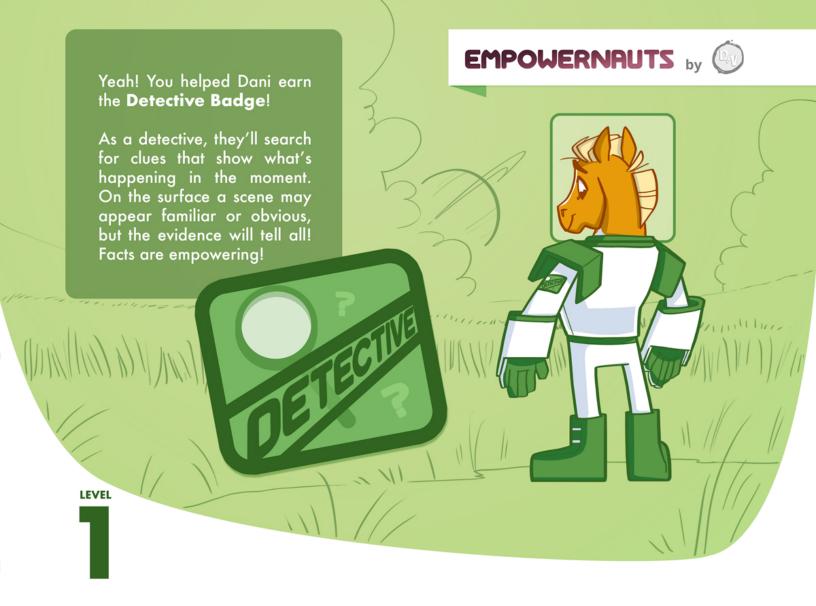
# **EMPOWERNAUTS**



## Meet Dani

Dani is an Empowernaut - a group of astronaut friends who learn to manage their mental health conditions as they explore new and uncharted corners of the galaxy! Dani's building skills to manage PTSD after a difficult racing injury. Follow Dani's journey of empowerment to help them earn new gear and equipment!

I SEE AROUND ME NOW.
MY HAPPY MEMORY TOKEN IS
I COMFORT MYSELF WITH
I CAN VIEW EXACTLY AS IT IS.
I'M CONNECTING BY

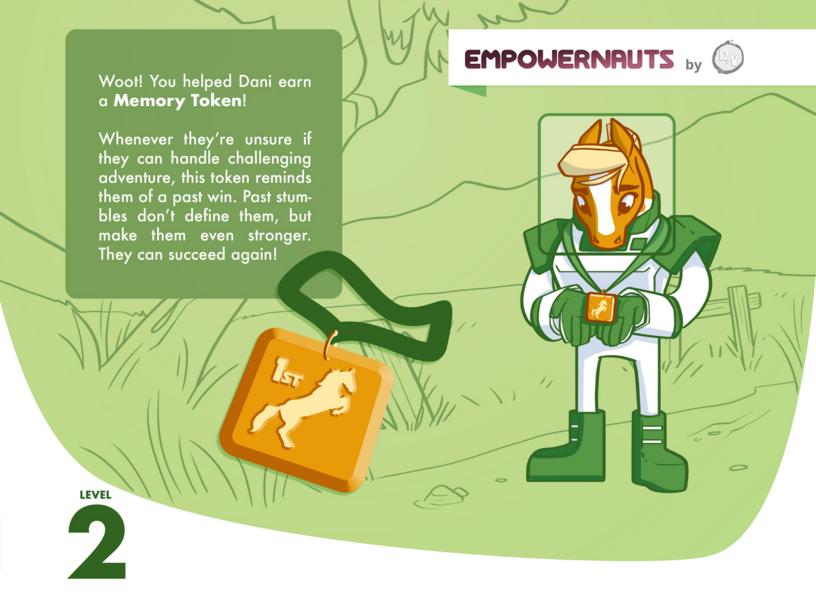


#### **DETECTIVE BADGE**

In this awareness exercise, you can use a blank piece of paper, a digital or physical journal, or simply think about it in your mind.

- 1. Find a spot to pause for about one minute wherever you are.
- 2. Note exactly what is happening around you. These are your clues!
- 3. If feelings or memories arise, compare them to what you found.

When a detective researches a case, they can only submit verified evidence. When stress from trauma happens, it can cause you to replay a past memory. To stop that old memory from influencing your conclusions, be like a detective! Verify facts and clues about your current experiences.



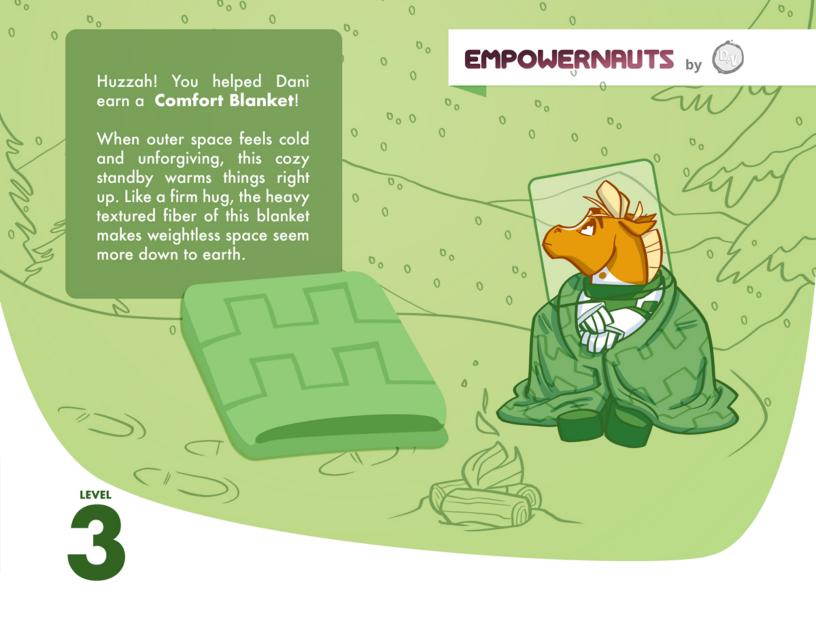
#### **MEMORY TOKEN**

For this mind hack, you'll make a token to remember an experience that made you feel the *opposite* way your upsetting memory does.

- 1. Think back on a time when you were content, in control, and well.
- 2. Find, draw, or snapshot something pocket-sized that reminds you of it.
- 3. Keep it handy, and when that upsetting time bothers you, focus on your token to shift to better feelings.

A physical object can bring to life a rich, detailed memory. When a trigger for a traumatic past experience appears, it helps to have a "counter trigger" in your pocket!

Day by day, you can retrain you mind to relive powerful, positive memories on command!

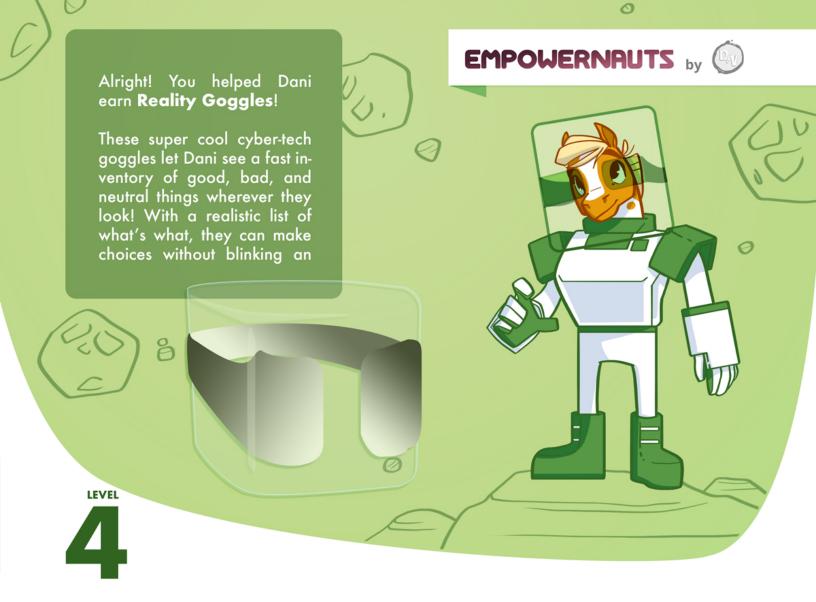


#### **COMFORT BLANKET**

In this stress management exercise, you'll gather things that are sure to comfort you every time.

- Daydream for a moment about your favorite sensory stuff (you know, foods, places, music, smells.)
- 2. Create a stress-busting kit with 1-2 of these things for a no-brainer go-to.
- 3. Write down the types of scenarios your kit will remedy.

One frustrating effect of recalling a traumatic experience is a "panic feeling". In that moment, your senses take over and solutions feel scattered or blocked. Having a super simple planned response kit can save you from a harrowing day.

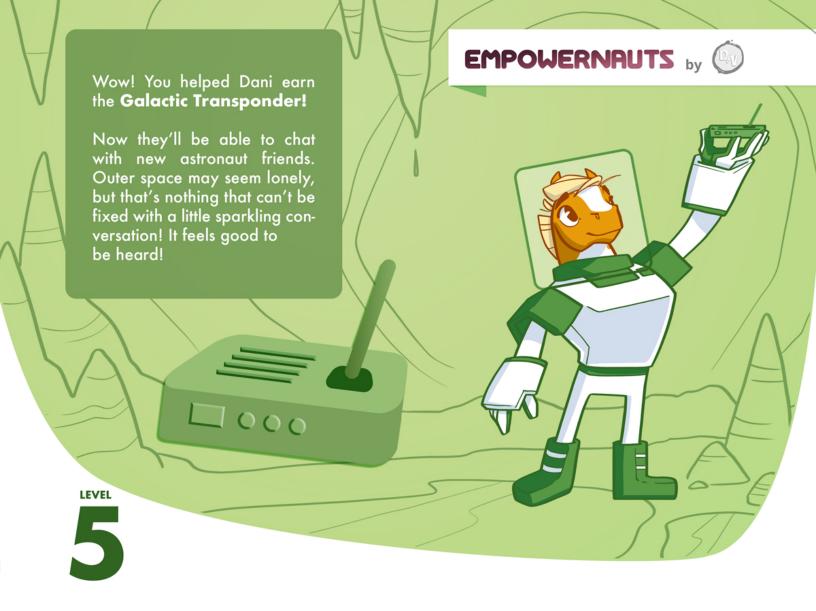


### **REALITY GOGGLES**

In this resiliency exercise, you'll list what's positive, negative, and neutral about a scenario, day, or event.

- 1. Make three columns on a single sheet of paper, or in a document.
- 2. Fill one with positive, one with negative and one with neutral things about the event your'e thinking of.
- 3. Weigh them all together before responding to the situation.

It's easy to only see
the bad in a situation
happing around you.
But, rarely are there
only bad or only good
things. For example –
You might have to
switch schools, but the
new school has a great
art program, and you
met a nice friend in science. It can be a relief
to see the big picture.



#### **GALACTIC TRANSPONDER**

In this exercise, think of one to two trusted friends, teachers, or relatives who you care about and reach out. Here are some ideas:

- 1. Ask if they'd like to set up a "just for fun" call or video chat.
- 2. Invite them to play a game online.
- 3. Make a plan to exchange handwritten letters, cards, or notes.

It's a scientific fact that connecting with others can boost happiness and lower stress.

Often our friends and loved ones are just what the doctor ordered! They remind us we're supported, forgive easily, and empathise with stories of their own!