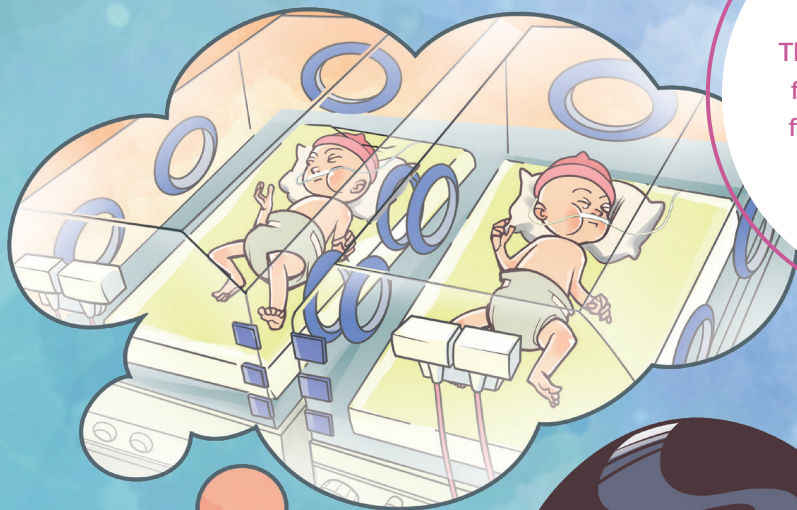


UNDERSTANDING RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME (RDS)



This book is not intended for sale and is provided free of charge by Chiesi USA, Inc. to caregivers and families of premature infants.



The intended audience for this book is caregivers and families of premature infants.

Ages 2-6

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INTRODUCING
THE MEDIKIDZ

CHI

Expert on: the lungs and
respiratory system



ABACUS

Guardian of the
Medikidz



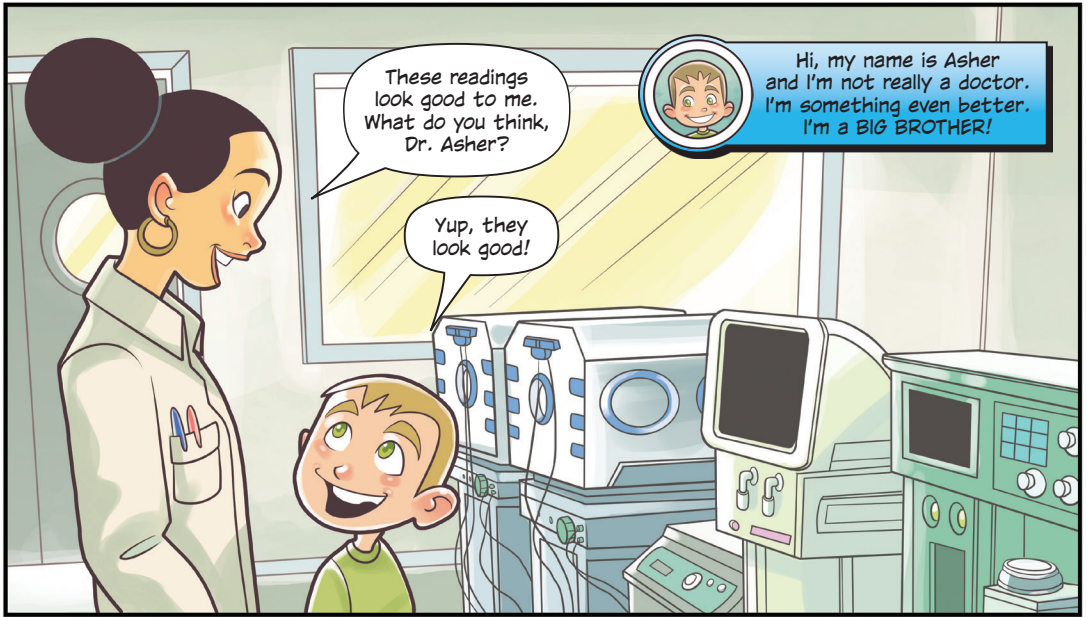
FEATURING:

ASHER

The star of this book



This book is based on a true
story depicting a real family.

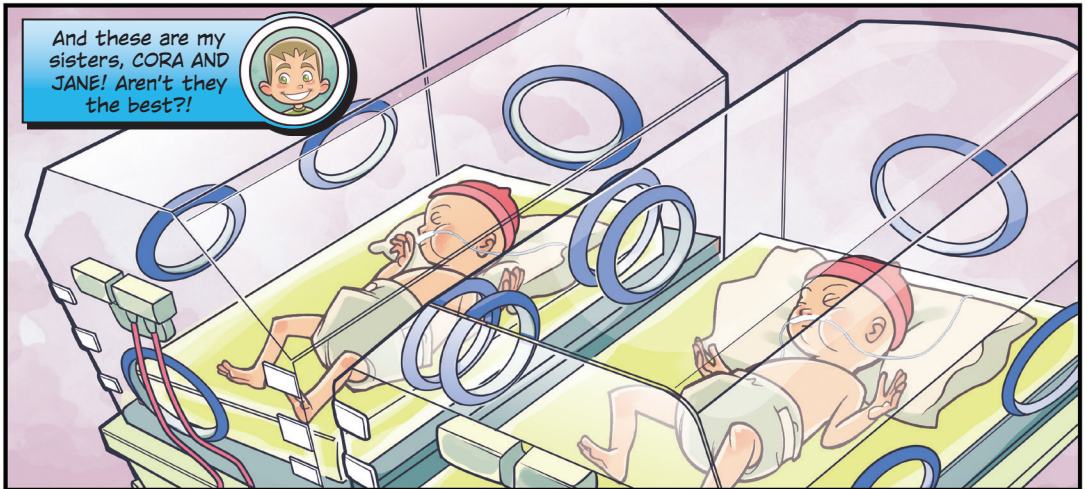


These readings look good to me. What do you think, Dr. Asher?

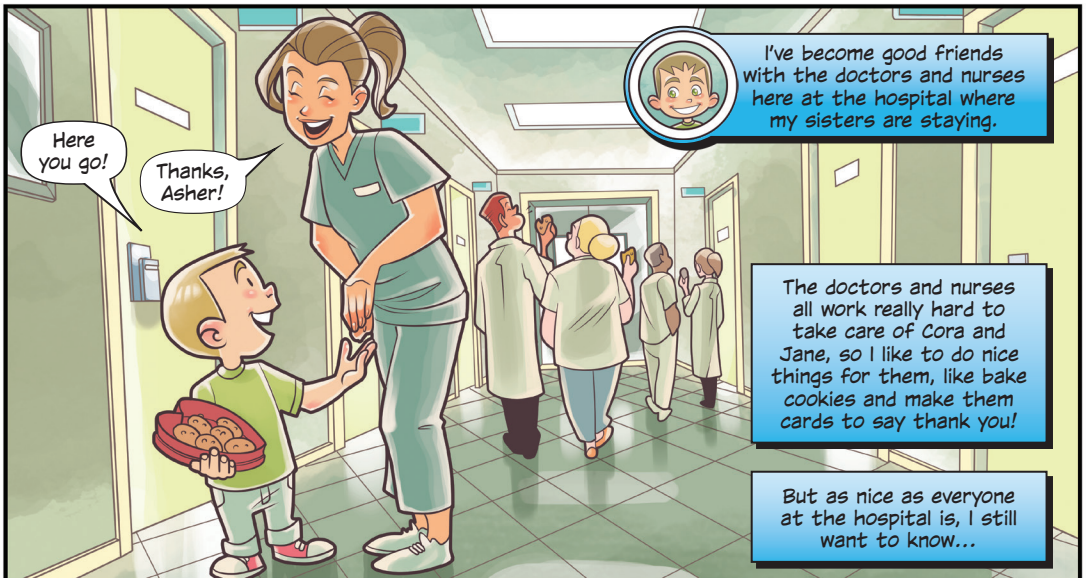
Yup, they look good!



Hi, my name is Asher and I'm not really a doctor. I'm something even better. I'm a BIG BROTHER!



And these are my sisters, CORA AND JANE! Aren't they the best?!



Here you go!

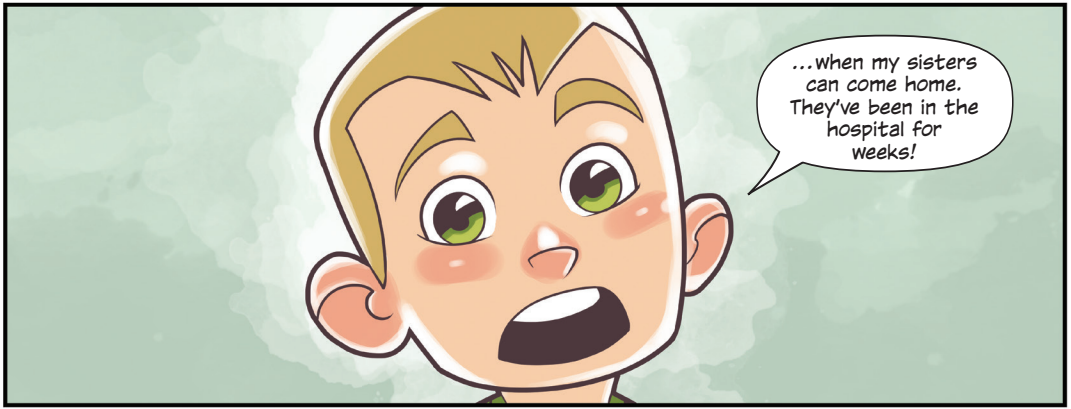
Thanks, Asher!

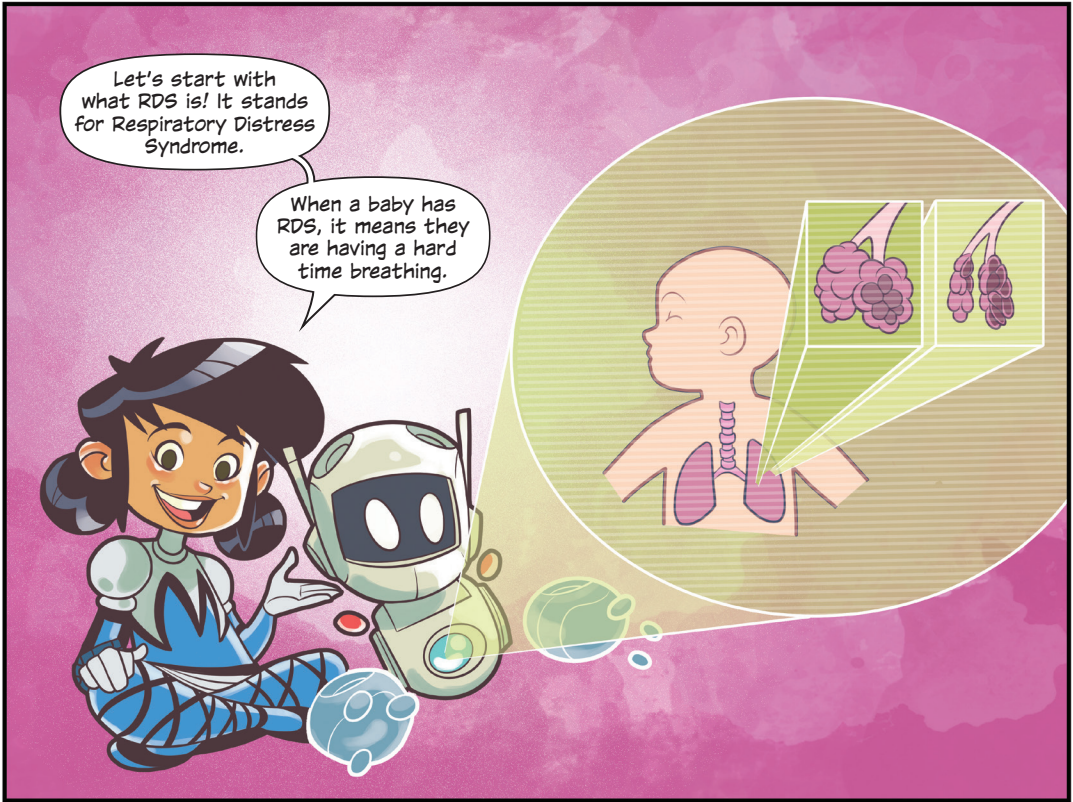


I've become good friends with the doctors and nurses here at the hospital where my sisters are staying.

The doctors and nurses all work really hard to take care of Cora and Jane, so I like to do nice things for them, like bake cookies and make them cards to say thank you!

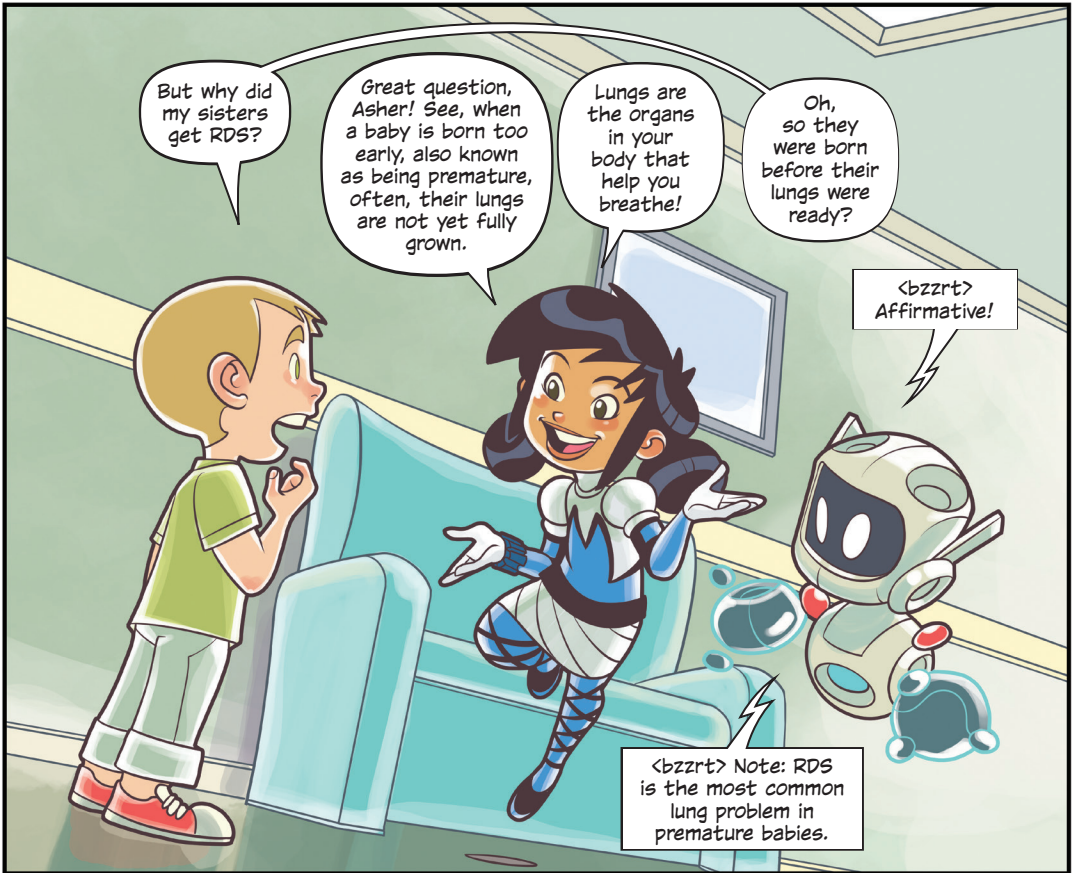
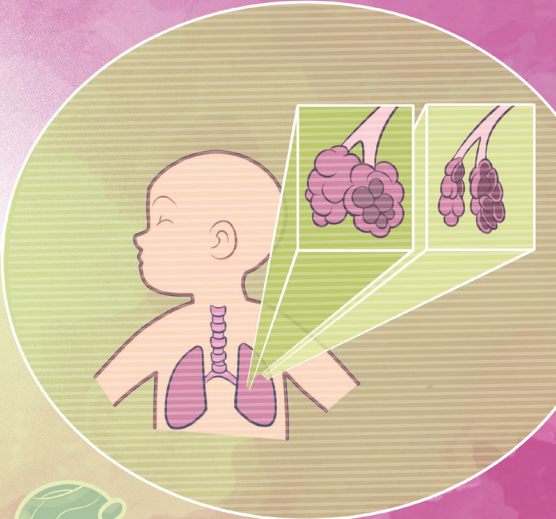
But as nice as everyone at the hospital is, I still want to know...





Let's start with what RDS is! It stands for Respiratory Distress Syndrome.

When a baby has RDS, it means they are having a hard time breathing.



But why did my sisters get RDS?

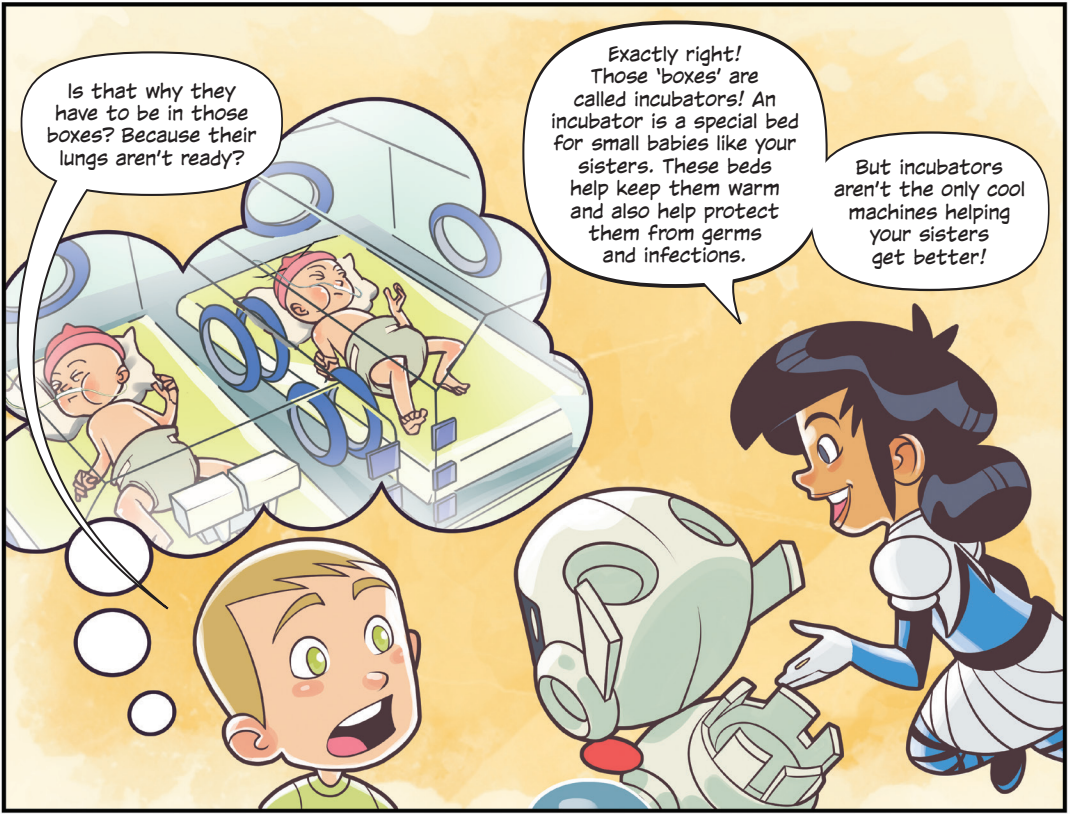
Great question, Asher! See, when a baby is born too early, also known as being premature, often, their lungs are not yet fully grown.

Lungs are the organs in your body that help you breathe!

Oh, so they were born before their lungs were ready?

<bzzrt> Affirmative!

<bzzrt> Note: RDS is the most common lung problem in premature babies.

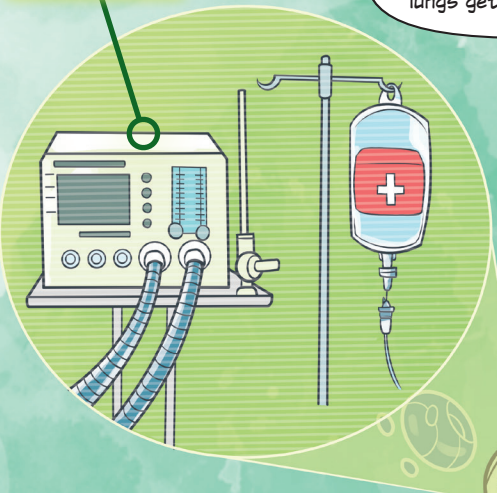


Is that why they have to be in those boxes? Because their lungs aren't ready?

Exactly right! Those 'boxes' are called incubators! An incubator is a special bed for small babies like your sisters. These beds help keep them warm and also help protect them from germs and infections.

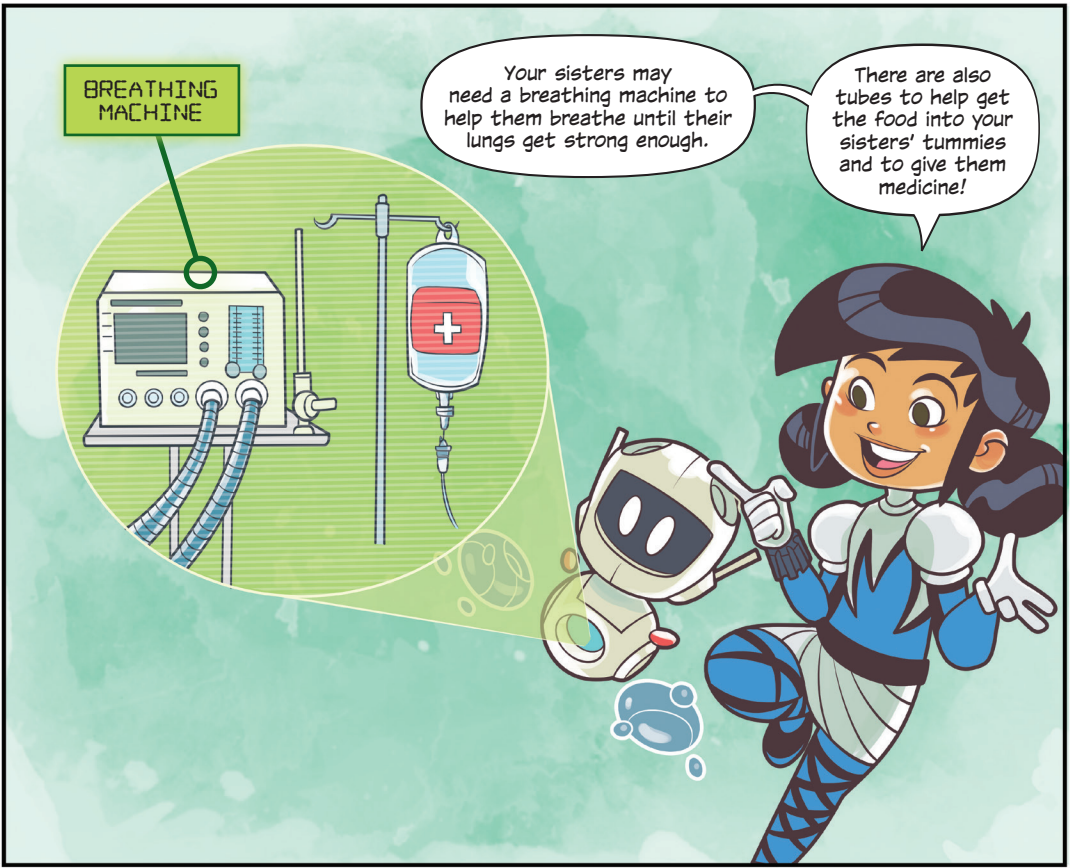
But incubators aren't the only cool machines helping your sisters get better!

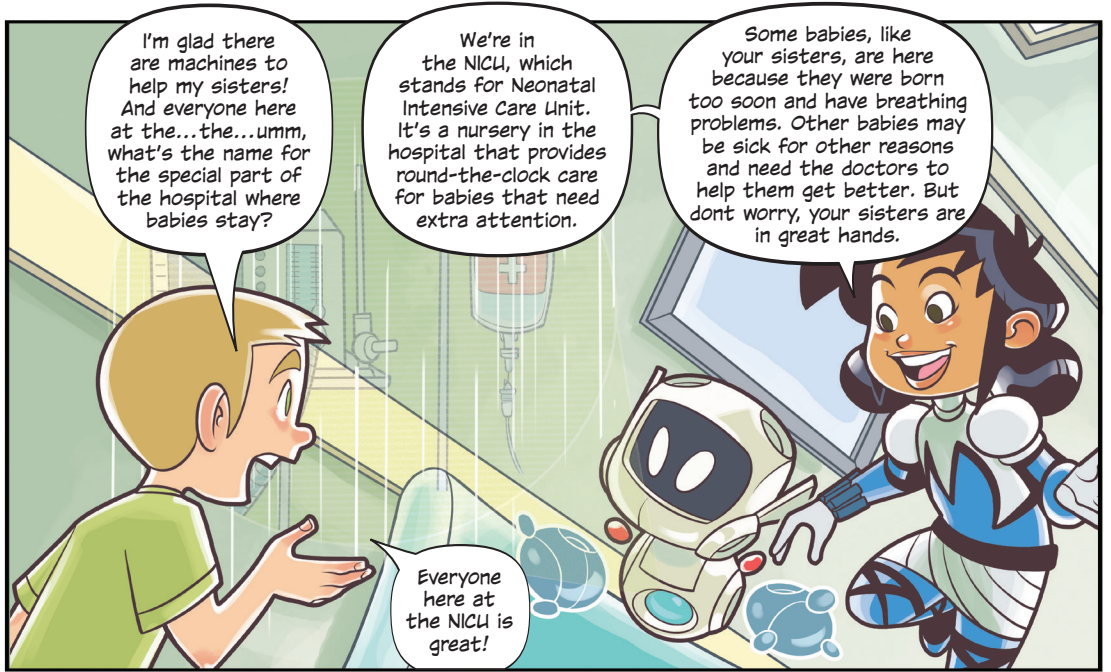
BREATHING MACHINE



Your sisters may need a breathing machine to help them breathe until their lungs get strong enough.

There are also tubes to help get the food into your sisters' tummies and to give them medicine!



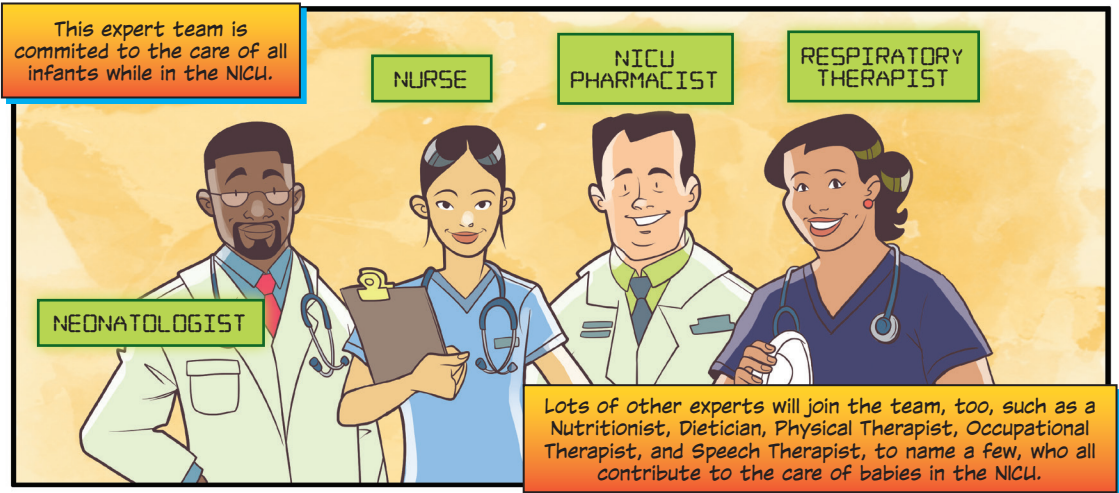


I'm glad there are machines to help my sisters! And everyone here at the...the...umm, what's the name for the special part of the hospital where babies stay?

We're in the NICU, which stands for Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. It's a nursery in the hospital that provides round-the-clock care for babies that need extra attention.

Some babies, like your sisters, are here because they were born too soon and have breathing problems. Other babies may be sick for other reasons and need the doctors to help them get better. But don't worry, your sisters are in great hands.

Everyone here at the NICU is great!



This expert team is committed to the care of all infants while in the NICU.

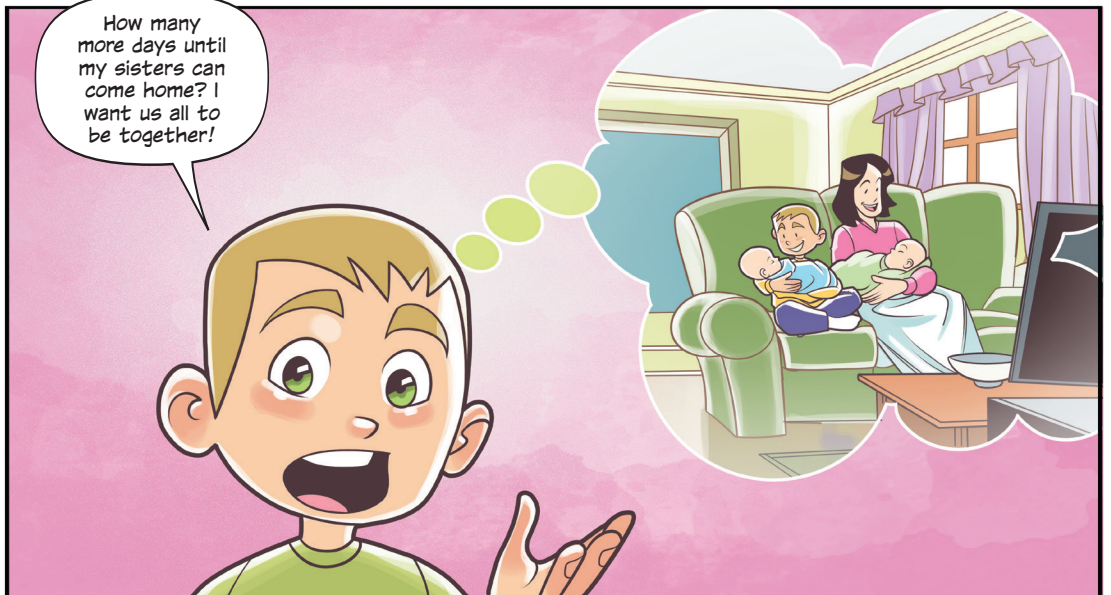
NURSE

NICU PHARMACIST

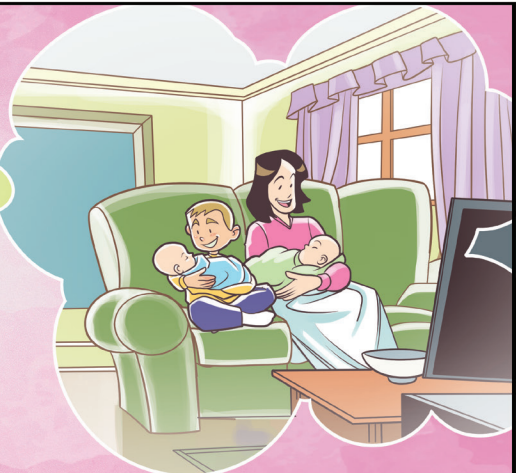
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

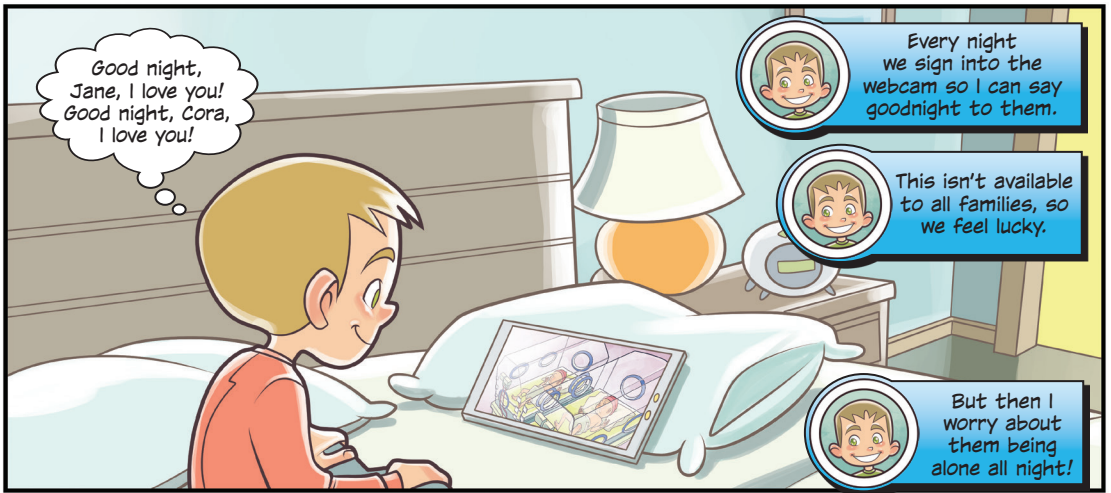
NEONATOLOGIST

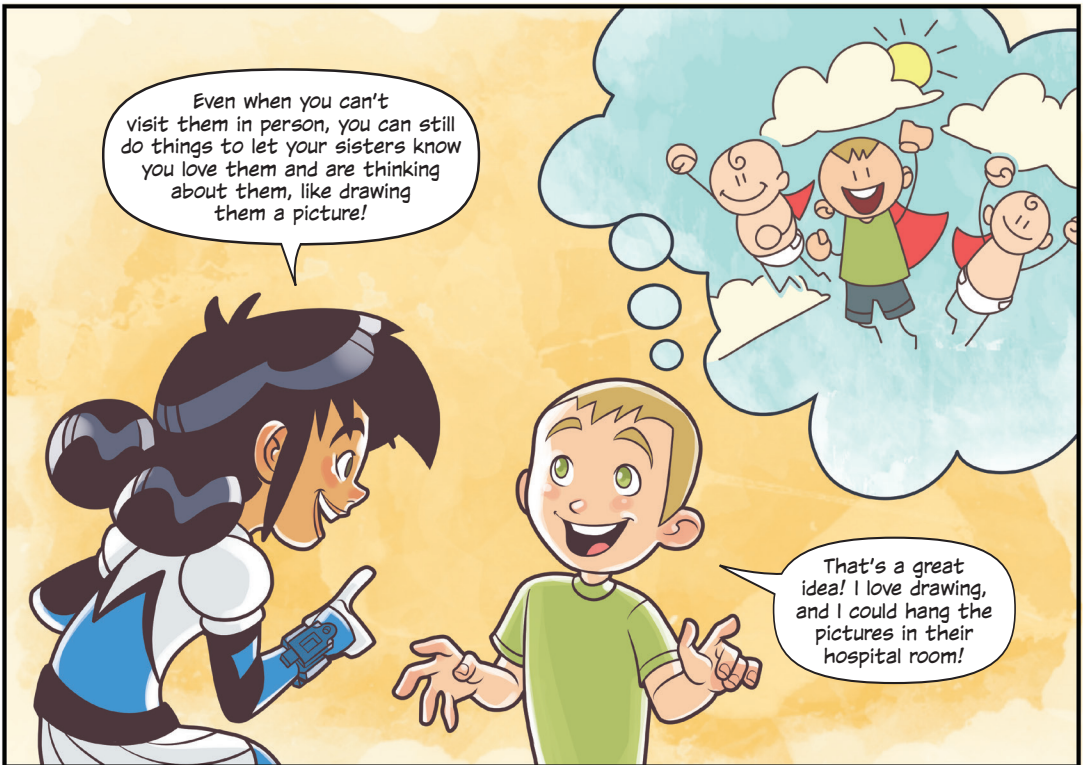
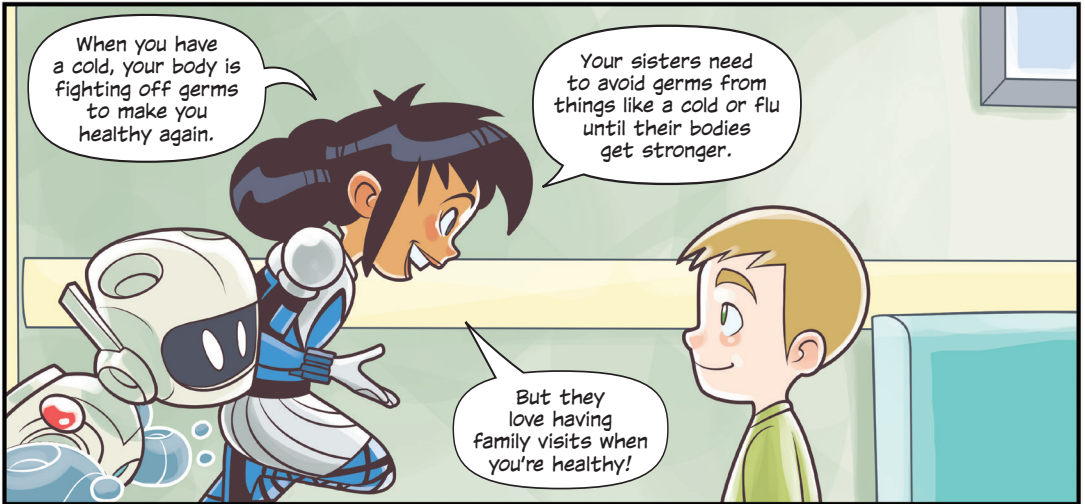
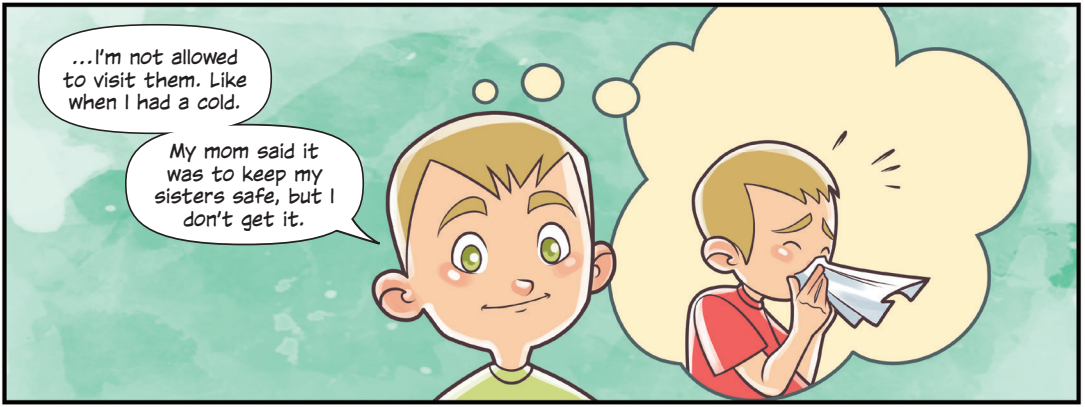
Lots of other experts will join the team, too, such as a Nutritionist, Dietician, Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, and Speech Therapist, to name a few, who all contribute to the care of babies in the NICU.



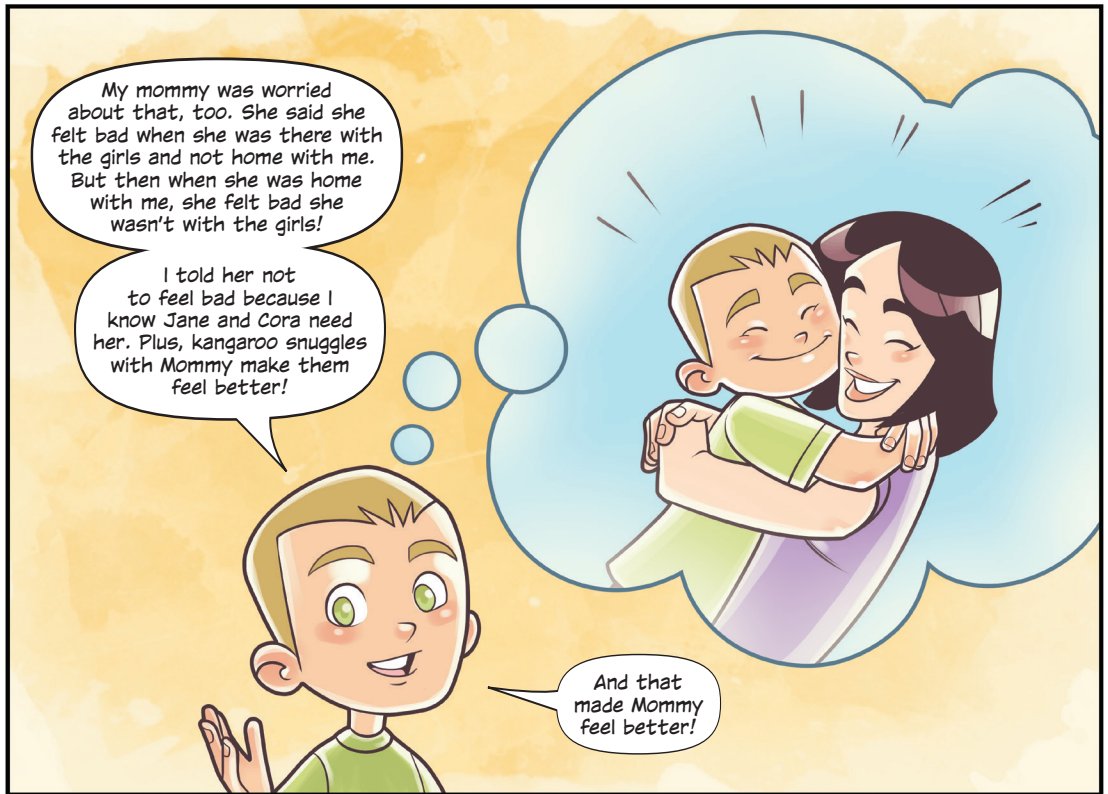
How many more days until my sisters can come home? I want us all to be together!

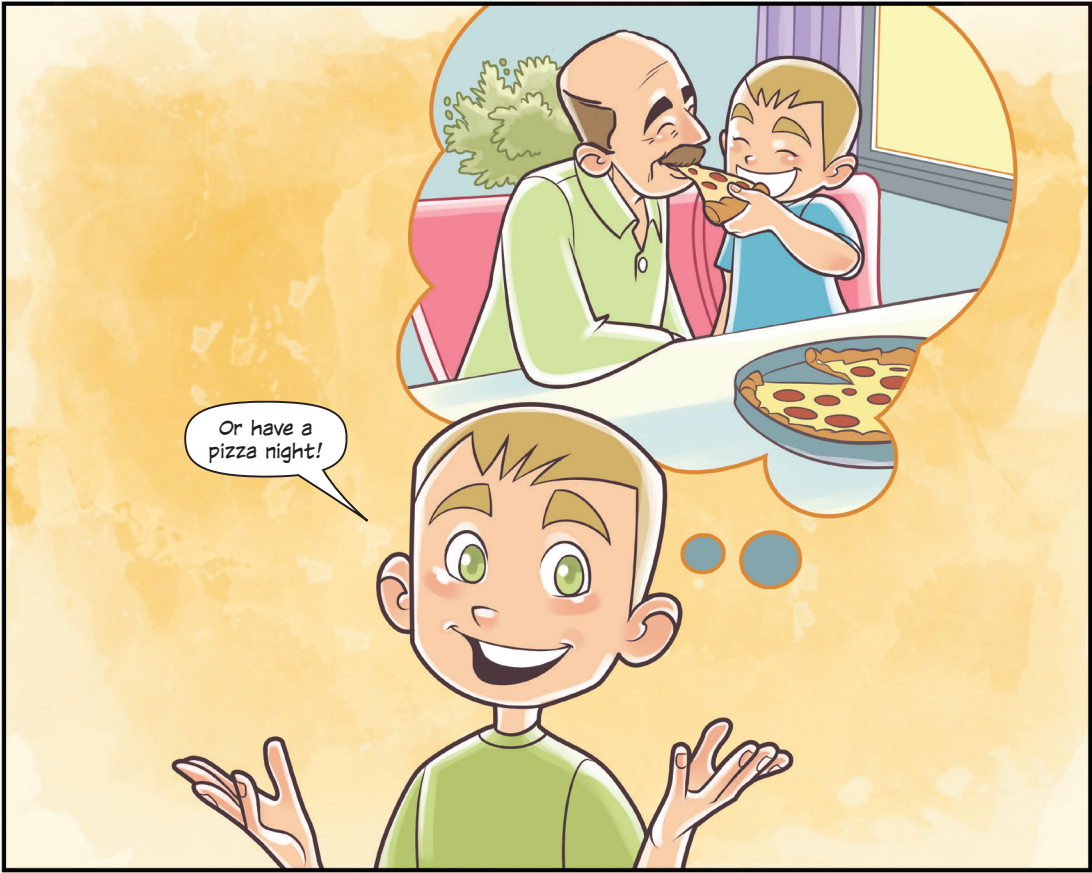


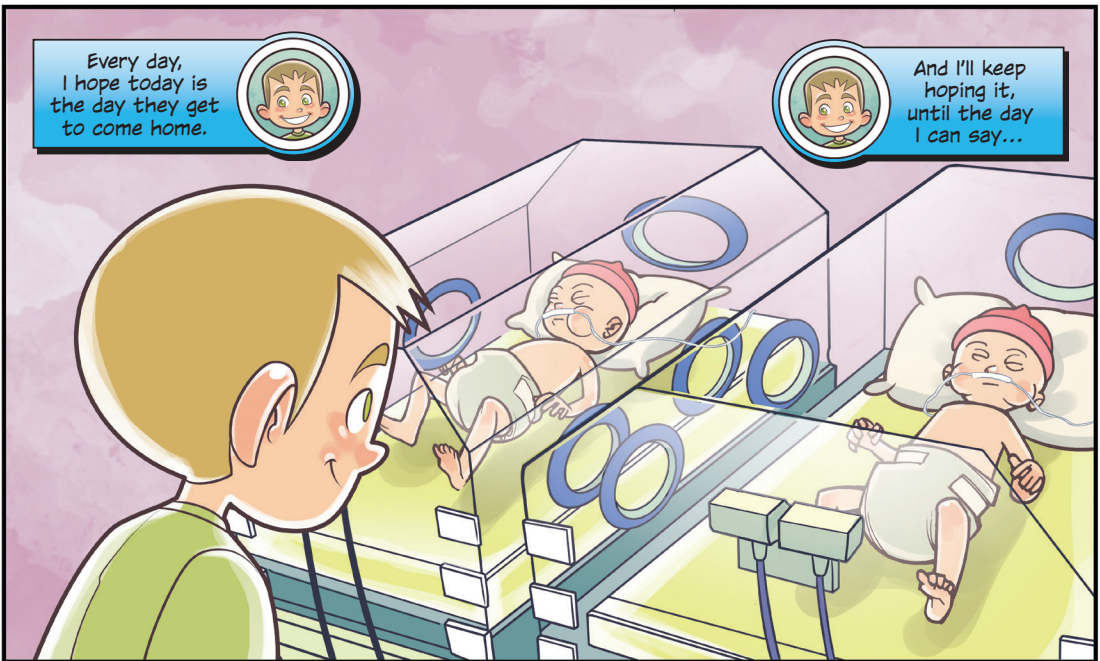








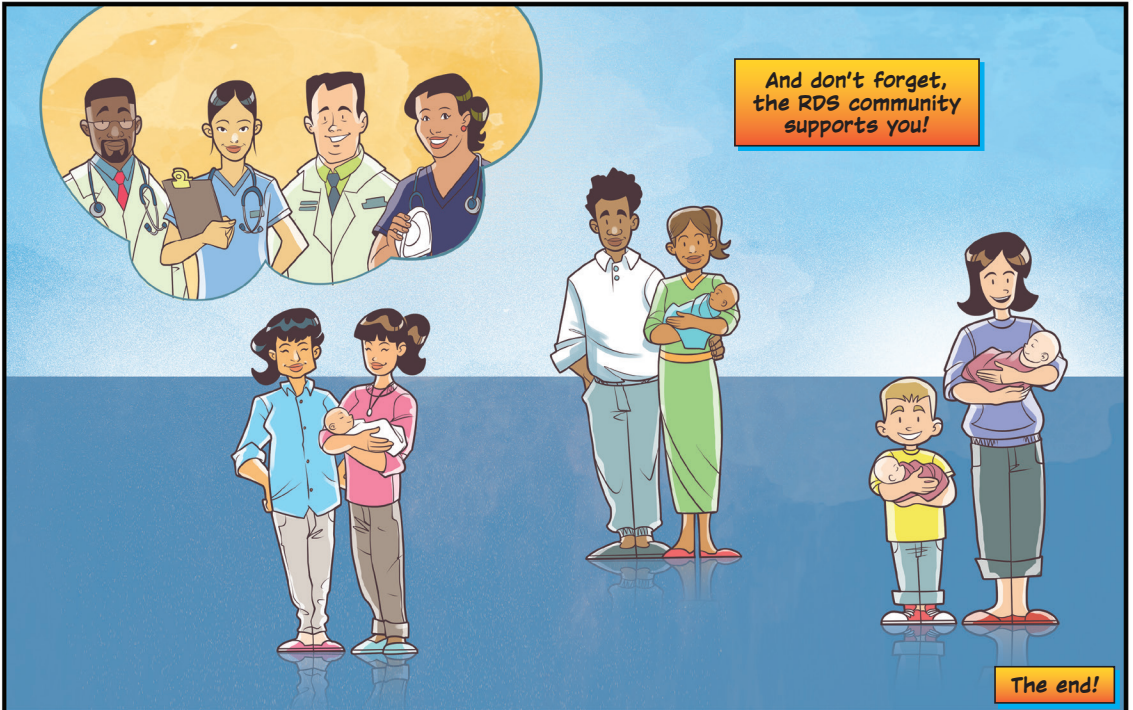






Several weeks later...

... Jane, Cora, WELCOME HOME!



And don't forget, the RDS community supports you!

The end!

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