

The Polyglot Initiative

Thank You, Firefighters! ¡Gracias, Bomberos!

Written & Translated by William Zhang

Illustrated by Shuchita Mishra



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Dedicated to Colt Deese, 6th & 7th Grade
Science Teacher, Presidio Hill School

Special thanks to Shuchita Mishra, Assistant
Professor, Kennesaw State University, for her
time and generosity

This is the Kirtland's Warbler
family: Dad, Mom, and Baby
Warbler.

Esta es la familia de las Reinitas
de Kirtland: Papá, Mamá, y
Bebé Reinita de Kirtland.



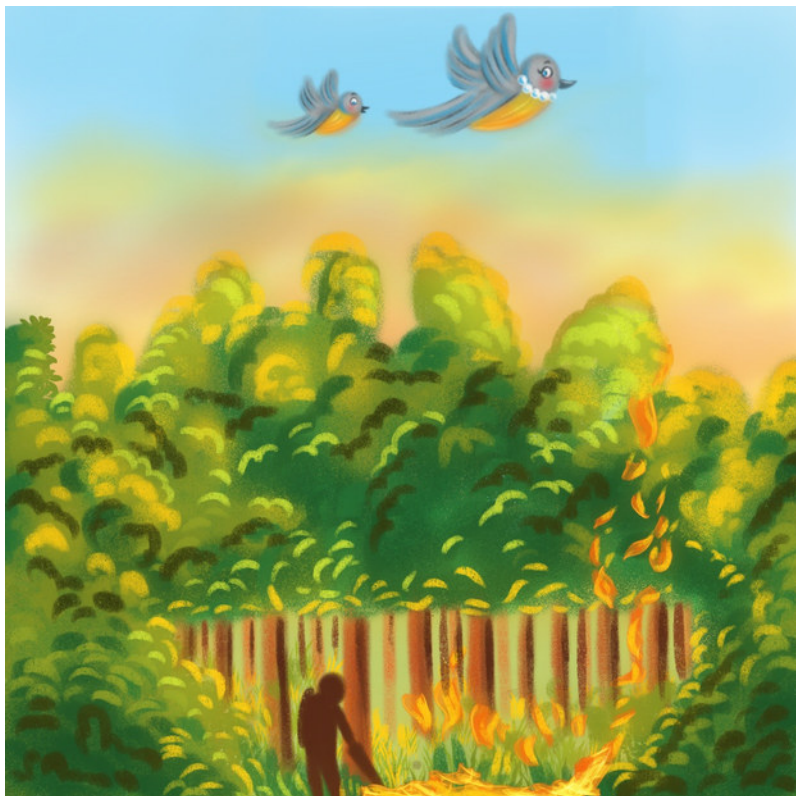
Baby Warbler cried, “Mom, the forest is on fire! Look at all the smoke!”

Bebé Reinita gritó, “¡Mamá, el bosque está en llamas! ¡Mira todo ese humo!”



Baby Warbler continued, “What are those people doing? Did they forget to put out the campfire?”

Bebé Reinita continuó, “¿Qué están haciendo esas personas? ¿Se olvidaron de apagar la hoguera?”



Mom replied, “No, don’t worry.
It’s not a campfire. If a
campfire were left unattended,
it could be really dangerous.
Those people are firefighters.
The fires that you see are
controlled burns.”

Mamá respondió, “No, no te
preocupes. No es una hoguera.
Si una hoguera quedara sin
vigilancia, podría ser muy
peligrosa. Ellos son bomberos.
Las hogueras que ves son
quemaduras controladas.”



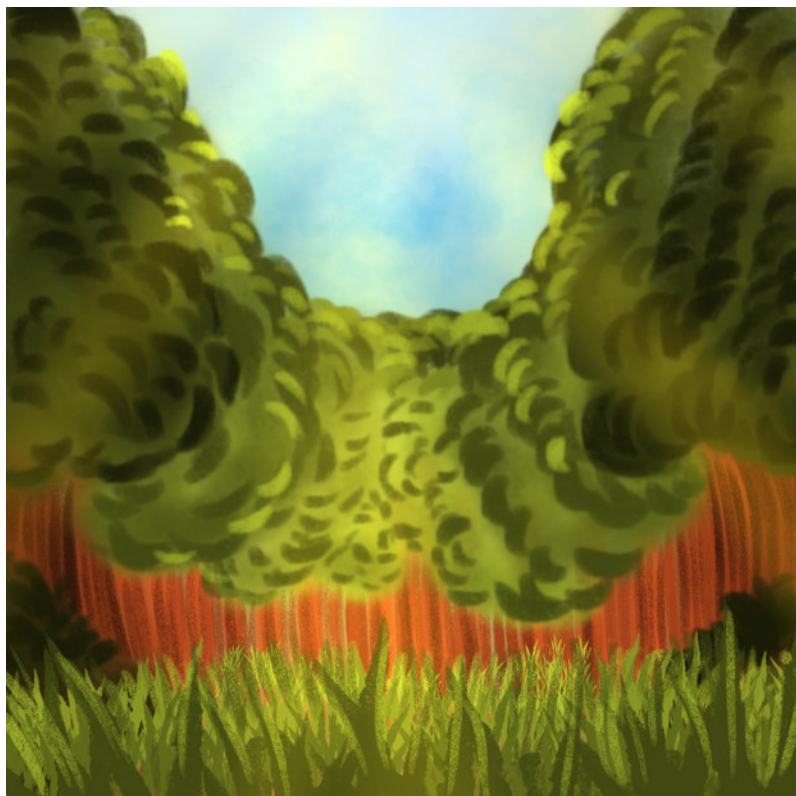
“People often talk about big, destructive forest fires, but rarely talk about controlled burns. They’re actually very important to all the plants and animals in our forest,” said Mom.

La gente siempre habla sobre grandes incendios forestales destructivos, pero no habla sobre las quemaduras controladas. En realidad, son muy importantes para todas las plantas y animales en nuestro bosque," dijo Mamá.



Mom continued to explain,
“When the fire burns, it brings
fresh nutrients for new plants to
grow.”

Mamá continuó explicando,
“Cuando arde el fuego, trae
nutrientes frescos para que
crezcan nuevas plantas.”



Mom added, “The fires also clear out space for the new plants.”

Mamá añadió, “Los incendios también despejan espacio para las nuevas plantas.”



Mom remarked, “Most importantly, the fires remove dead leaves from the ground. Dead leaves give fuel to larger forest fires, so it is best to get rid of them before the fire season.”

Mamá comentó, “Lo más importante es que los fuegos eliminan las hojas muertas del suelo. Las hojas muertas dan combustible a incendios forestales extremos así que es mejor que eliminan antes de la temporada de incendios.”



Dad asked, “Did you know that the fires saved the Kirtland’s Warbler from extinction?”

Papá preguntó, “¿Sabes que los incendios salvaron a las Reinitas de Kirtland de la extinción?”



Dad continued, “The high heat from the fire releases the seeds in the Jack Pine cones. The seeds that drop to the ground grow into new trees. This is where all the Kirtland’s Warbler families build their nests.”

Papá continuó, “El alto calor del fuego libera las semillas en los conos del Jack Pine. Las semillas que caen al suelo crecen nuevos árboles. Aquí es donde todas las familias de Reinitas de Kirtland construyen sus nidos.”



Baby Warbler happily chirped,
“Thank you, firefighters! Thank
you for helping the forests stay
healthy!”

Bebé Reinita pio felizmente,
“¡Gracias, bomberos! ¡Gracias
por ayudar a que los bosques
mantengan sano!”

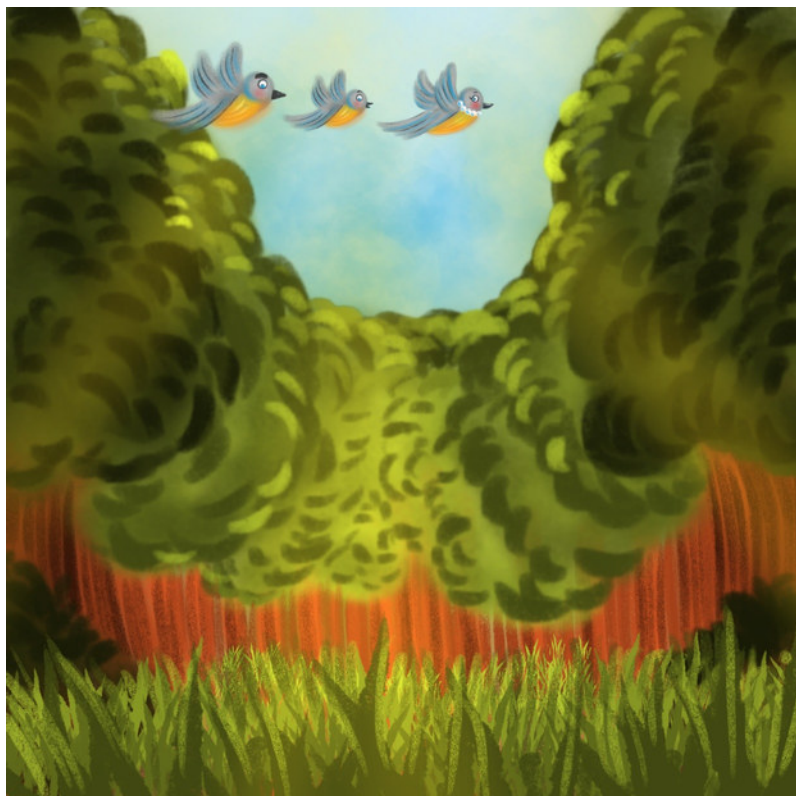


Baby Warbler exclaimed, “Mom, look! It’s only been two months, and our forest is green again!”

Mom replied, “I know! The small, controlled burns are helping our environment!”

Bebé Reinita exclamó, “¡Mamá, mira! ¡Solo han pasado dos meses, y nuestro bosque está verde de nuevo!”

Mamá respondió, “¡Lo sé! ¡Las pequeñas quemaduras controladas están ayudando a nuestro medioambiente!”



The Polyglot Initiative was founded by Jonathan & William, two multilingual students passionate about language as a tool for connection. Their mission is to foster bilingualism in children & adults through storytelling & to promote global awareness through writing advocacy. By encouraging curiosity across cultures & languages, they aim to build bridges one word at a time.

www.thepolyglotinitiative.com