

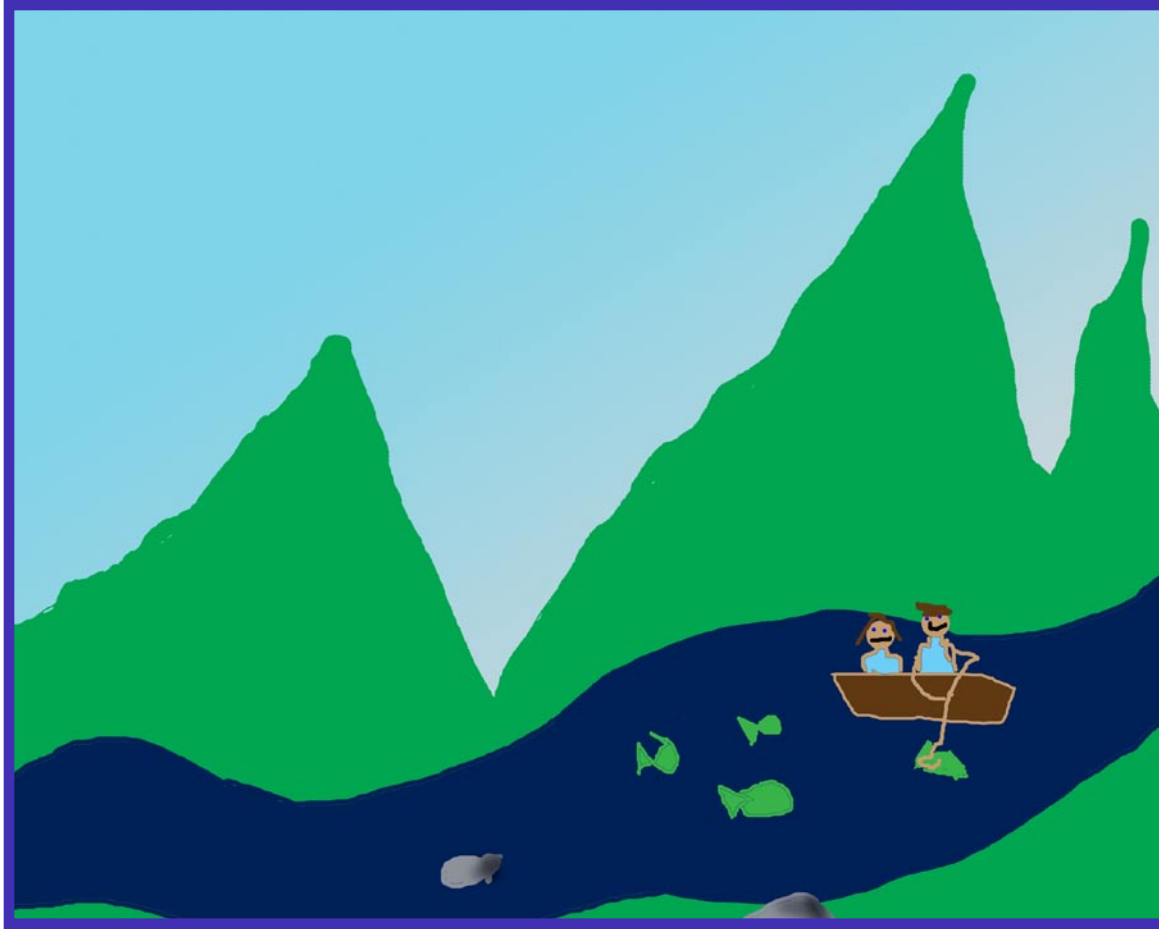
# FISH PETS



*written and illustrated by  
Ginty Erickson*

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There was an Indian fisherman named Chook Chook (which means “Osprey” in Karuk), who took his son Ginty (which means “Legendary”), fishing with him to show him how. They were fishing in

a boat out on the Klamath River in California.

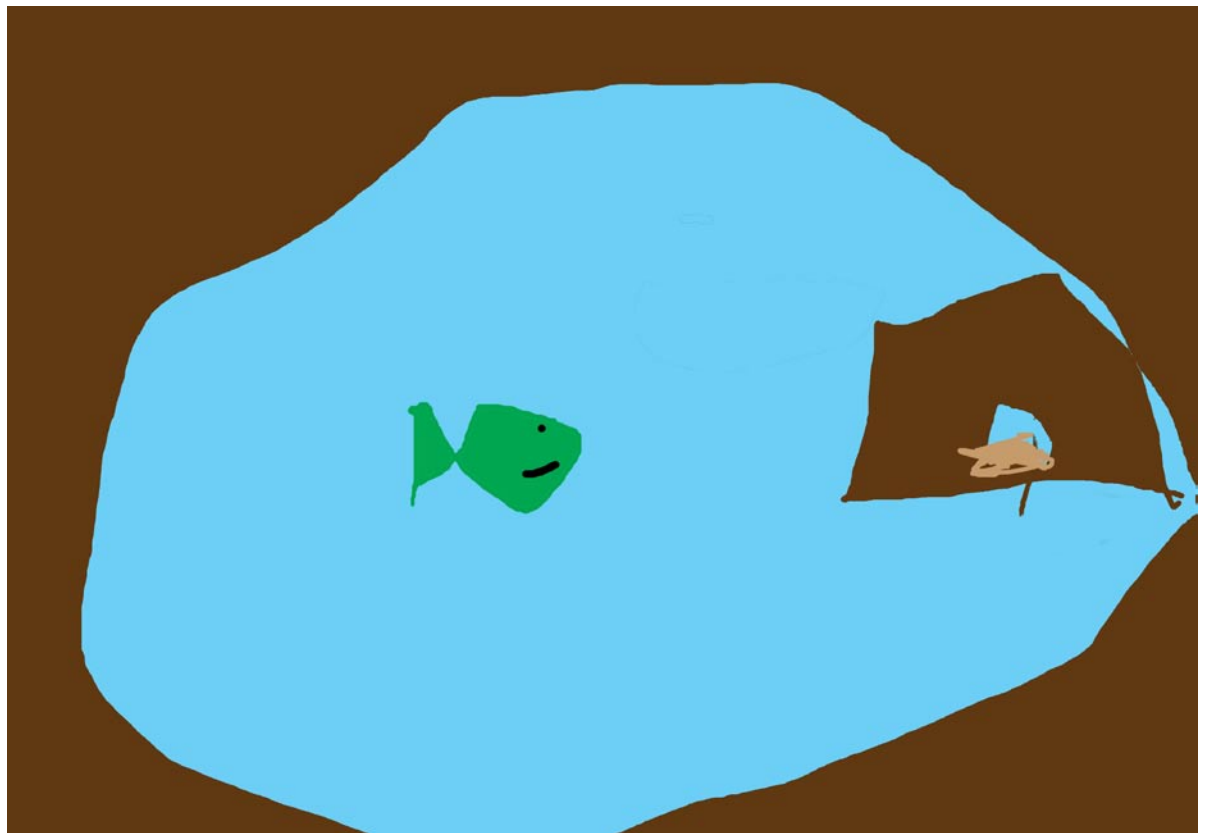
Son caught a trout that was twelve pounds!

The father and son decided to make a lake in their back yard so they could keep the trout as a pet.

They traded other Natives fish for worms to keep their big fish happy.

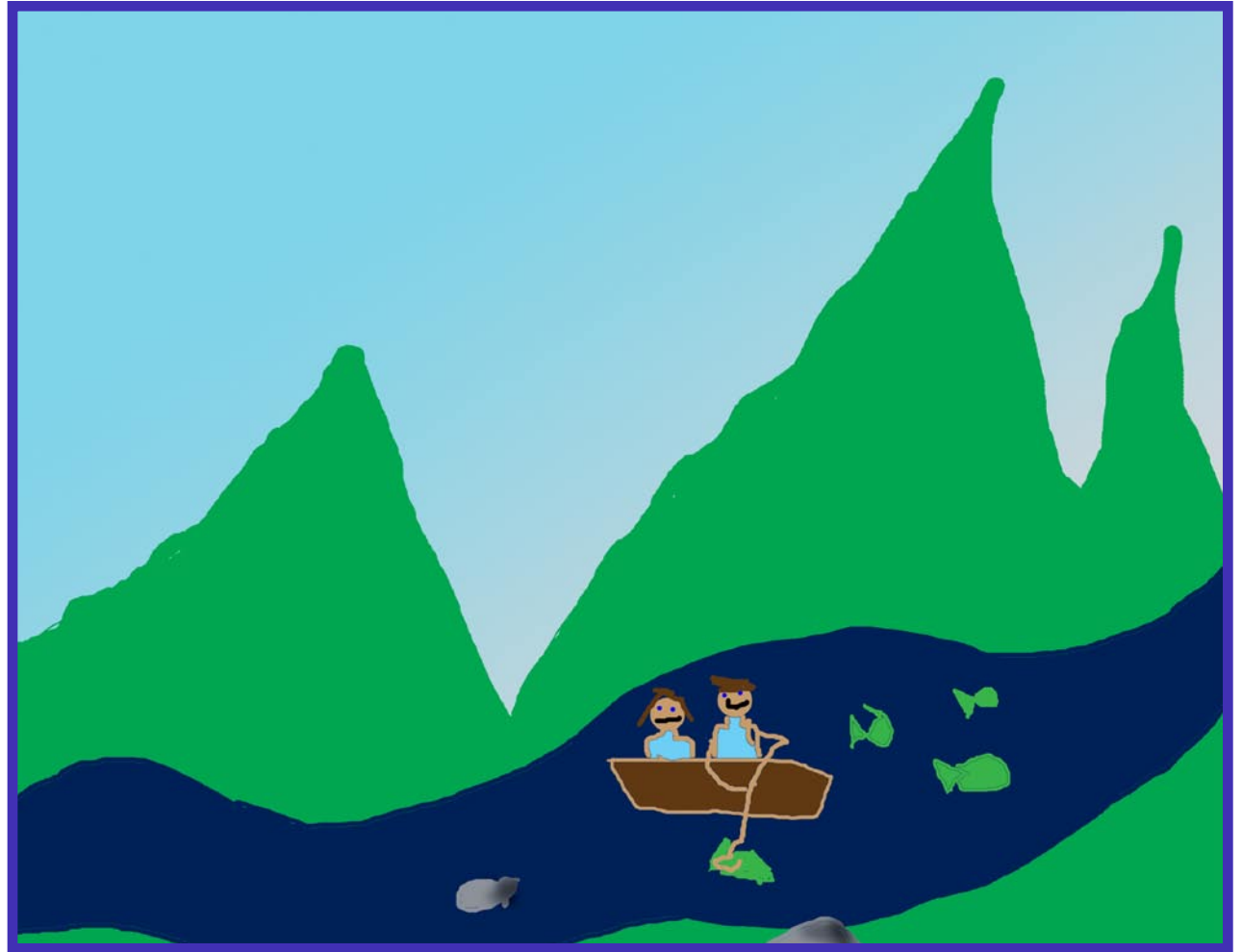
They decided to name their fish Redwood because he kept growing and growing.

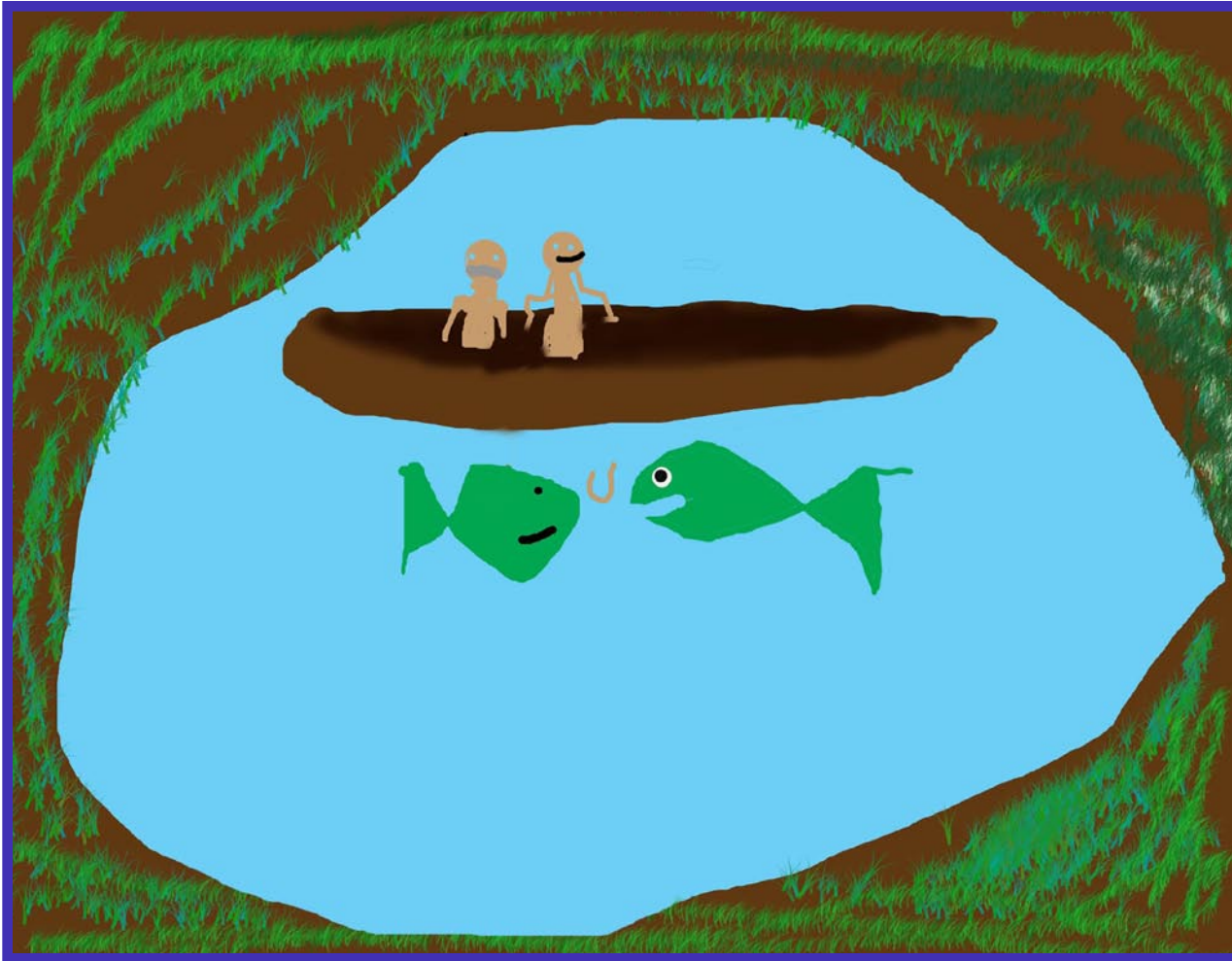
They even made him an underwater home. He loved to sleep in his home because there was soft sand in his house.



One day he looked lonely, so the father and son decided to go back to the River to see if they could catch another big Trout for Redwood to play with.

It took them 10 hours to catch a trout the same size. When they did, they ran home with it and put the new trout in the lake and Redwood was happy to see another fish.





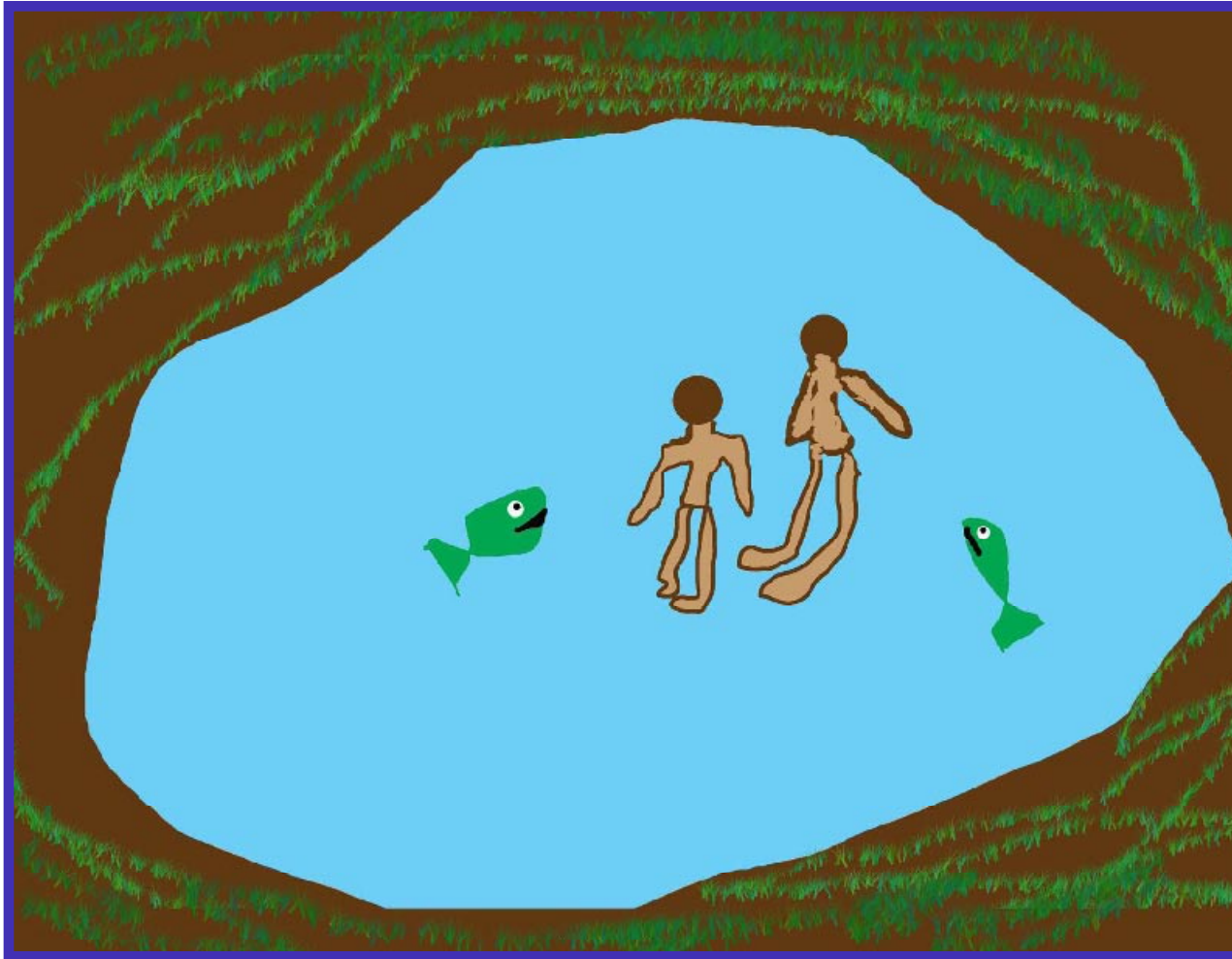
They named the new fish Potato.

Redwood and Potato played all day long and then slept the night away in Redwood's house.

The next morning they

were really hungry so they went to the surface to wait for Ginty and Chook Chook to feed them BIG juicy worms.

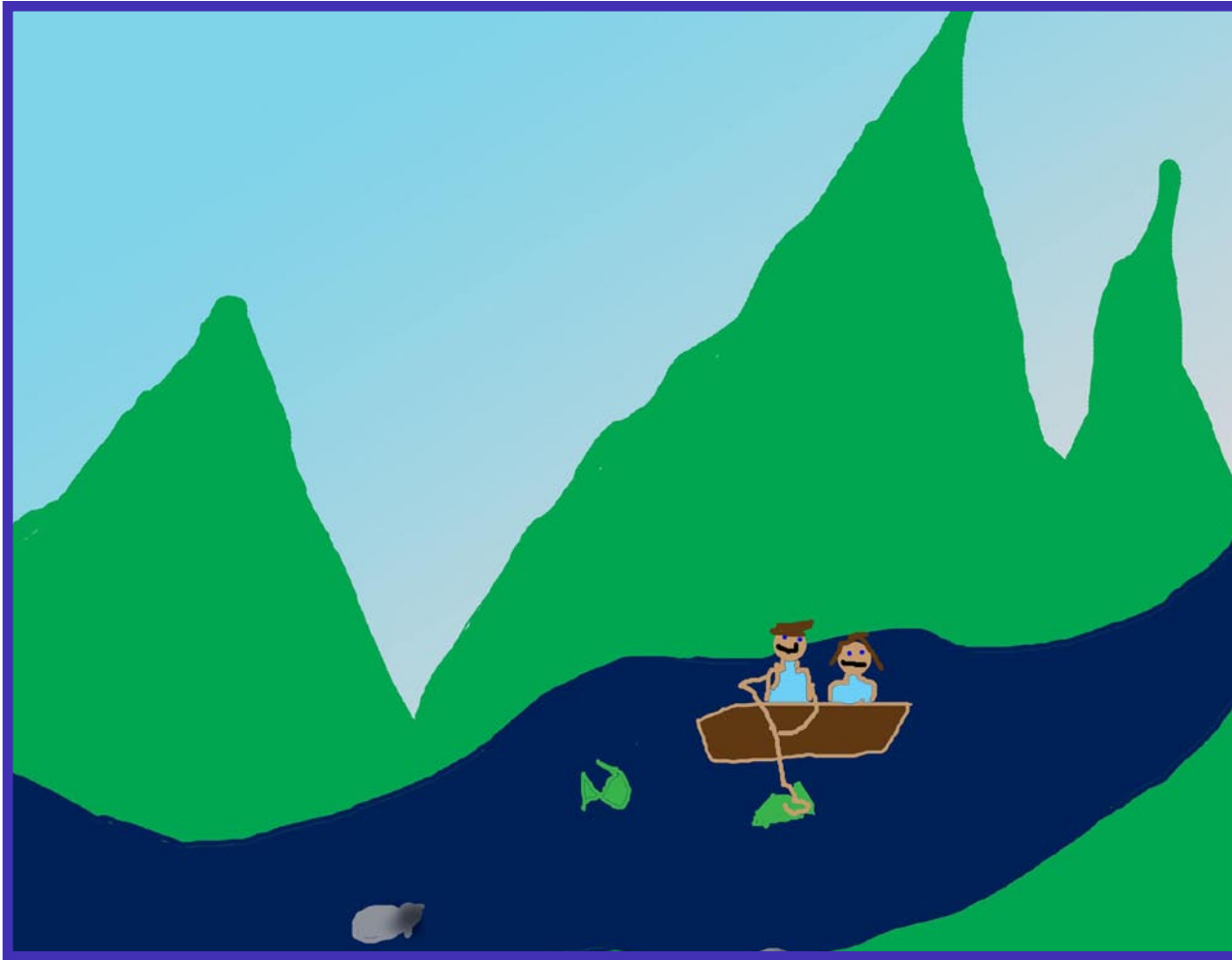




They decided to jump in the water to play fish tag with Redwood and Potato. Not only did they play tag, they also raced each other and had a

jumping competition to see who could jump out of the water the highest.

Finally Ginty got tired and got out of the water and threw the fish some big night crawlers.



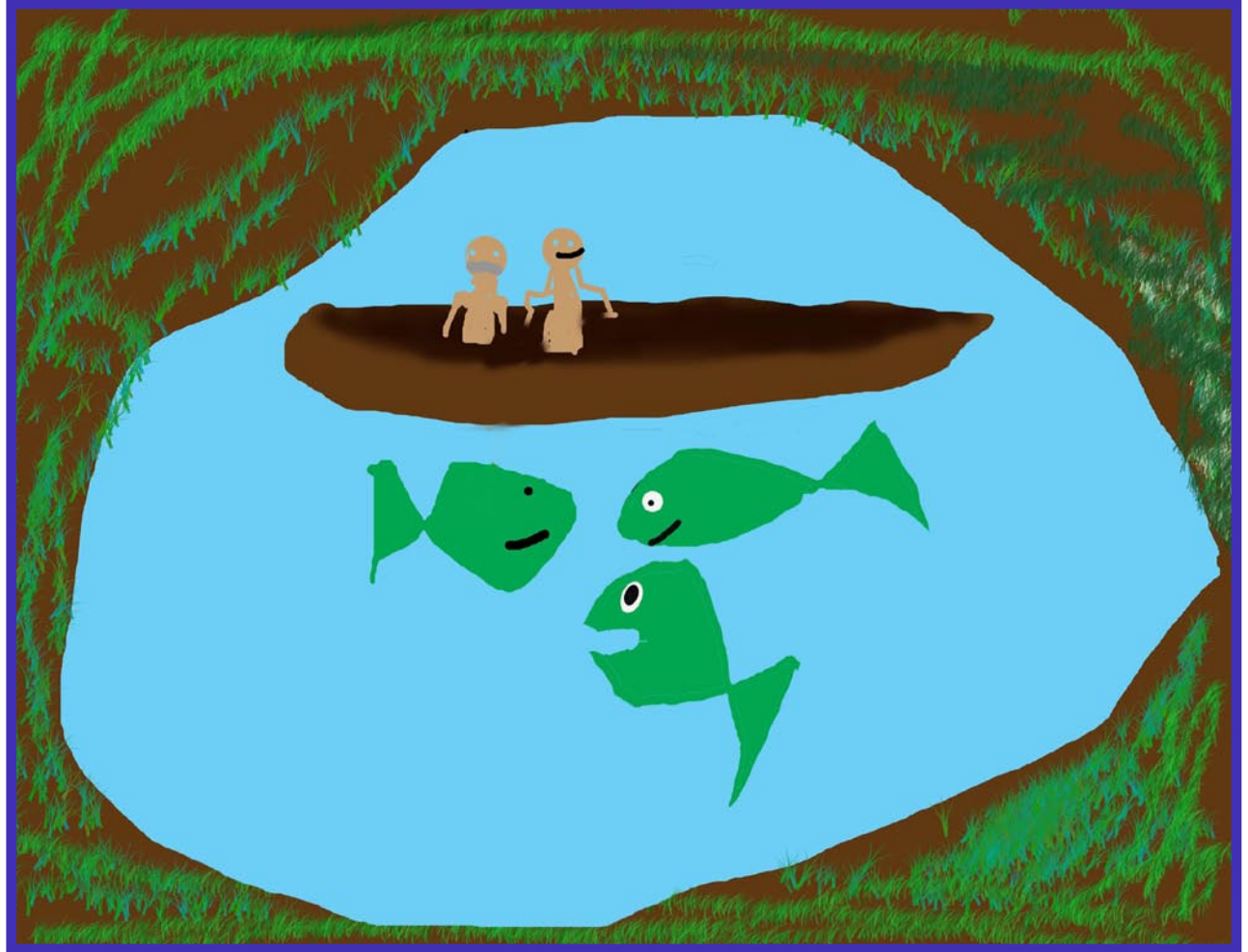
Then went inside and took a nap.

Father and son wanted to surprise Redwood and Potato with another fish friend so they went back to the River and hooked a big one that took

them almost all day to reel it in. When they got it reeled in they discovered that the trout was 98 pounds.

When they got it back to the pond and put it in with the others they noticed Redwood was happier and it seemed to them that they knew each other from the river.

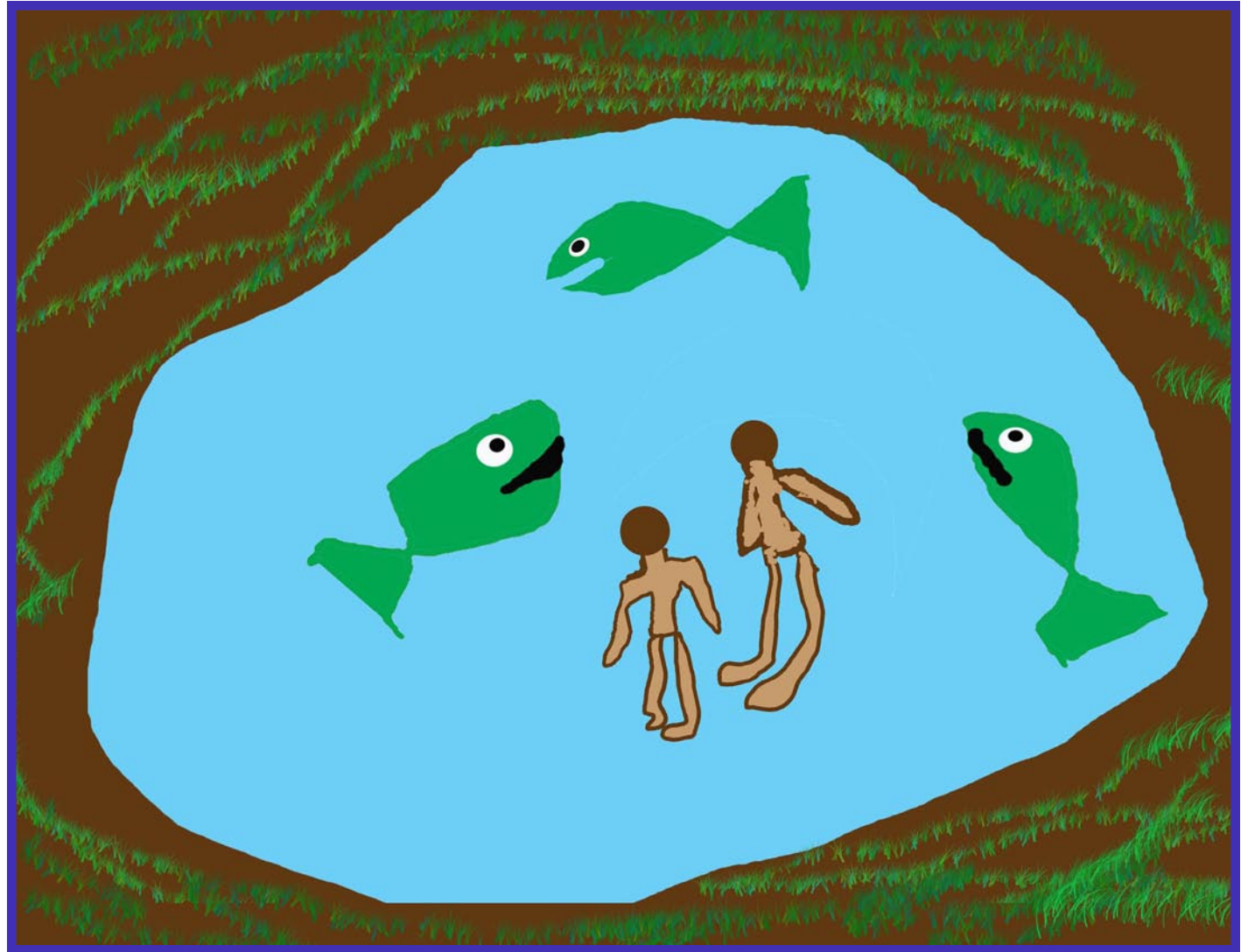
This time Ginty named the new fish Rock.



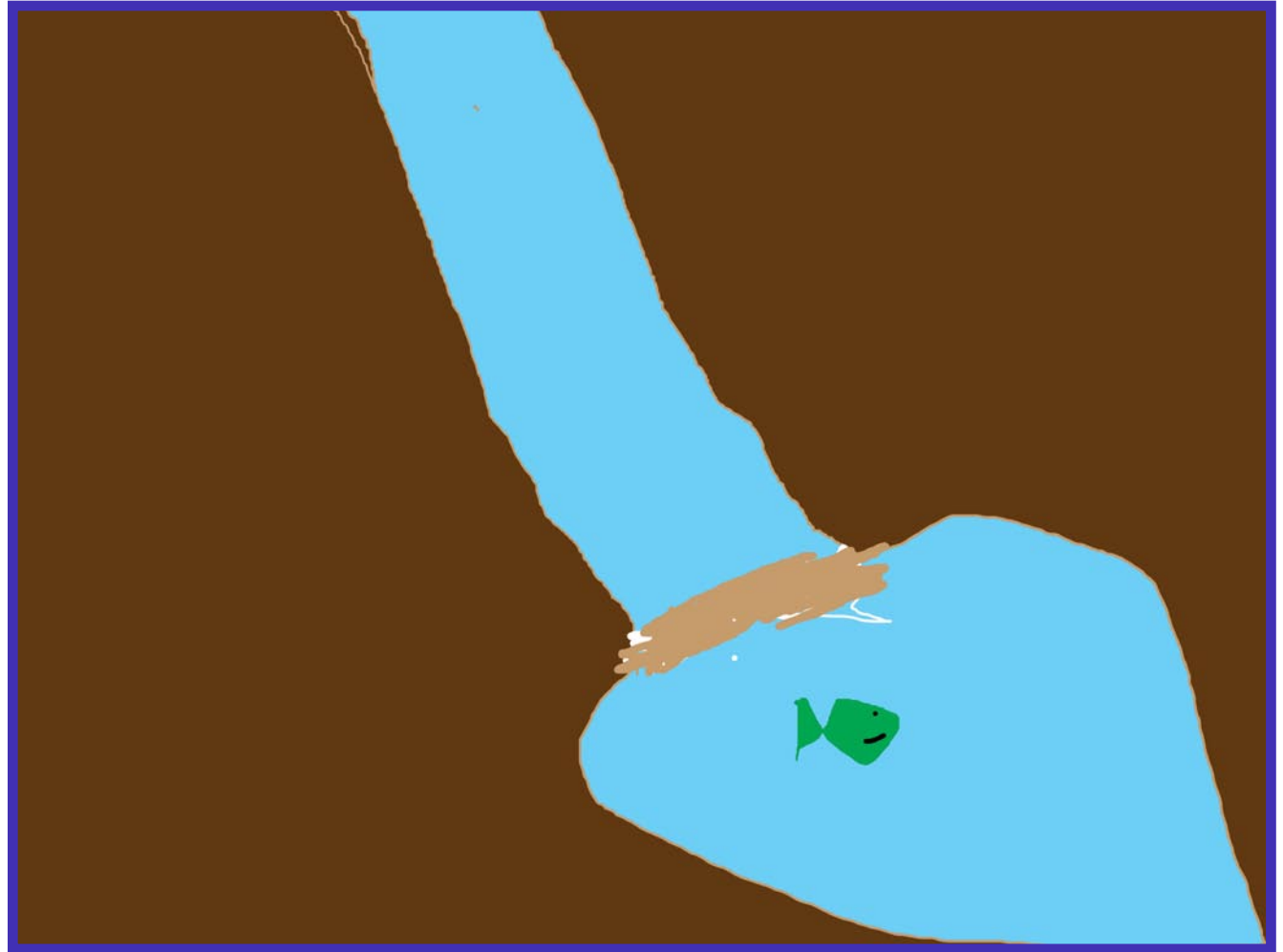


The next day was really hot so Chook Chook and Ginty went for a swim with Redwood, Potato, and Rock.

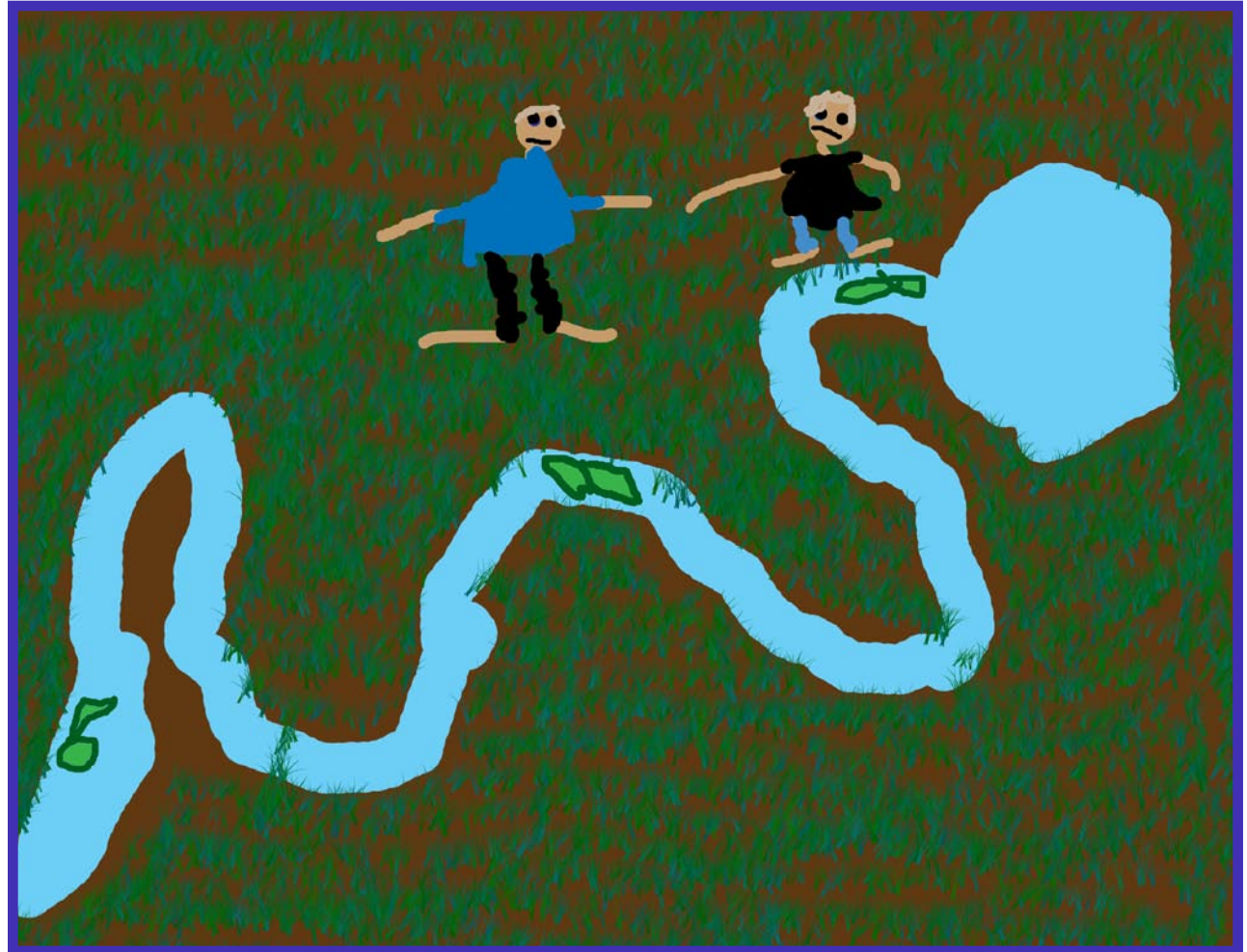
They had a good time swimming but the lake was getting too crowded.



So they dug  
a channel to  
the river so  
the fish could  
swim to the  
ocean.



The next year, Redwood, Potato and Rock stopped by to say hello, before they swam off to spawn.



The End



### *About the Author*

Ginty Erickson is a 9-year-old 3rd grader at Orleans Elementary. He likes to play video games and watch TV. His favorite food is pizza pockets.

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*The Áak Utkírihti (He/She is looking into the fire) project is a unique partnership with the Karuk Tribal Education/Computer Centers, Karuk Tribal Libraries, local schools, and County and State Libraries to increase literacy, access to library services and foster authorship throughout our tribal communities.*

