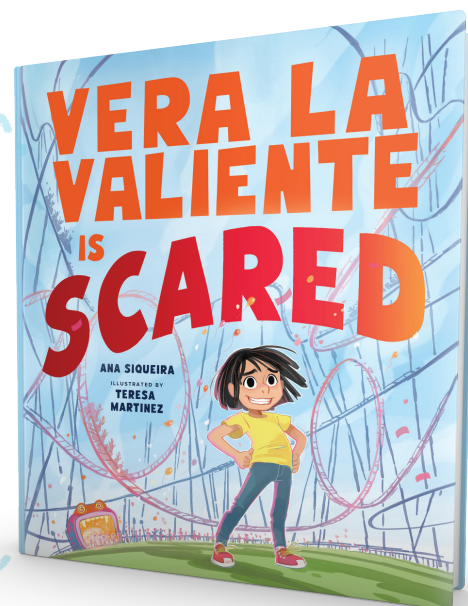


Vera La Valiente is Scared

ACTIVITY KIT

BY ANA SIQUEIRA



A hilarious story about what it really means to be brave.

Meet Vera the Brave—La Valiente! She dives like a dolphin, climbs like a mountain goat, and defends her amigos like un león. But she trembles when she hears her teacher say, “We’re going to Rocking Roller Coasters!” Oh no! Vera tries to convince the teacher her plan is not the best, but Ms. Rodríguez does not change her mind about the field trip. Now if Vera can’t face her fears, everyone will discover she’s not that brave after all! But what if being brave is much more than she expected? *Vera La Valiente Is Scared* redefines what it means to be brave. It’s okay to show your feelings and fears! And maybe, with some help, you can even face some of them.



Ana Siqueira is a Spanish-language elementary teacher and an award-winning Brazilian children’s book author based in Tampa, Florida. Her picture books include *Bella’s Recipe for Success*, *Vera La Valiente Is Scared*, *If Your Babysitter Is a Bruja*, and *Abuela’s Super Capa*, among many others. Ana is also a global educator, a PBS Media innovator, and an SCBWI member. She lives in Palm Harbor, Florida, with her husband and loves to play with her Cuban-Brazilian-American grandkids.



Teresa Martinez is a Mexican illustrator based in Puerto Vallarta. She’s the illustrator for dozens of picture books including *Duck, Duck, Taco Truck*, written by Laura Lavoie, *Playing at the Border: A Story of Yo-Yo Ma*, written by Johanna Ho, and *The Last Tamale*, written by Orlando Mendiola, among many others.

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Name:

Date:

BEFORE READING: **PREDICTIONS**

What Do We Know?

Based on the cover, what do you know about the story?



Our Predictions

Based on the cover, what else can you predict?

Our Questions

(Who, what, when, where, why, how?)



Name:

Date:

AFTER READING:

COMPARING PREDICTIONS

Draw or write your predictions vs. what happened in the story

Predictions:

What happened:

Name:

Date:

YOUR FAVORITE SCENE

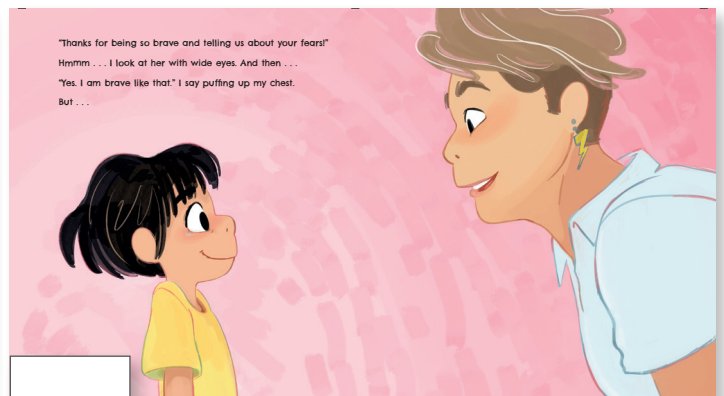
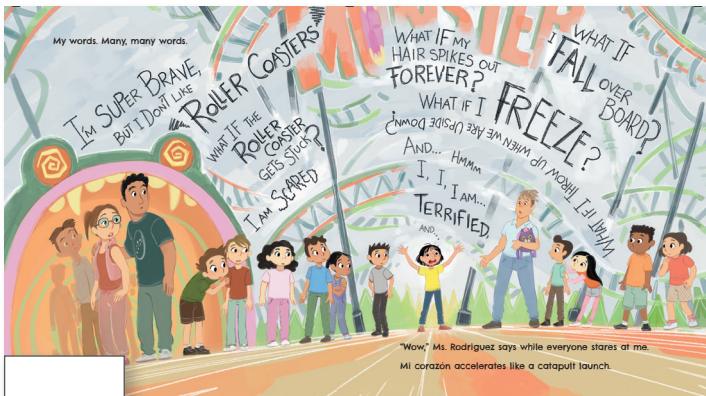
Draw your favorite scene or scenes.
Why are they your favorite?

Name:

Date:

PUT THE SCENES IN THE RIGHT ORDER

Number the scenes in the order they appear in the story.



Name:

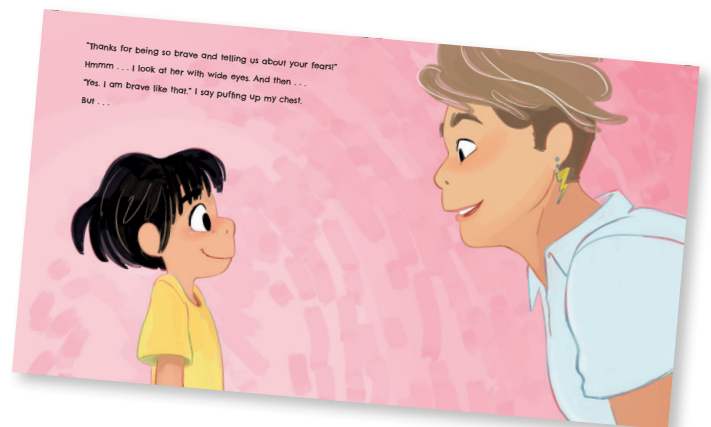
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WHY IS VERA BRAVE?

Write why Ms. Rodriguez thinks Vera is brave. Do you agree?

This image shows a worksheet template designed for writing practice. It features a series of horizontal blue lines spaced evenly down the page. At the bottom right corner, there is a colorful cartoon illustration. The illustration depicts two children: a girl with short black hair wearing a yellow shirt, and a boy with brown hair wearing a light blue shirt. They are both smiling and looking towards each other. Above them, there is a pink rectangular area containing the following text:

"Thanks for being so brave and telling us about your fears!"
Heaven . . . I look at her with wide eyes. And then . . .
"Yes, I am brave like that," I say puffing up my chest.
But . . .



Name:

Date:

A DAY I FELT SCARED

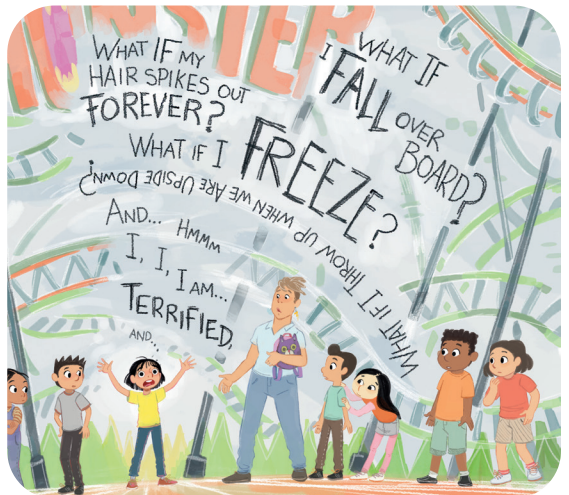
Draw a picture of a day you felt scared.

Name:

Date:

A DAY I FELT SCARED

Write about a day you felt scared.

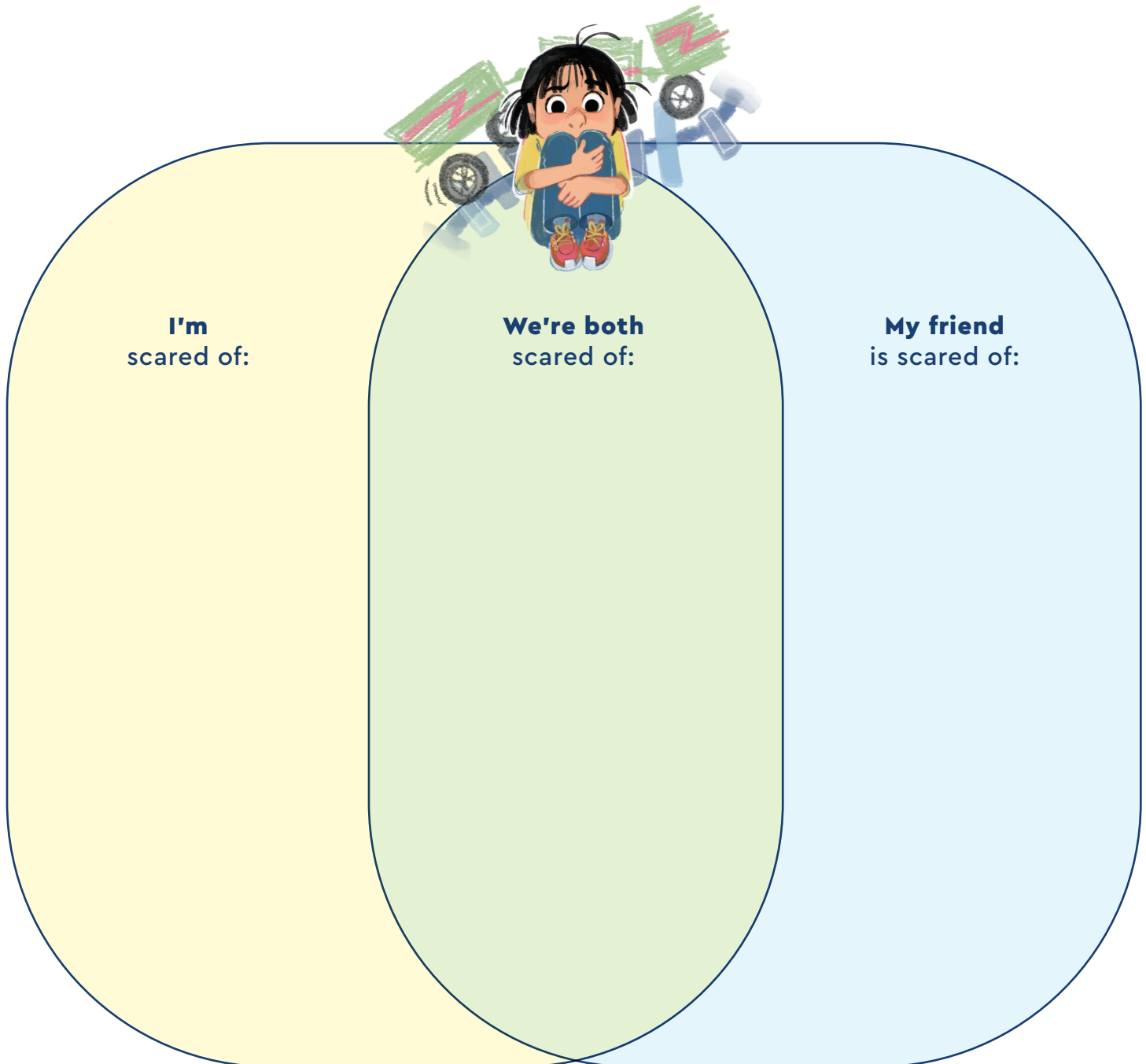


Name:

Date:

COMPARE AND CONTRAST FEARS

Create a venn diagram comparing your fears, your friend's fears, and fears that you both have in common.



WHAT IS A SIMILE?

Similes compare two things using "like," "than," or "as."
Here are some examples:

Vera **dives like** a **dolphin**.

Vera **trembles like** a **chick**.

Her brain **spins faster than** a **twister**.



Name:

Date:

FIND MORE SIMILES

Draw or write more similes from the story.



Name: _____

Date: _____

CREATE YOUR OWN SIMILES

Fill in the blank spots to create your own similes.

I am as brave as _____

I am as _____ as _____

I talk like a _____

I _____ like a _____



FOR TEACHERS

During Read Aloud:

This story creates the perfect opportunity to open a discussion about fear and bravery in a safe, supportive environment. Ask questions about fears during the read aloud.

Introduce key vocabulary including *brave*, *scared*, *feelings*, and *express*, while addressing the common misconception that being scared means being weak. Students will learn that fear is a universal human experience that we can learn to manage together.

After Reading:

Students will reflect on their own experiences with fear by asking, “Have you ever felt scared? What did you do?” The teacher will share a simple personal fear, demonstrating that everyone—even adults—experiences fear sometimes.

Students will work in pairs to share their experiences with fear.

Independent Practice - draw and write about a moment they felt scared. Share with the class.

Sharing - Complete a graph and composition on what you are scared of. Compare and contrast using Venn Diagram.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

- Have students draw and cut out a badge of bravery.
- Encourage students to share the badge with their families, and to ask their families about moments when they were scared.
- Upon returning to class, students can draw pictures of some of the fears their family members have shared or share them with the group.
- Lead a group discussion, encouraging the students to compare and contrast the fears they have shared.