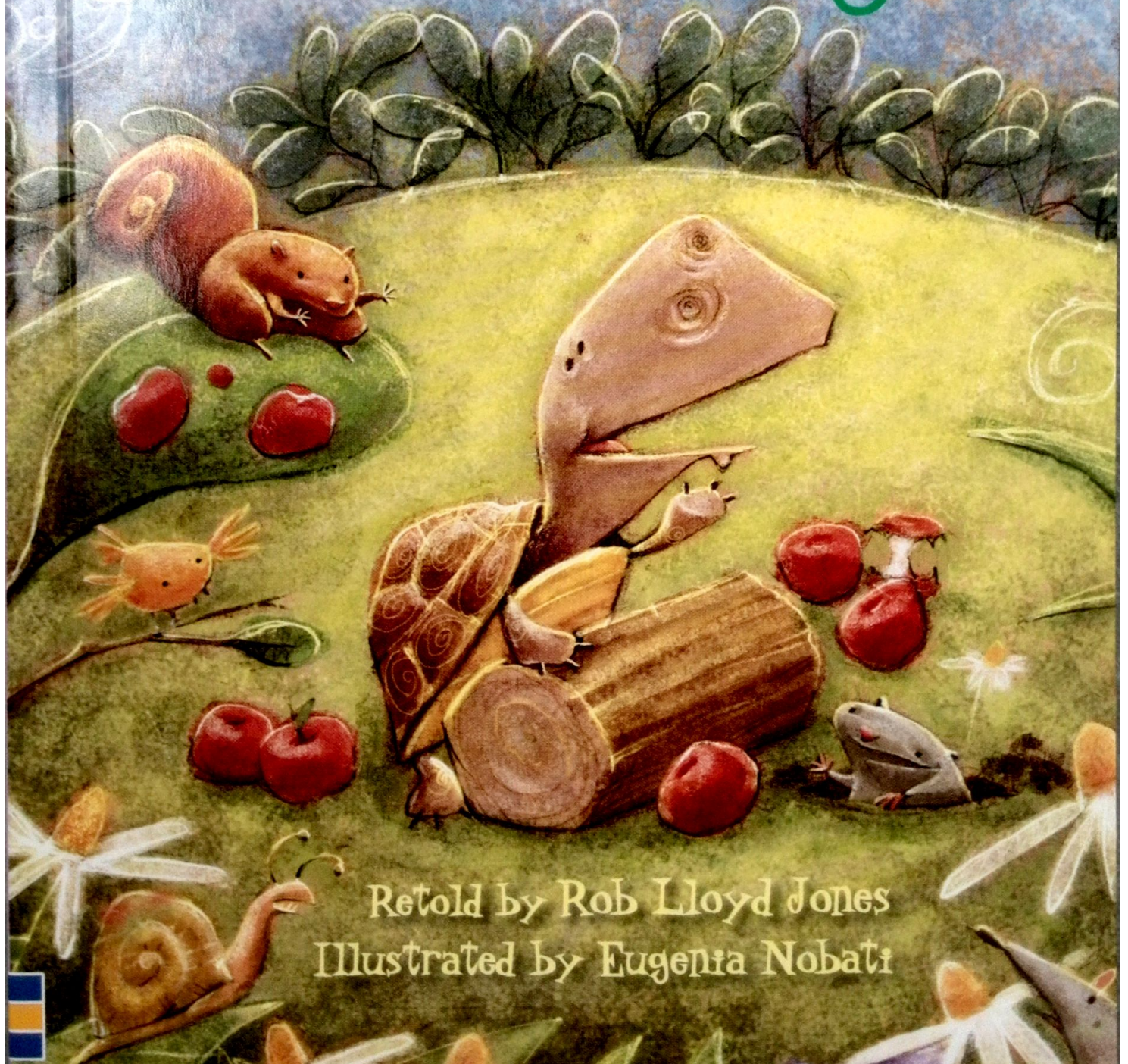


USBORNE FIRST READING



The Tortoise and the Eagle



Retold by Rob Lloyd Jones
Illustrated by Eugenia Nobati



The Tortoise and the Eagle

Based on a fable by Aesop
Retold by Rob Lloyd Jones

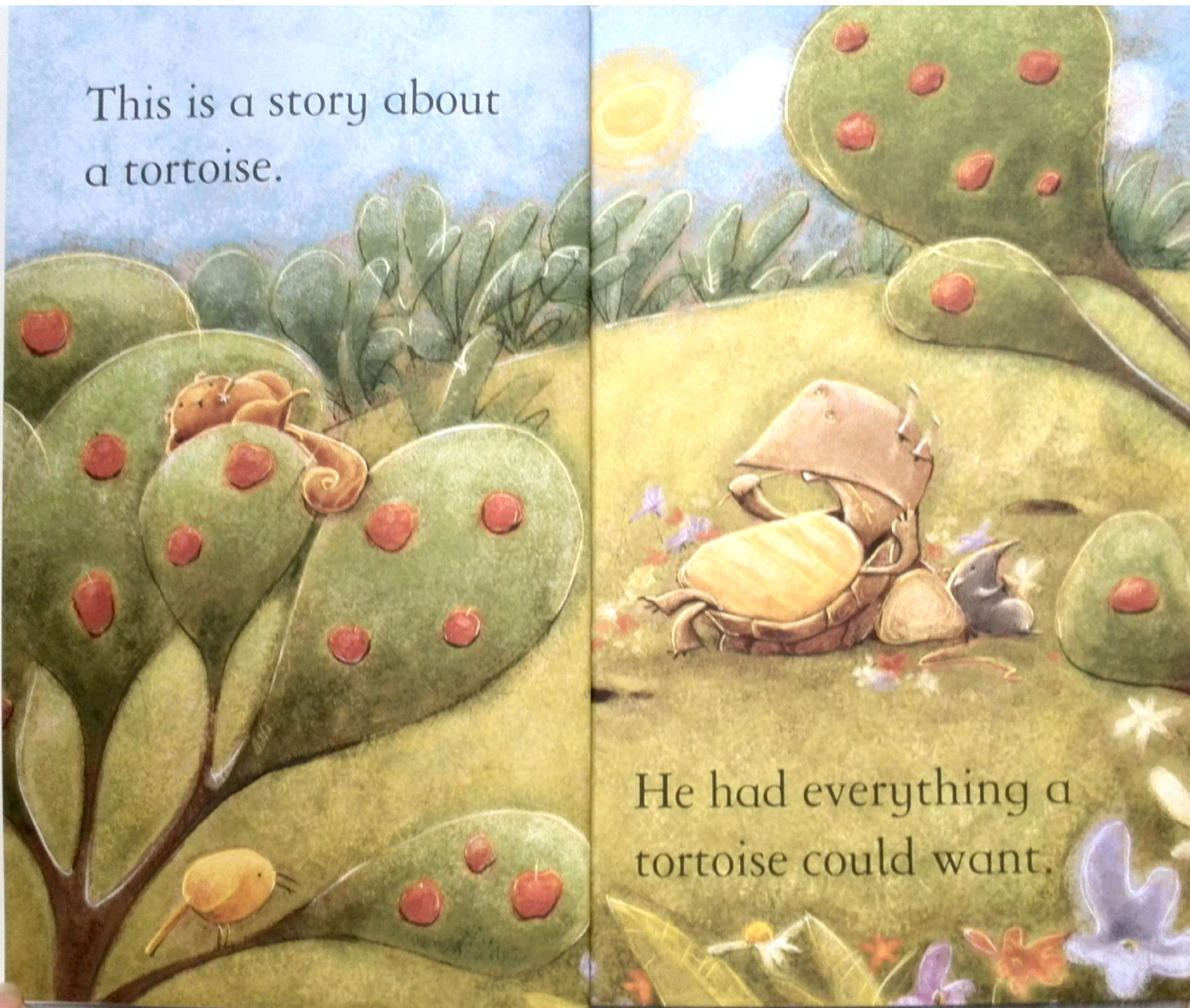


Illustrated by
Eugenia Nobati

Reading Consultant: Alison Kelly
Roehampton University

This is a story about
a tortoise.

He had everything a
tortoise could want.



He had a lovely log
to sit on,

juicy apples
to eat

and a very
shiny shell.

But he wasn't happy.



All day long, he saw
an eagle in the sky.



Flying
low.



Flying high.



It had golden feathers
and great big wings.

"I wish I could fly,"
said the tortoise.



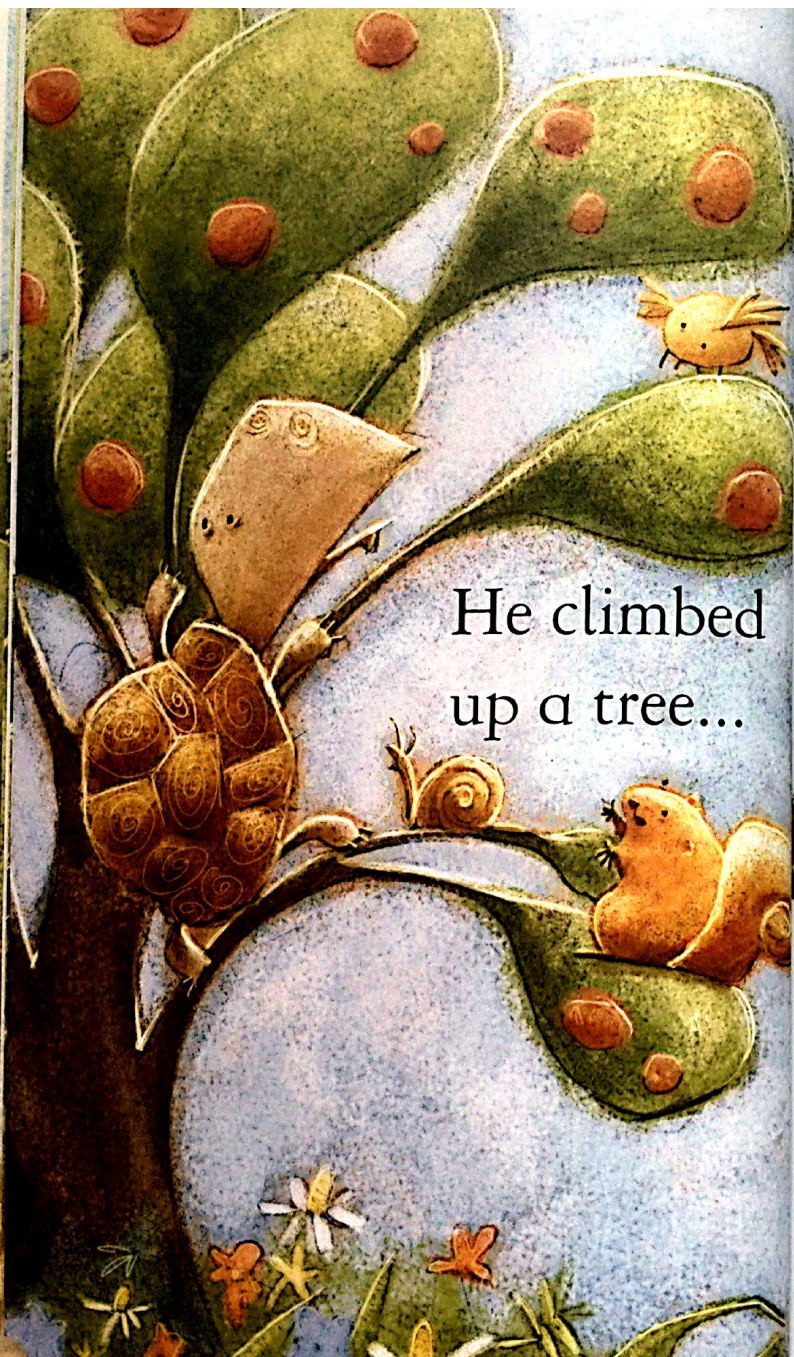
He climbed
onto a rock...



jumped into
the air...

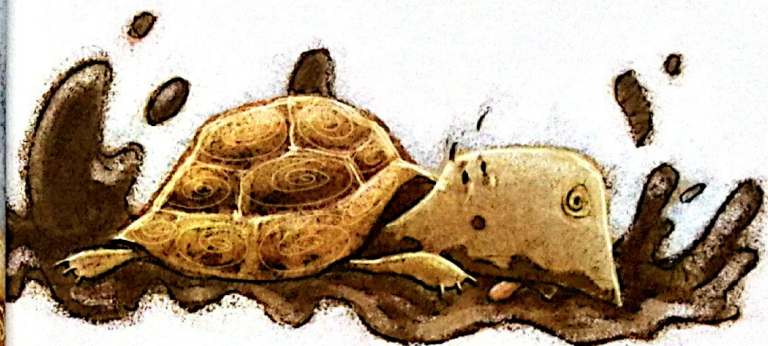
and flopped
onto his belly.





He climbed
up a tree...

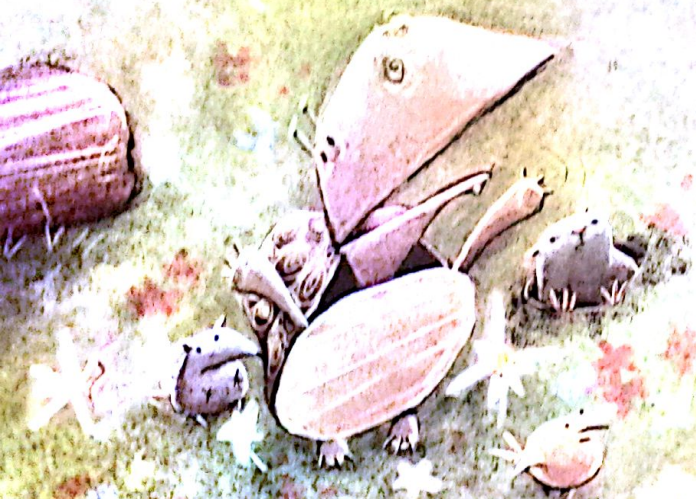
jumped into
the air...



and landed splat
in a puddle.

URRGH!

He called to the eagle.

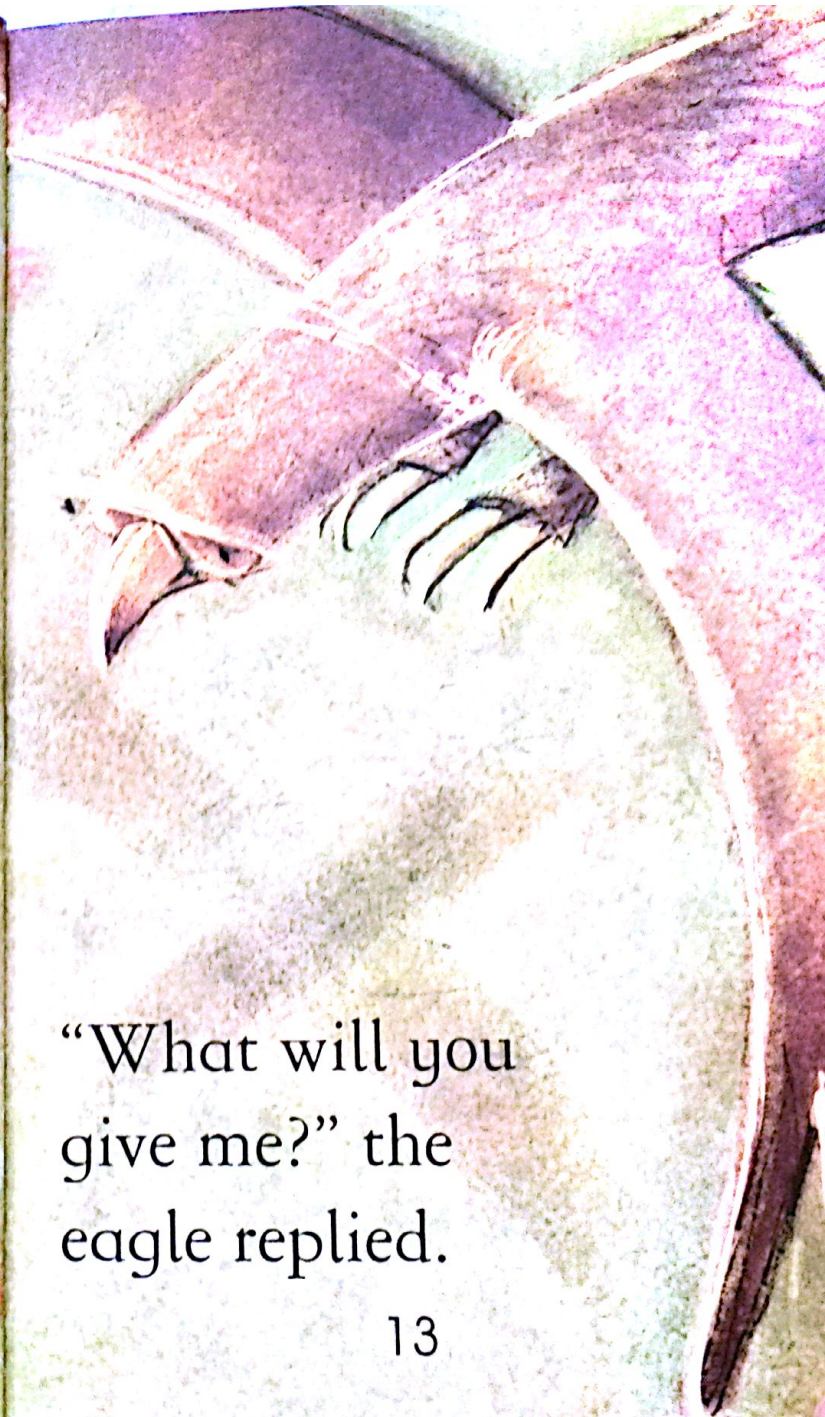


“Will you take me into the sky? I want to be like you.”

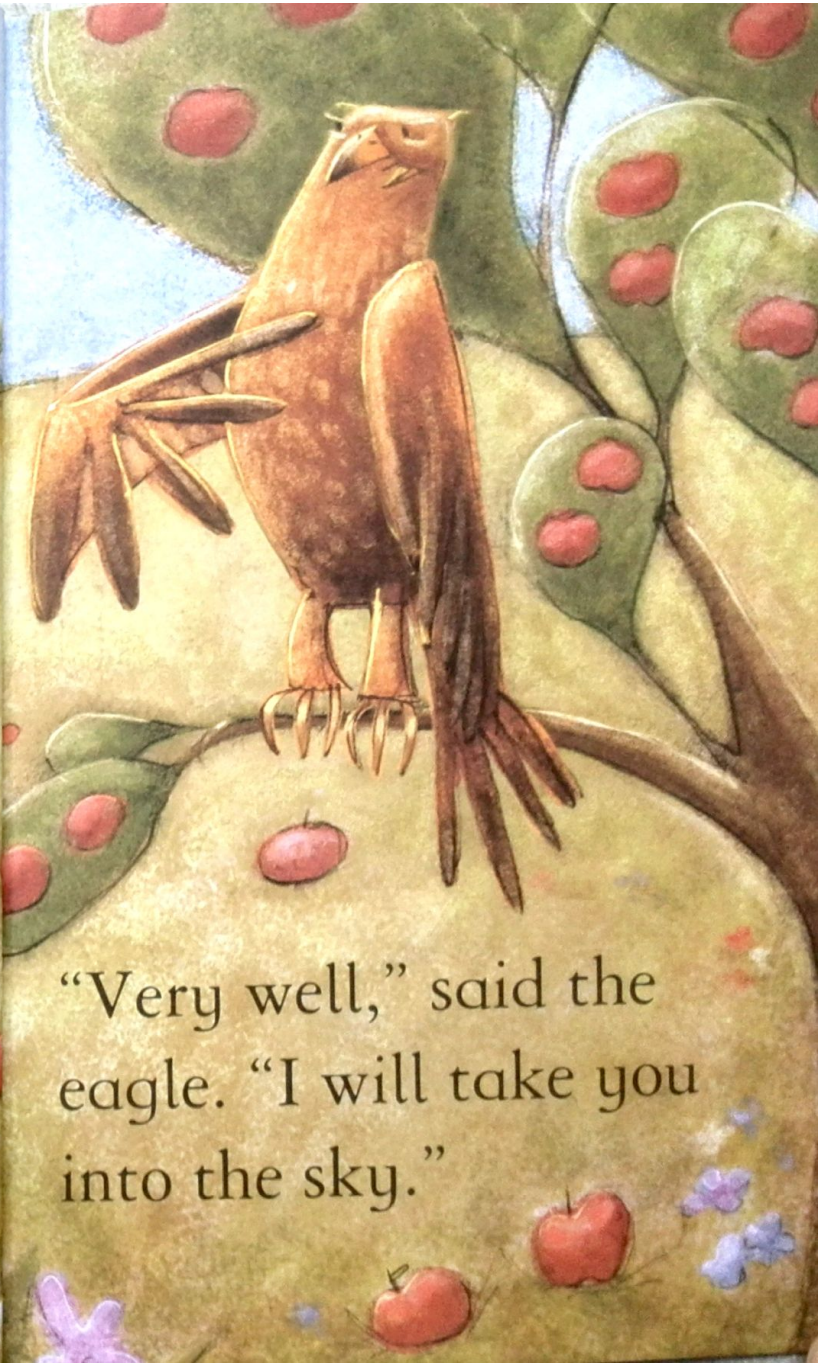
12

“What will you give me?” the eagle replied.

13



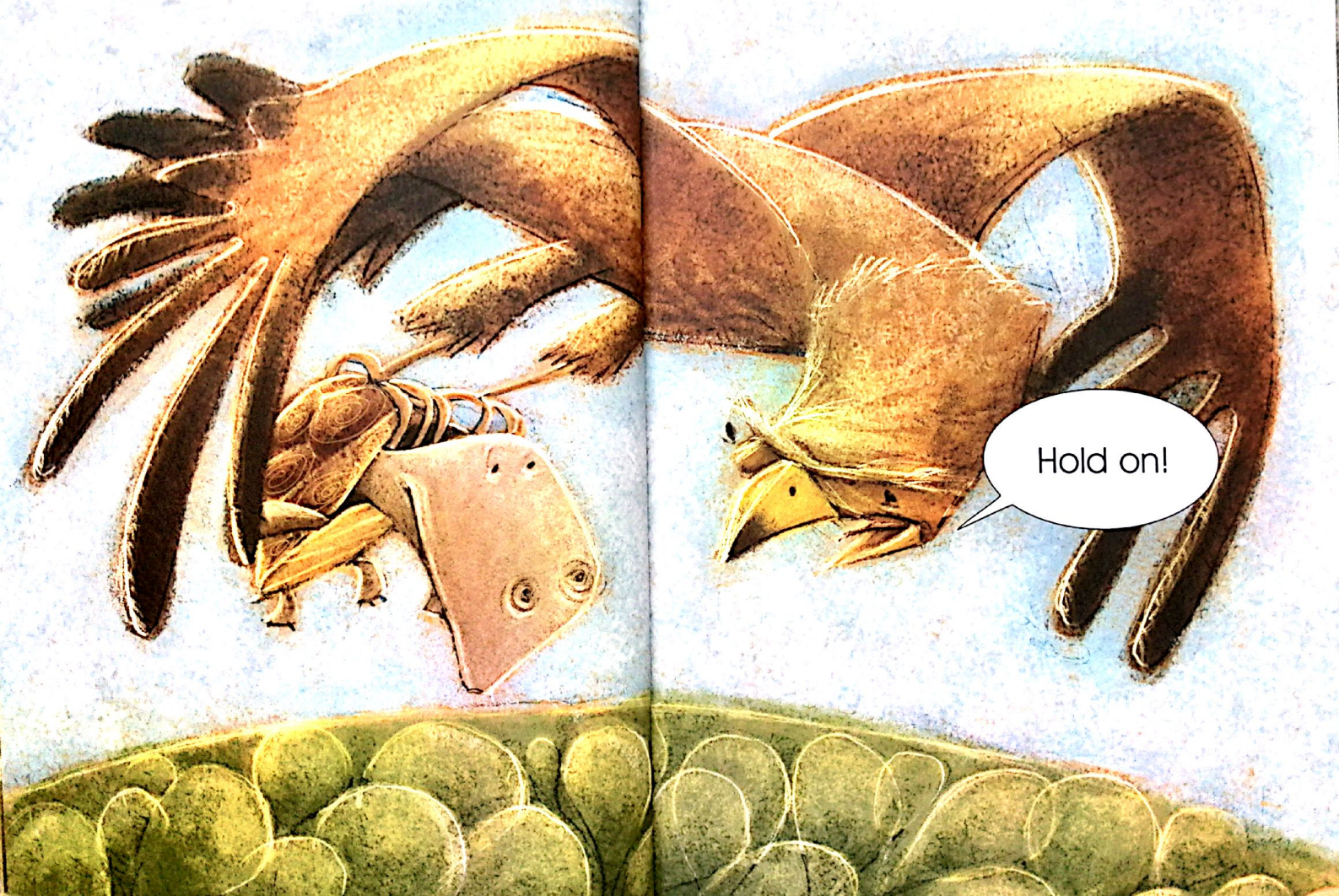
“You can have my log
and my apples.”



“Very well,” said the
eagle. “I will take you
into the sky.”

Up and up
the eagle rose...

...up through the clouds
to the bright blue sky.



The tortoise looked
at the ground.

He felt dizzy. "Eagle,"
he said. "I don't like it
up here."

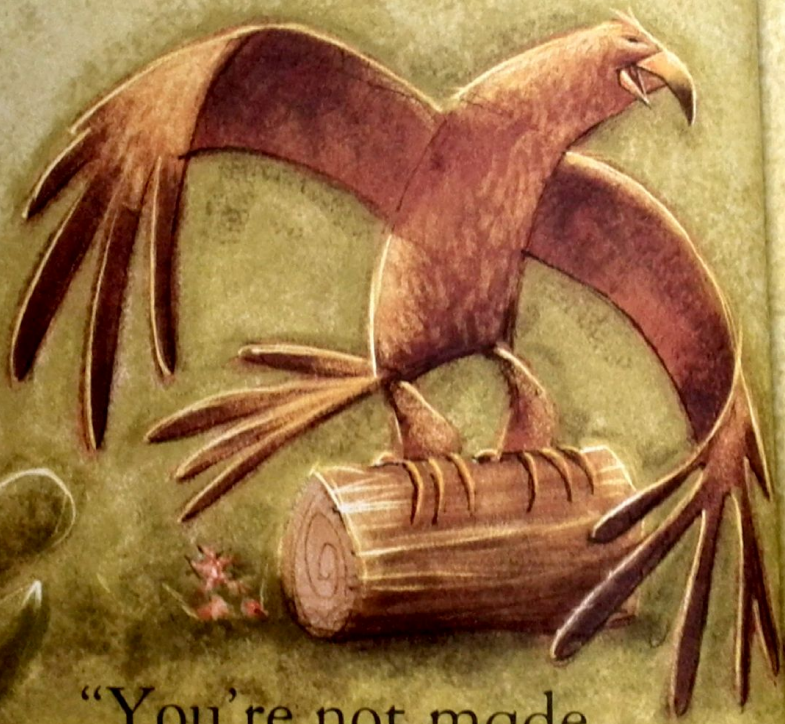


It was a very
long way down.

So the eagle took
the tortoise back to
the ground.



“Little tortoise,” said
the eagle. “You have no
feathers and no wings.”



“You’re not made
for flying.”

“Keep your apples and
your log.”



“Be happy.”

The tortoise smiled. He
watched the eagle go.

He ate
his apples.

He sat on his log.

And he no longer
wanted to fly.



PUZZLES

Puzzle 1

Put the pictures in order.



A



B



C



D



E



F

26

Puzzle 2

Choose three words to describe the tortoise, and three to describe the eagle.

high	running	watching
low	hopping	flying
wet	angry	golden
pink	noisy	sitting



27

Puzzle 3
Find these things
in the picture:

log eagle tortoise
snail mouse squirrel



Answers to puzzles

Puzzle 1



C



F



E



A



D



B

Puzzle 2

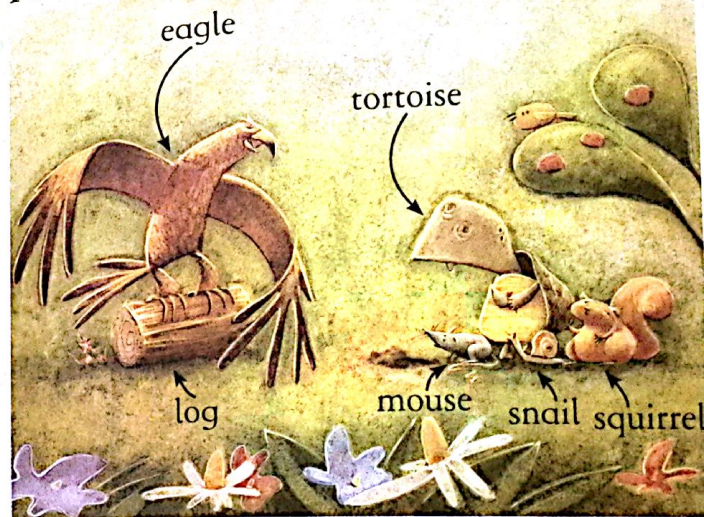
Eagle:
high
flying
golden



Tortoise:
low
watching
sitting

30

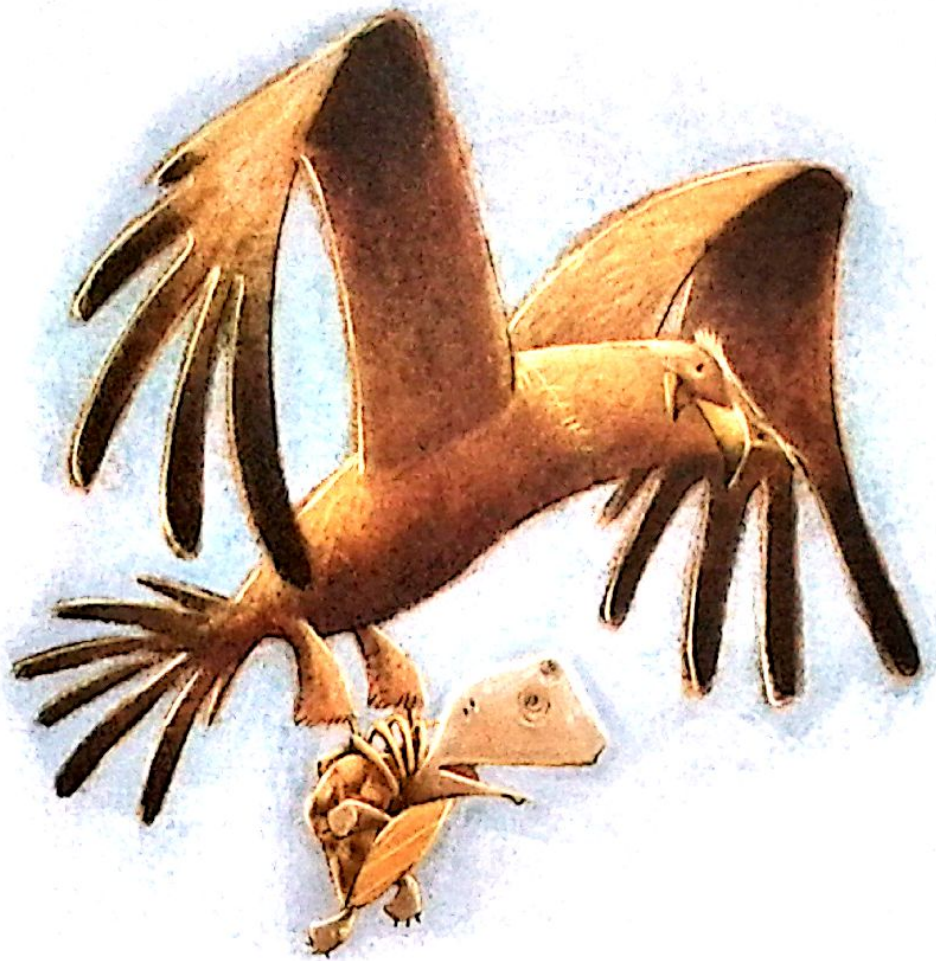
Puzzle 3



About the story



The Tortoise and the Eagle is one of Aesop's Fables, a collection of stories first told in Ancient Greece around 4,000 years ago. The stories always have a "moral" (a message or lesson) at the end. In this story, the tortoise learns to be happy with who he is.

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USBORNE FIRST READING: LEVEL TWO



The Tortoise and the Eagle

Tortoise is jealous of Eagle. He wants to fly too. So he decides to try... This lively retelling of Aesop's fable has easy-to-read text and fun puzzles after the story.



The Tortoise and the Eagle is in the **Usborne First Reading** series, written especially for children who are learning to read, and developed in consultation with Alison Kelly, Principal Lecturer in Education and reading specialist at Roehampton University. With delightful illustrations, these books combine great stories with simple text to excite and inspire any beginner reader.

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