



Little Mouse's Snowflake Question

by Allyn Fisher
with art by Amber Cooper, Dixie McCartney & Jami Smith

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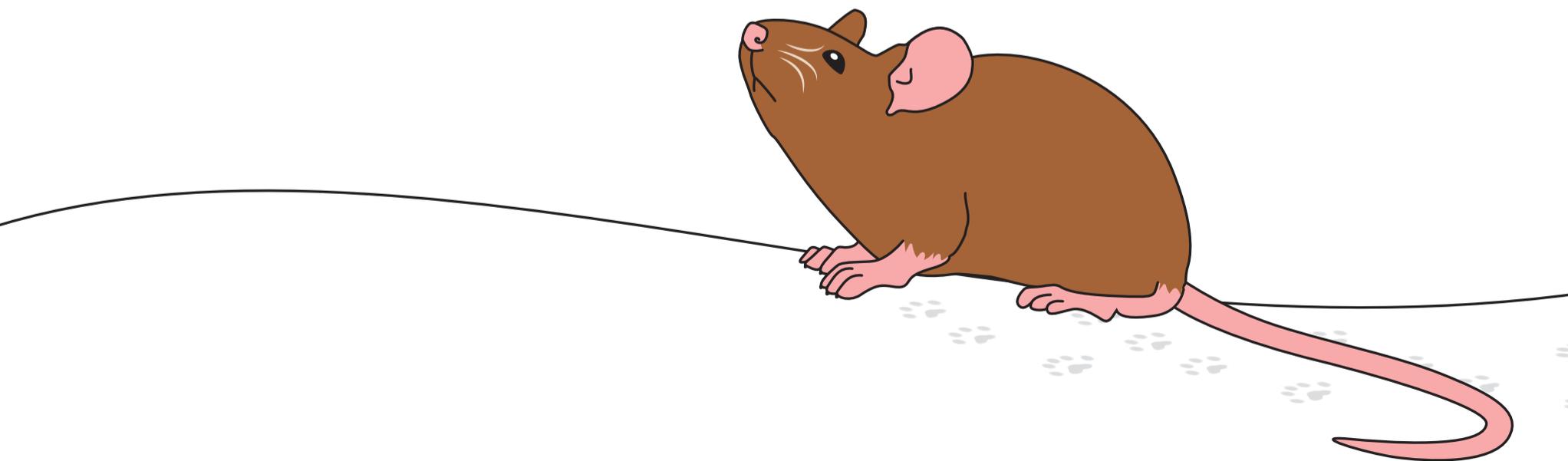
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This story is excerpted from the read-aloud books included in the Bridges in Mathematics Pre-K curriculum. This math-rich collection features theme-based counting and numeral recognition, sequencing, shapes and locations, and very early addition and subtraction. For more information about these books, including how to order the full printed collection of nine titles, visit store.mathlearningcenter.org/bridges-2nd-edition/2bpkread.asp.

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Little Mouse's Snowflake Question

*Story by Allyn Fisher
Art by Amber Cooper & Dixie McCartney*



Early one morning, Little Mouse woke up to find snow on the ground. As she sat looking up at the sky, a big fat snowflake landed on her nose.

“I wonder how snowflakes are made,” she thought.



She wondered and wondered
some more. Finally she
decided to ask the owl,
who was about to fall asleep
on the old gate.

Wise Mother Owl, how
are snowflakes
made?

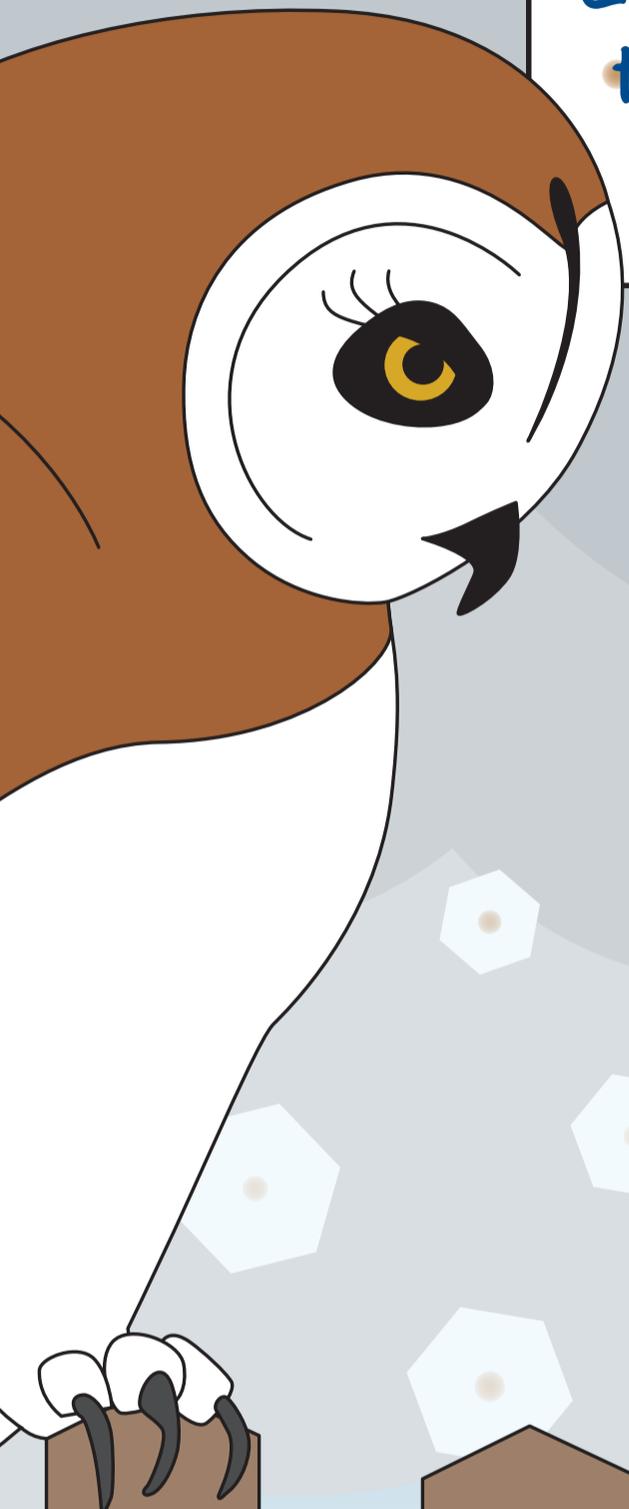


Mother Owl blinked the sleep out of her eyes and said,

Every snowflake starts with a tiny bit of dust floating way up high in the cold, wet clouds.

Water vapor freezes around the bit of dust and turns it into a little ice crystal with 6 sides and 6 corners.

Hey! That's a hexagon!



 If the clouds are cold enough and wet enough,

the little hexagon-shaped ice crystal 

sprouts a small branch at each corner.



The branches grow and grow as the ice crystal tumbles through the clouds, picking up water vapor along the way.



When the ice crystal has become a big,
beautiful snowflake,

it floats

down,

down,

down,

until it lands
right
on your nose!







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