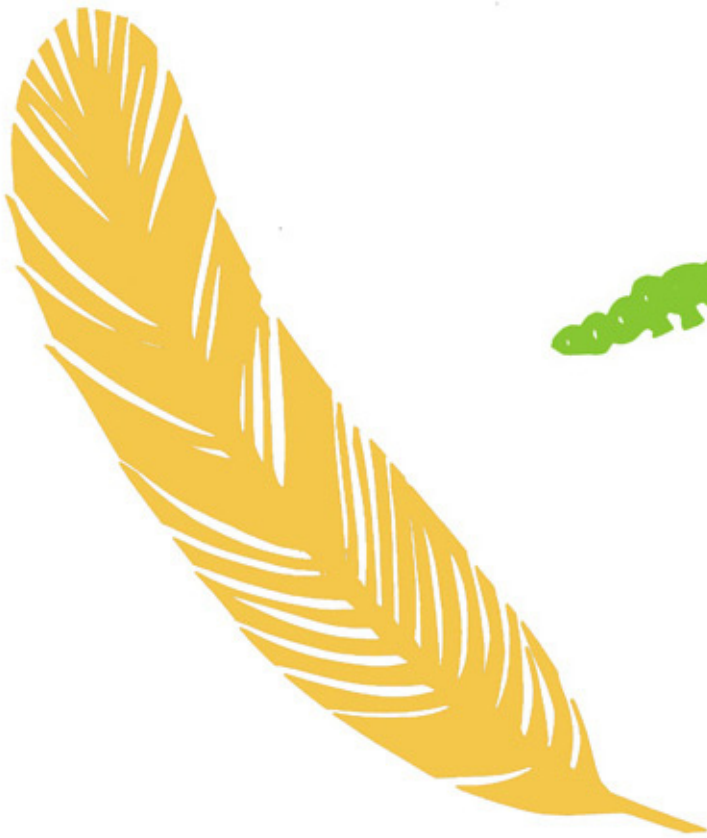
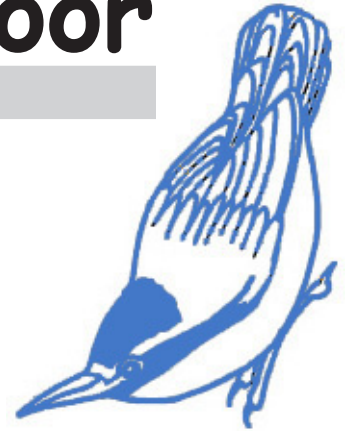




Just Outside the Door



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Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Just Outside My Door

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 A Mapping Activity	  
 A Treasure Hunt	  
 About Me	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Games	  
 Books and Stories	  
 Trips and Walks	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This week your child learned important information about the different kinds of places in which children live and play, and the kinds of things that can be found in these different places. (See “What Children Need to Know About What Is Just Outside Their Door.”) The group drew a map of what can be found “just outside their own doors” and went on a treasure hunt. They did other activities to help them learn about the variety of objects that can be found outside.

You can help your child remember what he or she learned by doing one or more of the activities listed under “Helping Children Learn More About What Is Just Outside Their Door.” As you do these activities with your child, stress the importance of understanding and appreciating the differences between people as well as between places. Our world is filled with variety, and children need to understand the value of that variety.

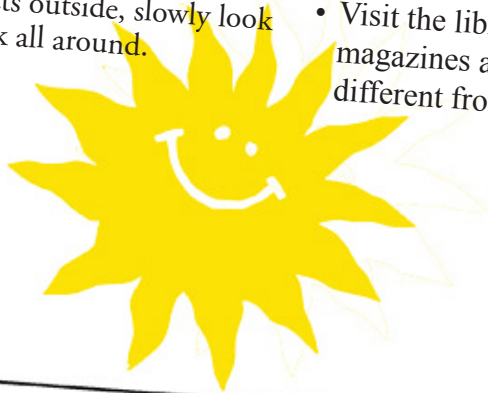
OVER

What Children Need to Know About What Is Just Outside Their Door

- Children live in many different kinds of places.
- Depending on where children live, they have different kinds of things to see and do when they leave their homes. Some examples are:
 - Some children live in cities. When they go outside, they may have a small yard, a large yard or no yard! There are many human-made things like houses and other buildings. There are paved streets. Often many people live close together in a small place. There may be many trees or just a few.
 - Some children live in the country. When they go outside, they may have a yard, or they may not. There are usually no other houses close by. Sometimes the roads are dirt roads. Usually there are many trees and other natural things.
- Things found outside have different shapes, colors, sizes and patterns.
- Some things found outside are human-made (like houses), and some are natural (like trees).
- Some things found outside are very easy to find because there are so many of them. Some things found outside are very hard to find because there are not very many of them.
- When looking for objects outside, slowly look up, look down, and look all around.

Helping Children Learn More About What Is Just Outside Their Door

- Encourage children to start a nature table, shelf or bulletin board in your home. “Treasures” that are discovered outside can be proudly displayed in this area.
- Encourage your child to ask questions about different kinds of people, places and things. If you don’t know the answers, ask “How can we find out?” Start a list of questions and then visit a library or ask experts to find out the answers.
- Make a list of the kinds of objects found just outside the door with your child. Let your child determine what categories to record.
- Take a short trip to a different kind of area than your family lives in. For example, if you live in the city, visit the country. Talk about things found in one area that aren’t found in the other (for example, cows are found in the country and fire hydrants are found in the city). What kinds of objects can be found in both places? (Examples are birds, trees, and people.) Talk about what it would be like to live in the different area.
- Visit the library and find books and magazines about places and people that are different from you and where you live.





Name _____

About Me

I Know How to Be a Friend

Draw a picture of one of your friends.

My friend's name _____

Things I like about this friend _____





































Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

I Know How to Be a Friend

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Prui Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Singing	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Games	  
 Drama	  
 Books and Stories	  
 Trips or Walks	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This meeting focused on the theme of friendship. The children participated in activities and talked about what it means to be a friend. They practiced friendship skills such as sharing, listening and problem-solving. The concept of friendship is an important one in 4-H because our purpose is to provide an environment where friends can get together to learn and have fun. (See "What Children Need to Know About Friendship.")

Some suggestions for ways in which you can help to reinforce the information we've shared today are listed under "Helping Children Learn More About Friendship." Also, share your ideas with your child about what friendship means to you.

Children this age are just beginning to realize the importance of friendship. They learn a great deal about what friendship is all about by being a friend. We, as adults, sometimes get involved too quickly when children are having problems with each other. If we encourage them to think through problems on their own, they can come up with some pretty creative solutions themselves! Instead of playing referee, you might say, "Sounds like you two are having a problem. I wonder what you could do to work this out." This is an important social skill for children to develop, and you can encourage this by talking about how differences can be worked out when we get the opportunities. Adult intervention is necessary if there is danger of children hurting each other.

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Friendship

- Friends are people who:
 - Like each other.
 - Like to be near and play with each other.
 - Talk with each other.
 - Help each other do things.
- Friends may be in your family or outside your family, and they can be any age.
- Having a friend and being a friend make people feel good.
- Having a friend gives people someone with whom to play, work, and share ideas and feelings.
- People feel friendly toward people who are interested in them, share with them, listen to their ideas, and help think of ways to solve problems.

Helping Children Learn More About Friendship

- Help your child plan a picnic, a party or an overnight stay with a friend.
- Notice when your child acts friendly, and comment on it. For example, you could say, "You said 'hello' to your friend Jim. That was a friendly thing to do."
- Help your child think about ways to make a new friend or to resolve a conflict.
- Help your child write letters to his or her friends. Remember, a friend can be of any age.





























Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

My Clothing and the Weather

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Making Sandals Activity	  
 Heat and Moisture Experiment	  
 About Me	  
 Games	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Books and Stories	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This week your child learned important information about clothing and weather. (See “What Children Need to Know About Clothing and Weather.”) The group either made sandals or experimented with heat and moisture absorption. They also did other activities to help them learn how weather is related to their clothing choices. You can help your child remember what he or she learned by doing one or more of the activities listed under “Helping Children Learn More About Clothing and the Weather.”

It is important for children to gain a sense of control over their world. When children learn ways to protect themselves from heat, cold, and wet, it gives them this sense of being “in charge” and able to take care of themselves.

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Clothing and the Weather

- Clothing protects us from the sun, rain, wind, and cold weather.
- Different types of clothing are best to wear in different kinds of weather.
- People can also protect themselves from the weather by shielding themselves with tents, umbrellas, sun visors, or sunglasses.

For Older or More Experienced Learners

- Cotton fabric absorbs moisture and is comfortable to wear in hot weather.
- Black or dark-colored clothing absorbs heat from the sun and is warmer to wear than white or light-colored clothing.

Helping Children Learn More About Clothing and Weather

- Talk with your child each day about which clothes would be best for that day's weather.
- Visit a sporting goods store and look for clothing made for special outdoor activities.
- Allow your child to help you take out and put away clothing as you move through the seasons.

























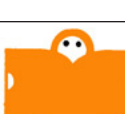


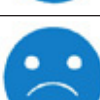




Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Billions of Insects

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Make an Insect Model Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Games	  
 Poetry	  
 Singing	  
 Making Snacks	  
 Books and Stories	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

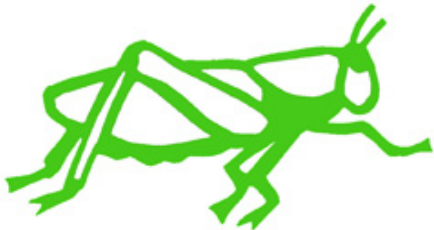
This week your child learned important information about insects and their parts. (See “What Children Need to Know About Insects.”) They made a model of an insect and did other activities which helped them learn about insects and their body parts.

You can help your child remember what he or she learned by doing some of the activities listed under “Helping Children Learn More About Insects.” Insects do help people. They are an important part of nature’s cycle, and we need to help children appreciate them.

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Insects

- Insects come in many different sizes, shapes and colors.
- Insects **always** have six legs, one pair of antennae and three body sections. Some insects also have wings.
- Insects do not have bones inside their bodies. Instead, they have a hard covering or shell over their bodies. This shell is called an exoskeleton.
- Insects have three body sections. They are the **head, the thorax, and the abdomen**. The head has the eyes, antennae, and mouthparts. The thorax has the legs and wings. The abdomen has the internal organs, such as the stomach and heart.
- Most insects belong to one of these six groups:
 - Beetles
 - Butterflies and moths
 - Ants, bees, and wasps
 - Flies
 - Grasshoppers, crickets, roaches, and mantids
 - Bugs



Helping Children Learn More About Insects

- Take your child on a walk around your yard, a park or a woodlot. Look all around for insects and try to identify the body parts and the kinds of insects you find.
- Ask your children open-ended questions such as "What have you noticed about this insect?" Then listen to their answers without criticizing, correcting or lecturing.
- Help your child make a chart to keep track of the kinds of insects he or she sees.
- If your child shows an interest, help him or her start an insect collection.





























Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Insect Catcher's Safari

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Insect Catcher's Safari Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Other Insect Activities	  
 Singing	  
 Poetry	  
 Books and Stories	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This week your child learned important information about insects and where they live. (See “What Children Need to Know About Insects.”) They went on an Insect Catcher’s Safari. They learned to look for insects up in the sky, on the ground, and under things. They did other activities to help them learn about where insects live.

Children will remember what they learned if you help them look for insects everywhere they go. Other things you can do with your child are listed under “Helping Children Learn More About Insects.” As you seek out insects with your child this week, stress the importance of exploring new places. Let your child know that trying new things and taking risks are important life skills.

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Insects

- Insects can be found just about anywhere you might look: in the city and in the country, inside buildings and outdoors, in woods and in fields, in water and in sand, and on pets and animals.
- Insects can be found by looking up, looking down, and looking all around. Then, when you've finished looking in one area this way, look again—insects are always on the move!
- Most insects have a favorite place to live. Insects usually live in one kind of place because they can find the things they need to live there. This might be on a special plant they like to eat or in an area with lots of sunlight, flowing water, or sandy soil.
- Some insects build special homes for themselves. Two kinds of insects which do this are ants (which build ant hills) and wasps (which build nests).

Helping Children Learn More About Insects

- Help your child look for insect homes (such as ant hills and wasp nests) around your house. Encourage him or her to watch the insects going in and out of their houses. Do they carry food? What else do they do around their houses?
- Help your child set up an ant farm.
- Children learn the most when they can watch something over time. Encourage your child to observe insects and their homes for several days. Talk about what he or she observes. Encourage him or her to record these observations by drawing pictures or writing words.





























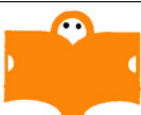







Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

An Insect's Life

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Life Stages Game Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Games	  
 Movement Activity	  
 Singing	  
 Making Snacks	  
 Books and Stories	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This week your child learned information about how insects grow and develop. (See "What Children Need to Know About Insects.") They played a game which helped them recognize the different life stages of insects. You can help your child remember what he or she learned by doing some of the things under "Helping Children Learn More About Insect Life Stages."

Coping with and adjusting to change is something everyone must learn to deal with throughout a lifetime. Talk to your child about how life is a cycle of constant change. Ask your child about a time when he or she had to make a change. Was it easy or hard to make this change? During the week, point out the many changes that take place.

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Insects

- Insects hatch from tiny eggs.
- Insects change shape as they grow. This is called **metamorphosis**. They do this by changing their shape gradually, by shedding their skin as they grow bigger, or all at once with a very big change in how they look.

Helping Children Learn More About Insect Life Stages

- Take a walk with your child and look for insects in different life stages. See if your child can tell you if an insect is one that has a gradual or sudden metamorphosis.
- Talk with your child about the life stages of humans. Point out children, adolescents, young adults, and older children.





Name _____

About Me

Working Together

This is a picture of children working together.




































Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Working Together

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Cooperative Fruit Salad Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Drama	  
 Games	  
 Singing	  
 Making Music	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Books and Stories	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

In our meeting today, we focused on the theme of working together (cooperation). The purposes of our activities were to give the children a chance to work together and experience firsthand how it felt. All of the activities we worked on involved the children taking turns, sharing, and making decisions together. (See "What Children Need to Know About Cooperation.")

In order to help your child with cooperation at home, there is a list of suggestions under "Helping Children Learn More About Working Together" for you to try. The important thing to remember about working together is that it involves a **common goal**. It isn't just doing what someone asks you to do.

Children this age get a great deal of information about themselves from the world around them. They take this information and start to form some ideas about their sense of good not only about themselves but about their abilities to enjoy other people's company. When they experience a lot of good feelings about their interactions with others, children are more likely to develop healthy, positive self-concepts. And that's what 4-H is all about!

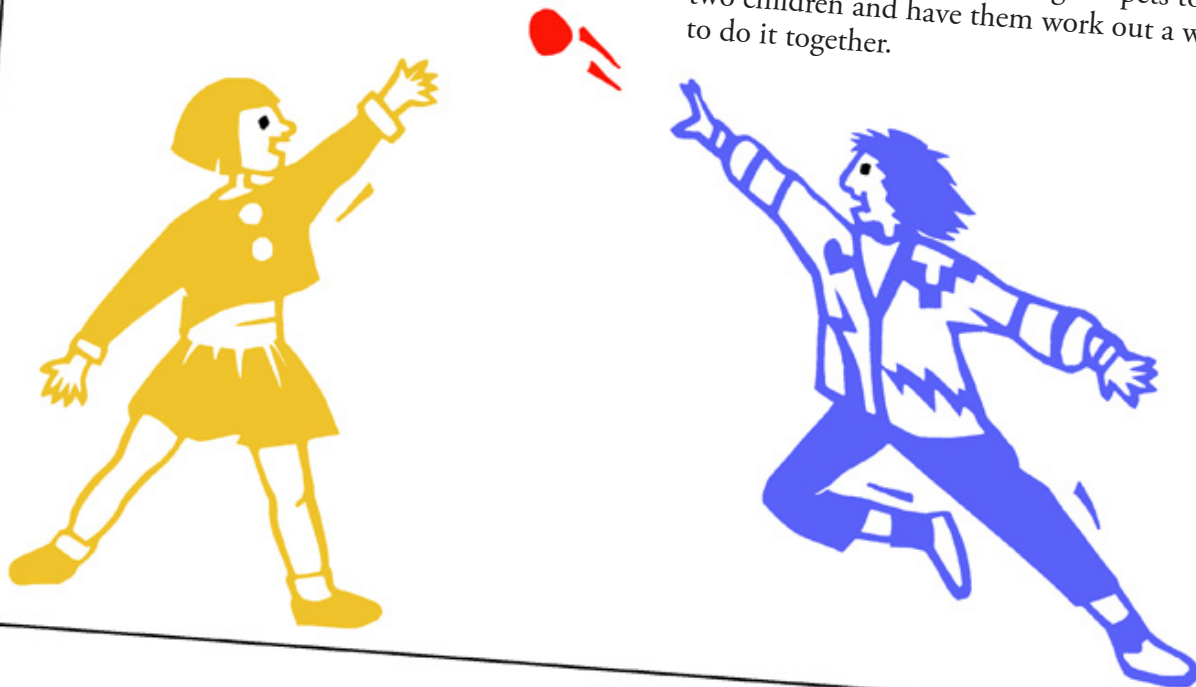
OVER

What Children Need to Know About Cooperation

- Cooperation means people working together to get something done. This means they have a common goal.
- When people cooperate, they:
 - Listen to each other's ideas.
 - Take turns using things.
 - Take turns talking.
- Some things can be done better or more easily when people work together.
- Working together can make people feel good.
- Cooperating is a way for people to show they like each other.

Helping Children Learn More About Working Together

- Involve your child in projects where the family is truly working toward a common goal, such as planning a picnic or washing the car for a family outing. Even though it might seem easier to do these jobs yourself, children enjoy being included and are generally more willing to support a project they have been a part of.
- To help children focus on the positive aspects of cooperating, point these out to children when they occur. For example, when you help your child make the bed or clean up a game, you can say, "Working together sure made that job easier!"
- Create opportunities for children to cooperate by assigning jobs on a partnership basis rather than to individuals. For example, you could assign the job of feeding the pets to two children and have them work out a way to do it together.

































Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Fabulous Fruits

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Find the Seeds Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Games	  
 Making Snacks	  
 Books and Stories	  
 Trips or Walks	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

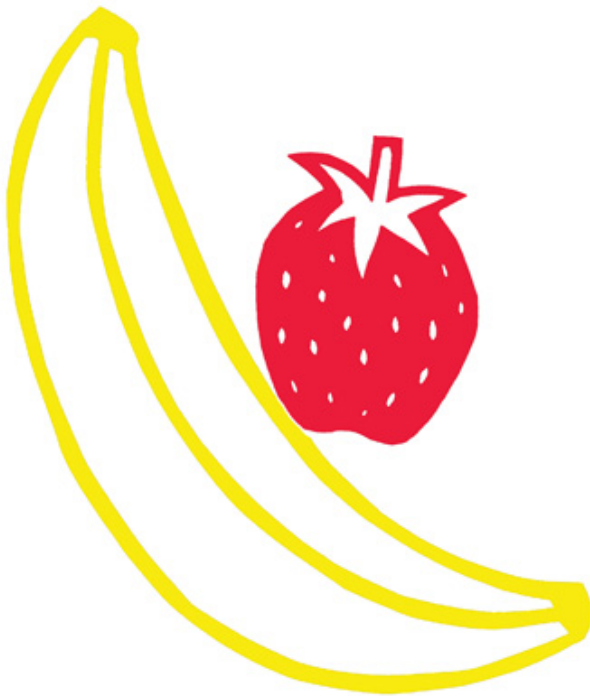
This week your child learned important information about fruits and the seeds they contain. (See “What Children Need to Know About Fruits.”) They looked at different fruits, found the seeds in each, and did other activities to help them learn about fruits as carriers of seeds.

You can help your child remember what he or she learned by doing some of the things under “Helping Children Learn More About Fruits.”

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Fruits

- A fruit is the part of a plant that seeds come in.
- Fruits come in many different sizes, shapes, colors, and tastes.
- Fruits can be found in different places on a plant.
- Fruits can be eaten and are good for you.



Helping Children Learn More About Fruits


- As you are shopping for and/or serving fruit this week, talk to your child about fruits being the carriers of seeds. Have your child find the seeds in the fruit he or she eats.
- Have your child keep a chart of the fruits he or she eats. The colors, sizes, and shapes of these fruits could be noted on this chart.
- Take your child on a trip to a berry patch or orchard. Talk about where the fruit can be found (attached to the plant, on the ground, or under the ground).
- Let your child plan and prepare a simple fruit dish for a meal. Fruit salad and applesauce are easy to make.
- Make dried apple rings with your child. Peel and core firm, ripe apples. Slice them into rings about 1/4-inch thick. Then, string and hang them in a warm, dry place to dry. When the slices are dry, pull off a ring and enjoy!



Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Surprising Seeds

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Inside a Seed Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Sampling Seeds	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Games	  
 Singing	  
 Making Snacks	  
 Books and Stories	  
 Trips or Walks	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This week your child learned important information about seeds and how they grow. (See “What Children Need to Know About Seeds.”) They looked inside different kinds of seeds. They also did many other activities to help them learn about seeds.

You can help your child remember what he or she learned by doing some of the things under “Helping Children Learn More About Seeds.” As you and your child are discussing how seeds grow into plants, explain to your child that he or she is growing, too. Look at old photos and have your child point out the differences in his or her appearance through the years. Like the seed that grows into a plant, a child will someday grow into an adult!

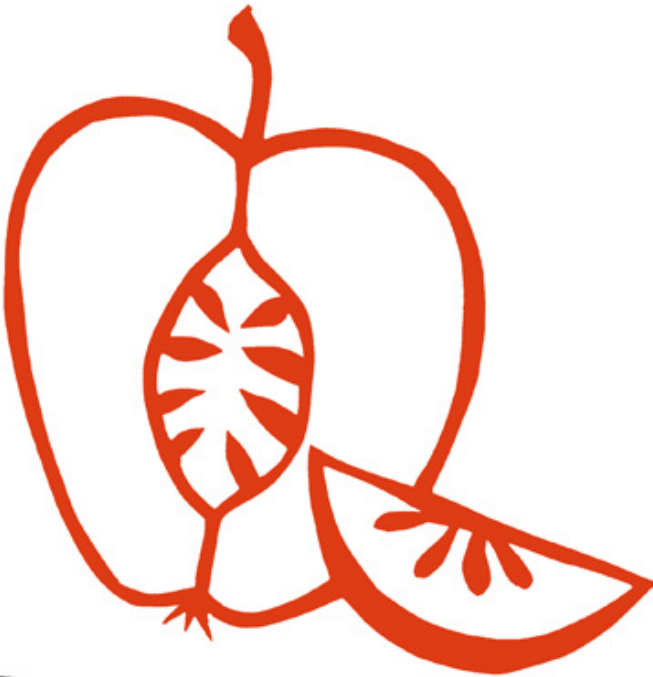
OVER

What Children Need to Know About Seeds

- Seeds are a part of plants and can be planted to grow more plants.
- Seeds come from the fruit of the plant.
- Seeds come in many sizes, shapes, and colors.
- People can make pretty decorations using seeds.
- Seeds have different parts—the seed coat, the scar, and the baby plant.
- Some seeds can be eaten, and they contain nutrients.

Helping Children Learn More About Seeds

- Help your child plant some seeds at home, and follow the growth of the seeds.
- Take a walk around your yard, a woodlot, or park, and gather seeds from the plants and trees.
- Make popcorn with your child. Talk about how popcorn is a seed.
- Help your child sprout some seeds in a paper towel. To do this, place a few seeds in a paper towel and tightly roll up the towel. Then, place two rubber bands around it to keep it from unrolling, and put the towel in a quart jar with a few inches of water. Put the jar in a warm place. Have your child carefully unroll the towel in 2 or 3 days to check the seeds for sprouting.

































Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Oh, No! Stains!

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Make Your Own Stain Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Games	  
 Singing	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Books and Stories	  
 Trips and Walks	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

Our activities today centered around the topic of stains. Yes, stains! The children got to make different kinds of stains on fabrics, and they also got to practice getting them out. Some of the stains were pretty difficult. We also talked about ways to avoid getting stains on our clothes in the first place. (See “What Children Need to Know About Stains.”)

Ways that you can help your child remember what he or she learned are listed under “Helping Children Learn More About Stains.” The **Stain Removal Fact Sheet** that comes with this letter tells about how most common stains can be removed.

While we can't promise a perfectly clean child, we do hope we've been able to make children more aware of the problems that stains can create for them—and you! Still, children really do learn best about their world through exploring and doing, and sometimes this means getting pretty messy. Some children even avoid playing because they're worried about getting their clothes dirty. Providing children with “play clothes” helps avoid this problem. By the way, please send your child to 4-H in play clothes!

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Stains

- A stain is a dirty or discolored spot.
- Different kinds of stains are removed in different ways.
- Treat stains right away, if possible.
- Some stains are hard to remove, and some can never be removed.
- Wearing clean clothes can help people look nice and feel better.
- When using or eating messy things, people can try to keep stains from getting on their clothes by wearing aprons, paint smocks, and bibs, and by using napkins.

Helping Children Learn More About Stains

- When your child gets something on his or her clothing, have him or her rinse it out with cold water (or do whatever treatment is recommended for the stain).
- Children may like to engage in purposely "staining" their clothing by tie-dyeing an old T-shirt. Instructions for this process are usually included on packages of dye mix. This is recommended as a home activity because it requires one-on-one supervision.
- You can begin to involve your child in the laundry process by gradually teaching him or her some of the steps involved. Start out showing your child how to put all the clothes right side out and sort them by light and dark colors. When your child is a little older, he or she can begin to learn to use the washer and dryer.





Stain Removal Fact Sheet

General Points to Remember

- Identify the stain.
- Identify that the garment is washable.
- Treat the stain immediately! Fresh stains are easier to remove than old ones.
- Blot or scrape off excess stain.
- Work on the wrong side of the fabric so you push the stain out, not in.
- Work carefully and patiently.
- Do not use hot water on an unknown stain.

How to Identify Stains

One very important factor in successful stain removal is correctly identifying the stain. What is it? When did it happen? What does the garment label say about the fiber content? Does the label say the garment is washable?

If you can't remember what caused the stain, then try the following:

1. Look at the color and appearance of the stain.
2. Look at where the stain is located.
3. Smell the stain. Does it have an odor you recognize?
4. Feel the stain to check the texture.

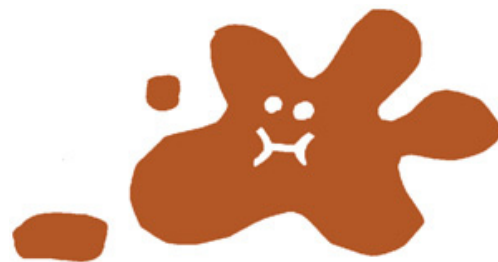
Procedure for Removing Identifiable Stains

- Place a soft cloth or paper towels under the stain to serve as a blotter.
- Work on the wrong side of the fabric.
- Place the stain side to the blotter.
- Sponge the stain lightly with a clean, soft cloth.
- Move frequently to a clean area on the blotter.

Simple Stain Solutions

There are many different methods of stain removal, and this list focuses on methods and stain removal products which children can safely handle with adult supervision. You may have methods of your own to share with your child.

- **Catsup**—Scrape off the excess with a dull knife. Soak in cold water for 30 minutes. Rub detergent into the stain while it is still wet, then launder the garment.
- **Grass and Chocolate**—Treat the stain with cold water before it dries. Soak for 30 minutes. Use an enzyme presoak and soak the garment for the recommended amount of time. Apply concentrated detergent to the stain and allow it to set, then launder the garment.
- **Fruit juices, mud, soft drinks**—Soak the stain for 15 minutes in a solution of 1 quart warm water, ½ teaspoon liquid hand dishwashing detergent, and 1 tablespoon vinegar. Rinse. Sponge with rubbing alcohol.
- **Ink (ballpoint)**—Sponge the stain with rubbing alcohol or spray it with hair spray until it looks wet. Rub detergent into the stained area. Launder the garment. Repeat if necessary.
- **Ink (felt tip pen)**—Rub household cleaner into the stain. Rinse. Repeat as many times as necessary to remove the stain. Launder the garment. Some stains may be impossible to remove.
- **Ice cream**—Soak the stain in cold water. Rub detergent into the stain. Launder the garment.
- **Mustard**—Rub detergent into the dampened stain. Rinse. Soak in hot detergent water for several hours. Launder the garment.





Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Wet and Wonderful

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Ice Turns Into Water Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Water Dissolves Things	  
 Making Snacks	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Singing	  
 Where Does Water Go?	  
 Games	  
 Books and Stories	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This week your child learned important information about water. (See “What Children Need to Know About Water.”) They changed ice into water, and did other activities which helped them to learn the basic characteristics of water.

You can help your child remember this new information by doing some of the activities listed under “Helping Children Learn More About Water.” Water is important to all living things. We all need to appreciate it. Even older children enjoy water play in tubs, sinks, lakes, and pools. As you do water play with your child, ask him or her to suggest what will happen before you actually pour, shake, etc. This kind of “prethinking” is part of the scientific process. By helping children develop ideas and then “test” them, you are developing their thinking processes!

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Water

- Water is a liquid.
- Water spreads out.
- Water flows when poured.
- Some things float in water.
- Ice is frozen water.
- Warmth changes ice into water.
- Some things dissolve in water.
- Water evaporates.
- Water is important to us.



Helping Children Learn More About Water

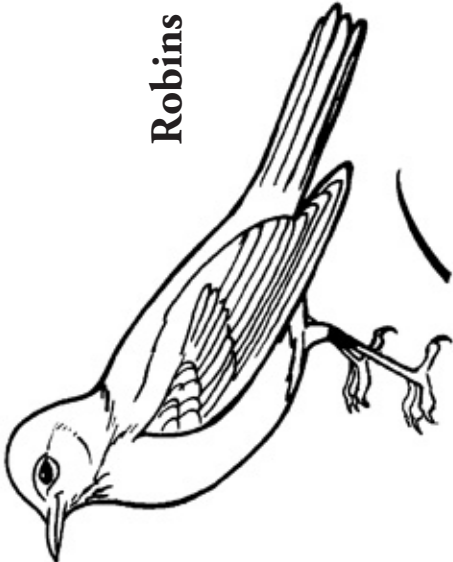
- Help your child make a list of the ways in which water is used in your home. Talk about the importance of water to you and your family.
- Make homemade "fruitsicles" with your child. Simply pour fruit juice into paper cups and place them in the freezer. When the mixture is partially frozen, insert a wooden stick. To eat, tear away the paper cup and enjoy a cool, refreshing snack.
- Help your child experiment with household objects to see what floats and what sinks in water. You might use objects such as dried beans, plastic lids, buttons, ice cubes, bars of soap, small empty bottles or cans, and corks.
- After a steady rain, take your child for a walk. Look for places where puddles have formed and where water is flowing.
- Plan an outing at a lake or pond. Help your child find ways of floating, such as alone or on inflatables or boats.

More Than Flying

What Birds Do



Some birds hop.



Robins



Blue jays



Juncos



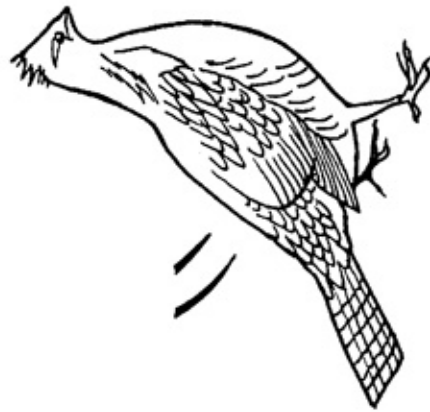
Pheasants

Some birds can surprise you by flying up right beneath your feet with a “whirr.”

Some birds run.



Quail



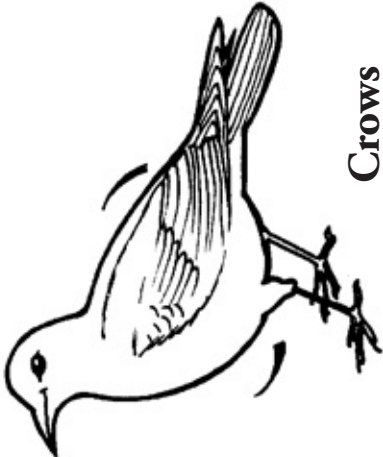
Grouse



Sandpipers

Other birds walk. They sway back and forth.

Some birds fly by soaring and gliding high above the trees.



Crows



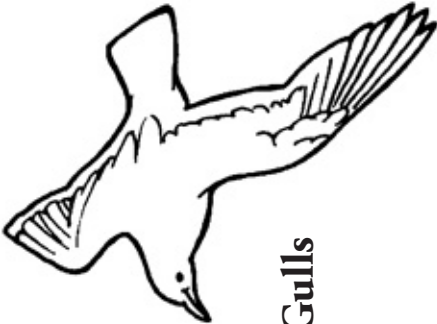
Grouse



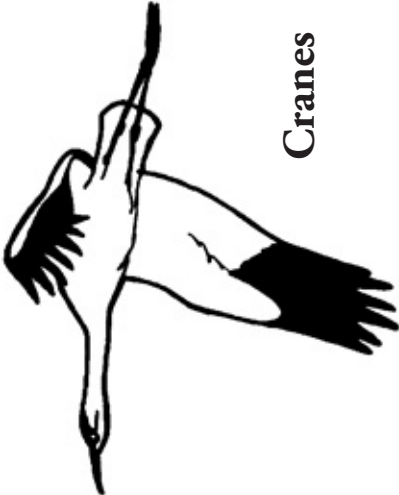
Grackles



Hawks



Gulls



Cranes

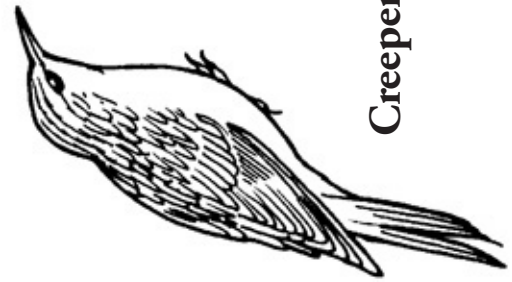
Some birds like to perch on tree trunks instead of on tree branches.



Woodpeckers

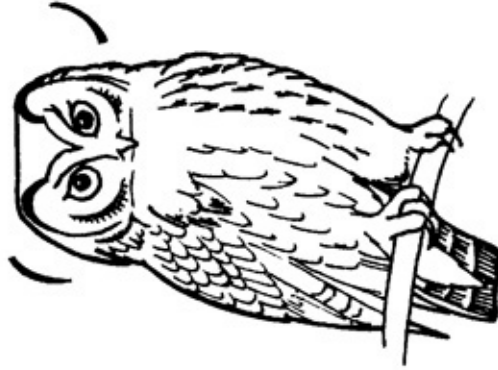


Nuthatches



Creepers

Some birds can stand very still. They only move their eyes and heads.



Owls



Hawks



Hérons



Kingfishers



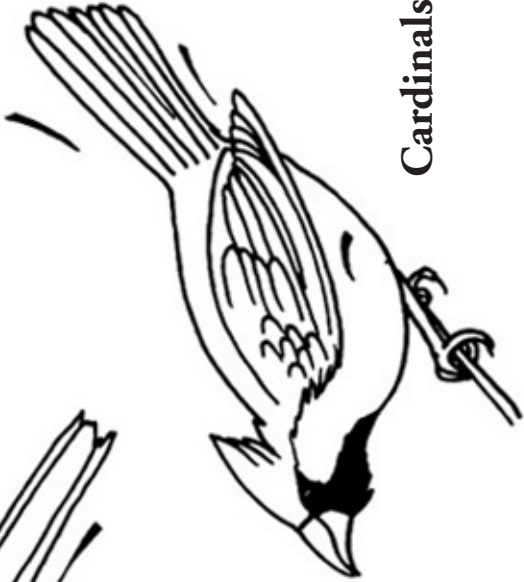
Kinglets



Sparrows



Juncos



Cardinals



Chickadees





























Other birds can't stand still.
They have to flick their tails or wings.



Name _____

My Thoughts and Feelings

Birds of a Feather

We did these things:	I felt like this:
 Making Bird Puppets Activity	  
 About Me	  
 Movement Activity	  
 Arts and Crafts	  
 Construction Activity	  
 Singing	  
 Books and Stories	  
This is how I felt about the whole meeting:	



Dear parent:

This week your child learned important information about birds. (See “What Children Need to Know About Birds.”) The group made bird puppets and did other activities that would help them learn about bird behaviors and what makes a bird a bird.

You can help your child remember what he or she learned by doing one or more of the activities listed under “Helping Your Children Learn More About Birds.” As you do these activities, listen to your child’s answers carefully—let the child tell you what he or she knows. Listen patiently without criticizing or lecturing.

OVER

What Children Need to Know About Birds

- Birds are the only animals with feathers.
- Birds come in many different sizes, shapes, and colors.
- Different kinds of birds move in different ways.
- Different kinds of birds eat different foods.
- Bird feeders can attract birds to your yard or window.

Helping Children Learn More About Birds

- Observe the birds around your home. Talk about how you can tell these creatures are birds. (They have feathers.)
- Take your child to visit an aviary or the zoo. Talk about the many different kinds of birds found there. Can you see what the birds eat? Do all birds eat the same things? Talk about the different sizes, shapes, and colors of the birds you see.
- Put up a bird feeder outside a window and observe the birds with your child. Talk about the different kinds of birds that feed there. Do they all move the same way? How are their behaviors different?
- Watch birds as they fly. Ask your child what he or she thinks it would be like to fly like a bird. What would things look like from up in the air? Pretend to fly with your child. Soar and swoop together!

