

KODI

& the MYSTERY of Komodo Island

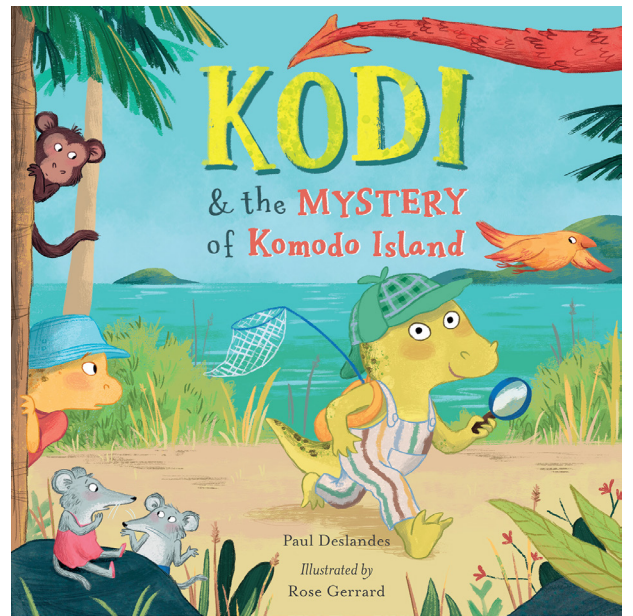
Written by Paul Deslandes

Illustrated by Rose Gerrard

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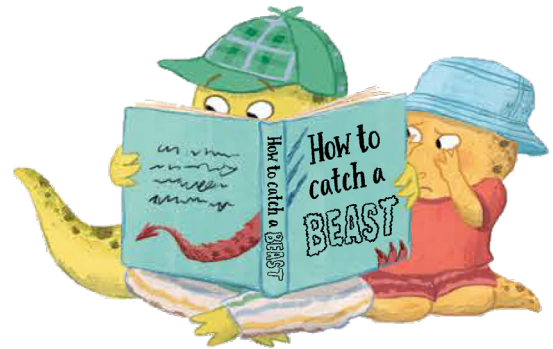
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SYNOPSIS

On the island of Komodo,
There was an ancient mystery,
About a GIANT, GRUESOME,
GHASTLY BEAST,
Who ate lizards for its tea.

Join Kodi, the detective Komodo dragon,
on his adventure to solve this mystery, once and for all.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paul lives in Kent, by the sea, and loves spending time with his family. He likes to stay active and enjoys spending time at the gym and running. He has always had a passion for poetry and often makes up bedtime stories for his children. He rediscovered his love of writing when he created a book for his own two boys after watching them spending endless hours exploring in the garden, talking to creatures and catching bugs. His debut book, *The Garden Monster*, was released in 2022, published by Little Steps. He's very excited to be publishing his next book, *Kodi and the Mystery of Komodo Island*, with New Frontier Publishing, which is due for release in 2024. Paul is always busy, creating new and exciting books for children, and he hopes to publish many more in the future.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Rose has drawn on scrap pieces of paper from as soon as she could hold a pen. What started as a childhood hobby soon became her day-to-day, and she went on to graduate from Kingston University with an MA in illustration, before starting her career as a children's book designer. Now also a freelance illustrator, she loves to create warm, fun and joyous images for children, and has a particular interest in interactions between characters.

EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

Kodi & the Mystery of Komodo Island is a humorous tale about a little Komodo dragon who fancies himself as a detective. He sets off to solve the mystery of the island showing determination as well as bravery. The story is written in playful rhyme, tying in beautifully with the fun illustrations.

Discussion Topics

Read the book together, asking questions throughout.

1. Look at the cover of the book together. What do you think the story might be about?
2. What sort of character is Kodi? How would you describe him. What does he want to do?
3. Describe the beast!
4. What does Kodi's mum think about her son's ideas?
5. How does Kodi lure the beast?
6. What does Kodi do at the end of the story?
7. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?



Fun Wordsearch Activity

Can you find all the words in the *Kodi & the Mystery of Komodo Island* wordsearch?

Name:

Class:

Date:

word search

KODI & THE MYSTERY OF KOMODO ISLAND

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



BEAST
DETECTIVE
DETERMINED
DRAGON
FIRE
FLYING

GIANT
KODI
KOMODO
MISSION
MYTH
POO

ROAR
SCALY
SOAR
SWIMMING



word search

www.edu-games.org



Answer Sheet

word search

KODI & THE MYSTERY OF KOMODO ISLAND

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

BEAST
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SCALY
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SWIMMING

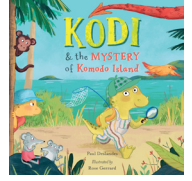


word search

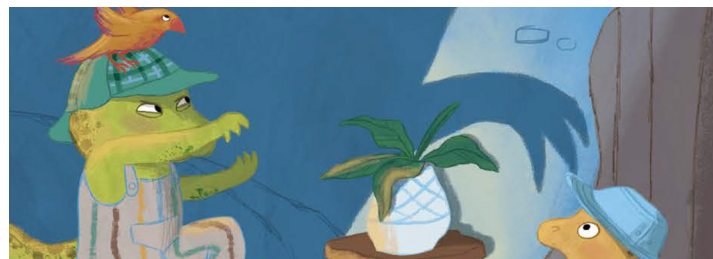
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Activity: Design a Cover

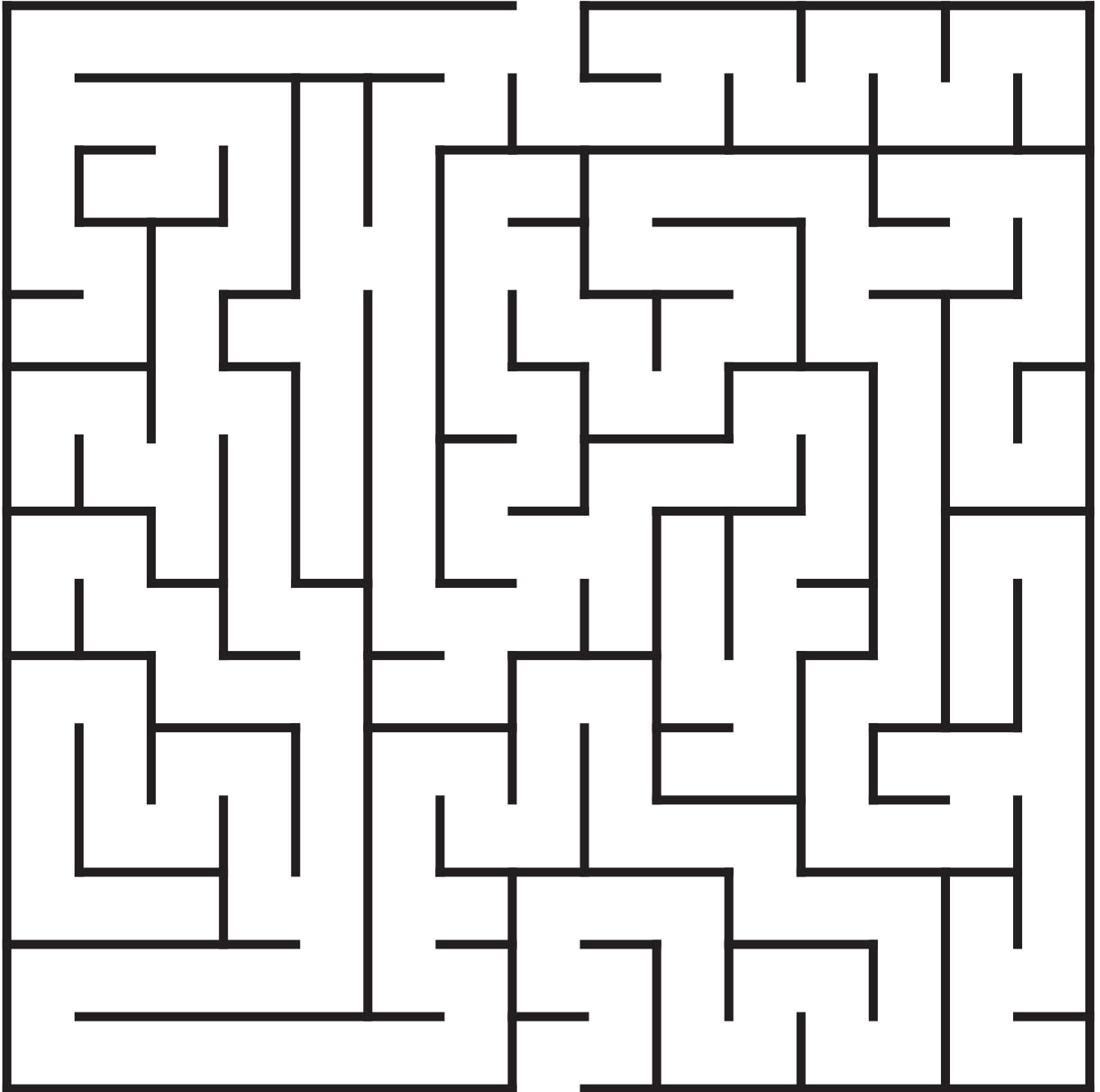
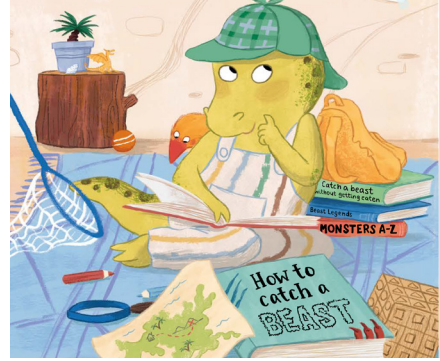


Why don't you have a go at designing your own cover for the book? You could include elements from the book's cover or use your own ideas.

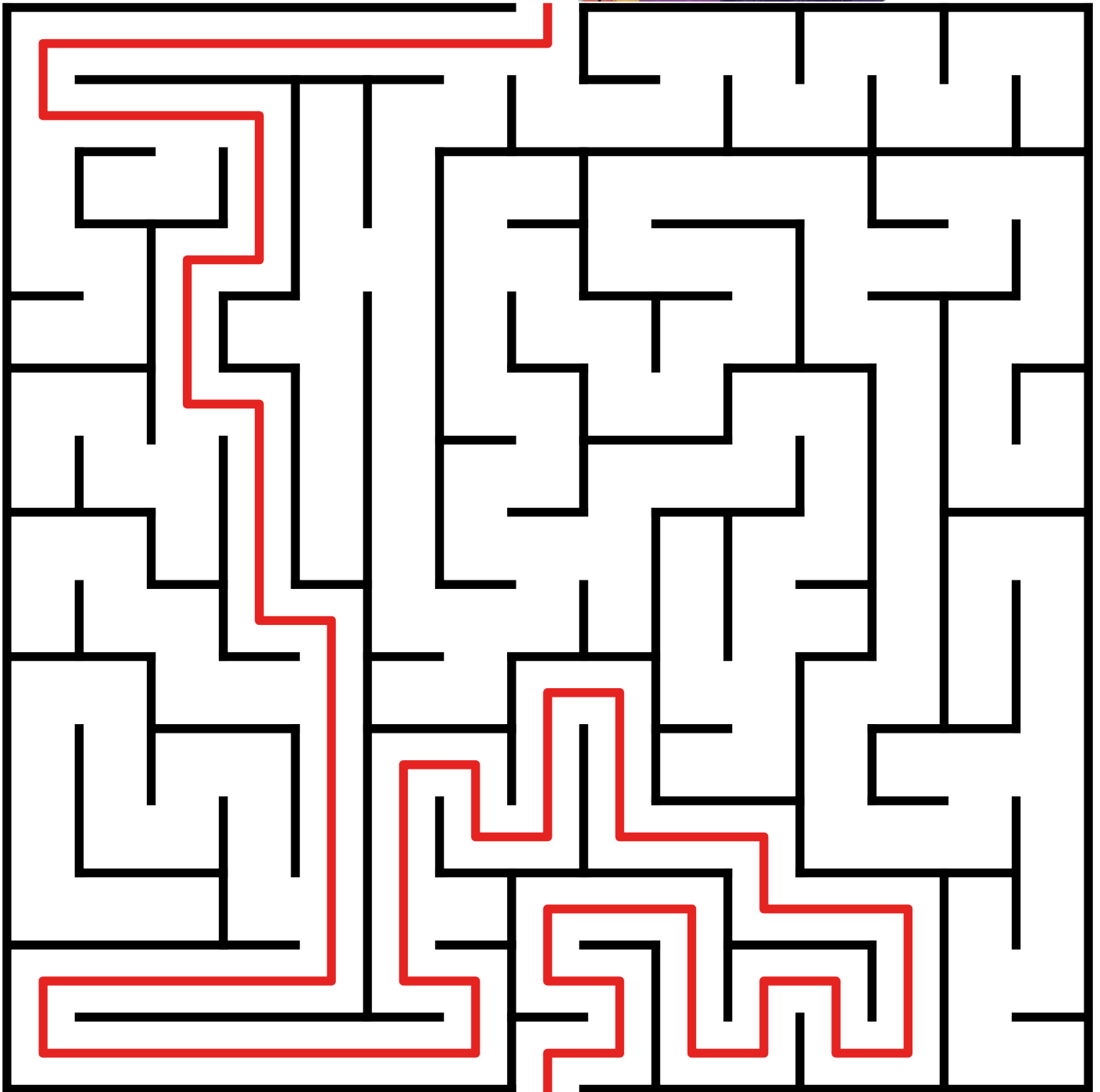
A large, empty rounded rectangle with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw their own book cover design.

A-MAZE-ING KODI

Can you help Kodi find the GIANT, GRUESOME, GHASTLY beast?



SOLUTION TO THE MAZE



FACT FILE on KOMODO DRAGONS

Here are some cool facts about Komodo dragons. Can you find out any more?

- The Komodo dragon is the heaviest lizard on Earth.
- They have a long, flat head, a rounded snout, scaly skin, bowed legs and a huge muscular tail. Adults are around 10 feet long and weigh 330 lbs.
- Females don't necessarily need to breed with a male to lay healthy eggs.
- They are carnivores. A keen sense of smell means they can locate a dead or dying animal from a range up to 9.5km.
- Relying on camouflage and patience, they lie in wait for passing prey.
- They can eat the equivalent of 80% of their body weight in one feeding.
- The large lizards have razor-sharp backwards-facing teeth, long fork tongues and their venom is so poisonous it could kill a person within hours of a bite.
- They live up to 30 years.
- Komodo dragons live only on four Indonesian islands: Komodo, Rinca, Gili Motang and Padar. Most of them stay on Komodo Island which became a national park in 1980. It is said that about 1500 giant lizards live here. Komodo dragons prefer dry habitats, such as dry, open grassland and the savanna, so the area is perfect for them.
- They walk up to seven miles a day and can reach speeds of 13mph when sprinting.
- Staying close to home, they rarely venture from the valleys where they hatched. Like to stay close to home.
- Good swimmers, they sometimes have to swim from island to island and can swim for hours.



'With claws as sharp as razor blades
And teeth with venom too,
Its jaws can open wide enough,
To swallow me and you.'

