

The UNICORN Who Came to SCHOOL

DISCLAIMER

These pages are for review purposes only and may not be made available in whole or in part to the public in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, storage in an information retrieval system, or used to train any artificial intelligence technologies, or otherwise.

 SCHOLASTIC

LUCY ROWLAND

MIKE BYRNE

UNCORRECTED PROOF • NOT FOR SALE



SCHOLASTIC SCHOLASTIC

For Ivy xx – L.R.

For Olive & Milly x – M.B.



Scholastic Australia
PO Box 579 Gosford NSW 2250
ABN 11 000 614 577
www.scholastic.com.au

Part of the Scholastic Group
Sydney • Auckland • New York • Toronto • London • Mexico City
• New Delhi • Hong Kong • Buenos Aires • Puerto Rico

First published in the UK by Scholastic Ltd in 2025.
This edition published by Scholastic Australia in 2025.
Text © Lucy Rowland, 2025.
Illustrations © Mike Byrne, 2025.

The moral rights of Lucy Rowland and Mike Byrne have been asserted.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, storage in an information retrieval system, or used to train any generative artificial intelligence technologies, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher, unless specifically permitted under the Australian Copyright Act 1968 as amended.

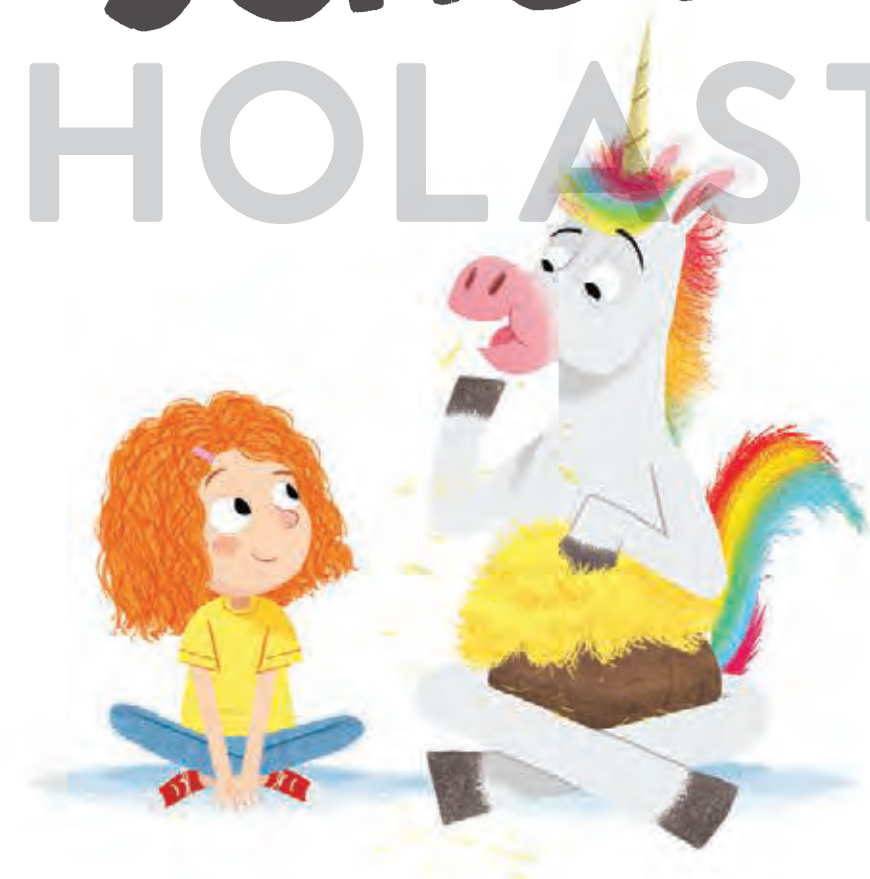
ISBN 978-1-76172-808-2

Printed in China by RR Donnelley.

Scholastic Australia's policy, in association with RR Donnelley, is to use papers that are renewable and made efficiently with wood from responsibly managed sources, so as to minimise its environmental footprint.


10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 25 26 27 28 29 / 2

The UNICORN Who Came to SCHOOL



Lucy Rowland

Mike Byrne

A colorful illustration of a mother and daughter in a hallway. The mother, with short curly red hair and wearing a pink floral dress, holds a purple backpack and a blue lunchbox. The daughter, with long curly red hair and wearing a pink jacket over a yellow shirt and blue jeans, is hugging her mother. A small blue lunchbox with a unicorn on it sits on the floor. The hallway has blue walls, a yellow door with two windows, a white radiator with a yellow scarf and pink gloves hanging on it, and a checkered floor. A framed picture of a baby and a framed picture of a family are on the wall.

First day of school! I felt quite scared.
A little nervous, but prepared.
I made my lunch. I packed my book.
I tied new shoes. So shiny, look!

I hugged my mum.
We can't be late ...

Then walked up to the big school gate.

But, "Who is that?"
I gave a cry.
"A UNICORN?"
He shouted, "Hi!"

"My name is Sparkle."
(Woah! So cool!)
He said, "Please can
I come to school?"

I grinned, "Of course!"
He said, "Oh, wow!"
First day of school
felt better now.





We hung our coats on pegs bright blue,
and talked of all the things we'd do.



But when I tried
to store my lunch ...

Well! Sparkle tried
to have a **MUNCH!**



Our book bags went
inside our drawers,
and Sparkle helped me –
“Look! There’s yours!”

And then we heard
our teacher say,
“Hello, Class One!
Please come this way.”



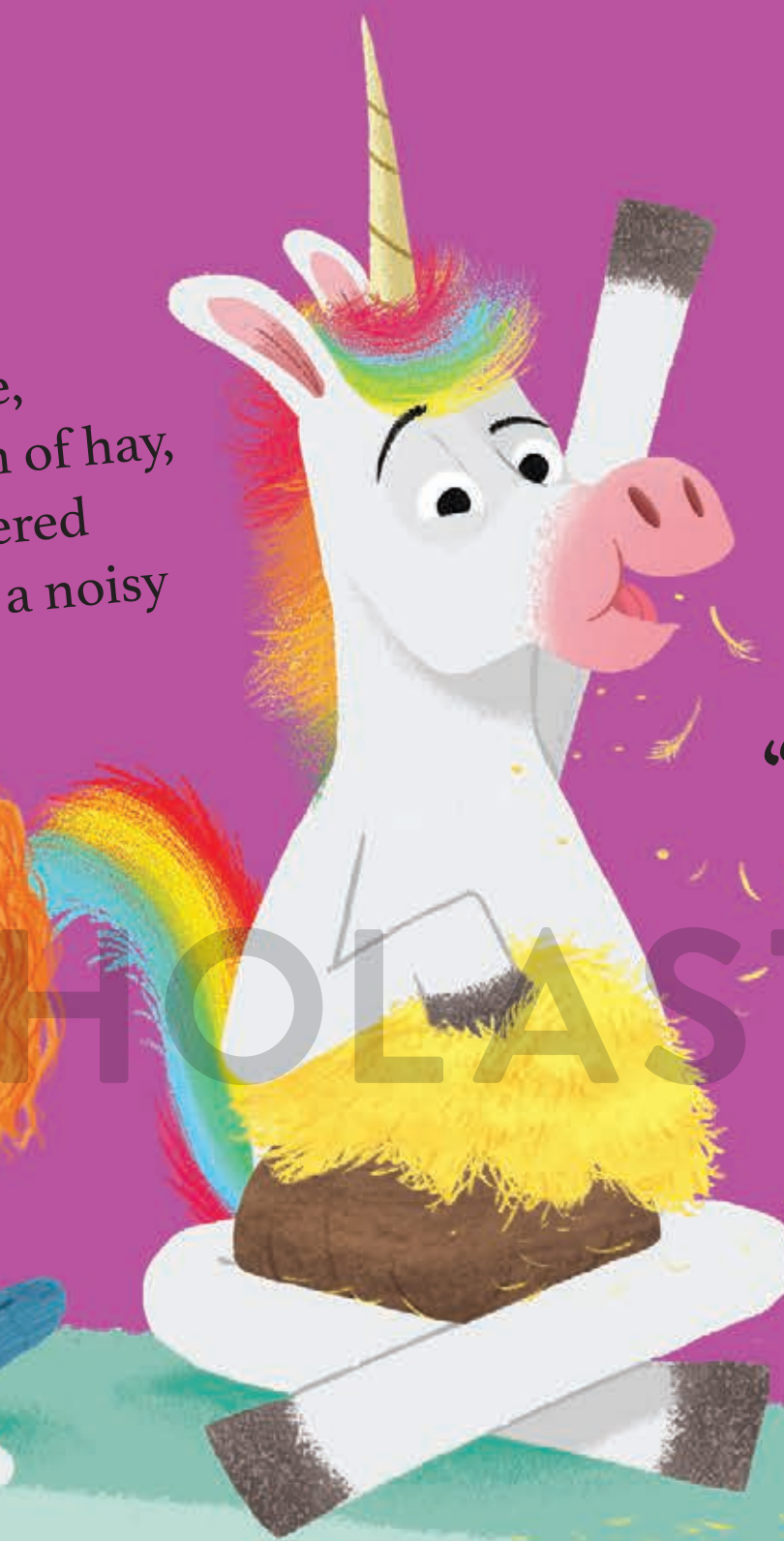
She told us all to “Find a friend.”
I sat with Sparkle, at the end.

At roll call, “Here, Miss. Here!”
I felt a sudden wave of fear.
But bravely answered, “Here, Miss, yes!”
Then next to me – oh! What a mess!

And Sparkle,
through a mouth of hay,
just answered
with a noisy

“NEIGH!”

My classmates laughed. I gave a smile,
relaxing . . . for a little while . . .



Until . . . assembly! In a line.
And Sparkle shouted,
“CONGA-TIME!”



He led a loud dance through the school.
Our teacher calling, “What’s the rule?
Use inside voices in the hall!”
Poor Sparkle heard her noisy call.

It wasn’t really Sparkle’s fault –
he shouted out a sudden,

“HALT!”



Next . . . art! And Sparkle had a flair,
but paint was flying everywhere!

He flicked his mane and gave a wiggle.
Our teacher couldn't help but giggle.

And music class was
rather **LOUD**,
with Sparkle playing
for the crowd.

Then storytime and
"Shhh! Don't talk!"
Oops! Sparkle **CHOMPED**
the coloured chalk!



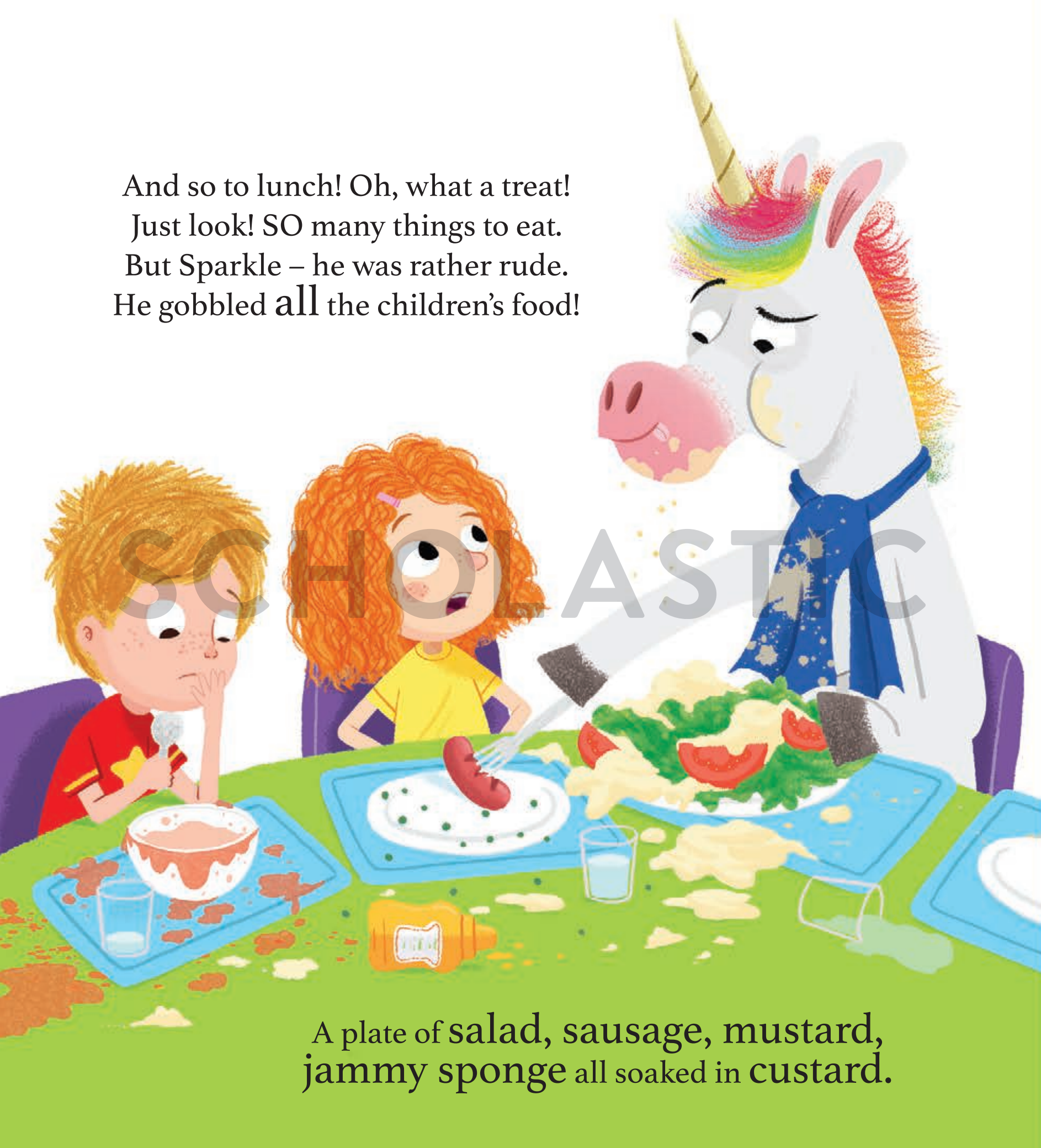
Next – playtime. I was on my own
and wishing not to be alone.
But in a flash – my unicorn!
We played a game called Hoop-the-Horn!

And soon I'd made some
brand-new friends.

But Sparkle's playtime
never ends...



And so to lunch! Oh, what a treat!
Just look! SO many things to eat.
But Sparkle – he was rather rude.
He gobbled **all** the children's food!

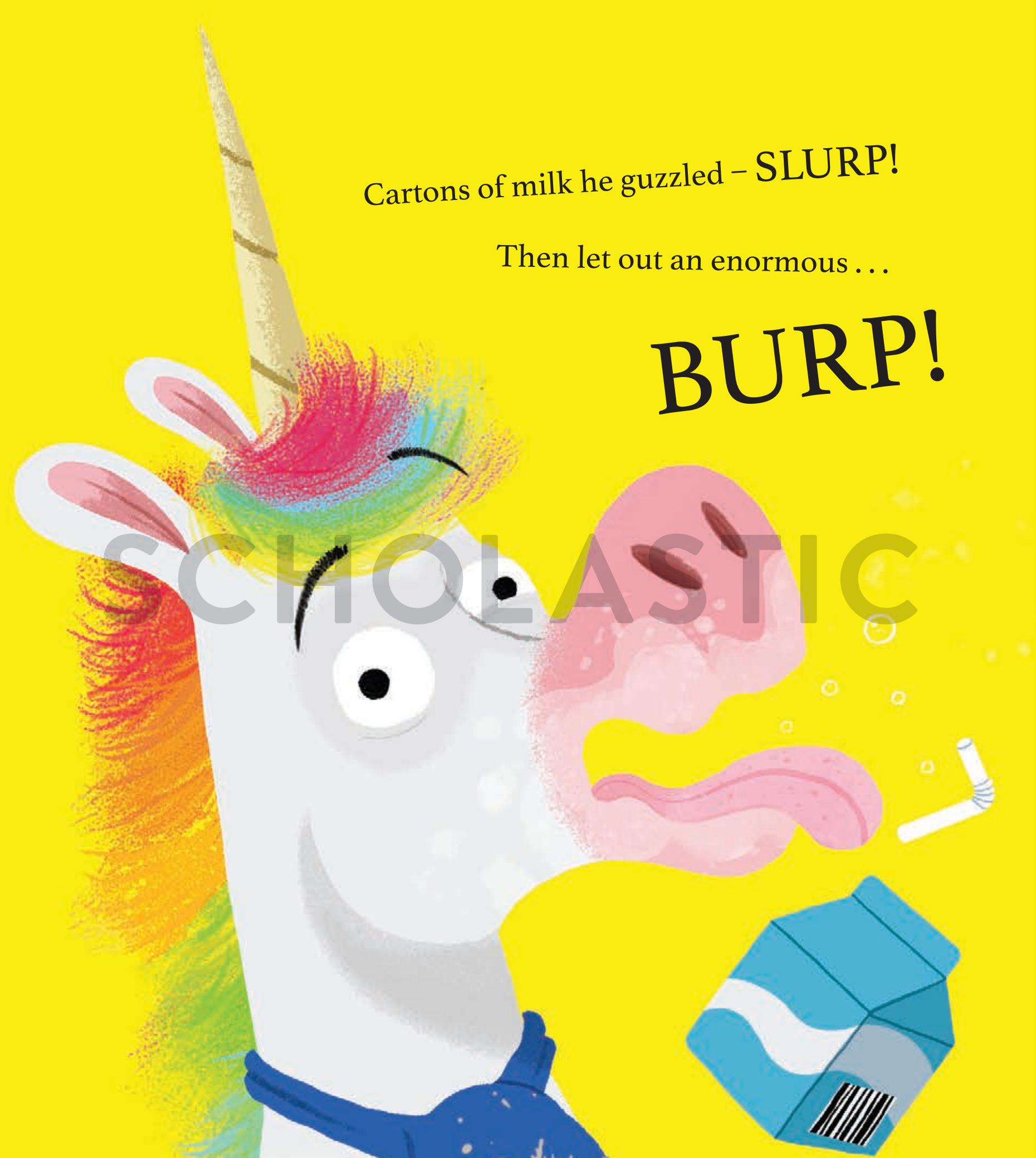


A plate of salad, sausage, mustard,
jammy sponge all soaked in custard.

Cartons of milk he guzzled – **SLURP!**

Then let out an enormous ...

BURP!



Next, PE! Apparatus out.

“Hooray!” The whole class gave a shout.

Until, poor Jack, stuck on a rope!

“Quick, Sparkle! You’re our only hope!”

So, Sparkle rushed to rescue Jack.

He helped him clamber on his back
and brought him gently to the floor.

The teacher? Smiling at the door.



The bell rang out. Home time at last.
First day at school had been a blast!
For Sparkle though, it's time to go.

For though I'd now made other friends,
I didn't want the fun to end.
But just as Sparkle reached the gate,
our teacher shouted loudly ...

He waved goodbye.
I whispered, "No."



“WAIT! It’s been a really special day.
I rather hoped that you might stay?”

And then,
my best
idea yet...




“And you can be our Class One pet!”





SCHOLASTIC SCHOLASTIC



The first day of school can be worrying,
but it's hard to feel scared when
a **unicorn** is your new classmate!
And what do unicorns do for FUN?

Start a conga dance through school?
YES.

Chomp up everyone's food at lunchtime?
OOPS . . . YES!

Make everyone have the best first day ever?
OBVIOUSLY!

ISBN 978-1-76172-808-2



9 781761 728082

 **SCHOLASTIC**

www.scholastic.com.au