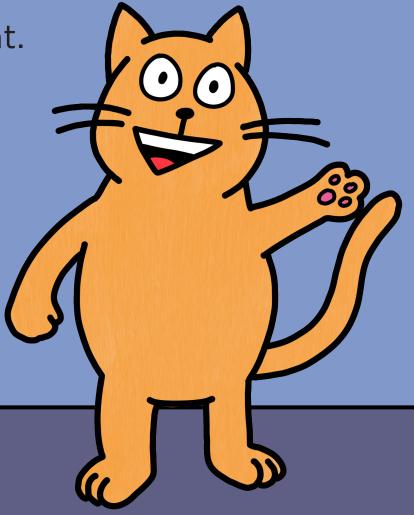


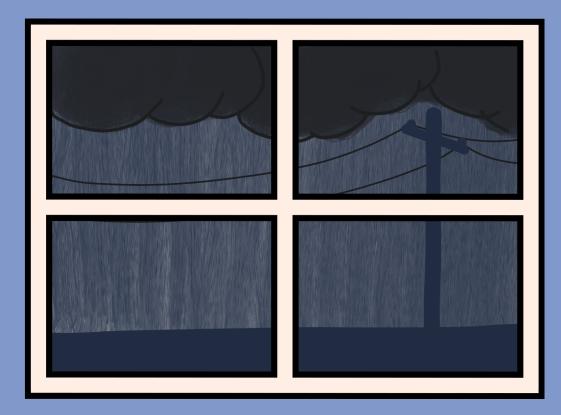




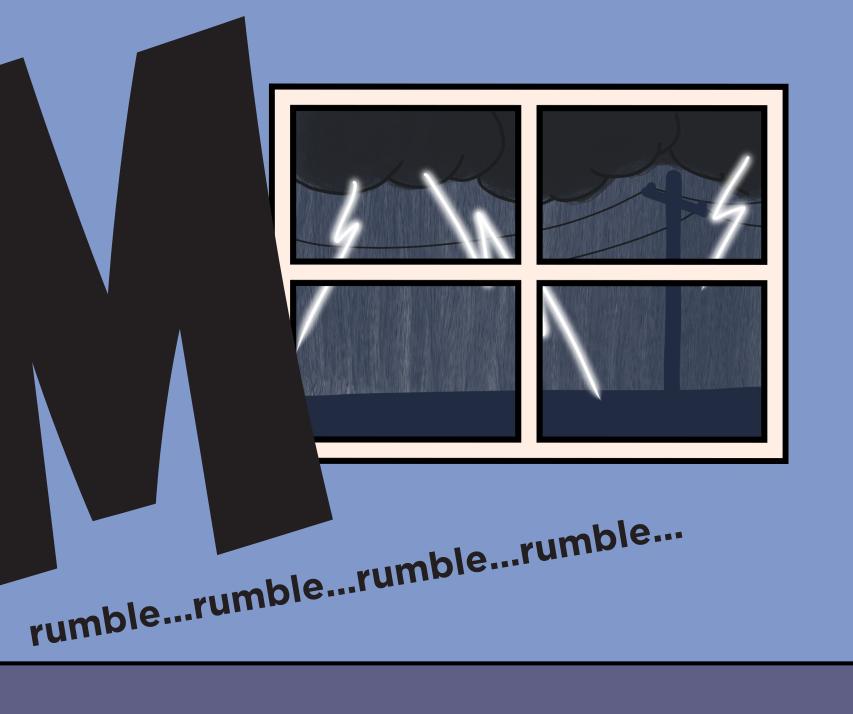
Cat stood by the window watching the thunderstorm outside. He didn't mind storms, as long as the power didn't go out.

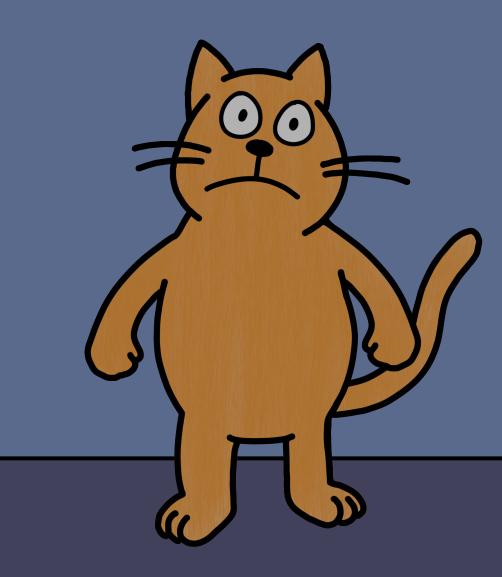
"Sure is a rainy day today," said Cat.

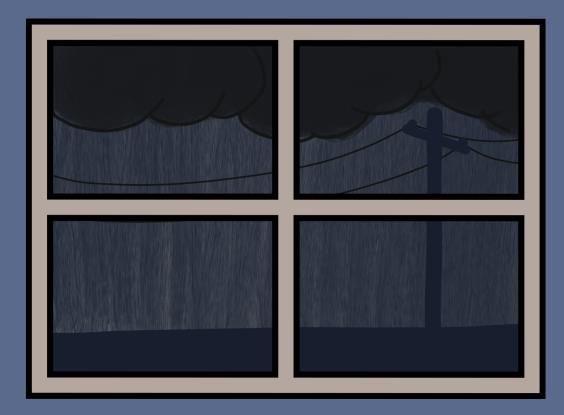












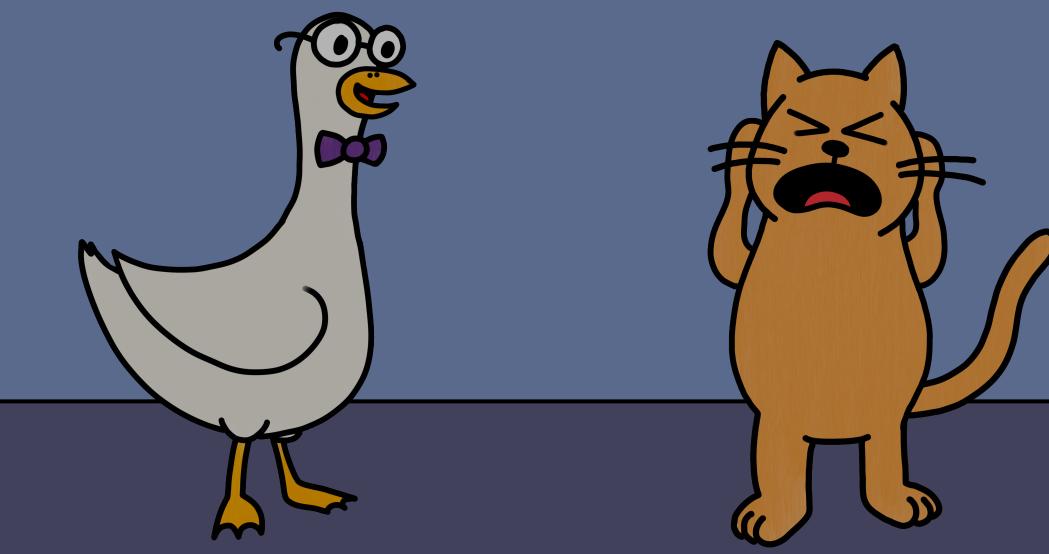


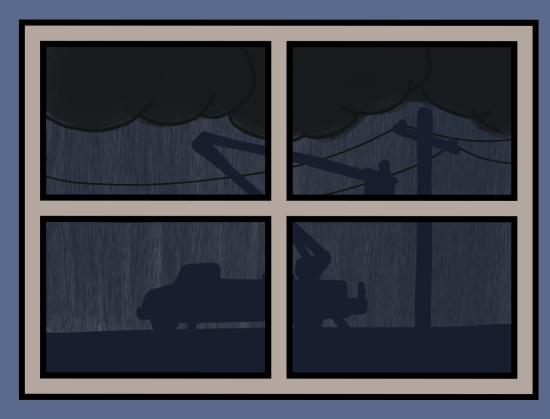


"Hello Cat," said a voice.

## "AHHHH! MONSTER!" yelled Cat. "We're DOOMED!"

"It's just me you silly cat! It's Duck," laughed the voice.





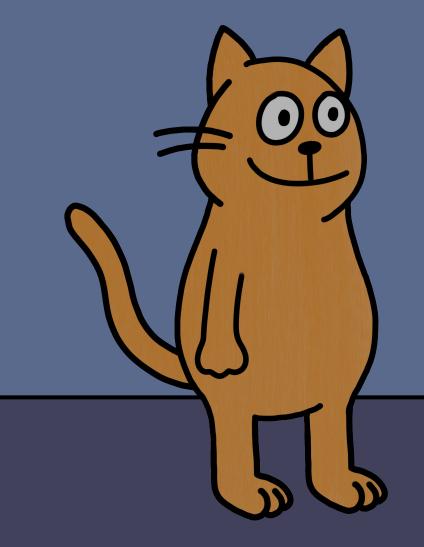
Duck walked over to calm Cat.

"Don't worry, our electric cooperative will have the power back on very soon," said Duck.

"What is an electric cooperative?" asked Cat.



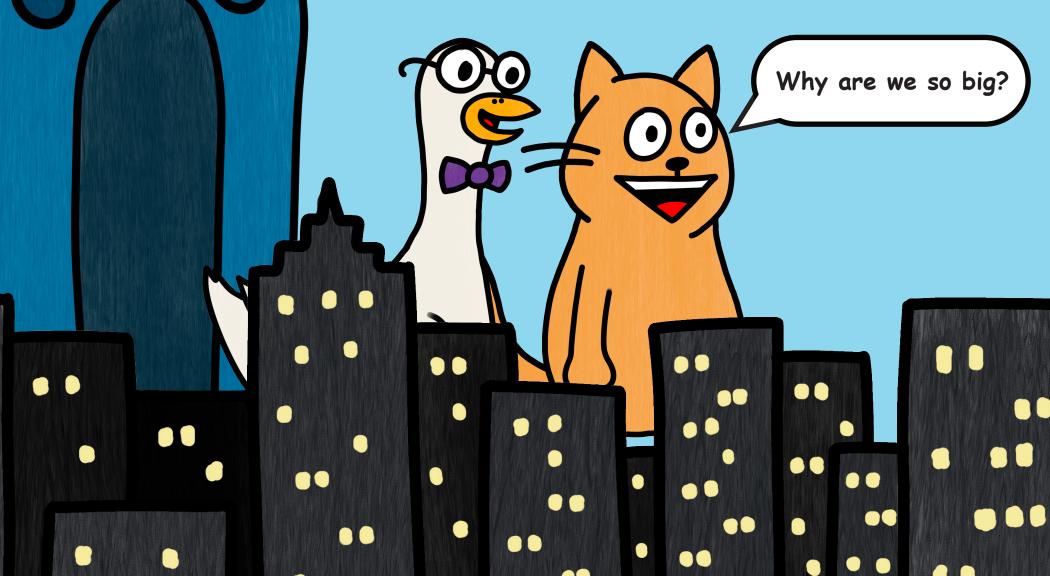
Duck walked toward a mysterious blue machine in the corner of the room.



"That is a great question Cat!" said Duck. "Why don't we hop in the Anywhere and Everywhere Machine and learn about electric

cooperatives!"





"Fun fact Cat, in the early 1930s, people living in cities had electricity, but if you lived on a farm, you were not as lucky," said Duck.

"That's unfair!" yelled Cat.

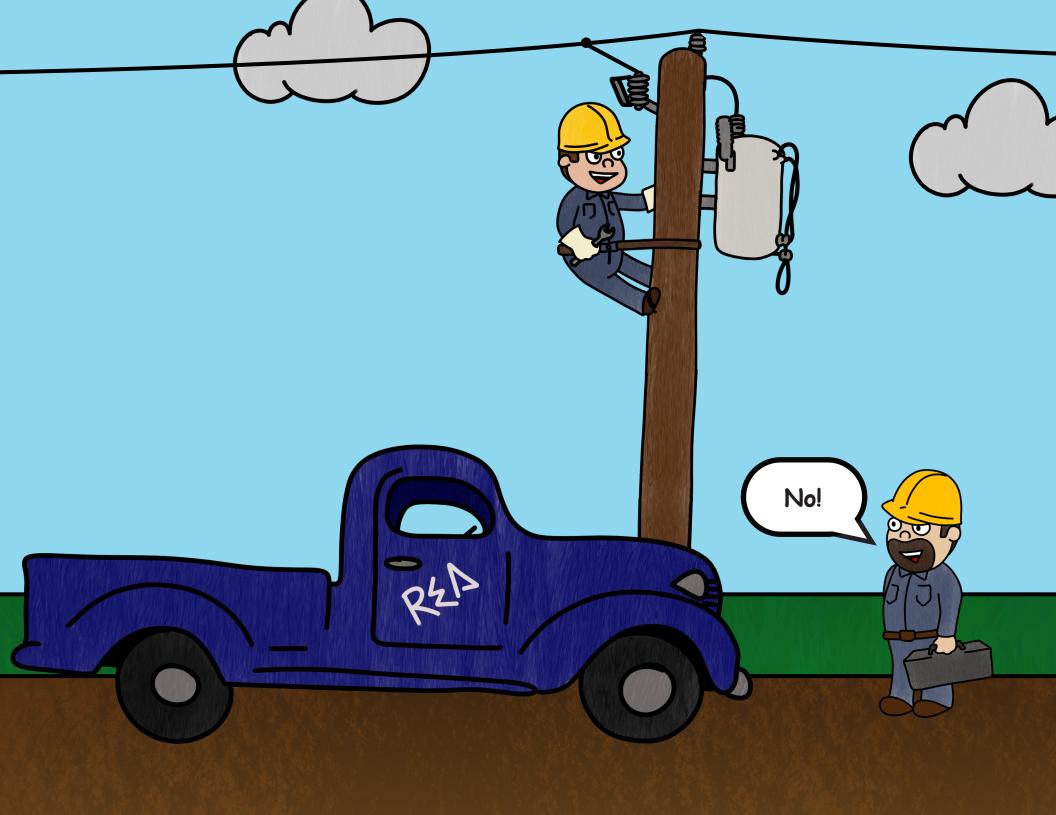




"That is why farmers in rural areas like ours got together and started electric cooperatives. They started building power lines almost 100 years ago!" said Duck.

 $\bigcirc$ 

Can I drive your truck?

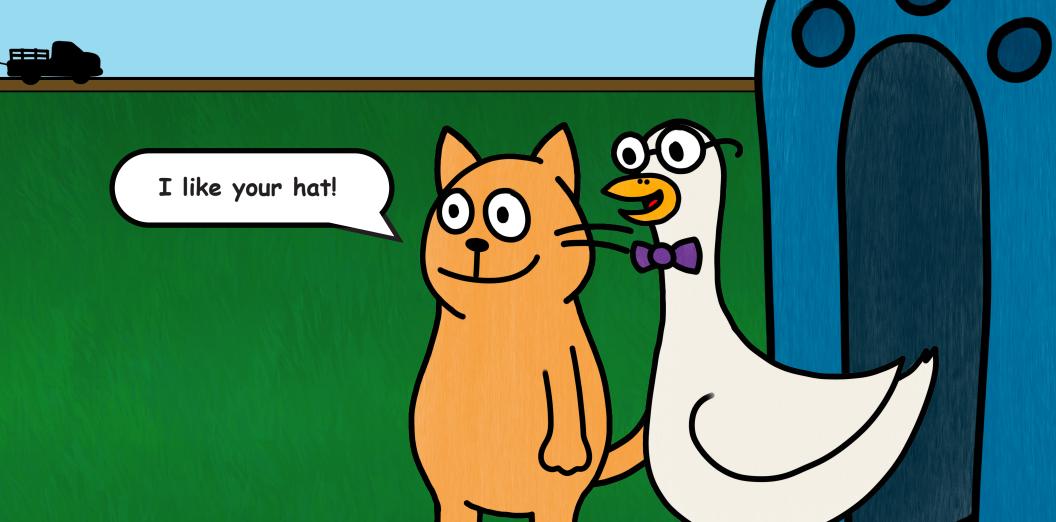


After talking with the linemen, Cat and Duck went over to visit with local farmers.

"Since the farmers paid to help start the electric cooperative, they own it!" stated Duck.



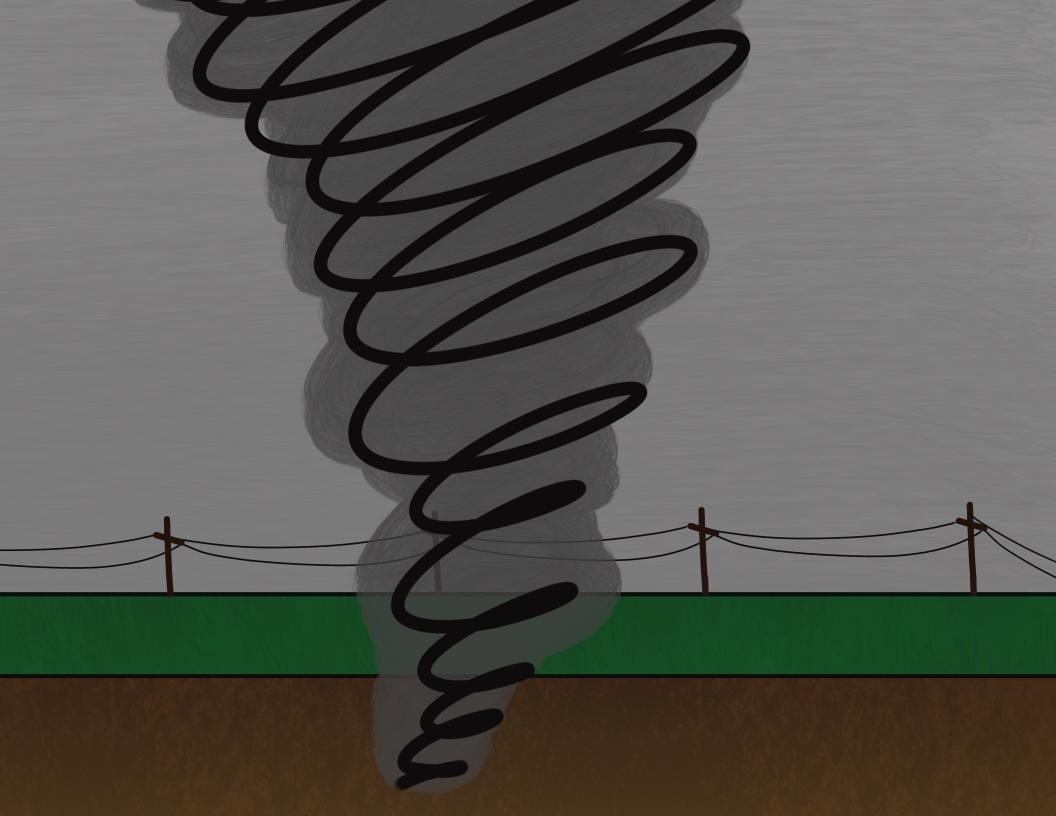
"That is something that makes the cooperative special!" said the farmer with the nice hat. "Each year all the members of the cooperative vote for the people who run it known as the Board of Directors."



It was a special day when the cooperative turned the power on for the first time in our area," Duck told Cat. "Can you imagine what life was like before electricity?"

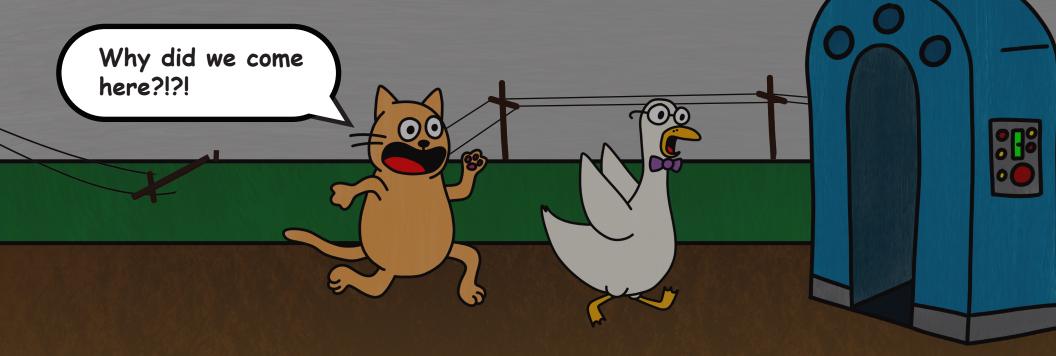
"Do you remember what it was like, Duck?" asked Cat.

"I'm not that old!" laughed Duck.



"Since then, our electric cooperative has provided electricity to thousands of people in our rural area. They even help other cooperatives when big storms like tornadoes and hurricanes make the power go out," said Duck.

"That is very helpful," said Cat. "Duck, where does our electricity come from?"





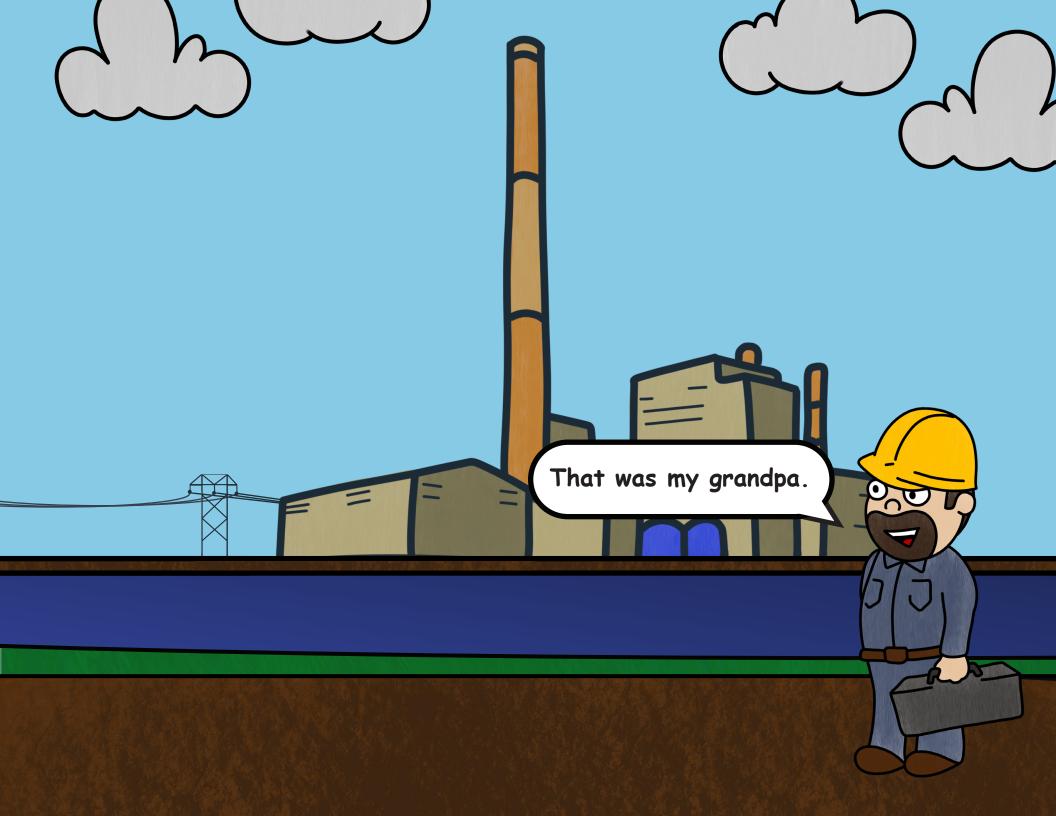


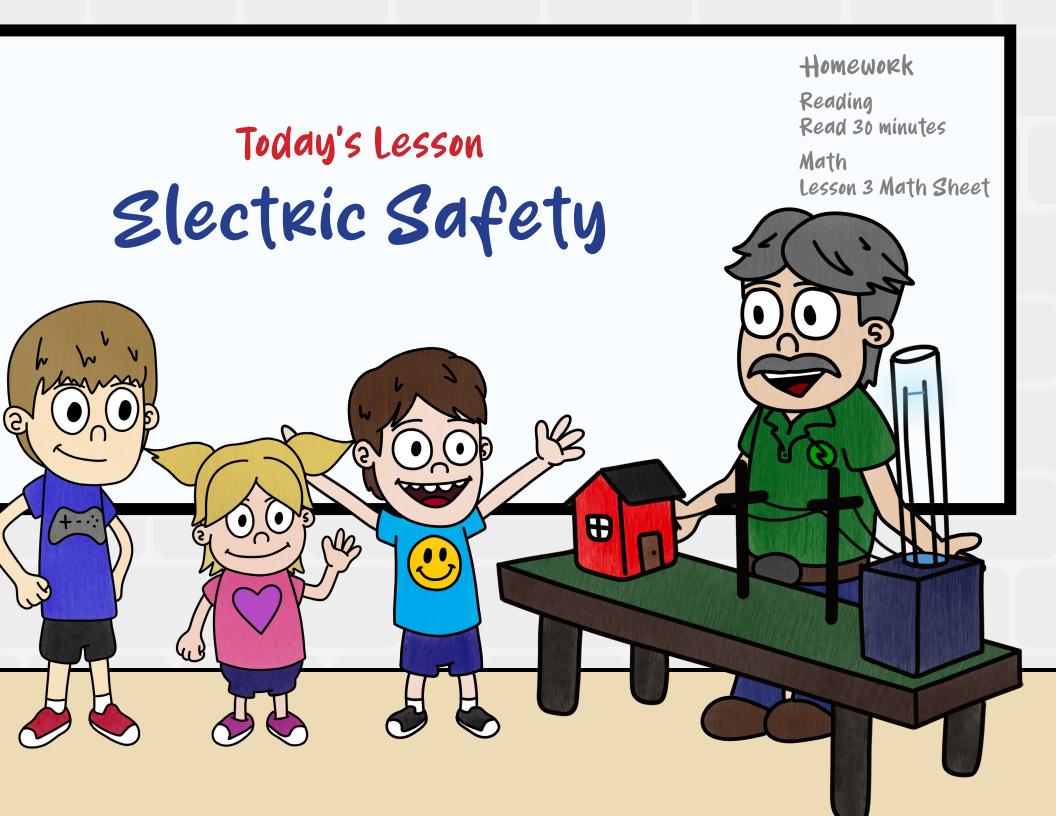
Are you the lineman

from page 16?

Cat and Duck used the Anywhere and Everywhere Machine to visit an electric power plant not far from where they live.

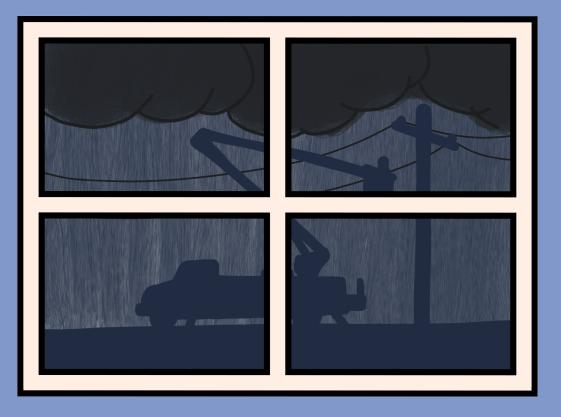
"At our cooperative, we get electricity that is created from natural gas, coal, wind, water and solar power," said Duck.





"Another great thing about cooperatives is that they care about the communities they serve!" stated Duck. "Cooperatives like ours are always finding ways to give back and make life better by funding local programs, participating in events, helping those in need, and visiting schools to teach students about the importance of electric safety."

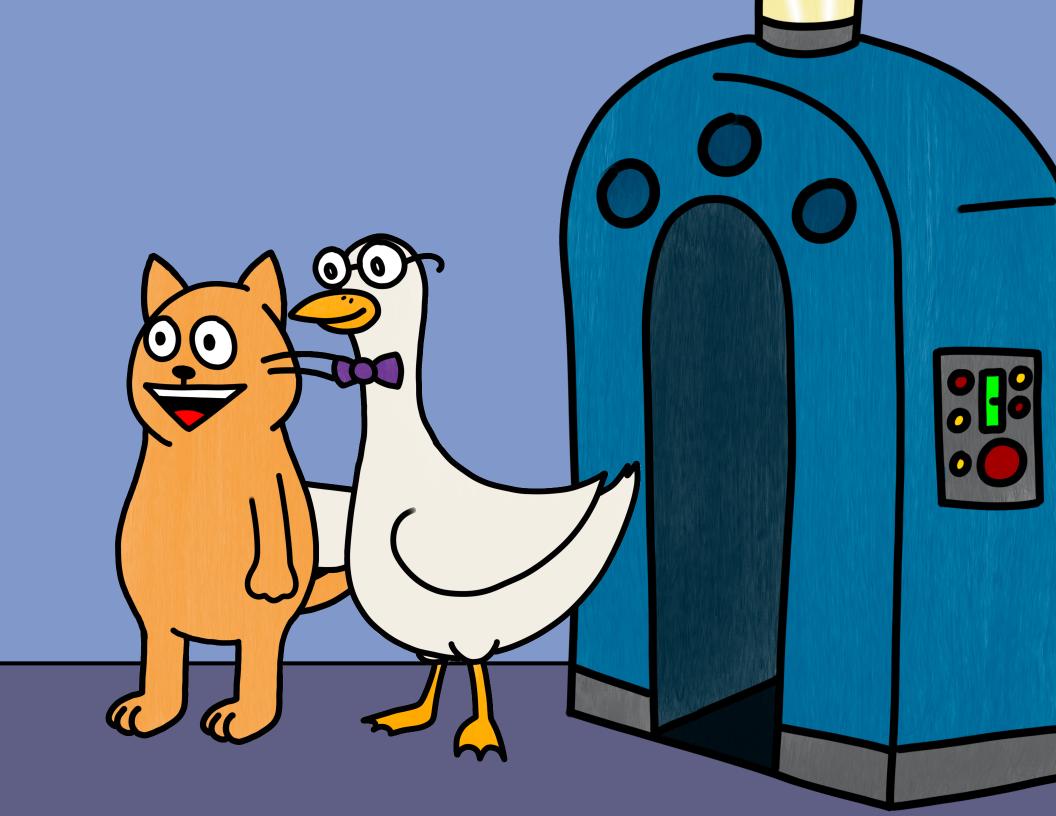
"I remember when they came to my school!" shouted Cat.

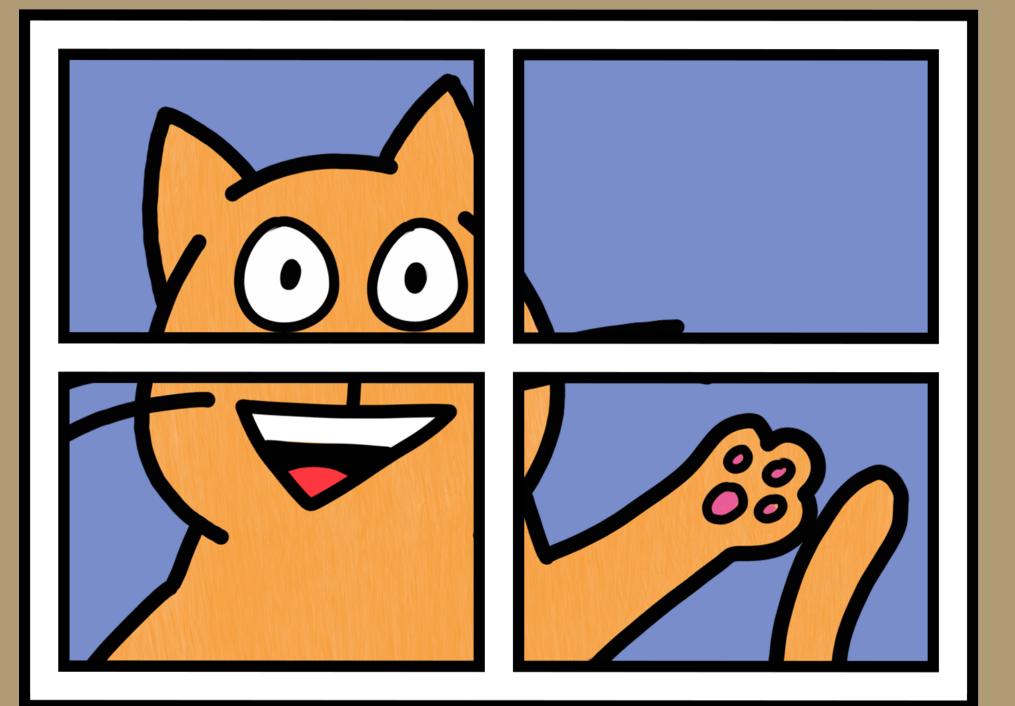


After a fun adventure, Cat and Duck returned home to a nice surprise!

"The power is back on," cheered Duck.

"That was fast!" said Cat.





Cat ran to the window to see if the line workers were still out there.

"Thank you for getting the power back on!" yelled Cat. "Electric cooperatives are the best!"



## About the author and illustrator

Meet Patrick, a proud member of the Communications team at Co-Mo Connect in Missouri. When he's not busy spreading the good word about how amazing the

cooperative is, he's at home spending time with his wife and three kids.

Patrick loves to draw, so much so that he combined his passion for doodling with his love for the cooperative. The result? A book about the amazing world of electric co-ops!



