

Forest of Reading 2024

Silver Birch Express Activities

The Nguyen Kids: The Mystery of the Painted Fan

Written by Linda Trinh

Illustrated by Clayton Nguyen



The Vietnamese Zodiac is a 12 year cycle with one animal representing each of the 12 years. The animals or signs are Rat (1996), Buffalo (1997), Tiger (1998), Cat (1999), Dragon (2000), Snake (2001), Horse (2002), Goat (2003), Monkey (2004), Rooster (2005), Dog (2006) and Pig (2007). In the book, each of the animals can be seen on Jacob's fan.

Using the list of zodiac signs and the year they represent above, try to find your zodiac animal based on your year of birth. Example: if you were born in the year 2000, your zodiac sign is Dragon.

What animal are you? _____.

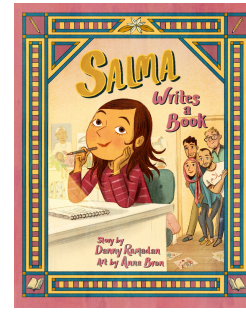
Draw a picture of yourself as your zodiac animal. Use your head and the animal's body to make a funny picture of you doing something you like to do!



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The Salma Series 3: Salma Writes A Book
Written by Danny Ramadan
Illustrated by Anna Bron



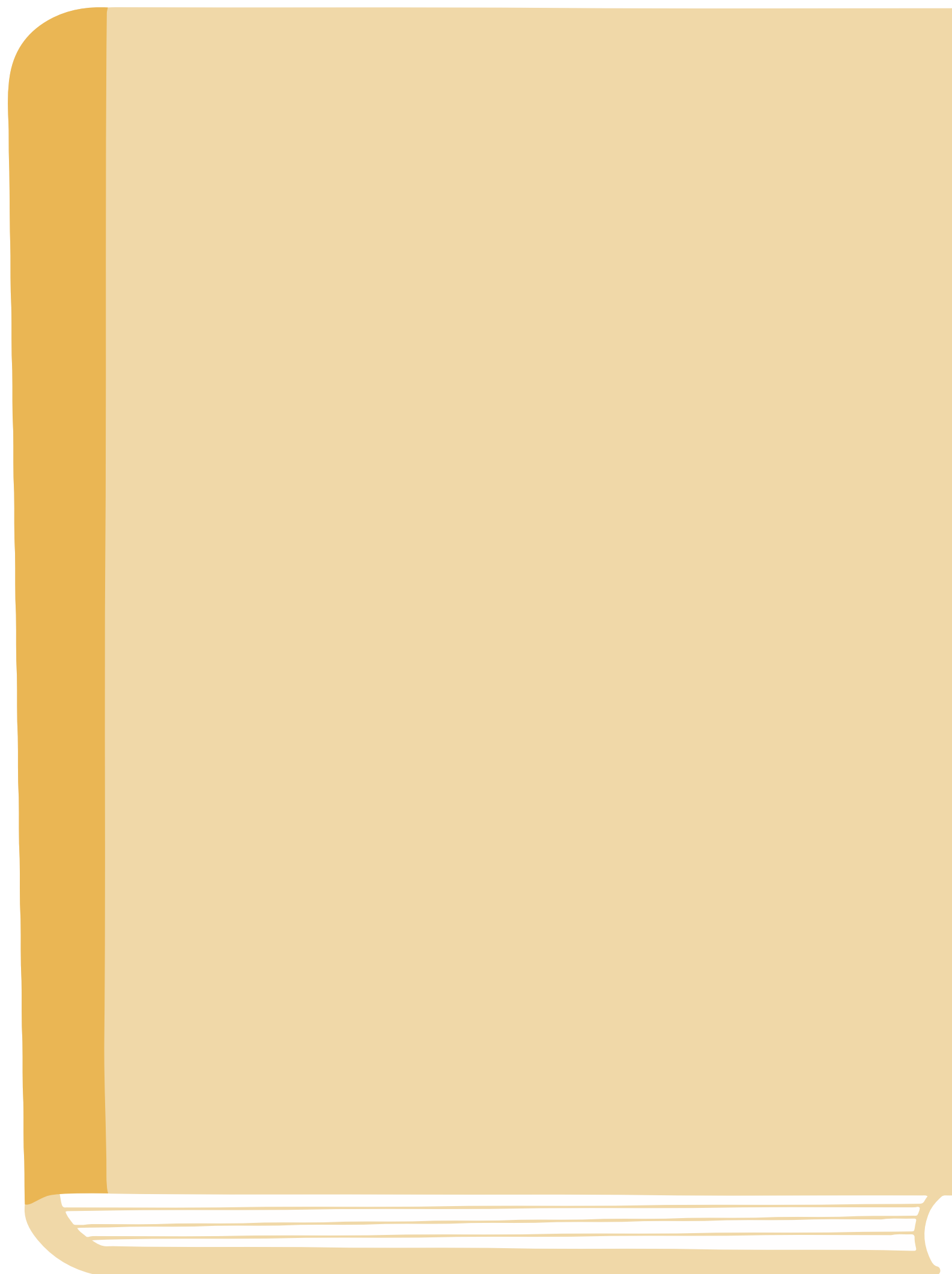
Design the cover of your very own book!

Salma is on a journey to create a piece of literature that can help her conquer a big question:
What does it take to be the best older sibling?

If you wanted to write a book about your favourite thing, what would that be?

My favourite thing is: _____

Now, design the cover of your book using the book cover below. You can cut out pictures, use markers or crayons or paint or whatever else you need to make the most alluring cover art below! Don't forget to include the title of your book and your name as the author.



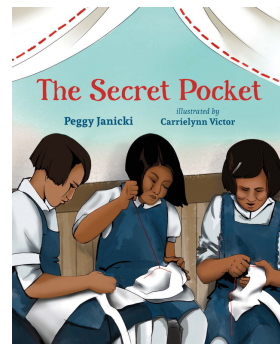
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The Secret Pocket

Peggy Janicki

Illustrated by Carrielynn Victor



Learning Languages

Many Indigenous languages are at risk of disappearing. Elders and community members are working on recording the remaining languages that they can share. Use the chart to learn the words from the story and find 2 other languages to add.

Suggestions:

Find another Indigenous language from the Treaty land you are on. Add a word from another language your family speaks.

Be sure to visit the author's website to learn more about the language from the story. You can also hear how to pronounce one of the above words. <https://www.peggyjanicki.ca/>

You can also visit <https://www.firstvoices.com/home> to hear the pronunciation of the Nak'azdli Dakelh language.

Dakelh Word	Pronunciation	English Meaning	Language 1	Language 2
'Uba		Father		
'Uloo		Mother		
t'oh nonal'en		Secret pocket		
kesgwut		moccasin		
Mi'emhoelh		A Halq'emeylem word that means "pouch that is full"		

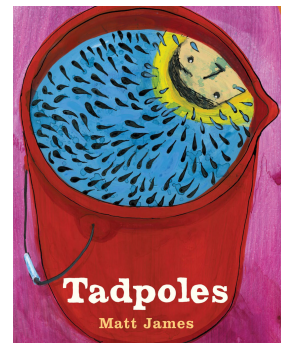


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Tadpoles

Written and Illustrated by Matt James



Matt James is the illustrator of *Tadpoles* as well as the author. He uses a variety of materials (acrylic paint, gouache, ink and cut paper) to create the pictures in his book, making them both interesting and compelling. Could you make a poster using any of these materials or 2 or more of them together? You can use the attached poster templates or a poster board.

Task: Create a poster for your school or home that shows The Life Cycle of a Frog or An Ephemeral Pond.

Frog Poster

- Teach someone about the life cycle of the frog
- Make sure that you use a circle to indicate a cycle
- Label your diagrams at each stage (subheadings)
- Make it big enough so that people can see it
- Use interesting materials to illustrate your poster
- Add any interesting facts you learned from the book

Make sure you add that your information came the book, *Tadpoles* by Matt James

Ephemeral Pond Poster

- Teach someone what an Ephemeral Pond is (add a definition to your poster) and what creatures call it their habitat
- Use animals like Fairy Shrimp, Spotted Salamander, Twelve-Spotted Dragonfly, Spotted Turtle
- research a few facts about each species to put on your poster
- Label your diagrams (subheadings)
- Make it big enough so that people can see it
- Use interesting materials to illustrate your poster
- Add any interesting facts you learned from the book

Make sure you add that your information came the book, *Tadpoles* by Matt James



Life Cycle of a Frog

An Ephemeral Pond