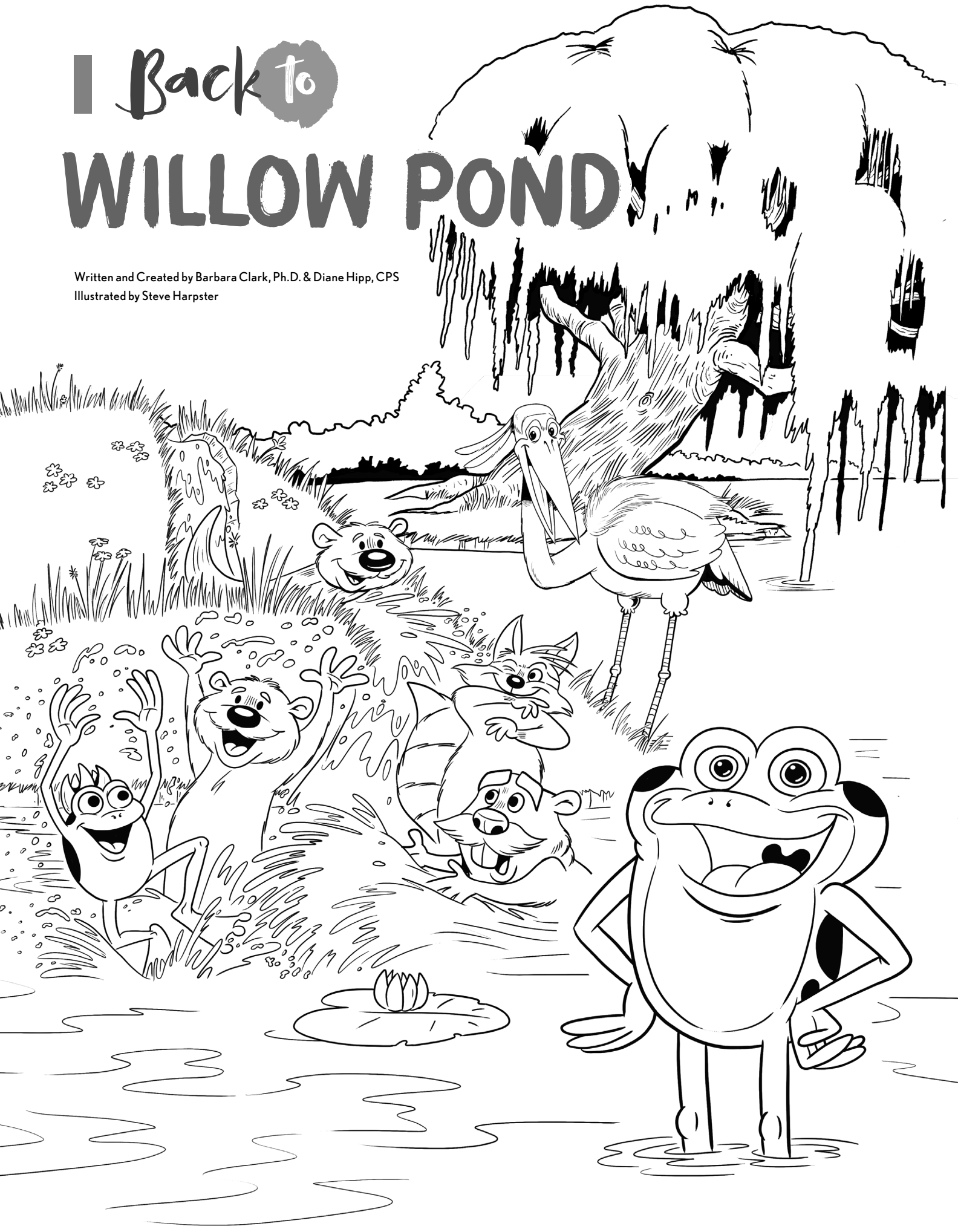
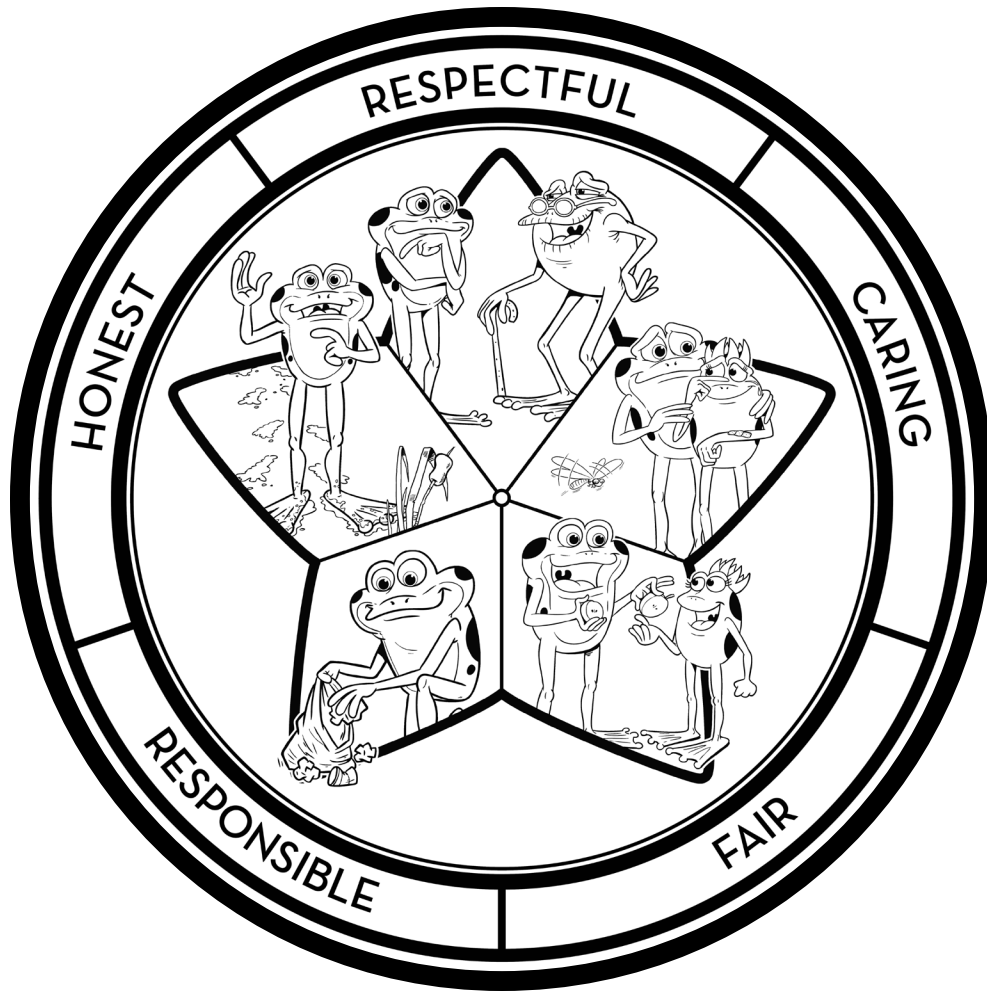


I Back to WILLOW POND

Written and Created by Barbara Clark, Ph.D. & Diane Hipp, CPS
Illustrated by Steve Harpster



Back to **WILLOW POND**



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Back to WILLOW POND

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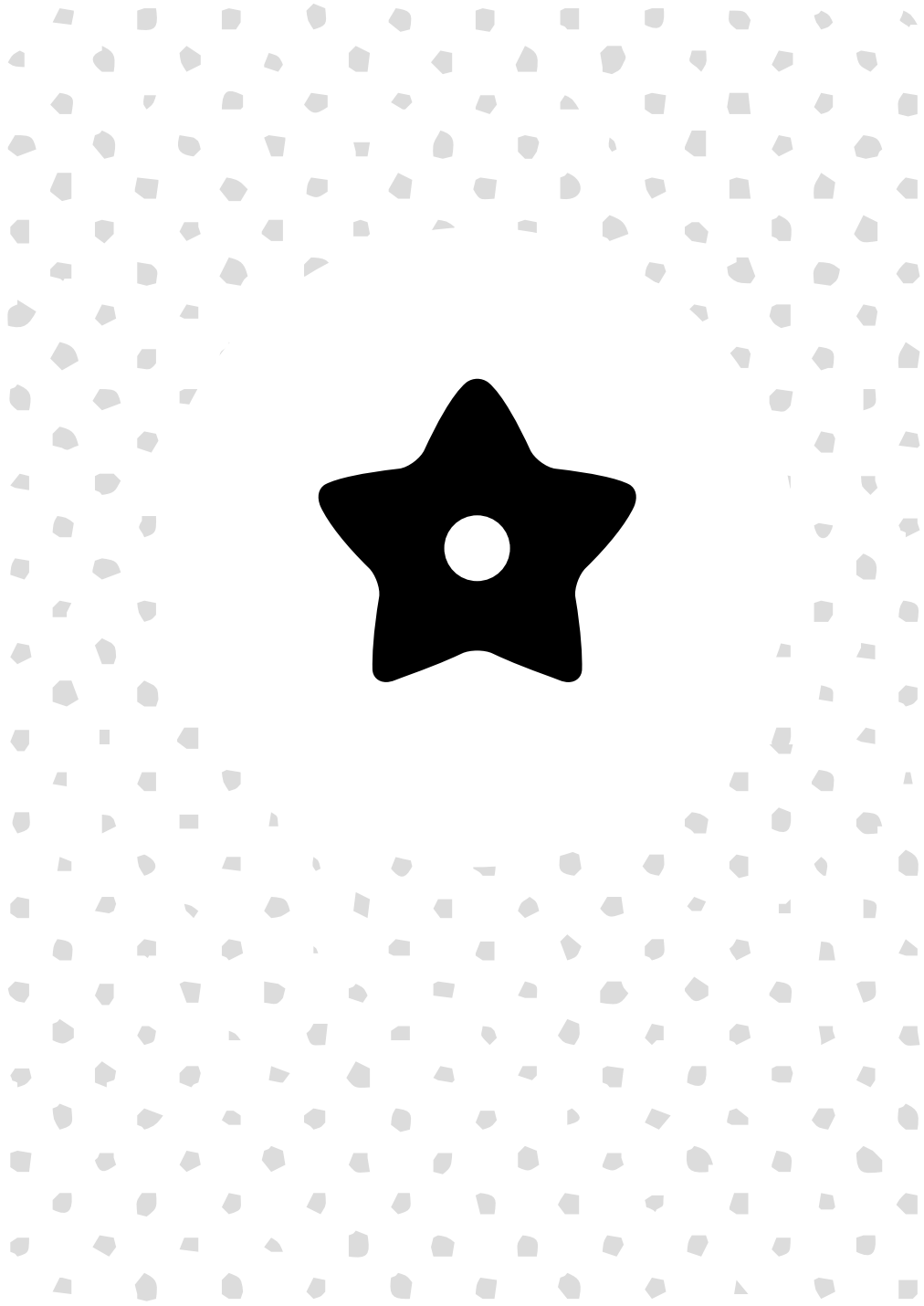


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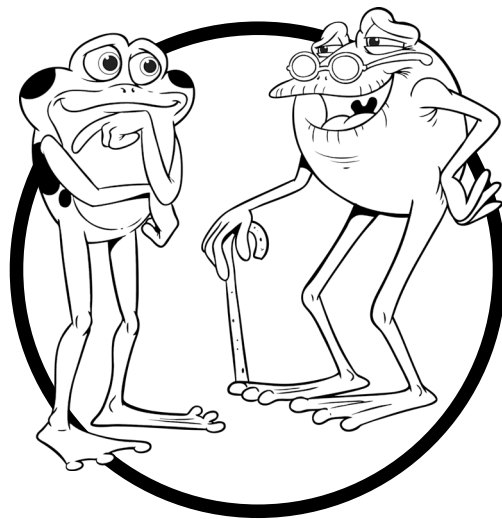
What's new in
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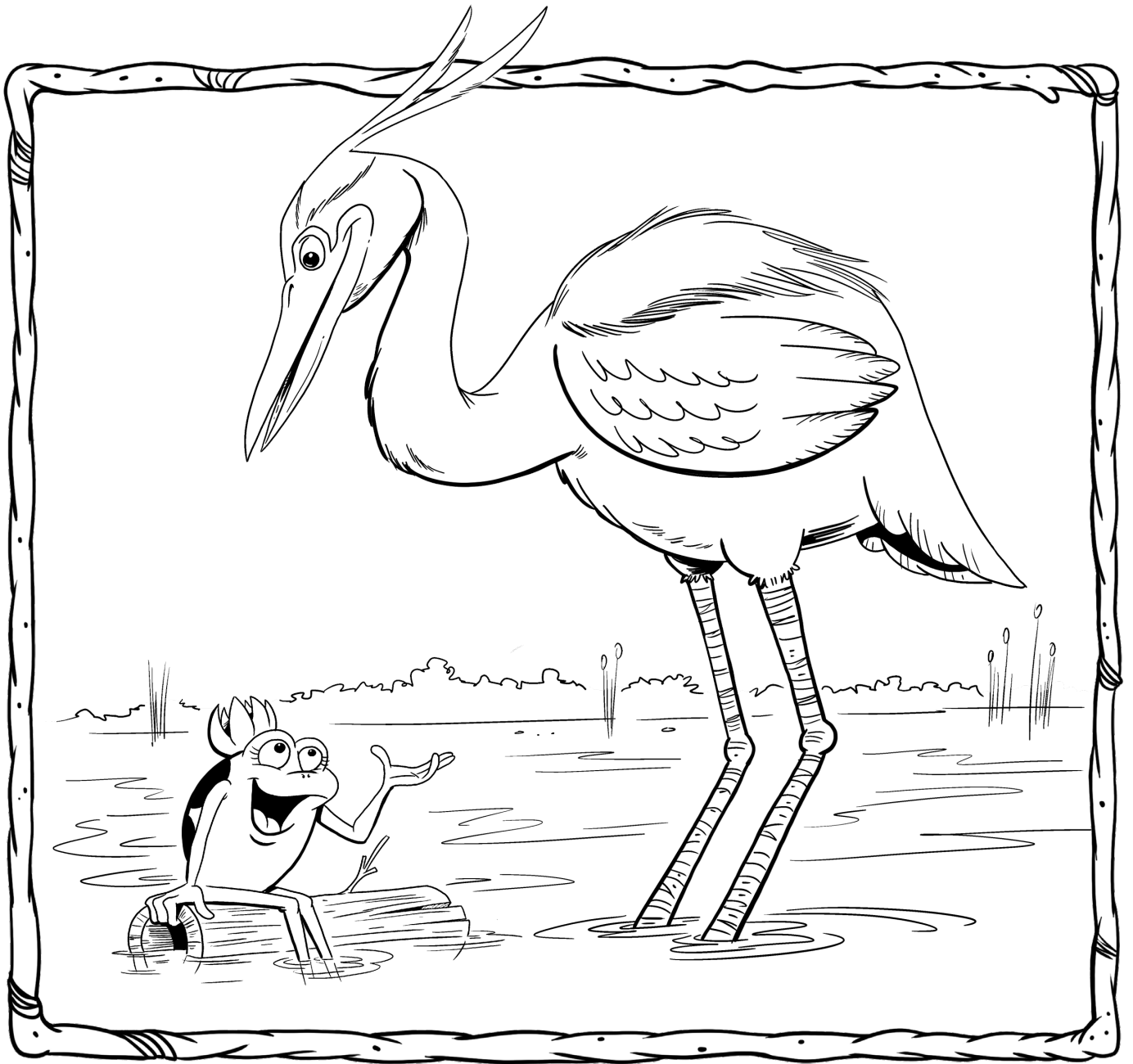


Chapter 1 Splash Landings

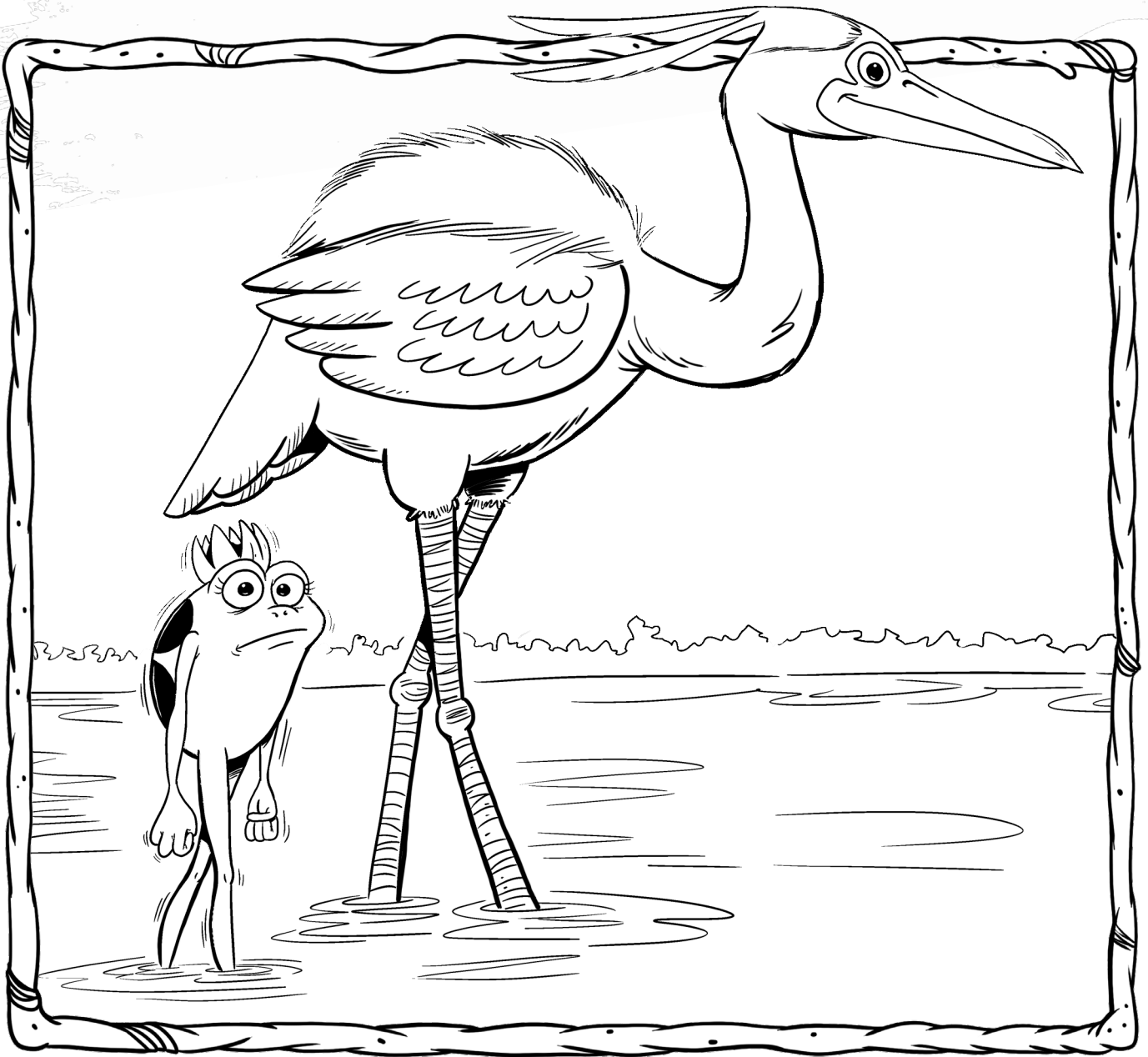
Respect



Respect...treating others as you would like to be treated. Morrie, a Great Blue Heron, teaches a flock of noisy, rambunctious ducks about respect and the "Golden Rule."

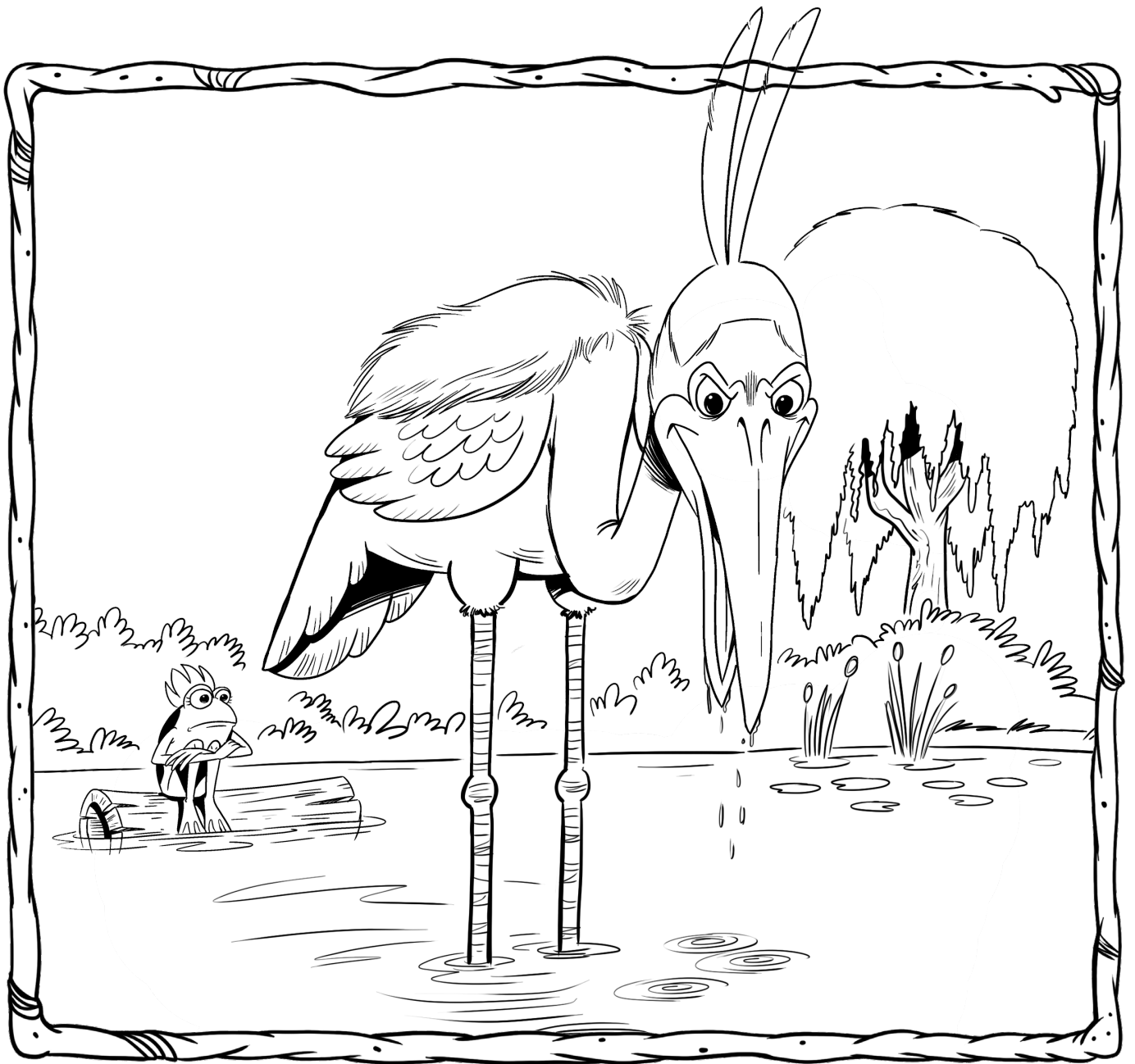


Lily, a cheerful, young, green frog, was friends with just about everyone at Willow Pond. Lately, she was hanging out with her newest friend, Morrie, an enormous Great Blue Heron, who sometimes came to the pond to fish for dinner. Morrie towered over Willow Pond with his two long, skinny legs. He could stand in the water like a statue forever. Lily loved to watch him fish patiently with his keen eyes and quick, sharp beak. When Morrie spread his giant wings, they were longer than a toad hop...which is pretty far indeed!



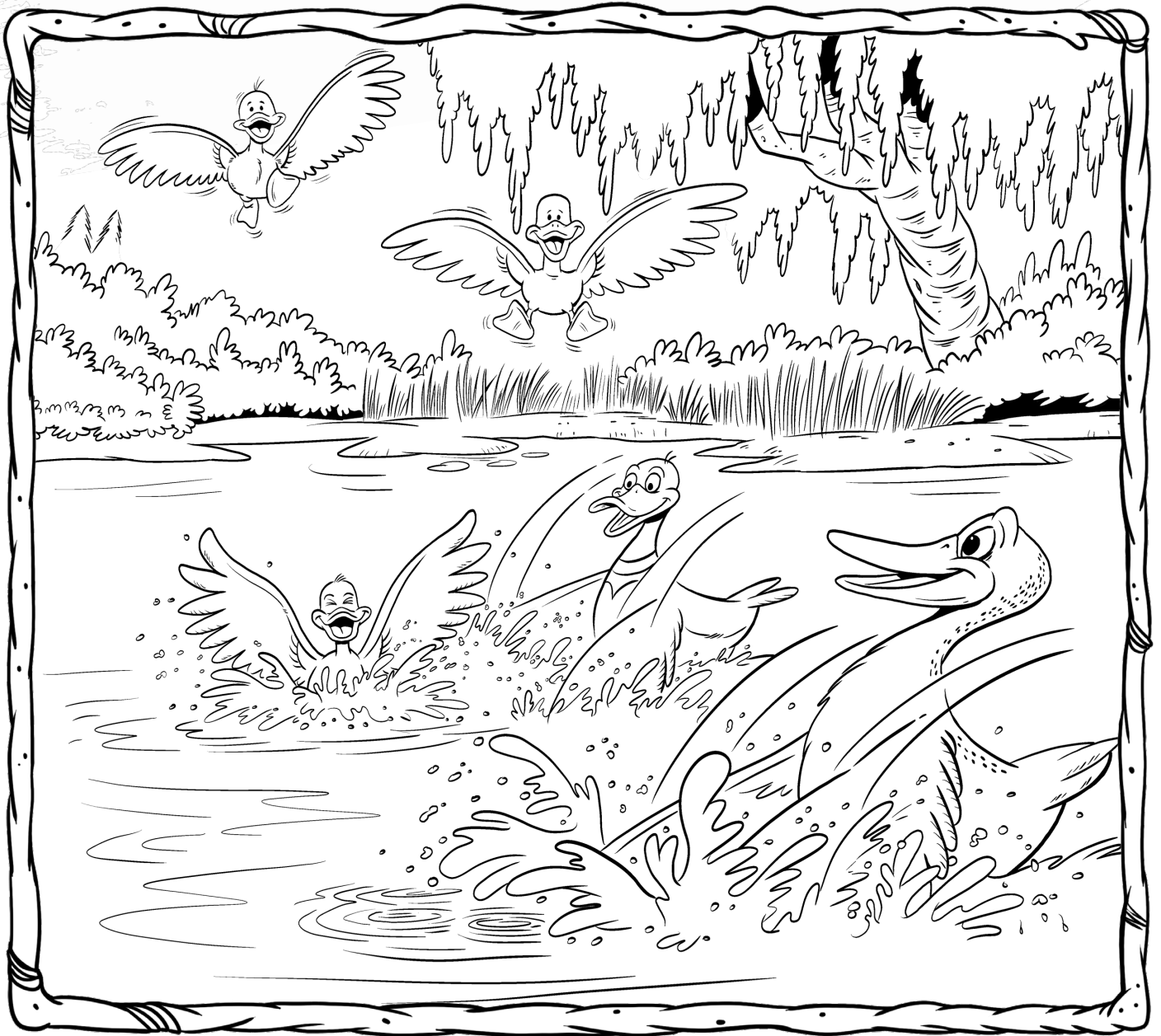
Most of the time, Lily would see Morrie standing as still as a statue, not moving a single feather, watching the water for the tiniest glimmer of a minnow - his next meal. Once, just for fun, Lily decided to try and stand next to Morrie and not move until he did, but she lasted only a few minutes before she got tired and toppled head-first into the water!

*Direct students to see whether they can stand still like a statue.
Share with students that Morrie must be very strong and patient.*

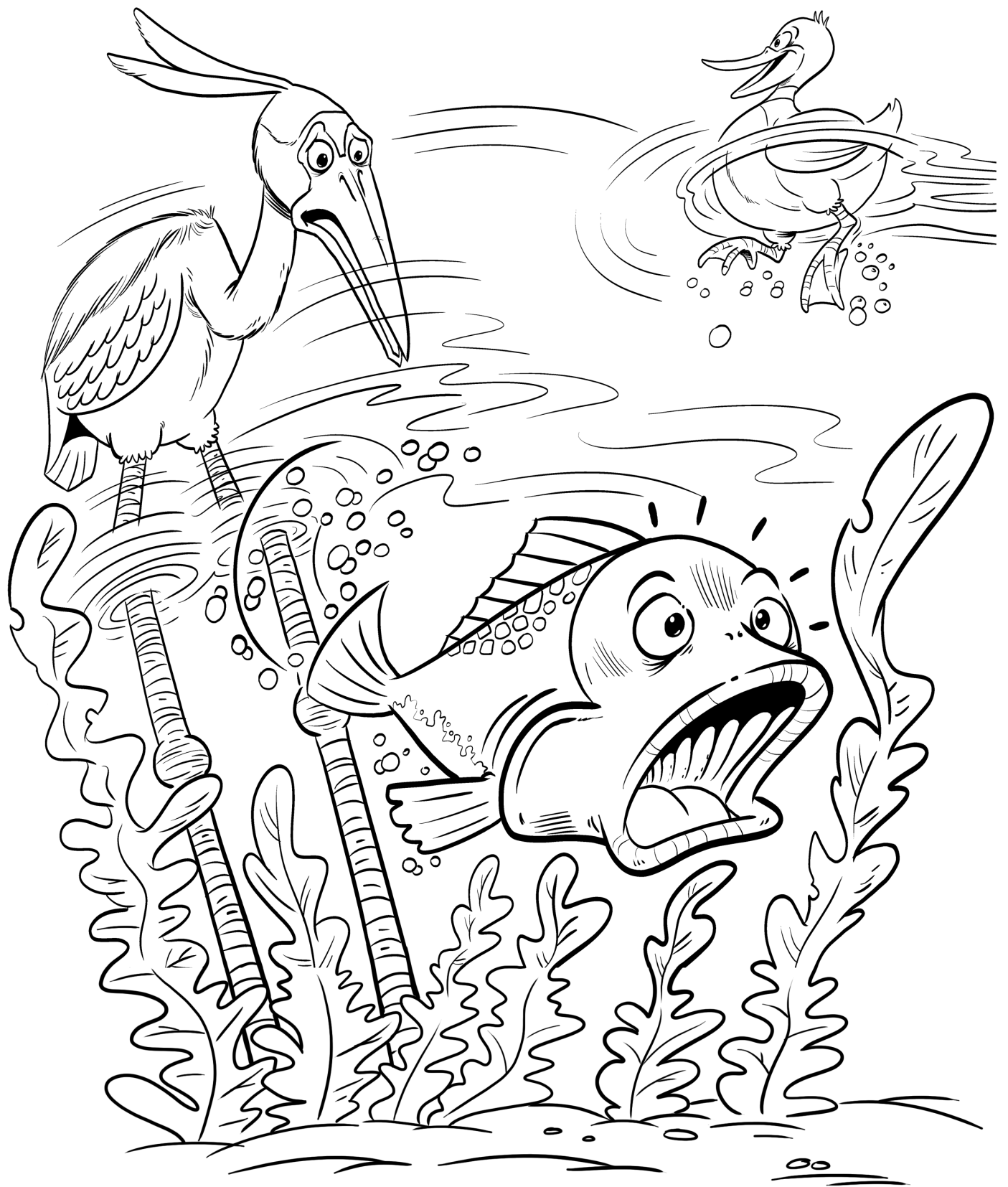


One day, Lily realized that all was not well with her friend. Morrie had been trying to catch his dinner for ages and ages. He was staring into the water and she could hear him muttering to himself. “Rats! Lost another one!” “Missed...it’s gone again!”

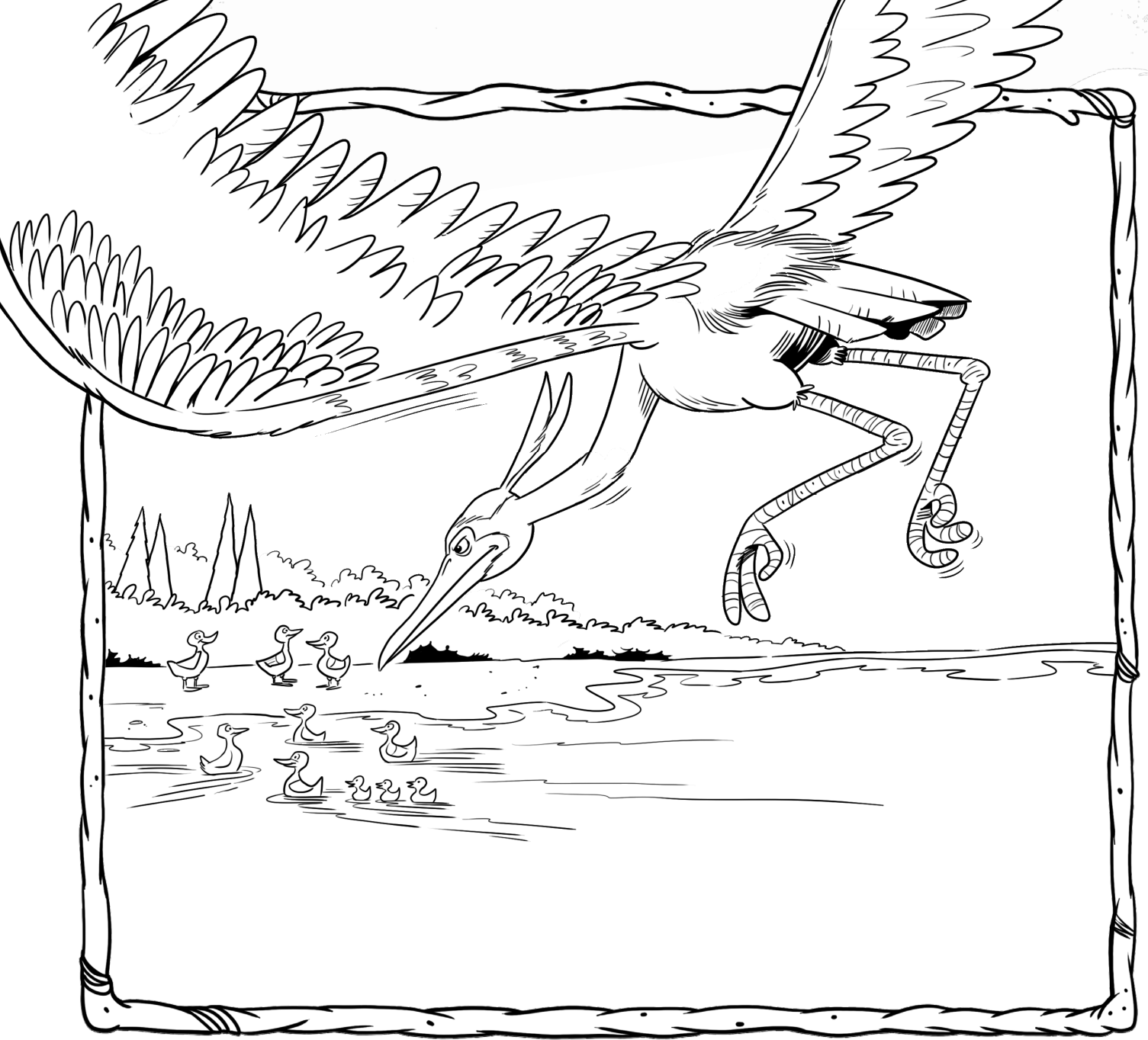
Ask students: What do you think is happening?



The problem was, a flock of ducks also loved the quiet waters of the north shore of Willow Pond. They would fly in each evening, quacking loudly, and stay for hours, teaching the young ducks how to take off and land in the quiet water. Every time a young duck successfully took off and landed from the water, all the adult ducks would quack loudly and slap their wings on the water.

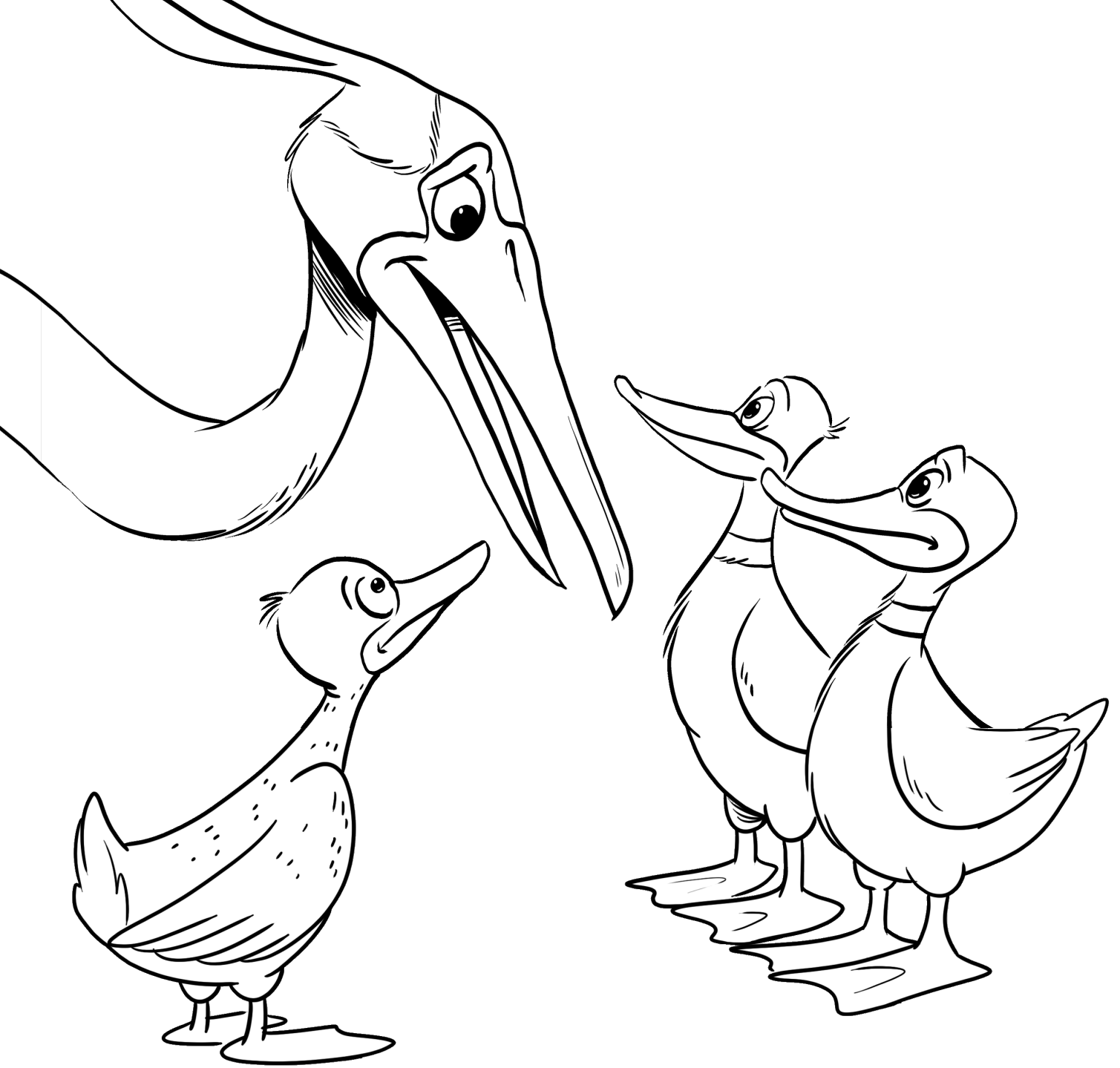


With all this ruckus going on, Morrie had absolutely no chance of catching his dinner. He'd spot a small fish swimming by, but before he could even rustle a feather, the fish would be startled by the ducks and then disappear in a flash.



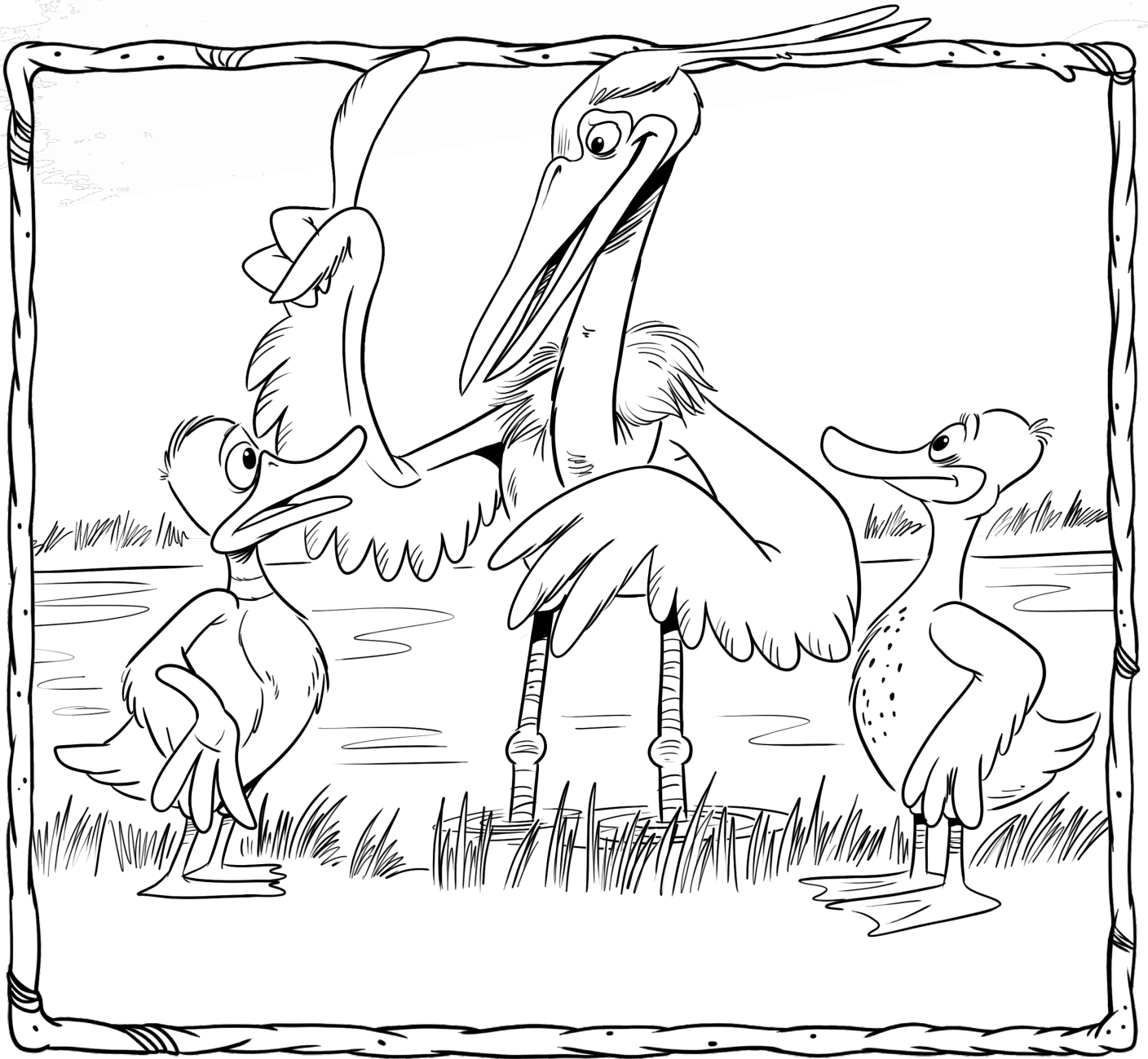
This had been going on for quite a while when, suddenly, Morrie looked up from the water, opened his massive wings, and lifted off the rock where he was standing. He was heading in a straight line over to the ducks, and Lily was worried that there might be trouble.

Ask students: What do you think Morrie is going to do?



Lily watched as Morrie landed on the shore and spoke to the noisy ducks in a very slow and deep voice:

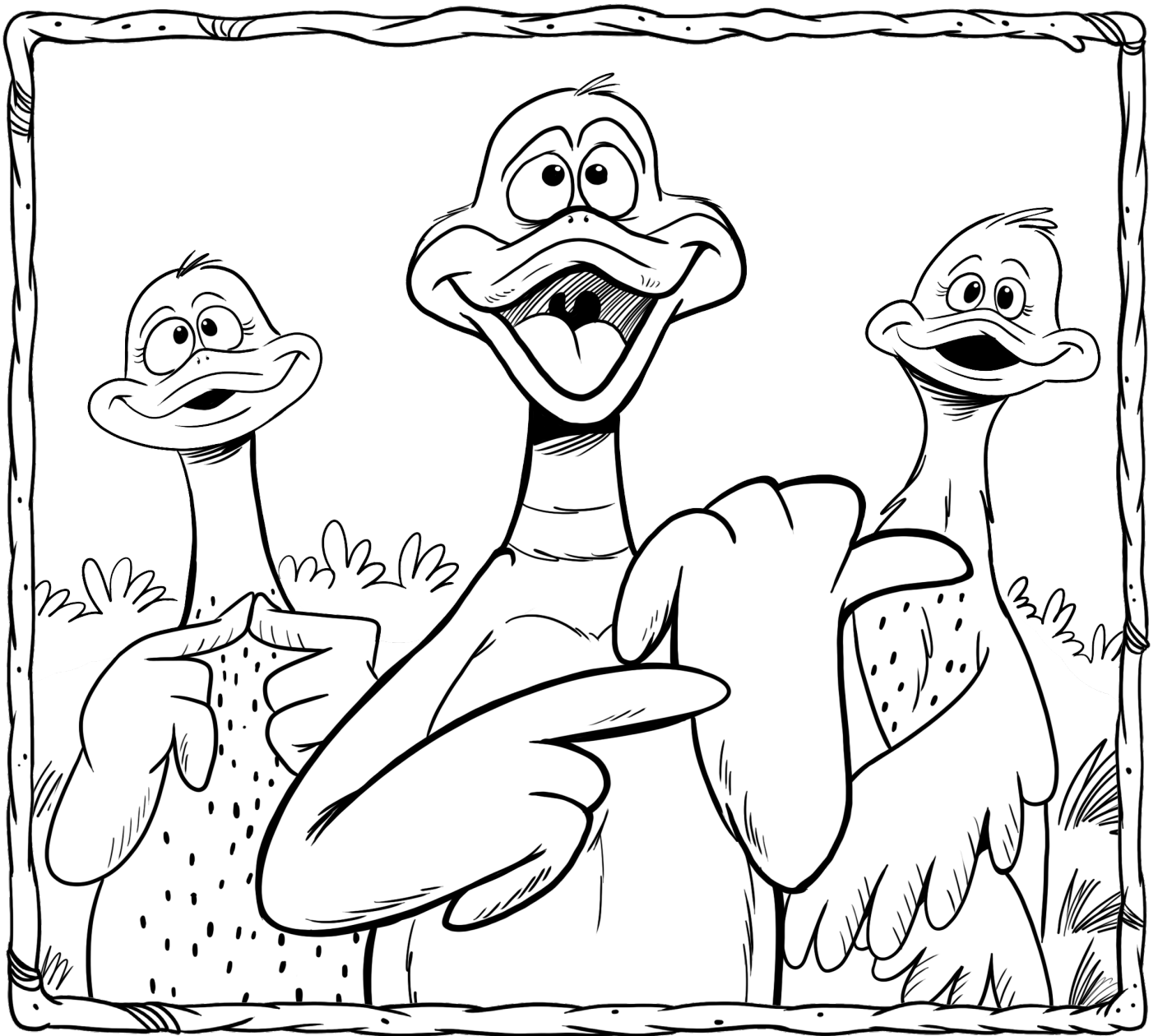
“We have a problem here, my friends, and I need to ask for your help. This is the best place I know of to find dinner, and when you quack and splash everywhere, you chase off all of the fish. I haven’t eaten in two days, and I’d like to ask you to respect my space.”



The ducks looked at each other with puzzled faces, and one of them spoke up: “Morrie, re...what?”

Morrie replied, “I said respect. Respect means that you need to treat me the same way that you want to be treated. How would you like it if all of us herons made a bunch of noise and stirred up the water when you were trying to find your dinner?”

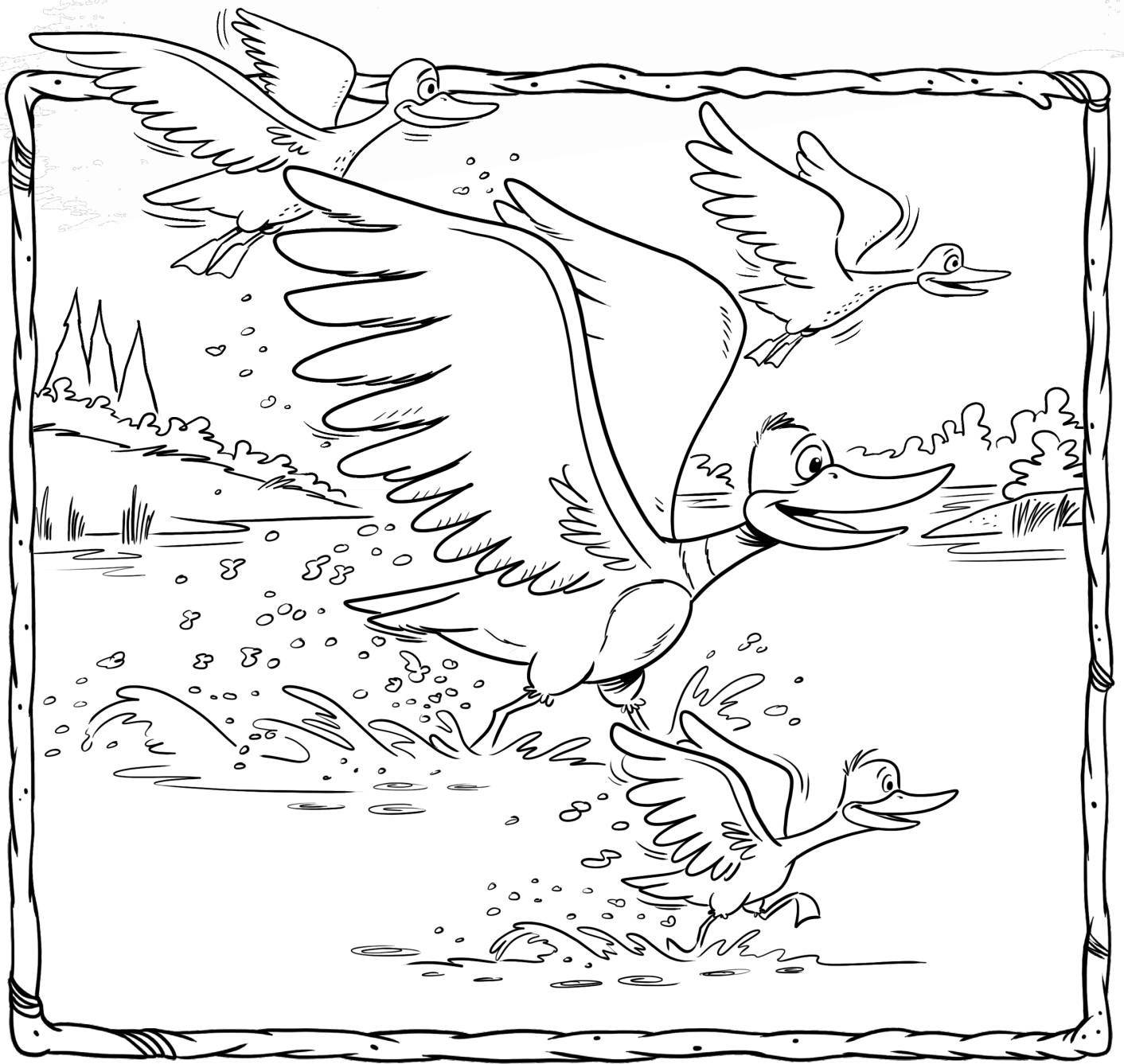
Ask students: How do you think the ducks would feel if the herons bothered them at dinner time?



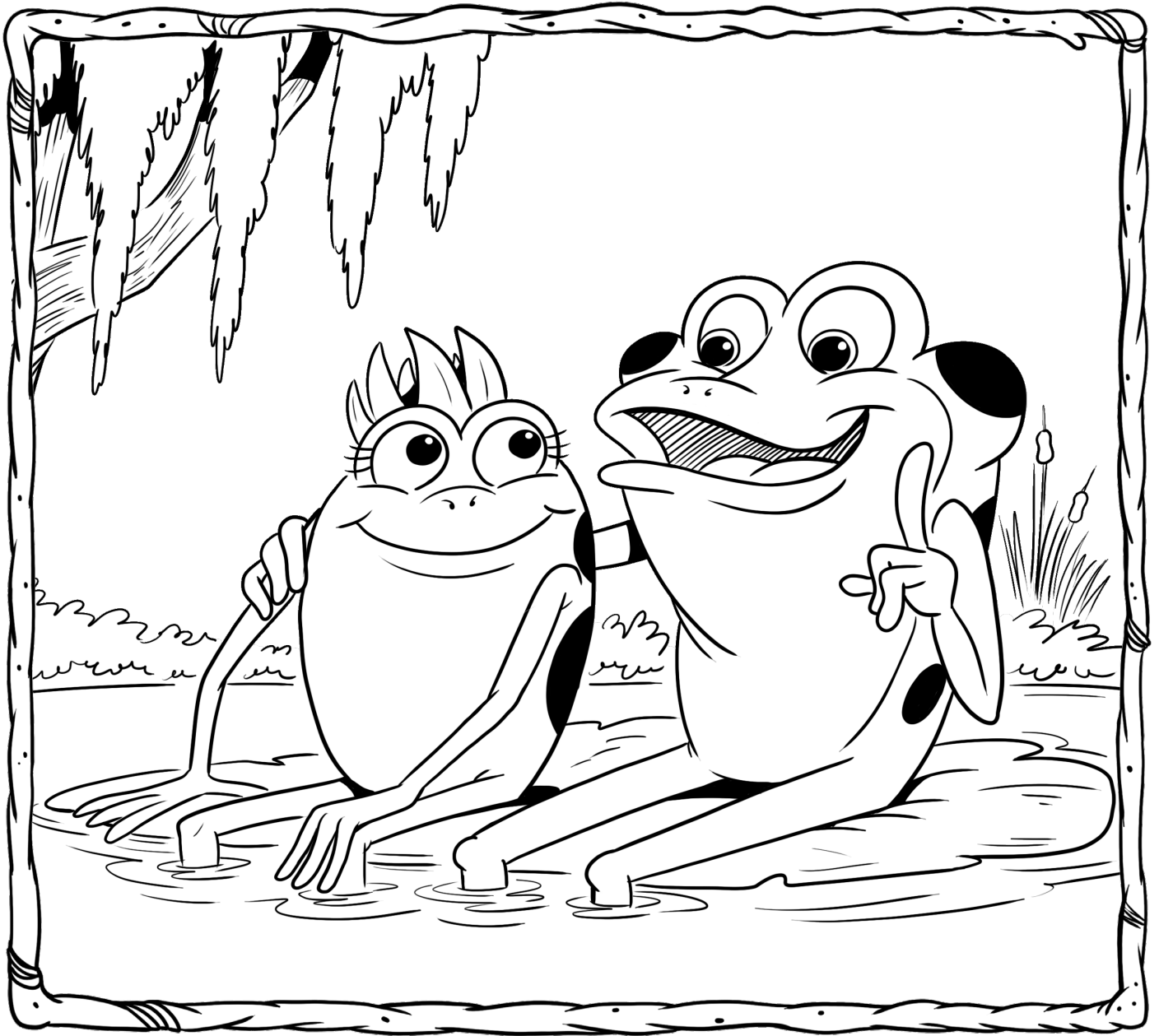
The ducks all immediately spoke up: “Oh...NOT cool!” “Wouldn’t like that at all!”

In his gravelly voice, Morrie said, “Then you can see how I feel.”

The ducks were suddenly very, very quiet. They blinked, looked at each other, and one of them piped up, “Hey, sorry, Morrie! We didn’t mean to get in your way. We can respect your space. Let’s head over to the middle of the pond, guys!”



With a whoosh of wings and a wall of water, the quacking, squawking ducks managed to lift off and find deeper water. Morrie returned to his favorite rock and saw that a few fish had already returned. "Dinner is on the way," he thought happily.



Lily, sitting on her lily pad, suddenly understood why she respected Morrie: not just because he was so big and so tall, but because he was so smart.

Just then, Kelso took one giant toad hop closer to Lily. “What’s up, my friend?” Kelso asked. Lily explained what she had learned from Morrie about respect. “Kelso, he told those ducks to treat others the way you want to be treated,” she said. Kelso exclaimed, “Now that is one wise bird!”

Ask students: How do you show respect for your friends?

■ Discussion Questions:

1. **The ducks were not being very respectful. What were they doing that bothered Morrie?**
They were scaring away the fish he was trying to catch for dinner.
2. **How was Morrie respectful of the ducks?**
He asked them calmly to treat him the way they would like to be treated.
3. **Can you describe a time when someone was nice to you and treated you with respect?**
4. **How does it feel when you are respected?**
Example: happy
5. **What do you think being “respectful” means?**
Treating others how you would like to be treated.

■ Tips For Instructor:

1. **Acknowledge, with verbal praise, when children are being respectful.**
Use the term “respect” in your praise for extra reinforcement.
2. **Acknowledge when children are not being respectful. Ask them if they’re treating others the way they would like to be treated.**
3. **If children continue to not grasp the concept of “respect,” identify the disrespectful action and ask them again if they would like someone else doing that action to them.**

Back to WILLOW POND

Willow Pond is home to fuzzy creatures, feathery creatures, scaly creatures, and slimy creatures. They work and play together, but getting along isn't always easy. Through six different stories, Kelso the Frog and his pond friends go through everyday turmoil, but manage to work their way to a happy ending by learning the importance of good character.

Discussion questions and reinforcement tips are included throughout each story.

STORY ONE: SPLASH LANDINGS

A noisy flock of ducks discovers how their actions can affect others, and learn the importance of being **RESPECTFUL**.

STORY TWO: MUD SLIDES

A group of acrobatic otters teach Lily how to slide with style as Lily learns what it means to be **CARING**.

STORY THREE: TOBY'S LODGE TROUBLE

A veteran beaver rushes to fix the beavers' lodge, but it's not a job for one. Kelso teaches the beavers that sometimes teamwork is needed to make things **FAIR**.

STORY FOUR: SUMMERTIME CASTLES

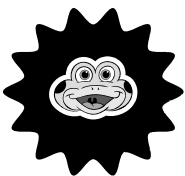
Two turtles spend their days playing as summer comes and goes. Winter is getting dangerously near, and it takes a hardworking squirrel to get them out of a bind by showing them what being **RESPONSIBLE** means.

STORY FIVE: BANDIT BROTHERS

Two devious raccoons tiptoe around Willow Pond, taking bits and pieces of goodies from the other creatures. But when they go too far Kelso must teach them the meaning of being **HONEST** before they hurt a good friend.

STORY SIX: FINALE - THE WORK PARTY

After a long and exciting summer, Willow Pond is in shambles. Kelso must gather Lily and the rest of the pond creatures to repair the damage while using all five character traits to get the job done.



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