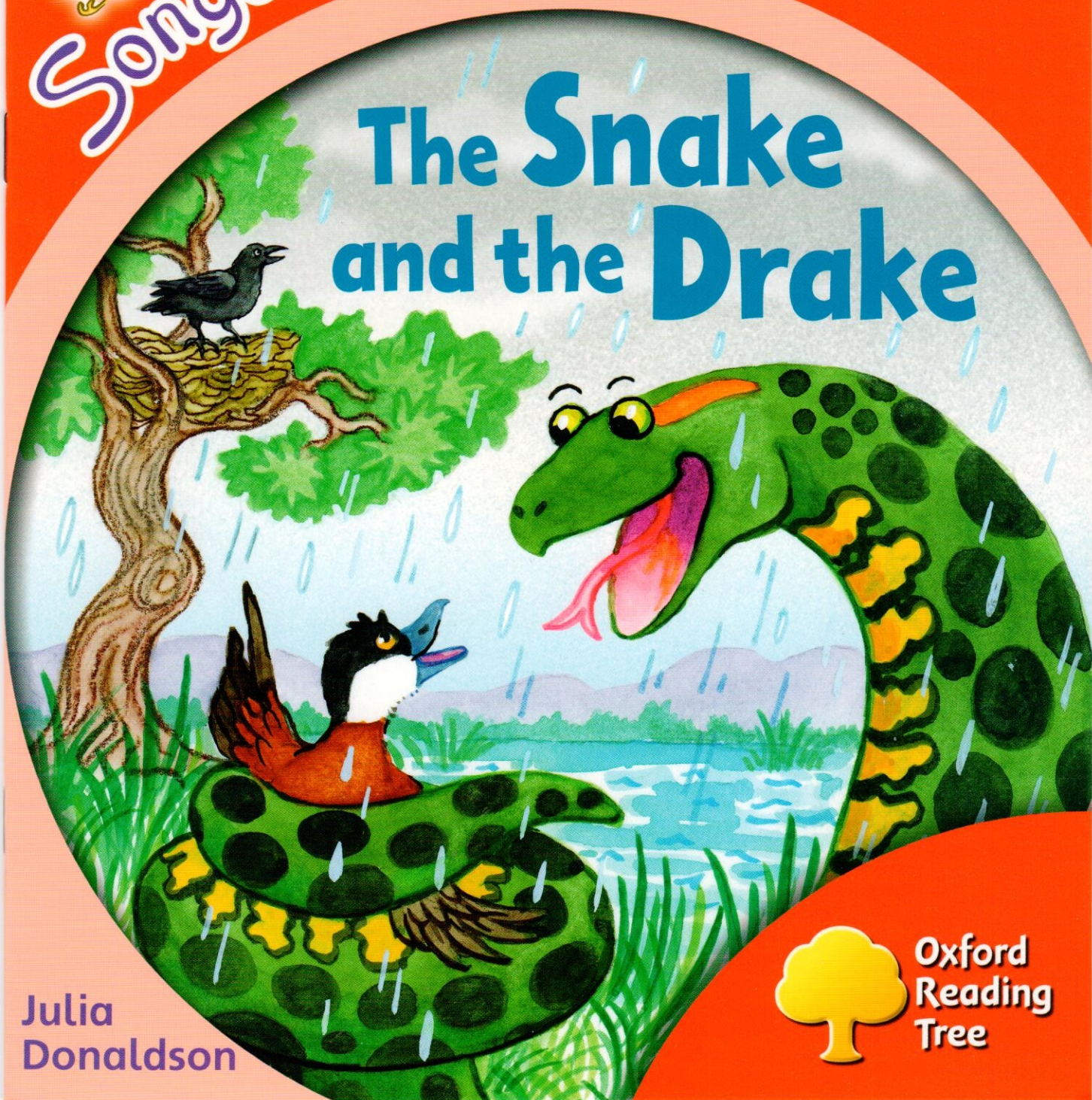


 Songbirds

Phonics

The Snake and the Drake



Julia
Donaldson



Oxford
Reading
Tree



Talk together

Ask the child to

- Point to each pattern in the box on the back cover and say the sound that it makes in words. Tell the child that each of these letter patterns can make the same sound.
- Look out for these letter patterns in the story and try to remember the sound they make.

Read 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 do not recognise by saying the sounds of each letter pattern separately (e.g. *d-ay*), then running the sounds together quickly. If the child finds it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for them first, then see if they can hear the word.
- Explain that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check to see if it sounds like a real word as some words are less regular (e.g. *you*). Read these words to the child if they do not recognise them. Point out the letters that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *y* in *you*). This will help the child to remember these words.

See inside back cover for other activities.

A duck and a drake had a
nest by a lake.



One rainy day, a snake
came to the nest.



The duck got away but the
snake got the drake.



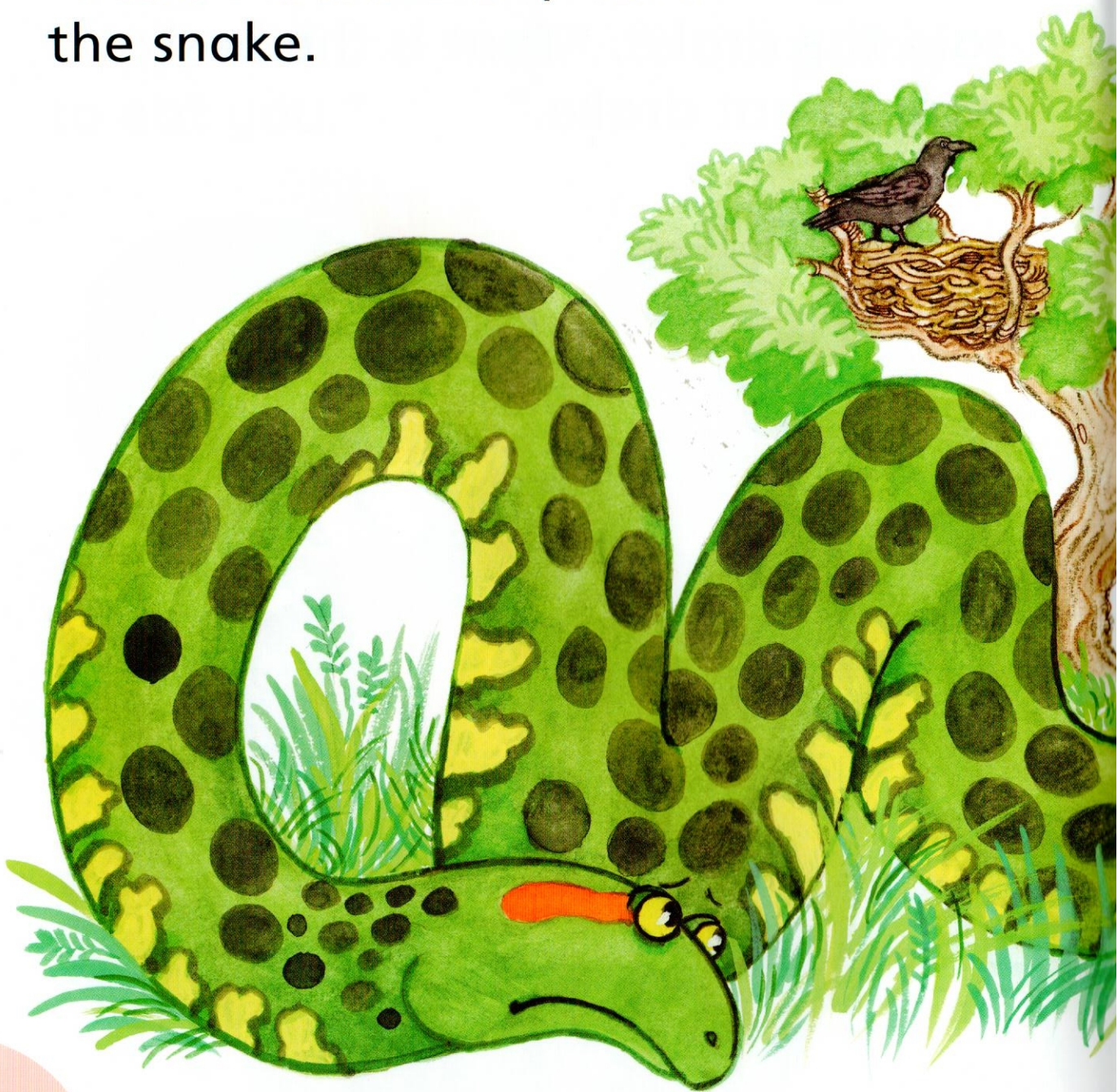
"Let go of my tail," said the drake.
"No," said the snake. "I am going
to eat you."



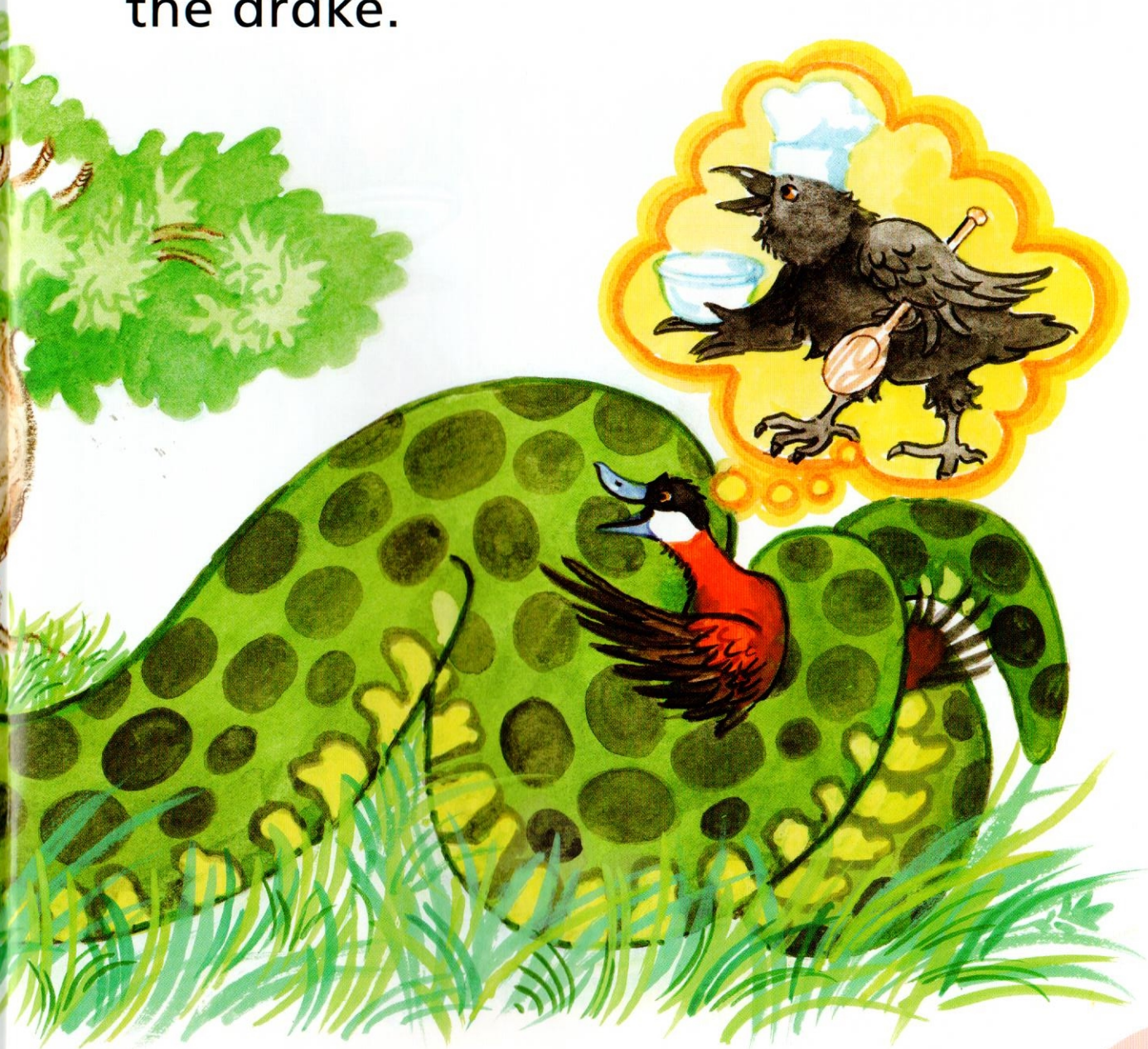
"Will you eat me with some cake?"
said the drake. "That is the best
way to eat drake."



"I can't make cake," said
the snake.



"But Raven can make cake," said the drake.



"Raven's cake is yummy," said the drake.



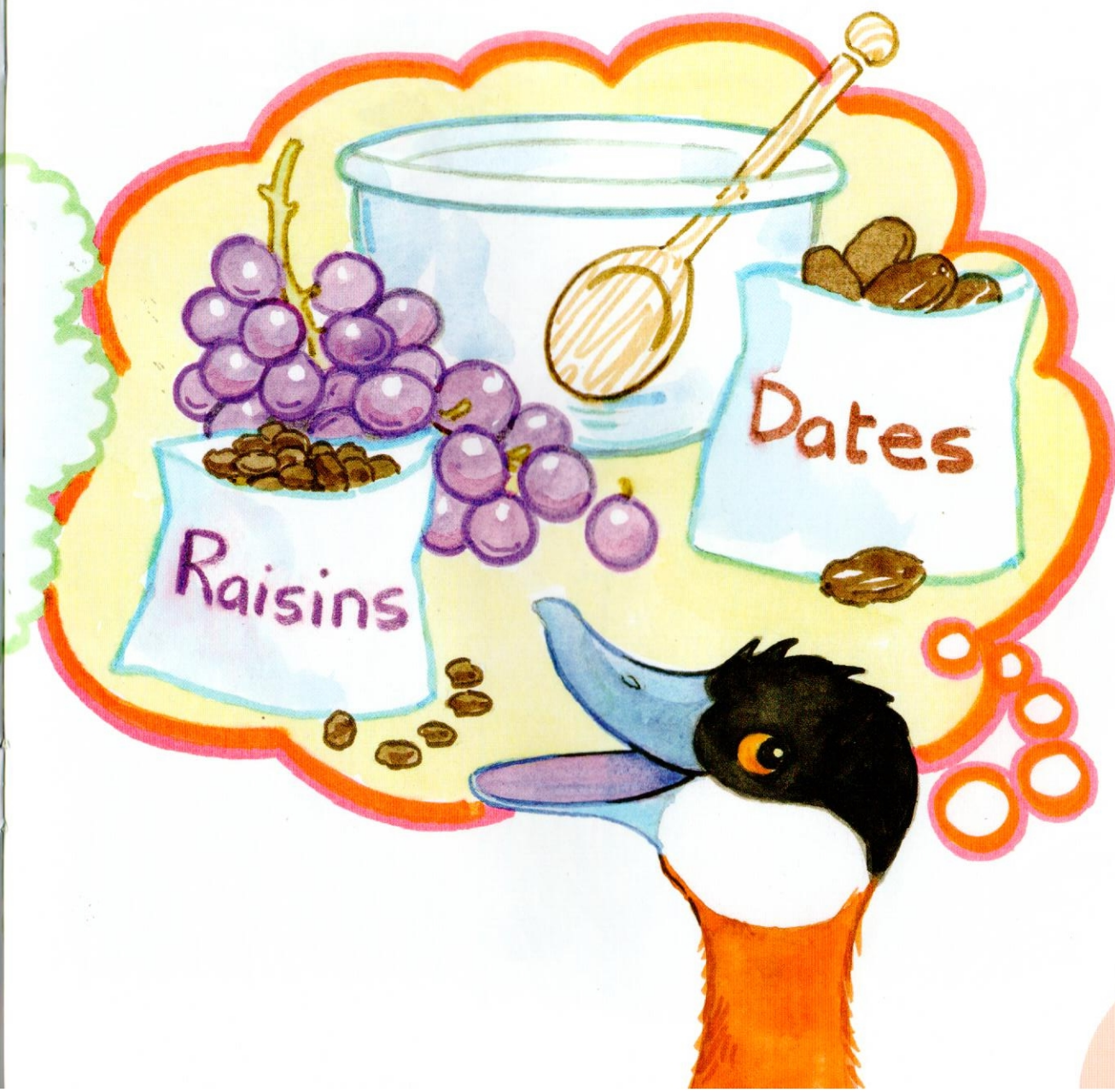
"He makes it every day."



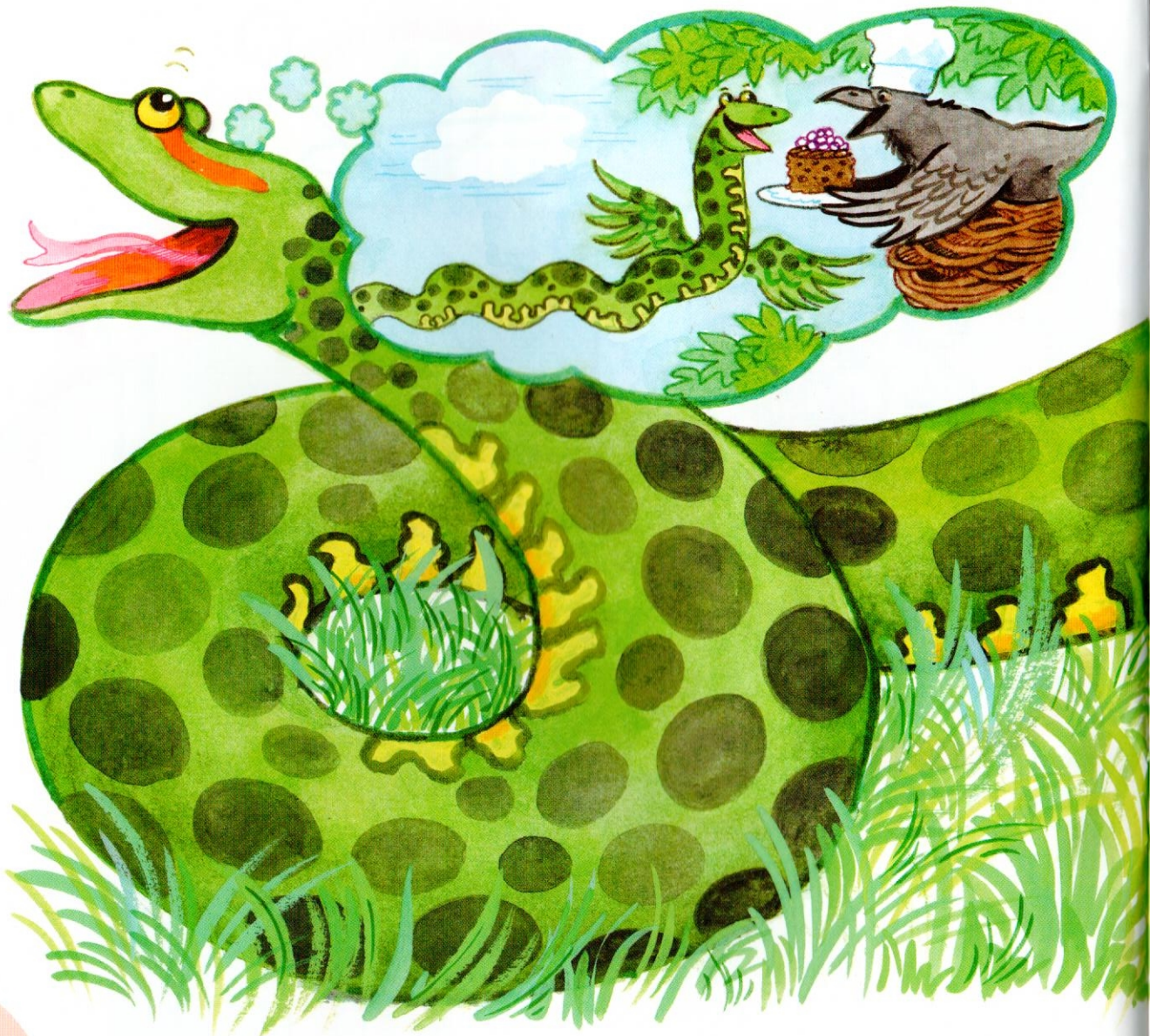
"What is in Raven's cake?" said the snake.



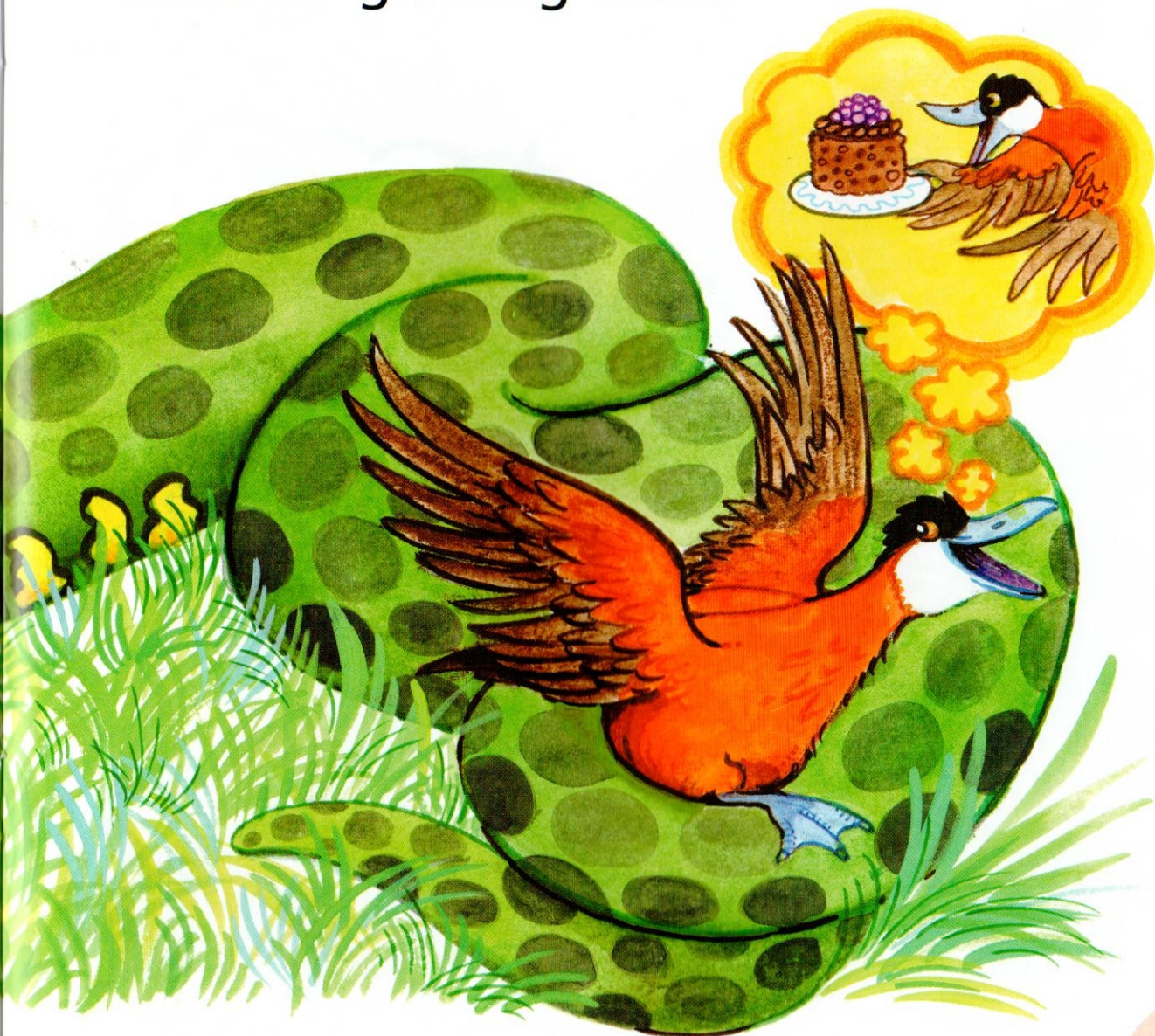
"Grapes and dates and raisins,"
said the drake.



"Yum yum," said the snake. "What a shame I can't fly to Raven's nest."



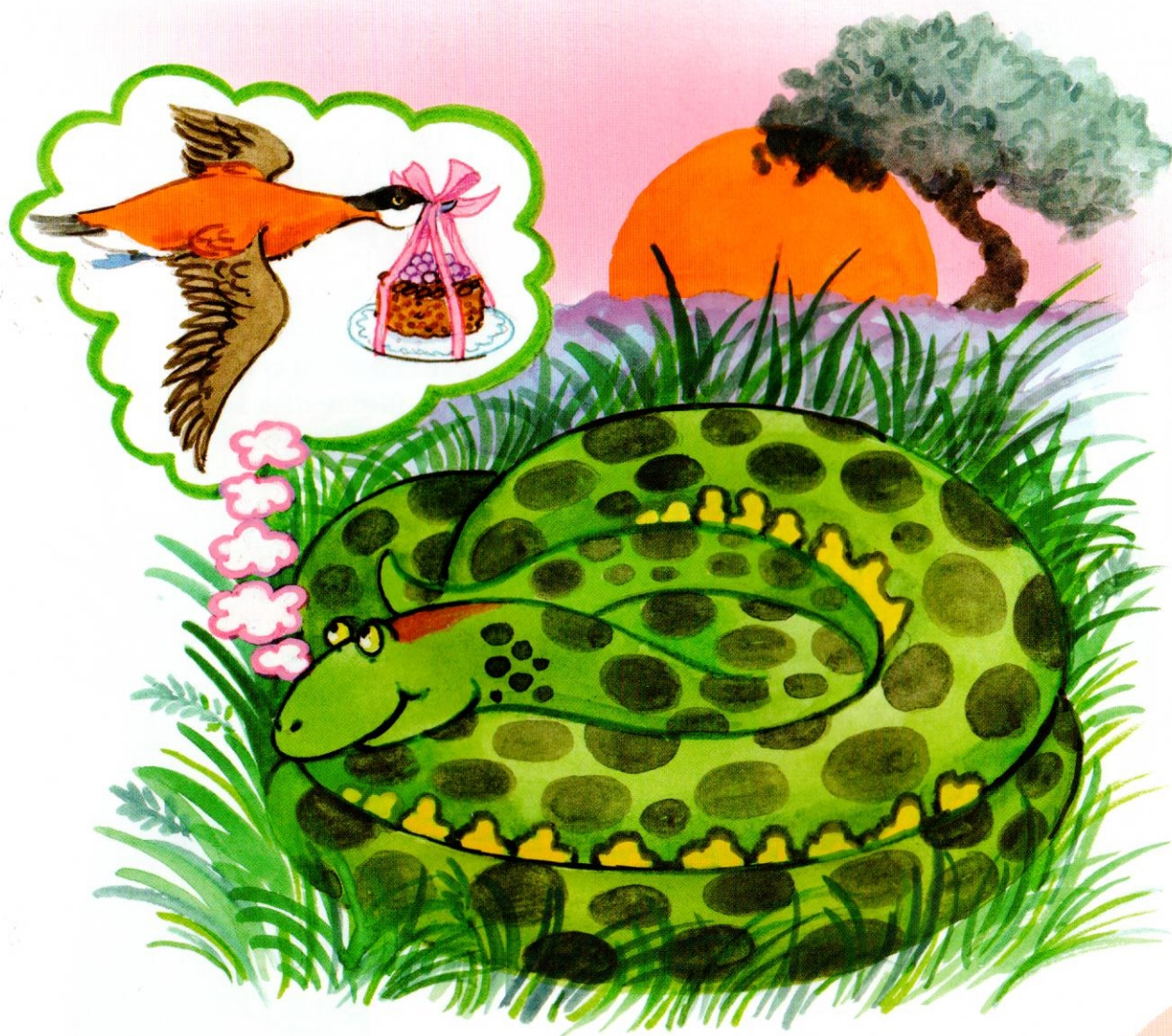
"But I can fly," said the drake.
"If you wait, I can get you some of
Raven's yummy cake."



"Okay. I will wait," said the snake,
and he let the drake get away.



Snake lay and waited. He waited
all day. But the drake did not
come back.



Snake is still waiting.



Check comprehension

Ask the child

- Why did the snake let the drake get away? (He thought the drake would bring him some yummy cake.)
- Will the drake come back?

Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask the child to

- Read page 2, find some words which contain a long *ai* sound (*rainy, day, a, snake, came*).
- Point to the letter pattern that makes the long *ai* sound in the words (*ai, ay, a, a-consonant-e*).
- Find and read some more words which contain the letter pattern *ay* (*away, way, okay, lay*).
- On page 6, find some words which rhyme (*make, cake, snake*). What is the vowel in each of these words? (long *ai*)

Example phonic words: rainy tail raisins wait waited waiting day away way okay lay drake lake snake come cake make makes Raven Raven's grapes dates shame a

Context words: can't come every one the to said some what you