

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,

Edward Melton
Executive Director
Harris County Public Library

**growing
readers**
@hcpl



Craft Kit & Early Literacy Kit

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

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 Talking



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

- **Chicka Chicka Boom Boom**
by Bill Martin Jr.
- **Bark George!**
by Jules Feiffer
- **Wow, said the Owl**
by Tim Hopgood

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

Talking Tip to Share:

- Have your child tell and retell stories
- Ask your child questions when you read to them.

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

Talking Kit Contents:

Overview Sheet, Song Sheet, 5 Reusable Play Activity Sheets, Flannel Story Instructions, Felt Piece, 4 Velcro Dots, Sensory Craft



Scan here for
more Early
Literacy Info!

Preschool Talking



Songs About Talking:

"Alphabet Song"

ABCDEFGHIJ KLMNOP

QRS TUV W X Y and Z

Now I know my ABC's

Next time won't you sing with me?

"One, Two"

1, 2, buckle my shoe

3, 4, knock on the door

5, 6, pick up sticks

7, 8, lay them straight

9, 10, a big fat hen!

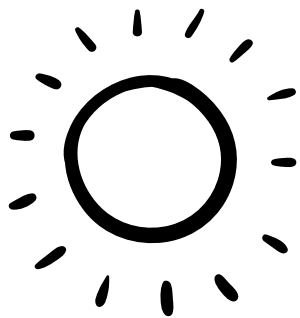
(Have your child count out loud!)



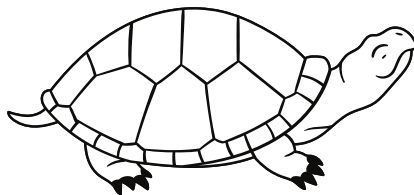
Scan here for
more Early
Literacy Info!



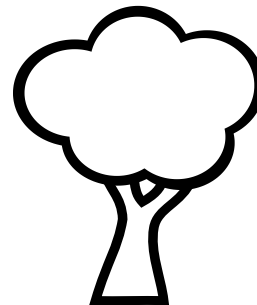
Circle the Word



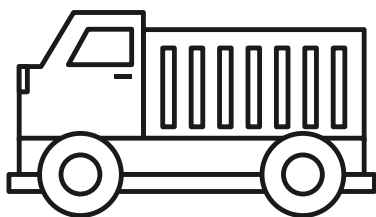
sun



turtle



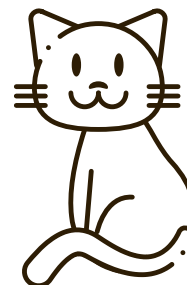
tree



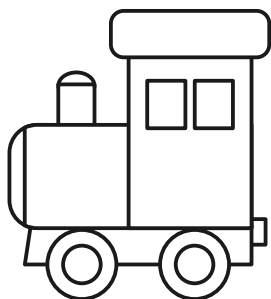
truck



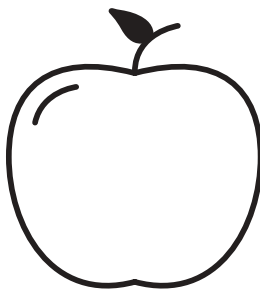
rainbow



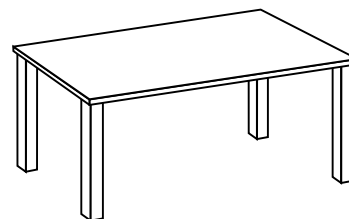
cat



train



apple



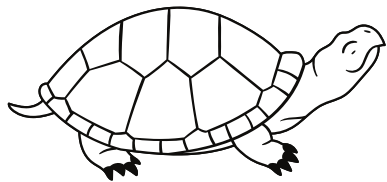
table

Circle the words that start with the letter "T"

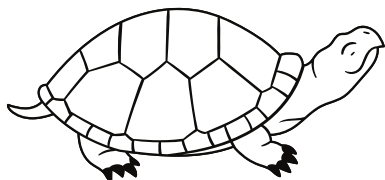
Have your child point to and say the words!



Count the Items



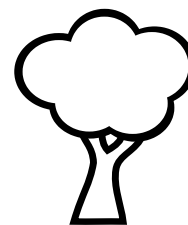
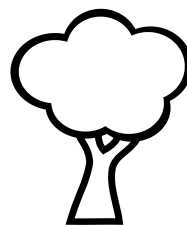
turtle



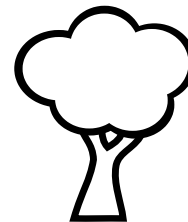
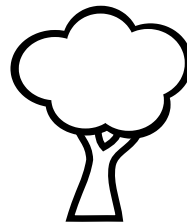
1

2

4



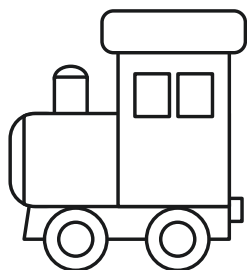
tree



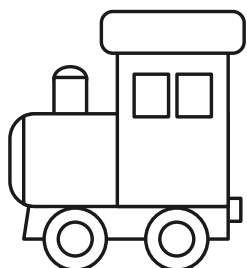
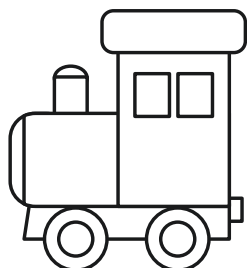
2

5

6



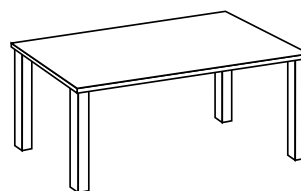
train



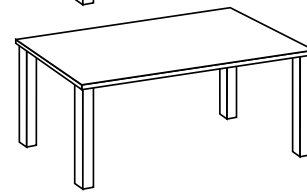
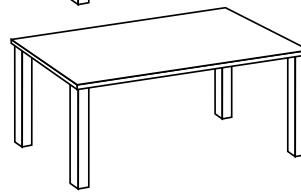
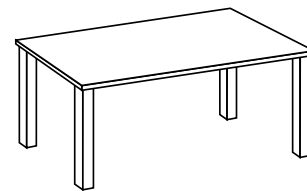
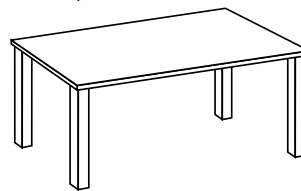
5

4

3



table



7

5

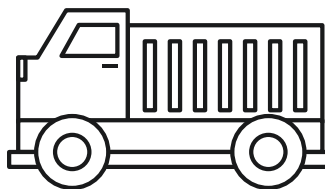
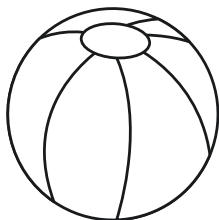
8

Count the items and circle the correct number for each

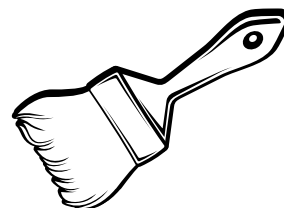
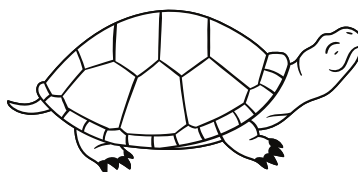


Can You Do It?

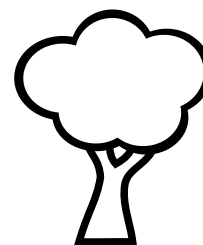
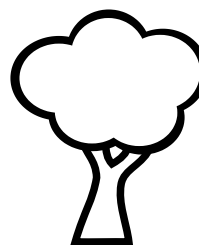
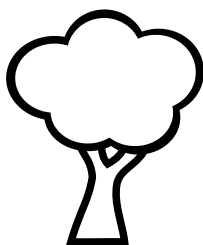
Circle the truck.



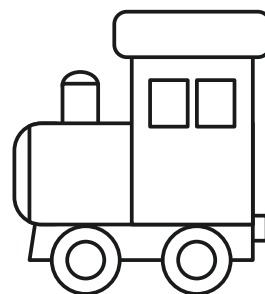
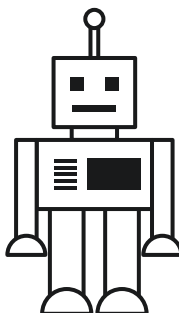
Draw a line under the turtle.



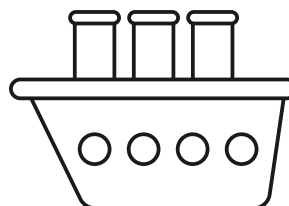
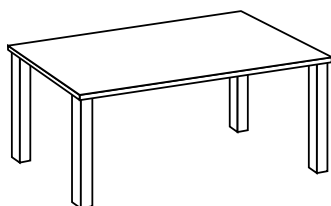
Color 2 trees.



Put an X on the train.



Circle the table.



Follow each prompt for all the words that start with "T"



Letter Search

T t

t H T

S A P N f

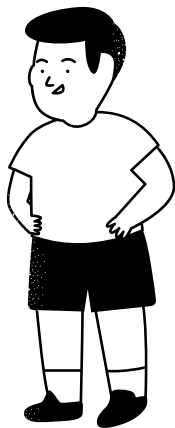
t B r W

V c d T

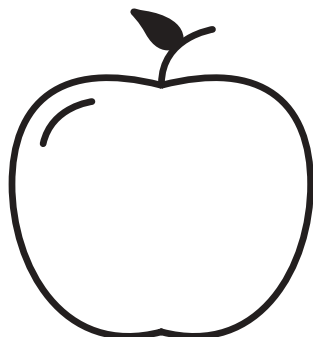
Find and circle the letter T t



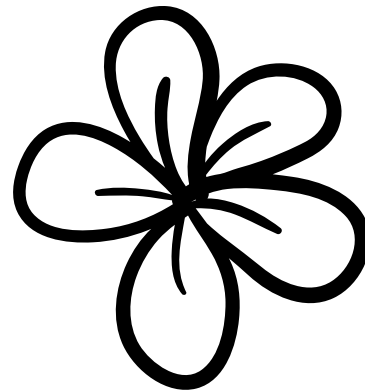
Who Talks?



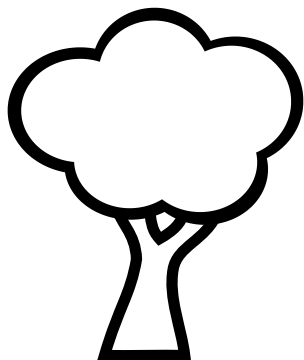
child



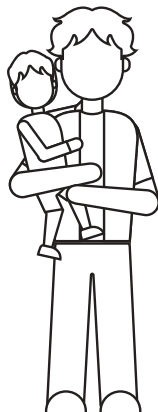
apple



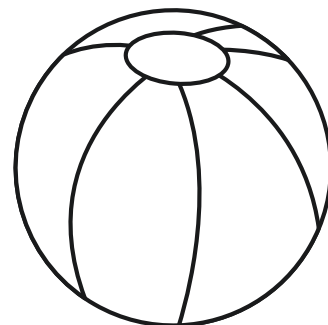
flower



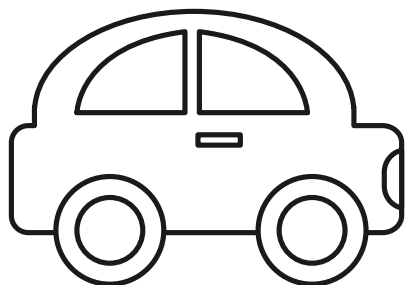
tree



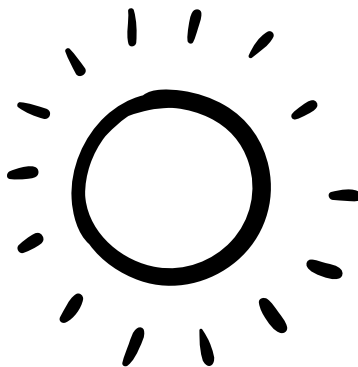
adult



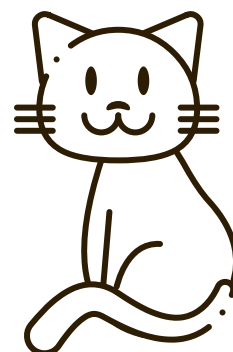
ball



car



sun



cat

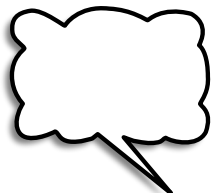
Circle the person or animal in each row that talks!

Can you find the one thing that starts with the letter "T"? growing readers
@hept

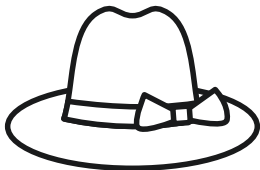


Find the Rhyme

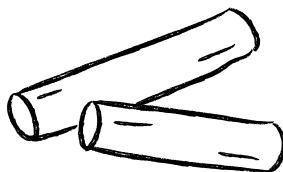
Words that rhyme have the same ending sound.



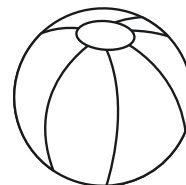
talk



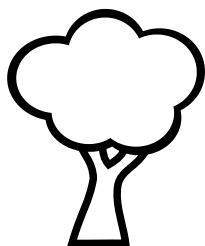
hat



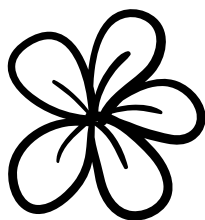
chalk



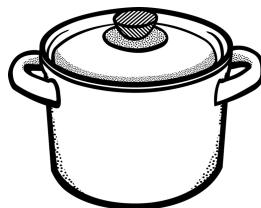
ball



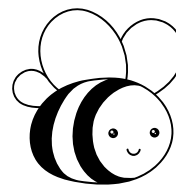
tree



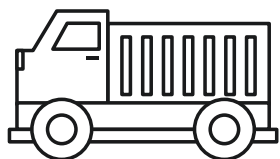
flower



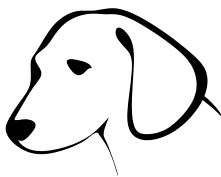
pot



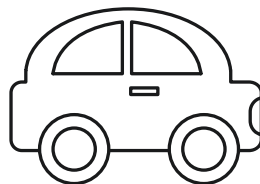
bee



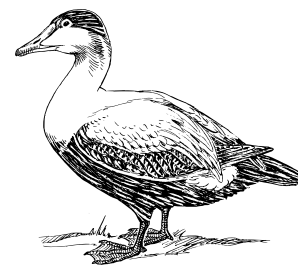
truck



dog



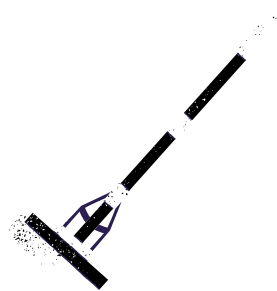
car



duck



top



mop



cup

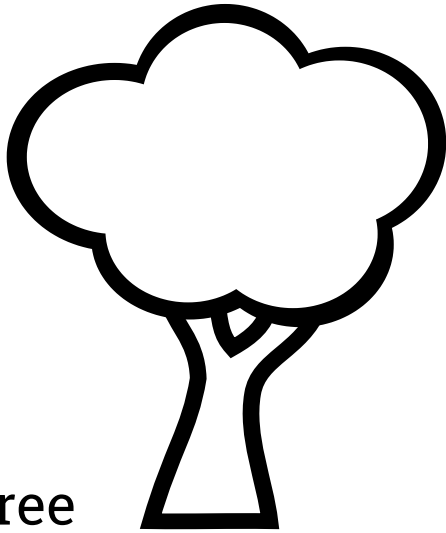


drum

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



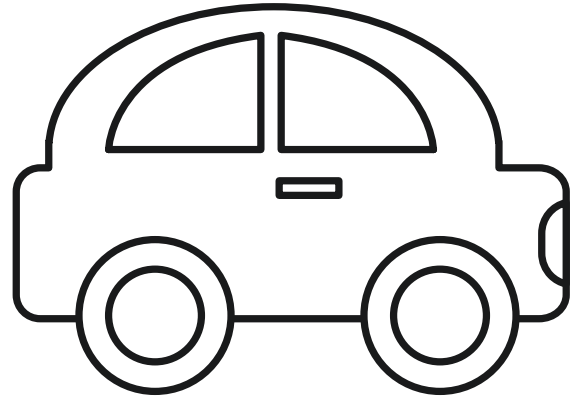
Let's Talk About It



tree

What is it?

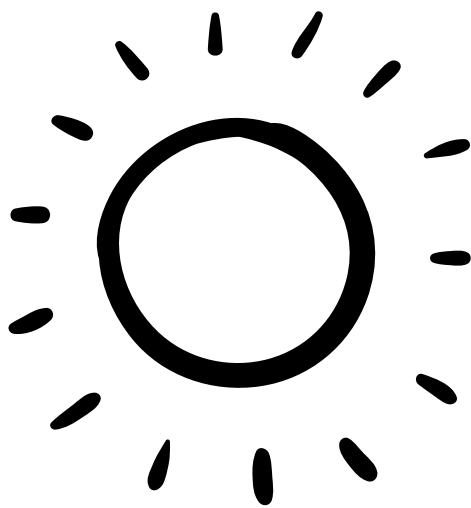
How big is it?



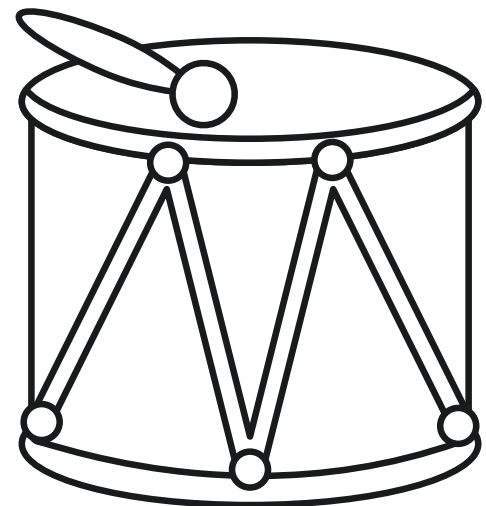
car

What does it do?

What sound does it make?



sun



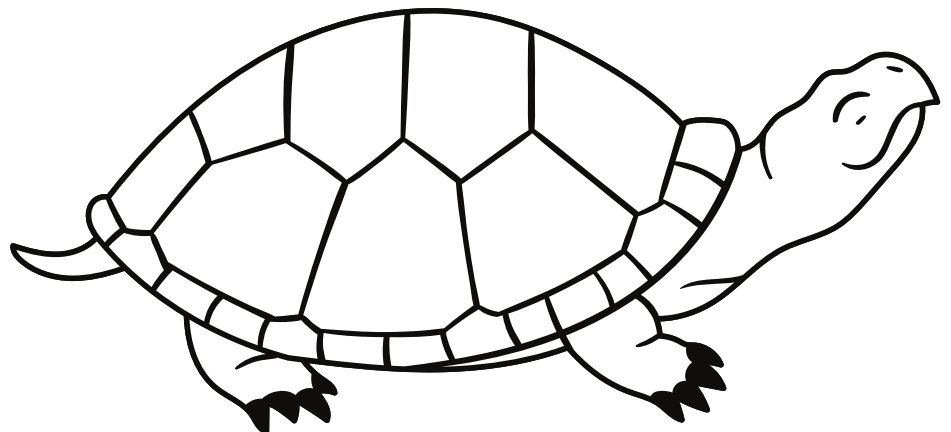
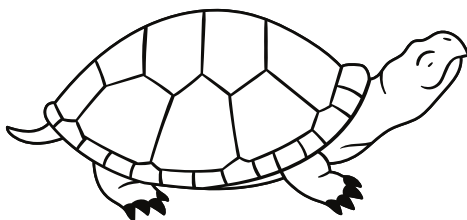
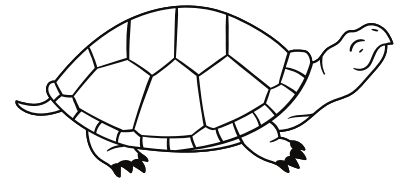
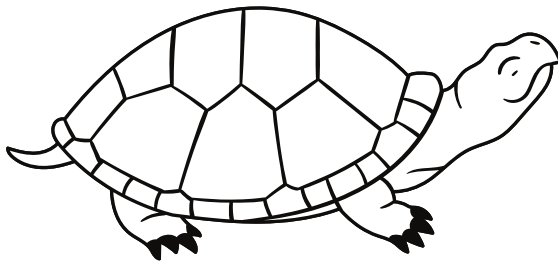
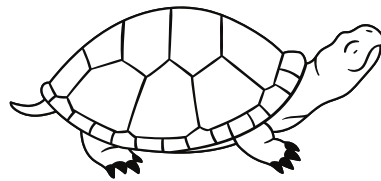
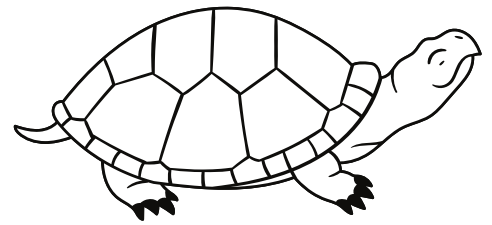
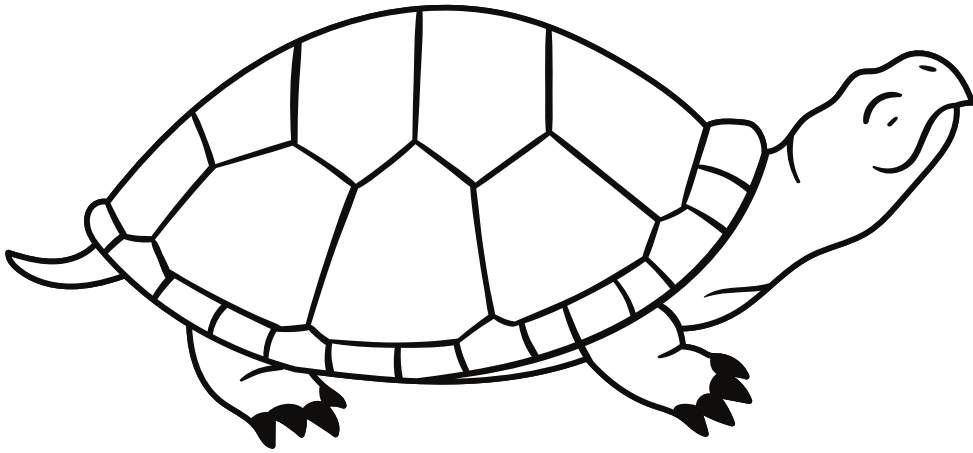
drum

Have your child tell you about each item on this page.

Preschool
Talking



Coloring



Color the 2 biggest turtles
(This page doesn't go in your dry erase pocket)

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 their Letters

- **Read!** Letters Aa- Ee
- **Write!** Letters Ff- Jj
- **Sing!** Letters Kk- Oo
- **Talk!** Letters Pp- Tt
- **Play!** Letters Uu- Zz

All letters are capital letter front and lowercase back!

Tracing Tips:

- 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!

growing
readers
@hcpl

Letter Tracing



Letter tracing is closely linked to the three 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.

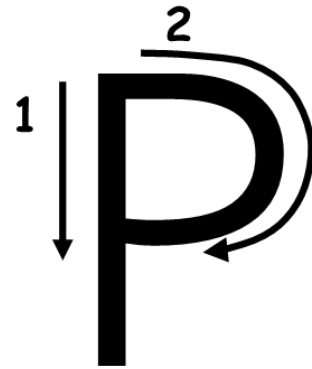


Preschool

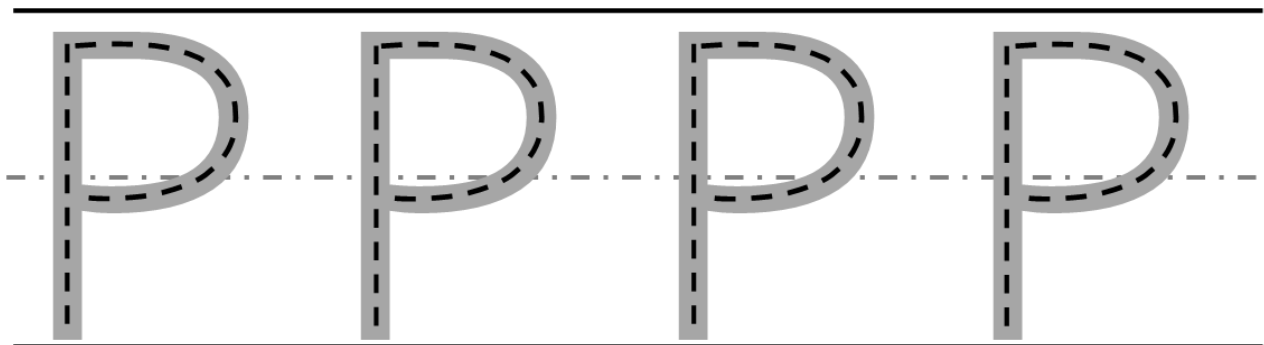
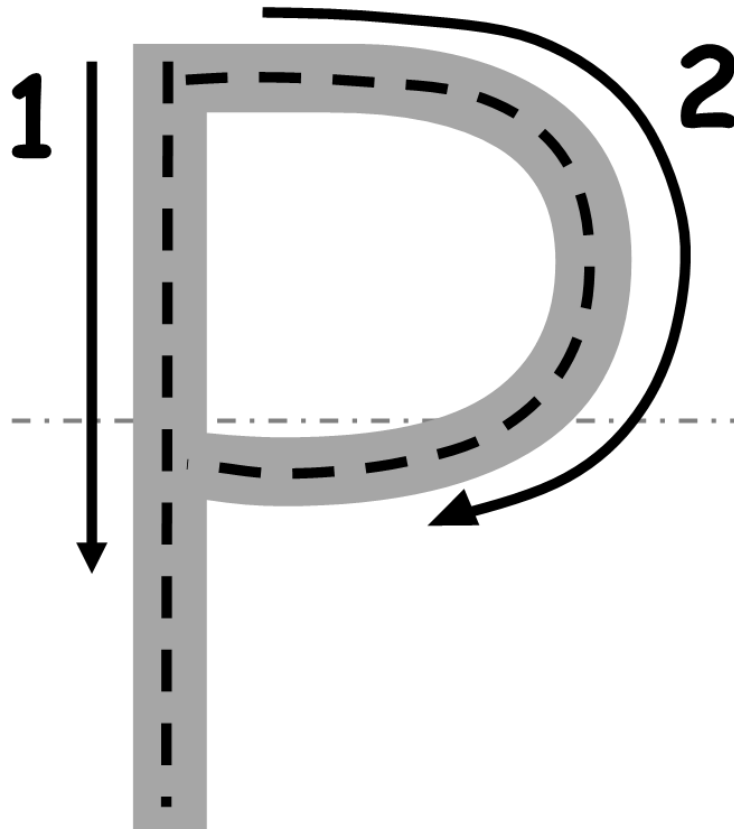
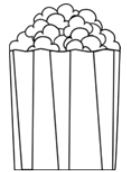
Letter Tracing



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



Popcorn



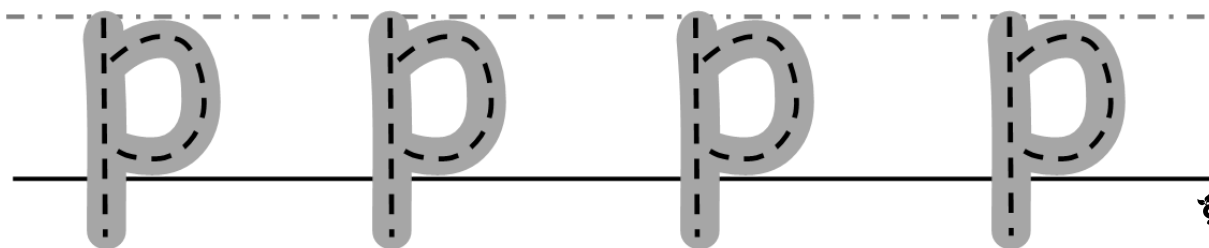
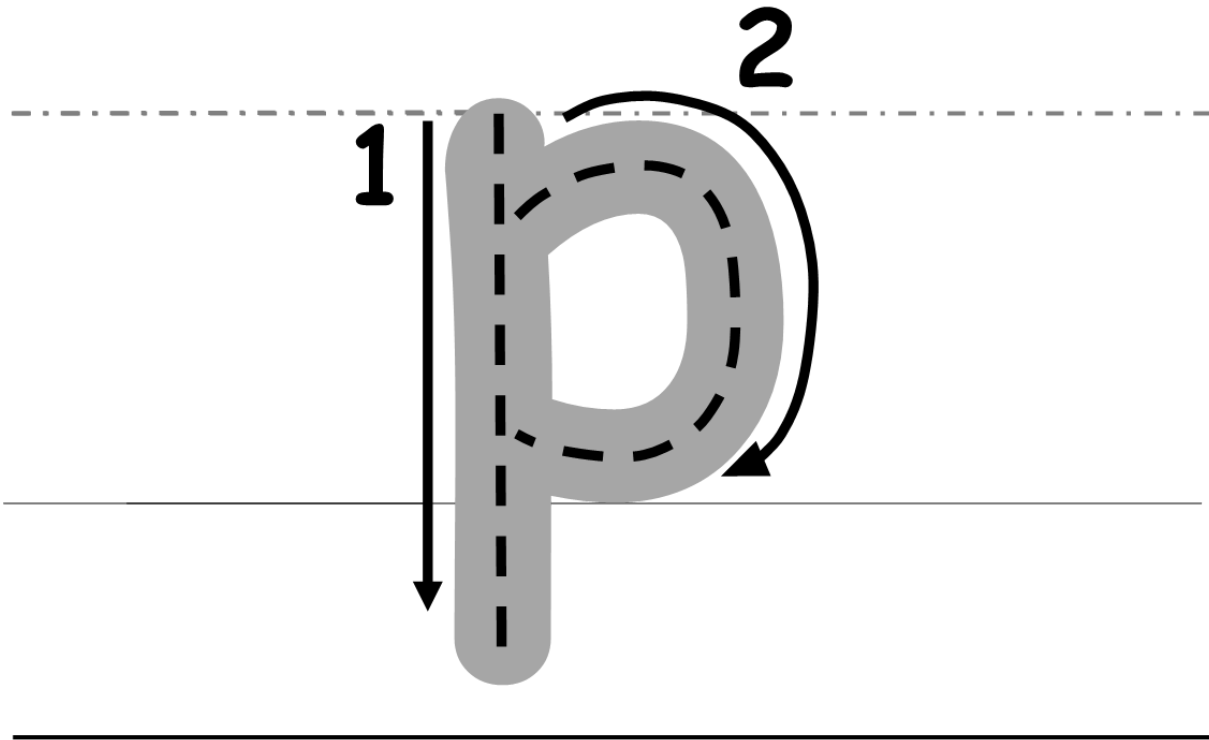
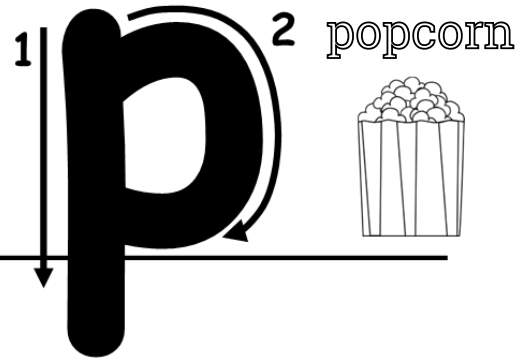


Preschool

Letter Tracing



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



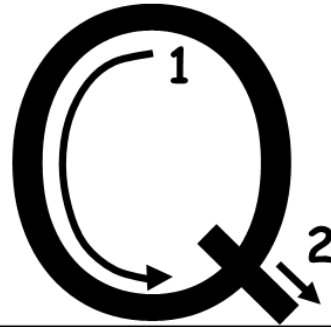


Preschool

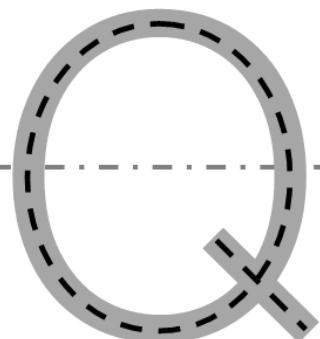
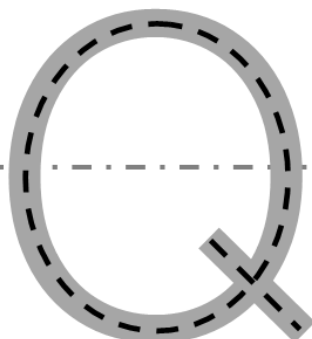
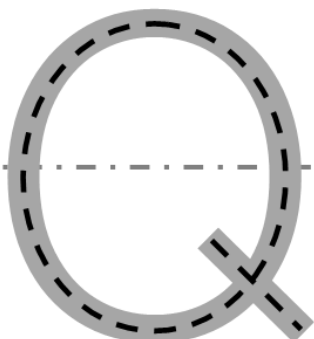
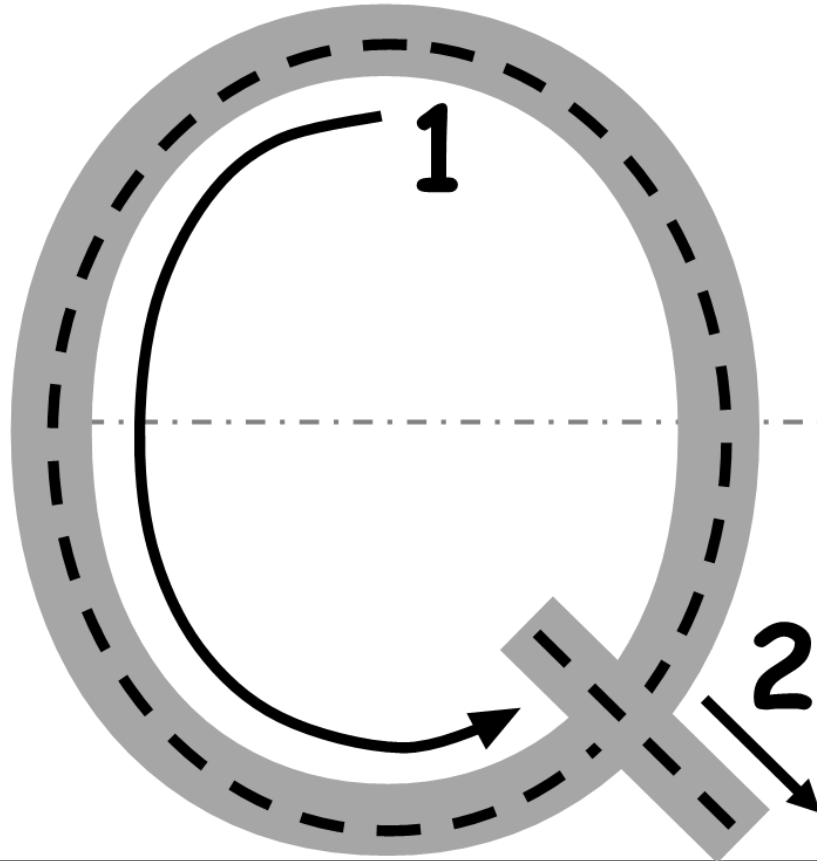
Letter Tracing



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



Queen



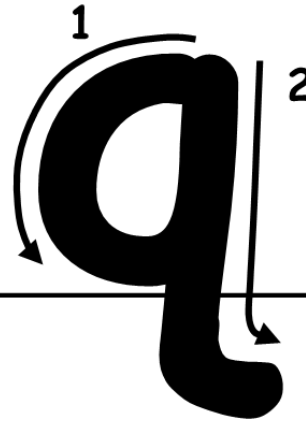


Preschool

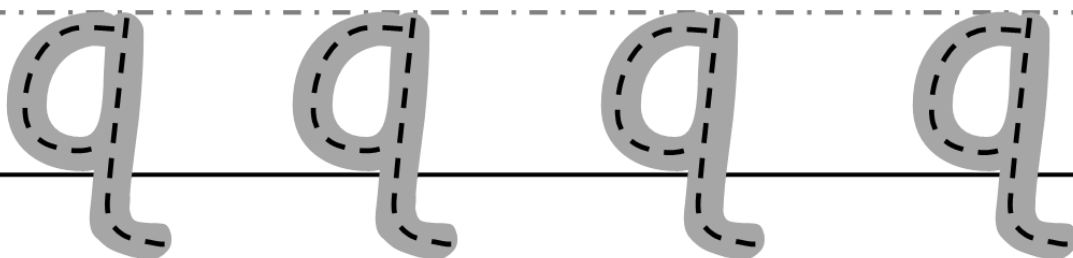
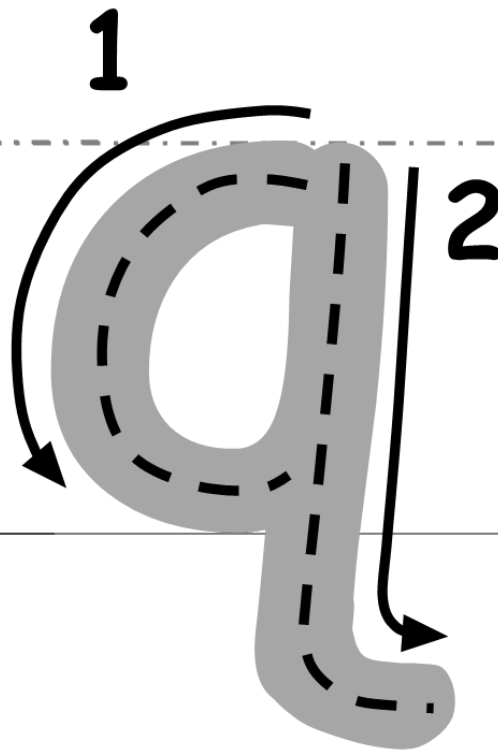
Letter Tracing



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queen



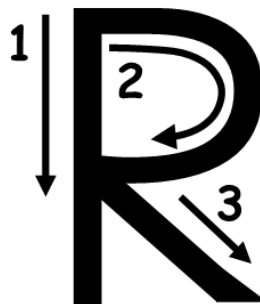


Preschool

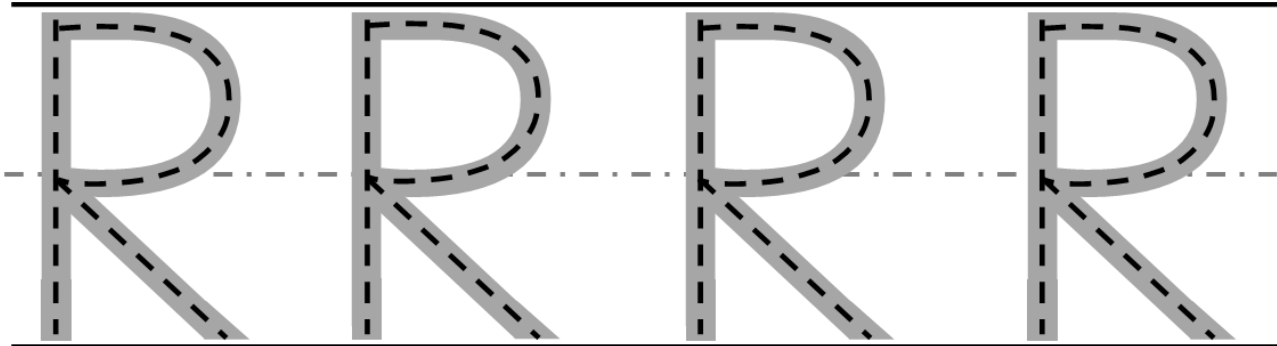
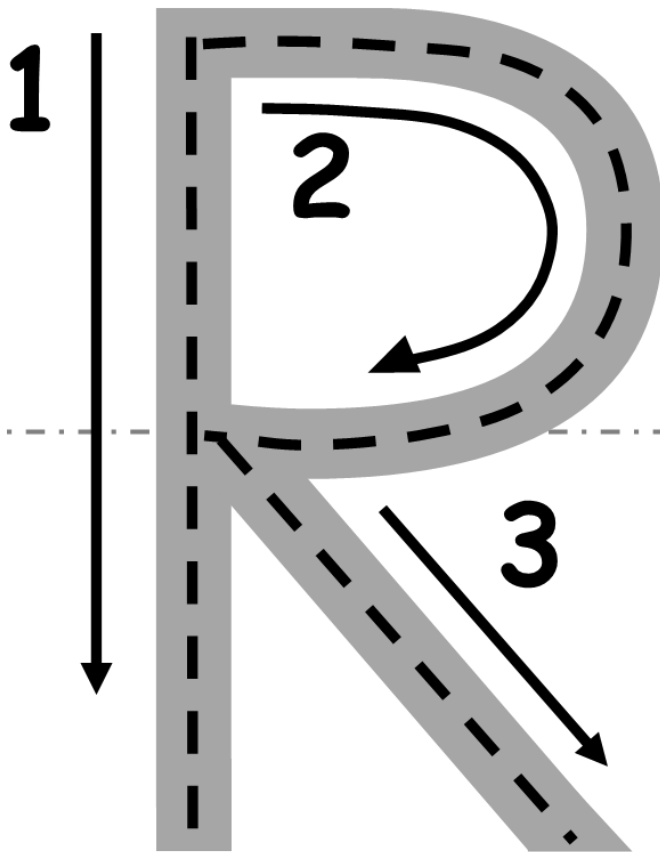
Letter Tracing



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Ring



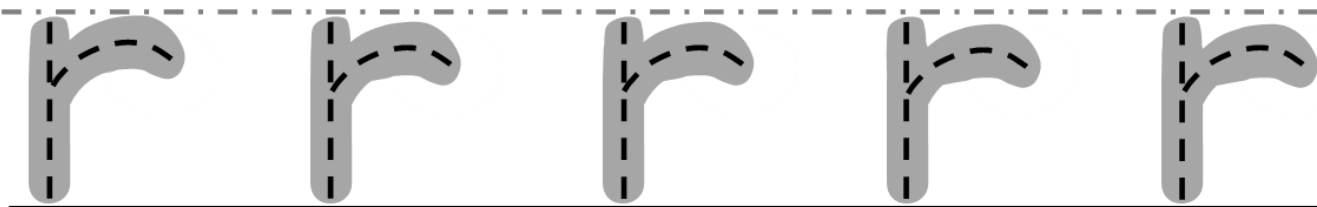
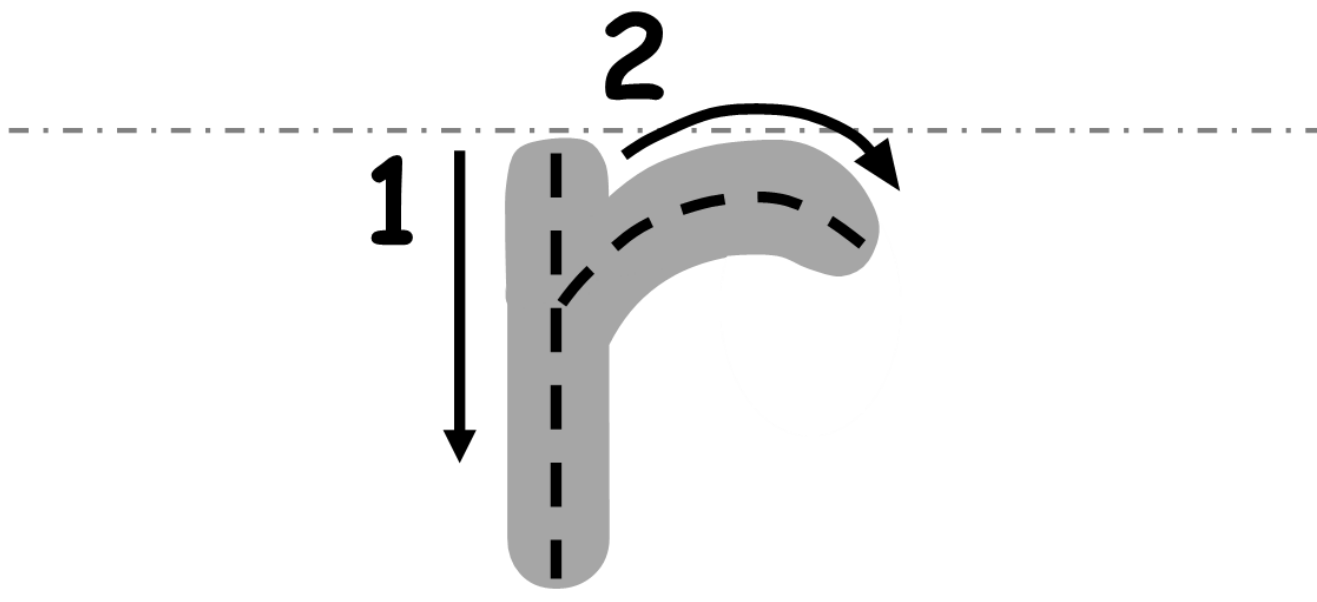
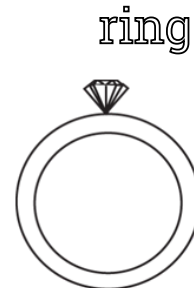
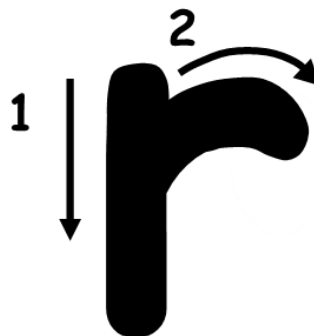


Preschool

Letter Tracing



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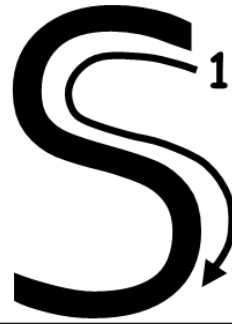


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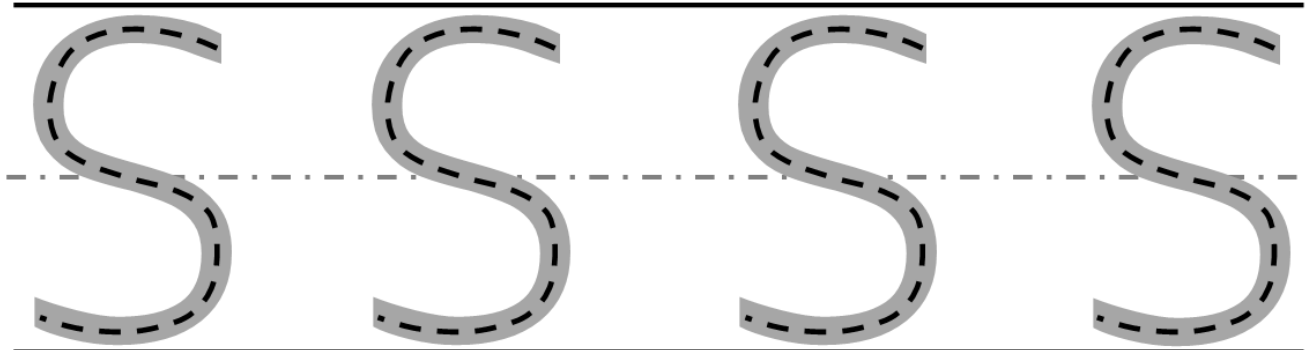
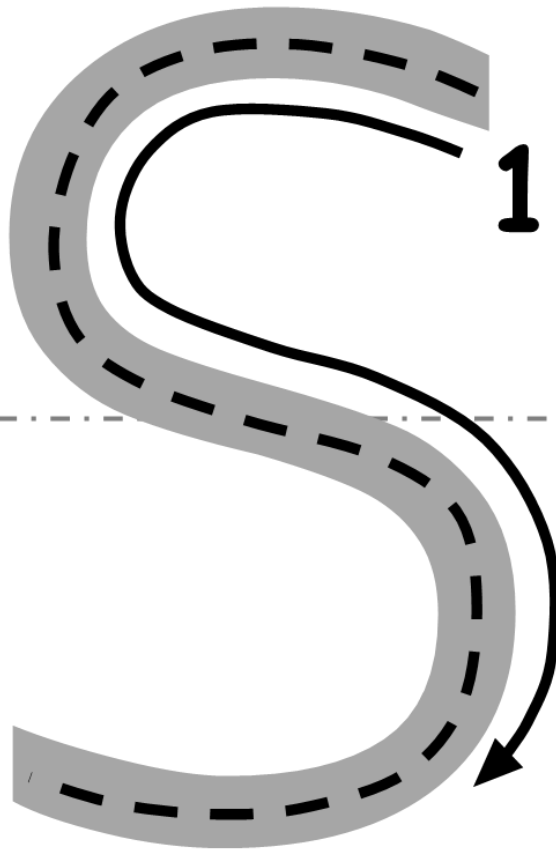
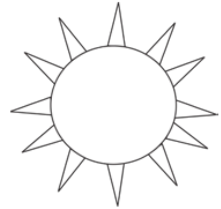
Letter Tracing



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Sun



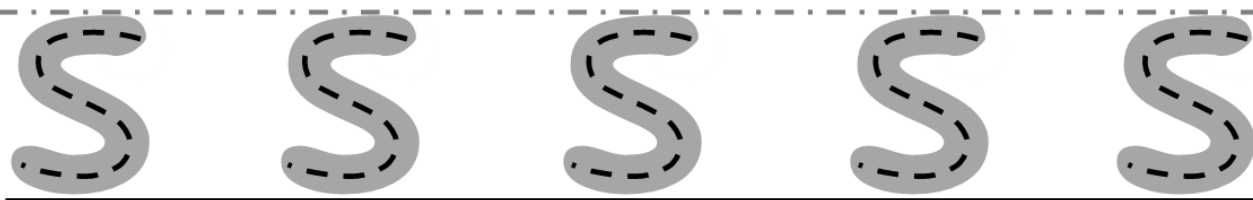
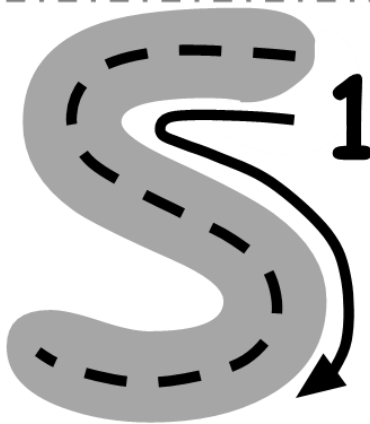
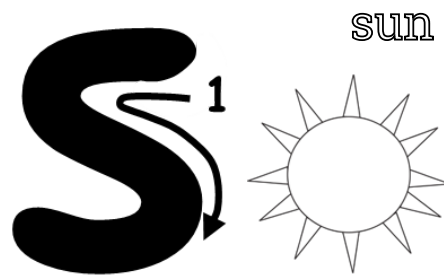


Preschool

Letter Tracing



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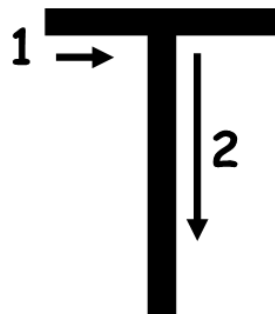


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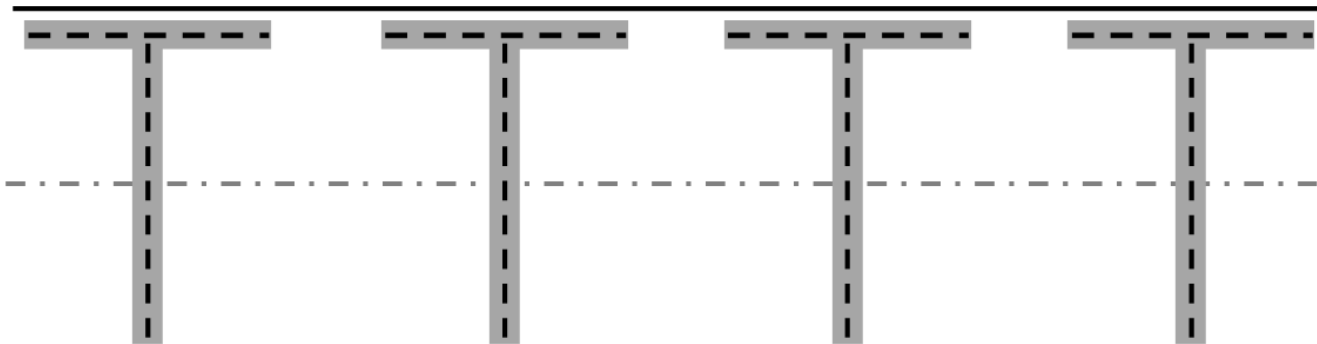
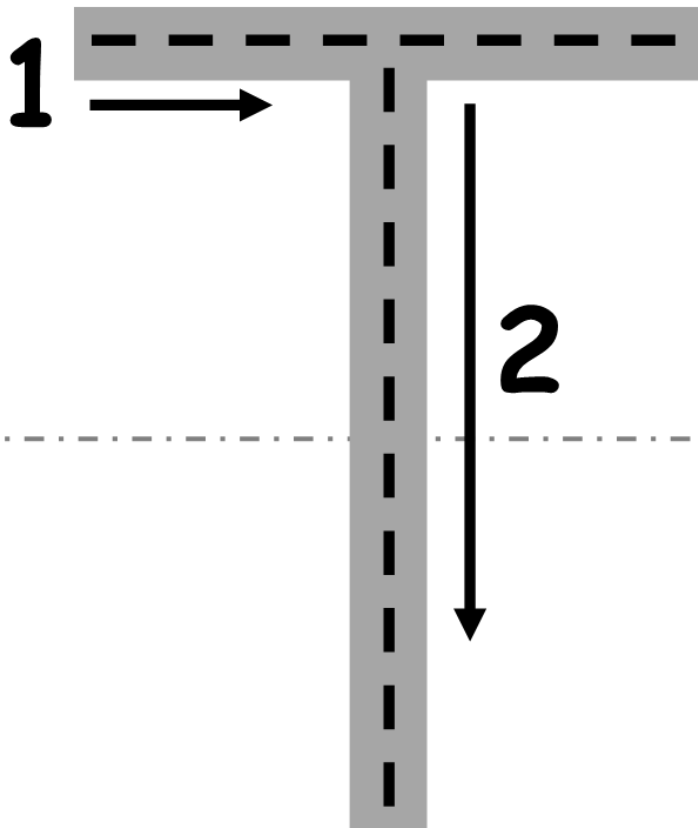
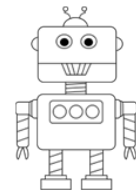
Letter Tracing



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



Toy



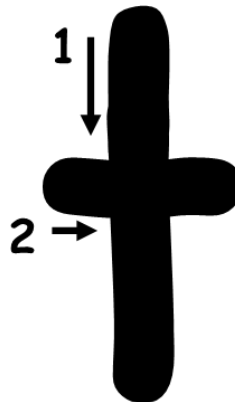


Preschool

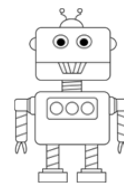
Letter Tracing



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



toy



Tracing practice area for the lowercase letter 't'. It features a large dashed 't' with stroke order arrows (1: down, 2: right) and a horizontal dashed line. Below this are five smaller dashed 't's for tracing, each on a set of three horizontal lines (top, middle dashed, bottom).

Preschool Talking

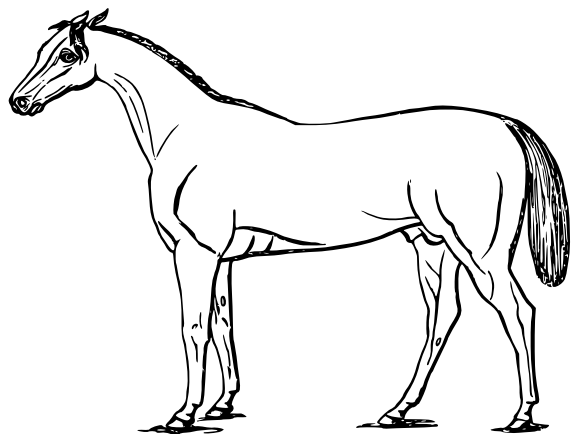


Flannel Story Instructions

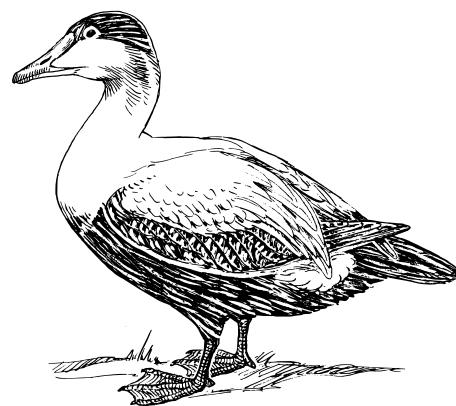
- Color the farm animals.
- Cut out each piece on the dotted lines of the square (help your child with the scissors as needed).
- Apply one “scratchy” Velcro dot to the back of each animal.
- Sing the song with your child and have them choose the correct animal and put it on the felt piece.
- Make the sound of each animal!

EXTRA ACTIVITIES:

- Count all the animals.
- Have your child tell you a story about the animals.



horse says **neigh**



duck says **quack**



Old MacDonald Had a Farm

Old MacDonald had a farm E-I-E-I-O

On that farm he had a **cow** E-I-E-I-O

With a **moo-moo** here,

a **moo-moo** there.

Here a **moo**, there a **moo**.

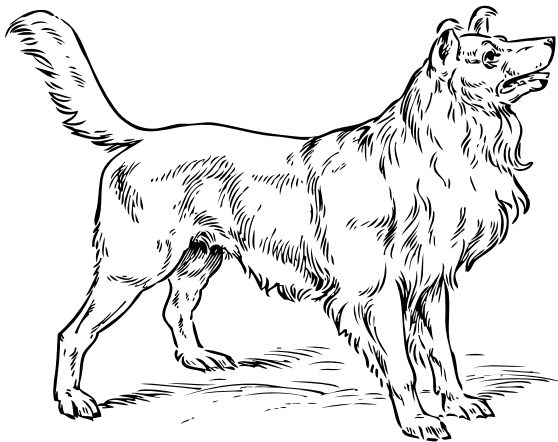
Everywhere a **moo-moo**.

Old MacDonald had a farm E-I-E-I-O

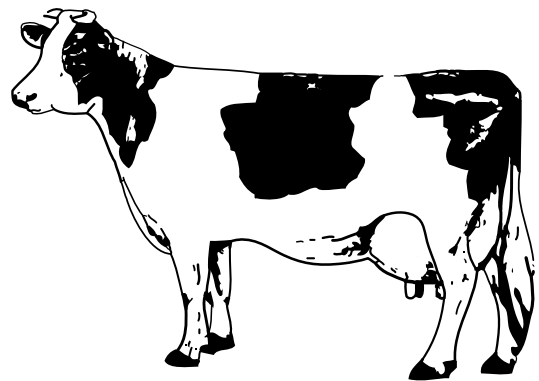
verses:

horse - neigh duck - quack

dog - woof



dog says **woof**



cow says **moo**

Preschool
Talking



Sensory Craft

*What does the
sheep say?*



Use the "fuzzy" velcro dots to give the sheep wool.