

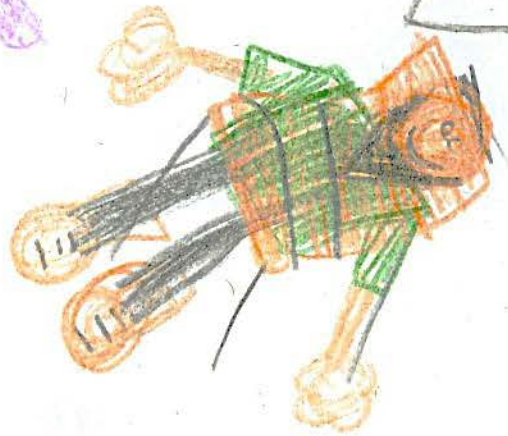
THE

MAGIC



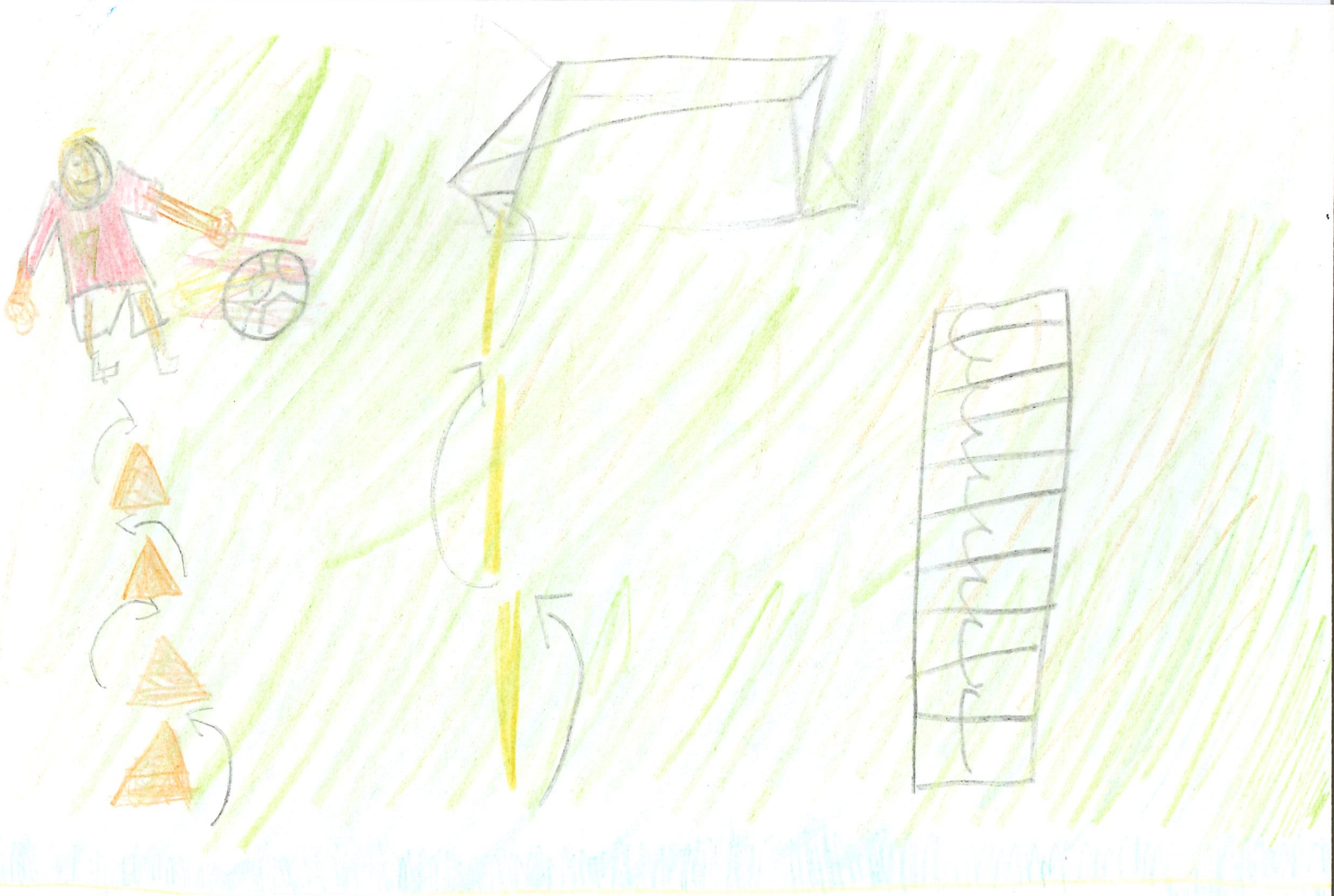
SOCCER

BALL



By: Idan

Bob was an eight year old boy who loved soccer. He really wanted to be the best soccer player in the world but he was never the best player on his team. He was very fast, had great passing and dribbling skills, but his shots were not so powerful. Bob's coach always told him to keep working hard because practice makes perfect. But as hard as Bob tried, he just could not figure out how to create powerful shots.



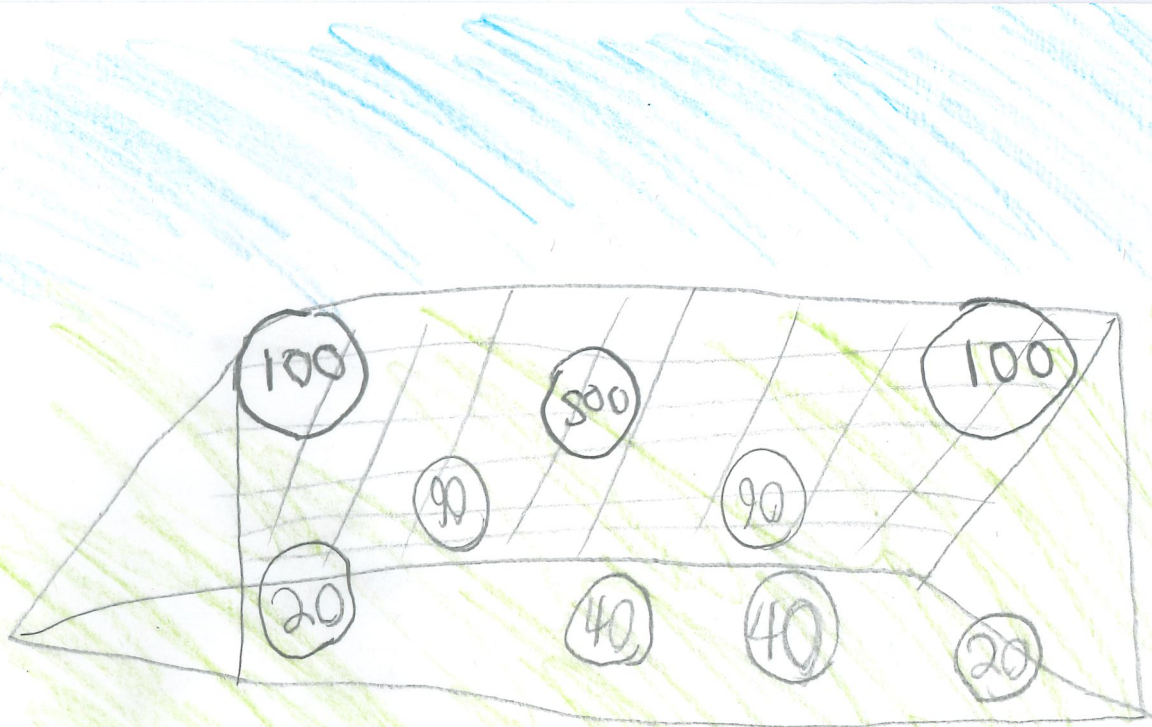
One day, while walking to practice, Bob saw a soccer ball stuck in the bushes by the park. He went to get it and realized it was a crystal ball. An old man that was sitting on the park's bench told him that it was a magic soccer ball. "Is it true?" asked Bob. "Sure, give it a try!" Said the old man. Bob put the ball on the ground and took a shot towards the park and the ball flew like a rocketship to the other side of the park. Bob was so excited!



Bob took the ball to practice. During practice when Bob shot the ball, it did not work. After practice, on the way back home, Bob looked sad. When he passed by the old man, the old man asked, "What is the problem?" "The magic ball is not working," said Bob. The old man smiled and said, "Magic does not replace practice, you just have to keep working hard." Bob smiled and realized he must keep practicing hard.



Every day after school, he practiced his shots. He spent hours kicking the ball. He got a lot better. At practices, he tried again, and again, to get the perfect shot. Bob's coach noticed the difference and said, "Remember Bob, practice makes perfect."



Then months went by and the day of the big championship game arrived. The score was tied. There were 10 seconds left in the game and the ball bounced in front of Bob. He lifted his leg and shot the ball. The ball flew just like a rocketship and hit the top of the net. GOAL!!! Bob's team won the championship and he realized that practice makes perfect.

