Bessie

and the Moonlit Mystery



Where has the silver light gone?

STORY • COLOURING • CLUES • DRAWING

This mystery belongs to: _____

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The silver light



One quiet evening near Inchbae, Bessie watched a silver light shining on the Black Water River.

"Has someone dropped a little moon?" she wondered.

A pine marten leaned from a branch. "It does look rather magical," he said.

Then a cloud crossed the sky. The river darkened, and the silver light vanished.

"Oh!" said Bessie. "Where did it go?"

What do you think made the silver light?

A friend with a clue



The pine marten peered between the branches. "I can see the river, the rocks and your two humps," he said. "But no silver light."

Bessie looked around. Nothing sparkled on the water.

"Perhaps we need another pair of eyes," she said.

A little trout popped up beside her. "Did somebody say they needed help?"

If you were a detective, where would you look?

Look a little higher



"I have looked beneath the water," said the trout. "There is no little moon down here."

A tawny owl blinked from a pine branch. "Try looking a little higher," she said.

Bessie lifted her head. The pine marten tilted his nose.

Above the trees hung a soft grey cloud. Behind its edge, something silver was beginning to shine.

Which friend spotted the most helpful clue?

The mystery is solved



Slowly, the cloud drifted away. The full Moon shone above the forest, and its bright reflection returned to the river.

"It was never a lost moon!" laughed Bessie. "We were seeing the Moon's light on the water."

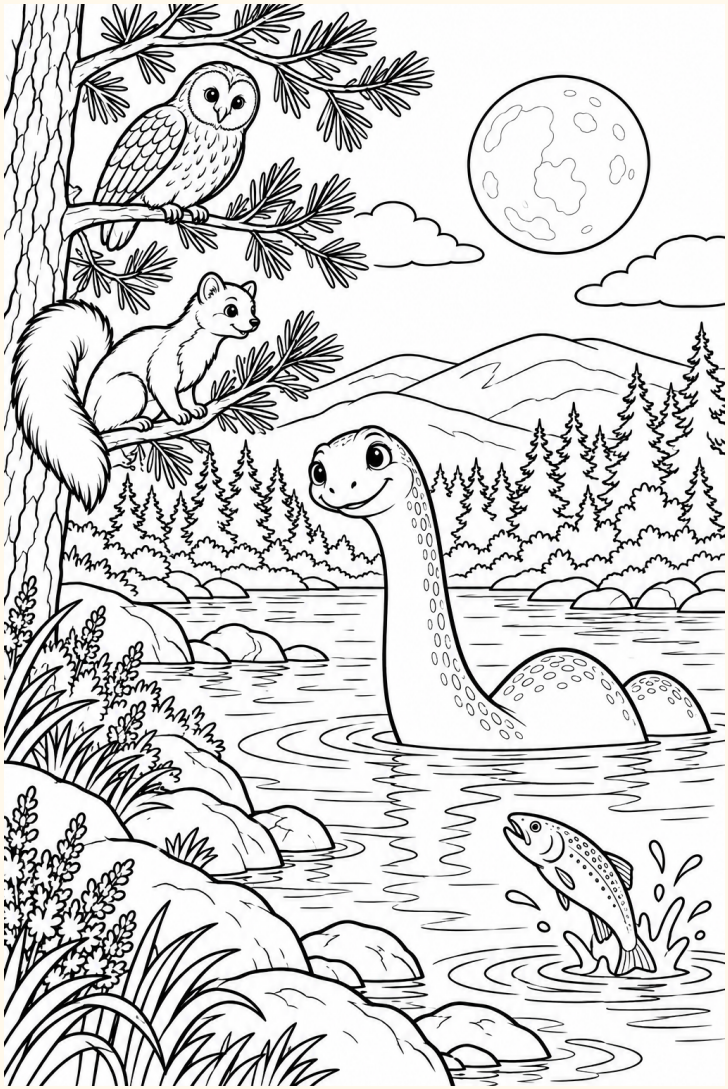
"A mystery solved together," said the owl.

Bessie smiled at her friends. "The best part was having you here to help."

Who helps you when you have a question?

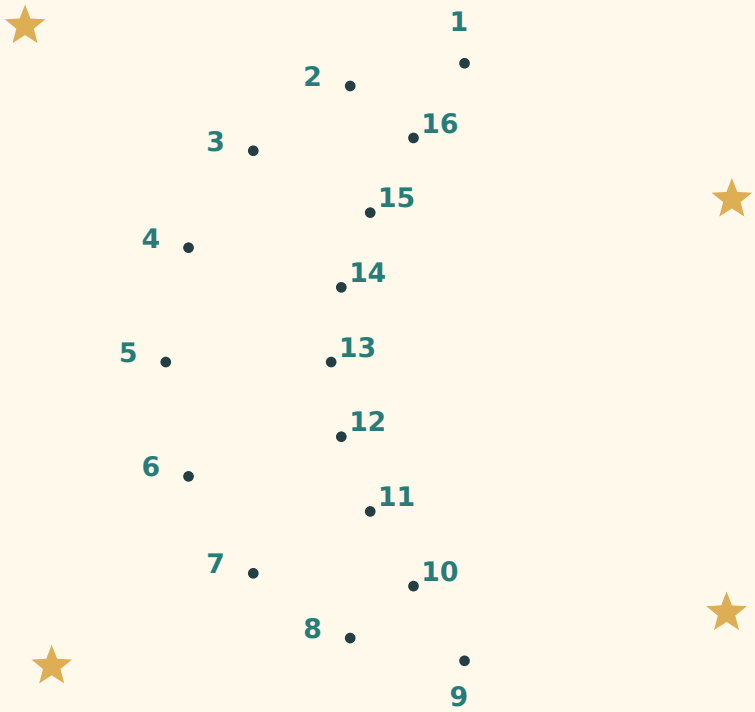
Colour the moonlit river

Give Bessie and her friends a magical night sky.



A shape in the sky

Join dots 1 to 16. Then join 16 back to 1.
What shape have you made?



Now decorate your sky!
Add stars, clouds or a friendly night-time creature.

Who am I?

Read each clue with a grown-up. Write the right letter in the box beside each friend.

FRIENDS		CLUES
Bessie	☐	**A** I have fins and swim beneath the river.
Pine marten	☐	**B** I have a long neck and two round humps.
Trout	☐	**C** I have feathers, wings and a wise clue.
Owl	☐	**D** I have a bushy tail and climb trees.

Detectives listen carefully to every clue.

Finish the patterns

What comes next? Draw it in the empty box.

1.



2.



3.



4.



You can invent your own pattern on spare paper.

Bessie's night-time home

Design a cosy place for Bessie to rest.
Add the Moon and a friend to keep her company.

My favourite part of the picture is:

Bessie feels happy because:

BESSIE'S

Moonlight Detective

This certificate belongs to

_____

For following the clues,
asking thoughtful questions
and helping Bessie solve the mystery.

Date: _____

With moonlit wishes from Black Water River

Mystery solved!

Join the dots

A crescent moon.



Who am I?

Bessie: B

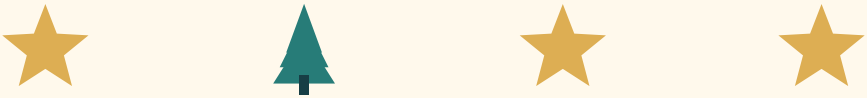
Pine marten: D

Trout: A

Owl: C

Pattern answers

1 2 3 4



For pattern 3, draw a large star.

A note for grown-ups

Bessie is Nessie's make-believe sister. An original story for ages 4-8, with help as needed.
The silver light is the Moon's reflection, hidden by a cloud.

Outdoors, supervise children. Stay back from the river and watch wildlife from a distance.

Another little adventure from
BLACK WATER RIVER
Holiday Lets • Inchbae, Garve



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