All the fairies in Bluebell Garden could fly. All except Fern. Her wings were still small and crumply.

"Never mind," said Fern. "I'll walk." And off she went, tip-tap, along the garden path.

She met Snail, who was stuck on his back. "Over you go!" said Fern, and gave him a gentle push.

She met Ladybird, whose spots were splashed with mud. Fern wiped them clean with a petal. "All shiny!"

All shiny!

She met Baby Bird, who was learning to fly too. Flap, flap… plop!

"Let's try together," said Fern. They counted: "One… two… THREE!" Fern flapped and flapped.

Her wings wobbled. Her toes lifted. She was flying… a tiny bit! Then, bump, down she came.

Snail cheered. Ladybird cheered. Baby Bird tweeted the loudest cheer of all.

"I can't fly far yet," said Fern, "but I'm learning." And that night, she dreamed of flying all the way to the moon.

★ The End ★

Talk about the story

- How did Fern help her friends while she was walking?
- How do you think Fern felt when her toes lifted off the ground?
- What is something you are learning to do… yet?

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A PICTURE STORY TO READ ALOUD

Fern, the Fairy Who Couldn't Fly (Yet)

Fern's wings are still small, so she walks, and helps a snail, a ladybird and a baby bird along the way.

Ages 3–4 · a fold-up mini-book

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