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Introduction

Welcome to a workbook filled with fun for young learners! Each page in this book is designed to guide parent and child in exploring and developing the skills he or she will use in school.

The topics, or subject areas, are arranged as follows:

- **Colors**—identifying red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, black, brown, and gray
- **Line Practice**—printing straight, diagonal, curved, and wiggly lines
- **The Alphabet**—recognizing letters and letter sounds; printing uppercase and lowercase letters
- **Thinking Skills**—learning to look at things in different ways—to consider options; to analyze, to infer, to interpret data, and to solve problems of all kinds
- **Numbers 1–10**—numbers; number sense; sequencing; size; shapes; more, less, and equal
- **Science and Nature**—observing growing things; determining healthy daily habits; reviewing body parts; discussing weather, its characteristics, and appropriate clothing; discussing animals, their characteristics, and habitats
- **Social Studies**—focusing on family, homes, and neighborhoods; learning about community helpers, workers, and work vehicles; and caring for our planet



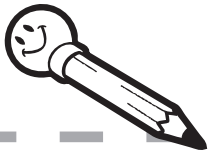
How to Use This Book

New skills and concepts are described on the “Parent Information” page at the beginning of each section. Use these guidelines and tips to guide children toward a better understanding of each activity.

The directions at the top of each page also provide information. These directions are written to the parent. They can be read to a child to help him or her practice listening skills and to expand conversations about the pictures. Use the directions as a guide or script to help you work on each page together. Remember:

- Practice listening and speaking skills and take turns discussing the pictures and the tasks.
- Use complete sentences. Work on using descriptive language.
- Remember to start at the top of each page or line. Work down, and from left to right. This habit will provide practice reading from left to right.
- Use the gray tracing lines provided to help your child practice drawing lines and later printing letters and numbers.
- Your child might be asked to circle an item, to color an object, or to count in groups. Work with your child to follow these directions accurately.
- Identify colors and use position words (*on, off, in, under, etc.*) correctly whenever possible to give continuous practice.

The *Look Around* and *Try This* suggestions at the bottom of each page are designed to reinforce the lesson; they extend these lessons to a higher level by asking questions that make children think about what they are learning. Some suggestions can be done inside and others are best suited to outside activities—perhaps while walking or exploring at a park or playground. For instance, if you are working on the number 3, you might focus on finding the number 3 on street addresses or license plates while walking. Or, you might arrange things in 3s, like blocks or apples. Try looking for colors and numbers at the grocery store, too! In this way, the topic or concept will relate more to your child’s everyday life and expand his or her view of the world.



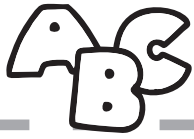
Circles and Ovals

Directions: Look at the balloons on this page. There are two different-shaped balloons—*circles* and *ovals*. Circles are round and ovals are a bit narrower. Use your finger to trace the curves of the two circle balloons and then the oval balloon. Color the round balloons yellow. Color the oval balloon blue.



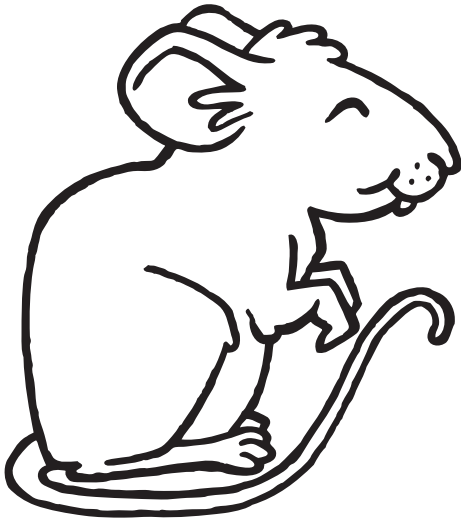
Look Around: Find an oval and a circle in your house or on a walk. (*dishes, shapes of street lamps, tires*)

Try This: Make big oval shapes and circle shapes in the air. Don't just use your hand, use your whole arm and shoulder! Can you make circles and ovals with the other arm, too?

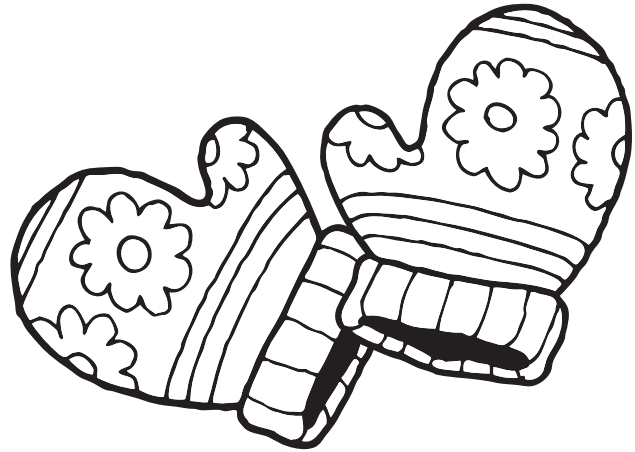


Mm

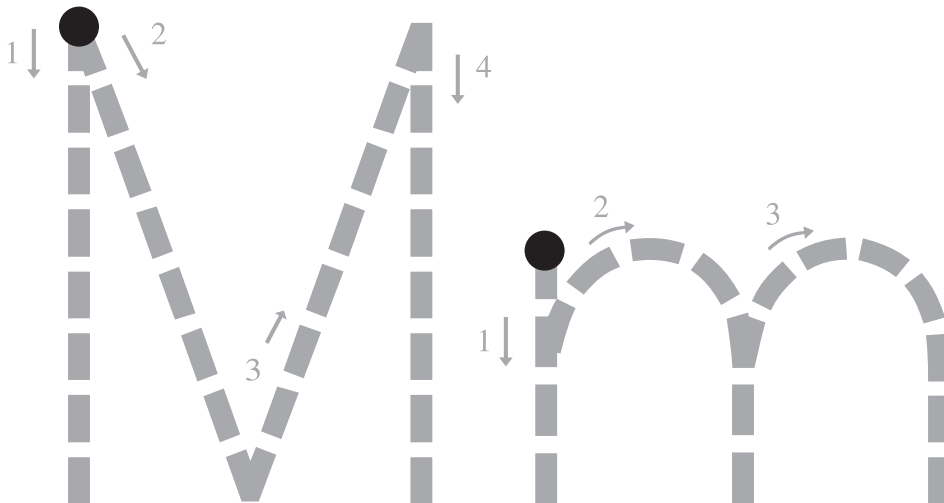
Directions: The pictures below start with the letter **M**. Listen to the sound the letter **m** makes at the beginning of each word. Look at the uppercase letter **M** and the lowercase letter **m**. Each one starts with a straight line from top to bottom. The uppercase letter **M** has four straight lines—two straight lines that go top to bottom and two diagonal lines in the middle. The lowercase letter **m** starts with a short straight line and has two curved humps. Trace each letter with your finger and write over it with a crayon or pencil.



mouse



mittens



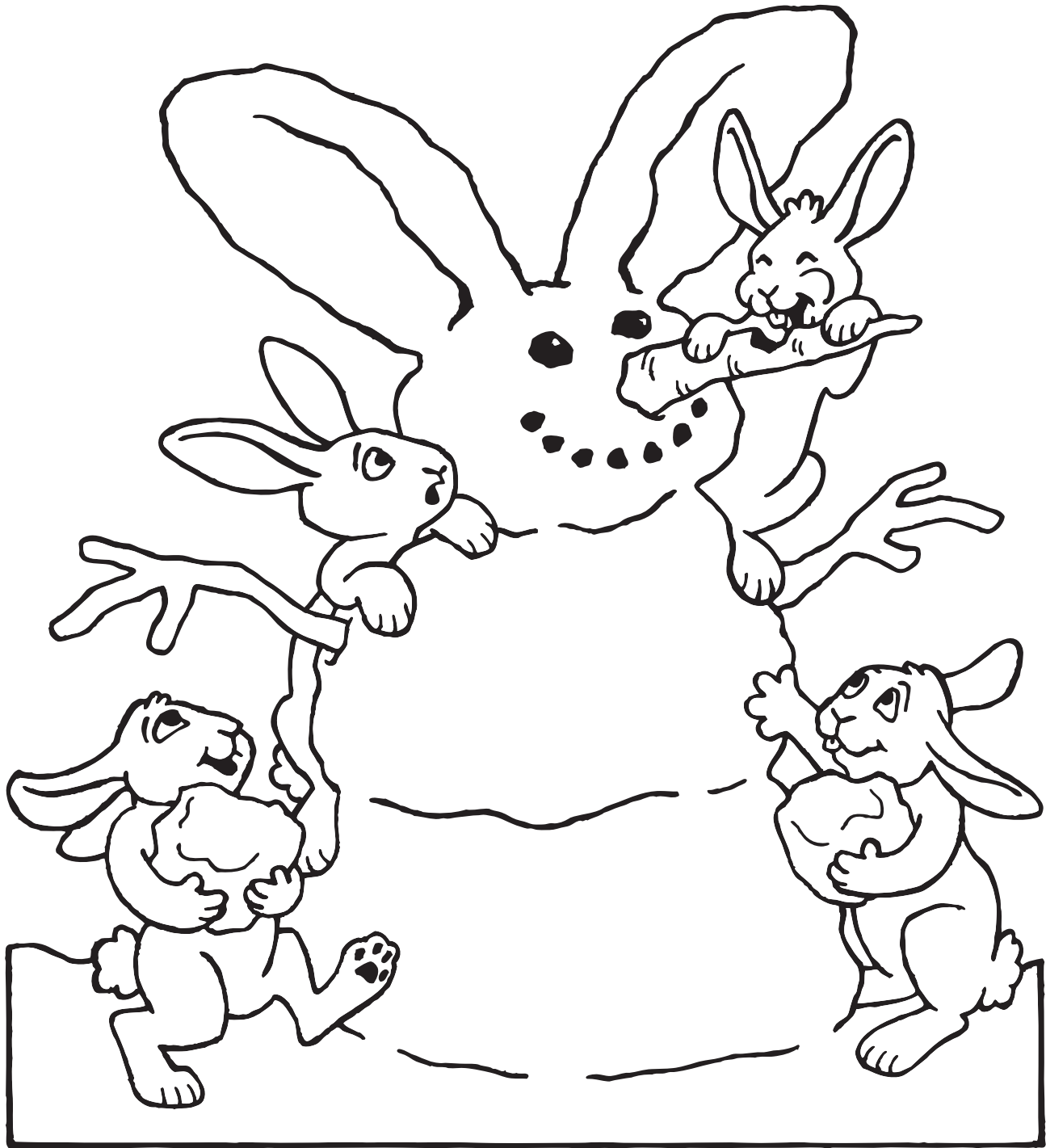
Look Around: Can you find other things that start with the **M** sound? Name the things you find.

Try This: See if you can find these uppercase and lowercase letters in books or outside on signs.



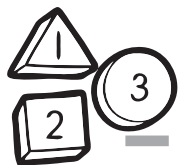
What Do You Think? Stories

Directions: Let's look at the picture and tell the story. Can we tell more than one story for the picture? Color the picture.



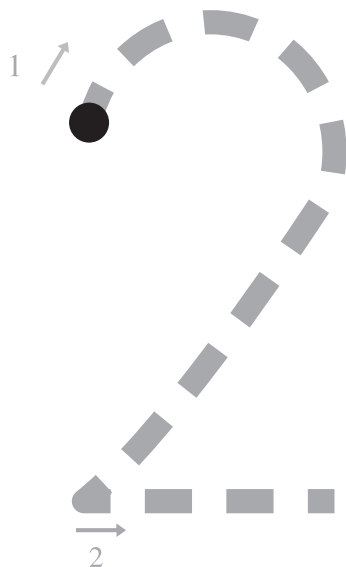
Look Around: Chose two of your toys and tell a story about them.

Try This: Describe what you would do for a day if you were your favorite animal or story character.



2 Bear Cubs

Directions: There are two bear cubs on this page. Let's count the bear cubs and color them black. Trace the number 2 with your finger. Start at the dot at the top and curve around. Make a straight line at the bottom. Write the number 2 with a crayon or pencil.



Look Around: Go for a walk and look for the number two on signs, house addresses, etc.

Try This: Mate socks the next time it is laundry day. Two matching socks make a pair!