

# Summer Challenge

## 2023 Activity Book





# Summer Challenge: Branchin' Out

## What is Summer Challenge?

WFSU's annual Summer Challenge provides educational activities for families in the Tallahassee community with FREE summer learning kits distributed throughout Leon County Public Libraries and select Leon County Schools. Activity kits feature a Summer Challenge activity book, hands-on learning materials, games, and more!

Children earn coins for completing activities that they can exchange for prizes, such as books and art supplies, at the end of the summer. This year our Summer Challenge theme is "Branchin' Out!" We invite you to branch out with us and learn different skills that can help your child understand their place in the World of Work.

In addition to the activity bags, WFSU Education will be hosting five FREE morning summer camps at different libraries across Tallahassee. At these camps, kids and parents will play, read, and learn together. Each camp will showcase a different "green" career. Along with camps, WFSU PBS has many apps, games, and shows to extend learning all summer long!

## Ready To Learn

As a part of the core mission of Ready To Learn 2020-2025, CPB and PBS are working with early learning experts to create experiences that expose young children to career and workforce information. We want young children to build vital functional literacy, critical thinking, collaboration, and "world of work" skills and knowledge.

The effort aims to empower and equip parents, caregivers, and communities to support children's learning and growth — to put children on a path to lifetime success.



Thank you to the Community Classroom Consortium and our wonderful sponsors for helping us to get your child "branchin' out"!



# Summer Challenge Checklist

Keep track of your earnings to buy prizes at the end of summer! In August, find us at designated libraries to cash your work into coins. You can use them to buy fun prizes!

Read 10 books

\_\_\_\_\_

Make Curious George Pancakes

\_\_\_\_\_

Complete your Busy Bee Habit Tracker

\_\_\_\_\_

Solve your Tree Cookie Mystery

\_\_\_\_\_

Attend a WFSU Library Camp

\_\_\_\_\_

Explore the Challenger Learning Center

\_\_\_\_\_

Draw different trees you see outside

\_\_\_\_\_

Watch a PBS Kids show

\_\_\_\_\_

Read a book with someone new

\_\_\_\_\_

Go on a family picnic

\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL COINS**

10

# WFSU Summer Day Programs at the Library

Join WFSU for a series of special day programs at select Leon County Library locations.

Each Friday program will feature different "green" careers and will host a special career guest. WFSU's Friday Summer Day Programs are free and made to allow families to learn and create together.

Please [register online](#) to participate. We hope to see you there!

## To register

visit [wfsu.org/summerchallenge](http://wfsu.org/summerchallenge)

Questions? Email  
[education@wfsu.org](mailto:education@wfsu.org)



## Day Program Details

Date	Time	Location
June 9	10-12	Main Library
June 23	10-12	Woodville
July 7	10-12	Northeast
July 21	10-12	TBD
Aug. 4	10-12	B.L. Perry

## Season 4 of CampTV is here!



Join us throughout the summer on WFSU-TV to watch kids from all over the country read books.

Our friend, Kaden, will be reading "Have You Thanked An Inventor Today?" by Patrice McLaurin.

# ALPHABET

## SCAVENGER HUNT



Take a look around the library! Can you work together to find words that start with every letter of the alphabet?

A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I
J	K	L
M	N	O
P	Q	R
S	T	U
V	W	X
Y	Z	



LEROY COLLINS  
**LEON COUNTY**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY**

(850) 606-2665

[www.LeonCountyLibrary.org](http://www.LeonCountyLibrary.org)

The arts refer to many things like dance, theater, painting, literature, and other creative fields. This activity highlights the different kinds of art we support through our work at COCA!

## WHAT CAN YOU SPOT IN THE CIRCLE?



### HOW MANY DO YOU SEE?

- Stars?
- Musical Notes?
- Dancers?
- Paint Brushes?
- What else do you see?

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**COLOR THINGS IN AS YOU FIND THEM!**

# ORCHESTRA FAMILY TREE

The full orchestra includes instruments from all the instrument families. Draw a line connecting each of these instruments to their family branch.

## PERCUSSION FAMILY

The instruments in the percussion family make sound when struck, shaken, or scraped.

## STRING FAMILY

The instruments in the string family create sound by plucking or pulling a bow across the instrument's strings.

## BRASS FAMILY

The instruments in the brass family are made out of metal and a musician buzzes their lips into a mouthpiece to create the sound.

## WOODWIND FAMILY

The instruments in the woodwind family are played by blowing air through the mouthpiece and opening or closing the holes with your fingers to change the pitch.



BASS



OBOE



TRUMPET



VIOLIN



FRENCH HORN



TUBA



VIOLA



CLARINET



TROMBONE



TIMPANI



BASSOON



CELLO



FLUTE



# MAKE A MANCALA BOARD!

Recycle a used egg carton and make your own Mancala board! Remember to ask an adult for help with cutting. Our friends over at Arts & Crackers made a wonderful guide to get you on your way!



## Step 1

Cut your egg carton in half along the fold. Be sure to save the side that holds the eggs, that will be your game board. Cut the lid as show to the left.



## Step 2

To make the end pockets or mancalas, tape together each cut off end and the middle-to-edge pieces. Be sure to tape them facing outward so you have something to tape your board to. Make sure they are taped securely on the sides, top and bottom.



## Step 3

Tape each end pocket to either end of the bottom of the carton, the middle piece facing inward to the board. Make sure they are taped securely on the sides, top and bottom.



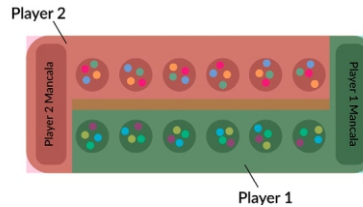
## Step 4

Fill each small pocket with four of anything, any color (they used jelly beans because they are fun and colorful and edible, but you can use anything from pebbles to beads to Cheerios...be creative!) Now you are ready to play!

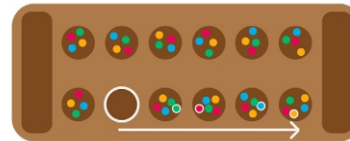
Source: Savannah African Art Museum

Mancala, or "Oware" as known in Africa, is a popular "count-and-capture" game! The game is thousands of years old and has many different sets of rules around the world. With all sets of rules, the game requires skill and strategy. The board is simple, typically they are canoe-shaped and made of wood or clay. Board pieces used are small pebbles, cowrie shells, and today, marbles. It can be played for fun or spiritual and cultural purposes!

## HOW TO PLAY MANCALA



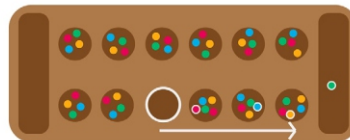
**Set Up:** Players start by claiming a side of the board (north or south). They set up the game by distributing seeds (equally) in the holes of the board. The number of seeds is a multiple of the number of holes the board has. West African games of mancala generally use 48 seeds, which means placing 4 seeds in each of the 12 holes. Then the game can start.



**Sowing:** Each player has alternate turns, meaning that one player would go first, followed by the other player, which is then repeated. During each turn, players can select a group of stones from a hole on their side of the board. Each stone is dropped one by one in the holes around the board, including their Mancala but not their opponent's Mancala.



**Captures:** If the last stone lands in an empty hole on the player's own side, he would capture all of the stones from their opponent's hole directly opposite of the player's hole, including their stone.



**Free Turns**  
If the last stone lands in the player's own Mancala, that player would be given a free turn which allows them to make another move.

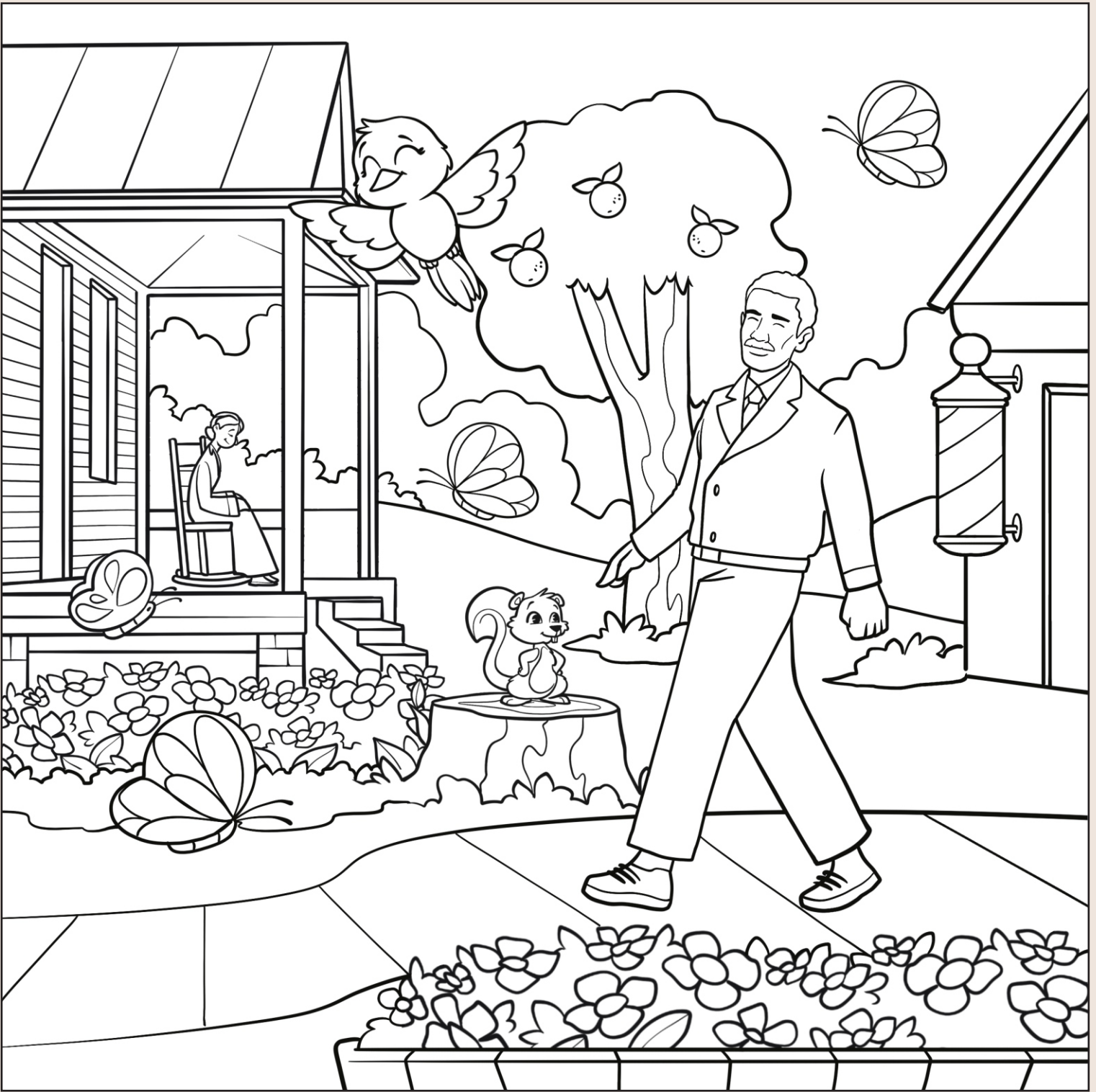


**End Game:** The game will end if a player clears all of their stones from their side of the board. The winner is the player with the highest number of stones in their Mancala and any remaining stones on their side of the board.



JOHN G. RILEY  
CENTER & MUSEUM





Educator John G. Riley loved to take walks outside in the historic African-American neighborhood, Smokey Hollow! Can you find these things that Mr. Riley would see on his walk?

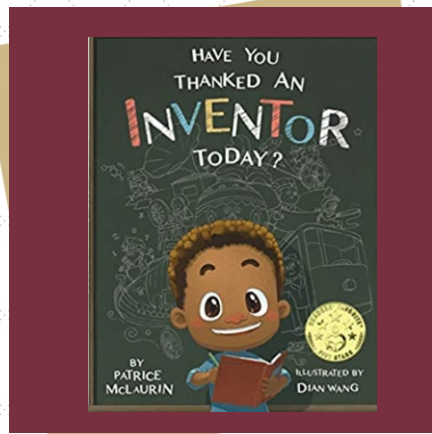


**JOHN G. RILEY**  
CENTER & MUSEUM

BARBERSHOP POLE  
BUTTERFLIES  
HERB GARDEN  
FLOWERS  
SQUIRREL

SHOTGUN HOUSE  
ORANGE TREE  
ROCKING CHAIR  
BIRD

Color them in once you find them!



## BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

### Have You Thanked An Inventor Today? by Patrice McLaurin

#### Book Summary

“This world is full of inventions” and “Have You Thanked An Inventor Today?” introduces us to a character who realizes the daily impact that African-American inventors and their inventions have had on his life. From waking up, to crossing the street, to playing with friends, he finds himself thankful for their rich contributions toward his life and encourages us to be thankful as well.

#### Before Reading the Story

- Discuss what you see on the cover of the book.
- Make predictions on what the story may be about and the setting.
- Search the internet to see if you can find the inventors of some of your favorite items or toys.
- Discuss whether you would like to be an inventor and what you would invent.

#### Target Vocabulary

- **invention**: something that is designed and created
- **for instance**: as an example; for example
- **scholar**: a person who has much knowledge, usually acquired from research and study
- **assign**: to give as a task
- **countless**: very great in number; not able to be counted
- **ponder**: to think about something deeply and carefully
- **improve**: to make better
- **fast forward**: to move rapidly forward especially in time



## BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

### During the Story

- Read the book aloud with the pictures facing your child.
- Make predictions about the story based on the pictures.
- Provide definitions and connections for any of the target vocabulary words that may be unfamiliar.
- Have your child repeat the words that they do not know.
- Relate the details in the story to events and experiences in your everyday life.
- Ask questions throughout the story to help your child understand what's being read.

### After Reading the Story

- Have your child retell the story in their own words using the pictures.
- Choose two of the inventions mentioned in the book and talk about how they are used in your everyday life. Do you have a favorite invention in the book and why?
- Watch a video of inventors and their inventions on YouTube.
- Take a look at the end of the book for more fun activities. There are riddles, multiple-choice questions, an invention box craft, and a group project to discuss what we would like to invent.

### Example Questions to Ask

- Why is the main character suggesting that you should thank an inventor?
- You see, inventions, they make our lives much easier; and they also make our lives more \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who invented the traffic light and how has it helped your life?
- Brainstorm all of the different categories of inventions mentioned in the story, for example: Electronics. How many more categories can you come up with?
- Turn to pages 14 and 15 and find the images of each of these inventions mentioned: clock, doorknob, guitar, ironing board, mop, super soaker, and lock.

# Have You Thanked An Inventor Today?



The book, "Have You Thanked An Inventor Today?" takes you through the daily routine of a little boy and highlights who invented these everyday objects and how important they are to our life. This book is featured in CampTV Season 4! Beginning July 2023, scan the QR code below to read along to the story!



Now you get to be an inventor! Answer the questions to help you brainstorm your new invention!

1. What is a problem you would like to solve?

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2. Three ideas I can use to solve this problem are:

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3. Who do I want to invent this for?

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4. What materials do I have that will be needed for my invention?

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5. What skills will I need to be able to create my invention?

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Time to get to work! Sketch out your invention. For an extra challenge, create a 3D model of your invention!



The  
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cpb Corporation  
for Public  
Broadcasting



wfsu  
PUBLIC MEDIA

PBS  
KIDS

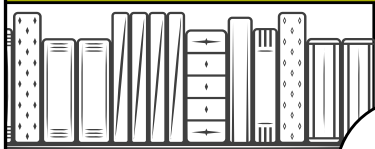
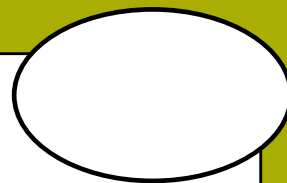
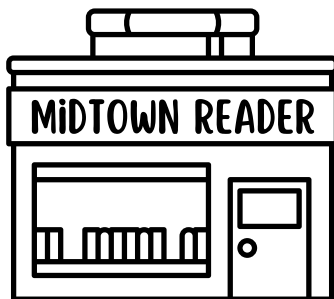
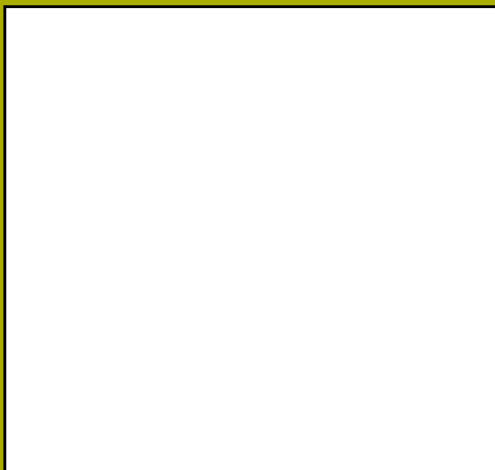
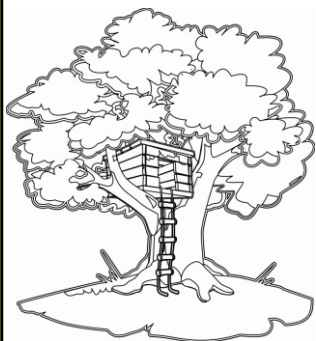


# CREATE YOUR OWN MAGIC TREE HOUSE COMIC

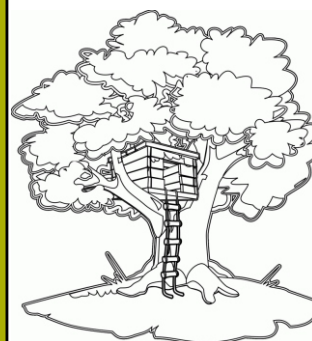
## #2023

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ONE SUMMER DAY AT THE MAGIC TREEHOUSE



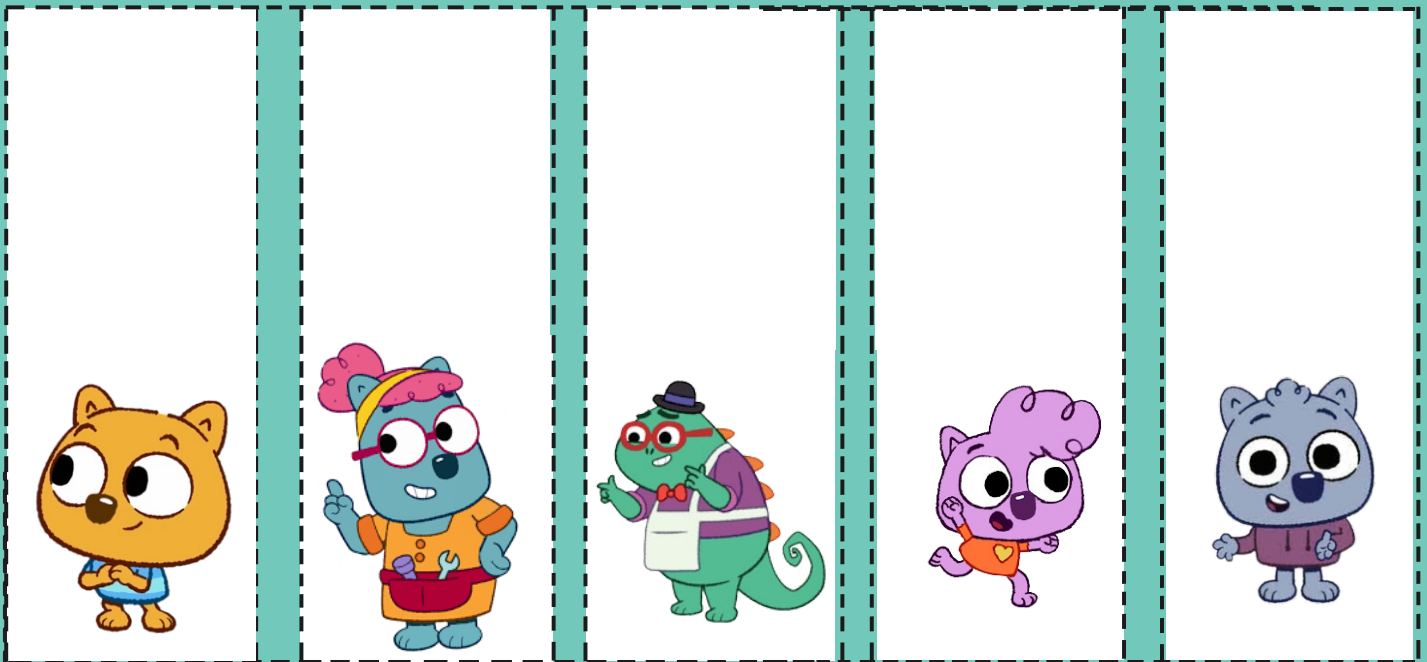
WHERE WILL YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE TAKE YOU?



**INSTRUCTIONS:**  
TAKE YOUR CHARACTERS ON AN ADVENTURE TO THE BOOKSTORE! ADD IN CHARACTERS, WORDS, COLORS, AND MAKE YOUR OWN STORY!



**Cut out your  
Work It Out Wombats!  
character to use as  
your game piece.**



## **Work It Out Wombats! Treeborhood directions:**

Roll a dice and move that many spaces. If you land on a WFSU, move forward another two spaces during your turn. If you land on a space with stepping stones, follow the path to skip ahead. First one to the Treeborhood wins!

### **Extra Challenge:**

Make up your own rules!



# the Treeborhood Game

**Directions:** Roll a dice and move that many spaces, if you land on a WFSU, forward another two spaces during your turn. If you land on a space with stepping stones, you get to skip those spaces. First one to the Treeborhood, wins!



START  
HERE



Work It Out Wombats! is produced by GBH Kids and Pipeline Studios.



Major funding for Work It Out Wombats! is provided by: a Ready To Learn Grant from the U.S. Department of Education; the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a private corporation funded by the American People; and public television viewers. Additional funding is provided by the National Science Foundation, the United Engineering Foundation, The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, and the GBH Kids Catalyst Fund.

Work It Out Wombats! TM/© 2023 WGBH Educational Foundation. All rights reserved.

Major Funding:



Additional Funding:



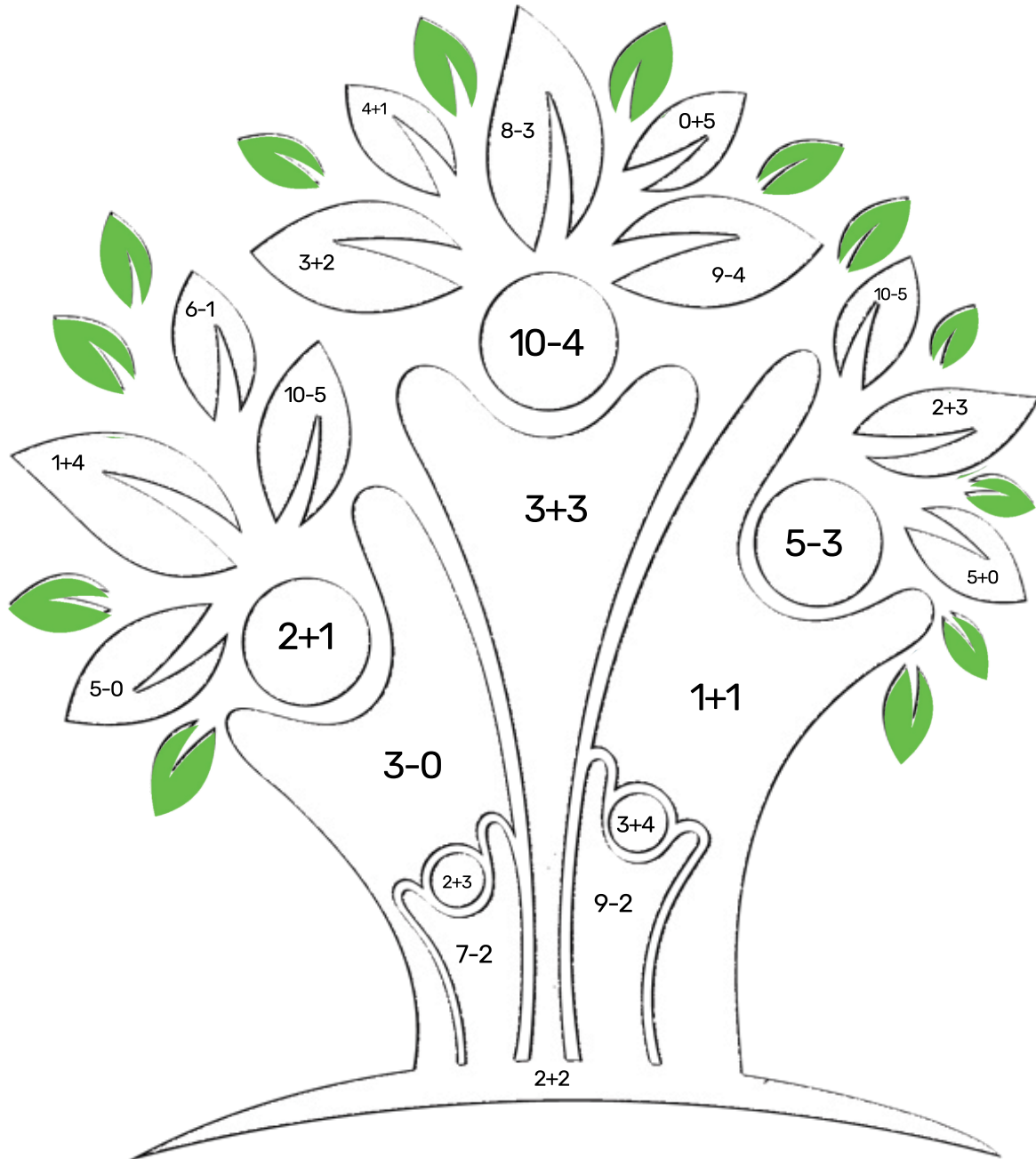






Children's Services  
Council of Leon County

Color by Number: Addition and Subtraction



CSC Leon is a catalyst for positive change to improve the lives of children, youth and families in Leon County. We provide dedicated funding to expand programs and supports available to ensure all children and youth are socially, emotionally, and physically equipped to reach their full potential. Learn more at <https://cscleon.org/>

# TALLAHASSEE MUSEUM

## Longleaf Pine Forest



VERY LONG PINE  
NEEDLES AND  
VERY LARGE  
PINE CONES



IN 2021, WE PLANTED  
1,000 LONGLEAF PINE  
SEEDLINGS ONSITE

DIVERSE  
ECOSYSTEM

**2,500**

PLANT SPECIES

**300**

BIRD SPECIES

GET OUTDOORS AND SEE HOW  
MANY PLANTS AND ANIMALS YOU  
CAN FIND. REMEMBER TO USE YOUR  
EYES ONLY AND RESPECT NATURE.



provides a safe  
habitat for gopher  
tortoises and other  
species



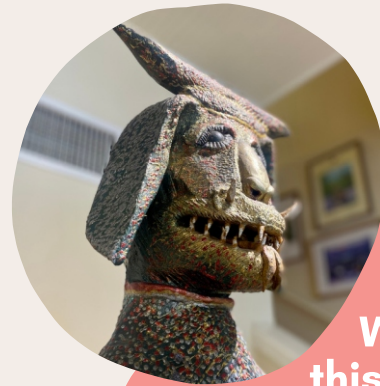
Gadsden Arts

# SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you discover the answers to these art-tastic questions?  
Visit the Gadsden Arts Center & Museum to find out!



Who painted  
this jaunty portrait?  
What does a  
painter do?



What is  
this lovely  
lady's name, and  
where does her  
husband live?



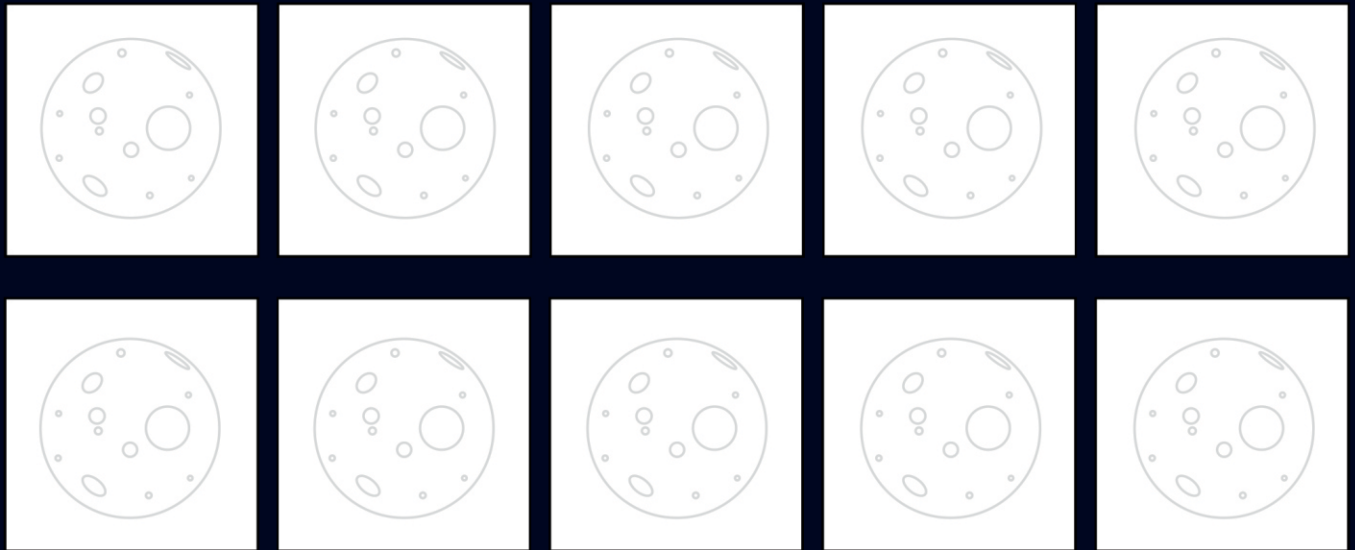
Who is this snazzy  
person? What do  
you think he  
does for a  
living?

These artworks were placed  
by the Museum Curator! The job  
of a Curator is to take care of  
the objects in a museum's  
collections, research them,  
and present them in  
exhibitions for the public.  
Come say hi to our Curator,  
Ashley Williams, to learn more!



# MOON JOURNAL

Look up at the moon at the same time each night and draw what you see. Record 10 days in your Moon Journal to see a FREE\* IMAX movie!



\*Present this completed moon journal at our box office to redeem a free ticket to an IMAX documentary at 200 S. Duval St., Tallahassee, FL.

[www.ChallengerTLH.com](http://www.ChallengerTLH.com)



# SUMMER BINGO!

## ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

Branch out this summer by playing BINGO with Florida After School. This card is full of fun activities you can do with family and friends to stay active. Your mission is to complete as many activities as possible, starting with the ones you have never done before! You may find a new hobby or activity you enjoy.



**HAVE A MOVIE NIGHT**



**FLY A KITE**



**SING A SONG**



**READ A BOOK**



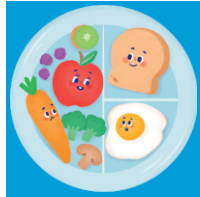
**DRAW A PICTURE**



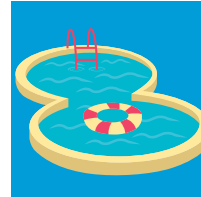
**GO STAR GAZING**



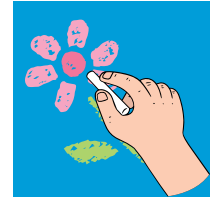
**GO FOR A WALK**



**COOK A MEAL**



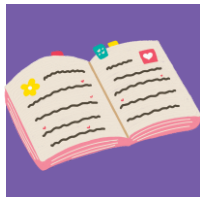
**GO SWIMMING**



**CHALK DRAWING**



**GO ON A PICNIC**



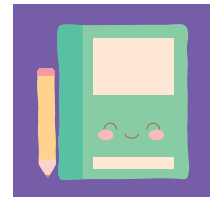
**START A JOURNAL**



**FREE SPACE**



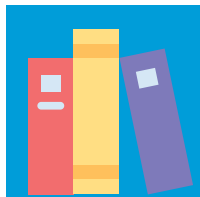
**MAKE A GARDEN**



**WRITE A STORY**



**PLAY A GAME**



**VISIT A LIBRARY**



**WATCH THE CLOUDS**



**GO TO THE PLAYGROUND**



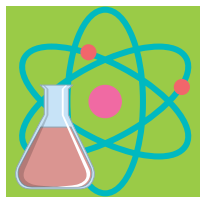
**PLAY A SPORT**



**HAVE A DANCE PARTY**



**VISIT A MUSEUM**



**TRY A SCIENCE EXPERIMENT**



**RECYCLE**



**WATER SOME PLANTS**

# READING BINGO

Explore different types of books this summer  
by playing Reading BINGO!

book about a person	book about an animal	book about friendship	book about a season	book with food on the cover
book with a number in its title	book with poems	book about STEAM	book set in a different country	book with a color in the title
book that celebrates family	book about spreading kindness	<b>FREE SPACE!</b>	book about outer space	book about community gardens
book about swimming	book about feelings and emotions	book about paintings or murals	book about confidence and self-esteem	book about using your imagination
book about weather	book about a historical person	book about being brave	book about a different culture than yours	book about shapes

Interested in more  
resources?

**FCRR**  
FLORIDA CENTER for READING RESEARCH

Scan below to  
view the activities.



Scan below to  
view the videos.





# A-Z World of Work



Think of a career that you might want to learn more about that begins with each letter of the alphabet.

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

h

i

j

k

l

m

n

o

p

q

r

s

t

u

v

w

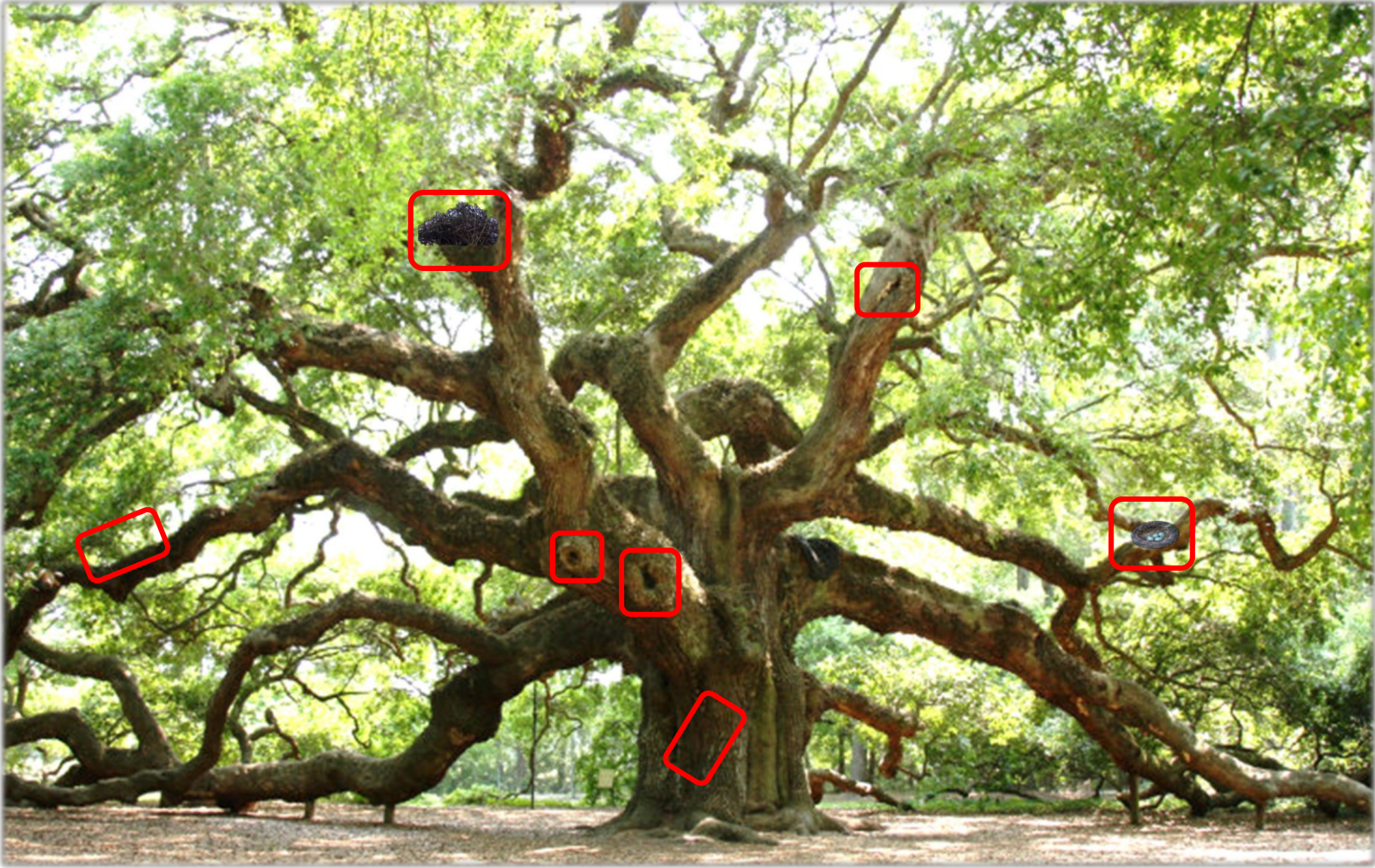
x

y

z



Draw a line from each animal to where you might find it in the tree.  
Then look for these in your own backyard!



Raccoon



Squirrel



Honeybee



Opossum



Blue Jay



Rat Snake



Bark Beetle

Lots of us live together in small holes.

My camouflage lets me hide while I climb up the tree.

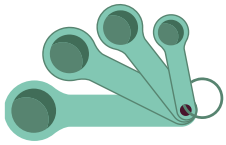
My home is made out of sticks, and I like to eat acorns.

I often sing to my friends.

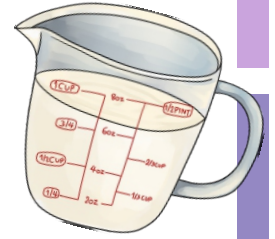
My tail helps me hold on to the branches.

I eat the dead bark.

I live with my kits in hollow openings.



# Curious Cooking



*For this activity you are going to need your Summer Challenge measuring spoons, a set of measuring cups, and a bowl.*

## 1. Explore

- Find the spoon that says "1 tsp." Tsp means teaspoon. Fill 1 teaspoon with water, and dump it in your bowl. Notice how full your bowl is. Is 1 tsp a lot or a little bit of water? Empty the bowl.
- Find the spoon that says "1 tbs." Tbs means tablespoon. Look: Which spoon is bigger, the teaspoon or the tablespoon? Dump the water out into your bowl. Is it a lot of water or a little? Empty the bowl.
- Find the measuring cup or the line on your measuring cup that says 1 cup. Fill it with water to the 1 cup mark and dump it into your bowl. Look: Which had the most water, the spoons or the cup?

## 2. Investigate

- Think: How many tablespoons of water do you think it would take to fill 1 cup?
- Test: Fill 1 tablespoon with water and dump into your measuring cup until you reach 1 cup.
- Tell: I need \_\_\_\_\_ tablespoons to fill 1 cup.

## 3. Let's get cooking!

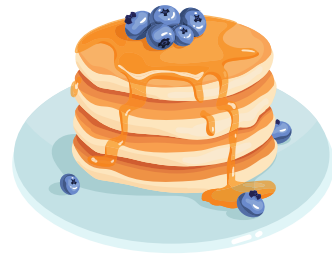
Now that you have a better understanding of your measuring tools, let's use them! Follow the pancake recipe on the back of this page or find a recipe of your choosing. Maybe you have a special family recipe?!



# The Perfect Pancake Recipe

## Ingredients

- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- Pinch of salt
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons melted butter, room temperature



## Directions

1. Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl.
2. Mix wet ingredients in a medium-sized bowl.
3. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry. Mix until just combined.
4. Pour about 1/4 cup of batter onto a hot, lightly-greased griddle for each pancake.
5. Cook over medium heat until you see bubbles form on the top of the batter and the bottom of the pancake is brown. Flip and cook 1-2 minutes more or until the other side is brown.

## Take it One Step Further

Math and science are an essential part of baking — though we don't always think of it that way! While you whip up the pancakes, ask your child how many cups of flour, eggs, etc., you would need to double the recipe. You can also conceptualize fractions by laying out 1/2 and 1/4 measuring cups or spoons. Ask your child to work through how many it takes to equal one whole.


When you and your child combine the wet and dry ingredients, you're really mixing an acid (from the buttermilk) with a base to create a chemical reaction. The result? Bubbles that form to make the pancakes light and fluffy!


When you add the pancake batter to the griddle, you're applying energy (in this case, heat) and that energy changes the liquid batter to a solid. Our buttermilk mixture becomes pancakes we can eat!


**For more on this recipe, and others like it, visit [pbs.org/parents](https://pbs.org/parents).**


# Legislative Branch Maze


Learn how the legislative process works in Florida. Follow the symbols for each step to make an idea into law!


 1) An idea for a new law can come from any Floridian, senator, representative, group, or even you!

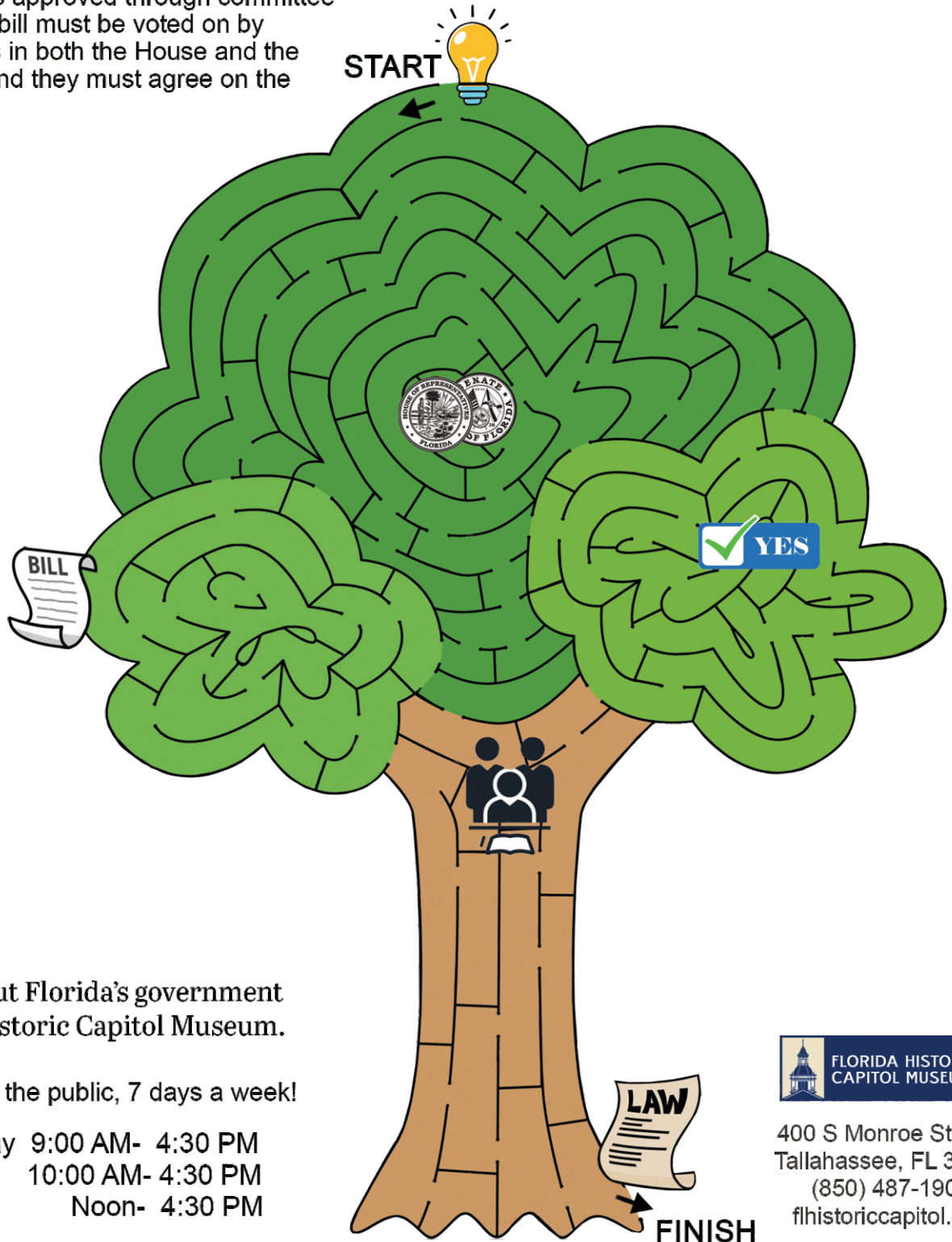
 2) A legislator, or group of legislators, turn the idea into a bill and then sponsor it. The bill is researched, debated, and voted on in committees.

 3) If the bill is approved through committee work, the bill must be voted on by legislators in both the House and the Senate, and they must agree on the wording.

 4) A majority of legislators in each chamber must vote "yes" to pass the bill.

 5) If the bill passes in both chambers, it goes to the governor, who can approve or veto (reject) the bill.

 6) If the governor signs the bill, it becomes a new law!



Learn more about Florida's government at the Florida Historic Capitol Museum.

FREE and open to the public, 7 days a week!

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM- 4:30 PM  
Saturday 10:00 AM- 4:30 PM  
Sunday Noon- 4:30 PM

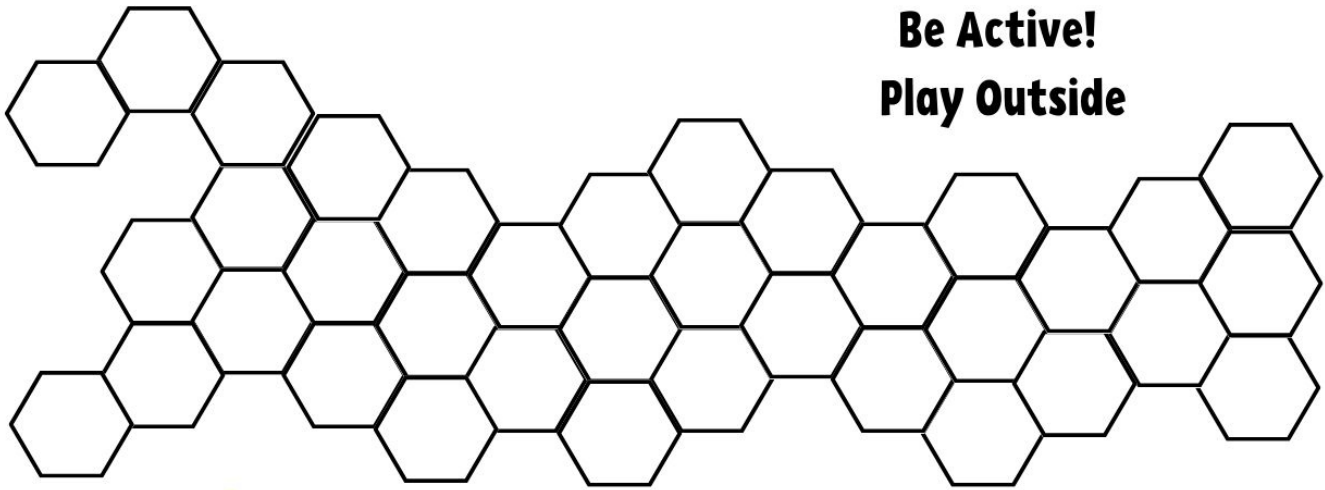


400 S Monroe Street,  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 487-1902  
flhistoriccapitol.gov

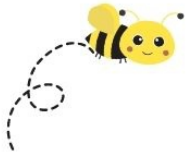
# Summer Challenge 2023: Branchin' Out like a Busy Bee



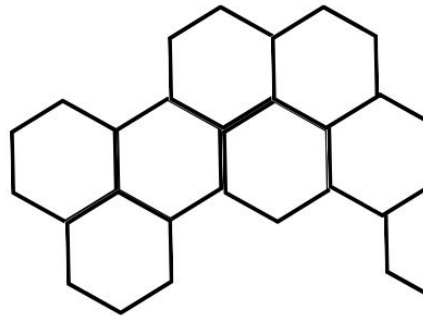
Each time you practice one of these summer habits, color in another piece of the honey comb. Challenge: See if you can fill the whole comb by the end of the summer!



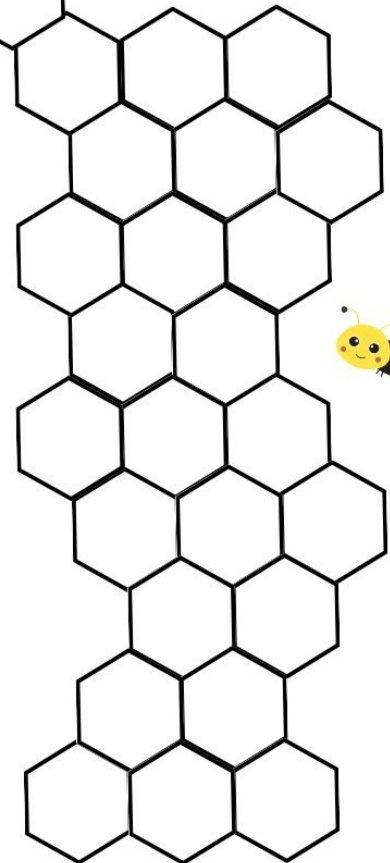
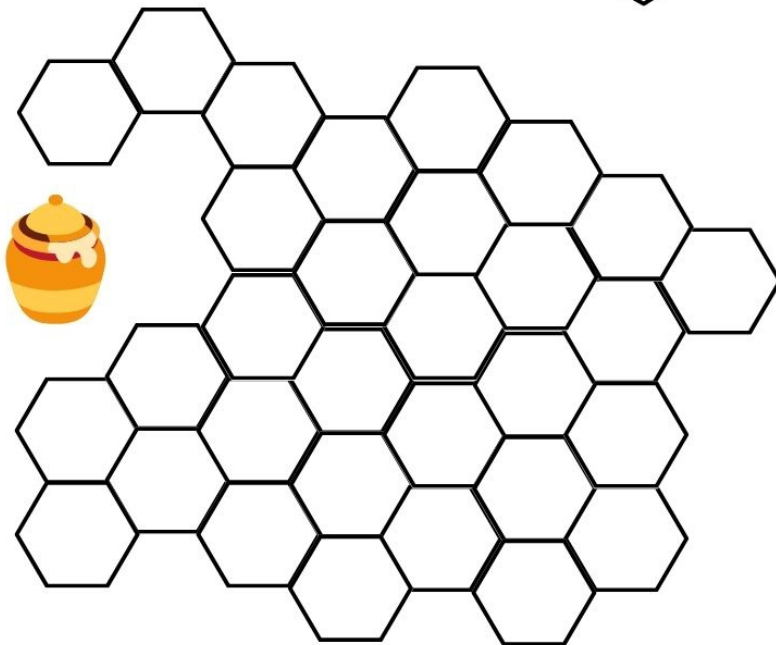
**Be Active!**  
**Play Outside**



**Be kind!**  
**Help someone or**  
**write a kind note**



**Be curious!**  
**Read for**  
**20 minutes**





# THE TREE COOKIE MYSTERY

## WHAT IS A TREE COOKIE?

A tree cookie is a slice of a tree that can tell us characteristics about the tree's life. Scientists use tree cookies to learn how old the tree was, what the weather was like, how quickly the tree grew, how much water the tree got, and more!

### DARK WOOD

The darker colored wood shows that the tree grew during the late summer and fall.

### LIGHT WOOD

The lighter colored wood shows that the tree grew during the spring and early summer.

### THE CENTER RING

This is the first year of growth. Count how many rings are on the tree.

### CLOSE RINGS

Since the rings are close together, this was a dry season.

### FAR RINGS

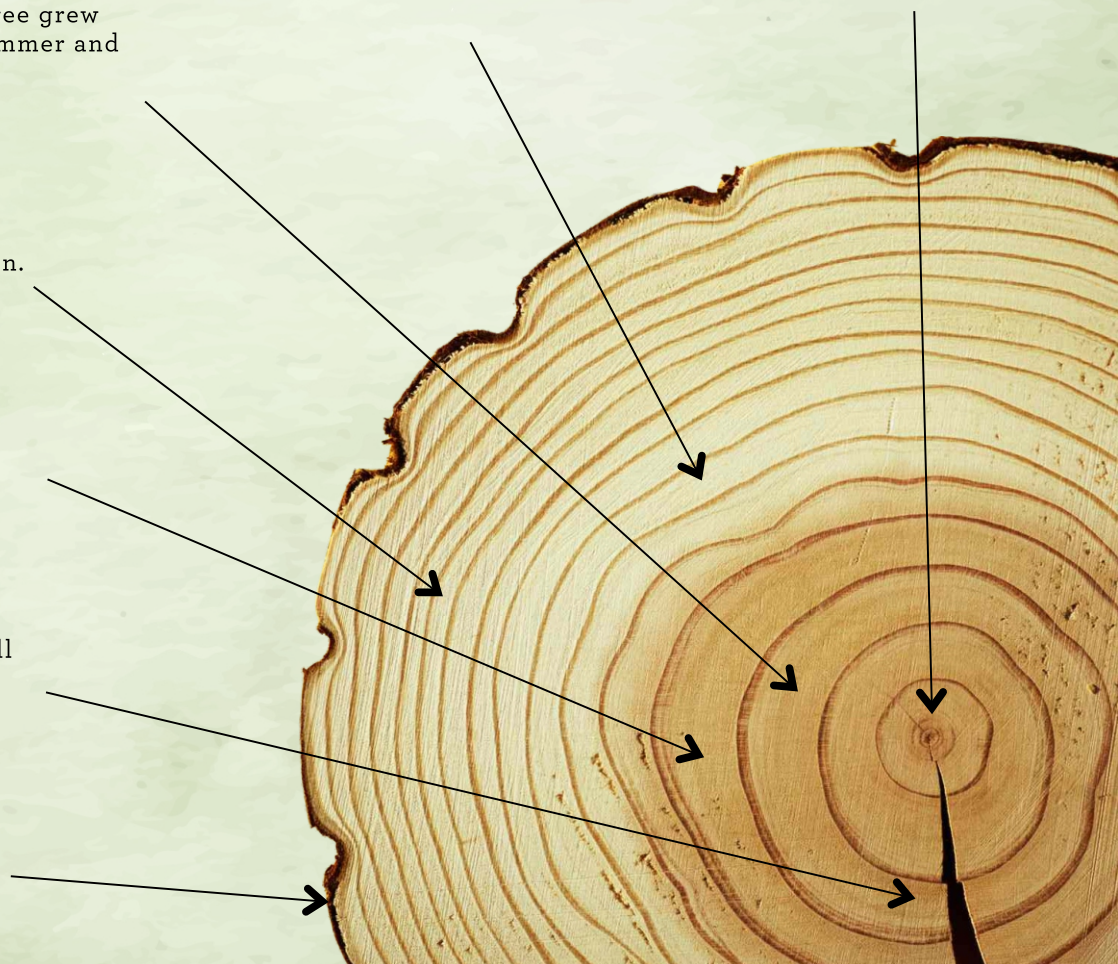
Since the rings are far apart, this was a rainy season.

### BURN SCAR

Black scars surrounded by normal wood indicate a small fire or forest fire.

### THE BARK

This is the outer layer of the tree and the last year of growth.





# *THE TREE COOKIE MYSTERY*

## **TIME TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY!**

Using the information you learned above, fill in the chart to create an identity card for your tree cookie, found in your summer challenge bag!

### **MY TREE COOKIE**

<b>HOW OLD WAS YOUR TREE?</b> (HOW MANY RINGS CAN YOU COUNT?)	
<b>DID THE TREE HAVE MORE RAINY OR DRY SEASONS?</b>	
<b>DO YOU SEE A BURN SCAR?</b>	
<b>WHERE DO YOU THINK YOUR TREE WAS GROWING?</b>	



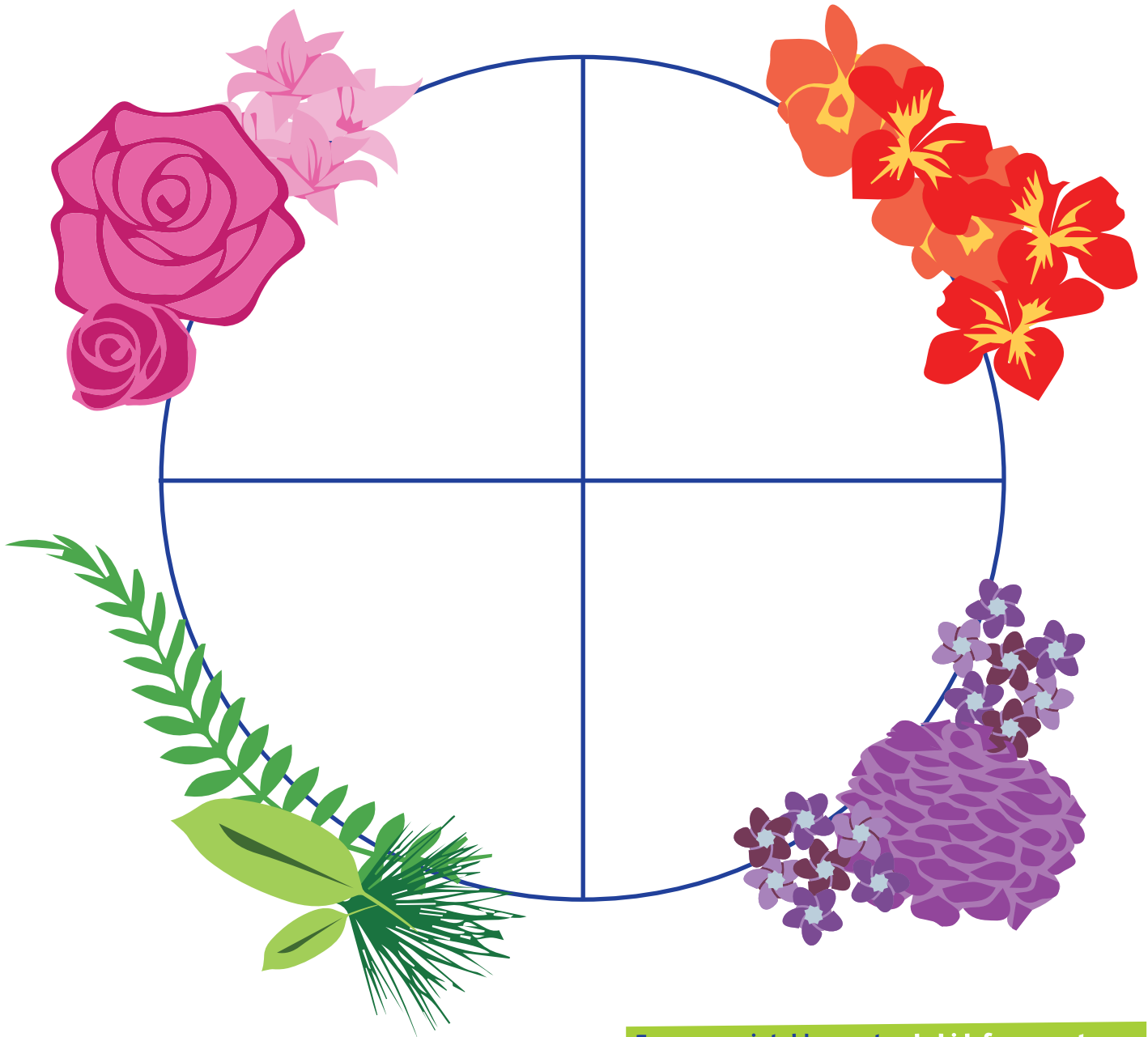
# Spring Color Wheel



[pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org)

Flowers and budding trees burst with color in the spring.

Together with your child, take a walk around your neighborhood to find flowers, plants, and trees that match the colors in this spring color wheel. Draw what you find on the color chart, or if the flower or leaf is already loose from its tree or stem, gently tape it to the chart.



For more printables, go to [pbskidsforparents.org](http://pbskidsforparents.org)



Major funding for the series is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and the Van Eekeren Family, founders of Land O'Frost. Additional funding: The Hamill Family Foundation, The Segal Family Foundation, The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, Polk Bros. Foundation, Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust, Alvin H. Baum Family Fund, Bobolink Foundation, Sage Foundation, The David E. Zyer Family, Dr. Scholl Foundation, and Colonel Stanley R. McNeil Foundation. NATURE CAT and associated characters, trademarks and design elements are owned by Spiffy Entertainment, LLC © 2017 Spiffy Entertainment, LLC. All rights reserved. PBS KIDS and the PBS KIDS Logo are registered trademarks of Public Broadcasting Service. Used with permission. This document may be printed for personal, noncommercial purposes.

