

November Issue 2026 **Free**

A Kid's Literary Magazine

KIDLIO MAG

All Together Through The Storm
Justine A.P. Louis

The Christmas Squabble
Susan K. Fairchild & Camille M. Easton

Suzy The ADHD Taxi
And The Sightseeing Adventure
Lynn Greenberg & Jonathan Greenberg

Milli and Max Toddlers
Millian Lloyd Jones

What Would You Do?
CK Willie

Caramel Kitten
Learns to Set the Table
Kerry Howard

My Bonus Mom!
Tami Butcher

I Always Knew We
Were Meant For You
Michelle Gillitzer

The Adventures of Easton
Elizabeth Retter

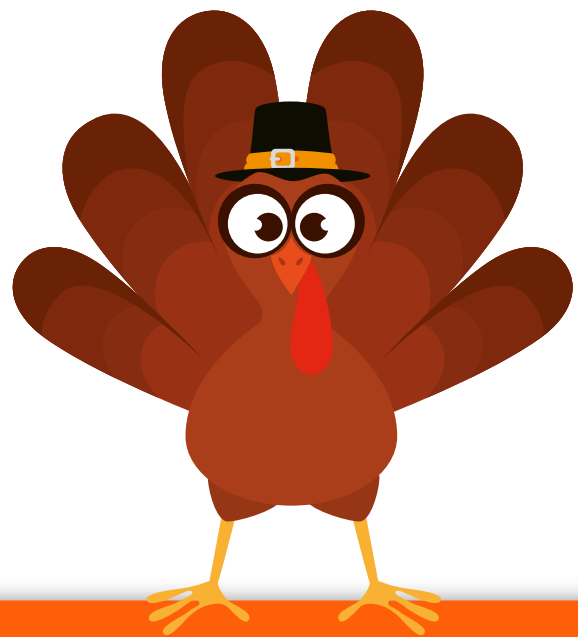
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Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the November 2026 edition of our magazine! As the leaves change color and the air gets crisper, we have a fantastic lineup of stories and activities to keep you entertained and inspired.

November is also a time for gratitude and giving. In our special Thanksgiving section, read heartwarming stories about kids making a difference in their communities. Plus, we've got fun crafts and recipes to help you celebrate the season with your family.

Don't miss our adventure-packed games and puzzles, designed to challenge your mind and spark your creativity.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Dhruvin Dharmendra

Dhruvin
Dharmendra





SHAWN ALLEN STEWART

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I'm Shawn Allen Stewart, a children's author, songwriter, and business owner. I'm originally from West Virginia and now live in the Nashville area. My music took me to Los Angeles and New York, where I was signed to an artist development deal that included songwriting. Eventually, I moved to Nashville to record music and work with other songwriters.

Ten years ago, I started The Pampered Pooch. Today, we own two grooming salons. That business inspired my second book, Bailey & Daisy's Day at The Pampered Pooch.

I always wanted to write a book but didn't know where to begin. Then Bailey and Daisy came into my life.

Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

We rescued Bailey, our gentle Great Dane, first, and Daisy joined our family several years later. Bailey was calm and patient, while Daisy was mischievous and always getting into things. About three years ago, their polar opposite personalities, the dynamics between them, and their bond inspired me to write a children's book series about them.

Bailey passed away earlier this year, but her sweet spirit lives on in every story I write.

At first, I kept my writing to myself. I wanted to finish the first storybook and companion coloring book before sharing them with friends and family.

Along the way, I studied other authors, took classes, and attended workshops while finding my own style and voice. I learned how to build strong stories, develop characters who grow, and write query letters and synopses. I'm currently querying literary agents with my picture book manuscripts.



COVER STORY

Bailey & Daisy's Holiday Surprise

www.baileyanddaisyseries.com available at amazon



Q: Tell us something more about your book series.

The Bailey & Daisy Series follows two sisters whose adventures explore kindness, teamwork, family, and inclusion. I want kids to enjoy the stories and know it's okay to look different or come from a different background.

I've self-published three storybooks with companion coloring books and created Pup Pal merchandise, including T-shirts, bookmarks, stickers, and certificates. I've also finished two more early chapter books and two picture book manuscripts. The first picture book, Bailey & Daisy's First Day, is their origin story.

I attend about 12-15 events a year, and In two years, we've reached almost 72,000 followers across social media.

Both dogs were rescued, so giving back is close to my heart. Through our partnership with Nashville Humane Association, I donate 10 percent of my book sales to support their mission.

Q: How did you create the world and characters in your books?

Their personalities shaped the characters, and my imagination took it from there. I describe them as "Two sisters with two completely different personalities, but one thing they have in common: their love for each other."

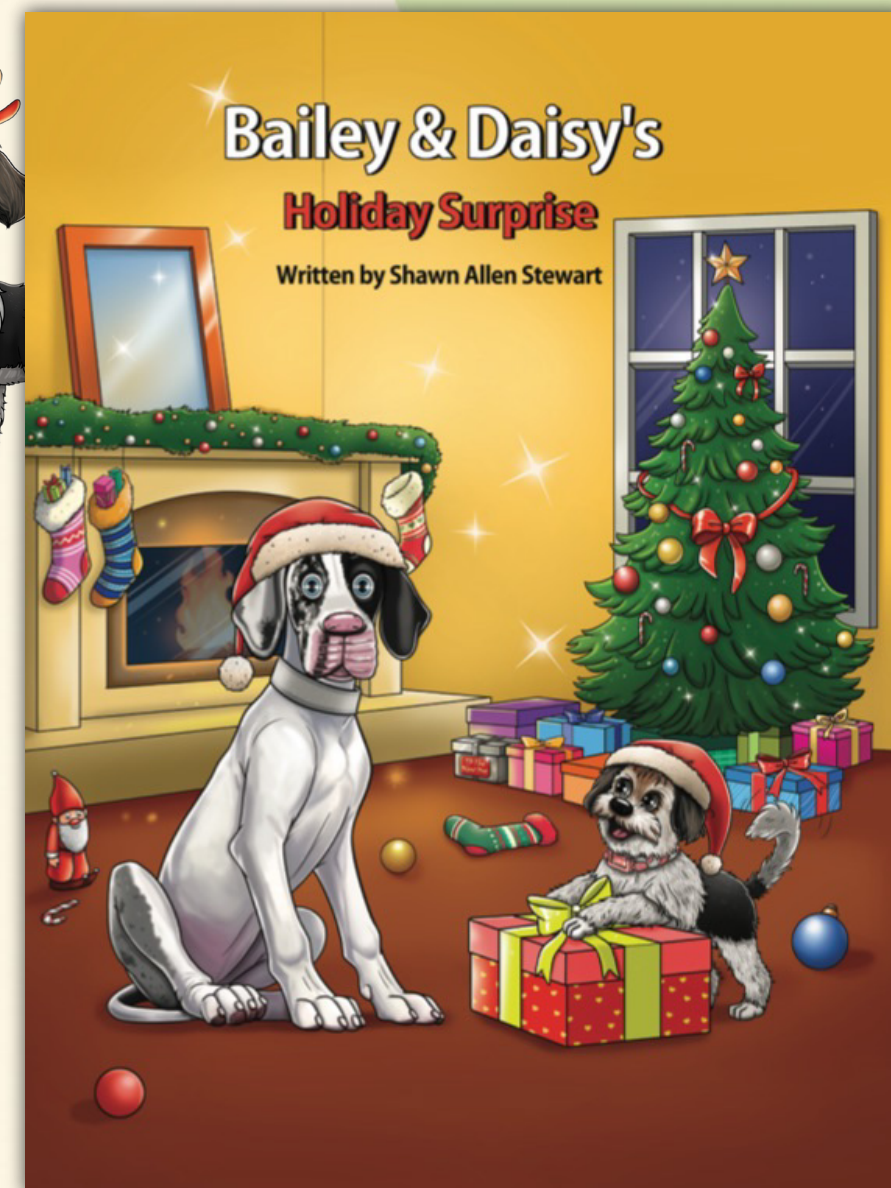
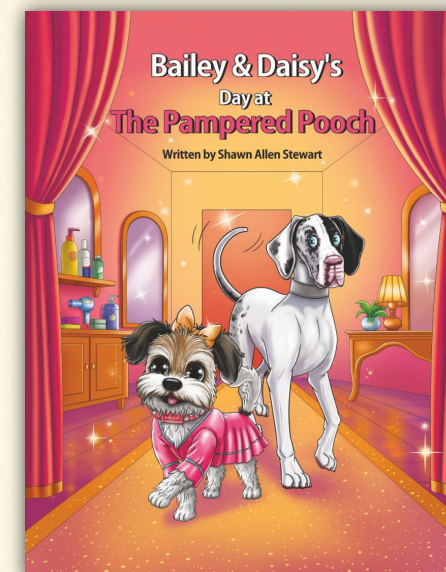
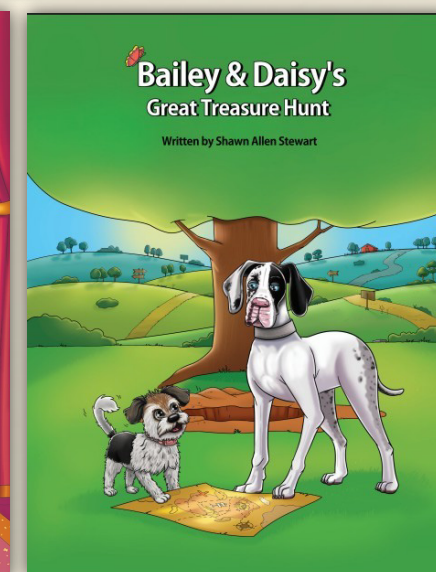
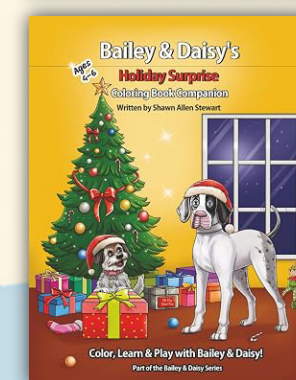
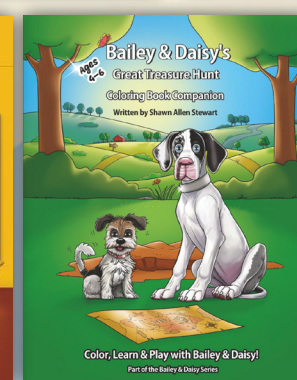
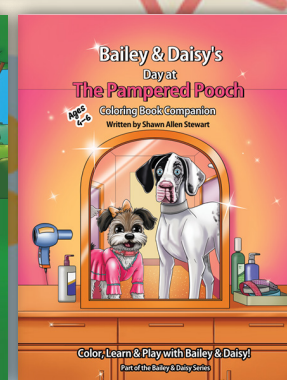
My illustrator, Mozhdeh Tohidi, helped create their look. We spent about a month developing it. I sent photos, she sent samples, and we worked through edits until they looked the way I saw them in my mind. I couldn't do this without her. Her illustrations bring the characters to life and help children connect with them and their world.

I also pictured them having their own cartoon one day. That inspired their theme song, "Bailey and Daisy." My dream is for their adventures to reach children all over the world through books and animation.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

If you have a dream but don't know where to begin, trust yourself. Do your research, put in the time, and be willing to learn and ask questions along the way. You don't have to have everything figured out to get started, but you do have to take that first step.

Bailey and Daisy gave me a second chance to pursue both my writing and my music. I'm so glad I decided to take a chance on me. At 54, I'm just getting started.



THANKSGIVING

FIND ALL THE
HIDDEN APPLES
IN THE PICTURE



What Would YOU Do?

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I am passionate about helping children go through life believing in themselves and their dreams and to never let anyone make them feel like their dreams can never come true... even if you're different, no matter where they live, no matter what their circumstance, if they have the confidence, self-esteem and belief in themselves, their dreams can become a reality.

Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

I've always enjoyed writing on a small scale and my writings always seem to be poetic. I wanted to be a "serious" writer but never had the courage to attempt something on a bigger scale. I now believe that wasn't by accident because I would have missed the opportunity to reach out to young children at a time in their life where their story begins, the formative years, and poetry seems to be the best means to impact their thinking in a fun and whimsical way.

Q: Tell us something more about your book series.

I don't have a book series...yet! However, I just submitted my second book to the illustrator, and I have two more books I am working on. All of my books will be focused on instilling a belief system in a child's life that will encourage, uplift, and reinforce how special they are.

Q: How did you create the magical system in your books and characters?

I don't know that my books are magical but I definitely try to make them fun and whimsical so while reading the books, they are smiling, laughing and learning while the seeds of belief are being planted that will hopefully help them blossom into the amazing person they can be!

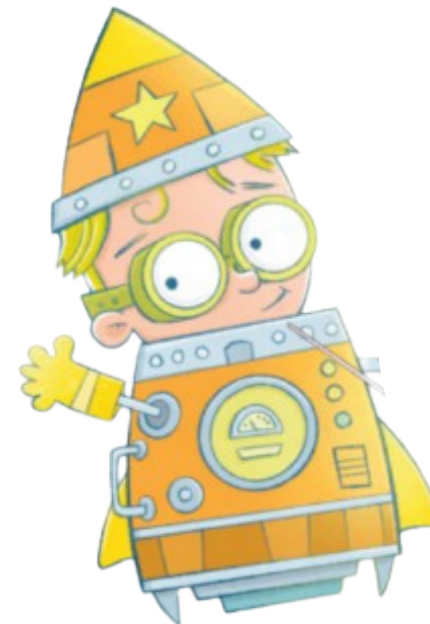
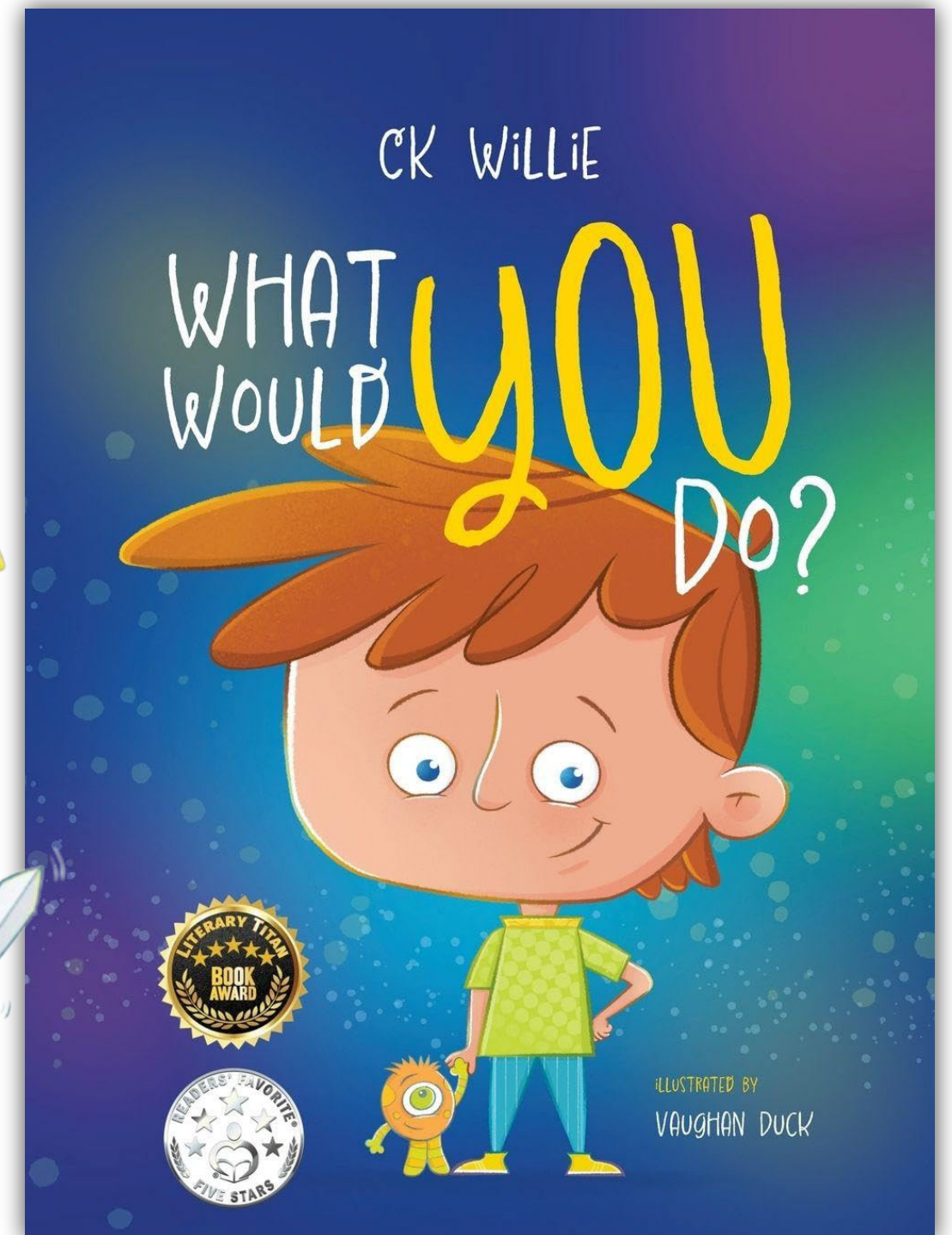


CK Willie

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

My message would be to not only the child but to the reader who is sharing the story with a child...if you believe, they will believe. Read the stories often and discuss the message so they can realize the words aren't just coming from the book, but from you as well. The words of my books are geared to young children but they are messages for all ages!

available at
amazon

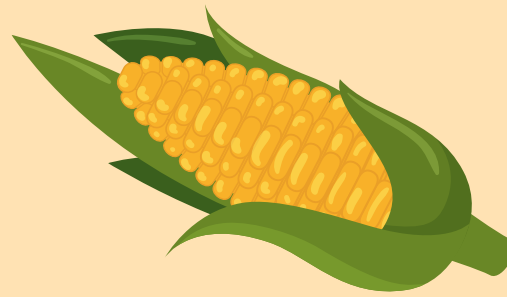


"What Would You Do?" asks a child, or anyone of any age, the question, what dream would you choose, if anything were possible? The story follows different adventures of places to go and things to do and encourages children to believe in themselves and their ability to pursue their dreams. Everyone dreams of who they want to be or what they want to do but sometimes our fears let our dreams get away. The message of "What Would You Do?" is to let a child know that they can overcome their fears and believe that anything is possible if you believe in yourself.

THANKSGIVING CROSSWORD

IDENTIFY THE PICTURES AND
FILL THE CROSSWORD.

3.



1.



7.



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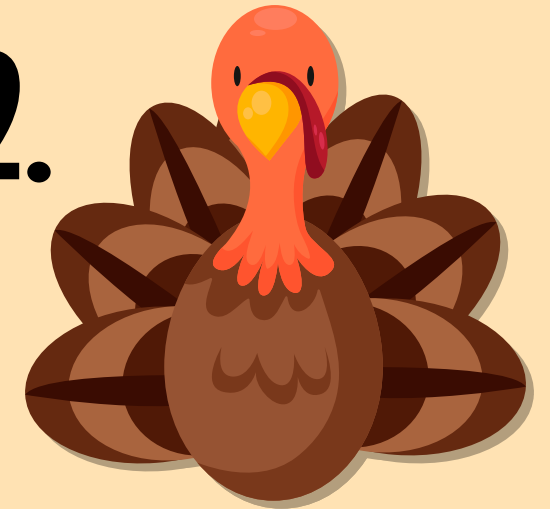
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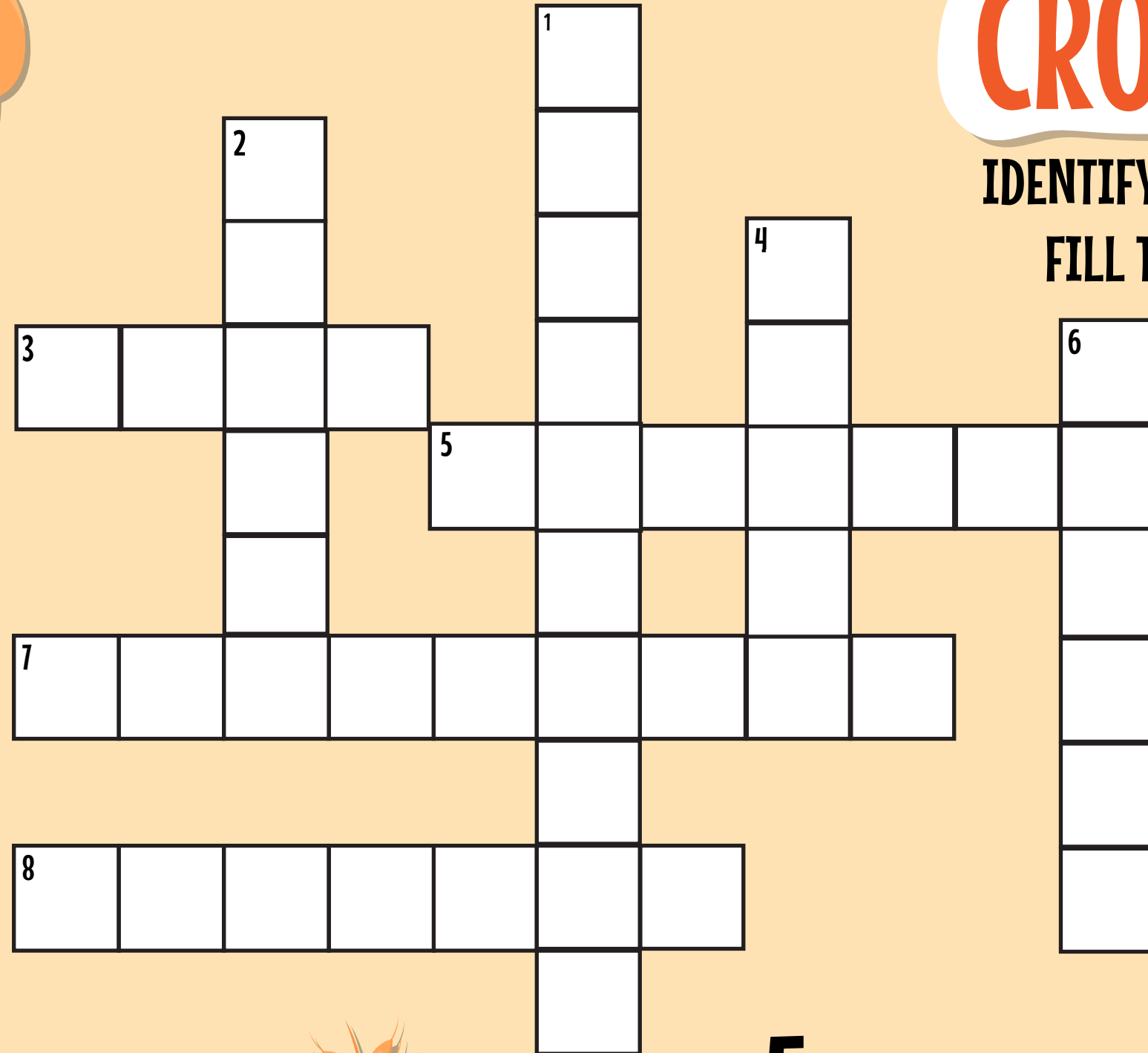
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I Always Knew We Were Meant For You

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I am delighted to connect with families and little readers, especially during National Adoption Month! I'm a children's picture book author and storyteller with a deep passion for helping children feel seen, loved, and connected, especially within adoptive families. This mission is deeply personal to my heart, as my husband and I are on our own adoption journey. We are currently in the matching phase of this journey and joyfully awaiting that special connection with our future children. During this season of waiting, I continue to write personalized letters to them that I will share one day, which explains the love and preparation of our home and family life. The inspiration for *I Always Knew We Were Meant for You* was born from this same place of love and hope. I wanted to create a story that celebrates the beautiful ways families can find one another, while reminding children they are deeply loved.

Q: How did you create the magical system in your books and characters?

I believe the true magic comes from a divine love guided through a spiritual connection. I believe in the quiet, powerful sense that families are brought together with this intention and love. In writing these stories, I leaned into faith, God's love, trust, and the idea that every child's journey is guided in ways we may not always see, but can always feel.

The characters are a reflection of our journey, while the illustrations capture some spiritual messages and experiences aligned in our journey. Most recently, I partnered with a wonderful local artist that helped me create plushies with personalized messages for families to provide these children along with the book. I loved the idea of creating a joyous welcome with this story and an adorable plushie cub.

Q: Tell us something more about your book series.

While I don't yet have a formal book series, my heart is very much centered on expanding this message into a collection of stories. I want to lend support and celebrate families that are formed and brought together in various ways. Each book is created with the intention of nurturing connection, belonging, and emotional understanding for both children and parents. My hope is to curate other books that share other phases of the adoption journey and that demonstrate the thread of each child's unique story.



Michelle Gillitzer

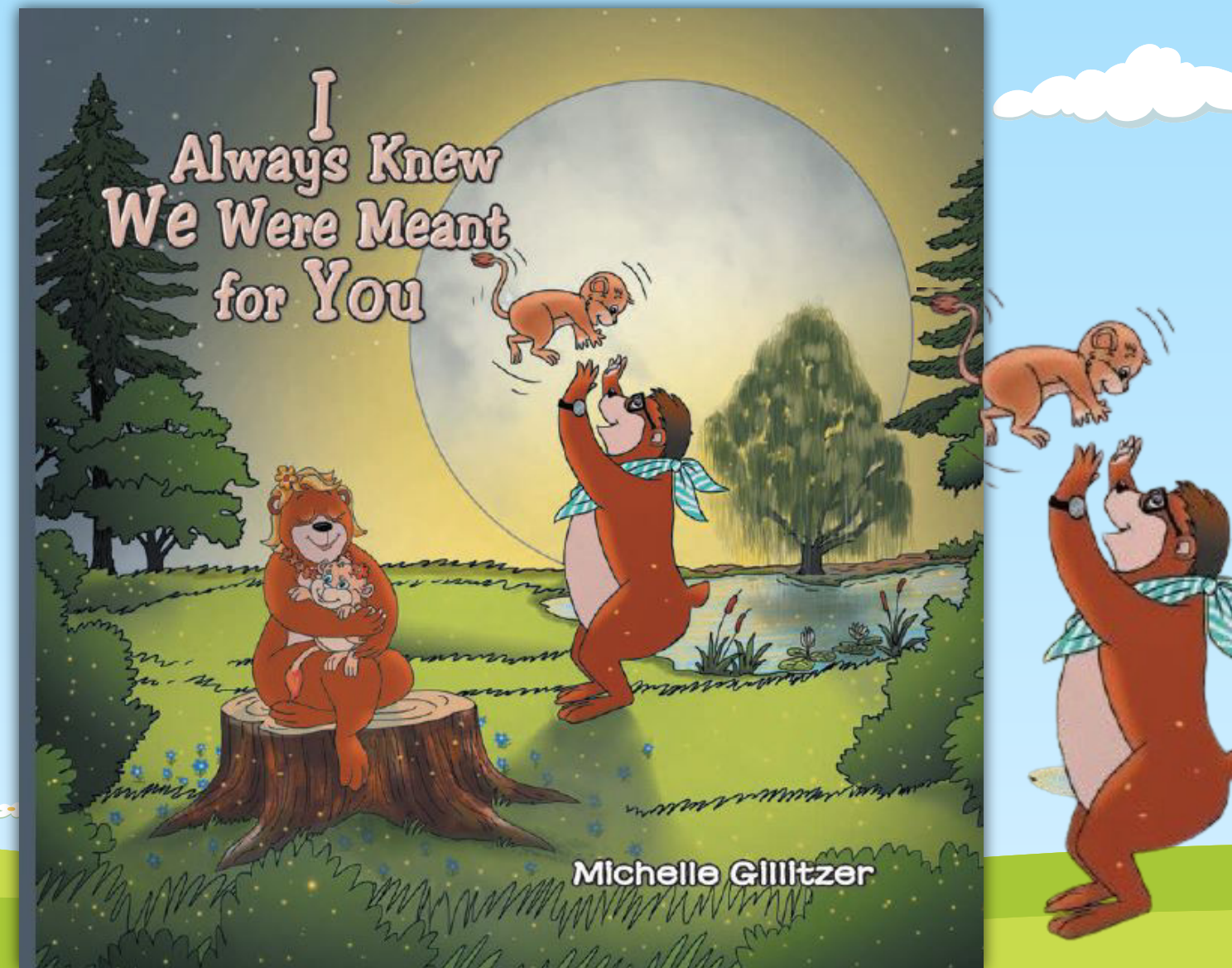
Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

My journey as a writer began in childhood, where I loved creating poetic verses and expressing emotions through words. However, I didn't initially set out to become a children's book author, as it was a path I discovered unexpectedly. I began writing a poem for our own future adopted children and decided this message belongs not just for my children but all children awaiting their families. I had a great grandmother that wrote poetry and was very gifted, so perhaps there was inspiration early on.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

During National Adoption Month, I especially hope to celebrate beautiful and unique stories of adoptive families coming together. To every child and family who reads *I Always Knew We Were Meant For You*, my hope is that you feel a sense of love, belonging, and connection within its pages. Families are created in many different ways, and each has its own meaningful story. I honor each of you in the adoption triad in this special month and send you love and celebration

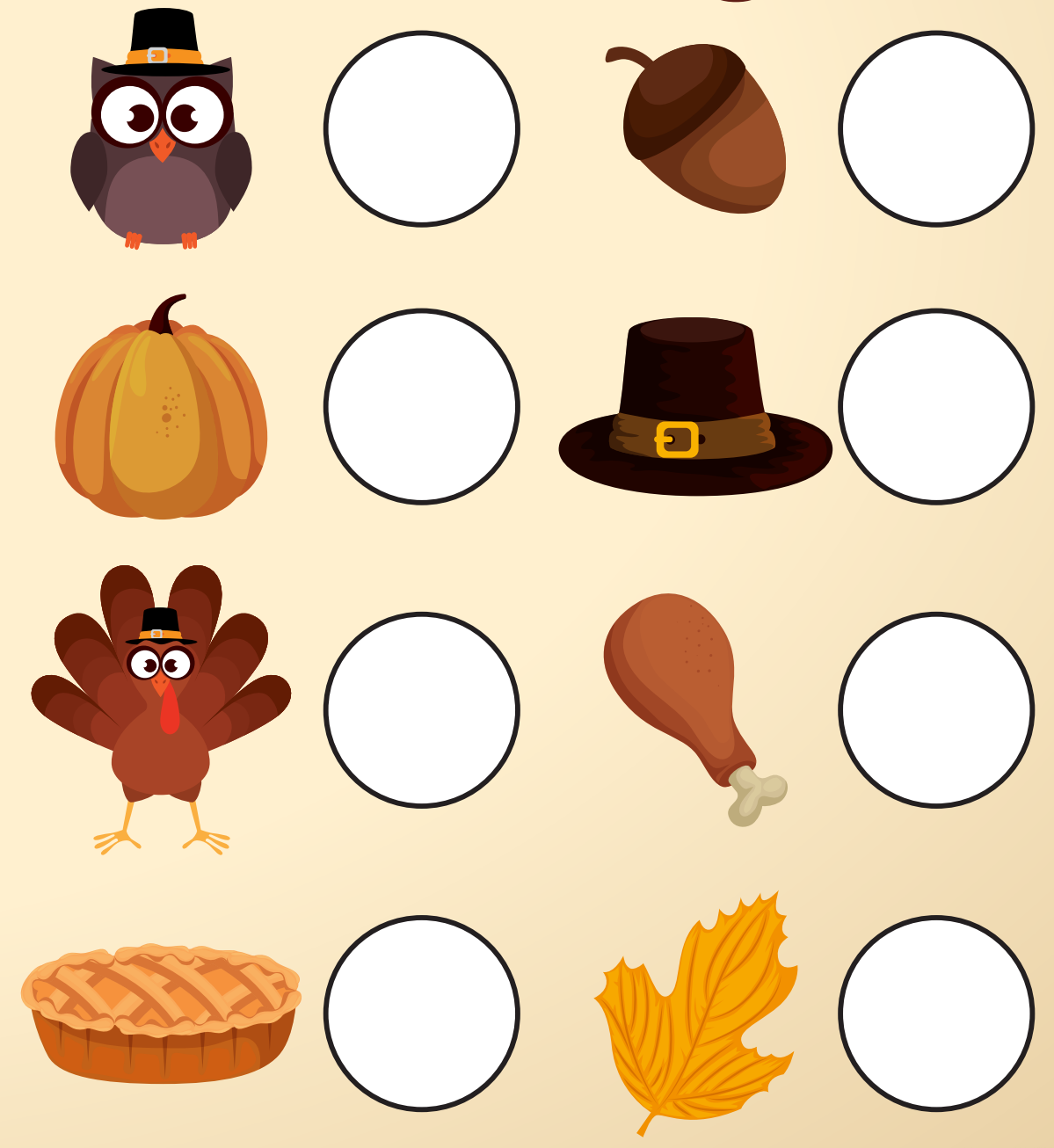
www.littleangelsofhopehealing.com



As Mama and Papa Bear embark on their path building their adoptive family, they are drawn to special spiritual connections through love. In having a special knowing, like a star's whisper or a flower's bloom, they await to embrace their future adopted children. Mama and Papa Bear ponder on all the ways their love has been created for their children, finding peace in knowing their adoptive family is a gift from God—first possible, then beautifully true. This beautifully illustrated, heartwarming children's book celebrates the journey of adoption through Mama and Papa Bear and their beloved cubs. It offers a message of hope, unconditional love, and belonging through a spiritual connection for children awaiting their adoptive families. *I Always Knew We Were Meant For You* will offer children a special gift that they were always meant to be connected through the spirit of love.

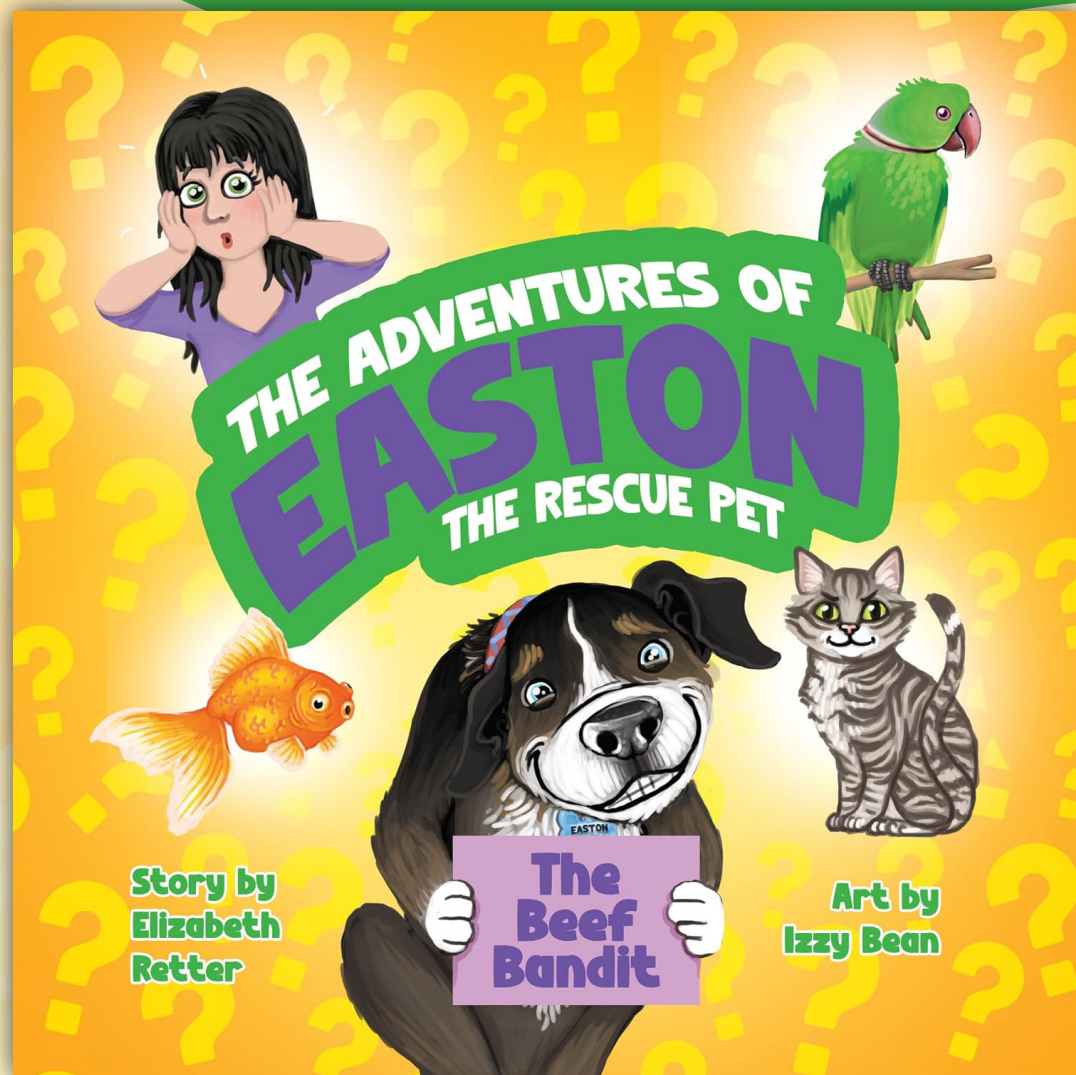
available at
amazon

Thanks giving 1 Spy



The Adventures of Easton

The Rescue Pet The Beef Bandit



Q: What do kids ask you the most about Easton when you visit schools?

The question that the kids ask me the most at presentations is what other naughty things has Easton been up to lately. In fact, that is what inspired me to write The Beef Bandit. I had told them about this story and that night a tagline came to me. It was, "Oh me, oh my. Oh me, oh my. Someone has stolen the meat for the pie! I need to solve this mystery, or my Shepherd's Pie is history!" I was up from 3-5am writing the rest of the story. When an idea comes to you, you have to write it down immediately no matter what time it is!

Q: What do you hope children learn about love and friendship from Easton - and is he already inspiring the next book?

I hope that children learn about the idea of being able to rescue pets to add to their families. It never dawned on me until I was forty years old that I should consider this option. That's why I would love to teach the next generation about rescue animals while they are young. I hope Easton also teaches them how to be compassionate towards animals and each other in their daily lives. My saying is, "Don't Buy New-RESCUE!"

Q: Tell us something more about your new book in the series.

Easton's latest book, Beef Bandit -The Case of the Missing Shepherd's Pie is an introduction to a mystery book for most young readers. Easton is BACK! And this time, he's the prime suspect! When the main ingredient for mom's famous shepherd's pie mysteriously disappears, the whole Retter household is under investigation. The fish denies everything, the parakeet pleads innocence, and the kids all have alibis...but paw prints, runaway peas, and one suspicious burp tell a different story. The Beef Bandit is a laugh-out-loud mystery packed with chaos, clues, and one very naughty rescue pet! There is also a delicious Shepherd's Pie recipe at the back of the book created by certified health coach, Christie Chapman.

Elizabeth Retter

available at
amazon

Q: Tell us something about yourself?

I am a children's author who took my love of animals, books, theater, music, and teaching children and put it all together to create The Adventures of Easton the Rescue Pet book series.

Q: Tell us about Easton in 3 words - what makes him such a perfect character for a children's book?

Easton is HUGE, loveable & naughty. These three qualities have turned out to be the perfect combination for a character in a children's book! His size and larger than life personality translates so well in the incredible illustrations that Izzy Bean has created. The fact that he is so loveable makes it so hard to be annoyed with any of the ridiculous shenanigans he gets himself into and his naughty side always makes for a funny & enjoyable children's book.

elizabethretter.com



Find The Difference



THE TURKEY HANDS THE CHRISTMAS SQUABBLE



Susan K. Fairchild

Q. First tell us something about yourself.

I grew up in the Texas Panhandle in a home filled with books and art supplies. My mother was a first-grade teacher who had a wonderful eye for children's books. I attended the same elementary school where she taught, and every afternoon I'd head to her classroom, where she put my sister and I to work, usually helping with bulletin boards. So I'm very much a product of a first-grade teacher, and my love and respect for teachers runs deep.

Growing up, books were a part of everything. Our house was relatively quiet because we were usually curled up somewhere reading. We were regulars at our local library branch. I can still remember its smell and how it felt to be there.

During the summers, my little sister and I had reading hour on the couch with Mom. We had to stop whatever we were doing, and we'd start out squirming, completely uninterested. But the stories always drew us in. By the end of the hour, we'd be begging for one more chapter. I especially remember the summer she read *Watership Down*. She even did Kehaar's voice—no small feat with her Texas accent.

Q. How and when did your journey start as a writer?

I don't think there was one moment when I decided to become a writer and illustrator. I grew up surrounded by stories, and writing and art became ways of making sense of my life. When I moved from Texas to New York in my early twenties, I wasn't prepared for how lonely such a crowded city could feel. At first, I wasn't writing for an audience. I was writing to get through the day and figure out who I was.

The Turkey Hands emerged during that time and stayed with me for more than thirty years. I must have twenty different versions. But I also put art aside for long stretches as my career, caring for my mother after her cancer diagnosis, and everyday responsibilities took precedence.

Then came COVID. I needed a creative outlet, and who better than the turkey hands to lift my spirits? By then I was in my fifties, and something about my relationship with the work had changed. Earlier, art had been in service of me. Now I could be in service of the art. I could ask what the story needed without every decision being so tangled up in my identity.

I couldn't have brought the book into the world without Camille Easton. She's a close friend who comes from a publishing family, and she brought both a creative eye and practical experience to the process. She helped sharpen the illustrations, tighten the rhyme, and refine the pacing. Just as importantly, she believed in these characters.

She and her husband own Ao5 Gallery in Austin, which holds one of the country's largest collections of Dr. Seuss art. There's something a little surreal—and magical—about knowing she's surrounded by that imaginative world while helping bring the turkey hands to life.

Q: Tell us something more about your book series.

The Turkey Hands begins with a familiar classroom activity: tracing your hand and turning it into a turkey. When the teacher leaves for the night, those little paper creatures come to life and get into everything they shouldn't. Then a surprise brings the chaos to a halt—and turns their attention from making a mess to making it right.

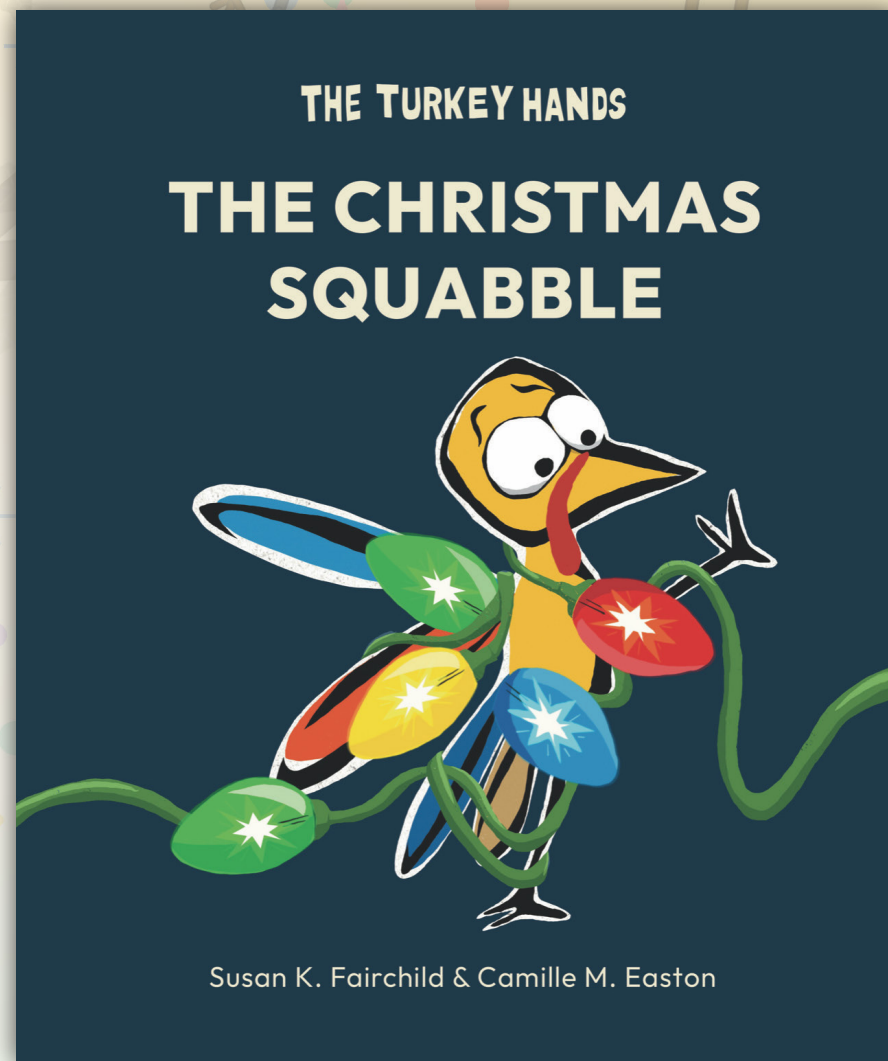
The Christmas Squabble picks up where the first book leaves off. This time, the characters grapple with questions about friendship, fairness, and what happens when you're no longer the center of attention.

Camille and I wanted to create a Christmas book that wasn't only about Christmas—something families from different backgrounds could connect with. Camille suggested George Washington, rather than Santa Claus, as the story's moral center, and we could not stop laughing. It's such an unexpected choice, but to me it gives the book a little of the feeling of a civics lesson: how do we share a world when we don't all want the same thing?

available at
amazon



Camille M. Easton



THE TURKEY HANDS



by **Susan K. Fairchild**

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

I hope these characters make you laugh. There are lessons in both books, but sometimes the sheer pleasure of a good story is enough. I also hope they leave you with a sense of possibility: the same hands that make a mess can help put things right.

The sequel also has a different rhythm and visual energy. Between the two books, I took a poetry class, which influenced the rhyme and how the story moves. Rhyme and poetry were never things I imagined myself doing. And yet, here we are.

One of the best things I did was bring the story to children through focus groups. I wanted to know whether they understood it, whether anything felt scary, and what they made of the conflict. They surprised me. They knew exactly who George Washington was and loved him in the book. They loved, loved, loved the snowflakes. And the turkey hands? The kids had no trouble deciding who was in the wrong.

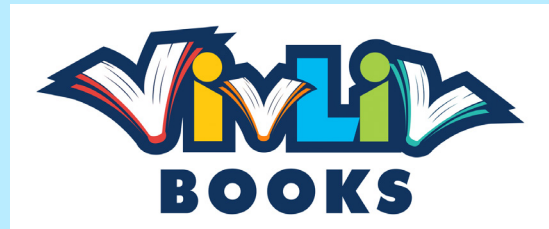
That stayed with me. I saw a lot of gray areas in the story. The children saw a line the turkey hands had clearly crossed. But knowing someone has done something wrong is different from figuring out how to make things right. What does it mean to take responsibility? How do we forgive someone? Can we still care about someone when we don't like what they've done? I love that the children were so certain about what was wrong. It opened up all these other questions about what comes next.

DIWALI MATCH



ALL TOGETHER Through the Storm

A Haitian Proverb Story



JUSTINE A.P. LOUIS

Book Review



A beautiful, powerful, and timely story – I loved this book!

While the farmer and his family are away, six proud farm animals each think they can protect the farm alone. Diego the Dog says “I’ll bark loudly to scare the hurricane away!” Caroline the Cow says she will stand firm against the wind, and the Ralph the Rooster louder to stop the storm. It’s funny and relatable, because we all sometimes think we can do it all by ourselves.

But when the hurricane really comes, they learn the most important lesson: their unique strengths work best when they work TOGETHER.

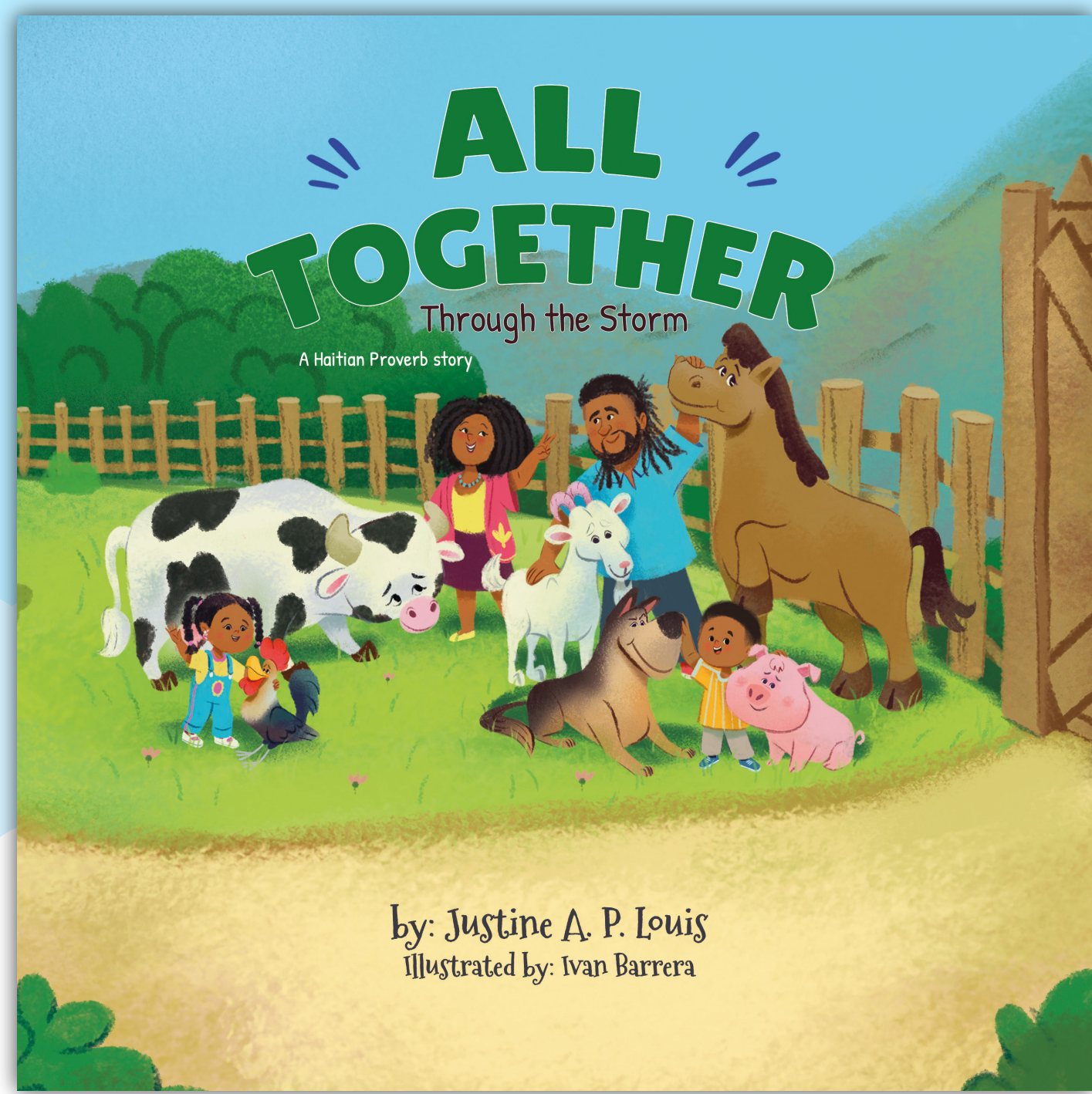
Inspired by the beautiful Haitian proverb “Men anpil, chay pa lou” – “Many hands make light work” – this book shows children that true strength is in community, not in pride. The illustrations are vibrant and full of emotion, from the windy, swirling storm to the joyful reunion at the end when the family returns to find the animals safe and united.

It’s a story about courage, intelligence, and remembering that we are stronger together.

Perfect for classrooms, families, and any child who needs to learn that asking for help and working as a team is the bravest thing of all.

Perfect for 2+

available at
amazon



by: Justine A. P. Louis
Illustrated by: Ivan Barrera

All Together Through the Storm: A Haitian Proverb Story
While the farmer and his family are away, six proud farm animals each believe they can protect the farm on their own. But as a hurricane approaches and the winds grow stronger, they discover that by working together and using their unique strengths, they can keep their home safe.

Inspired by the Haitian proverb “Men anpil, chay pa lou” (“Many hands make light work”), All Together Through the Storm is a heartwarming story about teamwork, courage, humility, and the power of community.



DAY of the DEAD

WHAT COMES NEXT?









Lynn Greenberg

Suzy The ADHD Taxi and The Sightseeing Adventure



available at
amazon

Jonathan Greenberg

Q: First, tell us something about yourself.

Lynn and Jonathan: We are a mother-son team and the co-authors of two books in the Creative Cab Company series. These books celebrate learning differences and help children recognize their strengths.

Lynn brings the perspective of a parent, while Jon, who has ADHD and dyslexia, brings his personal experience of growing up learning differently. Jon is also the illustrator of our books, so this is truly a collaboration.

We believe children need to see characters who think and learn as they do. And just as importantly, we want children who don't have learning differences, to better understand those who learn differently. What started with children's books has grown into something much bigger, including school visits, podcasts, and our Creative Wayfinders Substack, where we connect with parents, educators, and others who share our interest in helping children succeed.

Q: How did you create the magical system in your books and characters?

Lynn and Jonathan: The magic in our stories isn't about spells or special powers. It's about discovering that thinking differently can be a strength. We chose taxis because they're familiar, fun, and always going on adventures. We gave Robby and Suzy their own personalities, challenges, and ways of looking at the world.

Jon's illustrations are a huge part of bringing those personalities to life. He wanted the characters to be expressive, approachable, and fun, so children would connect with them, before even thinking about ADHD or dyslexia.

We also didn't want the books to feel like lessons. They're adventures first, with humor, friendship, and situations children can relate to.

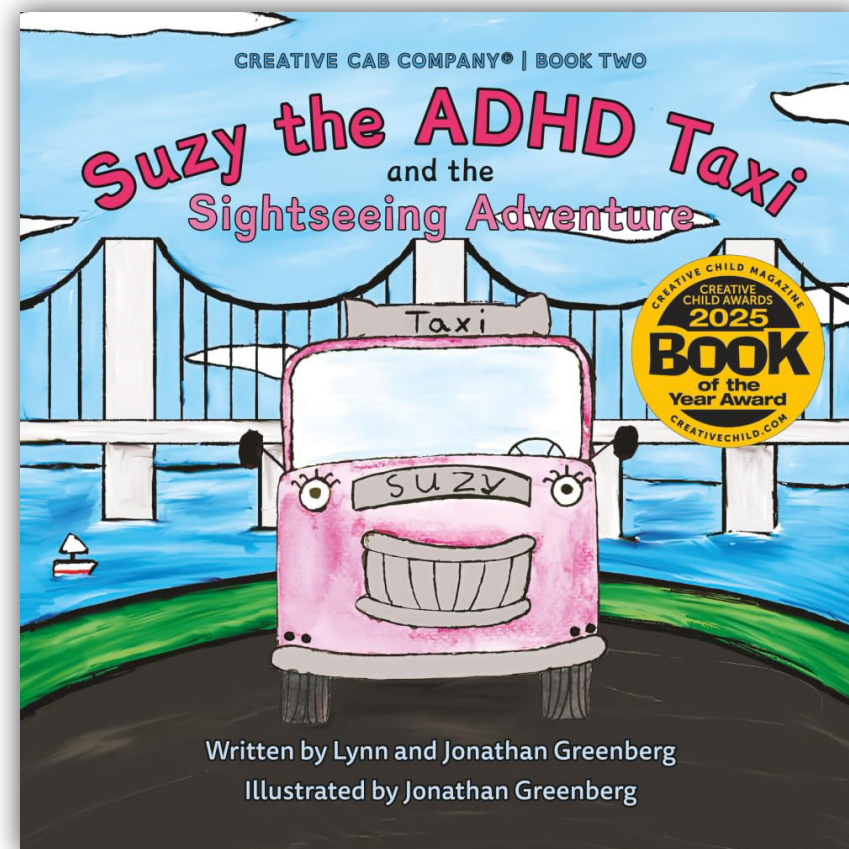
Jon sees his ADHD and dyslexia as his superpowers, and has imbued the characters with the same positivity. We want children to understand that what makes them different can also be part of what makes them special.

Q: How and when did your journey start as writers?

Lynn and Jonathan: Our journey began during COVID, when Jon was home from college. We started talking about why there weren't more children's books featuring characters with learning differences, who were simply having adventures, making friends, and figuring things out, while playing to their strengths. Jon's own experiences growing up with ADHD and dyslexia helped shape our approach. We knew firsthand how frustrating it could be, when so much attention was placed on what a child struggled with, rather than what they did well.

We also saw this as an opportunity to showcase Jon's creativity and artistic talents. We didn't want to write books that simply explained a diagnosis. We wanted to create fun, engaging stories with characters children could relate to, while showing that learning differently doesn't mean being less capable. That idea became Robby the Dyslexic Taxi and the Airport Adventure, followed by Suzy the ADHD Taxi and the Sightseeing Adventure.

One of the most rewarding parts of this journey has been seeing both books recognized by Creative Child Magazine. Robby received a Book of the Year Award in 2023, and Suzy received the same honor in 2025. We're especially proud of this recognition because it reinforces something we've believed from the beginning: children with learning differences, deserve to see themselves represented in books, and all children benefit from stories that celebrate different ways of thinking and learning.



Q: Tell us something more about your book series.

Lynn and Jonathan: Our Creative Cab Company books follow different taxis with different experiences. Our first two books center on Robby and Suzy, who discover that what makes them different doesn't have to hold them back, but rather can be their superpower.

Robby has dyslexia, and Suzy has ADHD. Both face challenges, but they're also creative, resourceful, and determined. We wanted children to enjoy their adventures while recognizing that everyone has strengths and struggles.

With Suzy, we also wanted to bring attention to how ADHD can sometimes look different in girls. Their challenges aren't always recognized or understood, and we thought it was important to have a female character whose experiences might resonate with young readers.

We also paid close attention to how the books look and feel. Jon was very particular about the font, illustrations, and text placement. All our books use a dyslexia-friendly font, and we carefully arrange the text with readers who may have visual tracking difficulties in mind.

Both books are also available in Spanish. We wanted bilingual and Spanish-speaking families to have access to the same stories and messages.

We love bringing Robby and Suzy directly to children through school visits and book fairs, both in person and virtually. We read the stories, answer questions, and give children a chance to talk about the characters. It's especially meaningful when a child recognizes something of themselves in one of our books. Jon and I are currently writing book three and are excited to introduce new characters and adventures.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

Lynn and Jonathan: Our biggest message is that thinking differently shouldn't be seen as a negative. Every child has strengths, even if those strengths aren't always obvious in a traditional classroom. We want children with ADHD, dyslexia, or other learning differences to know they're capable, creative, and have so much to offer.

We also hope parents and educators will think differently about the questions they ask when a child is struggling. Instead of focusing only on what a child can't do, ask what they can do, what interests them, and what might help them succeed.

That's also why we started Creative Wayfinders, our Substack community. We wanted a place to continue these conversations beyond the books, sharing experiences and perspectives with parents, teachers, and therapists.

And to the children reading our books, we hope you'll remember that you don't have to think or learn like everyone else, to do wonderful things. Be curious, keep trying, and never underestimate yourself.

www.creativecabcompany.com

Help The Squirrel To Get The Nut

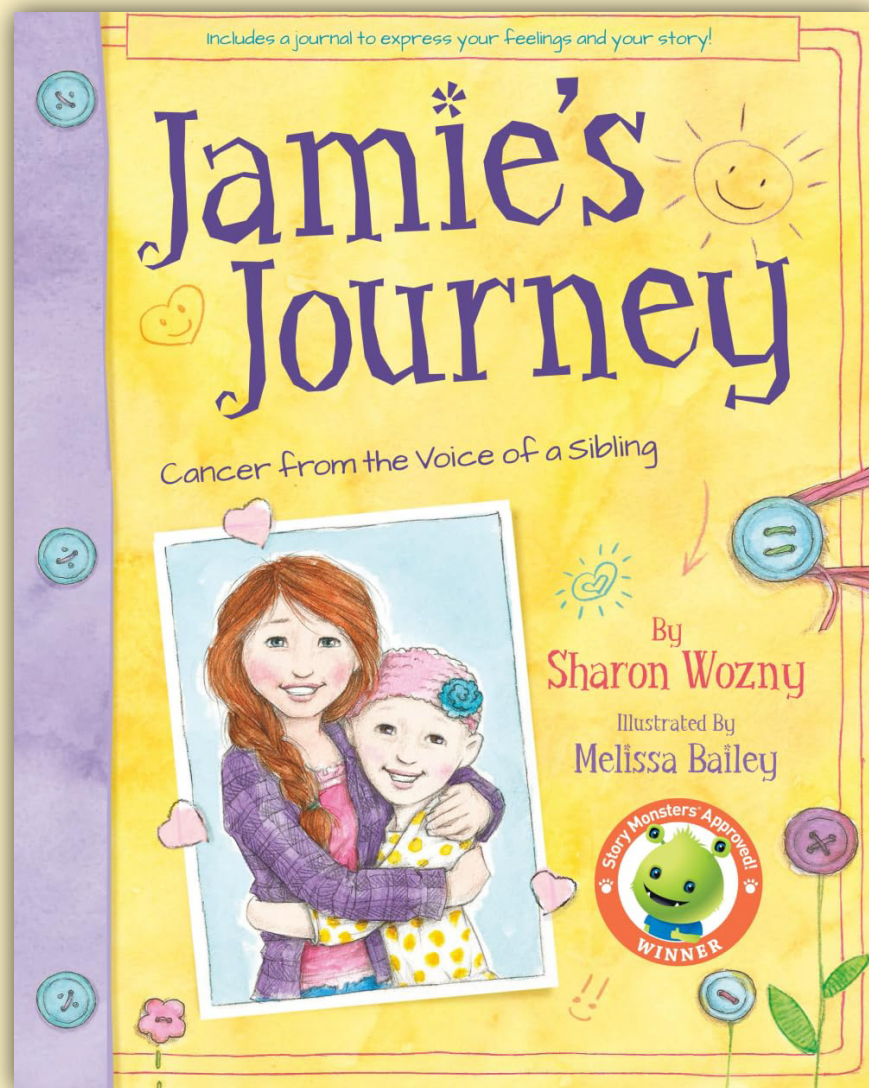


Jamie's Journey

Cancer from the Voice of a Sibling



By Sharon Wozny



"Sharon Wozny deftly captures the raw emotions of siblinghood during a crisis, reminding us that love and vulnerability can shine even in the darkest times."

This is Jamie's story – a big sister who loves dance class, softball practice, and giggling with her younger sister, Jordan. Their world is full of beautiful, ordinary moments. Until one word changes everything: Cancer. Jordan is diagnosed with a brain tumor.

Sharon Wozny handles this incredibly difficult subject with so much grace and honesty. Through Jamie's eyes, we see how life suddenly becomes hospitals, surgeries, appointments, and chemo. We see her parents trying their best but stretched thin. And most importantly, we feel what Jamie feels – that confusing, guilty feeling of being neglected and cornered, even though she knows her sister needs more attention.

It's a feeling so many siblings of sick children have, but rarely get to say out loud.

What makes this book so special is its healing. When Jamie finally shares her feelings with her parents, and little Jordan tells her, "You are my hero," everything shifts. Jamie realizes that just by being there, by being her sister, she is helping Jordan fight cancer.

Beautifully illustrated by Melissa Bailey with soft, comforting art, this book is a gentle reminder that all feelings are valid and that talking about them is the first step to healing.

A must-read for every family, school, and library. It teaches empathy, love, and the courage to express what's in our hearts.

Available as an audiobook and printed book
Perfect for 5 to 14
Grab your copy from Amazon.

available at
amazon

Do You Know?

**49 MILLION TURKEYS
ARE PREPARED FOR
THANKSGIVING EVERY YEAR**



**THE LARGEST
PUMPKIN EVER GROWN
IS 2100 POUNDS**



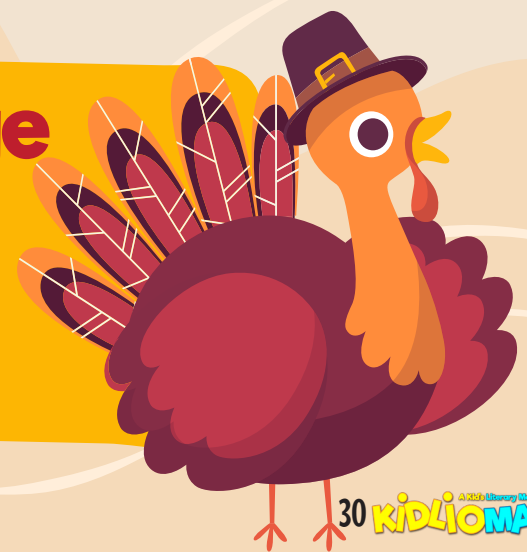
**Thanksgiving Holiday
Tradition Started in
1621 in Plymouth**

**500,000
Pumpkin Pies
are prepared
Every Year**



**217
Million
Pumpkins
Produced
Annually**

**4500 calories on average
are Consumed by a
person on Thanksgiving.**



Montessori Christmas Collection

More Than Stories. Skills for Life.

What makes these books special is what happens after the last page.

Children don't simply listen to stories about everyday skills. They're inspired to try those skills for themselves.

A story becomes an experience. An experience builds confidence. And a little moment of independence becomes a treasured family memory.

Thoughtfully created for children ages 3-6, the Montessori Life Skills Storybooks™ Christmas Bundles make meaningful gifts for children, grandchildren, classrooms, and preschool libraries.

This Christmas, give more than a book. Give the gift of independence, confidence, and memories that last.

Explore our Christmas Book Bundles at
MontessoriStorybooks.com

Calm Stories. Real Skills. Authentic Montessori.

Three Little Stories. Three Big Life Skills. One Magical Christmas.

This Christmas, give a gift that inspires more than imagination. Give a child the confidence to say, "I can do it myself!"

Christmas is filled with magical moments: baking cookies, setting the holiday table, and discovering the joy of sharing. What if the books we gave our children inspired them to take part in these wonderful family traditions?

MontessoriStorybooks.com

Montessorilifeskillsapp.com

available at
amazon

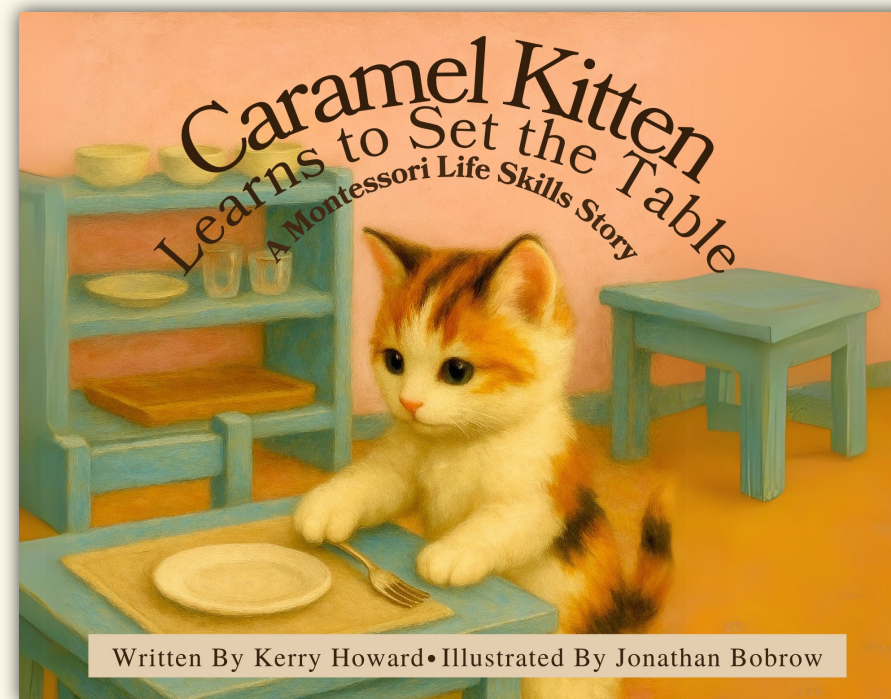
Kerry Howard

Kerry Howard is an AMI-trained Montessori educator, children's book author, and founder of Montessori Life Skills Storybooks™ and the Montessori Life Skills App. With over 30 years of international Montessori teaching experience in South Africa, Italy, and the United States, Kerry is passionate about helping children develop independence, confidence, and essential life skills.

Her award-winning children's books bring authentic Montessori principles to life through charming animal characters and engaging stories that inspire children to learn by doing.

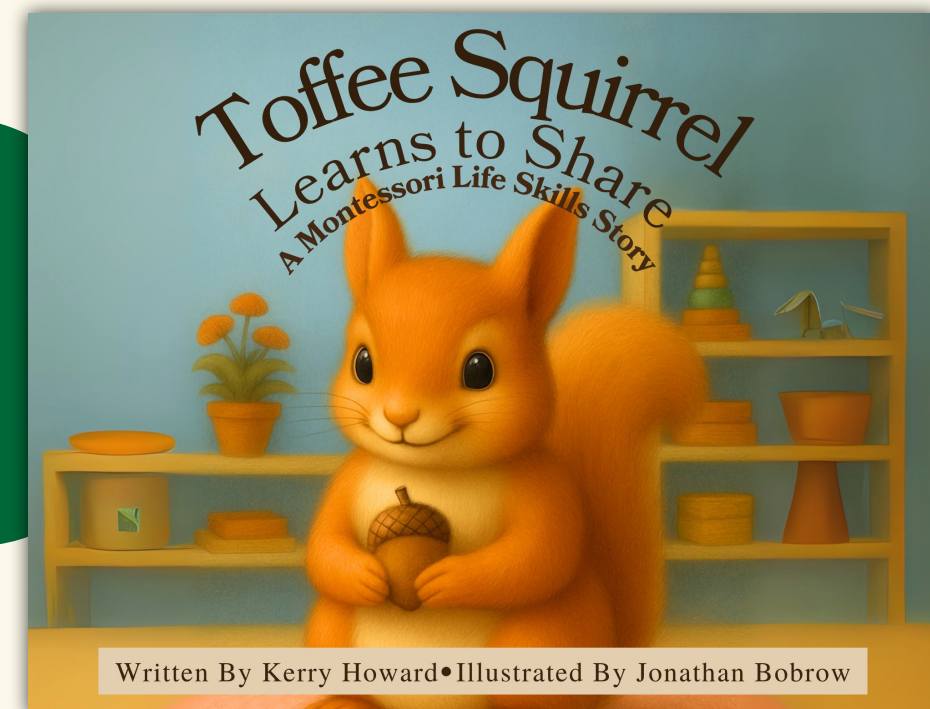
Kerry was recently featured on The Donna Drake Show's Christmas Stocking Special, sharing her passion for Montessori education and meaningful gifts that inspire young children.

Her mission is simple: To give every child, everywhere, the opportunity to learn Montessori life skills.



Caramel Kitten Learns to Set the Table

Encourages independence, responsibility, and the pride of contributing to family celebrations.



Snow Cone Bunny Learns to Bake

Inspires little hands to measure, mix, pour, and discover the joy of helping in the kitchen.

My Bonus Mom!

Taking the Step out of Stepmom

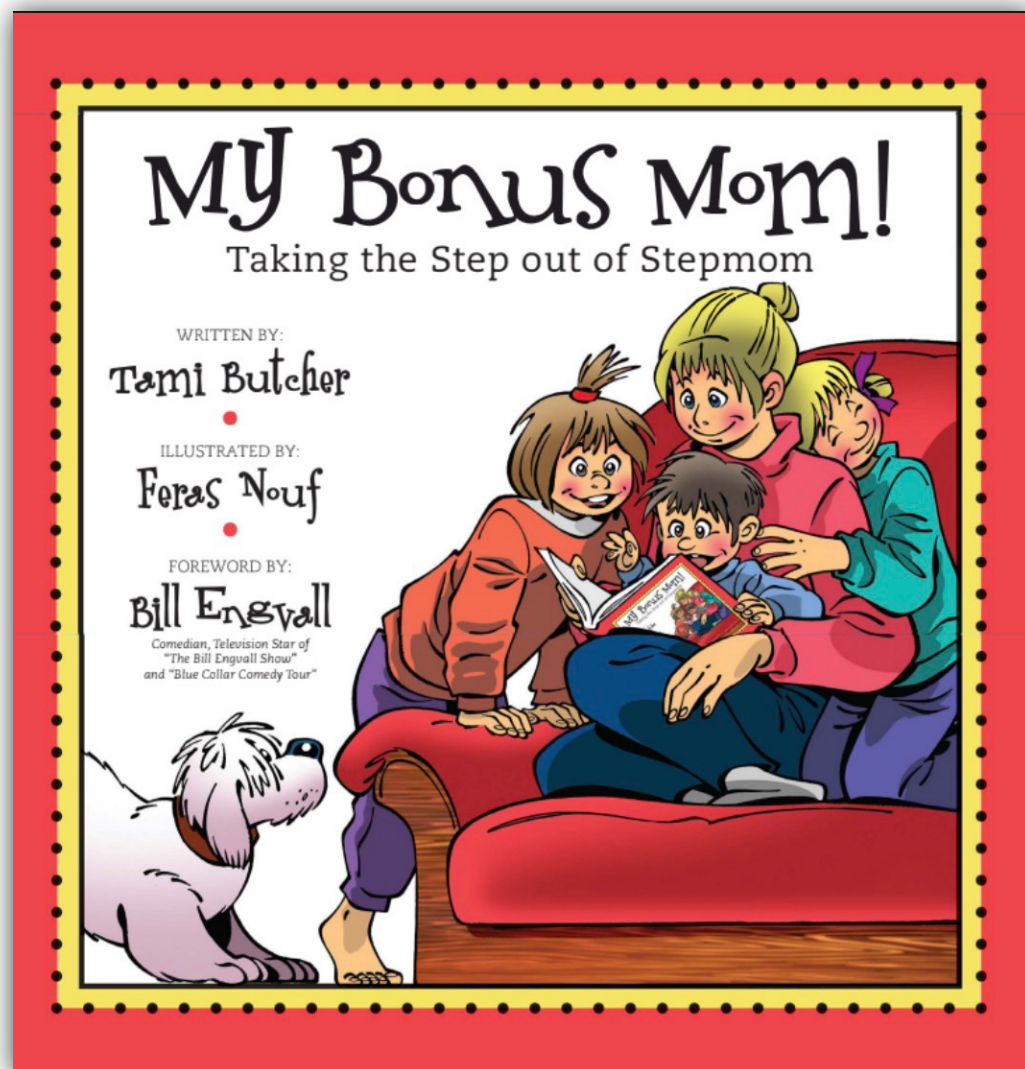
By Tami Butcher



"My Bonus Mom!" is a poignant celebration of love and acceptance, reminding us that family comes in many forms, and gaining a bonus mom can be a beautiful addition to our lives.

Told in sweet, gentle rhymes through the voice of a little girl, My Bonus Mom! begins with a hard moment – her parents decide to separate. But what follows is so reassuring. She shows us that love doesn't divide; it multiplies. Two houses, double birthdays, double gifts, and double the love from both Mommy and Daddy.

Then comes the big news – Dad is getting married. And with it, all the scary questions and fairy-tale fears we all know too well.



Tami Butcher does something truly magical here. She gently washes away the old "evil step-mother" myth and replaces it with something so much more beautiful – the idea of a BONUS Mom. Not a replacement, not a step to get over, but a bonus friend, a bonus hug, a bonus person to love you and go to the zoo with you!

The rhyming text is warm, child-friendly, and perfect for read-aloud, and it opens the door for children of divorced or blended families to talk about their fears and feelings without any shame. It has a positive message that helps young readers see the different kinds of family bonds and the happiness that can come from these unexpected connections.

Perfect for ages 4-8, for family reading, counseling, and classrooms
Grab your copy from Amazon.

available at
amazon

PUNS

LOL

**THE TURKEY
DINNER
WAS SO EXPENSIVE
IT HAD 24
CARROTS**

We didn't Cook A
Turkey
because we
Didn't have
Thyme

**Who Was the
Drummer** In the
Thanksgiving Band?
The Turkey,
because he had the
Drumsticks!

We will worry about
Christmas Tree Later.
Today it's All
Poul-Tree

What's the key to a
great Thanksgiving dinner?

**THE
TURKEY**

**WHO IS NEVER HUNGRY
ON THANKSGIVING?
THE TURKEY BECAUSE
HE'S ALREADY
STUFFED!**



Millian Lloyd Jones

The Adventures of Milli and Max

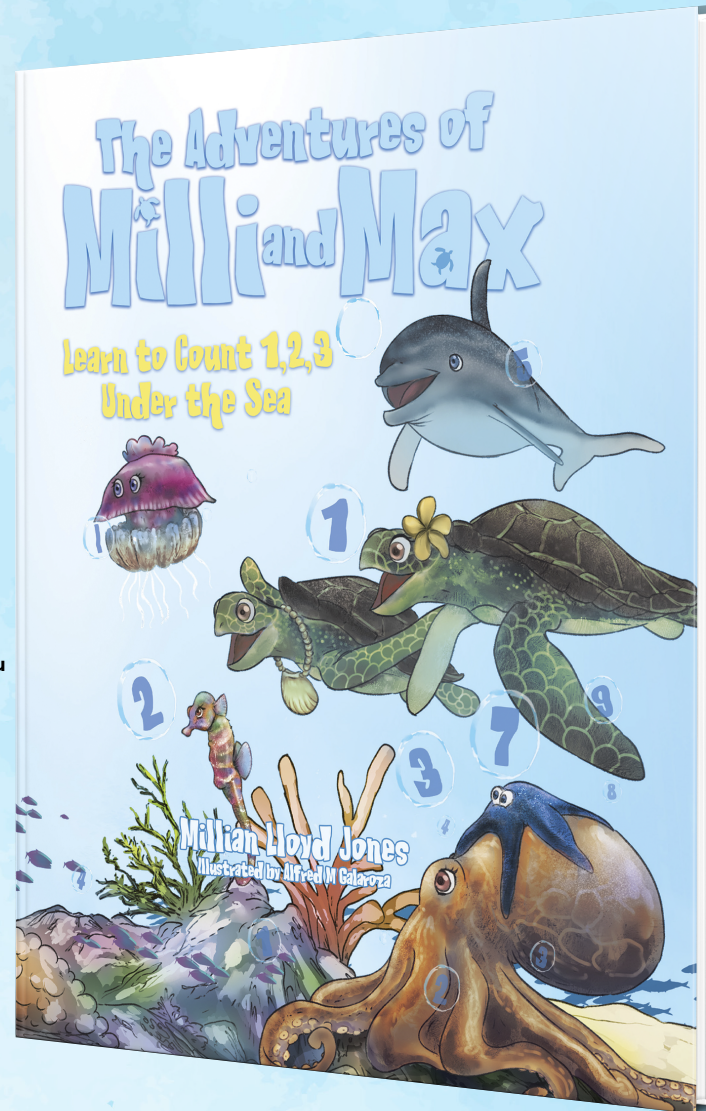
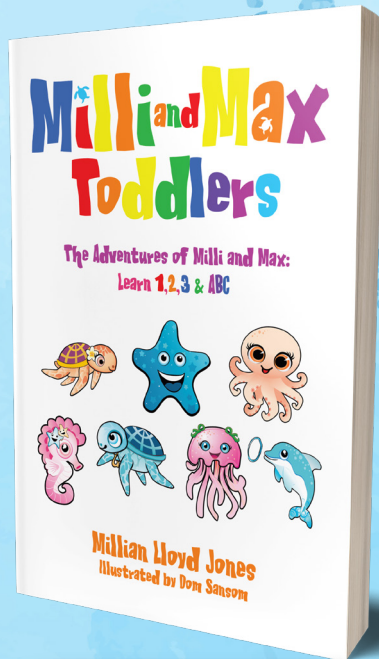
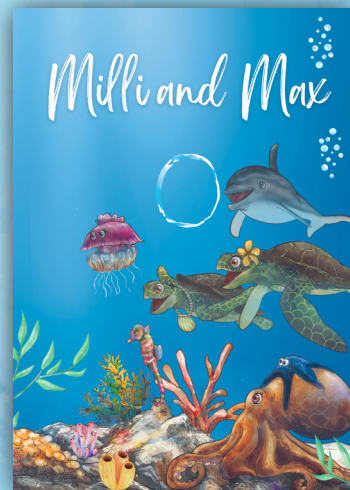
Learn To Count 1, 2, 3
Under the Sea

SCAN QR CODE-



www.milliandmax.com.au

Releasing Soon!



Q: How has growing up in Fiji and living in Australia shaped your storytelling?

Growing up in Fiji, my childhood was filled with ocean adventures and a deep connection to nature. Our family home was just a short walk from the sea, and my siblings and I spent countless hours exploring reefs, swimming, and discovering marine life. The ocean was our playground, and storytelling was a big part of our family life. We spent weekends sharing stories with parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

The characters in Milli and Max are inspired by my siblings, cousins, and childhood experiences. Each character reflects different personalities and memories from growing up, making the stories both personal and meaningful to write.

Q: How did you come up with the idea to combine marine life and the alphabet?

I wanted to create something fun, educational, and engaging that would help children learn their ABCs while discovering the wonders of the ocean. Sea creatures are fascinating and pairing them with the alphabet felt like a natural way to encourage curiosity and learning.

The idea for Milli and Max first emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. I contacted Tellwell Publishing in late 2022, began development in 2023, and launched the first book in February 2024.

What started as a simple 26-page alphabet book quickly evolved into a 76-page adventure filled with illustrations, fun facts, and educational content. Throughout the journey, my goal has remained the same—to create books that inspire children to learn while developing a love for the ocean and its creatures and storytelling.

Q: What's the most memorable feedback you've received from young readers?

The feedback from children has been overwhelmingly positive. Young readers love learning their ABCs through sea creatures, and many tell me how much they enjoy discovering the fun facts throughout the book. The illustrations are original and the Fun Facts of sea creatures was written by our Marine Biologist.

One of the most meaningful moments was hearing comments from Fiji's High Commissioner to Australia at the launch of Milli and Max.

His Excellency Ajay Bhai Amrit High Commissioner from Fiji to Australia, opened up the first Milli and Max launch at Florabel, Eden on Sat 16 March 2024. He said about Milli and Max ABC Kids book with 3 key elements.

Quote from the Current - His Excellency Ajay Bhai Amrit High Commissioner from Fiji to Australia, regarding the Milli and Max An ABC Journey Under the Sea:

What makes this book so special is three things

Number One: it is a learning experience and journey for children to engage through storytelling and nourishments of their minds.

Number Two: Millian has good fortune to draw on inspiration from the two islands, she calls HOME, been born in Fiji, and now living in Australia she has drawn upon her own experiences from these two beautiful countries to bring together, these unique and enduring book

Number Three: With this imaginative learning instrument, Millian has incorporate the values of understanding the importance of protection and preservation of our oceans, which is a true gift of learning for all of us.

UNQUOTE

Q: Did you always want to write children's books, or did Milli and Max surprise you?

Writing children's books was never part of my original plan. Milli and Max began as a simple idea to create an alphabet book focused on sea creatures, but it quickly grew into something much bigger. My love of turtles also played a role in the journey. Many years ago, I created a business called Mini Milli, which featured a mother turtle and baby turtle as its logo. Looking back, it seems fitting that turtles eventually became the inspiration behind Milli and Max. Creativity has always been part of who I am, even if I didn't realise it would lead me to becoming a children's author.

Q: Why did you include tools like QR codes and a glossary in your books?

I wanted the books to be more than just a reading experience. The QR code links readers directly to the Milli and Max website, creating an interactive connection beyond the pages of the book.

My original vision was to make the books highly interactive, and the QR code was an important first step toward that goal. Looking ahead, I have many exciting ideas that will make future Milli and Max adventures even more engaging.

The glossary was included to help children learn more about the sea creatures featured throughout the stories. Accuracy is also very important to me, which is why I worked with a marine biologist to fact-check the content and ensure children are learning reliable information while having fun.

Q: If Milli and Max had another adventure, what would it be about?

The Adventure is already continuing!
Get ready for more excitement with Milli and Max!

We currently have two Milli and Max books in production with Tellwell. They are Milli and Max learn to count 1,2,3 and Milli and Max Toddlers Learn 1,2,3 & ABC.

Milli and Max



Circle



Square



Triangle



Rectangle



Oval



Heart



Star

1. MATCH THE SHAPES

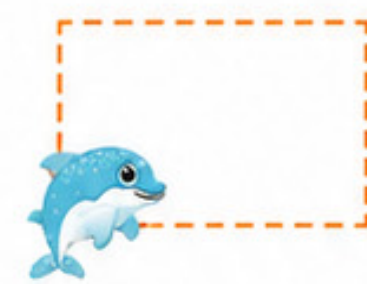
Draw a line to match each shape to the correct object.



Great job!
You're a shape explorer!

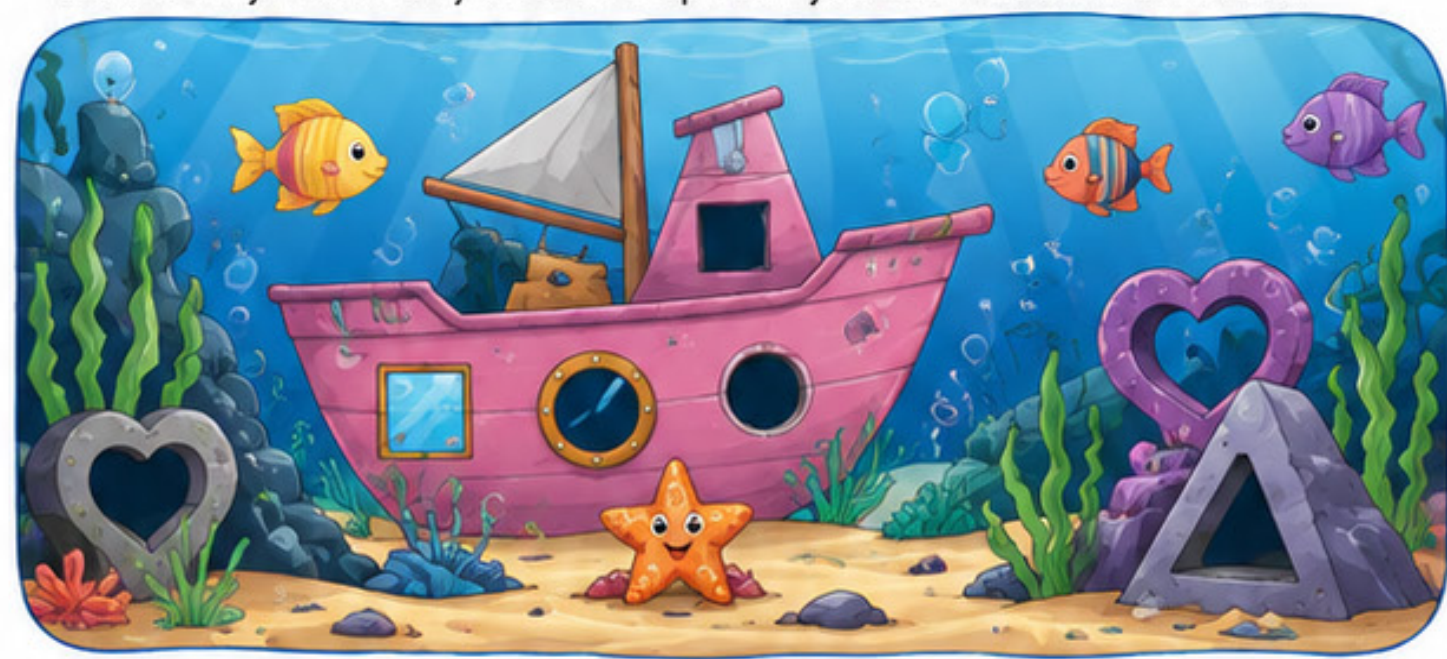
2. TRACE THE SHAPES

Trace each shape with your favourite colour.



3. FIND SHAPES UNDERWATER

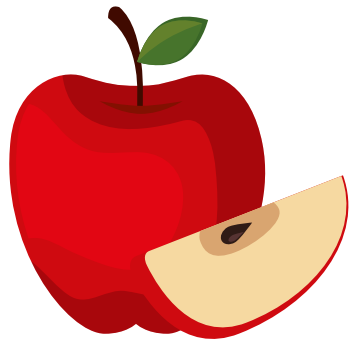
Look closely! How many of each shape can you find hidden in the scene?



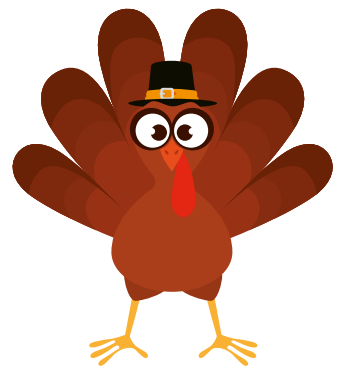
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Thanksgiving Words Scramble

Look At The Pictures And Arrange The Words Carefully.



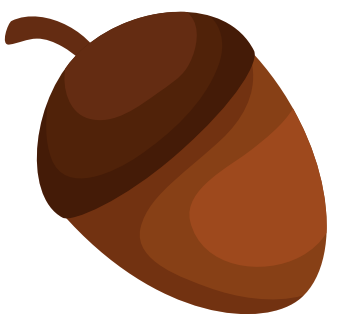
A P L
E P



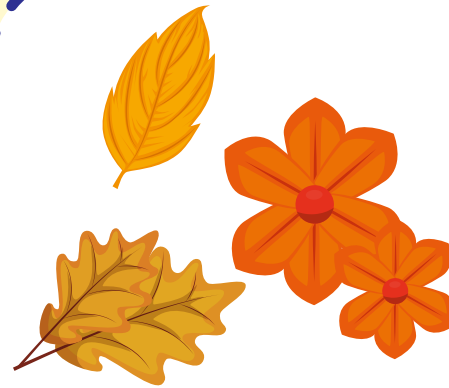
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Y U R



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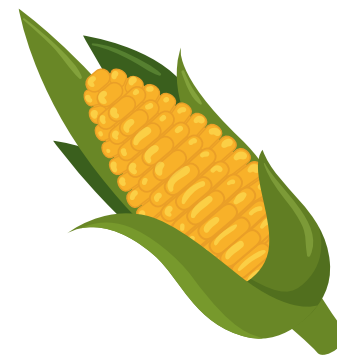
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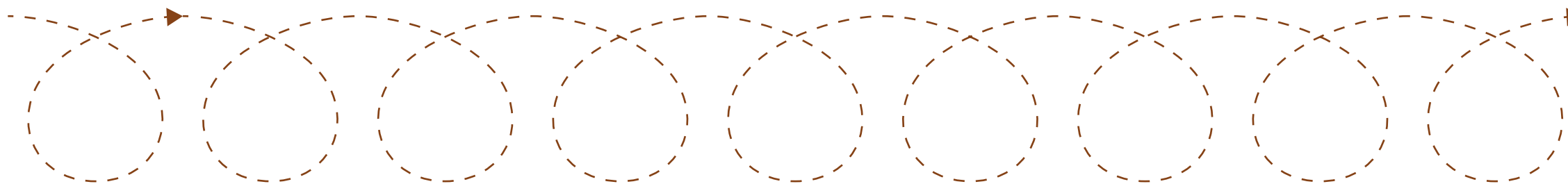
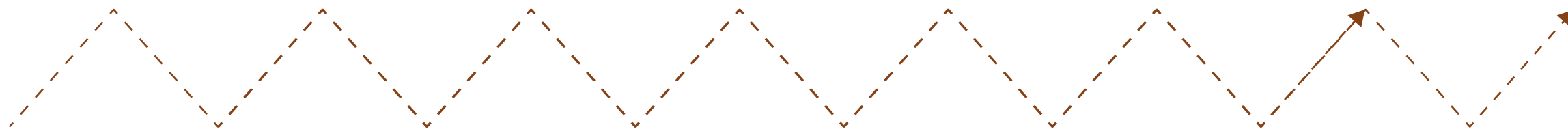
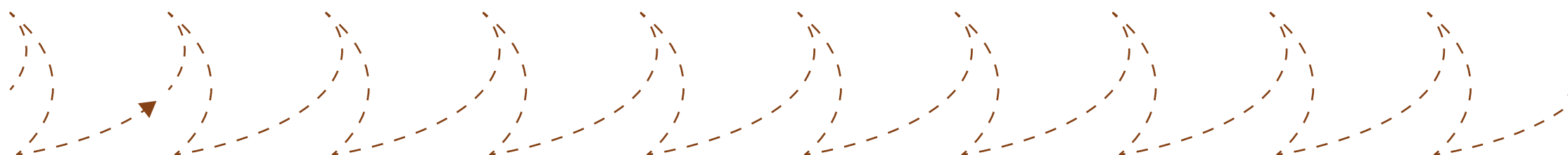
C O
N R



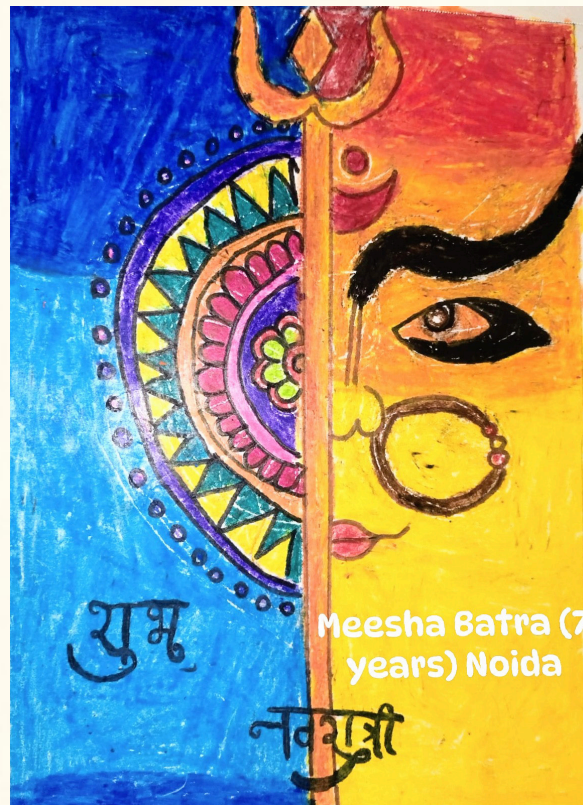
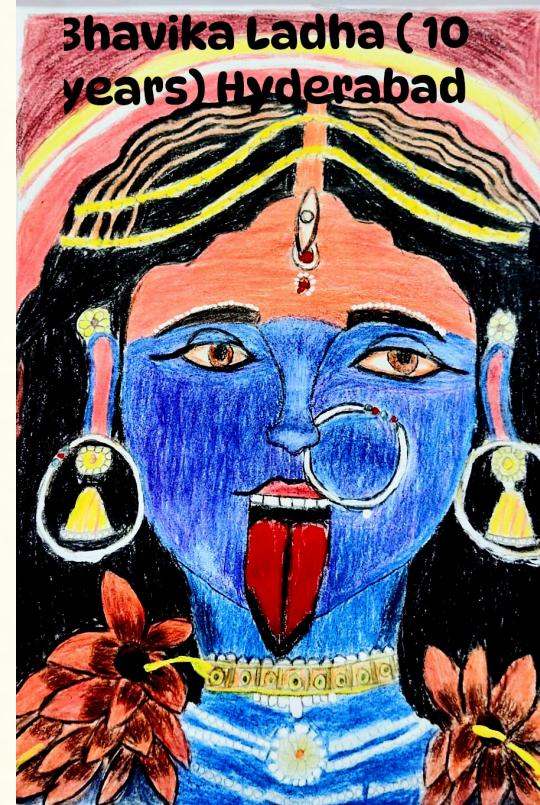
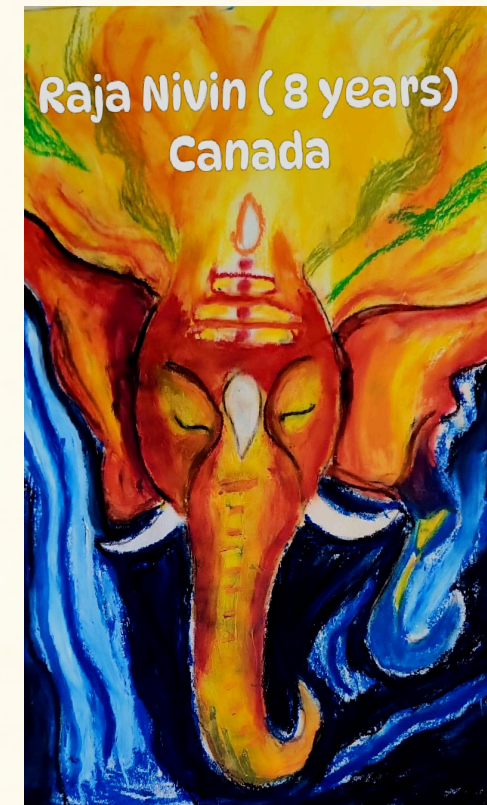
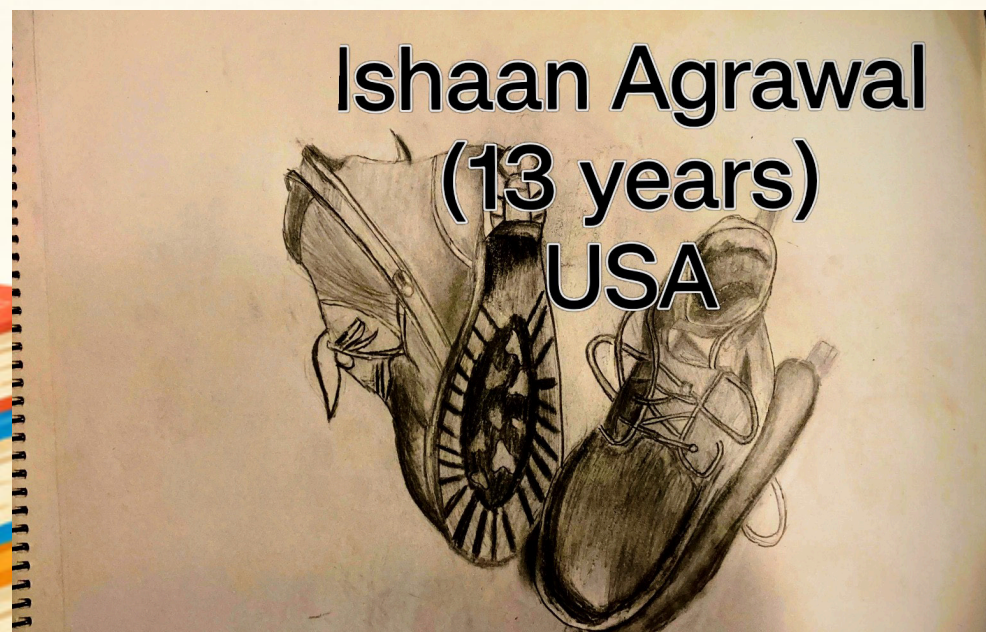
H T
A

Tracing Practice

Trace the path of each leaf



Creative Corner



A girl with a long brown braid, wearing a blue vest over a brown dress, stands with her back to the viewer, looking up at a night sky filled with fireworks. The scene is framed by a decorative border of yellow and white scalloped patterns on the left and right sides. The background is a deep purple with stars and clouds.

HAPPY DIWALI



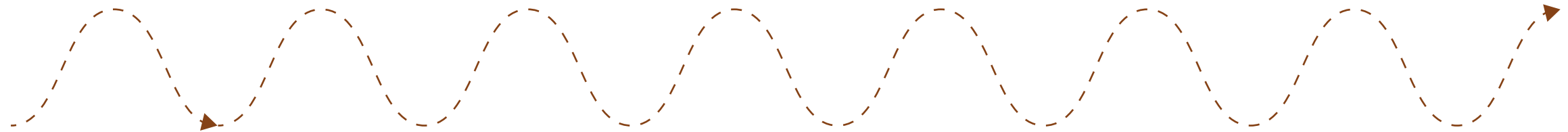
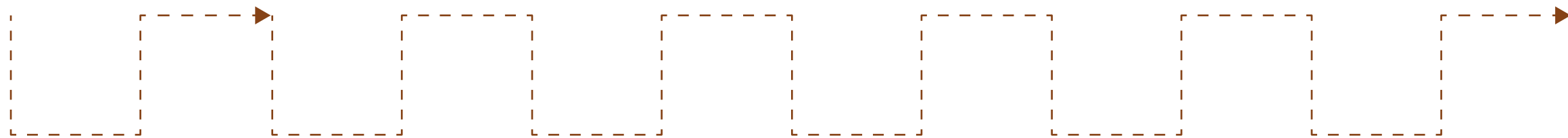
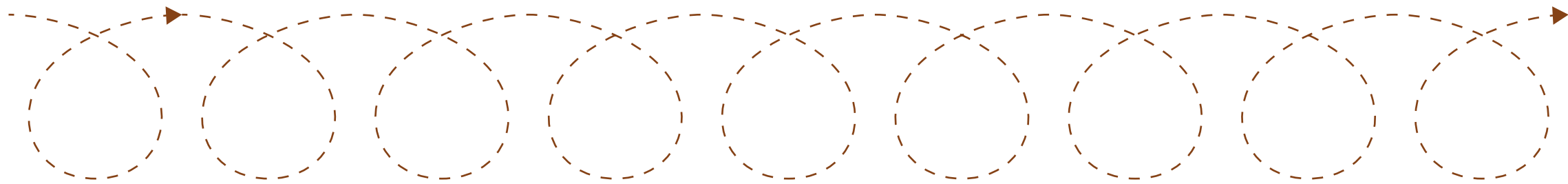
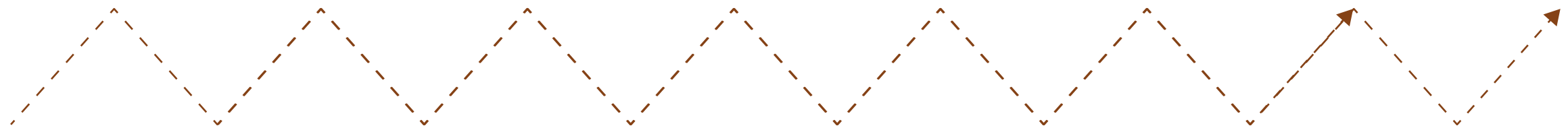
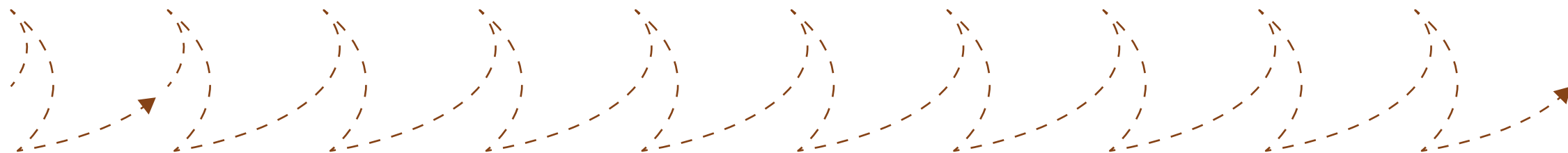
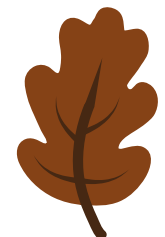
www.Kidliomag.com

A Kid's Literary Magazine

KIDLIO MAG

Tracing Practice

Trace the path of each leaf





ACTIVITY

FIND ALL THE OBJECTS-

