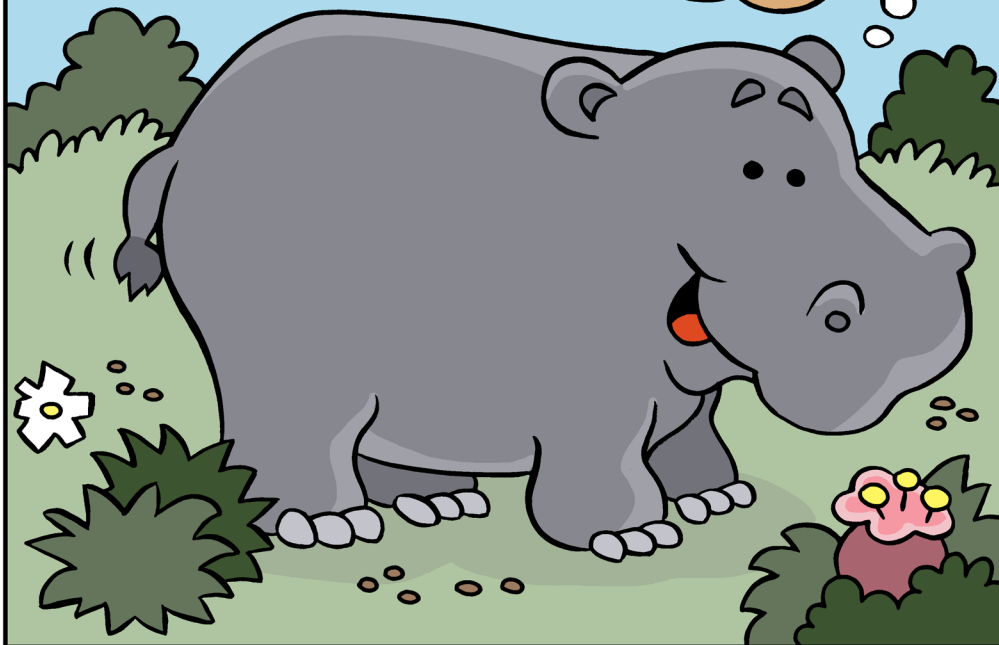


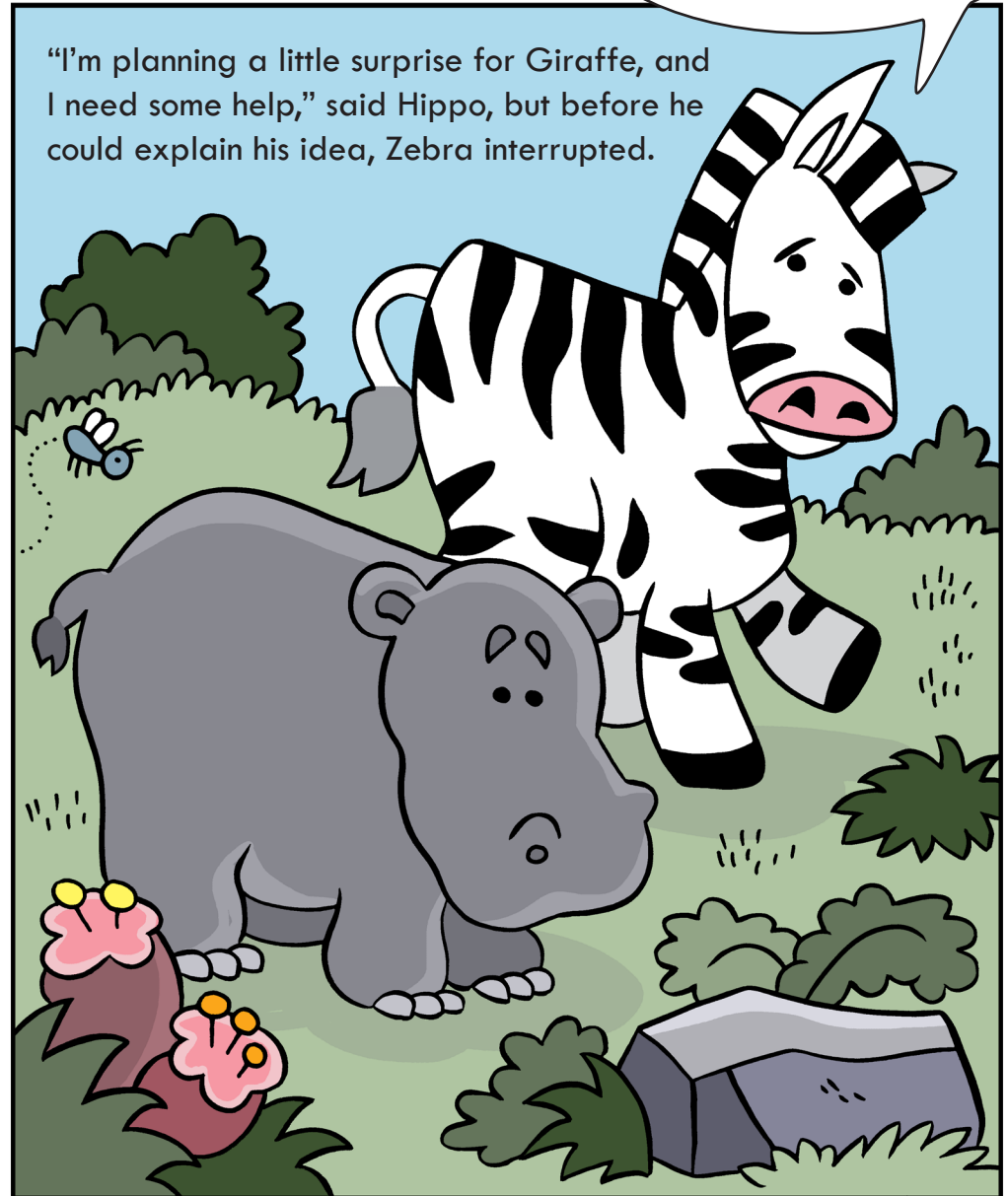
HIPPO'S SURPRISE FOR GIRAFFE

Hippo wanted to celebrate Giraffe's anniversary. It was exactly a year since Giraffe had arrived at Ziddle-Zaddle Safari Park. He thought hard and came up with an idea, but he needed help to pull it off. He decided to ask his friend Zebra.



"I'm planning a little surprise for Giraffe, and I need some help," said Hippo, but before he could explain his idea, Zebra interrupted.

"I WISH I COULD HELP, BUT I'M FEELING VERY SLEEPY TODAY."



Hippo decided to try his friend Gazelle. He walked over to where Gazelle liked to graze.

But Gazelle was in a rush. "Can't stop!" said Gazelle as she whizzed by Hippo. "Ask me tomorrow! I might have time then."

CAN'T STOP!



Hippo felt sad. He could try to do his idea on his own, but he wasn't sure he would get it finished in time.

Just then Ostrich happened by. "Why so glum?" asked Ostrich.

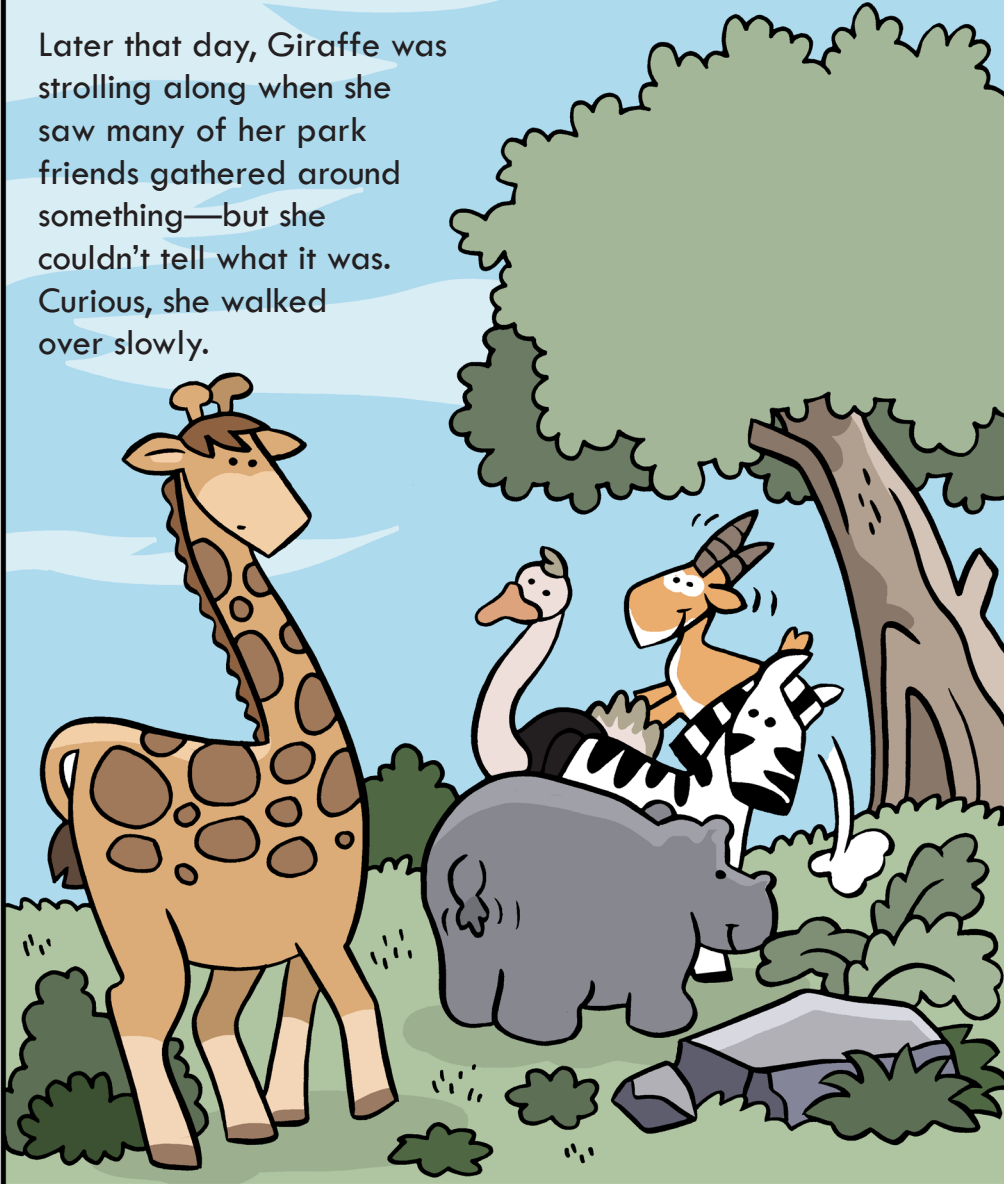
"Oh, I had this idea for a surprise for Giraffe, but no one wants to help me..."



Ostrich perked up. "I'll help you, Hippo. I remember when you helped me bump that large tree to get some of the ripe fruit." Ostrich put a wing around Hippo's shoulders. "Giraffe is my friend, too."

Hippo smiled with relief, then explained his idea.

Later that day, Giraffe was strolling along when she saw many of her park friends gathered around something—but she couldn't tell what it was. Curious, she walked over slowly.



Spelled out with twigs and rocks and sticks were the words "Happy Anniversary, Giraffe!" Beside the sign was a pile of Giraffe's favorite fruits and leaves.



“Hippo did it,” said Zebra, looking a bit ashamed that he had been too lazy to join in on the surprise.

“Ostrich too,” said Gazelle, who was also wishing she had not been too busy to help Hippo.

“Thank you, Hippo and Ostrich,” said Giraffe.
“You have made my day!”

The two animals grinned and patted each other on the back. Their surprise was a success!

