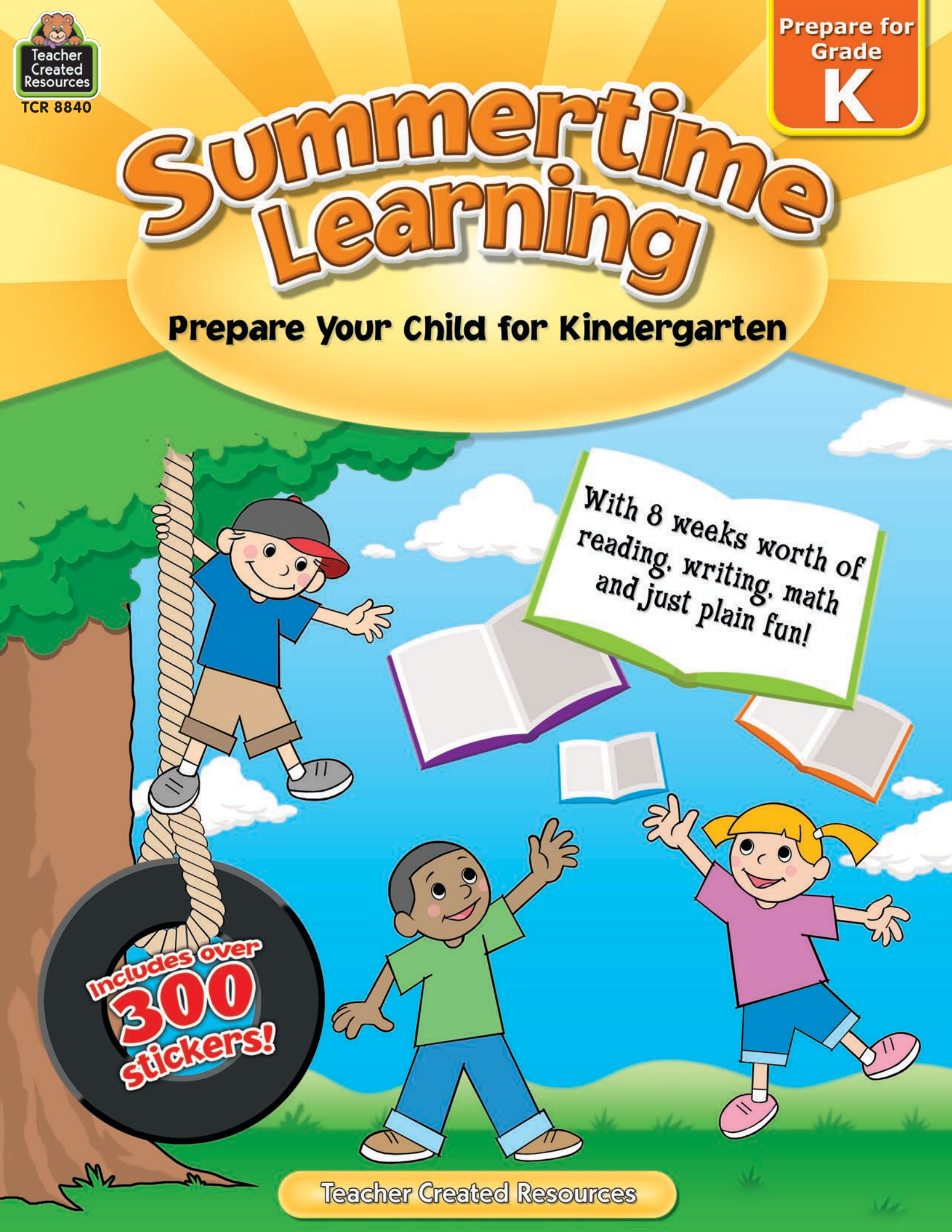


Summertime Learning

Prepare Your Child for Kindergarten



With 8 weeks worth of
reading, writing, math
and just plain fun!

Includes over
300
stickers!



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A Message From the National Summer Learning Association

Dear Parents,

Did you know that all young people experience learning losses when they don't engage in educational activities during the summer? That means some of what they've spent time learning over the preceding school year evaporates during the summer months. However, summer learning loss *is* something that you can help prevent. Summer is the perfect time for fun and engaging activities that can help children maintain and grow their academic skills. Here are just a few:

- ⚙ Read with your child every day. Visit your local library together, and select books on subjects that interest your child.
- ⚙ Ask your child's teacher for recommendations of books for summer reading. The Summer Reading List in this publication is a good start.
- ⚙ Explore parks, nature preserves, museums, and cultural centers.
- ⚙ Consider every day as a day full of teachable moments. Measuring in recipes and reviewing maps before a car trip are ways to learn or reinforce a skill. Use the Learning Experiences in the back of this book for more ideas.
- ⚙ Each day, set goals to accomplish. For example, do five math problems or read a chapter in a book.
- ⚙ Encourage your child to complete the activities in books, such as *Summertime Learning*, to help bridge the summer learning gap.

Our vision is for every child to be safe, healthy, and engaged in learning during the summer. Learn more at www.summerlearning.org and www.summerlearningcampaign.org.

Have a *memorable* summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Fairchild".

Ron Fairchild
Chief Executive Officer
National Summer Learning Association



How to Use This Book

(cont.)

Day by Day

You can have your child do the activities in order, beginning on the first Monday of summer vacation. He or she can complete the two lessons provided for each day. It does not matter if math, reading, or writing is completed first. The pages are designed so that each day of the week's lessons are back to back. The book is also perforated. This gives you the option of tearing the pages out for your child to work on. If you opt to have your child tear out the pages, you might want to store the completed pages in a special folder or three-ring binder that your child decorates.

Pick and Choose

You may find that you do not want to have your child work strictly in order. Feel free to pick and choose any combination of pages based on your child's needs and interests.

All of a Kind

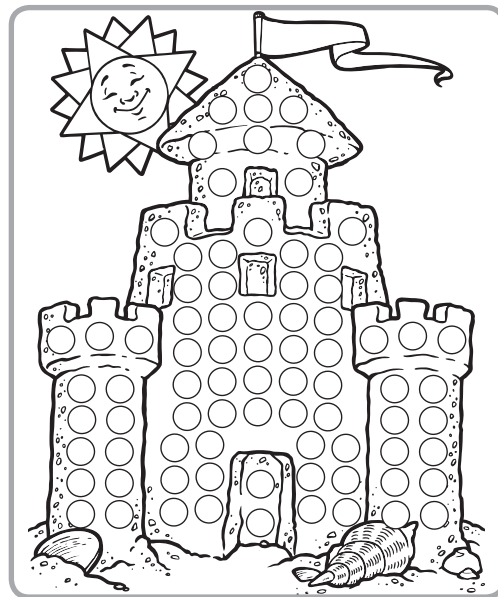
Perhaps your child needs more help in one area than another. You may opt to have him or her work only on math, reading, or writing.

Keeping Track

A Reward Chart is included on page 10 of this book, so you and your child can keep track of the activities that have been completed. This page is designed to be used with the stickers provided. Once your child has finished a page, have him or her put a sticker on the castle. If you don't want to use stickers for this, have your child color in a circle each time an activity is completed.

The stickers can also be used on the individual pages. As your child finishes a page, let him or her place a sticker in the sun at the top of the page. If he or she asks where to begin the next day, simply have him or her start on the page after the last sticker.

There are enough stickers to use for both the Reward Chart and the sun on each page. Plus, there are extra stickers for your child to enjoy.



Animal Subtraction

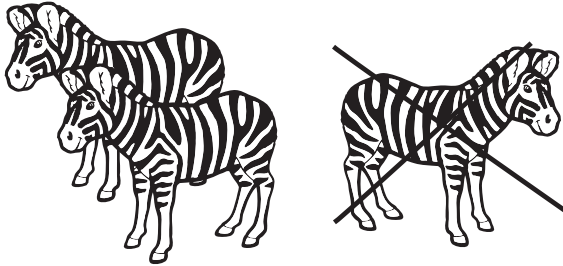


Week 5: Monday

Math

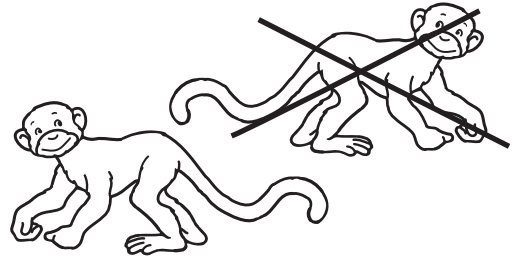
Directions: Look at each picture. Write how many are left in each box.

1.



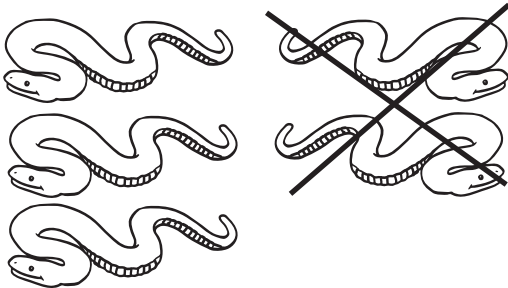
$$3 - 1 = \square$$

4.



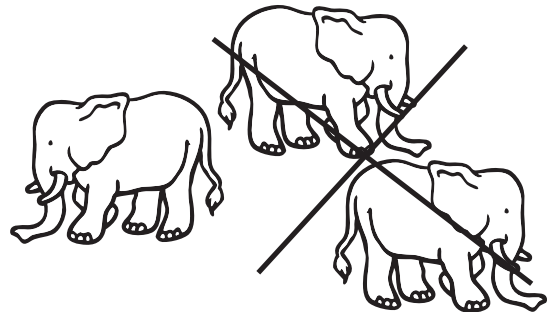
$$2 - 1 = \square$$

2.



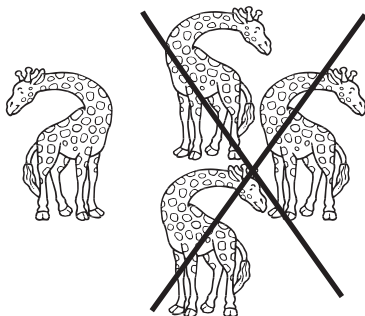
$$5 - 2 = \square$$

5.



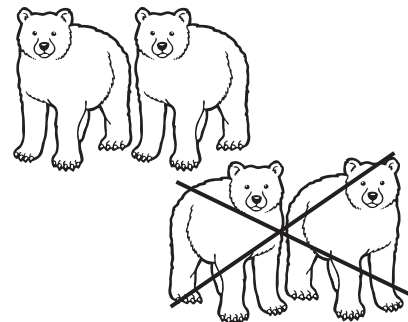
$$3 - 2 = \square$$

3.



$$4 - 3 = \square$$

6.



$$4 - 2 = \square$$

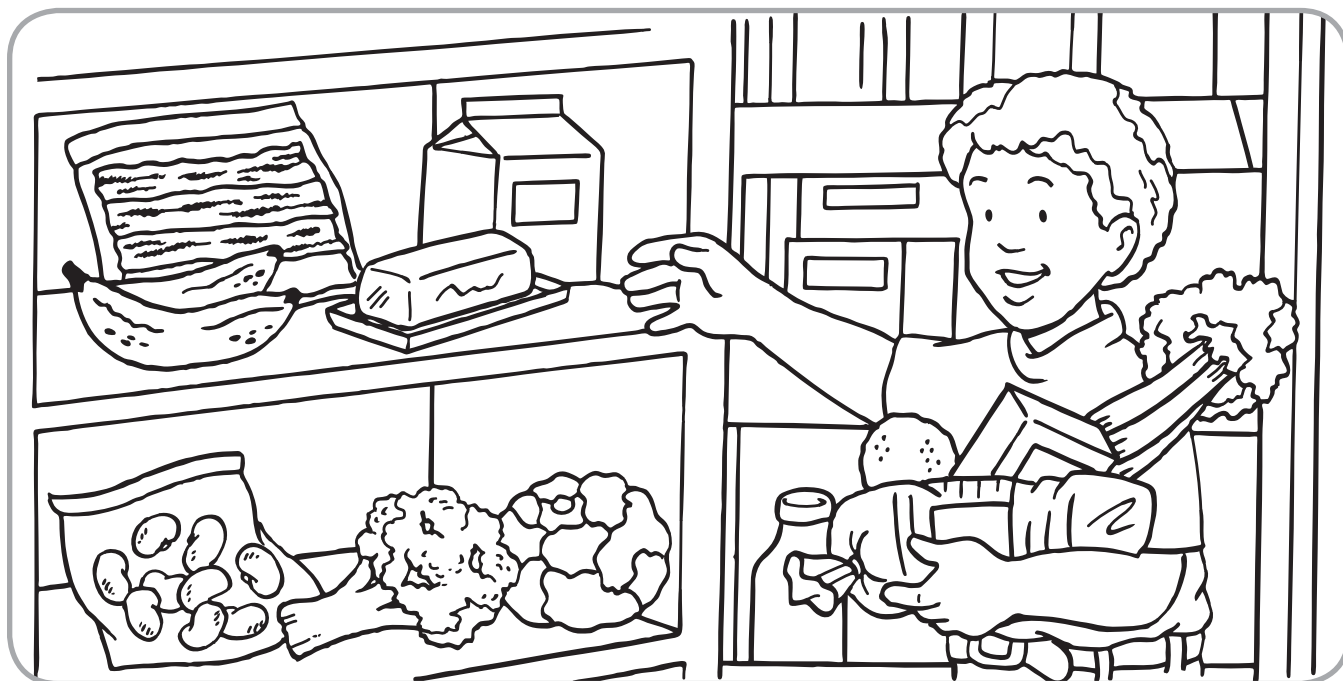


In the Kitchen

Week 5: Monday

Reading

Directions: Color the food by following the instructions below. What letter do all of these foods start with? _____



☀ Color the  brown.

☀ Color the  yellow.

☀ Color the  red.

☀ Color the  green.



Summer Reading List

- ⚙ **Song and Dance Man** by Karen Ackerman
A grandfather recalls his vaudeville days as he entertains his grandchildren.
- ⚙ **Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs** by Judi Barrett
Everything is great in the town of Chewandswallow, where it rains food three times a day, until the portions get bigger.
- ⚙ **Stone Soup** by Marsha Brown
Three hungry soldiers trick a town into making a delicious feast for them.
- ⚙ **I Like Me!** by Nancy Carlson
This story about a pig encourages children to like themselves and take good care of themselves.
- ⚙ **Truck** by Donald Crews
Children can make up their own stories as they follow a big, red truck on its wordless journey.
- ⚙ **Olivia** by Ian Falconer
Meet Olivia, a precocious, high-energy pig, in her first book of many.
- ⚙ **If You Give a Mouse a Cookie** by Laura Joffe Numeroff
One thing leads to another after a boy shares a cookie with a mouse.
- ⚙ **Leo the Late Bloomer** by Robert Kraus
Leo, the tiger, can't do everything his friends can, but his mom isn't worried. She knows he'll catch up in his own time.
- ⚙ **Bats at the Library** by Brian Lies
This library adventure combines the love of reading with the love of bats that take on human qualities and actions.
- ⚙ **Fables** by Arnold Lobel
This book provides a great collection of fables.
- ⚙ **Barn Dance!** by Bill Martin Jr.
While the farmer sleeps, the animals gather in the barn to kick up their hooves as the scarecrow plays his fiddle.

Making the Most of Summertime Reading

When reading these books with your child, you may wish to ask the questions below. The sharing of questions and answers will enhance and improve your child's reading comprehension skills.

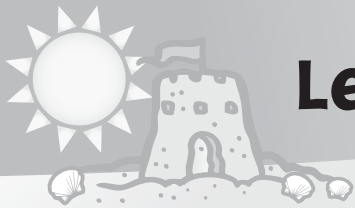
- ⚙ Why did you pick this book to read?
- ⚙ Name a character from the story that you like. Why do you like him or her?
- ⚙ Where does the story take place? Do you want to go there?
- ⚙ Name a problem from the story. How is it solved?
- ⚙ What is the best part of the story so far? Describe it!
- ⚙ What do you think is going to happen next in the story? Guess!
- ⚙ Who are the important characters in the story? Why are they important?
- ⚙ What is the book about?
- ⚙ What are two things you have learned by reading this book?
- ⚙ Would you tell your friend to read this book? Why or why not?

Summer Reading List

(cont.)



- ⚙ **Mary Wore Her Red Dress and Henry Wore His Green Sneakers** by Merle Peek
Everyone is excited about the birthday party, so they dress their best in an array of colors.
- ⚙ **The Kissing Hand** by Audrey Penn
When a little raccoon is nervous about going to school, his mother finds a way to soothe his worries away.
- ⚙ **We're Going on a Bear Hunt** by Michael Rosen
Based on the familiar chant, a father and his children go on a bear hunt.
- ⚙ **Where the Wild Things Are** by Maurice Sendak
After being sent to his room without dinner, a boy finds himself on an interesting adventure among the wild things.
- ⚙ **Sheep in a Jeep** by Nancy E. Shaw
Five foolish sheep in a jeep head off on a rhyming road trip.
- ⚙ **I'm the Best Artist in the Ocean** by Kevin Sherry
In this undersea adventure, a giant blue squid is challenging the art world with his creative masterpieces.
- ⚙ **The Stray Dog** by Marc Simont
This story is about a stray dog that is befriended by two children who meet him at the park.
- ⚙ **Sylvester and the Magic Pebble** by William Steig
Sylvester finds a magic pebble that makes all his wishes come true, but when he encounters a lion, he makes an unfortunate wish that separates him from his family. What will he do?
- ⚙ **Have You Seen My Duckling?** by Nancy Tafuri
Mother duck can't find her duckling, even though he is hidden on every page.
- ⚙ **Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day** by Judith Viorst
Everyone has bad days, but Alexander's is so bad that he wants to "move to Australia."
- ⚙ **Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?** by Nancy White Carlstrom
Jesse Bear wears a variety of things, not just clothes, throughout the day in this rhyming tale.
- ⚙ **The Pigeon Wants a Puppy** by Mo Willems
A bird insists on getting a puppy as a pet. He promises to take care of it, but will this be enough for him to get the puppy?
- ⚙ **The Night Before Kindergarten** by Natasha Wing
Get ready for kindergarten with this clever twist on Clement C. Moore's classic Christmas poem.
- ⚙ **Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown
In charming, poetic verse, a little bunny says goodnight.



Learning Experiences

Here are some fun, low-cost activities that you can do with your child. You'll soon discover that these activities can be stimulating, educational, and complementary to the other exercises in this book.

Flash Cards

Make up all types of flash cards. Depending on your child's interest and grade level, these cards might feature enrichment words, math problems, or states and capitals. You can create them yourself with markers or on a computer. Let your child help cut pictures out of magazines and glue them on. Then, find a spot outdoors, and go through the flash cards with your child.

Project Pantry

Find a spot in your house where you can store supplies. This might be a closet or a bin that stays in one spot. Get some clean paint cans or buckets. Fill them with all types of craft and art supplies. Besides the typical paints, markers, paper, scissors, and glue, include some more unusual things, such as tiles, artificial flowers, and wrapping paper. This way, whenever you and your child want to do a craft project, you have everything you need at that moment.

The Local Library

Check out everything that your local library has to offer. Most libraries offer summer reading programs with various incentives. Spend an afternoon choosing and then reading books together.

Collect Something

Let your child choose something to collect that is free or inexpensive, such as paper clips or buttons. If your child wants to collect something that might be impractical, like horses, find pictures in magazines or catalogs, and have your child cut them out and start a picture collection.

Grocery Store Trip

Instead of making a trip to the grocery store a chore, make it a challenge. Even with nonreaders, you can have them help you find items on the shelf. Start by giving your child a list of his or her own. Review the list before you go. For nonreaders, you might want to cut pictures from ads. Many stores even have smaller shopping carts, so your child can have his or her own cart to fill. Once you get to an aisle where you know there is something on your child's list, prompt him or her to find the item. You may have to help your child get something down from a shelf.

Eating the Alphabet

Wouldn't it be fun to eat the alphabet? During the course of the summer, see how many fresh fruits and vegetables you can eat from A to Z. You and your child can make a poster or a chart with the letters A–Z on it. Once you have the chart, each time your child eats a fruit or vegetable, write it next to the matching letter of the alphabet. You can also let your child draw a picture of what he or she has eaten.

Learning Experiences

(cont.)

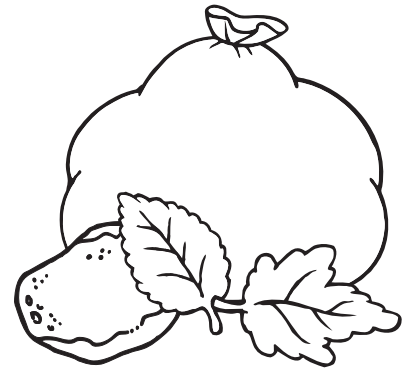


How Much Does It Cost?

If you go out for a meal, have your child help total the bill. Write down the cost of each person's meal. Then, have your child add them all together. You can vary this and make it much simpler by having your child just figure out the cost of an entrée and a drink or the cost of three desserts. You might want to round the figures first.

Nature Scavenger Hunt

Take a walk, go to a park, or hike in the mountains. But before you go, create a scavenger hunt list for your child. This can consist of all sorts of things found in nature. Make sure your child has a bag to carry everything he or she finds. (Be sure to check ahead of time about the rules or laws regarding removing anything.) You might include things like a leaf with pointed edges, a speckled rock, and a twig with two small limbs on it. Take a few minutes to look at all the things your child has collected, and check them off the list.



Measure It!

Using a ruler, tape measure, or yardstick is one way to see how tall something is. Start with your child, and find out how tall he or she is. Now find other things to measure and compare. Find out how much shorter a book is compared to your child, or discover how much taller the door is than your child. To measure things that can't be measured with a ruler, take some string and stretch it around the object. Cut or mark it where it ends. Then, stretch the string next to the ruler or tape measure to find out how long it is. Your child may be surprised at how different something that is the same number of inches looks when the shape is different.

Take a Trip, and Keep a Journal

If you are going away during the summer, have your child keep a journal. Depending on his or her age, this can take a different look. A young child can collect postcards and paste them into a blank journal. He or she can also draw pictures of places he or she is visiting. An older child can keep a traditional journal and draw pictures. Your child can also do a photo-journal if a camera is available for him or her to use.

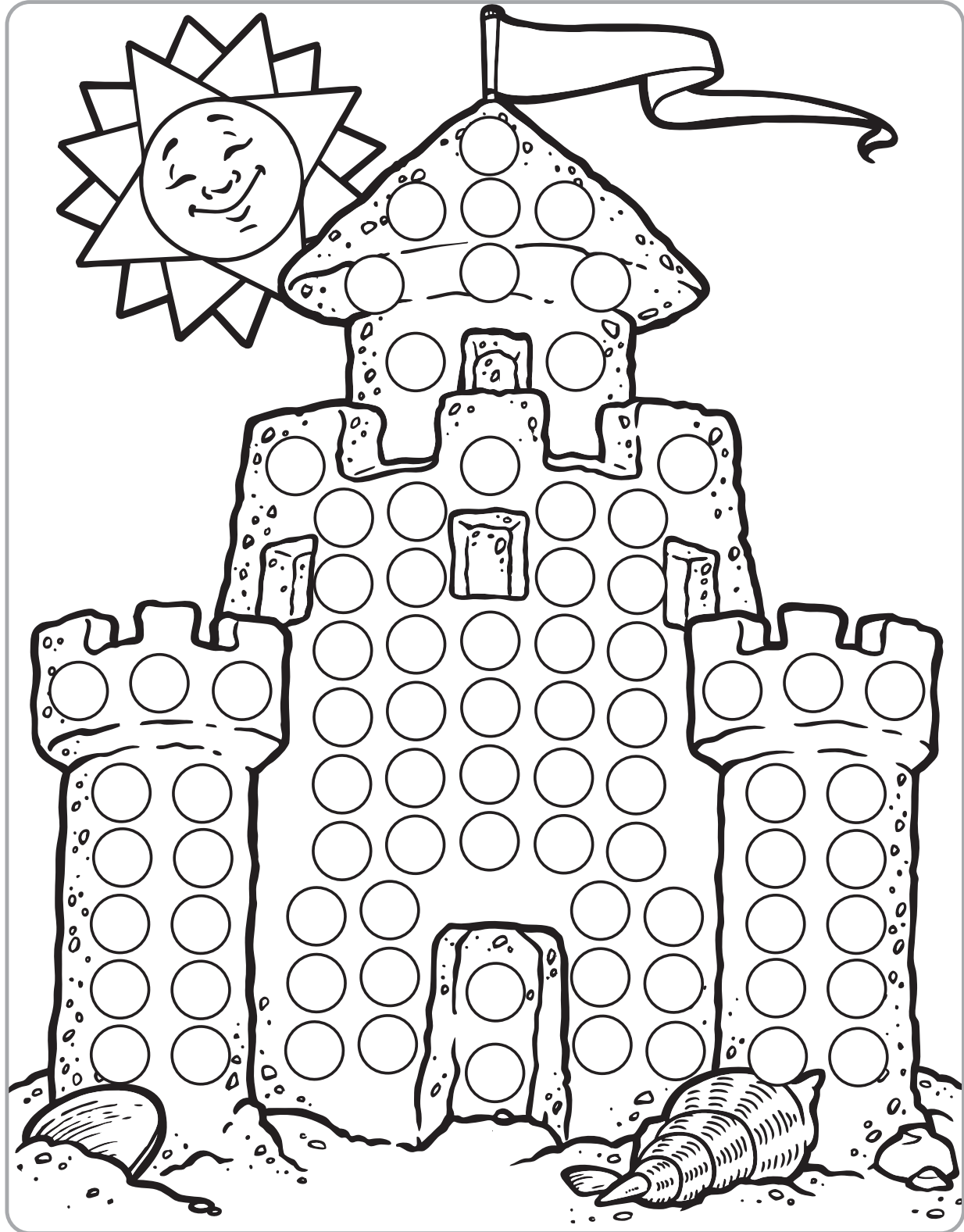
Be a Scientist

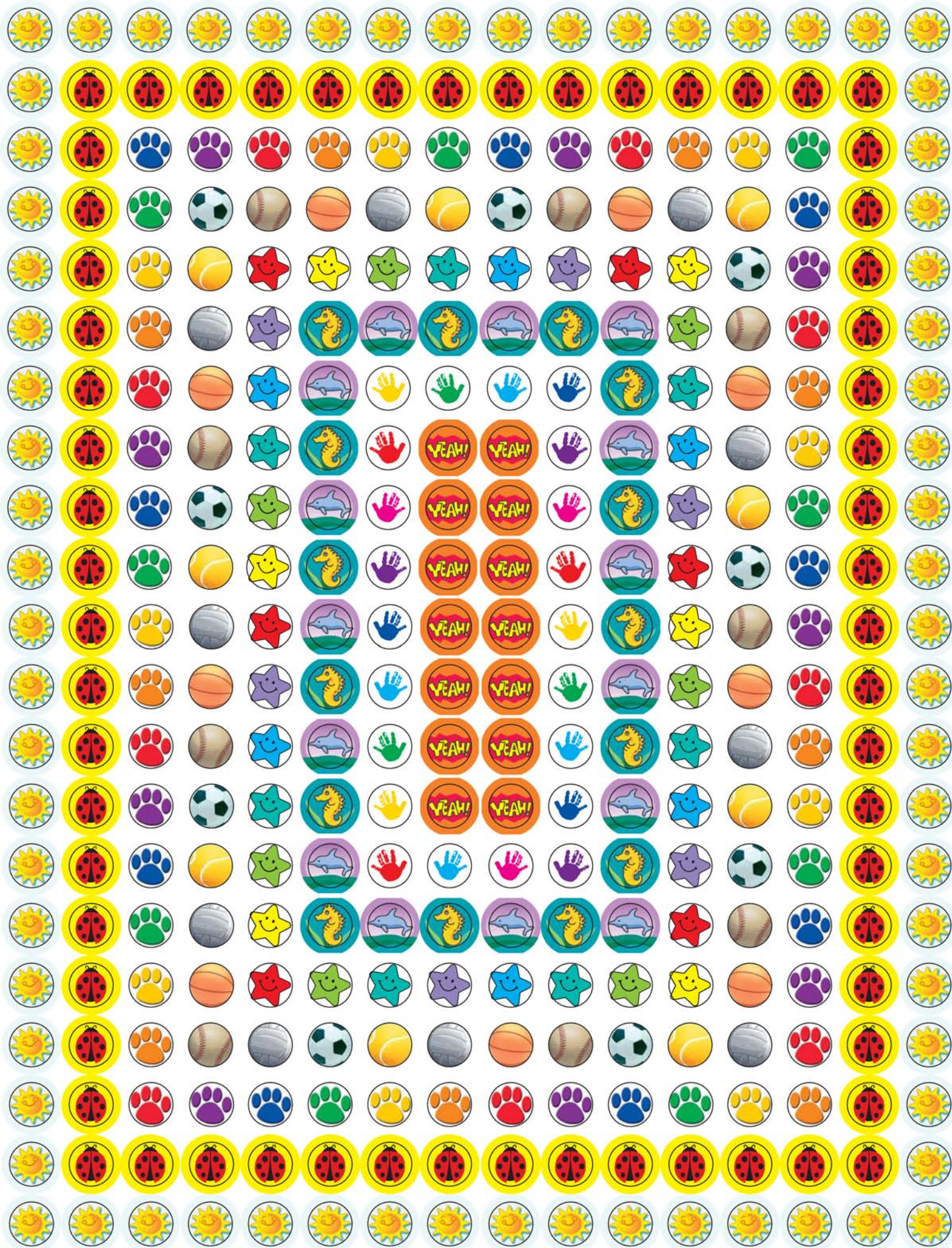
Without your child's knowledge, put a ball inside a box, and cover it with a lid. Call in your child, and tell him or her to act like a scientist. He or she will need to ask questions and try to figure out answers like a scientist would. If your child is having a hard time asking questions, you may need to help. Some questions to ask include, "What do you think is inside the box?" and "How do you know?" Have your child shake the box and see if he or she can figure it out.



Reward Chart

Student Tracker





Prepare for
Grade
K

Summertime Learning

Prepare Your Child for Kindergarten

School ends...
Summer begins...
Learning keeps on going...
with Summertime Learning!

Each book in this series includes:

- An 8-week daily schedule
- Monday–Thursday lessons that cover reading, writing, and math
- Friday activities that provide fun brain teasers
- **Over 300 stickers** that can be used to track progress and reward good work
- A message from the **National Summer Learning Association**
- 112 pages: 2 pages of activities per day with answer keys
- Extras like reading lists, websites, and reference charts



Teacher Created Resources

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