

FUN HANDS-ON AT HOME PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Dear families,

During these unprecedented times, many of you are (or will be) home with your preschoolers as we work as a society to #flattenthecurve of COVID-19

We don't need to tell YOU that preschoolers are active and like hands-on activities to do! In this packet, you'll find 30 activities broken down into 6 areas:

Art, Literacy, Science, Music & Movement, Writing and Math.

These activities are based on helping your preschooler engage in activities that are helpful to preschool growth and development. Each area outlines the areas of growth and development that are increased while participating in those activities.

We suggest choosing one activity each day and participating in that activity WITH your preschooler. You'll also find a master materials list so you know what to gather for the month.

It's the perfect opportunity to just enjoy some one-on-one time with your child for 1/2 hour... and your older children may enjoy these activities as well!

We hope you find these activities helpful.

Stay safe. Stay positive.

We will come through this together!

MOSTLY FOUND 'AROUND THE HOUSE ITEMS

ITEMS WITH AN * ARE OPTIONAL

- any small items you have a lot of-marbles, pom poms, popcorn kernels, small LEGO, etc.
- blanket or small sheet, stuffed animal or soft balls
- coffee filters and a spray bottle*
- empty, clear water bottles with caps
- favorite family board games: Candyland, Chutes & Ladders or other games!
- glitter**
- ice cube trays
- index cards or scrap paper
- letter stamps or cookie cutters
- miscellaneous arts/craft supplies (such as ribbon, yarn, fabric, etc.)*
- muffin tins (or bowls)
- newspaper or old towel
- notebook or blank, unlined paper stapled together
- old mittens
- paper, pen, markers, crayons
- plastic bowls
- pony beads or other beads*
- puppet from your home or old sock
- sand,soil/dirt or other dry material
- shallow cups
- shallow trays (like cookie sheets)
- small spoons
- small toys for game pieces
- rocks, milk caps, magnetic letters, block letters or other items you can print letters on!
- wet cloth
- your children's favorite storybooks

MAY NEED TO PURCHASE

ITEMS WITH AN * ARE OPTIONAL

- baby oil
- baking soda
- balloons*
- bubble solution
- clear report covers
- corn starch
- craft sticks and/or paint brushes of any kind.
- envelopes
- food coloring
- flour*
- glue or glue sticks
- liquid starch*
- number or dot dice,
- packets of unsweetened Kool Aid or extract (like vanilla)*
- plain paper
- plastic, sealable baggies
- playdough
- salt
- scrap paper (colored paper and/or magazines
supermarket flyers, etc.),
- shaving cream (non-menthol)
- stamps
- stickers*
- straws
- tape
- tempera (children's) paint or finger paint
- vegetable oil*
- vinegar
- white glue

FUN, HANDS-ON LEARNING ACTIVITIES

TO DO WITH YOUR PRESCHOOLERS AT HOME

ART

LITERACY

SCIENCE

MUSIC &
MOVEMENT

WRITING

MATH

Shaving
Cream
Designs

Make
A
Puppet

Color
Scientist

Pick
A
Song

Daily
Reading
Journal

Playdough
Making

Shredded
Paper
Collage

Puppet
Show

Fizz
It
Up

Dance
to the
Beat

Letters to
Friends &
Family

Playdough
Activity
Mats

Mirror
Image
Art

Cooperative
Story
Creation

Discovery
Bottles

Head,
Shoulders,
Knees & Toes
*Extended Version!

Letter
Bag
Printing

File
Folder
Games

Recyclable
Creations

What's
Missing

Goop

Tooty
Ta

Letter
Trays

Board
Games

Bubble
Art

Letter
Stamping

Ice
Science

Parachute
Blanket

Letter
Activities

Muffin
Tin
Sort

ART ACTIVITIES

WHAT YOUR PRESCHOOLER LEARNS AND DEVELOPS THROUGH ART ACTIVITIES:

Hands-on and open-ended (meaning there is no specific outcome—the project, in the end, does not need to look like a specific model) is part of Visual Arts or - using a variety of materials to make art creations to reflect thoughts, feelings, experience or knowledge. When your preschooler participates in hands-on art, many skills are used and developed depending on the materials they are using. Art activities help your preschooler:

- Use a variety of tools & materials to build grasp & release skills, scissor skills & ability to use thumb/forefinger in pincer grasp.
- Develop eye-hand coordination using a variety of materials.
- Develop pre-writing & drawing skills using wide variety of tools
- Develop awareness of their family, the community, the classroom and their responsibilities in each.
- Develop the ability to identify, predict, create and extend simple patterns.

SHAVING CREAM DESIGNS

MATERIALS NEEDED

shaving cream (non-menthol—menthol is very strongly scented and tough on the eyes and nose). Optional: craft sticks and/or paint brushes of any kind.

WHAT TO DO

Help your child spray shaving cream in a large bin or right on your table (if it is not a wooden table—shaving cream will stain wood). Let your child use it like finger paint. They can print letters, print their name or just make designs in it using their fingers.

Optional: Provide them with craft sticks or paint brushes to use to print or make designs with.

ART ACTIVITIES

SHREDDED PAPER COLLAGE

MATERIALS NEEDED

scrap paper (colored paper and/or magazines supermarket flyers, etc.), glue or glue sticks, plain paper

WHAT TO DO:

Encourage your child to rip the paper into different sizes and shapes.

Ripping (rather than cutting with scissors) is wonderful for developing the muscles in their fingers and hands!

Provide them with plain paper to glue the pieces onto using either glue sticks or white school glue. Optional: Supervise them while they cut the paper with scissors for more hand-muscle development!

MIRROR IMAGE ART

MATERIALS NEEDED

white paper, paint, paint brushes

WHAT TO DO:

Help your child fold a large piece of white paper in half.

Provide them with paint and a paint brush. Have them paint a design on only half of the paper.

When done, show them how to fold the other half over so it is on top of the side they painted on.

Press the paper using their hands.

Open the paper to see a mirror image of their design.

ART ACTIVITIES

RECYCLABLE CREATIONS

MATERIALS NEEDED

items from your recycling bin, glue and/or tape.

Optional: miscellaneous arts/craft supplies you have (such as ribbon, yarn, fabric, etc.).

WHAT TO DO:

Let your children use the items from your recycling bin to build or create with!

They might use them as blocks to build a tower or they might want to glue or tape them together to make a robot or their own insect!

If you have miscellaneous arts/craft supplies as listed above, they can use those items to embellish their creation.

BUBBLE ART

MATERIALS NEEDED

bubble solution, paint, cups, straws, white paper

WHAT TO DO:

Pour bubble solution into shallow cups. Gently stir in some paint to each cup to color the bubble solution.

Cut a small notch in the straw near the top (the prevents the bubble solution from being sucked into the straw should your child suck on the straw...just be sure they don't cover the notch with their fingers while holding the straw). Your child places a cup of colored solution onto white paper and inserts a straw in the cup. They blow into the straw to make bubbles and keep blowing until the bubbles overflow the cup and pop on the paper. Let them use many colors.

LITERACY ACTIVITIES

WHAT YOUR PRESCHOOLER LEARNS AND DEVELOPS THROUGH ART ACTIVITIES:

Literacy typically refers to reading and writing skills. Some of the skills your preschoolers will develop by participating in the literacy activities here are:

- Demonstrating eagerness, curiosity, & flexibility as a learner.
- Engaging in positive relationships and interacting in socially appropriate manner with minimal conflict with peers and
- with adults involved in their care.
- Developing awareness of print (in books & environment) and recognizes that print conveys meaning (i.e. recognizing own
- name).
- Recognizing how books are read (front to back, one page at a time) and characteristics of books (title, author, illustrator).
- Listening to and describing items and actions in books.
- Demonstrating progress in understanding & listening to language (receptive language) as well as progress in speaking (expressive
- language)

MAKE A PUPPET

MATERIALS NEEDED

small lunch bags (or scrap paper and a stick), crayons, markers, yarn, glue or tape

WHAT TO DO:

Provide your child with a small lunch bag or just use a piece of scrap paper. If using a lunch bag, show the children how to place their hand in the bag and use their fingers to move the bottom of the bag as the puppets mouth (the bottom is the puppets head). Your child then creates a face on the bottom part of the bag using crayons or markers. Provide yarn and glue or tape as well for hair and any other item from around the house to add. If you are using paper, they create a puppet on the paper and then tape a stick to the back to hold it. Let dry and then use for the Puppet Show activity in this packet at another time!

LITERACY ACTIVITIES

PUPPET SHOW

MATERIALS NEEDED

Puppet that you made in the 'Make A Puppet' art activity in this packet OR a puppet from your home (you can use an old sock for this as well!)

Optional: Your child's favorite story book

WHAT TO DO:

Provide your child with a puppet. Use either the puppet you made in the 'Make A Puppet' art activity in this packet, a puppet you have at home OR just use an old sock (tape some eyes on it!).

Let your child use the puppet to tell you a story--any story--about something they did outside or to recreate a favorite scene of a show they like.

Optional: Read your child's favorite book to them and have them use the puppet to act out some of the actions from the story as you read it.

COOPERATIVE STORY CREATION

MATERIALS NEEDED

paper and pen; markers, crayons or paint

WHAT TO DO:

This is a fun activity to do with your family! You are all going to make up a story together, each person adding a part to the story. Decide on what the main character will be--it can be anything, let your child decide--a kite? bubbles? a puppy? Once decided, start the story: "Once upon a time there was a purple puppy (insert your child's main character there!). One day, the (main character) decided it/he/she wanted to.... NOW let your child add a sentence or two (i.e. wanted to climb a tree; wanted to go to the park, etc.). Write down exactly what they say on a piece of paper and their name (so you remember who added which part). Continue as long as there is interest and decide how to end the story. When done, print each part they added on the bottom of a separate piece of paper (one page for each part they added). Have them illustrate that page any way they like to go along with the action. This could be a daily activity where they illustrate one page per day. When illustrated, staple the pages together in the order the story was originally created and read it back to your child/family!

LITERACY ACTIVITIES

WHAT'S MISSING?

MATERIALS NEEDED

10 items from around your house - literally anything! a LEGO, spoon, marble, piece of yarn, dog toy, etc. and a towel to cover the items with. Let your child choose 10 items - it's great counting practice!

WHAT TO DO:

Place the 10 items on the floor. Have your child count them, name them, discuss what they are used for. Then, cover the items with a towel. Reach under the towel and remove one of the items without your child seeing which item it is (hide it between your knees/legs so they can't see it!). Uncover the remaining items and ask "What's Missing?". Give your child time to think about and recall the previous items and see if they can identify the missing object. Play again and as long as there is interest (let your child be the one to hide an item for YOU to guess what is missing). Variation: Instead of removing one item, try removing 2,3 or more to see if they can guess the items that are missing!

LETTER STAMPING

MATERIALS NEEDED

letter stamps or cookie cutters, playdough

WHAT TO DO:

Get out our stamps that haven't been used in a while or your cookie cutters! Let your child use them in playdough!

If you don't have letter stamps or letter cookie cutters, just use what you have and encourage your child to tell you a story about what they create.

Write their story down, take a picture of them using the materials and later, print out the picture and attach it to their dictated story to read to them!

SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

WHAT YOUR PRESCHOOLER LEARNS AND DEVELOPS THROUGH ART ACTIVITIES:

Science happens all around us! Your preschoolers develop so many skills participating in science activities such as:

- Engaging in positive relationships and interacting
- in socially appropriate manner with minimal conflict with other children.
- Participating in structured and unstructured activities.
- Developing observation & inquiry skills using their senses & tools (including technology) to gather & investigate information.
- Making predictions and inferences about changes in materials.
- Communicating & documenting information gathered using a variety of methods (drawing, maps, graphs, charts & through discussion)
- Developing knowledge of science concepts through exploration of the different sciences (Life, Physical, Earth/Environmental, Technology
- Science)

COLOR SCIENTIST

MATERIALS NEEDED

shallow cups, water, small spoons, food coloring Optional: coffee filters, markers, spray bottle with water in it, newspaper or old towel

WHAT TO DO:

Put some water in several shallow cups. Add a drop of food coloring to each (using different colors in each cup). Give your child a shallow up with uncolored water in it. Have them transfer colored water to their cup using a spoon to see what colors they can create!

Optional variation: Provide your child with a white coffee filter and water-based markers (like Crayola markers). They color the coffee filter, draw designs, etc. with the marker. Place the colored filter on newspaper or an old towel (the next step will make the colors bleed through and could stain your carpet). The children then spray the colored coffee filter with a spray bottle of water (NOTE: be sure the spray bottle you use was not used to store chemicals in the past. We use the spray bottle we have to spray plants with). The water will make the marker colors blend and have a tie-dyed look to them! They will want to make MANY of these!

SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

FIZZ IT UP

MATERIALS NEEDED

baking soda, vinegar, spoon, shallow tray or cookie sheet, 3 shallow cups

Optional: playdough or clay

WHAT TO DO:

Provide your child with a small cup of baking soda and a small cup of vinegar and place them on a shallow tray or cookie sheet (that has sides--not flat baking sheets--this will overflow a bit!). Place an empty cup on the tray. Your child will, using a spoon, transfer some of the baking soda into the empty cup. Then have them put small drops of vinegar on it and watch the reaction. We have also added food coloring to the vinegar!

Optional variation: Give your child some playdough or clay (your own or use the playdough you made in the math Make Playdough activity in this packet) and have them knead some baking soda into a ball of clay or playdough OR create a volcano shape. Add a hole/opening in the ball or volcano shape. Spoon some baking soda in the hole/opening and then add vinegar, a few drops at a time!

DISCOVERY BOTTLES

MATERIALS NEEDED

clear water bottles with caps, items to add to bottles: water, baby oil, food coloring, vegetable oil, sand, nature items from outside, pony beads, glitter

WHAT TO DO:

Discovery bottles are fun to make and to look at! There are so many variations you can make! The basic one is made by filling a water bottle 1/2 full of water and then add some vegetable oil. The oil will float on the water. Add a few drops of food coloring and watch as it slowly sinks through the oil into the water. Cover bottle and slowly move (holding it horizontally) back and forth to make waves. Of course, there are so many other bottles you can make...try adding water and one or more of these: glitter, pony beads, nature items. You can also add sand (about 1/2 full) and items such as small toys, pony beads, small number dice, LEGO etc. Cover and have your child roll it around and try to find each of the items.

SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

GOOP MATERIALS NEEDED

corn starch, water Optional: baking soda, liquid starch, white glue, food coloring

WHAT TO DO:

Here are several variations of Goop to make with your child!

1. Put corn starch in a mixing bowl. Add water and mix until it is the consistency of pancake batter. When in the bowl, it will seem hard. When you pick it up with your hands, your body heat turns it into a liquid! Variation: Add food coloring to the water to make colorful goop.
2. For an individual, smaller batch: 2 TBSP cornstarch in a cup. Add water a little at a time until it is like pancake batter.
3. This is more like something called Oobleck: Mix equal amounts of white glue and liquid starch. Let sit overnight. Pour out the excess liquid and then knead and play...it's pretty stretchy! Variation: Add paint or food coloring to the glue before mixing for a colorful version. NOTE: This will stick to fabric and carpeting so the suggestion is to use this only on the floor or table.

ICE SCIENCE MATERIALS NEEDED

balloons or plastic bowls, ice cube trays, water, salt, spoons, food coloring
Optional: mittens

WHAT TO DO:

Fill balloons or bowls and ice cube trays with water and food coloring. Freeze overnight. Remove from freezer and peel balloons off.

Provide spoons and salt for the children to sprinkle the ice with to make it melt. They might also want to drop warm water on it to see it melt.

EXTENSION: Provide white paper and mittens! Let the children 'paint' with the colored ice as it melts on the paper using mittens so their hands don't get too cold (or too stained-food coloring does stain! So remember that the mittens you use will also get stained).

Another idea is to add these colored ice shapes into a shallow bin with some water, spoons and cups for water play.

MUSIC & MOVEMENT ACTIVITIES

WHAT YOUR PRESCHOOLER LEARNS AND DEVELOPS THROUGH ART ACTIVITIES:

Activities involving music and/or movement help your preschoolers use their senses as well as their LOVE of moving around in many ways! When they participate in music through activities by listening, performing, singing or using musical instruments, some of the skills they develop are:

- Joining in and cooperating with others in play and learning.
- Expressing affection, empathy and sympathy to others and balances needs and rights of others and self.
- Developing travelling skills by using locomotor skills to maneuver in their environment and in a large group.
- Developing large muscle control and balancing skills through activities such as walking (front and backward) skipping, running, climbing, hopping, stretching, reaching etc.

PICK A SONG

MATERIALS NEEDED

index cards or scrap paper, marker

WHAT TO DO:

Ask your child to name the songs he/she knows and likes. Print the name of each song on an index card or piece of scrap paper. Draw a symbol on each card so your child can 'read' the card (i.e. draw a star on the card for Twinkle Twinkle Little Star).

Now, place the cards face down or hold them in your hand fanned out and have your child choose a card, flip it over to see what it is and sing it together. Make up actions/hand motions for each song.

Some ideas to get you started: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star; Head Shoulders Knees and Toes; ABC song; Old MacDonald; Row, Row, Row Your Boat; 5 Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed; 5 Little Monkeys Swinging from a Tree; The Wheels on the Bus; Baa Baa Black Sheep

MUSIC & MOVEMENT ACTIVITIES

DANCE TO THE BEAT

MATERIALS NEEDED

a variety of music

WHAT TO DO:

Have a variety of music ready—CDs, your playlist, etc. Play one genre of music for 2 minutes and dance to the beat.

Change to a different genre for another 2 minutes.

Some fun varieties are to play jazz, hip-hop, Big Band, Disney tunes, Classical, Opera—change it up!

Variation Option: Have your child choose their favorite animal and then they dance, like that animal, to the different genres!

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES & TOES

MATERIALS NEEDED

Song lyrics in this packet

WHAT TO DO:

You know the traditional Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes song. In this packet you'll find a version with even more verses! Variation: Sing it once together while acting out the verses.

Then try singing it in 'slow-motion'.

Then sing it super fast!

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Your child will be super excited after this fast version, so follow it up with a normal speed singing of it to wind the song down!

MUSIC & MOVEMENT ACTIVITIES

TOOTY TA

MATERIALS NEEDED

Access to the internet and this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4gNCR0HVuk>

WHAT TO DO:

Tooty Ta is a favorite preschool movement song which is repetitive, silly and fun!

Use the link above (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4gNCR0HVuk>) or search the phrase Tooty Ta online.

There are SO many versions of this song to sing and act out with your preschooler! Warning: It is addictive!

PARACHUTE BLANKET

MATERIALS NEEDED

blanket or small sheet, stuffed animal or soft balls

WHAT TO DO:

Hold a towel or small sheet while standing up with your child.

Practice moving the towel/sheet up and down together, slowly at first and then faster and faster.

Then stop—place a stuffed animal or soft ball on the towel. Now move the towel up and down...how fast do you have to move it up and down to get the stuffed animal or ball to fly off the towel?

Try adding more animals/balls.

Variation: How many times can you move the towel up and down WITHOUT any of the animals or balls falling off?

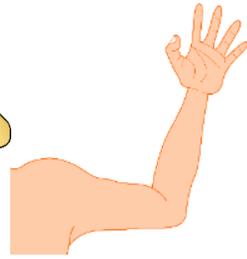
Head, Shoulders, Arms and Chins!

Here are the "lost" lyrics from this traditional song!



Head, shoulders, knees and toes.

Knees and toes.



Head shoulders, knees and toes.

Knees and toes.



Eyes and ears and mouth and nose.

Head, shoulders, knees and toes.

Knees and toes.



Feet and tummies arms and chins.

Arms and chins.



Feet and tummies arms and chins.

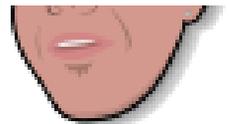
Arms and chins.



Eyes and ears and mouth and shins.

Feet and tummies arms and chins.

Arms and chins.



Hands, fingers legs and lips.

Legs and lips.



Hands, fingers legs and lips.

Legs and lips.



Eyes and ears and mouth and hips.

Hands and fingers legs and lips.

Legs and lips.

WRITING ACTIVITIES

WHAT YOUR PRESCHOOLER LEARNS AND DEVELOPS THROUGH ART ACTIVITIES:

Writing skills fall under Literacy skills. In preschool, it typically refers to gaining mastery over skills that will help them in the elementary years and beyond! Some of the skills your preschooler will develop when participating in writing activities are:

- Using a variety of tools & materials to build
- grasp & release skills, scissor skills & ability to use
- thumb/forefinger in pincer grasp.
- Developing eye-hand coordination using a variety of materials.
- Developing pre-writing & drawing skills using wide variety of tools
- Developing knowledge of science concepts through exploration of the different sciences, depending on the activity (Life, Physical, Earth/Environmental and Technology Science).
- Using increasingly complex and varied vocabulary, grammar and syntax in conversations and storytelling.
- Speech becomes more clear and better understood by others while discussing what they are doing.
- Recognizing and identifying letters of the alphabet in print, environment and/or own name.
- Demonstrating increased emergent writing skills such as random marks, controlled scribbles, basic shapes, letter-like marks or letters to represent words, stories, ideas, experiences or objects.

DAILY READING JOURNAL

MATERIALS NEEDED

crayons or markers, a notebook or blank, unlined paper stapled together
Optional: stickers

WHAT TO DO

This will be a daily activity in addition to any other activity from this packet that you choose to do with your child. Read a story each day with your child. When done, provide them with a notebook and crayons/markers (or make your own by stapling paper together to make a notebook). Encourage your child to print their own name on the page each day. Just let them print their name as best they can-the goal is to let them practice using tools to print with and work on their eye-hand coordination as well as letter recognition and recall. Each day, encourage them to create a page in their journal about their favorite scene or character from the book. Extension idea: If you have stickers, let them use those to embellish their daily story page!

WRITING ACTIVITIES

LETTERS TO FRIENDS & FAMILY

MATERIALS NEEDED

paper, pens, crayons, markers and/or colored pencils, envelopes, stamps, wet cloth

WHAT TO DO

Encourage your children to draw pictures for friends and family. Fill out envelopes for them, addressing the envelope to the address of the person they want to send it to.

Help your child to fold the letter/picture, place in the envelope, seal and stamp it (use a paper towel or cloth with water to seal rather than licking the envelope or stamp to prevent transfer of germs).

Take a walk to the mailbox to mail the letter.

LETTER BAG PRINTING

MATERIALS NEEDED

plastic, sealable 'baggies', tempera (children's) paint or finger paint
Variation: flour, water, food coloring

WHAT TO DO

Have your child help you spoon some tempera or finger paint into a sealable baggie. Seal the bag (pressing excess air out). Place baggie on a table or flat surface. They can press their fingers on the bag to move the paint around while printing letters or making designs.

IDEA: Let your child choose several colors of paint to add to a baggie and see what color it makes after drawing on the baggie which mixes the colors!

VARIATION: If you don't have tempera or finger paint, mix flour and water together until it is the texture of pancake batter. Add food coloring for color. Spoon that into baggies and use as directed above.

WRITING ACTIVITIES

LETTER TRAYS

MATERIALS NEEDED

shallow trays (like cookie sheets) and salt, sand, flour, soil/dirt or other dry material

WHAT TO DO

Let your child scoop a dry material you've chosen from the list above onto a cookie sheet.

Scoop enough so the sheet/tray has a thin layer of material and the bottom cannot be seen.

Then, let your child use their finger to draw letters or designs in the material.

Variation: Provide a craft stick or paint brush to use if they don't like the feel of touching the material.

LETTER ACTIVITIES

MATERIALS NEEDED

rocks, milk caps, magnetic letters, block letters or other items you can print letters on!

WHAT TO DO

Use milk caps (you know, the plastic ones) and print letters on them.

Or, go on a small rock or leaf hunt outside to collect a large amount!

Print letters on each item.

The children use them to identify letters, spell out their names or other words they know (Mom, Dad, etc.).

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You can also use blocks that have letters, the letter cubes from a Boggle game or Scrabble Game, magnetic letters, etc.

MATH ACTIVITIES

WHAT YOUR PRESCHOOLER LEARNS AND DEVELOPS THROUGH ART ACTIVITIES:

Much like science, math is all around us! Your preschoolers grow and develop in so many areas by participating in any activity that includes math from actual counting to helping you measure and cook! Some of the skills they develop are:

- Using a variety of tools & materials to build grasp & release skills, scissor skills and the ability to use thumb/forefinger in pincer grasp.
- Developing eye-hand coordination using a variety of materials.
- Developing the ability to recognize numbers recite them in order and recognize that numbers represent quantities.
- Using numbers, one-to-one counting & subitizing (identifying number of objects in a set without counting them) to determine the quantity.
- Developing the ability to identify, predict, create and extend simple patterns.
- Developing the ability to measure wide variety of objects using many different attributes (weight, length, size, etc.)
- Developing the ability to classify, compare, sort and order a wide variety of object by different attributes.
- Developing the ability to classify, compare, sort and order a wide variety of object by different attributes.
- Developing an understanding of ordination & positional language (1st, 2nd, 3rd), directionality (up/down) and spatial awareness (next to, on top of) & how to apply to items, stories, etc.
- Developing knowledge of science concepts through exploration of the different sciences (Life, Physical, Earth/Environmental, Technology Science)
- Understanding and following at least 2-3 step directions.

PLAYDOUGH MAKING

MATERIALS NEEDED

3-4 c (750-1000 mg) flour; 1 c (250 mg) salt; 2 c (500 ml) hot water; 2 Tbsp. (30 ml) oil; 1 package of unsweetened Kool Aid (or food coloring and vanilla extract for a nice scent)

WHAT TO DO:

Make this with your child! Let them help measure and count as you add ingredients!

Mix 3 cups (750 mg) of the flour and all the salt together. In a separate bowl, add Kool Aid to hot water and stir till dissolved. Add oil.

Pour wet ingredients into dry. Stir, continue to add remaining flour as needed. Let children use with other playdough tools and toys you may have. NOTE: Homemade playdough does NOT work well in Playdough factory type toys (you know, the ones where you squish out the playdough).

MATH ACTIVITIES

PLAYDOUGH ACTIVITY MATS

MATERIALS NEEDED

activity mats in this packet, clear report covers, number or dot dice, playdough

WHAT TO DO:

Print out the playdough mats in this packet.

Cover with clear report folders so you can reuse them.

You'll find the instructions with each mat in this packet which include:

Umbrella Activity Mat

Turtle Activity Mat

Fish Activity Mat

FILE FOLDER GAMES

MATERIALS NEEDED

File Folder Games in this packet

WHAT TO DO:

Print the file folder games and their instructions from this packet for your children to use over and over!

If you don't have a printer, you can draw/recreate these on your own. In this packet you'll find:

© PRESCHOOL Letter Hunt File Folder Game PLAN-IT.COM

Feed the Turtle File Folder Game

MATH ACTIVITIES

BOARD GAMES

MATERIALS NEEDED

Board Games in this packet, small toys for game pieces, number/dot dice
OR break out your favorite family board games: Candyland, Chutes & Ladders or other games!

WHAT TO DO:

Either print the board games that are in this packet or create your own version of one!

There are instructions on how to use the as well.

In this packet you'll find a Frog Board Game and a Fairies Board Game.

Of course, this is a great time to break out your favorite family board games such as Candyland, Chutes & Ladders, a deck of cards, etc.!

MUFFIN TIN SORT

MATERIALS NEEDED

muffin tins (or bowls), any small items you have a lot of-marbles, pom poms, popcorn kernels, small LEGO, etc., number or dot dice

WHAT TO DO:

There are many ways to sort and count using muffin tins!

The children can sort the items (such as pom poms or LEGO) by color or size. OR, have your child roll a number or dot die and count that number of items into one of the muffin tin compartments.

Another idea is to cut out pieces of paper that fit in the muffin tin compartments. [PRESCHOOL PLAN IT WWW.PRESCHOOL-PLAN-IT.COM](http://www.preschool-plan-it.com)

Print random numbers on each paper.

The children count out and place the corresponding number of items into each compartment.

Dice Drops Activity Mat

Dice Drops Activity Mat

Directions:

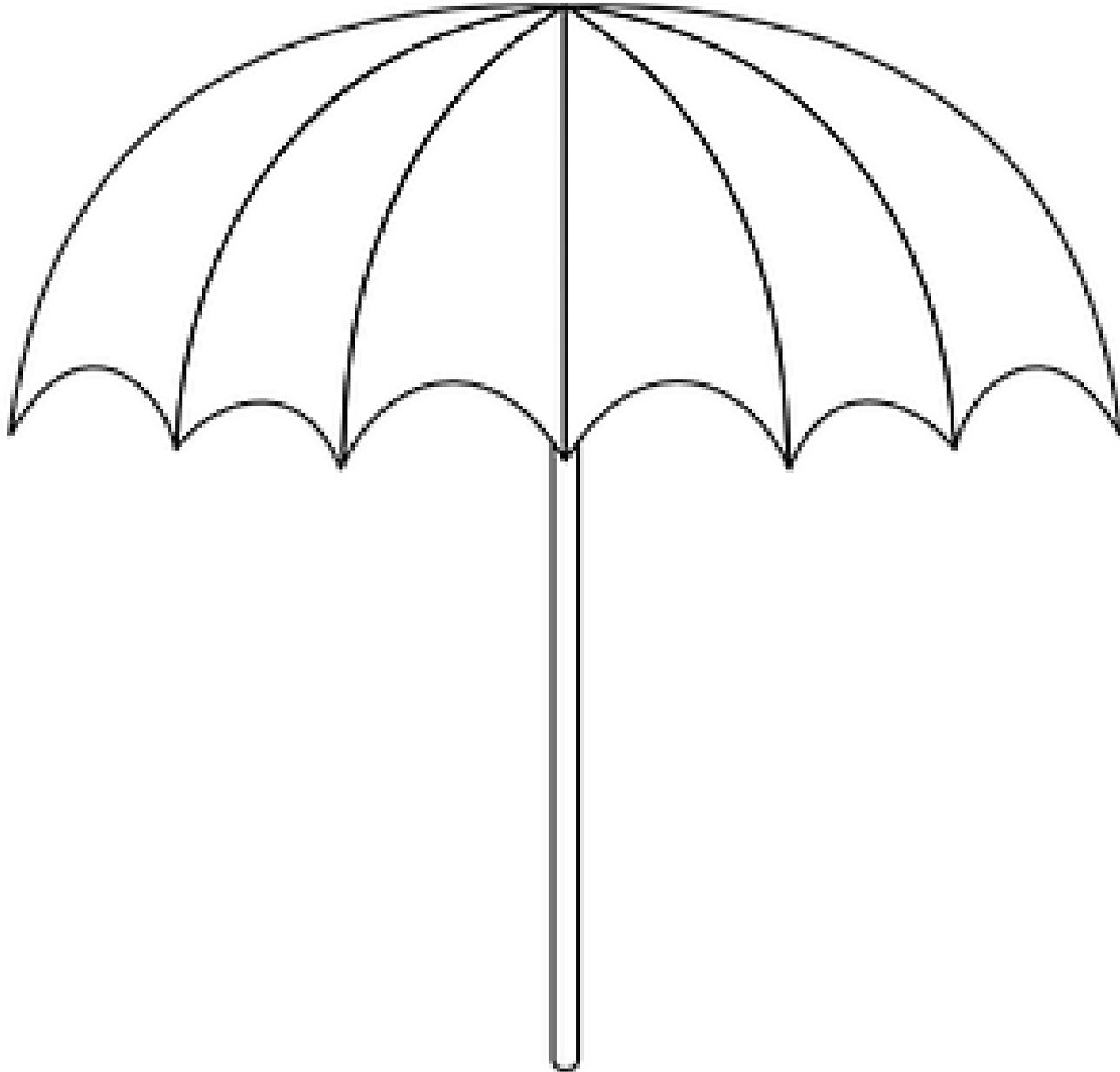
Print and laminate the following mat.

Provide the children with playdough and a number or dot die. They roll the die and then create the corresponding number of playdough balls.

They place the balls anywhere on the mat and then squish each one as they count them.

Then ask them where the 'rain drops' (playdough) is: over, under, on or next to the umbrella.

Dice Drops Activity Mat



Dice Drops Activity Mat



Turtle Egg Counting Activity Mat

Turtle Egg Counting Activity Mat

Directions:

Print and laminate the following mat and number cards.

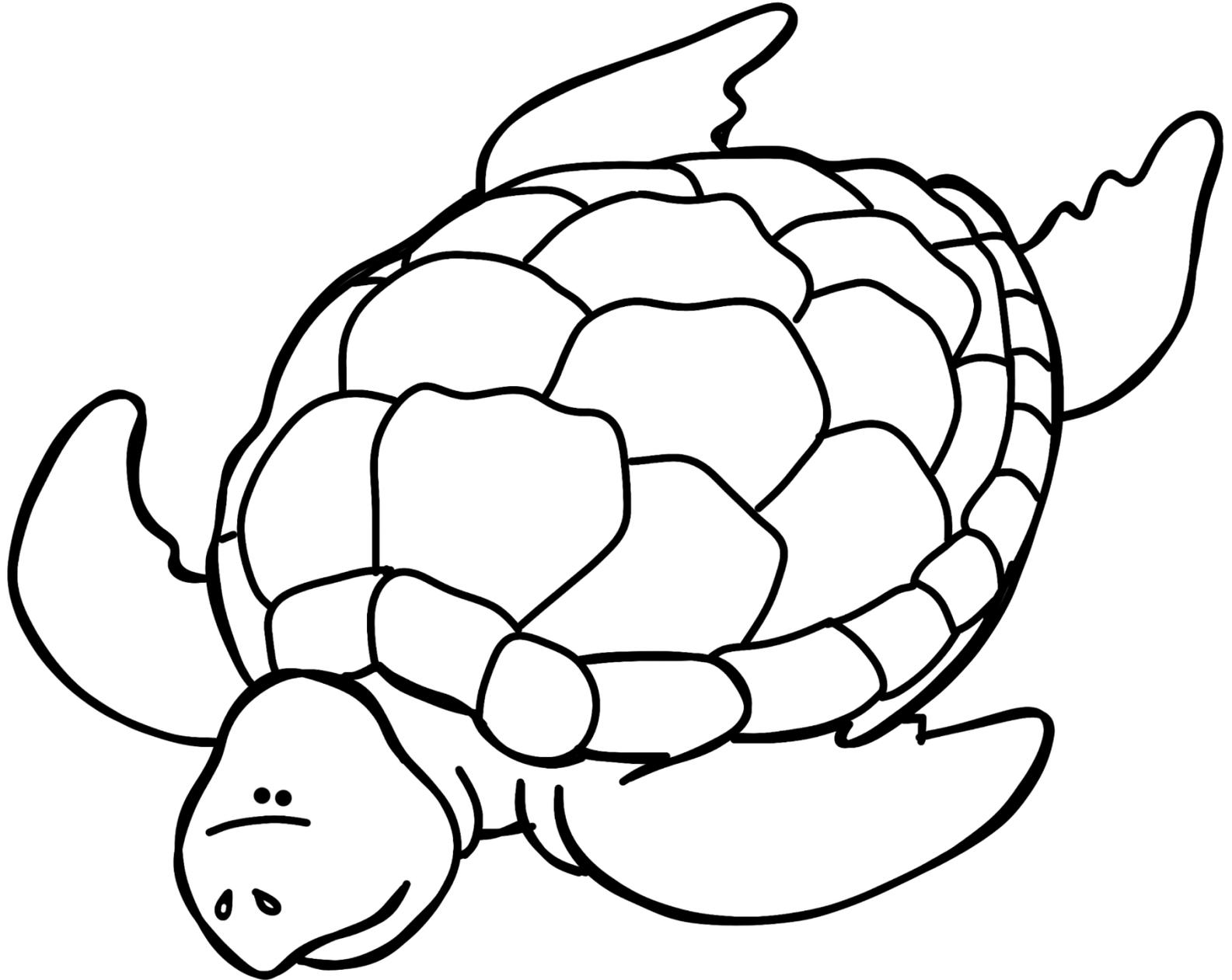
Provide the children with playdough.

The children flip over a card and add that number of playdough “turtle eggs” to the top of the turtle.

They then choose another card and repeat.

Also provide colored playdough for them to embellish the rest of the turtle!

Turtle Egg Counting Activity Mat



Turtle Egg Counting Activity Mat

1

one

2

two

3

three

4

four

5

five

6

six

Turtle Egg Counting Activity Mat

7

one

8

two

9

three

10

ten

11

eleven

12

twelve

Turtle Egg Counting Activity Mat

13

thirteen

14

fourteen

15

fifteen

16

sixteen

17

seventeen

18

eighteen

19

nineteen

20

twenty

Fish Activity Mat

Fish Activity Mat

Directions:

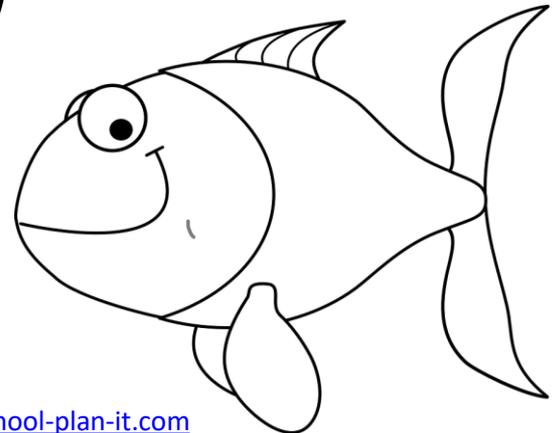
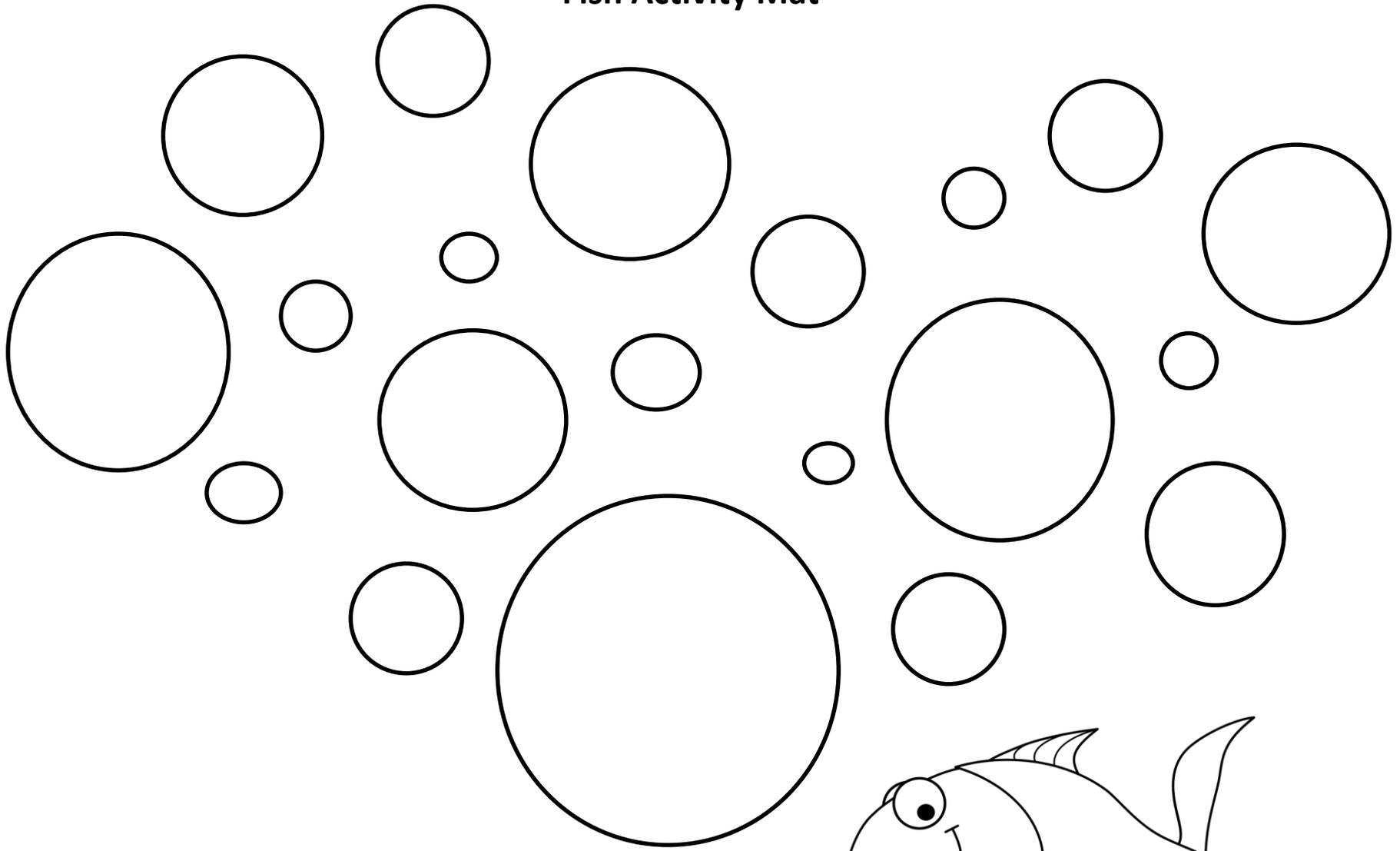
Print and laminate the following mat.

Provide the children with playdough and number dice.

The children roll the dice and fill in the corresponding number of air bubbles with playdough (or remove the corresponding number of pieces of playdough if the bubbles are already filled in with playdough).

Encourage the children to also use the playdough to fill in and design the fish shape.

Fish Activity Mat



Pirate Ship Letter Hunt File Folder Game

How to make the file folder game:

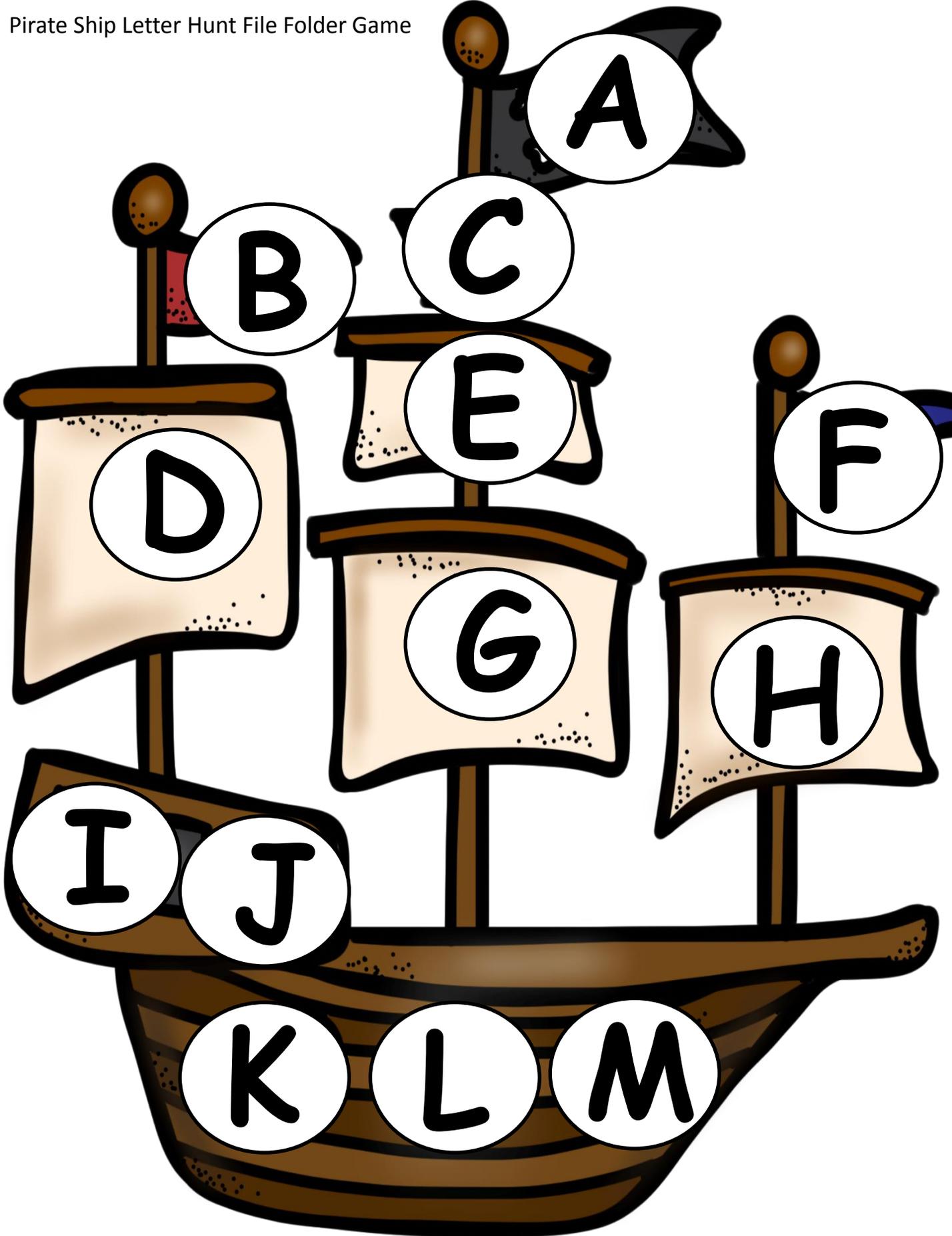
- Print out all pages.
- Cut out game title and the instructions from this page.
- Glue title onto tab of file folder & instructions on the front.
- Laminate pirate ships and attach to the inside of the folder.
- Cut out the letter “coins” and laminate. Place these in a sealable bag for storage.

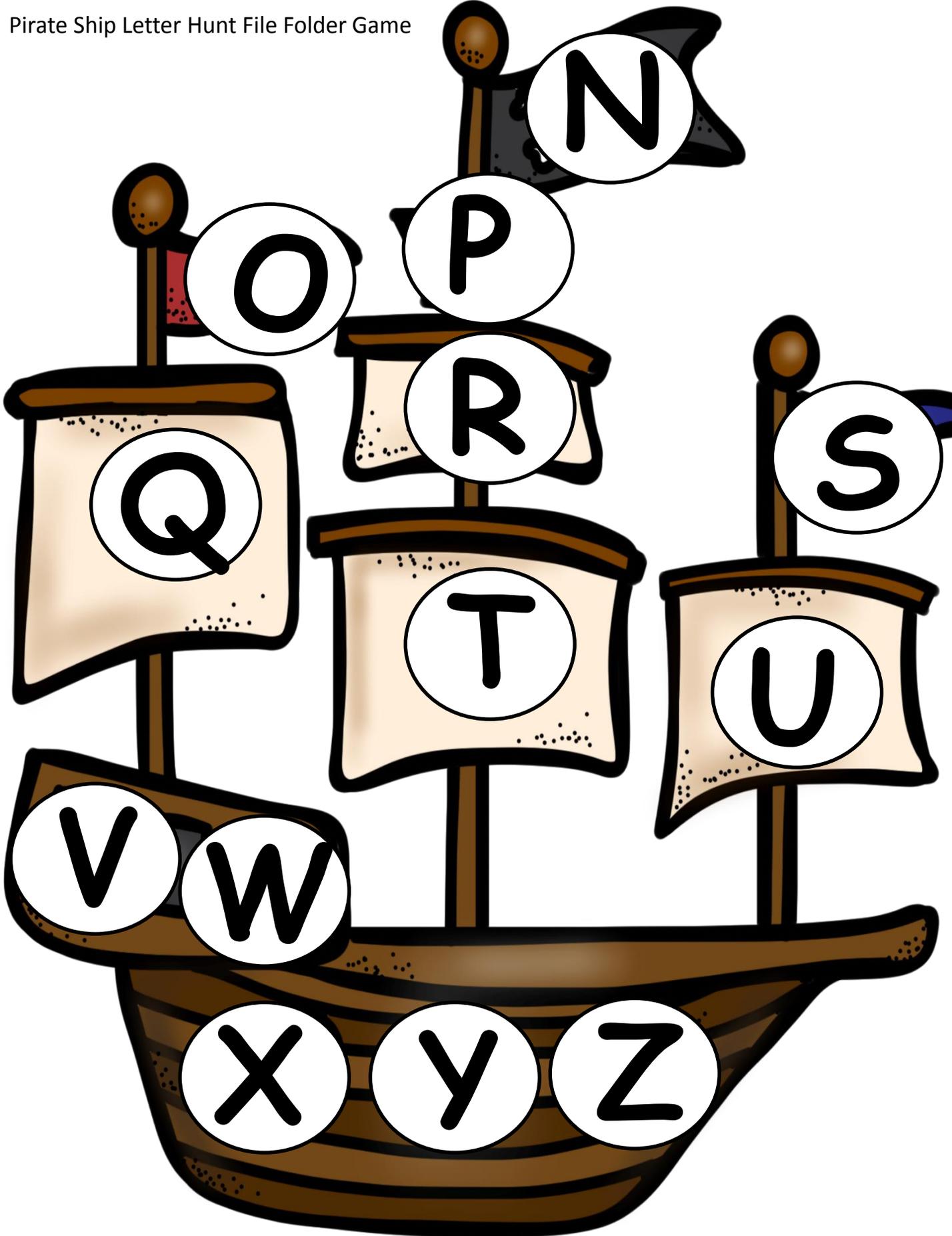
Instructions:

Children place the letter “coins” a the corresponding letter on the ship.

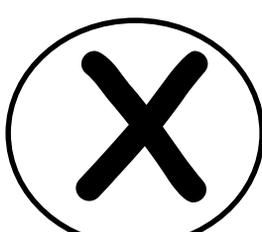
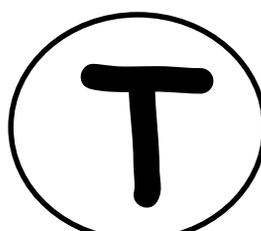
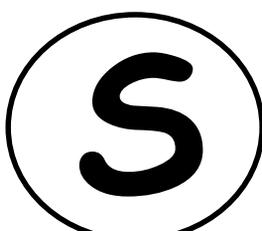
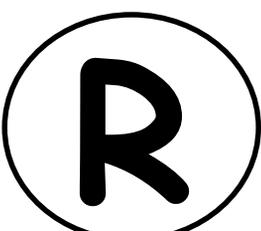
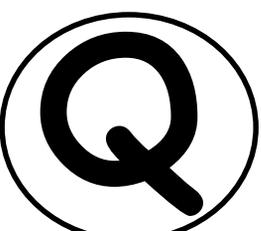
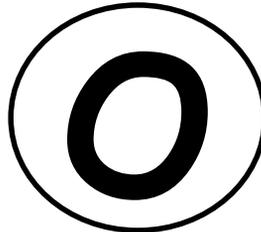
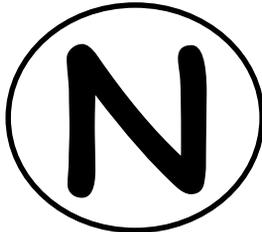
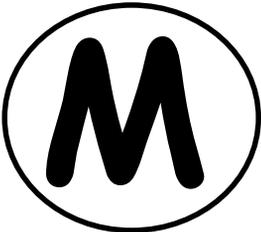
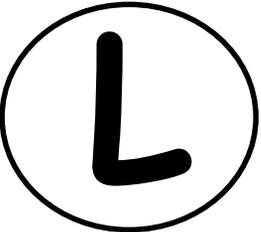
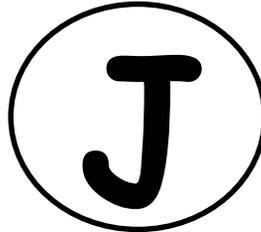
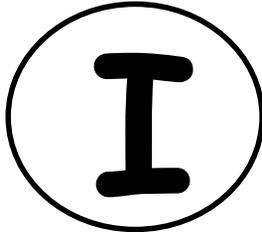
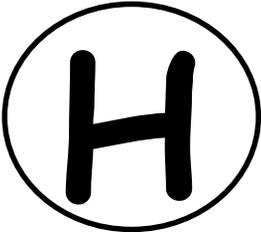
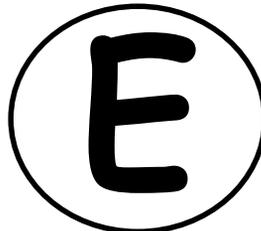
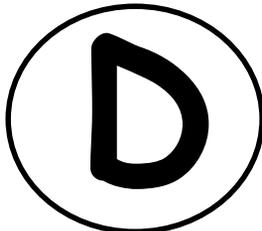
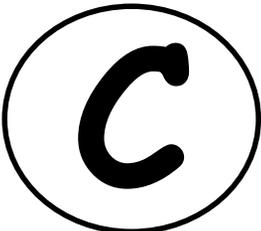
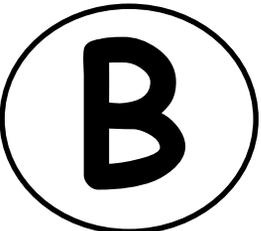
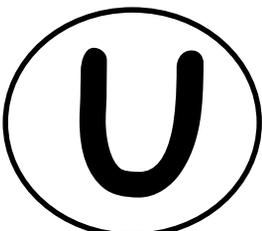
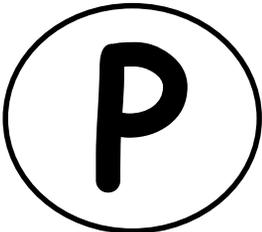
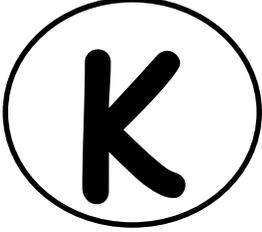
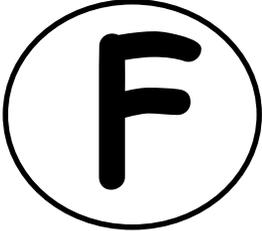
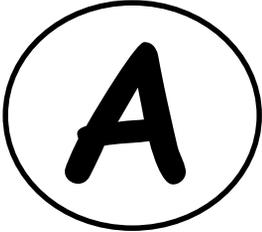
Variation: Use plastic coins and tape or print letters (using a marker) on them to use instead of the paper “coins”!







Letter Coins
for the Pirate Ship
Letter Hunt
File Folder Game



Frog Path Game

Make your own path game! Don't be intimidated! It does not have to be fancy! Simply have a start and end space on a large piece of construction paper or use the template in this packet!

Add stickers to get from start to finish. They could be flies, drawings of rocks or actual rocks glued to the paper!

Give the children plastic frogs to use as player pieces.

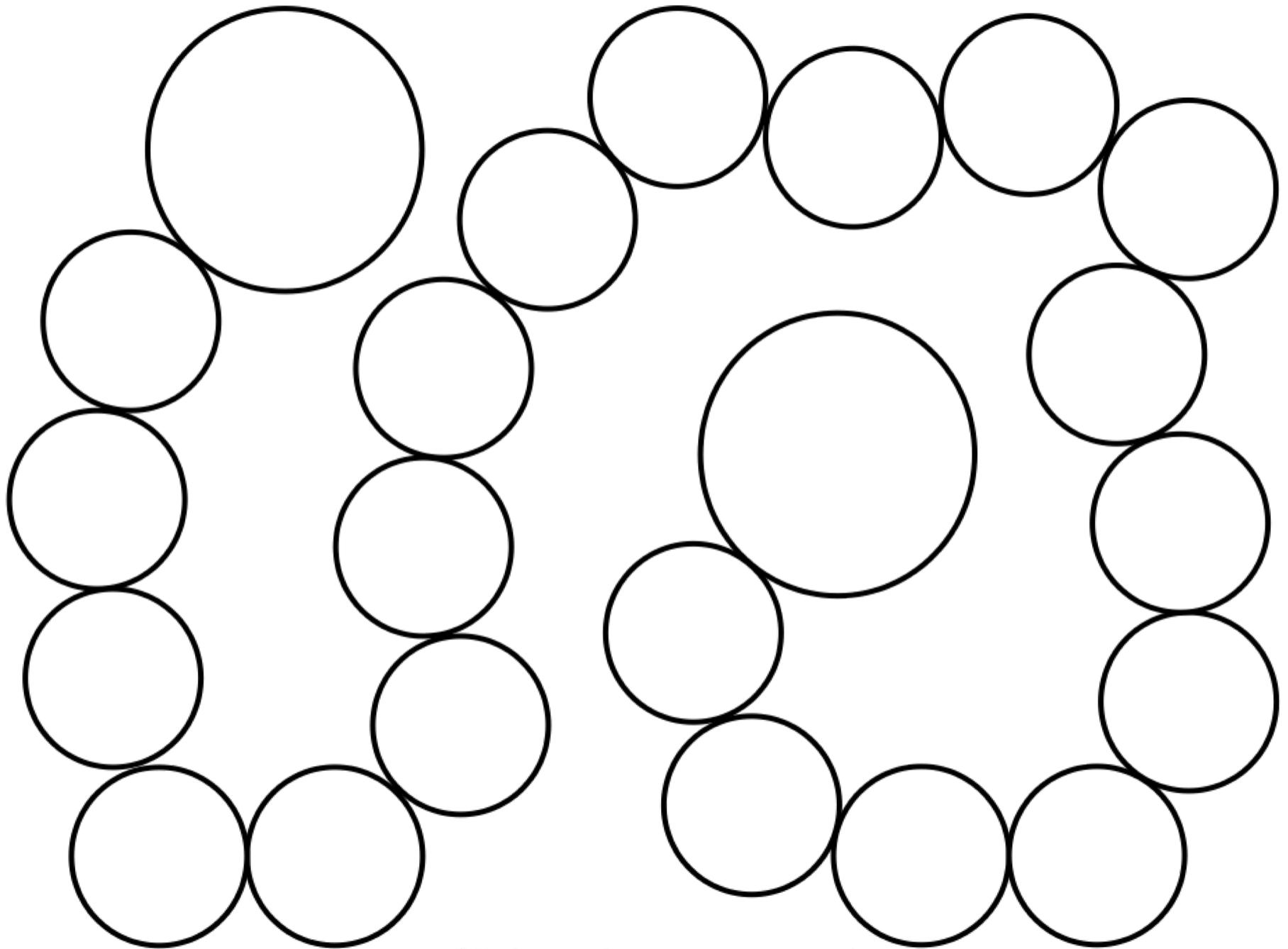
Give them a homemade or commercial die (I like homemade because then I can program it to have only the numbers we have been working on!).

Let the children make up their own rules on how to play!

I always love writing down their ideas on how to play a game to send home with families!

EXTENSION: Provide extra materials for your preschoolers to make their own individual games to bring home!

Frog Path Game



Fairy Board Game

Fairy Board Game

Directions:

Print and laminate the board game.

Provide the children with colored jewels or glittery pom poms for moving pieces.

Provide number or dot dice.

The children roll a die and move their piece that number of spaces. Encourage them to discuss what they've learned or know about fairies while looking at the pictures on the board and playing the game.

Fairy Board Game

