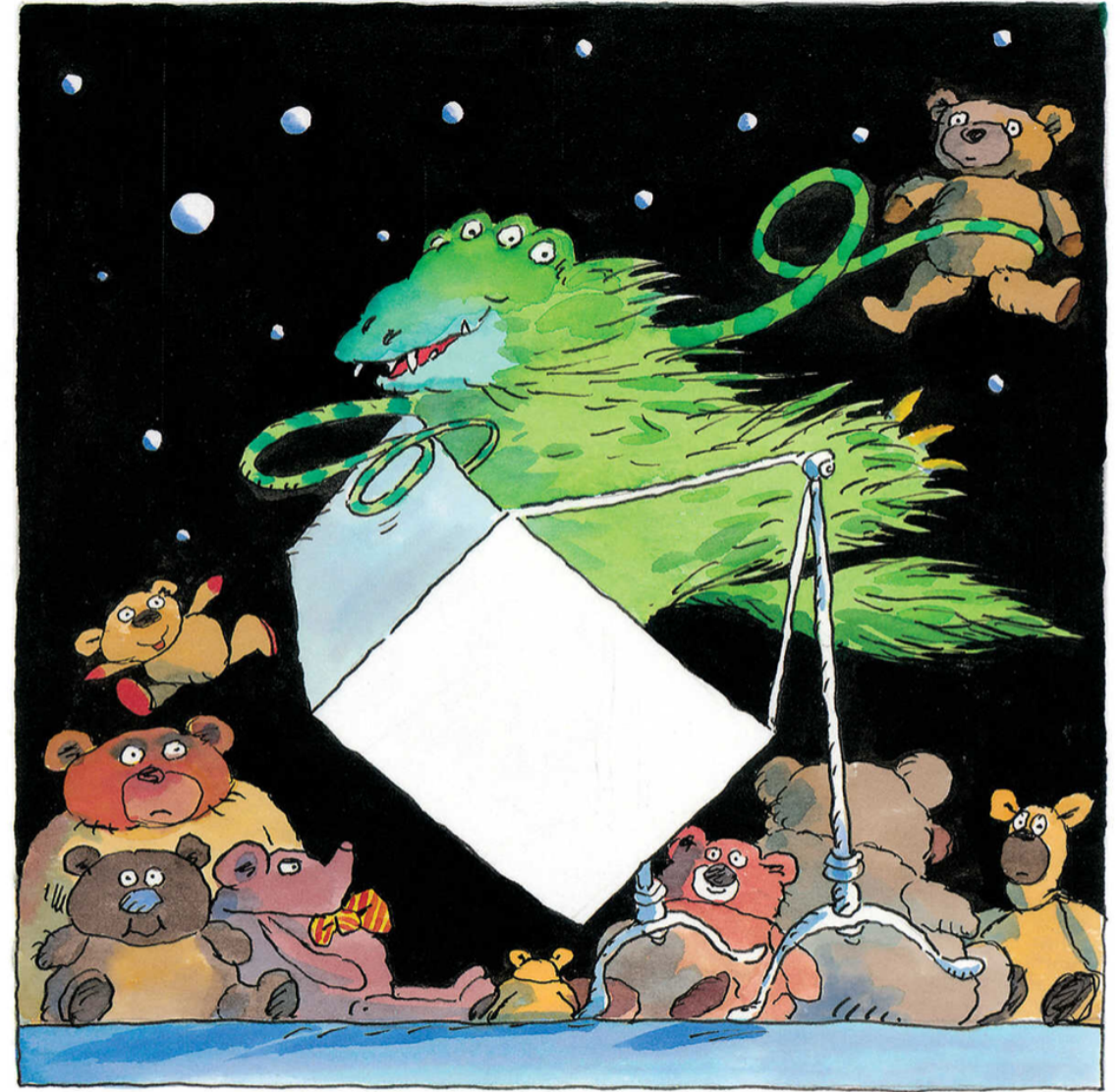
Then he tries to catch them.



If they still cry, the Earthling mummy pulls their pheelers one by one and says “This little piggy went to market” until the Earthlet makes a “hee hee” noise.



If they still cry, they are sent
to a place called beddybys.



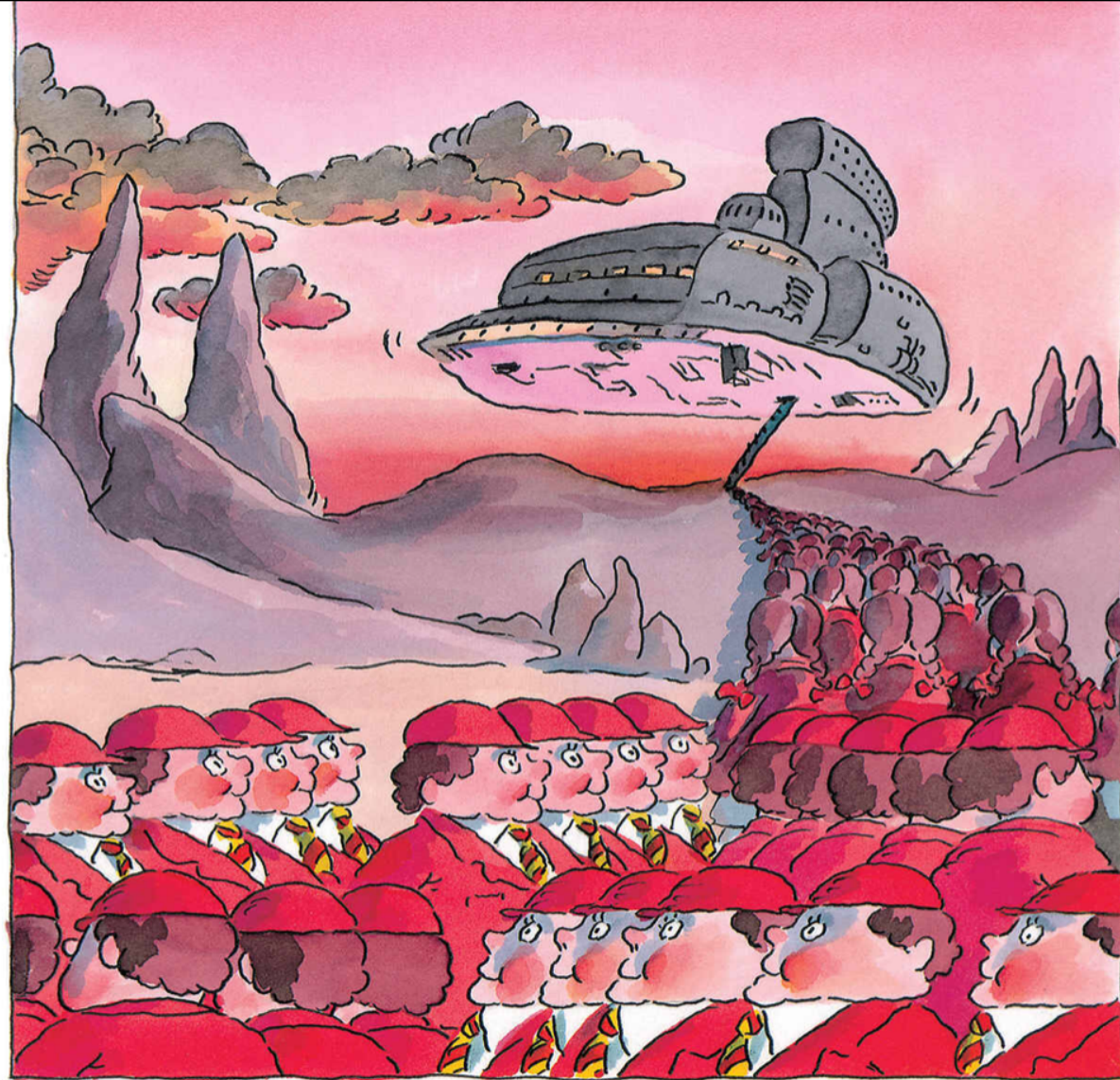
This is a swinging box with a soft lining in which
there lives a small bear called Teddy.



That is the end of today's lesson.



If you are all very good and quiet we are going to put our disguises on and visit planet Earth to see some real Earthlets.



The spaceship leaves in five minutes.