



Beato is a curious cat that explores different countries around the world. On this trip, he sets out on an adventure to Brazil, where he plays different sports, dances at Carnival, and encounters wild animals in the Amazon rainforest.

www.BeatoGoesTo.com

Check out Beato's other adventures in *Beato Goes to Greenland*, *Beato Goes to Israel*, *Beato Goes to Indonesia*, and *Beato Goes to Japan*.

MASCOT
BOOKS



SUCHETA RAWAL

BEATO GOES TO BRAZIL

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BEATO GOES TO BRAZIL

BY SUCHETA RAWAL



ILLUSTRATIONS BY
ALEXANDRA ABAGIU
& OANA VAIDA

This book is dedicated to Amanda Villa-Lobos,
a girl from Rio, who has genuine love for good food,
nice beaches, and all animals.



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Beato Goes to Brazil

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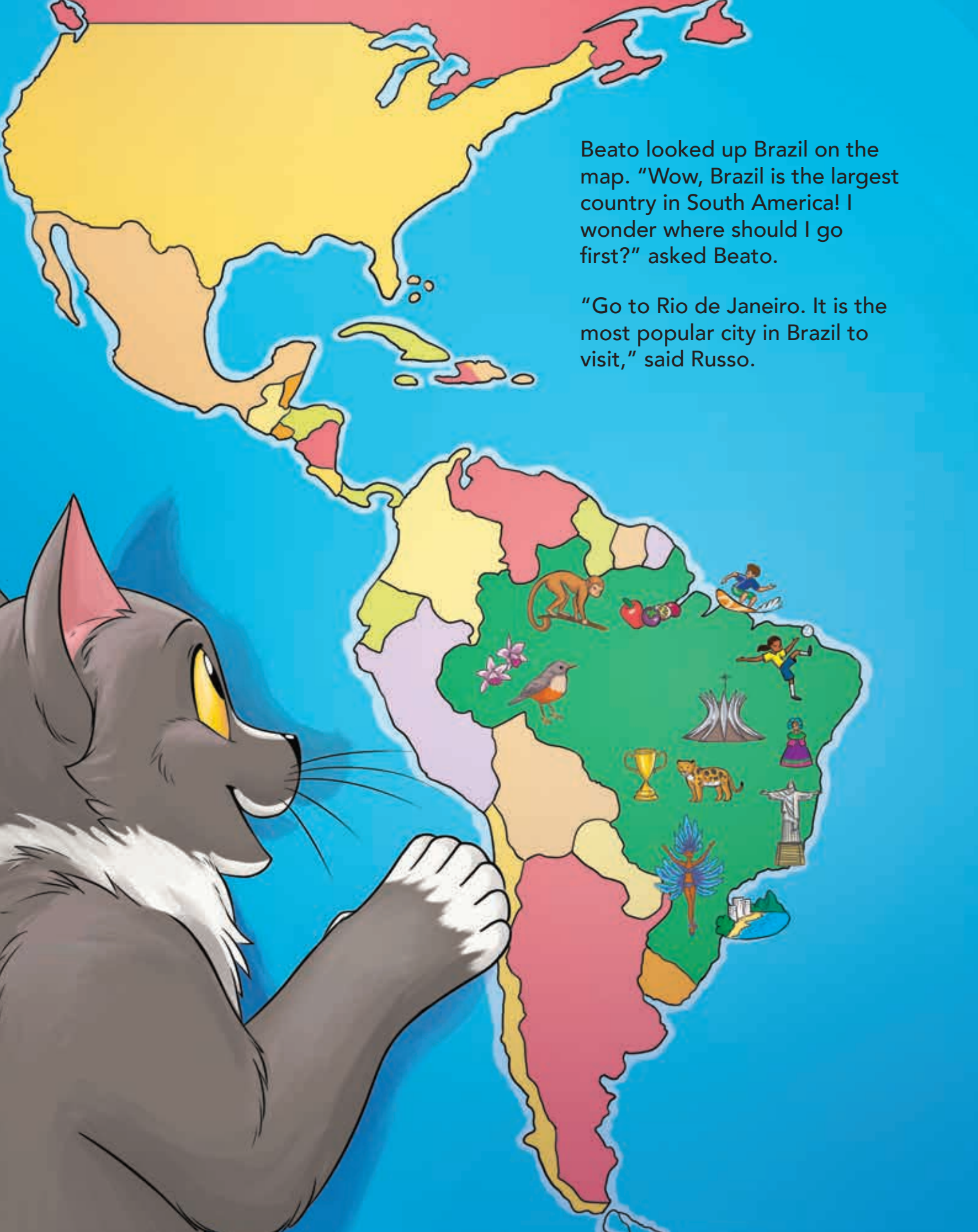
ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALEXANDRA ABAGIU & OANA VAIDA

On a long winter day, Beato was bored. He asked his older brother, Russo, if he wanted to go out and play, but Russo said it was too cold.

"I wish I could go swim or build a sand castle," said Beato.

Russo suggested, "Why don't you go to Brazil? You can play on the beach there!"





Beato looked up Brazil on the map. "Wow, Brazil is the largest country in South America! I wonder where should I go first?" asked Beato.

"Go to Rio de Janeiro. It is the most popular city in Brazil to visit," said Russo.

Beato packed his bags and told his family he was going to Brazil. He was excited to learn about a new culture and make more friends.

"Remember to say *bom dia* (bom-b dee-ya) when you meet someone. That's how people greet each other in Portuguese," his mom told him.

"Thanks, Mom!" said Beato, as he left for the airport.



When Beato arrived in Rio de Janeiro, he saw beautiful beaches and mountains. He couldn't wait to take a dip in the Atlantic Ocean, so he dropped his bag and ran toward the water.

"Hey, *gato!*" a girl yelled from behind. "You have to be careful about leaving your belongings unattended like that!"

"Oh, I'm sorry! I couldn't wait. My name is Beato, and I have come to see Brazil."

"Nice to meet you, Beato. I am Amanda."

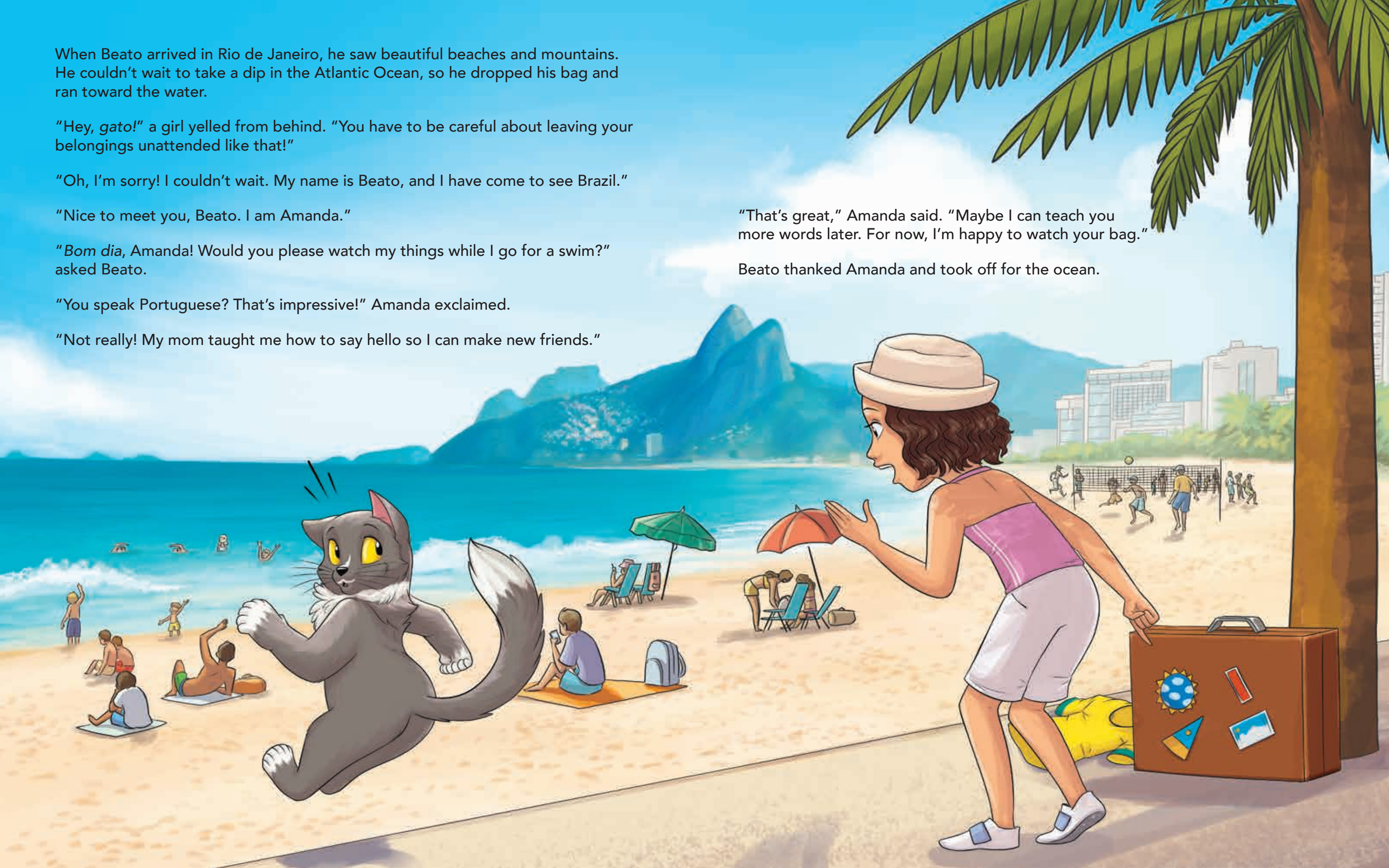
"*Bom dia*, Amanda! Would you please watch my things while I go for a swim?" asked Beato.

"You speak Portuguese? That's impressive!" Amanda exclaimed.

"Not really! My mom taught me how to say hello so I can make new friends."

"That's great," Amanda said. "Maybe I can teach you more words later. For now, I'm happy to watch your bag."

Beato thanked Amanda and took off for the ocean.



After his swim, Beato was ready to join the others in play.

"The people here are always active and outdoors," Amanda explained.
"Soccer is the most popular sport in Brazil."

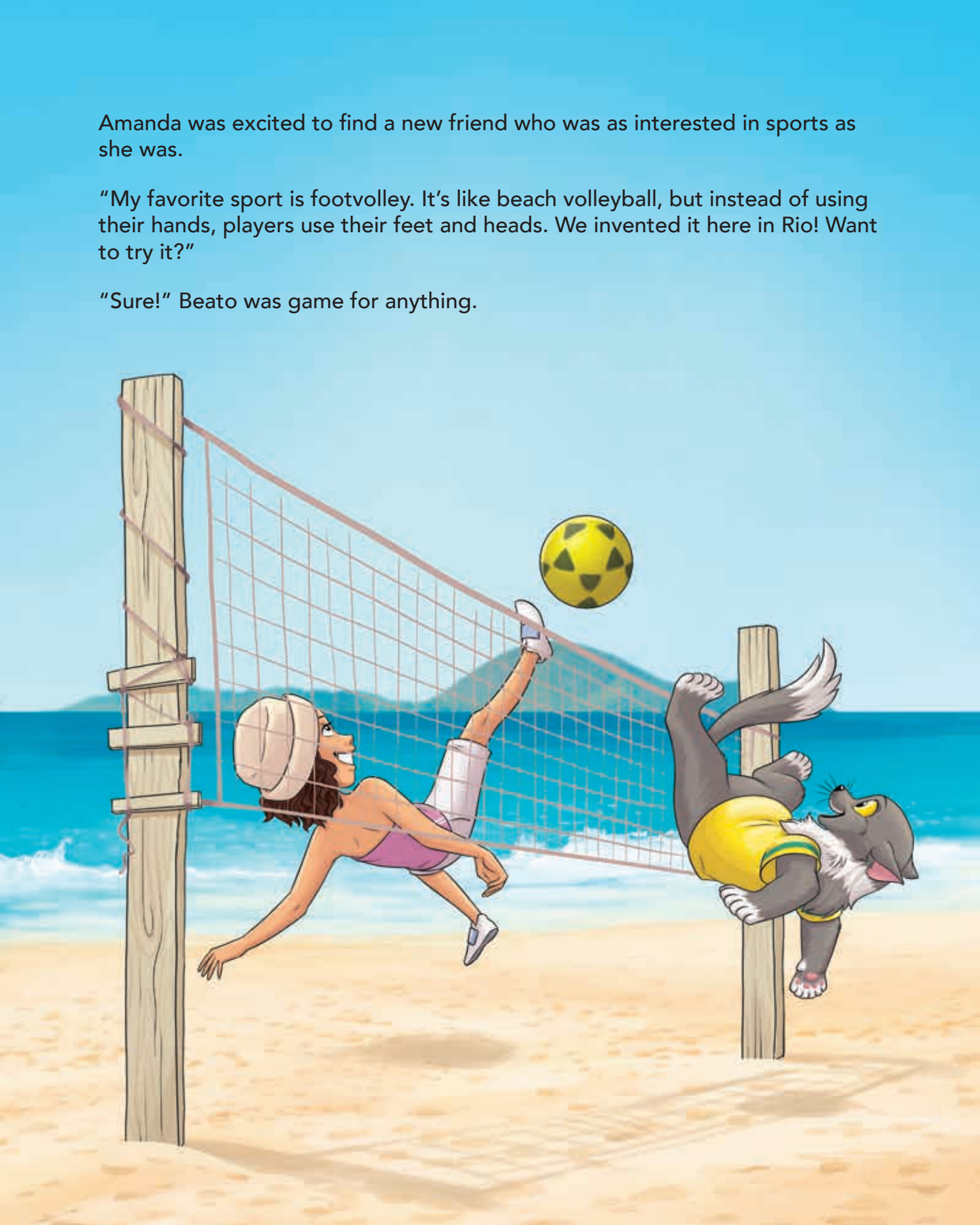
"I love soccer! Let's play!" Beato loved to be outside.



Amanda was excited to find a new friend who was as interested in sports as she was.

"My favorite sport is footvolley. It's like beach volleyball, but instead of using their hands, players use their feet and heads. We invented it here in Rio! Want to try it?"

"Sure!" Beato was game for anything.



Amanda had an idea. "Beato, I think you would like handball. Let's go watch a game."

"What's handball?" Beato asked.

"Handball is an Olympic sport," answered Amanda. "It's like volleyball but different. The women on Brazil's national team are some of the best players in the world."

"It's fun to learn about a new sport!"



After a full day of swimming and playing, Amanda and Beato were hungry. They munched on soft yummy cheese bread and minced meat on sticks.

"Our food is influenced by Africa, the Middle East, Japan, and Portugal," Amanda said between bites.

"It all tastes so yummy!" said Beato.



The next day Amanda and Beato hiked to Tijuca Forest. "This is the world's largest urban forest. It helps produce oxygen for us," said Amanda.

Beato saw the famous Christ the Redeemer statue and climbed a mountain that was nicknamed Sugarloaf.



Once they reached a lookout point on top of the mountain, Amanda turned to Beato. "Beato, can you fly?"

"I'm a cat, not a bird, silly!"

Amanda laughed. "Well, you'll be able to soon. We're going to paraglide over the beach and forest." Amanda harnessed Beato and attached a parachute. Then they jumped off the cliff together.

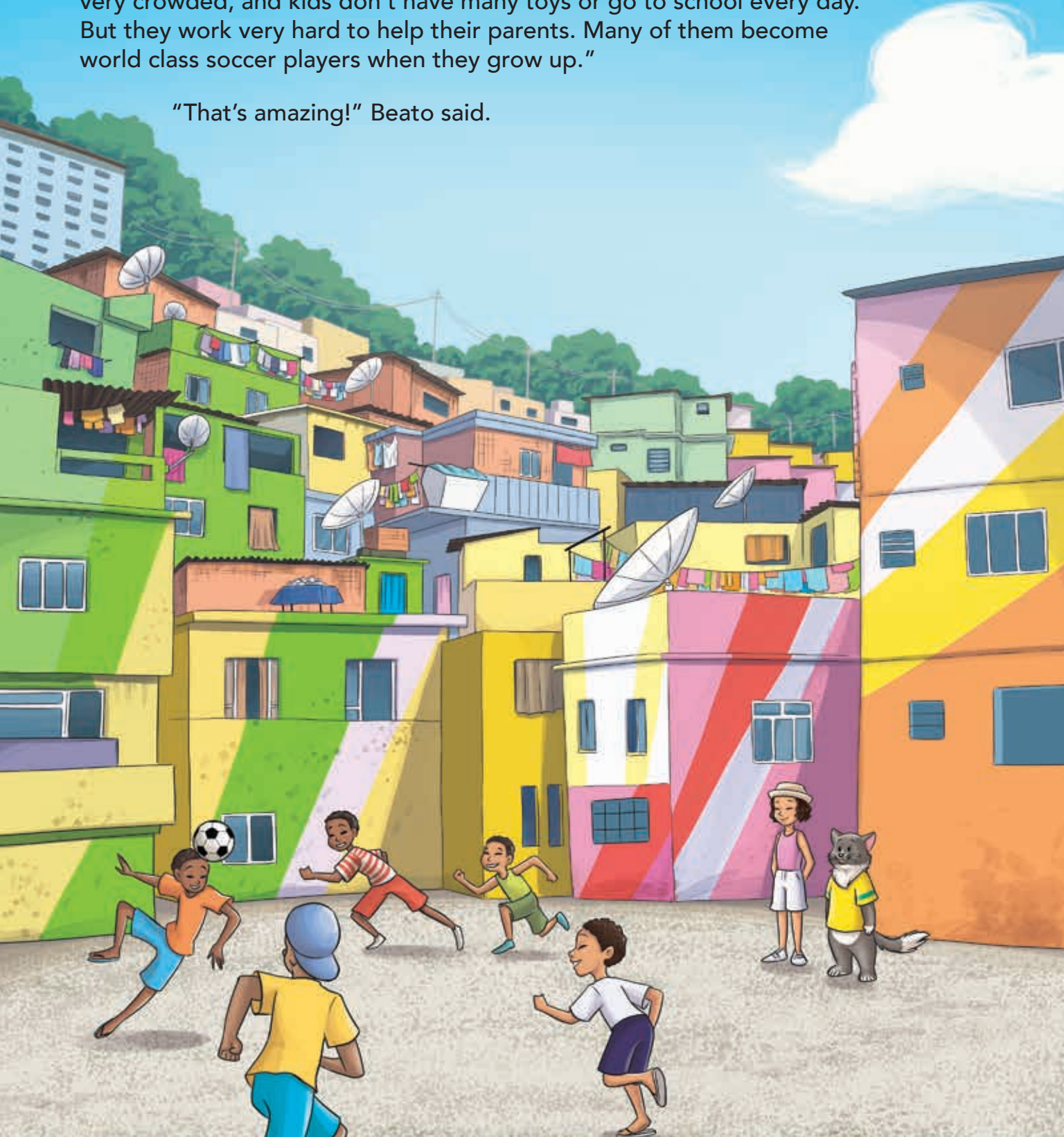
Beato was scared. "This is fun...if I survive!" he yowled.



Beato noticed the slopes covered with hundreds of colorful houses. *I wonder who lives in those?* Beato thought.

Amanda read Beato's mind and said, "Those are called *favelas*, or slums. They are very crowded, and kids don't have many toys or go to school every day. But they work very hard to help their parents. Many of them become world class soccer players when they grow up."

"That's amazing!" Beato said.



Beato heard loud music blaring from one of the favelas and asked Amanda if they could go check it out.

"Sure! That's probably a samba school rehearsal," suggested Amanda. "Samba is an African-Brazilian dance that we do at *Carnival* (car-na-val). We practice all year for it!"

The kids spotted Beato and pulled him in for a dance.



"What is Carnival?" Beato asked.

"It is the biggest party in Brazil where samba schools compete with costumes and floats. Let's go watch the parade."

Beato went with Amanda to watch the biggest Carnival parade that had 30,000 people in it. Before he knew it, they were dancing in the parade too.



After the show, Amanda and Beato headed to a juice stand. Beato had never seen so many kinds of fruits before. He noticed cashews, papayas, mangoes, passion fruits, guavas, and star fruits before Amanda pointed to a small, round, purple berry.

Amanda handed Beato a cup. "You have to try an açaí (asa-ee) bowl. It is full of vitamins."

"This tastes like ice cream!" Beato licked up every bit.

"I'm glad you like it, Beato," said Amanda. "It will give you energy for our next adventure."



"Beato, we're in the Amazon rainforest," Amanda explained. "This is where animals like jaguars, cougars, anacondas, howler monkeys, and vampire bats live! The Amazon is the largest and most biodiverse tropical rainforest in the world."

"That's amazing! Look over there!" Beato spotted a baby jaguar. Beato missed his own mommy.



A colorful bird with a sharp beak pecked at Beato's head, startling him.

"What was that?" Beato asked.

"Oh, that is a Hyacinth Macaw, the biggest parrot in the world. Did you know that one in five of all bird species live in the Amazon rainforest? Unfortunately, some of the birds are endangered because people are taking them out of the wild and keeping them in cages," said Amanda.

Beato frowned. He didn't like the idea of birds not being able to fly.

Beato spotted something creeping toward him.

"Don't be afraid, Beato! That's a Brazilian wandering spider. It has eight eyes and does not weave webs. It is one of the most venomous spiders in the world and is known to bite people, but it won't hurt us if we leave it alone. Most spiders are good for the environment," Amanda said.

We should get out of here! thought Beato.



"Beato, do you know what reptiles are?" Amanda asked.

"Aren't they scary creatures like crocodiles and snakes?" Beato was getting nervous.

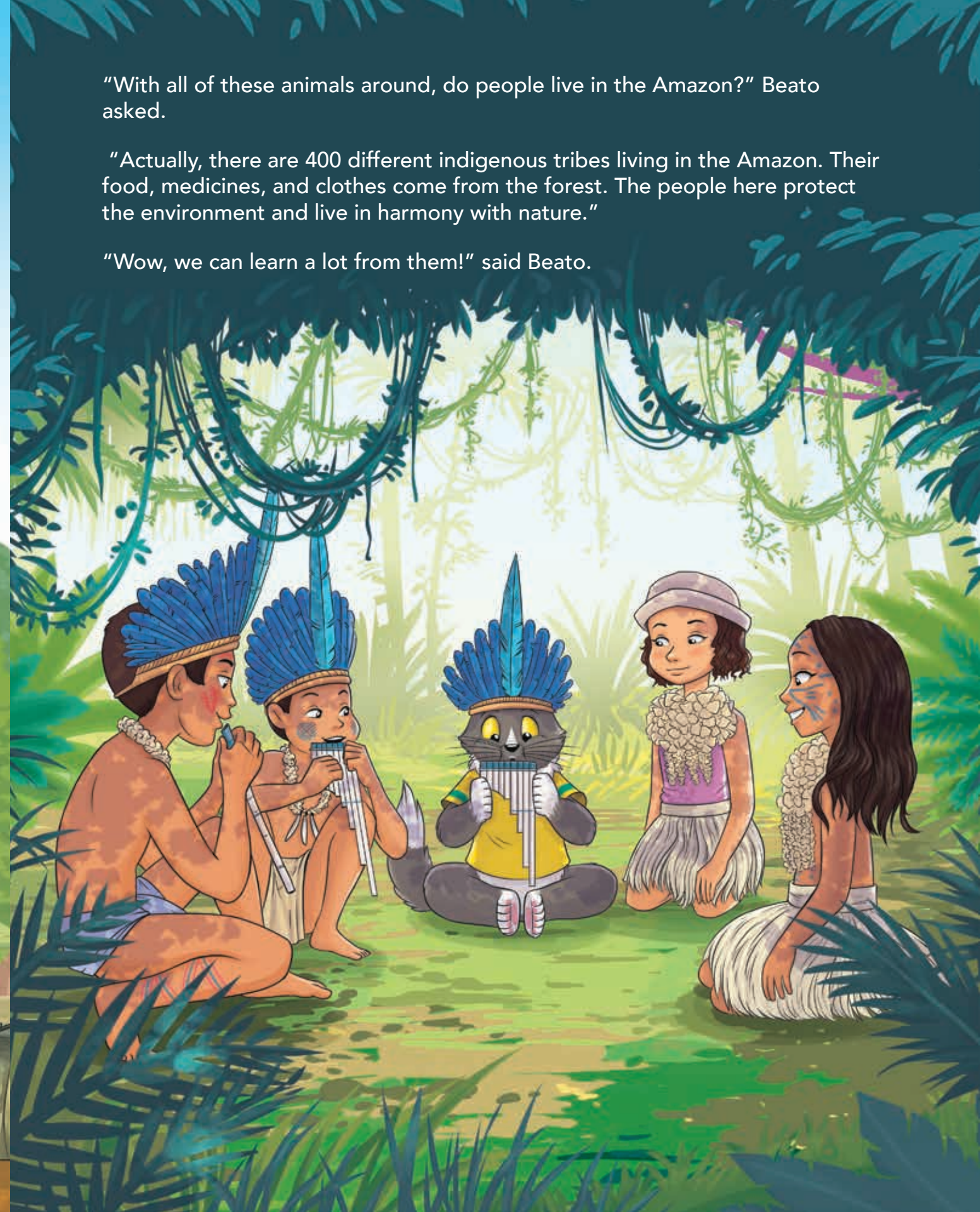
Amanda laughed. "You shouldn't fear them. Reptiles are cold-blooded animals that have scales to protect their bodies. Look over there—it's a black caiman! It is the biggest crocodile in the world and weighs over 1,000 pounds."



"With all of these animals around, do people live in the Amazon?" Beato asked.

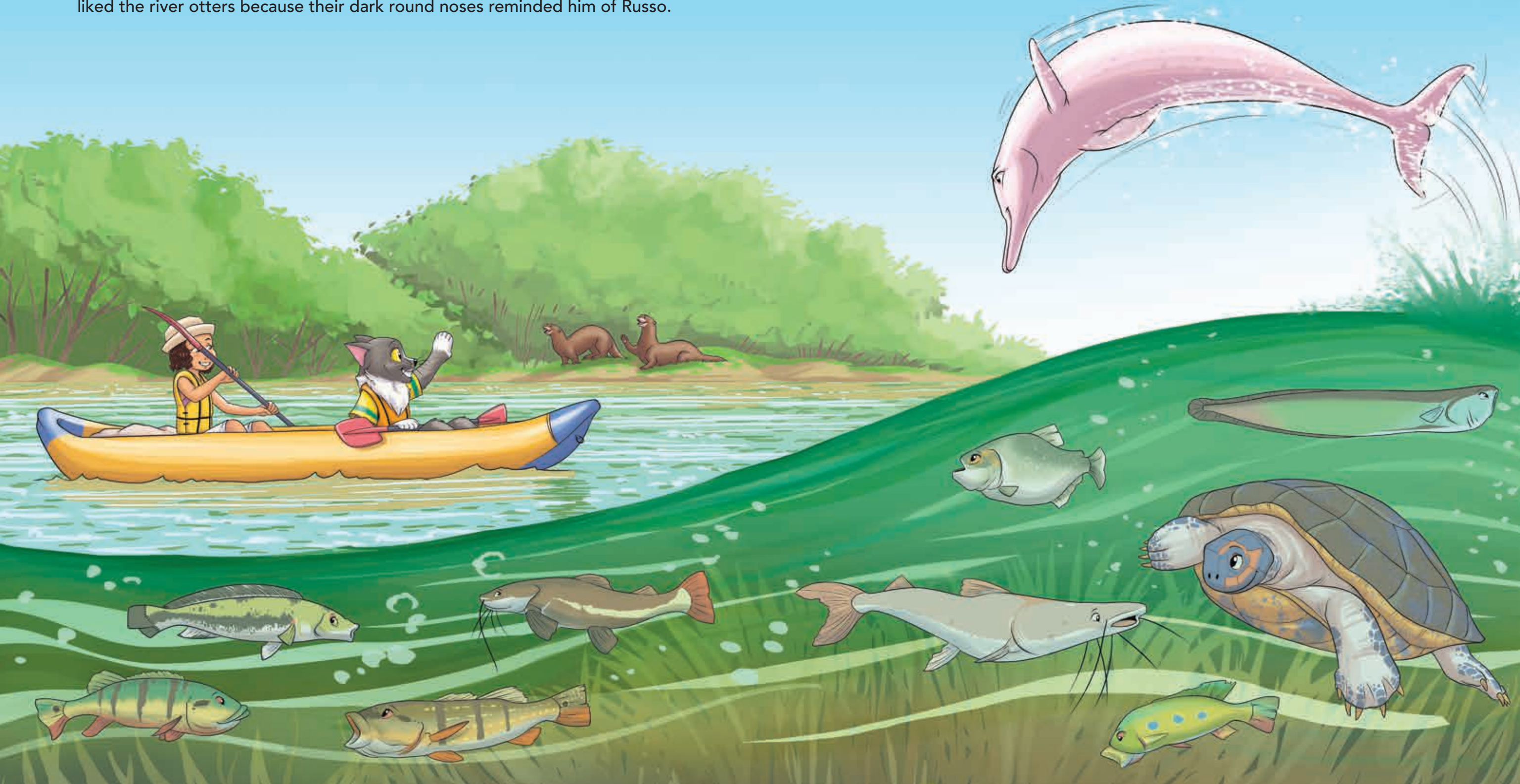
"Actually, there are 400 different indigenous tribes living in the Amazon. Their food, medicines, and clothes come from the forest. The people here protect the environment and live in harmony with nature."

"Wow, we can learn a lot from them!" said Beato.



"Beato, let's go kayaking on the Amazon, the world's second largest river," said Amanda.

They saw pink dolphins, turtles, catfish, peacock bass, and piranhas. Beato liked the river otters because their dark round noses reminded him of Russo.



"Are you ready to see more?" Amanda asked.

Beato nodded. He was excited to keep exploring.

They traveled to the state of Bahia, where they were greeted by a group of dancers kicking and spinning.

"Capoeira (caa-poo-era) is an Afro-Brazilian martial art that combines dance, acrobats and music!" said Amanda.



Next, they headed to São Paulo, the largest Portuguese-speaking city in the world.

"Looks like there's a Japanese festival going on!" Beato pointed out.

"Yes, we have people from 200 different countries living in São Paulo. There's always something fun to do!" said Amanda.



Amanda and Beato went to see a martial arts competition.

"Brazilian jiu-jitsu shows us that even smaller people can defend themselves against a bigger opponent."

"Let me try it!" Beato cried, tackling one of the boys.

"You need to practice and have more discipline," Amanda advised.



Beato and Amanda went to the border of Brazil and Argentina to see the largest waterfall system in the world.

Iguazu Falls are even more beautiful from a helicopter! thought Beato. The pilot made a few nosedives so Beato could feel the water splash on him.



When Beato and Amanda landed, a man came charging toward them on horseback. He had a whip and a knife. Beato was afraid, but then the man threw his hat on the ground and scooped it up while galloping on his horse.

"That was quite a show!" Beato exclaimed.

"Thank you," said the man. "I'm a *gaucho* (gaa-oo-cho), a Brazilian cowboy, from the state of Rio Grande do Sul."

Beato was thrilled to meet a real-life cowboy. "Can we take a selfie?" he asked.



The gaucho invited Beato and Amanda to a barbecue on his farm. He roasted meat over a fire, and they danced until sunset.

"The gauchos are noble, brave, and generous people," explained Amanda as they left for their last destination.



Amanda pointed out, "Now we are in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil. It is also called the City of Design because there are many artistic buildings here."

Beato was sad, but it was time for him to go home.

"This has been so much fun, Amanda. Thank you for taking me around Brazil, but this is where I will have to bid *tchau* (cha-o) to you."

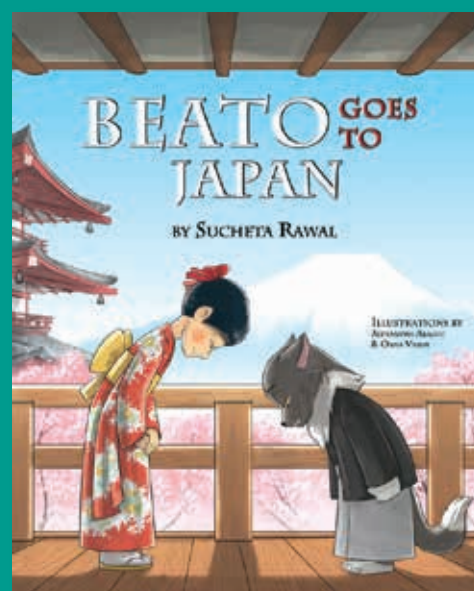
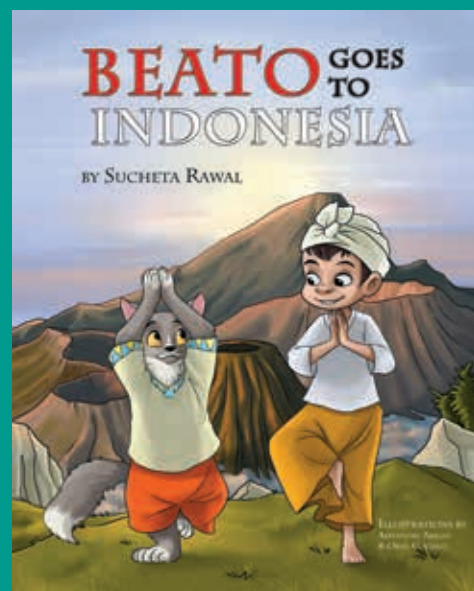
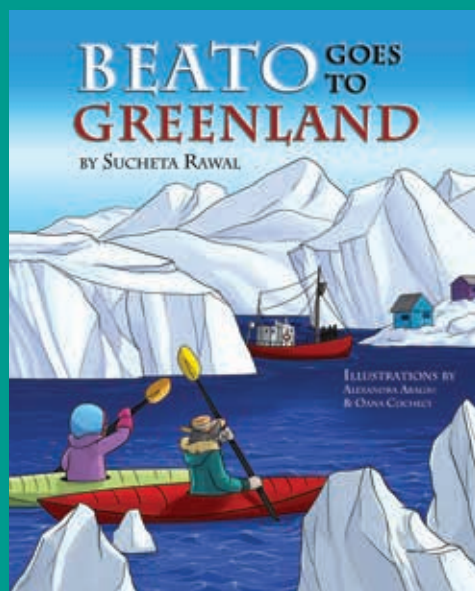


"You're welcome, Beato! I hope you enjoyed visiting Brazil and that you will come back," said Amanda.

"I will! I've learned that the people in Brazil love to play outside and enjoy nature. I can't wait to share everything with my family."

Beato kissed Amanda on both cheeks and left to board his flight back home.

OTHER BOOKS IN THE BEATO GOES TO SERIES



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Sucheta Rawal is an award-winning food and travel writer and children's book author. Her children's book series, *Beato Goes To*, is inspired by her own travels and hope of educating kids about the world's many cultures.

Sucheta inspires others to travel more authentically and sustainably through her nonprofit, Go Eat Give. She also writes for *CNN Travel*, *Travel+Leisure*, and *HuffPost*.

Born and raised in India, Sucheta graduated from Georgia State University with a Master's in finance and worked in investment banking and consulting before realizing her true passion was learning and giving back.

Sucheta has been named as one of the most influential cultural bloggers in the world, "Georgia's 40 Under 40 – Best and the Brightest," and nominated for the Georgia Author of the Year Award in the children's book category. She is a frequent speaker at schools and events across the world. She resides in the suburbs of Atlanta with her cat, Beato.

Read more at www.beatogoesto.com.