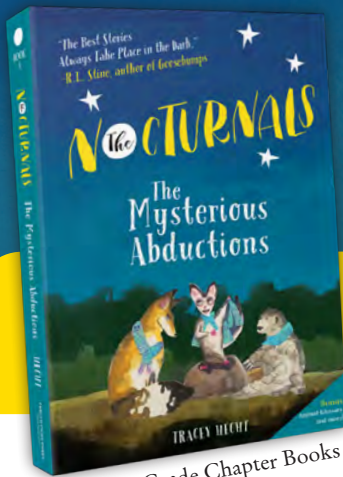


# Connect Reading, Science & Fun for Ages 5 - 12!



Middle Grade Chapter Books

## The NOCTURNALS

### Turnkey Activity Kit Includes:



Early Readers

#### EXPLORE WHAT YOU'VE READ:

- Book Club Discussion Questions
- Book Report Choice Board
- Series Checklist

#### SCIENCE EXTENSIONS:

- Graphic Organizer: Possum vs Sugar Glider
- Tongue Length String Lab: Pangolin vs Chameleon vs Me

#### COLORING & CRAFTS:

- How to Draw Bismark
- Dawn the Fox Mask Craft
- Pangolin Heart Puzzle
- Coloring Pages
- Character Face Painting Instructions
- Design Character Water Bottle Stickers

#### WORD GAMES:

- Hero Word Search
- Fill in the Story Game

Get More FREE Activities at [NocturnalsWorld.com/activity-kits](https://NocturnalsWorld.com/activity-kits)



Tobin the Shy Pangolin

Dawn the Wise Fox

Bismark the Wacky Sugar Glider

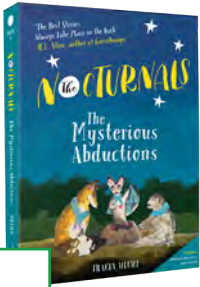
# The NOCTURNALS

Series  
Checklist

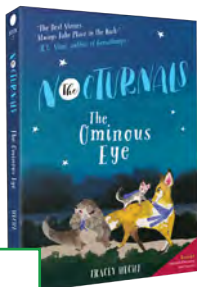
✓ COLLECT ALL 14 BOOKS!

For full title information, visit [NocturnalsWorld.com/blog/full-series-checklist](http://NocturnalsWorld.com/blog/full-series-checklist)

## Middle Grade



The Mysterious Abductions



The Ominous Eye



The Fallen Star



The Hidden Kingdom

## Nonfiction Companion



Middle Grade  
for 3rd-5th Grade



Unique Adaptations of Nighttime Animals

## Early Reader Level 1



The Best Burp



The Tasty Treat

Mix and Match  
our turnkey  
activities with  
your favorite  
*The Nocturnals*  
adventure!

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visit [NocturnalsWorld.com](http://NocturnalsWorld.com)

## Nonfiction Companion



Early Reader  
for K-2nd Grade



Nighttime Animals

## Early Reader Level 2



The Moonlight Meeting



The Slithery Shakedown



The Peculiar Possum

## Early Reader Level 3



The Chestnut Challenge



The Kooky Kinkajou



The Weeping Wombat

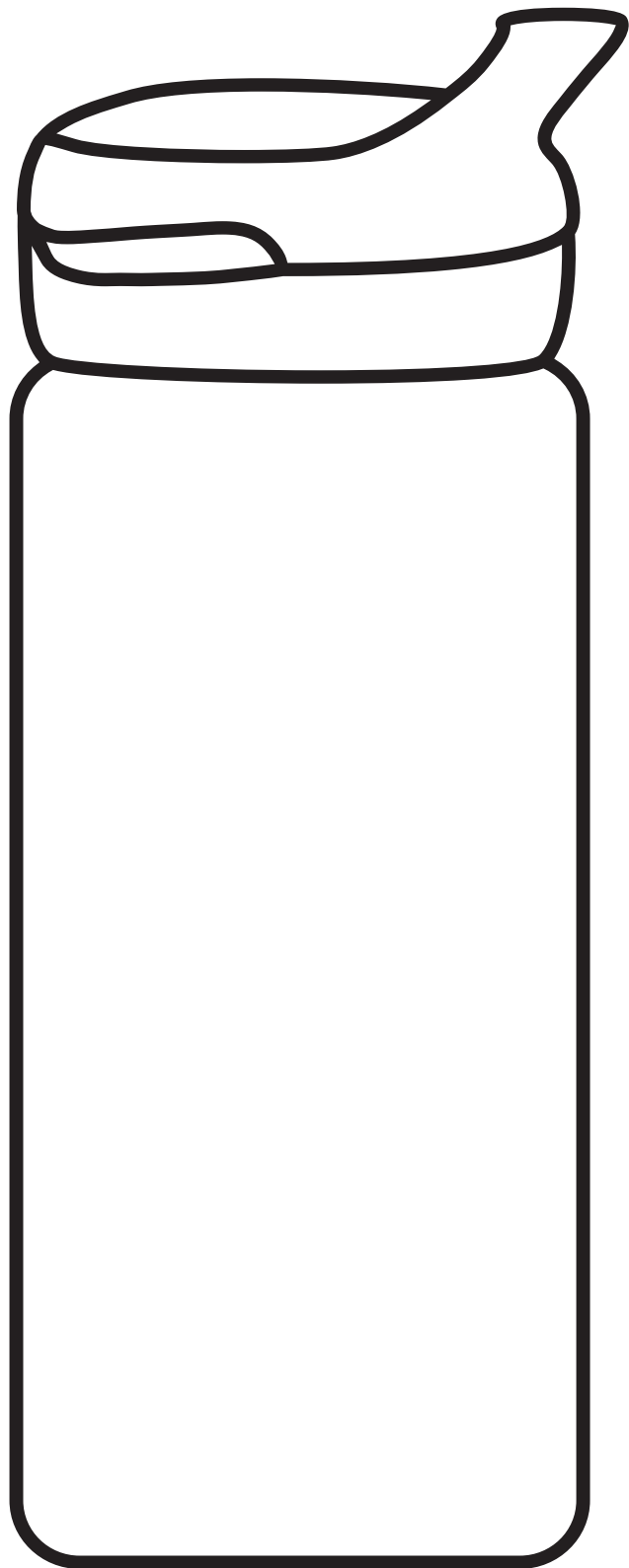




Name: ..... Date: .....

Book Title: ..... Author: .....

# ★ Main Character Water Bottle Stickers ★



**Directions:** Draw three water bottle stickers that the main character from the book would love to have. Then describe why you chose those stickers.

MAIN CHARACTER NAME: .....

STICKER 1:

.....

.....

.....

.....

STICKER 2:

.....

.....

.....

.....

STICKER 3:

.....

.....

.....





Name: ..... Date: .....

# Book Report Choice Board

**Directions:** After finishing your book, choose three activities below to share about what you read. Circle your choices and use an extra sheet to complete your work.

## BOOK COVER

Create a new book cover based on the plot and include a one-paragraph explanation of your drawing.

## PREDICT THE FUTURE

What do you think will happen after the story ends?

Write two paragraphs predicting events that could happen after the end of the book and why you think so.

## PLAYLIST

Create a playlist with at least five real-world song titles that could go along with the book.

Give the playlist a name and write an explanation of why you chose each song.

## TIMELINE

Create a timeline of at least five events that happened in the book.

Write a short explanation for each event.

## BOOK REPORT CHOICE BOARD



## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Write five interview questions to ask a character in the book.

Then respond to the questions as that character.

## BOOK REVIEW

Write a book review, including how you'd rate the book from one to five stars, a one-paragraph summary, and if you'd recommend this book to a friend.

## DIARY ENTRY

Write a diary entry from the main character's point of view. Include at least three references to events and other characters.

## COMIC ILLUSTRATION

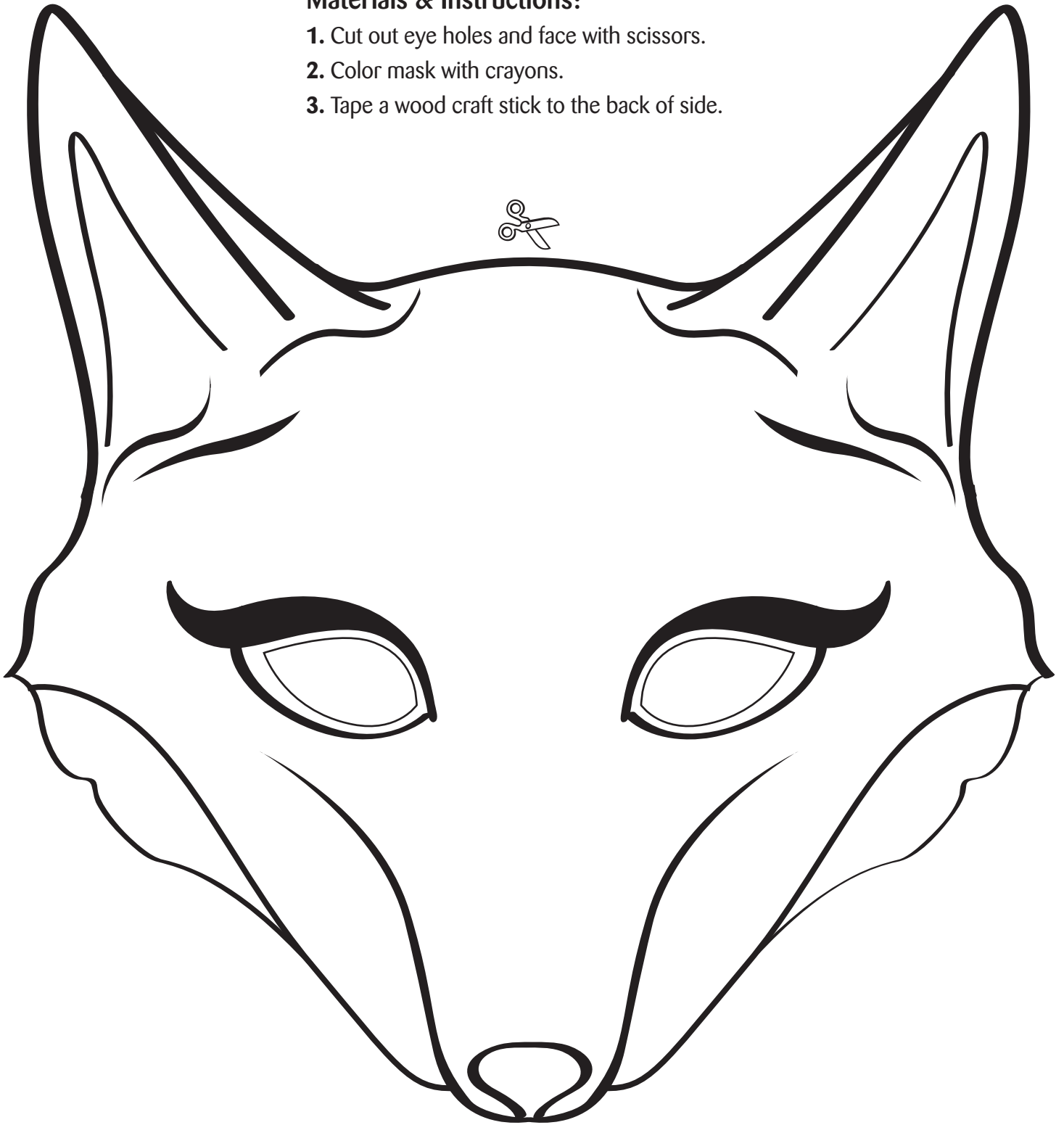
Illustrate a comic with at least five boxes about an important scene or conflict.



# Dawn the Fox Mask

## Materials & Instructions:

1. Cut out eye holes and face with scissors.
2. Color mask with crayons.
3. Tape a wood craft stick to the back of side.



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Dawn the Fox and  
Walter the Wombat Are Friends!

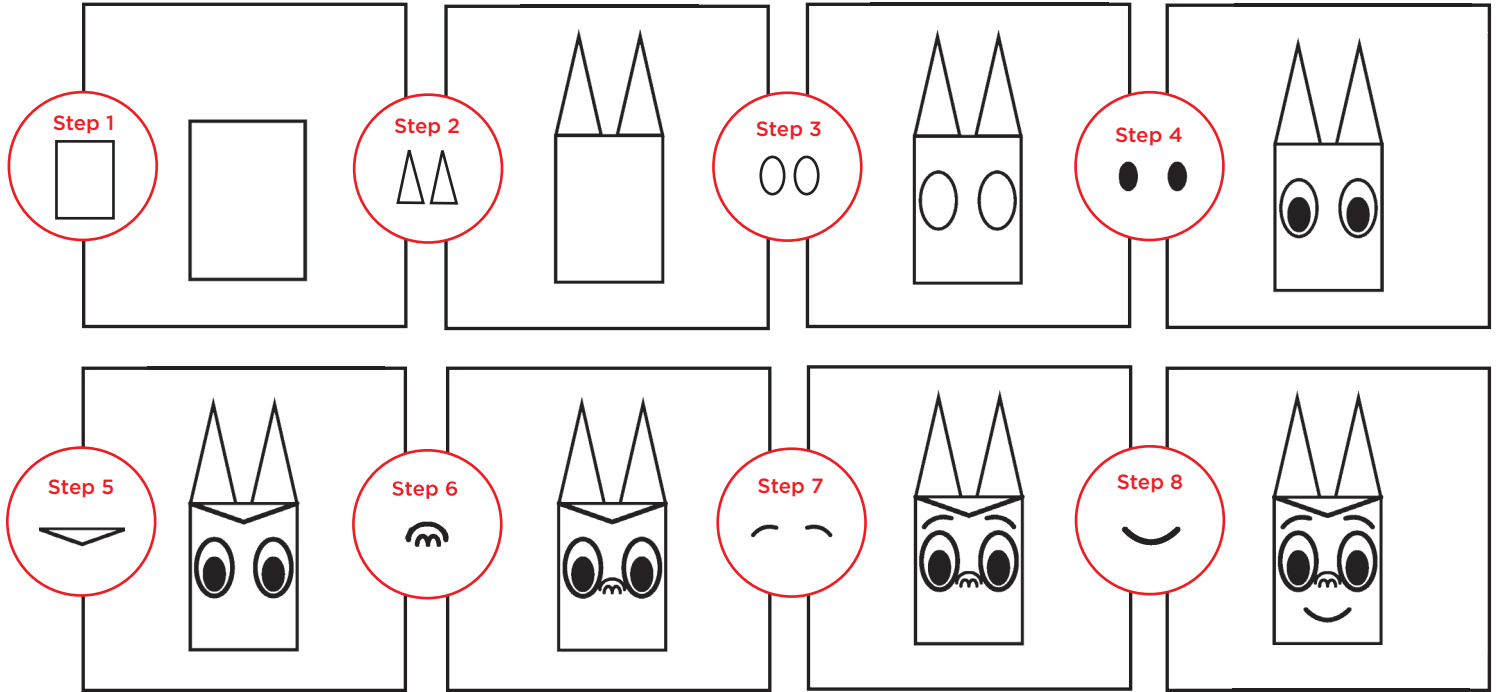




# The Nocturnals Grow & Read Book Program



## How to Draw Bismark the Sugar Glider



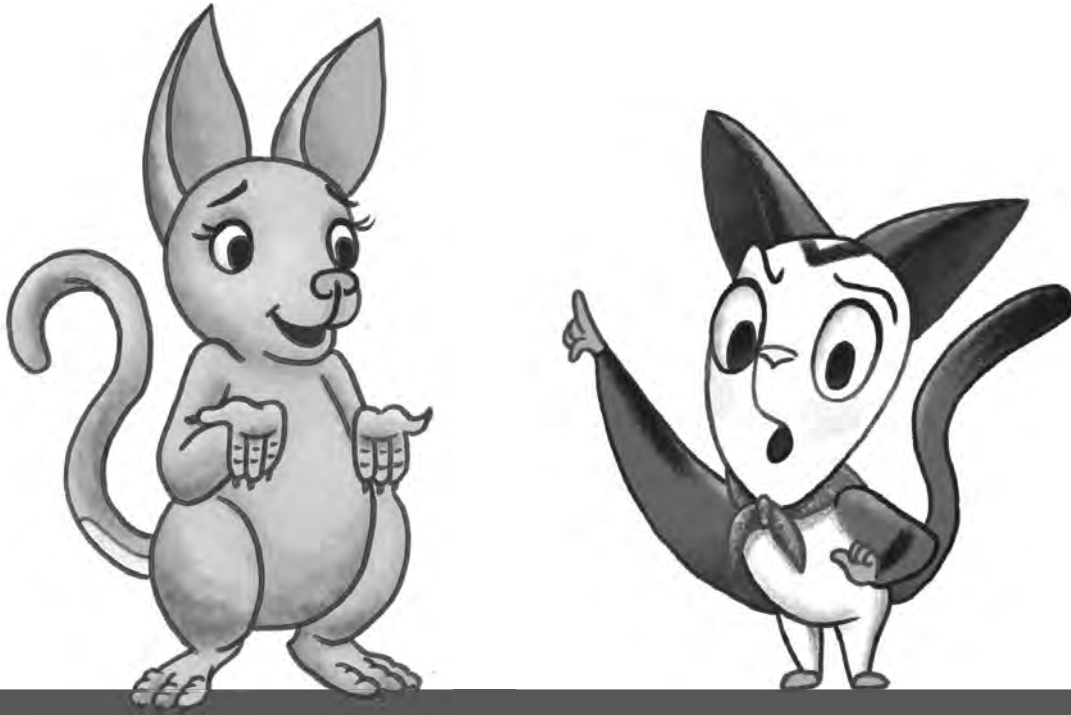
Now You Try!



Once you can draw Bismark's happy face, try changing his mouth, eyes, and eyebrows to get different emotions. Look at your face in a mirror to see how it changes when you're excited, when you're sad, and when you're mad. What other emotions can you help Bismark feel?

# ★ ★ What Do Penny the Possum and Bismark the Sugar Glider Have in Common? ★ ★

Penny the possum is different than Bismark the sugar glider in some ways and the same in others! Can you check off all the physical traits Penny and Bismark have in common?



Physical Traits	Penny	Bismark
Ears		
Eyes		
Nose		
Mouth		
Hands		
Feet		
Tail		





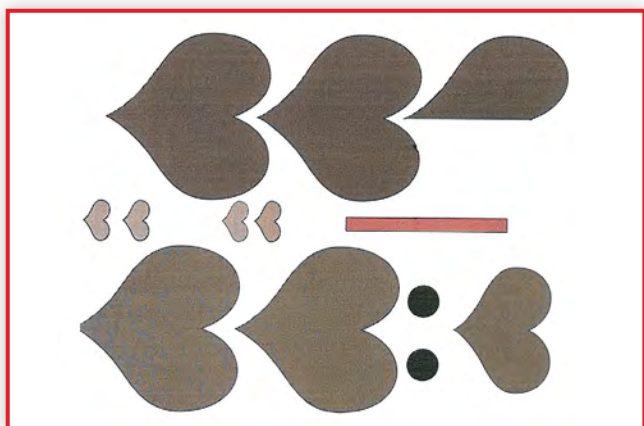
# Heart Craft: Tobin the Pangolin

## Materials needed

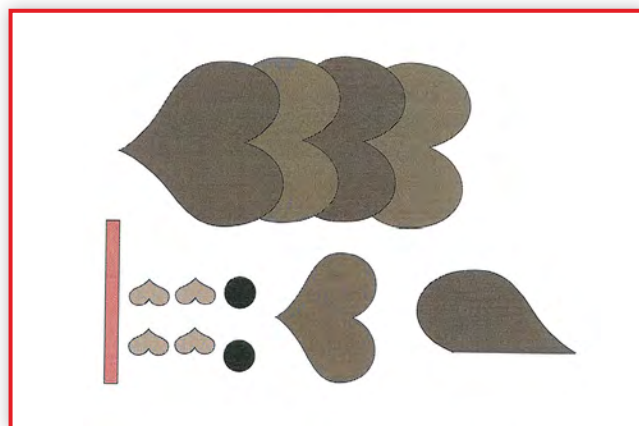
Crayons or colored pencils

Scissors

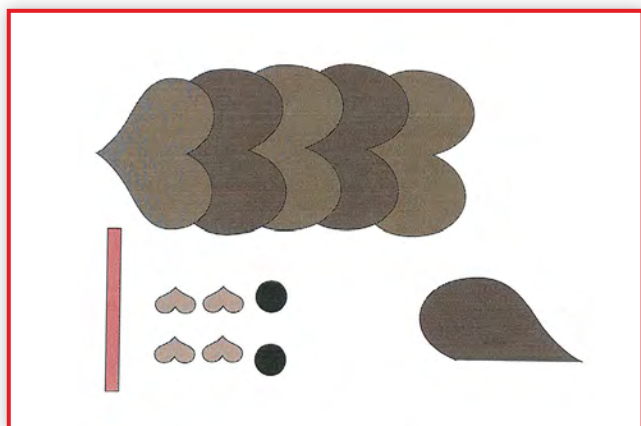
Glue stick



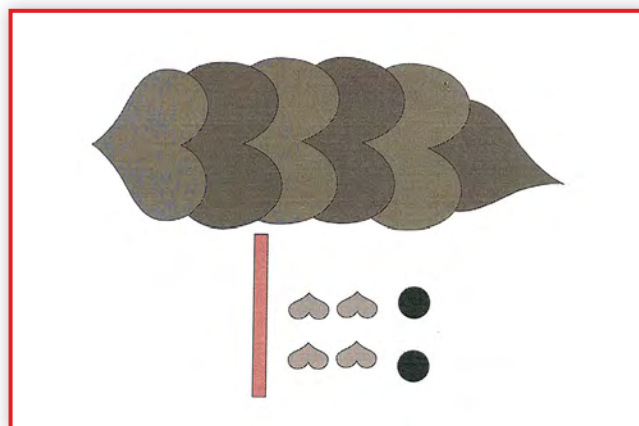
**Step One:** Cut colored pieces out



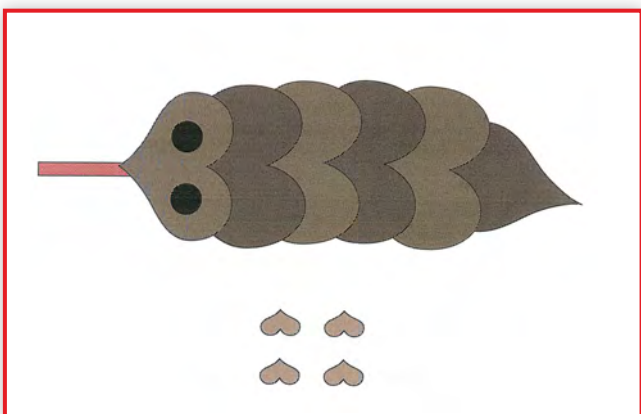
**Step Two:** Glue four body pieces together



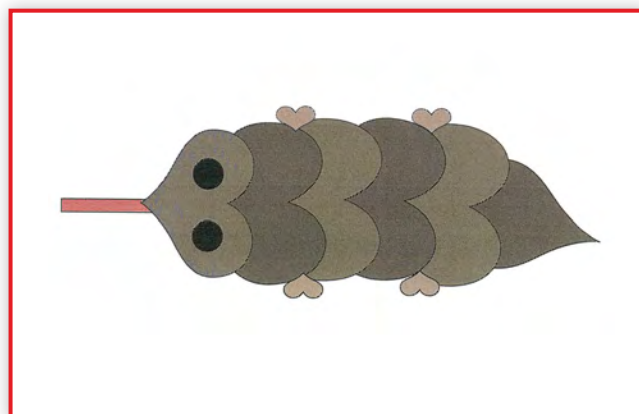
**Step Three:** Glue face to body



**Step Four:** Glue tail to body (underneath)



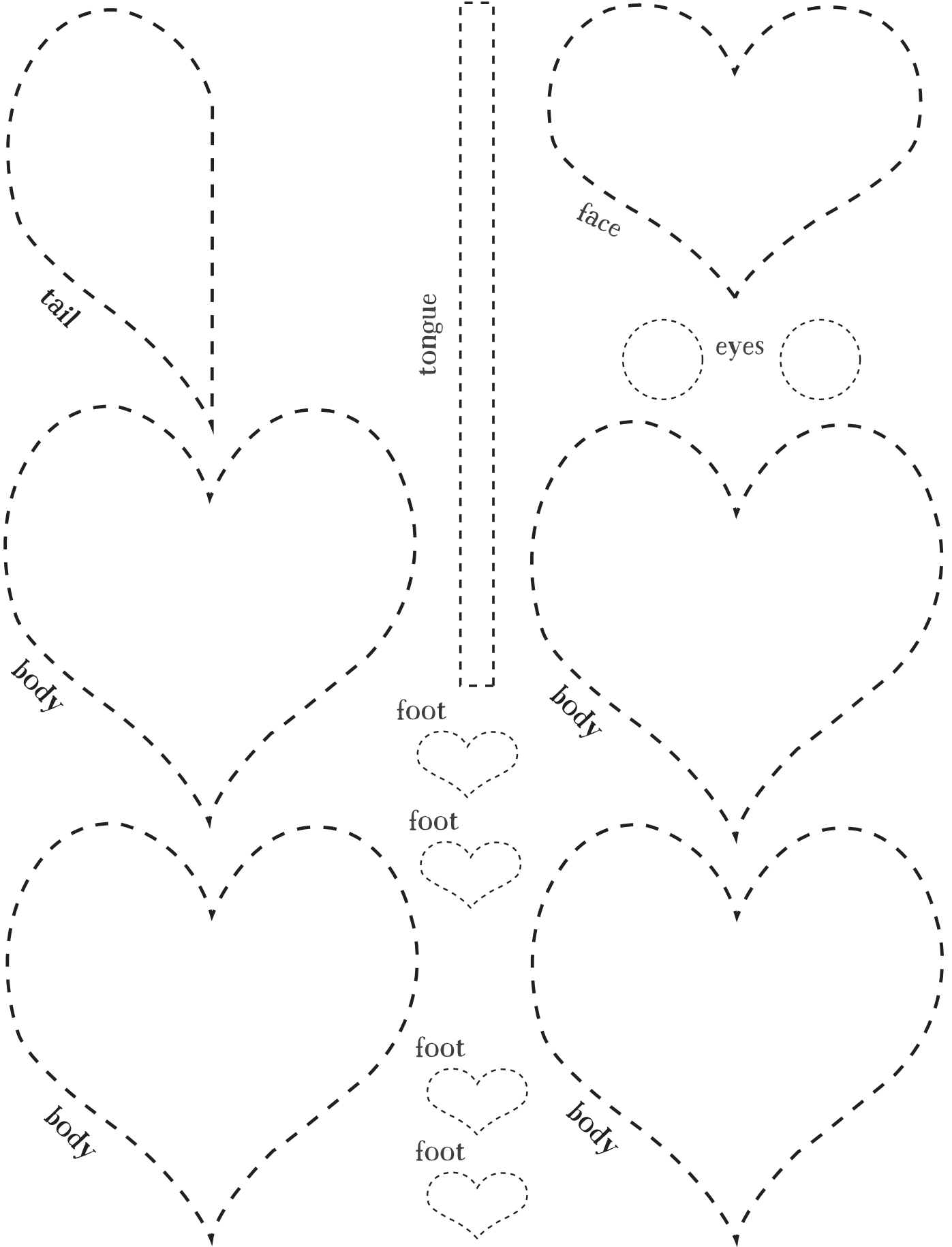
**Step Five:** Glue eyes and tongue to face



**Step Six:** Glue feet to body

# Tobin the Pangolin

Color the pieces and then cut them out



## Instructions

1. Using the box on the right, review the tongue lengths and the measuring key.
2. Start with the human. From the mouth, measure and label the average human tongue length.
3. Draw the average human tongue with the correct length, using a pink crayon or marker.  
For fun, use a funky color instead!
4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 for Tobin the pangolin and King Kami the chameleon.
5. Compare your results!

### Tongue Lengths

Average Human: 10 cm

Pangolin: 40 cm

Chameleon: 70 cm

### Measuring Key

10 cm  
(not to scale)



0 cm

100 cm



0 cm

100 cm



0 cm

100 cm

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## Tongue-Tied Science Activity

### How long is your tongue compared to other animals' tongues?

The Nocturnal Brigade has faced many unique animals along their adventures. In *The Nocturnals: The Hidden Kingdom*, Tobin the pangolin gets caught, literally, in a tongue twister with King Kami the chameleon. A pangolin's tongue is roughly equal to its body length, and a chameleon's tongue is usually about 1.5 times the length of its body!

In this Tongue-Tied Science Activity, you will:

- Learn how to use a measuring key
- Identify and measure different tongue lengths
- Draw your own animal tongues
- Discover how the length of a human tongue compares to other animals' tongues

### Scientific Background

The tongue is a muscle in the mouth that helps us and other animals taste, chew, and swallow food. On average, a human's tongue is 10 centimeters long. While humans have the unique ability to use our tongues for speech, other creatures have also found their own special uses for their tongues.



**PANGOLINS**, unlike humans, are unable to chew because they do not have teeth, so they need to catch small insects that they can swallow whole. They are able to do this by using their long, sticky tongues to trap and eat insects.

When not in use, a pangolin's tongue is rolled up deep in its chest cavity to its last pair of ribs. When extended, the pangolin's tongue is about 40 centimeters long, or the length of its entire body!

A **CHAMELEON'S** tongue is also unique and has adapted to rapidly catch prey that strays within striking distance. This remarkably long tongue can measure 1.5 times the chameleon's own body length (almost 68 centimeters for the 45-centimeter Veiled Chameleon species) and extends faster than the human eye can follow, hitting prey in about 30 thousandths of a second!



#### References:

- <https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/01/160105-chameleons-tongue-speed-animals-science/?user.testname=lazyloading:1>
- <https://phys.org/news/2016-06-tongue-chameleon-sticky-secret-revealed.html>





# Design Your Superhero Costume with The Nocturnals



Bismark the sugar glider finds shimmery, blue snakeskin—perfect for capes! What would you wear to feel brave? Find all the accessories below. Then describe your own superhero costume!

BELT	D	G	J	H	P	C	N	Q	O	N	C	E	U	S	H
BOOTS	N	L	L	Q	J	Z	R	F	G	Z	A	J	C	U	G
CAPE	A	S	B	O	T	R	I	H	S	T	P	A	U	F	O
GLASSES	B	I	T	T	V	Q	V	J	H	B	E	C	R	X	T
GLOVES	D	P	L	O	I	E	S	H	W	K	B	K	R	B	I
HAT	A	T	A	H	O	E	S	R	W	R	K	E	C	C	M
HEADBAND	E	S	G	T	S	B	Q	T	K	C	T	T	L	A	I
JACKET	H	A	D	S	W	S	O	C	C	Z	O	D	S	T	Z
MASK	N	N	A	T	U	T	E	S	G	Q	B	K	X	F	I
PANTS	J	L	B	W	I	N	E	U	S	O	C	K	S	F	F
SHOES	G	W	T	G	O	A	S	E	W	K	X	C	W	E	G
SOCKS	J	Q	H	M	R	P	O	E	S	W	E	A	T	E	R
SWEATER	X	T	Q	Q	N	H	T	A	C	I	Y	S	J	T	Z
TIGHTS	S	X	Z	J	S	W	E	T	W	M	K	D	S	B	K
TSHIRT	A	K	A	Q	N	T	W	Z	D	H	O	E	B	J	Z

My superhero costume would be

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# NOCTURNALS FILL IN THE STORY GAME

## How to Become a Member of The Nocturnal Brigade

Do you want to join the \_\_\_\_\_ Nocturnal Brigade? Great! You will  
be \_\_\_\_\_ with Dawn the fox, Tobin the pangolin, Bismark  
the sugar glider and \_\_\_\_\_ a very brave \_\_\_\_\_.  
ADJECTIVE  
VERB ENDING IN ING  
NAME OF SOMEONE IN THE ROOM  
ANIMAL

The Nocturnals follow these \_\_\_\_\_ guidelines in our daily adventures.  
ADJECTIVE

1. Members always meet at night in front of the big \_\_\_\_\_ when the  
moon is \_\_\_\_\_ and the stars are \_\_\_\_\_.  
NOUN  
ADJECTIVE  
ADJECTIVE

2. The group \_\_\_\_\_ a cape made from \_\_\_\_\_ snakeskin  
that Bismark \_\_\_\_\_ took from one of our \_\_\_\_\_ who at-  
tacked him in the \_\_\_\_\_ forest.  
PAST TENSE VERB  
ADJECTIVE  
ADVERB  
PLURAL NOUN  
ADJECTIVE

3. We like to eat \_\_\_\_\_ pomelos, a/an \_\_\_\_\_ fruit that  
looks like a \_\_\_\_\_ and tastes like a \_\_\_\_\_.  
ADJECTIVE  
ADJECTIVE  
NOUN  
NOUN

4. We help other \_\_\_\_\_ animals when they are in trouble in the  
\_\_\_\_\_ forest that is filled with many \_\_\_\_\_.  
ADJECTIVE  
ADJECTIVE  
PLURAL NOUN

So, if you think you can \_\_\_\_\_ by these guidelines  
then you can be a member of the Nocturnal Brigade!  
VERB

Directions: Take turns choosing a word for each part of the speech to help the Nocturnal Brigade fill in the story. If you're playing alone, fold along the dotted lines to hide the story.

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Verb ending in ing: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of someone in the room: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Noun: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Past tense verbs: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverb: \_\_\_\_\_

Plural noun: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Noun: \_\_\_\_\_

Noun: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

Plural noun: \_\_\_\_\_

Verb: \_\_\_\_\_

# Nocturnals

## THE MYSTERIOUS ABDUCTIONS BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS



1. Dawn, Bismark, and Tobin make up a team, the Nocturnal Brigade. How did the Brigade meet? What qualities do each of those three characters possess that help make them work so well together? Do they have qualities that might hurt the team?
2. The book takes place at night and all of the characters are nocturnal. Can you think of reasons it might be good for animals to be awake at night? Can you think of characteristics in Dawn, the fox, Bismark, the sugar glider and Tobin, the pangolin that are important to their nighttime survival?
3. If you were to pick one character from *The Mysterious Abductions* who is the most like you, who would it be and why? Who is the most unlike you and why? Which character from the book would you most want as your friend and why?
4. What are your favorite locations in the book and why? If you could visit the world of The Nocturnal Brigade, which things from the book would you most want to see? Where do you think these animals might live in the real world?
5. Bismark is an outspoken character. He boasts about his own superior qualities and his affections for Dawn. Do you think Bismark is actually a confident character? If so, why? If no, why not?
6. Dawn is the leader of the Brigade. What does she do to bring the animals together as a team? What does she do when she meets Ciro, the coyote? How does she talk to Boris, the crocodile when she meets him? Do the animals respect her?
7. When Tobin first meets Cora, the wombat, Cora is afraid to speak. How does Tobin try to coax her out of her shyness? What things could you reveal about yourself that might make someone in your life feel less shy around you?
8. Why don't Dawn and Bismark trust Jerry, the jerboa? What does he do to the Brigade that makes them worry about his character? Does he redeem himself in the book?
9. Bismark speaks many languages, as do the bats. What languages are in the book? Are you able to give examples of phrases in any of these languages? Can you come up with some new phrases that Bismark might say? Can you come up with some that the bats might say?
10. Explain the rules of NOC HOC. Which animals are used as equipment in the game? Discuss the actions of the offense and defense.
11. What happens to Boris in the final scenes of *The Mysterious Abductions*? What are the other characters' responses to his actions? How would you have handled Boris?
12. What things in the book would you have done like the Brigade? What things would you have done differently?
13. Discuss the meaning of poaching and endangered species in the wild. Are any of the animals endangered species? Why is poaching wrong? How do both affect the environment?





HOW TO:  
**Dawn**

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