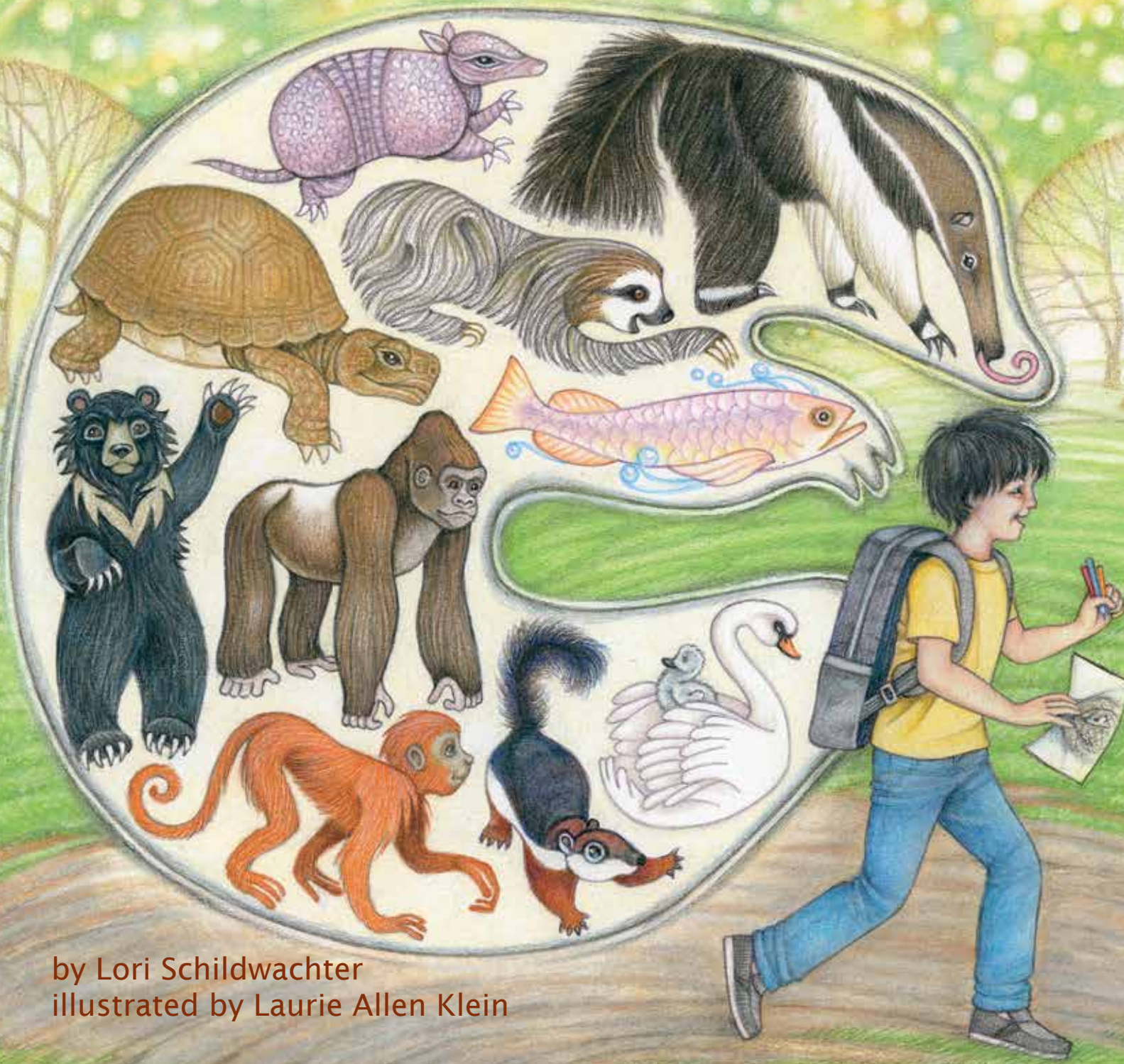


THE PANGOLIN REVELATION



by Lori Schildwacher
illustrated by Laurie Allen Klein

THE PANGOLIN REVELATION

When Loran's homework assignment is to create an animal's adaptations and demonstrate how the adaptations help it survive in its environment, he knows just what he wants to do. Loran creates a multipurpose, super species by using all kinds of cool, one-of-a-kind adaptations taken from a variety of some of his favorite animals—like a monkey's prehensile tail, a sloth's claws, and even curling up like an armadillo. Once he created what he thinks is the ultimate adaptation mashup of any animal ever, he is surprised to discover that his "imaginary creature" really exists—it's a pangolin! Yes, these charming and unique creatures really do exist, and they are the most endangered animals you've possibly never heard of.

Arbordale Publishing offers so much more than a picture book. We open the door for children to explore the facts behind a story they love.

The *For Creative Minds* includes

- What is a Pangolin?
- Design Your Own Animal
- Pangolin Adaptations

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Thanks to Patty Rice, Early Childhood Specialist at the Sedgwick County Zoo and to Jacque Williamson, Curator of Education and Conservation at the Brandywine Zoo, for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.

Arbordale's interactive ebooks read aloud in both English and Spanish with word-highlighting and adjustable audio speed. Available for purchase online.

Lori Schildwachter (pronounced *shild wok ter*) is a multimedia producer, instructional designer, and environmental educator with 40 years of experience educating audiences of all ages about the amazing animals that share our planet. Lori has received a Daytime Emmy award, multiple Pacific Southwest Regional Emmy Awards, and Telly Awards over the course of her career. As an instructional designer, Lori has written courses and camps for preschool through 3rd grade, as well as curated and provided art direction and content for an educational wildlife website. This is Lori's debut picture book. Lori is like a sea turtle with nest site fidelity—no matter how far she may roam around the world, Lori always returns to her hometown in Florida where she has made a cozy nest with her husband, two daughters, a cat (Molly), a dog (Harry), and a horse (Marty).

Award-winning illustrator **Laurie Allen Klein** has been a freelance artist for over 30 years. She has worked with a variety of zoos, marine parks and aquariums creating life-size animal murals, animal ID art, camp field guides, activity books, and posters. Laurie has illustrated *The Long and Short Tail of Colo and Ruff*, *Dear Komodo Dragon*, *Saving Kate's Flowers*, *They Just Know*, *The Ghost of Donley Farm*, *Balloon Trees*, *Solar System Forecast*, *Meet the Planets*, *Fur and Feathers*, *Where Should Turtle Be?*, *Little Skink's Tail*, and *If a Dolphin Were a Fish* for Arbordale. Laurie and her husband live in Florida. See more of her artwork at www.lauriekleinarts.com.



Lori Schildwachter



Laurie Allen Klein

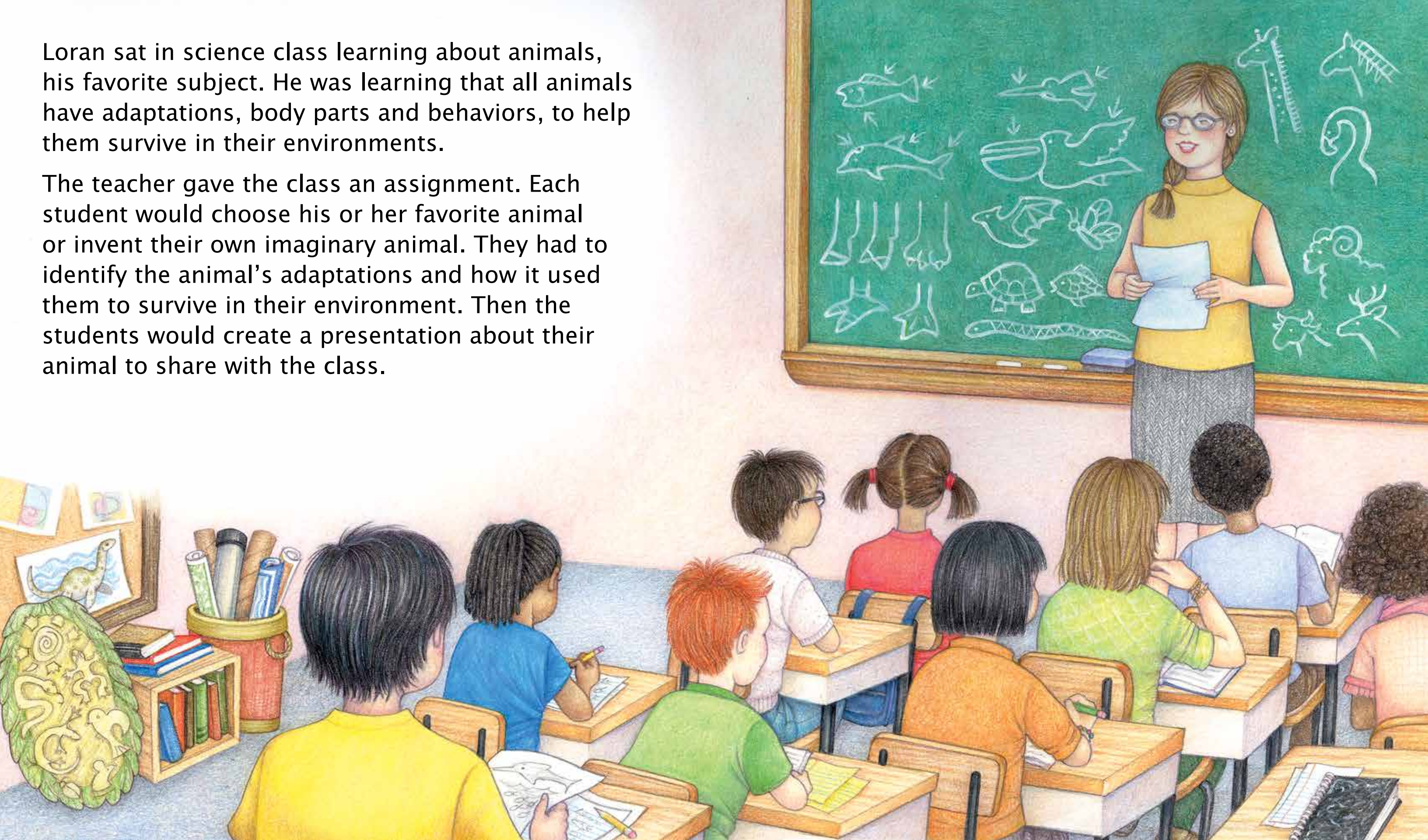
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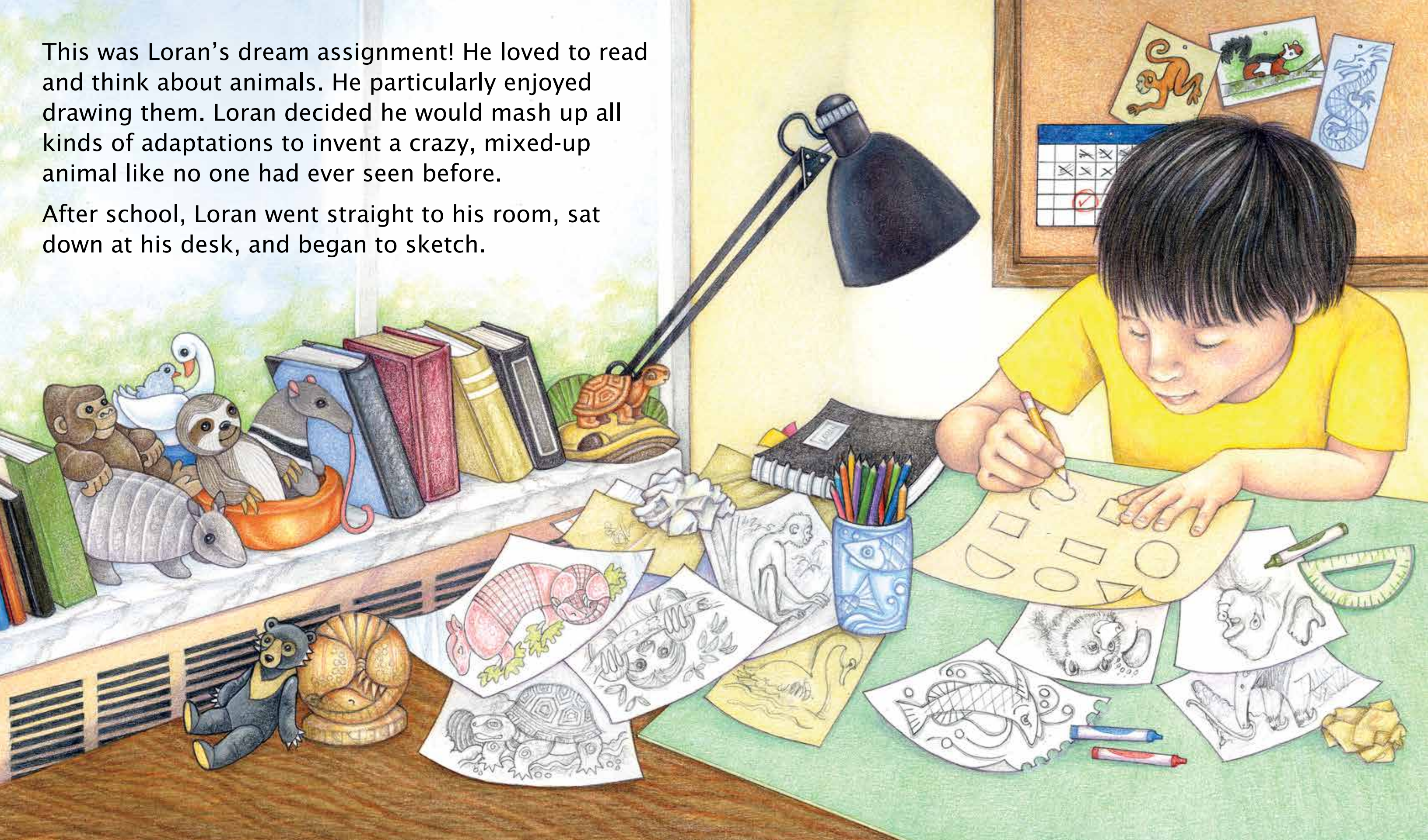
Loran sat in science class learning about animals, his favorite subject. He was learning that all animals have adaptations, body parts and behaviors, to help them survive in their environments.

The teacher gave the class an assignment. Each student would choose his or her favorite animal or invent their own imaginary animal. They had to identify the animal's adaptations and how it used them to survive in their environment. Then the students would create a presentation about their animal to share with the class.



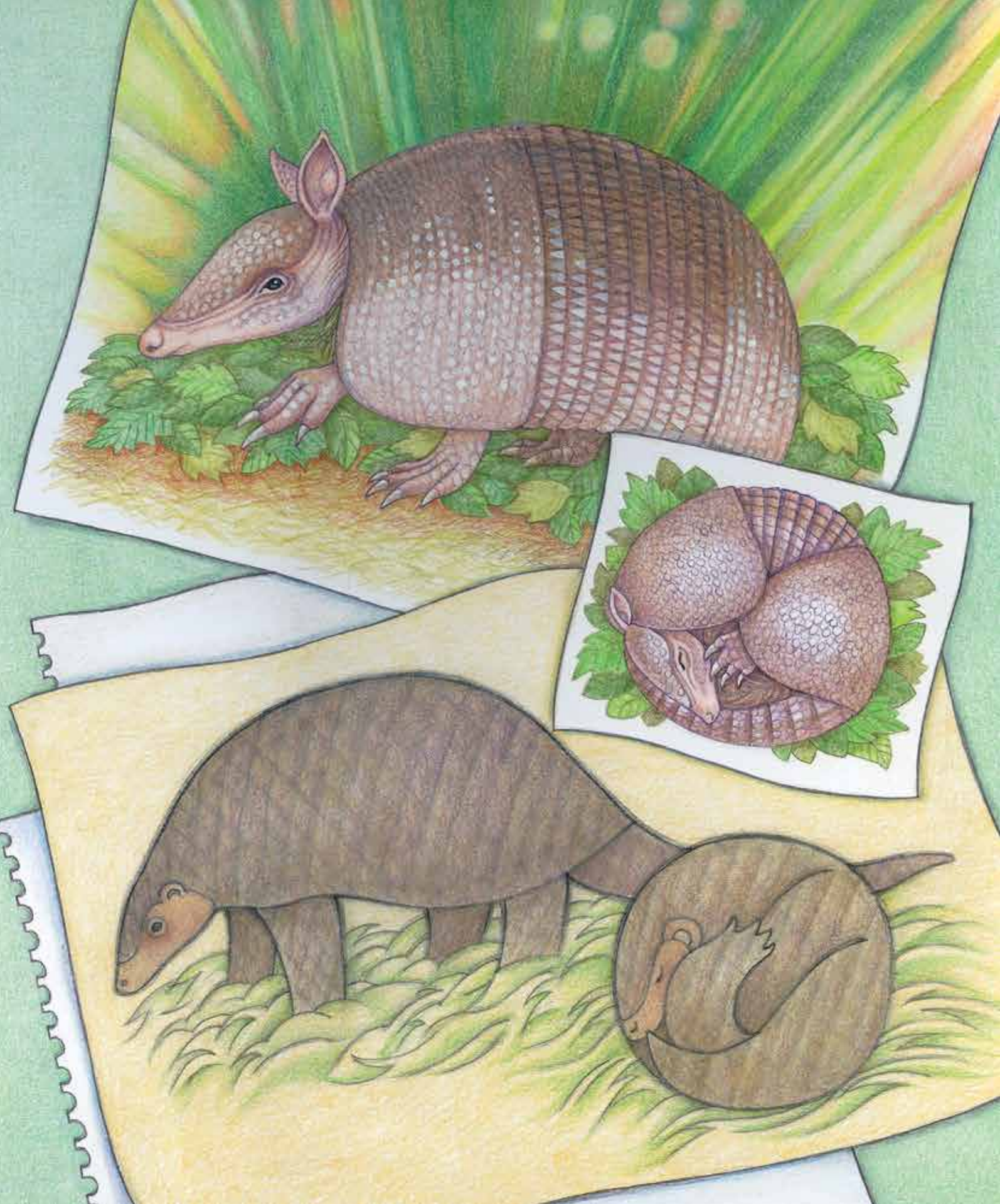
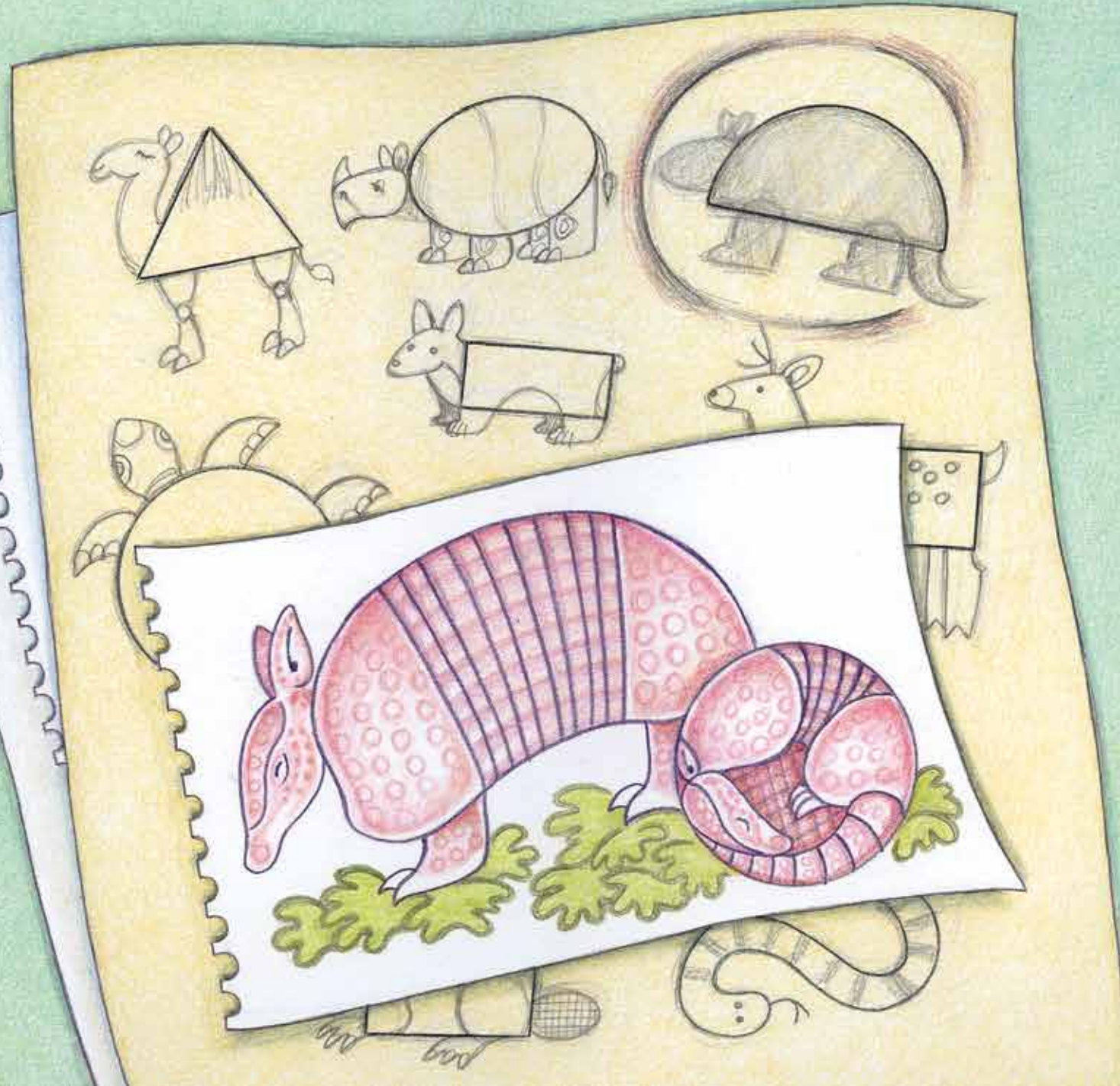
This was Loran's dream assignment! He loved to read and think about animals. He particularly enjoyed drawing them. Loran decided he would mash up all kinds of adaptations to invent a crazy, mixed-up animal like no one had ever seen before.

After school, Loran went straight to his room, sat down at his desk, and began to sketch.

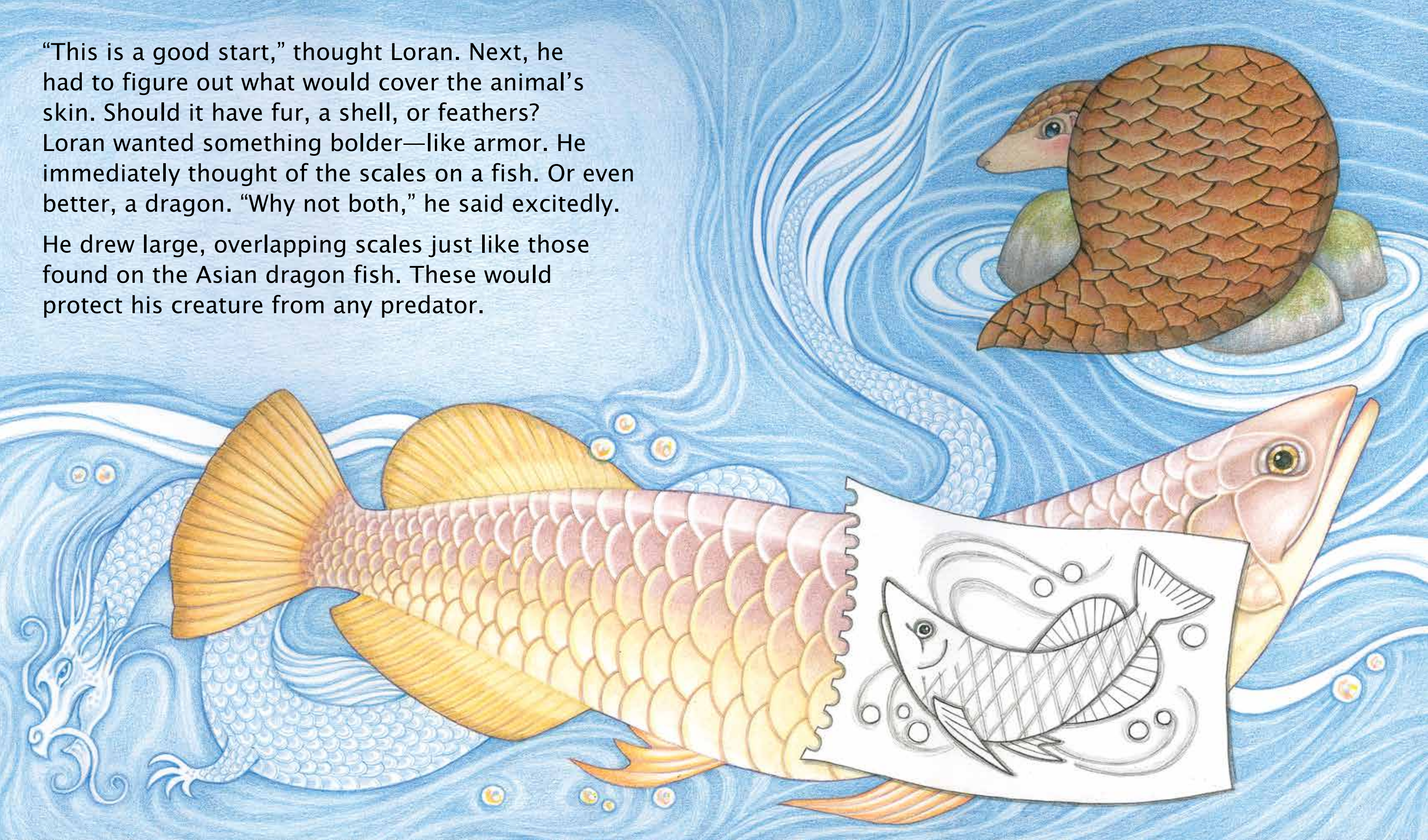


Loran started with a shape. It was a rounded, half circle. It reminded him of an armadillo.

Like most armadillos, his animal would be able to curl up into a ball to protect itself.



“This is a good start,” thought Loran. Next, he had to figure out what would cover the animal’s skin. Should it have fur, a shell, or feathers? Loran wanted something bolder—like armor. He immediately thought of the scales on a fish. Or even better, a dragon. “Why not both,” he said excitedly. He drew large, overlapping scales just like those found on the Asian dragon fish. These would protect his creature from any predator.



For Creative Minds

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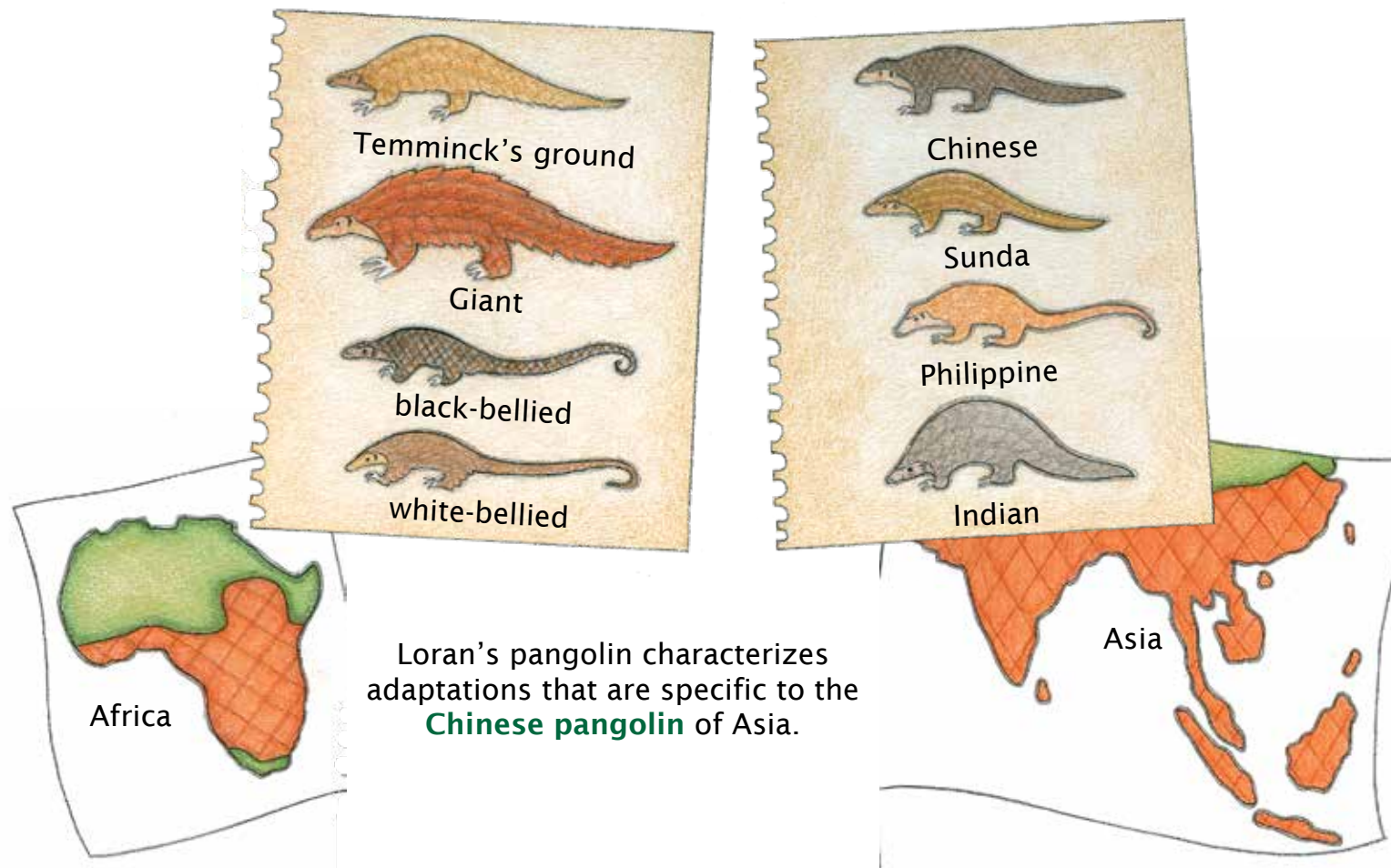
Visit www.ArbordalePublishing.com to explore additional resources.

What is a Pangolin?

Once more commonly known as the scaly anteater, pangolins have been described as a cross between a dragon, an artichoke, a pinecone, a tiny dinosaur, and an armadillo. The name pangolin comes from the Malay word “pengguling” meaning “something that rolls up.” Four species of pangolin are found in Asia, and four are found in Africa.

Depending on the species, they inhabit forest and savannah environments.

Sadly, all pangolins are endangered. Pangolins are relentlessly hunted across all their ranges for their meat and the adaptation that sets pangolins apart from all other mammal species, scales. Thousands of pangolins are killed each year, and some species are facing extinction if effective measures to protect them are not taken soon.



Design Your Own Animal!

Just like Loran designed what he thought would be his own animal, you can too!

Pick an animal shape. Will it be long or short? Flat or round?

What kind of skin covering will your animal have: fur (hair), feathers, or scales? Will it have bones inside or outside (exoskeleton)?

What will the animal eat: plants, other animals, or both? And what kind?

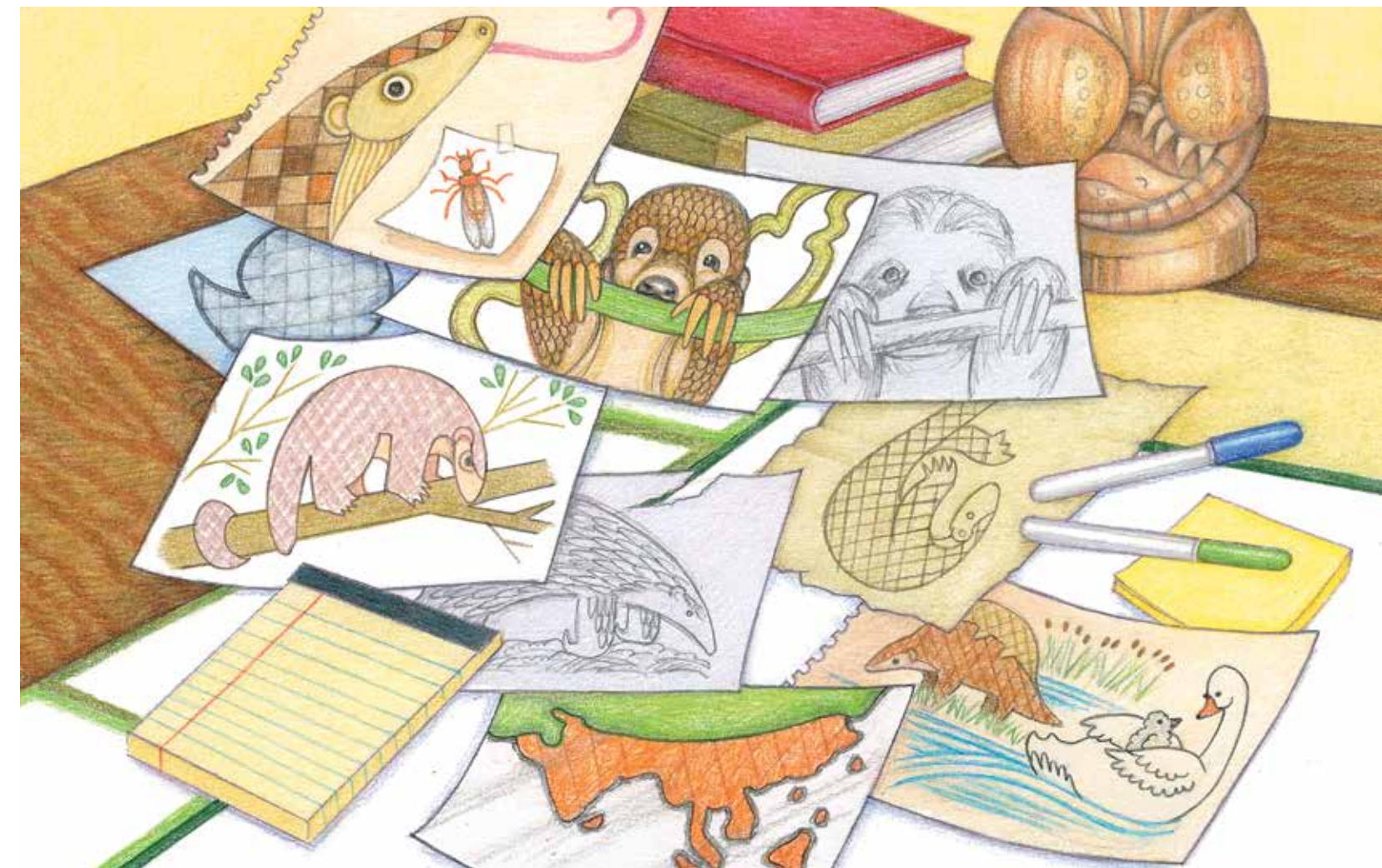
How will it get and eat its food?

Describe the home or shelter your animal uses. Does it make the home or borrow it from another animal? Does it always live in the shelter or just when it has young?

How will your animal move: will it walk (on 2 or 4 feet), fly, or swim?

Describe the habitat where your animal lives. What special body parts or behaviors does it have that helps it live in that habitat?

Will your animal raise its young? If so, how will it carry and care for the young?

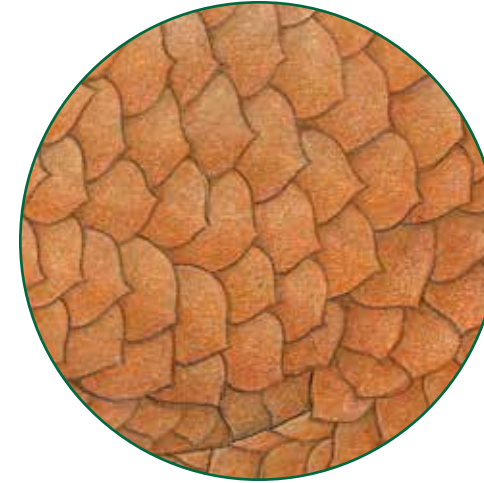


Pangolin Adaptations

All living things have body parts or **physical adaptations** that help them survive in their habitat. Animals also have things they do or **behaviors** that help them survive. Can you identify whether the adaptations are physical or behavioral?



All pangolins excavate **burrows**, with some species digging very large chambers many feet underground. The burrows are used for sleeping, giving birth, and, in the case of the Chinese pangolin, maybe even hibernating.



All eight pangolin species have protective **scales** made of keratin, the same material as fingernails and hair.

Pangolins have 5 toes on each paw. The three curved **claws** on the front paws give them extreme digging ability to tear into termite mounds, excavate burrows, and provide stability for the tree-climbing species.



Pangolins **curl** up into a ball to protect themselves. The ball is so tight that it can't be opened!



Some pangolins **climb** trees and sleep in hollow trunks, other species stay on land.



Pangolins **carry** their babies on their backs.

Answers:
Physical: claws, scales,
Behavioral: burrows, climbing, curl into ball, carry babies on their back

This book is dedicated to the memory of Loran Wlodarski, a wildlife appreciator and a dedicated fact-finder. His talents for gathering and sharing information are legendary and he is greatly missed.—LS & LAK

Photo credit for the pangolin on this page is to Adobe Stock Photos (yes, they are real!).

Thanks to Patty Rice, Early Childhood Specialist at the Sedgwick County Zoo and to Jacque Williamson, Curator of Education and Conservation at the Brandywine Zoo, for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.

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Pangolin Protectors Unite

Do you want to be a Pangolin Protector? Then join others to spread the word about pangolins. Research and support pangolin conservation programs like:

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- Global Conservation Force (www.globalconservationforce.org)
- Save Pangolins.org (www.savepangolins.org).

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