

Preschool



Letter to the Grownup

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for planting seeds of learning with the Harris County Public Library, Growing Readers program. This program is designed to help children from birth to age five develop the skills and learn the tools that will help them become readers and strong lifelong learners. It is never too early to begin reading to your child!

We have divided our program into three levels, Little Seeds & Little Sprouts (Prenatal & Infant,) Little Buds (Toddler,) Little Readers (Preschool). We have staff-created flashcard sets available for each of these age brackets. All of our initiatives recognize the five practices that best build early literacy skills: Singing, Talking, Writing, Reading, and Playing.

There are kits available for Toddlers and for Preschool children. These kits offer guidance for caregivers to adapt their regular activities into early literacy-building moments. We have also incorporated the national reading initiative, 1,000 books Before Kindergarten, and the word goal of children hearing 30 million Words before four into our program. You'll be able to keep track of your reading with our Beanstack App.

We currently have Family Place centers at thirteen of our branches which allow our youngest patrons to learn through play by interacting in safe, thoughtfully designed spaces. Each Family Place center also offers free parenting workshops. All twenty-six locations offer story times throughout the week. We look forward to growing little readers with you.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Edward Melton'.

Edward Melton
Executive Director
Harris County Public Library

**growing
readers**
@hcpl



Letter to the Grownup

In the first week of this program, all preschool kits will include a Craft Kit and Early Literacy Kit with materials to support the included activities based on the 6 skills and 5 practices of early literacy learning.

Craft Kit:

- Pencil Bag
- 4 Pack of Crayons
- Glue Stick
- Child Scissors

These supplies can be used for all 5 weeks of kits. Save them and reuse them!

Early Literacy Kit:

- Dry Erase Pocket
- Dry Erase Marker
- Dry Erase Eraser
- 2 Egg Shakers
- Felt Piece

These pockets allow children to use the activity sheets repeatedly and the egg shakers make songs much more fun!



Look for this icon for reusable pages!

Preschool

Reading



Welcome to the Preschool Early Literacy Kit! Thank you for joining us for our 5 week early literacy program. Each kit will include easy activities based on the 6 skills and 5 practices of early literacy learning to help your preschooler prepare for school readiness!

Books to Share

- **Lola Loves Stories**
by Anna McQuinn
- **Chicken Story Time**
by Sandy Asher
- **I Will Not Read This Book** by Cece Meng

Interested in more? Go to hcpl.net to request or ask a librarian!

Reading Tip to Share:

- Make reading a fun and relaxing experience
- Reading associated with good experiences will encourage more reading!

Request an Early Literacy Tips Flashcard Keyring from your library for more!

Reading Kit Contents:

Overview Sheet, Song Sheet, 6 Reusable Play Activity Sheets, Sequencing Activity, Letter Tracing Guide, 10 Reusable Letter Tracing Activity Sheets, Flannel Story and Instructions, Velcro Dots, Sensory Craft



Scan here for
more Early
Literacy Info!

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Songs About Reading:

"The More We Read Together"

The more we read together, together, together
the more we read together
the happier we'll be.
Read big books and small books
And small books and big books
The more we read together
the happier we'll be.

"B-I-N-G-O"

There was a farmer who had a dog
And Bingo was his name-o.
B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O
And Bingo was his name-o.

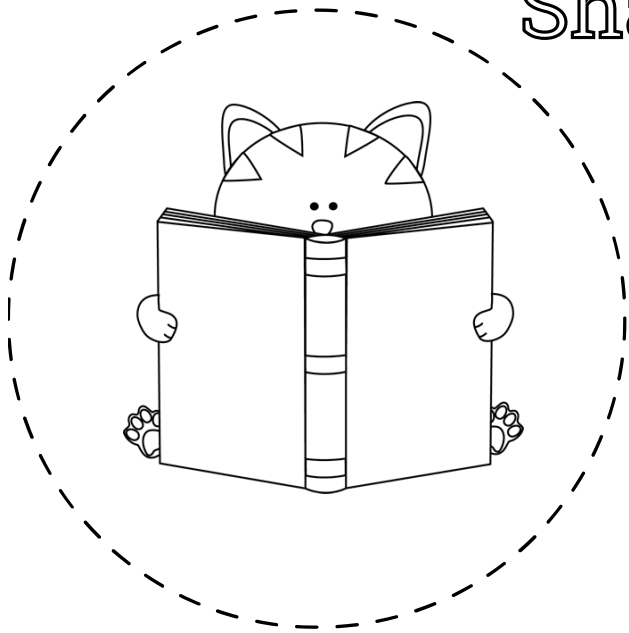
(Repeat, replacing one letter with a clap each time!)



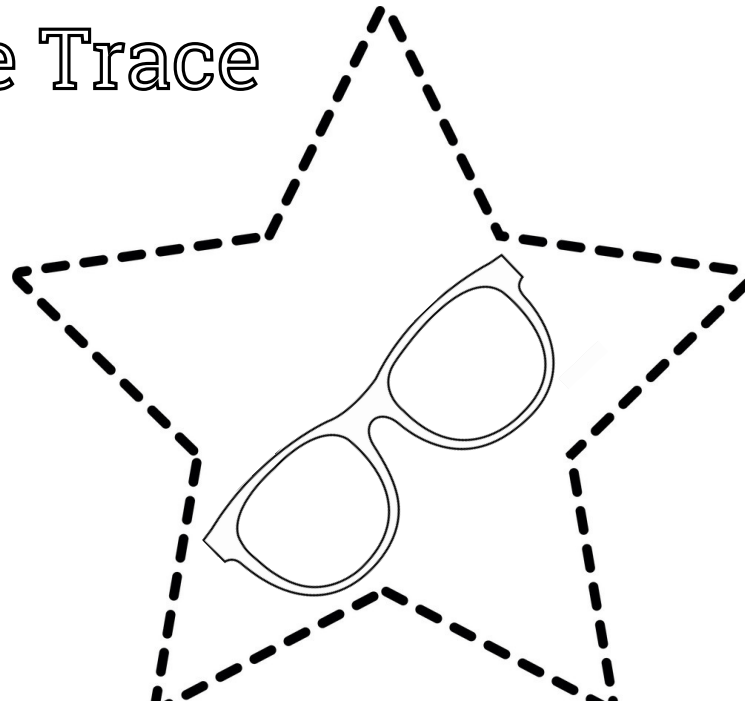
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Literacy Info!



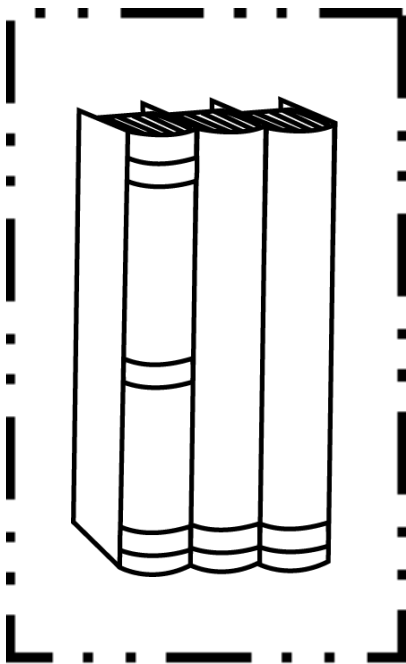
Shape Trace



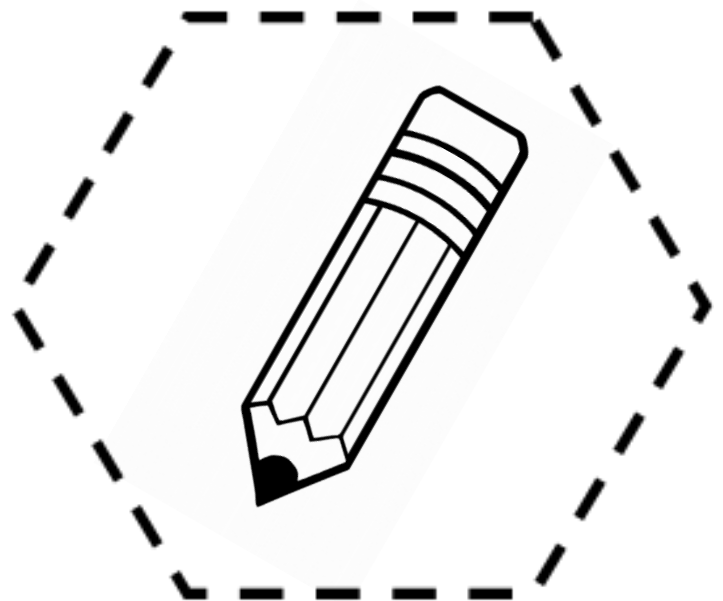
READING



GLASSES



BOOKS



PENCIL

Trace the shape around each item

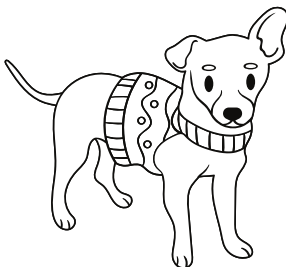


Find the Rhyme

Words that rhyme have the same ending sound.



read



dog



mouse



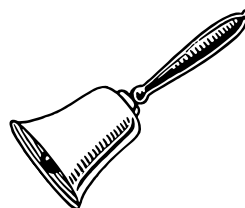
seed



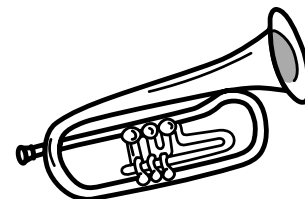
book



hook



bell



trumpet



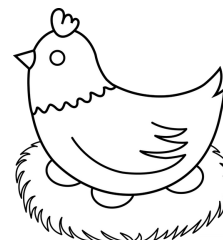
quill pen



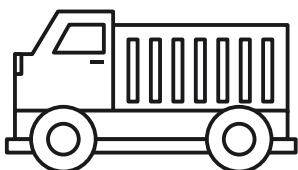
ring



cloud



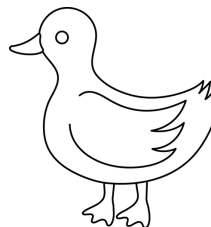
hen



truck



glasses



duck



rainbow

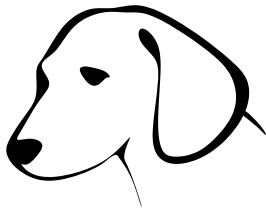
Identify the four items on the left, then circle the word in each row that rhymes!



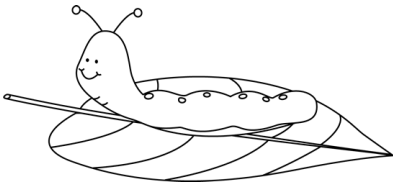
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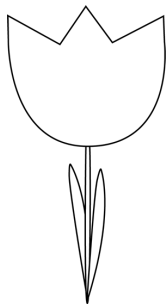
Book



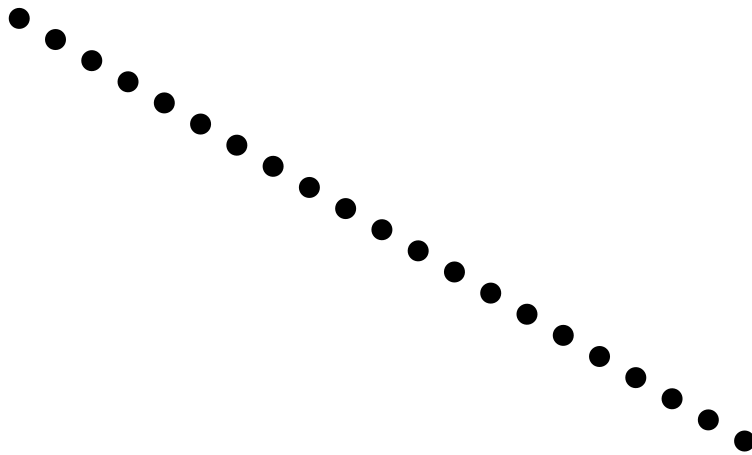
Dog



Caterpillar



Flower



D

B

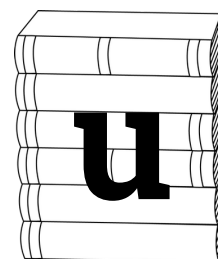
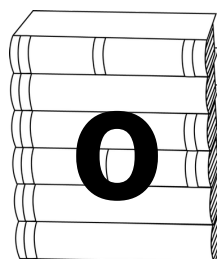
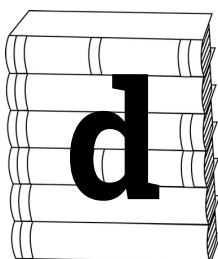
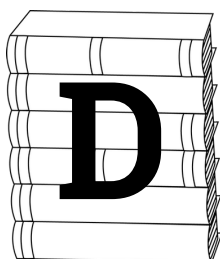
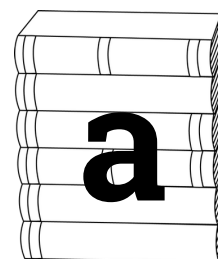
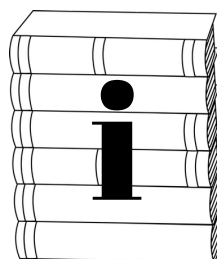
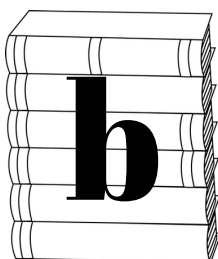
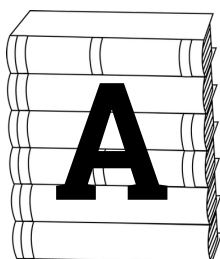
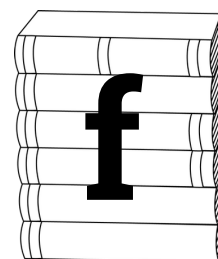
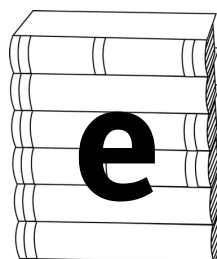
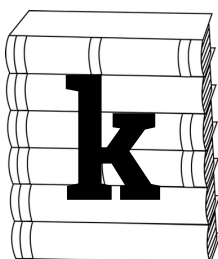
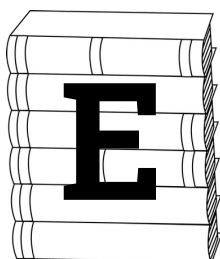
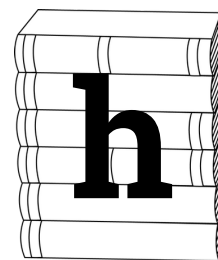
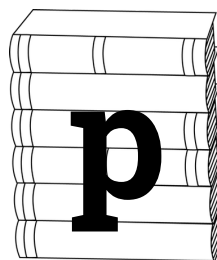
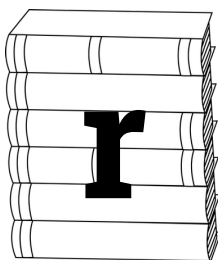
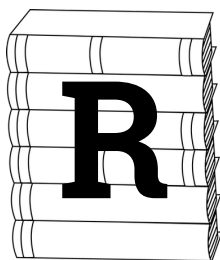
F

C

Draw a line to match each picture to the letter that makes its first sound!



Find the Letter



Circle the lowercase letter that belongs with
each capital letter!



Letter Search

R r

t R f

S A R X r

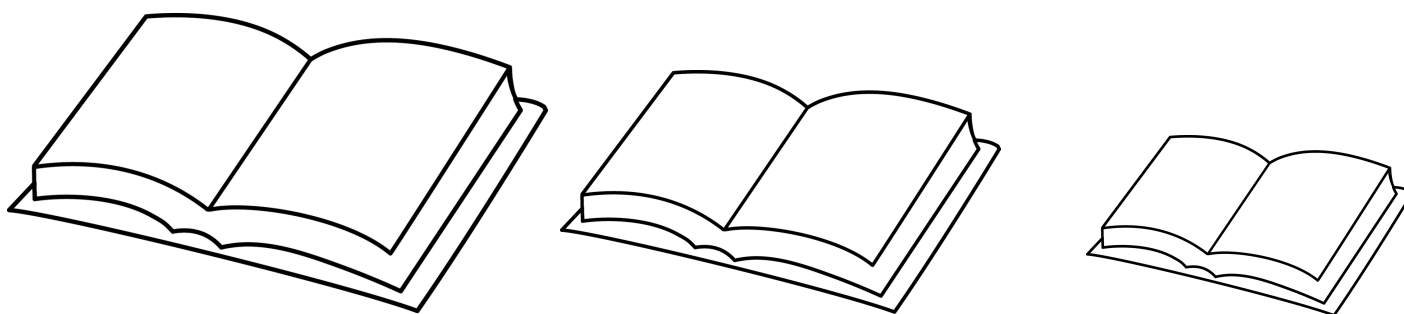
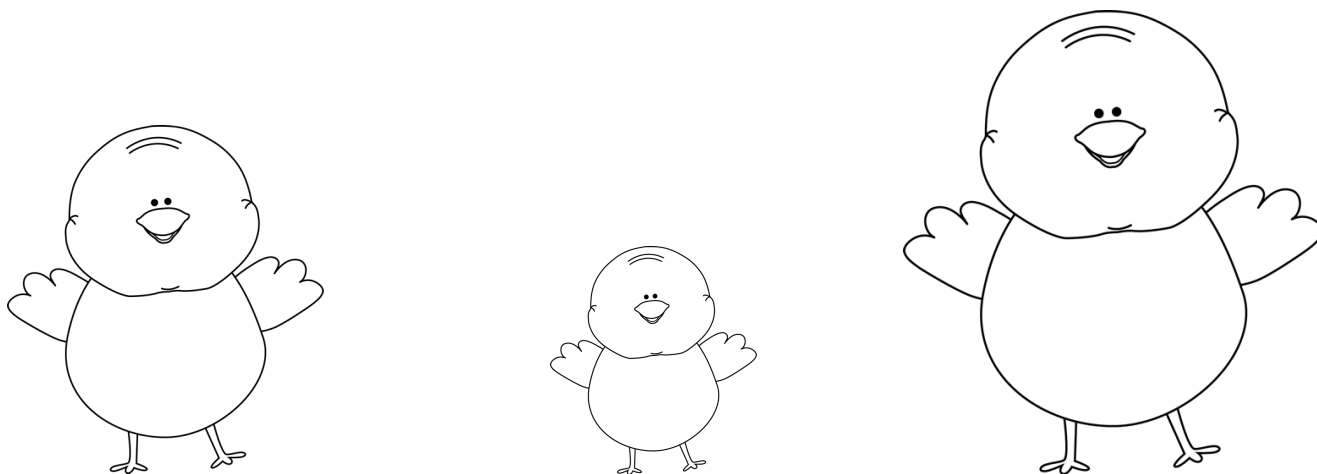
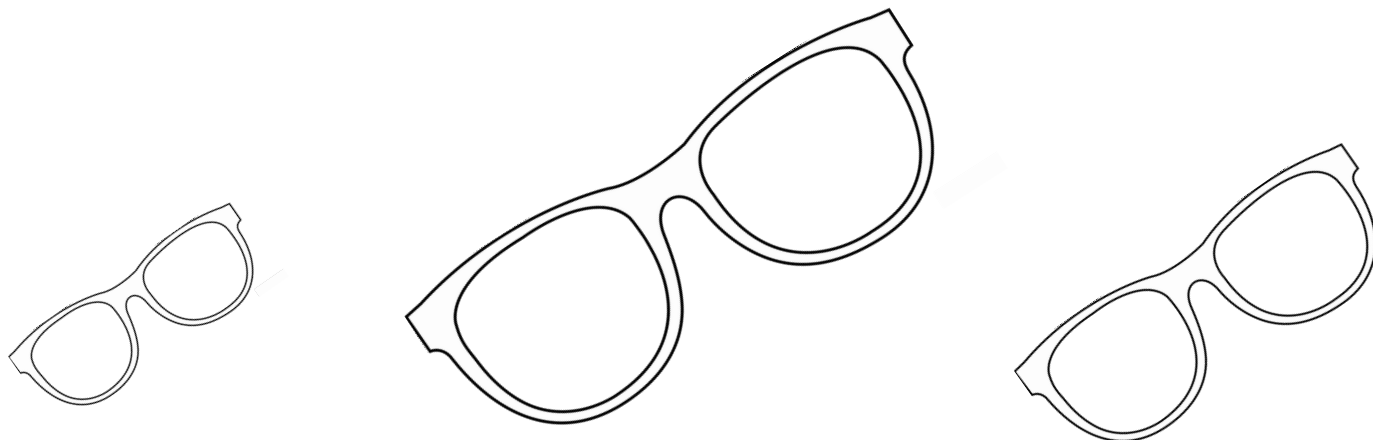
t B E W

R c r S

Find and circle the letter R r



Find the Biggest



Circle the biggest item in each row



Sequencing

First

Next

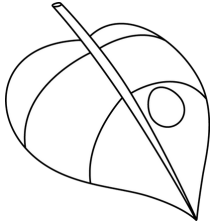
Then

Last

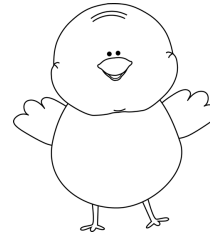
Cut out the two sets of tiles on the next page and
place them in order on this page!



Sequencing



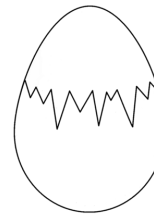
It's an
egg!



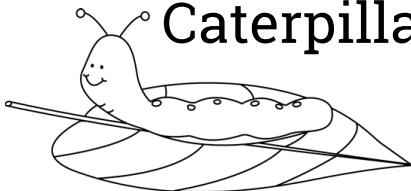
It's a
baby
chick!



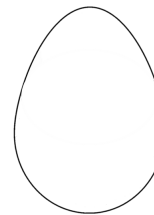
It's a
butterfly!



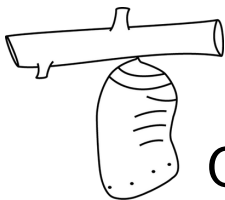
Crack!



Caterpillar



It's an
egg!



It's a
Chrysalis!



"Cheep,
Cheep!"

Cut out the tiles for each sequence and
place in order on previous page!

Preschool

Letter Tracing



Welcome to the Preschool Early Alphabet Tracing Activity Sheets!

Each of our 5 kits will include these pages to help start your preschooler to become familiar with the alphabet. Help them trace the letters, both capital and lowercase, to develop early literacy skills!

Kits and Letter Tracing

- **Reading!** Letters Aa- Ee
- **Writing!** Letters Ff- Jj
- **Singing!** Letters Kk- Oo
- **Talking!** Letters Pp- Tt
- **Playing!** Letters Uu- Zz

Tracing Tip:

- Using pencil grips can help little ones learn how to hold pencils properly

Flip this page over for more tips on the back!

All letter tracing sheets have capital letters on the front, and lowercase on the back!



Scan here for
more Early
Literacy Info!

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Letter Tracing



Letter tracing is closely linked to the 3 early literacy practices of Reading, Writing, and Talking. As children develop fine motor skills and the ability to control the small muscles in their hands, the desire to scribble and write will follow shortly behind.

Tips for Fine Motor Skills:

- Encourage scribbling with crayons or outside chalk
- Make crafts together that need a glue stick to complete
- Play with playdough and encourage your child to squeeze, stretch, pinch and roll “snakes” or “worms”

Tracing Tips:

- Practice writing letters in mashed potatoes, sugar, or flour
- Help kids feel themselves making letters when they write by putting paper on top of something bumpy, like sandpaper or a rough plastic placemat.
- Emphasize the lines on tracing paper by tracing them with fabric paint or school glue. The pencil will “bump” the lines when little ones write.

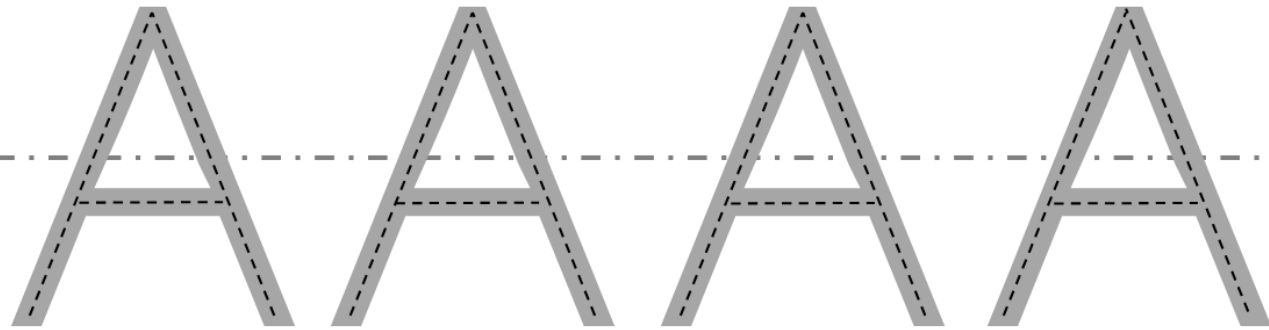
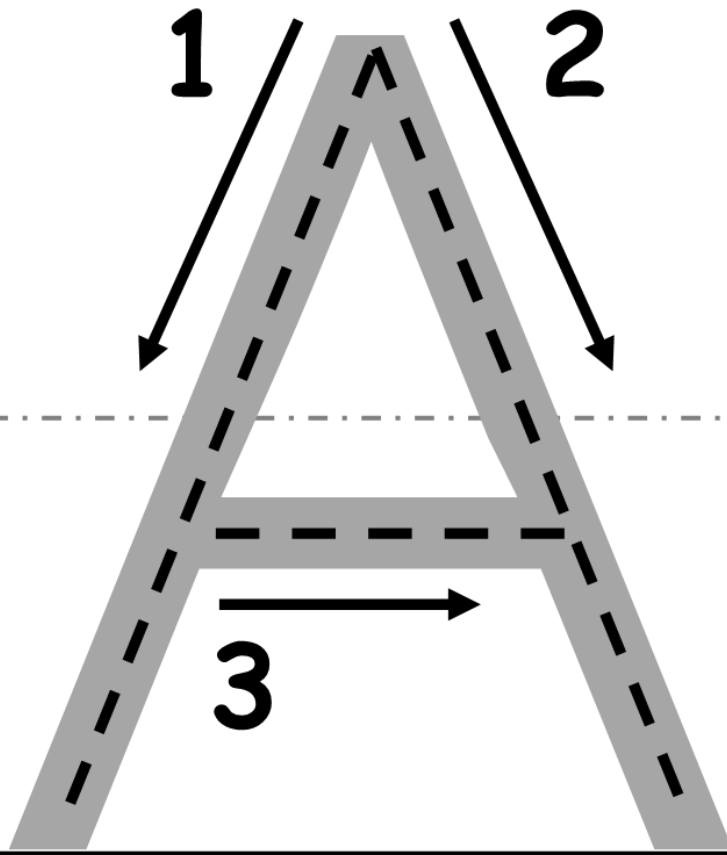
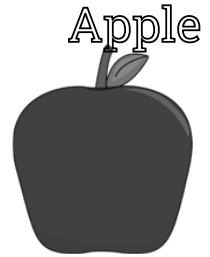
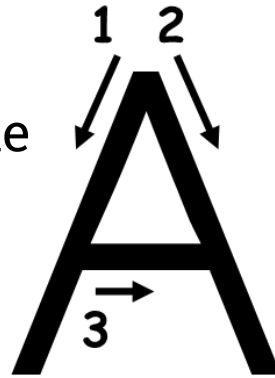


Preschool

Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **uppercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



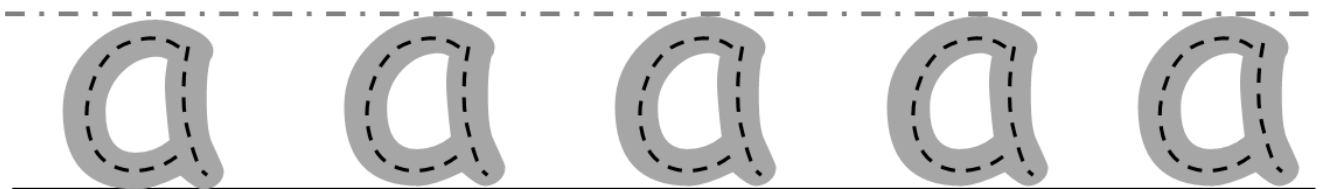
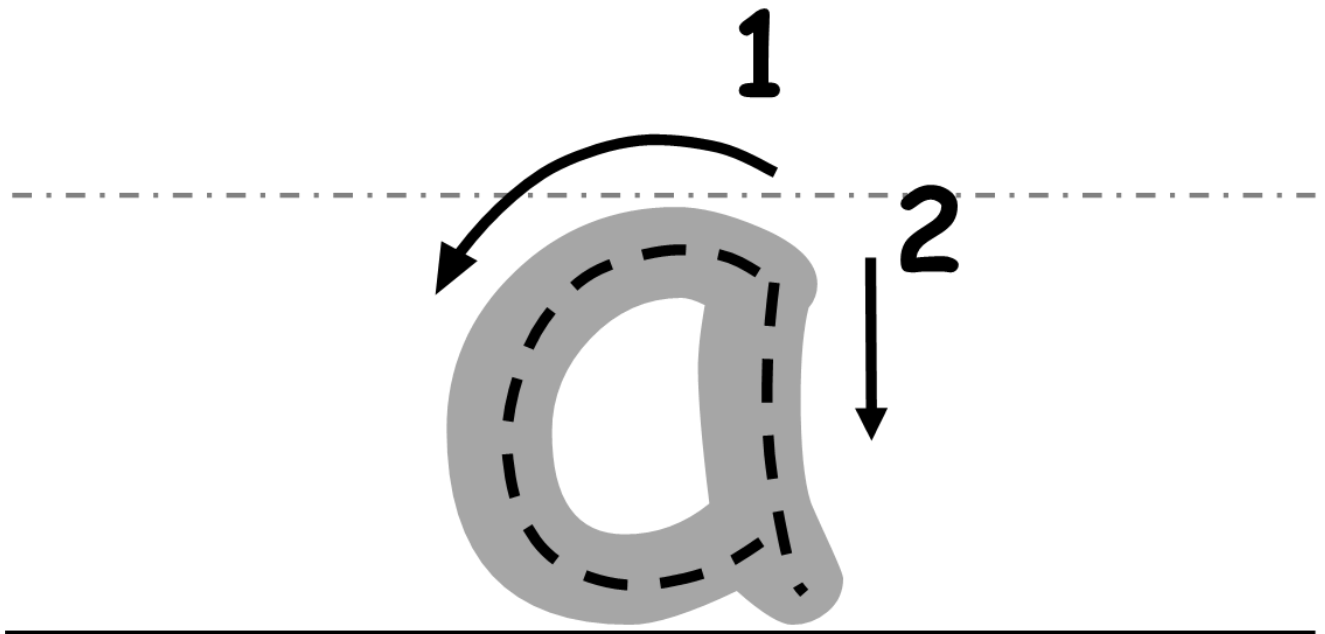
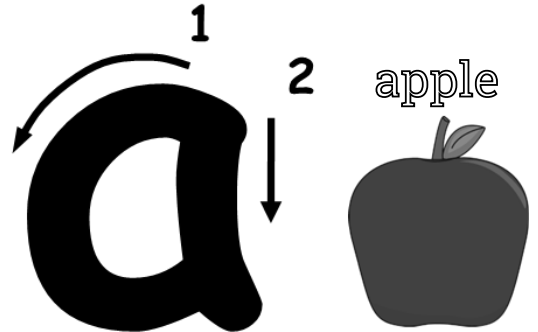


Preschool

Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **lowercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



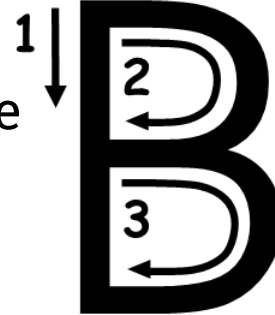


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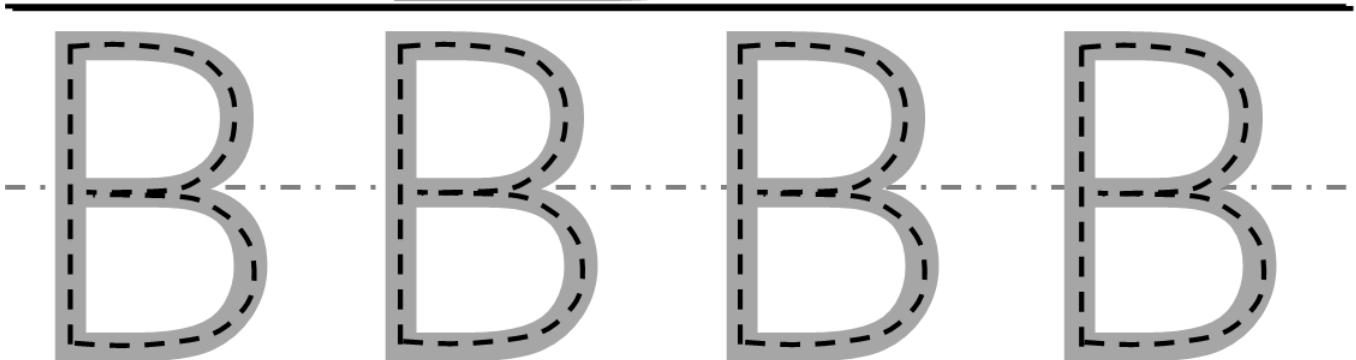
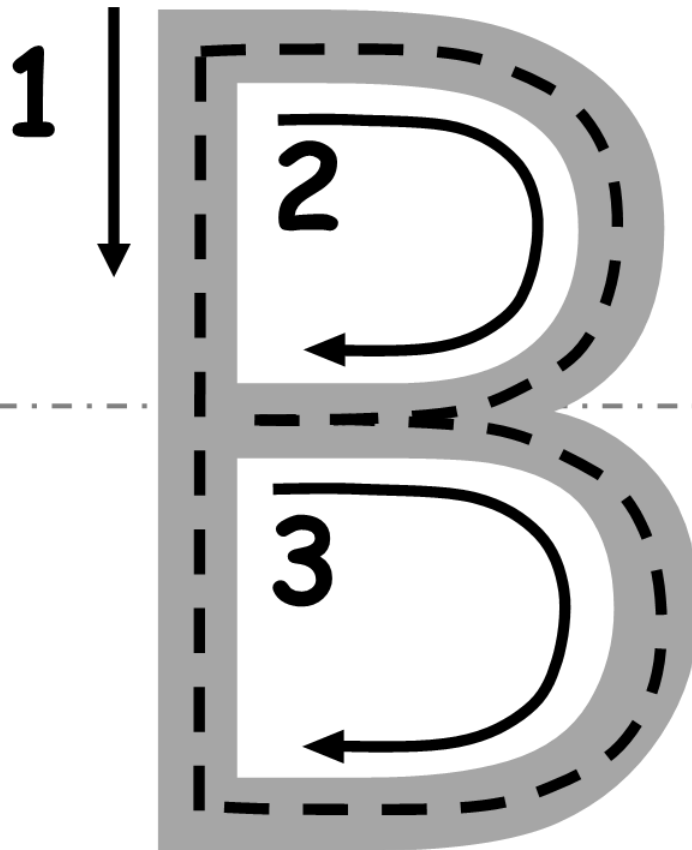
Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **uppercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



Bee



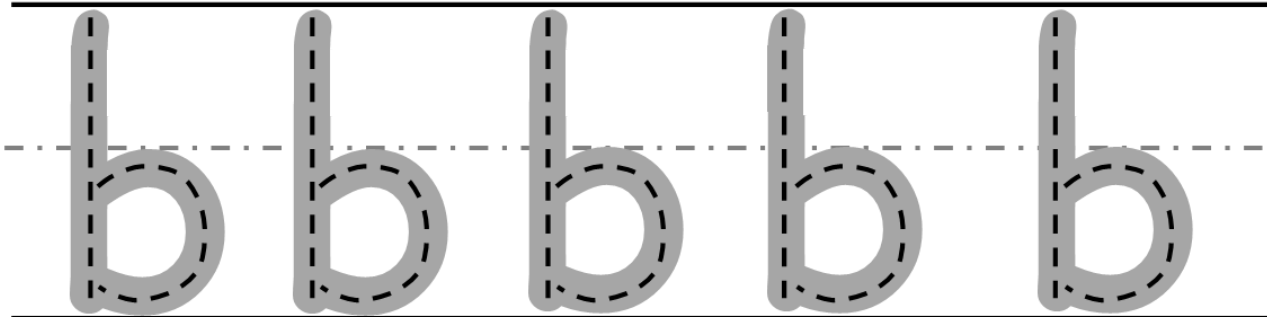
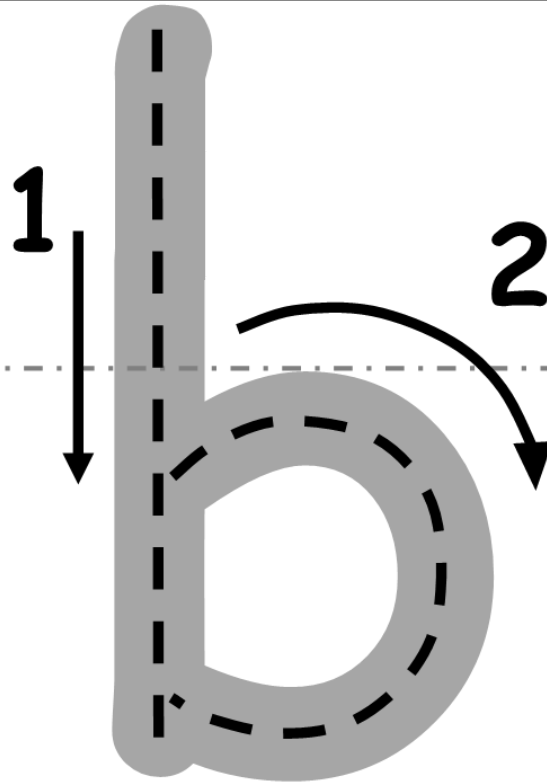
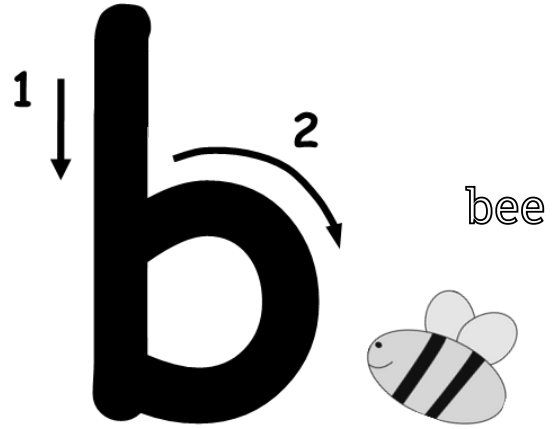


Preschool

Letter Tracing



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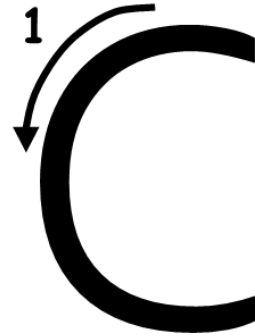


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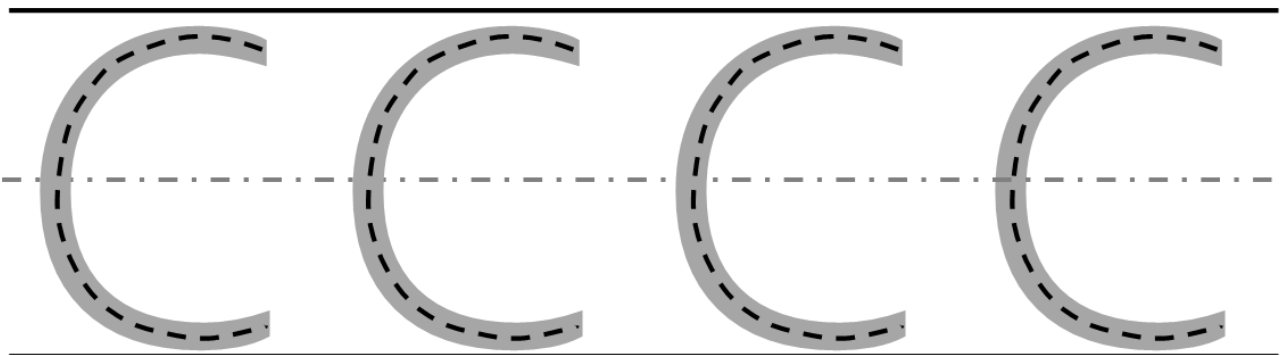
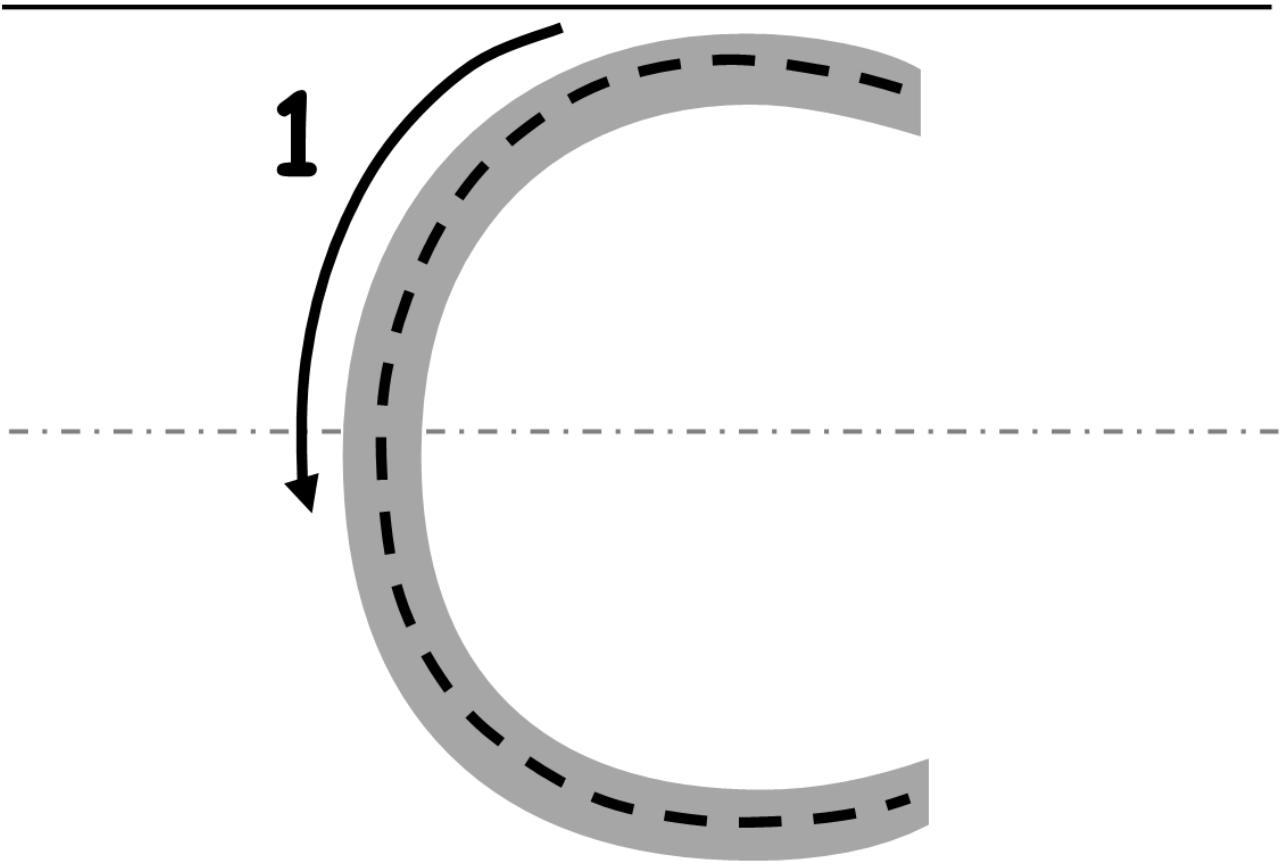
Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **uppercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



Cat



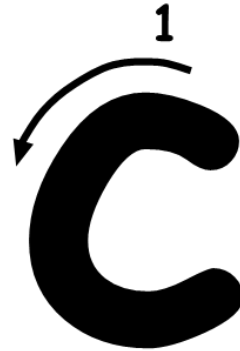


Preschool

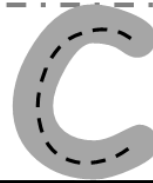
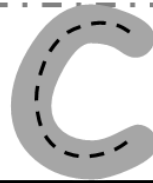
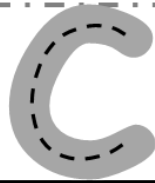
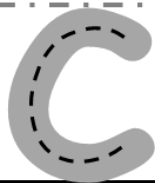
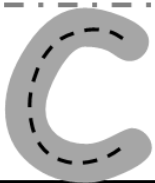
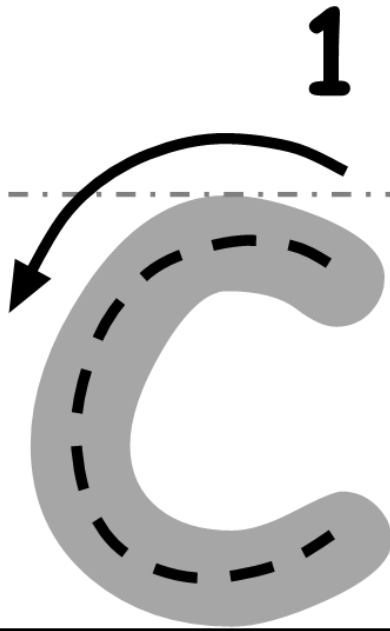
Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **lowercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



cat



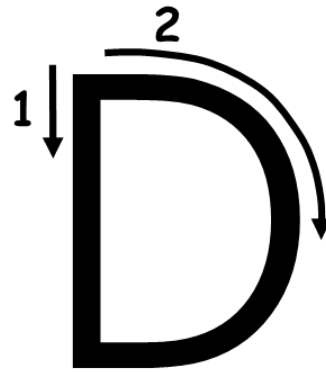


Preschool

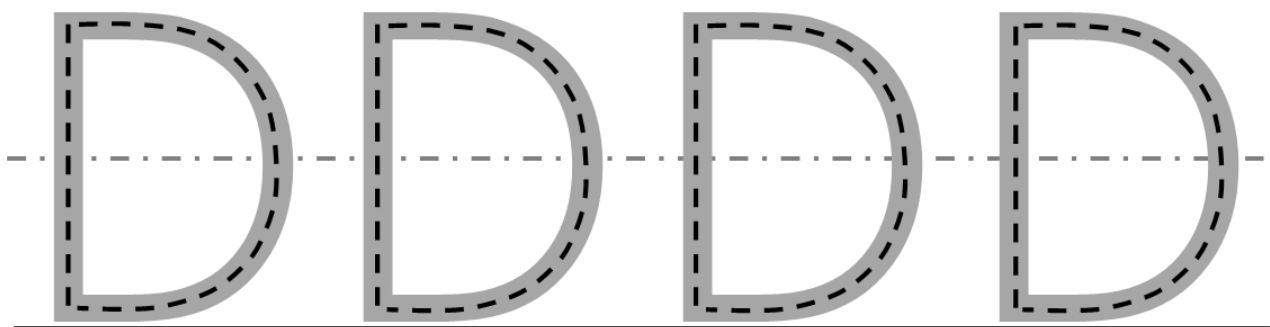
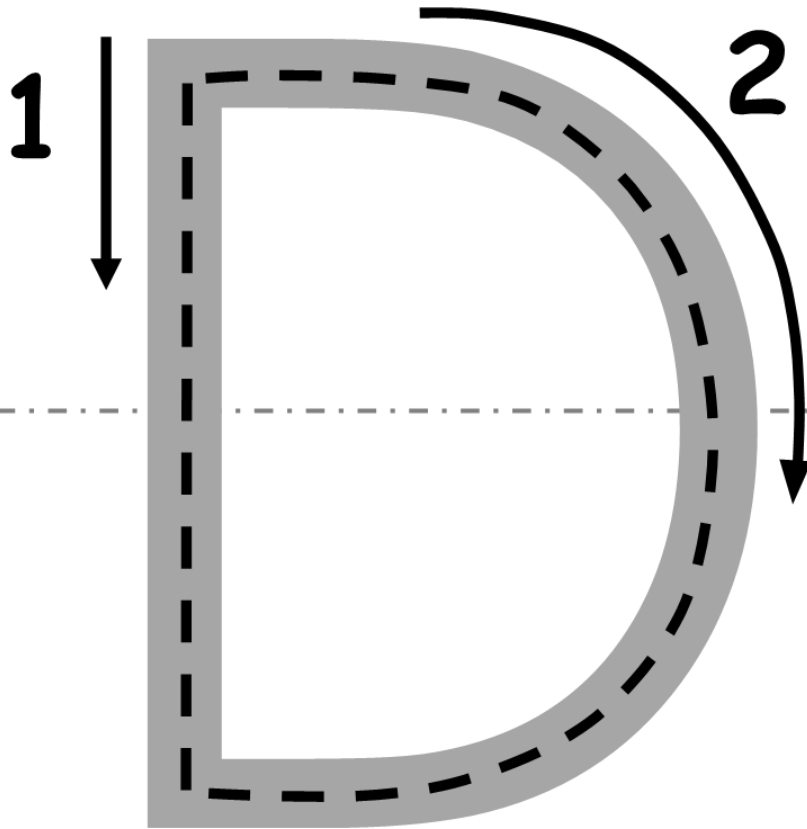
Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **uppercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



Dog



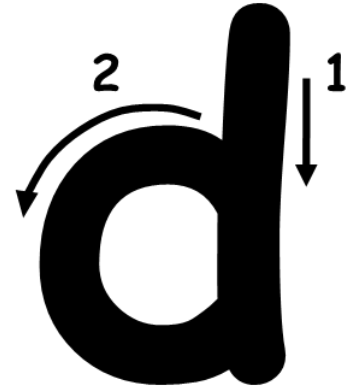


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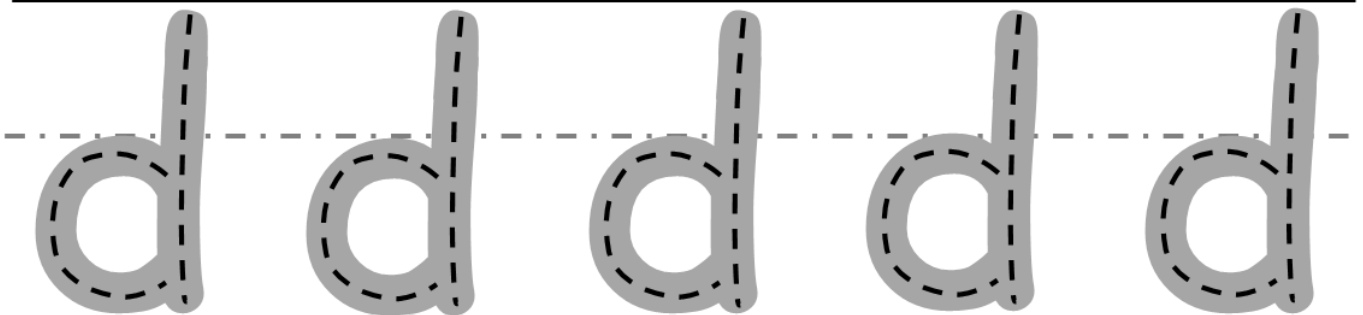
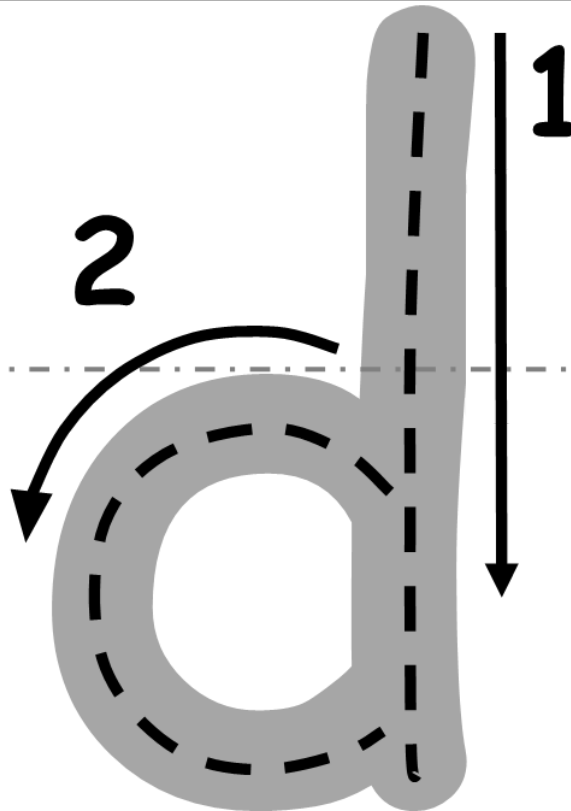
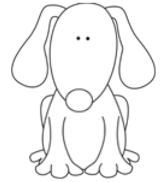
Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **lowercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



dog



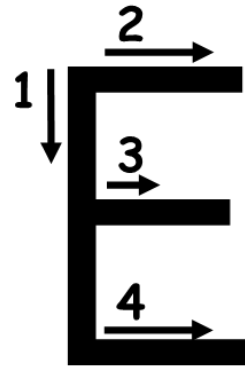


Preschool

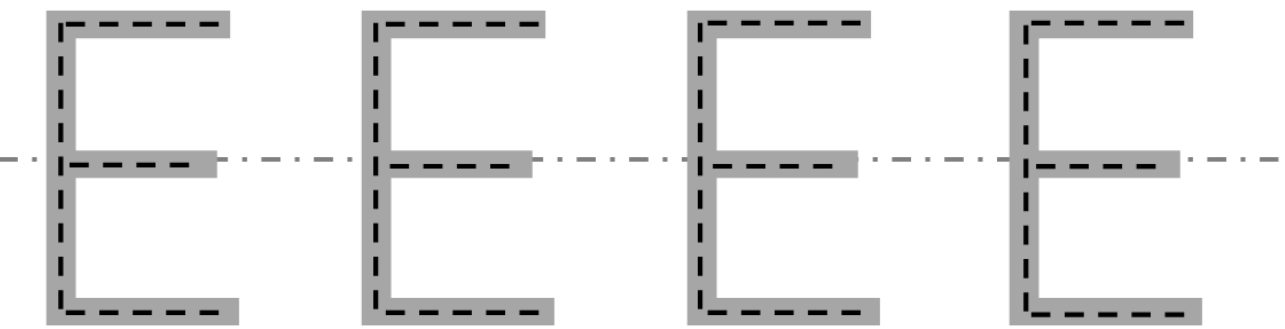
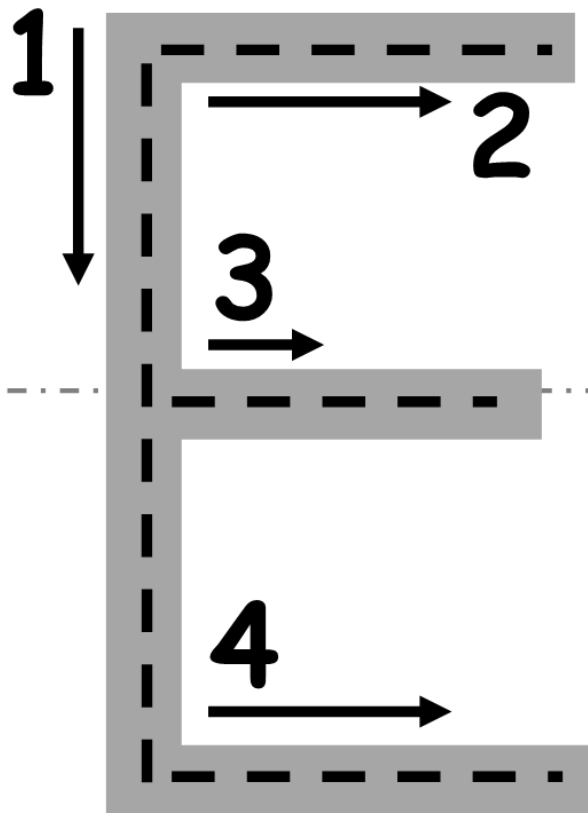
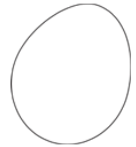
Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **uppercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



Egg





Preschool

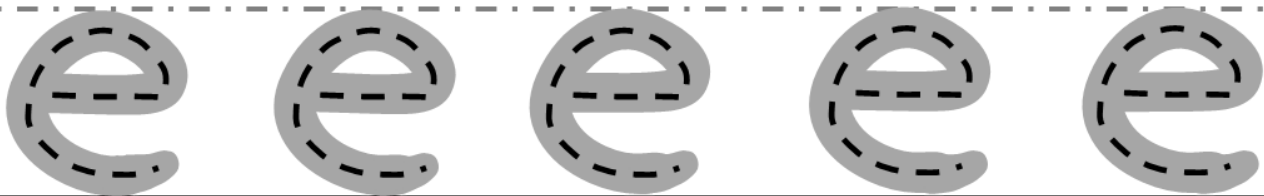
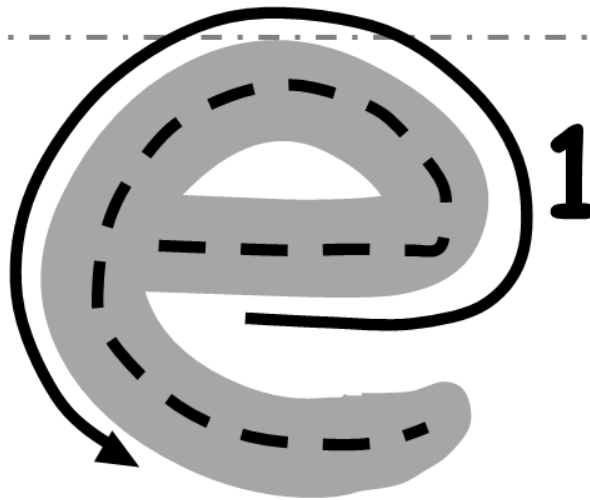
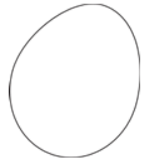
Letter Tracing



Use the dry erase pocket to trace the **lowercase letter** on the dotted lines for early literacy fun, over and over again!



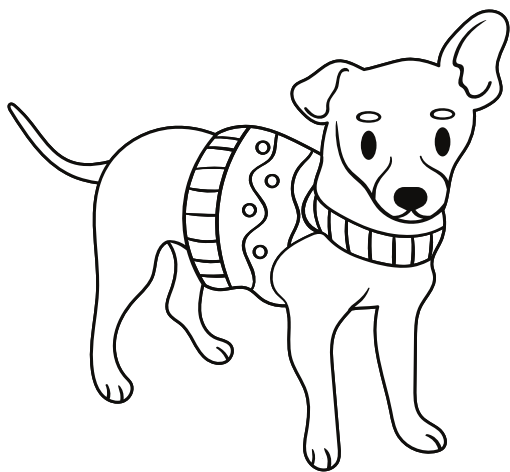
egg





Flannel Story Instructions

- Color all five little puppies
- Cut out the five puppies along the dotted squares
- Apply one “scratchy” Velcro dot to the backs of the five little puppies
- Use the felt piece to attach the five little puppies
- Read through the rhyming flannel story and think of other silly words that rhyme
- Practice counting the five little puppies
- Make up a puppy story of your own!





Four Little Puppies

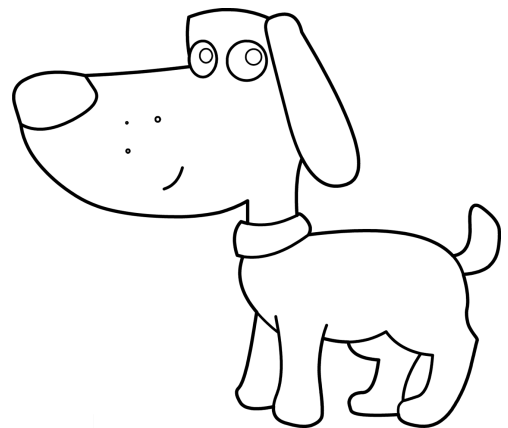
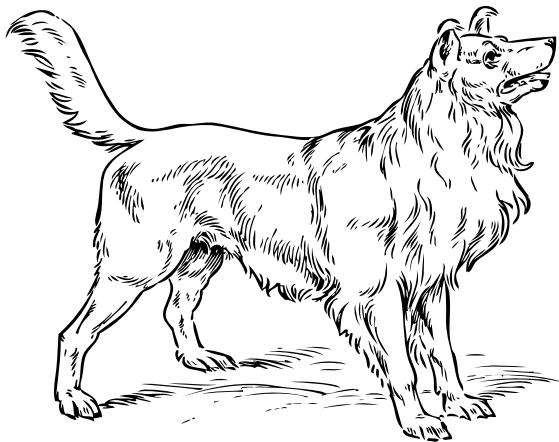
Five little puppies were playing in the sun.

This one saw a rabbit, and he began to run.

This one saw a butterfly, and he began to race.

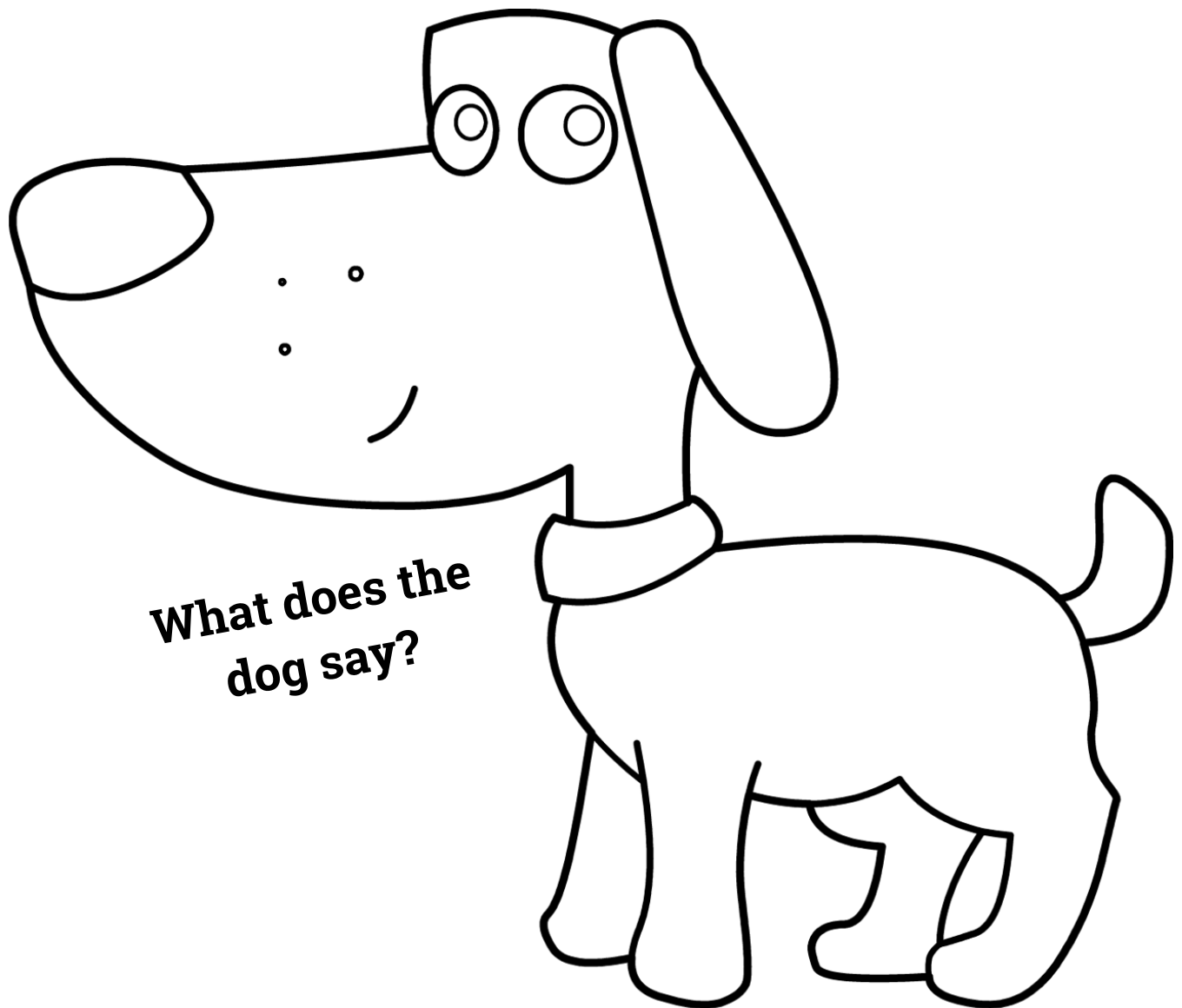
This one tried to catch his tail, and he went round & round.

This one was so quiet, he never made a sound!





Sensory Craft



**What does the
dog say?**

Use the "fuzzy" velcro dots to give the puppy spots