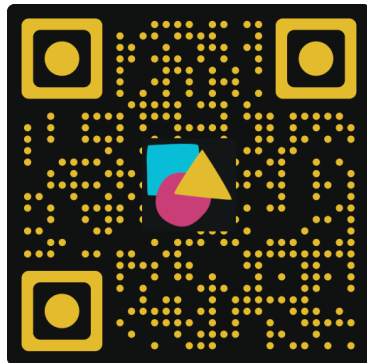




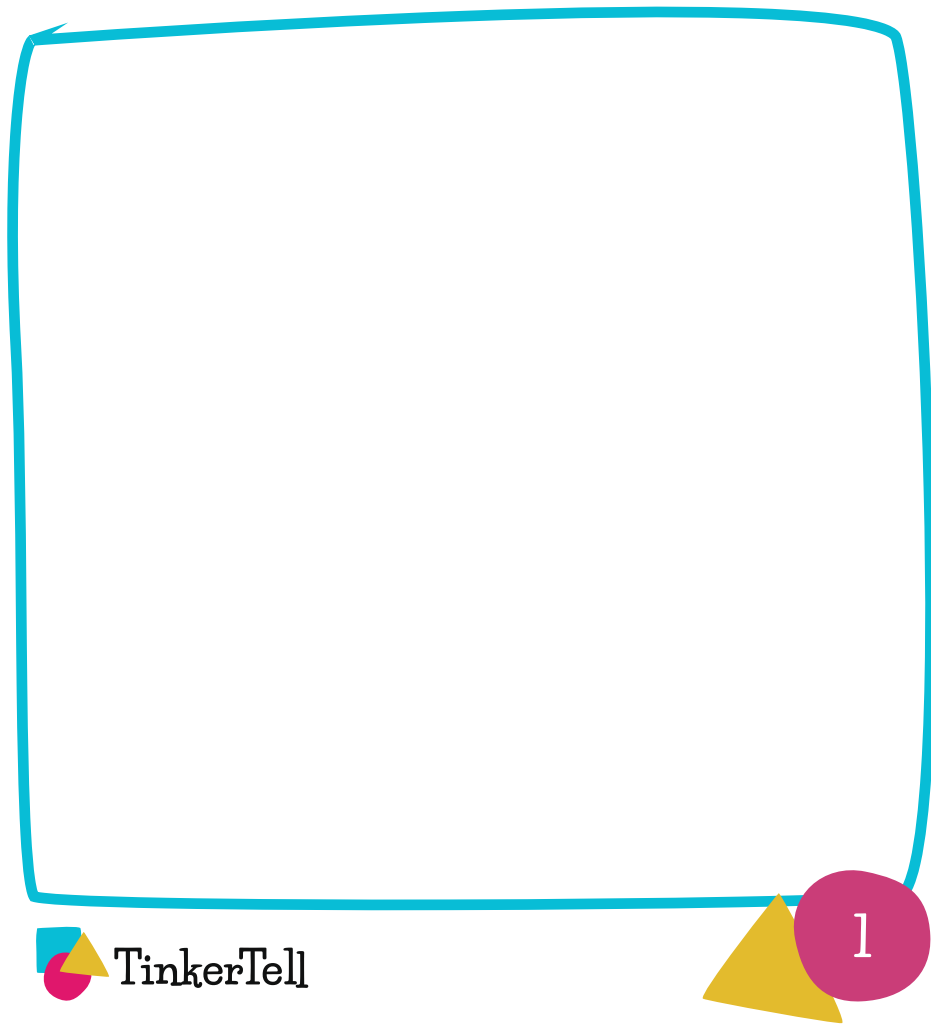
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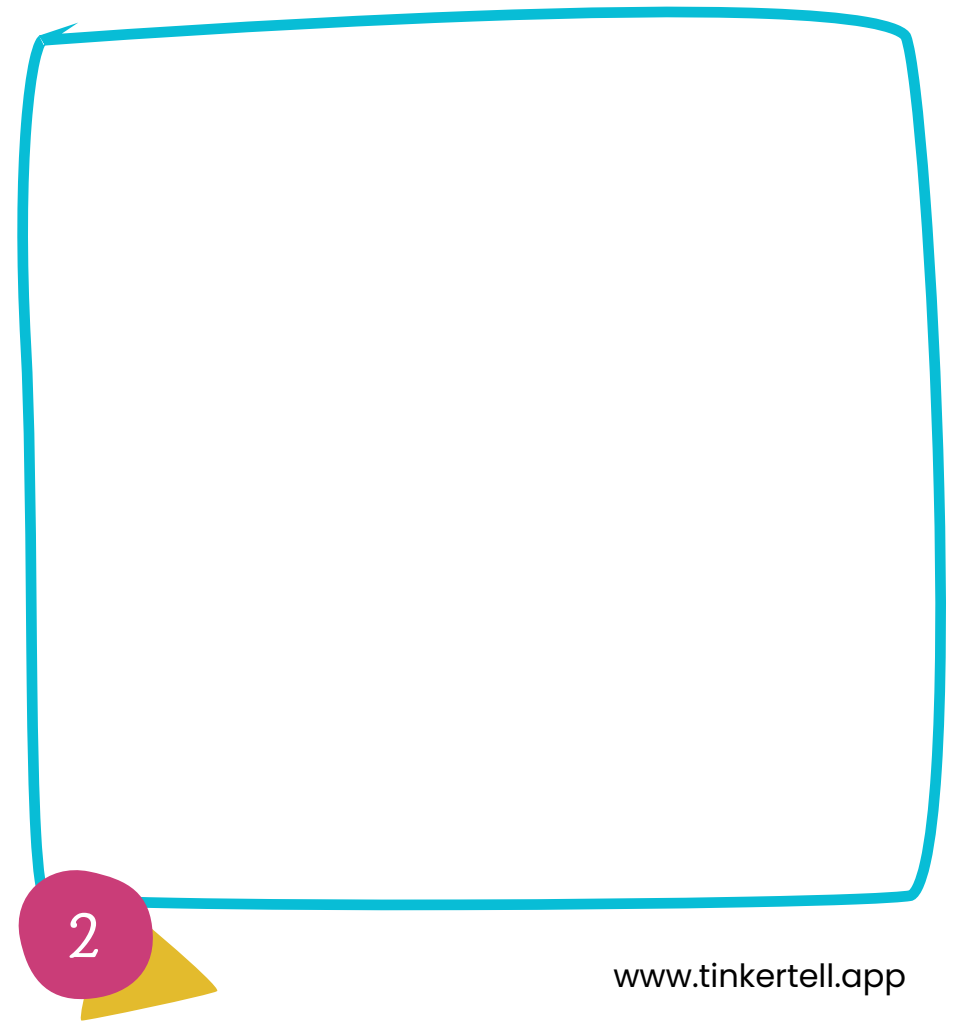
# Maie's Magical Carnival: A Tale of Seasons and Celebrations



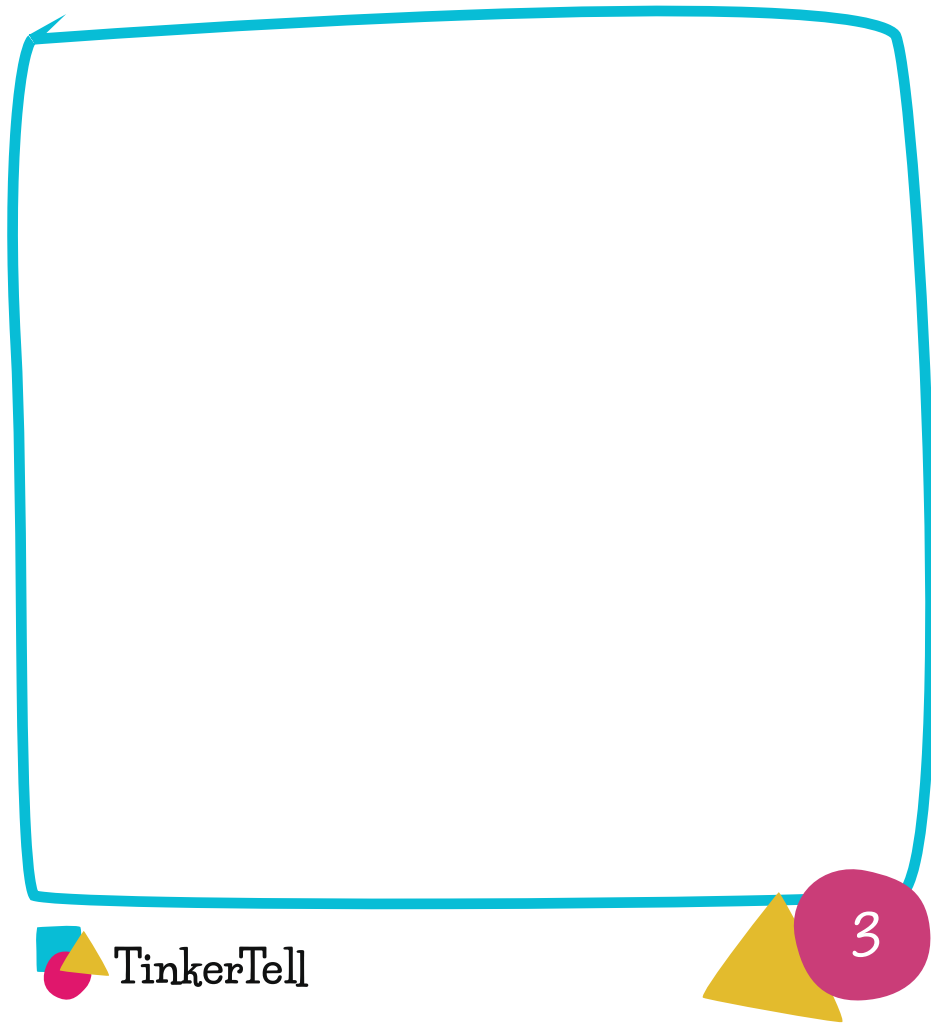
Once upon a time in the picturesque city of Lugano, nestled in the heart of Ticino, lived a little girl named Maie. The vibrant colors of her canton filled her world, especially during carnival time. The air would buzz with excitement as musical bands and joyful parades marched through the streets, all in an effort to drive away winter and welcome the warmth of spring.



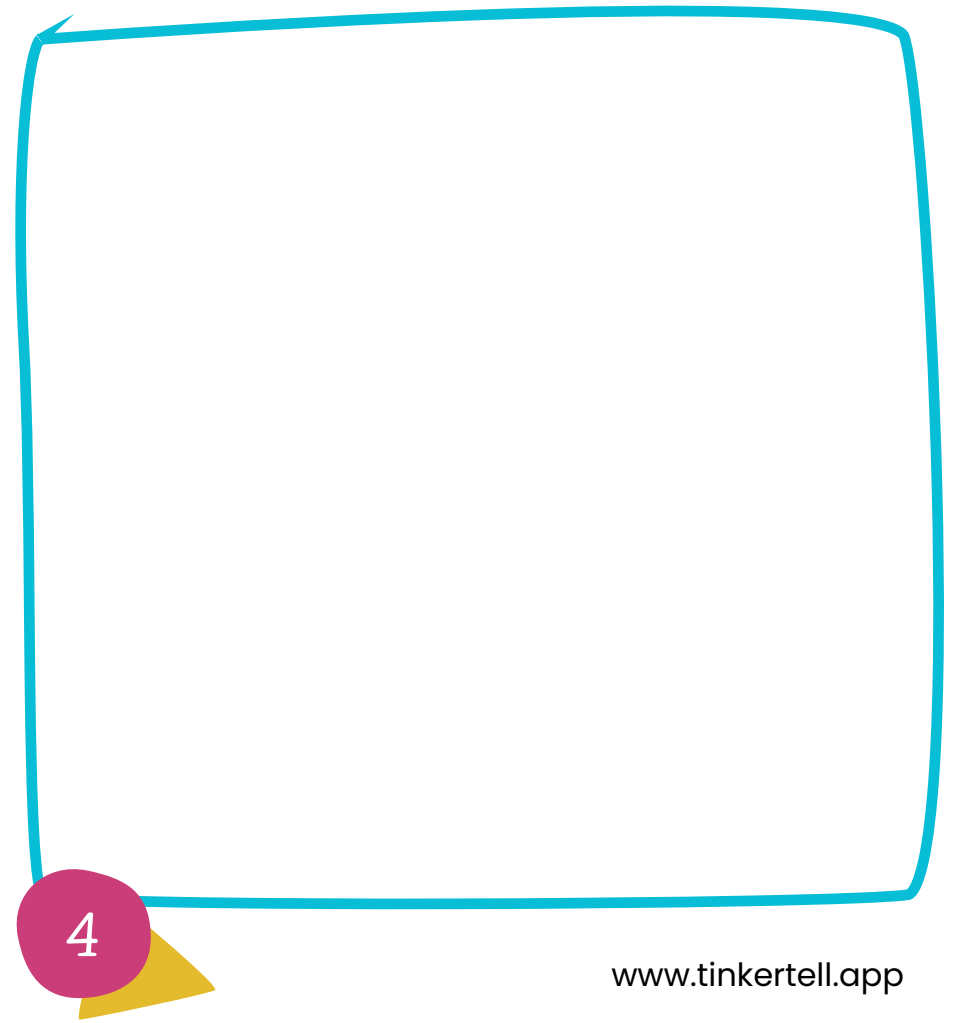
This particular year, Maie's elementary class was going to join the parade, which was a big honor! The students were thrilled and quickly decided on a theme for their participation - 'The Forest.' Each child would choose an animal from the forest, crafting masks that would scare away the last remnants of winter and usher in the blooming spring.



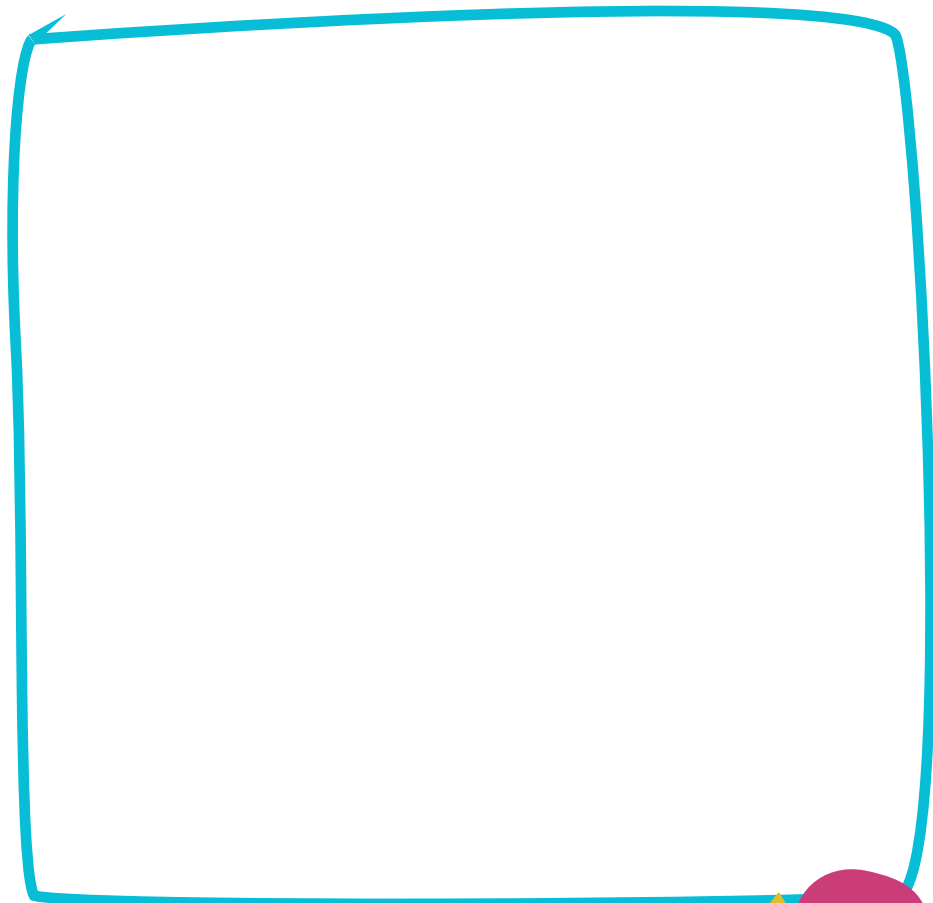
Maie, being creative and imaginative, decided to be a wise old owl. She imagined herself perched high above the forest, watching over all the animals and guiding them along their paths. She spent days designing and constructing her mask from paper and feathers, putting all her love into it.



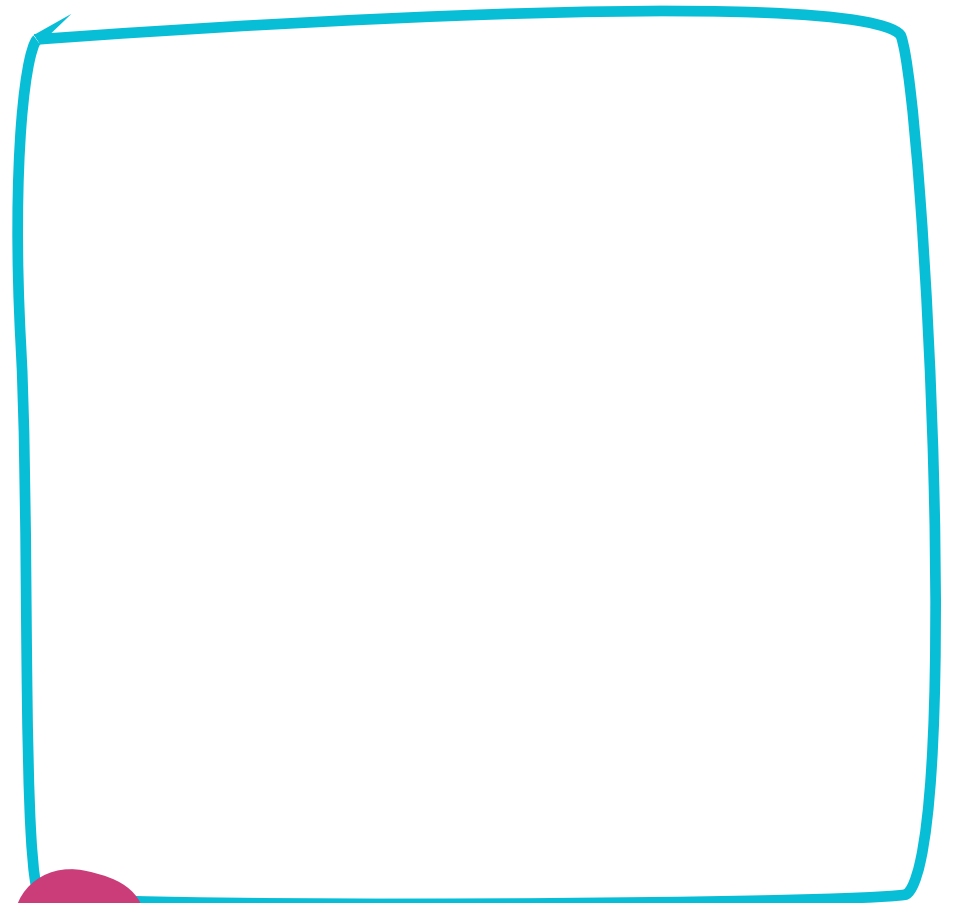
As carnival day arrived, the streets of Lugano were alive with color, music, and cheer. The parade started with loud drums beating and trumpets blaring - it was their way of sending off winter! Maie, dressed in her simple yet elegant outfit and her handcrafted owl mask, strutted proudly with her classmates.



Seeing the joy on people's faces as they watched the parade go by warmed her heart. It was then Maie realized something important - it wasn't just about driving away winter or welcoming spring; it was about coming together as a community, as a family, to celebrate life and its seasons.



That evening as Maie removed her owl mask, she understood that every season in life has its purpose. Just like every animal in the forest plays its role, so does every person in their community. And just like winter eventually gives way to spring, difficult times eventually pass, making way for joy and growth.



And so, Maie went to bed that night with a newfound understanding of family, community, and the seasons of life. She fell asleep, dreaming of owls hooting in forests under moonlit skies, ready to wake up to a joyous spring day in Lugano.

