

Lucy

in the

City

A Story About  
Developing Spatial  
Thinking Skills

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illustrated by Laura Wood





Lucy woke up from a good day's  
sleep. She followed her Papa,  
her Mama, her sister, and her brother  
out of their cozy den.

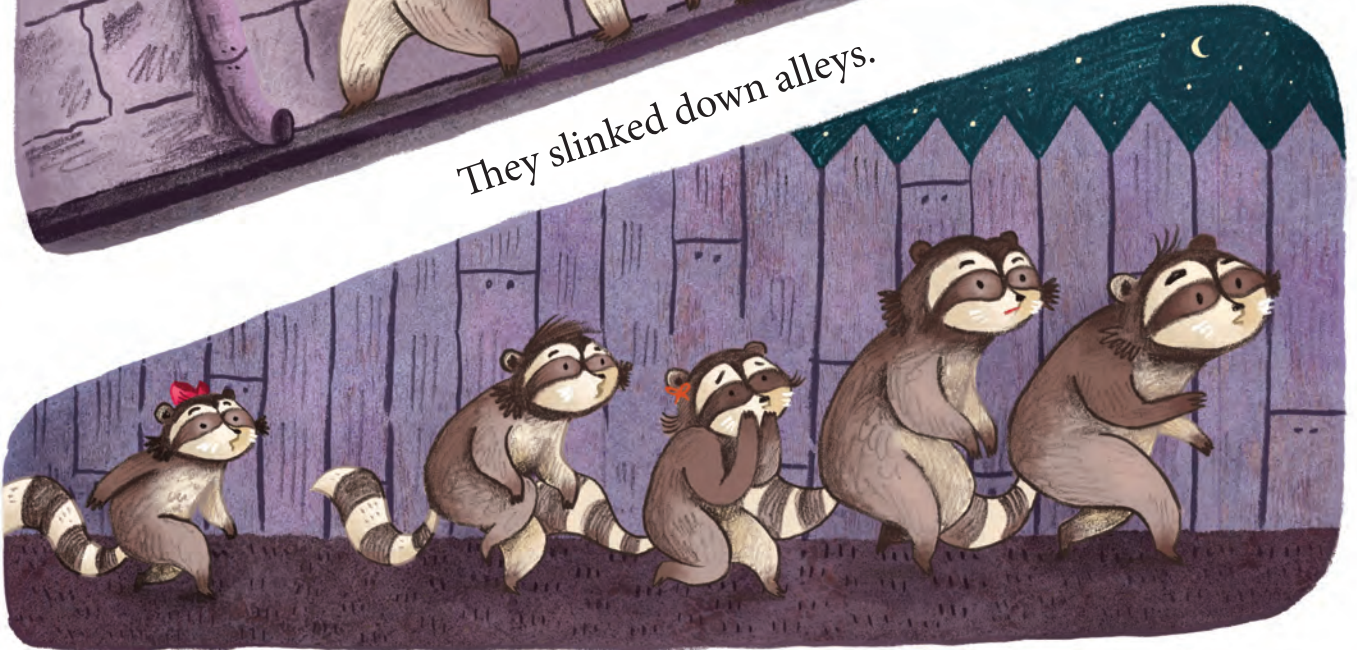




They ran up streets.



They slinked down alleys.



They tiptoed through backyards.



They headed for the best garbage bins in town.  
But all Lucy noticed was the *bob, bob, bob*  
of her brother's tail in front of her nose.

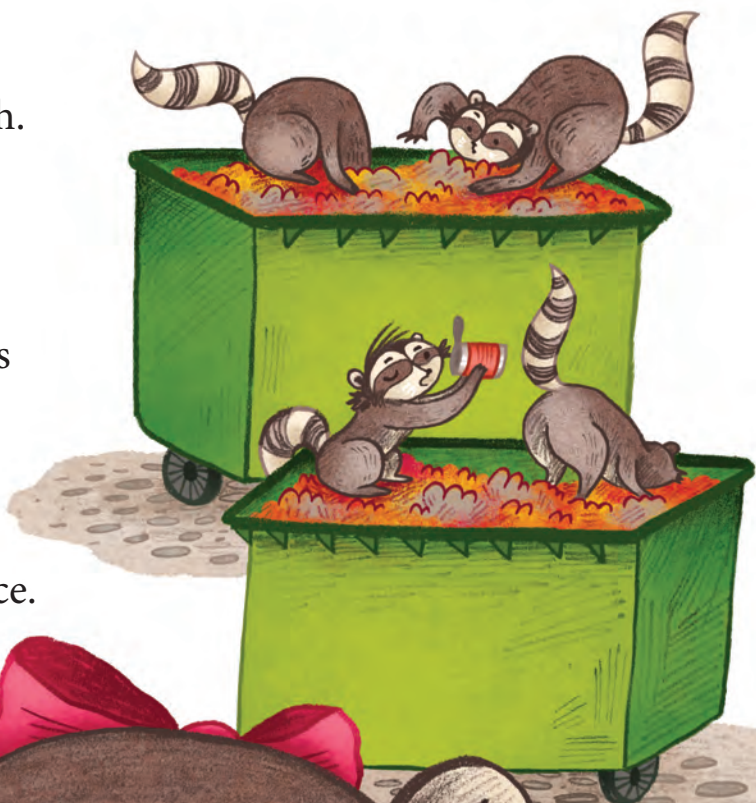




Lucy rummaged in the rubbish.  
PEANUT BUTTER!

She scurried behind a  
garbage bin, before the others  
could see her treasure.

And when Papa called out,  
“Time to go!” Lucy didn’t notice.







When she had licked the jar clean, Lucy looked around.  
“Where is everyone?” she asked.





“Who, who?”  
an owl called out.

“My family,” Lucy said.  
“Did they leave without me?”

Lucy looked up at the dark night sky.  
She had never noticed how it glittered full of stars.  
Her eyes welled full of tears. Her whiskers drooped.  
“How will I get home?” she sniffed.





She sniffed again. Popcorn. Lucy knew that scent.  
She had smelled it along the way.

If she could find it again, she would be one step closer to home.





Children's / Spatial Thinking / Mapping Skills  
Ages 4–8

# Lucy in the City

One night, Lucy the raccoon follows her family out of their den, headed for the best garbage bins in town. Distracted by a jar of peanut butter, she gets separated from her family. How will she ever find her way back to her family and her cozy den?

With the help of a friendly owl and his bird's-eye view, Lucy tunes into the world around her and navigates herself home!

Reading this book with your children will help them develop their own spatial thinking skills—how we think about and understand the world around us and use concepts of space for problem solving. Early exposure to spatial concepts can help foster this type of cognitive development in children and boost their math and science learning as they progress through school.



Includes a **Note to Parents, Caregivers, and Professionals** with more information about spatial concepts, as well as questions, games, and activities designed to encourage children's spatial thinking skills.



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