



5 MOST IMPORTANT THINGS
TO SURVIVE AN APOCALYPSE

1. WATER
2. FOOD
3. SHELTER
4. FIRE
5. HOPE



JUN 1984
SEP 1989

HIGHER GROUND



Tull Suwannakit



3 10 23 30
2 11 22 29
7 14 21 28
6 13 20 27



TEACHING NOTES

SYNOPSIS

After a great flood, a grandmother, her two grandchildren and their pet rabbit must learn to survive living on their rooftop garden, relying on scarce resources and limited space. Days turn into weeks, and weeks into months, but through life lessons and words of wisdom, hope emerges.

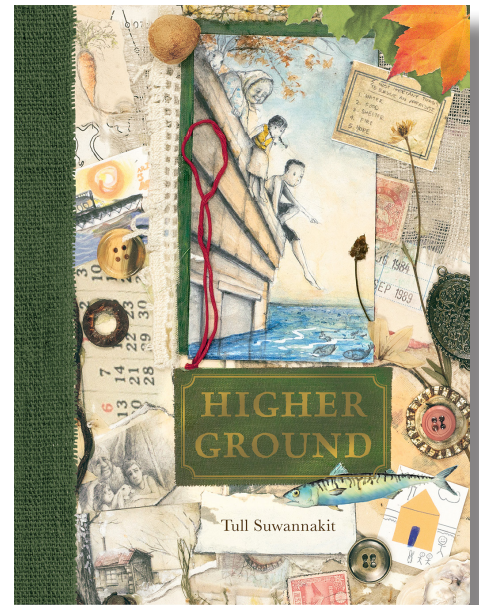
Higher Ground is an inspiring coming-of-age tale of resilience, courage and spirit that illuminates how life can be beautiful even in the darkest of times.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

Tull Suwannakit is an author and illustrator of books for children. He is a graduate of Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia, and has illustrated and written numerous children's picture books that have been translated into many languages throughout the world. His publishing clients include New Frontier Publishing, Walker Books, Candlewick Press and Scholastic Press. Working predominantly with watercolour and graphite, Tull's books have been featured in *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The New York Times* and on ABC's Mornings radio and *Play School* on ABC Kids. Some of his books were included among the Notables list as part of The Children's Book Council of Australia Awards and shortlisted for Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards and Crystal Kites Awards. Along with his bookmaking, Tull is an art teacher and uses his experience in visual arts and storytelling to promote creative expression for people of all ages. He lives a quiet life with his son and their dog in a rural town nestled among the trees and nature outside Melbourne. For more information about Tull, please visit: www.tullsuwannakit.net

EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

Higher Ground is a wonderful starting point for exploring themes of resilience, strength in the face of adversity and sustainability. The story teaches readers the importance of family values, independence and life lessons. The book combines elements of a graphic novel with illustrated picture book and diary, making it an innovative reading experience. The use of sparse text and prose not only captures the mood and tone of the narrative but also aids readers with learning difficulties. The illustrations were done using a combination of watercolour, graphite powder, gouache and acrylic paints. The cover of the book was put together using traditional methods of paper and mixed media images.



Written and illustrated by
Tull Suwannakit

Published by
New Frontier Publishing

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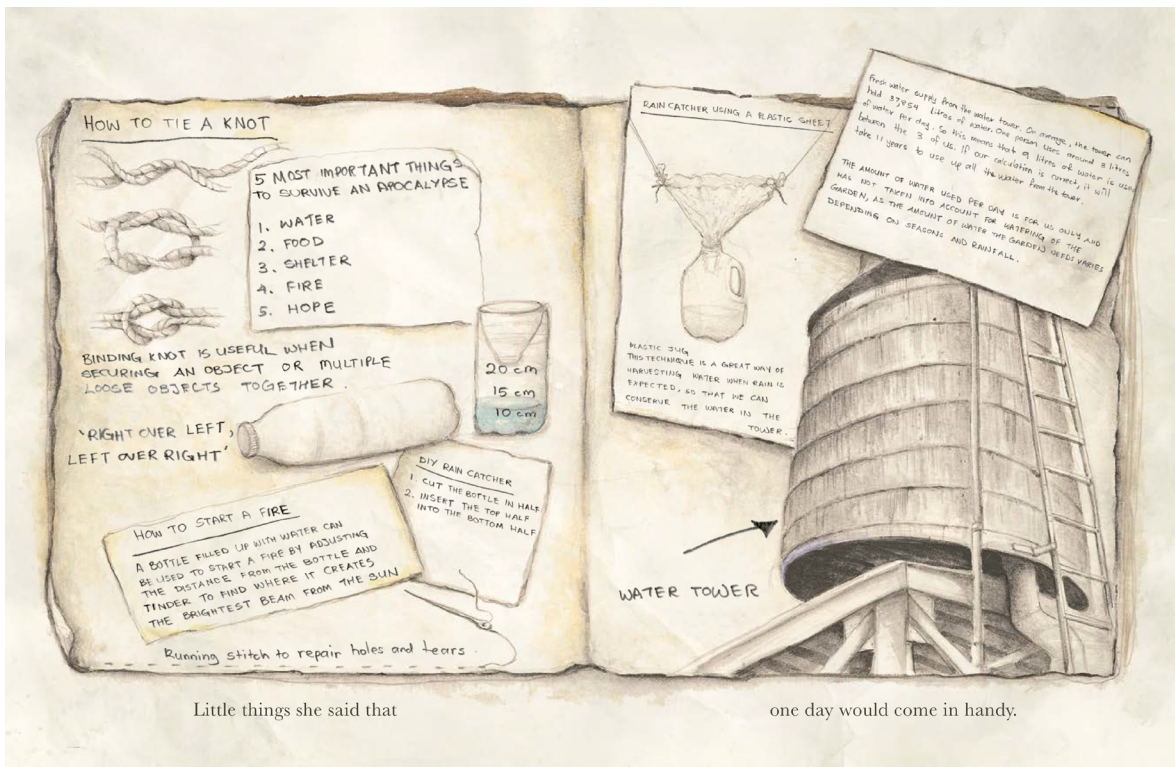
SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES

1. One of the key themes of the book is sustainability. Like the characters in the story, use leftover vegetables and regrow them. You can use bok choi, carrots, lettuce and many other leafy greens using the methods in the notebook.
2. Find ways of reusing objects and turning them into useful items.



She showed us the secrets

to keep the garden growing.

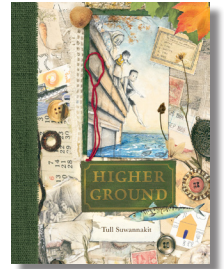


Little things she said that

one day would come in handy.

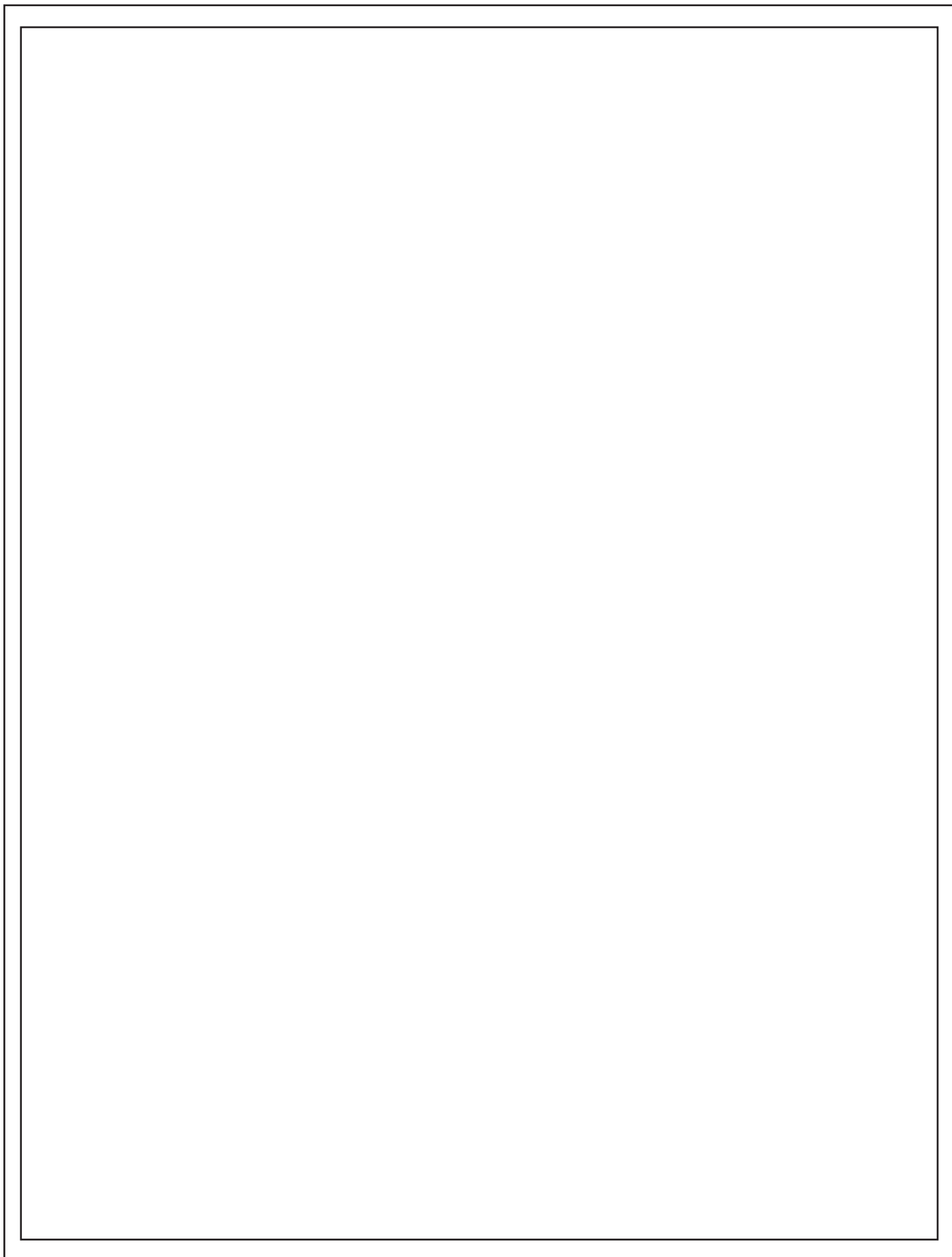
ACTIVITY: DESIGN A COVER

Why don't you have a go at designing your own cover for the book? You could include elements from the book's cover or use your own ideas.



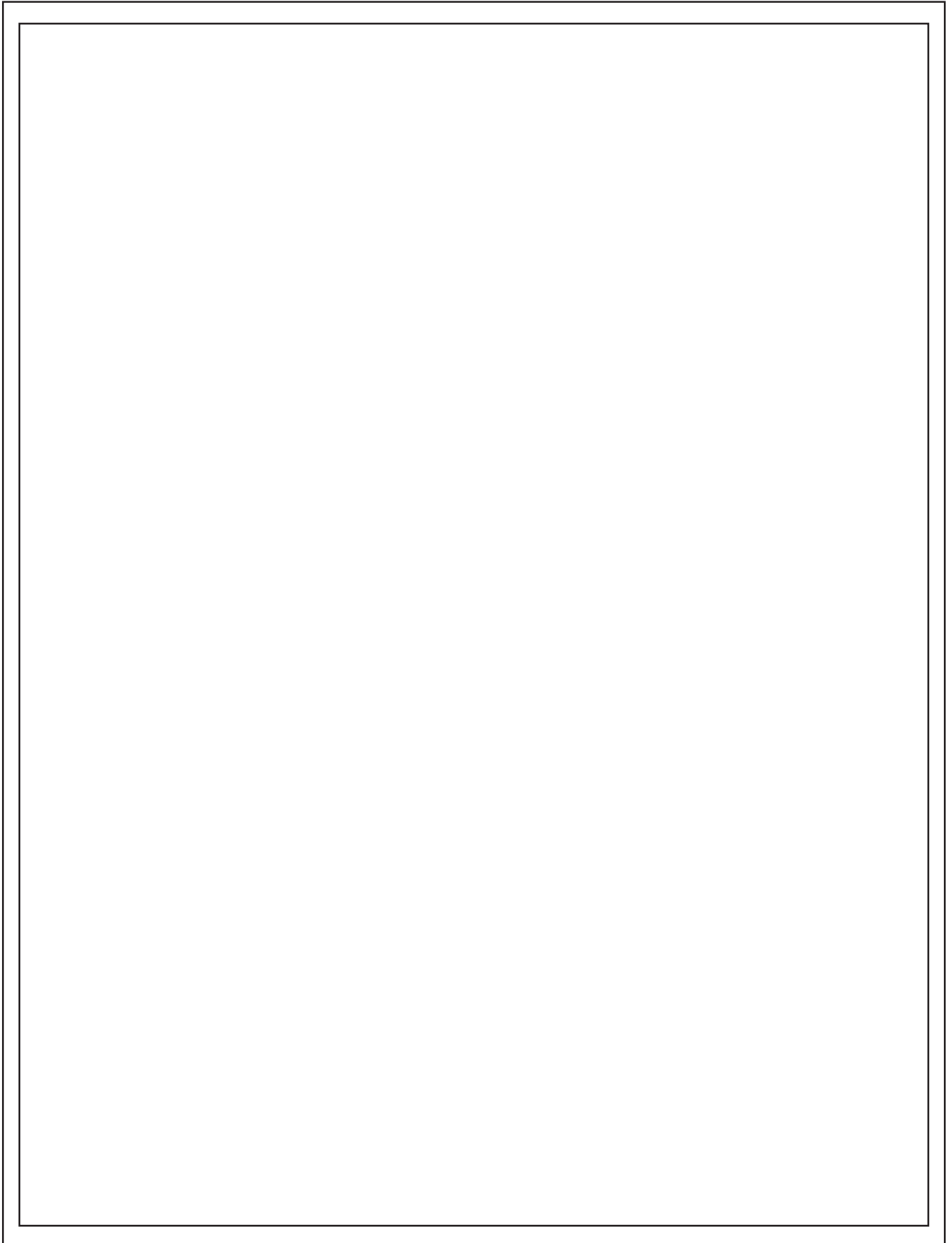
ACTIVITY: CREATE A NOTEBOOK

If you created a 'Life Lessons' notebook, what sort of things would you put in it? Why not start creating one? You don't have to finish it immediately but you can add bits to it whenever you want. Use the space below to plan your notebook or to put some ideas down.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to plan their notebook or write down ideas. The box is centered on the page and occupies most of the lower half of the document.

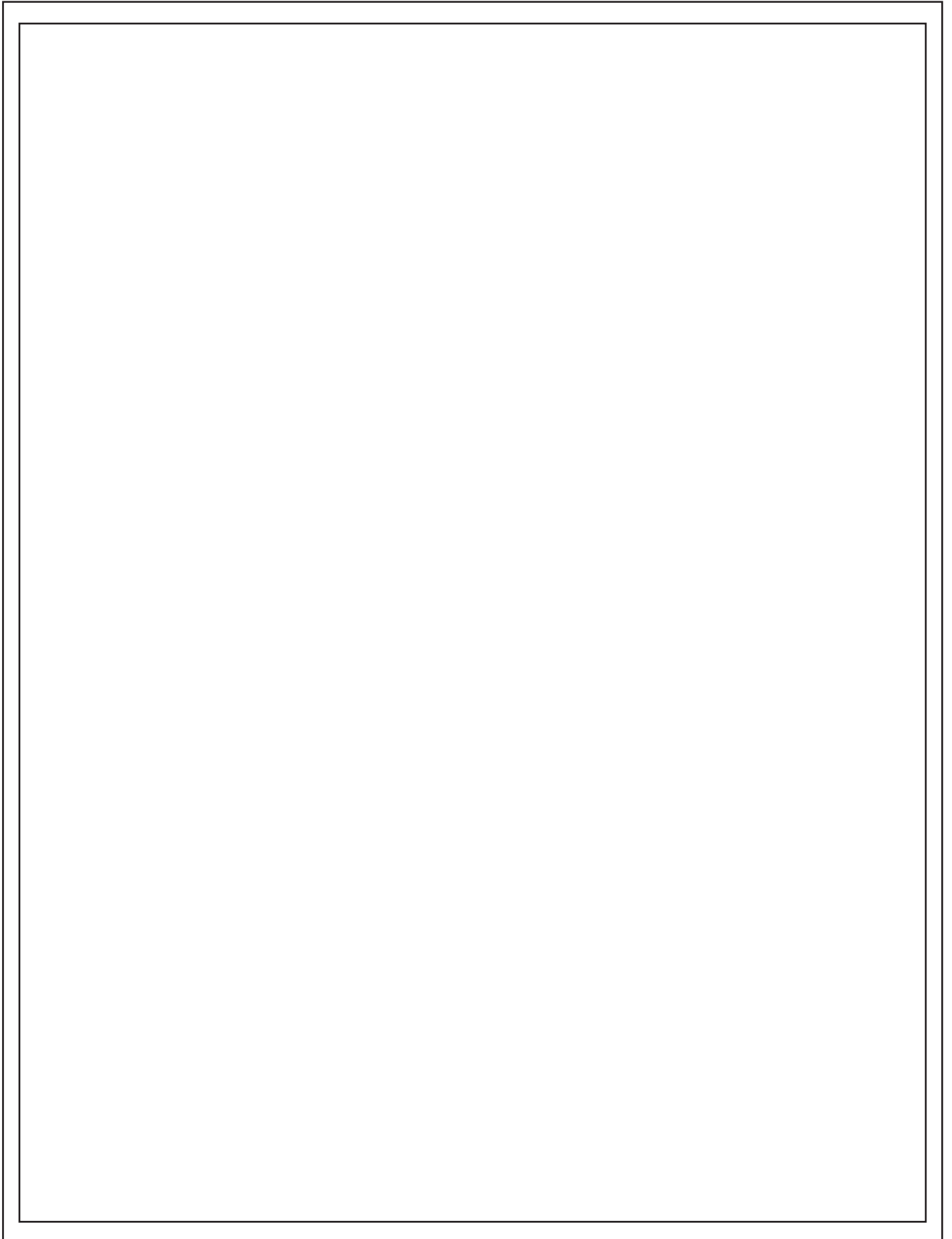
ACTIVITY: DRAW/DESIGN YOUR OWN CABIN

The characters in the story create their own cosy cabin. Why not try designing your own ideal cabin in the event of an apocalypse? Use the cabin in the story as a starting point.



ACTIVITY: FILL YOUR BAG

Make a list of useful items that you can fill your bag with in the event of an apocalypse. Only 20 items!

A large, empty rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for writing a list of 20 useful items for an apocalypse. The box is oriented vertically and occupies most of the page below the instructions.

FUN WORDSEARCH ACTIVITY

Can you find all the words in the *Higher Ground* wordsearch?

Name:

Class:

Date:

word search

HIGHER GROUND

Y T I G O S R E W E L L I Y
T E F R Y C A O O U L A T M
L N A A L U S T O R M I N K
B I D N R I I C S F L O O D
T D N D S B F R U I T S H R
N E A D B E T E B E H O Y S
T G R A N D M A B B S T P S
L E R U T A N O S D N A R G
X D T G F I O Q I E O E R H
A T E H A K N O D H S L N I
D C I T Y E F R H S A A W J
P Y S E L B A T E G E V E N
G U S R Z G N R M G S H R H
S U O O O F O S I T D I A P



CITY
DAYS
FLOOD
FRUITS
GARDEN
GRANDDAUGHTER
GRANDMA

GRANDSON
LAND
LIFE
NATURE
NOTEBOOK
RABBIT
RAFT

ROOFTOP
SEASONS
SHED
STORM
SUSTAINABILITY
VEGETABLES

Answer Sheet

word search

HIGHER GROUND

Y T I G O S R E W E L L I Y
 T E F R Y C A O O U L A T M
 L N A A L U S T O R M I N K
 B I D N R I I C S F L O O D
 T D N D S B F R U I T S H R
 N E A D B E T E B E H O Y S
 T G R A N D M A B B S T P S
 L E R U T A N O S D N A R G
 X D T G F I O Q I E O E R H
 A T E H A K N O D H S L N I
 D C I T Y E F R H S A A W J
 P Y S E L B A T E G E V E N
 G U S R Z G N R M G S H R H
 S U O O O F O S I T D I A P



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SCAN ME

