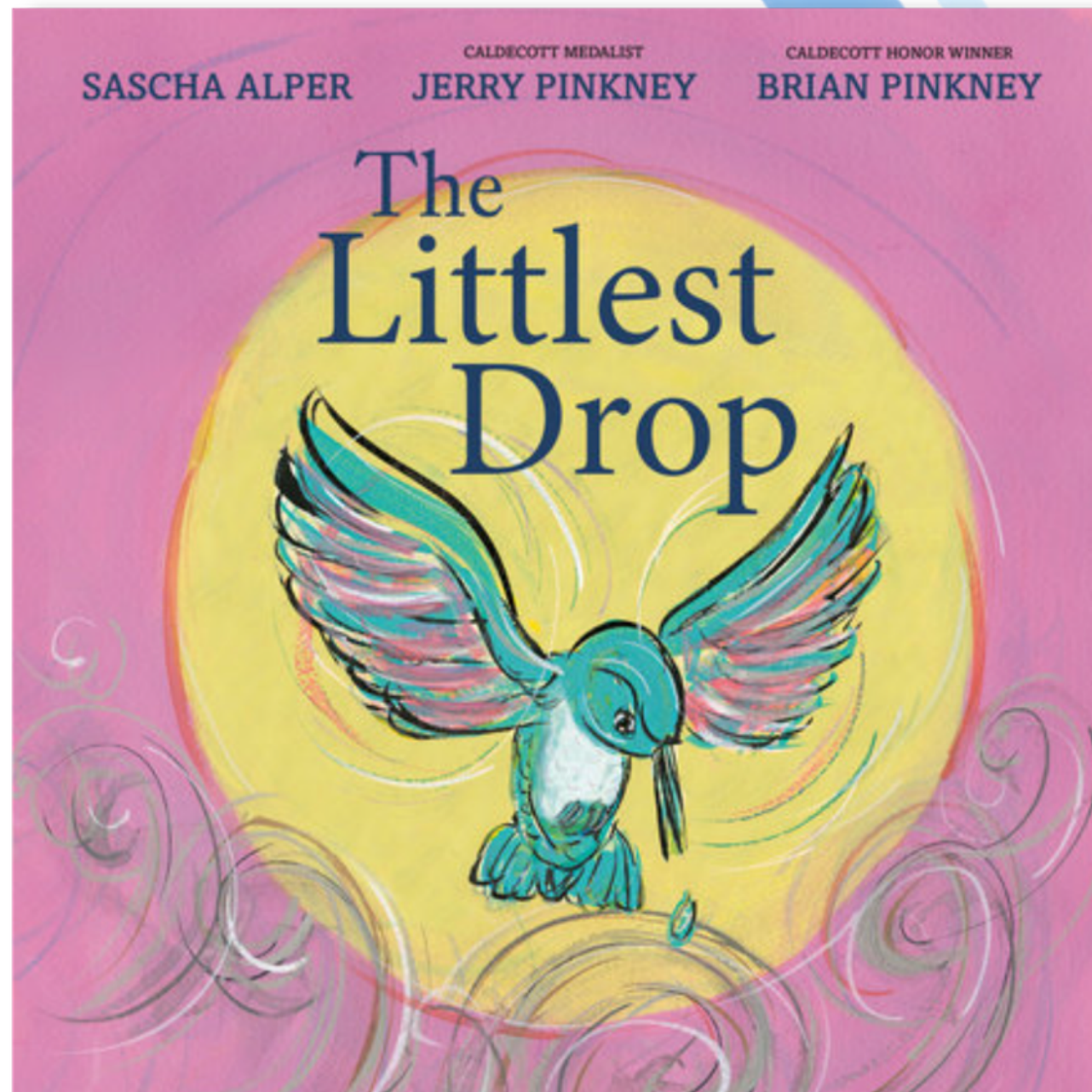


FAMILY BOOK CONNECTIONS

BOOK BRIDGES



The Littlest Drop

Author: Sascha Alper

Illustrator: Jerry Pinkney, Brian Pinkney

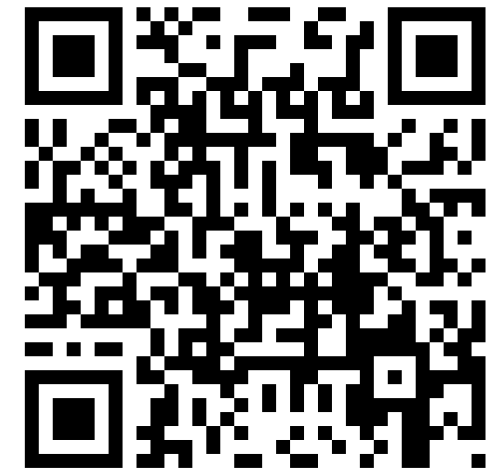
Activities Created by
Washburn University Education Major:
Lauren Feleay



Summary of The Littlest Drop

Animals of all kinds including birds, monkeys, and snakes were all living in one beautiful place. Something went wrong and their land started to catch fire. The first animal to realize the fire was a tiny, little hummingbird. Read more to see what happens next!

Read Alouds



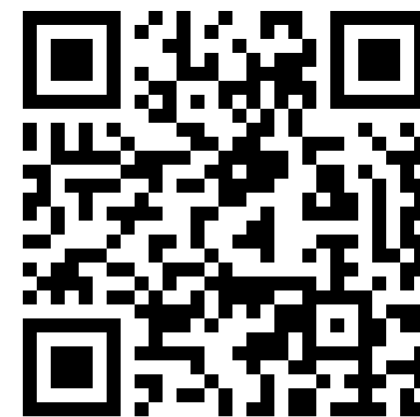
[English Youtube
Read-Aloud](#)

About the Author and Illustrator

The author of The Littlest Drop is Sascha Alper. Sascha lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she is also a literary agent. This was Sascha's first children's book!

The illustrators of The Littlest Drop are a father and son, Jerry and Brian Pinkney. Jerry started illustrating the book and then Brian, Jerry's son, finished illustrating after his father's death.

Learn More



[Jerry Pinkney](#)



[Brian Pinkney](#)



Questions to Ask Before, During, and After Reading

Talking about a story before, during, and after reading helps children think deeply, connect to the characters, and build a love of reading that lasts a lifetime.



Before Reading

- Looking at the cover, what do you think the hummingbird is doing with the little drop of water? Why?
- Looking at the cover, do you think that the gray swirls tell us what might happen in the book? What do you think the gray swirls are going to be?



During Reading

- What do you think is going to happen when the small spark falls onto the leaf? Why?
- Do you think that the hummingbird will be able to put the fire out by itself? Why?



After Reading

- What are three different ways we can protect animals?
- What do you think would have happened if the other animals didn't help the hummingbird? What makes you think that?

Extending the Book with Additional Reading

Learn more about hummingbirds, including how they move, where they live, and what makes them unique.



About Hummingbirds

by Cathryn Sill

A nonfiction book that helps children learn more about hummingbirds and their world.



Talk About These Questions

- What did you learn about hummingbirds?
- How is the real hummingbird similar to the hummingbird in *The Littlest Drop*?
- What does a hummingbird need to survive?



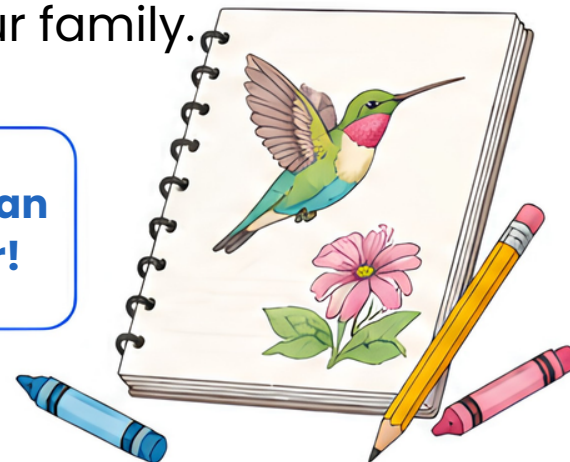
Extending the Book with Writing

For this activity, your child becomes the author of a new ending for the story.

- 1 Pretend the hummingbird is alone when the fire begins.
- 2 Think about what the hummingbird tries to do.
- 3 Write a new ending to the story.
- 4 Draw a picture to match the ending.
- 5 Share the story and illustration with someone in your family.

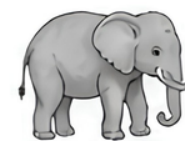


Celebrate becoming an author and illustrator!



Extending the Book with Math

Pretend it takes 1 cup of water to put out a small fire. How many trips would each animal need?



Elephant: 1 cup = 1 trip



Giraffe: $1/2$ cup = 2 trips



Zebra: $1/4$ cup = 4 trips



Chimpanzee: $1/8$ cup = 8 trips



Examples

- $1/2 + 1/2 = 1$
- $1/4 + 1/4 + 1/4 + 1/4 = 1$



**Which animal needs the most trips?
Why does working together help?**



Extending the Book with Science

Learn about how hummingbirds build their tiny nests, then make a simple nest model of your own.



Watch and Wonder

- What materials does the hummingbird use?
- Does building the nest look easy or difficult?
- Why does the nest need to be both strong and flexible?



Build a Nest Model

- 1 Look outside for fallen grass, leaves, twigs, or flower pieces.
- 2 Compare the materials by size, texture, and flexibility.
- 3 Arrange the materials into a small cup shape.
- 4 Draw or photograph your model when you are finished.



This activity creates a model only. Do not expect birds to use it as a real nest.



Which materials worked best for your nest model? Why?



Extending the Book with Social Studies

The animals worked together to stop the fire. People in our community also work together in different ways to help everyone.

Let's Explore Our Community



- 1
- Name community helpers.**
Think of people who help our community.



- 2
- Talk about their jobs.**
What does each helper do?



- 3
- Match helpers to needs.**
How do they help when people or animals need it?



- 4
- Write or draw.**
Use the chart to write or draw what each helper does.

Community Helpers and How They Help

Community Helper	What do they do to help your community?
 Firefighter	Responds to fires and emergencies to keep people safe. 
 Veterinarian	Cares for animals and keeps them healthy. 
 Park Ranger	Protects parks, plants, and wildlife. 
 Librarian	Helps people find books and information. 



Discuss With Your Child

- Which helpers respond during emergencies?
- How do community helpers work together?
- How can children help their community every day?





Extending the Book with Art

Create your own hummingbird nest model using natural materials. Look closely at the tiny, cup shape and the soft materials hummingbirds use!

Material



Paper bowl or paper circle



Yarn, paper strips, grass, leaves, twigs



Glue



Crayons or markers

Steps to Build Your Nest

1



Study the shape. Look at the cup shape of a hummingbird nest.

2



Add soft materials. Use soft pieces for the inside to make it cozy.

3



Add strong materials. Wrap the outside with twigs, grass, or leaves to hold it together.

4



Make your hummingbird. Create a small paper hummingbird to place near your nest.

Example: Hummingbird Nest Model



Think and Share

- What materials did you use?
- Why did you choose those materials?
- How does your nest stay together?



Label the materials you used and explain why you chose them.





LITERACY
BRIDGES