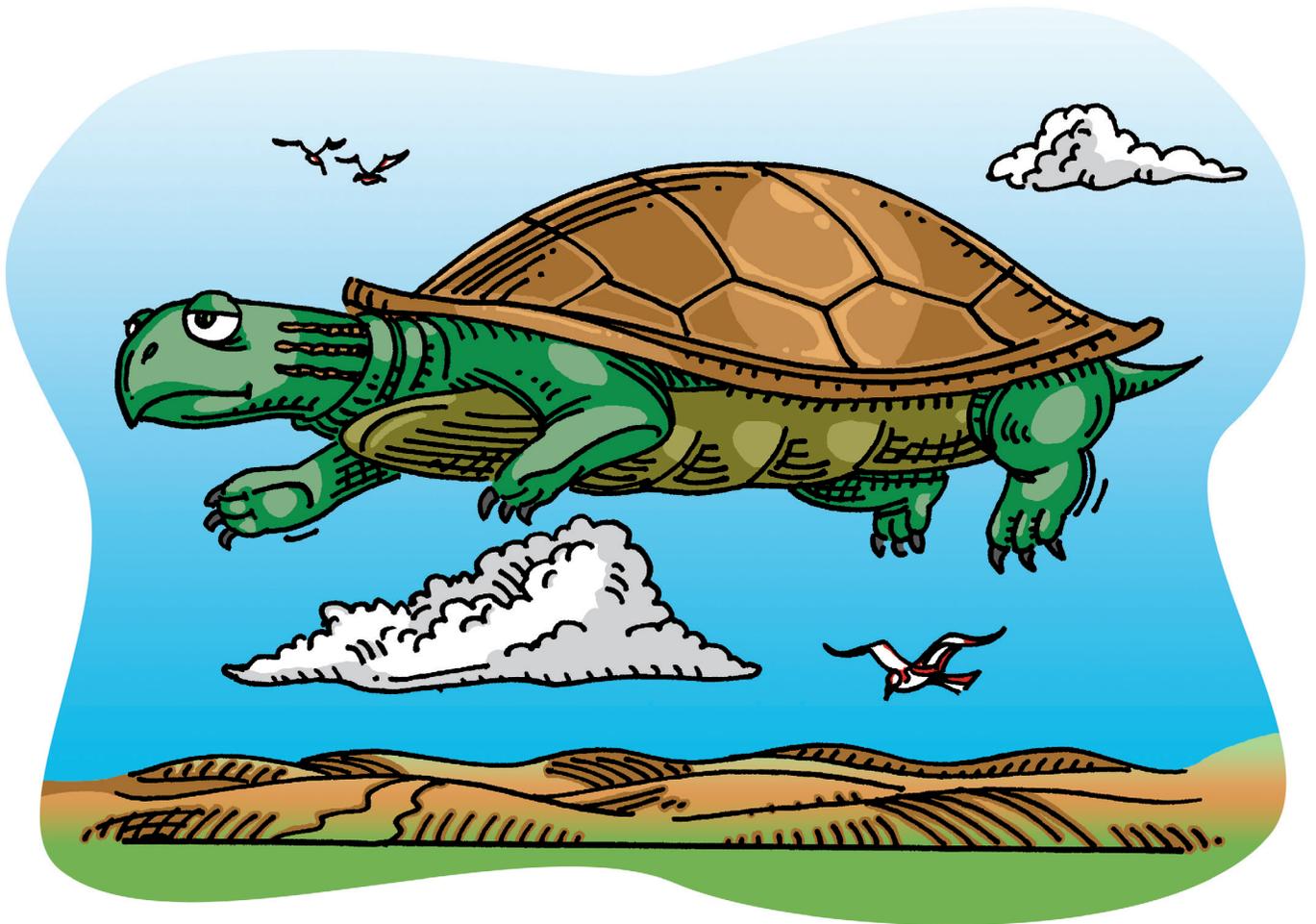


How Turtle Flew South for the Winter



Story adapted by Wendie Old
Illustrations by Scott Mattern

Green Words and *Challenge Words:

1			
*babies (1)	*finally (1)	*what's (2)	start (3)
turtle (1)	* <u>buffalo</u> (1)	floated (2)	fond (4)
spring (1)	<u>chirped</u> (2)		
2			
<u>ordered</u> (5)	mouth (5)	*before (6)	*almost (7)
<u>forget</u> (5)	beaks (5)	<u>grip</u> (7)	<u>firm</u> (7)
*large (5)			
3			
<u>rushing</u> (10)	<u>stir</u> (11)	*important (12)	*learned (12)
<u>crash</u> (10)	hurt (11)	longer (12)	

Red Words to practice every day:

<u>chief</u> (3)	thought (3)	word (7)	talking (12)
<u>knew</u> (3)			

Challenge Words are starred (*).
Explain how underlined words are used in the story.



One fine spring morning Storm Cloud sat outside his teepee. Red Fox went to him and said, “Dad, I want to hunt buffalo.”

Storm Cloud said, “We cannot hunt buffalo. Now is the time when they raise their babies. We must wait for the hunting season in the fall.”

But Red Fox kept asking and asking.

Finally, Storm Cloud said, “You need to hear the story about Turtle.”

And this is the story that Storm Cloud told.

Why can't Red Fox and his dad hunt buffalo? [*Hunting season is in the fall.*]

Why does Storm Cloud tell the story about Turtle? [*Red Fox kept asking and asking to go.*]



It was fall. Leaves floated down on top of Turtle. Turtle saw more and more birds land in the trees. They chirped and chirped.

Turtle yelled up at the birds, “What’s happening? Why are there so many of you? Why are you chirping so much?”

What did turtle want to know? *[Turtle wanted to know why so many birds were chirping.]*



Chief Bird said, “We are going to fly south.”

Turtle asked, “Why fly there?”

Chief Bird said, “I thought everyone knew why we fly south for the winter.”

But Turtle did not know.

So Chief Bird explained, “Soon, it will start to get cold. There will not be much food. We must fly to a warm place.”

Why do birds fly south for the winter? *[Birds fly south for the winter because it will get cold soon and there will not be much food.]*



Turtle was upset that soon there would not be much food. He was very fond of food!

Turtle asked, “May I go with you?”

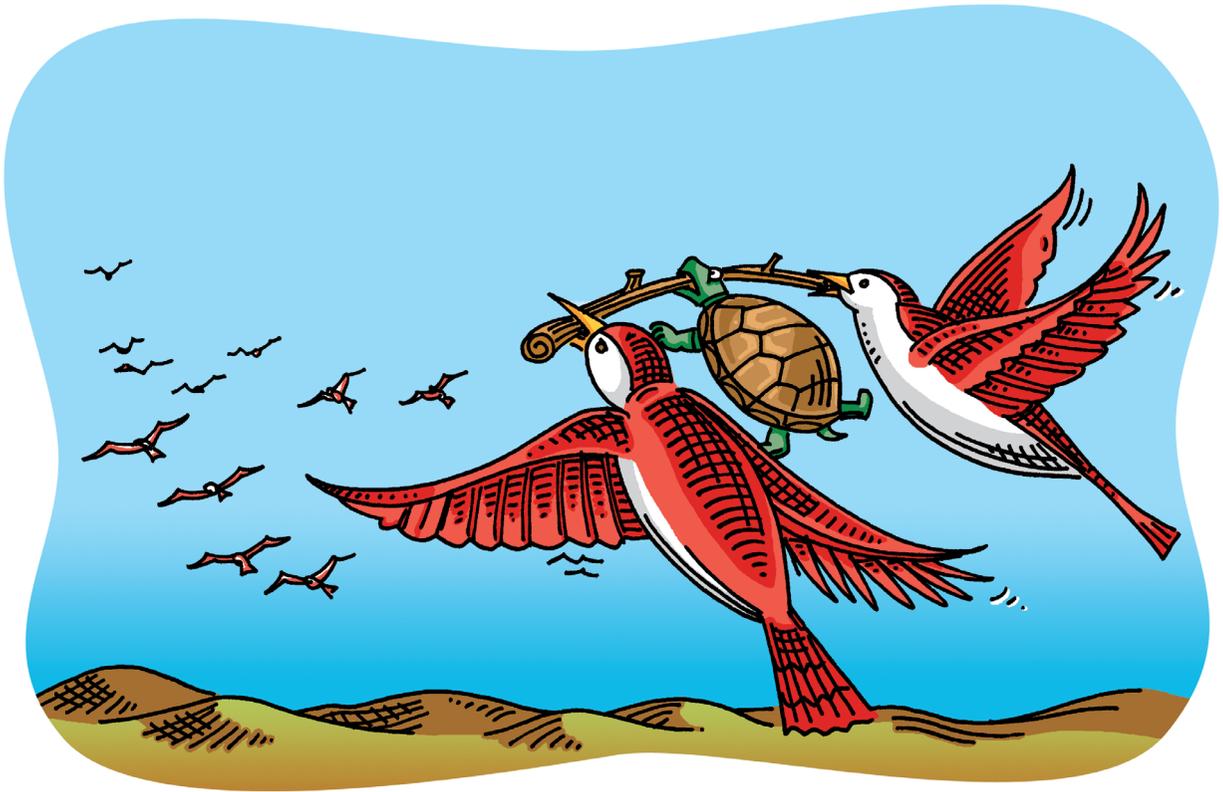
Chief Bird chirped, “You cannot go. You are a turtle. Turtles cannot fly.”

But Turtle would not give up. “Please, please, may I go?” he begged. “I want to go. I need to go. How will I eat if there is no food? Is the south very far?”



Why did Turtle ask if he could go with the birds? *[He was afraid that there would not be enough food during the winter.]*

Why doesn't Chief Bird think that Turtle can go? *[Turtles can't fly.]*

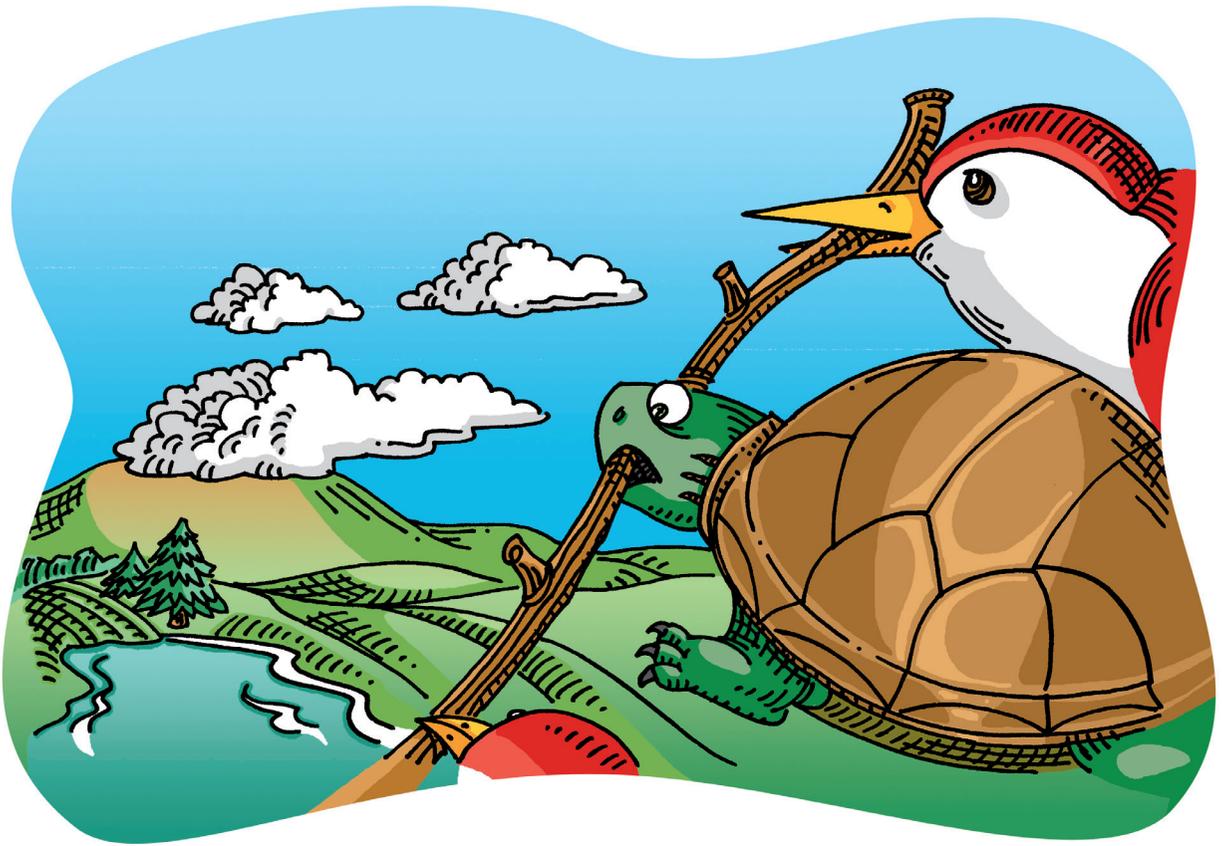


At last, Chief Bird agreed to take Turtle. He ordered Turtle to put a stick in his mouth and bite it hard.

Chief Bird said, “Do not forget to keep your mouth shut.”

Turtle nodded. He kept his mouth shut while two large birds grasped the stick with their beaks. They flapped their wings and lifted Turtle. Turtle was flying! An army of birds flew beside him.

How did the birds help Turtle to fly with them? *[Two birds held a stick with their beaks. Turtle held onto the stick with his mouth.]*

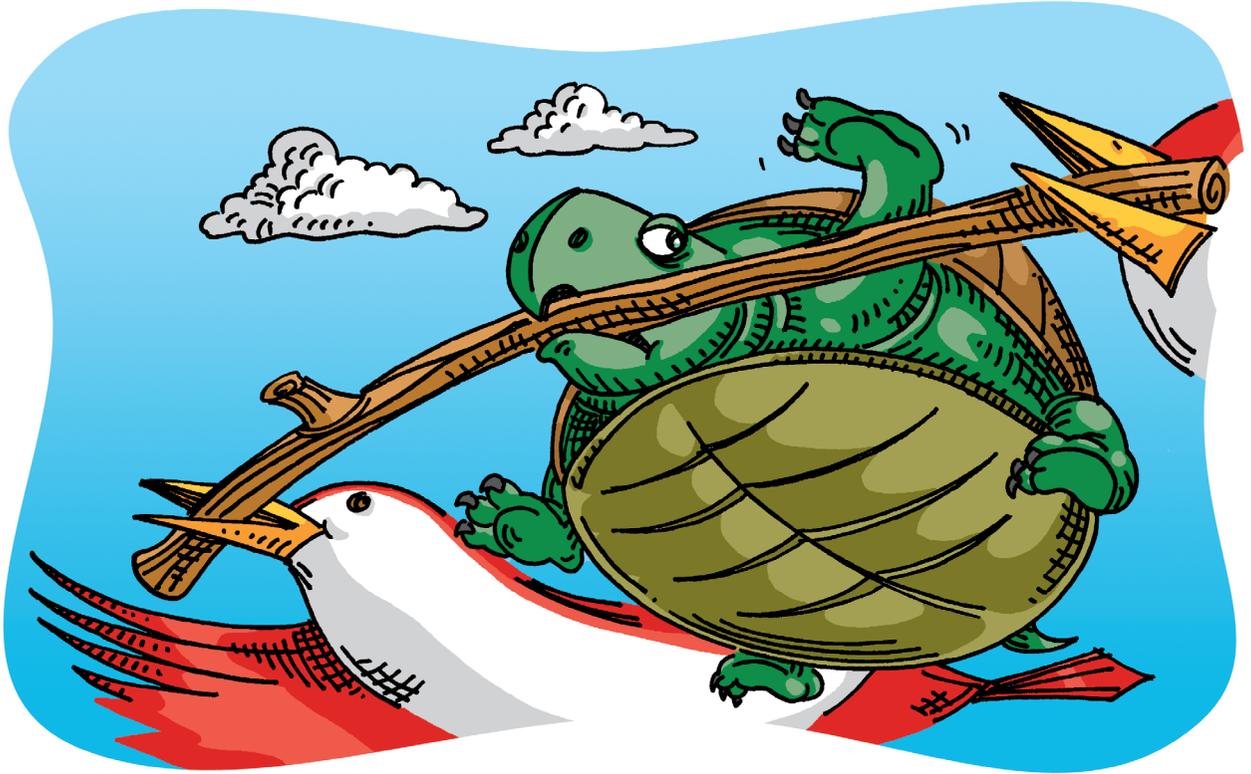


Turtle had never been so high before. He looked down. Everything seemed so small. A horse seemed smaller than a dog. A lake looked like a pond. At first, Turtle was very happy. He swayed back and forth.

He looked down and thought about all the good food in the south.

How did things look different to Turtle when he was up so high? *[Things seemed much smaller than they really were.]*

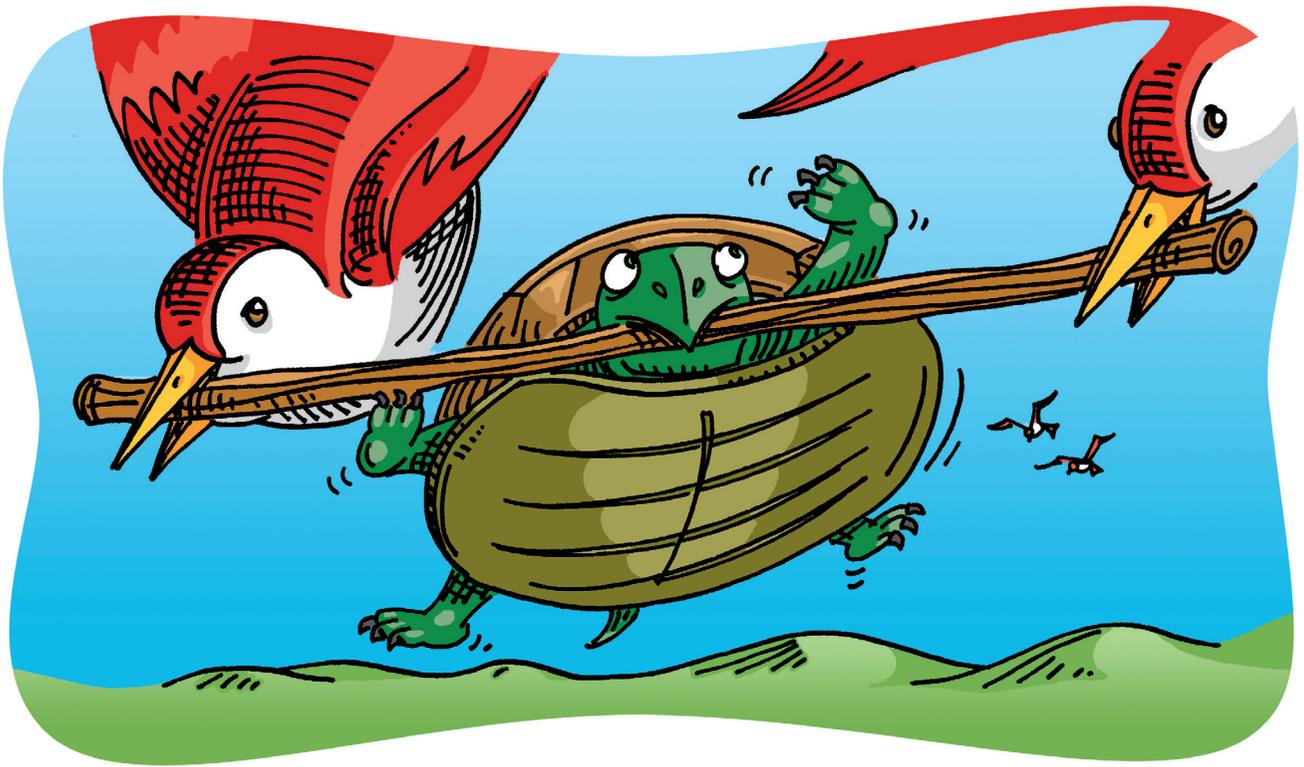
What was he thinking about as he flew with the birds? *[He was thinking about how much food there would be in the south.]*



Turtle wanted to ask, “Where are we? What is the name of that lake? How far have we gone? Are we almost there yet?”

Turtle could not say a word. He had to keep a firm grip on the stick.

Turtle wanted to speak. Why couldn't he? *[If he said something, he would have to open his mouth. Then he wouldn't be able to hold onto the stick.]*



So Turtle rolled his eyes. The birds did not see him roll his eyes. They just flew on.

Then Turtle waved his legs. The birds did not see him wave his legs. They just flew on.

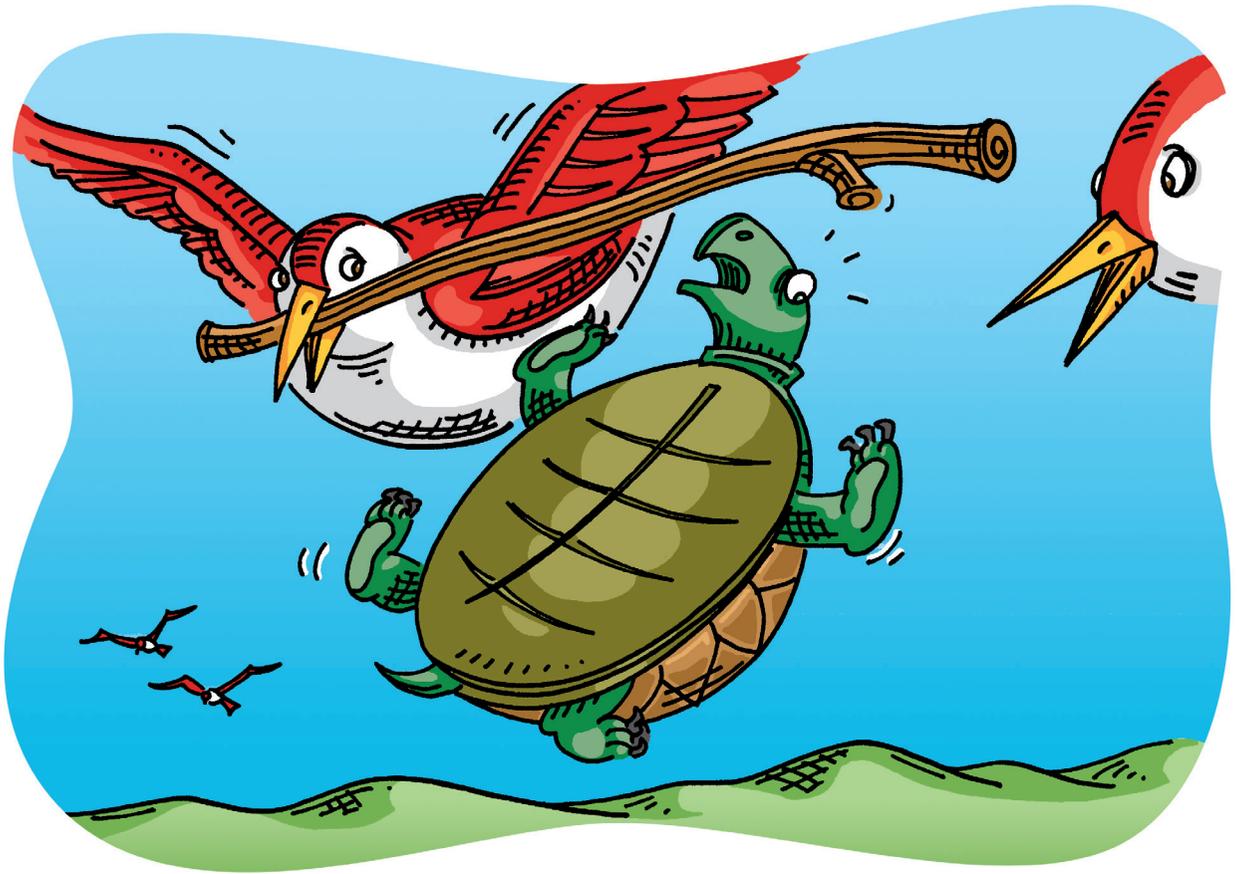
Turtle tried to say, “Mmmmmmmmmmm!”

The birds still did not hear him. They just flew on.



Turtle did three things to try to get the birds to notice him. What were the three things that he did? [*He rolled his eyes. He waved his legs. He tried to say, “Mmmm!”*]

➔ **Make a Prediction: How will Turtle ask his question? What will happen to Turtle?** (T-P-S) Have the students support their predictions.

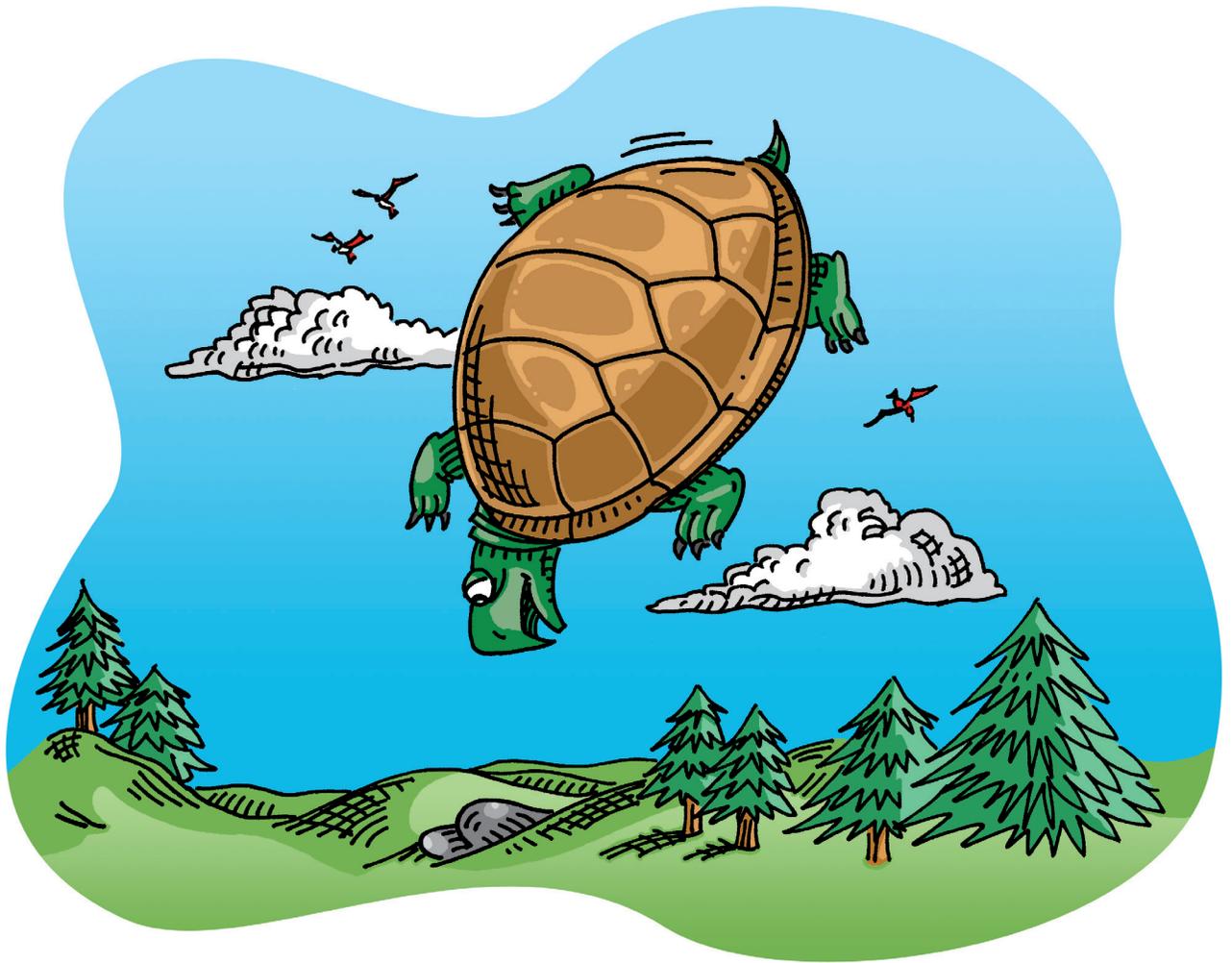


At last, Turtle lost his temper. He forgot to keep his mouth closed.

Turtle yelled, “Tell me where we . . .”

When he yelled, the stick fell out of his mouth. Oooops!

Why did Turtle fall? *[He tried to say something. When he opened his mouth, he couldn't hold onto the stick any longer.]*

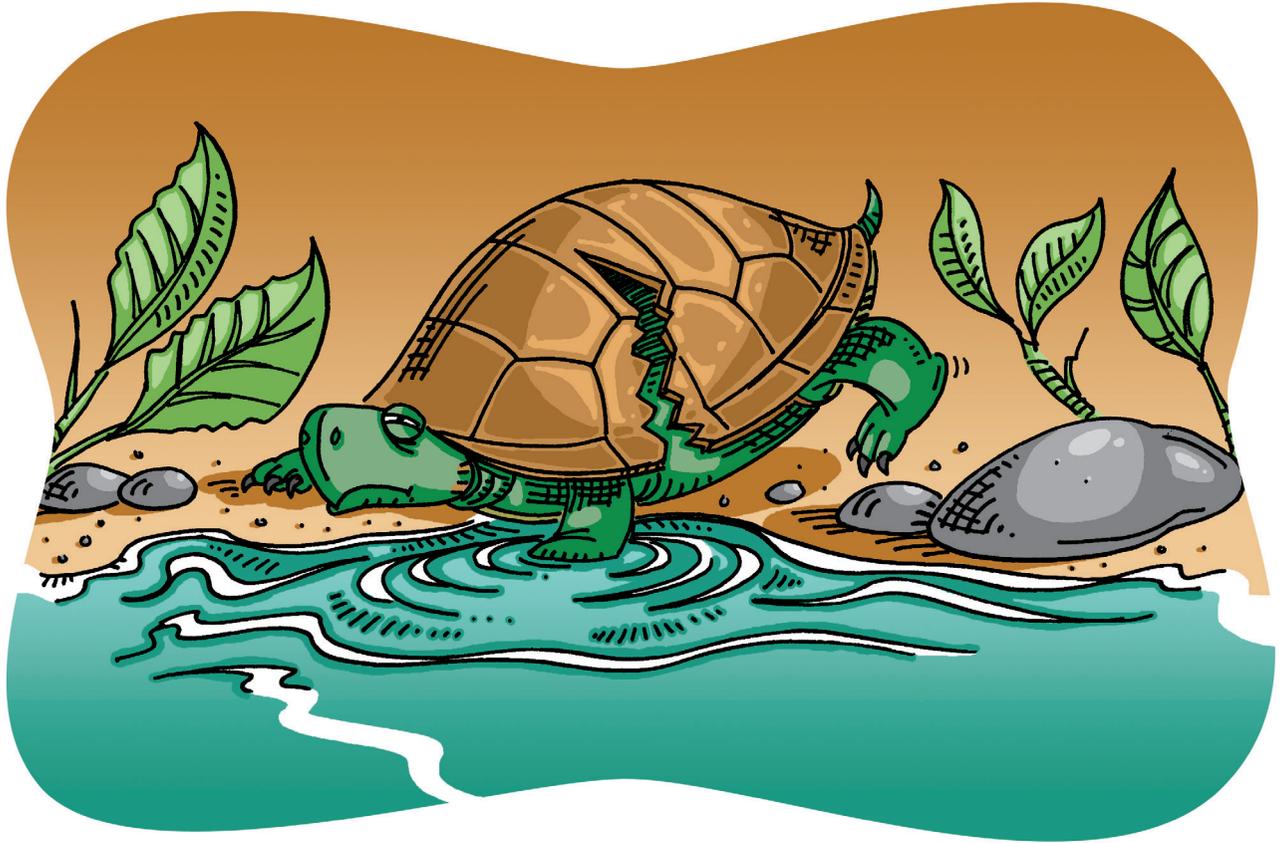


Turtle fell from the sky. He saw the land rushing up at him. He pulled his legs inside his shell. Poor Turtle hit the dirt hard.

Crash! He rolled and rolled and rolled.

What did Turtle do as he was falling? *[He pulled his legs inside his shell.]*

What happened after he crashed to the ground? *[He rolled and rolled and rolled.]*



Turtle shook. He peeked out of his shell. He hurt all over. His shell had cracked. There would be no more flying for him! From now on he would stay in the north. He crawled into a pond to rest in the mud.

Turtle said, “I will not stir from this spot until spring.”

Why is Turtle going to stay in the north? *[He got hurt trying to go to the south. He doesn't want to try flying again.]*

What did Turtle say when he crawled in the pond? *["I will not 'stir' from this spot until spring."] In this story, "I will not stir" means "I will not move."*



Then Storm Cloud finished the story: “That is why today turtles have cracked shells. And that is why they do NOT fly south with the birds in winter. But the most important thing is, that is why they no longer keep asking to do something. They have learned there is a time to talk and a time to stop talking.”

And Storm Cloud gave Red Fox a big hug.

What did turtles learn from the story? *[Turtles learned that there is a time to talk and a time to stop talking.]*

1

Model: **Why were the birds flying south?**

[The birds were going to a warm place where they could find more food.]

Model: Circle the right answer.

The story said the “leaves floated down on top of Turtle.”

Here floated means:

A. fell slowly

B. went down the river

C. were in a parade

1. **Why did Turtle want to go with the birds?**

[Turtle was scared that he would not have food.]

2. Circle the right answer.

Turtle heard the birds chirping. Here chirp means:

A. a dog’s sound

B. a bird’s sound

C. a turtle’s sound

2

Model: **How did the birds carry Turtle?**

[The birds carried Turtle on a stick. / Turtle bit the stick. / The birds held the stick in their beaks.]

1. **Why couldn’t Turtle say a word?**

[Turtle had to keep a firm grip on the stick. / If Turtle opened his mouth, he would fall.]

2. Circle the right answer.

Turtle had to keep a firm grip on the stick. Here grip means:

A. hold

B. handle

C. understand

3

Model: **How were Red Fox and Turtle the same?**

[Red Fox and Turtle were the same because they both kept asking and asking.]

1. **Why did Turtle let go of the stick?**

[Turtle wanted to ask the birds a question.]

2. Circle the right answer.

Turtle said, “I will not stir from this spot until spring.”

Here stir means:

A. mix

B. spin

C. move

Reading Roots, Level 4
**How Turtle Flew South
for the Winter**

“ir, “or,” “ar,” “er,” “ur”



Success for All[®]
READING PROGRAM

Reading Roots Shared Stories were developed under the direction of Robert E. Slavin and Nancy A. Madden, codirectors of the Success for All Foundation Family of Programs.

Success for All Foundation is a nonprofit education reform organization that develops and disseminates research-based reading and math programs for students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary and middle schools. These programs were originally developed at Johns Hopkins University.

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