

Animal Teams

by Rachel Mann

Genre Nonfiction

Essential Question

How do animals help each other?

Read about unusual animal partners.



Go Digital!

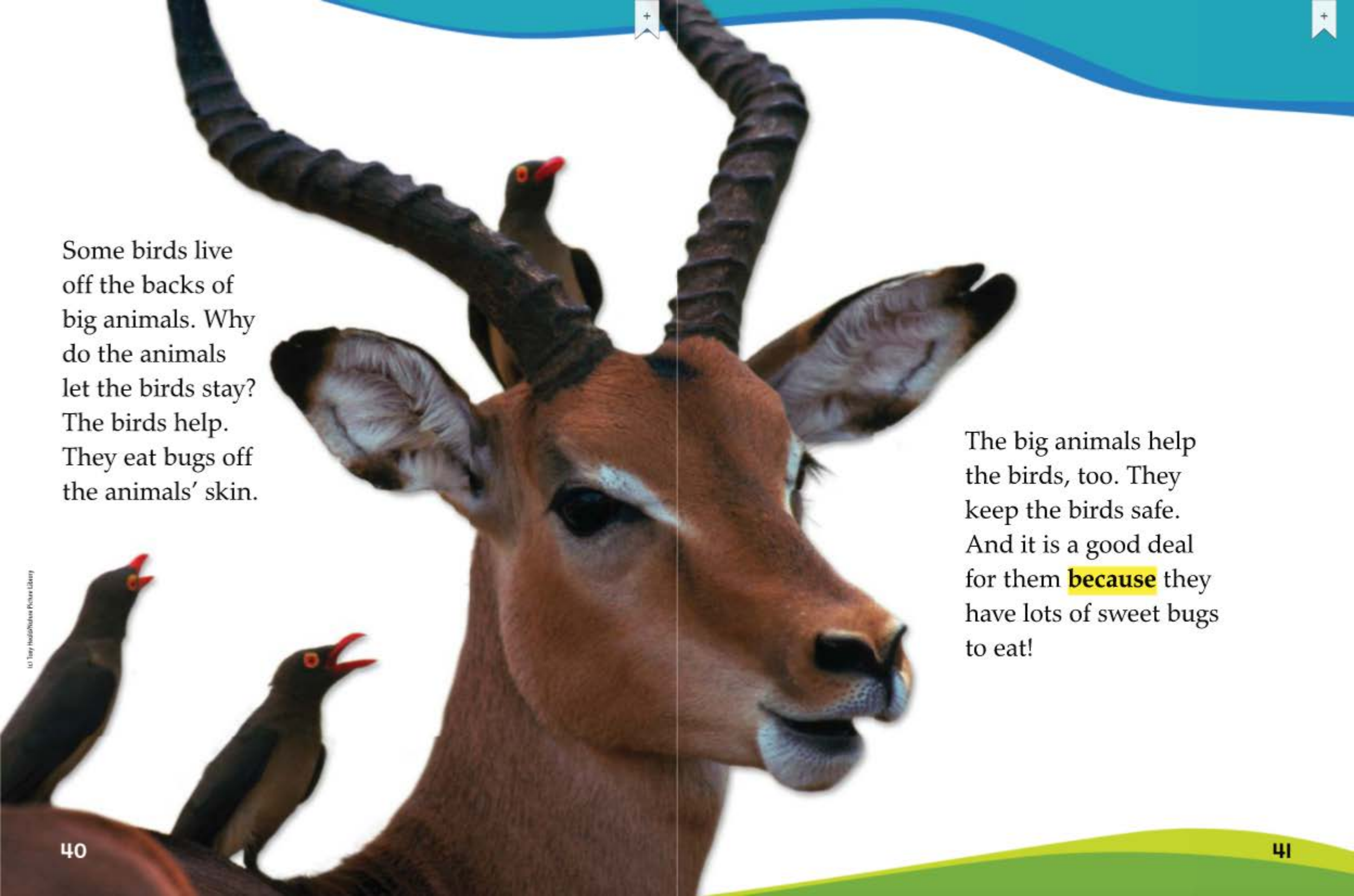
Can a **small** bird help a big giraffe?

Can a shrimp help a fish?

Yes, they can!



These may seem like odd friends. But many animals work together in teams. These animals help each **other** in lots of ways. Let's find out how.



Some birds live
off the backs of
big animals. Why
do the animals
let the birds stay?
The birds help.
They eat bugs off
the animals' skin.

The big animals help
the birds, too. They
keep the birds safe.
And it is a good deal
for them **because** they
have lots of sweet bugs
to eat!



The shrimp helps the goby, too. It will go **into** a hole to hide. It lets the goby hide here, too. The shrimp and the goby hide until it is safe to go out.

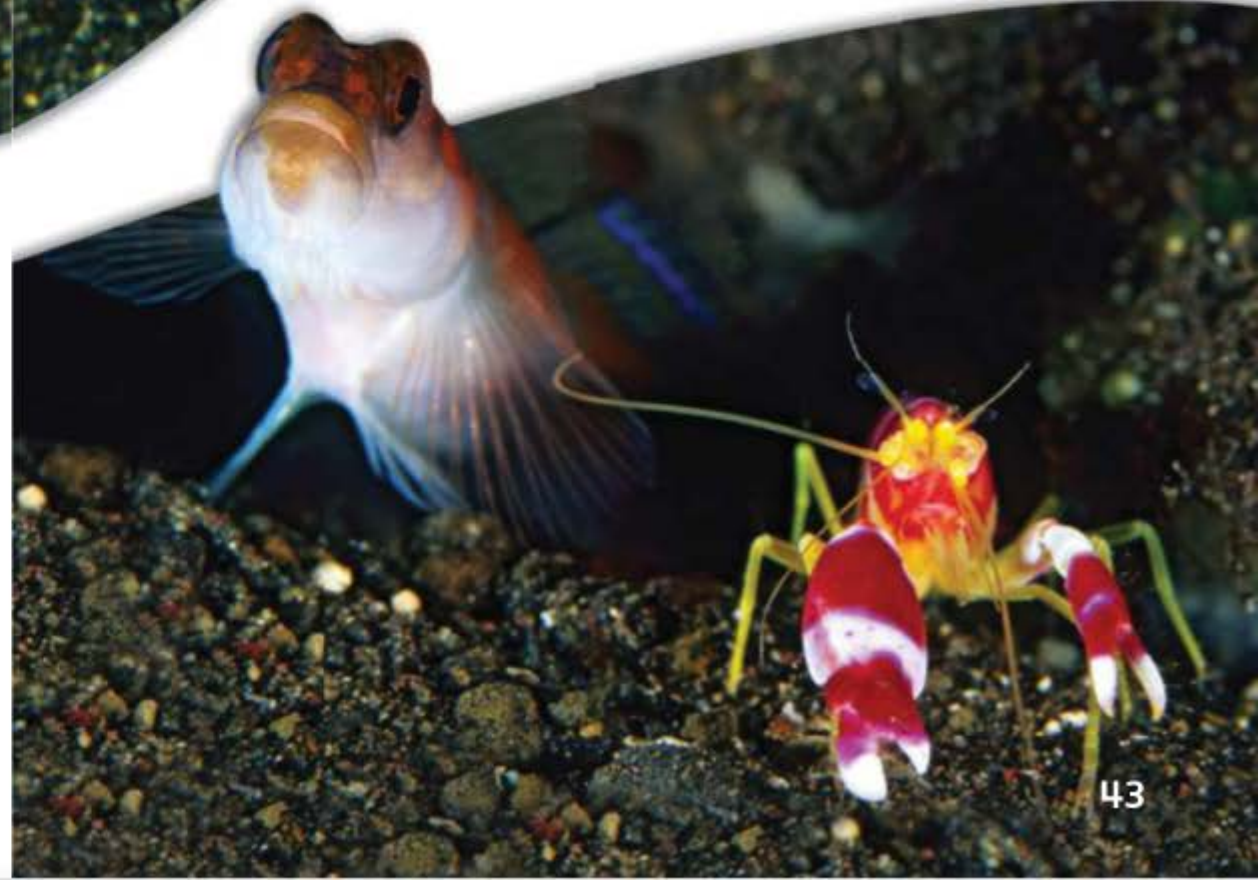


Art by Belovskaya/istock.com

The goby fish and the blind shrimp make a good team.

The shrimp can't see, so the goby helps. The goby looks out for **danger**, and the shrimp stays close. When the goby flicks its tail, it means that it is time to hide.

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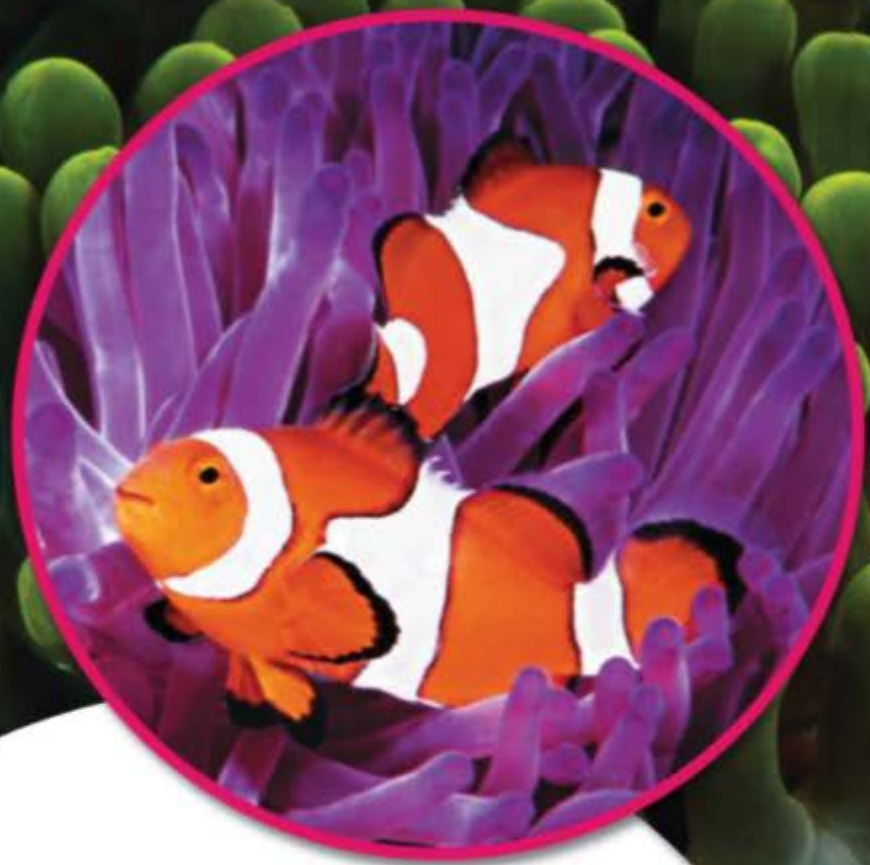


Zebras and wildebeests live on the hot plains. They both like to eat grass all day. These animals are seen together a lot. Why?



They stay together because they can help each other find fresh grass to eat.

They also help each other keep safe. If a zebra **or** a wildebeest spots danger, it runs. This tells the rest to run, too.



Many fish want to eat the little clown fish. It needs a safe home. So it lives in a sea anemone.

The clown fish is safe because most fish stay away. Why? The sea anemone stings! But the clown fish can not feel its sting.

The clown fish helps its **partner**, too. It swims in and out, in and out. It chases away big fish that could hurt its pal.



A caterpillar needs to be safe so that it can grow.

Who will help? Ants will!
Ants see the caterpillar and take it to a safe place.

Why do ants do this?

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The caterpillar has a sweet liquid on its skin. The ants like the taste.

Soon the caterpillar will be a pretty **blue** butterfly.



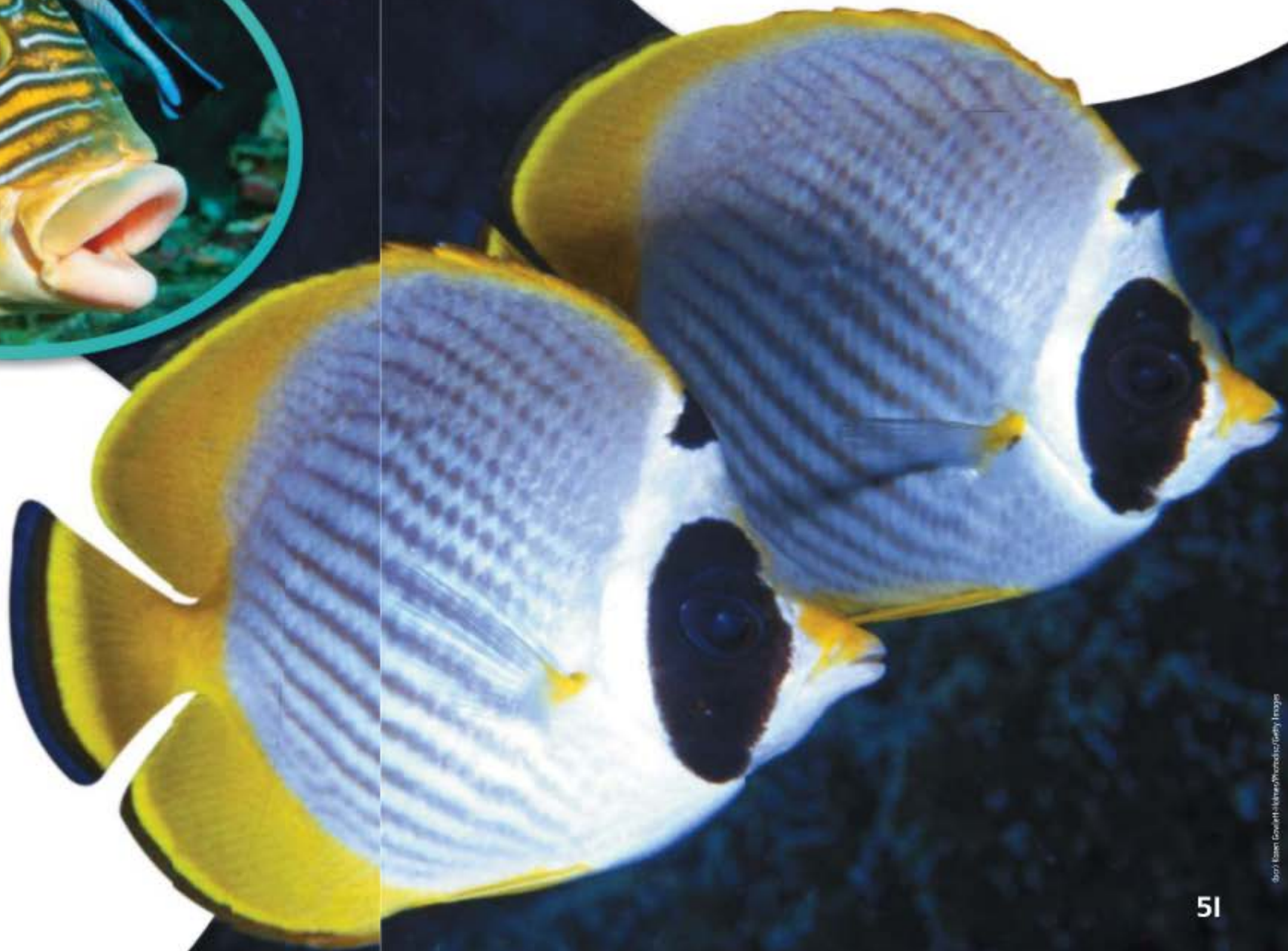
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When a little cleaner fish wants to eat, it looks for bigger fish to clean. Why? It gets a free meal when it cleans.

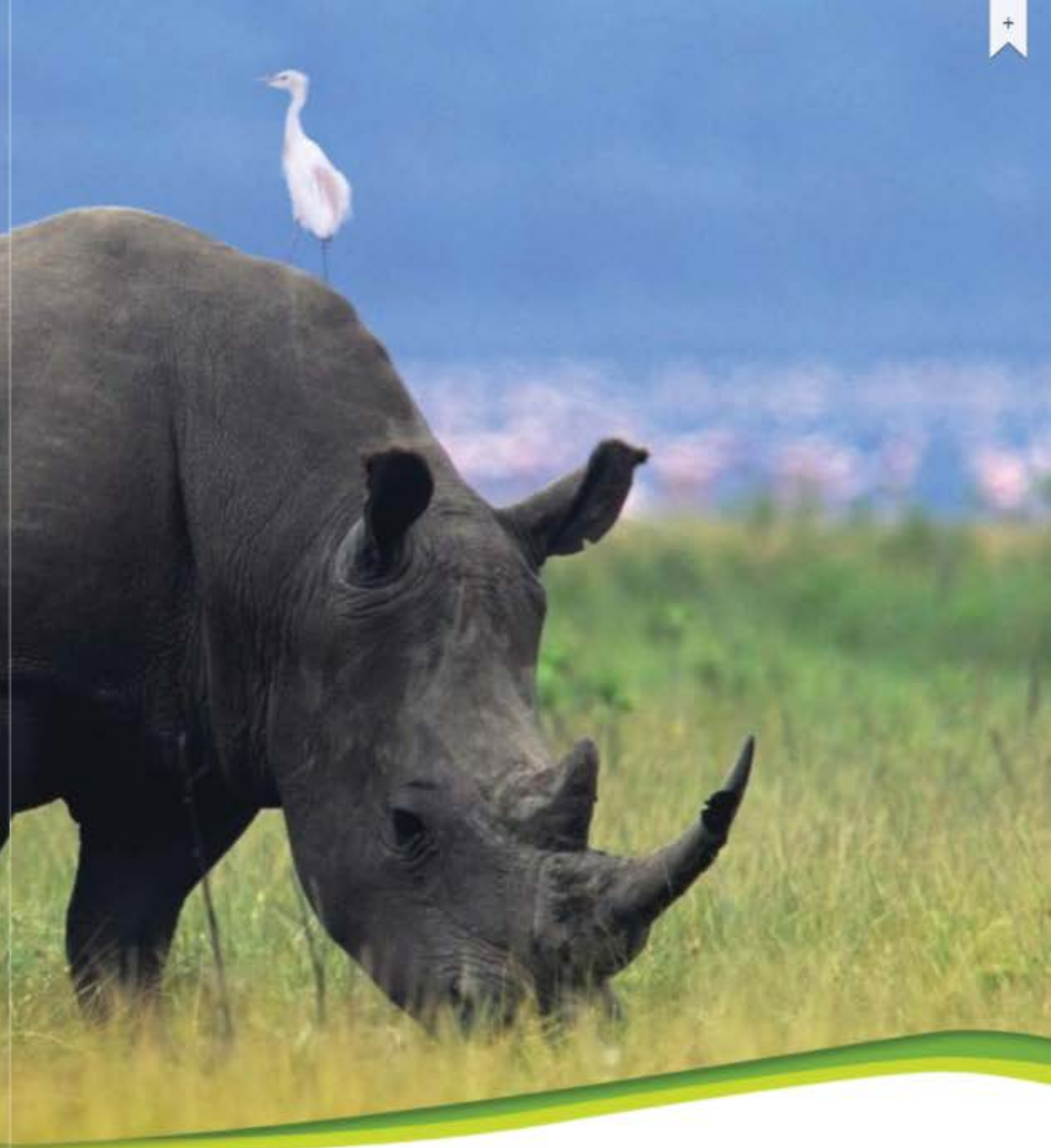
A cleaner fish eats the pests off of other fish.

The big fish want to be cleaned!
They line up and wait for the cleaner fish to get to them.





One is big, and one is small.
But the two are a team.



When animals team up, they do what
is best for both of them.

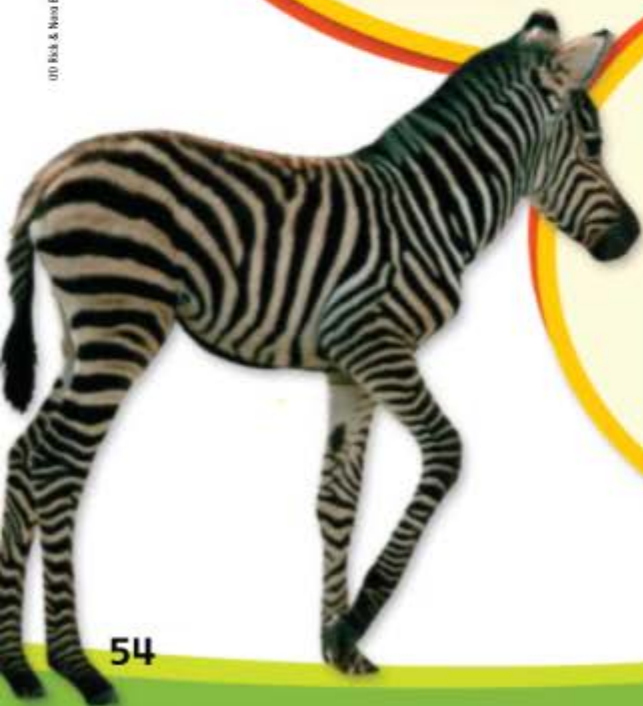
Meet the Author

Rachel Mann loves learning about animals, especially animals who act in unexpected ways. She really enjoyed researching and writing *Animal Teams*, because she learned that animals help and need each other just as people do.



Author's Purpose

Rachel Mann wanted to write about animals who do interesting things. Write about an animal that does something you find interesting.

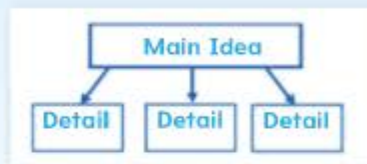


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Respond to the Text

Retell

Use your own words to retell the important details in *Animal Teams*.



Write

Which animal team do you think is the most interesting? Why? Use these sentence starters:

- The most interesting animal team is...
- They are interesting because...
- The animals help each other when...



Make Connections



? What animals have you seen together? How did they help each other?

ESSENTIAL QUESTION





BUSY AS A BEE



Bees can make a hive in a tree.

Bees are at home in a hive. All of them have jobs that help the hive.



Worker bees make wax cups called honeycombs.



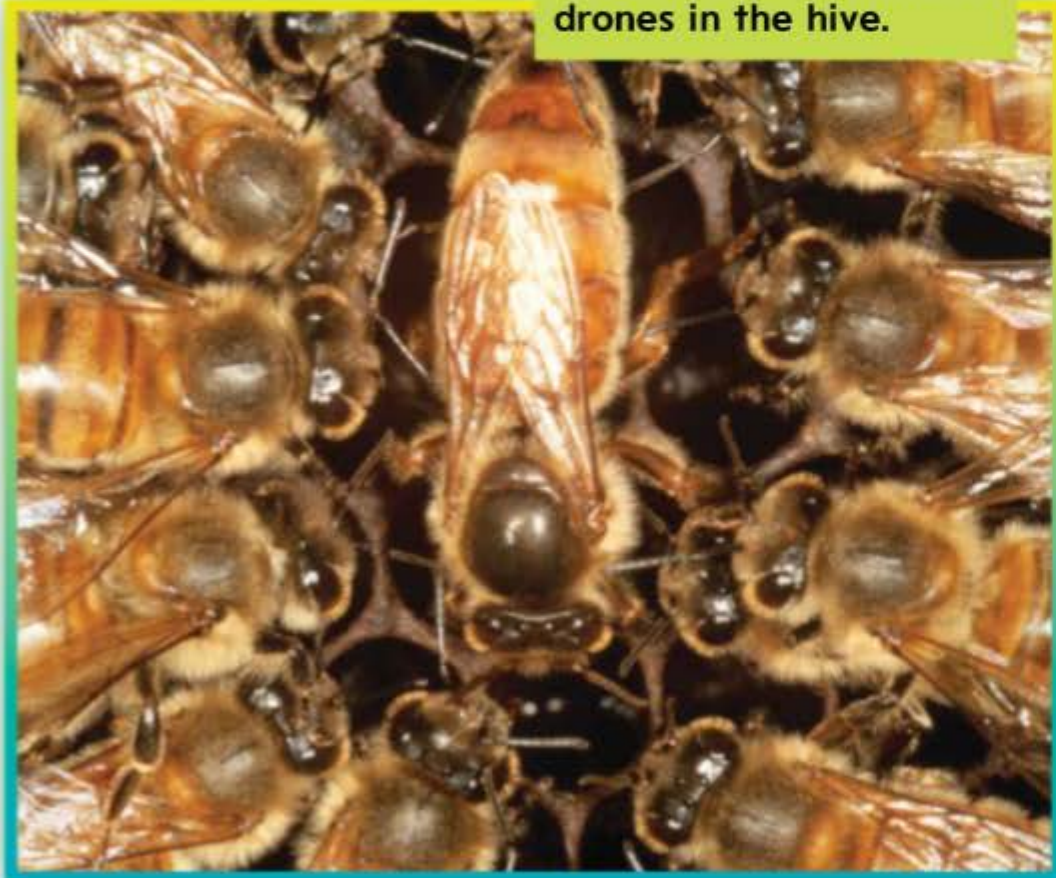
Lots of **worker** bees help make **honey**. They help keep the hive clean, too.

Every hive has a **queen** bee. She lays all the eggs.

A hive has drone bees, too. A drone's job is to help the queen make eggs.



A queen bee is with her drones in the hive.



The queen lays eggs inside wax cups.

New bees hatch from these eggs.
Worker bees feed them.

A big hive is a busy place!

Make Connections



How are the bees like the animals in *Animal Teams*? **Essential Question**

