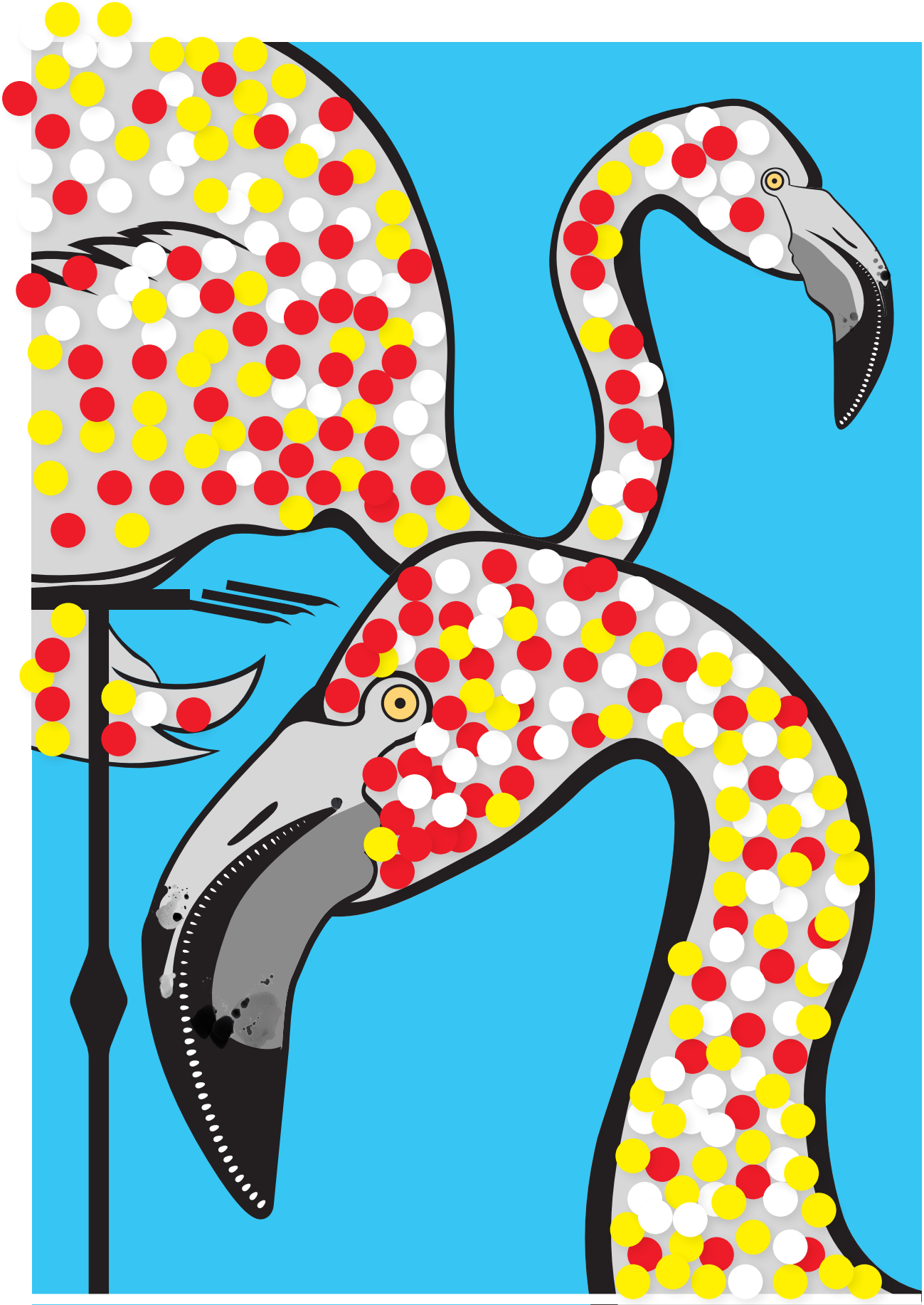

# ARE YOU A "SYNTHUSIAST"?

What do we gain and what do we lose by genetically engineering yeast to produce beta-carotene? Cast your vote by placing acolored sticker in the mosaic. What you say will help determine the color of the flamingo.

**Tweet your thoughts: #RUASynthusiast**

**YES** **NO** **NOT SURE**

A NOTE ABOUT FLAMINGOS

Flamingo babies are born grayish-white. As they grow into adult birds, they change color from eating foods with pigments, including the vitamin A precursor beta-carotene. Humans need beta-carotene, too. It's normally found in orange vegetables, but with synthetic biology we can now engineer new foods to produce beta-carotene, too.

**MTF: BioBuilder STEAMworks**

Learn more about synthetic biology in "*Biobuilder: Synthetic Biology in the Lab*" (O'Reilly, 2015). For more information, please visit **MTF: BioBuilder STEAMworks** on Facebook.

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