

Lulu

THE
BEAVER

Teacher's Guide



BETHANY GANO

Dear School Friends,

As you might know, Lulu is an amazingly creative beaver — brimming with color and ideas. But that's the problem. She's tried to be like the rest of her colony, but can't keep her creative urges under control — and her secret's getting out!

I am available for FREE virtual visits January — March, 2023! This guide is available for you to use in tandem with our time together, or for you to put together your own beaver-y shindig (with lots of neat info about beavers)! More details at the end of the guide, and sign up at lulubeaver.com/visit.

Here's are some ideas for a great time:

1 READ THE BOOK Read Lulu's story together with your class. (If you'd like additional ideas, see pg. 3-4.) Also, encourage your class to start thinking of questions to ask during our time together — about the story, becoming an author, etc!

2 ACTIVITY SHEETS Take a look at the enclosed activity sheets and choose at least one to enjoy!

3 SIGNED BOOK ORDERS If you sign up for a visit, you receive a flier to let kids and care takers know how they can get a signed copy of Lulu's story at a discount. If so, please plan to share the flier about **two weeks before the visit**. Then, give them a **reminder a week before the visit** and **the day before the deadline**.

THINKING POSITIVELY!

Bethany + Lulu



Read Aloud Tips:

BEFORE YOU START READING

BEAVER TRIVIA

Stack up your knowledge on the earth's second-largest rodent before our time together, or use it to integrate into your classroom however you would like! Beaver fact sheet is enclosed on page 10.

CHOMP!

There's lots of chomping in this beaver book — your class can help Lulu chomp throughout the book! Have the students “beaver chomp” by making a circle with their index finger, middle finger and thumb. Open and close the fingers onto the thumb as one “*CHOMP!*” Invite your class to “*CHOMP!*” along throughout the book (forest chorus, destroying artwork and each daydream sequence).



AFTER-READING THEMES AND QUESTIONS

DREAM ON

Lulu's mind filled with tons of idea balloons when she allowed herself to dream. Go around the room and invite each student to share something they dream of doing and then celebrate with positive encouragement: "that's great", "keep working at it", "you can do it", "great idea", etc.

FLIPPING GLOOMY THINKING

After Lulu's friends shared their stories, she gained the courage to overcome her gloomy thinking and decided to be brave and be herself. It's not enough to simply tell ourselves to "stop thinking that". We need to replace gloomy thoughts with positive ones. What are some examples of gloomy, negative thoughts? What are some examples of positive thoughts those can be replaced with?

A LITTLE HELP FROM HER FRIENDS

Who helps Lulu during the story? How do they help her? What do they see in Lulu that she struggles to see in herself? Do Lulu's friends go along with every expectation they feel? In the end, did her friends and family cheer her on?

BEING BRAVE

Do you like to try new things? What does it feel like to do something new — is it scary, exciting or fun? What helps you be brave?

EXPRESS YOURSELF

One of the fears Lulu had was that if she shared her artwork that the other beavers would say the art didn't matter and that she needed to get back to work. What happened instead? Can you find Lulu in the last spread? Why do you think that is? When we share our gifts, how do we inspire others to use/share theirs?





What Would You Carve?

Lulu was dreaming
of adventure when she
carved the hot
air balloon.

Where would you go on
an adventure?

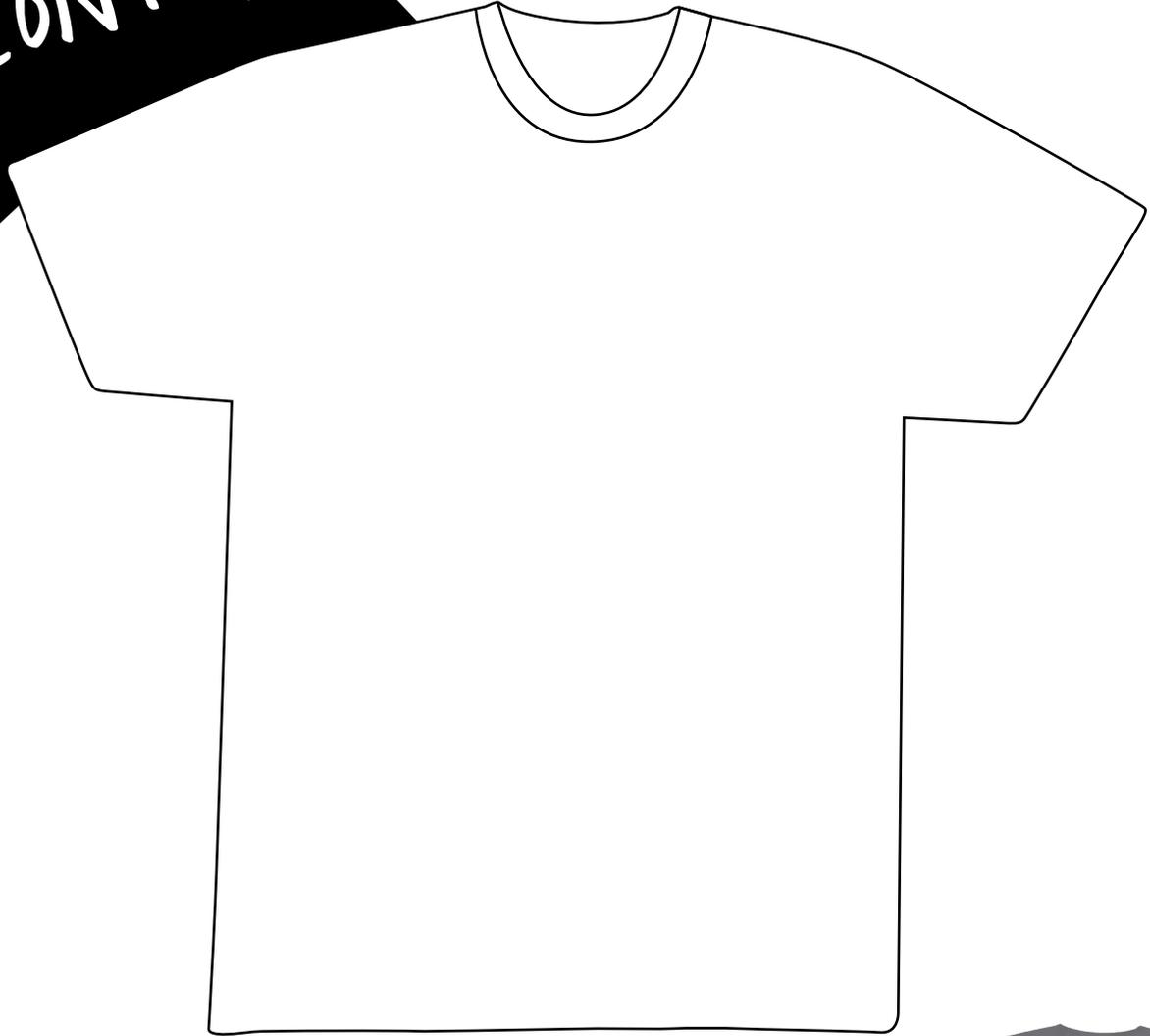
Draw a picture of
how you'd get there!

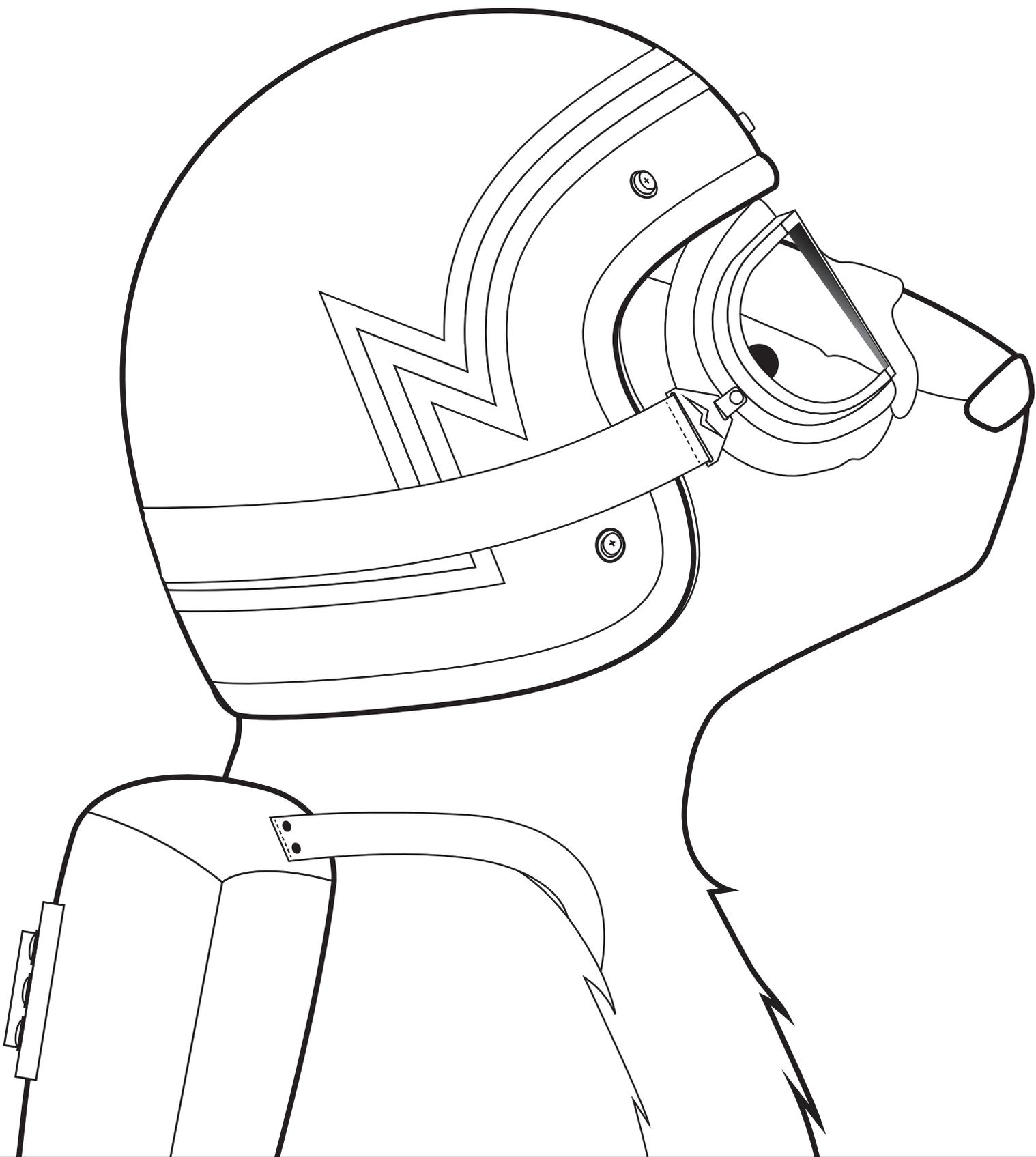
Color it in and share
about it with the group!



T-SHIRT CONTEST!

Design a t-shirt for your new
favorite pals — the beavers!





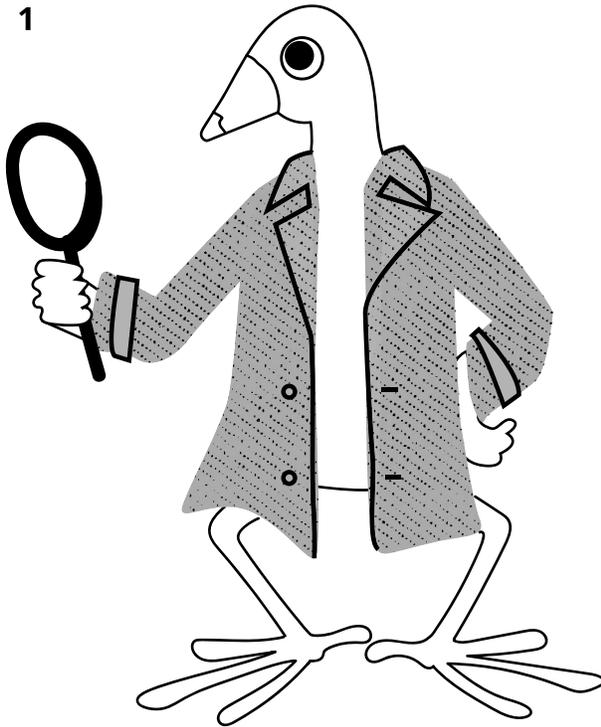
Spot the Difference

Can you spot the 6 differences between these two pictures of Jack?

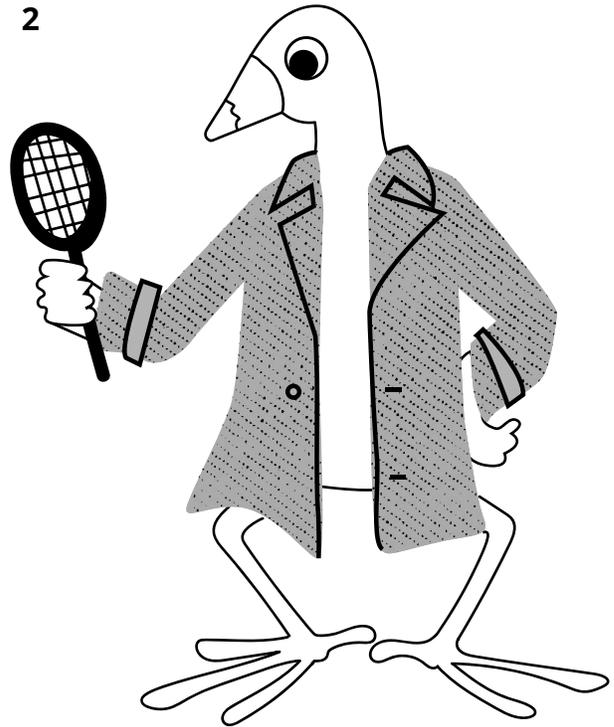
Circle what's different in picture 2.

Color your favorite Jack when you're done!

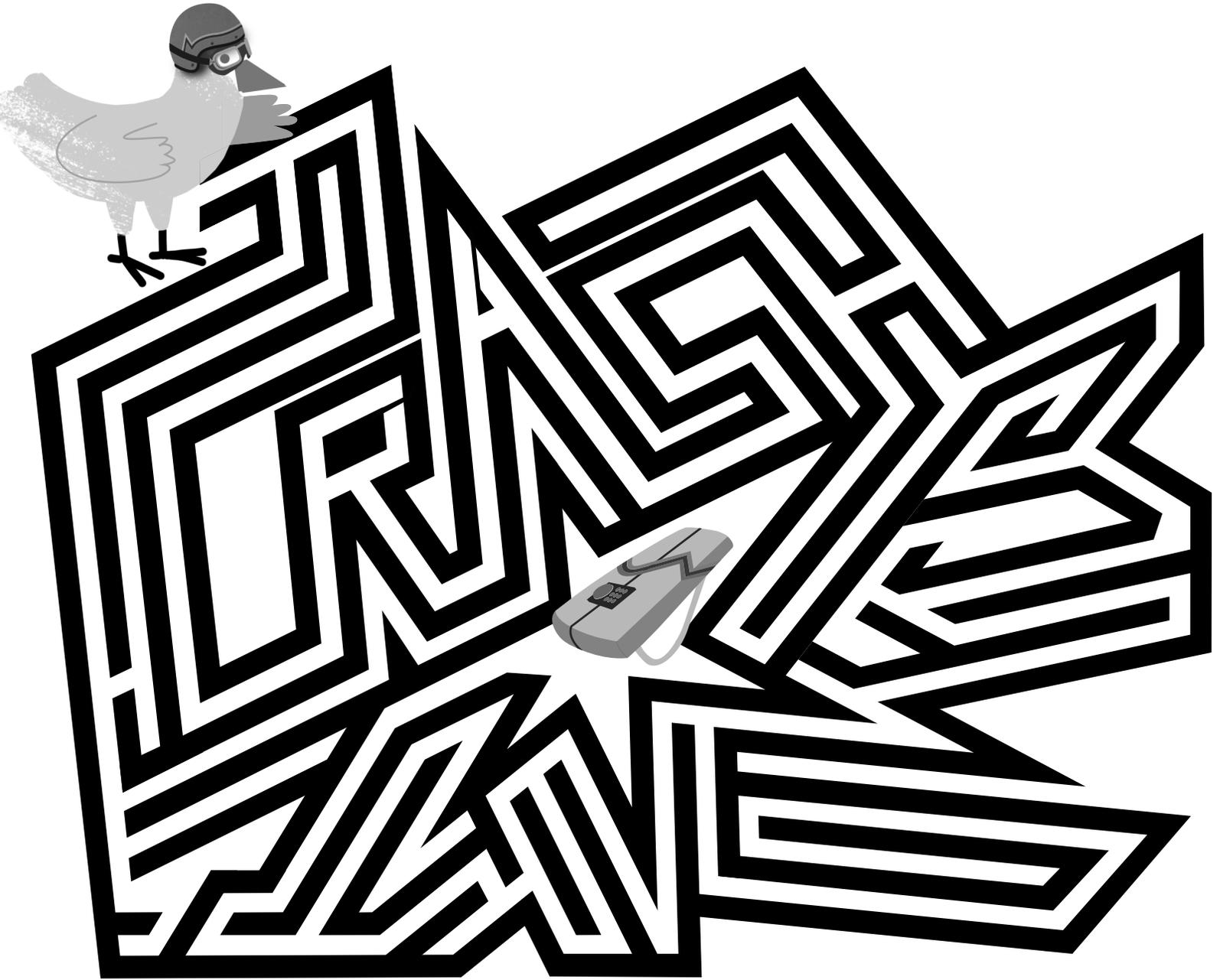
1



2



Help Pickle Find Her Jetpack!



Beaver Trivia!

WHO KNEW?

- Beavers are the second-largest rodent — just behind the capabara
- Famous for being very busy — beavers are constantly building and re-engineering the landscape to create more suitable habitats for their colony
- A beaver uses their tail to...
 - 1 help steer in the water
 - 2 sound warning thumps on the water when they want to alert the colony of potential danger
 - 3 help radiate heat
 - 4 provide counterbalance when sitting or while walking and carrying building materials
- Their big teeth (incisors) grow their entire lives — but grinding, tree cutting, and feeding wear them down
- Beavers build dams and lodges out of branches, mud and stones to provide a means for keeping food and having shelter for surviving through winter
- In the wild, beavers often live between 12 and 24 years
- While you can find beavers moving around during the day, they're mostly nocturnal
- Beavers are quite the divers — they can slow down their heart rate and hold their breath underwater for up to 15 minutes
- Beavers don't need to borrow your goggles — they have transparent eyelids that help them to see under water
- Leaves, bark, twigs, roots, and aquatic plants are the primary foods for this herbivore

LINKS FOR MORE INFO

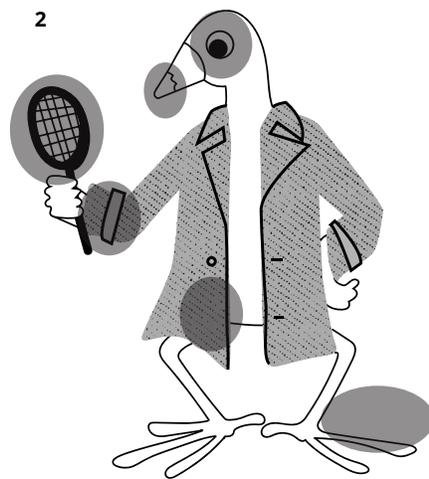
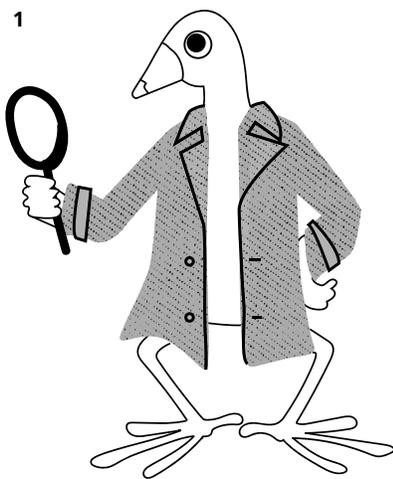
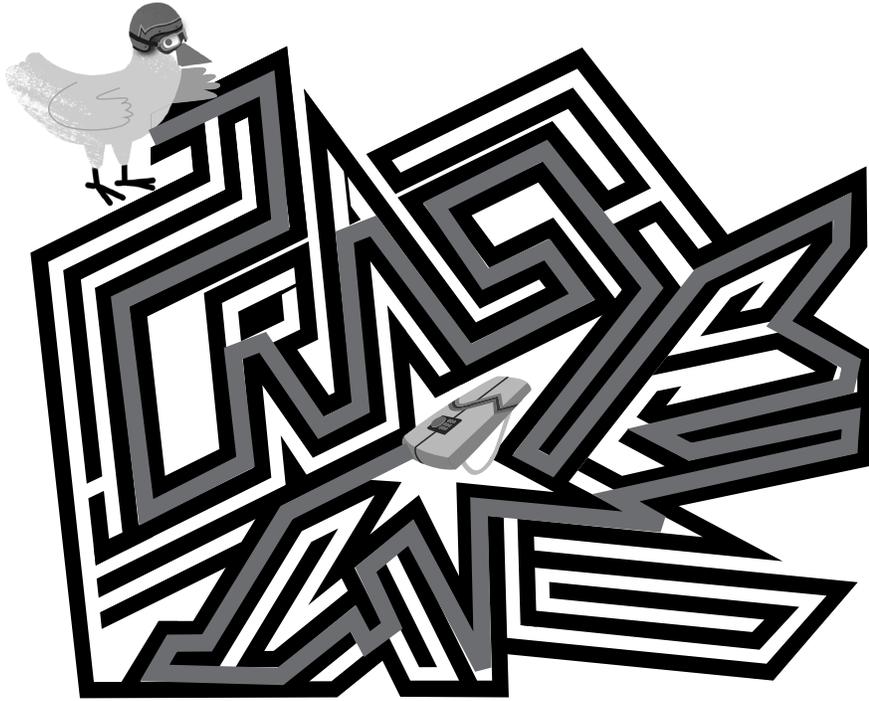
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/facts/beaver>

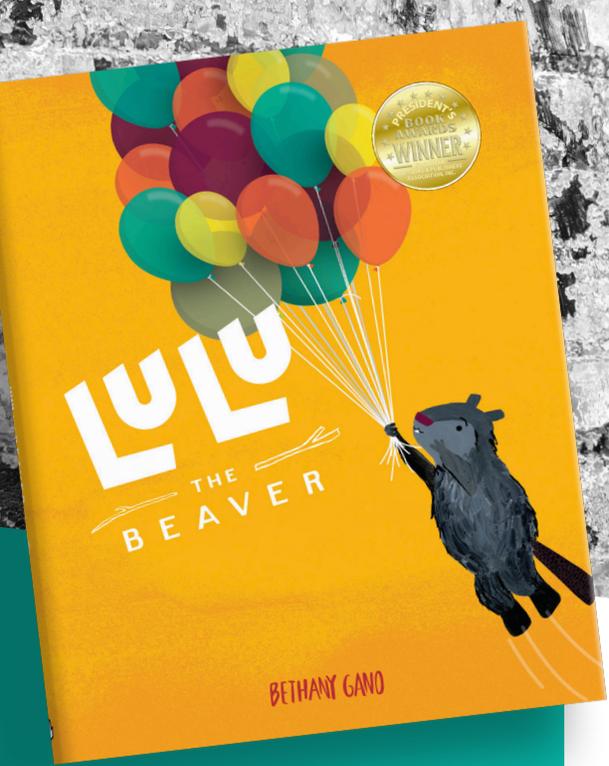
<https://onekindplanet.org/animal/beaver/>

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/species/castor-canadensis#living>

<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/beaver>

Answer Key





BETHANY GANO

2023 VIRTUAL BOOK TOUR!

This bashful little beaver has a gigantic secret...

Lulu tries to be a typical beaver, but, with creativity bursting at the seams, her secret is getting out! What will happen when her family and friends find out she doesn't fit in?

With funny asides, sound effects, and elements of comic-book style, Bethany Gano's debut, eye-opening tale urges kids to confront gloomy thinking — and gives them the courage to bravely share their gifts.

"[Lulu] loves the rhythms of the world and cherishes her forest neighbors—but she also dreams in color and yearns to chew stumps into shapes. Ebullience ferries this inspiring tale forward, and the revelation of Lulu's beautiful differences is a triumphant moment for all."

— Foreword Reviews (Starred Review)

"The idea of feeling...boxed in by others' expectations...is a complicated subject to tackle, but Gano handles it deftly. Younger readers plagued by self-doubt — as well as those who are decisively creative — will find this path to confidence and daring to live your wildest dreams encouraging."

— BookLife Review (Editor's Pick)

Lulu's story was published through a Kickstarter Campaign in March, 2022, and placed into kids' hands across the United States, Canada, England, Italy, and Australia! The hardcover book was released in December, 2022 in a fantastic, 48-page, edition — ready for trade.

Bethany would love to celebrate this launch with you and bring the kids in your school a big boost of creativity. She will leave them armed and ready to flip any gloomy thinking that comes their way. Bethany hosts an interactive "CHOMP!"-filled read-aloud, quizzes kids on beaver trivia, and unpacks thoughts about creativity, bravery, perseverance, and more!

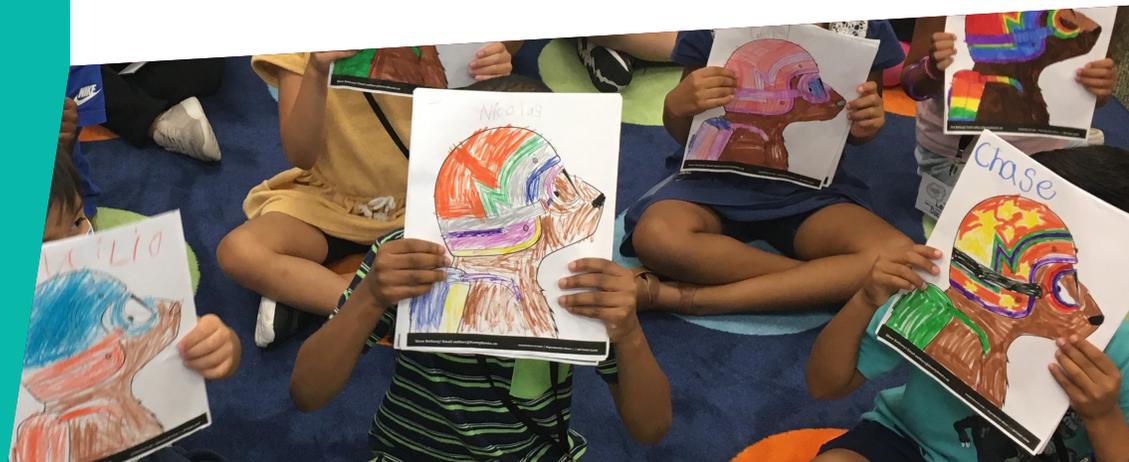


2022 Gold Medal Winner of the President's Award for Children's Book Illustration from the Florida Authors and Publishers Association.

Virtual tour visits are available on select dates in January-March. For additional availability, contact below.

Booking Info

hello@bunnybooks.co





FREE Virtual Visit

FREE Activity Pack — your school / homeschool group receives a free printable activity pack to engage the kids prior to the visit!

LIVE Author/Illustrator Read-Aloud Visit
30min (great for K/1st Grade)

- Beaver Trivia
- Read aloud
- Q & A

OR LIVE Read-Aloud Visit with extra time for Workshop below.
45min (ideal for 1st/2nd Grade). Choose from:

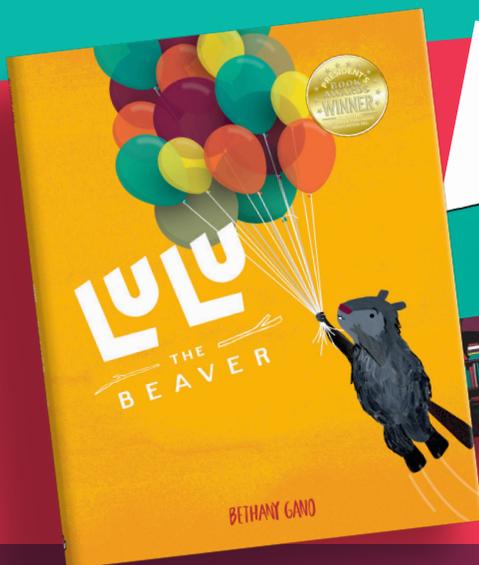
- Draw Lulu live with Bethany!
- Behind-the-scenes — Bethany's illustration process
- Behind-the-scenes — creating a book

Discount Flyer — students can order a signed book to bring home!
(Will ship directly to your school.)



"Bethany Gano's visit to our Kindergartners and First Graders has been the highlight of our year so far! Bethany emailed us an excellent little activity book to engage the kids before she came to visit. Lulu the Beaver has the sweetest message, and many of our students related to Lulu themselves. Bethany was so great with our littles, sharing beaver facts with them that they absolutely loved! Also, she brought beautiful pieces of artwork to show our students — they all really enjoyed it! Our school was very thankful for her visit, and we can't wait to see what other books she puts out there for us to read and adore!"

— Mrs. Lowe, Orlando, FL



\$30
\$70 value
(shipping incl.)



IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE A COPY, HERE'S A DEAL FOR YOUR SCHOOL!

For the optimal visit, it's important to **share about Lulu before we come!**

Put a **copy of Lulu's story** (with a personalized, **signed bookplate**) in your library and allow teachers to share with their classes before the visit. We'll also ship **40 bookmarks** for your students (additional bookmarks available at \$.50/each). **Order this deal when you sign up!**

FILL OUT THE FORM at luluthebeaver.com/visit TO SIGN UP!