



by NANCY VIAU
illustrated by JORGE LACERA

educational
TEACHING GUIDE

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: the subway side

AUTHOR- NANCY VIAU

ILLUSTRATOR- JORGE LACERA

PUBLISHER- TWO LIONS

PRUETT and Soo

teaching guide

ABOUT THE BOOK

Pruett is from Planet Monochrome, where everything is black, white, or gray; everyone follows the rules and walks in straight lines; and they never, ever ask or answer questions. But then Soo arrives from Planet Prismatic. She's bursting with brilliant colors! She zigs and zags all over the place! When she asks Pruett questions, he finds he wants to reply...and his whole world starts to change. With a palette that shifts from grayscale to full color, this engaging story reminds us that what you feel defines who you are—and, sometimes, a friend can help you see that best.

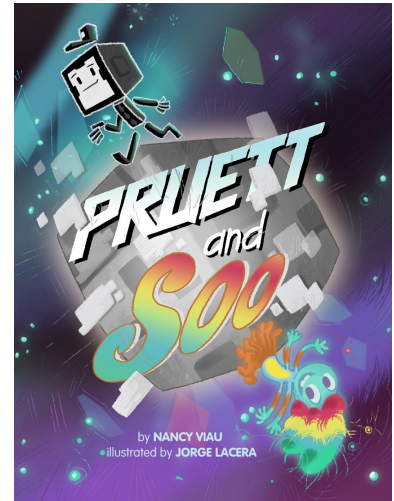
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

NANCY VIAU

Nancy Viau is the author of several books for children including *Storm Song*, illustrated by Gynux; *Today Is a Beach Day!*, illustrated by Charlie Alder; *First Snow*, illustrated by Talitha Shipman; and the *Samantha Hansen* series. A former teacher, she currently lives in New Jersey and travels around the solar system in her imagination.

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PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

Before reading *Pruett & Soo* consider the following activities to engage your readers.

1. Take a picture walk of the story, flipping each page and pointing out the illustrations. Encourage students to predict what will happen in the story.
2. Host a class-wide discussion about the title. Why did the author choose that title? What might we be reading about?
3. Create a mind map to record what students already know about following the rules.

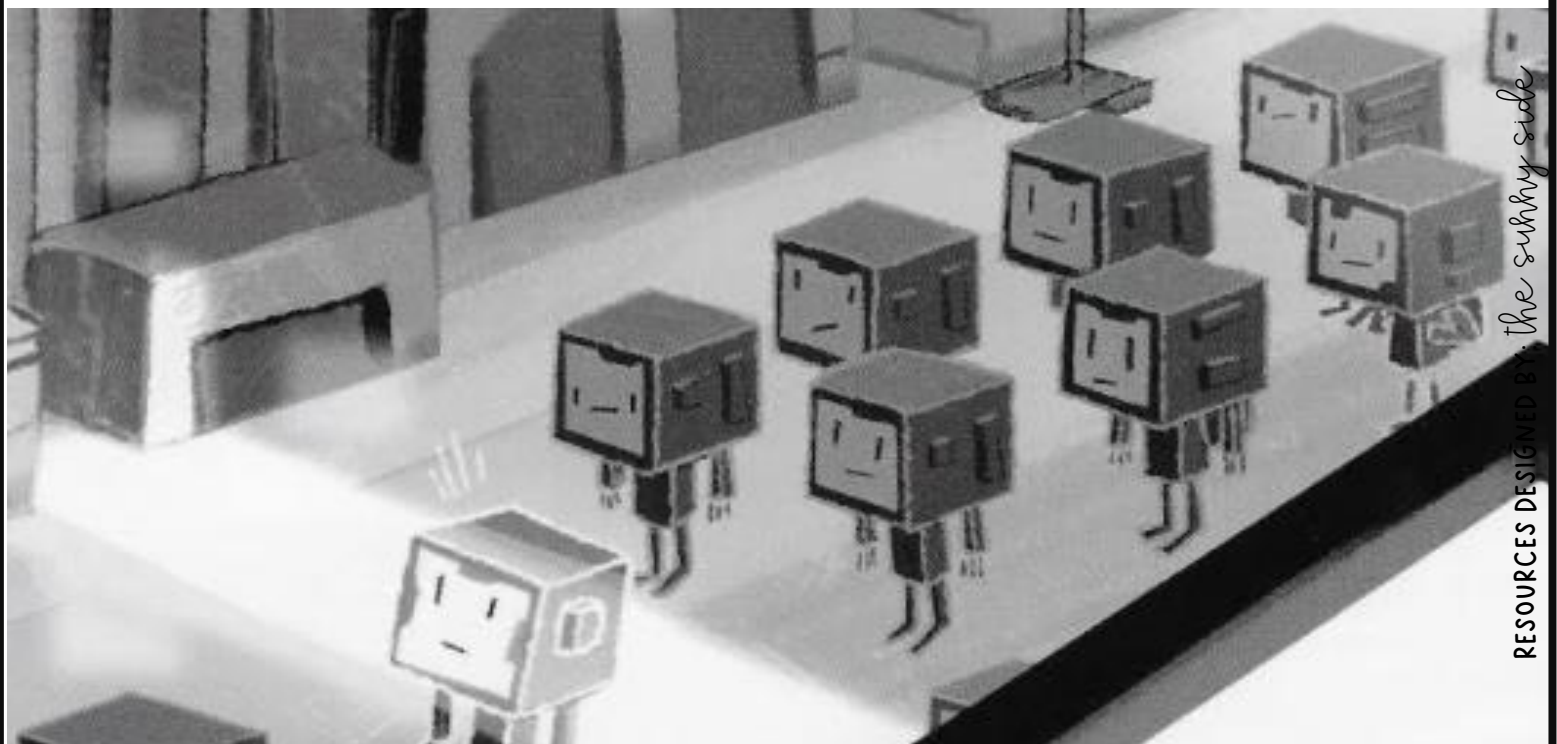


PUBLISHER- TWO LIONS

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EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Pruett and Soo is a unique picture book that explores themes of acceptance and friendship. The inquiry-driven activities in this guide apply to a variety of content areas and educational standards. They may be used for a range of learners and are aligned to the CCSS and NGSS.

SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

despite our differences

Target Grade Range: K – 5th Grade

Nancy Viau teaches us all about how very different we are all. Just look at *Pruett and Soo*! Take this a step further by inviting students to reflect on how different they are from a close friend or family member. This social-emotional activity allows learners to celebrate their differences and appreciate those of a friend.



SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

build a friend

Target Grade Range: K – 5th Grade

Pruett and Soo teaches readers an important lesson in friendship. Though we may be very different, we can still establish friendships with others! In this social-emotional activity, students will reflect on the qualities they believe make a good friend, K and 1st grade students can draw a picture in each shape rather than write. This exercise promotes speaking and listening skills, while embracing an important message that can apply to classrooms everywhere!

ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS

heart of the story

Target Grade Range: 2nd – 5th Grade

Students will explore the important message of the story with this activity. They'll use evidence from the text to support their thinking about what they believe the message or lesson is – the heart of the story. Then, they can add a picture inside the heart. Younger students may simply draw a picture to show their thinking rather than writing in words or complete sentences.

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EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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SCIENCE

planet research flipbook

Target Grade Range: 1st – 5th Grade

Science activities are engaging ways to provide students with authentic experiences that challenge them. In this experience, students will have the opportunity to learn a little more about the planets that make up our galaxy. Encourage students to research with technology or non-fiction texts to complete this interactive planet flip-book. Complete with an answer key, this science activity allows students the chance to learn more about a planet of their choice.

WRITING

pruett + soo's journal

Target Grade Range: 2nd – 5th Grade

There's no better way to understand a character than by looking at life through their eyes. In this writing exercise, students will take on the perspective of Pruettt or Soo by writing a journal entry. First, brainstorm Pruettt and Soo's actions, feelings, and thoughts to help students picture what life might be like as that character. Then, allow students an opportunity to creatively explore their character's point of view.

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STEAM

design a new planet

Target Grade Range: K – 5th Grade

Encourage students to flex their creative muscle with this super fun STEAM experience. Students will have the opportunity to design and create a brand-new planet. They may add their artistic spin on things by using crayons or colored pencils to make their design complete. There are optional writing papers, differentiated for students in a range of grade levels. Students can then write about their creative, new planet. This activity will surely have your students excited!



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EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Pruett and Soo is a unique picture book that explores themes of acceptance and friendship. The inquiry-driven activities in this guide apply to a variety of content areas and educational standards. They may be used for a range of learners and are aligned to the CCSS and NGSS.



SOCIAL STUDIES

bill of rights

Target Grade Range: 3rd – 5th Grade

Pruett and Soo gives us a glimpse of what life is like on Planet Monochrome and how the rules change to better serve the characters who live there. The rules of our country are outlined in our Constitution, including the first 10 amendments – what we call The Bill of Rights. Allow students an opportunity to think about a brand-new planet. What sort of rules or amendments would be required on that new planet? Why? Students can use the graphic organizer to list their planet's bill of rights. There is optional and differentiated writing paper that allows students to take it a step further and write about their new planet and the rules throughout.

ART

rocket ship project

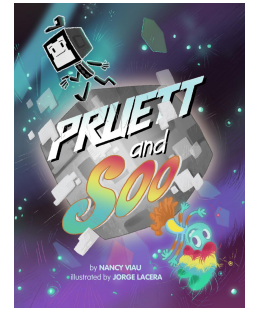
Target Grade Range: K – 5th Grade

What better way to celebrate this amazing new story than with an art project? Have students create a rocket ship and write about what makes *Pruett and Soo* "out-of-this-world" characters!

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SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL ACTIVITY

BUILD A FRIEND



Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.1
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1

You will need:

- White or colored copy paper
- Pencils
- Art Supplies (crayons or colored pencils)
- White board / oversized poster paper



Step by step to do list:

1. Copy the build a friend graphic organizer on copy paper.
2. Brainstorm a list of qualities that make a good friend (e.g., helpful, giving, a person that shows empathy, kind-hearted, etc.).
3. Have students complete the graphic organizer independently.
4. Then, they should gather in small groups (2 – 4 students per group) and share their qualities with the group.
5. Together, each group should create a large poster-board listing the qualities they agree on as a small group and decorate it.
6. Finally, each group will share with the class what they created.

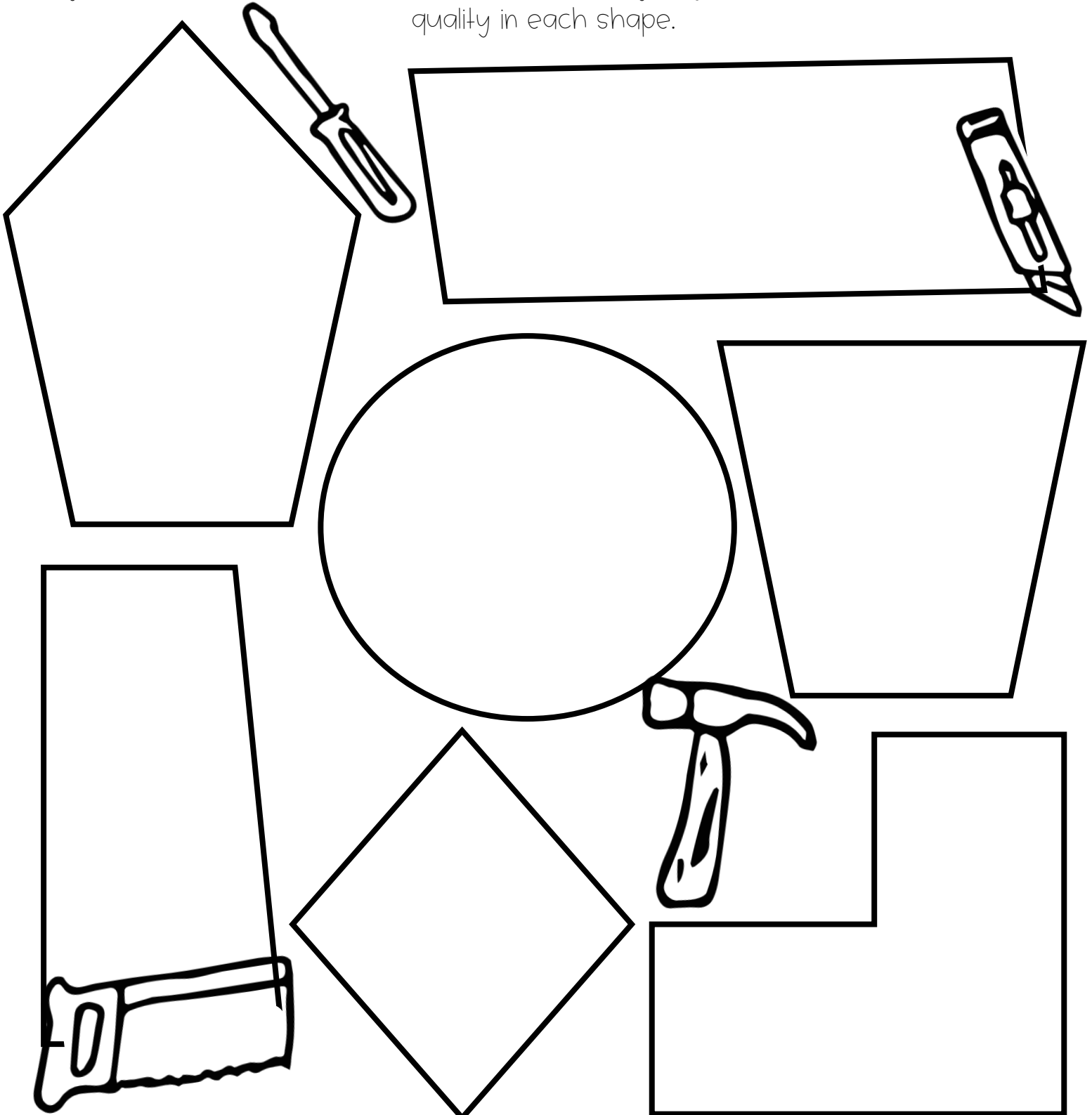
RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: the subby side

Name: _____

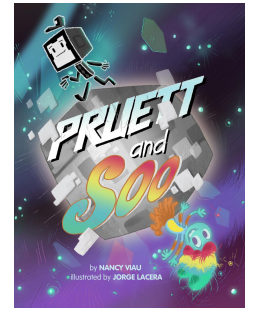
RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the sunny side*

BUILD A FRIEND

If you could build a friend, what qualities would you give them? Write a different quality in each shape.



SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL ACTIVITY



DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES

Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1

You will need:

- White or colored copy paper
- Pencils
- Art Supplies (crayons or colored pencils)

Name: _____ RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *The Subby Side*

DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES

Think about how you and a friend are similar and different. Write and draw in the boxes below.

How we are alike...	How we are different...
My favorite thing about _____ is...	

Step by step to do list:

1. Copy the graphic organizers on white or colored paper.
2. Explain that in the story, Pruettt and Soo were very different but in some ways were a lot alike.
3. Brainstorm and discuss their similarities and differences as a class.
4. Next, encourage students to think about a friend to celebrate (this can be a friend in their class, school, or community).
5. Have students complete each box on the graphic organizer showing how they're different than their friend.
6. If they have time, students can add color to their drawings.
7. Finally, allow students an opportunity to share with a partner, a small group, or the whole class.


RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *The Subby Side*

Name: _____


RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the sunny side*

DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES

Think about how you and a friend are similar and different. Write and draw in the boxes below.



This is ME:



This is:

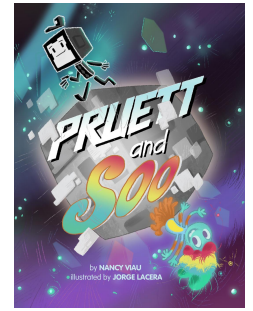
How we are alike...

How we are different...

My favorite thing about _____ is...

ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS ACTIVITY

HEART OF THE STORY



Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.2

You will need:

- White copy paper
- Pencils
- Art Supplies (crayons or colored pencils)

Name: _____

WHAT'S THE HEART OF THE STORY?

In the story, the reader learns an important lesson. Write about what the heart of the story is and write down a strong evidence from the story. Then, draw a picture in the heart.

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY *The Subby Side*

Step by step to do list:

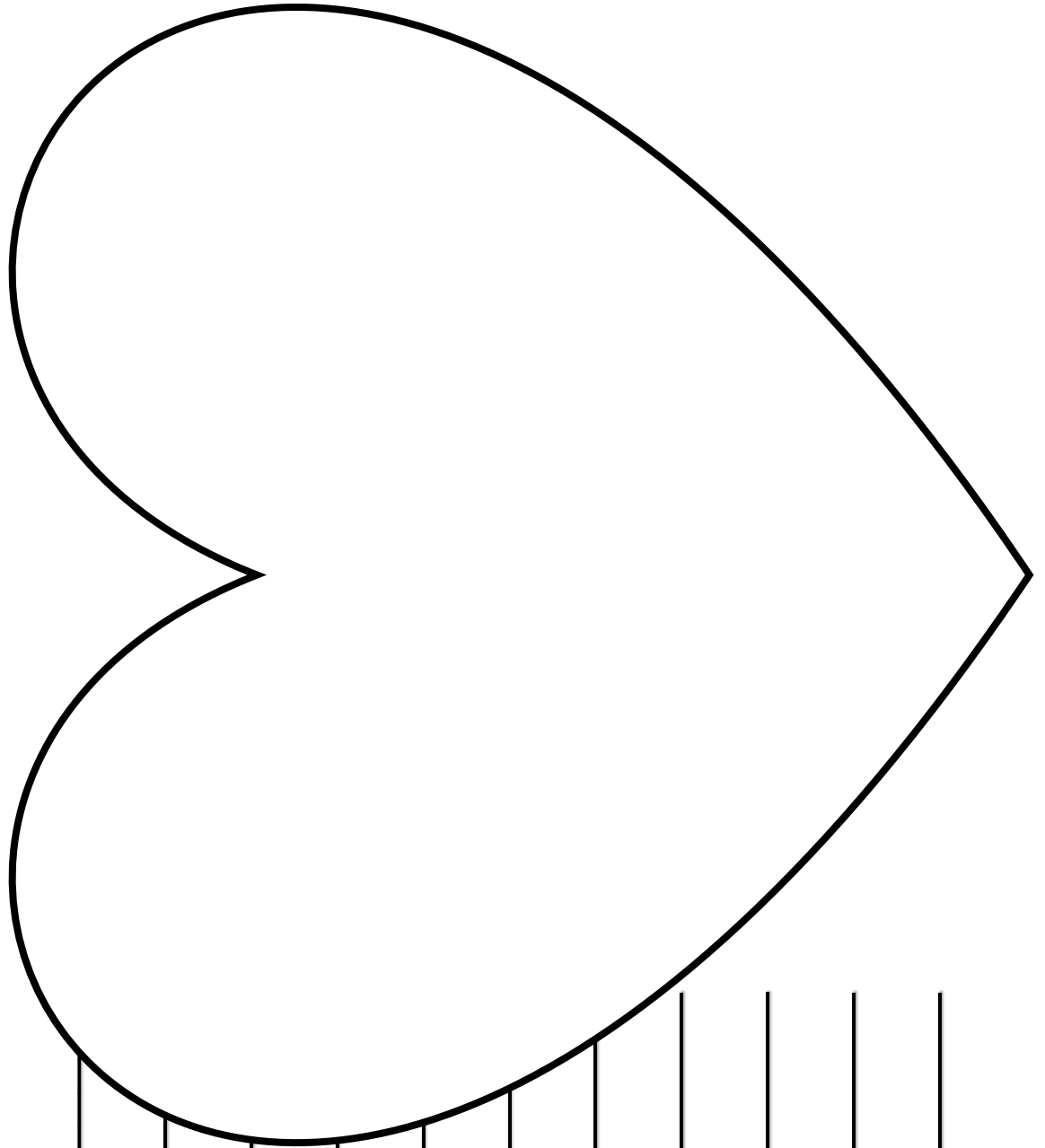
1. Decide which differentiated worksheets work best for your students.
2. As a class discuss how finding the heart of a story is determining what the author hopes to teach you after having read. We can also think of the lesson.
3. Brainstorm the heart of the story using evidence from the text to support their thinking (e.g., if the heart of the story is all about friendship, then the evidence from the story should show how the author hopes to teach you a lesson in the importance of friendship).
4. Write the author's lesson on the lines and draw a picture to show the lesson in the heart.
5. Allow students an opportunity to share with other students in class.
6. For younger students (2nd you may want to complete this activity as a whole group).

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Name: _____

WHAT'S THE HEART OF THE STORY?

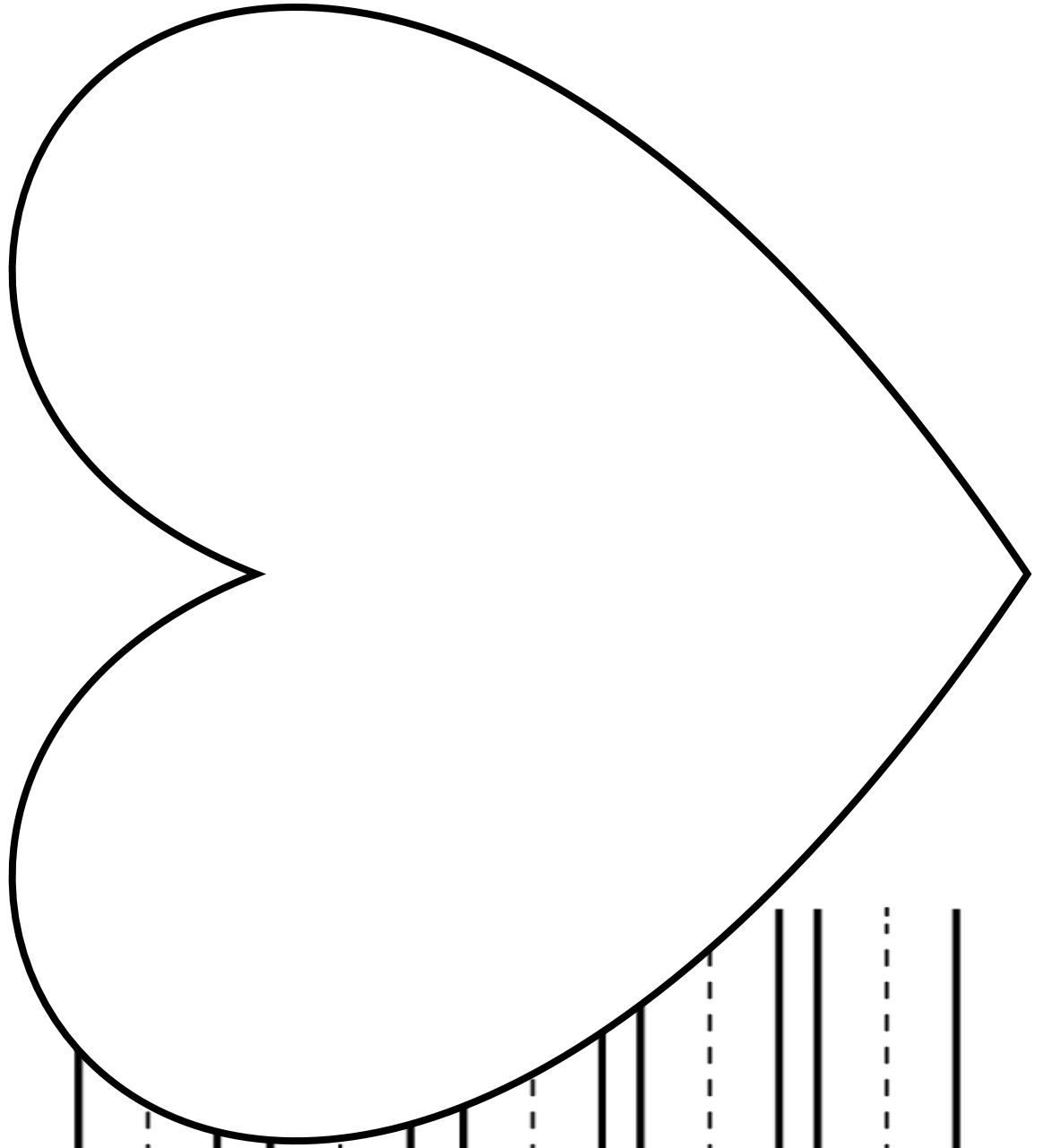
In the story, the reader learns an important lesson. Think about what the heart of the story is and write about it using evidence from the story. Then, draw a picture in the heart.



Name: _____

WHAT'S THE HEART OF THE STORY?

In the story, the reader learns an important lesson. Think about what the heart of the story is and write about it using evidence from the story. Then, draw a picture in the heart.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of two sets of three horizontal lines each. Each set includes a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. The first set is on the left, and the second set is on the right.

SCIENCE ACTIVITY

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK



Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.7
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.7
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.7
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.7
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.7

You will need:

- White copy paper
- Pencils
- Art Supplies (crayons or colored pencils)
- Stapler
- Glue stick



Step by step to do list:

1. Decide which differentiated flipbook pages work best for your students.
2. Copy the flipbook pieces on white or colored copy paper (copying the pages as a stapled packet works best).
3. Have students cut around the solid black lines of each flipbook page.
4. Discuss the planets in our solar system,
5. Explain that students will choose a planet to research and write about.
6. Students will write and respond to the above prompts on each flipbook page.
7. Have students stack the flipbook pages in order with the Planet Research title page on top.
8. Staple (or if your students are old enough have them staple) the pages together at the top.
9. Students should choose a planet template to decorate.
10. Then, glue the planet template to the top of the flipbook.
11. After flipping through each step, you will read the name of the planet, the location, and its appearance.

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ANSWER KEY

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

The name of the planet I'm researching is Saturn.

Name of planet

Saturn is located sixth from the sun and is the second largest planet in our solar system.

Location

Saturn is hazy, yellow brown in color. It is circled by hundreds of rings made of ice and gas.

Appearance

Name: _____

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

Directions:

1. Gather the flipbook pieces.
2. Cut around the solid, black line.
3. Research and write about a planet – name, location, and appearance.
4. Stack the flipbook pages in order with the Planet Research title page on top.
5. Have your teacher staple the pages together at the top.
6. Choose a planet template to decorate.
7. Then, glue your planet to the top of your flipbook.

GLUE PLANET HERE

NAME: _____

PLANET RESEARCH

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the subway side*

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

Blank writing area with a dashed midline for handwriting practice.

Name of planet

Blank writing area with a dashed midline for handwriting practice.

Name of planet

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PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

Name of planet

Name of planet

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PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

Location

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PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

Appearance

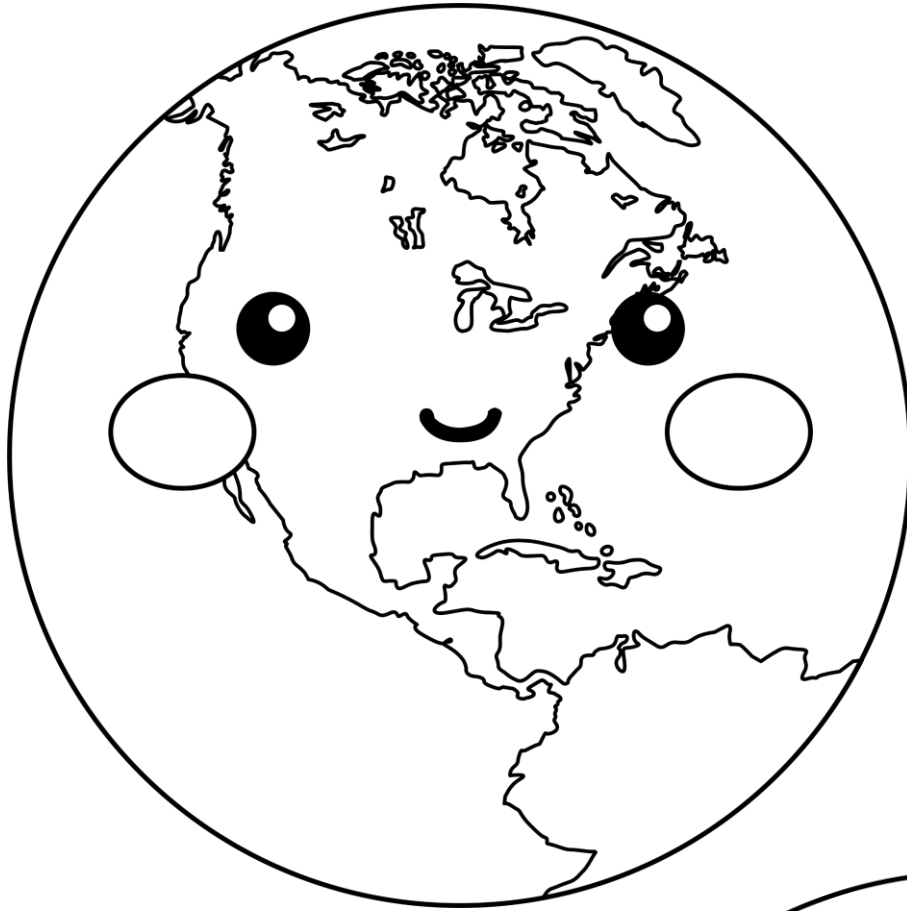
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PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

Appearance

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the subway side*

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

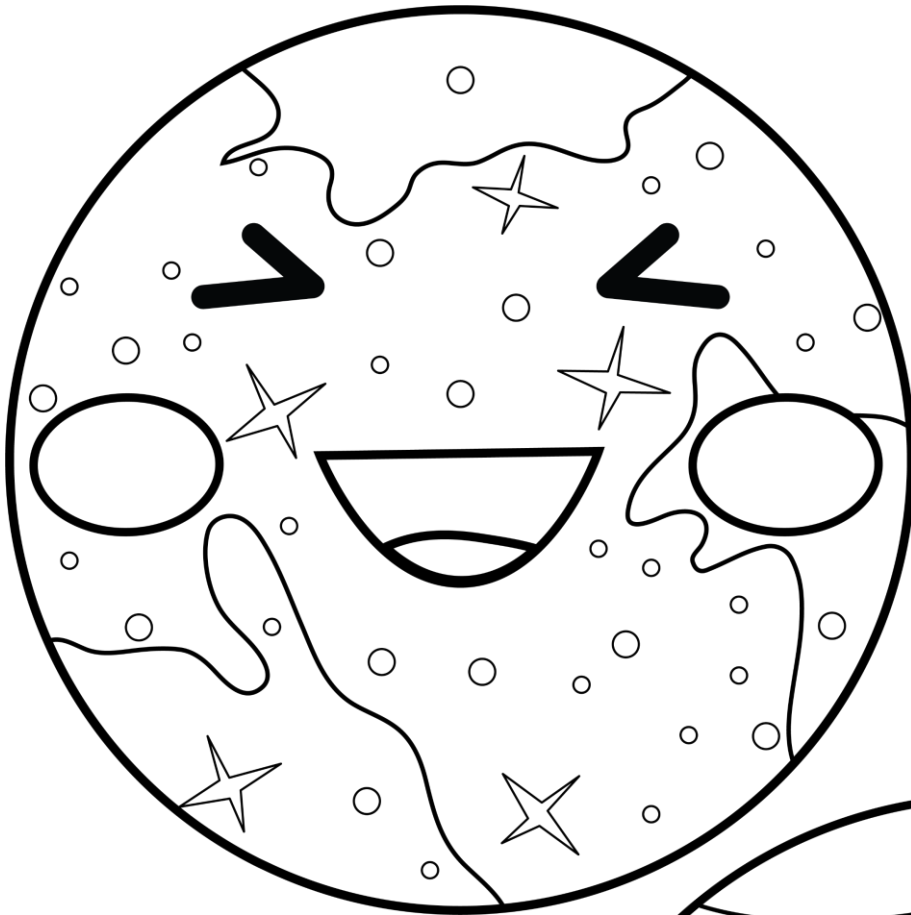


Copy a variety of planet templates on white construction paper or copy paper. Students will decorate the planet and glue it to the top of their flipbook.



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PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK



Copy a variety of planet templates on white construction paper or copy paper. Students will decorate the planet and glue it to the top of their flipbook.

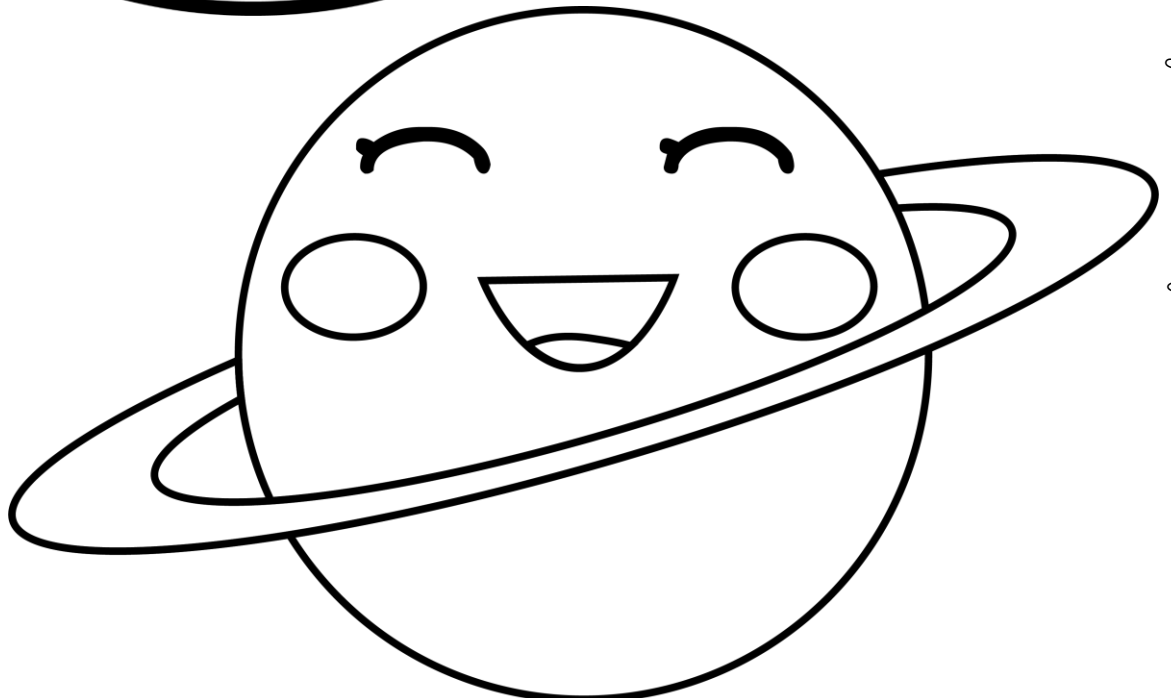


RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the subway side*

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

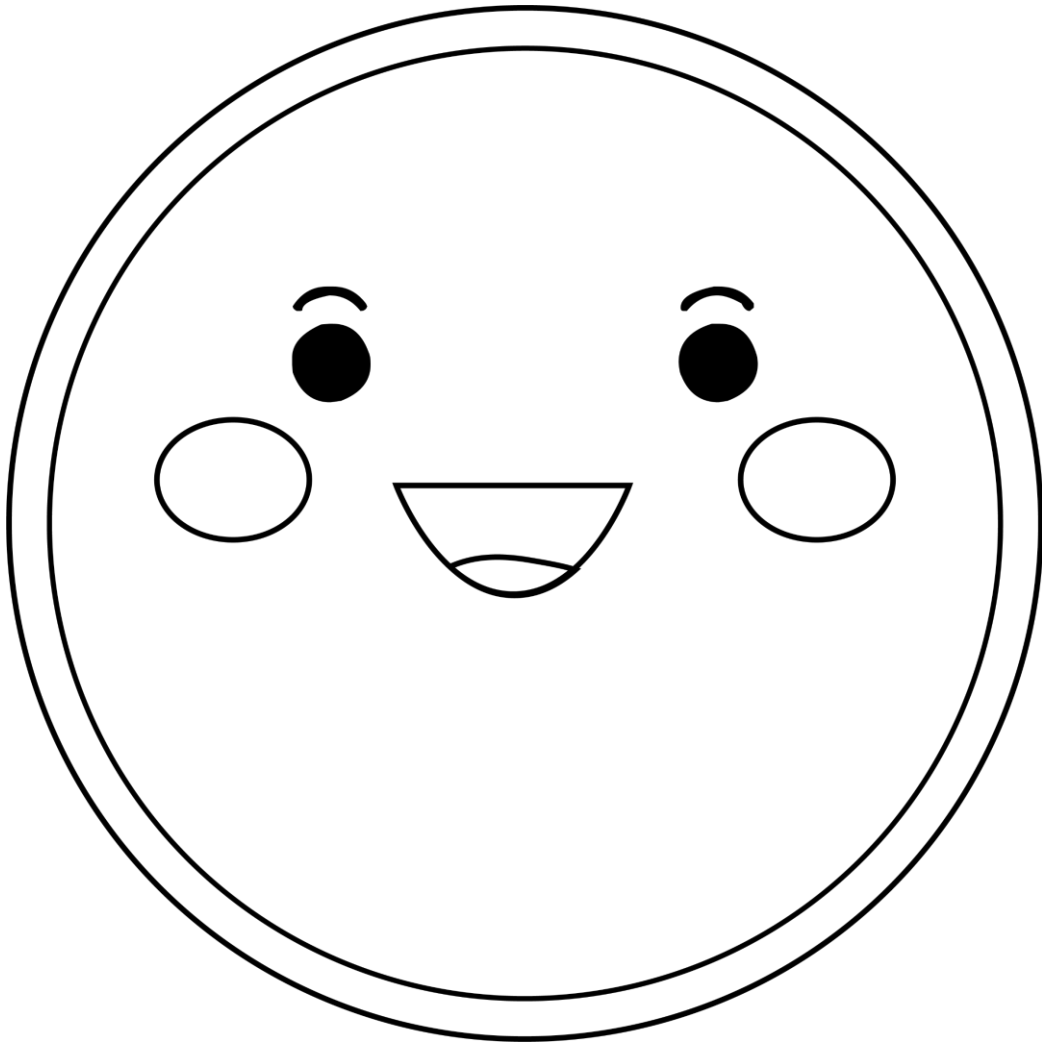


Copy a variety of planet templates on white construction paper or copy paper. Students will decorate the planet and glue it to the top of their flipbook.



RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the subway side*

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK

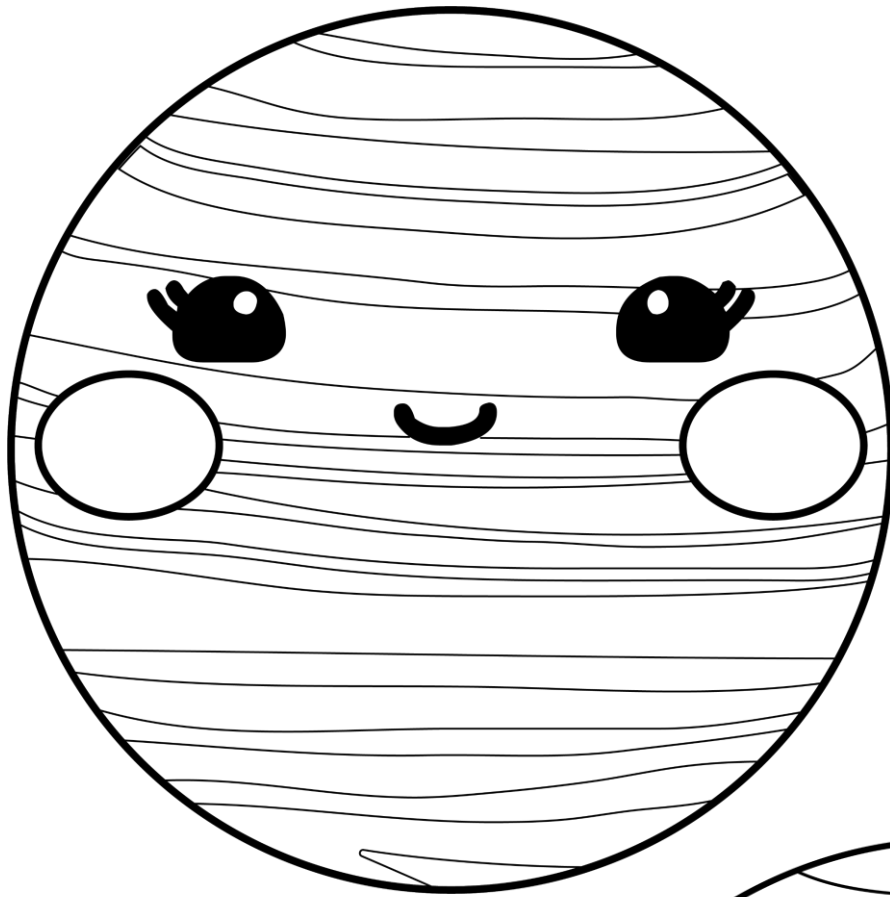


Copy a variety of planet templates on white construction paper or copy paper. Students will decorate the planet and glue it to the top of their flipbook.

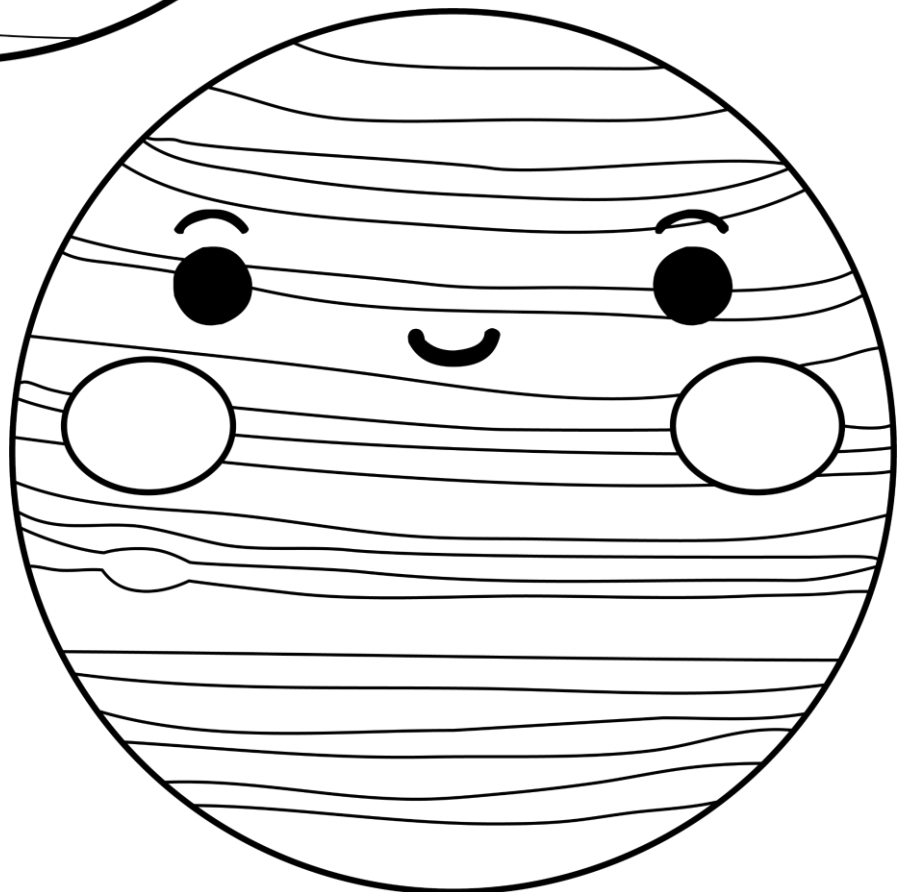


RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the subway side*

PLANET RESEARCH FLIPBOOK



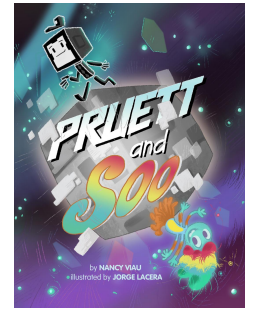
Copy a variety of planet templates on white construction paper or copy paper. Students will decorate the planet and glue it to the top of their flipbook.



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STEAM ACTIVITY

DESIGN A NEW PLANET



Standards:

- NGSS: 3-5-ETS1-1.
- NGSS: 3-5-ETS1-2.
- NGSS: 3-5-ETS1-3.
- NGSS: MS-ETS1-1.
- NGSS: MS-ETS1-2.
- NGSS: MS-ETS1-3.
- NGSS: MS-ETS1-4.

You will need:

- White copy paper
- Pencils
- Art Supplies (crayons or colored pencils)

Name: _____

DESIGN A NEW PLANET

Name of planet _____

AUTHOR: NANCY VIAU ILLUSTRATOR: JORGE LACERA PUBLISHER: TWO LIONS

3: _____

ALL ABOUT MY NEW PLANET

AUTHOR: NANCY VIAU ILLUSTRATOR: JORGE LACERA PUBLISHER: TWO LIONS



Step by step to do list:

1. Decide which differentiated STEAM pages work best for your students and copy them on white copy paper.
2. Explain that students will have the opportunity to design and create their very own planet!
3. Students will draw and name the new planet on the first page.
4. Next, students will describe their new planet in writing using the differentiated writing paper.
5. Encourage students to use topics from the book in their writing (what the COLORS the planet is, what rules the planet might have, etc).
6. End the lesson by reflecting on the STEAM experiment and allow students an opportunity to share with each other.

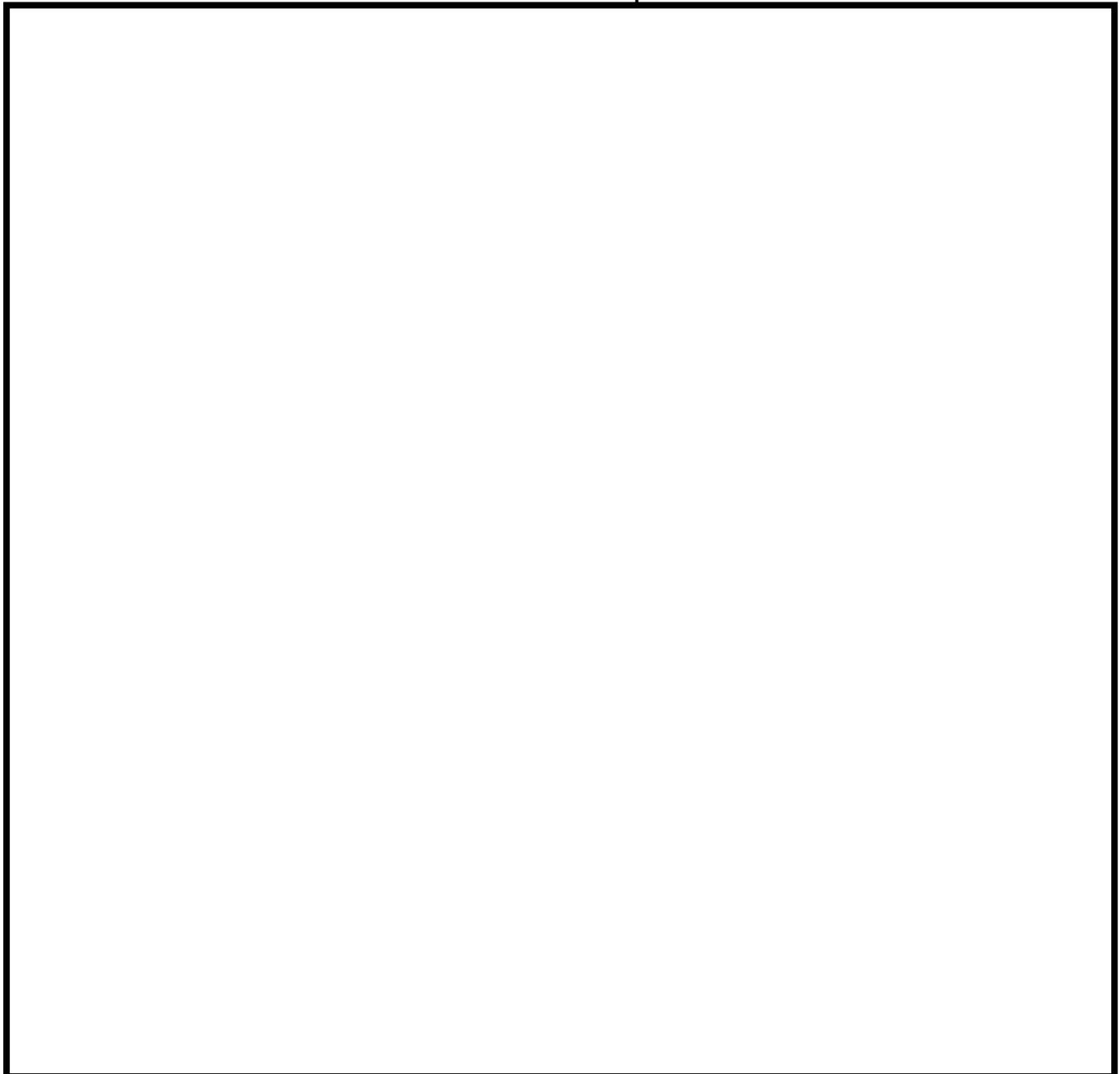
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Name: _____

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the sunny side*

DESIGN A NEW PLANET

Name of planet



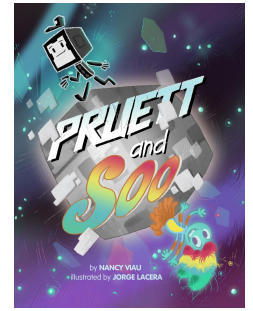
Name: _____

ALL ABOUT MY NEW PLANET

Handwriting practice area consisting of 10 sets of horizontal lines. Each set includes a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.

WRITING ACTIVITY

PRUETT & SOO'S JOURNAL



Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.8
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.8
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.8

You will need:

- White copy paper
- Pencils

Step by step to do list:

1. Decide which differentiated graphic organizers and writing paper works best for your students and copy on white paper.
2. Discuss with students the thoughts, feelings, and actions of both main characters Pruett and Soo.
3. Use the white board to keep track of discussion notes for students to reference later.
4. Distribute the differentiated writing paper to students.
5. Encourage students to choose one of the main characters to write from the perspective of.
6. Students should write a journal entry from either Pruett or Soo's perspective, using the thoughts, feelings, and actions notes from the board.
7. You can also conduct a shared journal activity, where you model how to write a journal entry from the perspective of Pruett or Soo with students and copy your notes and writing.
8. Finally, have students share their journal entries with a friend or the class.



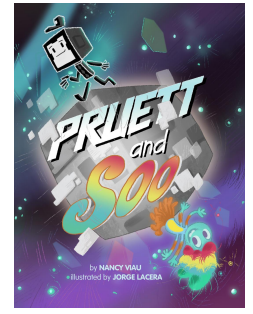
Name: _____

DEAR JOURNAL...

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SOCIAL STUDIES ACTIVITY

BILL OF RIGHTS



Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.1

You will need:

- White copy paper
- Pencils
- Art Supplies (crayons or colored pencils)

Step by step to do list:

1. Decide which differentiated graphic organizer and writing paper works best for your students and copy on white paper.
2. First, define what a Bill of Rights is (a list of the first 10 amendments that outline the rights of the people living in the United States).
3. Relate The Bill of Rights to rules and bring the discussion back to the rules Pruettt and Soo had to follow.
4. Distribute the graphic organizers and writing paper to students.
5. Encourage students to consider creating a new planet.
6. Students should write a list of 10 amendments or rules that those living on this new planet must follow.
7. Then, using the writing paper, they can write about the amendments and describe life on their new planet.
8. Finally, allow students an opportunity to share with a friend or the class.

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: *the subway side*

Name: _____

BILL OF RIGHTS

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

9 _____

10 _____

CHANGE THE RULES. CHANGE THE WORLD!

Name: _____

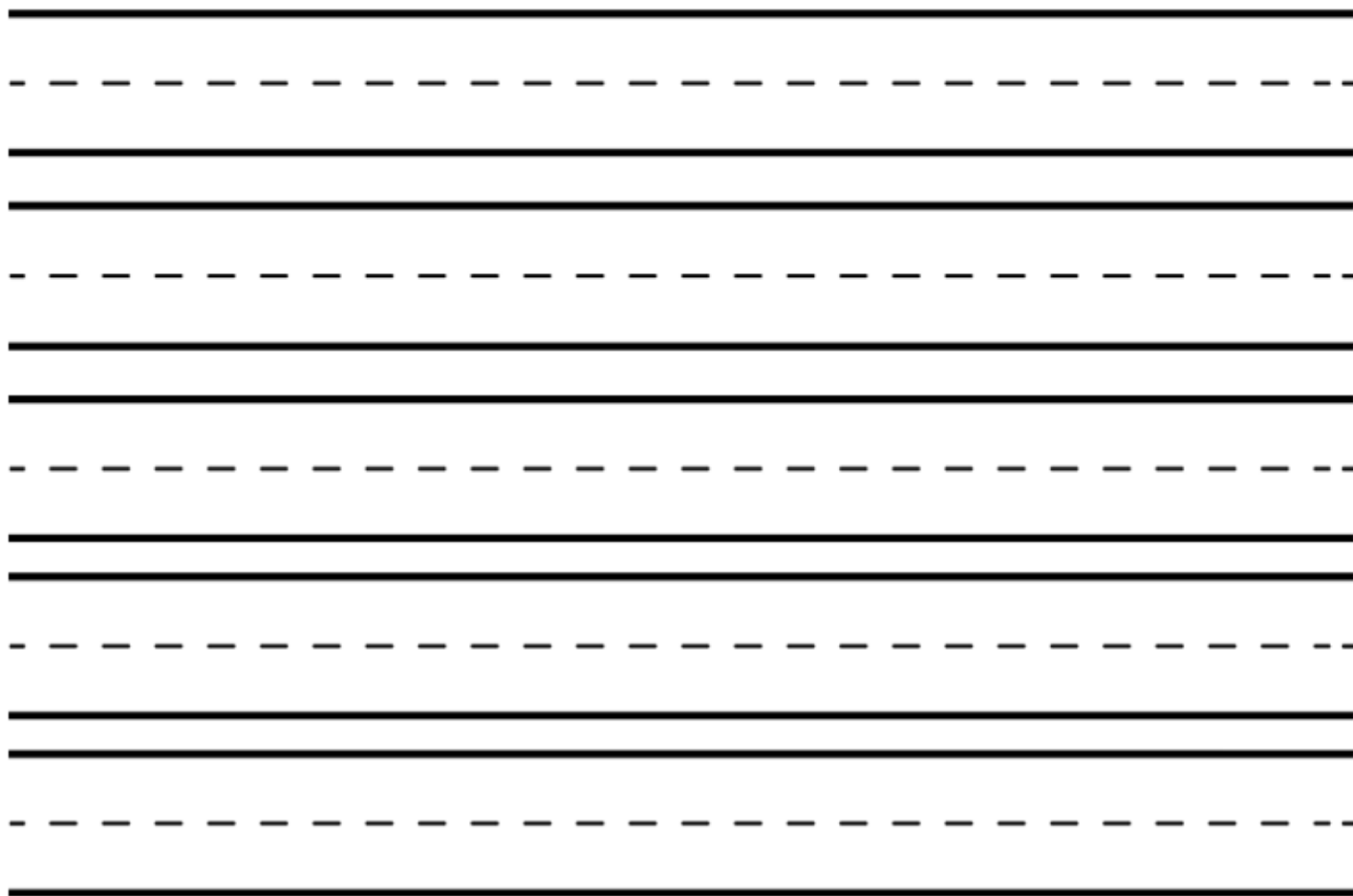
ALL ABOUT MY PLANET'S BILL OF RIGHTS



CHANGE THE RULES. CHANGE THE WORLD!

Name: _____

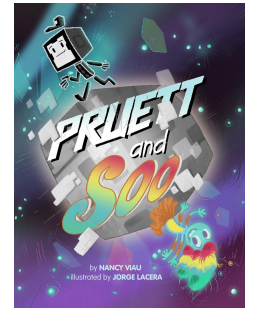
ALL ABOUT MY PLANET'S BILL OF RIGHTS



CHANGE THE RULES. CHANGE THE WORLD!

ART ACTIVITY

ROCKET SHIP ART



Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.5

You will need:

- White copy paper
- Pencils
- Art Supplies (crayons or colored pencils)
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Colored construction paper (assorted bright colors and yellow)

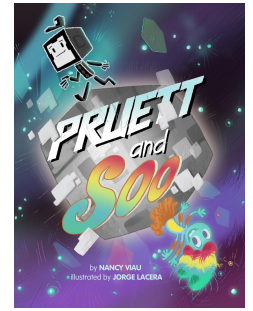


Step by step to do list:

1. Copy the rocket templates on coordinating construction paper or on white copy paper for students to color.
2. Show students the picture samples.
3. Have students cut out the templates and glue the pieces together to create a rocket.
4. Assemble and glue the templates according to the pictures.
5. Then, have students reflect on the main characters Pruet and Soo.
6. Ask: "What makes these characters one-of-a kind or OUT OF THIS WORLD?"
7. Brainstorm a list of reasons why Pruet and Soo are out of the world.
8. Students will choose a reason for each character and respond on the lined half sheets.
9. Students should glue the rocket at the top of a piece of cardstock or scrapbook paper and glue the written prompt to the bottom.

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: the subway side

ROCKET SHIP ART

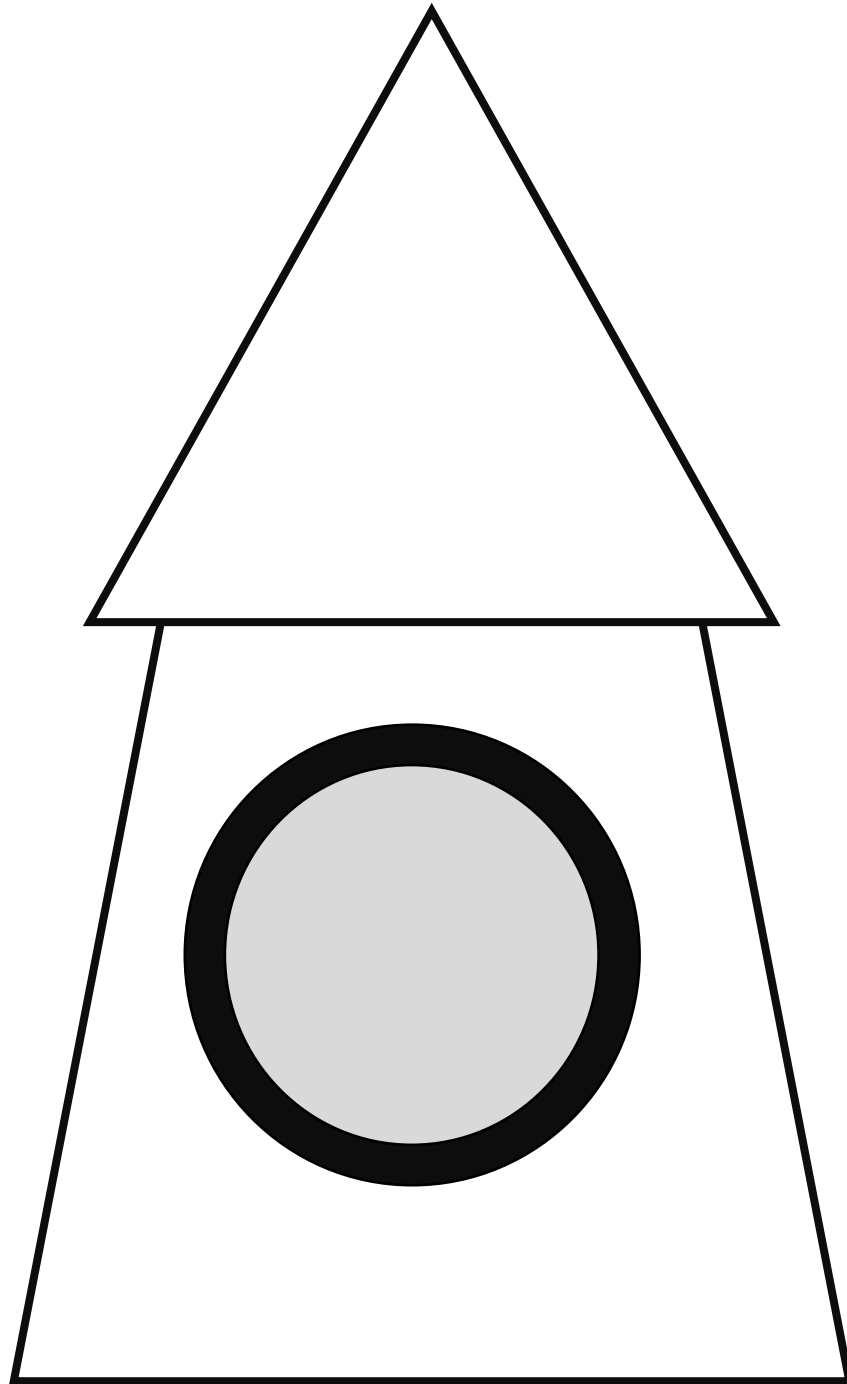


Copy rocket templates on colored construction paper or white paper for students to color.

RESOURCES DESIGNED BY: the subway side

ROCKET TEMPLATES

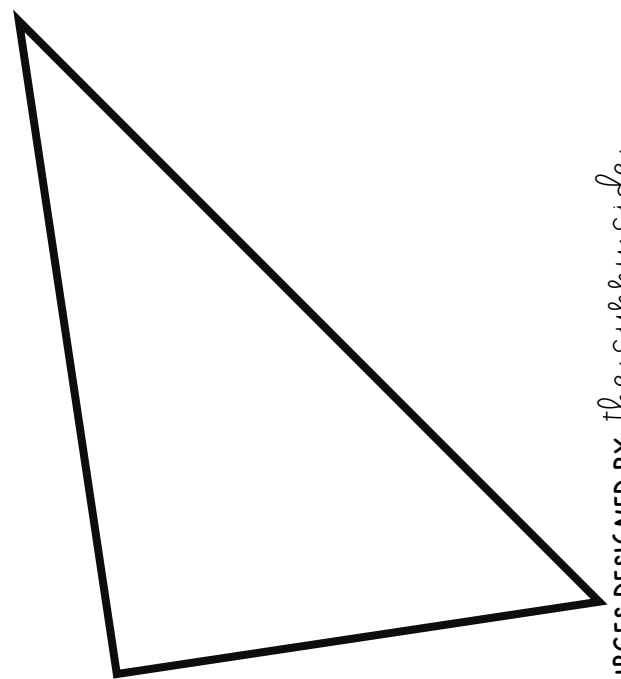
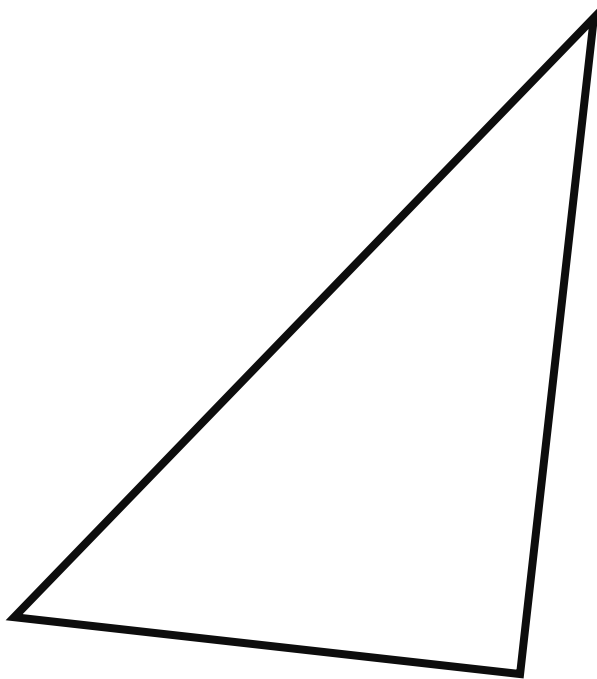
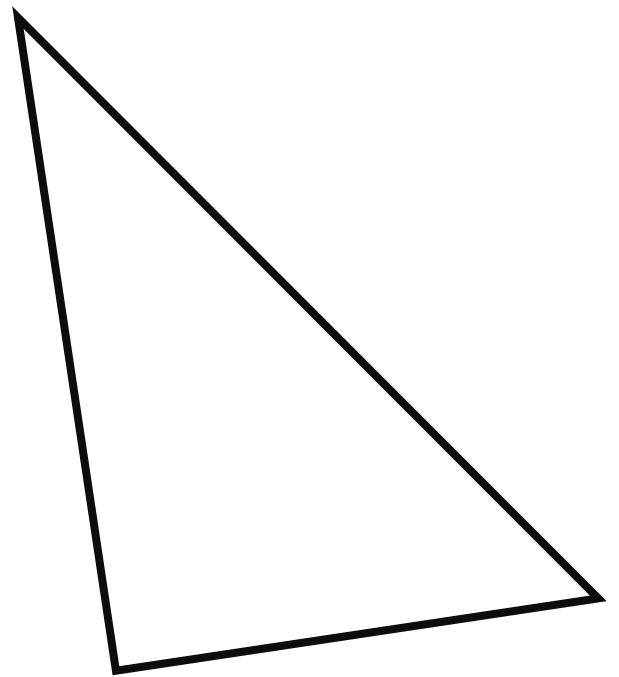
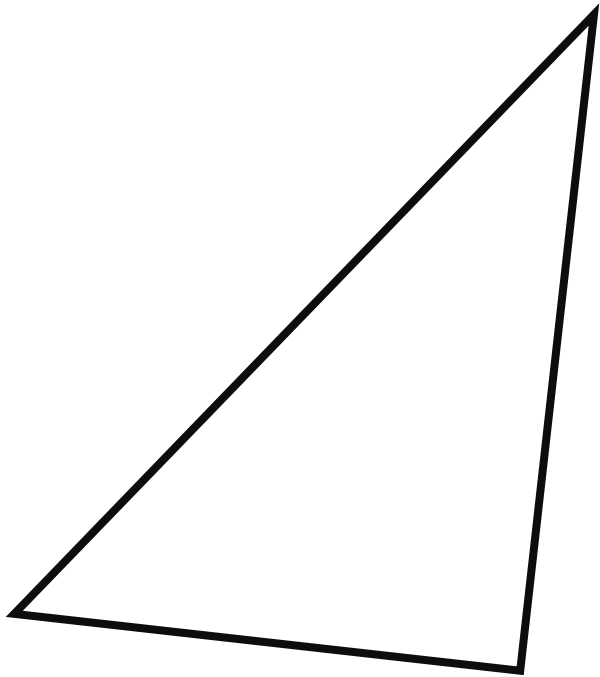
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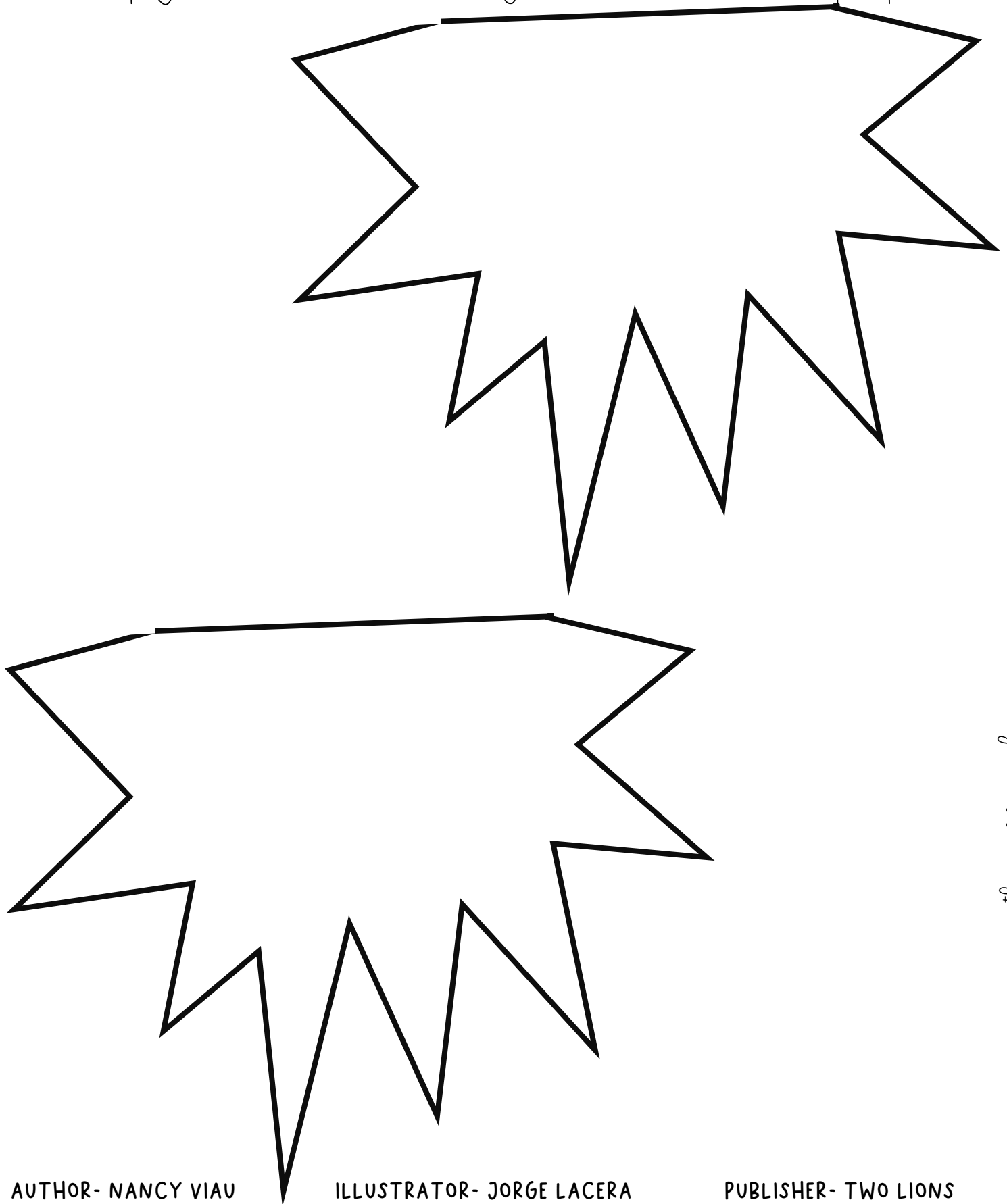
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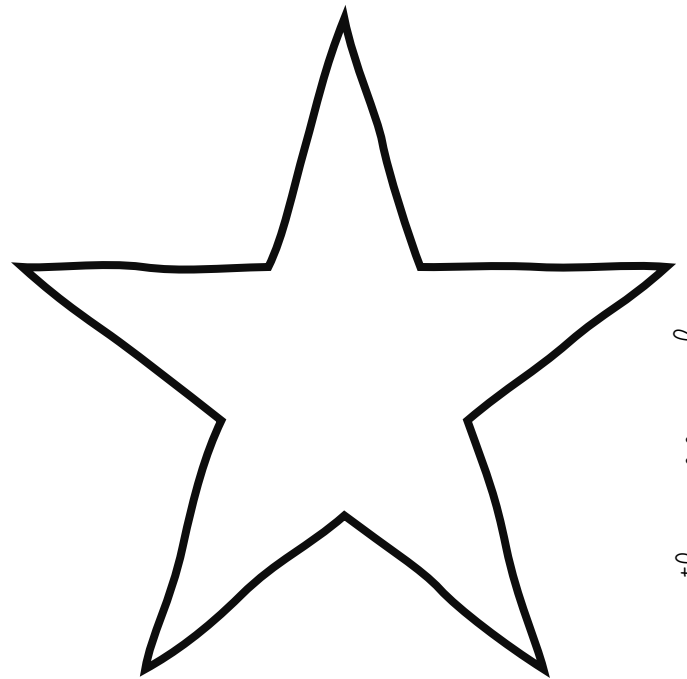
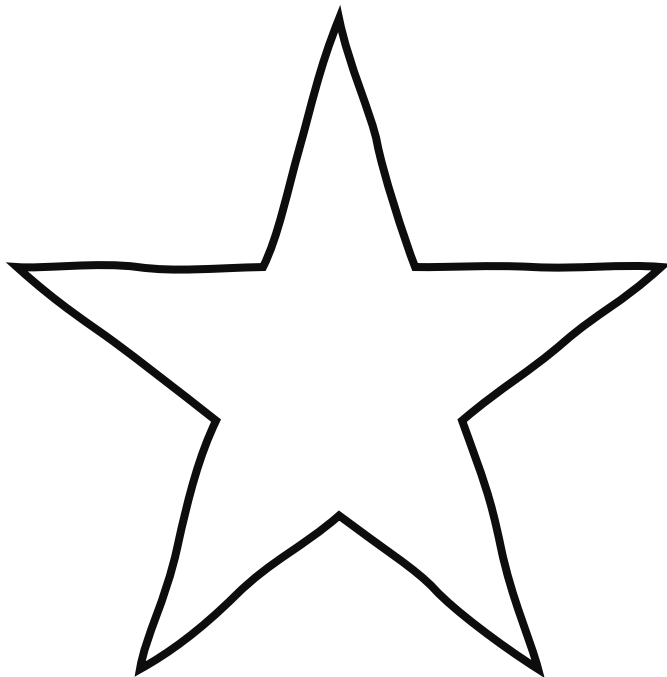
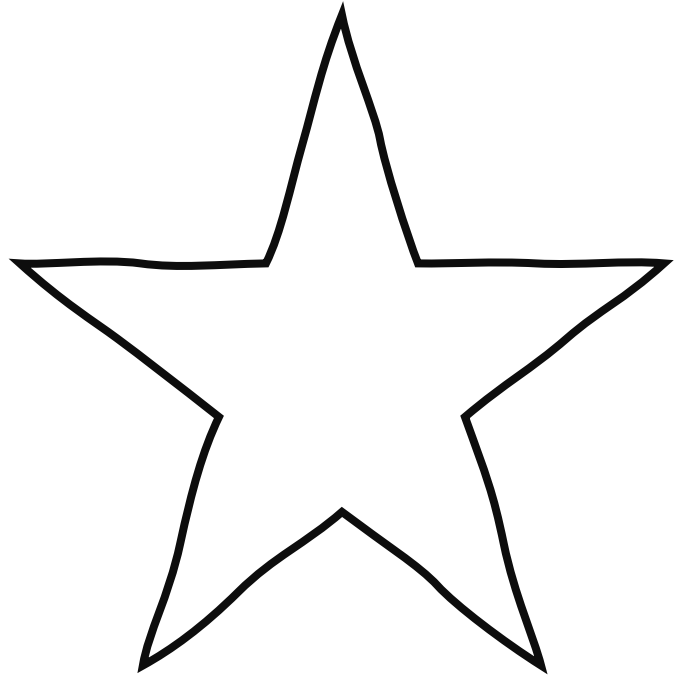
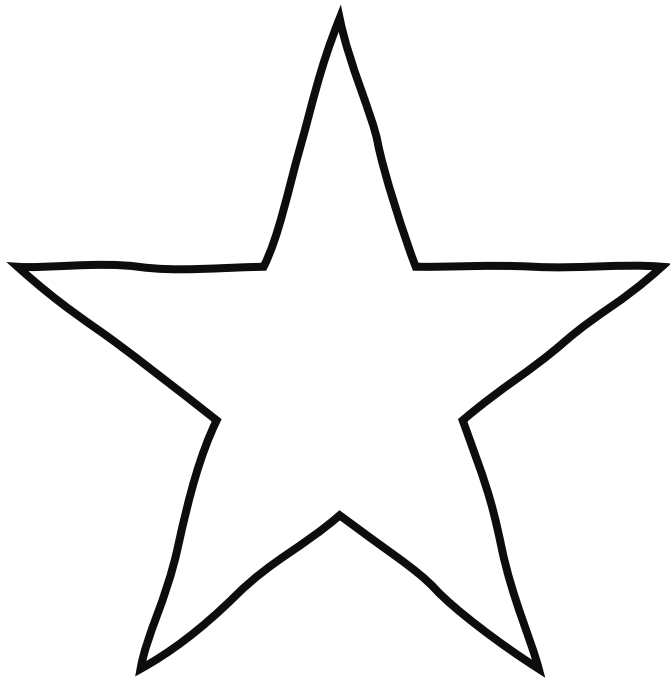
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STAR TEMPLATES

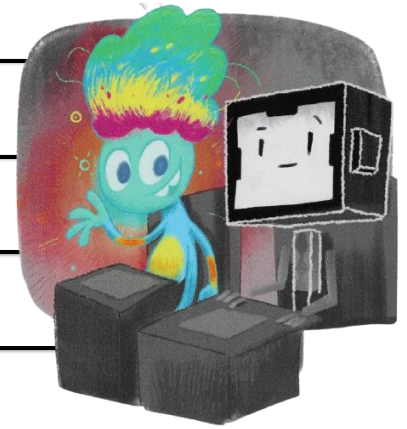
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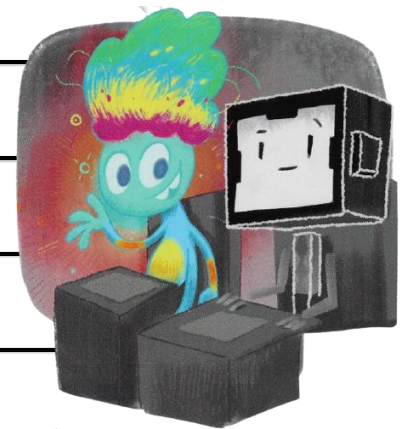
Name: _____

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PRUETT & SOO ARE OUT OF THIS WORLD!



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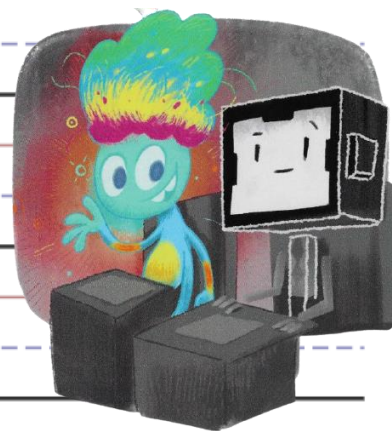
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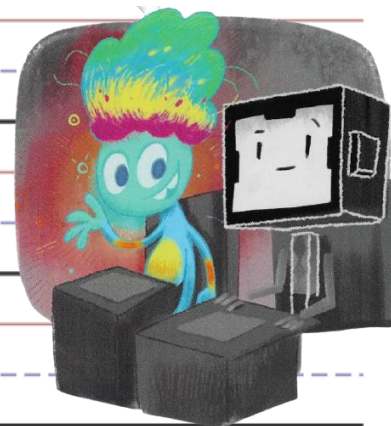
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OUT OF THIS WORLD!



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OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Name: _____

PRUETT & SOO ARE
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CREDITS PAGE

The author – Nancy Viau

NANCY VIAU is the author of the following picture books: Pruet and Soo, Today Is a Beach Day!, First Snow, City Street Beat, Storm Song, Look What I Can Do! and Splish, Splash! First to Last (Forthcoming 2023). She is also the author of several middle-grade novels, including Samantha Hansen Has Rocks In Her Head, Something Is Bugging Samantha Hansen, Just One Thing! and Beauty and Bernice. A former teacher and librarian, and forever a kid-at-heart, Nancy loves to visit schools, libraries, and bookstores across the U.S. to present assembly programs and writing workshops. Connect with her on Twitter or Instagram: @NancyViau1 or via her site: www.NancyViau.com.



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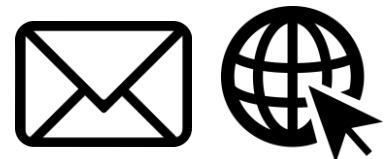
The illustrator – Jorge Lacera

Jorge Lacera was born in Colombia and grew up in Florida. He attended Ringling College of Art and Design and has worked as an artist or art director at major gaming studios and entertainment companies. He is the illustrator of *Zombies Don't Eat Veggies* by Megan Lacera and *XO, Exoplanet* by Deborah Underwood. He lives in Canada with his family. Learn more at www.studiolacera.com







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