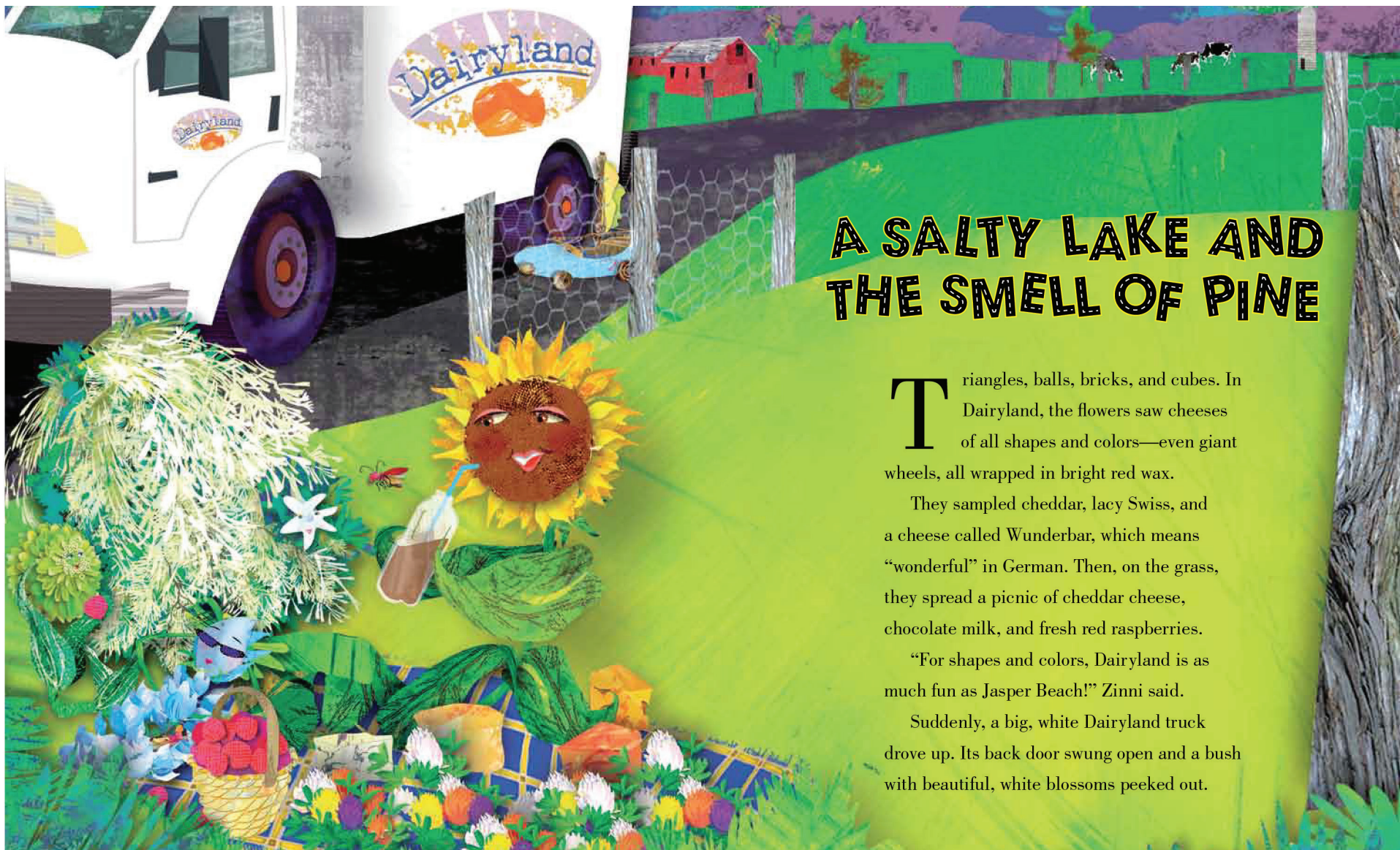


## Between Earth and Sky



# A SALTY LAKE AND THE SMELL OF PINE

**T**riangles, balls, bricks, and cubes. In Dairyland, the flowers saw cheeses of all shapes and colors—even giant wheels, all wrapped in bright red wax.

They sampled cheddar, lacy Swiss, and a cheese called Wunderbar, which means “wonderful” in German. Then, on the grass, they spread a picnic of cheddar cheese, chocolate milk, and fresh red raspberries.

“For shapes and colors, Dairyland is as much fun as Jasper Beach!” Zinni said.

Suddenly, a big, white Dairyland truck drove up. Its back door swung open and a bush with beautiful, white blossoms peeked out.



“Hi, I’m Jaz,” the bush said. “I’m a night-blooming jasmine. From Florida.”

“Hi,” said Zinni. “We’re having a picnic before we drive west to California.”

“California! That’s where I’m going,” Jaz said. “I’ll look for you on the road.”

The flowers liked meeting new plants and learning from them. They promised to look for Jaz and the Dairyland truck, too.

By now, after so much cheese and milk, Lupe was sleepy. Zinni hadn’t eaten much cheese, so she hopped into the driver’s seat while Lupe settled in for a long nap. When Lupe awoke, a salty smell was in the air.

“Hmm, what is that?” she asked as she stretched and yawned. “We can’t be at the Pacific Ocean already!”







## A GREAT LAKE FOR BIRDS!

Lots of birds rest at the Great Salt Lake in the fall, as they travel south to spend the winter in warm weather. They stop at the lake again in the spring, when they return north as the weather starts to get warmer.

What birds fly past where you live in spring and fall?  
What resting places for birds are near you?

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“No, it’s the Great Salt Lake,” said Zinni.

“It’s saltier than the ocean!”

“So we’re in Utah?” Lupe asked. “I was hoping we’d be in California by now!”

“I really wanted to see the Great Salt Lake,” said Sunny. “Lots of sunflowers live by it. I had so much fun floating in it when I was little.”

“I’m glad we’re here,” said Lupe. “Lots of birds like to rest by this big lake. I wonder how many we’ll see.”

“I hear that many ducks and geese live near the waters of the Great Salt Lake,” Sunny added.

“Let’s see how many we can spot.”

“That’s a good idea,” said Clover. “Lots of seagulls, pelicans, and bald eagles are also found here. Let’s keep an eye out for those birds, too.”





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## ART IN NATURE!

Artist Robert Smithson's Spiral Jetty was built in the Great Salt Lake in 1970. The spiral is sometimes completely covered by the lake.

If you could make art outdoors, what would it look like? How would it help Planet Earth?

Draw it!

"That sounds like fun," Sunny said. "And while we're here, let's at least enjoy a nice float in the Great Salt Lake!"

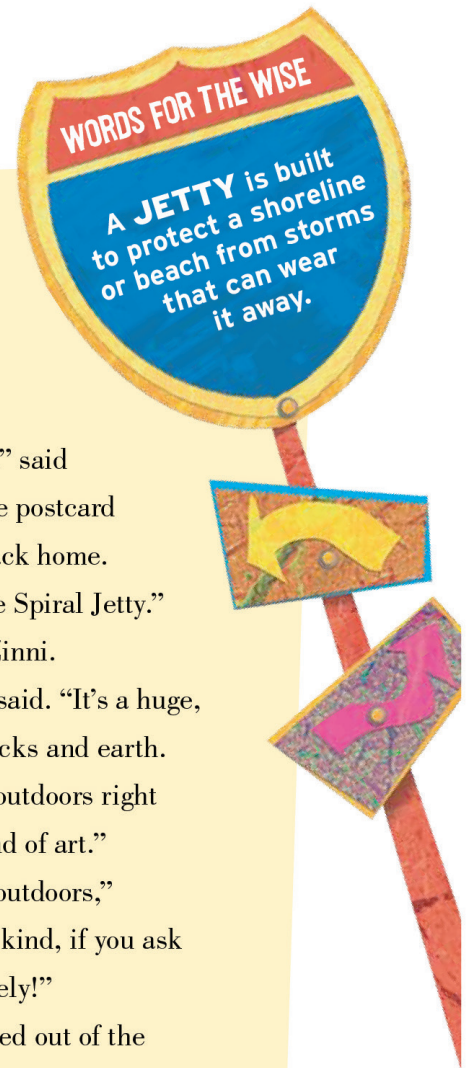
"And get our picture taken," said Lupe. "That would make a nice postcard to send to our flower friends back home. Maybe we can even float by the Spiral Jetty."

"The spiral what?" asked Zinni.

"The Spiral Jetty," Lupe said. "It's a huge, awesome coil made of black rocks and earth. It's Earth art. That's art made outdoors right in the land. It's my favorite kind of art."

"Some Earth art helps the outdoors," added Clover. "That's the best kind, if you ask me. That's using resources wisely!"

With that, the flowers hopped out of the petal-power car and jumped into the lake.





The salt water made floating so easy. The flowers didn't have any trouble keeping their heads and their roots safely above the water. They just leaned back and enjoyed the view.

After a nice long float, the flowers were ready to hit the road again. They wanted to reach the pinewoods of northern Arizona before dark.

## The Great Salt Float!

The flower friends can float easily in the Great Salt Lake. So can people. That's because salt water is heavier than plain water. The lake's water has enough salt in it to support a person's weight. To lie back and float on the lake is a fun thing to do!

## SALT, WATER, AND YOU!

Put some warm water into a bowl and see what will float in it and what won't. Try some things that won't be hurt by the water—maybe a pebble, a pencil, and a small, bouncy ball. What floats? What sinks?

Add a tablespoon of salt to the water and mix it in well. Now see what floats and what sinks. Did you see anything new?

Add another tablespoon of salt, and mix it well. See if anything new happens. Keep adding salt until something that sank before floats. How much salt did you have to add before more things would float?





As they drove south, the flower friends smelled sweet pine sap in the air. “These aren’t just any pine trees,” Lupe explained as beautiful woodlands came into view. “These are piñon pines. Their seeds are pine nuts, an important food for birds and people for thousands of years.”



## **MAKING GOOD USE OF EVERY LITTLE THING!**

Clover makes good use of everything she has. Her leaves give the Daisy Flower Garden a nice green carpet. Her sweet nectar helps honeybees make delicious clover honey. That’s using resources wisely, just like the Girl Scout Law says!