

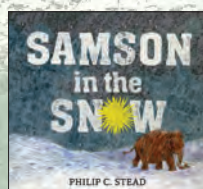
SAMSON

in the

SNOW



ACTIVITY KIT

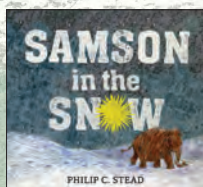
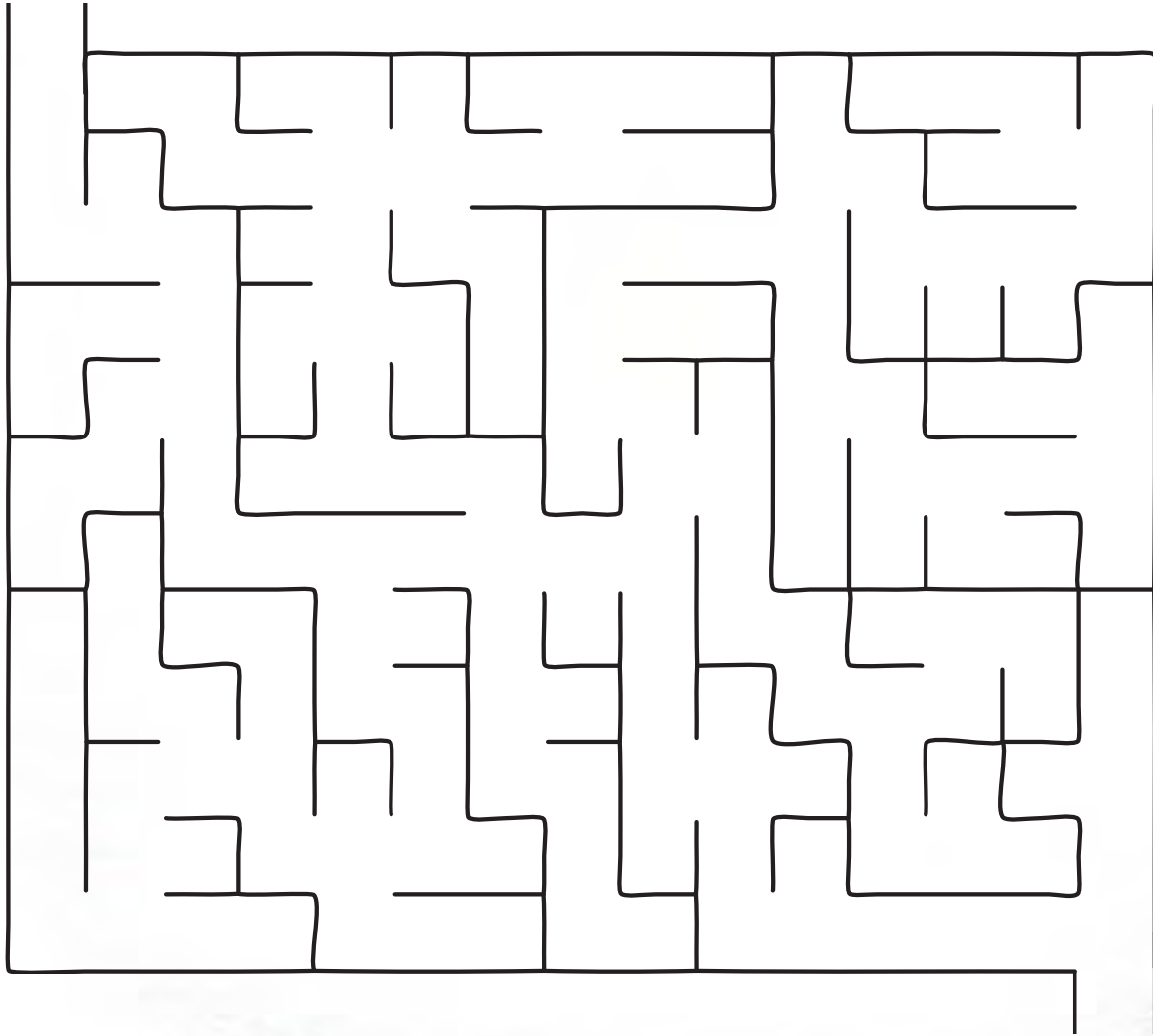


SAMSON IN THE SNOW by Philip C. Stead • Ages 4-8

NEAL PORTER BOOKS / ROARING BROOK PRESS • AN IMPRINT OF MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING GROUP

MAZE ACTIVITY

Help Samson and Mouse find their way to the little red bird!



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ACT LIKE THE ANIMALS (READ ALONG)

If reading in a group, split up into three groups:

1 group of woolly mammoths, 1 group of mice, and 1 group of birds.

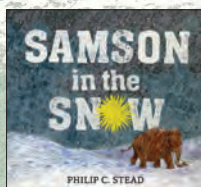
When each of the characters appear, the group that is “being” that animal can act out their animal’s mannerisms!

WOOLLY MAMMOTH: Make yourself as big as you can! Wave your arm like Samson’s long trunk and plod slowly through the snow.

MOUSE: Get as small as you can and put your hands on your head like ears. Shh! Mice are very quiet. But once in a while, they will squeak!

LITTLE RED BIRD: Tuck your hands under your armpits and flap your wings like a little bird. Can you chirp like a little bird too?

*Tip: If reading to a smaller group or by yourself, act like all of the animals as they appear!



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MAKE YOUR OWN SNOW

Have an indoor snow day with this easy and fun DIY “snow”!

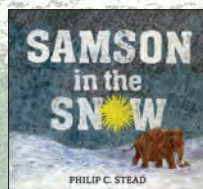
Mix up this snow, and then create a snowy scene straight out of **SAMSON IN THE SNOW**.

MATERIALS:

- 3 cups of baking soda
- ½ cup white or light colored hair conditioner
- Plastic container or large pan for play area
- Beads, ribbon, googly eyes, cookie cutters, and beach toys—get creative!

DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix baking soda and conditioner together in a large bowl
2. Stir together with a spoon until somewhat crumbly in texture (snow should be moldable, like wet sand)
3. Place snow in container and have fun! Build miniature snow people, create fun shapes, and make snow balls!
4. Tip: If you create figurines of the characters from **SAMSON IN THE SNOW** (directions are included in this kit), you can use this snow to create a wintery scene for them to play in!



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MAKE YOUR OWN HAND PRINT BIRD

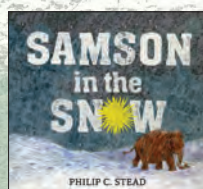
Create your own little red bird from **SAMSON IN THE SNOW**!

MATERIALS:

- Red, yellow, and black washable paint and paint brushes
- Construction paper
- Your hand
- Scissors, and a grown up to help

DIRECTIONS:

1. Paint your hand with red paint
2. Press your hand, paint side down, onto the construction paper.
Your thumb will be feather on top of the bird's head!
3. Let the red paint dry for a moment, then use the yellow paint to create a beak, and two feet
4. Use the black paint to draw an eye on your bird
5. Have a grown up help cut out the little red bird, and be careful she doesn't fly away!



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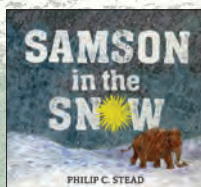
MAKE YOUR OWN SAMSON

MATERIALS:

- 1 large tissue box
- Ruler
- Brown construction paper
- 4 toilet paper tubes
- 2 circles of white construction paper (for eyes)
- 1 Manila folder or white construction paper (for tusks)
- Scissors and a grown up to help
- Tape or glue stick
- Optional: Yarn for extra wooliness!

DIRECTIONS:

1. Trace the sides of the tissue box onto brown construction paper, cut them out, and tape or glue the brown construction paper to the sides, front, and back of the tissue box
(Note: You do not need to cover the bottom of the tissue box!)
2. Cut fringe into the long side of the (8) 3" by 6" rectangles, and wrap two fringes around each toilet paper tube creating two layers of leg fringe
3. When all four legs are wrapped, glue or tape them to the bottom of the tissue box
4. Cut a small rectangle of construction paper for the tail, and fringe the bottom of it.
Then tape the tail to the end of the "body."
5. Now it's time to make your woolly mammoth's face.
Glue or tape two eyes, ears, and a long trunk onto the front of the box.
6. Glue or tape tusks to the side of your woolly mammoth's face
7. Drape a piece of brown construction paper over your mammoth's back, and cut it so that it fits evenly. Fold the sides over the back of the mammoth, and fringe the edges.
Drape a second piece of construction paper over, and make it slightly shorter to give your mammoth an extra layer of "fur."
8. Glue these layers to the back of your woolly mammoth.
Add some pieces of yarn for extra fur if you'd like!



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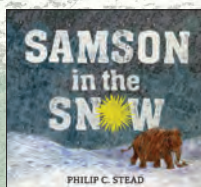
MOUSE FINGER PUPPET

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Circle template (the rim of a bowl or bottom of a glass will work!)
- Pencil
- Scissors and a grown up to help
 - Glue or tape
 - Googly eyes
- Small pom-poms
- Pipe Cleaner

DIRECTIONS:

1. Use the template to trace a circle onto the paper and cut it out.
Then cut each circle in half, and twist into a cone shape. Glue or tape the ends together.
2. Glue on googly eyes and pom-poms for ears
3. Have a grown up help cut a pipe cleaner in half, and tape it to the inside of the cone
4. Twist the pipe cleaner around your finger
5. Have fun playing!



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SPONGE STAMPS

Author/illustrator Philip C. Stead uses stamps in his illustrations,
and now you can make your own stamps too!

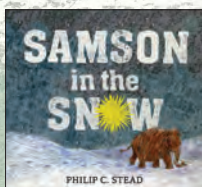
Follow the directions to learn this fun and creative art technique.

MATERIALS:

- Sponge
 - Marker
 - Paint
 - Paper
 - Smock
- Scissors, and a grown-up to help

DIRECTIONS:

1. Decide what shape you want your stamp to be,
and trace it on one side of the sponge
2. Have a grown up help you cut out the shape
3. Dip one side of the sponge in paint
4. Stamp the sponge on the paper



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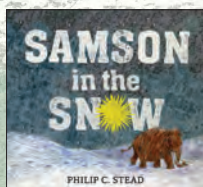
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WOOLLY MAMMOTH FACT SHEET

Woolly Mammoths are very interesting creatures!

Did you know these fun facts about them?

1. Woolly mammoths are extinct relatives of today's elephants
2. Woolly mammoth's ears were smaller than those of today's elephants
3. They used their tusks to dig in the snow
4. Mammoths were herbivores, which means they ate grass and plants
5. A woolly mammoth's tusks could grow up to 15 feet long!
6. Woolly mammoth fur ranged in color from blonde to dark brown—much like human hair
7. Woolly mammoths lived 10,000 years ago during the ice age, which is why they adapted to have thick woolly coats and an insulating layer of fat to keep warm
8. Mammoths would travel in herds, both for warmth and for protection from predators
9. Woolly mammoths could live to be up to 60 years old



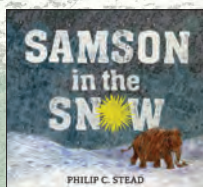
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WINTERTIME NATURE WALK SCAVENGER HUNT

Explore the world around you, and see if you can find the following things!

1. A fallen leaf
2. Three rocks: one smooth, one bumpy, one flat
3. A pine cone
4. Two round things
5. Something green
6. A piece of man-made litter to help clean up your community
7. A forked stick
8. Something shaped like a heart
9. A tree with one leaf still on it
10. Something you think is a treasure



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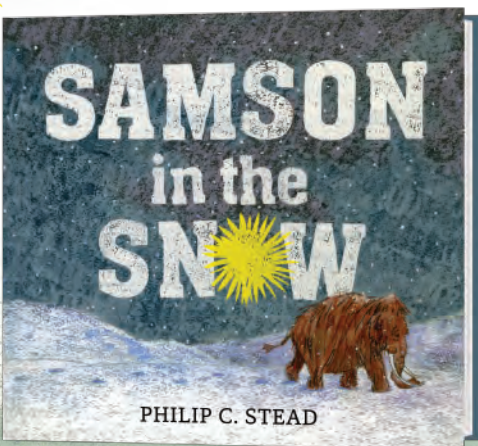
STORYTIME

WITH **SAMSON IN THE SNOW**



Date _____

Time _____



New from Philip C. Stead,
author of the Caldecott Medal winning
A Sick Day for Amos McGee

★ “This sweet tale of friendship
deserves a place in every collection.”
—*School Library Journal*, starred review

★ “Samson [is] a hero who is
tender, patient, and loyal.”
—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

