

# Bhutan

## Zuri and Friends

**Made for Tlaloc**

With love from the Faust book maker

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Zuri, Teo and Juno were friends. Pip was their owl. They came to see animals. In Paro's courtyard, they met Pema. She lived in Bhutan. Pema said, "My picture's animal has no name!" "Let's find its name!" Zuri said.



Pema turned her picture over. The back was blank. "My picture's animal has no name!" Zuri said, "We'll follow its body and hooves."



Teo asked, "What is your name?" He tried a dragon mask. A whisker tickled his nose. Zuri said, "A dragon has claws, not hooves."



**Did you know?** Rinpung Dzong's name means "fortress of heaped jewels."

Pema led them up a steep path. Taktsang Monastery sat high on a cliff! Teo tried a cow mask. "We need the real animal," Zuri said. Off to Thimphu!



**Did you know?** Taktsang Monastery is also called the Tiger's Nest. It sits on a cliff about 900 metres above the valley.

Thimphu's golden statue was called Buddha Dordenma. Zuri led them safely across its lookout. They searched wooded hills for their animal. Pema said, "Let's finish before sunset."

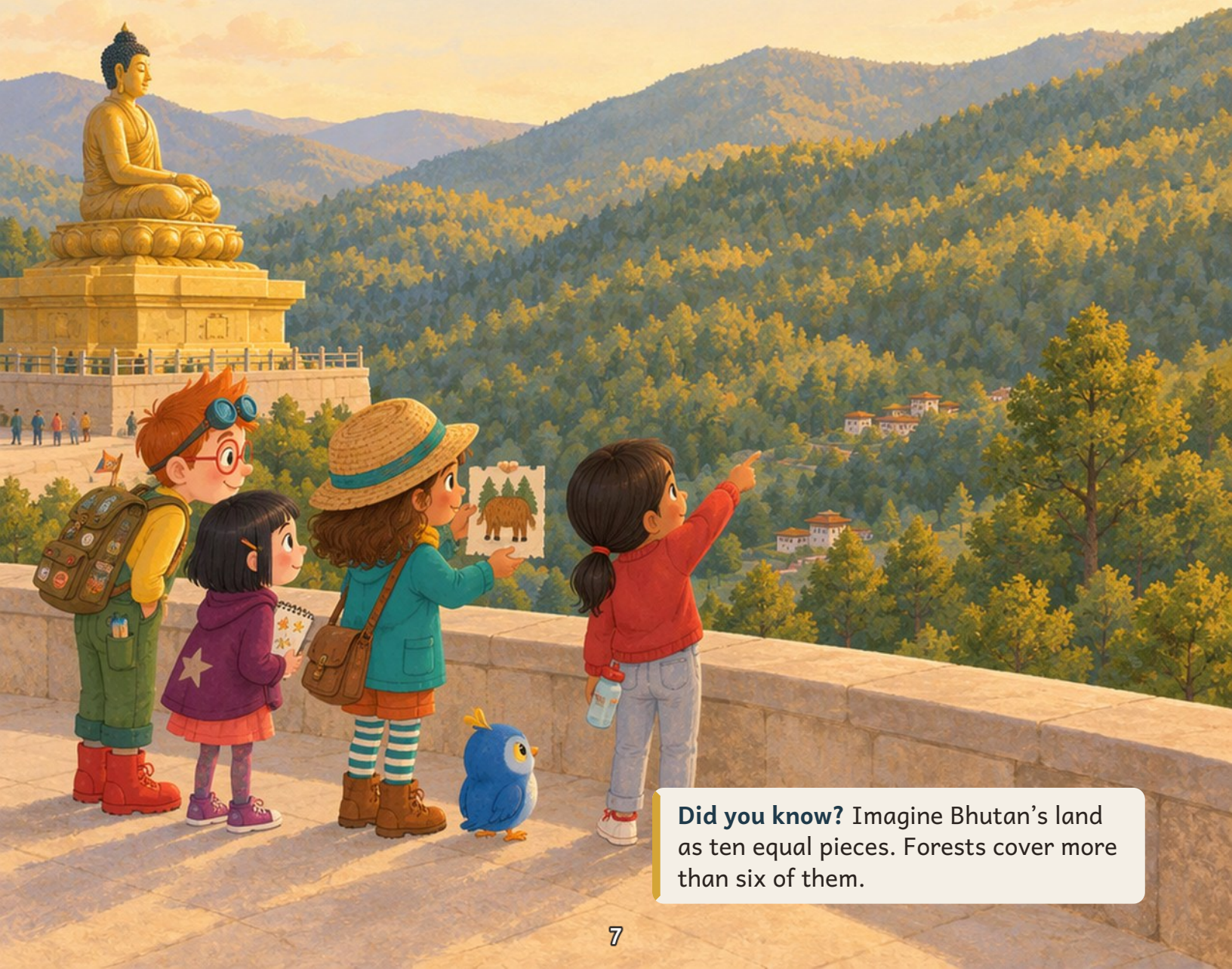
**Did you know?** Buddha Dordenma stands about fifty-one metres tall. Ten stacked double-decker buses are shorter.



Juno lifted the picture's folded edge. Little green trees appeared behind the body. Pip pointed toward the wooded hills. "Zuri, could those trees be our clue?"



Pema pointed. "Shing means tree in my language." Zuri said, "Yes! These trees give animals homes." Pema smiled. "I know where we can watch animals!"

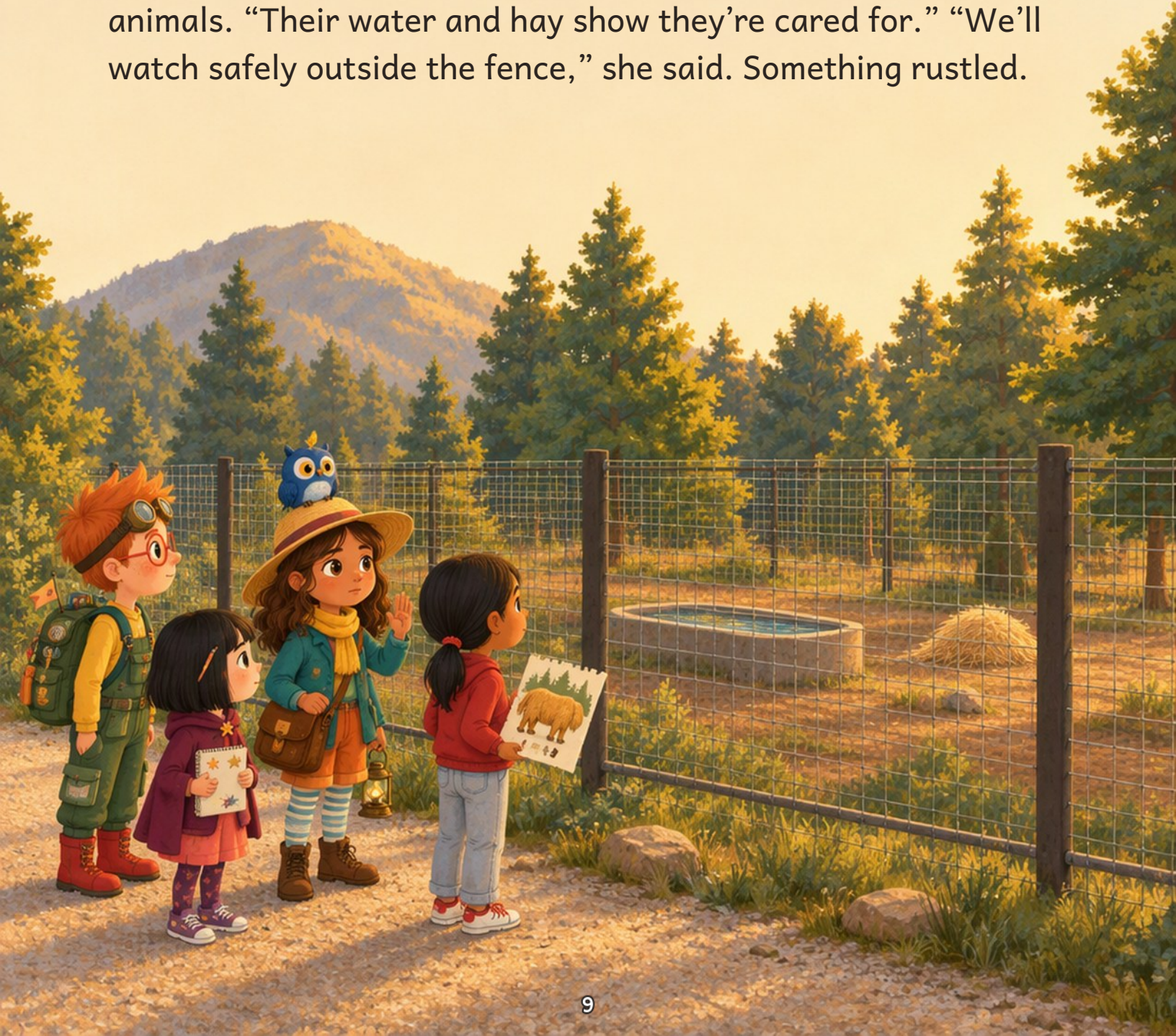


**Did you know?** Imagine Bhutan's land as ten equal pieces. Forests cover more than six of them.



At the preserve, Pema shared lunch. Her momos had vegetables wrapped in dough. Teo nearly dropped his. A bottle held the napkin down. Juno said, "Kadrinche la means thank you!"

Along a fenced path, Zuri stopped everyone. Trees hid the animals. “Their water and hay show they’re cared for.” “We’ll watch safely outside the fence,” she said. Something rustled.



An animal appeared. Juno pointed. Teo asked, "Is that a goat?" Zuri said, "Almost! That's a takin, a goat's big cousin." Its shoulders and hooves match!

**Did you know?** The takin is Bhutan's national animal. Both male and female takins have horns.



Juno wrote a name card. Pema held her picture steady. The card hovered over the animal. "Will the name fit?" Juno asked.



Pema held up her picture. "My animal is a takin!" Her stamp marked Pip's tiny passport. One small Pip wore the cow mask. Everyone cheered.



## Words to say in Dzongkha

- Kuzuzangpo la (koo-zoo-ZANG-po-la): hello
- Kadrinche la (ka-drin-CHEY-la): thank you
- shing (SHING): tree

## For grown-ups

Bhutan is mountainous, in the eastern Himalayas. Forests cover more than two-thirds of Bhutan. Motithang Takin Preserve cares for captive takins. Dzongkha is Bhutan's national language. Pema's stamp is a souvenir, not an official passport stamp.