

Meet our friends in Beastie Valley

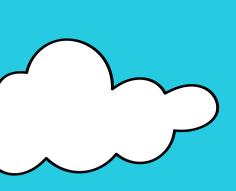


Sometimes we see pictures or things online that make us feel yucky, gross or that are inappropriate. Just say 'no' to anything that makes you feel yucky.

It's okay to tell and TALK to a trusted grown-up when you see something that you are not sure about or makes you feel yucky.







Mmmm.... lovely Beastie Valley.

This is OrangeBeastie.

OrangeBeastie is pretty well liked by the other beasties - old and young alike.

And OrangeBeastie likes to keep life exciting by trying new things whenever they can.



Well, lately, a few of the young beasties have been playing this game where they pass around a sketchbook and each beastie takes a turn adding a funny picture.

This has been going on for months and the book is getting pretty packed with hilarious and weird stuff.



Some of the pictures have been pretty funny and some of them have been kind of gross, nothing OrangeBeastie couldn't handle though.

But lately, there have been some stories about one or two pictures that are really goofy - and some of the beasties are really curious about them and daring one another to look.

Whenever OrangeBeastie asks what the pictures are, the other beasties just tell them that they'll have to look for themselves - if they dare.





One day, it's finally OrangeBeastie's turn with the book again, which they're really excited about since it's been weeks since the last time they had it.

But this time, when OrangeBeastie flips through some of the pages, they see something really surprising: someone has drawn a picture of a beastie with their TAIL showing! Now, everyone knows that young beasties have been told never to show their tails to other beasties.

A really young beastie might let their parents see their tail, like when learning how to care for it or keep it clean, or maybe when they go to the doctor when they have Tailrash - but that's IT!



So this is really shocking to OrangeBeastie.

In fact, OrangeBeastie has never seen another beastie's tail before, so it really makes them feel... well, kinda *mixed up*. OrangeBeastie doesn't know what to do.

They're afraid that if they tell an Older Trusted Beastie, they might take away the sketchbook and all the other beasties will be mad.

But OrangeBeastie is so bothered by the pictures that they can't stop feeling weird about it - they're even having bad dreams about it.



OrangeBeastie can't take it any more, so they finally go to BurntSiennaBeastie for advice.

BurntSiennaBeastie is an older beastie who OrangeBeastie



BurntSiennaBeastie goes on to say that, if the way something sounds or looks makes you feel sad or gives you a yucky feeling in your tummy or makes you feel mixed up, it's always best to talk to an older beastie about it.

BurntSiennaBeastie also says that, if this group of young beasties are making OrangeBeastie uncomfortable or unsafe by doing inappropriate stuff or sharing inappropriate pictures (like it sounds like they are), then maybe it might be time to take a little break from that crowd.





BurntSiennaBeastie is also a little bit worried about the other young beasties who might be feeling the same feelings that OrangeBeastie is having.

So they arrange to meet with all the beasties to talk about why it's important not to share your tail with other beasties - and, if they have mixed up feelings about it all, they should talk to a Trusted Beastie.

BurntSiennaBeastie thought it would be best to remove the pictures from the book.

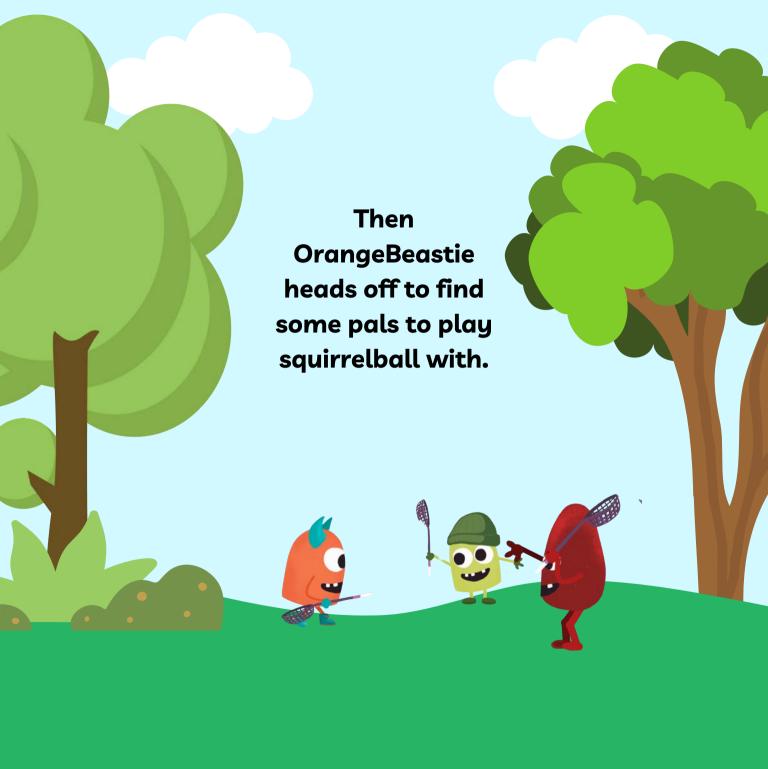


OrangeBeastie thinks hard about what BurntSiennaBeastie has said and, a couple of weeks later it's their turn to have the book.

Even though the yucky pictures are gone, OrangeBeastie reminds themself of the mixed up feelings they felt when they last had the book - kind of like remembering a bad food they once ate.

So, when one of the other younger beasties tries to pass the book to them, OrangeBeastie simply says, "No, thank you!" in a very polite voice.





Discussion Questions

1. What is the Rule OrangeBeastie was told about showing their tail?

Review the rule: Beasties have been told never to show their tails to other beasties. A really young beastie might let their parents see their tail, like when learning how to care for it or keep it clean, or maybe when they go to the doctor when they have Tailrash - but that's IT!

2. What was OrangeBeastie's problem?



Discuss: When looking at the sketchbook full of beasties' drawings someone has drawn a picture of a beastie with their TAIL showing! OrangeBeastie doesn't know what to do. They're afraid that if they tell an older trusted beastie, they might take away the sketchbook and all the other beasties will be mad. But OrangeBeastie is so bothered by the pictures that they can't stop feeling weird about it they're even having bad dreams about it.

Discussion Questions

3. Did something like that happen to you?



If yes,

- Remain calm and review what happened.
- Ask them how they felt when this happened and if they are okay?
- Determine if they are safe or if you need to get help.
- Remind them that they can come to a trusted grown-up, like you, if they see something that makes them feel yucky.
- Review who else they can go to as a trusted grown-up.

If no,

- Ask what they would do if they saw something that made them feel yucky?
- Who would they go to as their trusted grown-up?
- Make a list of their trusted grown-ups.



Discussion Questions

3. What did OrangeBeastie do the next time it was their turn with the book?

Response:

They thought about what BurntSiennaBeastie had said. They remembered all the mixed feelings they had had the last time they had the book. OrangeBeastie says "No, thank you!" in a very polite voice. Then they headed off to find some pals to play squirrelball with.



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