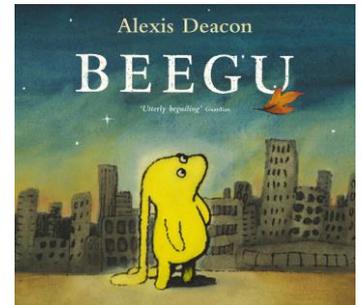
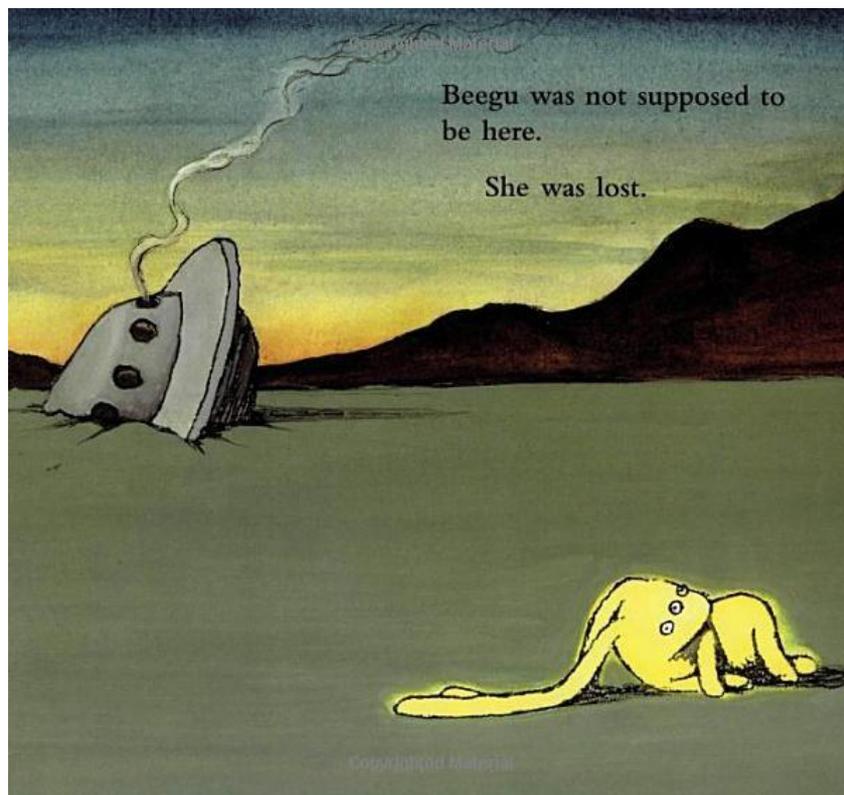


Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning

Beegu by Alexis Deacon (Red Fox)



1. Explore it



Look at the picture and read the words.

- What do you notice in the picture?
- What do you think has happened?
- Does the picture remind you of anything that you have seen before?
- What do you notice about the character in the picture? What kind of character do you think she will be? Why?
- Where do you think Beegu was supposed to be? What do you think might happen next?

2. Illustrate it

Read aloud the words on the page again, '*Beegu was not supposed to be here. She was lost.*' Can you try to imagine the world where Beegu comes from?

- What do you think it would look like?
- What would the sky look like? What would the landscape be like?
- Do you think Beegu would blend into her environment or stand out as she does on Earth? Why?
- What might you see on her planet? What might you hear? What colours would there be?

Draw Beegu's home using whatever you have to hand, the back of an envelope or old letter or cereal box will do if you don't have paper to hand. Maybe other people in your family want to draw what they imagine too. Remember, everyone has their own ideas and imagines things their own way. This is a good thing!

Once you have drawn your picture, share your drawings with someone else if you can, or talk about what you have drawn with someone else: what is similar about the drawings? What is different?

3. Talk about it

Think again about the sentence you read in the text: '*Beegu was not supposed to be here. She was lost.*'

- What does it mean to be 'lost'?
- How do you think Beegu might be feeling here? Why might she feel like this?
- Have you ever felt lost before or had the experience of being lost? What did you do? How did it make you feel?
- What should you do if you became lost or separated from people you know? How could you get help and keep yourself safe?
- What do you think Beegu should do now? What advice would you give to her?

4. Imagine it

Beegu is alone on Earth. Can you create a friend for Beegu?

- What is your friend for Beegu like?
- What do they look like? What is their name?
- Where does this friend live?
- What do they like to do? What do they like to eat?
- Who are their friends and family?
- Does your friend make a noise? How does it sound?
- Why would Beegu like to be friends with them?

Once you have imagined a friend for Beegu, you may like to make it. This could be a drawing, or using any other spare materials you have in your home such as old plastic bottles or boxes, plasticine and googly eyes, feathers or pipe cleaners. You could make your own playdough, using cheap and easy household ingredients: <https://theimaginationtree.com/best-ever-no-cook-play-dough-recipe/>

5. Create it

Beegu has crash landed on Earth. Can you write a guide to Earth for Beegu including the top five things that you think are special about life on Earth? What would you like to share with Beegu about life on Earth?

For example, do you enjoy riding a bike or having a birthday party? Maybe you have a favourite sport like swimming or football? You could share with her your favourite smell, your favourite music, a favourite book, or particular places you think she should visit while she is here.

You can find out more about the author of *Beegu*, Alexis Deacon and hear him read another of his books aloud on the Power of Pictures website: <https://clpe.org.uk/powerofpictures/deacon-alexis>