

Tim and the Magical Jungle



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Tim and the *Magical* Jungle

Written by

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Have you ever wondered how to catch a hunter? If you have, then this is the book for you!



Hello, I am Tim and I live in a jungle but not any old jungle, a magical jungle.

You might ask what is a magical jungle?

Well, it is a beautiful and colourful rainforest with lots of animals that you would not normally find in a jungle and what is more, they can talk!

The problem is that talking animals are very rare, so hunters want to catch them to sell for lots of money.

My job is to stop the hunters taking the animals, who are my friends.



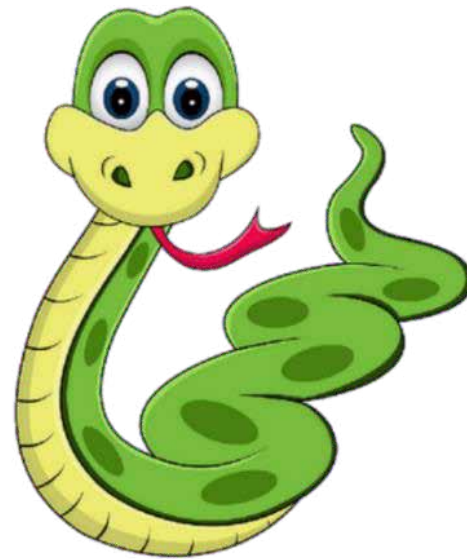
At night, every noise in the jungle sounds louder, so when I heard a shot, I jolted upright from my treehouse camp bed. A hunter must be nearby! I got up quickly calling out my meeting signal to the animals.

There was a flurry of activity around me as my animal friends arrived. I looked around the group to see who was missing. It was Sam the Snake.

“Has anyone seen Sam?” I asked.

There was a chorus of no’s from the animals.

A hunter must have taken him. I needed to catch the hunter and get Sam back!



“We need a trap,” I said. I looked for my sketch book.

I designed a trap on the blank pages to show the animals and explained my idea.

“We need to make a cage with two doors, one big and one small. One of you will act as bait in the cage for the hunter. When the hunter enters the large door, I will lock him in and whoever is bait can come out through the small door.”

“I don’t like the idea of being bait,” said Ellie the Elephant.

“You can’t be bait Ellie, you are too big,” I reassured her.

“I don’t want to get in the cage either,” said Grace the Giraffe.

“You’re too tall Grace. I need one of the smaller animals to act as bait. Any volunteers?” I asked.

Reluctantly, Matt the Monkey agreed.



“Are you sure Matt, that you want to act as bait?” asked Snappy the Crocodile.

“It will be okay,” said Matt. “I trust Tim.”

“Thanks Matt, let’s get everything we need to build the trap,” I said. I asked the animals to get all the materials we

needed and we set to work building the trap. When the trap was all set up, Matt got into position in the cage as bait.

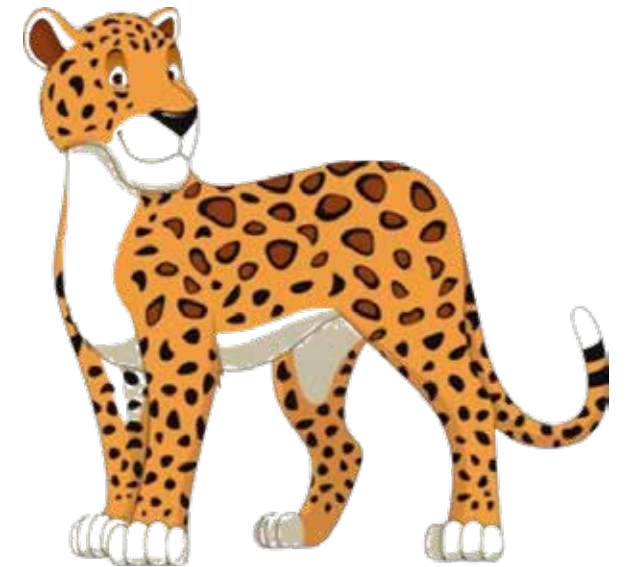
The rest of the animals went back to their homes.

I waited, listening for any sound. I heard a creak of the trap door and I ran to try and lock the hunter in, but the hunter was not there and Matt was missing!

I couldn't believe I had missed him. My plan hadn't worked! Poor Matt. He had trusted me.

I made the meeting signal to call the animals back. My friends were annoyed that Matt had been taken.

"We need another plan," said Jack the Jaguar.



“Let’s find the hunter’s camp and catch him there!” I said.

“And get Sam and Matt back,” added Grace the Giraffe.

“Who has a good sense of smell?” I asked.

“Who can track down the hunter’s camp?”

“I think I could!”

said Ellie the Elephant, “but don’t you think we should all stay together?”



“No, it will be fine. Just you and I will go,” I reassured her.

So off Ellie and I went following the scent trail to the hunter’s camp.

When we found it, we crept towards his large, canvas tent. I peeked inside but there was no sign of the hunter.



“Are Sam and Matt in there?” called Ellie.

“No!” I answered disappointedly.

We slumped back to my own camp. I made the meeting signal to call the animals back. Only Snappy appeared. Jack, Grace and the other animals were not there!

“Where is everyone?” asked Ellie.

“I don’t know, they must have been taken,” said Snappy.

“Oh no!” I cried “You were right Ellie; we should have stayed together!”

“Look Tim, I think we need to come up with a plan together,” said Ellie.

“Okay” I answered. “I’m sorry. I should have listened to all your concerns.”

Just then, we heard a thrashing noise coming from the swamp and someone calling out.

“Help! I can’t swim! Are there crocodiles in here?” the voice yelled.



It was the hunter! He had fallen into the swamp.



Quick as a flash, Snappy entered the water. The hunter screamed at the sight of the crocodile swimming towards him. His panic vanished when Snappy swam underneath him and returned him to the bank, on his back.



“Thank goodness,” the hunter sighed with relief. “You saved my life, thank you!”

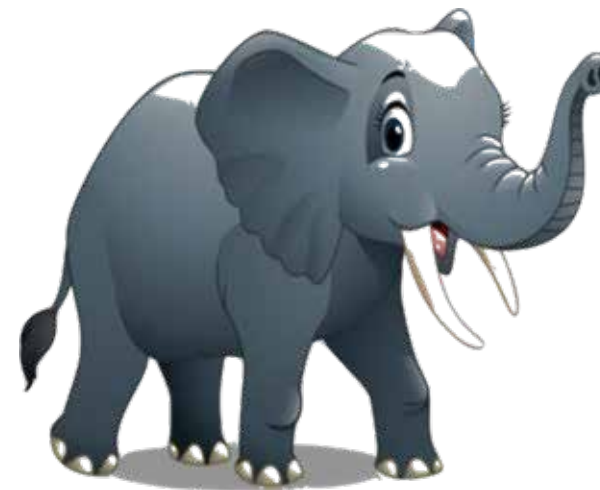
“You are welcome,” said Snappy rather pleased with himself.



“I don’t know what I would have done if you hadn’t been there to save me,” said the hunter.

“Exactly,” I answered. “If you had captured Snappy then he wouldn’t have been here to save you.”

“That is true,” the hunter sighed.



“You have taken all our friends,” added Ellie. “We all look after each other here and now most of us are gone.”

“I’m sorry,” said the hunter, thinking about what we had said. “I suppose I could return your friends; I hadn’t thought about how important you all are to each other.”



“Would you do that?” asked Snappy.

“For you, yes. I think it’s the least I could do,” said the hunter.

True to his word, the hunter returned all of my friends and promised that he would not hunt in the jungle again.

Next time a hunter is in the jungle, I don’t think I will need a trap or to track down the hunter’s camp. My animal friends and I will try talking to the hunter and explain why we are all so important to each other. Hopefully, the hunter will understand why our jungle is so magical.

We hope that you, your family and friends enjoy the book you have created. This project was co-ordinated and facilitated by author Nikki Young for members of her Storymakers writing club.

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Tim survives in the jungle with his friends, who are all animals.

When the animals start to go missing, Tim realises a hunter is on the loose.

Can he stop anymore friends going missing by catching the hunter?