



Telling Tales

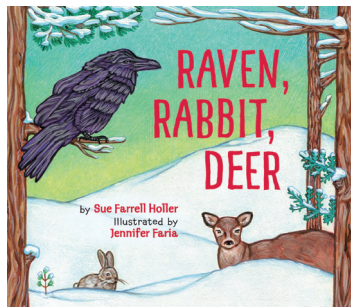
EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

tellingtales.org



[TellingTalesOrg](https://www.TellingTalesOrg)

Our thanks to the following partners who made this program possible.



RAVEN, RABBIT, DEER

BY JENNIFER FARIA

Ages: 4-8 | 2020, Pajama Press | **ISBN:** 978-1772781366

Jennifer Faria is an illustrator, painter and graphic designer who studied at Central Technical School and George Brown College in Toronto. *Raven, Rabbit, Deer* has been a walk of discovery for Jennifer as she learns more about her cultural heritage as a member of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

Jennifer tells a story about a boy and his grandfather who explore the world around them as they go on a walk. They learn some new things from one another about animals and families.

Q. Which was your favourite animal that the grandfather and grandson met on the walk? Why was it your favourite?

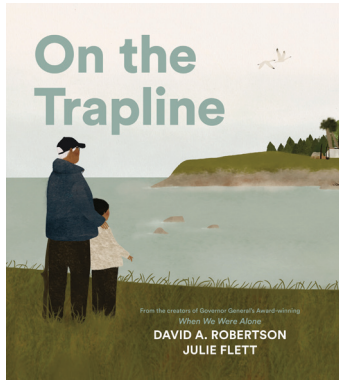
Activity: Imagine that you meet an animal while you are walking in the woods. Is it one of your favourite animals? Is it an animal that makes you a little bit afraid? Is it even an animal from our world, or is it a mythical creature?

Describe what happens when you meet this animal. You can write a short poem or draw a picture to show the meeting.

Reflection: When you hear the word family, what words or images come to mind? Why do these words or images make you think of family?

BONUS ACTIVITY:

Make a step-by-step guide, like Jennifer did, to teach someone how to draw your favourite animal. Don't tell them what it is until they have followed all the instructions!



ON THE TRAPLINE

BY DAVID A. ROBERTSON

Ages: 4-6 | 2021, Tundra Books | **ISBN:** 9780735266681

David A. Robertson is the award-winning author of books for young readers, including *When We Were Alone*, winner of the 2017 Governor General's Literary Award, and *Strangers*, winner of the 2018 Michael Van Rooy Award for Genre Fiction (Manitoba Book Awards). In 2020, he published *The Barren Grounds* and a memoir, *Black Water*. A sought-after speaker and educator, David is a member of the Norway House Cree Nation and currently lives in Winnipeg.

A boy and Moshom, his grandpa, take a trip together to visit a place of great meaning to Moshom. A trapline is where people hunt and live off the land, and it was where Moshom grew up. Moshom teaches his grandson, as well as readers, what it is like to live on the land and what the trapline means to their family.

Q. What are some differences the grandson notices between the trapline and the city where he lives?

Activity: Choose a place that is special to you and your family and draw it.

Reflection: What is a special story or interesting fact you have learned about your family? Did you hear it from a grandparent or a family friend? What made the story interesting?

BONUS ACTIVITY:

What makes the place that you drew special to you and your family? Do you have any favourite memories you have made there?



THE BEE

BY BECKY HAN

Ages: 4-8 | **October 2021**, Inhabit Media | **ISBN:** 9781772273007

Becky Han is an Inuk singer-songwriter who grew up in the small and beautiful community of Ikpiarjuk (Arctic Bay) in Nunavut. Believing that music is a creative and educational outlet, she enjoys writing most of her work in Inuktitut. *The Bee* is based on her award-winning song "Qaariaq."

Becky writes about a narrator who is so terrified of a buzzy bee, she starts running very, very fast to try to escape this buzzing foe. Running from community to community, the narrator begins to realize that perhaps this bee isn't so scary after all!

Q. Why do you think the narrator is scared of the bee? What do you think made her no longer afraid?

Activity: The narrator runs through many different places in the story. Draw a picture of your favourite place. Why is it your favourite? See if you can pronounce its Inuit name. **Use this website** so you can hear how the different words sound.

Reflection: What is something that you used to be afraid of? Why did it scare you? Why are you no longer afraid of it?

BONUS ACTIVITY:

Work together with your classmates to create a song about how you have faced your fears. It can be long or short, fast or slow, funny or spooky. Just make sure you include all the things that don't scare you anymore!





LITTLE MOAR AND THE MOON

BY ROSELYNN AKULUKJUK

Ages: 4-8 | **October 2021**, Inhabit Media | **ISBN:** 9781772272994

Roselynn Akulukjuk was born in Pangnirtung, Nunavut, in the Canadian Arctic. In 2012 she enrolled in the Toronto Film School where she fell in love with being behind the camera. She wrote and directed her first film, the live-action and puppetry short *The Owl and the Lemming*, winning Best Animation at the 2016 American Indian Film Festival. Roselynn lives in Iqaluit.

As Autumn begins, Moar grows more and more anxious about the moon and its creepy face and eerie smile that always seems to be watching him. One day, Moar decides he must get home before the moon comes. However, so many fun things are waiting for Moar on his way home, he may run out of time!

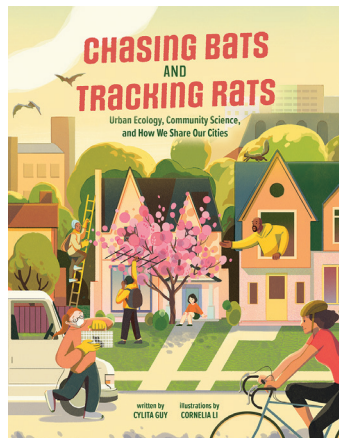
Q. Are there any places, animals, seasons or times of day that leave you feeling a little frightened? Work together as a group to make a list of the things you find a little spooky.

Activity: Draw the moon and put a face on it! It can be a scary face, a funny face, or any emotion you like. (You can even draw more than one!).

Reflection: What are some ways that you can calm your body down when you are feeling scared? What kind of activities are helpful to do when you're feeling uneasy or frightened?

BONUS ACTIVITY:

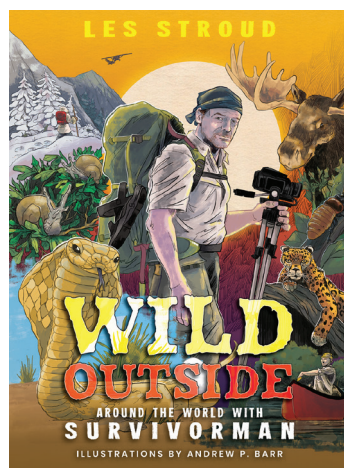
Have you ever been frightened by a shadow in your room at night, only to find out it's just a stuffed animal or a towel hanging over a chair? Draw a shadow that looks scary. Then have a friend draw the object that's making the shadow. Are you surprised by what they draw?



CHASING BATS AND TRACKING RATS: URBAN ECOLOGY, COMMUNITY SCIENCE, AND HOW WE SHARE OUR CITIES BY DR. CYLITA GUY

Ages: 8-12 | **October 2021**, Annick Press | **ISBN:** 9781773215396

Dr. Cylita Guy shows how studying urban wildlife can help us make cities around the world healthier for all of their inhabitants. In her video presentation, she encourages viewers to look for signs of wildlife in their own neighbourhoods.



WILD OUTSIDE: AROUND THE WORLD WITH SURVIVORMAN BY LES STROUD

Ages: 8-12 | 2021, Annick Press | **ISBN:** 9781773215075

Les Stroud is credited with creating the survival TV genre, and he remains a prolific artist focused on celebrating nature. In his video presentation, Les encourages viewers to explore the wilderness right in their own backyard.

Q./ Discussion: Why do you think Dr. Cylita Guy chose to study bats that live near her in the City of Toronto, rather than bats that live far away in a cave or in a remote forest?

Based on what you learned about them through their videos, what beliefs do Les Stroud and Dr. Guy share?

Activity: Become a Citizen Scientist!

1. Refer to the **Neighbourhood Bat Watch** and the **Nature Ontario Bat Guide** to learn a bit more about bat species, habitats and behaviour. If you prefer, choose another animal you are likely to see near where you live. Here are two helpful lists of animals that live in urban areas: **Wild Mammals in Toronto**, **RBG Turtle Guide** and a great interactive guide: **iNaturalist Website**.
2. Based on your research, answer the following questions together:
 - What species of bat (or other animal) are you most likely to see in your neighbourhood?
 - What time of day are you most likely to have a sighting?
 - Where are you most likely to see the animal you have chosen? Near trees? Near the tops of houses? Under a stairway, In a garbage dumpster?
3. Plan your own field study. Follow Les Stroud's **advice (p.3)** and prepare the gear you will need to explore your neighbourhood or nearby conservation area for bats, turtles, or any other kind of wildlife. Record your observations using Les Stroud's **Adventure Log (p.5)**.
4. Record your observations on the **iNaturalist Website** or on the **Neighbourhood Bat Watch** website.

Reflection: Which of your observations or research most surprised you? Do you believe you can play an important role in furthering scientists' understanding of our environment? Why or why not?

EXTENSION DISCUSSION FOR INTERMEDIATE/SENIOR STUDENTS:

Cylita Guy's TEDx Talk

Cylita Guy discusses how her research reveals social inequities and highlights the importance of equal and universal access to public green spaces.

As a class, discuss your reactions to her talk. Do you agree with the points she makes? Were any of her points surprising to you? Can you think of ways to apply her ideas in your community?



ACTIVITY SHEET



This is a decorative worksheet template. It features a border of stylized leaves and flowers. At the top left, the words "ACTIVITY SHEET" are written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the title is a large rectangular area defined by a dotted line, intended for a drawing. Underneath this dotted box are ten horizontal solid lines for writing. In the bottom left corner, there is a small illustration of a flower with a bee flying above it.

ACTIVITY SHEET

