

The Lion and the Mouse

A lion lay asleep in a cave, his great head resting on his paws. A shy, quiet little mouse came into the cave and ran across the floor. Because the cave was dark, the mouse did not see the lion. Frightened, the mouse ran. But in his haste to get away, he ran across the lion's nose. The lion woke up. The lion laid his huge paw angrily on the tiny creature. "You will make a good meal," roared the lion.

"Are you going to hurt me?" asked the poor mouse. "Please let me go and some day I will repay you."

The lion was so amused at the idea of the little mouse being able to help the King of Beasts that he lifted up his paw and let her go. The mouse ran away to safety and the lion went back to sleep.

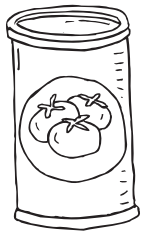
Some weeks later the lion was roaming the forest. Suddenly, the lion found himself caught in a net. He struggled to get free. But the more he wriggled around, the tighter the net twisted around him.

Just then the little mouse happened to pass by, and seeing the lion's sad plight, he knew he could help him. The mouse went up to him and soon gnawed away the ropes of the net, freeing the lion.

"I have helped you like you have helped me and now I have returned the favor," said the little mouse. "Wasn't I right—even a mouse can help a lion!"

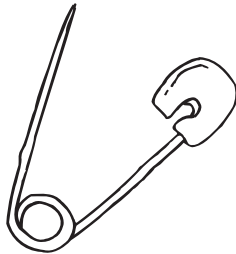
Name _____

Circle the word that names each picture. Then write the word on the line.

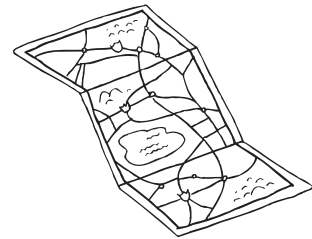


can
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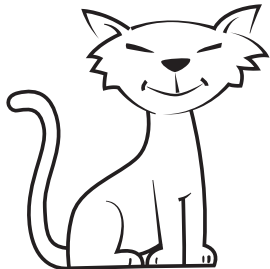
can



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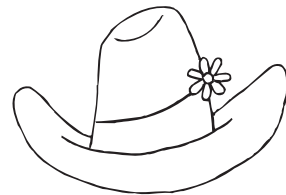
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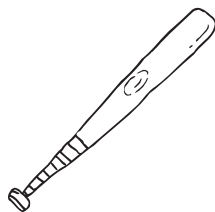
fan
man
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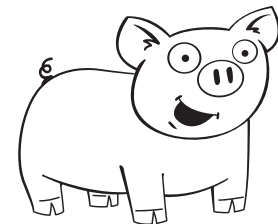
ham
hat
rat



six
kiss
sock



bad
sat
bat



pit
pig
pad

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Name _____

Read each sentence. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the box. Then read the story to a partner.

are

the

to

you

The Lion and the Mouse, Part 1

One day, a lion was asleep in his cave. A little mouse came into _____ cave and woke him up.

“_____ you going to hurt me?” asked the mouse.

“I can help you some day.”

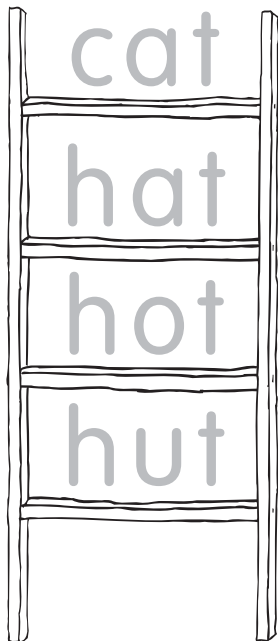
“_____ are just a little mouse,” said the lion and he let her go.

The lion went back _____ sleep.

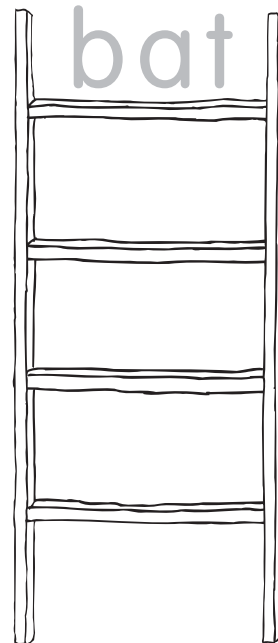
Name _____

Finish each word ladder. Change only one letter at a time.

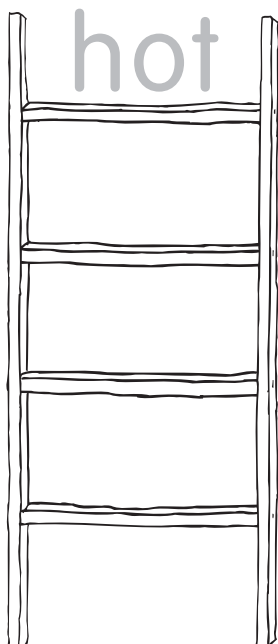
1. Go from **cat** to **hut**.



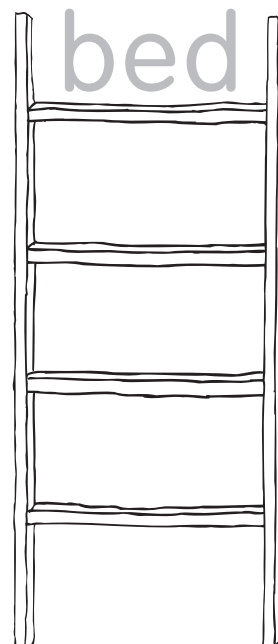
2. Go from **bat** to **cup**.



3. Go from **hot** to **but**.



4. Go from **bed** to **sat**.



Name _____

Read each sentence. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the box. Then read the story to a partner.

like

said

and

of

The Lion and the Mouse, Part 2

Weeks later, the lion got caught in a net. He could not get free. The little mouse came by _____ saw what was happening.

“I can help you _____ you helped me,”
_____ the mouse.

The mouse gnawed away at the ropes _____ the net.

The lion was free.

Meet the Artists

Next week, our school will take part in a special event called Celebrate the Arts. When you hear “the arts,” what do you think of? You may think of art class or music. The arts include art and music as well as dancing, acting, singing, and writing. During Celebrate the Arts week, you will have a chance to learn about different arts. You will also meet local artists. You may be surprised to learn that some of the artists are your classmates!

Lai May Kwan is an artist who will be featured during Celebrate the Arts Week. Lai May, a second grader, is a talented piano player. Lai May practices playing the piano ten hours each week. That helps explain why she is so good!

Lai May started playing the piano when she was only four years old. Lai May gave her first solo performance last year at our community’s annual summer festival. She played popular songs, classical songs, and jazz songs, and they were all a hit. Her playing was so popular, she has already been asked to perform at next year’s festival.

“After school,” Lai May’s mother says, “Lai May can hardly wait to sit at the piano and play. After about an hour, I encourage her to go outside and play. She goes out and plays, but soon she is back sitting at the piano. The piano is her passion. Anyone who hears her play knows that.”

Marcos Estrella is another second grade artist. Unlike Lai May, Marcos is an actor. His aunt recalls how Marcos would pretend to be characters in stories he heard. “When he was younger, we would read him a story,” Aunt Linda said. “After hearing the story once, he would take on the personality of one of the characters. He would pretend to be a wolf or an explorer all day. We knew that he would be a talented actor.”

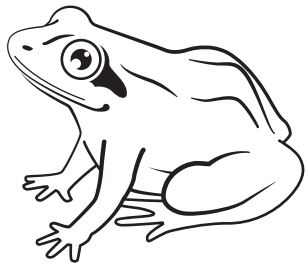
Today, Marcos performs with the community theater. He auditioned for his first part when he was six-years-old. He played a supporting role in that play. For the second play, the theater director chose a performance that would star the young Marcos. The play earned many awards, including Best Actor for Marcos.

Lai May and Marcos’s talents represent two different art forms. What art form interests you? If you are not sure, plan to attend the events offered during Celebrate the Arts week. Come meet Lai May, Marcos, and other artists.

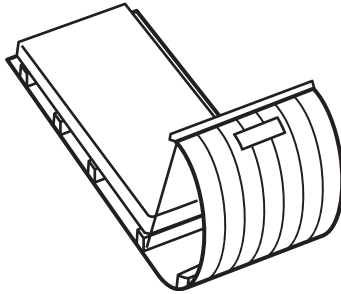
“We’re just like any other children,” Marcos said. “We found what makes us special.”

Name _____

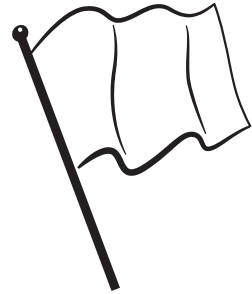
Say the name of each picture. Write the missing beginning sounds to finish the picture name.



___og



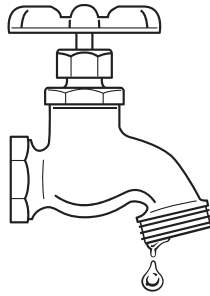
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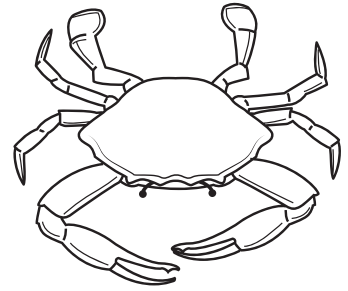
___ag



___ap



___ip



___ab



___ib



___in



___im

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Name _____

Read each sentence. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the box. Then read the story to a partner.

on

play

some

where

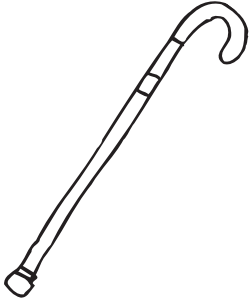
Meet the Artists, Part 1

_____ will you be next week? Make plans to be at school. It will be a special week. It will be Celebrate the Arts week. Students will be able to meet _____ real artists.

One of the artists is Lai May Kwan. She is in second grade. She likes to _____ the piano. She plays piano ten hours each week. Lai May was _____ the stage last summer.

Name _____

Circle the word that names each picture. Then write the word on the line.

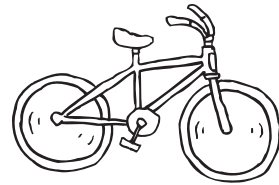


cane
can
cake

cane



plan
plane
plate



bake
like
bike



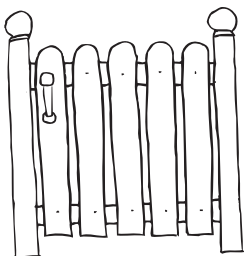
slid
slide
side



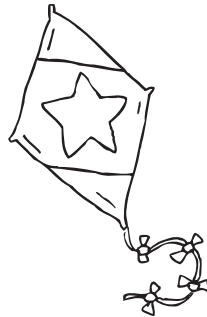
game
cave
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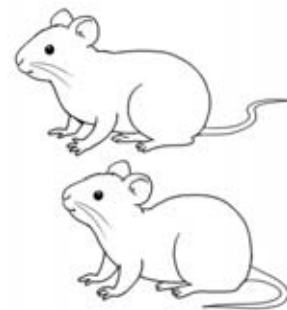
save
vase
same



gate
gave
take



kit
kick
kite



mine
nice
mice

Name _____

Read each sentence. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the box. Then read the story to a partner.

do

has

they

this

Meet the Artists, Part 2

Marcos Estrella is another artist. He will be at _____
year's Celebrate the Arts week. Since he was young, Marcos
_____ been an actor.

Marcos acts with a theater group. He works with many
actors. _____ have won many awards. Marcos is
a great actor. There is no role he cannot _____.

Come meet him next week.

Name _____

Use the letter tiles to make words.

r h o p e

s c u t e

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. _____

t s l o e n

o h l wh e m

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

3. _____

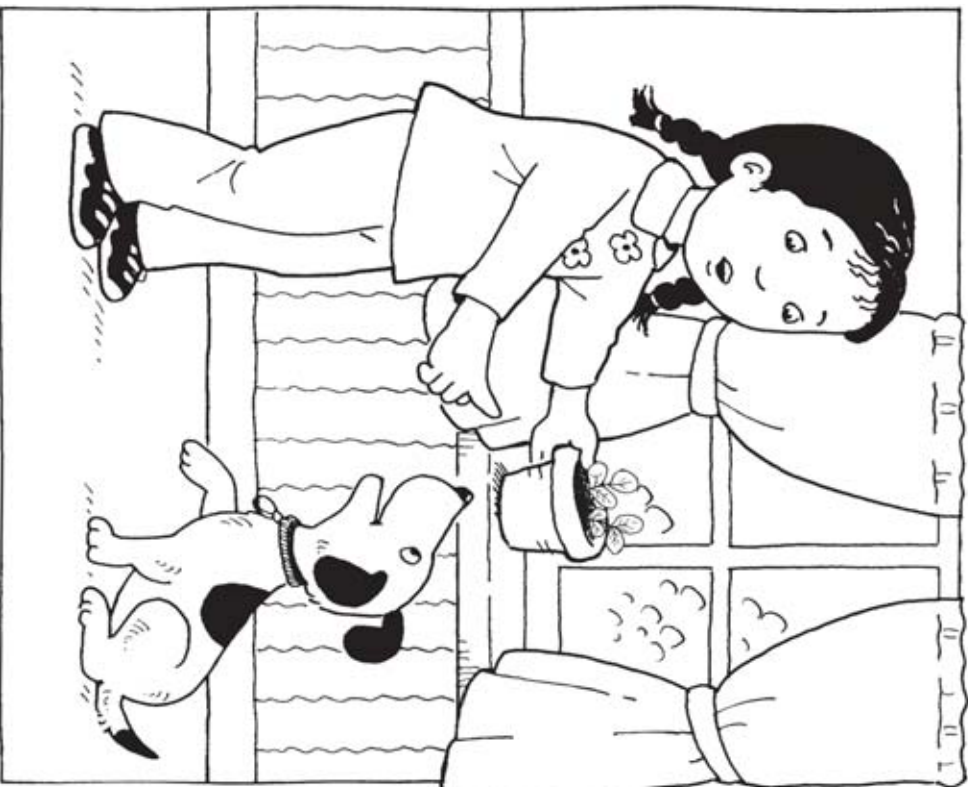
3. _____

I Can Plant



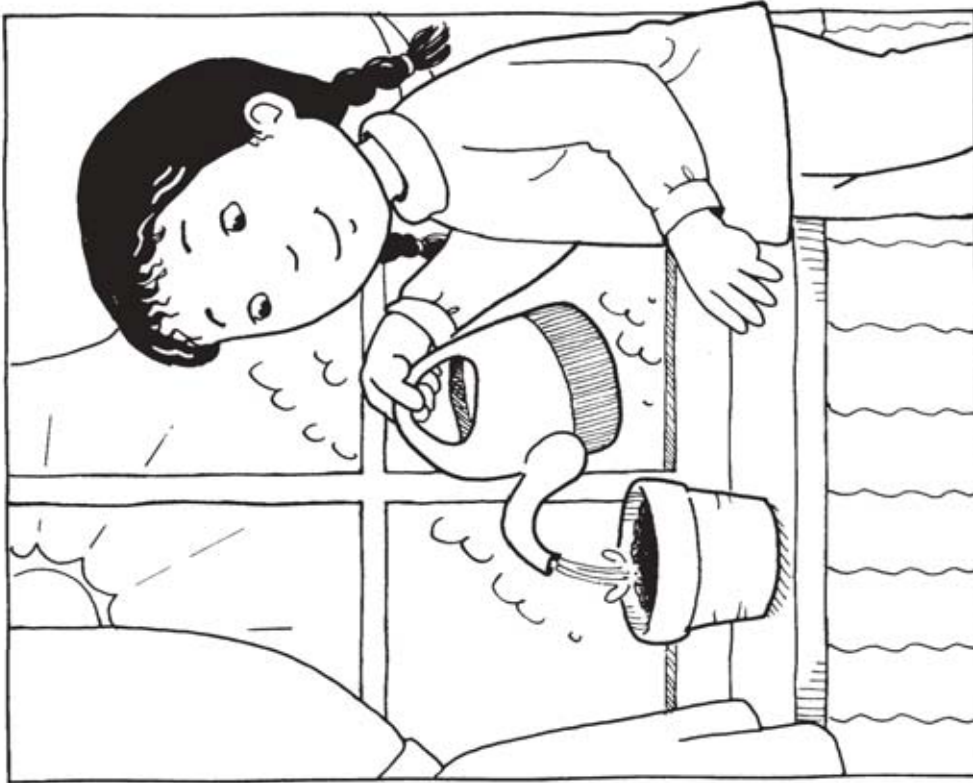
My mom gave me some seeds.
They will go in a pot.

1



I tell my dog not to play.
So the plant can grow.
Grow, plant, grow!

4



I can help the plant grow.
The sun will help it too.

2



Look at my plant!
It was little.
Soon it will be big.

3