

Mellie

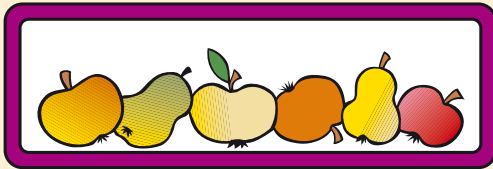
and her Cochlear Implants



*This is the story of Mellie, the MED-ELephant...*

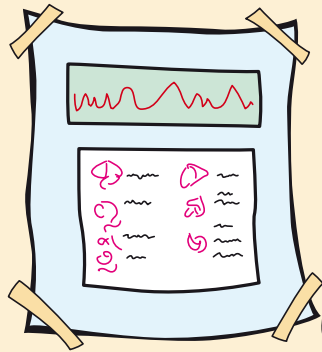
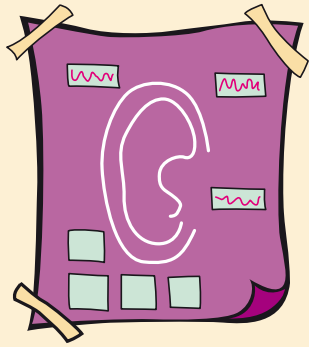
When Mellie was born,  
her parents were so happy!  
Her mum and dad said,

*“Oh, what a beautiful baby we have!”*

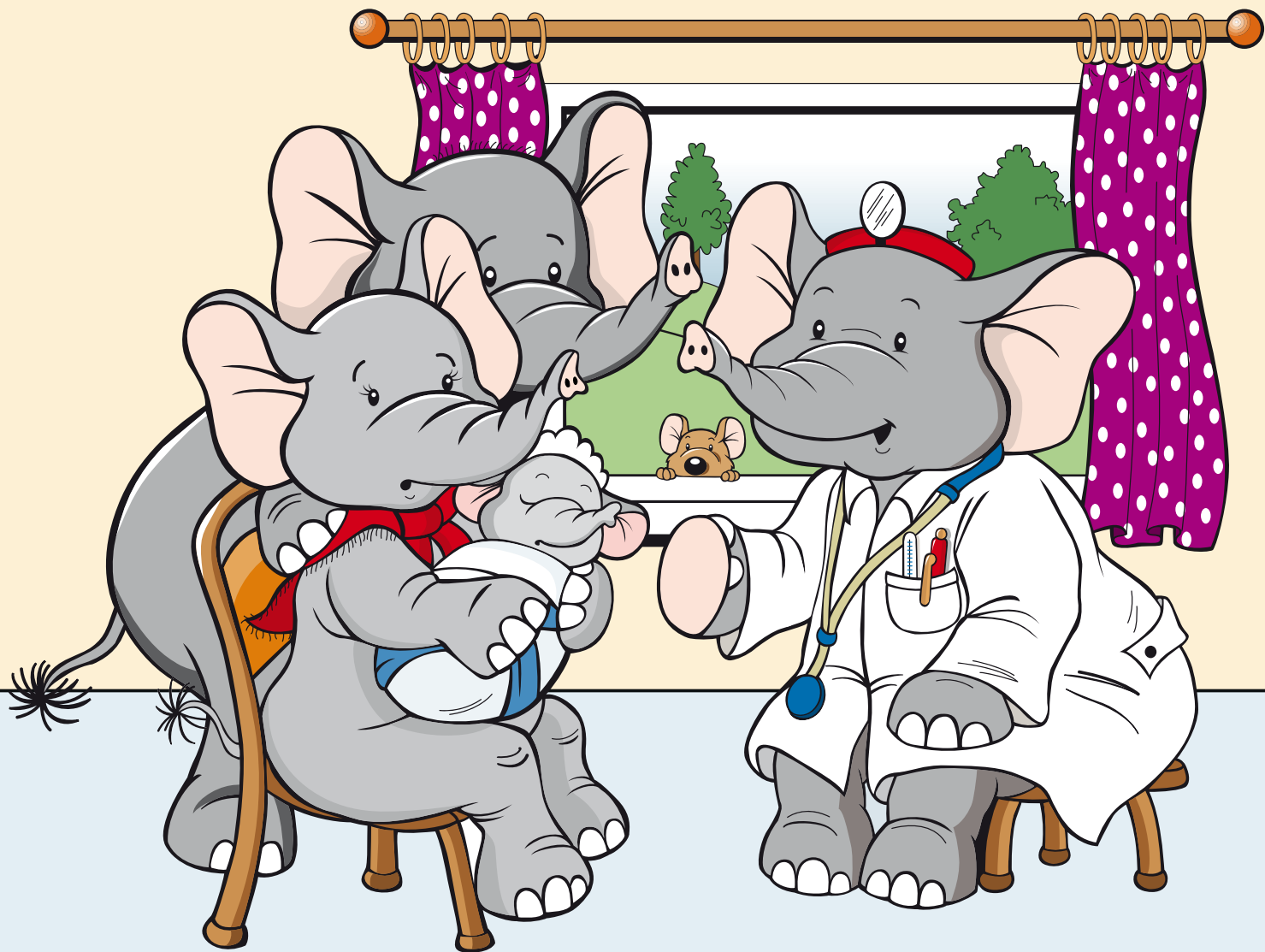


Soon after Mellie was born,  
the ear doctor tested her hearing.  
Mellie was fast asleep.

*She didn't notice a thing.*







*Mellie was a happy little child.*

She laughed a lot.

She was as beautiful as every other baby.

But she could not hear anything.

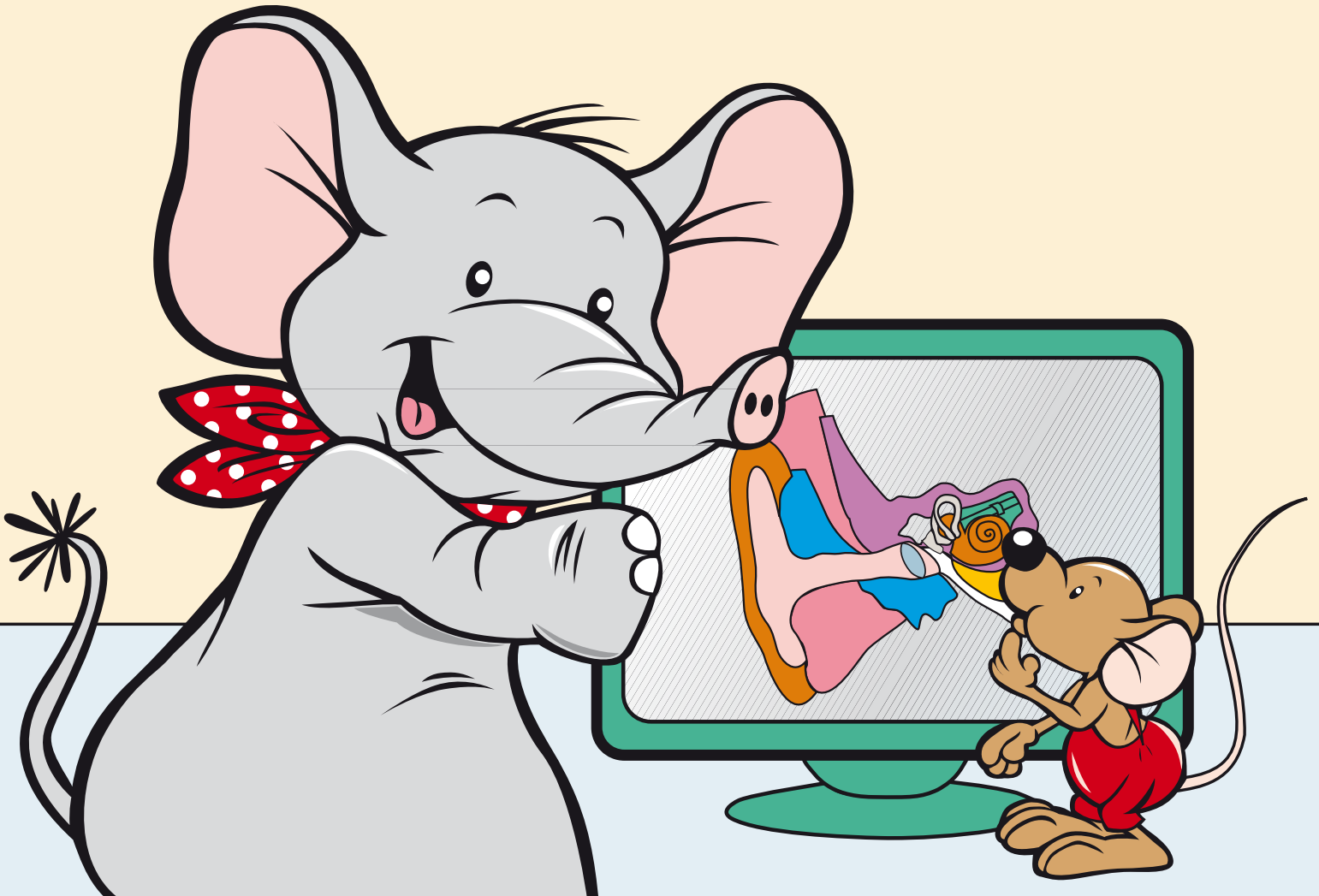
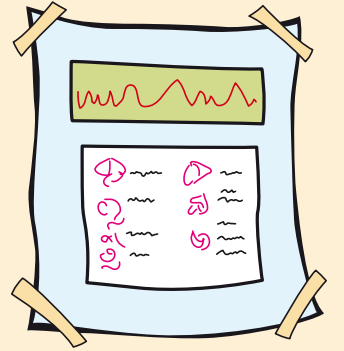
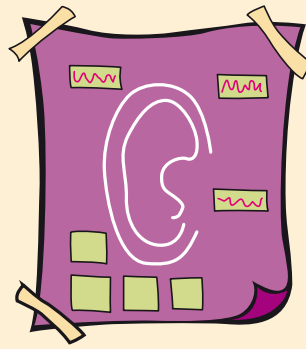
Even with her hearing aids.





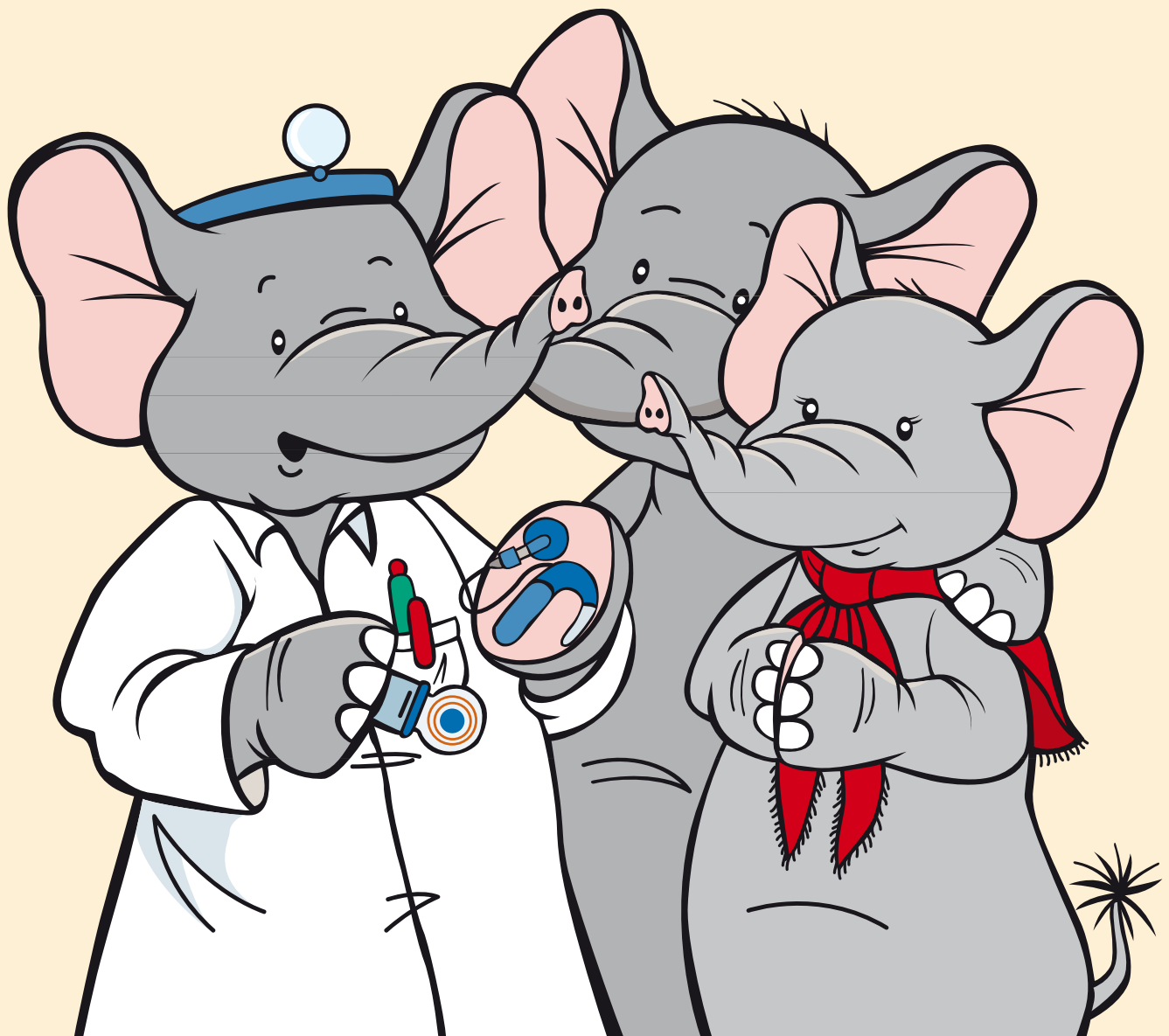
Often, Mellie's parents took her  
to the ear doctor.  
He examined her ears.  
He was very careful.  
It didn't hurt at all.

*This is a picture of the inside of Mellie's ears!*



The ear doctor showed Mellie's parents  
a device that would help Mellie to hear.  
It's called a cochlear implant.  
It has two parts: an implant and a speech processor.  
The implant is like a tiny computer,  
it's underneath the skin.  
And the speech processor  
looks like Mellie's hearing aid.  
It has a round magnet, called a coil.  
It keeps the speech processor on Mellie's head.

*The cochlear implant will help Mellie to hear.*  
Many children with hearing loss have a cochlear implant.



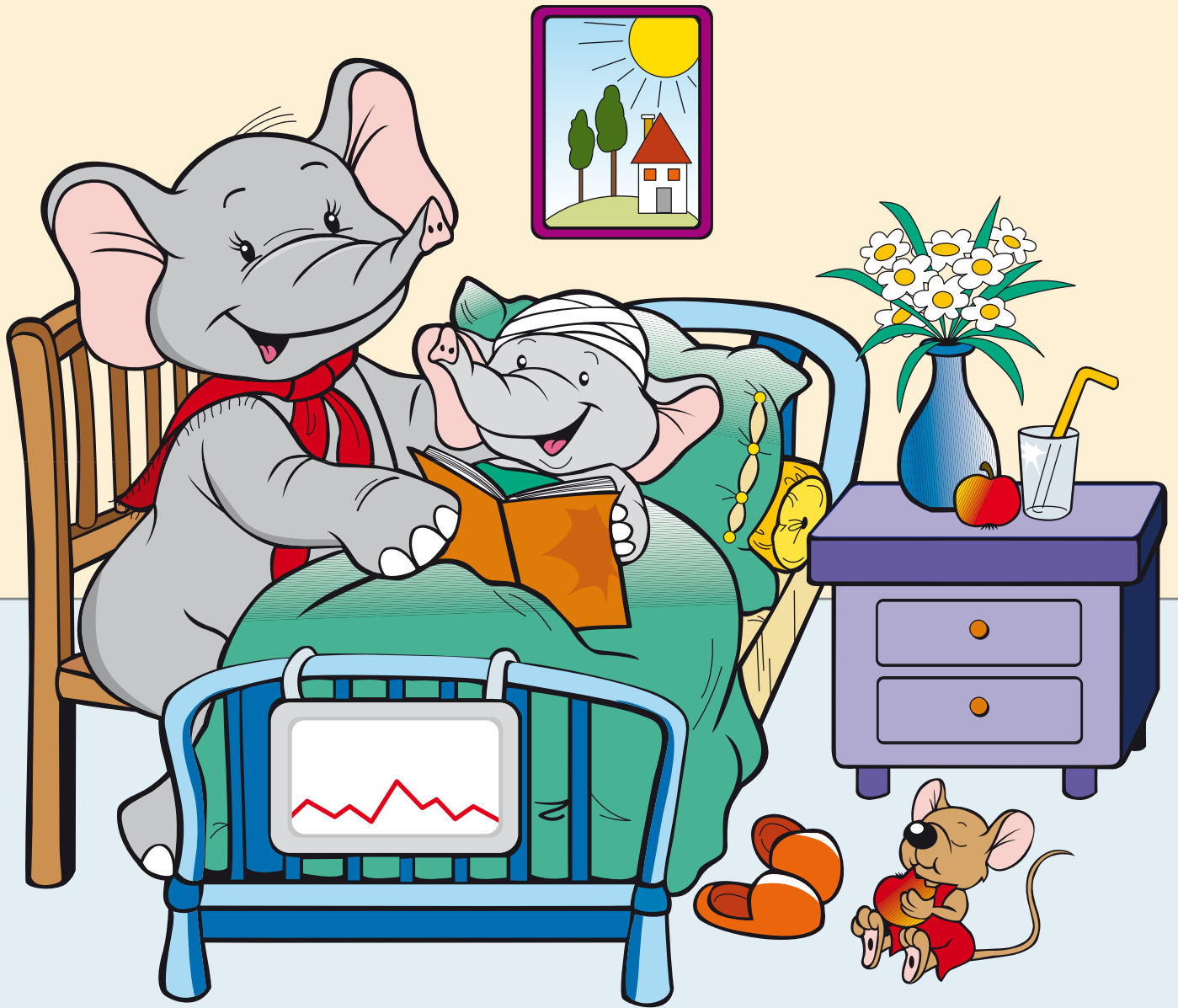
When Mellie was old enough,  
she received her new cochlear implants.  
Her parents stayed in the hospital with her.  
Before the operation, the nurse cut a little patch  
of Mellie's hair.

*“It's okay”, said the nurse. “It will grow back.”*

Mellie was fast asleep.  
During the operation the doctor  
put the implants into her ears.

*On the next day,  
she was already up and about.*

Mellie's bandage was a reminder  
that she would soon hear.



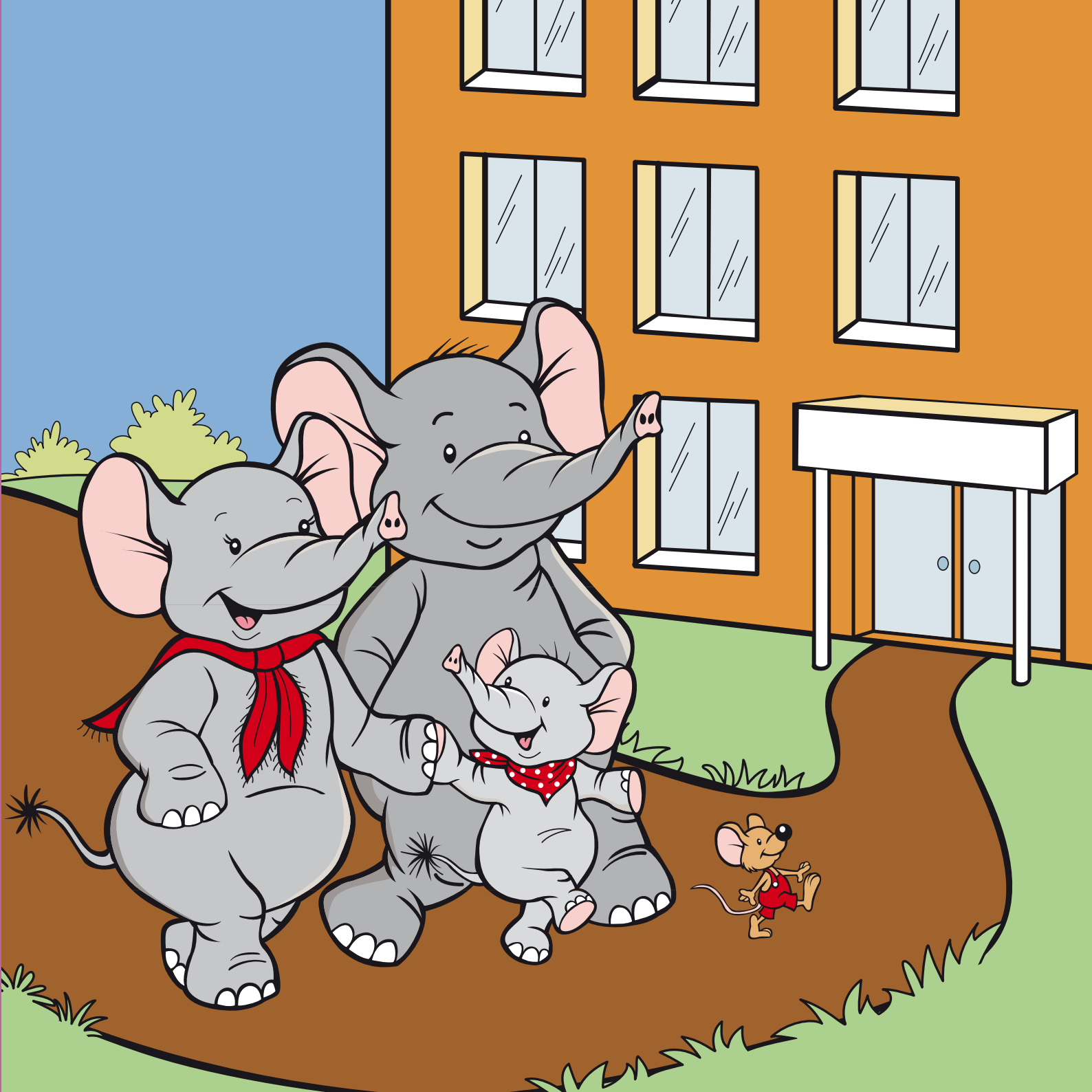
A few weeks later ...

*Mellie's BIG day had arrived.*

Mellie received her speech processors.

*Her parents were so excited!*

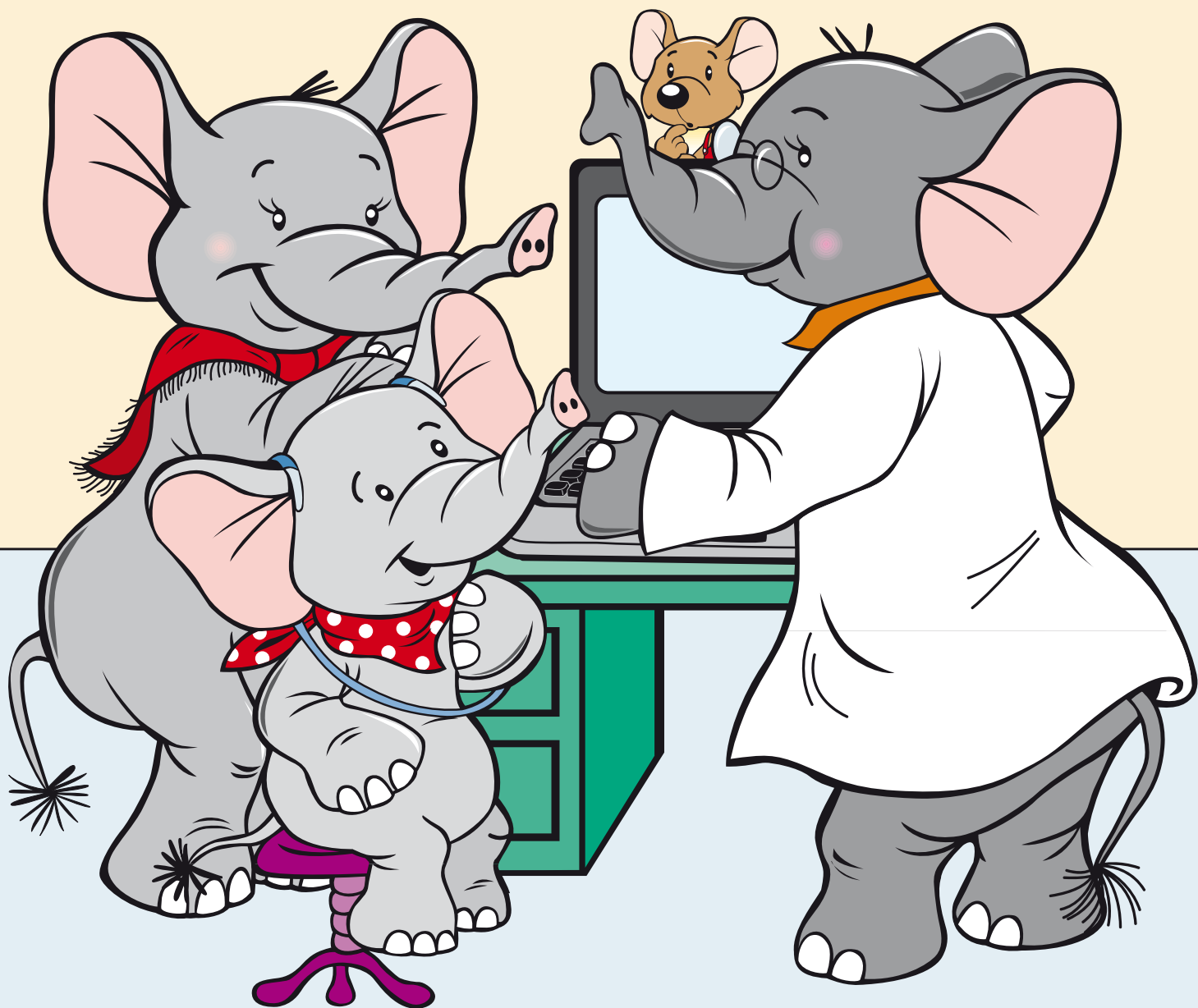




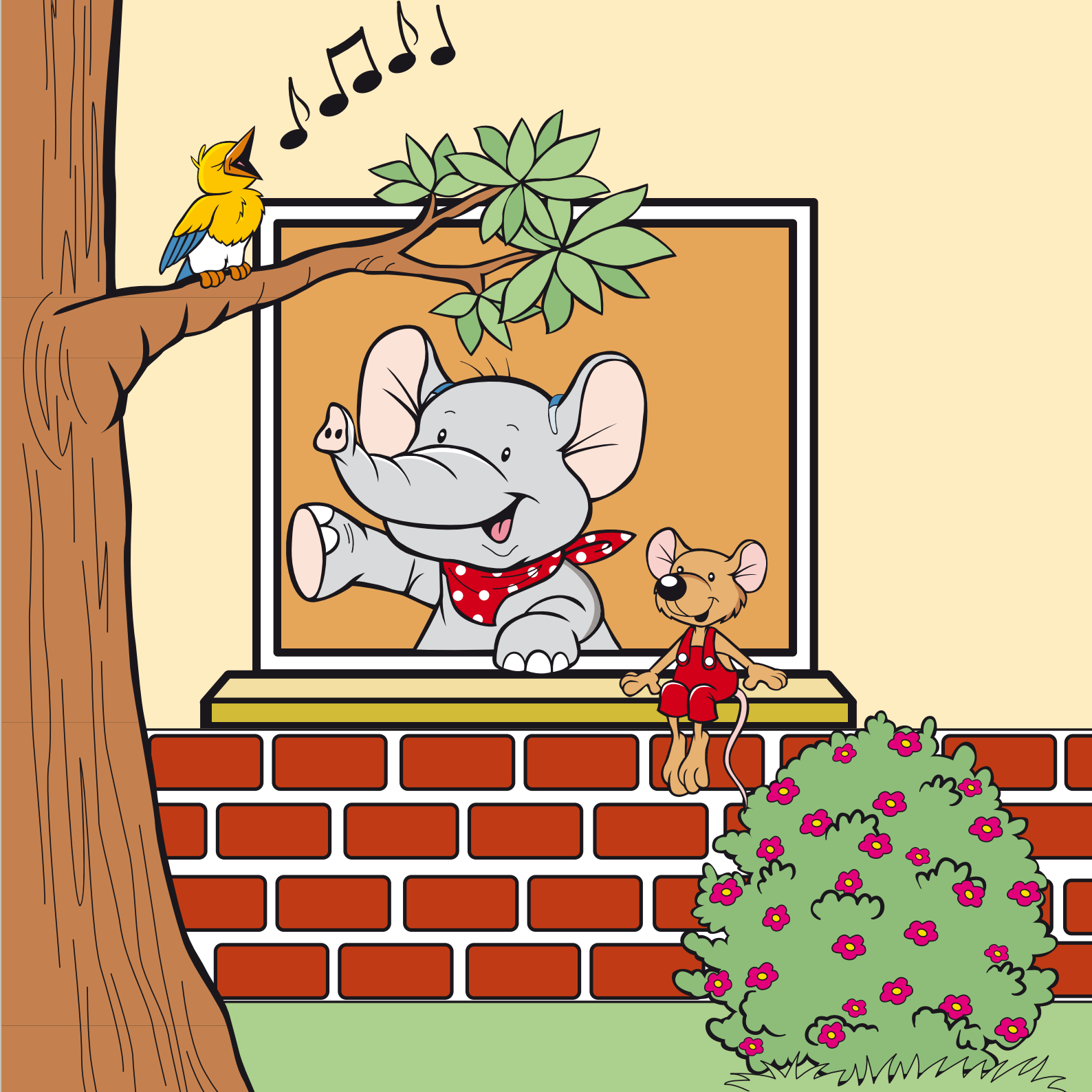
At the clinic,  
Mellie's new speech processors  
were connected to a computer.  
The computer produced sounds.

*Some sounds were high,  
and some sounds were low,  
some sounds were soft,  
and some sounds were loud.*

Every time Mellie heard a new sound  
she was amazed.

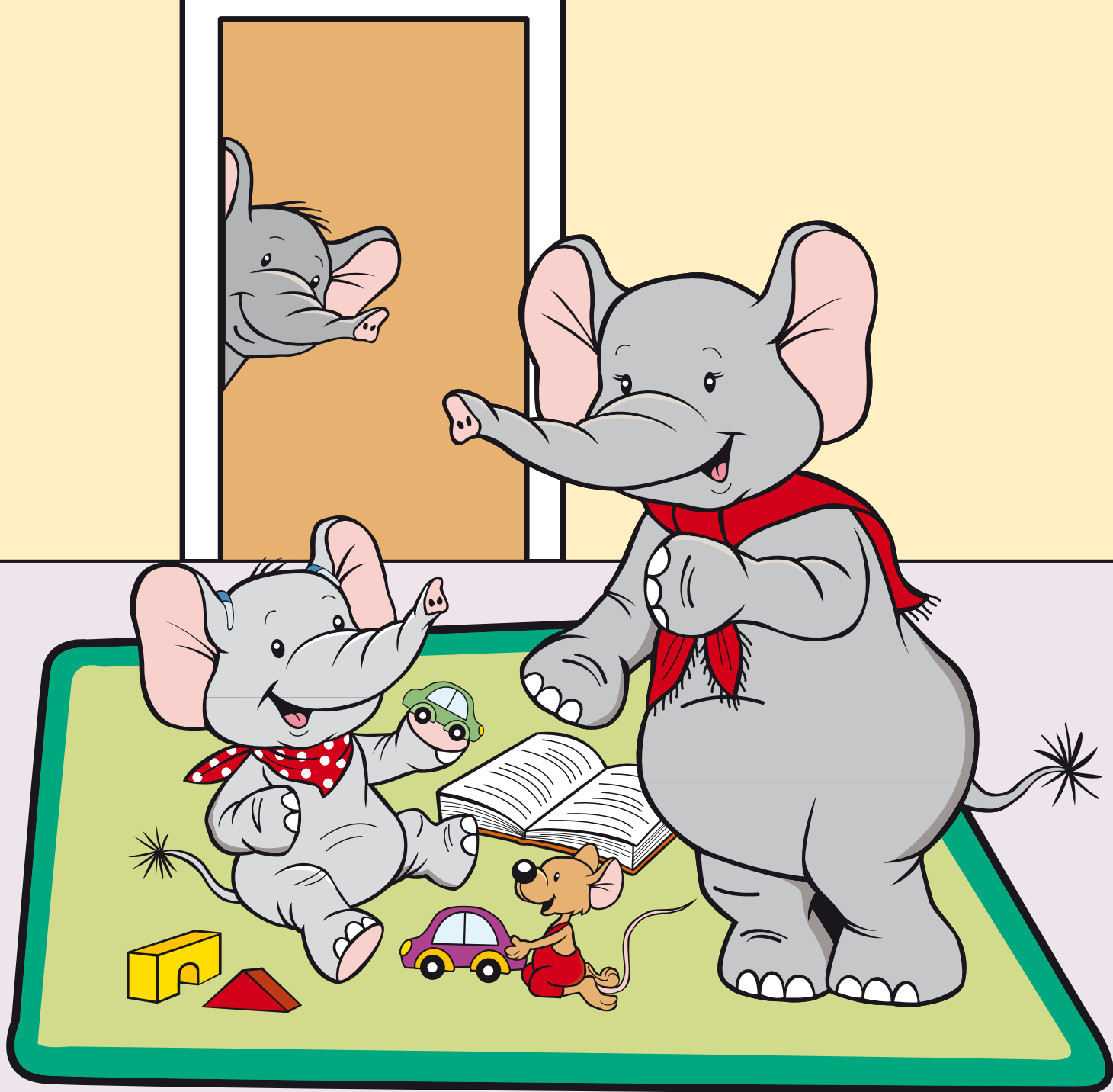






Now that Mellie could hear,  
she also started to speak.  
Her first words were:  
mummy, daddy and car.

*Mellie's parents were so proud!*



Mellie knows  
she can only hear  
with her cochlear implants.  
She looks after them carefully  
and wears them all the time.  
But not at bathtime or at bedtime.

*Mellie practices listening every day.*

In speech therapy,  
she learns to hear even better.  
This is fun!

Mellie sometimes goes back to the doctor.  
He reprograms her speech processors.  
This is **very** important.  
It helps her  
*to hear even better.*





Mellie is a happy child.  
She has many friends.  
She can do all the things  
her friends can do.  
Mellie loves being with her friends.

*They sing and dance  
and listen to stories!*

She loves  
her “new ears” –  
her cochlear implants!







[www.medel.com](http://www.medel.com)