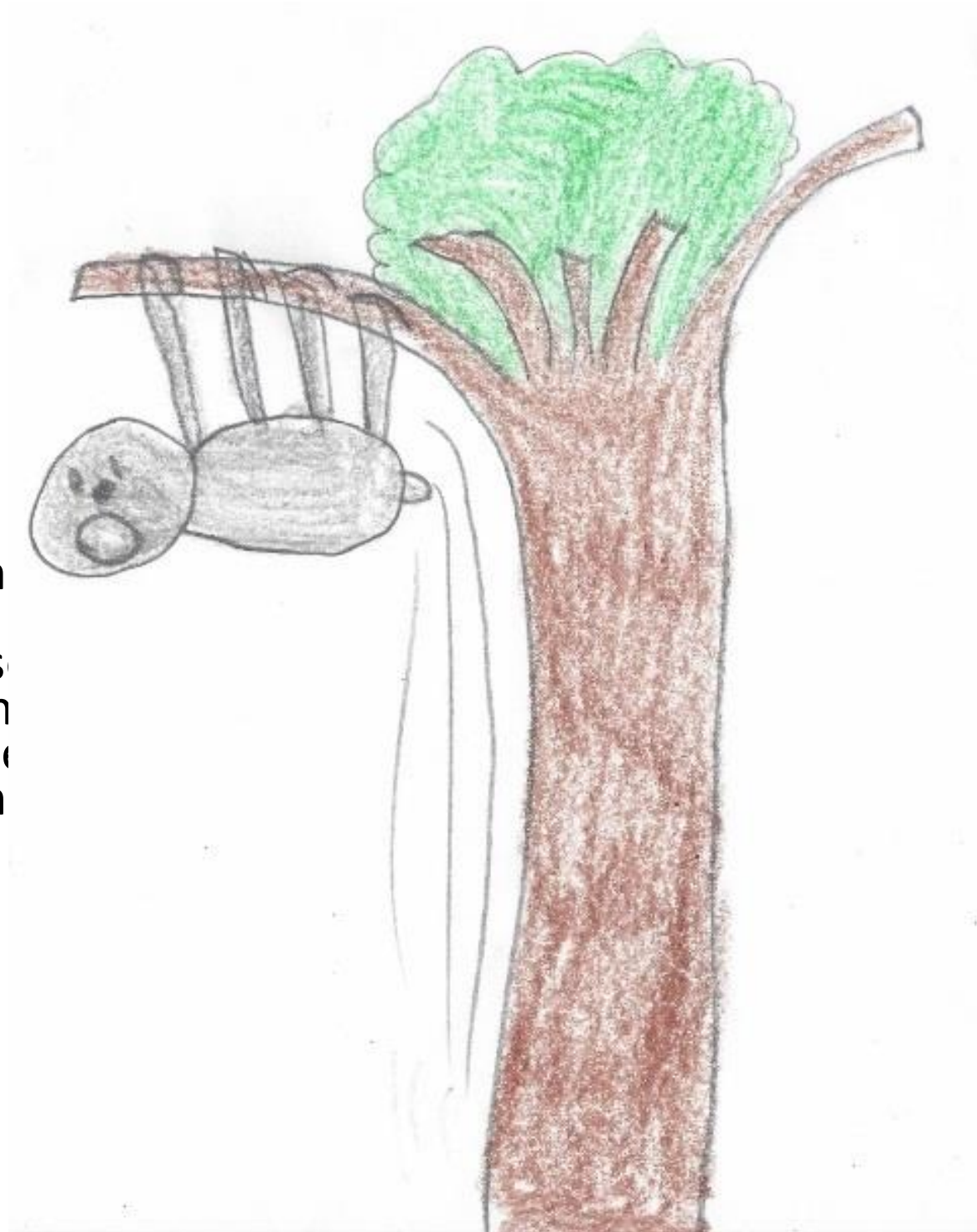


The background of the page is a child's drawing of a blue sky, created with horizontal strokes of blue crayon. In the upper left corner, there is a yellow sun with a spiral center and several straight lines radiating outwards. On the left side, there is a brown tree trunk with a small green bush at the top. A small brown boat with a canopy is floating in the water at the base of the tree.

How Sloth Got Slow

By Mindy

A long time ago when days were new, there lived a sloth named Faro in the dense rain forests of the Amazon. In those days sloth was fast. One day, the dry season ended and the rainy season began.



One rainy day Faro was lying on a branch.

A group of frogs asked him, "Yay the rain is back! Do you want to play lily tag?"

"I can't play, I have to rest," said Faro. "And anyways it is too rainy to play."

A frog said, "That's too bad, we love playing in the rain. guess you are going to miss out on the fun."

The frogs hopped away to the lily pad and left sloth by himself.



The next day a group of caiman were playing in a new pond from the rains.

One caiman asked, "Faro can you play?"

"Sorry but I can't play because I need to get my sleep," said Faro.

So the caiman walked away to play hide and seek in the pond without Faro.



The next day a group of monkeys were playing 1,2,3, swing!

One Monkey asked, "Faro do you want to play?"

But Faro said, "I don't know how to play."

"I'll teach you," said one of the monkeys.

"No I'd rather not. I'll just lose because you would be so much better than me," said Sloth

"Ok just saying your going to miss out on all the fun," the monkey said as he swung away branch to branch.



One day Faro saw a group of snakes playing tag.

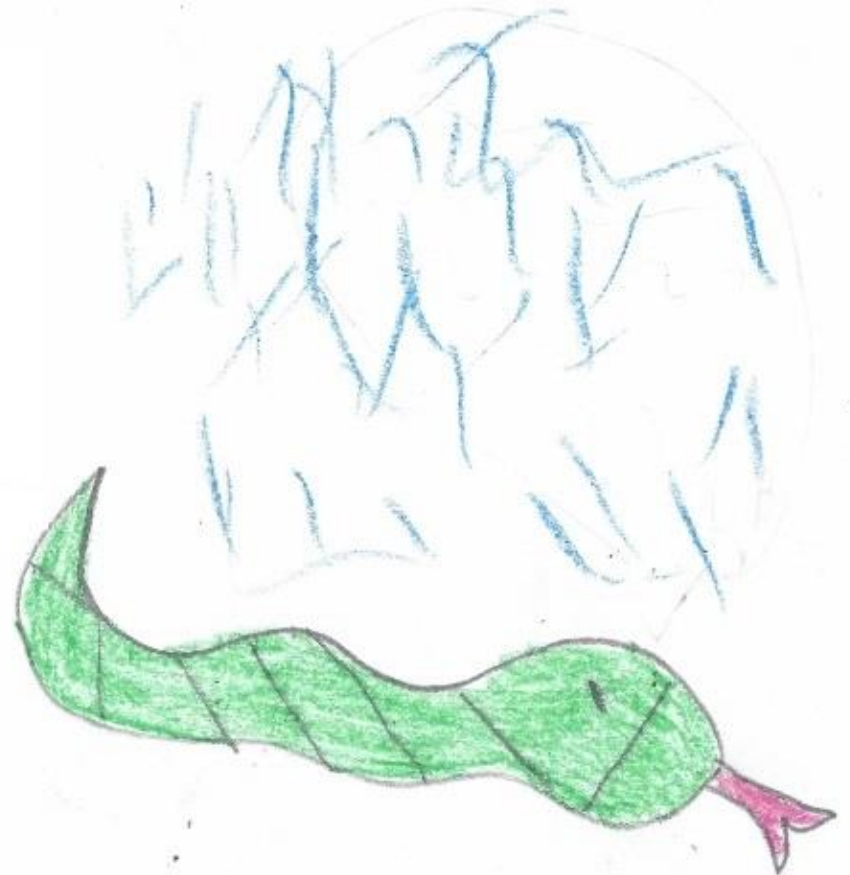
“That looks so fun,” said Sloth to himself.

Boa said to another snake, “You’re it!”

He crawled down to the ground and asked, “Can I play with you?”

They said, “Yes.”

But Faro figured out that he couldn’t play! He tried his best to be runner, but he got tagged every time. Then he tried to be a tagger, but he was too slow that he couldn’t tag anyone. He had spent so long doing nothing and not using his energy that he lost all his speed and couldn’t get it back.



One snake said, "You can't play."

Faro was so frustrated. So he crawled away into his tree.

Faro mumbled to himself, "Next time I'm going to play a game that they can't play, who can hang on the branch the longest without moving.

The snakes and other animals kept on playing their games. Sloth never played with them again. That's why sloths are so slow now.

