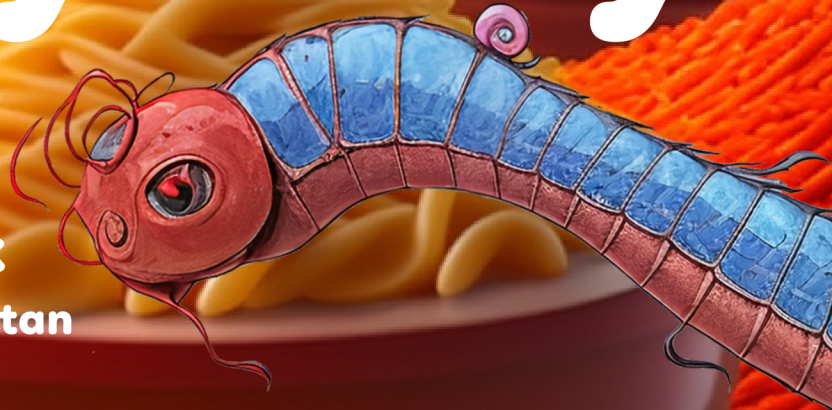




THE
GIANT
ROOM

Snagon and a Peculiar Pasta Mystery

GIANT Storybook
In Collaboration with Matan

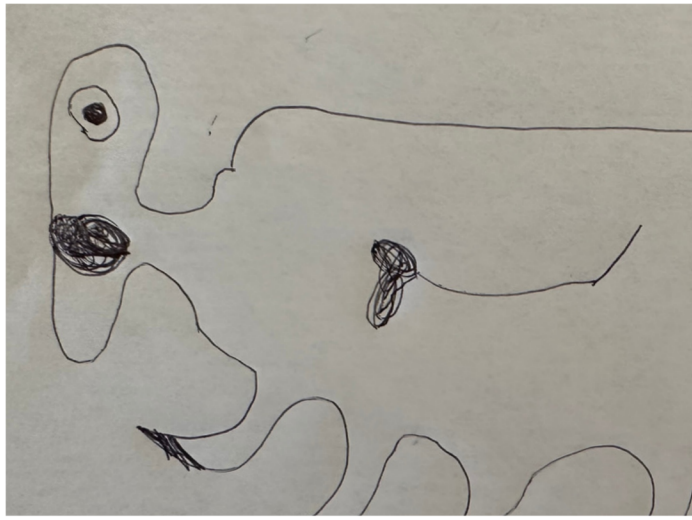




Snagon and a Peculiar Pasta Mystery

A storybook written by The GIANT Room
in collaboration with Matan

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We invited Matan and his family to participate in GIANT Creative Bootcamp, a program designed to boost creativity, ideation, and design thinking skills! For one week, we sent Matan daily videos with a creative challenge, prompting him to build and make with materials he already had at home.

Matan submitted photos of these projects to us, and we mixed and remixed them to create this storybook. The characters, inventions, settings, and foods that Matan created appear throughout the story, forming a unique narrative based on his submissions.



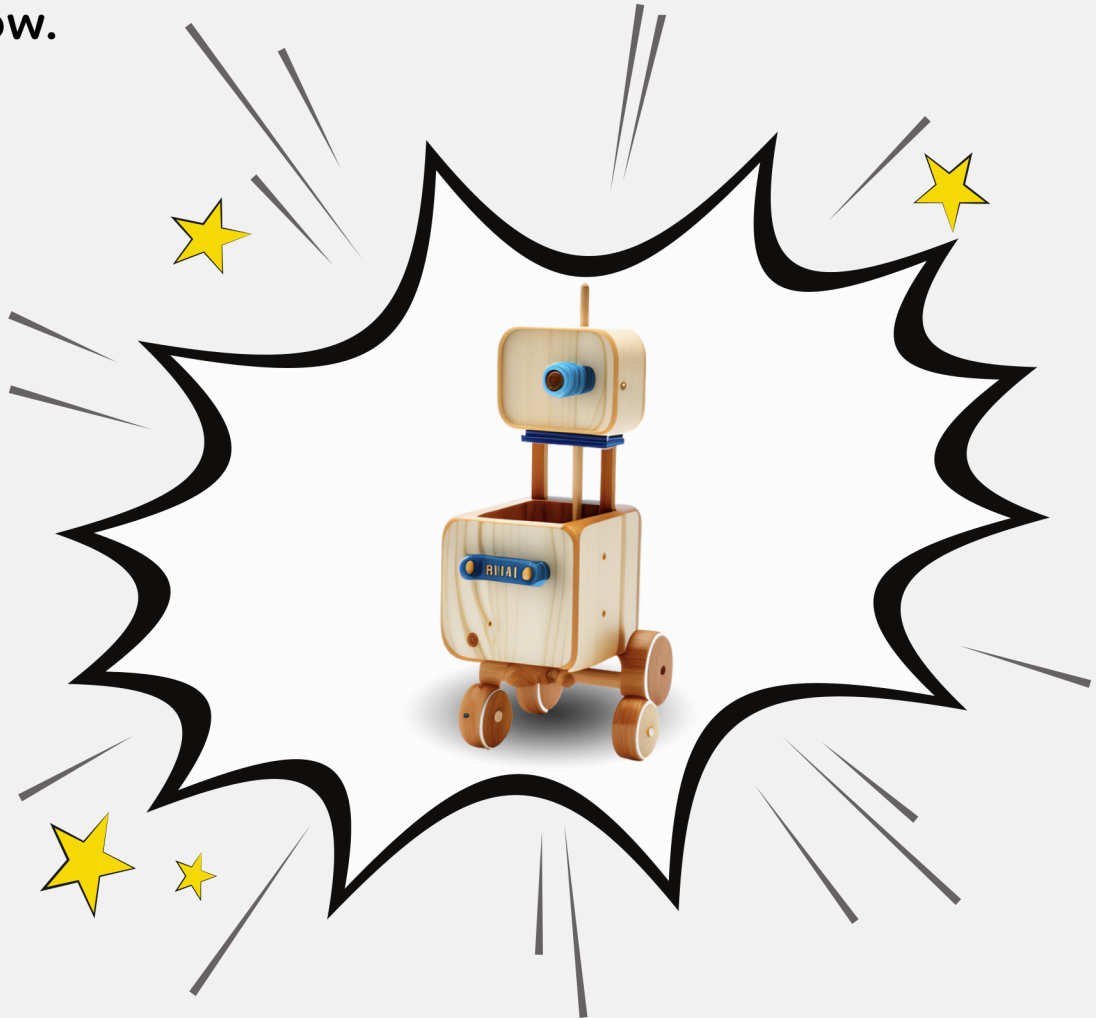
On a beautiful summer day, a boy named Matan was doodling in his notebook. He sketched a magical creature!



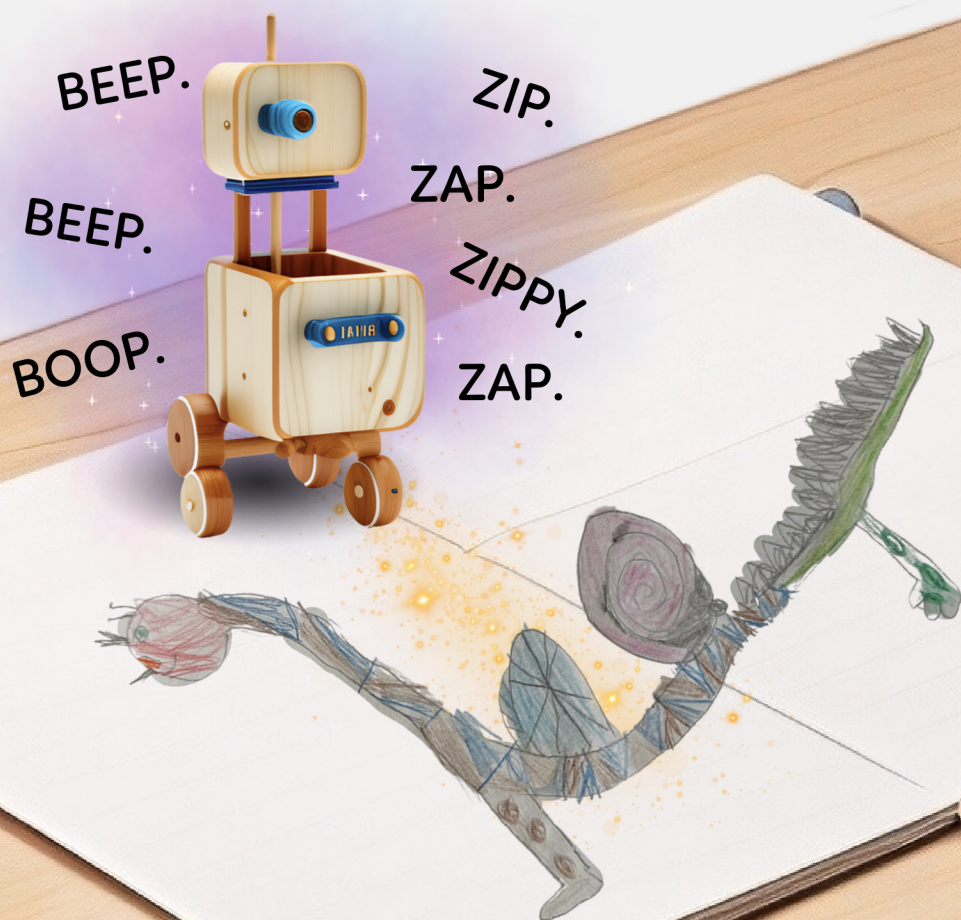
I'll name him...Snagon! He is a magical creature with superpowers, and he acts strangely when fighting.



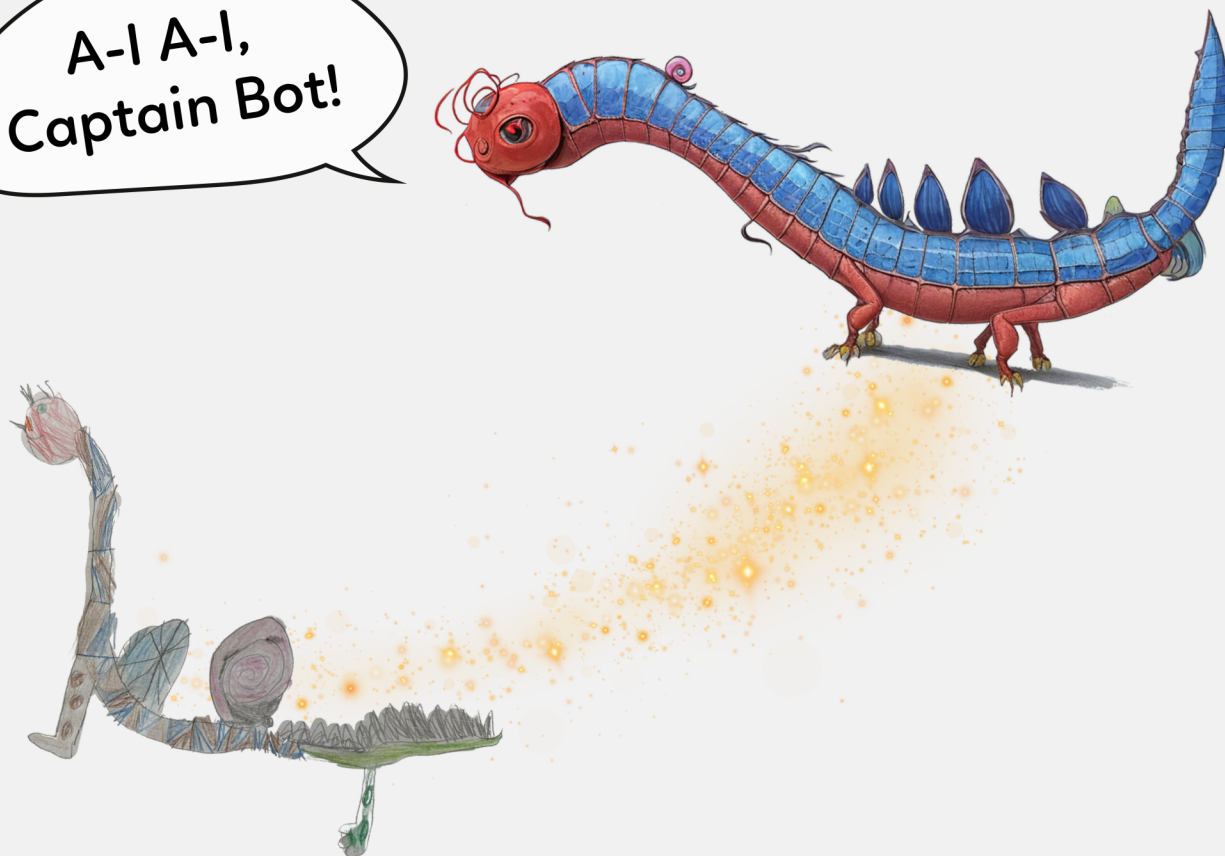
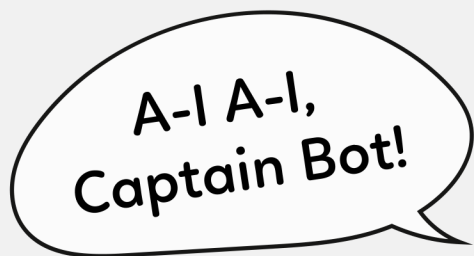
Finishing the sketch, Matan left his notebook on the table and went to have a snack. As soon as he left the room, Captain Bot, a high-tech artificial intelligence robot, zoomed in through the open window.



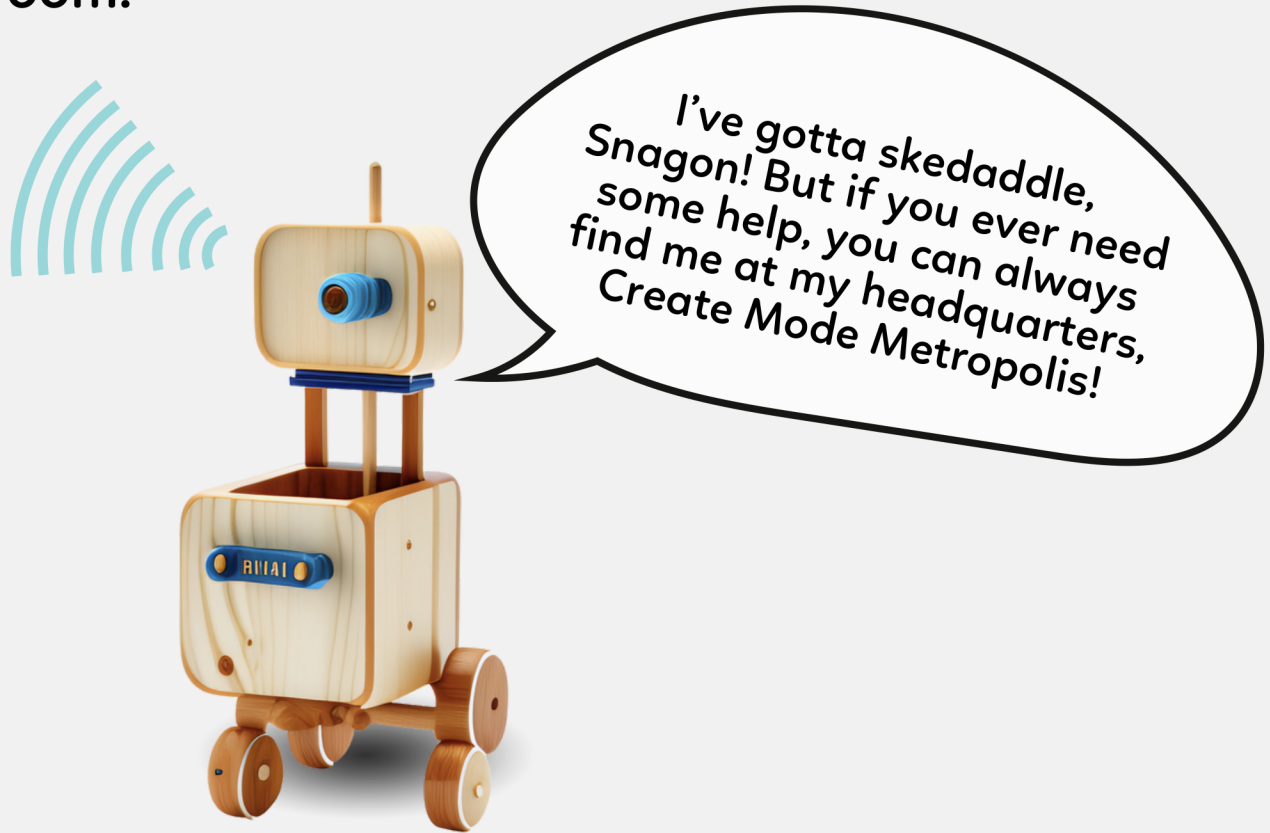
She channeled her AI powers to bring the doodle of Snagon to life...



Snagon popped right out of the page
as a 3D character!

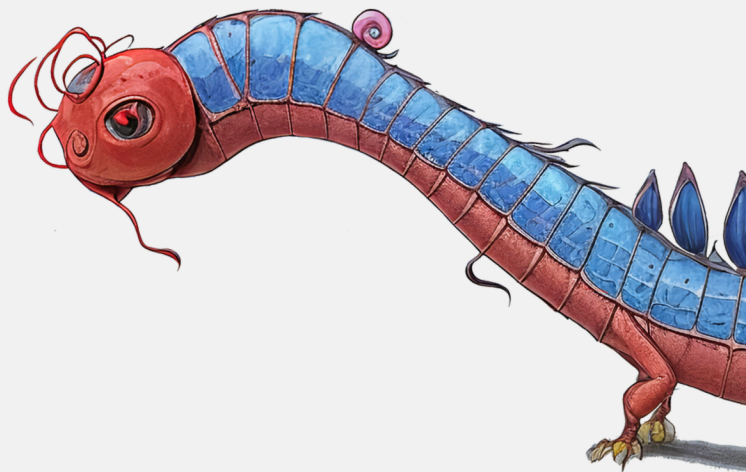
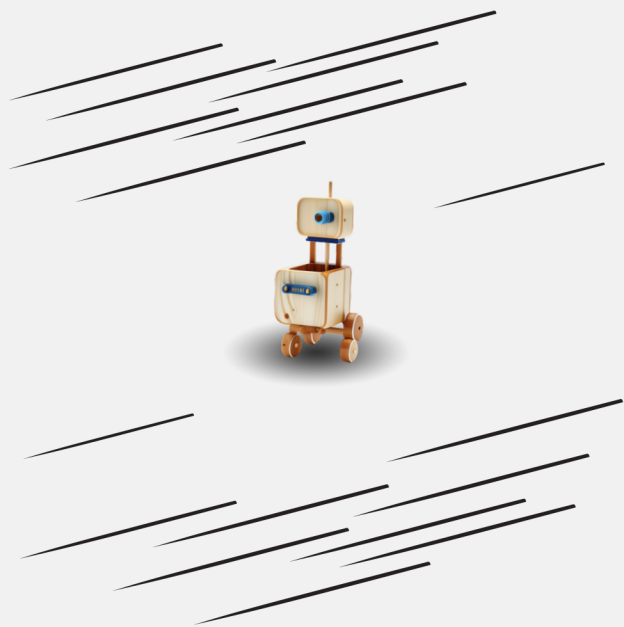


Captain Bot heard Matan coming back to his room.



She tossed him a teleportation gadget that could bring him to Create Mode Metropolis at the click of a button.

Snagon put the device in his pocket and waved goodbye to Captain Bot. He looked around the room, trying to find somewhere to go before Matan came back.

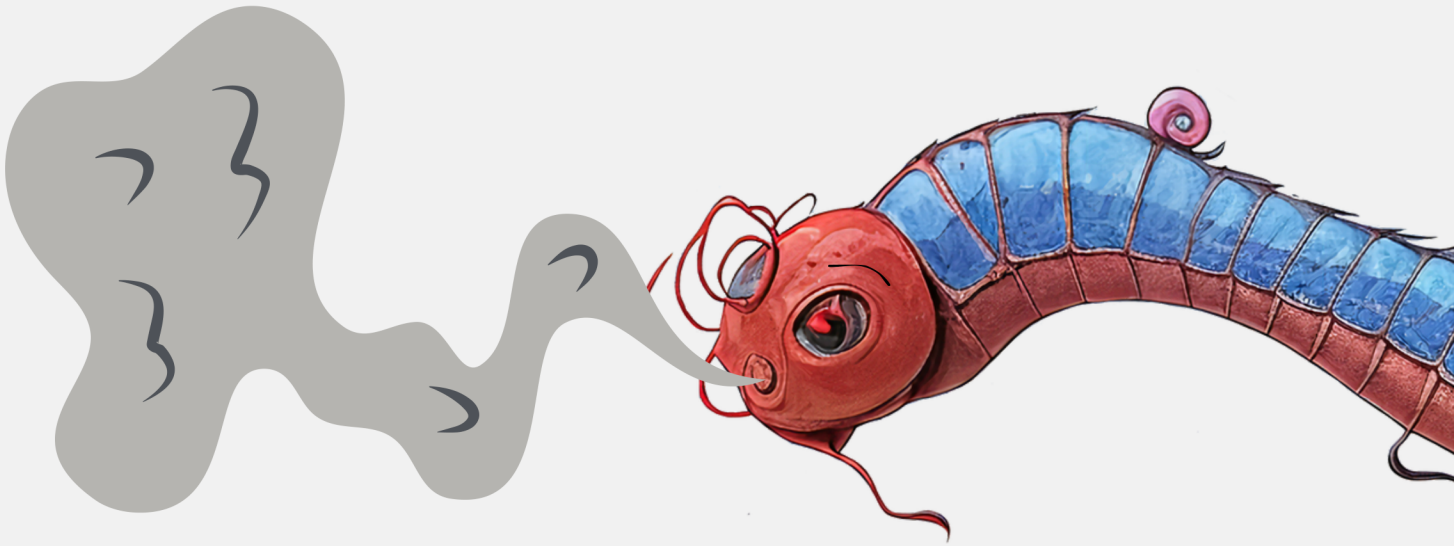


On Matan's floor, he found another one of his creations: a river flowing into a cave that lies underneath an island with blue and yellow grass. White bats guard the cave and strange bead animals live in the water. A large orange flower grows at the cave's entrance. The creatures on the island eat it, but it always grows back.



“COWABUNGA!” Snagon shouted
as he jumped into the drawing,
entering a brand new universe.





Snagon was swimming through the river, towards the cave's entrance, when he smelled something coming from the other direction. He followed the scent until he stumbled upon something absolutely bizarre.

GIANT PILES OF PASTA!


Rigatoni!

Macaroni!

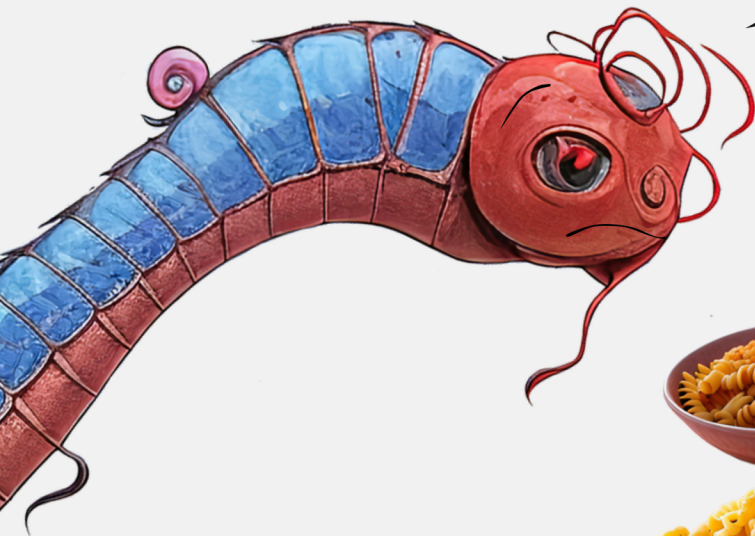
Fusilli!

Spaghetti!

“What in the world is all of this pasta doing here in the middle of the island?!” Snagon asked himself.



There must be at least 300 pounds of pasta!



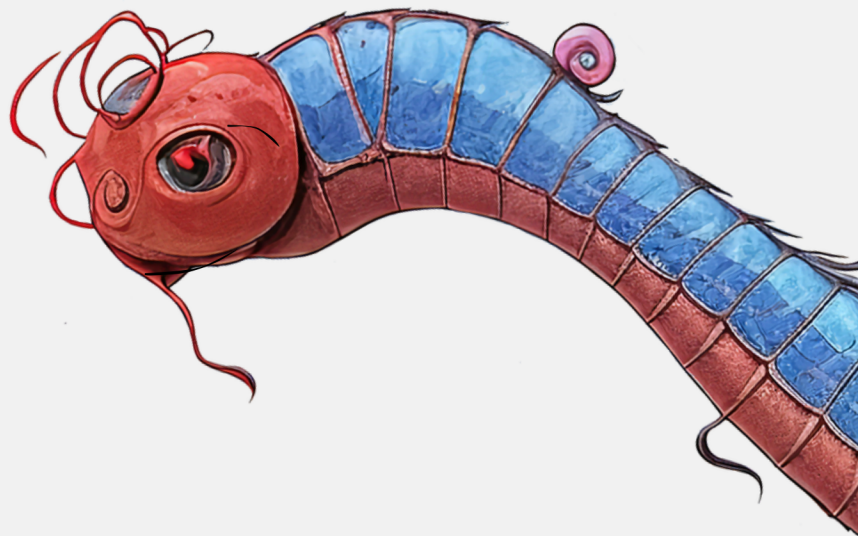
He knew there was only one way to figure it out – he needed the expertise of Captain Bot! He pulled out his teleportation device and zapped himself to...

CREATE MODE ✨
METROPOLIS ✨



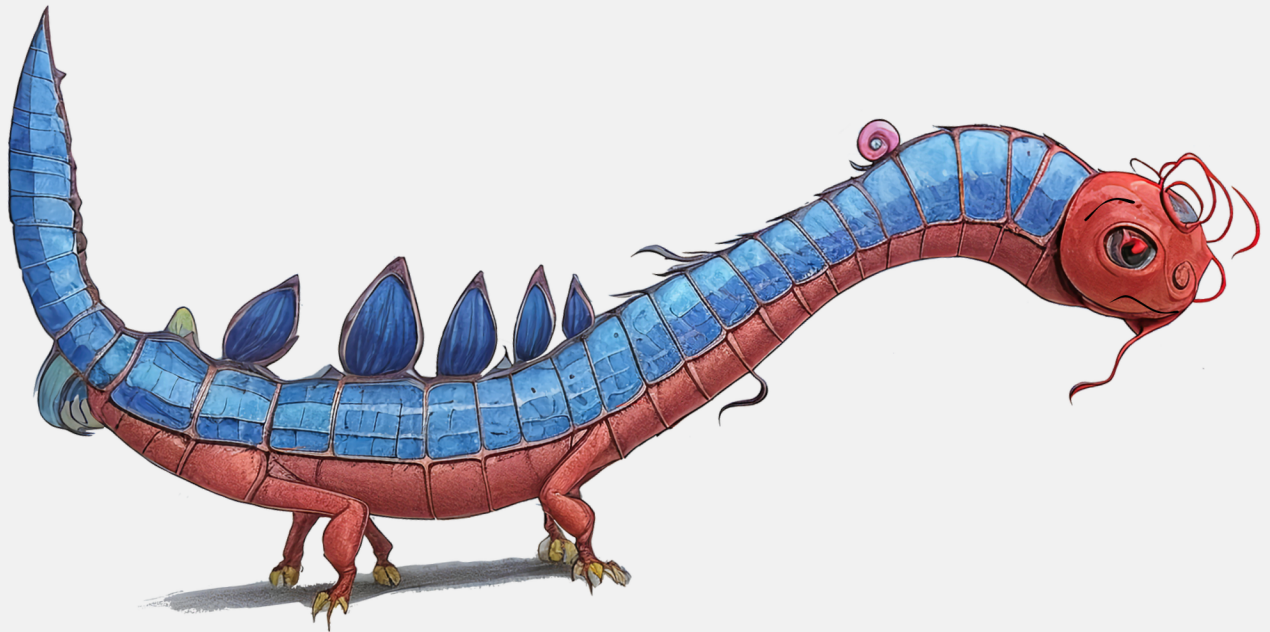


A-I, A-I Captain Bot!
I need your help
solving a mystery!



“Welcome to Create Mode Metropolis, Snagon! How can I help?” responded Captain Bot.

“Well,” Snagon explained, “Hundreds of pounds of pasta have been dumped onto the island! Do you know why?”



Nope! But I can help you by bringing more of Matan's ideas to life. They might come in handy while you solve this mystery... You see, in Create Mode Metropolis, we collect kids' inventions from all over the world and store them for mystery solvers like you.

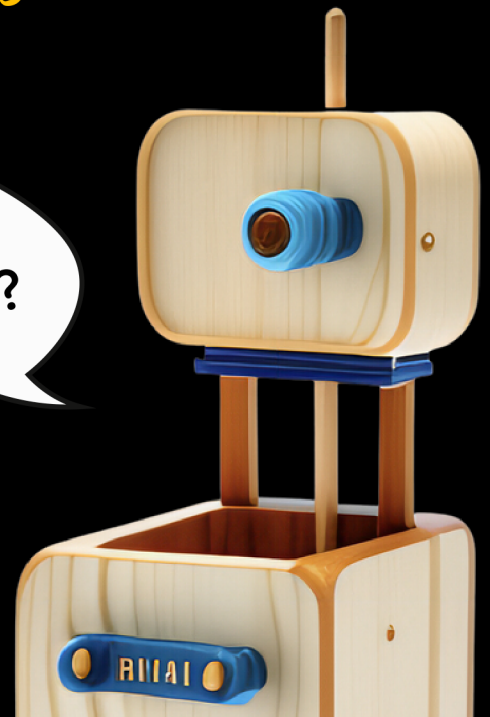


Captain Bot showed one of Matan's ideas.

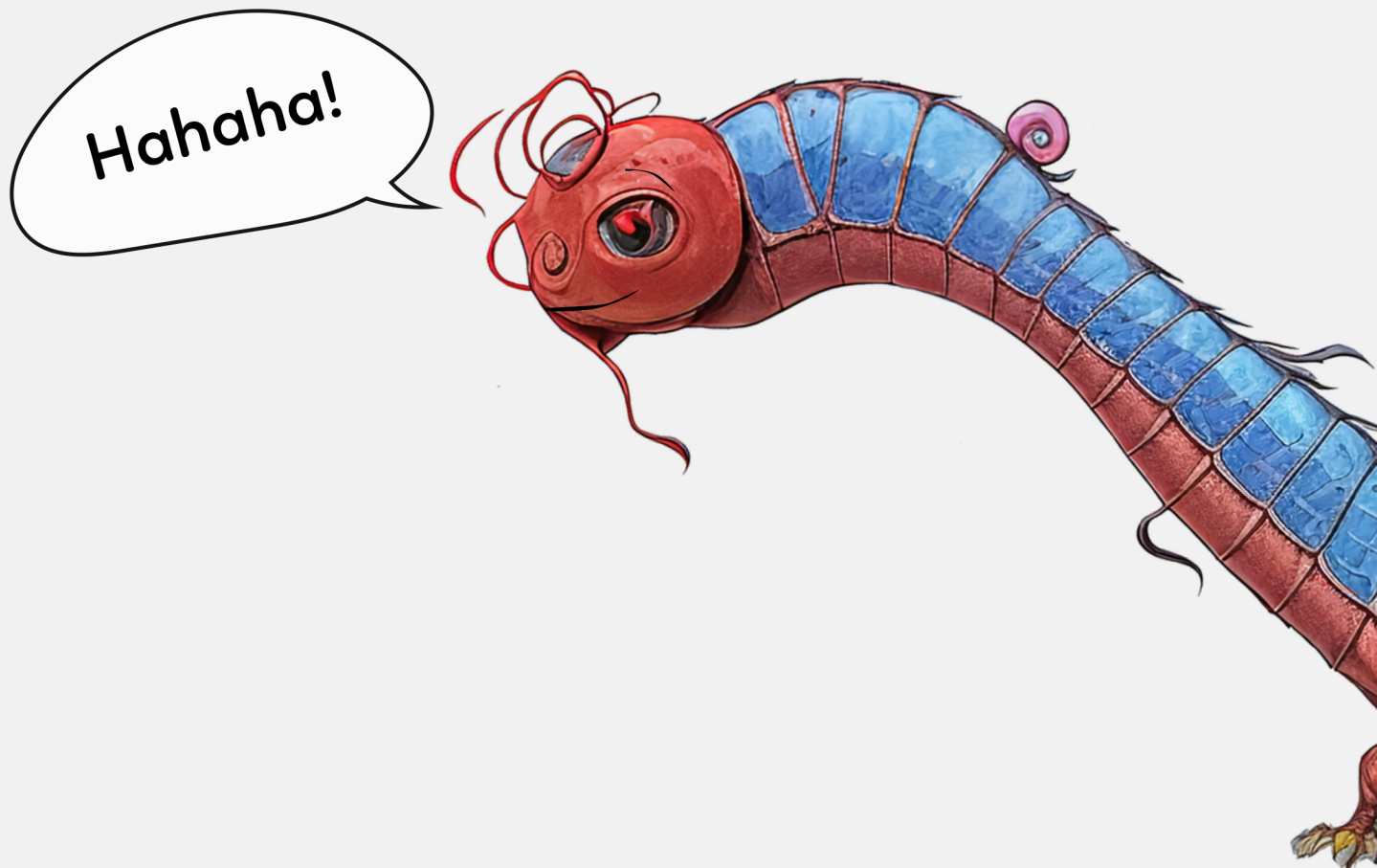


It is a stretchy and flexible kind of pasta, shaped like dragons. When dunked in sauce, the pasta looks like dragons flying through the air. The sauce is made with water and special flowers from the underground river.

Could this project help you?



Snagon started laughing. “Delectable pasta perfection... BUT, I don’t want to eat pasta, Captain Bot! I want to find out how all that pasta got there and who did it!”



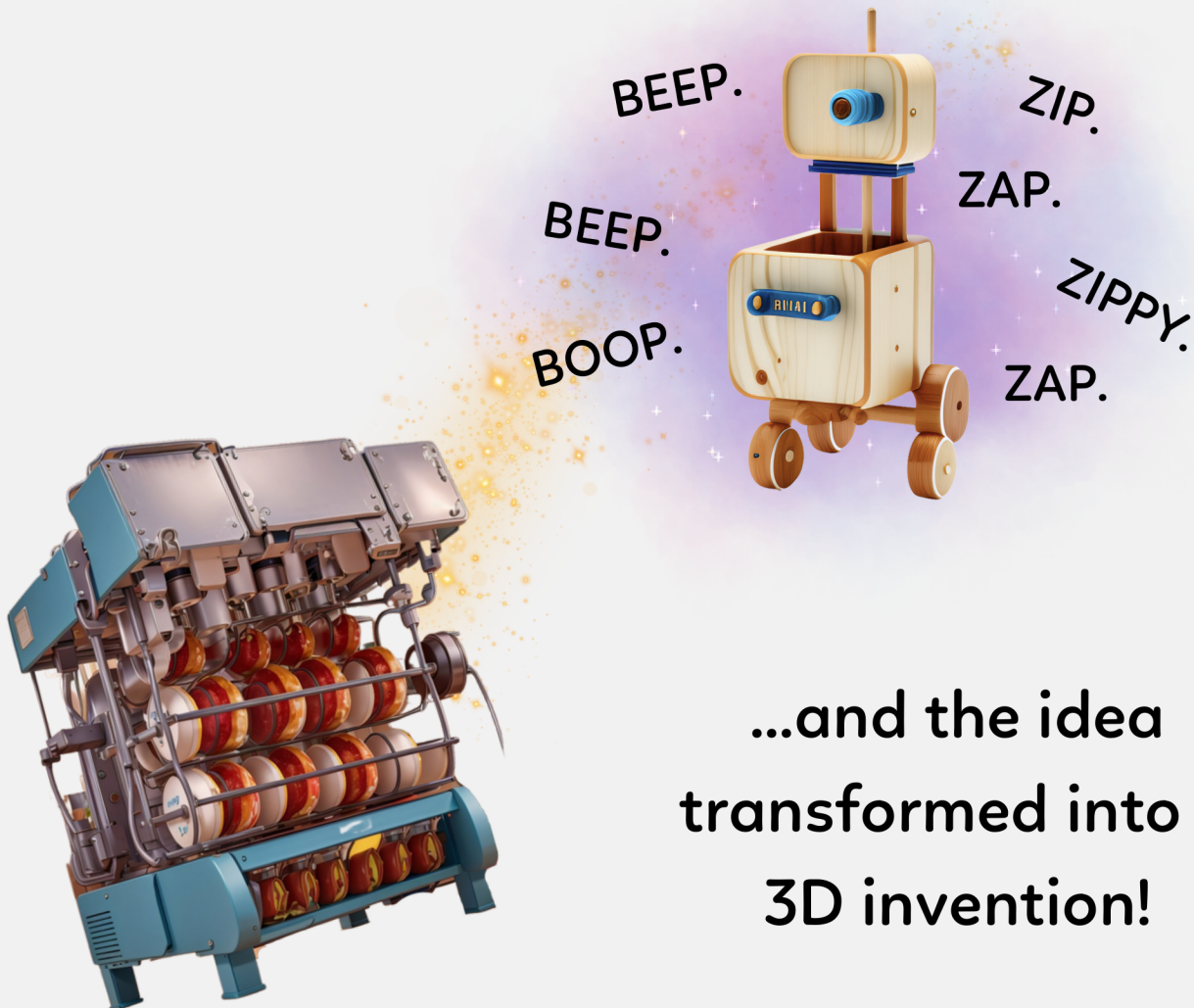


The Food Maker: a ginormous machine that can prepare any kind of food! You add the ingredients on one side, and the machine cuts and cooks them.



Haha, oops! What about this project?

“WHOA! That looks SUPER useful!” Snagon shouted excitedly. Captain Bot harnessed her AI powers...

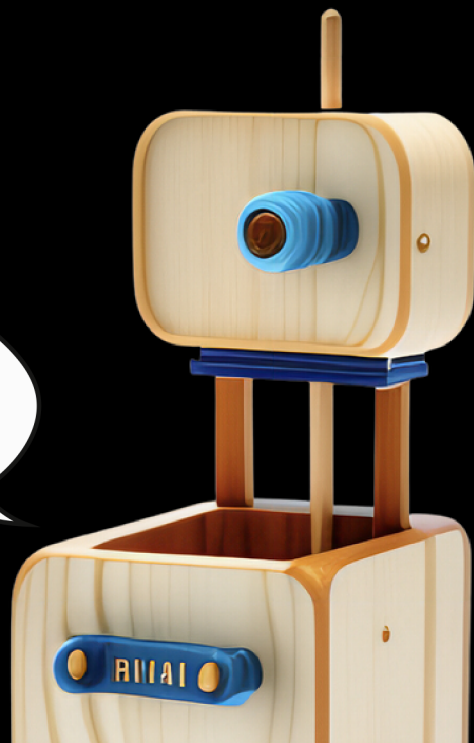


...and the idea transformed into a 3D invention!

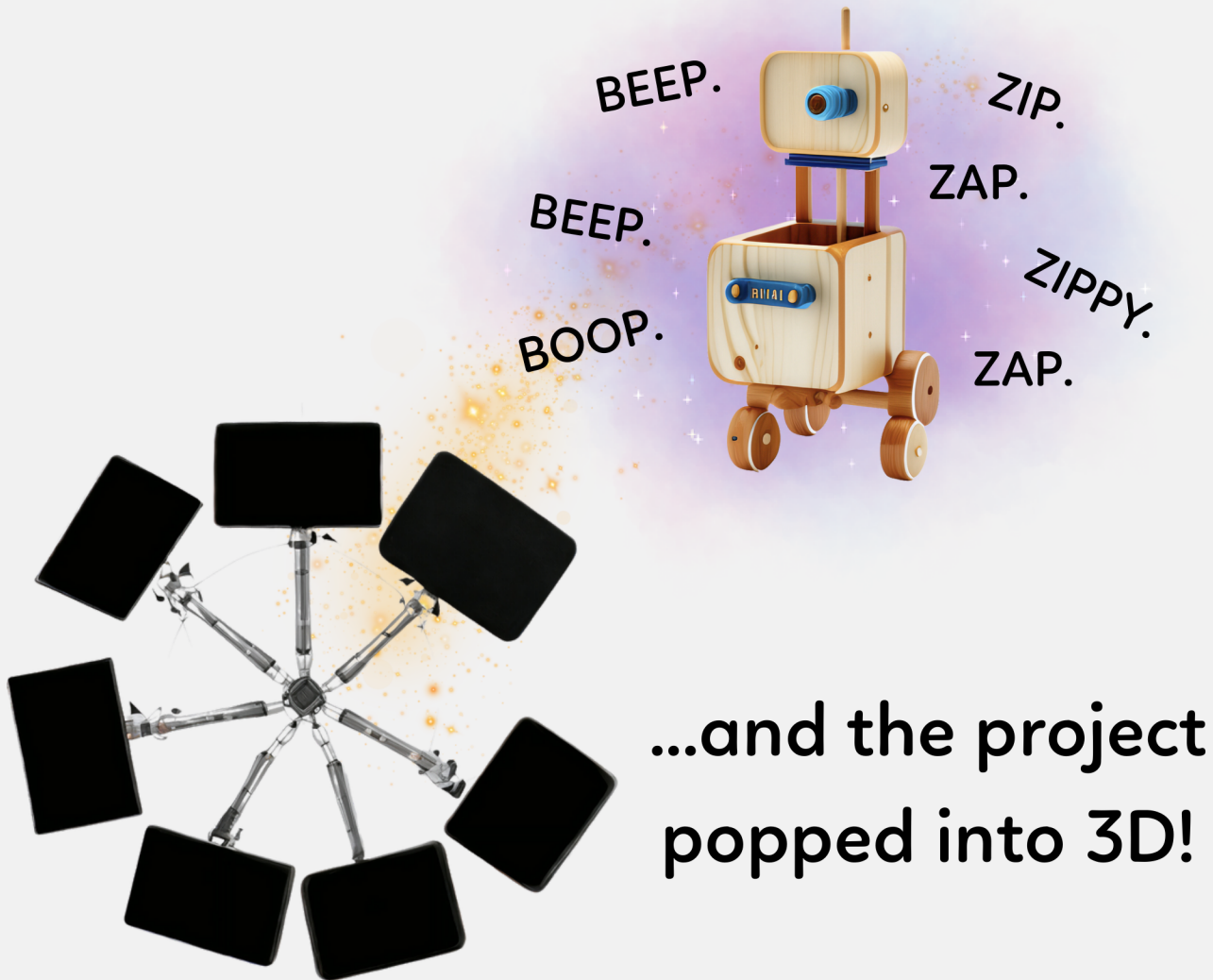


This communication device has panels with many different functions.

Next up is the Website Communicator.



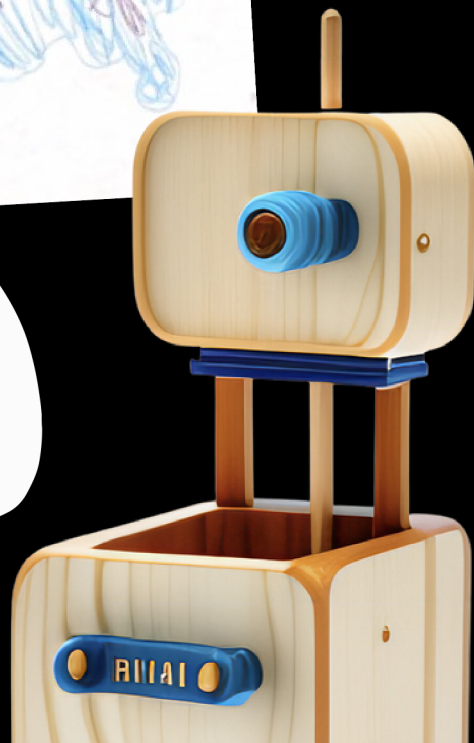
“I definitely need that one,” said Snagon.
Captain Bot harnessed her AI powers...



...and the project
popped into 3D!



And finally, Matan's last creation is a magical world with a river coming down from the sky, where clouds can turn into bugs and birds.

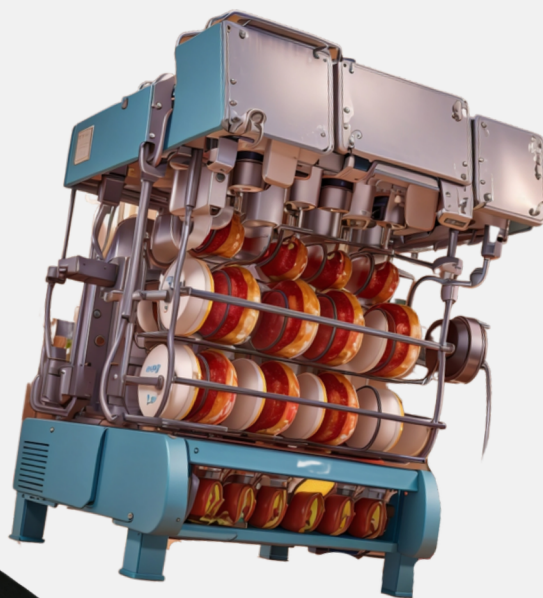


“Yes! Yes! YES!” Snagon yelled with excitement. Though he wasn’t quite sure what to do with the magical world, yet...

Using Captain Bot’s AI powers –



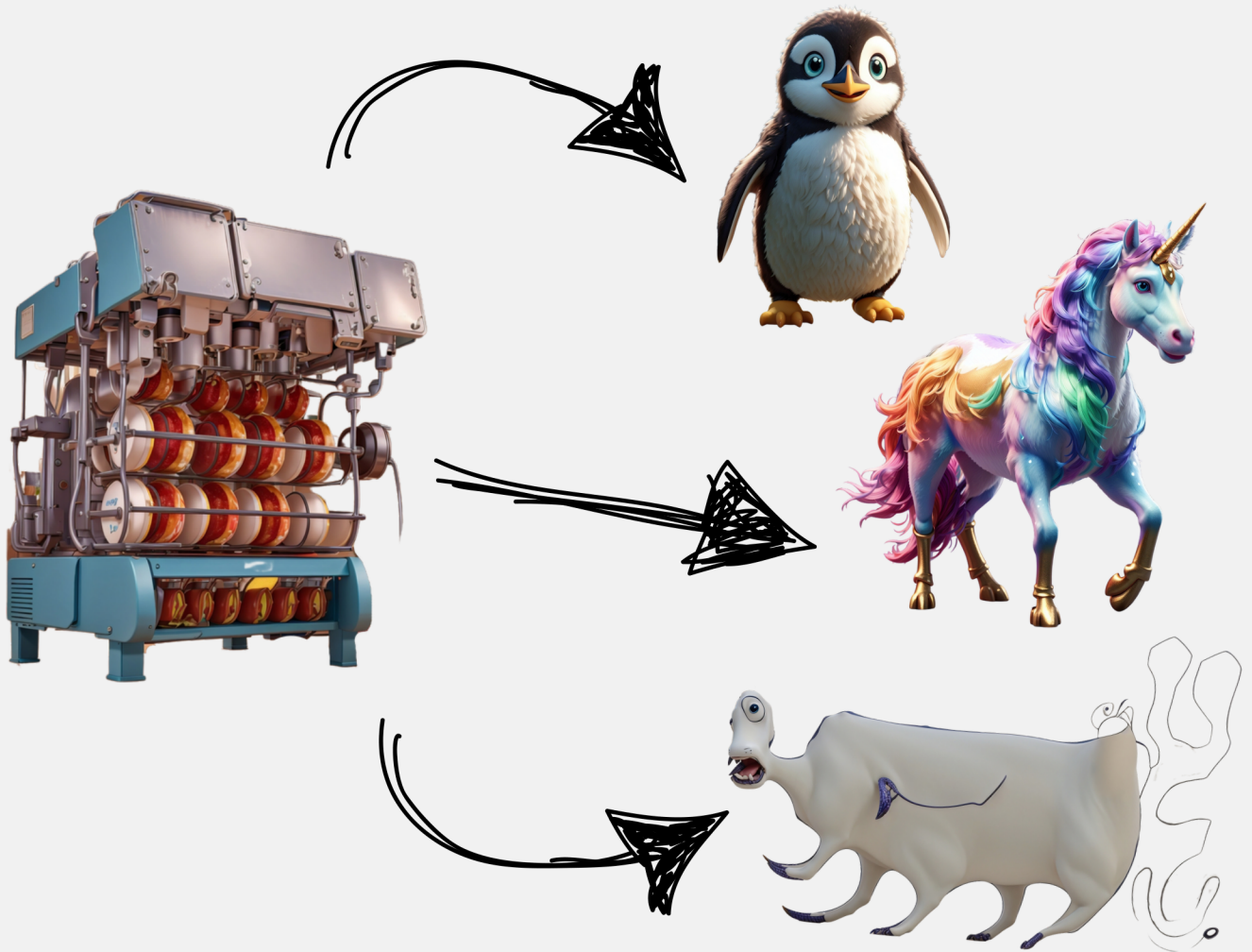
– the project was brought to life!



“Thank you so much, Captain Bot!” Snagon exclaimed, gathering the inventions. He teleported back to the underground river to get started on solving this mystery.

Putting the Food Maker in reverse, Snagon added a piece of pasta to it. The Food Maker was able to decode the ingredients used to make the pasta!

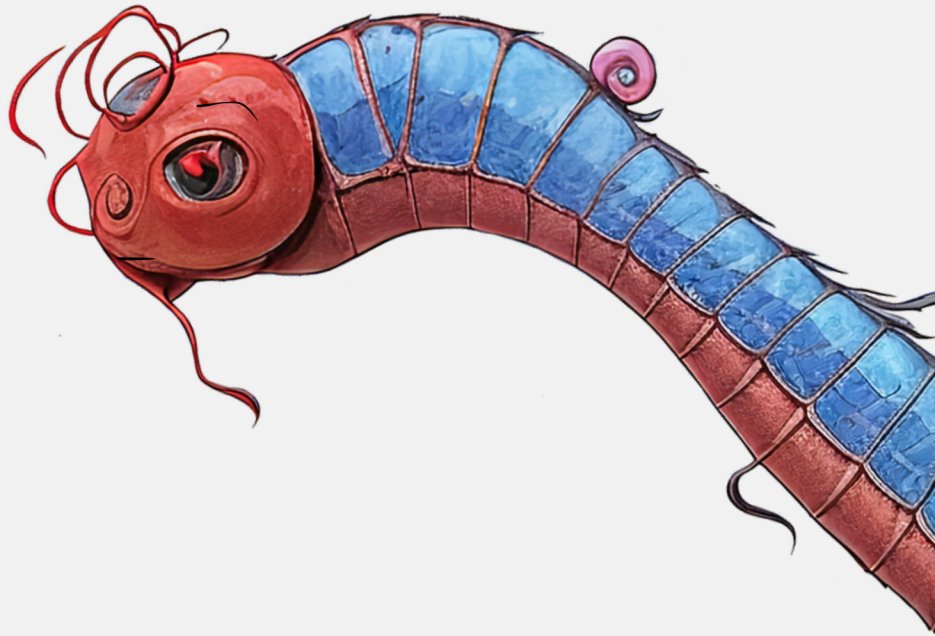




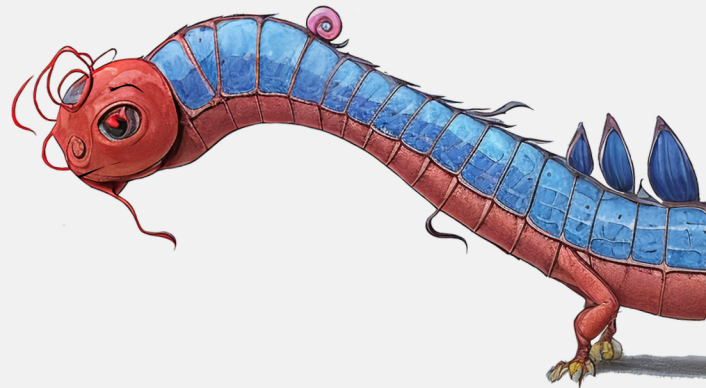
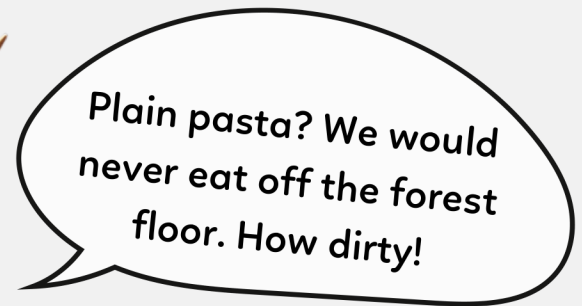
After some calculations, the machine discovered that these ingredients could only belong to three creatures: a forest penguin, a utopian unicorn, or a venomous shape-shifter.

In the Penguin Village, he asked the forest penguins if they knew anything about the pasta, but they just shook their heads.

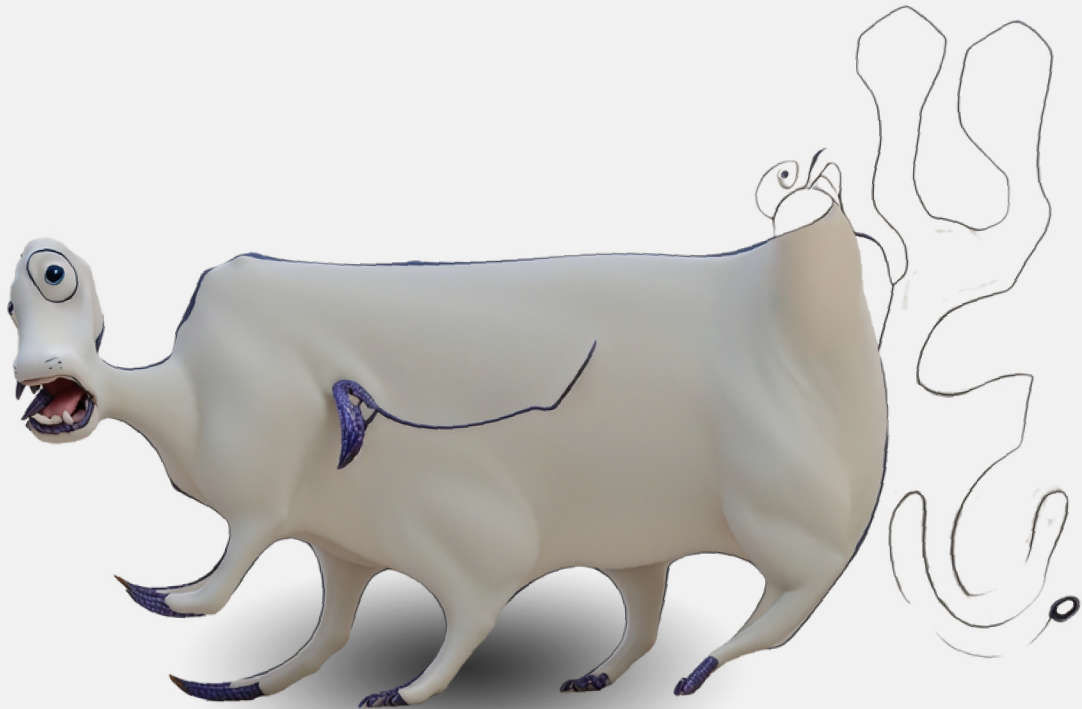
Piles of pasta? We only
eat dishes with bugs in
it, of course!



Next, he went to Unicorn Utopia. Snagon asked the unicorns if they knew anything about the pasta, but they just laughed.

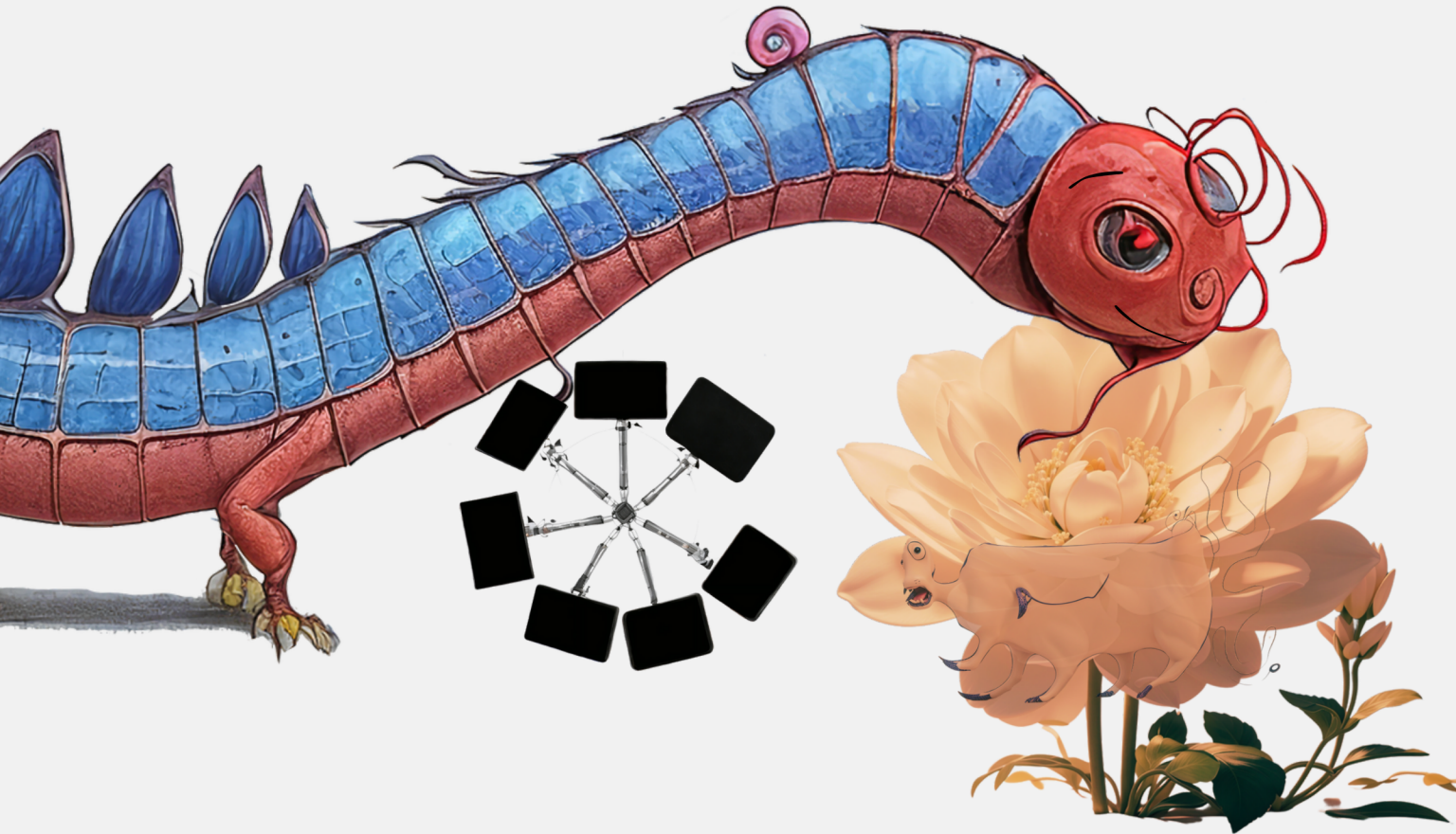


**Snagon had only one
more suspect to go:**

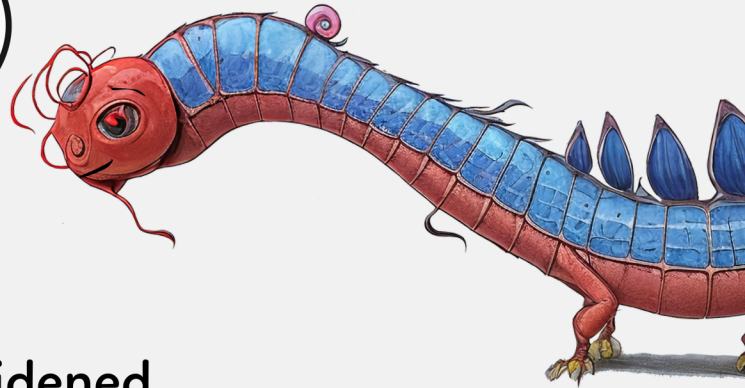


the venomous shape-shifter.

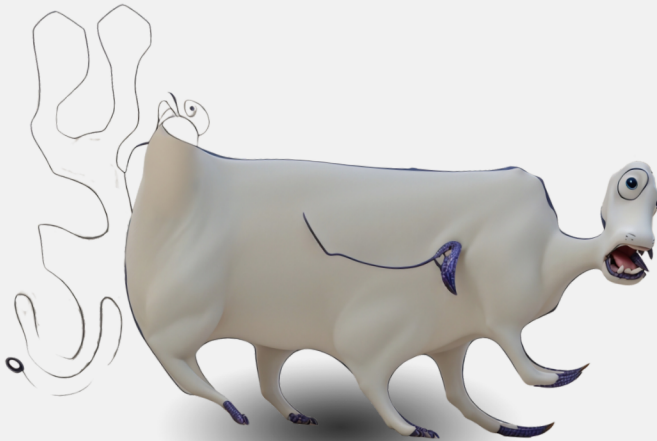
Snagon took out the Website Communicator and used one of the panels to detect the venomous shape-shifter. He quickly spotted one blending into the island's orange flower.



Hi, there! Do you know
anything about the pasta
piles that were recently
found on the island?



The shape-shifter's eyes widened.



Um, no. Nothing at
all. Not me. I didn't
do anything. Pasta?
What's that? Haha.

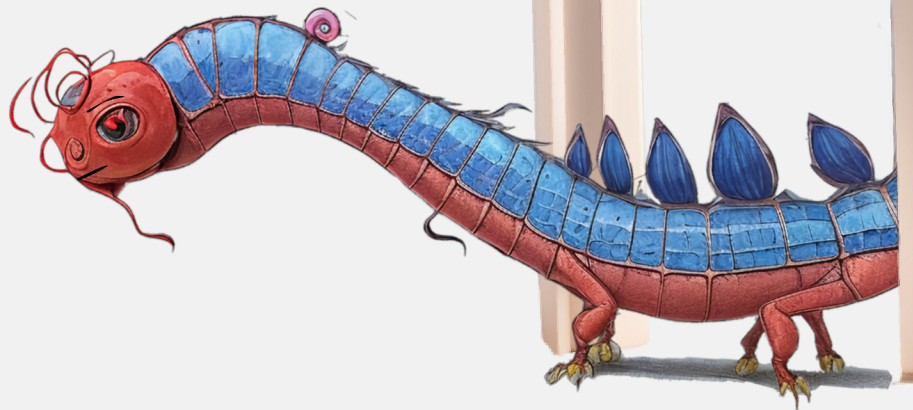
She quickly scurried away.

Snagon thought she seemed familiar, so he sneakily followed behind her. She turned into an inventor's workshop and covered a large machine with a blanket.

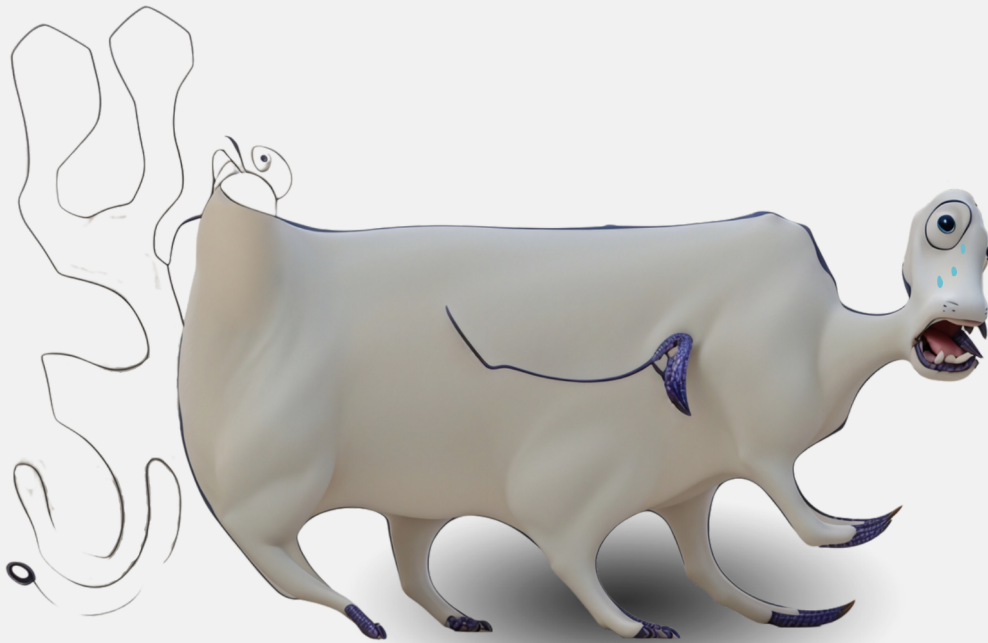


Snagon knocked on the door.

“Sorry to bother you again.
You remind me of one of
Matan’s ideas...did he...?”

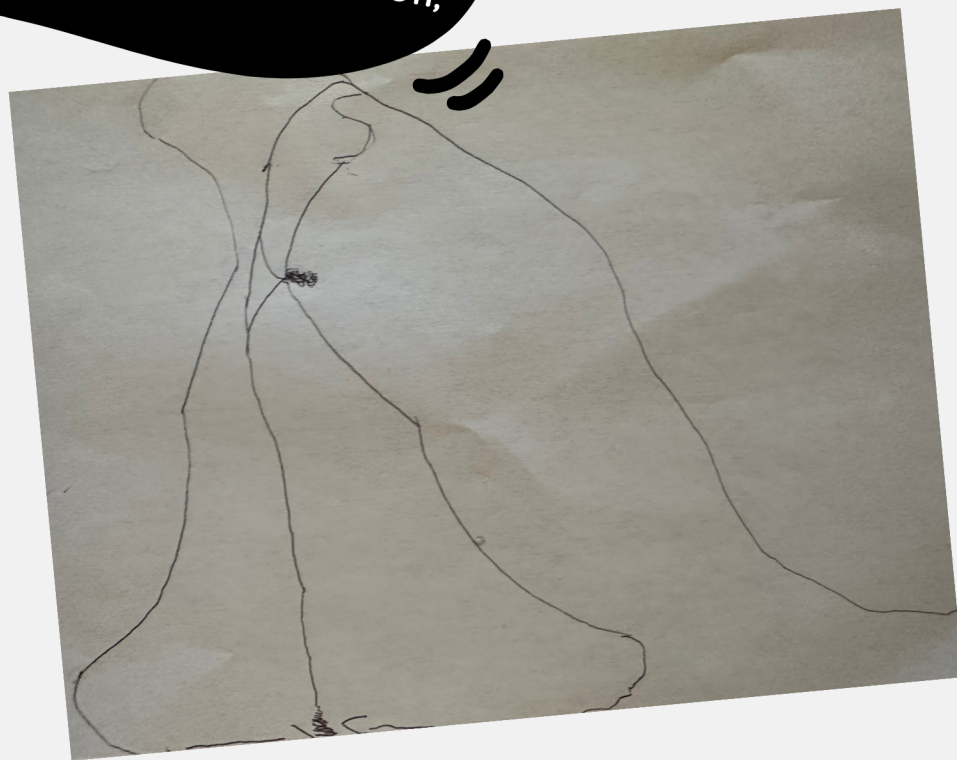


“Ok, fine! It was me! I did it! I caused the pasta disaster. I’m so sorry. Please don’t get me in trouble with Captain Bot! Oh, no! My life is ruined!” the venomous creature confessed in a rush. She began to cry.



Snagon patted her shoulder. “Don’t cry! I don’t want to get you in trouble. What happened?”

I am one of Matan's animal discoveries. Captain Bot brought me to life to help her do some science experiments that Matan designed. I was working on the nanoscopic claw for a nuclear reactor, but it completely malfunctioned! Once the wire in the center began to spin the generator, it cloned the plate of noodles I was eating for dinner. Oh, what a mess!

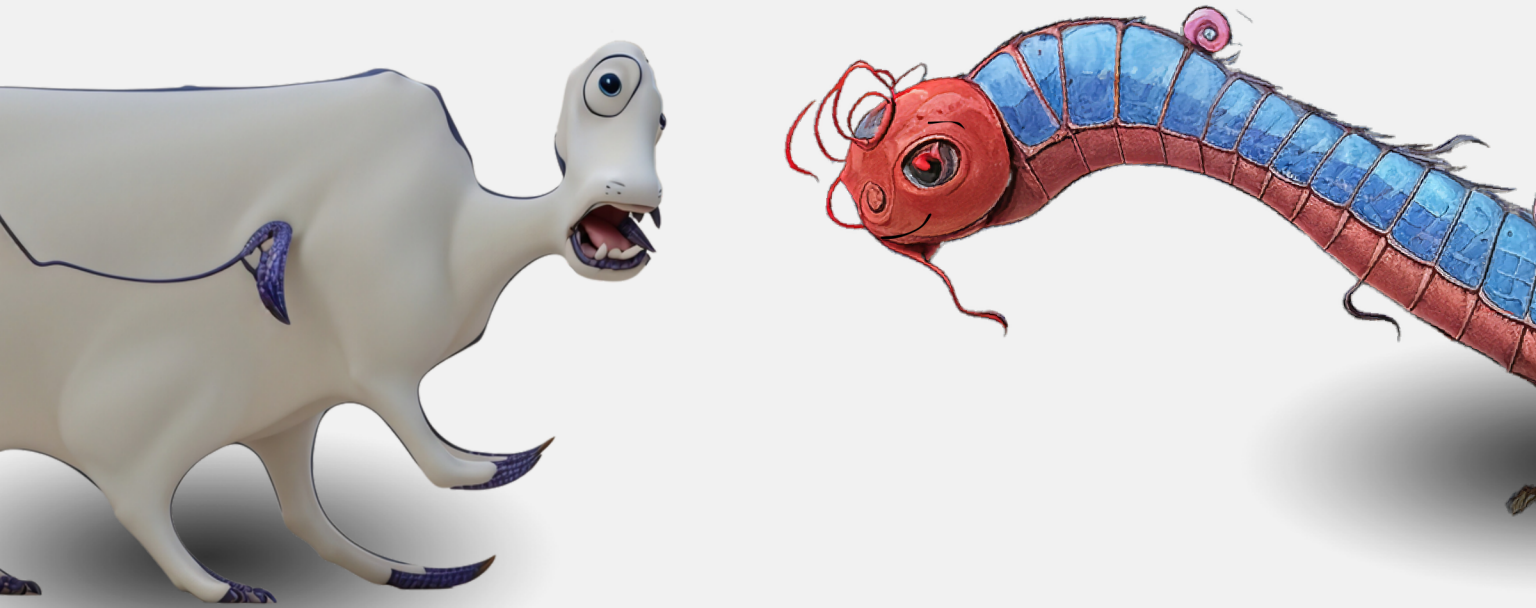


Nuclear Reactor



“Wow, it sounds like you are a talented engineer! Though, the reactor probably does need a safety switch,” Snagon said encouragingly.

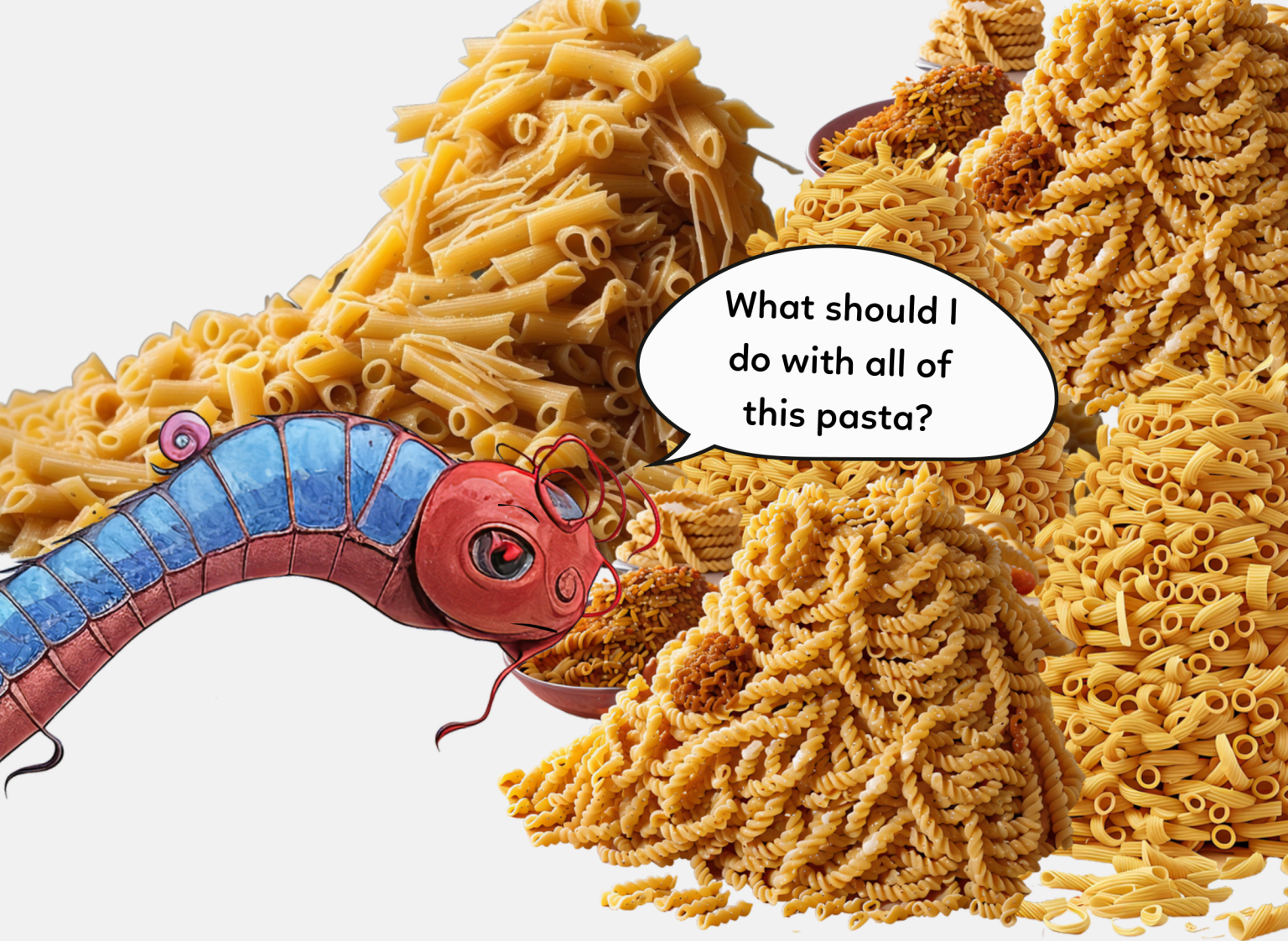
Snagon and the venomous shape-shifter said
goodbye and promised to stay in touch.



Snagon had finally solved
the pasta mystery!



But there was one last problem...



His stomach gurgled loudly. He was pretty hungry. Maybe Captain Bot really had been on to something after all...

I can't eat all of this by myself, he thought. Just then, he remembered the magical world in his pocket.



He could use the world to transform the clouds into bugs to add to the pasta!

Snagon smiled super wide. He knew just who to share this delicious pasta with.



THE END

DID YOU KNOW?!

This actually happened in New Jersey in April 2023! Someone found hundreds of pounds of pasta in the forest off the side of the road! Snagon solved it with some of Matan's inventions, but how would YOU go about solving this mystery? The case is still open! REALLY!



Detective Mystery: Pasta Scandal

→ Watch the prompt to learn more about this mystery and solve it for yourself.

Matan's Creative Journey

DAY 1



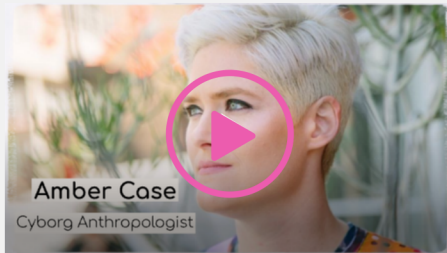
DAY 2



DAY 3



DAY 4



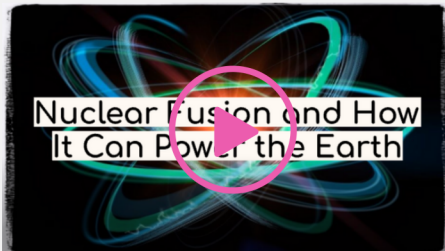
DAY 5



DAY 6



DAY 7



Scan the QR code
to learn more!





ABOUT The GIANT Room

The GIANT Room is a creative STEM hub for kids with GIANT dreams who dare to act on them. We help kids to use STEM as a tool for self expression, creativity, and collaboration.

The GIANT Room offers after school programs, camps, family events, specialized co-design workshops with industry designers, and online creative bootcamp membership. Kids may join our programs online, in-person at our studio, or off-site at one of our partner locations in museums and schools.

Founded by two women with PhDs in education and backgrounds in science and engineering, we dream of a world where every child has the confidence to voice their ideas, have access to mentors and resources they need to build prototypes of their ideas, and the opportunity to share those ideas with their community... just like the GIANT kids who published their collaborative, creative work in this beautiful storybook to be shared with millions of families around the world.

A GIANT thank you to Matan, his family, and the GIANT team members who made this publication possible.

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