



**THE 2023 YOUNG MATHEMATICAL STORY AUTHOR (YMSA) COMPETITION**

**THE STUART J. MURPHY AWARD  
(THE 8-11 YEARS OLD CATEGORY)**

**SHORTLISTED**

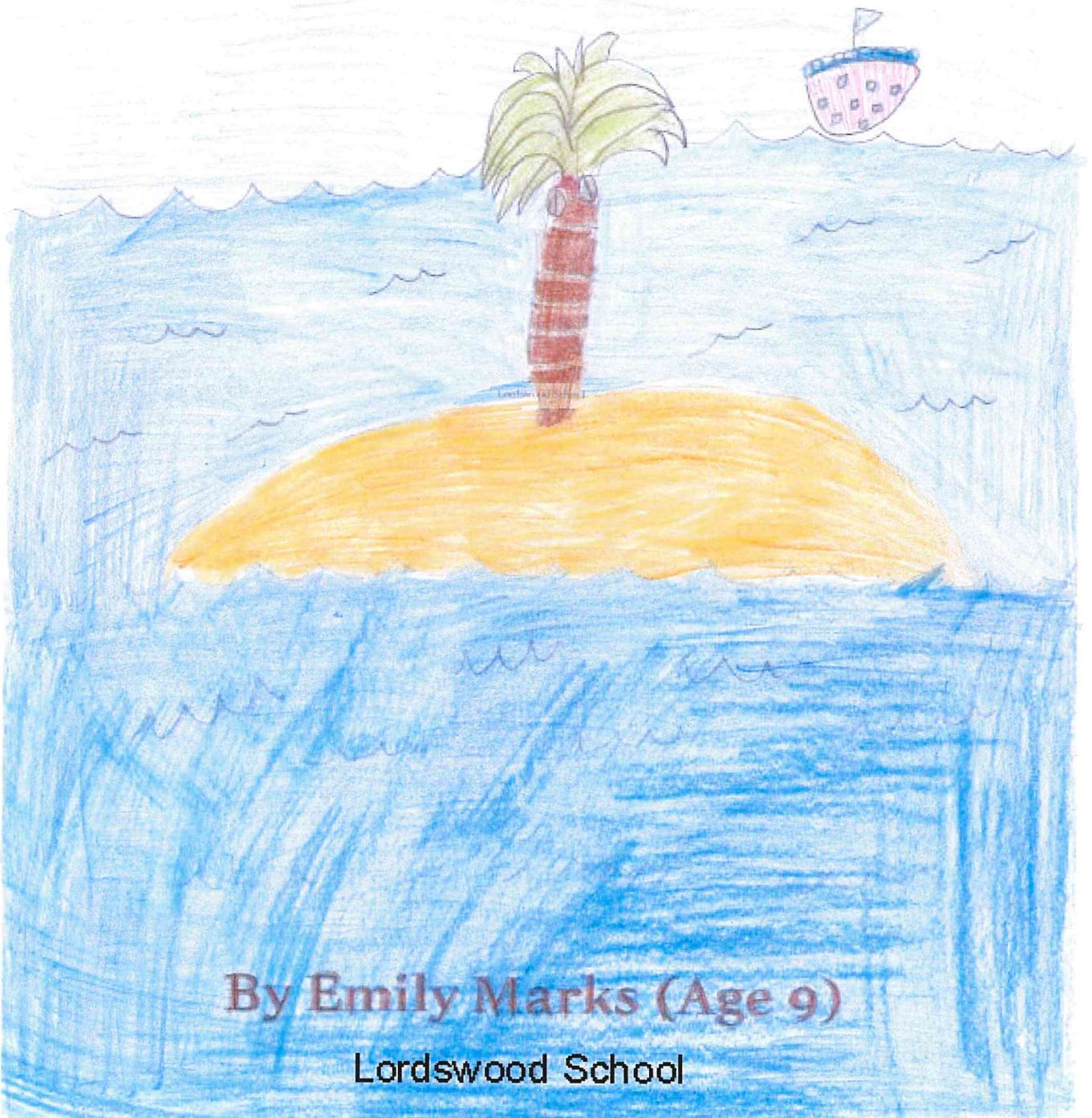
'The Adventure to Angle Island' by Emily Marks (9 years old)  
at Lordswood School (UK)

You can read the author's inspiration for the story and the judges' comments  
on:

[www.mathsthroughstories.org/ymsa2023](http://www.mathsthroughstories.org/ymsa2023)

**#YMSAMaths**

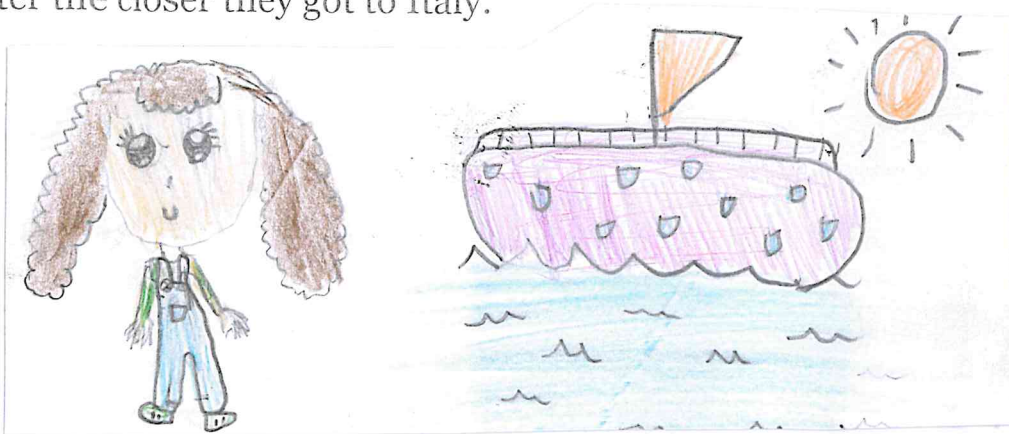
# The adventure to Angle Island



**By Emily Marks (Age 9)**

Lordswood School

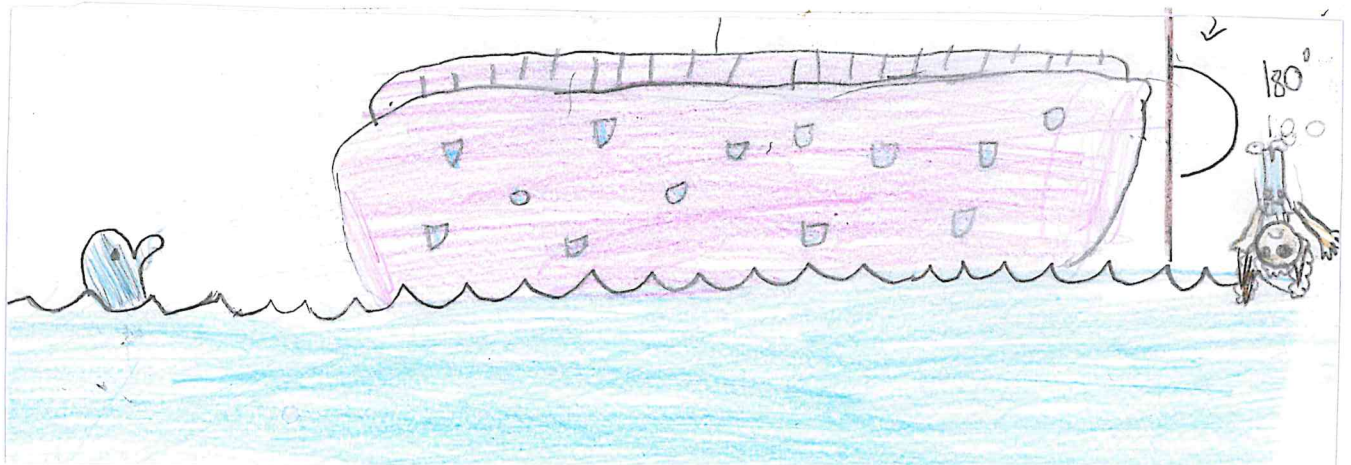
Once there was a little girl called Rosie and she went on a trip, with her friend, to Italy. They all boarded the cruise ship called "The Waves". They were having an incredible time on the boat and the weather was getting hotter the closer they got to Italy.



Rosie was excited to be on board "The Waves" and often spent the day looking out to sea. She said to her friend Lily, "How long will it take to get to Italy? I can't wait any longer!" Lily huffed (as Rosie asked this a lot) and replied "I don't know Rosie. Can't you just wait and see?"

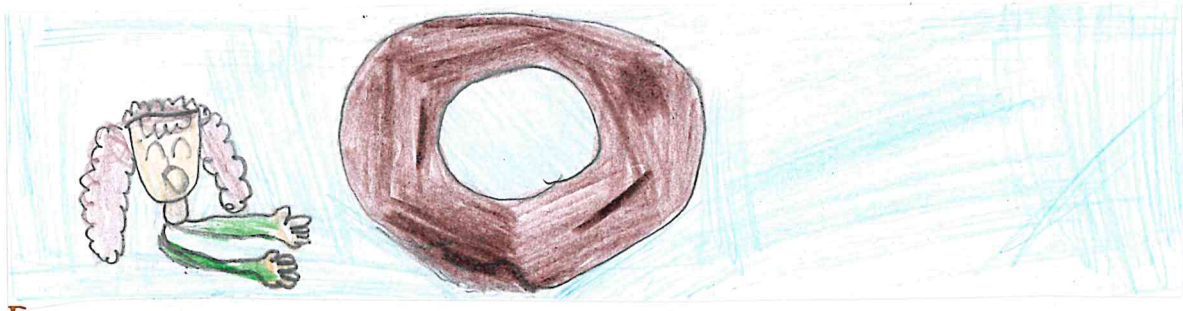


Suddenly, Rosie noticed a little, excitable baby dolphin and leant over the side of the boat to see it. The dolphin was a beautiful sky blue colour and was bobbing up and down in the waves, chasing the cruise ship. Rosie was so interested in the dolphin that she leant a little to far and lost her balance. She fell 180° (head first) into the sea.

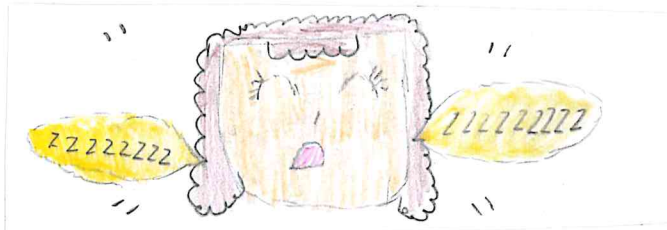


Rosie sank down in the water and by the time that she managed to get to the surface, the ship was too far away for her to call for help. Luckily, she had had swimming lessons at school and learnt how to swim and float.

After a while, Rosie felt exhausted and she spotted an old circular plank of wood floating in the wavy water. She quickly grabbed hold of it and climbed onto it. She noticed that the piece of wood was shaped like the degree symbol that her maths teacher had taught her the week before the trip. Rosie felt relieved that she was safe for the time being.



During the day the sun was shining brightly but at night, when the sun went away, it was freezing cold and she wished her mum was there to hug her tight. Rosie couldn't feel her fingers and she started to shiver as she drifted off to sleep.



As the sun began to rise, Rosie spotted an island in the distance. She paddled over to it and eagerly ran onto the sand and climbed up the tall palm tree to grab the coconuts (as she was hungry and thirsty).

As Rosie stretched out to grab the coconut, she lost her balance and fell onto the floor with a THUMP! Rosie sobbed as she had hurt her leg when she fell.



A few seconds later a group of strange looking creatures emerged from the bushes. They looked like the pictures in her maths book from school. There was a creature shaped like a  $90^\circ$  angle (who was known by the name 'Right angle'), one who looked like a  $45^\circ$  angle (who was referred to by the other one as 'Acute') and another bigger one greater than  $90^\circ$ , known as 'Obtuse'.

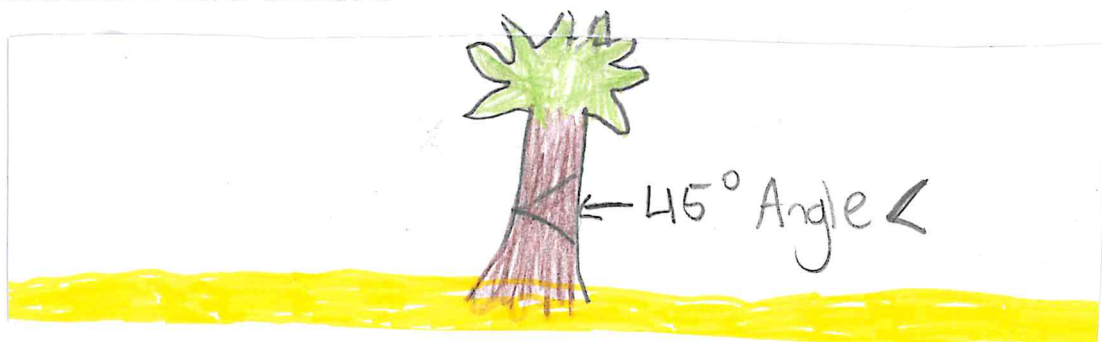


They saw that Rosie was sobbing and put a leaf around her legs for a bandage. The creatures were trying to talk to her but she couldn't understand them. She just kept hearing numbers and mumbling. How was she going to tell them what was wrong? Eventually, the creatures picked up a stick and drew in the sand so that Rosie could understand them.



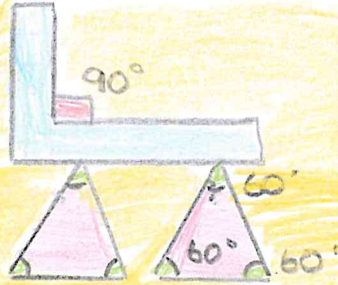
When they finished drawing, Rosie could see they had drawn a wheelchair style picture. She nodded thankfully and asked them how they would build it. The creatures pointed to the trees and signalled that they would cut down the palm trees to build the wheelchair for her.

Rosie watched as they cut into the palm tree and chopped away a  $45^\circ$  angle. The tree started to wobble and it began to tip and fell to the left hand side with a CRASH!

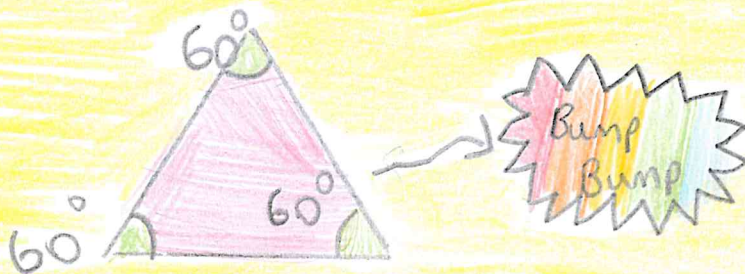


The creatures (later named the Angle tribe from Angle Island) set to work.

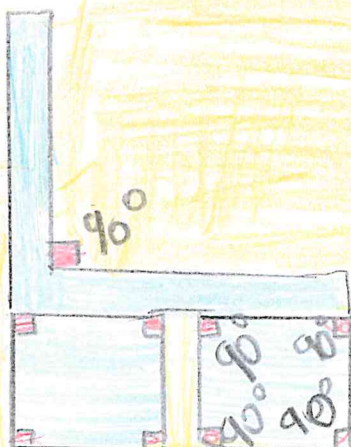
First, they built the frame of the wheelchair, and Rosie tested it to see if it was comfortable. Then, they cut the wood and made two triangle shaped wheels. They drew their designs in the sand and Rosie was amazed by the numbers. She noticed that each corner of the triangle was  $60^\circ$ . Rosie added them up. " $60^\circ$  add  $60^\circ$  add  $60^\circ$ ....that makes  $180^\circ$ !"



They attached the triangles to the wheelchair but when Rosie tried to move but the wheels didn't move quick enough and they took a lot of effort and were very bumpy.



Next, they decided to try a square shape. They drew the design in the sand once again and used the palm tree bark to connect four sides together. Rosie again noticed the numbers on the floor. Each corner had  $90^\circ$  this time, not  $60^\circ$  like the triangle. She was adding this up in her head and realised it was not the  $180^\circ$  that the triangle was but instead was  $360^\circ$ ! She thought to herself that the extra  $180^\circ$  degrees would make it a bit more comfortable and easier to move. She tested it out.



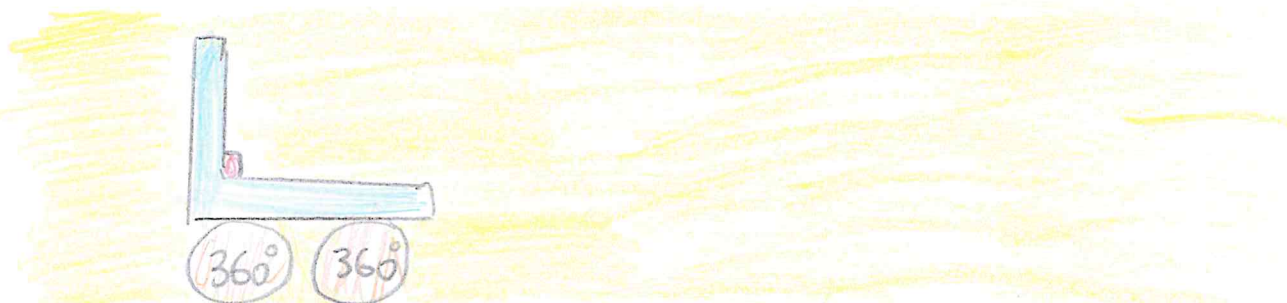
## Bump, Bump, Bump, Bump!

The wheels were still hard to move so Rosie shook her head.

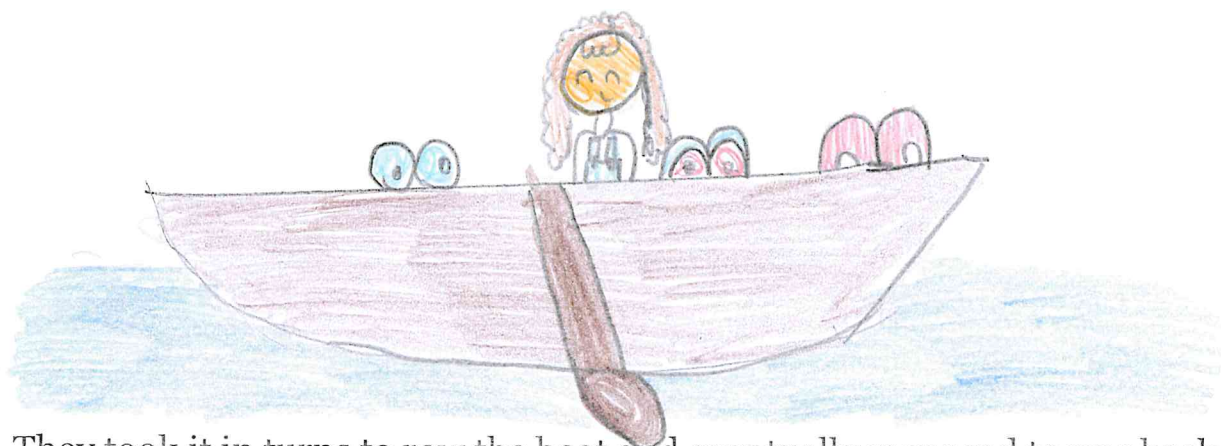
Finally, the Angle tribe drew another drawing in the sand. They drew a circle for the wheels and in the middle was a small circle which had  $360^\circ$  written in it. Rosie nodded excitedly as they began to build the wheels once more.



When the newly built wheels were put on the wheelchair, Rosie sat eagerly in it. The creatures pushed her across the sand and it worked!



She was relieved and thanked them. The tribe helped her onto their boat (which they kept for emergencies) and they started to row out to sea.



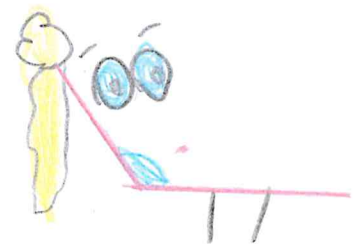
They took it in turns to row the boat and eventually managed to row back to Rosie's home country. A week passed and they were there. Rosie

thanked the tribe and they pushed her up the slope of the dock. The community was patiently (but worriedly) waiting for her. When her mum saw Rosie she ran up to her and hugged her tightly. They were both so happy to be with each other again.



They all lived happily ever after.

As for the Angle Tribe (Right angle, Acute and Obtuse) they rowed to a nearby island (instead of theirs) so that they could visit their new friend Rosie whenever they wanted (especially when there was an angle based maths test she needed to revise for)!





## BLURB

A young girl called Rosie decides to go on a boat trip with her friend Lily. The trip started off well, but soon took a turn for the worse. Rosie ended up stranded and had to solve a number of problems to eventually find her way home, with a little bit of help from her maths teacher (obviously)!

Finding new friends (from Angle Island) helps Rosie to overcome the hardest time of her life.

Will her maths knowledge help to find the pieces to the puzzle?

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



I am 9 years old and go to Lordswood School in Chatham, Kent (UK). I have a little brother and I love reading stories, especially to him. Some of my favourite authors are Tom Fletcher and J.K. Rowling. I was inspired write this by reading other stories and I love maths.

I write lots of stories and was interested to do this to try to challenge myself. I hope you enjoy it!