



KCS  home

Early Childhood Resource Guide

April/May 2020



Dear Preschool Families,

Please enjoy our new preschool packet. We've included lots of nursery rhyme activities, along with opportunities to practice letters, numbers, science topics, and build language.

We have enjoyed working with your child during this school year. Even though it ended too early, we feel that your child is ready for Kindergarten.

Remember to register your child for Kindergarten. Schools are offering opportunities to pick up and drop off registration packets. Check the website of the school where your child is registered to find more information.

We have also included the Kindergarten targets so that you may continue to work with your child during the summer. It is okay if your child cannot do all of the things listed.

Have a great summer and do not hesitate to reach out to us if you need further support.

Sincerely,

Beth Lackey, Voluntary PreK Supervisor
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Shelli Eberle, Special Education Preschool Supervisor
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April 2020 (Week of April 27th)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Sensory Exploration	28 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Choose an Alphabet activity	29 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Math Fun	30 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Science Exploration	1 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Be Creative	2

<p>Nursery Rhyme of the Week (pick from the ones included): Practice one or two lines each day. Choose activities from the list provided or come up with some on your own. On Friday call a family member or friend and you and your child can recite the nursery rhyme.</p>	<p>April 27 - Sensory Exploration Choose some objects and put them in a bag. Have your child reach in the bag and touch the object. Have your child describe the way the object feels and then see if your child can guess the object. Then let your child do the same and ask him/her questions as you try to guess the object.</p>	<p>April 28 – Alphabet Activity choose an alphabet activity from the list that is appropriate for your child’s development and interest.</p>
<p>April 29-Math Fun Choose some materials that your child likes to play with, such as cars, stuffed animals, or blocks. Have your child sort the material, and then ask your child how he/she sorted them; such as size, color, or shape.</p>	<p>April 30 - Science Exploration Use 2 toilet paper rolls taped together to make binoculars. Go outside with your child or look out the window. Help your child describe what he/she sees through the binoculars.</p>	<p>May 1 - Be Creative Have an art show. Have each family member create a work of art using materials you have at home. Each family member can share their art work. Then ask each other questions and give each other some praise about their creation.</p>

*Practice improving independence skills each day with your child. Examples are included in the Resources Guide provided previously.

* Find some time to read with your child each day, or have an older child read to them.

May 2020 (Week of May 4)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Sensory Exploration	5 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Choose an Alphabet activity	6 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Math Fun	7 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Science Exploration	8 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Be Creative	9

<p>Nursery Rhyme of the Week (pick from the ones included): Practice one or two lines each day. Choose activities from the list provided or come up with some on your own. On Friday call a family member or friend and you and your child can recite the nursery rhyme.</p>	<p>May 4 - Sensory Exploration Let your child wash some child-safe kitchen items. As he/she is washing the items, discuss the size, shape, color, and purpose of the items. Then let your child dry them and put them away.</p>	<p>May 5-Alphabet Activity Choose an alphabet activity from the list that is appropriate for your child’s development and interest.</p>
<p>May 6-Math Fun Shape Hunt Name a shape and have your child find objects in the house that are that shape. Then have your child name the object and the shape in a complete sentence- for example, “The window is a rectangle.” Your child can also add size in the sentence. “The window is a large rectangle”</p>	<p>May 7- Science Exploration Have a movement Olympics. Choose an animal and have your child move like the animal. You can have your children race each other. For example, gallop like a horse, walk like a crab, slither like a snake.</p>	<p>May 8-Be Creative Make a card for someone. Help your child make a card to either send or share with someone. Have them list the reasons that person is special to them.</p>

*Practice improving independence skills each day with your child. Examples are included in the Resources Guide previously provided.

* Find some time to read with your child each day, or have an older child read to them,

May 2020 (Week of May 11)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10	11 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Sensory Exploration	12 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Choose an Alphabet activity	13 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Math Fun	14 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Science Exploration	15 *Nursery Rhyme of the week *Be Creative	16

<p>Nursery Rhyme of the Week (pick from the ones included): Practice one or two lines each day. Choose activities from the list provided or come up with some on your own. On Friday call a family member or friend and you and your child can recite the nursery rhyme.</p>	<p>May 11- Sensory Exploration Transportation Movement: Help your child list different types of transportation then have him/her move like the mode of transportation: Fly like a plane, drive a car, skate on ice skates, ski on water skis, hop like a pogo stick, etc.</p>	<p>May 12-Alphabet Activity Choose an alphabet activity from the list that is appropriate for your child's development and interest.</p>
<p>May 13-Math Fun Tangram Pieces</p> <p>Cut out the pieces included in the handout. Help your child identify the pieces:</p> <p>2 large triangles, 1 medium-sized triangle, 2 small triangles, 1 square (sometimes called a rhombus), and 1 parallelogram. Use the pieces to make animals and designs.</p>	<p>May 14- Science Exploration Be an outdoor scientist- have your child explore the yard and pretend like he/she is a scientist. Have your child name the things he/she sees and then create a picture of the yard or what your child investigated. Your child can then be the teacher and teach you or another family member about what he/she discovered.</p>	<p>May 15-Be Creative Have a drive-in movie. If you have a large box, let your child decorate it and then he/she can sit in the box and watch their favorite movie/show on tv. Have movie snacks and then discuss the movie or TV show. Pretend like your child is one of the characters and interview your child about his/her role in the movie.</p>

*Practice improving independence skills each day with your child. Examples are included in the Resources Guide previously provided.

* Find some time to read with your child each day, or have an older child read to them.

Alphabet Activities

Letter of the day- choose a different letter each day

1. Write the letter
2. Draw the letter in sand or salt on a tray
3. Find something that starts with the letter
4. Look for the letter in magazines, old mail, catalogs
5. Use letter cards, find the capital and the lowercase letter

Alphabet

1. Deal the Alphabet Cards (included) ~ one to you, one to me; great fine motor skill
2. Flash! Use the cards like flashcards, showing them one at a time and having the child call out the letter or sound. Make it fun!
3. Sort those letters made with straight lines vs. curved lines
4. Order the cards according to the alphabet. Can you do it backward? How fast can you do it?
5. Play the Memory game with the capital and lowercase letters
6. Trace the letters with fingers, toes, or even your nose!
7. Construct a letter ~ using the letter card as your guide, build the letter using blocks, toys, dough, or even food!
8. Hunt objects in/around the house that begin with each letter, stick the letter card on the object to identify
9. Make a collage for each letter. Take the letter card and glue it to a sheet of paper. Then find and cut pictures that begin with that letter and glue them to a paper as well
10. Recall ~either looking at the alphabet or not, quiz on letter order. What letter is after Q? Before H? OR What sound does J make? L?
11. Word Ladders spell a simple word, like HAM, then change the word by changing the first letter; JAM, SAM, AM, PAM, RAM

12. I Spy. certain things out in the world look like letters. Take your letter cards on a walk through the neighborhood. A tree branch looks like a V, a swing set looks like an A, a street corner looks like a T

13. Run Off Some Energy ~ run, walk, skip, jump in the shape of each letter

14. Sort or match the uppercase letters and lowercase letters

15. Play “Going on a Hike” Choose a letter and then say “I’m going on a Hike and I’m taking something that starts with the letter ____ and it’s a _____.” Then have your child list something that starts with that letter. Take turns and try to remember all of the things in order.

Modifications:

Use “hand-over-hand” to help your child point to numbers or trace.

Model for your child by showing them if they aren’t quite ready for the activity.

Use lots of language to describe everything you can.

Additional Activities for Movement and Language Building

1. Dance
2. Create an obstacle course with toys, furniture in your home or outside
3. Move like various animals
4. “Paint” the house with water and paintbrush
5. Use toys or animals and put on a show or act/out tell a story
6. Go on a Spring listening walk: Take a walk around the neighborhood and encourage children to listen for the sounds of spring. These could be birds chirping, sprinklers running, lawn mower engines, children playing, etc. Children can name what they hear.
7. Paint with nature: Clip pinecones, flowers, leaves, feathers (and any other spring-related item you can think of) to clothespins. Set in these natural brushes in the art center in place of paintbrushes and encourage young learners to create.
8. Set out a blanket and lay back and watch the clouds move. Ask children if they see any particular shapes in the clouds.
9. Have a picnic outside: Take snacktime or lunch outside. Spread out blankets and eat outdoors, enjoying the sunshine and fresh air.
10. Call a family member or friend - have your child ask the family member some questions then child can draw a picture or retell the information

Examples of questions:

- What was your favorite game to play when you were my age?
 - What is your favorite food?
 - What is your favorite color?
11. Read a story- ask your child about the characters, have them retell the story to you, let them act out the story, pretend you are a character and have the child ask you questions
 12. Play a guessing game- put an object in a bag or behind you and have your child ask questions or give your child clues to guess the mystery object.

Additional Math Activities

1. Use the number cards (Handout Included) to have your child work on counting objects. Have your child choose a number and count out that many objects. Students can also move in some way to the number. For example, clap 10 times, jump 4 times, pat your knee 6 times.
2. Put the number cards in order.
3. Have a number scavenger hunt. Hide the numbers around the house, or in plastic eggs, and have your child find them and then put them in order.
4. Have your child draw a number from the bag and then write the number or build the number using materials he/she may have at home.
5. Sort something- use objects your child may have at home and sort them. Children can sort by color, size, shape, type of object, or have them tell you how they sorted them.
6. If you have playing cards, use the cards like a memory game and have your child match the numbers.
7. Color - choose a color and have your child find objects that are that color. Add a number such as, find 3 blue objects.
8. Count with your child as you go up or down stairs.

Modifications:

*Use "hand-over-hand" to help your child point to numbers or trace.
Model for your child by showing them if they aren't quite ready for the activity.
Use lots of language to describe everything you can.*

Nursery Rhyme Activity Ideas

These activities are to supplement learning the nursery rhyme itself.

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

- Make stars from paper, construction paper, poster board or anything else you have. Make them different sizes and talk about big/little, big/bigger/biggest, small/smaller/smallest.
- Count how many stars you make.
- Make the stars different colors and name the colors.
- Make patterns with the stars by size or color.
- Put letters on the stars to spell out your child's name.
- Make binoculars from two toilet paper rolls and go outside to look at the moon and stars. To make the binoculars, tape two toilet paper rolls side-by-side.
- Scatter paper stars (which you could draw and your child can cut out) around on the floor and let your child pick them up and count them.

Three Little Kittens

- Cut out mittens from paper, construction paper, poster board or anything else you have. Make big ones and small ones, as well as different colors.
- Talk about big/little and name the colors
- Count how many mittens you make
- Decorate the mittens by drawing, painting or gluing
- Match mittens that are the same. Discuss same/different
- Make a clothesline from yarn or string and hang the mittens on them.
- Bake or buy pie to eat
- Use the Three Little Kittens sequence page (included in the packet) and have your child put the characters in the right order or use them to act out the nursery rhyme.
- Use the cat shape page (included in the packet). Your child can color and cut out the shapes and then glue in the shape of a cat. Help your child name the shapes. This can be used as a puppet to act out the nursery rhyme.

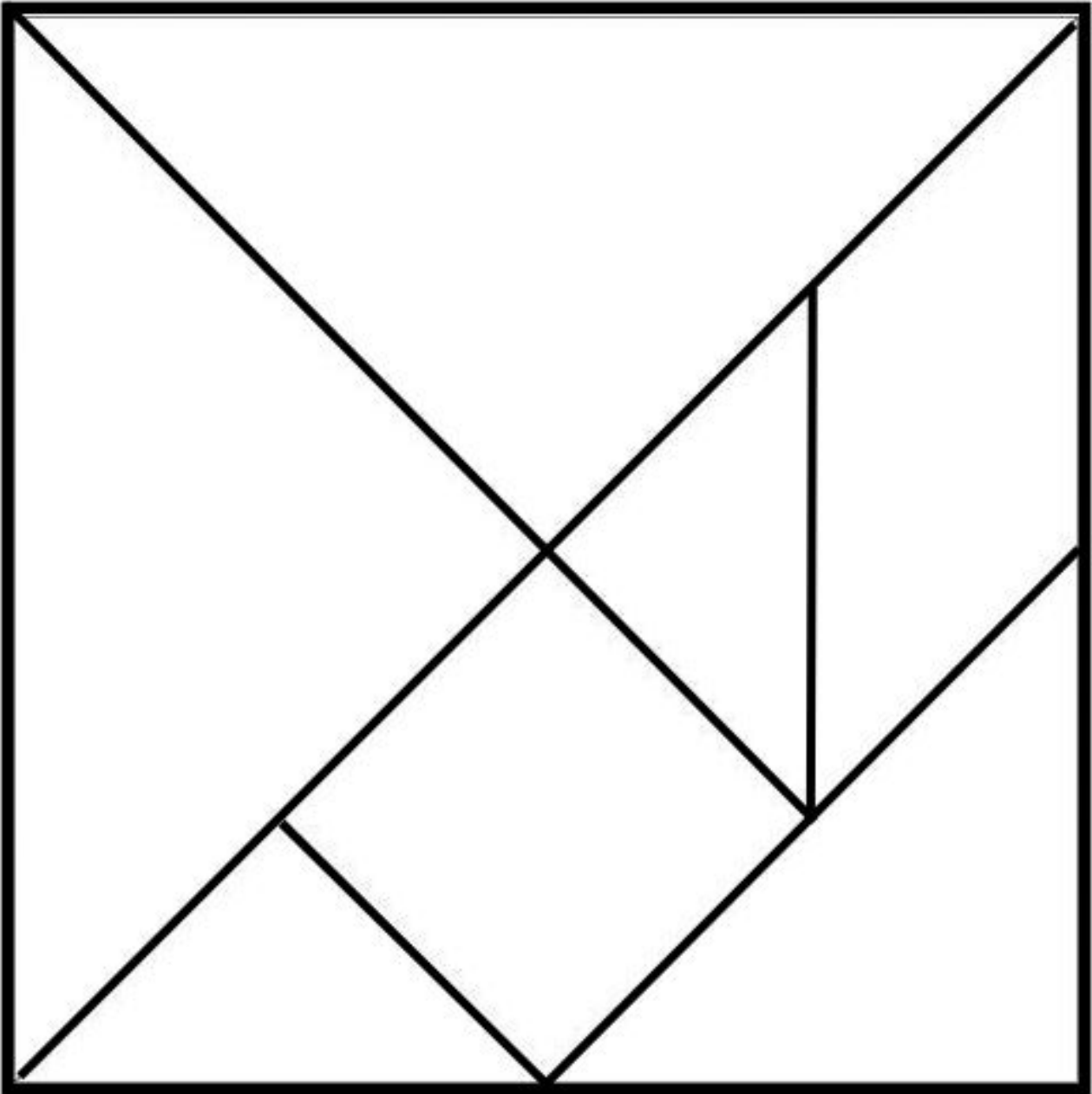
Itsy Bitsy Spider

- Sing the rhyme in different voices to go with different spiders (Ex. The great big spider went up the water spout. Sing it in a big deep, loud voice. Or The teeny tiny spider went up the water spout. Sing in a little, squeaky, quiet voice.)
- Act out the rhyme with a paper towel tube as the water spout and a spider made out of yarn, pipe cleaners, cut out from paper or even a toy, plastic spider. Emphasize up/down.
- Make paper plate spider webs by wrapping yarn or string around a paper plate. Then determine how many spiders go on each web. Write that number on the back of the plate and put that many spiders on the web. Use toy spiders, stickers. Spiders made from yarn, pipe cleaners or string will also work well. You can draw spiders on the webs if no materials are available to make spiders.
- Use the sequence cards (included in the packet) to retell the nursery rhyme. Use your arm or leg as the “water spout” or go outside and act out the nursery rhyme.

Mary Had a Little Lamb

- Use a toy lamb or cut one out of paper. Hide the lamb/put it in different places. Describe where you find it (On top of the bed, Under the table, Beside the chair)
- Make different color lambs (use crayons, markers, glitter, paint, anything you have available) Name the colors.
- Make an obstacle course for the lambs (children) to follow Mary (parent, adult, older sibling)
- Retell the nursery rhyme using the picture cards (included in the packet).

Tangram Puzzle: Your child may color the pieces and then an adult can cut apart the pieces.



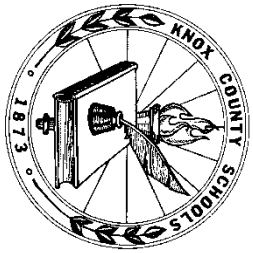
<http://www.makinglearningfun.com/themepages/MathTangrams.htm> has lots of ideas and examples.

Cut the number cards out and they may be used for a variety of math activities.

0	1	2
3	4	5
6	7	8
9	10	

Cut the number cards out and they may be used for a variety of math activities.

11	12	13
14	15	16
17	18	19
20		



Knox County Schools

expect more
achieve more

Targets for Kindergarten Entry

A five-year-old with these skills is READY to succeed at school.

Letters and Sounds:

- Enjoys being read to and can retell a story
- Recognizes letters (upper and lower case) and some letter sounds
- Repeats the first sound in a word
- Speaks in complete sentences
- Prints his or her first name

Math:

- Counts in order from 1-20
- Recognizes numbers and quantities to 5
- Names and sorts items by color, shape and size
- Understands concepts such as more, less, same, above, below, big, small

Social:

- Settles in to new groups or situations
- Can concentrate on a task for 5 minutes
- Follows simple directions
- Shows kindness and concern for others

***Reading together every day
helps your child
master these skills.***

What is the most important way to ensure my child has these skills?

Read aloud, read aloud, read aloud ...every day together with your child. Studies show children must hear and share in hundreds of stories and Nursery Rhymes before they are ready to learn and read in school. It is also important for them to talk and talk about what they see every day and say the sounds of the letters they are learning.

"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is **reading aloud to children**. This is especially so during the preschool years." *The Report of the Commission on Reading*

What are some simple activities parents can do at home to teach their child these skills?

Whenever you are working with your child, it should always be **fun!** Early childhood advocates call it *playing with a purpose*. Some ideas are:

- **Snack Time** - Look for letters on food boxes or cans, and say them together
- **Driving** – Sing songs and read signs, such as McDonald's or Walmart – pointing out various letters

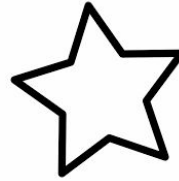
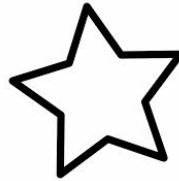
- **Preparing Meals** – Put magnetic letters on the refrigerator for play
- **Shopping** - Talk about beginning letters of food, clothes, or toys
- **Nap Time** – Read a story and talk about what's happening on each page. Let children predict what is going to happen next, or "read" the story to you.
- **Doing Chores** – Put sign on a few objects at home, such as "bed" and make a game of saying letters aloud
- **Play Time** – Point to an object and ask children to say words that rhyme, including silly words: ball, wall, tall, dall, jall, nall
- **Eating** – Say nonsense rhymes such as *Hey Diddle, Diddle*
- **Lesson Time** – Spell personal names with letter cards. Let children match each capital letter with its lowercase form, or put the letters in order. Draw a letter and find objects that begin with the same sound. (ball, boy, bike)
- **Library Time** – Make weekly trips to the library part of your family's fun time together. Books about going to school help build children's confidence about kindergarten. A librarian can help you find them.

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
how I wonder what you are!

Up above the world so high,
like a diamond in the sky.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
how I wonder what you are!



Three Little Kittens

The three little kittens, they lost their mittens,

And they began to cry,

"Oh, mother dear, we sadly fear,
That we have lost our mittens."

"What! Lost your mittens, you
naughty kittens!

Then you shall have no pie."

"Meow, meow, meow."

"Then you shall have no pie."

The three little kittens, they found
their mittens,

And they began to cry,

"Oh, mother dear, see here, see
here,

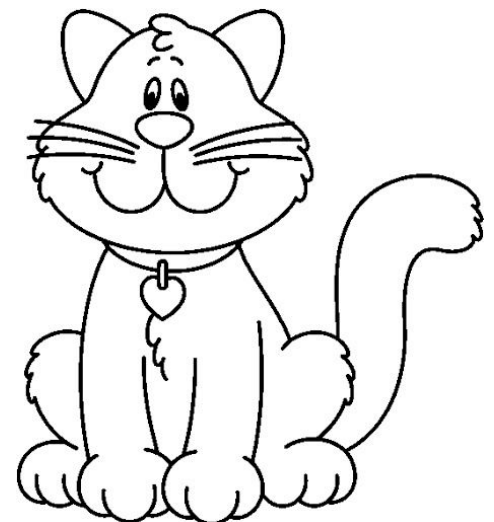
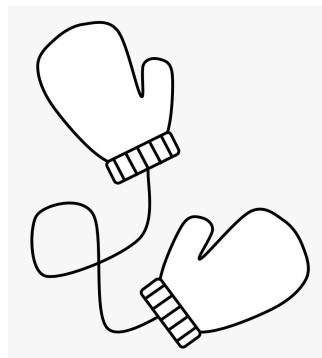
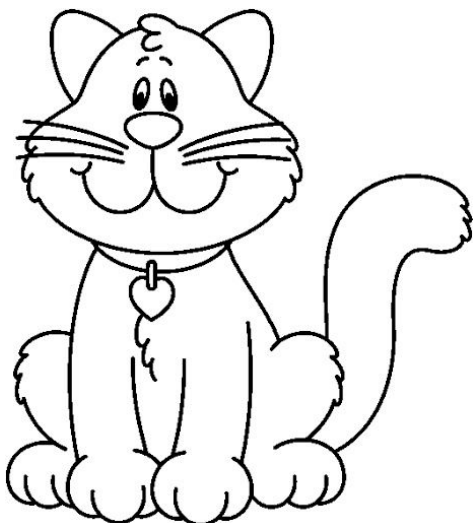
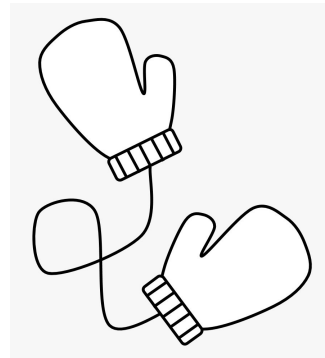
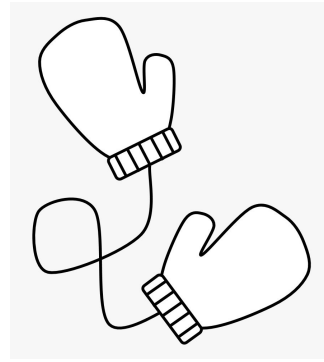
For we have found our mittens."

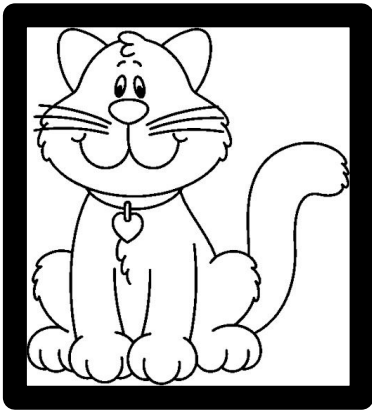
"Put on your mittens, you silly
kittens,

And you shall have some pie."

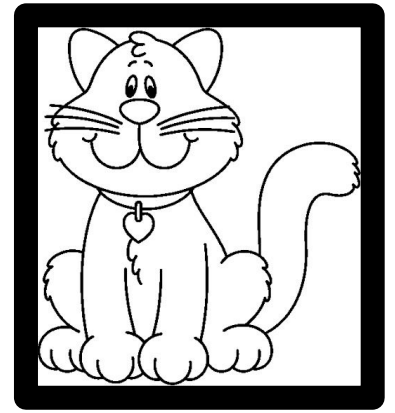
"Purr, purr, purr,

Oh, let us have some pie."

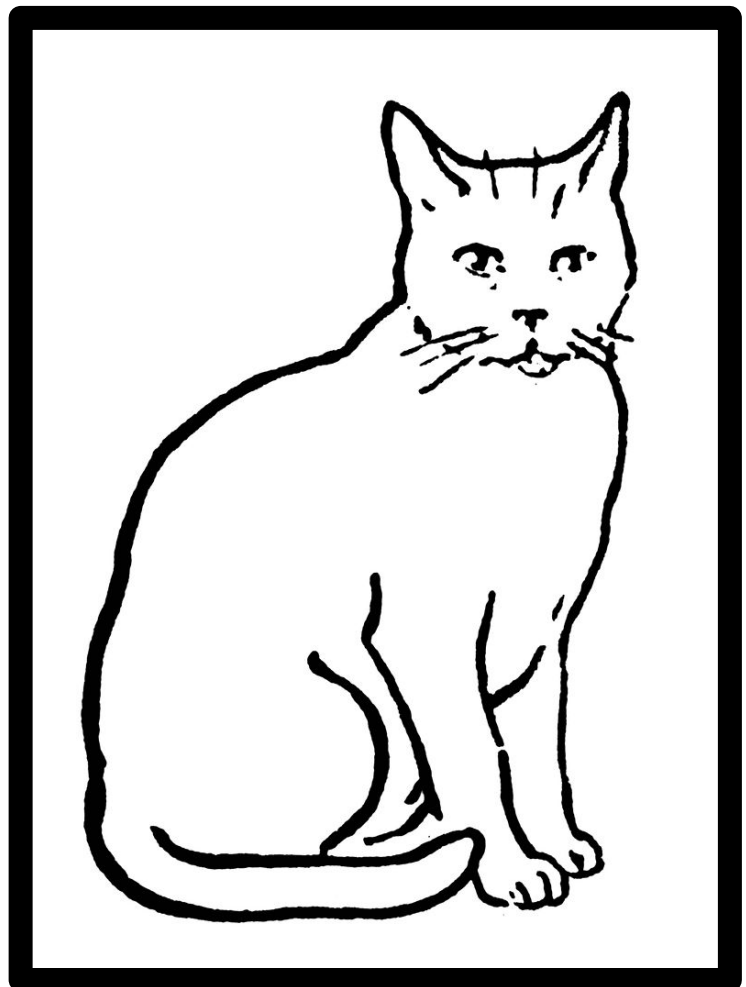
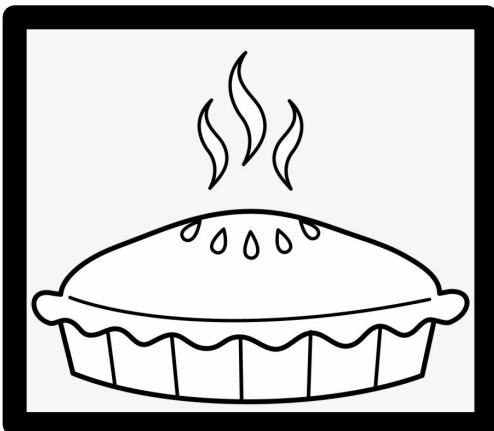
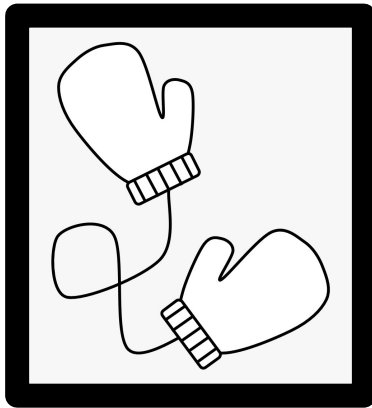
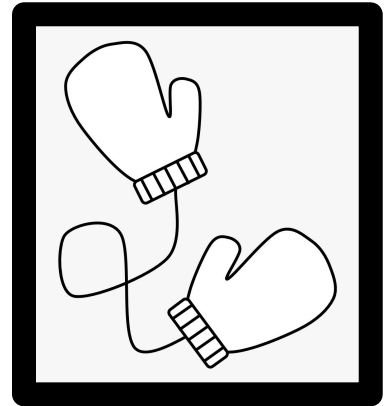
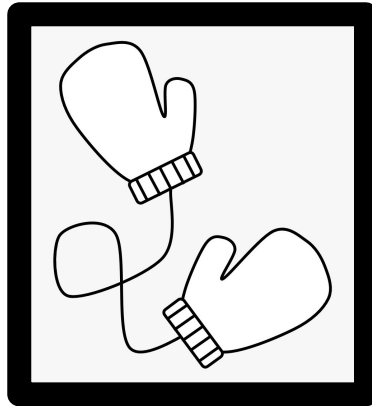
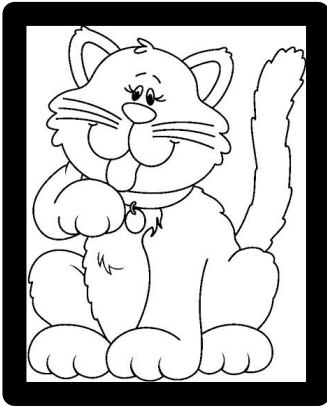




Help your child cut out the pictures. If they would like, they may color them first and then cut along the solid lines.

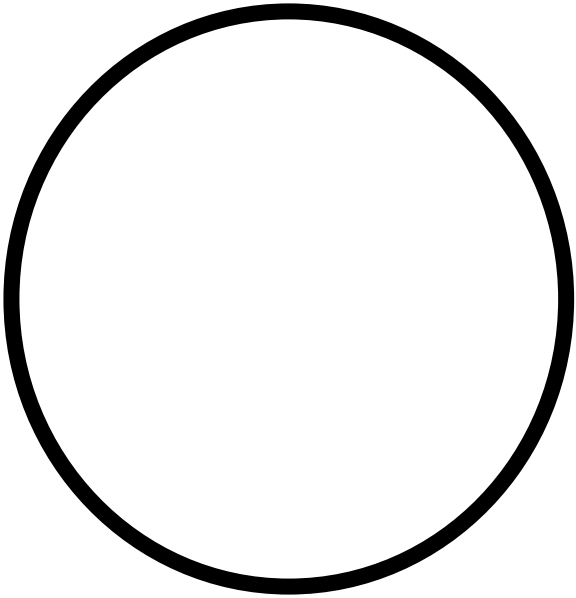


Use these pictures to retell the Three Little Kittens.

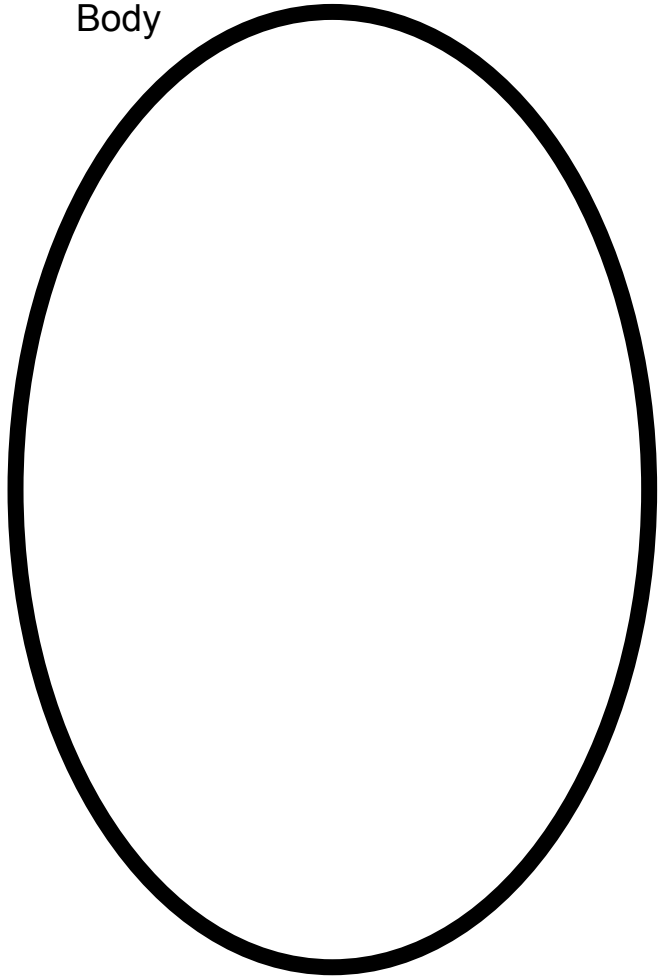


Help your child cut out the shapes and use them to make a cat. Use crayons or markers to draw a face.

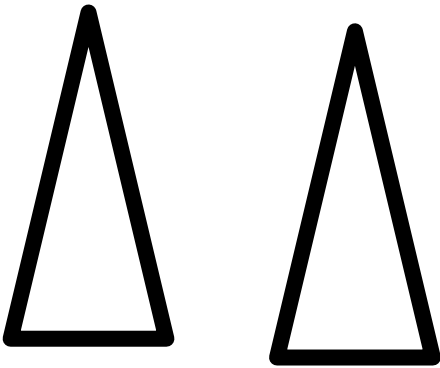
Head



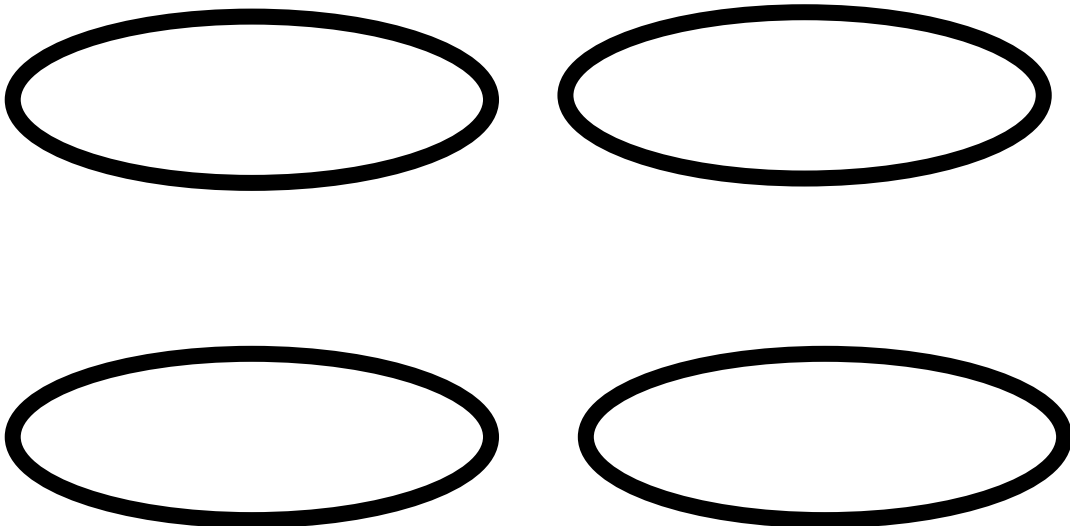
Body



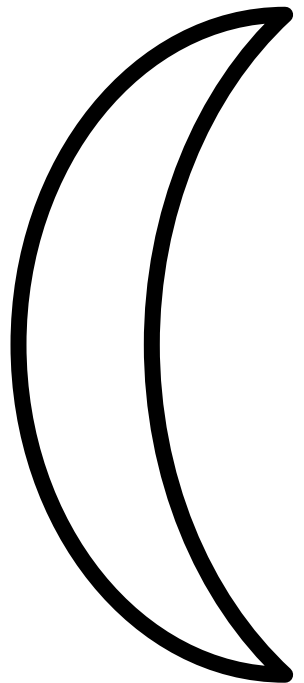
Ears

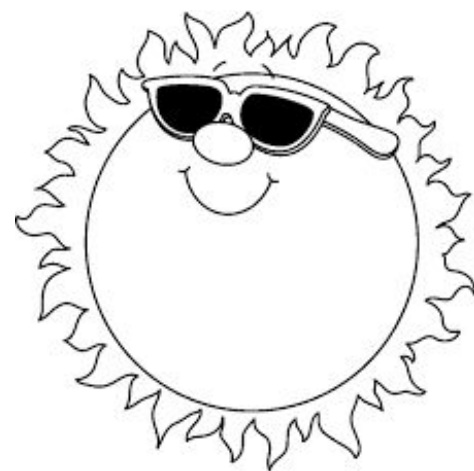


Feet



Tail

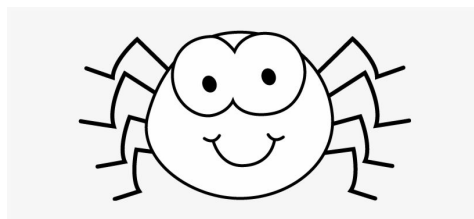
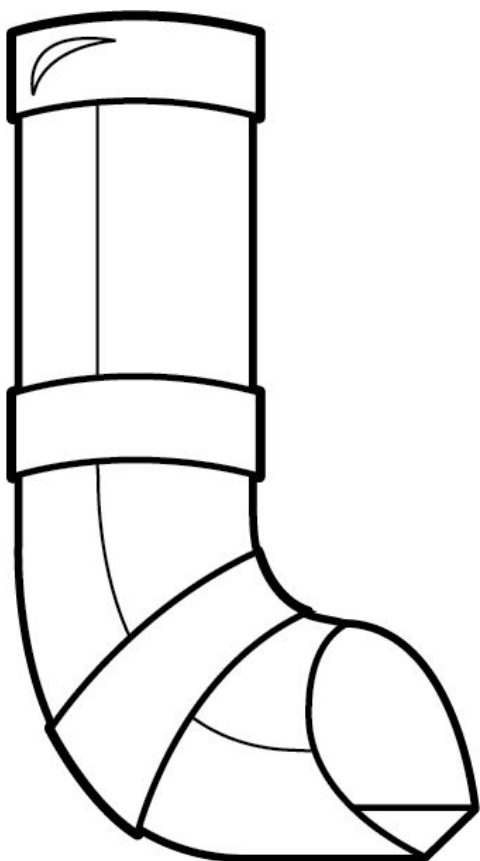




The Itsy, Bitsy Spider

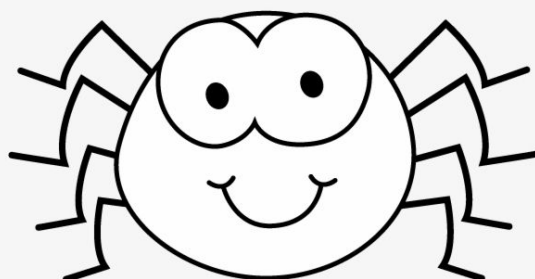
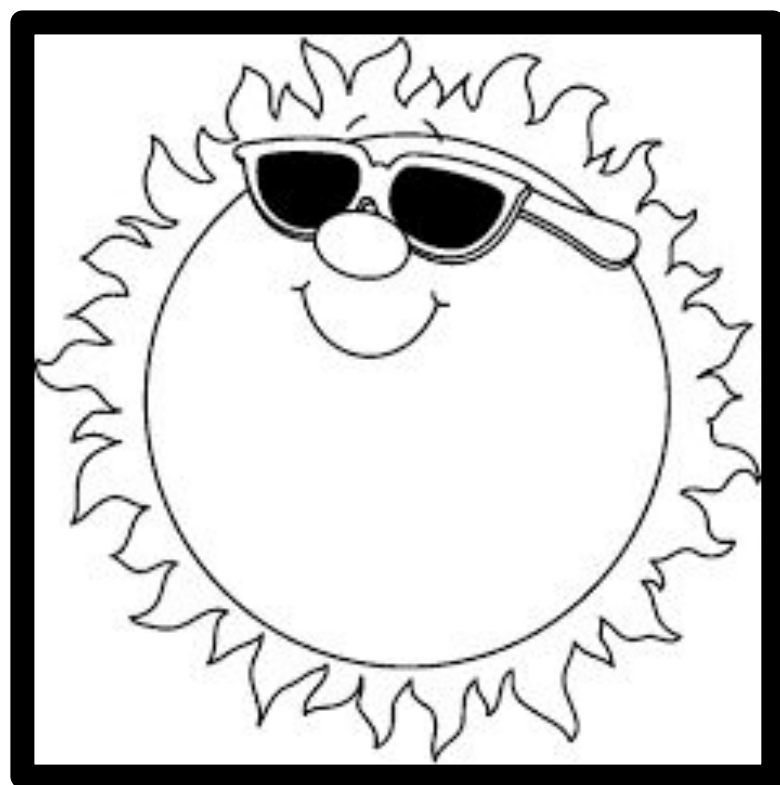
The itsy, bitsy spider
went up the water spout.
Down came the rain and
washed the spider out.

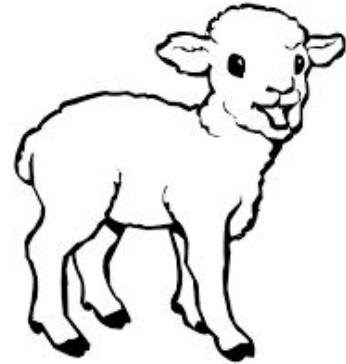
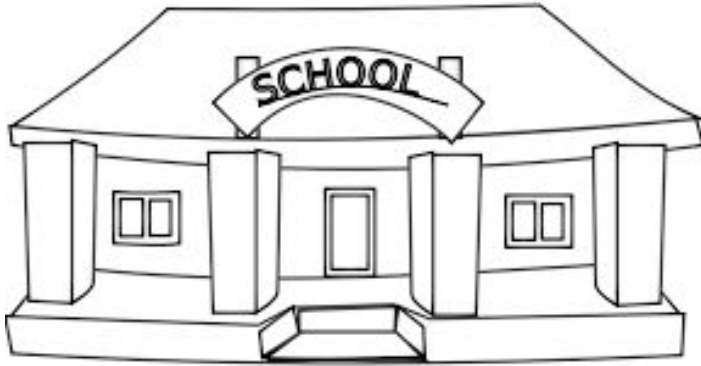
Out came the sun and dried
up all the rain,
and the itsy, bitsy, spider
climbed up the spout again.



Your child may color the pictures and then you may help them cut out the pictures along the solid line.

Your child can retell the Itsy, Bitsy Spider by using the pictures and going outside or he/she may use their arm or leg as the water spout.

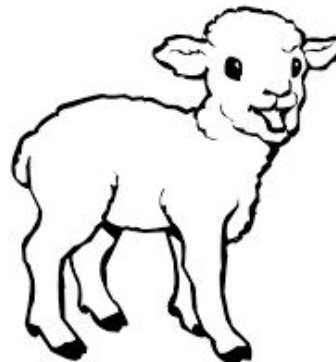
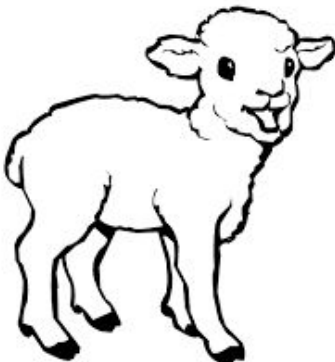
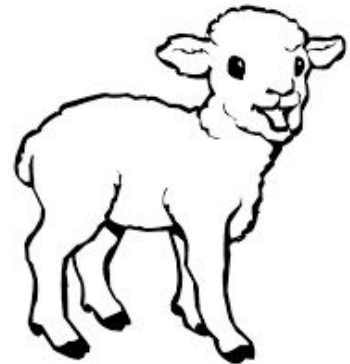




Mary Had a Little Lamb

Mary had a little lamb,
It's fleece was white as snow.
And everywhere that Mary went,
the lamb was sure to go.

It followed her to school one
day,
which was against the rule.
It made the children laugh and
play,
To see a lamb at school.



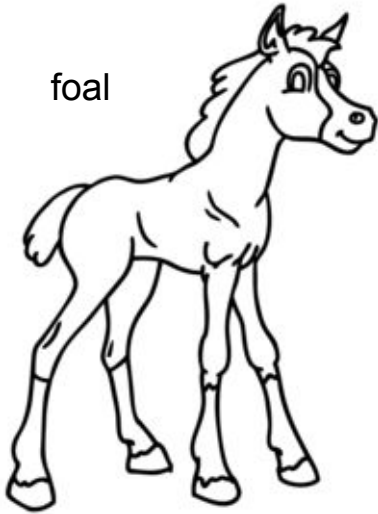
Sing or say Mary Had A Little Lamb
with your child.

They can use their name instead of
Mary.

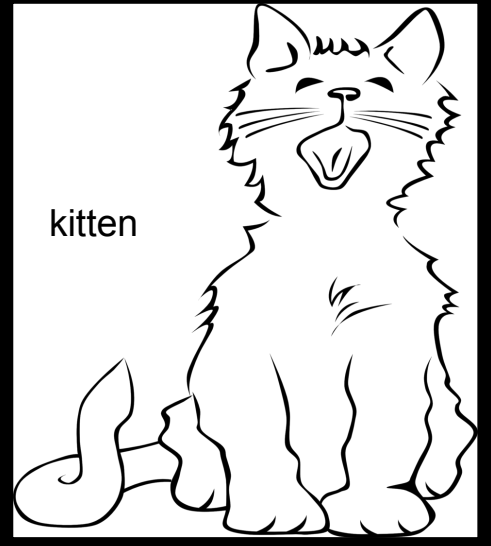
Let your child substitute these animal
babies into the rhyme.

Your child can substitute the word
“fur” for “fleece”

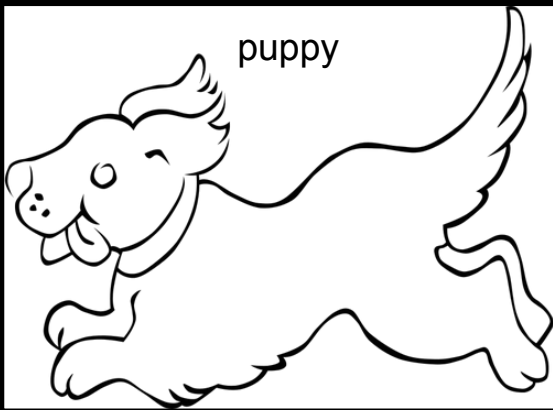
foal



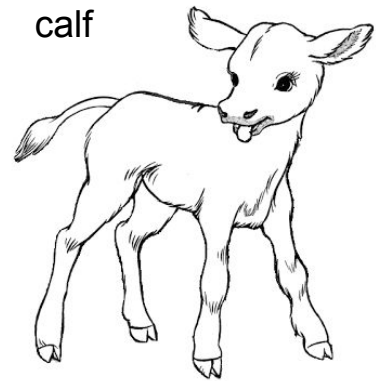
kitten



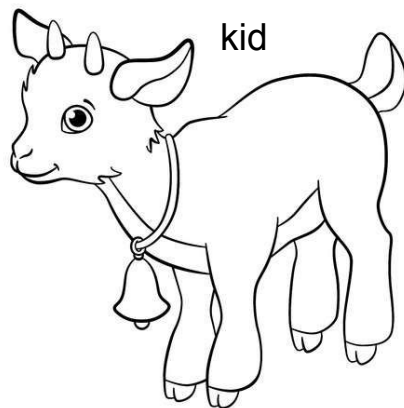
puppy



calf



kid



A

a

B

b

C

c

D

d

E

e

F

f

G

g

H

h

I

i

J

j

K

k

L

l

M

m

N

n

O

o

P

p

Q

q

R

r

S

s

T

t

U

u

V

v

W

w

X

x

Y

y

Z

z