

LEVELED BOOK • K

# To the Pumpkin Patch



Illustrated by David Cockcroft

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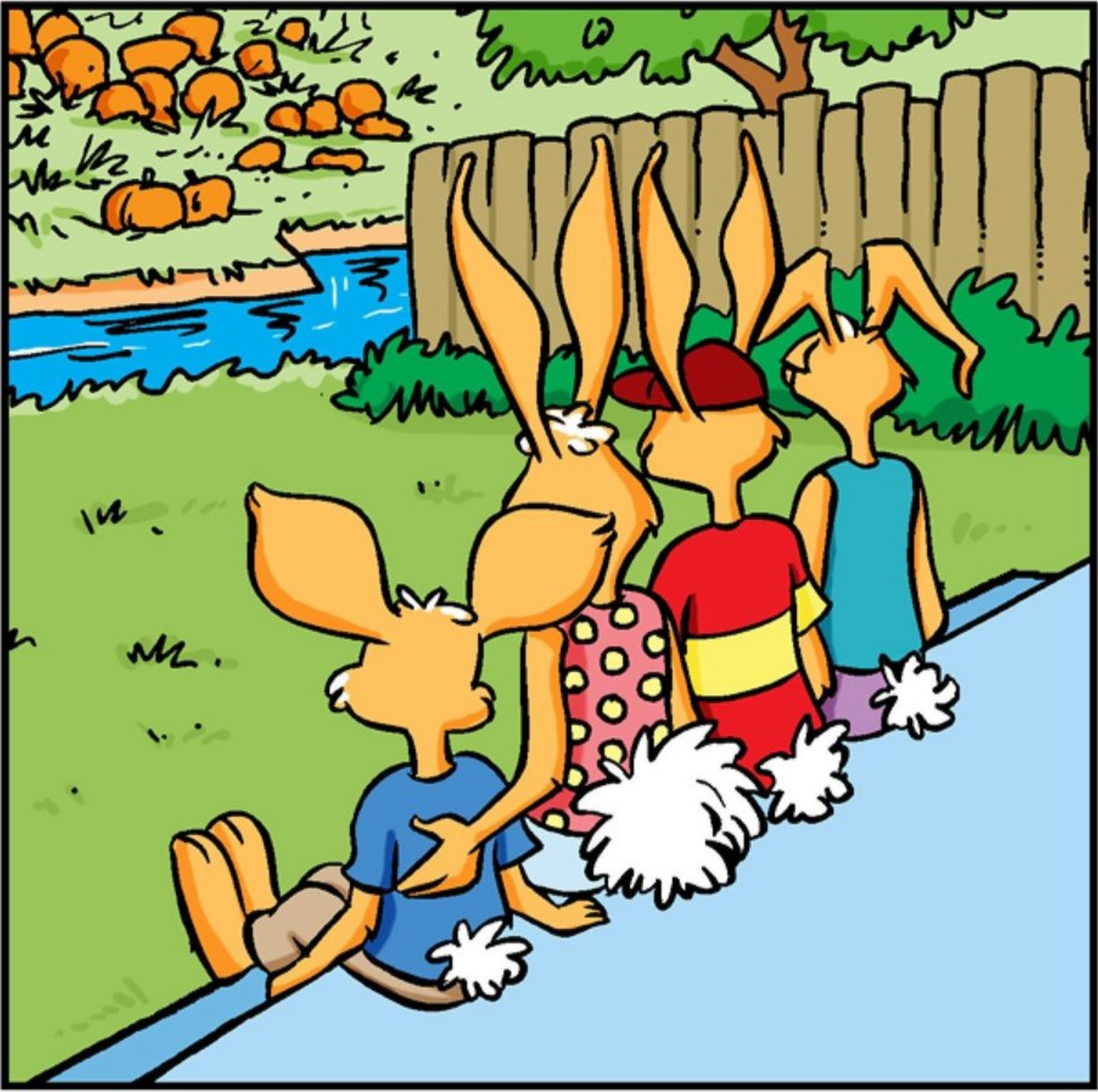
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The four Hoppers sat in their yard. It was almost Halloween. The nearby pumpkin patch was full of pumpkins.

But there was a stream between the Hoppers' yard and the pumpkin patch. Mother Hopper had told them to never go near the stream.



“I see a tall pumpkin to make a long jack-o’-lantern,” said Floppy Ears.

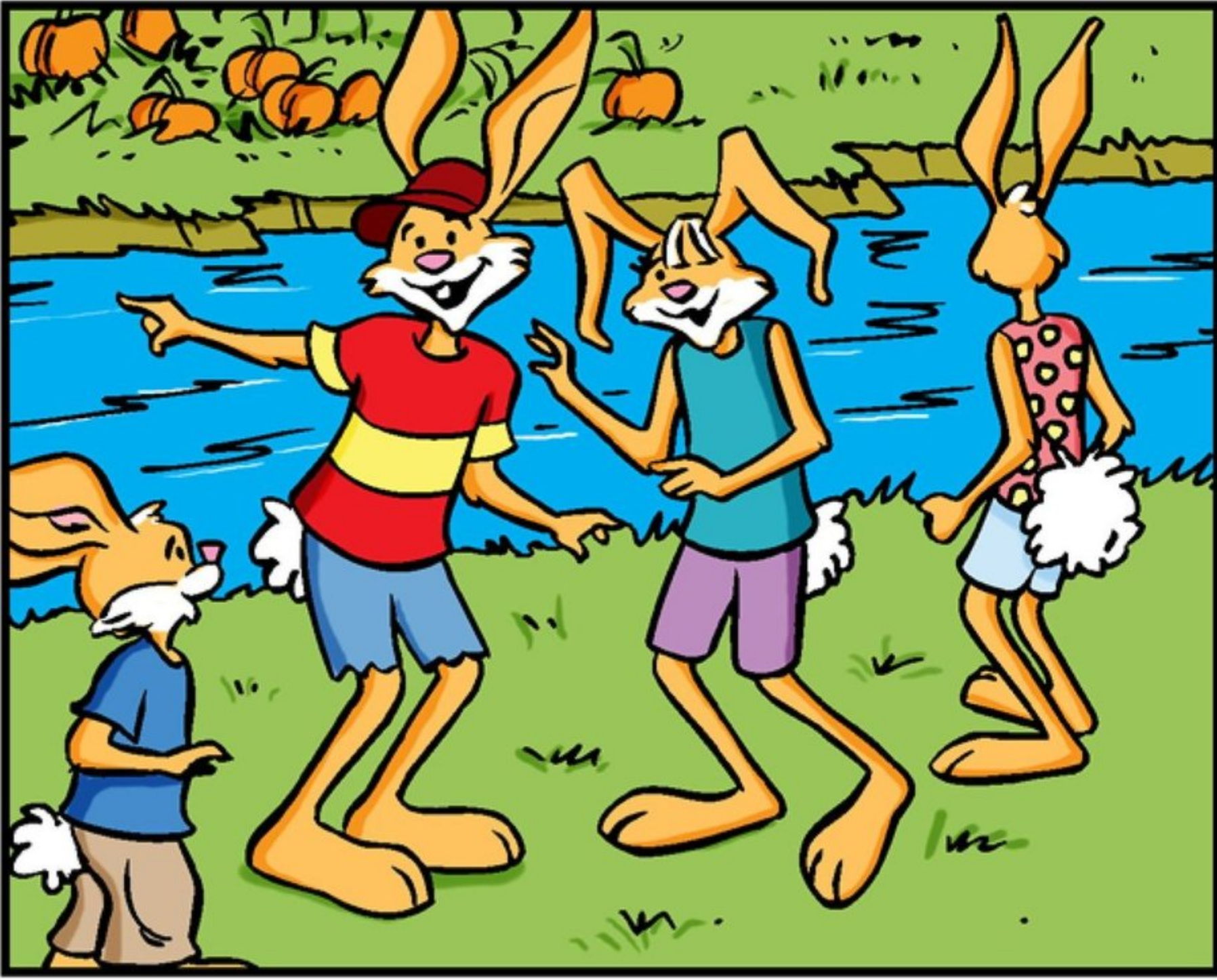
“I see a fat pumpkin to make a round jack-o’-lantern,” said Speedy Legs.

“I see a crooked pumpkin to make a funny jack-o’-lantern,” said Fluffy Tail.

“I see the biggest pumpkin in the world. I’m going to make the biggest jack-o’-lantern in the world,” said Snubby Nose. “If only we could cross the stream.”







“I know,” said Snubby Nose. “We’ll use our blow-up pool as a boat!”

“We can float across the stream,” said Speedy Legs.

“We’ll get all the pumpkins we want!” said Floppy Ears.

“I don’t think we should go near that stream,” said Fluffy Tail.

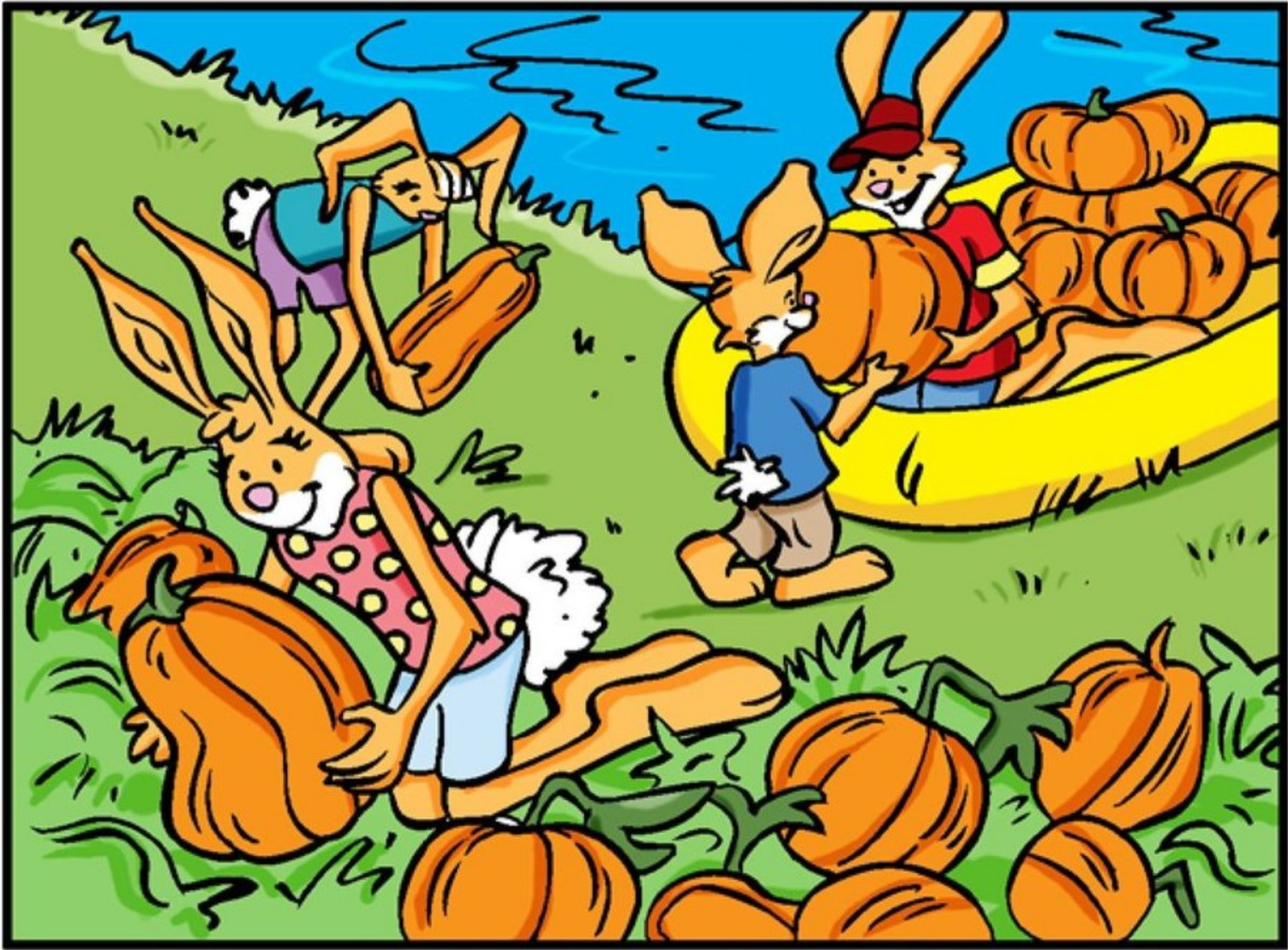


The Hoppers found their old blow-up pool. They filled it with air. They put it on the water, and it floated very well.

All four Hoppers got in the pool. Speedy Legs pushed them across the stream with a long stick.





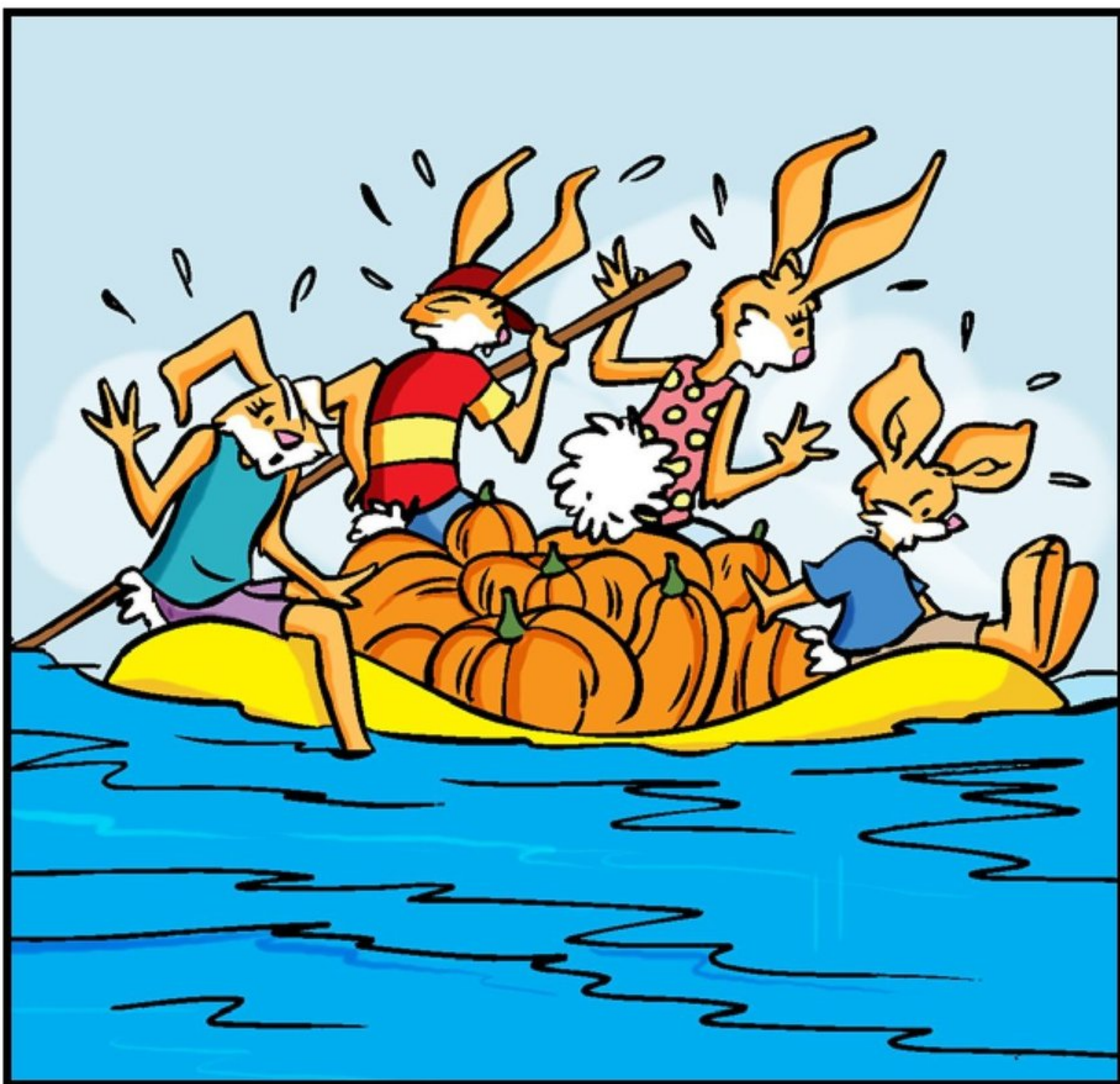


On the other side, the Hoppers pulled the pool from the water. They collected pumpkins.

They found tall ones, fat ones, crooked ones, and big ones. They put the pool back in the water.

Then they put the pumpkins into the pool. Then all four Hoppers got into the pool again. Speedy Legs pushed them into the stream.





“Oh no, the pool is sinking!” cried Floppy Ears.

“The pumpkins are too heavy!” said Speedy Legs.

“We’ll fall into the water,” said Fluffy Tail.

“I can’t swim!” cried Snubby Nose.



The pool sank into the stream, and all four Hoppers fell into the water. Their pumpkins floated away.

“Help us!” cried Snubby Nose.

They were very lucky, because just then, Grandpa Grizzly came up the path. He saw the four Hoppers in the water. He dove in after them. One by one, he pulled them out of the stream.







Mother and Papa Hopper came running from the house. They hugged and kissed all the little Hoppers. Mother Hopper was glad they were all right, but she was also angry.

“I told you Hoppers not to go near that stream,” she said.

“But we wanted some pumpkins to make jack-o’-lanterns,” said Snubby Nose.



“You should not disobey your mother,” said Grandpa Grizzly, “even for jack-o’-lanterns.”

“What’s that in your wheelbarrow, Grandpa Grizzly?” asked Papa Hopper.

The big wheelbarrow was full of pumpkins. Grandpa Grizzly had come over to make jack-o’-lanterns!





“Hooray! We will make jack-o’-lanterns after all,” said Snubby Nose.

All the Hoppers went inside to dry off, have hot cocoa, and make their jack-o’-lanterns.





To the Pumpkin Patch  
A Hoppers Story  
Level K Leveled Book  
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an original story by Laura Rountree Smith  
Illustrated by David Cockcroft

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