



The Alphabet

Bridging the GAP



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BRIDGING THE GAP

Alphabet Book Letters a – z (including ch, sh, th, wh)

These books are suitable for Grade R and Grade 1 (English, Afrikaans and African Schools)

PREFACE

This book is intended to make the teaching and the learning of the alphabet easier and more exciting.

Once the learners have completed this book, they will have acquired a firm foundation of the alphabet and be able to remember the sounds of the different letters.

All children love stories and never seem to get enough of them.

With this in mind, there is a story for every letter of the alphabet, including ch, sh, th and wh.

The learners will not only remember the story, they will also remember most of the words in that story beginning with that particular letter of the alphabet. As a result, the letters of the alphabet will not be taught in isolation.

By having the stories read to them, the learners will be trained to listen (auditory), not only to the *content*, but also to the *repetitive sound* that will be present in every story.

In addition, there are many different fun activities, which will consolidate what has already been taught.

THE STORY

It might be necessary to read the story more than once.

THE MAZE

Trace through the maze.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS

Colour, trace and cut out pictures. Teachers might want to enlarge pictures and use them as wall charts of the alphabet.

COLOUR BY LETTER

Colour picture according to colour code.

THE QUESTIONS

There are 12 questions at the end of each story.

PICTURES

Cut out pictures starting with that particular letter. Then paste onto page provided.

THE POEM

The poem can be read or taught.

THE WRITING OF LETTERS

The correct way of writing the letters.
Recognizing the correct letters.

A RHYME TO REMEMBER THE SOUND

This can be chanted over and over.

THE SNAP GAME

Play snap with the letters of the alphabet.

WORDS BEGINNING WITH THE SOUND

Find how many words begin with that particular letter of the alphabet.

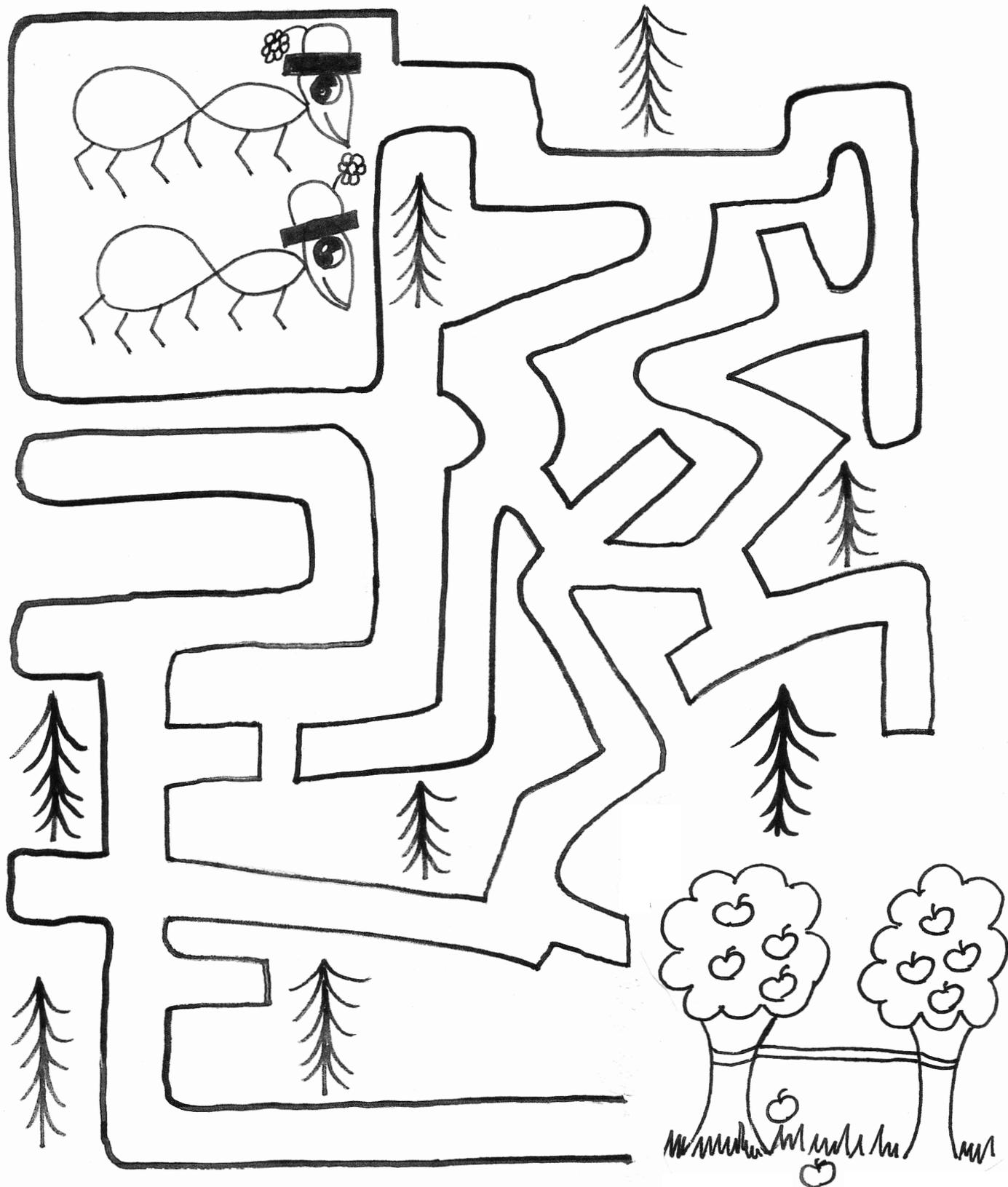
BINGO

Can be a visual or an auditory game.

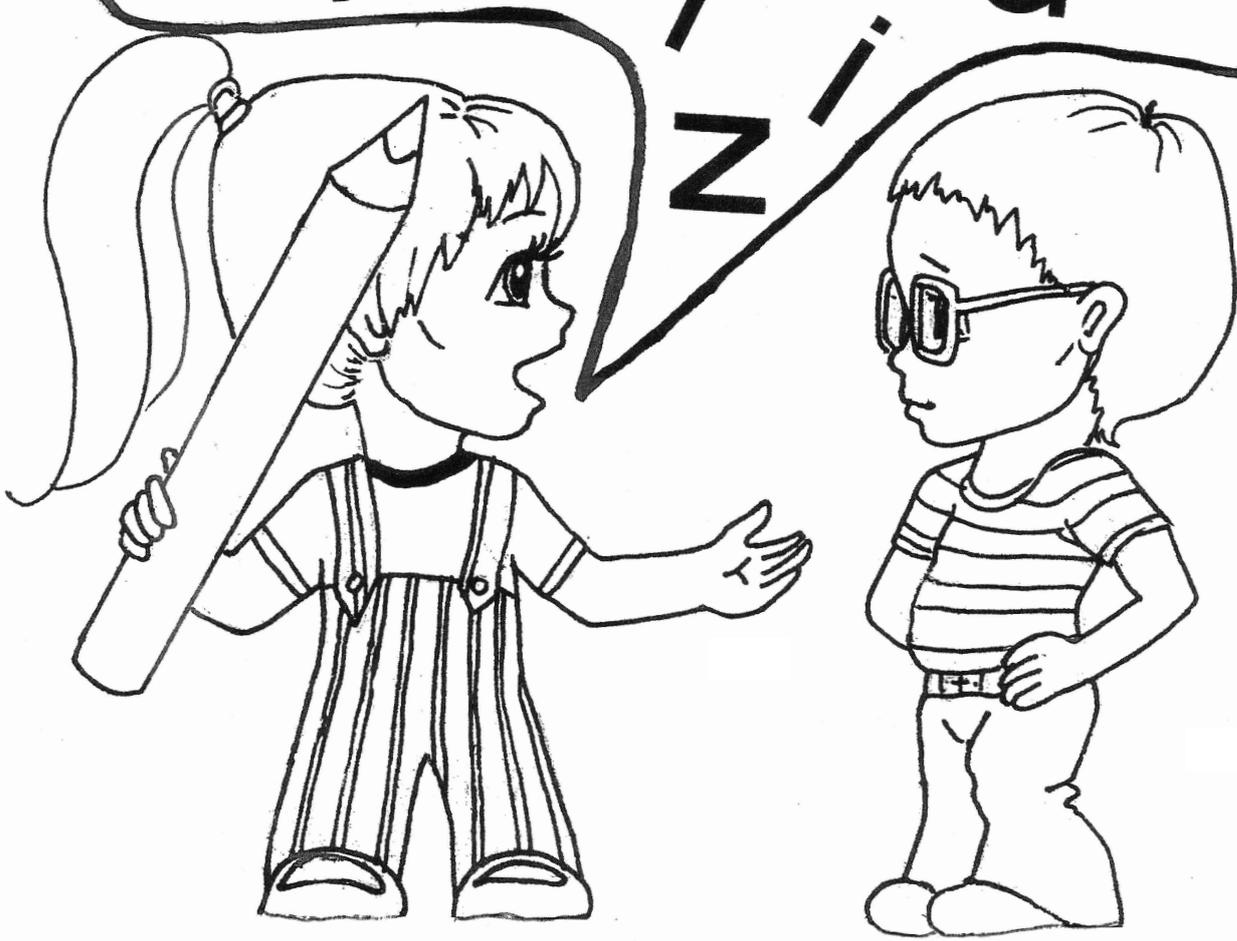
THE JIGSAW PUZZLE

Colour, cut and paste.

Help Angela and Adam find the apple trees.



The Alphabet



The Ants and the Alligator

There was once a little ant called Angela. She lived with many other ants in an anthill. Angela was not like the other ants. While they worked all day collecting food, Angela did acrobatics on top of an anthill.

Angela's best friend was a bigger ant called Adam. Angela taught Adam how to do acrobatics on top of the anthill.

One day they noticed two beautiful apple trees growing next to the anthill. Adam decided that he and Angela should change their act. They tied a thin piece of wire from one apple tree to the other apple tree. The two ants could now do a balancing act between the two apple trees.

One sunny day an alligator and an antelope came and stood under the apple trees. They came to admire Angela and Adam's new balancing act. Soon many other animals came to admire the acrobatic ants.

A woodcutter came along one day with a big, shiny axe. He was an Arab called Abdool and his job was cutting down trees. He accidentally chopped down one of the apple trees the ants were using.

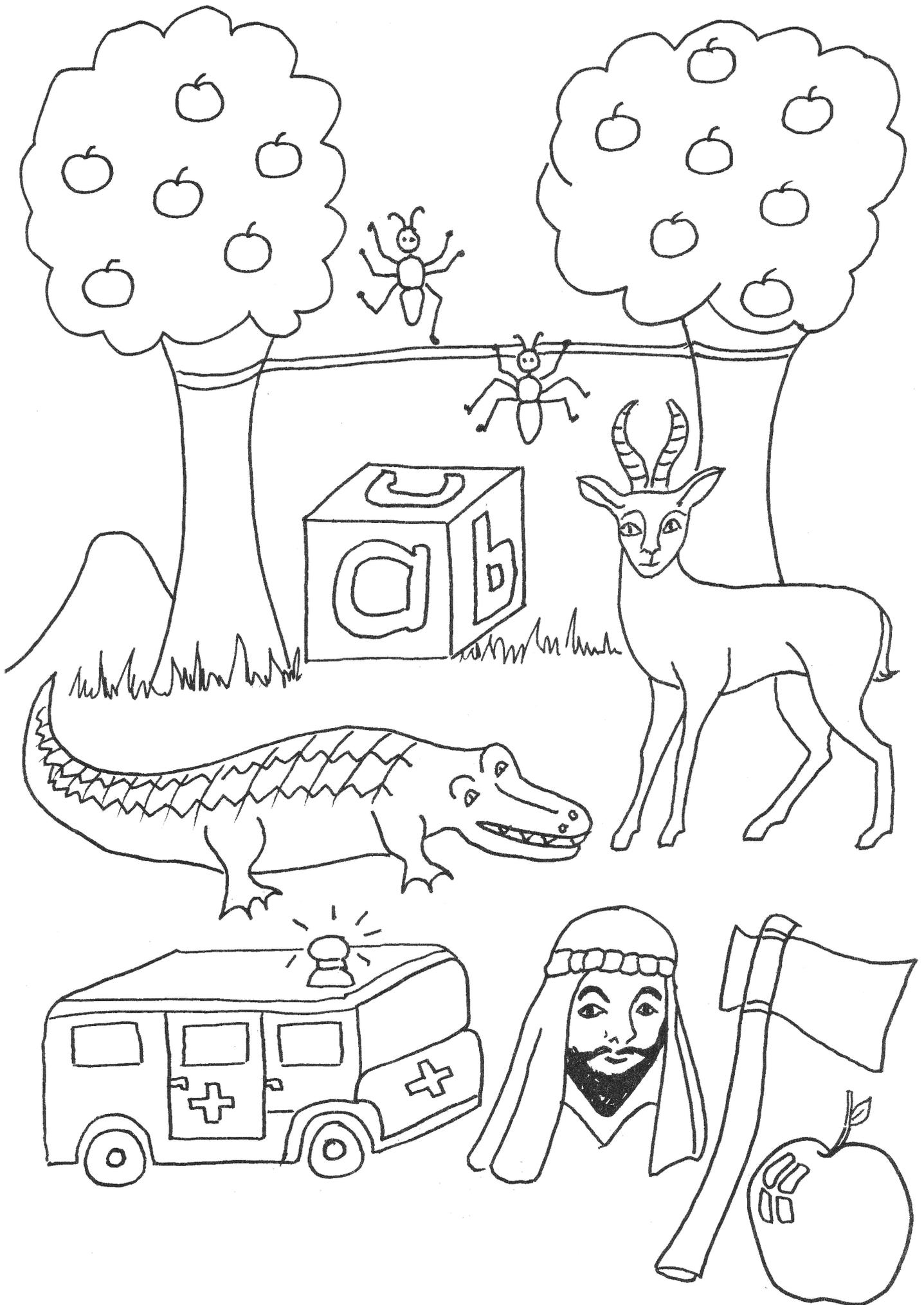
Poor Angela came tumbling down. She was in agony and had to be taken to the animal hospital. As there was no ambulance, the alligator gave her a ride on his back. Luckily Angela's little leg did not need to be amputated. She only had a swollen ankle. The animal doctor advised Angela to rest her ankle for a while.

Adam became very anxious, as he no longer had a partner for his acrobatic act. The alligator said she had a little baby alligator called Alice, who loved action. Little Alice agreed to become Adam's new partner.

But there was a problem. As there was only one apple tree, Adam did not know what to do. Luckily Abdool the Arab had a plan. He gave the acrobats some large colourful alphabet blocks on which to do their tricks. Alice the baby alligator learnt very quickly and soon became a fabulous acrobat.

The animals loved watching Adam the ant and Alice the alligator in their new act. Abdool gave everybody a big red apple from the apple tree.

When Angela's ankle was better she joined Adam and Alice in their acrobatic act.



The Ants and the Alligator

How well did you listen?

1. Where did Angela and Adam live?
2. What did the other ants do all day?
3. What did Angela the ant do on top of the anthill?
4. What did Angela and Adam do on the thin piece of wire?
5. Who came to admire Angela and Adam under the apple tree?
6. Where did the apple trees grow?
7. Who accidentally cut down one of the trees?
8. How did Angela the ant get to the hospital?
9. Why did Angela have to go to the animal hospital?
10. Who became Adam's new partner for his acrobatic act?
11. When did Angela the ant join Adam the ant and Alice the alligator?
12. What did Abdool the Arab give everybody?

The Ants and the Alligator

The Poem

1. Tricks on an anthill,
Tricks on a wire.
The two little ants
Went higher and higher.
2. They both could balance
So very well.
But one sad day,
Poor Angela fell.
3. It was on the day,
Abdool came to town.
And accidentally chopped
One apple tree down.
4. Angela went
To hospital later.
And got a ride
On an alligator.

A rhyme to remember the sound

A for ants,
A for and,
A for alligator
Asleep on the sand.

The a words in the story

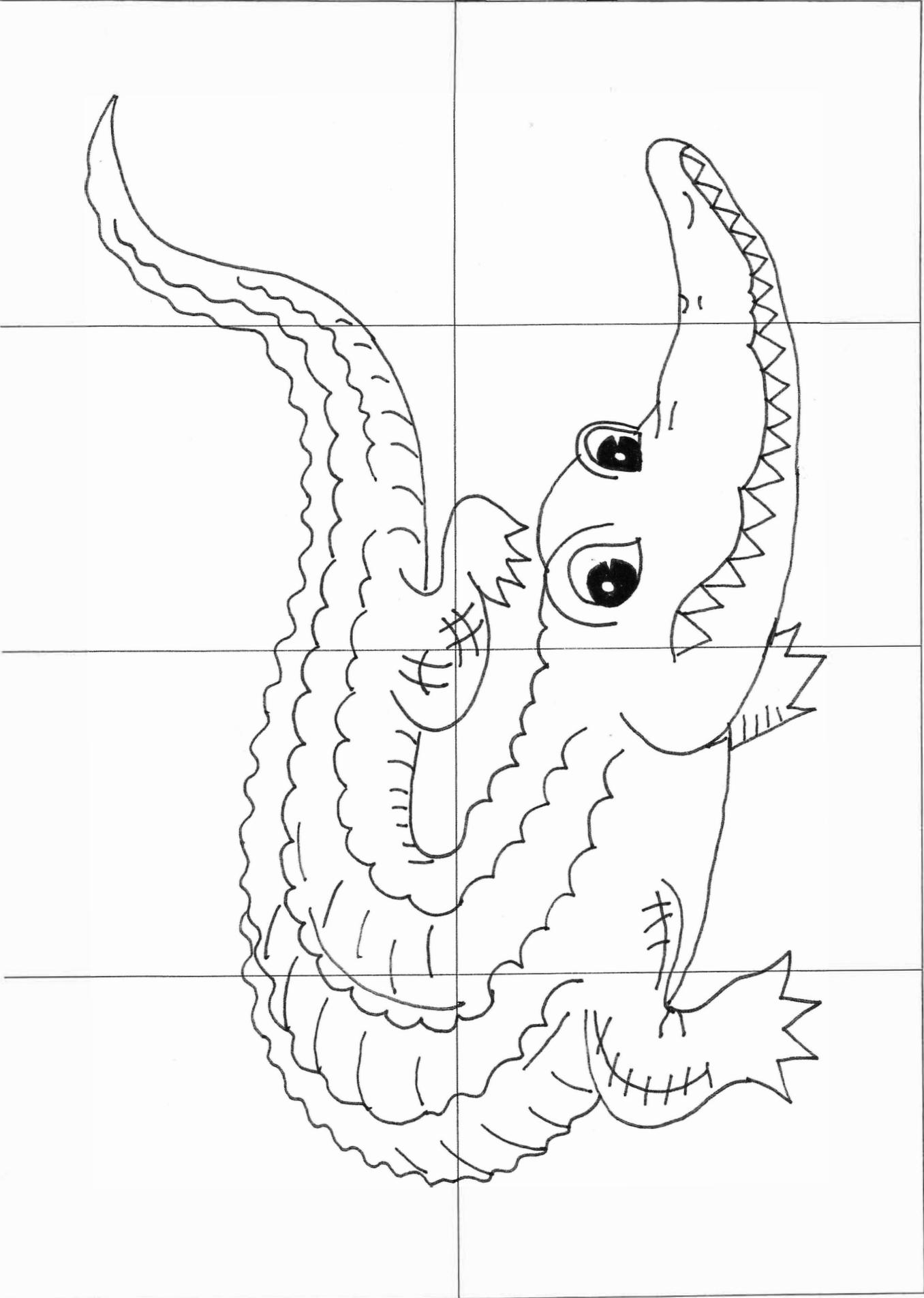
Abdool
accidentally
acrobat
acrobatic
acrobatics
acrobats
act
action
Adam
Adam's
admire
advised
agony
agreed

Alice
alligator
along
alphabet
ambulance
amputated
an
and
Angela
Angela's
animal
animals
ankle
ant

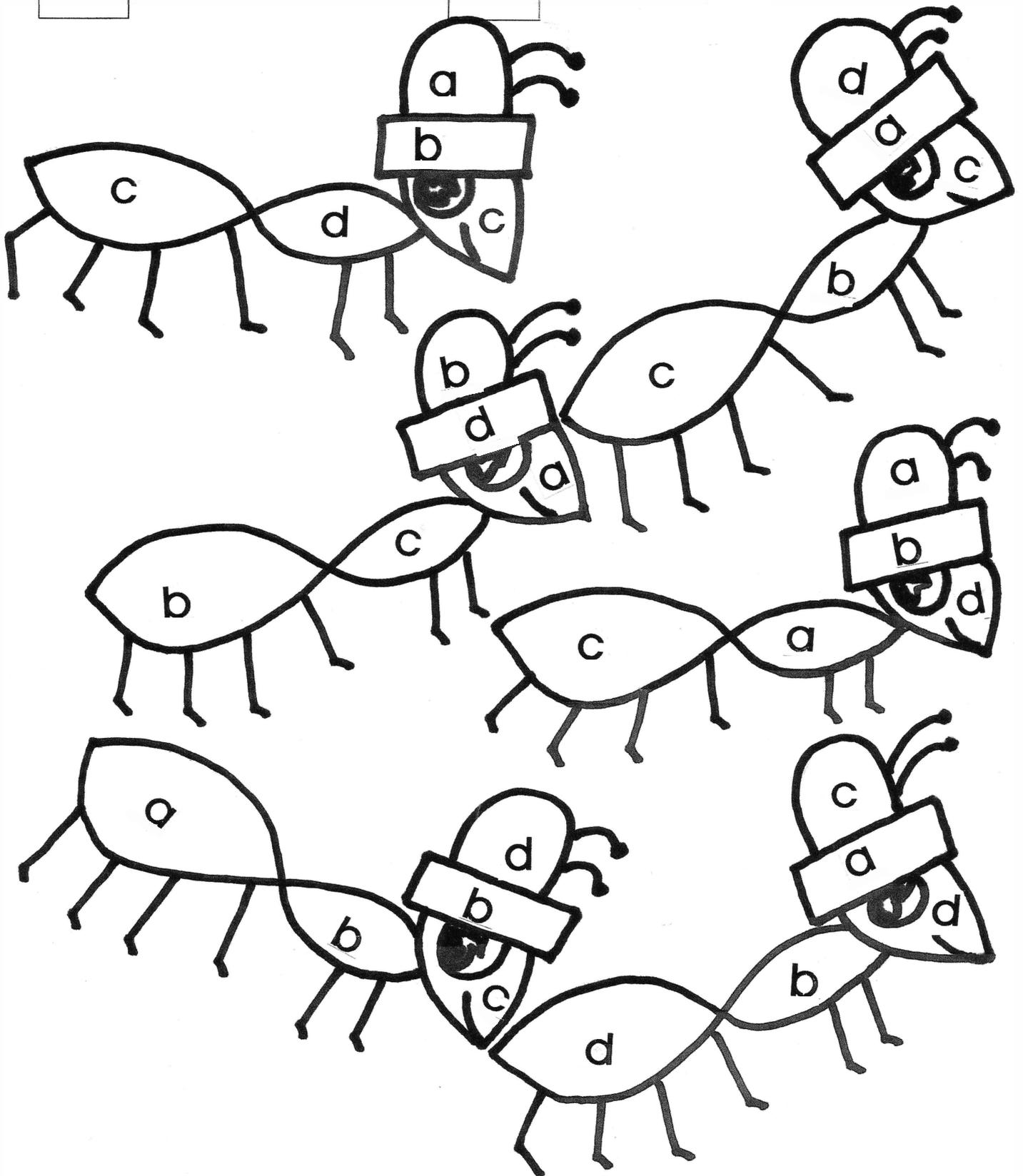
antelope
anthill
ants
anxious
apple
Arab
as
axe

colour cut paste

a for alligator



a for ants



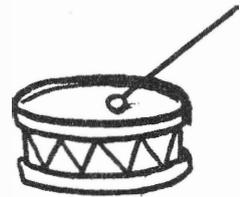
a = red

b = brown

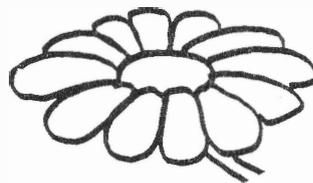
d = blue

c = green

How many words starting with **a** can you find?



abc



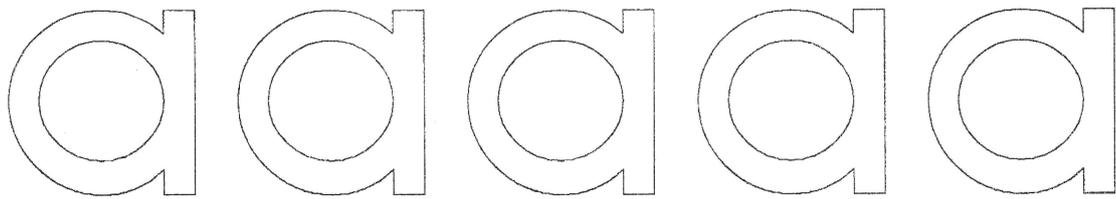
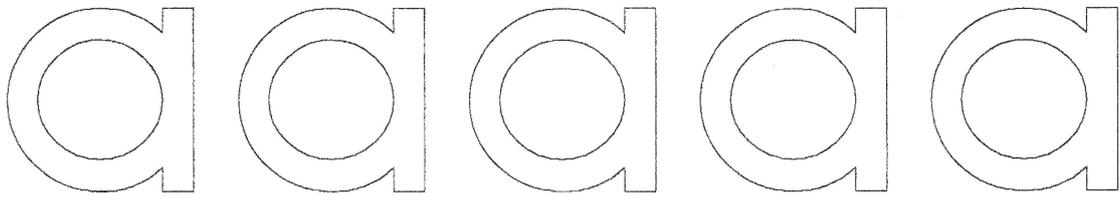
Paste all the pictures onto this page.

q



Colour 4 red. 0
Colour 3 blue. 0

Colour 2 green. 0
Colour 1 yellow. 0



Colour the correct letters in red.

a	a	b	a	a
a	b	a	a	b

The Birds save the Budgie

Billy was a beautiful little blue budgie and his beak was broken. It broke when he became bored and tried to bite through a bar in his cage. He was a very sad and lonely budgie and he could no longer sing.

He belonged to a boy called Brian, who received Billy as a birthday present. Brian tried to bandage Billy's beak, but Billy bit him. Brian put Billy's cage on a brown blanket at the bottom of the garden.

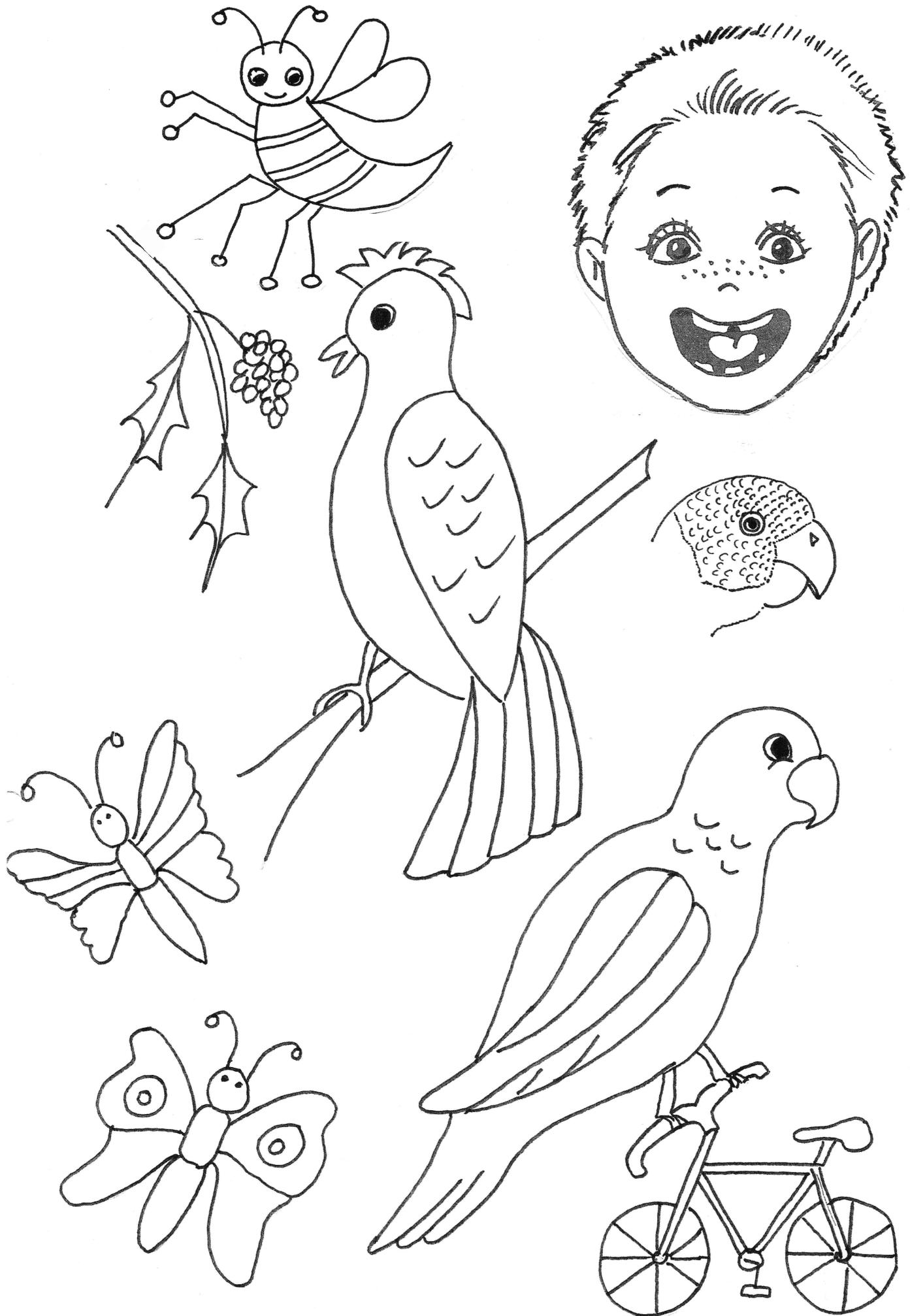
It was below a tree filled with beautiful birds on every branch. Billy the budgie loved being beneath the tree. He was no longer bored, because all the brightly coloured birds became his friends. They brought him berries and dropped them into his bowl for him to eat.

He could also see the butterflies and hear the busy bees buzzing around the bushes. Billy enjoyed watching the birds eating the big red berries on the bushes. Soon Billy's beak was much better and he began to sing happily again.

One day a bad boy on a bicycle tried to steal Billy's cage. He tried to balance the bird-cage on the back of his bicycle. Billy tried his very best to be a brave budgie, but he was very frightened. All Billy's friends saw what was happening. They began to chase the boy on his bicycle. Before the boy got very far, the birds beat him with their wings and bit him with their beaks. They pecked him black and blue. They would not stop until they got Billy back.

The boy lost his balance and fell with a bang. He got a big bump and a bruise on his head. He picked up his bent and buckled bicycle and ran away. The birds flew to Brian's bedroom window and pecked at the glass. Brian followed the birds and soon got his budgie back. Now he keeps Billy's cage on the balcony next to his bedroom.

All the beautiful birds still visit Billy. They sing for him and bring him berries from the bushes at the bottom of Brian's garden.



**We hope you enjoyed this book.
Look out for the next one in this series.**

**For more information, you are very
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