

Phonics Tales!™

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Flora Flamingo Learns to Fly

by Maria Fleming
illustrated by Kellie Lewis



SCHOLASTIC

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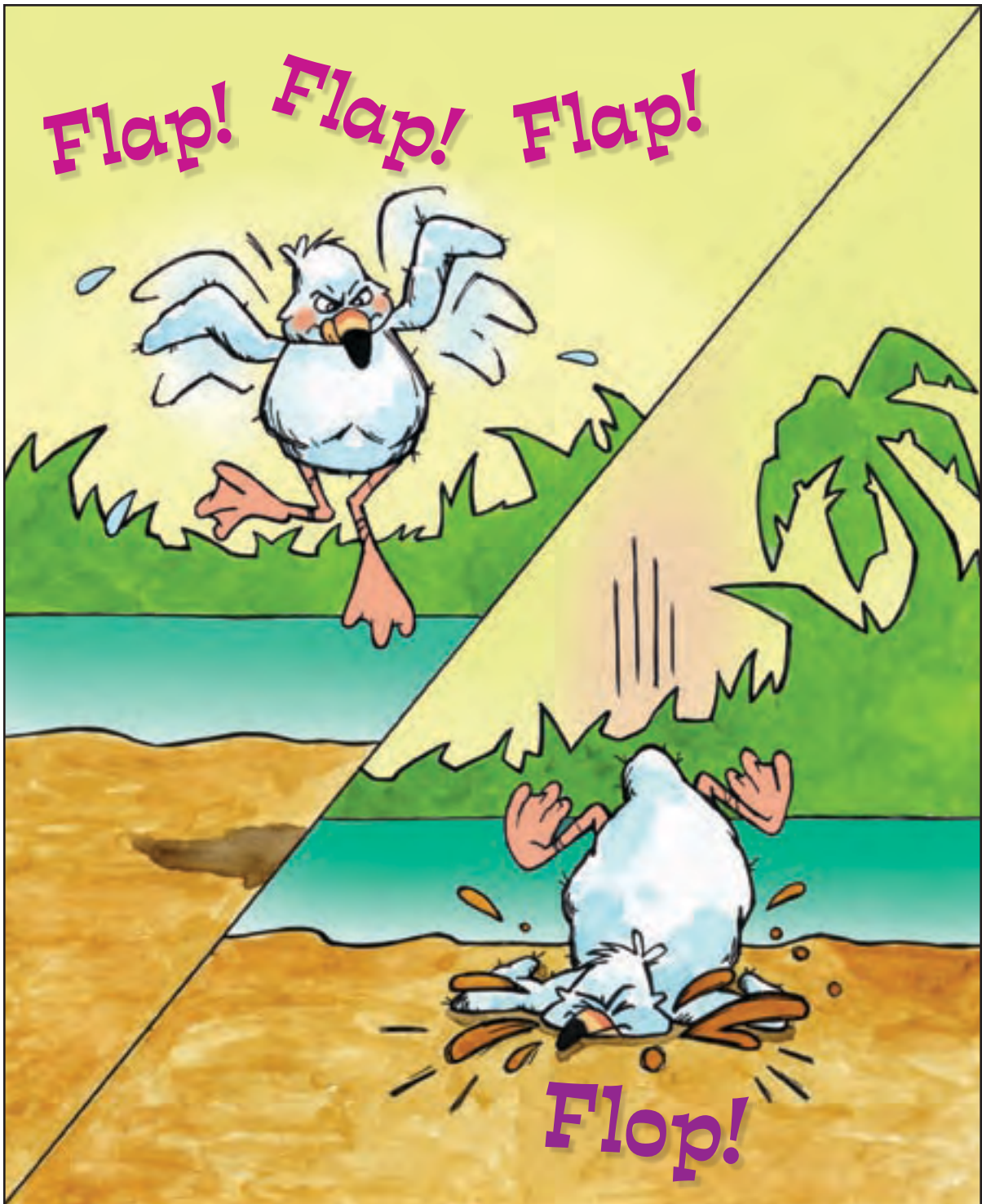
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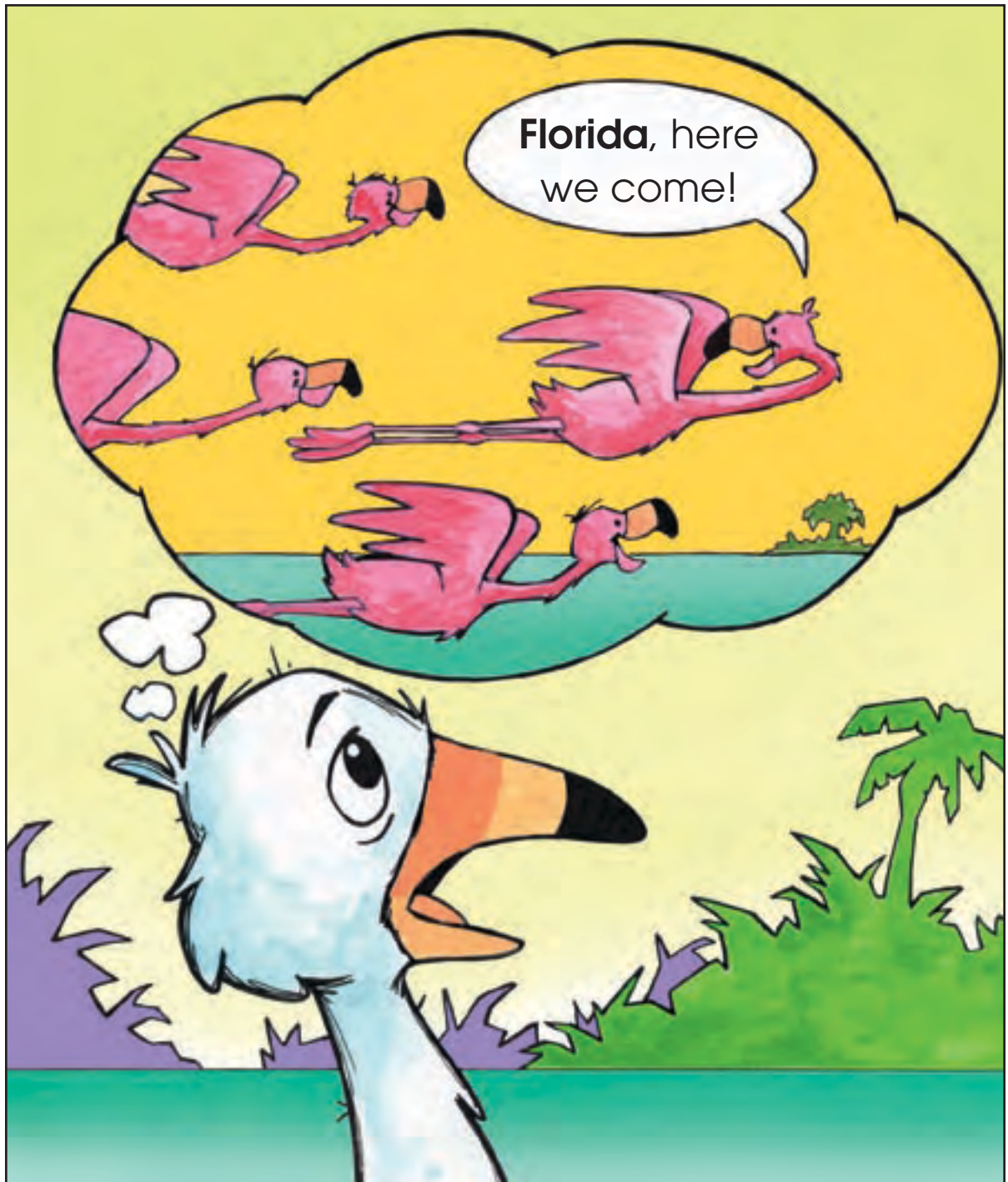
Phonics Fact

Fl is a blend. Blends are two consonants whose sounds are blended together when you say them. You can hear the *fl* blend at the beginning of **fluffy**, **Flora**, **flamingo**, and **fly**. What other *fl* words can you find in this story? Look at the pictures, too!

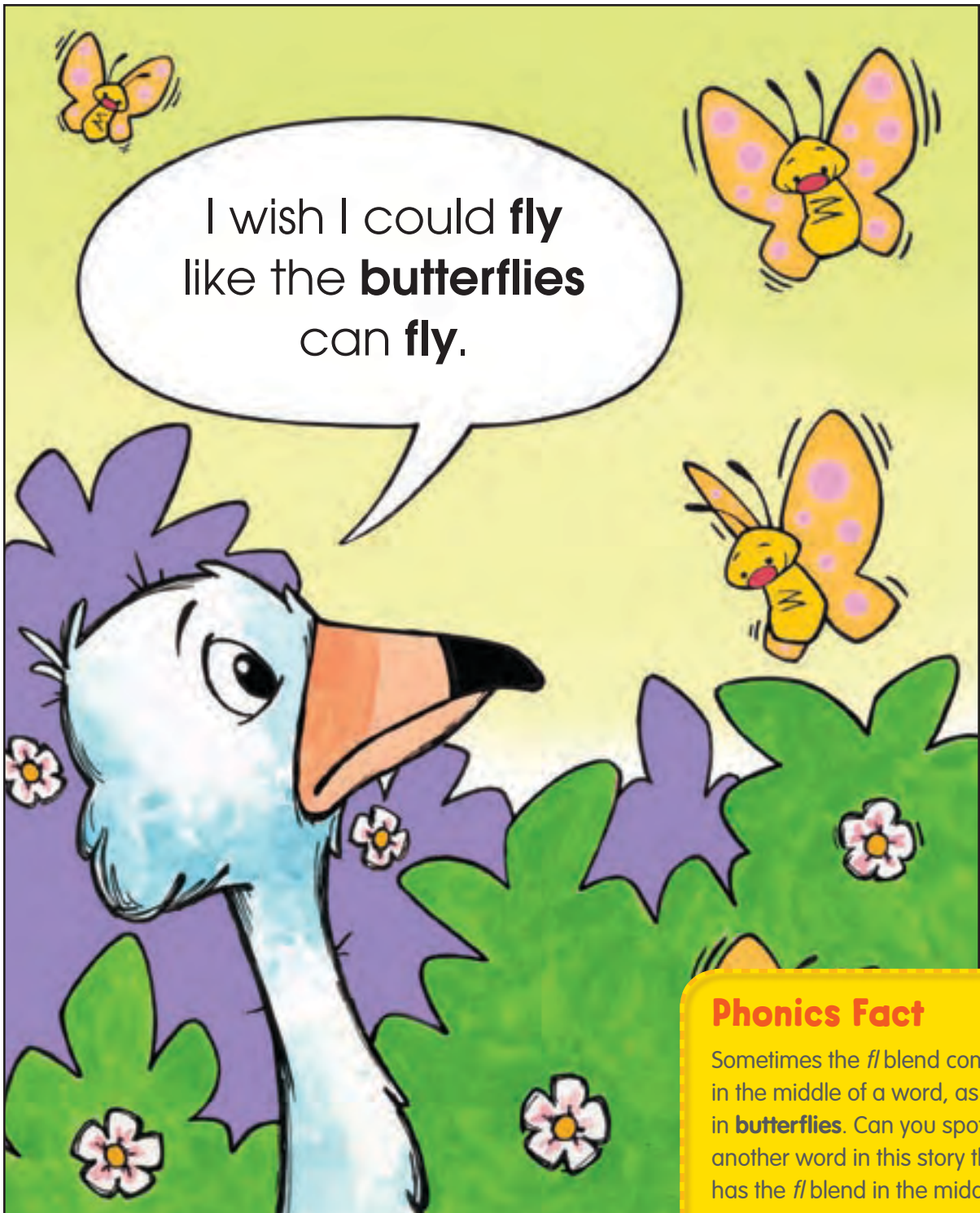
Fluffy little **Flora Flamingo** cannot **fly**.



Every day, **Flora** tries to **fly** but fails.
Flap, flap, flap... flop. Flap, flap, flap... flop.



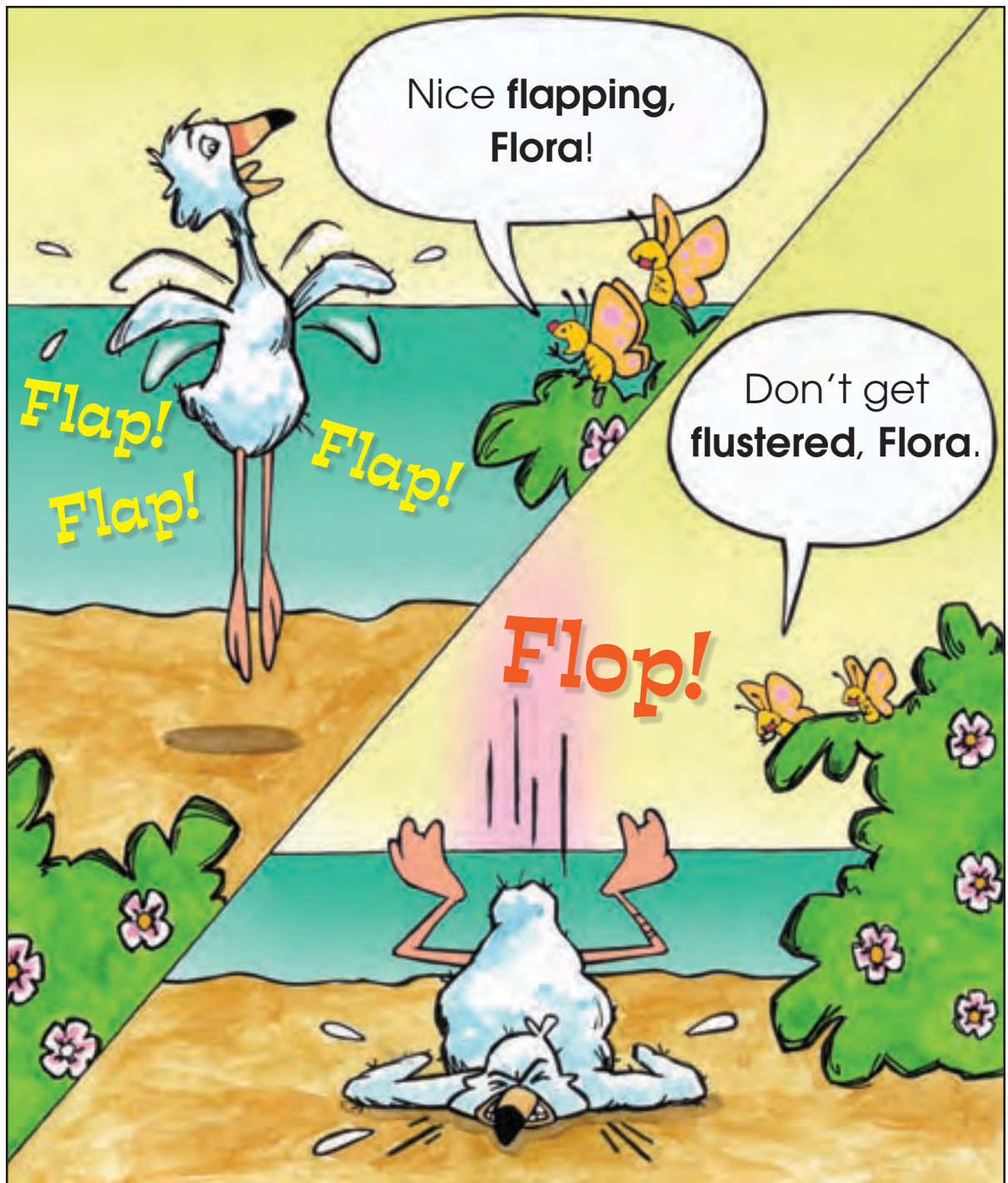
Flora is upset. She wants to **fly** to the **flamingo** festival in **Florida** with the rest of the **flamingo flock**.



Phonics Fact

Sometimes the *ff* blend comes in the middle of a word, as in **butterflies**. Can you spot another word in this story that has the *ff* blend in the middle?
(Answer: **fireflies**)

Flora watches the **butterflies**.
They **flutter** from **flower** to **flower**.



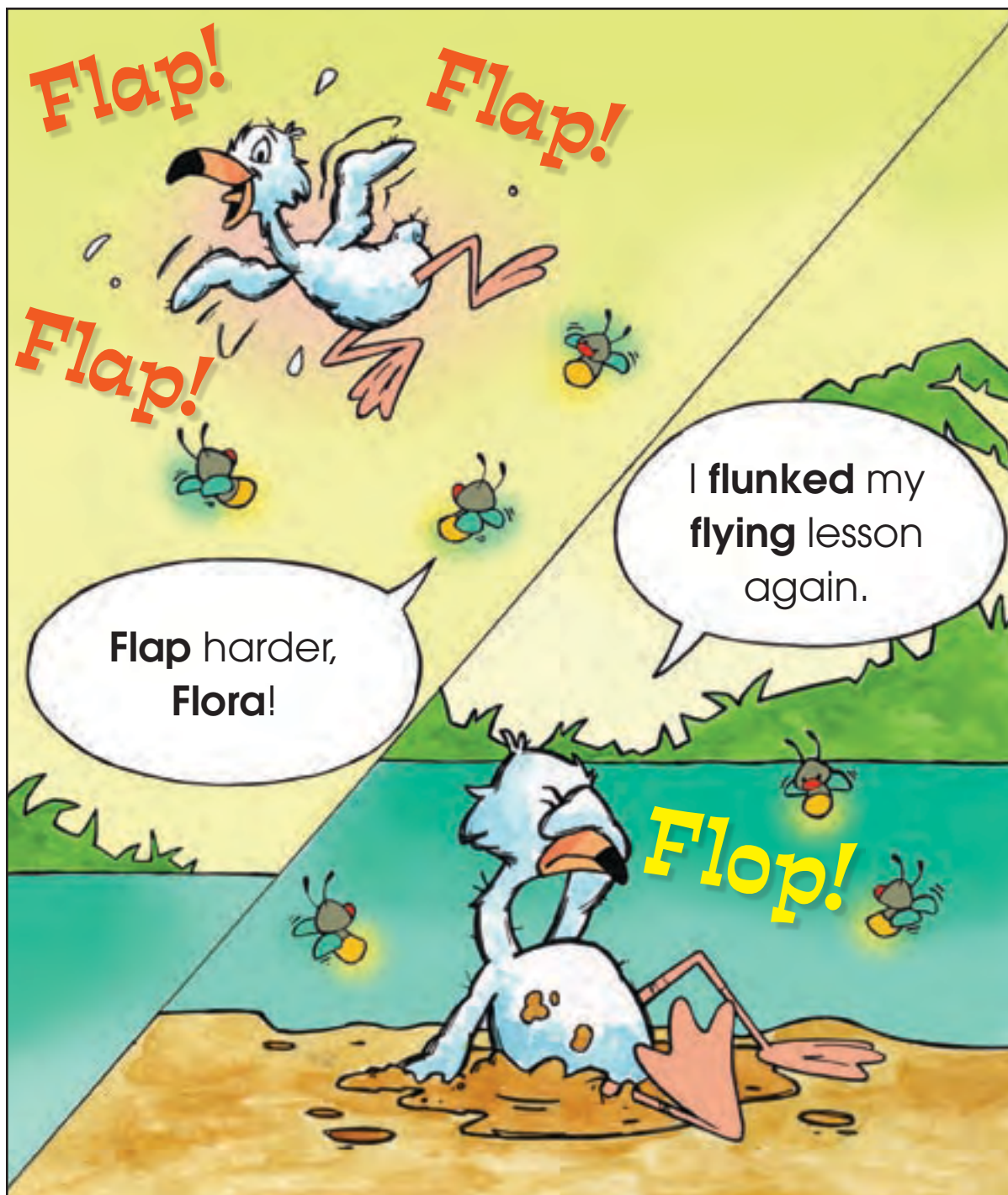
Flora tries to **fly** like the **butterflies**.

But it's no use.

Flap, flap, flap... flop. Flap, flap, flap... flop.



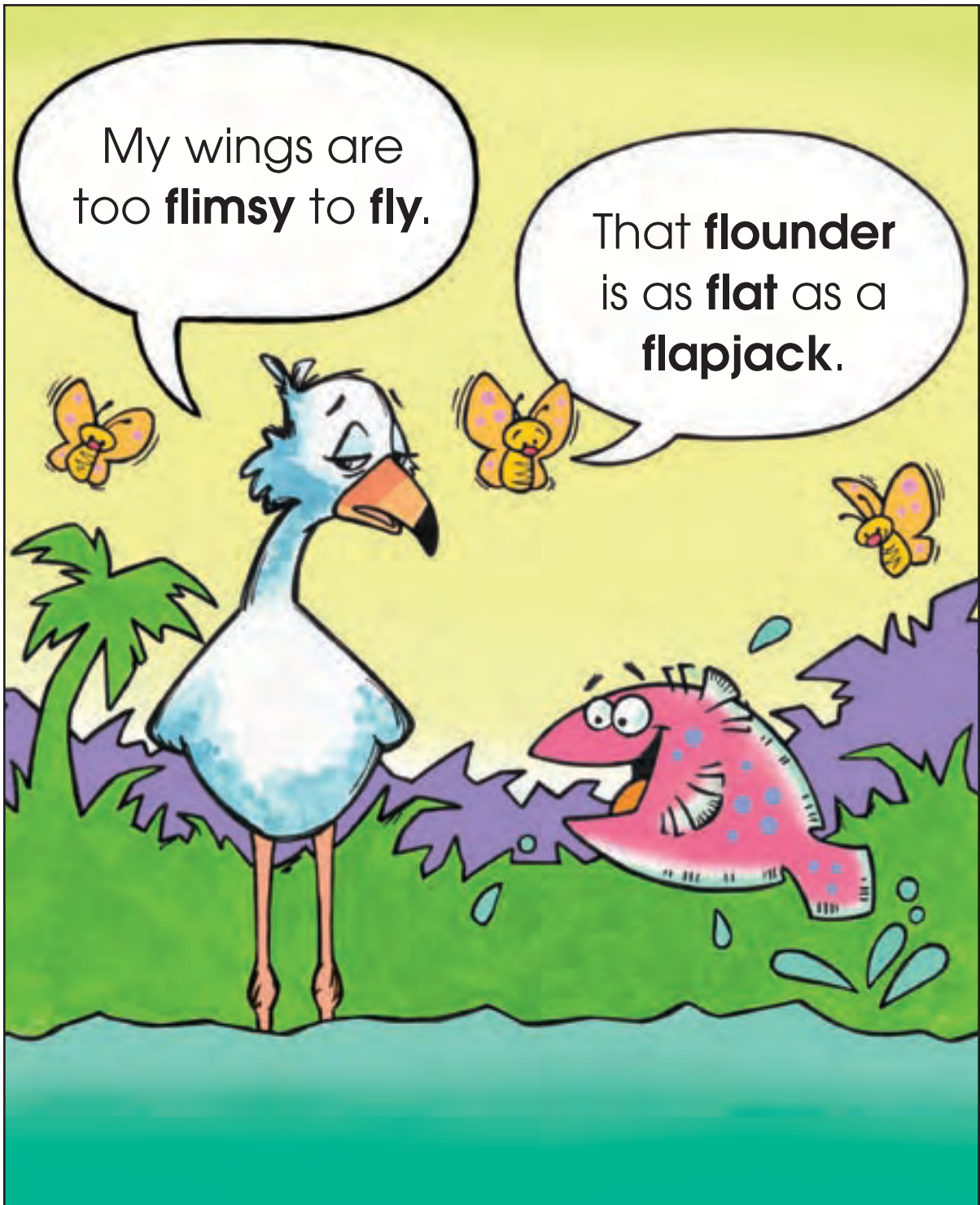
At night, **Flora** watches the **fireflies**. They **flicker** and **flash** as they **flit** through the air.



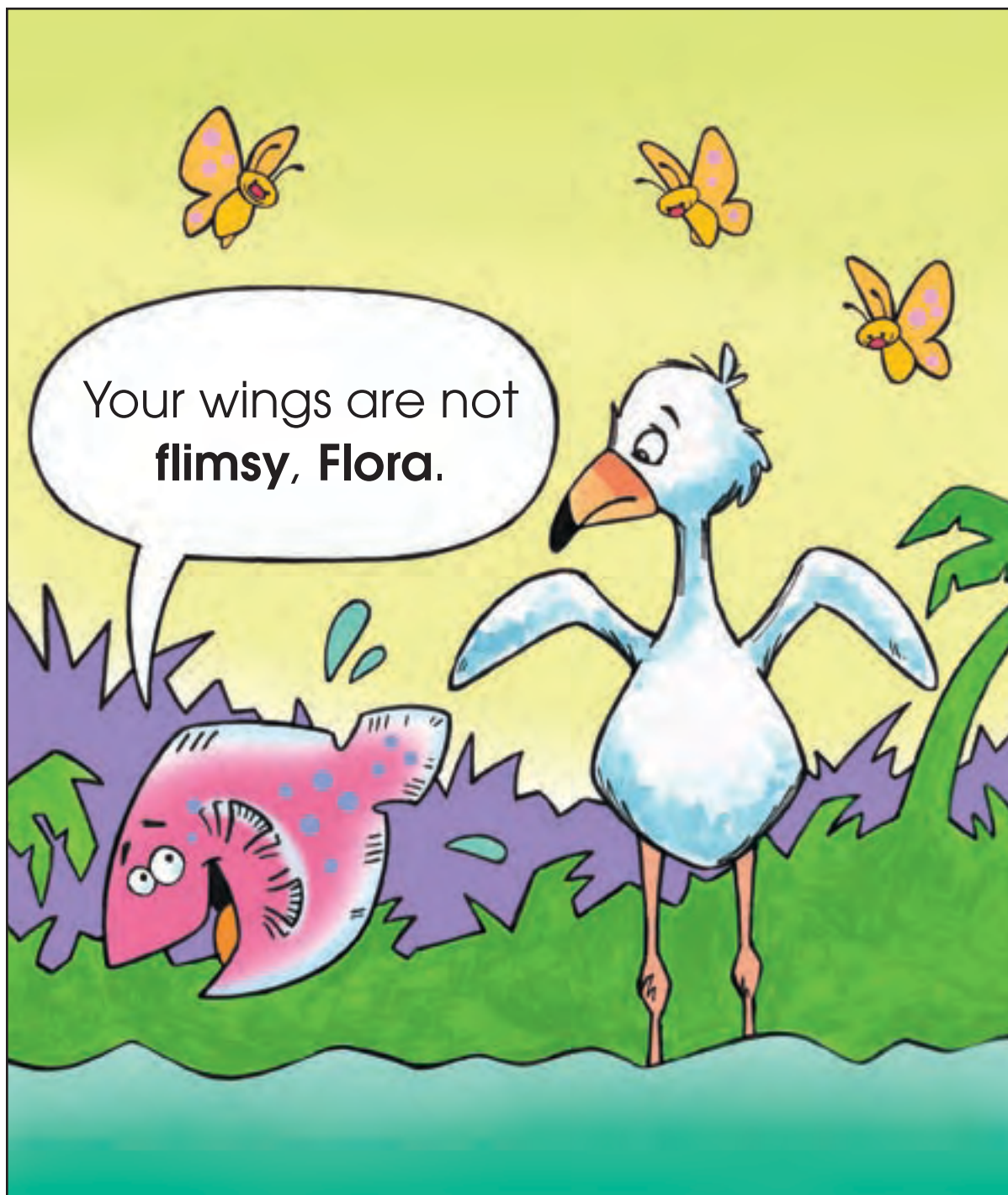
Flora tries to **fly** like the **fireflies**.

But it's no use.

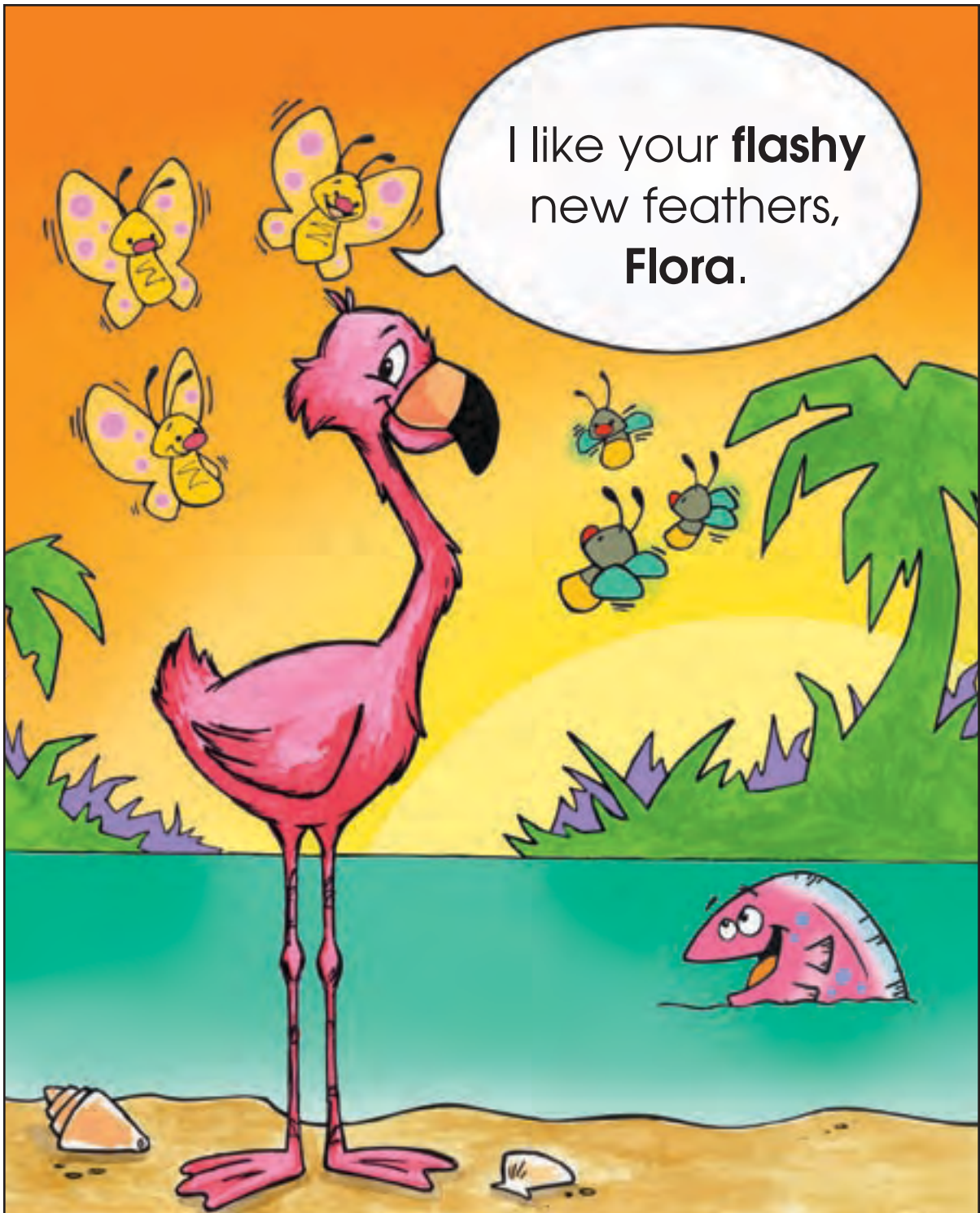
Flap, flap, flap... flop. Flap, flap, flap... flop.



Flora's friend **Floyd Flounder** floats by.
"I'm a **flop** at **flying**," Flora tells **Floyd**.



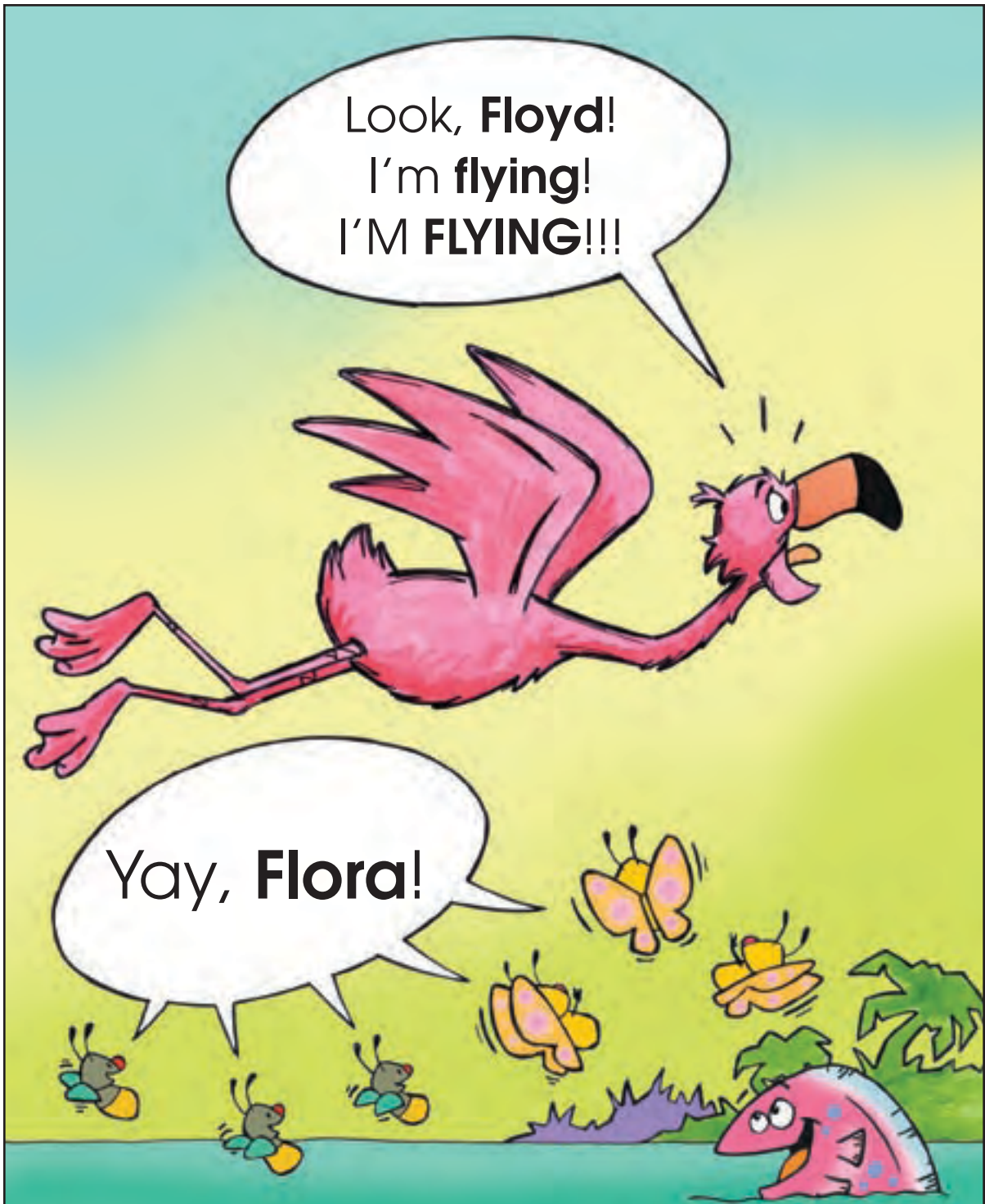
"Just be patient," says **Floyd**. "Soon you will **fly** like the rest of the **flamingo flock**."
Flora hopes **Floyd** is right.



One morning, **Flora** wakes up. Her **fluff** is gone!
Now she has **flashy** pink feathers!

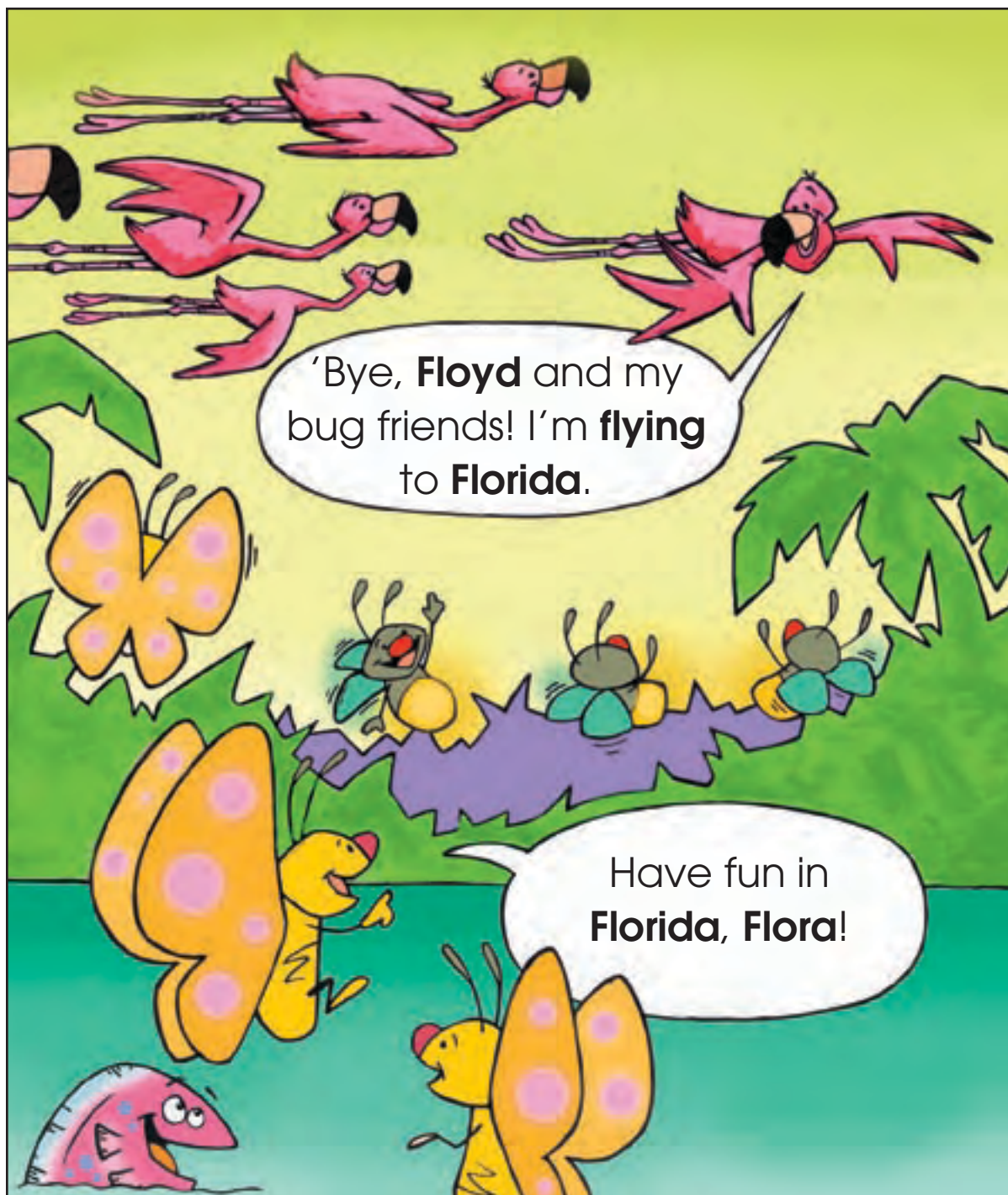


Will the feathers help **Flora** fly?
Flap, flap, flap...



Flap, flap, flap, flap, flap, flap!

They do! **Flora** is not a **flop** at **flying** after all!



Soon it is time for all the **flamingos** to **fly** to **Florida**. Who will lead the **flock**? **Flora**, of course! And her **flying** is **FLAWLESS**!

FL Riddles

Listen to the riddles. Then match each riddle with the right *fl* word from the box.

Word Box

float flamingo flop flapjack flounder
flowers Florida flash flap flock

- 1 You put these in a vase.
- 2 This kind of bird is big and pink.
- 3 A firefly's light does this at night.
- 4 This is a state in our country.
- 5 Boats do this on water.
- 6 It rhymes with *stop*.
- 7 This is what a group of birds is called.
- 8 It is another word for *pancake*.
- 9 This is a kind of fish.
- 10 Birds do this with their wings to fly.



Answers: 1. flowers 2. flamingo 3. flash 4. Florida 5. float 6. flop 7. flock 8. flapjack 9. flounder 10. flap

FL Cheer

Hooray for *f-l*, the best sound around!

Let's holler *f-l* words all over town!

There's **flap** and **flop** and **flower** and **flu**.

There's **fluff** and **flamingo** and **flutter**, too!

There's **fly** and **flock** and **float** and **floor**.

There's **flute** and **flag** and many more!

F-l, f-l, give a great cheer,

For the most **flawless** sound you ever will hear!



Make a list of
other **fl** words.
Then use them
in your cheer.