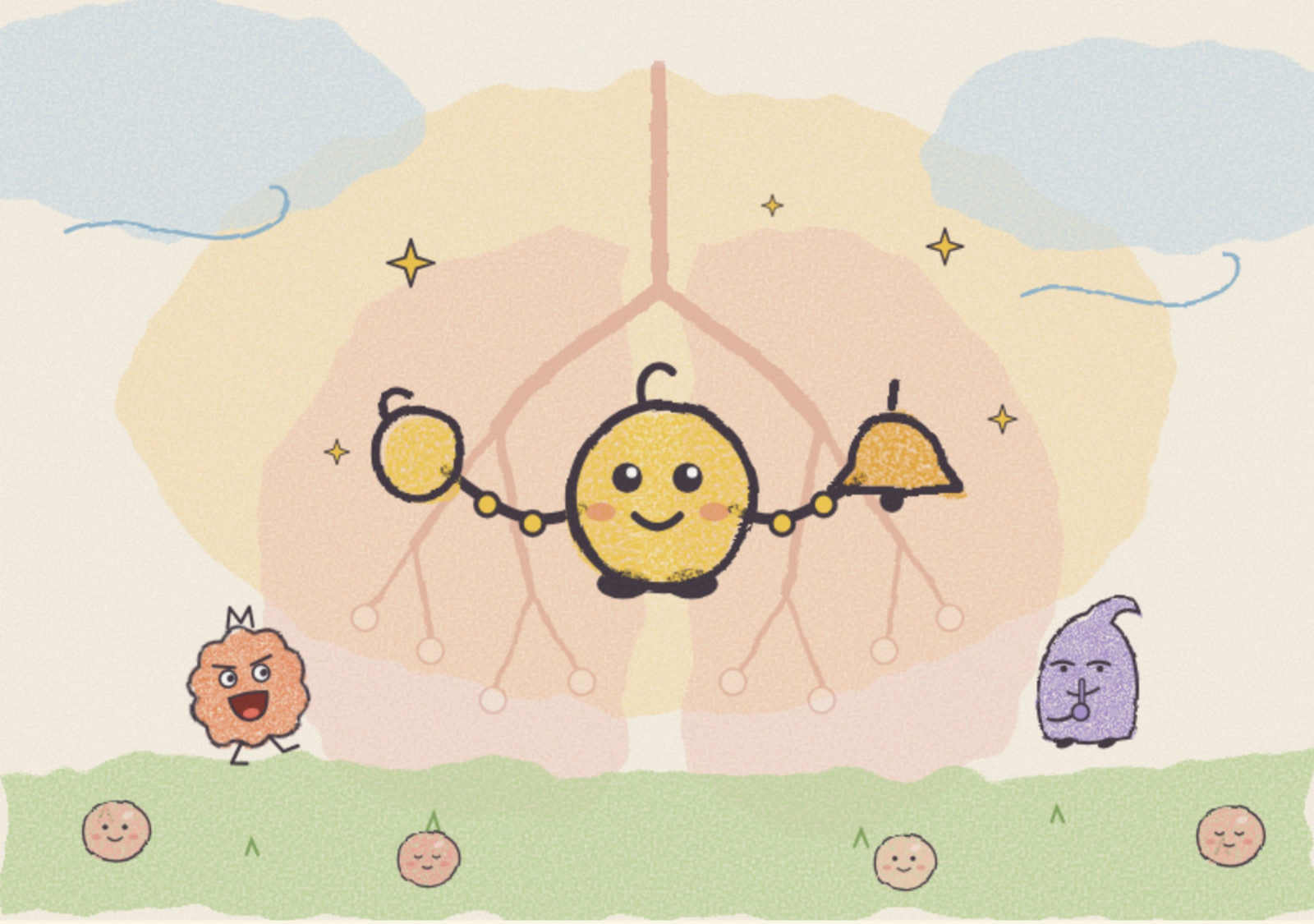
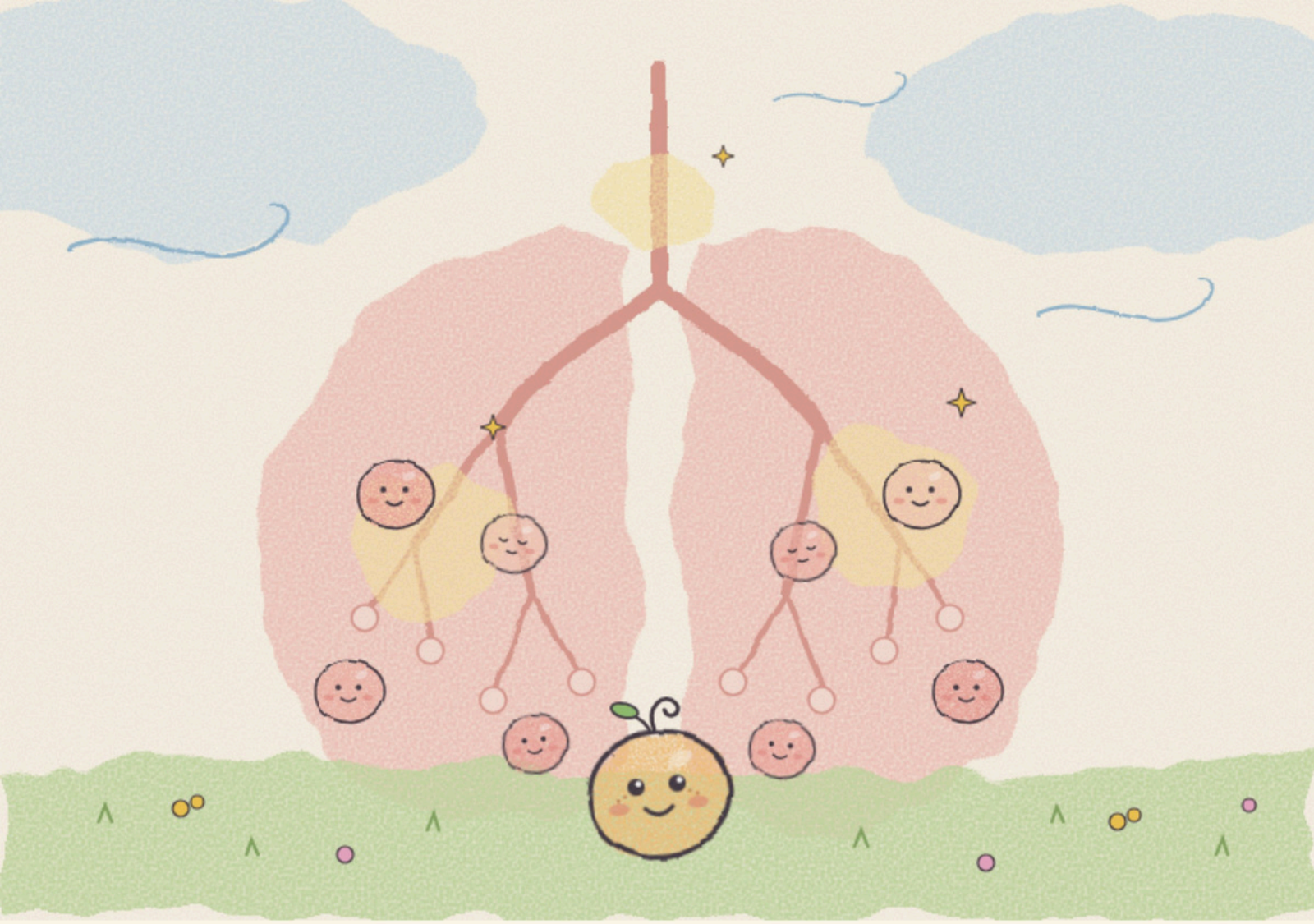


Pip the p-PROTAC

and the Two Troublemakers

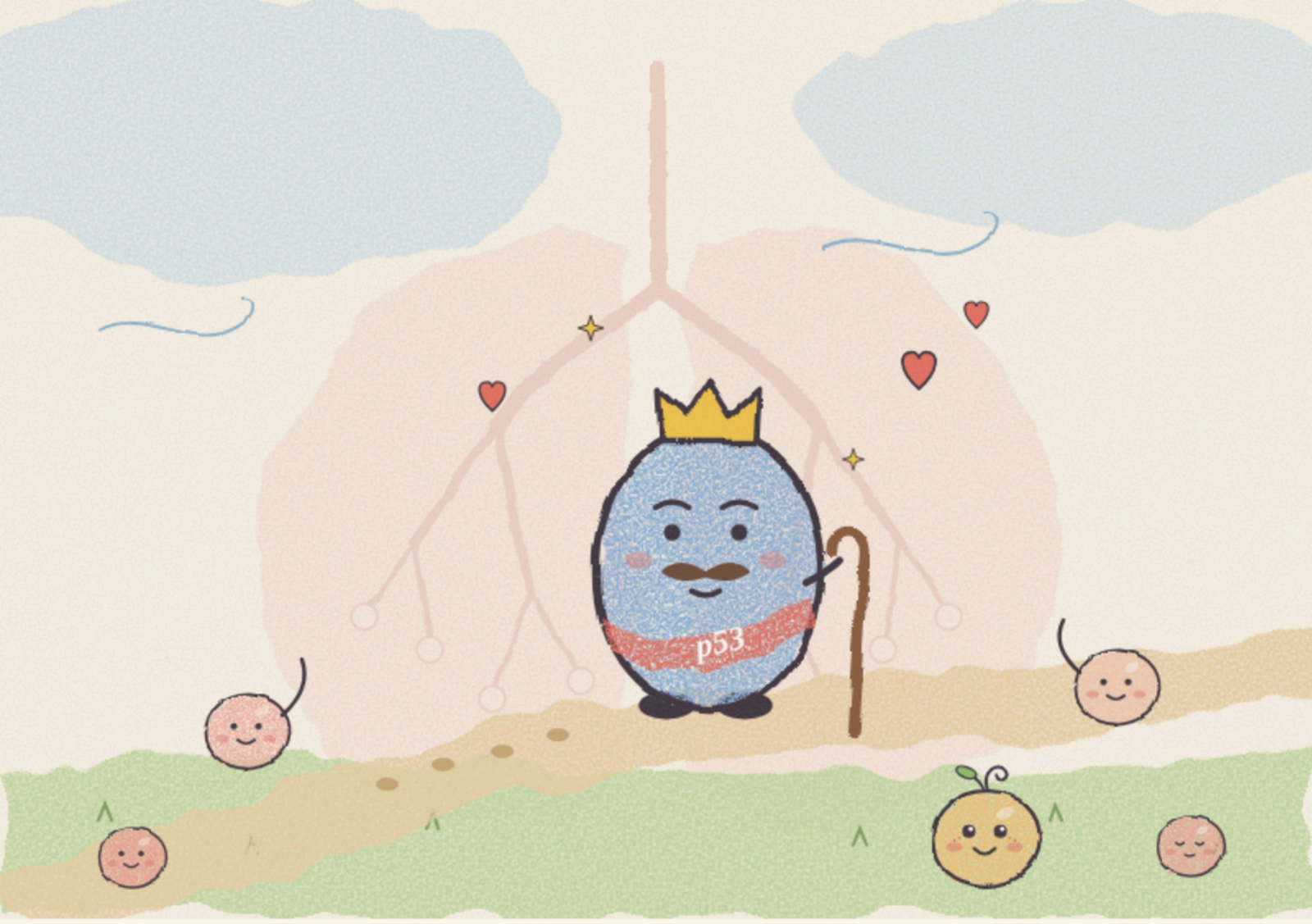
BY iGEM THESSALONIKI



In the soft and breezy Land of Little Lungs, tiny cells lived happily together. They worked, rested, and helped every breath feel light as a cloud.

Among them lived Luma, a curious little cell who loved to watch the Lung Garden glow.

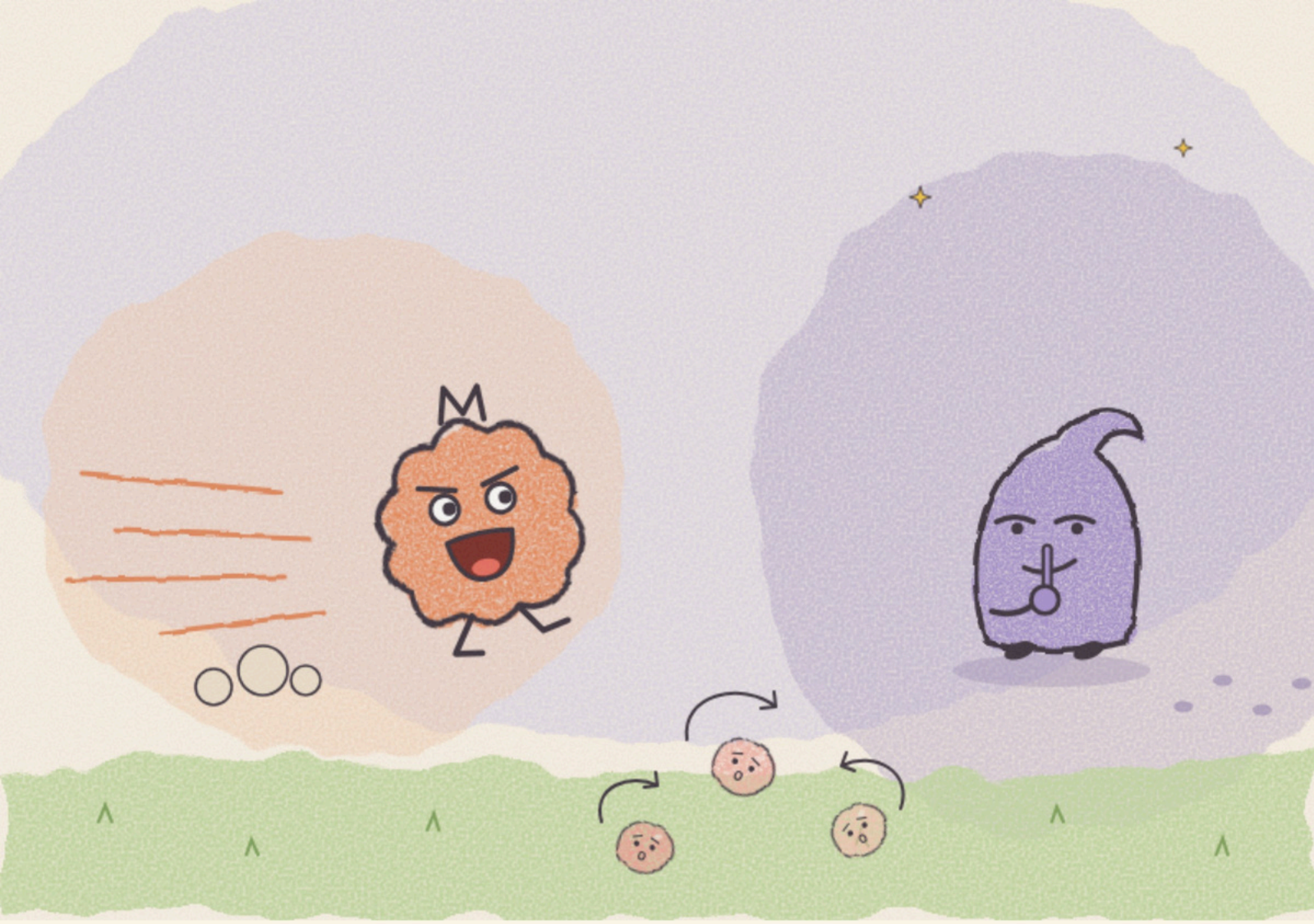
"What keeps our home safe?" she asked.



"Our gentle guardian does," smiled the others.

His name was p53, and he helped the cells grow carefully and fix little mistakes.

Sir p53 walked through the village with calm, kind steps. "Slow and steady keeps us healthy," he said.

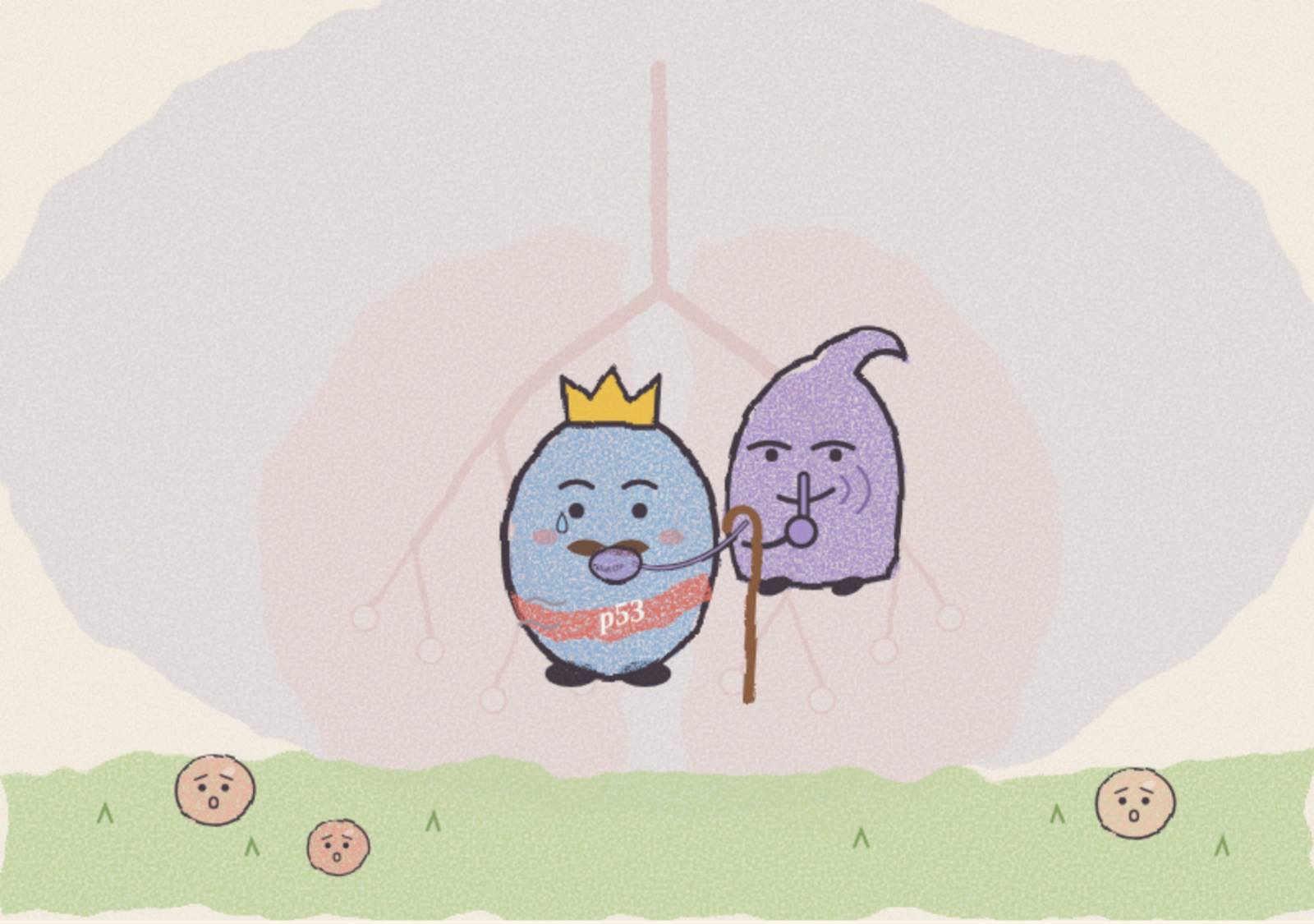


But far away, two troublemakers were waking up.

One was speedy **KRAS**. The other was sneaky **MDM2**.

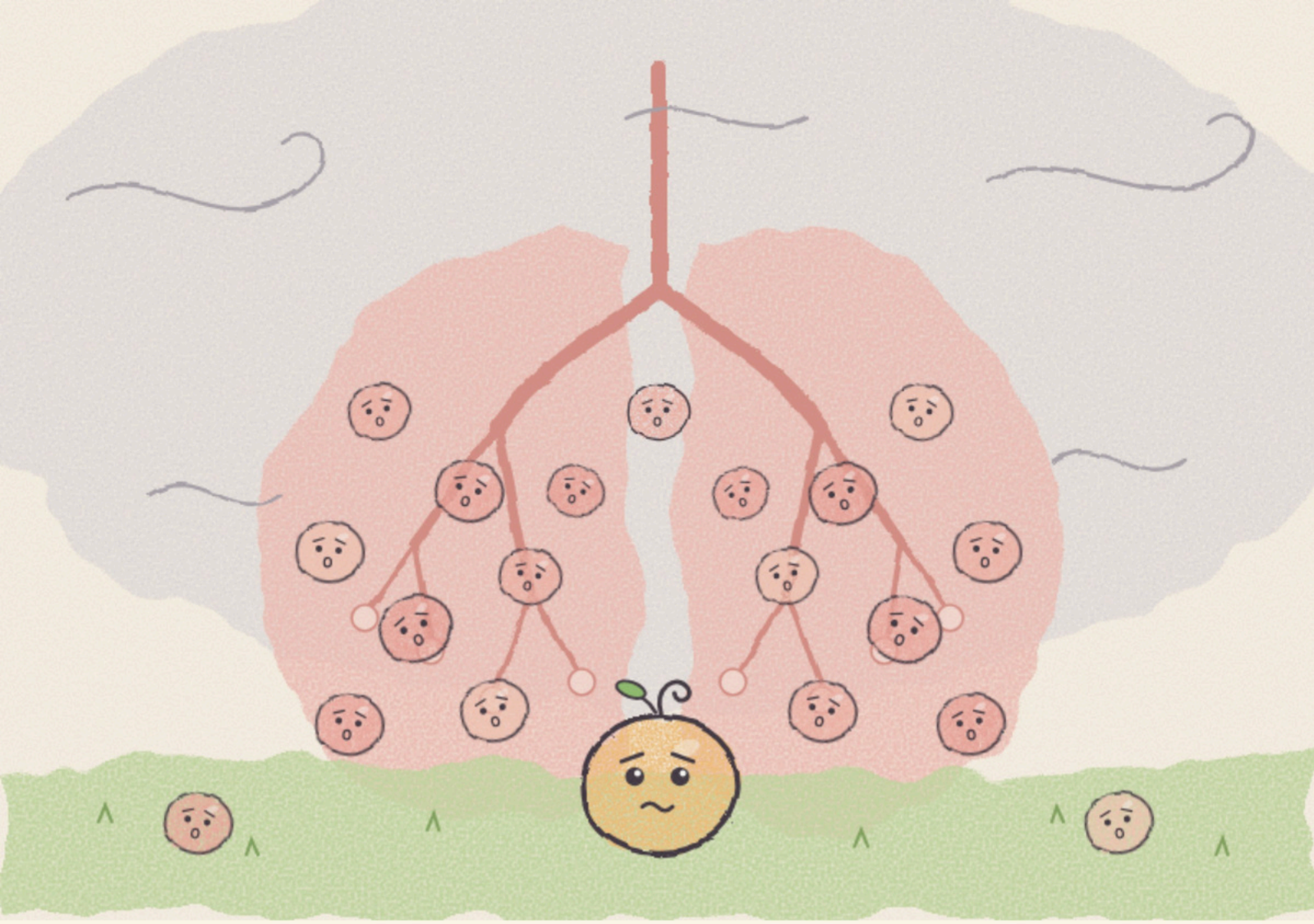
KRAS zoomed too fast and shouted, "Go, go, go!"

The cells began to rush and spin without stopping.



MDM2 tiptoed behind Sir p53 and covered his voice.

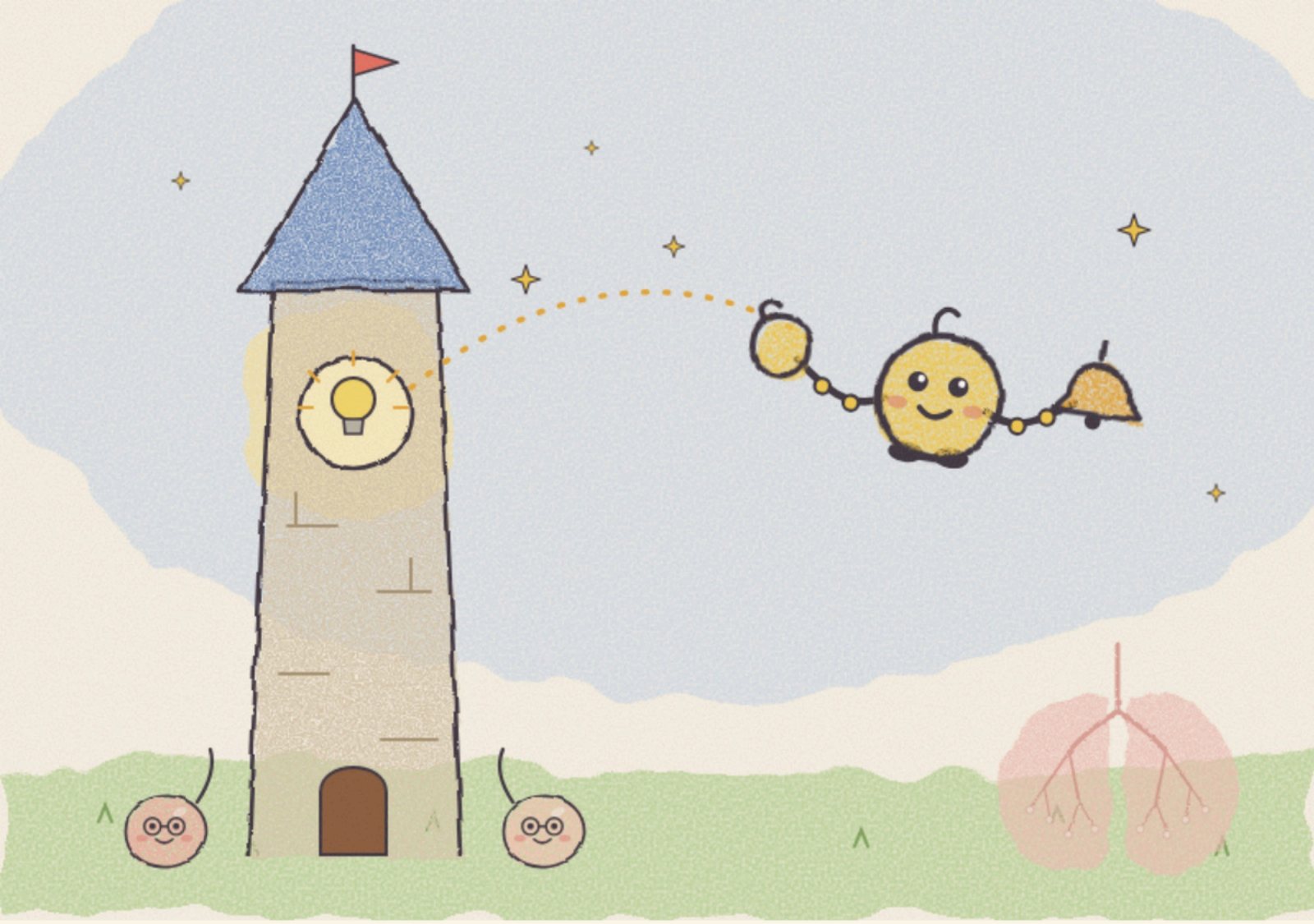
"Hush now," whispered MDM2, so the guardian could not help.



Soon the Lung Garden felt crowded and confused. Everything was growing too quickly, and the air no longer felt calm.

Luma looked around with worried eyes.

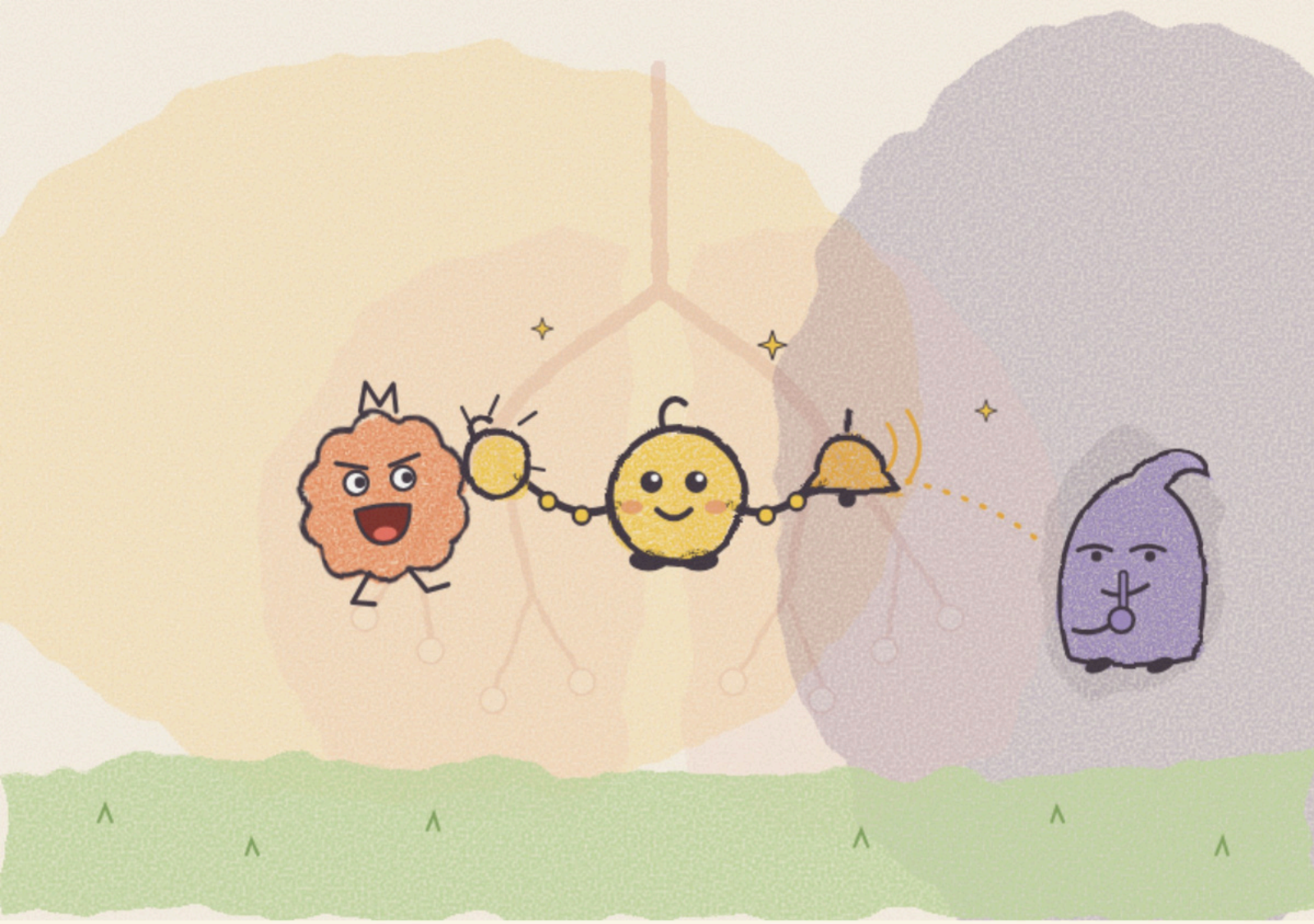
"How can we help our little lungs?" she asked.



Just then, a bright idea twinkled in the Science Tower.

"We can send Pip the p-PROTAC!" said the wise scientists.

Pip was tiny but clever. With one hand, Pip could hold a troublemaker. With the other, Pip could call the clean-up crew.



First, Pip found speedy KRAS.

"Got you!" said Pip, gently linking KRAS to the helpers.

Then Pip found sneaky MDM2 hiding in the shadows.

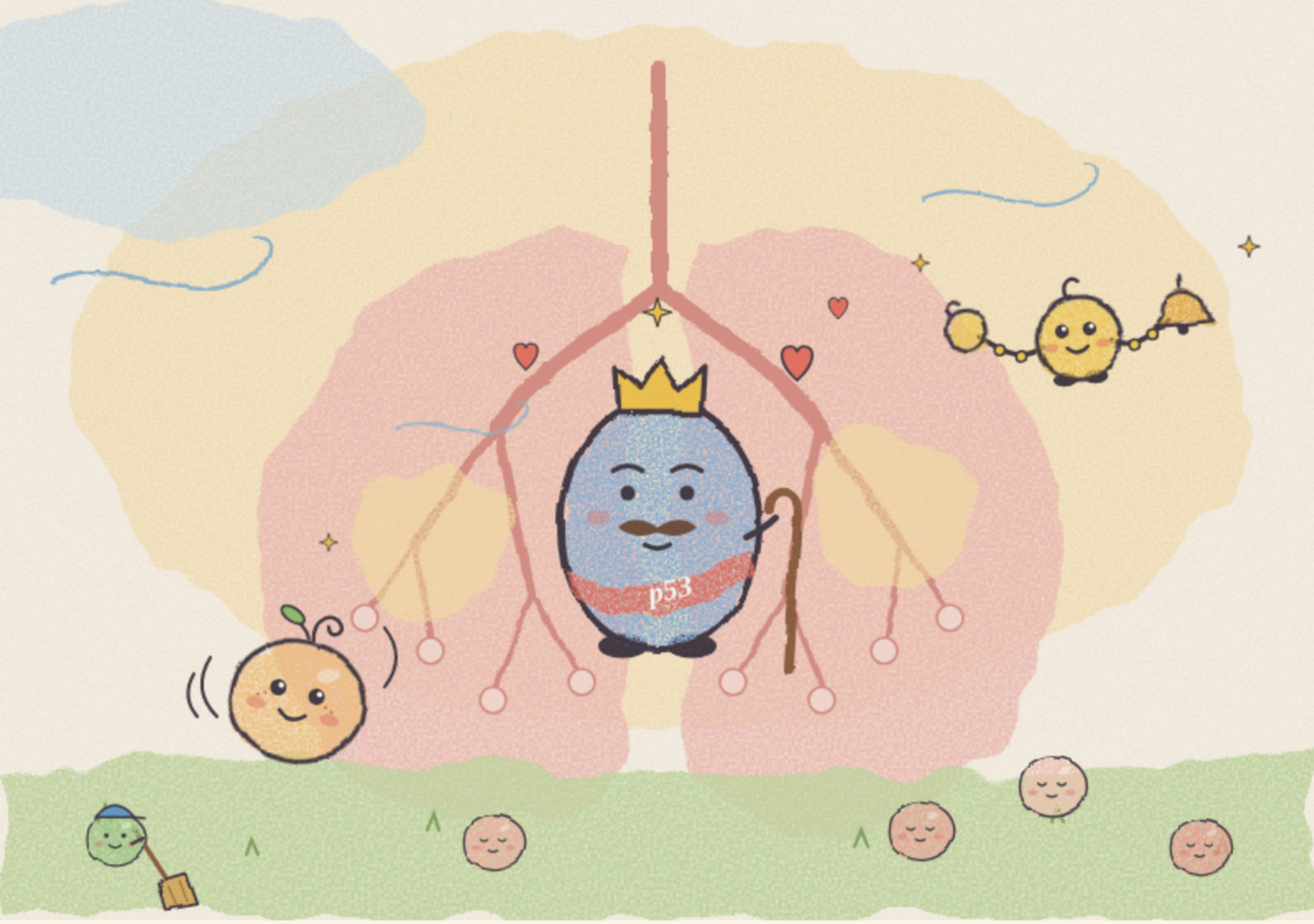
"No more hushing our guardian," said Pip.



The clean-up crew arrived with swish, swirl, and sparkle! They carried KRAS and MDM2 away to the recycling room.

At last, Sir p53 lifted his head again.

"Thank you," he smiled. "Now I can help the cells stay safe and balanced."

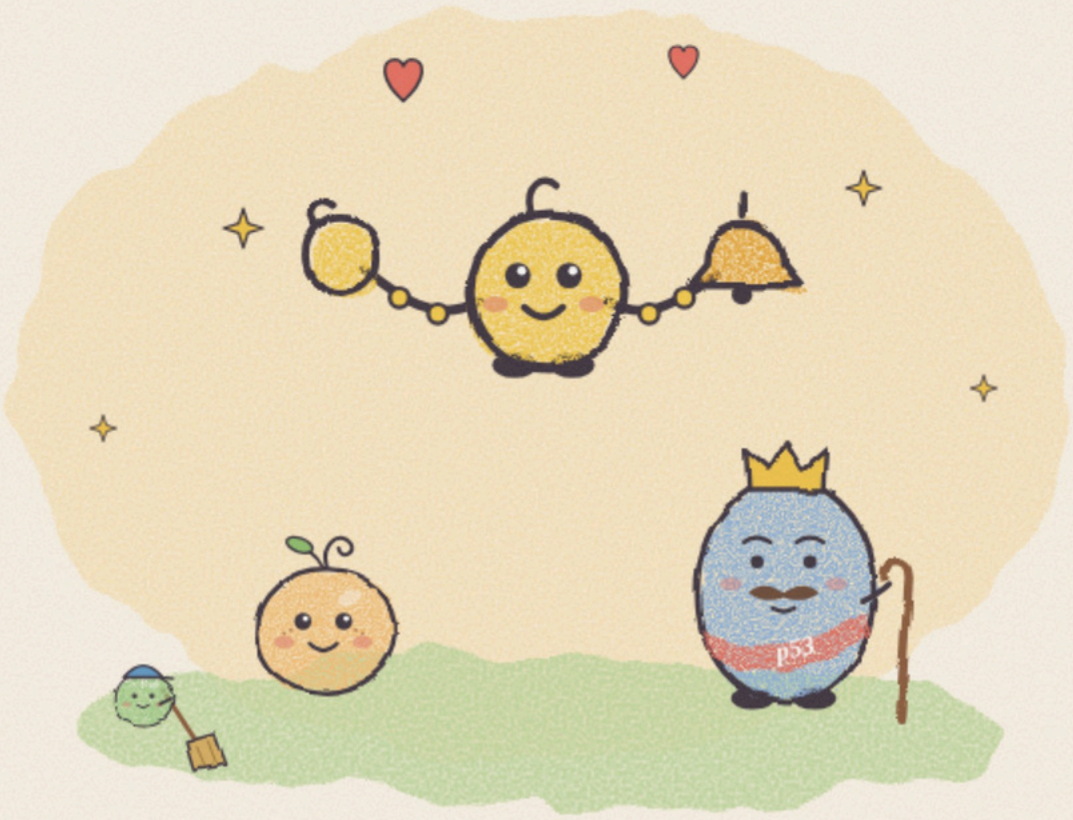


The Lung Garden slowly became peaceful once more. The cells rested, repaired, and grew in the right way.

Luma danced in the breeze. "Pip the p-PROTAC helped our lungs by guiding the troublemakers away!"

And so, in the Land of Little Lungs, everyone remembered:

Even tiny helpers can make a big difference.



The End.

This fairytale was inspired by research on a lung illness called NSCLC. Scientists are studying ways to help lungs stay healthy — one bright idea at a time.