



TEACHERS' RESOURCES

RECOMMENDED FOR

Lower primary
(K-2)

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KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- **Learning areas:** English, Creative Arts, Science, HSIE
- **General capabilities:** Literacy, Critical and creative thinking, Personal and social capability, Visual literacy

REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- To discuss new vocabulary, respond to texts and share feelings and thoughts about the events and characters in texts.
- To learn and understand more about the changes in family relationships.
- To learn more our fears and how we can help ourselves and others to overcome them.
- To use and experiment with different materials, and create artworks to communicate ideas to an audience

THEMES

- Empathy
- Dreams
- Nature
- Families

PREPARED BY

Penguin Random House Australia

PUBLICATION DETAILS

ISBN: 9781760893422 (hardback)

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Hello Jimmy!

Anna Walker



PLOT SUMMARY

One day, a parrot appears on the doorstep.
His name is Jimmy.
Dad thinks Jimmy is amazing.
He's loud, he's funny and he's full of surprises!
But Jack doesn't like surprises.
Not at all...

**A tender, touching story of a boy and his father;
of the spaces between them
and what brings them together.**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anna Walker writes and illustrates children's books and is based in Melbourne. Crafted with pencil, ink and collage, Anna's illustrations are inspired by the everyday details of life and the amusing antics of her menagerie. Anna's book, as author-illustrator with Penguin, *Florette*, was selected among best illustrated books of 2018 by New York Times and New York State Library. *Florette* was also shortlisted for 2017 CBCA Book of the Year for Early Childhood and won the Wilderness Society Picture book of the year. Together with Jane Godwin, Anna has also created many beautiful picture books, such as *Go Go and the Silver Shoes* and *Tilly*. Anna's most recent picture book as author-illustrator is the delightful *Lottie and Walter*.

AUTHOR'S INSPIRATION

Anna says:

Eight years ago, the kids and I found a lorikeet hiding in the garden after a storm and it couldn't fly. We carefully brought it inside to keep it safe from the cat. After a few hours we came to check on the parrot and it was gone! After being shocked by a loud shriek we found it on the top of the window. We were happy that it was able to fly again and knew it was time to set it free. I have always loved birds ever since a child. My Aunt owned a cockatoo that would yell at the dog to 'get off the garden!' and made us laugh. For many years I have been thinking about a story in which a bird appears in someone's life for a short time.

For a while I worked on the idea of a small girl finding a parrot just like our family did. But the story was not very interesting. I played with the idea of a guy working in a café finding a parrot . . . but there were still big problems with how the plot unfolded. One afternoon I was staring at the storyboard and also happened to be pondering the impact of separation and divorce on families. I was thinking about the sadness and confusion experienced by parents and children in transitioning to the next stage of their life. It was that moment I suddenly realised who the characters should be and how the story could unfold.

There are threads of sadness in 'Hello Jimmy!' but the overriding idea is celebrating a father's love for his child, and that love, even through sadness, will always be there.

THEMES

Empathy

Looking at the book's illustrations and text, students can identify the sadness of the main character Jack and why he might be feeling uncertain about things. They can consider the things we can do to help others who

might be feeling sad or lonely and make a difference to how they feel. What is something nice you could do for someone if they were feeling sad?

Dreams

Using the illustrations in the book, children can think about their dreams. They can talk about how some dreams are frightening, some are exciting and some seem very strange or very real! They could draw one of their dreams, using different colours, and textures.

Nature

Children can talk about their local environment. They can learn about creatures in their local area. Some of them may have had a pet go missing or found a lost animal.

Families

This is a story about a family in transition. At times Jack feels jealous of the attention that Dad gives Jimmy, and also that Jimmy seems so much more exciting and interesting than Jack himself.

Children can think about the unique relationship they have with each of their family members. In what ways are they similar and/or different? What is something that they all have in common? This theme provides an opportunity to safely discuss some strong feelings children may have when the nature of their own family might be changing, due to moving house, a new baby arriving, a new pet or a separation.

PRE-READING QUESTIONS

1. Look at the front cover of the book. Read the title together. The title *Hello Jimmy!* is referring to a character, which character do you think it might be? What do you think the story is about? Who is saying Hello Jimmy?
2. Read the blurb at the back of the book. What do you feel about it? What kind of things are you now expecting to see inside the book? What questions do you have?
3. Just inside the cover, after the endpapers, are some illustrated pages called title pages before the start of the story. What do the title pages in the front of the book show you? What do they add to what you've already guessed about the story?

KEY STUDY TOPICS

English

Question

1. How many characters are in this story? Do you think things other than people can be characters in



a story? How? Can you think of other stories that have non-human or non-living characters?

Activity

1. New Words:
Can you find three words in the book that are new to you? Try to work out what they mean from the context (the way they are used and what surrounds them).

2. Exploring a visual narrative

In the night-time scene, do you think there really are lots of birds in Jack's room, or only one? Do you think this is real or a dream? Why do you think Anna chose to illustrate so many birds in these pages. What do you think this means? What is the picture telling us about Jack?

There are three pictures of Jack and Dad in the kitchen in this book. Have a look at each picture. Can you spot the differences? What do those differences tell us about the story?

Nature

From the author

The role of nature in our lives is so important. I hope that in reading *Hello Jimmy!*, a child might discover new ways of exploring nature, by looking at birds, walking in the forest, visiting parks and finding new creatures in the world around us.

Questions

1. What bird species are found in your local area?
2. What bird species can be found around your school?
3. Have you ever heard a bird talk? Do you think the bird understands what it is saying in the same way that people do?
4. Do you go camping? What different animals and plants have you seen while camping?
5. What can you do to show kindness to the creatures in your local neighbourhood?
6. Do you think Jack will see Jimmy again one day?

Activities

1. Memory drawing: Draw a bird from your neighbourhood.
2. Imaginative world: Dioramas can make a wonderful setting for a dream. Provide each child with a shallow box so that they can recreate a dream using paper, collage and colour pencils.

Creative arts

Anna used watercolour, pencil and monoprinting to create the artwork in this book.

Questions

1. What do you notice about Jack's dream?
2. What do you notice about the texture of the dark in the night scene? This was created using a technique called 'monoprint'. You can make a monoprint too, by painting on a sheet of acetate and then pressing paper onto the paint to make an impression.

Activities

1. Paper parrot: Have the class make a flock of paper birds. See images in the attached activity pack for template and how to! Children could explore the different types of parrots. Then individually or in groups they could create any kind of parrot using coloured paper, scissors, string and colour textas. The individual birds could be hung together in a flock.
2. Paper plate parrot: Cut one paper plate in half. One half is used for the head and the other half for the body. Coloured streamers are used for the tail which can be fastened with sticky tape. Draw patterns and markings on your parrot either real or imagined! See images in attached activity pack for inspiration.
3. Cardboard parrot: Make a parrot using cardboard. See activity pack for inspiration!
4. Paper city: Make a village using cardboard and make some birds to fly over the village.

FUN FACTS

1. Anna began working on a parrot story in 2016. It was first called *The Grumpy Parrot*.
2. Anna's nephew 'does not like surprises'.
3. There were 74 paintings of Jimmy that didn't make it into the final book.
4. There were 17 paintings of Jack that didn't make it into the final book.
5. The technique of monoprinting was used in *Hello Jimmy!* Anna created 27 A2-size monoprints which were scanned and used to make textures in the shadows and night scenes.
6. Anna spent many days researching birds on the internet and monoprinted 578 parrots.
7. Jack's dream with the birds in his room at night was inspired by a dream Anna had in 2013.



8. Anna's brother is good at making tacos and used to have a lizard.
9. The bedroom, and loungeroom scenes were based on the interior of a friend's house in Brooklyn, New York.
10. Anna finds drawing dads very difficult!
11. Anna was inspired to use colour pencils to create the illustrations after visiting a wonderful exhibition at the Bologna Book Fair.
12. Near Anna's house there are often parrots in the trees.

READING *Hello Jimmy!*

Anna Walker is both an author and illustrator. Just as much (if not more) of the story told in *Hello Jimmy!* is conveyed through the illustrations. It is important to pause and ask students to examine the illustrations on each page carefully for further information and clues to the story.

Whilst asking students questions about the text, look for questions that can be answered with the illustration on the page.

Page 5

Why might Jack be visiting his dad's house?

Page 6 and 7

Jack's dad used to tell funny jokes but he hasn't for a while. Why do you think that might be?

Page 8 and 9

Why was Jack's dad's house quiet?

Jack knows what it's like to feel lonely too. How do you think Jack and his dad are feeling?

Page 10 and 11

Jack does not like surprises.

Do you like surprises?

Page 12 and 13

What does Jack think of Jimmy?

Why do you think Jimmy was on the door step after the storm?

Where do you think Jimmy came from?

Page 14 and 15

What does Dad think of Jimmy?

Page 16 and 17

Jack's dad thinks Jimmy is very clever.

Why does Jack seem unhappy?

Page 18 and 19

What kind of personality does Jimmy have?

Do you think Jimmy likes Jack?

Do you think Jack likes Jimmy?

Are they similar or different? Do you think they could be friends? Why/why not?

Page 20 and 21

Is Jack happy for his dad that he now has some company?

Page 22 and 23

What is happening here?

Have you ever had a dream that felt real?

Page 24 and 25

What is Jack doing?

Why?

Page 26 and 27

Where has Jimmy gone?

Page 28 and 29

Why does Jack have to find Jimmy?

Page 30 and 31

What do you think Jack is thinking?

Page 32 and 33

What is happening here?

Do you think Jack will be in trouble?

Page 34 and 35

Why do you think the illustrator has chosen for the sky to be raining?

Page 36 and 37

How does Dad feel?

How does Jack feel?

Page 38 and 39

What is different about Dad and Jack in the kitchen compared to the beginning?

Where might Dad and Jack be going?

Page 40

Do you think Jack will see Jimmy again one day? Do you think he would like to?



ORDER FORM

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	SCHOOL YEAR	RRP	QTY	TOTAL
Hello Jimmy!	Anna Walker	9781760893422	K-2	\$24.99		
Lottie and Walter	Anna Walker	9780143787181	Pre-1	\$24.99		
Florette	Anna Walker	9780670079414	Pre-1	\$24.99		
Mr Huff	Anna Walker	9780670078042	K-2	\$24.99		
Go Go & the Silver Shoes	Jane Godwin & Anna Walker	9780143785521	K-2	\$24.99		
What Do You Wish For? (paperback)	Jane Godwin & Anna Walker	9780143506249	K-2	\$14.99		
Starting School	Jane Godwin & Anna Walker	9780670076765	Pre-K	\$24.99		
All Through the Year	Jane Godwin & Anna Walker	9780670073993	Pre-K	\$24.99		
Today We Have No Plans (paperback)	Jane Godwin & Anna Walker	9780143507185	Pre-K	\$14.99		
TOTAL						

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NAME: _____ SCHOOL: _____ ADDRESS: _____ STATE: _____ POSTCODE: _____ TEL: _____ EMAIL: _____ ACCOUNT NO.: _____ PURCHASE ORDER NO.: _____ _____	PLEASE SEND ORDER FORMS TO YOUR LOCAL EDUCATION SUPPLIER.
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Hello Jimmy!



ACTIVITY PACK



Hello Jimmy!

PAPER PLATE PARROT

Fold two paper plates in half

Cut one paper plate 3/4 way along fold

Place cut folder plate to form head

Trim top of head with scissors to make head smaller

Staple plates together once to form body

Cut streamers/tissue paper to form tail

Staple tail feathers together at one end

Paint body/head/beak

Paint eye

Sticky tape tape tail feathers inside body

Using glue stick overlap small wing feathers



Hello Jimmy!

PAPER PARROT

Cut out parrot

You will need a separate A3 sheet of thick paper

Fold A3 sheet in half

Place parrot on folded paper with dotted line along fold

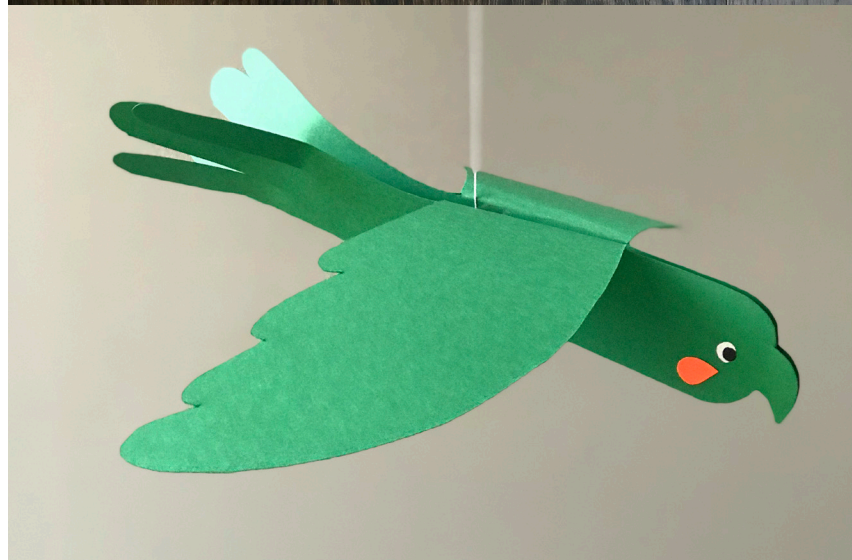
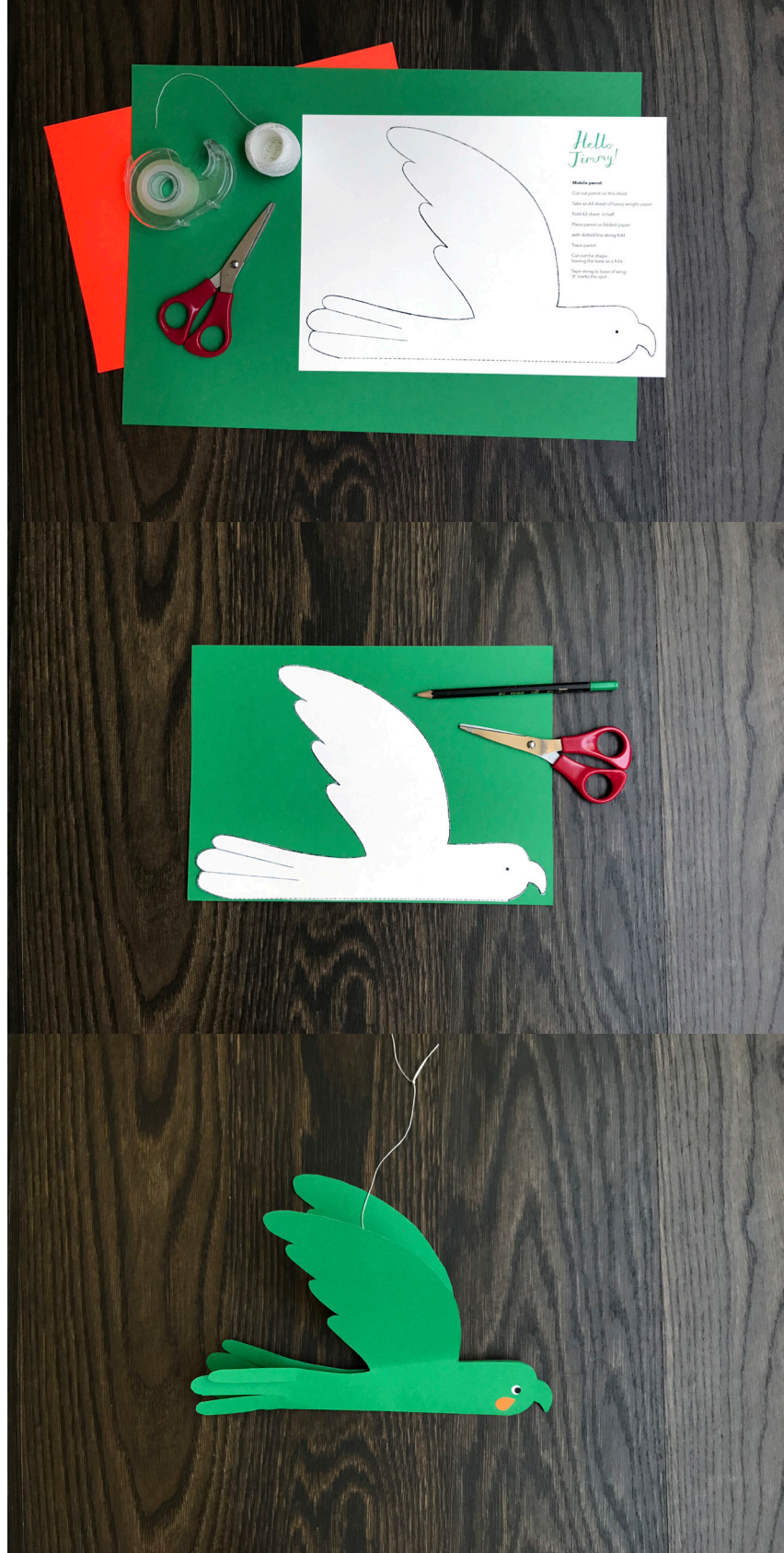
Trace parrot

Cut out the shape keeping the base of parrot a fold

Fold wings down on each side

Tape string to base of wing on inside of folded bird

'X' marks the spot for string



Hello Jimmy!

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Trace parrot

Cut out the shape keeping the base of parrot a fold

Fold wings down on each side

Tape string to base of wing on inside of folded bird

'X' marks the spot for string



Hello Jimmy!

CARDBOARD PARROT

Cut out parrot and wing

Trace on to cardboard

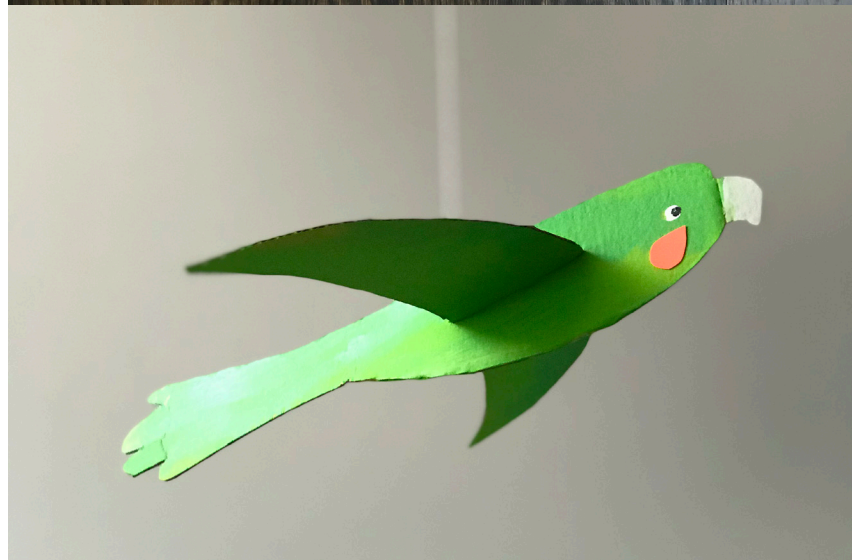
Cut pieces out of cardboard

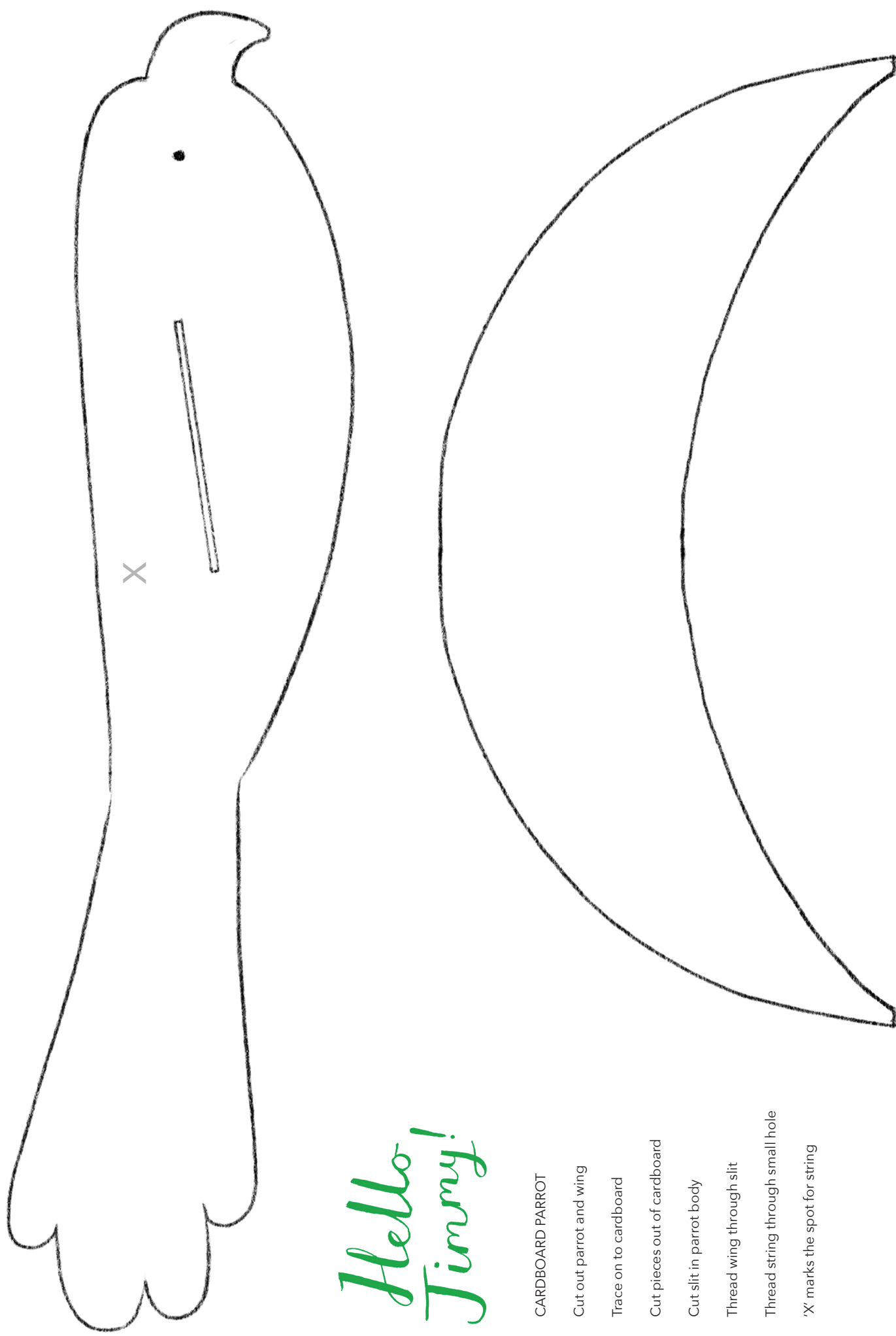
Cut slit in parrot body

Thread wing through slit

Thread string through small hole

'X' marks the spot for string





*Hello
Jimmy!*

CARDBOARD PARROT

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Trace on to cardboard

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