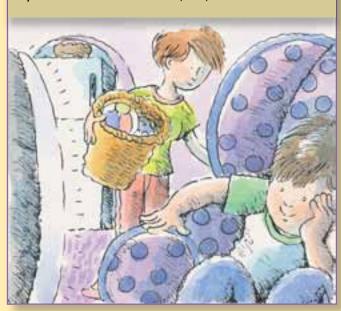
## Mom's Surprise Helper

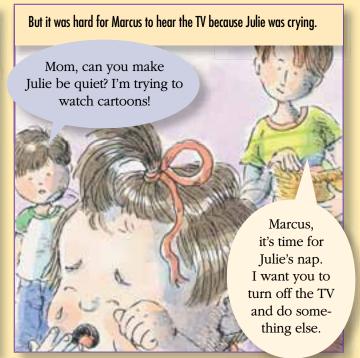
BY CHAD E. PHARES

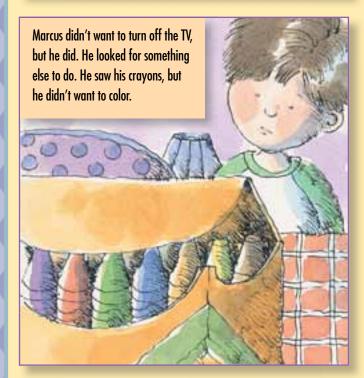
(Based on a true story)

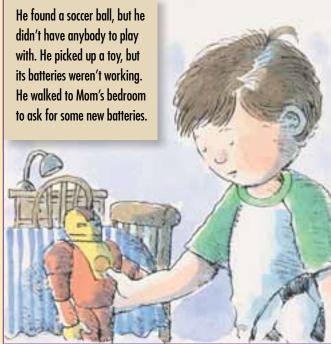
When we're helping, we're happy (Children's Songbook, 198).

Marcus sat on the couch and watched cartoons. Mom picked up the toys and clothes he and his little sister, Julie, had left on the floor.





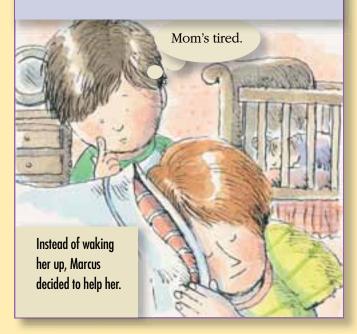




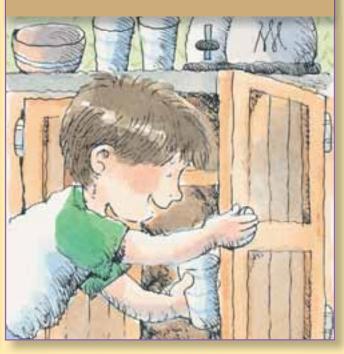
34 ILLUSTRATIONS BY ELISE BLACK



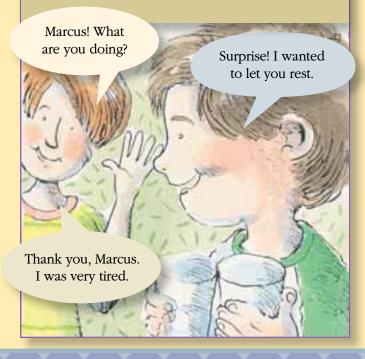
When Marcus got to the bedroom, he saw Julie asleep in her crib. Mom was asleep on the bed next to some folded towels and a basket of socks.



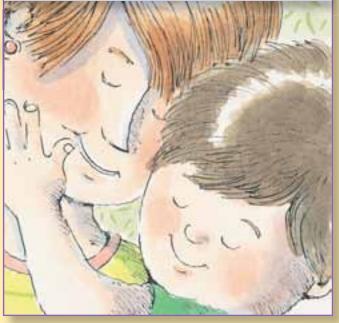
In the kitchen, he began putting the clean dishes in the cabinets, just like Mom always did — only a little louder.



After a couple of minutes, Mom walked into the kitchen. Marcus was sitting on the counter, trying to put away the plastic cups.



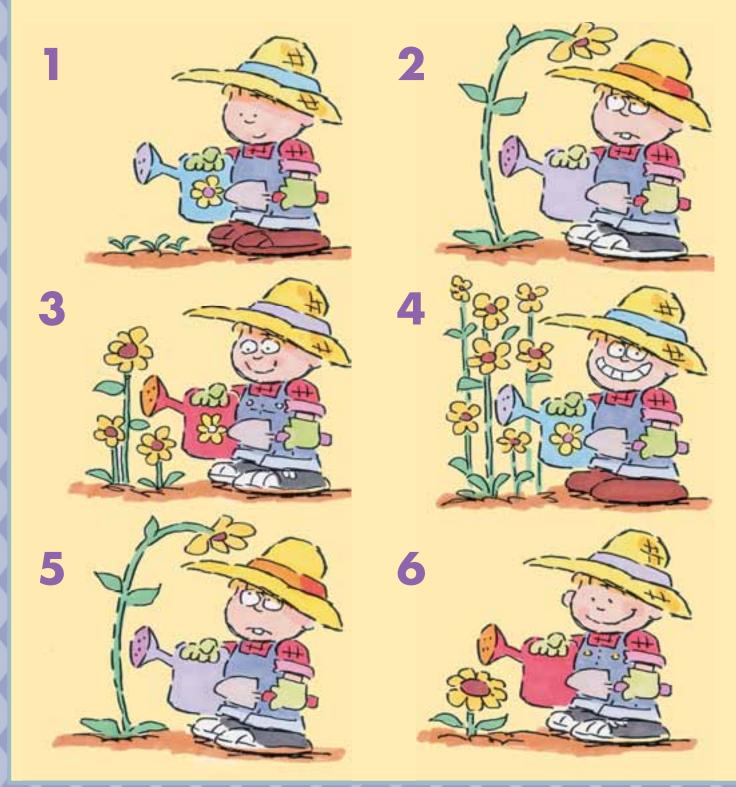
Mom gave Marcus a big hug and a kiss. As much as Marcus loved to watch cartoons, doing something to make Mom happy made him feel even better.



## May Flowers

## BY VAL CHADWICK BAGLEY

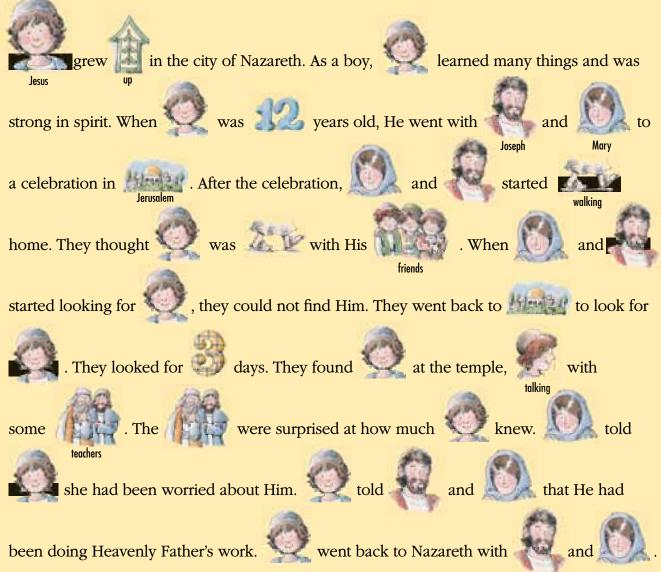
April showers brought May flowers for this gardener. Can you find the two gardens that are most alike?



36 ANSWER 'S pure 7

## Jesus Christ Teaches at the Temple





ILLUSTRATIONS BY ELISE BLACK FRIEND MAY 2009 37