A note for sharing this story

The friends observe a beetle without collecting, feeding or touching it. Real wildlife watching needs a trusted grown-up and respectful distance; these activities can stay on paper. The beetle is an animal with its own needs, not a toy or a pet that must accept contact. A grown-up can read this aloud. Point, speak or draw; writing is optional. Optional extensions invite explaining, comparing and changing a choice. No one has to share a personal experience. Colour examples are separate and optional.

Using these pages

Print this monochrome book at actual size on US Letter paper. Keep the colour guide on screen or print only the pages you want. Try any colours; the guide is one possible interpretation.

The separate guide repeats the same figures with flat fills. It does not fill the open activity areas or set a correct answer.

Original AI-assisted story and artwork. The main illustrations are traced vector artwork. No learning outcome or curriculum approval is promised.

Something beside the path



Tavi was drawing a map of the garden when a small beetle crossed beside a fallen leaf. Tavi stopped the crayon and watched. The beetle went under the leaf and out of sight. A tiny corner could be a busy place.

Invent a gentle reminder

Make a picture sign for a pretend garden visitor. It might invite looking, leaving space or staying on a path. Invent your own symbol in the empty area.

A grown-up can read this aloud. Point, speak or draw; writing is optional.

Optional next step: Explain what the symbol could mean, or change it to make the idea clearer.