The background is a winter landscape with rolling hills covered in snow. On the left, there are several green trees of varying heights. On the right, there are two larger green trees with white snow on their tops. A red rope trail starts from the left, loops around the word 'Pool', and ends on the right. The sky is light blue with small white and pinkish dots representing snow or stars.

LITTLE MOUSE'S

Pool

Wann  
MYSTERY

*Story by Allyn Fisher*

*Art by Jami Smith & Dixie McCartney*

## **Little Mouse's Red Yarn Mystery**

*Story by Allyn Fisher*

*Art by Jami Smith & Dixie McCartney*

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**This story is excerpted from the read-aloud books included in the Bridges in Mathematics Pre-K curriculum. This math-rich collection features theme-based counting and numeral recognition, sequencing, shapes and locations, and very early addition and subtraction. For more information about these books, including how to order the full printed collection of nine titles, visit [store.mathlearningcenter.org/bridges-2nd-edition/2bpkread.asp](http://store.mathlearningcenter.org/bridges-2nd-edition/2bpkread.asp).**

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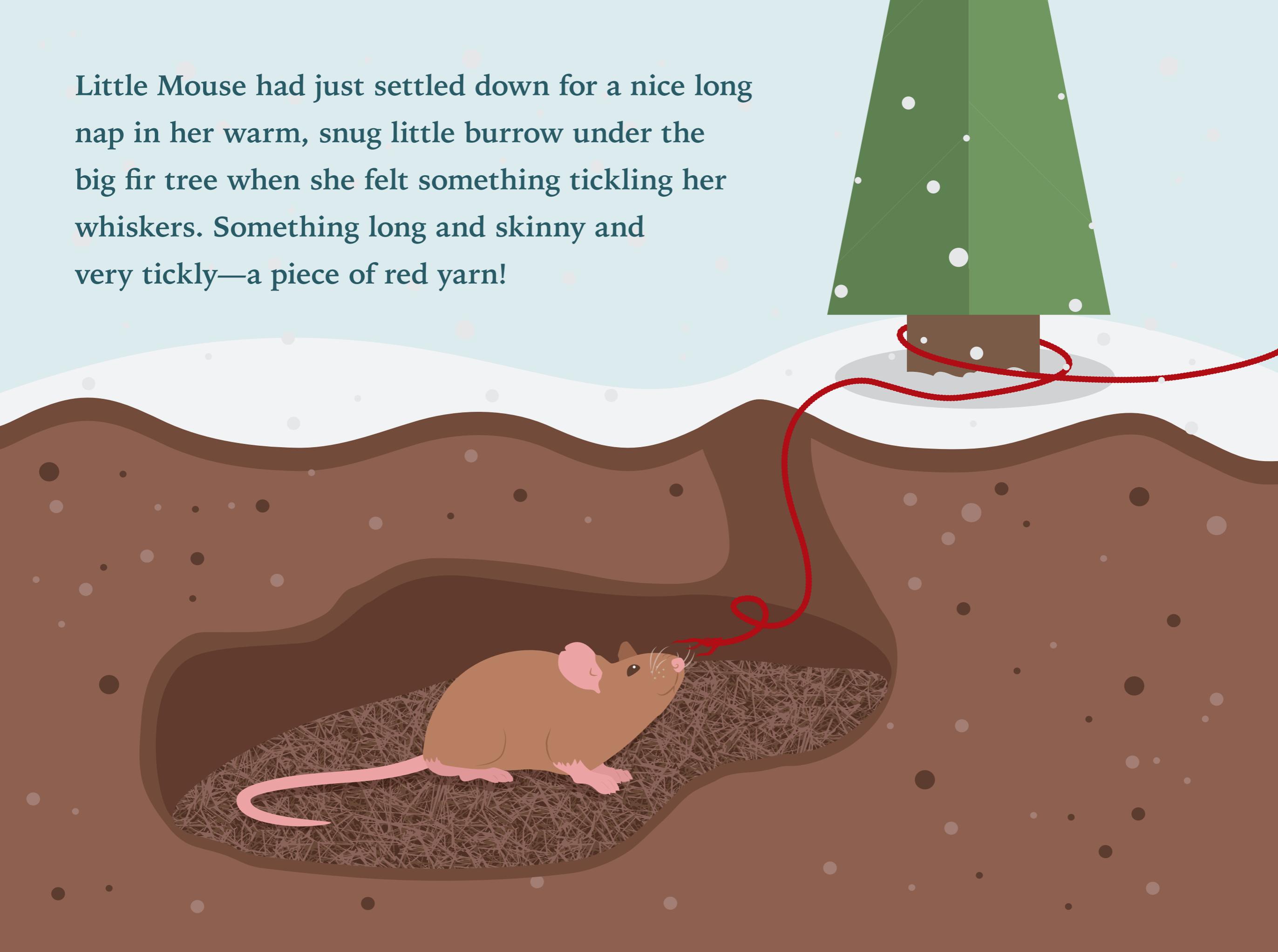
LITTLE MOUSE'S  
Red  
Jam  
MYSTERY

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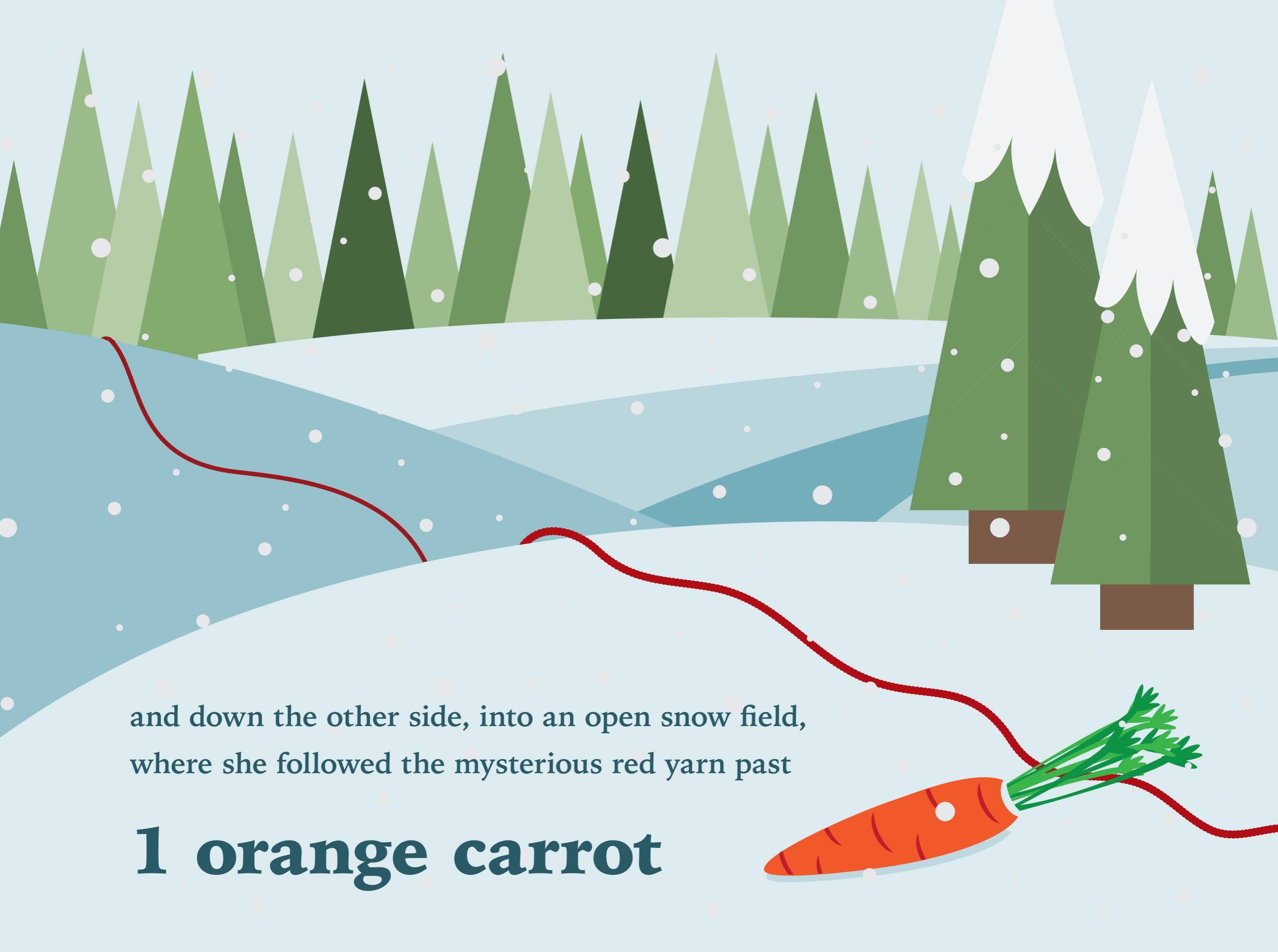
Little Mouse had just settled down for a nice long nap in her warm, snug little burrow under the big fir tree when she felt something tickling her whiskers. Something long and skinny and very tickly—a piece of red yarn!





She was much too curious to sleep,  
so she scrambled up out of her  
burrow and followed the mysterious  
red yarn across the snow until it  
disappeared over the hills.

Did she stop there? No!  
She was much too curious.  
She kept on going, right over the hills ...

A winter landscape illustration. In the background, a line of green pine trees of varying heights stands against a light blue sky. The foreground features rolling hills covered in snow, with a red yarn path winding across them. On the right side, two more pine trees are shown, one with a white snow cap. In the bottom right corner, a large orange carrot with green leafy tops is positioned, with the red yarn path extending from its top towards the left.

and down the other side, into an open snow field,  
where she followed the mysterious red yarn past

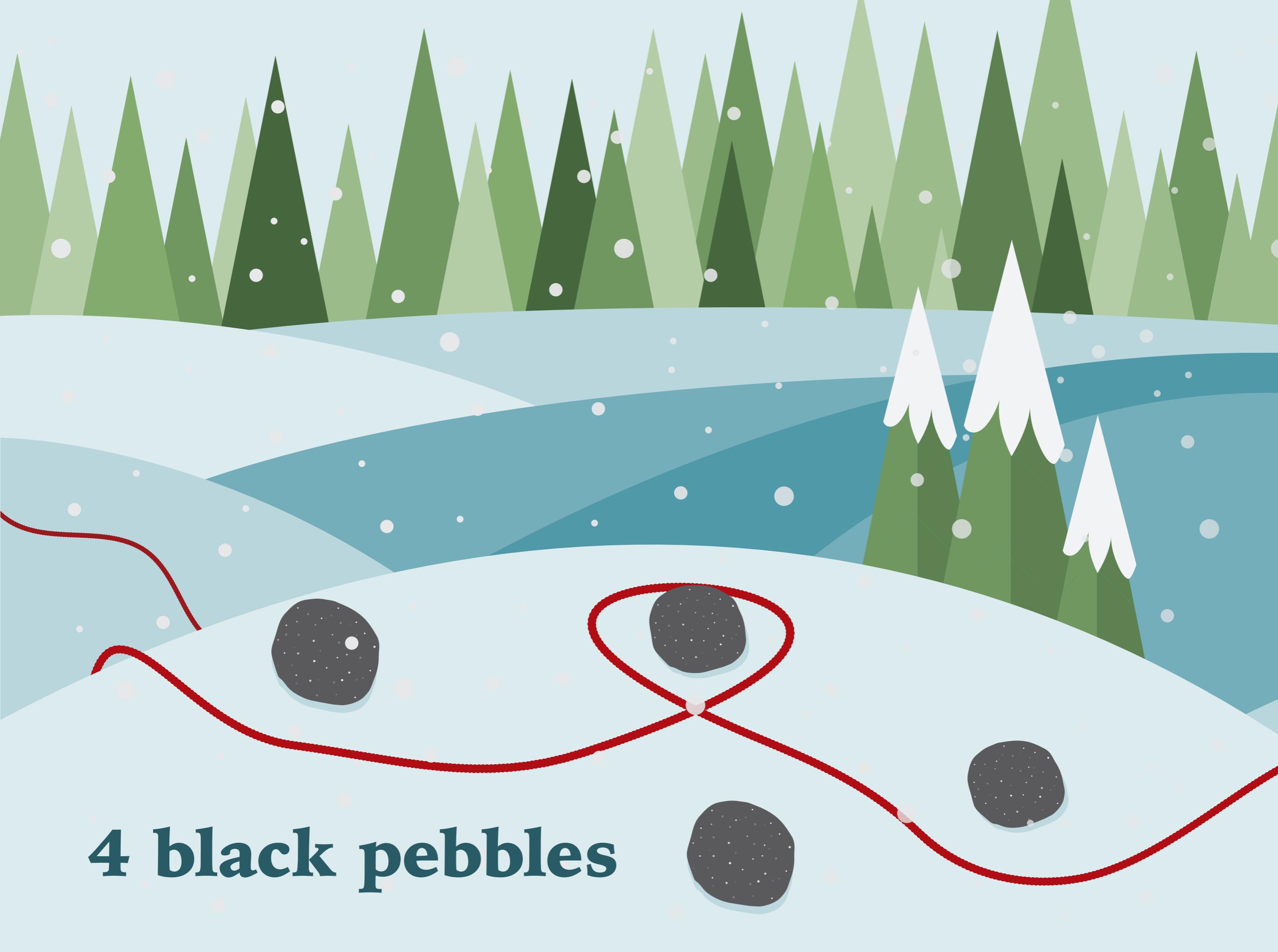
**1 orange carrot**



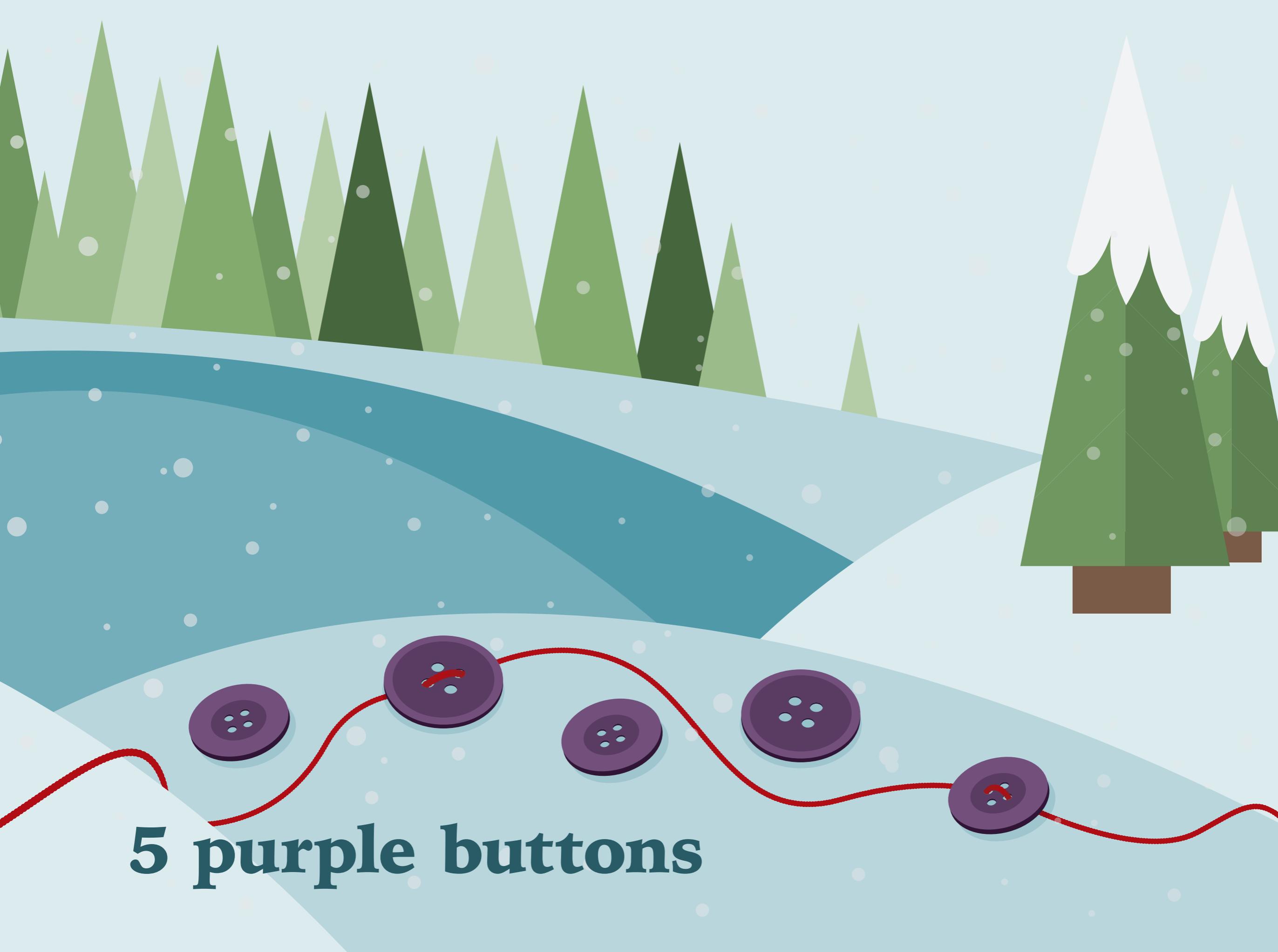
**2 brown twigs**



**3 white snowballs**



**4 black pebbles**



**5 purple buttons**

Little Mouse was starting to get very tired, so she stopped to catch her breath. Why, she wondered, would anyone need ...



**1 orange carrot**

**2 brown twigs**

**3 white snowballs**

**4 black pebbles**

**and 5 purple buttons?**



Can you guess 



