

Baby's come early booklet

'Baby's come early' was written and illustrated by Julie and John O'Sullivan after having their premature baby, George. He was looked after by the team at Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea neonatal ward; the book is George's way of helping young children who suddenly find they have a baby sibling in a neonatal unit understand what is happening, and why.

Baby's come early!





Baby was inside
mummy's tummy.

Now, baby is outside
mummy's tummy
and in the hospital.



Baby was born early.
So early, there wasn't even time
to get the cot ready.

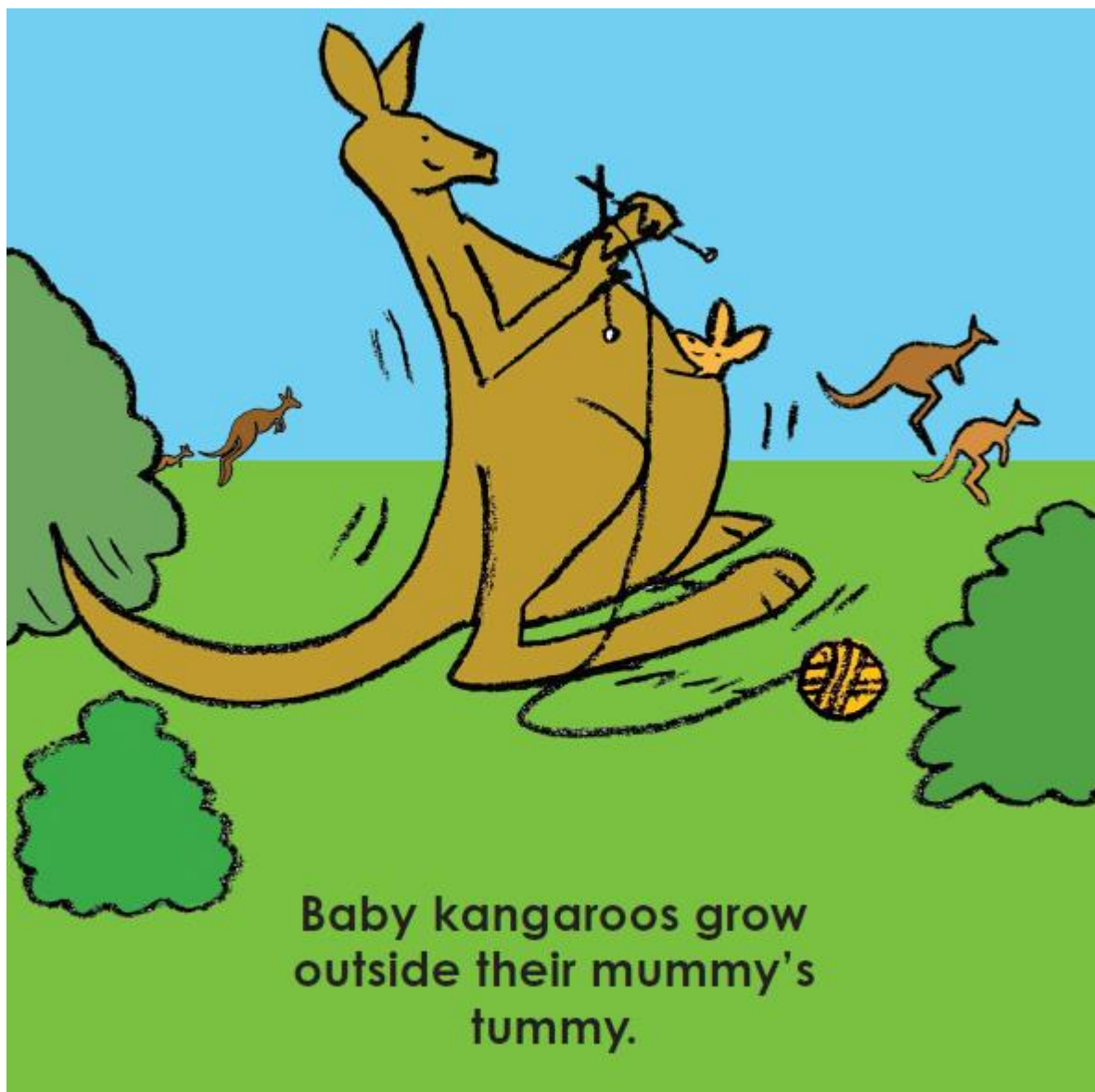


But baby doesn't need
to be inside mummy's
tummy to grow.

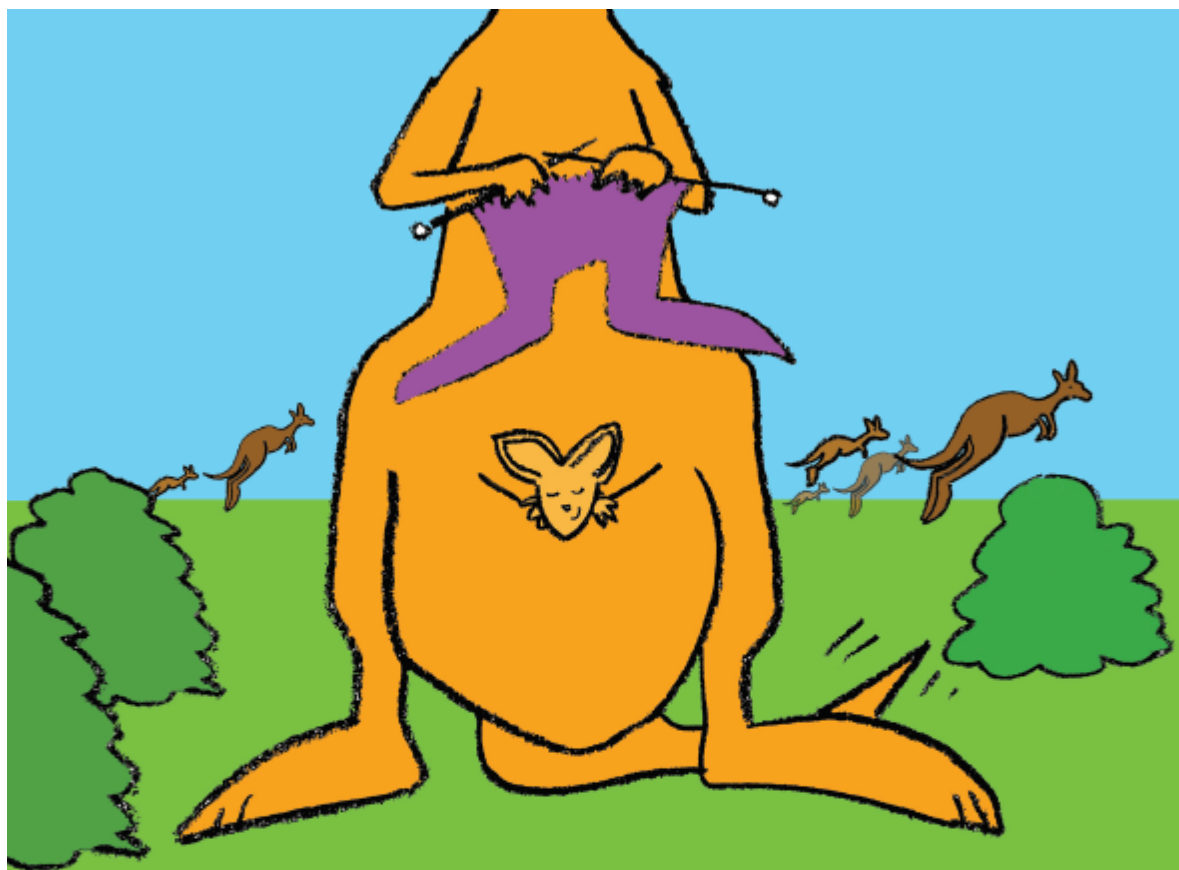


Because babies
can get **BIGGER**
and stronger outside
mummy's tummy
by being looked
after in hospital.

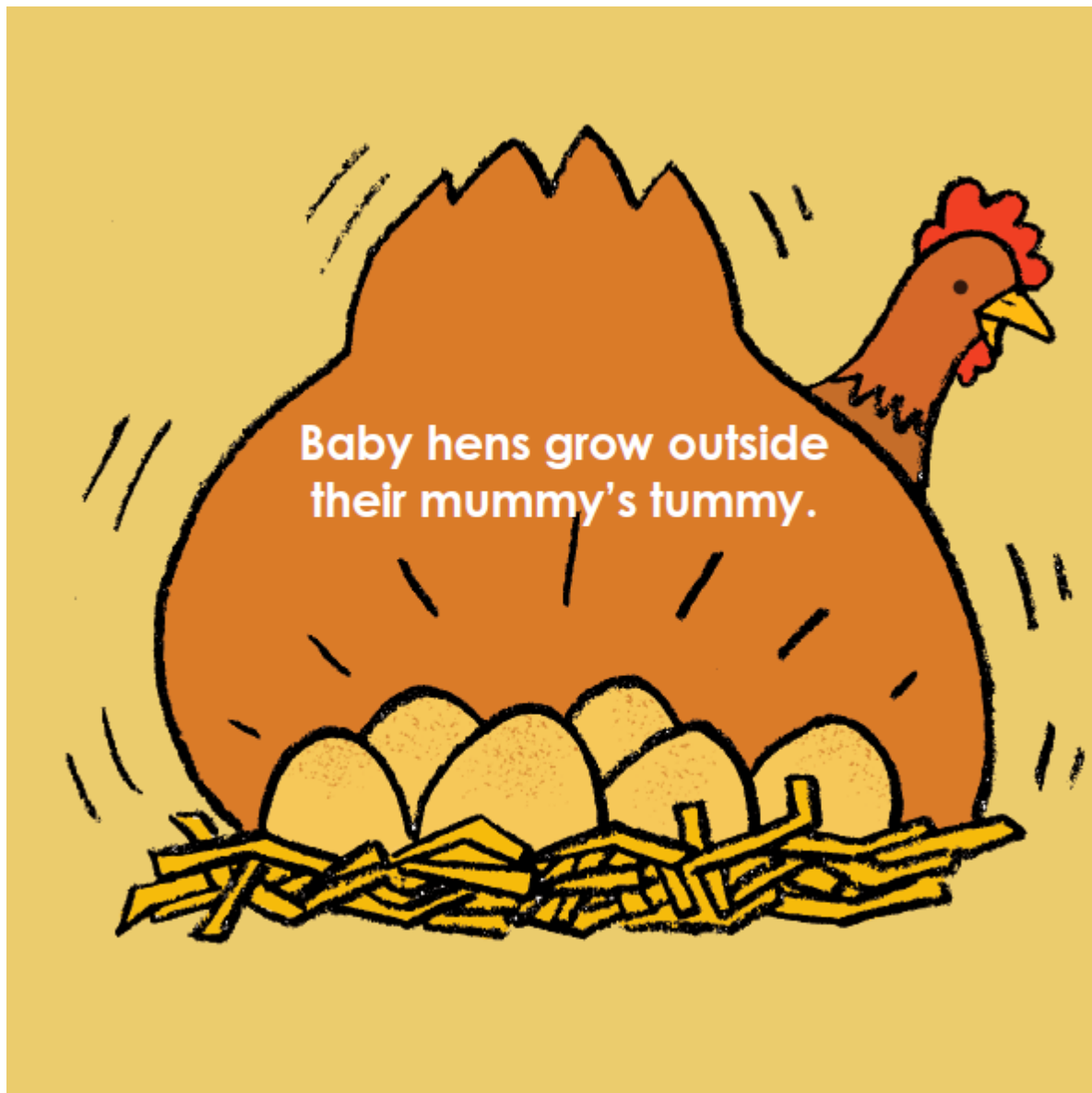


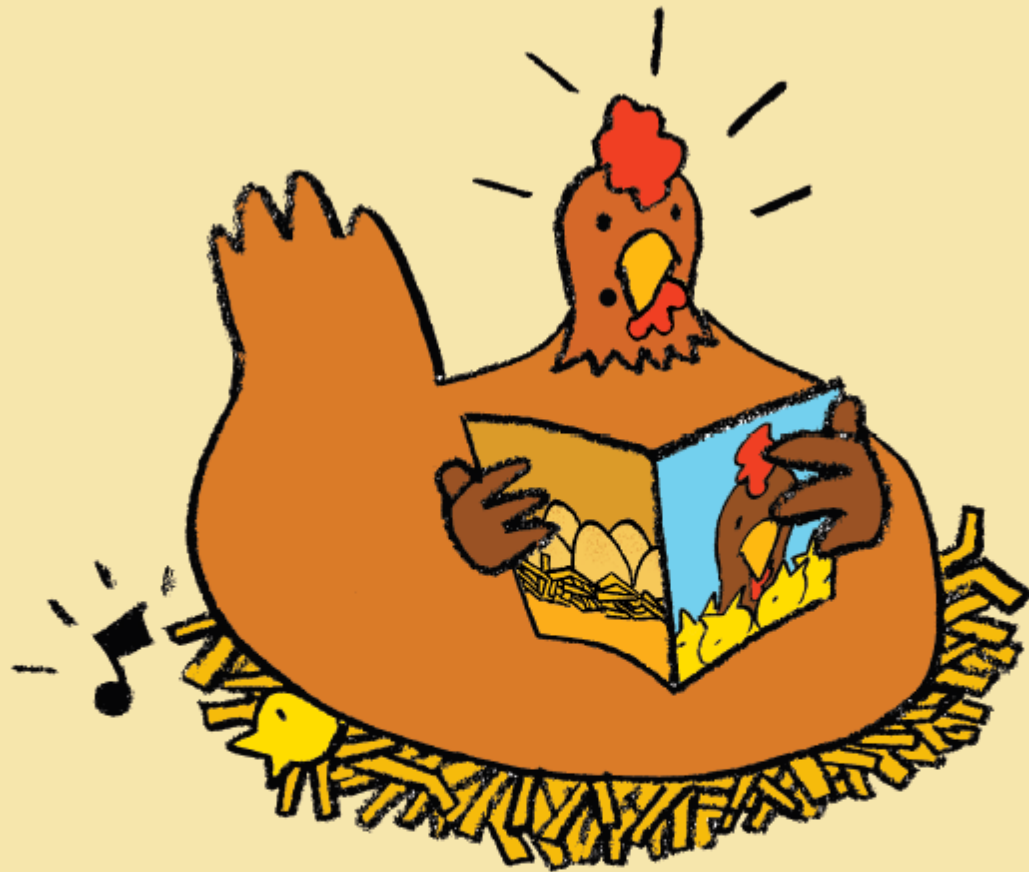


Baby kangaroos grow
outside their mummy's
tummy.



The tiny baby joey eats and sleeps in a lovely, warm, snugly pouch for months before he is fully grown.

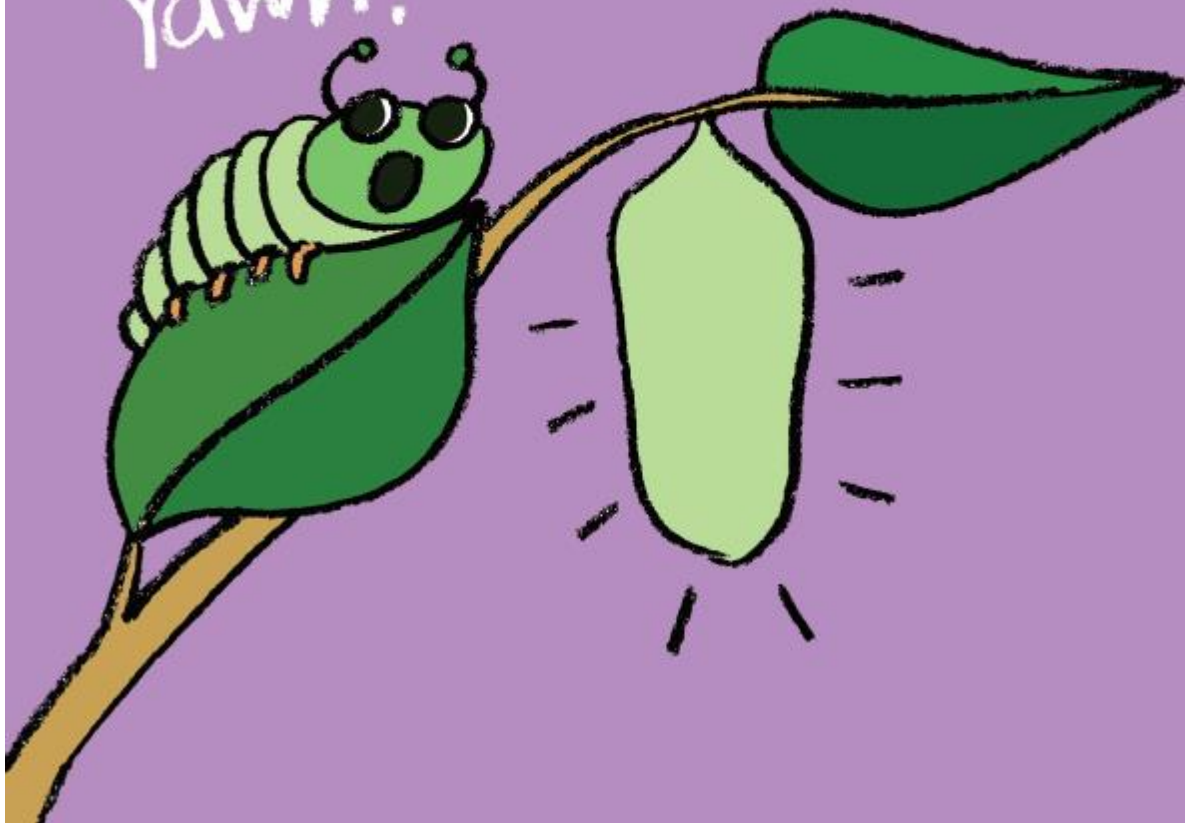




Their mummy sits on her eggs day and night.
Her baby grows fluffy and chirpy inside.

Baby caterpillars grow outside
their mummy's tummy.

Yawn!





The little caterpillar sleeps in his cocoon
until he is born a beautiful butterfly.



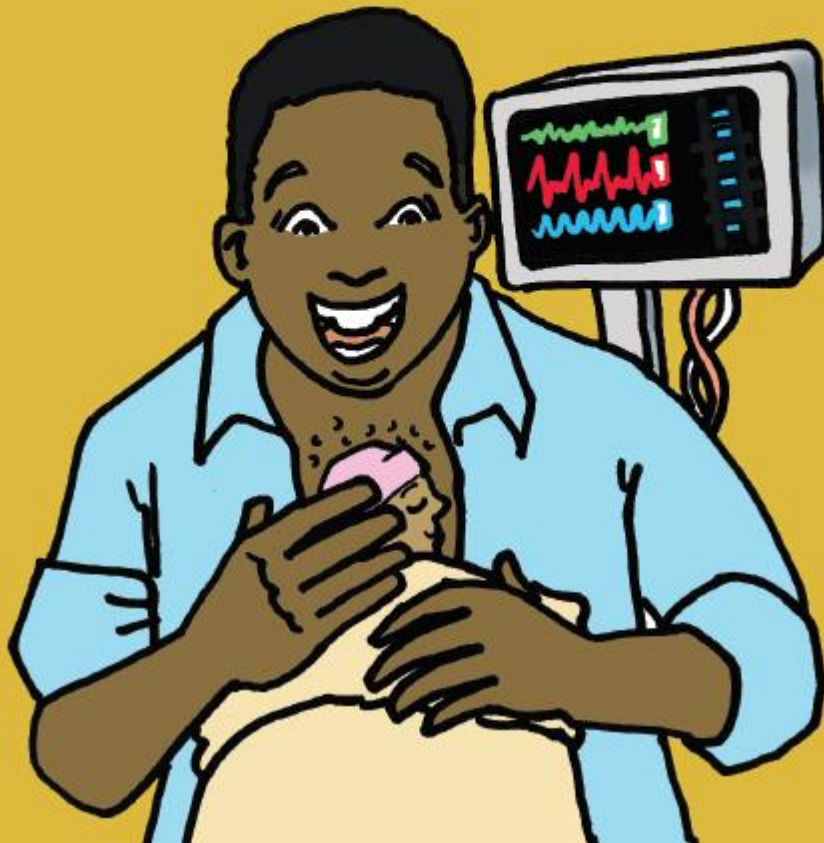
This baby born early has a nurse who watches over him day and night.



The nurse is as fussy and as
clucky as a mother hen.

This baby gets lovely cuddles from her parents
when they visit her in hospital.

Her skin feels warm against her daddy's chest.
It's as snuggly as when you get cuddled.





And feels as warm and as safe as
a kangaroo's pouch.



Some babies in hospital sleep
in a pretty cot that's as safe as
a caterpillar's cocoon.



This baby sleeps here. He eats here.
He sees his family too.



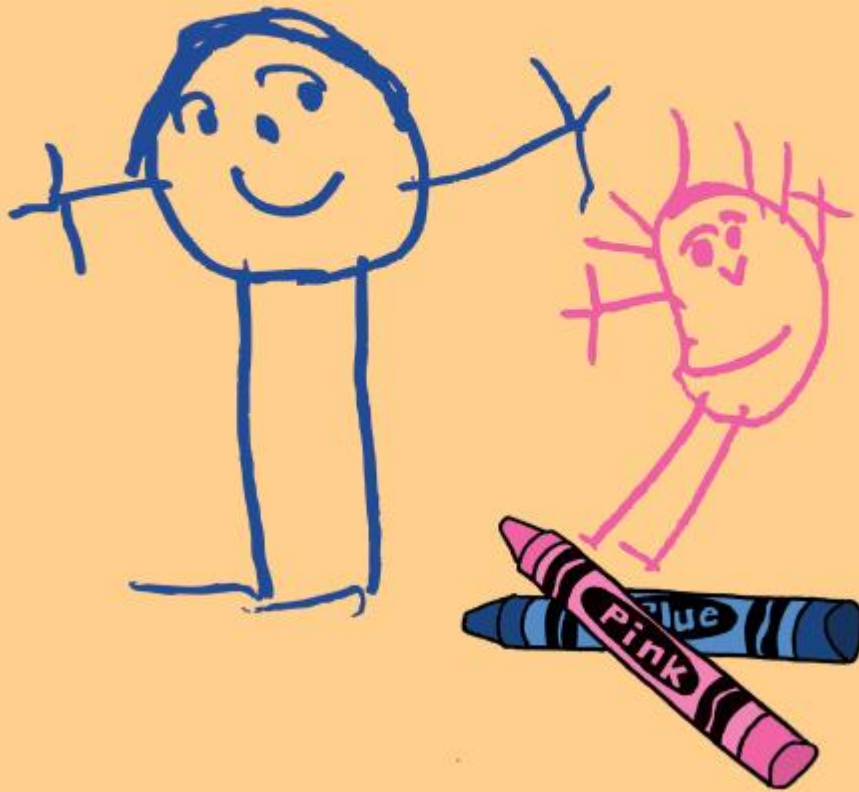
**You'll be able to talk about their home
outside mummy's tummy.**

It's as snuggly as a kangaroo's pouch.

As safe as being with a mother hen.

And as cosy as a caterpillar's cocoon.

Draw a picture of you for mummy or
daddy to take to baby in hospital.



**Why not put a photo of your
baby brother or sister here?**





This book was created by the parents and staff at
Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea Hospital and with the help
and support of the Winnicott Foundation.