

St. Patrick's Day in the Morning



St. Patrick's Day in the Morning

Book by Eve Bunting

Unit study and printables by Ami Brainerd

Geography: Ireland

Our story takes place in Ireland. Ireland is known as the "Emerald Isle" and it is the third largest island in Europe. Find it on a map and show your student.

A map of Ireland is provided in the printables section. Encourage your student to label it.

The name *Ireland* derives from the name *Éire* with the addition of the Germanic word *land*.

Capital: Ireland's capital is Dublin

Official languages: English and Gaelic

Climate: Ireland has a cool, often-cloudy climate.

Flag: Ireland's flag is made of three equal-sized rectangles of orange, white and green. (The green is by the flagpole.) The green color on the flag represents the native people (most are Roman Catholic) of Ireland. The orange color represents the British supporters (most are Protestant) of William of Orange who settled in Northern Ireland in the 17th century. The white in the center of the flag represents peace between these two groups of people.

A flag of Ireland is provided for your student in the printables section.

If you want, make a "wee flag" like the one Mrs. Simms gives to Jamie. Make some green sashes to wear and wave your flag as you march to some Irish music in your own St. Patrick's Day parade at home!

Holidays: St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17th. It is a day to honor Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.

Saint Patrick was born in Great Britain around the year 380. When Patrick was a boy, he was kidnapped, sold to Ireland, and forced into slavery where he was a shepherd.

He escaped a few years later, but he wanted to return to Ireland to teach people about God. First, he went to France to learn about God and to become a priest. He went back to Ireland to preach. He also built churches and schools. He stayed in Ireland for the rest of his life.

He died on March 17th in 461. Later, the Roman Catholic Church made him a saint.

People celebrate St. Patrick's Day in many ways. They dress in green to honor an ancient Irish custom. People also go to church. They decorate with harps and shamrocks. Shamrocks are the symbol of St. Patrick and the symbol of Ireland.

Leprechauns are also celebrated on St. Patrick's Day. People believed that you could catch one of these magical creatures and they would lead you to a rainbow with a pot of gold.

If desired, decorate the shamrock in the printables section.

Social Studies: Growing Up

Point out some of the references in the book to your young child about Jamie feeling small:

"He climbed over his big brother. . . and his bigger brother"

"Jamie tried to snap his fingers the way Sean did."

"There was no sash for Jamie."

If your child has older siblings, discuss how he feels about being a younger sibling. Discuss the privileges and responsibilities that come with being older and younger.

Language Arts: Vocabulary

Learn these new words from the story:

fringes- an ornamental border consisting of hanging threads or strips

tatters- looks as if it has been torn and left hanging

spanned- to reach or extend across

wattle- a fleshy flap of skin hanging usually from the neck of a bird

refreshments- a light meal, a snack

mystery- something that has not been or cannot be explained

Language Arts: Repetition

Ask your student what phrase is repeated in this book? "What do *they* know?"

Why does Jamie say this so often (because he wants to prove to himself that he isn't little).

Sometimes authors give certain characters a catch phrase or include a refrain for familiarity to show the reader something about that character.

You may want to discuss with your older student why authors do this. Would the story be as good if Eve Bunting would have simply stated, "But Jamie didn't think he was little" Instead of "What do they know?" As you read, try replacing "What do they know?" with "But Jamie didn't think he was little!" With this simple change, the reader loses insight to part of Jamie's character. It is important that authors show us the characters rather than just tell us about them.

Language Arts: Punctuation: Question Marks and Quotation Marks

This book provides a good opportunity to introduce the terms "question mark" and "quotations." You can point them out on almost every page. With your older student, you can take the time to review the usage rules for question marks and quotation marks.

This would also be a good time to make sure your reader understands how to read a question. Show her the different inflection in your voice when you read a question aloud. Also teach her how to read an italicized word ("What do *they* know?") with emphasis; there is plenty of practice available in this story.

Art: Use of Color

After reading the book (a few times), ask your student what colors are used in the illustrations. Why does your student think Jan Brett primary chose these colors for this story? What was she trying to accomplish with her use of color? (emphasis of certain objects).

Where would your student have chosen to use color if he was drawing the same pictures? Your student may want to try drawing a picture for St. Patrick's Day and using only green and yellow for emphasis on certain objects making careful, deliberate choices like artists do.

Your young child may have fun mixing blue and yellow paint to see what will happen. Discuss the color green. What objects in nature are green? You could also make your own book of green things. If the weather is nice, go outside and let your student draw as many green things as she sees.

You could also use the I Spy Green Printable to have a fun adventure finding green things in and out of your house.

Art: Musical Instrument-- Flute

The instrument Jamie tries to play along the way is his brother's flute. You may want to delve into deeper discussion with your student about instruments, particularly woodwinds (the group that flutes belong to) pointing out the characteristics of that group. They use vibrating air to produce their sound; they can be played with an open hole or with a reed. The flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, and saxophone are all members of this group.

Find some Irish music to listen to just for the fun and cultural experience of it.

Math: Graphing with Jellybeans

Give your student about 50-60 jellybeans of different colors (less for younger students). Graph the jellybeans (if desired, use the printables provided).

If your child (or one of your children) is very young, they may enjoy simply sorting the jelly beans by color and counting the total of each color with you.

Directions for the Tally & Graph Activity: Give student a pile of jellybeans. Have student sort the jellybeans. Add tally marks in the boxes of the corresponding jellybean colors. You may need to demonstrate how to make a bundle of tally marks. After the student has counted all of the jellybeans, show her how to use the information to graph the first color. Encourage student to continue with the other five.

Math: Playing Store

If you like, you can set up shop and let your student practice money math (counting back change, adding up dollars and cents, etc.).

From the illustrations, almost everything is marked 10p. If you haven't introduced your younger student to money, it would be the perfect time to introduce the term *dime* to your student and to work with 10s (skip counting).

Use the Half-Way-Up Sweetshop printable provided to write and solve math problems.

Science/Memory: Listmaking (Animals)

With your very young child, you may simply want to play a memory game after you have read the book a few times to see if he can remember all the animals mentioned or pictured in the book (donkey, dog, rooster, chicken, and sheep). You may also want to discuss Jamie's dog. What kind is it? (Sheep Dog) If desired, visit your local library and check out a book about dog breeds.

Science: Senses

Make a chart with your student of the five senses and how they are exhibited in this book. If that is too difficult of a task for your younger student, simply introduce the concept of the five senses and that we use our senses to explore the world around us. Point out the way the Jamie used his senses and try to help your student think of the ways she uses hers.

Sound-- "Mrs. Mulligan's rooster cock-a-doodled" "the clock tick-tocked"

Sight-- "the sky was the color of his mother's pearl brooch" (lots of other examples, too; this one is always the easiest)

Taste-- ginger-ale (Just for fun, try some ginger-ale with your student!)

Touch-- "the stairs were cold on his bare feet" "Jamie sat in the warm spot where she'd slept"

Smell-- the smoke of the chimneys

Science: The Sun

"the sun jumped like a firecracker from behind the mountain"

Here are some facts about the sun that your student may enjoy learning. You may also want to check out some non-fiction books from the library.

The sun is a star (a massive ball of exploding gases). Inside the sun, tiny particles (atoms) join together in a process called nuclear fusion to form helium; the result enables the sun to transmit huge amounts of heat and light-- sunshine! The sun measures about 875,000 miles across enabling it to hold over 1 million planets the same size as earth!

Layers of the sun (starting with the outside working in):

Corona: the outer part

Photosphere: the sun's surface that is made of churning gases

Convective Zone: carries the sun's energy up to the photosphere

Radiative Zone: the heat being produced in the core spreads through this zone

Core: the inner part of the sun; the temperature here is over 27 million F!

Bible: Giving

Mrs. Simms is a very giving person. Can your student remember the different things she gives to Jamie? (a bottle of ginger ale, a bun with a cherry on top, some jelly beans to Nell, and a flag for Jamie to carry in the parade. Can your student remember someone else giving something to Jamie? (Hubble the Hen Man gives him an egg).

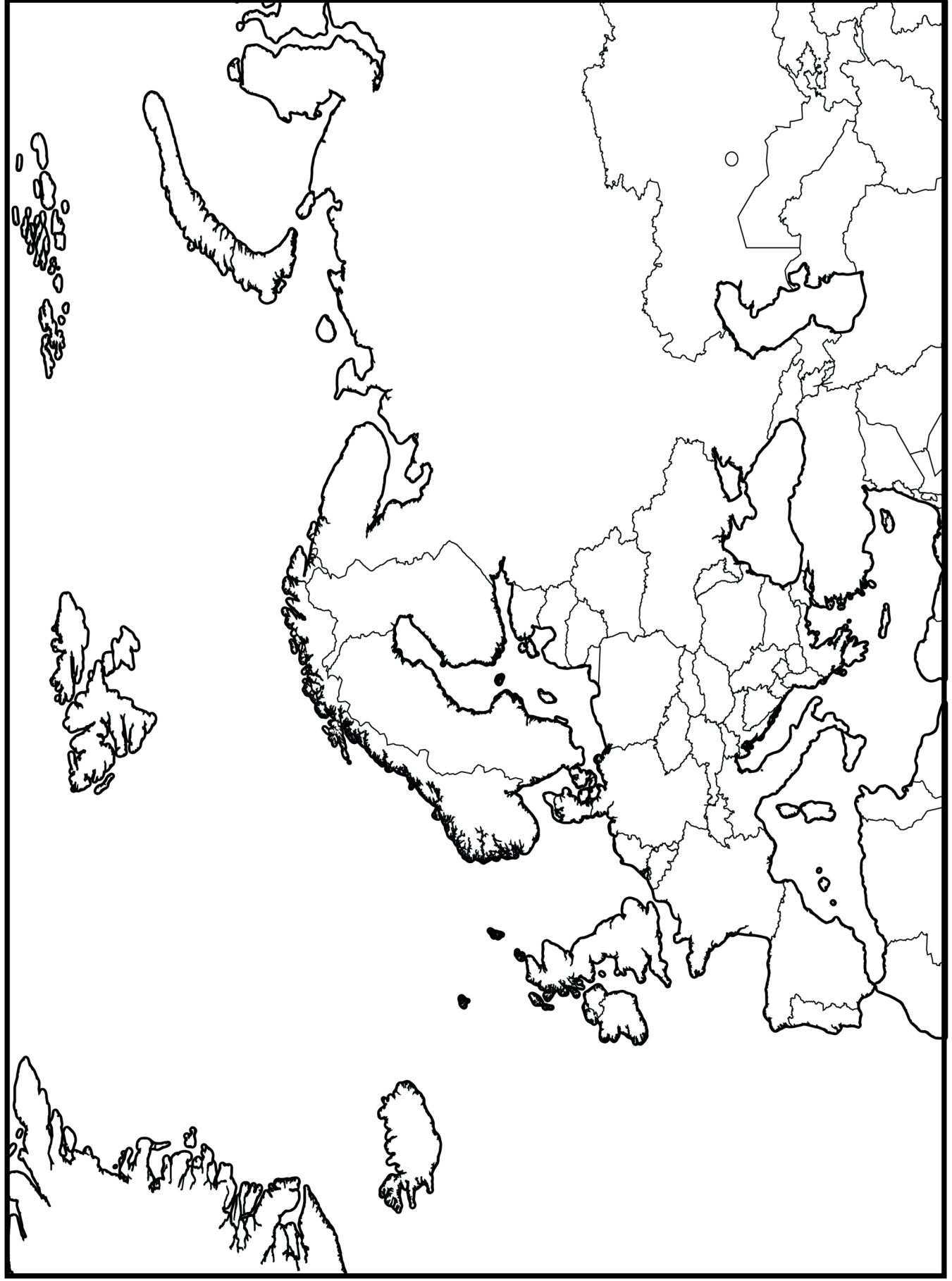
The Bible reminds us in II Corinthians 9:7 that God loves a cheerful giver. This would be a great memory verse for the week. Discuss with your student practical ways in which he can be a cheerful giver.

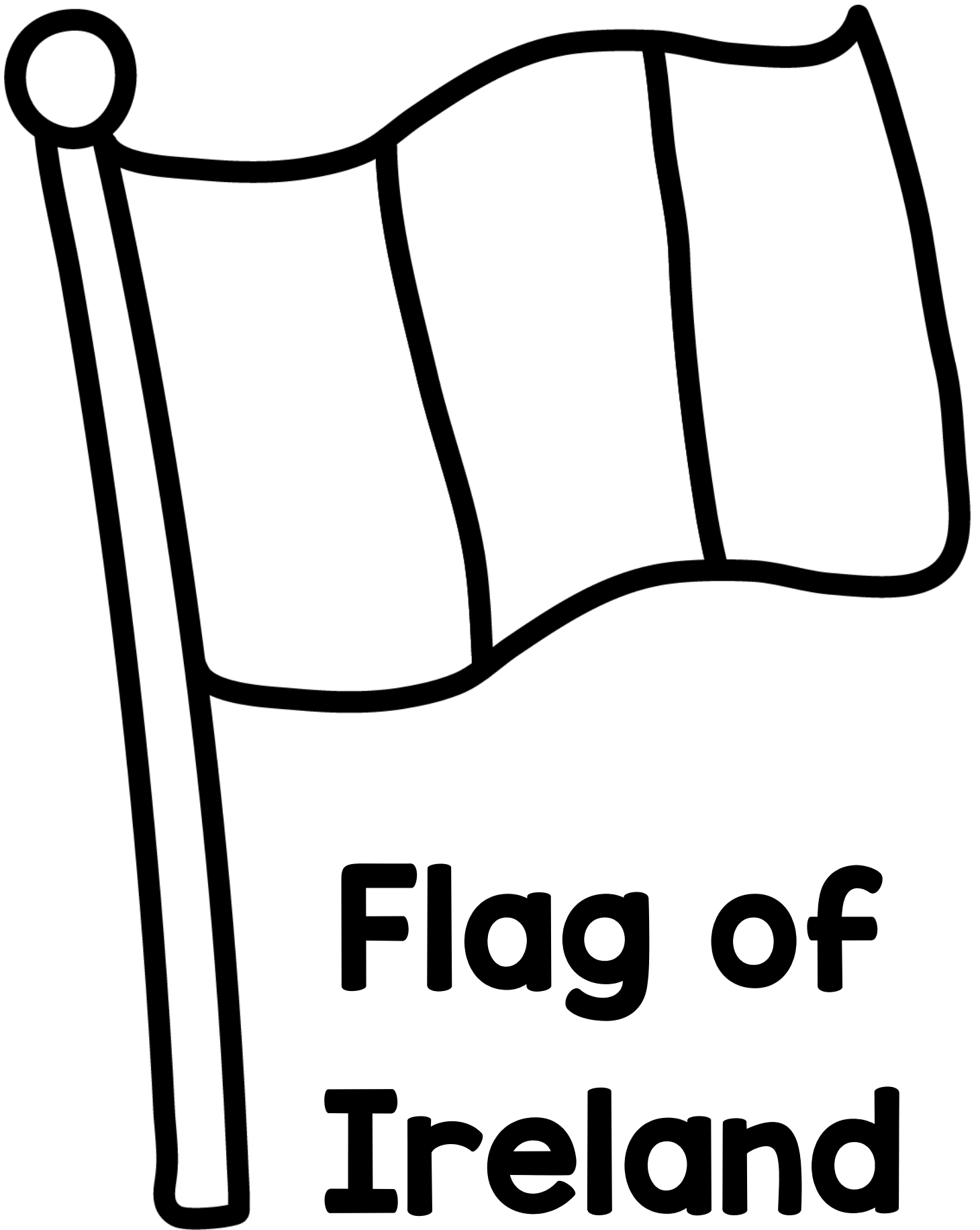
If desired, used the printable provided for copywork practice. You may need to shorten the verse for a young learner.

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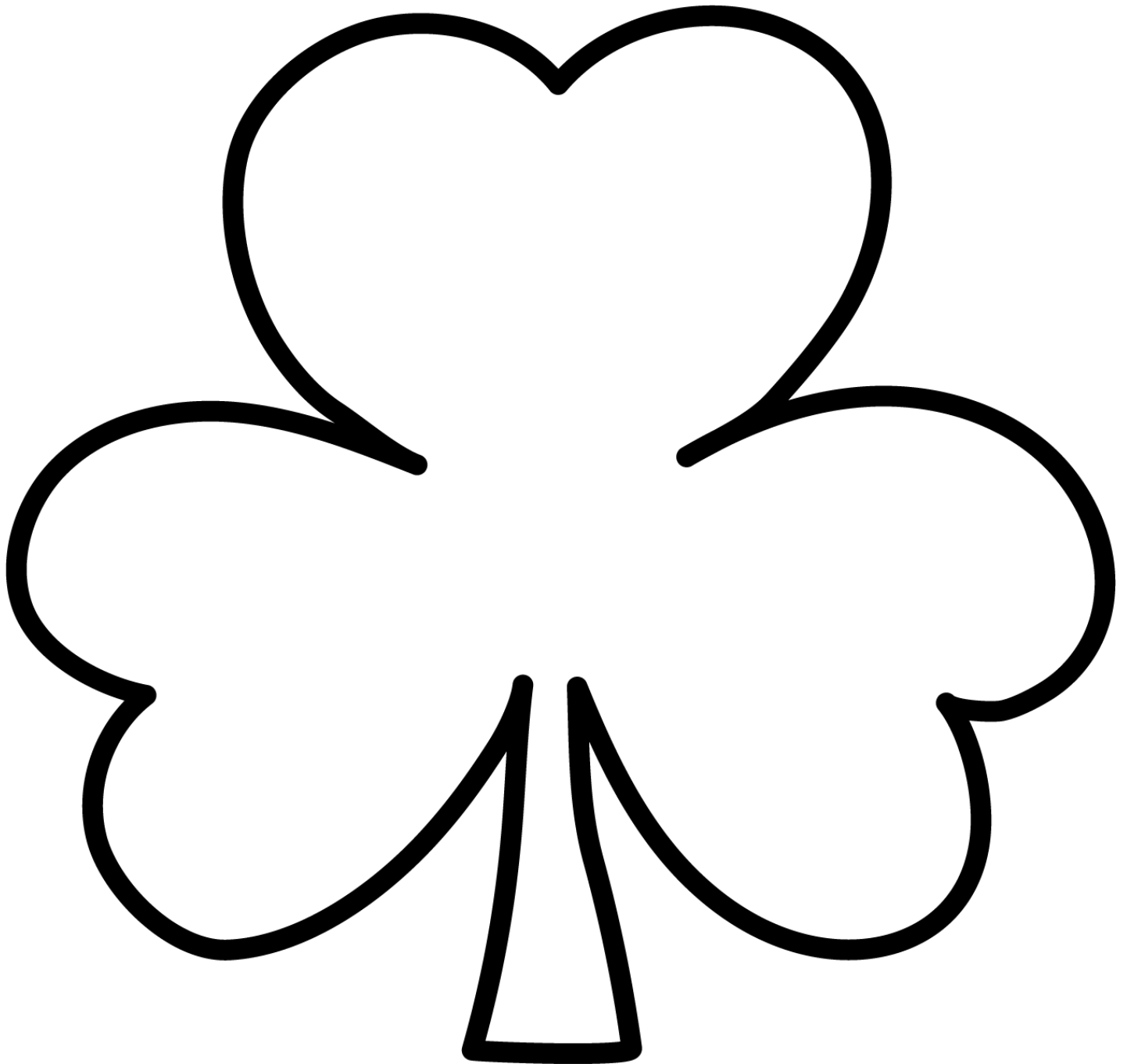
Locate and label Ireland.



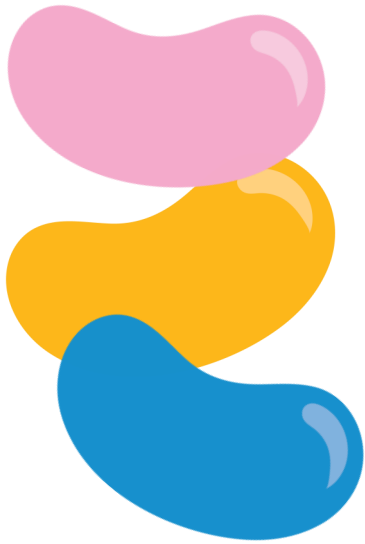


Flag of Ireland

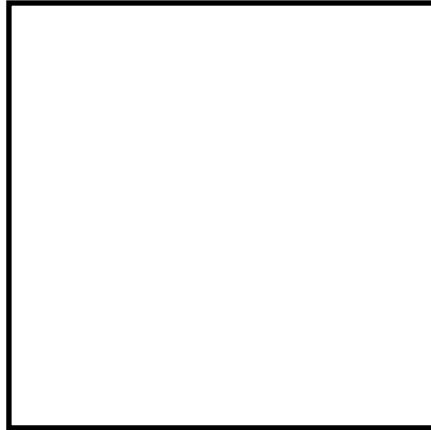
My Saint Patrick's Day SHAMROCK



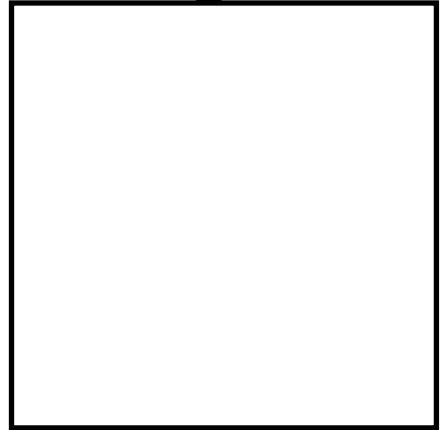
Jelly Bean Colors



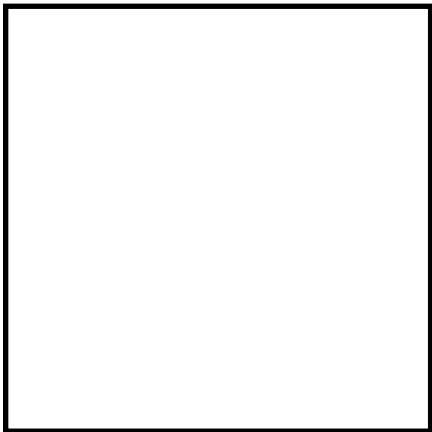
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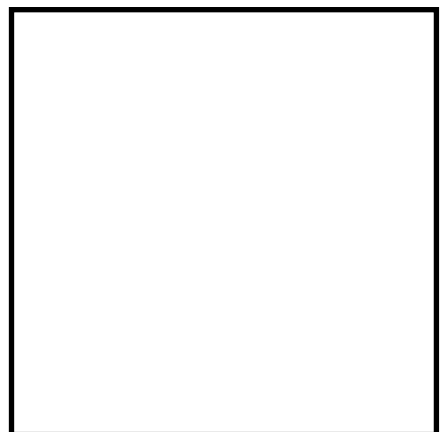
Orange



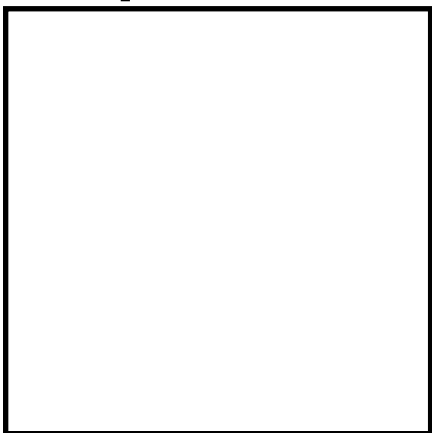
Red



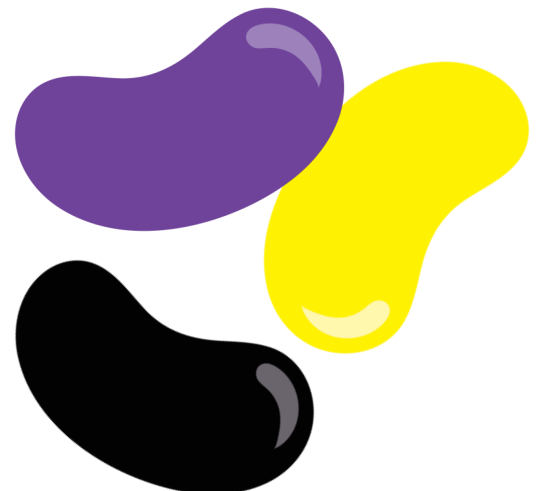
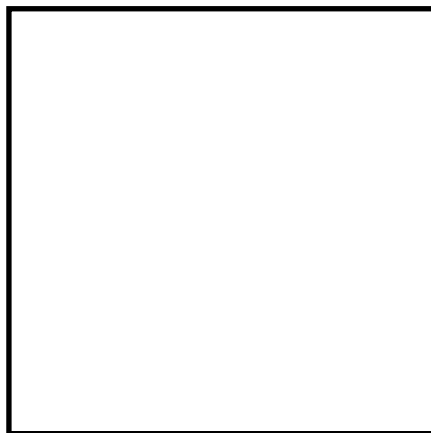
Pink



Purple



Green



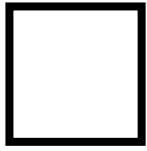


Jellybean Graph

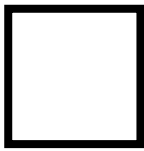
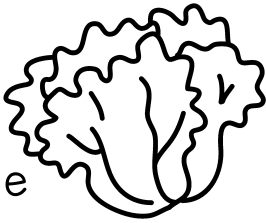


10						
9						
8						
7						
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4						
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2						
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	Yellow	Red	Orange	Pink	Purple	Green

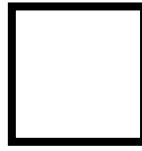
I Spy Green Scavenger Hunt



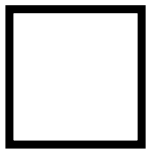
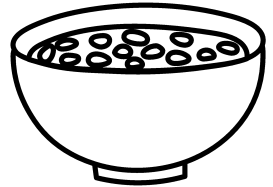
Vegetable



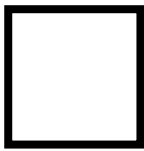
Clothing



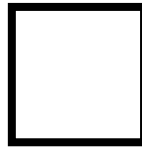
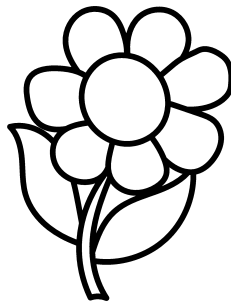
Dish



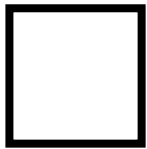
Crayon



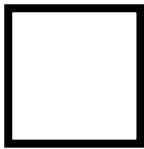
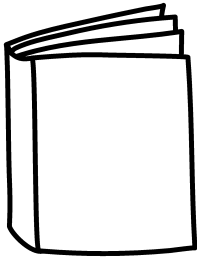
Plant



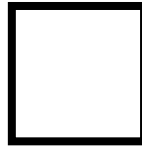
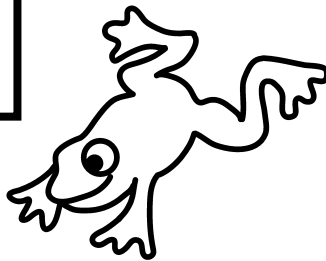
Grass



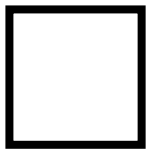
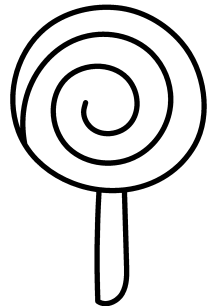
Book



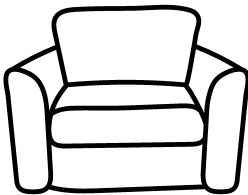
Frog



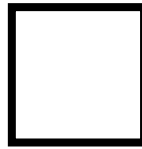
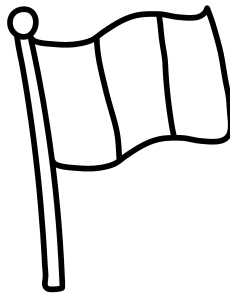
Candy



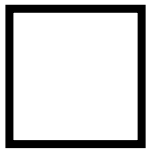
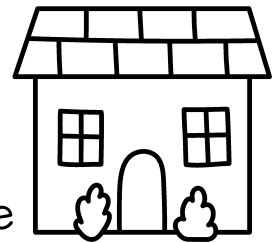
In the
Living Room



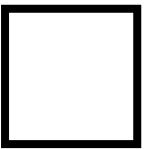
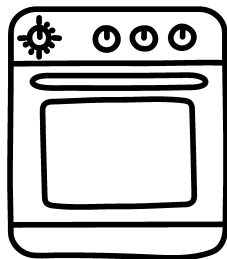
Flag



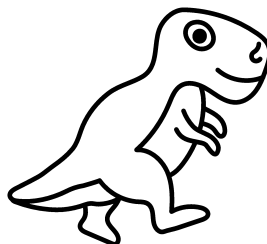
Outside
the House



In the
Kitchen

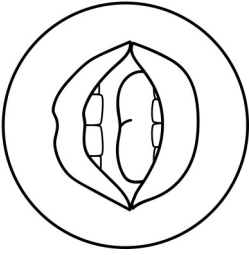
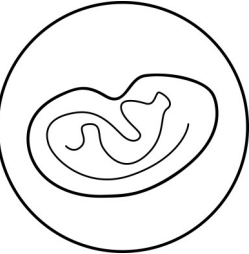
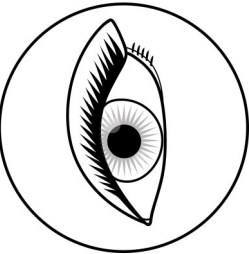
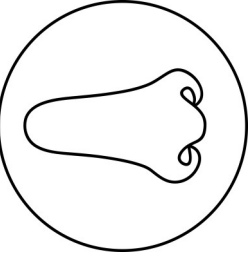



Toy



I found

green things!

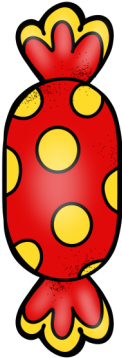
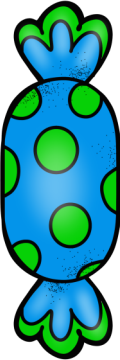
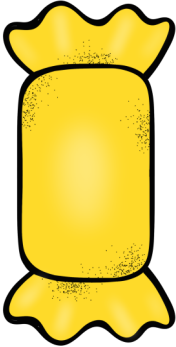
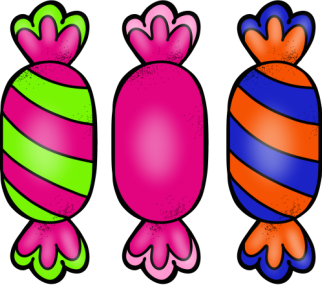
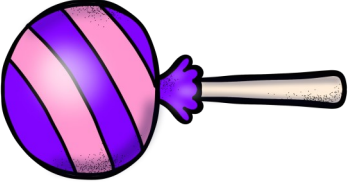
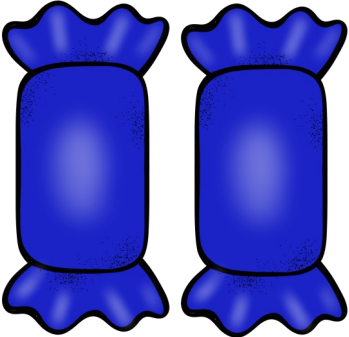
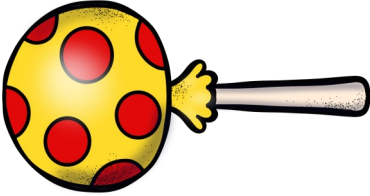
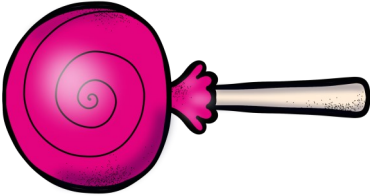
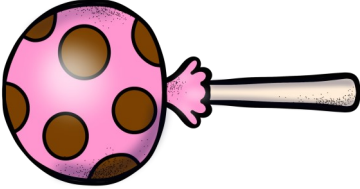
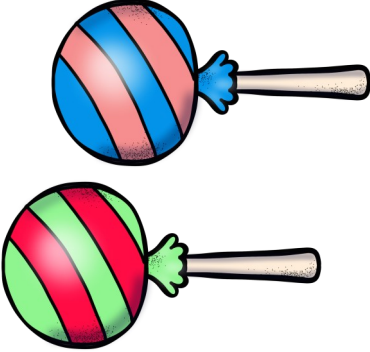
Taste		
Sound		
Sight		
Smell		
Touch		

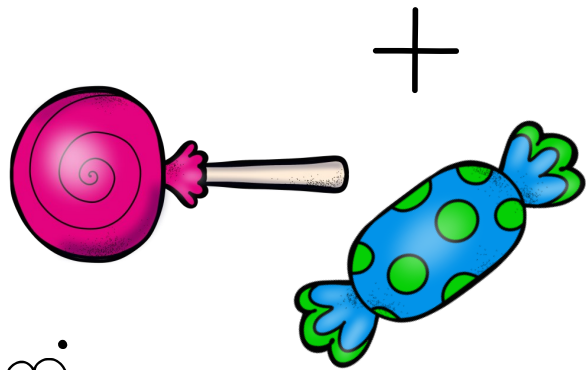
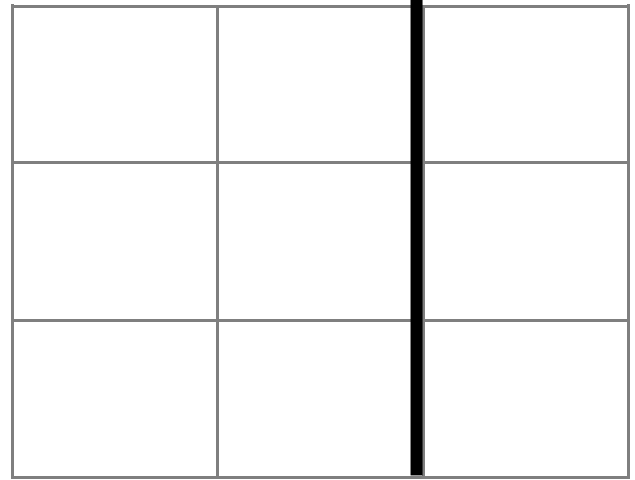
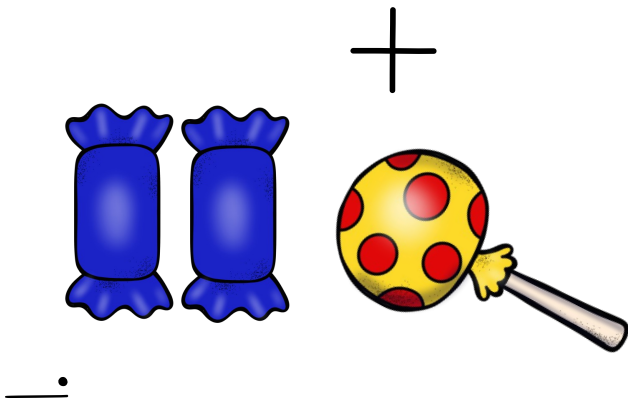
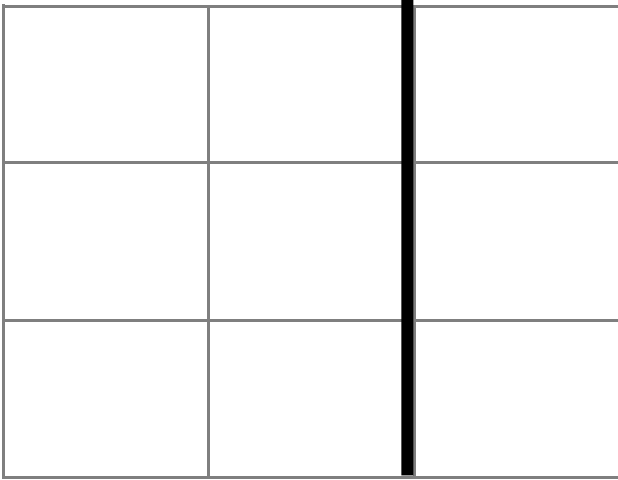
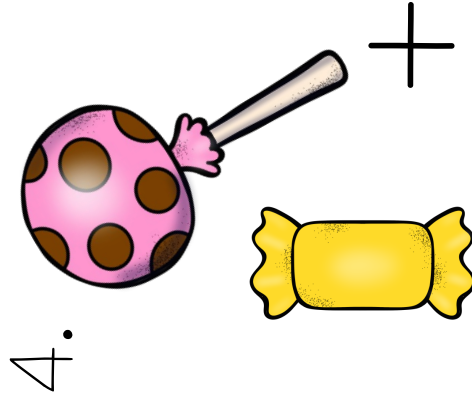
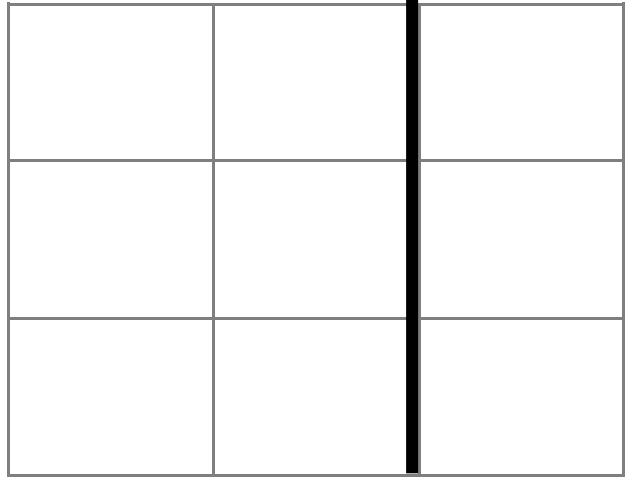
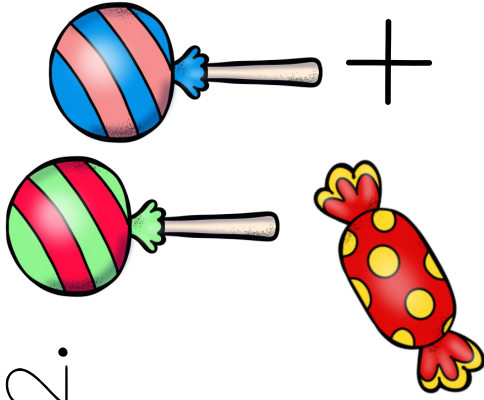
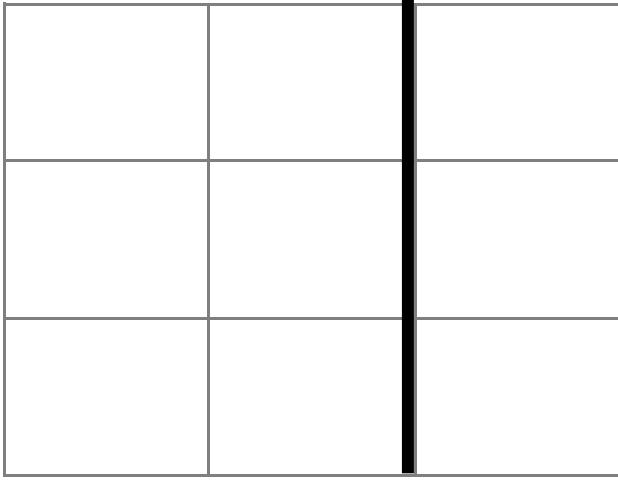
Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. II Corinthians 9:7

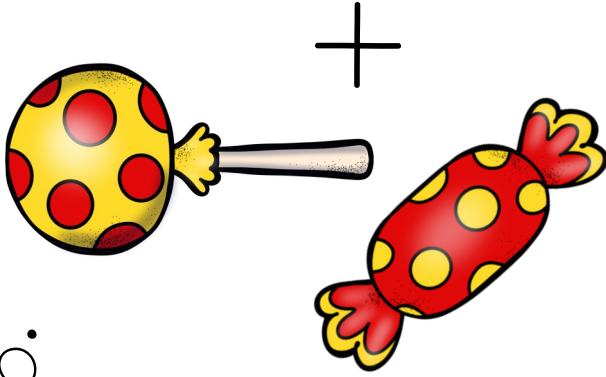
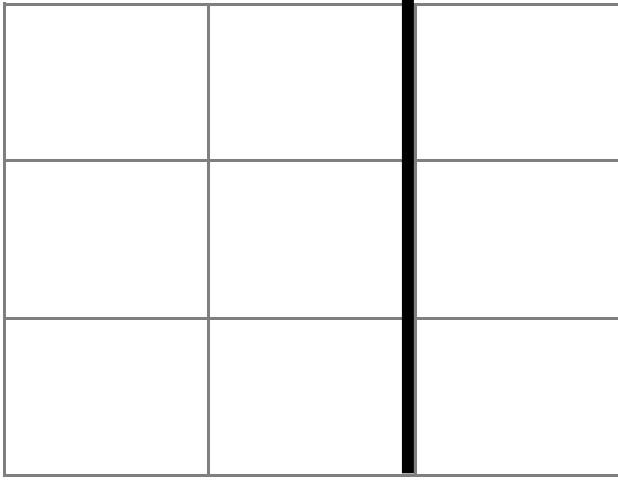


Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line. There are ten sets of these lines for practice.

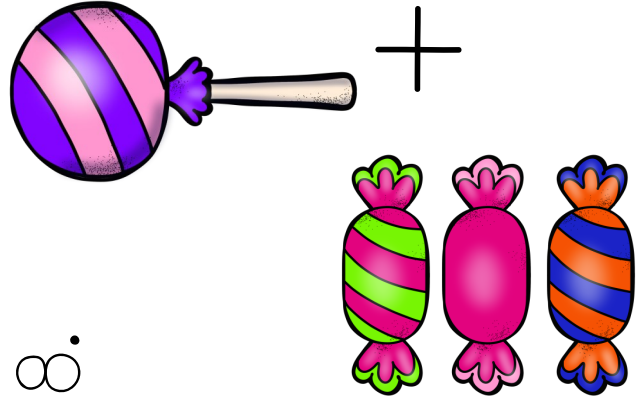
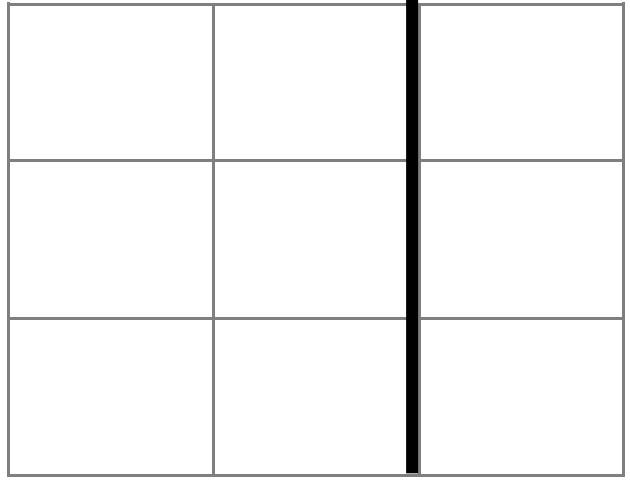
Half-Way-Up Sweetshop

				
Cherry Chew	Berry Chew	Chocolate Roll	Mystery Mix	Grape Lollipop
10¢	15¢	25¢	40¢	45¢
				
Vanilla Creams	Lemon Sucker	Surprise Treat	Choco-Pop	Two Lollies
35¢	45¢	75¢	80¢	30¢

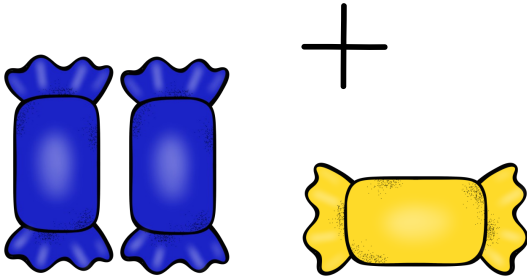
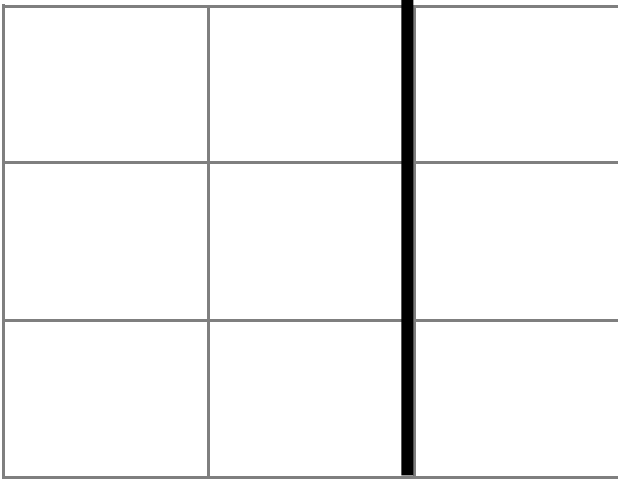




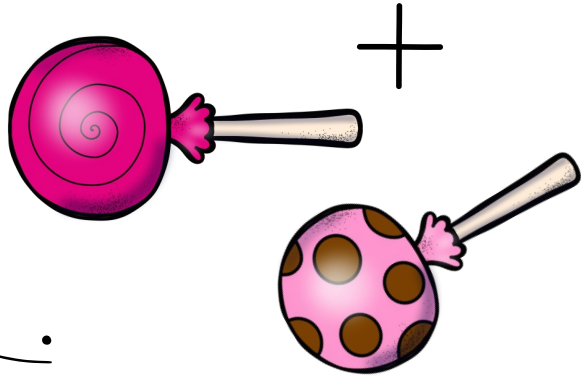
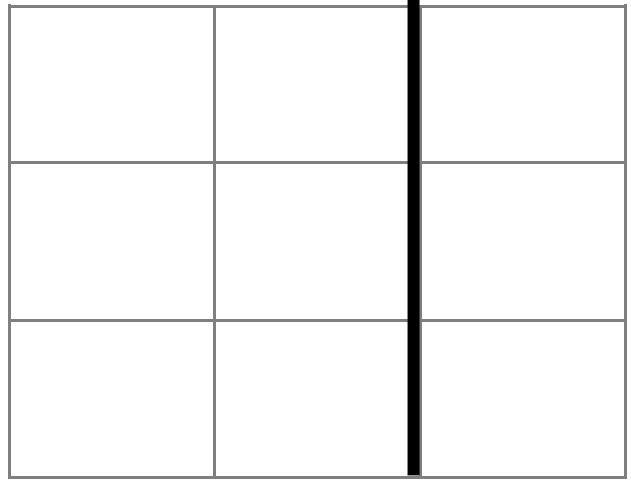
6.



8.



5.



7.



Happy St. Pat's!



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