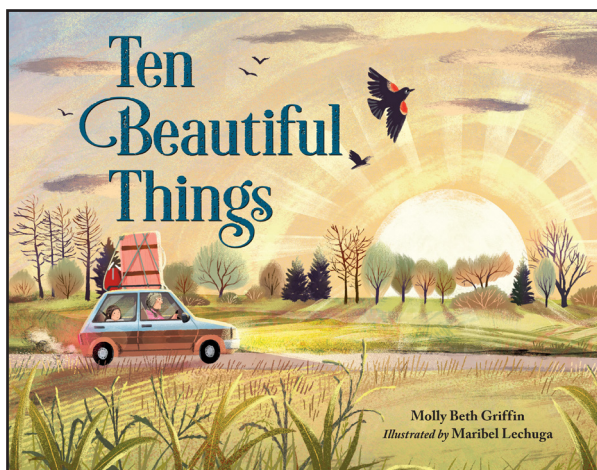


# Ten Beautiful Things

## ACTIVITY KIT

### Table of Contents

Discussion Guide	2
Going to Gram's House	3
Word Search	4
My Ten Beautiful Things	5
Coloring	6



Molly Beth Griffin  
Illustrated by Maribel Lechuga  
978-1-58089-936-9 HC  
e-book available

- ★ “[A] gorgeous story about claiming home where we are loved . . .”  
—*Foreword Reviews*, starred review
- ★ “. . . plainspoken and pitch-perfect . . . an emotionally resonant picture book.”—*Booklist*, starred review
- ★ “[A] life-changing, emotionally expansive journey.”  
—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review
- ★ “. . . a gentle, affecting story . . .”  
—*Shelf Awareness*, starred review



### About the Book

Lily and her grandmother search for ten beautiful things as they take a long car ride to Iowa, Lily's new home with Gran. At first, Lily sees nothing beautiful in the April slush and cloudy sky. Soon though, Lily can see beauty in unexpected places, from the smell of spring mud, to a cloud shaped like a swan, to a dilapidated barn. A furious rainstorm mirrors Lily's anxiety, but as it clears, Lily discovers the tenth beautiful thing: Lily and Gran and their love for each other.

A heartfelt story about changing perspectives, set in the Midwest. *Ten Beautiful Things* gently explores loss, a new home, and finding beauty wherever you are.

### About the Author

Molly Beth Griffin holds an MFA in writing for children and young adults and teaches writing at the Loft Literary Center in the Twin Cities. She is the author of *Rhoda's Rock Hunt* and *Silhouette of a Sparrow*.

[www.mollybethgriffin.com](http://www.mollybethgriffin.com)

### About the Illustrator

Maribel Lechuga is the illustrator of *Seaside Stroll* and *Ten Beautiful Things*. She studied art at the prestigious Escuela de Arte 10 (Artediez) in Madrid.

## Discussion Guide

Use these questions to kick off classroom discussion, guide pre-thinking and post-reading responses, or inspire a writing or drawing assignment!

### Feelings

1. Even changes that are positive can still be hard. When have you dealt with a big change in your life? How did it make you feel? What did you do to help you cope with those feelings?
2. When Lily is upset, she feels complaints crowding up in her tummy and throat. Where in your body do you feel strong feelings like anger or sadness? (For example, does being nervous give you a stomachache? Does being angry make your face flush?)
3. Lily's Gram helps her feel better by talking to her. Do you have an adult in your life who helps you feel better when you're sad or frustrated? What do they do or say that helps?

### Places

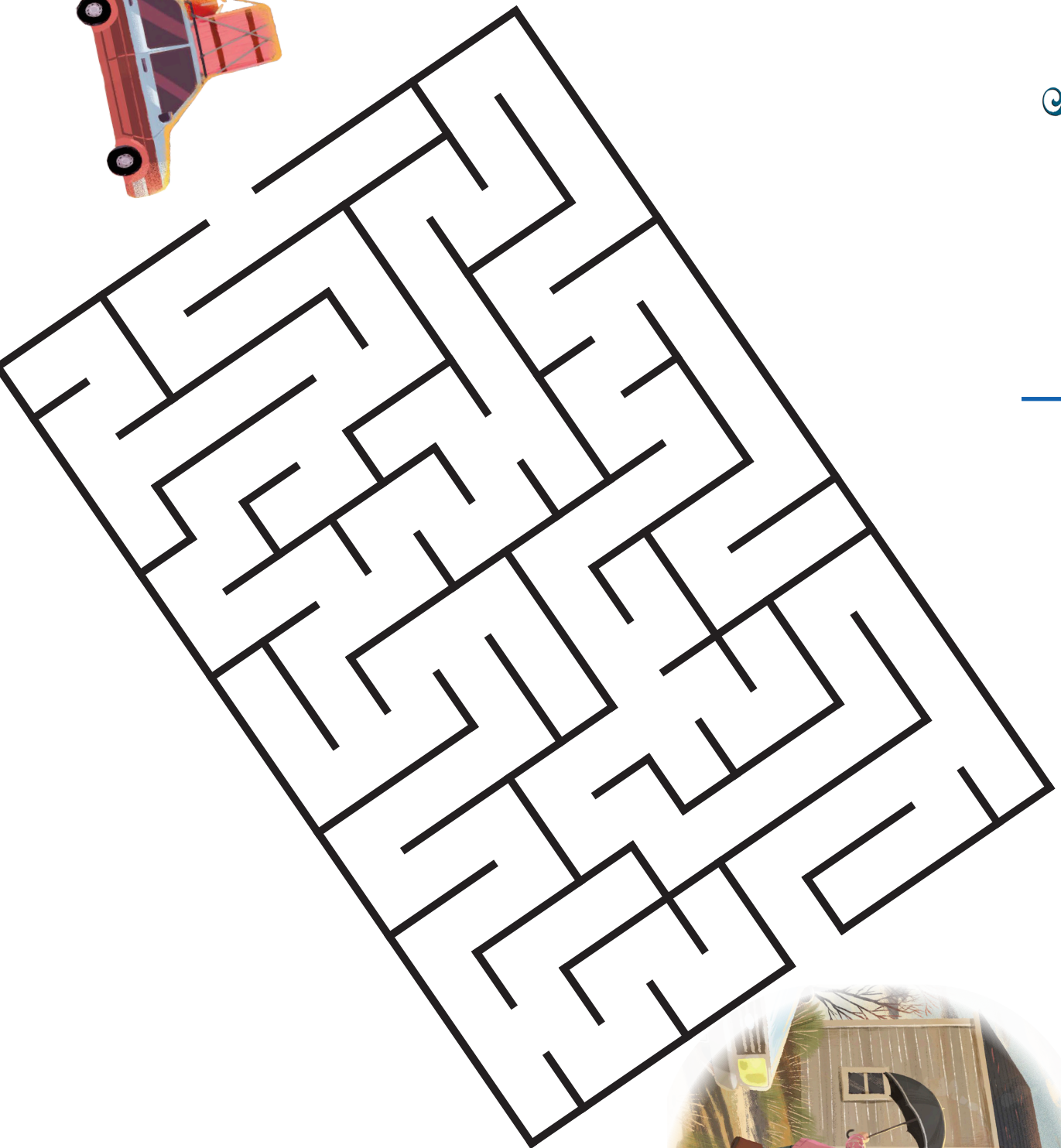
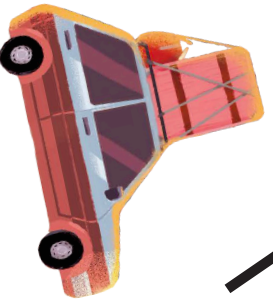
1. Where do you feel most at home? This might be where you live, a beach where you swim, or a library where you spend lots of time. What do you love about this place? Can you describe it with all your senses, even when you're not there? Do you remember a time when this place was new to you? What made you start to feel at home there?
2. When you enter a new place, what do you notice first? Is it the smell, or the colors, or perhaps the texture of the carpet? Think about what you first notice when you walk in the door of your home or your classroom.
3. Lily is very worried about moving to Iowa because she doesn't think she'll belong there. When did you worry about belonging or fitting in?

### Journeys and Changes

1. Have you ever been on a very long trip? What did you like about it? Was there anything you didn't like about it? How did you travel? Who did you travel with?
2. Have you ever played a game to make time go faster in a car, bus, train, or airplane? Maybe you've looked for license plates or letters from the alphabet. Maybe you've made up songs or rhymes. What helps you pass the time on the road?
3. If you could travel to anywhere on Earth, where would you want to go? Why? Do some research about ways to travel there, how long the journey would take, and special activities you can do there.

## Going to Gram's House

Follow the maze to get Lily to Gram's house!



## Word Search

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

SUNRISE  
WINDFARM  
BIRD  
CREEK

BARN  
MUD  
SWAN

CALF  
STORM  
LOVE

# Ten Beautiful Things

Activity Kit

## My Ten Beautiful Things

Let's go on a walk, bike, or drive and look for ten beautiful things! Making a list like this can help you learn to notice all the beautiful things around you and appreciate and enjoy things you might have overlooked before. You will get better at finding beautiful things the more you do it! If you get stuck, check out the tips in the boxes below.

**Tip #1**

Look up and down, near and far. Some beautiful things are big like a sunset, while others are small like an ant.

**Tip #3**

Sounds, smells, textures, and even tastes can be beautiful things, too. Use all your senses.

**Tip #5**

People, emotions, and relationships are sometimes the most beautiful things of all.

**Tip #2**  
Some beautiful things are pretty, but not all are. Weird or gross things can be beautiful, too!

**Tip #4**  
Beautiful isn't always easy or happy. Hard things can be beautiful, too.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Coloring: Welcome to Gram's House!

