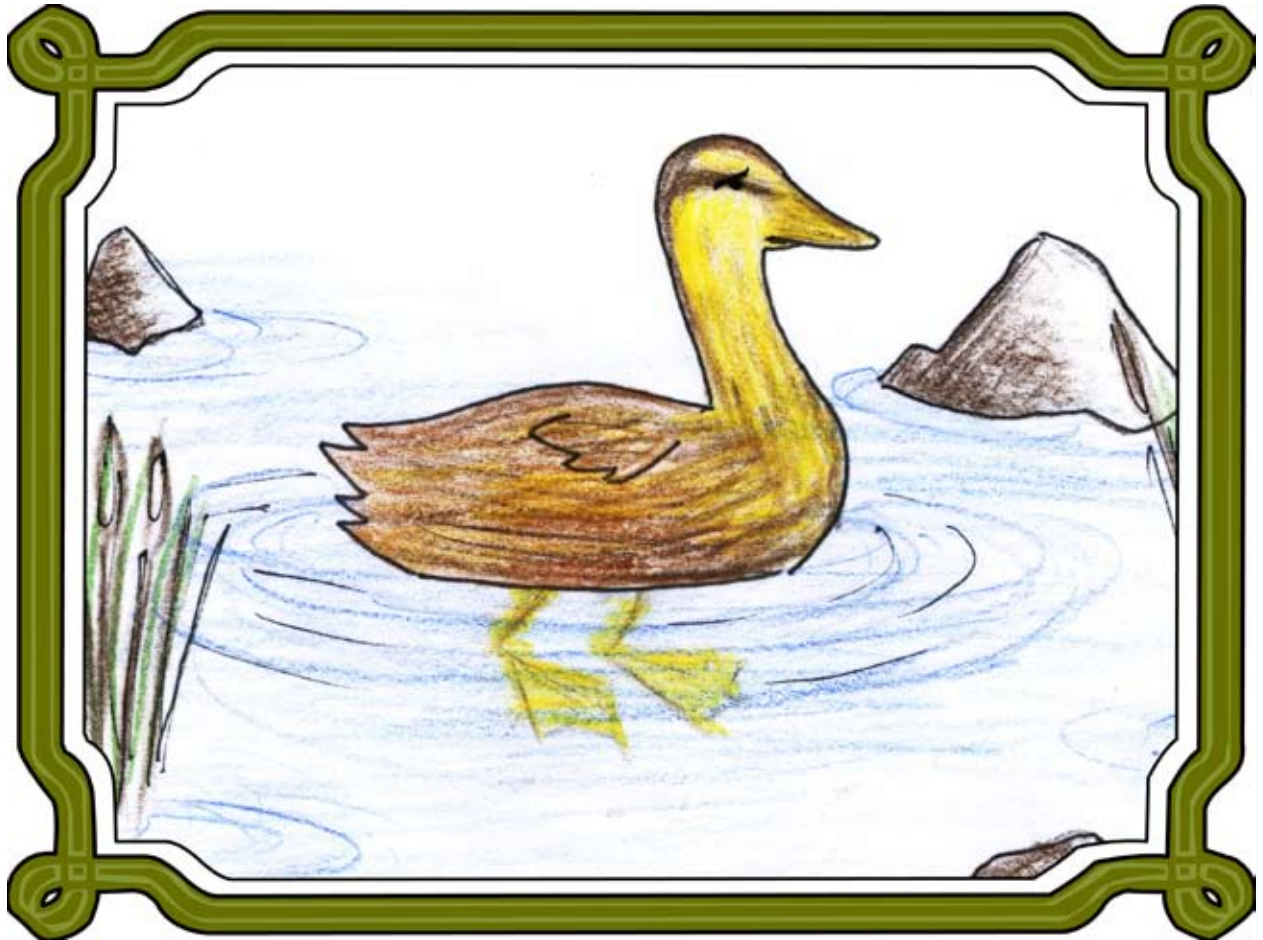


little wing



**by Ross Noble
& Chuck Hammond**



Elliot Duck was different. His wings were very short and his feet were very big.

“Look at Elliot’s little wings,” quacked Baxter, the bully. “Little wing! Little wing!” chanted the others. Elliot was sad.





One day Baxter, the bully, took three steps, opened his wings, and took off into the air. He did two back flips and a quick loop then landed perfectly on the ground with a smile.

Soon the other ducks were following him flying around the pond.





"Oh," said Elliot to himself. "That looks like so much fun. I wish I could fly too."

Elliot tried and tried but his little wings and big feet stopped him from flying into the air.

"What am I to do?" sobbed Elliot.





None of the other ducks played with Elliot so he swam by himself.

Soon he became a good swimmer. He dove into the deep water, did two back flips, and a quick loop. He met three fish, a stingray, and an eel but he still felt sad. What kind of duck could not fly?

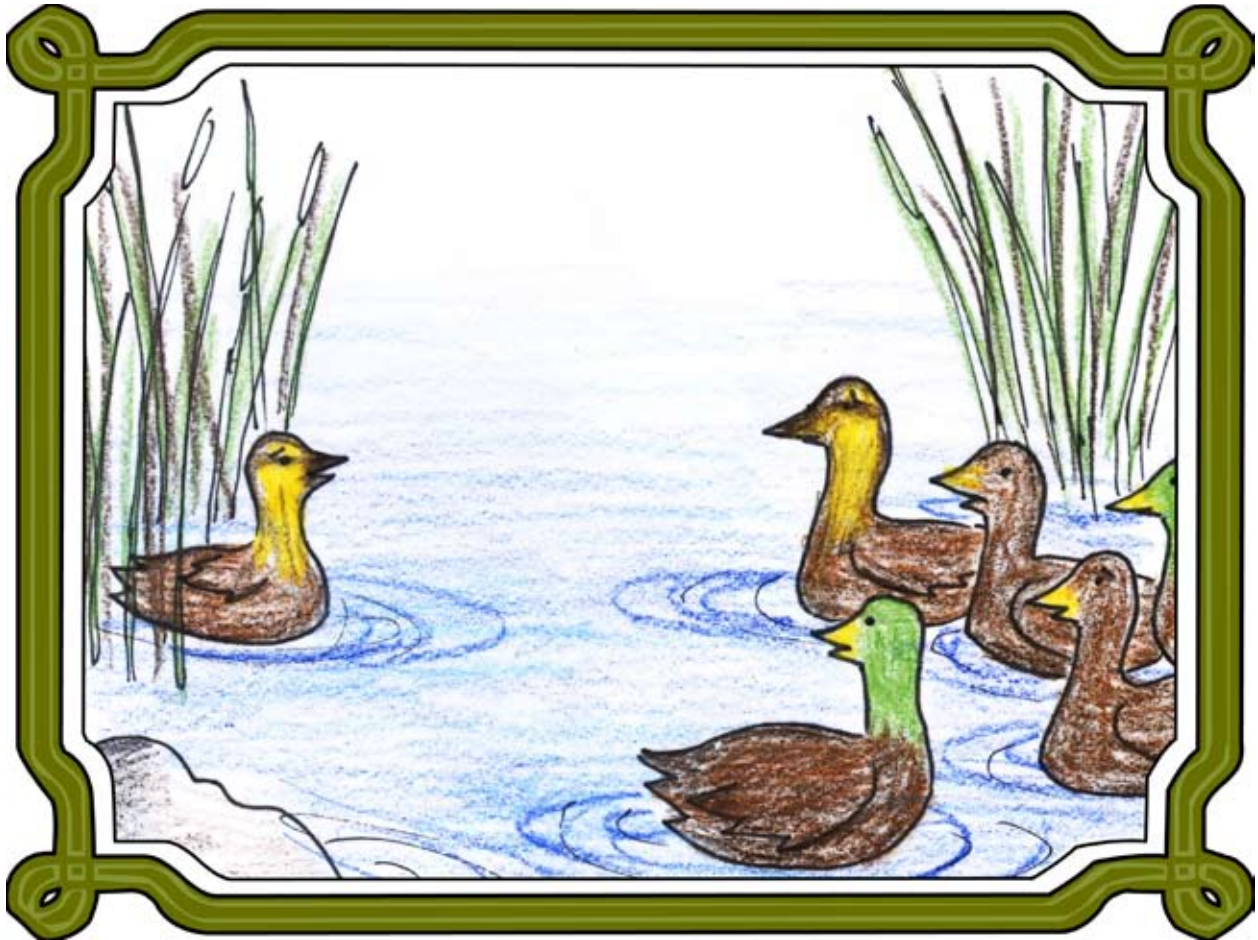




One day, as Baxter and his friends were flying in the air there was a loud noise. BOOM! BOOM!

Elliot swam hid in the bushes. "What was that?" he asked himself.





“The hunters shot Baxter and he fell into the deep part of the pond!” squawked the other ducks. “We must save him!” They tried but they were not strong swimmers.

“I can help,” said Elliot as he came out of the bushes.

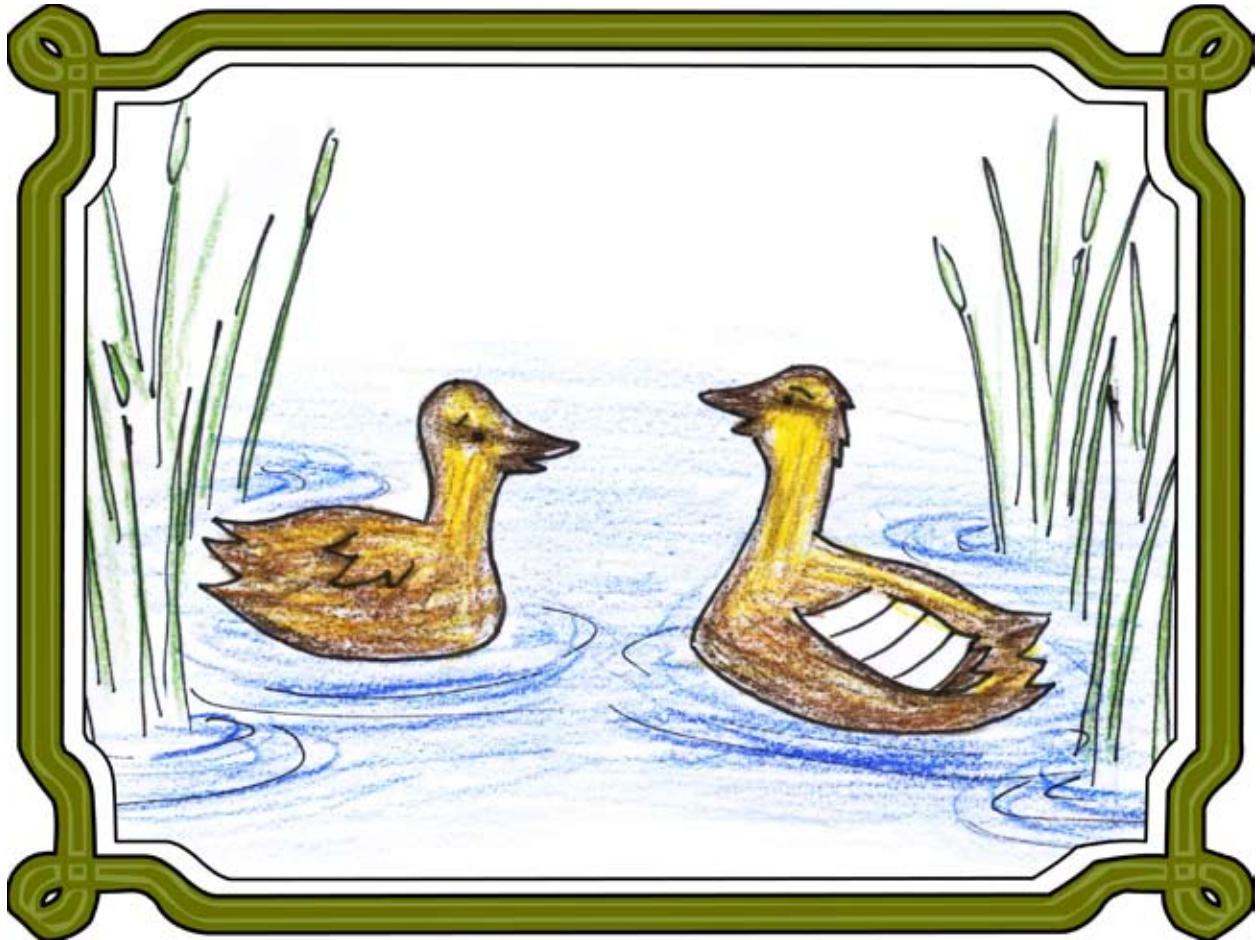
“You can’t do anything. You can’t even fly,” they quacked. Elliot did not listen. He knew he was a good swimmer.





Elliot squeezed the air out of his lungs then dove into the deep water. He swam quickly to the bottom, grabbed Baxter's neck in his beak, then kicked fast with his big feet to get to the top of the water. Baxter was saved!





Baxter coughed as he tried to suck air into his lungs. "Thanks for saving me, Elliot," he said. "I'm sorry I was mean to you. Can I be your friend?"

"Little Wing! Little Wing!" quacked the other ducks. "You saved Baxter!"





Elliot was proud of himself.
So what if his wings were small and his feet
were big? He liked what he could do with them.

