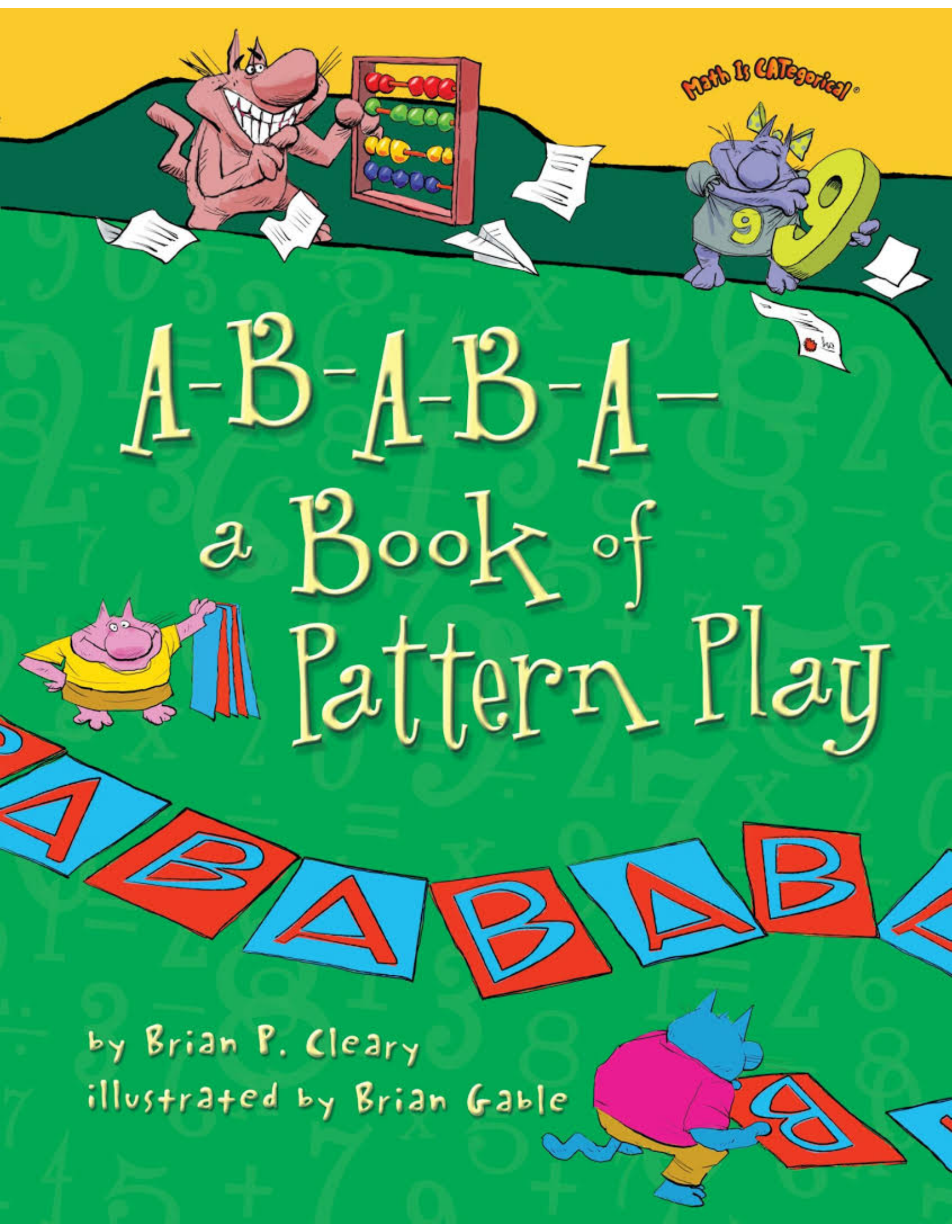


Math Is CAtegorical®

A-B-A-B-A- a Book of Pattern Play

by Brian P. Cleary
illustrated by Brian Gable





To Emma
—B.P.C.



Pattern:
A repeating
arrangement of
numbers, colors,
shapes, or other
items

A pattern shows repeating
in a certain type of way



that helps you so
you know what's next,

like A, B, A, B, A



It's sort of an arrangement
of colors,



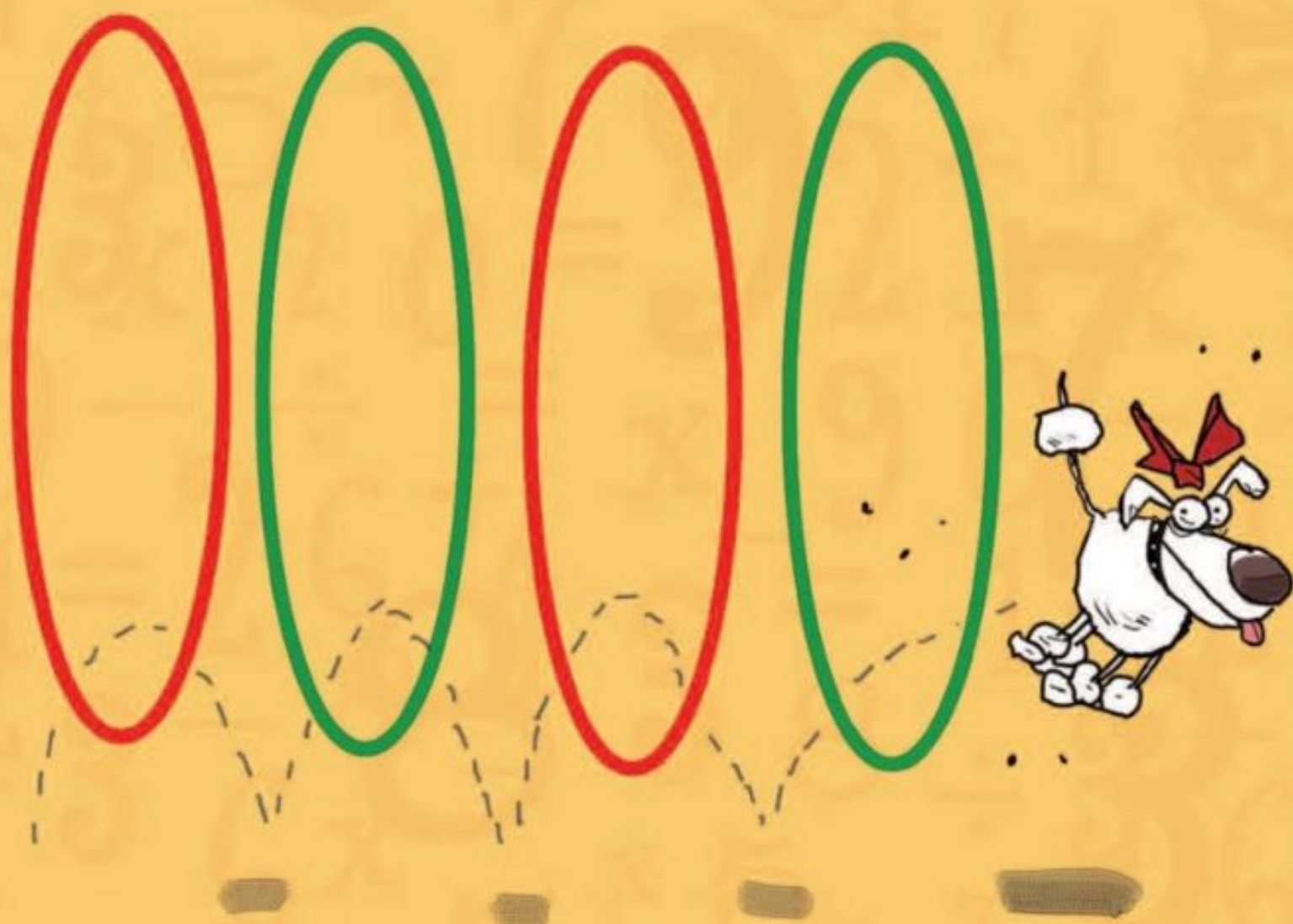
shapes,



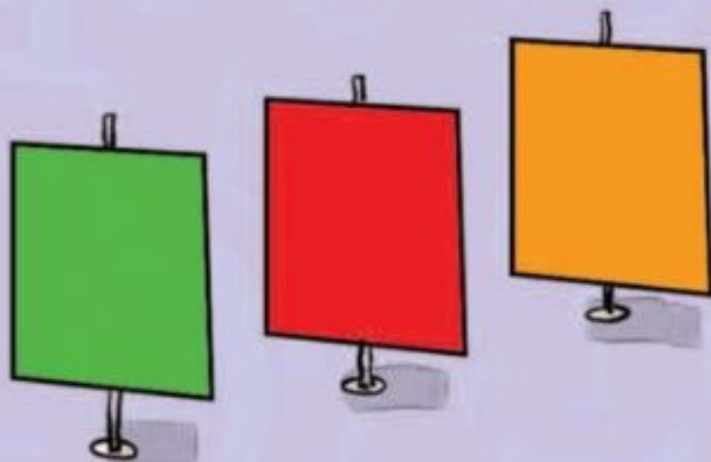
or things,



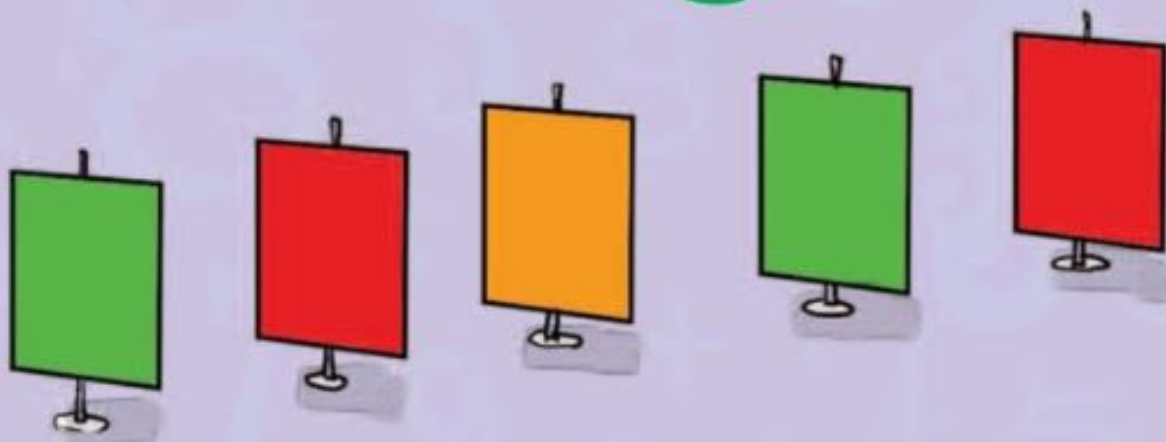
in a way that is predictable,
as in this row of rings.



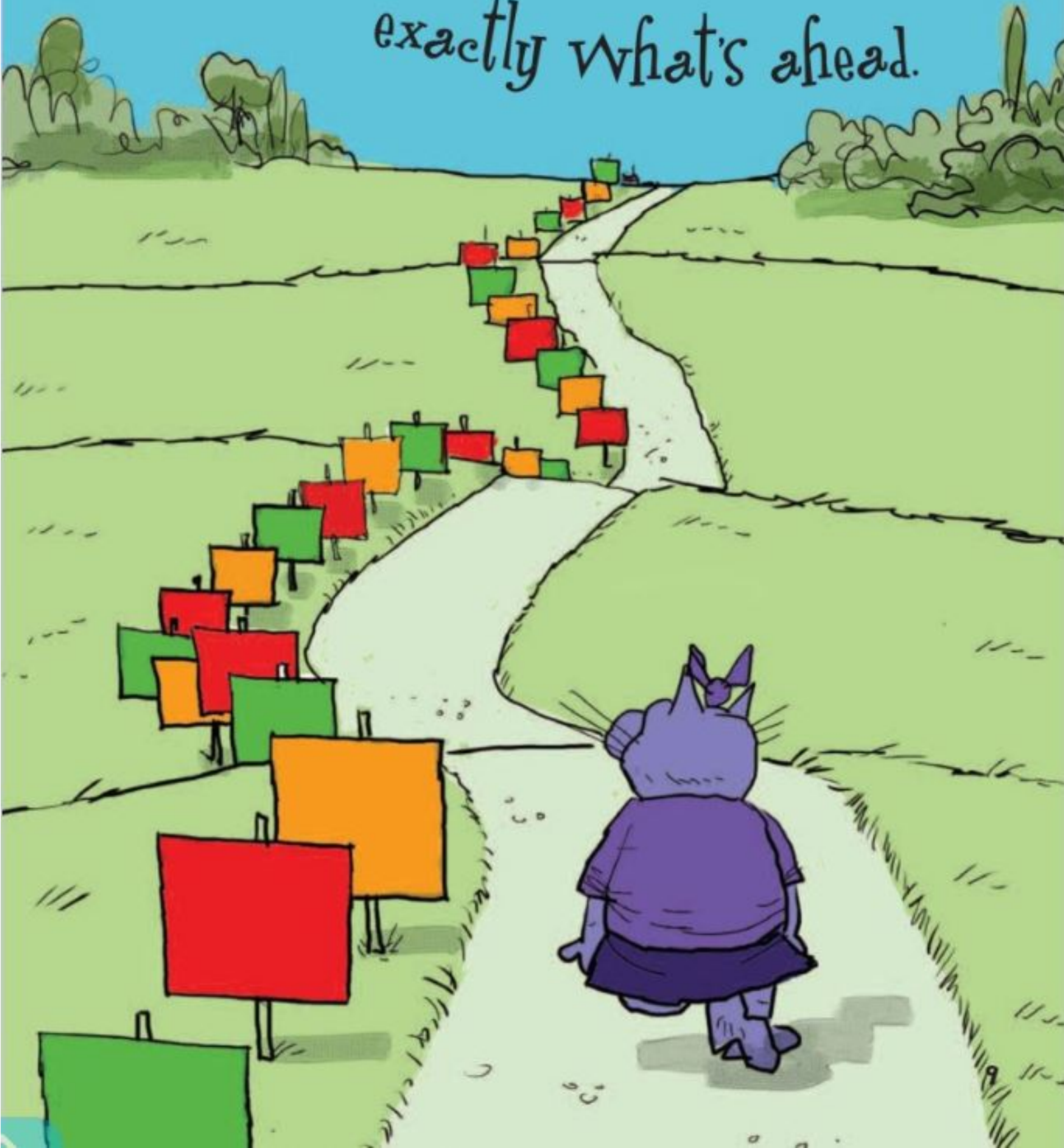
See the colors? **Green, red, gold,**



then **green, red, gold, green, red.**



Once you catch on, you can guess
exactly what's ahead.



You see, there's even order—
a type of a design—





that's found among the children
who are waiting here in line.

First a **girl** and then a **boy**,

then **girl**,



then **boy**,



and then—





the pattern just continues here
until you reach the end.





The pattern on this kitchen floor
is white,
then black,
then white.

If this design is followed,
then the floor will
turn out right.



Patterns also can be found
in numbers—take a look:



It helps you so
you know what's next.

each page, the number grows by one
as you read through this book.

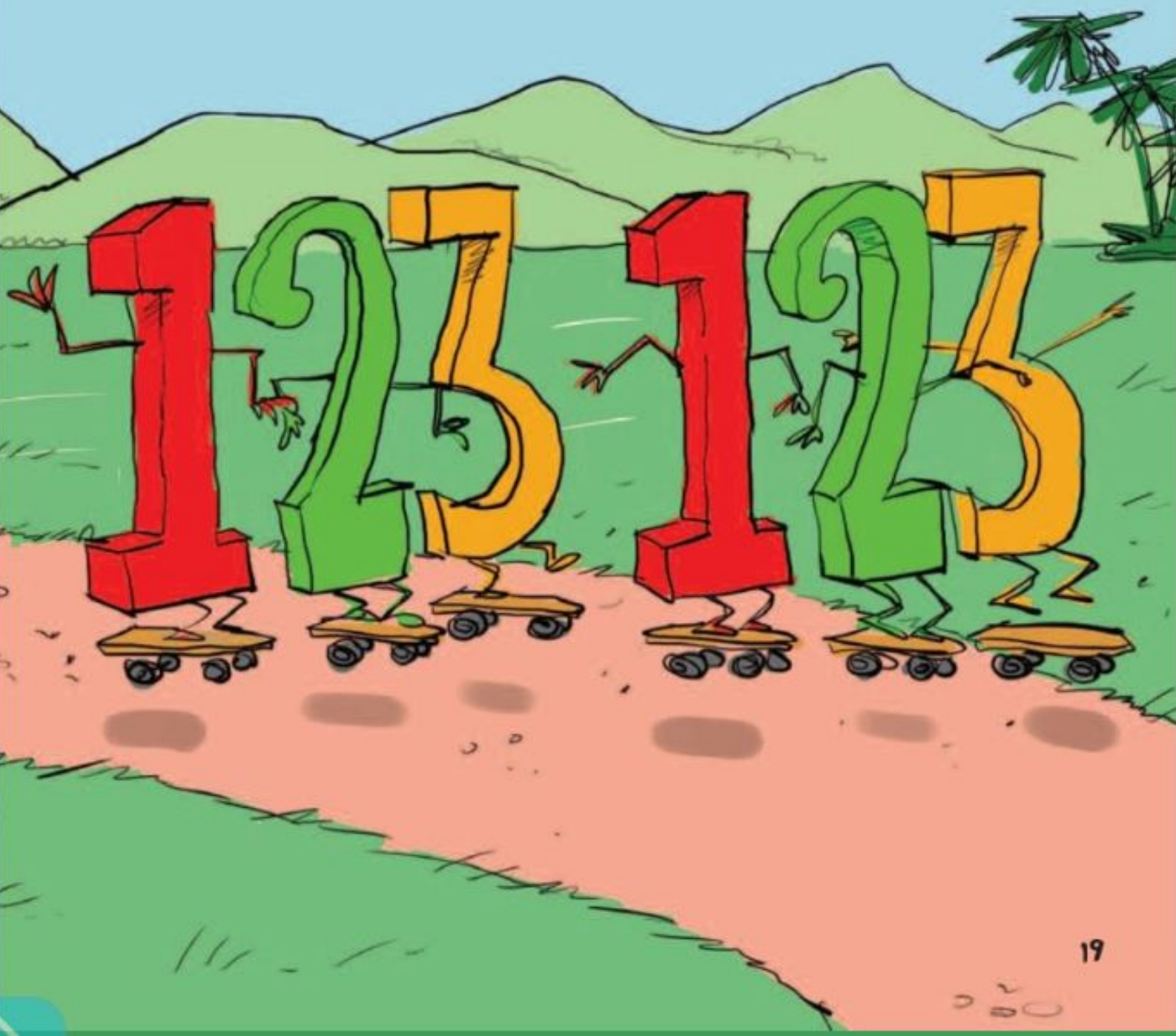


1, 2, 3 and 1, 2, 3 ...

You see a pattern here?



It goes from 1 to 2, then 3—
it's all becoming clear!



See these numbers? 2, 4, 6,
then 8, 10, 12, 14



Try to guess which number's next
just based on what you've seen.



The pattern has us count by 2s,
so it would follow then



that 16 would be next in line.

shall we try

once again?



start with 1, then 3, then 5,
and follow that with 7.



The number 9 is what comes next.

Then—you guessed right—11.



You can count by 2s or 4s,



by 5s or 10s or 20s.

This pattern's known as
skip counting—
so try it with some pennies!



Patterns are found everywhere—



in cards,

on yards,



on a dress.



And knowing them will help you
start a *pattern* of success!



So, what is a pattern?
Do you know?

