



SPOT THE ADJECTIVE ANSWERS:

1. 'Dad spends at least an hour with his **special** comb, smoothing down his **shiny black** hair with gel.'
2. 'There was a cloud of **pink glittery** smoke and I landed with a **soft** thump on the **squashy** carpet. I was **tiny**!'
3. 'I felt my mouth drop open in amazement. We were in a **huge**, glittering auditorium. At the front of the **massive** hall was a stage with a curtain across the front. Everything looked very **fancy**.'

CHALLENGE: Can you add some adjectives to the start of this story? You can use some of the Some Adjectives You Could Use above, or come up with your own:

It was a very _____ day. Isadora Moon woke up feeling _____. She pulled on her _____ clothes and went downstairs.

Downstairs she could smell a _____ smell coming from the kitchen.

'What could that smell be?' She asked Pink Rabbit.

Pink Rabbit shrugged. He looked _____.

Isadora and Pink Rabbit went into the _____ kitchen and...

If you like, you can continue the story with what Isadora Moon and Pink Rabbit found in the kitchen.

Adverbs or 'Describing Actions Words'

Adverbs are a little trickier than adjectives, so you may only want to use them if you're already happy with adjectives.

Adverbs are words which describes how someone does something, and they usually end in 'ly'.

Here are some examples:

- ★ Jasper walked **quickly**.
- ★ Jasper walked **slowly**.
- ★ Jasper walked **happily**.
- ★ Jasper walked **angrily**.

If your character is doing an action, see if you can add an '-ly' word after it to show how they were feeling while doing it, or how quickly or slowly they were doing it.



Similes

A simile is where you describe something as being like something else. They can help to make your descriptions really clear.

Here are some examples:

- ★ Zoe and I chatted about the show and looked out of the window at the darkening sky. Little flakes had started to fall. They looked like tiny twirling ballerinas.
- ★ The trains looked like giant metal caterpillars crawling up and down the tracks.
- ★ My teacher was called Monsieur Pamplemousse. He had pink hair that looked like the icing on a fairy cake.
- ★ My friends all looked astonished and excited. Their eyes were round like saucers.

Any time you say that something 'looked like' or 'sounded like' or 'felt like', you are making a simile.



CHALLENGE: Try making some of your own for practice. You can use the start below, or change them:

1. My room looks like _____.
2. When it's my birthday, I feel like _____.
3. My mum and dad's music sounds like _____.
4. Broccoli tastes like _____.
5. My mum's hair feels like _____.
6. My dad's socks smell like _____.



Illustrations

'Illustrations' is a fancy word meaning 'pictures that go with a story'. I love it when stories have illustrations, which is why I drew pictures to go with the *Isadora Moon* stories.

You could illustrate your stories to make them more interesting. Unfortunately, there isn't space to cover how to draw in this guide!

TIP: Drawing pictures of your story before you write it is also a good way to plan out your story before you write your plot summary.

Getting Published and Making Books

One question I often get asked is how I made my *Isadora Moon* stories into a book. Books are made by a type of company called a 'publisher'. A publisher will read lots of different stories from lots of different writers and then decide which ones to make into books that will be sold in shops. If you spend lots of time practising writing stories, then one day a publisher might turn one of your stories into a book and sell it in bookshops.

TIP: Every book you read was written by someone who was once your age and spent lots of time practising their writing.

If you write a story you are really pleased with you might not want to wait for a publisher to make it. There are websites that will print your story as a book for you if you can scan it into the computer. Ask a grown-up to help you do an internet search for 'print my book'.

Ideas For Starting More Stories

Fan Fiction

If you are struggling to come up with your own character, try using one that already exists. You can 'borrow' someone else's character and put them in your own story. So you could write a story about Isadora Moon, Pink Rabbit, Mirabelle or one of Isadora's friends.

Real People

Instead of making up a character, you could use a real person in your story. This could be yourself, a friend, or even someone from history.

What If...?

The ideas for lots of great stories come from asking 'what if...?'

- ★ What if a little girl had one vampire parent and one fairy parent?
- ★ What if that little girl had to decide which school to go to?
- ★ What if she wanted to invite her human friends to a normal human birthday party?
- ★ What if she was always good, but her cousin got her into trouble?

Stories are all about imagining possibilities. If you are stuck for story ideas, write the words 'what if' and then finish that question as many ways as you can:

For example:

- ★ What if you received a magic wand in the post by mistake?
- ★ What if a monster stole your favourite teddy bear?
- ★ What if your new neighbours were space aliens?
- ★ What if you could turn into any animal you wanted?
- ★ What if your friend found a magic door to another world at the bottom of their garden?

Isadora Moon Story Dice

Cut out the shapes below and stick the tabs with glue to make your own Isadora Moon story dice. Roll the dice and use the pictures to help you tell a story. You can do this on your own, with a friend or family member, or even in a group. Suggestions for using the dice are on Page 31.

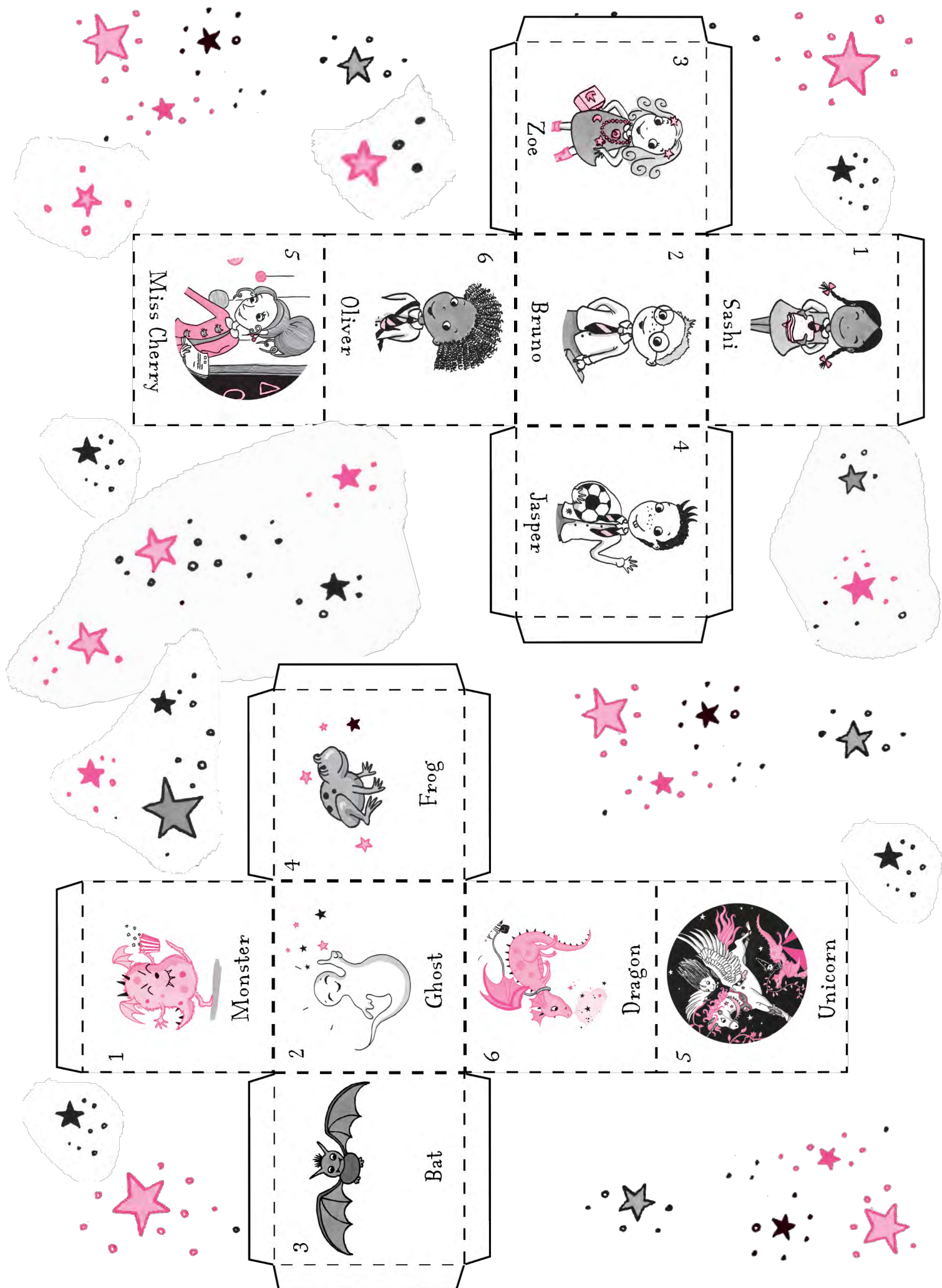


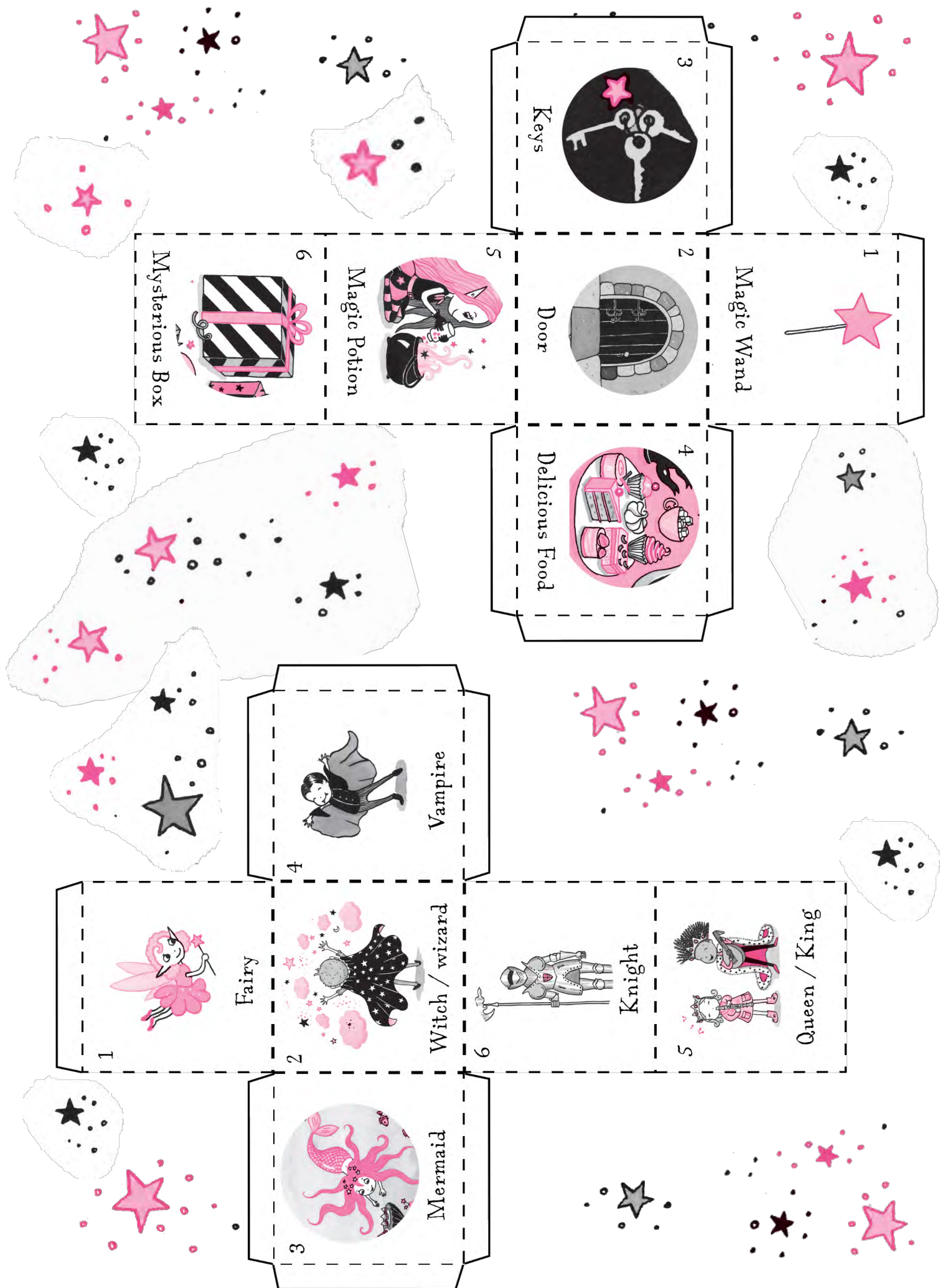
Instructions:

1. Cut along the edges of the dice, being careful not to cut off the tabs on some of the edges.
2. Fold along the dotted lines to make a cube.
3. Glue the tabs to stick the dice together.

Each die has the number 1-6 on it, so you can also use it as a regular die.

TIP: You can stick the dice sheets onto card before you cut them out to make sturdier dice.





How to Use the Isadora Moon Story Dice

There are a few different ways you can use these dice to tell a story.

1. **On your own or together with a partner:** roll all the dice at once and leave them all as they land. Try to create a story using every face-up picture. Once you have used every picture, work together to give your story a good ending.



2. **Cooperating with a partner or group:** The first person rolls a die of their choice and starts a story involving the picture they roll. After the first turn, take it in turns to each roll one die of your choice. You have to say a sentence which includes the picture you rolled and follows on from the last sentence in the story.

3. **Competing a bit with a partner or group:** The same as 2, except you don't choose or roll your own dice. Instead, the person to your right chooses and rolls the die and your sentence must include the picture they rolled.

4. **Competing a lot with a partner or group:** You'll need a pencil and paper, or tokens, to keep score for each player. This is the same as 2, but you can roll as many dice as you like on your turn. The catch is, for each die you roll, you have to include that picture in the next part of the story you add. You can speak for as long as you like during your turn, but once you start speaking, you can't pause for more than 2 seconds or repeat yourself. If you do, your turn ends and you get no points that turn. If you speak part of the story which includes all the pictures you rolled, you get that many points for the turn.

For ideas 2, 3, and 4 you might like to set a number of turns per player in advance, such as five or ten so you don't go on too long. However, if you are enjoying the story, you can continue for as long as you like.

Thanks For Reading the Isadora Moon Guide to Writing Stories!

I hope you now feel inspired and able to create your own masterpieces. Who knows, maybe one day one of your books will be available in shops, just like *Isadora Moon*!

Until then, remember that the best part of writing a story is sharing it when it's done. Make sure to share your stories with friends, family and teachers—I'm sure they'll love to see what you've created! If you like, you can even get an adult to help you share your story with me online using my website:

www.harrietmuncaster.co.uk

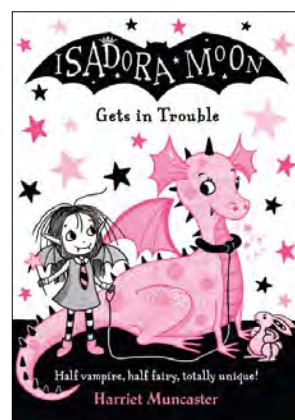
or my Facebook

www.facebook.com/HarrietMuncasterIllustration



You can find out more about Isadora Moon, and her creator, at

www.harrietmuncaster.co.uk



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