

ALL ABOUT HONEY. HONEY. LION!



Fan palm

Hi Everyone!

When we visited Botswana, Africa, our Guide, Ali Tiego, showed us the Honeyguide bird. It leads people or a Honey Badger to a wild bee hive. It can't get the honey itself so it finds a helper to break the hive open.

The legend is; you must share the honey with the bird, or next time it will lead you to a lion!

Jan Brett

The "Mambo Boys" are three young lions we saw on Chief's Island two years in a row.

I create borders in my books when I have too many ideas to fit in the middle of the page. On our trip to the Okavango Delta, I was amazed at how fast news traveled when there was no phone or e-mail. We were told it was the "bush telegraph", one person tells another. Look to see how the animals in the borders broadcast the story.

Many designs you'll see in my book are inspired by beautiful Botswanan baskets made from the fan palm. The artist picks the fronds and dyes them with roots or bark. The colors reflect the African bush. The designs have whimsical names such as "tears of the giraffe", knees of the turtle with goats" and "forehead of the zebra".

I added guinea fowl feathers which are polka-dotted and the striped quills of the African porcupine. The round, flat breads are made by the San people, who traditionally use ostridge eggs for food, as vessels to carry water and for making breads.

Guinea Fowl:
the polka dot bird

Ostrich egg
bead made by
the San

African Porcupine Quill

Guinea Fowl feather