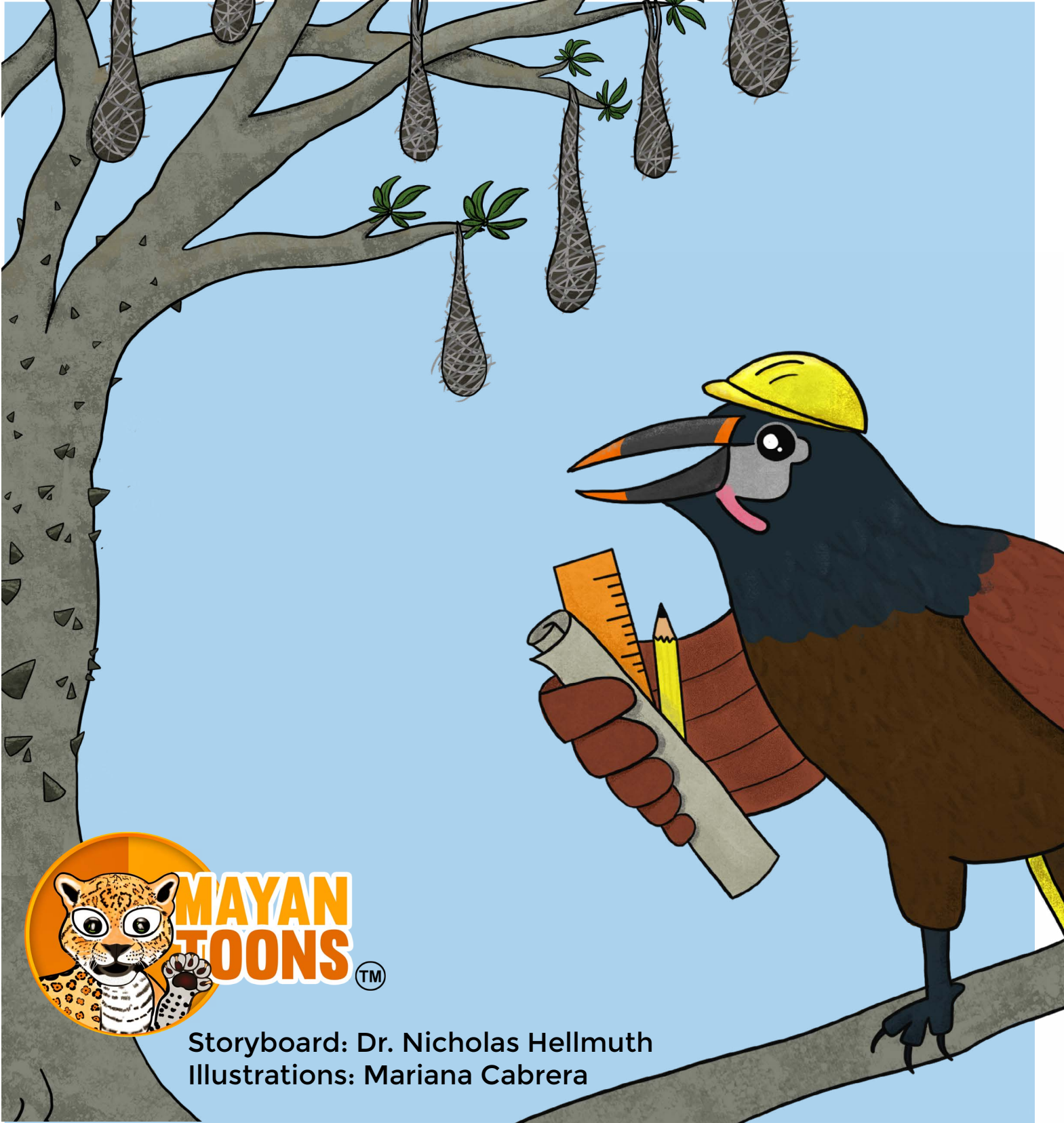


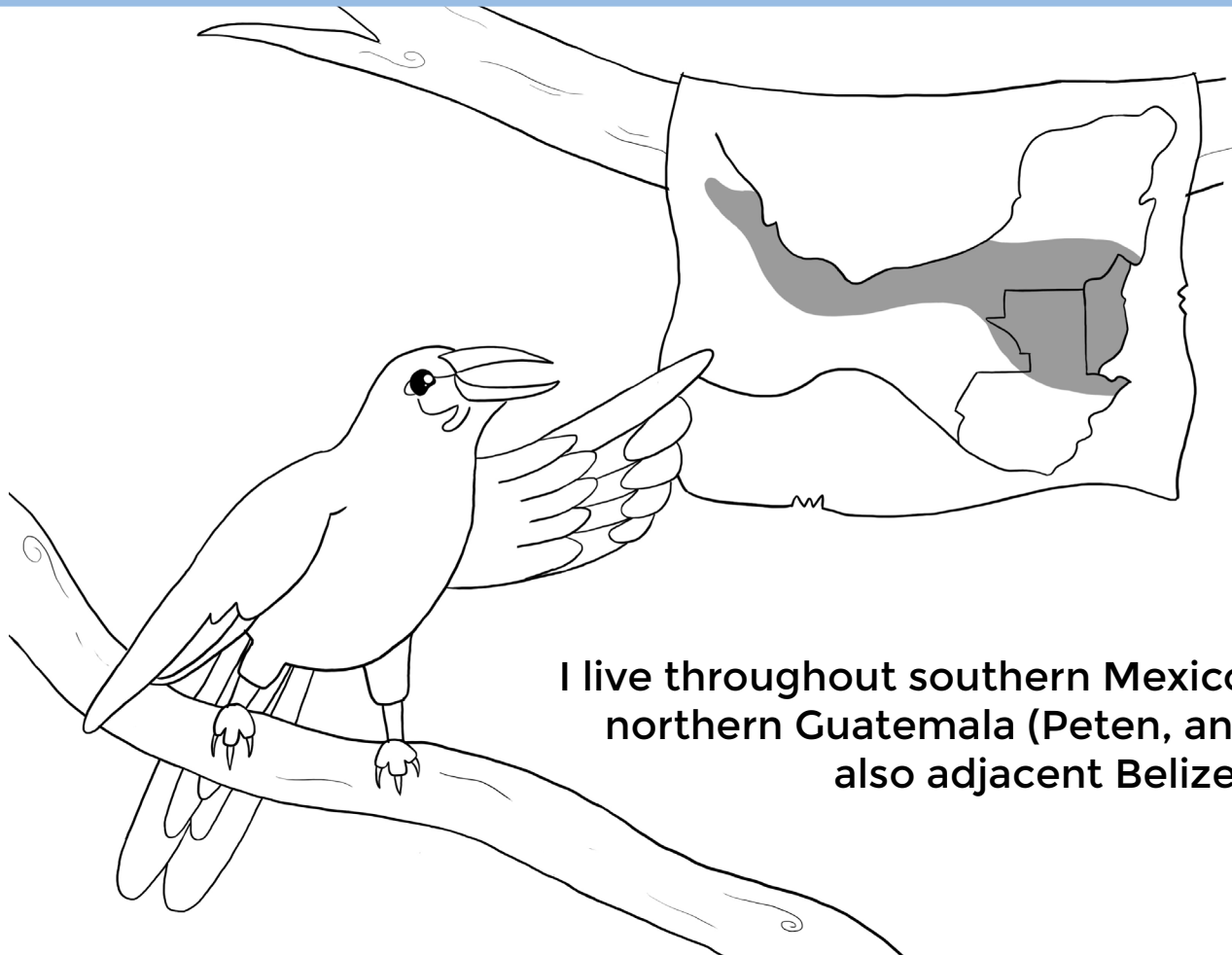
ARCHITECT BIRD

Can a bird build his own Bird House?

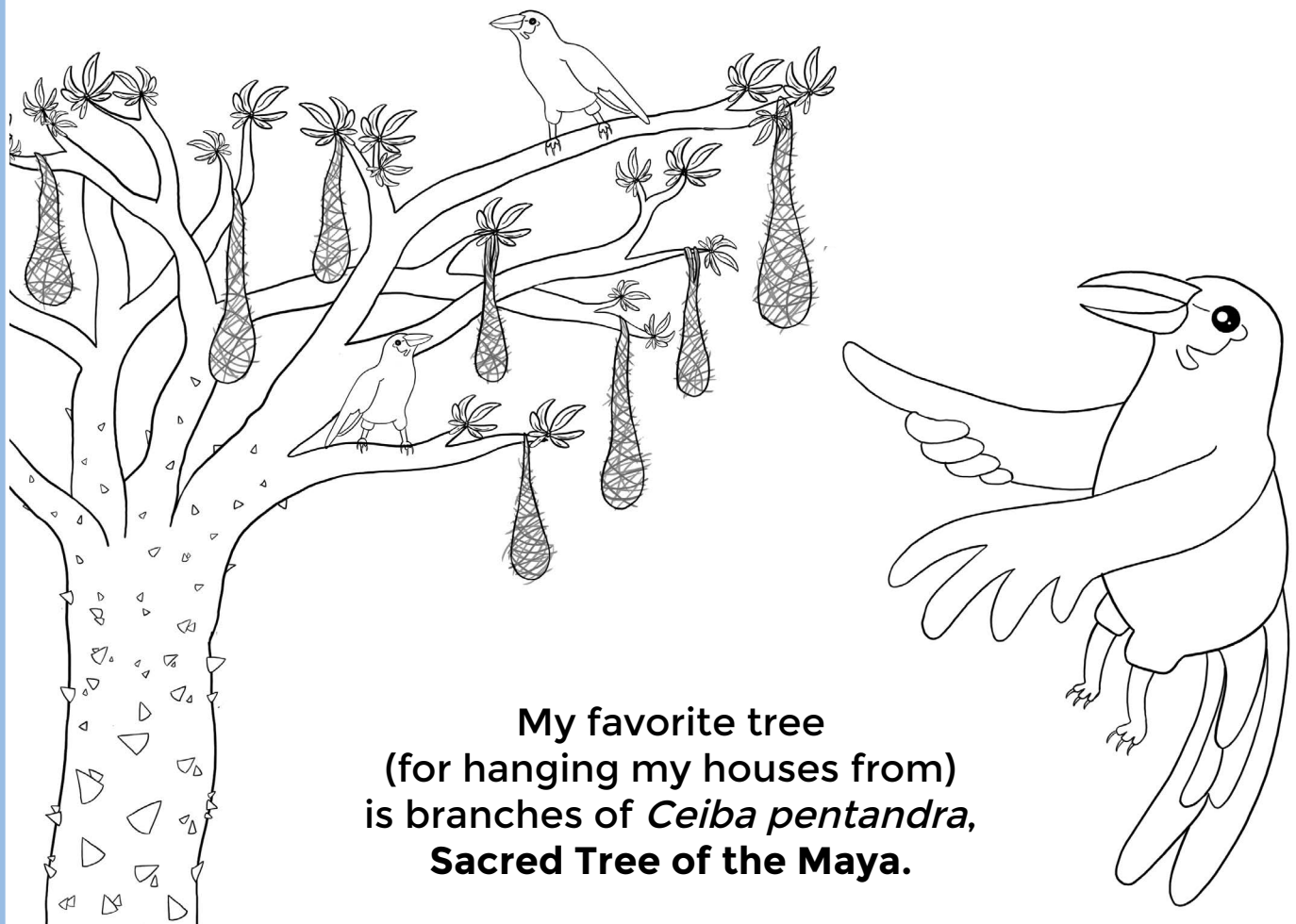


Storyboard: Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth
Illustrations: Mariana Cabrera

Hi, I'm the
Montezuma Oropendola,
(*Psarocolius montezuma*)
but my nickname is
the Architect Bird.

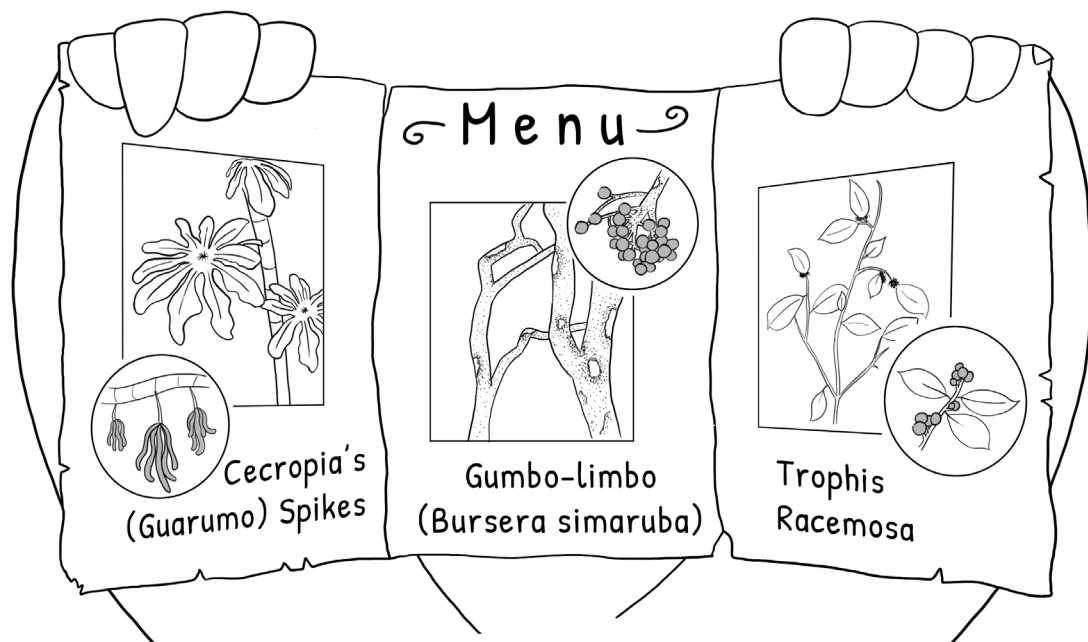


I live throughout southern Mexico,
northern Guatemala (Peten, and
also adjacent Belize).



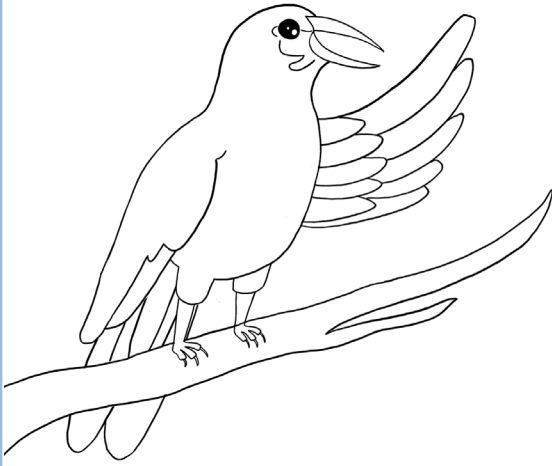
My favorite tree
(for hanging my houses from)
is branches of *Ceiba pentandra*,
Sacred Tree of the Maya.

Other trees I interact with, because
I like to eat certain parts:

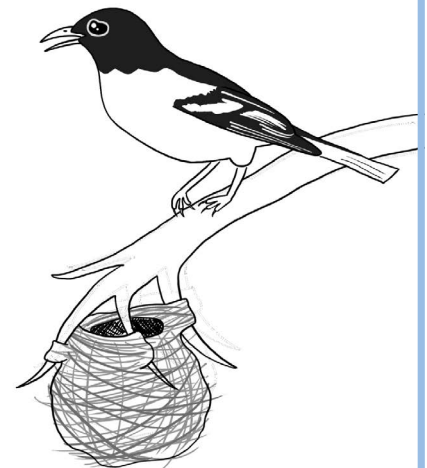
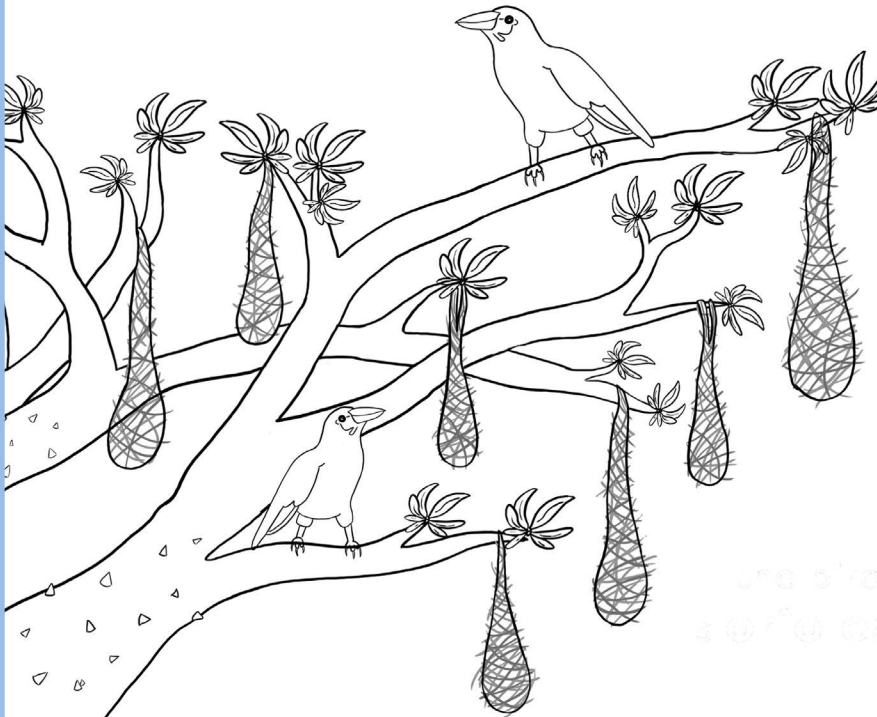


We will learn more about these trees later (in separate chapters).

Little known is that other birds
relatives of mine also design,
engineer and build **remarkable**
houses.



Especially the birds
known as **Orioles.**



But if you compare my house colonies with the
single house type of Orioles, my house **GROUPS** are
more impressive.

For more information on flora: www.maya-ethnobotany.org

For more information on fauna: www.maya-ethnozoology.org