# Maine Integrated Playgroup Activity Pack

Parents/Guardians, here I have created a small pack which will hopefully provide your children with some entertaining activities and ideas whilst we are closed for this period. We encourage parents to make use of these to continue with your children's learning and to help them engage in some enjoyable past times.

We thank you all for your cooperation at this time and wish you all to keep safe and healthy. Let your children stay relaxed and try to remain positive.

Keep updated on our playgroup facebook page - Maine Integrated Playgroup where we will keep you up to date with all updates and also activities for your children.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

#### Create your own birdhouse.

#### Milk Carton Birdhouse

To make a milk carton birdhouse, you will need a half-gallon milk carton, paint, a stapler, a dowel or pencil (for the perch), scissors, markers and string or wire (to hang the birdhouse).

- Step 1 Clean the milk carton, and allow it to dry thoroughly.
- Step 2 Paint the entire outside and let dry.
- Step 3 Staple the top of the milk carton closed.
- Step 4 Cut a 1 1/2-inch hole on one side of the milk carton. About an inch under the hole, slide the pencil or wood dowel through the milk carton to create the perch. Leave about an inch sticking out under the hole.

Step 5 - Let your child decorate the birdhouse with paint or markers. Attach a piece of string or wire to the milk carton and hang it up.



## **Growing your sunflowers!**

The children in playgroup have recently been planting their own sunflower seeds and learning how to look after them. We have sent their pots home for them to look after throughout this time.

You can encourage your child to water their plant, talk to them about their sunflowers growth, plot their growth, discuss colour and sizes and texture. Here I have listed the lifecycle of a sunflower for you to discuss.



1 - First a shoot grows from a seed in the soil.



2 - Next the shoot grows bigger, a few leaves will appear. The plant grows and a bud will appear.



3 - The sunflower grows one BIG yellow flower.



4 - Finally the plant dies and the seeds fall from the flower into the soil so new flowers can grow.

## Make your own playdough!



#### <u>Ingredients</u> you will need:

1 cup of flour

1/3 cup of salt

1/3 to 1/2 cup of water (warm is best)

2 Tablespoons of vegetable oil

Food colouring (Also a tiny drop of coloured paint will do if food colouring is unavailable)

Mix the flour and salt together.

In a separate bowl mix the rest of the ingredients.

Slowly mix the liquid ingredients into the flour and salt mixture. Knead to create a playdough like consistency.

Add little drops of water if it seems too thick or add extra flour if too sticky!

Have fun!

## Easter Nests!

#### Ingredients:

- 1 normal-size box of Shredded Wheat (16 large biscuits or 500g bitesize biscuits)
- 400g milk chocolate
- 2 100g bags of Mini Eggs
- Bun cases

#### Method

1. Crush the Shredded Wheat biscuits into a bowl using your hands or a food mixer



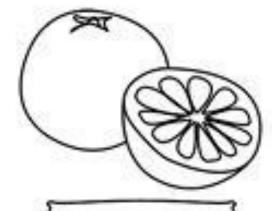
- 2. Break the chocolate into pieces and melt in a microwave on a low heat, stirring every 30 seconds
- 3. Pour the melted chocolate into the bowl and mix with the crushed Shredded Wheat
- 4. When mixed and all the Shredded Wheat is covered with chocolate, spoon the mixture into bun cases and press down in the middle of each to create a place for the eggs
- 5. Press two or three Mini Eggs into each nest
- **6**. Leave to set for at least 2 hours

## LEARNING COLORS

Color each picture below with the specified color.



Red



Orange



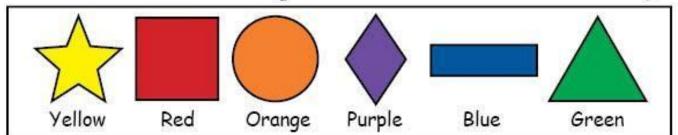
Green

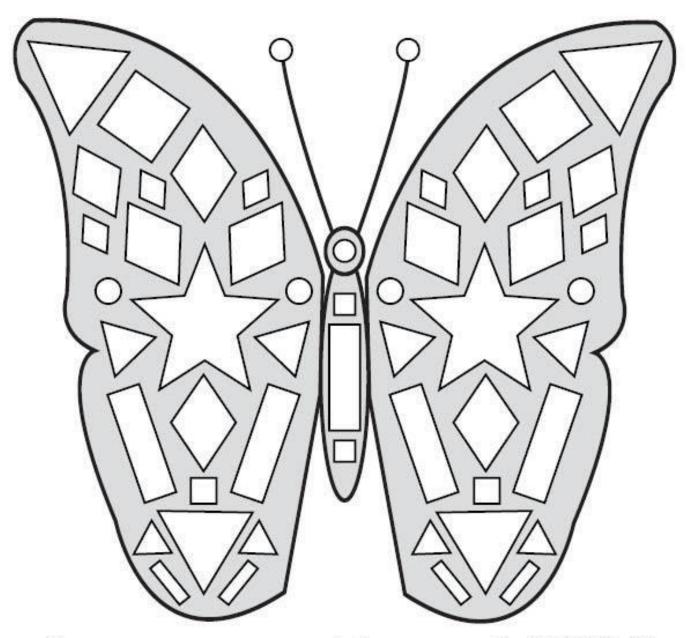


Yellow

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#### Color the shapes in the butterfly.





BASED ON THE ORIGINAL 1970s MR.MEN COOK BOOK

MR.SMALĽS FAIRY CAKEŞ

#### WHAT YOU NEED

FOR THE CAKES:

100g (4oz) self-raising flour

1 level tsp baking powder

100g (4oz) butter

100g (4oz) caster sugar

2 eggs

Make sure you get an adult to help

FOR THE ICING 50g (2oz) soft butter 100g (4oz) icing sugar Vanilla essence

- 1) Sieve the flour and baking powder into a large bowl and add the caster sugar and margarine
- 2) Break the eggs into a small bowl, whisk and then add to the other ingredients
- 3) Stir everything together with a wooden spoon for about three minutes, until well mixed and smooth
- 4) Set paper cases on to a baking tray and put one small tablespoon of the mixture in each, so they're half full
- 5) Bake for 20 minutes on Gas Mark 4 (180°c) until cakes are well risen. Leave to cool
- 6) For the icing: Soften the butter in a small bowl using a wooden spoon. Gradually stir in sieved icing sugar and add a few drops of vanilla essence
- 7) Cut a small hollow in the top of the cooled cakes and fill with icing
- 8) Slice the scoop of cake in two and place, edge up on top of the cake like wings

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**MR.MEN 002** 

### Have a sing song!

#### Little Miss Muffet

Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet, Eating her curds and whey. Along came a spider, Who sat down beside her, And frightened Miss Muffet away

#### Itsy, Bitsy Spider

The itsy, bitsy spider,

Climbed up the water spout. (place each thumb on opposite pinky finger and walk hands up and down)

Down came the rain, (wriggle fingers as hands move down to represent rain)

And washed the spider out.

Out came the sunshine, (raise hands, fingers spread like the sun) And dried up all the rain.

And the itsy, bitsy spider,

Climbed up the spout again. (place each thumb on opposite pinky finger and walk hands up and down)

#### Planting Flowers

(Sung to: Fere Jacques)

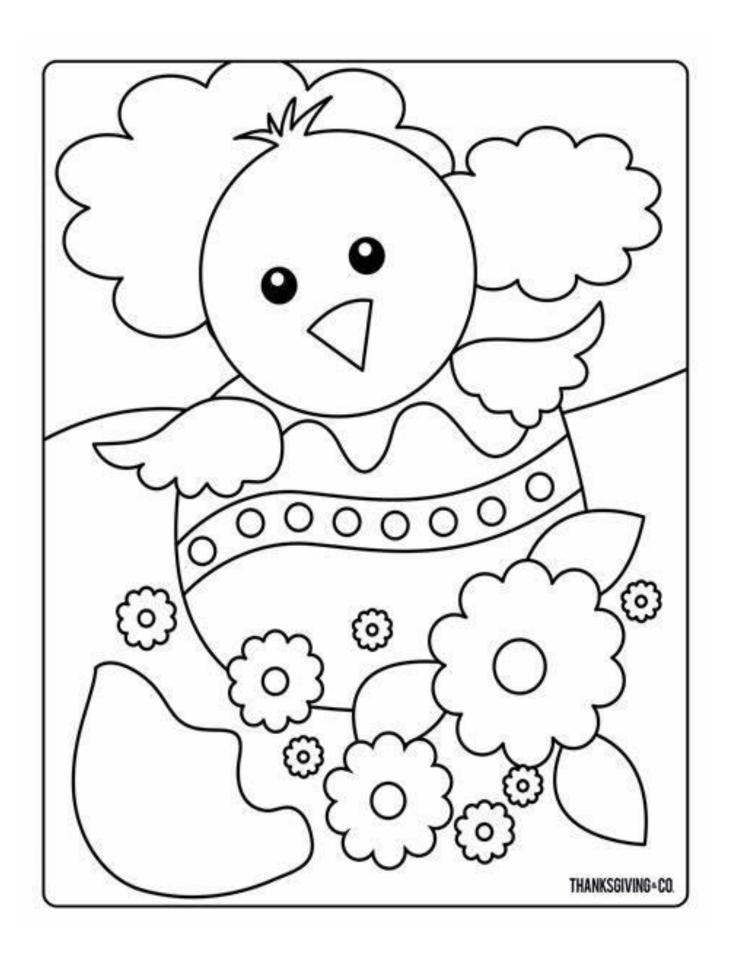
Planting flowers, planting flowers, (pretend to plant flowers into the ground)

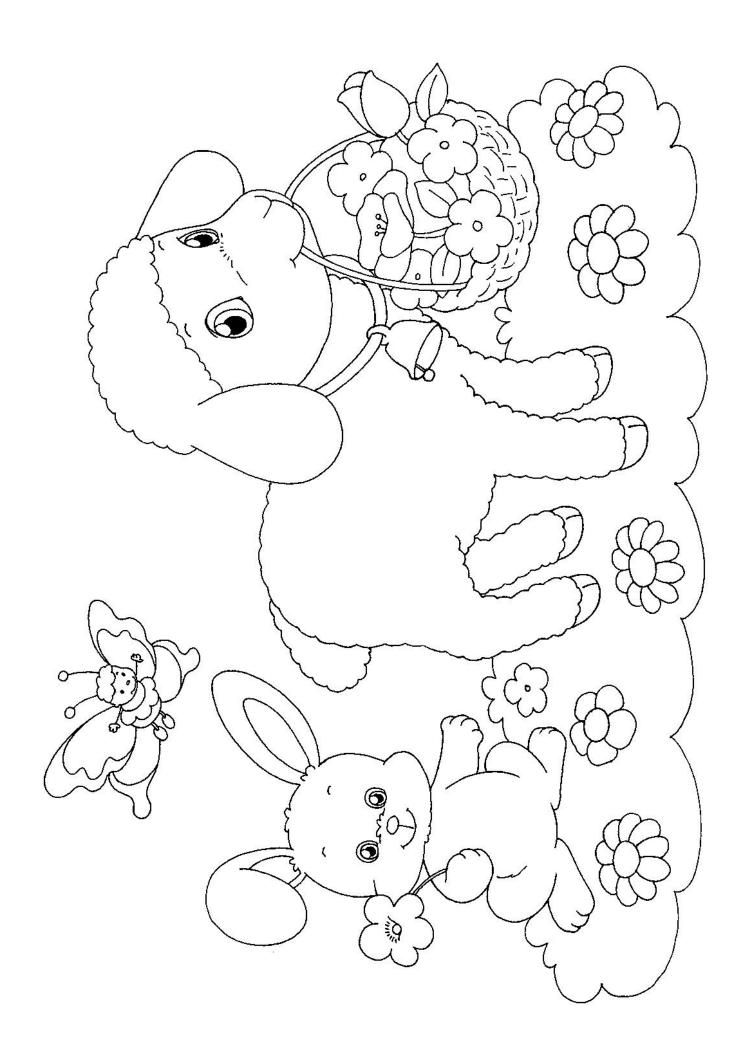
In the ground, in the ground,

Water them and they will grow, (pretend to water plants with a watering can)

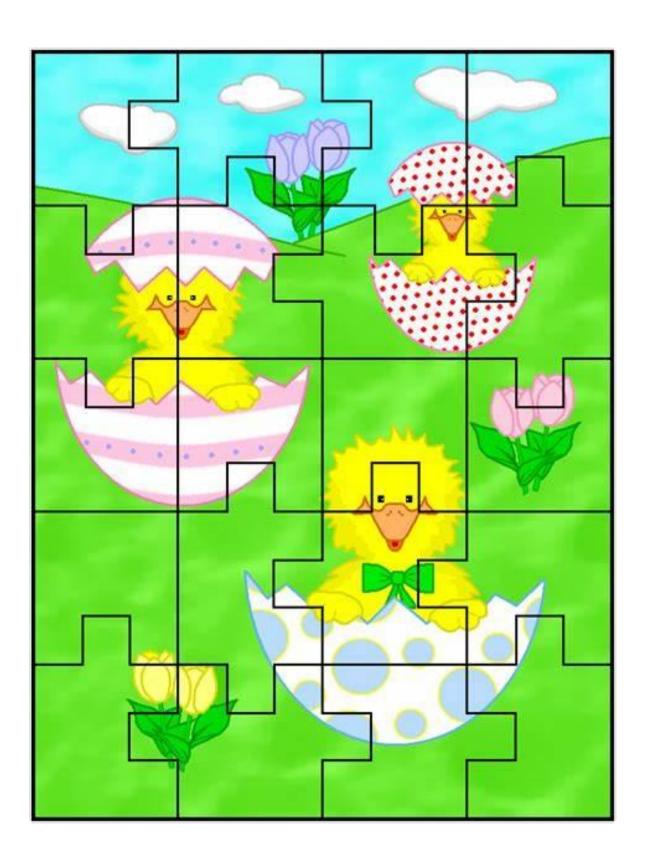
Water them and they will grow,

All around, all around.



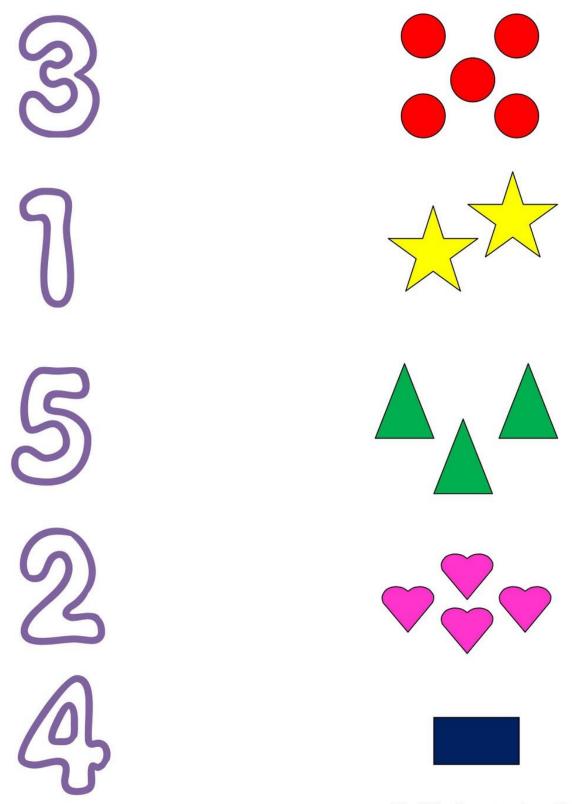


Create a jigsaw by sticking this page to some cardboard/card, an old cereal box would work great, and cut out!



## Count The Shapes

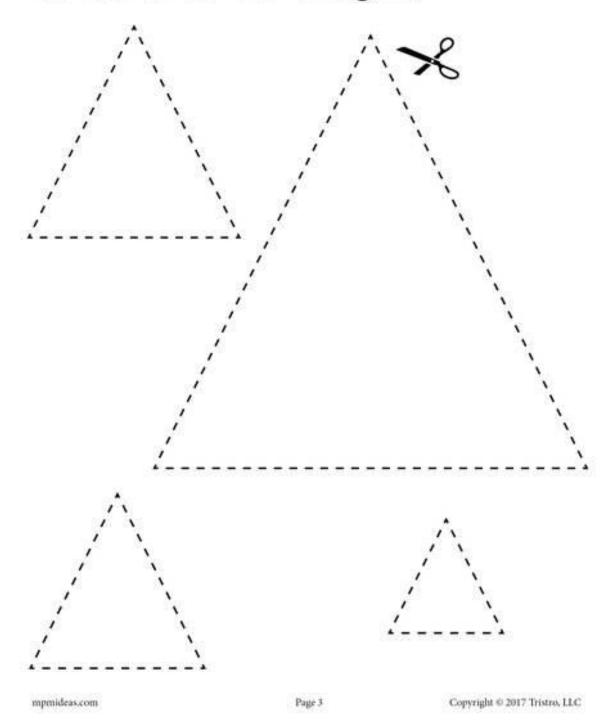
Count the shapes on the right. Draw a line to the matching number on the left.



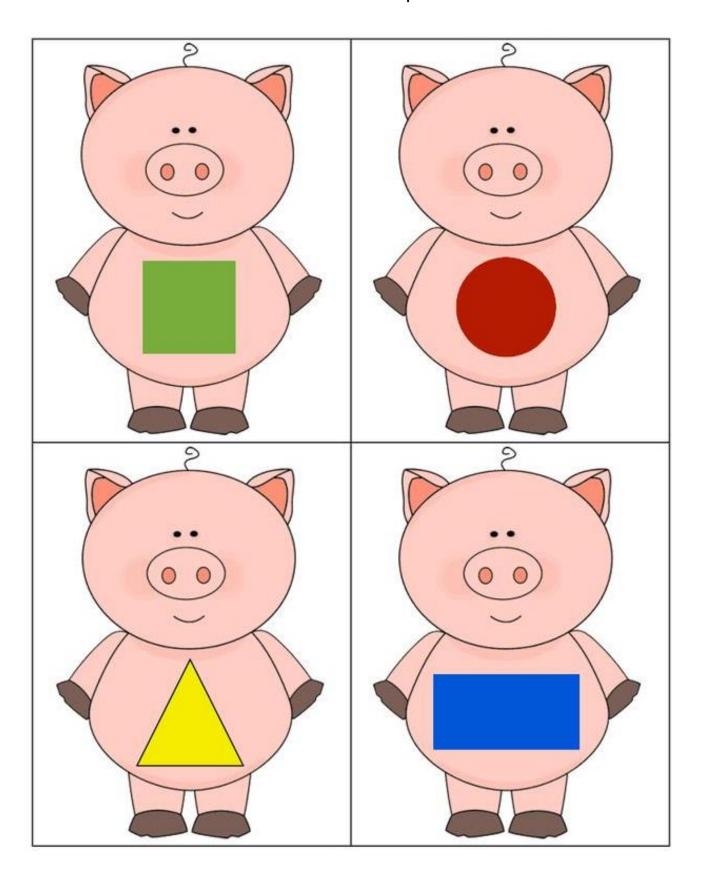
http://littepileseverywhere.blogspot.com/

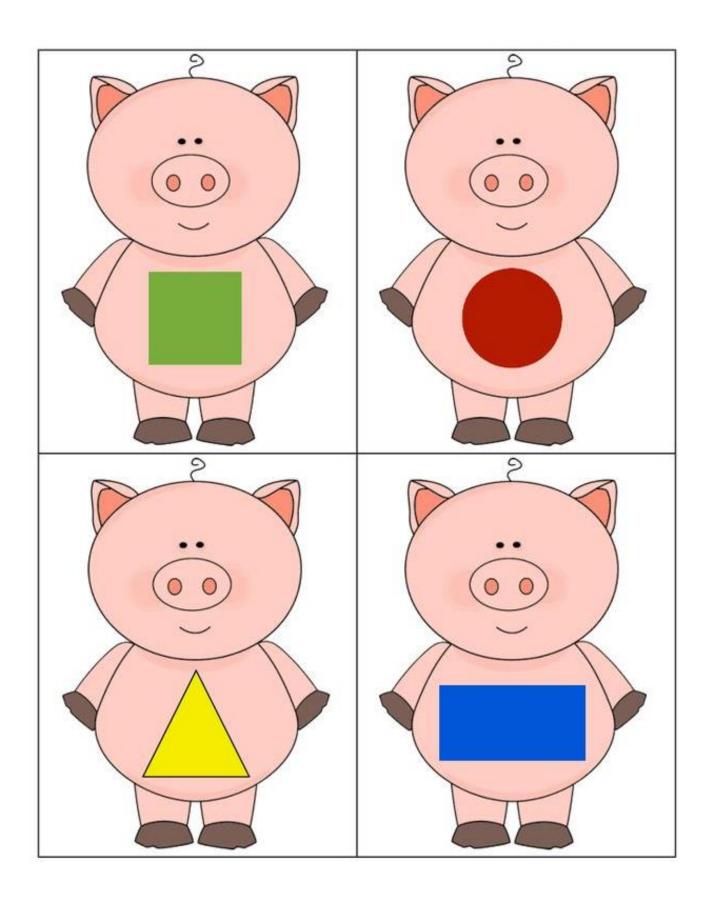
## Help your child with their cutting skills.

Cut out all of the triangles.



Pig shape matching activity. Cut all the pigs out on the next two pages and let your child match the shapes. Encourage your child to talk about the colours and what the shapes name is!





## Here is a list of little activities you can do at home to keep your little ones entertained!

- 1 Use a cardboard box, the possibilities are endless, give your child some colours/paints/glue/sequins etc and let them build a den, a spaceship, a house for a pet etc.
- 2 Have a teddy bears picnic.
- 3 If you have chalk at home create an outdoors hopscotch, or let your child roam free and decorate the driveway!
- 4 Nursery Rhymes and sing alongs.
- 5 Construction activities such as lego, mega bloks, duplo etc.
- 6 Let your child help with cooking/cleaning.
- 7 Hide and Seek.
- 8 Gardening/Planting seeds. The children have been sent home their sunflower seeds to look after over this break!
- 9 Story time.
- 10 Family games.
- 11 Build an obstacle course.
- 12 Make some hand/sock puppets. Have a puppet show!
- 13 Paint rocks for the garden.
- 14 Bug/Bird watching.
- 15 Build a fort.
- 16 Look for some science experiments online.
- 17 Go for a walk or a bike ride.

I will continue to post more activities as I find them on our Facebook Page!