

# The Hole

By Kerry Brown

Illustrations by Lucia Masciullo

## Book Summary:

*If you were walking through the woods  
and a hole you came upon,  
would you stop and take a look?  
Or simply carry on?*

One by one, a group of animals come upon a strange black hole in the middle of the woods. What is lurking down below? And is that its tummy rumbling? Read on to find out ...

A mysterious, thrilling and funny new adventure from bestselling Australian picture book creators Kerry Brown and Lucia Masciullo.

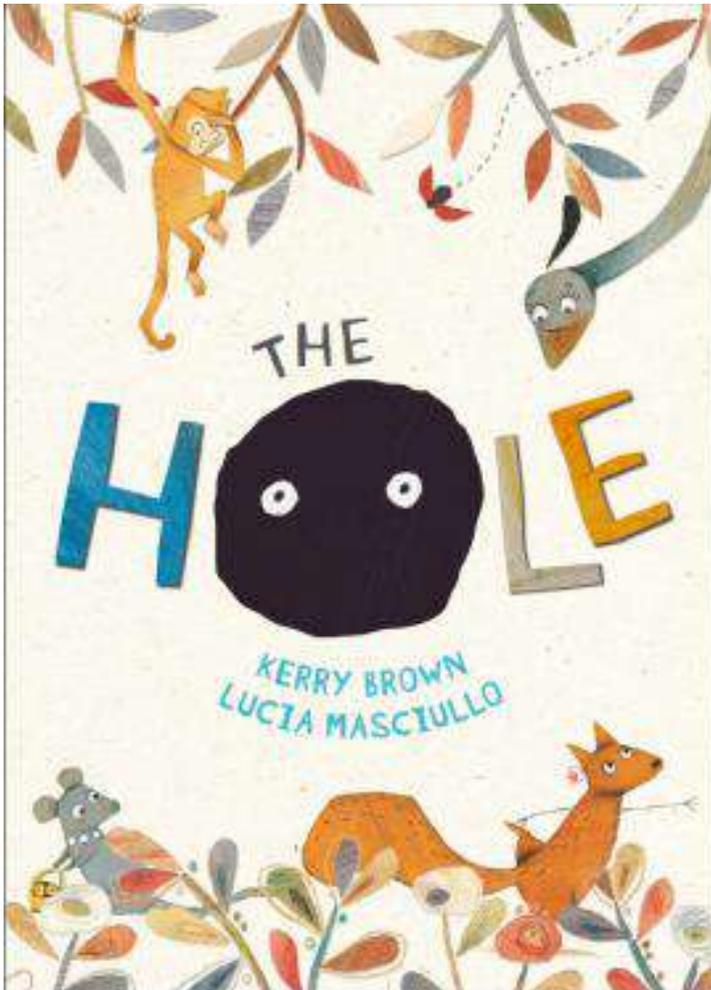
## Key Learning Outcomes

English ACELA1431, ACELA1786, ACELA1437, ACELT1575, ACELT1577, ACELT1580,

## Themes

- Social and emotional skills
- Critical and creative thinking
- Literacy and literature
- The natural world

Recommended Ages: 3+



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Notes by: Concetta Gotlieb

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### About the author

Kerry Brown is the author of *Can I Cuddle the Moon?* (illustrated by Lisa Stewart), *Poppy Wash* (illustrated by Michelle Pike), *All My Kisses* (illustrated by Jemma Robaard) and the #1 picture book bestseller *Lest We Forget* (illustrated by Isobel Knowles and Benjamin Portas). She lives in Queensland with her family.

### About the illustrator

Lucia Masciullo grew up in Livorno, Tuscany, among smells of saltiness and rosemary. In 2006 she moved to Queensland and since then has become a much-loved, award-winning Australian illustrator. Her books include *THE BOY AND THE TOY*, *COME DOWN*, *CAT* and *THE WILD ONE* (all with Sonya Hartnett) and *OLIVE OF GROVES* (with Katrina Nannestad).

### Themes

#### Social and emotional skills

The text provides opportunities for students to explore the narrative from multiple perspectives. The emotions and decisions of the characters help the students consider their own emotional responses and decision when faced with unknown situations.

### Critical and creative thinking

The text provides opportunities for students to use critical and creative thinking to consider how people work together to solve problems.

### Literature

Through reading and discussion of the text students are able to consider their personal responses to the authors language and text structure choices.

### The natural world

The setting of the book provides an opportunity for exploration into the benefits of spending time in nature, including the ability to take strategic risks and gain knowledge of the world around them.

### Key Curriculum Areas

- Understand that some language in written texts is unlike everyday spoken language ([ACELA1431 - Scootle](#) )
- Explore the different contribution of words and images to meaning in stories and informative texts (ACELA1786 - Scootle )
- Understand the use of vocabulary in familiar contexts related to everyday experiences, personal interests and topics taught at school (ACELA1437 - Scootle )
- Recognise that texts are created by authors who tell stories and share experiences that may be similar or different to students' own experiences (ACELT1575 - Scootle )
- Respond to texts, identifying favourite stories, authors and illustrators (ACELT1577 - Scootle )
- Retell familiar literary texts through performance, use of illustrations and images (ACELT1580 - Scootle )

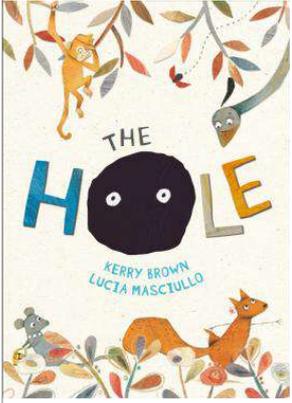
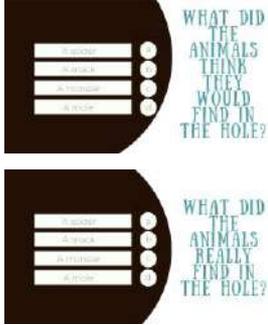
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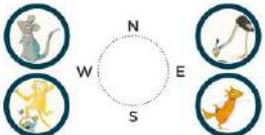
## Reasons for Studying this Book

'The Hole' is a creative adventure that will inspire your students to overcome their fears and let their curiosity and imagination lead the way.

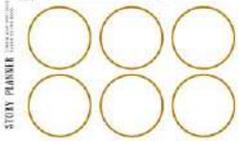
## Classroom Activities

Activity	Notes & Curriculum Links	ICT Integration/Worksheet
Cover Story	<p>Discuss the cover text and illustrations. The purpose of this discussion is to introduce the author and illustrator, uncover prior knowledge or create interest in the story.</p> <p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think the book is about? What can you tell from the cover?</li> <li>• What are the ingredients of this book?</li> <li>• What do you think the title means?</li> <li>• Where is the book set? How do you know?</li> <li>• Who are the main characters?</li> <li>• How do you think the illustrations were created?</li> </ul>	
The moral of the story	<p>The story ends with a moral...</p> <p>"Now the moral to this story is don't look down a hole. Unless your basket's full of goods ..."</p> <p>But this is a light-hearted take on the real lessons contained in the story. By taking on the perspective of the characters the story opens itself up to a variety of discussions around facing your fears and meeting the unexpected.</p> <p>Discuss the lessons of the story with the students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facing your fears can lead to good outcomes</li> </ul>	<p>IWB</p> 

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sometimes we expect to see a monster but we really meet a friend</li> <li>When you work together you can solve a problem</li> </ul>	
Character	<p>The story's characters provide an opportunity for students to explore how authors use language to help us understand the emotions of characters.</p> <p><b>Guiding questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How did the different characters feel at different parts of the story?</li> <li>Have you felt similar feelings? Could you relate to the characters?</li> <li>Which character is most similar to you?</li> </ul> <p>What did the characters learn about dealing with new situations? Did you learn anything about dealing with new situations?</p> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <p>Ask the students to put themselves in the shoes of the characters. Use the three character slides to explore the emotions of the characters in more detail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<p>IWB</p> 
Read and retell	<p>In groups or pairs ask the students to retell the story.</p> <p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where was the story set?</li> <li>What was the main problem of the story?</li> <li>How did the characters find a solution to their problem?</li> <li>Was there anything about the story you didn't really understand?</li> <li>Did the author leave anything up to your imagination?</li> <li>Did you enjoy the story? Would you recommend it to others? Why/why not</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <p>Explore the elements of the story in more detail using the graphic organiser provided.</p>	<p>IWB/Printable</p> 

<p>Rhyme Time</p>	<p>The story provides an opportunity to explore how the authors language choices make the story more interesting.</p> <p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Were there any words you didn't understand?</li> <li>• Did the author use any words that are not commonly used in language? E.g. 'forth' Why would the author make this language choice?</li> <li>• Which words describe how the characters are feeling?</li> <li>• Which words are used in the story to make the story more interesting?</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <p>Find the rhyming words for the words shown. Find other words that rhyme with these words.</p>	<p>IWB</p> 
<p>Quotable</p>	<p>Some sentences in a story help you to learn more about yourself or the world around you. It can be good to remember these sentences later, they can help you become a better writer and solve problems in your own life.</p> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <p>Create your own inspiration card using a quote from the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find your favourite line from the story</li> <li>• Make an A5 landscape 'postcard' with the quote as the main design feature</li> <li>• You can use fancy fonts on your computer, a graphic design program or even hand drawn lettering</li> </ul> <p><b>Simple calligraphy tutorial</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVVxFzH Hn1Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVVxFzH Hn1Q</a></li> </ul>	<p>IWB/Printable</p> 
<p>Writing techniques</p>	<p>Writers often repeat the same concepts throughout the story. The author of the hole uses the concept of direction throughout the story to help the action build and to tie the characters together. The characters are all on a journey to</p>	<p>IWB/Printable</p> 

	<p>visit their relatives when they get caught up in the adventure.</p> <p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you find examples of where the writer has repeated a sentence? (e.g. She was off to visit Vera, her cousin from the West,)</li> <li>• Do you think this technique adds to your enjoyment when reading the story?</li> <li>• What other aspects of the writing do you find interesting?</li> <li>• Which sentences in the story do you like listening to the most?</li> <li>• Students can also practice writing similar sentences in preparation for the writing task.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <p>Compass practice. Have students match the characters to the direction they were heading in the story. This is also an opportunity for students to explore the compass directions and go on their own adventures guided by the compass points.</p> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <p>Copy the writing technique to create your own sentences. In groups of 4 choose a character and write a sentence that includes a compass direction. Sentence starters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____ was off to visit _____ in the _____</li> <li>• _____ was on a journey to see _____ in the _____</li> </ul>	
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<p>Your story</p>	<p>The story provides inspiration for a number of creative writing projects.</p> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have students choose one social or emotional skill they would like to develop.</li> <li>• Using the story planner outline the key action in the story using words or visuals.</li> <li>• Write your story or create a story using a web app such as StoryBird.</li> <li>• Share the student stories and see if the students can uncover the moral lessons embedded in the story.</li> </ul>	<p>IWB/Printable</p> 
<p>Amazing artwork</p>	<p>The fun, whimsical artworks in the story uses natural tones to reflect the forest adventure the animals are on. The illustrator has also used paper cutting and collage as part of the style. Using the resources and suggestions provided re-create the cover of the book.</p> <p><b>Guiding questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you think the illustrator created the artworks?</li> <li>• Where would you see the colours that are in the book?</li> <li>• What techniques has the illustrator used?</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Print copies of <i>The Hole</i> cover sheet for students</li> <li>• Print copies of the forest animals sheet for students</li> <li>• Students completely cover the forest animals sheet with forest hues using crayons or watercolours.</li> <li>• Students cut out their forest animals and place them on the cover sheet.</li> </ul> <p>This is also an opportunity for students to recreate the cover using different effects such as contrasting/neon colours.</p> <p>Save and scan the finished work and use as a screen saver or background image on a device.</p>	<p>IWB/Printable</p> 

<p><b>Additional activity</b></p>	<p>The book ends on a whimsical note with the characters all joining in on a picnic.</p> <p><b>Guiding questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why was the mole so keen for a cup of tea or to share some treats? Was it just hunger driving him?</li> <li>• What would you bring to share at a picnic with new friends?</li> </ul>	<p>IWB</p> 
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### Prepared by

Information about the author of the notes

Concetta Gotlieb is a qualified primary teacher. Concetta is passionate about working with teachers and students to design, develop and deliver digital learning experiences to solve problems and create connections. Her teaching and learning design focusses on students as creators and producers.



EXPLORER DEEPER



# THE HOLE

Words by Kerry Brown  
and Illustrations by  
Lucia Masciullo

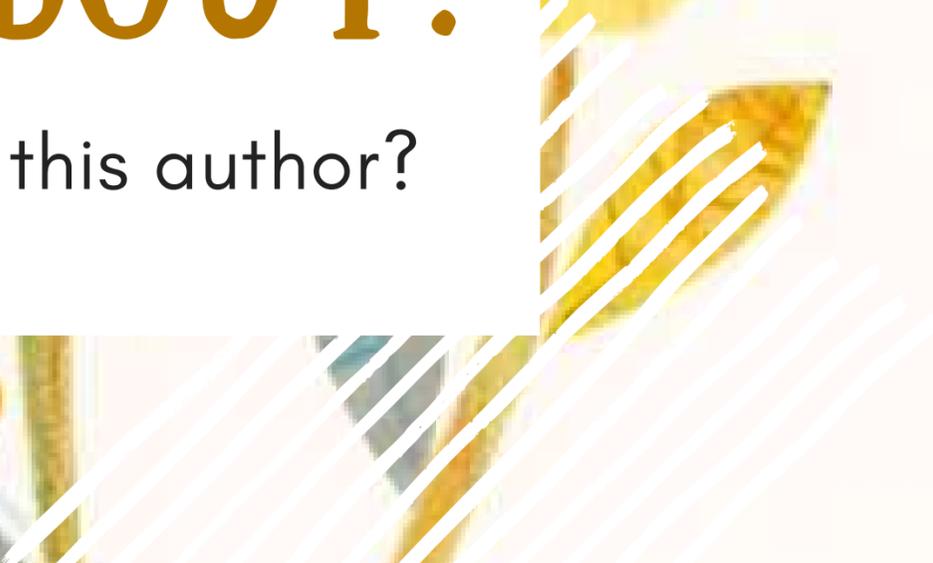
Teachers Notes by: Concetta Gotlieb





WHAT DO YOU  
THINK THE STORY  
IS ABOUT?

Does your mind think like this author?



WHAT DID  
THE  
ANIMALS  
THINK  
THEY  
WOULD  
FIND IN  
THE HOLE?

A spider

a

A snack

b

A monster

c

A mole

d

A spider

A snack

A monster

A mole

a

b

c

d

WHAT DID  
THE  
ANIMALS  
REALLY  
FIND IN  
THE HOLE?

# CURIOSITY



Can you think of a time your curiosity has got you into a situation that made you feel a bit wobbly?



# FEAR

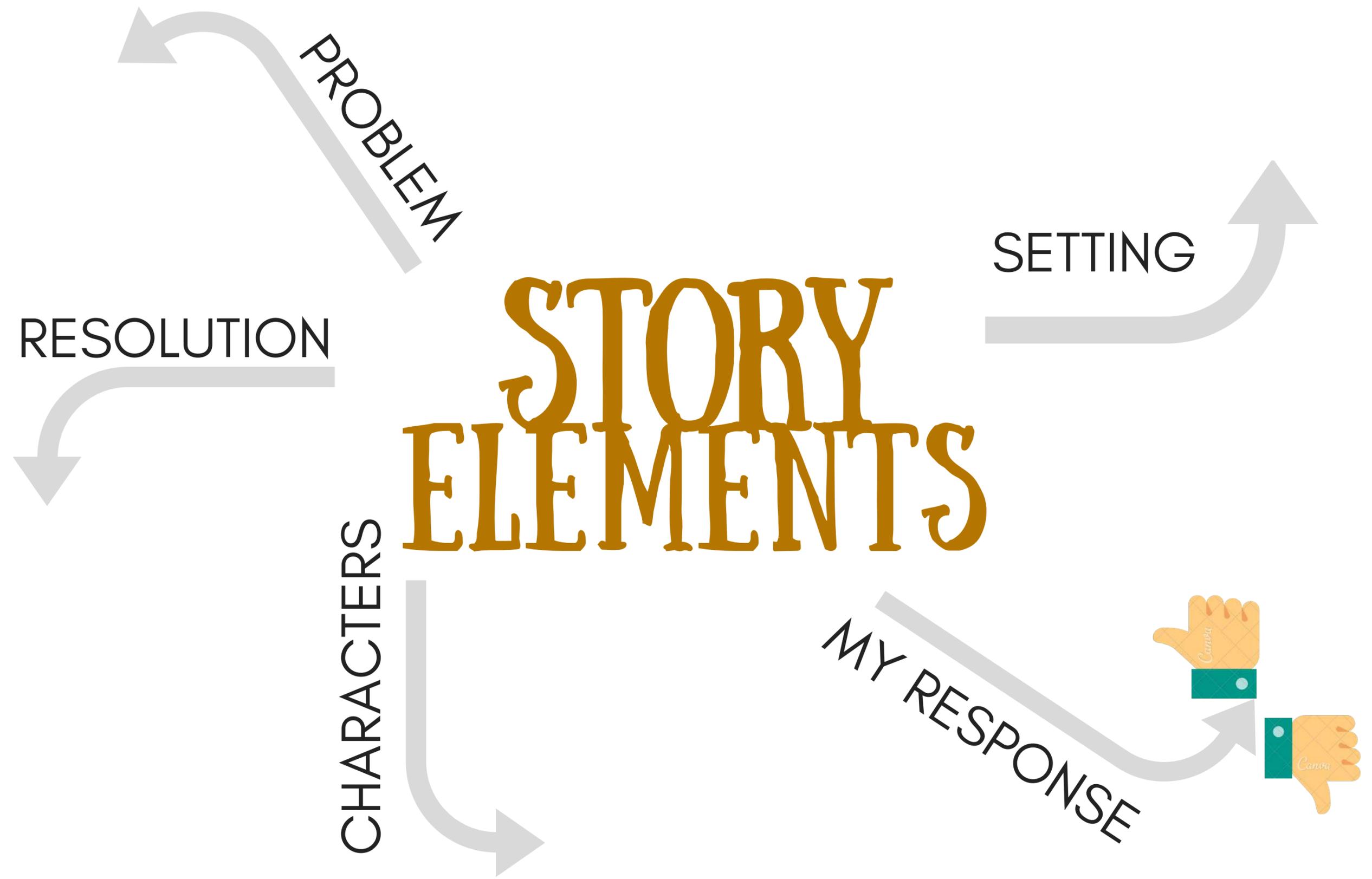


Why do humans and animals  
feel fear?

# HAPPINESS



What activities make you  
happy?



# RHYME TIME

west

forth

scene

rumble

meal

ground

goods

fear



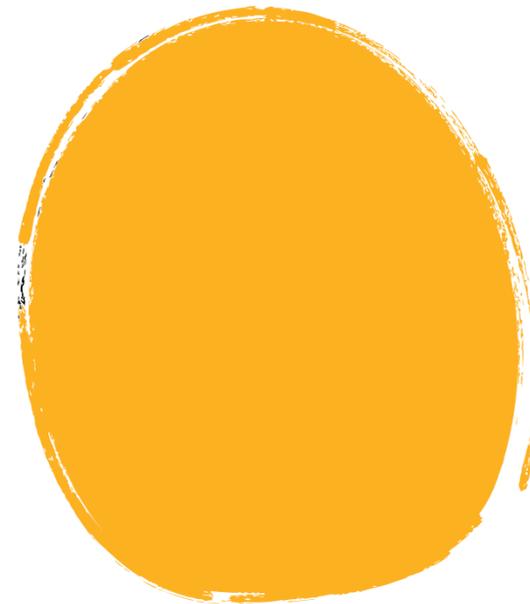
WRITE 3 WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE HOLE



What colour is  
the hole?



Is the hole hot  
or cold?



How big is the  
hole?





MY FAVOURITE QUOTE

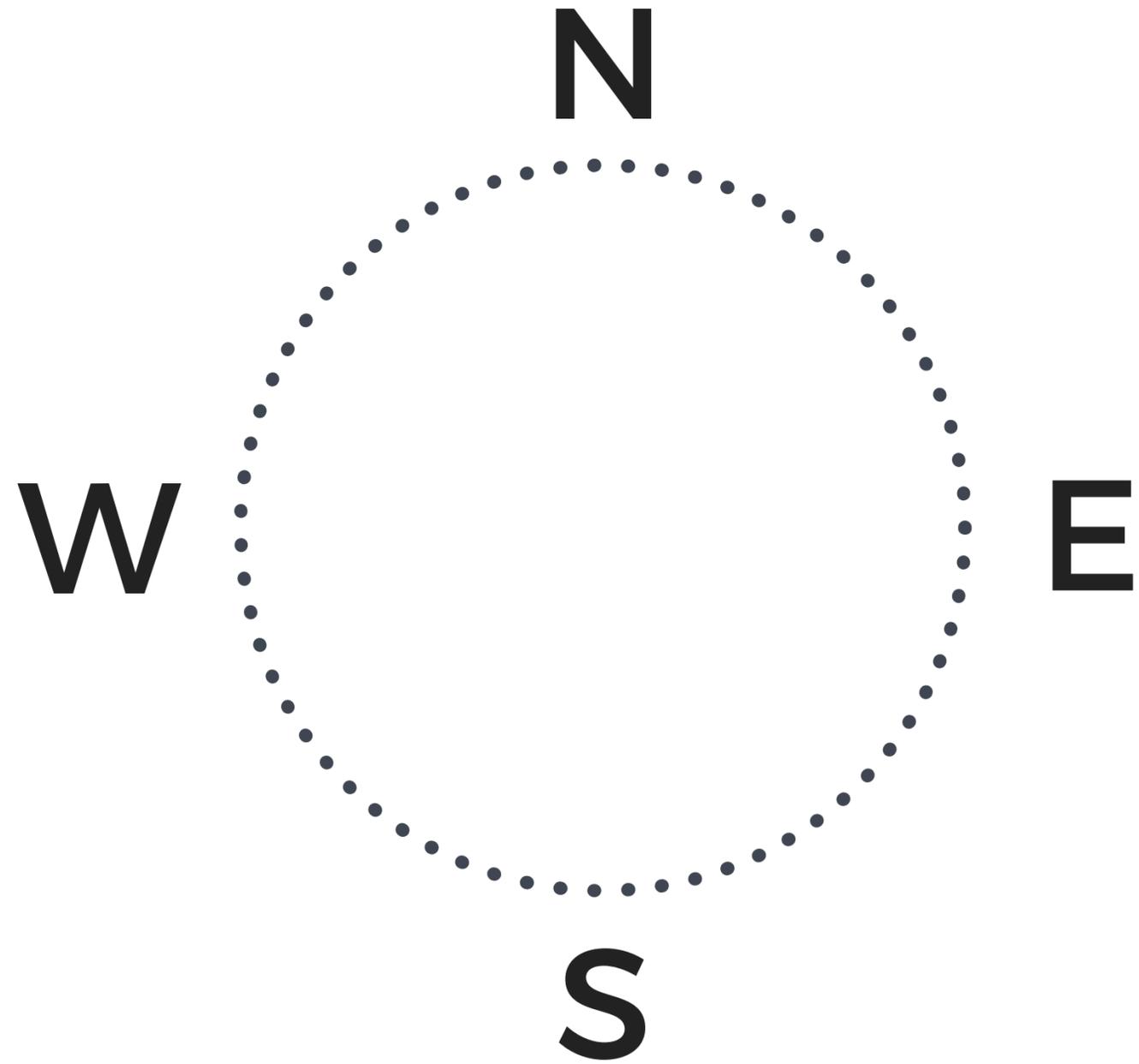
‘I DARE YOU  
MONSTER, TO  
COME FORTH!’

AUTHOR: KERRY BROWN



MY FAVOURITE QUOTE

AUTHOR: \_\_\_\_\_

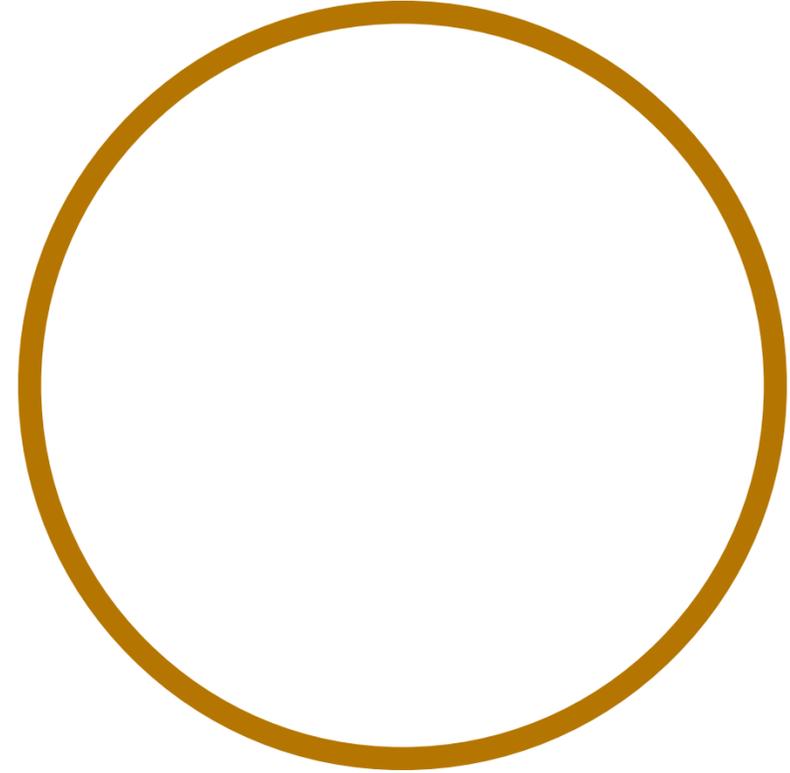
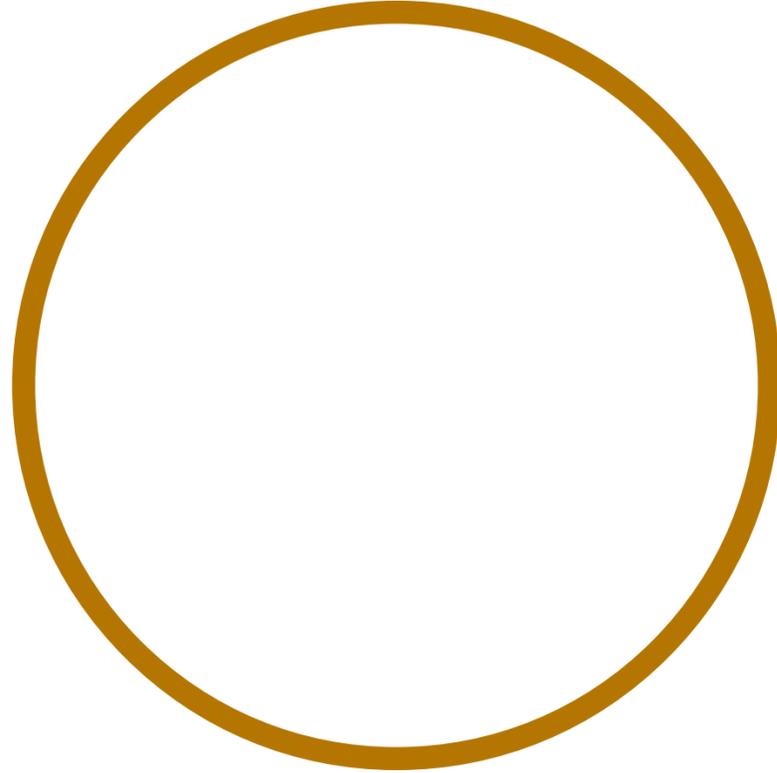
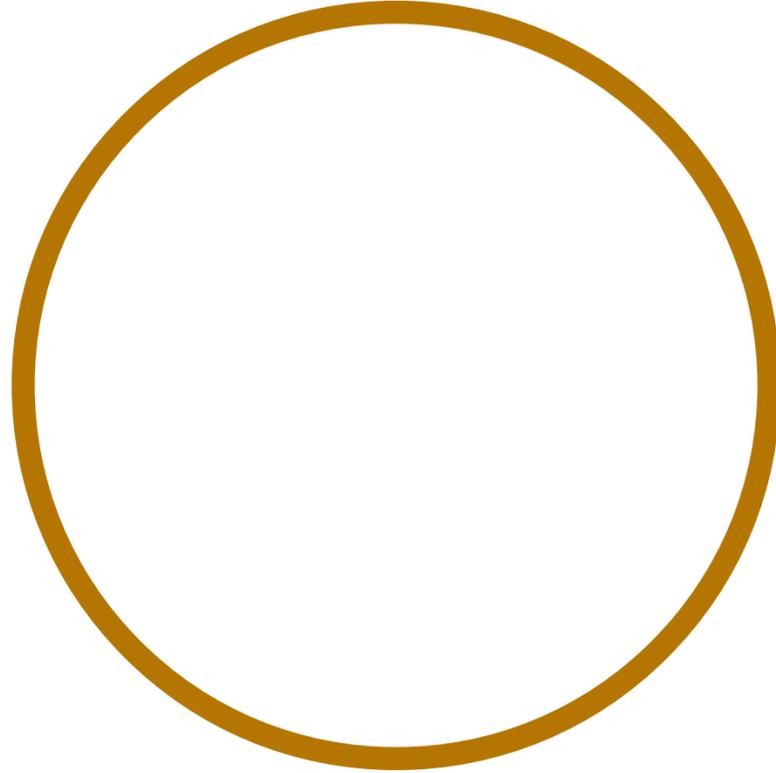
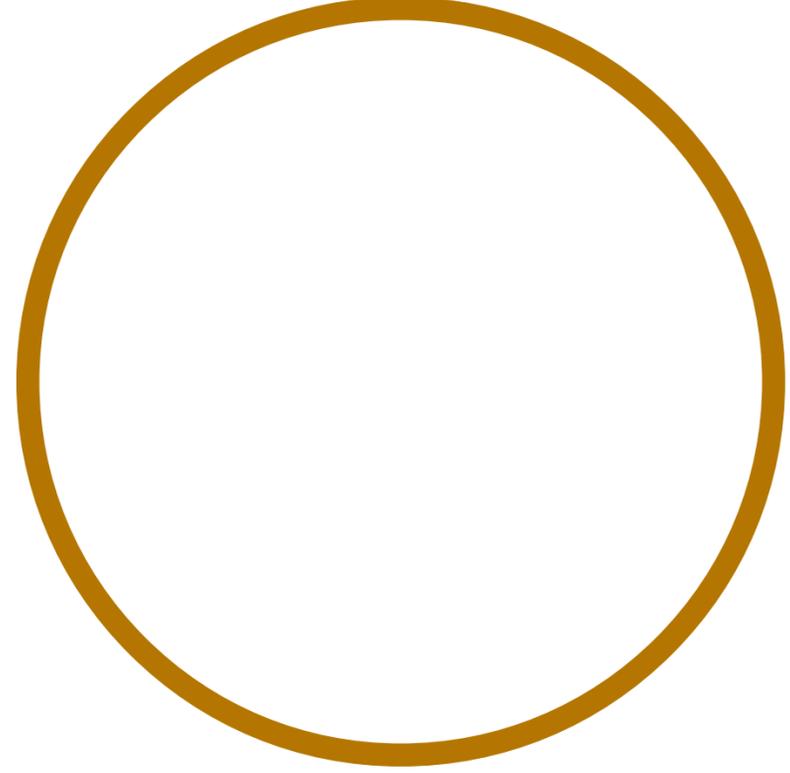
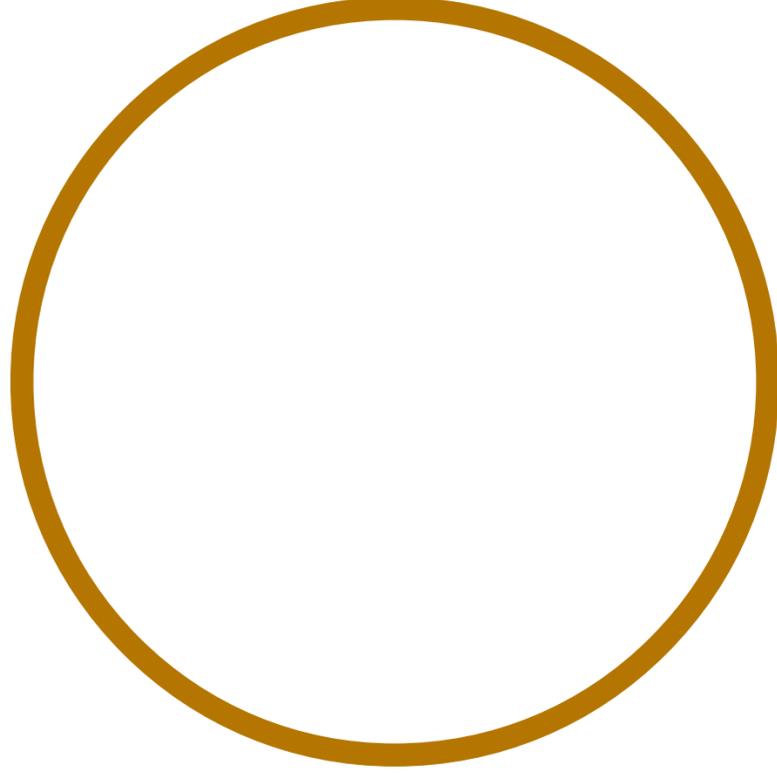
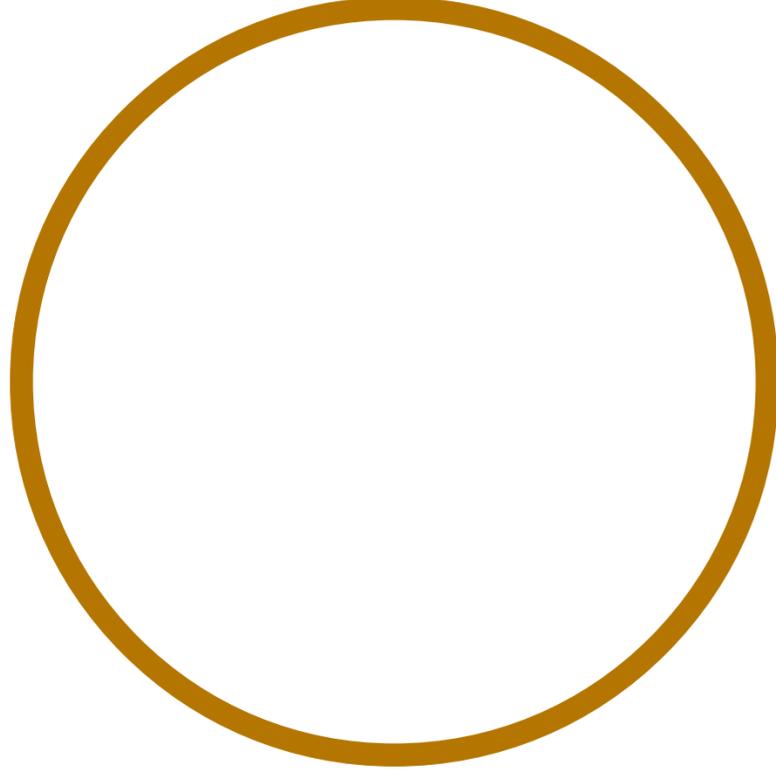


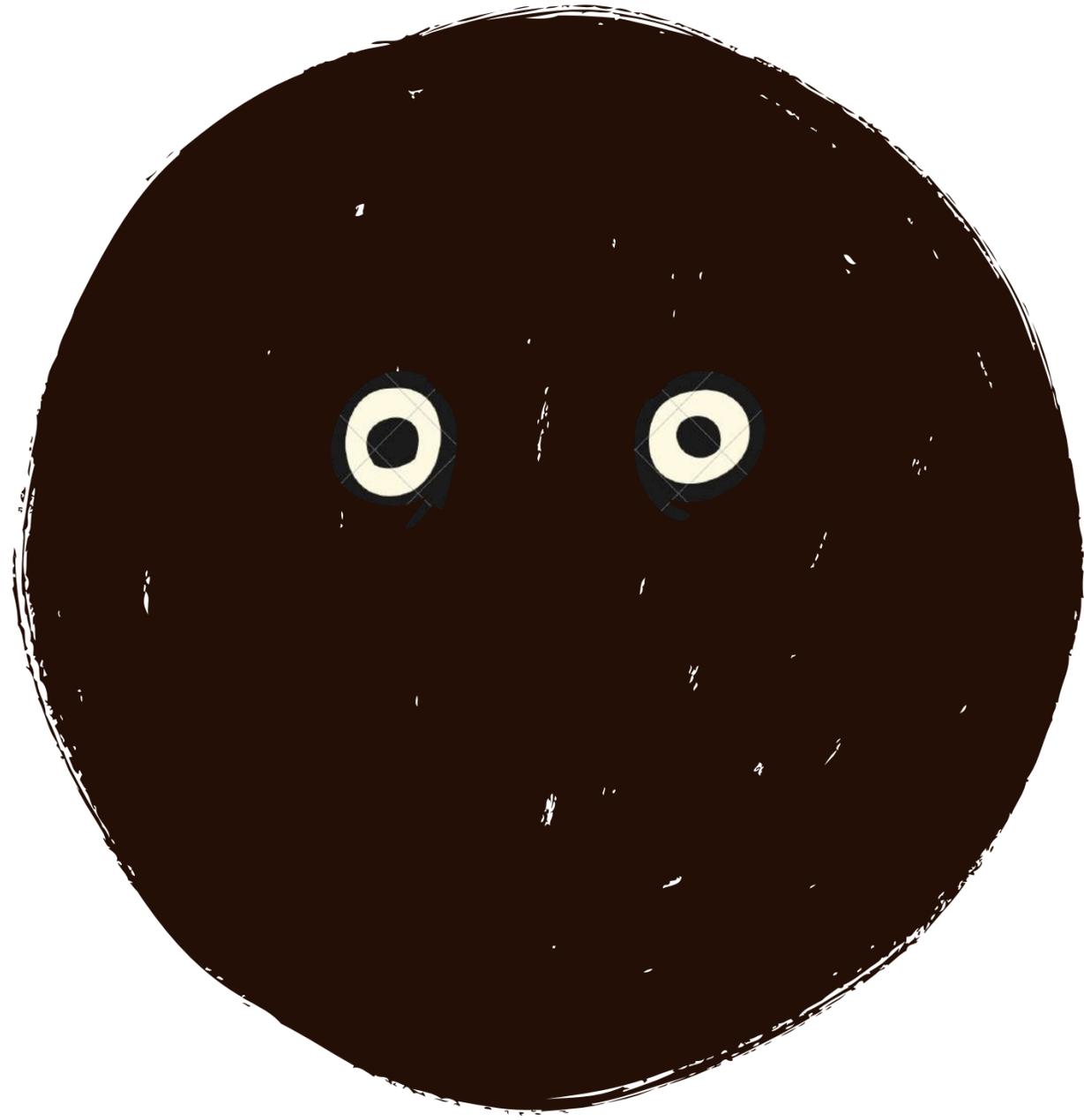
# STORY PLANNER

Create your own story  
based on the book.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_









# WHAT WOULD YOU BRING TO A PICNIC

Your guests like a variety of fresh healthy food and a treat for a special occasion.

