

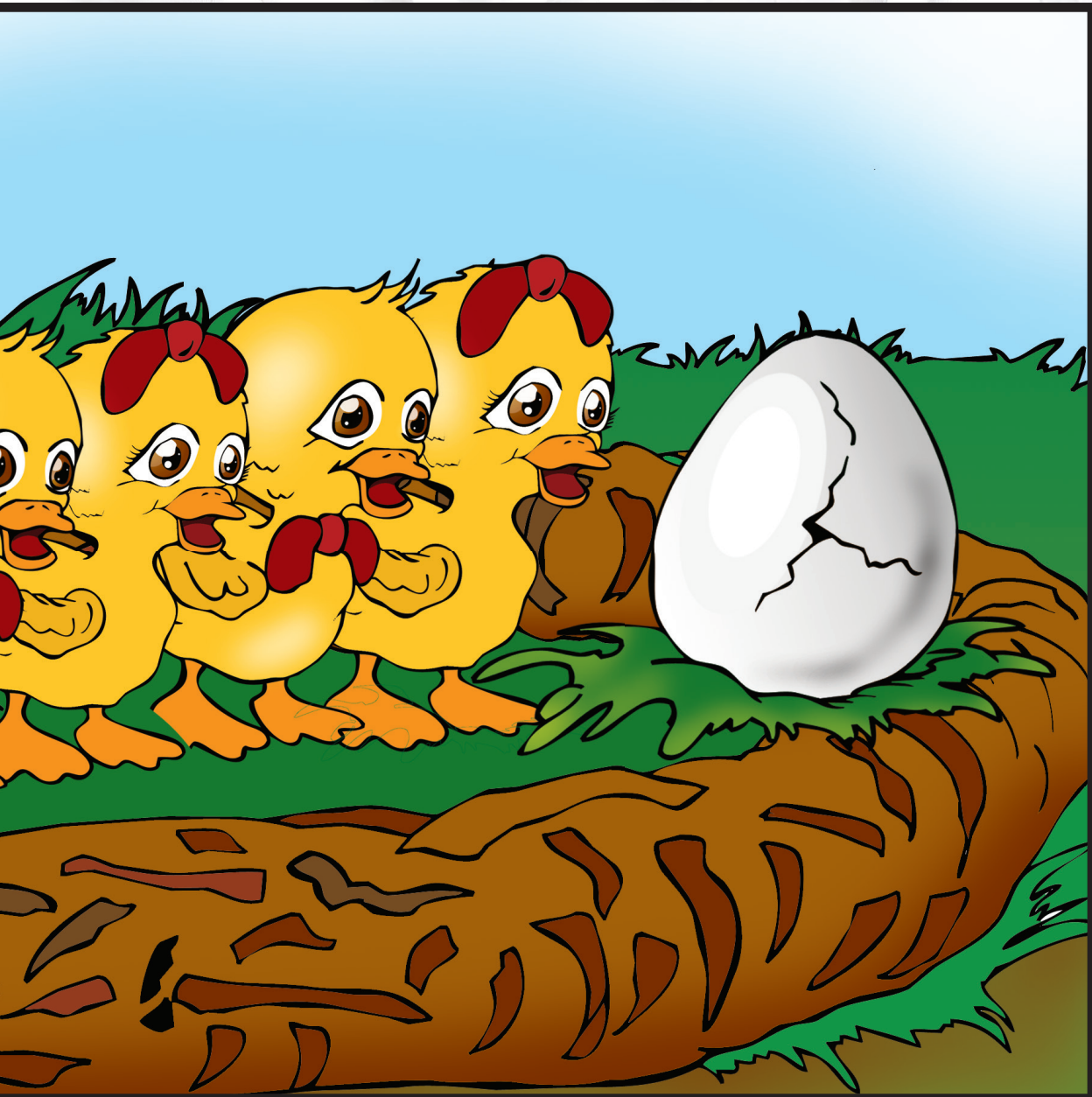
Tomorrow is always better

3 B





A mother duck is sitting on her nest, watching her ducklings hatch and climb out of their broken shells.



Mother duck:

Ah, at last. Such beautiful babies! One, two, three, four and

That's strange!

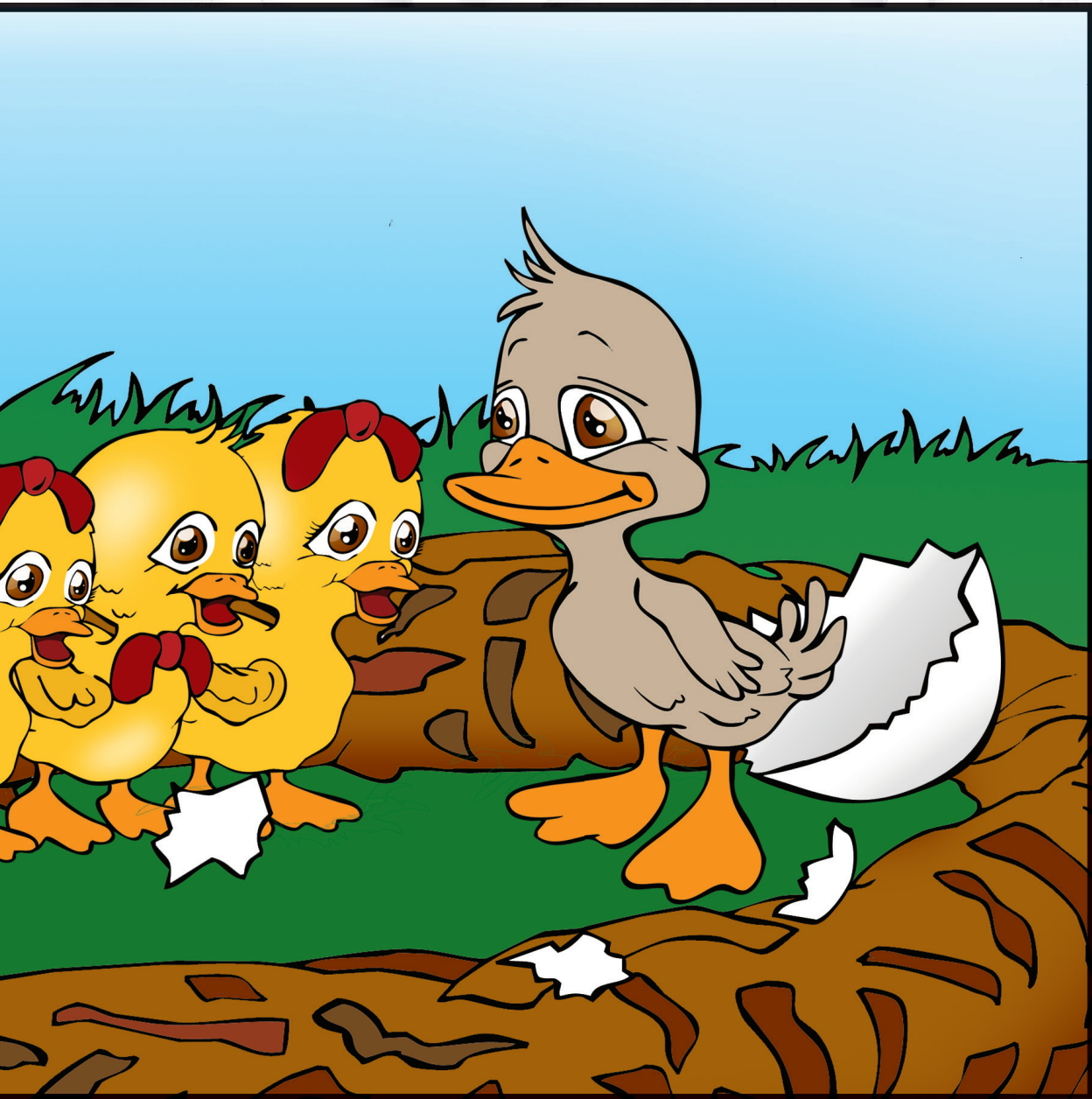
Why doesn't my fifth baby hatch?



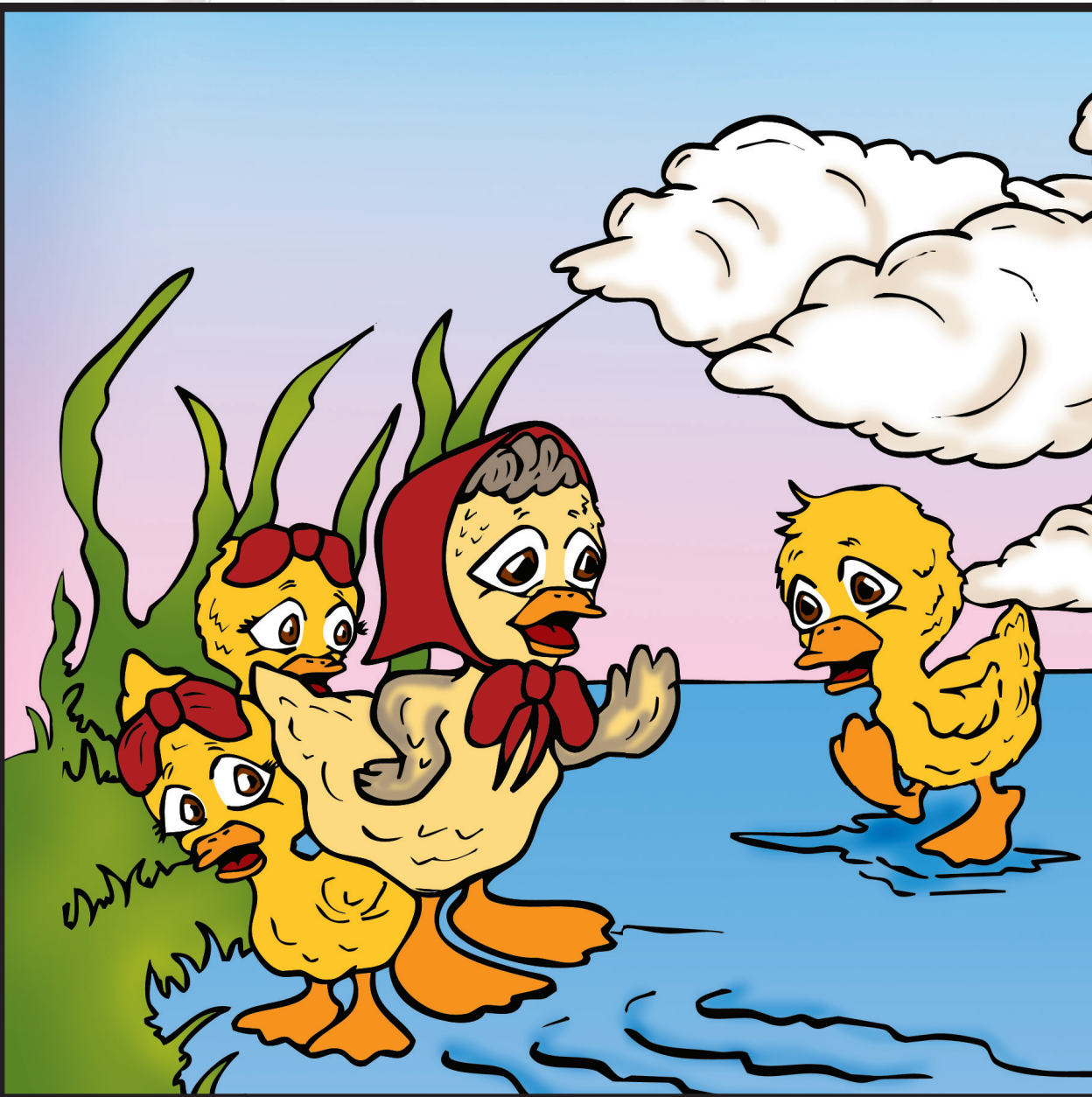
A minute later the last egg starts to crack open – and out pops a funny looking duck.

Mother duck:

This is very strange! You are not like my other little babies at all. You are so big. You are very ugly. Come on, children. We're going to the pond.



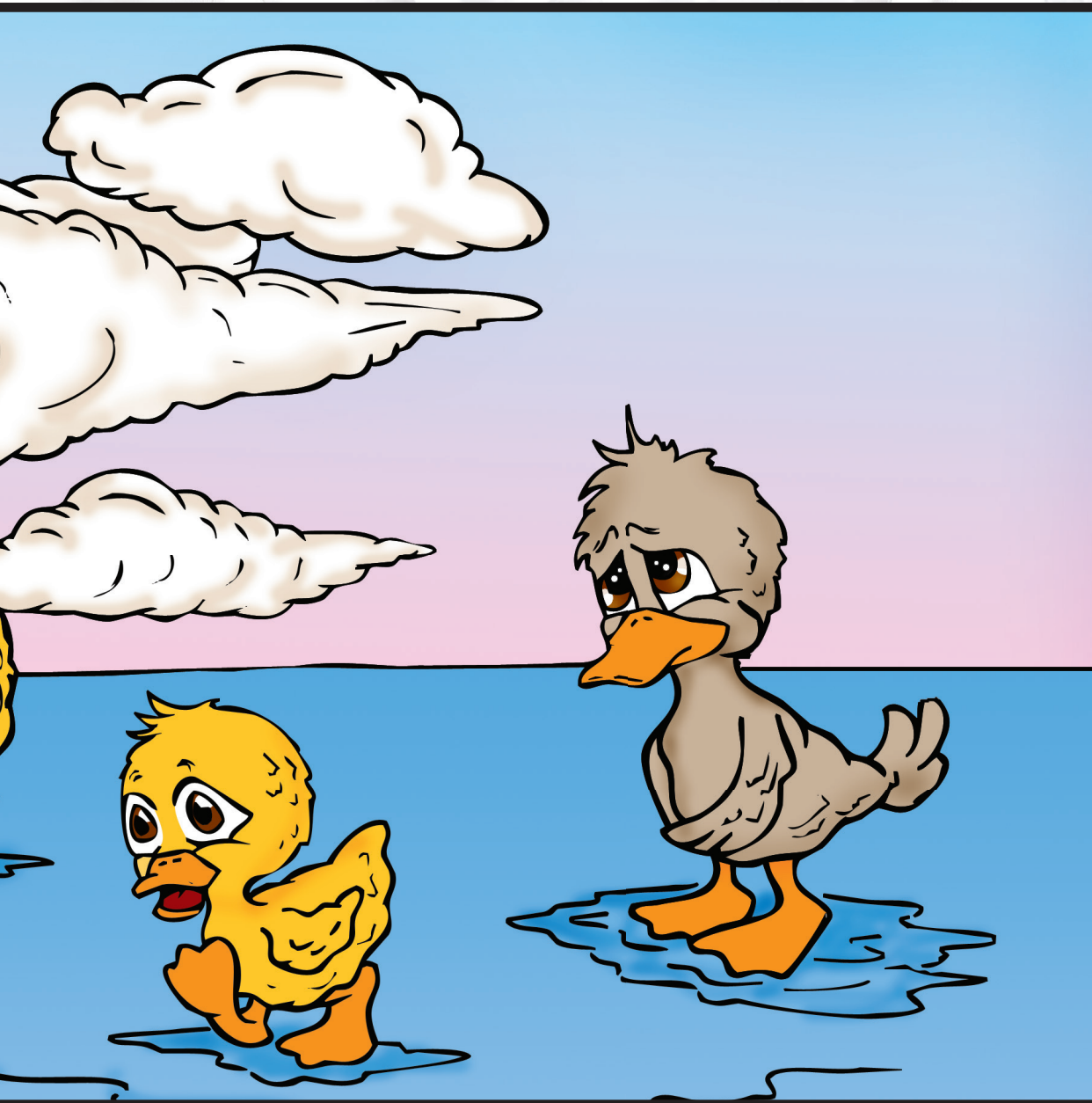
The ducklings all line up behind their mother and follow her.



Mother duck:

I'm glad that all of you swim so well.
Come on children; we're going to the farm.
I want all my friends to see you.

They arrive at the farm and the farm ducks come to meet them.



Mother duck:

Hello, everyone! Come and see my little ducklings!

Farm ducks:

They are really nice, but that one looks ugly.

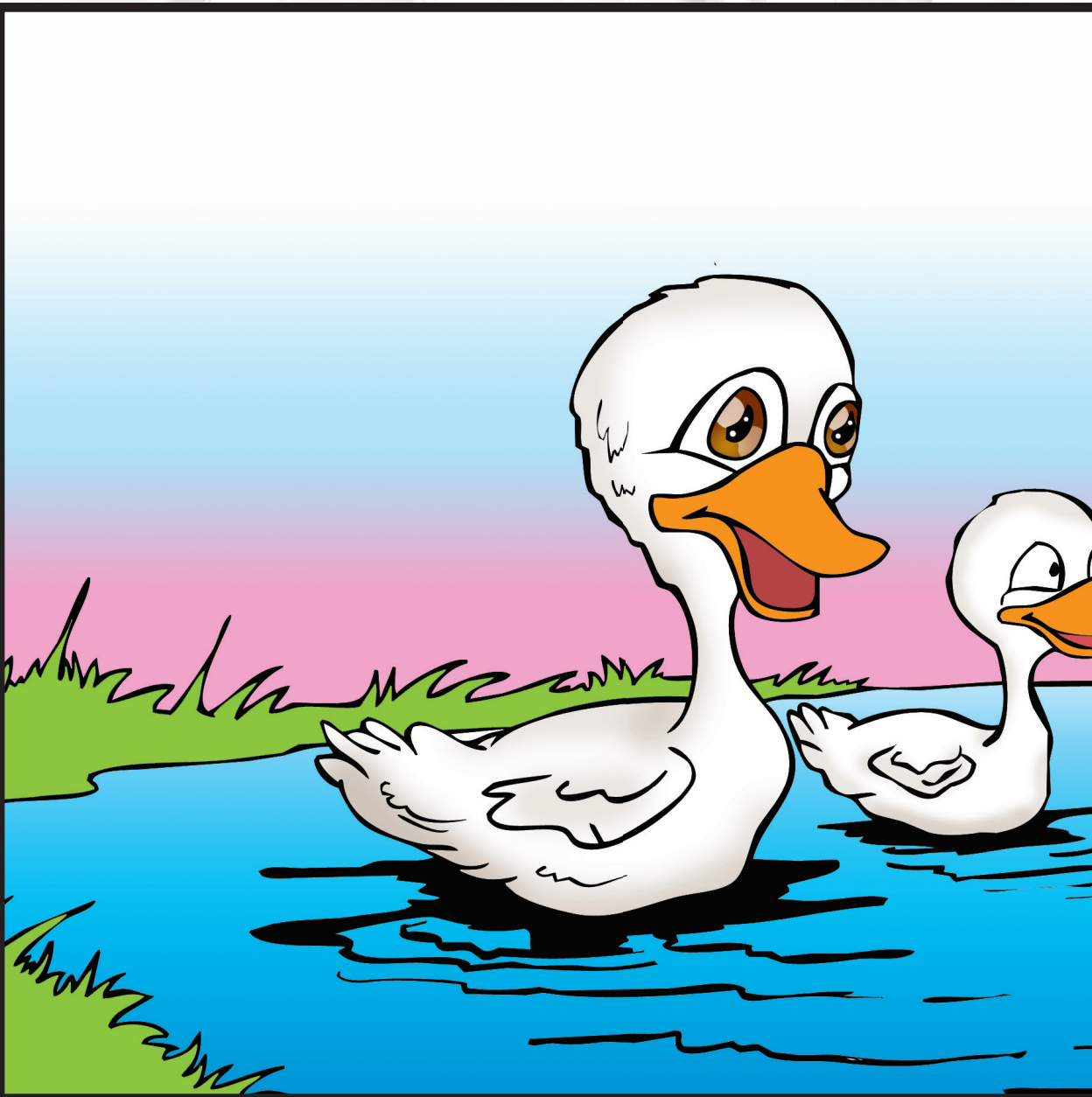
The ugly duckling is very sad when he hears this. His brothers and sisters run to play with the other little ducks on the farm. He tries to play with them.



He would like to fly like that swan!

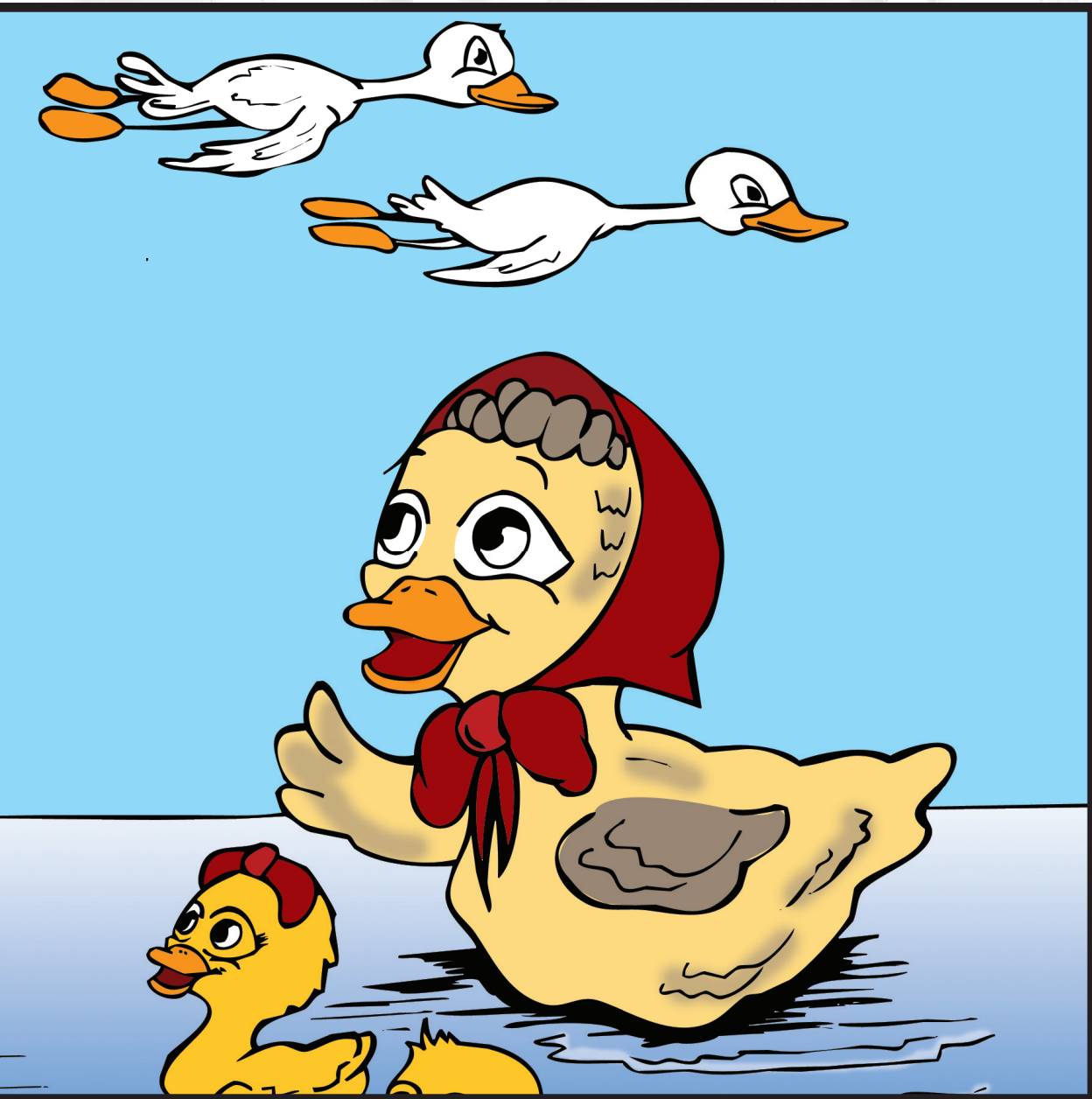
The duckling runs in the hay, flapping his wings. Suddenly he is in the air. He flies out through the barn window and high over the pond.

On the pond below, the sawn, sees the duckling and calls out to him.



The swan:

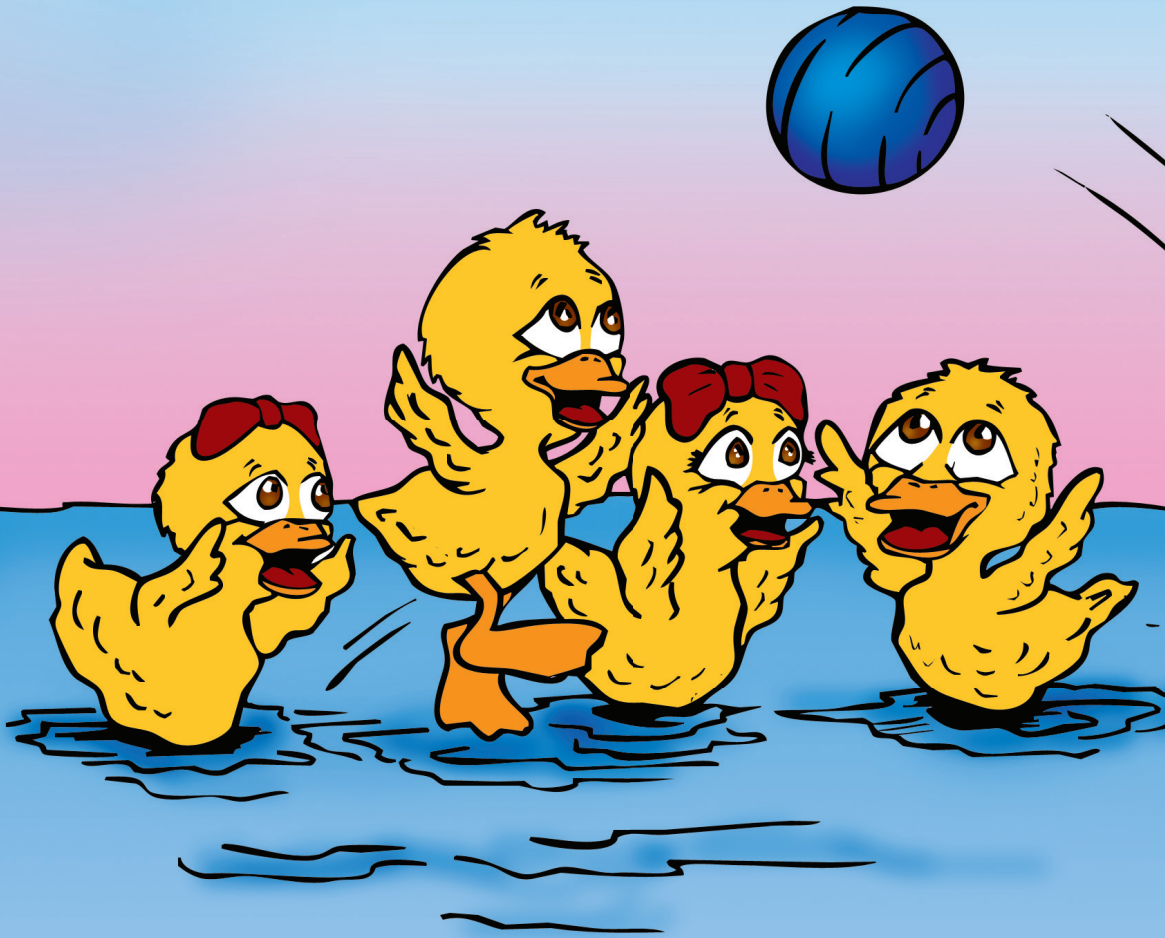
Come down here, and look into the water. You are not a duck any more. You're not ugly. You are a swan now. You can come and live with me and my friends.



They watch as he lands on the water.

Mother duck:

Hello, beautiful swan! What brings you to the farm pond!

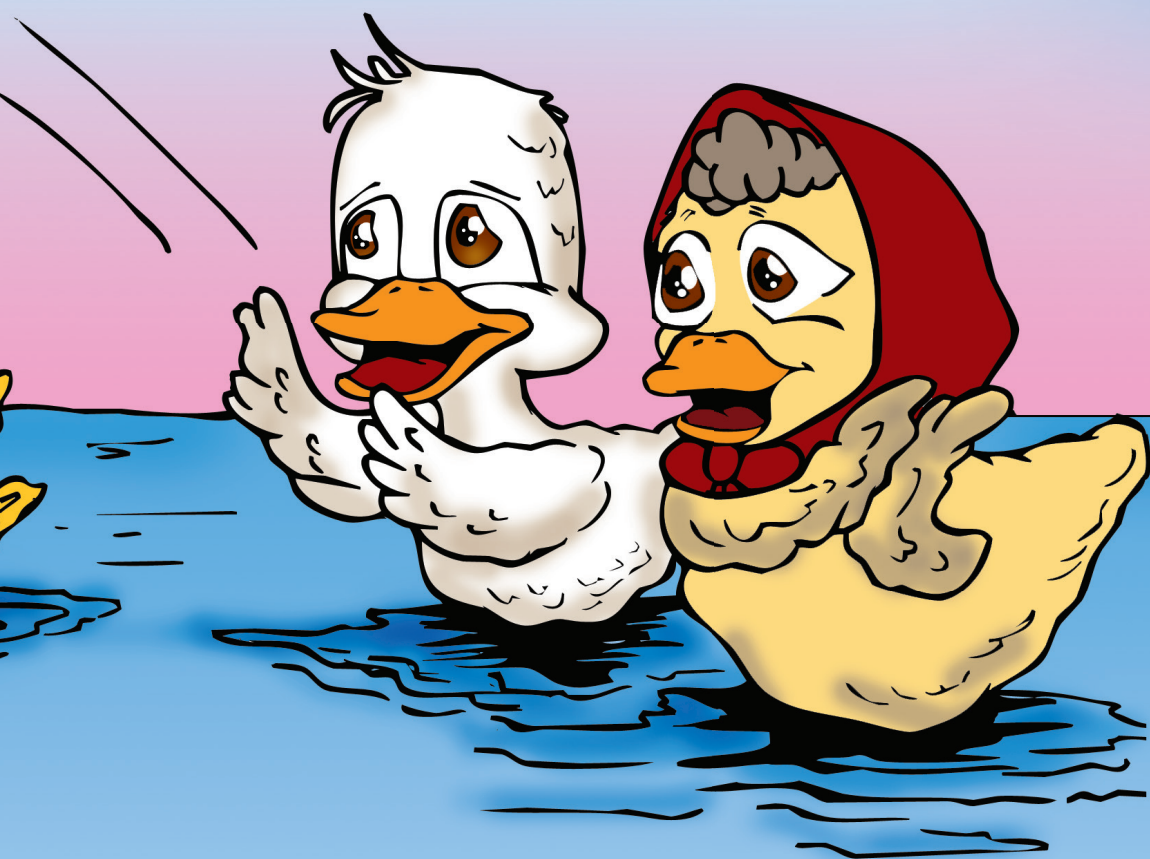


Swan:

Don't you know me, mum?
It's me! The ugly duckling!

You can't be. You are a beautiful swan.

All the other ducks on the pond gather around the
swan in surprise.



Mother duck:

Is that really you? You look so beautiful. I am so sorry I called you an ugly duckling. I was wrong.

The swan smiles at everyone. His brothers and sisters hug him. The swan loves his family very much. His mother is happy now; she has a swan in the family.

Questions:

① Answer the following questions.

1. How many babies does the mother duck have?
2. Why is the fifth duck funny looking?
3. Why is the ugly duckling sad?
4. Why don't the other ducks want to play with the fifth duck?
5. Why does the little duckling run away from the farm?
6. Why does the ugly duckling go out of the pond?
7. Why don't the rabbits want to play with the ugly duckling?
8. What does the ugly duckling do when the rabbits don't want to play with it?
9. How does the ugly duckling look at the swan as snow begins to fall ?
10. What does Jack do when he sees the ugly duckling sleeping in the ice?
11. What does Jack want to do when they see the ugly duckling?
12. Why does jack's children laugh at the duckling?
13. Where does the ugly duckling hide?
14. Why does the swan want to play with the duckling?
15. How does the duckling fly?
16. Why doesn't the mother duck know the ugly duckling at the end?
17. Why does the mother duck say she is sorry?