

# Classroom Activity Guide and Poster

Extension Activity - Visual Arts  
Make Your Own Squirrel-ish Tails

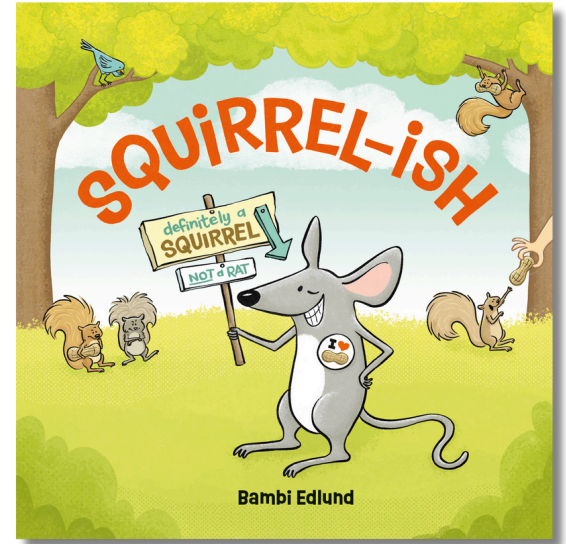


## Squirrel-ish

Written and illustrated by Bambi Edlund

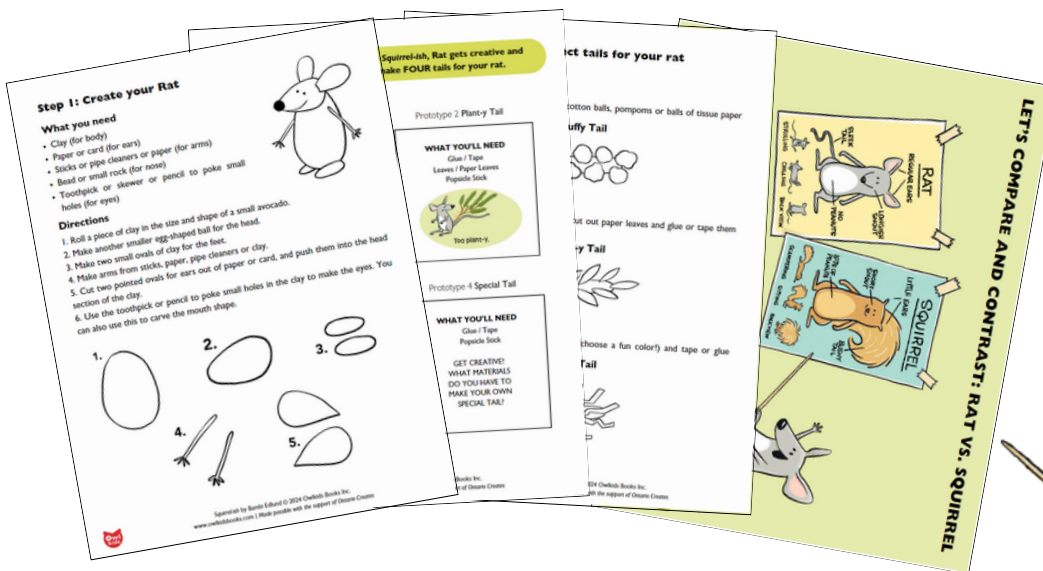
New from the author-illustrator of the bestselling picture book *How to Make a Peanut Butter Sandwich in 17 Easy Steps*

An enterprising rat discovers the joy of being true to himself in this laugh-out-loud ode to self-love.



ISBN: 9781771475174

Ages 4 to 7; Grade: 1+



### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

**Text Forms:** Comedic Texts  
**Character Education:** Respect; Fairness  
**Visual Arts:** Crafts  
**Themes:** Identity; Belonging

### READING LEVELS

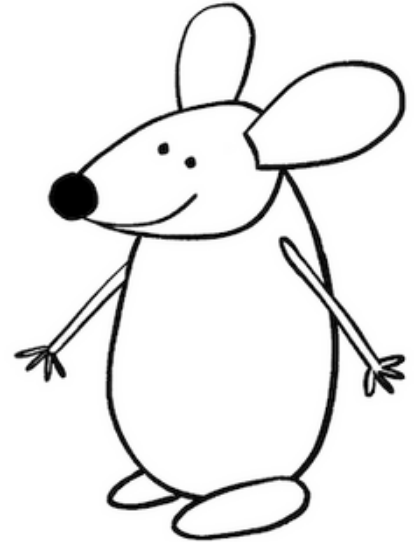
**Reading Recovery:** 16  
**Fountas & Pinnell:** H  
**Lexile® Measure:** AD420L  
**Common Core:** RL.1, W.1, SL. 1, L.1



# Step 1: Create your Rat

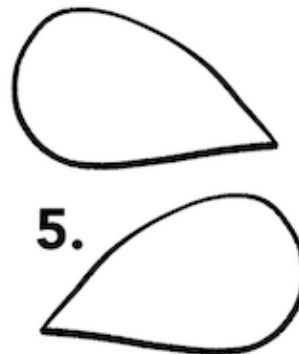
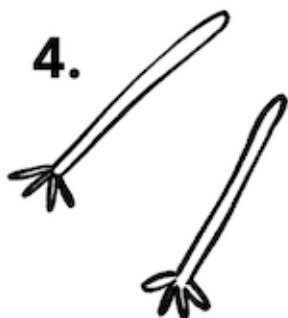
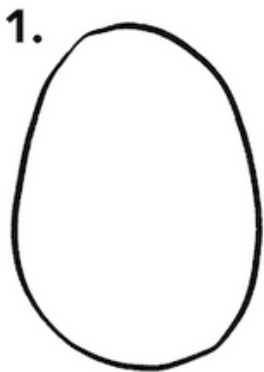
## What you need

- Clay (for body)
- Paper or card (for ears)
- Sticks or pipe cleaners or paper (for arms)
- Bead or small rock (for nose)
- Toothpick or skewer or pencil to poke small holes (for eyes)



## Directions

1. Roll a piece of clay in the size and shape of a small avocado.
2. Make another smaller egg-shaped ball for the head.
3. Make two small ovals of clay for the feet.
4. Make arms from sticks, paper, pipe cleaners or clay.
5. Cut two pointed ovals for ears out of paper or card, and push them into the head section of the clay.
6. Use the toothpick or pencil to poke small holes in the clay to make the eyes. You can also use this to carve the mouth shape.



**Your rat needs a squirrel-ish tail. In *Squirrel-ish*, Rat gets creative and crafts SIX different tails! Let's make FOUR tails for your rat.**

### Prototype 1 Puffy Tail

#### WHAT YOU'LL NEED

Glue / Tape  
Cotton Balls / Pompoms / Tissue Paper  
Popsicle Stick



### Prototype 2 Plant-y Tail

#### WHAT YOU'LL NEED

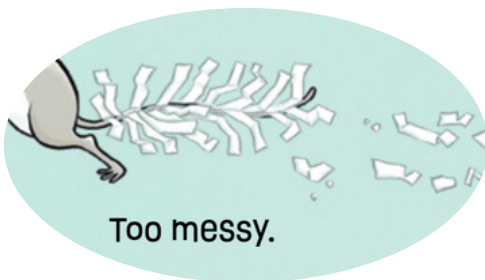
Glue / Tape  
Leaves / Paper Leaves  
Popsicle Stick



### Prototype 3 Messy Tail

#### WHAT YOU'LL NEED

Glue / Tape  
Paper Strips (any color!)  
Popsicle Stick



### Prototype 4 Special Tail

#### WHAT YOU'LL NEED

Glue / Tape  
Popsicle Stick

GET CREATIVE!  
WHAT MATERIALS  
DO YOU HAVE TO  
MAKE YOUR OWN  
SPECIAL TAIL?

## Step 2: Make the perfect tails for your rat

### Directions

Prototype 1. **Puffy tail:** Glue or tape cotton balls, pompoms or balls of tissue paper to a popsicle stick.

#### Puffy Tail



Prototype 2. **Plant-y tail:** Find leaves or cut out paper leaves and glue or tape them to a popsicle stick

#### Plant-y Tail

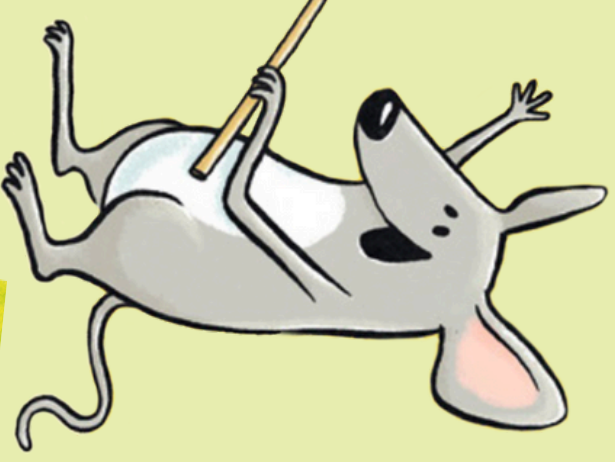
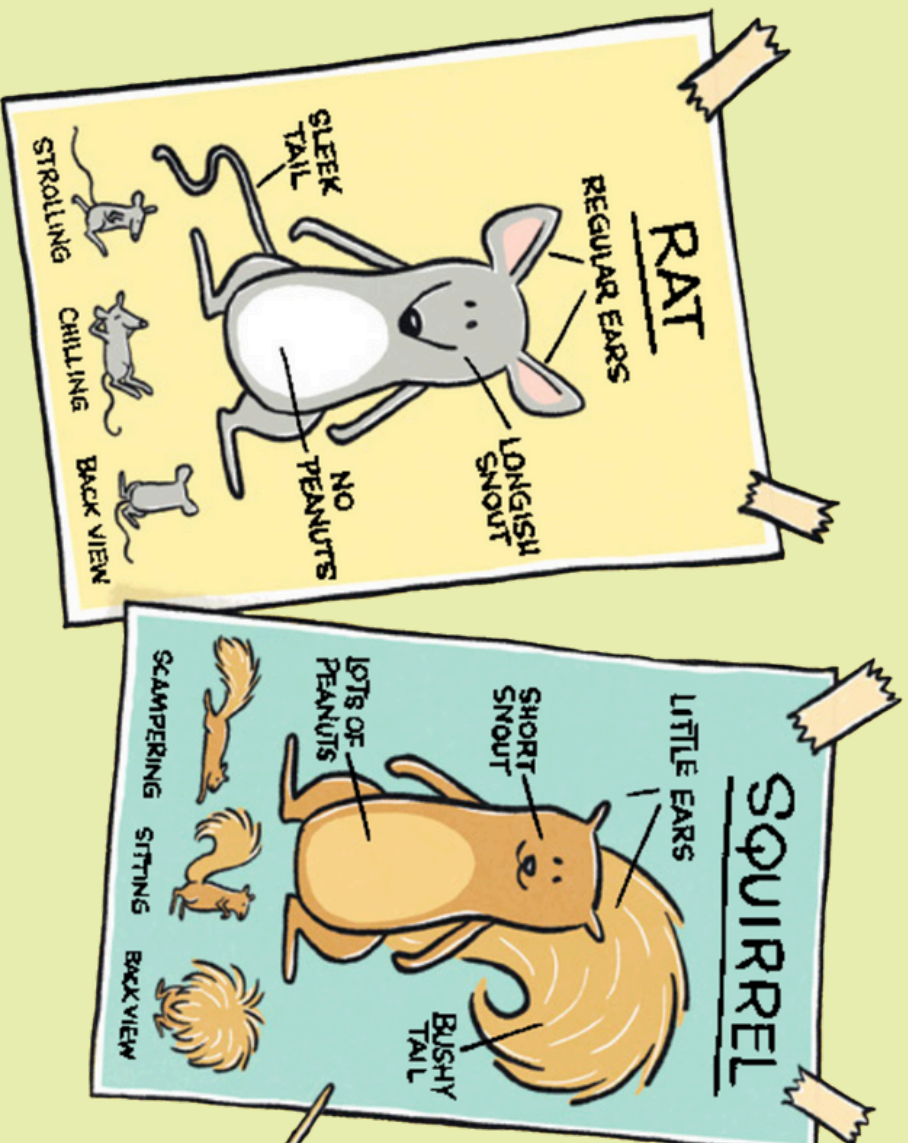


Prototype 3. **Messy tail:** Cut paper strips (choose a fun color!) and tape or glue them to a popsicle stick

#### Messy Tail



# LET'S COMPARE AND CONTRAST: RAT VS. SQUIRREL



**WHICH ONE WOULD YOU FEED PEANUTS?**



Squirrel-ish by Bambi Edlund © 2024 Owlkids Books Inc.

[www.owlkidsbooks.com](http://www.owlkidsbooks.com) | Made possible with the support of Ontario Creates