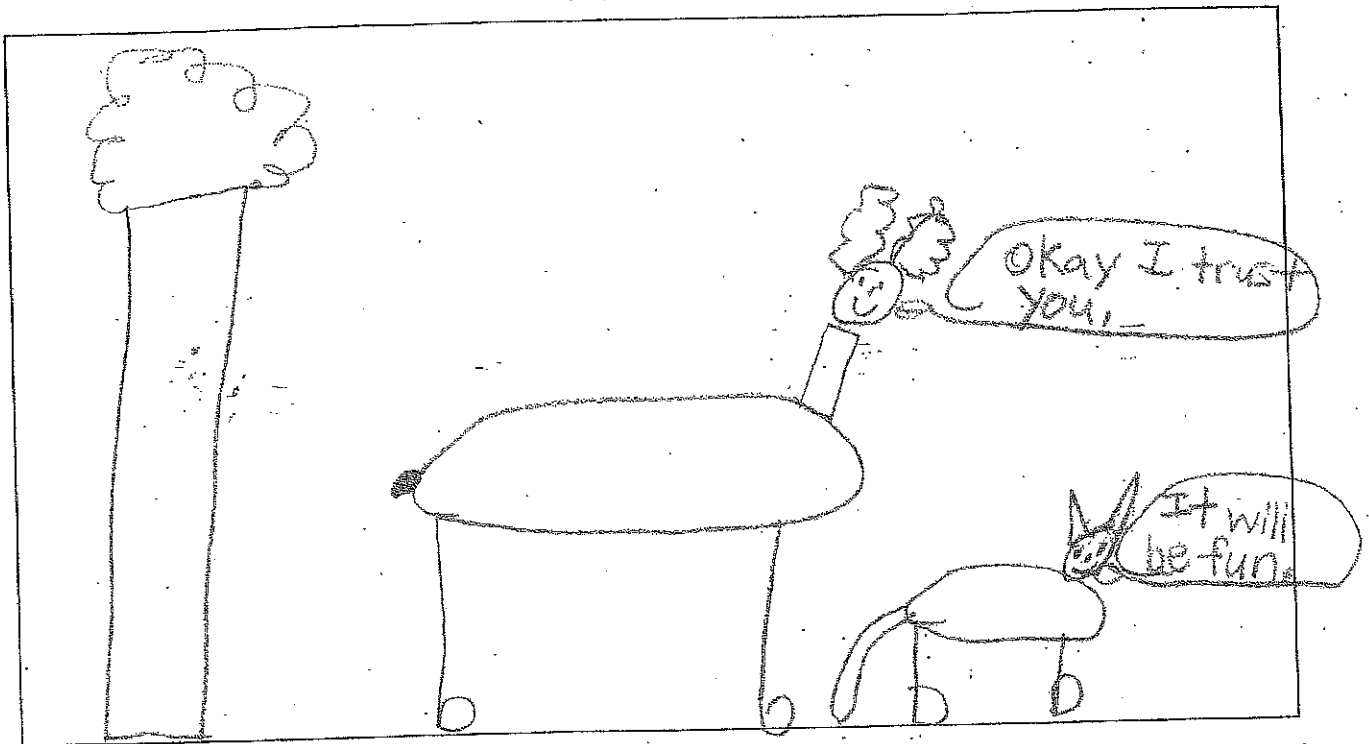


The Fox and the Deer

A fable by Abdul Diakite



Once upon a time, a Fox and a Deer lived in a deciduous forest filled with green, orange, and red leaves. One day the Fox went up to his friend Deer and told him to put a thumbtack under the king and queen's chairs.

Won't they be mad?" asked Deer.

No! They'll think it's funny. You'll see!"

He knew Deer would believe him because Deer is very gullible.

Then the Deer said "since you're my friend, I trust you."

The Deer got to the king and queen's chairs and Deer felt guilty. He said should I do it or not? The Deer held the red explosive thumbtack in his hand. Then he put it under the chairs and he felt charged then he left through the vent's. After Deer did it, he was sent to the king and queen who were boiling with rage. Everyone in town had heard of how

furiously they were.

Then Deer explained "Fox told me to put thumbtacks under your chairs! He said it would be funny. He knows I'm gullible!"

King responded with "We can't tell if you're just trying to blame poor Fox. We cannot trust you. You must be punished".

The king thought long and hard about Deer's punishment. Then the king decided to change the color of his tail. The King colored his tail white because he thought the color means someone lied in a community.

Deer learned to trust his own judgement before blindly trusting others.