

Handout for Lesson 1: Meeting the Band

Kijani is an 800-pound gorilla, who is from the Congo in Africa. Kijani means “green“ in Swahili but the rest of the band likes to call him “KJ”. KJ grew up as the only green gorilla among black gorillas in his band. He was an outcast and felt more comfortable around people. A powerful vision led him to San Francisco to help connect with kids of the world. KJ is wise. He can communicate using pictures and beat-boxing. Over time KJ has learned to speak a little bit as well.

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Bucket is the punk-skater and practical joker in the band. He was born in Japan and was adopted with his sister when he was young. Bucket is a scavenger, always looking for things to turn into musical instruments. He loves recycling. He is confused by the idea of waste because he sees most things as sources of energy and art. Bucket is the junk drummer of the band.

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Scoot is a beach girl, who is ten years old, and the youngest of the band. She is sassy, smart and a bit naïve. She loves having fun, protecting the oceans and is loyal and dedicated to her friends, especially KJ. Scoot plays the electric guitar and is one of the lead singers of the band.

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Cypher is a master of disguise, code-cracker and language expert. He is Afro-English and has lived in many different countries. He has a large network of friends around the world and understands how people from other places see things. He helps translate for KJ. In the band, Cypher is the beatboxer with KJ and Socket.

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Socket is often found on her laptop. She is the techie of the band, a true geek. She is of Mayan-Mexican origin and has dark long hair behind which she often hides. She built the greenhouse media center and projects greenhouse programs into TV, radio and web channels. She DJs from her laptop, plays keyboard and is a graphic designer.

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(**Wormulus and Dr. Hufflebot** are not part of the band. They try to get people to participate in their schemes through distractions. Wormulus is a talking worm who has taken over Dr. Hufflebot’s brain and makes him believe that world control is the only way to happiness.)