VAMPURR

EDUCATOR GUIDE



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Written by Justin Colon
Illustrated by Lenny Wen

Published by Farrar, Strauss and Giroux
An Imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group

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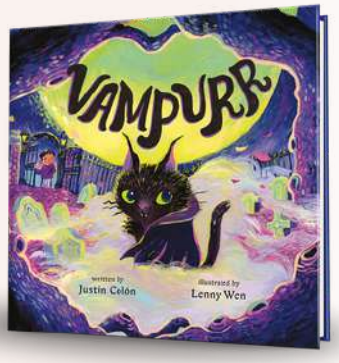

ABOUT THE BOOK

MEET VAMPURR...

Her fur shines blacker than a raven's feathers.
Her eyes glow greener than a witch's brew.
But most unusual of all are her long, needle-sharp fangs.

Born among tombstones beneath the blood moon's light, a vampire kitten longs to find a loving home like her adopted siblings. But her unusual appearance and abilities send visitors fleeing the cemetery in fright. Until one night, an eerie fog rolls in, bringing with it an unexpected new friend.

Vampurr is a laugh-out-loud funny picture book that celebrates people loving you just the way you are.

ISBN-13	978-0374392802
PUBLISHER	Farrar, Straus and Giroux / Macmillan
PUBLICATION DATE	July 7, 2026

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MEET THE CREATIVE TEAM

AUTHOR



NAME Justin Colón
LOCATION New York

He is a professional actor, children's book author, and creator of creatures. His previous picture books include The Quacken, The Zombees, Impossible Possums, and Impossible Possum for Mayor. Ever since he was a kid, Justin has been rescuing and relocating animals in need: dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, turtles, fish, and more. He's yet to save a vampire kitten, though. Then again, he hasn't searched at night. He has two rescue pups, Harley and Brooks.

www.justincolonbooks.com

ILLUSTRATOR



NAME Lenny Wen
LOCATION Austria

She is the author/ illustrator of several picture books, such as Wolfgang in the Meadow and Pippo's Perfectly Peculiar Days. When she is not illustrating or writing, you might find her staring at the trees, contemplating story ideas, reading books, filling up her cup with coffee, or hugging her dog.

www.lennywen.com



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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why do you think Vampurr was born a vampire but her siblings were not?
2. Why do you think Victor named her Vampurr?
3. Why do you think Victor set out to investigate when he heard the strange noise coming form the graveyard?
4. Why do you think Victor's father was fast asleep when he found Vampurr?
5. Why do you think Victor was able to walk in the daylight?
6. Why do you think Vampurr was making strange sounds in the graveyard?
7. Why do you think the groundskeeper felt a graveyard was no place for kittens to wander?
8. Why do you think Vampurr's powers sent everyone fleeing in fright?
9. Why do you think Victor and his father's previous pets fled in fright?
10. Who do you think might live in the extra coffins in their house?
11. Would you want a vampire kitten? Why or why not?

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SUPERCHARGE YOUR LESSONS!

This classroom guide accompanies Vampurr. It contains printable activities and interactive lesson plans to complement your daily instruction. Designed for students in kindergarten through fifth grade, it complies with the common core curriculum. Areas of focus include English language arts (ELA), math, and art.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

CLASSROOM VISIT

Partner with a local animal shelter for a classroom visit featuring educational activities related to animal welfare.

SUPERSTITIONS

Discuss various superstitions and the history behind them, including superstitions around black cats.

NATURE

Research and discuss real-life animals that are named after vampires.



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STORY ELEMENTS

Directions: Fill in each box with words and pictures to represent each story element.

characters	setting
problem	solution

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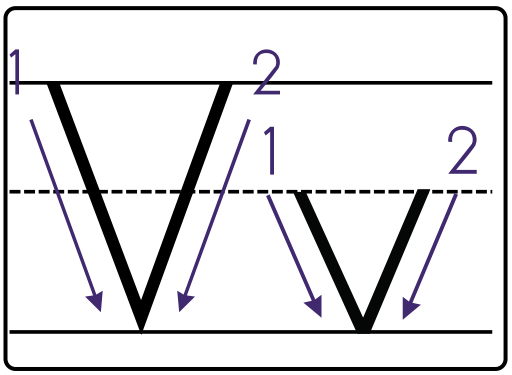

Trace the uppercase letters.

Trace the lowercase letters.

Trace the uppercase and lowercase letters.

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Directions: Circle below whether you would or would not want a vampire kitten, then explain why. Draw inside the box to show your thinking.

I [would / would not] want a vampire kitten because:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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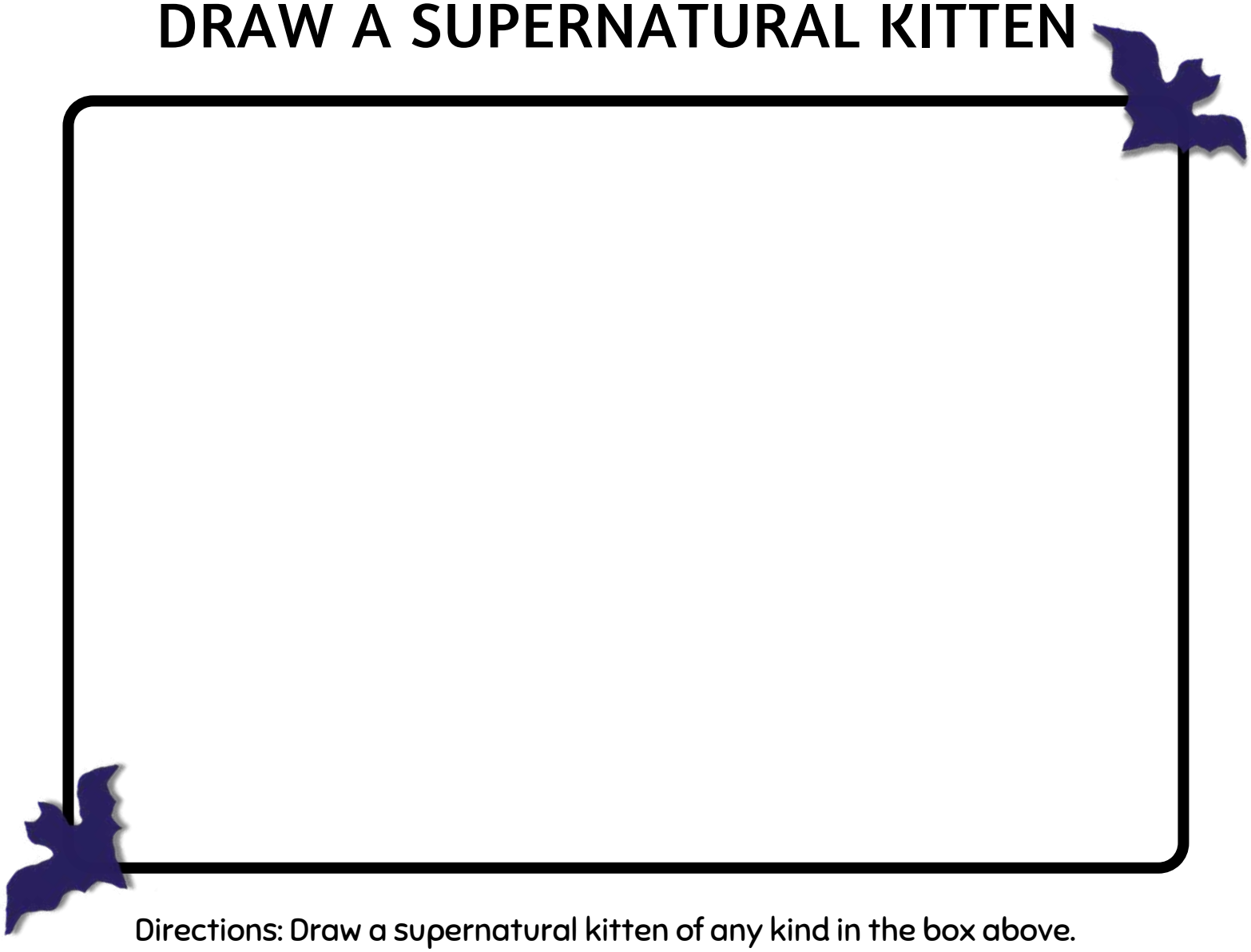
DRAW A SUPERNATURAL KITTEN



Directions: Draw a supernatural kitten of any kind in the box above.
Then name it and write about it on the lines below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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VAMPURR'S CHARACTER TRAITS

Directions: Fill in each box with a word that describes Vampurr.



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VICTOR'S CHARACTER TRAITS

Directions: Fill in each box with a word that describes Victor.



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COMPARE & CONTRAST

Directions: Use the Venn diagram below to compare and contrast Vampurr and her siblings. Then, write about the similarities and differences.





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STORY SEQUENCING



Directions: Cut and glue the story events from Vampurr in the order that they happened.

A vampire kitten, the sixth in her litter, was born at midnight.	Victor heard a strange sound.
Victor made the kitten a cape and named her Vampurr.	Victor showed Vampurr to his father.
Victor discovered a vampire kitten hanging in the shadows of the cemetery.	All the kittens were adopted except Vampurr.
The groundskeeper put the kittens up for adoption.	Victor said his goodbyes to the kittens.
Vampurr scared everyone away with her powers.	Victor and his father brought Vampurr home.

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LITERARY DEVICES

Directions: Find the surrounding literary devices in Vampurr and write them inside the boxes.

ALLITERATION

ONOMATOPOEIA

IMAGERY

SIMILE

PUN

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CEMETERY SENSES

Directions: You've entered the cemetary where Vampurr was born. It's an autumn night. There are ghosts, owls, trees with falling leaves, and more. Describe what you hear, see, smell, taste, and feel.

I can hear



I can see

I can smell



I can taste

I can touch



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VERBS, NOUNS, OR ADJECTIVES?

Directions: Color each word in the table using the key:
GREEN for things, PURPLE for action words, and ORANGE for describing words.

Kitten	Beneath	Started	Howling	Tombstone	Outfit	Special
Ordinary	Strange	Moon	Wind	Cloud	Ghost	Father
Glimmered	Fog	Favorite	Witch	Blood	Little	Cool
First	Greener	Cozy	Floating	Carried	Peculiar	Heart
Investigate	Owl	Hanging	Family	Coffins	Shadows	Familiar
Spiders	Sun	Hypnotize	Entered	Home	Appeared	Cold
Family	Grew	Long	Fangs	Cat	Sharp	Peculiar

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ADDITION

Directions: Count the pictures, write the numbers, and find the sum.



..... spiders plus ..... spiders = _____



..... bats plus ..... bats = _____



..... mice ..... mice = _____



..... coffins plus ..... coffins = _____



..... owls plus ..... owls = _____

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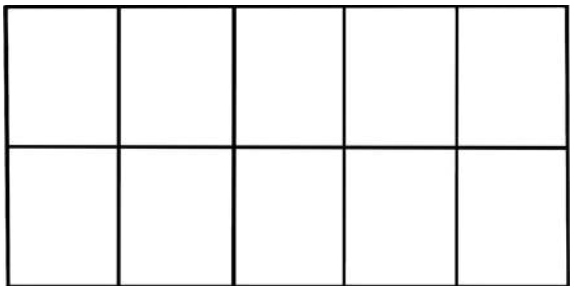
ADDITION WORD PROBLEMS



Directions: Count the pictures, write the numbers, and find the total.

Vampurr hypnotized four people.
Then she hypnotized three more people.
How many people did Vampurr hypnotize in total?

TEN FRAME



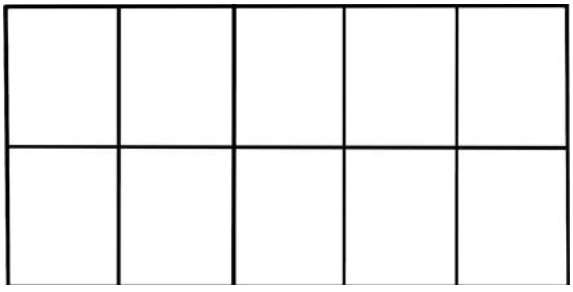
Number Path

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Equation Answer

Victor made two of the recipes in his vampire cookook.
Then he made three more of the recipes.
How many of the recipes did he make in total?

TEN FRAME



Number Path

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Equation Answer

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SUBTRACTION

Directions: Count the pictures, write the numbers, and find the difference.



..... leaves minus ..... leaves = _____



..... hats minus ..... hats = _____



..... spools of thread minus ..... spools of thread = _____



..... tombstones minus ..... tombstone = _____



..... kittens minus ..... kittens = _____

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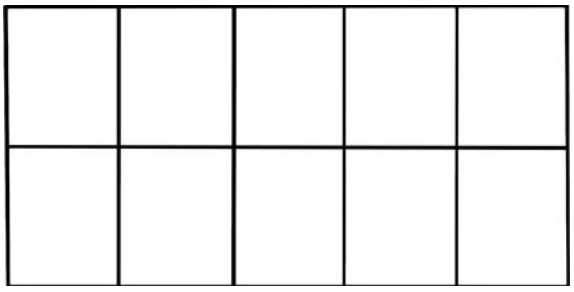
SUBTRACTION WORD PROBLEMS

Directions: Count the pictures, write the numbers, and find the difference.



There were nine ghosts in the graveyard.
Four floated away to haunt somewhere else.
How many ghosts are left in the graveyard?

TEN FRAME



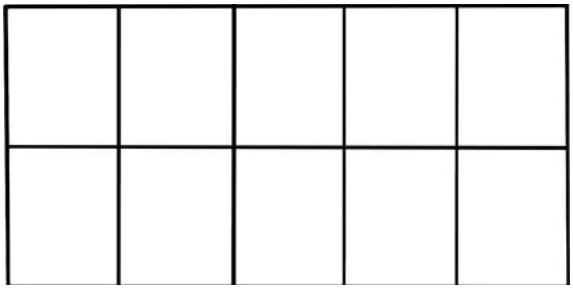
Number Path

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Equation Answer

Six kittens were available for adoption.
Five of the kittens have since been adopted.
How many kittens are left?

TEN FRAME



Number Path

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Equation Answer

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MULTIPLICATION

Directions: Count the pictures, write the numbers, and find the product.



..... striped kittens times ..... striped kittens = _____



..... spotted kittens times ..... spotted kittens = _____



..... grey kittens times ..... grey kittens = _____



..... vampire kittens ..... vampire kittens = _____



..... boxes of kittens times ..... boxes of kittens = _____

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MULTIPLICATION WORD PROBLEMS



1. There are 9 people. Each person owns 3 kittens. How many kittens are there in total?

   ☐ x ☐ = ☐

2. If each vampire has 2 fangs and there are 3 vampires, how many fangs do they have in total?

   ☐ x ☐ = ☐

3. If each ghosts can haunt 7 people a night, and there are 6 ghosts, how many people can they haunt in total each night?

   ☐ x ☐ = ☐

4. If the full moon appears once each month, and there are 12 months in a year, how many times does the full moon appear in total each year?

   ☐ x ☐ = ☐

5. There are 8 owls in the cemetary. There are 9 times as many mice in the cemetary. How many mice are there in total?

   ☐ x ☐ = ☐

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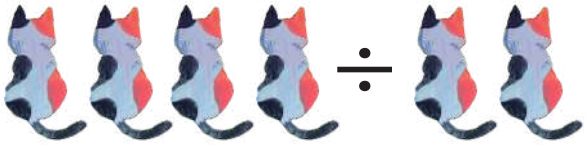
DIVISION

Directions: Count the pictures, write the numbers, and find the quotient.



..... striped kittens times ..... striped kittens

= _____



..... spotted kittens times ..... spotted kittens

= _____



..... grey kittens times ..... grey kittens

= _____



..... vampire kittens ..... vampire kittens

= _____



..... boxes of kittens times ..... boxes of kittens

= _____

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DIVISION WORD PROBLEMS



1

There are 15 kittens available for adoption. Each empty box can fit 3 kittens in it. How many boxes do you need to fit all 15 kittens?

☐ ÷ ☐ = ☐

2

Victor needs 2 spools of thread to sew each cape. He has 12 capes. How many spools of thread does he need?

☐ ÷ ☐ = ☐

3

Each kitten has four paws. There are 20 paws total. How many kittens are there?

☐ ÷ ☐ = ☐

4

If there are 54 tombstones in the cemetary. Each row has 6 tombstones in it. How many rows are there in total?

☐ ÷ ☐ = ☐

5

Each tombstone in the cemetary is haunted by three ghosts. There are 24 ghosts in total. How many tombstones are tehre in total?

☐ ÷ ☐ = ☐

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