



Teaching Notes: THE EASTER RUSH

Written by Alessandra Yap

Illustrated by Valery Vell

Published by Little Steps Publishing

SYNOPSIS

The Easter Bunny has a gigantic task to keep Easter running smoothly and ensure that children all over the world receive their Easter treats. Luckily, some friends kindly offer to pitch in. Can the Easter Bunny and his friends get everything done in time?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alessandra Yap is an English teacher who loves animals, dancing, running and working on doing the splits. She studied Children's Literature at Macquarie University. Alessandra currently lives in Sydney with her husband, son and three cats. You can find her on Facebook @alessandrayapauthor. **Website:** www.alessandrayap.com

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Valery is an animator born in Poland, who spent most of her time in Russia, before moving to Indonesia. She enjoys drawing sweet and tender moments, especially in children's illustrations. Through her artwork, she wishes to draw attention to the good moments in life: joy, love, care, friendship and loyalty. Valery's dream is for every child to have a place where they can be themselves and have freedom of imagination. You can find her on Instagram @valery_vell.





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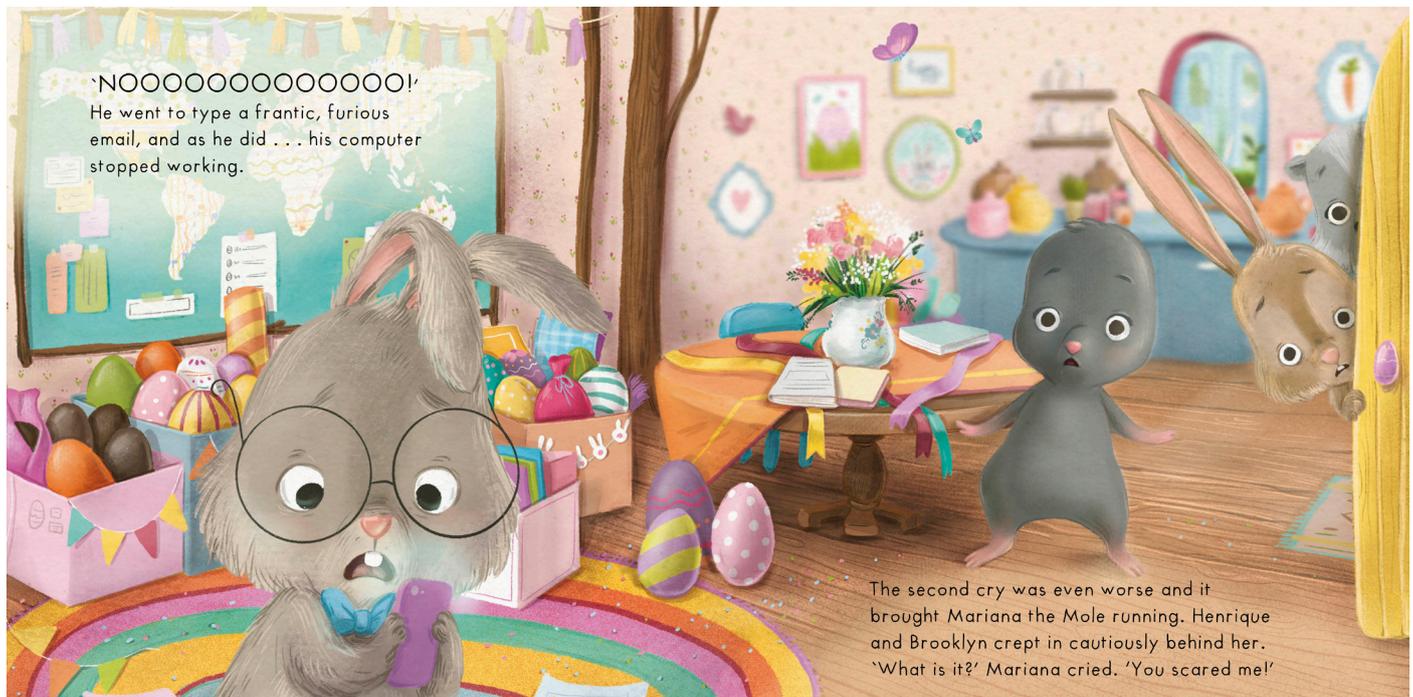
EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

The Easter Rush is the perfect book to help children identify stress and overwhelming situations, and, in turn, help them to deal with these issues and ask for help. As well as introducing children to the idea of teamwork, this book promotes being a supportive friend. Everyone has different strengths and weaknesses, and it's fine to not always be on your best form.

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. Do you celebrate Easter? What do you do? Do you have traditions, like an Easter egg hunt?
3. What's the matter with the Easter Bunny? Do you ever feel like this?
4. How do his friends help him?
5. What do you think makes a good friend?
6. Do you help your friends when they feel they can't do something?
7. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?



DESIGN AN EASTER EGG

Design your own Easter egg in the space below. Look at the eggs around the edge to give you inspiration. You can always cut it out afterwards (ask an adult to help you) and give it to somebody as an Easter card.

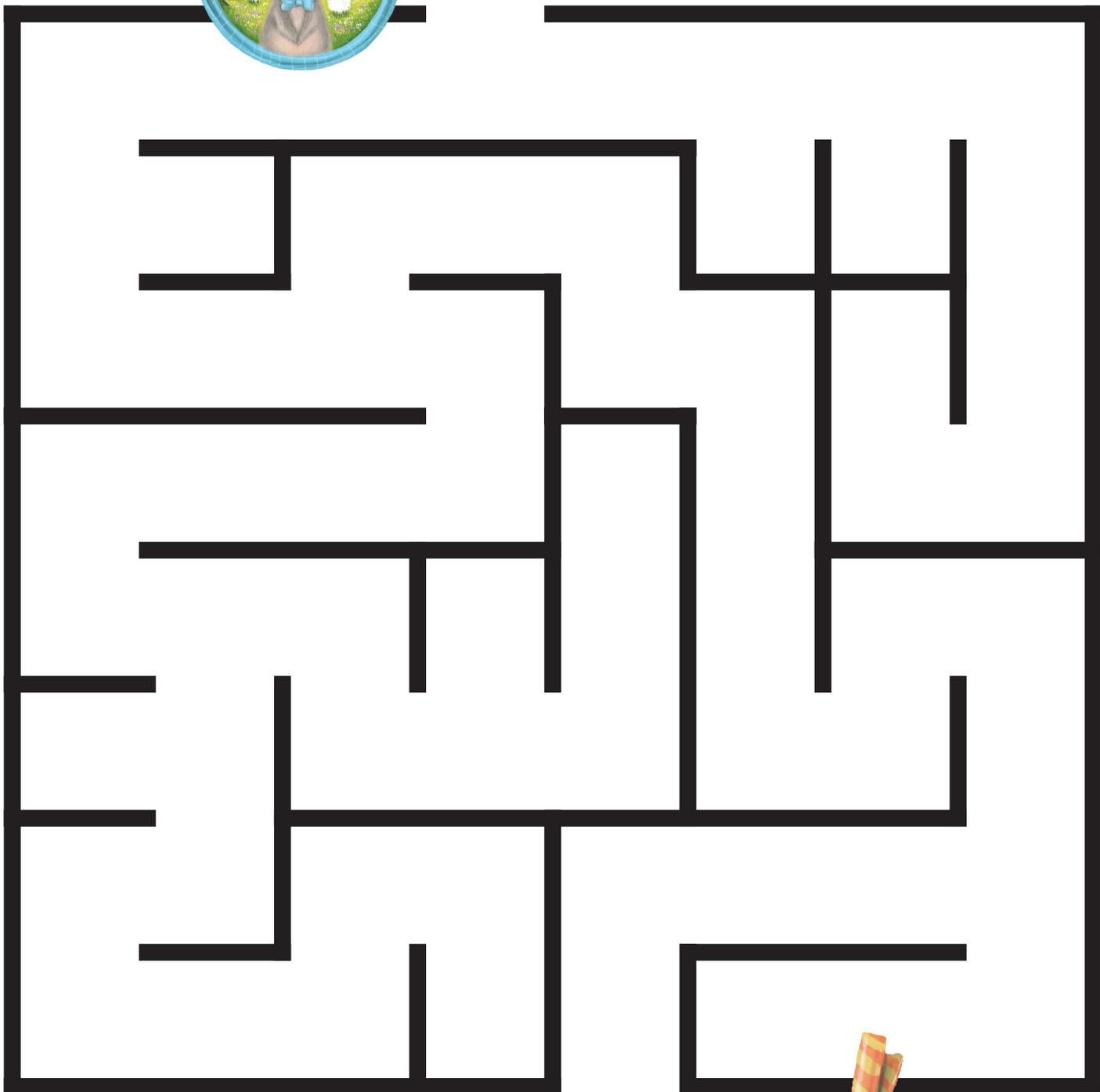


A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for drawing a custom Easter egg design.



A-MAZE-ING EASTER BUNNY

Help the Easter Bunny find his stock of eggs.



EASTER MEMORY GAME

How well do you remember what happened in the story? Below are six pictures from the story but they are jumbled up. Carefully cut them out (ask an adult to help you!) and arrange them in the correct order. Try to retell the story in your own words. Maybe you can tell it to your favourite bedtime cuddly toy!



CHOCOLATE NESTS

Have a go at making these best nests!

Ask an adult
to help you!



Image from Bakingdom: <http://bakingdom.com/2010/03/no-bake-chocolate-peanut-butter-robins-nests.html>

You will need:

- 150g plain, milk or white chocolate
- 75g cereal flakes
- Bag of mini eggs
- Paper cup cases

How to make them:

1. Melt the chocolate in a bowl over a saucepan of gently simmering water.
2. Take the bowl of melted chocolate off the saucepan. Add the cereal to the mixture.
3. Put spoonfuls of the mixture into paper cup cases.
4. Put a few mini eggs into each chocolate nest and then leave them to cool.
5. Enjoy eating them!