



## Vinson's Big Adventure - story and activity

We all have challenges to face in life. But the good news is, we all have our own adventures, too!

Kidscape supporter, Josh Braid, will soon be embarking on an epic journey to the South Pole to raise money for Kidscape. Josh experienced bullying when he was at school, and wants to raise awareness and help other children and young people who might also be going through a bullying situation.

Josh is the inspiration for our story about Vinson, a brave ibex goat living in the Alps. He experiences challenges in his life, including bullying, and sets out on an adventure that tests his resilience and determination. Along the way, Vinson learns the power of what makes us unique, and makes friends in unexpected places.

Read on for Vinson's story, and for an activity featuring a beautiful illustration by [Laura H Brown](#) that you can share with friends and family. If you would like to learn more about Josh's expedition, his website is [available here](#).

## Vinson the Brave Ibex

Once upon a time, in a lush green valley nestled between towering mountains, there lived a brave mountain goat named Vinson. But Vinson was no ordinary goat; he was an ibex goat, with the most magnificent pair of large and curled horns you've ever seen, and amazing hooves that clung to extra steep mountain slopes. But despite his remarkable appearance, Vinson had faced a difficult past.

You see, when Vinson was just a young goat, he had been bullied by the other, smaller goats in his herd. They would call him "Curly" because of his impressive horns, and would leave him out of their games and adventures, climbing into small spaces they knew he couldn't reach. Sometimes they would pretend to be his friend so he would climb up the steepest mountains to get food for them, and he would believe they were his friends. But it wouldn't be long before they started laughing at him again. Over time, Vinson became insecure and sad, and worried that he didn't deserve true friends of his own.



Even though Vinson's family told him the other goats were just envious of his beautiful horns and incredible hooves, Vinson's heart ached from the other goats' unkind words and cruel laughter.

One sunny morning as he grazed on the hillside, Vinson gazed up at the tallest mountain in his home range, Mont Blanc. The snow on top of the mountain gave him an idea that would change his life forever. He decided to embark on a daring adventure to prove himself and do something the other goats could only ever dream of. Vinson was determined to trek all the way to the South Pole!

With his heart full of determination, Vinson began to prepare for his epic journey. He trained hard, scaling the steep cliffs and running up and down the snowy hills. He built up his strength, endurance, and resilience. He also learned how to navigate through treacherous terrain, trek through deserts, and survive the harsh mountain winters. Vinson knew that this adventure would be the ultimate test of his courage and strength.

Finally, the day arrived for Vinson to set out on his journey to the South Pole. With a heart full of hope and determination, he said goodbye to his family and friends and began his long and perilous trek. The path was filled with challenges – freezing temperatures, icy slopes, and fierce winds, but Vinson pressed on.



Along the way, Vinson met many incredible creatures and made new friends. Milana and Mia the penguins shared stories of their own adventures in the frozen wilderness, and Arya the blue whale playfully splashed Vinson with sea water. Vinson was in awe; he had never been to the seaside before! These encounters filled Vinson with a sense of wonder and a newfound respect for the world beyond his mountain valley.

As he ventured deeper into the icy unknown, Vinson’s spirit grew stronger. He faced each challenge with courage and determination, helped on his way by the horns and hooves that the goats at home had laughed at.

After many months of relentless travel, Vinson reached his destination – the South Pole. He stood there, surrounded by endless snow and ice, a triumphant smile on his face. Vinson had not only completed his incredible journey, but he had also discovered something even more precious – the belief in himself and the realisation that he was worthy of love and respect, no matter what others had said.

Vinson’s journey back to his mountain valley was filled with pride and a sense of accomplishment. He had made new friends, Milana, Mia and Arya, who enjoyed spending time with him and appreciated him for who he was. Vinson’s heart was full, and glowed warm even when he was surrounded by snow.

When he returned, the other goats cheered. They had missed him! They no longer teased or bullied him, and although they still called him “Curly”, now it was a loving nickname that celebrated his uniqueness.

From that day forward, Vinson the brave and kind ibex goat inspired all the young goats in the valley to be true to themselves, and to celebrate the things that make us all unique.



# Vinson postcard activity



Kidscape's special friend, Laura H Brown, has designed a beautiful illustration of Vinson to celebrate Josh's big expedition to Antarctica.

We'd love to see where you imagine Vinson visited on his big adventure. Why not use our postcard template to design a special greeting for a friend or family member?

## Instructions

- 1) Prepare your postcard: Ask an adult to help you print the postcard, then help you cut out both sides. You can then use a glue stick to stick them back-to-back so your postcard looks just like the real thing.
- 2) Get your materials: some colourful markers, crayons, or paints, and a pencil.
- 3) Create your landscape: On the front of the postcard, draw or paint a beautiful landscape surrounding Vinson. You could get some inspiration from his story, or from your own imagination. Vinson could be sunning himself on the beach, enjoying a lush forest, or any scene you like. Be creative!
- 4) Write a message: Flip the postcard over to the blank side. Use a pencil to write a friendly message to your friend or family. Tell them how much you care about them and share some fun news!
- 5) Decorate the back: You can also decorate the back with more drawings or stickers if you want to make it extra special.
- 6) Give it to the person you care about: Your friend will love receiving your homemade postcard!

**Have fun creating your postcard, and make someone's day with your thoughtful message!**

  **We'd love to see your designs, so please share them with us on social media!**

Front side:



Reverse:

*Dear*

**Post Card**



**To** \_\_\_\_\_

**From** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**KIDSCAPE**  
Help With Bullying

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