

Teacher's Guide to *Little Red Dot Comes Home*

Little Red Dot Comes Home is written for children who are six to seven years old to help them understand what it means to have a sense of rootedness and belonging to a place.

The story is about Soosie, a little red dot, who floats away on an adventure to Shiokaland to experience the sights beyond her home. During her travels, Soosie realises that her heart is really back home – where she has family, friends, favourite food and familiar places. Shiokaland is described as being better than the little red dot (e.g., bigger houses, faster cars and no school). This is a reference to Singaporeans' perception that the grass is always greener in other countries. The illustrations intentionally include Singapore icons, landmarks and food to give readers the impression that we are referring to Singapore. The names of the little red dot characters are intentionally picked to begin with the letter “s”, another oblique reference to Singapore.

Soosie eventually returns to the Little Red Dot. Besides Soosie, the story features Samy, a little red dot who runs a business in Shiokaland but misses home. Through these two characters, the message conveyed is that there are many things that bond Singaporeans together, and to Singapore: family, friends, language, familiar places and so on. One's sense of rootedness and belonging does not necessarily diminish by going overseas.

How to use this resource

The story and post-reading activities may be conducted in the classroom during one class period. The story may be read using the e-book. The post-reading activities are not meant to be prescriptive: teachers are free to use any of the proposed activities based on their suitability for their students. Teachers are also encouraged to use alternative ways to explain the concept of rootedness and belonging.

For other resources under this title, please visit
www.nexus.gov.sg/LittleRedDot.



Activity 1: Understanding *Little Red Dot Comes Home*

(This activity aims to test the student's understanding of the story and concept of sense of rootedness and belonging.)

The teacher could ask the students the following questions:

- Q1. Where did the Wonder Balloon take Soosie? What was so special about this place?
- Q2. What was strange about Shiokaland?
- Q3. Why did Soosie cry?
- Q4. Who did Soosie meet and why was he there?
- Q5. Why did Soosie decide to return home?

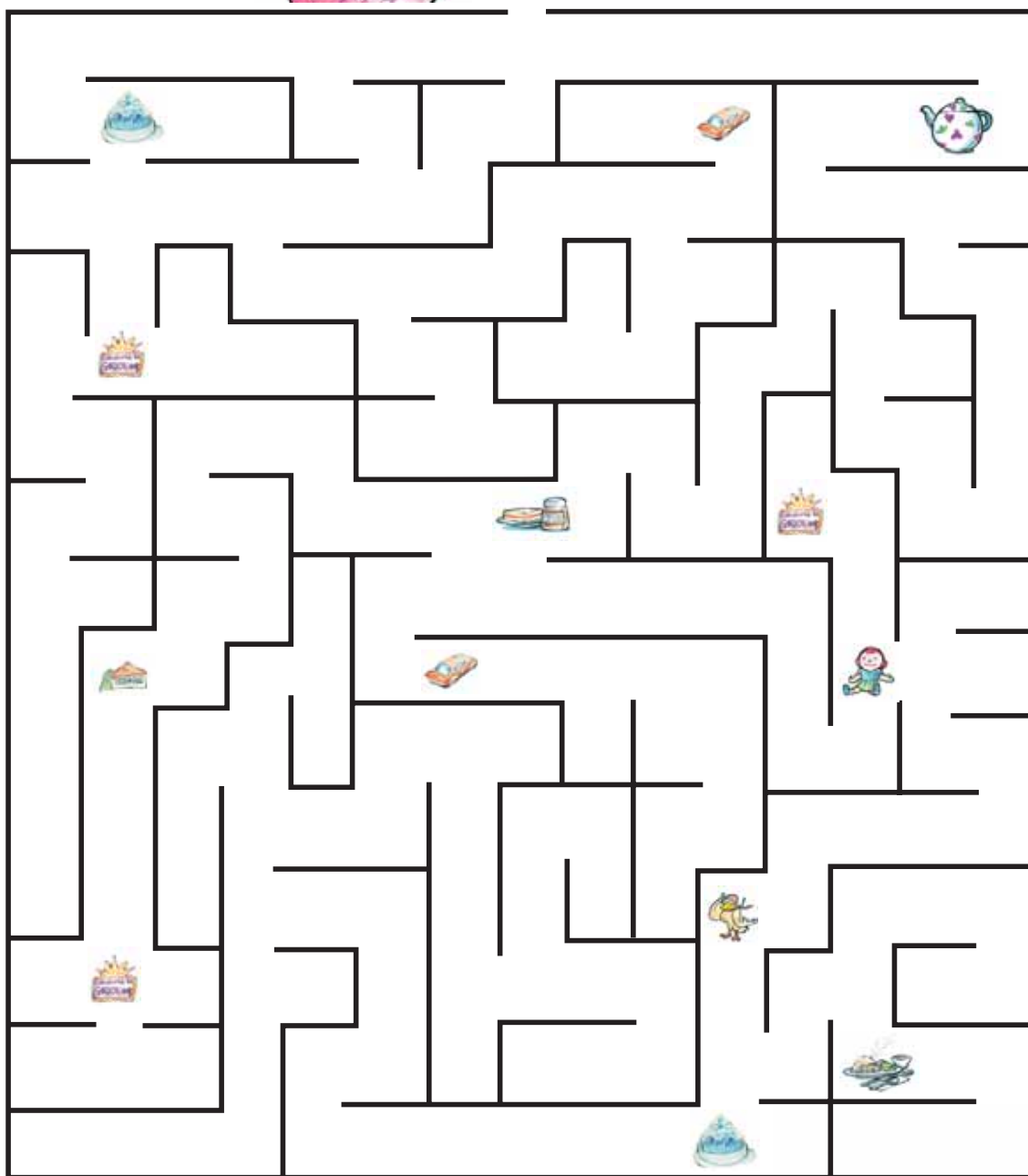


Activity 2: Help Soosie find home...

(This activity aims to help the student recall and identify things that Soosie misses about home. Each student should get a copy of this activity sheet.)

Teacher's instruction to students:

Can you help Soosie go through the maze and find her way home?



Activity 3: Finding Soosie's home

(This activity aims to help the student recall and identify Singapore landmarks and features found in the story, *Little Red Dot Comes Home*. Each student should get a copy of this activity sheet.)

Teacher's instruction to students:

Can you help Soosie identify 10 items in the picture that belong in her home?
Colour and name the items.

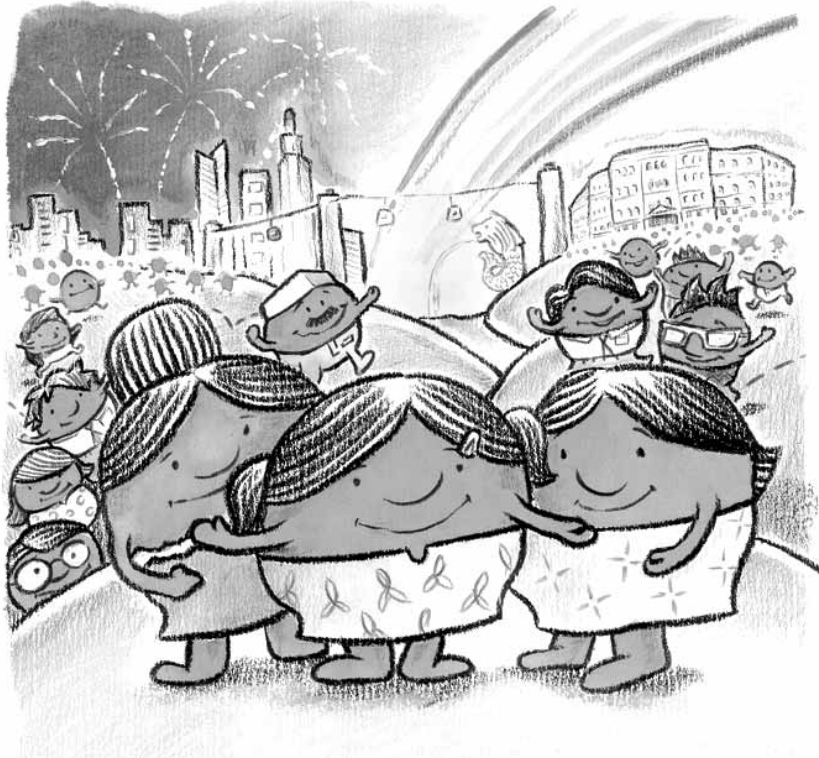


Activity 4: Spot the difference in *Little Red Dot Comes Home*

(This activity aims to get the students to remember the story and identify details and features used in the story. Each student should get a copy of this activity sheet.)

Teacher's instruction to students:

Can you spot 10 differences between the two pictures on the next page? Circle the differences and point out what was used in the story, *Little Red Dot Comes Home*.



Activity 5: *Little Red Dot Comes Home* Word Search

(This activity aims to test the students' familiarity with the details in the story to reinforce the main theme and the spelling of the words used. Each student should get a copy of this activity sheet.)

Teacher's instruction to students:

In 10 minutes, can you find these words and circle them?

(Hint: The words may be written vertically, horizontally, diagonally or backwards.)

favourite lively
family fireworks
fluffy satay strange
floated balloons sore
glow trucks shiny

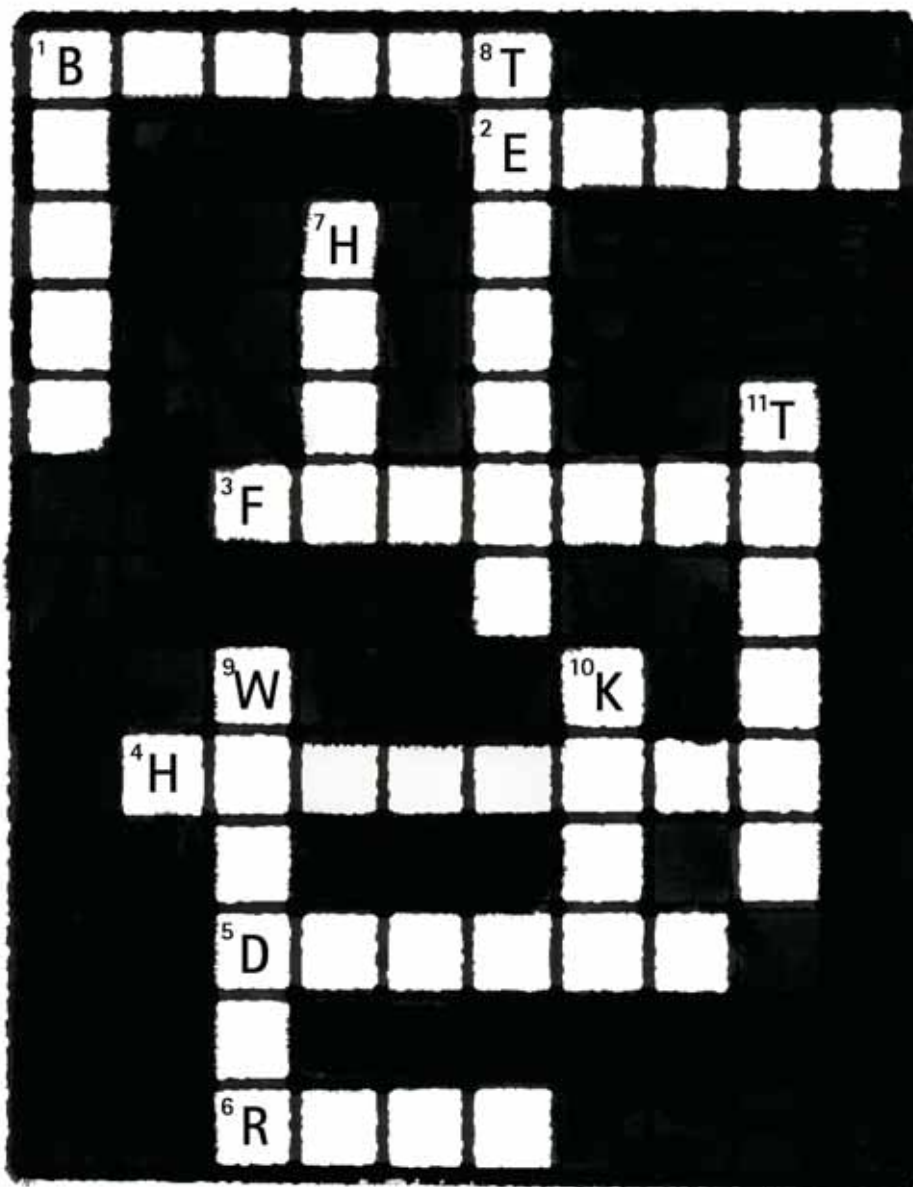
S	T	R	A	N	G	E	T	L
R	O	U	V	X	S	T	S	S
X	B	R	A	G	N	I	K	A
D	Y	K	E	L	O	R	C	T
E	Y	L	P	O	O	U	U	A
T	L	L	I	W	L	O	R	Y
A	E	H	E	M	L	V	T	N
O	V	R	A	Y	A	A	X	I
L	I	R	O	W	B	F	F	H
F	L	U	F	F	Y	H	J	S

Activity 6: *Little Red Dot Comes Home* Crossword Puzzle

(This activity aims to test the students' familiarity with the details in the story to reinforce the main theme and the spelling of the words used. Each student should get a copy of this activity sheet.)

Teacher's instruction to students:

Find the missing words in the crossword puzzle based on the story, *Little Red Dot Comes Home*.



Across

1. The fireworks made Soosie's home look _____
2. Samy used this to keep in touch with his family and friends.
3. Soosie floated lightly like a _____
4. Soosie liked her aunt's kaya because it was _____
5. Soosie's favourite fruit.
6. Soosie liked chicken _____

Down

1. Soosie was never _____
7. Both Soosie and Samy missed _____
8. Soosie collected this.
9. The name of the balloons Soosie found.
10. Soosie could not find this in Shiokaland.
11. Soosie liked to do this.

Activity 7: Do you know *Little Red Dot Comes Home*?

(This activity aims to reinforce the message of sense of rootedness and belonging by getting the students to recall and re-tell the story in their own words. The story may be told as an individual or group effort.)

Teacher's instruction to students:

Act out the story, *Little Red Dot Comes Home*, in your own words using simple props around you.

or

Act out the story, *Little Red Dot Comes Home*, as if you were Soosie. You may change some of the details to reflect your likes and dislikes, e.g., your favourite food, place, what you did at Shiokaland.



Activity 8: If you were Soosie...

(This activity aims to get the students to use reasoning and logic. There are no right or wrong answers. The objective is to get students to think of what it means to belong to a place and have a sense a identity.)

Teacher's instruction to students:

If you were Soosie, would you have stayed in Shiokaland? If yes, give your reasons why. How would you stay in touch with home while at Shiokaland? What would you have missed away from home? If no, why?



Answers to:

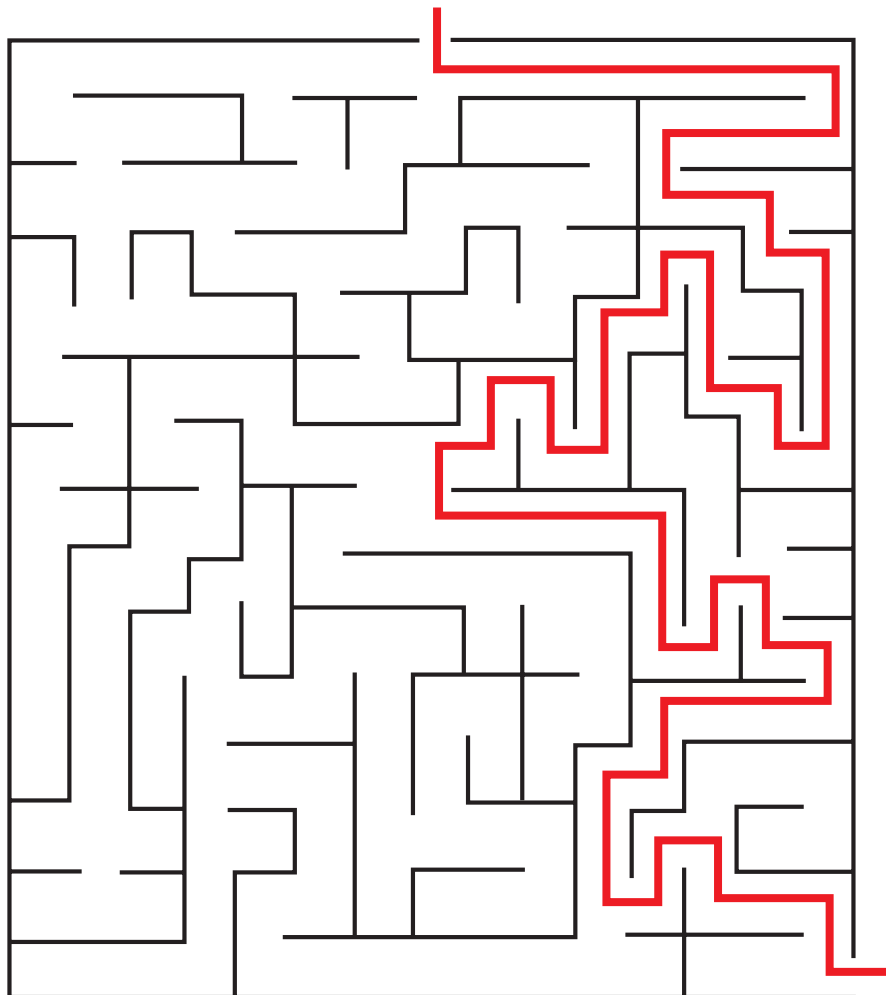


Activity 1: Understanding

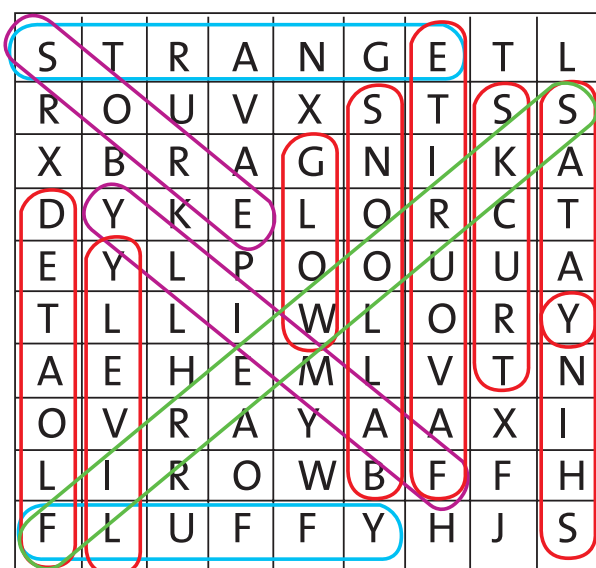
Q2. Shiokaland had no chicken rice or kaya toast.

Q4. Samy was a little red dot who had gone to Shiokaland to sell satay because his satay was the best in Shiokaland.

Activity 2: Help Soosie find home...



Activity 5: *Little Red Dot Comes Home* Word Search



Activity 6: *Little Red Dot Comes Home* Crossword Puzzle

