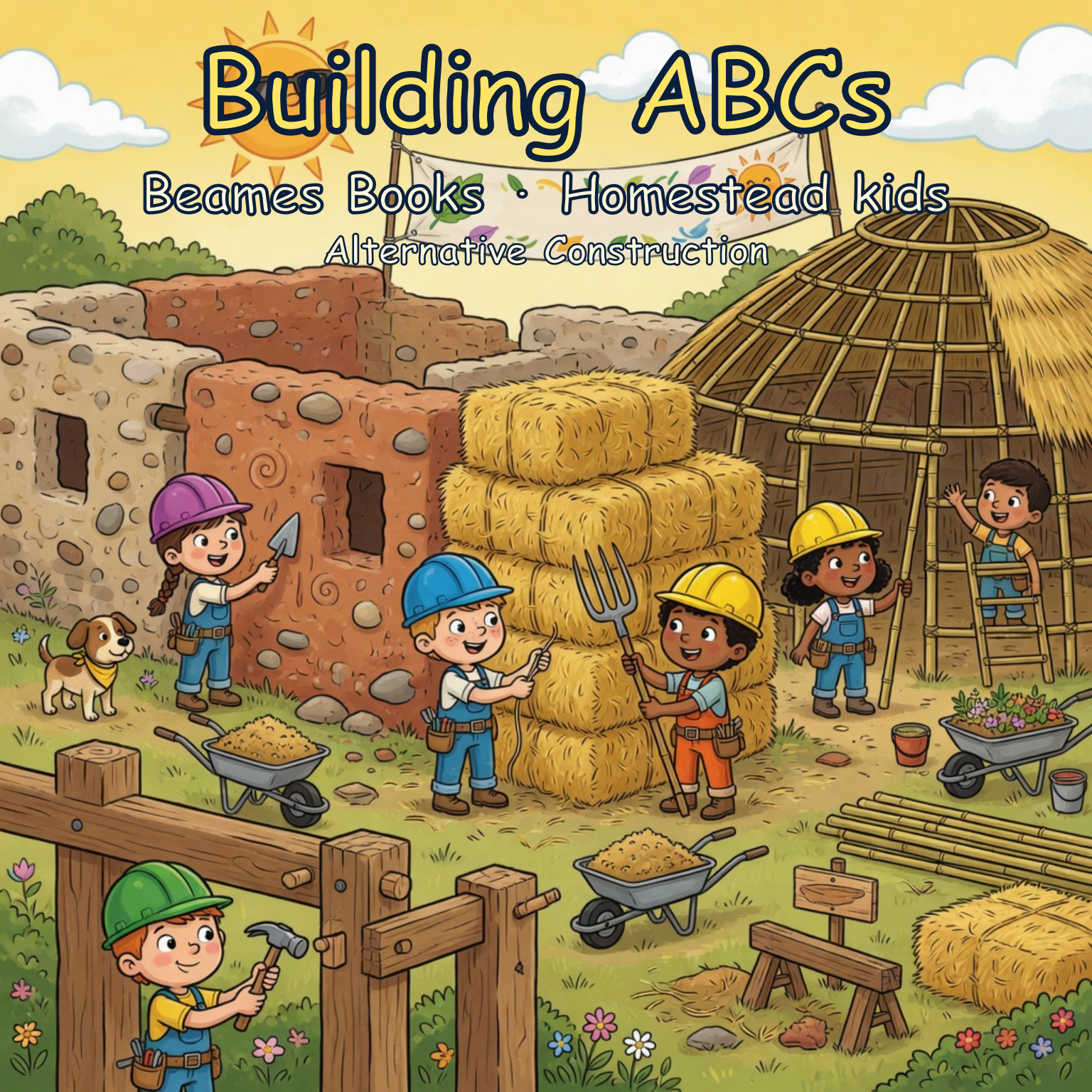


# Building ABCs

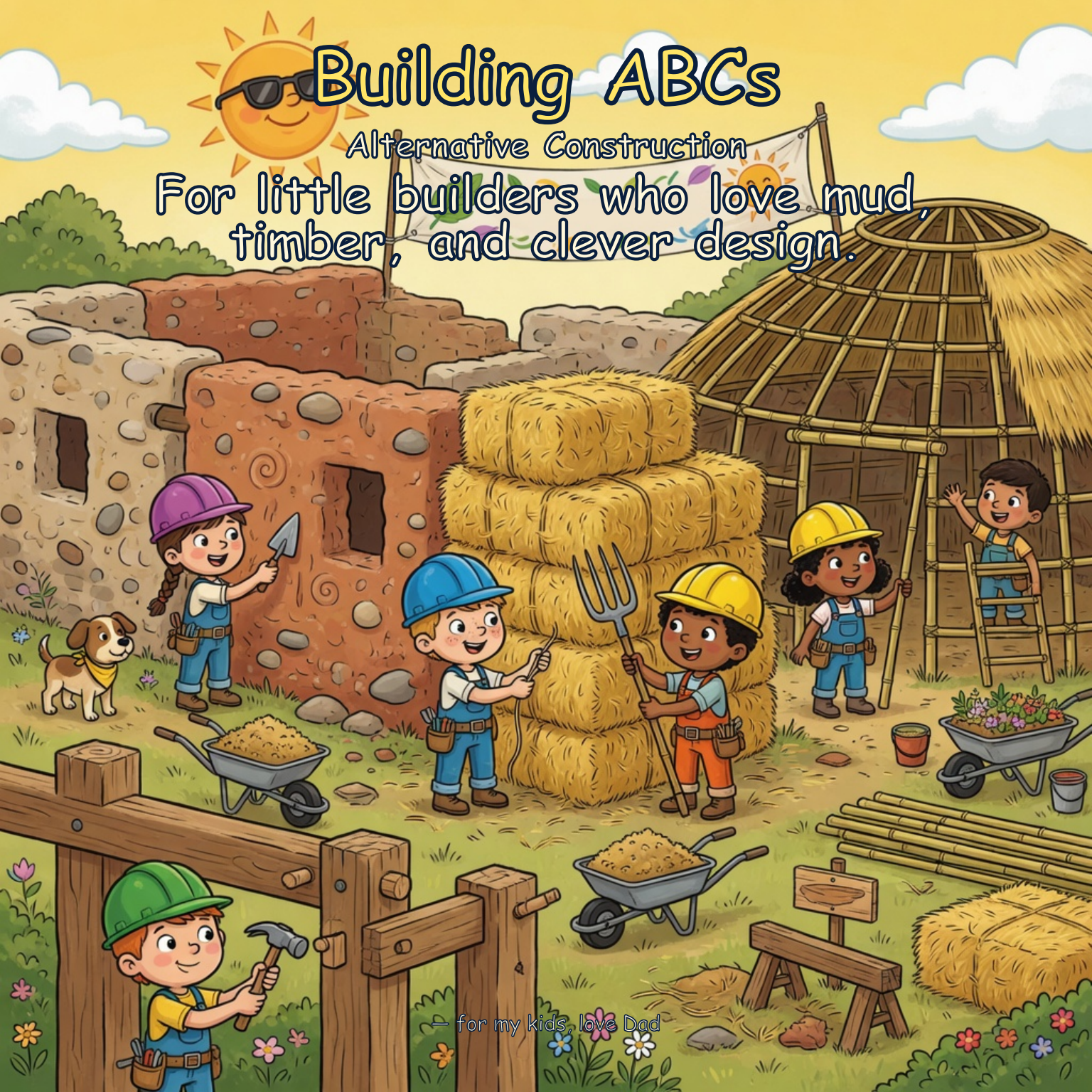
Beames Books • Homestead kids  
Alternative Construction



# Building ABCs

Alternative Construction

For little builders who love mud,  
timber, and clever design.



— for my kids, love Dad

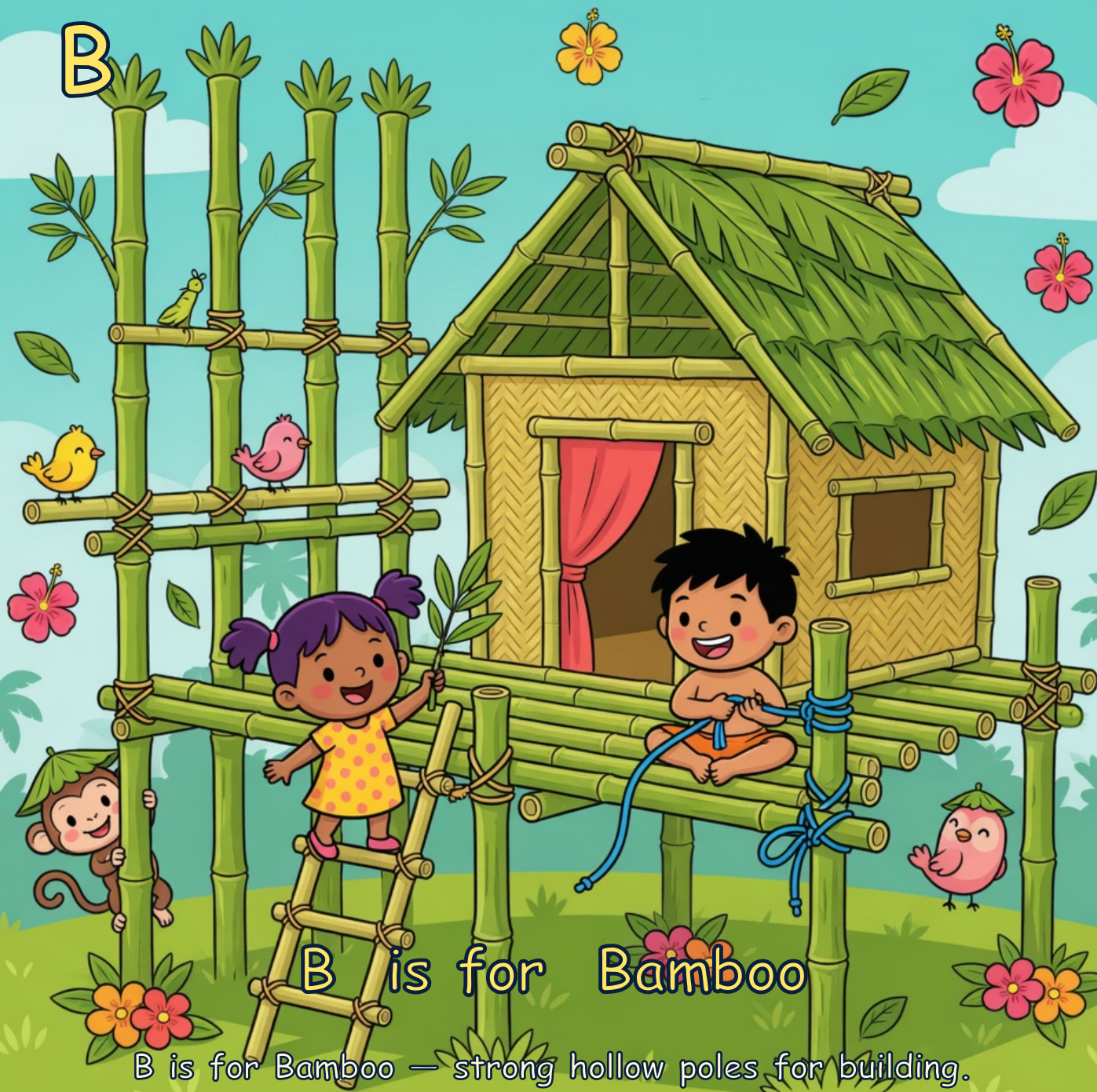
A



A is for Adobe

A is for Adobe — sun-dried earth bricks for walls.

B



B is for Bamboo

B is for Bamboo — strong hollow poles for building.



C is for Cob

C is for Cob — clay, sand, and straw mixed by hand.

D



D is for Dome

D is for Dome — round roofs that shed weather well.

E



E is for Earthbag

E is for Earthbag — bags of soil stacked into walls.

F



F is for Foundation

F is for Foundation — the strong base under every build.

G



G is for Green roof

G is for Green roof — plants growing on top of a building.



H is for Hempcrete

H is for Hempcrete — hemp and lime for breathable walls.



I is for Insulation

I is for Insulation — keeps heat in and cold out.

J



J is for Joinery

J is for Joinery — wood pieces locked together carefully.

K

K is for Kiln

K is for Kiln — a hot oven that hardens bricks and clay.



L



L is for Lime plaster

L is for Lime plaster — a breathable skin for walls.

M



M is for Mudbrick

M is for Mudbrick — simple blocks of earth and straw.

N



N is for Natural fiber

N is for Natural fiber — straw, hemp, and wool in walls.



© is for Off-grid

© is for Off-grid — building that makes its own power.

P



P is for Post and beam

P is for Post and beam — big timber frames standing tall.

Q



Q is for Quarry stone

Q is for Quarry stone — solid rock cut for building.

R



R is for Rammed earth

R is for Rammed earth — soil packed hard into forms.

S



S is for Straw bale

S is for Straw bale — thick insulating walls of straw.

T



T is for Timber frame

T is for Timber frame — wooden skeleton of a house.

U



U is for Underground home

U is for Underground home — earth-sheltered living spaces.



V

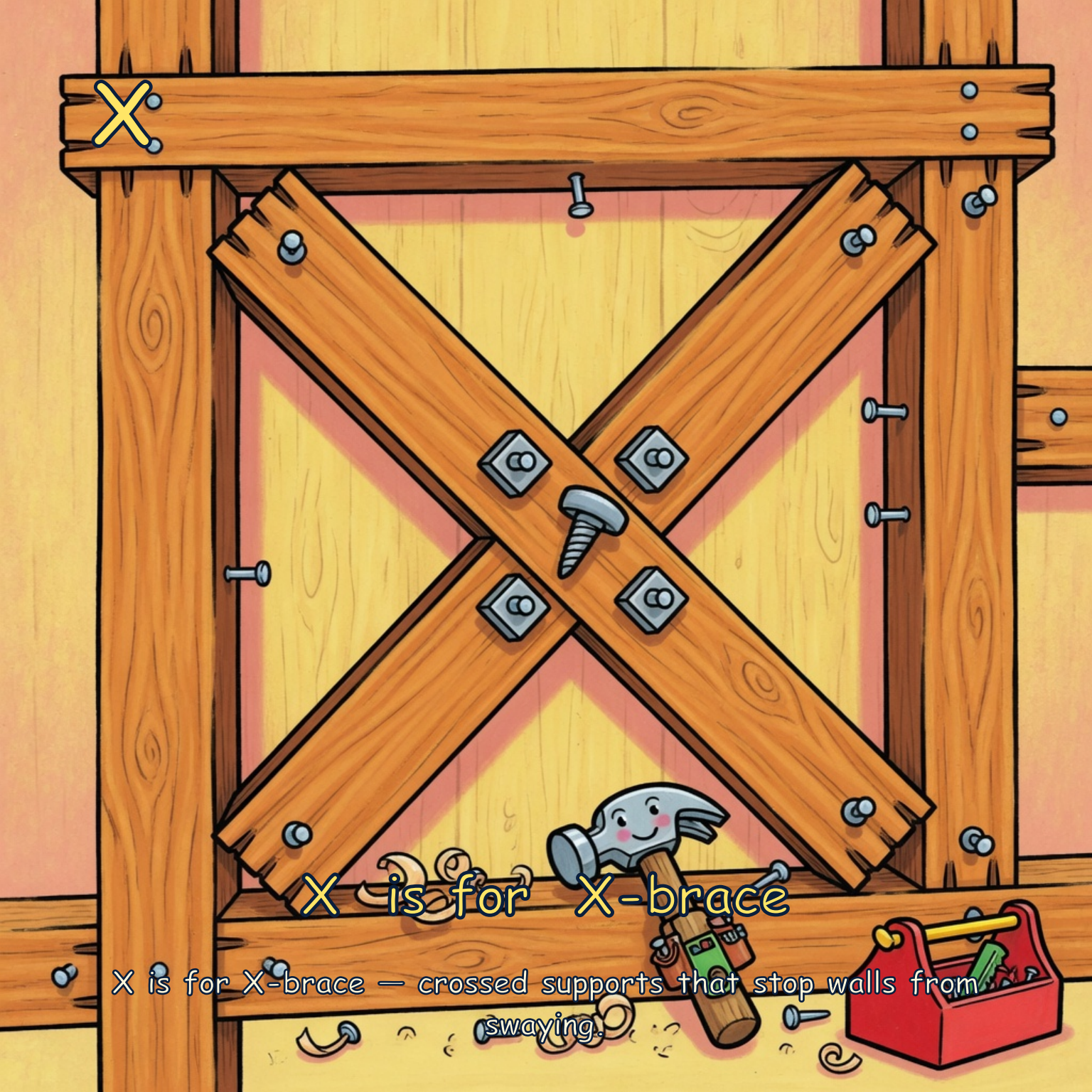
V is for Vault

V is for Vault — arched ceilings made of brick or earth.



W is for Wattle and daub

W is for Wattle and daub — woven sticks coated with mud.



X is for X-brace

X is for X-brace — crossed supports that stop walls from swaying.

Y



Y is for Yurt

Y is for Yurt — a round portable felt-covered home.



Z is for Zinc roof

Z is for Zinc roof — metal panels that last for years.

# Grow on!

Build strong, build kind, build for the weather.



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# Building ABCs

Alternative Construction

Adobe, cob, straw bale, yurts, and more natural building ideas.

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