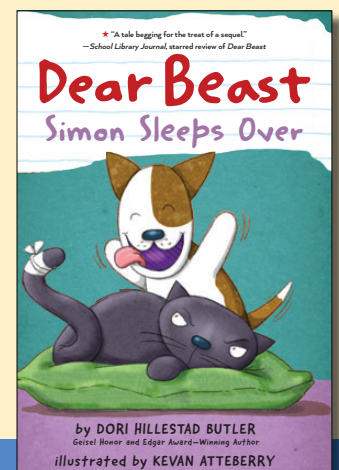
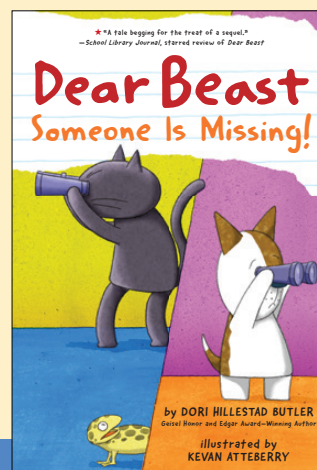
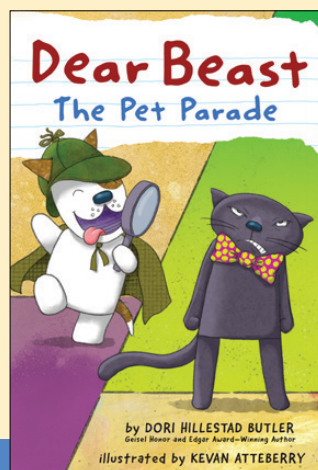




Unleash your inner beast and rule  
the neighborhood with these *furr-tastic* activities!



HOLIDAY HOUSE 

# HOLIDAY HOUSE



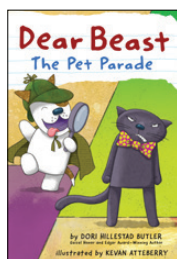
## A note from author—DORI HILLESTAD BUTLER and illustrator—KEVAN ATTEBERRY

Dear Reader,

I'm so excited to introduce you to my Dear Beast series. This series is very near and dear to my heart for several reasons. First, it's about cats and dogs. Second, it was inspired by my grand-kitty. I don't have grandchildren, but I do have a grand-kitty. His name is Simon and he's just like the Simon in the book. Third, it involves letter writing. I don't know about you, but I've always loved writing letters. I've had more than 100 pen pals from 80 different countries throughout my life. I got my first one when I was six years old. Her name was Sheryl and she lived in Australia. She wrote to me about her annoying older siblings, about playing netball, and about being on summer vacation in December, when I was playing in the snow. Simon and Baxter don't live as far from each other as Sheryl and I did, but they have never met each other. And like Sheryl and me, I think they will learn through their correspondence that they have many things in common, but also many things to learn from each other. Enjoy!

Your friend,

Dori



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by DORI HILLESTAD BUTLER  
illustrated by KEVAN ATTEBERRY

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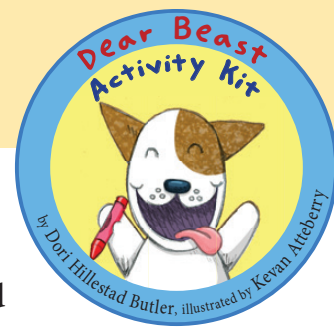


When I got the story for Dear Beast I loved it and was thrilled to create Simon and Baxter and all of the other characters. They became very special to me. ~kevan

# SIMON SAYS!

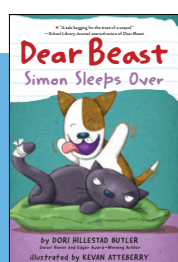
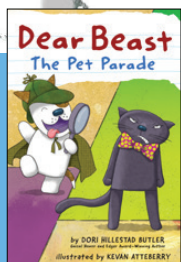
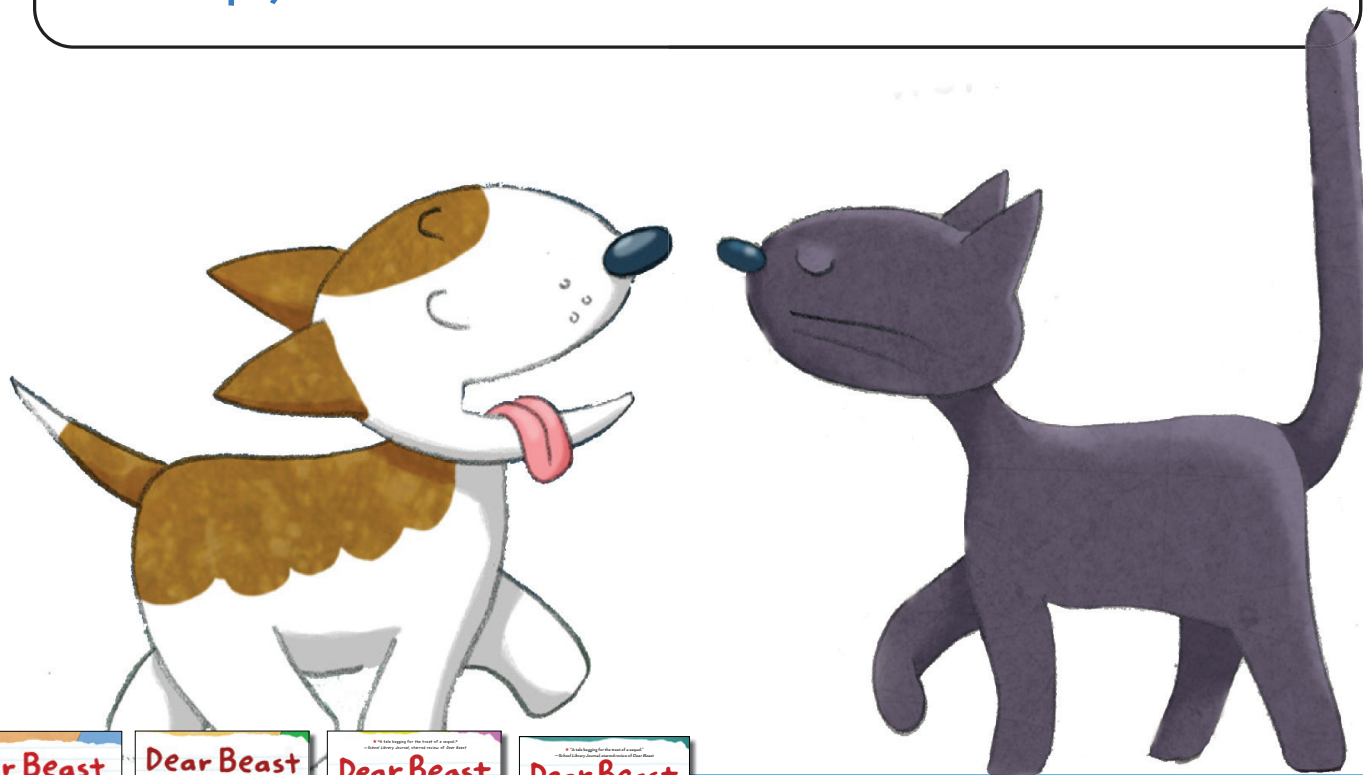
Baxter doesn't listen to Simon. . . . Will you?

Simon the cat thinks he can tell Baxter the dog what to do. Will you listen to what Simon says? Pick someone to be Simon the cat and play a game of Animal Simon Says. Listen closely as "Simon" gives you directions inspired by the book. If "Simon" says to do something, you better act fast! But, if "Simon" does not and you do it anyway, you're out! Use the ideas below to get you started!



**"Simon says . . ."**

- Bark like a dog
- Meow like a cat
- Slither like a snail
- Flap your arms like a crow
- Make a fish face
- Swim like a fish
- Wag your tail



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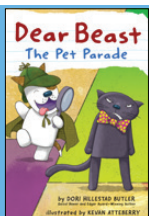
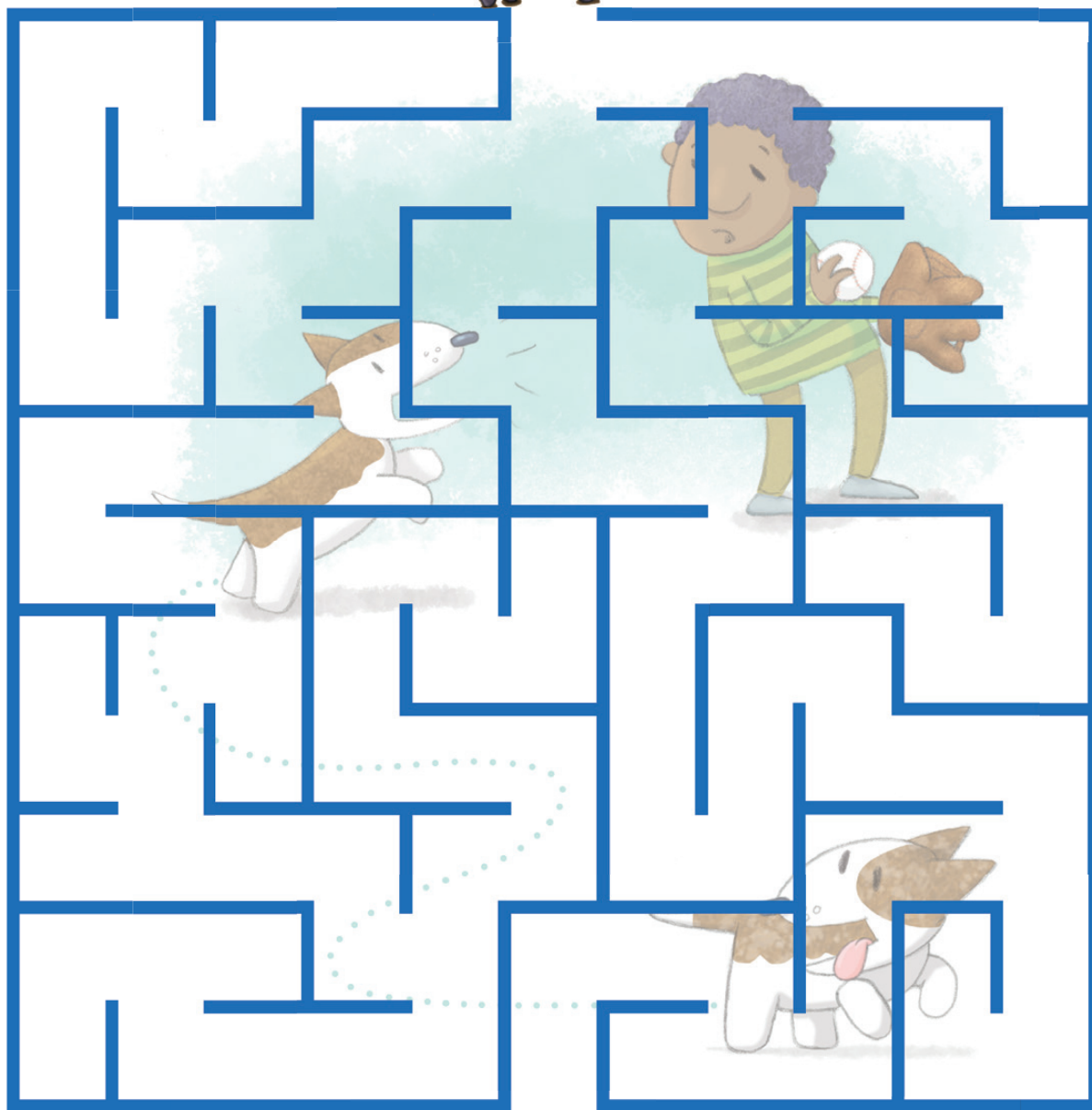
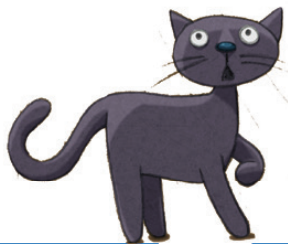
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# WHERE IS BAXTER?

Baxter ran away . . . and Simon needs your help finding him!

Help Simon find Baxter.



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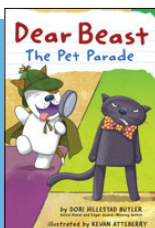
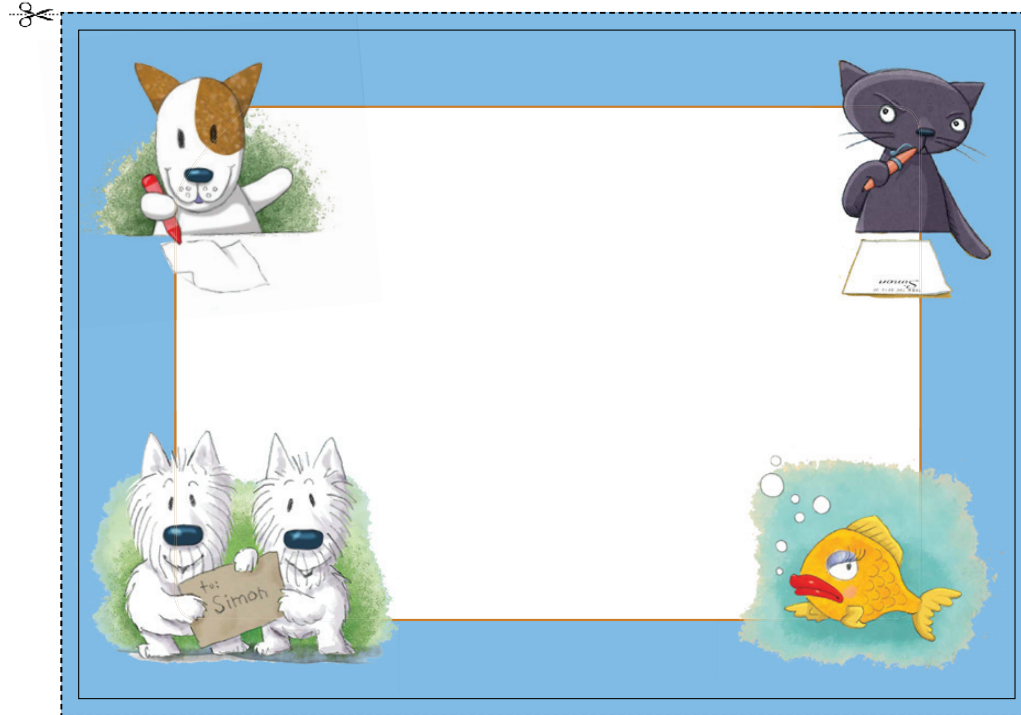
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# DEAR BEAST . . .

It's YOUR turn to write a letter!

Print a postcard and get to work! Draw a picture on the front and write a message on the back to your favorite pet or animal just like Baxter and Simon. Mail it to your favorite "hyooman" when you're done!

\*Be sure to ask an adult for help with cutting.



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# UP, DOWN, AND ALL AROUND!

Dogs and cats are great at listening . . . sometimes! Here's a chance for you to practice YOUR skills!



Grab an adult to help you with this game. Choose a space and divide it into two sides. Dedicate one side as “love it” and one side as “don’t love it.” Start by standing in the middle of the space and have an adult shout out the words below. If you love it, run to the “love it” side and sit down. If you don’t love it, run to the “don’t love it” side and sit down. If you can’t decide, sit in the middle! Keep going for each word!

Puppies

Cats

Snails

Chocolate

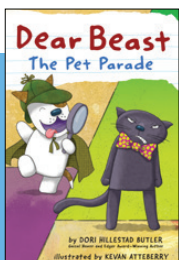
Vanilla

Hamburgers

Hot Dogs

Math

Science



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# AUTHOR ACTIVITY

Author Dori Hillestad Butler loves to write. Now you can become an author just like her! She created a writing activity just for YOU!



Do you have a dog, or cat, or fish at home? What about a favorite stuffed animal? Imagine if your pet had a pen pal. Who would that pen pal be? Draw a picture of him or her in this blank space.



Now imagine what your pet would write in a letter to his or her pen pal. Write that letter on these lines.

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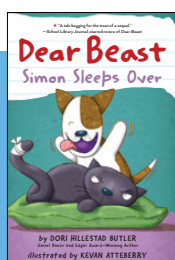
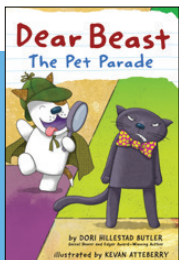
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Was it easy or hard to write that letter?

Circle one. **EASY** **HARD**

Was it fun?

Circle one. **YES** **NO**



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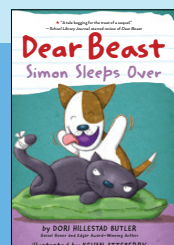
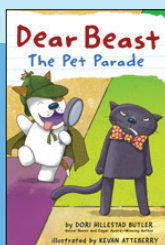
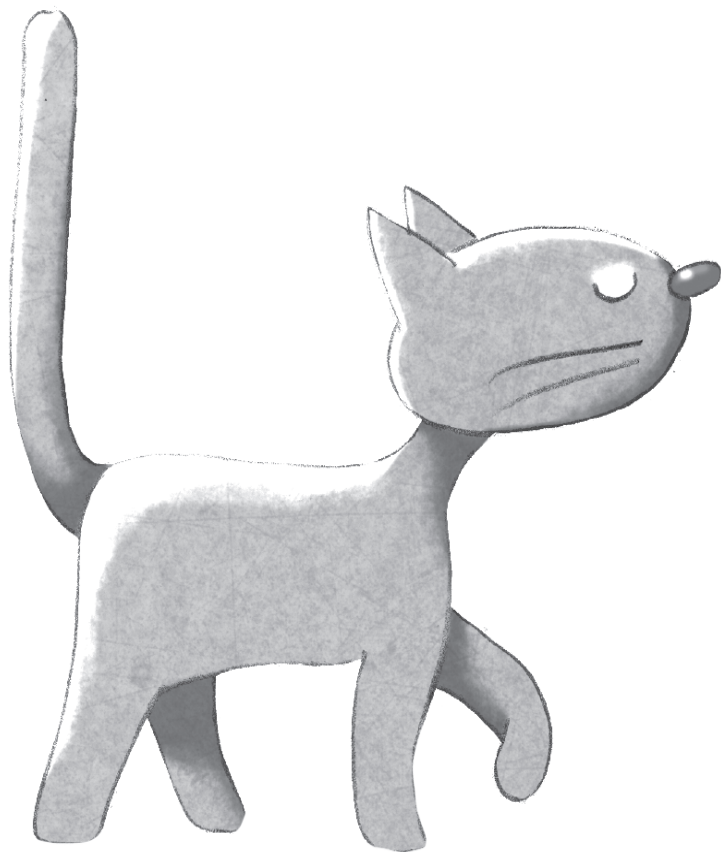
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# DEAR BEAST PET PARADE

Give Simon and Baxter costumes for the Pet Parade!

Draw costumes on Simon and Baxter below.



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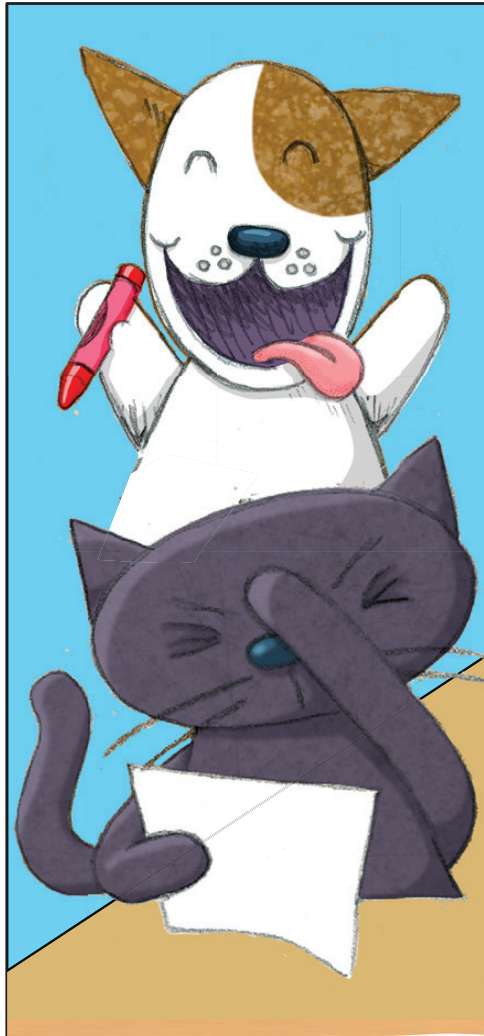


# DEAR BEAST . . .

It's YOUR bookmark!

instructions: Cut out bookmark around the edge and fold down the side

\*Be sure to ask an adult for help with cutting.



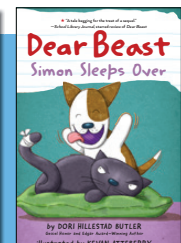
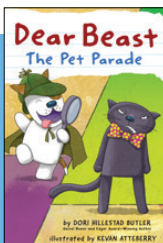
It's dog vs. cat  
in this hilarious  
illustrated  
chapter book series  
written in letters  
back and forth!

Are you team  
**SASSY SIMON**  
or team  
**BOUNCY BAXTER?**



Free Event Kit and Activity Sheets available  
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# WRITE A LETTER!

You can write a letter just like Simon and Baxter do!

instructions: Using the spaces below, write a letter to a friend or family member.



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

What do you want to do on your next summer vacation? I would like to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

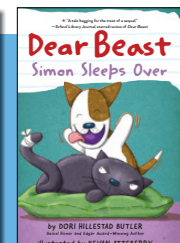
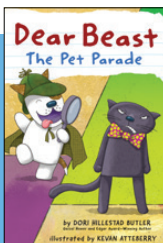
Finally, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please write back and tell me what you would like to do!

Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_

Courtesy of Education.com



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