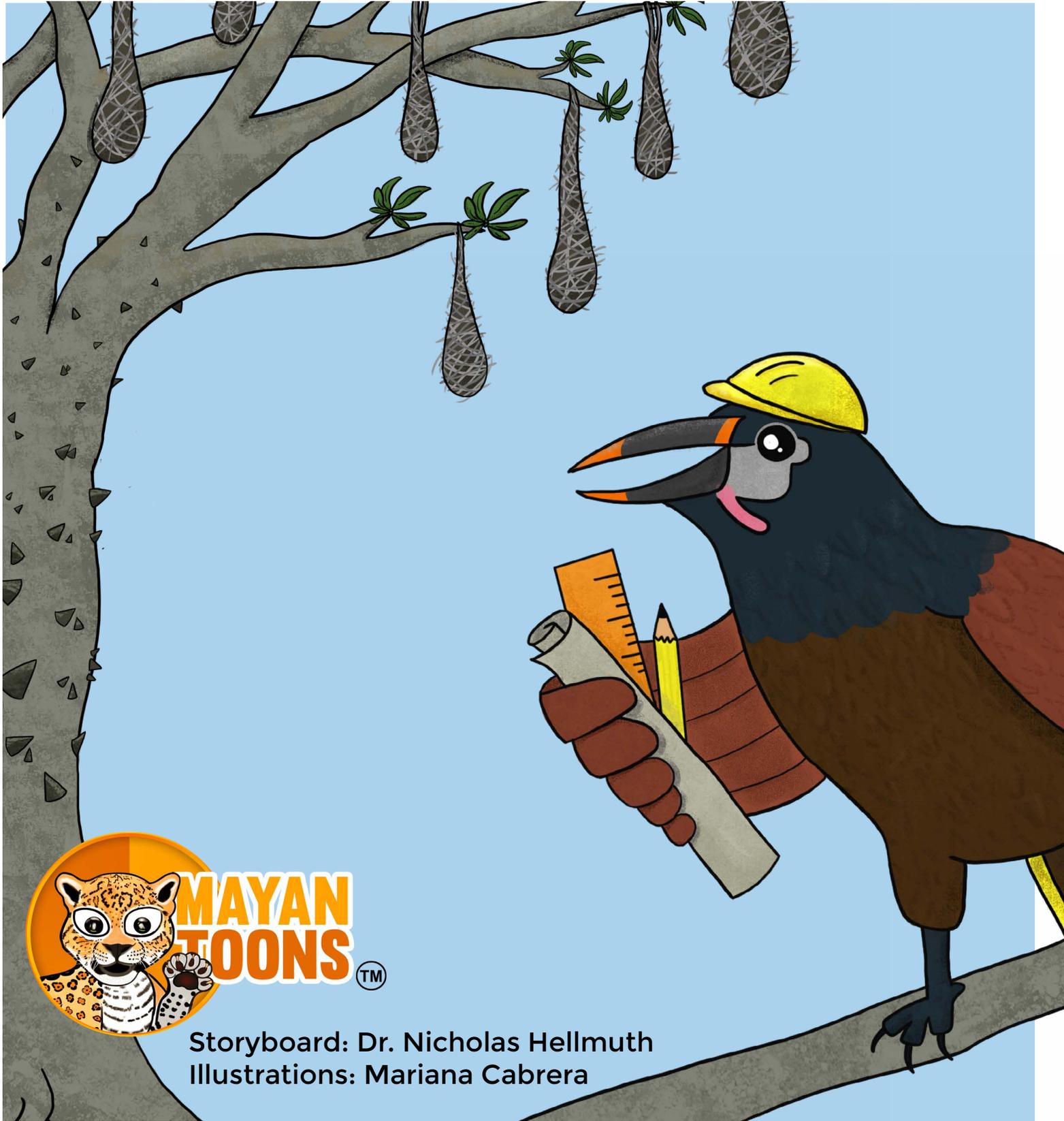


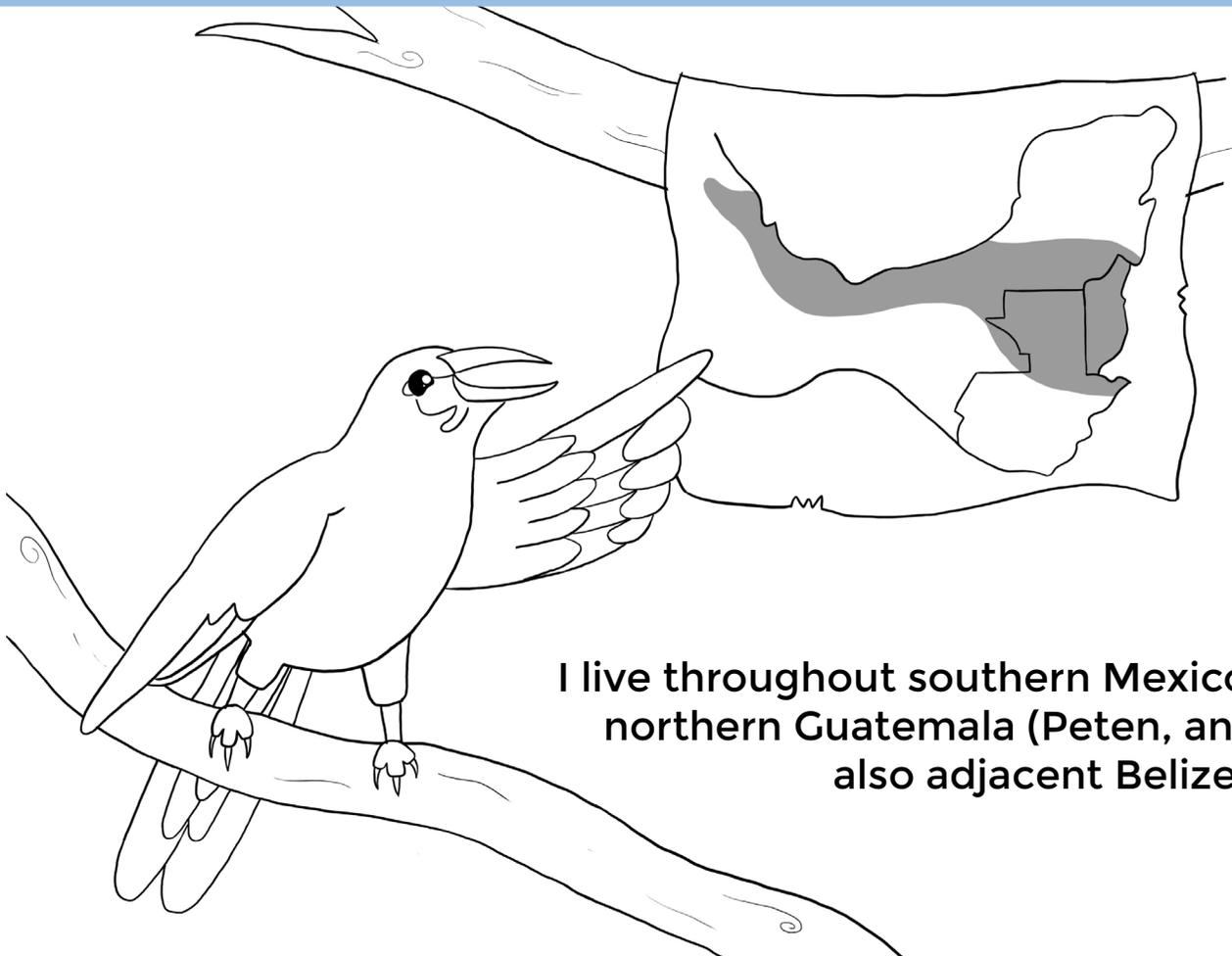
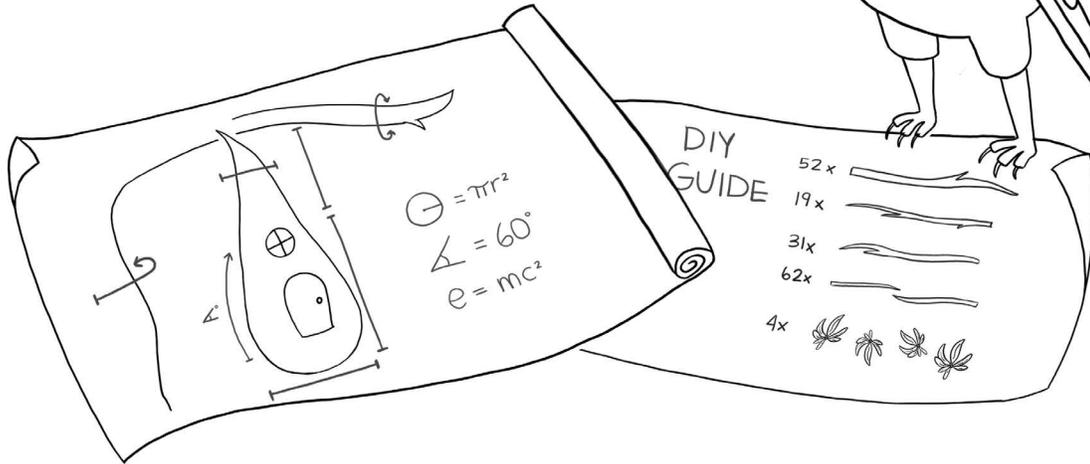
ARCHITECT BIRD

Can a bird build his own Bird House?

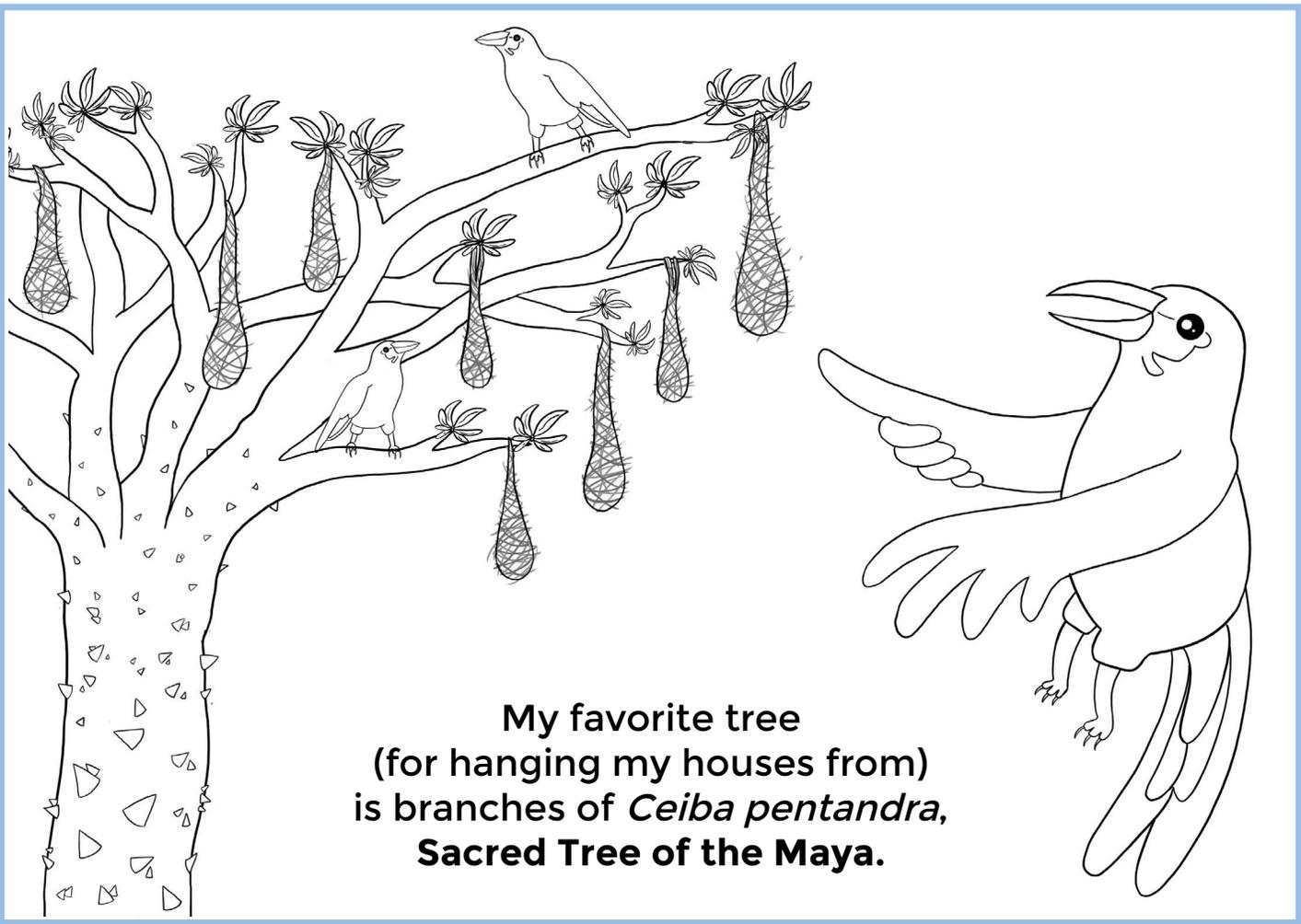


Storyboard: Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth
Illustrations: Mariana Cabrera

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

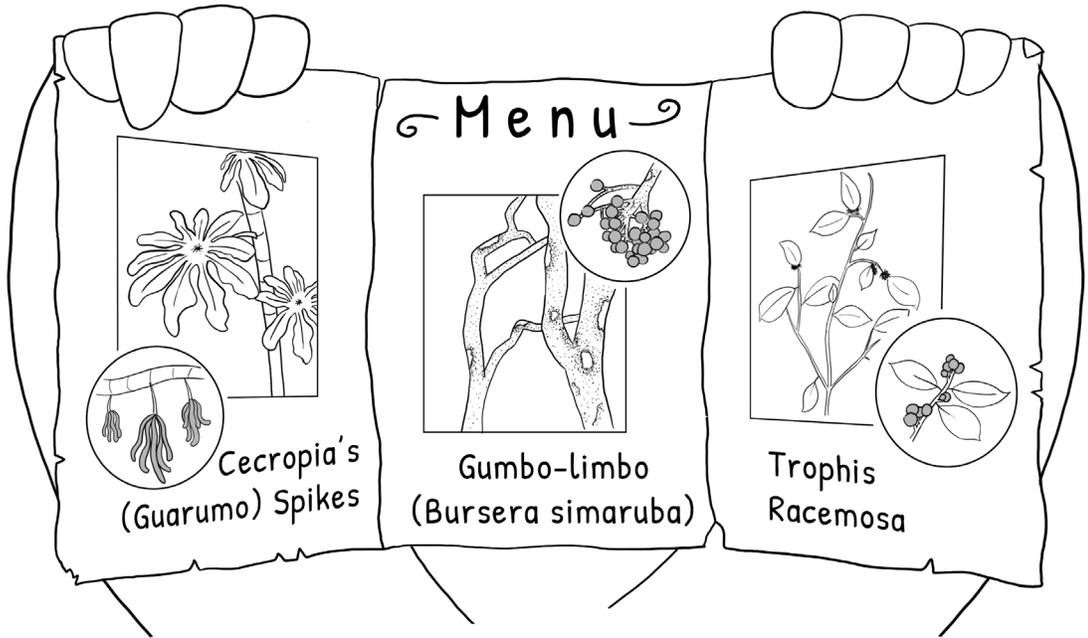


I live throughout southern Mexico,
northern Guatemala (Peten, and
also adjacent Belize).



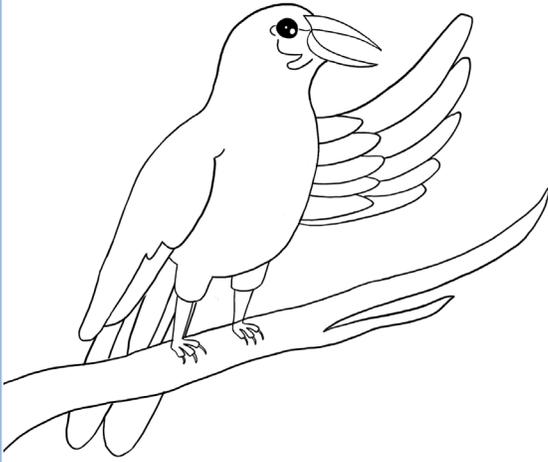
My favorite tree
(for hanging my houses from)
is branches of *Ceiba pentandra*,
Sacred Tree of the Maya.

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

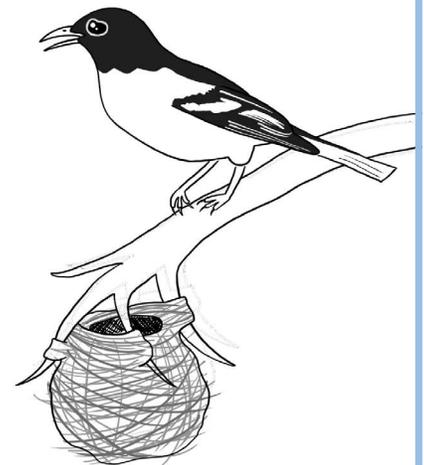
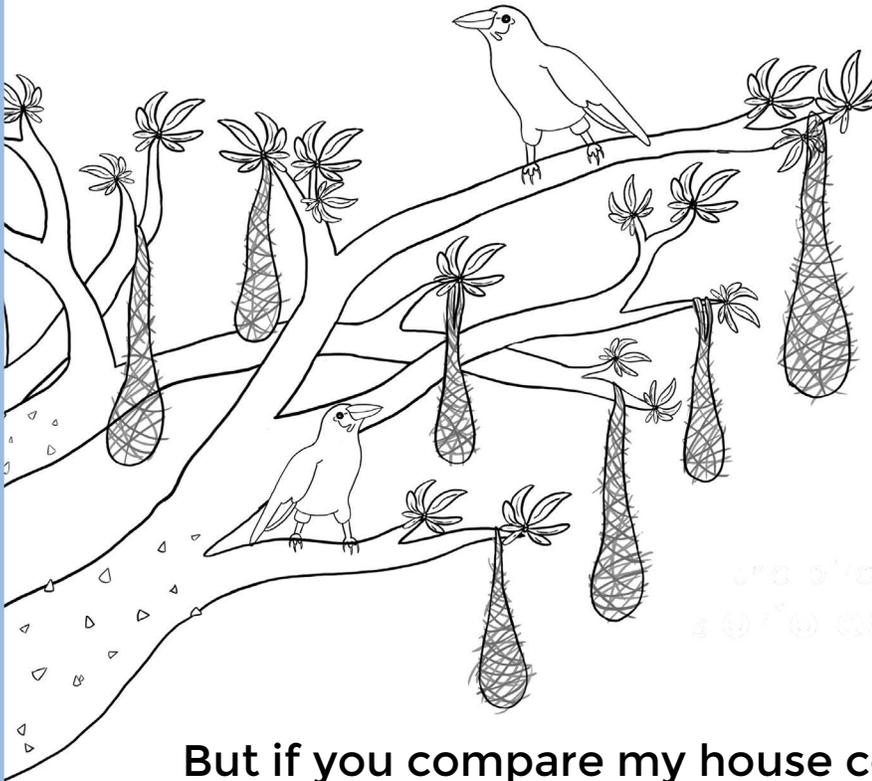


We will learn more about these trees later (in separate chapters).

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