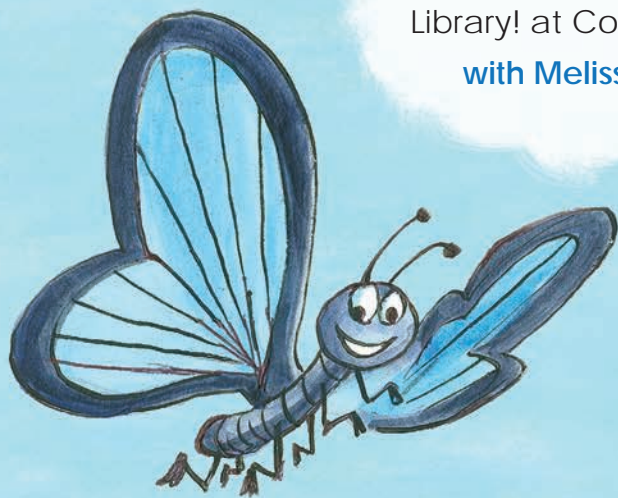


Going Green

A Children's Tour of the
Library! at Cole & Ustick
with **Melissa Blue**



by Elaine Ambrose
Illustrated by Bruce Day

Meet Your Tour Guide



Hi! I'm a butterfly named **Melissa Blue**, and I live in open areas all around Idaho. I'm here to show you around our beautiful new library.

One of the cool things about this library is all of the ways that it's nice to our planet. And that's good because we want children to enjoy our world for years and years to come.

So, please follow me and I'll show you around. Just tap my wing if you have any questions!



Melissa Blue is the name of a tiny butterfly found in Idaho and the West. Scientists have also given it a Latin name, *Plebejus melissa melissa*. Male Mellissas are blue; females are brown and blue. One of the foods their caterpillars like is lupine, which is often found in our Boise foothills.

Inside the Library!

at Cole & Ustick

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Let's
explore
together.



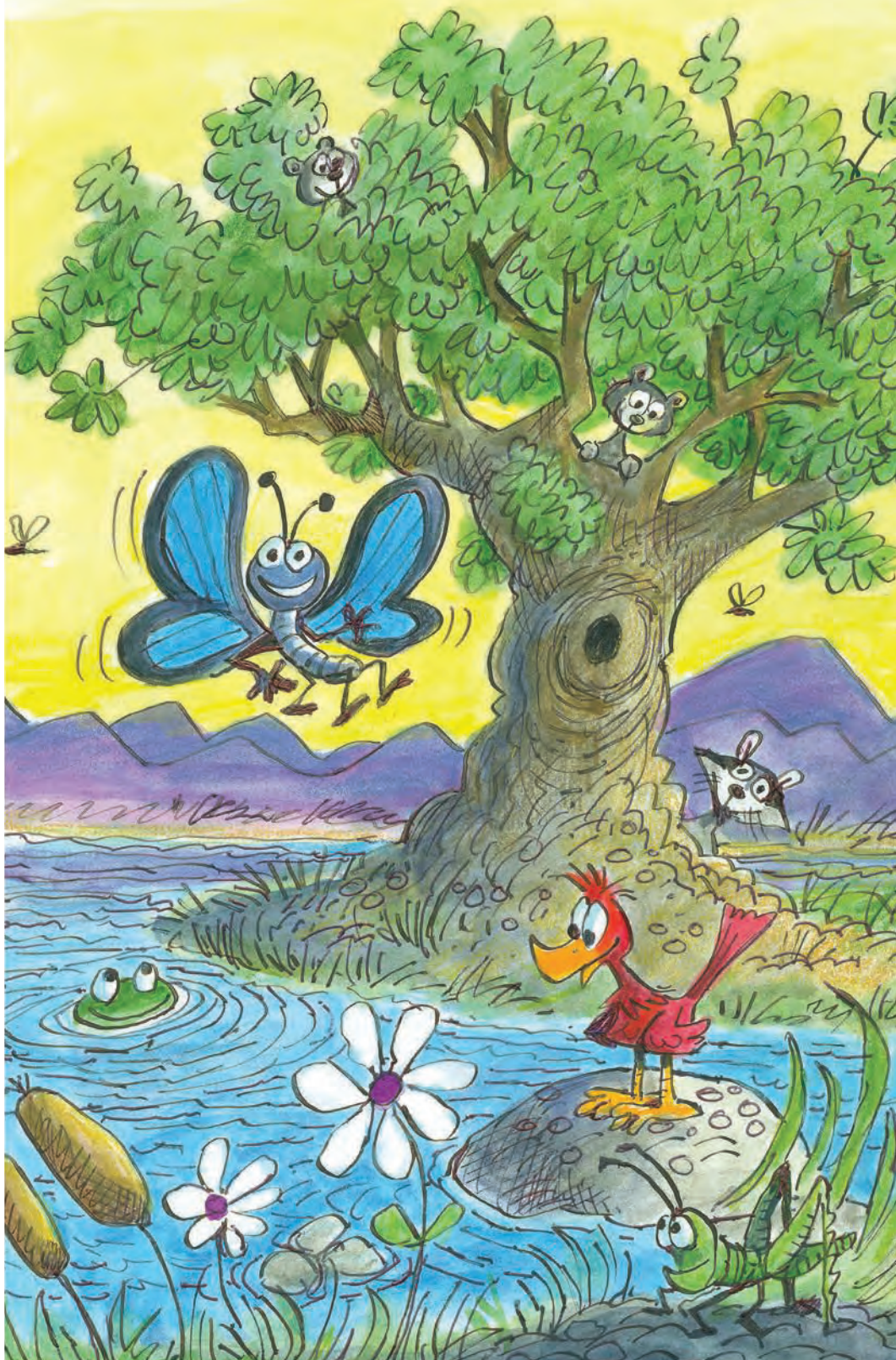


What Does "Green" Mean?

As we fly around the new library, we'll learn how it's being nice to the planet. Many people call that "going green." **Going green** is how we make sure we'll have **clean water, green grass,** and **clean air** in the future.

Some butterflies in my family are having a hard time and may even disappear because the world is not healthy for them anymore. Going green is one way to help keep butterflies around. And, that makes me very happy!





2 Rainfall Bioswales

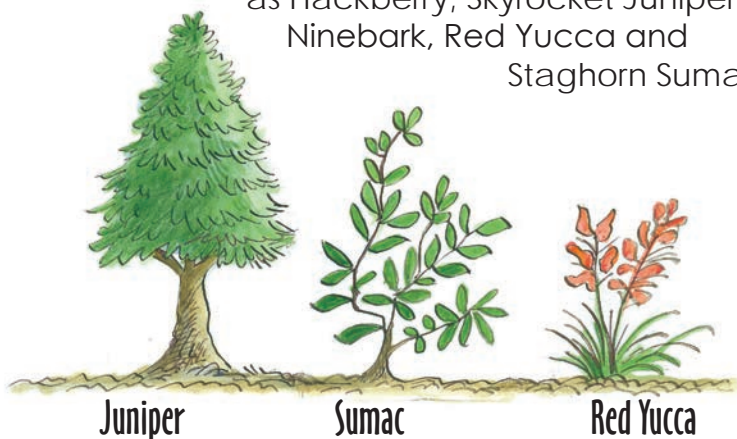
Let's start outside the library. See those low rocky spots in the grass? These are called "**bioswales**" and they collect rainwater. When it rains, the water gets cleaner by running through sand, rocks and plant roots so the water can be saved and used again.

I love flying over the bioswales. Sometimes I land and sun myself on the warm rocks because it feels so good.



3 Habitat

Just look at all the trees and shrubs around our new library! Some of them have fun names, such as Hackberry, Skyrocket Juniper, Ninebark, Red Yucca and Staghorn Sumac.





Besides trees, there are flowering plants, grasses and shrubs with red twigs and gold leaves. Can you see how the birds and insects like all the plants? This is called a **"natural habitat."**



4

Water Wise Landscaping

We planted trees and bushes that don't need a lot of water, so we don't have to use so much water to keep the plants healthy.

In dry western states like Idaho, saving water is very important!





5 Transportation

See the bike racks by the front door?

We can save a lot of energy and gasoline by riding our bikes.

Maybe someday you could ride your bike to the library. We can also save energy by carpooling or taking a bus.



"Ustick Dreaming"
by glass artist Judy
Gorsuch Collins.

6 Glass Art

Now let's go inside the library. I just love to fly through these doors and see the glass artwork. The glass art is called **"Ustick Dreaming"** and tells about the history of West Boise, its land and its water. Can you see the water in the glass? What else do you see? There are four separate pieces of glass art in the library. Can you find all four?



Smart Lights

Have you ever heard of a **smart light**? The library's lights are so smart that when the sun is shining through the building, the lights turn off automatically! See those skylights in the ceiling? And all of those windows? They bring in lots of natural light, which makes the smart lights turn off, and saves energy.

We have a different kind of smart light in the meeting rooms and restrooms. When no one is in the room, the lights go off. I think that is really smart!



The sun
makes the best
reading light!



8 Recycled Building Materials

Do you have any old, holey blue jeans? Well, some of our walls are filled with insulation made from recycled cotton – including old blue jeans! That insulation helps keep the sound down in the library, and it's actually blue!

We liked finding ways to use old stuff in our new library!

We also used recycled materials in the carpet, in the bathroom wall tiles, in the counters, and in some of the flooring.



Insulation made from recycled cotton, including old blue jeans, helps keep the sound down.



Clean Air

Have you ever been in a place that makes you cough or sneeze? That could be because the air was dirty.

**In our new library,
we have a special system
that keeps the air fresh.**

We didn't use products or fabrics that smelled like chemicals. And, of course, there is no smoking inside the library, or within 25 feet of the building outside. Now that's a breath of fresh air!

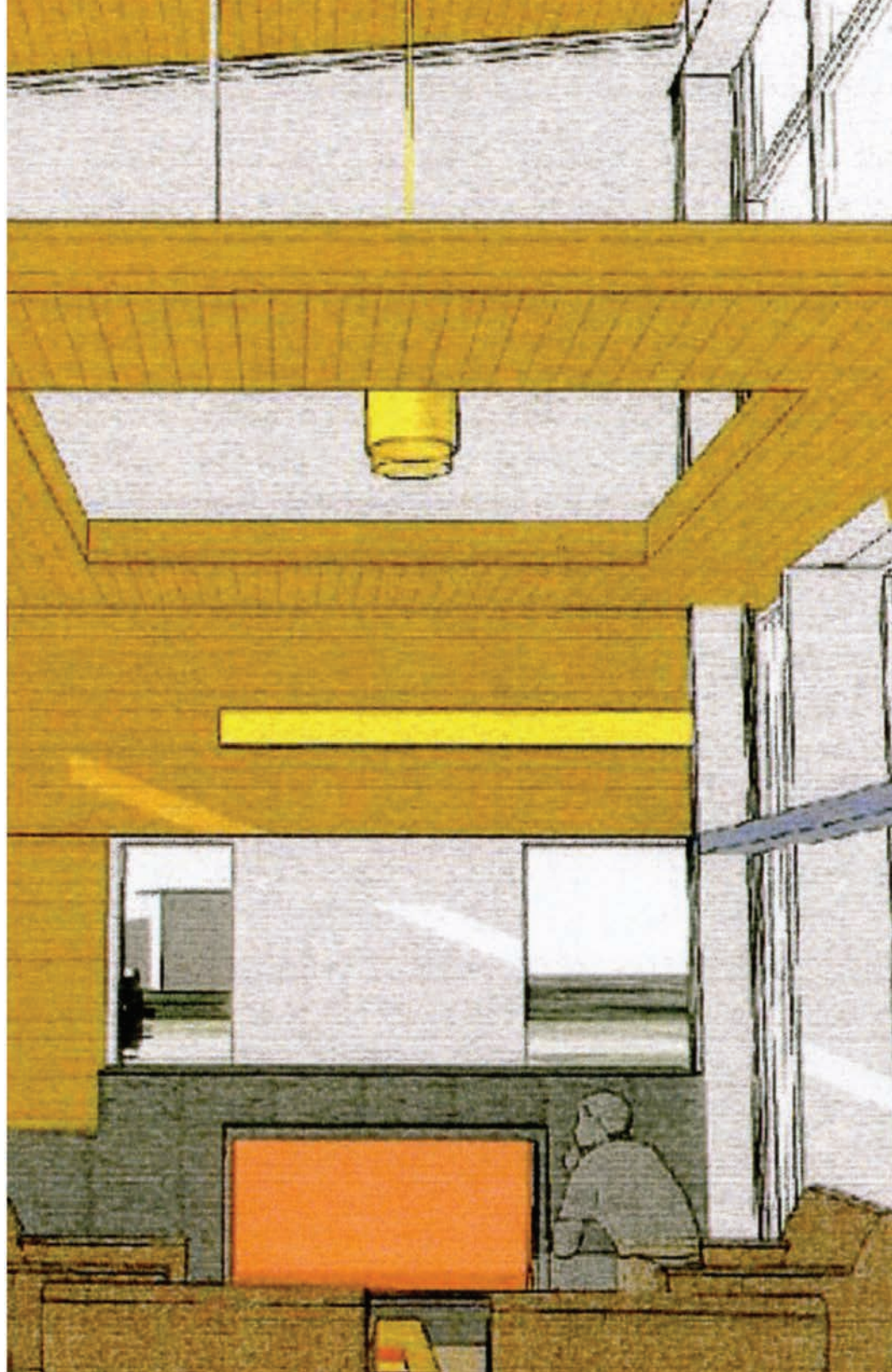
The library's living room is one of my favorite places, with its fireplace and comfortable chairs. Wouldn't you like to relax here and read a book? I sure would! This area is another good example of building something in a "green" way.

All the wood in the ceilings, the bookshelves, and the counters was taken in a responsible way so that the environment was not hurt.



The floor in the living room is made of cork. Cork is the bark of a special type of tree that grows in the Mediterranean. Most trees would die if you took off all their bark, but cork trees are different. Their bark will grow back, as long as you don't take it off too often.

When you walk on the cork, notice how quiet it is. Does it feel different to your feet than the rest of the floor?





11 Books, Movies & Music

See all the **books**, **movies** and **music** in the library?
Can you believe there are almost 50,000 of them?!?
The library also has **50 computers** for people to use.
The ones in the Kids' Area can only be used by
children – isn't that cool?

How many books do you think you could read? You
had better get started soon!



12 Saving Energy

Wow! This tour is making me tired! It takes a lot of energy to keep my wings beating. Are your feet tired? Maybe we could take a short break and save some energy.

This library was built to save energy.

We don't waste electricity, or water, or materials. If we were to do this in all of our buildings and homes, we'd have enough energy for a long time.



What do **YOU** think about the design of our new library?



What Can You Do?

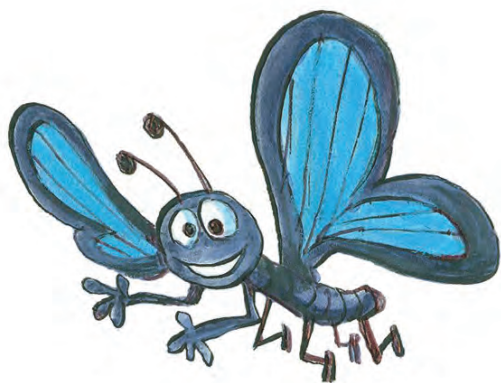
I hope you've learned some "green" facts today as we toured the new Library! at Cole & Ustick.

*Can you think of 3 ways
to help our environment?*

1.

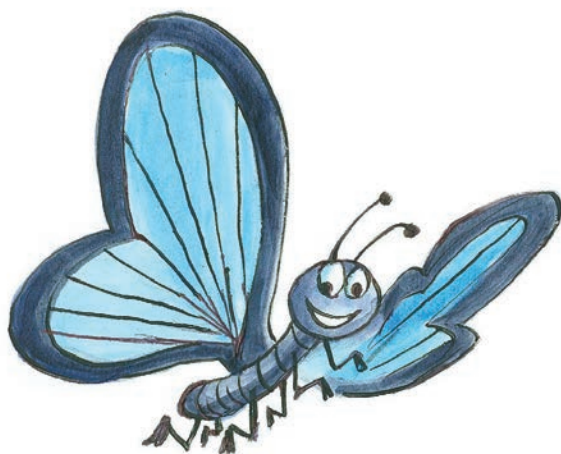
2.

3.



Kids' Area

Now I hope you'll have time to visit our Kids' Area. It's designed just for you! Just look at all the books and computers! And, don't forget to ask about our after-school programs. I know you'll have a grand time at our new library!



Thank you for coming
to our healthy new
building. I'll be here
if you need the tour
again. Just ask for
Melissa Blue



What Do You Remember?

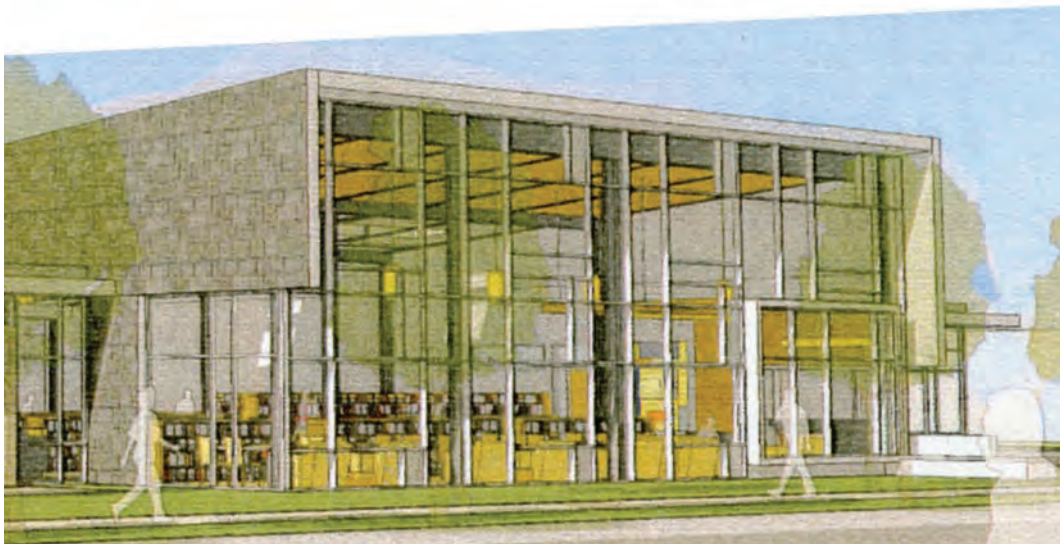
Draw a line to the correct answer.
(The right answers are upside-down at
top right, but don't peek!)

1. Bioswale
2. Water wise landscaping
3. Smart lights
4. Sky lights
5. Recycled materials
6. Natural habitat
7. Cork
8. Melissa Blue
9. Old blue jeans
10. Going green



Answers: 1h, 2g, 3i, 4e, 5j, 6a, 7c, 8b, 9d, 10f

- A. Places where insects and birds like to live
- B. Tiny blue butterfly that lives in the West
- C. The bark from the outside of a certain tree
- D. Part of the recycled cotton used in some of the walls
- E. Windows in the ceiling
- F. Trying to protect the environment by making good choices
- G. Planting trees and shrubs that don't require a lot of water
- H. A low spot that filters storm water
- I. Lights that know when to turn off
- J. Things that have been used again and not wasted





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Library!

