

The Giving Tree unit by Wende

Bible/Character

Fruit of the Spirit –

In this story, not only does the tree provide the boy with fruit, but it also exhibits having the fruit of the spirit. Read this verse to your child: Galatians 5:22-23 "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

The tree is said to have love for the boy, as well as joy every time it sees him. The tree showed patience each time there was a period of separation from the boy. The tree showed extreme kindness and goodness to the boy, as well as gentleness. Make a mobile or poster with the fruit of the spirit cut-outs. Review and demonstrate them throughout the week.

Social Studies

Aging –

Discuss with your child each stage of the boy's life. What did he do as a young child, and then as a young adult? How about as a middle aged man, and then as an elderly man? Relate each stage of life to a person your child knows, such as a sibling, father, uncle, or grandparent. Ask your child to describe in his own words each stage of life. What can the boy do that the elderly man can't?

Emotions –

In this story, the tree felt a variety of emotions at the different stages of the boy's life. Discuss these emotions with your child, asking him to share times he may have felt the same way. Some of the emotions the tree felt were love, happiness, sadness, and loneliness. Discuss what each emotion is and what makes you feel

that way. Child may enjoy writing or dictating and illustrating a "happiness is . . ." mini book.

Geography –

Do apples grow in the state where you live? Look at a United States map and locate your state with your child. Familiarize your child with the bordering states. Apples grow best in areas that have cold winters, where the average temperature is below 45 degrees for at least two months. You may also want to locate the top apple producing states in the country, Washington and Vermont. Point out that these states are in the northern United States, where it is the coldest. If you do live in an apple producing state, try to visit an orchard while sharing this book. If desired, child can color in applicable states on the map provided.

Science

Apples –

Apples are a delicious, nutritious treat. They contain vitamins A and C, as well as potassium. They contain very little fat or sodium. There are many varieties of apples, differing in taste, firmness, and skin color. Apples were introduced in America, most likely from Holland, when settlers brought seeds with them. While sharing this book, try to get a few varieties of apples and have a taste test to see which your child prefers. Encourage your child to describe the color, shape, texture and taste.

Trees –

Trees all have three main features in common, the crown, the trunk, and the roots. The crown is the top of the tree where the branches and leaves are found. The trunk is the stem of the tree, helping food to travel from the roots to the crown. It is covered with bark for protection. The roots are underground and absorb the water and nutrients that feed the tree. The roots are also what hold the tree in place. Some trees, such as the apple tree, bear fruit. From the branches will grow tiny buds that will produce the fruit. Ask your child if he can think of any other fruits that grow on trees. Possibilities include peach, pear, cherry, plum, apricot, etc. The next time you go grocery shopping, walk through the produce aisle and identify all the fruits that grow on trees.

Tree Uses -

The tree let the boy use its parts throughout his life. How many different ways can your child remember? Trees are very useful, and our world would not be the same without them. They provide us with the oxygen we need to breathe. They give us wood to build houses, boats, furniture, and all kinds of other things. They provide us with fuel to keep our homes warm. Paper is made from trees. And trees provide much of our fruits. Discuss other ways the tree could have been useful to the boy at each stage of life.

Seeds –

An apple comes from an apple tree, which starts out as a tiny seed. If you cut open an apple, you will see the many seeds inside. Each of these seeds is a little package of plant life. A seed coat protects the inside embryo, which is the baby plant. There is storage of food inside the seed around the embryo. Some seeds have a very hard coat, and it helps to soak the seed before planting. Explain to your child how not all seeds will grow though. They need air, plenty of water, and the right temperature and amount of light to begin to grow, or germinate.

Bean seeds grow very quickly and are great for observing the stages of growth. Wrap a bean seed in a wet paper towel and put it in a baggy. Keep it in a warm place making sure it stays damp. As the seed germinates, draw a picture of each phase and label the parts.

Language Arts

Letter of the Week –

If you like to do Letter of the Week along with your units, now is a good time to teach the short /A/ sound. Ask your child what sound he hears at the beginning of “apple”. Ask if he can think of any other words that begin with this sound. As you read through the story, have your child clap his hands every time he hears the short a sound at the beginning of a word. The word “and” is used often, as well as the word “apple”. You may also choose to use the word “happy” to demonstrate the sound of short a. Practice writing uppercase and lowercase a throughout the week, using worksheet if desired.

[Letter A Printables](#)

List Making –

Ask your child how many different items he can think of that are made with apples. Have him write a list or dictate the list to you. Some of the possibilities include pie, cobbler, crisp, cake, fritters, juice, applesauce, apple butter, dried apples, fruit leather, apple cider, apple cider vinegar, etc.

Story Sequencing –

Have child use sequencing strips to narrate what happened in the story.

Math

Calendar Skills –

October is National Apple Month. Give your student a calendar, and have him fill out the correct days and dates. Mark any holidays you may celebrate in October. Teach all the months of the year, identifying October as being the 10th month.

Measuring –

Choose a recipe that includes apples, and encourage your child to help you make it. Demonstrate how to use measuring cups and measuring spoons, pointing out the fractional measurements on each.

Apple Fractions –

Cut up an apple into halves, quarters, and eighths, and explain the fractional parts. If your child has an understanding of basic fractions, continue this lesson on fractions by adding and subtracting the fractional pieces.

Graphing –

Survey ten people to see what their favorite kind of apple is. Make a bar graph to show the survey results, or use the printable graph. Which kind was the most popular? Which kind was the least popular?

Art

Drawing –

Examine with your child the simple line drawings throughout the story. Have him try his hand at drawing trees and/or people using this simple technique.

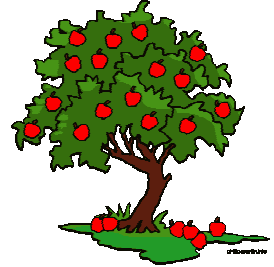
Leaf Art –

In the story the boy enjoyed gathering the apple tree's leaves. Encourage your child to gather some leaves of his own. You could use them to make a crown, like the boy in our story. You could make leaf rubbings. Or you could press and dry them, and put them in between two layers of clear contact paper to make a lovely placemat for your autumn table.



The boy and tree
played hide and seek.

The boy picked apples
from the tree to sell.



The boy cut off the branches
to build a house.

The boy cut down the
trunk to make a boat.



The boy rested on the stump.

| The Giving Tree

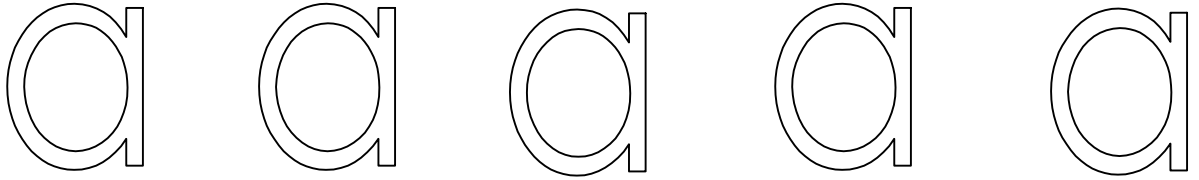
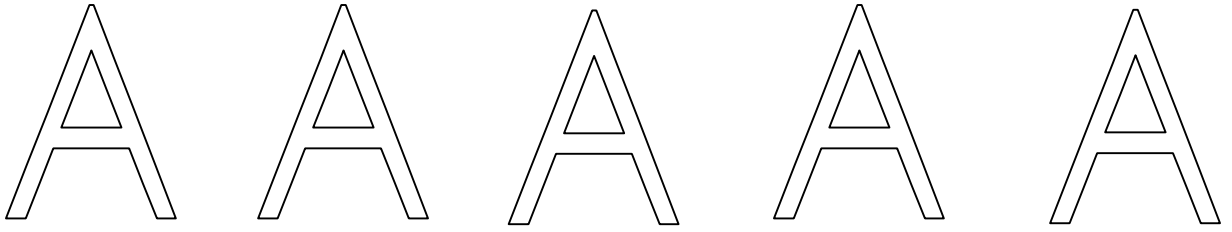


Cut out all strips and mix them up.
Have child arrange them in correct sequence.

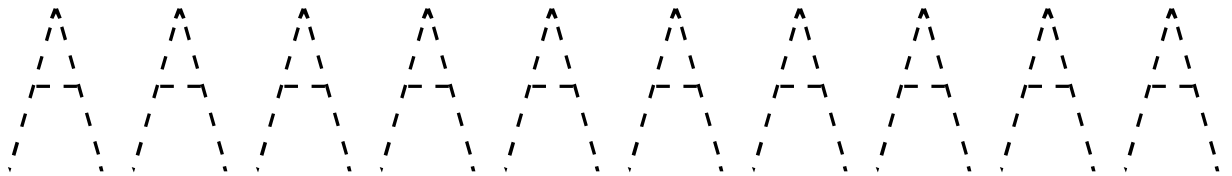
Staple pages together at side.

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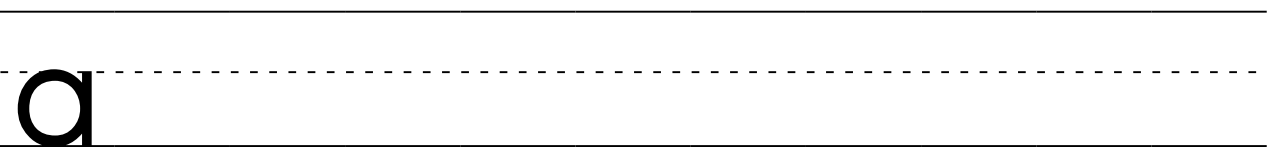
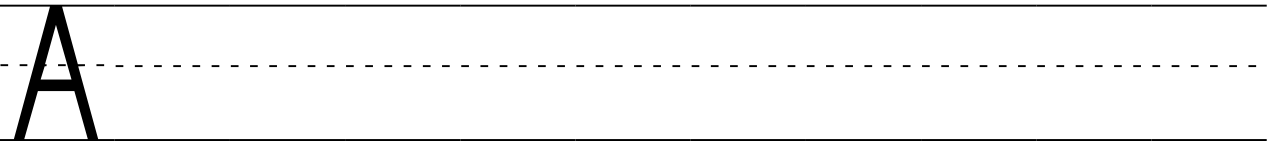
Trace the uppercase and lowercase letters with your fingers.



Trace the uppercase and lowercase letters with your pencil.



Now copy the letters on the lines provided.



a is for _pple

Cut on solid lines. Staple at top.
Child can write or dictate to Mom what happiness is and draw pictures for each page.

Happiness
is...

By: _____

Happiness is:

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Happiness is:

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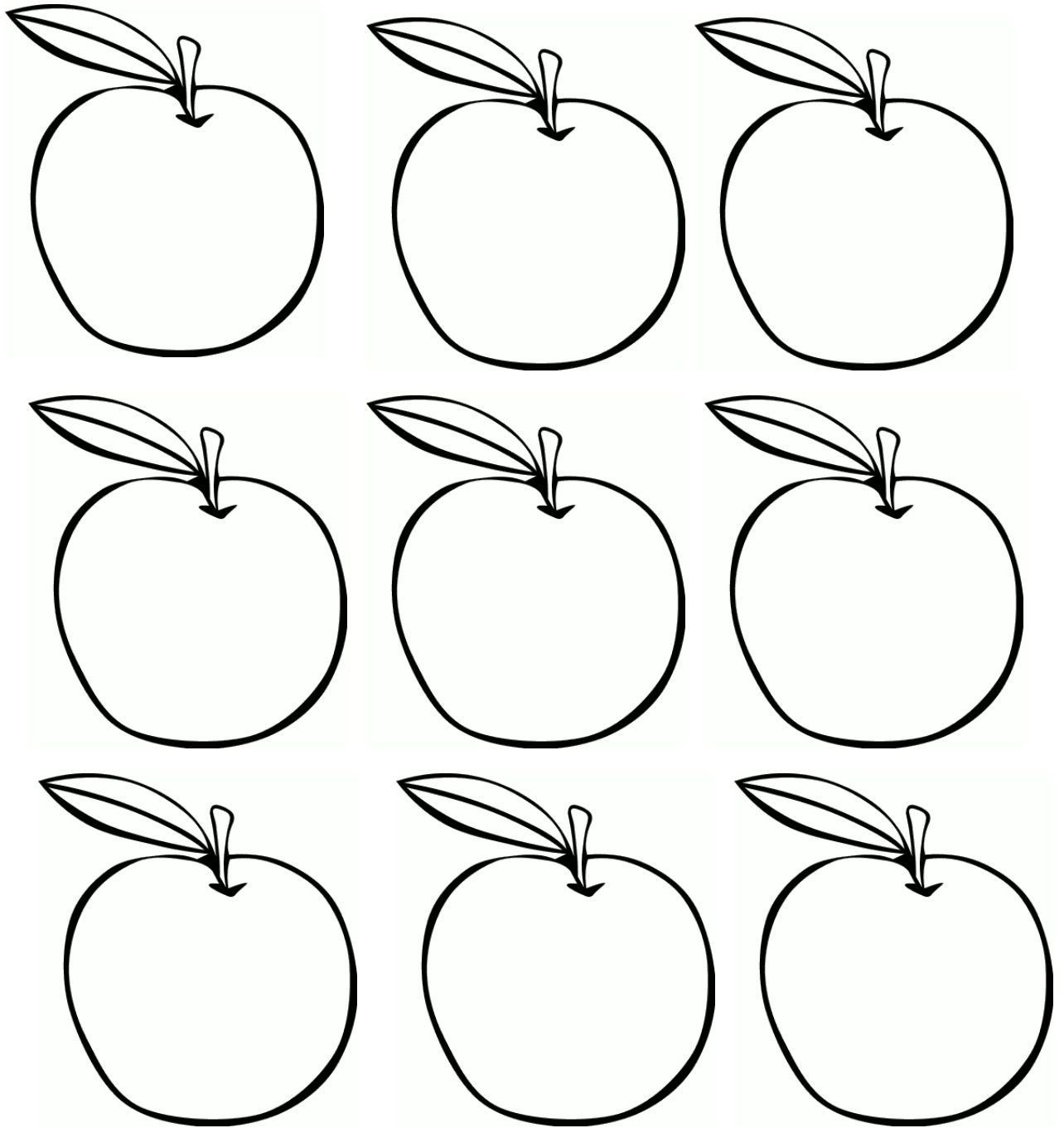
Happiness is:

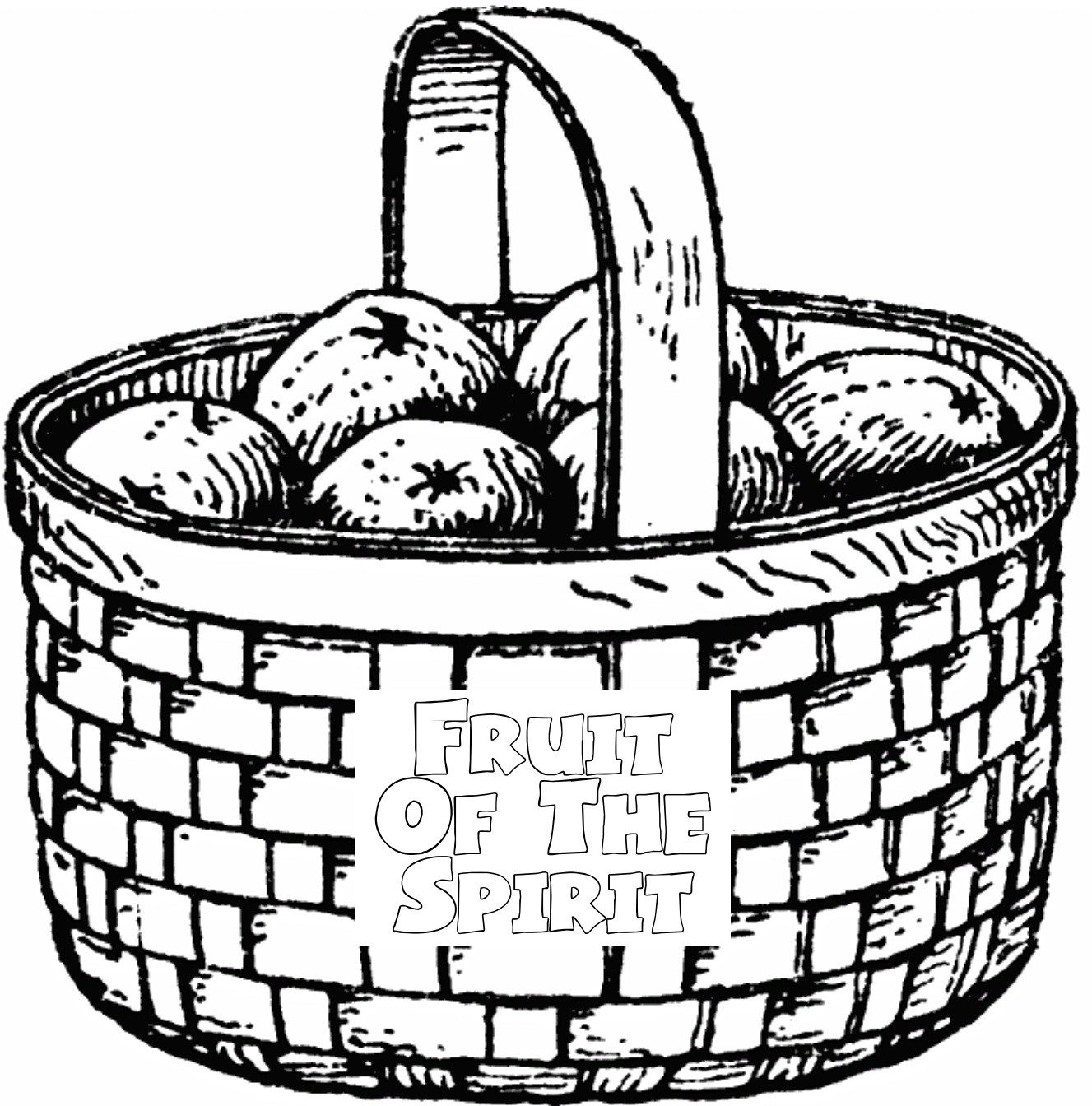
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Print on cardstock. Cut out all apples and fruit basket.
Write each of the different fruit of the spirit on the apples.
Punch holes in pieces and hang with thread to make a mobile.





FRUIT
OF THE
SPIRIT

Popces in America



	Jonathan	Rome Beauty	McIntosh	Golden Delicious	Red Delicious	Other
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
Total						

Which apple was the most popular? _____

Which apple was the least popular? _____