

A PRINTABLE ACTIVITY BOOK



Little Thinkers

Picture puzzles and thinking games, ages 5-7

This book belongs to _____

Hi grown-ups

A few things to know before your child dives in.

1. Pick any page. There is no right order.
2. Read the “Read aloud” box to your child. One page, about 10 minutes, is plenty.
3. Let them color, cut and draw their own way. Messy is fine.
4. Praise the trying, not just the right answer.
5. Chat with the grown-up corner questions. Answers are at the back.

How each page works

Read aloud

Read this box to your child. It sets up the game in a few short sentences.

Picture task

Your child circles, colors, cuts, glues, matches or draws. Little or no writing needed.

Grown-up corner

Why it matters, two questions to ask afterwards, and an idea to take it further.

“I felt” faces

Your child colors the face that shows how the page felt: easy, OK, or a stretch.



That's it. Hand it over and let them lead.

About this book

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No sign-up, no tracking, and nothing is collected from your child.

future-ready-kids.vishal-d62.workers.dev

Color a skill every time you practice it

Twenty skills to grow. Color in a circle after you finish an activity for that skill.

Thinking

- ☐ Critical thinking
- ☐ Alternatives thinking
- ☐ Problem-finding
- ☐ Judgment and taste
- ☐ Probabilistic thinking
- ☐ Systems thinking
- ☐ Checking what's true

Self

- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Determination
- ☐ Learning how to learn
- ☐ Resilience
- ☐ Deep attention

People

- ☐ Communication and storytelling
- ☐ Working across cultures
- ☐ Values and ethics
- ☐ Trustworthiness

Doing

- ☐ Imagination and building
- ☐ Directing AI like a team
- ☐ Money sense
- ☐ Body and hands

When you have done a few pages

The skill I'm best at: _____

A skill I want to grow next: _____

My favorite page so far: _____

CHAPTER 1

Thinking

Be a detective! Look closely, spot the clues, and ask: what else could it be?

14 activities inside

Before you start: Tell a grown-up about a time you figured something out all by yourself.

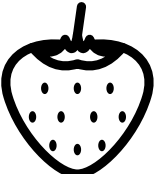
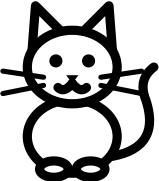
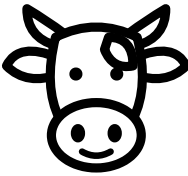
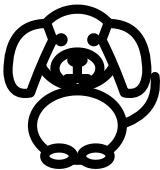
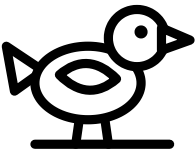
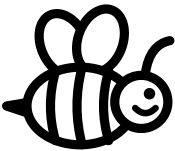
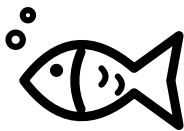


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Odd one out

READ ALOUD In each row, three things belong together and one does not. Circle the odd one out. Can you say why?

1. Look at each row.
2. Circle the one that does not belong.

①				
②				
③				

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Saying why one thing doesn't belong is the start of reasoning.

- Why does that one not belong?
- Could another one be the odd one out?

Extend it: Put four things from the kitchen on the table and play odd one out.

I felt:    (color one)

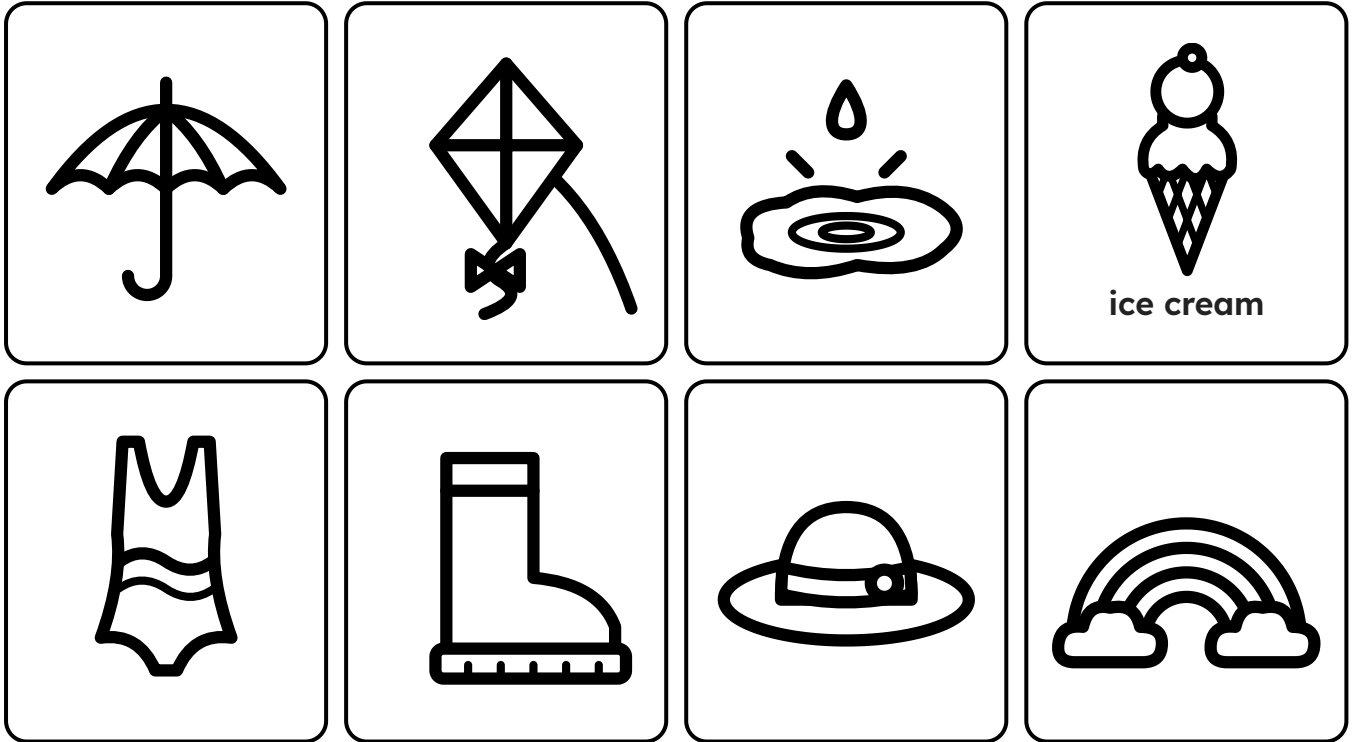


Rain detective

READ ALOUD Did it rain today? Be a detective! Color every clue that tells you it rained.

1. Look at each picture.
2. Color the rain clues.

Color the clues that it rained



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Detectives use clues to work out what is probably true.

- Which clue is the best one?
- Could there be a puddle without rain?

Extend it: Look out of the window together and find three clues about today's weather.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



Three ways to carry water

READ ALOUD A thirsty plant needs water. A bucket works. What else could carry water?
Draw three ways. One can be silly!

1. Draw one way in each box.

Way 1

Way 2

A silly way!

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: There is almost always more than one way. Looking for it is a habit.

- Which way would spill the least?
- What makes your silly way silly?

Extend it: At bath time, carry water with a cup, a sponge and your hands. Which works best?

I felt:    (color one)

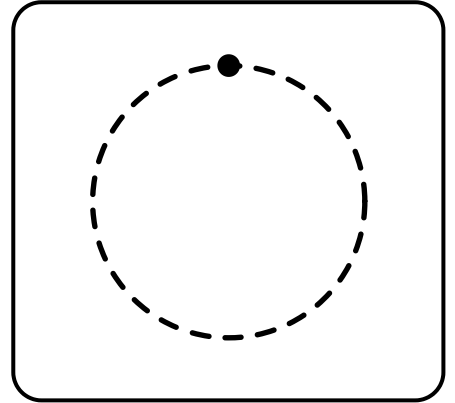
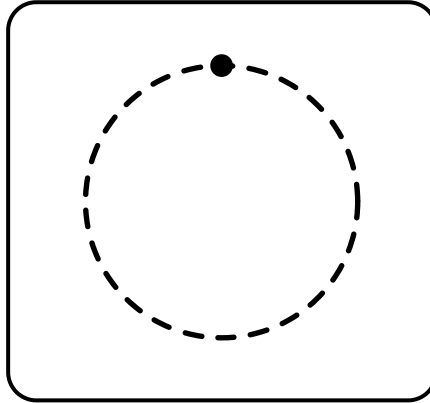
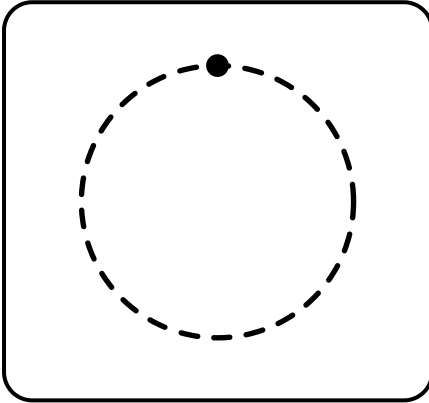


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Circle magic

READ ALOUD Trace each circle. Then turn each one into something different. A sun? A face? A ball? Make all three different!

1. Trace each dotted circle.
2. Turn each one into something new.



Draw a circle. Make it something else!

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Seeing one shape as many things is flexible thinking.

- What did your circles become?
- Can you think of three more?

Extend it: Go on a circle hunt at home: plates, clocks, buttons. How many can you find?

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



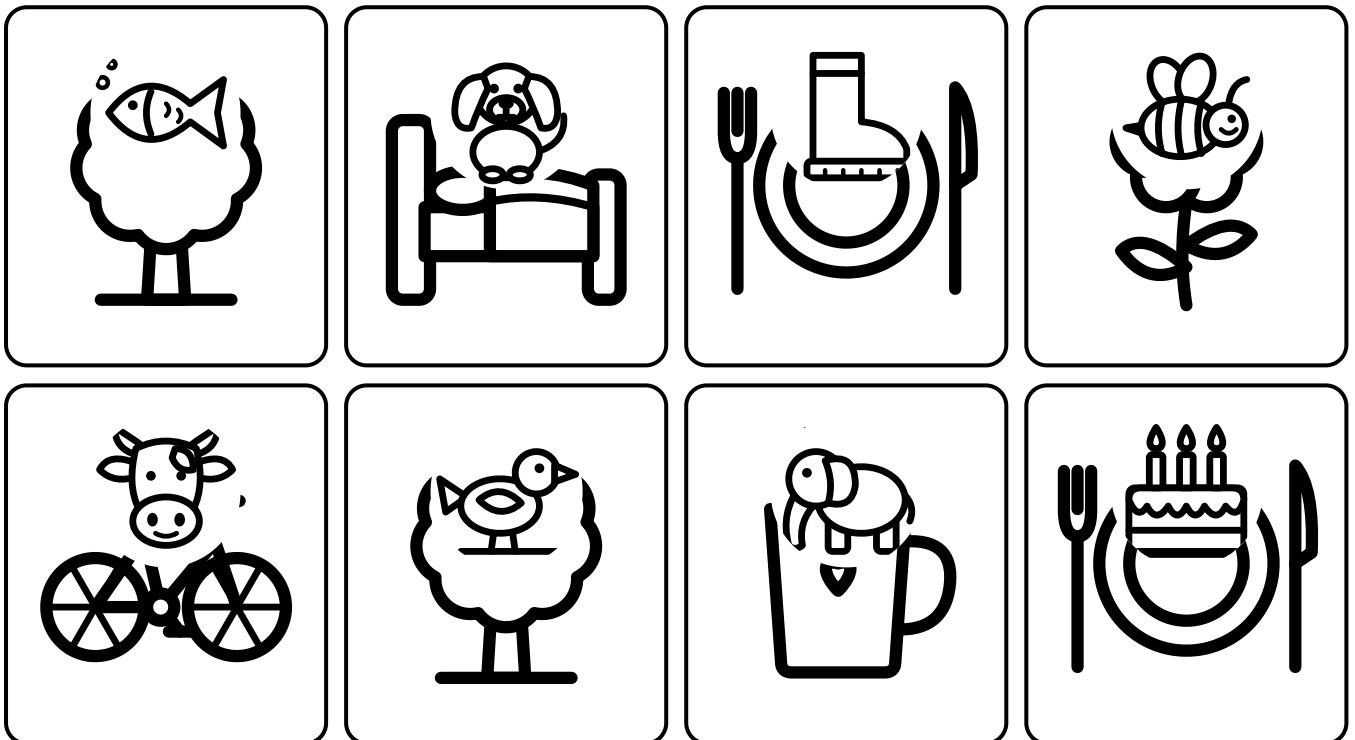
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What's wrong here?

READ ALOUD Some of these pictures are silly. A fish can't live in a tree! Circle every silly picture.

1. Look closely at each picture.
2. Circle the silly ones.

Circle the silly pictures



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Noticing that something is not right is the first step to fixing it.

- How did you know it was silly?
- How could we fix the silly ones?

Extend it: Say a silly sentence, like “I wear shoes on my ears,” and let your child spot it.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)

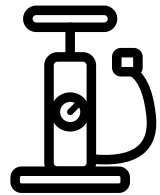


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Fix it!

READ ALOUD Each thing on the left has a problem. Say what is wrong. Then draw a line to the thing that fixes it.

1. Say what is wrong.
2. Draw a line to the fix.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Good problem-solvers first say what is wrong, then what would help.

- What else could fix a torn page?
- What problem did you fix today?

Extend it: When something goes wrong, ask “What is the problem?” before “How do we fix it?”

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



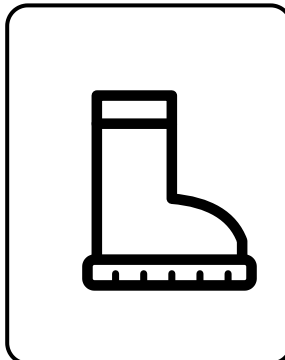
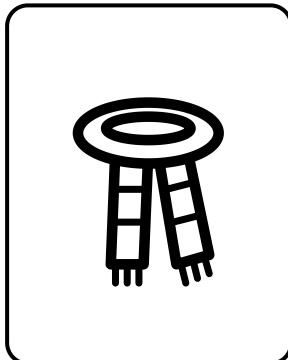
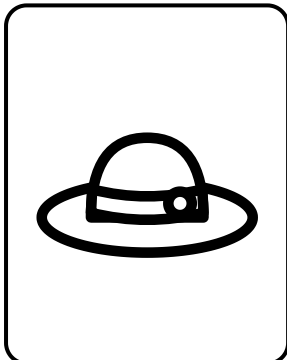
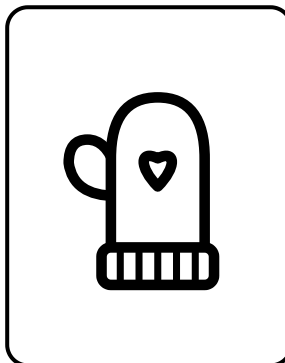
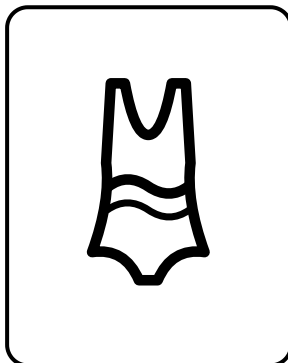
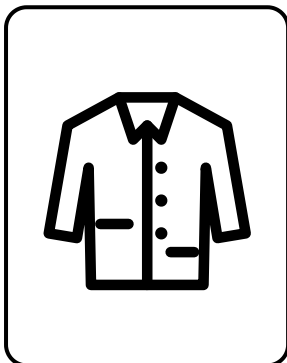
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Best for the snow

READ ALOUD It's a snowy day! Color the things that would keep you warm outside. Then draw yourself ready for the snow.

1. Color what you would wear in the snow.
2. Draw yourself ready to play.

Color what you would wear in the snow



Draw yourself dressed for the snow

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Good judgment means choosing what fits the situation.

- Which one would keep you warmest?
- When is the swimsuit the best choice?

Extend it: Before going out, let your child pick clothes for the weather and say why.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



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I like, I don't like

READ ALOUD Cut out the food cards. Glue each one in a box: foods you like, and foods you don't.

1. Cut out the 4 cards.
2. Glue each one where it belongs.

 **I like**

glue here

glue here

glue here

glue here

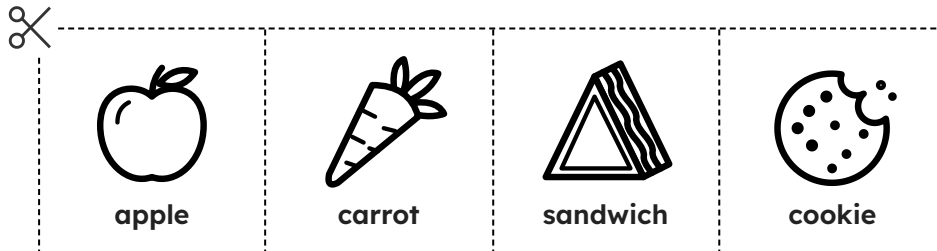
I don't like

glue here

glue here

glue here

glue here



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Taste is personal, so any answer is right. Saying why is the skill.

- Why don't you like that one?
- Has a food ever moved boxes for you?

Extend it: Try one new food this week and decide together which box it goes in.

I felt:    (color one)



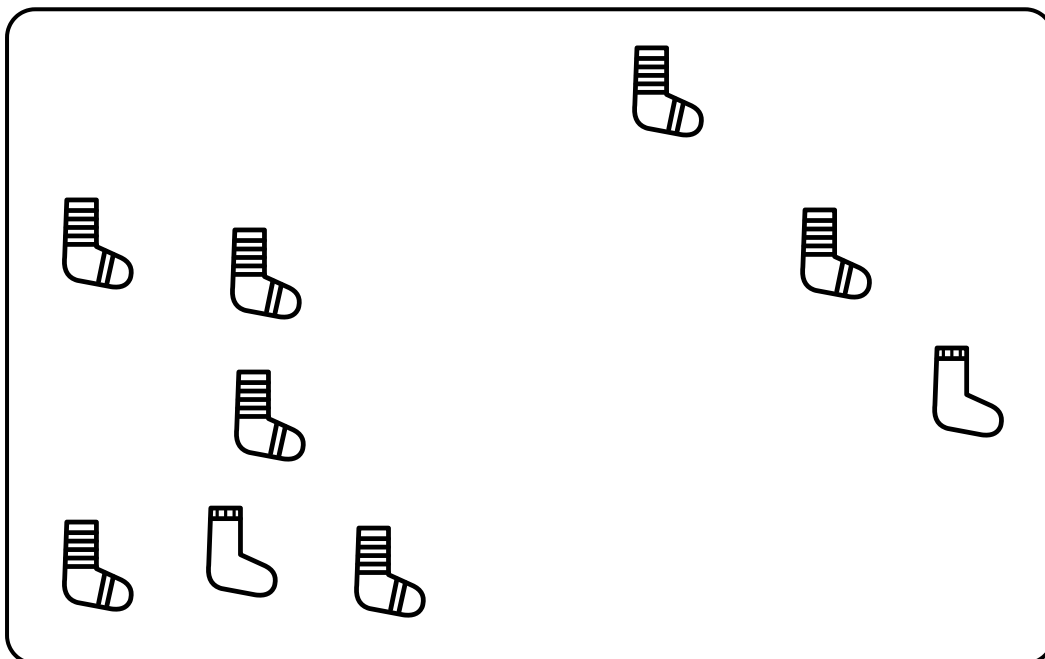
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Pick a sock

READ ALOUD Count the striped socks and the plain socks. If you grab one without looking, which will it probably be?

1. Count each kind of sock.
2. Color one square for each sock.
3. Circle the sock you will probably grab.

Which sock will you probably grab?



8		
7		
6		
5		
4		
3		
2		
1		

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: When there are more of one thing, it is more likely to be picked.

- Could you still grab a plain sock?
- How could a plain sock be more likely?

Extend it: Put 5 spoons and 1 fork in a bag. Guess, pull one out, put it back. Try it 10 times.

I felt: (color one)



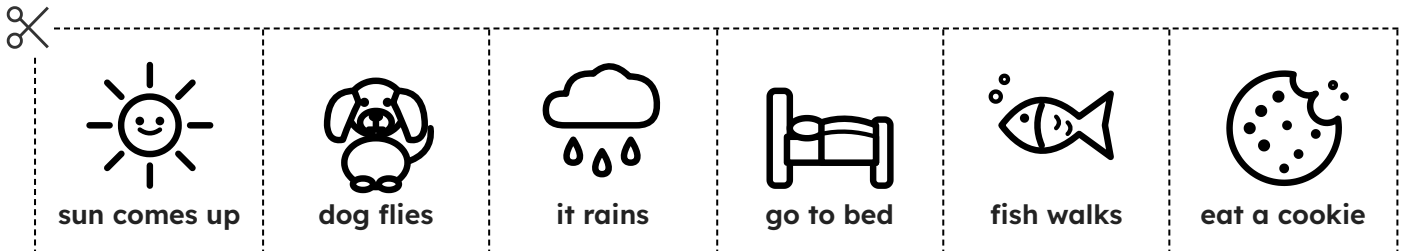
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Will it happen?

READ ALOUD Will it happen tomorrow? Cut out the cards. Glue each one in Will, Might or Won't.

1. Cut out the 6 cards.
2. Glue each card in a box.

Will	Might	Won't
glue here	glue here	glue here
glue here	glue here	glue here



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Some things are sure, some might happen, and some never will.

- What would make rain more likely?
- What else will happen for sure?

Extend it: At breakfast, guess together: will, might or won't? Check at bedtime.

I felt:    (color one)

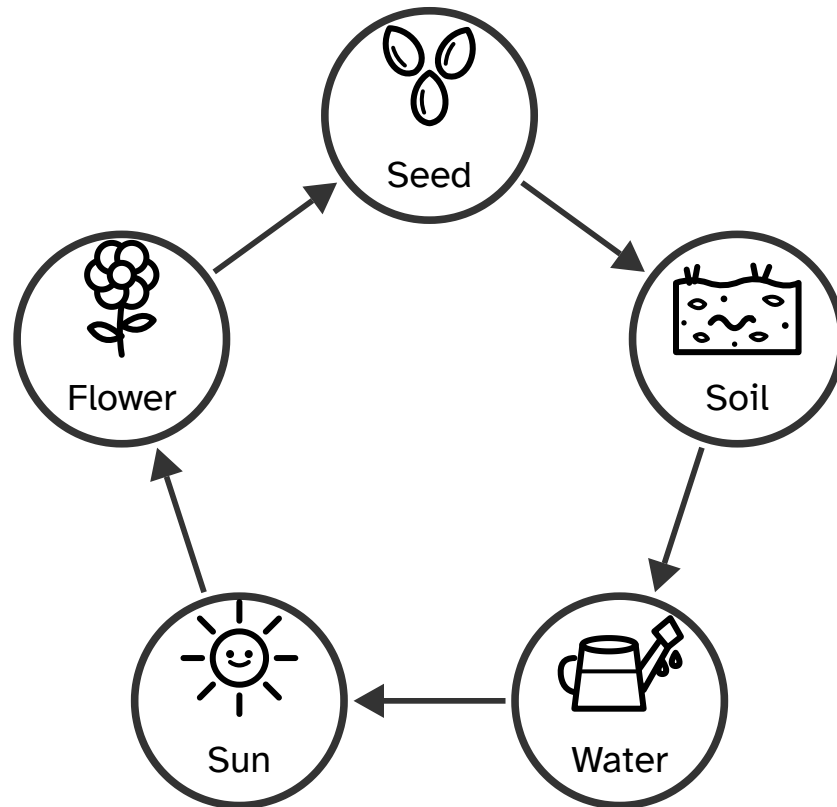


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The flower circle

READ ALOUD A seed goes in the soil. With water and sun, it grows into a flower. The flower makes new seeds!

1. Follow the arrows with your finger.
2. Color each picture in the circle.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Each part of the circle needs the others. That is systems thinking.

- What if we forget the water?
- Where do new seeds come from?

Extend it: Plant a bean in a cup of soil together and watch the circle begin.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)

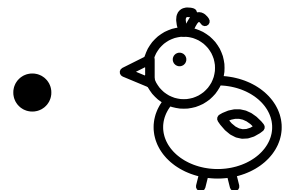
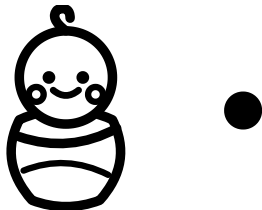
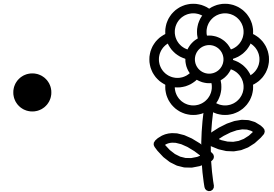
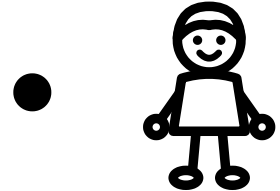
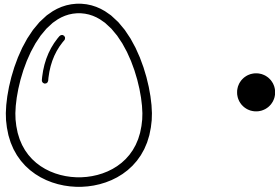


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What happens next?

READ ALOUD Things change. An egg hatches into a chick! Draw a line from each picture to what happens next.

1. Draw a line to what happens next.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: One thing leads to the next. Seeing that is systems thinking.

- What comes after the chick?
- What will you be like when you are bigger?

Extend it: Put an ice cube on a plate. Check it every few minutes: what happens next?

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



Scan for the app

Real or made-up?

READ ALOUD Some animals are real. Some are only in stories. Glue each card in Real or Made-up.

1. Cut out the 6 cards.
2. Glue each one in Real or Made-up.

Real

glue here

glue here

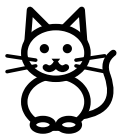
glue here

Made-up

glue here

glue here

glue here



cat



unicorn



frog



dragon



elephant



mermaid

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Telling real from pretend is the start of checking what is true.

- How do you know a dragon is made-up?
- How could we check if an animal is real?

Extend it: When you read a story together, ask: could this really happen?

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)

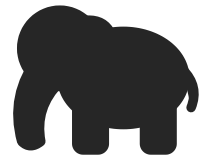
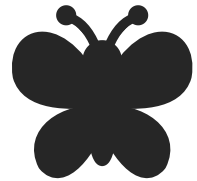
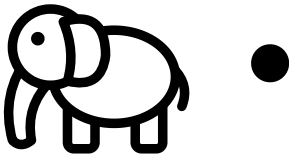


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Whose shadow?

READ ALOUD These animals have lost their shadows. Look closely at each shape. Draw a line from each animal to its shadow.

1. Look at the ears, legs and tails.
2. Draw a line from animal to shadow.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Checking means looking for proof: the ears, the trunk, the shell.

- Which part helped you know?
- Which shadow was the trickiest?

Extend it: Make hand shadows on a wall with a flashlight and guess each other's animals.

I felt:    (color one)

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CHAPTER 2

Self

These pages are all about you: trying hard things, big feelings, and how you learn best.

10 activities inside

Before you start: Tell a grown-up about a time something was hard and you kept going.



I can do it myself

READ ALOUD Color every job you can do all by yourself. Then draw one more job you can do.

1. Color the jobs you can do alone.
2. Draw one more job.

Color the jobs I can do myself



brush teeth



put on shoes

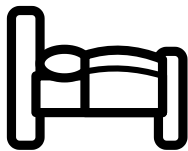


pack my bag

Draw a new job I can do



pour milk



make my bed



put on coat

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Doing things alone builds a “can-do” feeling, one small job at a time.

- Which job are you proudest of?
- Which job do you want to learn next?

Extend it: Pick one job your child can't do alone yet. Practice it together this week.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



My plan

READ ALOUD Plan how to make your bed. What do you do first, next and last? Draw each step in a box.

1. Draw each step in order.

1. First

2. Next

3. Last

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Planning is breaking a job into steps, so children can start on their own.

- What if you did the last step first?
- Can you follow your plan tomorrow?

Extend it: Make the bed using the plan. Then draw a plan for packing a bag.

I felt:



(color one)

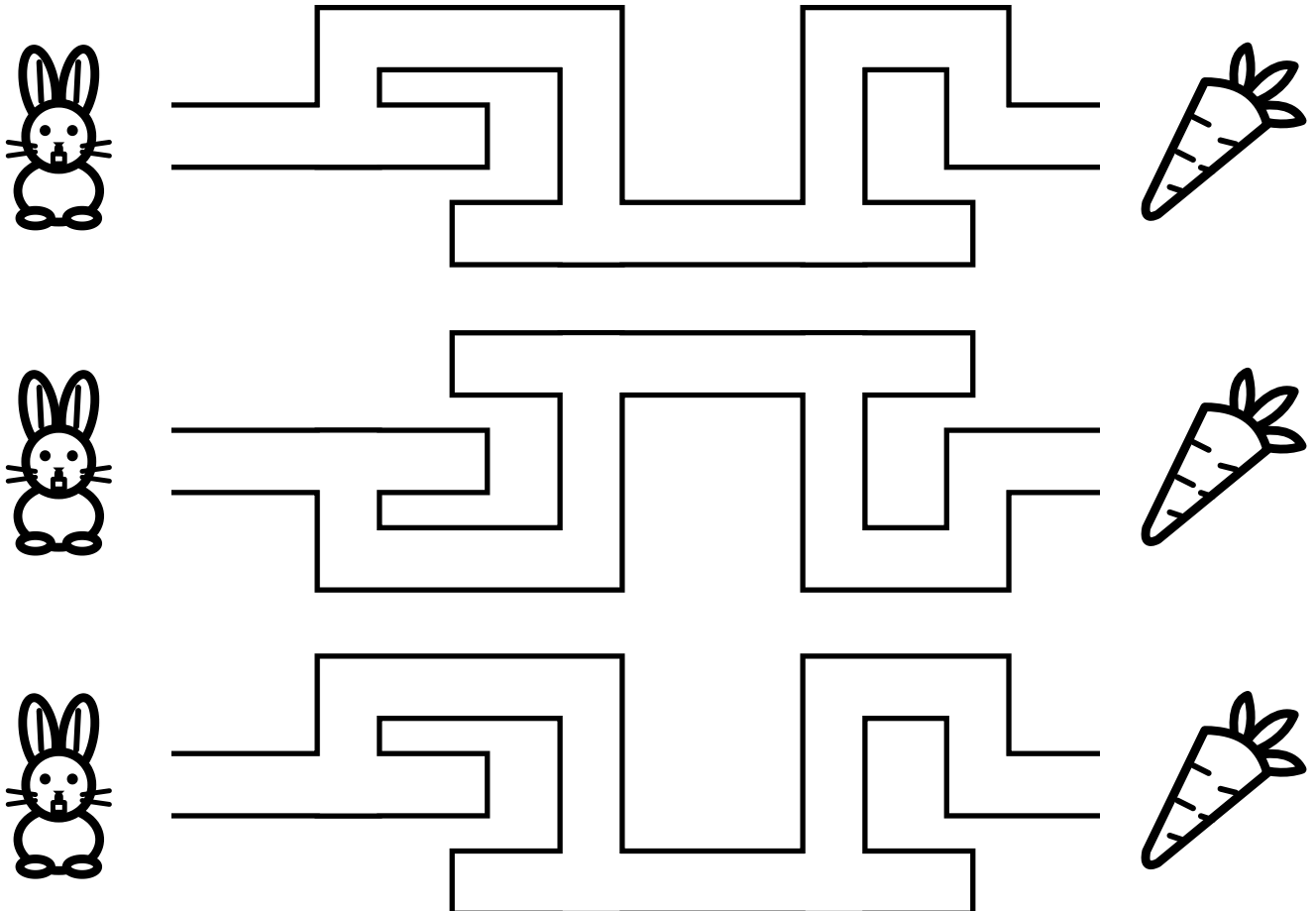


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Keep going!

READ ALOUD Help the rabbit reach the carrot in each maze. Hit a dead end? Go back and try another way!

1. Draw a line from the rabbit to the carrot.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Dead ends are part of mazes and of learning. Trying again is determination.

- What did you do when you got stuck?
- Was the last maze easier than the first? Why?

Extend it: Draw a simple maze for your child, then let them draw one for you.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



Try, try again

READ ALOUD Build a tower as tall as you can. Count the blocks and write the number. Then try again. Can you build it taller?

1. Build a tower and count the blocks.
2. Write the number and color the box.
3. Try again, five times!

Try 5: ____ blocks

☐

Try 4: ____ blocks

☐

Try 3: ____ blocks

☐

Try 2: ____ blocks

☐

Try 1: ____ blocks

☐

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Trying again after a fall shows effort pays off. Praise the trying.

- What did you change to build it taller?
- How did you feel when it fell?

Extend it: Try the same challenge next week and see if the numbers grow.

I felt:    (color one)



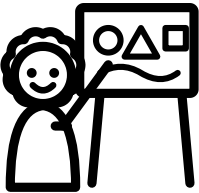
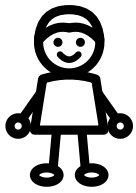
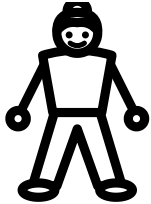
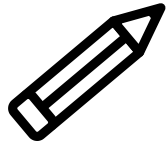
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How I learn

READ ALOUD Think of something you learned, like riding a bike or drawing. How did you learn it? Color every way you used.

1. Think of something you learned.
2. Color each way you used.

Color the ways I learned

 watch	 try it	 ask a grown-up	Draw what you learned
 practice	 read	 with a friend	

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Knowing how you learn best helps you learn the next thing faster.

- Which way helped you the most?
- What do you want to learn next?

Extend it: Learn a new card game together. Did you watch, ask, or just try?

I felt:    (color one)



Then and now

READ ALOUD When you were a baby, you couldn't walk or talk. Look how much you have learned! Draw a then and a now.

1. Draw something baby you couldn't do.
2. Draw yourself doing it now!

Baby me couldn't...

Now I can...

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Seeing how far they have come shows children that learning works.

- What else can you do now that baby you couldn't?
- What will you learn next year?

Extend it: Look at baby photos together and talk about what your child has learned since.

I felt:    (color one)

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My tower fell down

READ ALOUD Oh no, your block tower fell down! Draw what happened, how you feel, and what you will try next.

1. Draw a picture in each box.

1. Oh no! It fell.

2. How I feel

3. What I try next

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Naming the feeling, then picking a next step, is how resilience grows.

- What helps you feel better?
- What would you try differently?

Extend it: Next time something tumbles, ask: “How do you feel? What will we try next?”

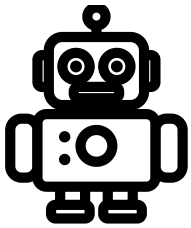
I felt:    (color one)



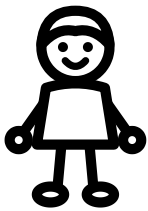
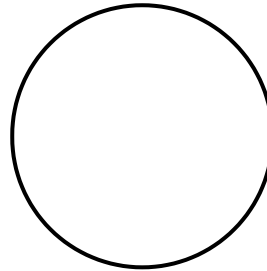
Big feelings

READ ALOUD Listen to each little story. How would you feel? Draw your face in the big circle, or circle a face.

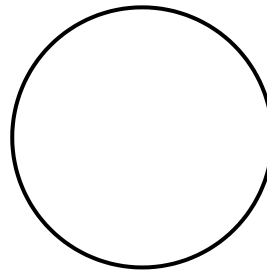
1. Listen to each story.
2. Draw or circle how you would feel.



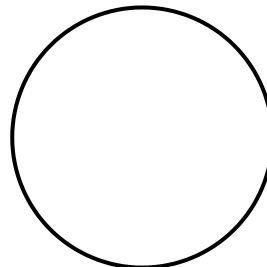
Your favorite toy breaks.



Your friend can't come to play.



You drop your ice cream.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: All feelings are OK. Naming them is the first step to bouncing back.

- What could you do to feel better?
- Has that ever happened to you?

Extend it: When your child has a big feeling this week, help them name it, then ask what helps.

I felt:    (color one)



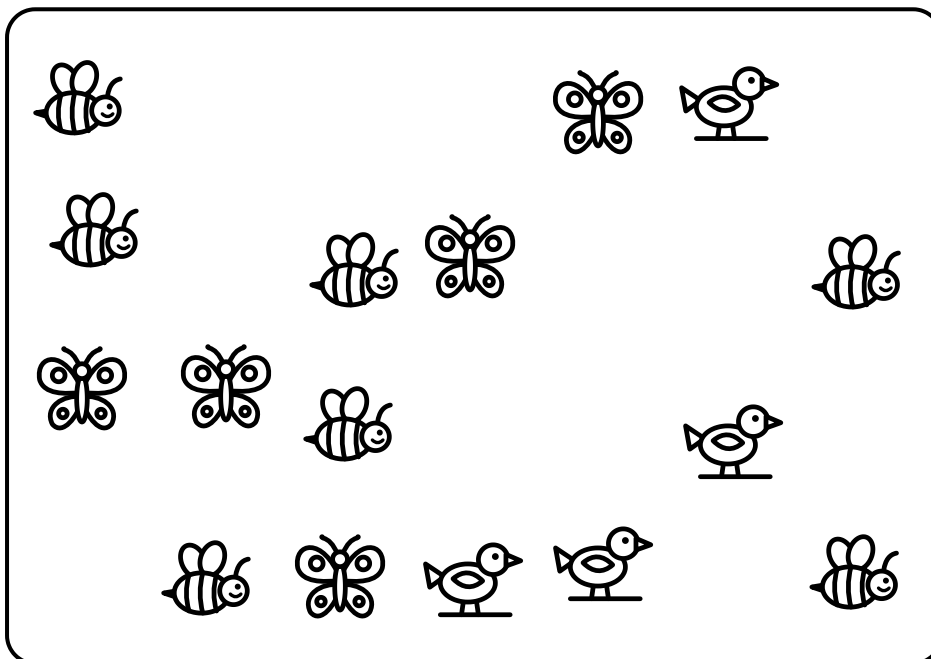
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Count carefully

READ ALOUD The garden is busy! Count the birds, bees and butterflies slowly. Color one square for each one.

1. Count each kind slowly.
2. Color one square for each one.
3. Circle the one there is most of.

Which is there the most of?



8			
7			
6			
5			
4			
3			
2			
1			

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Counting a busy picture means slowing down and keeping track.

- How did you keep track?
- Did you count any twice? How could you check?

Extend it: Tip: touch or tick each one as you count. Then count red cars on a walk.

I felt: (color one)



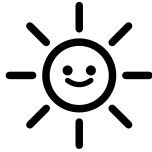
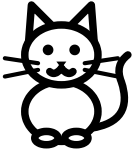
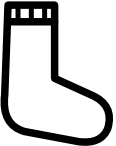
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Finish the pattern

READ ALOUD Each row has a pattern. Say it out loud: sun, moon, sun, moon... Then draw what comes next in the empty box.

1. Say each pattern out loud.

2. Draw what comes next.

1					
2					
3					

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Spotting patterns helps children predict what comes next.

- How did you know what comes next?
- Can you make up a pattern of your own?

Extend it: Make a pattern with claps and stomps for your child to carry on.

I felt:    (color one)

CHAPTER 3

People

Stories, families, kindness and keeping promises: the things that help you get along with anyone.

8 activities inside

Before you start: Tell a grown-up about your favorite story. What happens at the end?



Scan for the app

Tell the story

READ ALOUD Cut out the cards. Glue them in order: what happens first, next and last? Then tell the story aloud.

1. Cut out the 3 cards.
2. Glue them in order.
3. Tell the story to a grown-up.

1 First

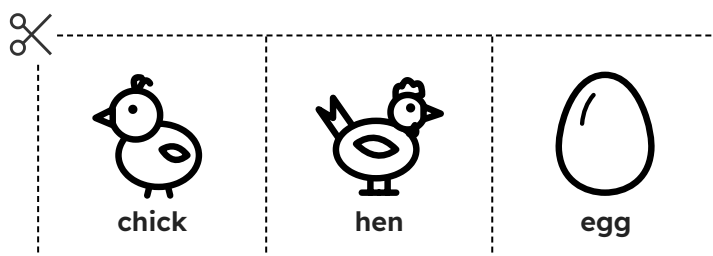
glue here

2 Next

glue here

3 Last

glue here



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Putting events in order is how stories, and explanations, are built.

- What happened just before the chick came out?
- What could happen after the hen?

Extend it: At bedtime, ask your child to tell their day: first, next and last.

I felt:    (color one)

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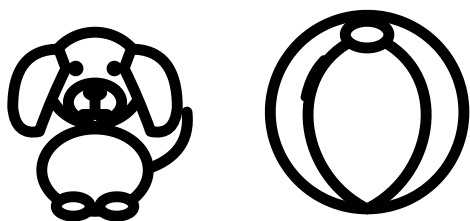
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Draw the ending

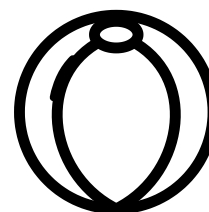
READ ALOUD A dog finds a ball. Then the ball rolls away! What happens next? Draw the ending in the big box.

1. Draw how the story ends, then tell it.

1. A dog finds a ball.



2. The ball rolls away!



3. How does it end?

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Every story has a beginning, a middle and an end.

- How does the dog feel at the end?
- Can you think of a different ending?

Extend it: Stop a picture book before the end and ask your child to guess it.

I felt:    (color one)

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Scan for the app

Foods we share

READ ALOUD Families all over the world eat these foods. Color the ones you have tried. Then draw your family's favorite food.

1. Color the foods you have tried.
2. Draw your family's favorite food.

Color the foods I have tried



bread



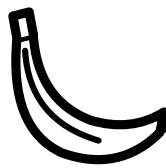
rice



noodles



sandwich



banana



ice cream

My family's favorite food

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Sharing foods helps children feel at home with families everywhere.

- Which food would you like to try next?
- Who in our family makes your favorite food?

Extend it: Cook a family recipe together and tell your child who taught it to you.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



How my family says hello

READ ALOUD How does your family say hello? A wave, a hug, or special words? Draw it. Then learn hello in another language!

1. Draw how your family says hello.
2. Ask a grown-up for hello in another language.

My family's hello

Hello in another language

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Each family has its own ways, and that is worth being curious about.

- How do your friends say hello?
- Which hello do you like best?

Extend it: Learn to say hello in a new language together and use it all week.

I felt:    (color one)



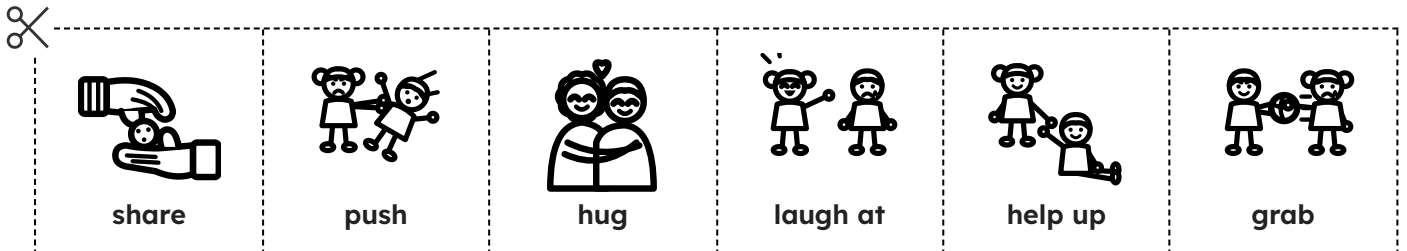
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Kind or not kind?

READ ALOUD Cut out the cards. Is each one kind or not kind? Glue it in the right box.

1. Cut out the 6 cards.
2. Glue each one in Kind or Not kind.

 Kind	Not kind
glue here	glue here
glue here	glue here
glue here	glue here



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Children learn right from wrong by talking about real moments.

- How would it feel if someone pushed you?
- How could we fix a not-kind thing?

Extend it: Catch your child being kind and tell them exactly what you noticed.

I felt:    (color one)

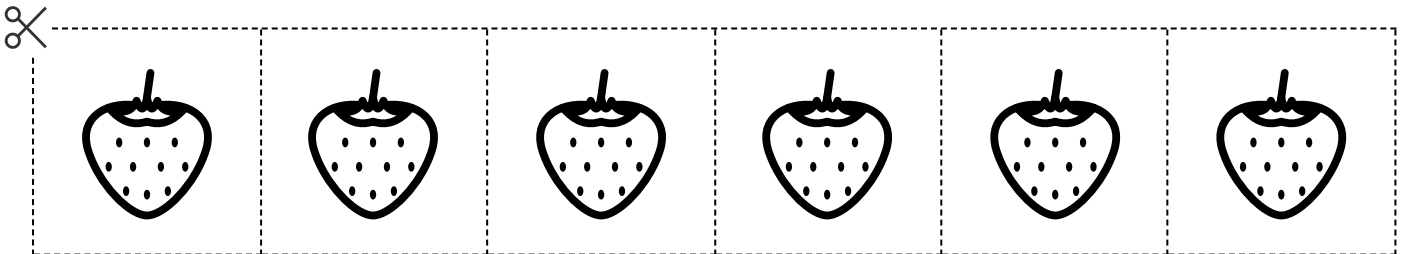
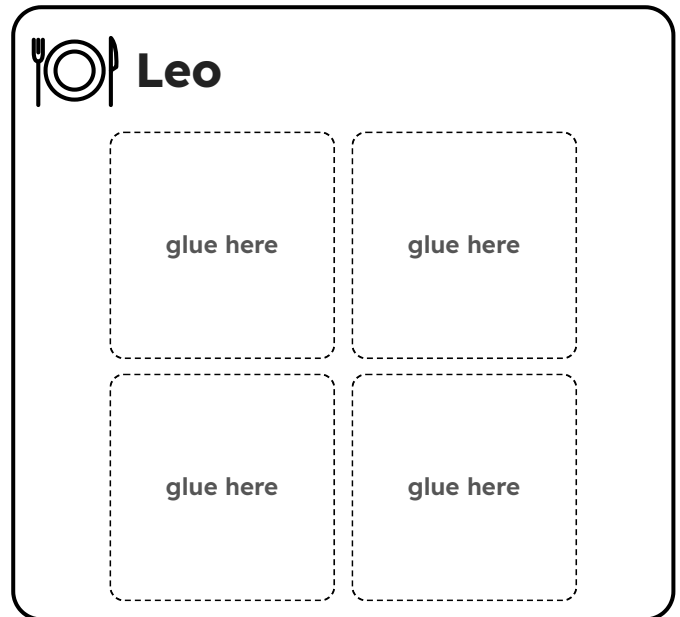
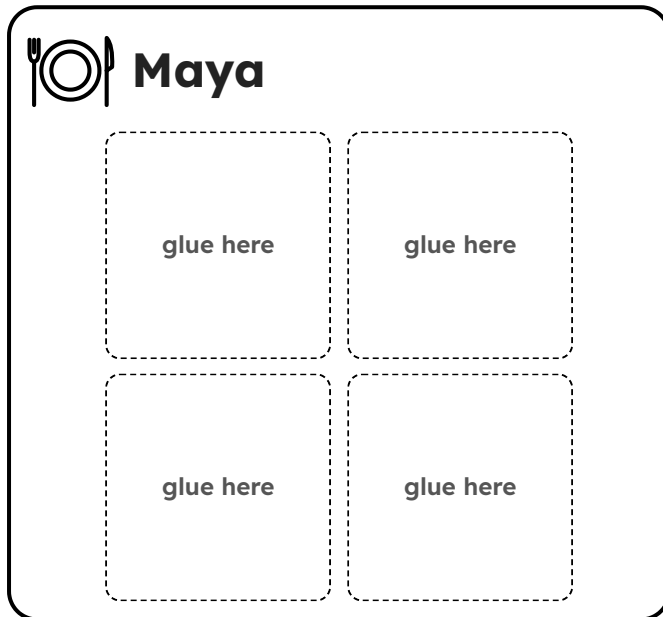


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Fair share

READ ALOUD Two friends share 6 strawberries. Cut them out and glue them on the plates so it is fair.

1. Cut out the 6 strawberries.
2. Share them so every plate is fair.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Sharing fairly is early kindness and early math at the same time.

- How do you know it is fair?
- What if a third friend came along?

Extend it: At snack time, let your child share crackers fairly between the family.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)

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Promise stars

READ ALOUD Make a promise, like “I will feed the cat.” Draw it. Each day you keep your promise, color a star!

1. Choose a promise with a grown-up.
2. Draw your promise.
3. Color a star each day you keep it.

My promise

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

Day 5

Day 6

Day 7



I kept it!



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Keeping small promises, day after day, is how trust is built.

- Was it hard to keep your promise on any day?
- How do you feel when someone keeps a promise to you?

Extend it: Make a promise to your child too, and color your stars side by side.

I felt:    (color one)

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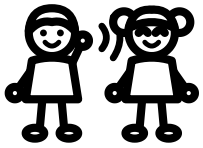


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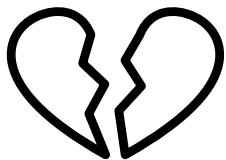
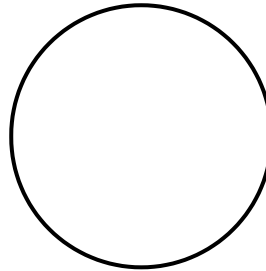
How would they feel?

READ ALOUD Your friend trusts you. Listen to each story. How would your friend feel? Draw or circle a face.

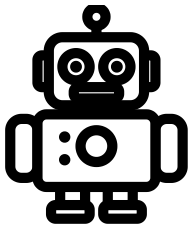
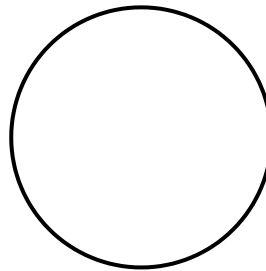
1. Listen to each story.
2. Draw or circle how your friend feels.



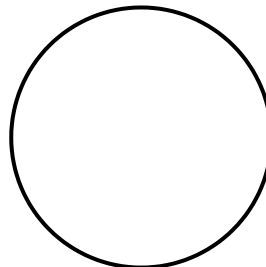
You keep your friend's secret.



You break a promise to your friend.



You give back your friend's toy.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Trust grows when children see how their actions make others feel.

- How could you fix a broken promise?
- Who do you trust, and why?

Extend it: When you read a story together, ask: could these friends trust each other?

I felt:    (color one)

CHAPTER 4

Doing

Build, cut, count coins and tell a robot what to do. Doing is the best way to learn!

8 activities inside

Before you start: Tell a grown-up about something you made. What was tricky?



Paper bridge

READ ALOUD Can one sheet of paper hold a toy car? Lay it between two books. Fold it, roll it, bend it. Draw your best bridge!

1. Make a bridge from one sheet of paper.
2. Test it with a toy car.
3. Draw the bridge that worked.

My bridge

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Building, testing and trying again is how engineers think.

- What shape made the bridge strongest?
- What would you change next time?

Extend it: Fold the paper like a fan and test again: how many cars can it hold now?

I felt:



(color one)



Invent a toy

READ ALOUD Pick two toys you love and draw them. Then mix them into one brand-new toy! What can it do?

1. Draw two toys, then mix them into one!

Toy 1

Toy 2

My new toy!

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Many new ideas come from mixing two old ones.

- What can your new toy do?
- What would you call it?

Extend it: Build the new toy from boxes, tape and paper.

I felt:    (color one)



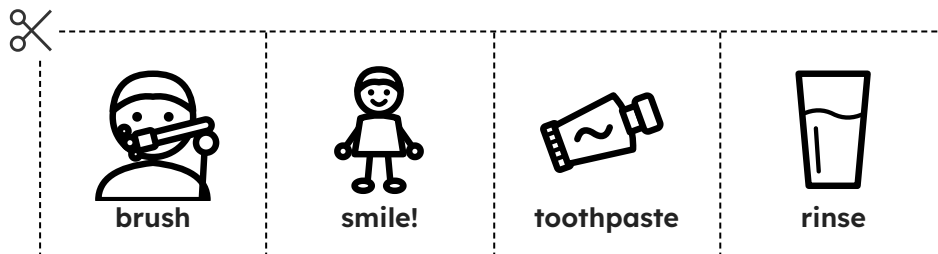
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Tell the robot: brush teeth

READ ALOUD The robot does only what you say. Cut out the cards. Glue them in order to brush teeth.

1. Cut out the 4 cards.
2. Glue them in the right order.

1 First glue here	2 Next glue here	3 Then glue here	4 Last glue here
---	--	--	--



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Robots and AI follow steps exactly, so the order matters.

- What would happen if the robot rinsed first?
- Did we miss a step, like turning on the water?

Extend it: Play robot: your child tells you how to make a sandwich, step by step.

I felt:    (color one)

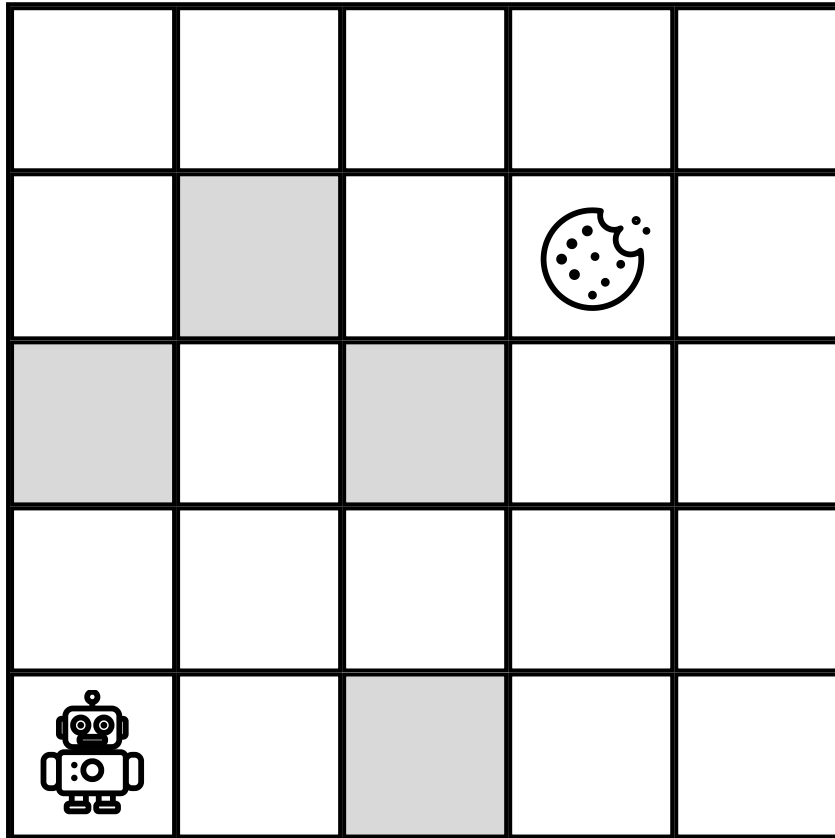


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Robot to the cookie

READ ALOUD The robot wants the cookie! It can't go through gray squares. Draw one arrow in a box for each move.

1. Draw one arrow for each move.
2. You may not need every box.



↑ ↓ ← →

1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Clear directions, one step at a time, are how we guide robots and AI.

- What happens if one arrow is wrong?
- Is there another way to the cookie?

Extend it: Play robot: your child says “forward 2, turn right” and you do just that.

I felt: (color one)

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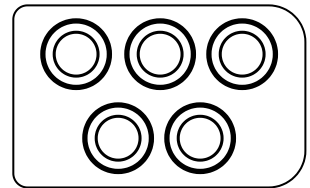
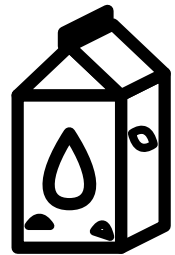
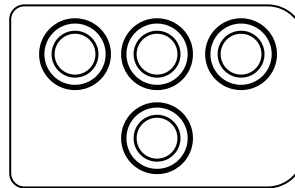
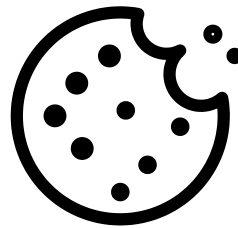
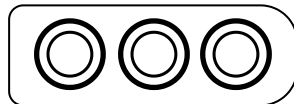
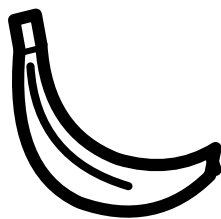
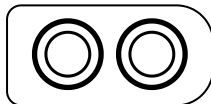
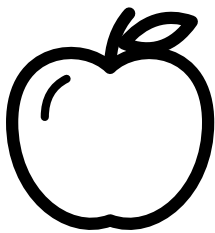
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Snack with 10 coins

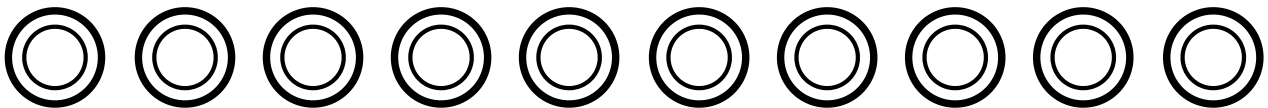
READ ALOUD You have 10 coins for snacks. Circle what you want. Cross out one coin for each coin on its tag.

1. Circle what you want to buy.
2. Cross out the coins you spend.

You have 10 coins. What will you buy?



My coins



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: A budget runs out, so we choose what matters most.

- What did you have to leave out?
- Would you save some coins? Why?

Extend it: At the store, give your child a few coins to choose and pay for a snack.

I felt:    (color one)



Scan for the app

Need or want?

READ ALOUD We need some things to stay healthy and warm. Others we just want. Glue each card in Need or Want.

1. Cut out the 6 cards.
2. Glue each one in Need or Want.

Need

glue here

glue here

glue here

Want

glue here

glue here

glue here



kite



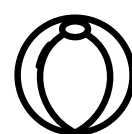
milk



ice cream



coat



ball



toothbrush

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Telling needs from wants is the first step to spending wisely.

- Is it OK to want things?
- What do you need every day?

Extend it: Before you shop, sort the list together into needs and wants.

I felt:



(color one)



Scan for the app

Move like animals

READ ALOUD Hop like a frog, stretch like a cat, and balance on one leg like a bird! Color a box each day you do it.

1. Try each animal move.
2. Color a box each day you do it.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
 hop	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
 stretch	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
 balance	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Hopping, stretching and balancing build strong, steady bodies.

- Which move was the hardest?
- Can you balance for longer by day 7?

Extend it: Count how long your child can stand on one leg, then try the other leg.

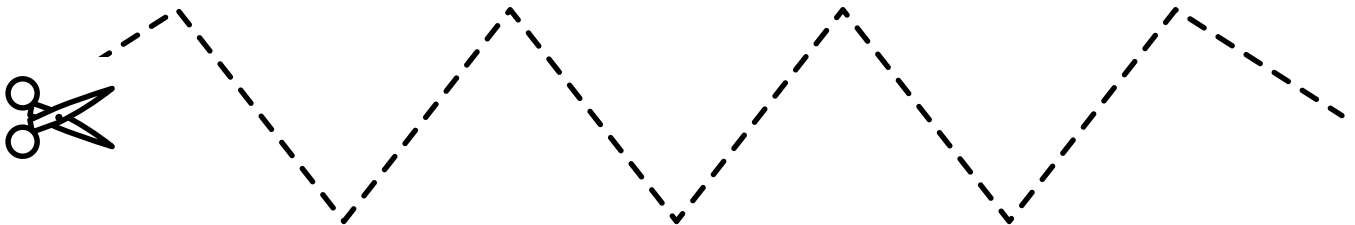
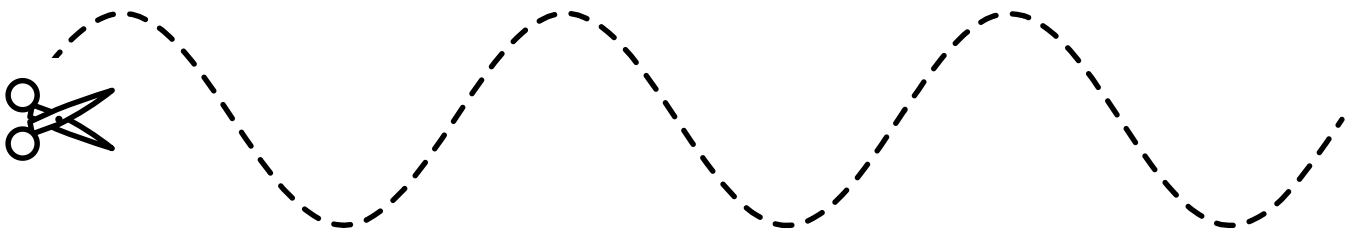
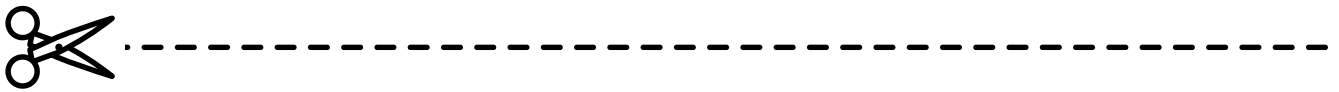
I felt:    (color one)



Snip snip

READ ALOUD Snip, snip! Cut along each dotted line, from the scissors right to the edge. Go slowly and stay on the line.

1. Trace each line with your finger first.
2. Then cut along the dotted lines.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Cutting builds the hand strength and control used for writing.

- Which line was hardest to cut?
- How did you stay on the line?

Extend it: Draw lines on old magazine pages to cut, then make a collage.

I felt:    (color one)

CHAPTER 5

Mental models

Clever thinking tricks: think backwards, ask “and then what?”, and spot what usually happens.

8 activities inside

Before you start: Tell a grown-up about a time a clever trick helped you solve a problem.



How to make a mess

READ ALOUD Let's think backwards! How could you make your room super messy? Draw it. Then draw what keeps it tidy.

1. Draw how to make a big mess.
2. Draw what keeps your room tidy.

How to make a big mess

What keeps it tidy

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Thinking how things go wrong shows how to make them go right.

- What is the messiest idea you drew?
- Which tidy habit will you try?

Extend it: Ask "How could the morning go badly?" then turn each answer into a plan.

I felt:    (color one)



Scan for the app

And then what?

READ ALOUD Someone left the water running in the sink! What happens then? And then what? Draw each thing that happens.

1. Draw what happens next, and next.

1. The water is left on



2. Then...

3. And then...

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Asking “and then what?” shows that one thing leads to another.

- How could we stop it at the start?
- What happens if we leave the fridge open?

Extend it: Play “and then what?”: we forget our coat, and then what?

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)

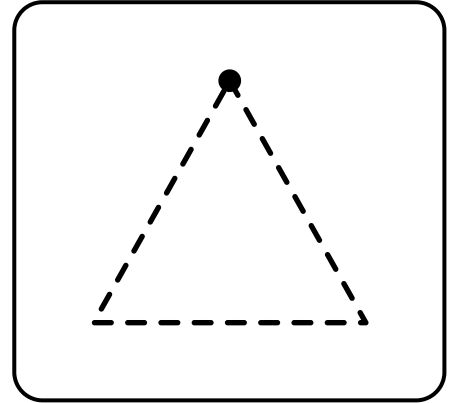
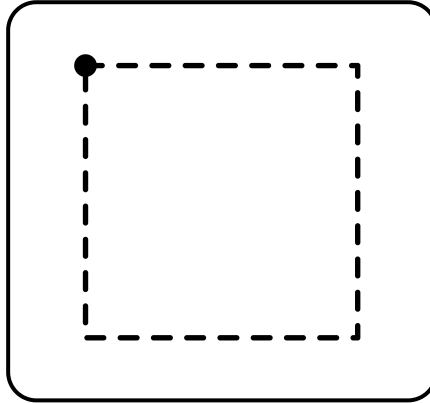
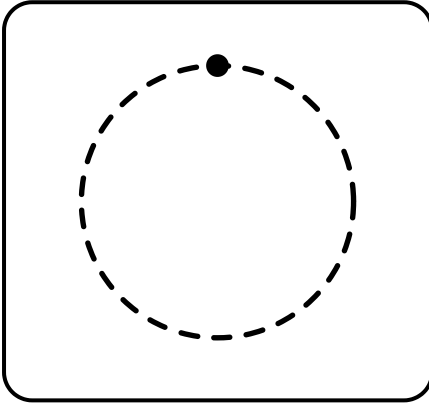


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Shapes make things

READ ALOUD Big things are made of simple shapes. Trace each one. Then build a house, car or robot from them!

1. Trace each shape.
2. Draw something made only of these shapes.



Build something from shapes

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Inventors break big things into simple parts to understand them.

- Which shapes can you find on our front door?
- What could you build with just triangles?

Extend it: Cut shapes from paper and let your child build pictures with them.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



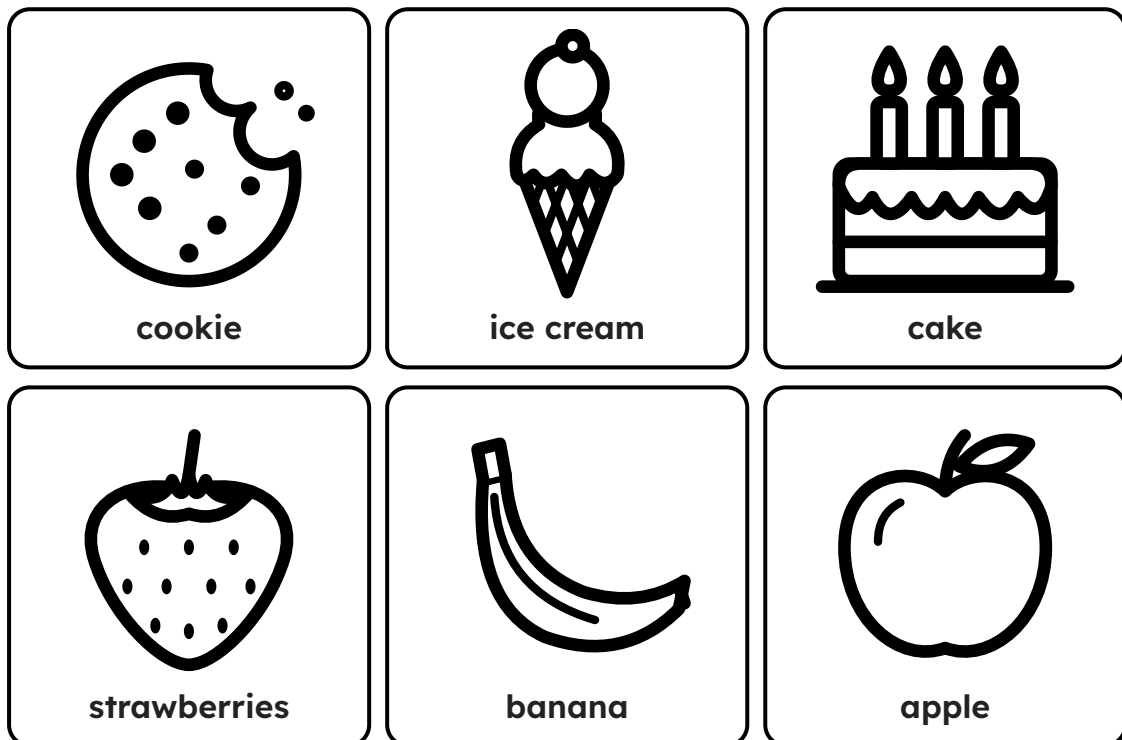
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Pick just one

READ ALOUD You can have only one treat today! Color the one you pick. Cross out the rest. What did you give up?

1. Color the one treat you pick.
2. Cross out all the others.

Color one treat. Cross out the rest.



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Every choice means giving something up; that is opportunity cost.

- Which treat was hardest to give up?
- Would you pick the same one tomorrow?

Extend it: When choosing, ask: “If we pick this, what do we give up?”

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)

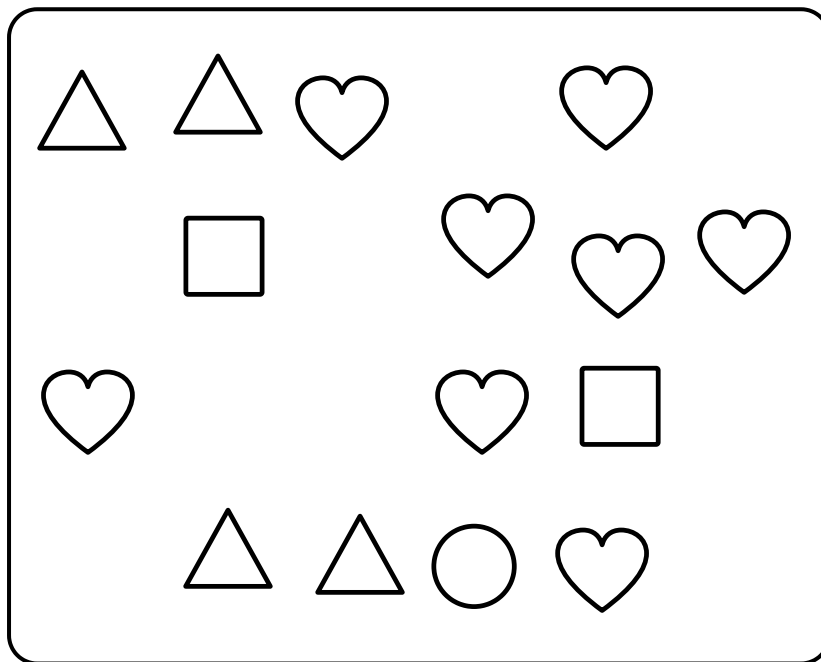


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Double it!

READ ALOUD Count each shape and color one square for each. Each number doubles! If it doubles again, how many come next?

1. Count each shape.
2. Color one square for each one.
3. If it doubles again, how many come next?



8				
7				
6				
5				
4				
3				
2				
1				
	○	□	△	♥

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: Doubling starts small, then grows fast: that is compounding.

- What comes after 16?
- Which grows faster: adding 1 each time, or doubling?

Extend it: Put 1 grain of rice on a plate, then 2, 4, 8, 16. Watch it grow!

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



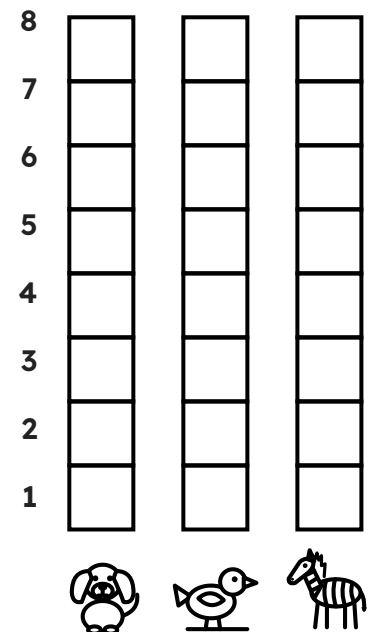
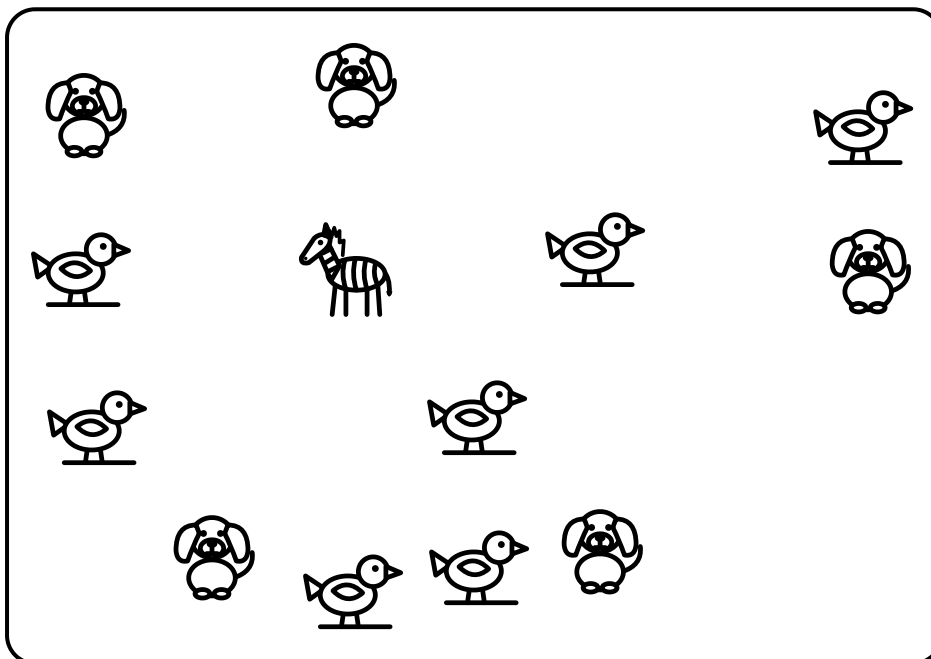
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What will you see?

READ ALOUD Here are animals spotted at a park. Count each kind. Which will you probably see at your park tomorrow?

1. Count each animal.
2. Color one square for each one.
3. Circle what you will probably see.

Which will you probably see at your park?



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: What usually happens is the best first guess: that is a base rate.

- Why are zebras rare in a park?
- Where would you probably see a zebra?

Extend it: Before a walk, guess together what you will see most, then count and check.

I felt: (color one)



Scan for the app

Map of my room

READ ALOUD Pretend you are a bird looking down at your room. Draw a map: your bed, door and window. What is missing?

1. Draw your room from above.
2. Add your bed, door and window.
3. Say what the map leaves out.

My room from above

Grown-up corner

Why it matters: A map is useful, but it never shows everything that is really there.

- What is in your room but not on your map?
- Could someone find your bed using your map?

Extend it: Hide a toy, draw a map to it, and let your child find it.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)

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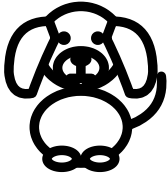


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Why did they do it?

READ ALOUD Why did they do it? Draw a line from each one to what it gets.

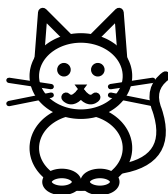
1. Draw a line to what each one gets.



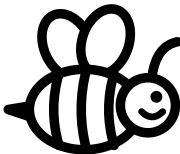
sits



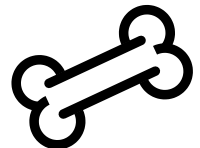
tidies up



comes home



visits



Grown-up corner

Why it matters: We all do things for a reason; spotting the reward explains a lot.

- What makes you want to tidy up?
- Why does the bee visit the flower?

Extend it: Notice a reward that worked this week and talk about why it worked.

I felt: 😊 😐 😞 (color one)



CERTIFICATE OF FUTURE-READY THINKING

I am a Little Thinker!

My name is

I finished the games in this book and practiced twenty future-ready skills.

Date

Grown-up's signature

Answer key (1/2)

Thinking



Odd one out

Row 1: shoe. Row 2: car. Row 3: fish.



Rain detective

Rain clues: umbrella, puddle, boot, rainbow. The boot is the weakest clue: a boot alone doesn't prove it rained.



What's wrong here?

Silly: fish in the tree, boot on the plate, cow on the bike, elephant in the cup.



Fix it!

Flat tire: pump. Torn page: tape. Thirsty plant: watering can. Rain: umbrella.



Best for the snow

Color: coat, mitten, scarf, boot.



Pick a sock

Striped socks: 7. Plain socks: 2. You will probably grab a striped sock, because there are more of them.



Will it happen?

Will: sun comes up, go to bed. Might: it rains, eat a cookie. Won't: dog flies, fish walks.



What happens next?

Seed: flower. Egg: chick. Cloud: rain. Baby: child.



Real or made-up?

Real: cat, frog, elephant. Made-up: unicorn, dragon, mermaid.



Whose shadow?

Elephant: 3rd shadow. Rabbit: 4th shadow. Snail: 2nd shadow. Butterfly: 1st shadow.

Self



Count carefully

Birds: 4. Bees: 7. Butterflies: 5. Most: bees.



Finish the pattern

Row 1: sun. Row 2: cat. Row 3: striped sock.

Answer key (2/2)

People



Tell the story

First: egg. Next: chick. Last: hen.



Kind or not kind?

Kind: share, hug, help up. Not kind: push, laugh at, grab.



Fair share

Each friend gets 3 strawberries. Two empty spaces on each plate are fine.

Doing



Tell the robot: brush teeth

First: toothpaste. Next: brush. Then: rinse. Last: smile!



Robot to the cookie

One way: up, right, right, right, up, up. (Right, up, right, right, up, up works too.)



Snack with 10 coins

Any total of 10 coins or less, like apple, banana and cookie (9). All four cost 14: too much!



Need or want?

Need: milk, coat, toothbrush. Want: kite, ice cream, ball.

Mental models



Double it!

Circle 1, square 2, triangle 4, heart 8. Each one doubles, so 16 comes next.



What will you see?

Dogs 5, birds 7, zebra 1. Dogs and birds are common; zebras are rare in a park.



Why did they do it?

Dog: bone (a treat). Child: book (story time). Cat: fish dish (dinner). Bee: flower (sweet nectar).
