

Threes
and Fours

AWARE, CARE, & SHARE™

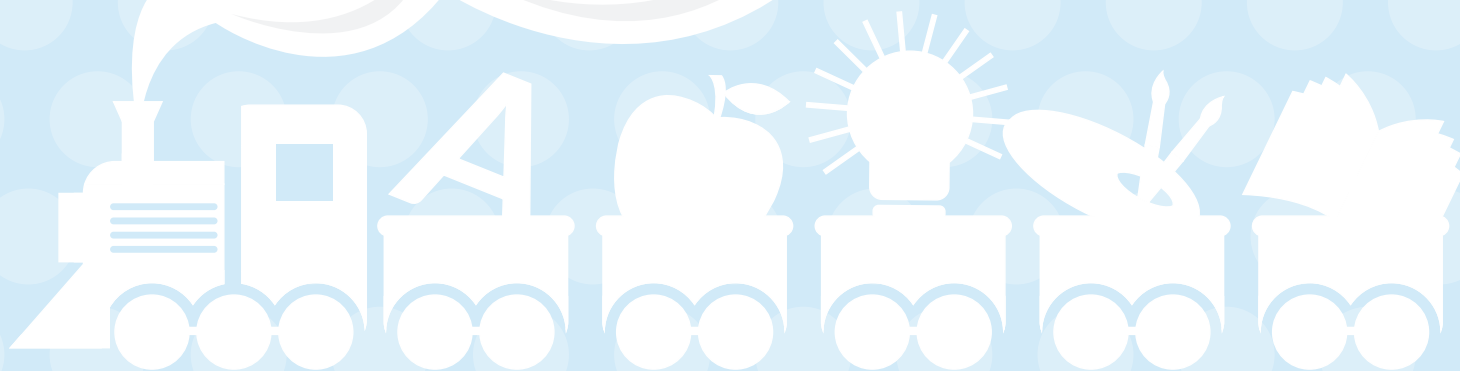


MY NAME IS

AND THIS IS MY



WORKBOOK



Dear Parent,

A child's learning journey never stops, even during uncertain and difficult times. Every child is unique and approaches learning differently. While there are many ways that parents and family members can support this journey at home, it can be hard to decide what to do and when.

Within these pages you will find literacy and math activities specially designed for children who are 3 or just turned 4. **This week some of the activities are connected to nature and science experiences.** Children will practice skills in each of the literacy and math strands defined in the chart below. We recommend doing one literacy and one math activity per day.



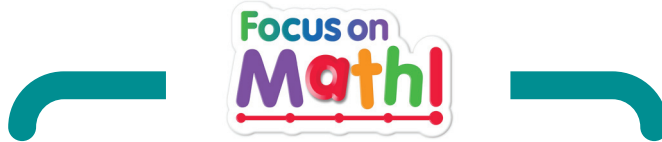
Vocabulary Development: Children's oral vocabulary grows through meaningful conversations, daily use of rich spicy words, and reading books. Vocabulary Development is the first and most important predictor of learning to read and write.

Phonological Awareness: This is the ability to hear and play with sounds. Children practice manipulating sounds through rhymes and syllables.

Phonemic Awareness: Identifying sounds and being able to hear how they are alike and different is important for learning to read. Children practice recognizing single sounds and learn how words are made up of a number of single sounds blended together.

Print Awareness: It begins with understanding that a picture can represent an object or animal or person. This ability to think symbolically allows children to take the next step: learning that the squiggly lines on a page have meaning.

Alphabet Knowledge: Preschool children begin the journey by learning that letters are different from other shapes and pictures, and that letters have unique names, sounds, shapes, and order within the alphabet. They begin to understand that letters are symbols we use in print to make words and sentences.



Problem-Solving: This skill is the heart of math. When we encourage children to identify and find solutions to problems, we are fostering critical thinking skills.

Math Language: This helps children to know the connections between the words we say and the words we use to describe math: how much, more, less, shorter, high, low, etc. Math language is the talk of our lives. Often this is how we describe people, objects, and events.

Number Sense Awareness: Number sense is an intuitive understanding of numbers. Number sense helps young children understand quantity in relationship to objects in their lives.

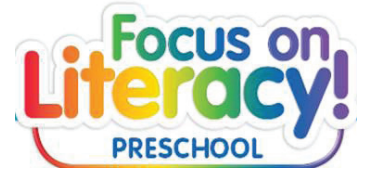
Visual Awareness: Helping young children visualize small quantities is a great foundation for early mathematics because it allows children to understand larger numbers in the future. When children can see a quantity in their minds, it helps them see relationships between numbers more clearly.

Number Knowledge: Numbers are the adjectives we use to describe: How much? How many? How long? How short? Number knowledge is the understanding that numerals represent a quantity.

Dr. Susan
Chief Academic Officer

Enjoy sharing this workbook with your child and seeing your child learn these important skills.

Vocabulary Development



Go for a walk in your neighborhood or your back yard. Bring the workbook and something to write on. Invite your child to find objects on your walk and draw them in the appropriate boxes below. Spicy words are in italics.

Find something that is large (*humongous*)

A large, empty rounded rectangular box intended for a child to draw an object that is large.

Find something that is small (*tiny*)

A large, empty rounded rectangular box intended for a child to draw an object that is small.

Find something that is hard

A large, empty rounded rectangular box intended for a child to draw an object that is hard.

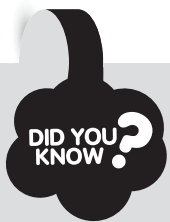
Find something that is soft

A large, empty rounded rectangular box intended for a child to draw an object that is soft.

Find something that is rough (*coarse*)

A large, empty rounded rectangular box intended for a child to draw an object that is rough.

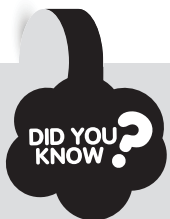
Find something this is smooth (*silky*)

A large, empty rounded rectangular box intended for a child to draw an object that is smooth.

Spicy Words are fun and powerful words that precisely describe concepts children already know. For example, children know the concept of big. The Spicy Word **humongous** is a powerful way to describe being **REALLY** big. Children love to learn and use Spicy Words like this to express themselves. By exploring and exposing children to Spicy Words, you can strengthen vocabulary development.

Problem-Solving

Go for a walk in your neighborhood or your back yard. Bring the workbook and something to write on. Ask your child to gather some rocks and sort them on the trays below. Show your child the different ways they can sort, for example by size, by color, by texture, and by shape.

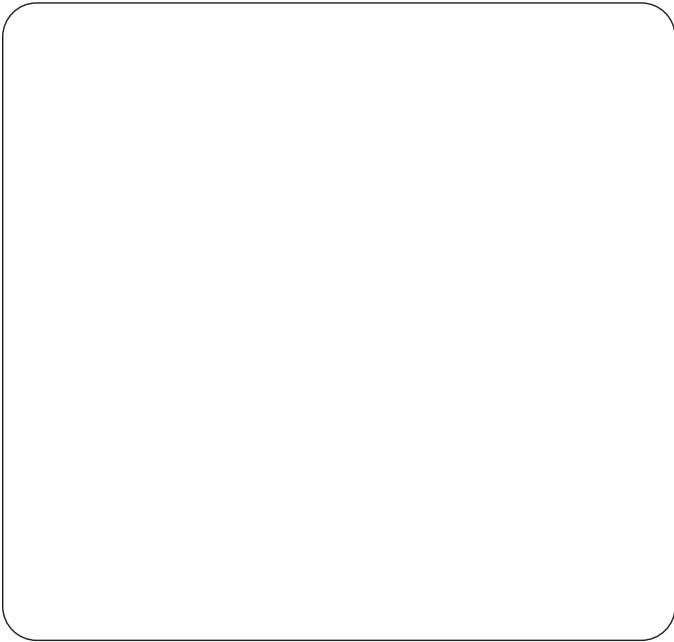


The ability to sort is the most basic problem-solving skill. Sorting begins with being able to describe the characteristics of an object and then find objects with the same characteristics.

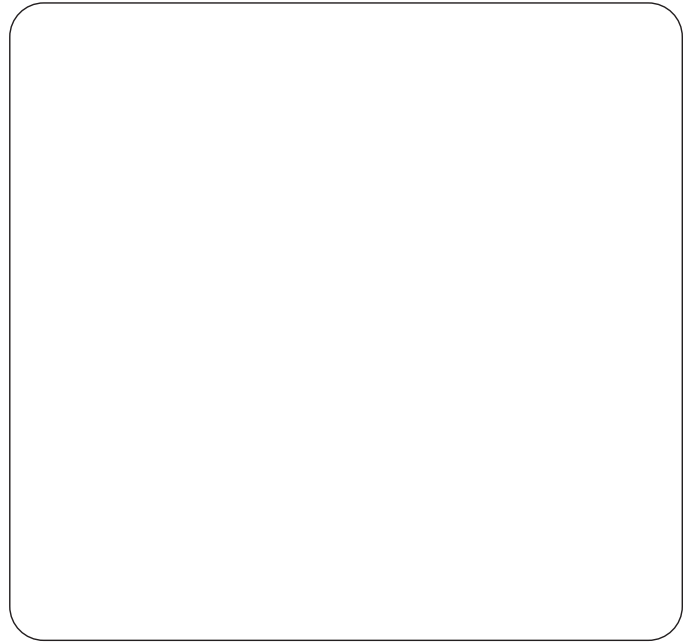
Phonological Awareness



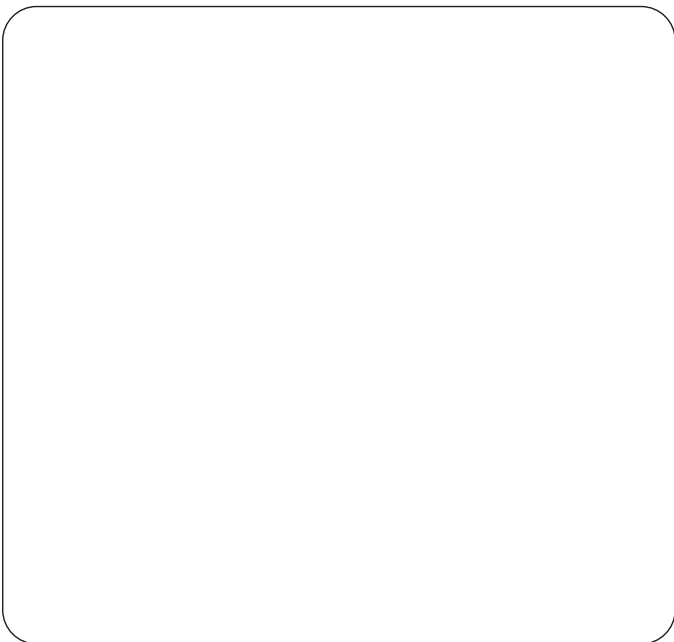
Rhymes are a great way for children to develop phonological awareness. Encourage your child to say and act out the rhyme with you. Then invite your child to draw a picture that represents each part of the rhyme in the boxes below.



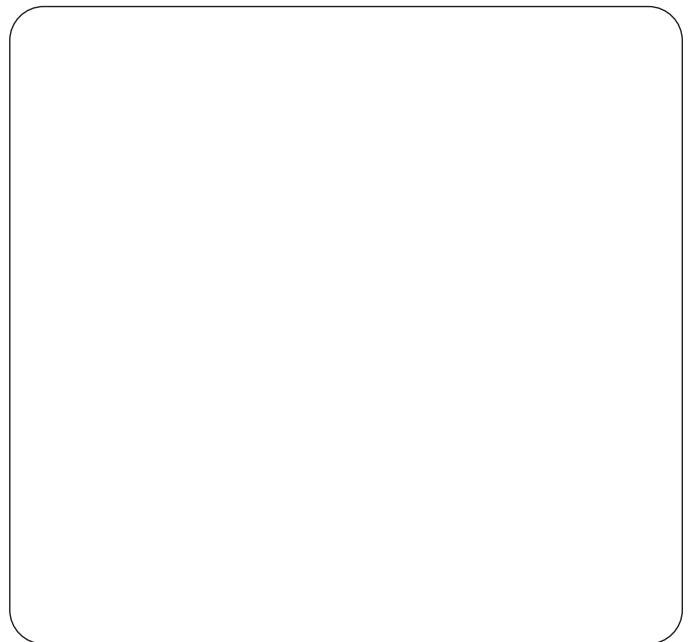
The Itsy Bitsy Spider went up the water spout



Down came the rain and washed the spider out



Out came the sun and dried up all the rain



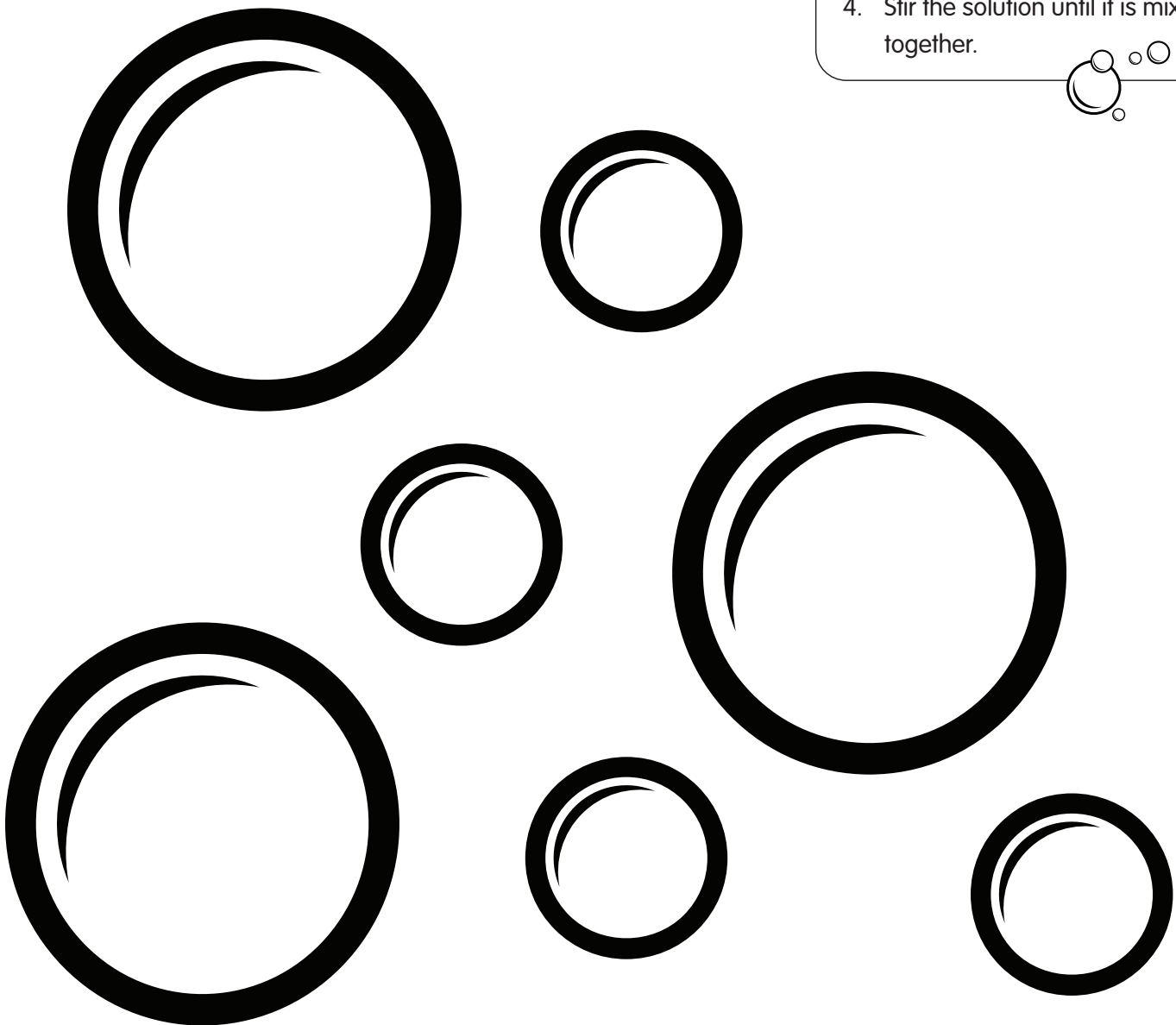
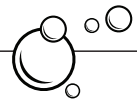
Then the Itsy Bitsy Spider went up the spout again

Math Language

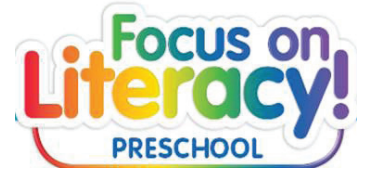
Make a bubble solution using the recipe on the right. As you work with your child to make the solution, use math language like more and less, empty and full. Invite your child to count out the number of cups as you pour them in. When you have made the solution, take your child outside and blow bubbles together. Talk about which bubbles are bigger and which are smaller, which are closer and which are farther away. Ask your child to color the bubbles below. Talk about how some bubbles are big and some are small. Have your child color all big bubbles one color and all of the small bubbles another color.

Bubble Solution Recipe

1. Measure 6 cups of water and pour them into a container
2. Pour 1 cup of dish soap into the water and slowly stir it until the soap is mixed in. (Try not to let foam or bubbles form while you stir.)
3. Measure $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of corn syrup and add it to the container.
4. Stir the solution until it is mixed together.



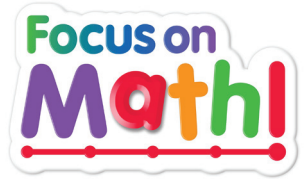
Phonemic Awareness



Identifying sounds is important for learning to read. Yesterday you made a bubble solution. Talk about how the word “bubble” starts with the letter “b.” Say the /b/ sound together. Go through the house, take a walk outside and look for 4 things that begin with the /b/ sound. Invite your child to draw the object in the boxes below, sound out the word, and write the name of the object.

A large, empty rounded square box with a thin black border, intended for a child to draw an object and write its name.A large, empty rounded square box with a thin black border, intended for a child to draw an object and write its name.A large, empty rounded square box with a thin black border, intended for a child to draw an object and write its name.A large, empty rounded square box with a thin black border, intended for a child to draw an object and write its name.

Number Sense Awareness



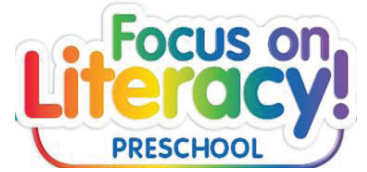
Number sense helps children become skillful at comparing. Do the sinking and floating experiment to help your child practice Number Sense Awareness. After the experiment, work with your child to fill out the table below. Draw a picture and write the name of the object that fits each description. Then check whether the object sank or floated.

Sink & Float Experiment

Fill a large to medium-sized container with water. Put out objects of different weights, made of different materials and of varied sizes, for example, pine cones, blocks, paper clips, legos, crayons, rocks, aluminum foil in the shape of a ball and the shape of a boat. Put each object in the water to see if it will sink or float.

Object	Description	Sink or Float
<hr/>	Heaviest	<input type="radio"/> Sink <input type="radio"/> Float
<hr/>	Lightest	<input type="radio"/> Sink <input type="radio"/> Float
<hr/>	Biggest	<input type="radio"/> Sink <input type="radio"/> Float
<hr/>	Smallest	<input type="radio"/> Sink <input type="radio"/> Float

Print Awareness



Ask your child to choose a favorite book. Invite your child to draw the cover of the book below and write the name of the author (the person who wrote the book) and the illustrator (the person who drew the pictures). Sometimes they are the same person. Before you read the book, ask your child to give you the book and show you where to start reading. Observe to see if your child understands how to hold the book properly. Then read the book together!

Author: _____

Illustrator: _____

Visual Awareness

Help your child visualize small numbers in their mind through this fun and simple experiment. Show your child a clear plastic container about $\frac{3}{4}$ full of water. Put out a bowl of ice cubes next to the water. Talk with your child about what will happen to the water as they add ice cubes. Ask your child how many ice cubes they think it will take to make the water overflow.

Draw the number of ice cubes you think it will take to make the water overflow.



How many ice cubes did you draw? _____

Work with your child to add the ice cubes one by one to the water. Invite them to draw a tally mark for every ice cube they add in the box below. Once it overflows, have them count the tally marks and write the numeral on the line. Was it close to their guess?

Alphabet Knowledge

Helping children learn how each letter has its own unique shape is an important part of alphabet knowledge. Ask your child to draw a square around those letters that have only straight lines and draw a circle around those letters that only have curves. Finally draw a triangle around those letters that have both curves and straight lines.

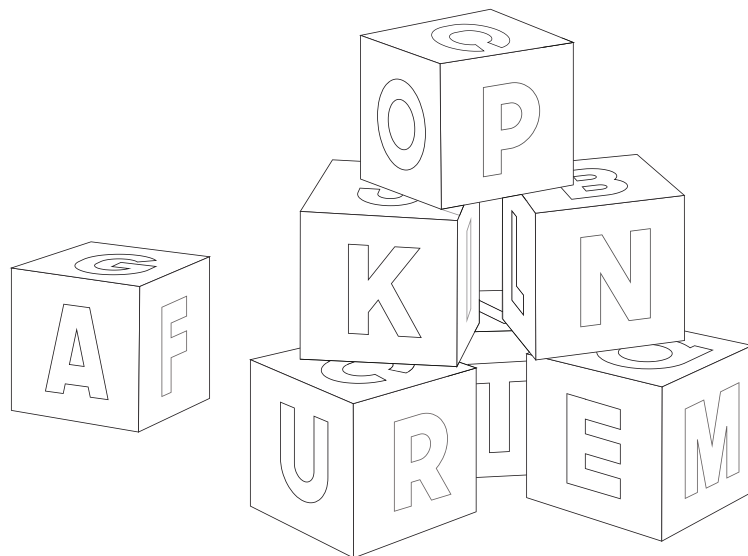
A B C D E F

G H I J K L

M N O P Q R

S T U V W X

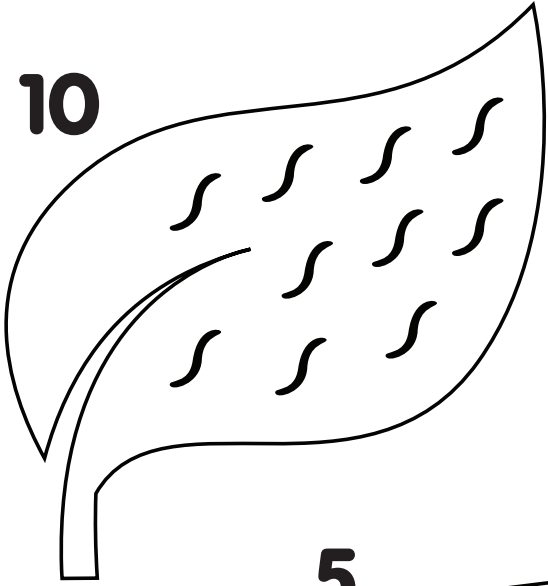
Y Z



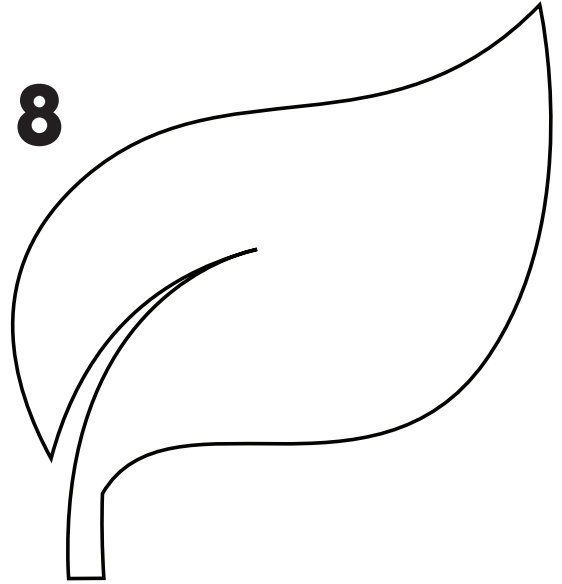
Number Knowledge

Number Knowledge is the understanding that numerals represent a quantity. Ask your child to draw a group of worms that match the numeral.

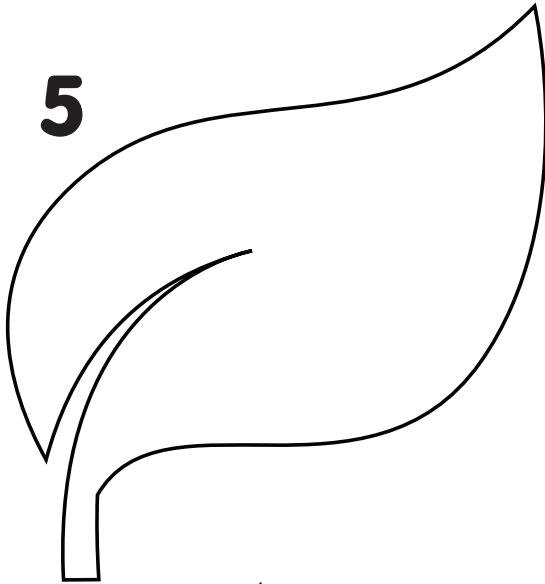
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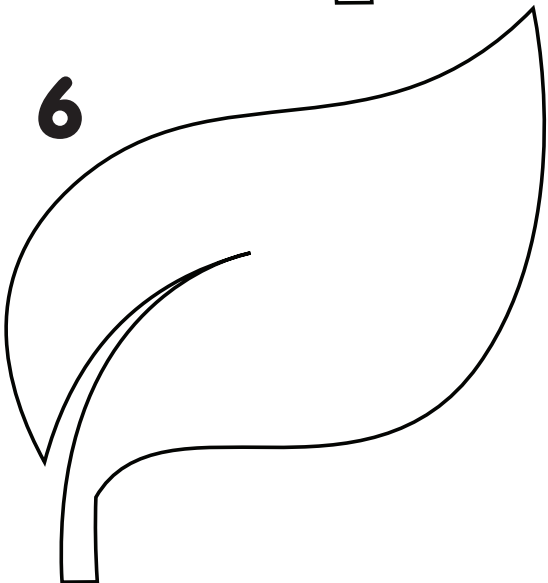
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