

Otto's Tales



Today is

MOTHER'S DAY!

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MOTHER'S DAY!





Ruff Ruff! I'm Otto. "It's a beautiful spring day!" I barked. "Even better, it's **Mother's Day!**" exclaimed Dennis. "We should get my mom something special to show how much we love her, but I'm not sure what to get."



“Let’s meet a couple of great moms,” I suggested. “Maybe they’ll help us pick out a gift.”

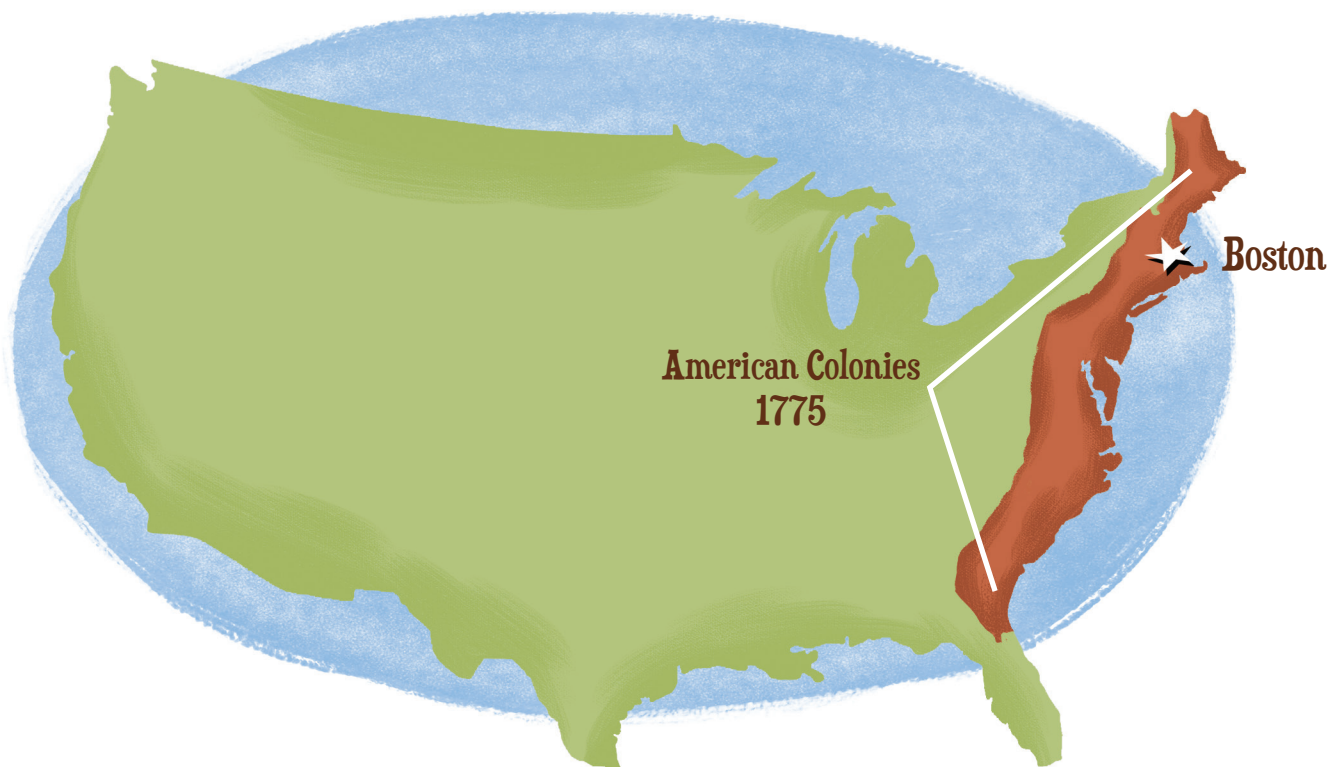
“Great idea,” said Dennis.

“This can be our time machine,” I barked, pointing at Dennis’s wagon.

We got into the wagon and pretended it was a car.
Then **ZOOM...**away we drove, traveling so far!



We arrived in the fair city of Boston in the year 1775.
The struggle for liberty had started; America was fighting to survive.





We found a quaint house and were pleased to discover inside were four children and **Abigail Adams**, their mother.

She saw us, smiled broadly, and welcomed us in.

“This **Revolutionary War**,” she sighed, “I pray we shall win.”



Dennis said, “Your husband, **John Adams**, is working to make America free.”

Mrs. Adams beamed, “A great man is John, as I always knew he would be.”



“He’s a **Founding Father**,” said Dennis, “helping to create a new nation.

He couldn’t do it without you, his partner and inspiration.”

Dennis continued, “While he’s away, you tend to the house and keep up the farm.

You also educate the children, and protect them from harm.”



Mrs. Adams explained, “I read them the **Scriptures** and teach them to pray.

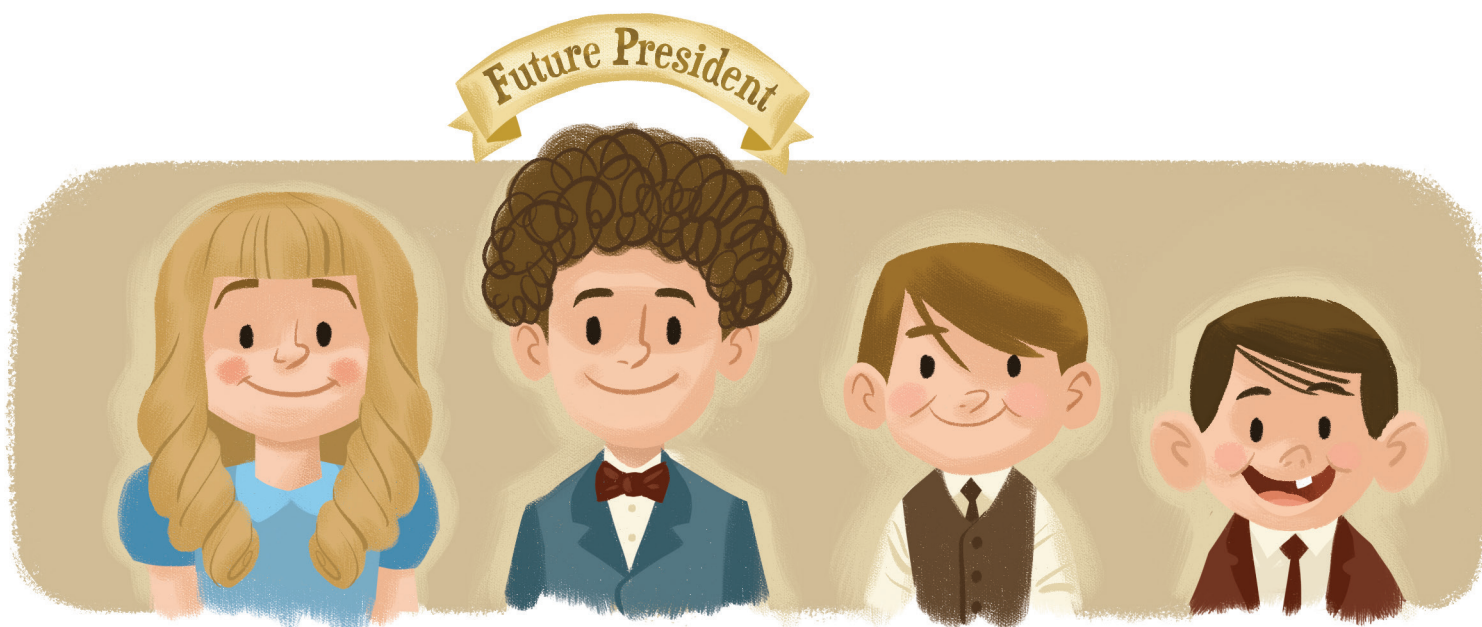
I prepare every one of them for the trials of each day.”



“Faith in God,” she insisted, “helps us all stay on a good life path.”
Then she smiled, “Of course, I also teach them art, science, and math.”



“Learning about history,” she said, “is time well-spent.
Maybe one of them will one day become president!”



Abigail John Q. Charles Thomas



Dennis said, “You remind me of my mom with everything you do. She reads us the Bible and teaches us too!”

Dennis continued, “If it’s not too much to ask, can you give me some advice?”

I need to get my mom a present, something useful, but also nice.”



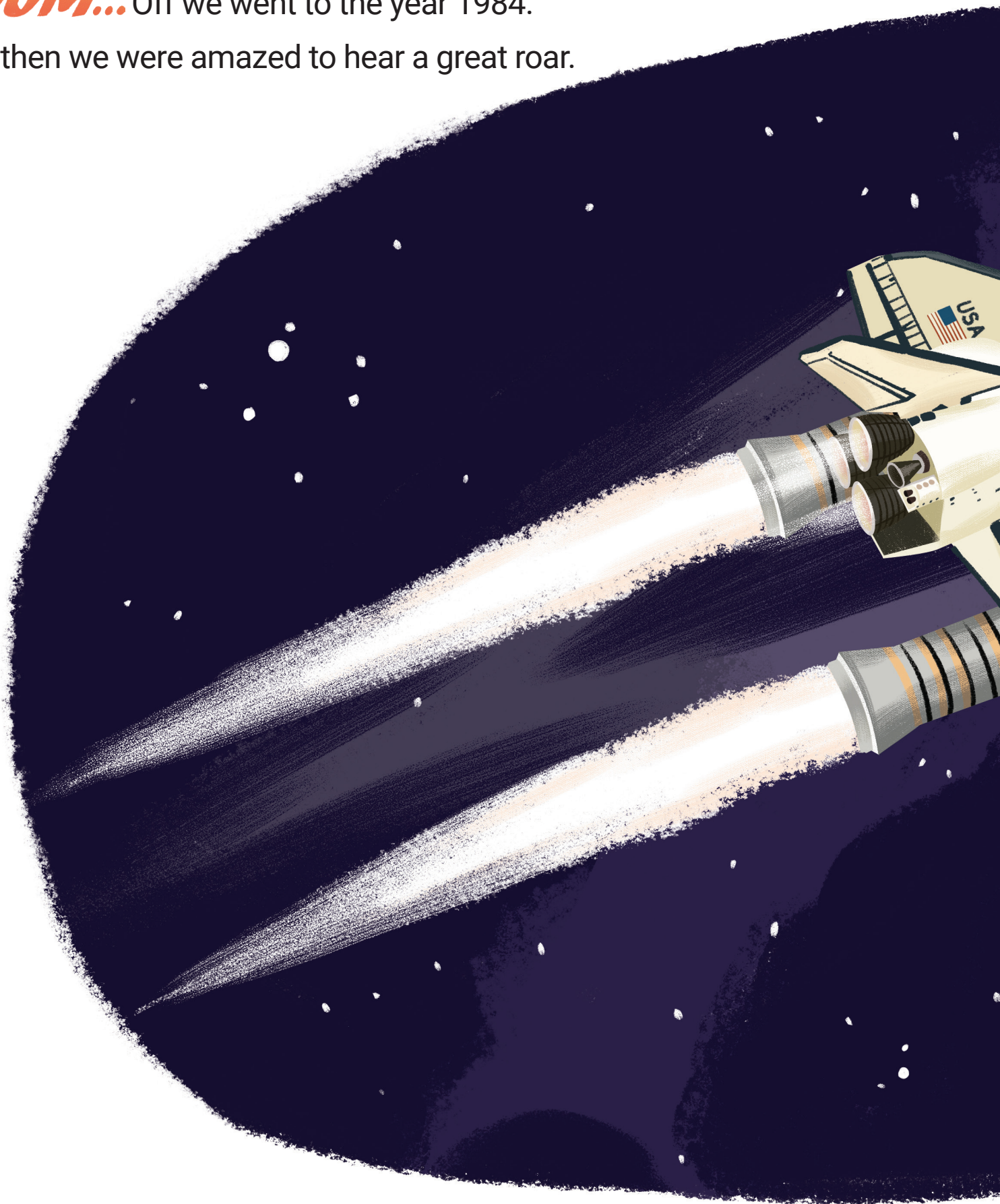
Mrs. Adams responded, "You seem like a young man who is very smart. Whatever you give your mom, make sure it expresses your heart."

"Thank you!" said Dennis, as we waved goodbye.

We got back into our car and got ready to fly.

ZOOM... Off we went to the year 1984.

Just then we were amazed to hear a great roar.





“It’s the **Space Shuttle!**” I yelled as it rocketed past.
It sped into the sky with an almighty blast.

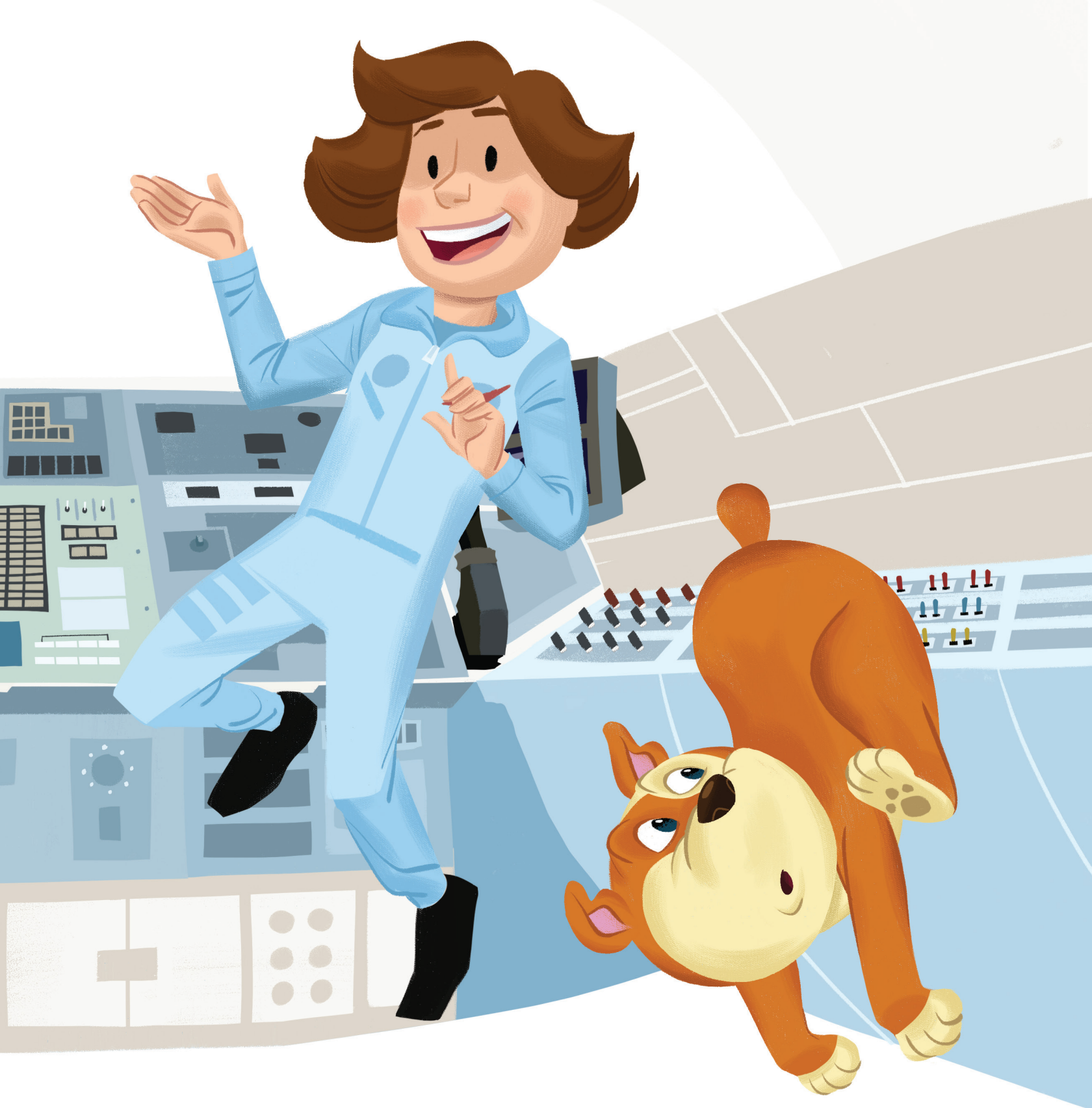
To catch the Shuttle, we zoomed at a very swift pace.

Dennis yelled, "It's **Anna Lee Fisher**, the first mother in space!"

Dennis asked, "How did you get to fly on this mission?"

"Long story," she said. "First, I studied hard and became a **physician.**"





“That’s impressive,” I marveled. “Did you study how to **spacewalk**, too?”

“Oh yes,” she answered, “I spent many hours preparing with my crew.”

Dennis chimed in, “Do you still find time to be a mother and wife?”

“My husband and daughter,” she nodded, “are the best parts of my life.”

Dennis said, “You remind me of my mother just a tad.

Everything she does is for me, my brother, and dad.”





“It’s been a pleasure,” I barked, “but we must be swift.”

“Mrs. Fisher,” Dennis asked, “what should I get my mom for a gift?”

“Whatever you choose, I’m sure it will be great.

You’d better hurry,” she said. “I don’t want you to be late.”

“Thank you!” I yelled as we **ZOOMED** through space.
Soon we arrived back at Dennis’s place.



Dennis said, “Meeting Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Fisher was quite an adventure.

But as far as a gift for my mom, I still don’t know what to get her.”



I looked out the window, across the street, at the park.

“Maybe we can find a gift there,” I barked, “before it gets dark.”



At the park, kids swung on the swings and slid down the slide.
Moms sat nearby and watched them with pride.

When we saw a flower cart, I wagged my tail.
The man at the cart called out, "Fresh flowers for sale!"



"Hello, sir," said Dennis. "I'd like to buy a bouquet.
That's the gift I'll give to my mom for Mother's Day."



Back at home, we got everything ready for the big surprise. Dennis pulled out the flowers and told his mom, "Open your eyes!" "Getting you a gift," Dennis explained, "took a lot of thought. We even got advice from a **first lady** and an **astronaut!**"

His mom said, "What an adventure you must have had.
Thank you for the flowers; they make my heart glad."
Dennis and I cheered, "Happy Mother's Day!
Thank you for all you do for us in your special way."





“That was my favorite adventure yet!” I barked to Dennis.

“You say that every time, Otto.”

“Well, I never knew that Abigail Adams and Anna Lee Fisher were such great moms!”

Dennis said, “Moms do a lot for us, don’t they?”

“They work hard to provide for us, teach us how to behave, and help us with our homework.”

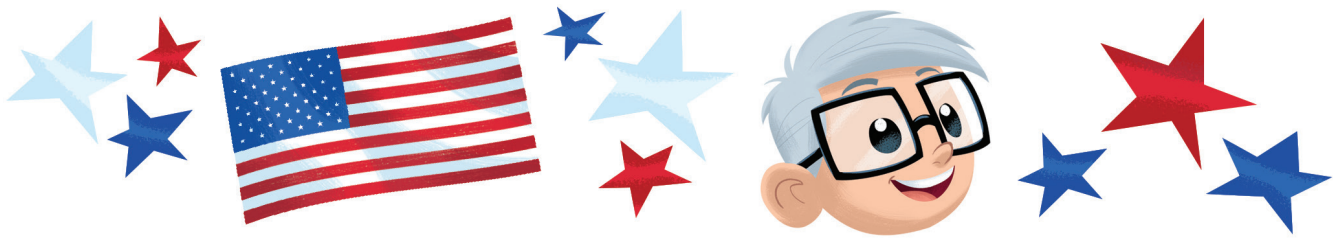


“They are always doing what’s best for us, no matter what.”

“Yes, especially your mom, Dennis.”

“You’re right, Otto. She’s the best mom I could have ever asked for. I’m so grateful for her, especially today. Happy Mother’s Day!”

“Happy Mother’s Day! **Ruff Ruff!**”



We Love Our History

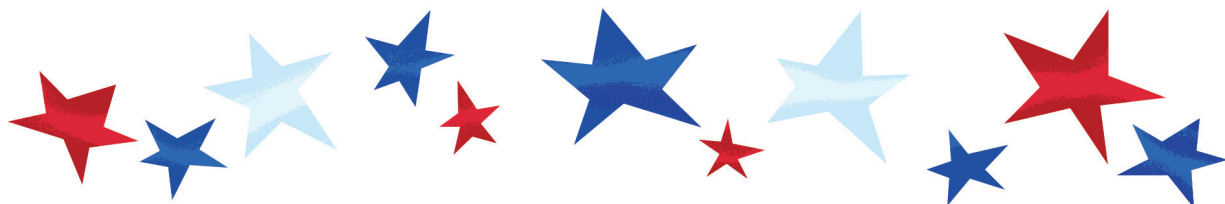
Mother's Day: A holiday in which Americans recognize the contributions of mothers to them and the country. It was started by a woman from West Virginia named Anna Jarvis in 1908. She wanted to recognize the impact her own mother, Ann Maria Jarvis, had on her life.

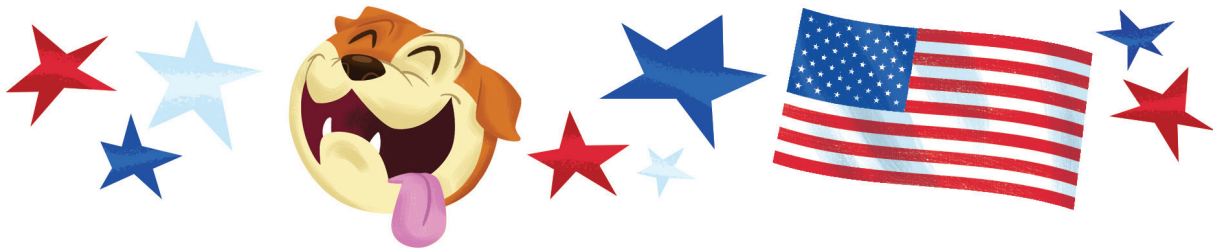
Abigail Adams: First lady of the United States from 1797-1801. Her husband, John Adams, served as the 2nd President of the United States and they had several children, including John Quincy Adams, the 6th president. She is one of two women in American history to be the wife of one president and the mother of another.

Revolutionary War: The war of the American colonies against Great Britain, which lasted from 1775-1783. The war began because the British mistreated the colonists. The colonies won and established the United States as a new nation.

John Adams: A Founding Father and the 2nd President of the United States, from 1797-1801. He was married to Abigail Adams and was the father of John Quincy Adams, the 6th President of the United States.

Founding Father: Someone who played a leading role in creating the United States, establishing its independence, and designing its Constitution and government. John Adams is one of our most well-known Founding Fathers.





Scriptures: The important writings of a religion. People often use this term to refer to the Bible.

Space Shuttle: A spacecraft that was used from 1981 to 2011 by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). It was the first spacecraft that could be used more than once. The Space Shuttle launched like a rocket and landed like an airplane.

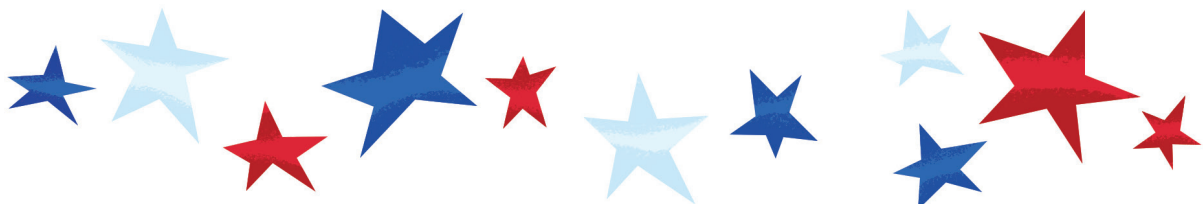
Anna Lee Fisher: An astronaut who, in 1984, became the first mother to travel to space. She flew on the Space Shuttle less than a year and a half after having her first child. In addition, she was also a physician and continued working for NASA after her trip to space.

Spacewalk: Any activity an astronaut performs outside of their spacecraft, such as conducting experiments or making repairs to the spacecraft or a satellite.

Physician: A doctor.

First Lady: The title for the wife of the President of the United States.

Astronaut: A person who is trained to travel to space.



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**See you in
our *next* adventure!**

- Dennis and Otto

ABOUT

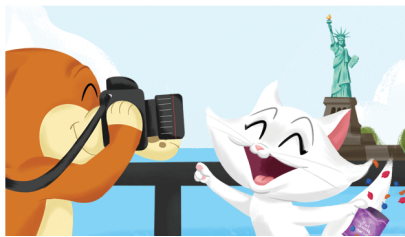
Otto's Tales

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TODAY IS
Celebrating American
holidays & traditions



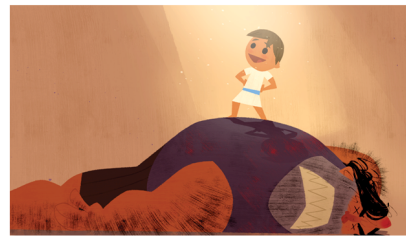
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