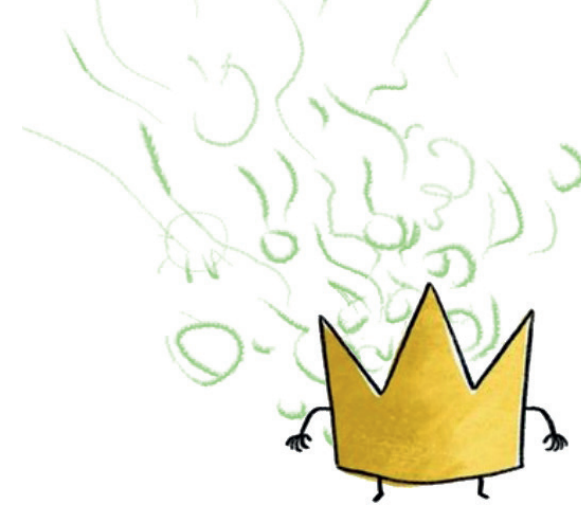




"This project will help to unlock imagination and creativity in young minds and at the same time engage future generations in the importance of working collectively across boundaries to create a more sustainable and socially just world."

**Professor Malcolm Press, Vice-Chancellor,
Manchester Metropolitan University**



THE INVISIBLE KING

Written by Chrissi Nerantzi

Art Edited by Louise Batchelor, **Designed** by Benjamin Greenhalgh

Illustration Contributions by the following
The Manchester School of Art, Foundation Art & Design students:
Evie Hurst, Lucas McCoy, Lucy Waterworth, Ellie Kilshaw, Lisa Silva,
Will Fairbrother-Clarke, Marianne Storer, Georgina Moore, Ted Bain Smith,
Luisa Ventisei & Phaedra Maria Chatzidamianou

THE INVISIBLE KING

The Invisible King is a story written in March 2020 when the United Kingdom and almost the whole world, went into lockdown due to COVID-19 and the pandemic it caused.

The story became a collaborative picture book project with academics and students from Manchester Metropolitan University who embraced this idea. Together, we wanted to create an open-ended picture book for children around the world that invites young readers and their families and carers to engage with the story creatively and critically during these challenging times, to problem solve and bring hope.

How will this story end? The readers will decide. Print/Download the book and use your imagination to draw on the pages with pencils, markers, an app or cut things out and stick them on to take the story into new directions.

Use your imagination. Share your creations with your friends and with us if you like via Twitter using the hashtag [#invisibleking](#).

Everybody in the team has contributed on a voluntary basis to create this book and has worked with great commitment and creative energy.

We would like to thank Tessa Strickland and Prof. Malcolm Press for their thoughtful advice during the making process.

We are making this picture book freely available under a creative commons license so that it can be read by children around the world.

We would be grateful if you are in a position to do so, make a donation to the Greater Manchester Mayor's Charity at <https://www.justgiving.com/mayorofgreatermanchesterscharity> to support the most vulnerable during this pandemic. Thank you for considering this.

Happy reading and stay safe!
The [#invisibleking](#) picture book team.

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MAIN BIOS

Writer:

Chrissi Nerantzi

Chrissi is an academic developer in the University Teaching Academy at Manchester Metropolitan University and a student on the MA in Creative Writing Innovation and Experimentation at the University of Salford.

She is the author of *The Invisible King* and loves experimenting with creative and playful learning and teaching approaches, writes picture book stories and is a passionate crafter. (@chrissinerantzi)

Art Editor:

Louise Batchelor

A Senior Lecturer on the Foundation Art & Design programme at MMU. I trained and worked as an Illustrator/Art Director before becoming an educator. I am the Art Editor for 'The Invisible King' project, working closely with the students and overseeing the artworks.

I am a passionate tutor who believes in building confidence through encouragement and example. I am a bird watcher and share a wildlife garden with all creatures great and small.

Designer:

Benjamin Greenhalgh

A Lecturer on the Foundation Art & Design programme at MMU, I have recently achieved Fellow of The Higher Education Academy status and am currently completing my PGCLTHE this Summer.

I have over 12 years industry experience as a Graphic Designer with expertise in design for print, branding and web. Designer on 'The Invisible King' project, I have worked closely with academic staff and students to bring the illustrations, type and book layout together!

ILLUSTRATORS:

Evie Hurst

Illustrator from Lancashire. I recently completed the MMU Foundation Art & Design course, and am now going on to Kingston School of Art to study Illustration Animation. I take inspiration from my childhood and the little things that make me happy.

You can find me on Instagram @sketchesbyevie.

Lucas McCoy

Illustrator studying at Manchester Metropolitan University. I share my work on Instagram under the name @lucasmccoyart.

Lucy Waterworth

I am an illustration student based in Manchester. I recently completed a Foundation Art & Design course at Manchester Metropolitan University. I tend to lean towards watercolour and pen in my work, however I am always experimenting with new materials in different projects.

I would best describe my work as bright and intricate however I am experimenting with different styles and techniques as my work progresses. I get inspiration from nature, my day to day life and architecture. I love illustrating for children story books and I enjoy writing some of my own as I am inspired by the children novelists and illustrators I grew up with like Beatrix Potter and Dr. Seuss.

Ellie Kilshaw

I'm a Manchester-based Illustrator who enjoys using soft colours in both realistic and more stylised work. I have completed a Foundation Art & Design course at Manchester Metropolitan University and am going on to study Illustration with Animation there.

You can find me on Instagram @ells.y.

Lisa Silva

Portuguese Graphic Design student based in Manchester (UK). Before completing the Foundation course in Art and Design at the Manchester School of Art (MMU), I studied and worked as a Psychologist, which is why you might find mind poking artwork in my Instagram @lisa_cs8.

I find myself inspired by minimalist, geometrical and bold art formats which often lead me to use digital tools.

Nevertheless, I love experimenting through hand drawing and illustration too, which this project was all about.

Will Fairbrother-Clarke

Digital Illustrator based in Manchester UK. Recently completed Foundation Art & Design course at Manchester Metropolitan University and take inspiration from minimalistic digital art and soft flat colours. I would best describe my art style as clean and simplistic.

Charity commissions and inclusivity are something I strive for in my art where I can on my art Instagram account @willclarke.art

Marianne Storer

I am a Mancunian illustration student. My work takes inspiration from the folk art in the children's books I read as a child, as well as being heavily influenced by my mixed Jamaican and Scottish heritage. This is reflected in my love of bold colours and childlike illustration style.

My work can be found on my Instagram @mas_art_stuff.



Georgina Moore

I'm a Bristol-based Illustrator, having recently finished studying Foundation Art and Design in Manchester. I'm mainly influenced by social and environmental causes, but I also really enjoy capturing day-to-day moments, such as figures and architecture.

You can find my work on Instagram @gimorart.

Ted Bain-Smith

I'm a Kent based Artist studying in Manchester. I focus on mainly narrative illustrations and outsider art. My artwork tends to have loose boundaries however I can adapt my style to fit a more controlled project. My artwork can be seen on my Instagram page where I post all types of shananagans @tedbainsmithart.

Luisa Ventisei

I am a Manchester based Illustrator who had recently completed Art Foundation at Manchester School of Art. I will be continuing my studies at MMU doing Illustration with Animation. I like to work in multiple mediums and experiment with style. You can find my work on the Instagram page @luisa.ventisei.art

Phaedra Maria Chatzidamianou

Phaedra Maria is a 5 and a half year old Reception pupil at the Broughton-in-Amounderness CE Primary School at Preston, Lancashire, who loves swimming, dancing and athletics.

During lockdown, and in between homeschooling and 'e-meetings' with nana (x2), papa (x2) and cousins (x4) Phaedra Maria enjoys dressing up and playing with her younger sister.

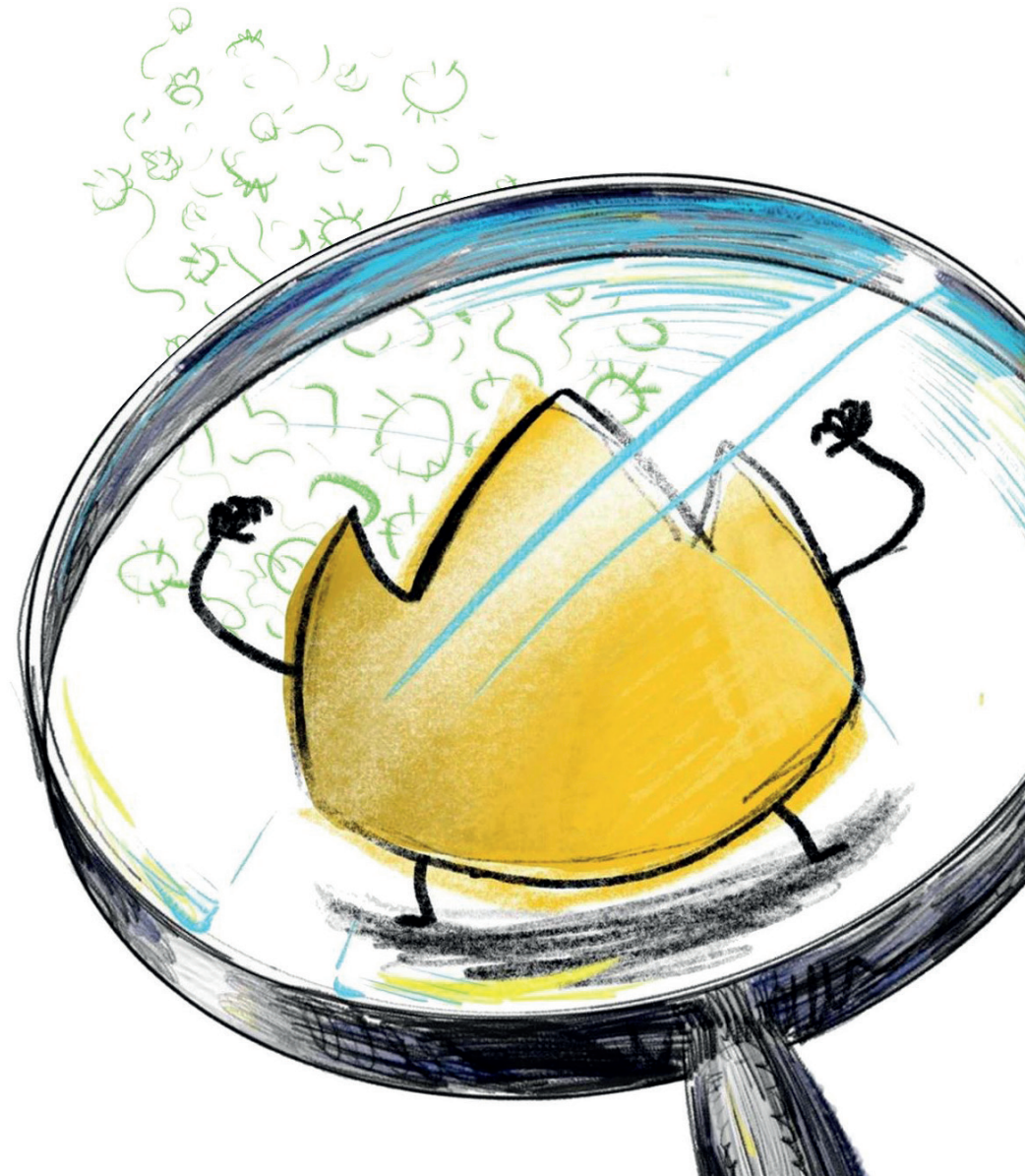
ONCE UPON A TIME...

...in the vast kingdom of Earth
there was a tiny king.

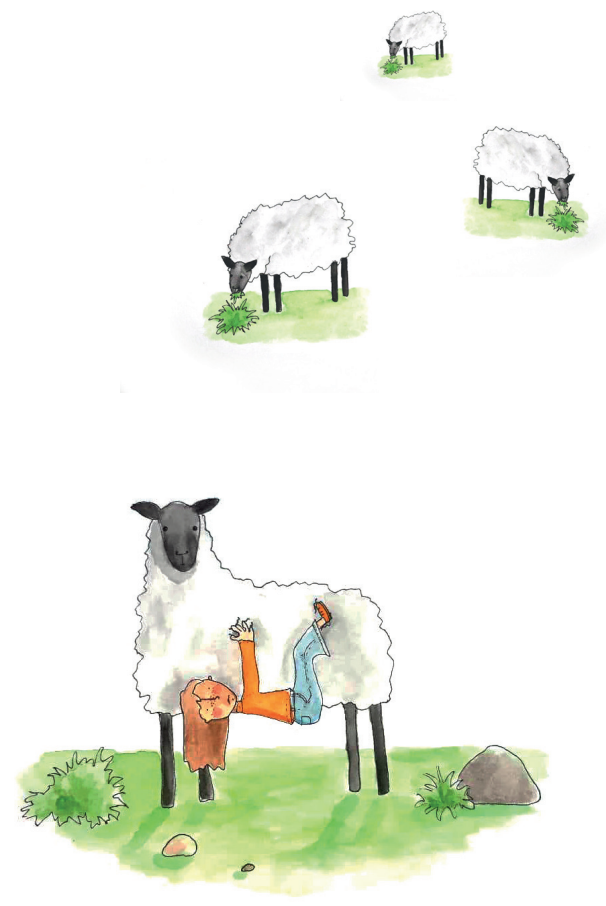
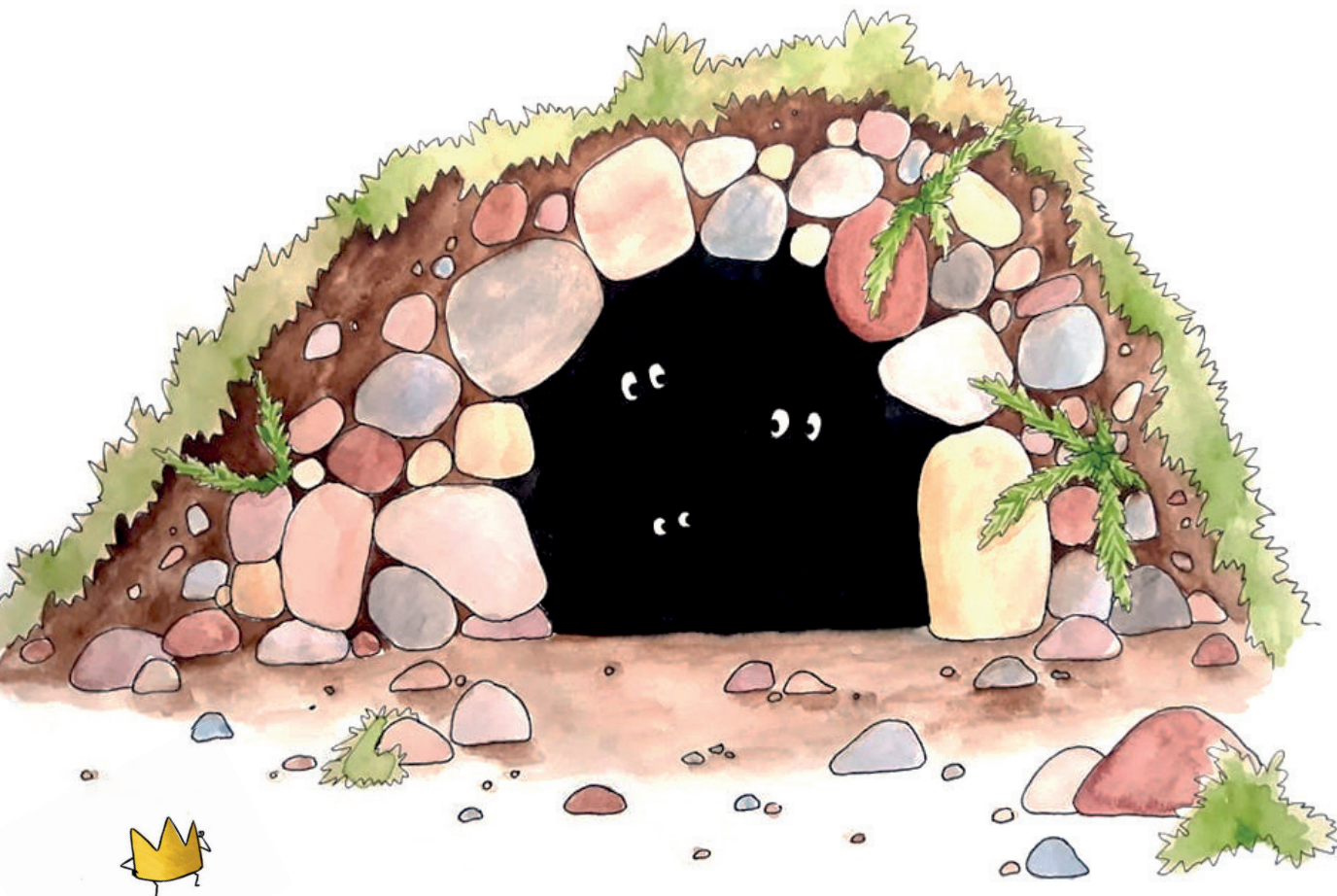
Almost nobody could see him.

But everybody felt the damage he made.

The people ran away from him.









Far, far away.



This could not go on for ever.

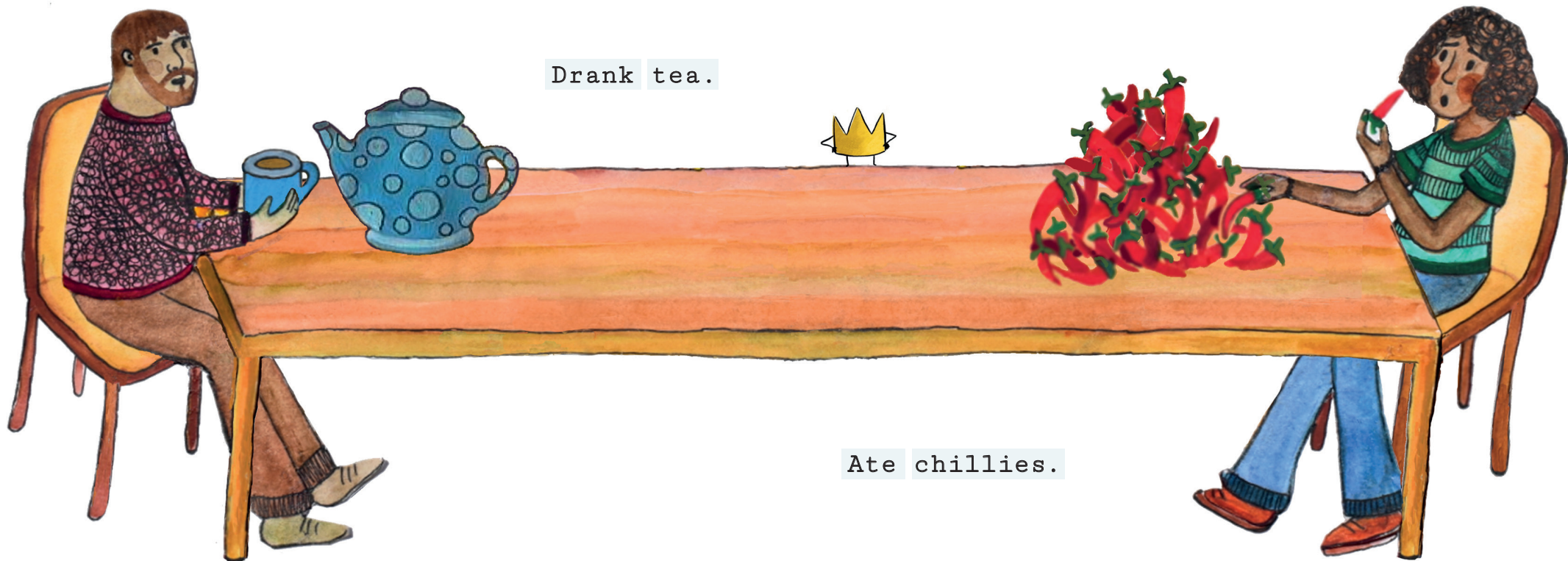
People tried all kinds of things to stop the king.





Wore masks.





Drank tea.

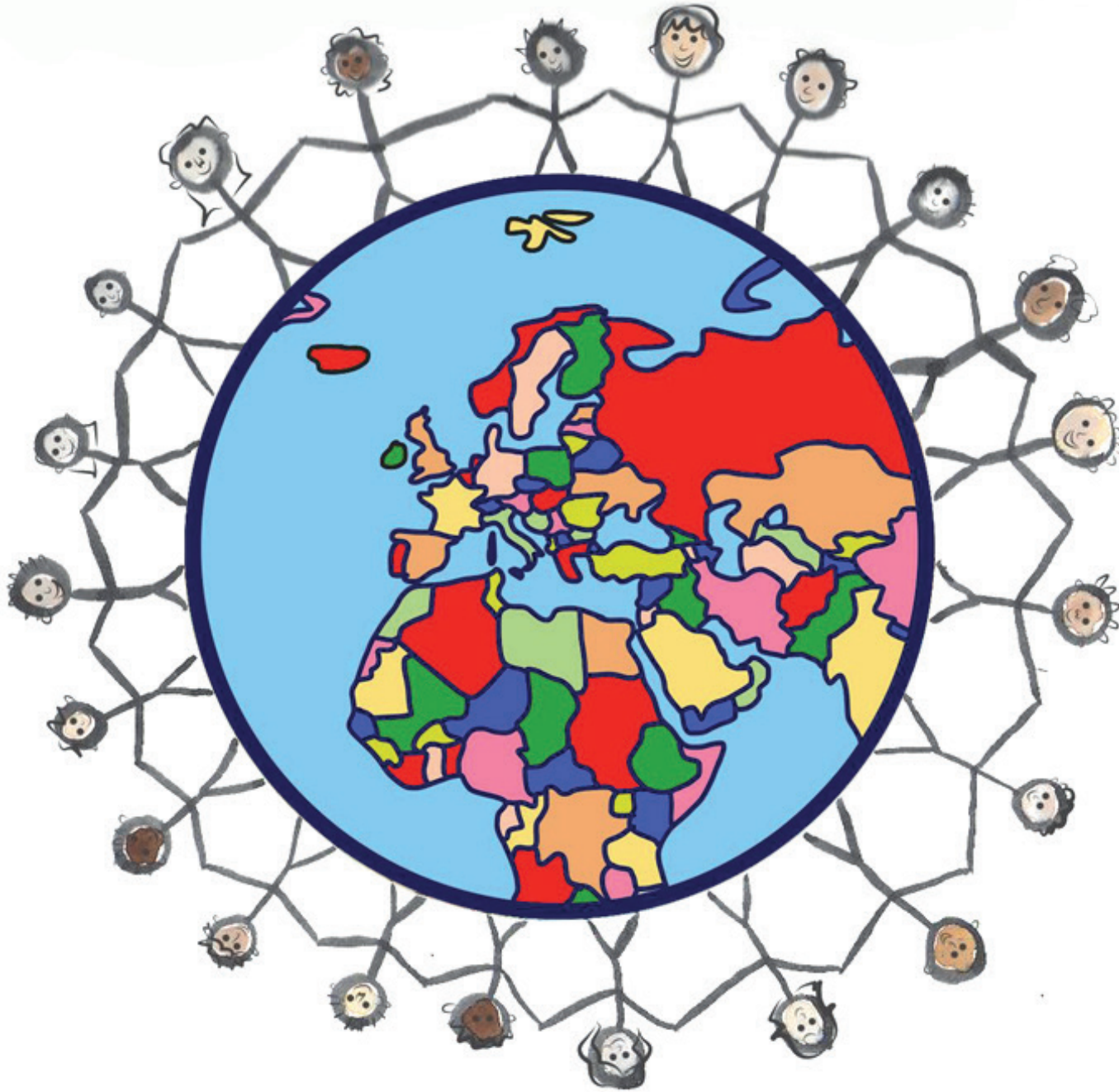
Ate chillies.



Played music.

Whatever they did,
the king became more powerful.





The people decided to
work together to overturn him.



What did they do?

**AND THEY
LIVED HAPPILY
EVER AFTER.**

How will the story end?

You, the readers decide! Add your ending after the page where you see...



What did they do?

Print/Download the book and use your imagination to draw on all the pages with pencils, crayons, markers or anything else you have. Have you ever drawn with ketchup?

Or use an app, cut things out - pictures from magazines, newspapers or catalogues and stick them on the pages to take the story into new directions. You could also use dried flowers and leaves...

What will you add?

Share your complete story with your friends! Ask an adult to share it with us on Twitter or Instagram using the hashtag

[#invisibleking](#).

We can't wait to see your

[#invisibleking](#) story.

