

In all the wide blue seas; In all the wide blue world,
the top school for fish was Theodore Roosterfish Elementary.
And of all the fish at Theodore Roosterfish, the biggest and
the strongest was Clark the Shark.



Clark loved school, and he loved his teacher, Mrs. Inkydink.
He loved to play upsy-downsy and spinnama-jig with his
friends. Clark loved his life.



"SCHOOL IS AWESOME!" shouted Clark the Shark.

"Less shouting, more reading,"
said Mrs. Inkydink.



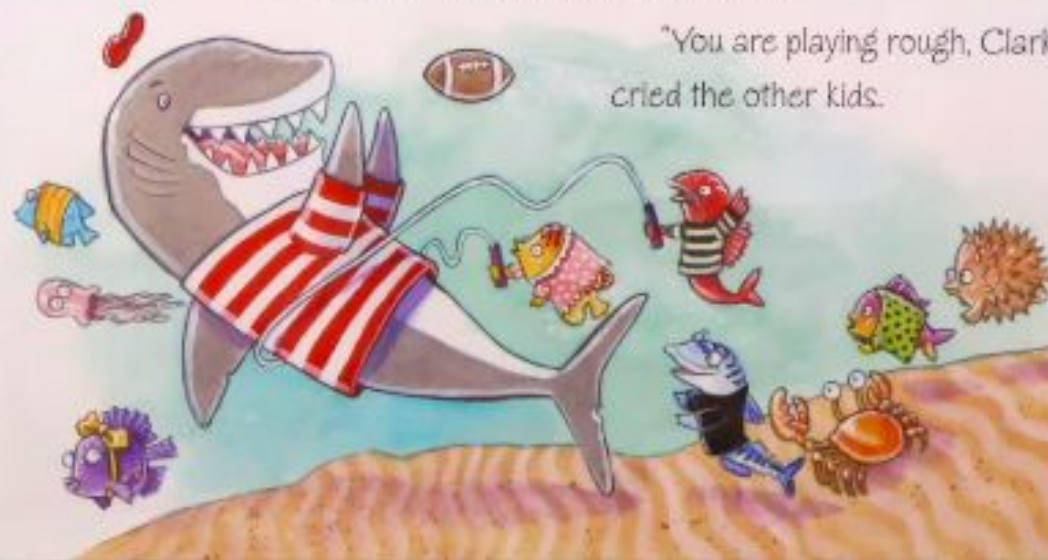
"LUNCHTIME IS SWEEEEEET!"
yelled Clark the Shark.

"Munch your own lunch," said his best
friend, Joey Mackerel.



"RECESS ROCKS!" bellowed Clark the Shark.

"You are playing rough, Clark!"
cried the other kids.



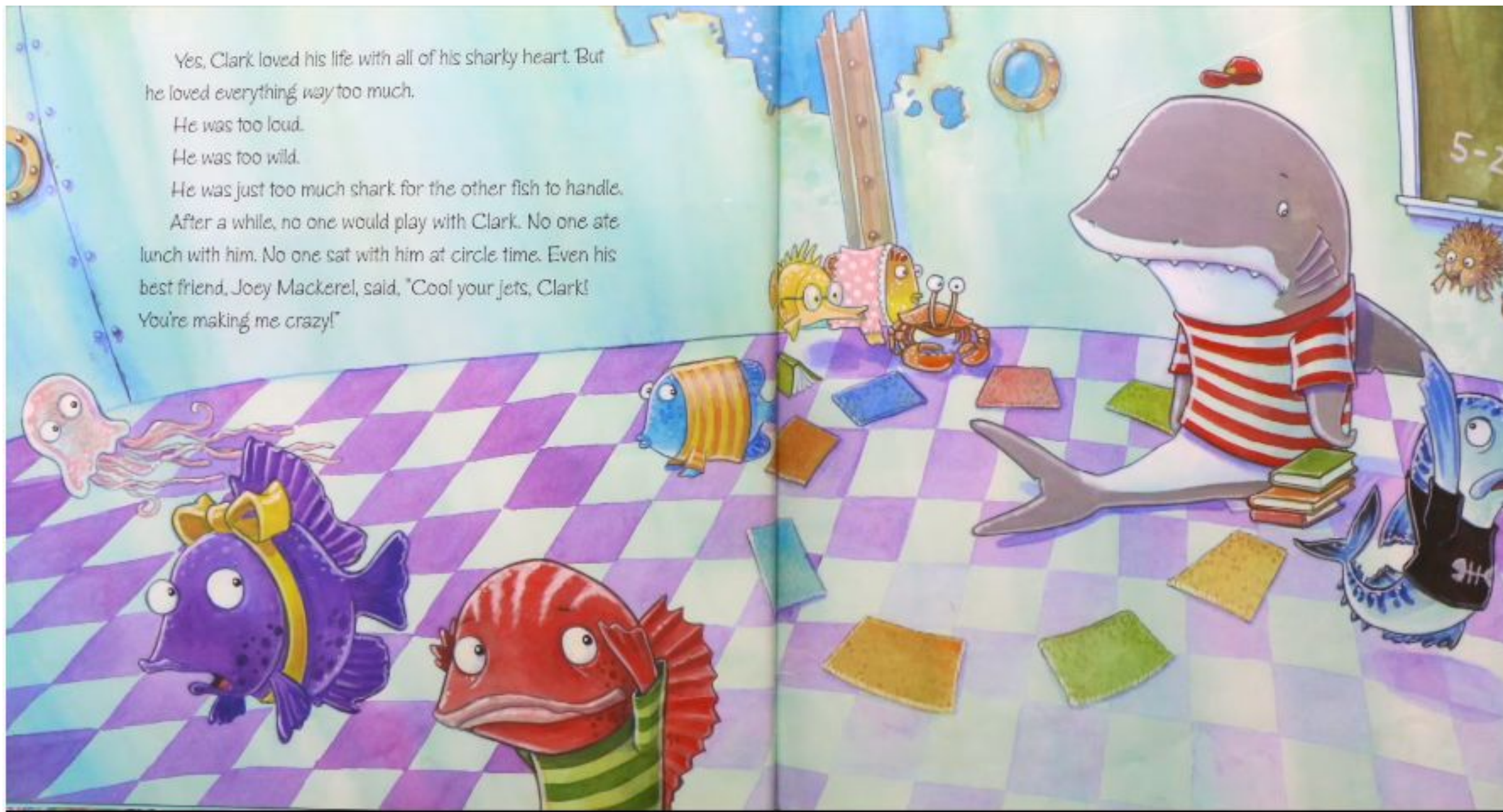
Yes, Clark loved his life with all of his sharky heart. But he loved everything way too much.

He was too loud.

He was too wild.

He was just too much shark for the other fish to handle.

After a while, no one would play with Clark. No one ate lunch with him. No one sat with him at circle time. Even his best friend, Joey Mackerel, said, "Cool your jets, Clark! You're making me crazy!"



One day, Clark asked Mrs. Inkydink, "What's wrong with everyone?" Mrs. Inkydink patted his fin. "Clark, sometimes you play too hard, you munch too hard, and—gosh—you even help too hard." "But life is SO exciting!" said Clark.

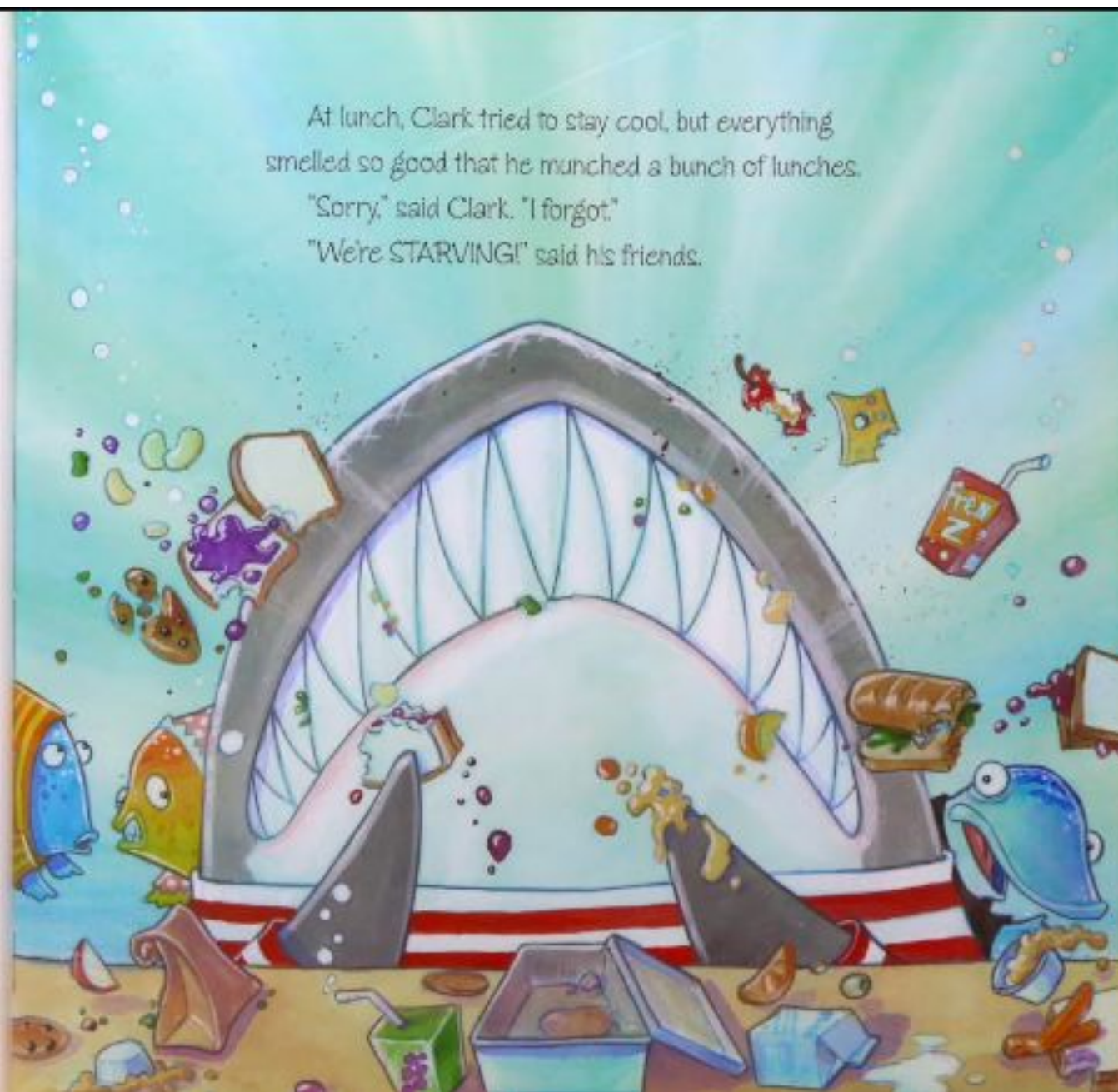


"There's a time and a place for everything," said Mrs. Inkydink. "And sometimes the rule is stay cool!"





At recess, Clark tried to stay cool, but he pushed the swing with too much zing! "Sorry," said Clark. "I forgot."
"Yikes!" cried Joey Mackerel.



At lunch, Clark tried to stay cool, but everything smelled so good that he munchied a bunch of lunches.
"Sorry," said Clark. "I forgot."
"We're STARVING!" said his friends.

In class, Clark tried to stay cool, but a good book got him all shook up.

"Now, Clark!" said Mrs. Inkydink, "This isn't the time or the place. Tell me, what's the rule?"

"Stay cool," said Clark.

"Hey, that rhymes!" he cried.



Then Clark got a big idea in his sharky head. *Maybe if I make a rhyme, I'll remember every time!* he thought. The next day, he put his plan to work.



In class, when lessons got exciting, Clark wanted to bounce up out of his seat.

Instead, he told himself: "When teacher's talking, don't go walking."

And what do you know? It worked!

"Attaboy, Clark!" said Mrs. Inkydink.

Clark smiled. "Lessons are fun!"



TODAY'S
MENU



At lunch, everything smelled soooo yummy. When Clark wanted to eat and eat and never stop, he told himself: "Only munch your own lunch."

And it worked again!

"Way to go, Clark!" said his friends.

Clark grinned. "Lunch is fun."

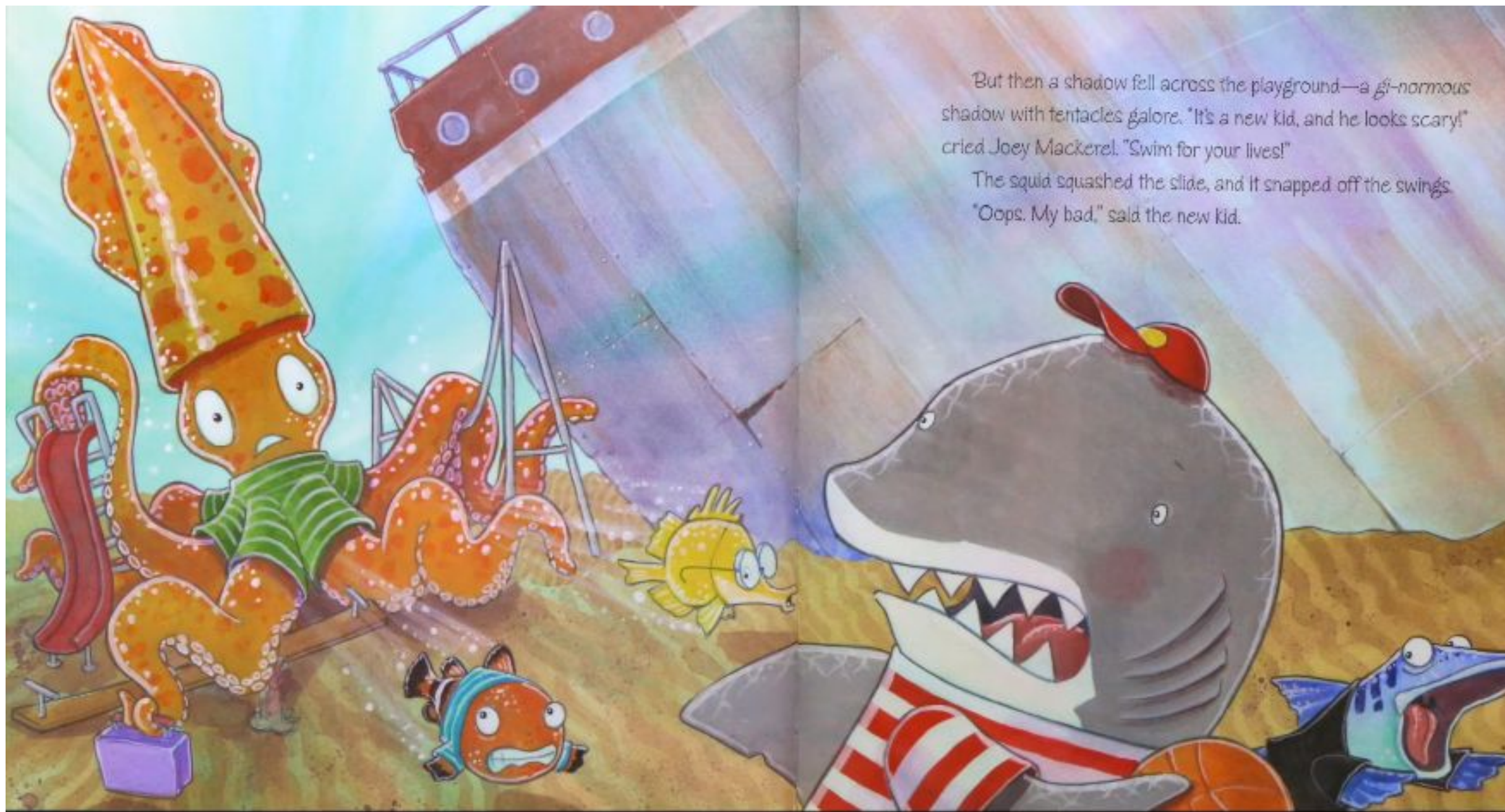




At playtime, Clark told himself: "Easy does
it, that's the way."

"Then my friends will let me play."

And playtime was fun. Once more, Clark
loved his life.



But then a shadow fell across the playground—a *gi-normous* shadow with tentacles *galore*. "It's a new kid, and he looks scary!" cried Joey Mackerel. "Swim for your lives!"

The squid squashed the slide, and it snapped off the swings. "Oops. My bad," said the new kid.



"Wait," said Clark. "He just wants to play. Let's find a way!"

he swam at the new kid with all his
Clark played harder than he
before—upsy-downsy
na-ma-jig.



Why, he even made up a new game: tail-whump-a-lumpust!



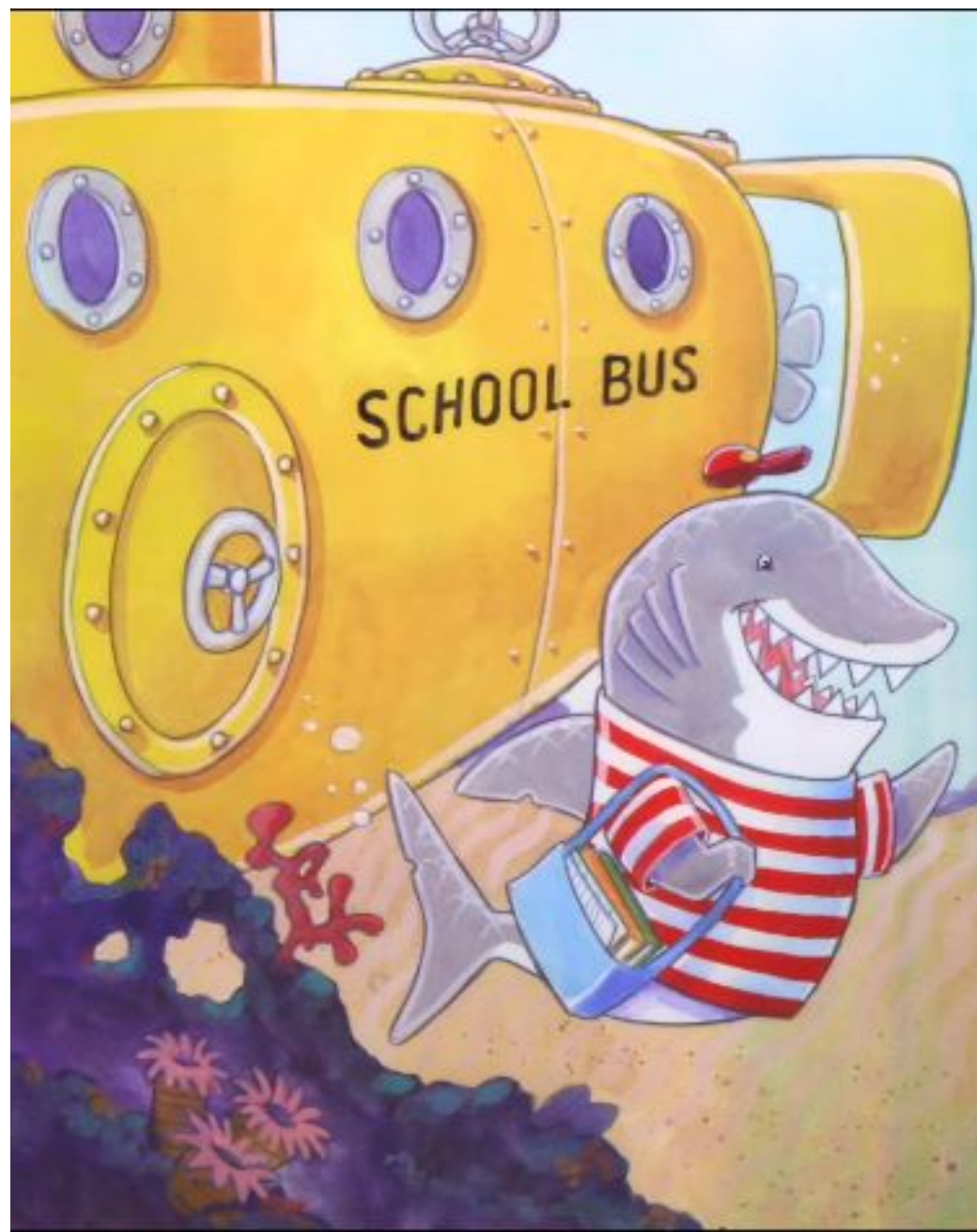
"Wow, that was fun," said the new kid breathlessly, and he settled down.
"If you want to come to school, you've got to stay cool," said Clark.



"That's right, Clark," said Mrs. Inkydink. "And thanks for taking care of our new classmate, Sid the Squid."

"Hooray for Clark the Shark!" everyone cheered.





That night Clark's mother asked, "What did you learn at school, dear?"
"There's a time and a place for everything," Clark said. "Sometimes you stay cool."





"But sometimes a shark's gotta do what a shark's gotta do."