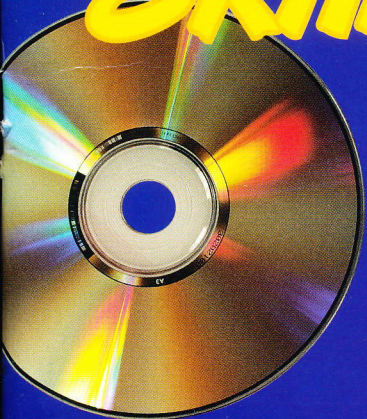


Pre-Reading & Pre-Writing



Skills Activity Book



Teacher's
CD
Available

Junior Infants

Rainbow
EDUCATION

About:

Before children begin formal reading and writing, there is a suite of readiness skills that they need to complete as part of their preparation.

From visual and auditory discrimination exercises, to orientation, motor and handwriting skills development, there are many things a child needs to do to get ready for reading and writing.

Additionally, it is important that children experience a rich collection of enjoyable stories that will fire their imaginations, provide enjoyment, build story knowledge and enrich their vocabulary and language experience. Over the coming months children will receive at least one book a week to take home and have read to them by an adult. The title, and date read, is then recorded by the adult in the grids on pages 4 & 5.

Nursery Rhymes (pages 18, 19 & 20) play an important part in children's language development. They should be learned off over time and recited together weekly, where children come to know and understand rhyme & rhythms, syllables & phonemes, as they playfully recite the rhymes.

As children progress closer to beginning learning their letter sounds, such as s, a, t, i, p and n etc., reciting Tongue Ticklers together becomes a great way to focus on and embed each phoneme sound – see page 60. These sentences should be recited over and over again.

Finally, we hope all will enjoy completing the skill building activities we have assembled here. Let the preparation for reading and writing commence!

Rainbow Education Team

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Reading log of books read to me at home.

Book Title	Signature	Date
1		
2		
3		
4		
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Dear Parent / Guardian,

Reading stories aloud to your child is, according to the landmark report 'Becoming a Nation of Readers', "the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading."

Reading books aloud to children stimulates their imagination, improves concentration and expands their understanding of the world. Being read to by an adult helps children develop language & listening skills, acquire a rich broad vocabulary and prepares them to understand the written word.

In addition, enjoying a story is a fun and imaginative activity for children, which opens doors to all kinds of new worlds and words for them.

Over the coming months, your child will receive a book home weekly that I ask you to read with your child and record the title and date read in the grid above. I have carefully chosen a rich collection of books that I think the children will really enjoy.

Let's work together to bring all the benefits and enjoyment of reading books to our children over the coming months.



Reading log continued.

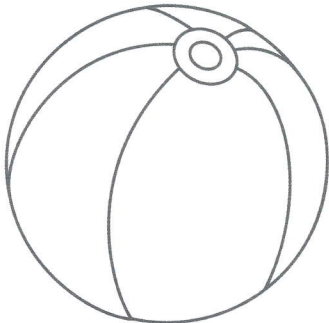
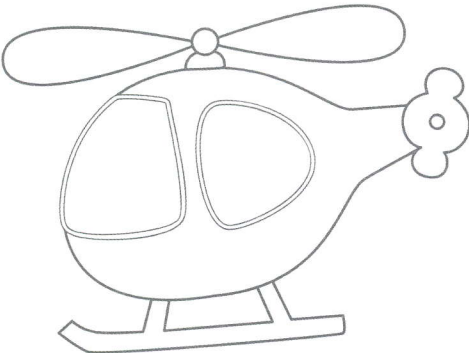
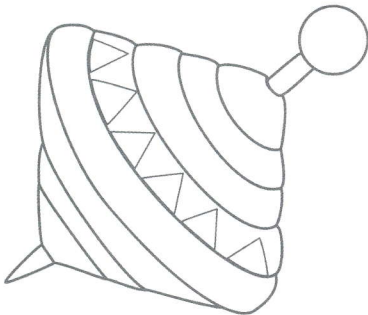
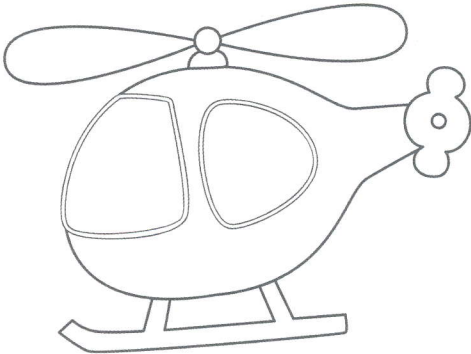
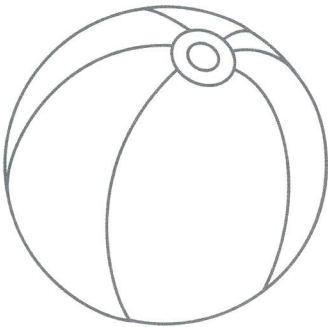
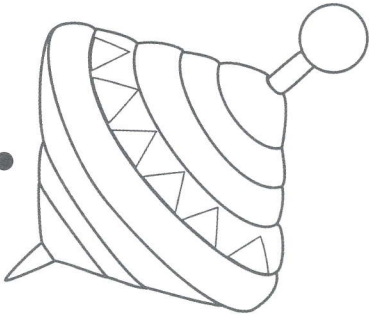
Book Title	Signature	Date
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32		

Reading Tips:

1. Try to make reading part of every day with your child.
2. Position yourself so both of you are comfortable. Make sure everyone can see the pictures, sit side by side, perhaps letting the child turn the pages.
3. Mood is an important factor in listening. Create anticipation. Use plenty of expression and change your tone of voice to fit the dialogue. Adjust your pace to fit the story. During a suspenseful part, slow down, draw your words out, and bring your listeners to the edge of their seats!
4. Talk about the pictures and discuss the illustrations and how they relate to the story.
5. Stop periodically and have children recap in their own words what has happened so far. Fill in the gaps of missing information or clarify misconceptions
6. Ask questions about the story and characters.
7. At times, run your finger along the words as you read them.
8. Above all, have fun and enjoy the story.

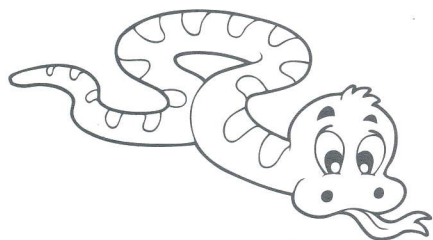
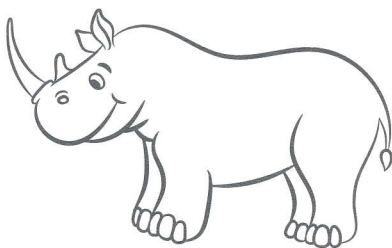
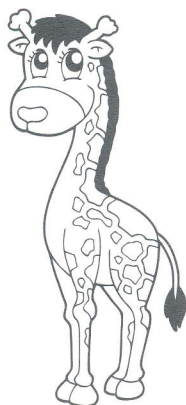
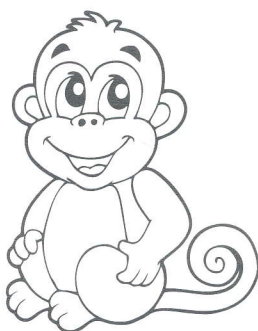
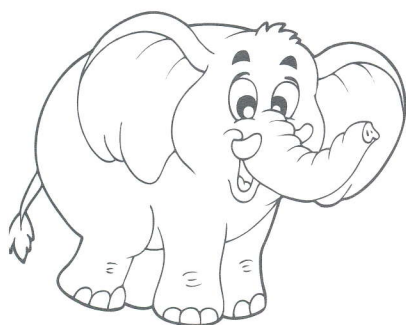
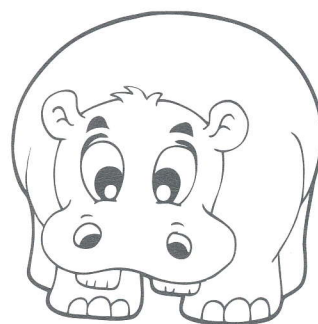


Match and colour.

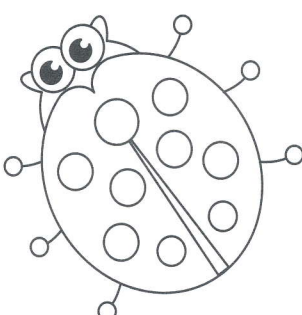
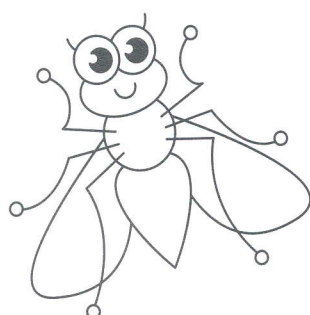
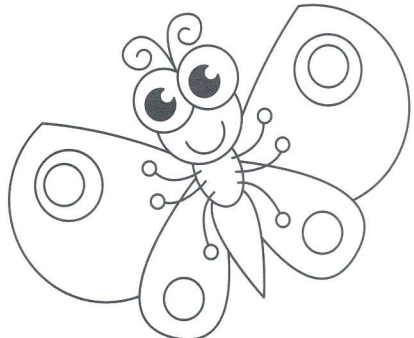
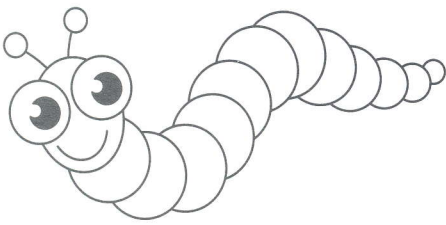
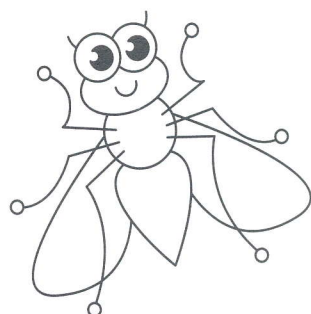
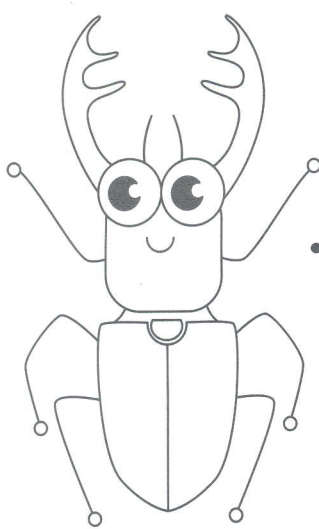
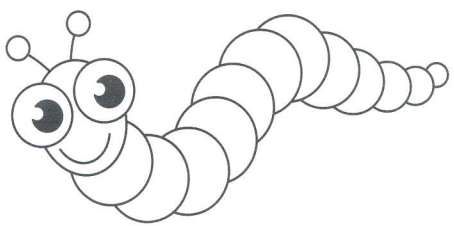
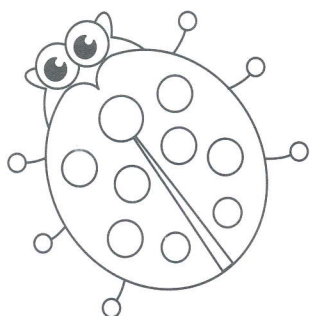
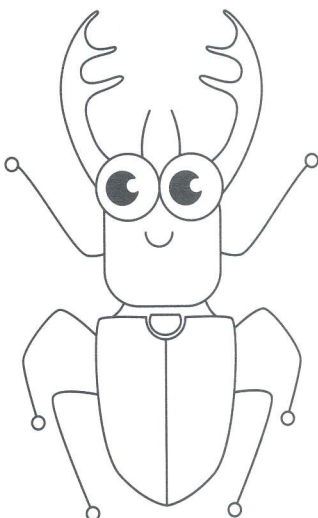
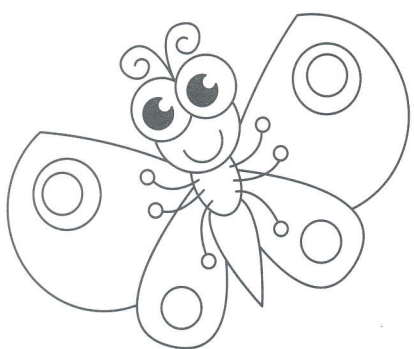


Listen to the CD.

Listen to the CD. You will hear each sound 3 times. Put a ✓ in the box that is making the sound. Colour the pictures.


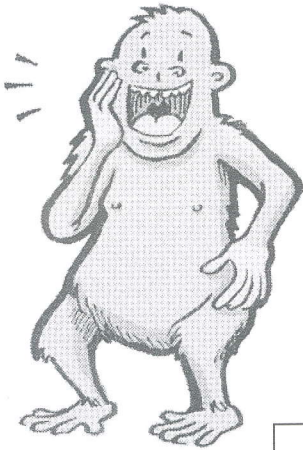
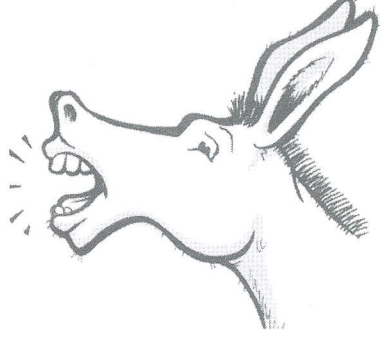
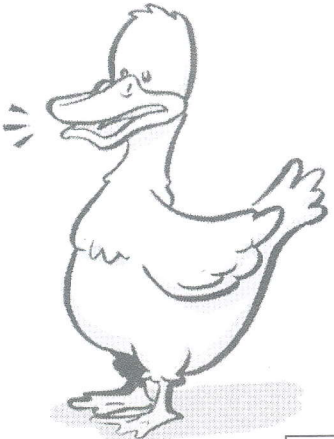

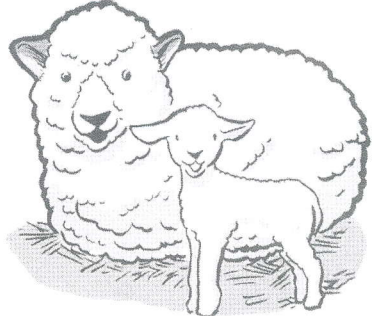
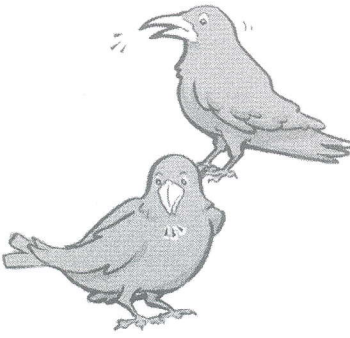
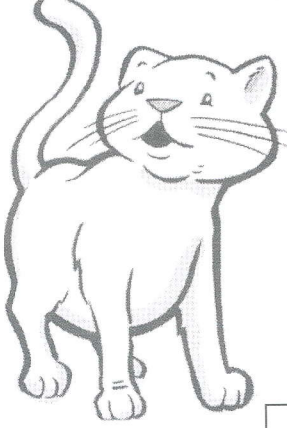
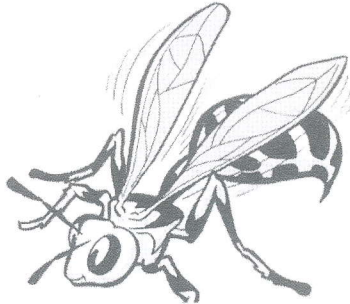
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Match and colour.



Listen to the CD.

Listen to the CD. You will hear each sound 3 times. Put a ✓ in the box that is making the sound. Colour the pictures.

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Rhyme Time.

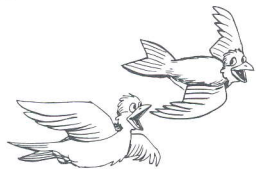
Dear Parent / Guardian,

Nursery rhymes are fun to learn and really helpful in developing skills needed for later learning to read? Nursery rhymes are often short and have a great deal of wonderful repetition. This repetition offers your child the opportunity to tune into words a second and third time and helps him / her remember what has just been heard. A rhyme's repetition can also help your child become aware of the individual units of sound, known as phonemes, which make up words. Nursery rhymes help your child's brain segment words into syllables, hear similarities between words that rhyme or start with the same sounds, and enjoy sound play. This leads children to the awareness that letters can represent the sounds of words, and that words are fun and enjoyable.

Here is a selection of the most popular rhymes to enjoy and repeat over and over together, building up your children's auditory and oral discrimination skills in the process.

1. Little Arabella Miller

Little Arabella Miller
Found a furry caterpillar,
First it climbed upon her mother,
Then upon her baby brother.
"Ugh" said Arabella Miller,
"Take away that caterpillar!"



2. Two Little Dickie Birds

Two little dickie birds sitting on a wall,
One named Peter, one named Paul.
Fly away Peter! Fly away Paul!
Come back Peter! Come back Paul!

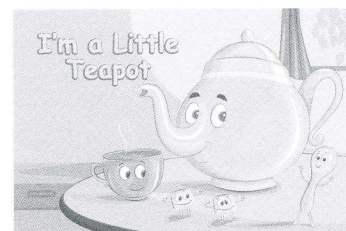
3. One, Two, Three, Four, Five

One, two, three, four, five,
Once I caught a fish alive.
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,
Then I let it go again.
Why did you let it go?
Because it bit my finger so.
Which finger did it bite?
This little finger on the right.

4. Itsy Bitsy Spider

Itsy bitsy spider climbed up the waterspout.
Down came the rain
and washed the spider out.
Out came the sun
and dried up all the rain
and itsy bitsy spider climbed up the spout again.

5. I'm a Little Teapot



I'm a little teapot,
Short and stout.
Here is my handle,
Here is my spout.
When I see the tea cups,
Hear me shout,
Tip me up and pour me out.

6. It's Raining, It's Pouring

It's raining; it's pouring.
The old man is snoring.
He went to bed and bumped his head,
And he couldn't get up in the morning.

7. Pussy Cat Pussy Cat

Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have you been?
I've been to London to look at the Queen.
Pussy cat, pussy cat, what did you do there?
I frightened a little mouse under her chair.

8. One, Two, Buckle My Shoe

One, two,
Buckle my shoe;
Three, four,
Knock at the door;
Five, six,
Pick up sticks;
Seven, eight,
Lay them straight:
Nine, ten,
A big fat hen.

9. Little Miss Muffet

Little Miss Muffet
Sat on a tuffet,
Eating her curds and whey;
Along came a spider
Who sat down beside her
And frightened Miss Muffet away.

10. Little Boy Blue

Little Boy Blue,
Come blow your horn,
The sheep's in the meadow,
The cow's in the corn;
But where is the boy
Who looks after the sheep?
He's under a haystack,
He's fast asleep.
Will you wake him?
No, not I,
For if I do,
He's sure to cry.

11. Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns!
Hot cross buns!
one a penny, two a penny,
Hot cross buns!

If you have no daughters,
give them to your sons.
One a penny two a penny,
Hot cross buns!

12. Five little monkeys

Five little monkeys,
sitting in a tree.
Teasing Mr. Crocodile,
"You can't catch me."
Along came Mr. Crocodile,
Quiet as can be,
SNAP!

Four little monkeys
Sitting in a tree
Teasing Mr. Crocodile,
"You can't catch me."
Along came Mr. Crocodile,
Quiet as can be,
SNAP!

13. Baa, Baa, Black Sheep

Baa, baa, black sheep,
Have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir,
Three bags full;
One for the master,
And one for the dame,
And one for the little boy
Who lives down the lane.



14. Five little speckled frogs

Five little speckled frogs,
Sat on a speckled log,
Eating the most delicious bugs.

Yum! Yum!

One jumped into the pool,
Where it was nice and cool,
Then there were four green speckled frogs.

Glub! Glub!

(The verse is then repeated with one fewer frog each time. The final verse ends "Then there were no green speckled frogs.")

15. Hey Diddle Diddle

Hey diddle diddle,
The cat and the fiddle,
The cow jumped over the moon.
The little dog laughed,
To see such fun,
And the dish ran away with the spoon.

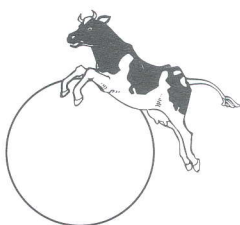
16. Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man.
Bake me a cake as fast as you can.
Roll it, pat it, mark it with a "B"
And put it in the oven for baby and me!

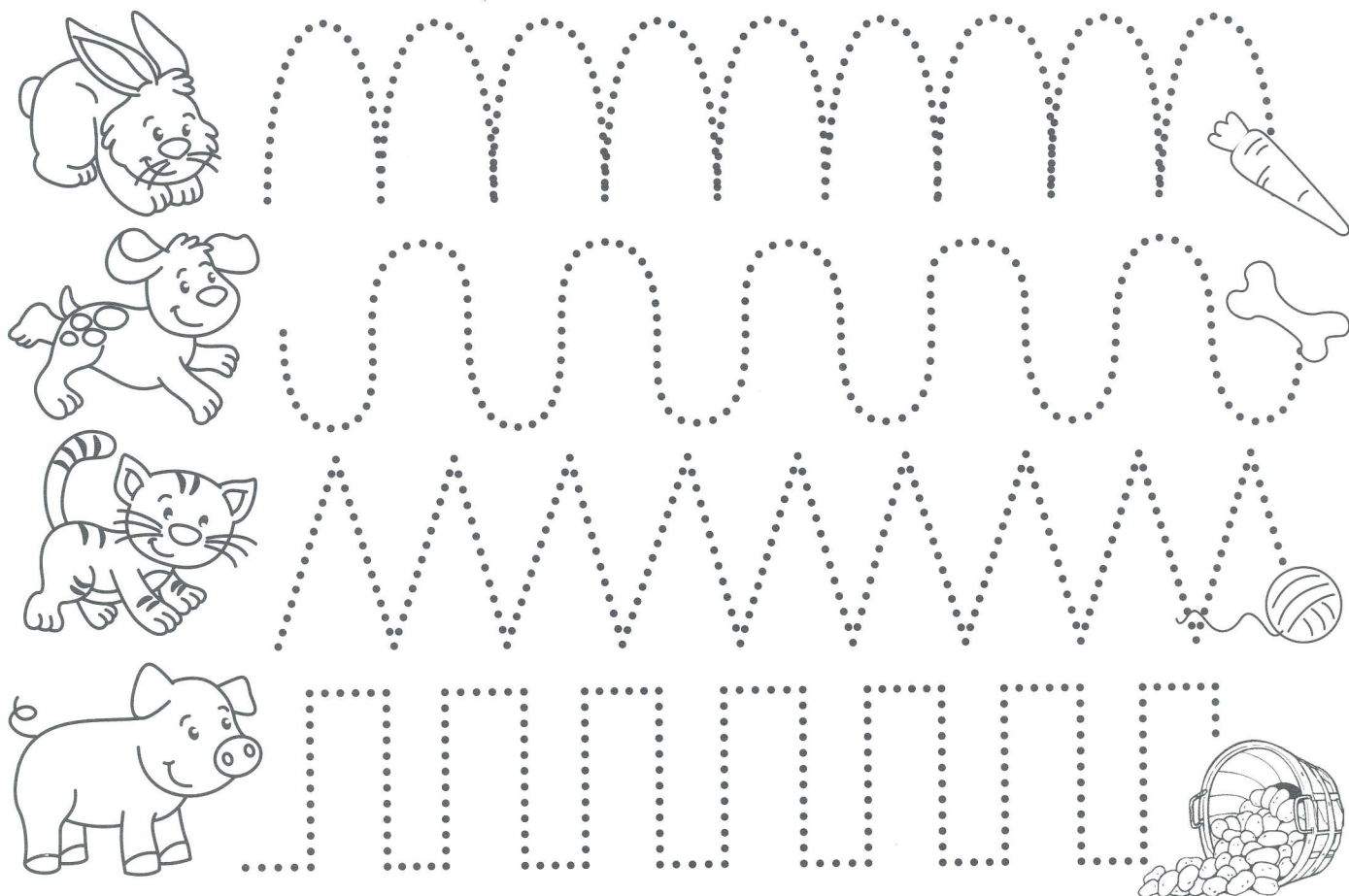
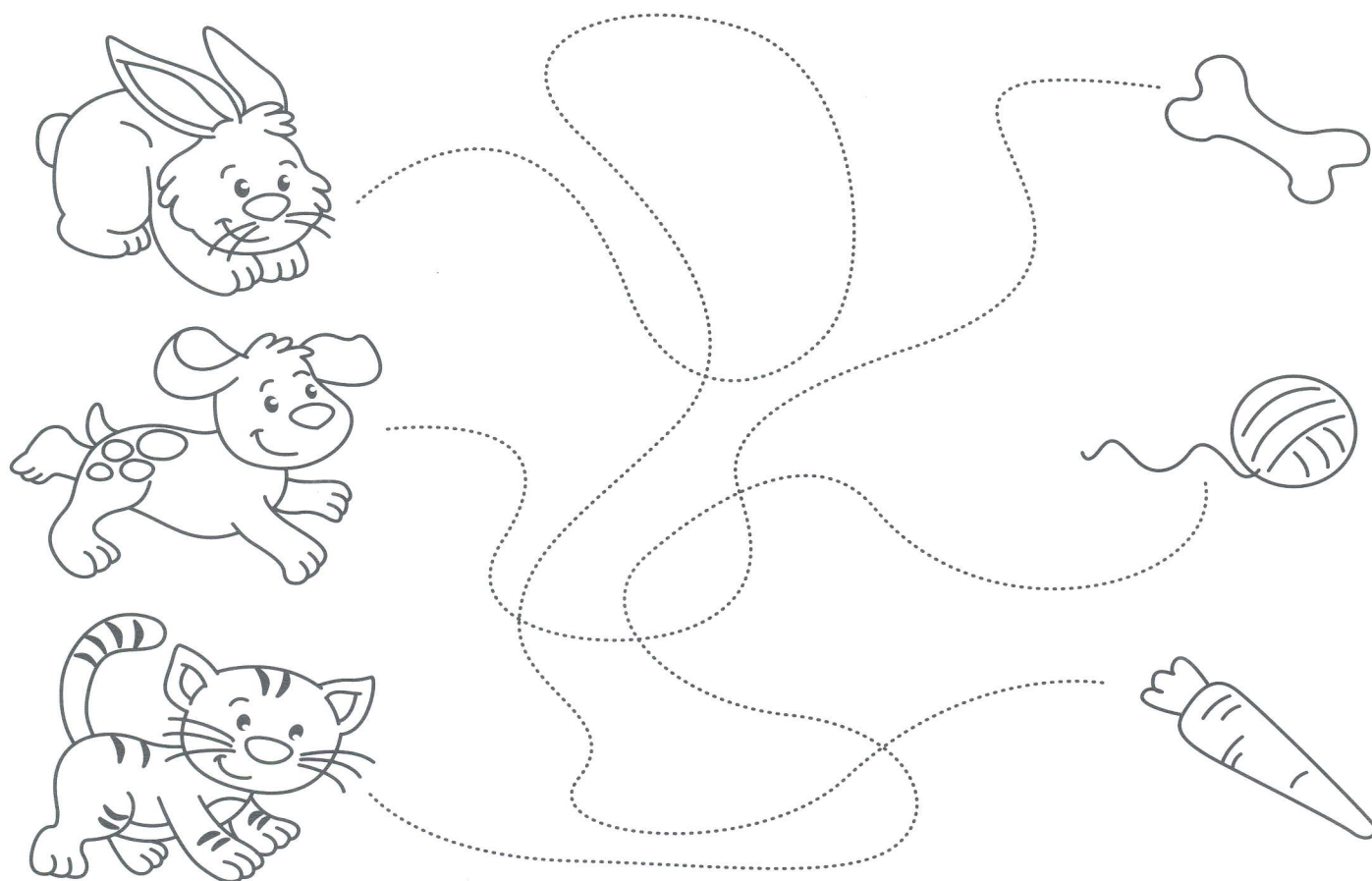
17. Ring a Ring o' Roses

Ring-a-ring o' roses,
A pocket full of posies,
A-tishoo! A-tishoo!
We all fall down.

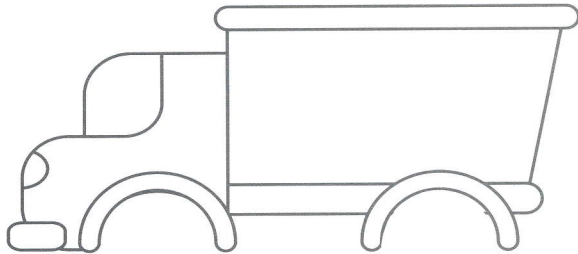
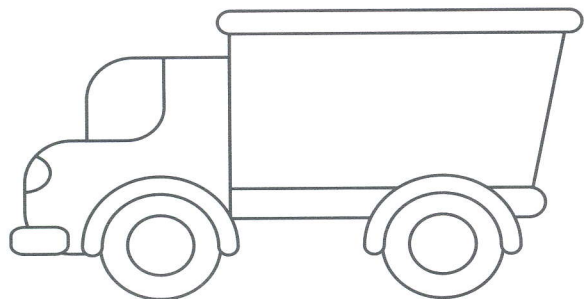
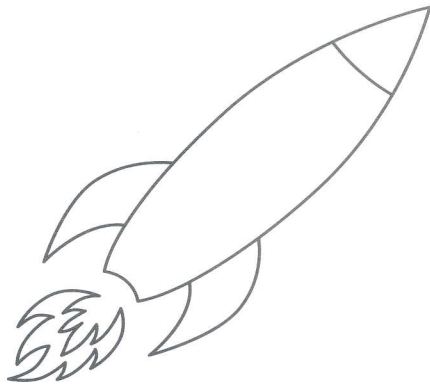
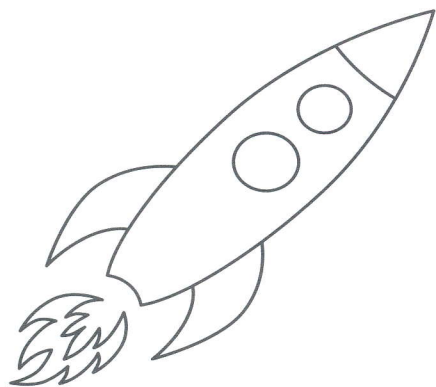
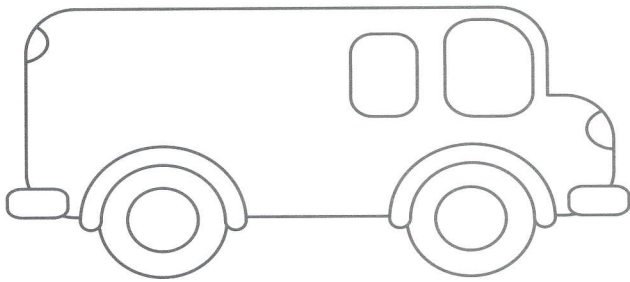
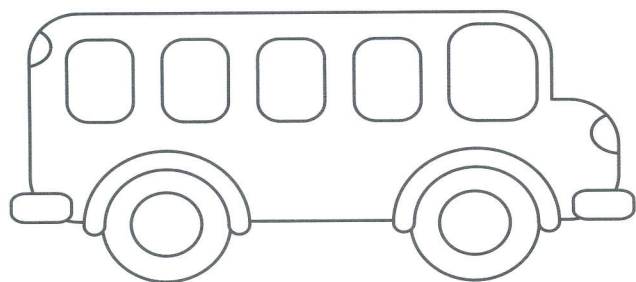
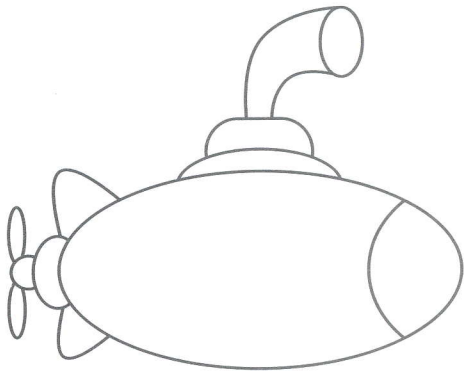
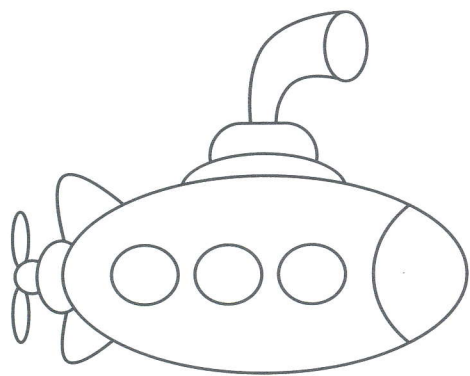
Cows in the meadows,
Eating buttercups,
A-tishoo! A-tishoo!
We all jump up.



Trace, match and colour.

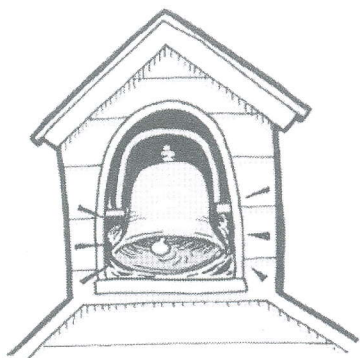
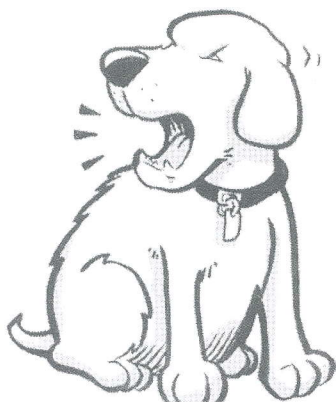


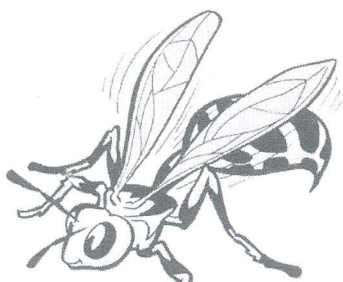
Match and finish the picture.



Listen to the CD.

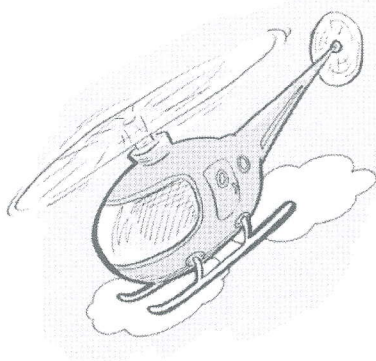
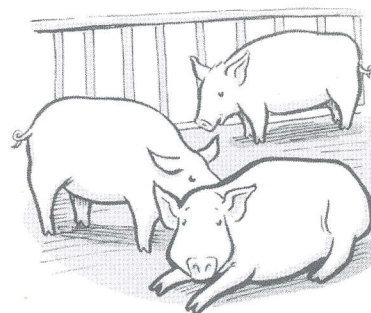
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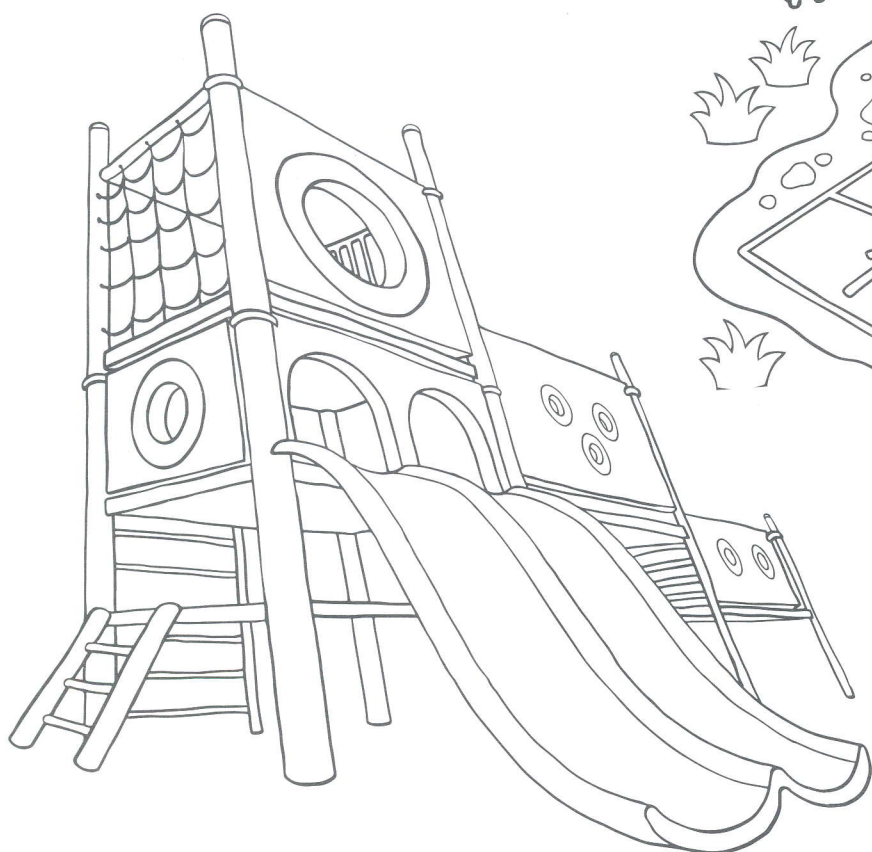
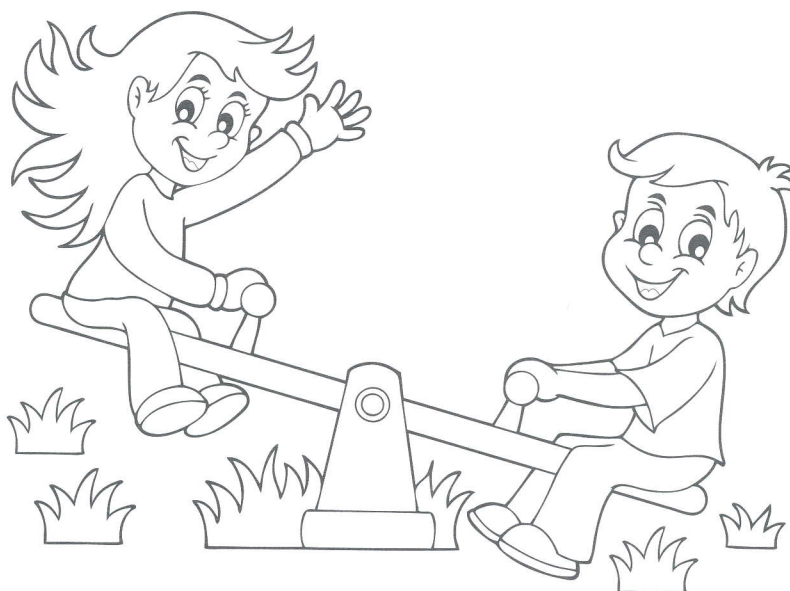
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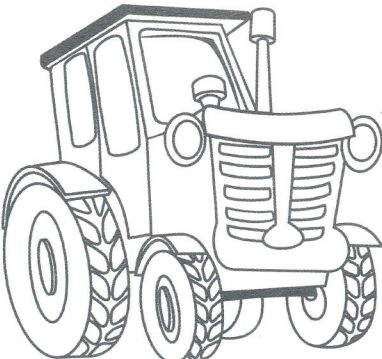
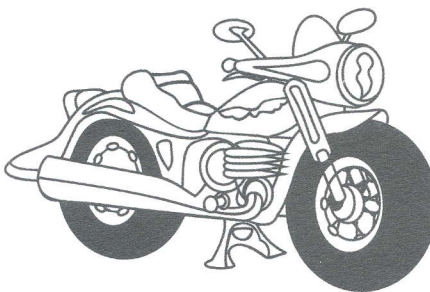
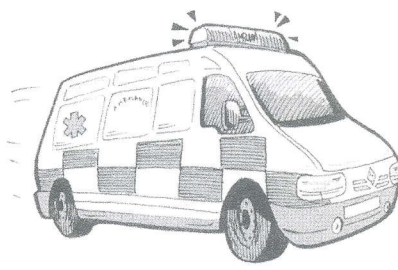

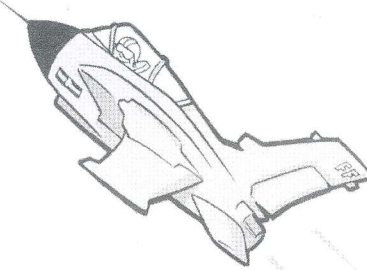
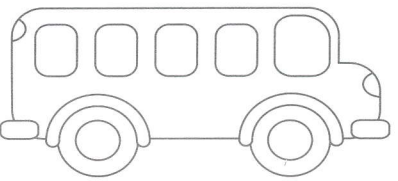
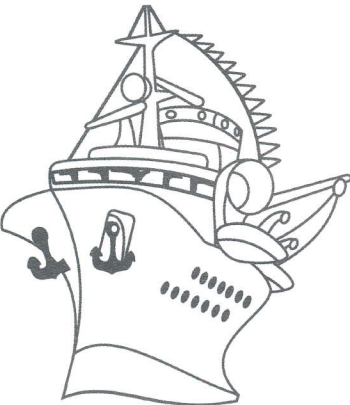
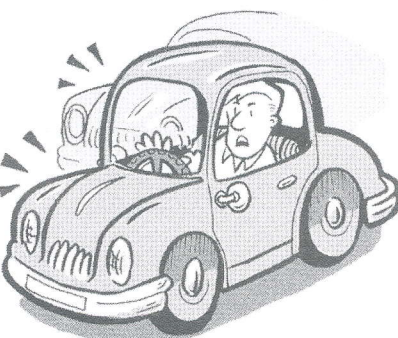
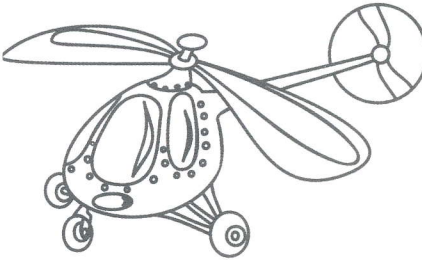
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Talk about playground games.
Colour the pictures.

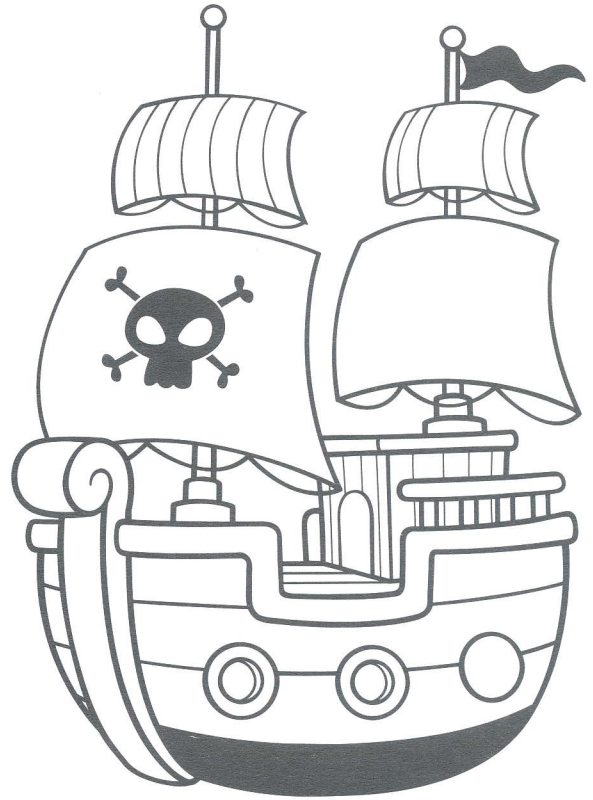
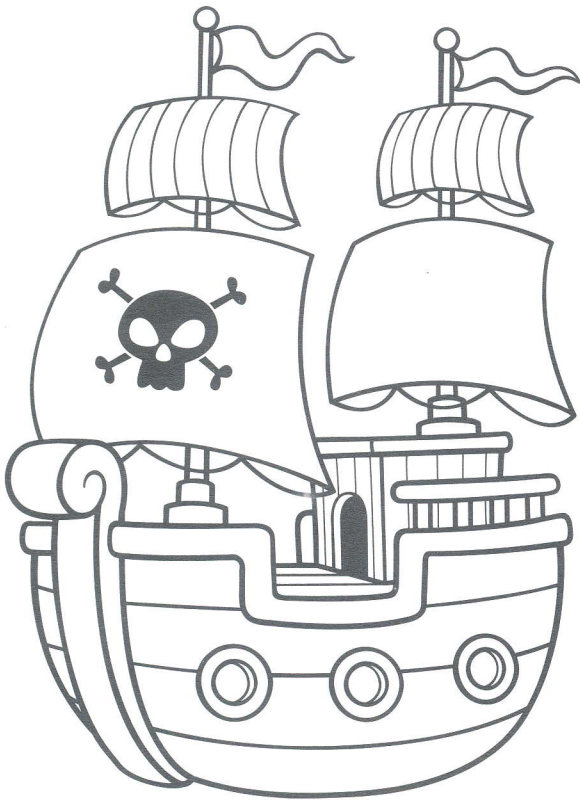


Listen to the CD.

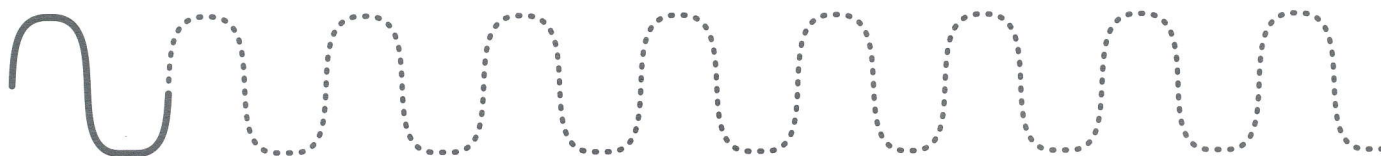
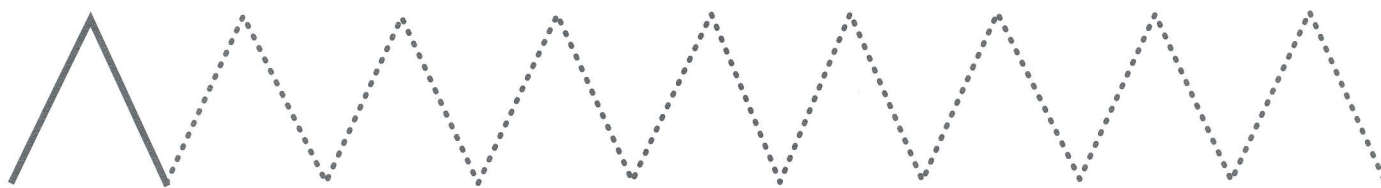
Listen to the CD. You will hear each sound 3 times. Put a ✓ in the box that is making the sound. Colour the pictures.

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 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>
 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>

Spot and circle the 6 differences.



Trace the lines.





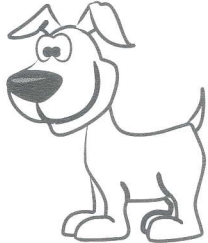
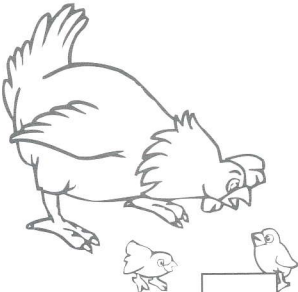

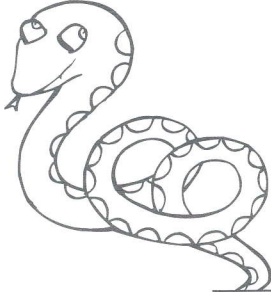

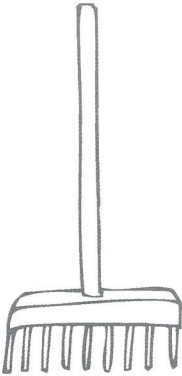
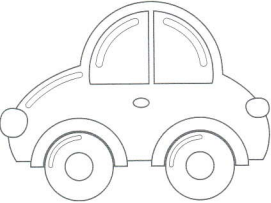
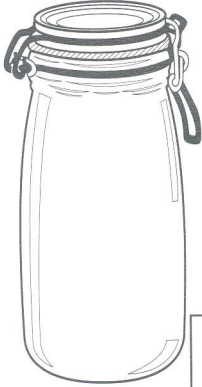
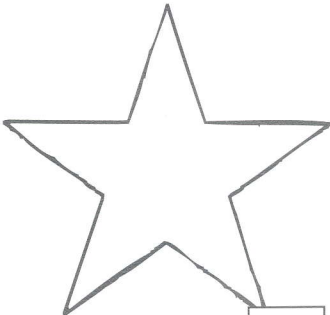


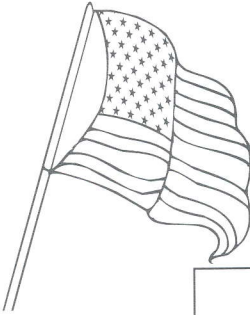
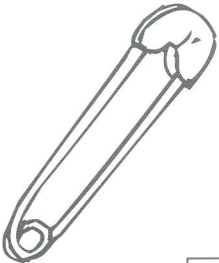

Listen to the CD.

Listen to the picture names. Put an **X** in the box of the picture that sounds different. Colour the pictures.

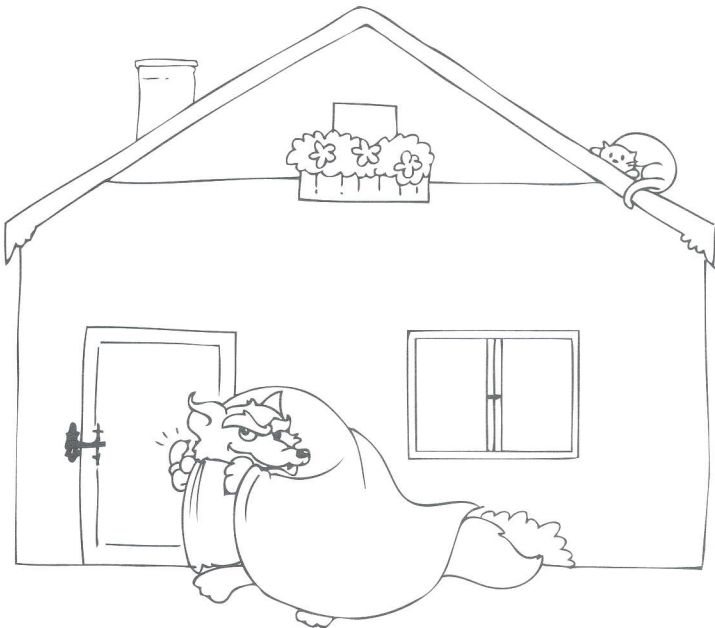
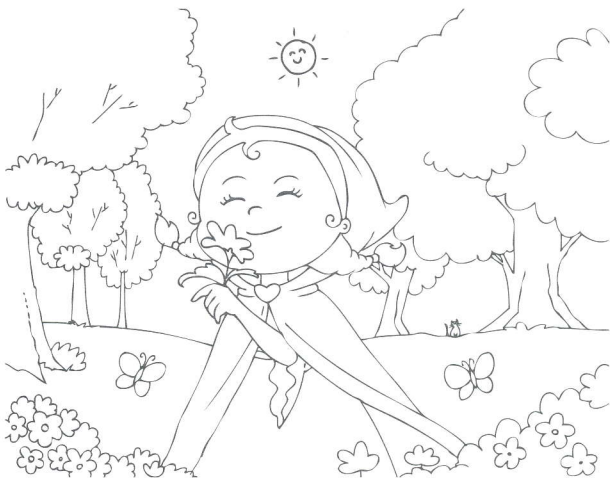
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Listen to the CD.

Listen to the picture names. Put an X in the box of the picture that sounds different. Colour the pictures.

 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>
 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>
 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>
 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>	 <input type="checkbox"/>

Tell the story. Colour the pictures.



Tongue Ticklers.

Dear Parent / Guardian,

In preparing young children to read, it is essential to build up their phonemic awareness i.e. letter / sound awareness.

Written letters capture in image form a representation of an auditory sound / phoneme e.g. the first sound in 'ant' is represented by 'a'. For example, there are three sounds in the spoken word 'ant', and so each letter in 'ant' represents a sound, which when blended and said together gives us the oral word 'ant'.

Before children learn to read print, they need to become aware of how the sounds in words work. They must come to understand that words are made up of speech sounds, or phonemes. Children can build and reinforce their phonemic awareness in several ways. Have some fun with the following tongue twisters and help build their awareness and oral skills.

Tongue twisters or tongue ticklers, also called alliterative words, is where the sound you are focusing on is repeated over and over again. It is a fun way to provide practice with a sound. Try these orally each week with your child!

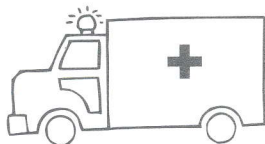
1. Annie ant annoyed an angry alligator.
2. Bad bob bit big brown bear.
3. Candy cat caught Cora Cow's calf.
4. Daffy duck dives down deep.
5. Eddie elephant eats enormous eggs.
6. Five fat frogs feasted on five fat flies.
7. Give Geraldine's gorgeous goats green green grass.
8. Harry Hedgehog hid Harry Hamster's hammer.
9. Impy Ink's idea is impossible!
10. Jumping Jack just jumps for joy.
11. King Koala keeps keys in his kettle.
12. Larry loves licking large lemon lollipops.
13. Magician Mary makes me magic marmalade.
14. Naughty Nancy never nibbles noodles.
15. Oscar Octopus offers Oliver Otter orange oysters.
16. Paint parrot pink, paint penguin purple.
17. Quarrelsome Queen quacked as she made the quiet quilt.
18. Run Roger Rabbit, run round and round.
19. Scarecrow Sam scares seven silly skeletons.
20. Tall Tom Teddy is terrific at table tennis.
21. Una's unhappy unicorn is unable to use an umbrella.
22. Vera's vampire vacuum vanishes vegetables.
23. Wanda Witch waddles and wobbles, while weaving weird webs with her wand.
24. Extra Xmas x-rays for Axl's arm!
25. Yummy yellow yo-yo, up and down you yell and go.
26. Zebras zig and zebras zag, at zebra crossings zip and zag.



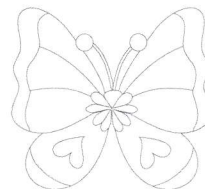
Name the pictures in each box.

Listen to the first sound. Colour the pictures.

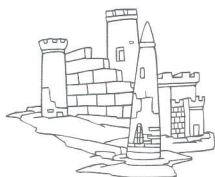
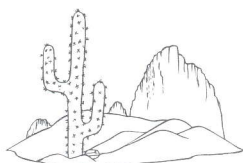
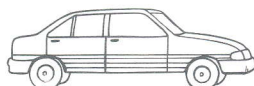
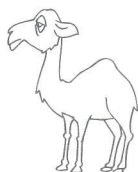
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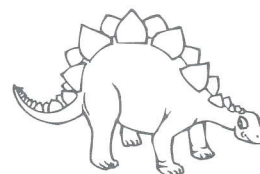
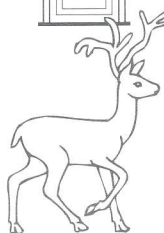
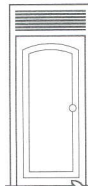
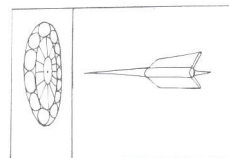
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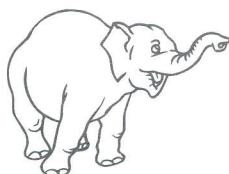
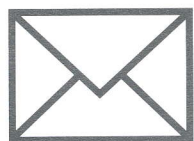
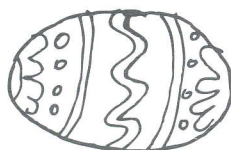
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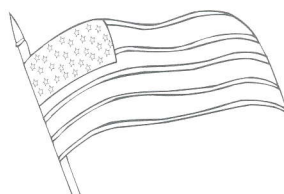
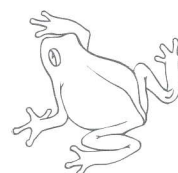
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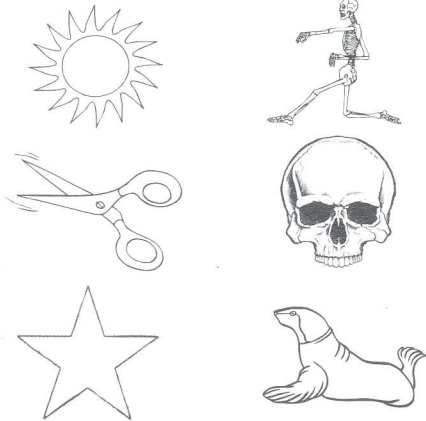
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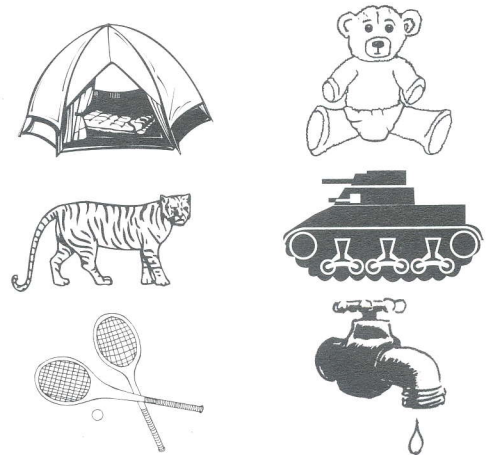
Name the pictures in each box.

Listen to the first sound. Colour the pictures.

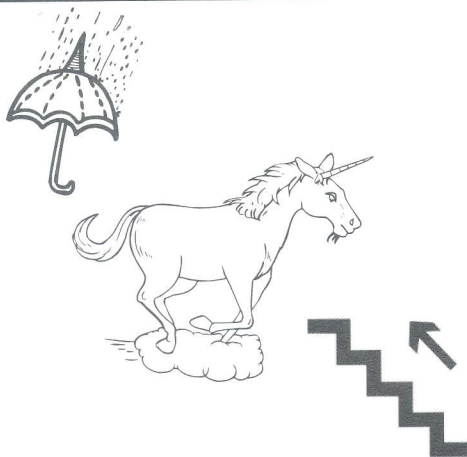
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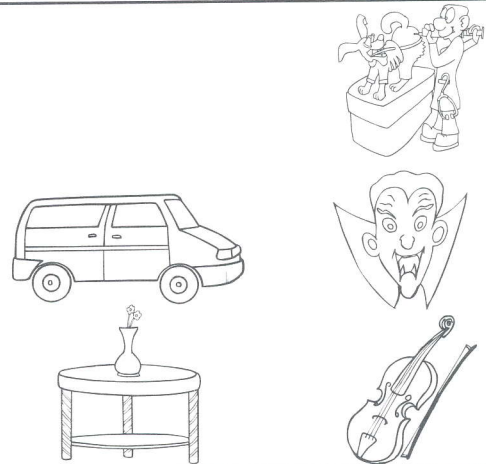
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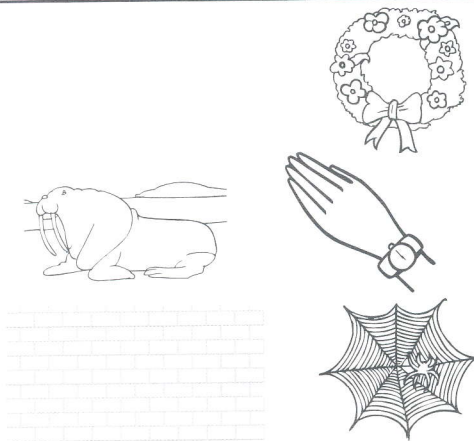
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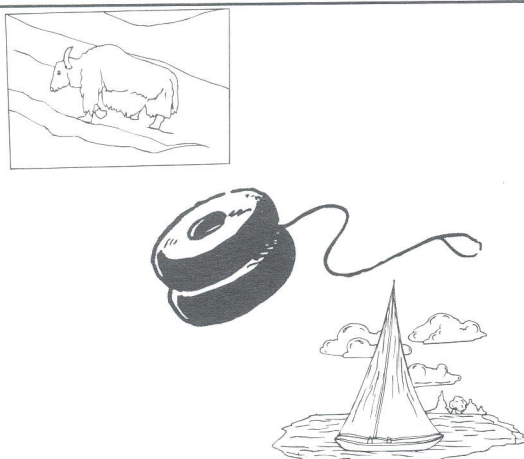
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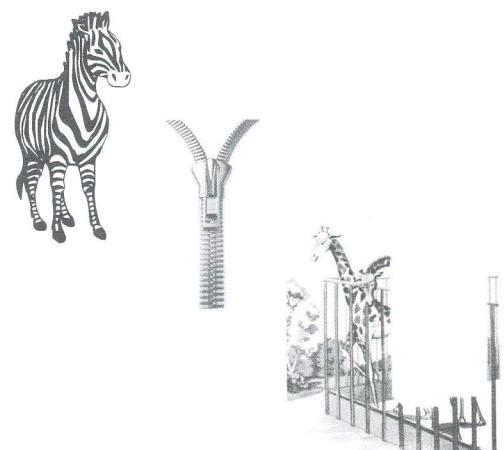
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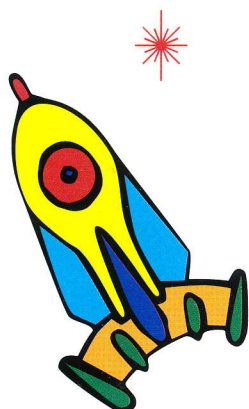


z



**Use all the activities of this book to get your children
ready for formal reading and writing. ★**

We have compiled a rich range of skill building activities that include the following:



★ **25 stories to be read**

★ **25+ nursery rhymes to recite**

★ **26 phonemic sound boxes to explore**

★ **26 phonemic tongue twisters to say**

★ **auditory discrimination exercises**

★ **visual discrimination exercises**

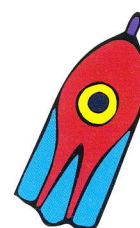
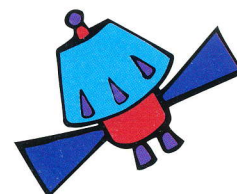
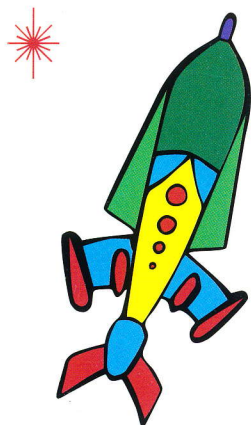
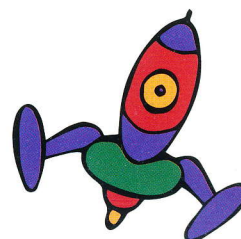
★ **left – right orientation activities**

★ **hand – eye coordination skills**

★ **motor skills development**

★ **handwriting skills**

★ **talk about topics**



*These activities prepare children
to rocket into reading and writing!*

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