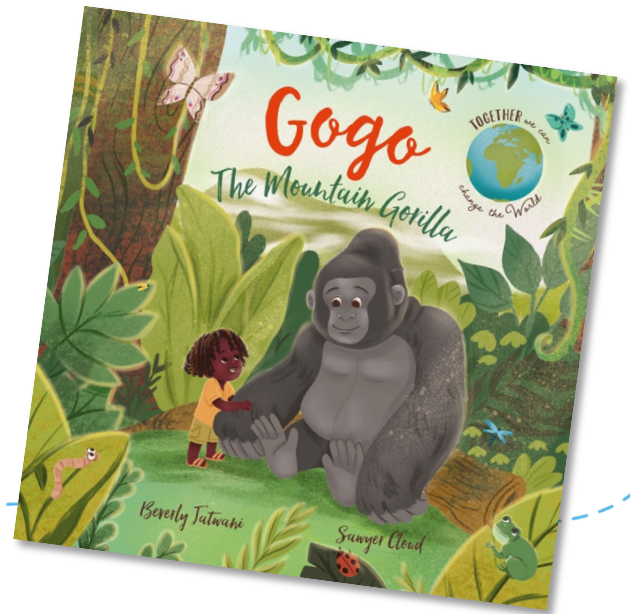




Teaching Notes: Gogo the Mountain Gorilla

Written by Beverly Jatwani
Illustrated by Sawyer Cloud
Published by New Frontier Publishing



SYNOPSIS

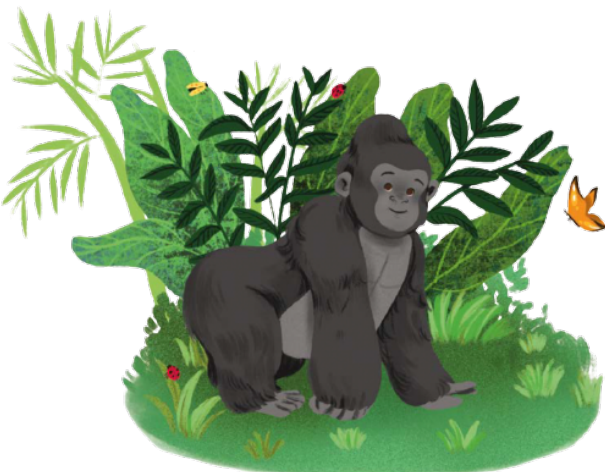
Gogo The Mountain Gorilla is the fourth book in the 'Together We Can Change The World' series. A series of seven stories, covering seven continents, with seven important virtues; Love, Courage, Compassion, Kindness, Integrity, Respect and Gratitude. Each book highlights a fundamental core value, whilst simultaneously encouraging children's responsibility towards Planet Earth. The books' protagonists are an endangered species from each continent. The fourth book is an enchanting tale about a boy and the endangered mountain gorilla. When Kito stumbles upon a mountain gorilla in the forest, he has no idea what the gorilla is capable of. This magical encounter will forever change Kito's understanding of **kindness**.

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, 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.

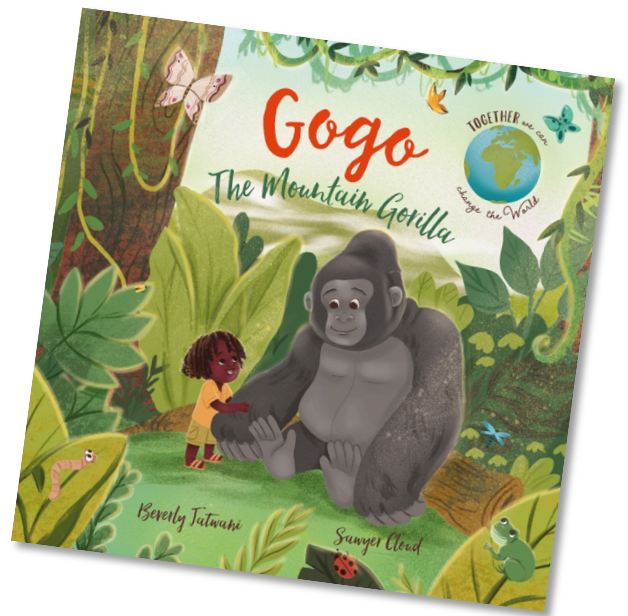
ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Sawyer Cloud is a freelance artist in Madagascar, her native country. She has always been passionate about visual art and learnt the illustration industry through personal research and work experience. Thanks to the internet, she managed to build a reputable 'online career' and worked remotely on a few books from independent publishers before getting representation from a notorious agency specialising in children's books. Sawyer loves sunny days and music. If not drawing, she would be singing out loud in her room, wearing her favourite fairy costume and sharing that moment with her 'online friends'. She lives with her family and her two pets, Arya the dog and Potter the cat. Her dream is to travel and share her stories with the world.



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EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

Gogo The Mountain Gorilla 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 superpowers and shows them the power of KINDNESS. Included is a fact file of lots of interesting facts for children to learn about mountain gorillas 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. *Gogo The Mountain Gorilla* is set in Virunga National Park in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Have you heard about this park?
3. Have you seen a gorilla before? Was it in its natural habitat?
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 which continent Congo is located in?
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 mountain gorilla facts together. Do you know any more facts?
8. Gogo shows kindness towards Kito. What does he do to help Kito?
9. Ask the children if they know what kindness means? Talk about small acts of kindness and the impact they can have. Do they feel that kindness can change the world? If yes, how do you show kindness?
10. What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part?



SAVE THE MOUNTAIN GORILLA!

DESIGN A POSTER

In the book, Kito loves listening to stories about protecting the great apes of Africa, especially the mountain gorilla. On the next page, have a go at designing your own poster to raise awareness about the endangered mountain gorilla. An endangered species is a species that is very likely to become extinct in the near future. Why not use some facts at the back of the book.

Here are some questions and things to think about when making your 'Save the mountain gorilla' poster.

- Where does it live?
- What does it eat?
- What are the behaviours that are unique to the mountain gorilla?
- Why did it become endangered?
- What is being done now to protect it?
- How can people help with the conservation effort?



FUN
ACTIVITY!

SAVE THE MOUNTAIN GORILLA!

Design your poster here!



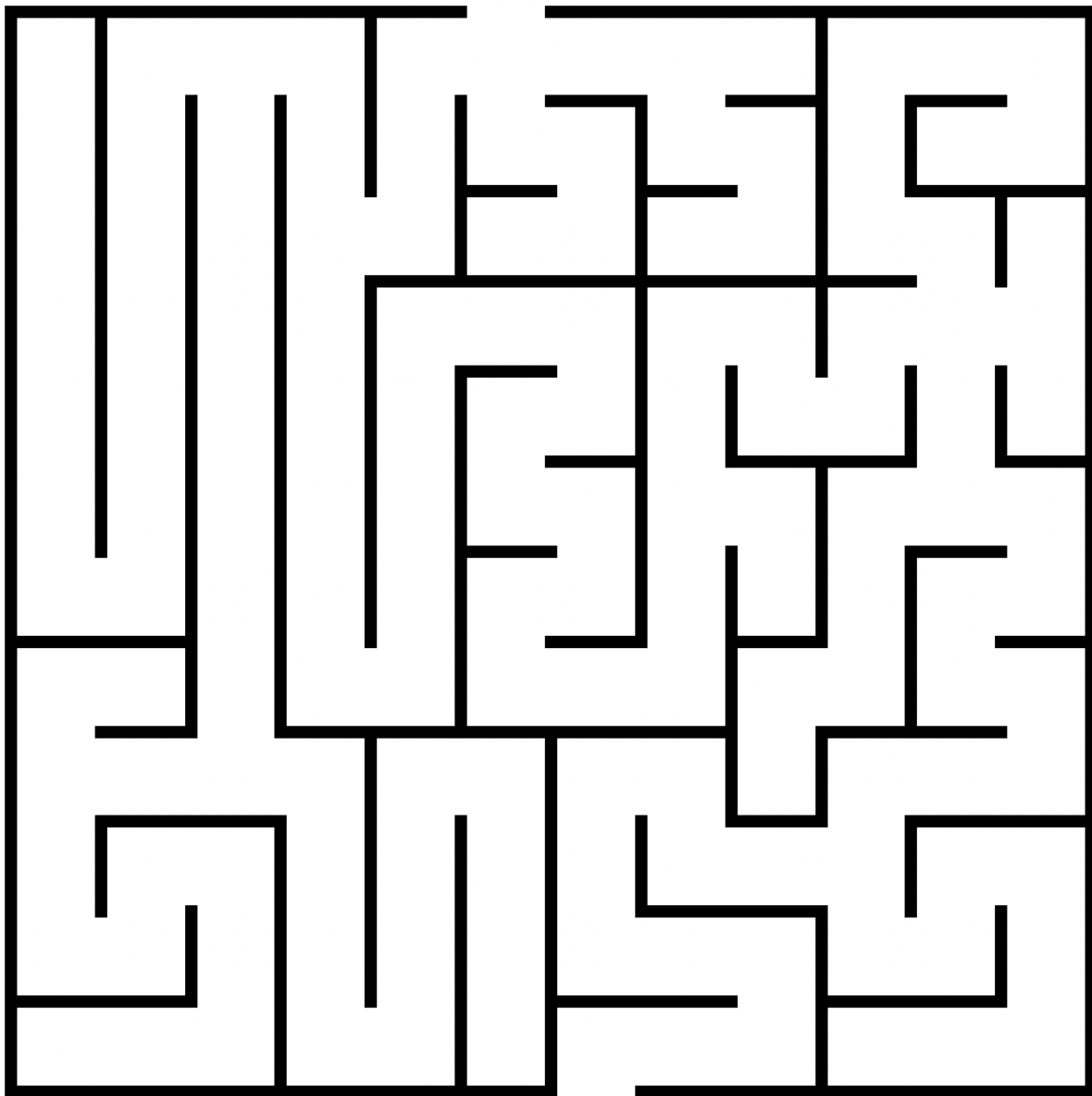
A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to design their poster.



FUN
ACTIVITY!

A-MAZE-ING GOGO

Help Gogo find and help Kito.



KINDNESS CARDS

If you can be anything – BE KIND! Cut out these kindness cards for yourself and your friends.




Today, I will be helpful to people who need me.



What I do MATTERS.



I'm here for you.




I'm kind to myself.



Now is the perfect time to start being kind.



I'm strong, confident and kind.




I choose kindness.




I start the day with a smile.



I'm going to give five compliments today.



I believe I can do one act of kindness every day.



CERTIFICATE OF COMPASSION

How about giving this certificate to one of your friends who has showed real COMPASSION. Ask an adult to help you cut this certificate out.



Certificate of **KINDNESS**



Awarded to



for being so **thoughtful**
and **caring.**



Kindness can change the
world!

