

ACTIVITIES

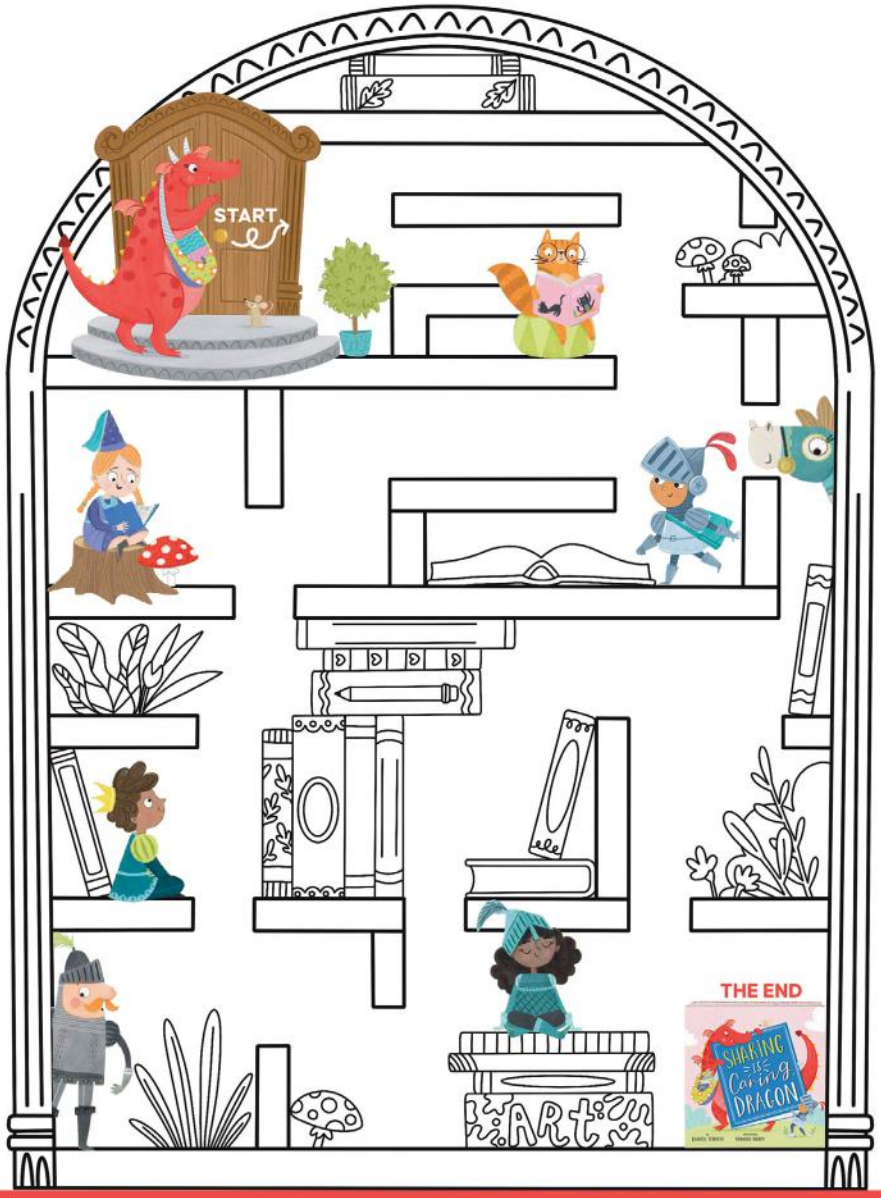
StoryMonstersInk.com

DRAGON'S LIBRARY MAZE

Help Dragon practice patience by finding the right path to her favorite book! But remember—there might be other library friends reading the books along the way. Can you help Dragon:



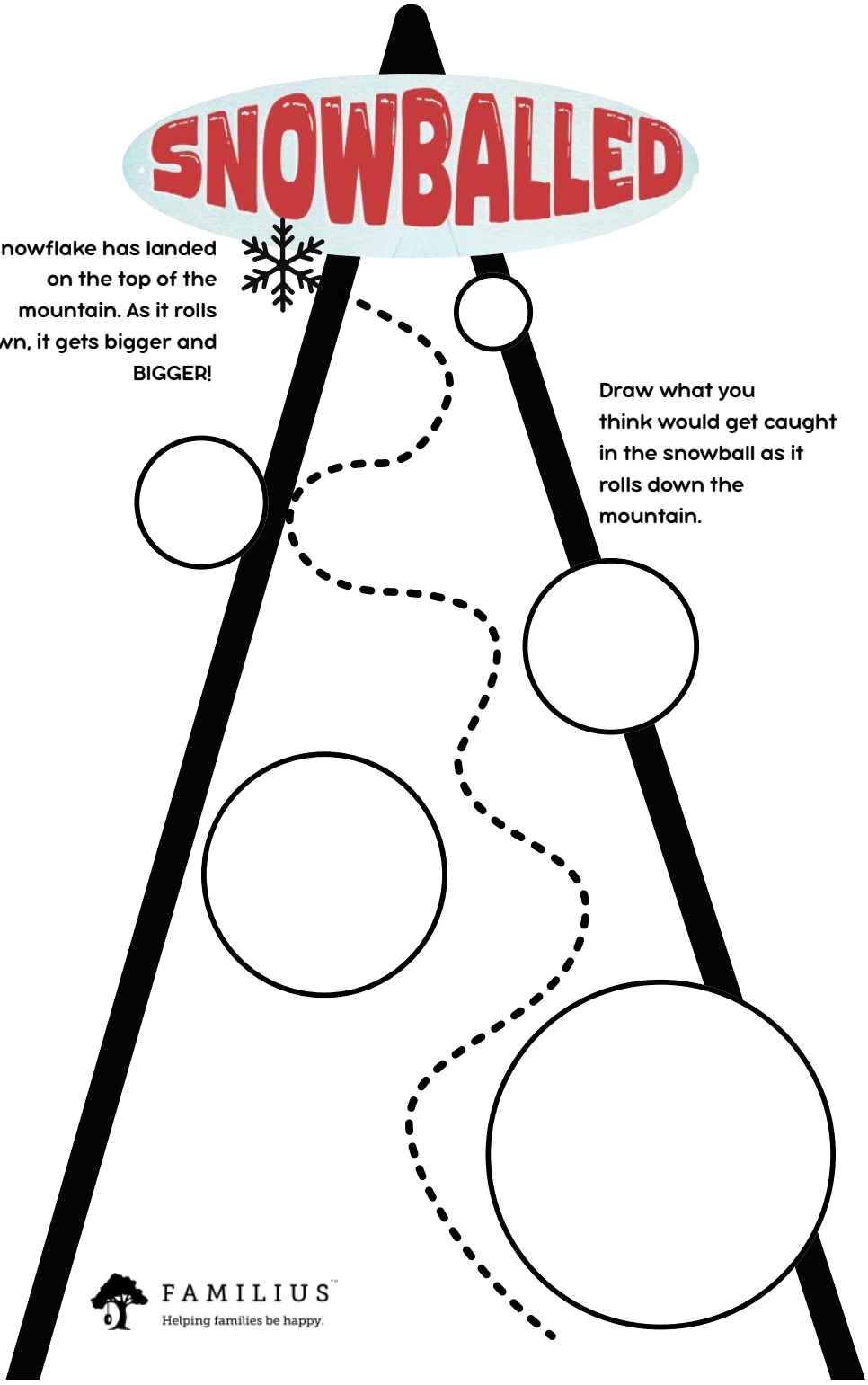
- ☐ Circle all the reading friends in the maze below.
- ☐ Count how many books you see on the shelves.
- ☐ Draw a path that doesn't disturb any readers.
- ☐ Color the maze when you're done!



biancaschulze.com

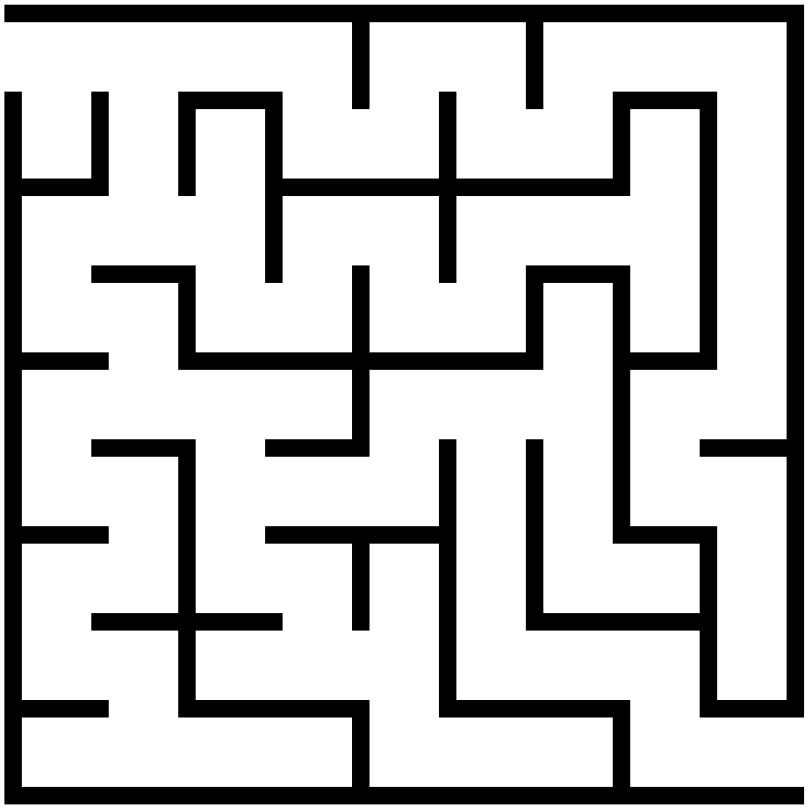
Follow @biancaschulzewriter:

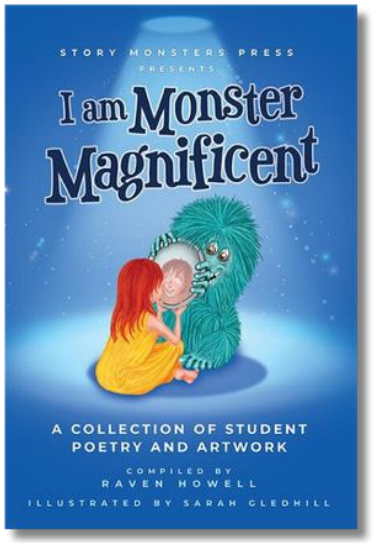
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Snowballed • by Nicole Castrovinci, illustrations by Vivian Mineker

The MONSTER MAGNIFICENT maze!







© Story Monsters Press

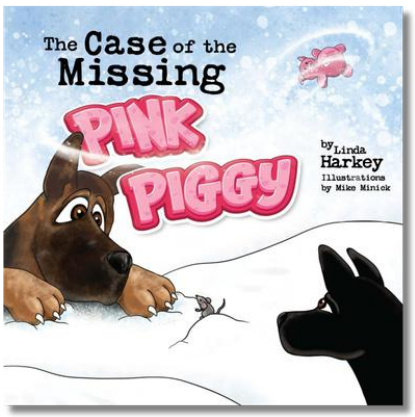
I am Monster Magnificent • compiled by Raven Howell, illustrations by Sarah Gledhill

Fill in the Blank

DETERMINE WHICH WORD BEST COMPLETES THE SENTENCE.

nudged
whined
glistened
screeched
wagged
scrambled
meadow
evergreen
jumble
gaze
trinket
tinsel
chops
deserve
loomed
whispered

1. The toys were all in a big _____ on the floor.
2. The dog _____ its tail happily when it saw its owner.
3. I decorated the Christmas tree with shiny _____.
4. The tires _____ as the car came to a sudden stop.
5. I _____ the secret to my best friend.
6. Dark clouds _____ in the sky, signaling an approaching storm.
7. The sun _____ on the water, making it sparkle like diamonds.
8. The cat _____ the ball with its paw.
9. You _____ a gold star for all your hard work!
10. I love picnicking in the _____.
11. The dog _____ when it wanted to go outside.
12. I _____ to finish my homework before the due date.
13. I found a shiny _____ on the ground.
14. The _____ tree is a classic symbol of the holidays.
15. She took a long, curious _____ at the stars in the night sky.
16. Mom _____ vegetables for dinner.



The Case of the Missing Pink Piggy • by Linda Harkey, illustrations by Mike Minick • harkeyanimaltales.com



MAKE A ZEN-ZONE WITH ZENGUIN!

FIND A QUIET SPOT

- In a corner of your bedroom
- Under a sheet draped over a table or chairs
- In your backyard or garden on a nice day
- Inside a large cardboard box
- In a tree fort
- On the floor of your closet
- Any place away from interruptions

ADD SOME ZEN TOOLS

- A comfortable chair or bean bag
- Floor pillows
- A blanket
- A stuffed animal to hug
- Picture books
- Yoga mat
- Coloring books
- Soft music

WHEN TO USE YOUR ZEN ZONE

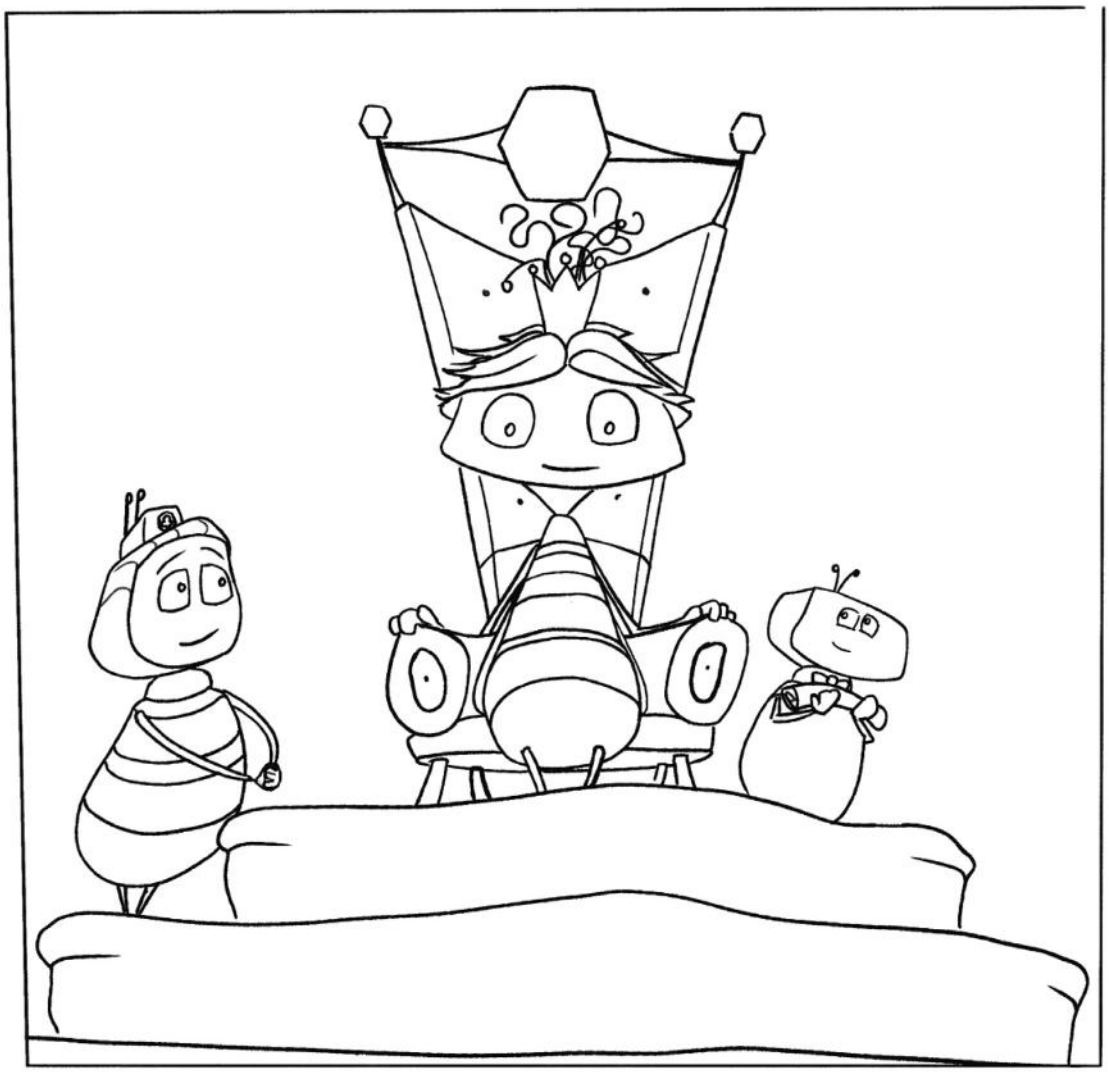
- When you are angry, frustrated, or nervous
- When you feel an outburst coming on
- When you want to fight with someone
- When you want to think about your choices
- When it is noisy, and you need quiet time
- When you are too upset to talk about your feelings



From *Zenguin* • Words by Danna Smith, Pictures by Sydney Hanson • dannasmithbooks.com

Writing Prompt:

How can someone use their courage to help others?



Queen Bea

From *Queen Bea* • Story by Scott Evan Davis, Art by Tadgh Bentley • www.queenbeabook.com

THE FLY WHO FLEW

Follow Flynn the Fly on an unforgettable adventure!



THE collective BOOK STUDIO

flywhoflew.com
thecollectivebook.studio

RHYME TIME

Which words rhyme in the stanzas below?
Fill in each blank with a rhyming word that fits the pattern!

Drop our anchor, wade to land,
spread our blanket on the sand.
We'll eat an island lunch at noon.
You and I are fork and _____.

Back on shore, you disappear.
Where did you go? You were just here!
I closed my eyes and didn't peek.
You and I are hide and _____.

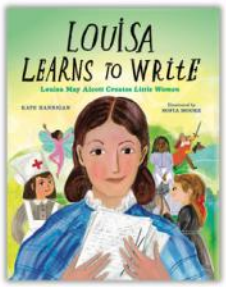
Find the trail that leads below
to where the fisherwomen go.
Race me down the mountainside.
You and I are slip and _____.

Bring your favorite books to bed.
Read until they've all been read.
We'll cuddle up before we rest.
You and I are egg and _____.

Read back through all the stanzas once you've filled in the rhyming words. In each stanza, underline the first rhyming pair and circle the second pair.

YOU AND I ARE STARS AND NIGHT by Kate Hosford, illustrated by Richard Jones

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Writing Workshop

A classroom workbook companion to ***Louisa Learns to Write: Louisa May Alcott Creates 'Little Women'***
by Kate Hannigan, illustrated by Sofia Moore (Calkins Creek/Astra Books for Young Readers; January 2026)

First habit to becoming a writer

Since *Little Women* was published over 150 years ago, Louisa May Alcott's beloved novel has never gone out of print. But Louisa didn't always meet with success. She struggled for years to learn how to write well. What follows are ten habits writers like Louisa developed on the way to becoming authors, as well as "writing sprints" to help build writing muscles!

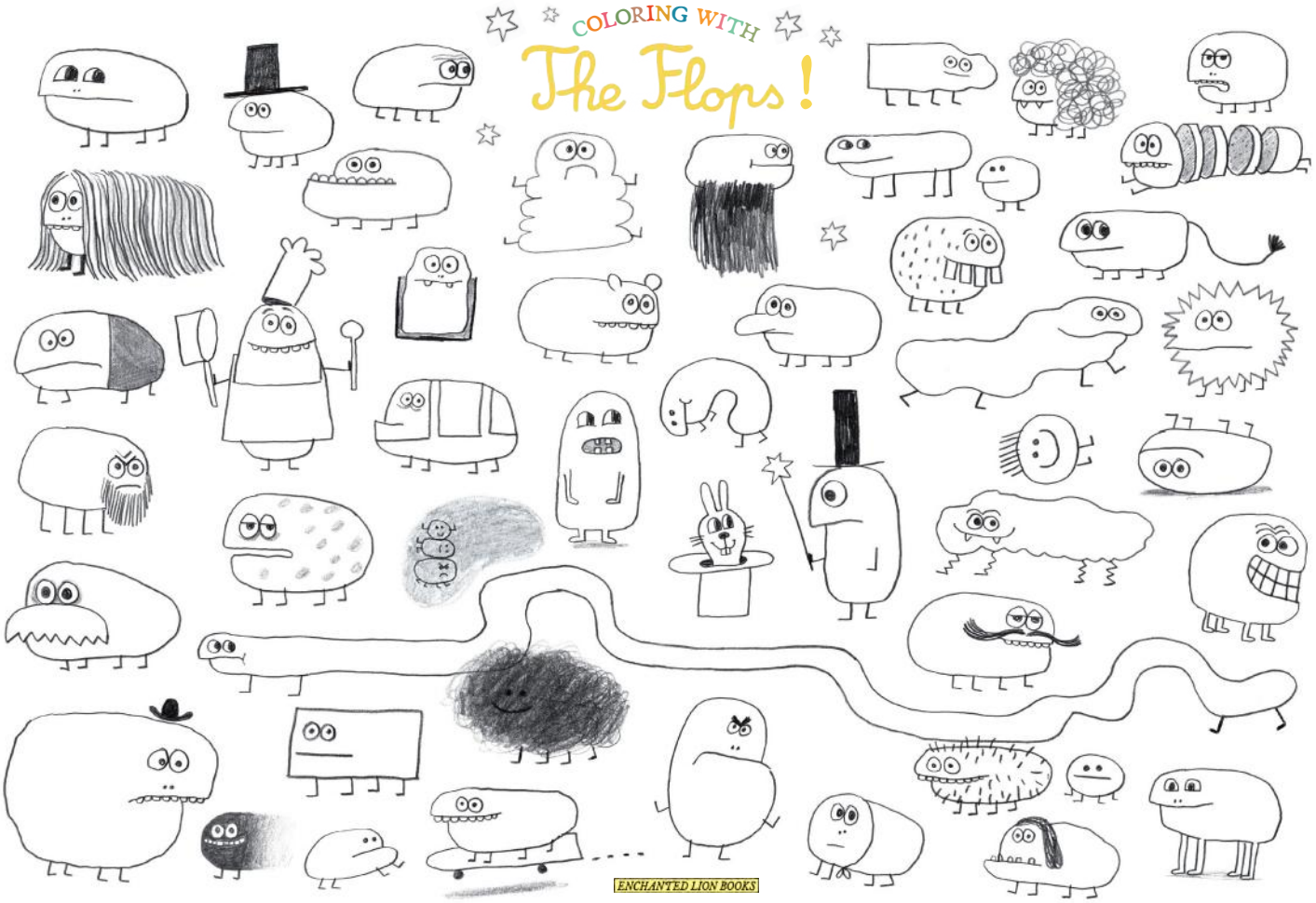
Read! Pick up a book and get lost in a story.

When we read, we build new connections in our brains! These pathways help us learn information and decode language. Reading not only makes us smart, it builds our emotional intelligence too!

Writing Sprint! *Grab your pencil and paper!*

Think of a favorite book you've read. How did the story make you feel? Name the book and describe what moved you—to tears, laughter, frustration, or even relief.

How did the author stir your emotions? Through dialogue? Figurative language?


COLORING WITH
The Flops!
ENCHANTED LION BOOKS

Autumn Treasure Scavenger Hunt!

- ☐ Dry leaves
- ☐ Pinecones
- ☐ Small twigs
- ☐ Smooth rocks or pebbles
- ☐ A rain puddle to splash in
- ☐ A leaf pile to run in



*Bonus Activity:

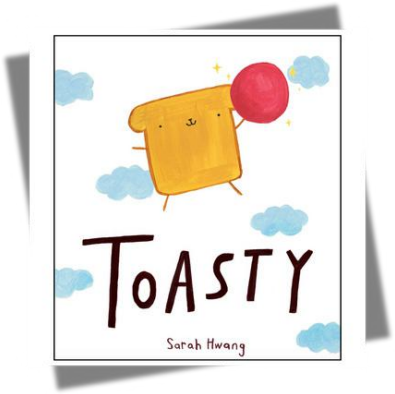
Make a bug hotel with your treasures!
Find a sheltered spot outside. Lay a few pinecones flat on the ground for the base, and stick twigs in between the scales to hold them together. Stack up your pinecone bases, and fill in any gaps with dry leaves. Make a border of smooth rocks or pebbles, and add a roof over your hotel using two pieces of cardboard, flat pieces of wood, or tiles to keep it dry!

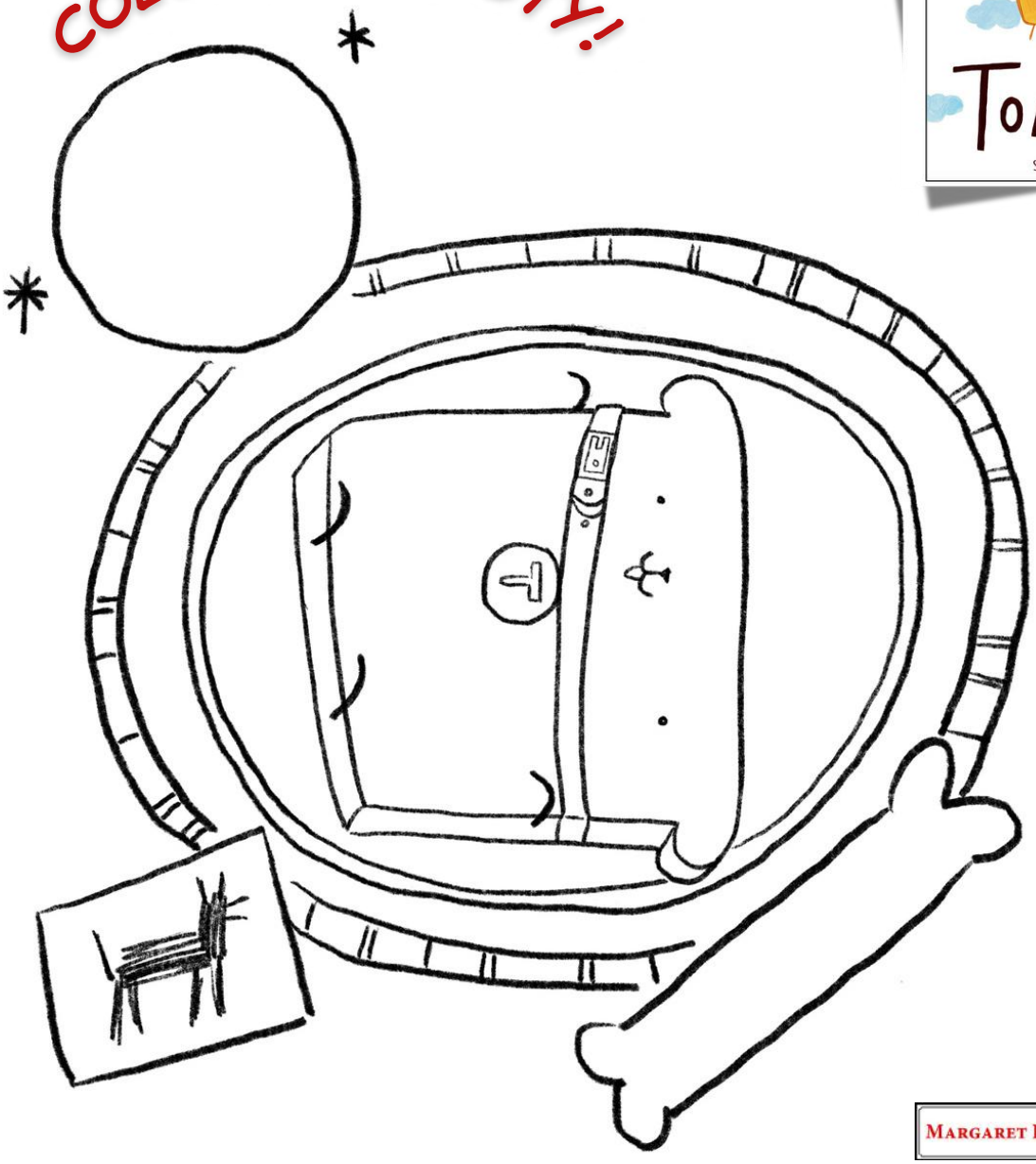


Illustration & activity by Anny Chen.
I love illustrating for children. If you'd like to explore more of my work, visit: www.annychen.art

anny chen art

PRINT OUT AND COLOR IN TOASTY!!





MARGARET FERGUSON BOOKS

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

MARCEL, what have you been up to?!

Can you spot what's changed? Write down the **5** differences below!



1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....





ANSWERS:
1. Marcel's hat band is yellow.
2. Steve has gone.
3. Marcel's scarf has a different pattern.
4. Marcel's tail feathers are purple.
5. Marcel's napkin has gone.



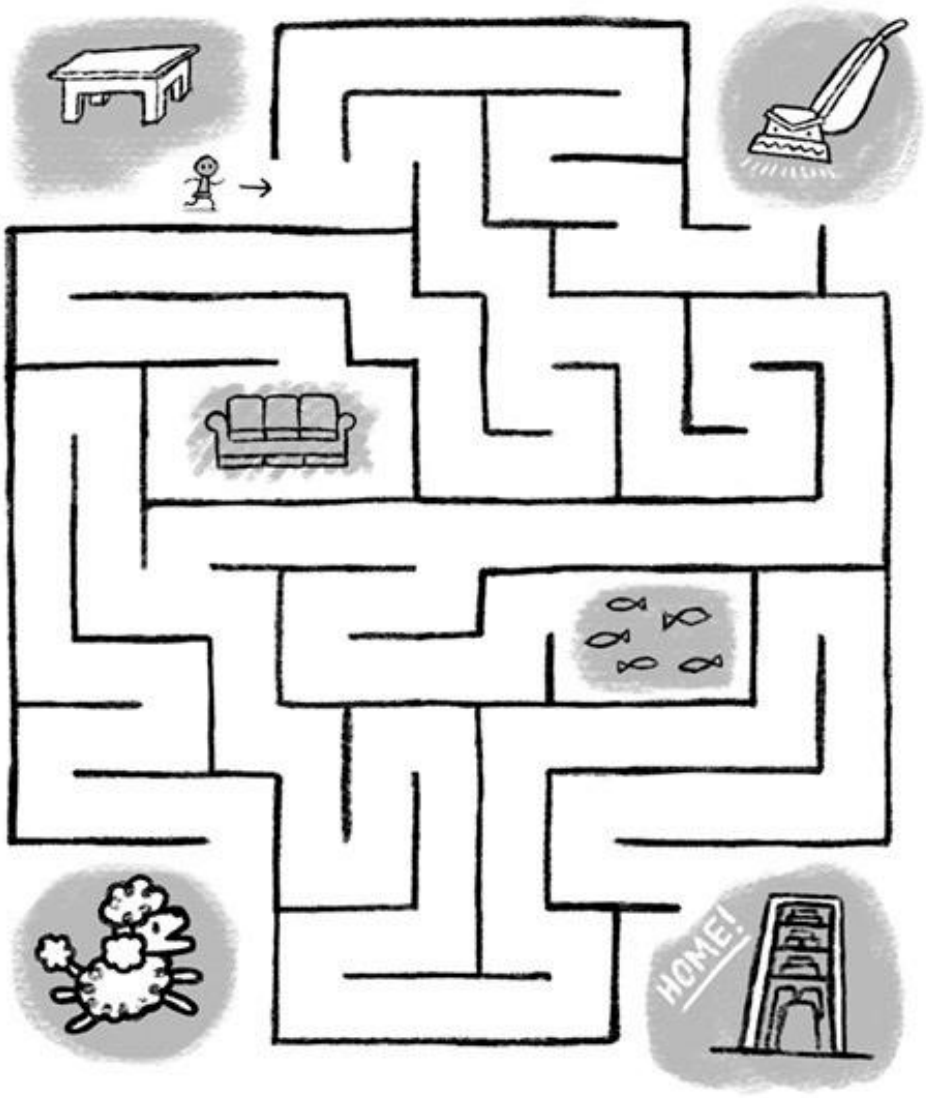
WHO ATE STEVE?

SUSANNAH LLOYD & KATE HINDLEY

FIND MORE ACTIVITY SHEETS ON OUR WEBSITE! WWW.NOSYCROW.COM/ACTIVITY-SHEETS/

ASTRA BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

CAN YOU HELP RED FIND HIS WAY HOME?



Piece Out

www.alexwillan.com

Illustrations © Alex Willan

REPRODUCIBLE

Rachel Carson's Wonder-Filled World

About the Book:
This STEAM picture book biography highlights how scientist and writer Rachel Carson became the author of the groundbreaking book *Silent Spring* and the mother of the modern environmental movement.



By Kate Hannigan and illustrated by Katie Hickey

Rachel Carson loves to explore nature by getting outside and taking notes about what she observes! Take a notebook with you outside and engage your senses. What do you observe?

WHAT DO YOU FEEL?

WHAT DO YOU TASTE?

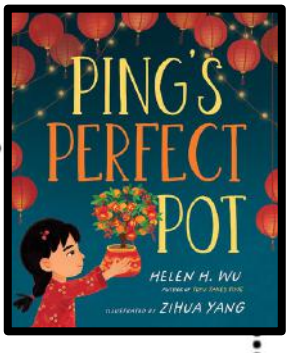
WHAT DO YOU SMELL?

WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

ASTRA BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

CALKINS CREEK



Word Search

• Ping • Pot • Clay • Grandpa • Prosperity • Family
• Tradition • Harmony • Creativity • Reunion

I	R	A	A	N	N	U	S	Y	T	R	M	A	Y
U	E	E	S	Y	C	G	R	R	A	O	U	I	A
R	V	N	U	O	T	G	P	Y	N	P	A	E	P
N	C	O	M	N	R	P	Y	S	E	E	T	P	D
L	R	I	I	T	I	D	O	V	Y	Y	I	A	N
I	E	T	L	I	N	O	C	A	T	H	N	E	A
A	A	I	N	I	R	I	N	I	R	S	C	Y	R
Y	T	D	I	A	N	H	R	I	P	I	N	G	G
C	I	A	O	T	O	E	A	S	N	C	P	O	D
Y	V	R	O	R	P	N	A	R	T	R	L	O	C
C	I	T	T	S	T	I	O	N	M	Y	T	A	T
R	T	O	O	A	Y	O	N	I	P	O	G	Y	Y
P	Y	R	Y	L	I	M	A	F	R	D	N	E	I
A	P	Y	L	I	R	N	I	L	T	S	P	Y	N

MYSTERY DRIVER

Spot 11 Differences



Author: www.drliztracy.com

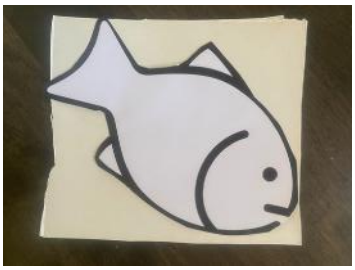
Candlewick Press

Illustrator: www.annaaronsondraws.com

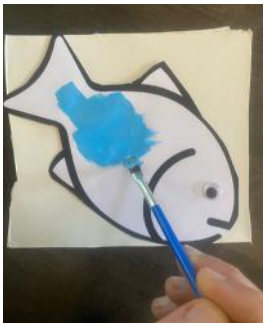
arts & crafts simple sensory

MACARONI & RICE FLOUNDER





Start with a simple fish template.



Paint your fish the color of your choice.

Glue on a googly eye.



Paint colorful macaroni noodles.



Glue them on the fish body.



Spread glue on the fish tail.

Sprinkle rice to coat, and let dry!

Studio Story Monster® Presents:
LITTLE MONSTERS READ-ALONG
BRINGING READ-ALONG AUDIOBOOKS TO CHILDREN EVERYWHERE!

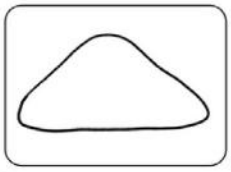


Do you love muffins?
A MORNING WITH BLUEBURRY
is the perfect pastry tale.

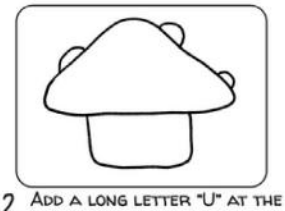
Tielmour Press

Draw a Muffin Like Blueburry!

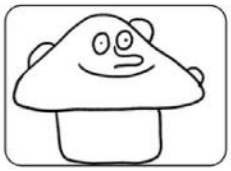
Follow the instructions below to learn how to draw your very own muffin—just like Blueburry! Use the space provided on the following page to draw your muffin.



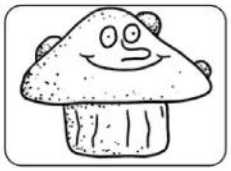
1. Start by drawing a large triangle shape with rounded corners.



2. Add a long letter "U" at the bottom, and a few semi-circles on the top for the blueberries!



3. Add two circles for the eyes (with dots inside), a finger shape for the nose, and long curved line for the mouth.



4. Add the final details like wavy lines for the muffin liner, cheeks, and LOTS OF DOTS!

*Adding dots for shading or form is called "Stippling".

Draw Your Own Muffin HERE!

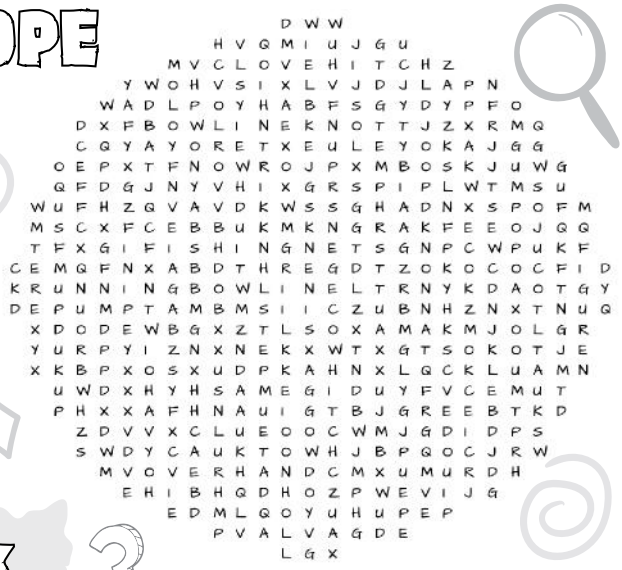
Easy ONE-ROPE KNOTS

Tips:

Create each knot on a flat surface. It's easier to see the pattern that way.

Take your time!

Don't pull any part of the knot tight until the full pattern is created.



Can You Find...

OVERHAND – FIGURE EIGHT – COW HITCH
CLOVE HITCH – SHEEPSHANK KNOT
BOWLINE KNOT – RUNNING BOWLINE – ROPES
FISHING NETS – HUNTING TRAPS – BASKETS

#DYK

Pieces of old ropes and knots that are 15,000 to 17,000 years old show that people have been using knots for a very long time—long before they invented the wheel or the axe!

Knots have been super important for making things like fishing nets, hunting traps, and baskets.

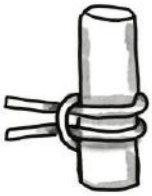
Even though they might seem simple, knots are the key part of these inventions.



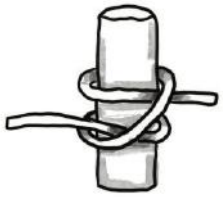
Overhand Knot



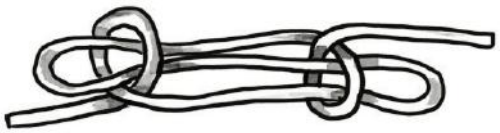
Figure Eight Knot



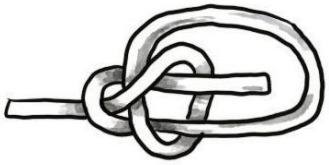
Cow Hitch



Clove Hitch



Sheepshank Knot



Bowline Knot



Running Bowline

Artist: KrakenSky.com | TPT: KrakenSky | www.CreativeBrainsGrowHere.com | Follow on Instagram: @CreativeBrainsGrowHere

Sensory Play: Make Snow

If Mother Nature is not giving you snow
where you live, you can make it!



Ingredients:

1 lb baking soda

1 can unscented shaving cream

2 drops lavender oil (optional)

First, find an adult to help you make your snow.

Place a tarp or sheet on the floor for playtime and easy clean up.

In a large bowl, add 1 pound baking soda.

Squirt shaving cream into bowl (start with a large handful of it, then add as needed).

Add 2 drops of lavender oil if desired.

"Knead" the snow, letting it squish between your fingers. Does it feel cold?

Children must be supervised. Do not eat.

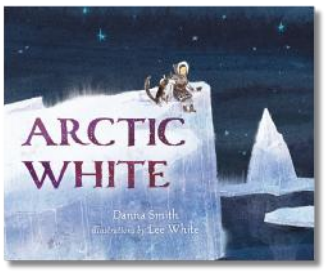
More ideas for your snow:

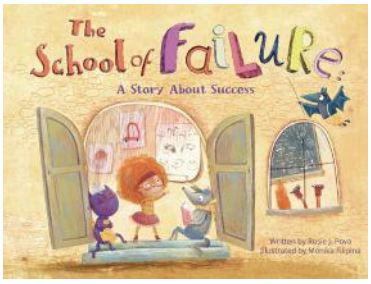
Add glitter for sparkly fun.

Place in a clear container and give a gift of snow to a friend.

ARCTIC WHITE By Danna Smith, Illustrations by Lee White, Published by Henry Holt & Co.

For more from children's author Danna Smith, go to https://dannasmithbooks.com/.





from *The School of Failure: A Story About Success*

Written by Rosie J. Pova, Illustrated by Monika Filipina

WORD SEARCH

fairy tale character classmate audition failure
success school castle prince comedy baking haiku

A I E R P R H W R I M C O M E D Y N F L
P H Z L M C L A S S M A T E C X M Q M Z
F F A Y K W S S N W D I K R G F U W M W
I X E X T K B U N F B I S T B J T E U T
W C C H O T P V C H W I V Q Q T T G T P
H H H J U K S W T C F B D Y E O Z C Y N
U E H A E J U X P O E A T B Y B P K G N
X M A G R D T K D D S S I B D U C N T C
B A I E O A J U S C O B S L E Y T I D A
W N K M L P C J Y U U V O U U W Z F S B
N Y U U P Q K T T Y G R J N I R O Z V A
J T X A A T U S E W S X S X W O E W K K
U L D H U O D C S R E C R X O T K P O I
Q V U K D D G A J X G W H N O Y E T W N
C R J I I O K S G G E N R O B J R O J G
K T Z S T F U T U U M B D P O Y Y H V G
S X V G I P C L F R I J L M B L M J H C
G X S W O M I E C J B C S Y Y B R L D A
R V B J N U B Q G M F A I R Y T A L E C
M C F Y T X P R I N C E A V B G P E J E



The Most Perfect PERSIMMON

HANNAH CHUNG

Joo Hong is enjoying her picnic with Mama and Grandma. Color this scene with cozy fall colors!

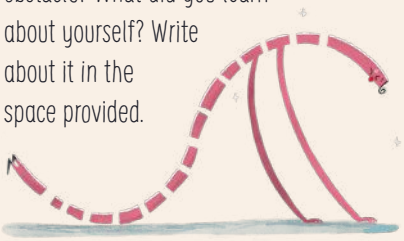


ASTRA YOUNG READERS

Writing Prompts

In the story, Line becomes broken and chipped on his long journey to the library. But Line has a determination and resilience that is unmatched.

Think about a time when you faced a tough challenge or obstacle. How were you able to overcome the obstacle? What did you learn about yourself? Write about it in the space provided.



What are your favorite things about yourself? Write a list of all of the things that make you special and uniquely you.





Line Leads the Way by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Alice Caldarella

Betty has a message just for you! Can you work out what it is?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
9 1 13 7 18 1 20 5 6 21 12

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ !
25 15 21 1 18 5 25 15 21





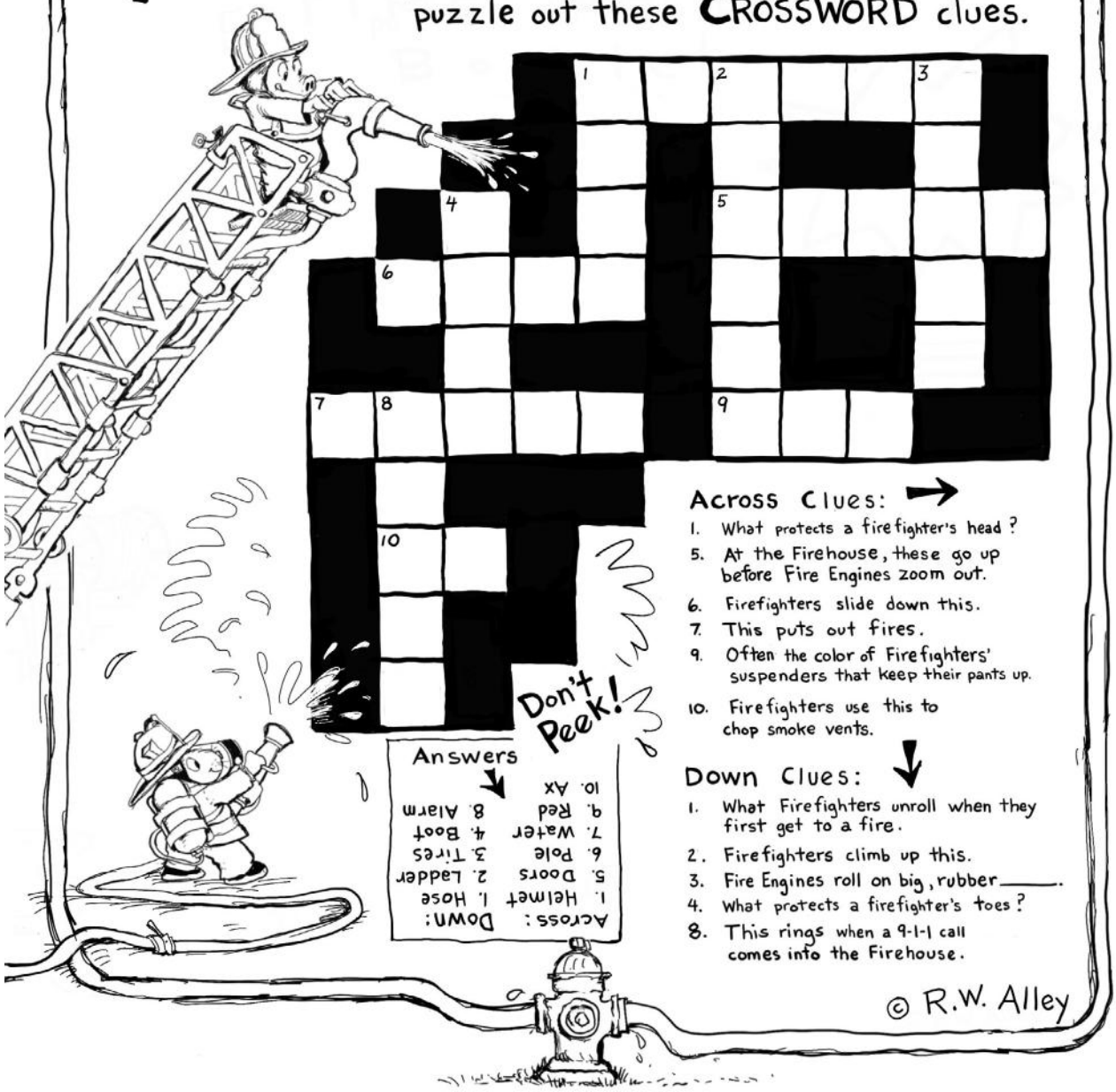
Art © 2024 by Micah Player from Constance Lombardo's *Itty Bitty Betty Blob*

Hippo Park

BREEZY VALLEY AT WORK

FIREFIGHTERS TO THE RESCUE!

Help the Firefighters puzzle out these CROSSWORD clues.



Across Clues:

1. What protects a firefighter's head?
5. At the Firehouse, these go up before Fire Engines zoom out.
6. Firefighters slide down this.
7. This puts out fires.
9. Often the color of Firefighters' suspenders that keep their pants up.
10. Firefighters use this to chop smoke vents.

Down Clues:

1. What Firefighters unroll when they first get to a fire.
2. Firefighters climb up this.
3. Fire Engines roll on big, rubber_____.
4. What protects a firefighter's toes?
8. This rings when a 9-1-1 call comes into the Firehouse.

Don't Peek!

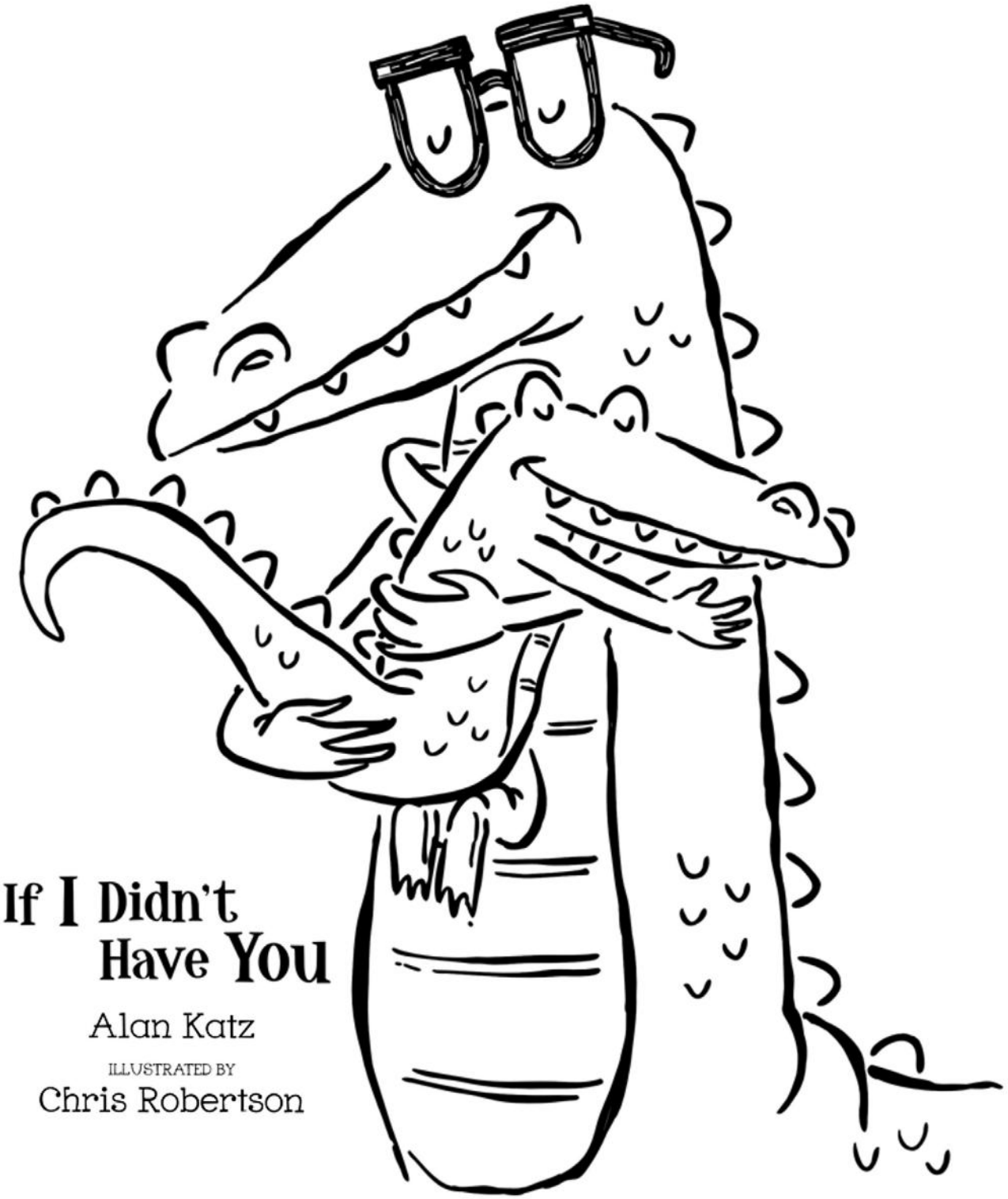
Answers

Across: 1. Helmet 5. Doors 6. Pole 7. Water 9. Red 10. Ax

Down: 1. Hose 2. Ladder 3. Tires 4. Boot 8. Alarm

© R.W. Alley

ASTRA BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS KANEPRESS Activities based on FIREFIGHTERS TO THE RESCUE!/Available wherever books are sold


If I Didn't Have You
Alan Katz
ILLUSTRATED BY
Chris Robertson

NAME: _____

FIND A FRIEND SCAVENGER HUNT



Bear believes that she and Fish have nothing in common and that Fish needs to live elsewhere. Fortunately, Fish points out many similarities with Bear, and the two form a friendship. Investigate what you have in common with people in your class by going on a friendly scavenger hunt. Fill in the two lines in the second row of the chart with your personal preferences, then walk around your classroom and find out who matches each statement. List their names in your chart. CASEL 5 Relationship Skills

SPEAKS MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE	HAS THE SAME EYE COLOR AS ME	HAS A PET	LIKES TO READ BOOKS	LOVES TO DRAW
HAS A BROTHER OR SISTER	NAME STARTS WITH THE SAME LETTER AS MINE	LIKES TO _____	LOVES ICE CREAM	LIKES THE COLOR _____

BIG BEAR AND LITTLE FISH CURRICULUM GUIDE
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LEMONY ORZO AND SPINACH SOUP

A Recipe from author Emma Bland Smith

Ingredients

Makes 4 small servings or 2-3 larger ones.

4 cups (1 quart) chicken broth
½ cup orzo
5 ounces fresh spinach leaves (not frozen)
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice, or more to taste
Salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. In a medium or large pot, bring chicken broth to a full boil.

2. Add the orzo. Stirring at first to keep it from clumping, cook the orzo in the broth for 10-12 minutes, or until it is tender when tasted. (Check the cooking time on the box of orzo. Try not to overcook the orzo, or it will become soggy.) Keep the broth on a medium boil.

3. When orzo is almost done (about a minute left of cooking time), add the spinach leaves. Stir gently to distribute. Spinach is cooked when it is wilted. Keep in mind that spinach cooks very fast.

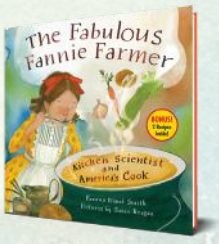
4. Stir in the lemon juice.

5. Taste the soup. If you like it more lemony, add more lemon juice. Add salt and pepper to taste.

6. Optional: Add a splash (2-4 tablespoons) of heavy cream, half-and-half, or whole milk when soup is done. This will make it deliciously creamy.

7. Optional: For a decadent touch, put some shredded cheddar cheese in the bottom of each bowl before serving. Pour the hot soup over and wait for a few moments. The cheese will melt and make the soup cheesy.

Check out Emma's latest book — available wherever books are sold!





BEDTIME DADDY

Unscramble the words.

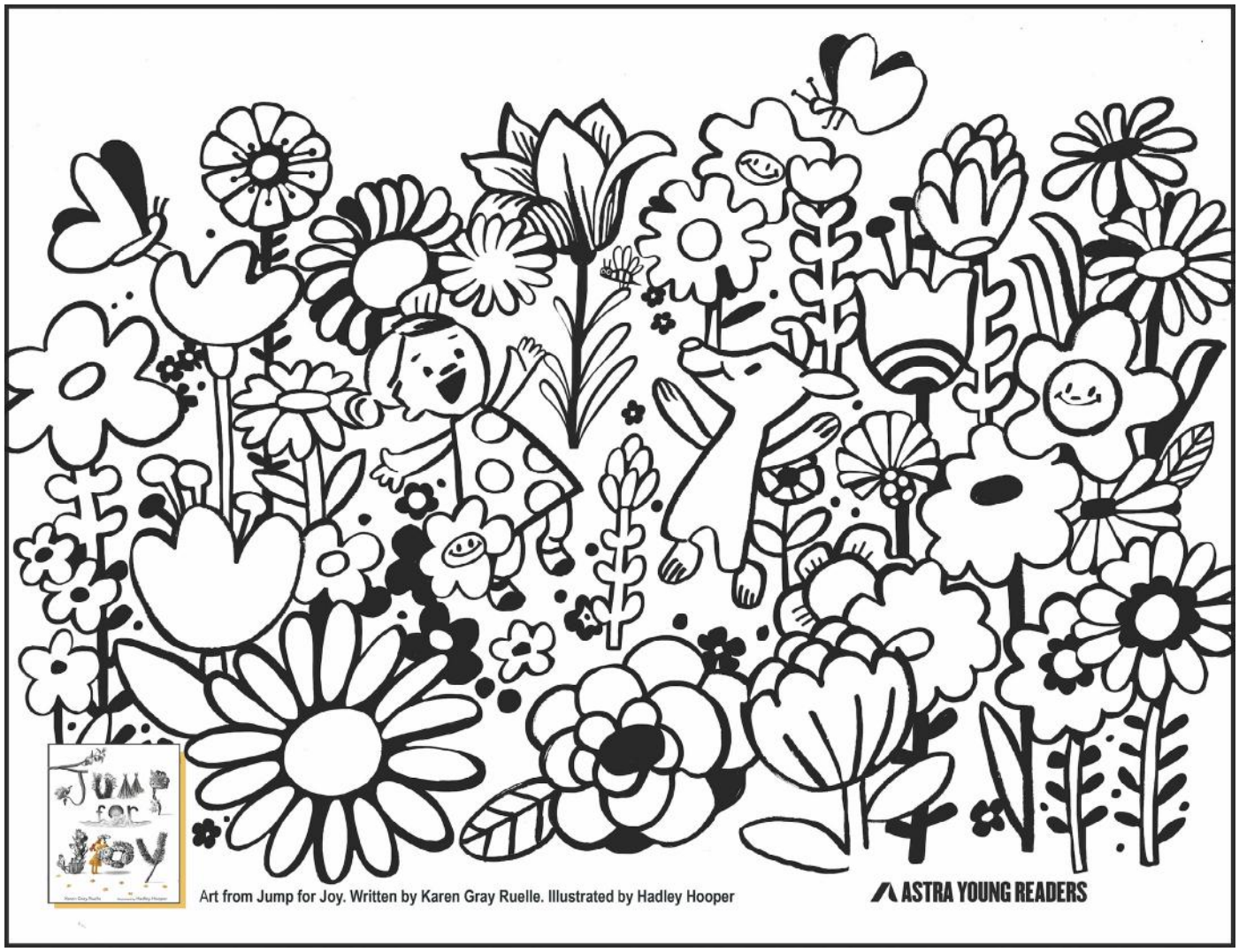
1. mibdeet
2. ywna
3. ermodbo
4. ajapams
5. paoshteott
6. yostr
7. skahsr
8. udcsk
9. rmtosesn
10. sypra
11. tdignoohg
12. ddady

Word Box

spray	yawn	ducks	sharks
daddy	pajamas	monsters	story
bedtime	goodnight	bedroom	toothpaste

Created by Sharon Giltrow and Katrin Dreiling using Word Scramble Generator on Super Teacher Worksheets (www.superteacherworksheets.com)

Color with Joy!



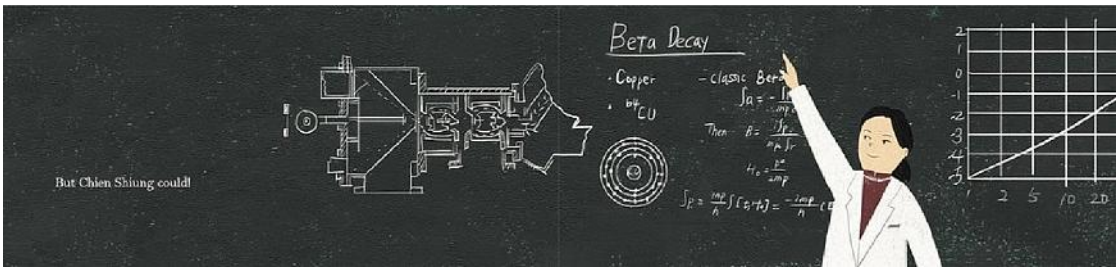
Queen of physics: How Wu Chien Shiung helped unlock the secrets of the atom

Find the words in the puzzle

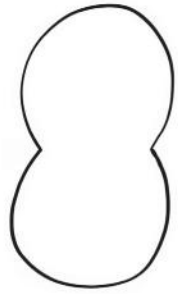
Words can go in any direction.
Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

R	O	B	B	V	M	R	A	J	X	M	Z	Q	L	S
U	D	C	D	M	U	E	T	Q	U	D	V	Y	U	F
X	T	T	V	S	S	G	O	M	Z	M	M	Z	A	Z
B	T	D	V	E	O	K	M	W	U	W	H	M	B	H
M	S	A	N	H	I	A	R	E	Z	O	E	H	T	L
V	I	I	M	B	O	B	Q	O	U	L	J	A	N	E
Q	H	B	R	A	A	A	F	Q	Y	P	M	L	A	B
C	Z	I	M	L	M	B	D	V	H	W	U	H	N	O
L	E	A	R	N	I	N	G	Y	T	Q	E	X	J	N
C	M	F	K	X	Y	U	S	H	V	H	O	N	I	X
R	U	W	M	Y	V	I	H	O	P	F	E	B	N	E
B	W	W	D	V	C	E	R	E	J	F	Q	S	G	V
H	B	X	X	S	Y	A	C	E	D	A	T	E	B	P
B	Y	O	L	S	C	I	E	N	T	I	S	T	W	Y
S	A	X	X	C	W	V	C	Q	G	T	P	G	W	K

ATOM
CHINESE
MAMA
NEW YORK
SCIENTIST
BABA
LEARNING
MATH
NOBEL
SUZHOU
BETA DECAY
LIUHE
NANJING
PHYSICS
WU



HOW TO DRAW A SNOWMAN PENGUIN BY ADAM WALLACE – A QUICK INTRO!



If you want to get your
penguin done,
Begin with a snowman.
Yeah. That'd be fun.



A big rock for a button,
little pebbles for eyes,
Then a nice big mouth
to yell, ***"SURPRISE!"***



We want a penguin,
draw a vest and beak,
Come on, hurry up, we
don't have all week!.



Draw over the rock
eyes, however you like,
I like eyes where the
cuteness will spike.



Some feet are handy
for walking on ice,
Then flippers, because
swimming is nice.



Color the black, some
hair up high,
And, if you want, a
fancy bow tie!







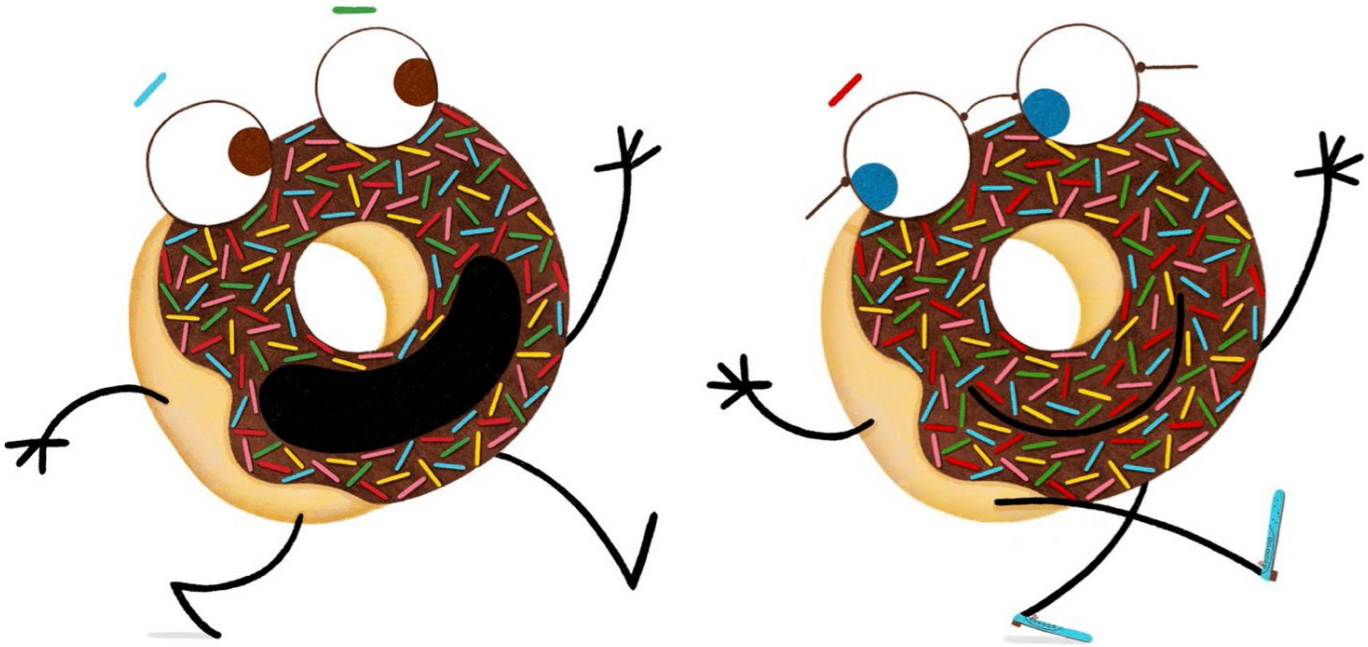
You don't have to draw your penguin just one way,
So mix it up, it's time to play!

Activity courtesy of Adam Wallace. View more of his free drawing ebooks here.

ARNIE the DOUGHNUT

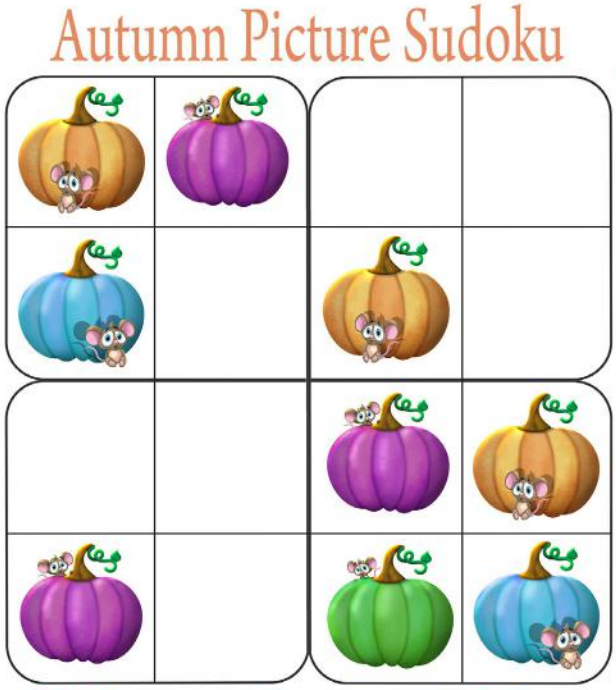
SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Can you find all ten?



1) Blue eyes 2) Eyes looking in opposite direction 3) Wearing glasses 4) Red left eyebrow 5) Missing right eyebrow 6) Five fingers on each hand 7) Left arm pointing up 8) Legs are crossed 9) Closed-mouth smile 10) Wearing shoes

Activity courtesy of Laurie Keller. View more of her work at lauriekellerbooks.com.



Rules:
Each row, each column, and each of the 4 large squares should have 4 different colored pumpkins in the first puzzle and 4 different colored moons in the next puzzle. The pumpkin puzzle is easy. The moon is more difficult.







Activity courtesy of Jack Foster. View more of his work at jackfosterart.com.