

TEACHING NOTES: Hop Lola Hop

Written by Kathy Urban

Illustrated by Siski Kalla

Published by Little Steps Publishing



SYNOPSIS

Lola is a little toy bunny who likes to go on fun adventures. But one day, she Hop! Hop! Hops! ... just a little too far.

Ella is a young girl who is heartbroken when her beloved bunny goes missing. How are they going to find each other again?

A magical, heart-warming tale about an adorable lost toy bunny and the feelings and emotions that come with losing something special.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kathy is a multilingual journalist and has been reporting on news, entertainment and environmental stories for over a decade. She's freelanced for British and international organisations, including Reuters, BBC and ITN. An avid reader since she was a child, Kathy grew up admiring the works of great storytellers and the imaginary worlds they created. But it was listening to the stories her dad would tell her that prompted Kathy to make up stories for her own children.

Her first picture book, *Hop Lola Hop*, was inspired by her eldest daughter's favourite toy bunny, which they lost many, many times – during trips to the supermarket, walks in the park and even on a desert camel ride. A world nomad, Kathy has lived in the UK, US, Denmark, Germany and these days calls Dubai her home.

Like Lola, Kathy loves to spend time outdoors. If she's not busy doing school runs or working in her other job as a radio producer, she likes to cycle, paint or write more adventures about one little toy bunny. You can follow Kathy and Lola's adventures on Instagram: @hop_lola_hop, Website: hoplolahop.com, Facebook: @hoplolahopofficial, Twitter: @hoplolahop



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ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Born in London, Siski has lived in various countries and currently resides in Chile with her family of humans and dogs. Painting watercolours gives her the same joy as swimming, eating scones with jam or swinging in a hammock. She is largely self-taught, having taken a handful of watercolour and illustrations courses over the years. More than anything, Siski loves children's books. She would eat them if she could. But they don't taste as good as scones.

EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

Hop Lola Hop is a delightful tale about a much-loved toy bunny who likes to go on fun adventures. Sometimes the bunny gets lost. Most children have a comforting toy so this story has universal appeal. Key themes of imagination, friendship and comfort run throughout the book. There are secret bunnies to spot and find throughout the book, too.

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. Ask the children if they have a special toy/cuddly animal/doll that they adore. How does it make them feel?
3. When the little girl, Ella, loses her toy bunny, Lola, how do you think she feels?
4. What does Ella do to try and find her toy bunny? Why do you think she is so determined and persistent to find Lola? How would you feel if you lost your special toy?
5. Do you think your special toy goes on adventures?
6. How does Ella feel when she finds Lola? Ella has been on a roller coaster of emotions. Can you remember a time when you have felt lots of different emotions?
7. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?



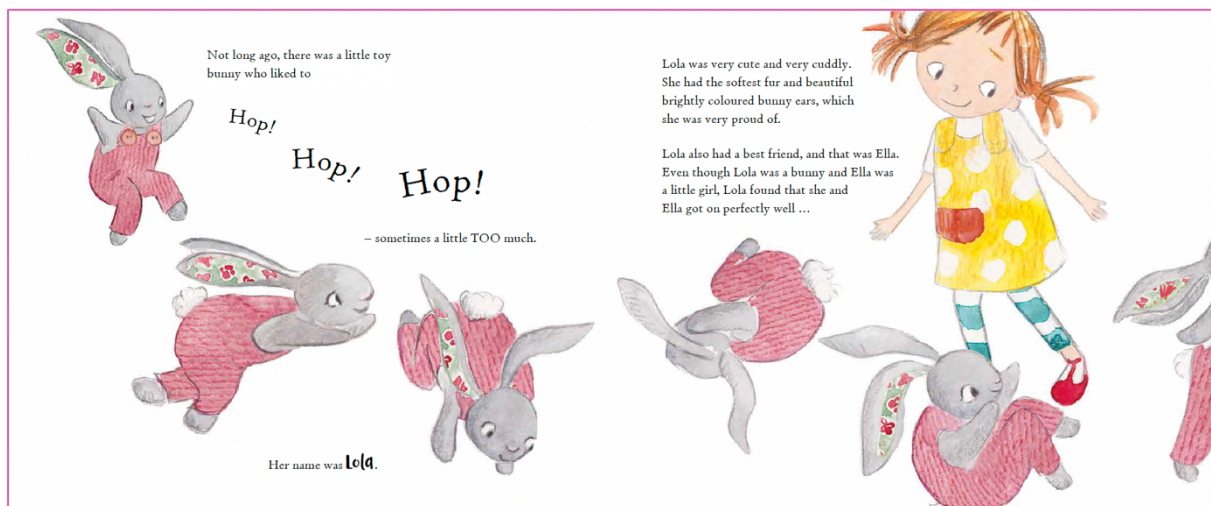
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CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

1. Character formation: Using coloured clay/modelling mass in the colours seen in the book, let children explore making Lola bunny during class. There is no expectation to create a 1:1 model, but more for them to be creative and explore building a character.
2. Den building activity: This activity offers children the chance to use their imagination for some creative thinking and learning. Ask children to bring their own stuffed toys and offer them recycled materials to build dens/houses for their toy, which they can take home.
3. Storytelling activity: Ask your students to tell you of the time they lost a favourite toy. Then ask them to retell their own story through a collage (using recycled materials), homemade books or drawing.



For extra teaching
notes, go to
www.hoplolahop.com



WORDSEARCH ACTIVITY

Find all the words below in the *Hop Lola Hop* wordsearch.

HOP LOLA HOP

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



ADVENTURES
BUNNY
COMFORT
DOG

ELLA
FRIENDS
HOP
LOLA

LOST
MISSING
POND
SPLASH

www.edu-games.org

HOP LOLA HOP

G E S P L A S H I M
E T I D L D O F N H
C L N O N V D A Y T
O O L G O E G O Y L
P S M A C N I N A T
O T E F I T N R S U
H I W S O U E N F C
J D S H B R N N T B
N I O F A E T S O O
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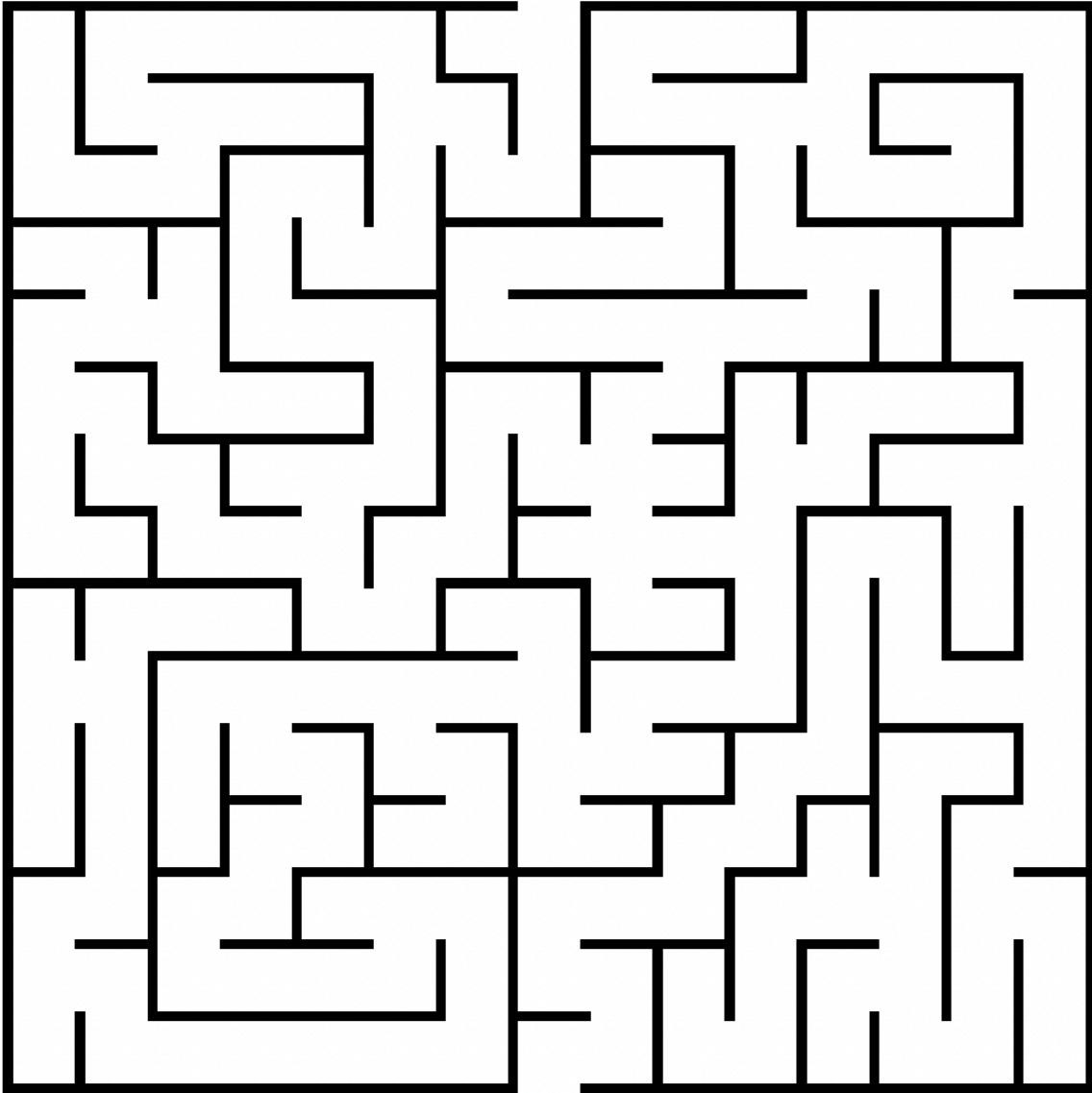
ELLA
FRIENDS
HOP
LOLA

LOST
MISSING
POND
SPLASH

www.edu-games.org

A-MAZE-ING LOLA

Help Ella find Lola!

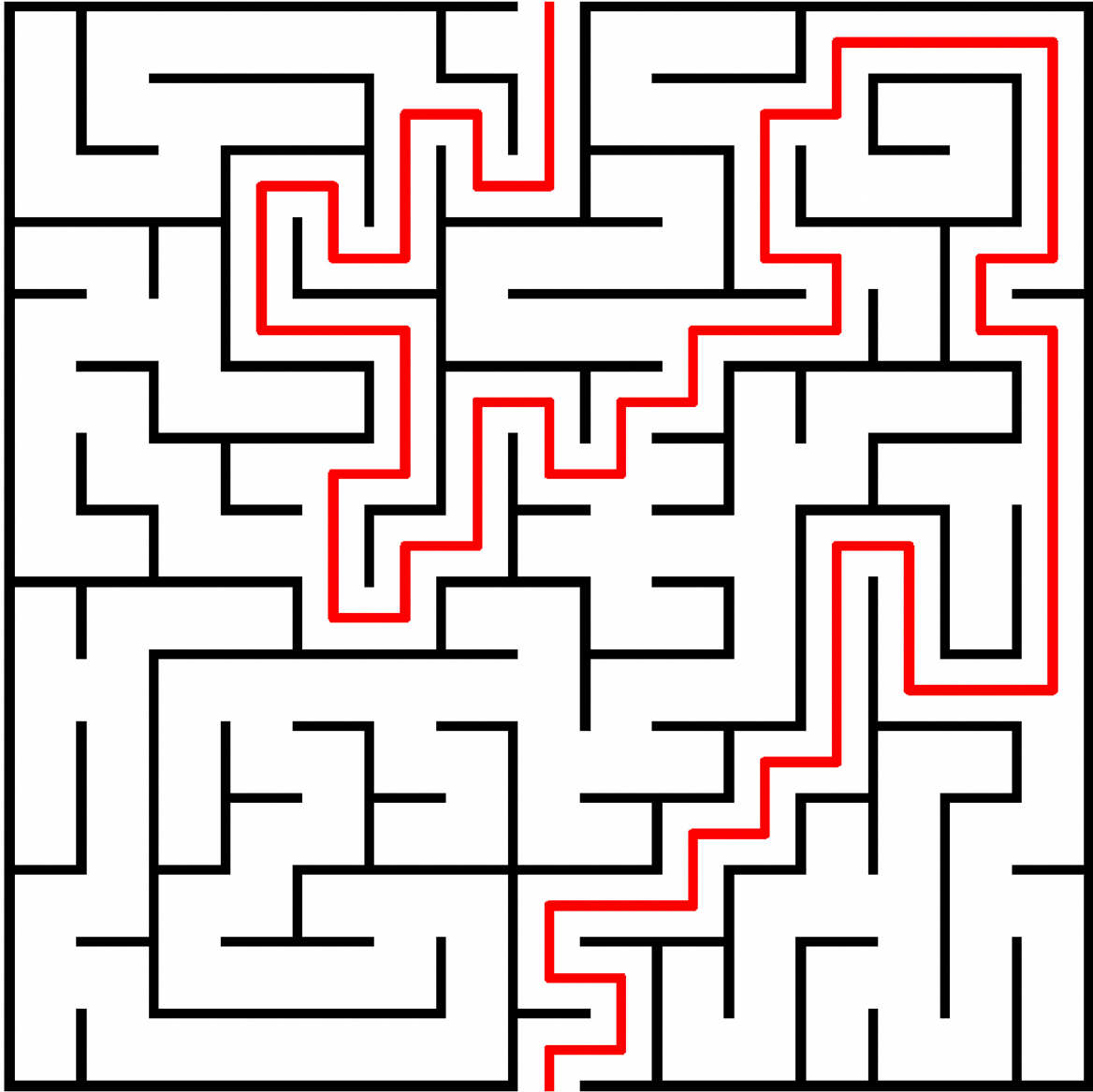


www.mazegenerator.net



FUN
ACTIVITY!

A-MAZE-ING LOLA SOLUTION

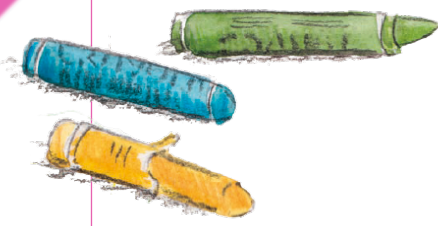


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WRITE A POEM

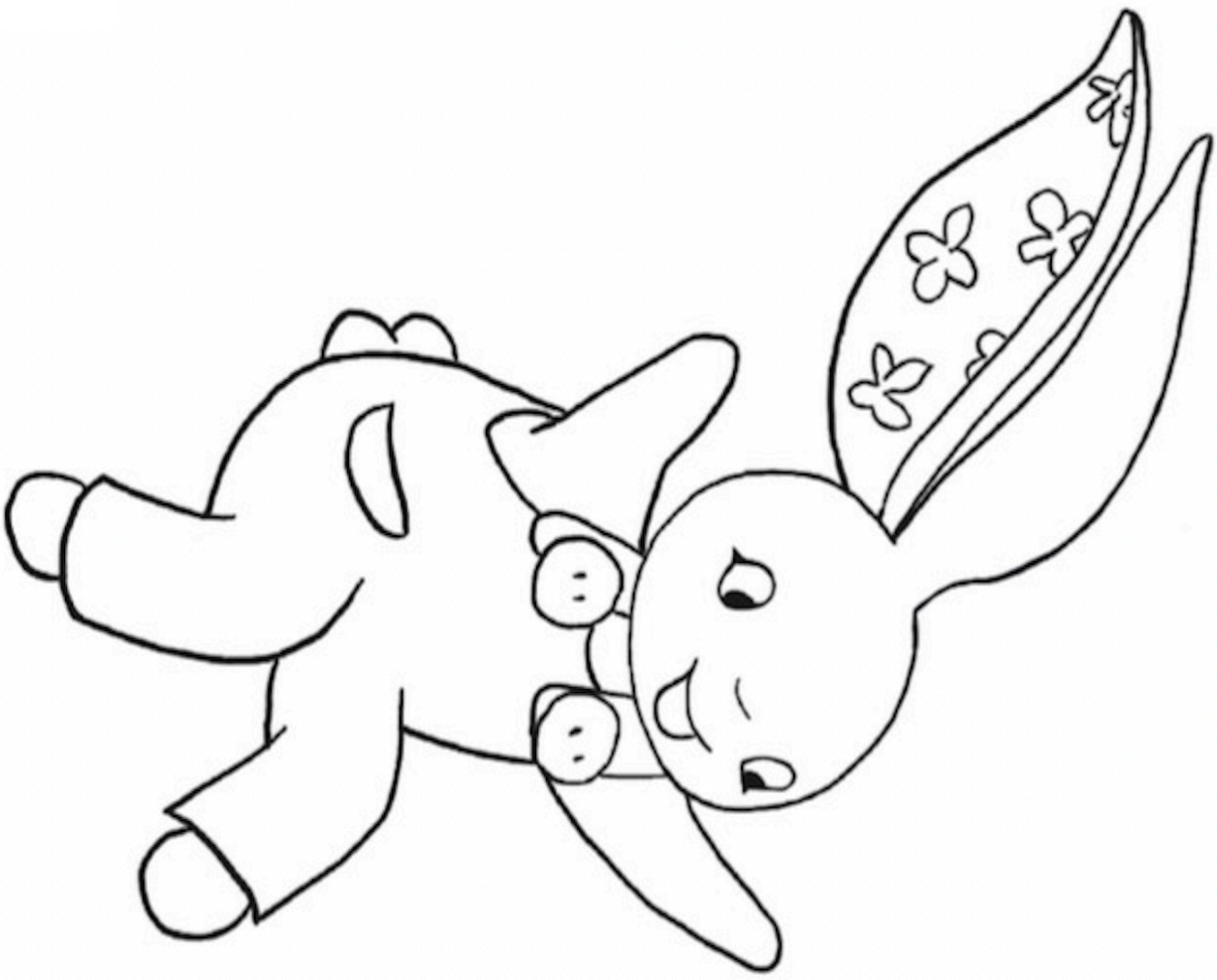
Write an acrostic poem using the words of the name of your favourite toy. An acrostic poem is a poem in which the first letter of each line spells out a word. You could write about all the things you love about your toy or even some fun adventures that you have together.



A large, empty rectangular box with a thin pink border, intended for writing an acrostic poem.

ON AN ADVENTURE

Lola loves adventures. Imagine a fun adventure and add it to your drawing!



WHAT A SETTING!

Where do Lola and Ella find each other? Use your imagination to colour them and put them in whatever setting you can think of!

