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Tara Among the Tulips



Tara Among Tulips

Tara wondered what she would meet in her next dream. Drifting off to sleep, she found herself among a field of wild tulips with snow-covered mountains in the distance. "What a lovely place to be," said Tara aloud. "Yes, you are right," said a soft voice - it was a tulip flower speaking. Other flowers around nodded in agreement.

"But we are afraid. Very afraid that this beautiful homeland of ours will be lost," said the tulip sadly. "What will make you lose your homeland?" asked Tara. "Well, you have the woodpecker, and she told you that she moved up North as the forest in the South was getting too hot for comfort," said the tulip. Tara wondered how the tulip knew about her dream-meeting with the woodpecker.



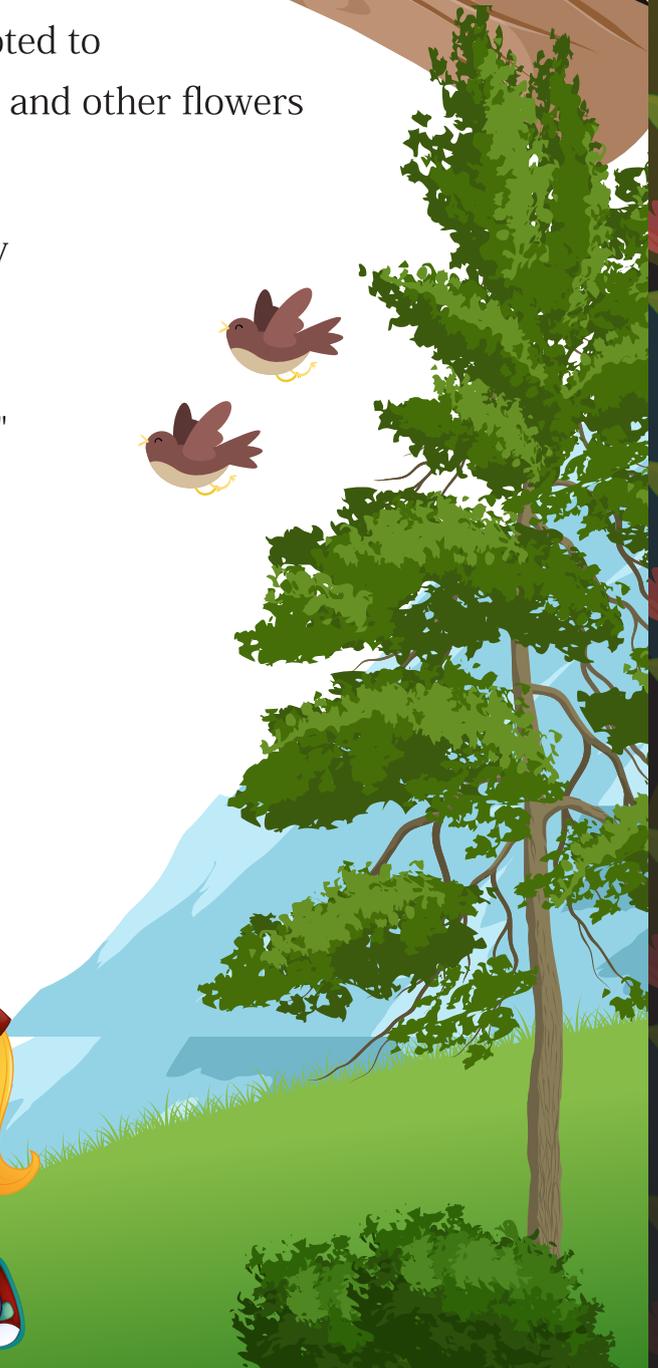
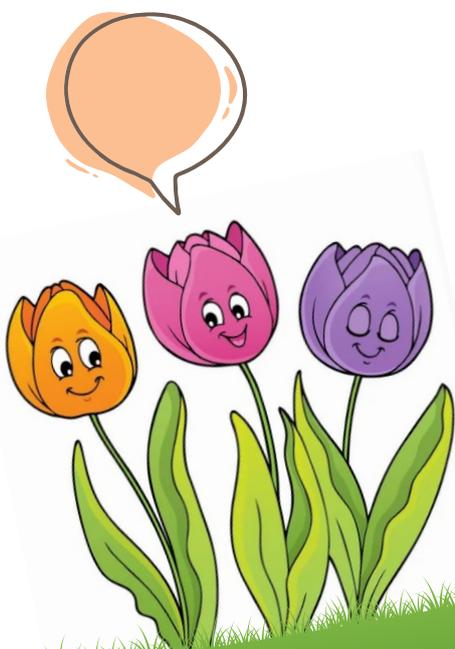
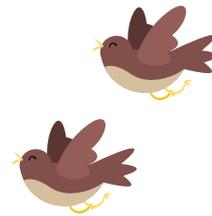
"Yes, that is true," said Tara. "In fact, the entire planet is getting too hot for comfort." All the flowers nodded their heads in agreement.



"As you know," said the tulip, "land animals, sea creatures, and birds can move to other places which are cooler, but trees and other plants can't do so." The other flowers nodded in agreement. "We are cold-adapted flowers and cannot move further up the mountain slopes to escape the heat," said the tulip.

Tara nodded in agreement, "I know that you need cold weather conditions followed by spring to flower," said Tara. "Yes, we are adapted to montane habitat," said the tulip. "Hmm!" Tara and other flowers nodded in agreement.

The next morning, Tara woke up with a heavy heart. "Soon we will never get to see several beautiful plants, wonderful animals, and birds...we have to act fast before it is too late."



New Words

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Drifting- moving slowly and smoothly | environment in which an animal or plant lives | 3. Homeland- a person's or an animal's native land or country |
| 2. Habitat- the natural | | |

Find other new and interesting words for each other, and write their meanings in your notebooks.

Comprehension

1. Where did Tara find herself in her dream?
2. What did the tulip express concern about?
3. Who spoke in a tiny voice?
4. Who nodded in agreement?
5. What type of climate do the tulip flowers prefer?

Take turns to make more questions like these above for each other and answer them.

Prompts Pair up

1. Paint a Tulip Canvas:

Get creative and paint a canvas with tulips as the subject. Use vibrant colours and different painting techniques to create a beautiful piece of art. Discuss how the beauty of tulips can inspire people to protect and conserve natural habitats.

2. Go on a Nature Walk:

Take a walk in a nearby park or natural area and observe the plants and animals living there. Make a list of the different species you observe and discuss how they are adapted to their environment. Take photos and document your findings. Then, discuss ways to protect natural habitats and reduce your impact on the environment.



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