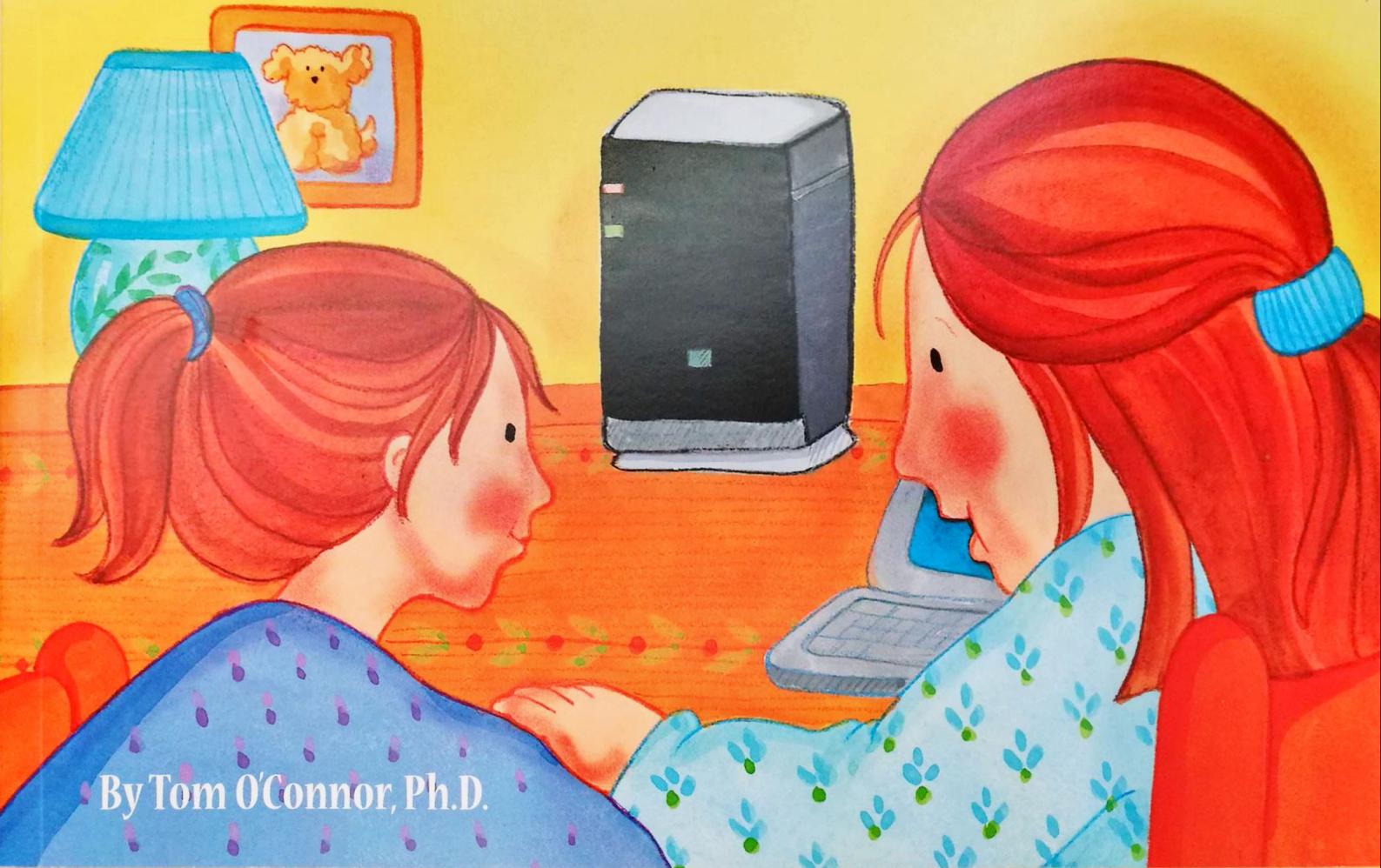


# Mommy, Why is There a Server in the House?

Helping Your Child Understand the Stay-At-Home Server



By Tom O'Connor, Ph.D.

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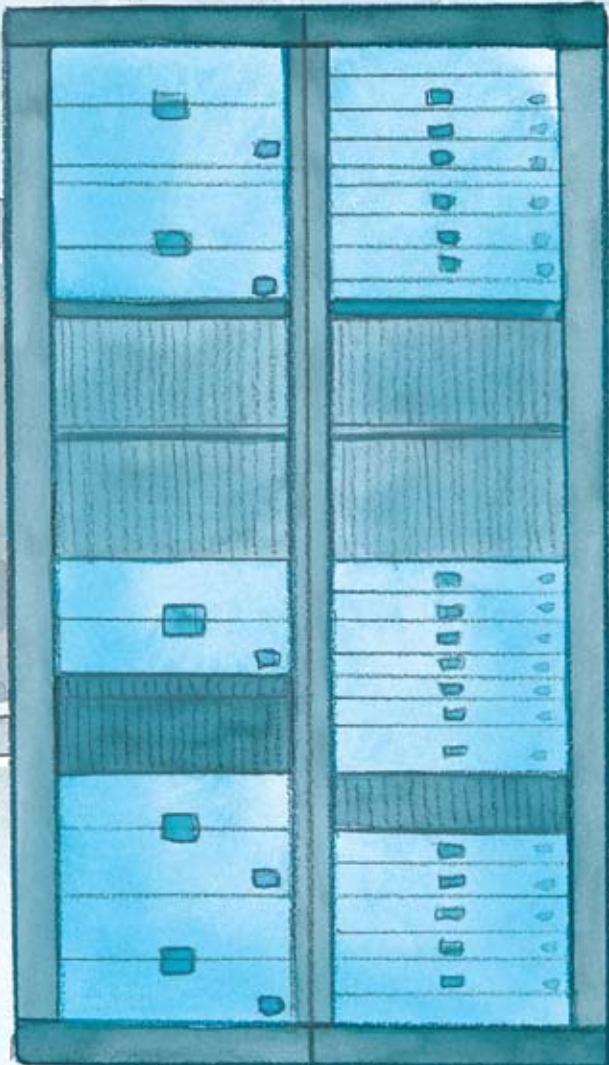
By Tom O'Connor, Ph.D.

Illustrations by Jill Dubin



**Do you know  
what a server is?  
I bet you do!**

**A server is  
a funny-looking box.  
It makes friends  
with computers!**



**Big people have a server at the “office”.**

**The office is a boring place**

**where big people go and do boring things.**





**Offices are why big people get grumpy, and say bad words.**

**But guess what?**

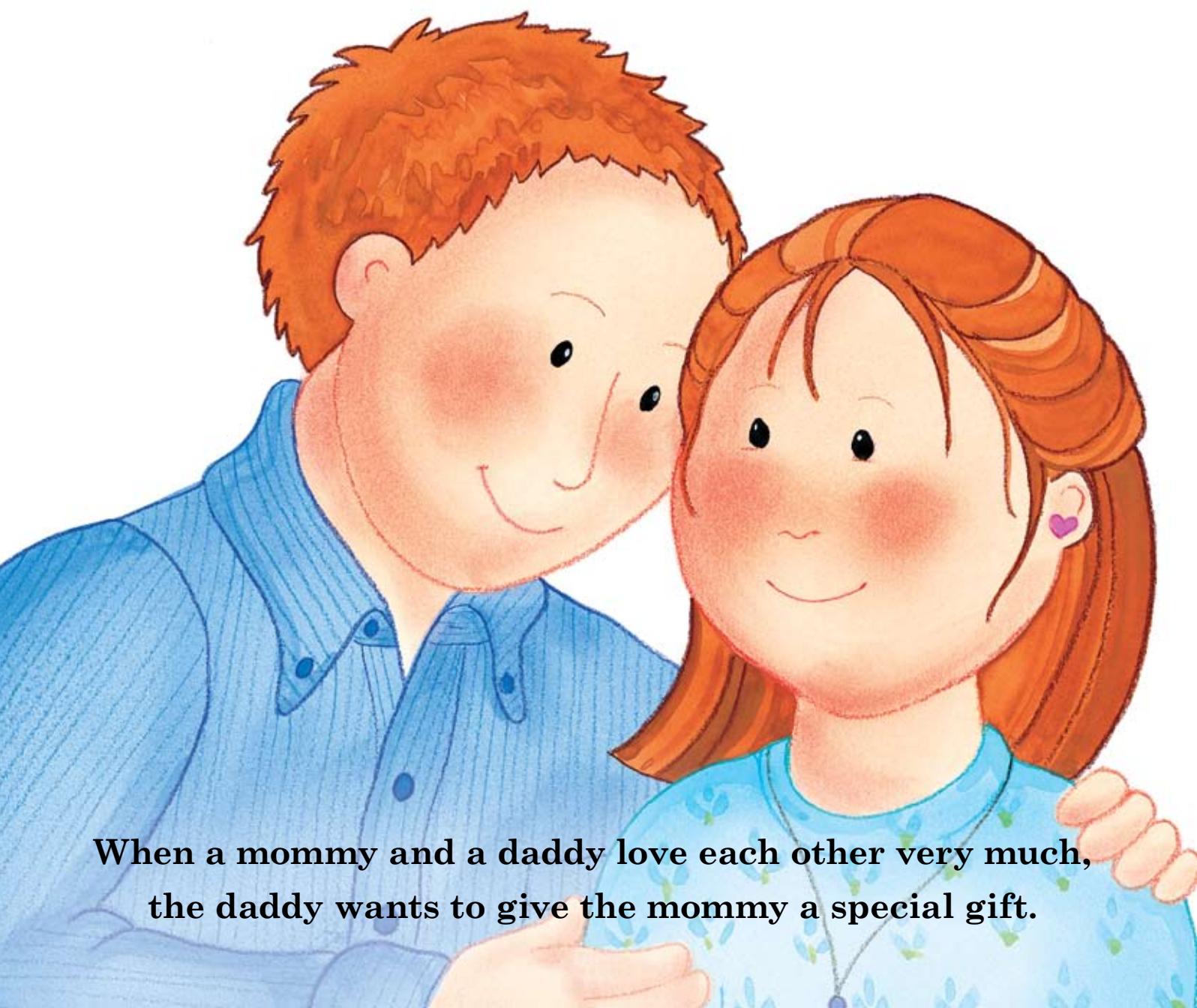
**Some servers aren't boring.**

**They don't go in offices...they go in houses!**

**Maybe in your house!**

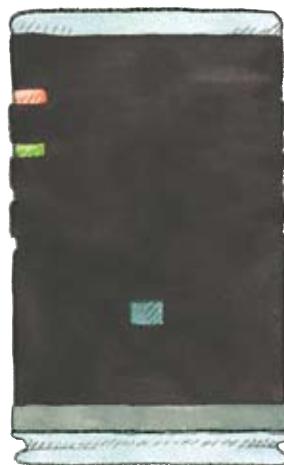


**How does it get there?**



When a mommy and a daddy love each other very much,  
the daddy wants to give the mommy a special gift.

**So he buys a “stay-at-home” server.**

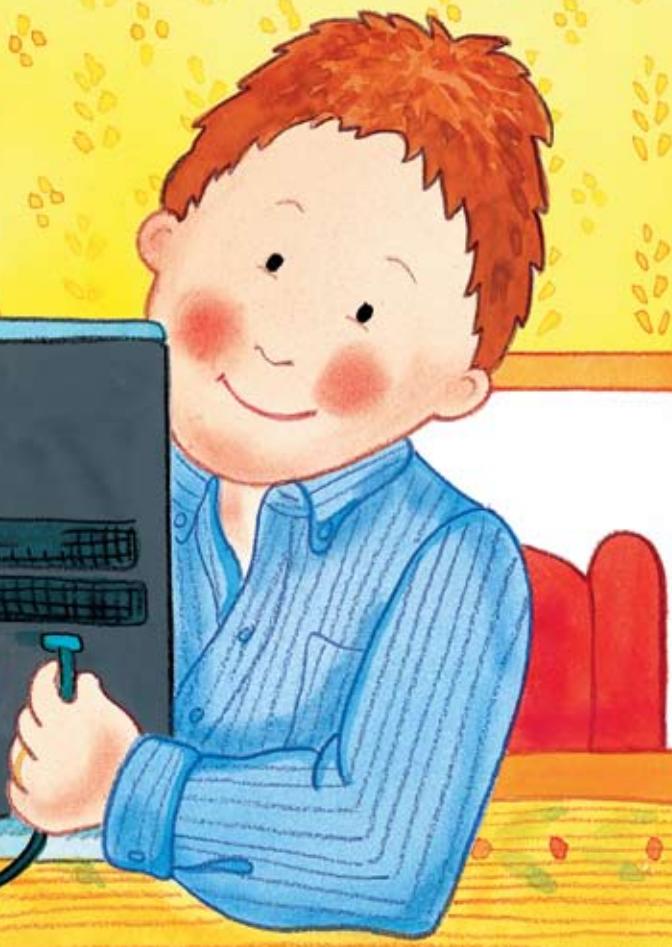


A woman with orange hair and a blue patterned top stands in a doorway, holding a small child's hand. A small brown and white dog sits on the floor next to them. The background shows a yellow wall with small orange floral patterns.

Then he installs it.

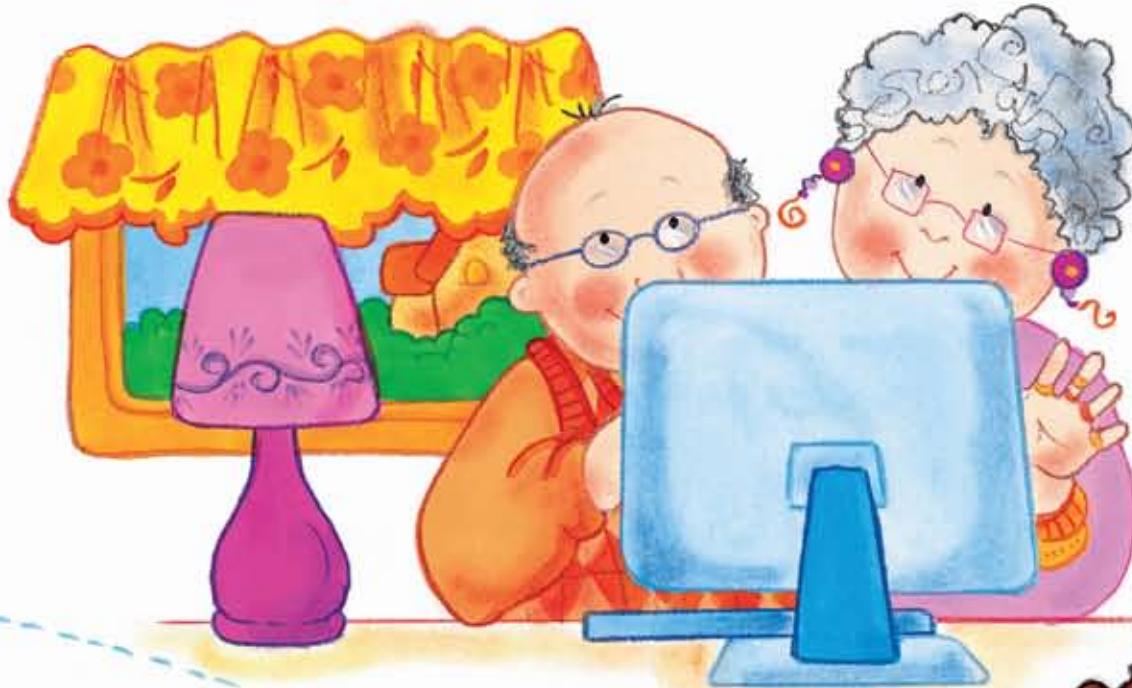
It's easy!

He does it all by himself!

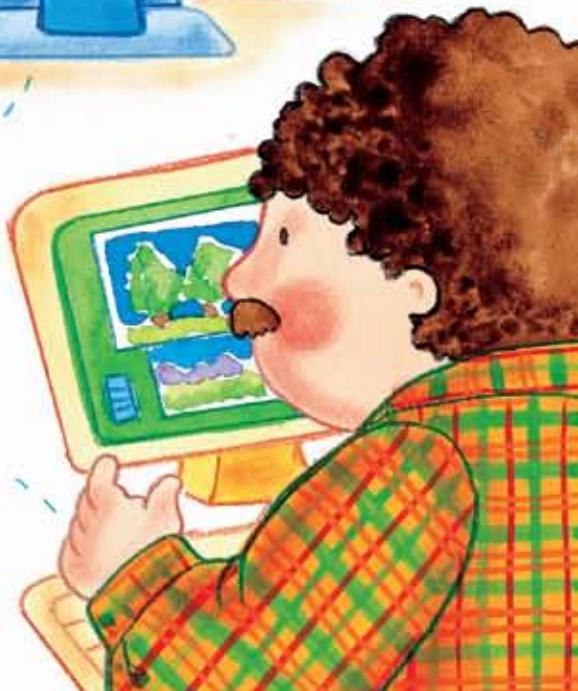


Now all the computers  
in the house are connected.  
Your family can share pictures,  
and music, and almost anything else.



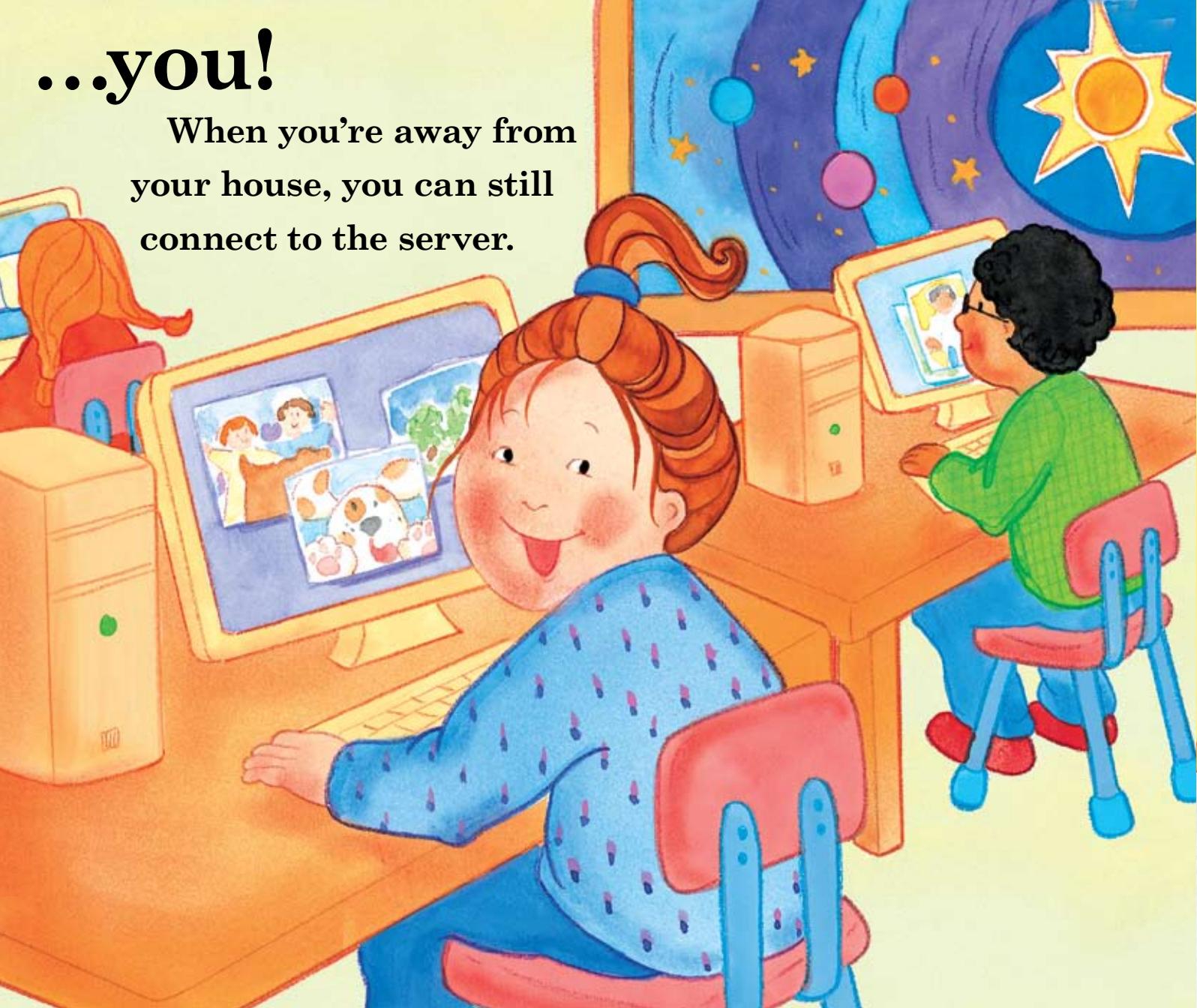


You can even share files  
with people outside the house!  
Like Grandma and Grandpa.  
Or your uncle who smells like bark.  
Or even...

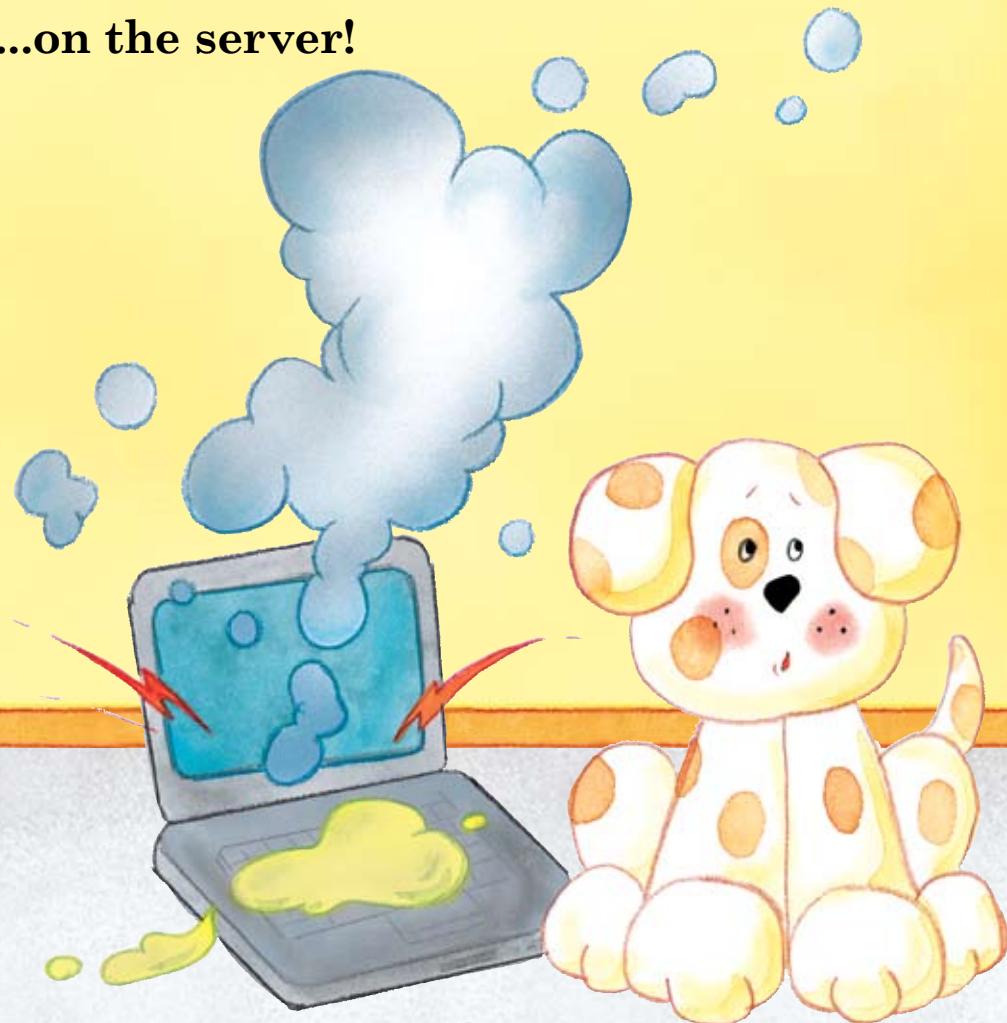


# ...you!

When you're away from  
your house, you can still  
connect to the server.



And files don't get lost,  
even when bad things happen to your computers.  
Because they're all backed up  
in a special place...on the server!

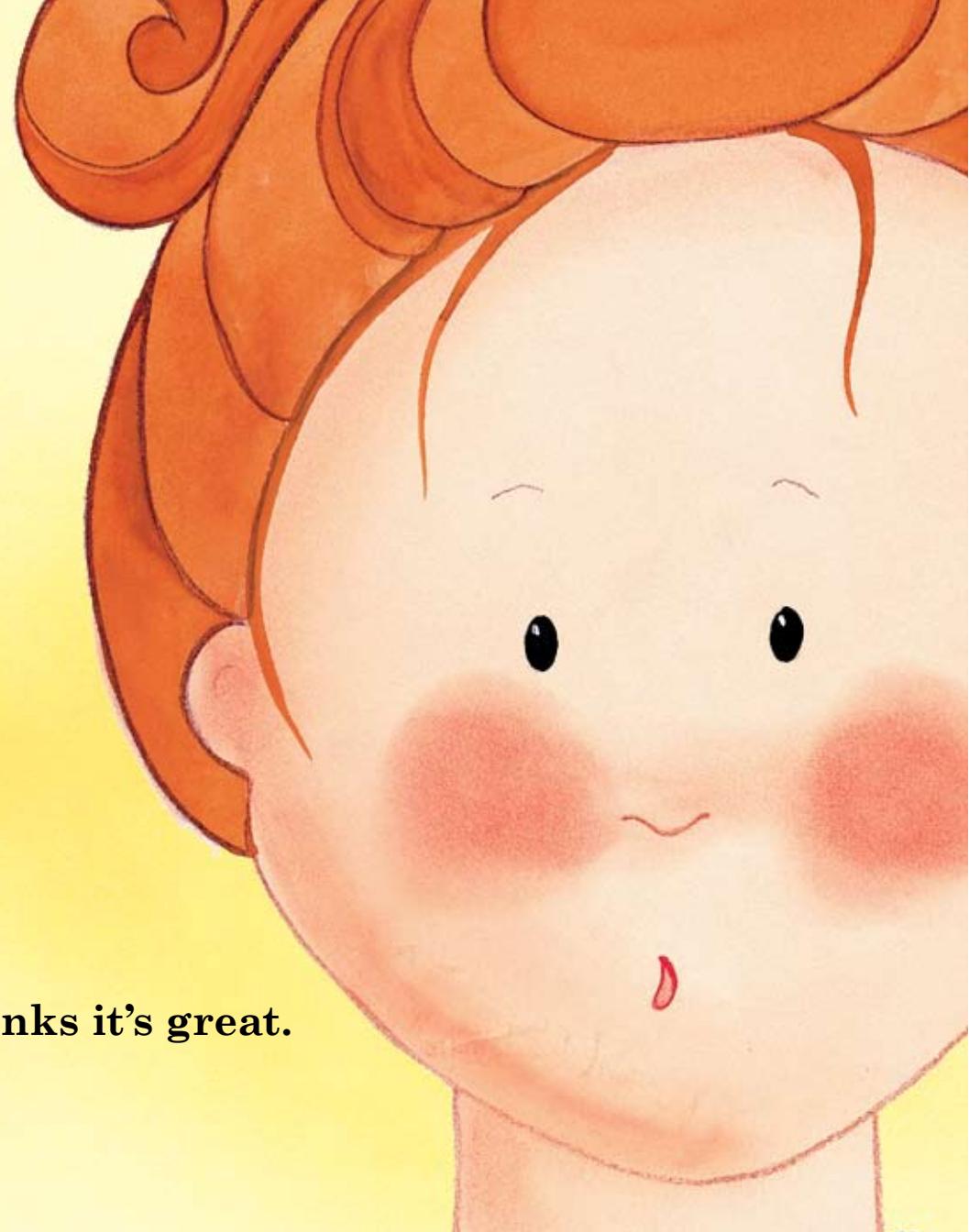


**Do you think the server is great?**

**Of course you do!**

**But...**





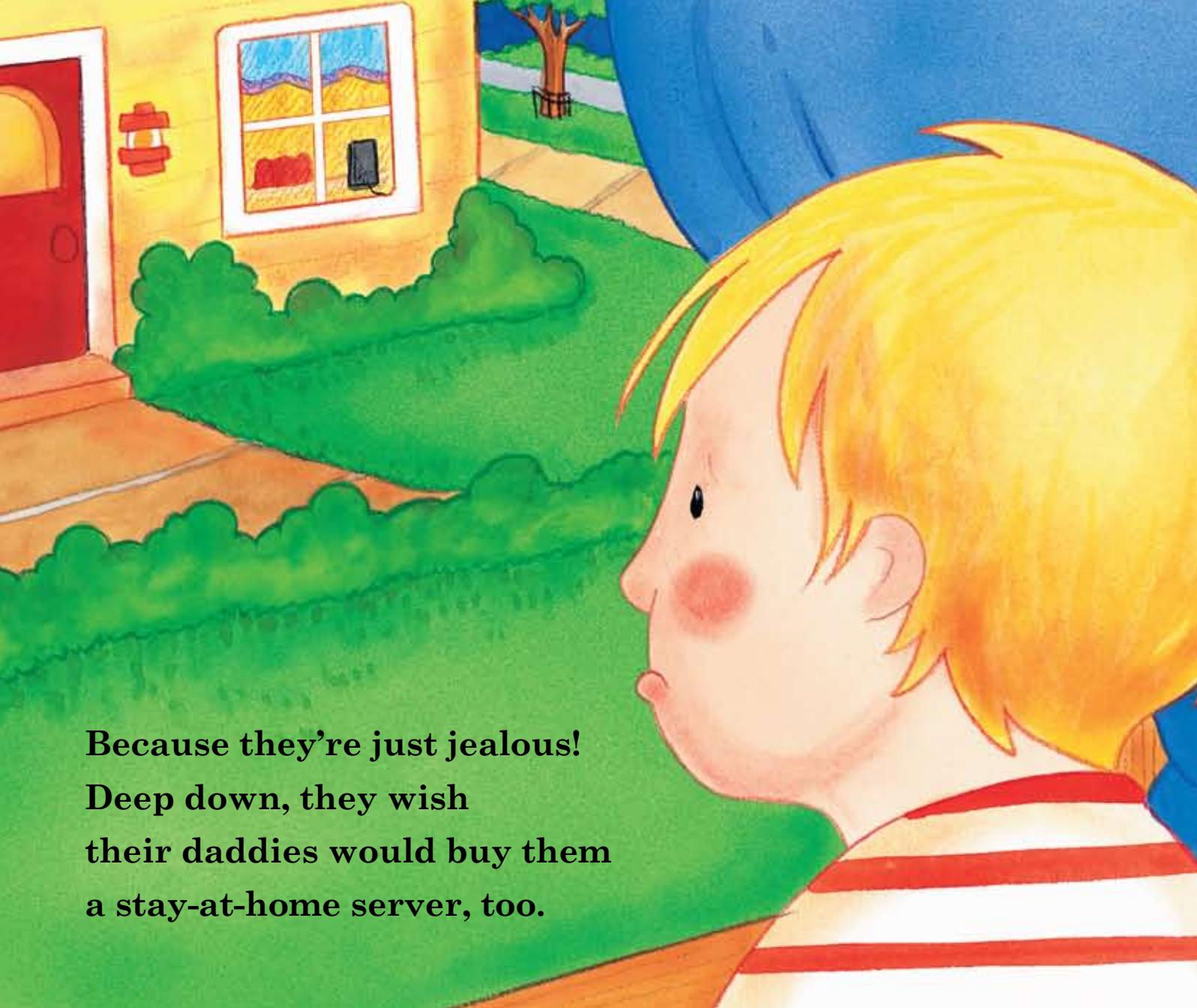
**...not everyone thinks it's great.**

Some people think servers should only be in offices.  
They might make fun of your home server.





**And their kids might even make fun of you!  
But that's okay. You know why?**



Because they're just jealous!  
Deep down, they wish  
their daddies would buy them  
a stay-at-home server, too.



They watch the lights on your server go  
blinkety-blink. Blinkety-blink.

But you have a Daddy and Mommy who love you!  
And, a Linux Home Server! Does that make you happy?



**I bet it does!**