

## Teaching Notes: TALA THE BENGAL TIGER

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

### SYNOPSIS

*Tala the Bengal Tiger* is the second book in the *Together We Can Change the World* series. A series of seven stories, covering seven continents, with seven important virtues; Love, **Courage**, Compassion, Respect, Kindness, Integrity and Gratitude. 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. The second book is a thrilling story about a girl and the endangered Bengal tiger. What is the connection between little Veera and the mysterious tiger, Tala? This chance encounter will forever change Veera's understanding of **courage**.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

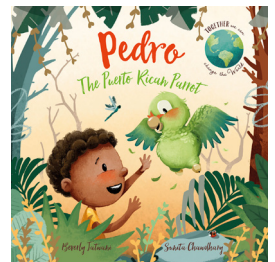
Beverly Jatwani's deeply spiritual upbringing in India was rooted in outdoor play ... muddy knees and climbing trees is best how she describes her childhood. It is with these precious memories in mind, armed with the life lessons that she learned whilst being a mum to three spirited children, is what inspired her to co-found the Middle East's first 'green and purpose over profit' children's nurseries.

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

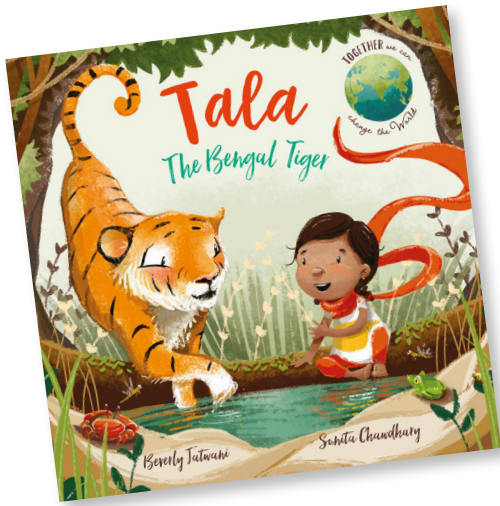
Sunita Chawdhary is a British-Indian illustrator and doctor based in London and Oxford. She studied art and design at Central Saint Martins, having completed the art and anatomy course at the Ruskin School of Art and a Foundation Course in Art Therapy. Sunita draws on her experience of growing up in 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.

### ANOTHER BOOK IN THE SERIES



Veera and her family lived in a village in the dense mangrove forest. Most of the mud houses were fenced with fishing nets on bamboo poles, to protect the people and their animals from predators.





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### EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

*Tala the Bengal Tiger* 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 **courage**.

Key themes also include love, kindness and facing your fears. Included is a fact file of lots of interesting facts for children to learn about Bengal tigers 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. Do you know what a mangrove forest is? If yes, have you visited one?
3. Do you know the names of the seven continents?
4. Have you seen a tiger before? Was it in a zoo or in its natural habitat?
5. 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.
6. The Bengal tiger is classified as endangered. 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 tiger facts together. Do you know any more facts?
8. Veera was terrified of tigers. Are you extremely fearful of something? Do you feel that you can overcome this fear?
9. Ask the children if they know what courage means? Do they feel that courage can change the world? If yes, how do you show courage? (It has different forms.)
10. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?

### FUN ACTIVITY: DESIGN A POSTER

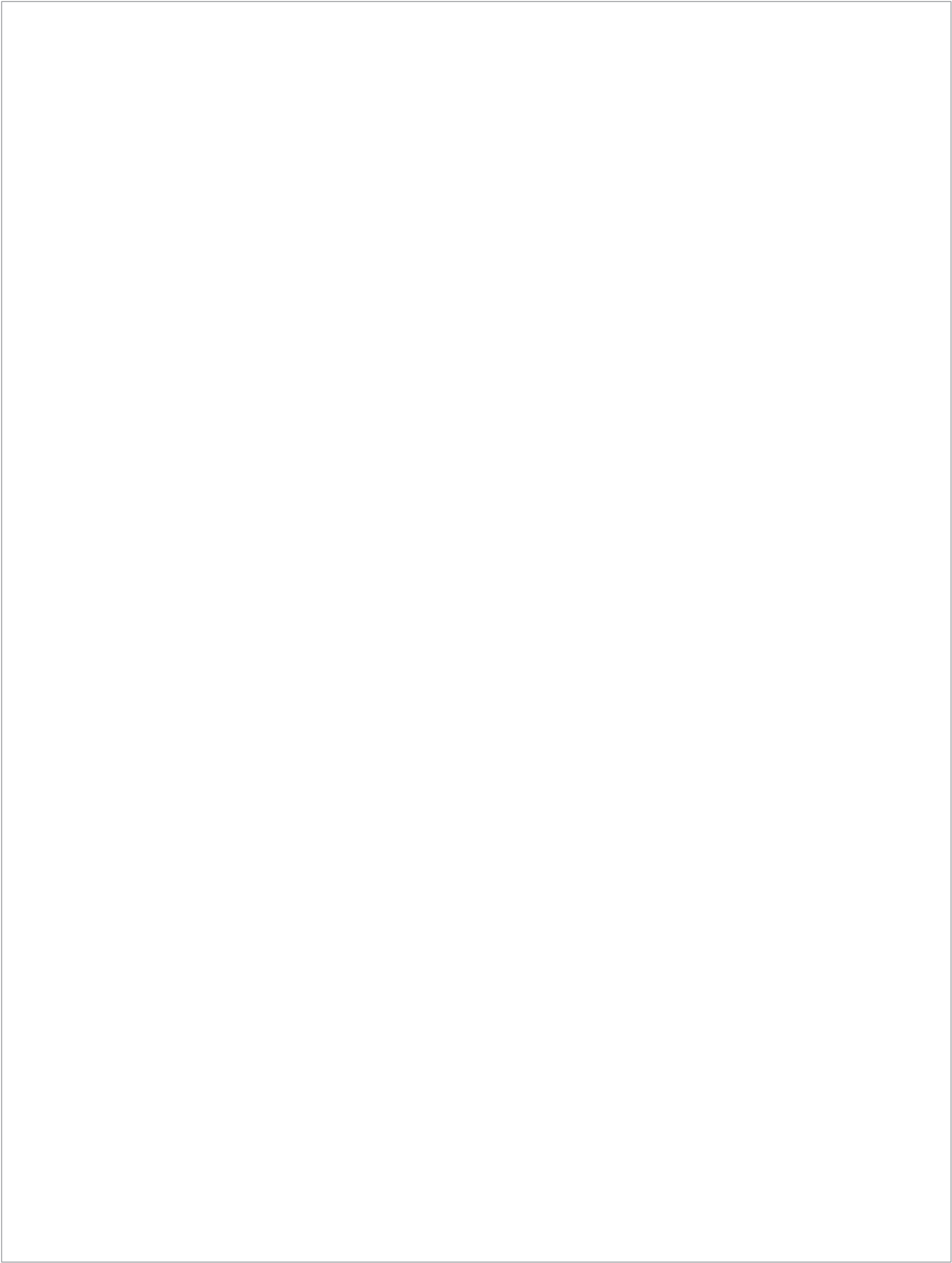
In the book, Veera designs a poster to 'Save the Tigers'. On the next page, design your own poster to raise awareness about the endangered Bengal tiger. An endangered species is a species that is very likely to become extinct in the near future. Why not use some of the facts at the back of the book.

Here are some questions to think about when making your tiger 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?

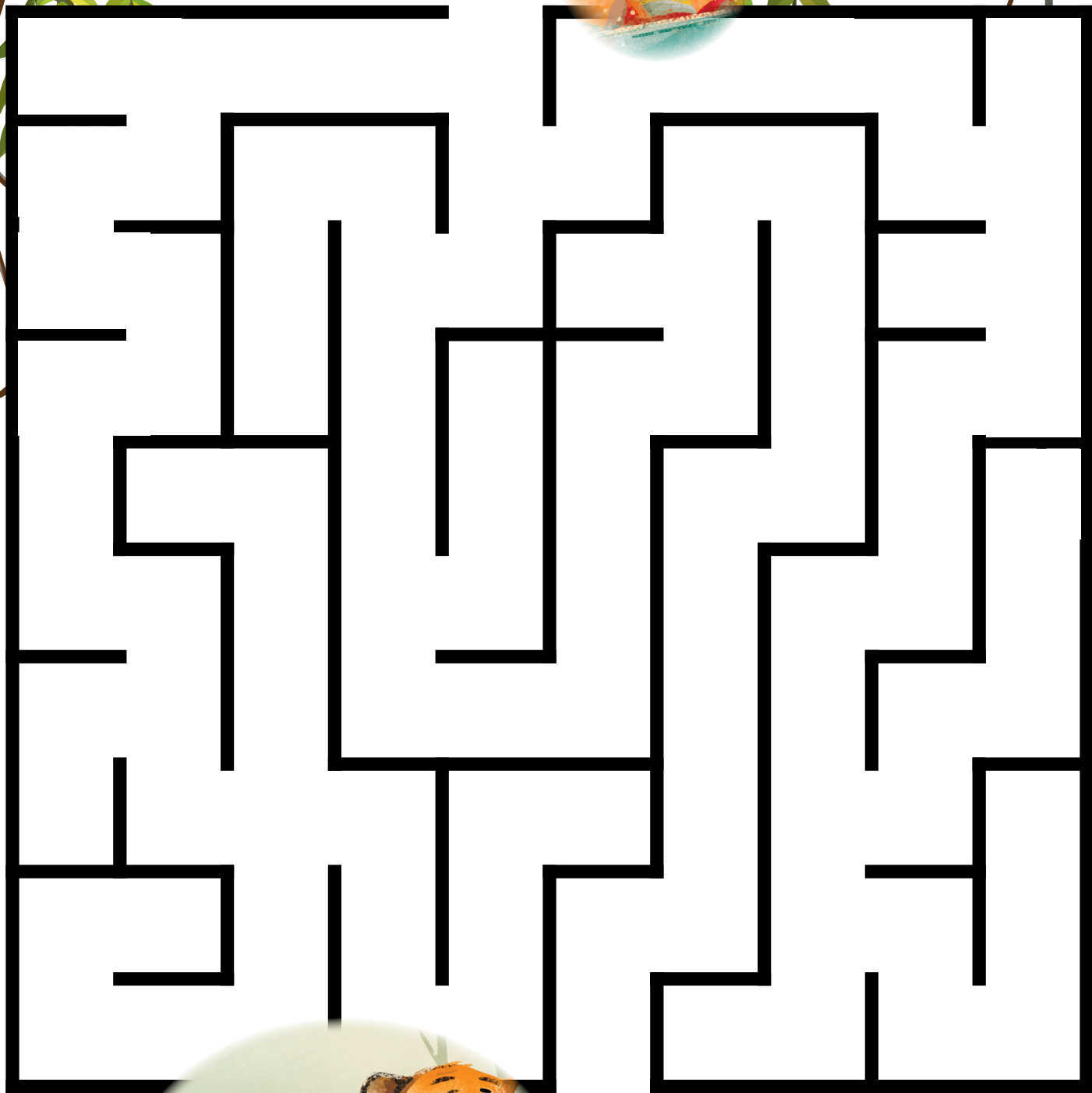


DESIGN A POSTER



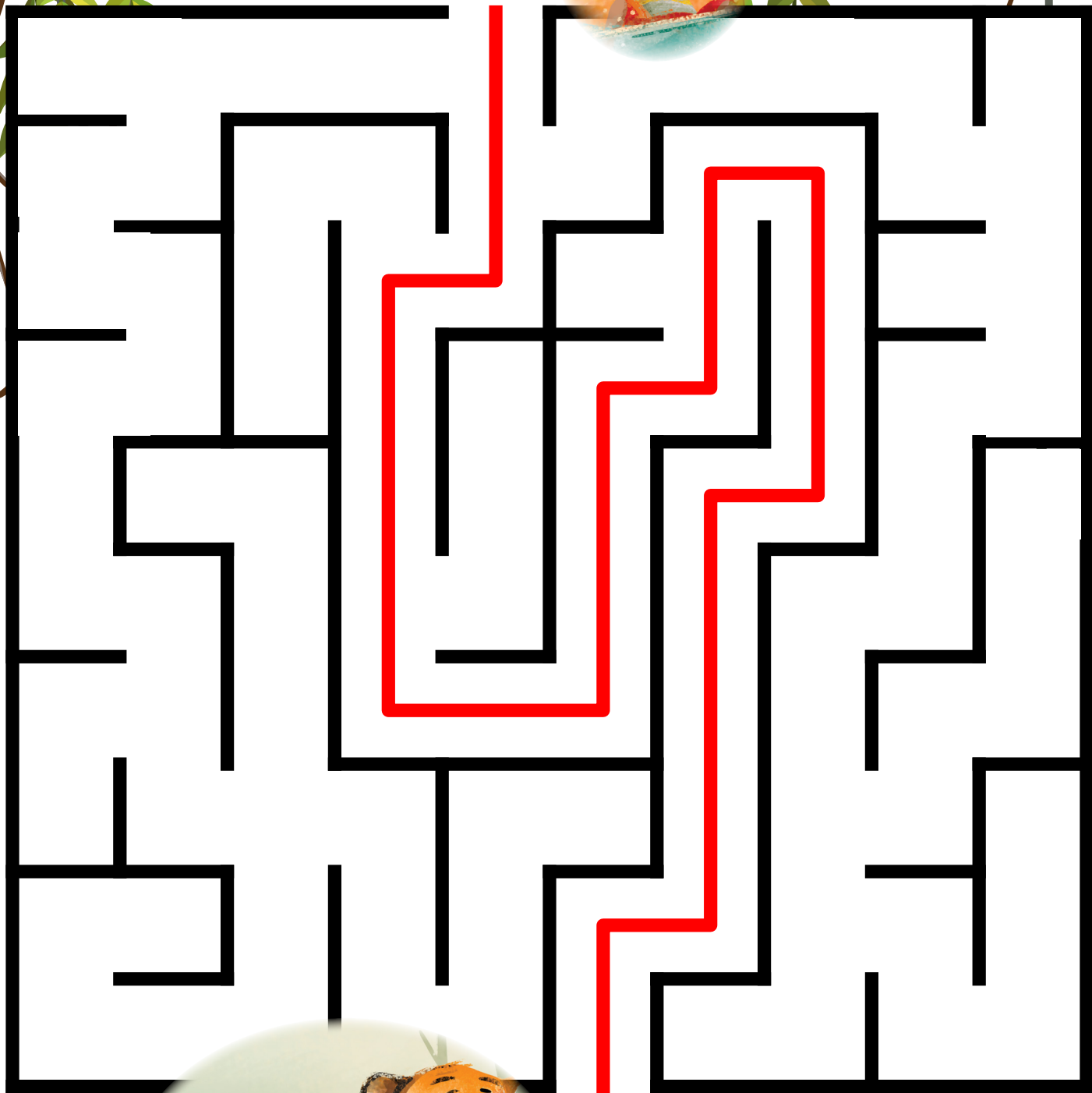
## TERRIFIC TIGER MAZE

Help Veera find Tala in the forest maze.





SOLUTION TO MAZE



## CERTIFICATE OF COURAGE

How about giving this certificate to one of your friends who has shown real COURAGE.  
You could always photocopy this page and then hand out lots of certificates.

# Certificate of COURAGE

Awarded to

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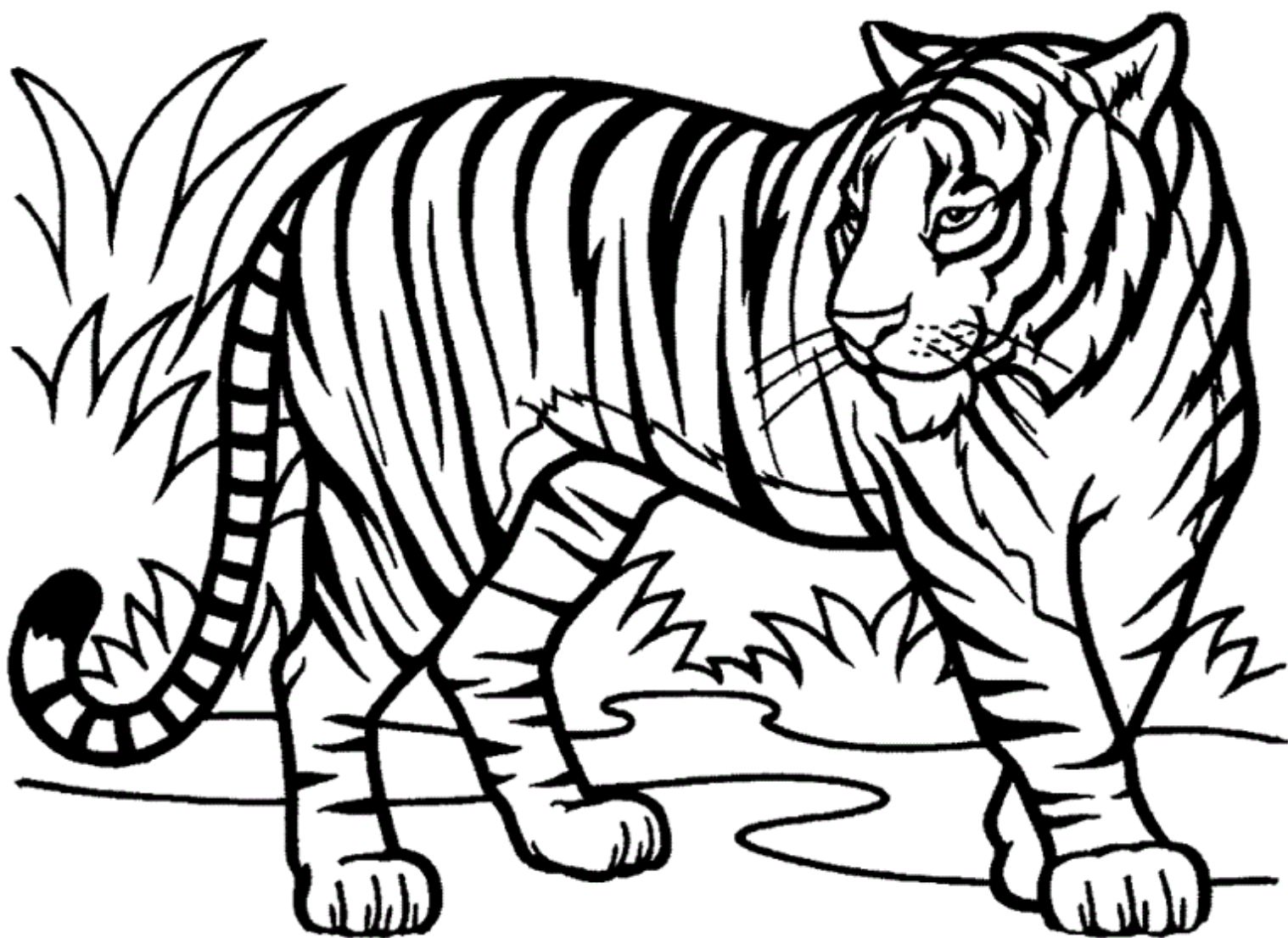
for being so brave.



*Courage can change the world.*

## COLOUR ME IN

Give this Bengal tiger some bright colours!



## TALA WORDSEARCH

Find all the words in this *Tala the Bengal Tiger* wordsearch.

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

BOLD  
BRAVE  
CONFIDENT  
COURAGE

DARING  
FEARLESS  
GRIT  
HERO

SPIRIT  
STRENGTH  
TIGER  
VALOR





# SOLUTION TO WORDSEARCH

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

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