

 Songbirds

Phonics

The Big Match



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Oxford
Reading
Tree

Talk together

Ask the child to

- Point to the letters in the box on the back cover and say the sounds (not the letter name) that each letter usually makes in words (e.g. *p* as in *pet*). Tell them the sound if necessary.
- Look out for these letters in the story and try to remember the sound they make.

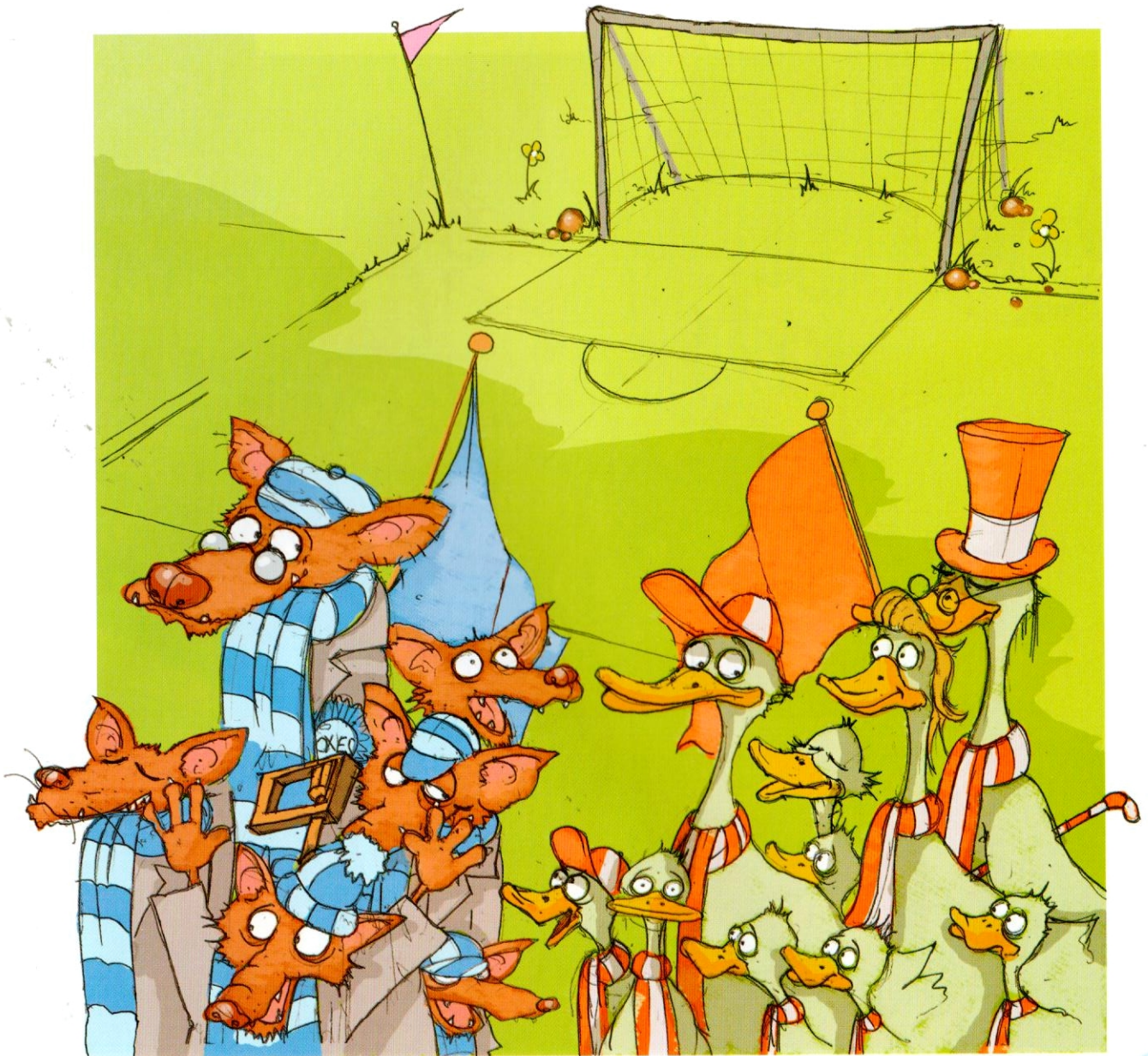
Reading the story

Remember, children learn best when reading is relaxed and enjoyable, so give lots of praise.

- Encourage the child to try to read any words they don't recognise by saying the individual sounds separately (e.g. *s - i - ng*), then running them together quickly. If they find it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds first and see if they can hear the word.
- Explain that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check it sounds like a real word as some words are less regular (e.g. *Here*). Read these words to the child if they don't recognise them. Point out the letters that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *h* in *here*). This will help them to remember these words.

See inside back cover for other activities.

Here come the fans.



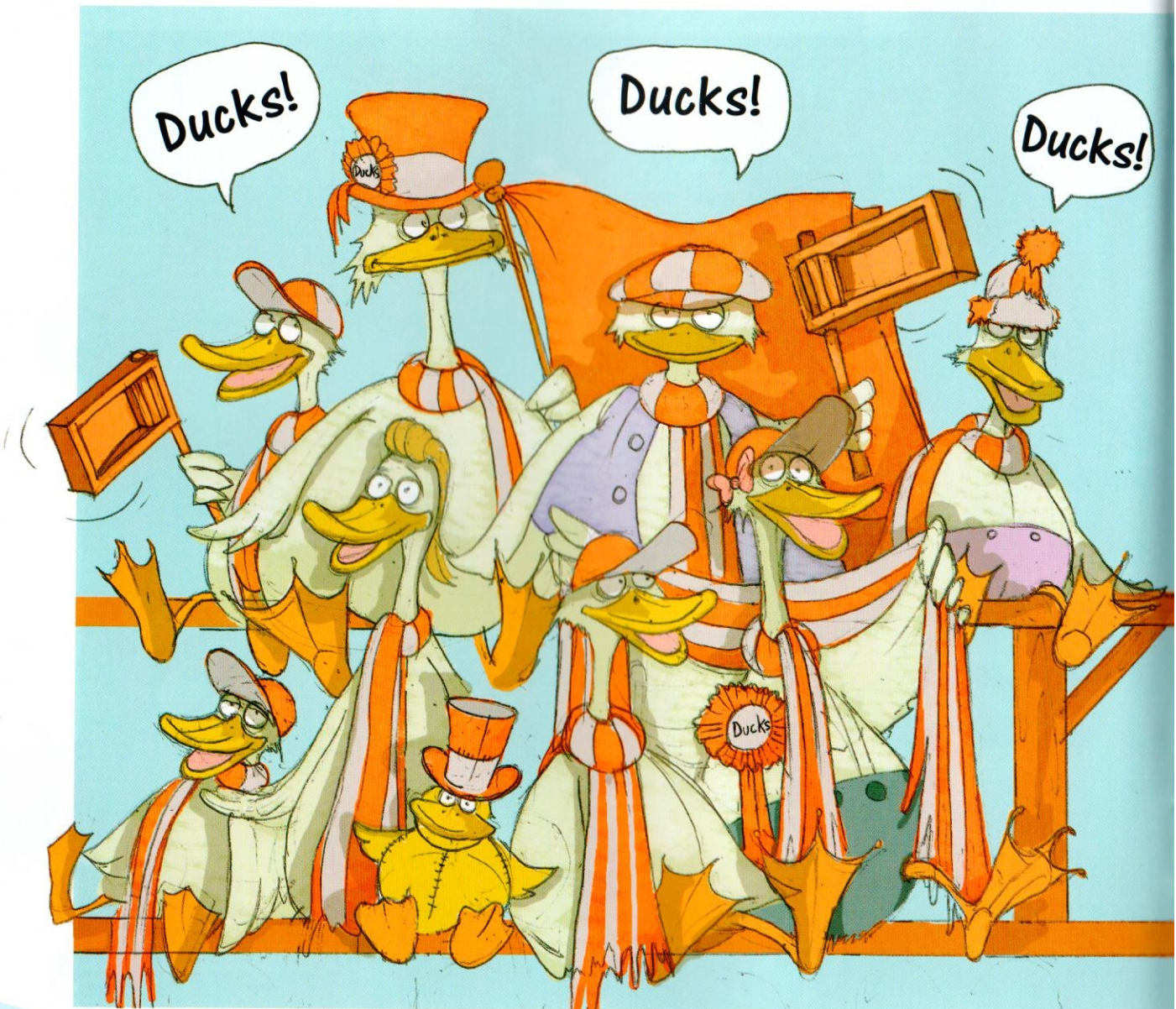
Here come the six ducks.



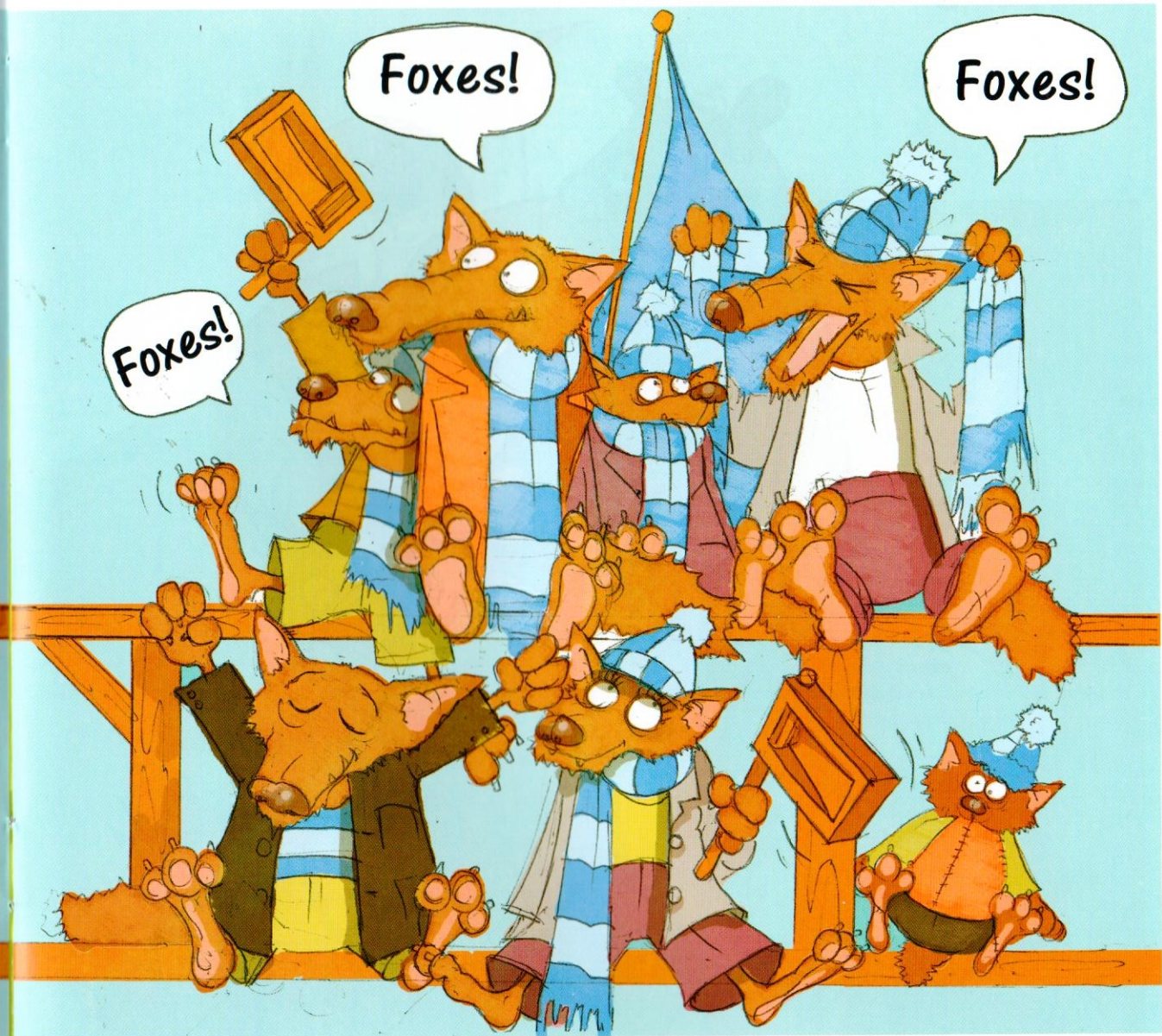
Here come the six foxes.



The duck fans quack.



The fox fans sing.



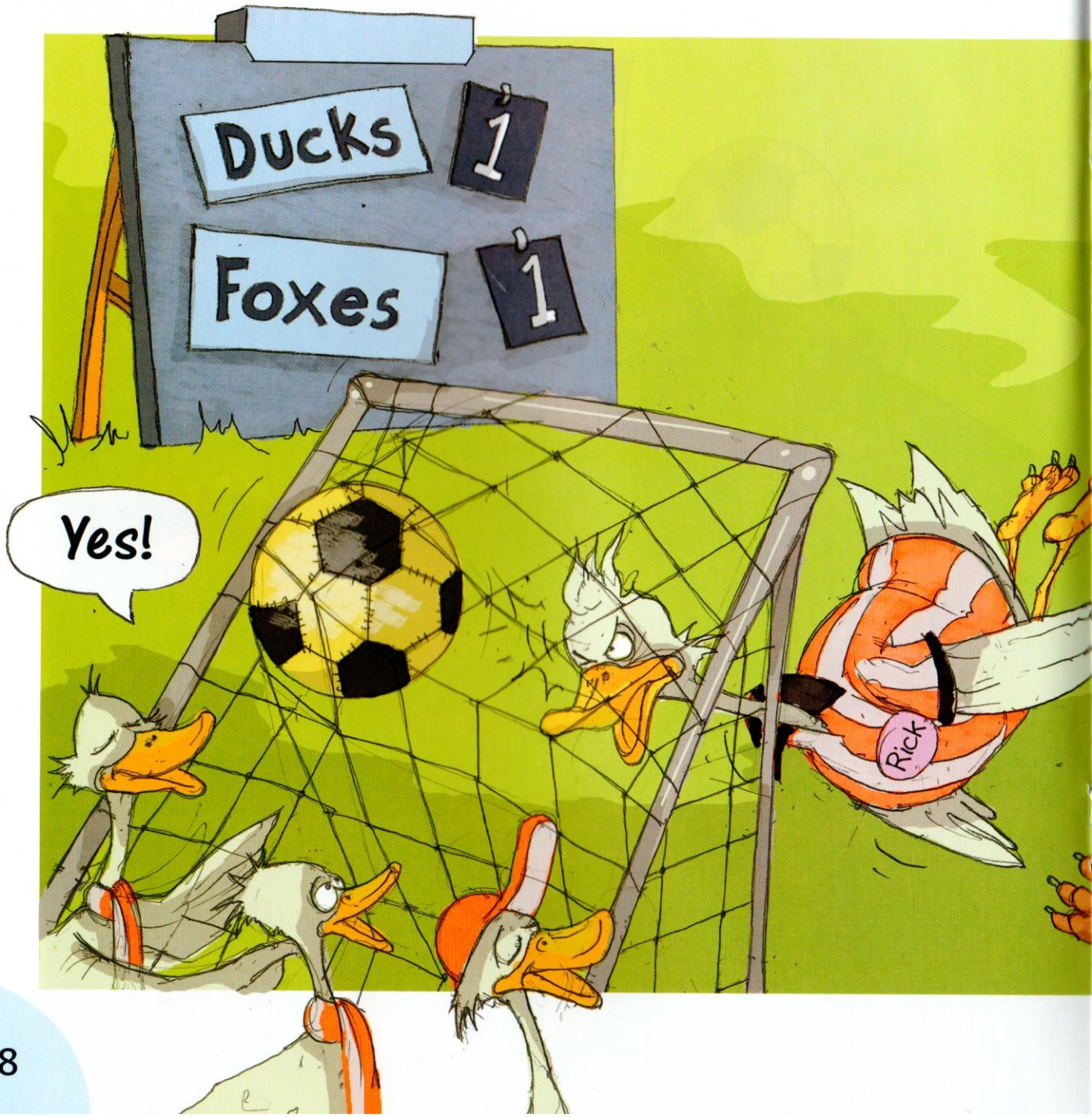
The ref rings a bell. The match has begun!



The foxes and ducks kick the ball.



Rick Duck gets the ball in.



Max Fox gets the ball in.



The ducks get the ball.



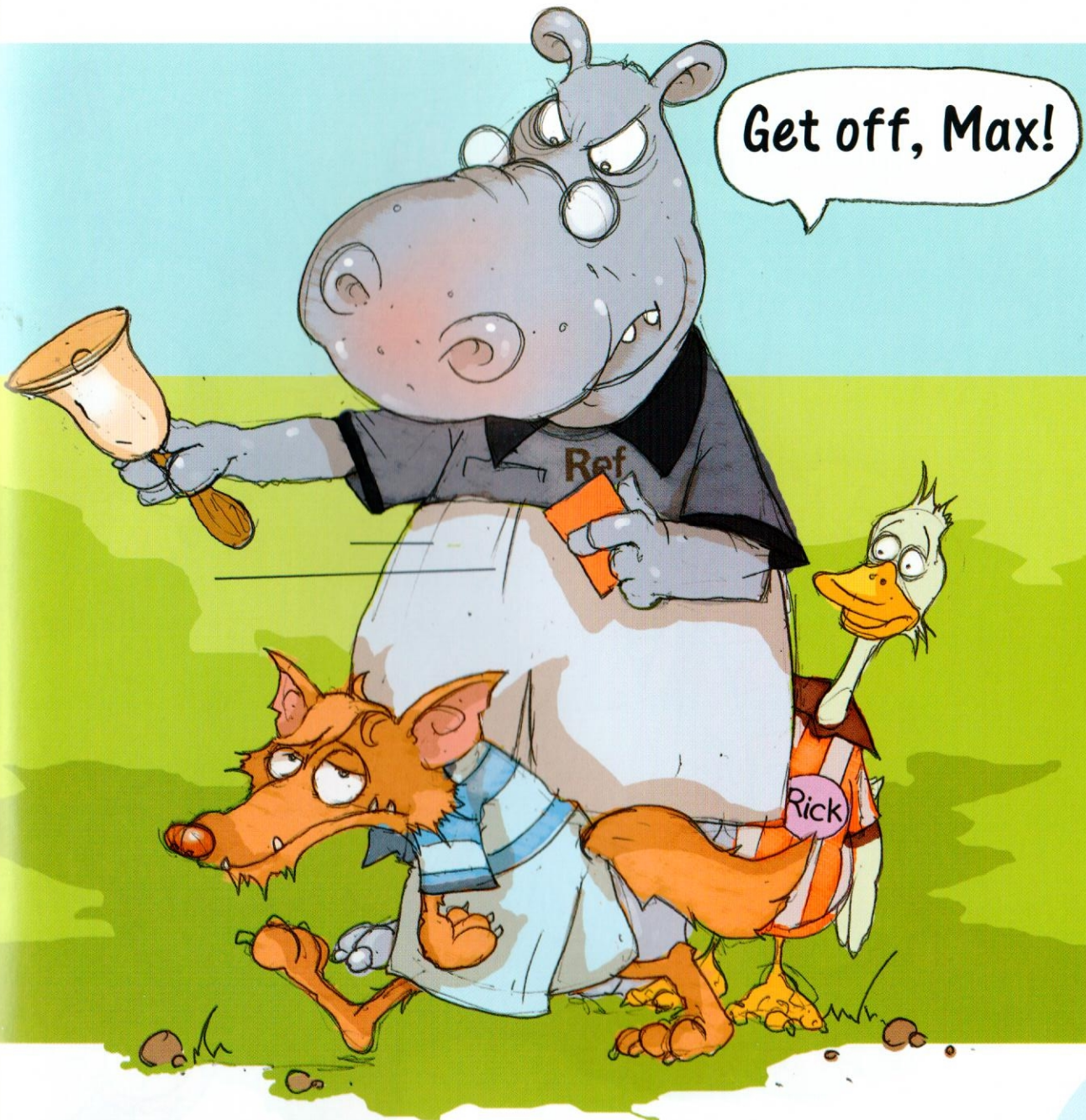
Max Fox kicks Rick Duck!



The duck fans quack.



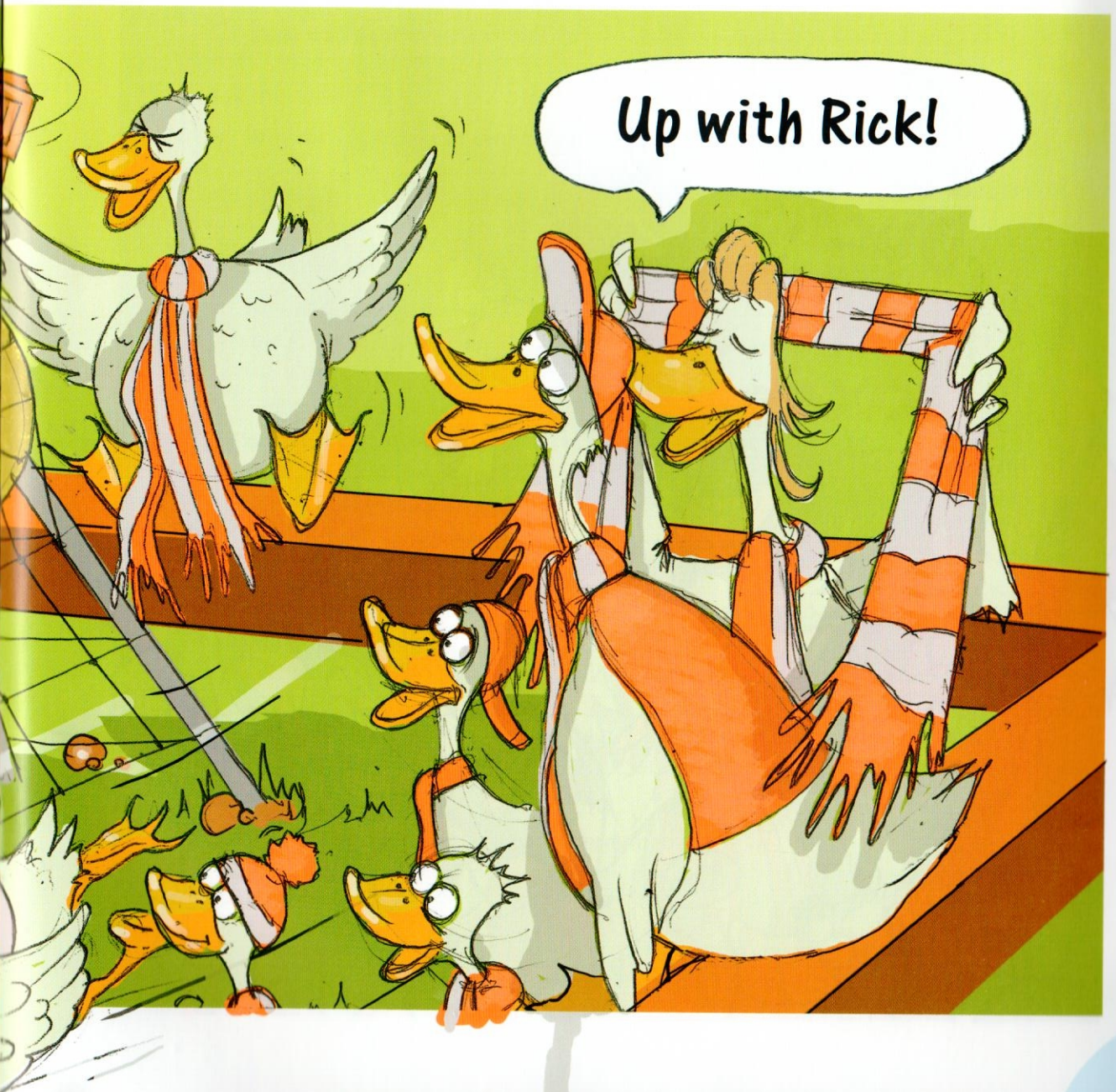
The ref rings his bell.



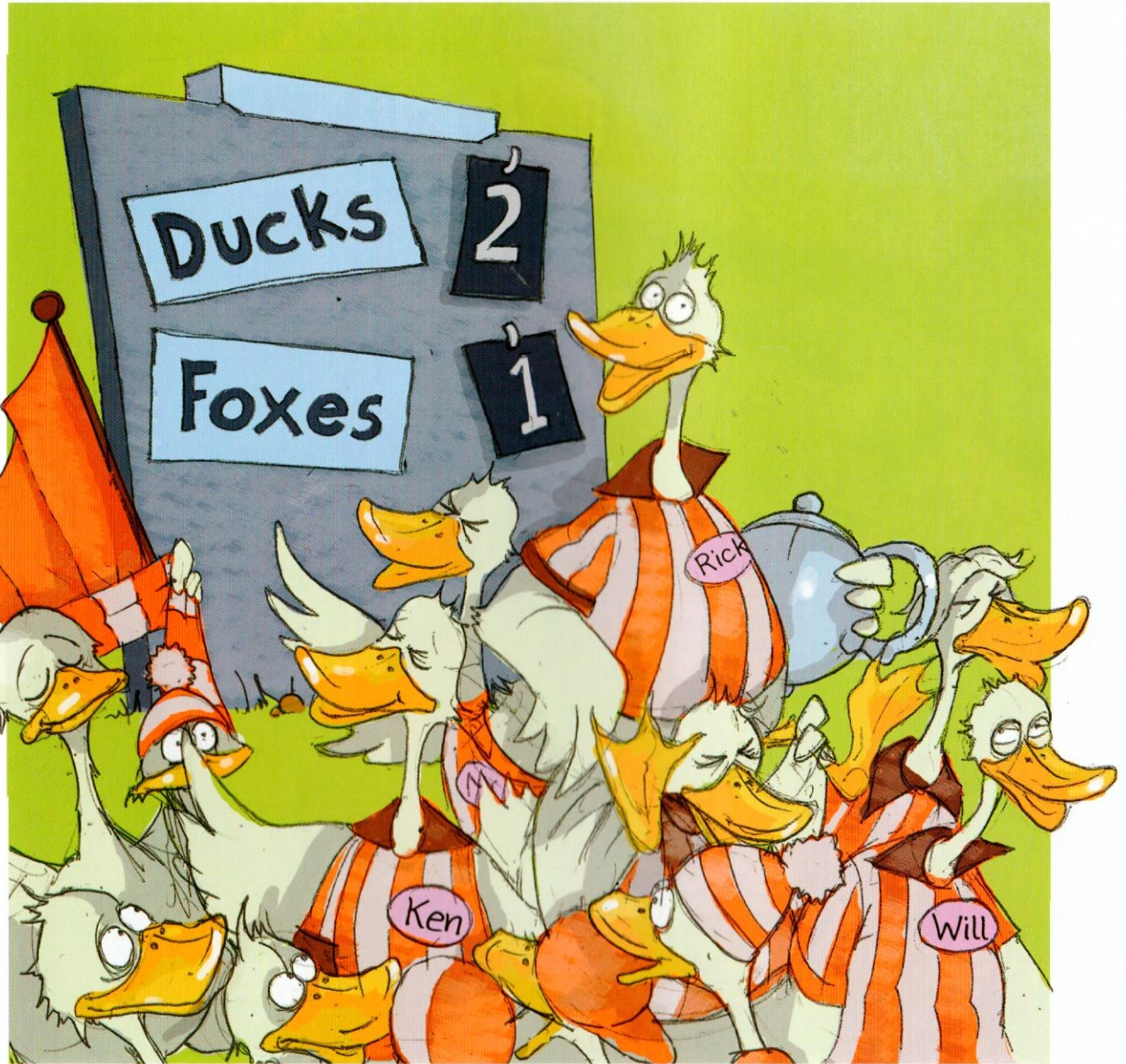
Rick Duck gets the ball in!



The duck fans quack and sing.



The ducks win the match.



Check comprehension

Ask the child

- Why did Max Fox get sent off? (He kicked Rick Duck.)

Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask the child to

- Find and read some words in the book which contain the letter pattern *ck* (*duck, ducks, quack, kick, Rick*). Say the sound these two letters make in the words.
- Find and read two words which begin with the sound *c* (*come, kick*). Say what letter pattern is used to write the beginning *c* sound (*c, k*).
- Find and read some words in the book which contain the letter pattern *x* (*six, fox, foxes, Max*).
- Find and read some words in the book which contain the letter pattern *ng* (*sing, rings*).
- Think of some other words which end with the letter pattern *ng* (e.g. *King, thing, long, bang*).

Example phonic words: sing rings duck ducks quack kick kicks Rick six fox foxes Max

Context words: ball begun come here match the