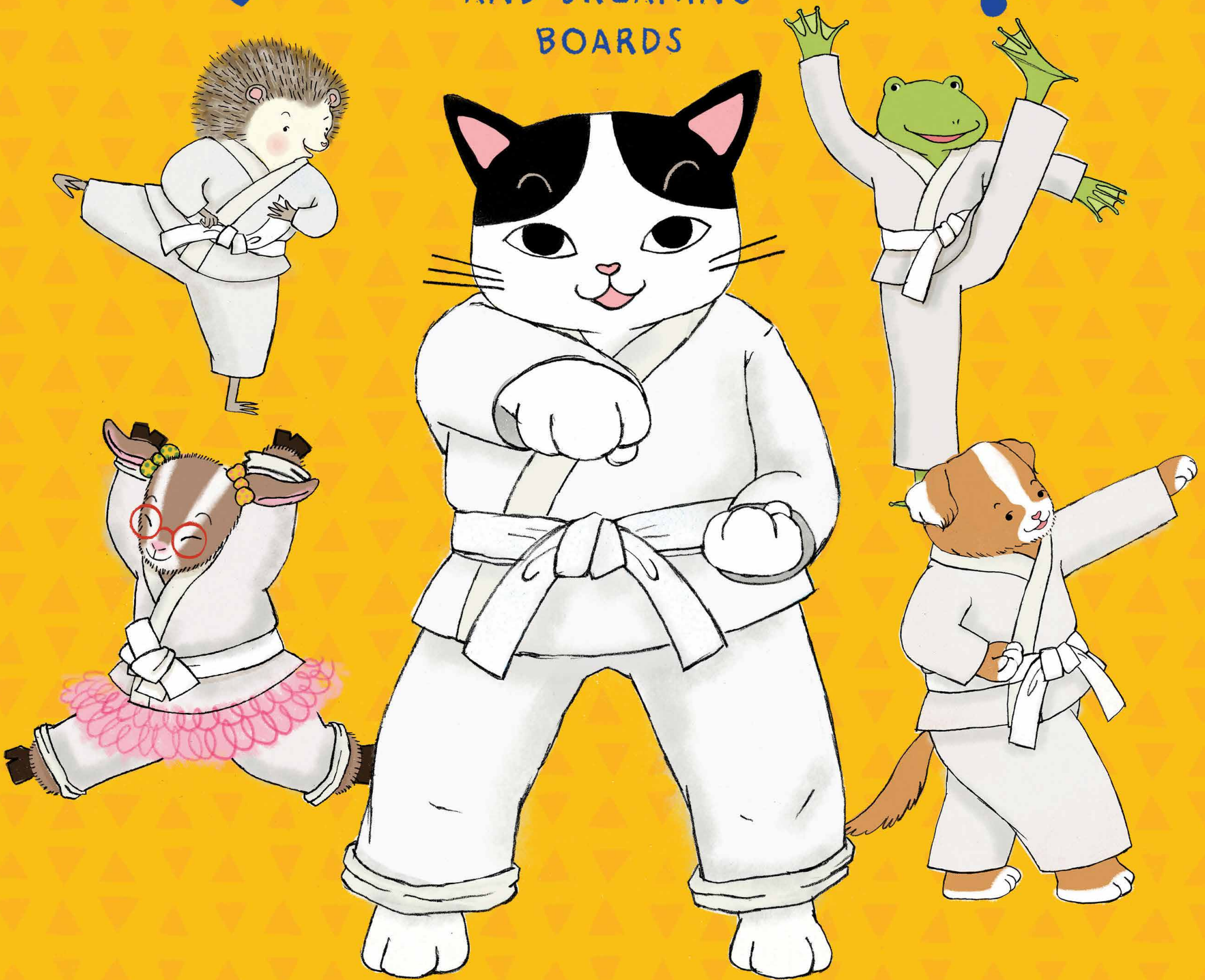


LET'S GO TO TAEKWONDO!

A STORY ABOUT
PERSISTENCE, BRAVERY,
AND BREAKING
BOARDS



ARAM KIM

HOLIDAY HOUSE



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Dear Readers,

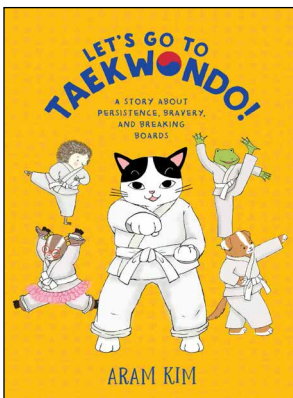
Thank you so much for being excited about Yoomi and her journey to get a yellow belt in taekwondo! I want to tell you a little bit about Yoomi, who I had a lot in common with when I was a child. The first book I did featuring Yoomi, ***No Kimchi for Me!***, was based on my childhood memory of not liking kimchi, a very common Korean dish, and feeling like a baby because of that. Like Yoomi, I am the youngest sibling and spent much time with my grandma as a child. ***Let's Go to Taekwondo!*** is about Yoomi and her grandma stepping out of their comfort zones while learning and growing separately and together.



Taekwondo is a form of martial art that originated in Korea and is a very common after-school activity in South Korea where I grew up. There are many dojangs in every neighborhood especially for kids. Though I never learned taekwondo as a child, it always felt familiar. However, once I decided to do a story about Yoomi learning taekwondo, I realized that I didn't actually know much about it. I have to admit that I tried to get away from learning it. I did not want to put on a dobok and learn a now-all-of-a-sudden-very-unfamiliar martial art from the very beginning! I did not want to feel the jitters on the first day. I did not want to feel the uneasiness of stepping out of my comfort zone. After all, I am a grown-up now—I can do whatever I want! Then I remembered how kids experience “new” things all the time. They learn something new every day—go to new day-care centers and schools, meet new people, and are always being told new rules. Whether they like it or not, children learn to adapt and accept newness on an everyday basis. I needed to remember those jitters and discomfort, and maybe excitement! And guess what? When I enrolled in a dojang, it turned out to be a lot of fun!!! But because I'm not as persistent as Yoomi, I never got my yellow belt. I still have the white belt I started with!

I hope you enjoy this story of Yoomi and her grandma—each learning and growing. And who knows? Next time you see me, ask what color belt I have. I might have my yellow belt by then.

Sincerely,
Aram Kim



Let's Go To Taekwondo!
by ARAM KIM

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GREEN

LET'S GO TO TAEKWONDO!

Activity Kit

YELLOW

ORANGE



by ARAM KIM

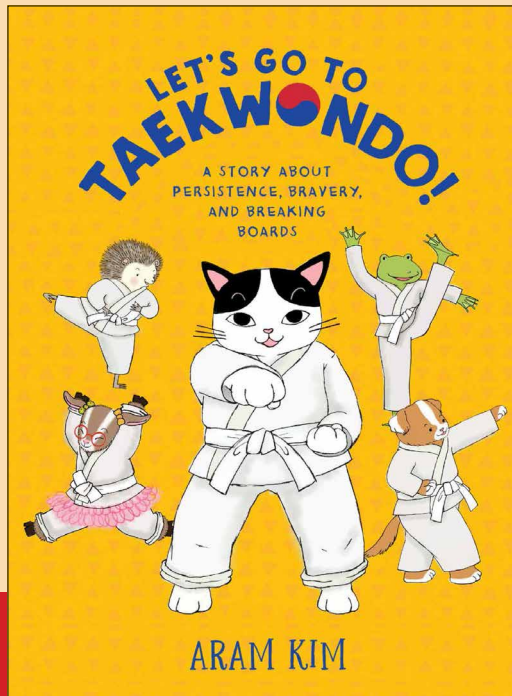


WHITE

PURPLE



BLUE



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A STORY ABOUT PERSISTENCE, BRAVERY, AND BREAKING BOARDS!

Taekwondo helps Yoomi to focus and overcome even the toughest challenges!



Challenge yourself to find the different colors of the taekwondo belts in this word search.
Keep in mind that the words can go in any direction!

WHITE

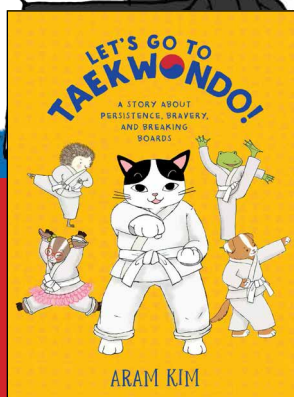
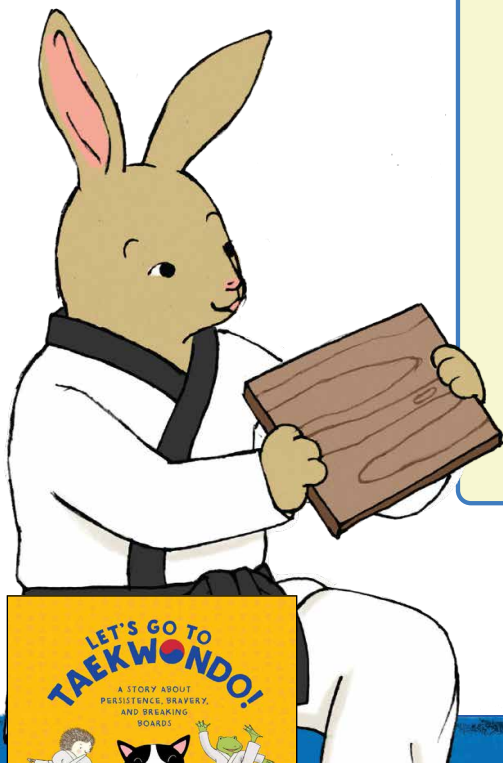
YELLOW

BLUE

RED

BLACK

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | E | D | A | J | P | G | K |
| T | K | X | E | H | U | C | C |
| S | R | V | X | T | W | Q | A |
| T | P | J | H | H | I | T | L |
| W | O | L | L | E | Y | H | B |
| A | N | P | U | H | C | H | W |
| L | R | L | T | J | H | W | E |
| E | B | Y | A | L | P | J | Z |



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YOOMI AND HER CLASSMATES COUNT IN KOREAN.



Can you count to four in Korean?

Draw a line to match the English number to the Korean number.

ONE

NET

TWO

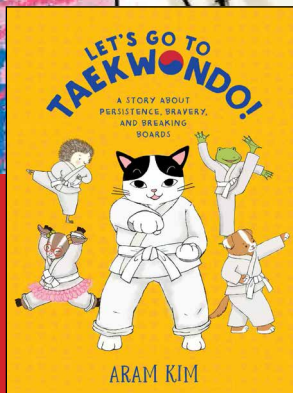
SET

THREE

DUL

FOUR

HANA



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YOOMI DISCOVERS HOW, WITH PERSISTENCE, FOCUS, DEEP BREATHING, AND A LOVING GRANDMA, SHE CAN OVERCOME HER FEARS.



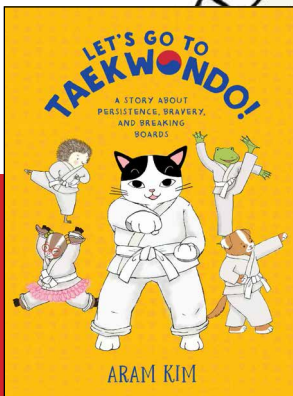
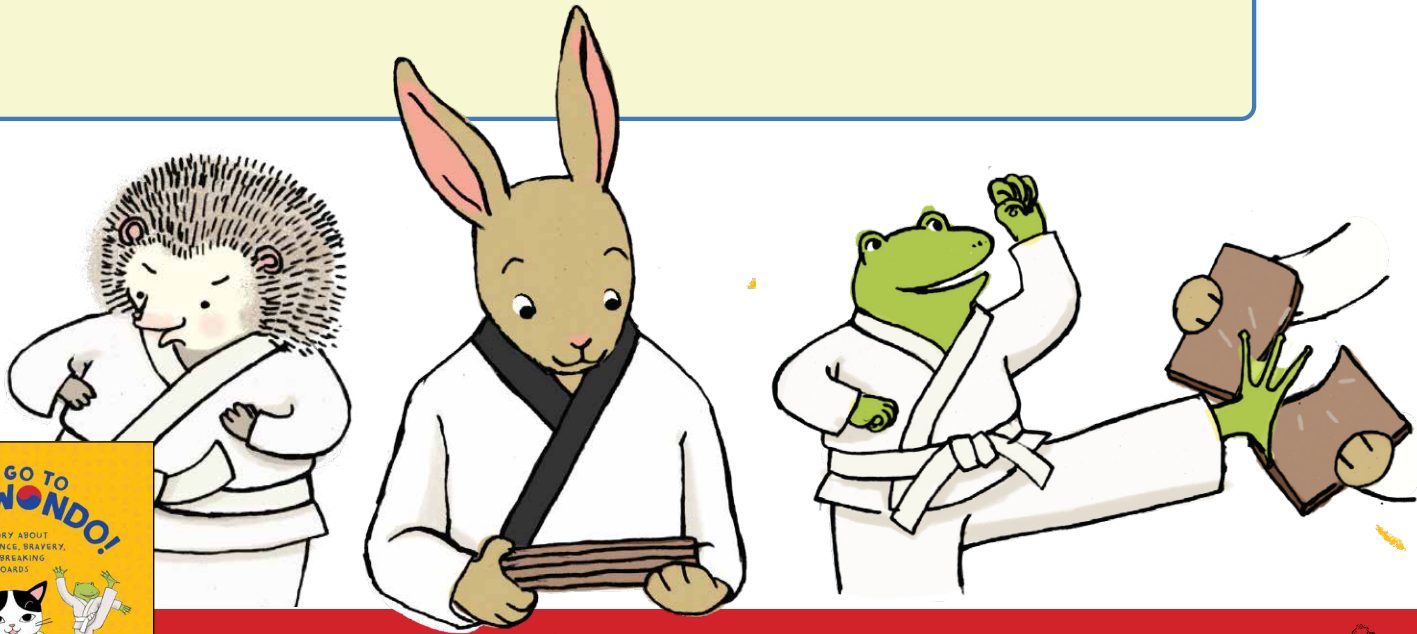
Can you name four times you wanted to quit something, but kept trying and felt proud of yourself?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____



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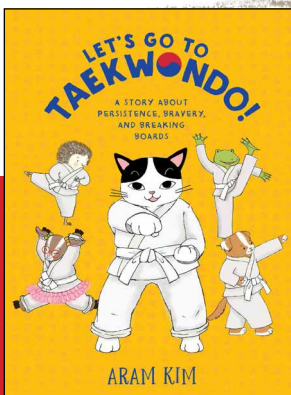
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YOOMI AND HER CLASSMATES BOW TO EACH OTHER, MEDITATE, AND JUMP BEFORE THEY PRACTICE THEIR FORMS.



Can you:

- Bow to your neighbor
- Sit quietly for ten seconds
- Jump up and down five times



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