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Opening extract from  
**We're Going to Build a Dam**

Written by  
**Gillian McClure**

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*For Ruari, son of one Calum  
and Archie, son of the other Calum*

# We're Going to Build a Dam

Gillian McClure

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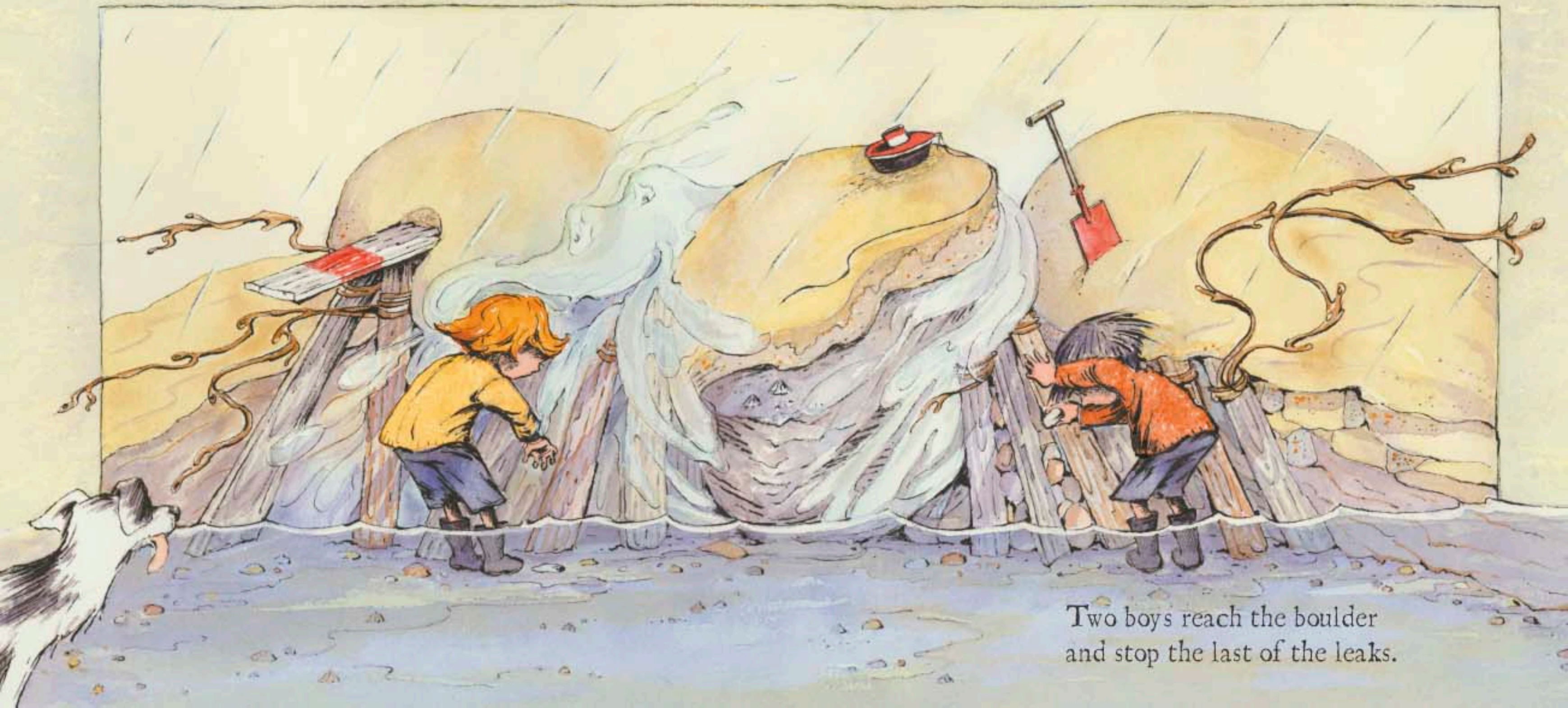


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'Stream's going mad. It's looking for a fight.  
Coming like a **BATTERING** ram.  
**CRASHING** against the dam.'

'**QUICK!** Fill the holes with pebbles.  
Patch the gaps with grit.  
Make the two sides meet.'



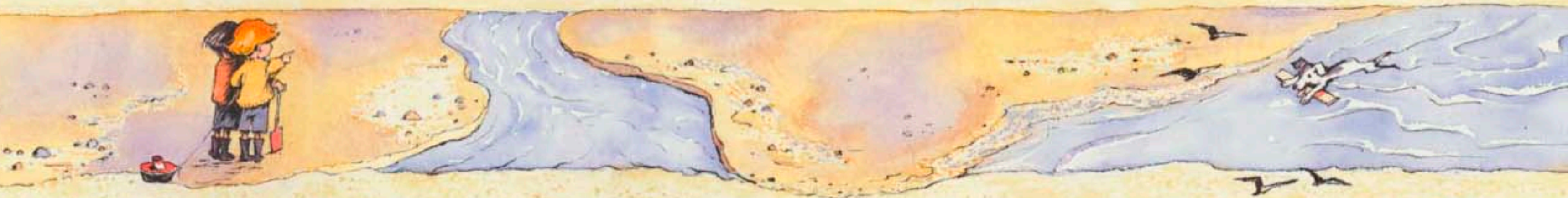
Two boys reach the boulder  
and stop the last of the leaks.



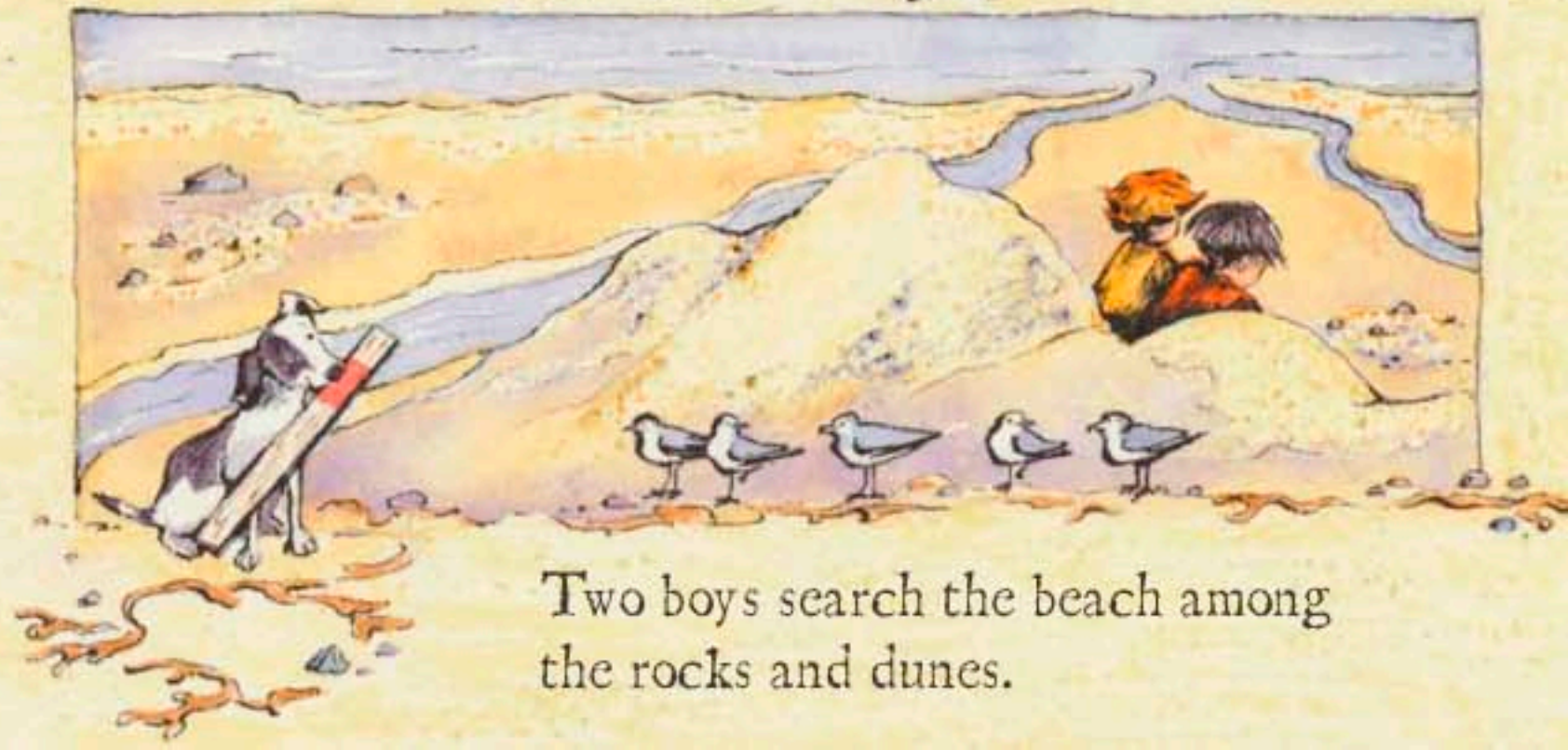
'Have to find a stream.'



'Got to be a good one. Not too wide.'

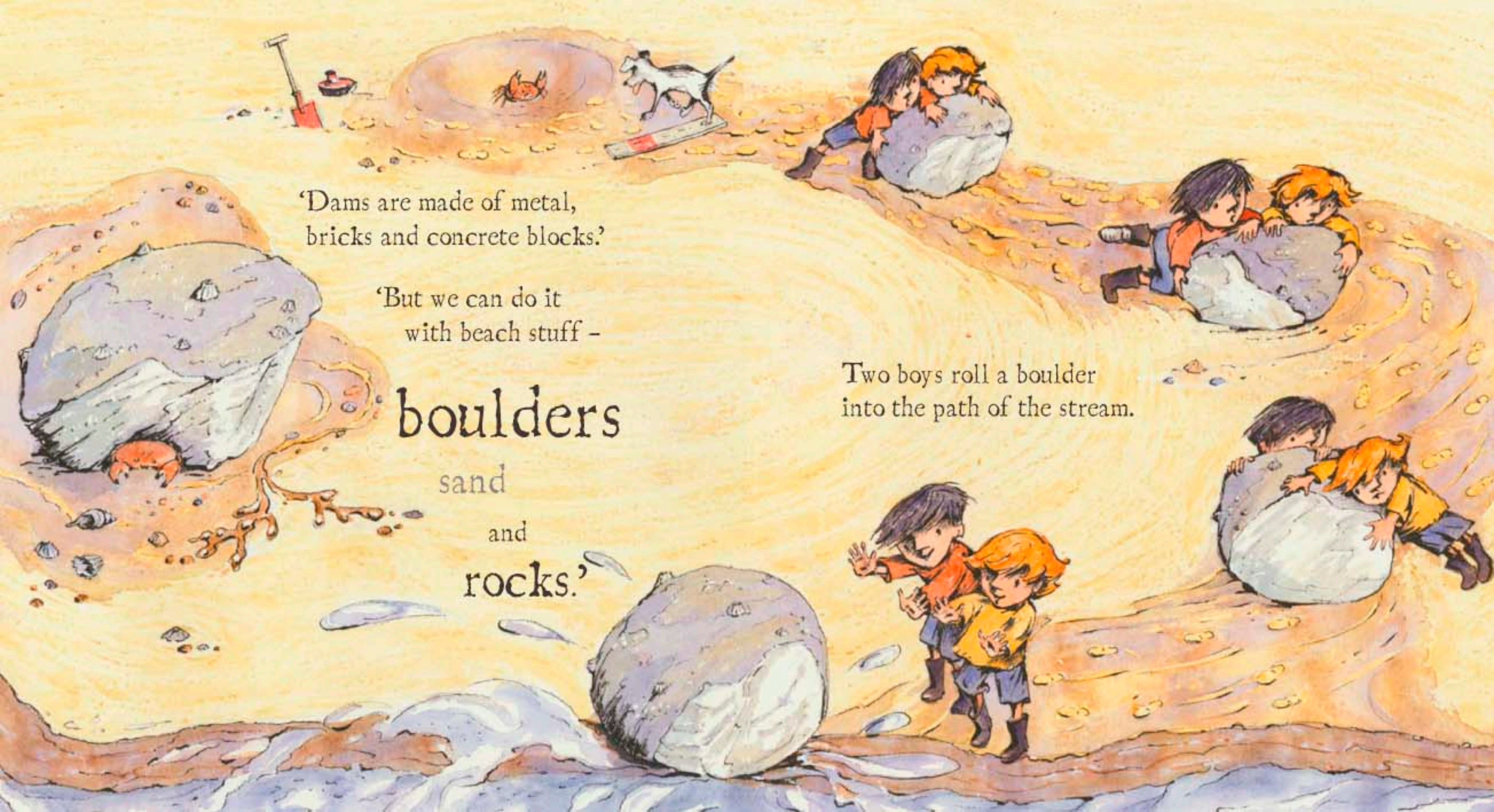


'Not too fast.'



Two boys search the beach among the rocks and dunes.





'Dams are made of metal,  
bricks and concrete blocks.'

'But we can do it  
with beach stuff -

**boulders**

sand

and

**rocks.'**

Two boys roll a boulder  
into the path of the stream.