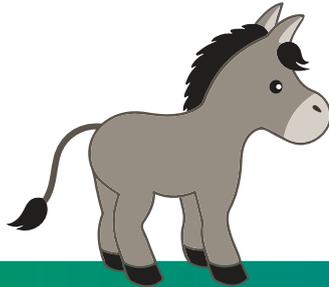




Enhancing Pupils' Social Skills and Enriching  
Teaching Methods through Storytelling and Virtual Reality

# The journey of the animals



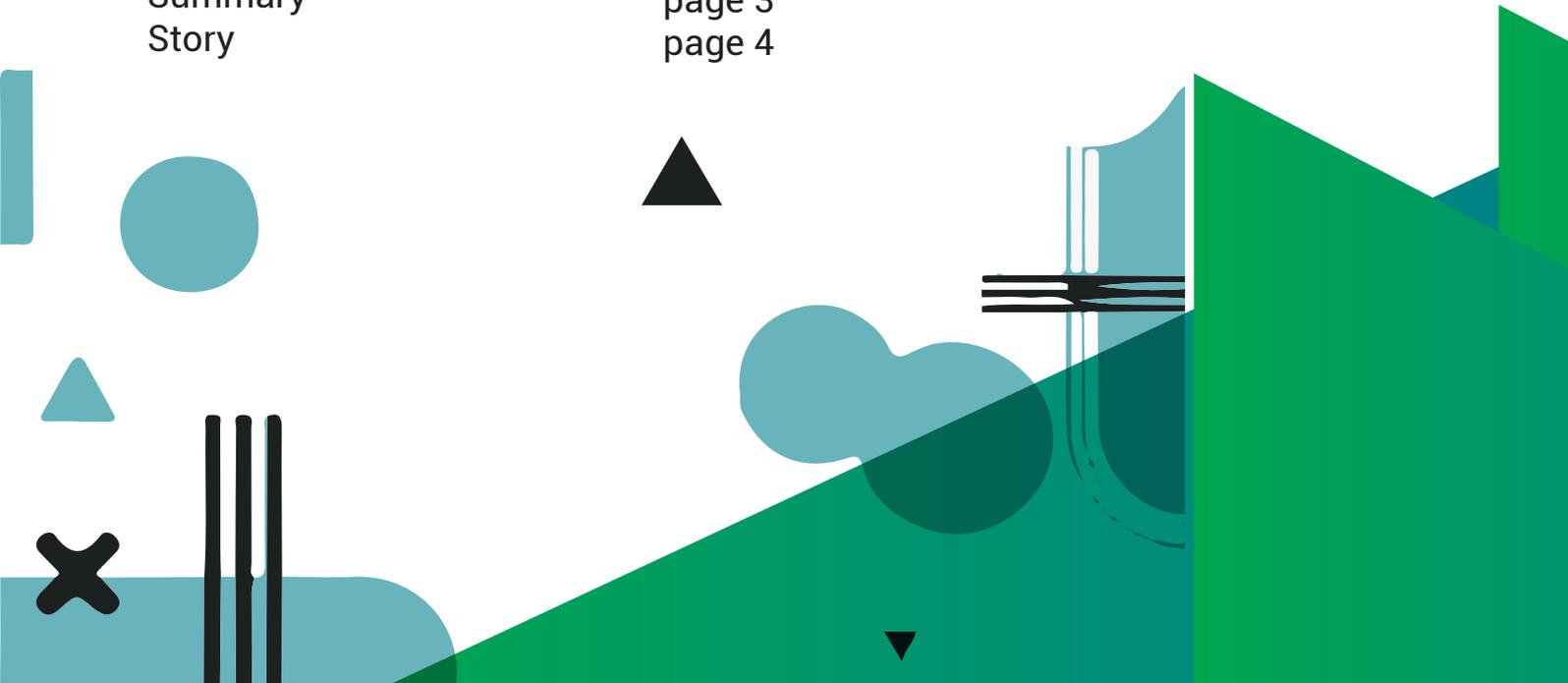
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**Main heroes**

- Hedgehog
- Beaver
- Tiger
- Donkey
- Eagle
- Pig

## Hedgehog



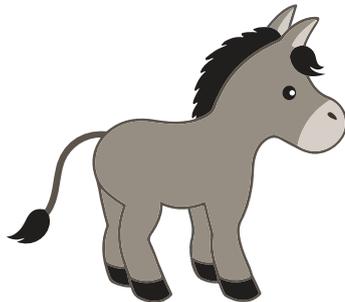
## Beaver



**Tiger**



**Donkey**

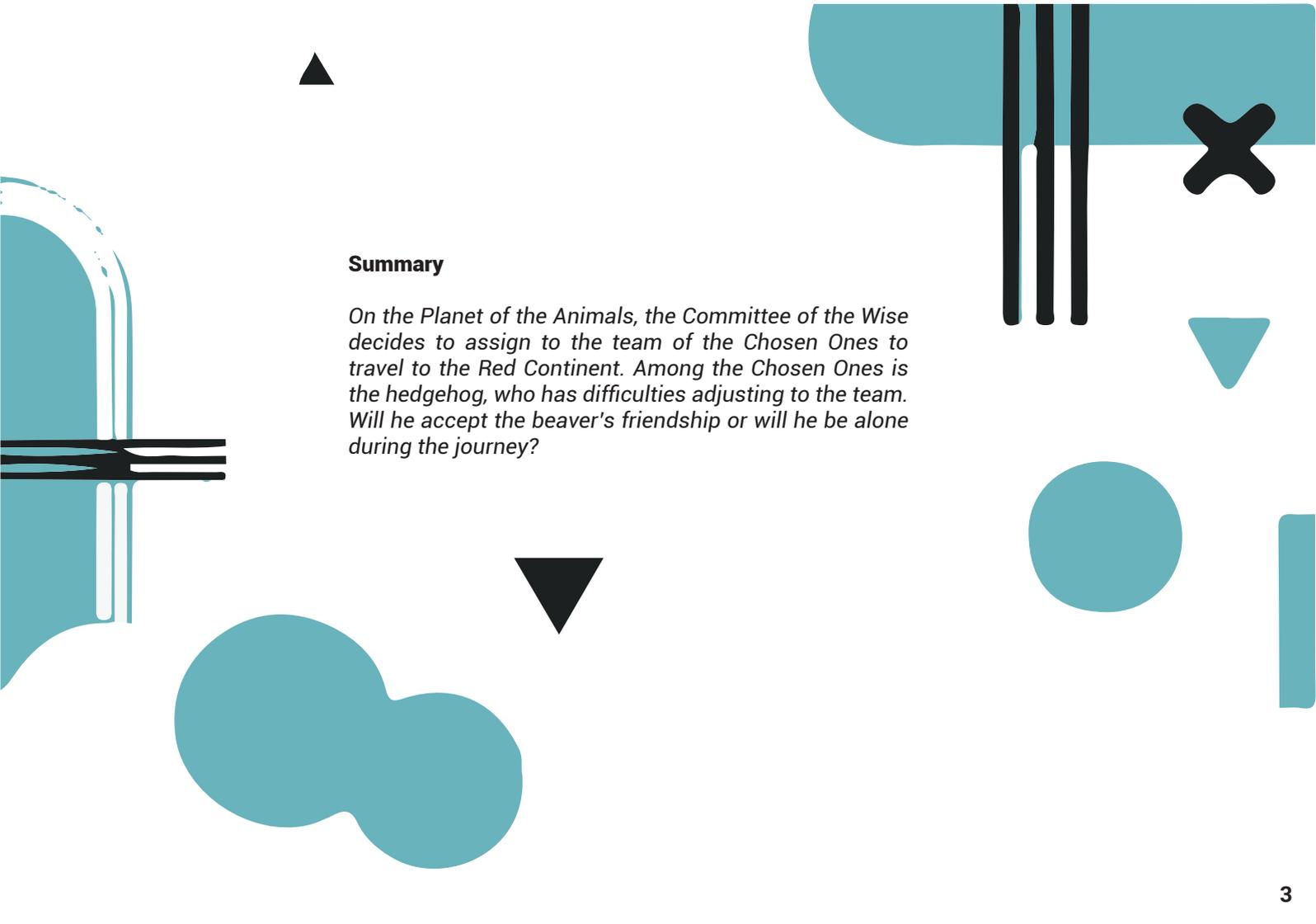


**Eagle**



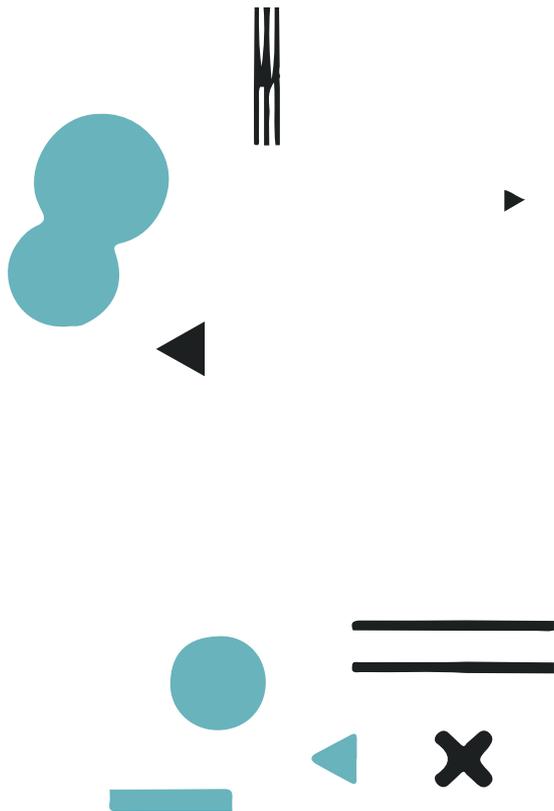
**Pig**





## Summary

*On the Planet of the Animals, the Committee of the Wise decides to assign to the team of the Chosen Ones to travel to the Red Continent. Among the Chosen Ones is the hedgehog, who has difficulties adjusting to the team. Will he accept the beaver's friendship or will he be alone during the journey?*



Today is a big day on the Planet of the Animals! At the crack of dawn, the elephant goes to the big square with the banana trees for the great call! He raises his long trunk and lets out a deafening trumpeting sound! The animals quickly come out of their nests and shelters and gather in the square... Everyone is looking forward to hearing the announcement of the Committee of the Wise; they have been waiting for it for so many days!

The pig, the chairman of the Committee of the Wise, ascends the podium. "Dear fellow citizens," he says, "the Committee of the Wise met day and night all week to decide how the State would solve the problem we have been facing for a long time. As you know, the conditions in the Blue Continent no longer allow us to live in comfort and safety: the sea water level is rising, the animals are multiplying and there is not enough space and food for all of us anymore. The Committee of the Wise considered that the only solution was for some animals to move to the Red Continent. But to do this, a select group must first go there to prepare the ground. In the past few days, we have asked those of you who are willing to live a unique adventure to complete an application. Well, we have now gone through all the applications and came up with something. Are you all ready to hear what we have decided?"



"Yes!!!" shout the animals in one voice.

"Great! It's about time we announce the names of the Chosen Ones. So.... the Chosen Ones, who will be the first to travel to the Red Continent are: the tiger, the donkey, the beaver, the eagle, and the hedgehog!"

Upon hearing this decision, some animals sigh in disappointment or – the most cowardly ones – in relief, while others begin to protest: "Shame", "Unfair!", "This is ridiculous!"

The pig intervenes, saying in a firm voice "These animals have been carefully selected by the Committee of the Wise on account of their special characteristics, which will contribute to the successful completion of the mission of the animals to the Red Continent".

"Are you kidding?", the lion protests with his thunderous voice. "How could this little, spiny creature with the pointed muzzle help?" he says, looking at the hedgehog in disbelief.

"The hedgehog is ideal for our mission. It is a small but wise animal with a unique spiny shell, with a strong instinct and many other virtues. The tiger has been chosen for her speed and combativeness, the donkey for his strength and patience, the eagle for his excellent eyesight and organizational skills, and the beaver for his intelligence and orderliness. We understand your concerns, but you will see that in the end we made the best decision for the Chosen Ones!", the pig answers with confidence. "Now I ask all the Chosen Ones to come forward!"

The tiger, the donkey, the eagle and the beaver run with enthusiasm to the podium. The hedgehog, on the other hand, moves two steps forward and hovers. He is hesitant, having heard the lion's comment.

"Congratulations, well done to all!", says the pig to the Chosen Ones who went to the podium. "We are sure that you will make us proud! But is everyone here? It seems to me that someone is missing! Aha! Where is the hedgehog? Why hasn't he come forward?"

"Ha, not a surprise at all! He is hiding!", "Hey, little hedgehog, go ahead, what are you afraid of?", "See? The inclusion of the hedgehog in the Chosen Ones was clearly a mistake!", the other animals exclaim.

The hedgehog finally moves forward timidly, blushing with shame at the comments that are being heard.

"Welcome little hedgehog! We expect a lot from you!", the pig says to the hedgehog with a smile, and to all the Chosen Ones, "we have brought equipment, a map and food for you. Are you ready to depart?" "Ready!" answer the Chosen Ones.

The donkey is loaded with all the equipment and food, the eagle is flying in circles over the Chosen Ones holding the map with its claws, while the rest of the group is getting ready to cross the Eucalyptus Forest. Everyone looks very excited! "What an awesome adventure awaits us!" exclaims the tiger. "I look forward to seeing new places!" says the donkey. "I can't wait to get into the forest!" says the beaver.

Only the hedgehog seems to feel uncomfortable and remains silent. "Hey, hedgehog, will you ever talk? Or will you stay like this during the whole trip?" says the eagle laughing out loud.

The hedgehog doesn't know how to react and what to say because he has not coexisted with these animals before. He did complete the application for the adventure, but he never thought he would be selected. "It was my mistake to apply! How will I fit in with all of them now? All these years, my only friends were hedgehogs! Okay, sometimes I did hang out with some mice that were near my cave, but that was all. I was perfectly fine sitting alone in my cave. Why did I get into all this trouble now?"

His first, instinctive reaction is to roll into a spiny ball! He does this every time he feels uncomfortable, or when he feels afraid or ashamed.

The other animals are very surprised! "What's this now?" says the eagle. They have no idea what happened to the hedgehog. And how would they know? They never hung out with hedgehogs. "What should we do with this ball now?" says the tiger and tries to grab the hedgehog. "Ouch! The spines are too sharp!"

### What does the beaver answer?

1. "For sure we cannot leave him here. We will get into trouble if the Committee of Wise finds out. They are the ones who have chosen him. We'd better put him together with our other stuff on the donkey and move on".

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2. "Should we try to get him to unroll and tell us what he wants to do? What if he has changed his mind and no longer wants to come with us?"

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"I will grab him with my claws; I won't feel any pain", says the eagle and grabs the hedgehog and throws him in the basket with their other stuff. "Now we can move on!"

So, the Chosen Ones begin their journey in the Eucalyptus Forest. They are walking and walking until nightfall.

"We'd better stop for today. I am so hungry! Beaver, please bring our dinner! It's finally time to eat!" says the tiger.

The eagle, while still devouring a large piece of cheese, says "I'm so full! I will sleep like a baby tonight!"

"The food is very good, thank you, dear beaver!" says the donkey.

At the same time, the hedgehog, who is still rolled in a ball, says quietly, without being heard by the others: "I am so hungry! The others don't even remember that I am here! If I unroll from my ball now, they will definitely make fun of me! It's over now... I will go to sleep starving!"

The rest of the Chosen Ones finish their dinner and are getting ready to go to sleep.

"It's time rest! Good for us that our beloved beaver has made our beds already! Good night, team!" says the eagle.

"Good night!" answer the rest of the Chosen Ones, lying on their mattresses happily, with full stomachs.

When everyone is asleep, the hedgehog gets up and, walking on his toes, reaches the food basket. He secretly grabs a piece of bread and cheese and slurp! he eats them. "Finally, I put something in my stomach!" he says.

And while he is still chewing, the beaver catches him red-handed! "Who's there; Aha, I caught you! What are you doing there, little hedgehog?"

## How does the hedgehog respond?

1. "Please, beaver, don't tell the others that you saw me! I will give you some of the sugar I carry in my pouch in exchange! My mom gave it to me before I left to use it in case of emergency!"

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2. "Please, beaver, do not tell the others that you saw me eating in secret! I didn't feel comfortable eating with you before. At least I tried not to eat more than my share!"

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"This is not a bad idea. Let someone talk to him! I'm certainly not the right animal to do so!" says the tiger.

"Hedgehog, unroll from your ball or else we will not take you with us!" says the donkey.

"You have to decide if you want to come, little hedgehog! And do so fast! We won't be carrying a small, spiny ball all the way to the Red Continent, if you do not intend to help us!" says the eagle.

"Come on, little hedgehog, unroll from your ball, we want you with us!" the beaver tells him, and more quietly, as he approaches him – at a safe distance, though; the last thing he would want would be to get pierced by his spines! "What happened to you? How come you rolled in a ball? I really want to know how you do it! Come out and tell me!"

"What does he want now? Why is he trying to persuade me to go out? He definitely doesn't mean well!" the hedgehog wonders while still rolled in his ball.

"Come on, get out! Don't be scared; I will take care of you!" the beaver tells him.

"Sure sure! I know you want me to come out from my ball so that you can make fun of me with the others!" says the hedgehog.

"No, I promise! Come out and you will see that we will become friends!"

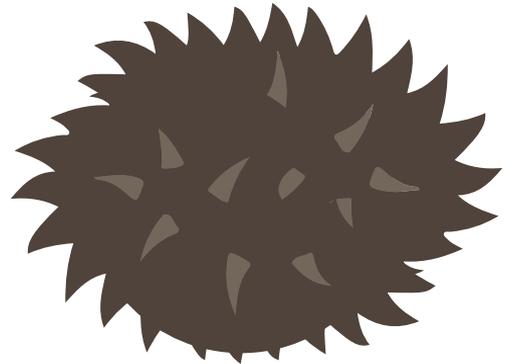
## How does the hedgehog respond to the beaver?

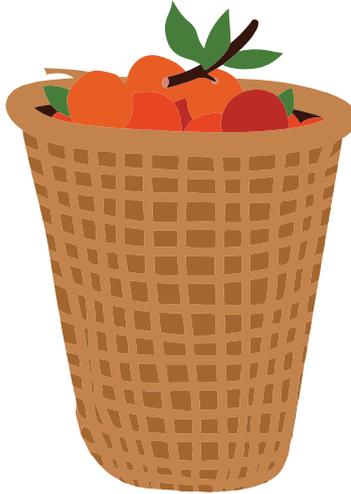
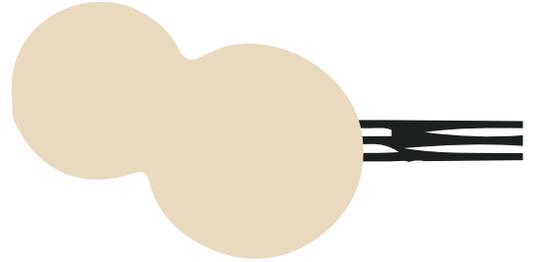
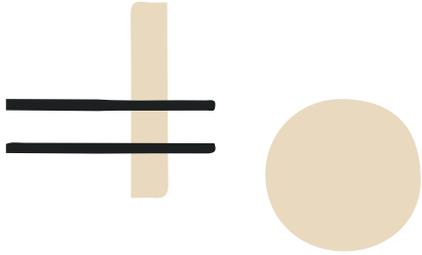
1. "I'm unrolling from my ball, only because I was chosen by the Committee of the Wise to offer my help!"

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2. "Okay, I will unroll since you are asking me to do so! Thank you for your support."

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Finally, the hedgehog unrolls from his ball!

"Wow! We saw his face at last! Why did you roll into a ball, little hedgehog? I, for one, have not seen any other animal take this form before!" says the tiger.

"We hedgehogs do this sometimes! We roll into a ball and push our quills out when we are before an enemy or when we feel threatened! The reason I rolled into a ball now is because I felt strange being around animals I don't know!" says the hedgehog, blushing with shame.

"So you rolled into a ball because you are afraid of us! Haha, you are such a coward!" the donkey tells him.

"All this is funny, but don't do it again! The last thing we want is to carry around a spiny ball that does nothing!" says the eagle.

The hedgehog lowers his head, feeling embarrassed and upset because of what he has heard. He has no choice but to follow the rest of the group that has already begun to move forward. "I'm just a weirdo to them. They definitely consider me a burden for the team", he says to himself.

The Chosen Ones walk in the Eucalyptus Forest until nightfall.

"We'd better stop for today. I'm starving! Dear beaver, please serve our dinner", says the tiger.

"How are we going to share the food?" says the eagle.

"Everyone will get their share according to their size and needs. I, for instance, that am big and carry all our stuff, don't I deserve a large portion?" says the donkey.

"Yes, this is how it should be done, everyone will get what they deserve" says the tiger.

**The hedgehog is in a dilemma, as he doesn't know what to do with the fruit.**

1. "I can share the fruit with the beaver who at least tried to be friendly to me. We two ate the smallest portions anyway. When the others are asleep, I will wake him up so that we can both go and eat!"

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2. "I will keep the fruit for myself. I picked them up after all. I don't trust anyone else".

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"Why would I want to take your sugar? Keep it for you!", says the beaver to the hedgehog.

"Please, take the sugar and don't say that you caught me eating secretly at night!" says the hedgehog.

"But I don't want your sugar so as not to give you in!" the beaver answers.

"Do you want me to give you something else? I only have my water bottle and a lucky charm that my grandmother has given me" the hedgehog says in despair.

"No, you don't need to give me something in exchange for my not saying anything to the others!" says the beaver.

"And how can I be sure that you won't reveal to the others that you saw me eating in secret?" the hedgehog hesitates.

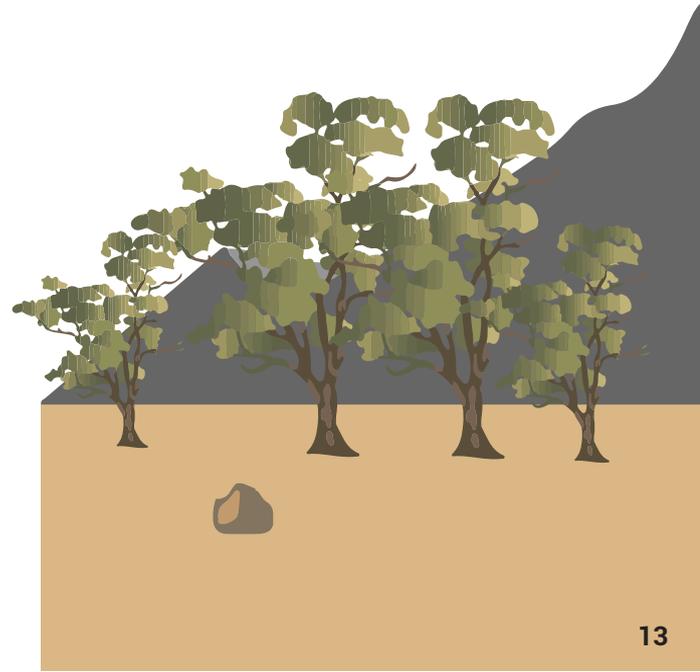
"I'm telling you that I understand that you felt uncomfortable and didn't want to unroll from your ball to eat with us. I empathise with you and that's why I promise I won't say anything. Isn't that enough?" the beaver reassured the hedgehog.

"But without me giving you something?" the hedgehog hesitates again.

"All I want from you is to trust me. It's the only way for all of us to have a good time on this journey" the beaver remarks.

"Hm, okay... I hope you keep your word", says doubtfully the hedgehog.

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The beaver reassures him by saying "Don't worry, little hedgehog, I will not tell anyone! I understand that you felt uncomfortable and did not want to sit down to eat with us. We should have noticed that you weren't with us and we should have tried to persuade you to unroll from your ball and eat with us! Sorry!"

"Thank you, beaver, for showing me so much understanding and kindness! I'm very happy to know that I have someone on the team that I can count on!" the hedgehog answers with relief.

**Please go to page 15**



The next morning, all the Chosen Ones, including the hedgehog, eat their breakfast and discuss how to continue their journey.

"We are very close to the end of the Eucalyptus Forest. From now on, an even more difficult journey awaits us. The time has come for us to cross the Green Ocean and we need to decide how we are going to do it. We have two options. We can travel either by boat or by hot air balloon. What do you think? Shall we vote which of the two we prefer?" says the tiger.

"I cannot travel by boat! I feel nauseous in the water!" complains the donkey.

"I also prefer the hot air balloon to the boat! I wouldn't want to get into a sea storm" says the beaver.

"I am a bird, so naturally I choose the sky! I am voting for the hot air balloon!" says the eagle.

"I prefer the hot air balloon as well, but I think that will be an issue with the hedgehog if we choose it! It doesn't seem very safe to put the hedgehog in a balloon full of air! Think about this: the hedgehog becomes a spiny ball, there is turbulence, the hedgehog flies high and our hot air balloon explodes by his spines!" says the tiger.

"Right! There is the risk that our hot air balloon will burst!" the eagle agrees with the tiger.

"Yes, but if we go by boat, how will the donkey that gets nauseous in the water come with us?" says the beaver.

"It is very important for us that the donkey is well, because he has a key role in the team, since he is carrying all our stuff! We have no option but to choose the hot air balloon that the donkey prefers!" the tiger says.

"And what about the hedgehog?" the donkey asks.

Everyone turns to the hedgehog. The hedgehog pulls himself together and says "Don't worry, I have a solution for you: I can go by boat alone, since you are afraid to have me in the hot air balloon!"

The beaver intervenes saying "I won't let you go alone by boat, I will come with you!"

### **How does the hedgehog respond?**

1. "Thank you for the offer, beaver, but I'd prefer to go alone!" and quietly "I am sure that the beaver offered to help me to look good to the others and because he doesn't want to let me prove that I can do this all alone!"

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2. "Thank you for the offer, beaver! I'd be very happy if you came with me; that is, only if the others agree!"

**Please go to page 22**



The next morning, all the Chosen Ones, including the hedgehog, eat their breakfast and discuss how to continue their journey.

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"It is very important for us that the donkey is well, because he has a key role in the team, since he carries all our stuff! All we can do is choose the hot air balloon that the donkey prefers!" the tiger says.

"And what about the hedgehog?" the donkey asks.

Everyone turns to the hedgehog. The hedgehog pulls himself together and says "Don't worry, I have a solution for you: I can go by boat alone, since you are afraid to have me in the hot air balloon!".

The donkey intervenes saying "Wouldn't it be better if someone else travelled by boat with the hedgehog?"

"But he won't be completely alone, he will be with the seagull who drives the boat. Unless, of course, one of you wants to accompany him. I'm getting the hot air balloon" says the tiger.

"I could go with the hedgehog, but it seems to me that he doesn't enjoy my company", the beaver says looking at the hedgehog with discontent.

### **How does the hedgehog respond?**

1. "It's not that I don't enjoy your company, I just don't want to be a burden! If the others agree, you can come with me".

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2. "The truth is that I'd prefer to go alone. I will have the seagull as company" and quietly "I don't need the beaver, this is my chance to prove that I can make it alone!"

**Please go to page 18**

"As you please, dear hedgehog! Since you want to be alone, go ahead! You have to walk in the direction of the rising sun to reach the small port. There, you will meet the seagull who will take you by boat to the Red Continent. We will meet you on the Red Continent! Have a safe journey", the tiger says to the hedgehog, and, turning to the other Chosen Ones, "the rest of you, please follow me to the clearing! We are getting the hot air balloon from there!"

"Goodbye, see you on the Red Continent", the hedgehog replies.

The Chosen Ones walk towards the clearing, while the hedgehog goes alone to the small port. There, the seagull welcomes him: "Welcome, little hedgehog! Are you in the Chosen Ones? I received a message from the Committee of the Wise telling me to be ready to transport the Chosen Ones to the Red Continent across the Green Ocean".

"Yes, I am one of the Chosen Ones, but I'm the only one travelling by boat. The rest will travel by hot air balloon. I will meet them all again on the Red Continent", the hedgehog answers.

"Hm, strange that they left you alone. The journey in the sea is exciting, but long and difficult. I hope you are brave! But let's not waste any more time; let's go!" the seagull says and leads him to the boat.

The seagull takes the helm, while the hedgehog sits on the stern of the boat and looks at the horizon. There is complete silence and the hedgehog is immersed in his thoughts, "Have I made a mistake when I refused the beaver's offer? How will the journey be now that I'm alone? Would it be better if I asked the seagull to take me

The seagull notices that the hedgehog seems worried and asks him "What's wrong? Why are you so quiet and preoccupied?"

"Nothing. I'm just thinking what I will do when I go to the Red Continent", the hedgehog replies, unwilling to reveal to the seagull that he has started to have doubts if he made the right decision. "I don't want the seagull to think of me as a weak animal! I'm one of the Chosen Ones after all!"

"Okay, but if you want to talk about what's troubling you, here I am! I may not have time for long discussions, since I have to be focused to get you safely to the Red Continent, but I can help you if you need it", the seagull assures the hedgehog.





"Thank you, but I'm fine", the hedgehog replies.

"Look to your right, now we are passing by the Islands with the Giant Orchids! See how beautiful the view is?" the seagull tells him.

"Wow! This is breathtaking!" the hedgehog gasps in wonder.

"Wait until we pass by the Island of the Parrots; then you will be even more amazed", the seagull prepares him.

"No one will believe me when I tell them what I saw during the journey at sea!" the hedgehog moans.

"That's the problem when you travel alone, little hedgehog: you don't have anyone to share your joy and experiences with!", the seagull replies.

"I don't need to share my joy, better yet that it is all mine!".

"As you will, I hope you are right".

The seagull's words, however, gnawed at the hedgehog's mind, "Should I have accepted the beaver's offer? The seagull may be right that the joy is greater when it is shared. But was the beaver honest? Did he really want to come with me or did he offer to come just because he knew I would refuse? Or because he wanted to look good and brave to the others? I wonder what the others are doing up there".

After a while, they pass by the Island of the Parrots.

"Would you like me to go closer so that you can disembark and walk on the island? It's a unique opportunity for you to see something incredible!" the seagull says to the hedgehog.

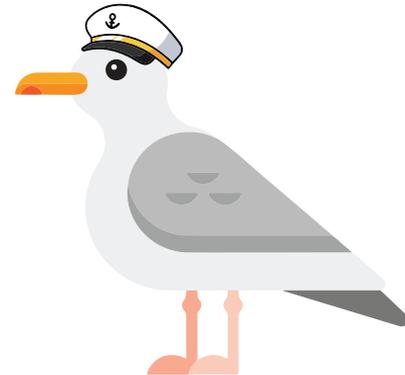
### What does the hedgehog answer?

1. "Yes, I would like that! It's a great opportunity for me to go on an adventurous exploration on my own!"

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2. "Yes, I would like that! Do you want to come with me? As you yourself have said, experiences are nicer when you share them!"

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"Great, you will have each other! Now, dear hedgehog, dear beaver, move in the direction of the rising sun to reach the small port. There you will meet the seagull who will take you to the Red Continent by boat. We'll see you there! Have a nice journey!" says the tiger to the hedgehog and the beaver and, turning to the rest of the Chosen Ones "the rest of you, please follow me to the clearing! We are getting the hot air balloon from there".

"Goodbye, see you on the Red Continent", the beaver and the hedgehog reply.

The Chosen Ones walk towards the clearing, while the hedgehog along with the beaver go to the small port. There, the seagull greets them: "Welcome! Are you in the Chosen Ones? I received a message from the Committee of the Wise telling me to be ready to transport the Chosen Ones to the Red Continent across the Green Ocean".

"Yes, we are in the Chosen Ones, but only the two of us will travel by boat. The rest will travel by hot air balloon. We will meet the others at the Red Continent", the beaver answers.

"Okay! Let's go then!" says the seagull and leads them to the boat.

And so, the hedgehog, the beaver and the seagull begin their journey in the sea.

The seagull takes the helm, while the hedgehog and the beaver are sitting on the stern of the boat and are looking at the horizon, chatting about the great adventure ahead. The beaver says with enthusiasm "I've heard that there are places of incredible beauty on the way to the Red Continent! I'm so looking forward to seeing the Islands with the Giant Orchids!"

"How do you know all this? Have you traveled across Green Ocean before?" the hedgehog asks the beaver.

"No, but I have many friends who have traveled across the Green Ocean! I have spent many afternoons strolling and talking with my friends about the Green Ocean, the Red Continent, the Fluffy Mountain, the Purple River... You can learn many things from your friends when they are in the mood to share what they know and what they have experienced! When I listened to their stories, it was as if I lived with them everything they talked about! I can't wait to go back to the Blue Continent to tell them all about this adventure", says the beaver to the hedgehog who is listening with admiration.



Any moment now, my friends, we will pass by the Islands with the Giant Orchids! Get ready to be stunned by what you will see!" says the seagull who overheard the conversation of the two members of the Chosen Ones.

And suddenly, two islands appear before them, all green with high mountains, abound with giant white, purple and orange orchids! The hedgehog and the beaver are standing on the bow of the boat, gawking at the view! What they all looking at is nothing like all the things they have seen before in their life!

"I will move closer so you can get a better view of this spectacle!" says the seagull.

The hedgehog and the beaver are amazed by what they see and can't stop talking about it.

"Wait until you see the Island of the Parrots! We will pass by many beautiful places on our way to the Red Continent! I hope you like them!" the seagull remarks, pleased that the two Chosen Ones are enjoying their trip.

Some minutes later, they pass by the Island of the Parrots. "Would you like me to go closer to the Island so that you can get out from the boat? This is a unique opportunity to see such a wildly beautiful place" the seagull suggests to the hedgehog and the beaver.

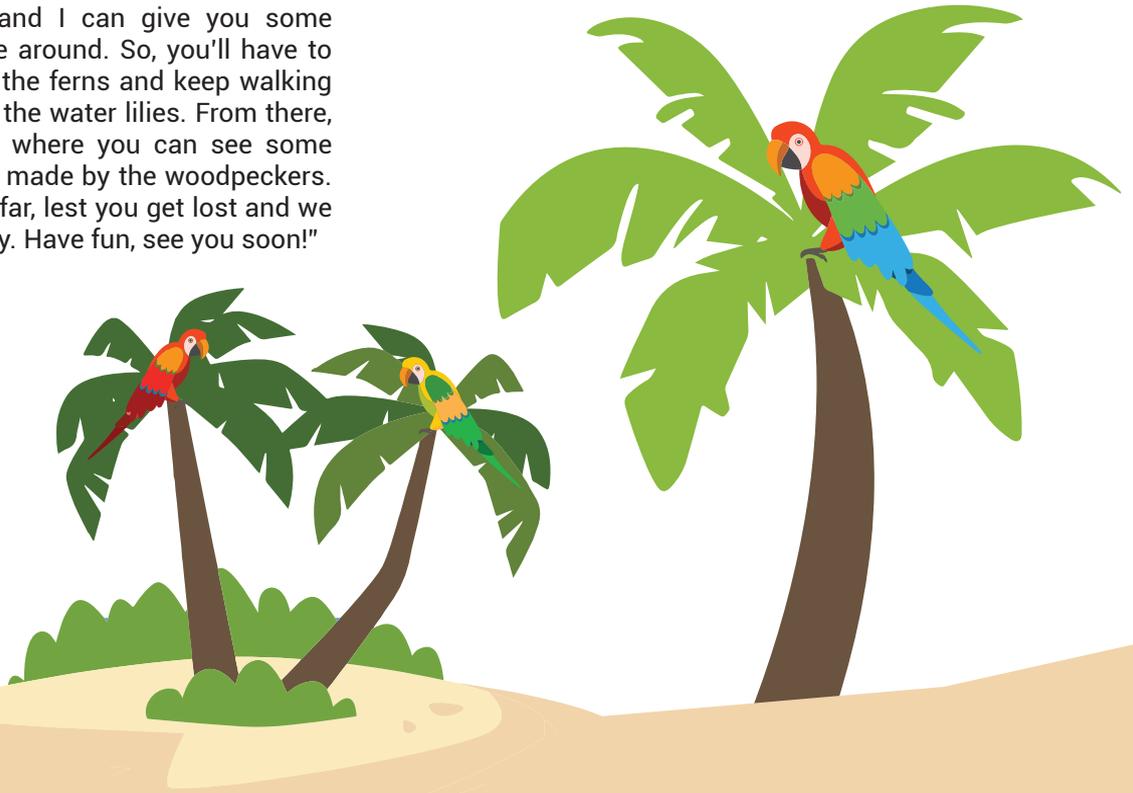
"Yes, we would love that!" they reply.

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The seagull answers "I am very glad that you have thought about the things I said and you changed your mind! I would love to share this experience with you, but unfortunately I cannot leave the boat. But I've been to Parrot Island many times and I can give you some instructions on how to move around. So, you'll have to cross the wooded area with the ferns and keep walking until you reach the lake with the water lilies. From there, you can go to the clearing, where you can see some strange, beautiful sculptures made by the woodpeckers. I'd suggest you don't go too far, lest you get lost and we cannot go on with our journey. Have fun, see you soon!"

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The hedgehog gets out from the boat and walks alone on the Island of the Parrots. The view is enchanting! Streams, rivers, giant trees with twigs that form complicated shapes, flowers that open and close their petals as soon as you approach them! The hedgehog walks among the ferns and all kinds of exotic plants until he reaches the shores of a blue-green lake full of water lilies. "How nice it would be if I could cross it! Aha! Here is a boat! How will I manage to get in and untie the rope though? I need someone else to help me! Too bad I'm alone!" says the hedgehog with disappointment.

He continues to walk in the forest, until he reaches the clearing with the sculptures of the woodpeckers. But... what else is there? It seems like a big, colorful hot air balloon! And... who is inside? Ah! It's the Chosen Ones!

"Hey, guys! It's me, the hedgehog! What are you doing here?" the hedgehog cries out with enthusiasm, running towards them.

"Aha! It's the little hedgehog! We were flying over the Parrot Island and decided to make a stop to see the place, because it looked beautiful from above! How come you are here? How is the journey at sea?" the beaver asks the hedgehog.

"I, too, got off the boat to see the place! The journey at sea is nice. But a bit lonely..." answers the hedgehog.

"If you want, I can continue the journey with you so that you are not alone!" the beaver suggests.

"Ha! See? I told you that the hedgehog could not stay alone!", the eagle says.

"He must be terrified that he is on the boat alone with the seagull! I bet he is all the time rolled in a ball!" says the tiger.

"Why do you say these things about the hedgehog? He is anything but a coward. He was the one who offered to travel by boat alone so as not to put the rest of the team in danger. He just needs some time to open up to animals he doesn't know. That's why he rolled into a ball the other time. Let's give him a chance to get to know him better! And after all, we all got scared many times during the flight with the balloon!" and, turning to the hedgehog, "Hedgehog, my friend, really, I would like to travel with you by boat, if you want it too".

### **How does the hedgehog react?**

1. "Yes, beaver, I would like you to come with me on the boat. The trip will surely be more beautiful if I do it with a friend, even if the others call me a coward".

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2. "Thank you, beaver, but I'd prefer to stay alone. Really, I'm not afraid to be alone on the boat. In fact, I haven't rolled into a ball not even once during the trip! Ask the seagull if you don't believe me!"

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The hedgehog and the beaver get off the boat on the Parrot Island. The view is enchanting! Streams, rivers, giant trees with twigs that form complicate shapes, flowers that open and close their petals as soon as you approach them! The hedgehog and the beaver walk among the ferns and all kinds of exotic plants until they reach the shores of a blue-green lake full of water lilies. There they find a small boat. The hedgehog jumps into the boat first. The beaver looses the boat's rope and jumps in next!

They cross the lake with the water lilies and reach the other bank, where the clearing with the sculptures of the woodpeckers is located. But... what else is there? It seems like a big, colorful hot air balloon! And... who is inside? Ah! It's the Chosen Ones!

"Hey, guys! It's us, the beaver and the hedgehog! What are you doing here?" the beaver cries out with enthusiasm, running towards them.

"Oooh, the little hedgehog and the beaver! We were flying over the Parrot Island and decided to make a stop to see the place, because it looked beautiful from above! How come you are here? How is the journey at sea?" the donkey asks.

"We, also, stopped here to see the place! The trip at sea is nice. It's good that we have each other", the beaver says. "It was very nice of you to go with the hedgehog by boat; we were saying that the hedgehog could not be left alone on the boat not even for a moment!" the eagle says.

"True, he would be horrified! I bet he would have rolled into a ball if he had been alone with the seagull on the boat!" the tiger says.

"Why do you say these things about the hedgehog? You are wrong! He is anything but a coward. He was the one who offered to travel by boat alone so as not to put the rest of the team in danger. He just needs some time to open up to animals he doesn't know. That's why he rolled into a ball the other time. Let's give him a chance to get to know him better! Haven't you got scared during the flight with the balloon?" the beaver said, supporting the hedgehog.

"Okay, then leave him stay for the rest of the trip on the boat alone. Let's see if he can do it. What do you say, little hedgehog? Are you ready to travel alone?" the tiger says. "Hedgehog, don't listen to them, you have nothing to prove to them! I won't leave you alone on the boat!" the beaver answers decisively.

### **How does the hedgehog react?**

1. "Thank you, beaver, for supporting me and believing in me, but perhaps it's about time for me to travel alone. We had a good time so far but the truth is that I don't need you to get to the Red Continent. I can do it alone".

### **Please go to page 29**

2. "Thank you, beaver, for supporting me and believing in me. I want you to come to the boat with me. The journey will more beautiful if I do it with a friend, even if the others call me a coward".

### **Please go to page 30**



The hedgehog continues the journey on the boat alone, accompanied only by the seagull, and this only when the latter comes down from the mast to rest. They pass through beautiful, unique, but also dangerous places. In the night, when it is cold and stormy and the hedgehog feels cold and scared, the seagull tries to hug him to protect him and to keep him warm, but he always quits because the hedgehog's spines prick him and he starts bleeding. At times, the hedgehog wonders what the journey would be like if he had accepted beaver's offer to come with him and he regrets for his stubbornness. But now it's too late. He spends his days and nights alone, quiet at sea, until he reaches the Red Continent. As soon as he lands on the Red Continent, he sees the Chosen Ones, sitting all together on the beach, all cheerful, chatting and laughing.

**THE END**



The hedgehog and the beaver get onto the boat together and continue the journey to the Red Continent. They pass through beautiful, unique, but also dangerous places. In the nights, when it's cold and stormy and the hedgehog feels cold and scared, the beaver hugs him, even though the hedgehog's spines prick him. While the two Chosen Ones spend their days and nights at sea, the tender skin under the beaver's soft hair becomes harder from the salt and the sun, until it no longer hurts when he hugs his friend. And so, the two friends, one hugging the other, happy, full of experiences, having fulfilled their mission, step on the Red Continent for the first time.

**THE END**



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