

Phase 5

Book 16

Foolish Ostrich

(A Bushman legend)



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Illustrated by
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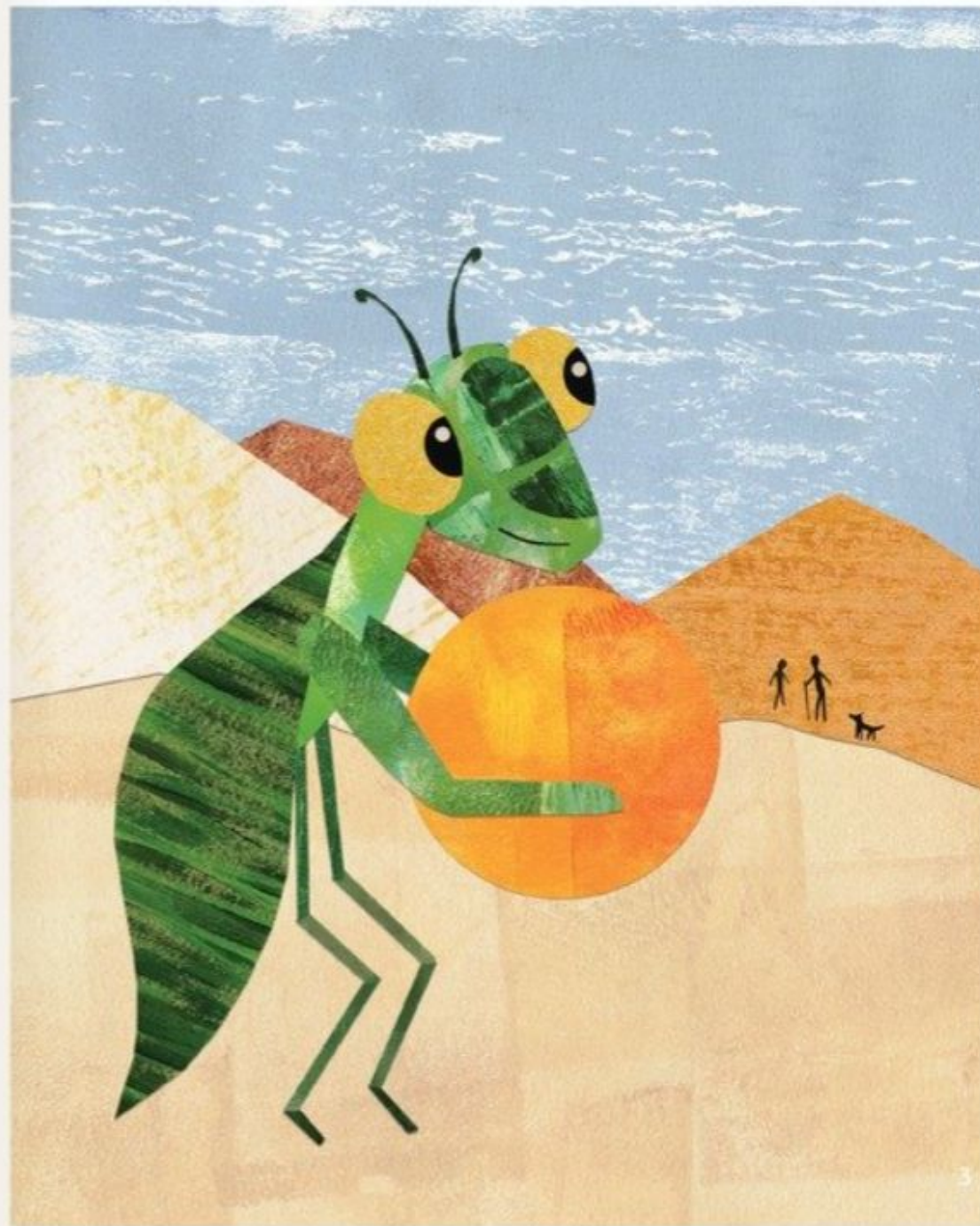


In the beginning, Mantis had fire.

But he kept it for himself.

He did not give it to the living things in the world, because he did not think they were ready for it.

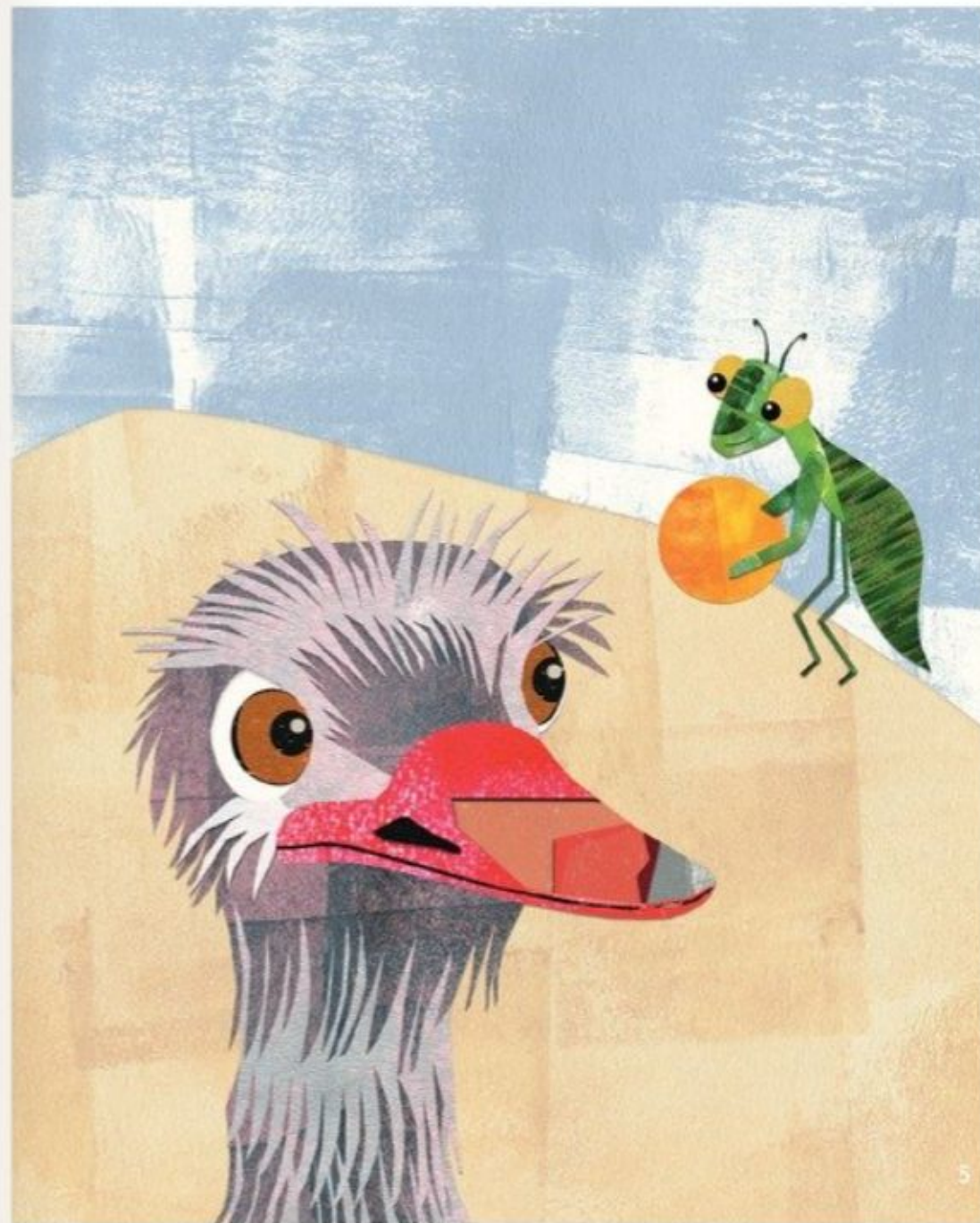
Fire would just hurt them.



But Mantis knew that Ostrich was a clever and stubborn bird.

He knew that if he gave fire to Ostrich, she would keep it safe.

And if someone did take fire from clever Ostrich, then they would be worthy of having fire!



Mantis went down into the valley to visit Ostrich.

Clever Ostrich was happy to help.

She took fire and hid it under one of her wings. She knew it would be safe there.

Mantis told Ostrich to take good care of fire.

Then he left.



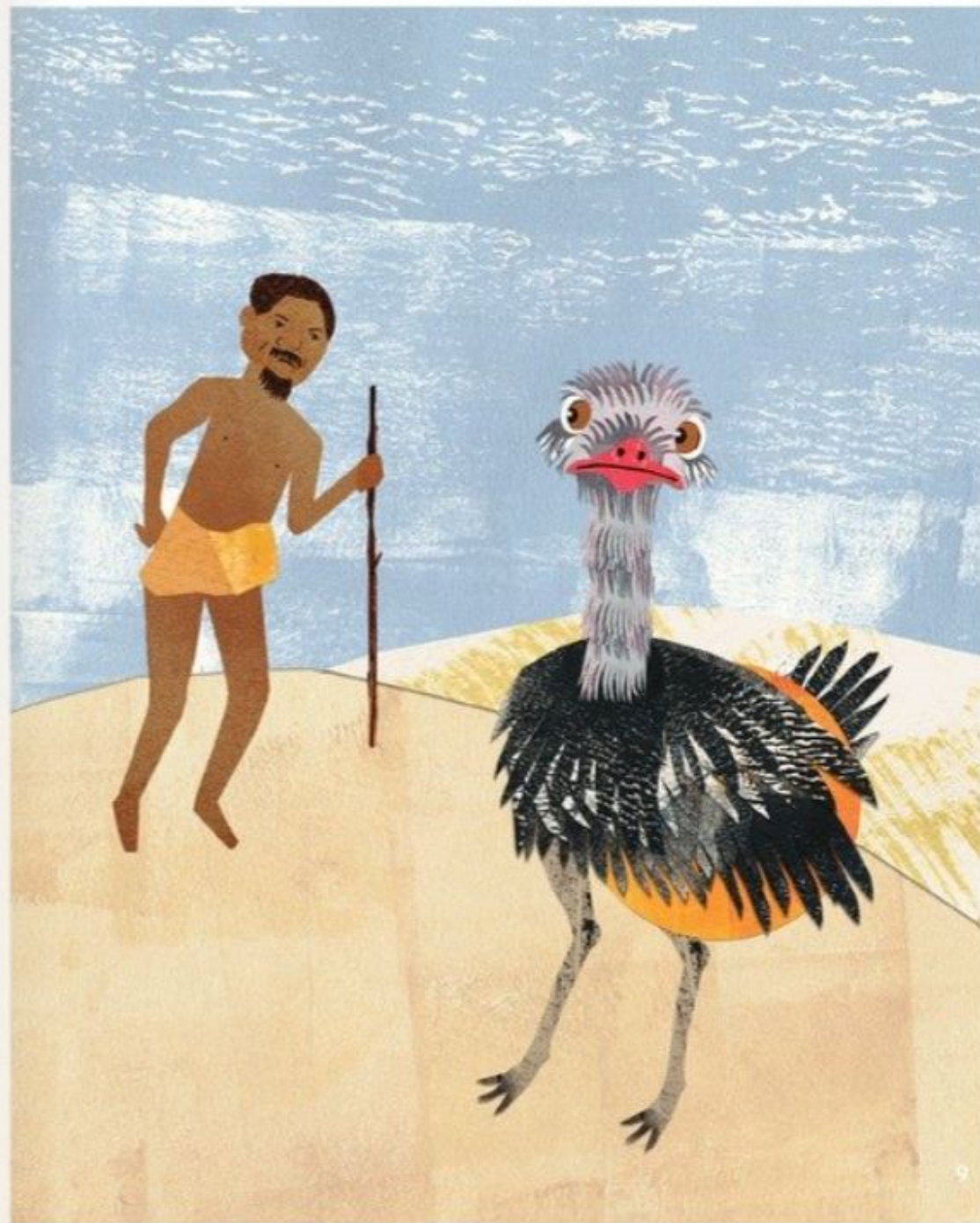
But soon the First Bushman saw the flickering flames.

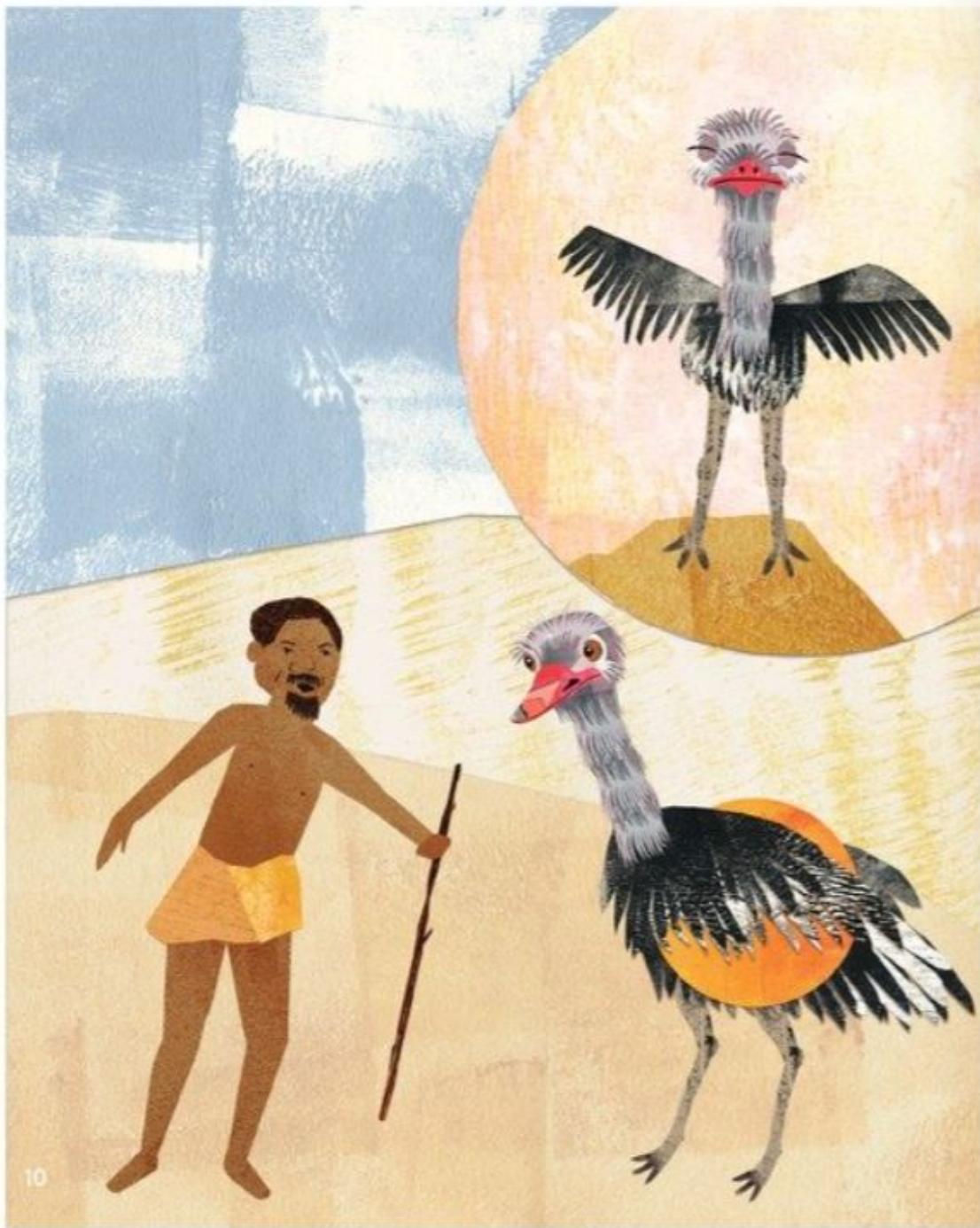
He knew that fire was hidden under Ostrich's wing!

"If I had fire," he said to himself, "I could cook with it and have heat. I must steal it from her. I will flatter and trick Ostrich and get fire for myself!"

When Ostrich saw the First Bushman coming to see her, she kept fire well hidden under her wing.

She knew that he would want it.





“Good morning, clever Ostrich,” said the First Bushman. “I had a dream about you last night. In my dream, you could fly!”

“Fly?” said Ostrich. “How?”

“It was dawn and you were standing on top of a hill,” said the First Bushman. “You had your wings open and your eyes shut!”



Ostrich could not resist the chance to fly.
So the next morning, at dawn, she set off for
the top of a big hill.

She shut her eyes and spread out her wings.
But the First Bushman was waiting!

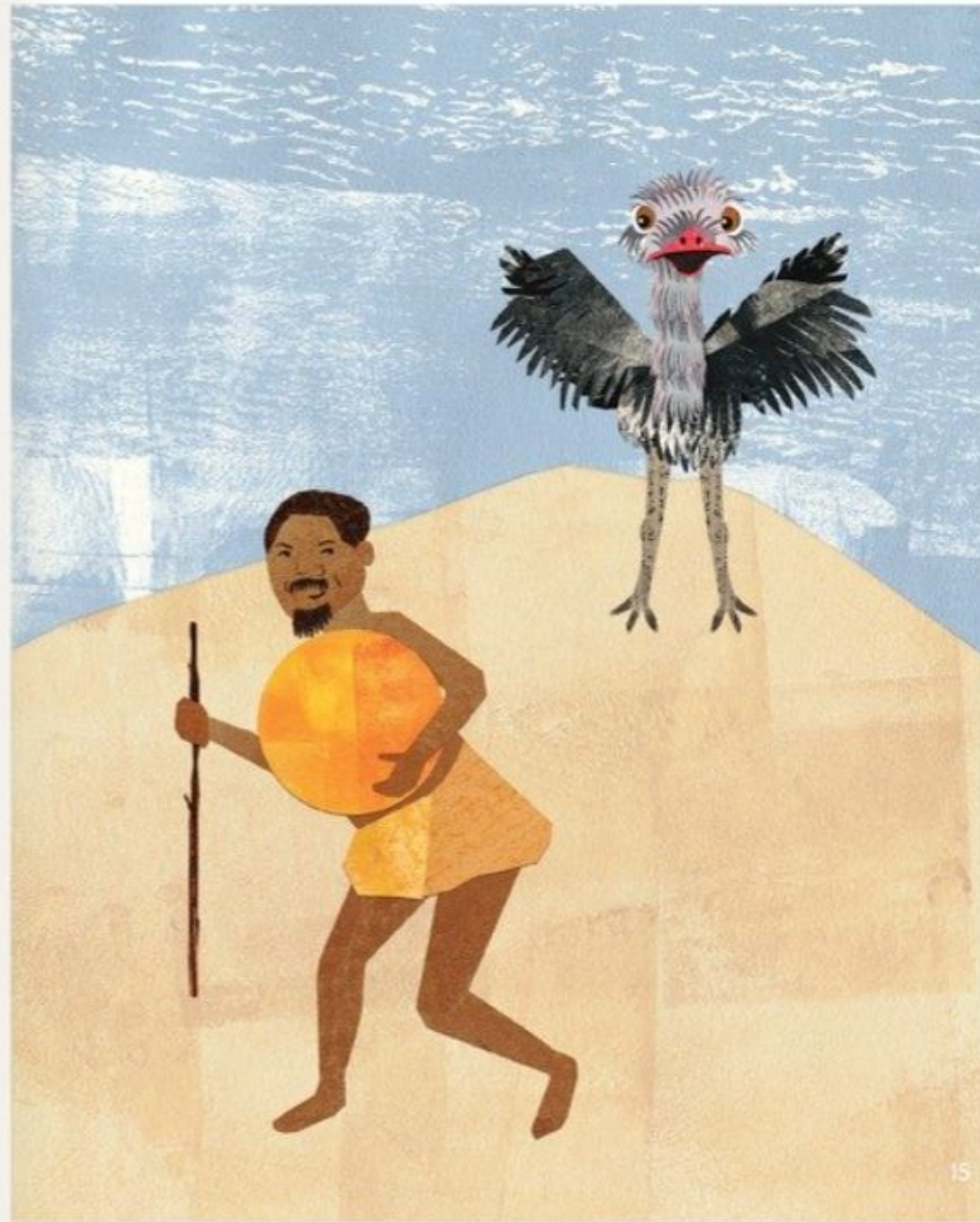
The First Bushman was well hidden and
Ostrich did not spot him!

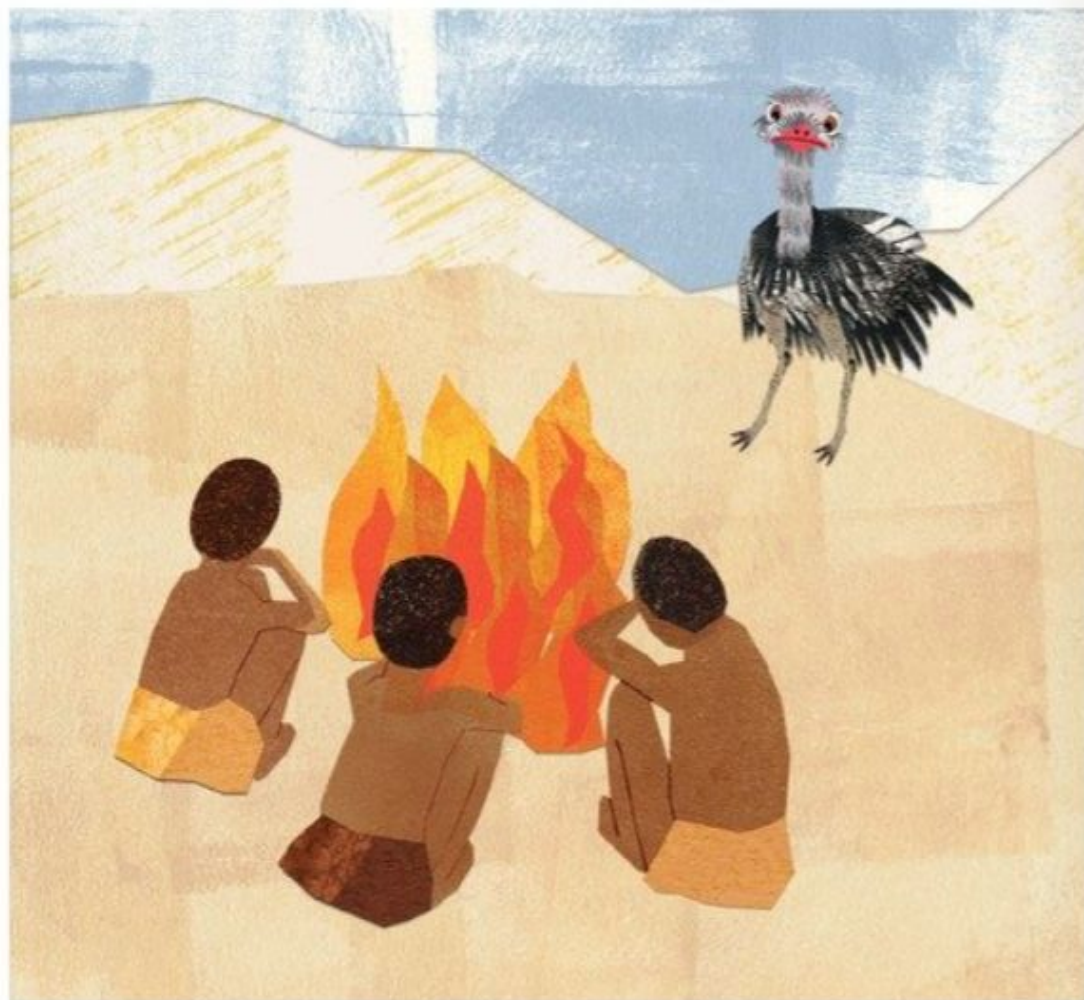
He crept out and stole fire from under Ostrich's
wing.

Then he ran off!

This was such a shock for Ostrich. She was so
upset.

She still could not fly, but now she had lost fire
as well!





From that day on, she was not Clever Ostrich.
She was Foolish Ostrich!
And from that day forth, Mankind had fire.

Ransom Reading Stars Phonics Phase 5 titles: correspondence with Letters and Sounds

Neat and Clean	Introduces the new phoneme /zh/, new graphemes ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, plus the HF words oh, their
Flip Flap Fox	Introduces new graphemes lr, ue, ow, wh, plus the HF words Mr, Mrs
Meet the Dolphins	Introduces new graphemes ph, ew, oe, au, ey, plus the HF words people, looked
Looking at the Stars	Introduces new graphemes a_e, e_e, i_e, o_e, u_e, plus the HF words called, asked
Ships and Boats	Introduces alternative pronunciations of known graphemes a, e, i, o, u, plus the HF words many, different, where, through, water, because
Fantastic Frogs	Introduces alternative pronunciations of known graphemes ow, ie, ea, er, ou, plus the HF words water, different, eyes, who, where, many, their
The Singing Chef	Introduces alternative pronunciations of known graphemes y, ch, c, g, ey, plus the HF words who, laughed, eyes, work, because
The Magic Clog Dancer	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /ch/, /s/
Skipper Kipper and the Treasure Chest	Introduces alternative spellings for the phoneme /z/
Climbing	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /m/, /at/
Ten Shed Fred	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /ol/, /l/
Bears	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /ait/, /sh/
Going by Bus	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /oo/, /eat/
The Elephant's Child	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /or/, /yoo/
Fire	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /igh/, /u/, /yoo/
Foolish Ostrich	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /ur/, /n/, /oo/ (as in bush)
Bikes Then and Now	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /t/, /ee/, /oo/ (as in rule/crew)
The Best Nest	Introduces alternative spellings for the phonemes /oo/ (as in flew/blue), /oo/ (as in put/could), /j/
The Princess and the Pea	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Foxes	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
The Frog in the Well	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Magical Creatures	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Space Flight	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
How Will You Get There?	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Ella's Dragon	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Fantastic Feet	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
A Monster under the Bed	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Spider Girl	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Changes: Heating and Cooling	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Jake the Snake	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5
Muscat: Our City, Our Home	Covers everything in Letters and Sounds Phase 5