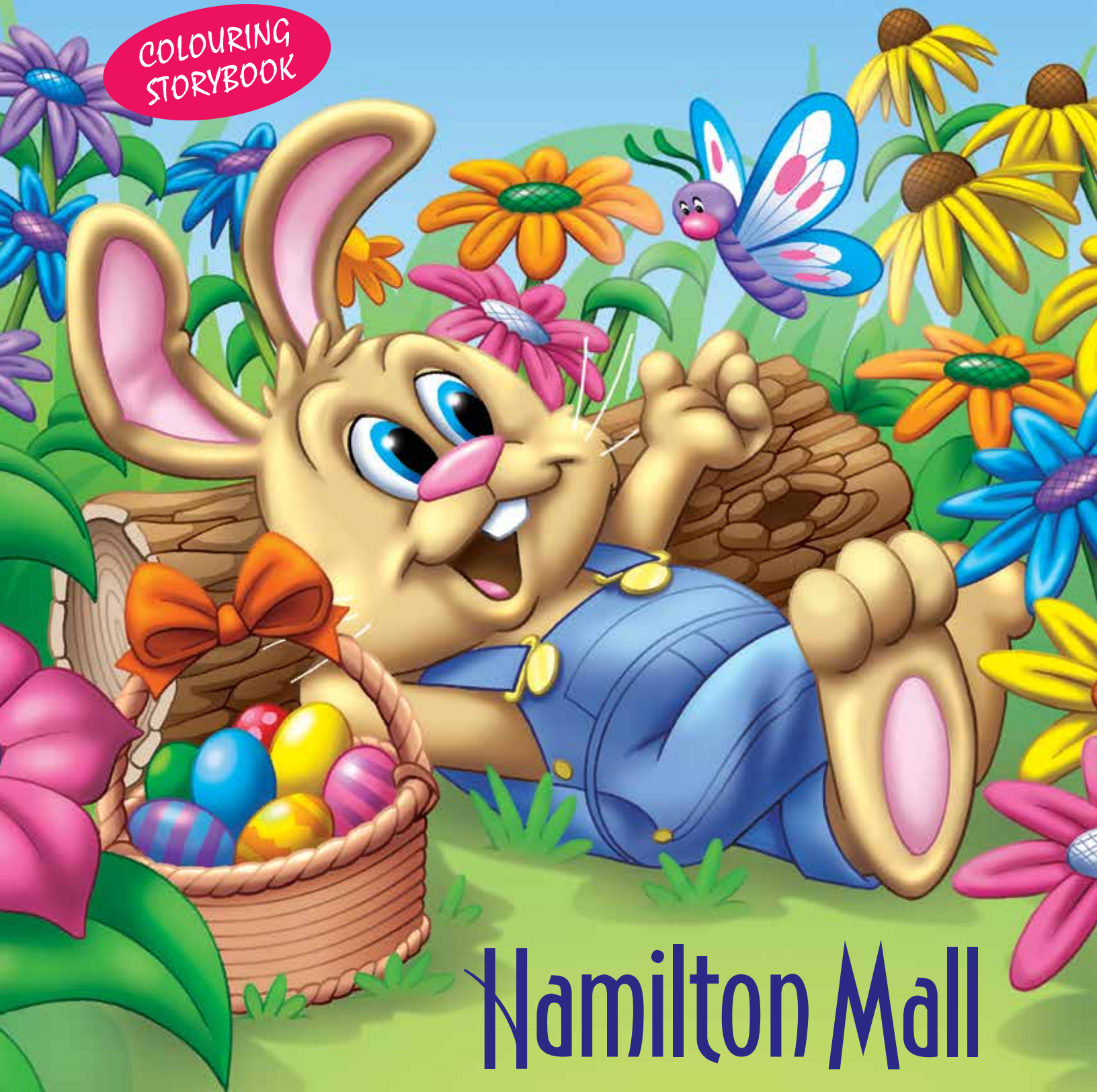


# THE EASTER THAT ALMOST WASN'T

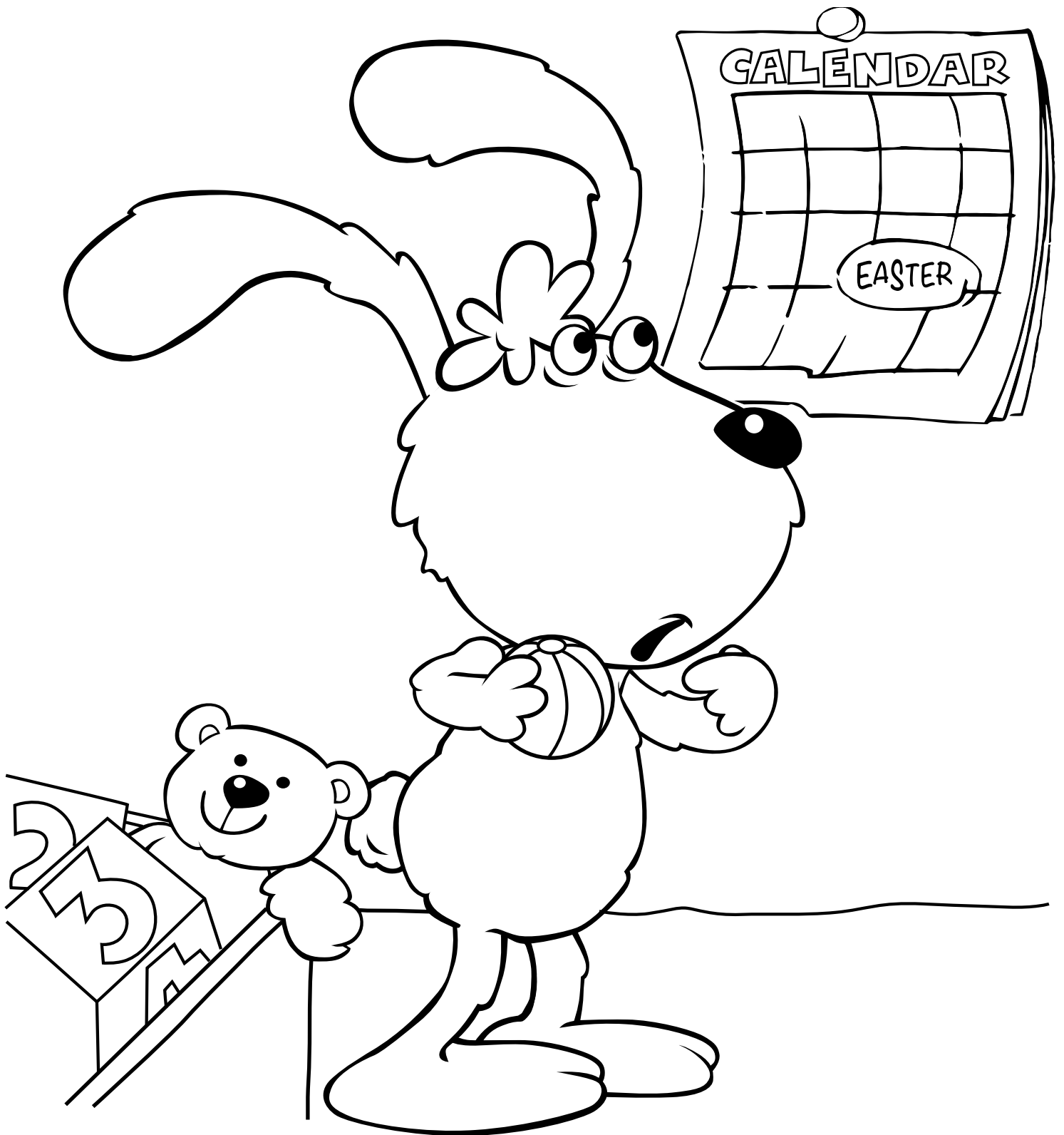
COLOURING  
STORYBOOK



Hamilton Mall



As everyone knows, every year the Easter Bunny delivers beautiful Easter eggs to children on Easter morning. There was one year, however, that Easter Bunny almost didn't get the Easter eggs delivered. But with some special help, he got the job done...



It was Springtime and just one day before Easter. Easter Bunny was playing with his toys in his burrow when he happened to glance up at his calendar. “Oh my goodness!”, he shouted in alarm. “It’s the day before Easter! I must get ready for delivering the Easter eggs to all the children”.



Easter Bunny was very excited about Easter coming. “The first thing I must do”, he thought, “is gather all the eggs”. So he set off happily into the forest to find some special eggs.



As Easter Bunny was collecting eggs, his three friends, Owl, Raccoon and Fox came by. They were also excited about Easter coming and wanted to help prepare for the big event. "Can we help you collect the eggs?" they asked Easter Bunny in anticipation.

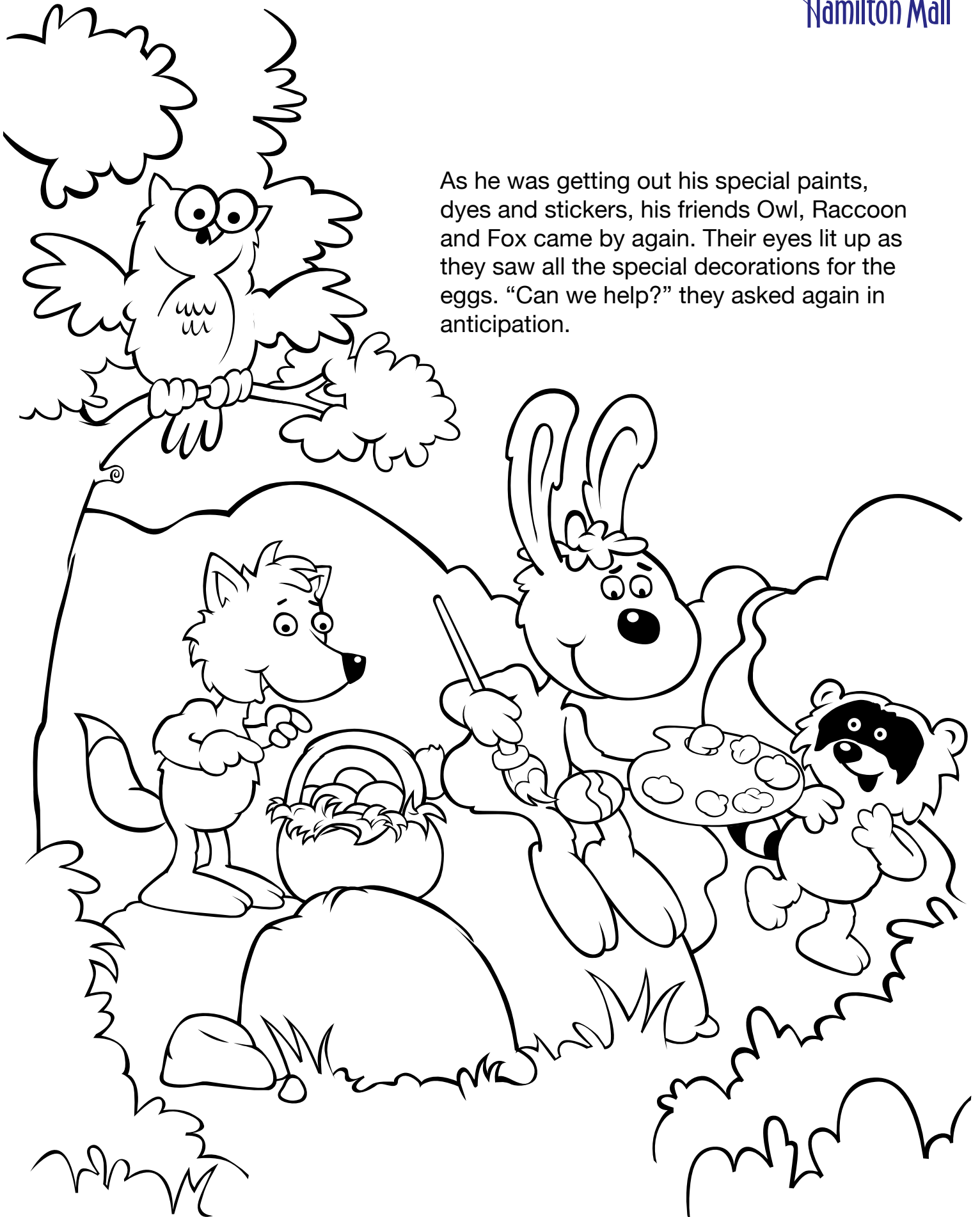
Easter Bunny thought to himself, "It's too much fun collecting eggs by myself. If they help it won't be as much fun for me". "No thanks", he said to his friends, "Maybe later". But Easter Bunny finished the job himself, and Owl, Raccoon and Fox left in disappointment.



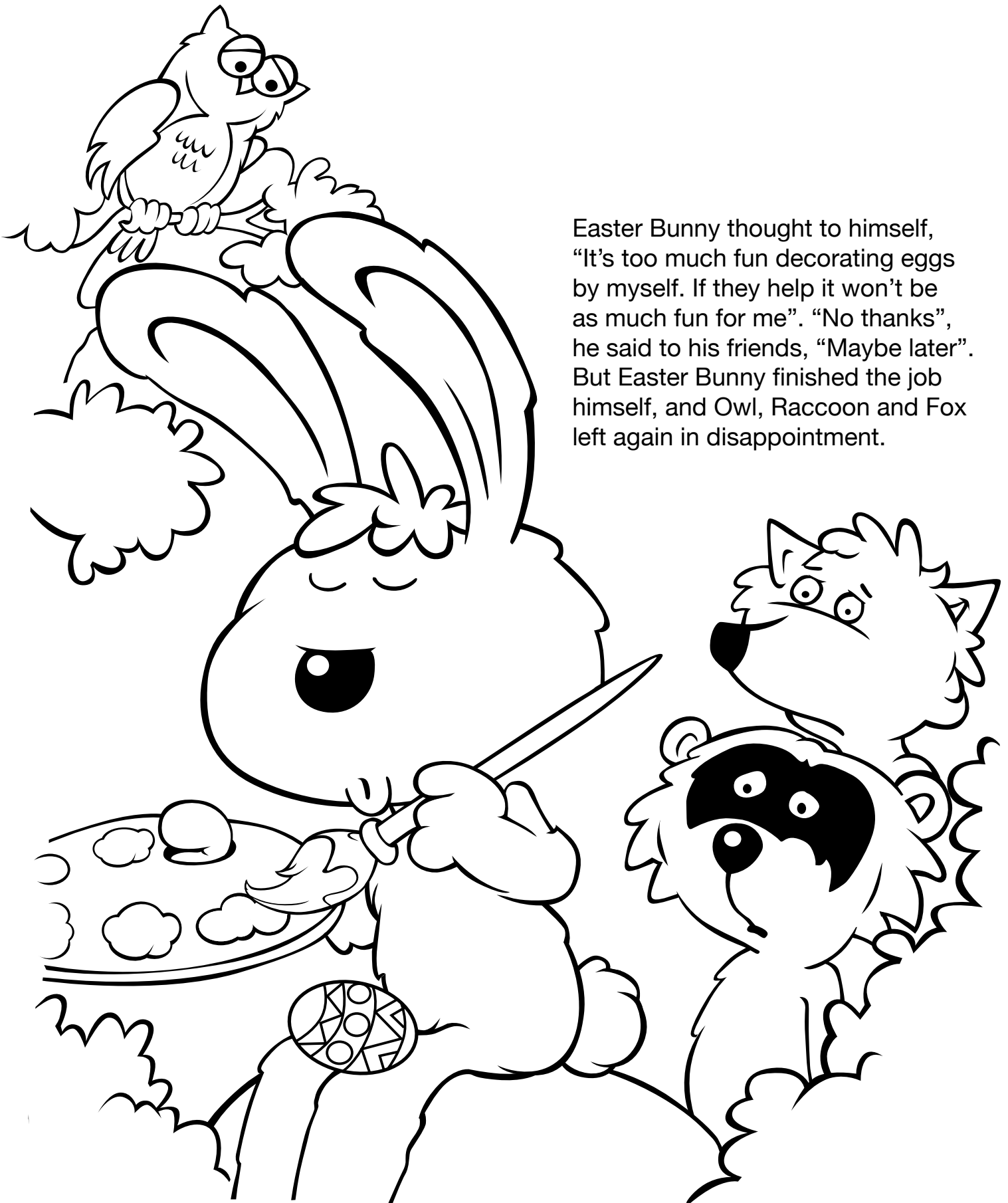
Next, Easter Bunny had to decorate all the eggs.



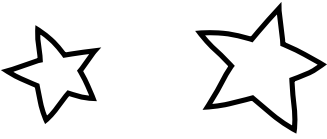
As he was getting out his special paints, dyes and stickers, his friends Owl, Raccoon and Fox came by again. Their eyes lit up as they saw all the special decorations for the eggs. "Can we help?" they asked again in anticipation.



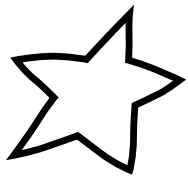




Easter Bunny thought to himself, "It's too much fun decorating eggs by myself. If they help it won't be as much fun for me". "No thanks", he said to his friends, "Maybe later". But Easter Bunny finished the job himself, and Owl, Raccoon and Fox left again in disappointment.



Now, Easter Bunny was very tired from collecting and decorating eggs all by himself. He had worked all day and the sun was beginning to set. Easter Bunny thought to himself, "I'll just have a little rest."



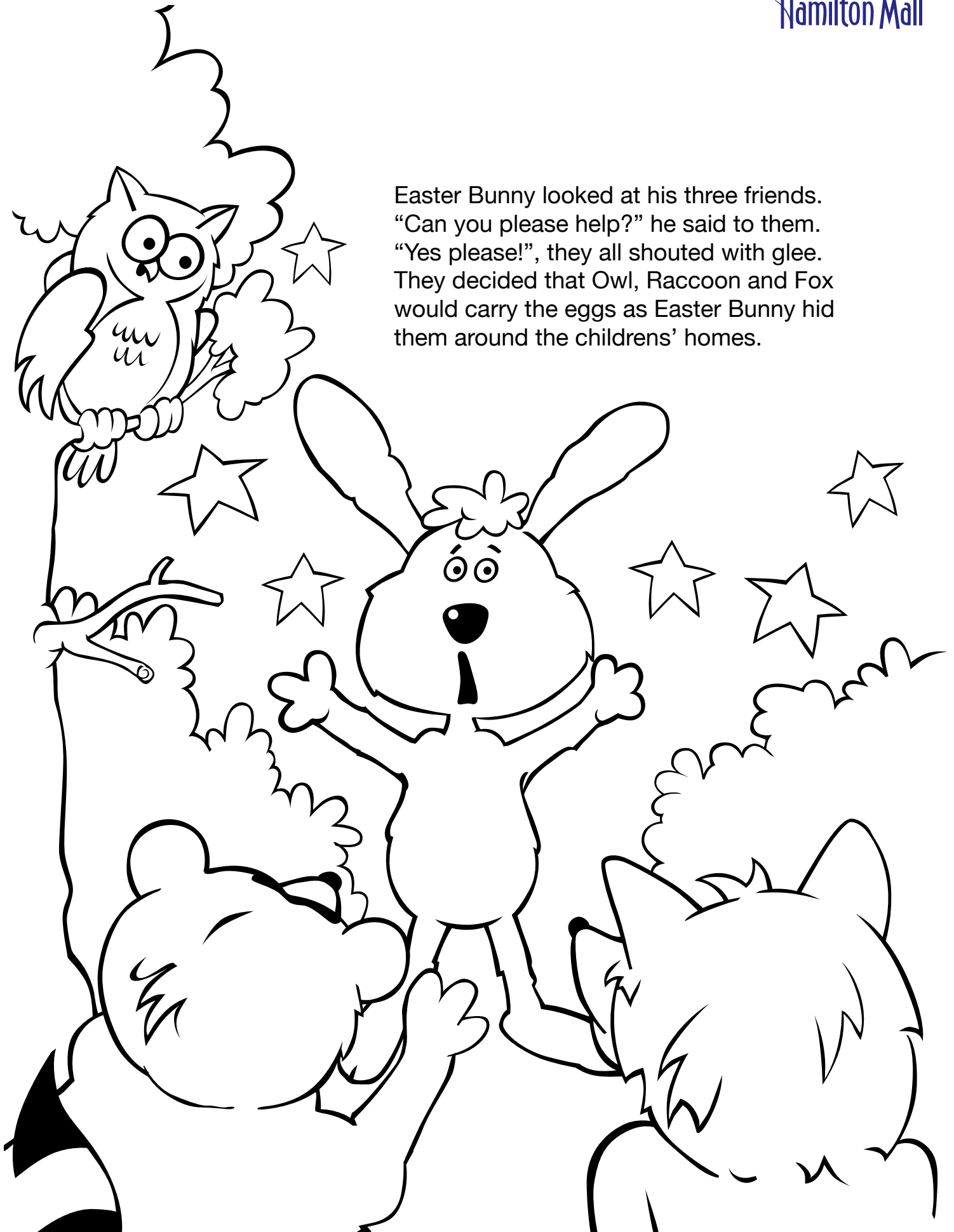


I can deliver the Easter eggs to the children later".  
He flopped down on a fluffy pillow of moss and  
fell fast asleep.

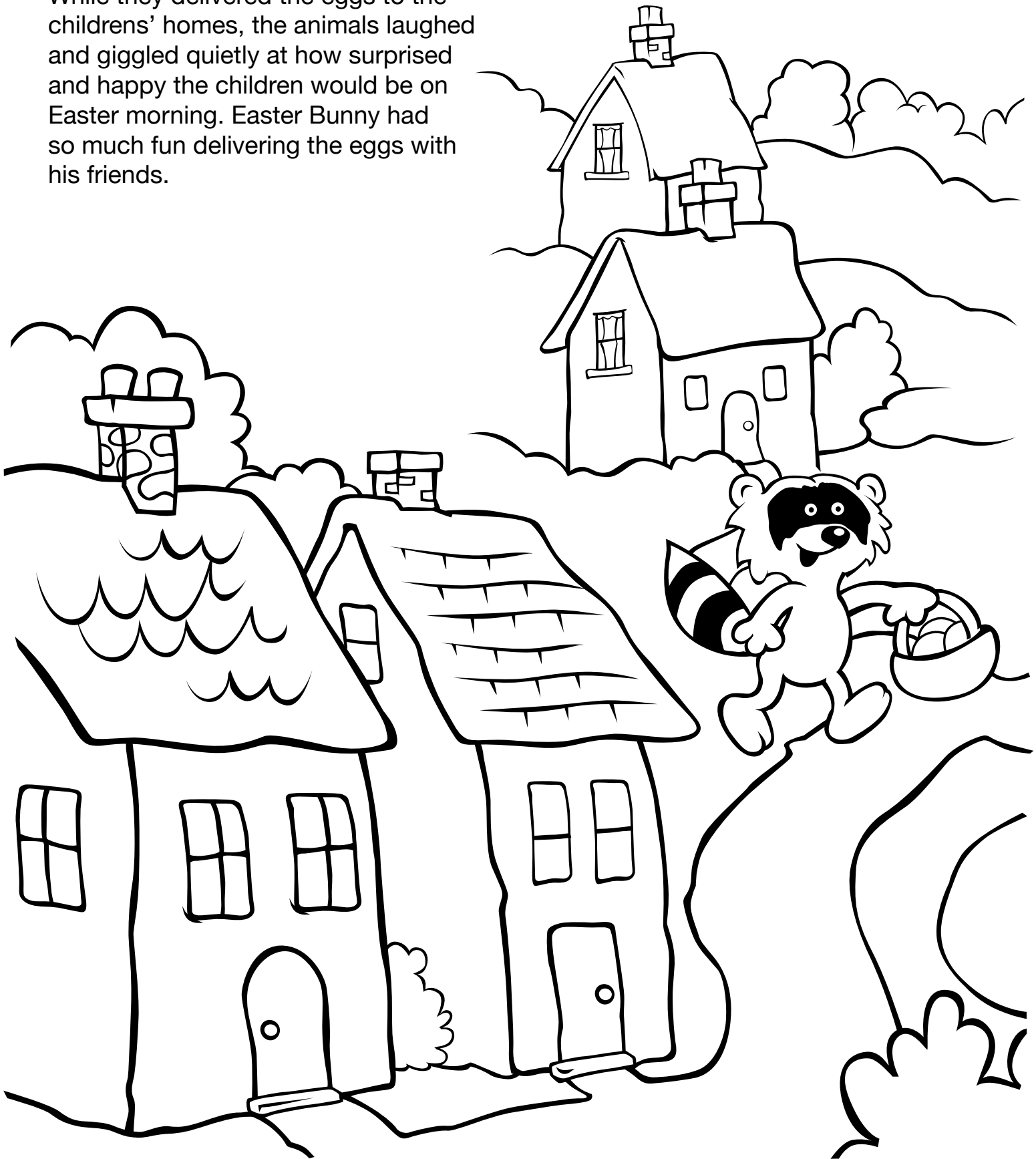


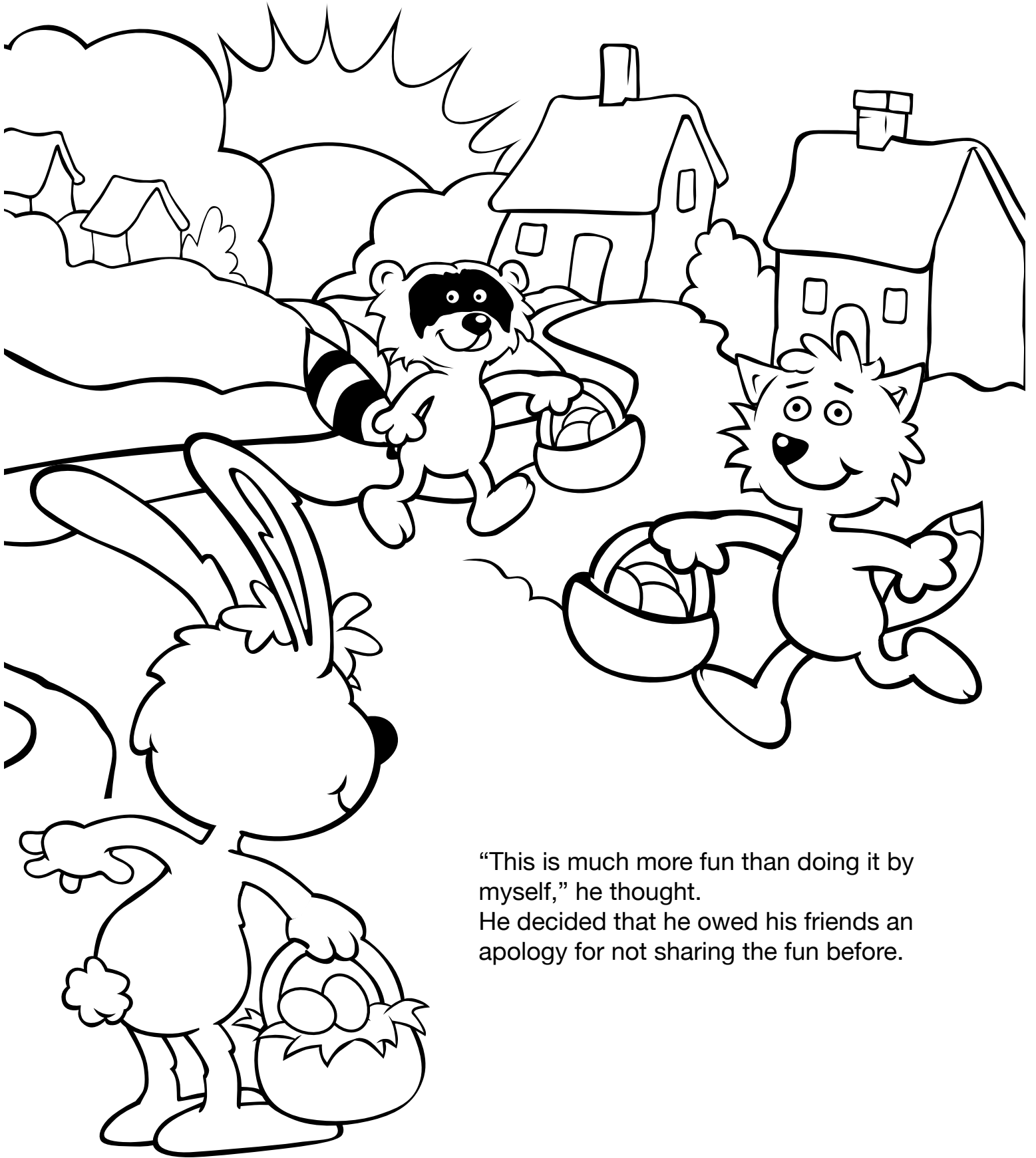
It was several hours later that Easter Bunny was awakened by his three friends. They came by to ask how the egg delivery went. Easter Bunny jumped up in alarm! "Oh my goodness", he shouted, "I haven't delivered the eggs and they have to be there before the children awaken. How am I ever going to finish the job myself?"

Easter Bunny looked at his three friends. "Can you please help?" he said to them. "Yes please!", they all shouted with glee. They decided that Owl, Raccoon and Fox would carry the eggs as Easter Bunny hid them around the childrens' homes.

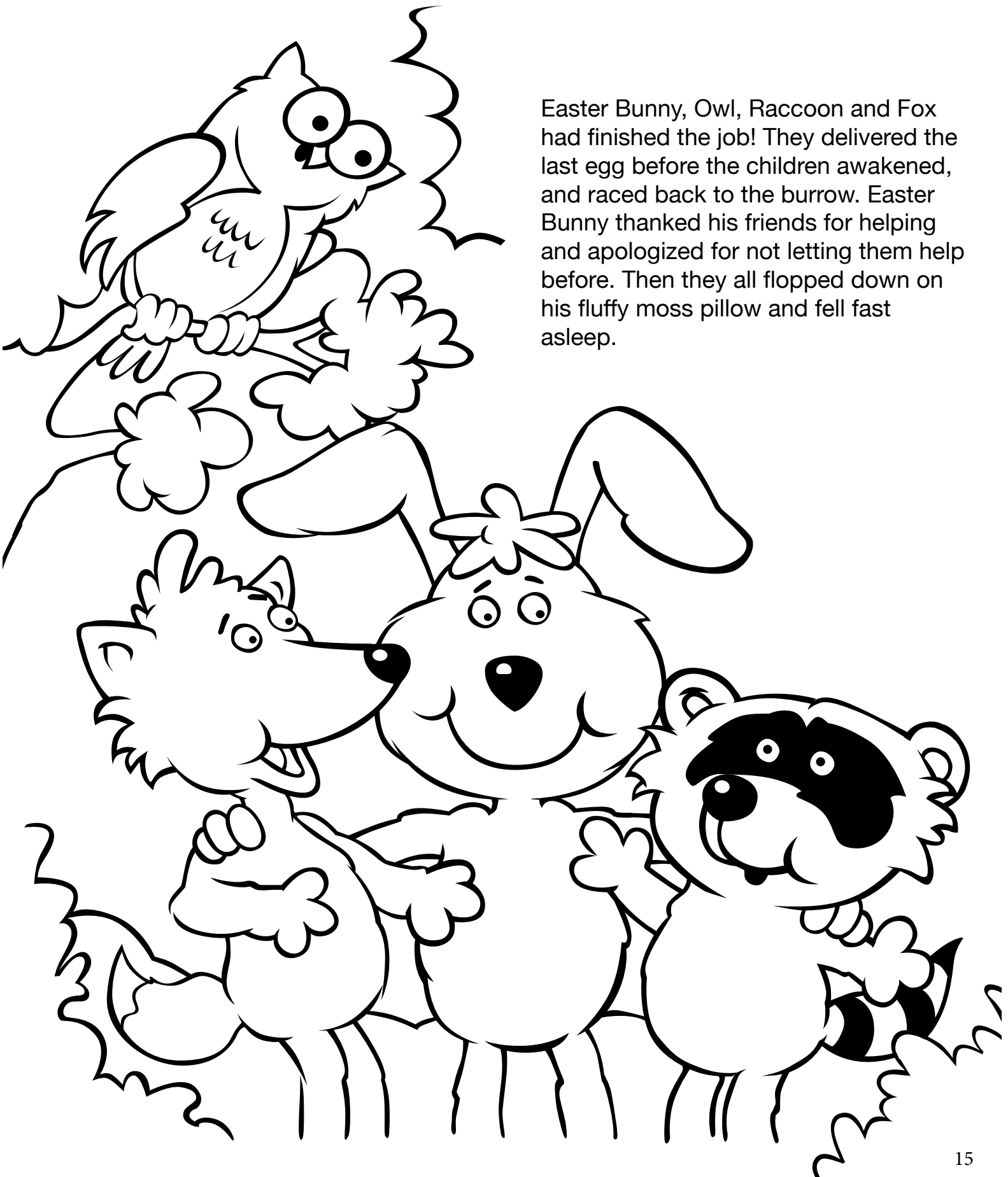


While they delivered the eggs to the childrens' homes, the animals laughed and giggled quietly at how surprised and happy the children would be on Easter morning. Easter Bunny had so much fun delivering the eggs with his friends.





“This is much more fun than doing it by myself,” he thought.  
He decided that he owed his friends an apology for not sharing the fun before.



Easter Bunny, Owl, Raccoon and Fox had finished the job! They delivered the last egg before the children awakened, and raced back to the burrow. Easter Bunny thanked his friends for helping and apologized for not letting them help before. Then they all flopped down on his fluffy moss pillow and fell fast asleep.