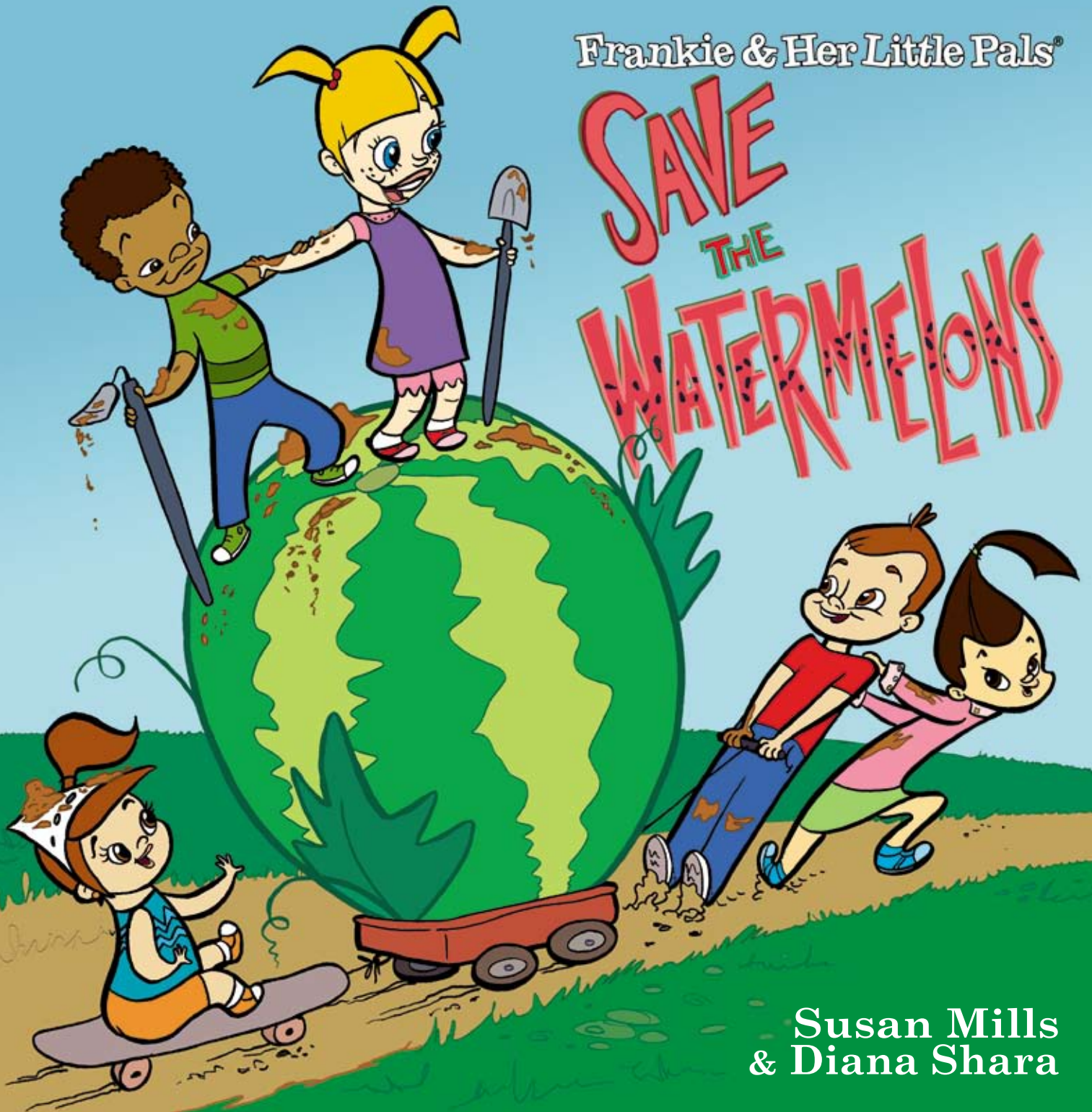


Frankie & Her Little Pals®

SAVE THE WATERMELONS



Susan Mills
& Diana Shara

The pals are underneath the leaves on Frankie's front lawn. "Frankie, are you done yet?" asks Max.

"We're tired of raking. What are we going to do next?" pouts Tiffany.

"We want something fun to do," adds Ana.



“F-r-a-n-k-i-e! Grandpa called and asked us to come to his house right away,” calls Frankie’s mom. “He needs help saving Grandma’s watermelons.”

“Grandpa and Grandma must be g-a-r-d-e-n-i-n-g,” yells Frankie. Let’s GO!” Eager for fun, the pals happily follow Frankie.





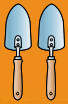
DID YOU KNOW?

Weeds are good at distributing their seeds. Seeds can stay in the ground ready to grow for up to eight years.



PARENT TIP

Many weeds have a sticky core. Consider using gloves to protect hands, eyes and face from the sticky sap when weeding.



SKILL BUILDER

MEMORY, PROBLEM SOLVING,
CAUSE AND EFFECT, BEGINNING SCIENCE

Point out weeds in your garden. How many can you find? Look at the stem and flowers. Can you see where the seeds are? Find weeds that are just beginning to grow and weeds that are larger. Repeat this activity often in your yard, park, or neighborhood.



As everyone gets ready to help, Grandpa explains about weeding.

“Weeds are plants you don’t want in a garden. They take food from the other plants. Mulch kills weeds, so we like to use plenty of it...when we can find our mulch bag! Since we didn’t use mulch, we’ll have to pull out the weeds.”

“Let’s find those watermelons!” Frankie shouts. Max grabs weeds by the handful.

“YAHOO!” snorts Tiffany, and pulls on a small, leafy clump. POP! Out comes a bunch of tiny, not-so-ready radishes. “They’re too little, Tiffany,” laughs Max.

“Do you pull weeds like this?” Ana asks as she tugs with all her might on a thick stalk. “WATCH OUT!” everyone shouts.

**Can I Try
Now?**

**ACTIVITIES
and other good
stuff...**