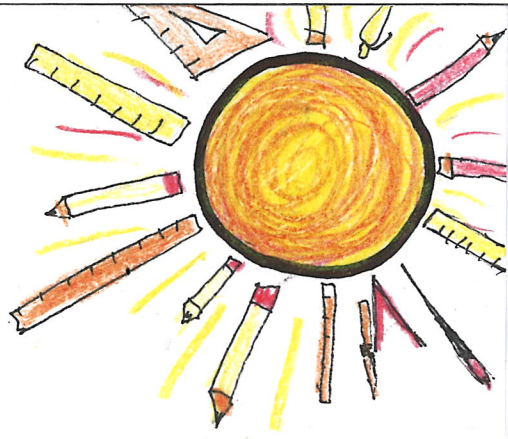
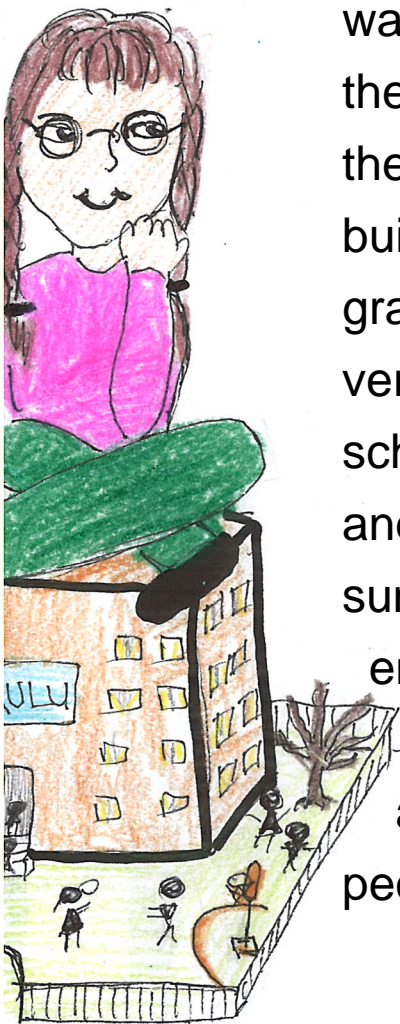


Ela's Robotics Journey



After a long summer holiday, it was finally the first day of school. All the students were very excited and they were coming to the school building. Ela was going to be 5th grade this year, and she was also very excited. When she came to the school, she ran to her classroom and talked with her friends about summer. First lessons were very enjoyable. The future class days had already excited her. She also had met with a lot of new people.



They were told that, they were going to choose clubs for the rest of the day. They were going to choose multiple activities that they'll be doing throughout the year. Ela was very excited for that.



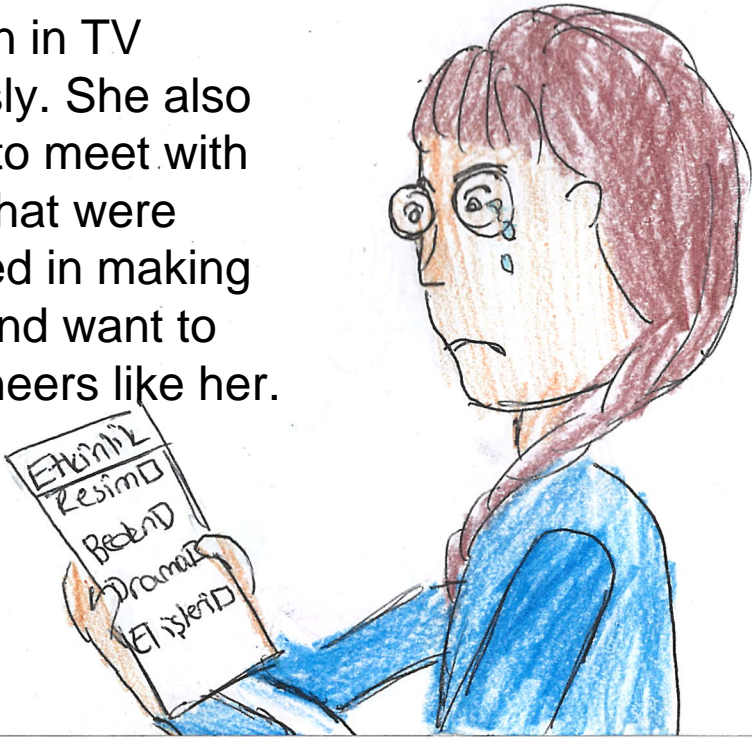
Ela's favourite thing to do at home was to fix broken machines. Her bigger sister, Cansu, was an engineer and she wanted a lot to be like her when she grow up. Cansu had thought Ela a lot about machines and robots but she wanted to learn things by herself too.





Ela was very disappointed and sad when she saw that there were no options for a robotics club in the activity list. There were all the other activities: arts, crafting, drama, physical education; but there were nothing about robots or mechanics.

Ela wanted to attend to a robotics club and the robotics competitions that she has seen in TV previously. She also wanted to meet with people that were interested in making robots and want to be engineers like her.

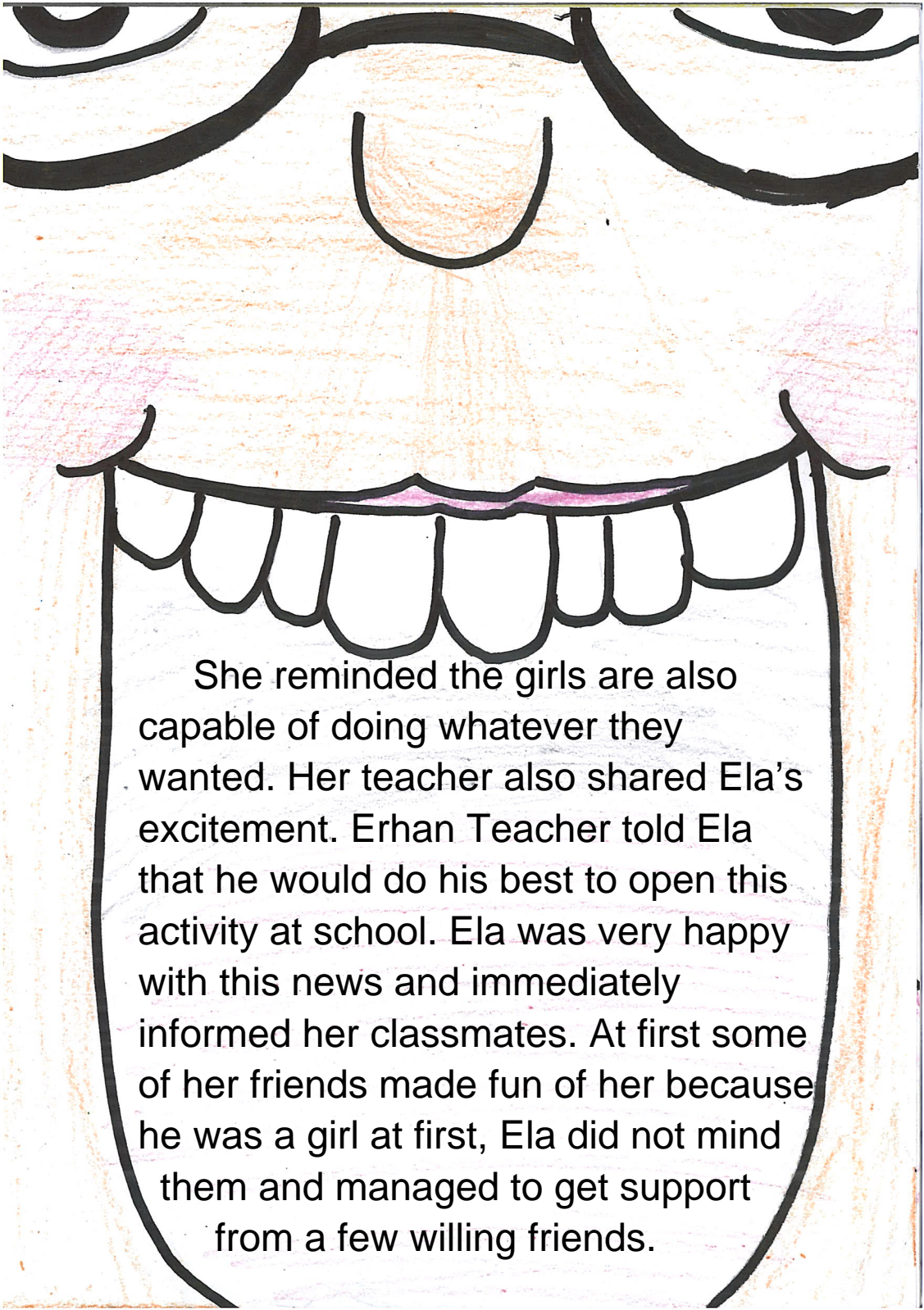


Ela talked about this thought with family in the dinner. Her family welcomed Ela's request with joy. Her mother, her father and her sister, said that she could do anything she wanted Ela, and that being a girl or a man would not change anything. After all, everyone was equal. She was delighted to be able to get the support of her family. Ela decided to talk with Erhan Teacher on this subject in the next morning.



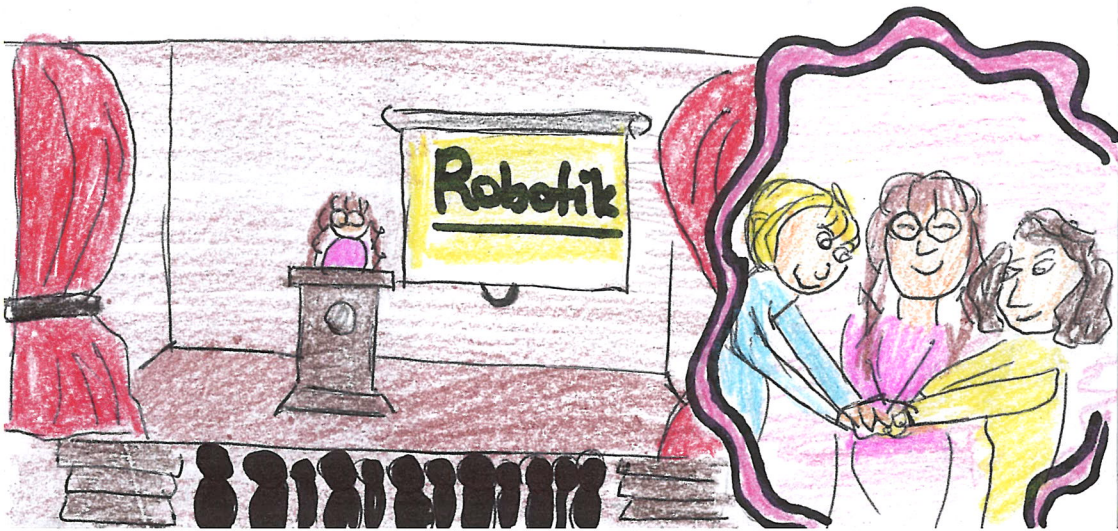
When Ela went to school, she talked to Erhan Ö?retmen, a science teacher, telling him that she wanted to make robots and participate in the competitions. The teacher was very surprised at Ela's desire. She never expected a girl to ask for something like that. He saw the robot as a man's job all the time, but Ela's excitement had affected him.

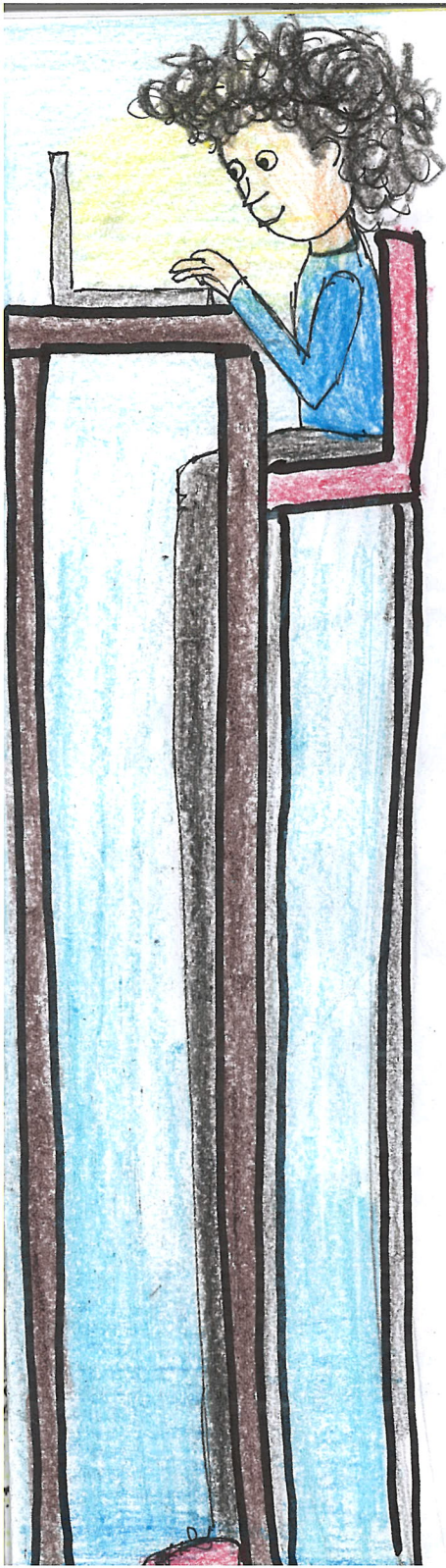




She reminded the girls are also capable of doing whatever they wanted. Her teacher also shared Ela's excitement. Erhan Teacher told Ela that he would do his best to open this activity at school. Ela was very happy with this news and immediately informed her classmates. At first some of her friends made fun of her because he was a girl at first, Ela did not mind them and managed to get support from a few willing friends.

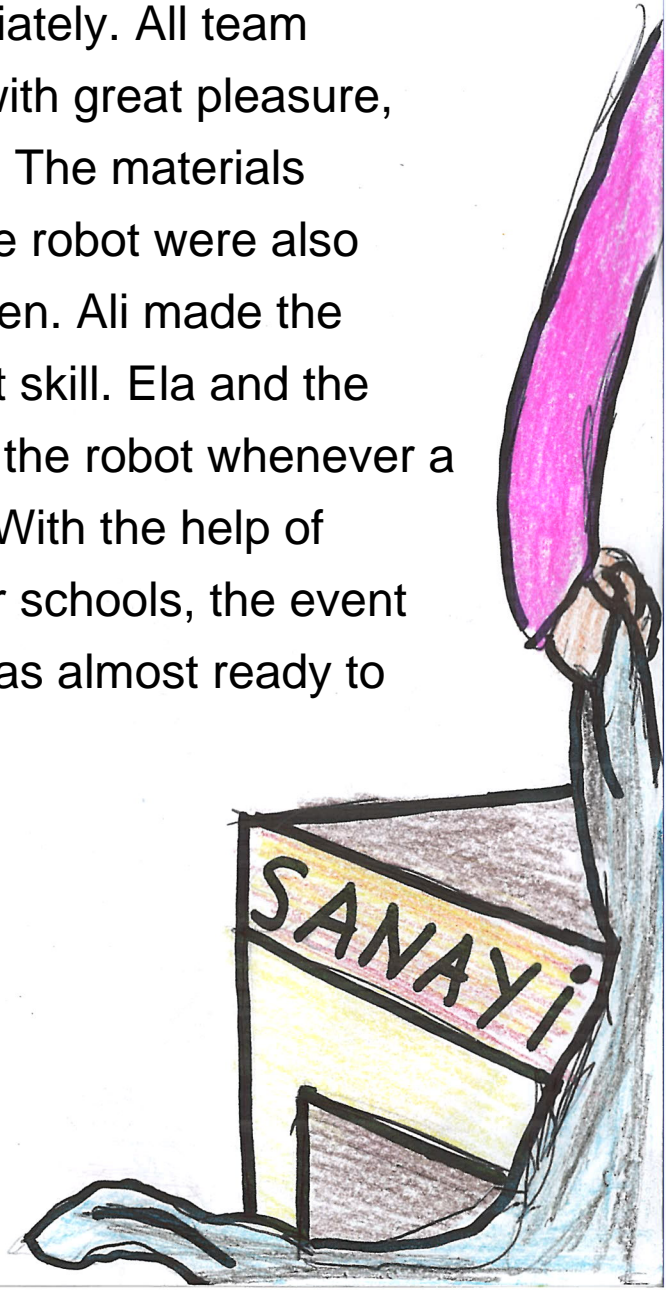
But if an activity were to be opened, they needed more people, more support. After finding many eager friends from his class, she made a presentation in Friday's ceremony. First of all, she said that everyone could do something in the robotics field, regardless of gender. A few girlfriends who heard this, admired Ela's words and decided to join the activity immediately. Everyone was very willing, so she was very happy. She noticed that there were at least twenty people who wanted to attend the robotics club.





Ela's classmate Ali, who likes drawing very much, wanted to help Ela with the drawing of the robot. So he volunteered to draw the robot when they started to prepare for the competition. Ela was so happy to hear that. While Erhan Teacher was talking to some students who could help them from other schools and high schools, she was learning about the competition.

After the exciting and intense days, the time to apply for competition has come and gone! They applied for the competition immediately. All team members worked with great pleasure, helping each other. The materials needed to make the robot were also gradually being taken. Ali made the drawings with great skill. Ela and the team also repaired the robot whenever a problem came up. With the help of students from other schools, the event grew rapidly and was almost ready to compete.



Everyone was very excited when the day of the competition came, and they were wondering if a problem in the robot may occur or not. The robot was finally ready, they were trusting themselves and had a sweet tiredness from working hard for so long. However, the team's morale went down a bit when they did not get very good results in their first race of the day. Some of your robots were damaged and failed to work. However, towards the middle of the contest another team helped Ela's team in the repairment of their robots. With the help of the two teams, their robots had been fixed and everyone in the team had gotten to make new friends.



Even though they had some troubles, they had a lot of fun racing their robots during the competition. As a result, the important thing was not to win. The main purpose was to get there and make new friends and learn more about robots from students on other teams. At the end of the day, when the final result of the competition was announced, they learned that they received the team spirit award and they celebrated it all day.



The whole school was excited when returned to school with medals and cups in their hands. They had a great success in their first competition, and this contributed a lot to the rapid growth of the robotics club. Everyone was looking forward to the year ahead and wanted to do more, work more. Students, teachers and school principal in the school; celebrated the team members and wish them more success in future. Ela, was very grateful that she had such a great team. They wanted this process to repeat every year. Their school now had a robotics team and they established it under Ela's leadership.

