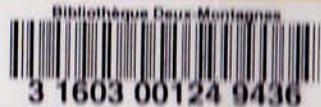


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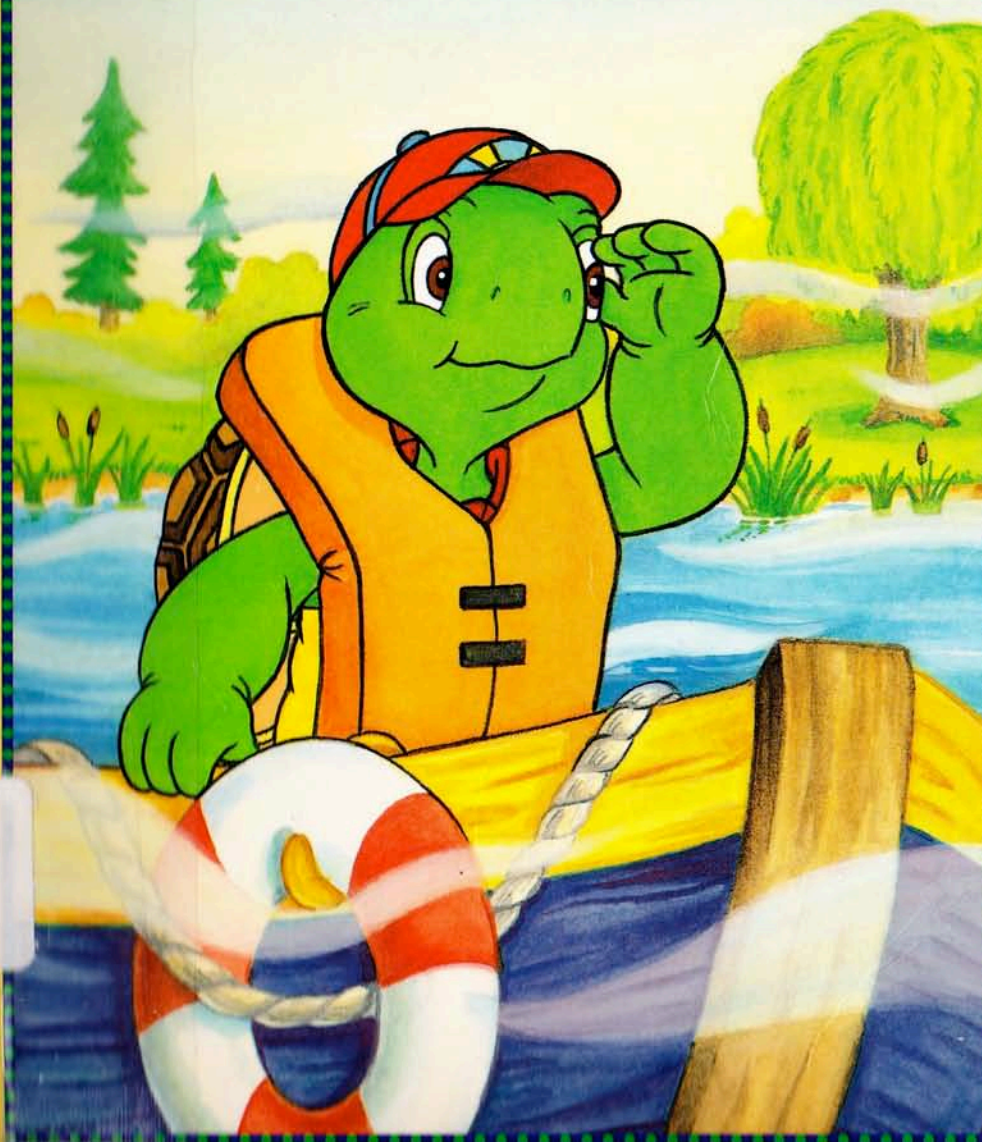
FRANKLIN'S POND PHANTOM

FRAN

★ Kids Can Read



Franklin's POND PHANTOM





Franklin can tie his shoes.

Franklin can count by twos.

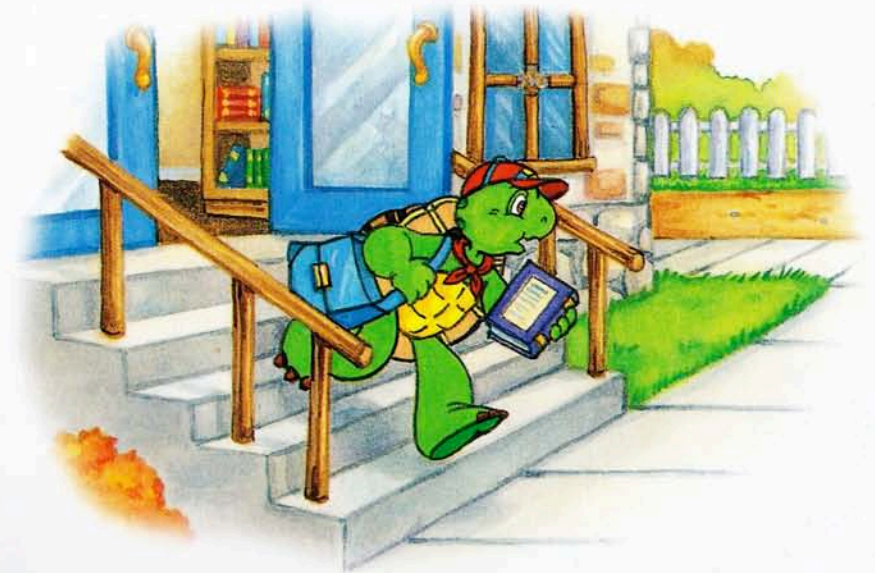
And Franklin can hardly

wait to go looking for

the Pond Phantom.

He read about the phantom in a book.

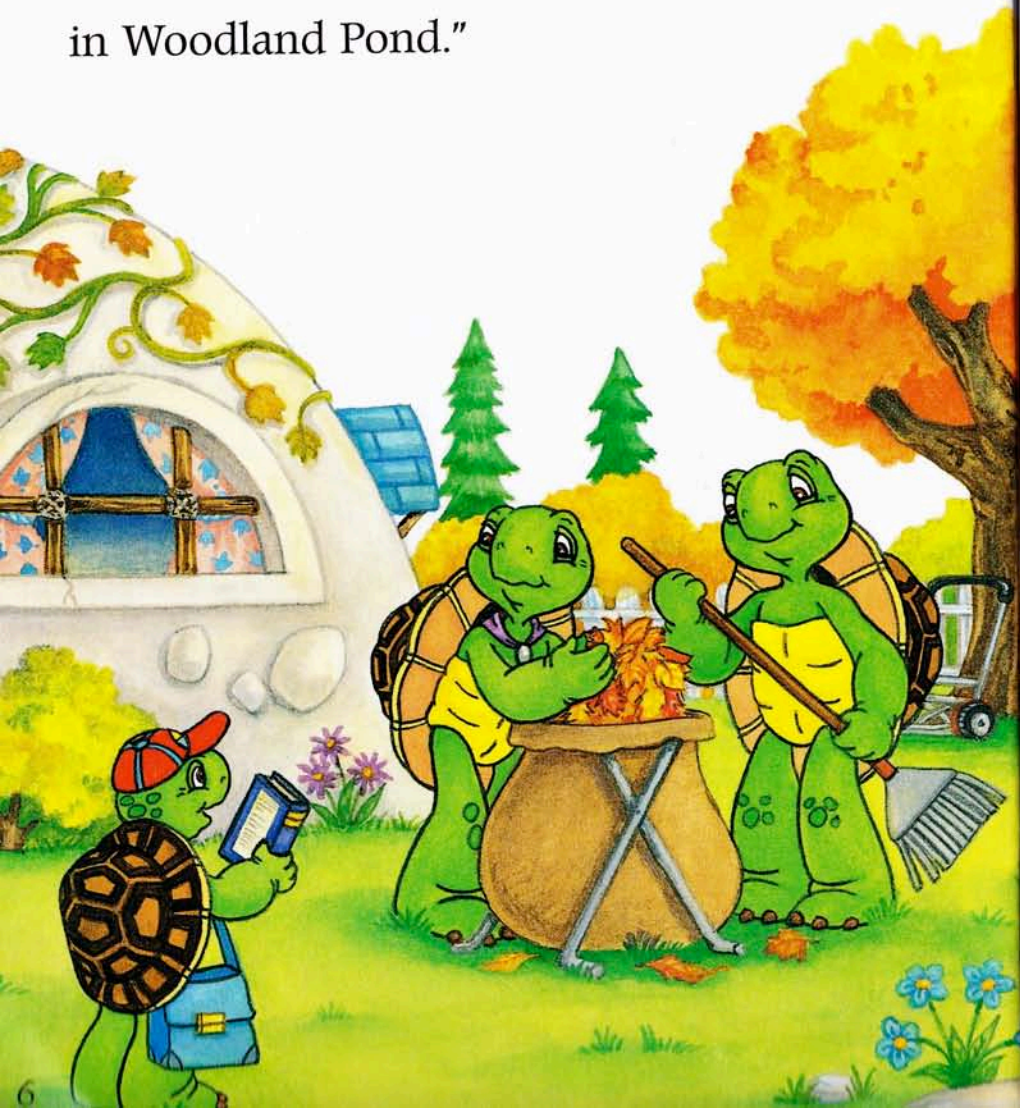
So Franklin knows it *must* be real.



Franklin ran to find his parents.

"I am going to look for
the Pond Phantom," he said.

"It lives deep, deep down
in Woodland Pond."

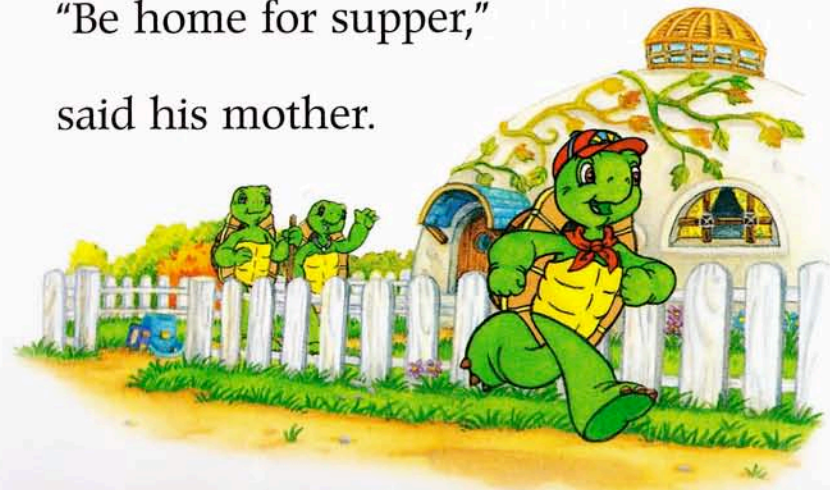


"But no one has
seen the phantom
for a long, long time,"
said his father.



"Well, *I'm* going to see
it today," said Franklin.

"Be home for supper,"
said his mother.





Franklin went to the pond.

"I will watch and wait," he said.

"I *know* I will see
the Pond Phantom."

Franklin sat down.

He watched
and waited.



He waited
and watched.



Soon, he
fell asleep.





In a little while, Franklin woke up.

The sun was shining.

The water sparkled.

The air was hazy.

And something tall and white
was moving across the water.

Franklin rubbed his eyes.

“It’s the Pond Phantom!” he shouted.



Franklin ran to tell his friends.

"I saw the Pond Phantom!" he cried.



"Wow!" said Bear.

"My great-granny
saw it once."

"Well, I've never seen it,"
said Beaver.

"And I live *in* the pond."



"Let's go to the pond now," said Franklin.

"Maybe we can all see the Pond Phantom."



Franklin and Bear and Beaver
went to the pond.

"I was sitting right here," said Franklin.

"And I saw a big, white monster!"

"Ooooh," said Bear.

"And it was heading straight for me,"
added Franklin.

"Hmph!" said Beaver.



Everyone watched and waited.

Nothing happened.



"I think the phantom
is a phony,"
said Beaver.

"I'm going home."

"Me too," said Bear.

"I'm hungry."



Soon, Franklin had an idea.

“A photo will show the phantom’s not a phony,”

he said.



He ran home
for his camera.

He ran back
to the pond.



The sun was shining.

The water sparkled.

The air was hazy.

And something tall and white
was moving across the water!

SNAP!

Franklin took a photo of the phantom!





Franklin ran to the store.

His photo was printed.

It was a little blurry.

But the photo showed something tall and white moving across the water.

"Wow!" said Franklin.

"I *did* see the Pond Phantom!"



The next day, Franklin met
Bear and Beaver at the pond.
Franklin held out the photo.
“Wow!” said Bear.



Beaver grabbed the photo.
“This looks like a big, white
blur to me,” she said.
“I want to see the Pond Phantom
for myself!”





So Franklin and Bear and Beaver sat down.
They watched and waited.

They waited
and watched.



Soon, Bear and
Beaver fell asleep.

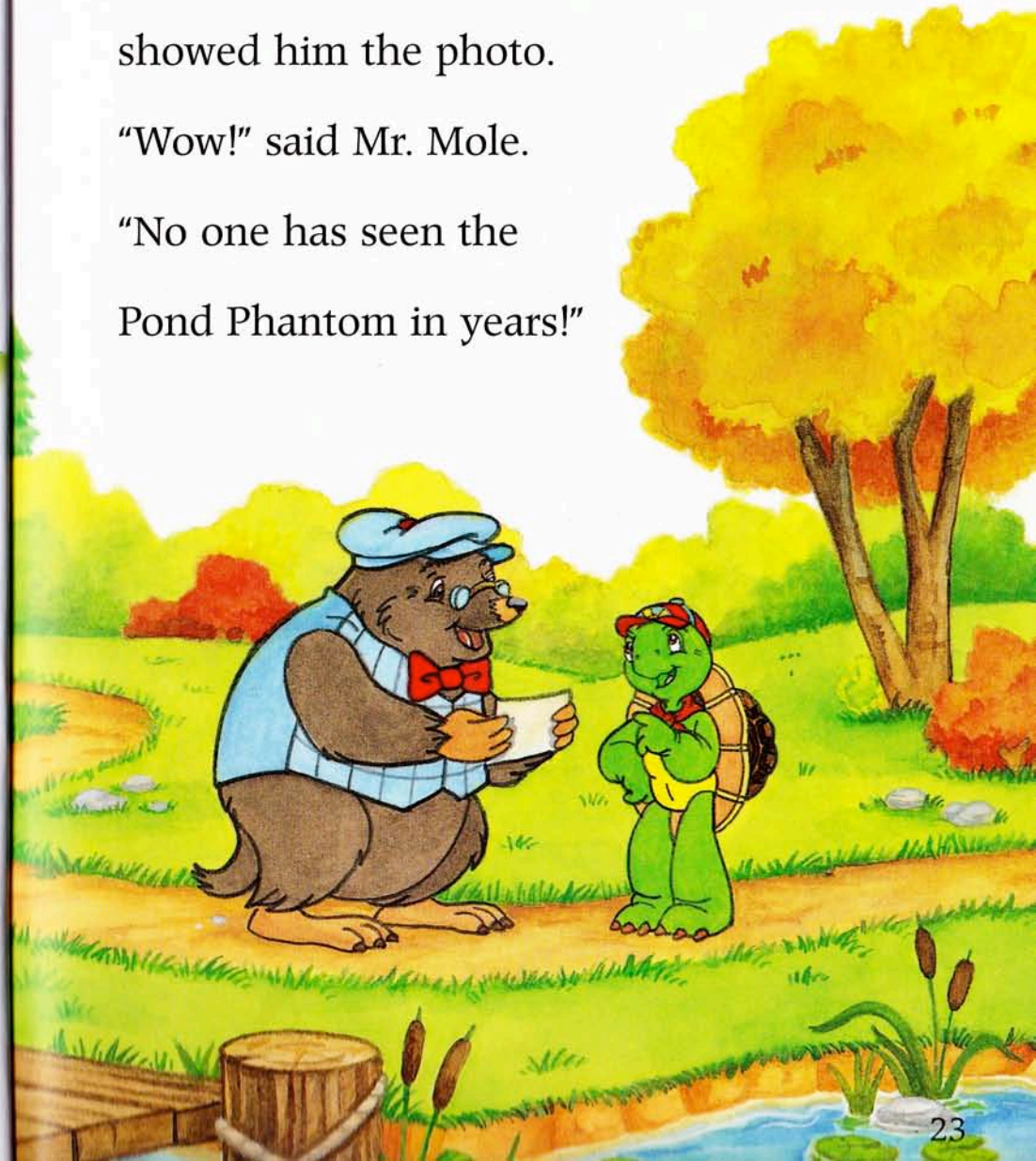


Franklin went for a walk
around the pond.

He saw Mr. Mole and
showed him the photo.

"Wow!" said Mr. Mole.

"No one has seen the
Pond Phantom in years!"



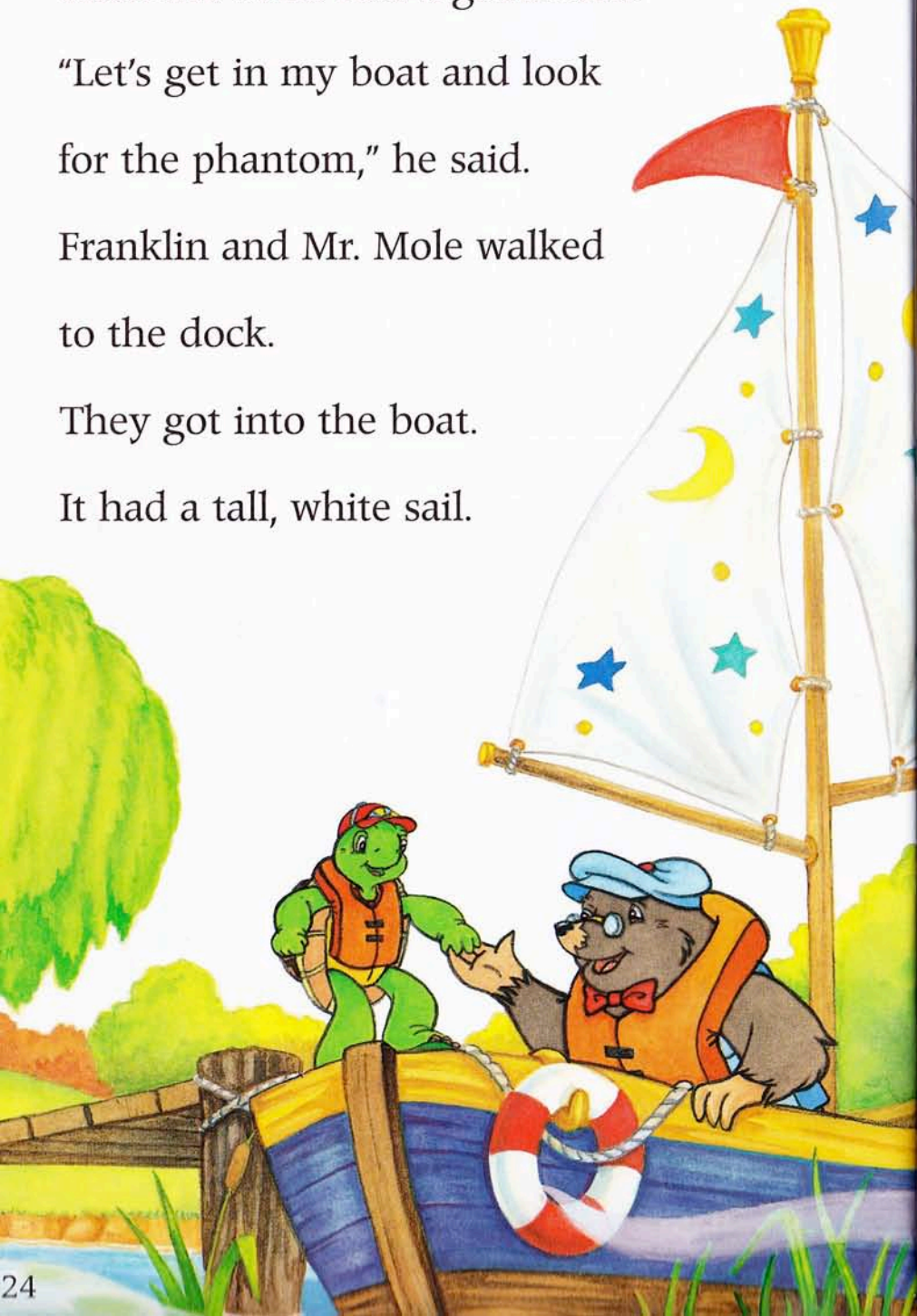
Then Mr. Mole had a good idea.

“Let’s get in my boat and look
for the phantom,” he said.

Franklin and Mr. Mole walked
to the dock.

They got into the boat.

It had a tall, white sail.



Franklin and Mr. Mole sailed
all around the pond.

They did not see the Pond Phantom.

Back on the shore,
Bear and Beaver woke up.
The sun was shining.
The water sparkled.
The air was hazy.
And something tall and white
was moving across the water!



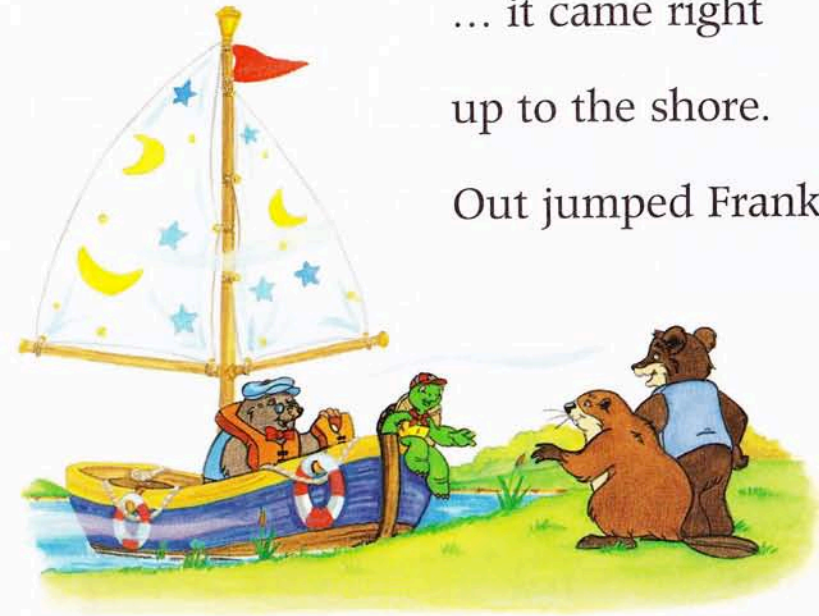
"Look!" said Bear.
"The Pond Phantom
is coming right at us!"

"Listen!"
said Beaver.
"The Pond Phantom
is calling our names!"



The Pond Phantom came closer
and closer until ...

... it came right
up to the shore.
Out jumped Franklin.



Mr. Mole sailed away.
“We went looking for
the Pond Phantom,” said Franklin.
“But we didn’t see it anywhere.”



“Well, *we* did,” said Beaver.
“Really?” asked Franklin. “Where?”
“Turn around and look,” said Bear.
Franklin turned around and looked.



The sun was shining.

The water sparkled.

The air was hazy.

And something tall and white
was moving across the water!

"It's the Pond Phantom!" cried Franklin.



Bear and Beaver laughed.

"It is *not* the Pond Phantom," said Beaver.

"It is just Mr. Mole's boat," said Bear.

"What?!" said Franklin.

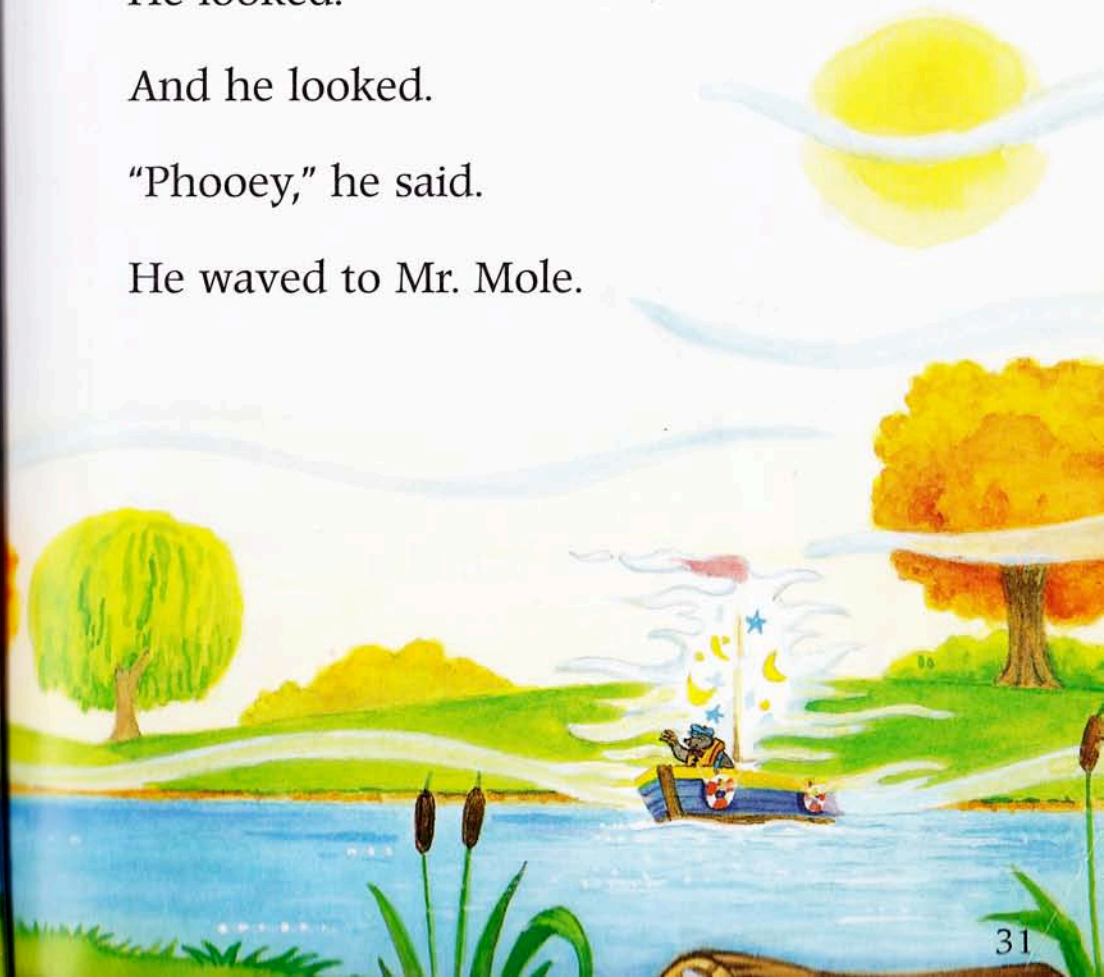
He turned and looked again.

He looked.

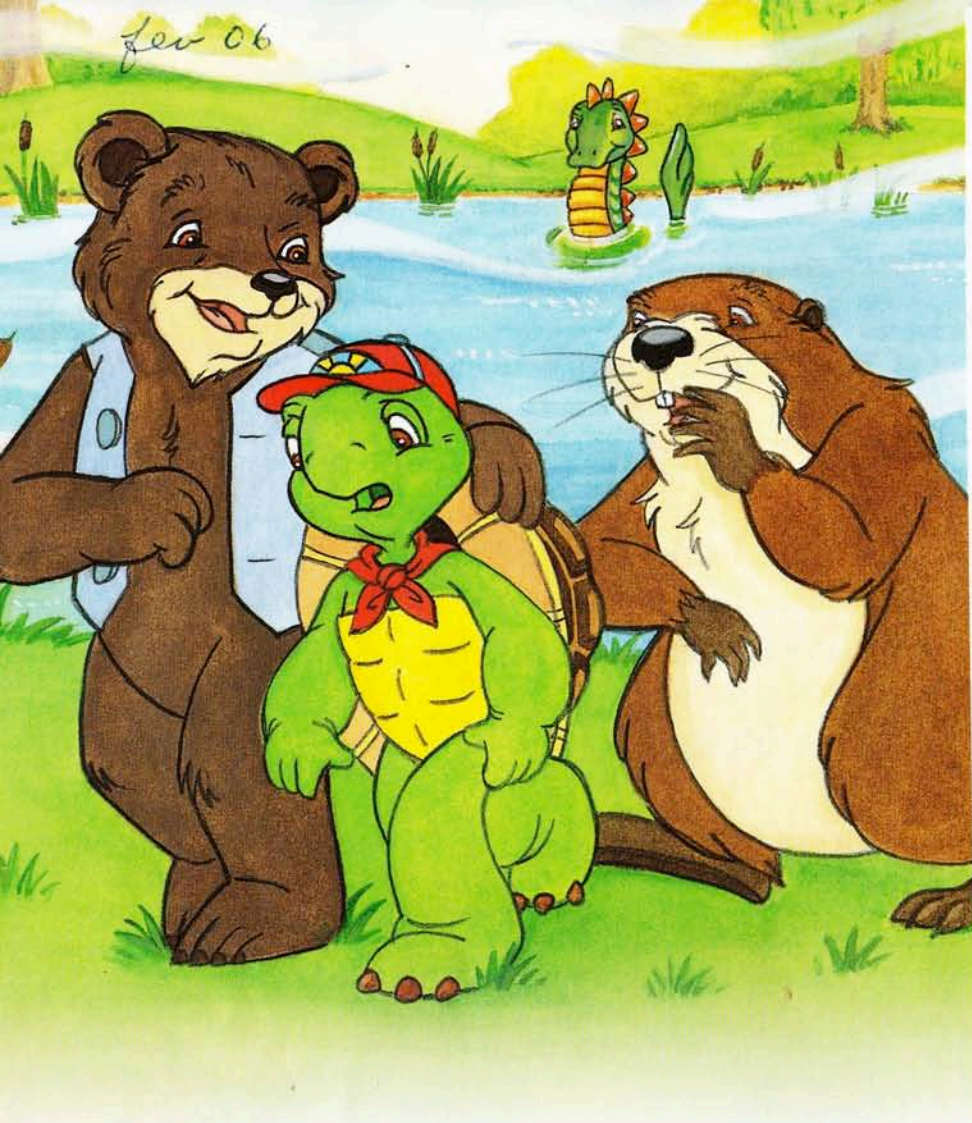
And he looked.

"Phooey," he said.

He waved to Mr. Mole.



Feb 06



"Let's go home," said Franklin.

"I guess the phantom is
a phony after all."

ok for these other Level 2 books
the Kids Can Read series

