Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! Printable Project Book

Here are the 52 projects that go with each of the 52 stories of the *Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays!* Story Series!

These projects can be enjoyed alone, or with the stories found on sparklestories.com.

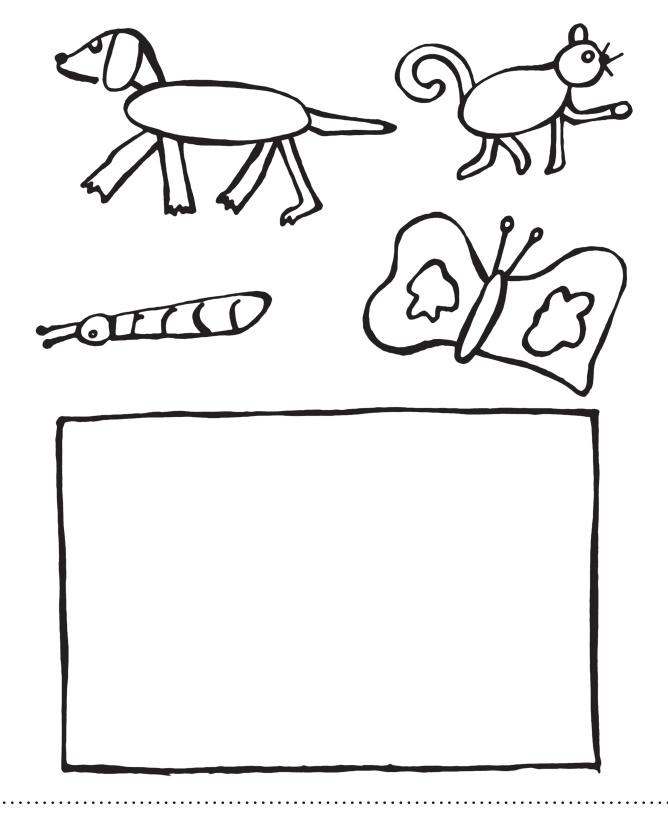
Enjoy!

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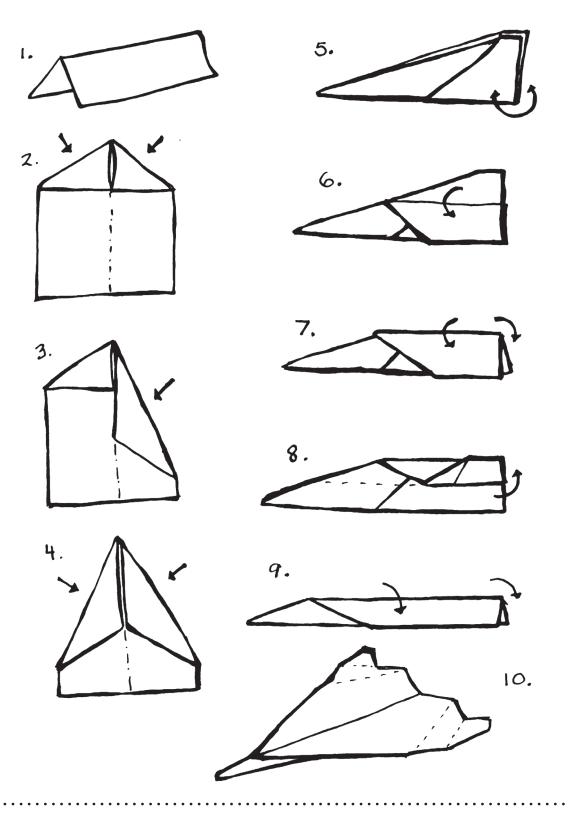


Winter



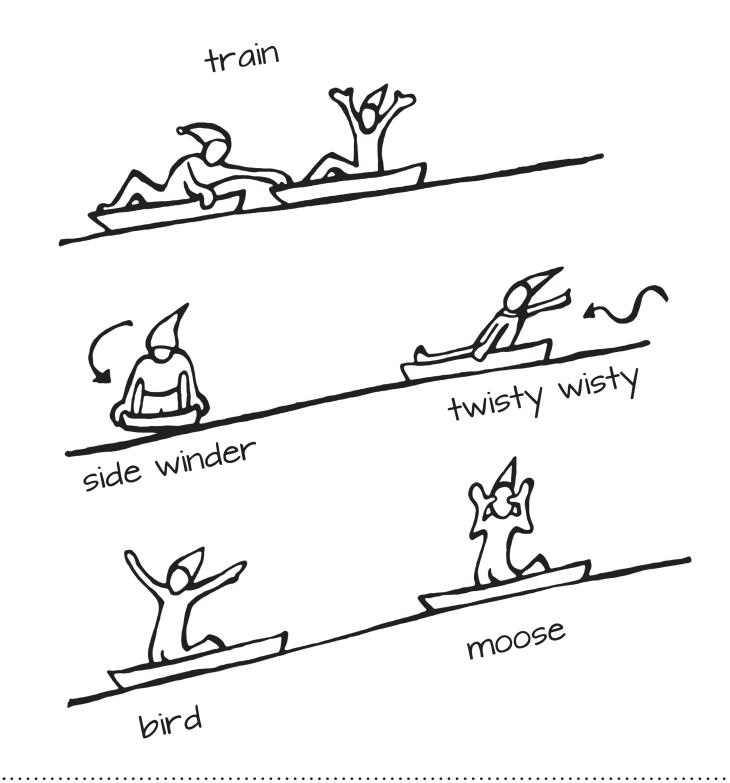


Martin and Sylvia realize they don't have any portraits of their dear pets Pickles and Billbill. So in the *Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays!* story, "**Pet Portraits**", they create their own! Here are some of Sylvia's drawings of her pets, plus a few beloved insects. And here is a space for you to draw a portrait of your pets or beloved animals or insects!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "Sending a Message," Martin wants to get a message through a snow storm to his grandparents. He decides that a special far-flying paper airplane might be a good way to send it. Use the paper airplane instructions above, and you will end up with a paper airplane with ridged wings that can fly as far as Martin's!



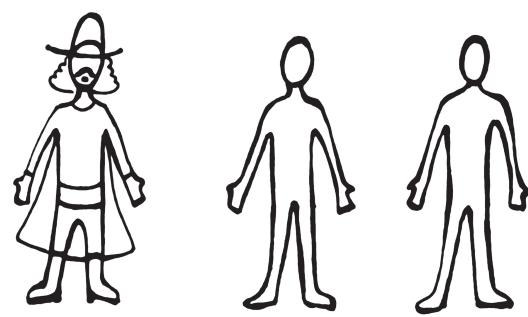


In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "Free Sledding," the children find the most fun way to sled is to make up your own unique ways of going down the hill.

Here are some of some of their favorites - what are yours? And you don't need snow to find fun and free ways to get down a hill - there's rolling, skipping, somersaulting to name a few. How do you like to go down a hill?



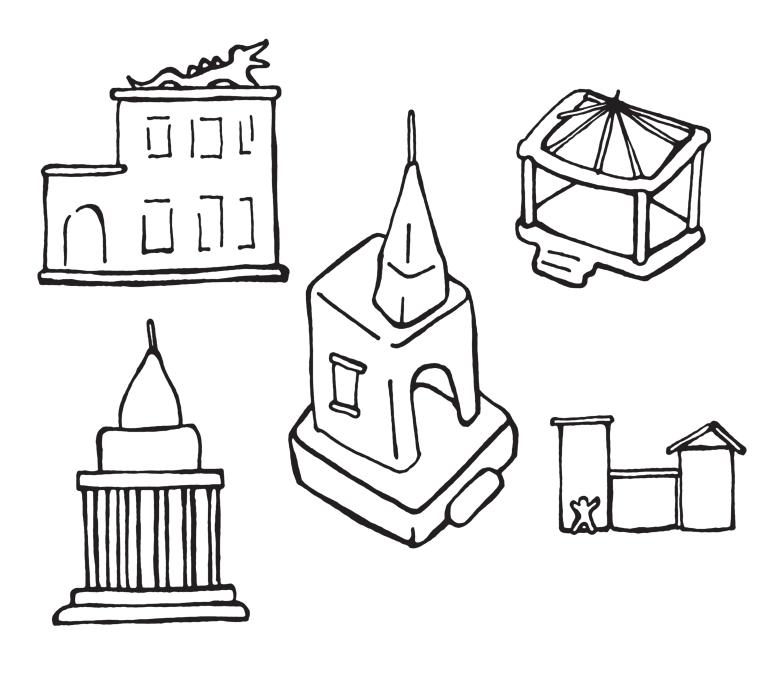
CHARACTERS:





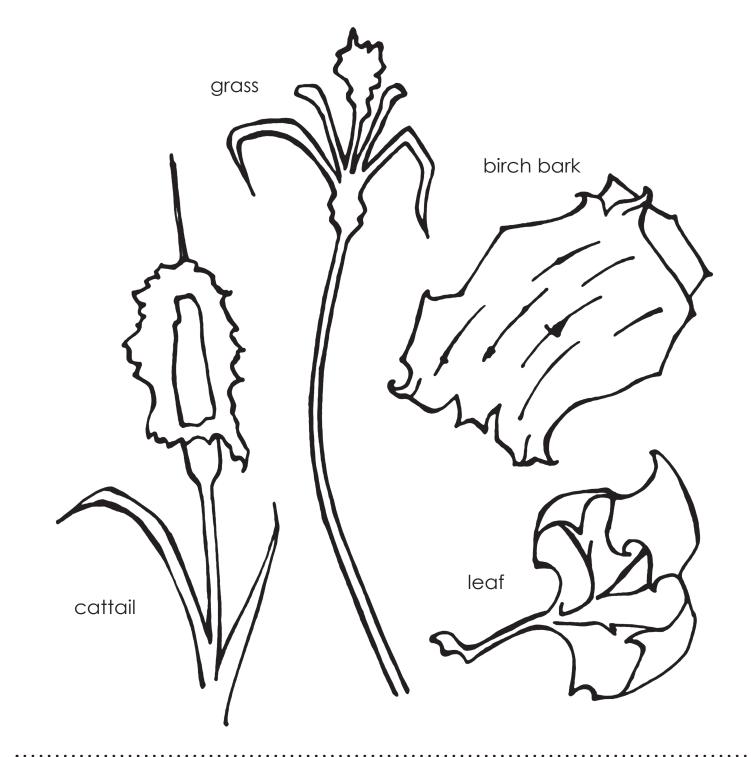


In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Sudden Story**" brother and sister plan out their own surprise story performance for Mrs. Brown's birthday party. They choose a story, plan the different characters and costumes, and collect the props and musical instruments that they will need. Would you like to create your own sudden story? Here is a page to help you plan your own story performance - whether it is in your downtown park, or your kitchen!





When Daddy is asked to join the town planning committee in the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Our Own Town**," Martin and Sylvia are inspired to do some planning of their own. Daddy gives them clay, toothpicks and popsicle sticks to make a gazebo, a town hall and a police station. (You can see some of their town buildings above.) You can make your own town too! Find the same materials — or use things you have on hand - and get to building.





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "**Mouse House**," it is cold outside. Sylvia wants to make sure the wood mice that live in the forest near her home are warm and fed. She collects dried grass and bark and other soft natural materials and makes little mouse houses next to stumps and big rocks.

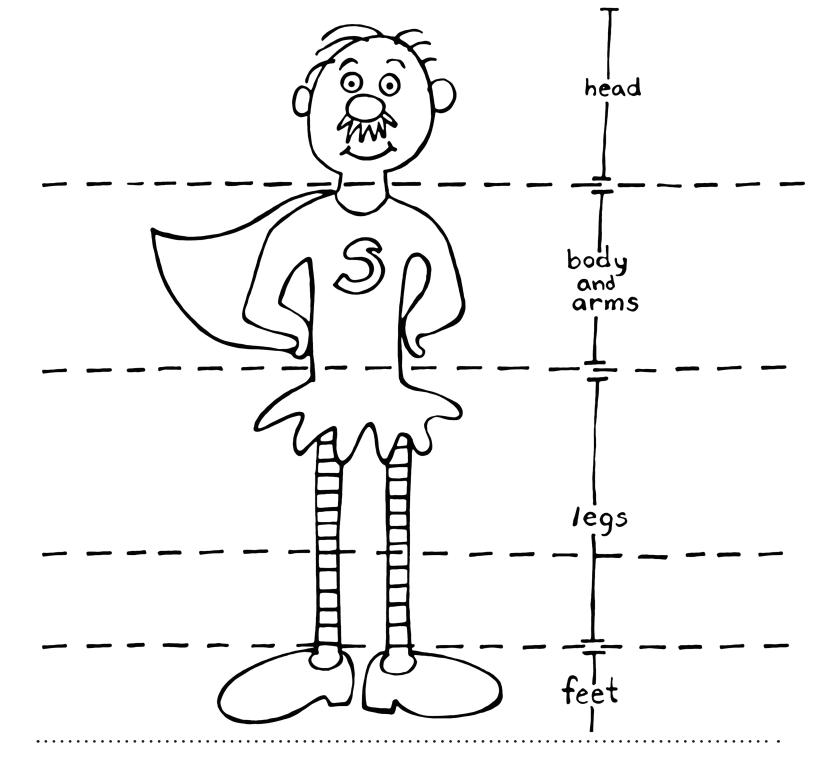
You can collect similar materials to make your own mouse houses. But remember what Momma says - once you build them, no peeking!





Martin and Sylvia learn a creative way to "write" thank you notes in this week's *Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays!* story "**Picture Thank You's**". They draw pictures to represent the words in the card, and create a "key" so that the thank you note can be decoded! It's fun for the creator and the reader.

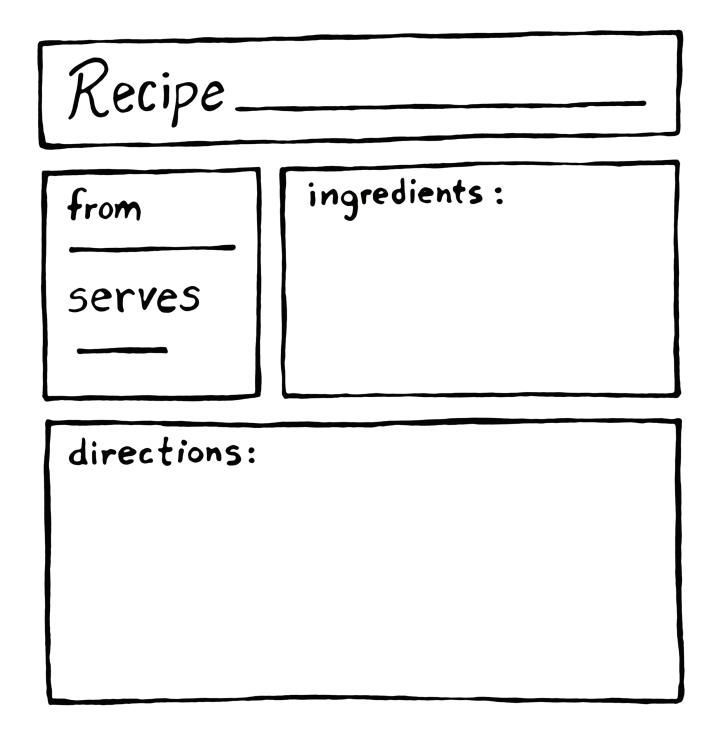
Here is a picture word key that Martin and Sylvia made for their picture thank you cards to Grandma. On the back of this paper (or a new sheet) you can create your own picture key, and use it for thank you cards, letters or secret messages!





While they are waiting for their dinner in a French restaurant in the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Can't Wait to Wait**," Mr. Weber suggests the children play a drawing game where each person draws only part of the figure. One draws the head, another the body, another the legs and the fourth draws the feet. The trick is this: the other three can't look at the previous drawings, so the final image is a surprise to everyone!

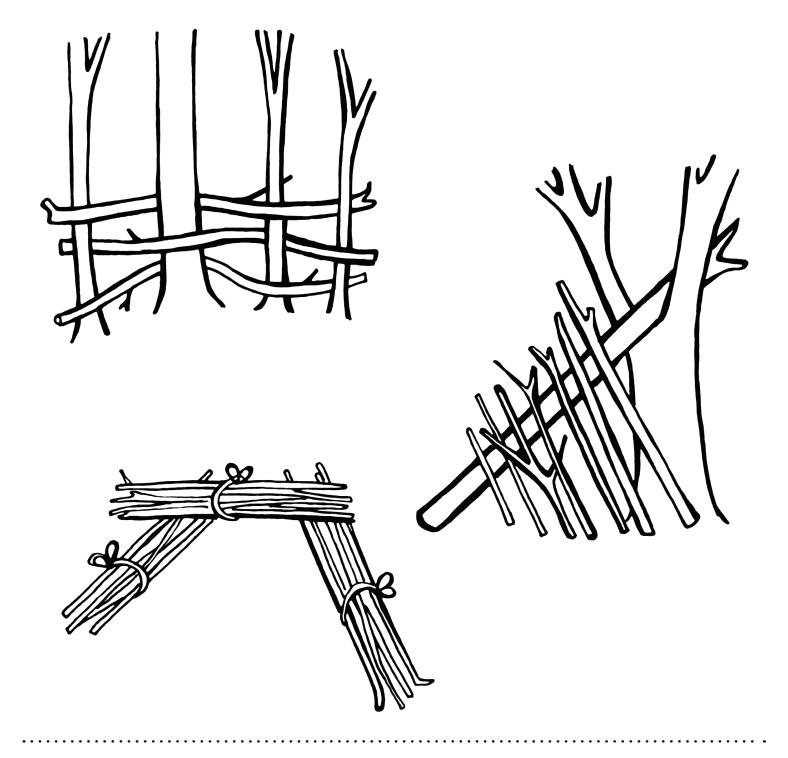
Here's a sample! Use the dotted lines as a guide on where to fold the paper and make as many as you like!





Momma caught the organizing bug when she was little, and it looks like Martin has caught it as well. In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**The Organizing Bug**," we learn that Momma uses little note cards to organize almost everything – including recipes!

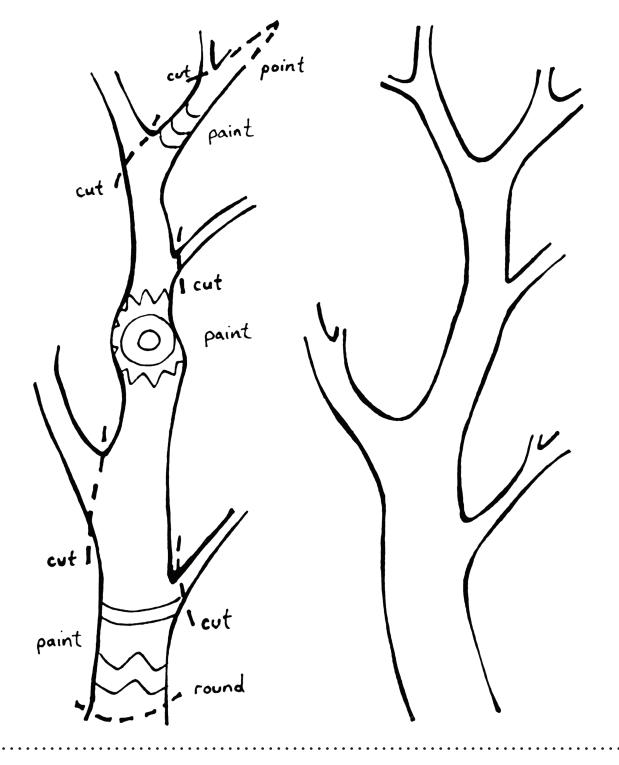
You can use the template here to make recipe cards as well. Decorate them however you wish and then file the cards together into your own recipe folder!





Martin, Sylvia, Sasha and Jonathan decide to combine their four different snow fort strategies into a single fort in the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "Four-in-One Snow Forts".

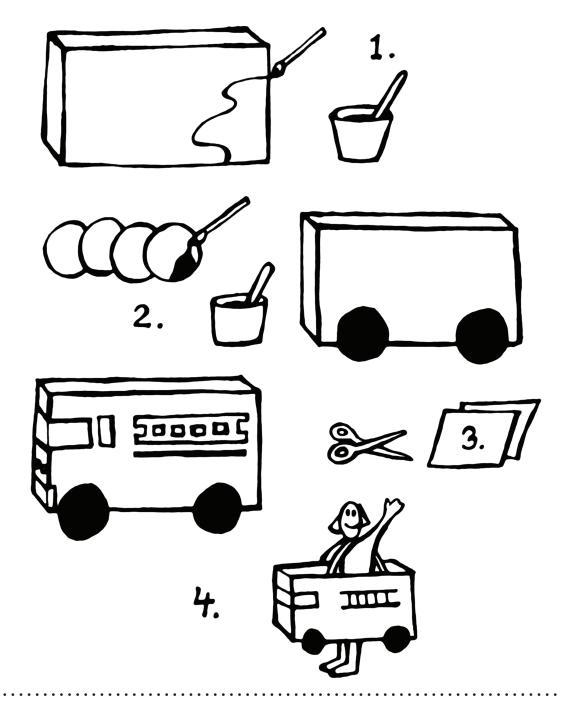
Not everyone has snow right now, so you can do the same with stick forts! There are so many ways to use sticks to make forts. Above are three ideas: weaving saplings around trees, using a large branch for a lean-to, and stacking bundles of sticks with rope. You can color these pictures in and then try it yourself!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "Gifts of Sweetness, the Maple Tree," Mrs. Brown and Sylvia find interesting branches in a brush pile made from the old tree Sweetness. This tree was very dear to the Browns, and they know that anything her wood is used for will be filled with goodness. So Sylvia and Mrs. Brown decide to fashion the small branches into special, magical wands.

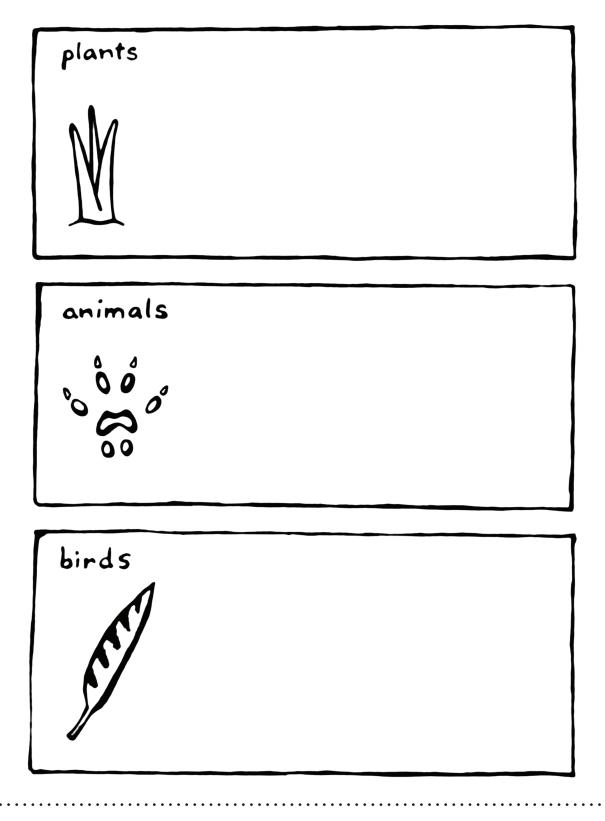
In the pictures above, you can see how Sylvia cut off the parts she didn't want to use and then how she painted them. You can design your own and then try it out on a real branch!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**How to be a Fire Fighter**," Sylvia decides that she wants to start her training to be a real fire fighter. You can starts yours too - and one of the ways is to make your own fire truck!

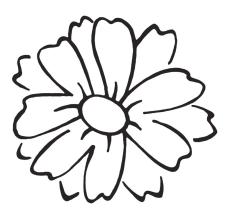
Here's how: Start with a cardboard box. Paint the outside with red paint and let it dry. Then paint four small paper plates with black paint. When both are dry, you can glue them on the box as wheels. The windshield, the front lights, the bumper and ladder are cut out of blue, white and yellow construction paper. When those are glued on the side, you can cut out a hole in the bottom, adhere a strap to the top and put your firetruck on!



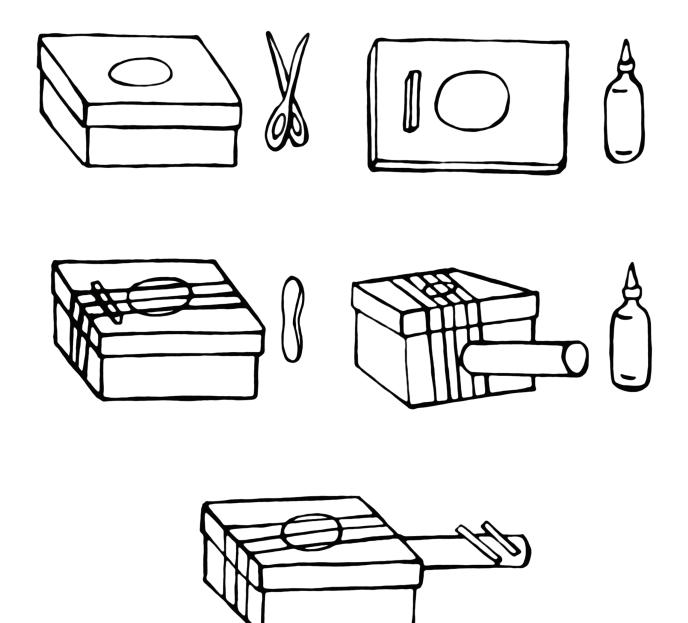


In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Spring Seeing**," Martin and Sylvia take a nature walk in the woods behind their house. They bring paper and pencils, and as they see signs of spring, they make notes and draw pictures.

You can take your own Spring Seeing walk, and use this page to make notes on what you find!



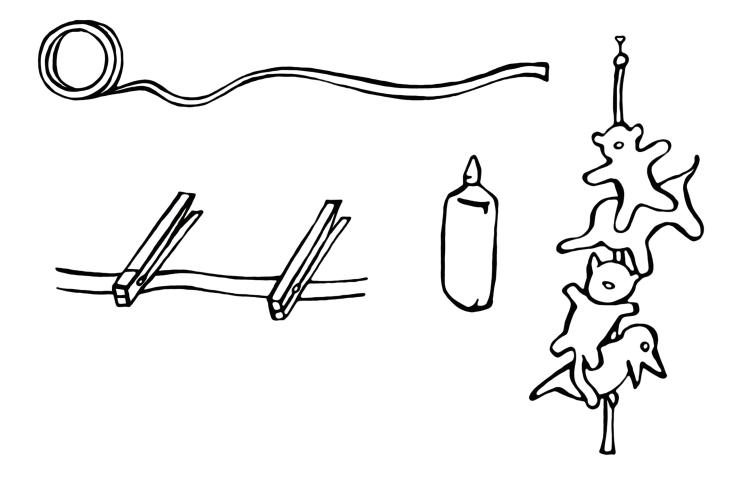
Spring





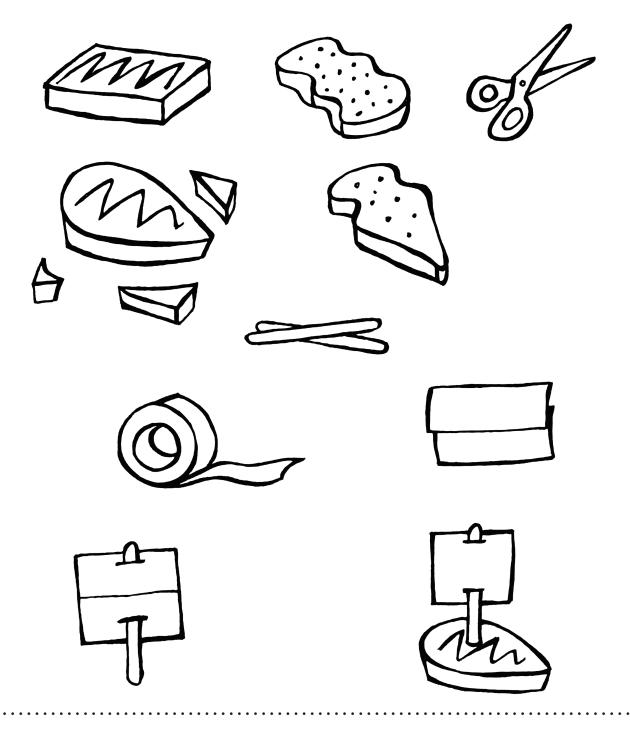
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Silly Speak Songs**," a songwriter teaches brother and sister how to make up their own silly songs. All of the songs start with a simple tune, and soon brother and sister discover they both like making music.

Do you like making music? Here are directions on how to make a 'shoe box guitar'. First, you want to cut a circle in the top - right in the middle. Second, glue a piece of chopstick or a small stack of Popsicle sticks to the top under the hole. Then stretch 5 or 6 rubber bands all the way around the box and over the chopstick. Glue a paper towel tube to the top for the neck and, to make it look more like a guitar, glue two Popsicle sticks to the top of the next. Have fun!



In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "The Meeting Spot",
Sylvia has a playdate with a brand-new friend. She's nervous at first about what they will do, but soon discovers they both love stuffed animals.

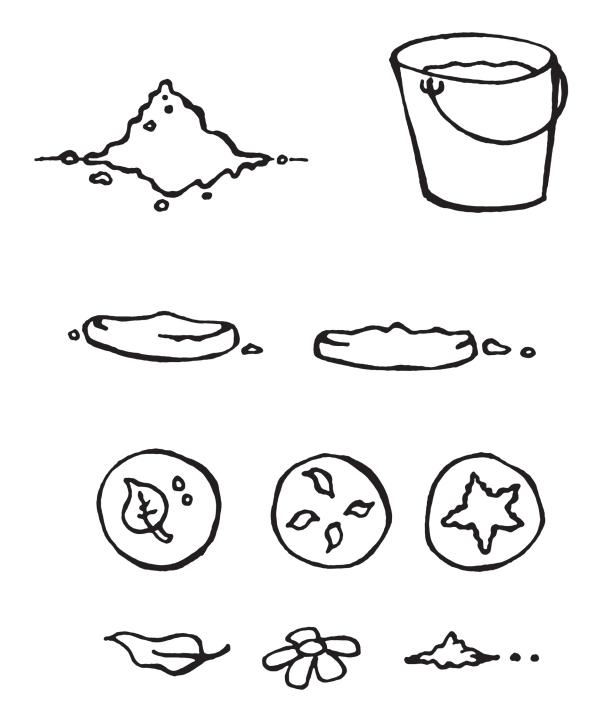
Here is a fun and easy way to organize your stuffed animals: All you need is a length of ribbon (preferably the height of your room), several clothes pins, and a little loop on top to help secure it to your ceiling. First, lay out the ribbon, and then adhere the clothes pins with strong glue, a glue gun or by sliding the ribbon through the little hole in the middle. Then secure the top to the ceiling with a hook and clip all your stuffed animals. Look! Its a stuffed animal tree!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "**Spring Paddle Tour**", Martin has a fever and won't be able to attend the annual Spring canoe tour. So Sylvia decides to make him his own "boat tour" from things she has found at home.

Would you like to make your own boat show? Sylvia uses clean sponges, Popsicle sticks and a few pieces of duct tape to make hers. You can cut the sponges with a pair of scissors, make the sail out of duct tape (you choose the colors!), and then stick the mast (the popsicle stick through a small slit in the sponge - and voila! Bath boats!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Lemons and Mud**," Martin and Sylvia want to make a lemonade stand - but don't have any lemons. As it is mud season, they have plenty of mud - so Daddy suggests they make mud pies!

To make your own mud pies, you need to combine dirt with just enough water to form solid, clay-like mud. Form the mud into a ball and then squash it down into a round disk. Here is a mud pie! Now you can use leaves, flower petals, sand or pebbles to decorate.

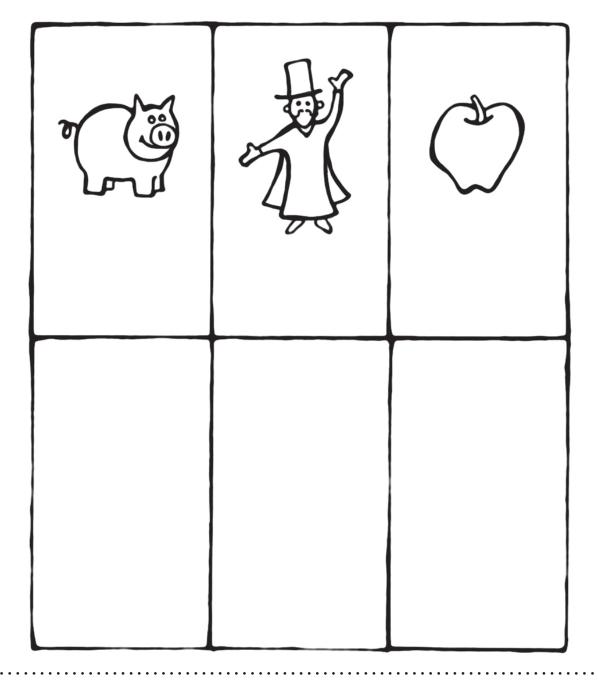




In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Ramps and Rapunzel**," Momma shows brother and sister how to make a delicious pesto using "ramps" (otherwise known as wild leeks).

You can make your own pesto using all sorts of ingredients: basil, arugula, or mint! Pine nuts, walnuts, or sunflower seeds! Plus oil, garlic and different cheeses.

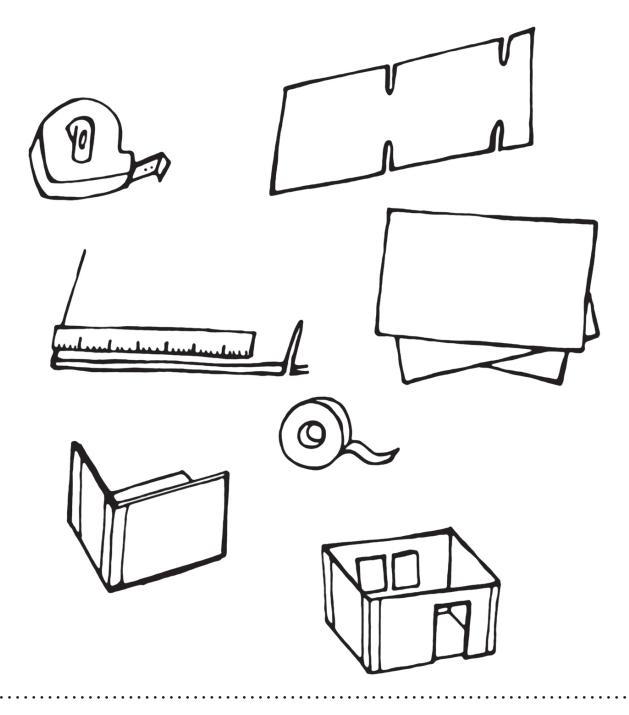
Here's an easy basic recipe: 2 cups basil (or arugula or ramps or mint!), 1/2 cup oil, 1/4-1/2 cup nuts, 1/2 cup grated hard cheese (as in parmesan, but that's optional). Pick your ingredients and then blend or pound them all together into a paste. Add salt or garlic or more ingredients until you have a delicious pesto. Have fun experimenting!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "When Pigs Fly," Sylvia is upset when a visiting first grader starts to tell stories about a little piglet named "Explorer Pig". She insists that only she can tell those stories! But Mrs. Brown lets her know that stories often move around from teller to teller.

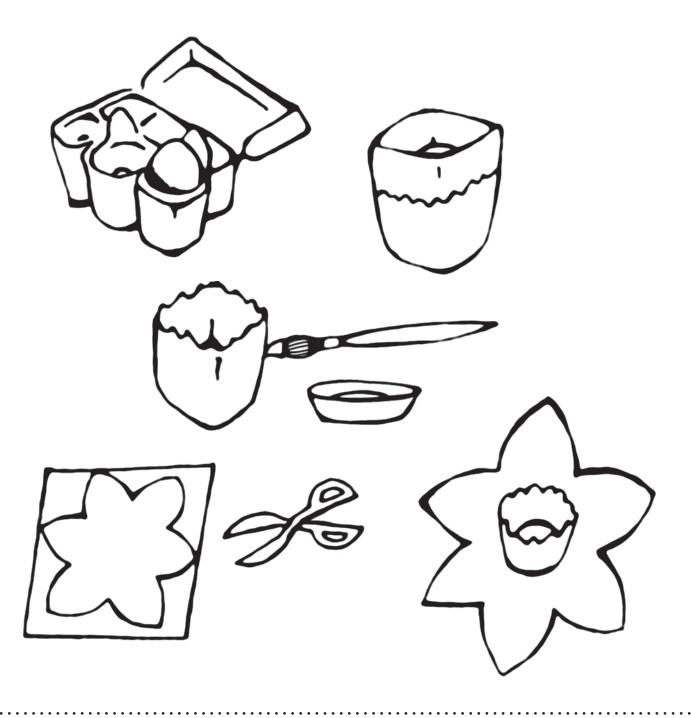
Here is a game that embraces the freedom of storytelling. Use these cards to inspire a story that you and your friends can tell together! Copy this page as often as you need to make your own pictures, and then cut them all out and lay them on a table. One person starts the story inspired by one card, and then passes the story to the next person, who chooses another card. Keep the story moving until you are finished!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "When you Need your Numbers," Martin is inspired to use his numbers when making a model house. You can make a model of your room by using a measuring tape, some cardboard and some tape.

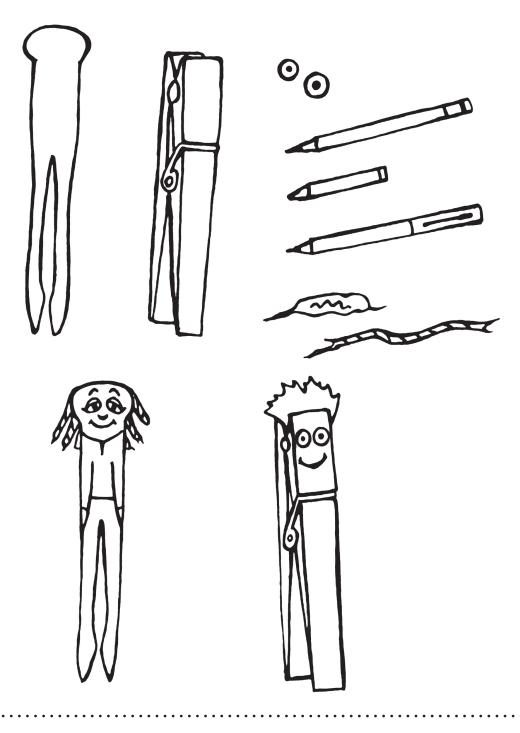
First measure the length and width and height of your room to the nearest foot. Then turn the feet into inches and measure out the same number of inches on your sheet of cardboard. If your room was 10 feet long, then your cardboard model will be 10 inches long. Cut out the floor and walls and tape them together. If you want to add windows and doors and furniture, you can measure and cut those too!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Calling it Done**," Martin works on an "egg carrying invention" all day long - in hopes that Mr. Brown will like it. He uses egg cartons, but not in a way you would expect!

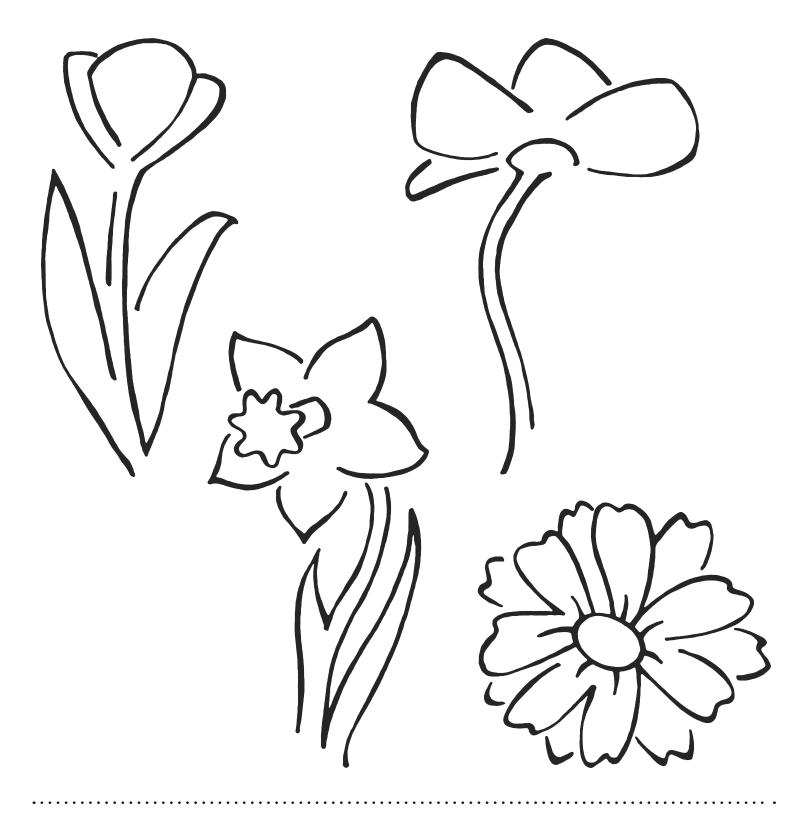
Egg cartons can be used for lots of fun projects - including home-made daffodils! First you can pinch out the egg cups of the carton and paint them yellow. Next, cut out the six sided flower shape from a sheet of white or yellow paper. Glue the center piece in the middle and then make enough for a full bouquet!





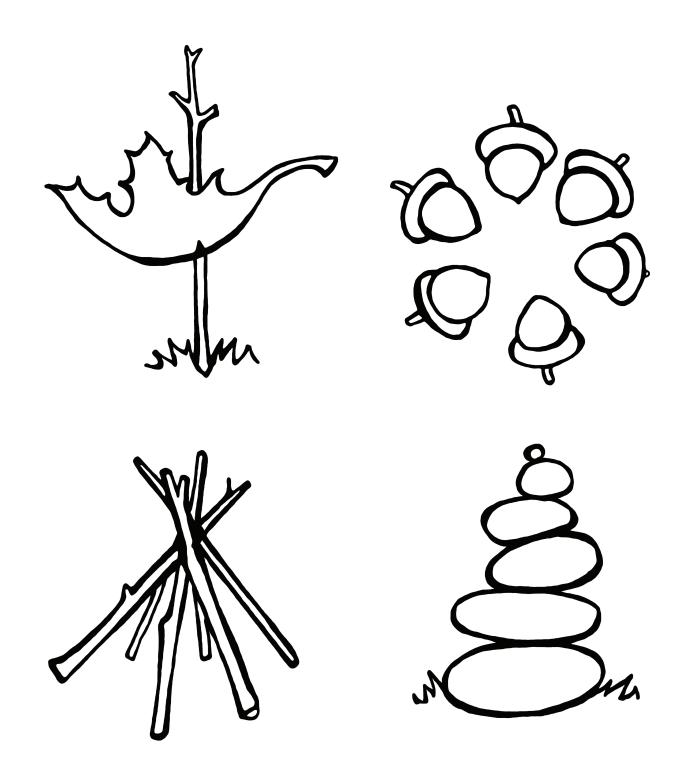
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**A Peg Doll Party**," Sylvia discovers a bin of old wooden pegs which Momma played with when she was a girl. Momma tells her about all the dolls she made out of the wooden pegs, and then brother and sister make their own!

You can make your own out of wooden clothes pins. Here are two different kinds of clothes pins and ways you can decorate them. You can draw with colored pencils, paint with small brushes, or use crayons or markers. Yarn can be used for hair and you can even glue bits of felt or cloth for clothes!



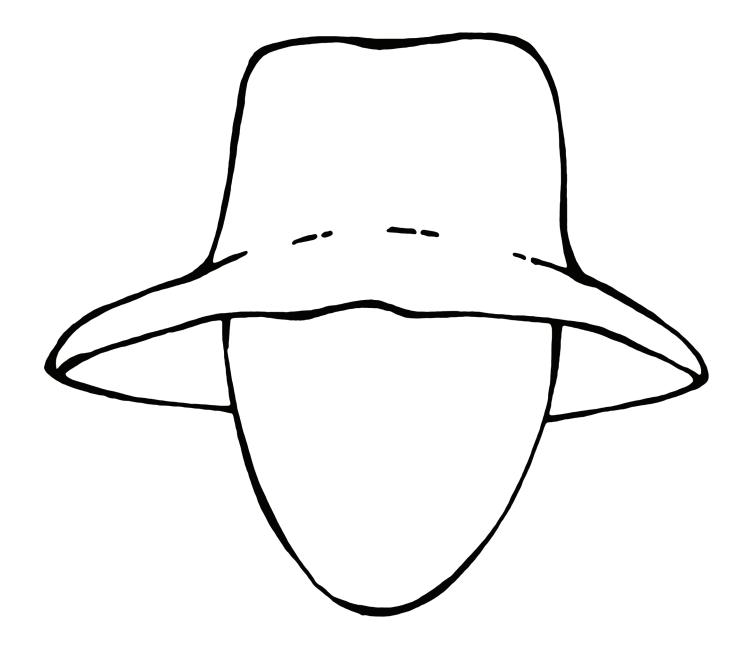


Martin and Sylvia's family creates a giant painting of flowers along their garden shed wall in the story "**Important To Us All.**" You can use the flowers above to make your own art: make copies, color, and cut and paste to make your own garden mural! Or design your own! What's important to your family?



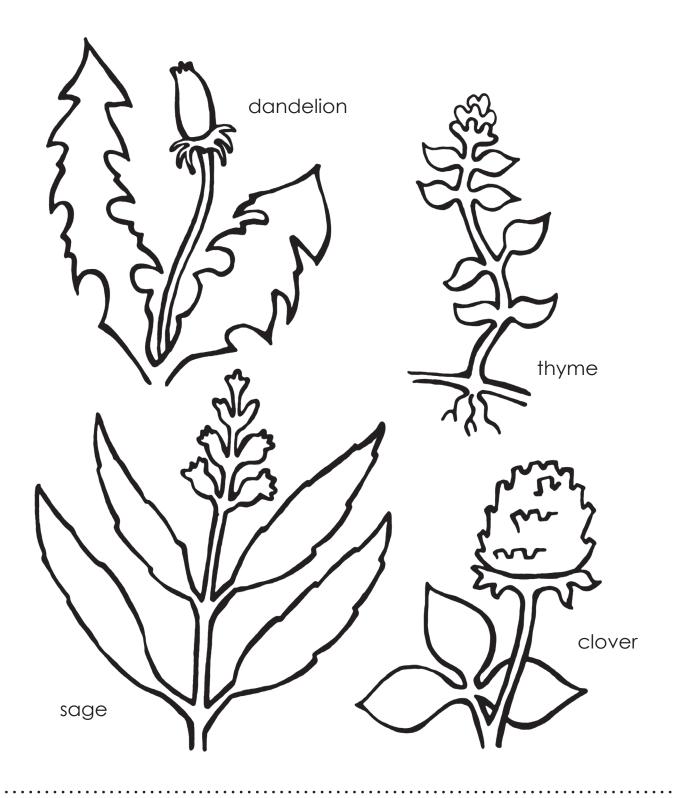


In the Martin & Sylvia story "**Trail Art**," Martin and Sylvia make little beautiful markers along a trail using sticks, leaves, bark and stones. In nature, art materials are everywhere! What can you create with things from the out-of-doors? Color these, design your own, or go outside and start creating!



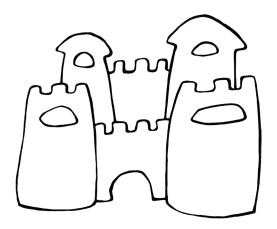


Martin and Sylvia need sun hats for a day on the lake, but their old ones don't fit! So guess what they make in the story "**Silly Sun Hats**"? Martin uses fabric and paint to make a space knight hat, while Sylvia uses pipe cleaners, pompoms and die to make a porcupine fairy hat. What kind of hat would you like to make? Design it above!

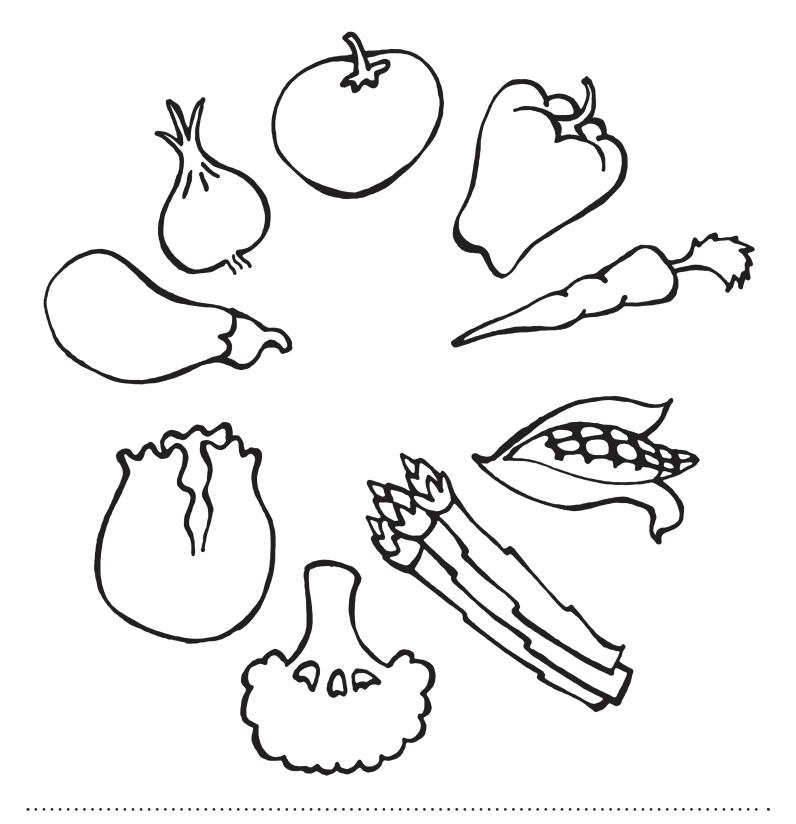




In the Martin & Sylvia story "**Animal Hospital**," brother and sister gather herbs from their garden to make special healing teas for Billbill, Pickles and any wild animals that might get sick. Here are few plants you can find in your own back yard that you can use to make pretend healing teas and tinctures from plants. Ask a grown up to help choose which plants and flowers.

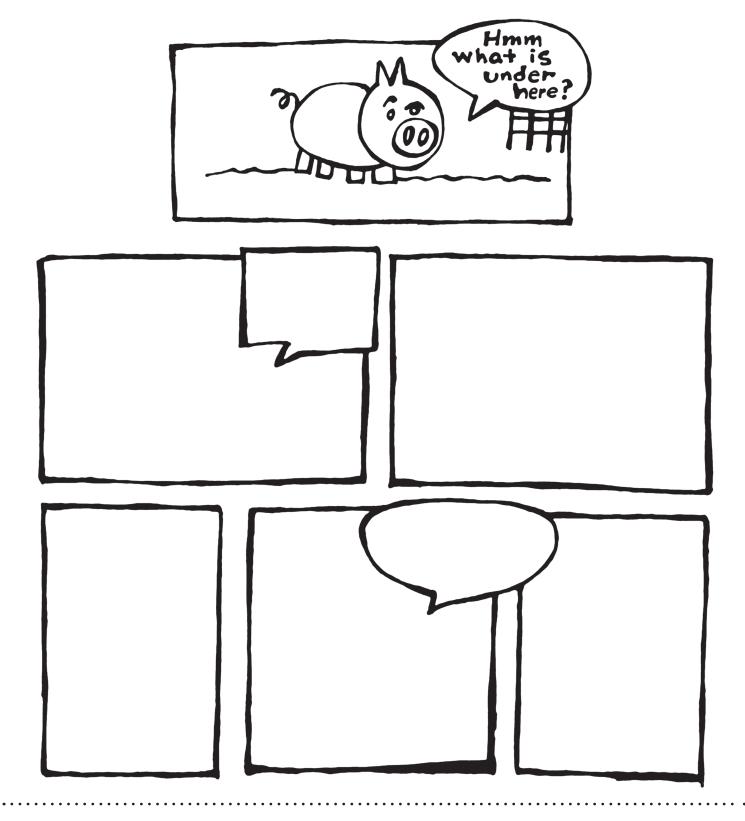


Summer





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "**Rainbows**," the children make rainbows wherever they can, including with their food! Here are some of the vegetables in Martin and Sylvia's "rainbow kabobs". Color them, and them draw your own colorful fruits and vegetables!





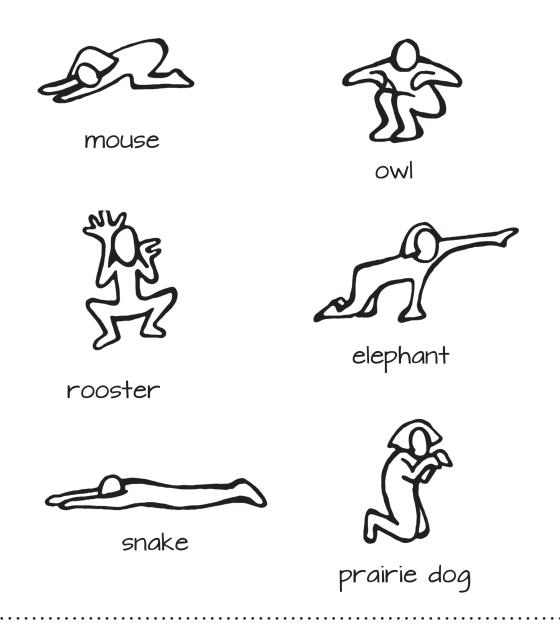
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Explorer Pig**," the children use their imaginations to capture their own stories about the Browns' farm in a hand-drawn cartoon book. Sylvia tells the story of little "Explorer Pig". You can draw your own cartoon of "Explorer Pig" in the boxes above. What adventures does your little piglet go on?





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "Let's Do Everything," Martin and Sylvia, Sasha and Jonathan can't decide what to do on their playdate. So they make a "Let's Do Everything" list, and combine their various ideas into one great idea.

You can make your own "Let's Do Everything" map - on the back of this page! Here's how: make special categories like Play, Games, Make Something and Outdoors, and then list possible ideas under each one. Next, circle the ones that might work best together, and tie them together with lines. (See Martin and Sylvia's example above.) Now you can use your imagination to take the circled ideas, and create a "Let's Do Everything" plan of your own.

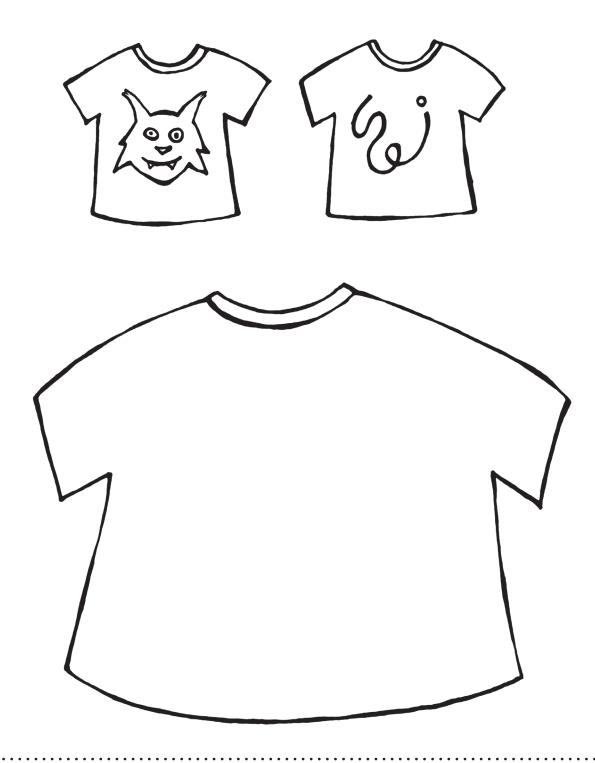




In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Mother's Helper**," Sylvia and Martin help take care of three-year-old Laura. They make a list of fun things to do with her. On the list is a game called **Scudge Pundleman**.

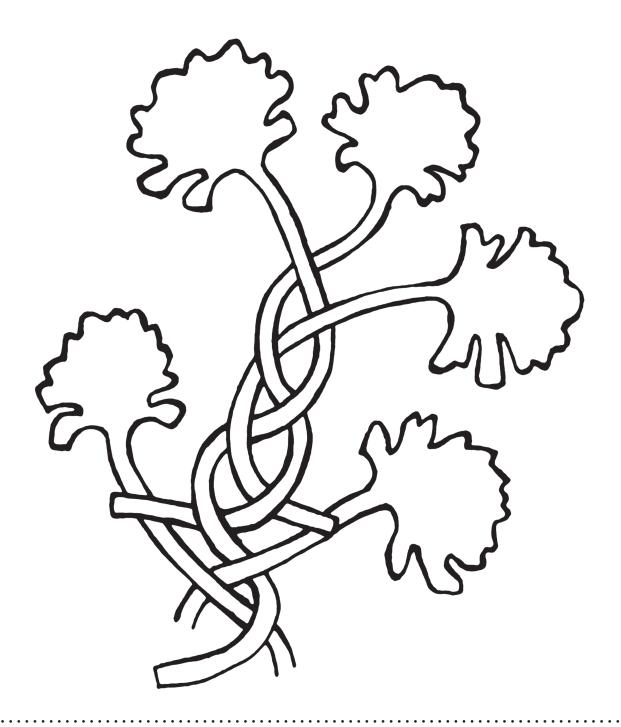
Here's how you play:

One of you becomes a fairy man named Scudge Pundleman and transforms into the animal of your choice. While you transform, the others chant: "Scudge Pundleman, Scudge Pundleman." When you have become the animal, they then try to guess what you are. They can ask questions like 'what do you eat' or 'where do you sleep?' Do your best to show them, but no talking! The others guess until they get it right. As you play, each person gets a turn to be Scudge.





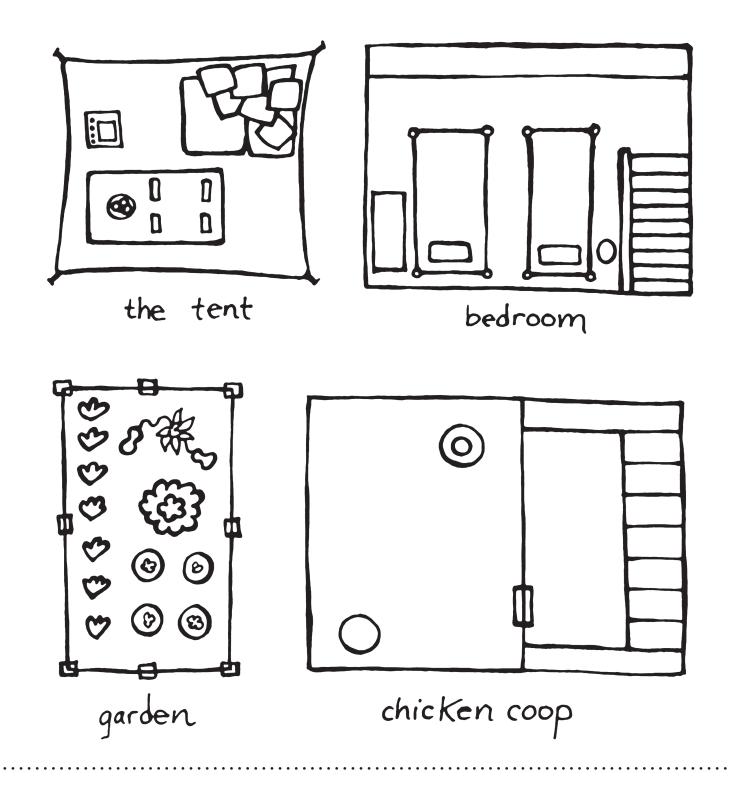
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "**Sports from Scratch**," the children are excited about sports! They create their own team names, their own team logos and their own team uniform. Sylvia's team is called "The Buzz," and Martin's is "The Bobcats" — you can see their sports jerseys above. If you would like to create your own team name and uniform, start with something that delights you. Then use the template above to design your own logo.





Martin and Sylvia can't seem to stop picking at each other, in the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "**Picky Day**." So Momma sends them out to do more picking: flower picking! Their charge is to create a wildflower braid that's long enough to decorate the berry crumble that Momma has made.

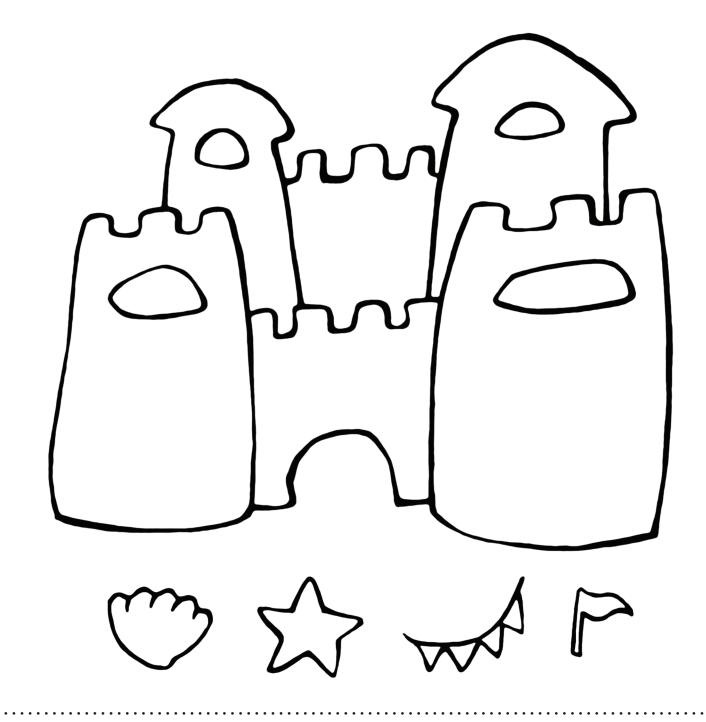
If you can do a basic braid, you can make a wildflower braid too! Pick flowers with long stems. Use the standard "over-under" pattern (see above), and braid three stems together. When one stem runs out, add in a new flower.





In this week's *Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays!* story "**Tiny House**," Martin and Sylvia create a "tiny house" in the family tent. They draw a little "blueprint" map to help everything fit inside.

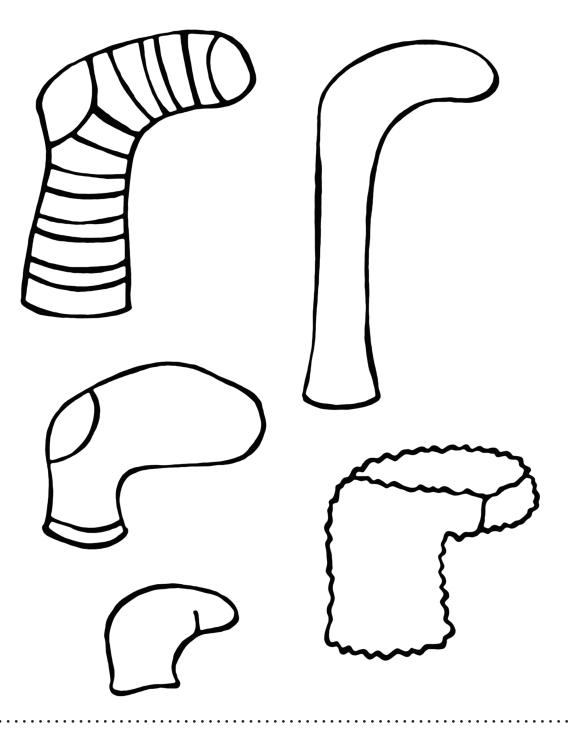
Here is the tent drawing they created, along with other possible blueprint maps that you could draw. Do you want to rearrange your room? Make a map of the kitchen? Create your own tent tiny house? Use the models above to guide you.





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "What Sand Castles Like," Martin and Sylvia build a beautiful sand castle. At first they are resistant to other children working on the sand castle, but then they notice the clever decorations of seaweed, shells and sticks that the other children chose. They realize that sand castles enjoy it when lots of people add their own ideas and decorations.

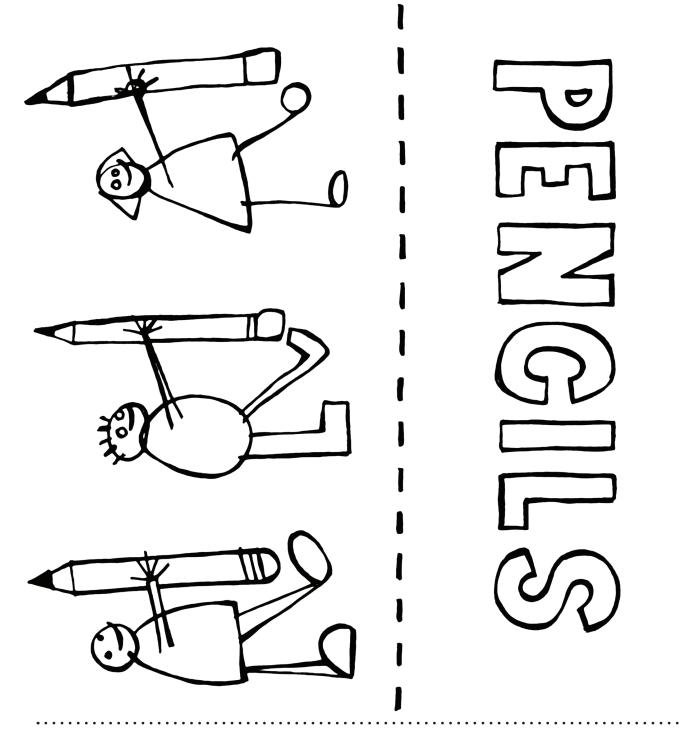
This sand castle is for you to color and decorate with your own ideas. (We've added some suggestions along the edge!)





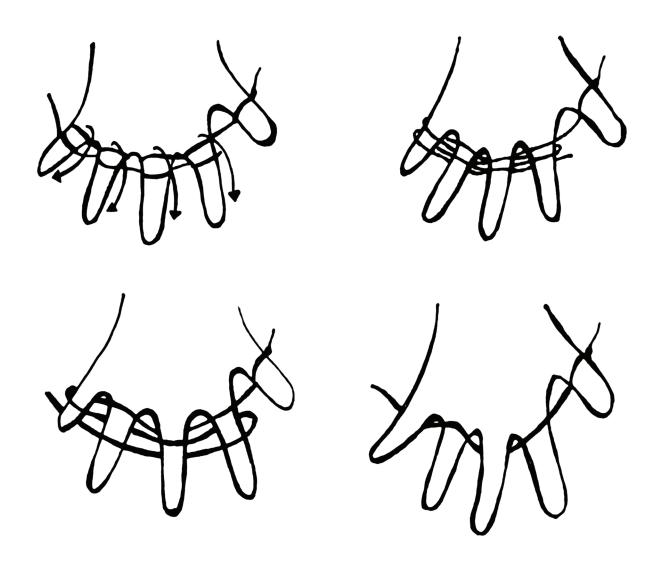
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Sock Puppets**," Martin and Sylvia's babysitter Ellie has a great idea for what to do with a bunch of old single socks - sock puppets! She suggests that brother and sister look at each sock and note the color, shape and design, and then decide what kind of sock puppet to make.

You can do the same with these drawings - do any of them look like animals? Like people? Color them in and add eyes, noses, mustaches or whatever you would like! Then use them as inspiration to create your own sock puppets!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**A Better Way**," Momma suggests there is a better way to organize their school supplies, like using a pencil can! You can take a regular sheet of paper and cut it in half (like this sheet along the dotted line). Then you can decorate the cover of the can however you like. Here is what Martin and Sylvia did for their pencil cans. Draw and then adhere to an empty tin can!

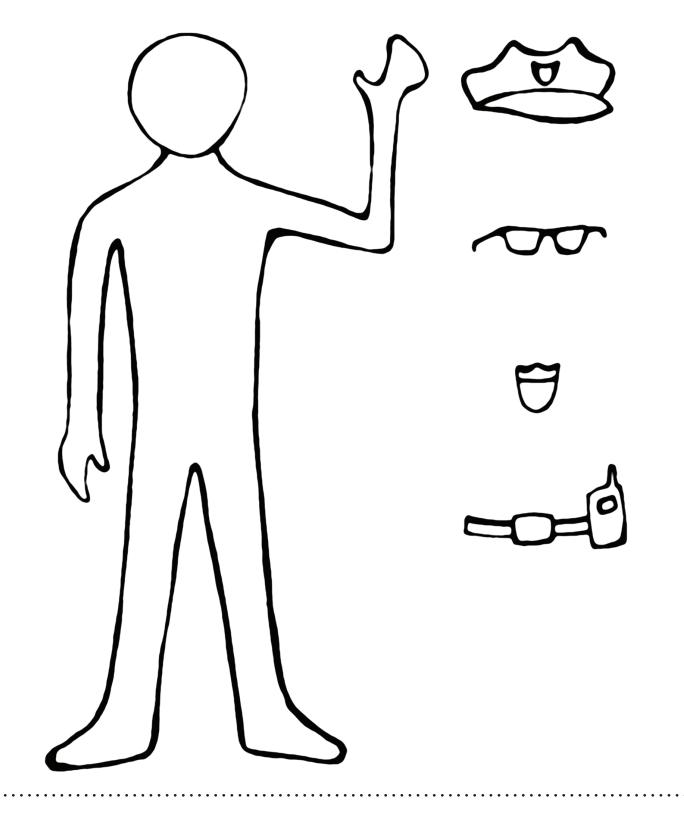




In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Nippy Knitting Day**," the weather has turned chilly, and Martin and Sylvia are inspired to finger-knit a scarf.

If you've never finger-knitted before, you might need some help. Take one end of the yarn and tie it to your thumb. Then wind the yarn around your fingers once, twice, three times and four so that it looks like there are now two rows. One finger at a time, pull the lower row over the finger so that it is now at the back of your hand - then wind the yarn once and twice and repeat. The scarf will be as long as you wish.

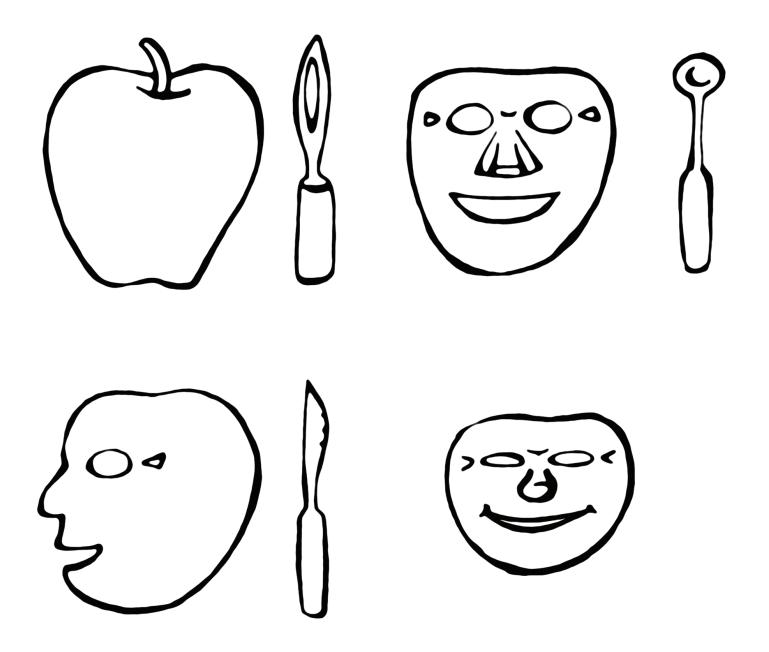
When you are finished, tie the yarn and wrap it to keep your warm on 'nippy' days!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Protectors**," Martin imagines himself to be a police officer.

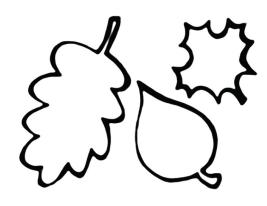
Now you can imagine yourself to be a police officer too! Color in the figure above so that it looks like you. You can also use the hat, glasses and other drawings on the right to inspire you! (Feel free to add a superhero cape too!)



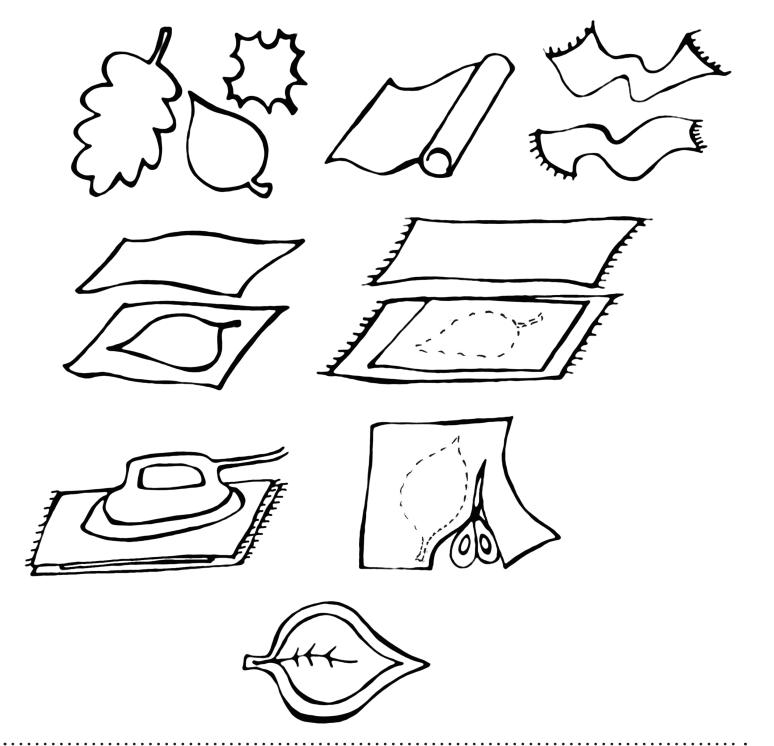


In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Apple Faces**," Momma shows brother and sister how to make faces out of peeled and carved apples. Each face they create is completely unique!

Would you like to make apple faces of your own? First peel your apple and then use a small knife and melon baller to cut out the face shapes. Put the apple face in the oven and 'dehydrate' at a very low temperature for several hours. The apple face will shrink and wrinkle until it is dried and ready!



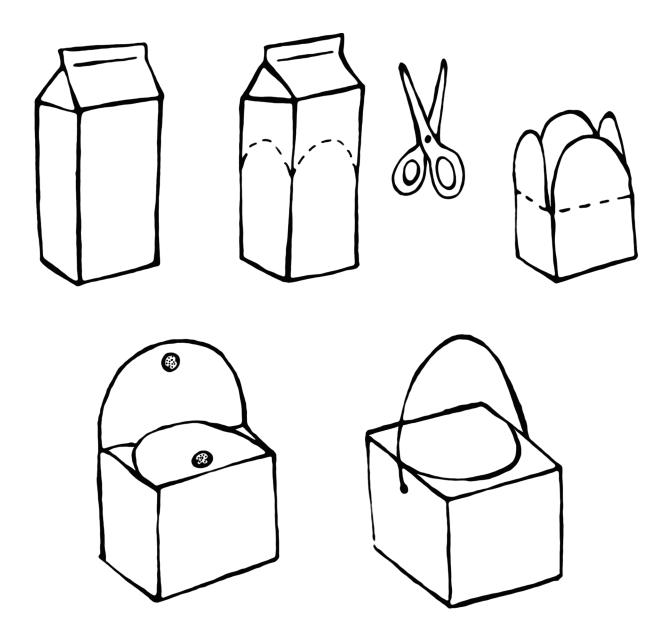
Fall





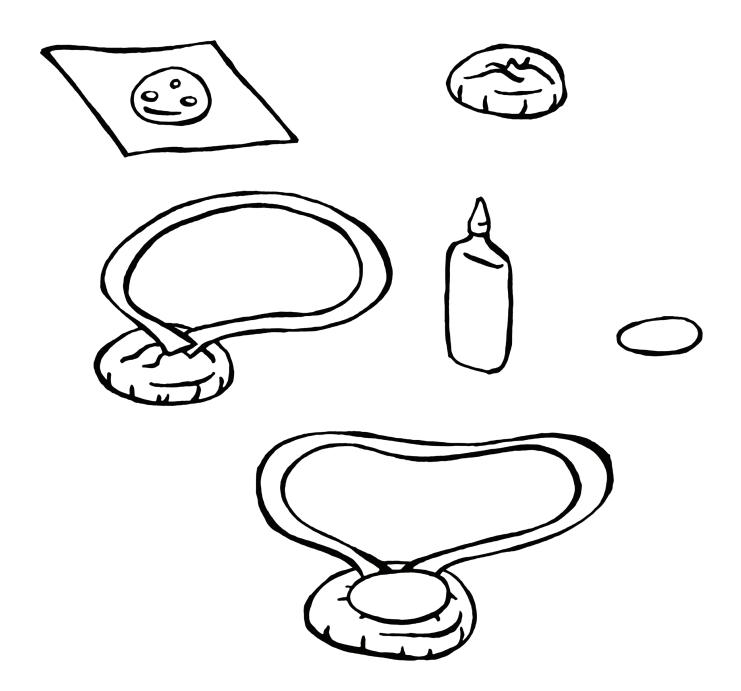
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**True Colors**," Momma teaches brother and sister how to preserve colored leaves using waxed paper.

Here's how she does it: Momma places the leaves between two sheets of waxed paper (wax side touching the leaves), and then places the waxed paper sandwich between two rags. Then she irons the top on high heat with no steam. When the wax is melted together and cooled, the leaves can be cut out and hung up, or sent in the mail to Grandma!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "**Lunch Boxes**", Martin and Sylvia notice all the lunch boxes about town, and decide they would like to have their own. Daddy suggest that they make one at home!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "**Medals**", Martin and Sylvia plan for an afternoon with friends in which everyone can win a special medal. And they set to making medals at their worktable.

They used cookies, and now you can too! Make your favorite cookies, and when they are cool enough, wrap them in a square of foil. Glue the ribbon to the top of the cookie with a glue gun and then cover with a circular disk of more foil. Once the glue is dry, you have your cookie medals!





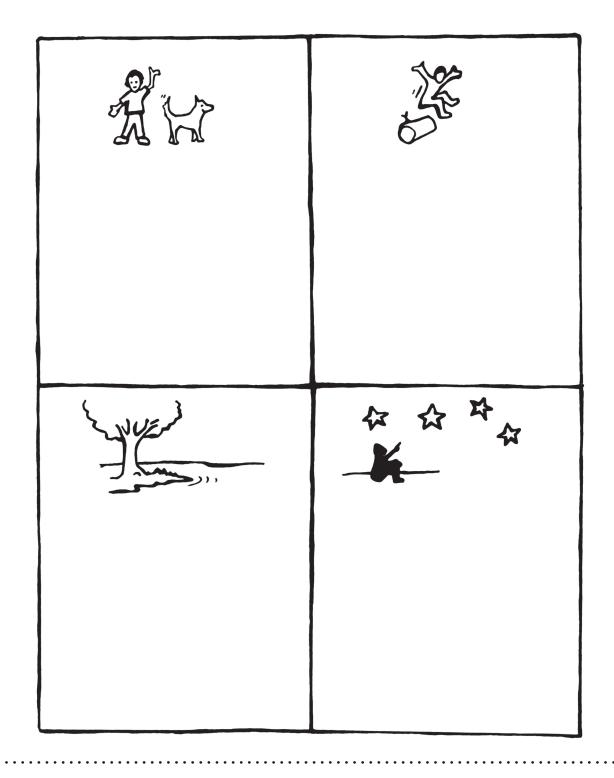
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "Great Scarecrow Mystery," brother and sister are delighted to find scarecrows popping up all over town.

Here is a fun craft to make a little scarecrow jar that you can fill up and give away! You will need a jar (a small mouthed mason jar will do), a paper or plastic cup, some buttons, string and glue. First step: make the scarecrow hat by cutting slits along the top of the cup. Curl them up to look like a straw hat and then fasten the hat on top of the jar. Glue the buttons and string to form a face - and when it is dry, fill up the jar with your favorite treats. Then it is ready to give to a friend, a teacher or another special person who deserves a Halloween gift!





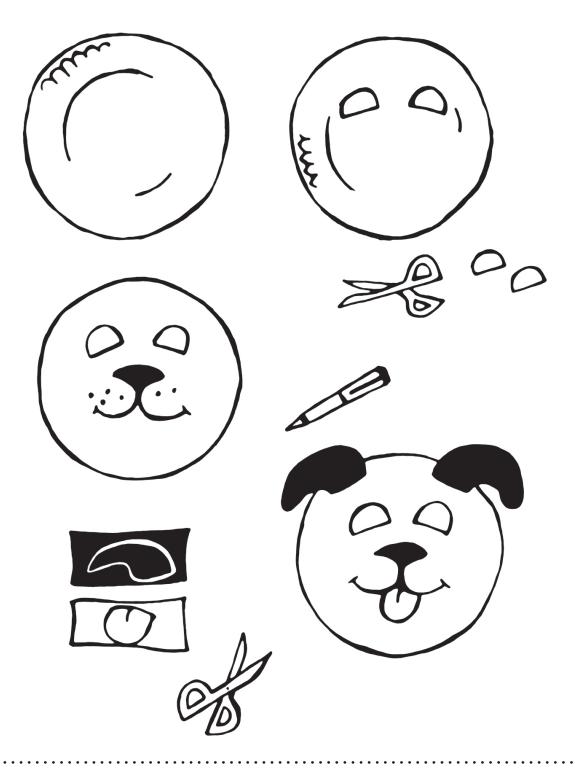
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "Super Silks," Momma and Daddy prove to brother and sister that just about any costume can be made with simple, colorful play silks. Here are some ideas you can use with your silks or any other fabric: wings, a crown, a skirt, a headdress, a cape, a decorative sash and a tunic. See what else you can make!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story, "Waiting for Sparkle," Martin is excited about writing an entire book on his own. But he doesn't know how to get started!

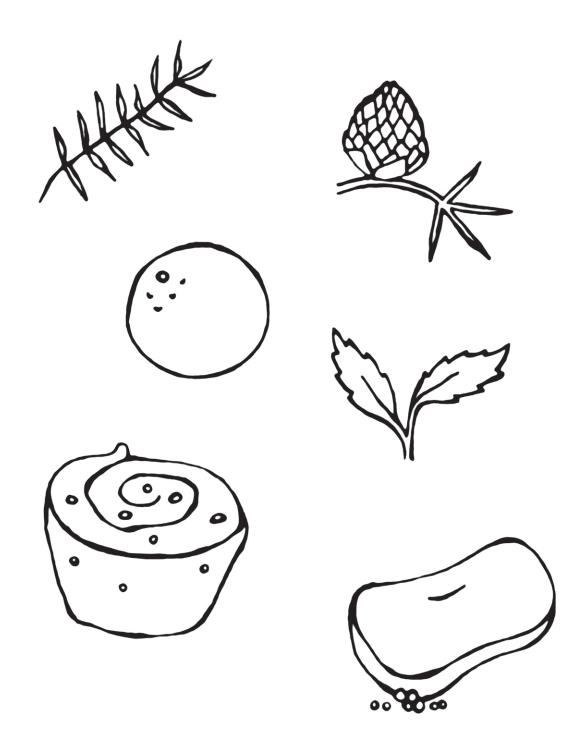
One way to bring inspiration is to use these Narrative Cards. They ask four questions: Who is the story about? What is this character doing? Where is this character? When does this story happen? You can use words or pictures to answer the questions, and then wait for the story to come!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Like Cats and Dogs**," Martin and Sylvia discuss the difference between 'dog people' and 'cat people'. They realize that everyone is a mix of both.

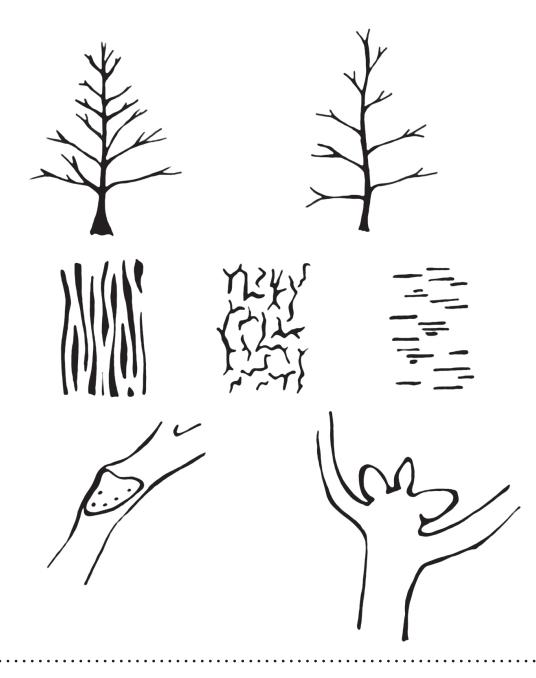
You can make a dog or cat mask out of a paper plate! First you can cut out the eyes, then draw the nose, mouth and whiskers. Using a separate piece of paper, you can cut out shapes for the ears and tongue and then glue them into place. The last step is to adhere a strap to hold the mask to your face!





In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**A Hunting Morning**," Martin, Sylvia and Laura go on a treasure hunt in the Brown's orchard and hay field. They are encouraged to use their noses like fox hounds - and you can too!

Here's how: gather together a bunch of strong smelling things like rosemary, mint, pine cones, cinamon buns, soap, etc and hide them in a room. Then give a list of all the smelling things you hid to a friend and have them use their noses to find them!

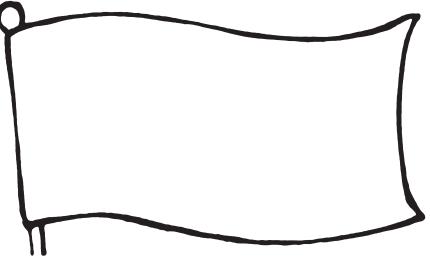




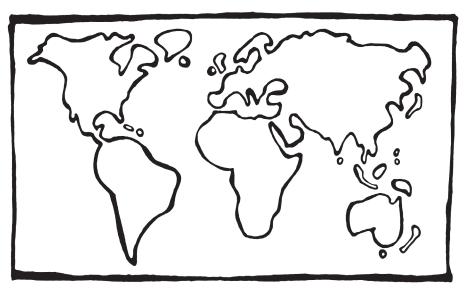
In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**The Tree Key**," Momma teaches Martin and Sylvia how to identify a tree without using its leaves. Trees, like people, have lots of different characteristics.

You can try it too by starting tree's branches. Does it have branches that are opposite each other or alternating? Now look at the bark - does it have deep up and down grooves, shallow crisscross cracks, thin lines that go back and forth - or some other kind of bark? How about the twigs? Are there any horseshoe shaped 'leaf scars' or gatherings of buds at the end?

No matter what you see, you can notice all the differences and later, when you have a tree key from the library or bookstore, you can quickly figure out what kind of tree you were studying!



Color in your country's flag here.



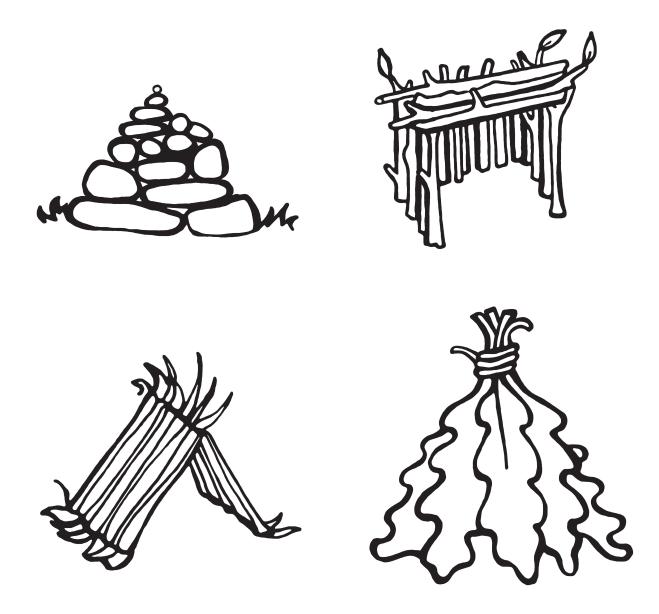
Find and color in your country on this map of the world.

A traditional dish from your country:

(Use the back to write the recipe.)

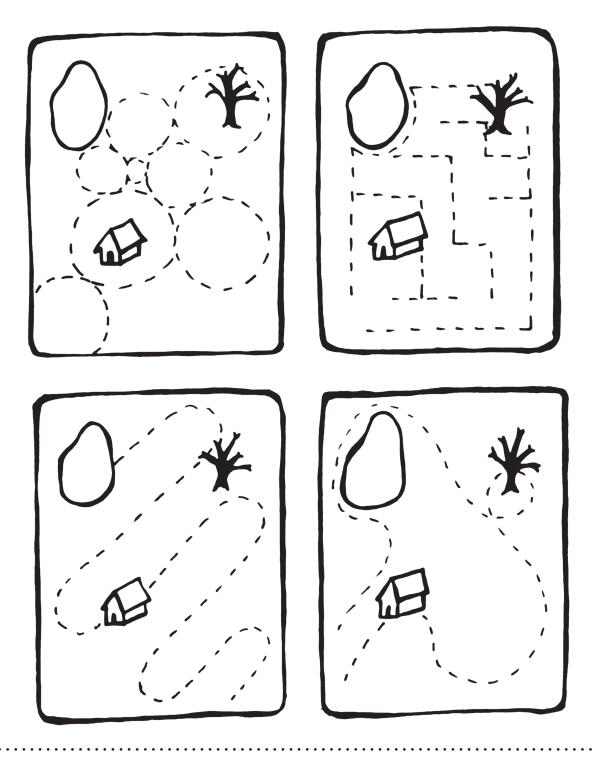


In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays story "**Around the World**," the children get to do a special project about different countries around the world. They learn about the flag, the map and the food of their country of choice. You too can choose a country you'd like to discover, and use the page above to share what you've learned.



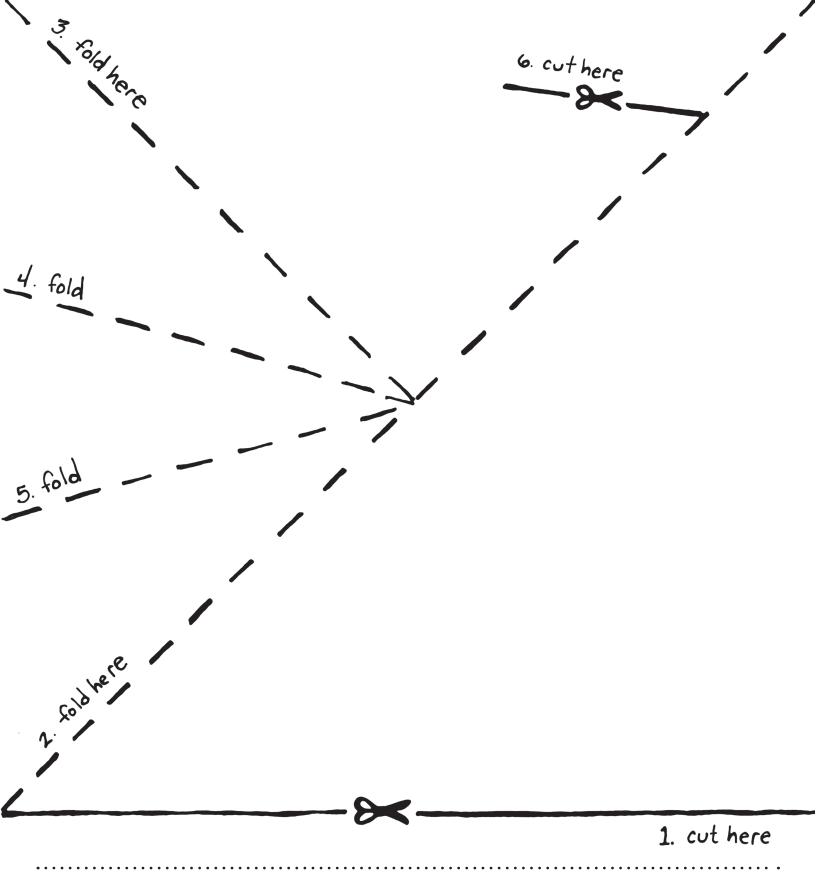


In the Martin & Sylvia: Saturdays! story "**Three Little Fairy Houses**," Martin and Sylvia create beautiful and sturdyfairy houses throughout their yard. They use sticks, leaves, bark and stones. You can easily build fairy houses with things you find in your own yard. Color these, design your own, or go out and get to building!



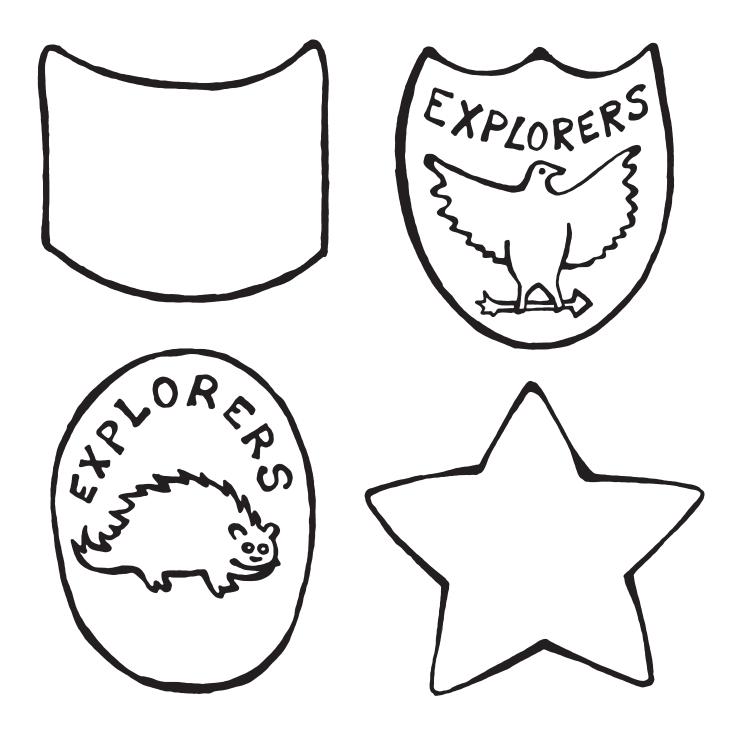


In the Martin & Sylvia story "The Let-Go Approach," Daddy teaches the children that when faced with a challenging question, sometimes the best approach is to let go of the question for awhile and do something fun. So Martin does, and one thing he tries is making paths in the frost with his feet. What does your yard look like in the late fall? Is there frost? Snow? Is it covered in leaves or early morning dew? Here are different patterns you can make in your yard with your feet, or some string or maybe even a piece of chalk!





Martin and Sylvia are impatient for snow in the story "**The Snow that Sticks**," so they make their own snow out of paper. You may need a little help from a grown-up at first, but soon you'll know just how to fold and cut.





In the Martin & Sylvia "Saturdays!" story, "**A Proper Uniform**", Martin and Sylvia are inspired to create their own "Explorers" uniforms, complete with badges. Above are both Sylvia and Martin's badges, so you can join their Explorers team. There are also two plain badges, so you can create your own. What kind of uniform would you like to make?

This story is **FREE** on the Sparkle iTunes Podcast and on the Sparkle Blog!