

Over 100 Activity & Lyric Pages



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

Did You Know?

Alligators have broad, flat, and rounded snouts and their lower teeth cannot be seen when their mouths are closed.

A-a ALLIGATOR

Make an **Alligator A** from green construction paper. Glue brown triangles for scales and white triangles for teeth. Add details to the feet, tail, arms, and mouth with a black marker.



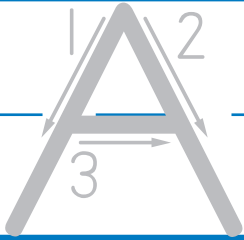
TONGUE
twister

Andy Alligator is
always all alone.



Aa

Trace and write the uppercase letter **A**.

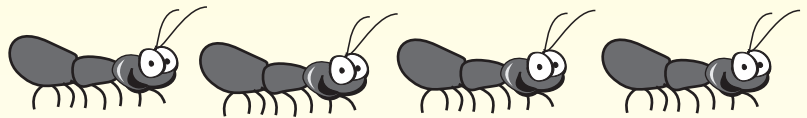


Trace and write the lowercase letter **a**.

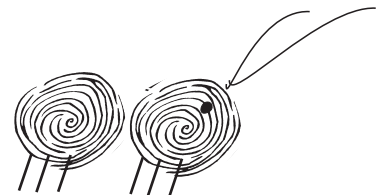


The Ants Came Marching...

Create your own army of ants. Press your finger into an inkpad and onto a piece of paper. Place two fingerprints beside each other, touching. Use a marker to add legs and antennae. Write, "A is for Ant."



A is for



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

B-b BUMBLEBEE



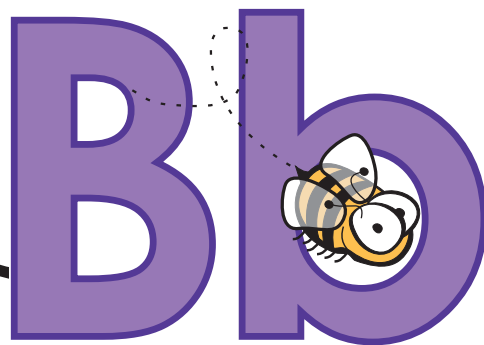
Use yellow construction paper for the **Bumblebee**.
B. Add orange construction paper wings and a triangular stinger. Use black marker to add details—mouth, eyes, antennae, and stripes.

Did You Know?

Bumblebees are large, fuzzy, black and yellow-orange bees with dark wings. Bumblebee queens are most often seen visiting flowers in early spring. After her workers hatch, the workers do all of the nectar and pollen gathering while the queen stays in the nest.

TONGUE
twister

Betsy Bumblebee is busy
buzzing by the beehive.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **B**.

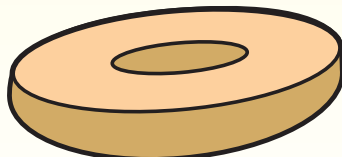
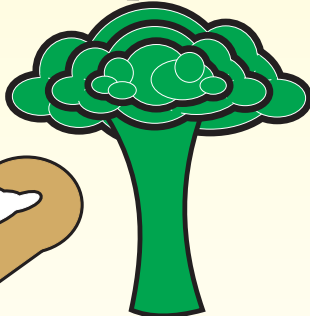
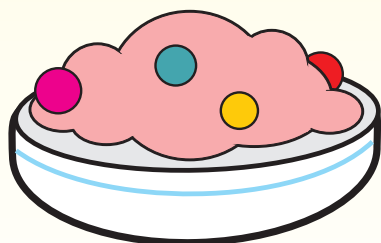


Trace and write the lowercase letter **b**.



Alphabet Meal

Work together to make up a menu in which the names of all the foods begin with the letter **b**.
For example, black beans, burritos, bagels, broccoli, and bubble gum ice cream all begin with **b**.

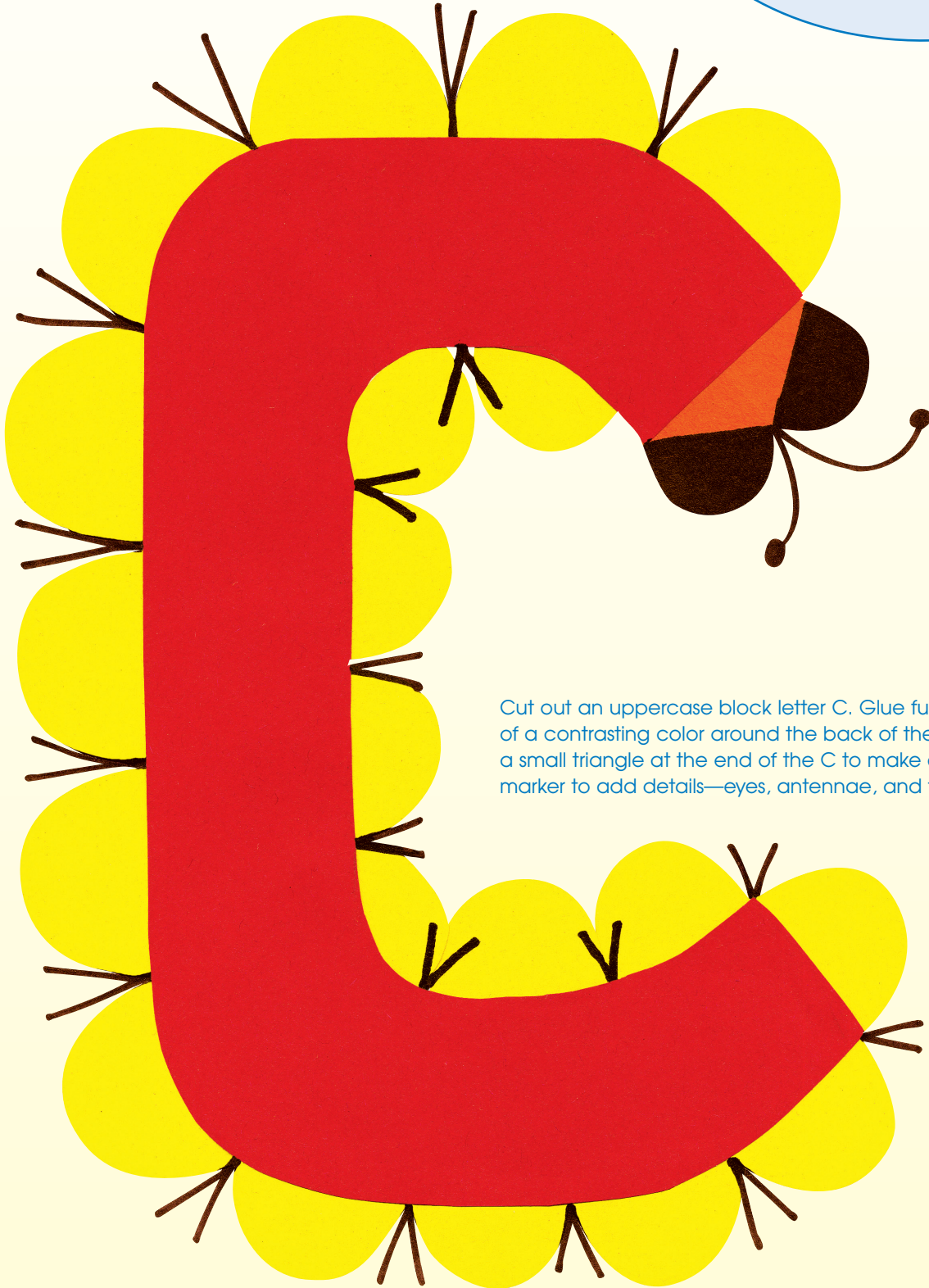


Animal Alphabet Art Activity

C-C CATERPILLAR

Did You Know?

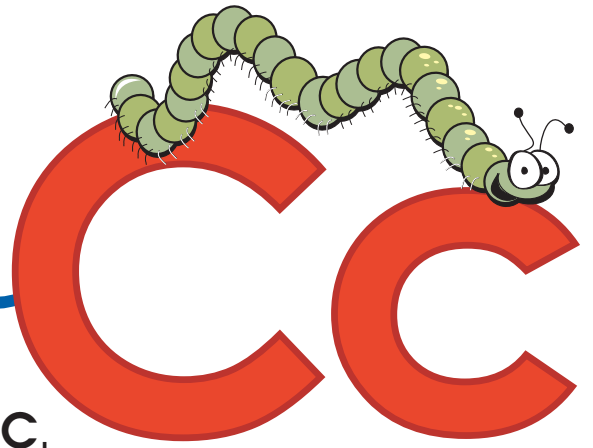
Some caterpillars have eyespots—a circular, eye-like marking found on the body—that make the caterpillar's face look like a bigger, more dangerous snake to scare away some predators.



Cut out an uppercase block letter C. Glue full or half-circles of a contrasting color around the back of the letter C. Glue a small triangle at the end of the C to make a head. Use black marker to add details—eyes, antennae, and texture.

TONGUE
twister

Caitlin Caterpillar
Crawls Carefully.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **C**.

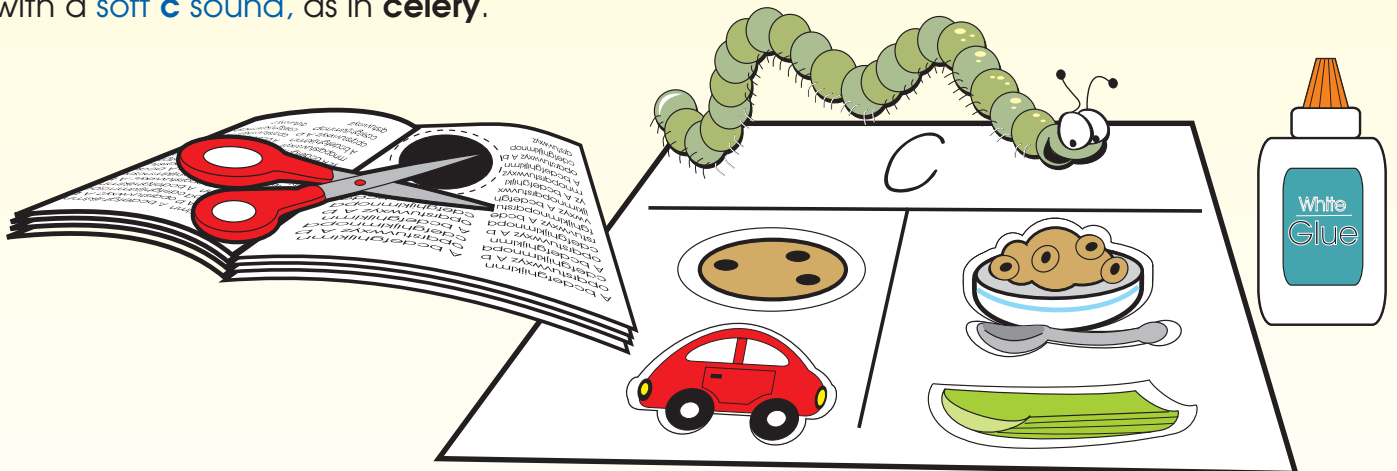


Trace and write the lowercase letter **c**.



Hard C and Soft C

Look through catalogs, magazines, and advertisements, and cut out pictures of objects that begin with the letter **c**. Help your child divide the items into two groups: those with a **hard c** sound, as in **cookies**, and those with a **soft c** sound, as in **celery**.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

D-d DUCK

Did You Know?

Ducks are common water birds. The adult female duck is called a **hen**, the adult male is called a **drake**, and the young are called **ducklings**.



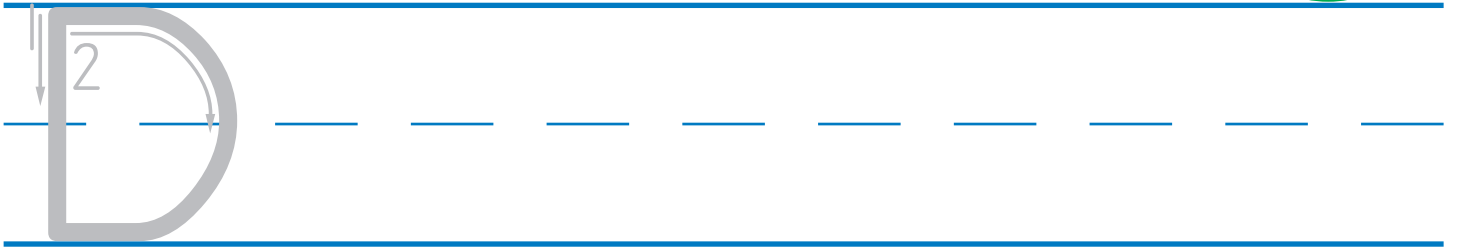
Cut out an uppercase block letter D. From construction paper of a contrasting color, cut out a wing, tail feather, two feet, an eye, and a bill. Use black marker to add details to each.

TONGUE
twister

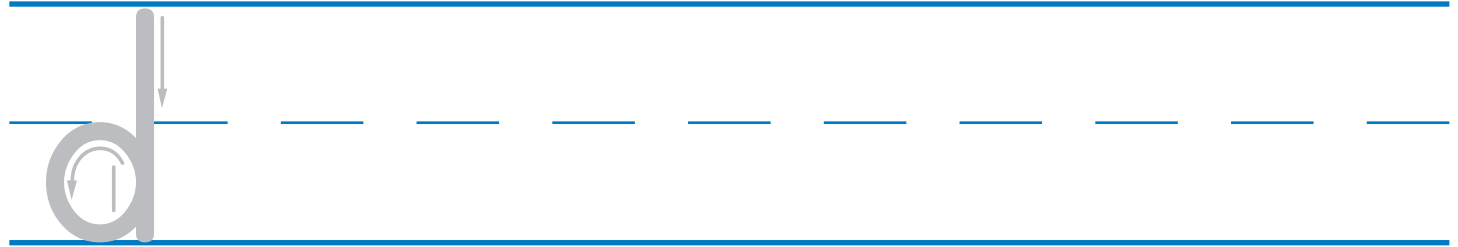
Diana Duck dances in
her dreams.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **D**.

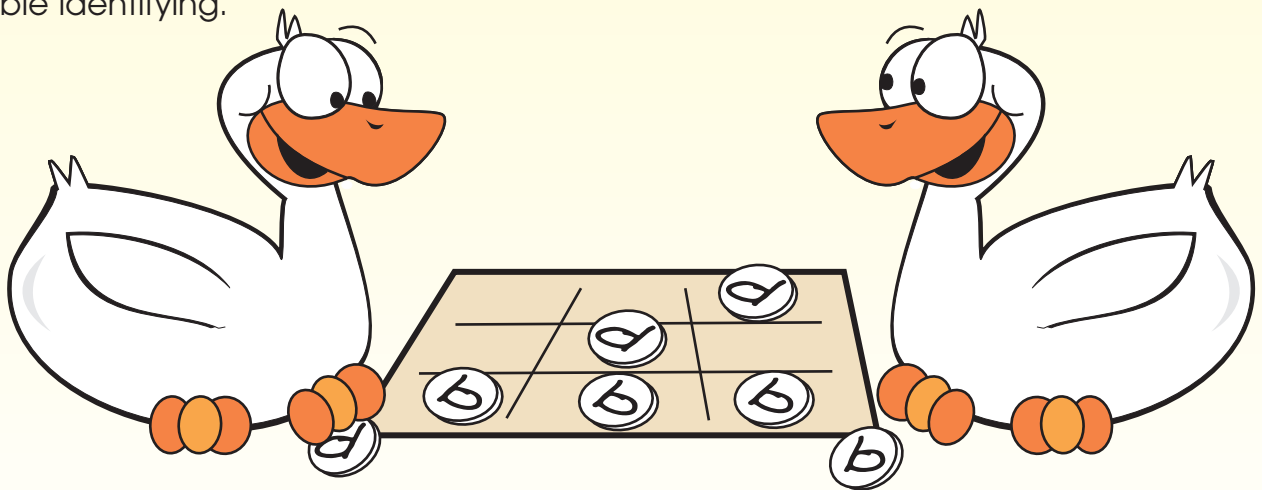


Trace and write the lowercase letter **d**.



Alphabet Tic-Tac-Toe

Instead of using an **X** and an **O**, play Tic-Tac-Toe with the lowercase letters **b** and **d**, which are among the more difficult letters for children to recognize because they look so similar. You may also play with other letters that your child is having trouble identifying.

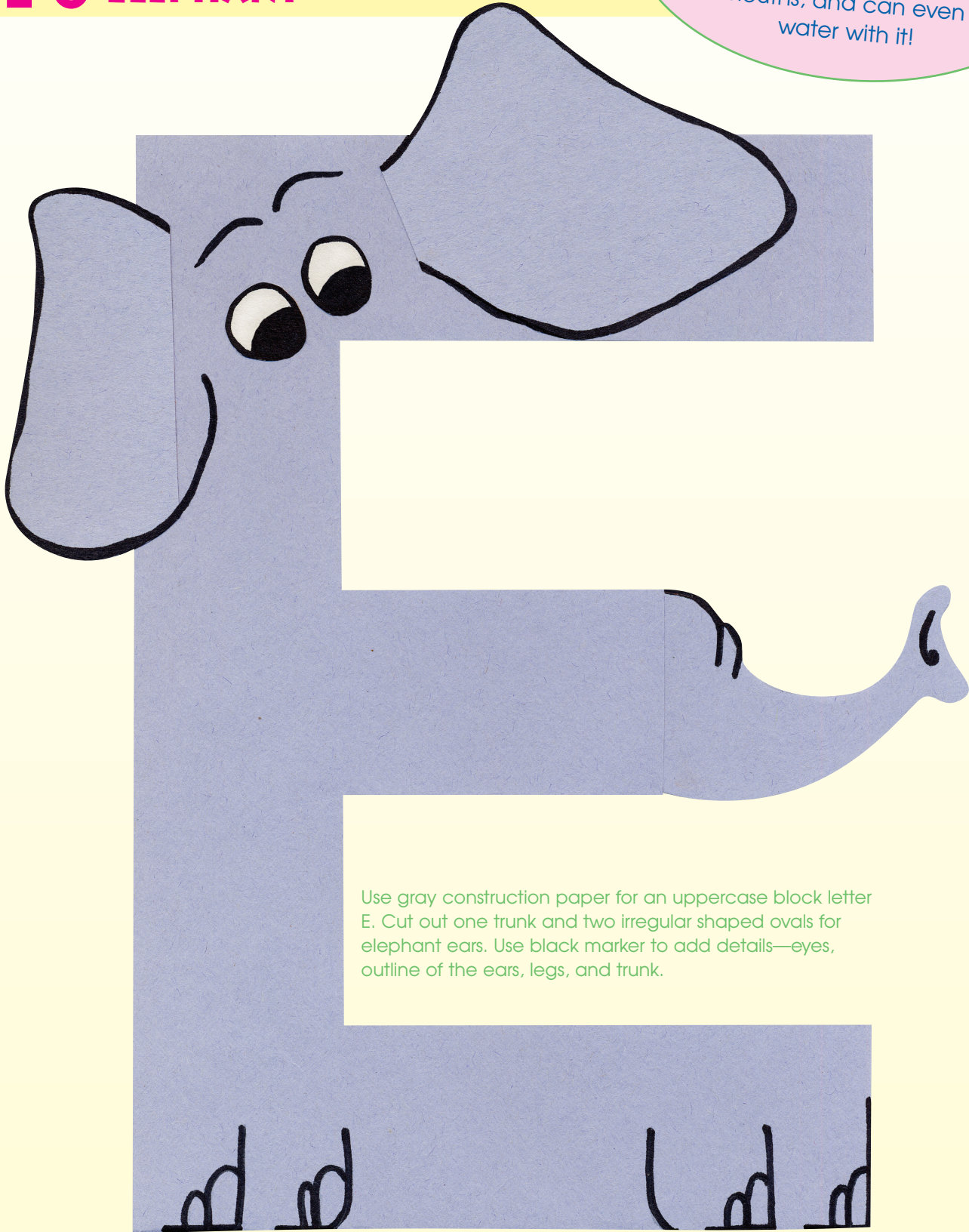


Animal Alphabet Art Activity

Did You Know?

An elephant's trunk is actually part nose and part upper lip. Elephants breathe and smell through their trunks. They use the trunk to put food into their mouths, and can even spray water with it!

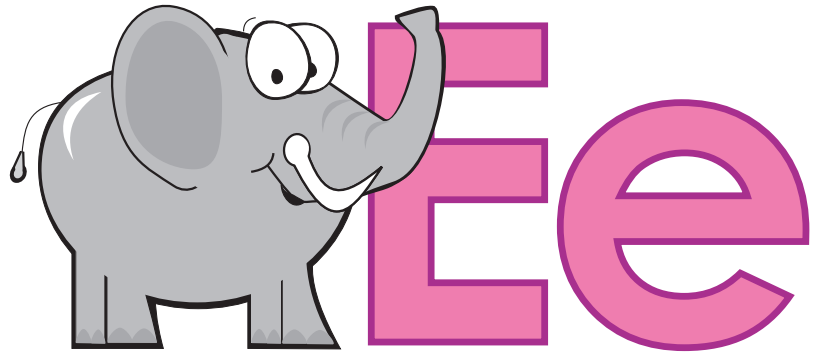
E-e ELEPHANT



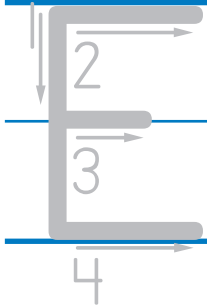
Use gray construction paper for an uppercase block letter E. Cut out one trunk and two irregular shaped ovals for elephant ears. Use black marker to add details—eyes, outline of the ears, legs, and trunk.

TONGUE
twister

Elliot Elephant easily
eats eighty eggs.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **E**.

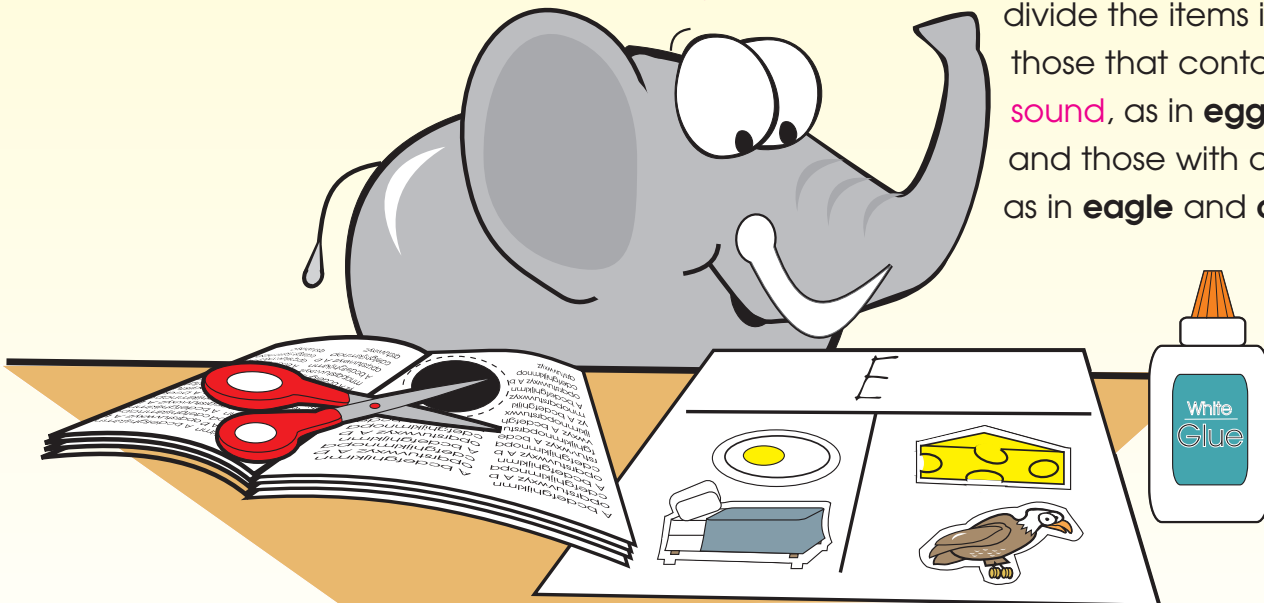


Trace and write the lowercase letter **e**.



Short e and Long e

Look through catalogs, magazines, and advertisements together. Cut out pictures of objects that begin with or contain the vowel **e**. Help your child divide the items into two groups: those that contain a **short e** sound, as in **eggs** and **beds**, and those with a **long e** sound, as in **eagle** and **cheese**.

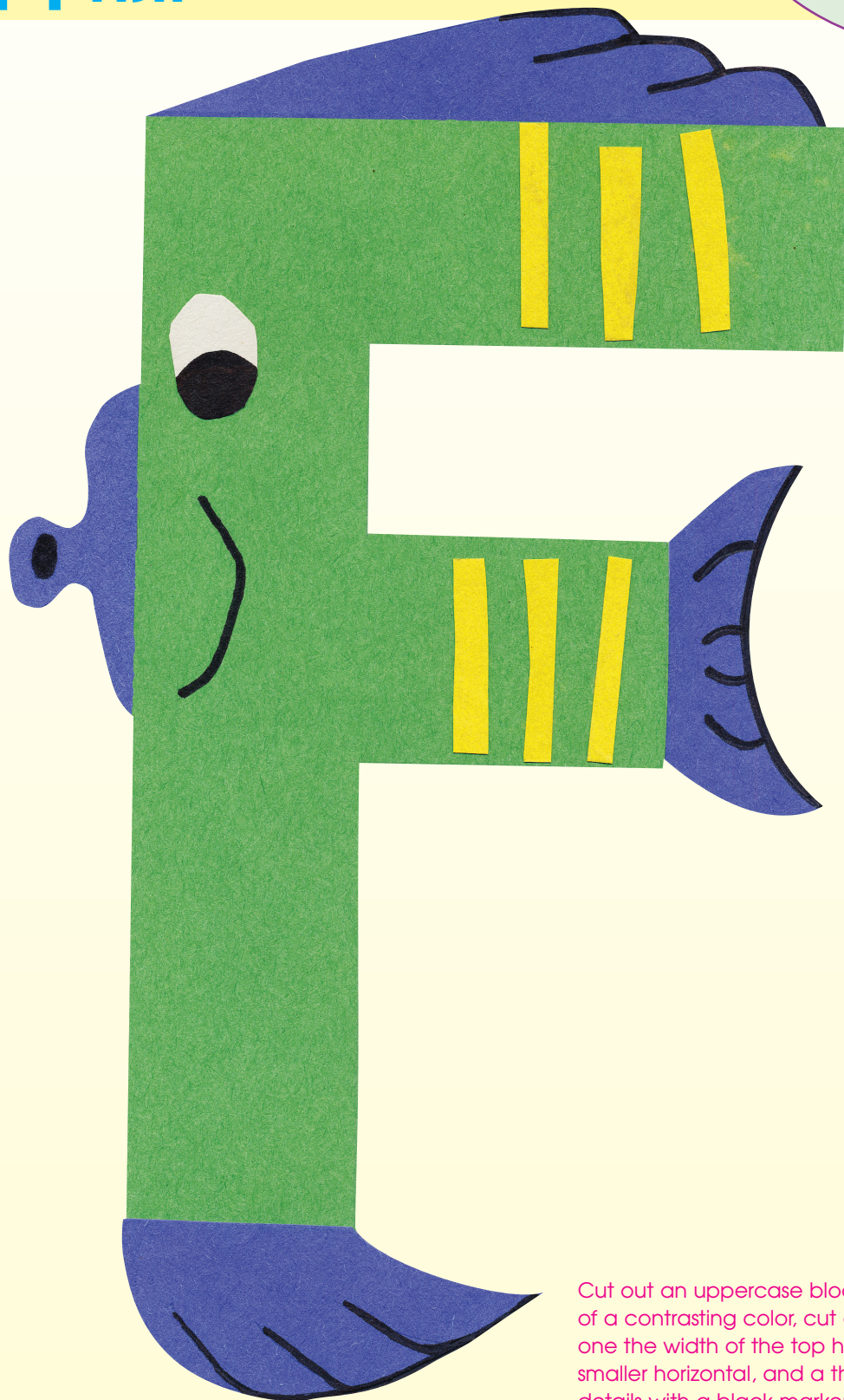


Animal Alphabet Art Activity

F-f FISH

Did You Know?

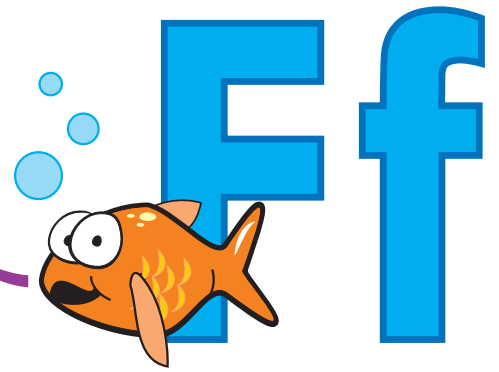
Many marine biologists and researchers believe there may be 28,000 different fish species.



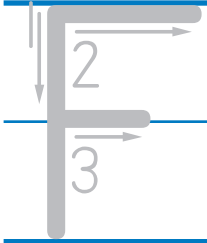
Cut out an uppercase block letter F. From construction paper of a contrasting color, cut out a set of "fish lips" and three fins: one the width of the top horizontal, a second the length of the smaller horizontal, and a third the width of the vertical. Add details with a black marker—mouth, eye, gills, and textures. Add stripes to the fish with construction paper, markers, or paint.

TONGUE
twister

Franklin Fish found
fifty fans.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **F**.

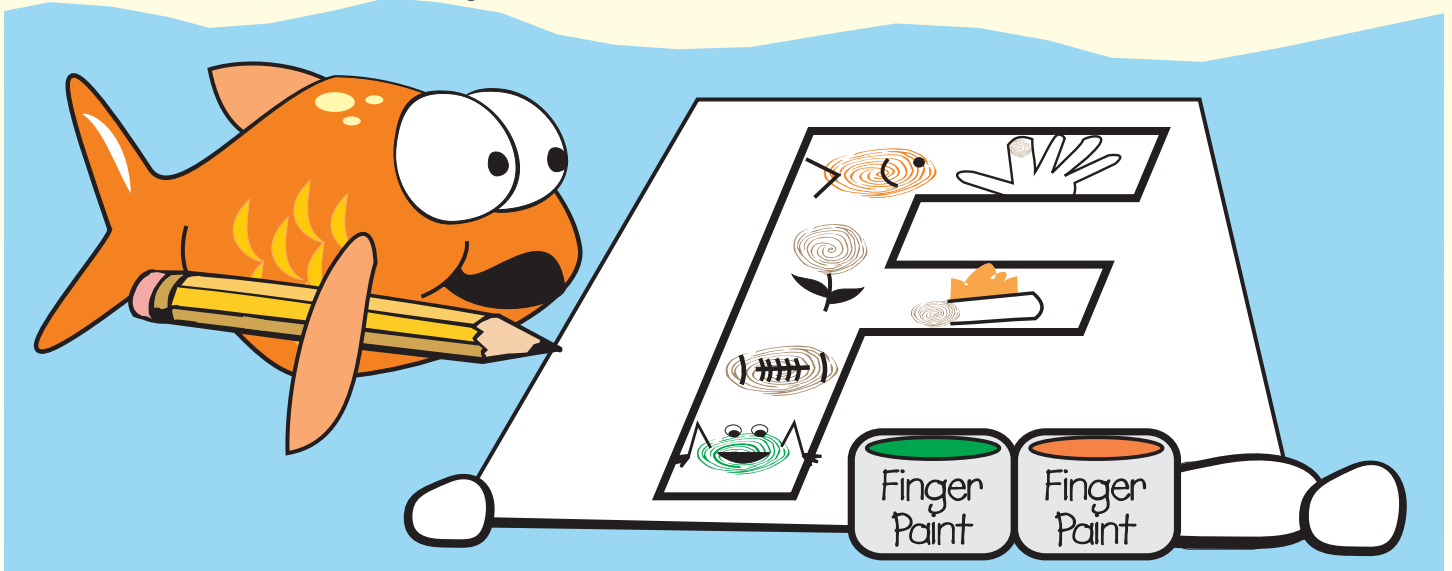


Trace and write the lowercase letter **f**.



Funky Finger Painting

Draw an outline of the letter **F** on poster board or construction paper. Fill in the outline by finger painting. Write the letter **F**, paint fish, footballs, frogs, fireworks, flowers, fruit, fire, and other objects that begin with the letter **F**.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

G-g GRASSHOPPER

Did You Know?

When some grasshoppers are picked up, they "spit" a brown liquid which is often called "tobacco juice." Some scientists believe that this liquid may protect grasshoppers from attacks by insects such as ants.



Cut out an uppercase block letter G from green construction paper. Cut out an oval-shaped head, and legs from yellow construction paper. Add details with a black marker—eyes, mouth, antennae, feet, and body markings.

TONGUE
twister

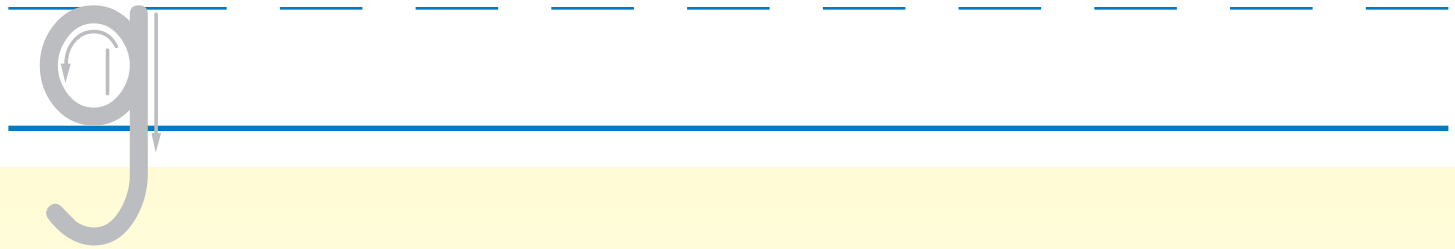
Gretel Grasshopper grazes
in the grass.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **G**.

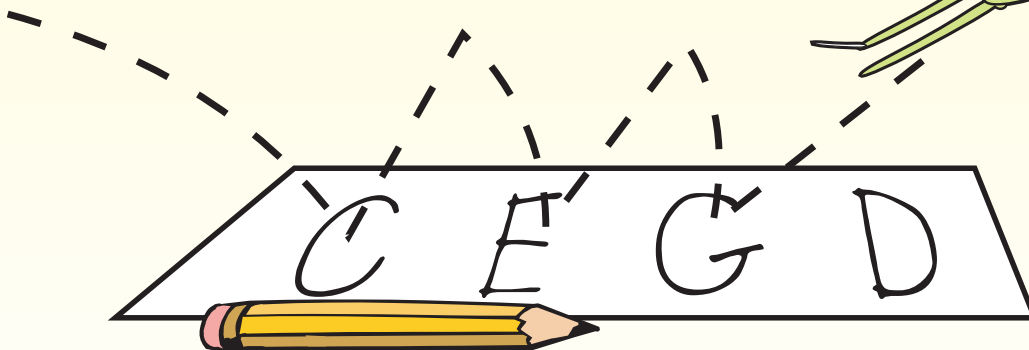
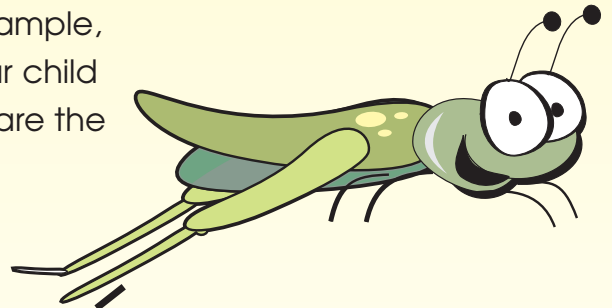


Trace and write the lowercase letter **g**.



Two of a Kind

Write a row of letters on a sheet of paper. For example, write **C, E, G,** and **D,** or **M, N, W,** and **V.** Help your child describe the characteristics of each letter. How are the letters similar? How are the letters different?



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

H-h HORSE

Did You Know?

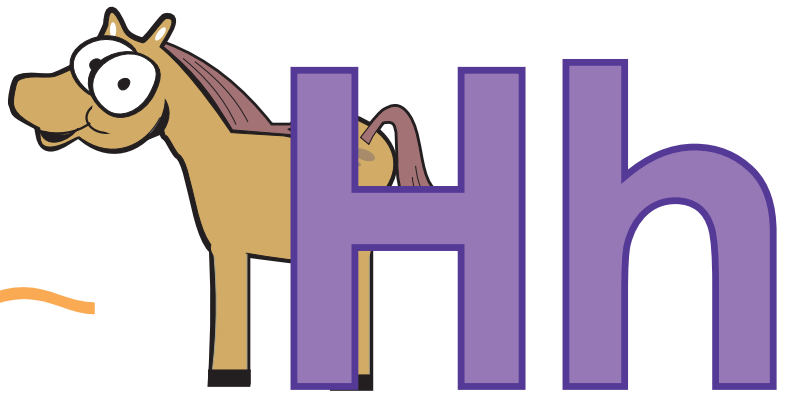
An adult female horse is called a **mare**; the adult male is called a **stallion**. A **foal** is a horse not yet one year old; a **colt** is a young male and a **filly** is a young female. A **pony** is a small horse, less than 58 inches tall at the shoulder.



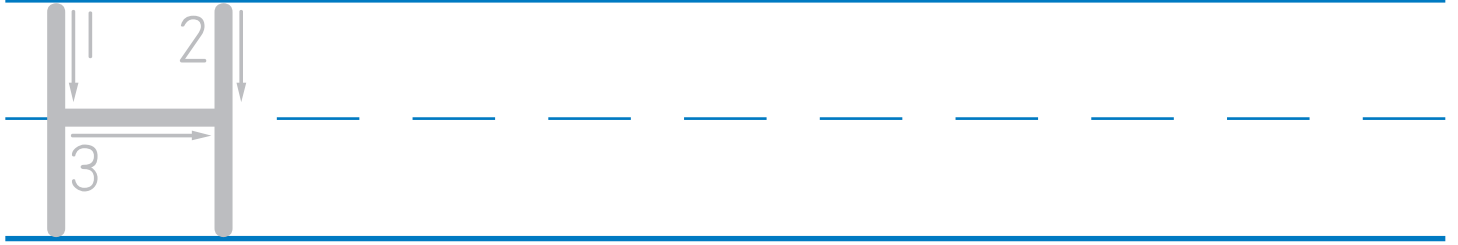
Cut out an uppercase block letter H from brown construction paper. Cut out one small brown oval for the horse's head and two small triangles for the ears. From contrasting construction paper cut out a tail, mane, and saddle. Add details with a black marker—eyes, mouth, nose, ears, legs and hooves, and texture.

TONGUE
twister

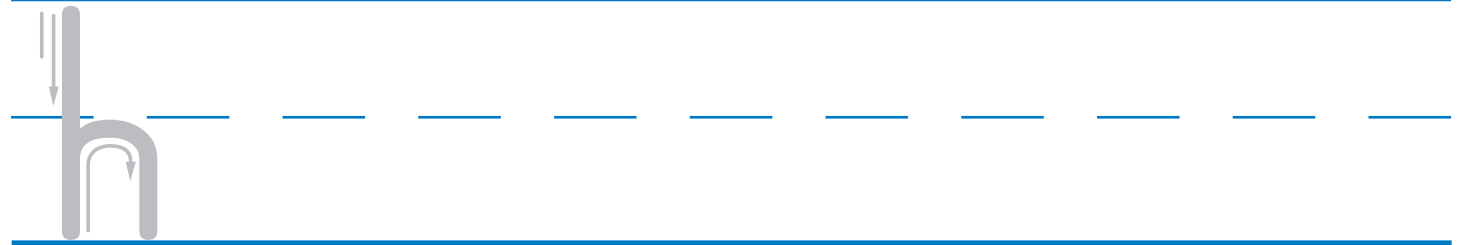
Henry Horse happily
hides in the haystack.



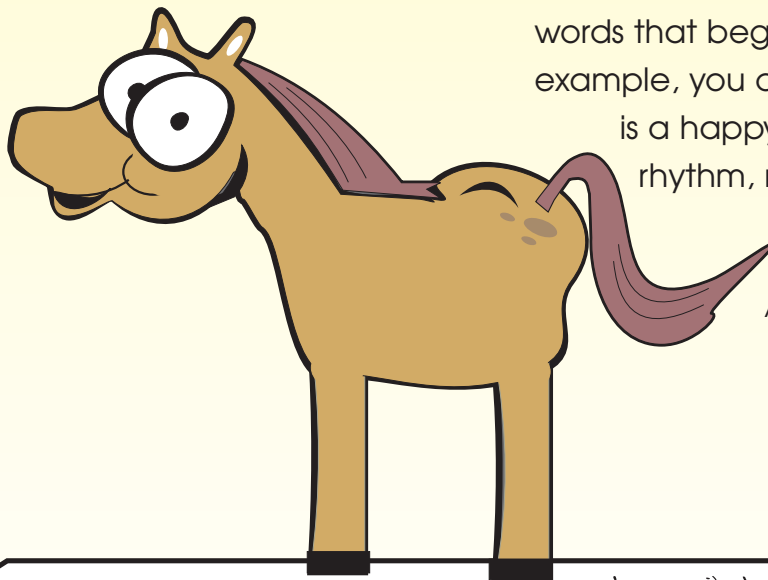
Trace and write the uppercase letter **H**.



Trace and write the lowercase letter **h**.



The Hairy Horse Is a Happy Horse



Take turns describing the hairy horse with words that begin with the letter **H**. For example, you could say, "The hairy horse is a happy horse." The next player, in rhythm, might say, "The hairy horse is a hungry horse."

Adjectives that begin with **H** include:

- hopeful
- hopeless
- handsome
- horrible
- homely
- helpful
- happy
- hairy

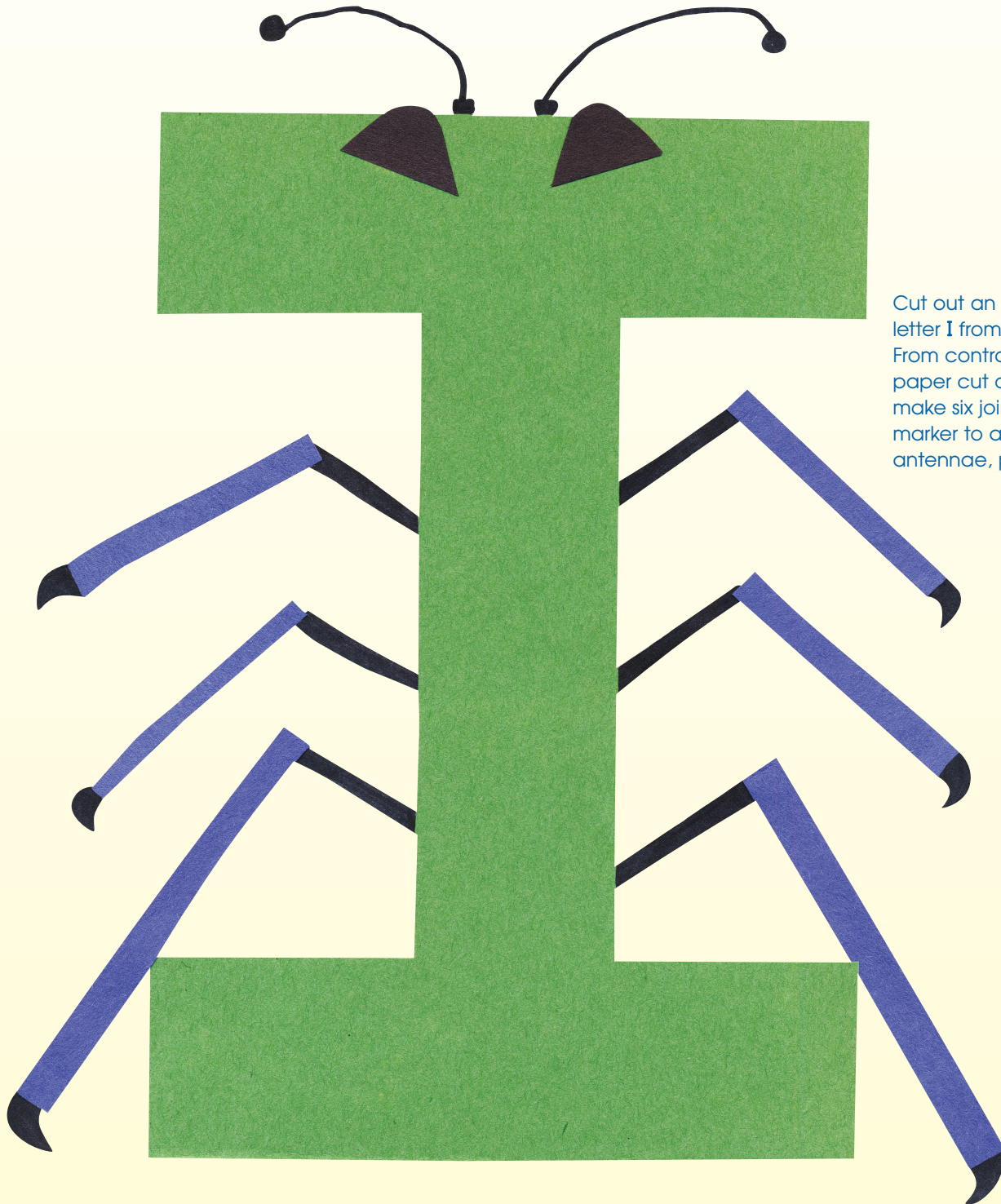


Animal Alphabet Art Activity

I-i INSECT

Did You Know?

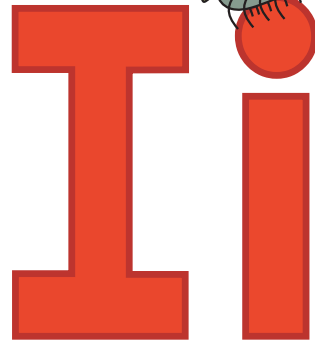
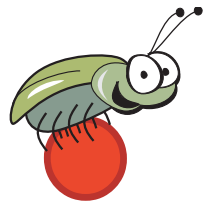
All insects have a hard exoskeleton, a three-part body, and three pairs of jointed legs, large compound eyes, and two antennae. There are about a million different types of insects.



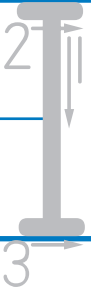
Cut out an uppercase block letter I from construction paper. From contrasting construction paper cut out narrow strips to make six jointed legs. Use black marker to add details—eyes, antennae, pinchers, and texture.

TONGUE
twister

Ivana Insect is
in Ireland.



Trace and write the uppercase letter I.



Trace and write the lowercase letter i.



Short i and Long i

Look through catalogs, magazines, and advertisements together. Cut out pictures of objects that begin with or contain the vowel **i**. Help your child divide the items into two groups: those that contain a **short i** sound, as in **crib**, **milk**, and **mitten**, and those with a **long i** sound, as in **ice cream** and **dime**.

For even more learning fun, work together to list as many words as possible in one minute (or any other set time limit) that contain or begin with the **short i** sound.

Then try to list as many words as possible in one minute that begin with or contain the **long i** sound.



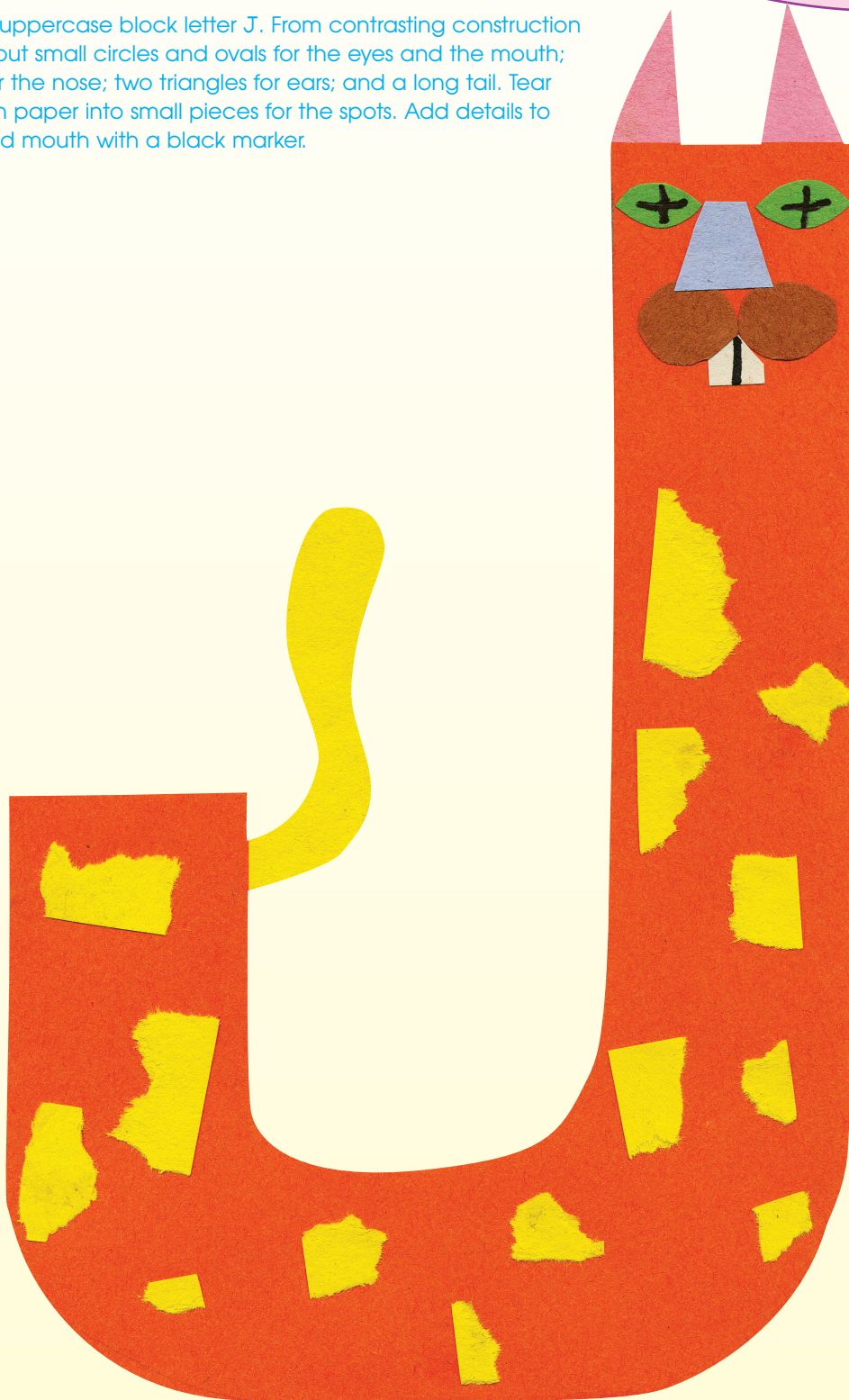
Animal Alphabet Art Activity

J-j JAGUAR

Cut out an uppercase block letter J. From contrasting construction paper, cut out small circles and ovals for the eyes and the mouth; a square for the nose; two triangles for ears; and a long tail. Tear construction paper into small pieces for the spots. Add details to the eyes and mouth with a black marker.

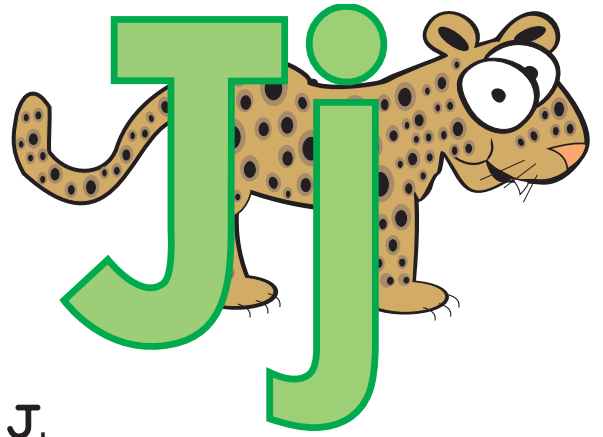
Did You Know?

The jaguar will wait by the water's edge and hit the surface of the water with its tail to attract fish. As the fish come near, the jaguar swats at them, spearing the fish with its sharp claws.

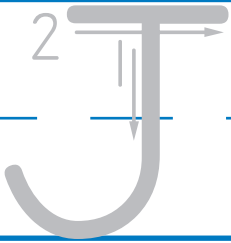


TONGUE
twister

Joey Jaguar juggles
jelly jars.



Trace and write the uppercase letter J.



Trace and write the lowercase letter j.



Jean Art

Draw an outline of the letter J on poster board or cardboard. Fill in the outline by gluing pieces of old blue jeans cut into small shapes.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

K-k KANGAROO

Did You Know?

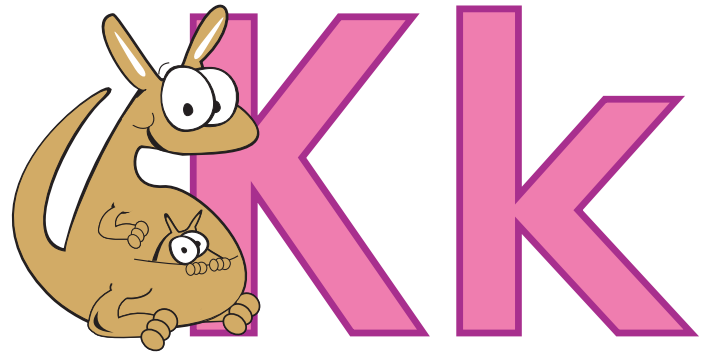
There are more than 50 different kinds of kangaroos! Kangaroos can hop up to 40 miles per hour and over 30 feet in one hop.



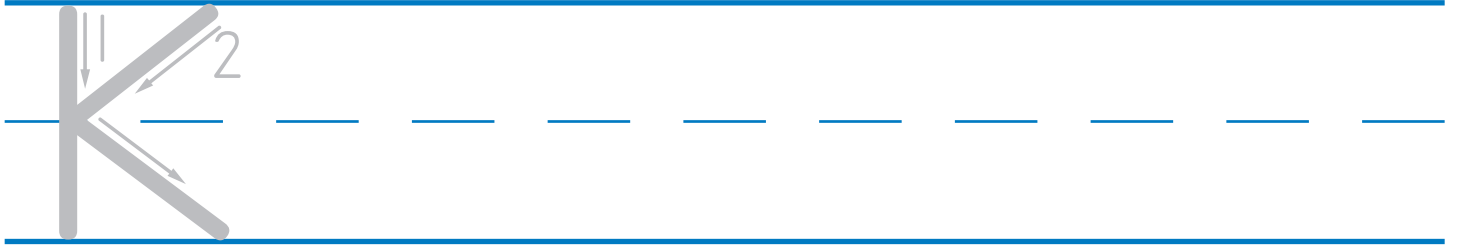
Cut out an uppercase block letter K and a curly tail from brown construction paper. Cut out a pouch pocket from gray construction paper. From pink construction paper cut out two irregular shaped triangles for ears; and three ovals for paws, each the width of the block letter. Use a black marker to add details—pouch pocket, paws, eyes, ears, and nose.

TONGUE
twister

Katrina Kangaroo keeps
the king's keys.



Trace and write the uppercase letter K.

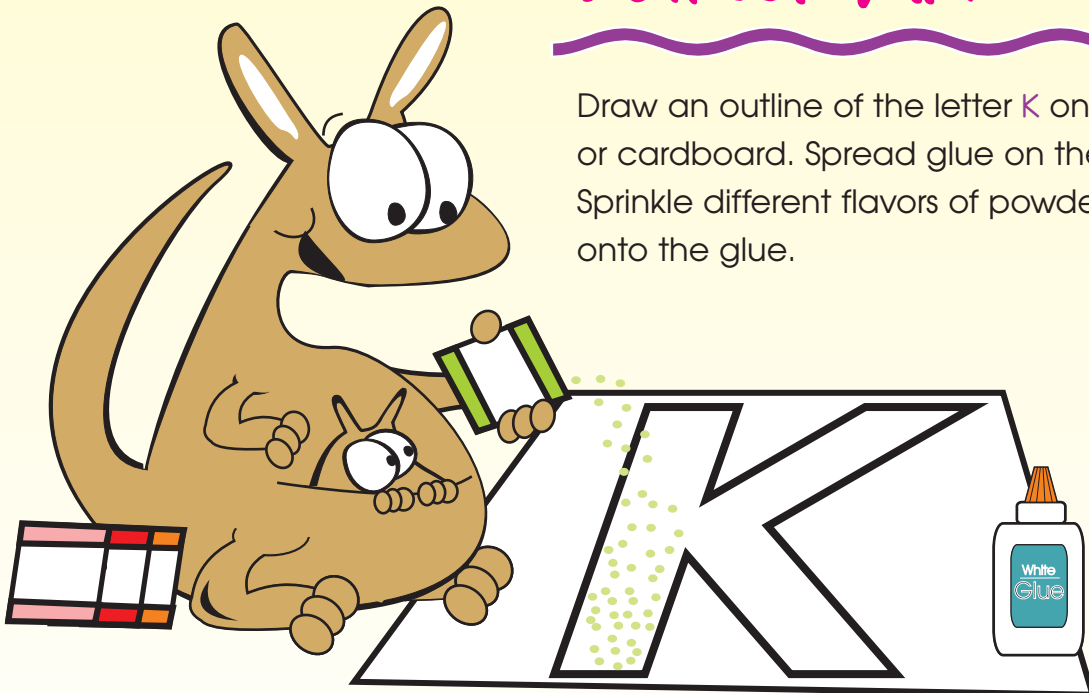


Trace and write the lowercase letter k.



Powder Art

Draw an outline of the letter K on poster board or cardboard. Spread glue on the letter K. Sprinkle different flavors of powdered drink onto the glue.

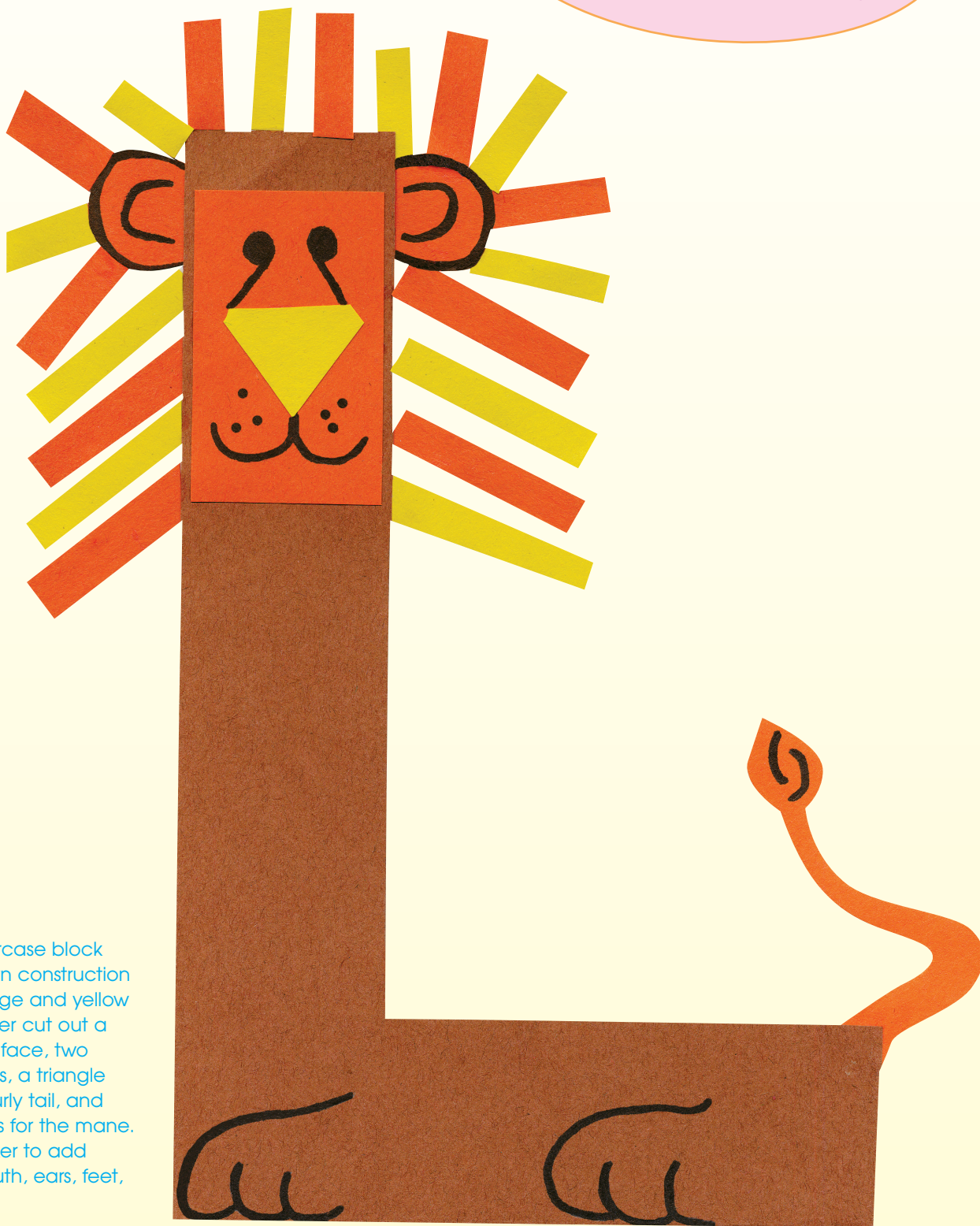


Animal Alphabet Art Activity

L LION

Did You Know?

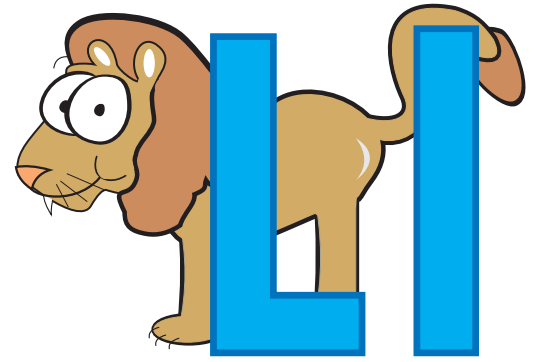
The female lion does more than 90% of the hunting while the male spends about 20 hours a day resting.



Cut out an uppercase block letter L from brown construction paper. From orange and yellow construction paper cut out a rectangle for the face, two circles for the ears, a triangle for the nose, a curly tail, and several small strips for the mane. Use a black marker to add detail—eyes, mouth, ears, feet, and texture.

TONGUE
twister

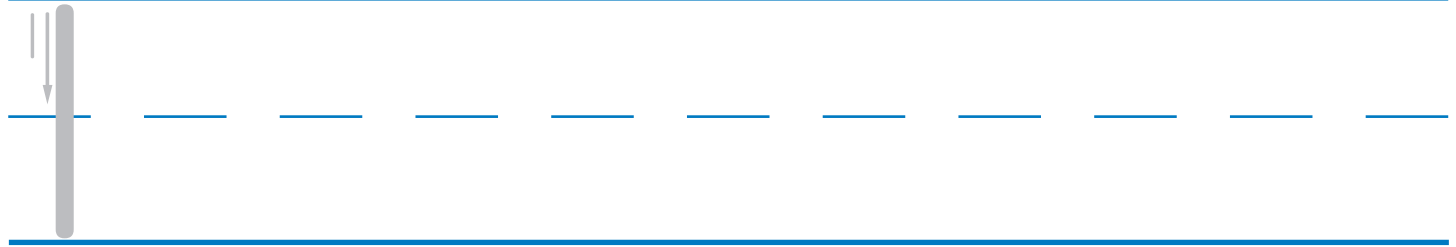
Leo Lion loves
lime lollipops.



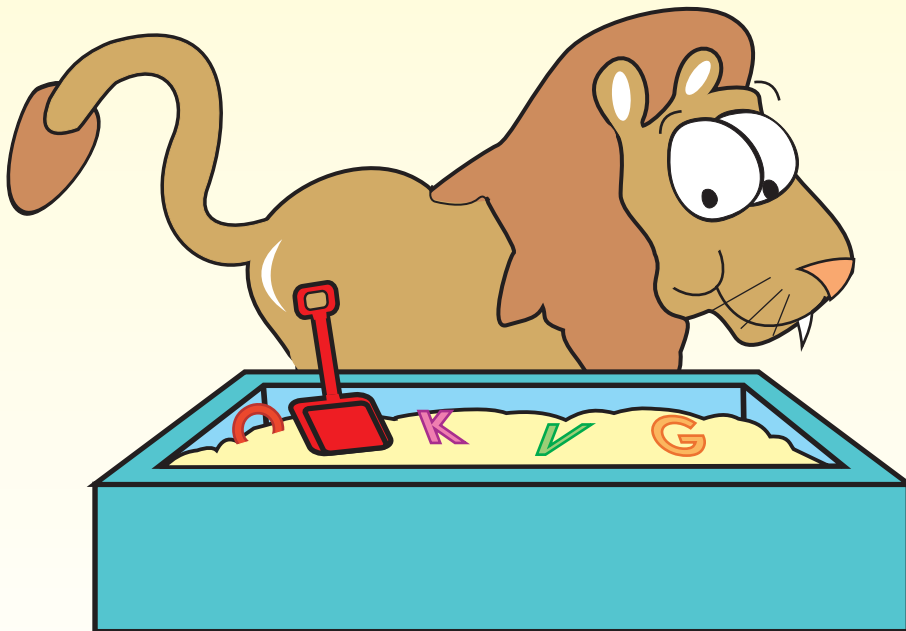
Trace and write the uppercase letter L.



Trace and write the lowercase letter l.



Digging for Letters



Fill a box or an under-the-bed storage container with sand. Bury a set of magnetic letters in the sand. Ask your child to dig up and identify a letter. For more challenging fun, bury only the uppercase letters in the sand. Help your child to dig up a letter and match it to the lowercase letter.

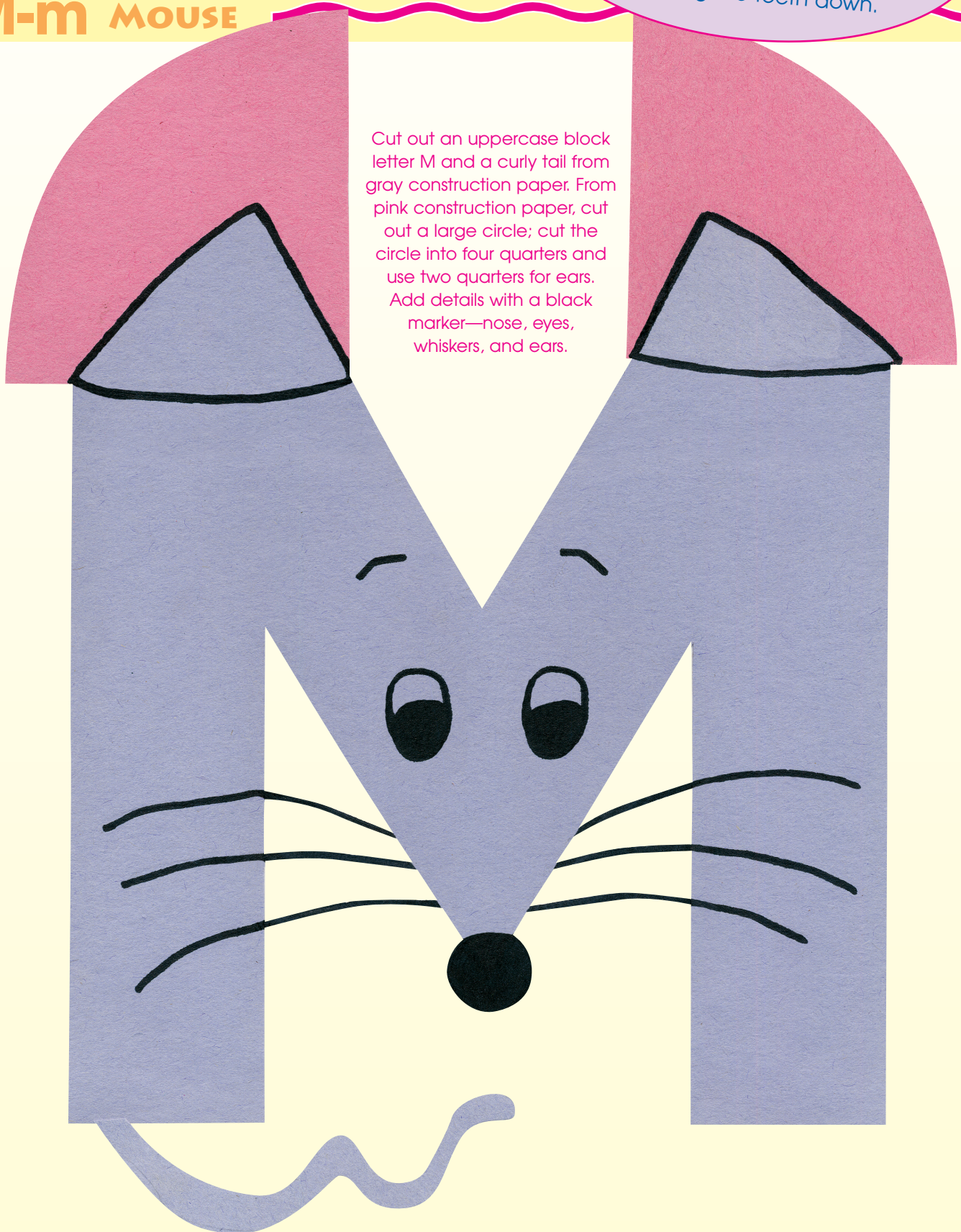
Animal Alphabet Art Activity

M-m MOUSE

Did You Know?

A mouse's front teeth continue to grow throughout its life. The mouse must gnaw on hard things to keep wearing the teeth down.

Cut out an uppercase block letter M and a curly tail from gray construction paper. From pink construction paper, cut out a large circle; cut the circle into four quarters and use two quarters for ears. Add details with a black marker—nose, eyes, whiskers, and ears.



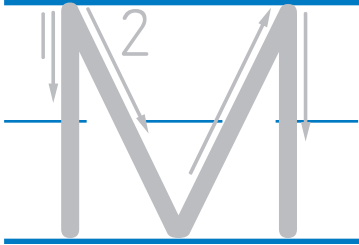
TONGUE
twister

Mandy Mouse munches
macaroni and meatballs.



Mm

Trace and write the uppercase letter M.

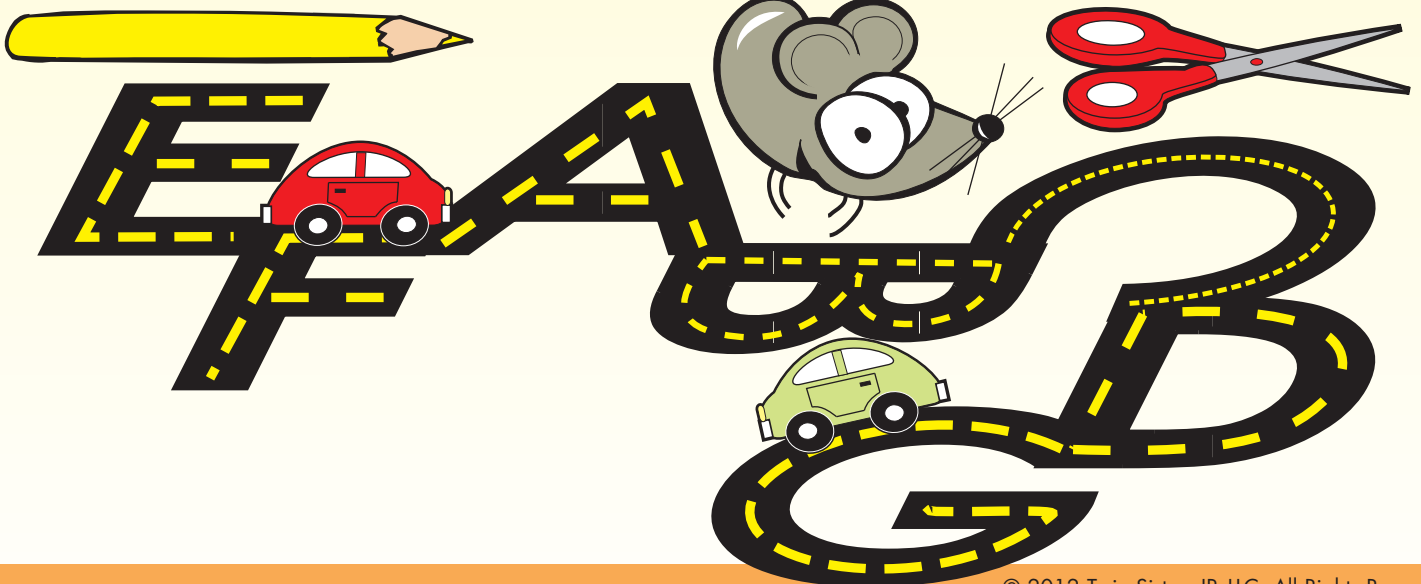


Trace and write the lowercase letter m.



Alphabet Roadway

Cut out large uppercase and lowercase letters from black construction paper or poster board. Paint yellow road stripes on each letter. Create an alphabet roadway by laying the letters on the floor. Drive toy cars and trucks on the road, identifying each letter along the way.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

N-n NIGHT CRAWLER

Did You Know?

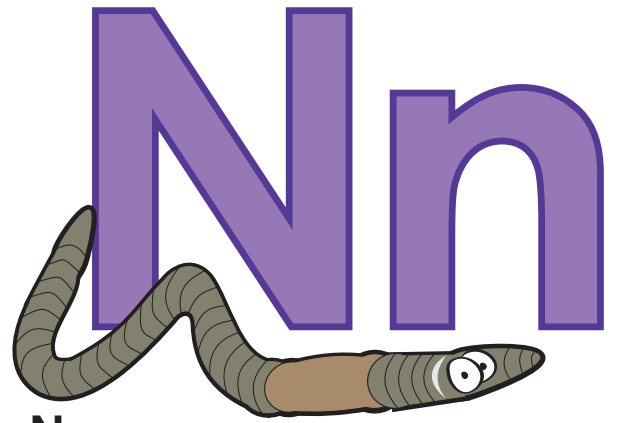
A night crawler is another name for an earthworm. The earthworm's brain, hearts—it has five—and breathing organs are located in the first few segments of the worm. The rest of the earthworm is filled with the intestines to digest its food.



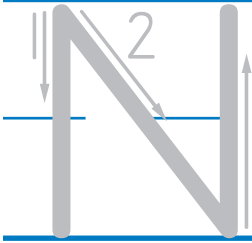
Cut out an uppercase block letter N from brown construction paper. Cut out an irregular shaped oval for the head and a rounded triangle for the end of the night crawler. Add details with a black marker—eyes, mouth, and wrinkles.

TONGUE
twister

Nathan Night Crawler never
naps at night.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **N**.

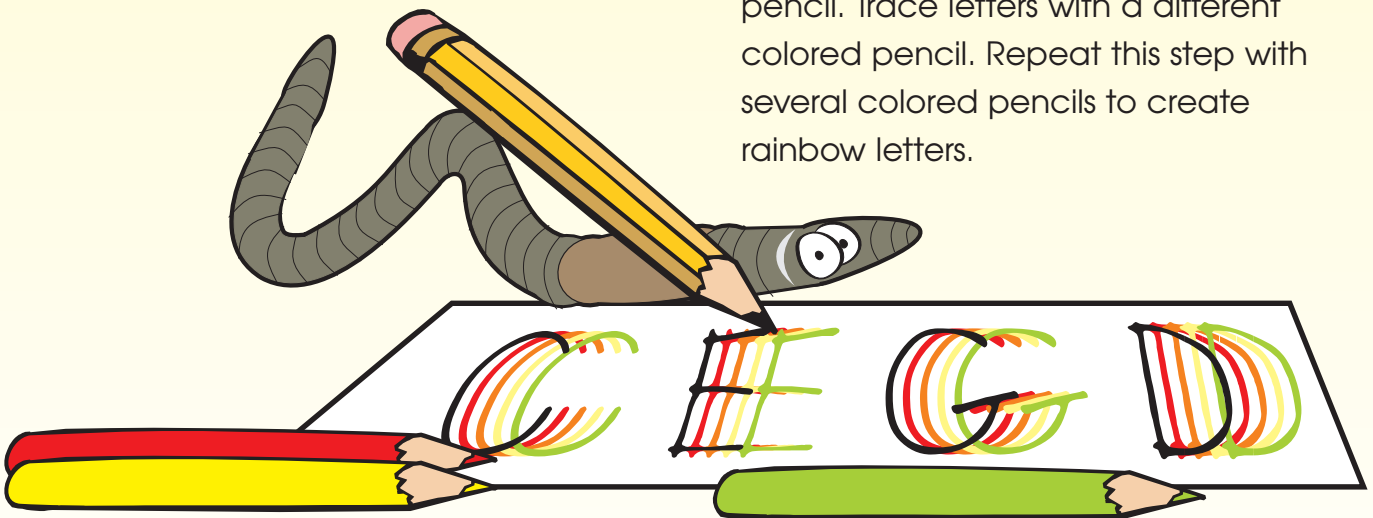


Trace and write the lowercase letter **n**.



Rainbow Letters

Ask your child to write uppercase letters across a line of tablet paper using a pencil. Trace letters with a different colored pencil. Repeat this step with several colored pencils to create rainbow letters.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

O-O OWL

Did You Know?

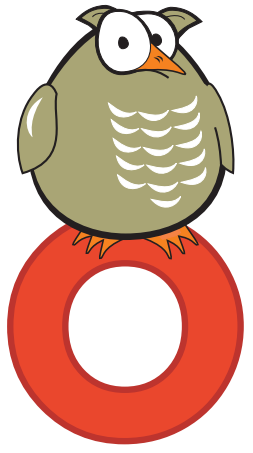
Owls cannot move their eyes within their sockets. In order to look around, they have to move their entire head.



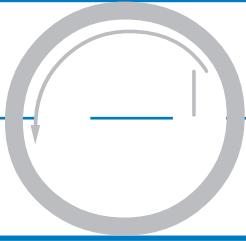
Cut out an uppercase block letter O from brown construction paper. From contrasting construction paper cut out the following: two pointed ovals for wings; a triangle for the beak; an irregular shaped rectangle for the tail feathers; two circles and two starbursts for eyes; and small triangles for wing feathers. Use black marker to outline the feathers and add details—eyes and beak.

TONGUE
twister

Ollie Owl often
offers others olives.



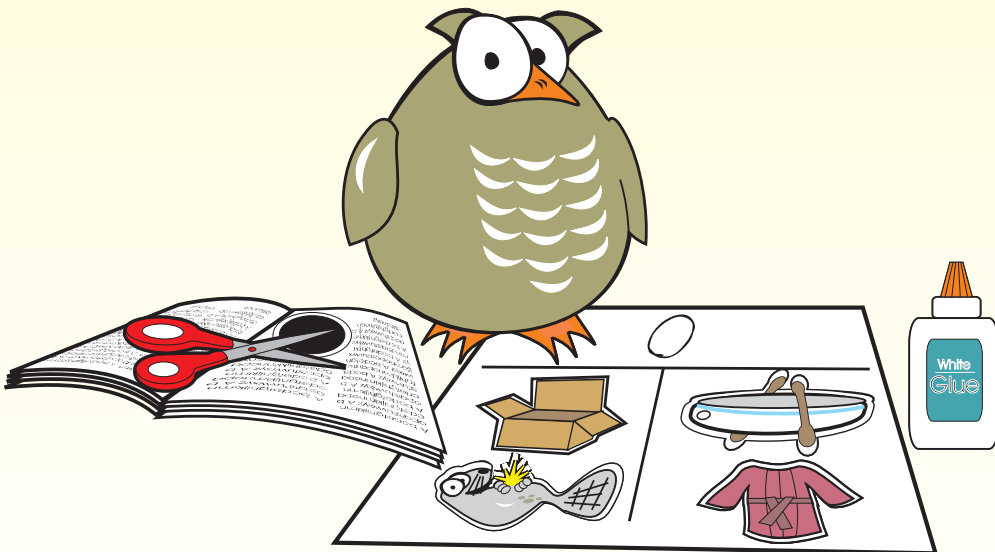
Trace and write the uppercase letter O.



Trace and write the lowercase letter o.



Short o and Long o Search



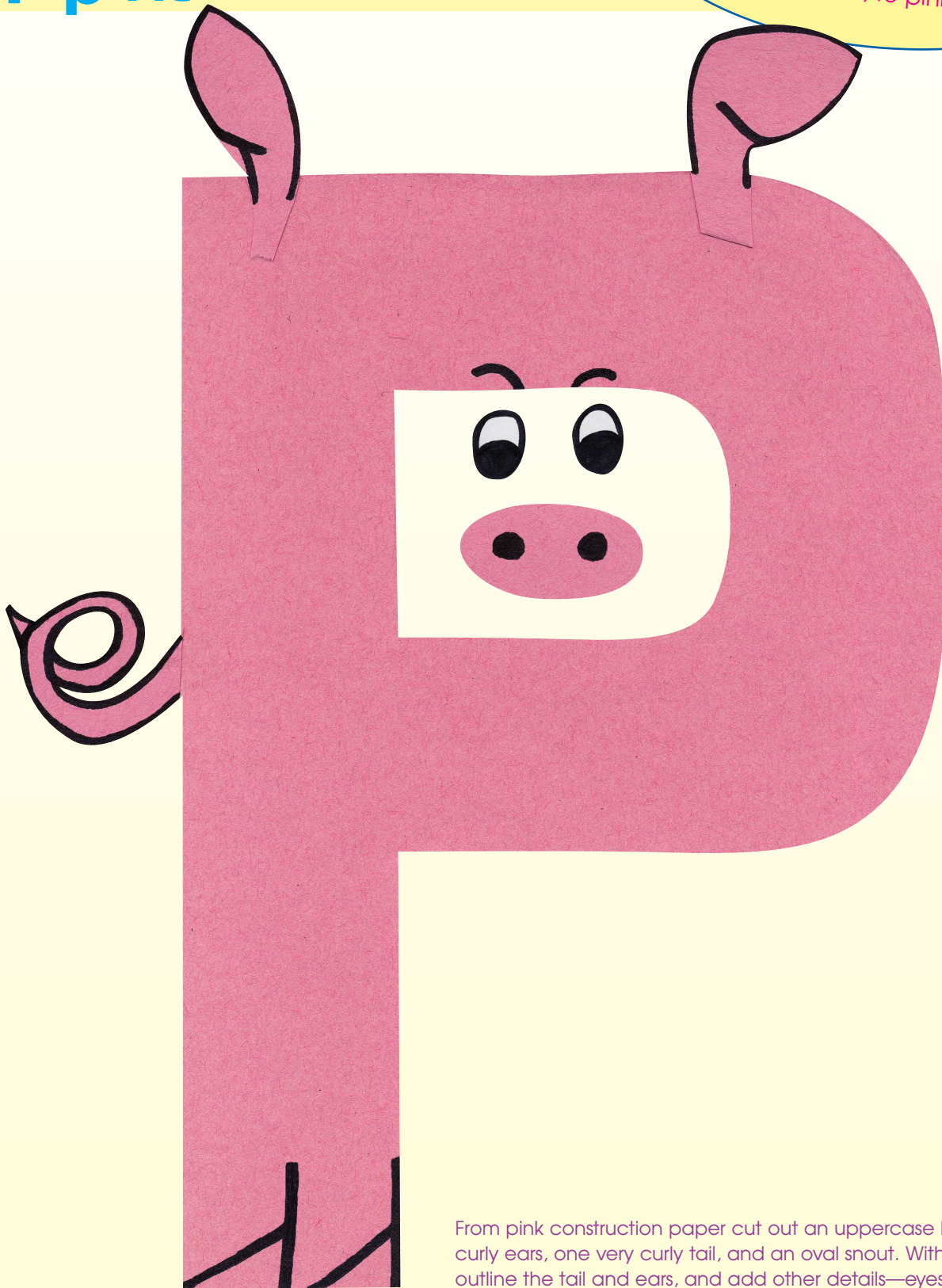
Look through catalogs, magazines, and advertisements together. Cut out pictures of objects that begin with or contain the vowel **o**. Help your child divide the items into two groups: those that contain a **short o** sound, as in **box** and **offer**, and those with a **long o** sound, as in **boat** and **robe**.

Animal Alphabet Art Activity

P-p PIG

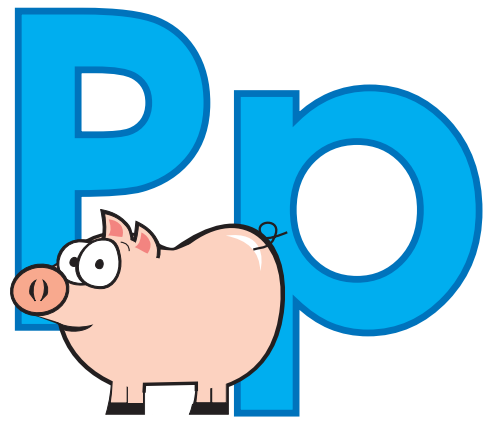
Did You Know?

Pigs are also called **hogs** or **swine**. The adult female is called a **sow**. The adult male is called a **boar**. A baby is called a **piglet**. Pigs vary in color from brown, black, white, to pink.

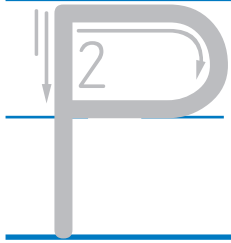


From pink construction paper cut out an uppercase block letter P, two curly ears, one very curly tail, and an oval snout. With a black marker outline the tail and ears, and add other details—eyes, snout, and hooves.

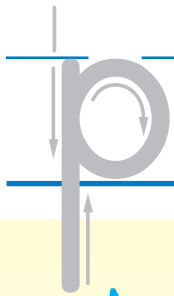
TONGUE
twister
Penelope Pig prefers pepperoni
pizza and prunes.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **P**.

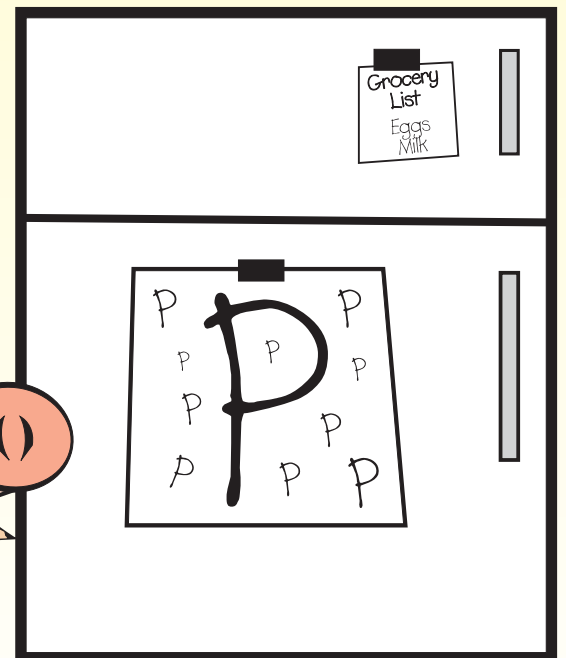
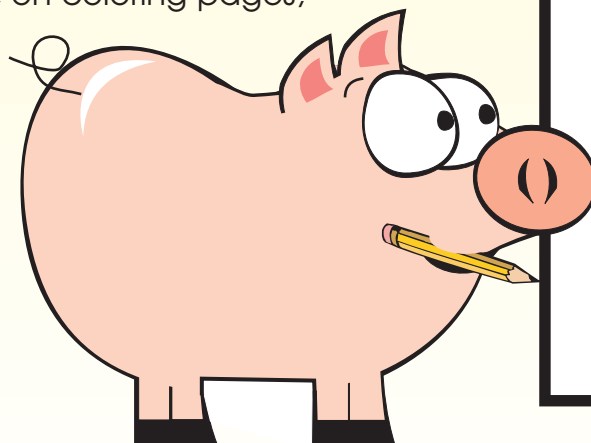


Trace and write the lowercase letter **p**.



Letter of the Day

Select a letter to look for throughout the day. Write the selected letter on a piece of paper and post it on the refrigerator. Ask your child to search for that letter. Each time your child finds the letter—on boxes, in magazines, on coloring pages, in television commercials and in other places—he or she must write the letter on the piece of paper.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

Q-q QUAIL

Did You Know?

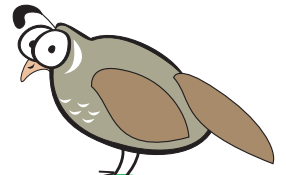
The California quail is a common bird from the western United States. They live in woodlands, desert edges, and grassy valleys. Quails live in groups of 10 to 20 birds, called coveys.



Cut out an uppercase block letter Q. From contrasting construction paper cut out the head, beak, wing, leg, large tail feathers, and triangles and circles for smaller feathers—refer to the illustration. Add details with a black marker—eyes, claws, and feathers.

TONGUE
twister

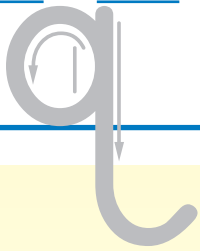
Queen Quail quickly
quit quarreling.



Trace and write the uppercase letter Q.

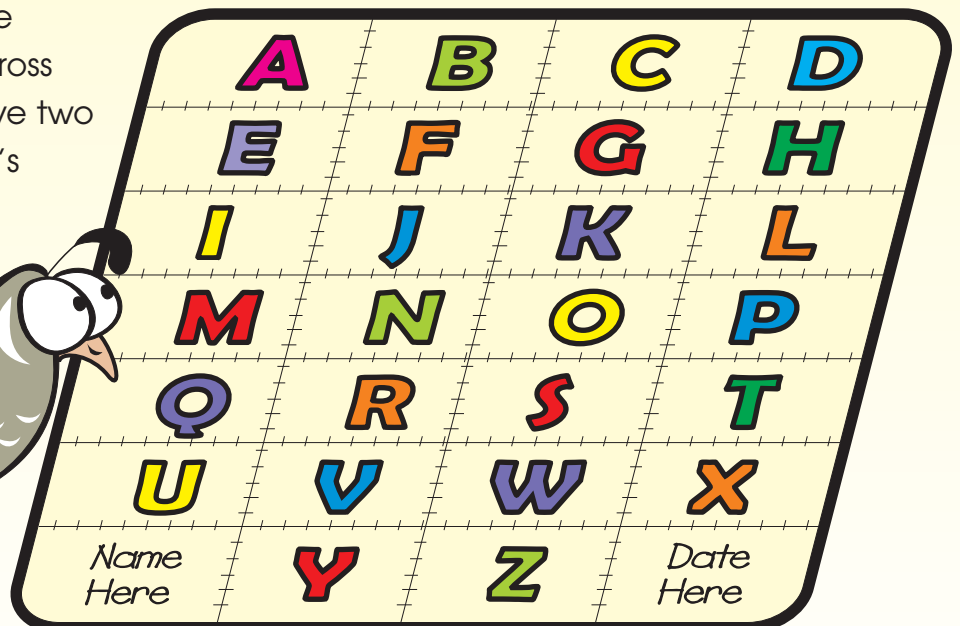
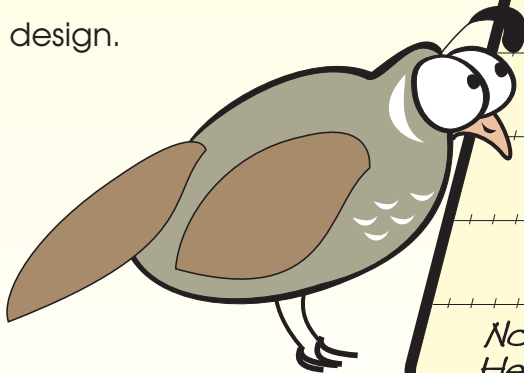


Trace and write the lowercase letter q.



Alphabet Quilt

Cut 28 squares from fabric scraps. Use black marker or fabric paint to outline a different letter of the alphabet on each square. Fill in the outlined letter with fabric or craft paint. Sew all the squares together, 4 squares across and 7 squares down. You'll have two blank squares—add your child's name and the date or some other design.

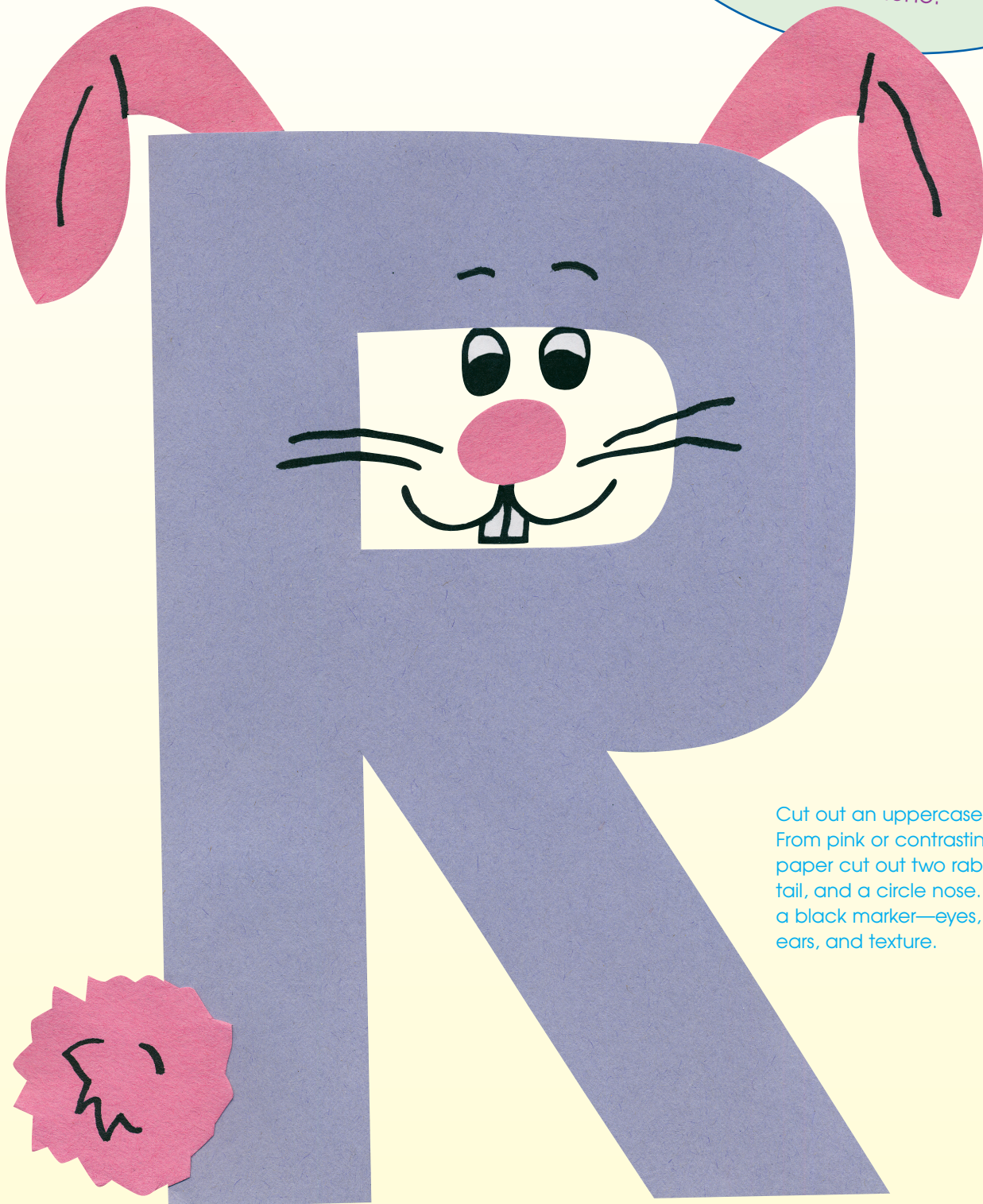


Animal Alphabet Art Activity

R-r RABBIT

Did You Know?

Rabbits and hares are not really one and the same. Rabbits are born naked and blind; hares are born with fur and the ability to see. Rabbits live in underground burrows with many other rabbits. Hares build simple nests and generally live alone!



Cut out an uppercase block letter R. From pink or contrasting construction paper cut out two rabbit ears, one puffy tail, and a circle nose. Add details with a black marker—eyes, mouth, whiskers, ears, and texture.

TONGUE
twister

Robbie Rabbit runs rapidly
from the rats.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **R**.



Trace and write the lowercase letter **r**.



Me Words

Write your child's first name on a large piece of paper. Ask your child to think of one or more words beginning with each letter in his or her first name. Each word should describe your child. For example, Michael may choose the words: musical, intelligent, cute, honest, artist, explorer, and loving. Try this activity with the names of other family members.

Musical
Intelligent
Cute
Honest
Artistic
Explorer
Loving



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

S-S SALAMANDER

Did You Know?

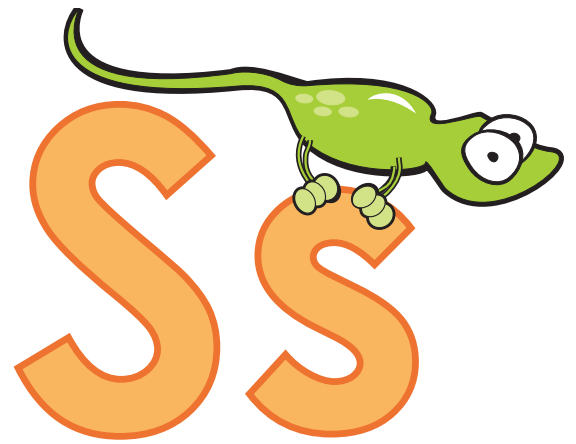
Salamanders have no scales, claws or external ear openings. Most have four short legs with four toes on each of the front legs, and five toes on each of the hind legs. As salamanders grow they lose the outer layer of their old skin and eat it.



Cut out an uppercase block letter S. From contrasting construction paper cut out four legs, a head and "mane," a curly "tail," and small squares for texture. Add details with a black marker. Refer to the illustration.

TONGUE
twister

Sam Salamander slides
Safely in School.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **S**.

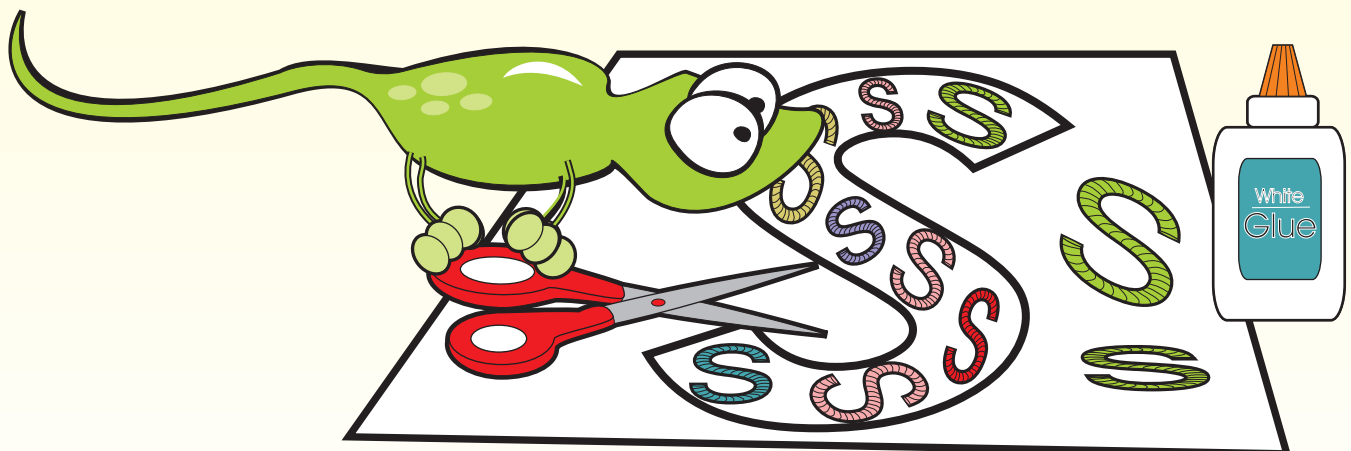


Trace and write the lowercase letter **s**.



String Art

Draw an outline of the letter **S** on poster board or construction paper. Cut different colors of thick string or yarn into a variety of lengths. Glue the string pieces to the outlined letter **S**. Make interesting patterns or try to fill the outline using only pieces shaped like the letter **S**.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

T-† TURTLE

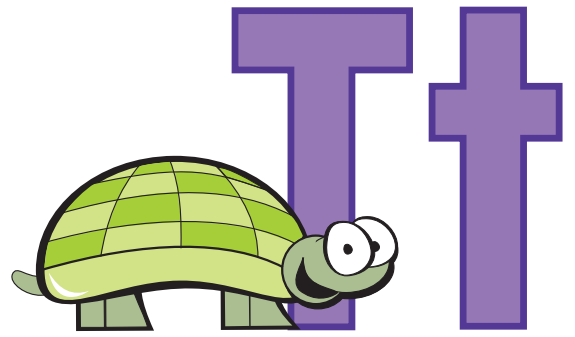
Did You Know?

Sea turtles cannot pull their head and legs into their shell. They can grow up to 6-feet long and weigh up to 1900 pounds. Adult female sea turtles return to the beach where they were born to lay eggs in the sand.

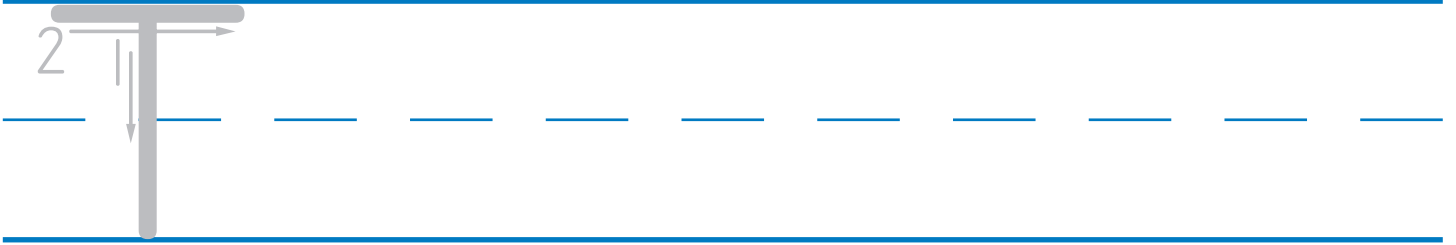


From green construction paper cut out an uppercase block letter T, two small legs, a triangle tail, and a half-circle head. Make the turtle shell from contrasting construction paper from a half-circle the width of the horizontal. Decorate the shell with different colored circles, triangles, squares, and other shapes. Use black marker to add details—mouth, eyes, claws, and texture.

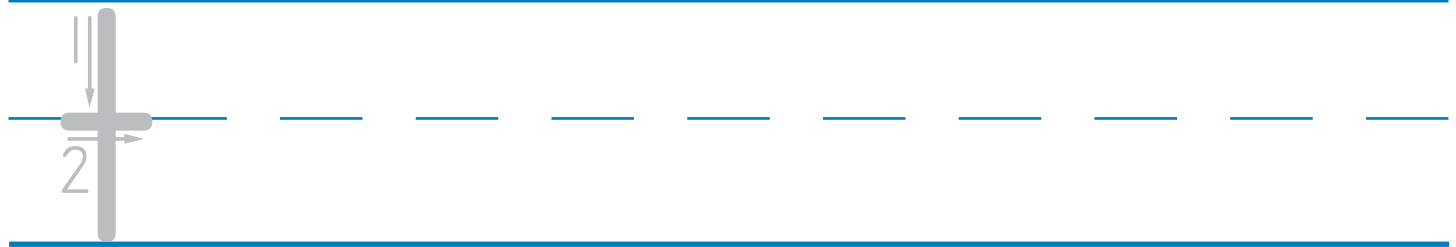
TONGUE
twister
Tony Turtle tells
tall tales.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **T**.

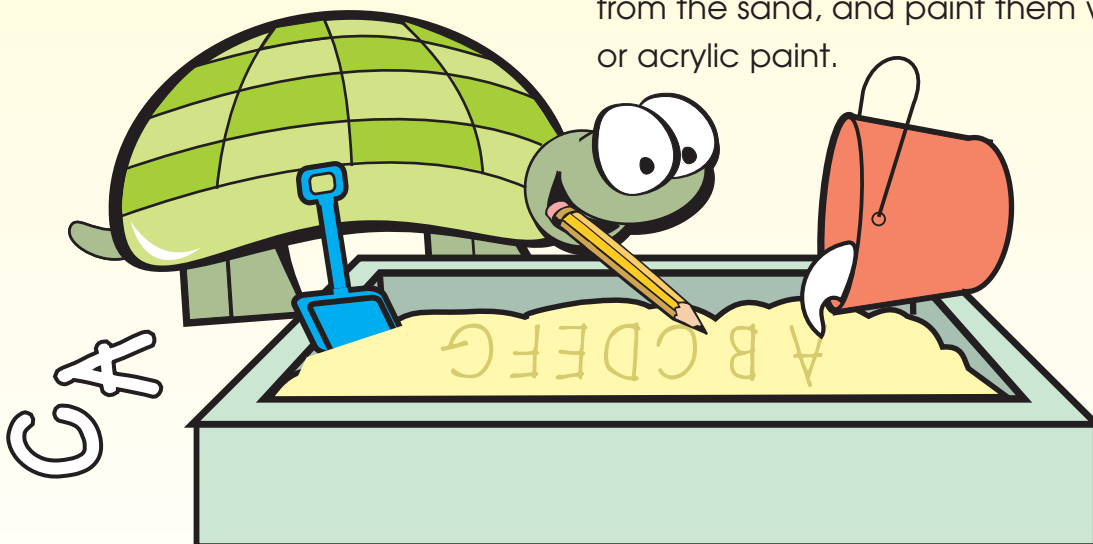


Trace and write the lowercase letter **t**.



3-D Letters

Put moist sand in a box or small plastic storage container. Write wide, deep letters in the sand using your finger. Mix plaster of paris (available at discount and craft stores) according to the package directions, pour it into the letter shapes. Let the letters dry. Remove the letters from the sand, and paint them with tempera or acrylic paint.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

U-U UNICORN

Did You Know?

The unicorn is a mythical animal that looks like a horse but has a single, twisted horn on the center of its forehead. Unicorns are often used as symbols of purity. Some people think that the unicorn legend was based upon the **oryx**, a long-horned African antelope.



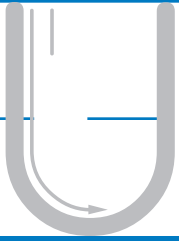
Cut out an uppercase block letter U. From white construction paper, cut out a horse's head and legs. Cut out a mane, horn, and curly tail from contrasting paper. Use a black marker to add details—outline the horn, mane, tail, legs, hooves, mouth, nose, and eyes.

TONGUE
twister

Ursula Unicorn Uses
Unusual Umbrellas.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **U**.

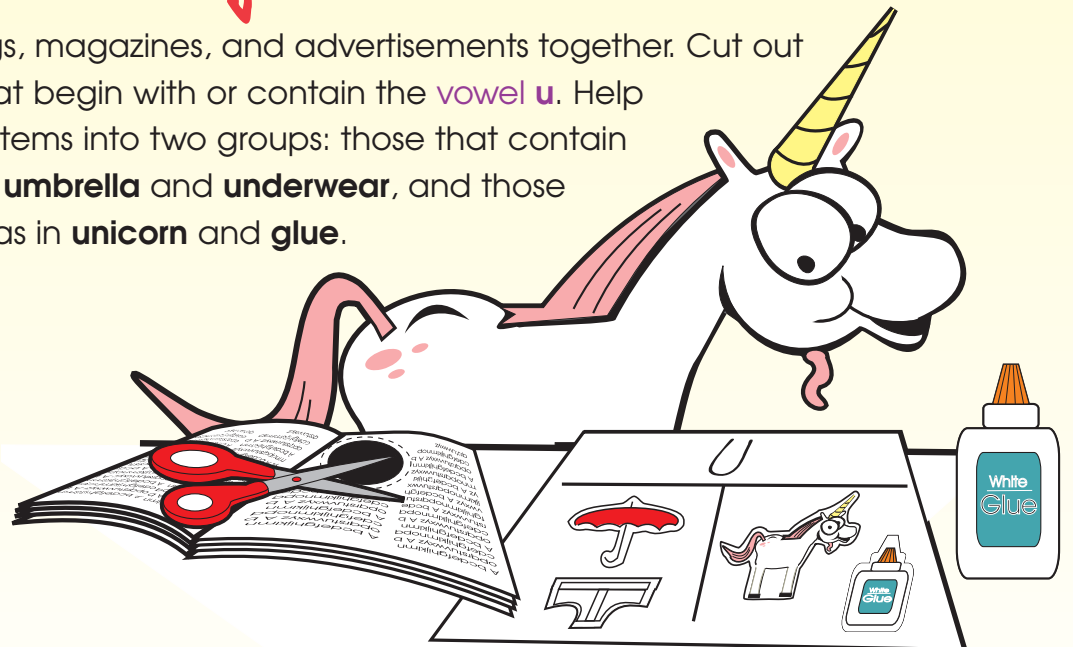


Trace and write the lowercase letter **u**.



Short u and Long u Search

Look through catalogs, magazines, and advertisements together. Cut out pictures of objects that begin with or contain the vowel **u**. Help your child divide the items into two groups: those that contain a **short u** sound, as in **umbrella** and **underwear**, and those with a **long u** sound, as in **unicorn** and **glue**.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

V-V VULTURE

Did You Know?

Vultures have broad, strong wings and are powerful flyers even though they have the slowest wing beat of any bird—one wing beat per second.



Cut out an uppercase block letter V. From contrasting construction paper cut out the wing feathers, head, beak, head feathers, and claws. Add details to the head, feathers, and claws with a black marker.

TONGUE twister

Vinnie Vulture Views

Videos and Visits Volcanoes.



Trace and write the uppercase letter V.

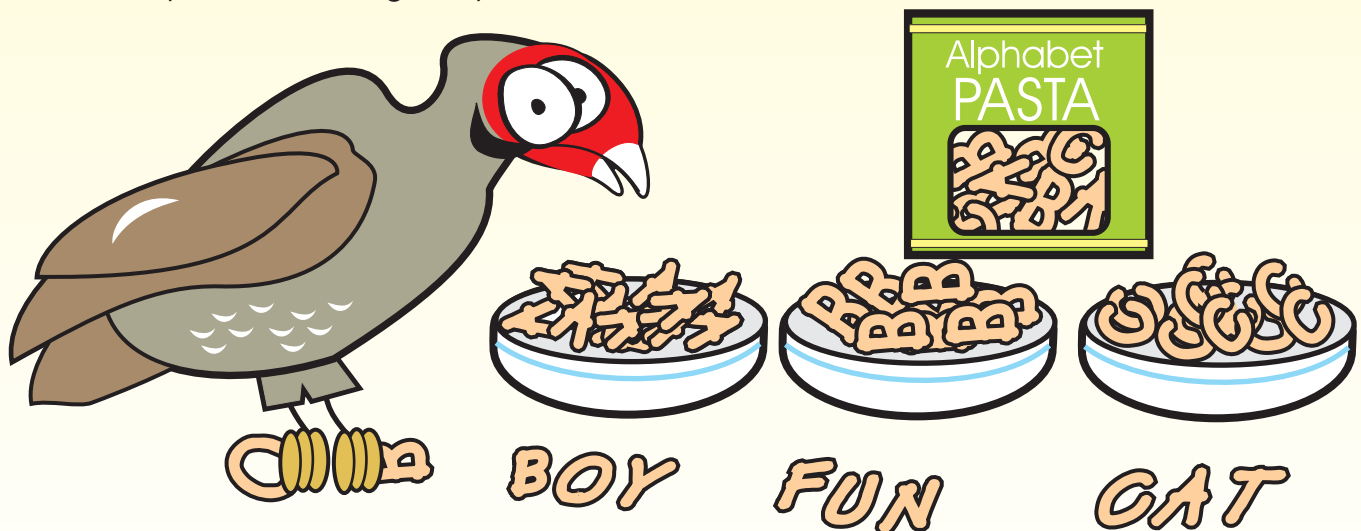


Trace and write the lowercase letter v.



Alphabet Pasta

Empty a box of alphabet pasta—available at most grocery stores—into a large bowl. Help your child sort the pasta by letter. Is any letter missing? Are there more of one letter than of another letter? Can you make simple words using the pasta letters?



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

W-W WORM

Did You Know?

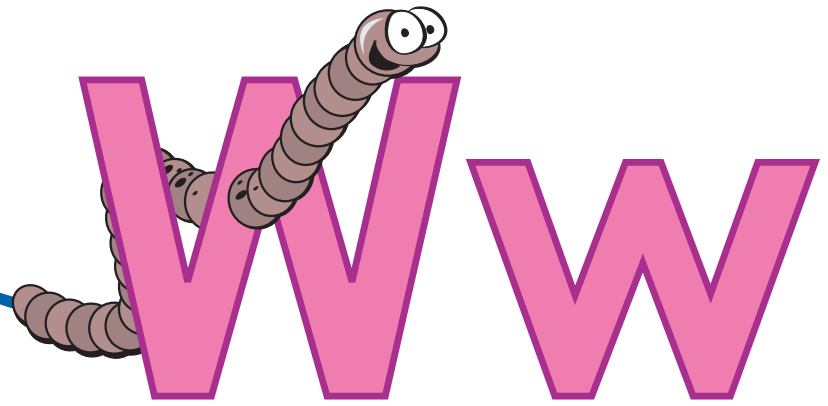
Earthworms—also called night crawlers—help to create good soil by burrowing deep and leaving behind their waste! Did you know that good soil may have as many as one million worms per acre? Earthworms grow from a few inches long to over 22-feet long.



Cut out an uppercase block letter W and round the edges.
Add details with a black marker—eyes, mouth, and wrinkles.

TONGUE
twister

William the Worm
wiggles wildly.



Trace and write the uppercase letter **W**.

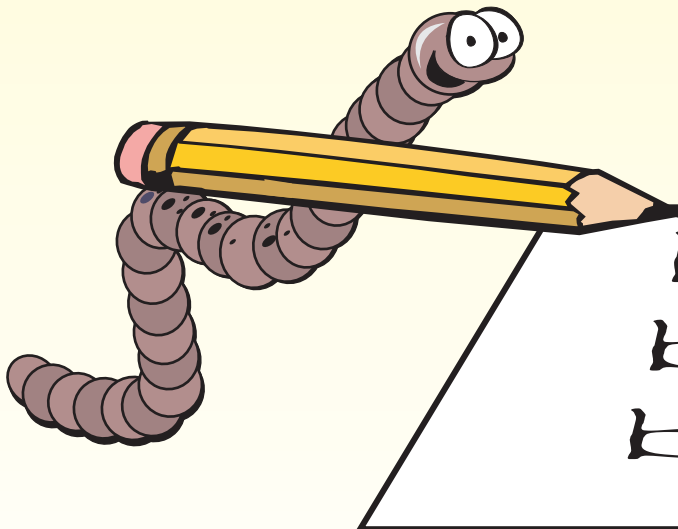


Trace and write the lowercase letter **w**.



Substitute Letters

On a sheet of paper, write "b _ g" three times. Write the lowercase **a** in the blank of the first word to make the word **bag**. Read the word together. Write the lowercase **i** and **u** in the other two words. Continue with other word forms such as "c _ t" and "h _ t." Ask your child to write the missing letters.

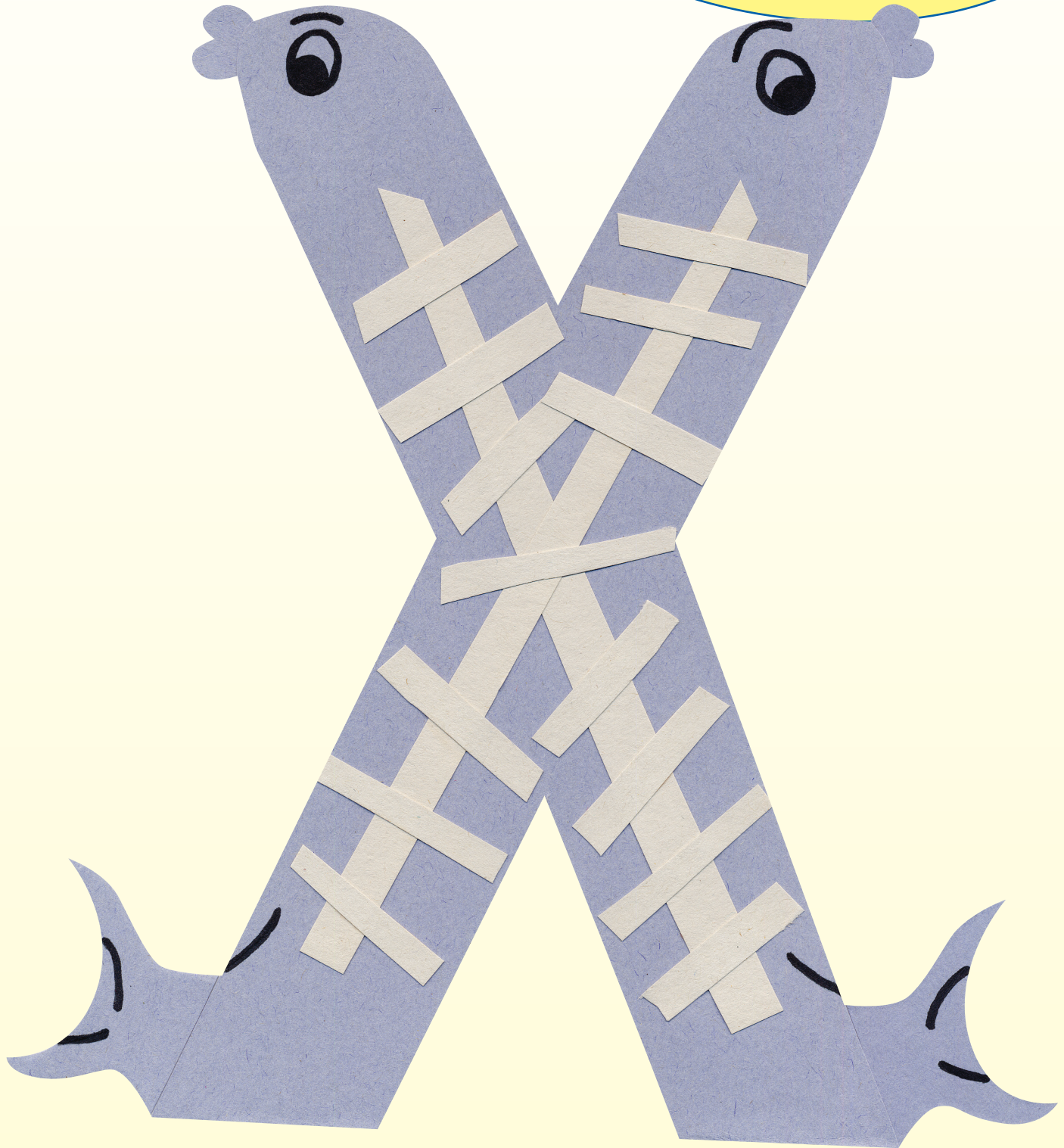


Animal Alphabet Art Activity

X-X X-RAY FISH

Did You Know?

The x-ray fish is almost transparent so you can actually see inside its body. This South American fish is often kept in freshwater tropical aquariums.



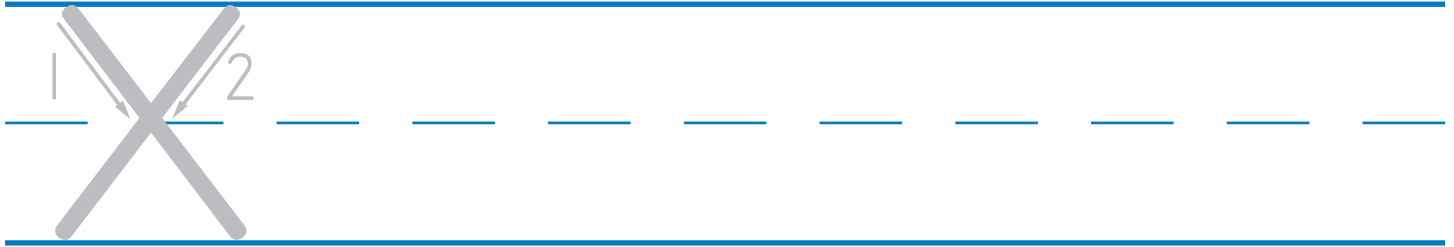
Cut out an uppercase block letter X, two fins, and two lips. From contrasting construction paper, cut out two long, narrow strips and several shorter, narrow strips. Add details with a black marker.

TONGUE
twister

Xavier the X-ray fish
examines Xylophones.



Trace and write the uppercase letter X.

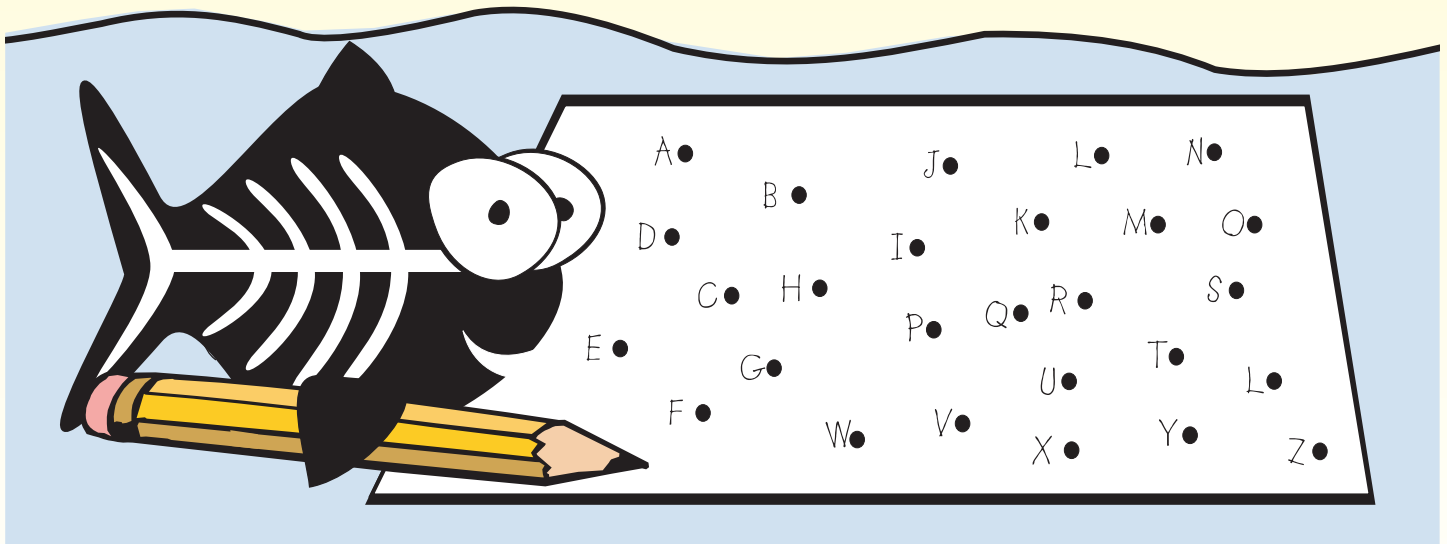


Trace and write the lowercase letter x.



Alphabet Dot-to-Dot

Play this simple game on a placemat while waiting at a restaurant. Randomly write the letters of the alphabet. See how quickly your child can connect the letters in the correct order. Begin with only uppercase letters. Then, try playing with lowercase letters and connect **A** to **a**, **B** to **b**, and so on.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

Y-y YELLOW JACKET

Did You Know?

Yellow Jackets live and work together in groups called **colonies**. **Queens** are large females who build the nest and lay eggs; **workers** are small females who build nests and feed the young, and males are called **drones**.



From yellow construction paper, cut out an uppercase block letter Y. Use contrasting construction paper to make a circle head, triangle stinger, and half-circle wings. Use a black marker to add stripes, antennae, eyes, and other features.

TONGUE
twister

Yasmine the Yellow Jacket
yawns and yells.



Trace and write the uppercase letter Y.

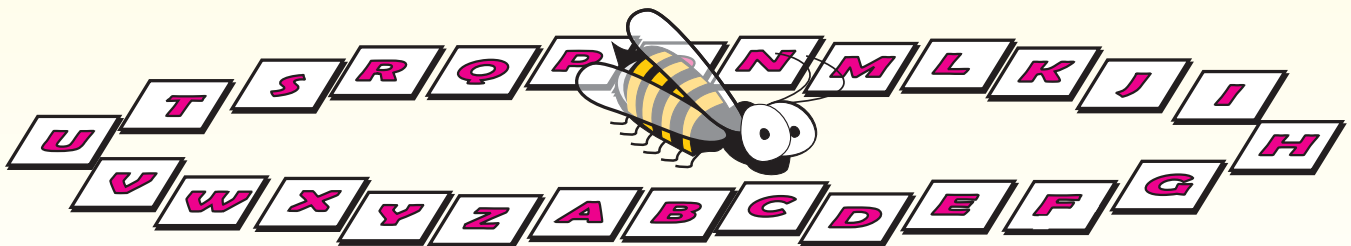


Trace and write the lowercase letter y.



Alphabet March

Place alphabet cards on the floor, forming a circle. Play your favorite song while your child steps on each alphabet card. When you stop the music your child must freeze in place and say the name of the letter on which he or she is standing. Remove that letter, and play again until only one special letter remains.



Animal Alphabet Art Activity

Did You Know?

A zebra is really white with black stripes!
No two zebras have stripes that are
exactly alike.

Z-Z ZEBRA



Cut out an uppercase block letter Z and a short tail from black construction paper. Cut out several short, narrow strips for the mane. From white construction paper, cut out several small triangles, stripes, and an elongated head with rounded corners. Refer to the illustration.

TONGUE
twister

Zoe Zebra Zips
Zippers at the Zoo.



Trace and write the uppercase letter Z.



Trace and write the lowercase letter z.



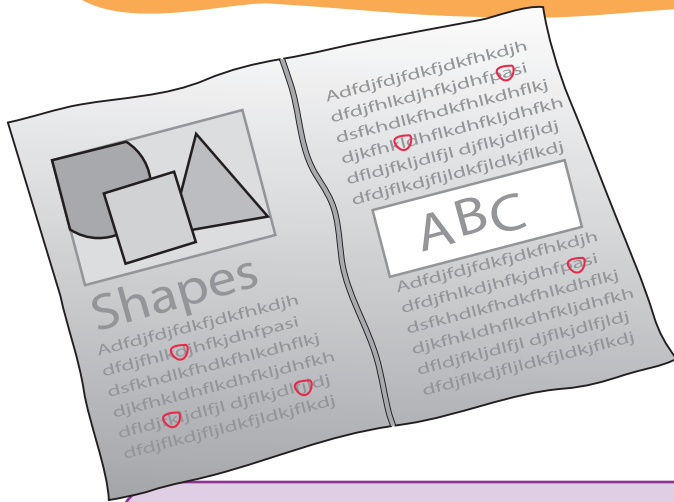
Letters All Around

Try to find letters of the alphabet by looking closely at objects all around you. Spot the **Y** in a tree branch, the **A** in the frame of a swing set, or the **H** in a door molding. See how many letters you can find in or around your house or during a walk around the neighborhood.



Alphabet & Letters

Easy, Fun Activities to Teach Children the Letters of the Alphabet



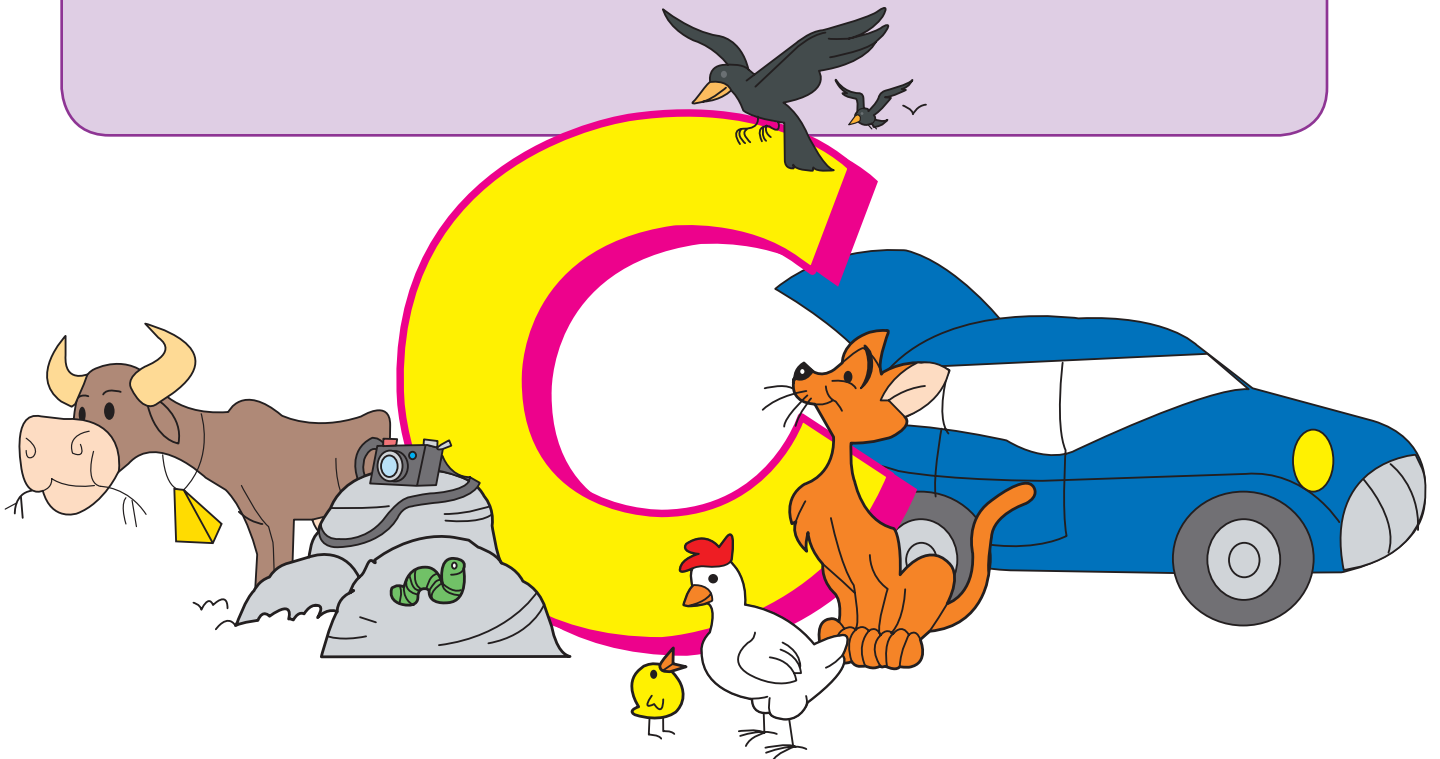
Letters in the News

Read the daily newspaper with your child. Choose a letter of the alphabet and ask your child to find and circle as many of that letter as he can find on a page of the newspaper. Say the letter and read the words your child finds.

Letter of the Day!

Ask your child to pick a letter for the day. For example, if your child chooses the letter C, you both can:

- Identify any foods that start with C during meal time or snack time.
- Name things you see that start with C while playing in the park.
- Think of any family, friends, or pets whose name begins with C.
- Practice writing or drawing pictures of items that start with C.



Alphabet & Letters

Pretzel Letters

Follow this simple recipe to make pretzel dough. Together, shape a small ball of dough to form a letter of the alphabet. Make the "Letter of the Week" or all of the letters of the alphabet.

1 package yeast
4 cups flour
1 1/2 cup warm water

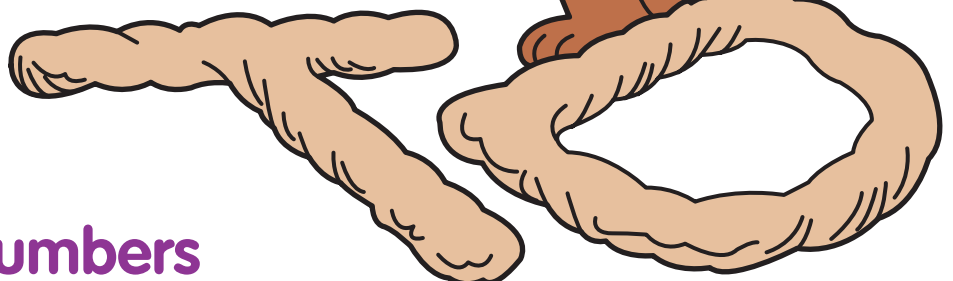
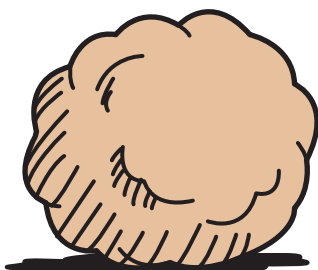
1 beaten egg
1 tsp salt
1 Tbsp sugar



Measure water in a mixing bowl. Sprinkle yeast in the water. Add salt, sugar, and flour. Mix and knead dough approximately 3 minutes. Grease cookie sheets. Shape the pretzel dough into letters and lay them on the cookie sheets. Brush the dough letters with beaten egg and sprinkle them with salt. Bake at 425 degrees for 12-15 minutes. After the pretzels have cooled, share the alphabet treats with friends and family.

Sandwich Art

Spread peanut butter, cream cheese, or a favorite sandwich spread on a piece of bread. Then, let your child write a letter of the alphabet on the bread using raisins, banana slices, crackers, celery, carrot slices, chocolate chips, strawberries, orange segments, pretzel sticks, etc.

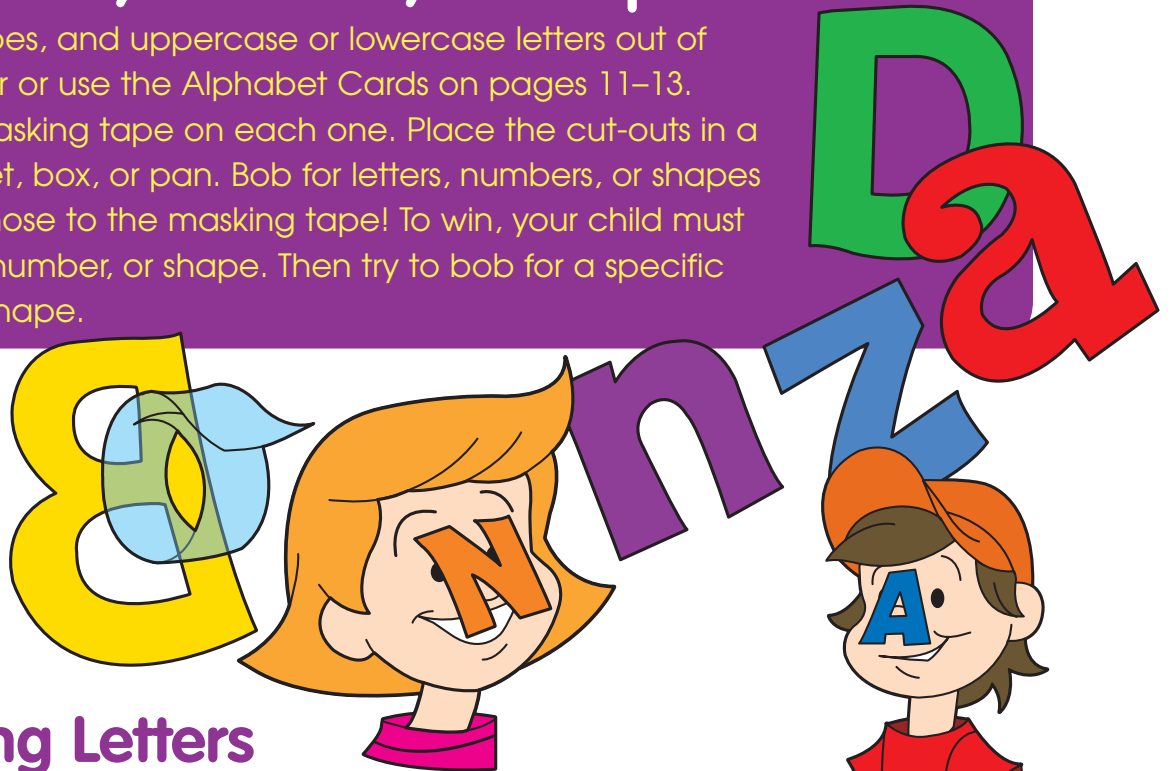


Clay Alphabet & Numbers

Make letters or numbers out of homemade play dough or modeling clay.

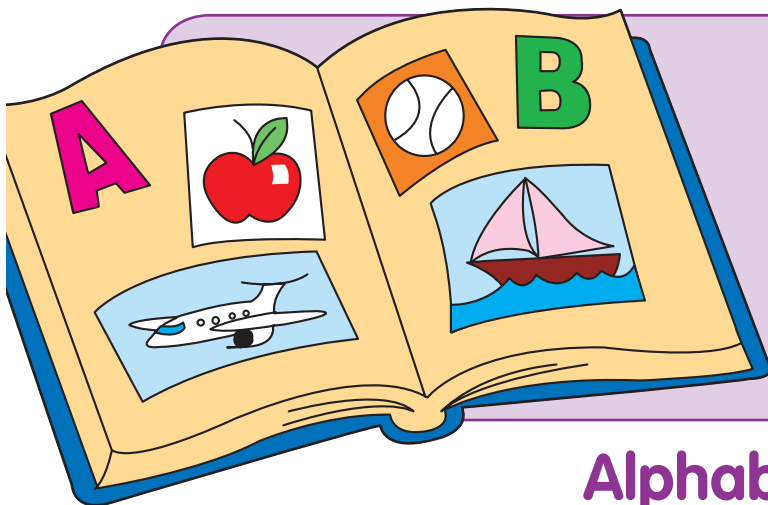
Bob for Letters, Numbers, or Shapes

Cut numbers, shapes, and uppercase or lowercase letters out of construction paper or use the Alphabet Cards on pages 11–13. Place a loop of masking tape on each one. Place the cut-outs in a large clothesbasket, box, or pan. Bob for letters, numbers, or shapes by touching your nose to the masking tape! To win, your child must identify the letter, number, or shape. Then try to bob for a specific letter, number, or shape.



Cheerleading Letters

In a cheering fashion, ask for the letters of your child's name—or any other new word—one at a time. For example, you would say, "Give me a K!" Your child would say, "K!" You would say, "Give me an I!" Your child would say, "I." You would say, "Give me a M!" Your child would say, "M!" You would say, "What does that spell?" Together, "Kim!"



C is for Cow

Keep an ongoing scrapbook of pictures starting with each letter of the alphabet. Cut pictures from magazines, junk mail, and catalogs. Use a three-ring binder, spiral notebook, or even a hardcover blank journal.

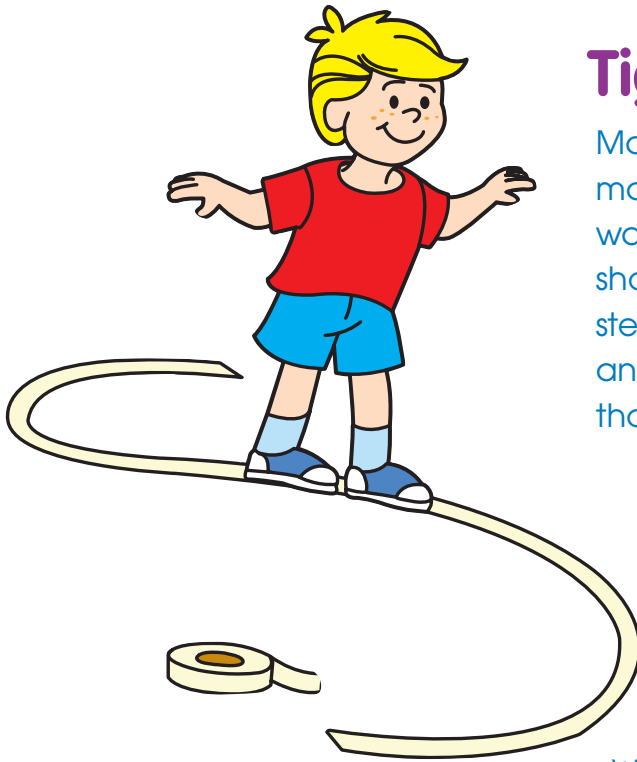
Alphabet Guessing

Place inexpensive magnetic letters and numbers in a paper bag or shoebox. Each player closes his or her eyes and picks a magnetic letter from the bag or box. The player can then open his or her eyes. To win the letter, the player must identify the letter. The player can also try to identify the letter by feeling it with his or her eyes closed.

Alphabet & Letters

Swamp

Toss socks or fabric scraps around the room—these are the alligators. At one end of the room, place the Alphabet Cards (pages 11-13), number or shape cut-outs. See how quickly your child can hop through the swamp, pick up a specific letter, number, or shape, and make it back to safety—all without disturbing one of the pretend alligators.



Tightrope Walker

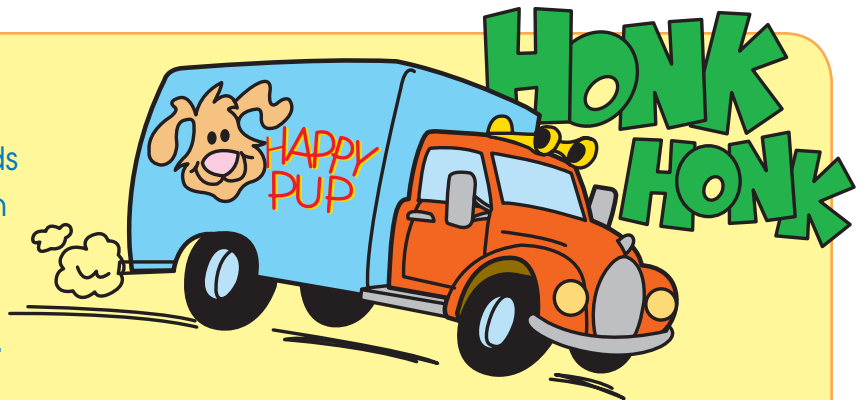
Make one or more large letters on the floor with masking tape. Challenge your preschooler to walk the “tightrope” and identify the letter. First, show your child how to walk on the tape without stepping off. Then, let your preschooler have a turn, and see if he or she can stay on the tape better than you can.

Mystery Writing

Ask your child to stand with eyes closed, and write a letter on his hand with your finger. Your child must identify what you’re writing. Start with just letters, then with two- or three-letter words.

The Alphabet Game

While driving in the car, search for words that begin with a certain letter. Look on street signs, buildings, passing trucks, etc. Then try to search for words that begin with each letter of the alphabet. Go in alphabetical order. (You may want to agree to search for words that contain the letters Q, X, and Z.)



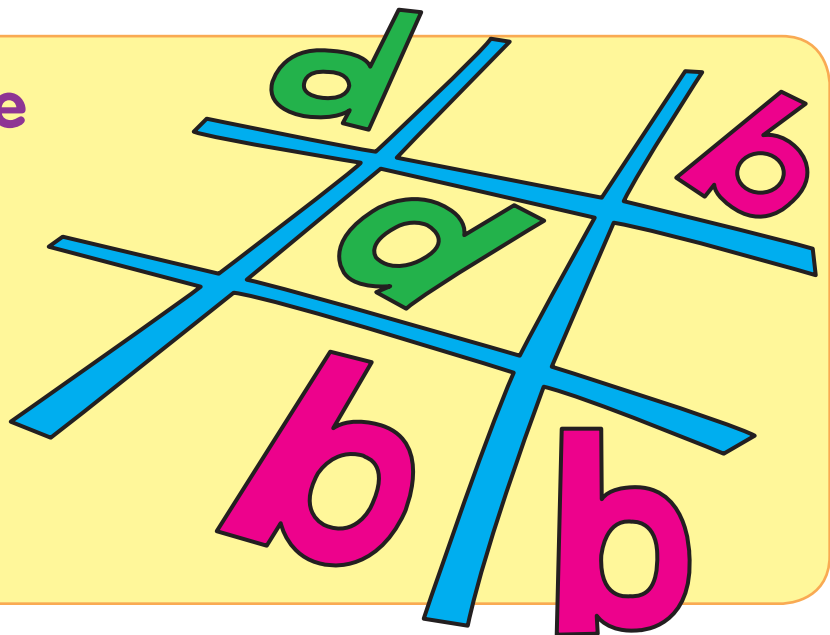
Alphabet March



Write one letter of the alphabet on a piece of construction paper. Play with all 26 letters or only letters your child needs to drill. Place alphabet cards on the floor, forming a circle. Play your favorite song while your child steps on each alphabet card. When you stop the music, he or she must freeze in place and say the name of the letter on which he or she is standing. Remove that letter, as in musical chairs, and play again until one letter remains.

Alphabet Tic-Tac-Toe

Instead of an **X** and an **O**, play **Tic-Tac-Toe** with lowercase **b** and **d**, which are among the more difficult letters for children to recognize because they look so similar. You can also play with other letters that your child might be having trouble identifying.



Uppercase-Lowercase Matching

Draw a line from the **uppercase** letter to its matching **lowercase** letter.



Alphabet & Letters

Uppercase-Lowercase Matching

Draw a line from the **uppercase** letter to its matching **lowercase** letter.

P

Y

F

N

A

R

S

n

a

p

s

f

y

r

Uppercase Rainbow Letters

Trace each **uppercase alphabet letter** with a colored pencil. Trace each letter again with a different colored pencil. Repeat several times to create Rainbow Letters.



Alphabet & Letters

Lowercase Rainbow Letters

Trace each **lowercase alphabet letter** with a colored pencil. Trace each letter again with a different colored pencil. Repeat several times to create Rainbow Letters.





Write Your Own Uppercase Rainbow Letters

Write each **uppercase alphabet letter** with a colored pencil. Trace over your letters with different colors of pencils. Repeat several times to create Rainbow Letters.



The page contains ten sets of horizontal writing lines. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed midline, and a solid bottom line. The colors of the lines, from top to bottom, are: pink, blue, purple, green, and orange. Each set of lines is intended for practicing writing and tracing uppercase letters.

Alphabet & Letters

Write Your Own Lowercase Rainbow Letters

Write each **lowercase alphabet letter** with a colored pencil. Trace over your letters with different colors of pencils. Repeat several times to create Rainbow Letters.

The page contains ten sets of handwriting lines. Each set consists of four horizontal lines: a solid top line, a dashed midline, a solid baseline, and a dashed descender line. The colors of the lines for each set are: 1) Pink, 2) Blue, 3) Purple, 4) Green, 5) Light Green, 6) Orange, 7) Yellow, 8) Light Blue, 9) Light Purple, and 10) Light Orange.

Missing Letters

Write the letter that comes next.

A, B, _____

L, M, _____

T, U, _____

Write the letter that comes first.

_____ E, F

_____ Q, R

_____ Y, Z

Write the missing letters.

A C D E G I

J L M O P

R S U V X Z

Alphabet & Letters

Dot-to-Dot, A-Z



Color By Letter

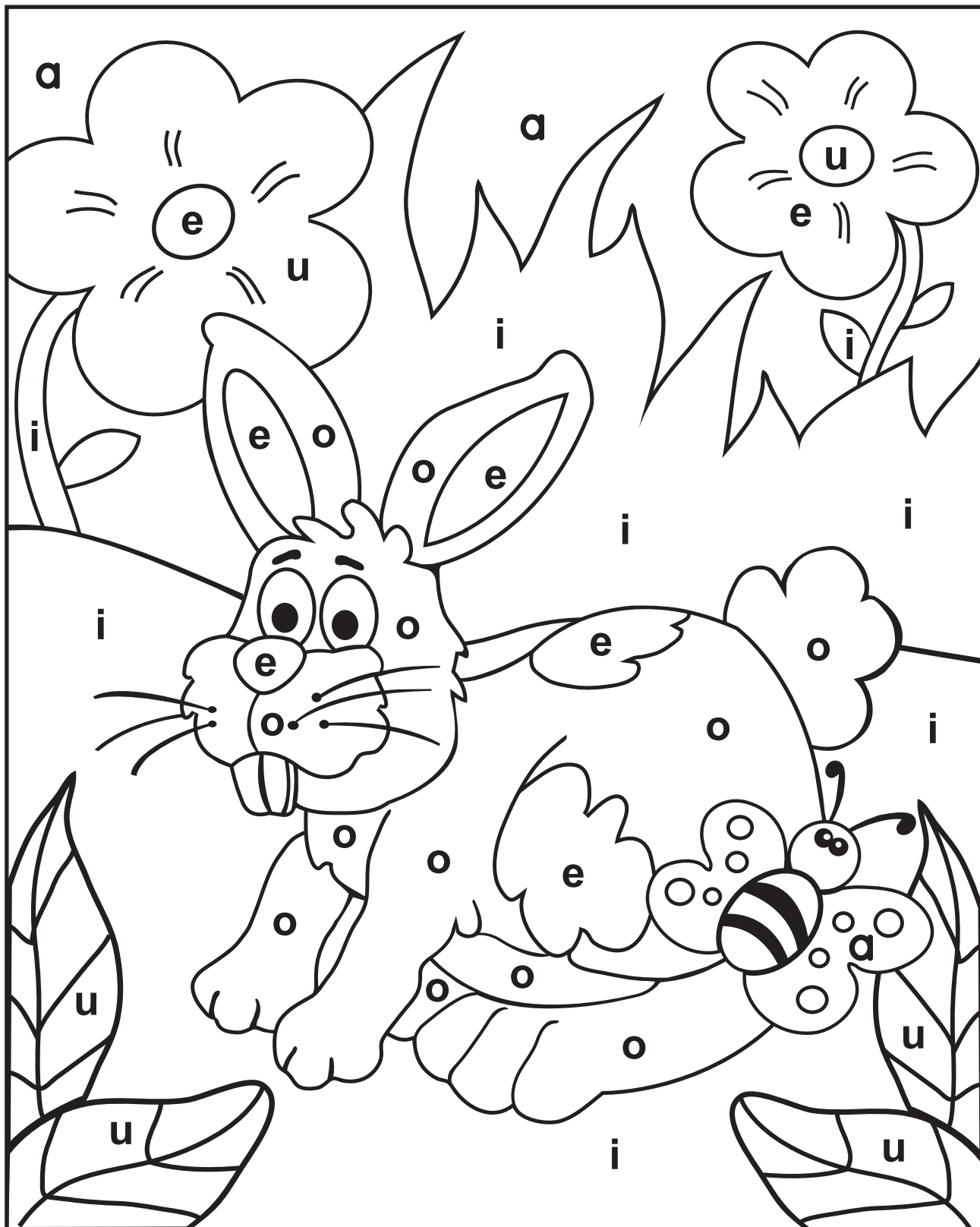
a= Blue

e= Pink

i= Green

o= Brown

u= Yellow



Numbers & Counting

Easy, Fun Activities to Teach Children Numbers and Counting

Number of the Day!

Throughout the day focus on one selected number. For example, if you or your child choose the number 8, you both can:

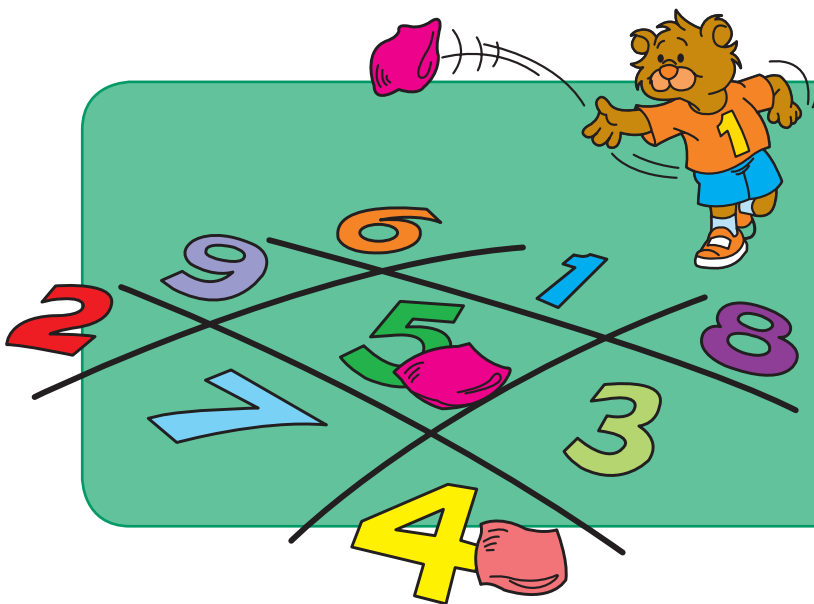
- Begin the day with Number 8 Pancakes (see page 43).
- Search the newspaper for the number 8.
- Gather and sort things into groups of 8.
- Decide on a silly sound or gesture to make each time you see the number 8.

Number Workout

Take turns with your child rolling a die, identifying the number, and choosing an exercise that you both will do that number of times! Count out loud while you perform the exercise. You can also try playing with two dice.

Newspaper Numbers

Help your child search for numbers on a page of the daily newspaper. Identify each number and circle it with a marker or highlighter.



Beanbag Toss

Draw a tic-tac-toe grid on a large piece of paper or on the sidewalk with chalk. Write one number in each area. Help your preschooler toss a beanbag and identify the number on which it lands. Play tic-tac-toe with several beanbags of different colors.

I Spy a Number!

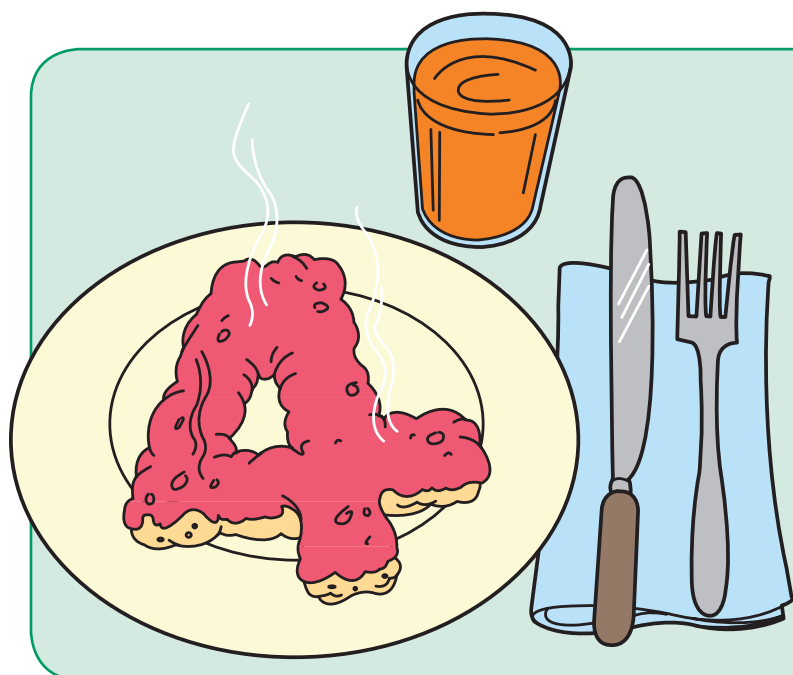
Walk together through the house, grocery store, or the neighborhood and search for objects that feature numbers—appliances, clocks, calendars, boxes and containers, house numbers, street signs.

Sand Writing

Fill a cookie sheet or shallow box with sand or salt. Say a number and ask your preschooler to write that number in the sand using a finger.

Number Rubbings

Cut numbers out of sandpaper. Cover the sandpaper numbers with copy paper and rub them with crayons. Begin with only one cut-out and help your preschooler identify the number. Later, add more number cut-outs and make a colorful design.



Number Pancakes

Prepare and pour pancake batter into a squeeze bottle. Squirt the batter onto a hot griddle to form the number your child selects. When the number pancakes are ready, ask your child to identify the number and clap his or her hands that many times. Then, enjoy the tasty treats.

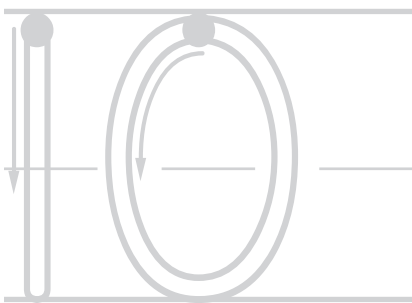
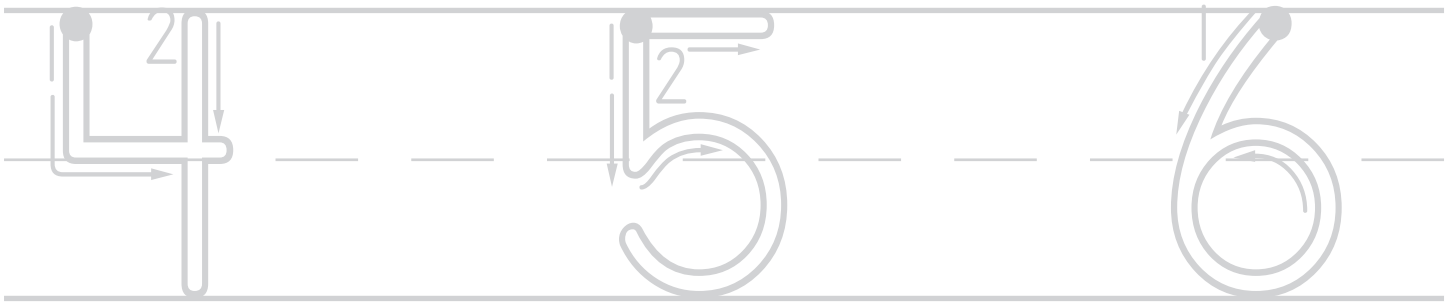
Jellybean Math

Pass out twenty jellybeans. Count the jellybeans aloud together. Have your preschooler sort each jellybean by color. Now, count the red jellybeans. First, count pink jellybeans, then green jellybeans, and so on. For more challenging play, make different patterns using the jellybeans, or introduce the concept of “How many more” by helping your child see the difference between four red jellybeans and three pink jellybeans. You can also make up story problems that your preschooler must answer by manipulating the jellybeans.

Numbers & Counting

Rainbow Numbers

Trace each number with a colored pencil. Trace each number with different color of pencils to create Rainbow Numbers.



Write Your Own Rainbow Numbers

Write the **numbers 1-10** with a colored pencil. Write each number again with a different colored pencil. Repeat several times to create Rainbow Numbers.

Handwriting practice lines for numbers 1-10. Each number is represented by a set of three horizontal lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. The colors for the lines are: 1 (pink), 2 (blue), 3 (green), 4 (teal), 5 (purple), 6 (pink), 7 (blue), 8 (green), 9 (teal), and 10 (purple).



Numbers & Counting

Learning Numbers 1-10

Write the numbers 1-10.

Blank handwriting lines for practicing writing the numbers 1-10.

Write the number that comes next.

1, 2, _____

3, 4, _____

5, 6, _____

7, 8, _____

Write the number that comes first.

_____ 3, 4

_____ 7, 8

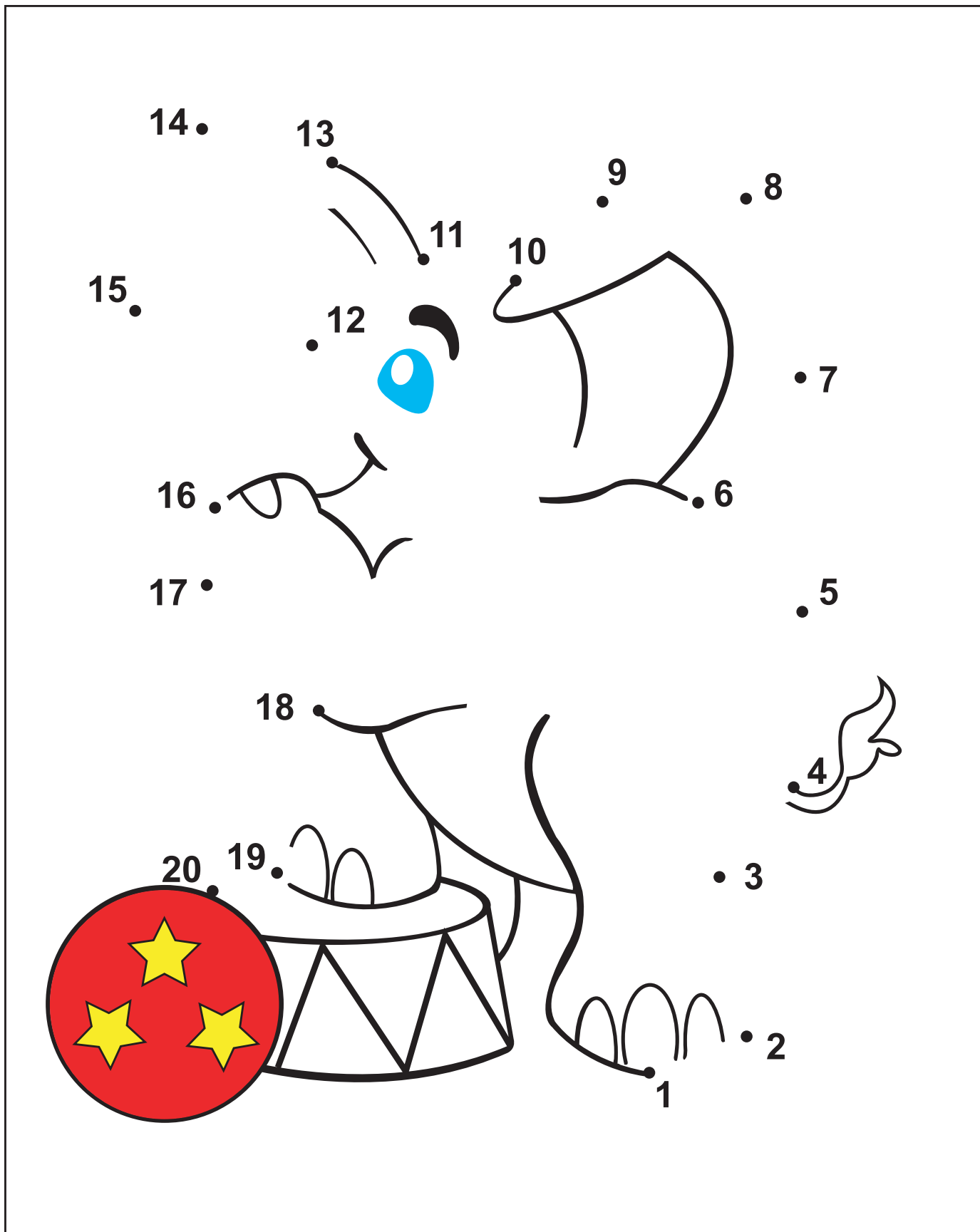
_____ 9, 10

_____ 2, 3

Write the missing numbers.

1, 2, _____, 4, 5, _____, 7, _____, _____, 10

Dot-to-Dot, 1-20



Numbers & Counting

Color By Number

1= Black

2= Green

3= Brown

4= Yellow

5= Red

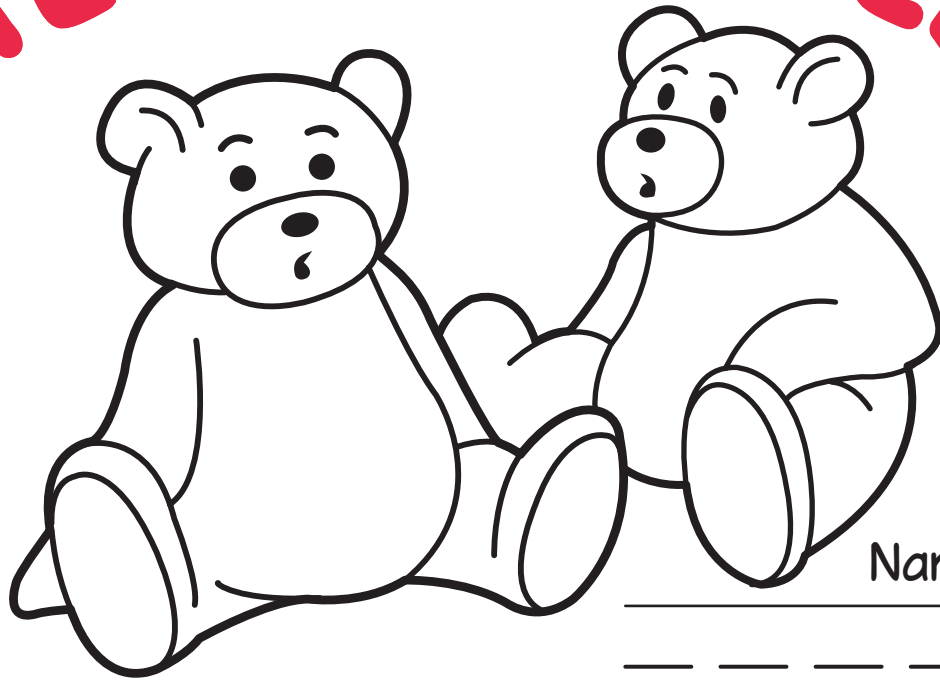
6= Orange

7= Blue

8= Purple

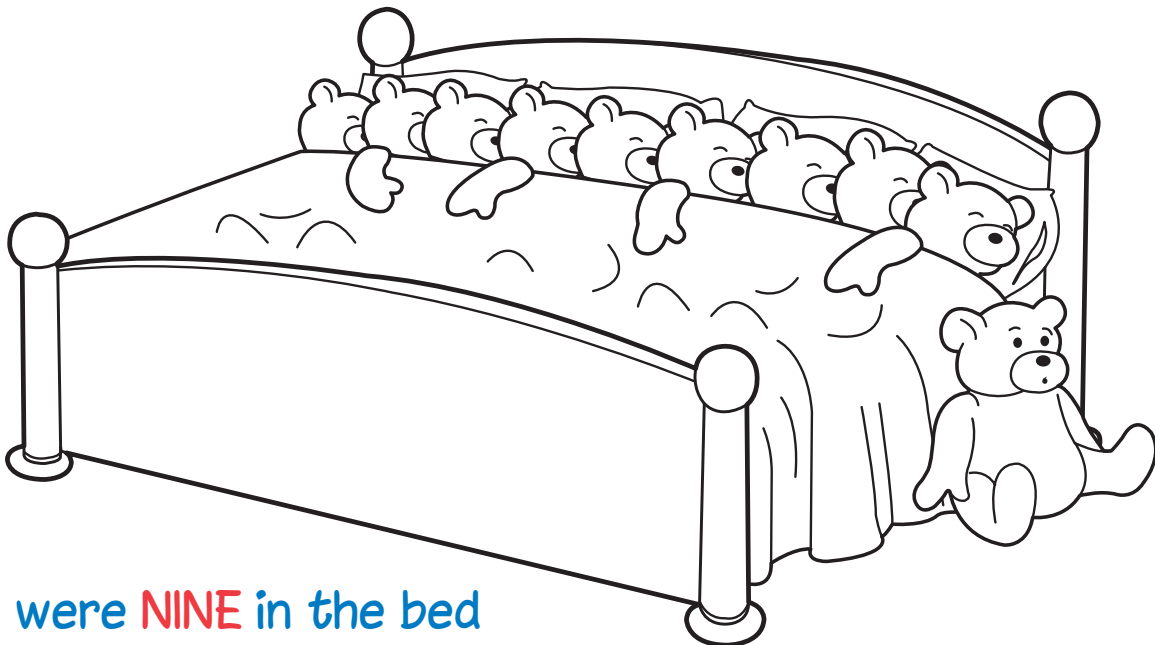


TEN IN THE BED



Name: _____

1



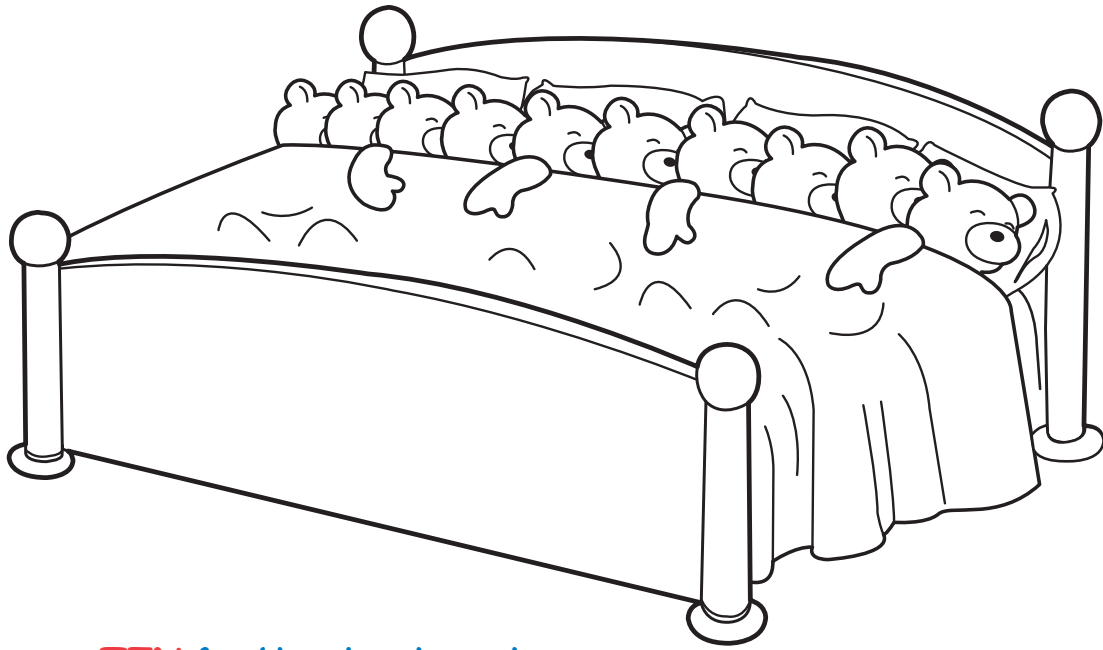
There were **NINE** in the bed and the little one said, "Roll over, roll over." So they all rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.

9 _____

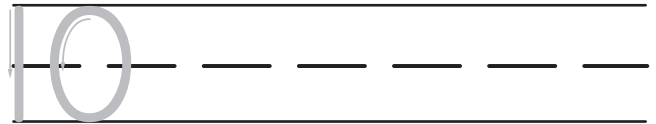
3



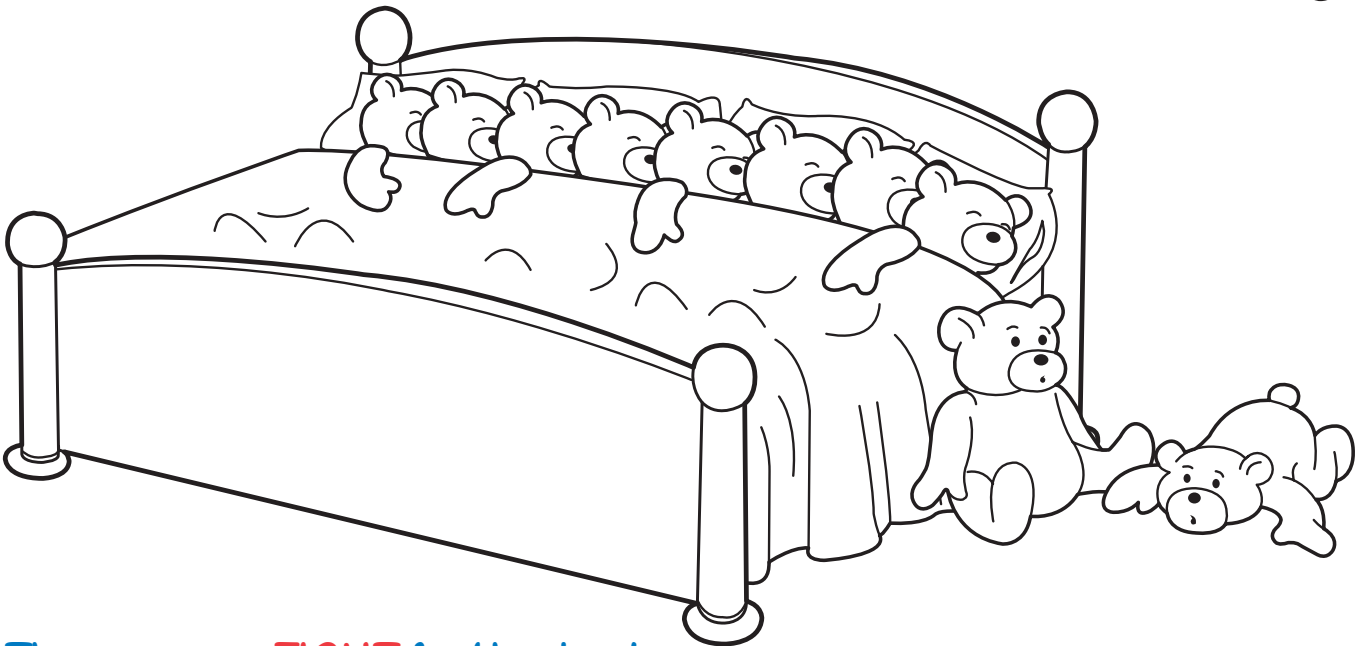


There were **TEN** in the bed and the little one said, "Roll over, roll over." So they all rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.

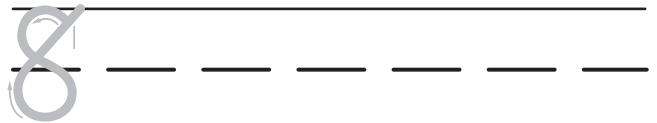


2



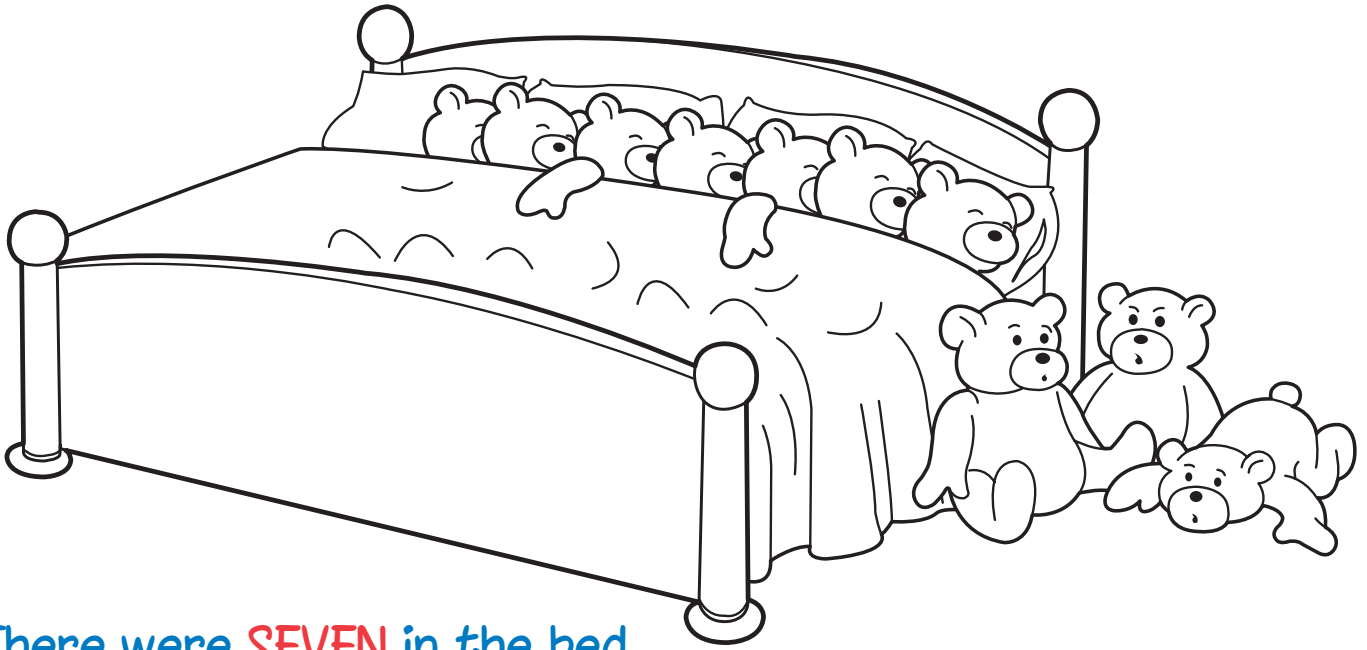
There were **EIGHT** in the bed and the little one said, "Roll over, roll over." So they all rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.



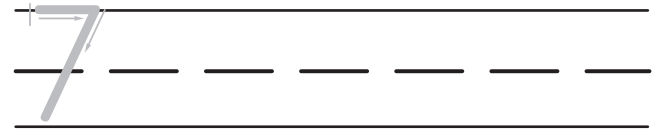
4



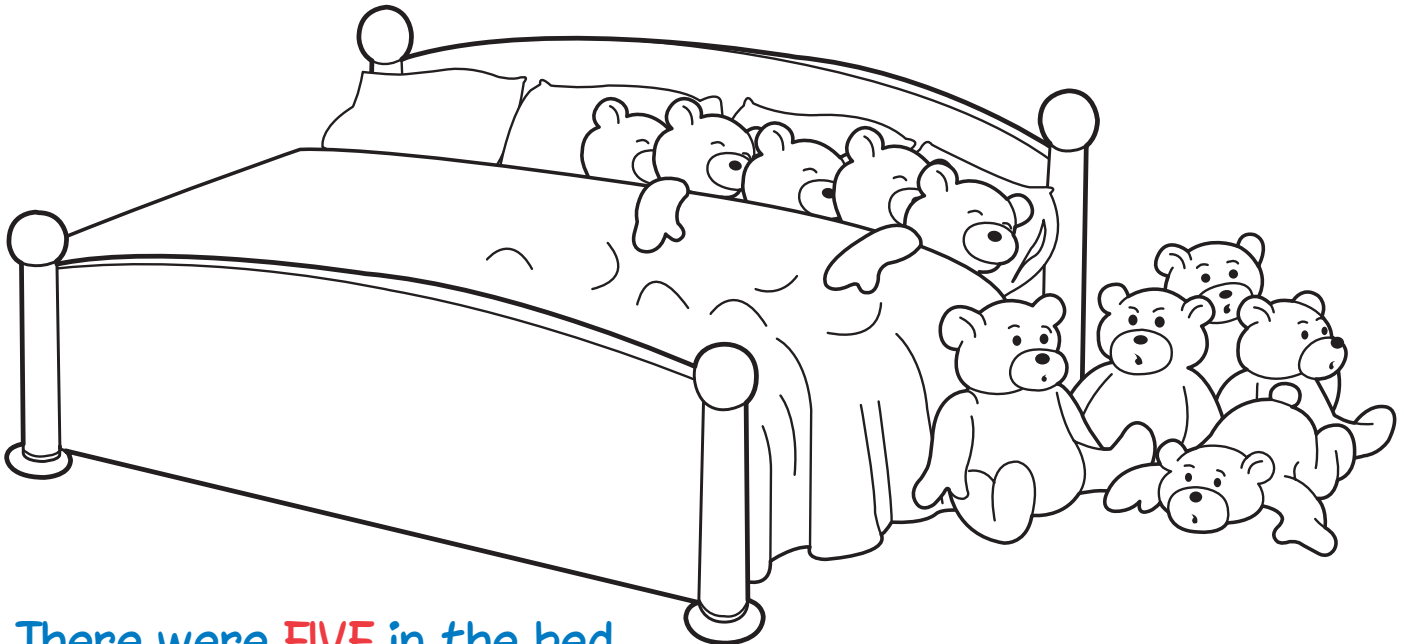


There were **SEVEN** in the bed
and the little one said, "Roll
over, roll over." So they all
rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.

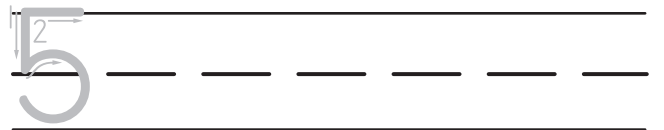


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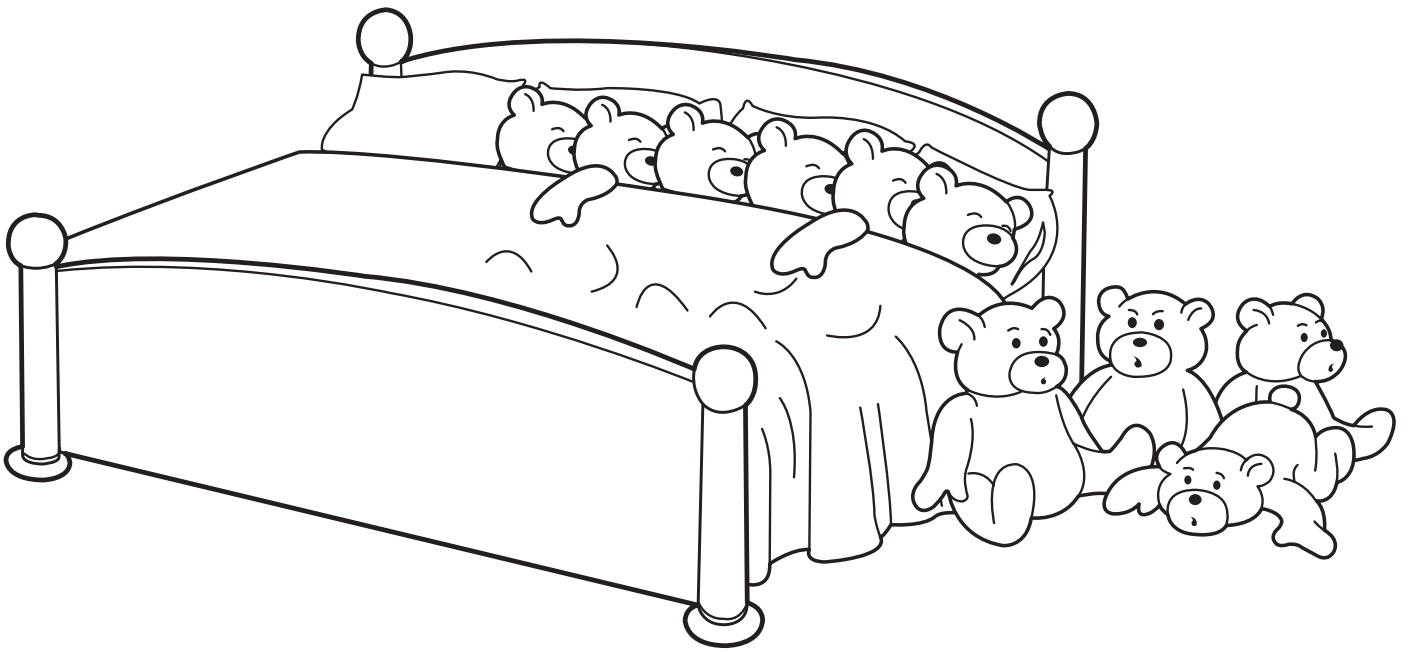
There were **FIVE** in the bed
and the little one said, "Roll
over, roll over." So they all
rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.



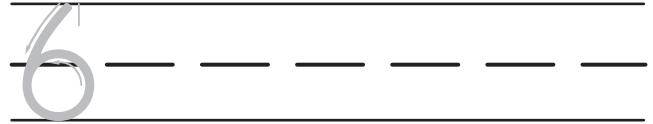
7



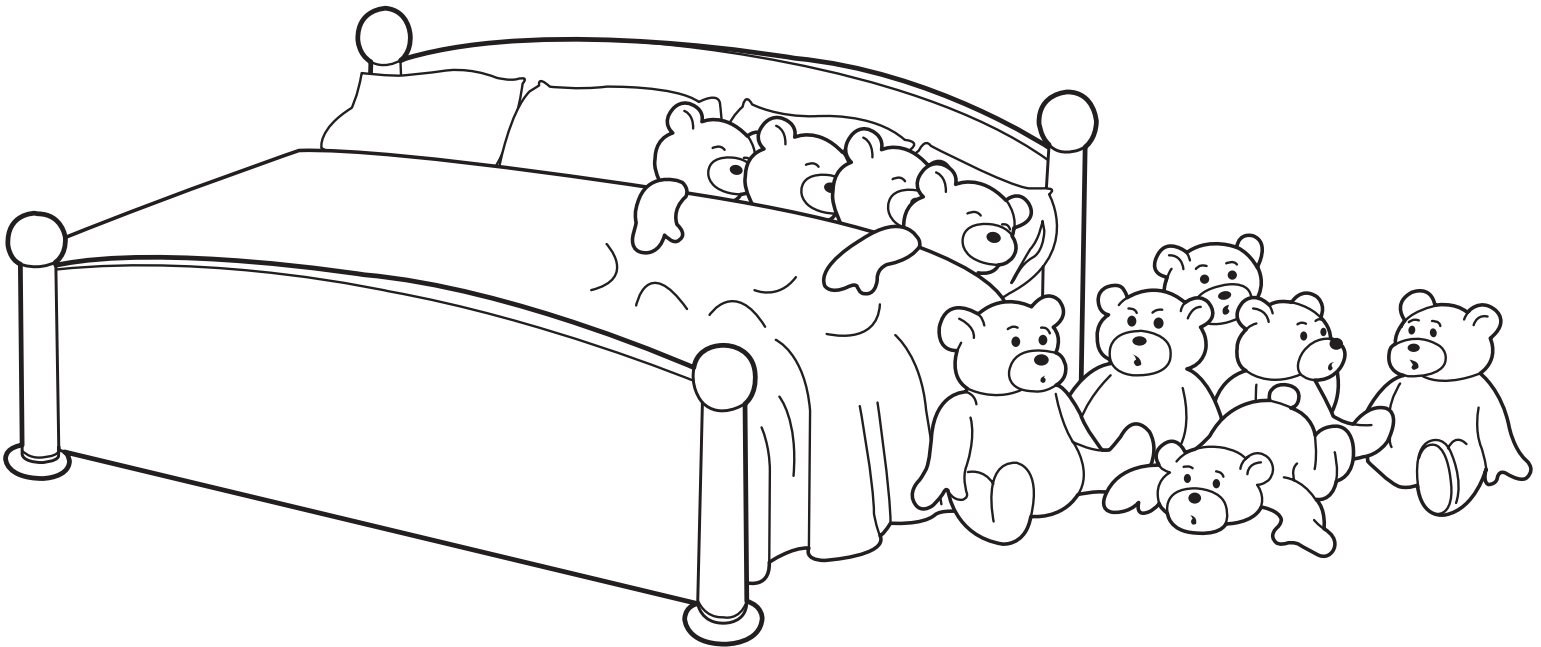


There were **SIX** in the bed and the little one said, "Roll over, roll over." So they all rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.

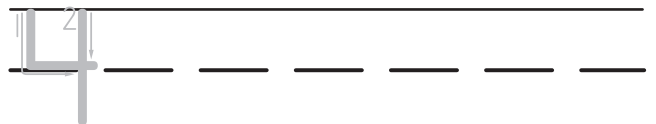


6



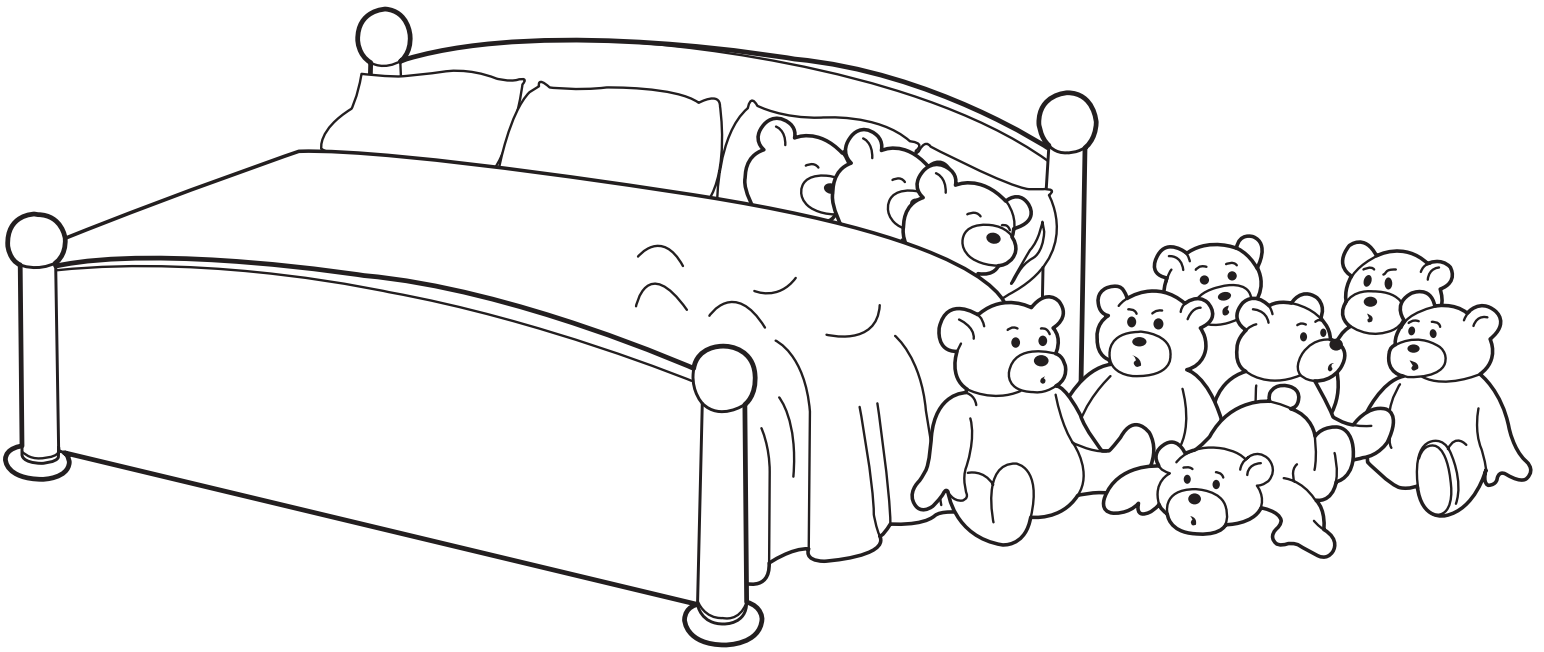
There were **FOUR** in the bed and the little one said, "Roll over, roll over." So they all rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.



8



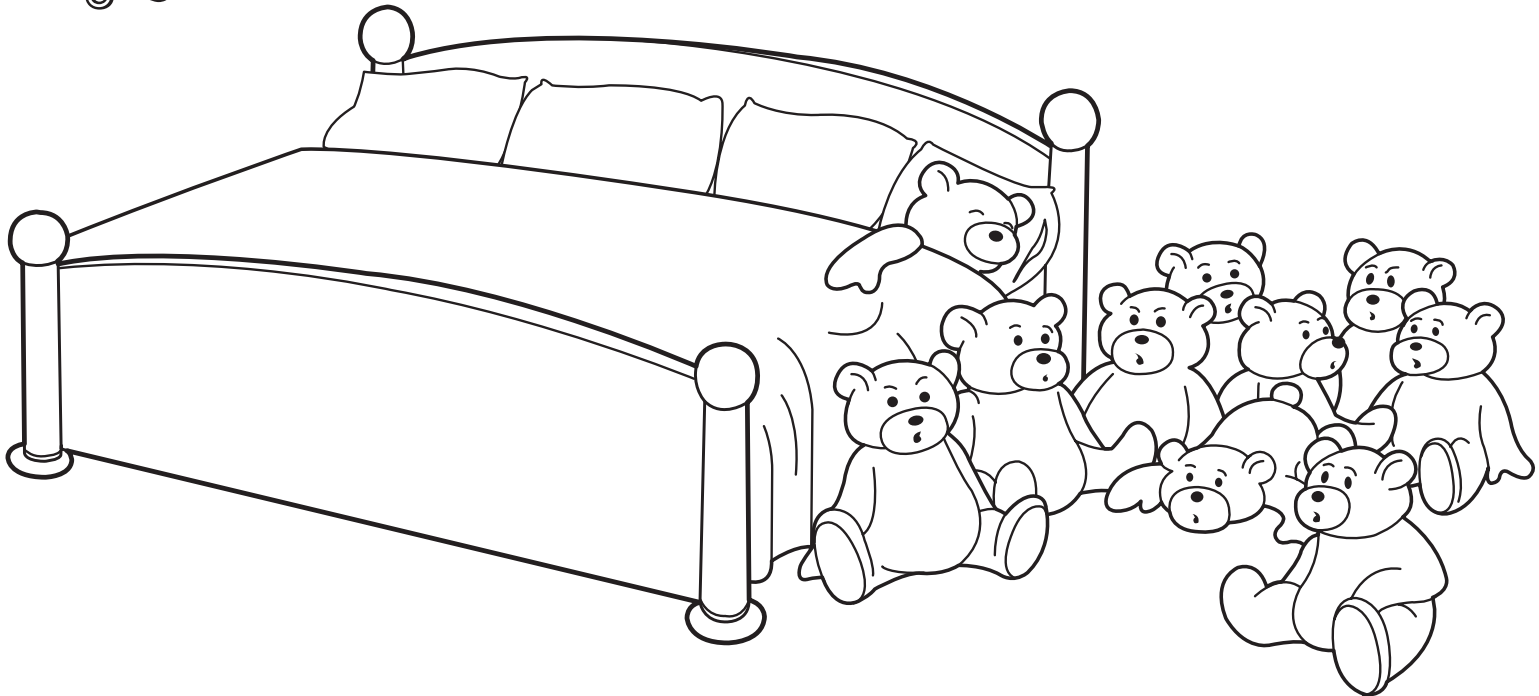


There were **THREE** in the bed and the little one said, "Roll over, roll over." So they all rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.

3

9



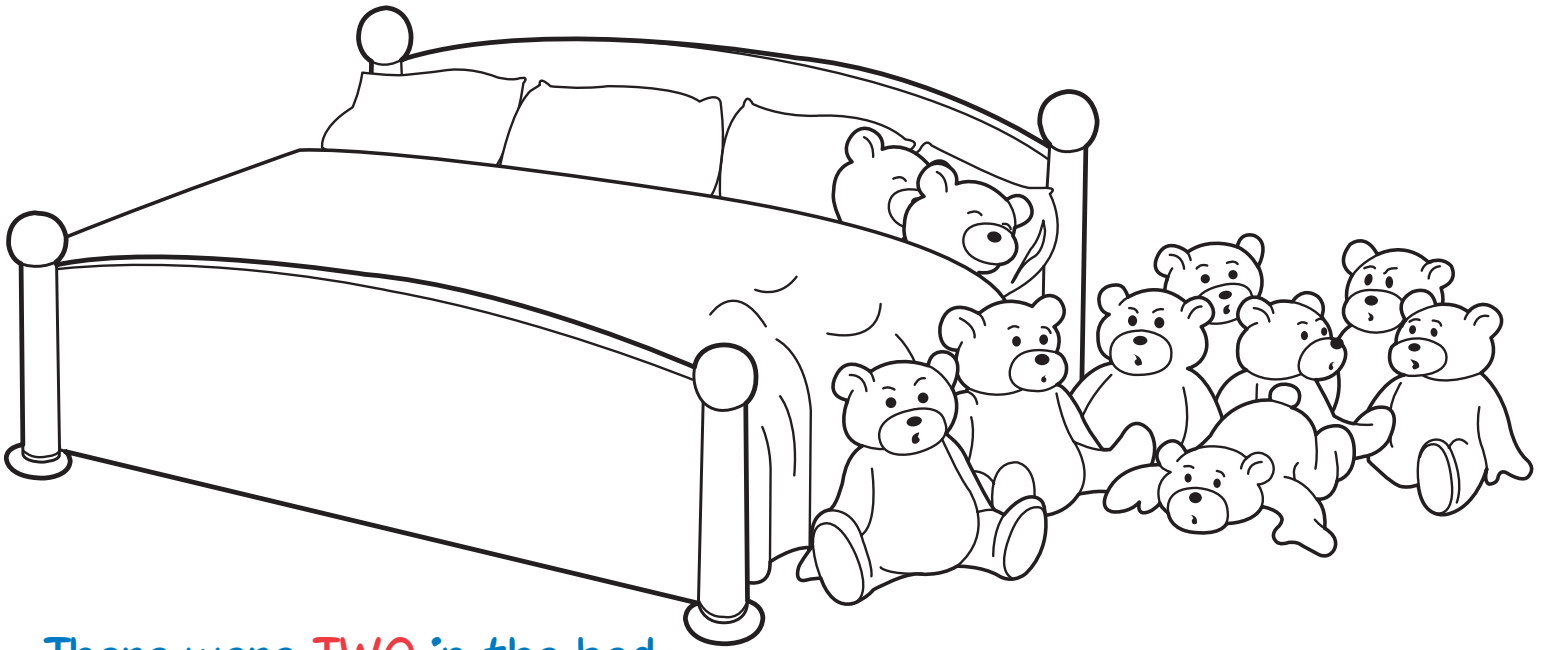
There was **ONE** in the bed and the little one said, "Good night!"

Trace and write.

1

11



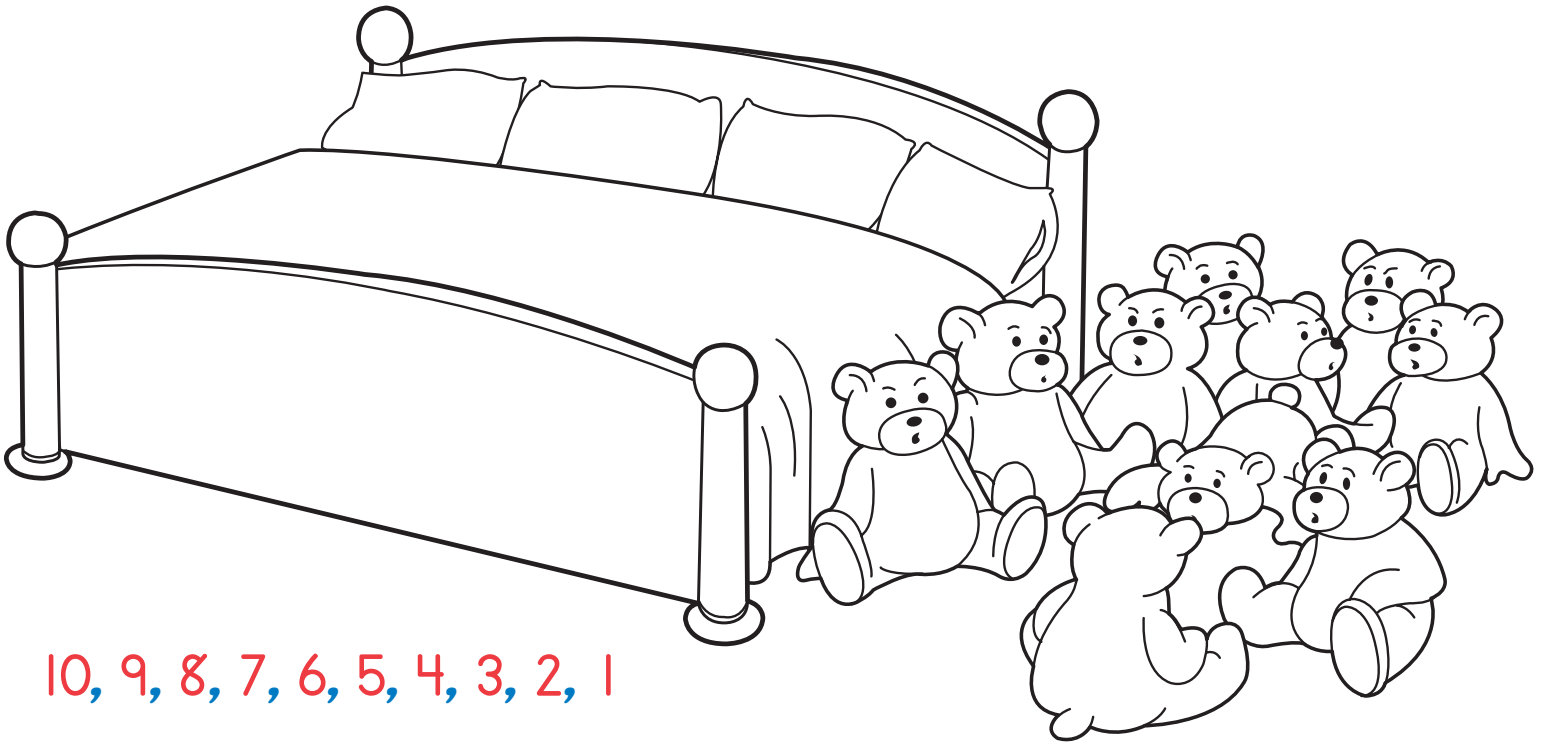


There were **TWO** in the bed and the little one said, "Roll over, roll over." So they all rolled over and one fell out.

Trace and write.

2

10



10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

12



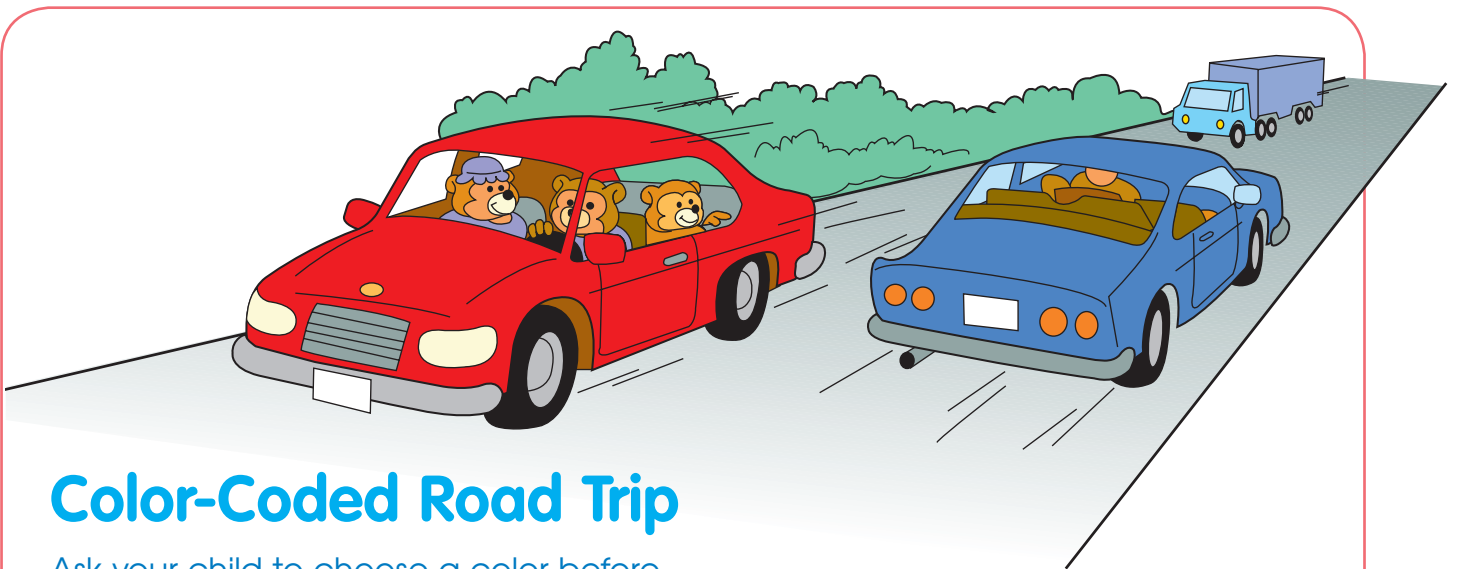
Shapes & Colors

Easy, Fun Activities to Teach Children Colors and Shapes

Color of the Day

Ask your child to pick a color for the day. Then you both can wear clothes of that color, eat foods of that color, and play games that deal with the chosen color. For example, if you or your child choose the color green, you both can:

- Wear green clothes.
- Eat green foods.
- Name things you see that are green while playing in the park.
- Play with only green toys.
- Count green road and building signs that you see while in the car.
- Draw pictures of things that are green.



Color-Coded Road Trip

Ask your child to choose a color before heading out on a short road trip. As the cars pass, watch for the cars of that color. Give a shout or a cheer when you see one. Try to count how many cars of each color go by.

Color Shopping

Ask your child to pick a color. Then help your child go from room to room in your house looking for objects to put in a basket or box that are the color he or she picked. While you unload the basket, have your child name each item and repeat each color.

Shapes & Colors

Watercolor Rainbow

Paint a rainbow in the correct order of color—red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple—with very thin watercolor paint. Sprinkle salt on the rainbow while the paint is still wet, and the colors will run together.

Color Mixing Fun

The three primary colors—red, yellow, and blue—make up all the other colors in the world. Mixing the primary colors in various combinations will create the other colors—which are called secondary colors.

For example:

Yellow + Red = Orange

Red + Blue = Violet

Blue + Yellow = Green

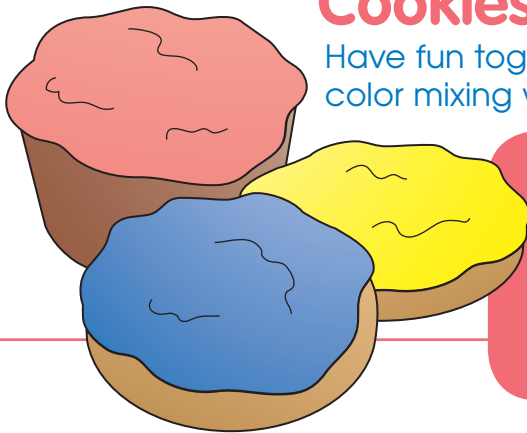
Ice Cream Treat

Visit an old-fashioned ice cream shop—one with many different kinds of ice cream visible in the freezer. Help your child identify the colors of each flavor. Then treat yourselves to a cone or sundae!



Cookies or Cupcakes

Have fun together while experiencing the "magic" of color mixing with this yummy treat.



You'll need:

- Vanilla cake frosting (store bought or homemade)
- Red, yellow, and blue food coloring
- Bowls or paper plates
- Cookies or cupcakes

In separate containers, mix each primary color frosting by adding the food coloring to the vanilla icing. Work together to frost cookies or cupcakes with the three primary colors. Next, on a paper plate or in a small bowl, help your child to mix small amounts of the yellow and blue icing. Ask your child to predict the color of frosting that the combination will make. Spread the icing on more cookies or cupcakes. Repeat, mixing blue and red icing, and then red and yellow icing.

Color-Mixing Discovery Bottles

Shake and make both primary and secondary colors!

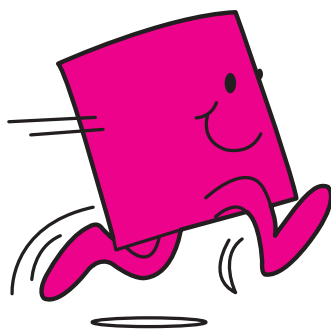
You'll need:

- Three empty, clear plastic bottles
- Water
- Vegetable oil
- Red, yellow, and blue food coloring
- Red, yellow, and blue tempera paint powder
- Tape or Glue

First, partially fill three clear plastic bottles with water. Add food coloring to each bottle—one red, one yellow, and another blue. Next, pour vegetable oil into three separate cups or containers. Mix one color of dry tempera paint powder in each container of vegetable oil—one red, one yellow, and another blue. Pour one of the tempera paint color mixtures into each plastic bottle partially filled with water of a different color. To prevent spills, glue or tape the cap onto the bottle. When lightly shaken, the colors will mix to form a secondary color and then separate into the two primary colors.

Shape and Color Patterning

Work together to cut out shapes in a variety of sizes and colors from construction paper or craft foam. You'll need quite a few cut-out shapes! To play, make a simple pattern by laying the shapes on the table or floor. Say, "I see a pattern, do you?" Help your child to identify the pattern. Then, help your child recreate the pattern using additional shape cut-outs, identifying each shape and color when placing it into the pattern. Store the shapes in a plastic storage bag for play while waiting at restaurants, doctors offices, and during brief moments of downtime.



What Color Am I?

To reinforce skills, play this simple game of clues! Say, "I am thinking of a color that is the color of the clouds. What color am I?" (White.) "I am thinking of a color that is the color of the sun. What color am I?" (Yellow.) "I am thinking of a color that is the color of grass. What color am I?" (Green.) "I am thinking of a color that is the color of the sky. What color am I?" (Blue.) "I am thinking of a color that is the color of a banana. What color am I?" (Yellow.) "I am thinking of a color that is the color of an orange. What color am I?" (Orange.)

Shapes & Colors

Colorful Nonsense Sentences

Take turns completing a funny sentence until you both break into silly giggles. For example, you could say, "I like big green..." then your child can fill in the blank, saying, "I like big green trees" or "I like big green frogs." And then it starts to get silly—"I like big green cats!"

"I LIKE BIG GREEN"

Color Dominos

Cut white poster board into 1- by 2- inch pieces. On each piece, draw and color two shapes with markers. Use many different shapes and colors. Make the pieces look like dominos. Play as you would with regular dominos, matching color and shape together. You can also make dominos with uppercase and lowercase letters to reinforce alphabet learning. Store the homemade dominos in a plastic storage bag for play while waiting at restaurants, doctors' offices, and during brief moments of down time.

Silly Sound Game

Make up silly sounds for different things you see during a short drive or long road trip. For example, say "Beep-beep" when you see a yellow car, "Ding-dong" when you see a church building, "Ho-ho-ho" when you see a red brick house, and "Honk-honk" when you see an orange truck.

Follow My Directions!

Cut out large shapes from various colors of construction paper. Spread them out close together on the floor. Ask your child to follow your directions and perform different actions. For example, ask your child to put a foot on a red square, jump over a purple circle, or put your hand on an orange triangle. For more fun, play with other family members or your child's friends. Add the rule that players must keep their hands or feet on the shape and color you specify until they all collapse.

Musical Shapes

Cut out shapes in various sizes and colors from poster board or construction paper. Or draw different shapes in a variety of colors on paper plates. To play, scatter the shapes on the floor in a large area. Play the companion *Preschool Music CD* while your child walks around the shapes. Stop the music and say, "blue circle" or "red triangle" —or another shape and color you have chosen. Your child must find and stand on the appropriate shape. Continue the music, stop the music, and say another color and shape. Play this game with other family members or your child's friends. As in traditional musical chairs, players not standing on the appropriate shape must sit out the remainder of the game.

Shape Snack Fun!

Serve a fun snack made up of circles: Cheerios®, fruit ring cereal, apple rings, kiwi rings, banana slices. Serve square shaped snacks: wheat crackers, shortbread cookies, fruit chunks. Serve triangle shaped snacks: cheese slices, melon pieces. Or serve rectangles: cheese, carrot, or celery with dip. Before you eat, ask your child to identify the shapes. For more fun, put the shapes together to create a pattern or design.

Beanbag Toss

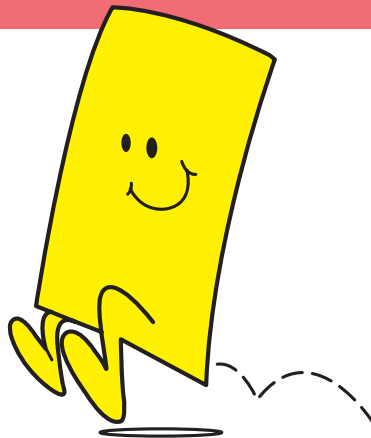
Make three or four beanbags by sewing scrap materials together and filling with beans, corn, or rice. Cut out shapes in various sizes and colors from poster board, construction paper, or craft foam. Ask your child to toss a beanbag onto a selected shape and/or color. You can also make beanbag toss targets using uppercase and lowercase letters to reinforce alphabet learning, or numbers 1 to 10 to reinforce number learning.

Colorful Ice Cubes

Together, fill an ice cube tray with water, add a few drops of food coloring to each square, and freeze to make several different colored cubes. Add them to a kiddie pool. Or drop a few cubes into the bathtub —try to catch them, describe the colors, watch them float, or watch them melt.

Shape And Color Treasure Hunt

Cut out shapes in various sizes and colors from poster board or construction paper. Hide the shapes around the house or classroom. Ask your child to search and find all the squares. Repeat with the other shapes and/or colors. Younger children can look for one item at a time and bring it to you. You may want to laminate each shape. You can also play “Hot and Cold” saying “hot, hotter, or hottest” or “cold, colder, coldest” as your child moves toward or away from a shape you’ve hidden in the room.



Edible Necklace

Give your child a piece of yarn with masking tape wrapped around each end. String colorful fruit ring cereal. Help your child identify each color as she adds it to the necklace.

Driveway Hop

Color several large chalk shapes on the driveway or on the sidewalk. Have your child hop from the blue square to the green circle to the yellow triangle and then to the red heart, and so on.

Dot-to-Dot Shapes

While waiting for your food to arrive at a restaurant, make dot-to-dot shapes on the placemat. Help your child connect the dots and identify the shape.

Shape Tightrope

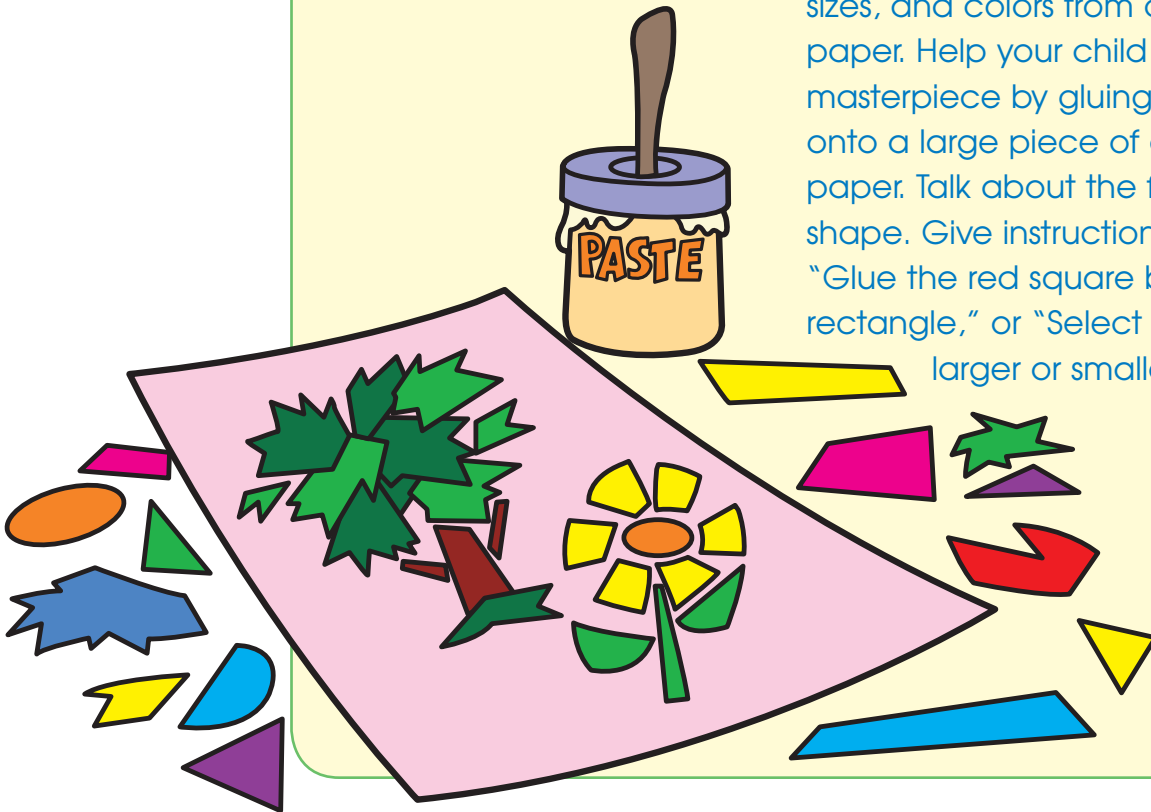
Make large outlines of a circle, square, triangle, and rectangle on the floor using masking tape. Help your child identify the shape before walking or hopping around its edges.

I Spy Shapes

Identify the shapes you see throughout your daily routine. Point out circle plates, rectangular trucks, square televisions, octagon stop signs, diamond-shaped kites, stars on signs, etc. Try playing the game "I Spy" with shapes.

Shape Collage

Cut out shapes of many different kinds, sizes, and colors from construction paper. Help your child create a masterpiece by gluing the shapes onto a large piece of construction paper. Talk about the features of each shape. Give instructions, such as, "Glue the red square below the brown rectangle," or "Select one that is larger or smaller."



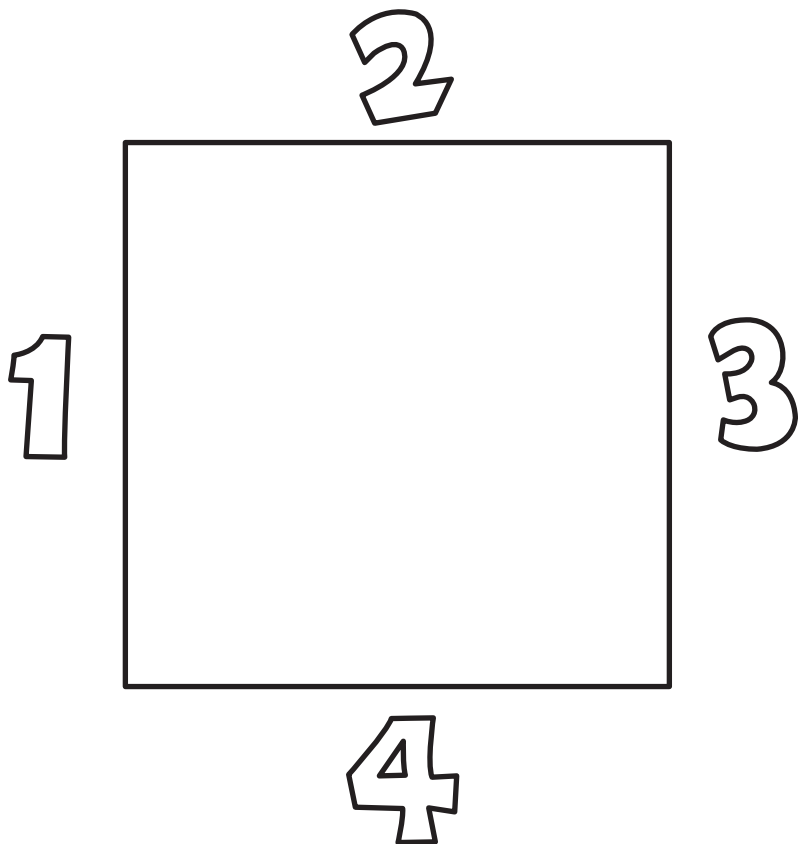
LEARNING OUR SHAPES



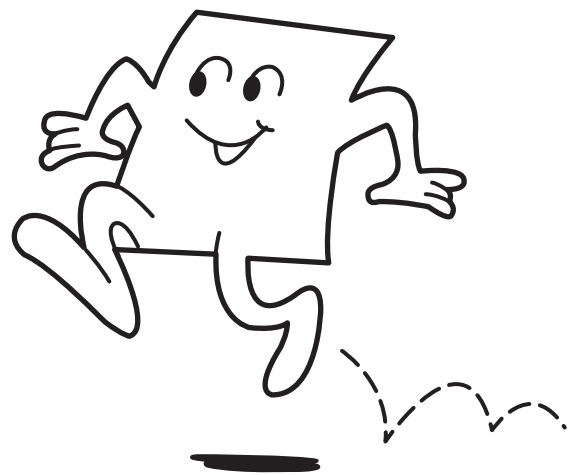
Name _____



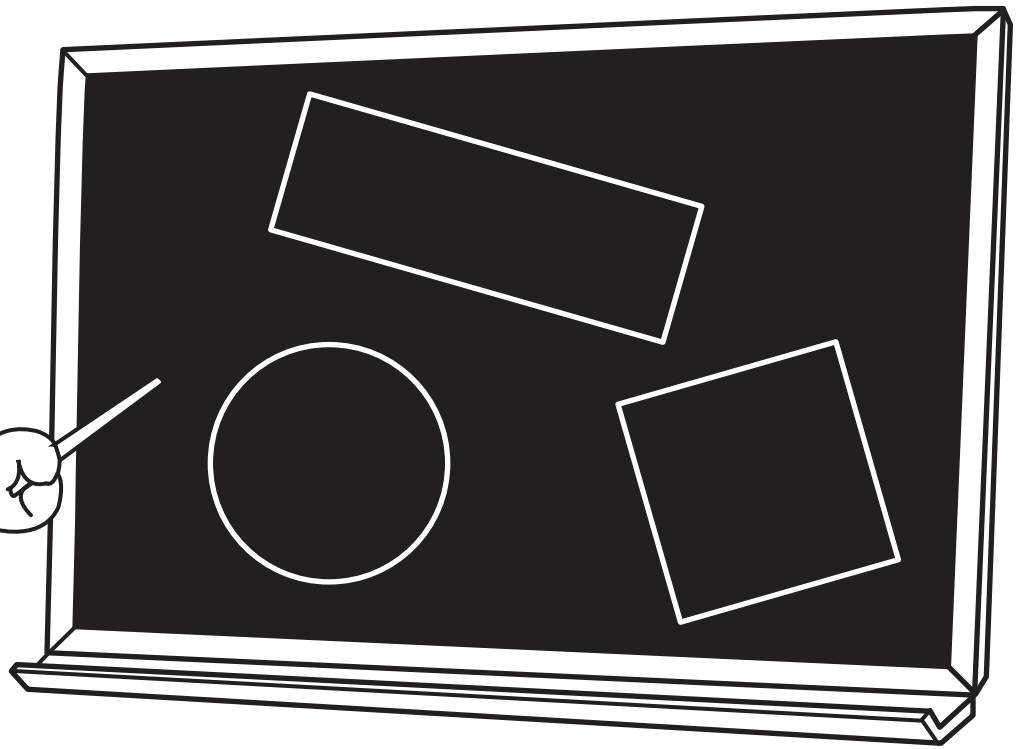
1



A square has
four sides.

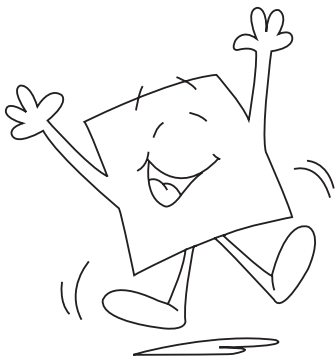


3

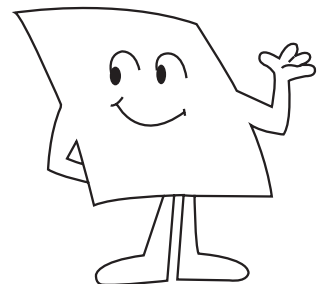


Let's learn our shapes in school today.

2

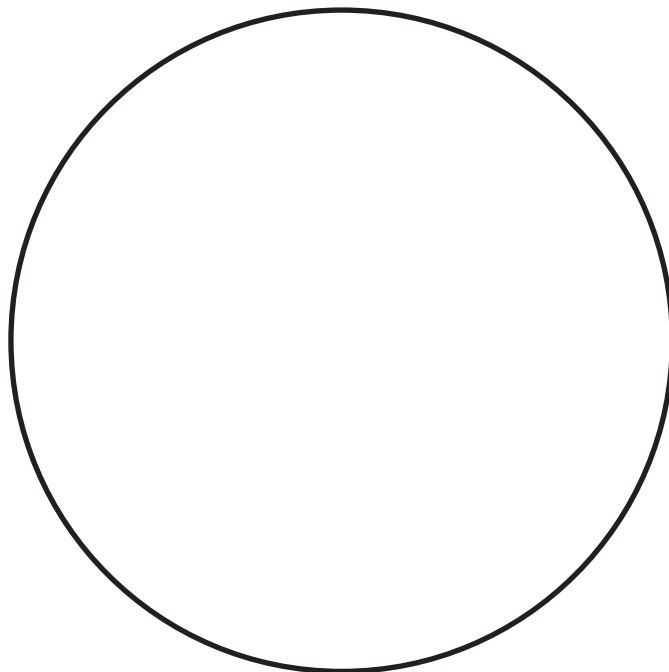
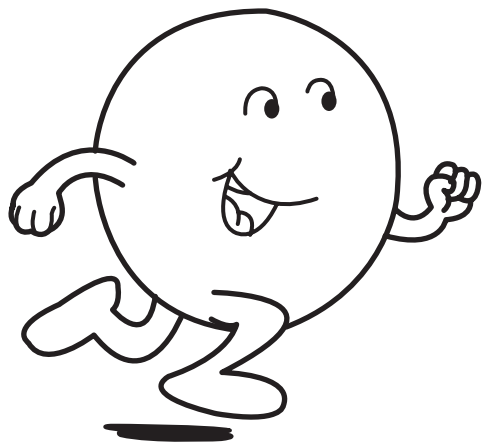


All the sides
are equal.



4





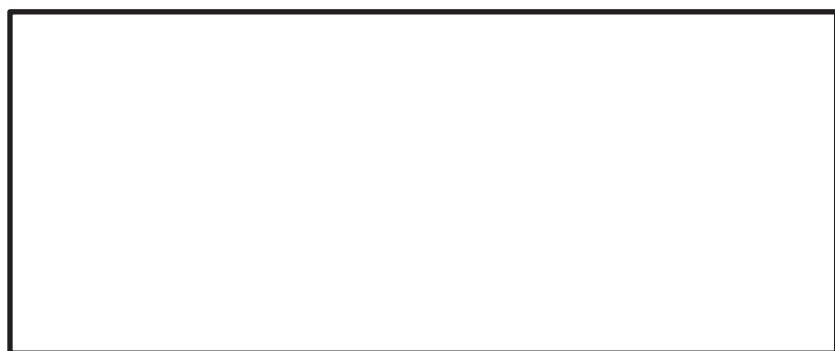
A circle has no sides.



5

2

1



4



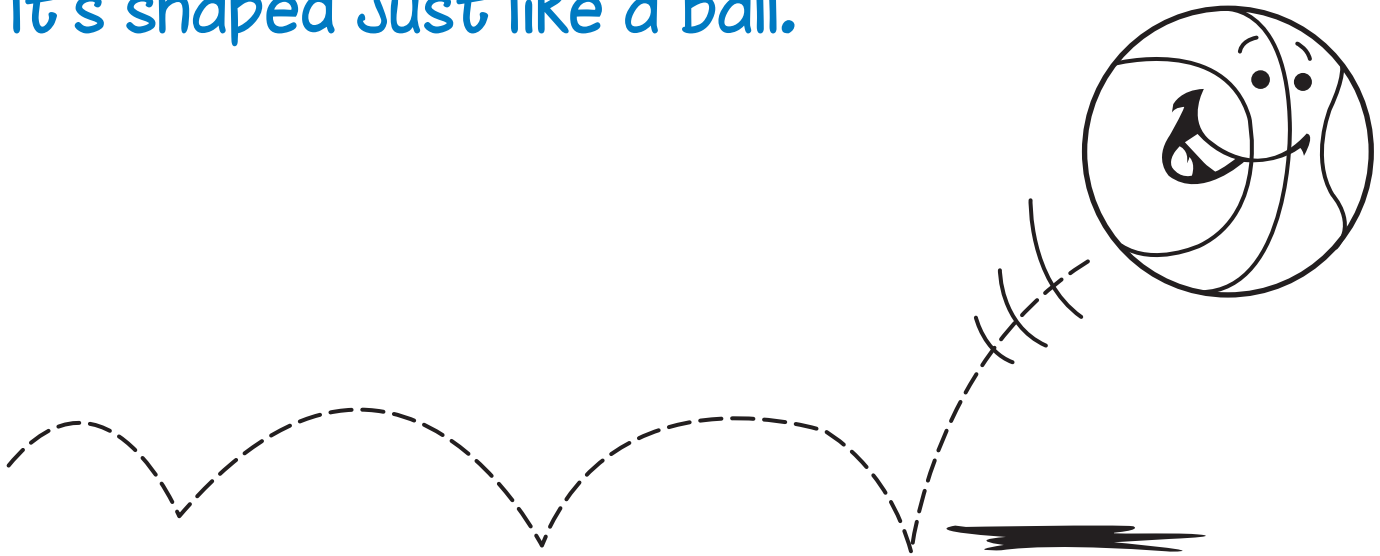
3

A rectangle has four sides.

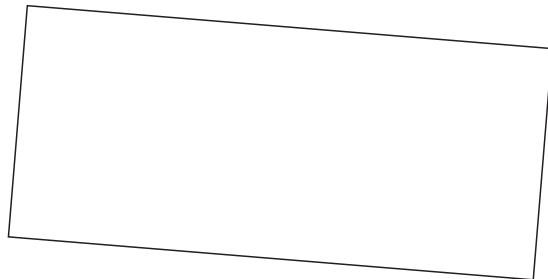
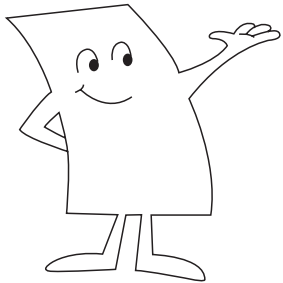


7

It's shaped just like a ball.



6



Two sides are long. Two sides are short.

We've learned our shapes today.



8



Animal Names & Sounds

Easy, Fun Activities to Teach Children
Animal Names and Sounds

Welcome to My Zoo

Help your child carefully place plush animals around the room, pretending it's a zoo. Let him take you on a tour of his zoo, making certain he identifies each animal and the sound it makes.



Who Am I?

Say the following animal clues and have your preschooler guess what animal you're describing. Have your preschooler make up other clues so that you have to guess the animal.

For Example:

1. I have soft fur, whiskers and rhyme with hat.
2. I live in the sea and rhyme with park.
3. I eat flies and mosquitoes, and rhyme with log.
4. I slither around and rhyme with rake.
5. I sing and rhyme with word.
6. I eat grass and rhyme with wow.
7. I live in the forest and rhyme with near.
8. I live in the jungle and rhyme with funky.
9. I lay eggs and rhyme with pen.
10. I'm sneaky and rhyme with socks.
11. I say 'oink', and rhyme with wig.
12. I bark and rhyme with bog.
13. I live in the forest and rhyme with hair.
14. I live in the sea and on the land, and rhyme with deal.
15. I swim in cold icy water, and my heavy coat keeps me warm. I rhyme with hair.
16. I'm shaped like a pea, colored bright red, with many black spots to see. I rhyme with rug.
17. I spin a thread to make a trap you call a web. I rhyme with glider.

Answer key: 1. Cat 2. Shark 3. Frog 4. Snake 5. Bird 6. Cow 7. Deer 8. Monkey 9. Hen 10. Fox 11. Pig 12. Dog 13. Bear 14. Seal 15. Polar Bear 16. Ladybug 17. Spider

Animal Names & Sounds

Can You...

Play this simple game outside or inside where you have lots of room! Challenge your preschooler to do an action for 30-seconds or one minute! Then, have him or her choose a favorite action. Try to guess what animal your child is pretending to be.

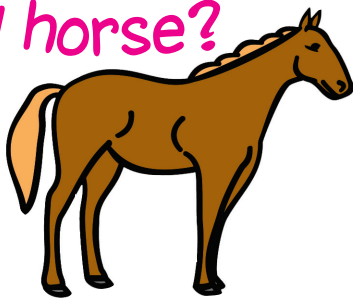
Wiggle like a worm?

Fly like a bird?

Stamp like a hen?

Neigh like a horse?

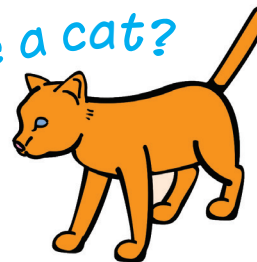
Hop like a frog?



Hiss like a snake?

Prowl like a tiger?

Meow like a cat?



Crawl like crab?



Creep like a caterpillar?

Hoot like an owl?

Moo like a cow?

Oink like a pig?

Crawl like a bear?

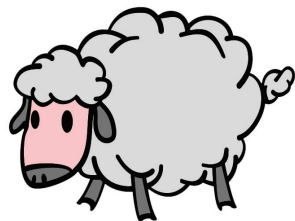
Roar like a lion?

Scamper like a mouse?



Baa like a sheep?

Buzz like a bee?



Leap like a deer?

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAS A TRUNK?

Name _____

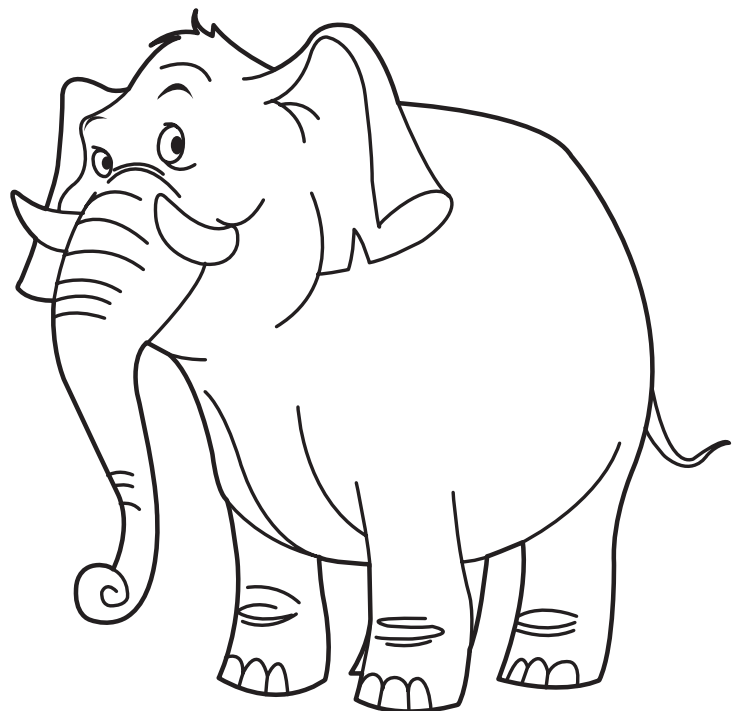


1

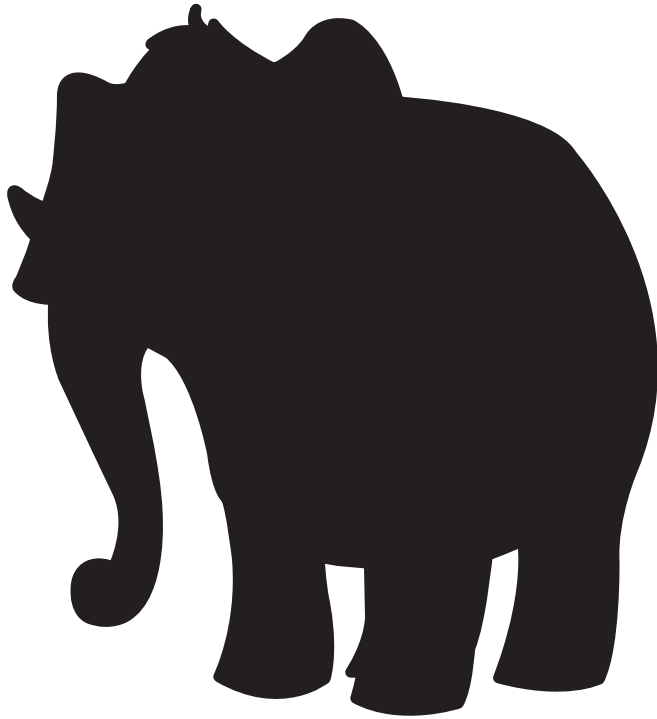
An elephant!

Yes, you were right!

Can you make an
elephant sound?



3



Do you know what
has a trunk?

2



Do you know what
swings from trees?



4





A monkey!

Yes, you were right!

Can you make a
monkey sound?

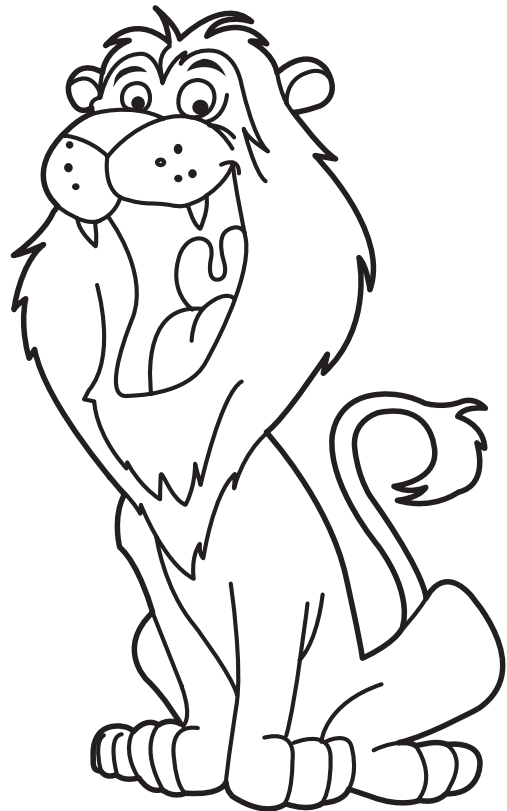


5

A lion!

You were right!

Can you make a
lion sound?



7



Do you know
what's big and
brown?

6

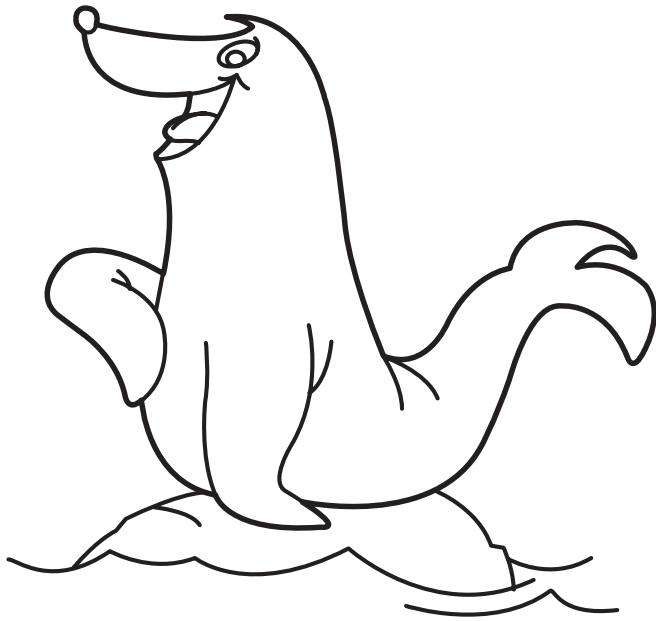


Do you know what
swims and plays?



8





A seal!

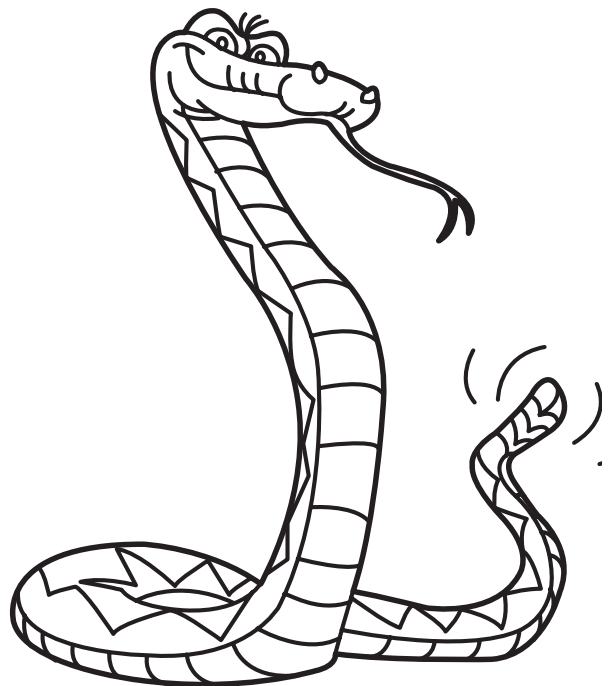
Yes, you were right.
Can you make a
seal sound?



9

A rattlesnake!

Yes, you were right.
Can you make a
rattlesnake sound?

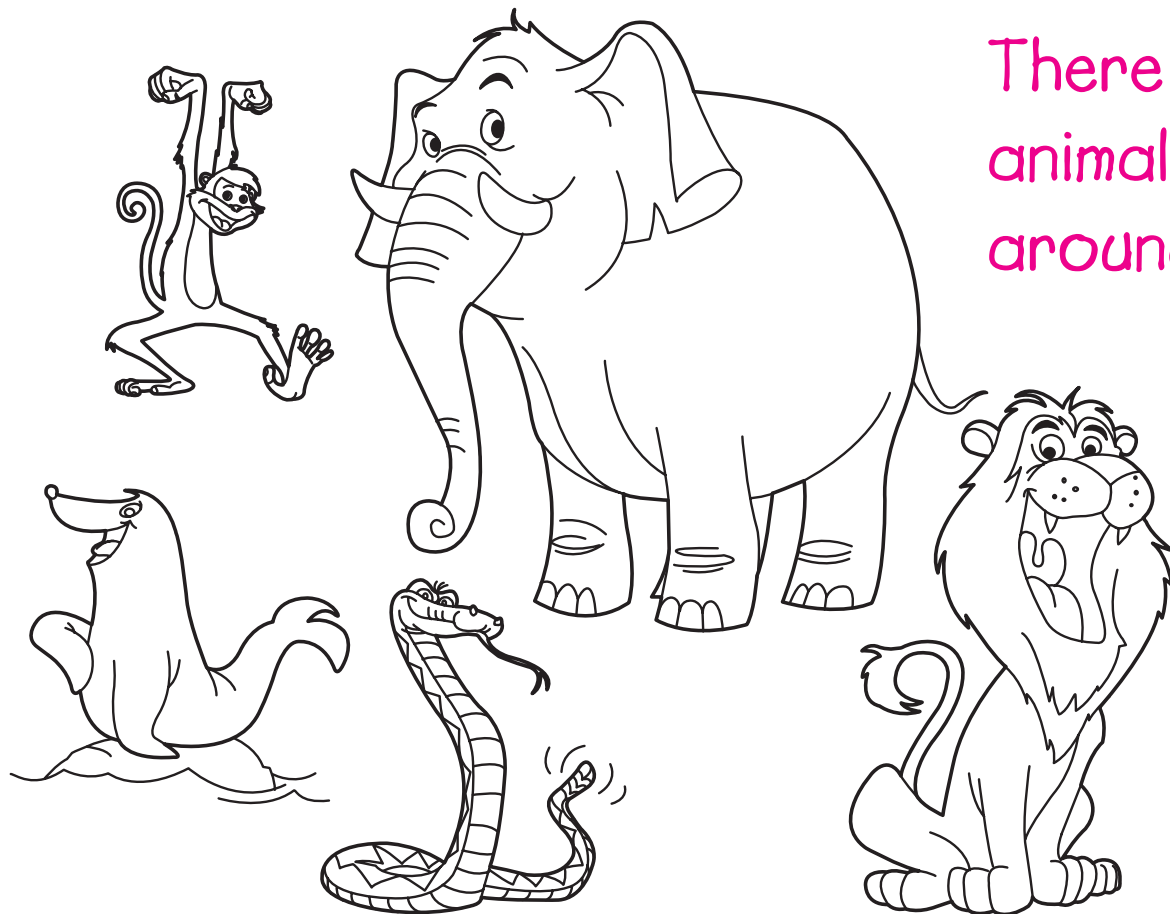


11



Do you know what
slithers around?

10



There are
animals all
around.

12



Responsibility & Kindness

Easy, Fun Activities to Teach Children
Responsibility and Kindness

My Morning Checklist

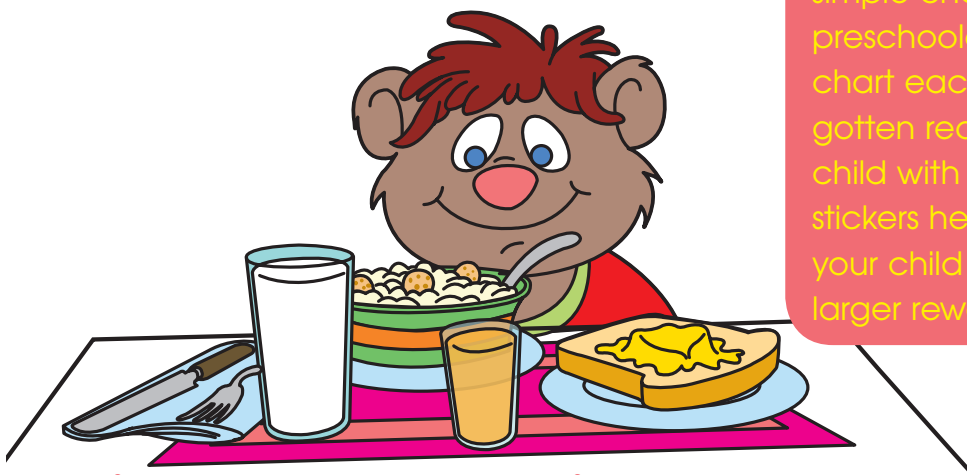
Help your child plan his or her morning routine. Discuss and decide on the tasks that he or she must do each morning, such as getting up, getting dressed, brushing his or her teeth, eating breakfast, cleaning the bedroom, etc. Be as detailed or as general as you like. On construction paper or copy paper, help your preschooler draw a picture of himself or herself completing each task. Create a simple morning checklist, featuring his or her original artwork, for your child to refer to each morning. Display the checklist near your child's room or in the kitchen. You can also print or make a new copy each week and encourage your child to check off each task as he or she completes it.

Morning Mood

Challenge your child or entire family to be dressed by the end of a certain song each morning. Choose one of the songs from the companion CD, set the mood with classical music, or play another family favorite wake-up tune. Make certain that everyone understands the challenge. Consider awarding prizes to each family member who meets the challenge every day for a week.

Morning Reward Chart

Post a *Morning Reward Chart* on the refrigerator or some other prominent place. Use a calendar or create a simple chart on the computer. Give your preschooler a sticker to place on the chart each morning after he or she has gotten ready without a fuss. Reward your child with a prize or treat for every five stickers he or she has earned! Or give your child a small daily reward and a larger reward on the weekend!



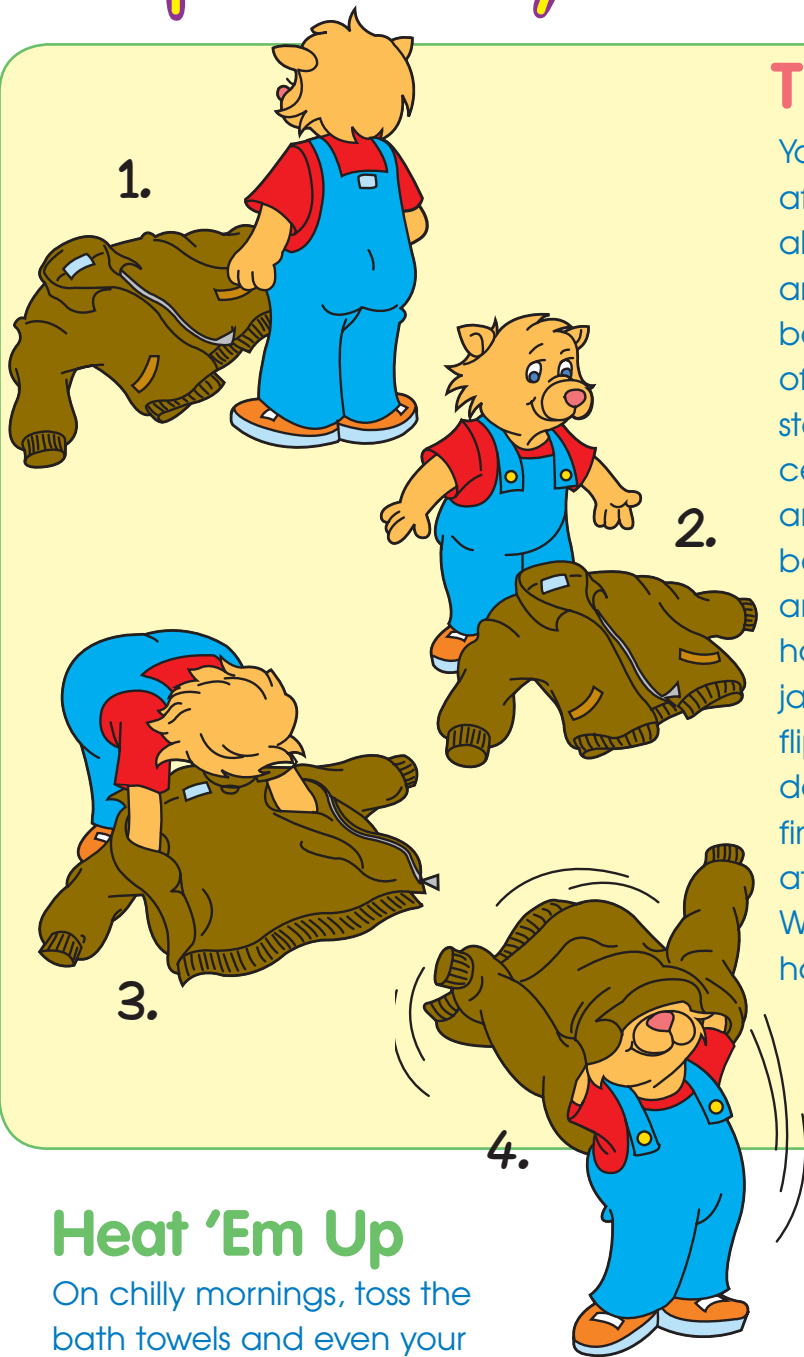
I Choose...Oatmeal!

This challenge might help speed up the morning routine. The first person who is completely dressed and touches the base in the kitchen is the winner—and gets to choose the morning breakfast for the others in the family.

Responsibility & Kindness

The Famous Jacket Flip

You'll be a hit with your preschooler after teaching him or her this remarkably easy way to put on your jacket! Lay an unzipped or unbuttoned jacket on its back on the floor in front of you: The front of the jacket should be facing up. Then, stand behind the jacket, above the center of the neck opening. With flair and dramatic pause, bend over and fold back both sides of the jacket to reveal and open wide the armholes. Slide one hand into each armhole and flip the jacket smoothly over your head. As you flip the jacket, your arms will naturally slip down into the sleeves and...you're finished! First, have your child watch you attempt the "Jacket Flip" several times. When your child thinks he or she is ready, have him or her try it!



Heat 'Em Up

On chilly mornings, toss the bath towels and even your child's clothes into the dryer for a few minutes to make them toasty warm.



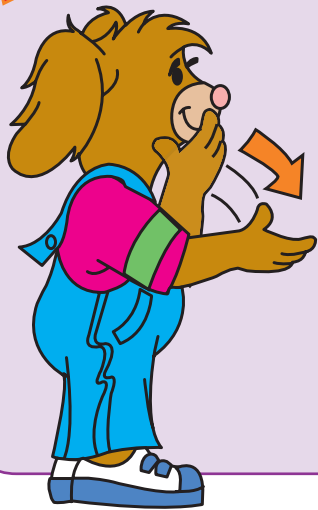
Clothes Kid

Each night, on the floor beside your preschooler's bed, lay out the clothes he or she will wear the next day in the shape of a person. Include everything, from head to toe! The new friend will also double as a sleepover buddy!

Say "Please" and "Thank You"

Set an example for your preschooler by saying, "Please," and "Thank You!" You'll teach him to imitate you and respond automatically with the appropriate words. Make a game out of passing objects back and forth and saying, "Please" or "Thank You."

THANK YOU!



Silent Please and Thank You

Please — Make a counterclockwise circle with the right hand over the heart.

Thank you and you're welcome — Touch the lips with the fingertips of one hand, then bring the hand down, palm up.

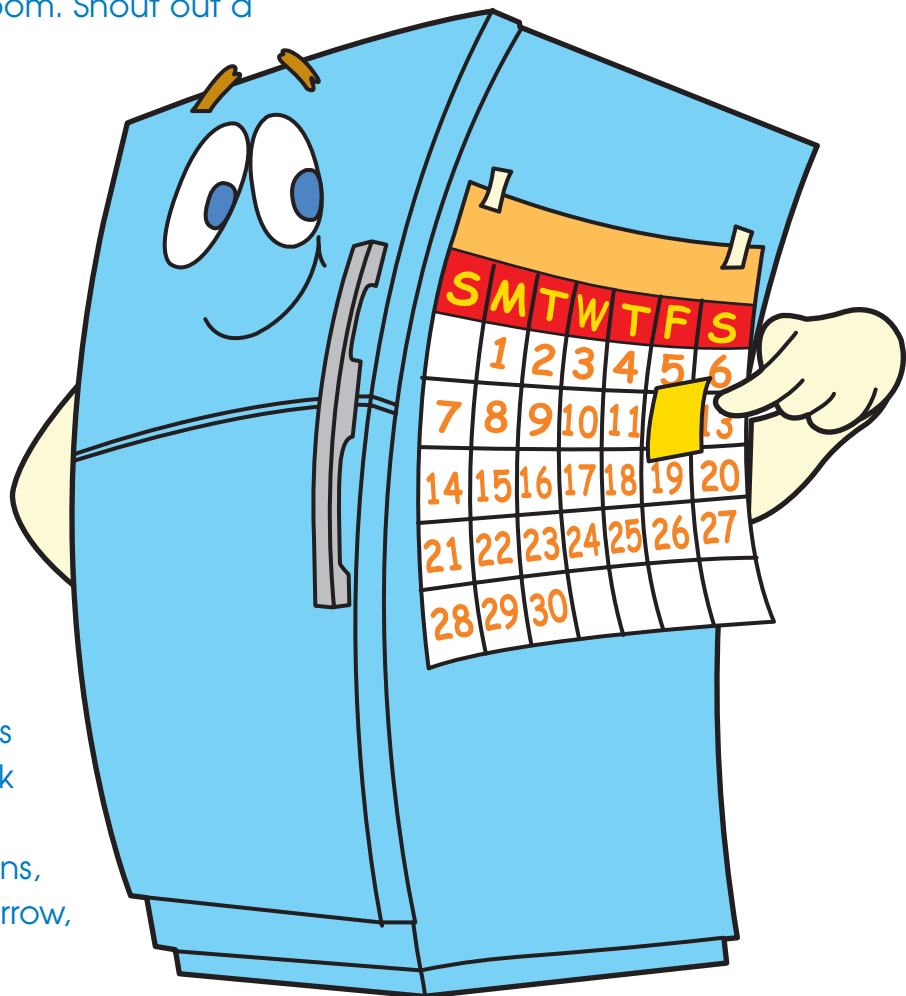
Family Values

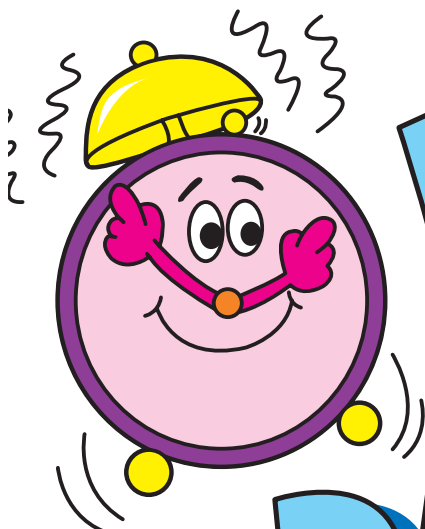
Work together to make a list of principles, rules, and values that your family will try to live by. For example, "We will try to treat each family member with respect." "We will try to always say 'Please' and 'Thank You.'" "We believe it is important to volunteer and serve others." When everyone has agreed to the list, have a signing party where each family member signs his or her name on the document. Frame and display the document where each family member will see it often.

Days Of The Week

Easy, Fun Activities to Teach Children the Days of the Week

- Clap and chant the days in order! Speed up each round until you both fall apart into giggles.
- Chant or sing the days of the week while marching around the kitchen or family room together. Keep going faster and faster!
- Sit together on the floor and pass a ball back and forth. Whoever has the ball must say the next day. Again, see how fast you can complete the challenge!
- If your preschooler is beginning to read, write each day on a large sheet of paper, and stick the sheets around the room. Both of you stand in the center of the room. Shout out a day of the week and have your preschooler race to that sheet.
- Say the days of the week with a couple of days out of order. Your preschooler should jump, move, or gesture whenever you say a day out of order.
- Display a large calendar on the refrigerator just for your preschooler. Place a sticker on the current day. Help your child keep a simple preschool journal on that calendar —drawing pictures of the weather, activities that day, special events, etc. Talk about the numbers, days of the week, months of the year, seasons, holidays, yesterday, today, tomorrow, before, after, first, next, etc.





IT'S TIME TO LEARN THE DAYS OF THE WEEK!



1

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

There are seven days of fun. It's time to learn the days of the week.

7 DAYS



3

LET'S SING
EACH AND
EVERY
ONE!



2



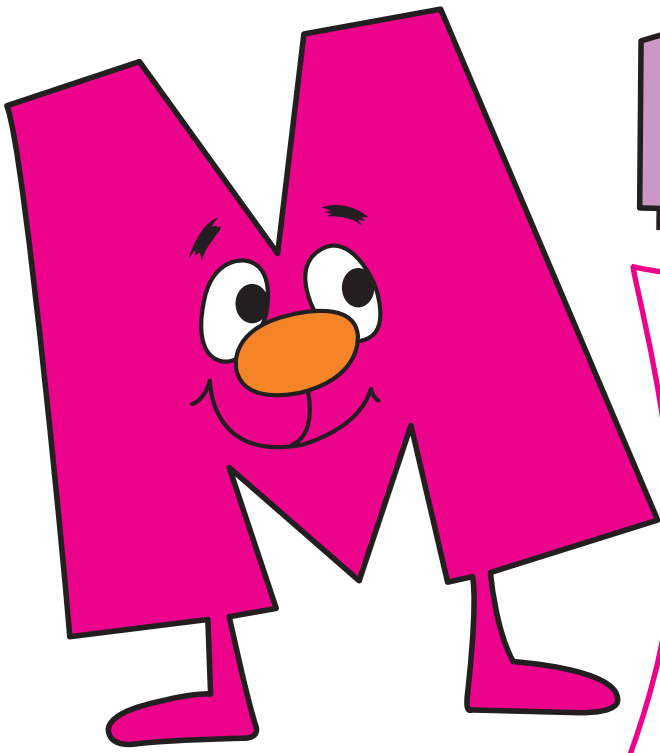
SUNDAY



Draw what you do on Sunday.

4



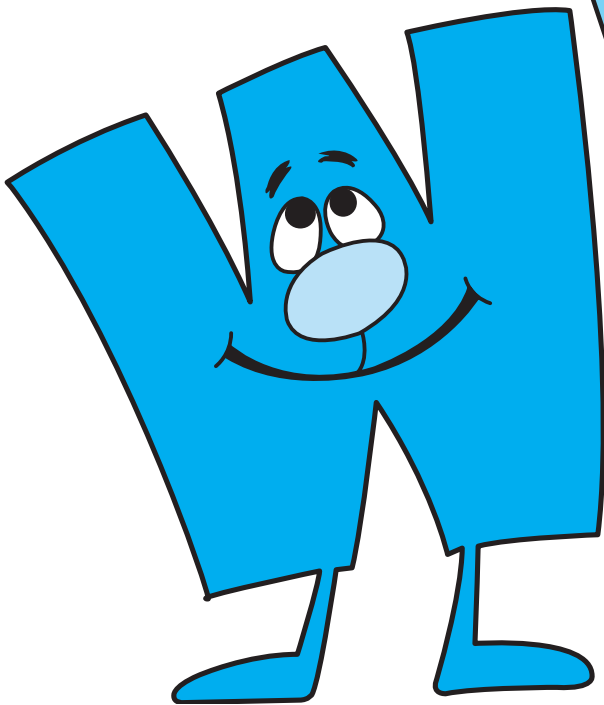


MONDAY



Draw what you do on Monday.

5



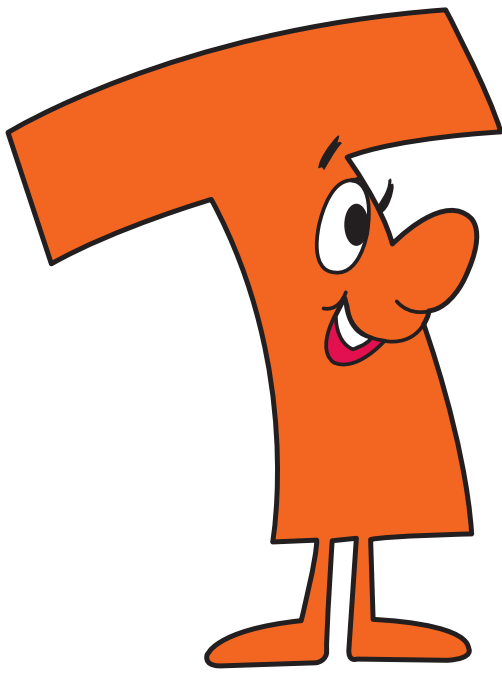
WEDNESDAY



Draw what you do on Wednesday.

7





TUESDAY



Draw what you do on Tuesday.

6



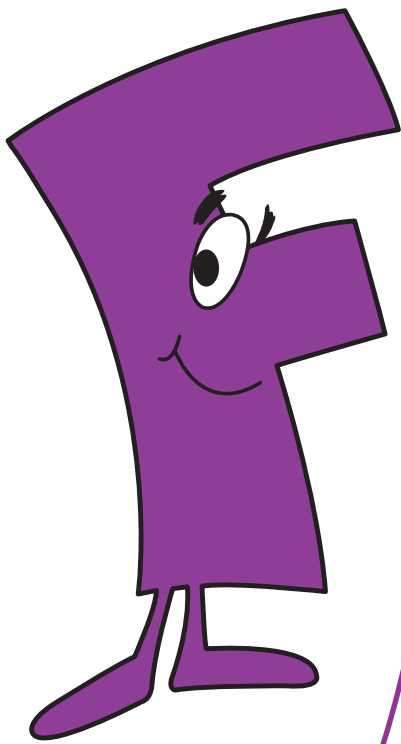
THURSDAY



Draw what you do on Thursday.

8





FRIDAY



Draw what you do on Friday.

9



SUNDAY

THURSDAY

MONDAY

FRIDAY

TUESDAY

SATURDAY

WEDNESDAY

11





SATURDAY



Draw what you do on Saturday.

10



We just
learned the
days of the
week.

12



Good Night Song Lyrics

1. Rock-A-Bye Baby

Rock-a-bye Baby, on the treetop,
When the wind blows the cradle will rock.
When the bow breaks, the cradle will fall
And down will come baby, cradle and all.

2. Golden Slumbers

Golden slumbers kiss your eyes;
Smiles awake you when you rise.
Sleep, pretty darlings do not cry,
And I will sing a lullaby.
Rock them, rock them, lullaby.
Care is heavy, therefore sleep you.
You are care and care must keep you.
Sleep, pretty darlings, do not cry,
And I will sing a lullaby.
Rock them, rock them, lullaby.

3. Mozart's Lullaby

Sleep, little one, go to sleep.
So peaceful the birds and the sheep.
Quiet are meadows and trees,
Even the buzz of the bees,
The silvery moonbeams so bright,
Down through the window give light.
O'er you the moonbeams will creep,
Sleep, little one, go to sleep.
Good night.
Good night.

4. Mammy Loves

Mammy loves and pappy loves
And mammy loves her little baby.
Go to sleepy, go to sleep.
Go to sleep, you little baby.

5. Hush, Little Baby

Hush, little baby, don't say a word,
Mama's gonna buy you a mockingbird.
And if that mockingbird don't sing,
Mama's going to buy you a diamond ring.
If that diamond ring turns brass,
Mama's going to buy you a looking glass.
And if that looking glass get's broke,
Mama's going to buy you a billy goat.
If that billy goat won't pull,
Mama's going to buy you a cart and bull.
And if that cart and bull turn over,
Mama's going to buy you a dog named Rover.
If that dog named Rover don't bark,
Mama's going to buy you a horse and cart.

And if that horse and cart falls down,
You'll still be the sweetest little baby in town.

6. It's Night-Night Time

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Kim Mitzo Thompson, Karen Mitzo Hilderbrand, Hal Wright
It's night-night time, night-night time,
Lay your head on me.
It's night-night time, night-night time
Time to go to sleep.
I'll sing to you and hold you close.
It's night-night time, night-night time.
Time to go to sleep.
It's night-night time, night-night time,
In your crib you go.
It's night-night time, night-night time
Mommy loves you so.
I'll sing to you while you close your eyes.
It's night-night time, night-night time.
Mommy loves you so.

7. Go To Sleep

Go to sleep, my sweet little brother.
Go to sleep and you'll have a treat.
Go to sleep, my sweet little brother.
Go to sleep and you'll have a treat.
Mama makes a cake;
It's ready to bake.
Papa's down below
And he's making cocoa.
Go to sleep, my sweet little sister.
Go to sleep, my sweet little one.
Go to sleep, my sweet little sister.
Go to sleep and you'll have a treat.
Go to sleep, my sweet little sister.
Go to sleep and you'll have a treat.
Mama makes a cake;
It's ready to bake.
Papa's down below
And he's making cocoa.
Go to sleep, my sweet little sister.
Go to sleep, my sweet little one.

8. Sou Gan

Sleep, my baby, on my bosom,
Warm and cozy it will prove.
Round thee mother's arms are folding
In her heart a mother's love.
There shall be no one come to harm thee,
Naught and ever shall break thy rest.
Sleep my darling babe in quiet,
Sleep on mother's gentle breast.

9. Raisins and Almonds

To my little one's cradle in the night
Comes a little goat snowy and white.
The goat will trot to the market
While mother her watch does keep
Bringing back raisins and almonds.
Sleep, my little one, sleep.

10. The Sandman Comes

The Sandman comes.
The Sandman comes.
He brings such pretty snowwhite sand
For every child throughout the land.
The Sandman comes.
The Sandman comes.

11. Brahms' Lullaby

Lullaby and good night,
With roses delight,
With lilies bespread
Is baby's wee bed.
Lay thee down now and rest,
May thy slumber be blessed.
Lay thee down now and rest,
May thy slumber be blessed.
Lullaby and good night,
Thy mother's delight,
Bright angels around
My darling shall stand.
They will guard thee from harms,
Thou shalt wake in my arms.
They will guard thee from harms,
Thou shalt wake in my arms.

12. Go To Sleep, Little One

Go to sleep,
Go to sleep, sleep, sleep.
Go to sleep, little one.
Close your eyes and dream tender dreams
For you are guarded, protected by my love.
Now, go to sleep.
Go to sleep, sleep, sleep.
Go to sleep, little one.
Close your eyes and dream tender dreams
For you are guarded, protected by my love.
Long have I waited, I've waited for you.
Go to sleep.
Years I spent hoping and praying for you.
Go to sleep.
Now that I have you right here by my side
I will not ever, no, never let you go.
Go to sleep.
Go to sleep, sleep, sleep.
Go to sleep, little one.
Close your eyes and dream tender dreams
For you are guarded, protected by my love.

13. Dance To Your Daddy

Dance to your daddy, my little baby,
Dance to your daddy, my little lamb.
You shall have a fish and you shall have a fin,
And you shall have a haddock
When the boat comes in.
Dance to your daddy, my little laddie,
Dance to your daddy, my little man.
You shall have a fishy in a little dishy.
You shall have a haddock
When the boat comes in.

14. All Through The Night

Sleep, my child, and peace attend thee
All through the night.
Guardian angels God will send thee
All through the night.
Soft the drowsy hours are creeping,
Hill and dale in slumber sleeping.
I my loving vigil keeping,
All through the night.
While the moon her watch is keeping
All through the night.
While the weary world is sleeping
All through the night.
O'er thy spirit gently stealing
Visions of delight revealing.
Breathes a pure and holy feeling,
All through the night.

15. Rockin'

Little baby, sweetly sleep, do not weep;
Sleep in comfort, slumber deep,
I will rock you, rock you, rock you.
I will rock you, rock you, rock you.
Little baby, sweetly sleep.

16. Sleep, Baby Sleep

Sleep, baby sleep.
The father guards the sheep.
Thy mother shakes the dreamland tree,
Down falls a little dream for thee.
Sleep, baby sleep.
Sleep, baby sleep.
Sleep, baby sleep.
The father watches the sheep.
The wind is blowing fierce and wild.
It must not wake my little child.
Sleep, baby sleep.
Sleep, baby sleep.
Sleep, baby sleep.
The large stars are the sheep.
The little stars are the lambs, I guess.
The gentle moon's the shepherdess.
Sleep, baby sleep.
Sleep, baby sleep.

17. Now the Day Is Over

Now the day is over.
Night is drawing nigh.
Shadows of the evening
Steal across the sky.

18. All Night, All Day

All night, all day,
Angels watching over me, my Lord.
All night, all day,
Angels watching over me.
When at night I go to sleep,
Angels watching over me, my Lord.
Pray the Lord my soul to keep,
Angels watching over me.

19. Armenian Lullaby

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Sleep, my little one,
My loved one,
As I rock and sing,
As the bright moon watches o'er us,
O'er your little crib.

20. Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high
Like a diamond in the sky.
Twinkle, twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.
In the dark blue sky you keep,
Often through my curtains peep.
For you never shut your eye,
Till the sun is in the sky.
Twinkle, twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.

21. Bye, Baby Bunting

Bye, baby bunting,
Daddy's gone a-hunting
To get a little rabbit skin
To wrap his baby bunting in.

22. All the Pretty Little Horses

Hush-a-bye, don't you cry,
Go to sleepy little baby.
When you wake, you shall have
All the pretty little horses.
Blacks and bays, dapples and grays,
Coach and six little horses.
Down in the meadow
Lies a poor little lambie.
Bees and butterflies pickin' on its eyes.
Poor little thing is cryin' Mammy.
Blacks and bays, dapples and grays,
Coach and six little horses.

23. Raindrops

Raindrops a-falling from the skies
Tired and sleepy, close your eyes.
Tired and sleepy while the skies are weeping,
Weeping and singing you their lullabies.
Tired and sleepy, while the skies are weeping,
Weeping and singing you their lullabies.

24. Fingers and Toes

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Mitzo Thompson, Karen Mitzo Hilderbrand, Hal Wright
I'm counting your fingers and loving you so,
I'm tickling you gently on each little toe.
I'm singing so sweetly and snuggling you close.
I'm kissing you on your nose.
Fingers and toes and where is your nose?
Snuggling and loving, yes, that's how it goes.
Hush now, my baby, don't make a peep.
Daddy is trying to put you to sleep.

25. Winkum, Winkum

Winkum, winkum, shut your eye
While I sing a lullaby,
For the night is almost here.
Stars are flickering oh so near,
And the moonlight's peeping over
Yonder hilltop capped with clover.
Winkum, winkum, shut your eye
While I sing a lullaby,
for the night is almost here.
Stars are flickering oh so near,
and the moonlight's peeping over
yonder hilltop capped with clover.