

### **EMEMBER** $\mathfrak{V}_{\mathsf{HEN...}}$

YOU WATCHED THE GROWNUPS FROM A SECRET HIDING SPOT?

You climbed higher THAN EVER BEFORE IN A FAVORITE CLIMBING TREE?

> 60 You Dreamed OF FLYING?

You turned clouds INTO DRAGONS?

> 9 PLAYING MEANT BEING OUTSIDE?

BRING BACK THE

reimagining of Disney's cherished family film, "Pete's Dragon" is the adventure of an orphaned boy named Pete and his best friend Elliot, who just so happens to be a dragon. "Pete's Dragon" stars Bryce Dallas Howard (Jurassic World), Oakes Fegley (This is Where I Leave You), Wes Bentley (The Hunger Games), Karl Urban (Star Trek), Oona Laurence (Southpaw) and Oscar® winner Robert Redford (Captain America: The Winter Soldier). The film is directed by David Lowery ("Ain't Them Bodies Saints"), screenplay by Lowery & Toby Halbrooks based on a screenplay by Malcolm Marmorstein and produced by Jim Whitaker, p.g.a. (The Finest Hours; Friday Night Lights), with Barrie M. Osborne (The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring; The Great Gatsby) serving as executive producer.

For years, old wood carver Mr. Meacham (Robert Redford) has delighted local children with his tales of the fierce dragon that resides deep in the woods of the Pacific Northwest. To his daughter, Grace (Bryce Dallas Howard), who works as a ranger, these stories are little more than tall tales...until she meets Pete (Oakes Fegley). Pete is a mysterious 10-year-old with no family and no home who claims to live in the woods with a giant, green dragon named Elliot. And from Pete's descriptions, Elliot seems remarkably similar to the dragon from Mr. Meacham's stories. With the help of Natalie (Oona Laurence), an 11-year-old girl whose father Jack (Wes Bentley) owns the local lumber mill, Grace sets out to determine where Pete came from, where he belongs, and the truth about this dragon. Disney's "Pete's Dragon" opens in U.S. theaters on August 12, 2016. PG.



- Increase families' understanding of the value of imaginative play
- Extend the viewing experience of "Pete's Dragon" and inspire imaginative play outdoors
- Connect kids with the magic of nature to inspire hope for the planet and a desire to protect the environment

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Dr. Lizabeth Fogel

Director of Education, The Walt Disney Studios

### THE IMPORTANCE OF IMAGINATIVE PLAY

"Pete's Dragon" inspires the imagination through the story of a young boy named Pete and his dragon friend Elliot who joins him on adventures in their forest home. Children are naturally drawn to tales of fantasy and adventure and will instinctively put themselves in Pete's shoes to reenact scenes from the film or invent new quests with an imaginary dragon, especially if they are provided with the time and space to let their imaginations explore those possibilities.



Imaginative play, also called dramatic play or pretend play, is a critical part of early childhood development. Playing affects the developing brain in important ways that lay the groundwork for future social and emotional growth, cognitive functioning and physical and mental well-being.

### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Pairing imaginative play with outdoor play is a natural connection. Research shows that children who are exposed to nature are healthier and happier, and it is widely believed

that these outdoor experiences lead to kids caring about the planet over their lifetimes.

### SOCIAL SKILLS

Children often use imaginative play as a form of self-expression. The imaginary friends and make-believe scenarios they invent are important

steps in brain development. Exercising their creative neural pathways leads to higher self-motivation, greater flexibility in thinking and increased collaboration with peers.



### ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Childhood learning research has shown that play and learning are not mutually exclusive; in fact, imaginative play is an early form of learning for young

children. Applying creative thinking skills during play helps children become better problem-solvers, decision-makers and communicators.



Imaginative play – especially outdoors – promotes bodily activity, leading to improved physical health. There are direct correlations between outdoor play and lower risk of obesity, increased ability to fight off illness and greater overall fitness. Many studies have shown

that time spent in nature reduces stress, speeds healing and extends life expectancy. If you feel better after walking in a tree-lined park, empirical evidence explains why. Research suggests that greener surroundings enhance people's immune functioning. This finding is incredible both in its simplicity and potential impact for healthier communities.



### FIGURAGING PLAY

What is the role of the parent/caregiver during imaginative play? Whatever role you are assigned! Let go of the need for games that declare a winner or specific instructions on how to use a particular toy. Play-pretend that you are part of whatever scene your child conjures up and the imaginative play will come naturally.



While playing make-believe might not appear to be a productive use of time, the interactions between a child and a parent or caregiver during imaginative play serve a significant role in fostering learning. Language, attention, memory and other executive functions are all enhanced through the shared experiences of parents/caregivers and children.

Parents and caregivers can encourage imaginative play by allowing time and space for it to occur. A few props or prompts are all it takes to get young children engaged in pretend play.



### AT AGE 7, YOUR GRANDSON IS CONSTANTLY CREATING A MESS - AND DIRTY LAUNDRY!

Let messy be ok when he is outside. Resist the urge to pull out the hand sanitizer when he gets dirt under his nails and you may be treated to the transformative power of nature. Soil and water are excellent starters for imaginative play. "Should we prepare a magic stew to feed the hungry dragons? Maybe then they will give us a ride on their backs!"



### YOUR 9-YEAR OLD DAUGHTER HAS SCRAMBLED UP SOME ROCKS IN A CITY PARK...

Fight the fear of injury and the instinct to demand that she come down immediately. Instead, give her a mission that engages her imagination. "Your Royal Highness, Queen of the Rocks, please grant me my wish!" Once you have captured her attention with this playful scenario, you can direct her to use caution as she climbs.



## INSPIRING THE IMAGINATION OUTDOORS

The great outdoors is one big jungle gym, bounce house, waterslide, trampoline, swing set and play fort combined! Sending kids outside to play is one of the best and easiest ways to inspire their

imaginations because it provides constant stimulation. Outside there are endless opportunities for inventing, seeking, problem-solving, experimenting and exploring. The natural materials found outside provide places to climb, hide, construct, deconstruct and romp — always in a unique way because of the elements. Being outside fuels physical activity, which in turn inspires imaginative play.



...which gives him the courage he needed to overcome adversity. With Elliot, his loyal dragon friend by his side, Pete has the confidence to climb trees, run through the forest and jump long distances as they explore their forest home. Elliot's incredible ability to turn invisible, as well as his impressive size and roar, provides a level of comfort and safety to Pete as they turn each day into an adventure.





### THE REAL MAGIC OF A FORESTS & PARKS IS THAT TREES MAKE EVERYONE - NOT JUST KIDS - FEEL BETTER!

Forests and parks have always played a healing role in nature. They provide us with fresh air, filter toxins out of water sources and prevent erosion. They are also home to millions of plants and animals of all sizes and shapes. Nature provides value for everyone, not just kids experiencing imaginative play.



### INSPIRATIONAL PLAGES FOR IMAGINATIVE PLAY

Playing outside does not have to mean playing in a vast forest like the one where Pete lived. While wooded areas are wonderful playscapes, all of the benefits of outdoor play can just as easily take place at a small park, in a schoolyard, in your backyard, at the beach or near a creek.

A single climbable tree provides hours of imagination-driven play. Even a dirt crawlspace under the front porch steps can become a marvelous imaginative play environment and a place to collect special natural treasures that become part of the play narrative. Small outdoor spaces are especially appealing to young children because they feel exclusive and hidden from adults, yet close enough to feel safe.

### PARK

### FIND YOUR PARK / ENCUENTRA TU PARQUE

If wide expanses are what you seek, our national parks are an excellent resource, and this year marks the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service, celebrating 100 stewardship for America's national parks and munities across the nation. In celebration of this

years of stewardship for America's national parks and for communities across the nation. In celebration of this milestone anniversary, the National Park Foundation, the national non-profit partner to the National Park Service, launched Find Your Park/Encuentra Tu Parque, a public awareness and education movement to inspire people from all backgrounds to connect with, celebrate and support America's national parks and communitybased programs. Find Your Park/Encuentra Tu Parque offers an online tool designed to locate a place, an event or an experience that will connect you to the outdoors and spark imaginative play for the children in your life. Whether a national park is your primary destination or simply a rejuvenating stopover during a road trip to somewhere else, findyourpark.com can help introduce a little health and happiness into your family's day.

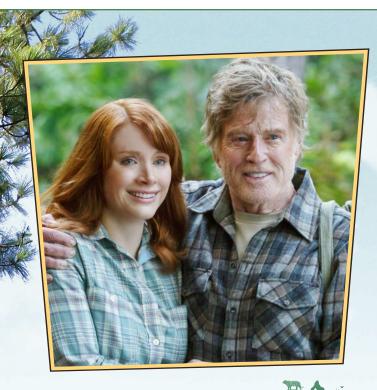


DISNEY.COM/PETES DRAGON



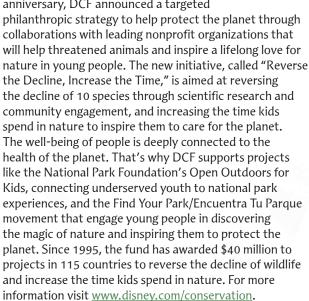
The National Park Service is also part of the Every Kid in a Park initiative which allows fourth graders nationwide to go to <a href="https://www.everykidinapark.gov">www.everykidinapark.gov</a> and obtain a pass for free entry for them and their families to more than 2,000 federally managed lands and waters nationwide for an entire year. Every Kid in a Park encourages America's youth to explore and appreciate our nation's astounding beauty, its rich history and its diverse culture. The National Park Service and the National Park Foundation invite all families to play in our more than 400 national parks across the country.





### DISNEY CONSERVATION FUND

Established on Earth Day in 1995, the Disney Conservation Fund (DCF) helps to protect the planet and connect kids with nature. In honor of its 20th anniversary, DCF announced a targeted





DISNEY.COM/PETES DRAGON

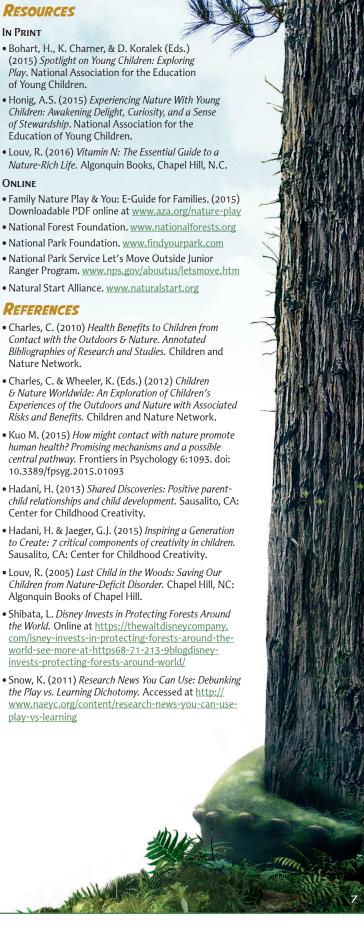
### RESOURCES

- Bohart, H., K. Charner, & D. Koralek (Eds.) of Young Children.
- Children: Awakening Delight, Curiosity, and a Sense of Stewardship. National Association for the

- Family Nature Play & You: E-Guide for Families. (2015)

- National Park Service Let's Move Outside Junior

- Contact with the Outdoors & Nature. Annotated Nature Network.
- Charles, C. & Wheeler, K. (Eds.) (2012) Children & Nature Worldwide: An Exploration of Children's
- human health? Promising mechanisms and a possible
- child relationships and child development. Sausalito, CA:
- Sausalito, CA: Center for Childhood Creativity.
- Louv, R. (2005) Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our
- Shibata, L. Disney Invests in Protecting Forests Around the World. Online at <a href="https://thewaltdisneycompany.">https://thewaltdisneycompany.</a> com/isney-invests-in-protecting-forests-around-theworld-see-more-at-https68-71-213-9blogdisney-
- the Play vs. Learning Dichotomy. Accessed at http:// www.naeyc.org/content/research-news-you-can-useplay-vs-learning





### GO ON A MIGRO QUEST

### GOOD CHOICE FOR PLAY:

- ✓ AT A NATIONAL PARK
- ✓ IN YOUR BACKYARD
- **✓** AT THE SHORE
- **✓** IN A CITY PARK

ITSY BITSY
INVERTEBRATES...
LARGER THAN LIFE
POWER!

### ARMOR SHIELDS

IRONCLAD BEETLE
The ironclad beetle has an exoskeleton so strong it can survive being stepped on by a bison.

STRONGER WANT STIELL

DARWIN'S BARK SPIDER
The Darwin's bark spider produces the world's strongest natural material. Its silk is 25 times stronger than steel (twice as strong as any other spider silk) and its web can be over 80 feet wide.

### GHAMICAL WAAPOM

BOMBARDIER BEETLE
When threatened, the bombardier
beetle sprays a mixture of boiling hot
chemicals at attacking insects.

330 PEGRET

### **House Fly**

House flies have compound eyes which allow them to see in all directions at once. This is why they always see you coming.

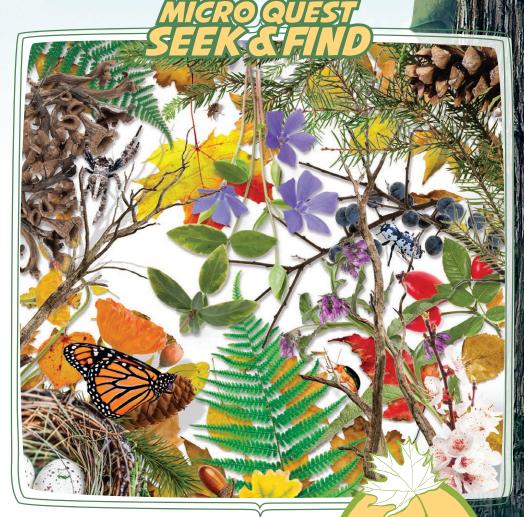
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### MONARCH BUTTERFLY

Monarch butterflies migrate up to 3000 miles, traveling south for the winter and north for the summer. Monarchs are the only butterfly known to make this two-way migration. Let your eyes focus on the little things and pick out the fine details in the great outdoors. With a camera, zoom in and snap pictures of the tiny treasures you find. Later, print the pictures and make a collage to design your own seek-and-find puzzle.

Search under rocks, leaves and logs to find an invertebrate like a beetle or a spider. Imagine that you just discovered that this creature has an extraordinary ability, never before known to science. What mega power does your mini friend have?

Can you find the 5 mini invertebrates with MEGA POWERS in the image below?



Avoid picking items from living plants and instead look for already fallen leaves, twigs, etc.



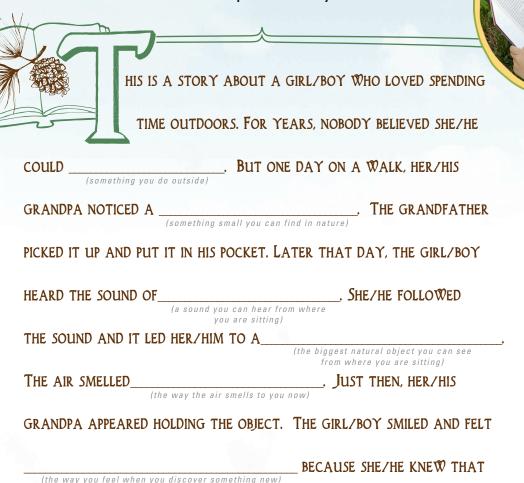
### BERATE YOUR LIBRARY

### GOOD CHOICE FOR PLAY:

- **✓** AT A NATIONAL PARK
- **✓ IN YOUR BACKYARD**
- ✓ AT THE SHORE
- **✓** IN A CITY PARK

Load up a basket or bag with some books and a blanket and find a comfy spot to read, read. Who are the characters in the story you read? Is the setting inside or outside or some of both? If you could be any character in this story, who would you be and why? Can you imagine a different ending to the story you read?

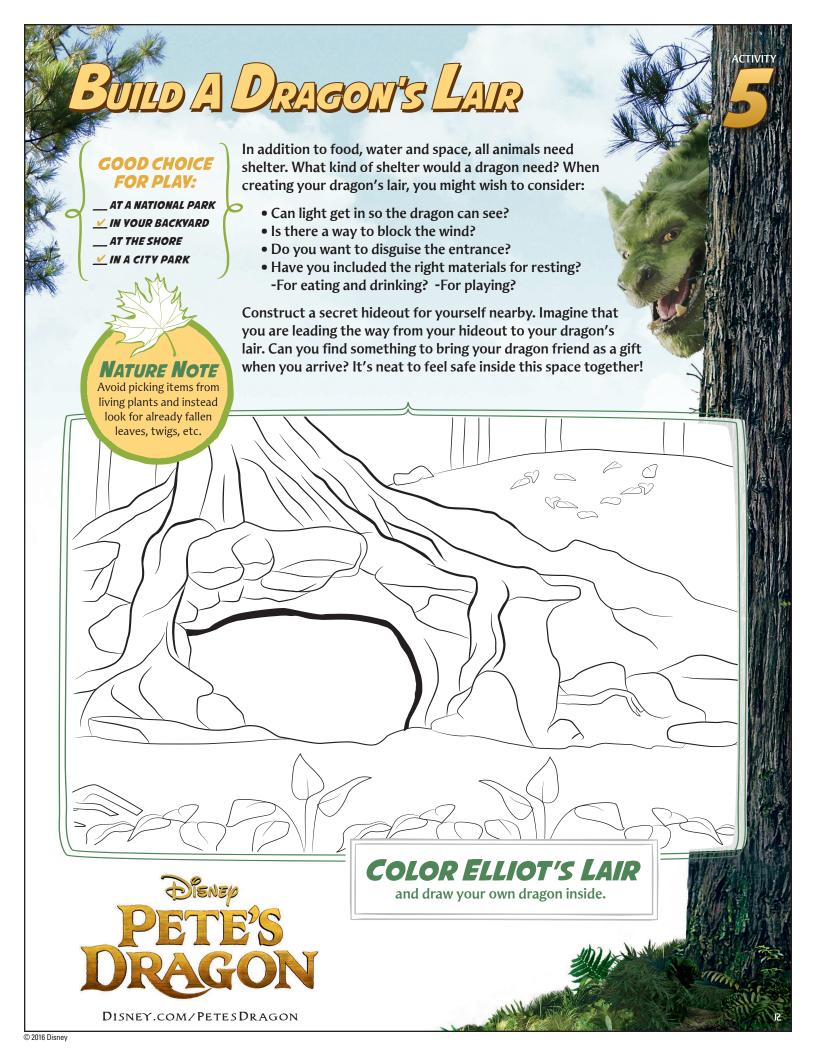
Sit in a quiet place outdoors and fill in the blanks to complete this story:



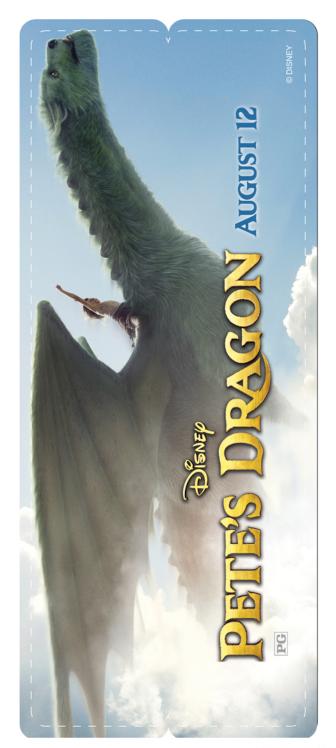


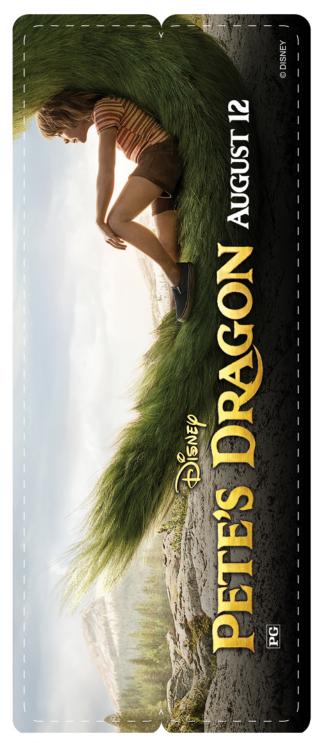
HER/HIS GRANDPA BELIEVED IN HER/HIM.





### **BOOKMARKS**





### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Print this page out on a heavy weight paper. Using scissors, have an adult cut along the dashed lines. Before gluing, fold the bookmarks in half along the center line. Then glue the back side together. For the best results pre-fold the paper before gluing.

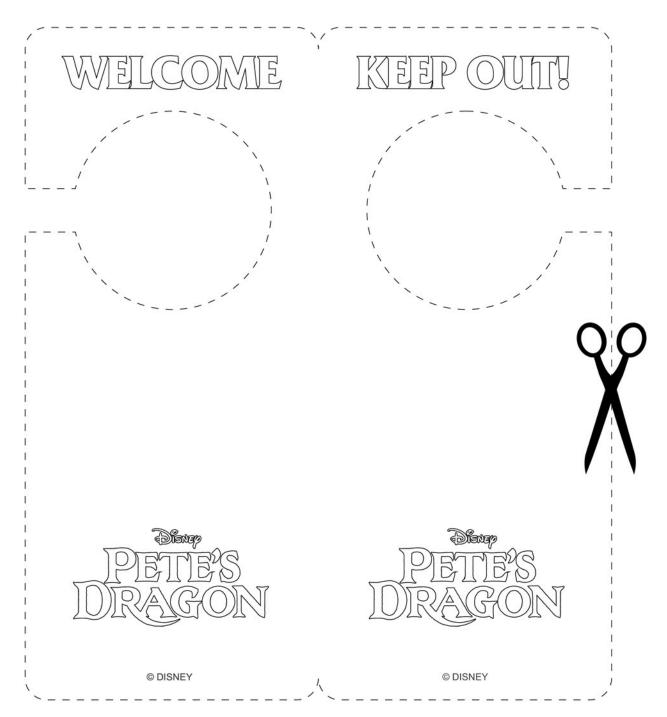


### **DOOR HANGAR**





### **DOOR HANGAR INSTRUCTIONS**

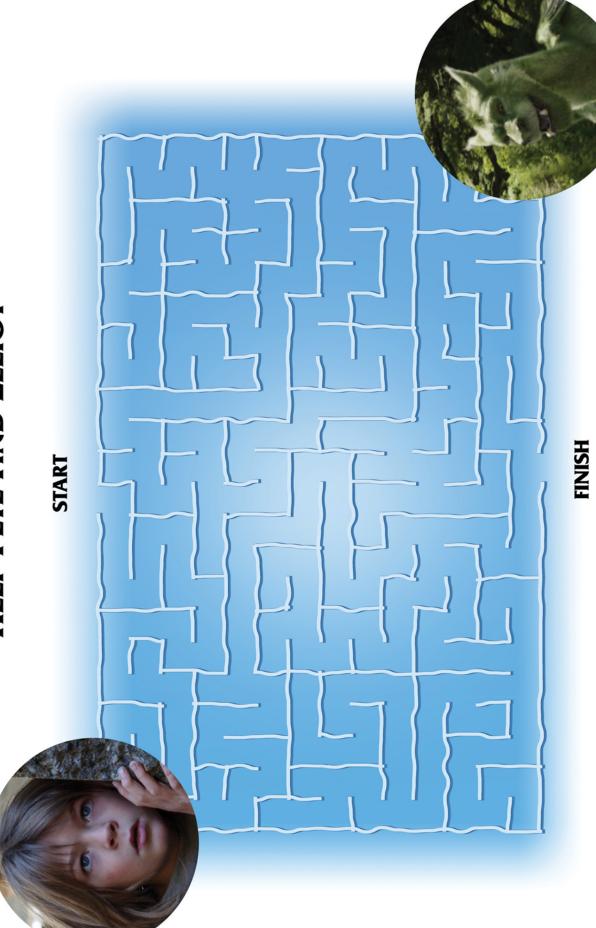


### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Print page out on heavyweight paper. Have an adult use scissors to cut along the dashed lines. Before gluing, pre-fold the door hanger in half along the center line, then glue the back sides together.

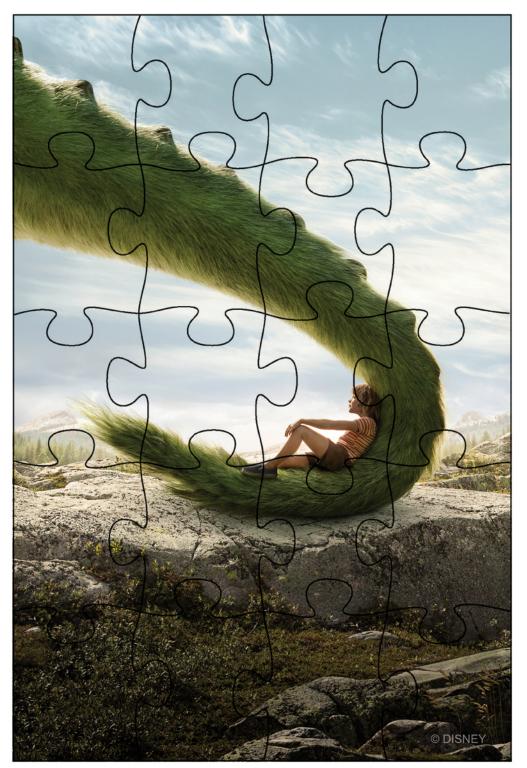


HELP PETE FIND ELLIOT



PETE'S DRAGON
AUGUST 12

### **PUZZLE**



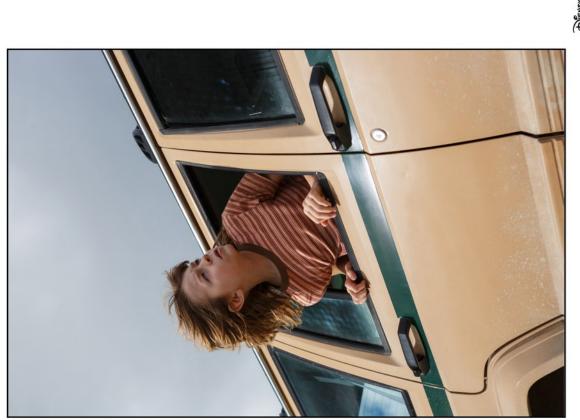
## INSTRUCTIONS

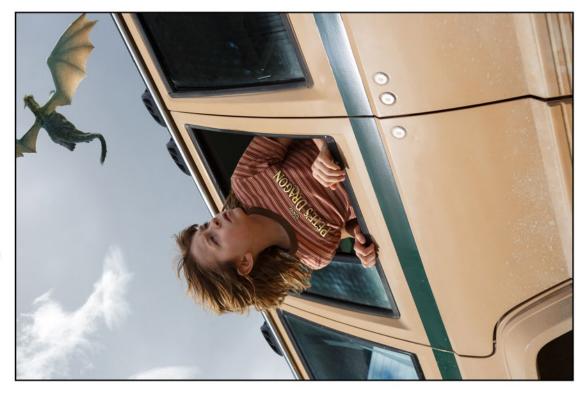
Print out this page and, using scissors, have an adult cut out each piece. When you are done, place the picture pieces face down, mix up all the pieces, and start putting the puzzle together.



## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Carefully compare the two images and see if you can find the 5 things that are different.







## COLORING & ACTIVITY PACK

# **SPOT THE DIFFERENCE (KEY)**

### **ANSWERS**

#1: Clouds and dragon.

**#2:** The roof has three bumps.

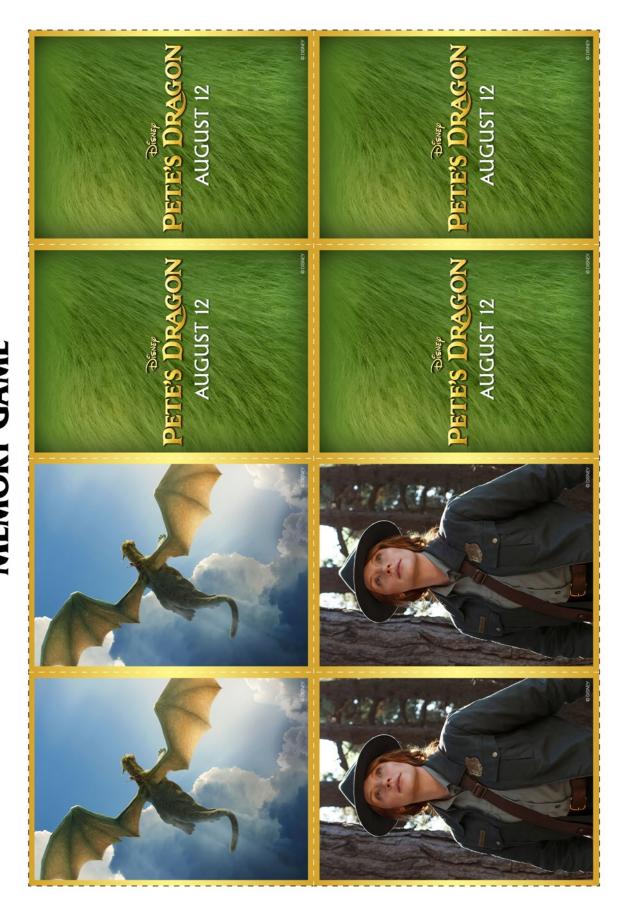
#3: Pete's T-shirt has a logo on it.

#4: Door handles are missing.

#5: There are three door locks.



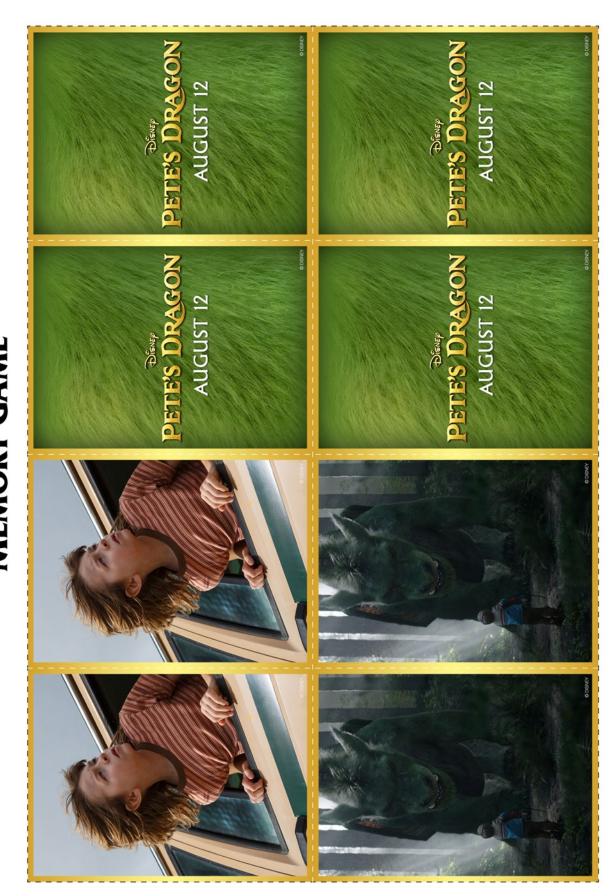








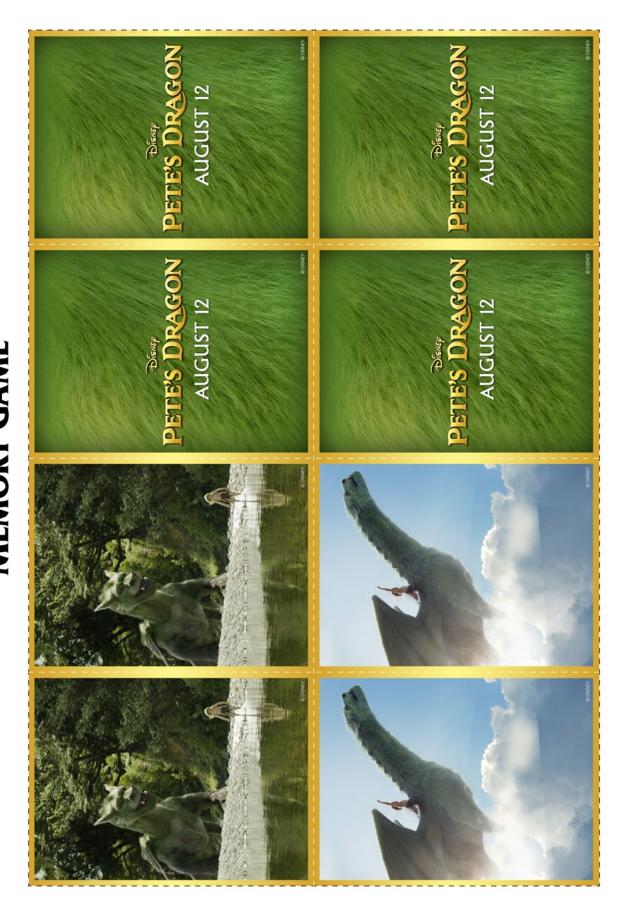




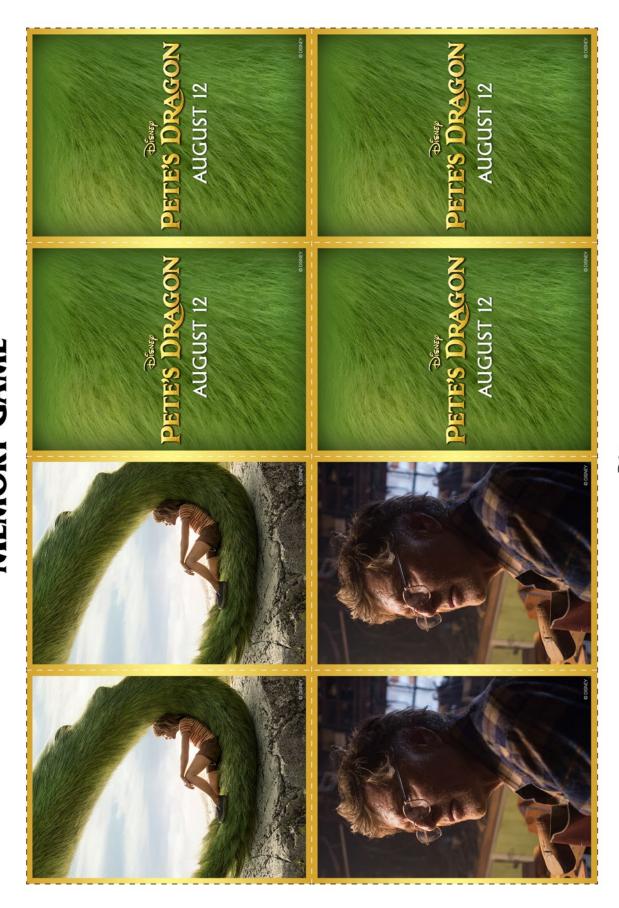






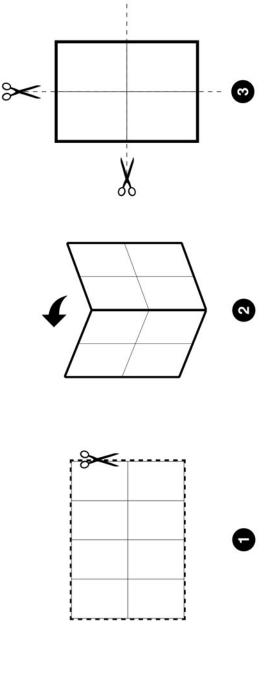








# **MEMORY GAME INSTRUCTIONS**









### INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1: Print out all the memory card pages, and, using scissors, have an adult cut the outside edges out. STEP 2: Fold the cut page in half and, using your finger make a seam down the middle. Open the page back up and add glue to both of the blank sides of the paper. STEP 3: Once dry, and, using scissors, have an adult cut down the center line of the cards, first vertically, then horizontally. Repeat until all cards are ready.

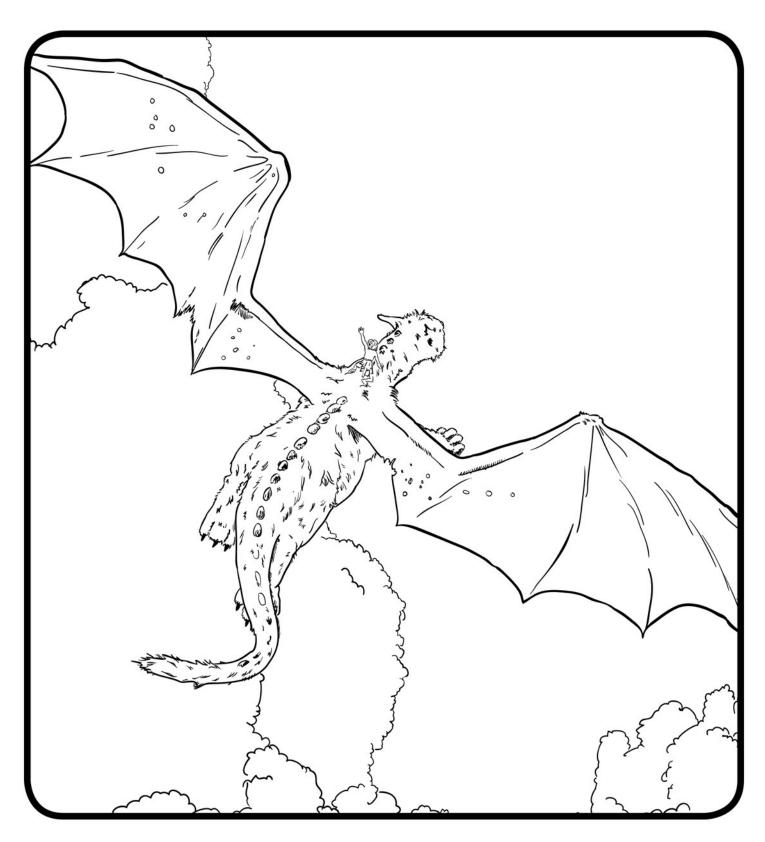
STEP 4: To play, arrange all the cards with the picture sides facing down.

STEP 5: With a friend, take turns turning over 2 cards. If they match, you may try again, otherwise it is the other player's turn.













PETE'S DRAGON
AUGUST 12





## COLORING & ACTIVITY PACK



