



## Dear children, Dear parents,

3

You can prepare for the upcoming CT exam in a playful and child-friendly manner with this interactive book.



The "Join In!" symbol will prompt you to participate.

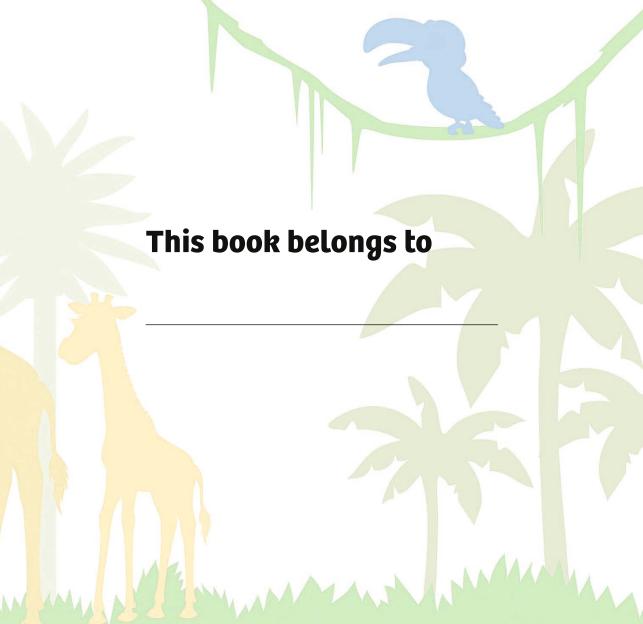
Whether tilting, searching, swiping or clapping, we invite you to actively join in.



An audio story to go along with the book is also offered. Simply scan the QR code with a smartphone camera and start listening!



on	at	
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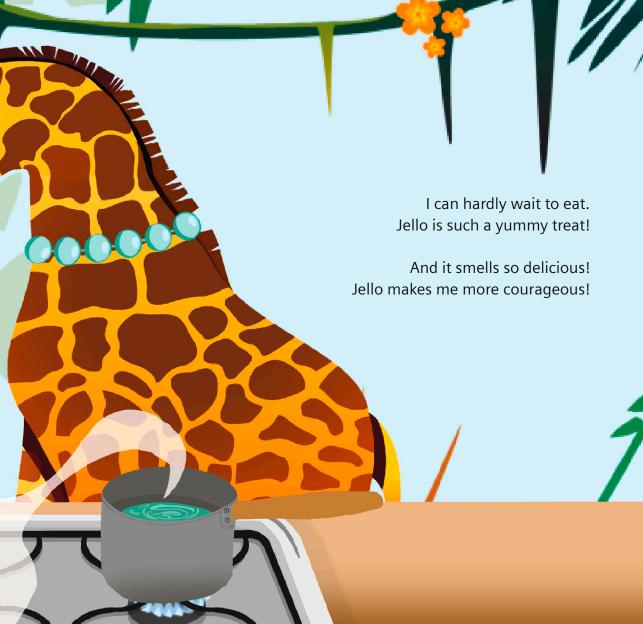


Hello! I am Gerda, a little giraffe. I'm very mischievous and love to play. Zipping wildly around the jungle all day. Living in the jungle is so exciting and fun. With so many adventures, I never miss one!

Another thing that you should know ... My favorite food is yummy jello!







It smells so tangy and sweet, I can hardly wait to eat!

I race around the kitchen, fast and reckless.

And my ear gets caught in mom's pearl necklace.

Got lucky this time, just a little scare,

But the strand on mom's necklace does start to tear.

Unnoticed, the pearls fall from the string, Tumbling into the pot and disappearing.





The jello is ready on my favorite plate.

I come running, faster and faster, I just can't wait!

I gallop in swiftly, I can't wait to taste it, jello is so good I don't want to waste it!



Oh, no! The jello is so far away at the end of the table! I really want to eat it, but I am unable!

How I can I get to it?
I don't know if I can. Could you give me a hand?

JOIN IN!
Tilt the book
to the left and
move Gerda
to her jello.



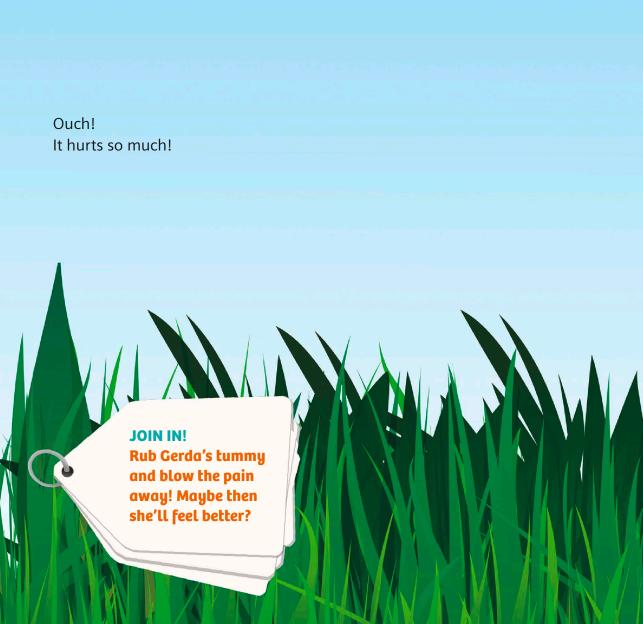




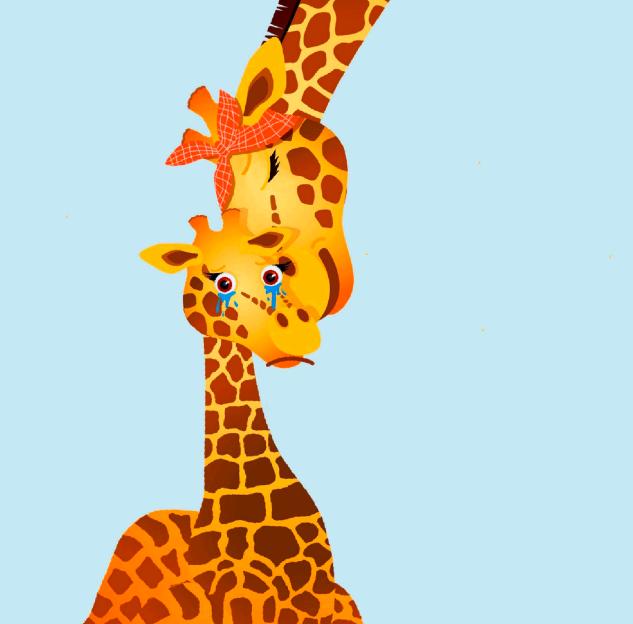


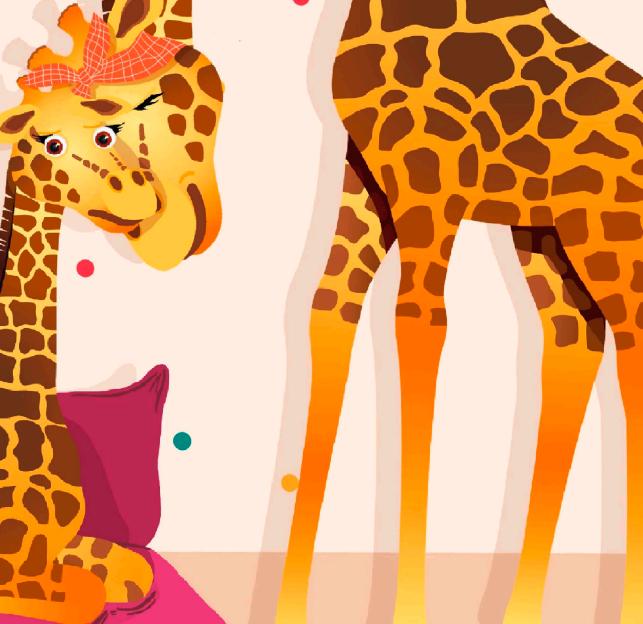


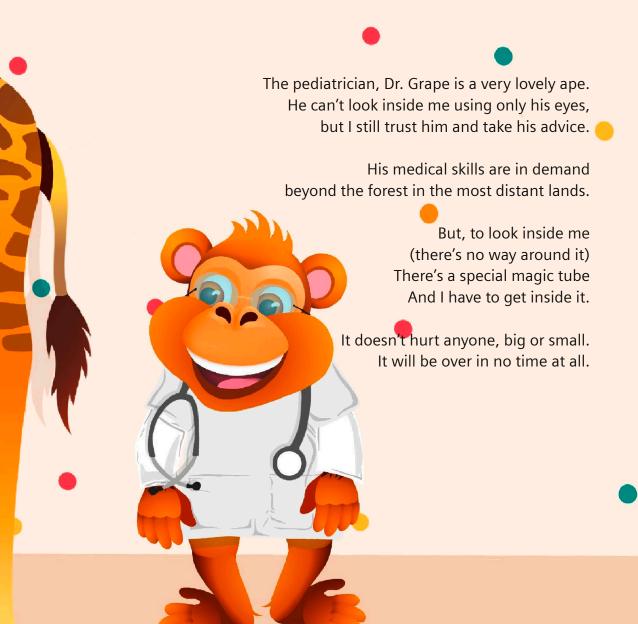




My tears begin to pool. How could I be such a fool! My mommy giraffe lovingly soothes me. But blowing and rubbing just aren't the key.







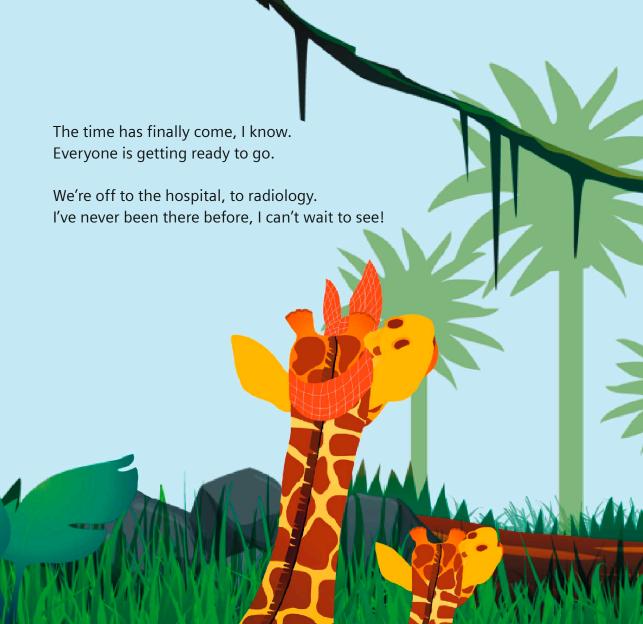
What is that cool thing? It shines like metal, like a silver ring. This magical tube, you see lets Dr. Grape see inside of me.

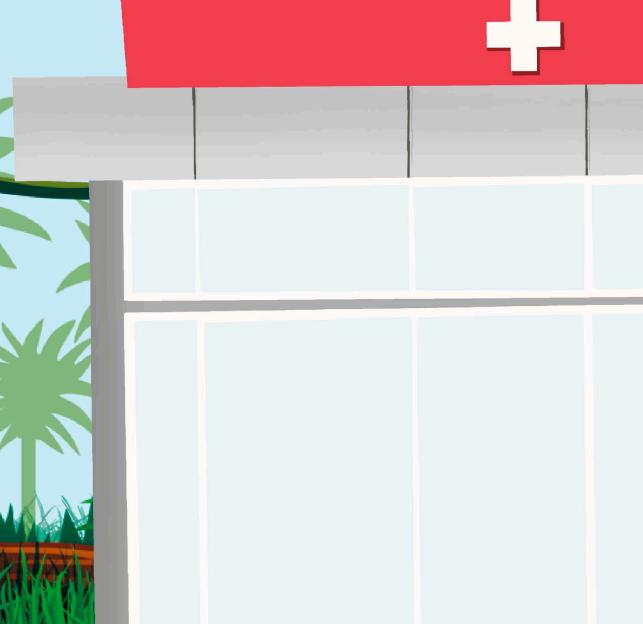
"Gerda, don't be afraid! Trust me. Soon you'll feel better and we'll drink a sweet tea."











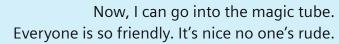














Contrast dye is a magic potion like ink,

To see the organs even better, and it's sometimes a drink.

Like a drop of water on a hot stone
my fear dissipates, so small has it grown.

Just one little prick, but I'm not scared.

Mommy giraffe is in the room with me, right there.









Like liquid ice cream, says Tuki Toucan. Yes, you're right! Be brave, Gerda, I tell myself, so it goes fast as it can!









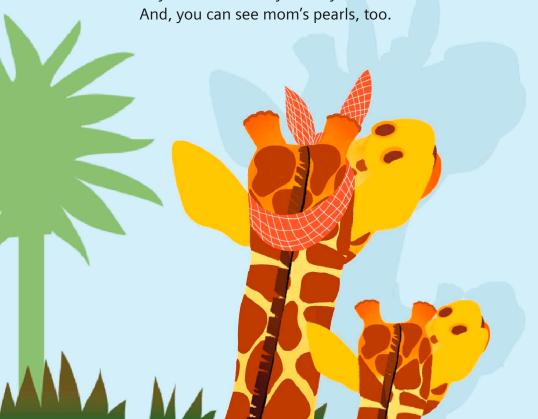




Hurray! It's over! I can hardly believe it's true, I'm finally allowed to get out of the tube.

Wow! The pictures are so clear! They make so many details appear!

Hey, that's inside my tummy, cool!





I was very brave! So I got a medal!











#### **Computed Tomography**

# Your child's CT examination briefly explained

Computed tomography is used to take highly detailed images of the patient's body. These images help the doctor detect illnesses and changes in the body early on to provide the best-possible treatment.

This book aims to provide children and parents important information about CT examinations and reduce potential fears and uncertainties as much as possible.

#### How does a CT examination work?

Computed tomography is a procedure with which detailed images of the inside of the body can be made with the help of X-rays. Select areas of the body are depicted in extremely thin layers on a computer. Certain areas in the body react differently to X-rays. Denser tissue allows fewer X-rays through. That means the rays are attenuated differently by the body's tissues and are then emitted back out of the body. These emitted rays are converted into measurable signals, forwarded to the computer and converted there. The end result is an image which consists of various shades of gray. This allows the doctor to identify anomalous tissue and structures.

Computed tomography offers many options with respect to examining children, for instance, with respect to imaging the lungs or heart. The radiation dosage should be as low as possible, however, an informative diagnosis must be ensured.

Modern CT scanners reduce the radiation exposure for patients to the lowest possible amount so the health benefits outweigh the risks.

#### When is contrast agent required?

Some children will be given a contrast agent during the examination. This fluid makes tissue and organ structures more visible. This allows doctors to see endangered or inflamed areas particularly well on the images. The contrast agent is taken orally with adequate fluid or administered via an i.v. line. The agent has proven tolerable in the past.

Since the agent contains iodine, the doctor will first ask about any potential thyroid or kidney diseases. The doctor must also be informed of any known allergies, as the agent can result in skin irritation or nausea in rare cases.

The body eliminates the contrast agent within a short period of time on its own.

#### **CT** examination procedure

On the patient sheet, you provide information that is important with respect to your child's examination. To more clearly identify structures in the body, your child will be given a contrast agent.



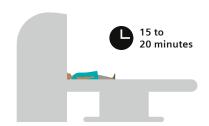
Your child must remove jewelry, hair clips, etc. for the examination because metal influences the quality of the image and images may otherwise have to be repeated. If your child has implants like retainers, please notify the technicians.



The child will be positioned on the patient bed, usually on their back. The patient is slowly moved through opening of the CT tube. Depending on the doctor's instruction, the child must lie on their stomach, back or right or left side.



The actual examination takes between 5 and 15 minutes; if contrast agent is administered, 20 minutes. In general, two to three scans are made which each take only a few seconds. To ensure good image quality, the patients should lie as still as possible and not move. To relax, the child can do the recommended breathing exercises. While the images are taken, your child will hear a quiet hum.



### What does a CT examination feel like?

Your child cannot feel the examination itself. The confinement of the tunnel can be unfamiliar which is why many patients feel better if they close their eyes. If contrast agent is used during the examination, the area may feel warm or cold as the agent runs in.



## The most important points, in brief

- 1. You and your child should choose comfortable clothing for the examination. Please make sure the clothing does not have any metal parts like buttons or zippers. If needed, you can also borrow a patient gown.
- 2. You can bring one of your child's toys for support (no metal parts). The child can keep it with them as long as it does not cover the scan area in the CT machine. Audio books with stories or music you bring with you or the Gerda audio story can be played during the examination.

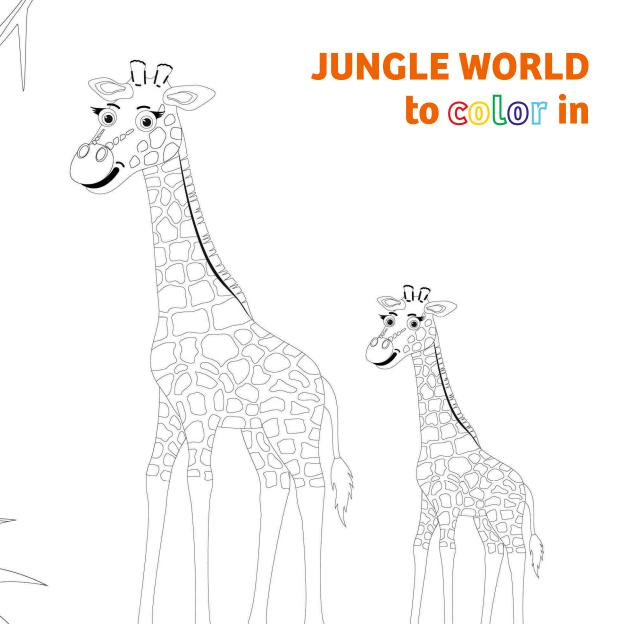


TO THE
AUDIO STORY
Scan the QR code
& start listening!



- 3. Explain to your child that the purpose of the examination is to look into the body from outside so the doctor can see exactly what is wrong. It is a harmless examination and will not hurt at all!
- **4.** Convey to your child, in a confident and relaxed manner, that they do not have to be afraid of the examination. Your relaxed attitude will rub off on your child.
- 5. Praise your child after the examination.









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Fragebogen (DE)



Questionnaire (EN)



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