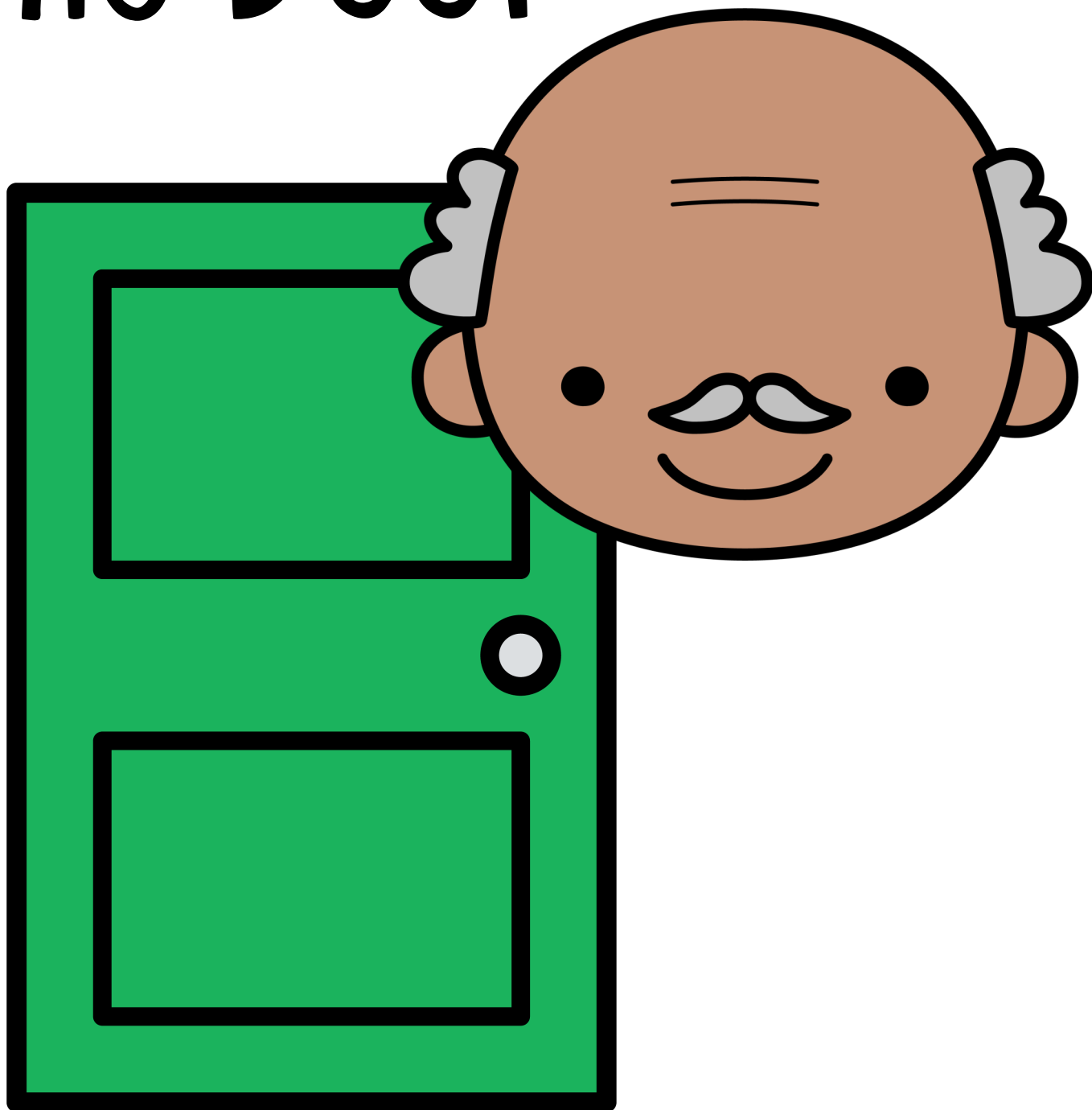


The Old Man and His Door



The Old Man and His Door

Book by Gary Soto

Unit study and lapbook by Ami Brainerd and Brandy Shutt

Social Studies

Geography: Mexico

This story is set in Mexico. What does your student know about Mexico?

Find Mexico on the map. Ask some questions:

Where is it located? How far away from you? Is it on the same continent? What borders Mexico? Discuss these things with your student.

Five Fast Facts About Mexico

1. Capital: Mexico City
2. Location: between the United States of America (at the north) and Guatemala and Belize (at the south). At Mexico's west is the Pacific Ocean; at the east is the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea
3. Climate: includes hot deserts, forests, tropical rainforests, as well as some chapparal
4. Area: covers almost 2 million square kilometers of land
5. States: divided into 32 states

Lapbook Components:

Mexico Book

Flag of Mexico Simple Fold

Culture: Mexican Food

The old man grows chilies and tomatoes in his garden; he also has an avocado tree. Your student may be curious about the traditional foods cooked and served in Mexico. Mexican foods are known for their varied flavors, colorful decoration, and variety of spices.

Tortillas

A staple food of Mexico, tortillas can be made of flour or corn. Tortillas are served alongside a meal (as bread would be). They are used in many dishes; they may be rolled and baked for enchiladas, fried for tacos, or grilled for quesadillas.

Frijoles

A good source of protein, beans of different varieties are most commonly boiled and then fried. They can be a main ingredient in a meal or served as a side.

Chilies

Peppers of all shapes and sizes find their way into various Mexican dishes adding not only flavor but also color. Larger chilies are usually not as hot as the smaller ones. Point out different kinds of peppers the next time you are in the produce department with your student. How many different colors of peppers can he find? Don't touch any habañeros! They are extremely hot!

Guacamole

Guacamole is a dip made of avocado mashed with onions, chilies and cilantro.

Salsa

A mix of red or green tomatoes, onion, chili and cilantro. Served as a sauce or dip.

Find some authentic Mexican recipes to make with your student this week.

Lapbook Component:

Mexican Food Tab Book

Culture: Spanish Language

This book incorporates tons of Spanish words! Does your student know what a glossary is? Show her the glossary at the beginning of the book, and show her how to find the meanings of the Spanish words and phrases.

Lapbook Components:

Spanish Words: Count to Ten Flap Books

Spanish Words Shutterflap Book

Human Relationships: The Importance of Listening

The old man didn't listen to his wife very well. He was distracted. What was distracting him? What are some things that distract us when we are supposed to be listening to someone talk?

Why is it important to listen to someone when they are talking? It's important to listen to parents because they could be giving instructions or other necessary

information. It's important to listen to siblings so they will know that you care about them and care about what they have to say. When we don't listen, we are telling someone that they aren't important...what they have to say doesn't really matter.

You may also want to take some time to discuss the importance of not talking TOO much. When we talk too much, we may be sending a message to others that we think too highly of ourselves. If we talk too much, people may not want to listen to what we have to say (which may be why the old man didn't listen to his wife!).

Lapbook Component:
Listening Ear Shape Book

Bible and Character

Kindness and Sowing & Reaping

Not only did the only man plant chilies and tomatoes, he also planted seeds of kindness. Can your student recall the times that the old man showed kindness? (to the crying child, to the goose, to the boy in the lake, and to the man moving the piano)

The Bible tells us in Galatians 6:7, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap." Does the old man reap kindness? How? (He receives a kiss, an egg, a fish, and a watermelon in return for helping others.)

Lapbook Component:
Sowing and Reaping Flap Book

Language Arts

Genre: Folktale

A folktale is a story that is first passed on by word of mouth rather than by writing; it changes by successive retellings before being written down. It may be recorded by more than one person who has heard a slightly different version resulting in many different versions of the same tell. In these variations, the plot is the usually the same, but the setting, details, etc. change.

The genre of folktale encompasses many other types of stories including fairytales, legends of all types, fables, tall tales. Is your student familiar with tall tales? Fables? Legends?

Why would the story of *The Old Man and His Door* be passed down? Do you think someone invented it to prove a point? What is the message (or moral)? Do you think the story might have also been retold because it is humorous?

Have your student practice telling this story (in the oral tradition) this week. You may even want to let him present it to the family after a meal, or you could even record him with a video camera.

Similes

Soto uses at least two good similes in this story. A simile is a comparison between two objects using like or as.

Find Soto's similes ("pigs as plump as..." and "blue sky as wide as..."). Let your student think of some other similes to describe the sky and a pig.

Lapbook Component:
Similes Shutterfold

Comprehension

Can your student remember the ways the door was used? Can you think of any other fun uses for a door? Maybe a discussion on this topic will inspire your student to write a story!

Lapbook Component:
What Is the Door Used For? Window Book

Rhyming Words

The old woman told the old man to bring the PIG, but he thought she told him to bring the DOOR. Those words don't sound alike in English, but discuss words that do. Make a list of rhyming words for pig as well as a list for door or make a list of words that could easily be mistaken for door (dork, adore) and pig (pick, pit, etc.).

Lapbook Component: Words That Sound Like Matchbook

Science

Honey and Honeybees

The old man in this story bumps a beehive with his door. A swarm of angry bees flies out!

Please visit our [Honeybee Lapbook Page](#) to find everything you'll need to do a honeybee lesson with your student.

Simple Machines: Inclined Planes

The old man uses the door to help move the piano to the truck. How did this make the job easier? He used the door as a simple machine known as an inclined plane. An inclined plane is a flat surface whose endpoints are at different heights. By moving an object up an inclined plane rather than directly from one height to another, the amount of force required is reduced. Examples where inclined planes are to be found include: ramp, sloping roads and hills, windshield, funnel, water slide, chisels, hatchets, plows, air hammers, carpenter's planes, and wedges. Demonstrate how an inclined plane can make work easier.

By basic definition a machine is any device that makes work easier. A simple machine is one that uses only one application of force. A complex machine is any device that is made from two or more simple machines.

A list of the six traditional simple machines are:

- inclined plane (sometimes called a ramp)
- lever
- wheel and axle
- wedge
- screw
- pulley

However, three of them--wedge, screw, and pulley--are really modifications of the three main ones (the lever, the wheel and axle, and the inclined plane).

The six simple machines can be broken down into two basic families of simple machines: the inclined plane family and the lever family. So, if we break the six

simple machines down into the two families, we have:

The Inclined Plane Family:

1. inclined plane (see definition above at the beginning of the lesson)
2. wedge - an object with at least one slanting side ending in a sharp edge which cuts material
3. screw - an inclined plane wrapped around a plane which holds things together or lifts materials

The Lever Family:

1. lever - a stiff bar which rests on a support called a fulcrum which lifts or moves loads
2. wheel and axle - a wheel with a rod (called an axle) through its center lifts or moves loads
3. pulley - uses grooved wheels and a rope to raise, lower, or move a load

Explain what each simple machine is, what it does, and show pictures of each (see website mentioned below for gobs of pictures). Go around the house or even the neighborhood and see how many simple machines your student can find.

Lapbook Component:

Simple Machines Tab Book

A Nutritious Meal

If your student isn't familiar with the food pyramid, you will need to introduce the basics of the food groups (see information below lesson).

The people in the story ended up having a lunch of egg, fish, watermelon, and honey. Is this a balanced meal? What is a balanced meal?

Here are some general guidelines to follow:

Have a portion of protein the size of your palm.

Have a serving or two of grains (whole grains are your best choice).

Make sure your vegetable and/or fruit portion is the size of both your palms.

Have a serving of dairy.

What is missing in the meal at the barbecue?

Lapbook Component:

Have your student create his own Balanced Meal Plate & Cone Pocket

Food Pyramid Information

Grains – (6-11 servings a day) Point out foods students might not think of as grains –oatmeal, corn meal, or rice and popcorn. Tell students that some grains are whole grains. At least half the grains they eat should be whole grain. Some names for whole grains are whole wheat, whole-grain corn, and oatmeal. Show them the words “whole grain” on the ingredients label or the front of a cereal box and ask them to look for it on a cereal box at home.

Vegetables – (3-5 servings a day) Do your students eat fresh vegetables? Frozen? Canned? Dark green and orange vegetables are especially important.

(Examples include spinach, broccoli, carrots, and sweet potatoes.) Ask students to name dark green and orange vegetables they’d like to try.

Fruits – (2-4 servings a day) Explain that fruit can be fresh, canned, frozen, or dried. Ask children about their favorite fruits. What type or form do they eat?

Milk –(2-3 servings a day) Ask students to name some foods in the milk group (milk, cheese, yogurt, ice cream). Where does milk come from? Do they drink milk every day? For children who are lactose intolerant, there are lactose-free products.

Meat and Beans –(2-3 servings a day) Ask students to name foods from the meat and beans group (meat, fish, chicken, turkey, eggs, dry beans, and peas, nuts, and seeds). Do they ever eat beans at home for dinner?

Applied Math

Circles

The old man circled the house three times and the avocado tree nine times. How many circles did he make? How many circles can you find in your own home?

Art

At the party, they had a piñata. Top your week off with a homemade piñata!

(instructions and photos contributed by Brandy Shutt)

Materials:

18" balloon
newspaper
string
tissue paper
crepe paper
glue (flour, sugar, water)
bowl
paper mache' paste
paint, markers, stickers, etc.

Step 1

Find a paste mixture that you like (there are many). We boiled two cups of water. Then separately mixed one cup of water with one cup of flour. Then we mixed the flour mixture with the boiling mixture and added 3 tablespoons of sugar. Return to a boil. Turn it off and let it cool. Your paste is then ready to work with. If you do what we did, this paste can be refrigerated for about 3-4 days. It is best to work with it at room temperature, otherwise it is very cold.

Step 2

Tear strips of newspaper about 1 inch wide and 1 1/2 inches long. You will have three layers so use comics for one of your layers to tell it apart from the others.



completely. Now wait 24 hours for this layer to dry. Don't forget to cover and refrigerate your paste.

Step 5

POP your balloon. Remove the balloon carefully. If all of it does not come out it is okay, just watch it when it breaks if there are small children. Finish with this last layer in the opposite direction of the comics being sure to overlap and cover all.

Step 6

Fill the piñata with candy and small toys. Layer tissue paper and candy to prevent all the goodies from falling to the bottom. Fill completely.

Step 7

Paper mache the hole with some newspaper. It does not have to be as thick as the rest of the piñata, but make it look as smooth as possible.

Step 8

It is time to decorate. Using tissue paper is very common to get a large amount of colorful coverage. Depending on your design you can decide what is best for you. We were making a piece of candy for Valentine's Day so we used red tissue paper to create the ends. At this point you can use regular glue. You can also paint or use crepe paper. We covered our tissue paper with little strips of crepe paper. This is when you can let the creative juices flow. There are many ideas on-line.



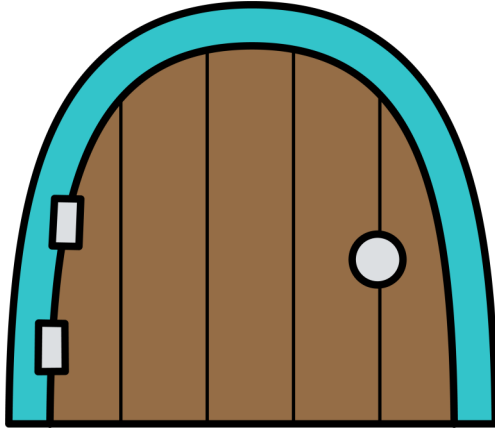


Step 9

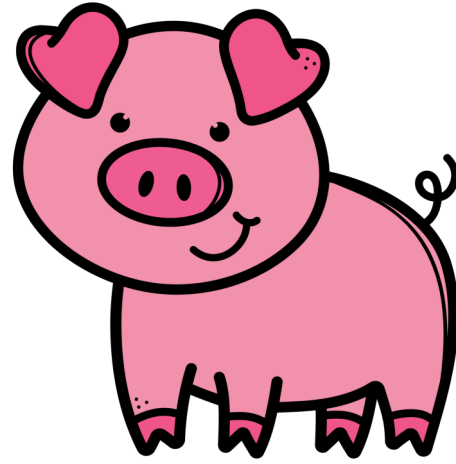
Hang it somewhere safe and get your stick out. It is time to party! Traditionally you should blindfold the one hitting the piñata, but we found, for kids, it is hard enough with their eyes open. Have Fun!

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Door



Pig

Words That Sound Like

The old man
is kind to the
baby, and he
receives

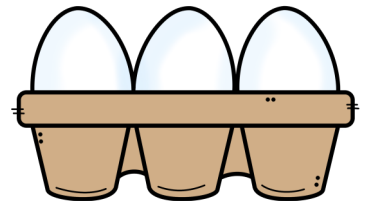
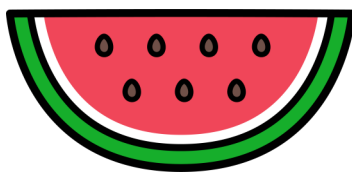
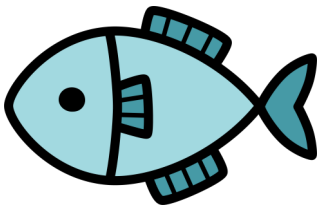
The old man
is kind to the
goose, and he
receives

The old man
is kind to the
boy in the
water, and he
receives

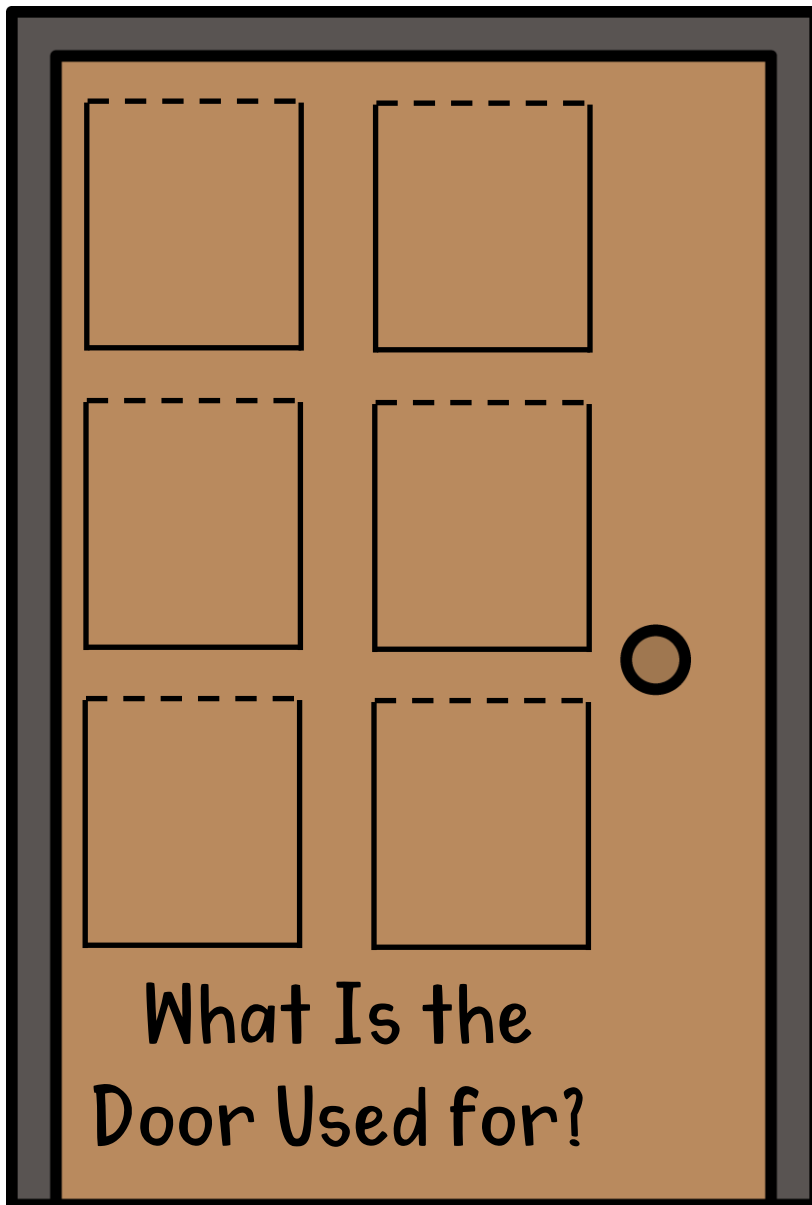
The old man
is kind to the
young man
moving a
piano, and he
receives

Sowing and Reaping

”Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.” Galatians 6:7



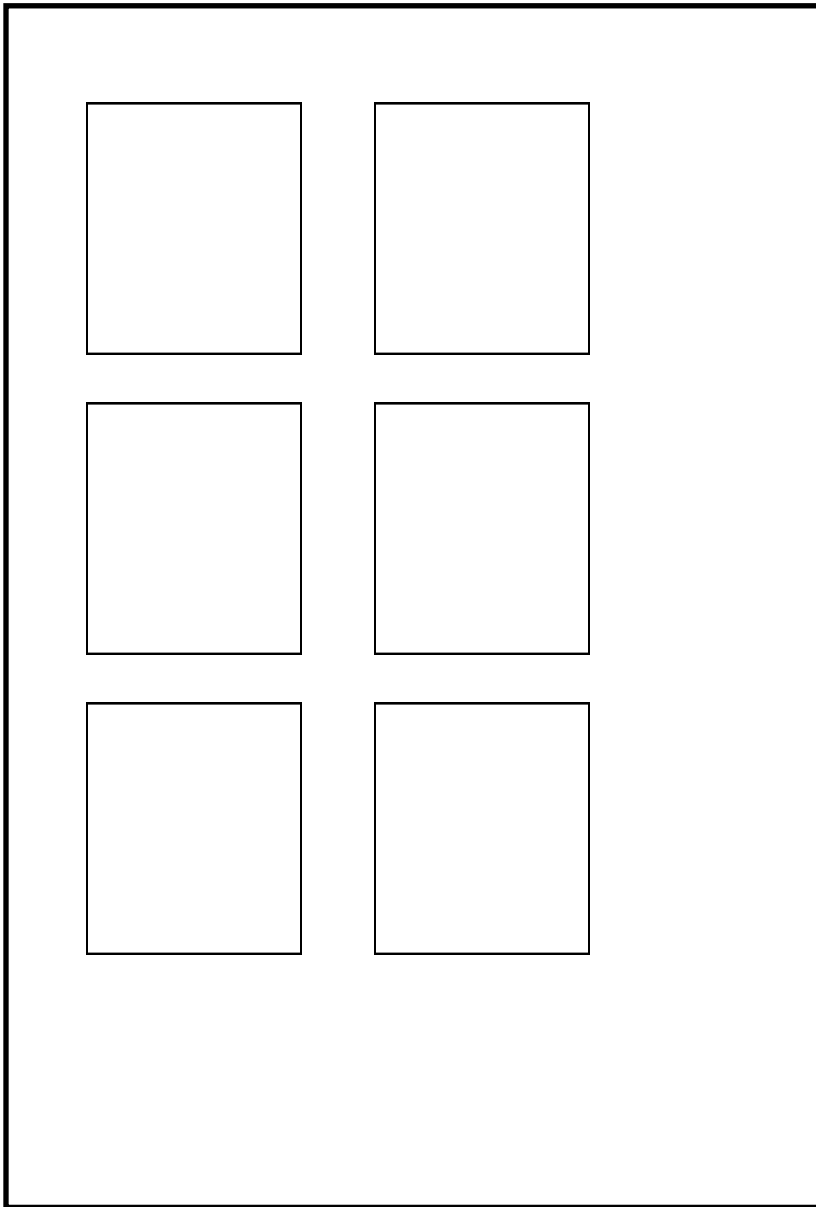
Directions: Cut on solid lines. Fold on dotted (like a pamphlet). Paste correct pictures under the flaps. If desired, add text, too.



Directions: Print this page on cardstock. Cut out door. Using an exact-o knife, cut around the sides and bottom of each window. Make each window into a flap by folding up (using the dotted lines as your guide).

Cut out the door on the next page. Cut out each use for the door and paste on to a rectangle on the door.

Paste the doors together. Student should be able to open each window to read the text underneath.



to play peek
-a-book
with a baby

to protect
from a
swarm of
bees

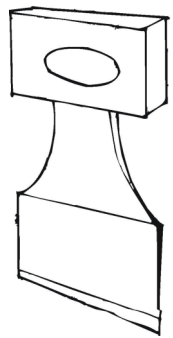
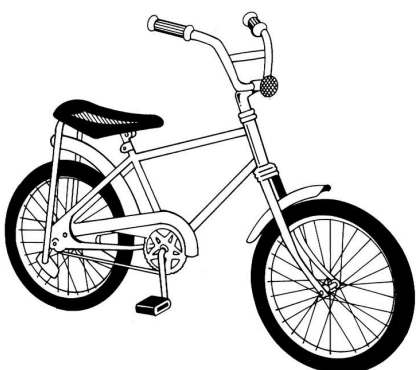
to save a
boy from
drowning

as a table
to eat
a meal

to move a
piano

a resting
place for a
goose

Directions: Use these images with the simple machines book on the next page.

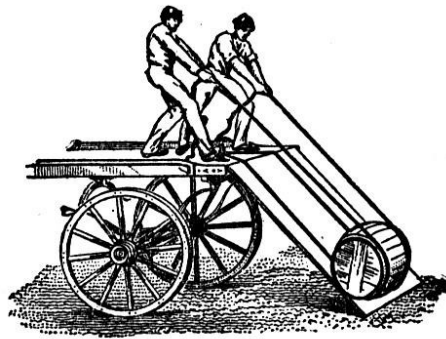


Simple Machines

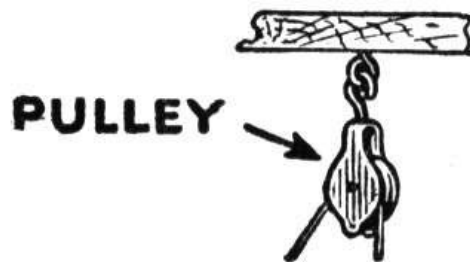


Inclined Plane

Cut on solid black lines. Stack book together. Your student will have six tabs to flip through (two at the top, two on the side, and two on the bottom).



Lever



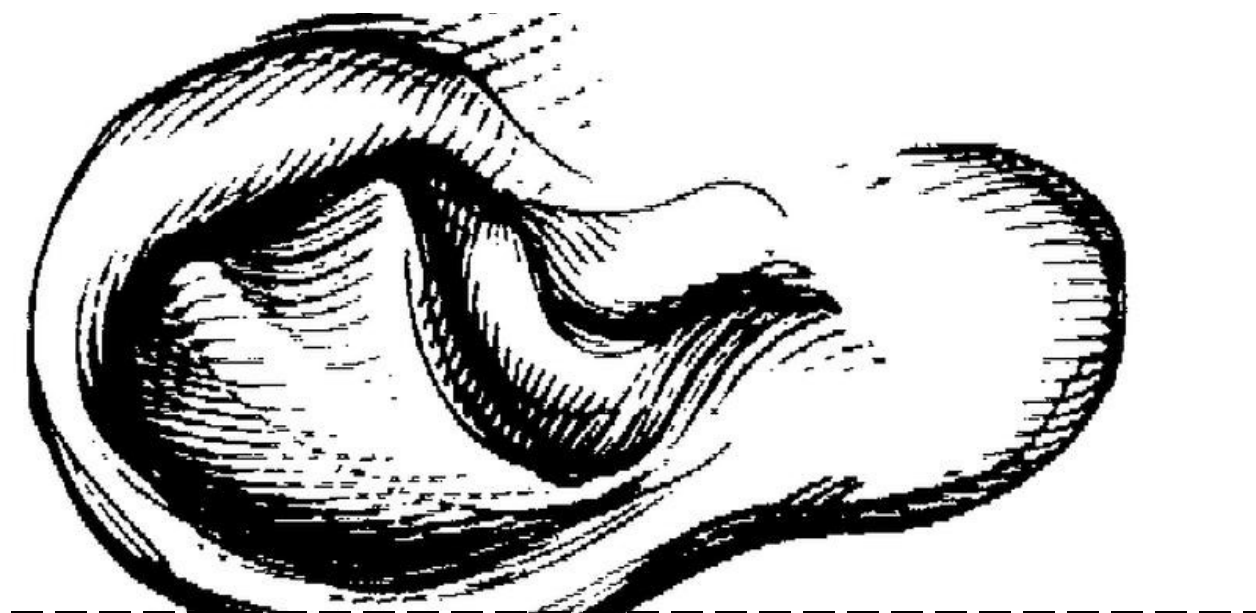
Wedge

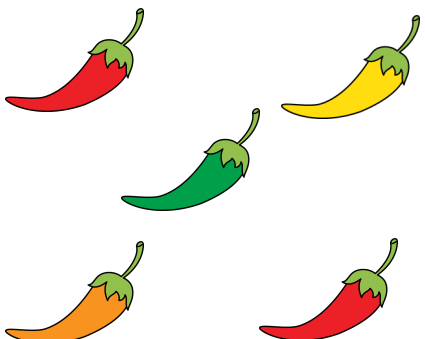
Pulley

Wheel & Axel

Screw

Directions: Fold paper on dotted line. Cut around ear shape. On the inside of the book write why it is important to listen carefully.

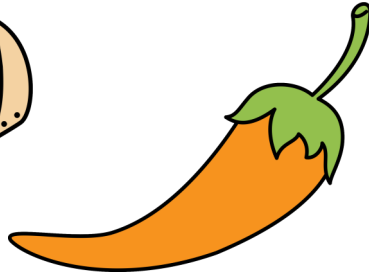
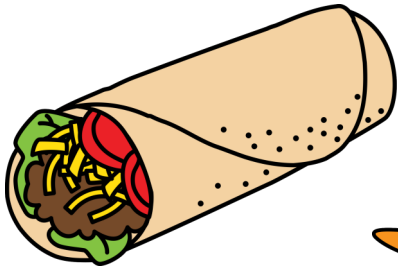


one		<h1>Count in Spanish</h1>  <p>1-5</p>
two		
three		
four		
five		

Cut out each book as one piece. Fold left side under. Fold right side under (it is the cover).
 Unfold book. Cut on the lines to form five flaps.

six		<h1>Count in Spanish</h1>  <p>6-10</p>
seven		
eight		
nine		
ten		

Mexican Food



Guacamole

REMOVE THIS AREA (Cut away so you have just a tab left)

Frijoles

REMOVE THIS AREA

Tortillas

Salsa

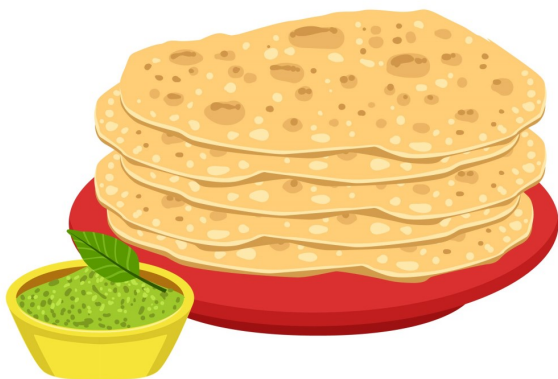
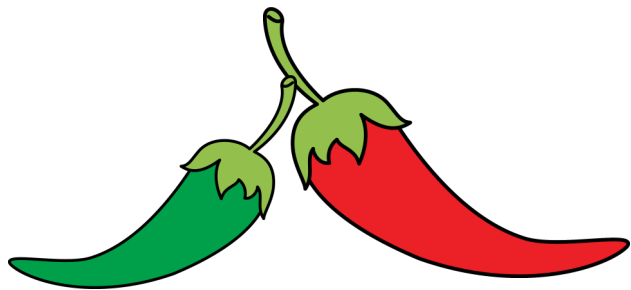
REMOVE THIS AREA

Chilies

REMOVE

Directions: Cut the strips along the solid outer lines. If there is a rectangle piece in the right corner of the strip, cut it off as indicated (remove this area). Stack your strips in order with cover on top and staple where indicated.

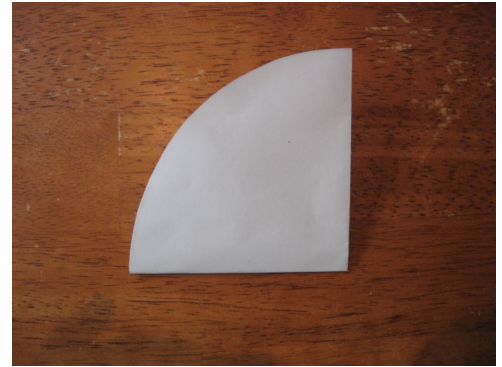
Add text and pictures to each page.



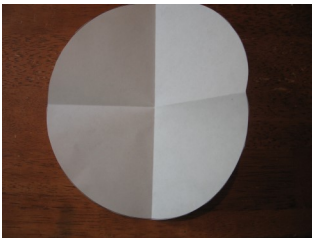
Cone Pocket



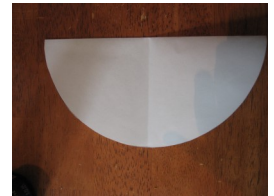
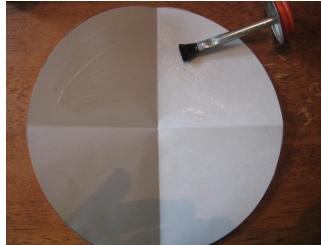
1. Cut two large circles. Set one aside. Take the other and fold it in half vertically. Then fold it in half horizontally.



2. Unfold



3. Put rubber cement (or glue) on half and fold



4. Put glue on one quarter and fold.

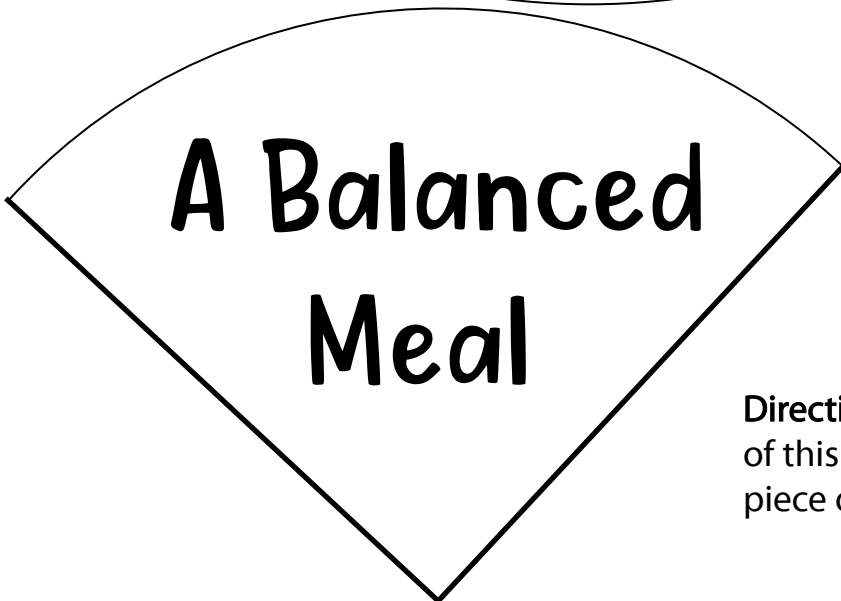
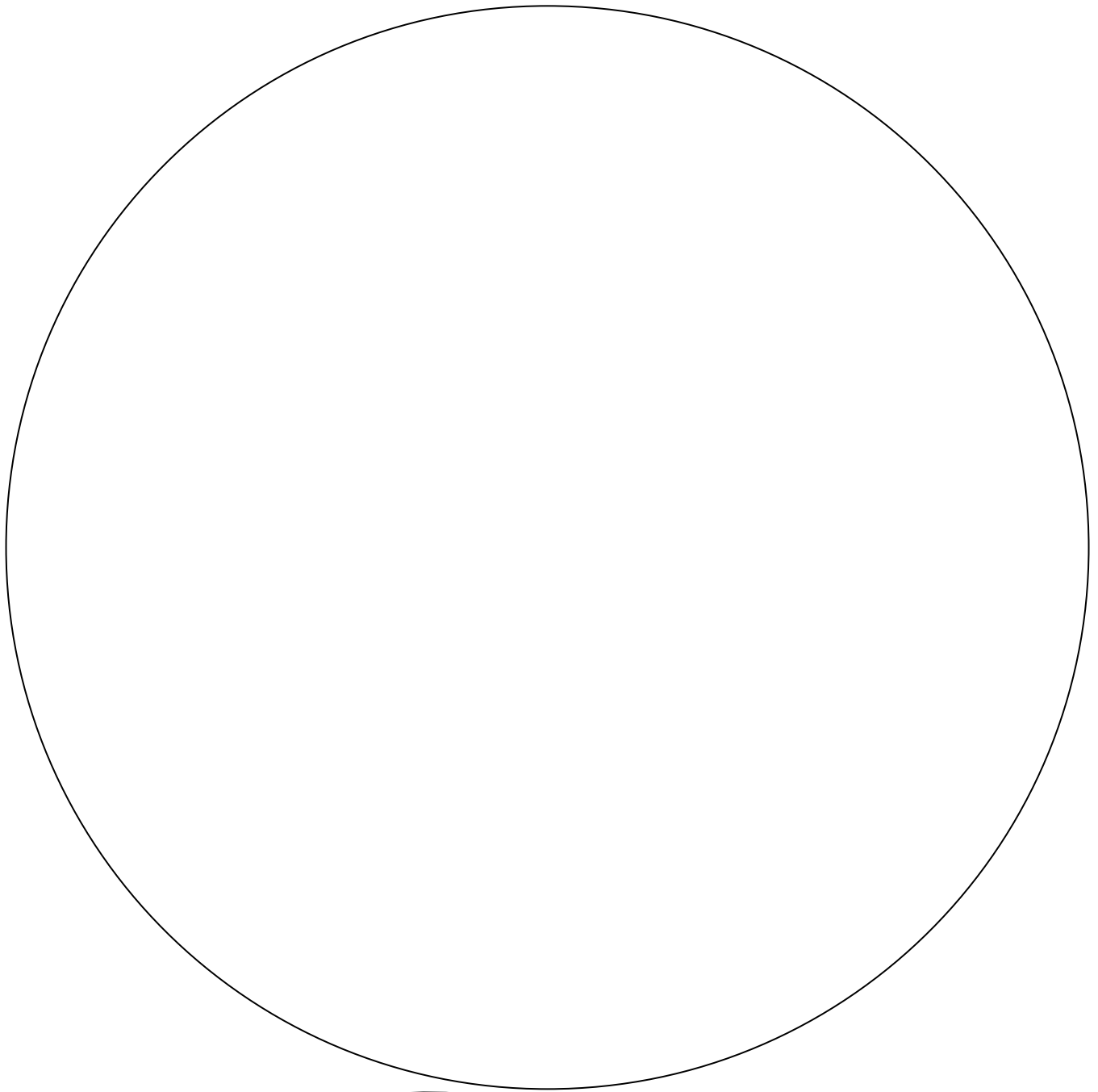


5. One quarter will be open. This is your pocket.

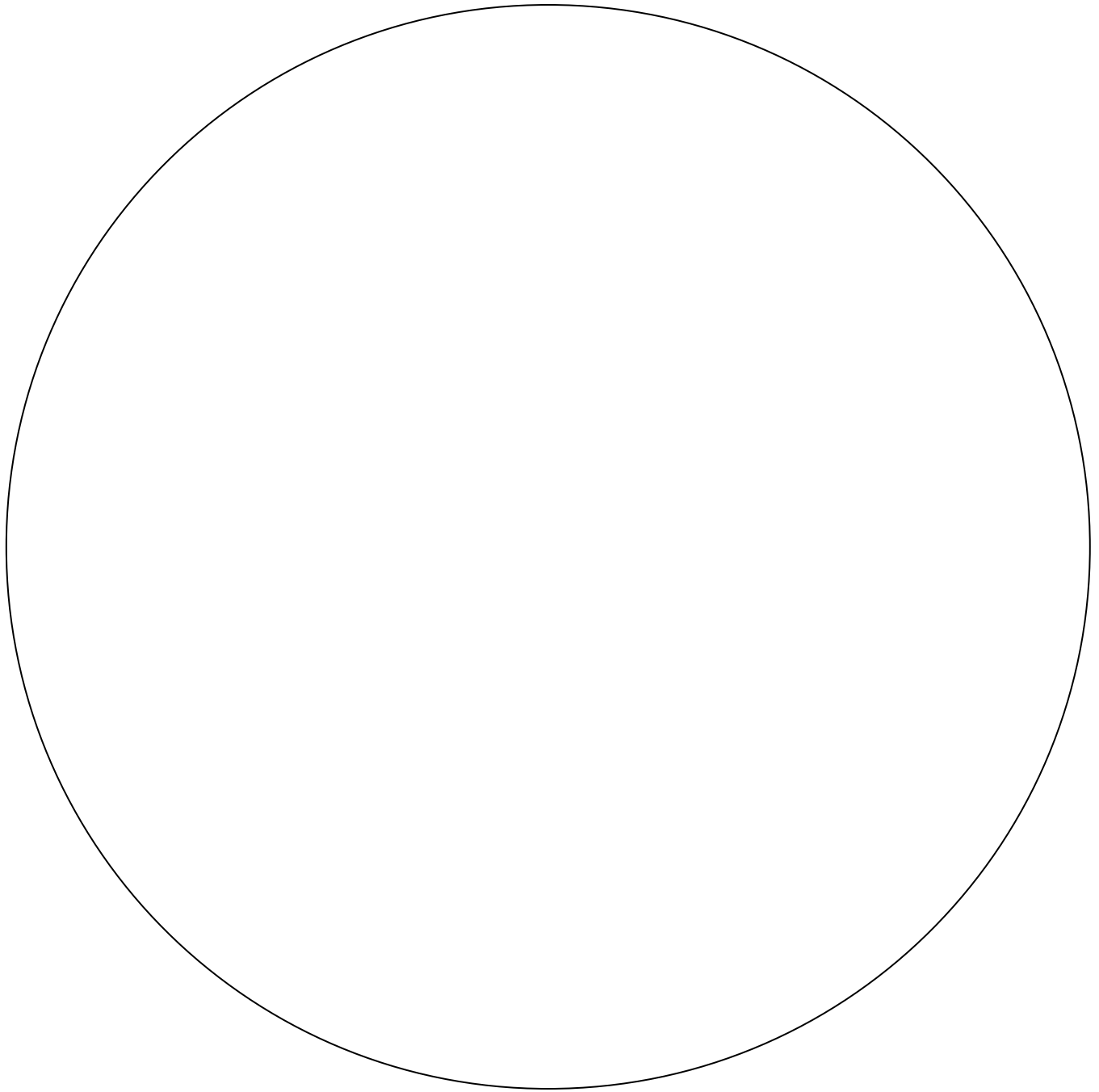


6. Fill the other circle with information, as desired. Decorate cover of the pocket. Fold second circle (half and half again) and slip into pocket.

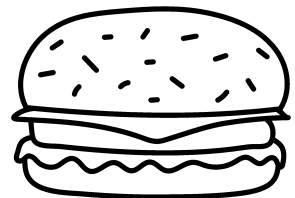
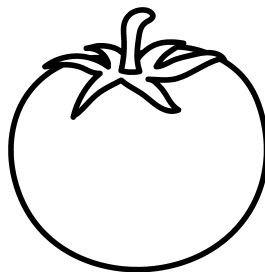
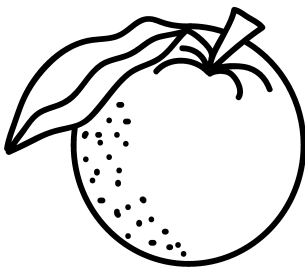
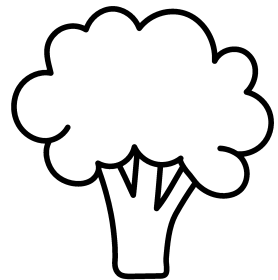
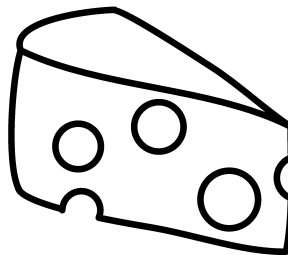
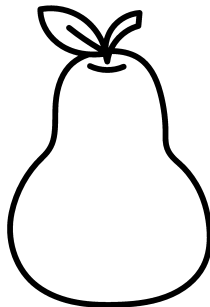
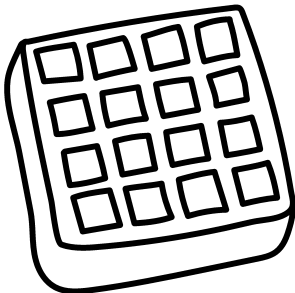
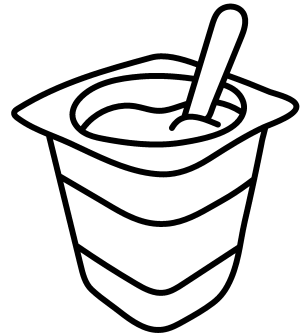
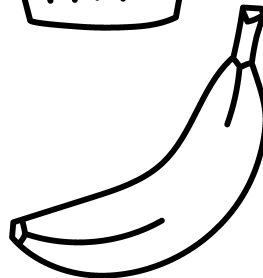
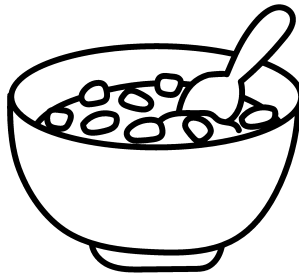
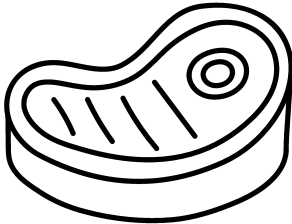
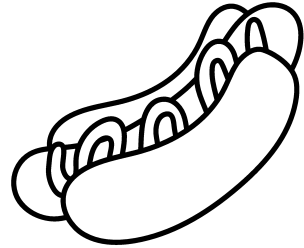
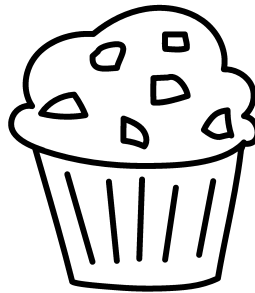
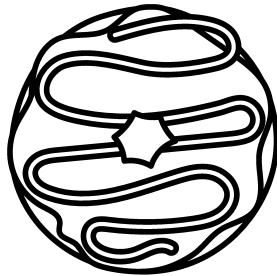
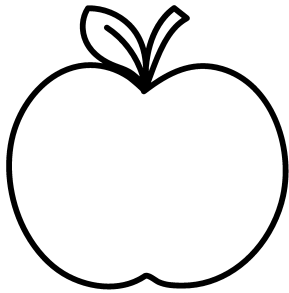
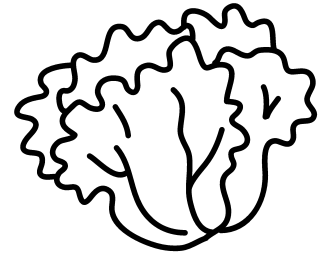
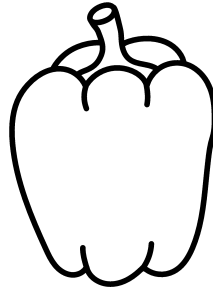
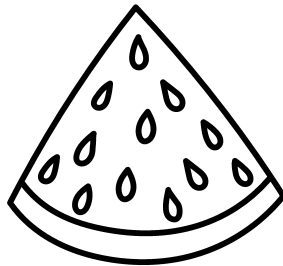
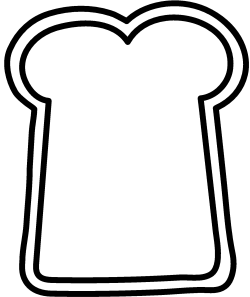
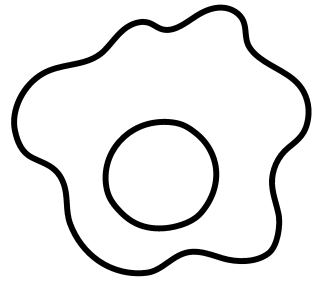
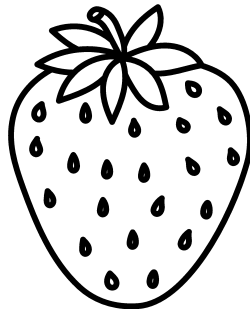
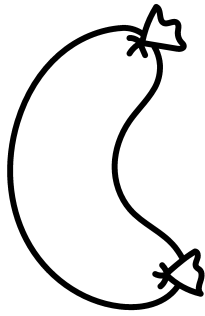
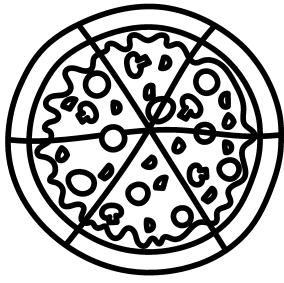




Directions: Make a pocket out of this circle. Cut/paste cover piece on front.



Directions: Use foods on the next page to cut/paste on the plate and make a balanced meal. As an alternative, your student could draw his own meal.



Mexico



Location

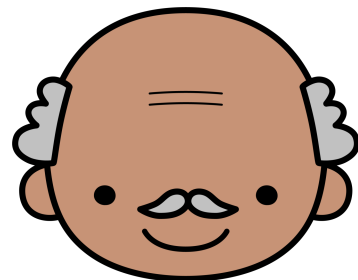
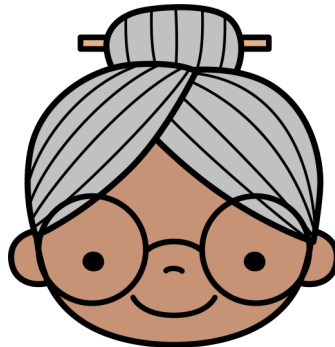
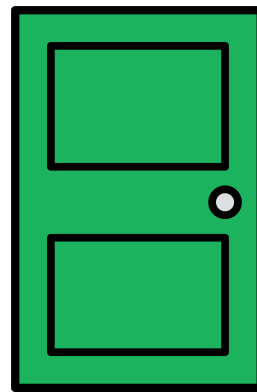
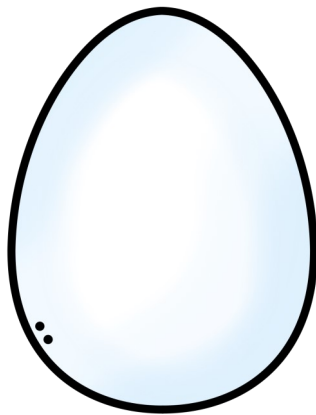
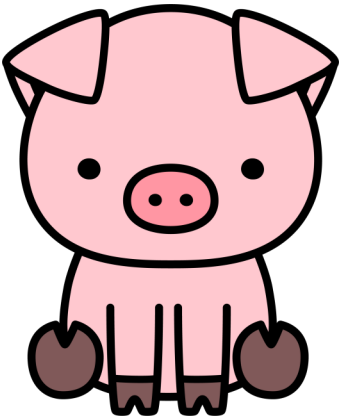
Capital

Climate

Directions: Cut out shapes. Add text. Stack together with cover on top and staple.

Area	States

Directions: Use these images with the book on the next page. © Homeschool Share



Directions: Cut on solid lines. Fold on dotted.

Spanish Words

la puerta
lah PWEHR-tah

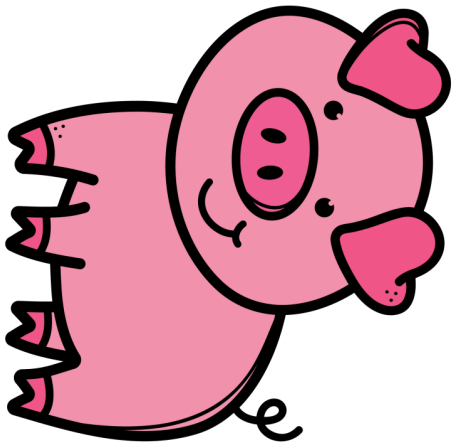
la comadre
lah ko-MAH-dray

el puerco
el PWEHR-koh

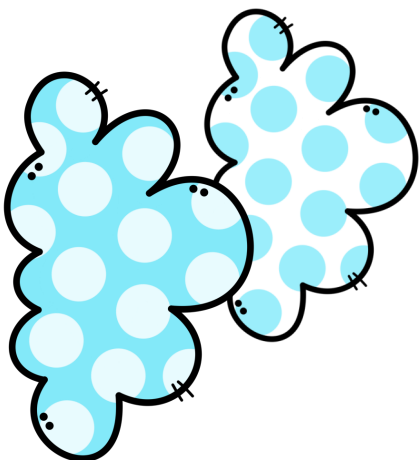
el viejo
el vee-EH-hoh

el hueva
el HWAY-voh

la vieja
lah vee-EH-hah



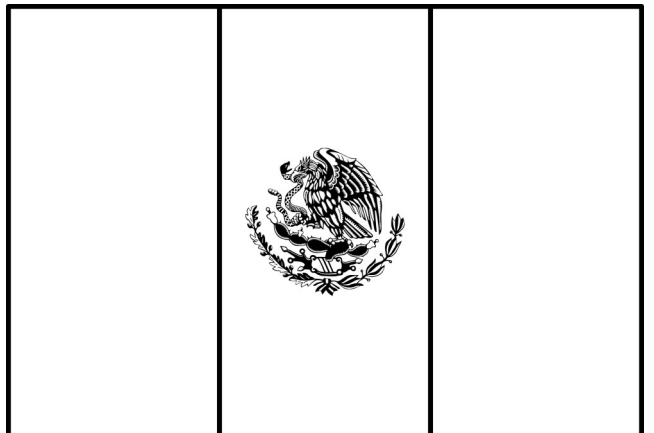
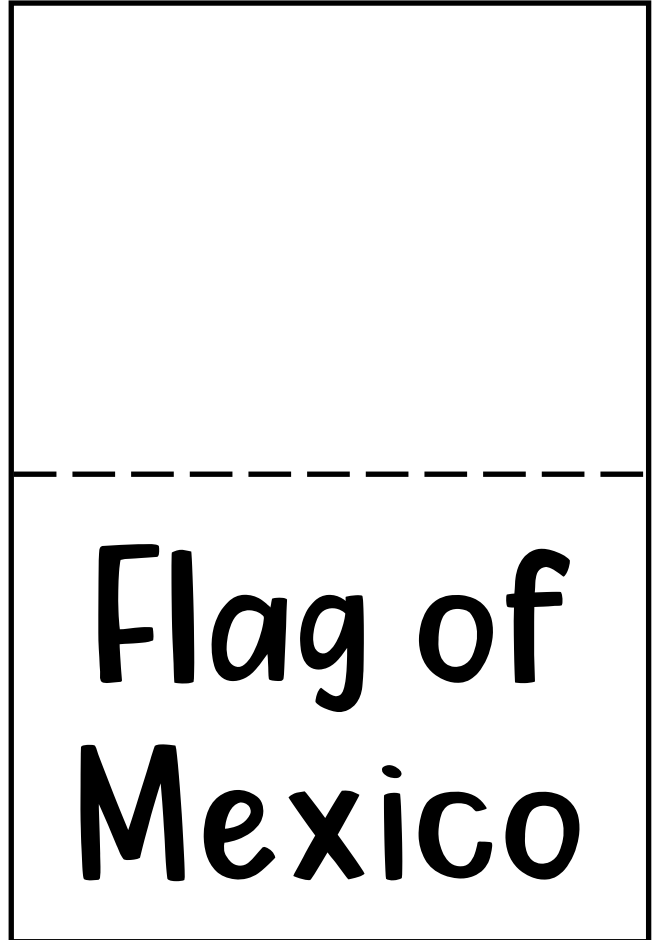
Similes for Pig



Similes for Sky



Directions: Cut out book as one piece. Color flag. Paste flag inside the book.



Directions: Cut book out as one piece. Fold left and right sides under so that they meet. Open book and record similes.

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