

BOOK GUIDE FOR
The Littlest Airplane

Written by Brooke Hartman
Illustrations by John Joseph



F&P Text Level: N
Lexile Measure: AD500L
Ages 4–7, Grades P–2

SUMMARY

At a landing strip in the far north, a little bush plane watches quietly as bigger, stronger, faster planes take off for adventure. But when a storm hits and hikers are stranded on the mountain, who will come to the rescue?

Told in rhyming verse with bright illustrations, *The Littlest Airplane* soars high with heart and excitement.



About the Author

Brooke Hartman is an award-winning author of children's books, including *Dream Flights on Arctic Nights*, which was included in Children's Book Review's Best Picture Books of 2019 list. The daughter of a plane mechanic and the wife of a pilot, Brooke loves aviation and all types of planes, especially the little bush plane. She lives in Chugiak, Alaska. Visit her at brookeahartman.com.



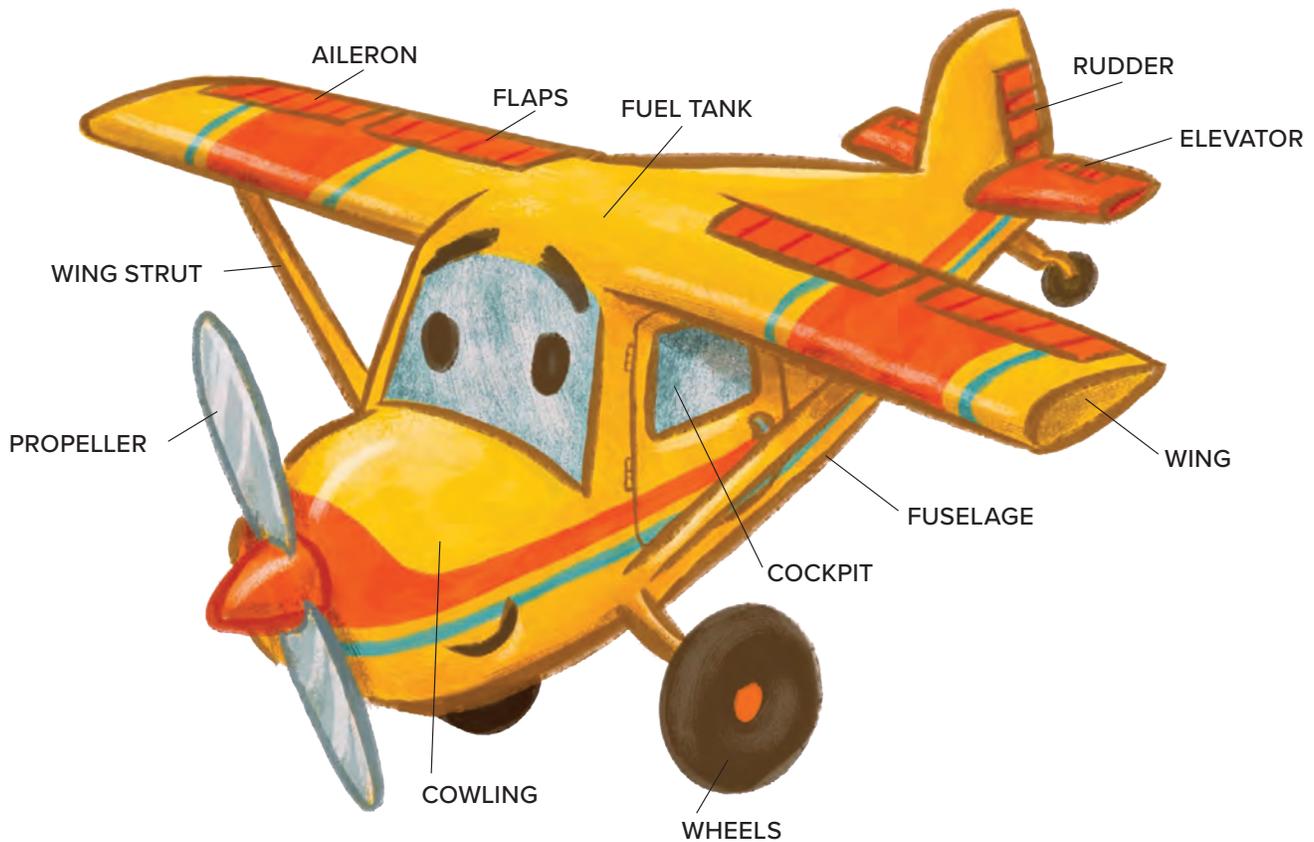
About the Illustrator

John Joseph is an artist, illustrator, elementary school art teacher, and community leader. He has won the ACP Excellence in Publishing Award for Best Picture book and has illustrated for several children's books, including *Chickens on the Loose*. He lives in Colorado with his wife, two sons, and a German Shepherd. Visit him at johnjosephillustration.com.

SCIENCE

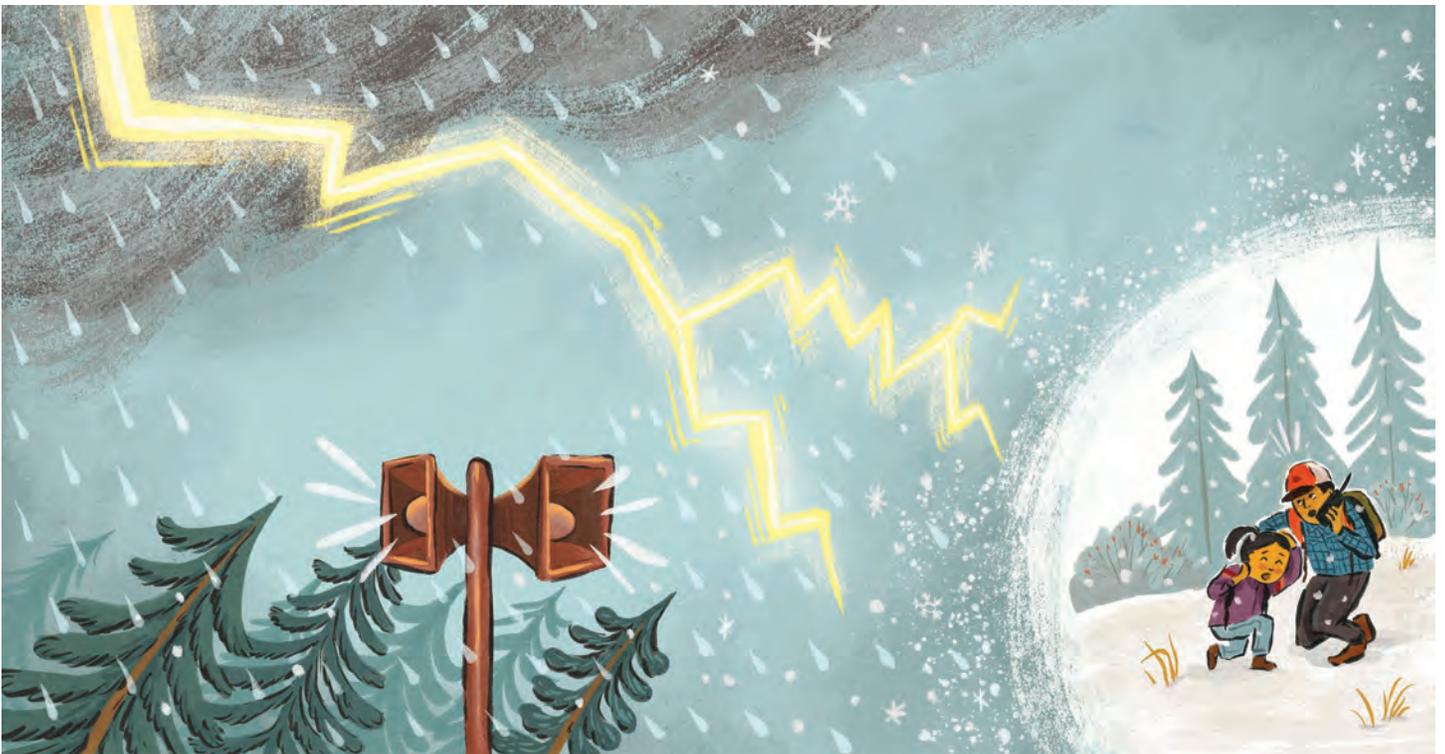
1. What parts of the Little Bush Plane are different from the other planes? Look at the diagram below and the words in the story to find out what these parts are called.
2. Bush planes are flown all over the world in areas with rugged terrain or few roads to help deliver things like mail, groceries, and passengers. Look on a map and find areas of the world that might rely more on bush planes than others.
3. Bush planes are also flown for sport or fun! Do you see bush planes where you live? Where do you see them most often? Have you ever flown in one?
4. The cargo plane, jet plane, and turbo prop plane might not have been the best planes for the job in this story, but what tasks might they do best?
5. Think about how the Little Bush Plane uses his unique abilities in this story. What is special about you? What unique abilities do you have?

Parts of a Bush Plane



LANGUAGE ARTS

1. After reading the book aloud, see if you can hear the rhyming words. Which words rhyme? Locate the rhymes on each page.
2. **Onomatopoeia** is a fancy word for words that sound like sounds. Some examples are *boink*, *honk*, *ping*, *sizzle*, and *pop!* See how many onomatopoeic words you can find in *The Littlest Airplane*.
3. A **refrain** is when a similar sentence or phrase is repeated in a poem or song. Can you find the parts of this story that might be like a refrain?



WRITE YOUR OWN AIRPLANE STORY

Use the following pages to write and illustrate your own airplane poem or short story. Try to use rhyming words, onomatopoeia, or a refrain!

What type of airplane will you write about? Where will your plane go? What adventures will your plane have? What makes your plane unique?

Be creative and let your imagination soar!







BUILD YOUR OWN WINGS

Create and design your very own Littlest Airplane wings!

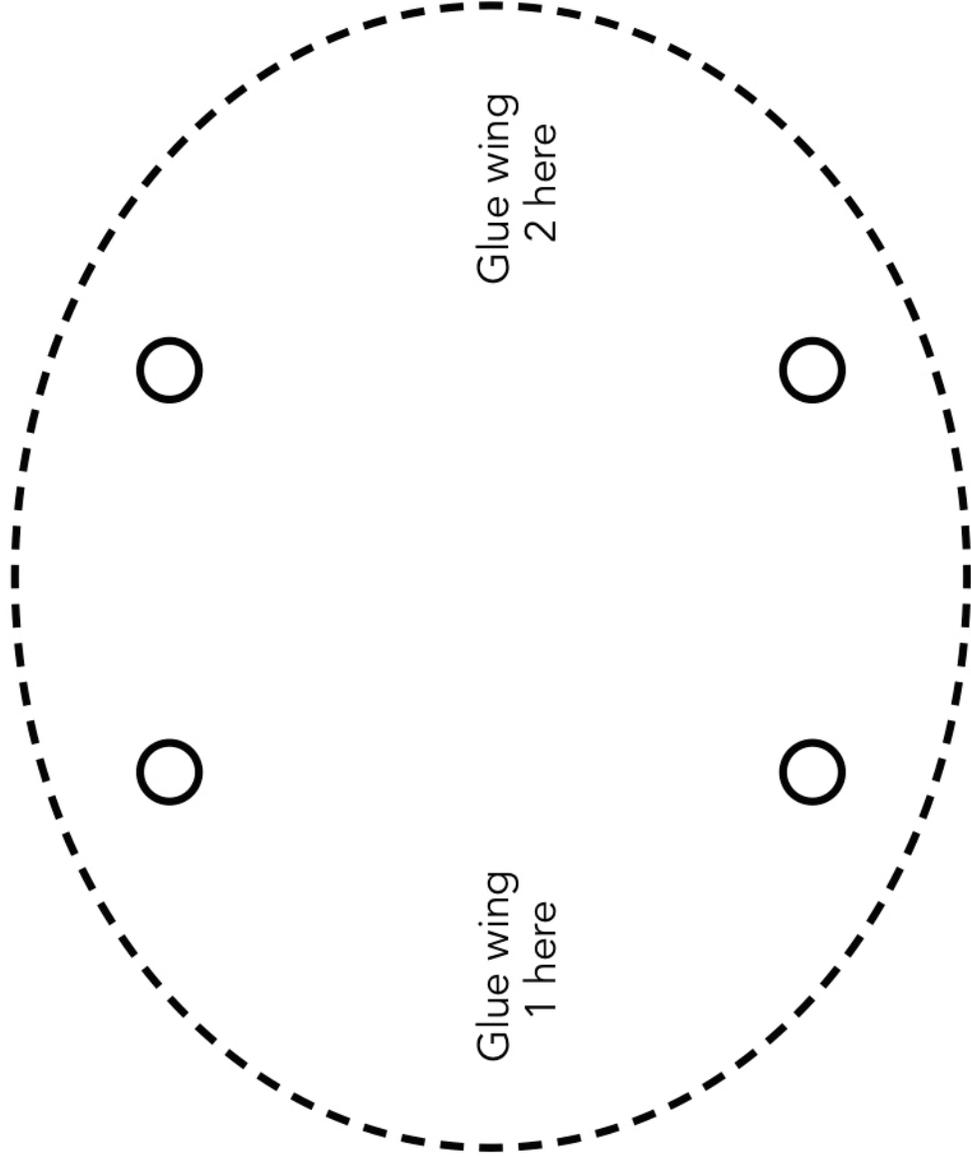
Materials:

- Colored pencils, crayons, or markers
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Glue or glue sticks
- Yarn

1. Print the back plate and wing templates. Use heavier paper or cardstock if available.
2. Color both wings and the back plate, then cut them out.
3. Punch holes in the circles on the back plate.
4. Glue the wings to the back plate where indicated.
5. Pull two long pieces of yarn through the holes on each side of the back plate, going from top to bottom. Then place the back plate on your back and loop the yarn around your arms where they meet your shoulders. Tie the yarn in place.
6. Enjoy your flight!



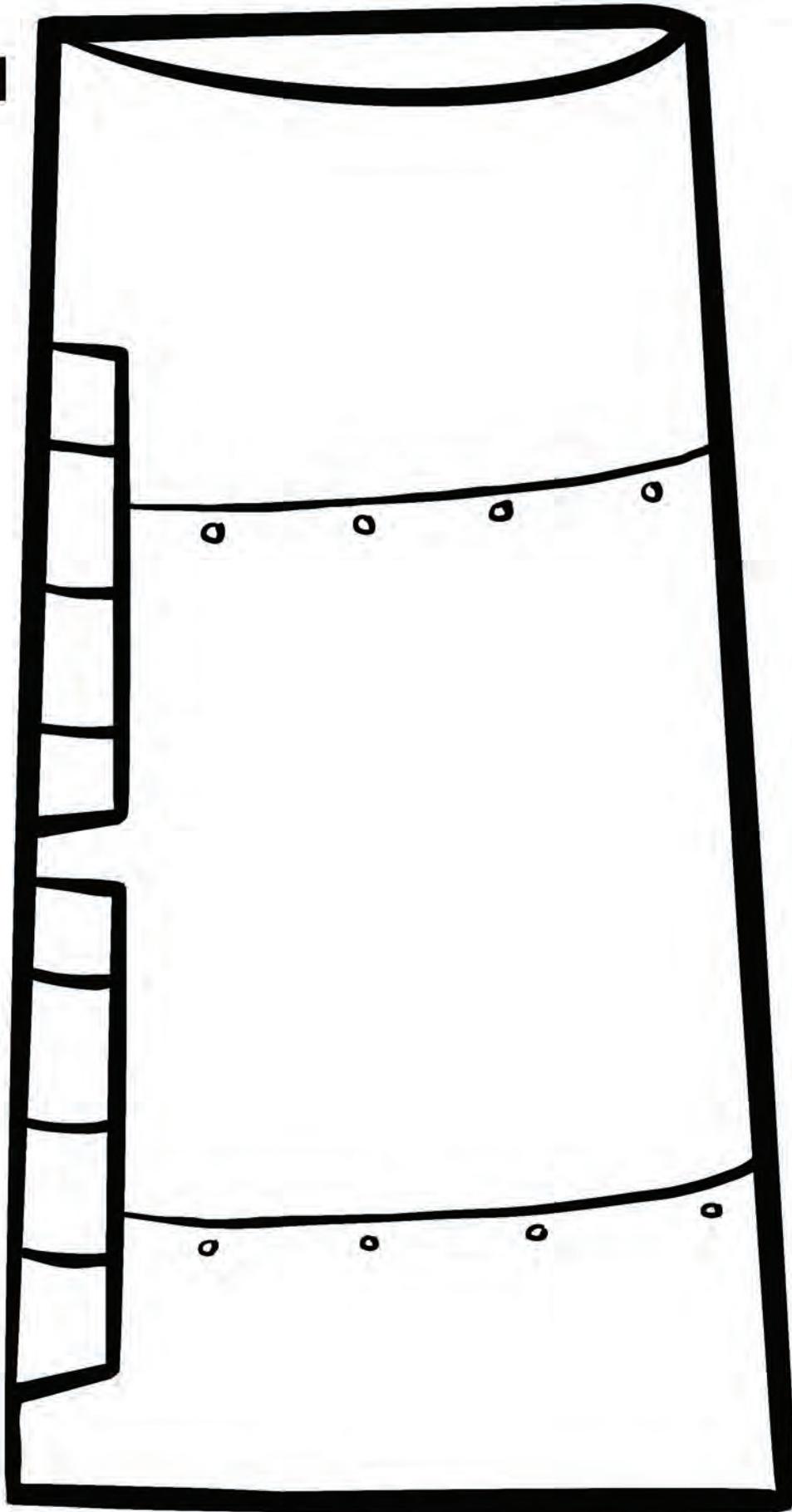
Back Plate



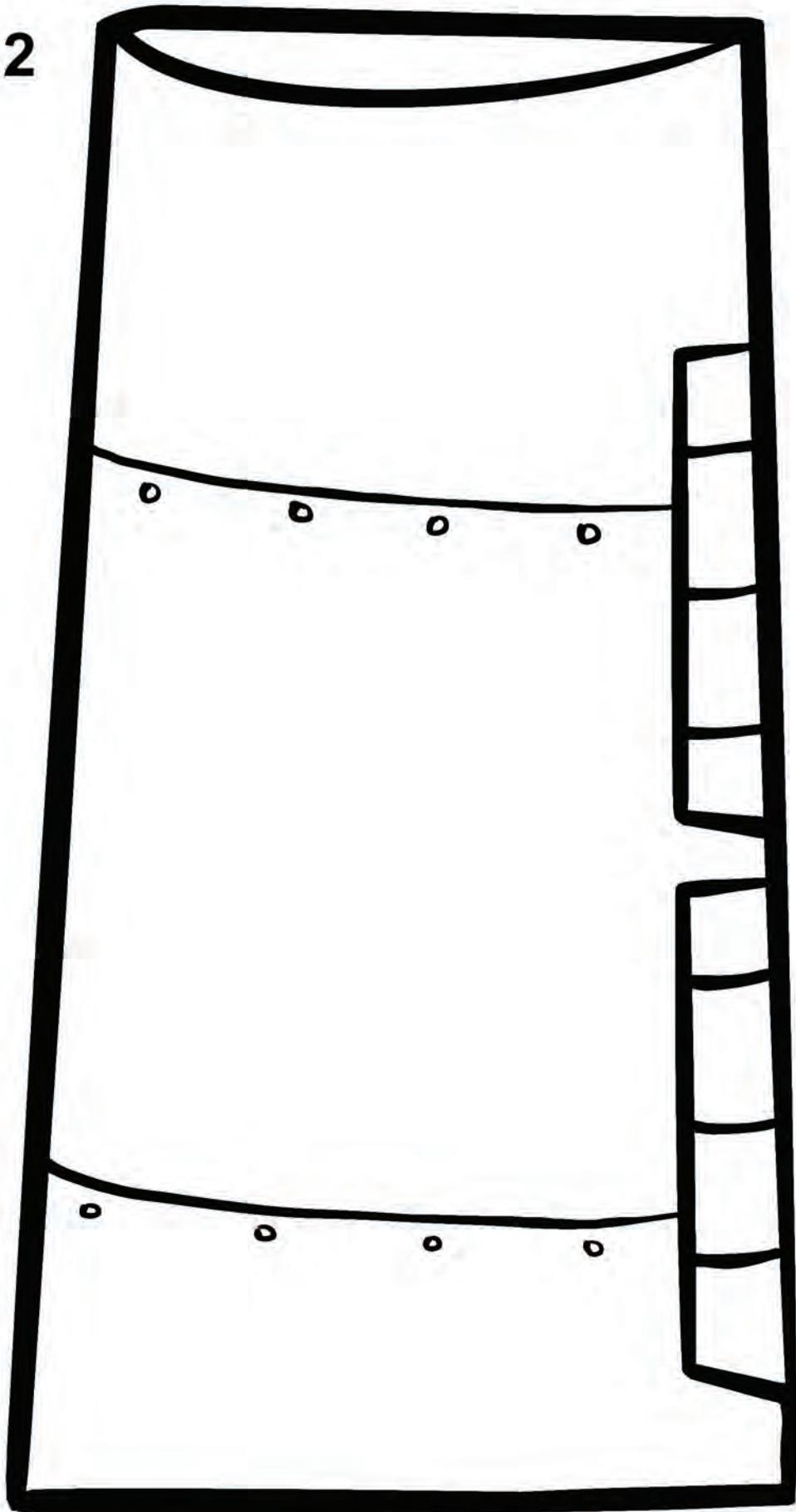
Glue wing
1 here

Glue wing
2 here

Wing 1



Wing 2





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C S R E L L E P O R P S
O Y T T M G X A N P M L
C Y V R Y R N F M A Z E
K V J E U R P I L R Z E
P G S H U T A T L Z N H
I I G D X E I N D W P W
T W D V P V L L S R O T
J E G N I W E N D S F C
R N Y G B R R X U L J M
H Y I R D D O S A V F A
R H R M R G N P I P G K
S A C A W P S H K T L A

Find the parts of the bush plane in the puzzle above.

Aileron

Cockpit

Cowling

Flaps

Propeller

Rudder

Strut

Wheels

Wing

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Help the Littlest Airplane save the stranded hikers!