

Teaching Interdependence

Inspired by Cactus Hotel
by Brenda Guiberson

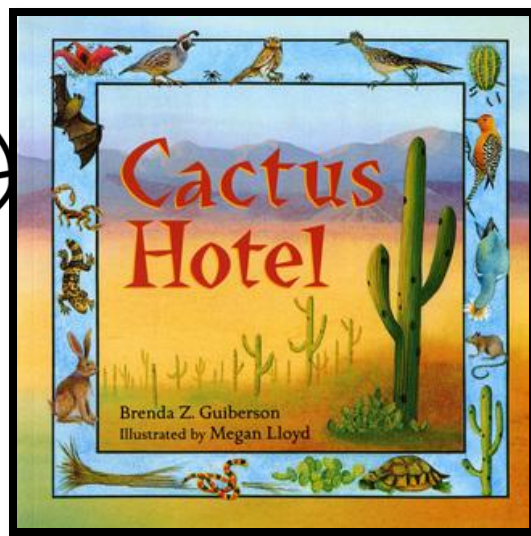


By Nancy VandenBerge
Firstgradewow.blogspot.com

Interdependence

-the relationship
between two or
more things where
each one benefits
from the other





Cactus Hotel

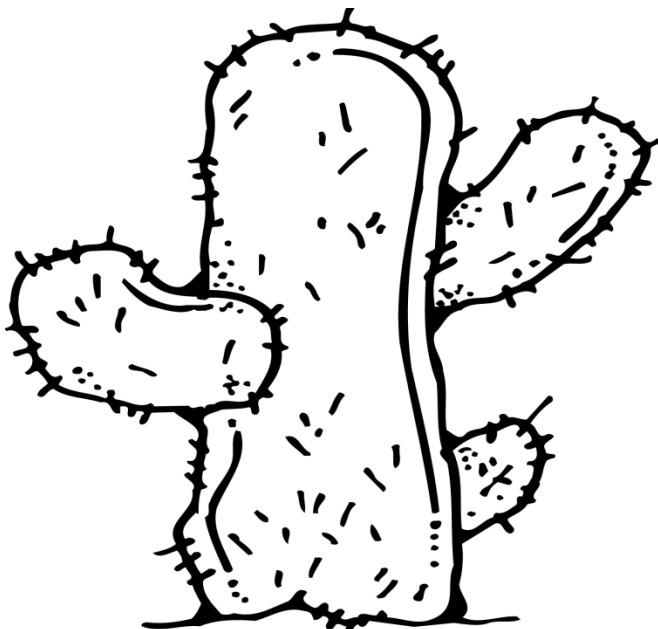
by Brenda Guiberson

Read about interdependence at its best!
It is another hot day in the desert. Birds and other animals scurry about looking for food. When they get tired they stop to rest at a giant cactus. It is their hotel in the desert! Many different animals live in the cactus hotel. It protects them; and they protect it, by eating the pests that could harm the cactus. The cactus grows larger and larger and will live for about two hundred years. When one animal moves out, another moves in. There is never a vacancy in the cactus hotel! This story—about interdependence, a desert, a giant cactus, and the animals who live in it is sure to become a class fav.!!

Name _____ Cactus Hotel Interdependence

The cactus depends on...

... depends on the cactus



Interdependency Anchor Chart

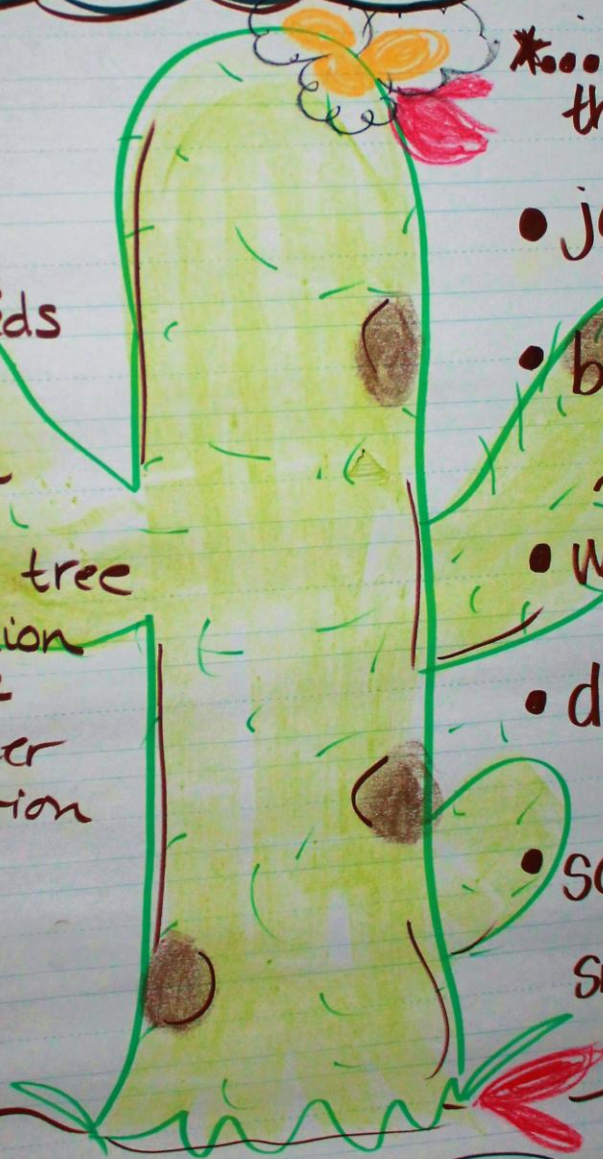
Interdependency at the Cactus Hotel

★ The cactus
depend on...

- packrat
~ spreads seeds
- rain
~ growth
- Paloverde tree
~ protection
shade
- Woodpecker
~ protection

★ ... depends on
the cactus

- jackrabbit
~ shade, food
- birds, bees
bats
~ nectar
- Woodpecker
~ food, home
- dove, owl
~ home
- scorpions,
insects
snakes,
lizards



Answer Key

Name _____ Cactus Hotel Interdependence

The cactus depends on...

... depends on the cactus

* pack rat carries seeds
to start new plant

* paloverde tree protects
the seed and new cactus

* woodpecker eats insects
that could bring disease
to the cactus

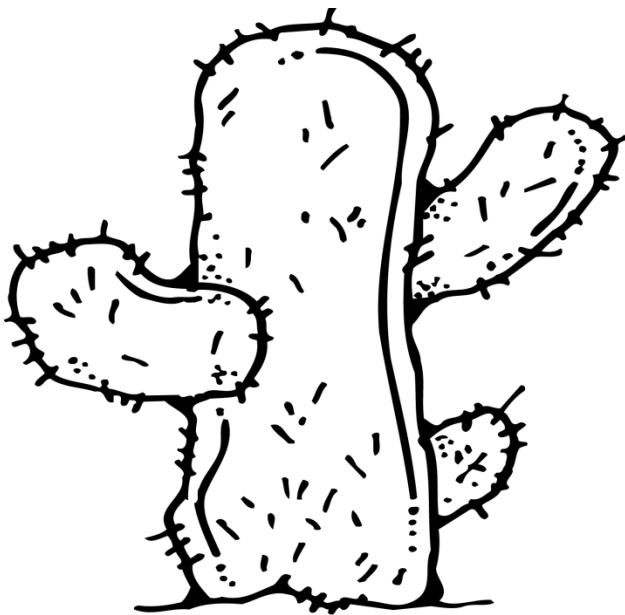
* rabbit gets shade

* birds, bees and bats get
nectar from the flower

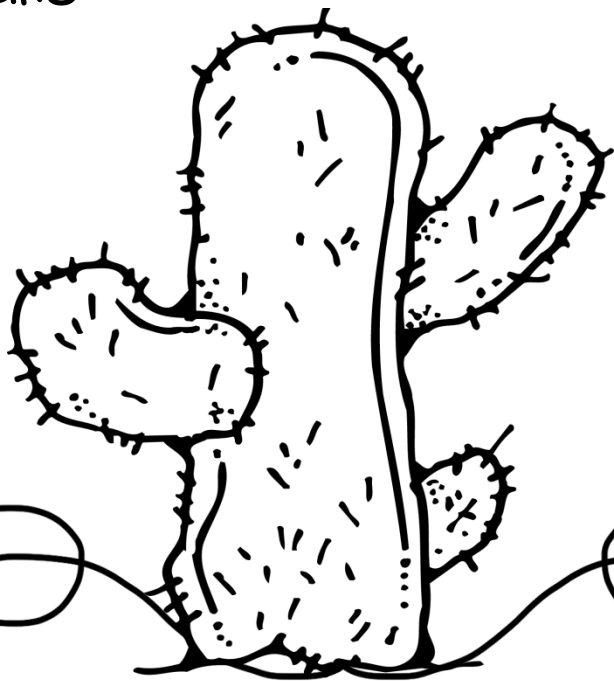
* woodpecker eats the
fruit, and uses the cactus
for a home

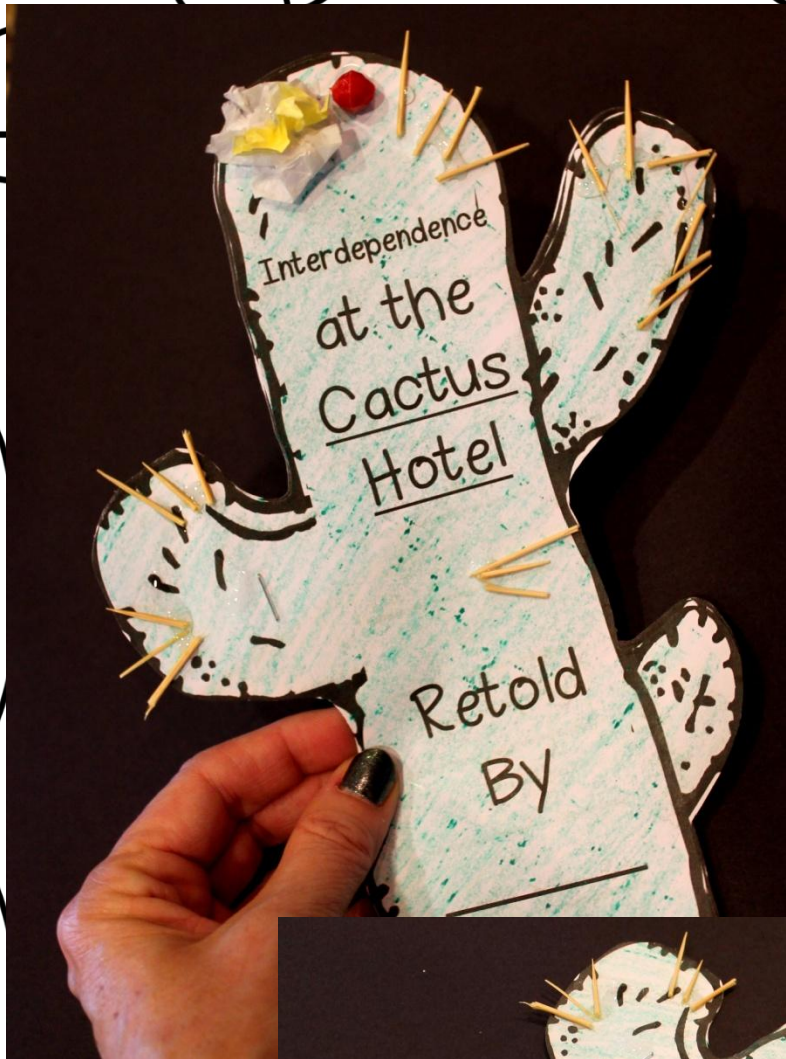
* dove and elf owl and
other animals make nests in
cactus

* insects, lizards, and
snakes use dead cactus
for shelter and food



The next few pages include an opportunity for students to retell Cactus Hotel. Students will color cover, write on other pages, cut out and staple together. Some broken toothpicks, a little red bead and some white and yellow tissue can be added to the cover to give some fun little details.



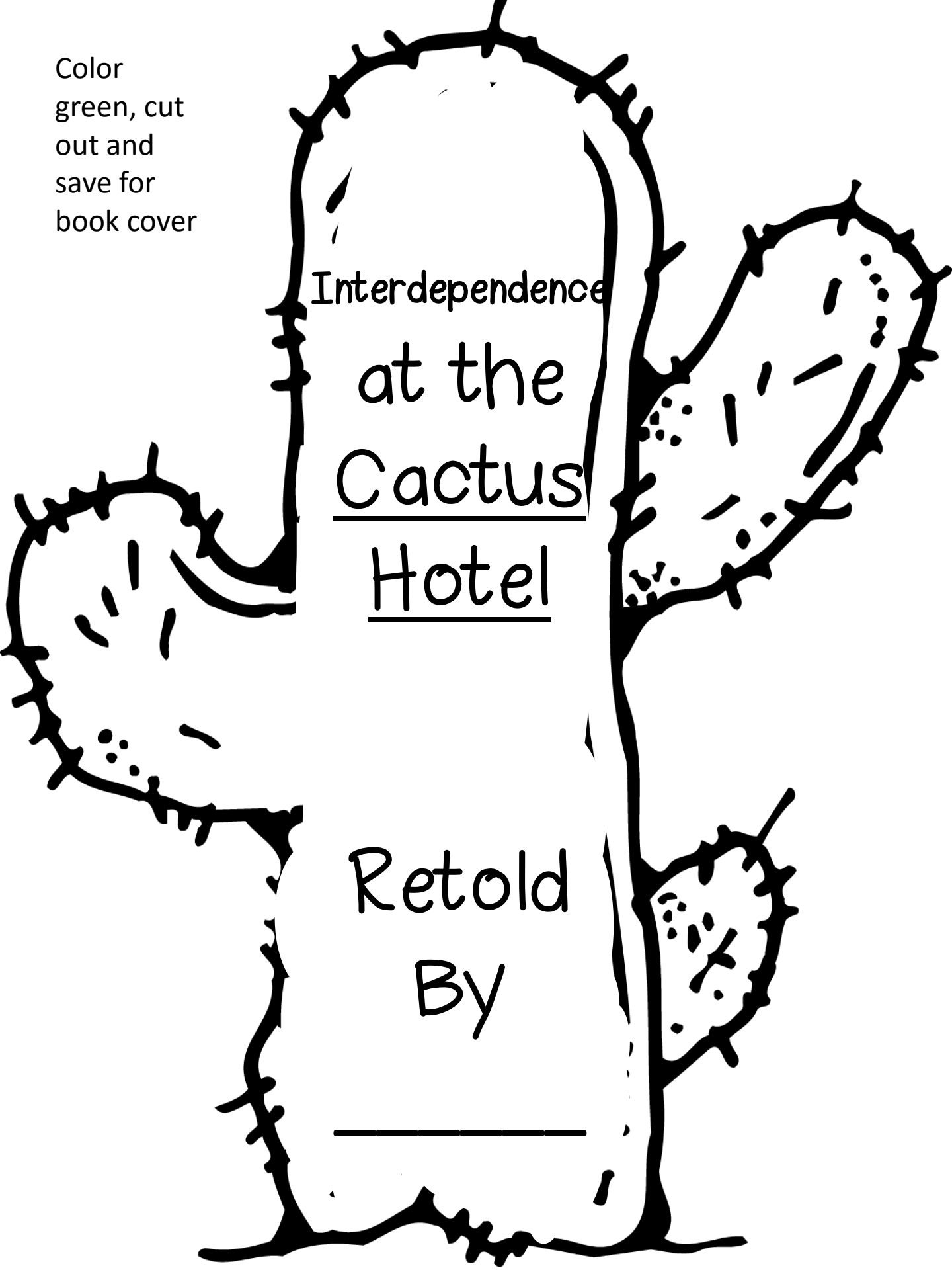


Interdependence



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Color
green, cut
out and
save for
book cover

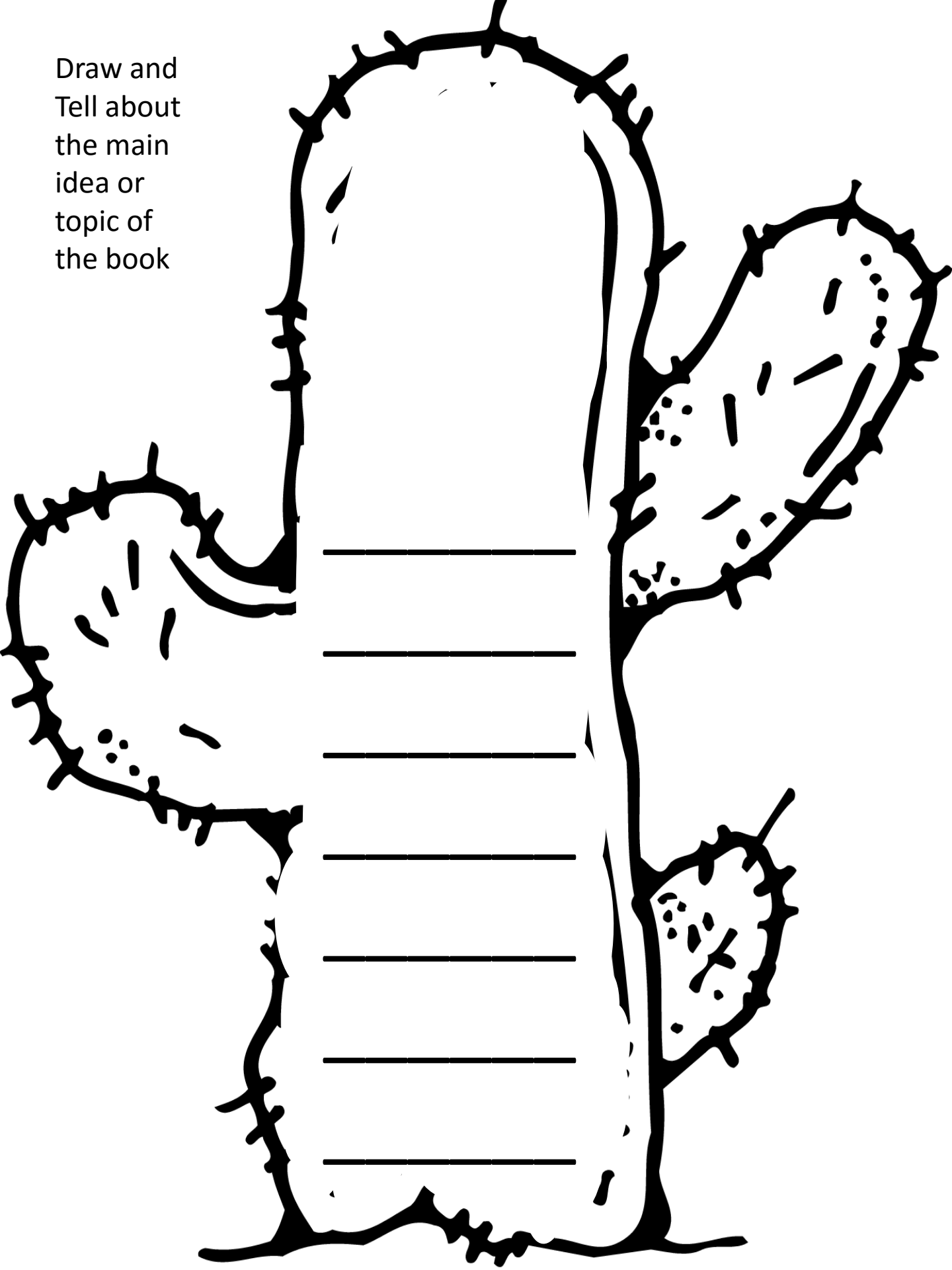


Interdependence

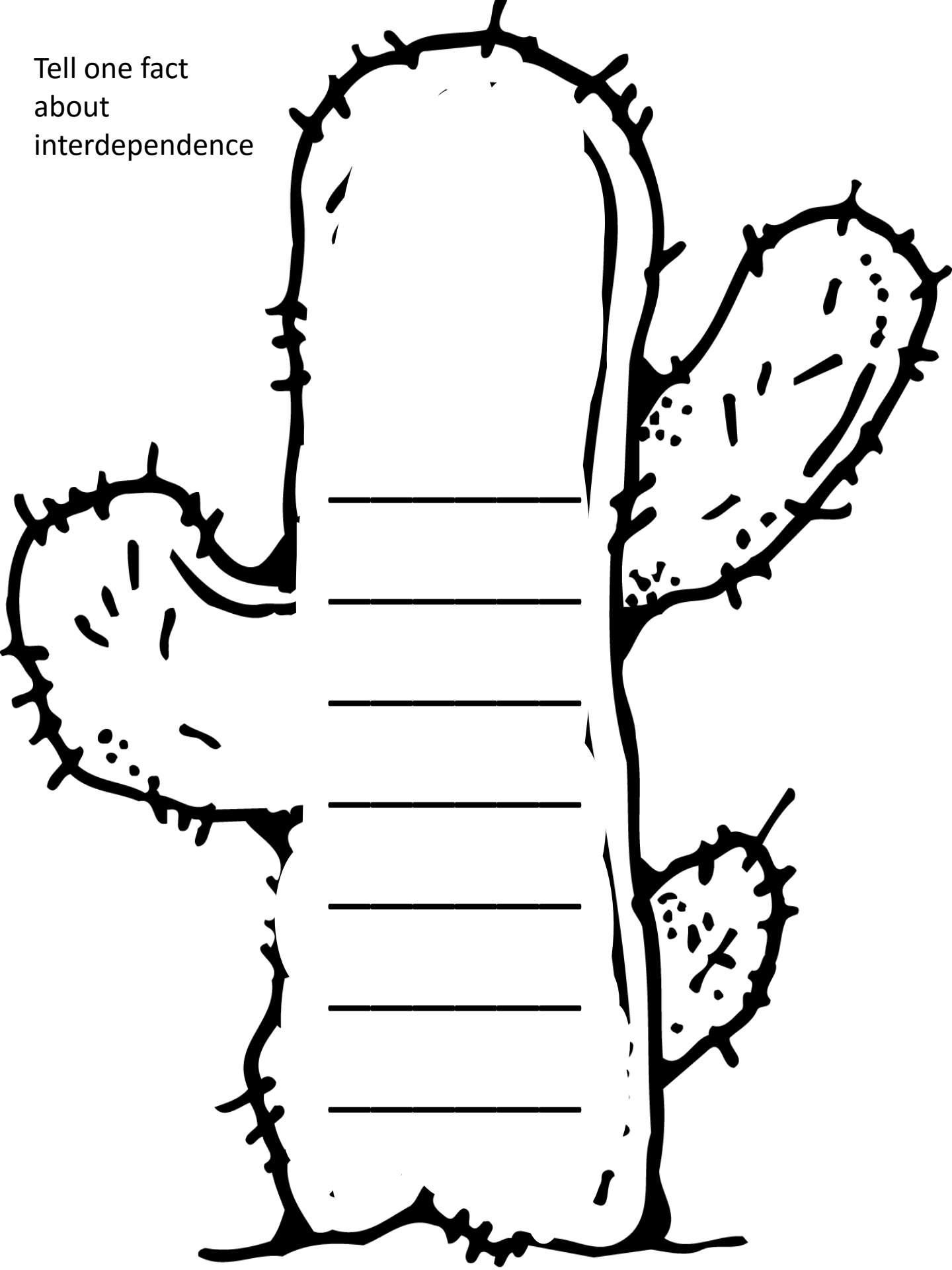
at the
Cactus
Hotel

Retold
By

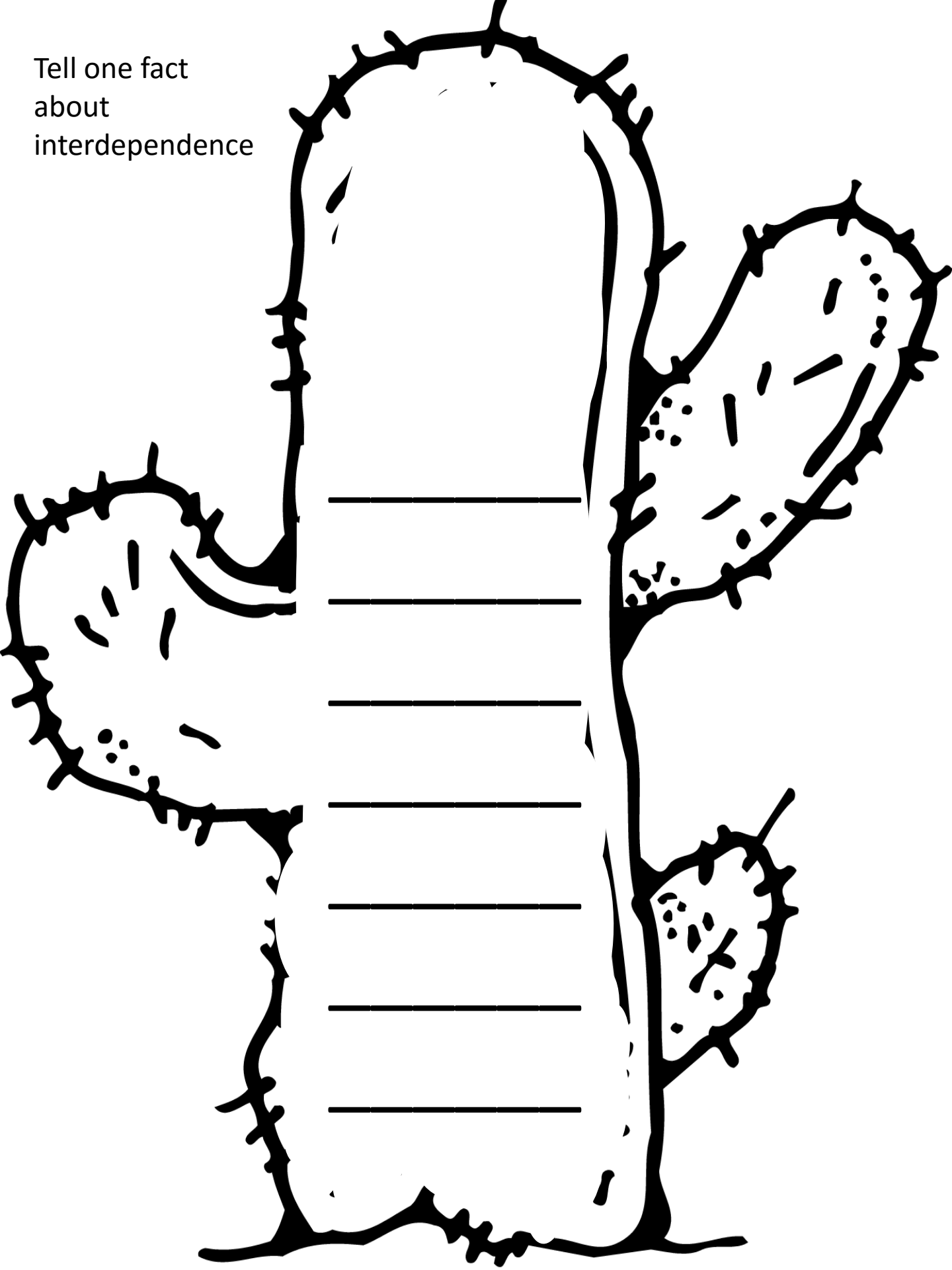
Draw and
Tell about
the main
idea or
topic of
the book



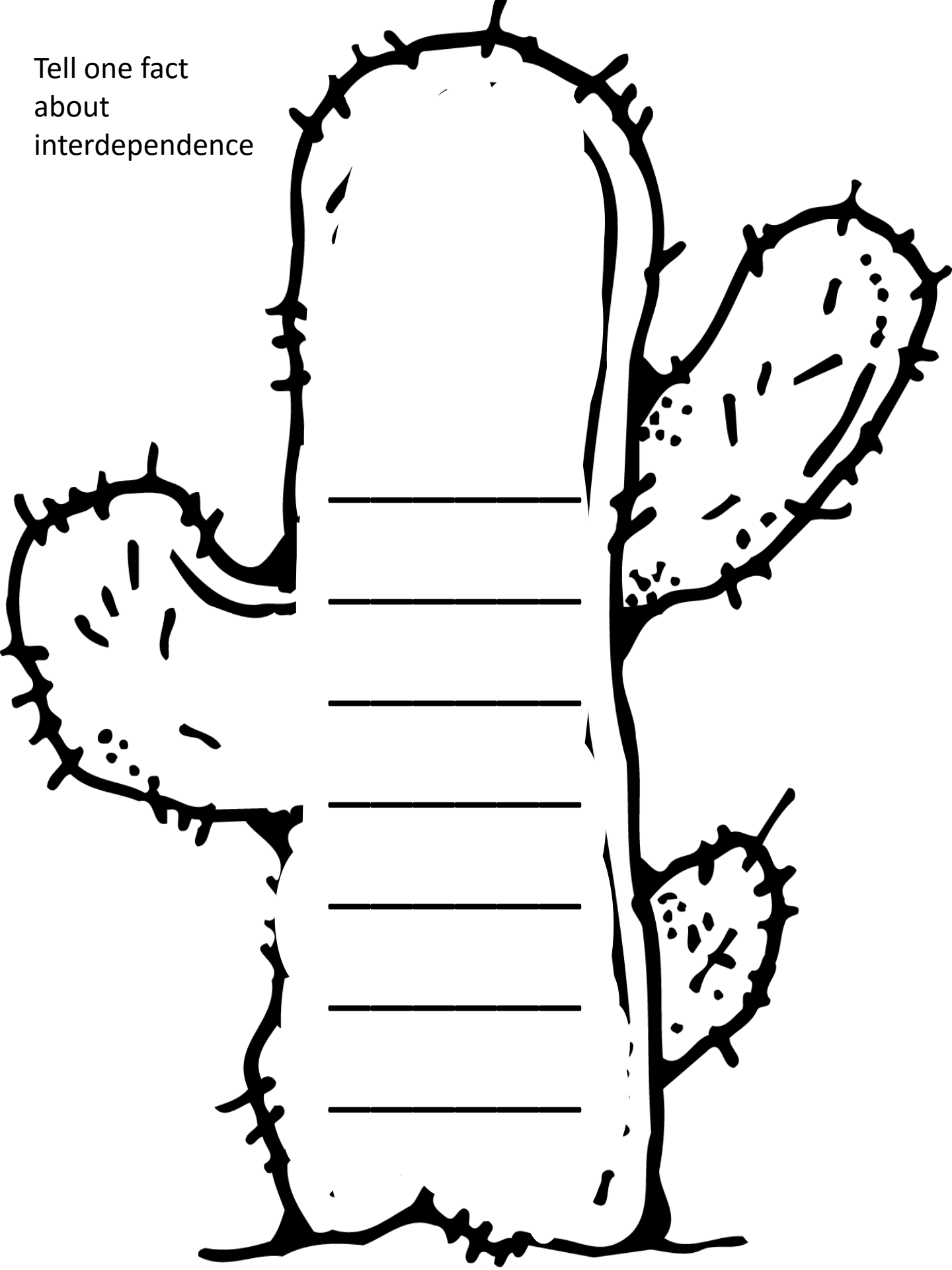
Tell one fact
about
interdependence



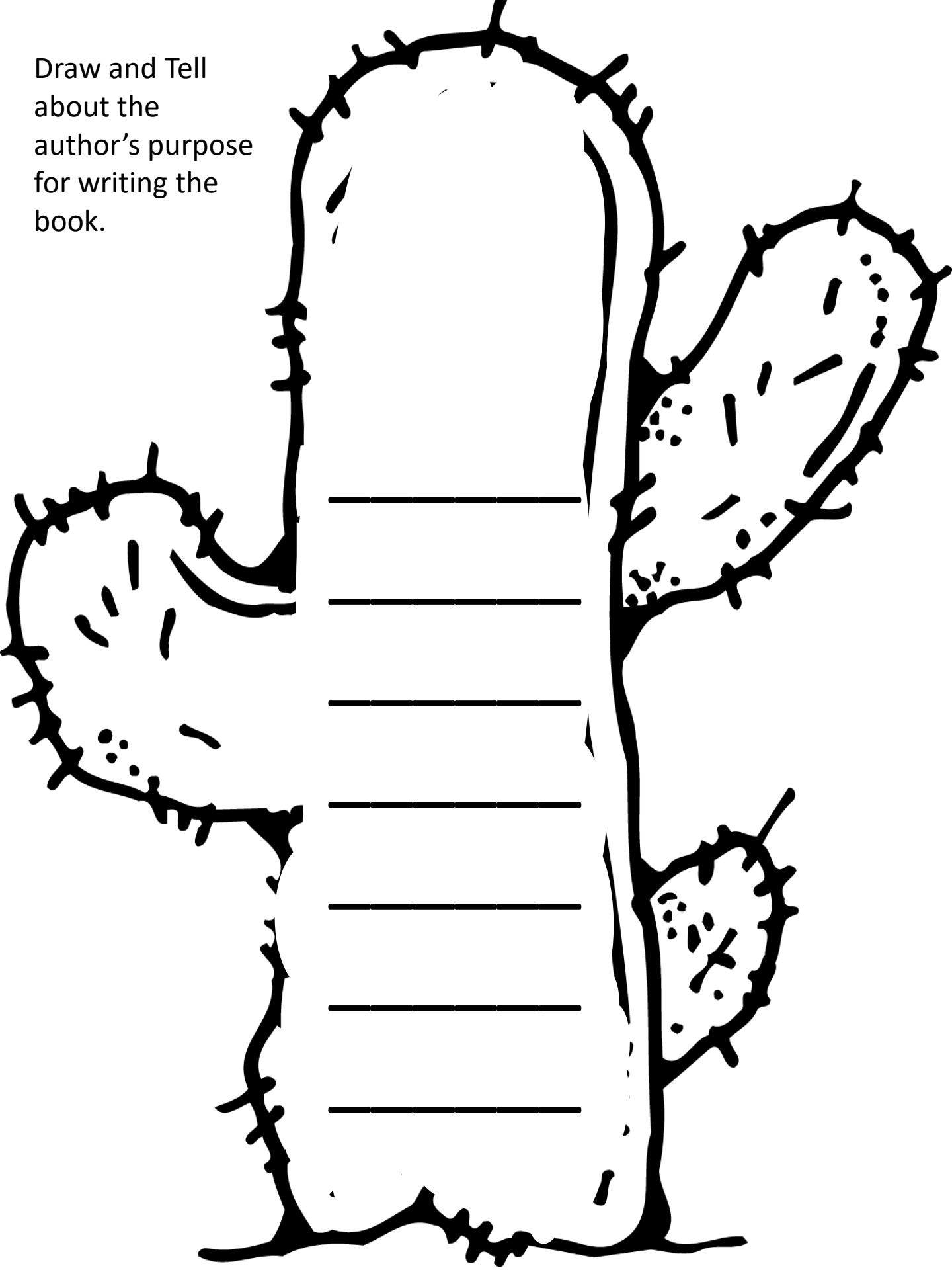
Tell one fact
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Tell one fact
about
interdependence



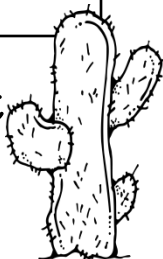
Draw and Tell
about the
author's purpose
for writing the
book.



Name _____ Cactus Hotel Interdependence

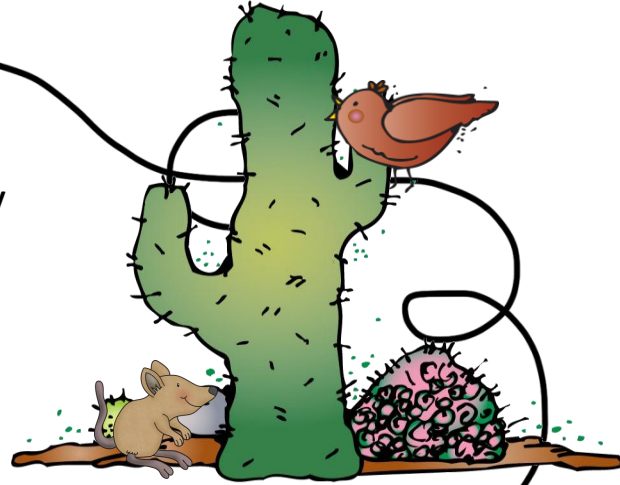
d	e	s	e	r	t	i	u	r	f
i	n	u	a	s	e	e	d	s	s
r	a	t	t	g	e	r	v	d	e
a	e	c	p	e	u	n	d	o	e
i	e	a	n	c	e	a	i	w	d
n	n	c	t	e	r	d	r	l	l
s	h	a	d	e	e	p	e	o	i
p	a	l	o	v	e	r	d	e	n
f	l	o	w	e	r	n	d	e	g
w	o	o	d	p	e	c	k	e	r

desert saguaro cactus fruit seeds rat
paloverde rain seedling shade flower
woodpecker dove owl



Name _____

Teacher copy



Plants depend on water.
How does a cactus go for
days without water?

Supplies:

3 squares of paper towel

Cookie sheet

2 paper clips

1 sheet of waxed paper (about size of paper towel)

Procedures:

Wet all the paper towels.

Lay 1 paper towel flat on the cookie sheet.

Roll the second paper towel into a log shape. Clip center
with paper clip. Lay on cookie sheet.

Lay third paper towel on waxed paper. Roll together
into log shape. Clip center with paper clip. Lay on
cookie sheet.

Allow to sit for 24 hours. Unroll, examine, and compare
each paper towel.

(Flat towel will be driest. Second towel should be damp
in middle, but outer edges should be dry. Third towel
should still be quite wet.)

The wax protected the paper towel from outside air
allowing it to maintain moisture. In a cactus, the thick
waxy outer layer of the plant helps to protect the
moisture content inside the plant. The plant can go many
days without rain water.



Visuals for
Plants Depend
on Water
science activity

Name _____

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Observations:

Towel 1-

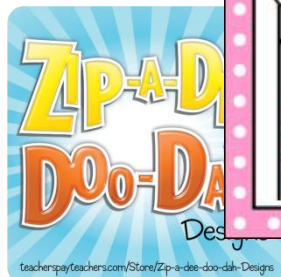
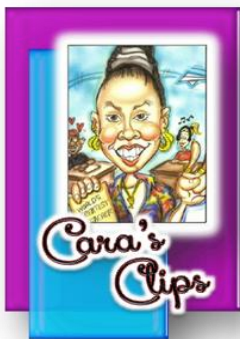
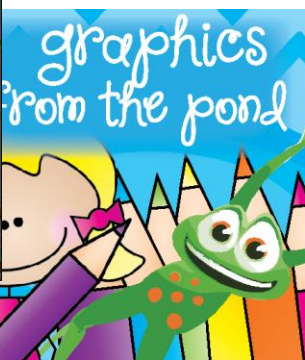
Towel 2-

Towel 3-

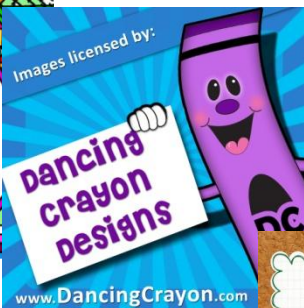
How does this help us learn about the cactus plant?



I have purchased and use graphics from these amazing artists. Check them Out!!

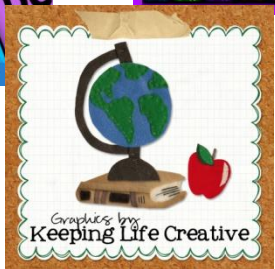


<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Zip-a-dee-doo-dah-Designs>



member graphics by

ThistleGirl Designs



I have used graphics from The Busy Busy Hive in this file



<http://thebusybusyhive.blogspot.com>