

Telling Tales

EDUCATOR'S

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BUN BUN AND BON BON: HOPPY GO LUCKY

BY JESS KEATING

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Jess Keating is an award-winning author, cartoonist, and zoologist, whose work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *CBC*, *Buzzfeed*, *Parents Magazine*, and more. Her work is designed to help readers stay curious, creative, and confident to explore what they love, embrace their awesome weirdness, and share their magic with the world.

In her video, Jess explains that her two characters, Bun Bun and Bon Bon, are having a very bad luck day – something we all experience sometimes! But, over the course of the story, Bun Bun and Bon Bon learn some important tips on how to turn those bad days into better ones!

Q. We all have bad days sometimes. What strategies can we use to help us be resilient on those hard days?

Activity: Bad Luck Day PSA!

In this activity, the class will work in small groups to create unique and creative public service announcements (PSAs) to help promote strategies for resilience in the face of daily challenges.

1. As a class, brainstorm some challenges that can sometimes turn a good day into a bad one. Are there some we can control (e.g., practicing something that has been difficult), or others that we cannot (e.g., tripping in the playground and skinning your knee). Write the brainstormed ideas for “bad day challenges” on one side of the classroom board.
2. On hard days, we need to practice being resilient – being able to “bounce back” from difficult challenges. Bun Bun and Bon Bon learn three key strategies that help them through hard days. What are they? Have you tried them? Have they worked for you? Do you have a trick you use for helping turn a bad day around? As a class, brainstorm any other ideas or strategies that can help you feel resilient on a hard day, and write them on the other half of the board.
3. Divide the class into small groups. Each group should pick or be assigned a “challenging” bad luck day situation from the list on the board and pick the resiliency strategy that they think would be the most helpful. Explain to them that they will be making a short PSA to teach other students their age how to be resilient in the face of a challenging day!
4. In their small groups, the students should now plan out a short, small skit acting out their particular bad day challenge, and how they would use their chosen strategy to help turn that bad day around! The skit should end with a brief explanation of why they think their chosen strategy was/ would be successful in turning the day around. Their characters could be ones from the story, themselves, or ones that they develop on their own.

NOTE: Older classes could be encouraged to write a script for their skit, while younger classes could be more improvisatory.

5. At the end of the time given for the students to develop and practice their skits, have them present their PSA skits to their classmates.

Discussion/Reflection: Having seen all the PSAs, which strategies do you think would be the most effective? Which the least? Why? What new strategy will you try to use next time you have a “Bad Luck Day?”

Extension Activity: As a class, film your PSAs and present them to other classes, or see if you can arrange to present them to the school as part of a school assembly!



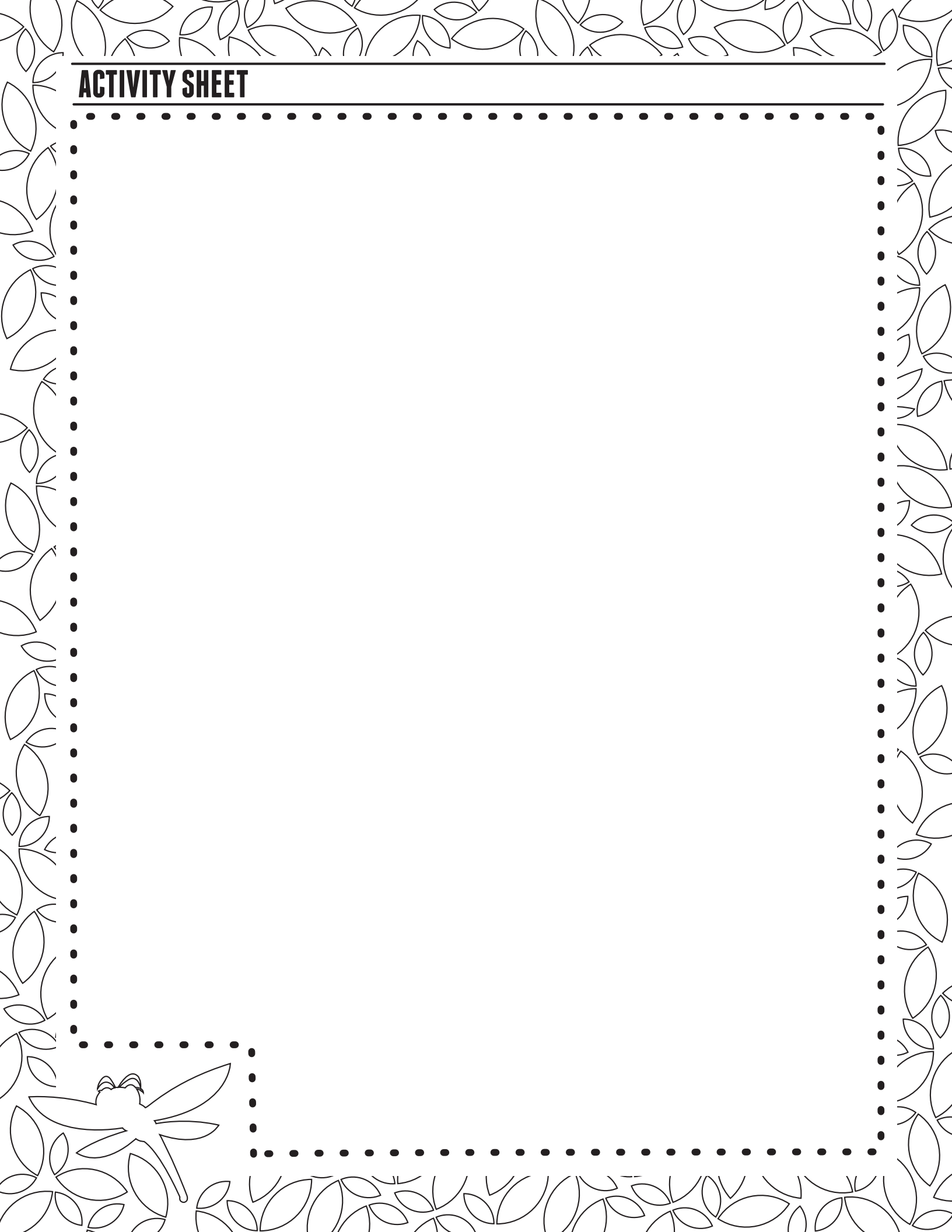
ACTIVITY SHEET

A large rectangular area enclosed by a dotted border, intended for drawing or free writing.

A series of ten horizontal solid lines for writing.



ACTIVITY SHEET



A large rectangular area defined by a dotted line, intended for writing or drawing.

