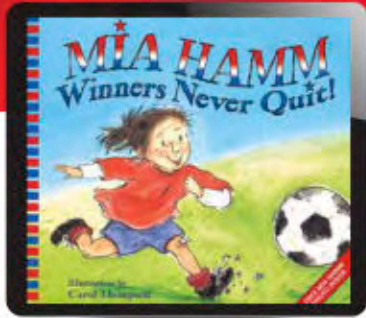


ANCHOR TEXT



GENRE

Narrative nonfiction

tells a true story. As you read, look for:

- ▶ a setting that is real
- ▶ real people as characters

Meet the Author

Mia Hamm

Mia Hamm went from playing football to soccer at age fourteen. She became one of the best women's soccer players ever. She knows what it takes to be a good teammate!



Meet the Illustrator

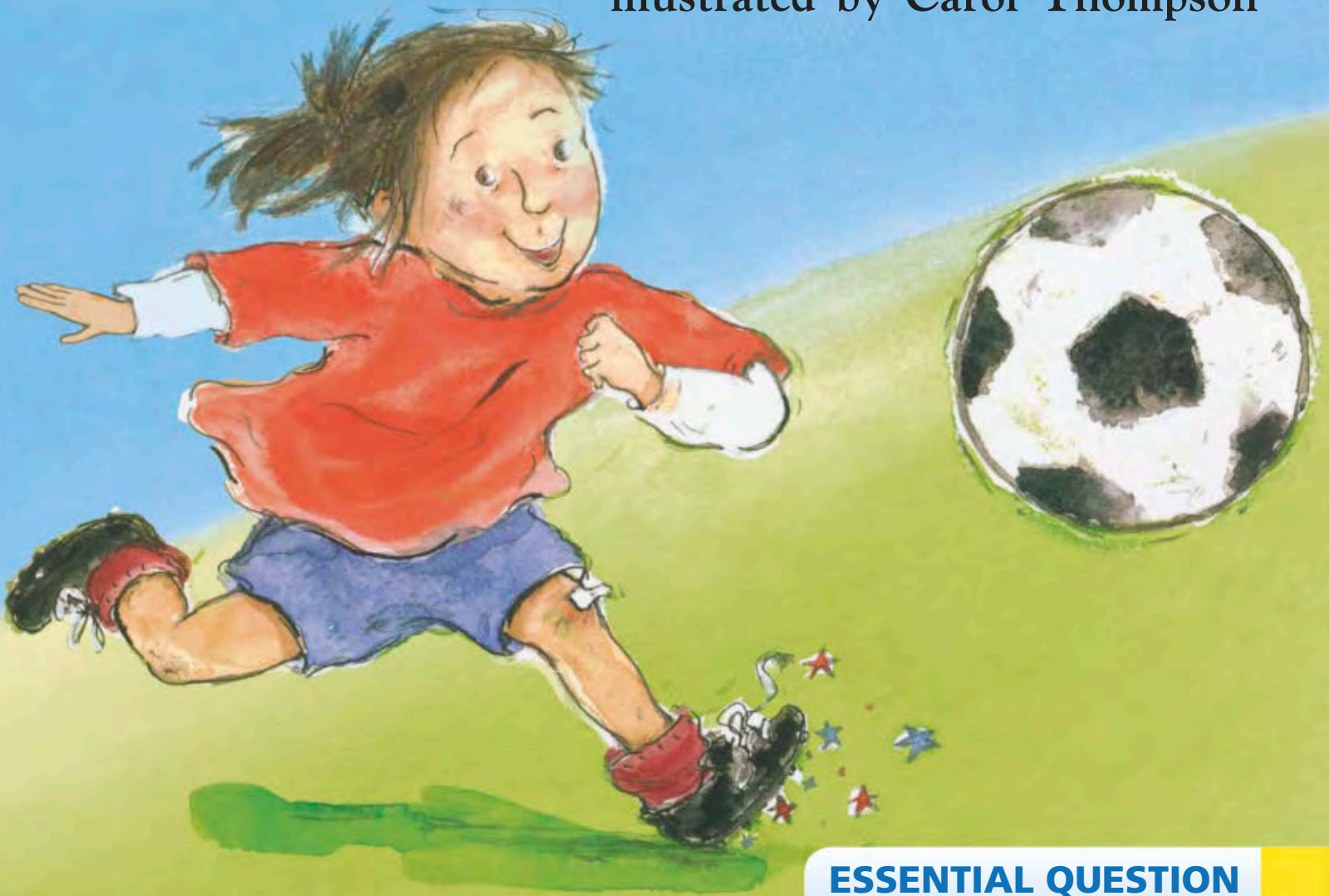
Carol Thompson

Carol Thompson has won many awards for illustrating children's picture books. She also makes greeting cards. She lives in England with her family.

Winners Never Quit!

by Mia Hamm

illustrated by Carol Thompson



ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Why is teamwork
important in school
or sports?

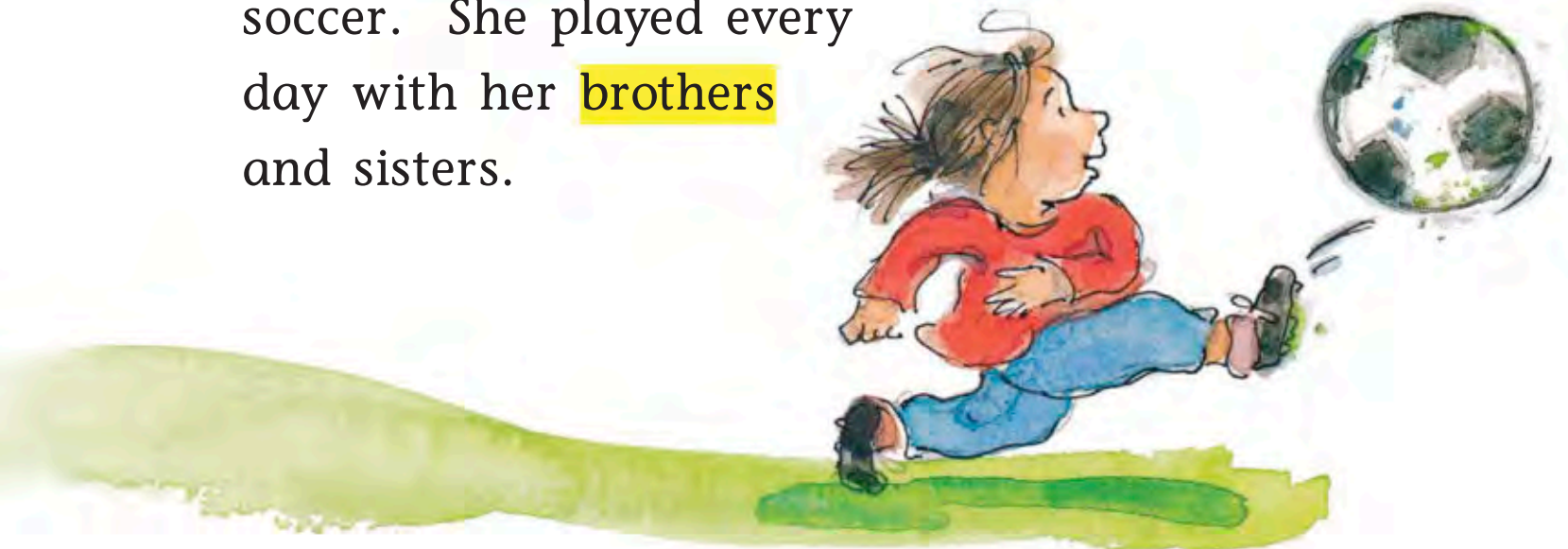


Mia **loved** basketball.



Mia loved baseball.

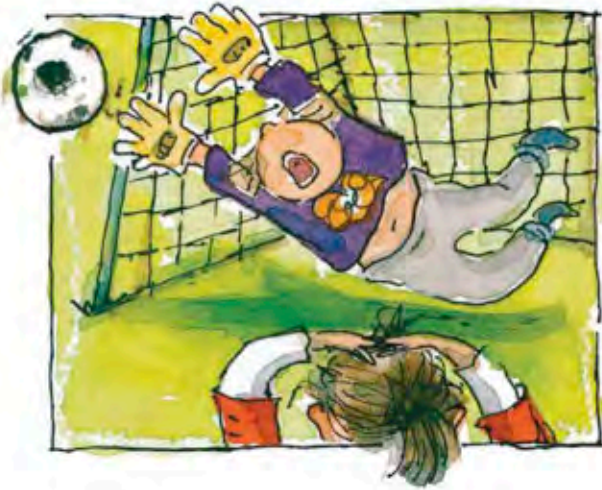
But **most** of all, Mia loved soccer. She played every day with her **brothers** and sisters.





Tap, tap, tap. Her toes kept the ball right where she wanted it. Then, *smack!* She'd kick the ball straight into the net. **Goal!** **Everyone** on her team would cheer.

But sometimes it didn't work that way.
One day, no matter how hard she tried,
Mia couldn't score a goal.



The ball sailed to
the left of the net.



Or to the right.



Or her sister Lovdy,
the goalie, saved the
ball with her hands.

No goal.

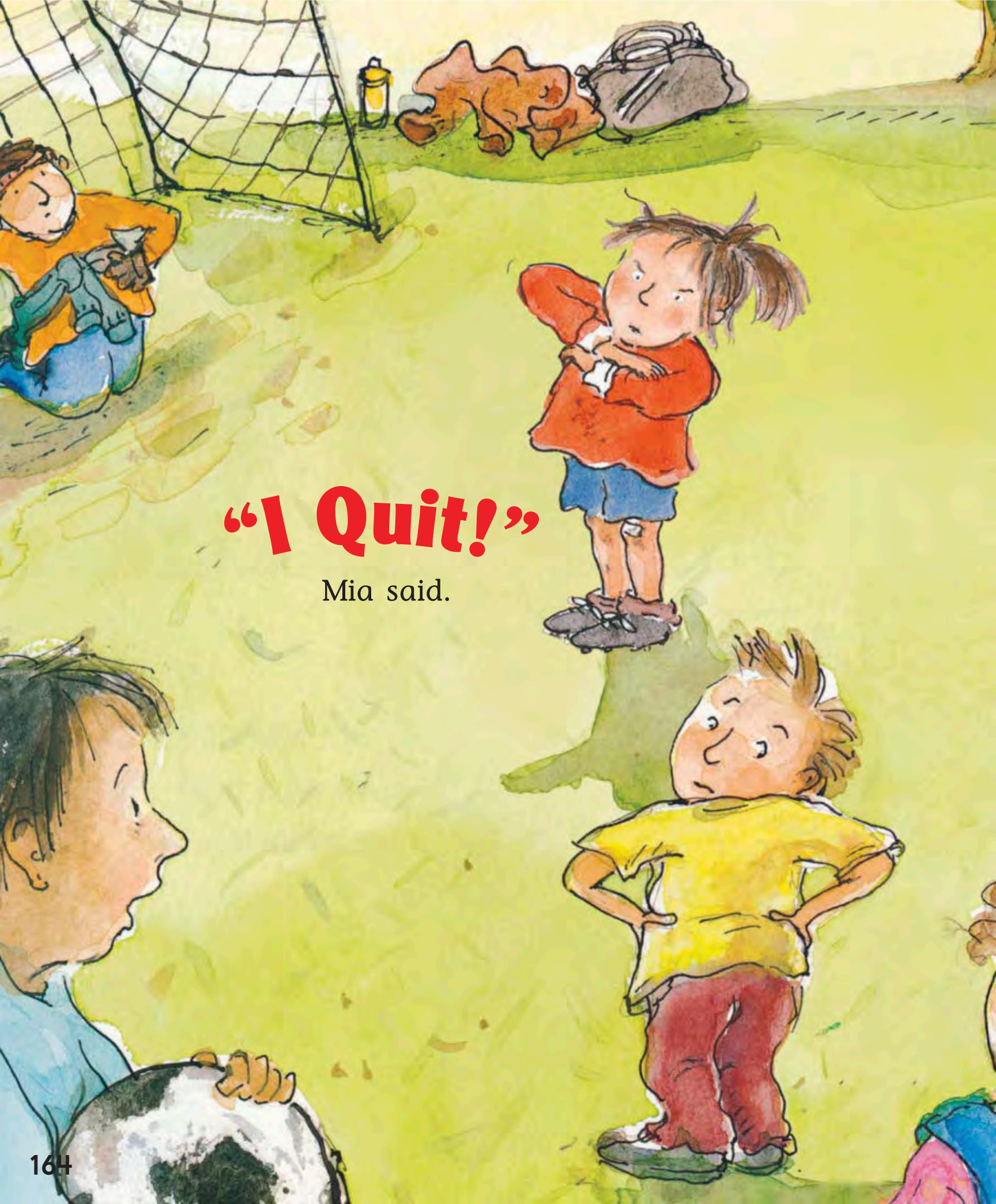
No cheering.

“Too bad, Mia,”
her brother Garrett
said. “Better luck
next time!”



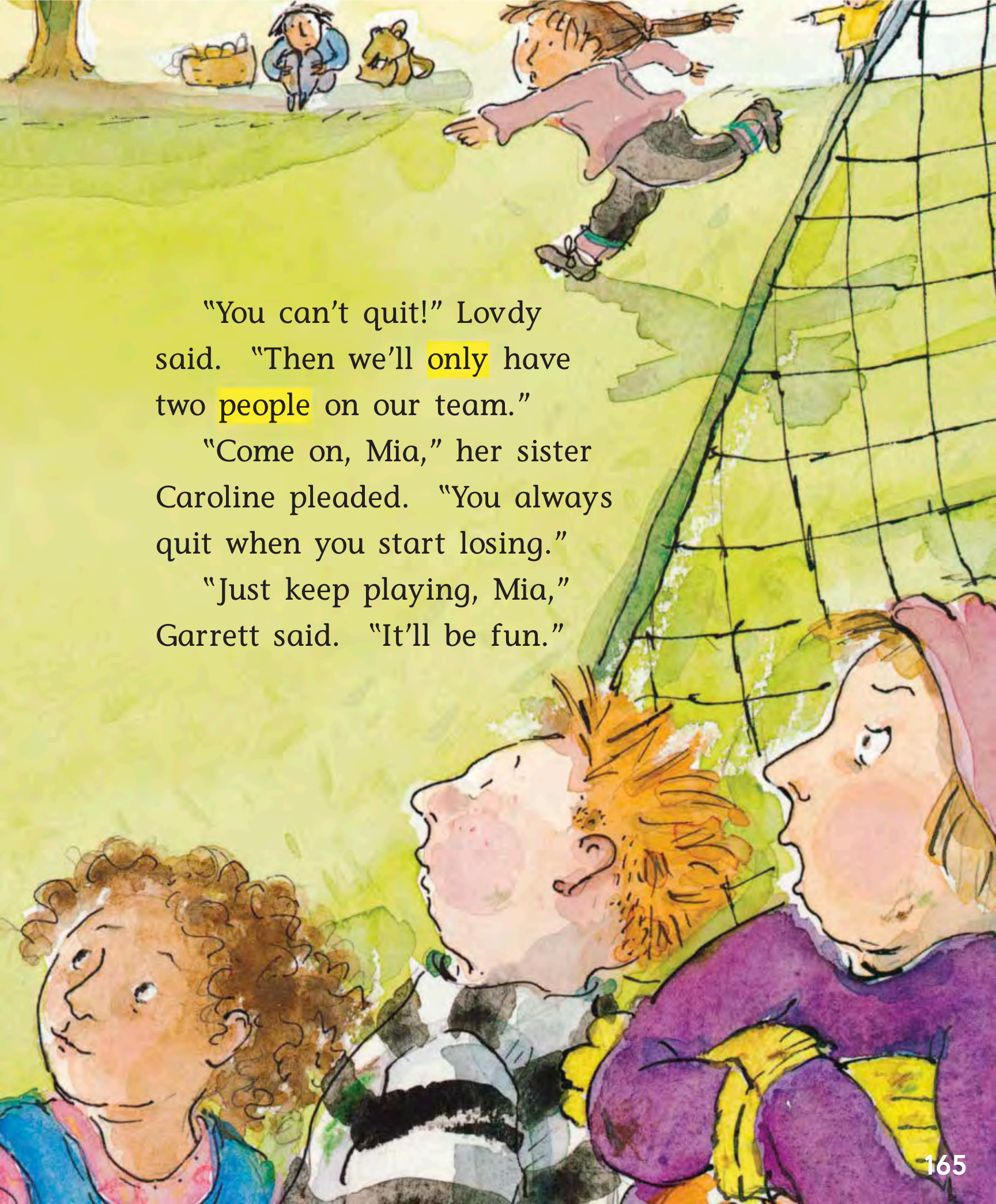
But Mia didn't want
better luck next time.
She wanted better
luck *now*.





“I Quit!”

Mia said.



"You can't quit!" Lovdy said. "Then we'll **only** have two **people** on our team."

"Come on, Mia," her sister Caroline pleaded. "You always quit when you start losing."

"Just keep playing, Mia," Garrett said. "It'll be fun."



But losing wasn't fun. Mia stomped back to the house.

ANALYZE THE TEXT

Genre: Narrative Nonfiction This is a true story about real people. How is it different from other nonfiction selections?

“Quitter!”

“Quitter!” Lovdy yelled.

Mia didn't care.

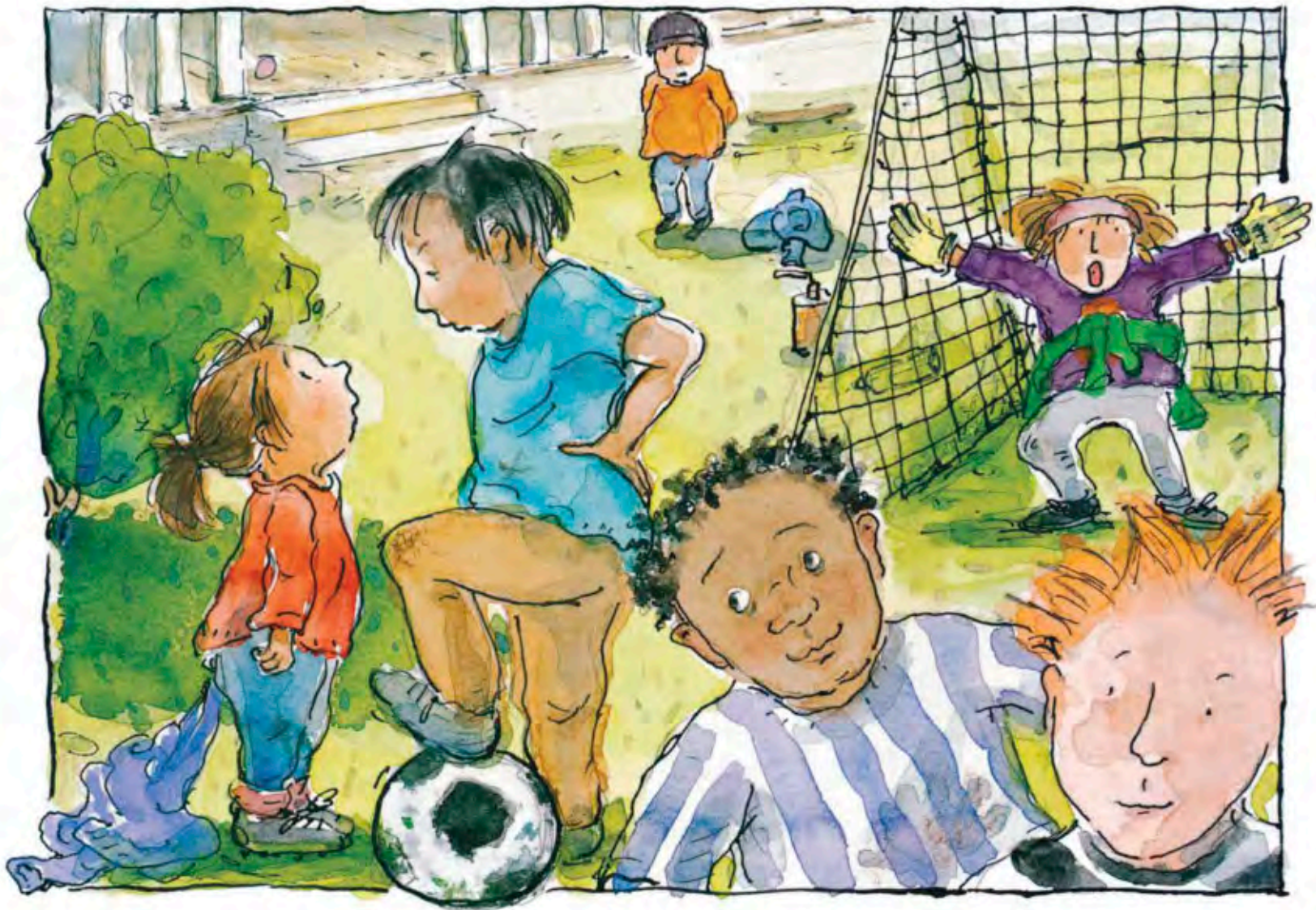
She'd rather quit than lose.





The next day, Mia ran outside, ready to play soccer. When she got there, the game had already started.

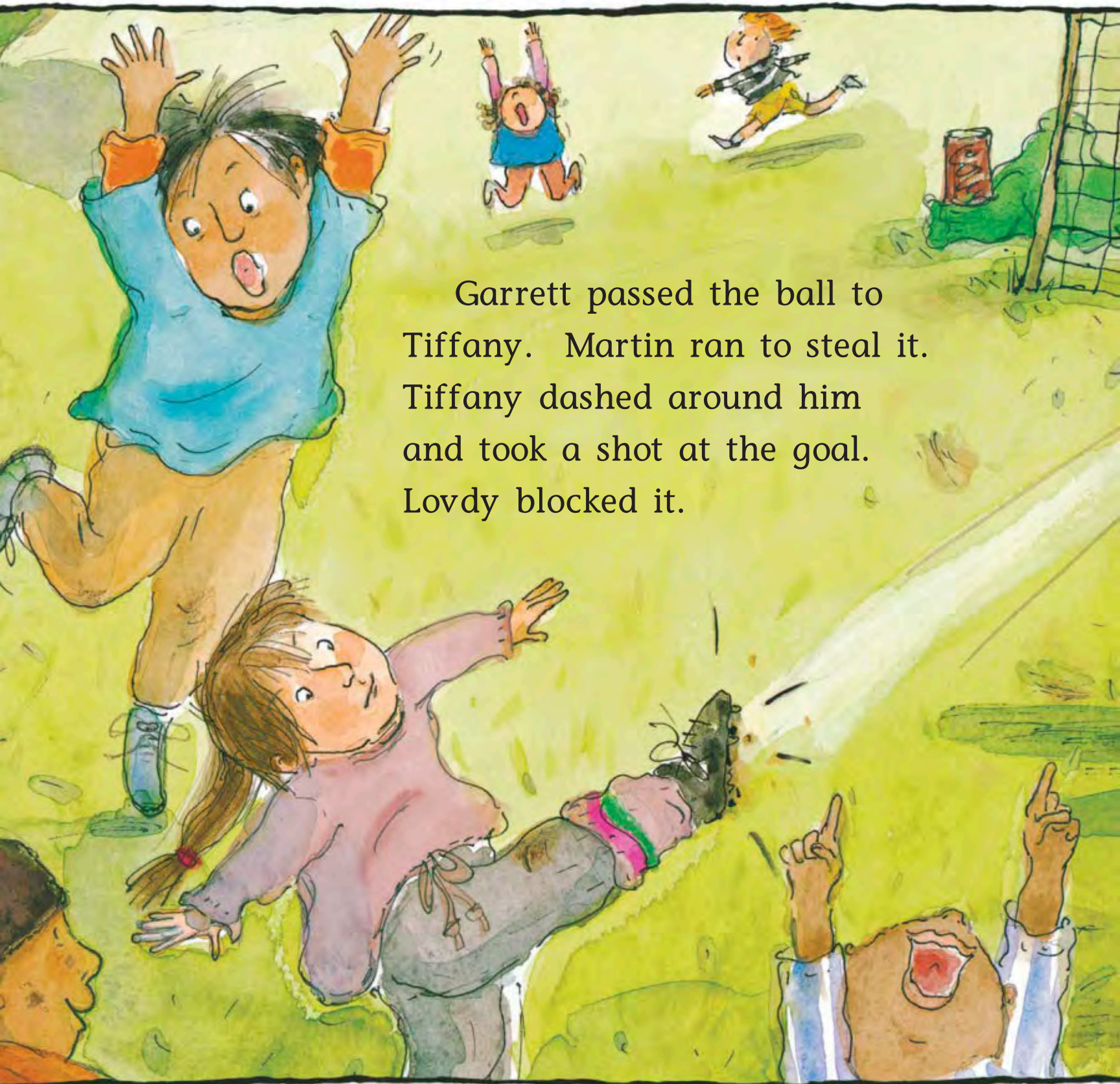
“Hey!” she yelled. “Why didn’t you wait for me?”



Garrett stopped playing.

"**Sorry**, Mia," he said. "But quitters can't play on my team."

"Yeah," said Lovdy. "If you can't learn to lose, you can't play."



Garrett passed the ball to Tiffany. Martin ran to steal it. Tiffany dashed around him and took a shot at the goal. Lovdy blocked it.



Mia just stood
by the side and
watched.

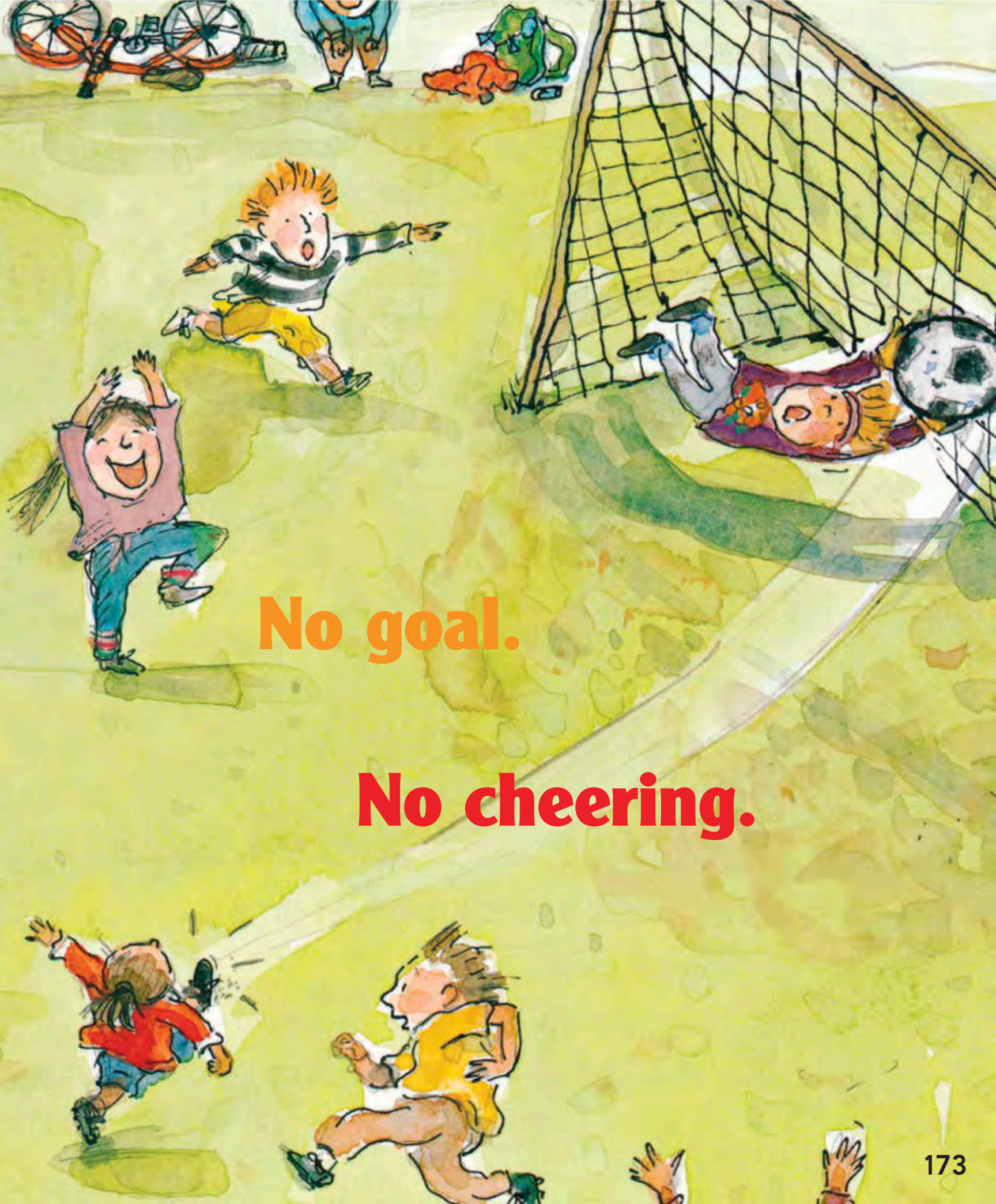


The next day, Garrett picked Mia first for his team.

Mia got the ball. She dribbled down the field. *Smack!* She kicked the ball toward the goal.

And Lovdy caught it.





No goal.

No cheering.



“Too bad, Mia,” Garrett said. “Better luck next time.”

Mia felt tears in her eyes.

“She’s going to quit,” whispered Lovdy.

“I *knew* it.”

Mia still hated losing. But she didn’t hate losing as much as she loved soccer.

“Ready to play?” asked Garrett.

Mia nodded.

Garrett grinned at her. He passed her the ball.

Mia ran down the field. Tap, tap, tap with her toes. The ball stayed right with her, like a friend. She got ready to kick it into the goal.





Mia kicked the ball as hard
as she could.

Maybe she'd score the goal.
Maybe she wouldn't.

But she was playing.

And that was more important
than winning or losing . . .

because winners never quit!

ANALYZE THE TEXT

Main Idea and Details What is the main idea of the selection? What do the characters do to show the main idea?

Genre: Narrative Nonfiction

Winners Never Quit! tells about events in the life of a real person named Mia Hamm. Here she is! Her story has a real setting and gives information. It tells about events in the order that they really happened.

The facts and events are told like a story. How did the author make **Winners Never Quit!** a fun way to learn true information about her life?

