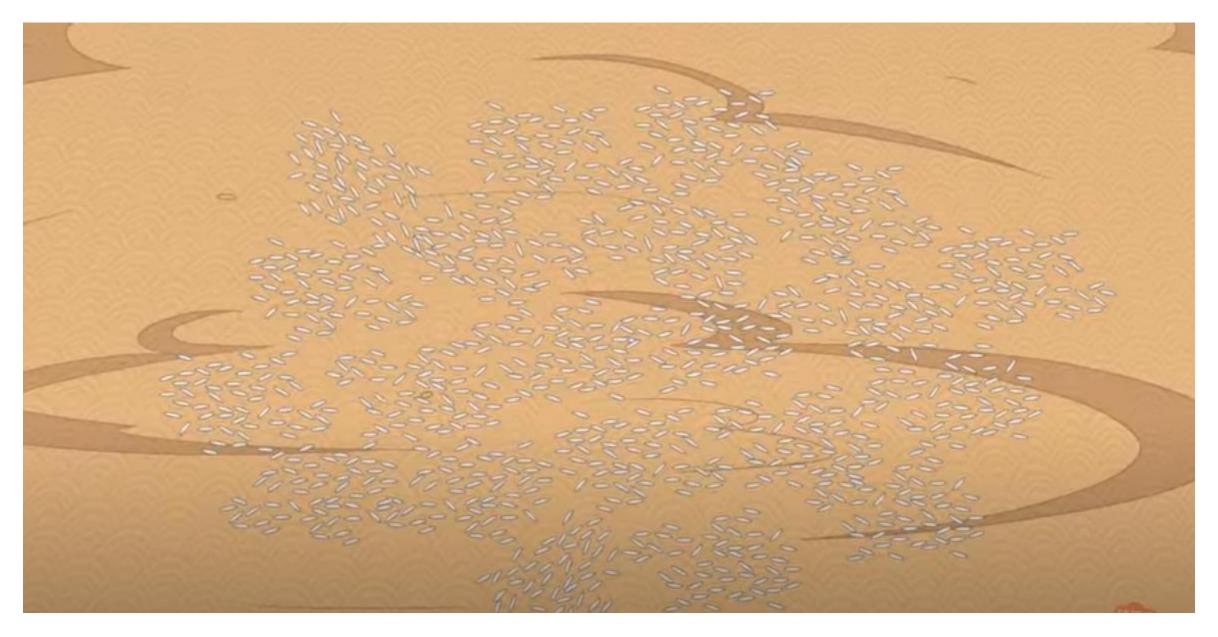


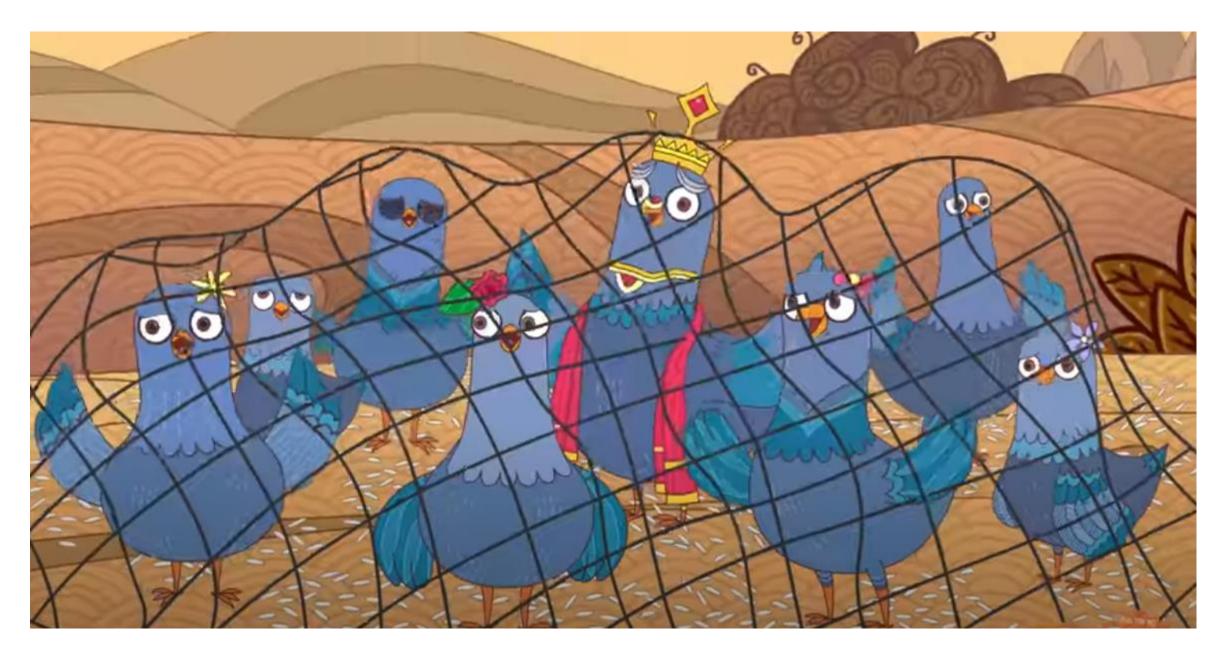
Once upon a time, there was a flock of pigeons that flew in search of food led by their king. One day, they had flown a long distance and were very tired. The pigeon king encouraged them to fly a little further.



The smallest pigeon picked up speed and found some rice scattered beneath a tree.



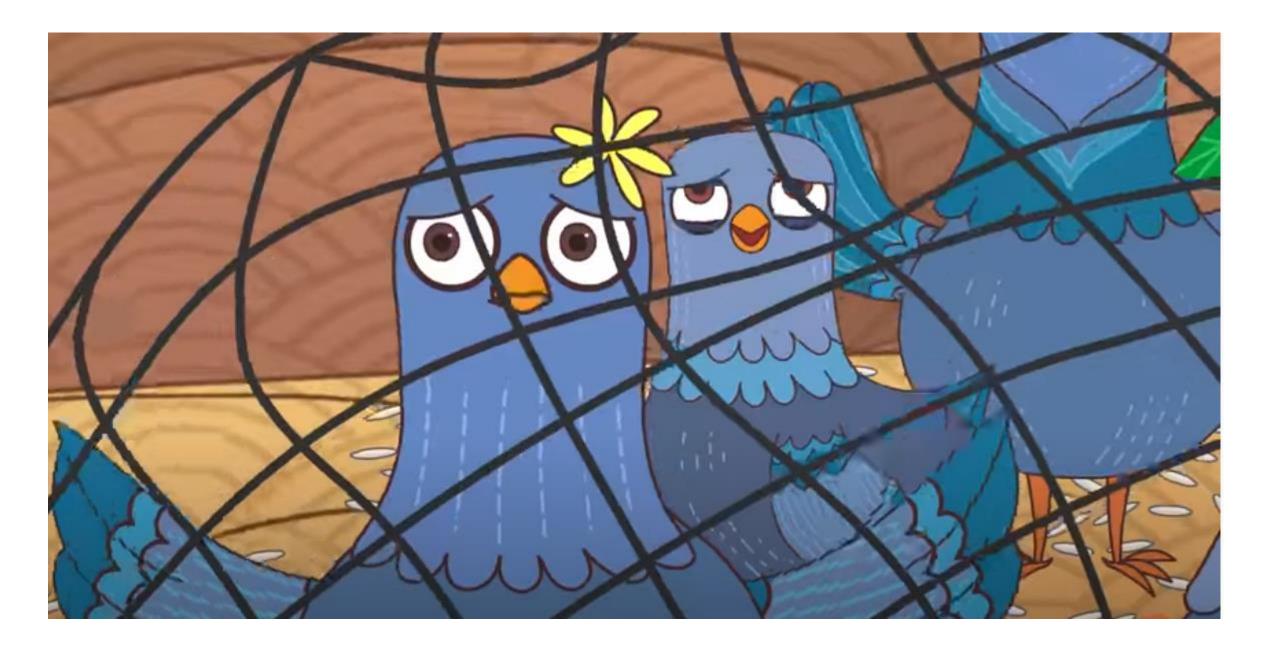
So all the pigeons landed and began to eat.



Suddenly a net fell over them and they were all trapped.



They saw a hunter approaching carrying a huge club.

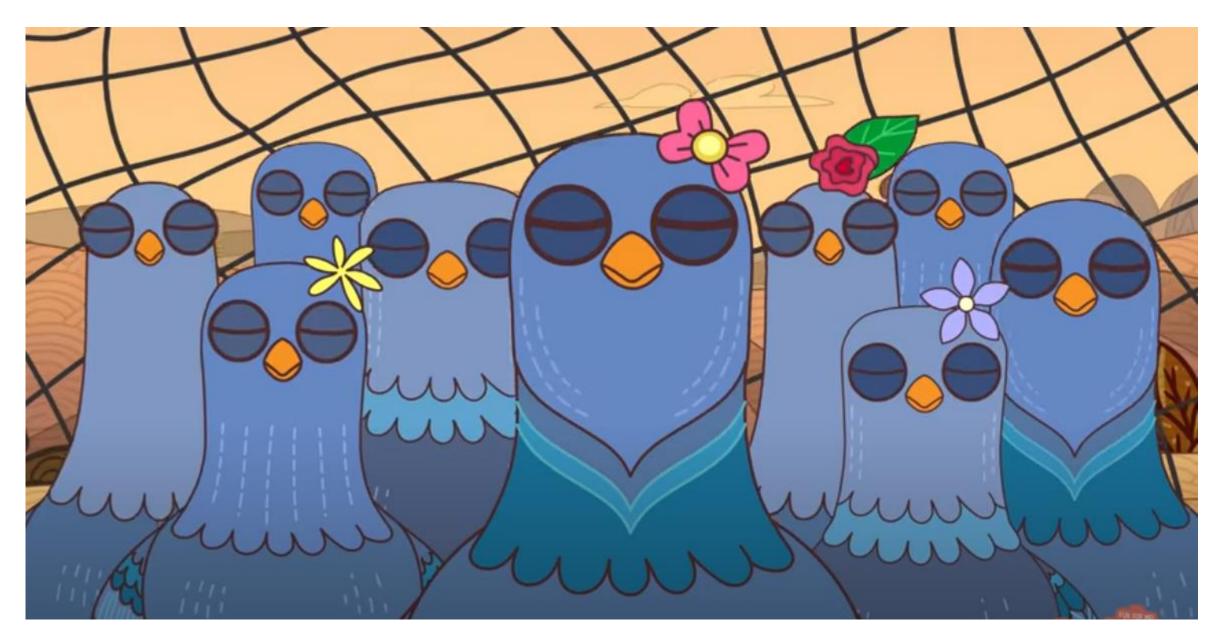




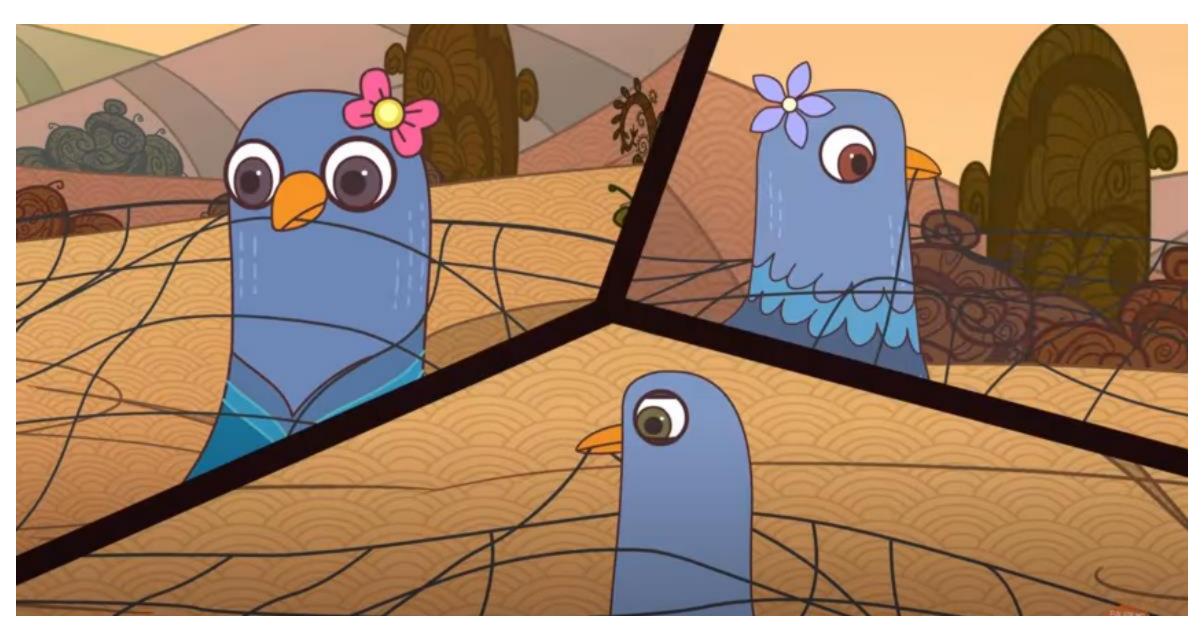
The pigeons desperately fluttered their wings trying to get out, but to no avail.



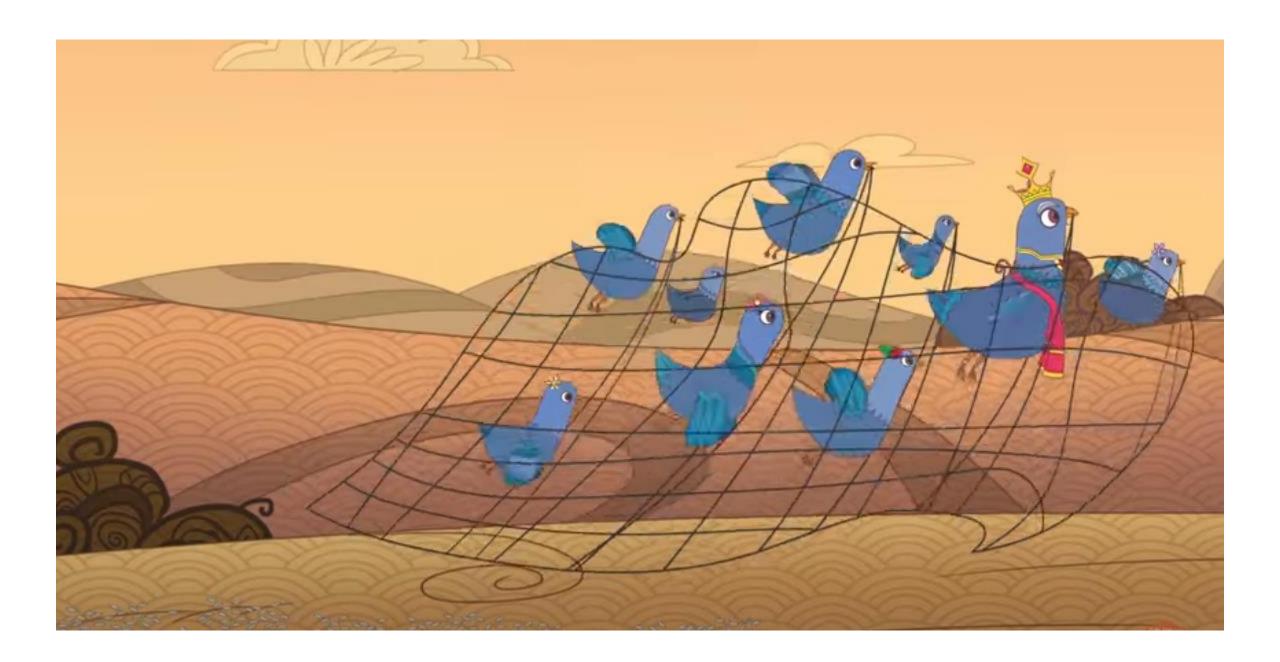
The king had an idea. He advised all the pigeons to fly up together carrying the net with them.



He said that there was strength in unity.



Each pigeon picked up a portion of the net and together they flew off carrying the net with them.

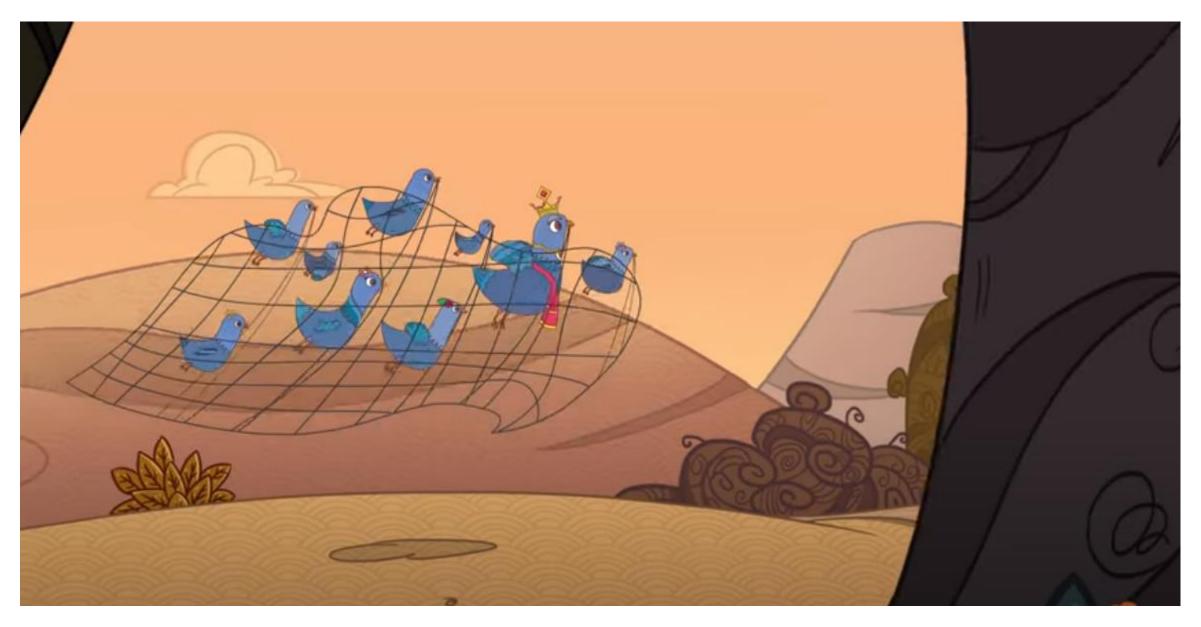




The hunter looked up in astonishment.



He tried to follow them, but they were flying high over hills and valleys.



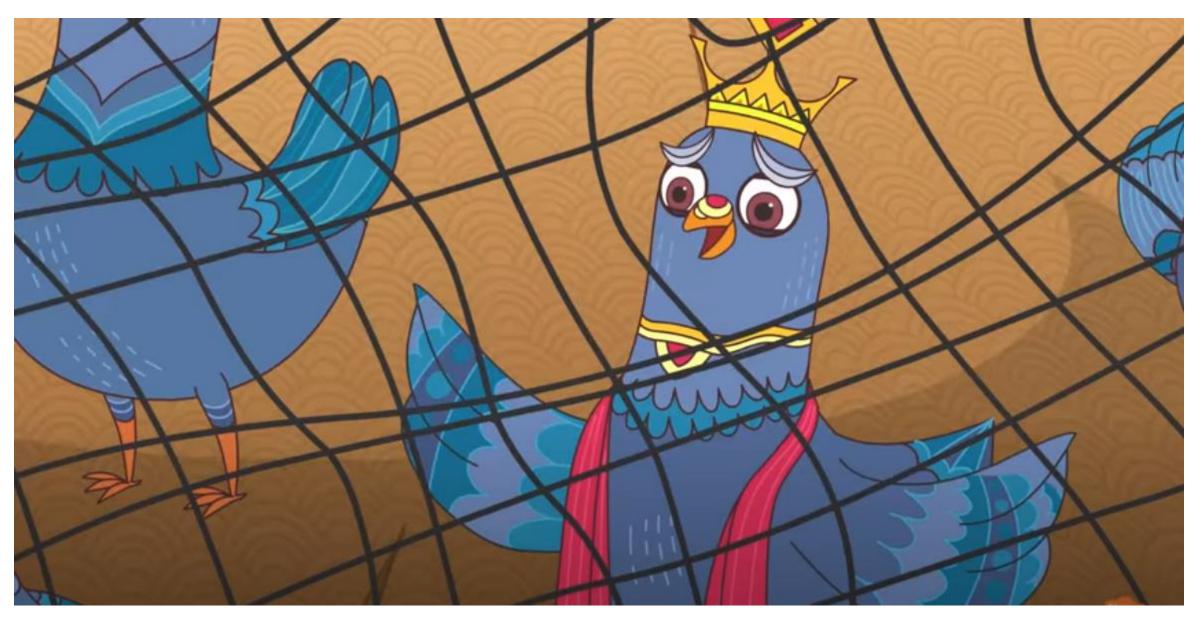
They flew to a hill near a city of temples where there lived a mouse who could help them. He was a faithful friend of the pigeon king.



When the mouse heard the loud noise of their approach, he went into hiding. The pigeon king gently called out to him and then the mouse was happy to see him



The pigeon king explained that they had been caught in a trap and needed the mouse's help to gnaw at the net with his teeth and set them free.



The mouse agreed saying that he would set the king free first. The king insisted that he first free his subjects and the king last.



The mouse understood the king's feelings and complied with his wishes.

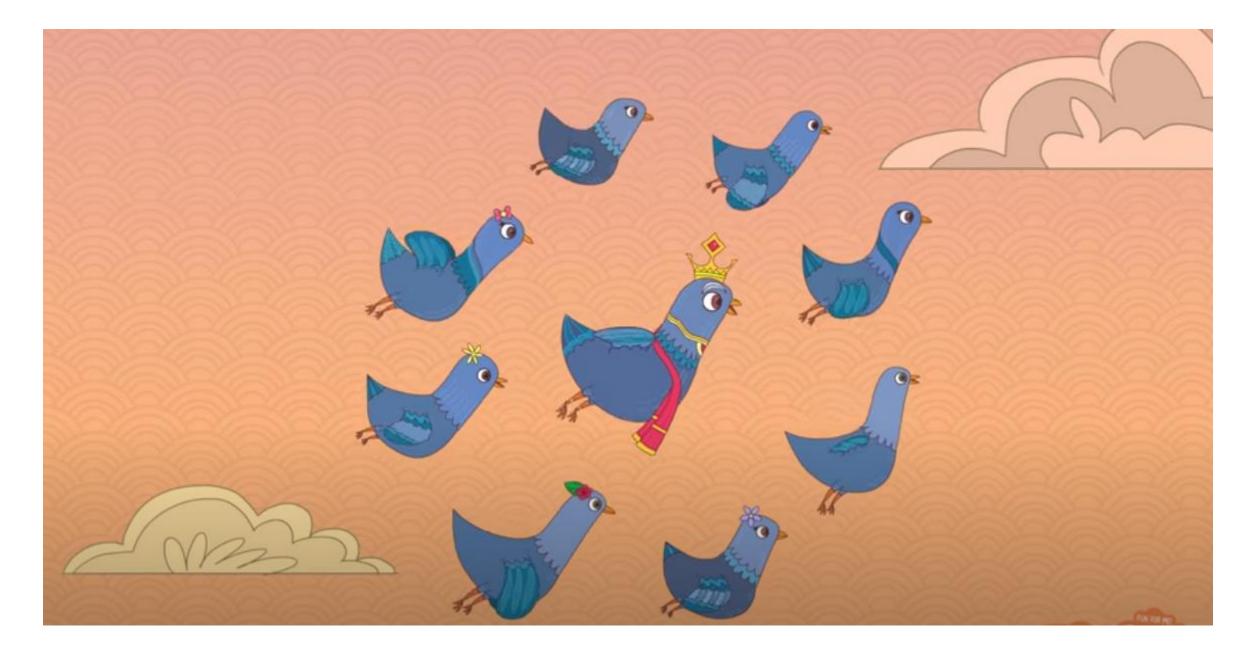


He began to cut the net and one by one all the pigeons were freed including the pigeon king.





They all thanked the mouse and flew away together, united in their strength.



Moral: When you work together, you are stronger