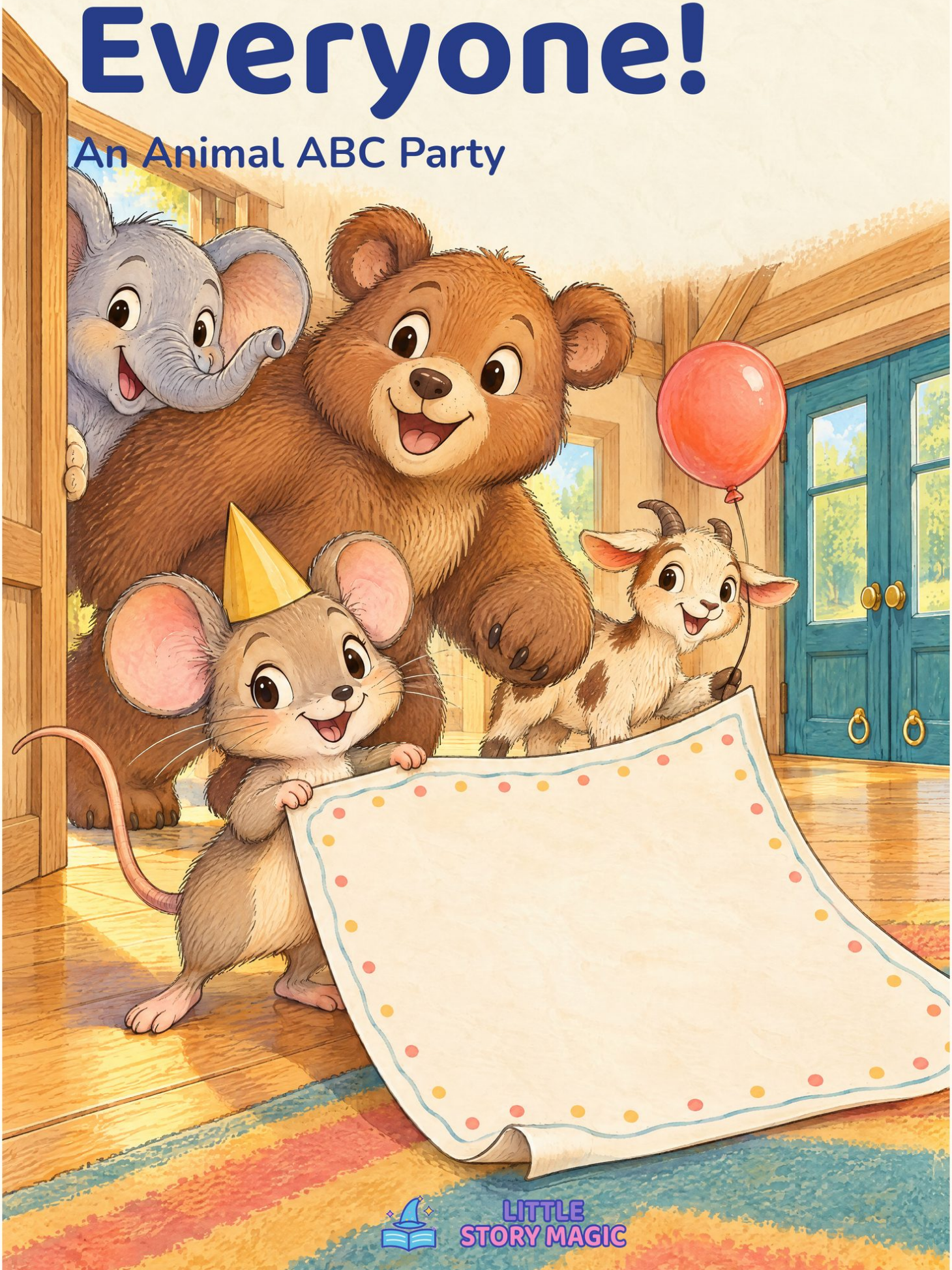
Nellie Invited Everyone!

An Animal ABC Party



LITTLE STORY MAGIC



Nellie Mouse has a cake, a yellow party hat and a room that looks enormous.

One window looks into a river. Another looks into the sea. Big doors lead out to the garden.

Nellie writes one enormous invitation.

"Everyone's invited!"

Everyone?



Aa

A is for Ant

ANT

Ant brings one crumb. It needs a plate of its own.

"Plenty of room," says Nellie.



Bb

B is for Bear

BAIR

Bear tries the smallest chair.

Oh.

Nellie fetches a bigger chair. It takes up rather more room.



Cc

C is for Cat

KAT

Cat is waiting for the cake. Cat is pretending not to be waiting for the cake.



Dd

D is for Duck

DUK

Duck brings a puddle.

"I wiped my feet," she says.

Nellie puts down a very large mat.



Ee

E is for Elephant

EL-uh-funt

Elephant blows the party horn.

PAAAARP!

There goes Nellie's hat.

"Come in," says Nellie. "Mind the—"

Too late.



Ff

F is for Frog

FRAHG

Frog makes one small hop.

The jelly makes one BIG wobble.

Nellie moves its table back a little.



Gg

G is for Goat

GOHT

Goat wears a balloon like a very tall hat.

"Do you like it?"

"Lovely," says Nellie, moving another chair.



Hh

H is for Hedgehog

HEJ-hahg

Hedgehog steps away from the balloons.

"I'll look after the cups."

The cups need a table, too.



Ii

I is for Iguana

ih-GWAH-nuh

Iguana's tail will not fit on the chair.
It needs a chair of its own.
"Of course," says Nellie.



Jj

J is for Jellyfish

JEL-ee-fish

Jellyfish jiggles beyond the sea window.
Wibble-wobble!
There is still plenty of room in the sea.



Kk

K is for Koala

koh-AH-luh

Koala hugs the party cushion.

"Very comfortable."

Nellie squeezes past. Sideways.



Ll

L is for Lion

LYE-uhn

Lion takes a great big breath.

Nellie offers a tiny party whistle.

Peep!

"Perfect."



Mm

M is for Mouse

MOWS

Mouse? That's Nellie!

She has invited everyone.

The room is full.

But where has her dance floor gone?



Nn

N is for Newt

NOOT

Newt peeps out from behind the napkins.

"Is the music on yet?"

"Nearly," says Nellie, climbing over a cushion.



Oo

O is for Octopus

AHK-tuh-pus

Octopus waves through the sea window.

It's a very big wave.

Nellie can only wave one tiny paw back.



Pp

P is for Penguin

PENG-gwin

Penguin tries a dance step.

Slide, stop.

Slide—

SPLAT!

"We need a bigger dance floor," says Nellie.



Qq

Q is for Quail

KWAYL

Quail taps a very small drum.

Tap-tap!

Everybody starts to bob.

Nobody can go anywhere.



Rr

R is for Rabbit

RAB-it

Rabbit's ears bounce to the beat.
The rest of Rabbit would like to join in.
"Coming through!" calls Nellie.



Ss

S is for Snail

SNAYL

Snail arrives with the invitations.

"Am I early?"

Nellie looks at the very full party.

"Just in time."



Tt

T is for Tortoise

TOR-tuhs

Tortoise has saved a seat for Snail.

"One more chair?" asks Nellie.

Then she stops.

"We don't need more chairs."



Uu

U is for Urchin

UR-chin

Urchin waits beyond the sea window, dressed in spikes.

Nellie turns toward the garden.

The garden is empty.



Vv

V is for Vole

VOHL

Vole makes a tunnel under the tablecloth.

Peekaboo!

Nellie follows. There are the big garden doors!



Ww

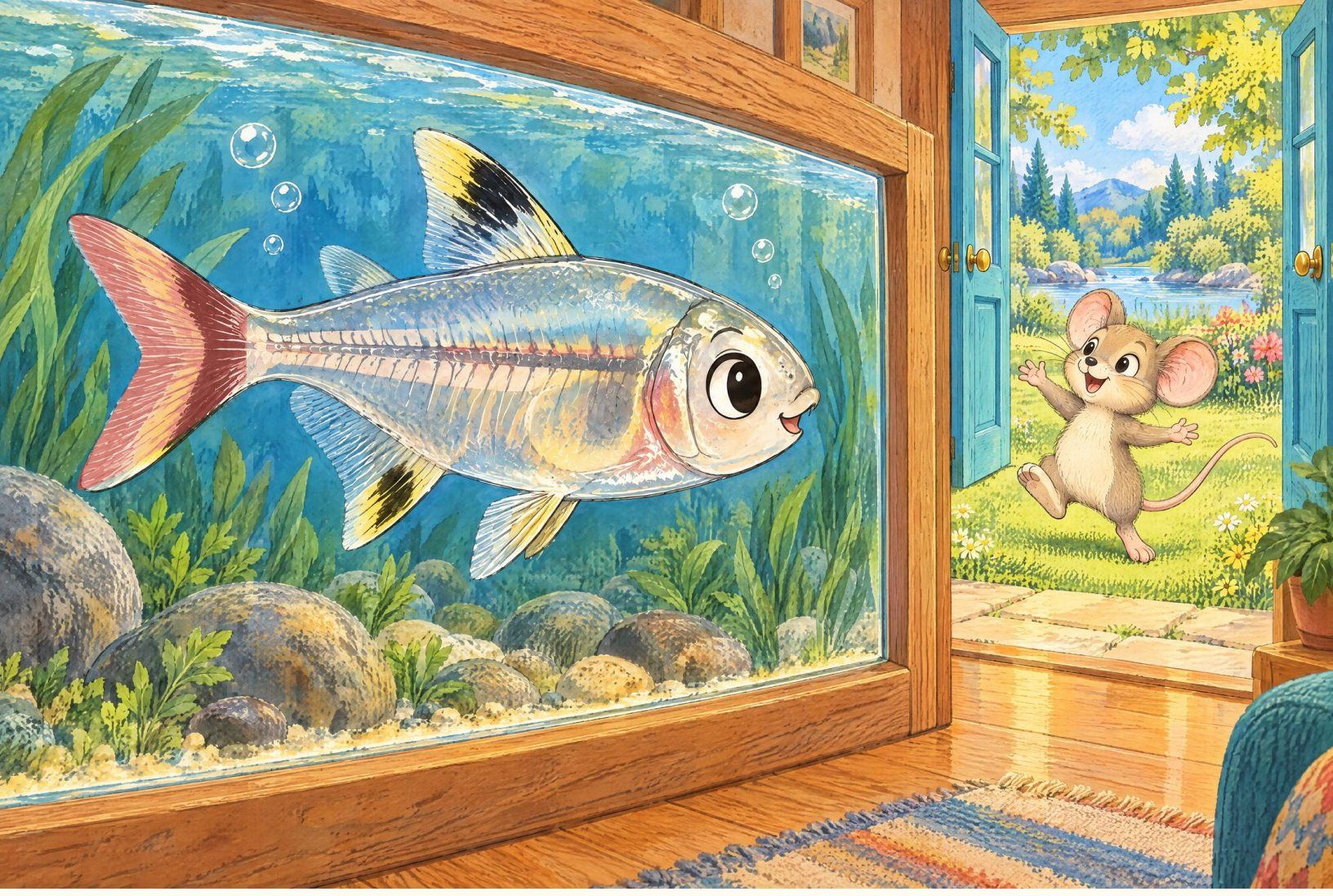
W is for Worm

WURM

Worm wriggles through the doorway.

Nellie opens both doors wide.

"Plenty of room!"



Xx

X is for X-ray tetra

EKS-ray TET-ruh

X-ray tetra swims past the river window.
Look—its little bones show through!
Outside, Nellie has found room to dance.



Yy

Y is for Yak

YAK

Yak joins the dance.

The ground goes thump.

Nellie's toes go bump.

Now the rest of Rabbit can join in, too.



Zz

Z is for Zebra

ZEE-bruh

Zebra wheels out the cake.

"Does anybody need a yellow hat?"

Nellie looks up.

"So THAT'S where it went!"



Nellie puts on her hat.

Now her ears have pink icing.

"Perfect," she says. "Let's have cake!"

Cat was ready some time ago.

A little more to share

Play the party again

Try Lion's enormous breath and tiny whistle, invent one more guest, or see who spots Nellie's hat first. Share the jokes at your own pace.

A little letter looking

Each letter has a big form and a little form, such as Aa. Name them when your child is interested. X-ray tetra is a real fish with a translucent body; the party and its magical windows are invented.

Saying the words

The small line helps you say the word. Hyphens separate syllables; capitals show the strongest beat. AIR sounds like hair, AH like father, AY like day, OH like go, OW like cow, OO like moon and UU like book. The light uh sounds like the first vowel in about. These are approximate American English guides; familiar regional pronunciations are welcome.

Letters and sounds

X-ray begins with the spoken letter name X.

Made for sharing

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