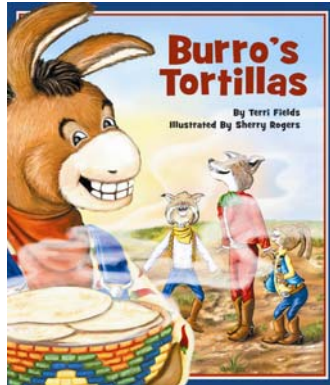




Sylvan Dell Publishing

Teaching Activities for *Burro's Tortillas*



Craft (coloring, language arts, counting)
Food & nutrition related
Tortilla recipe: math extension
Character-related questions for discussions
Sequencing Sentence Strips
Coloring pages (3)
Word Search
Crossword Puzzle
Language Arts Lesson: Birthday Invitation

Burro's Tortillas

By Terri Fields

Illustrated by Sherry Rogers

Craft (coloring, language arts, counting)

Use the included pages as a coloring activity.

Cut out animals and make into puppet (glue onto lunch bag or popsicle stick) and act out the story

Count how many times the animals say "yo no."

Suggestion when reading aloud: pause long enough for (and encourage) children to say the "yo no" at the appropriate time. This leads to involvement and anticipation. If reading with a child on lap or using a white board in a classroom, point to the words as they say it.

Food and nutrition related

Discuss that all animals (including humans) must eat for energy and to survive

Basic discussion about how humans plant and grow food

Ask children to think of some foods they like to eat that are planted (fruits, vegetables, & grains)

Have they ever seen corn growing? *have an ear of corn (stalk even better) to look at and discuss the different parts of the plant*

If possible, visit a farm to see corn growing in the field. Some farms have corn mazes to go through (see learning links for corn maze directory).

If it is fall and Indian corn is available, use it as an opportunity to talk about colors and comparing different types of corn (just like there are different types of cats and dogs, there are different types of corn: sweet (corn-on-the-cob), white (used for tortillas), hard or popcorn, or Indian corn like blue corn.

Have a variety of corn-related food to sample: tortillas, popcorn, corn chips, corn flake cereal flakes, etc.

Make the tortillas and have children measure ingredients

- ask children what shape tortillas are
- do they have to be round?
- When making tortillas, have children roll the dough (or cut after rolling) into different shapes (triangles, squares, or rectangles)

Math extension: double, triple, or halve the recipe.

Character

self discipline, hard work, and perseverance:

- *In this story, Burro kept working. Do you think he wanted to play and take a nap like his friends?*
- *Looking at the pictures of Burro working, do you think Burro was having as much fun as his friends?*
- *Do you think it was easy for Burro to keep working even though his friends were playing?*

responsibility: Do what you are supposed to do even if your friends don't

- *Do you think Burro was being responsible by working while his friends played or slept? What other behavior choices could Burro have made?*
- *What would have happened if Burro decided to play and sleep instead of work?*

be accountable for your choices:

- *Did Burro receive the rewards for his hard work?*
- *Did bobcat, coyote, and jackrabbit earn the rewards of hard work? Why or why not?*
- *Do you think Burro should have shared the tortillas with his friends? Why or why not?*

personal connection:

- *What would happen if your mom or dad (or another loving adult in your life) decided they didn't feel like making you dinner but watched TV instead?*
- *How would you feel? Would you get hungry?*
- *Do you think they always want to make you dinner or food?*
- *What are some things that you can do to help at home or at school?*
- *Which of the animals would you want as a friend?*

Sequencing Sentence Strips

Preparation: Cut into sentence strips and have children put the events in order. Children may work alone or in small groups. Cards are in order but should be mixed up when cut apart. If using in a classroom center, print onto card stock and laminate if desired.



Corn is planted and grows



Corn is ready to be picked



Pick Corn



Remove kernels from cobs



**Boil corn kernels with lime, rinse,
and dry**



**Grind the corn into flour with a
mortar & pestle**



**Make the flour into *masa*
(dough)**



Roll dough into little balls



Flatten balls in a *tortillera* (tortilla press)



Cook *tortillas* on a hot griddle



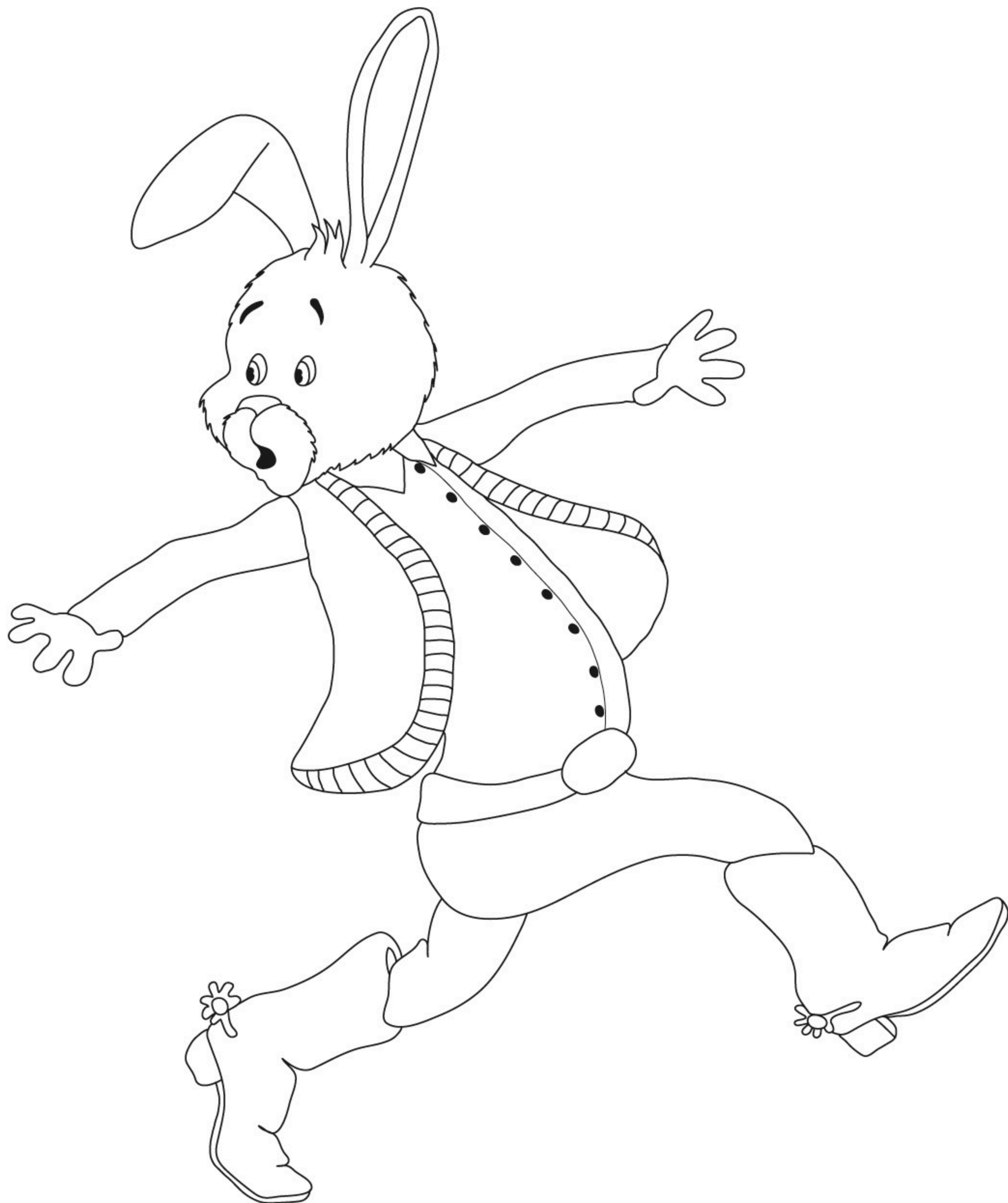
EAT!



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Word Search

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Written by Terri Fields

Art Copyrighted by Sherry L. Rogers

J A C K R A B B I T
 Z B O R W B S I W O
 G E Y T H A T U H R
 O T O I I S G O I T
 B M T L K K R L T I
 O G E L J E I H E L
 B U R R O T D T J L
 C M B A C K D C K A
 A J A E B O L A B S
 T M E T A T E A B S

Find these hidden words:

- burro
- back
- tortillas
- white
- griddle
- jackrabbbit
- metate
- bobcat
- coyote
- basket





Burro's Tortillas

Crossword Puzzle

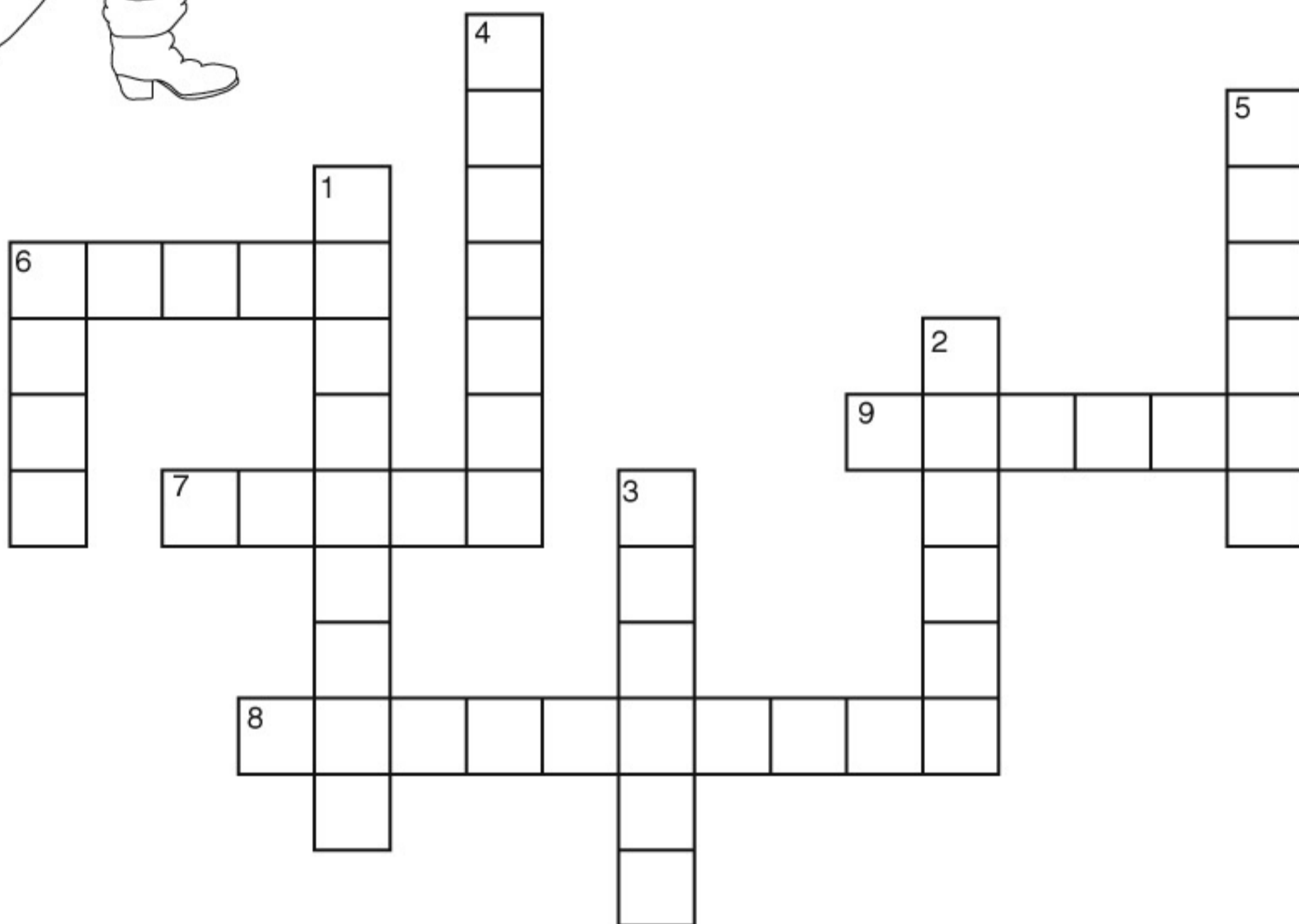
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Down

- 1) When Burro saw the tall corn in the field he thought _____!
- 2) Who said "I'm catching a little cat nap?"
- 3) Burro stood over the _____ and ground the corn.
- 4) Burro put each flat circle on the _____, and turned it over and over until it was fully cooked.
- 5) What did the burro put the freshly cooked tortillas in?
- 6) Burro carried the corn home on his _____.

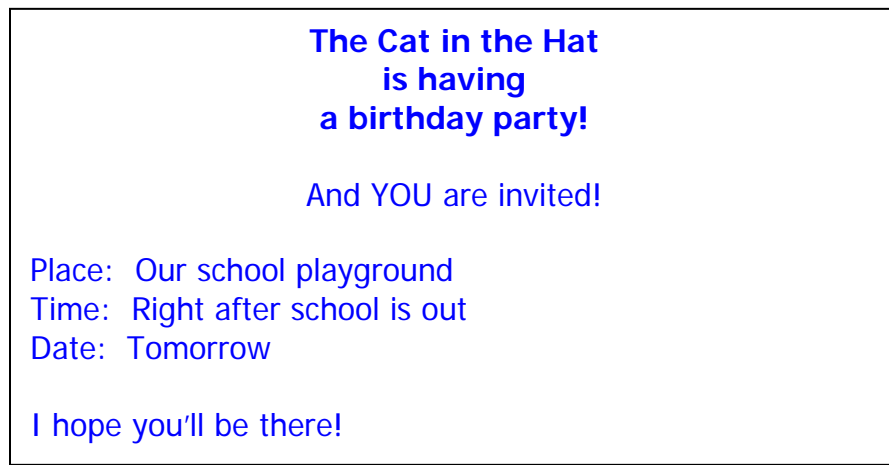
Across

- 6) Who picked the corn?
- 7) What color was the corn?
- 8) Who said "I'm too busy being all ears."
- 9) Who said "Their scent is super."

Answers	
Down	1) tortillas
Down	2) Bobcat
Down	3) white
Down	4) Burro
Across	6) Jackrabbit
Across	7) Coyote
Across	8) griddle
Across	9) basket
Across	6) back

Language Arts Lesson: This activity will use *Burro's Tortillas* to reinforce writing skills, detail the important parts of an invitation, provide application of comprehended material, and help teach use of interrogative pronouns.

1. Put these interrogative pronouns on the board. *Who, What, When, Where, Why*. Ask students which one Burro often uses in this book. (Who) Have students give you some examples from the book.
2. Ask students if they've ever been to a birthday party. Tell them that people often give invitations so their guests will know about the party. Tell them you're going to show them a pretend invitation.



3. Leave the interrogative pronouns on the board. See if students can ask a question about the invitation using each one of them.
 - **Who** is this about? (Cat in the Hat and you)
 - **What** is it about? (It's an invitation.)
 - **Where** is it happening? (On the school playground)
 - **When** is it happening? (Tomorrow)
 - **Why** is it happening? (To celebrate Cat in the Hat's birthday)
4. Put students in groups of three. Assign each group a different set of pages from *Burro's Tortillas*. Ask the group, "If Burro hadn't seen his friends, he might have sent them an invitation asking them for their help. Can you make an invitation for Burro to send to his friends?"
5. Then ask each group to complete who, what, where, when, why questions for the invitation they have made.
6. Put the completed invitations and interrogative pronoun questions on the bulletin board.