

Russia

Zuri and Friends

Made for Tlaloc

With love from the Faust book maker

Russia

Zuri and Friends

Made for Tlaloc

With love from the Faust book maker

Zuri, Teo and Juno brought their owl Pip. In Moscow's Red Square, they met Anna. "Privet—hello! I live here," Anna said. Her teacher gave her a puzzle photograph. It showed horses upside down! "Help me find them and photograph them!"



Beside Juno, Anna held up the photograph. It showed horses in water, but no buildings. “How can horses stand upside down?” Juno asked. “And where are they?” Anna said.



Teo turned the photograph to match a tower. Its shapes matched his boots instead. “Where are those upside-down horses?” he asked. Zuri pointed. “That pointed tower has no horses.”



Beside Saint Basil's Cathedral, Anna pointed. "Could those round roofs match?" Teo held the photo up. Pip tugged it down. Zuri said, "Those roofs have no horse legs."

Did you know? Saint Basil's Cathedral includes nine original churches. Those churches share one building.



Anna opened her box of blini, thin pancakes. Juno tasted one with jam inside. Jam landed on Juno's finger. "Spasibo—thank you!" Juno said. She wiped her fingers before drawing.



Zuri led along clear pavement toward Theatre Square. Anna counted steps and hopped through chalk squares. Juno carried her sketchbook showing four drawn horses. Pip flapped toward something high ahead.



Four horses stood above the Bolshoi Theatre. Teo turned the photograph. “Where are those upside-down horses?” Zuri pointed up. “These horses stand upright. The photograph shows them upside down.”

Did you know? The Bolshoi Theatre’s Russian name means “Big Theatre.”



Juno held the photograph beside the shrinking puddle. The dry edges looked alike. Pip pointed a wing at the water. “Come here before this puddle disappears!” Juno called.



Anna called, “Smotri—look!” “Okay… let’s look closer,” Zuri said. “Reflections are pictures made by bouncing light. This water shows the horses upside down.” On dry pavement, Zuri held a camera.



Zuri aimed the camera to take their photograph. A breeze made the water's horses wobble. Teo held Anna's photograph still. They waited on dry paving. The puddle kept shrinking.

Did you know? A breeze can make tiny puddle waves. Some waves are smaller than a fingernail.



The water became still. “The shapes match!” Juno cried. Zuri clicked the camera. A photograph appeared! “We found those upside-down horses!” the children cheered. Pip flapped above them.



Anna added their photograph beside Juno's drawn friends. She stamped Pip's passport. Teo turned the page upside down. "Now the horses stand up!" Everyone laughed.



Words to say in Russian

- Privet (pree-VYET): hello
- Spasibo (spuh-SEE-buh): thank you
- Smotri (smuh-TREE): look

For grown-ups

Russia stretches across Europe and Asia. Moscow, its capital, is in the European part. These three landmarks can be visited on one walk. The Bolshoi Theatre is a place for performances. Its rooftop horses pull Apollo's two-wheeled carriage. Still puddles show reflections of buildings. Wind makes small waves that disturb these reflections.