

## **Child-constructed Paper Lift-the-Flap Book:**

- Each day (or once a week) the child may put together one page. The large figures may be pre-cut for the child to paste in place, or presented as cardboard patterns for the child to trace around and cut out to paste on the page, or the child may fill the large shapes by coloring, painting, or gluing a collage of appropriately colored materials or pictures.
- 2. Cut out the appropriate flaps each day, fold, and staple into place.
- 3. Optional: as below for a cloth book, the large shapes may be stapled on as flaps to lift, with interesting things under them depicting the shape in different settings.
- 4. The pages may be glued back-to-back to make double-sided pages, or left single-sided.
- 5. Staple the pages together along the left side, with a front and back cover.

## **General Instructions for a Cloth Lift-the-Flap Book**

- 1. Cut out pages and flaps from an off-white washable fabric (so that white will show up on it).
- 2. Cut out shapes from colors of washable fabric as indicated (such as, a red heart, orange circle, etc.) and appliqué onto pages. Use fabric paints or fabric markers to draw on each page as illustrated (scribble some color, and draw the shape—so they will be covered by the flaps).
- 3. Optional: Any of the shapes may be made into flaps with something interesting underneath for the child to delight in dis-covering. Some ideas follow.
- 4. Use fabric paint or markers to write the words on the flaps. Fold each flap in half, right sides together, and sew the two ends. Turn. Fold the seam allowance inside the flap, and attach the top to the page so that the English word shows on top, and as you lift the flap the Spanish word and the drawing show.
- 5. Put the first two pages right sides together (front cover and red heart page) and sew the three sides together that will not be the bound edge. Continue with the other pages (be sure to cut a 20th page as the back cover—you may wish to use a colorful fabric printed with shapes suggested in the book or rainbow colored of fabric—stripes, or whatever— for the front and back covers).
- 6. If the book is too thick to bind, you may make more than one book from the pages.
- 7. There are various options for binding:
  - —you may sew up the 4th side of each page using 1/4" seam, put eyelets or button holes in each page, and use rings to keep the pages together
  - —you may sew up the 4th side of each page using a 1/4" seam, and bind by taking large stitches with embroidery floss or candlewicking through all of the pages
  - -you may sew a strip of vinyl on for the binding
  - —you may sew a bias binding on by hand.

Note 1: In Spanish the name of the shape would come first, then its color adjective.

Note 2: The text of this book is meant to encourages the introduction of pre-mathematical concepts and vocabulary, such as "corners" (wide corners = obtuse angles; sharp corners = acute angles).

red	heart
rojo	corazón
orange	circle
naranja	circulo
yellow	triangle
amarillo	triángulo

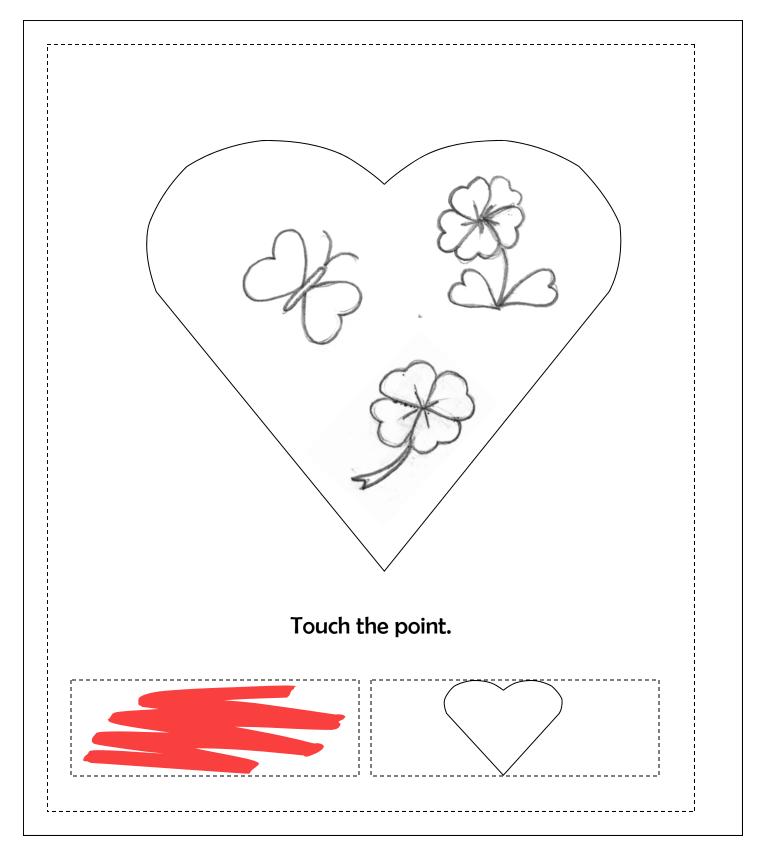
green	square
verde	cuadrado
blue	rectangle
azul	rectángulo
purple	hexagon
morado	hexágono

pink	donut, ring
rosado	anillo
brown	spiral
marrón	espiral
gray	pentagon
gris	pentágono

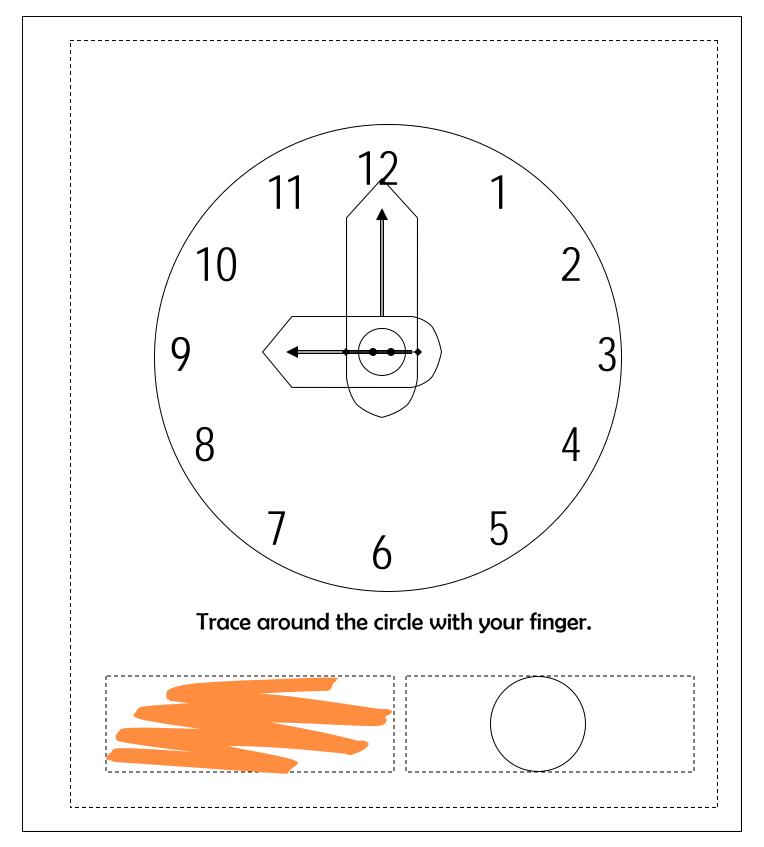
black	oblong
negra	oblonga
white	oval
blanco	ovalo
silvery	stars
plateados	estrellas

golden	crescent
dorado	creciente (medialuna)
rainbow	arch
.anulticolores (arco iris)	arco
red	octagon
rojo	octágono

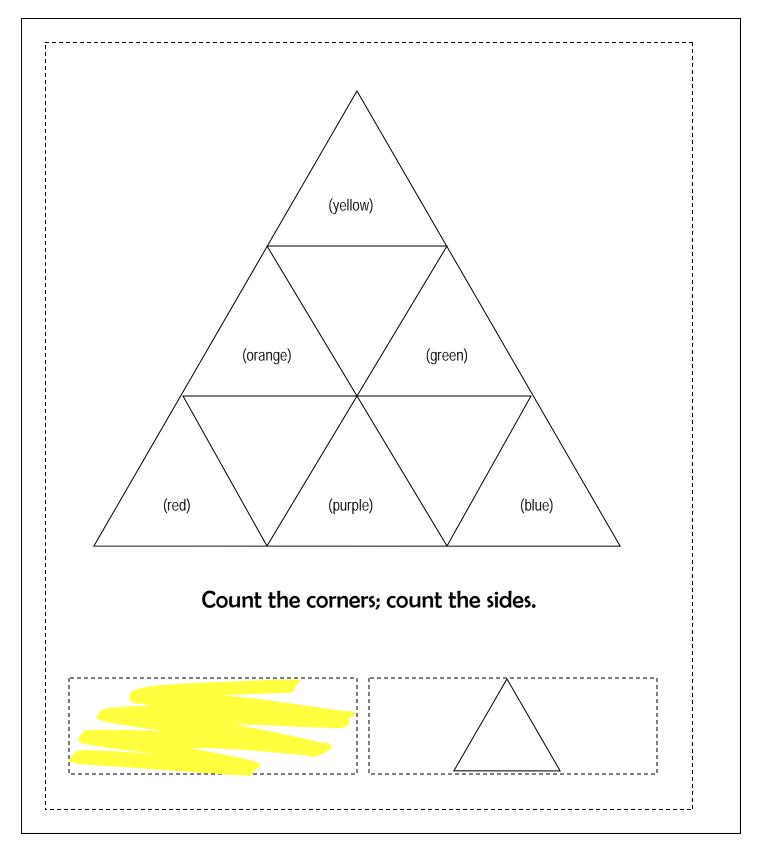
blue	tear, drop
azul	lágrima
silver	diamond
plateado	rombo
gold	bell, pear, or bulb shape
dorada	forma pera o campana



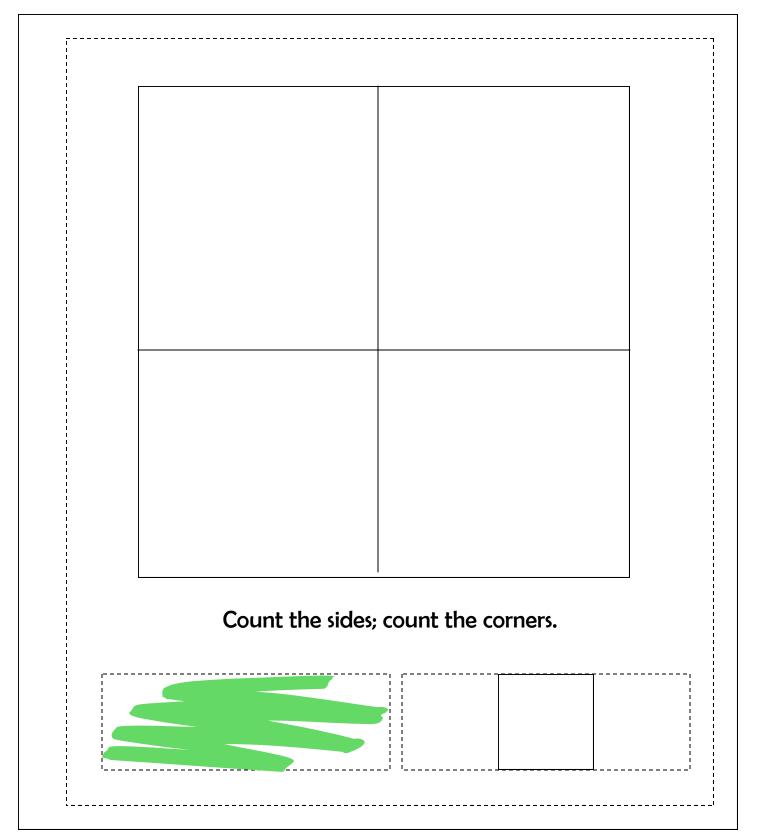
Red heart page: Trace the large heart and add seam allowances. Cut two from a red fabric and interfacing. Sew with right sides together, leaving a gap to turn. Clip and turn, press and sew gap closed. Draw blue butterfly, purple pansy, and green clover under where the heart flap will be attached. Attach the heart flap with 3-4 cross-stitches at the top.



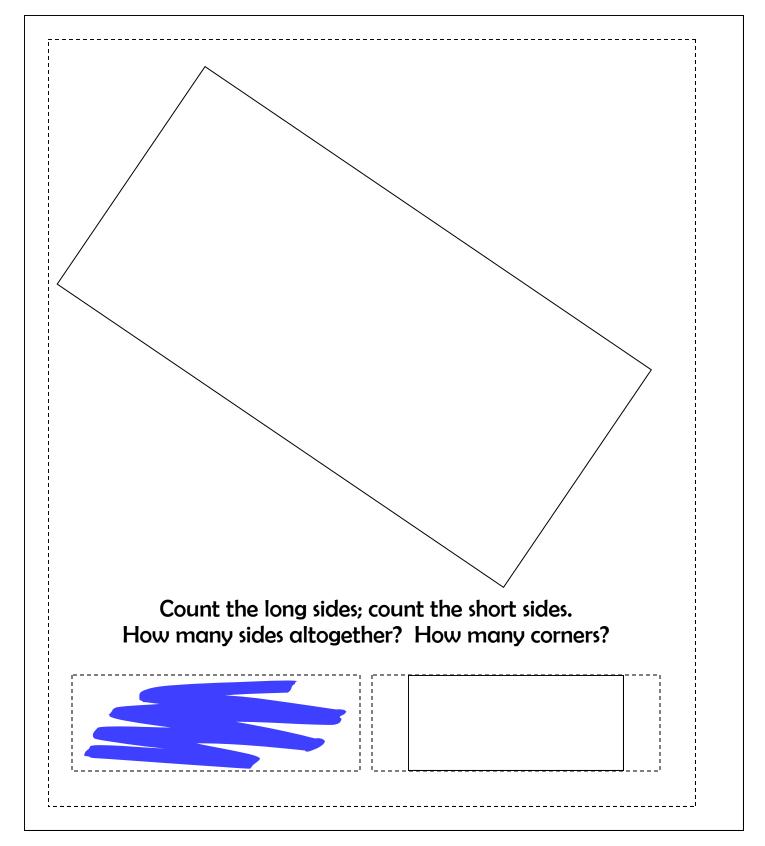
Orange circle page: Trace the large circle and add seam allowances. Cut two from an orange fabric and interfacing. Sew with right sides together, leaving a gap to turn. Clip and turn, press and sew gap closed. Draw a clock face under where the orange circle flap will go. Attach a button in the center. Make a minute hand and an hour hand, each with a button hole to button the hands on. Attach the orange circle flap at the top.



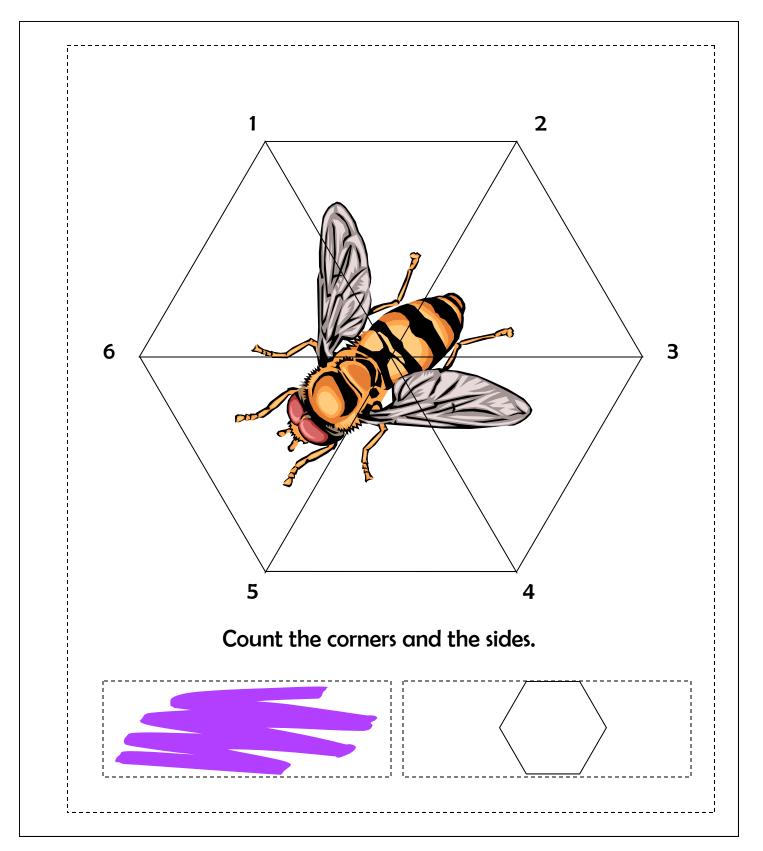
Yellow triangle page: Make a large yellow triangle flap, similarly as you did for the previous heart and circle. Trace the large triangle on the page, and divide it into 9 triangles as shown. You may color the smaller triangles as noted, appliquéé the colors on, or make a small flap of each color as indicated (attach them at their bases). Note the primary colors at the corners, the secondary colors between. If you make them each flaps, note that the orange and green triangles will fold down into the empty triangles between the red, purple, and blue triangles. Attach the yellow triangle flap along the left side so that it opens like a book.



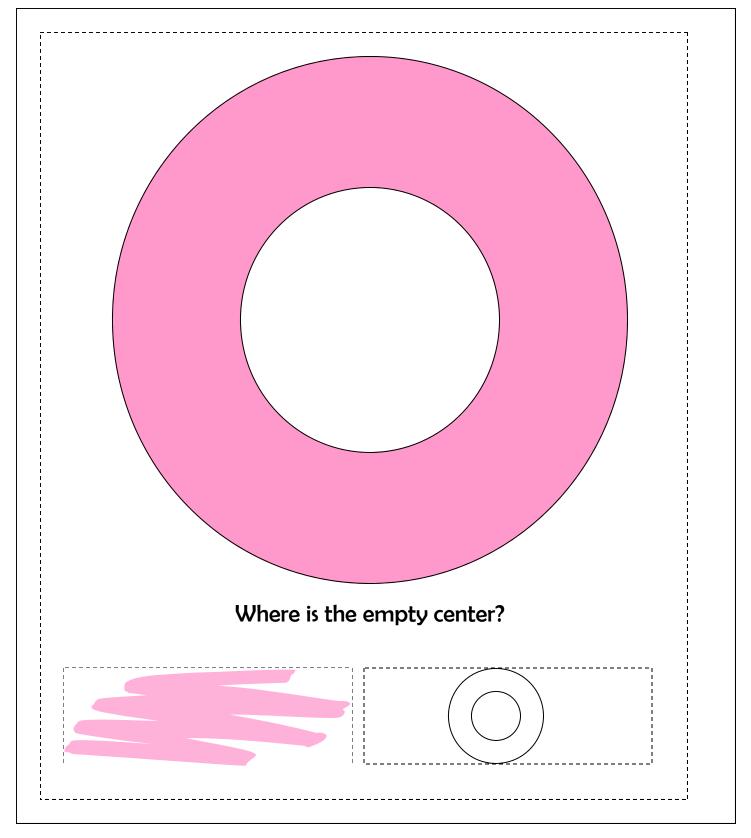
Green square page: appliquéé a print to look like a window (you may divide it into 4 panes with a ribbon, as well). Attach a green square flap similarly as you have done previously.



Blue rectangle page: the blue rectangle may be made into a flap, as before, or a pocket (for a comb, harmonica, or whatever).



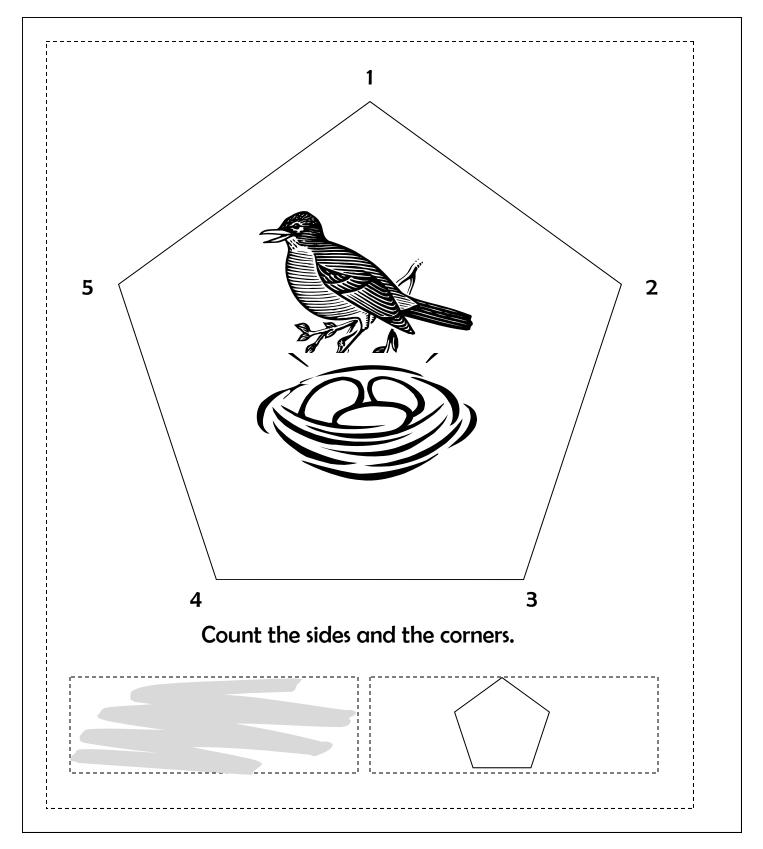
Purple hexagon page: trace the hexagon and add seam allowances. Cut out a yellow hexagon and draw or attach a bee appliquéé. Trace one of the triangles inside the hexagon. Add seam allowances and cut 12 from purple fabric. Sew two sides of each triangle, leaving the base open. Trim and turn. Arrange the purple triangles on the right side of the yellow hexagon just as the triangles are shown inside the hexagon pattern (so the bee is covered, and the bases are the sides of the hexagon). Sew around the sides of the hexagon. Open the triangles of the hexagon so that it make a star with the bee in the center. Tuck the seams under and attach to the page by sewing around the sides of hexagon on the inside of the triangles (with the seam underneath the stitching). The purple triangles should be able to open to a star, or close to a hexagon, covering the bee.



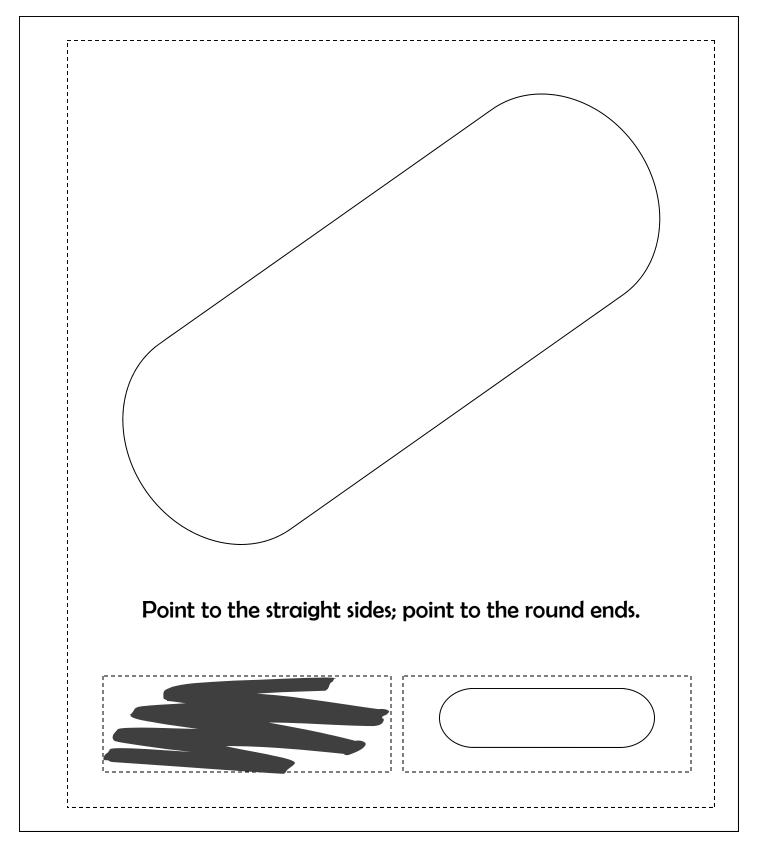
Pink donut page: paint or appliquéé a pink vinyl ring.



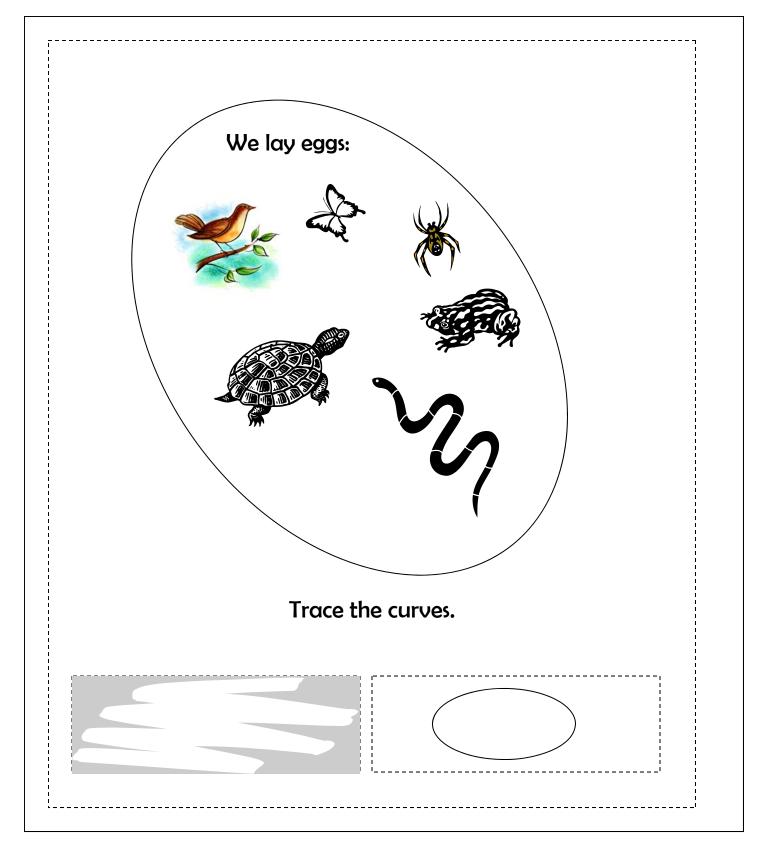
Brown spiral page: paint a brown spiral onto the page. You may draw or appliquééa little snail crawling along the outer edge of the spiral.



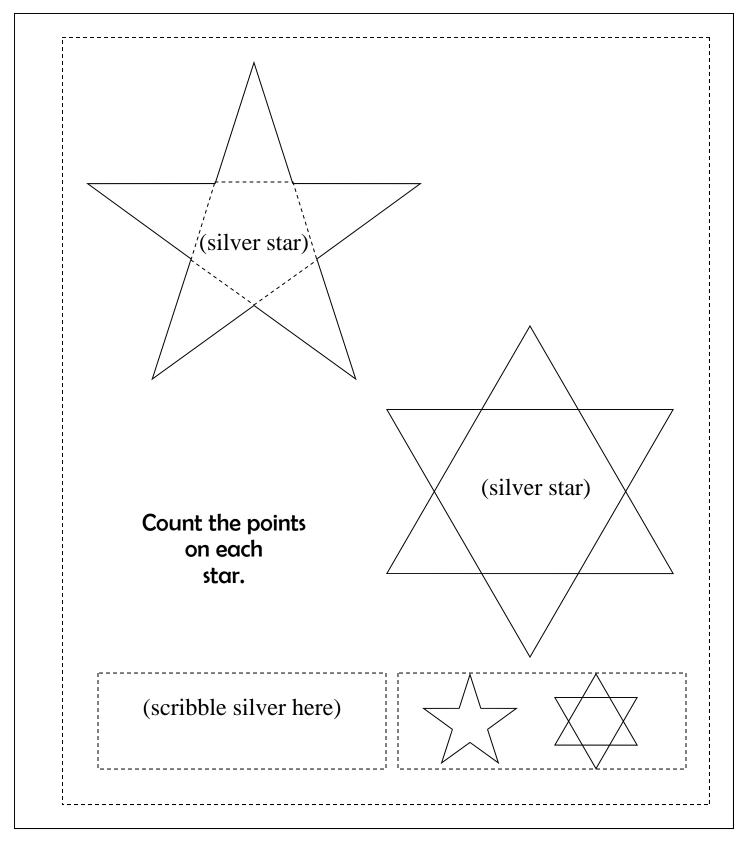
Grey pentagon page: Draw a bird and nest inside the area that will be covered by the grey pentagon flap. You may draw her sitting on her nest with her head under her wing, and write: "Shhhh, momma bird is sleeping." Attach the grey pentagon flap along the upper left side.



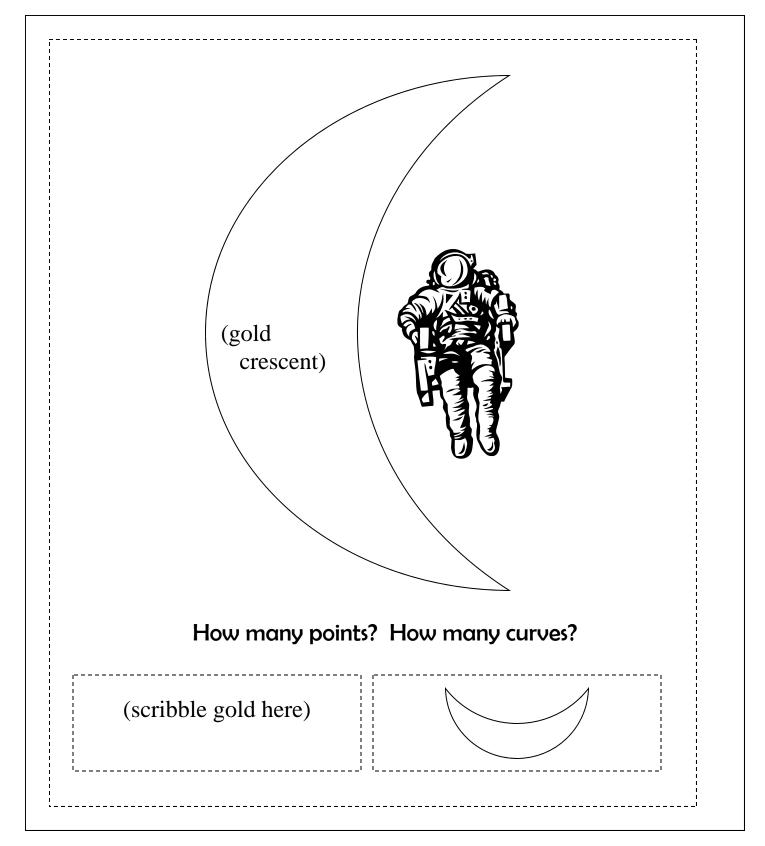
Black oblong page: The black oblong may be made as a flap, or as a pocket (for a pair of play glasses, a magnifying glass, a little flashlight, or something similar—you may wish to attach the flashlight by a string to the page so that it doesn't get lost).



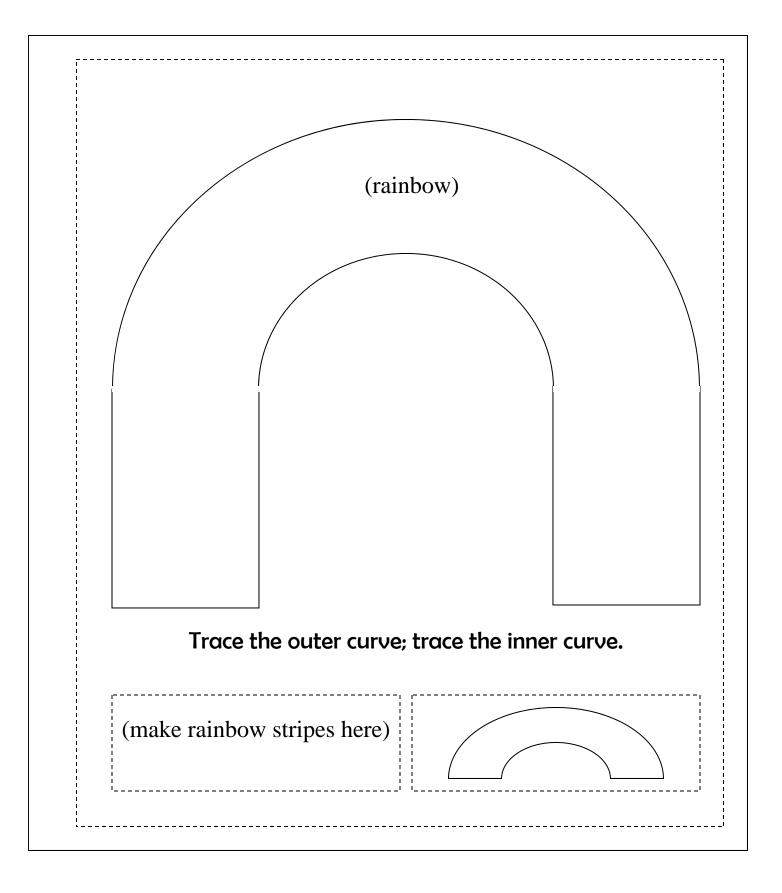
White oval page: Under where the white oval flap will go, attach ready-made appliquéés, buttons, or draw animals that lay eggs, such as the types indicated above.

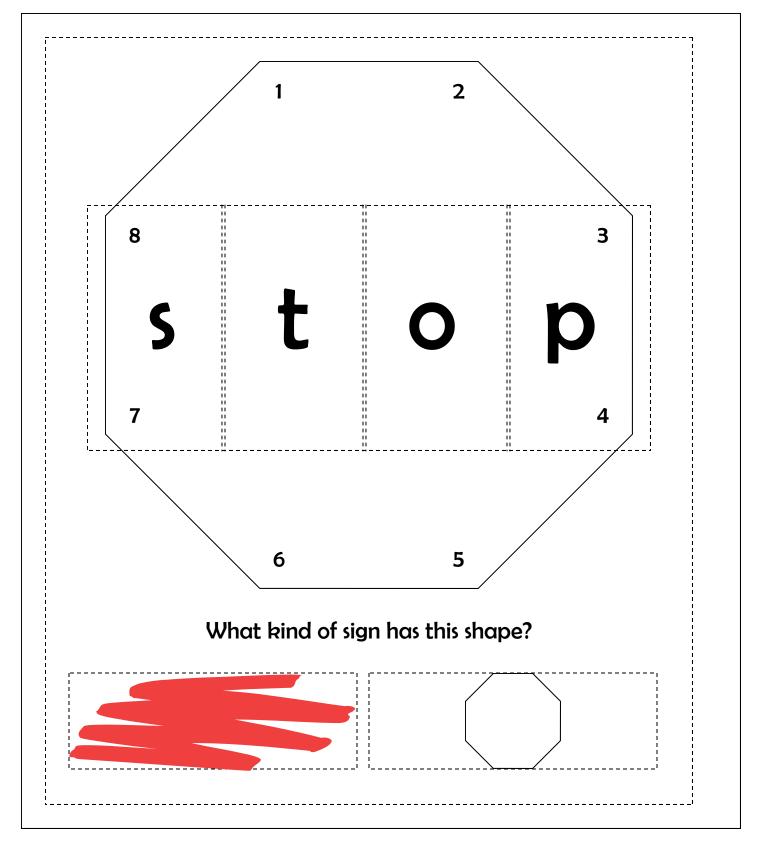


Silver star page: stars may be appliquéés, or made as flaps. The six-point star can be made as two triangle flaps, attached at opposite points, with an 8-point star drawn on the page underneath: The pentagon inside the 5-point star could be shown.

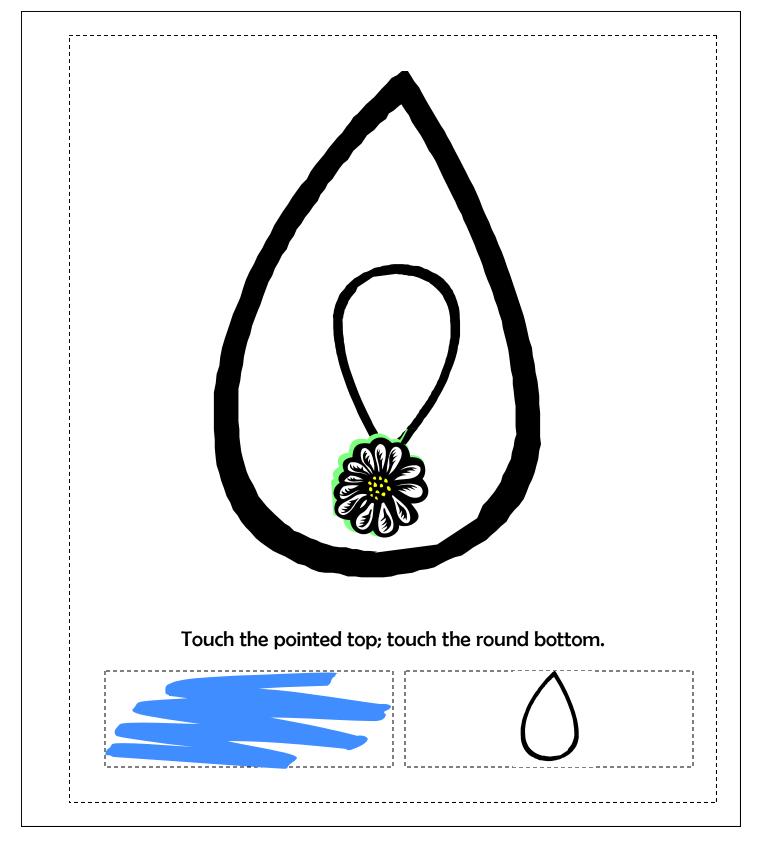


Golden crescent page: behind the golden crescent flap could be drawn "the man on the moon"—an astronaut.

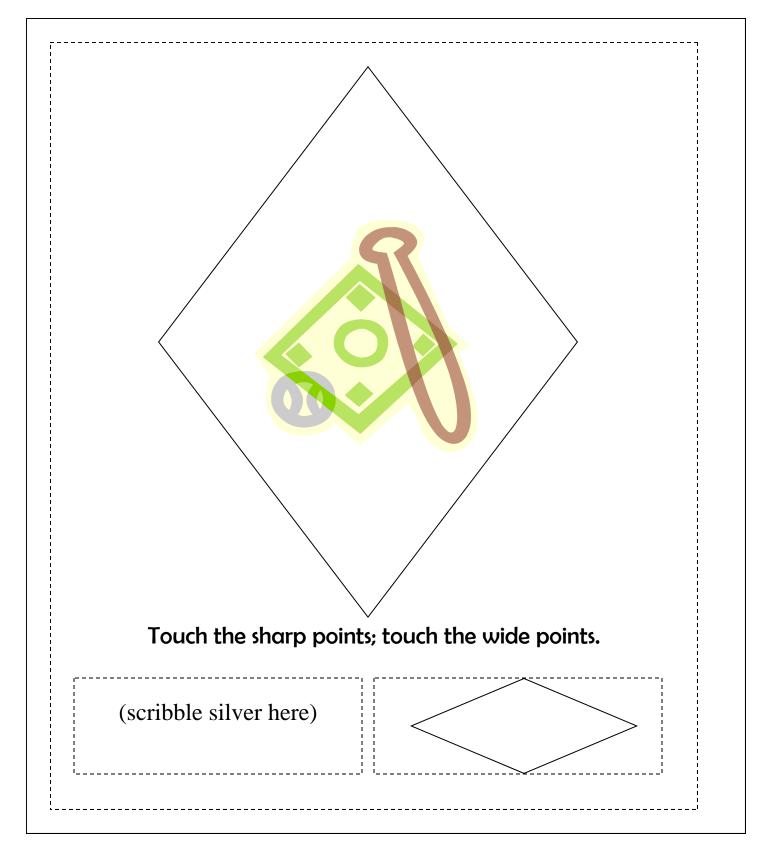




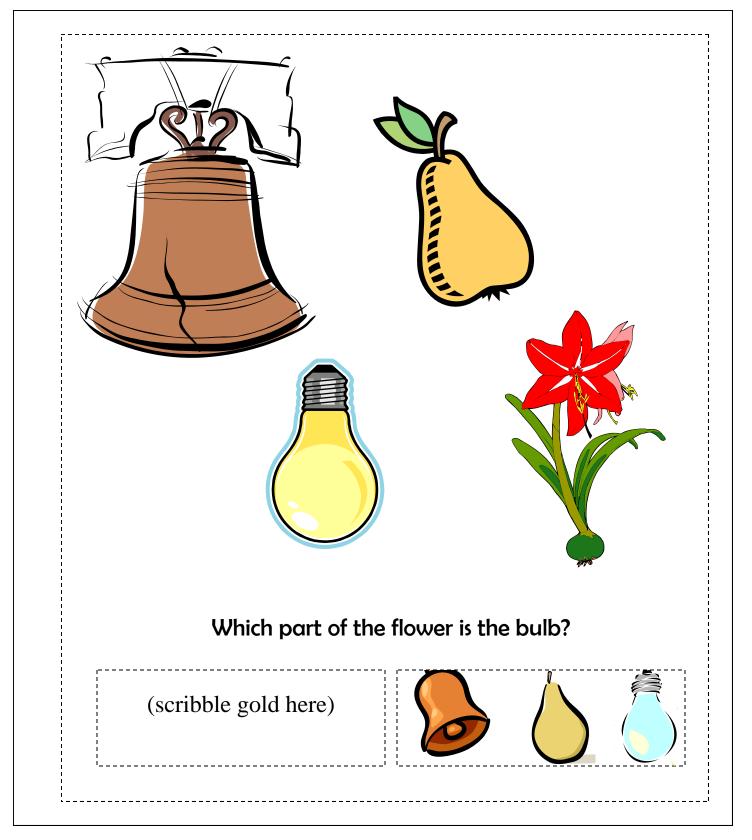
Red octagon page: Under the red octagon flap—Sew a rectangle of clear vinyl (use paper on top so that the presser foot will slide properly), creating 4 pockets, as indicated above. Put wood letters in the pockets. Younger children should not be allowed to play with the letters. Children as old as 6 years of age still enjoy cloth activity books, and a beginning reader can experiment with the letters to make different words: stop, spot, tops, pots, post



Blue tear-shape page: under the blue tear-shape flap, draw a daisy necklace, using tear shapes.



Silver diamond page: under the silver diamond flap draw or appliquéé a baseball diamond, a diamond ring, or a kite.



Golden bell/bulb/pear shape page: a small gold colored bell could be attached to this page.