

# Mending the Moon

Emma Pearl

illustrated by Sara Ugolotti  
published by Page Street Kids

## ACTIVITY GUIDE

One fateful night, the moon shines so big and so bright that it is too heavy to hold itself up in the sky. When it tumbles down and breaks into many glimmering pieces, Luna sees the whole thing. Her grandfather Poppa warns that without the moon in the sky, the oceans will stop moving and the earth will start to wobble. Luna and Poppa must mend it, but they may not be able to do it all on their own. The mountain is alive with creatures big and small whose watchful eyes also saw the moon fall. Together, can they find all the shards, stick them together, and get the moon safely back into the sky? In this enchanting tale with a timeless, folklore feel, a girl, her grandfather, and all the animals of the mountain hold the power to set the world right and forever leave their mark on the moon.

**In this fresh story with the feel of a timeless legend, the moon falls out of the sky and shatters, and a granddaughter, grandfather and assortment of forest creatures must use their creativity to put it back together.**

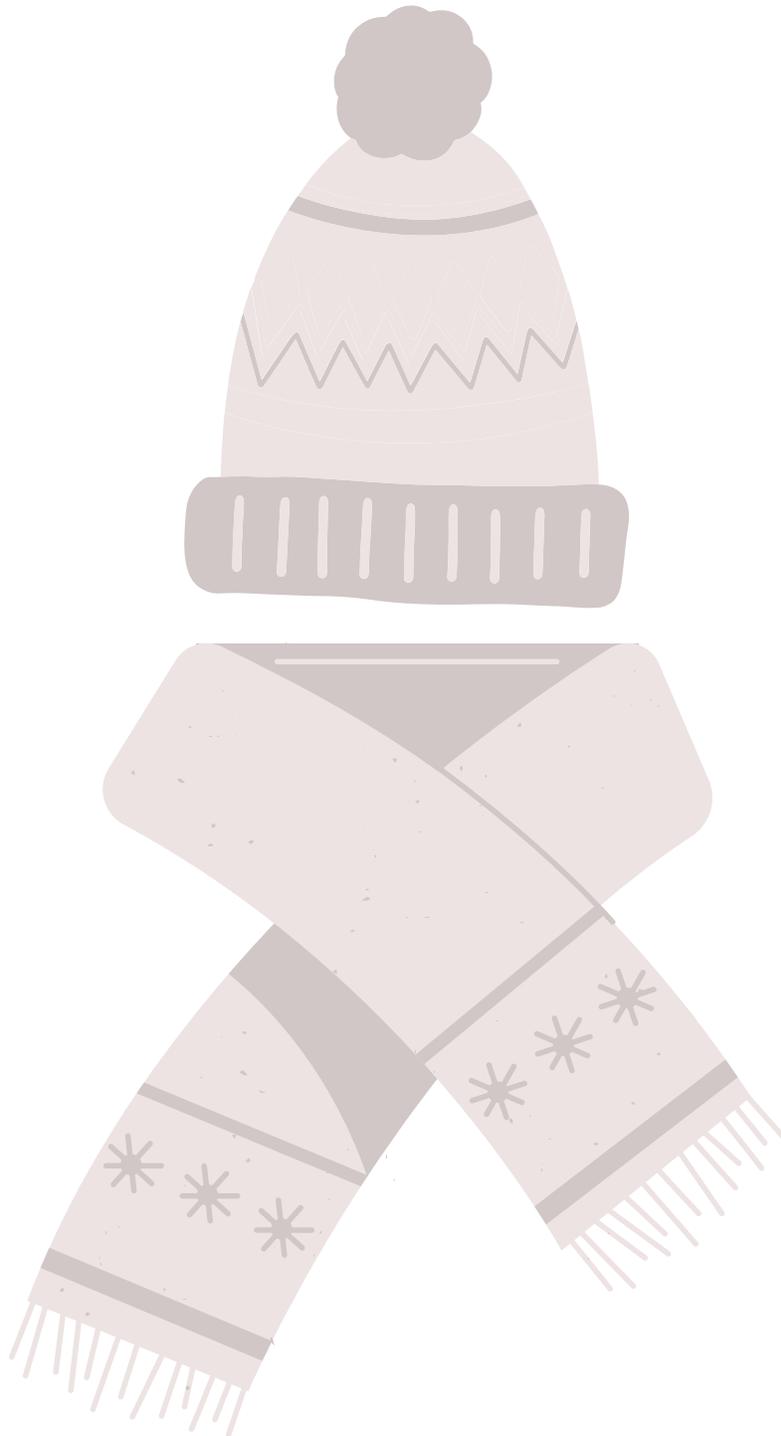
**Emma Pearl** has been writing about the moon since she was a young girl. Today, she lives in Toko, New Zealand in the shadow of Mount Taranaki, a mountain much like the one where Luna and Poppa find the broken moon. She finds inspiration for her stories everywhere, but especially in her children. This is her debut picture book.

**Sara Ugolotti** loves watching the moon, especially in those moments when it is brightly colored and big. When she's not working as a full-time illustrator, she also enjoys photography, travel, and cooking. The books she has illustrated include *The Story Thief* (Bloomsbury) and *Up in the Air* (DK Books). Sara lives in Reggio Emilia, Italy.

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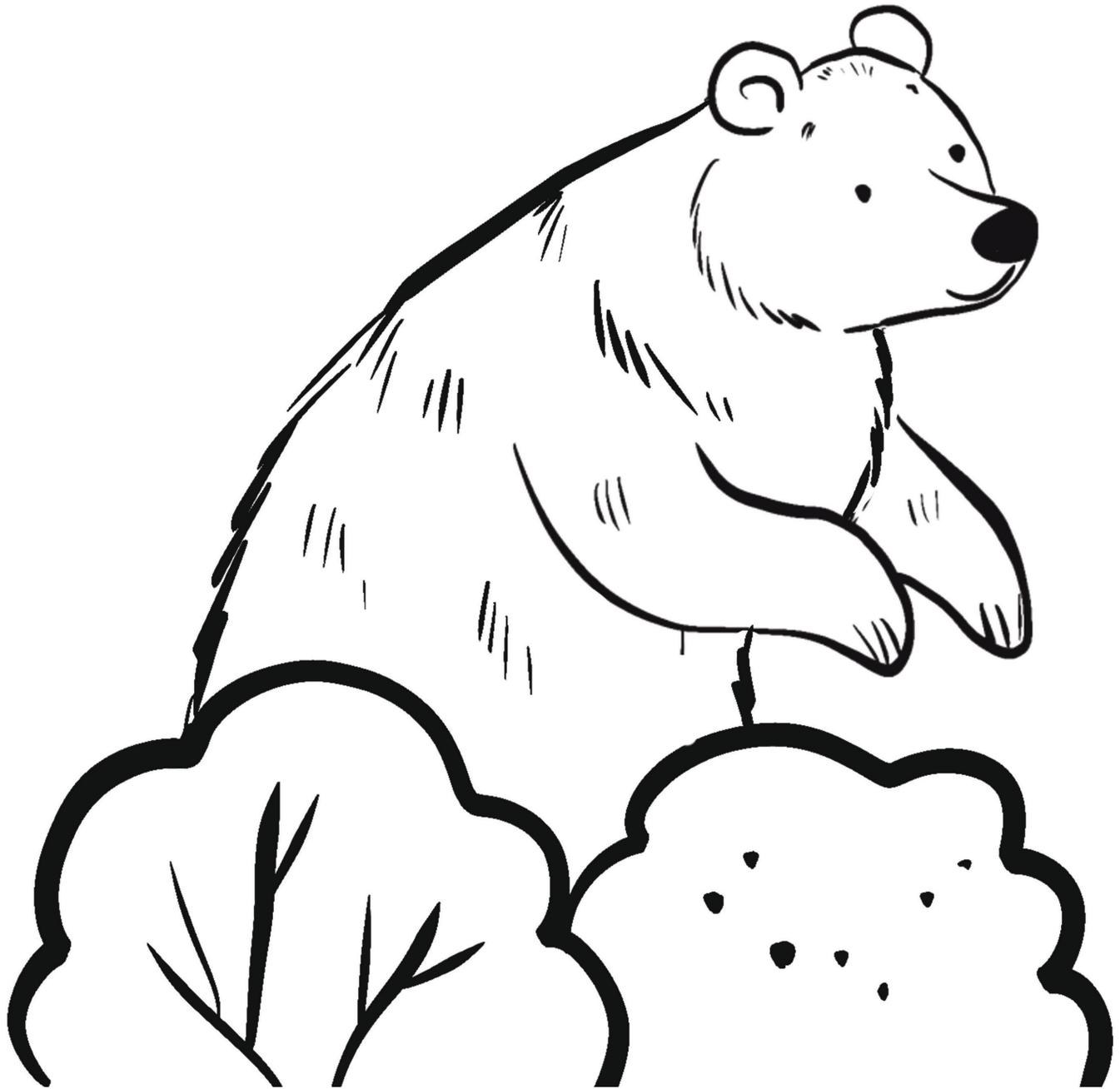
Poppa and Luna keep warm with hats and scarfs.  
Decorate your hat and scarf with your favorite colors and shapes!



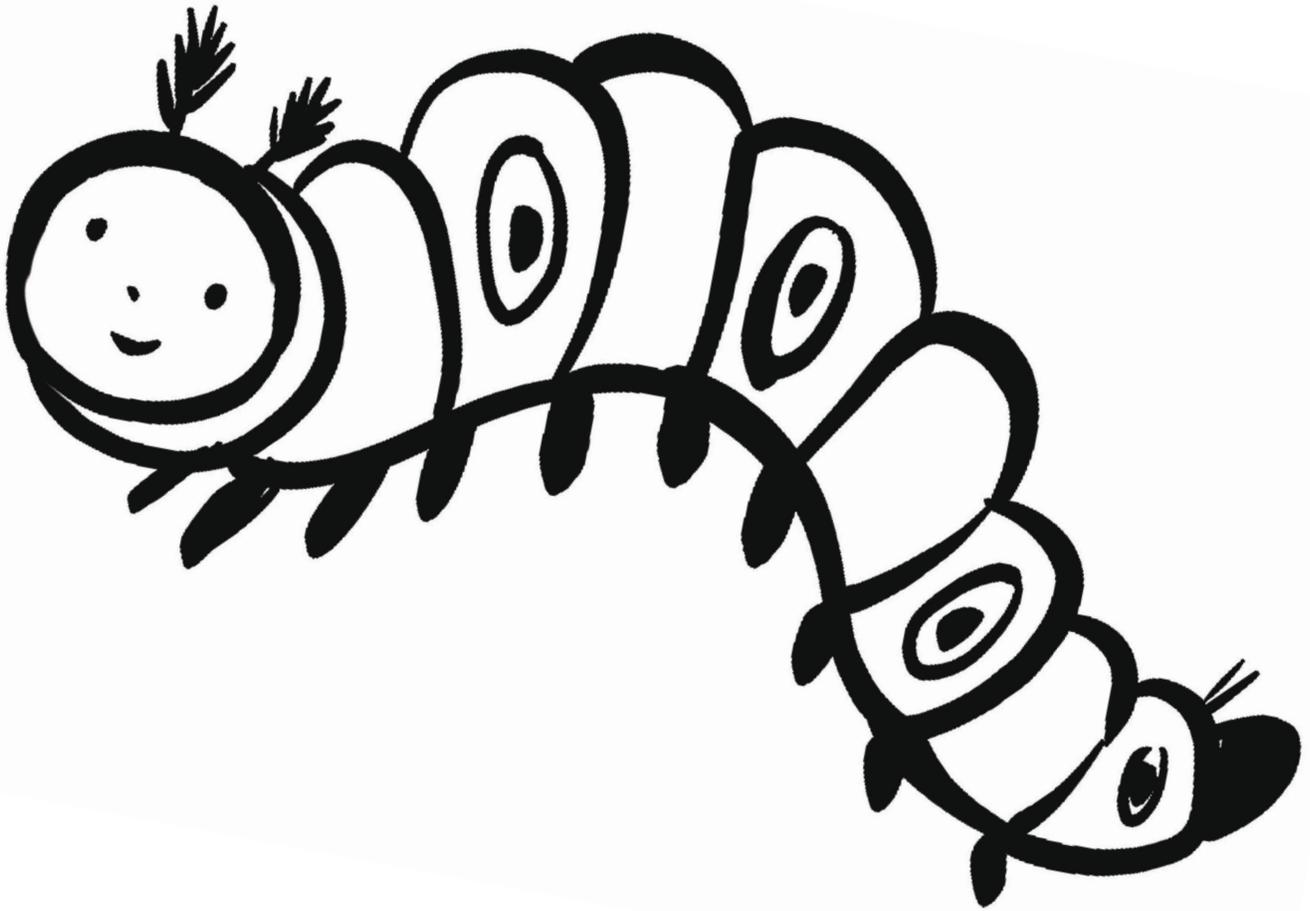
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# DID YOU KNOW?



**THE MOON** is always half-lit by the sun (except during a lunar eclipse). The side of the Moon facing the Sun appears bright because of reflected sunlight, and the side of the Moon facing away from the Sun is dark. Our perspective on the half-lit Moon changes as the Moon orbits Earth. When the side nearest to us is fully lit, we call this a full Moon. When the far side is fully lit and the near side is dark, we call this a new Moon. When we see other phases, we are looking at the division between lunar night (the dark part) and day (the bright part).



# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



## STORYTELLING IS A HUMAN TRADITION

There are as many stories about the shapes on the face of the Moon as there are cultures who have observed them. They often relate moral tales or creation stories.

Do you have a Moon story that was told to you?

Why do so many cultures have Moon stories?

What do you see in the Moon?

- Take a look at the characters from the cultures that are shown on a story card. In each case, the storyteller used the light and dark spots on the face of the Moon to create the characters in their story.
- Look at the image of the Full Moon.
- Draw the character or characters that you see when you look at the Moon.
- Write your own story about why your characters are seen in the Moon.

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# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



## PERU Fox in the Moon

All that Fox could think about was getting to Moon. After braiding a grass rope long enough to reach Moon, he got help from the birds to fly it up to Moon for him. Once that was done, Fox climbed up the rope. Now the birds say they can see Fox in the Full Moon. Can you?



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# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## CHINA

### Toad in the Moon

Heng O found out that her husband, Sheng I, had discovered the secret of immortality. When she found his magic potion, she drank it and immediately flew out the window up to the Moon. Sheng I was so angry with what she had done, he turned her into a three-legged toad. Can you see the toad in the face of the full moon?



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# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## SCANDINAVIA Jack and Jill

Hyuki (Jack) and Bil (Jill) were sent up the hill to fetch a pail of water from a magical well. Water from his well inspired poetry and prophecy. The children were spotted by the man who carries the Moon across the sky each night in his chariot. He scooped them up into his chariot and carried them away. The two children can still be seen there today, along with their bucket and pole. Can you find the splash from the spilled bucket?



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# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



## AUSTRALIA Bahloo the Moon

Back in the Dreamtime, Bahloo (Moon) visited the Earth and saw two young women who invited him to ride in their canoe. He was unsteady in the little craft and fell into the water. Embarrassed by his clumsiness, he hid. Although he now shines brightly every month, he remembers this little accident and shrinks away to gather his courage. Can you find the embarrassed Bahloo in the Full Moon?



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# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## NEW ZEALAND Moon Woman

The Maori call the woman in the Moon Rona. On a moonlit night she was returning from a stream with a calabash full of water. Moon slipped behind a cloud for a moment, and in the darkness Rona stumbled on the root of a tree. Angry, she cursed Moon. Moon, who would not stand for this abuse, swooped down on her and carried her off along with her water gourd and the tree that had tripped her. The Maori still see all three there today. Can you?



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# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



## POLYNESIA Moon Woman

Have you ever seen a rainbow at night formed by moonlight instead of sunlight? Legend has it that Hina, a Polynesian woman who was on her way to get some fresh water, did. She had always wanted to live in the heavens, so she walked along the rainbow and didn't stop until she reached Moon. She lives there now and can be seen beating her tapa board to make cloth. Can you find her?



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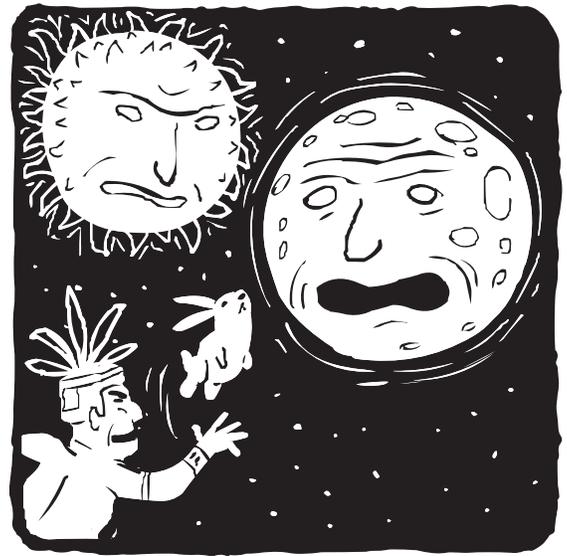
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# MOON STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## MEXICO Rabbit Moon

In ancient times, an Aztec god chose to set himself on fire and jump into the sky to light the cold, dark world. He became the Sun. A second god, jealous of the praise that the new Sun was getting, did the same. All of that light angered a third god who threw a rabbit at the second Sun's face to dim his light, making him the Moon. Can you see the dark rabbit on the Moon?

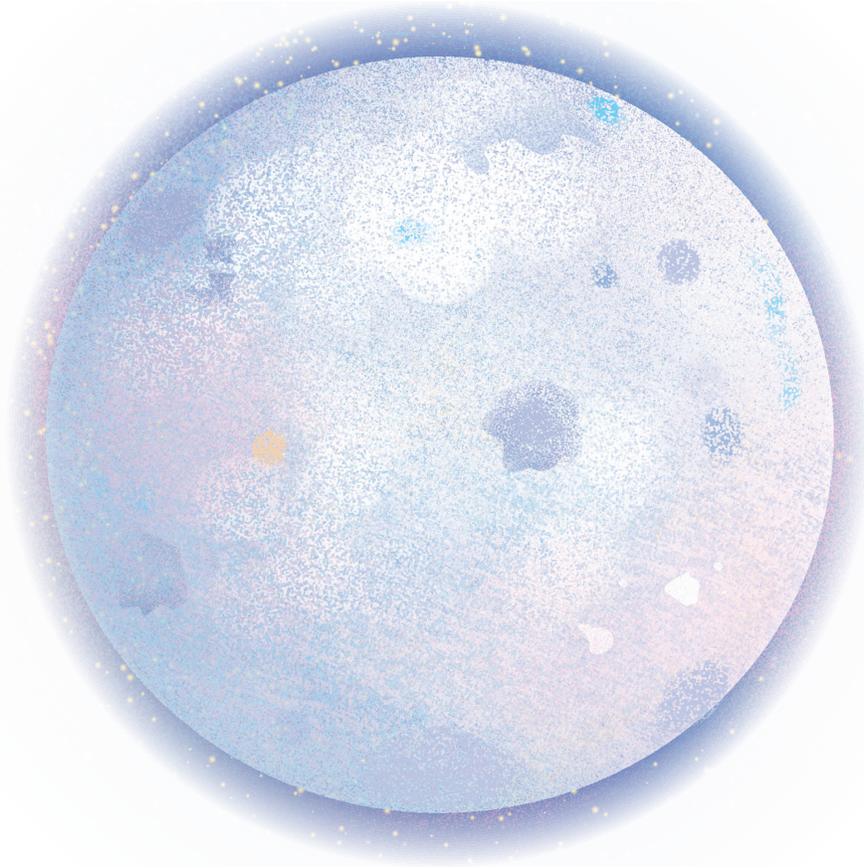


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# CREATE YOUR OWN MOON STORY



**DRAW ONE OR MORE CHARACTERS THAT YOU SEE IN THE MOON**

Then tell a story below about how they got there.

**Character(s):**

**Story:**

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