



## Teaching Notes: PEDRO THE PUERTO RICAN PARROT

Written by Beverly Jatwani  
Illustrated by Sunita Chawdhary  
Published by Little Steps Publishing



### SYNOPSIS

*Pedro the Puerto Rican Parrot* is the first book in the *Together We Can Change The World* series. A series of seven stories, covering seven continents, with seven important virtues: Compassion, Courage, Gratitude, Kindness, Love, Integrity and Respect. Each book highlights a fundamental core value, whilst simultaneously encouraging children's responsibility towards Planet Earth. The books' protagonists are an endangered or threatened species from each continent. In the first book in the series, it is **love** that can change the world. Dominic takes Pedro the parrot under his wing, nursing him back to health with love, before releasing him back into the wild.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

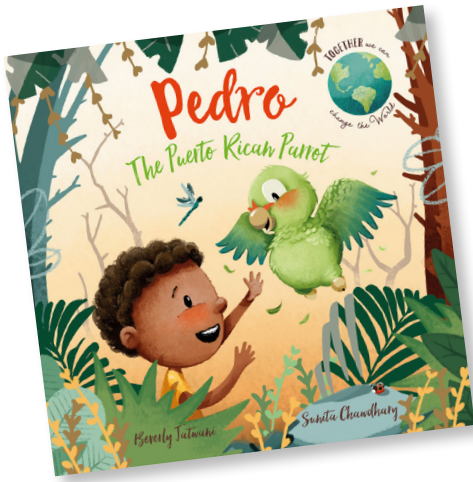
'How we nurture the world around us directly impacts the world within us!'

Beverly Jatwani's deeply spiritual upbringing in India was rooted in outdoor play: muddy knees and climbing trees is best how she describes her childhood. It is with these precious memories in mind, armed with the life lessons that she learned whilst being a mum to three spirited children, that inspired her to co-found the Middle East's 'first green and purpose over profit' children's nursery. Having witnessed how children engage with nature, Beverly was inspired to write a series of children's books that capture the innate love and affinity that children have with Mother Earth. Through these seven beautifully illustrated and tenderly written books, Beverly takes children on their own journey to discover how even little people can make a positive impact on our planet and all living things through love, compassion and gratitude.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Sunita Chawdhary is a British-Indian illustrator and doctor based in London and Oxford. She studied art and design at Central Saint Martins, having completed the art and anatomy course at the Ruskin School of Art and a Foundation Course in Art Therapy. Sunita draws on her experience of growing up in Asia, America and Europe to create vibrant, multicultural worlds filled with diverse characters and stories. Sunita was shortlisted for the Penguin Random House Write Now mentorship programme in 2018 and commended for the Faber Andlyn BAME (FAB) prize in 2019.





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### EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

*Pedro the Puerto Rican Parrot* is the perfect book for promoting environmental awareness and to educate and inspire children to take care of the planet and its inhabitants. It encourages children to wisely use their emotional super powers and shows them the power of LOVE. Key themes also include nurturing and kindness. Included is a fact file of lots of interesting facts for children to learn about Puerto Rican parrots and their habitat.

### 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. Have you visited a tropical rainforest like the one in the story? What was it like? Have you ever seen a Puerto Rican parrot or, indeed, any species of a parrot?
3. Why do you think the author wrote a book about a Puerto Rican parrot?
4. Explain what the word 'endangered' means to the children (a species which is seriously at risk of extinction.) Extinct means that the species no longer has any living members.
5. Do you know about any other birds or animals that are endangered?
6. Why do you think certain animals and birds are endangered? (The main reason species become endangered is loss of habitat, this can occur naturally but is more often caused by human interference.)
7. Read through the parrot facts together. Do you know any more facts?
8. Do you feel that love can change the world? If yes, how do you show your love?
9. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?
10. Do you think Dominic will see Pedro the parrot again?



### FUN ACTIVITY: DESIGN A POSTER

On the next page, design a poster to raise awareness about the endangered Puerto Rican parrot. An endangered species is a species that is very likely to become extinct in the near future. Why not use some of the facts at the back of the book.

Here are some questions to think about when making your parrot poster:

- Where does it live?
- What does it eat?
- Behaviours unique to it.
- Why did it become endangered?
- What is being done now to protect it?
- How can people help with the conservation effort?

# DESIGN A POSTER



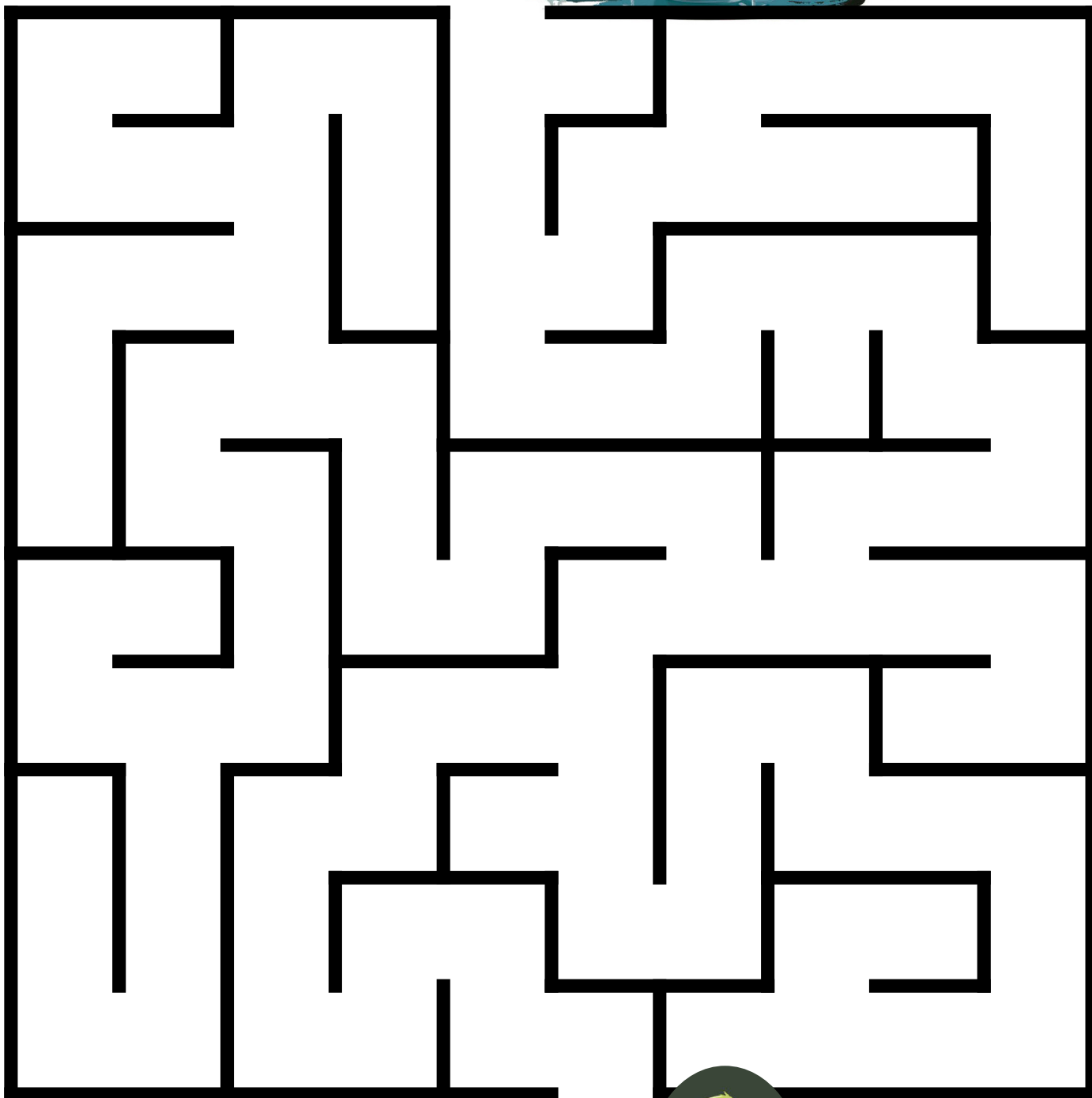
# COLOURING-IN ACTIVITY

Colour in Dominic and Pedro in your brightest colours!



# A-MAZE-ING PARROT

Oh no! Pedro the Puerto Rican parrot isn't in his cage. Can you help Dominic find him?







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.

