

Extraordinary Friends

**A Coloring Book About Friends
with Down Syndrome**



Adapted from an original book by Amanda L. Ball

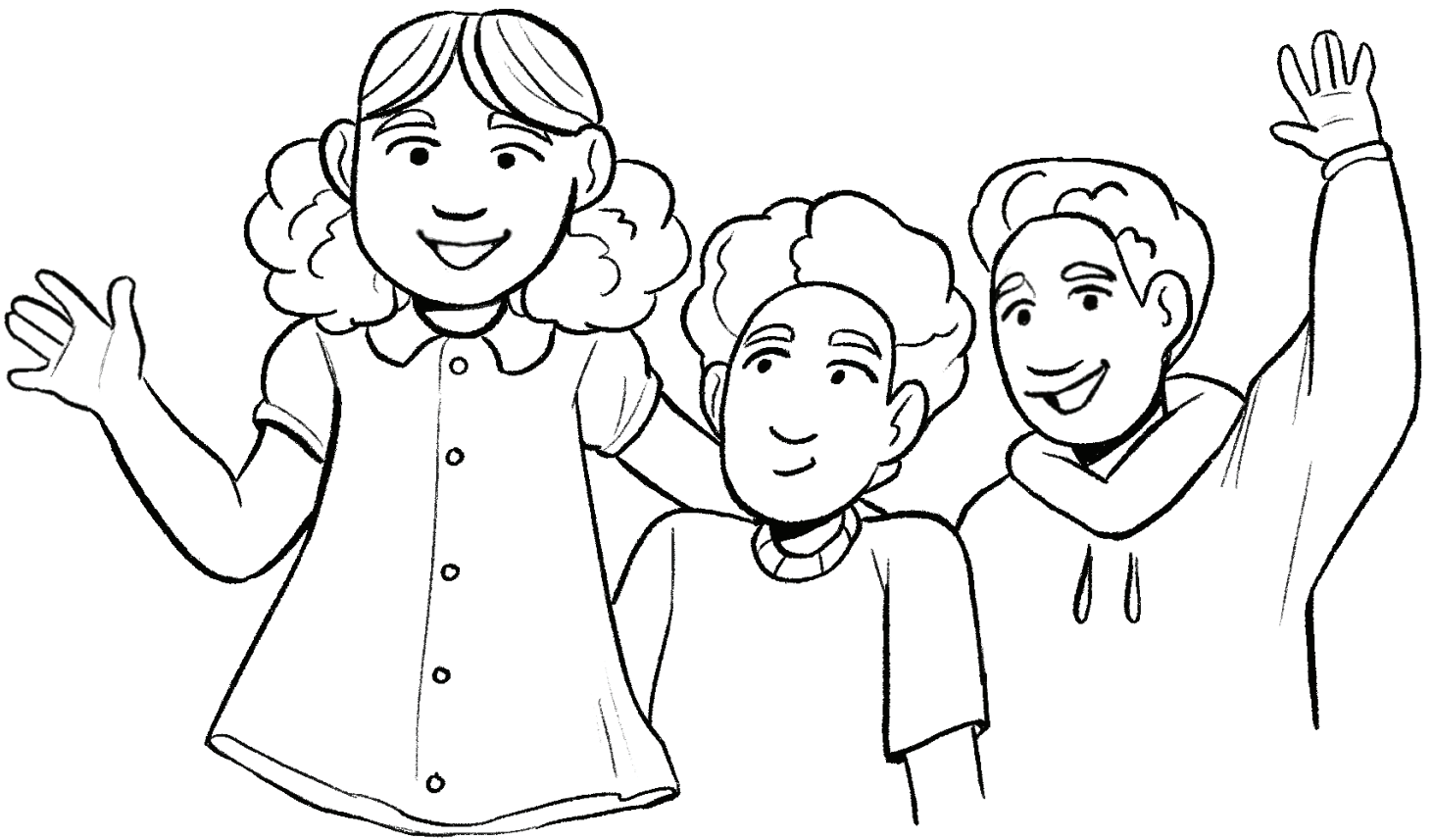
Illustrations by Zoe Lyttle

Designed to help children understand Down syndrome

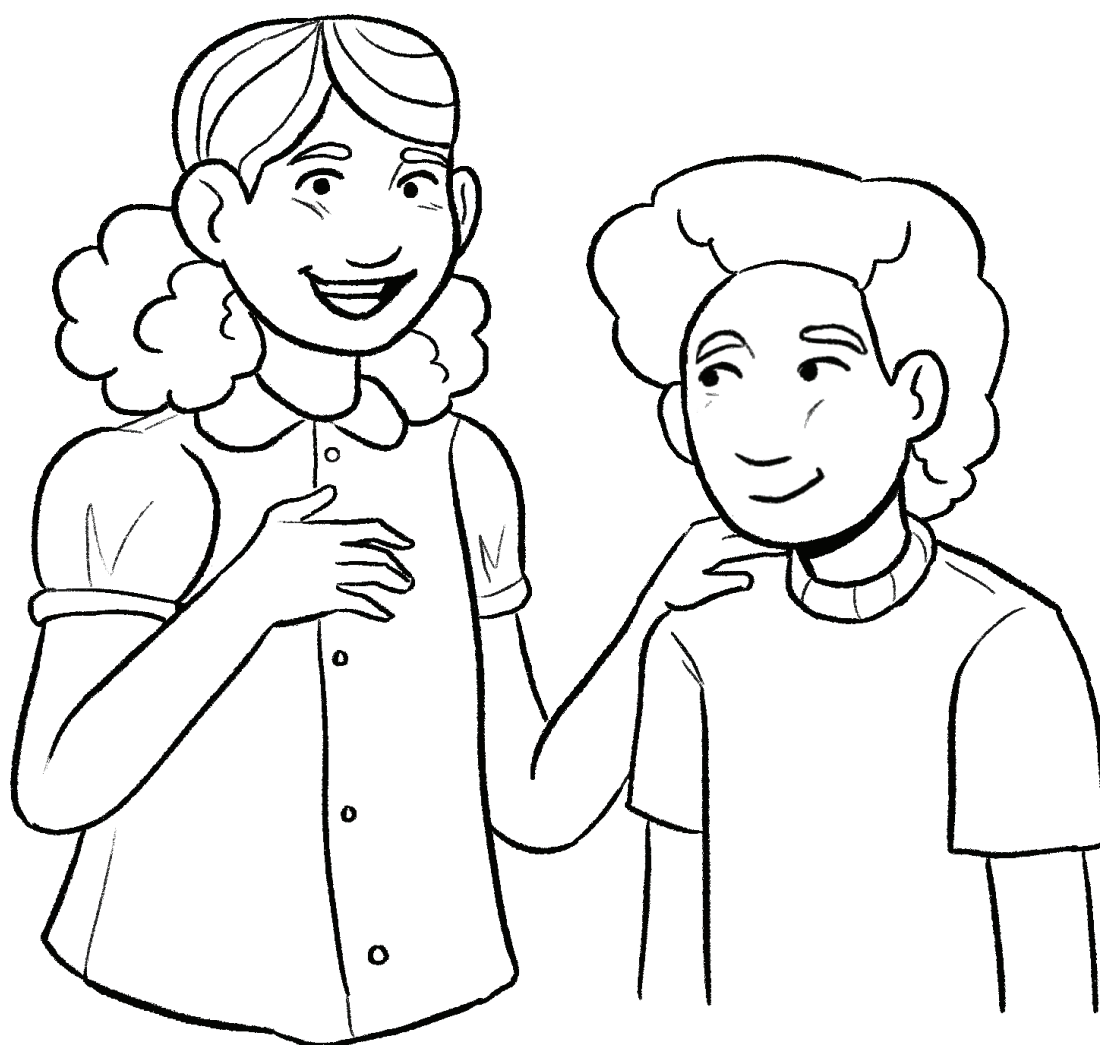
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Down Syndrome Association
of Middle Tennessee

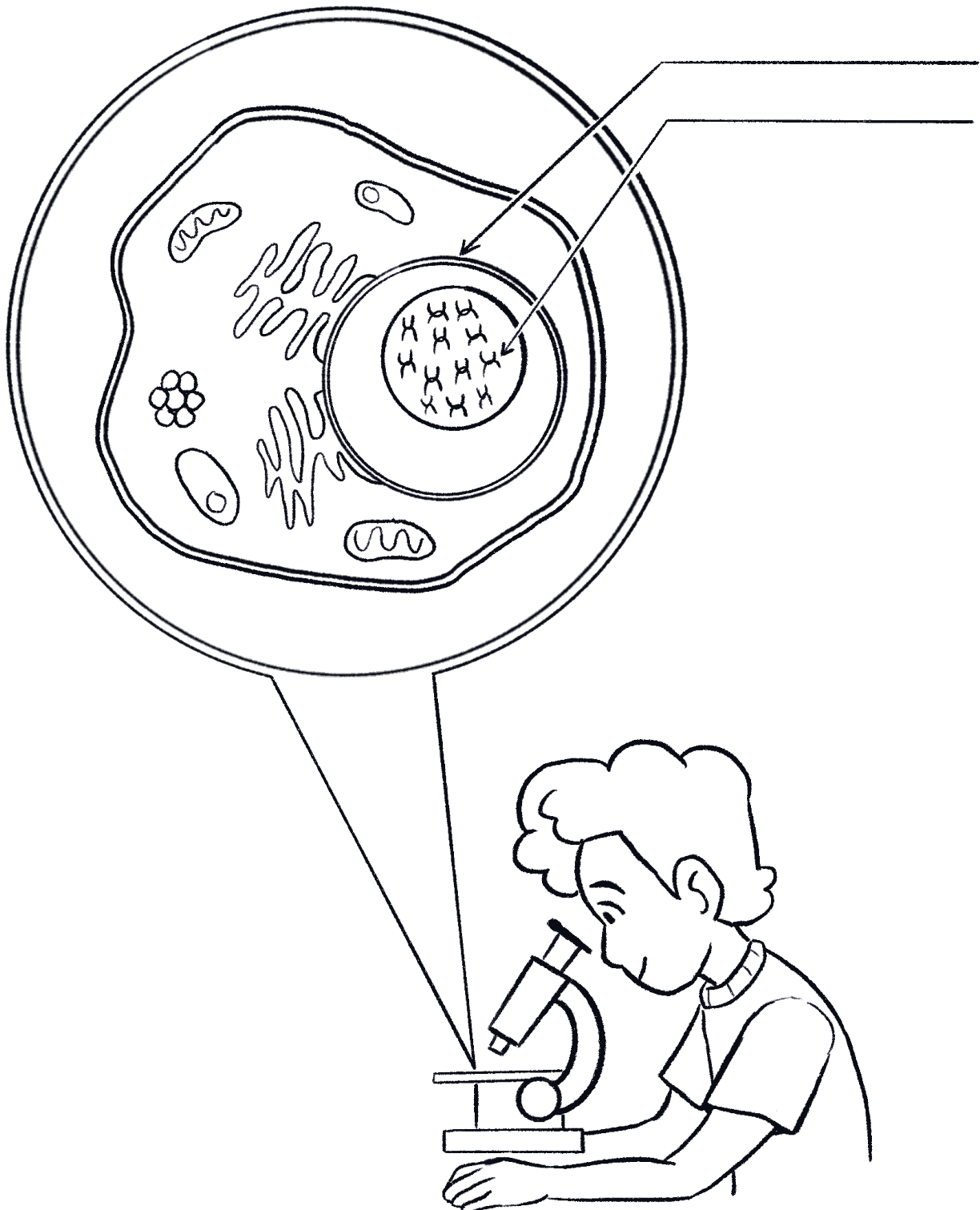
Hi! I'm Amanda. These are my friends Ben and Justin. We are very much alike – we play, dance, sing, go to school and swim together. Ben has Down syndrome and he is a great friend.



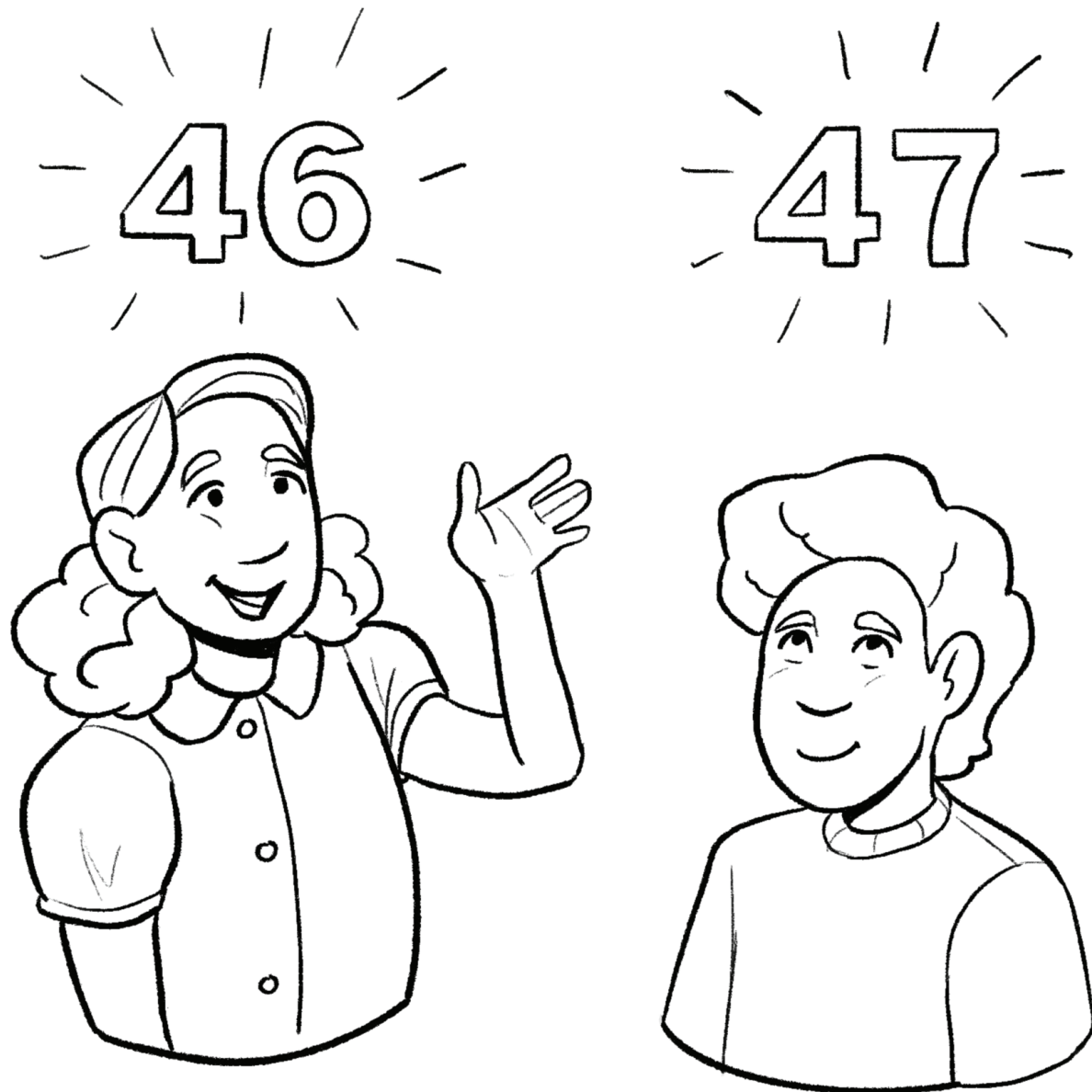
Not everyone is lucky enough to have a friend with Down syndrome, so I am going to tell you about Down Syndrome and what makes Ben a great friend to have.



Everyone is made up of tiny units called cells. Cells are so small that we need a microscope to see them. Chromosomes are inside each cell.

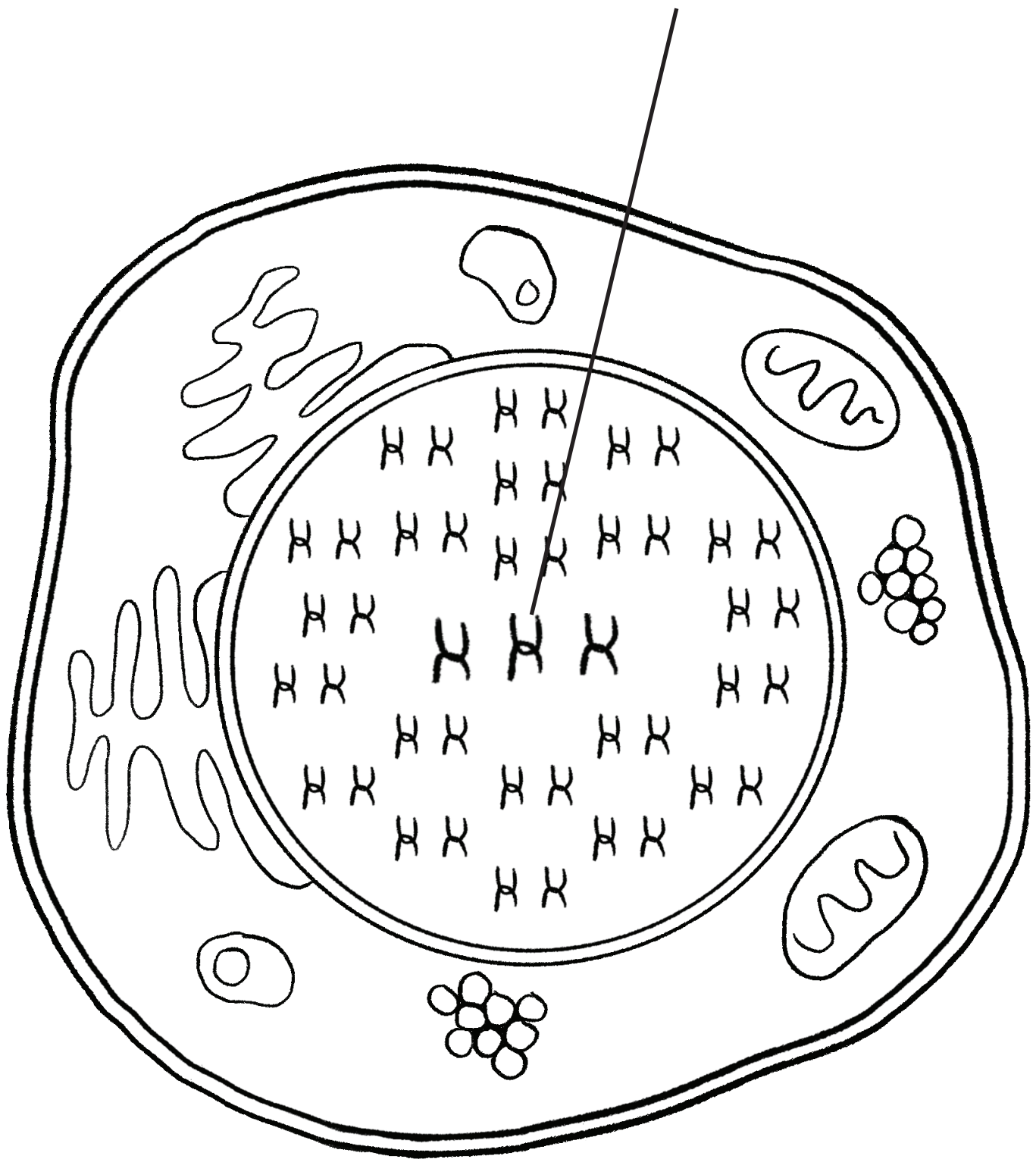


In each cell, there are 46 chromosomes. A person with Down syndrome has 47.



Chromosomes are what made me a girl with blonde hair and hazel eyes. Ben's chromosomes gave him brown hair and brown eyes. Your chromosomes make you tall or short, light skinned or dark skinned, and all the things that make you... well – you!

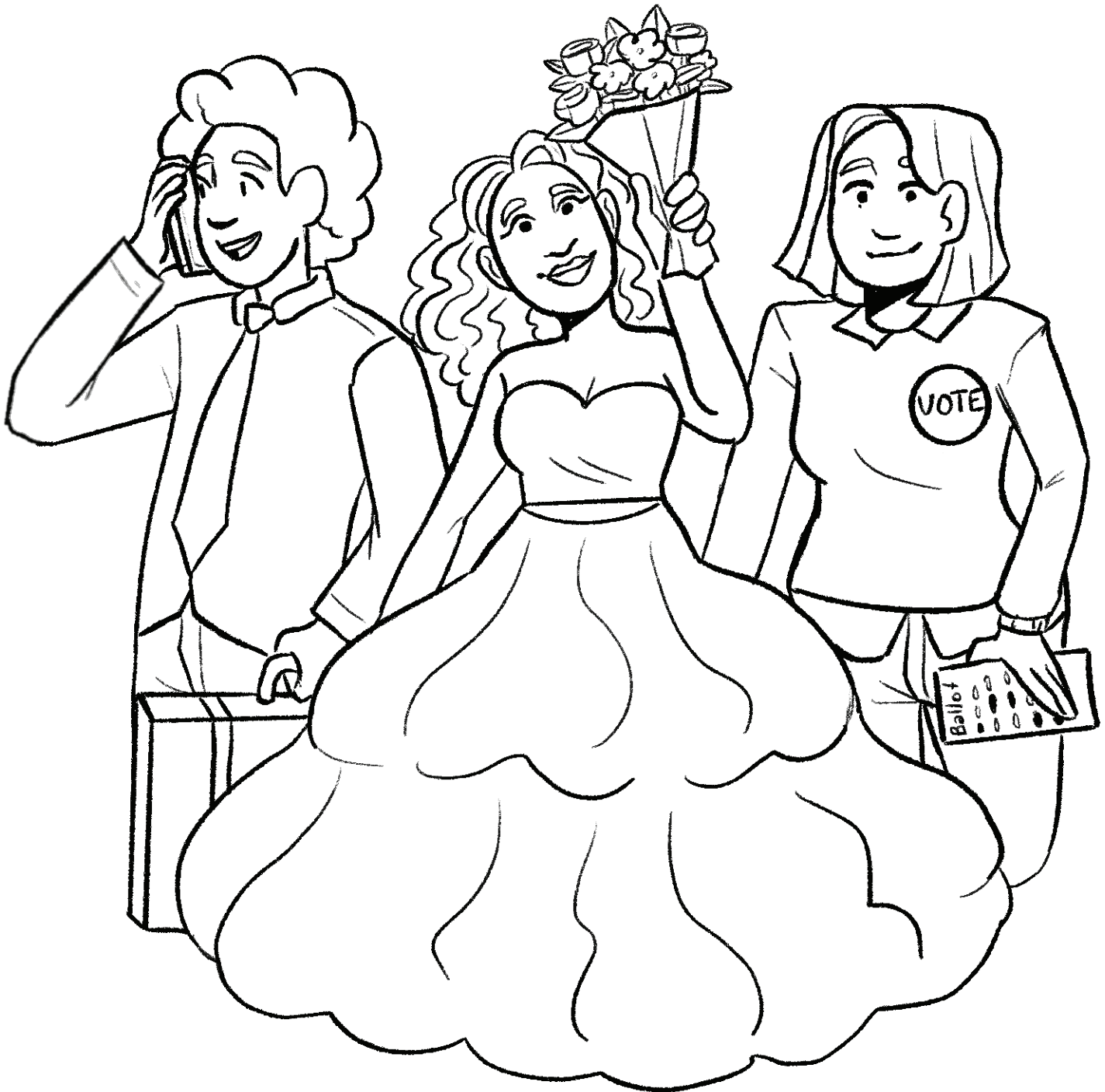
Ben just has one extra chromosome!



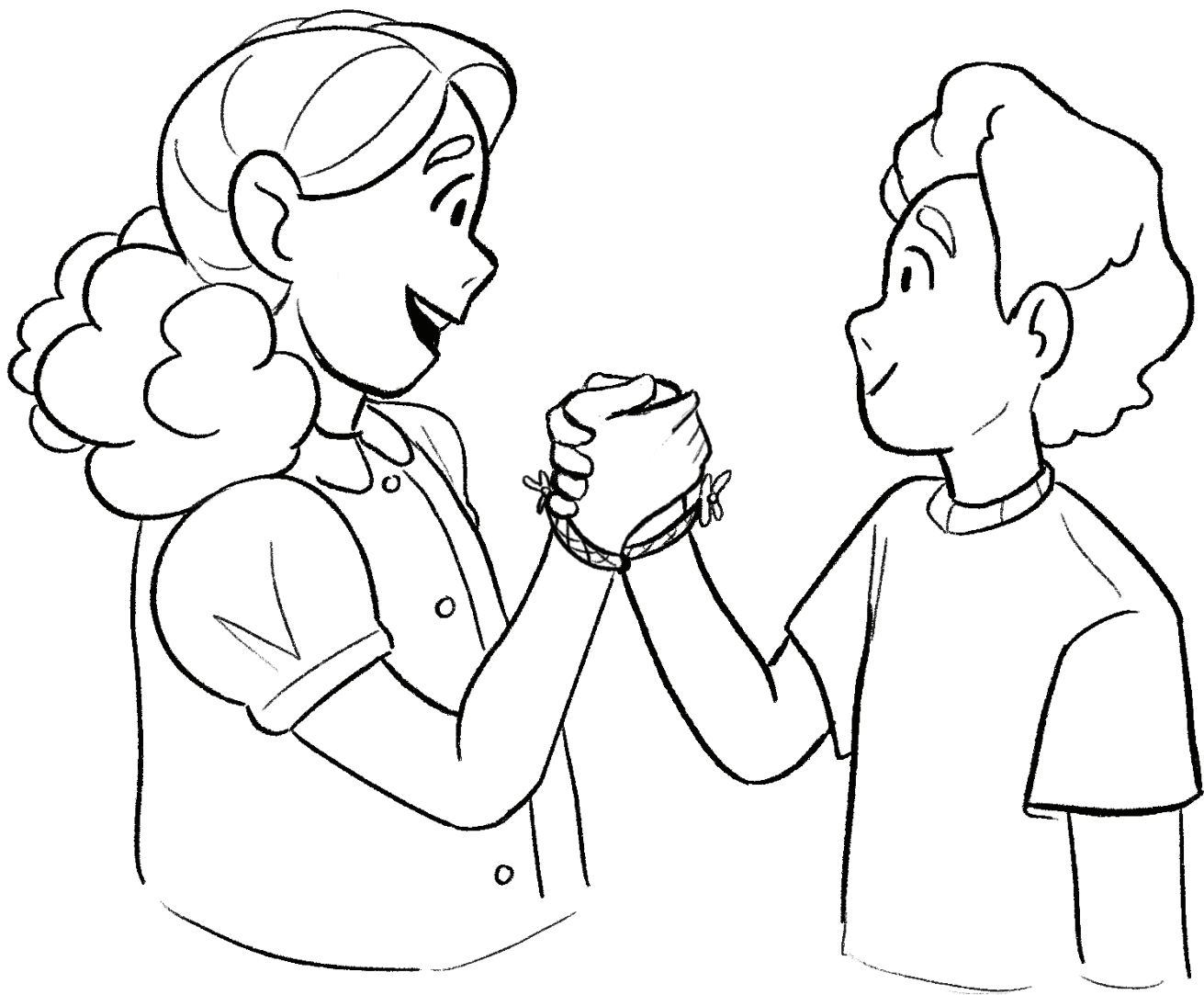
People with Down syndrome enjoy the same things you and I do! They go to school, learn to read and write, play sports and games.



People with Down syndrome grow up and go to college, work, get married, and vote - just like you and me!



Friends with Down syndrome are just as different as you or me. Ben is a true friend.



When people don't know about Down syndrome or Ben, they might say mean things that really hurt my friend and me.



So, Justin and I introduce them to Ben and share all the things he can do with us. Once they see what a great friend he is, we can all have fun together.



