

Think Ahead !



Choose a topic. Then ask your child to use the box below to write or draw to show three things he knew about the topic. Ask him to read the short story and underline something he knew already and circle something new that he learned. In this case the topic will be **giraffes**.

A Giraffe "Spotting"



One day Lisa and Sam went to the zoo. They were excited to see all of the different animals!

"Sam, there's a giraffe!" said Lisa.
"Can you see it?"

It's a little hard to find because the giraffe's spots help it camouflage with its surroundings."

"I read that each giraffe's spots are different, kind of like snowflakes. That's how they tell each other apart." said Sam.

"And look!" said Lisa. "That giraffe has a blue tongue!"

**“Yes, and do you know why it's blue?”
asked Sam.**

**Lisa thought for a minute. “Does it have
something to do with what they eat?”
she asked.**

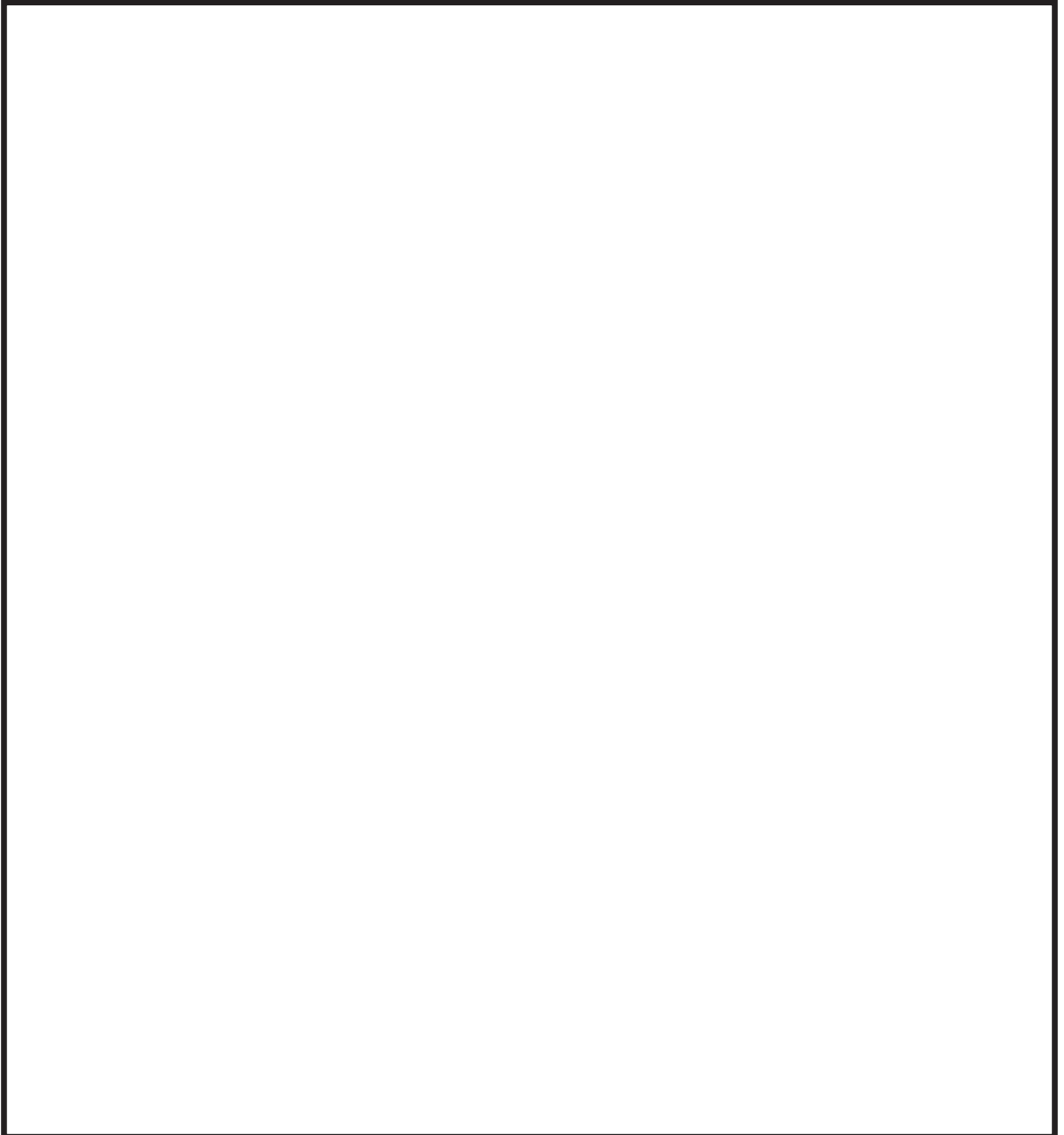
**"Sort of," said Sam. “Blood vessels are
what make our tongues red or pink in color.
A giraffe's tongue has fewer blood vessels
in it, which makes it look blue. It also makes
the tongue tougher and less sensitive, so
giraffes can eat rough tree bark, sharp
leaves and prickly shrubs without getting
hurt.”**

**Lisa looked at Sam and then back at the
giraffes.**

**“How cool!” she said. “You can learn a lot
at the zoo!”**

Parents - Choose a topic. Ask your child to write or draw to show three things he knows about the topic in the box below. Then ask him to go the library and read a book on the same topic and use the box on the next page to write or draw three new things he found out.

Story Topic -

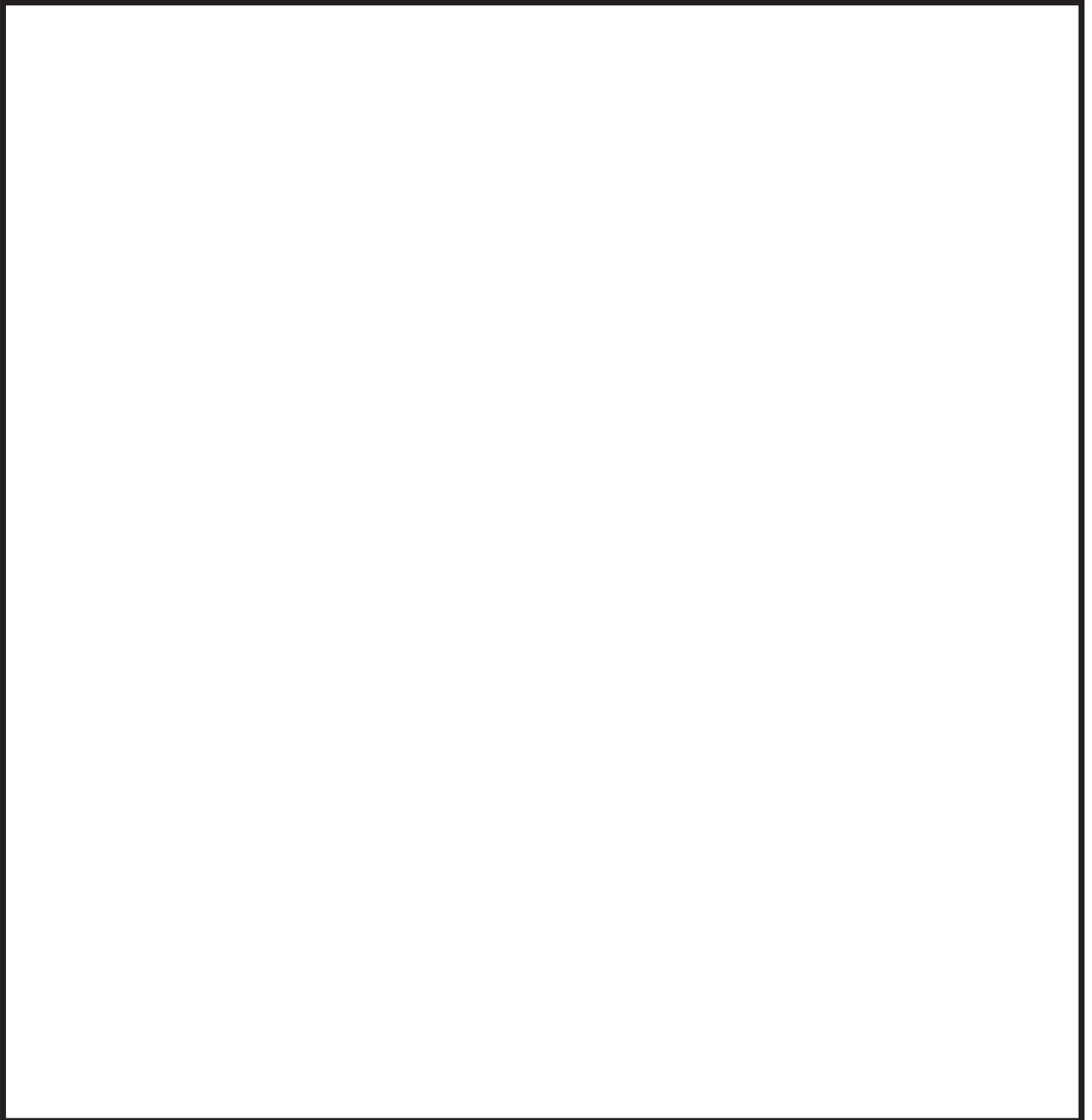
A large, empty rectangular box with a solid black border, intended for a child to write or draw their response to the story topic.

Story Topic -

Name of the book : _____

Author : _____

Illustrator : _____

A large, empty rectangular box with a solid black border, occupying the central and lower portion of the page. It is intended for a drawing or a detailed description related to the story topic.