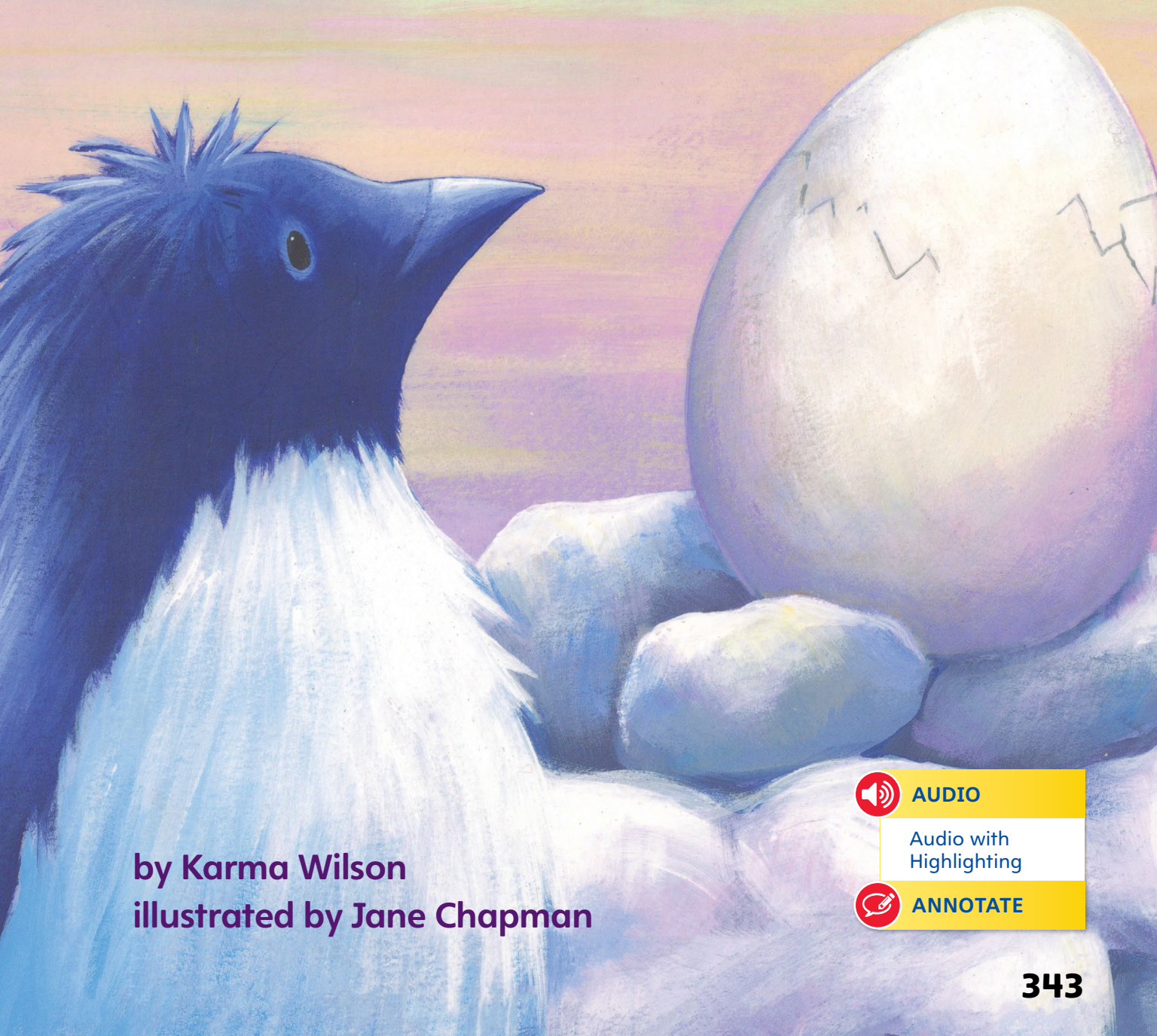


# What's in the Egg, Little Pip?



by Karma Wilson  
illustrated by Jane Chapman



**AUDIO**

Audio with  
Highlighting



**ANNOTATE**



## Make Inferences

Sometimes the author gives you a clue to how someone feels.

**Highlight** the words that are a clue to why Pip might not like the Egg.

**oval** having the shape of an egg

- 1 Little Pip stared at the Egg. The large, white oval rested on Mama's feet just under her soft, warm belly. Pip used to sleep there, but there was no room for her now, not since the Egg. Mama and Papa asked, "What do you think, Little Pip?"
- 2 Pip shrugged. She wasn't sure.



3 Mama and Papa had talked about the Egg for a long time. Yesterday morning they had woken Pip and said, “The Egg is finally here, Little Pip!” As they showed her the Egg they sang this song:

4 *“The Egg, the Egg, the lovely Egg,  
a wonderful, glorious sight.  
A sister or brother for sweet Little Pip  
will soon make our family just right.”*



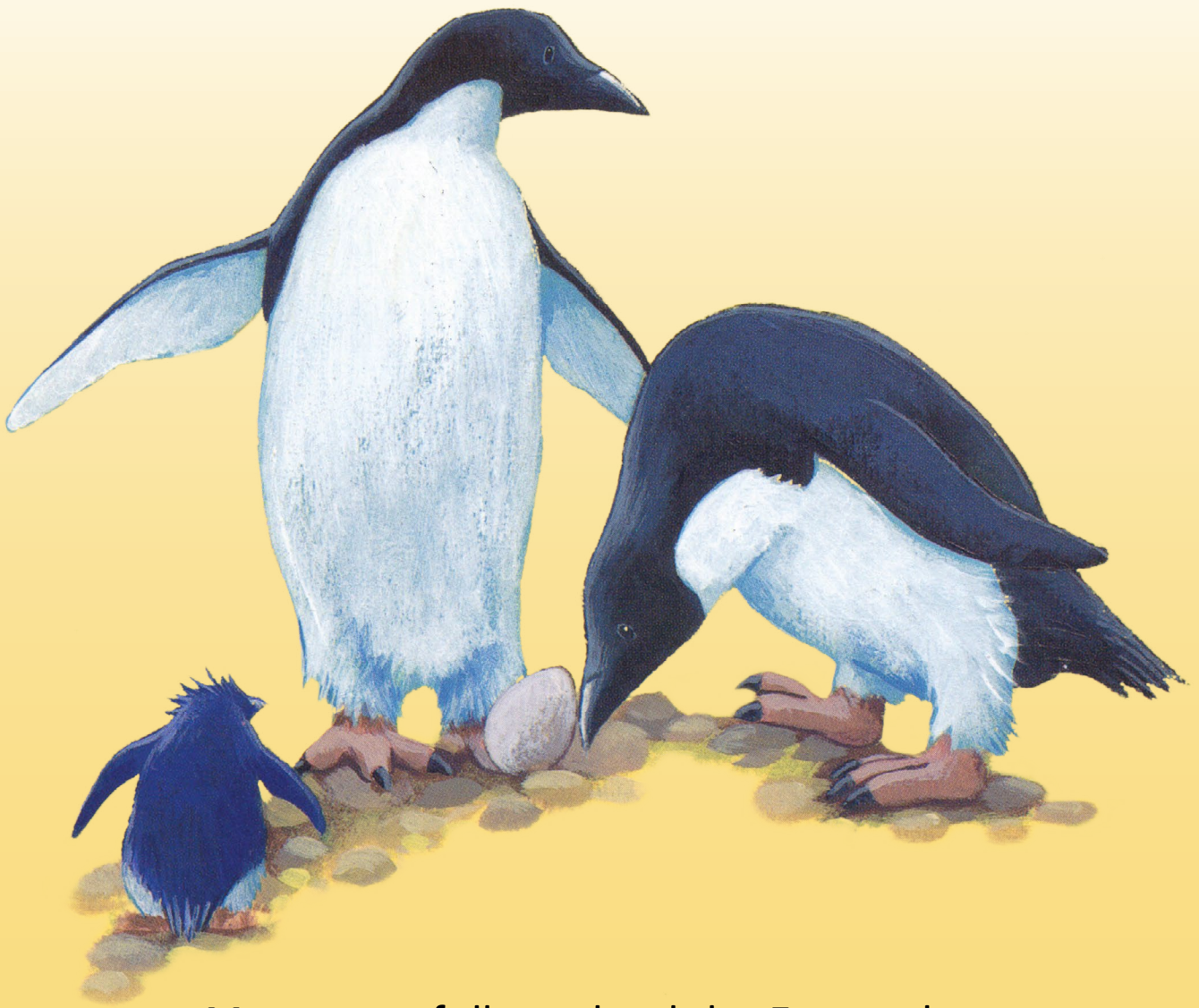


## Describe and Understand Characters

Underline a word that describes the look on Pip's face.

- 5 Pip frowned. The Egg didn't look like much.
- 6 "Our family is just right," Pip said. "That old Egg can't make it better."
- 7 Mama nuzzled Pip and said, "Just wait. You may be surprised. And now, Papa, it's time for you to take over."

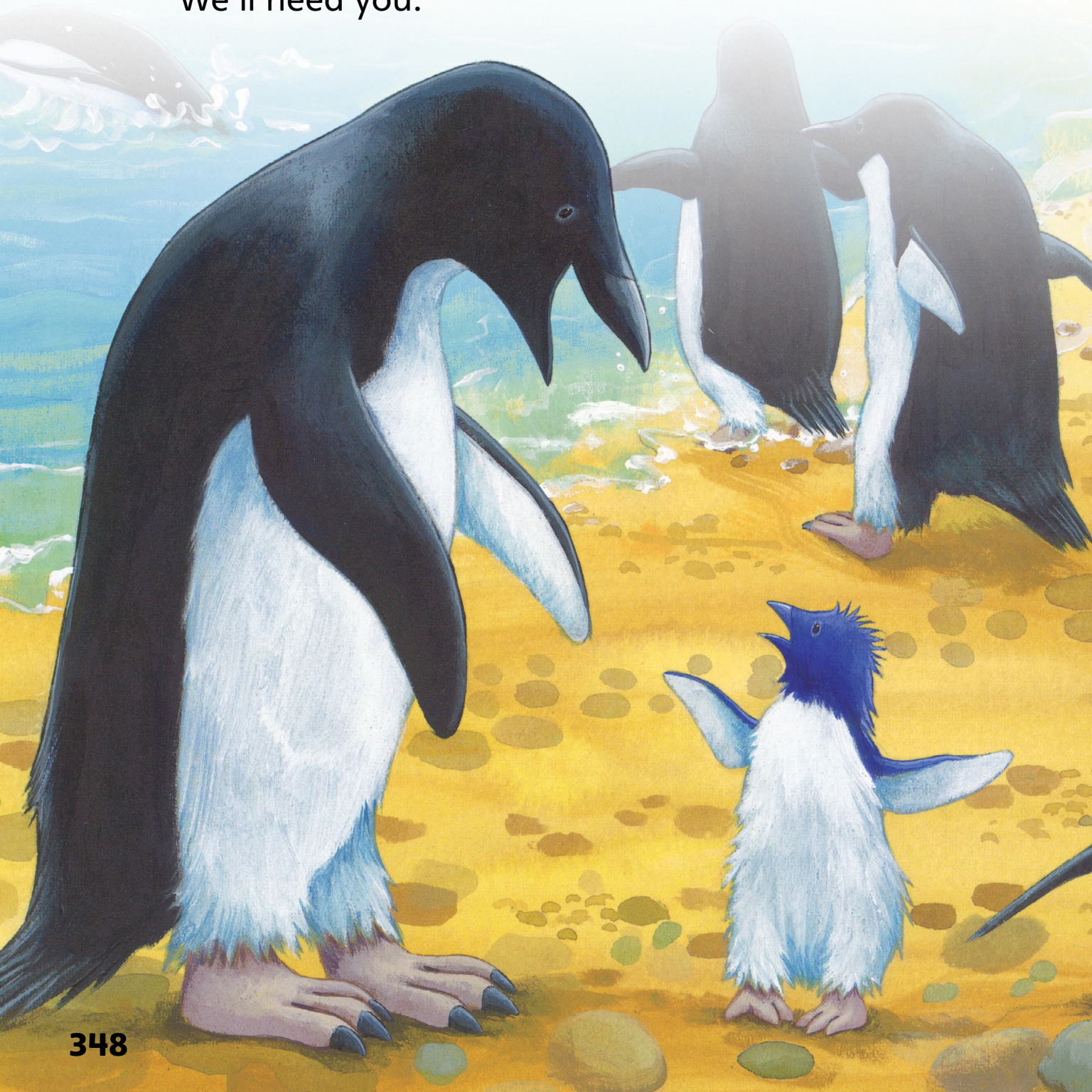




- 8 Mama carefully nudged the Egg and tucked it on Papa's feet. Then Papa nestled down onto the Egg.
- 9 "Where are you going, Mama?" Pip asked.
- 10 "I need to go fish to bring food for you," Mama said, "but somebody must always be with the Egg to keep it warm. So Papa will watch the Egg while I fish, and I will watch the Egg when Papa fishes."

11 “Can I go with you?” Pip pleaded.

12 Mama smiled and shook her head. “You stay and help Papa keep the Egg warm and safe. We must be ready for any storms. We don’t want the Egg to get cold. We’ll need you.”





13 Pip sighed. “I’m too little to help. I’m still your baby.”

14 Mama shook her head. “You have grown up so much, Little Pip. You’re big enough to help Papa. You’re big enough to help me. You’re even big enough to help the Egg! Remember that. But don’t worry; you will always be our baby.”

## Make Inferences

**Highlight** the text that helps you understand, or make an inference, that Pip is still important to her parents.





## Describe and Understand Characters

Underline the part of the text that shows how Pip feels when Mama leaves.

**waddle** to walk with short steps while swinging the body from side to side

15 Pip wasn't so sure. As she watched her mama waddle away, a tear slipped down her cheek. Now it was just her and Papa . . . oh, and the Egg.



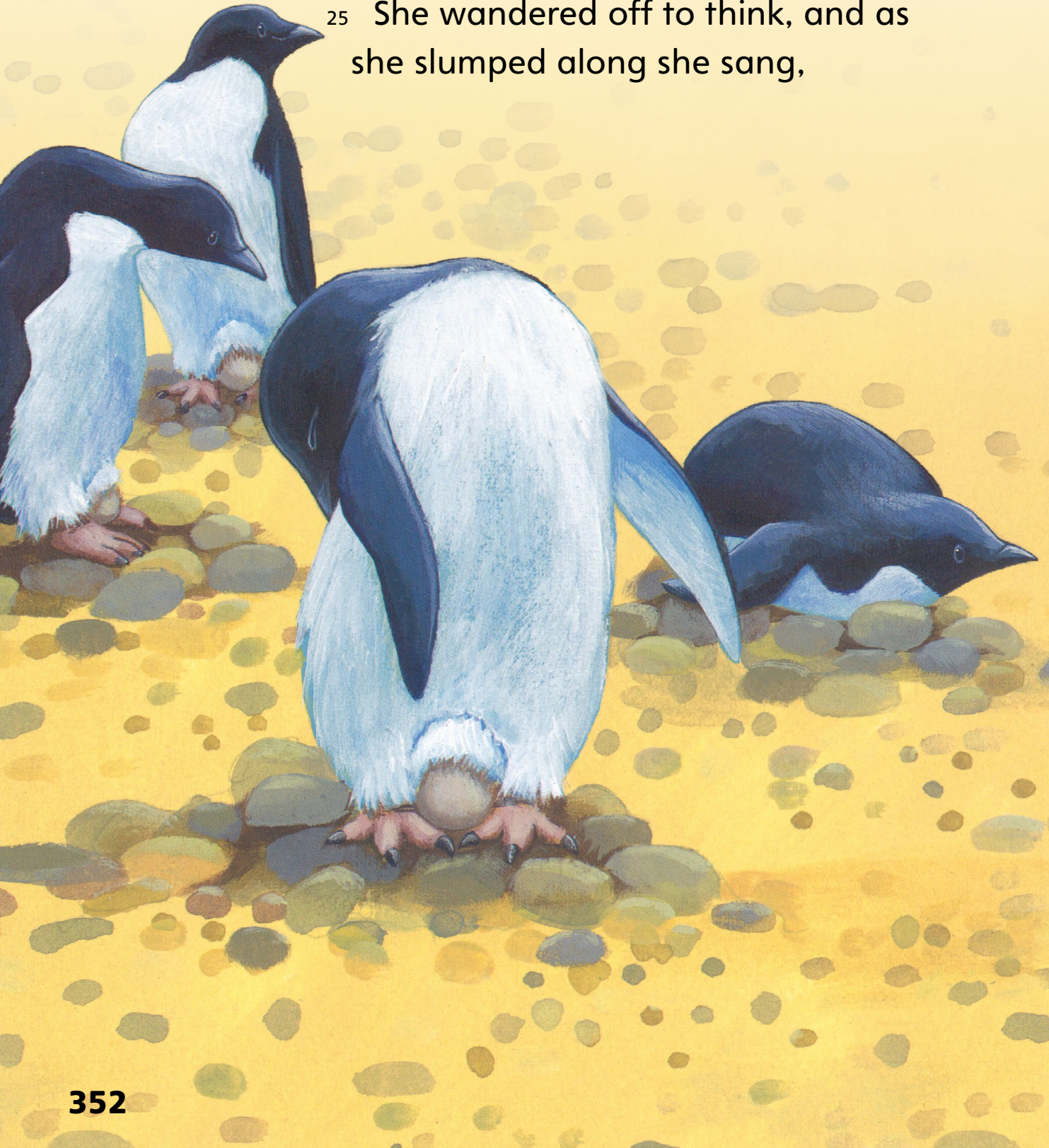




- 16 Later that day Pip chirped, “Papa, let’s slide on the ice.”
- 17 Papa shook his head. “I can’t leave the Egg, Little Pip.”
- 18 Pip frowned. “Not even for a minute?”
- 19 “Not even for a second.”
- 20 “But isn’t it boring?”
- 21 “A little,” said Papa.
- 22 “Then why do you do it?” Pip asked.
- 23 Papa smiled. “That’s what families do, Little Pip. I did the same for you when you were just an egg.”

24 Pip couldn't imagine that she was ever just an egg. Why had Mama and Papa even wanted the Egg? *I should be enough!* thought Pip.

25 She wandered off to think, and as she slumped along she sang,





- 26 *“The Egg, the Egg, it’s all the Egg.  
Nobody cares about me.  
I liked it best before the Egg,  
back when our family was three.”*
- 27 Little Pip felt so all alone that she decided to look for her best friend, Merry. “You want to go slide?” she asked.
- 28 “I guess,” said Merry. She didn’t seem her usual cheerful self.

## Describe and Understand Characters

Underline the text that tells what Pip does to help herself feel better.





## Describe and Understand Characters


Underline the text that tells what Merry does that shows how she feels about her family's Egg.

29 “Does your family have an egg too?” asked Pip.

30 Merry nodded and stamped her foot. “I don’t see the fuss about the Egg. It just sits there and does nothing.”

31 “I know,” said Pip. “But it’s all Mama and Papa ever talk about or think about anymore. I want to forget about the Eggs. Let’s slide!”



An illustration of a snowy mountain slope. At the top left, two penguins are perched on the edge. One is a black and white penguin, and the other is a blue penguin. In the middle right, a blue penguin is sliding down the slope. At the bottom left, a black and white penguin is sliding down, surrounded by snow. The background is a bright blue sky. The text '32 And so they did.' is in a white box at the top. The word 'WHOOOP!' is written in large purple letters above the blue penguin. The word 'WHEEE!' is written in large purple letters below the black and white penguin. The word 'WHISH!' is written in large purple letters to the right of the black and white penguin. At the bottom, the text '33 They didn't think about the Eggs again.' is in a white box. The page number '355' is in the bottom right corner.

32 And so they did.

**WHOOOP!**

**WHEEE!**

**WHISH!**

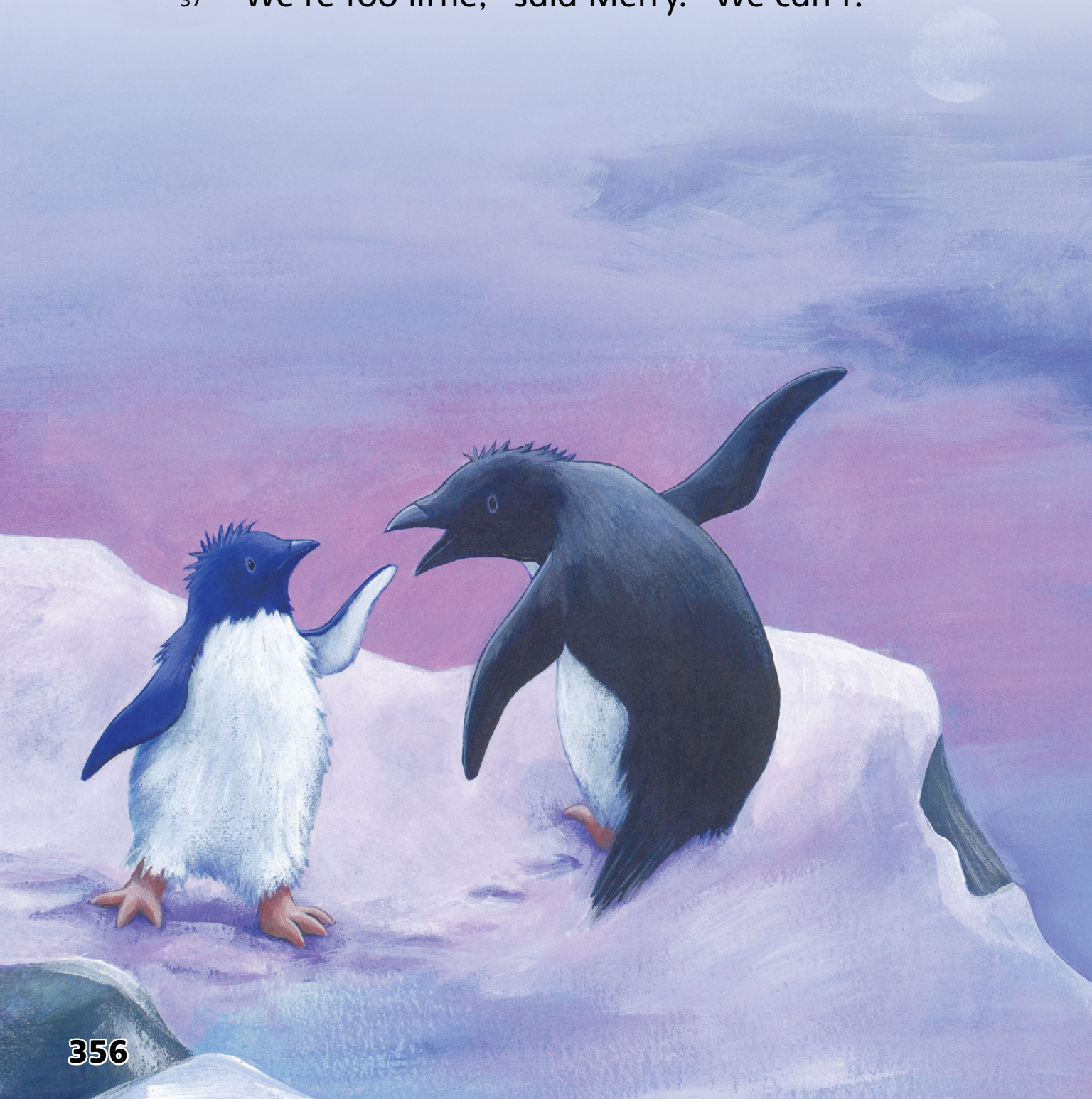
33 They didn't think about the Eggs again.

34 But suddenly the sun disappeared behind  
a thick, black cloud.

35 **“A storm!”** squealed Pip.

36 “We must run! **Hurry!**”

37 “We’re too little,” said Merry. “We can’t!”





38 Pip ruffled her feathers and puffed out her chest.

39 “My mama said I’m big enough to help the Egg. So are you. We have to go help. Now **RUN!**”

40 They raced the cloud all the way home.

### Vocabulary In Context

You can use context within a sentence and beyond it to determine the meaning of a phrase. Underline words that help you understand the meaning of **puffed out**.





## Make Inferences

**Highlight** the text that helps you understand that Papa and Pip care about the Egg.

**huddled** crowded together

- 41 Just as they reached camp, frozen sleet started to fall in cold, stinging drops. Pip snuggled tight against her papa, helping to shield the Egg.
- 42 There they huddled, and there they waited.







43 And waited.



44 And waited.





## CLOSE READ



### Make Inferences

**Highlight** the text that helps you understand that Pip is hungry.

- 45 Finally Mama returned. Pip's tummy growled.
- 46 She was glad to eat the fish Mama had brought back for them.
- 47 But then Papa had to go fishing.



48 Storms came and went, and the Egg always had to be kept warm. Pip, Mama, and Papa huddled around the Egg for many weeks. Sometimes Mama left to fish, sometimes Papa, but Pip always stayed with the Egg.



49 Then one bright, sunny day, while  
Mama was away fishing . . .

50 **CHIP,**  
**CHIP,**  
**CRACK.**

51 “The Egg is broken, Papa!” Pip cried,  
and buried her head into Papa’s  
chest. All that work, for nothing.





- 52 Pip gasped. The Egg was gone.
- 53 In its place sat a beautiful penguin chick.
- 54 “It’s a chick! A chick, Papa!”
- 55 “Little Pip, meet your brother.”

## Describe and Understand Characters

Underline what Pip says that shows she is excited now that the Egg has hatched.

**penguin** a short-legged, black-and-white seabird that cannot fly and that lives in or near the Antarctic





**flock** a group of animals such as birds

56 At the beach lots of penguins were squawking and talking. Pip saw a flock of penguins just back from fishing. Mama! She was home.

57 Mama sighed with happiness. “He looks just like you when you were a baby, Pip!”

58 Pip smiled. “I was that small?”

59 “Oh yes,” said Mama. “Just that small.”





60 Pip looked at her new brother and she sang,

*“Welcome, chick, you lovely chick.  
What a wonderful, glorious sight.  
Little brother, I name you Sam.  
You make our family just right.”*

61 Little Pip looked around and saw all the penguin families snuggling new chicks in their pebbly nests. Pip waved to Merry and Merry waved back, a huge smile on her face.

62 Pip smiled too.

63 Everything felt just right.

## Make Inferences

Underline details that show that Pip’s feelings about having a new family member have changed.

