

AJ

**The Amazing
Walking Excavator**

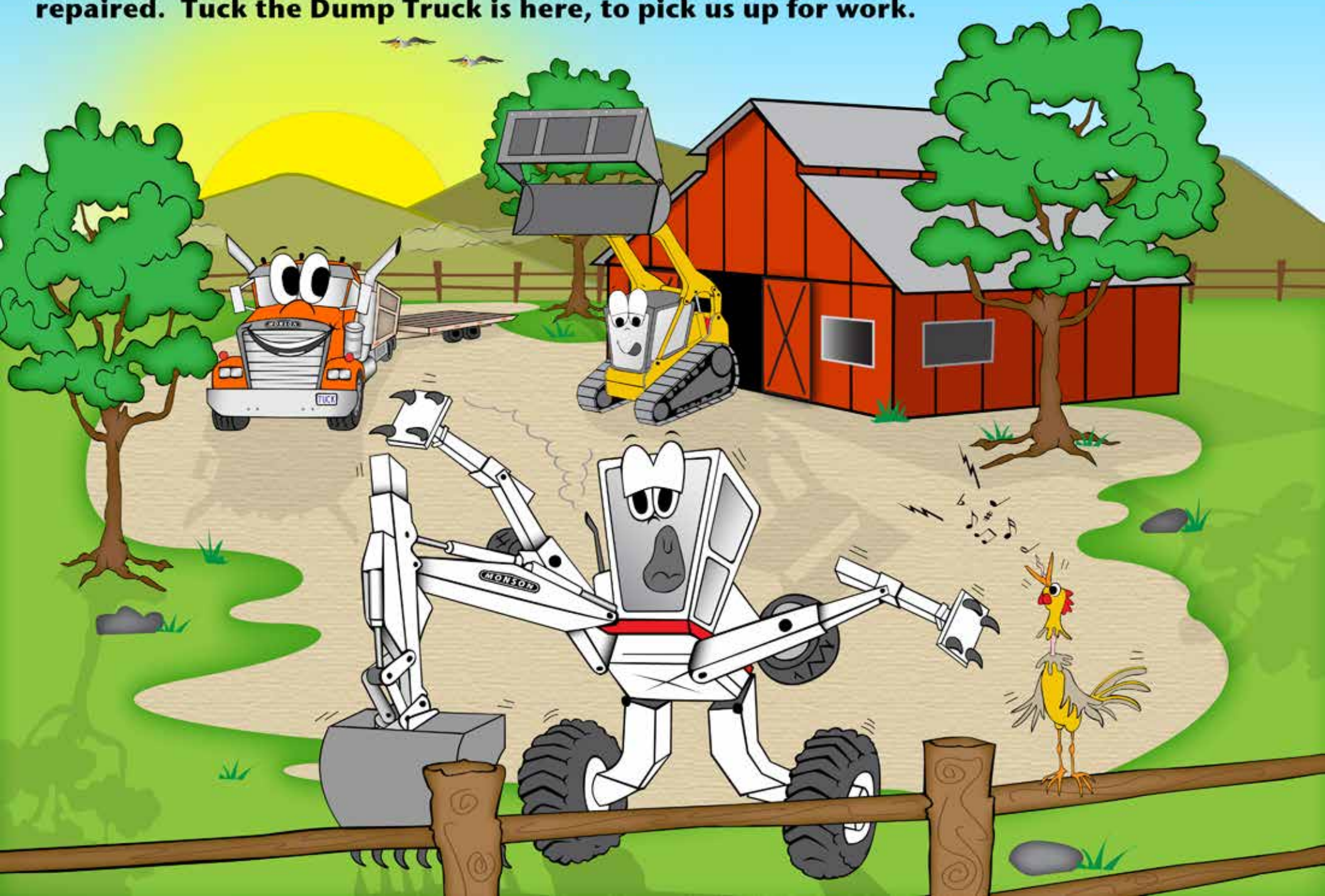
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Illustrated by Ken & Mary Ann Pierce

**For Jennifer, Andrew, Stephanie, Popo and Momo
with love and eternal gratitude.**

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I'm AJ, the Amazing Walking Excavator and this is Sid the Skid Steer Loader. It's about 6:00 a.m. and we are getting ready to go to work. The job is just outside of town in a creek that needs part of the bank repaired. Tuck the Dump Truck is here, to pick us up for work.





Sometimes the ride to the job site can be a little bumpy. It's not because Tuck the Dump Truck is a bad driver, just that some roads are full of potholes.

“Bumpy is not the right word,” said Sid. “Do you remember the time I almost fell out?”

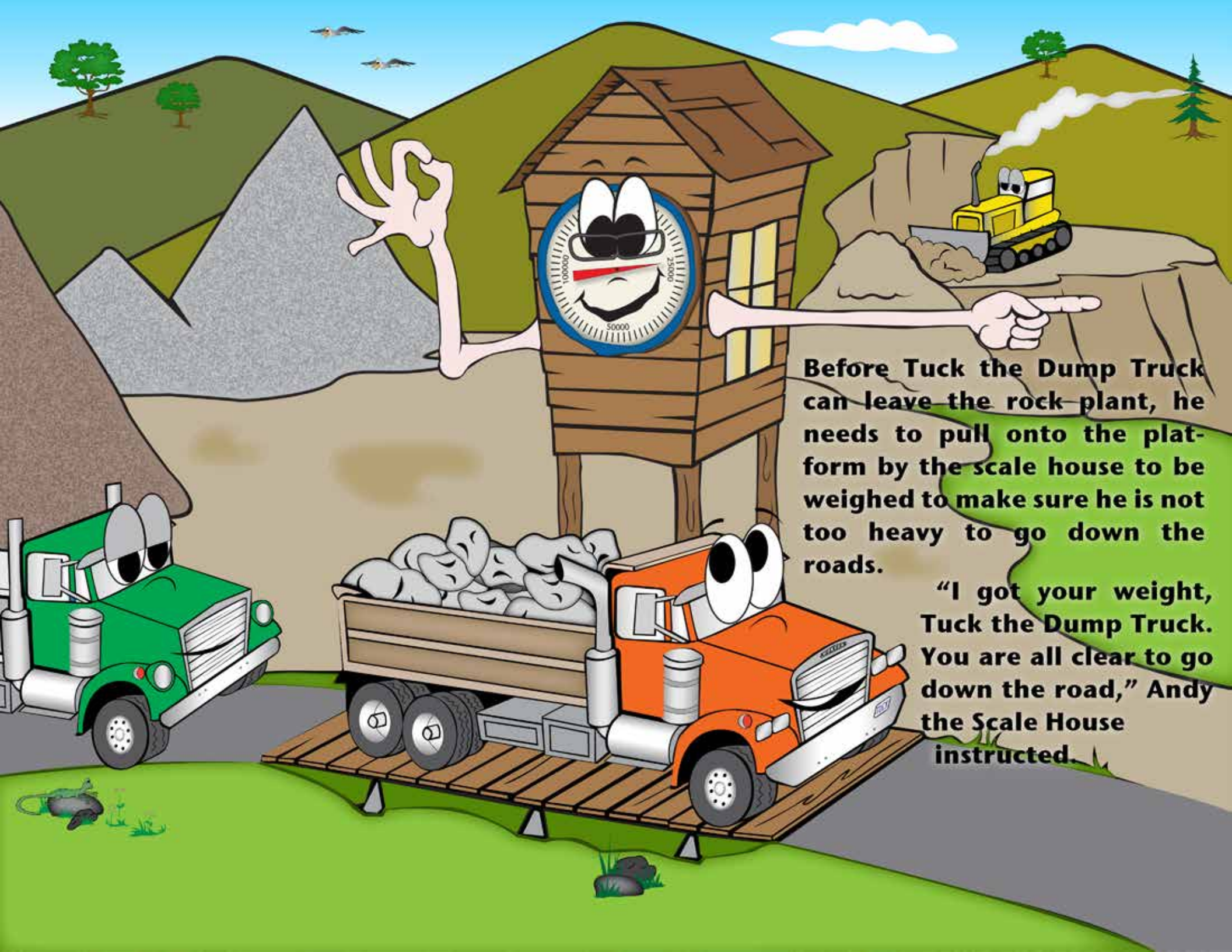
“Yes, that was a crazy day,” laughed AJ. “Tuck the Dump Truck hit a very large pothole and almost sent you flying out.”



“We are here,” stated Tuck the Dump Truck in his deep, deep voice. “That was a short ride,” said Sid. “Look at that, the creek bank is almost all gone from the high-water flow we had this winter,” noticed AJ.

“The house on top of the creek bank is about to fall down into the creek!” exclaimed Sid.

“We need to get in there and repair the bank.”



Before Tuck the Dump Truck can leave the rock plant, he needs to pull onto the platform by the scale house to be weighed to make sure he is not too heavy to go down the roads.

“I got your weight, Tuck the Dump Truck. You are all clear to go down the road,” Andy the Scale House instructed.

