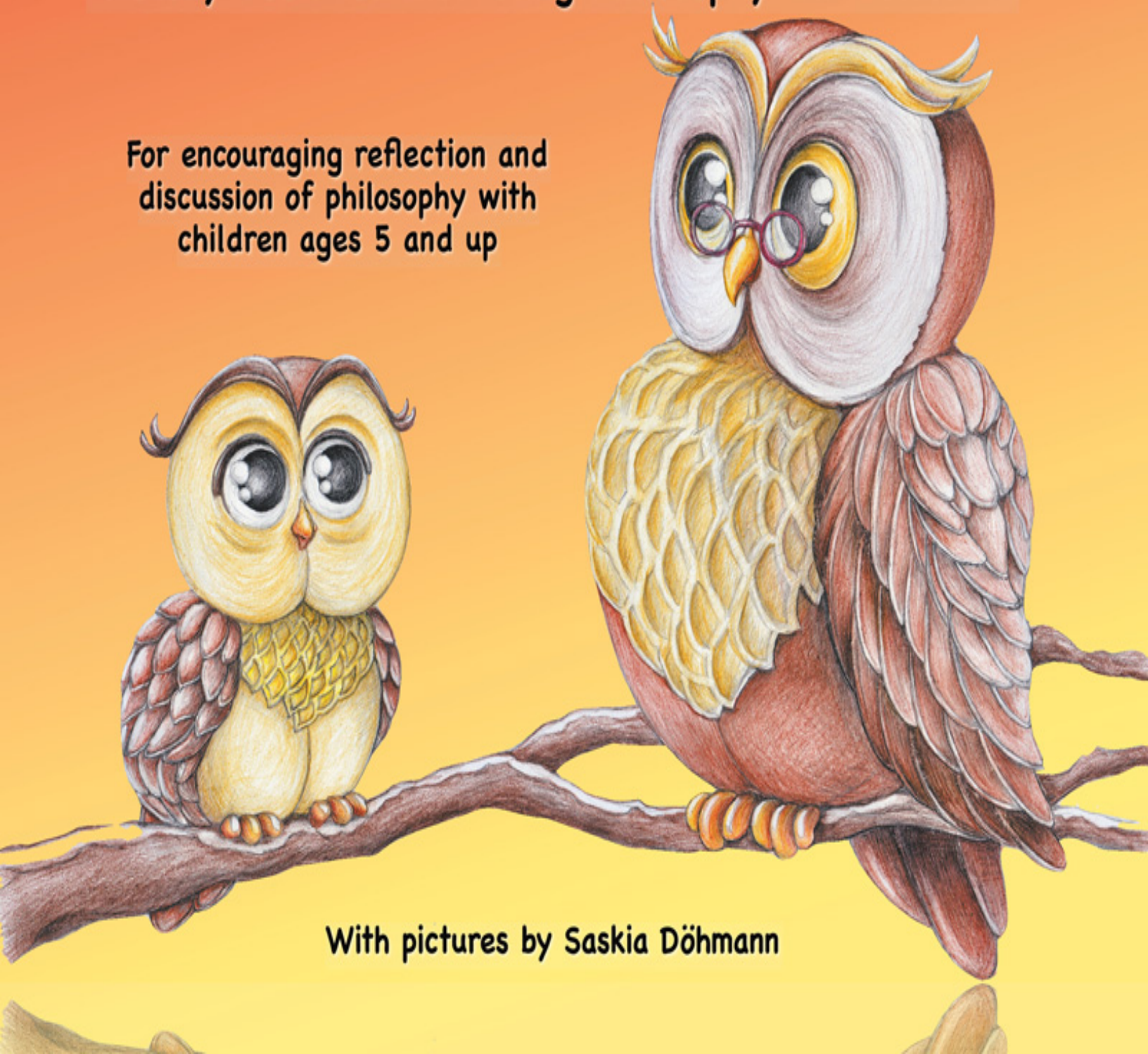


Michael Siegmund and Arlett Siegmund

# Philosophy for Children

Grandpa Carl the Owl and his Grandson Nils the Owl:  
A Story Book for Discussing Philosophy with Children

For encouraging reflection and  
discussion of philosophy with  
children ages 5 and up



With pictures by Saskia Döhmann

Have you heard of the mysterious Owl Forest? No?!? Wonderful, now I can tell you about it. The Owl Forest is a magical forest. It's magical because the owls there can talk like we humans can. Of course, normally owls can't talk. They go "hoo hoooo" or something like that. There are many owl families in this Owl Forest. However there is a very special owl there. It's the young owl named Nils. Nils just might be the cleverest boy of all of them. Perhaps you'll find out why that is in our story.

Nils loved going out and about with his Grandpa Carl more than anything else. They both like to explore the forest together and go on all kinds of adventures there.

One day, Grandpa-Owl Carl said to Nils: "Let's go! Let's take a trip together. I'd like to show you something that you've never seen before." Nils' eyes grew big and he was excited about where the trip would take them. And so off they flew.



After a while, Nils and Carl arrived at the edge of the forest and had a short layover there. They came upon a small campsite with people nearby. They looked it over and noticed that there was trash in certain spots of the campsite. "Would you look at that," said Grandpa-Owl to Nils, "the campers just left their trash lying on the ground there!" That is something you just don't do!" Food scraps, plastic water bottles, and other garbage was spread out all across the ground.







## **Questions for reflection and discussion of philosophy**

- ? Do you think it's "bad" or not so "bad" that the campers left their trash lying on the ground there?
- ? Have you ever left trash lying/thrown it on the ground before? If so, why?
- ? Are plastic garbage, banana peels, and old thrown-away shoes the same kind of trash? Or do you think there are differences? Which trash do you think is "worse?"
- ? Are humans good to the Earth or not?
- ? How much trash should people be allowed to produce/make?