

Let's Learn **COLORS & SHAPES**

- Meets national standards for early childhood
- Builds fine motor skills while teaching color and shape recognition
- Includes step-by-step lessons that increase in difficulty
- Features detailed parent instructions along with simple directions for children



Let's Learn
**COLORS &
SHAPES**

Spectrum
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Welcome to the *Let's Learn Series*

The early years of your child's life are the most critical for development—both cognitively and physically. It is important that you nurture your child's growing interest in the world around him or her. It is also essential to prepare your child with the basic skills and fine motor skills necessary for the school years ahead. Basic skills include concepts such as the alphabet, numbers, colors, and shapes. Fine motor skills are movements that are produced by small muscles or muscle groups. Children in preschool spend a lot of their day developing these muscles in their hands. Developed motor skills are the key to success in school.

Young children learn best when they are actively involved in the learning process. *Let's Learn Colors & Shapes* features whimsical hands-on activities that children will love to complete. The activities encourage children to practice their fine motor skills while learning the simple concepts of colors and shapes. Your child's little fingers will bend, twist, pinch, and pull as he or she learns more about the colors and shapes in the world around him or her! The activities focus on one concept at a time, so your child can master each skill before moving on.



Help your child complete the activities in this book. There are directions for parents and simplified directions for the child. Allow your child to decipher and explore the activity on his or her own, but provide guidance when needed. Encourage your child to be as creative as possible when completing the activities. Most importantly, enjoy working through the book with your child. The time you invest in your child's development is priceless and will reap countless rewards for years to come.

Introduce your child to *Let's Learn Colors & Shapes* today and watch him or her succeed tomorrow!

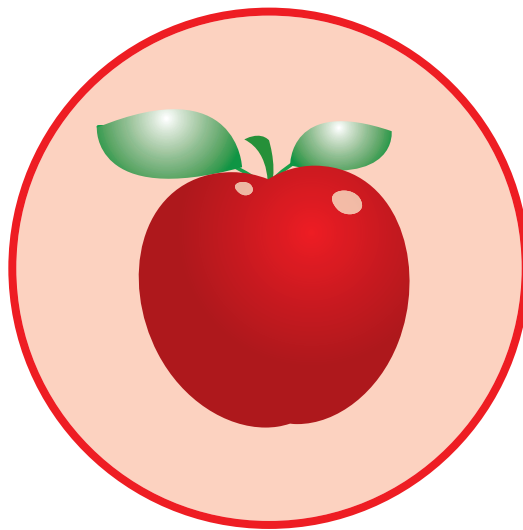
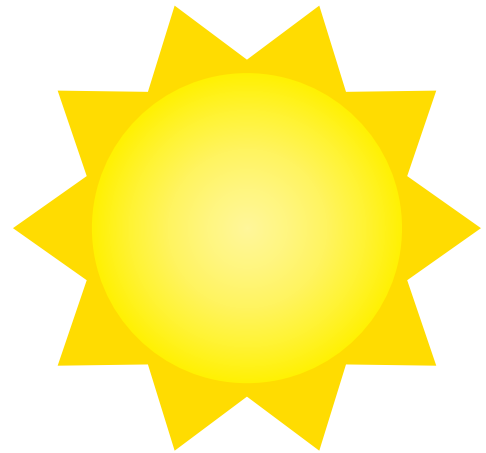
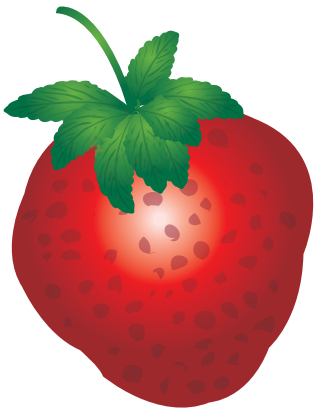


The Color Red

Skill: Recognizing the color **red**

Directions: Point to the apple. Explain to your child that the apple is **red**. Have your child point to all of the **red** objects on the page.

Point to the **red** objects.



red

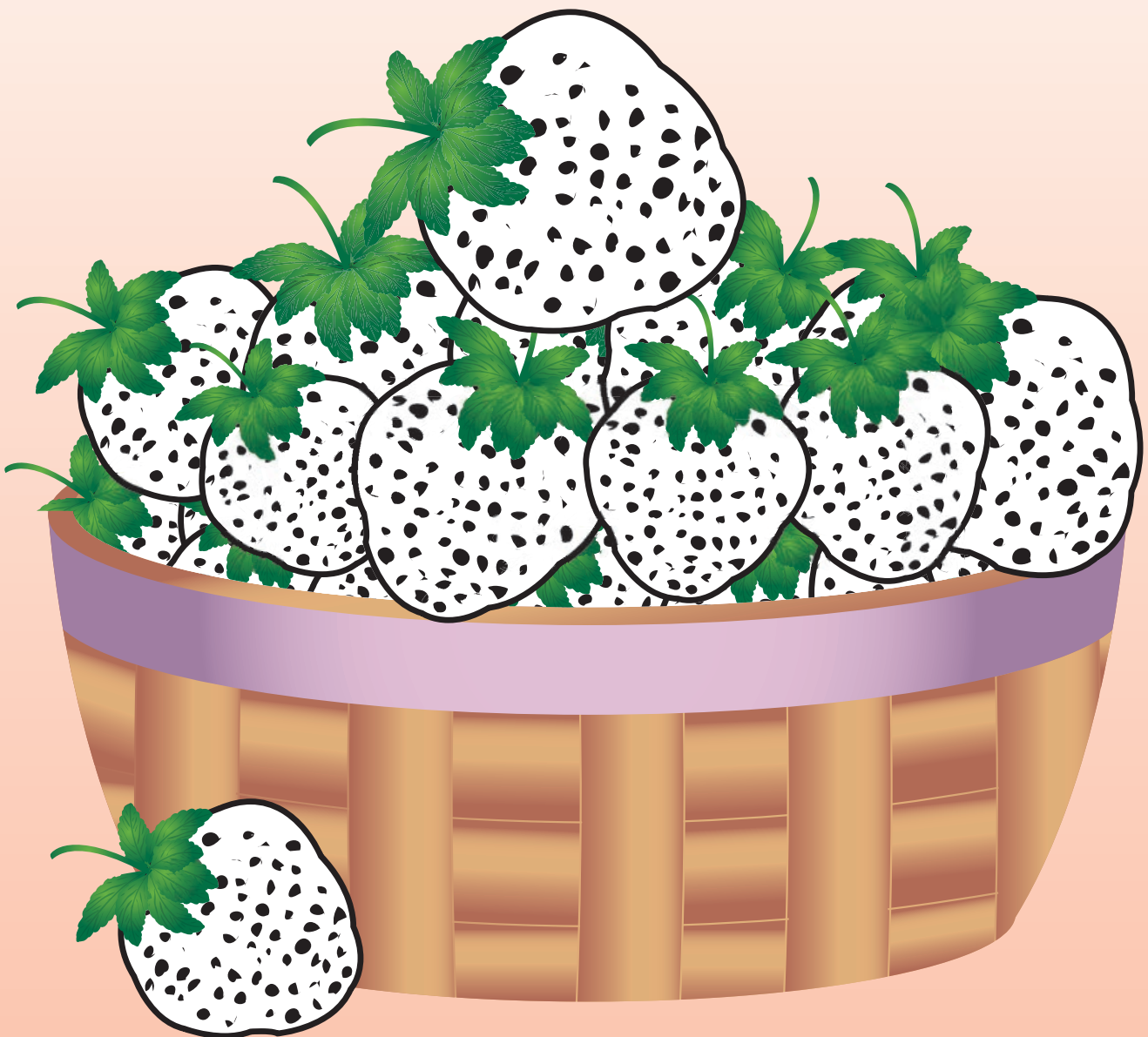


Strawberries Are Red!

Skill: Identifying the color **red**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **red** crayon. Encourage your child to color the strawberries **red**.

Choose the **red** crayon. Color the strawberries.



The Color Orange

Skill: Recognizing the color **orange**

Directions: Point to the pumpkin. Explain to your child that the pumpkin is **orange**. Have your child circle all of the **orange** objects on the page.

Circle the **orange** objects.

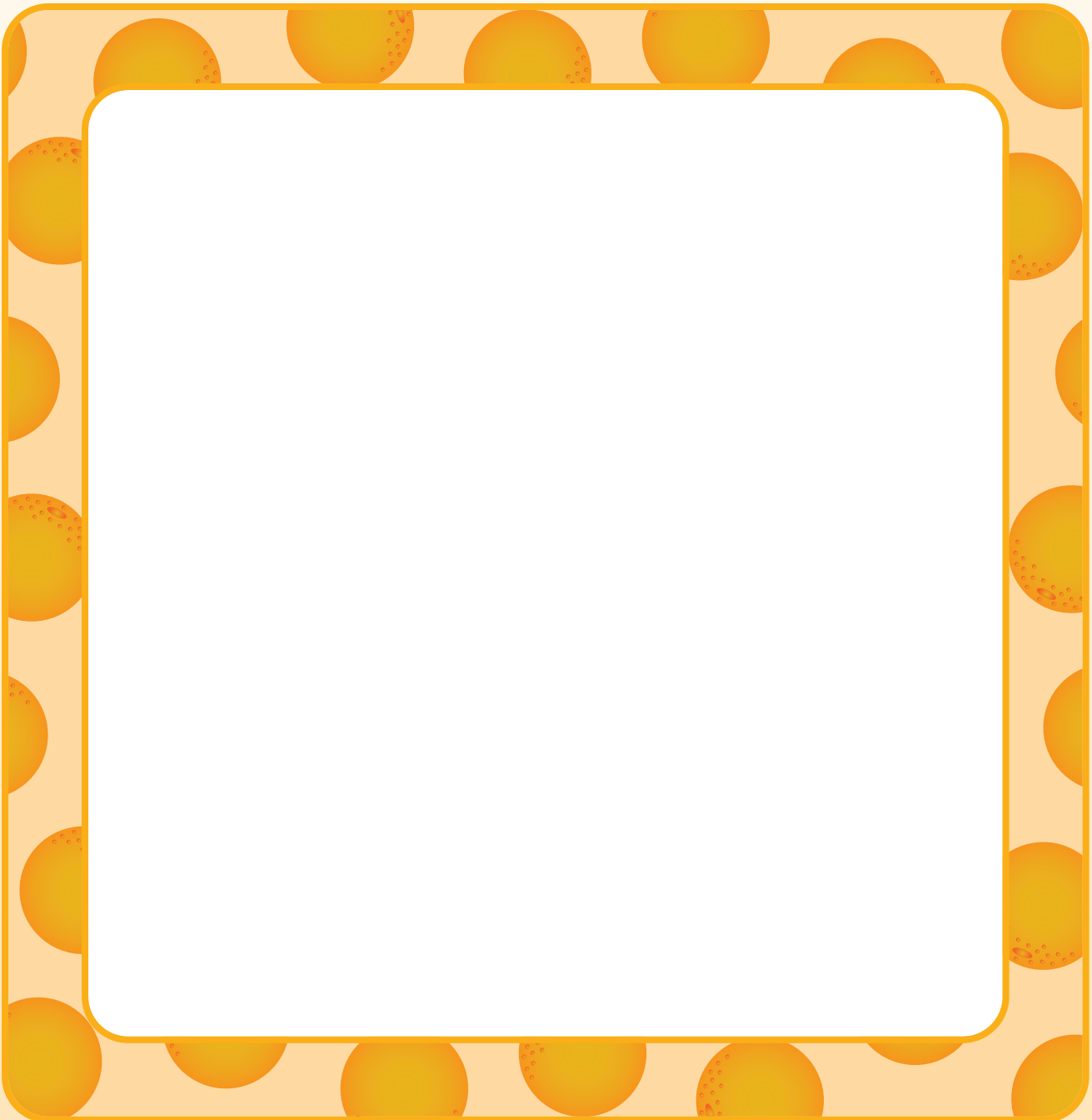


Orange, Orange

Skill: Identifying the color **orange**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **orange** crayon. Explain to your child that **orange** is the name of a color and the name of a fruit. Encourage your child to draw a picture of an **orange** in the frame below.

Choose the **orange** crayon. Draw an **orange**.

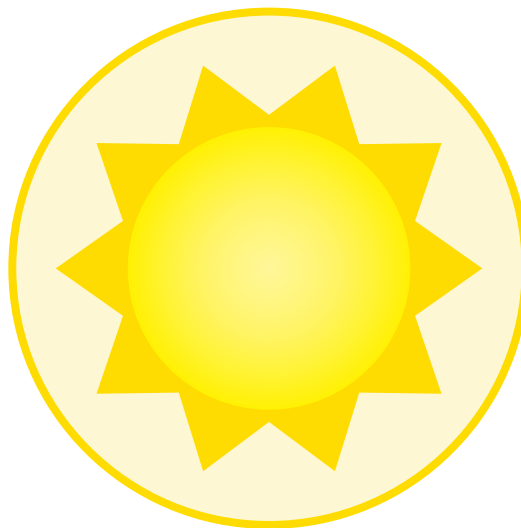
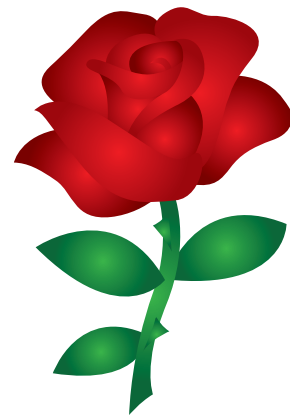


The Color Yellow

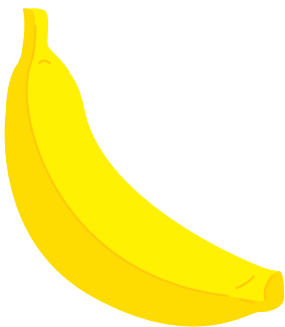
Skill: Recognizing the color **yellow**

Directions: Point to the sun. Explain to your child that the sun is **yellow**. Have your child draw a line from each **yellow** object on the page to the sun.

Draw a line to the sun.



yellow

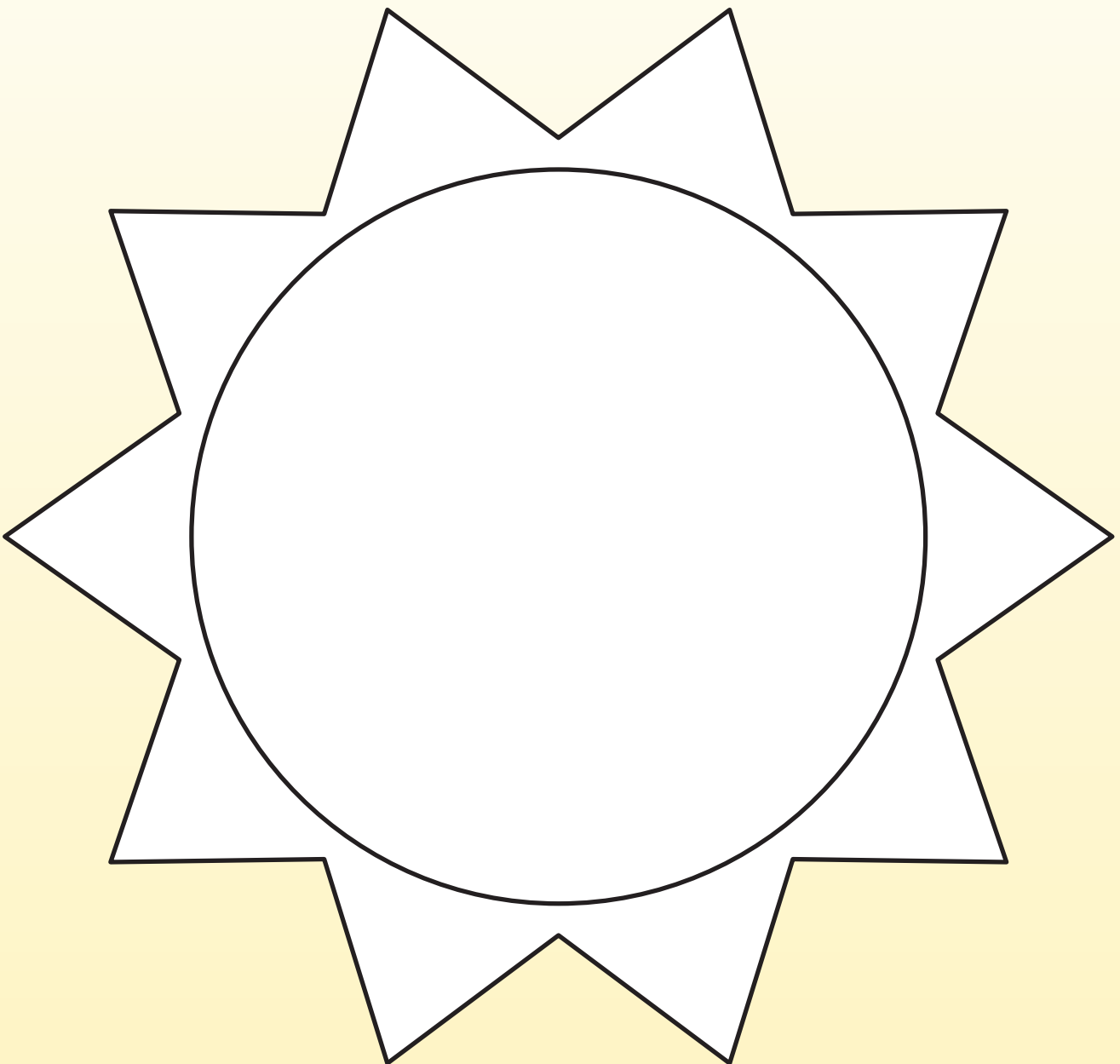


Sun Collage

Skill: Identifying the color **yellow**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **yellow** crayon. Encourage your child to color the sun **yellow**. Then, have your child rip a sheet of **yellow** paper into tiny pieces. Help your child paste the pieces to the sun.

Choose the **yellow** crayon. Color the sun. Rip the paper. Paste the pieces.

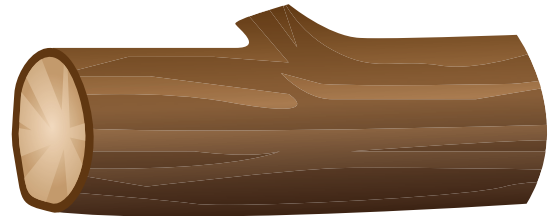


The Color Green

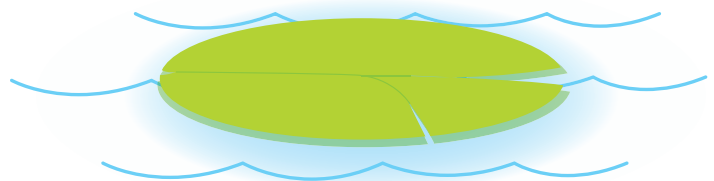
Skill: Recognizing the color **green**

Directions: Point to the frog. Explain to your child that the frog is **green**. Have your child draw an **X** on the **green** objects on the page.

Draw an **X** on the **green** objects.



green

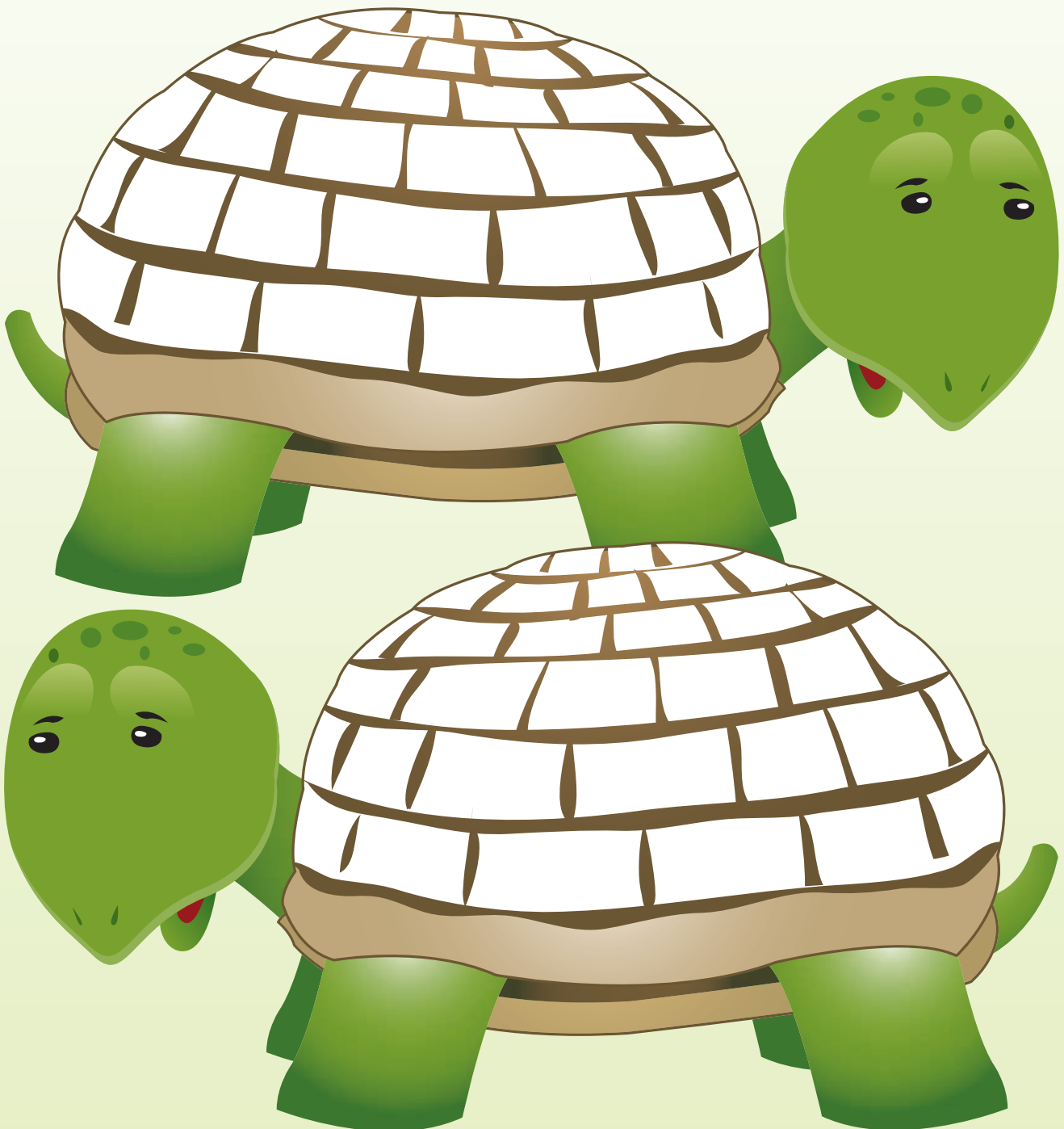


Turtles Are Green

Skill: Identifying the color **green**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **green** crayon. Encourage your child to color the turtles' shells **green**.

Choose the **green** crayon. Color the turtles.

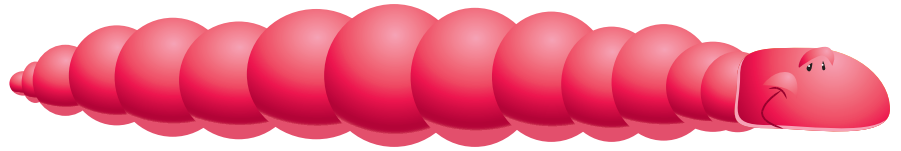
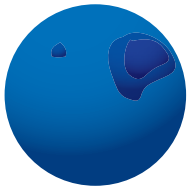


The Color Blue

Skill: Recognizing the color **blue**

Directions: Point to the butterfly. Explain to your child that the butterfly is **blue**. Have your child draw a line under each **blue** object on the page.

Draw a line under each **blue** object.



blue



Blue Eggs

Skill: Identifying the color **blue**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **blue** crayon. Encourage your child to draw **blue** eggs in the bird's nest below.

Choose the **blue** crayon. Draw **blue** eggs.

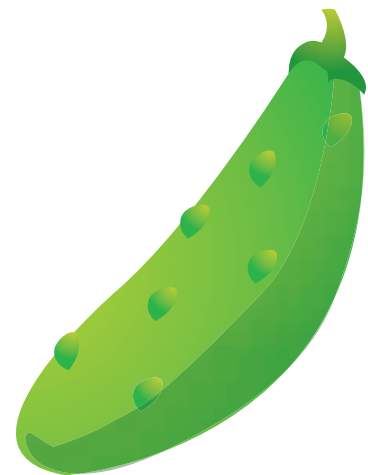
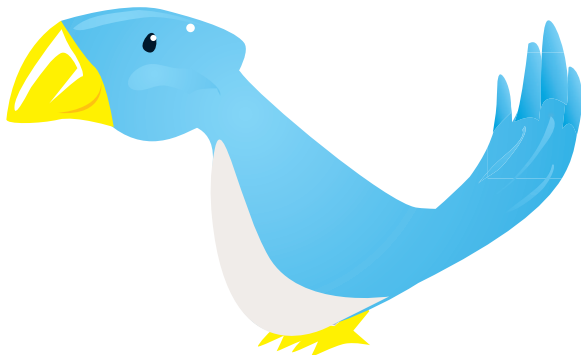
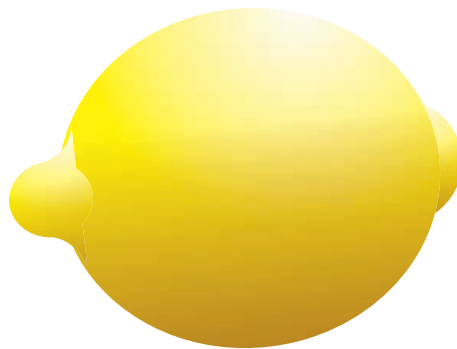
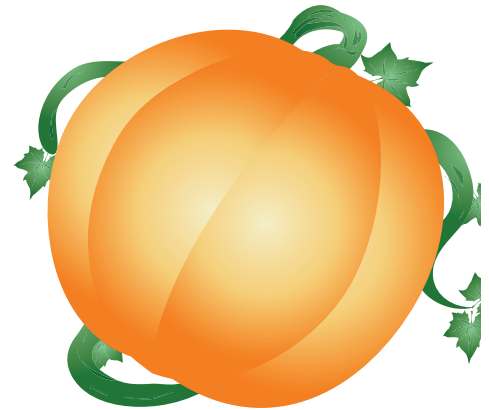
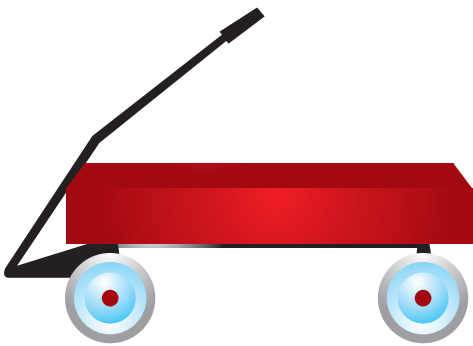


Color Review: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue

Skill: Recognizing the colors red, orange, yellow, green, and blue

Directions: Say, "I spy" and the name of a color aloud to your child. Ask your child to point to the object of that color. Continue saying the colors aloud until your child has pointed to each object correctly.

Point to the objects.

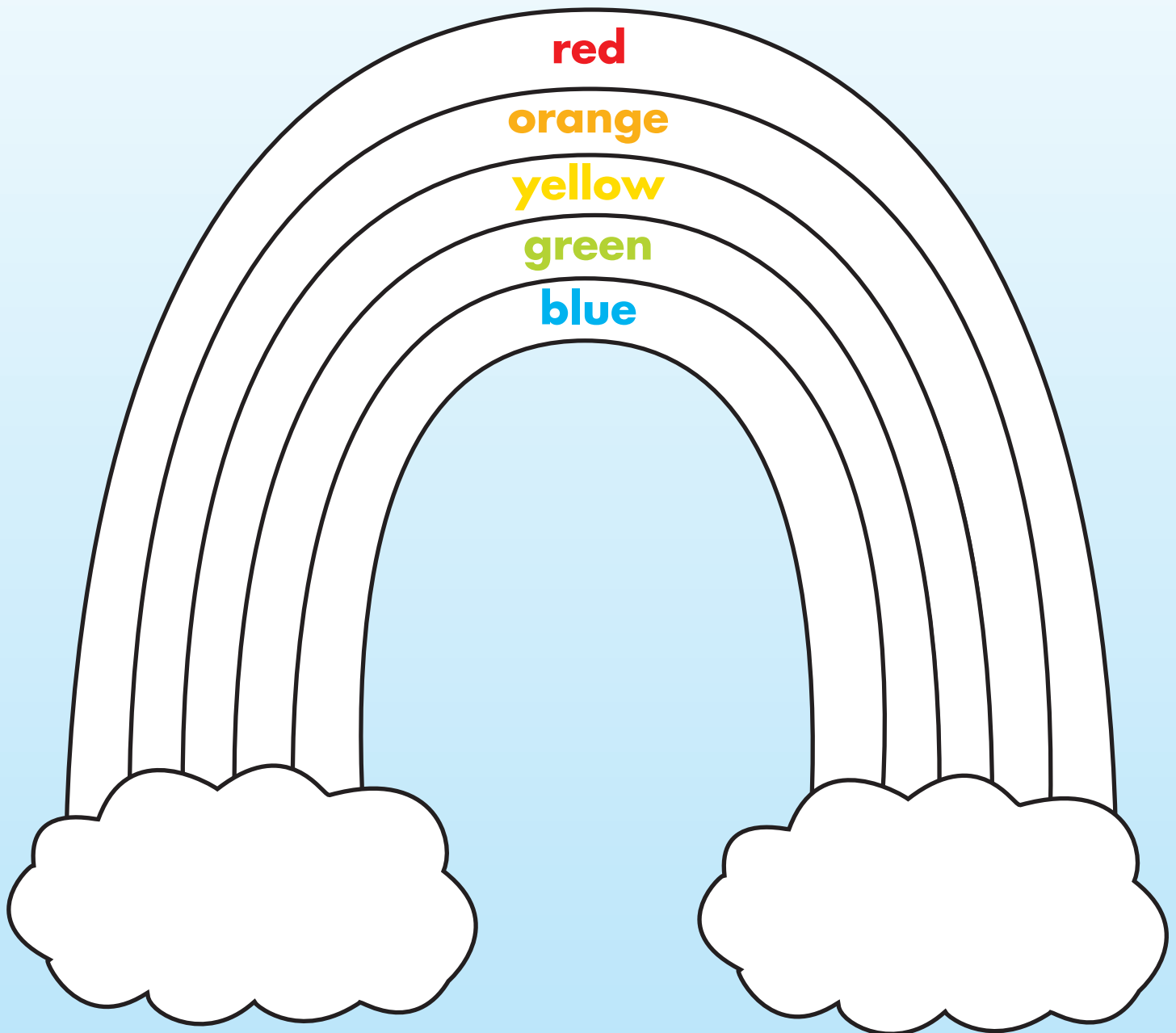


Color Review: Radiant Rainbow

Skill: Identifying colors **red**, **orange**, **yellow**, **green**, and **blue**

Directions: Give your child crayons of different colors. Have your child color the rainbow the correct colors.

Color the rainbow.

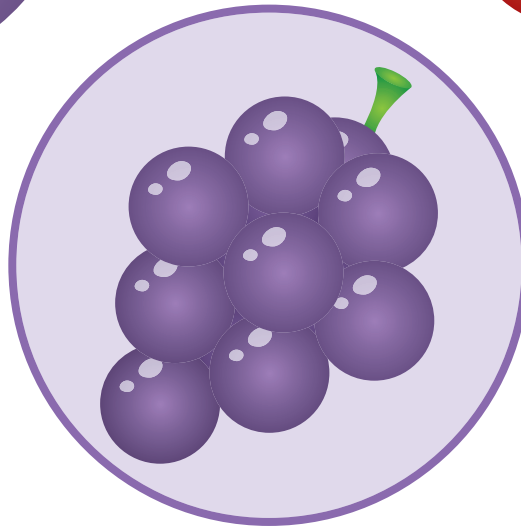
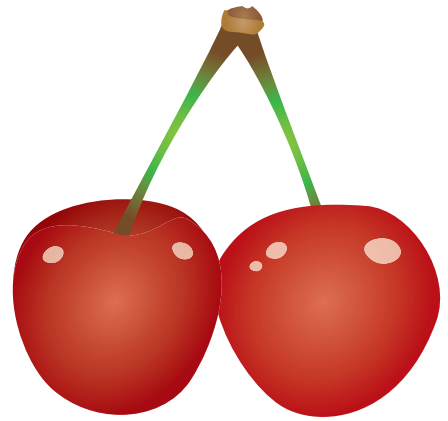
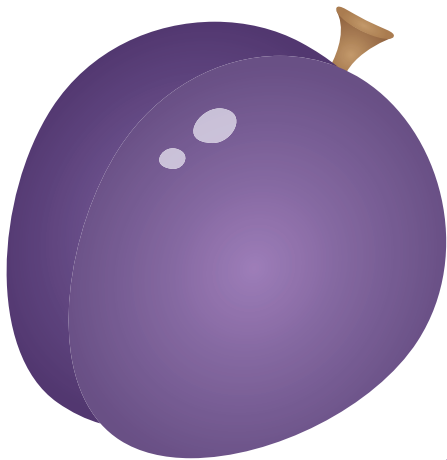


The Color Purple

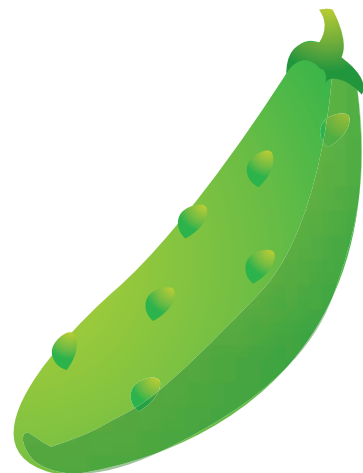
Skill: Recognizing the color **purple**

Directions: Point to the grapes. Explain to your child that the grapes are **purple**. Have your child point to all of the **purple** objects on the page.

Point to the **purple** objects.



purple

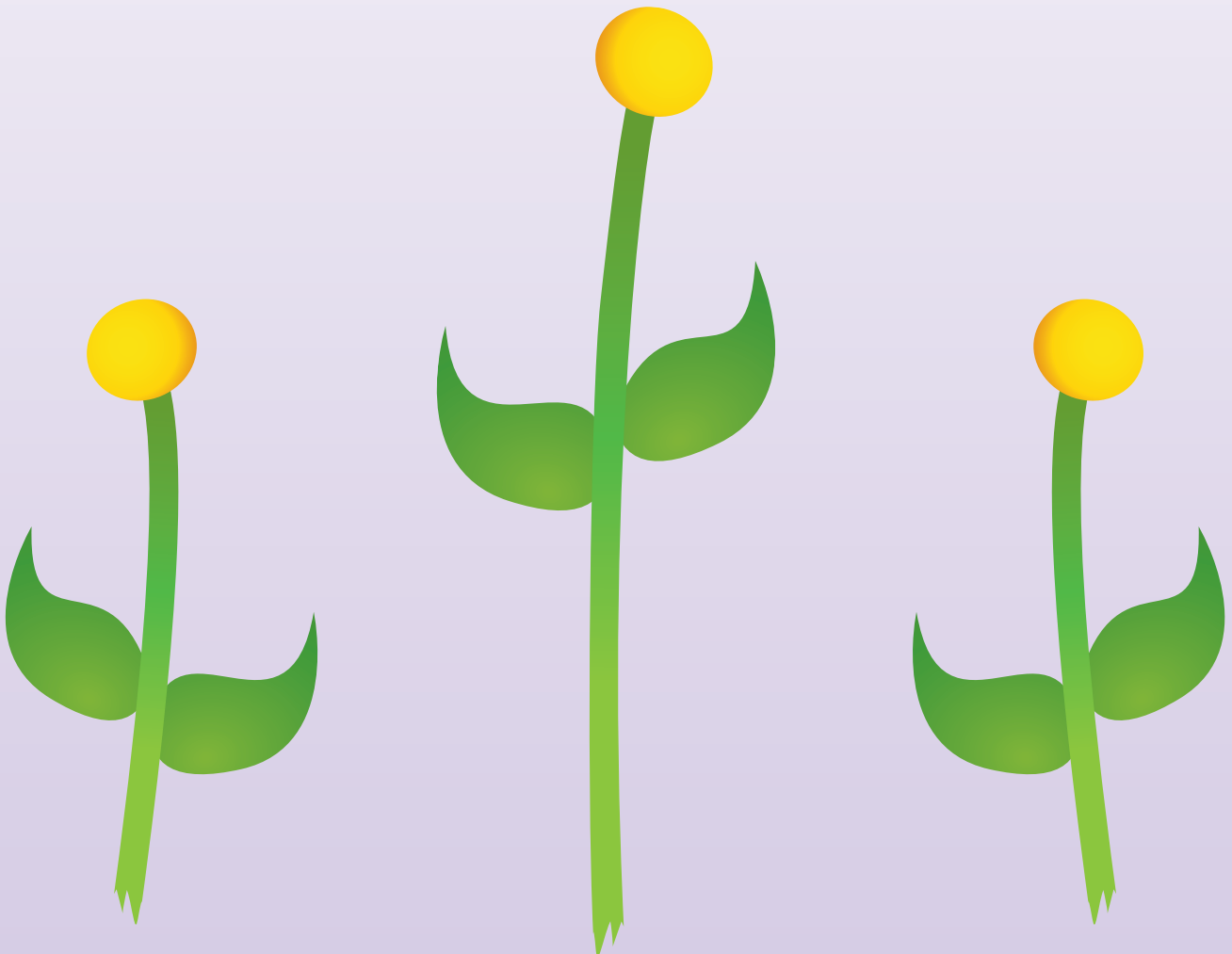


Paint the Petals

Skill: Identifying the color **purple**

Directions: You will need finger paint or water-based paint for this activity. Ask your child to choose the **purple** paint container from the group. Have your child use his or her thumb to make thumbprint petals on the flowers below. (You can have your child practice on a sheet of scrap paper first.) Let the paint dry completely.

Choose the **purple** paint. Use your thumb to make flower petals.

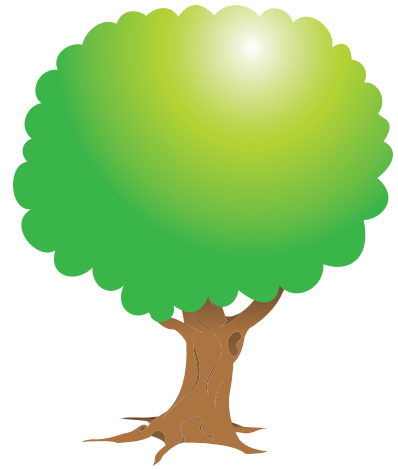


The Color Pink

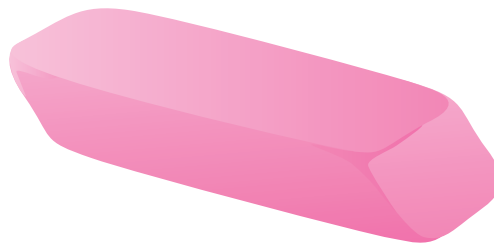
Skill: Recognizing the color **pink**

Directions: Point to the flamingo. Explain to your child that the flamingo is **pink**. Have your child circle all of the **pink** objects on the page.

Circle the **pink** objects.



pink

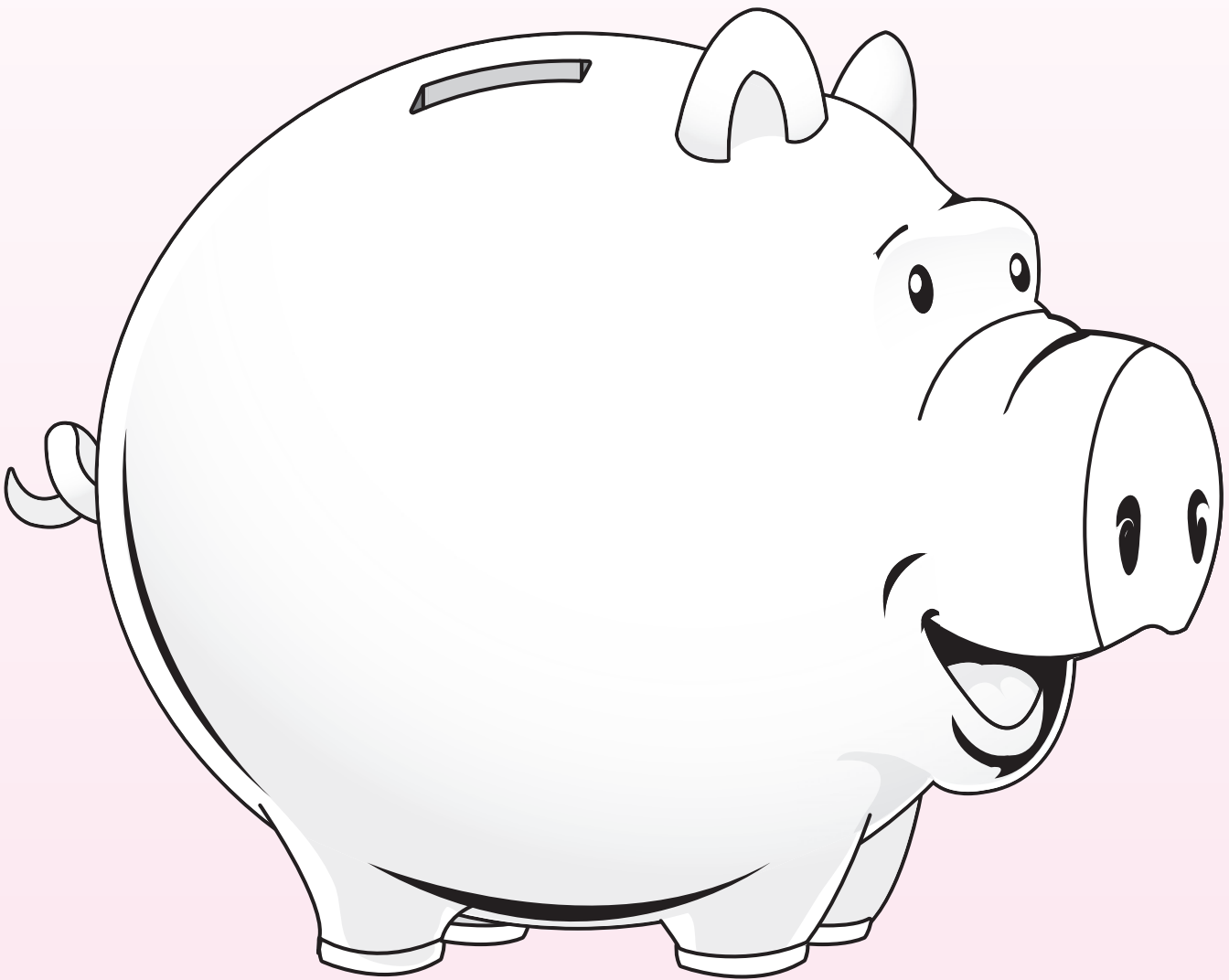


Pink Piggy Bank

Skill: Identifying the color **pink**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **pink** crayon. Encourage your child to color the piggy bank **pink**. Then, help your child paste pennies to the piggy bank. Let the glue dry completely. (Safety Tip: Never leave your child alone with small objects.)

Choose the **pink** crayon. Color the piggy bank. Paste the pennies.

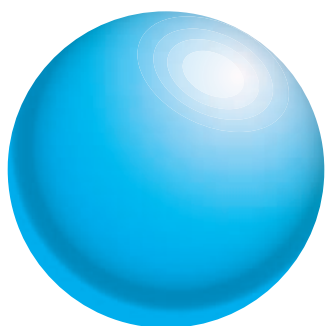
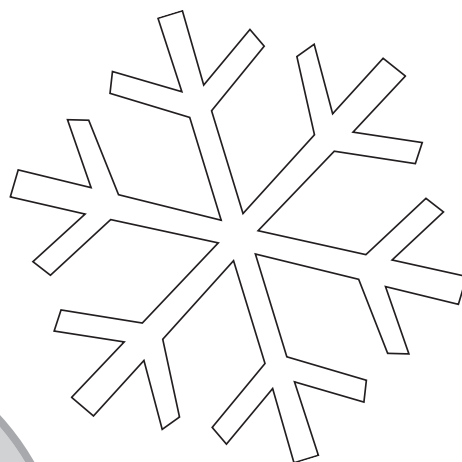


The Color Gray

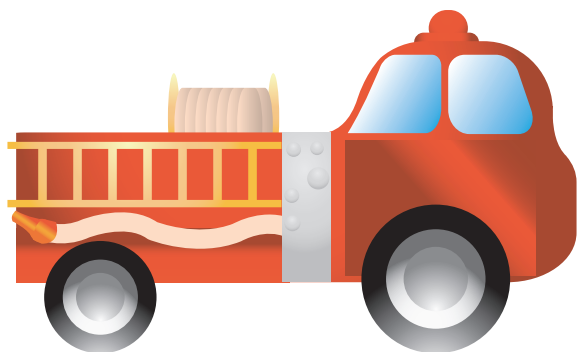
Skill: Recognizing the color **gray**

Directions: Point to the elephant. Explain to your child that the elephant is **gray**. Have your child draw a line from each **gray** object on the page to the elephant.

Draw a line to the elephant.



gray

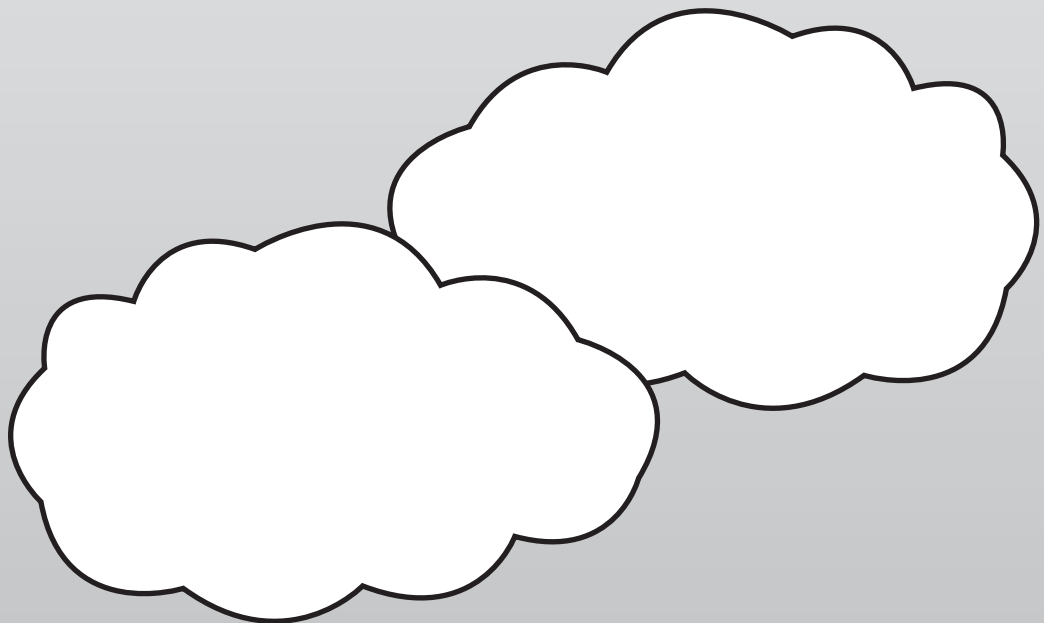


Gray Rain Clouds

Skill: Identifying the color **gray**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **gray** crayon. Have your child color the clouds **gray**. Encourage your child to draw raindrops beneath the clouds.

Choose the **gray** crayon. Color the rain clouds. Draw raindrops.

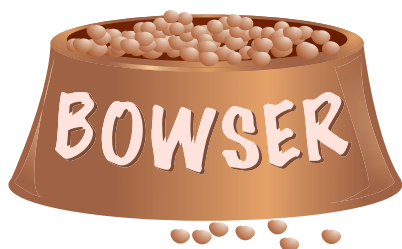


The Color Brown

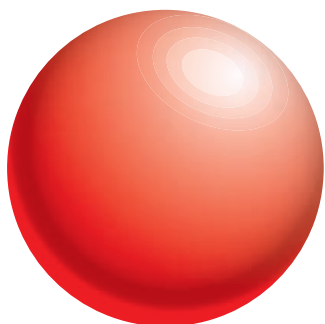
Skill: Recognizing the color **brown**

Directions: Point to the dog. Explain to your child that the dog is **brown**. Have your child draw an **X** on the **brown** objects on the page.

Draw an **X** on the **brown** objects.



brown



Brown Bear, Brown Bear

Skill: Identifying the color **brown**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **brown** crayon. Have your child color the bear. Then, have your child rip a **brown** paper bag into tiny pieces. Help your child paste the pieces of paper to the bear to make fur.

Choose the **brown** crayon. Color the bear. Rip the paper. Paste the pieces.

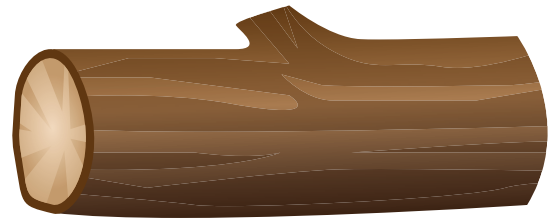


The Color Black

Skill: Recognizing the color **black**

Directions: Point to the spider. Explain to your child that the spider is **black**. Have your child draw a line under each **black** object on the page.

Draw a line under each **black** object.



black



Missing Stripes

Skill: Identifying the color **black**

Directions: Give your child several crayons of different colors. Ask your child to choose the **black** crayon. Have your child draw **black** stripes on the zebra.

Choose the **black** crayon. Draw stripes on the zebra.



The Color White

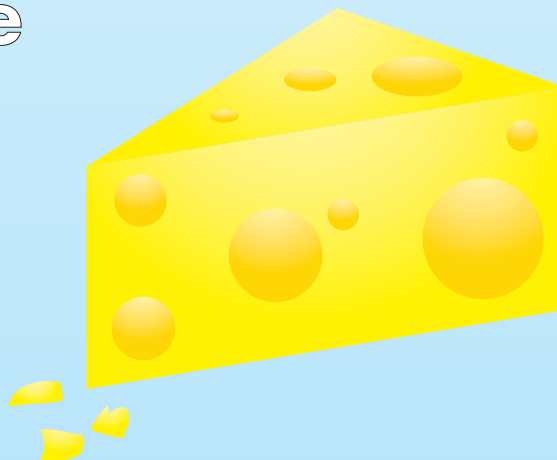
Skill: Recognizing the color white

Directions: Point to the rabbit. Explain to your child that the rabbit is white. Have your child point to all of the white objects on the page.

Point to the white objects.



white



Sparkly Snowflake

Skill: Identifying the color *white*

Directions: Help your child trace over the snowflake with glue. Have your child sprinkle sugar or salt over the glue. Let the glue dry completely.

Trace the snowflake with glue. Sprinkle sugar on the glue.

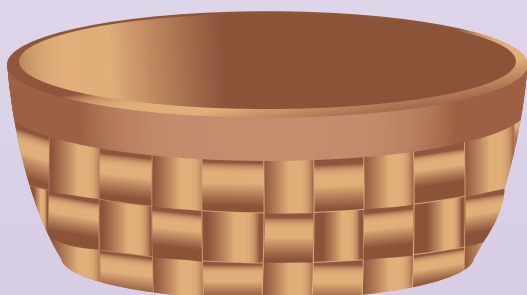
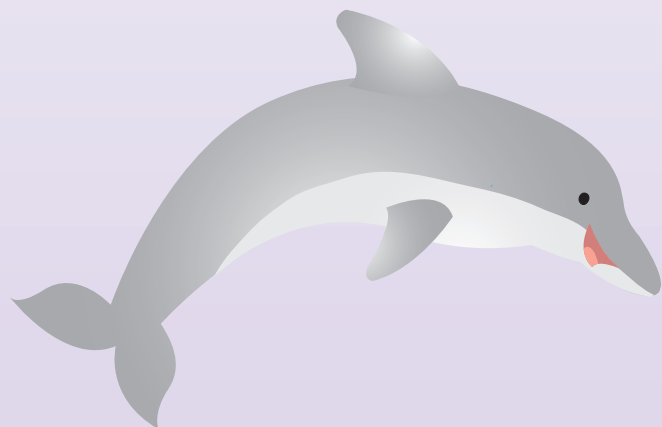


Color Review: Purple, Pink, Gray, Brown, Black, White

Skill: Recognizing colors purple, pink, gray, brown, black, and white

Directions: Say the name of a color aloud to your child. Ask your child to circle the object of that color with a matching-colored crayon. Continue saying the colors aloud until your child has circled each object correctly.

Circle the objects.

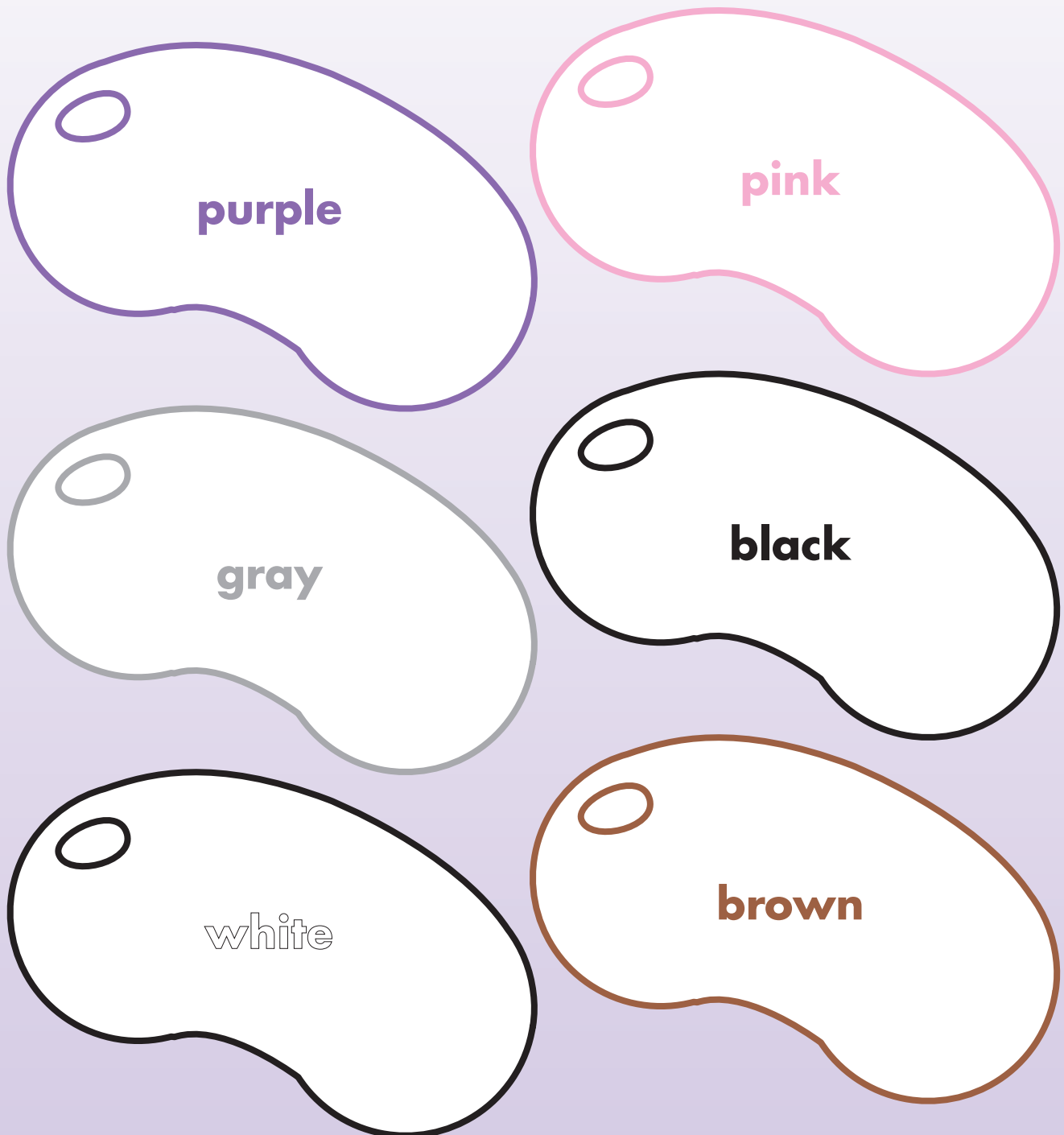


Color Activity: Yummy Jellybeans

Skill: Identifying colors **purple**, **pink**, **gray**, **brown**, **black**, and **white**

Directions: Give your child crayons of different colors. Have your child color the jellybeans the correct colors.

Color the jellybeans.

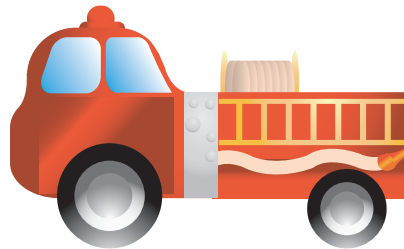


Color Activity: Crayon Color Match

Skills: Recognizing and matching colors

Directions: Point to each crayon. Have your child say the name of the crayon color aloud. Ask your child to draw a line from each crayon to the object of the same color.

Draw a line to match the colors.

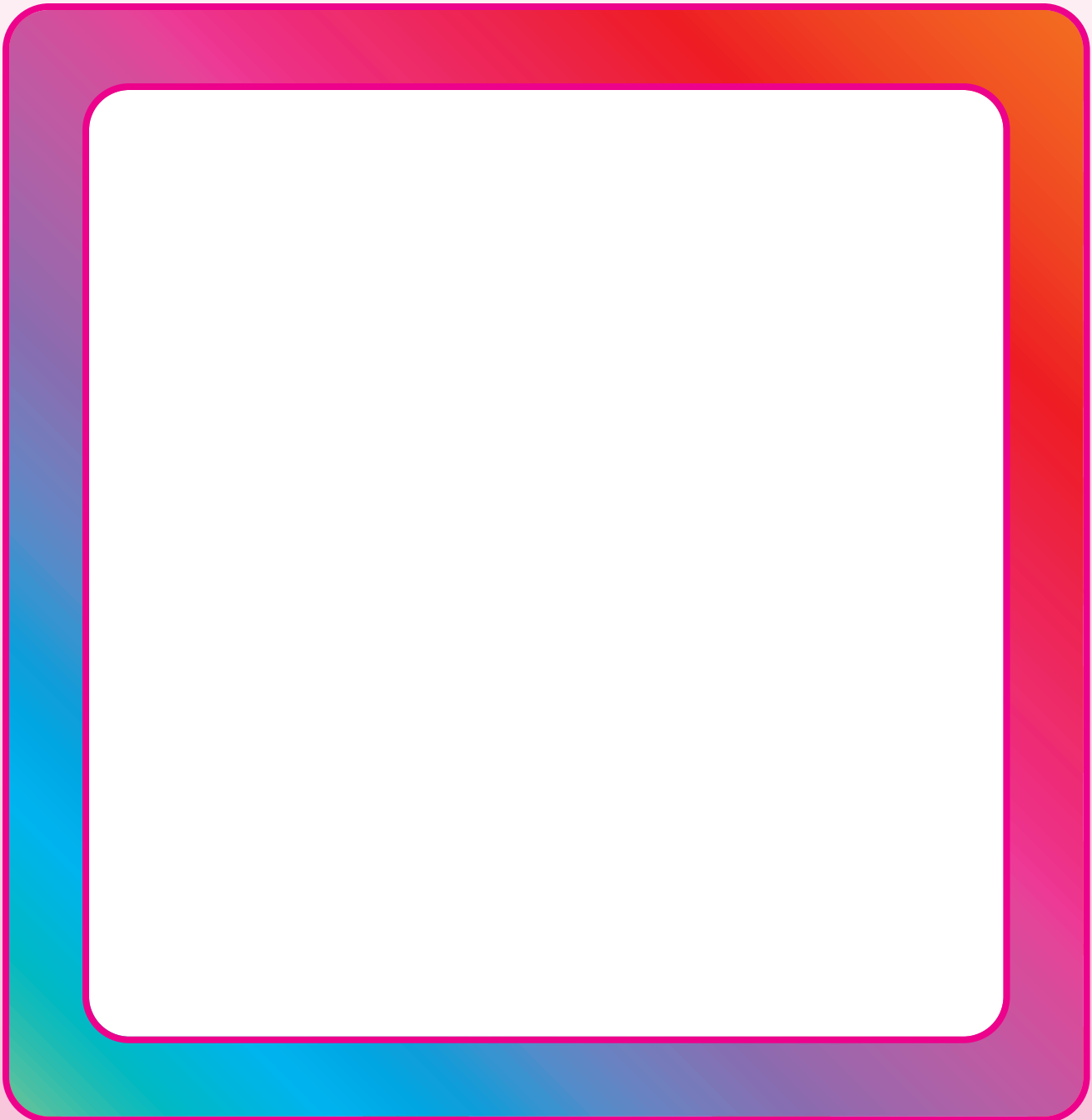


Color Activity: Paste the Pictures

Skill: Identifying colors

Directions: Look through several old magazines with your child. Say the name of a color aloud. Have your child look for an object of that color. Help your child rip out the picture and paste it below.

Look for the color. Paste the picture.



Color Activity: Color the Clown

Skill: Identifying colors

Directions: Give your child crayons of different colors. Have your child color the clown the correct colors.

Color the clown.



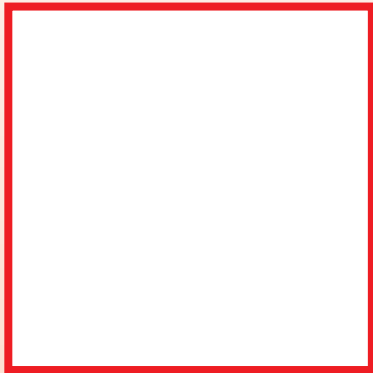
Color Activity: Color Boxes

Skill: Identifying colors

Directions: Give your child small squares of different colored paper. Help your child paste the paper in the correct boxes.

Paste the paper in the boxes.

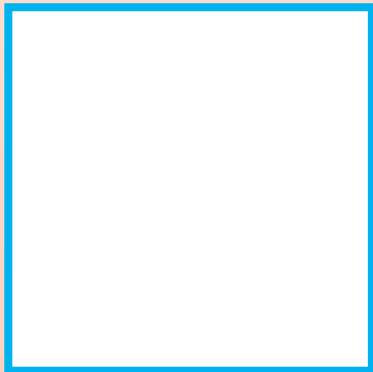
red



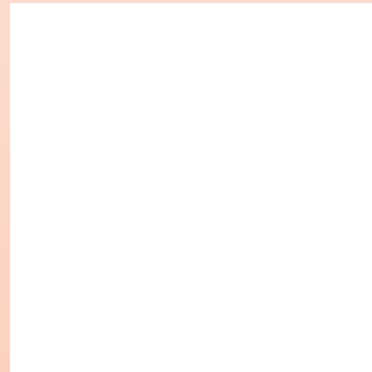
orange



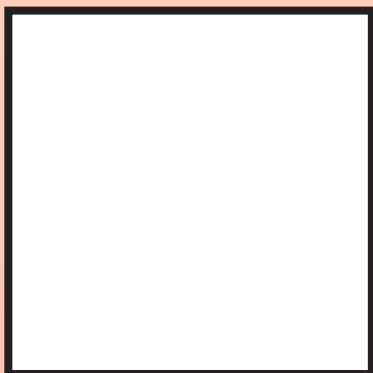
blue



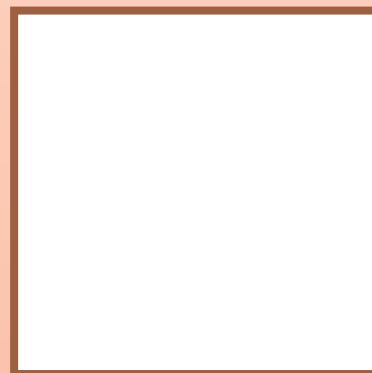
white



black



brown

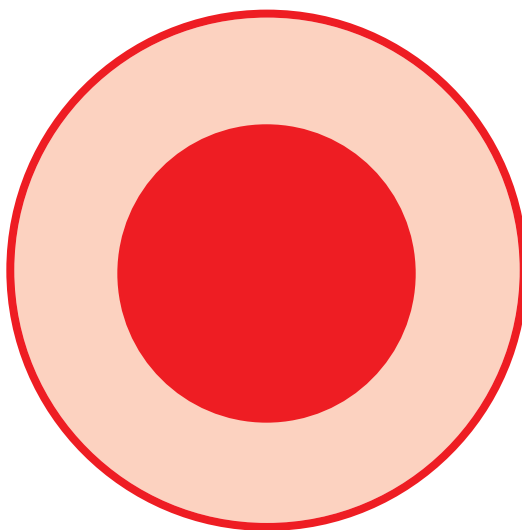


Circle

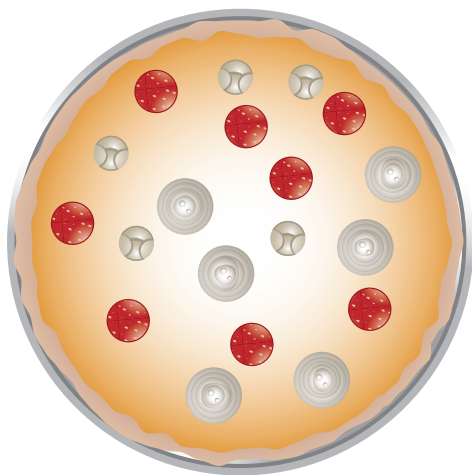
Skill: Recognizing a **circle**

Directions: Point to the **circle**. Explain to your child that this is a **circle**. Ask your child to point to all of the **circles** on the page.

Point to the **circles**.



circle

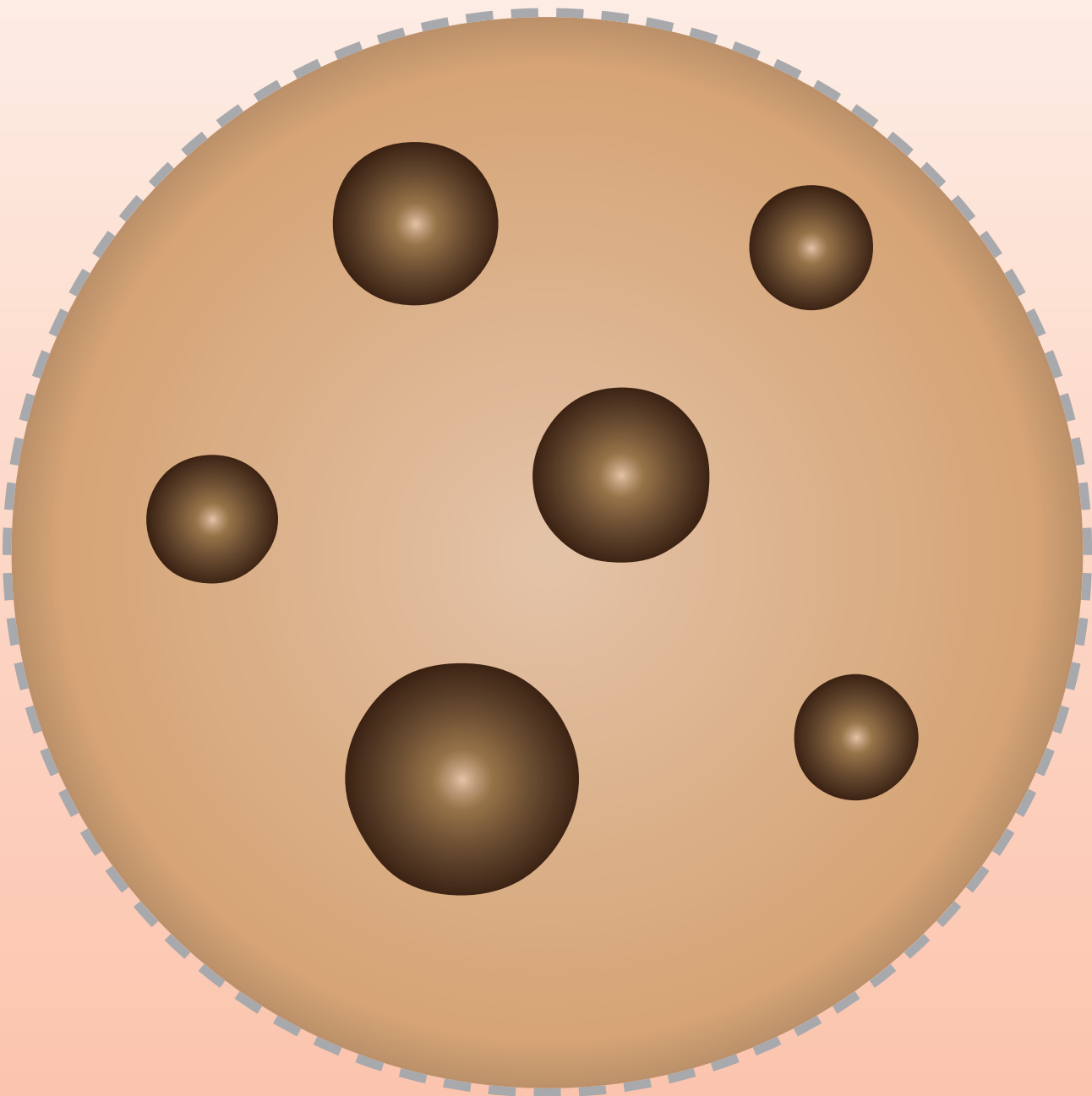


Cookie, Cookie

Skill: Drawing a **circle**

Directions: Explain to your child that the cookie is a **circle**. Encourage your child to trace the outline of the cookie with his or her finger. Then, have your child trace the outline of the cookie with a crayon.

Trace the cookie with your finger. Trace the cookie with a crayon.

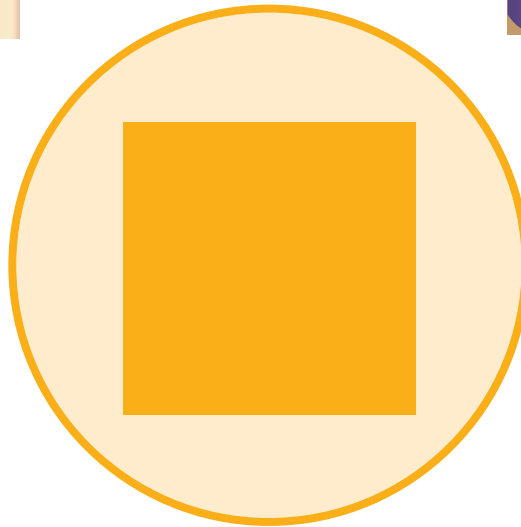
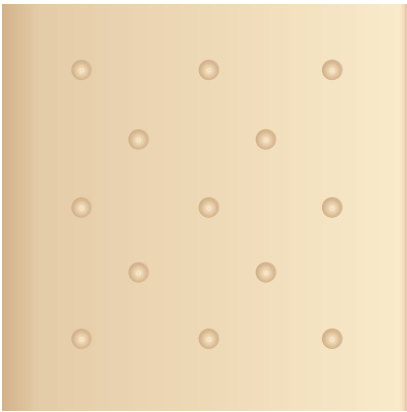


Square

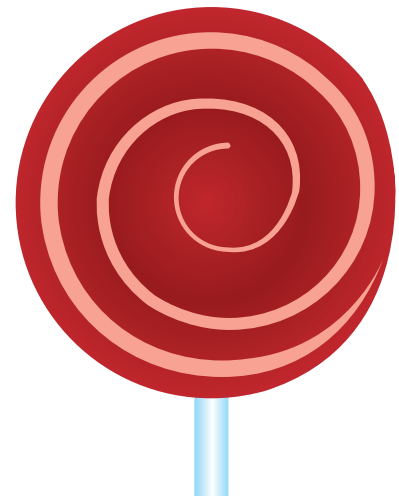
Skill: Recognizing a **square**

Directions: Point to the **square**. Explain to your child that this is a square. Have your child circle all of the **squares** on the page.

Circle the **squares**.



square

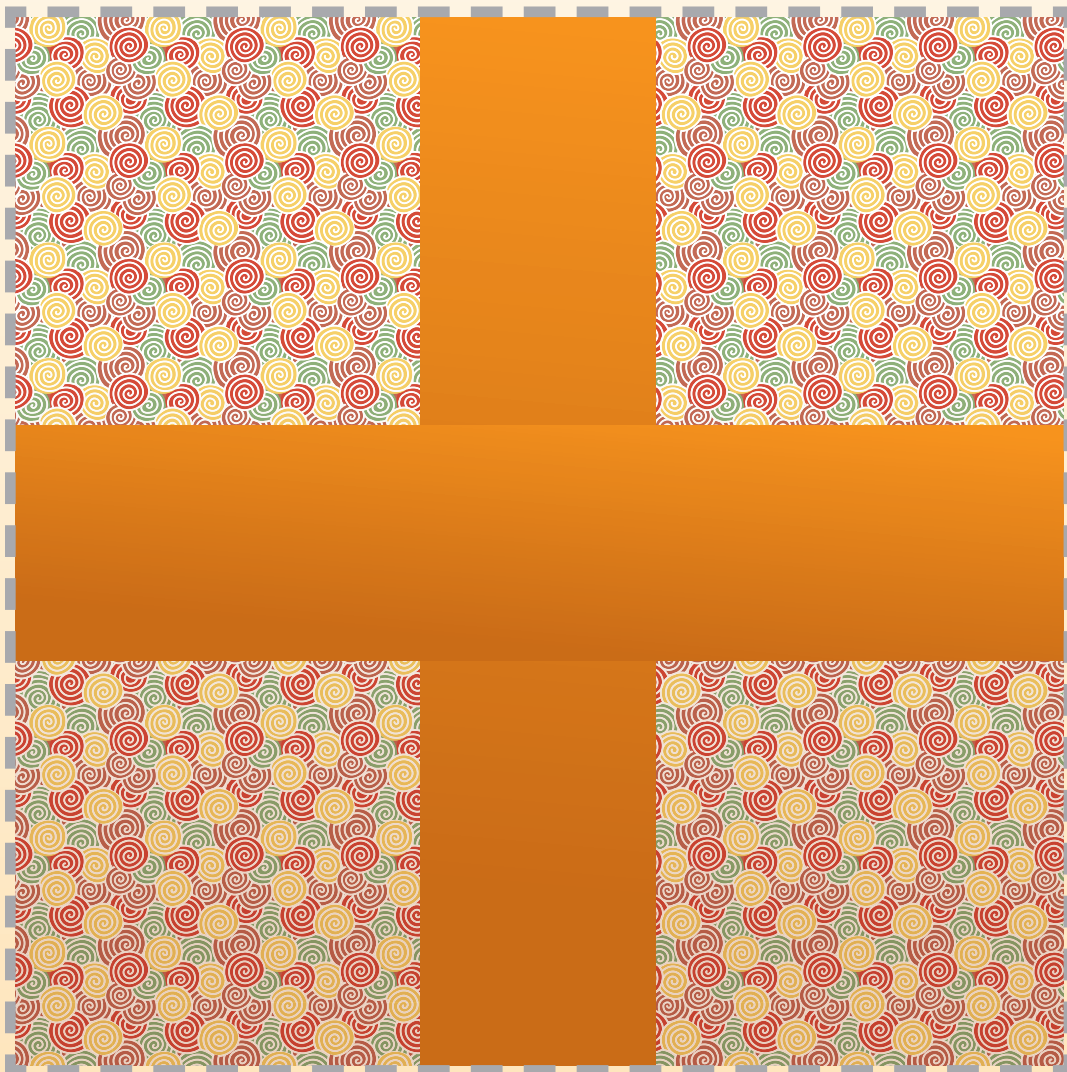


Perfect Present

Skill: Drawing a **square**

Directions: Explain to your child that the present is a **square**. Encourage your child to trace the outline of the present with his or her finger. Then, have your child trace the outline of the present with a crayon. Ask your child to draw a bow on top of the present.

Trace the present with your finger. Trace the present with a crayon. Draw a bow.

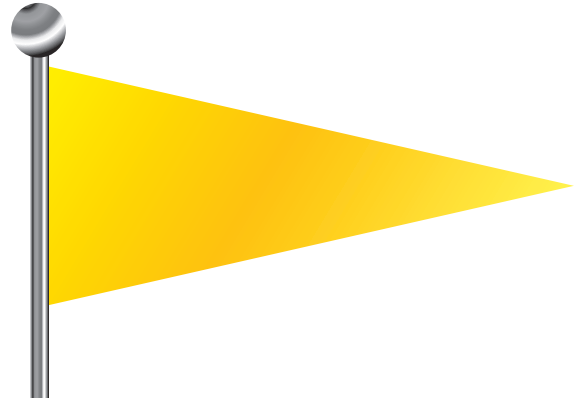
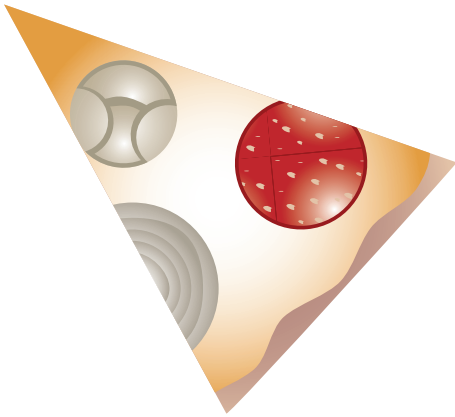


Triangle

Skill: Recognizing a **triangle**

Directions: Point to the **triangle**. Explain to your child that this is a **triangle**. Have your child draw a line from each **triangle-shaped** object on the page to the **triangle**.

Draw a line to the **triangle**.



triangle

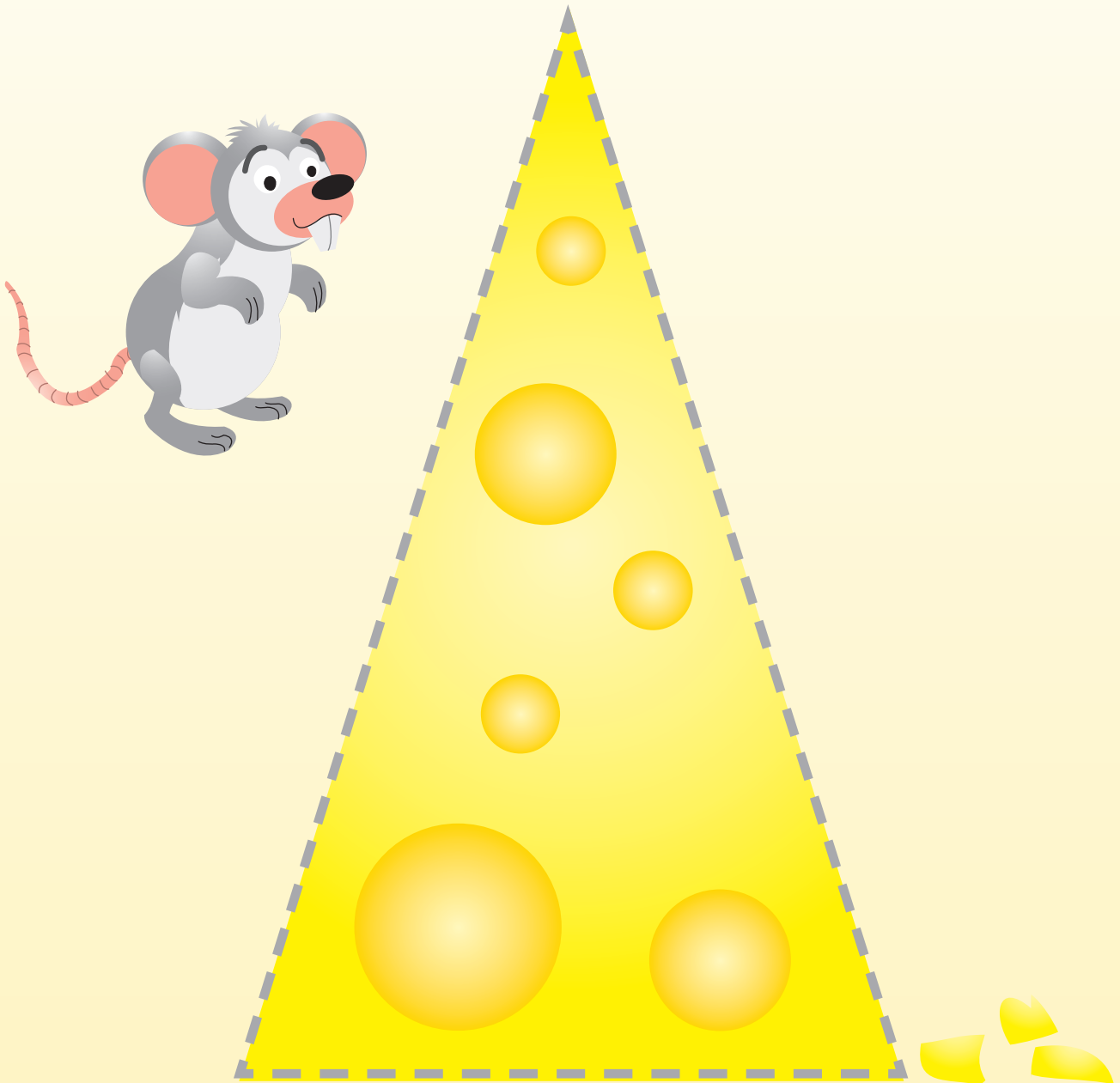


Tasty Triangle

Skill: Tracing a **triangle**

Directions: Explain to your child that the piece of cheese is a **triangle**. Encourage your child to trace the outline of the cheese with his or her finger. Then, help your child trace the outline of the cheese with glue. Give your child three pieces of yarn. Have your child place the yarn on top of the glue to form a **triangle**. Let the glue dry completely.

Trace the cheese with your finger. Trace the cheese with glue. Place the pieces of yarn.

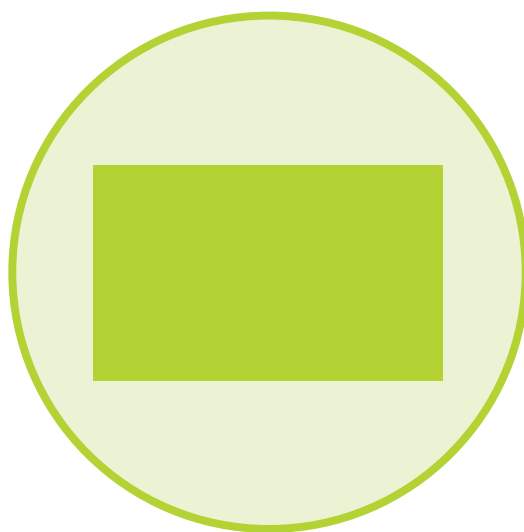
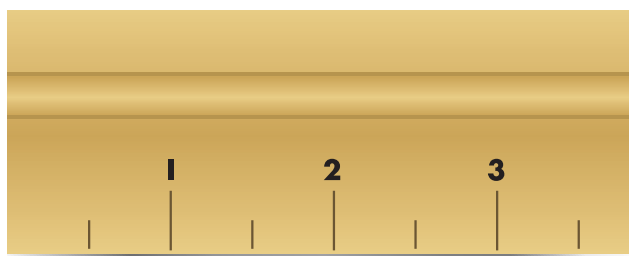


Rectangle

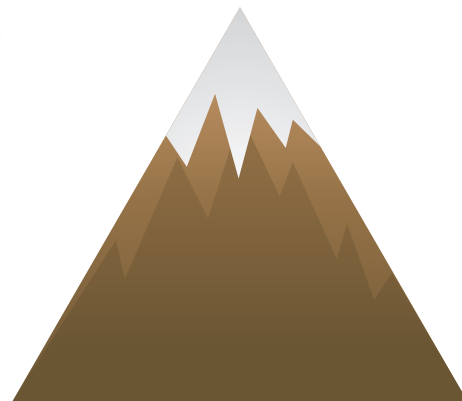
Skill: Recognizing a **rectangle**

Directions: Point to the **rectangle**. Explain to your child that this is a **rectangle**. Have your child draw an **X** on each **rectangle** on the page.

Draw an **X** on the **rectangles**.



rectangle

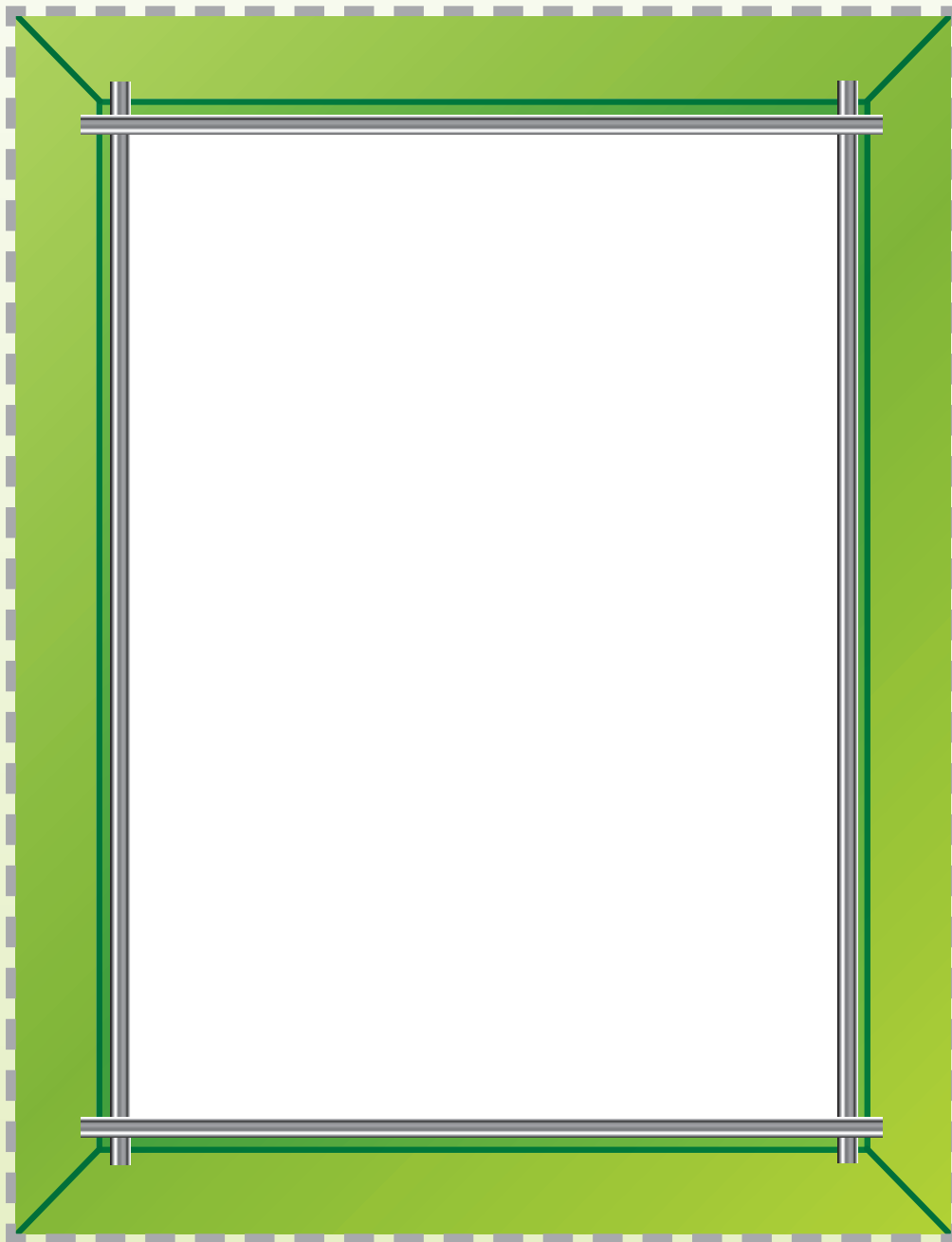


Pretty Picture

Skill: Drawing a **rectangle**

Directions: Explain to your child that the picture frame is a **rectangle**. Encourage your child to trace the outline of the frame with his or her finger. Then, have your child trace the outline of the frame with a crayon. Ask your child to draw a picture inside of the frame.

Trace the frame with your finger. Trace the frame with a crayon. Draw a picture.

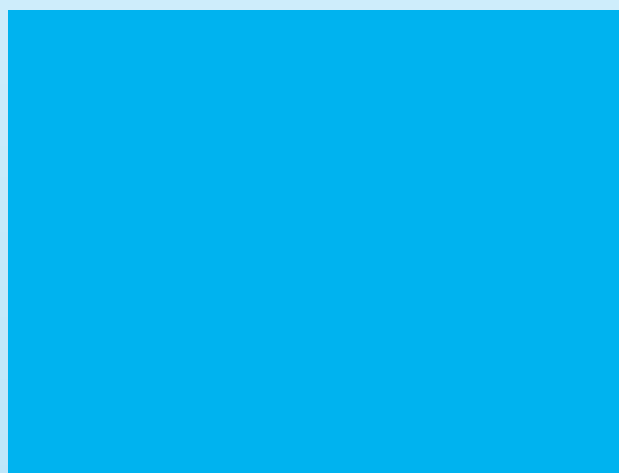
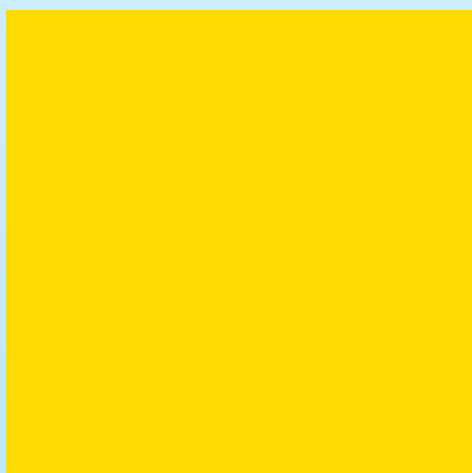
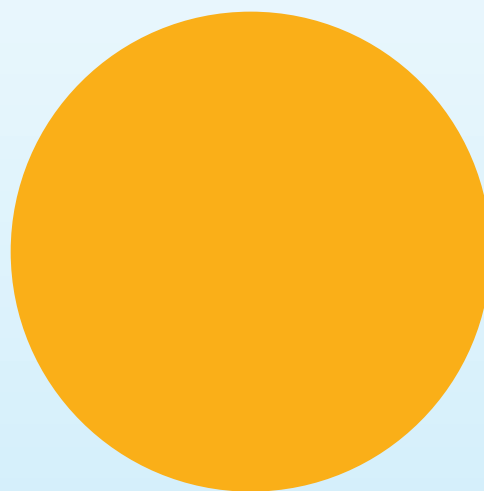
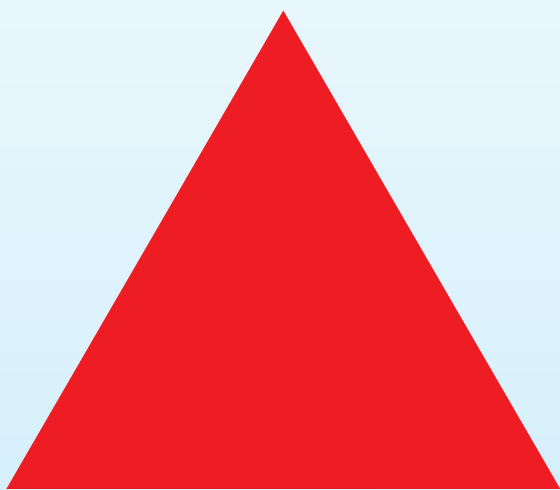


Shape Review: Circle, Square, Triangle, Rectangle

Skill: Recognizing **circles**, **squares**, **triangles**, and **rectangles**

Directions: Say the name of a shape aloud to your child. Ask your child to point to the shape. Continue saying the shapes aloud until your child has pointed to each shape correctly.

Point to the shapes.

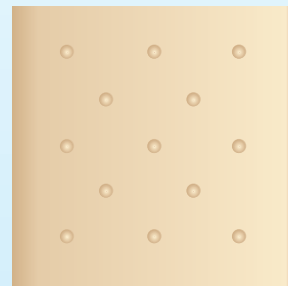
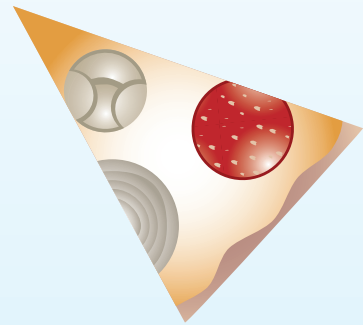
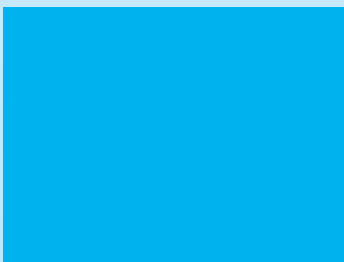
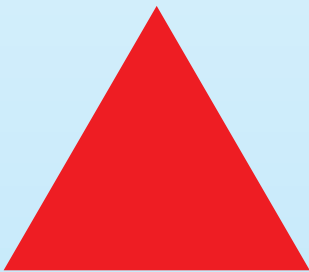
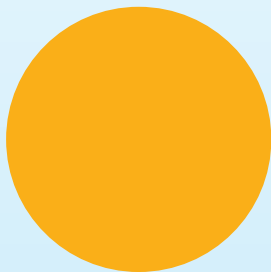


Shape Review: Match the Shapes

Skill: Recognizing and matching **circles**, **squares**, **triangles**, and **rectangles**

Directions: Point to each shape. Have your child say the name of the shape aloud. Ask your child to draw a line from each shape to the object of the same shape.

Draw a line to match the shapes.

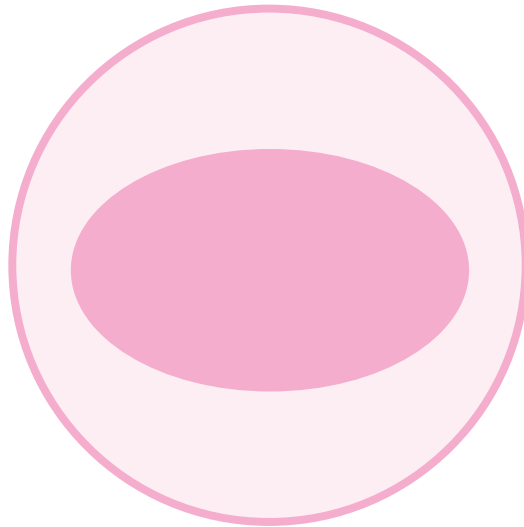
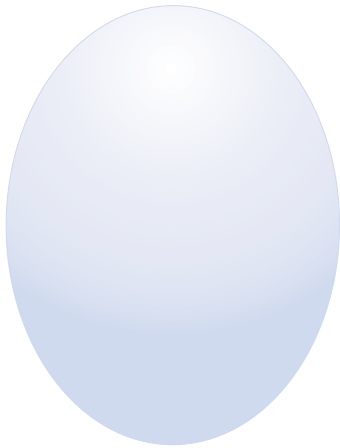


Oval

Skill: Recognizing an **oval**

Directions: Point to the **oval**. Explain to your child that this is an **oval**. Have your child draw a line under each **oval** on the page.

Draw a line under each **oval**.



oval

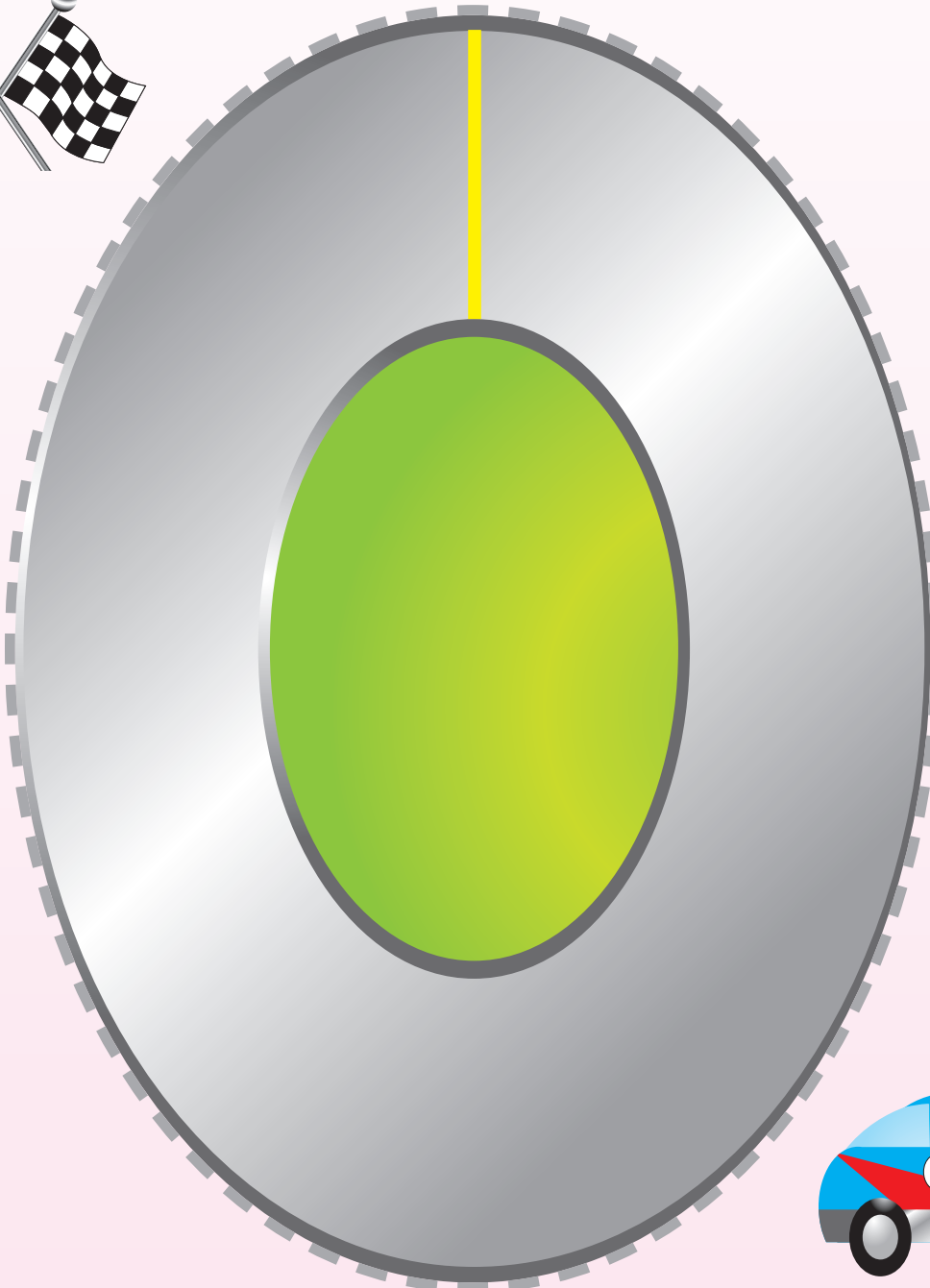
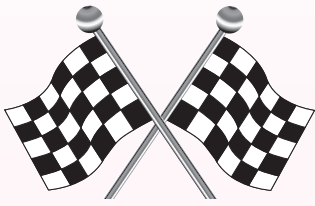


Vroom! Vroom!

Skill: Drawing an **oval**

Directions: Explain to your child that the racetrack is an **oval**. Encourage your child to trace the outline of the racetrack with his or her finger. Then, have your child trace the outline of the racetrack with a crayon.

Trace the racetrack with your finger. Trace the racetrack with a crayon.

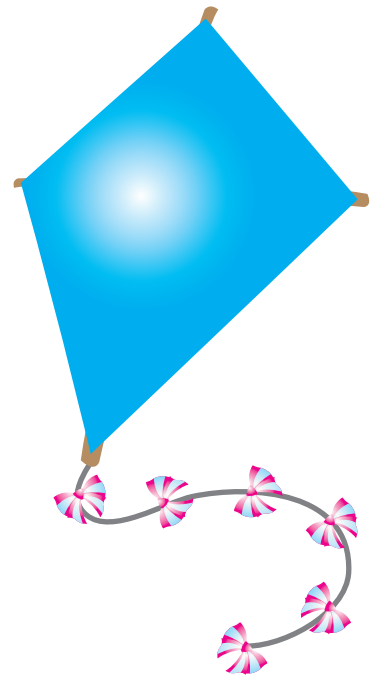


Rhombus

Skill: Recognizing a **rhombus**

Directions: Point to the **rhombus**. Explain to your child that this is a **rhombus**. Tell your child it is also called a "**diamond**." Ask your child to place a button or coin on all of the **rhombuses** on the page. (Safety Tip: Never leave your child alone with small objects.)

Place a button on the **rhombuses**.



rhombus

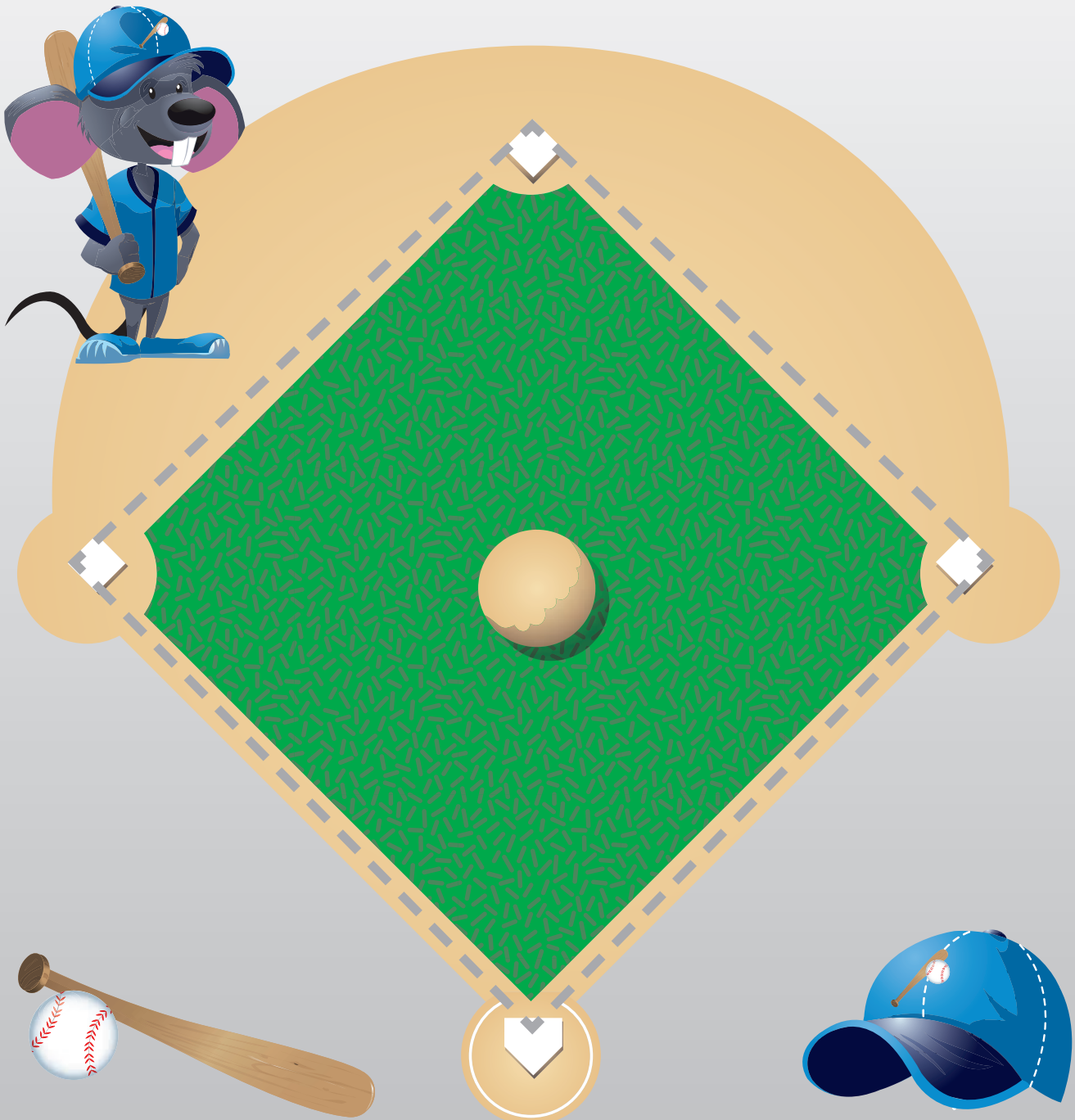


Run Around the Rhombus

Skill: Drawing a **rhombus**

Directions: Explain to your child that the baseball field is a **rhombus**. Encourage your child to trace the outline of the baseball field with his or her finger. Then, have your child trace the outline of the baseball field with a crayon.

Trace the baseball field with your finger. Trace the baseball field with a crayon.

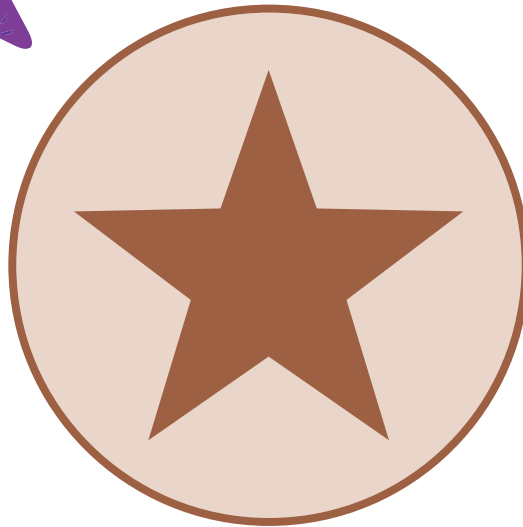
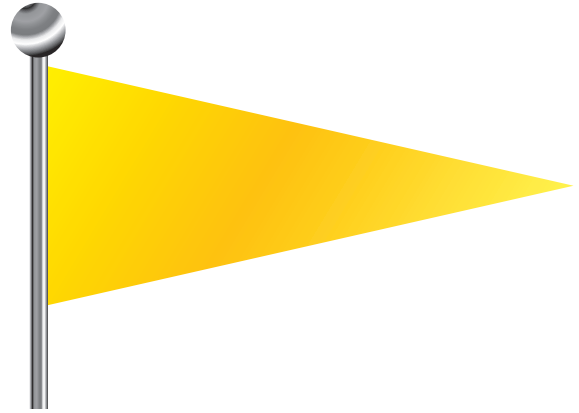


Star

Skill: Recognizing a **star**

Directions: Point to the **star**. Explain to your child that this is a **star**. Have your child circle all of the **stars** on the page.

Circle the **stars**.



star



Shining Star

Skill: Tracing a **star**

Directions: Encourage your child to trace the outline of the **star** with his or her finger. Then, help your child trace the outline of the **star** with glue. Have your child sprinkle glitter over the glue. Let the glue dry completely.

Trace the **star** with your finger. Trace the star with glue. Sprinkle glitter.

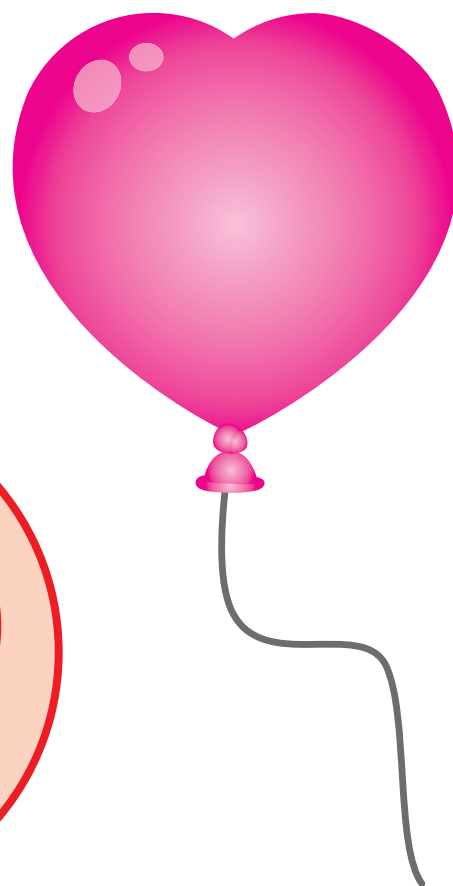


Heart

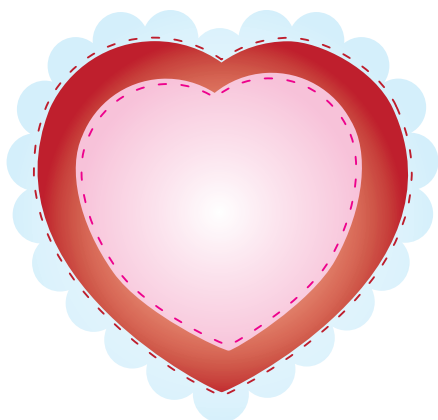
Skill: Recognizing a **heart**

Directions: Point to the **heart**. Explain to your child that this is a **heart**. Have your child draw an **X** on each **heart** on the page.

Draw an **X** on the **hearts**.



heart



Fluffy Heart

Skill: Tracing a **heart**

Directions: Encourage your child to trace the outline of the **heart** with his or her finger. Then, help your child cover the **heart** with glue. Ask your child to paste cotton balls to the glue. Let the glue dry completely.

Trace the **heart** with your finger. Cover the **heart** with glue. Paste cotton balls to the glue.

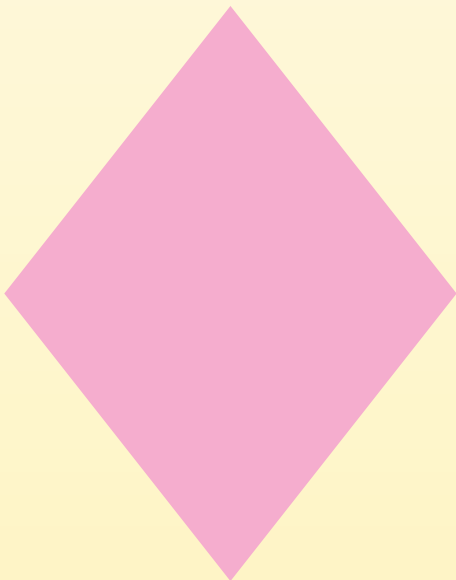
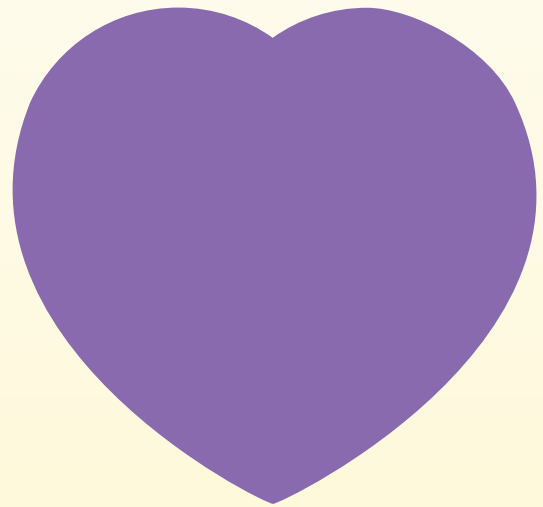
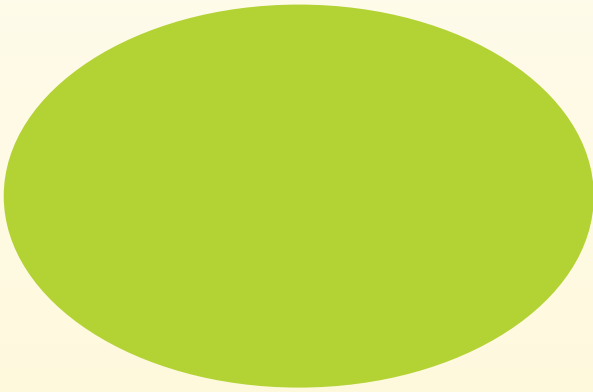


Shape Review: Oval, Rhombus, Star, Heart

Skill: Recognizing **ovals**, **rhombuses**, **stars**, and **hearts**

Directions: Say the name of a shape aloud to your child. Ask your child to place a button or coin on the shape. Continue saying the shapes aloud until your child has marked each shape correctly. (Safety Tip: Never leave your child alone with small objects.)

Place a button on the shapes.

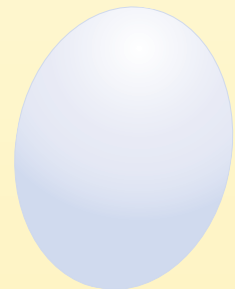
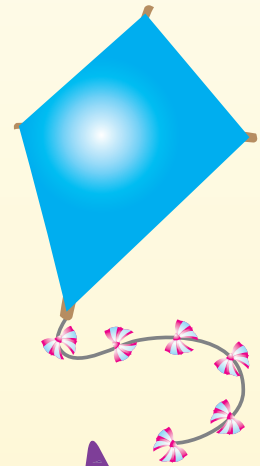
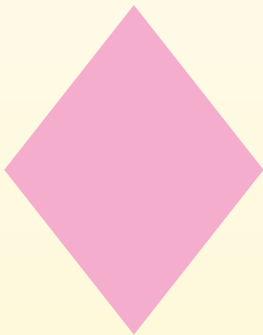
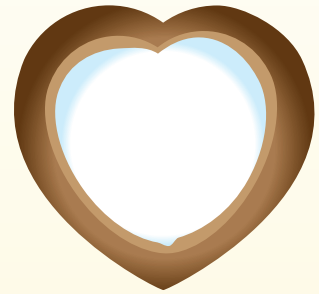


Shape Review: Match the Shapes

Skill: Recognizing and matching **ovals**, **rhombuses**, **stars**, and **hearts**

Directions: Point to each shape. Have your child say the name of the shape aloud. Ask your child to draw a line from each shape to the object of the same shape.

Draw a line to match the shapes.

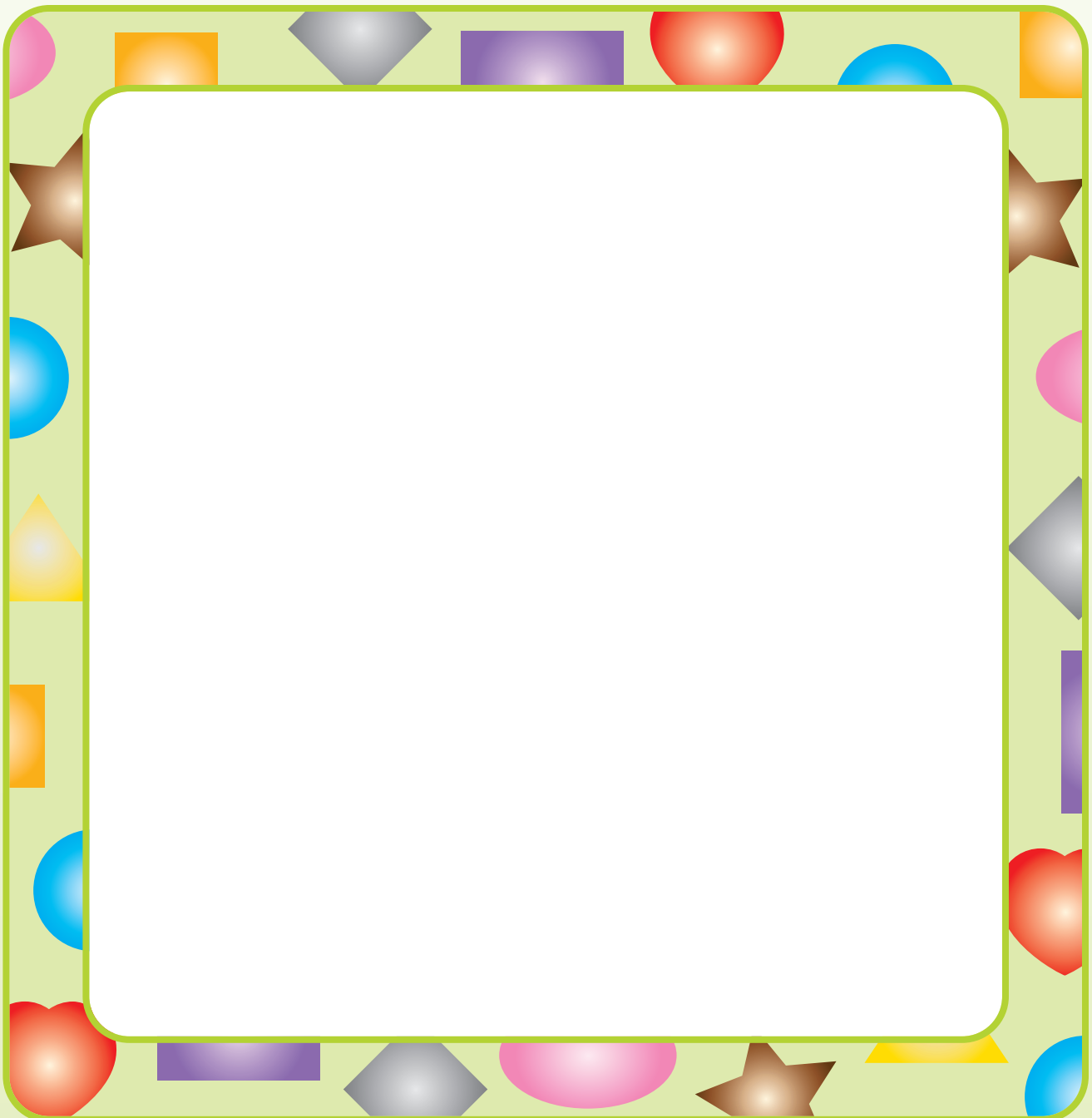


Shape Activity: Cut and Paste

Skill: Identifying shapes

Directions: Give your child several sheets of scrap paper. Draw a shape on a sheet of paper. Have your child cut out the shape and paste it below. Have your child practice cutting out each of the shapes he or she has learned.

Cut out the shape. Paste the shape to the paper.

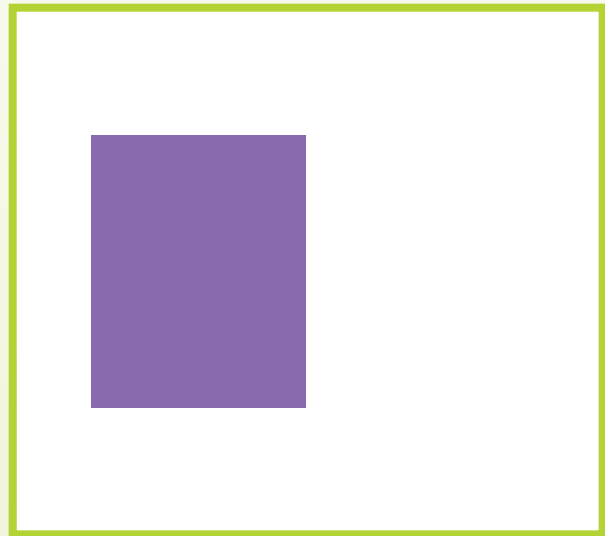


Shape Activity: Complete the Shapes

Skill: Drawing shapes

Directions: Point to each box. Ask your child to guess which shape is in the box. Help your child draw the other half of the shape to complete it.

Draw the other half of the shape.











Color the Shapes!

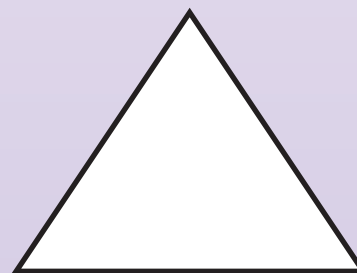
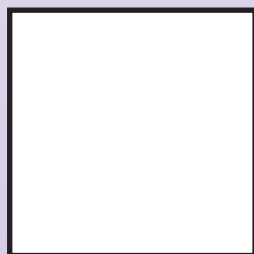
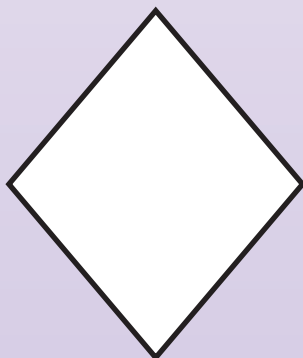
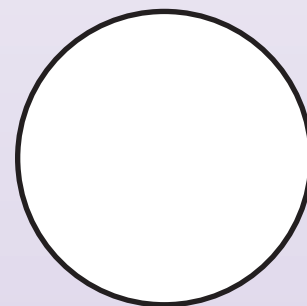
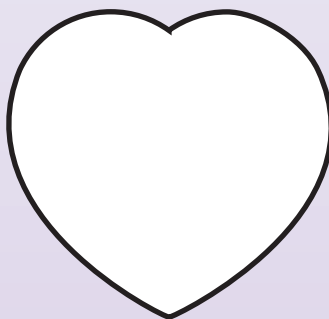
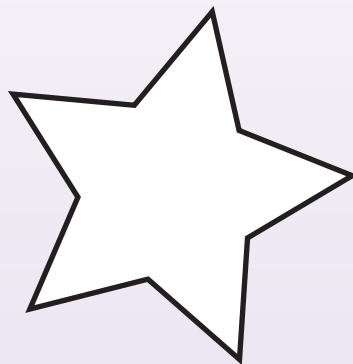
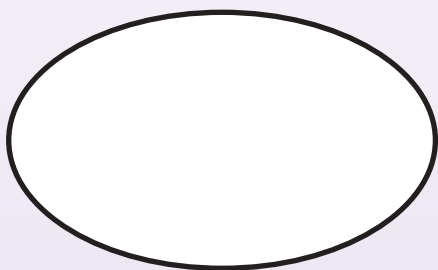
Skill: Recognizing colors and shapes

Directions: Look at the Color Key with your child. Explain to your child that he or she should color all of the **circles black**, the **triangles green**, the **squares purple**, and so on.

Color the shapes.

Color Key

-  = black
-  = green
-  = purple
-  = gray
-  = red
-  = brown
-  = orange
-  = pink

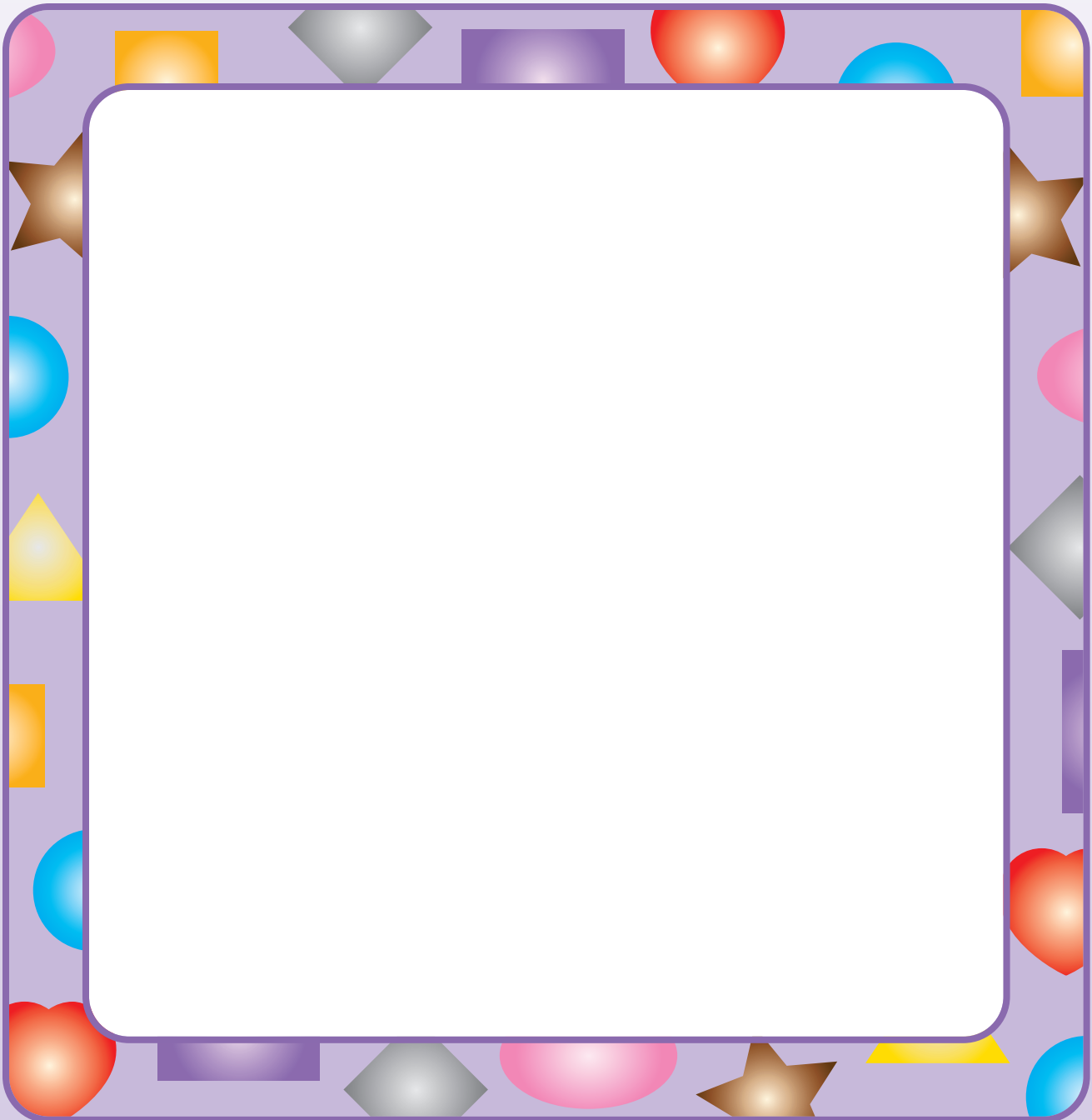


Draw It, Color It

Skills: Drawing and coloring shapes

Directions: Say the name of a shape aloud to your child. Have your child draw that shape in the space below. Say the name of a color aloud to your child. Ask your child to color the shape this color.

Draw the shape. Color the shape.










Color the House

Skill: Recognizing shapes and colors

Directions: Look at the Color Key with your child. Explain to your child that he or she should color all of the **circles red**, all of the **rectangles brown**, all of the **triangles black**, and so on.

Color the picture.

Color Key	
	= red
	= brown
	= black
	= green
	= gray
	= blue
	= yellow

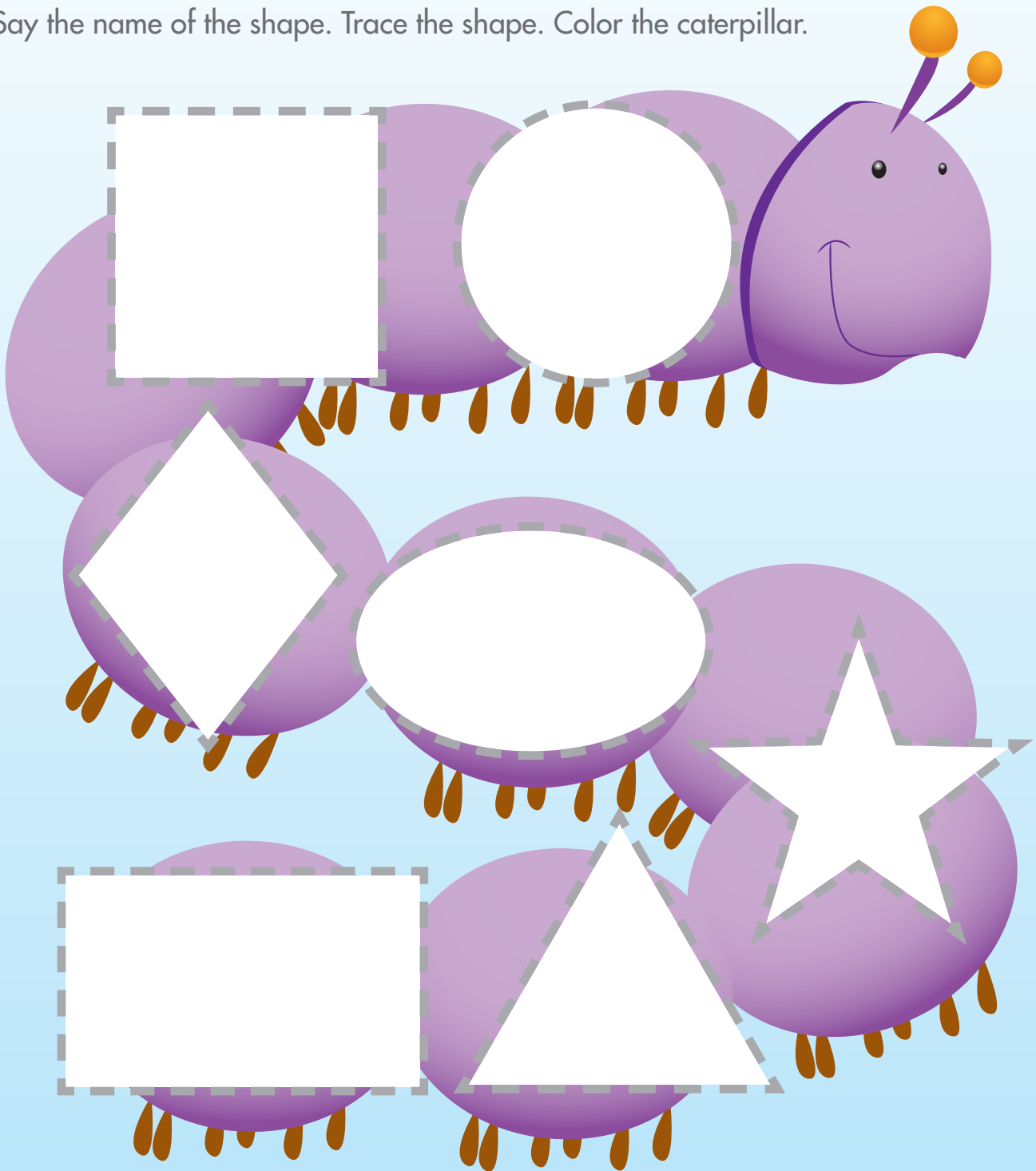


Colorful Caterpillar

Skill: Identifying and drawing shapes

Directions: Point to a shape on the caterpillar's body. Ask your child to identify the shape. Encourage your child to trace the shape. Then, have your child color the caterpillar.

Say the name of the shape. Trace the shape. Color the caterpillar.

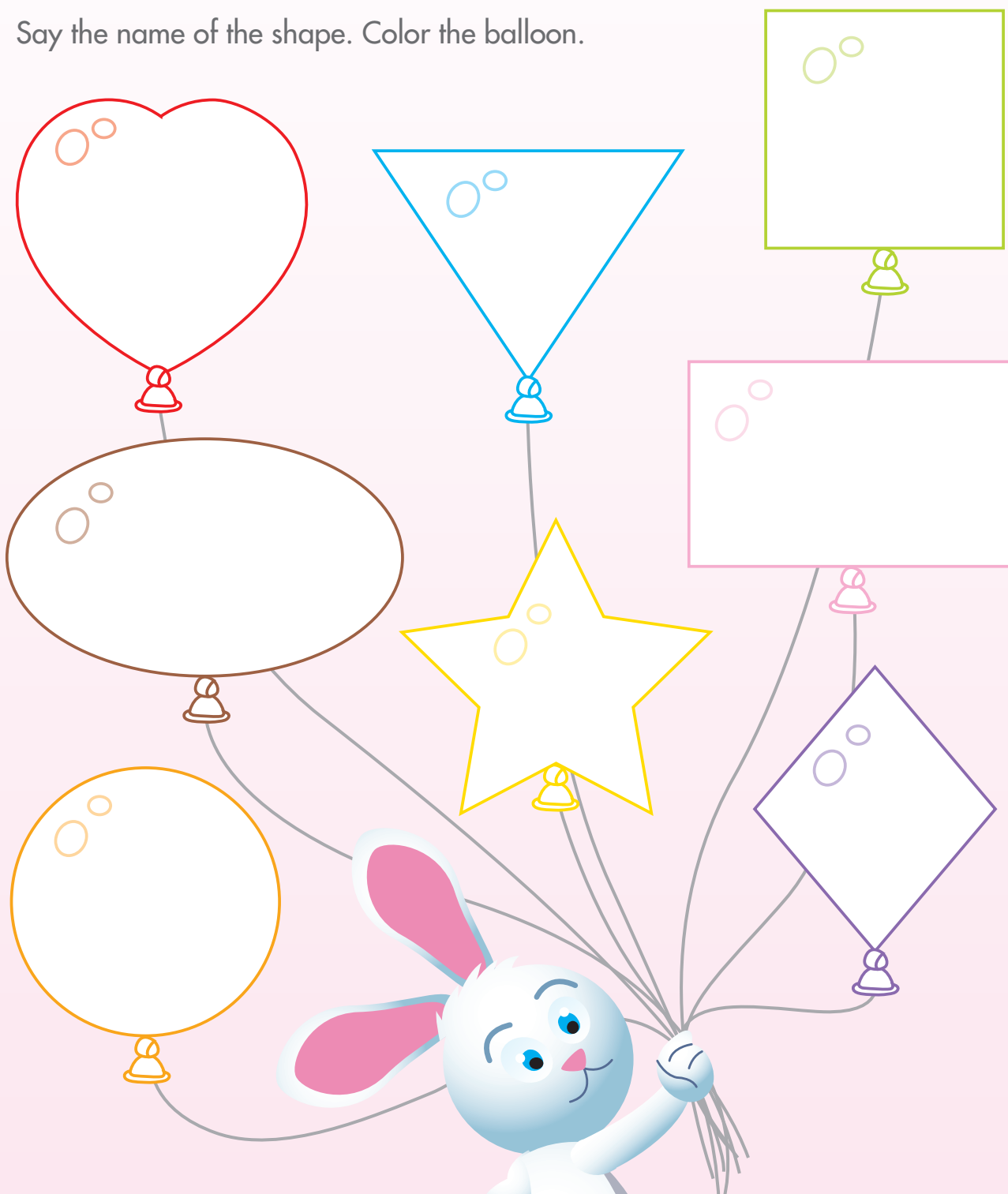


Up, Up, and Away!

Skill: Identifying shapes and colors

Directions: Point to each balloon. Ask your child to identify the shape of the balloon. Then, have your child color the balloon the correct color.

Say the name of the shape. Color the balloon.



Colors and Shapes

Extension Activities

Use the following hands-on activities to enhance your child's fine motor development and to further teach your child colors and shapes. Keep in mind that the process, not the finished product, is what is important. Work beside your child and model the various color and shape activities for him or her.

Squishy, Goopy Shapes

Place a sheet of plastic or a garbage bag on a flat surface. Cover the surface with shaving cream, pudding, finger paint, or even mud! Allow your child to use his or her finger to practice drawing shapes. Give your child the name of a shape and ask him or her to draw it. You can also use sand, salt, or sugar for this activity.

Cookie Cutter Shapes

Give your child several cookie cutters of different shapes. Ask your child to identify the shape of each cookie cutter. Have your child trace around the cookie cutters on sheets of paper. Encourage your child to color the shapes.

Bend-a-Shape

Give your child pieces of yarn of varying lengths. Have your child work at a flat surface. Encourage him or her to bend and move the yarn to make different shapes. You can also give your child cooled, cooked spaghetti noodles.

Tactile Flash Cards

Cut out different shapes from sandpaper, felt, or other textured paper. Glue the shapes to small sheets of paper to create tactile flash cards. Give your child one card at a time and have him or her feel the shape and then say it aloud.

Shape Scavenger Hunt

Go on a scavenger hunt with your child. Give your child the name of a shape. Ask your child to look around the house for an object that matches that shape. Continue until your child has found examples of each shape.

Shape Pictures

Have your child work at a flat surface. Give your child multiple paper cutouts of different shapes. Encourage your child to move the shapes around to create different patterns and pictures. Demonstrate a pattern and ask your child to copy it.

Colorful Candy

Give your child a bag of colorful candy pieces, such as jellybeans or gummy bears. Encourage your child to sort the candy into piles by color. You can also ask your child to arrange the candy into colorful patterns.

Color Mini-Books

Make a color mini-book with your child. Encourage your child to make a book page for each color. Help your child write the color word at the top of the page. Then, have your child draw and color a picture of something that color. Once the book is complete, ask your child to “read” his or her color book to you.

Thumbprint Rainbow

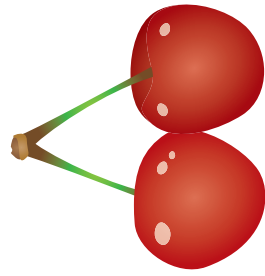
Give your child a large sheet of paper and finger paint or water-based paint of different colors. Encourage your child to use his or her thumb to make thumbprints on the paper. Help your child arrange the colored thumbprints to make a rainbow pattern.

Color Finding Game

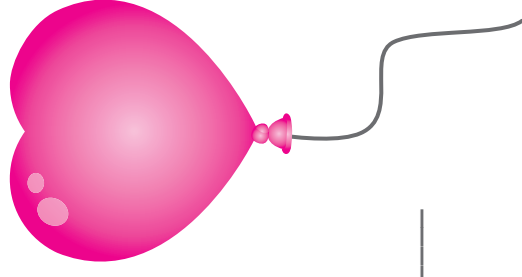
Play a color finding game with your child when traveling. Give your child the name of a color. Ask your child to try and identify what object of that color you are thinking of. Take turns playing the game with your child.

Color Collage

Give your child a large sheet of blank paper and several old magazines. Ask your child to look through the magazines for objects of different colors. Have your child rip out the pictures and paste them to the paper. Encourage your child to overlap the pictures, so that the entire paper is covered with color.



I Know My Colors and Shapes!

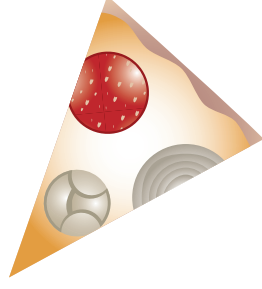
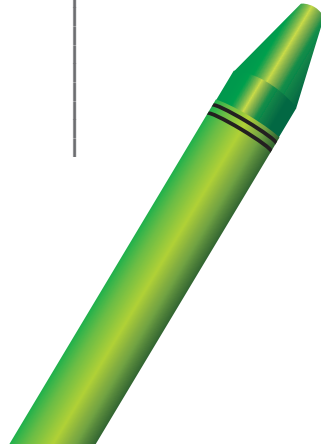


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successfully completed **Let's Learn Colors & Shapes**

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