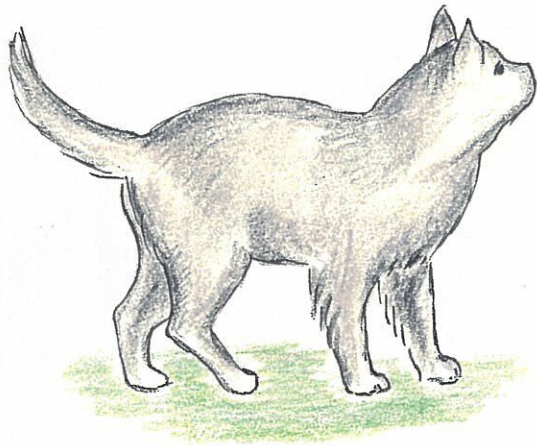


This book belongs to

.....

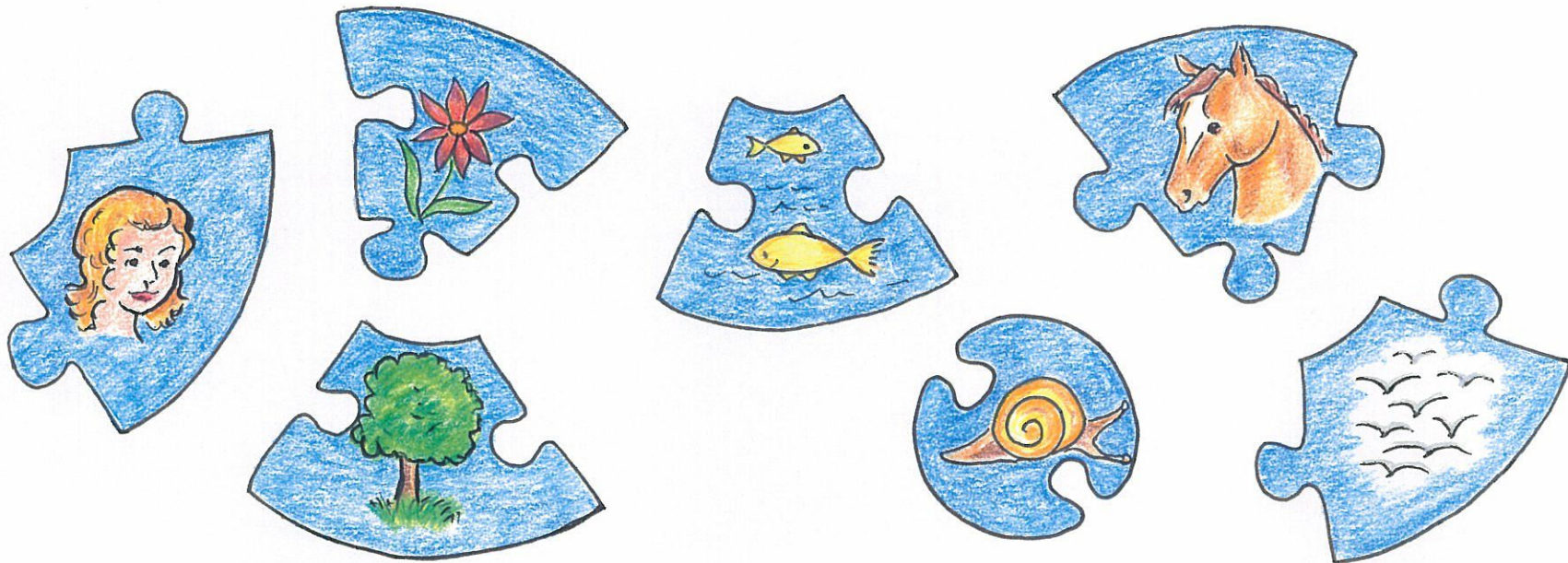
remembering my pet  
called

.....



## About life on Earth..

We all live on a planet which is called 'Earth'. There are lots of planets and stars that you can see when you look up at the sky at night. Earth is a beautiful big blue ball whizzing round the Sun. Look around and you will see that there are lots of things living here - flowers, trees, birds, animals, fish, people, insects and much more.



Many different things appear, grow and live - some, like elephants and whales, for many years, and some, like flowers, tiny insects and butterflies, only for a short time. When they come to the end of their life they die. You can see this happen with plants and flowers in a garden or park - they go back into the earth. Have you seen flowers as they die back? They leave their seeds so that more flowers can grow another season.



## Why do things die?

If nothing ever died on Planet Earth it would keep filling up and filling up, and then there would be no more space left for new lives to appear.

Pets die too. While they are alive you can care for them with kindness and give them lots of love, and help to keep them happy. This is really important because you are more clever than they, therefore you are more able to look after them.

## How you may feel when your pet dies..

When your pet dies you may feel upset because you miss them so much. You might want to cry as you feel so sad at not being able to see them anymore. Crying is fine - you might feel most comfortable crying at home.

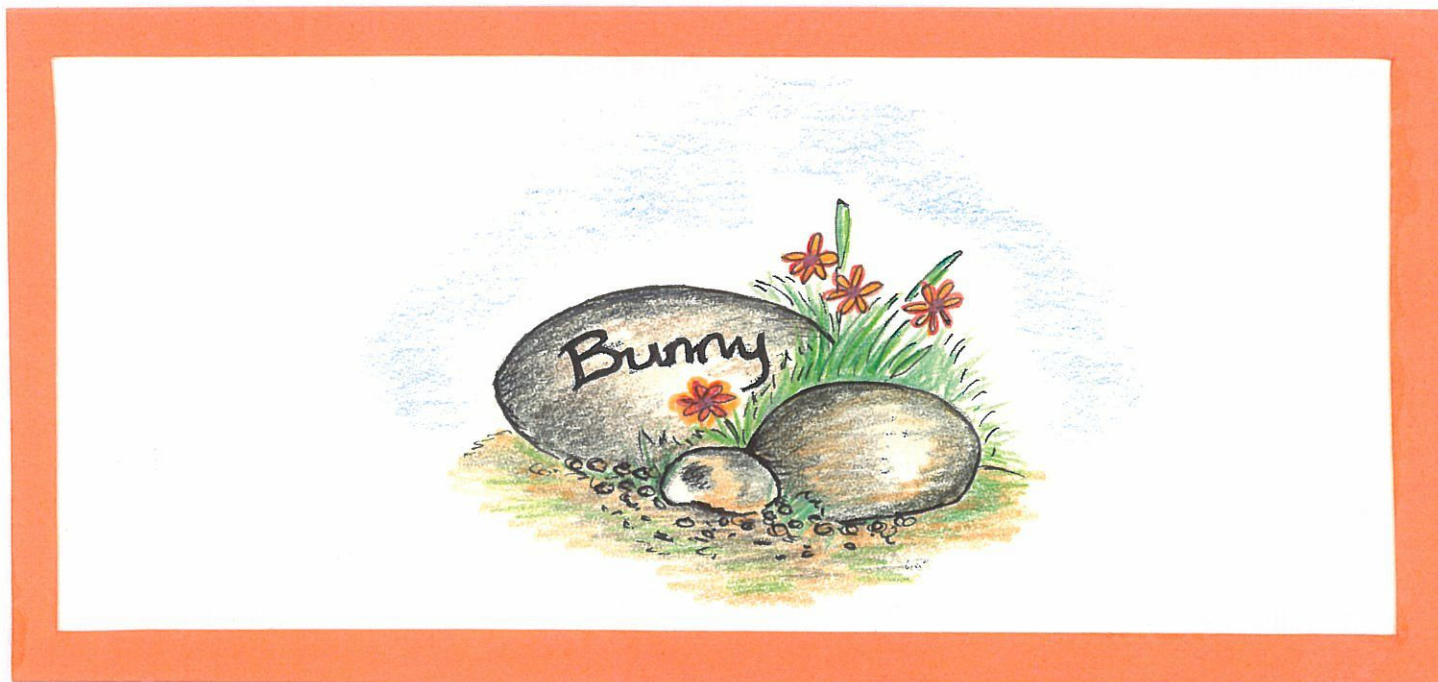
Would you like to colour in the things that you feel? There are some empty spaces to write in any of your own.

The image contains 18 empty ovals arranged in a grid-like pattern. Some ovals contain the following words:

- Row 1: sad, [empty], upset
- Row 2: hurt, [empty], lost, [empty], lonely
- Row 3: [empty], [empty], [empty], [empty]
- Row 4: like crying, strange, [empty], angry, not hungry
- Row 5: quiet, [empty], pain

What happens to your pet when they die?

Your parents may be able to bury your pet in the garden, and so you can arrange nice stones, little twigs and plants at the grave. If the vet has seen to this, or if you couldn't see your pet after it died, you can still make a special little place in the garden or somewhere secret, to remember them by.

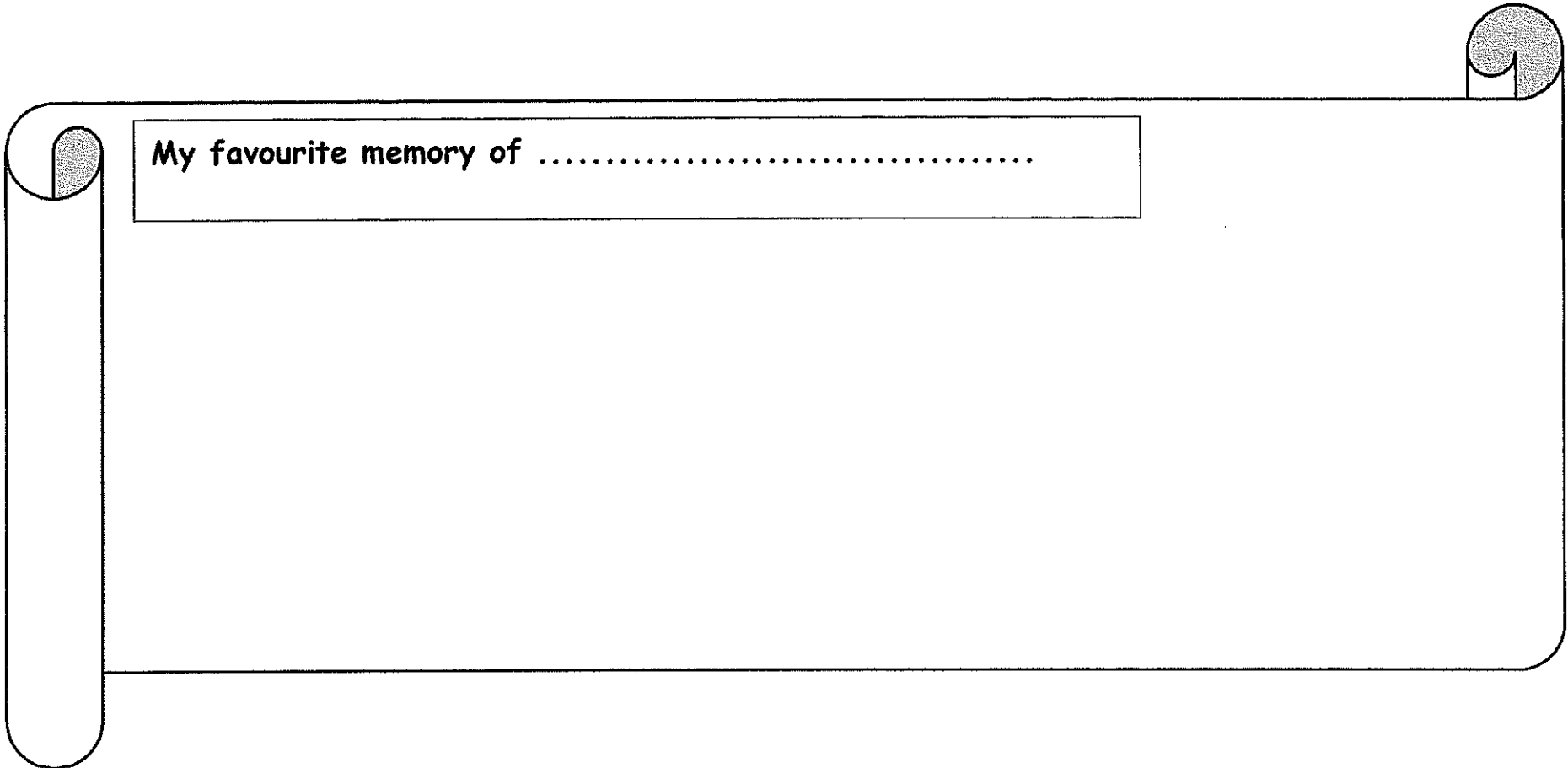


We don't know for sure where the animals go when they die, but perhaps they go to a special place where they can be with lots of their brothers and sisters.

Things you can do now...

What you can do is remember how happy you helped them to be. Perhaps you can write a little story or poem about your pet, and say what he or she was like. Were they cuddly and soft to hold? What sort of sounds did they make? Did they make you giggle sometimes because they were funny?

You will always have these happy things to remember about your pet.



My favourite memory of .....



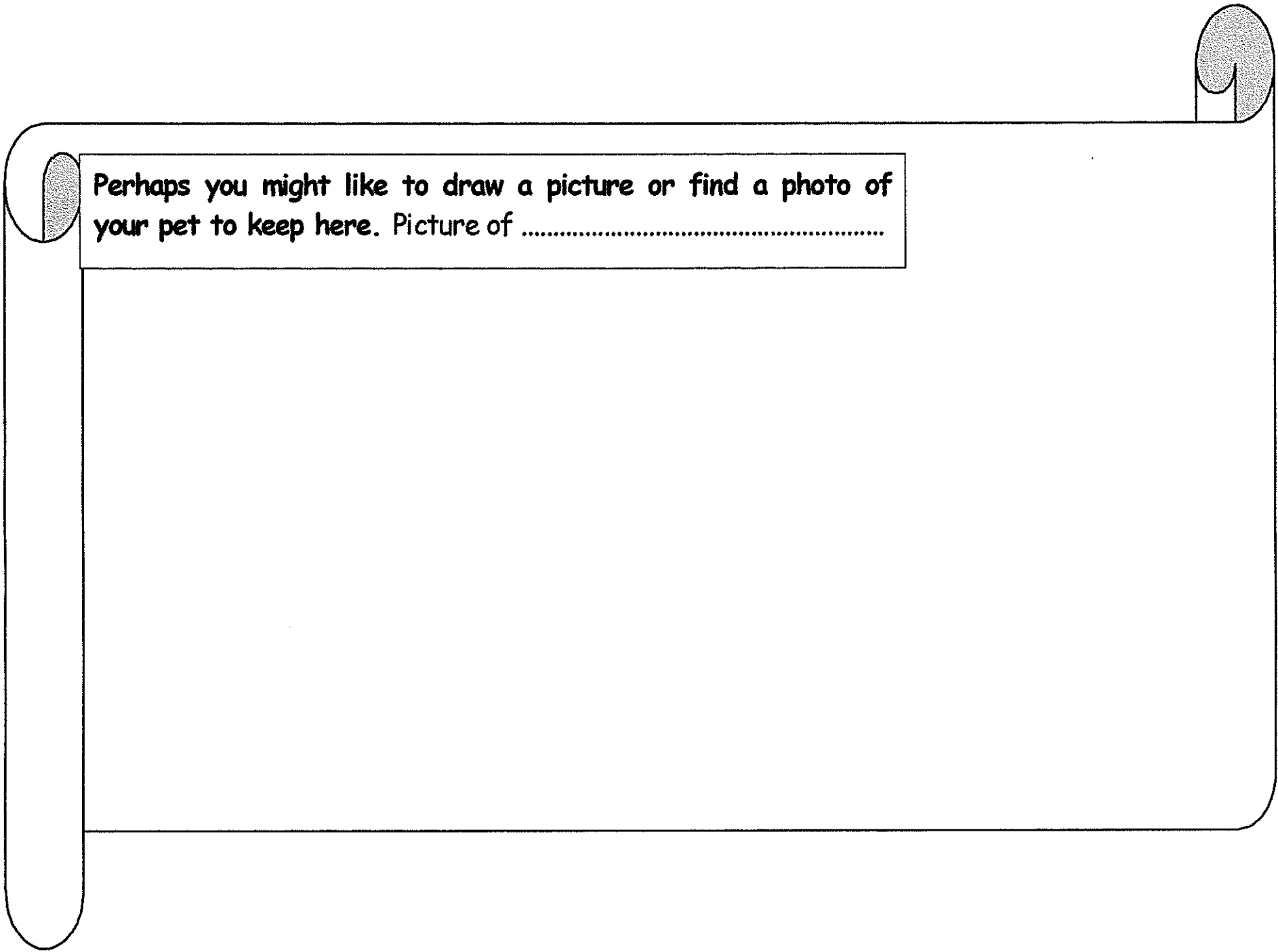
A story or poem about.....



Would you like to colour in the ones that best describe what your pet was like?

..... or write some words in yourself..

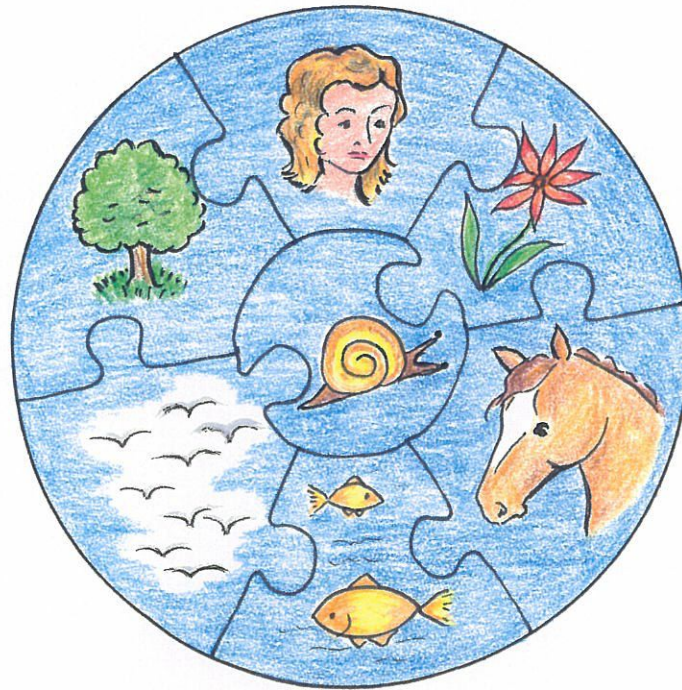
The image contains 20 ovals arranged in a scattered pattern. The words inside the ovals are: smooth, cuddly, soft, warm, handsome, special, silky, lovely, funny, big, tiny, friendly, noisy, smiley, clever, pretty. There are four empty ovals: one in the middle row, one in the bottom row, and two large empty ovals at the bottom corners.



Perhaps you might like to draw a picture or find a photo of your pet to keep here. Picture of .....

**Something very important to remember...**

Your pet was very special to you, as you were to them. Because you were kind to your pet you helped to make things nice for animals in the world. You did something very important by caring and helping to look after them.



Here is a poem written by Lauren Jepson, aged 10, about her pet hamster who died:

*Dedicated to Lance Jepson, my beautiful black hamster.*

**Do not sit and cry - You'll only ask why**

"Do not sit and cry,  
You'll only ask why.  
Don't weep,  
it's only my shell in deep, dark sleep.  
I know you wish I were alive,  
you want me to run and thrive.  
Try to live normal night and day,  
it'll make us both happy in a way.  
So do not sit and cry  
You'll only ask why."

