



Animal Sidekicks

The Zebras and the Ostriches



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Ostriches are among the best lookouts on Earth; their towering height gives them a wonderful point and their snooker-ball-sized eyes give them brilliant vision. Zebras are often seen in the company of ostriches



Some scientists have wondered if ostriches use their superior sight to give zebras a heads-up when a predator appears on the horizon.

Zebras might return the favour with their stronger hearing and sense of smell.





These chicks hatched from massive eggs – one ostrich egg is the size of 22 chicken eggs.





Among land animals, ostriches have the largest eyes in the world.

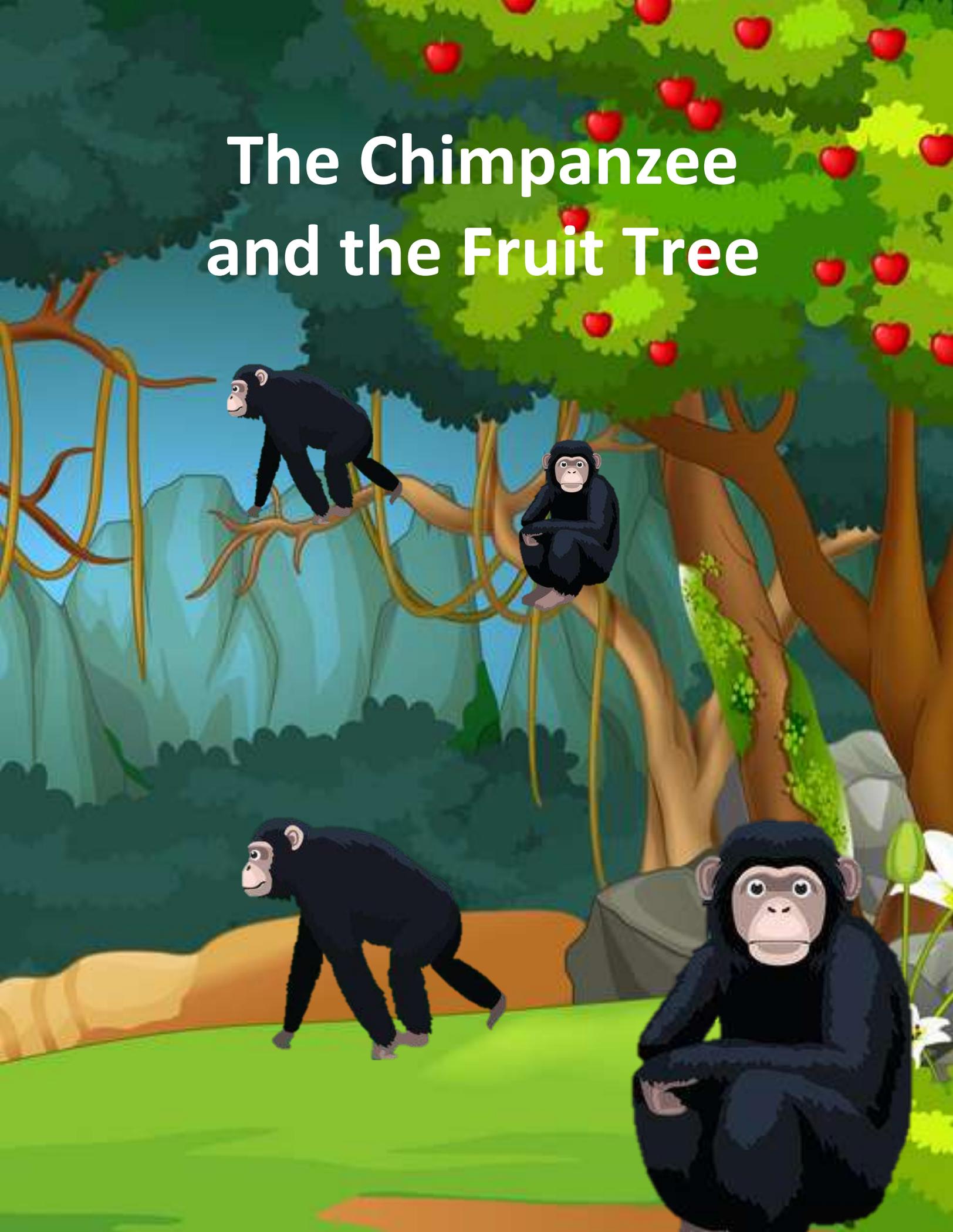


Predator Spotted

An ostrich can see a predator – such as a lion or a hyena – long before any zebra could hop to. Its startled reaction tips off everybody in the area. Thanks to the ostrich, everybody has time to get themselves to safety



The Chimpanzee and the Fruit Tree



Chimpanzees swing through the trees of tropical Africa, foraging for fruits. The trees give the chimpanzees a place to sleep, safe traveling routes and nourishing food. The chimps, in return, give the trees new life; when they eat the tree's fruit, they also eat the seeds and when they poo, they plant new trees.





DID YIOU KNOW?

**Chimps nest
in trees.**



Fruitful Harvest

Contrary to popular belief, chimpanzees don't just eat bananas. Wild chimpanzees eat a wide variety of fruits you might not be able to find at your local supermarket.



Fig



Custard Apple



Oil Palm



Drypetes Afzelii



Figs make up half of a chimp's diet, but chimps eat 80 different types of fruit.





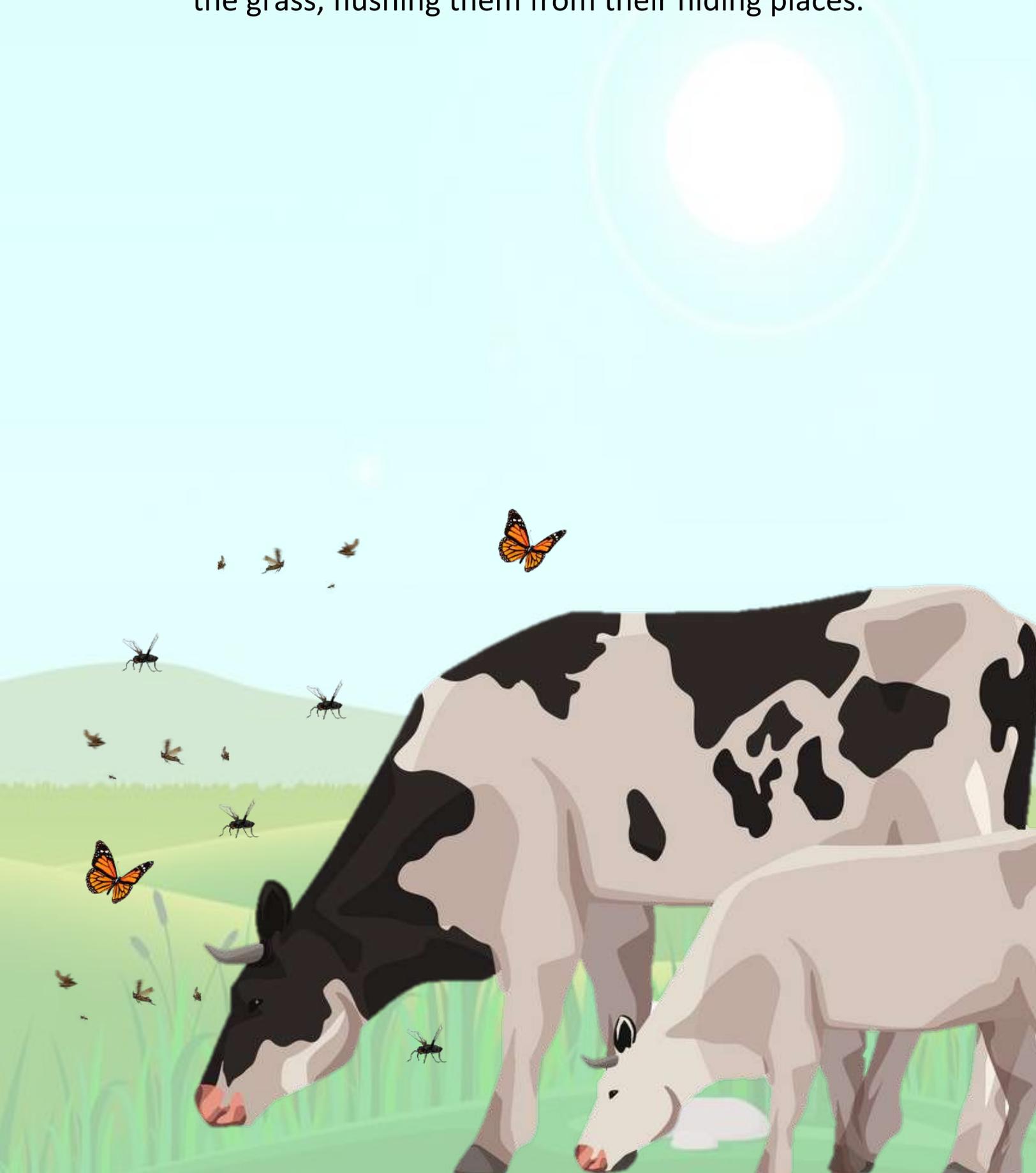
Traveling through the chimpanzee's gut makes seeds more likely to develop and the dung acts as a fertilizer upon exit.



The Cow and the Egrets

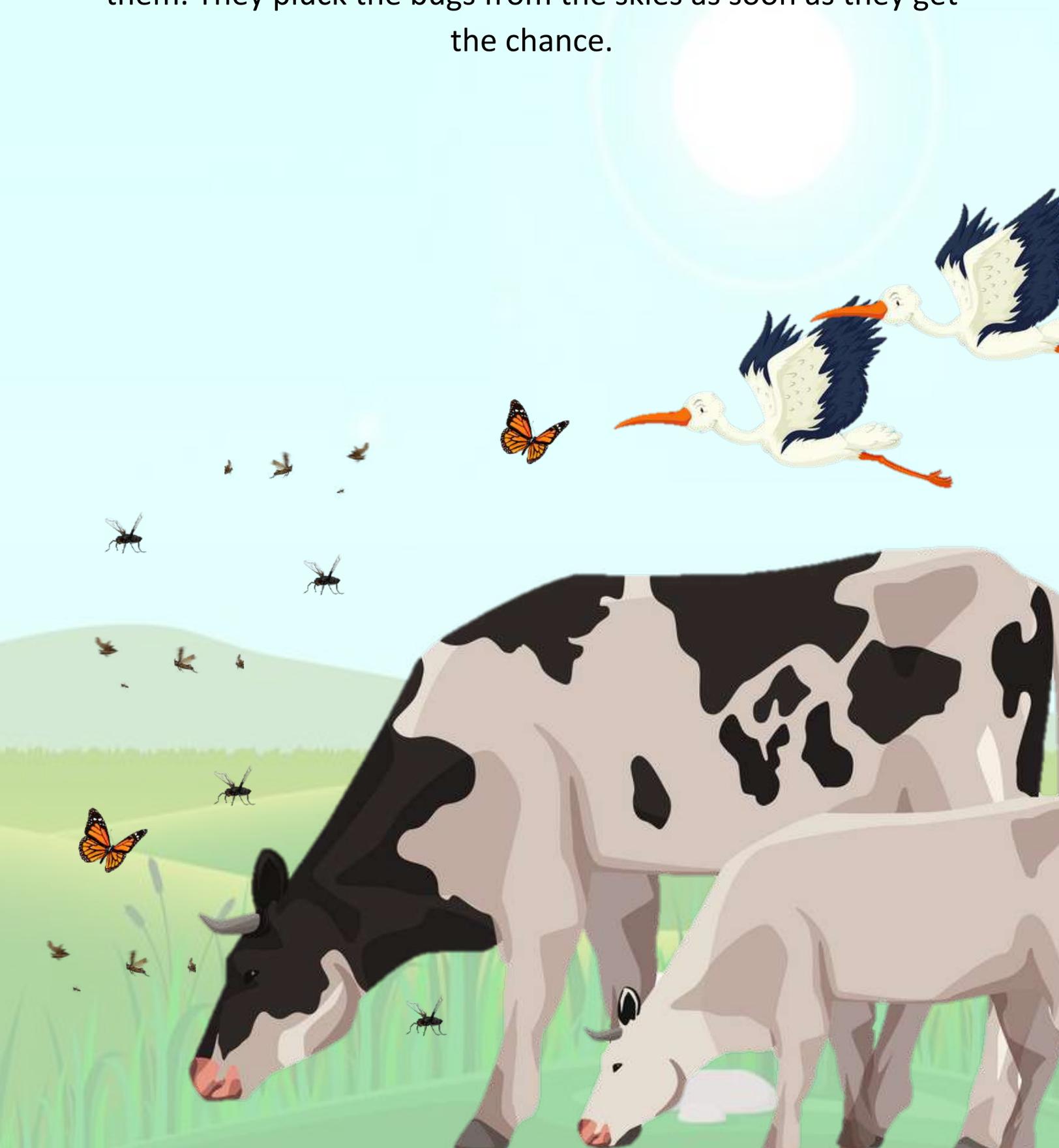


As cows trample through fields, they startle bugs who live in the grass, flushing them from their hiding places.



When the little creatures take flight, they get a nasty shock.

Egrets, a type of small heron, are right there waiting for them. They pluck the bugs from the skies as soon as they get the chance.



The cow serves its egret followers a free meal with every step, but it's unclear if the cow gets any benefit from this arrangement.



A Moo-ving Partnership

Researchers estimate that an egret is almost four times more effective at hunting bugs with the help of a cow. This means that for every ten bugs a solo egret catches, an egret with a cow will get nearly 40.



Eating Alone



Dinner With Cow Helper





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