



GREAT
ORMOND
STREET
HOSPITAL
CHARITY

The
POWER
of
PLAY

Helping children through life's challenges

The Crocodile Who Didn't like Water

by **Gemma Merino**

In the story the crocodile feels sad because everyone else likes swimming except him. In the end he realises he isn't born to swim. He is born to breathe fire and fly around because he's actually a dragon! Like the dragon we can't be good at everything but we all have our own set of unique talents.

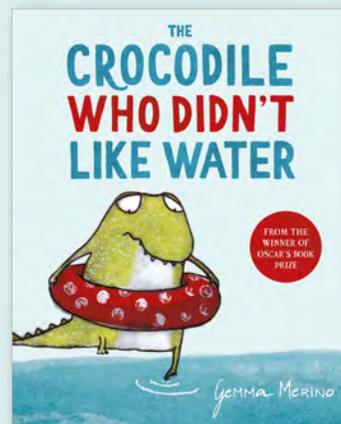
What are yours?

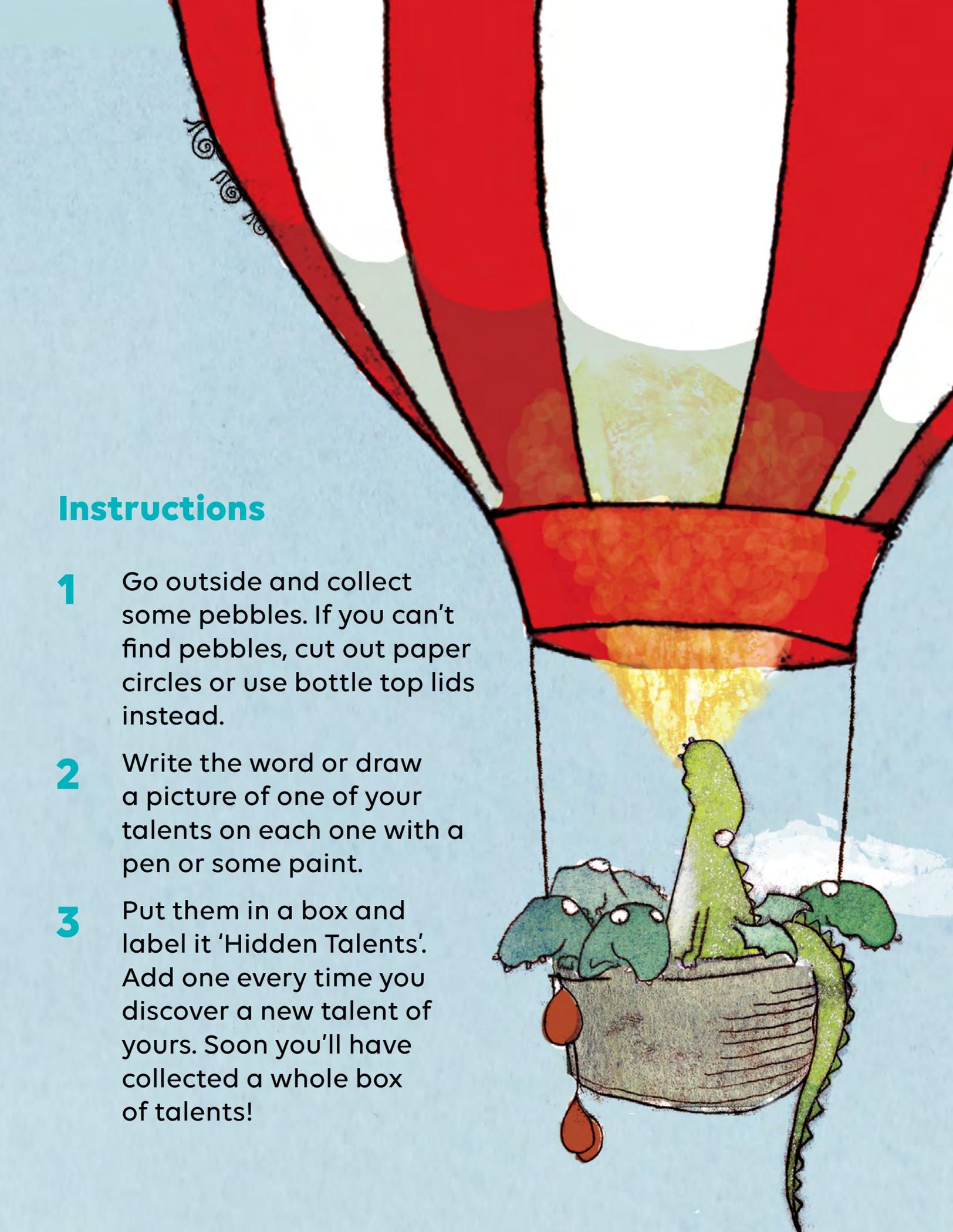
This activity will help your child with:

- Sadness and worry

What you need:

- The Crocodile Who Didn't like Water book
- A pen or pencil
- Stones or pebbles
- 30 minutes



A hot air balloon with a red basket and a green dinosaur inside, floating in a blue sky. The balloon is filled with yellow and orange flames. The basket is made of woven material and has two red tassels hanging from it. The dinosaur is green with a long neck and a tail with a serrated edge. The background is a light blue sky with some white clouds.

Instructions

- 1** Go outside and collect some pebbles. If you can't find pebbles, cut out paper circles or use bottle top lids instead.
- 2** Write the word or draw a picture of one of your talents on each one with a pen or some paint.
- 3** Put them in a box and label it 'Hidden Talents'. Add one every time you discover a new talent of yours. Soon you'll have collected a whole box of talents!



Tips from the Play team

- A talent doesn't have to be something big. It's about celebrating the little wins.
- If your child is worried about not being able to do something, acknowledge that it's ok not to be good at everything – no one is good at everything. Then shift the discussion to focus on the things they are good at.

This activity has been created by the Play team at Great Ormond Street Hospital to provide parents with tips and advice on how play can help children cope with every day childhood challenges. For more information visit gosh.org/play



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