



Read! On Canada

Fun Book



Hello families,

Do you like stories? Do you want to try the ancient art of origami?

Or you can test your skills with puzzles and games and give hands-on science a try!

ABC Life Literacy Canada, Frontier College, Let's Talk Science and the Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation have put together a few activities to get you started. Read On!

Looking for MORE? That's terrific.

We've got lots at ReadOnCanada.ca.

Read On and have FUN!

Riddles!



1. What has hands but can't clap?
2. What gets wetter and wetter the more it dries?
3. What's full of holes but still holds water?
4. What belongs to you but other people use it more than you?
5. What two keys can't open any door?

1. A clock 2. A towel 3. A sponge 4. Your name 5. A monkey and a donkey

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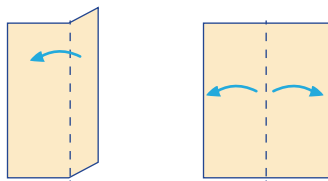
Paper Boat, Stay Afloat!

Learning a new craft, skill or game is a great way to practice literacy. We practice reading when we follow directions. We practice communicating with others when we try a new activity together. Using the directions below, try to build a paper boat!

Step 1

Start with a rectangular piece of paper.

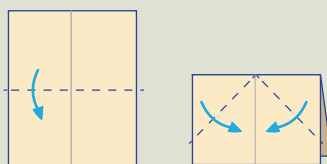
Fold it in half, and then open it.



Step 2

Fold the paper in half in the opposite direction.

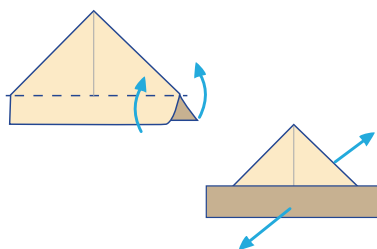
Next, fold the top corners to the centre line.



Step 3

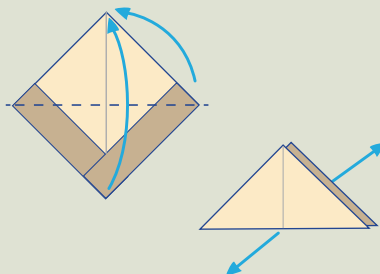
Fold the bottom rectangular flap of paper up. Flip the boat over and do the same on the other side. Now pinch the crease on each side of the boat, and pull.

Flatten the boat into a square.



Step 4

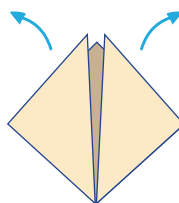
Take the bottom corner of the top layer. Fold it up to the top corner. Now flip the boat over and do the same to the other side. Pinch the crease on each side of the boat, and pull. Flatten the boat into another square.



Step 5

Gently pull the top corners of your paper model outwards until they're straight across from each other.

Now you have a boat shape!

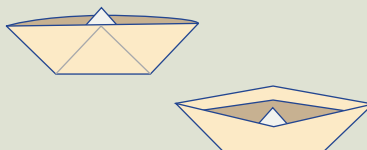


Step 6

Flatten the boat so all folds are creased.

Open out slightly.

You have an origami boat!



What You'll Need:

A blank piece of 8.5 x 11" paper for each participant.



Take it Further:

You can create all sorts of origami shapes. Go online as a family and look up more ideas.

Story: Fisherwoman

If you ask me, summer vacation is not the time to visit the sea.

Ok, maybe with your friends, swimming and playing on the beach. That would be fun. But not on your own with your aunt.

There are no other kids. Your phone doesn't work. You have to bundle up. You can't even swim here. What's the point of the ocean without a beach?

My Aunt Mary's job is catching fish. She tells me, "We're going fishing in the morning."

I say, "I don't think so, not me. I can stay here and look after the house with Grandma."

But Aunt Mary just laughs. "No way, Isla," she says.

We wake up at 3:00 a.m. I have never been awake at 3:00 a.m. before. 3:00 a.m. is quiet, dark and still.

Aunt Mary lends me some clothes for the boat. I feel like a stuffed banana. This is the ocean done completely wrong.

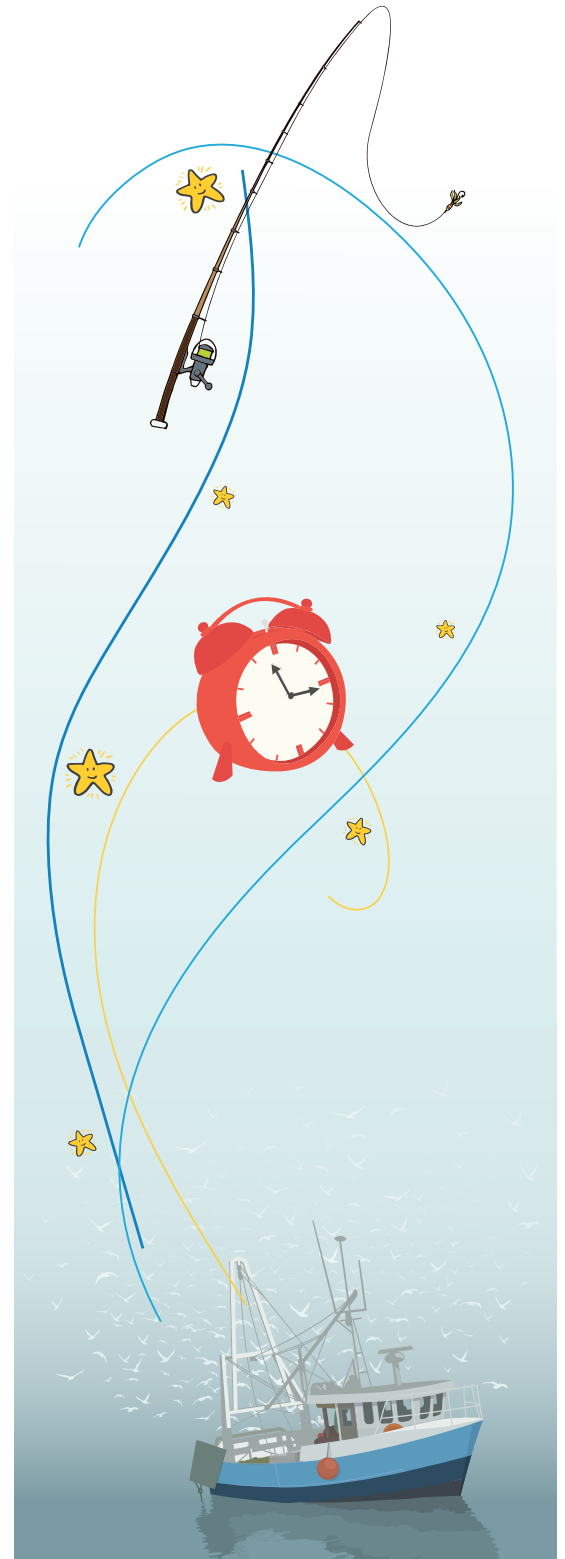
We walk out to the harbour with my cousin Josh. He works on Aunt Mary's boat too. "Hey, fisherwoman Isla," he calls to me.

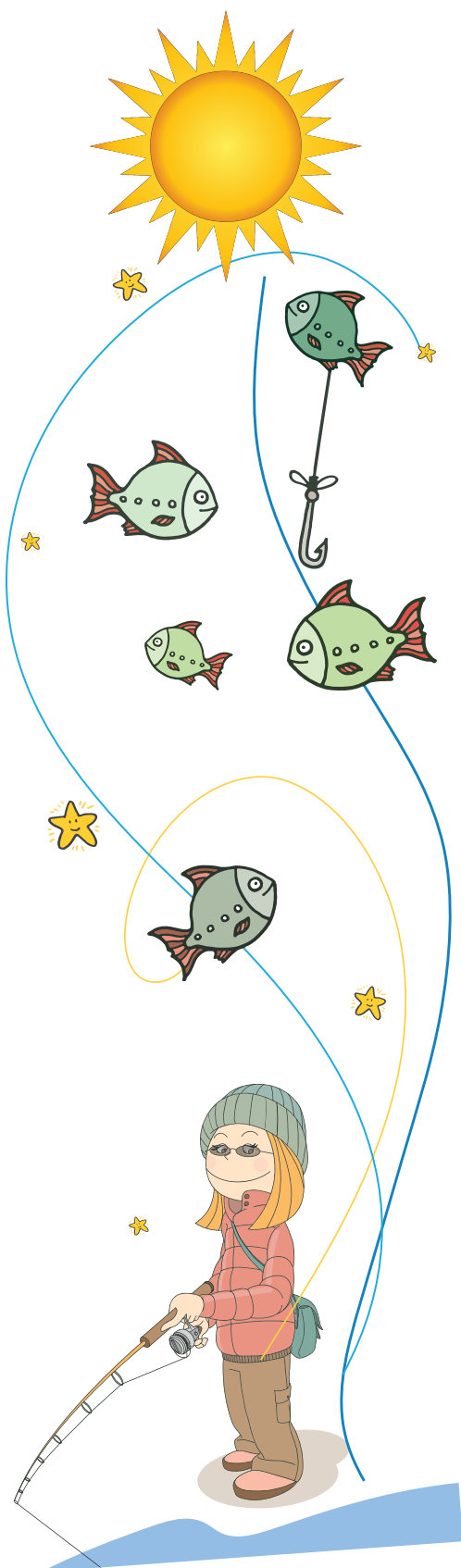
"Hi, fisherman Josh," I say and then stick my tongue out at him.

The harbour is filled with people and boats – everyone seems to know where they're going. One by one, the boats start their engines and move off into the ocean.

We climb on board my aunt's boat. They tuck me into a blanket in the cabin. "Might as well get some more sleep in, Isla," says Aunt Mary.

When I wake up, the sun is out. I can still see the land, a big





strip of green. It's just us, the ocean and the huge sky.

"Don't forget the fish, Isla." Aunt Mary and Josh show me the net. They launch it into the water, and then my aunt starts driving the boat slowly away. You can feel the pull of the net behind us. I keep busy by waving at the seagulls.

Soon, we come up to some other fishing boats, and I wave to those people instead. Aunt Mary knows everyone. "Is that your niece from the city?" they call. "Yup," says my aunt, her hands on my shoulders. I feel a bit like a celebrity.

"Ready for the fish?" Aunt Mary asks. They start to crank up the net. And suddenly – there are fish everywhere! Good thing I was standing back. Those fish do not stay still!

Aunt Mary shows me how to pick up the fish and toss them into the holds under the deck. Some fish go back into the ocean. "Why are we putting fish back into the ocean?" I ask. "That's important," my aunt tells me. "If we take all the fish now, there wouldn't be many left for you when you come back next summer."

I get pretty good at fish tossing and waving at birds. Soon, the sun's going down. I might have fallen asleep for the last bit.

"What did you think, Isla?" Josh asks on our walk home.

"I think you mean Fisherwoman Isla," I say, yawning. "I had a really great day."

My Dream Job

If you could have any job in the world, what would it be? How would you spend your days on the job? Draw a picture of yourself in your dream job. Practice your writing by labeling what you've drawn.

Possible Jobs

- fisherwoman • airplane pilot • paleoentologist • author
- fisherman • doctor (a dinosaur expert) • and many more
- teacher • chef • police officer



What You'll Need:

Activity sheet for each child, crayons, pencil crayons or markers.



Take it Further:

Talk with your family about the skills required to work in your dream job. Make a list of the skills you need to learn to achieve your dream!

Nature Word Search



All of the words from the list appear in the letters below. They may be up and down (vertical), left to right (horizontal) or diagonal.

Can you find all of the words?



A	G	S	Y	U	D	S	N	M	T
W	S	A	T	Z	R	M	U	J	R
T	U	T	X	S	E	W	Q	E	E
O	N	I	L	T	A	D	C	S	E
H	U	C	A	J	M	O	O	N	M
T	D	K	O	T	S	H	L	J	O
D	G	R	A	S	S	O	S	M	O
L	Y	T	R	E	N	I	V	I	M
J	X	H	C	W	C	L	O	U	D
M	U	N	B	U	I	S	O	K	S

TREE

SUN

CLOUD

GRASS

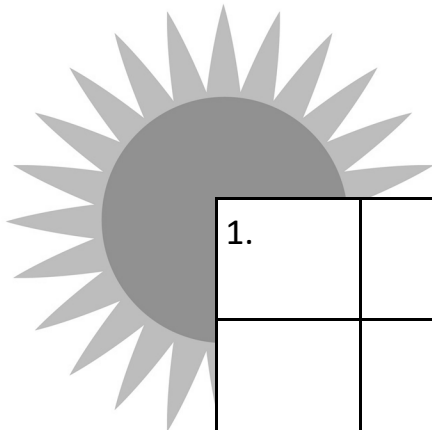
MOON

DREAM

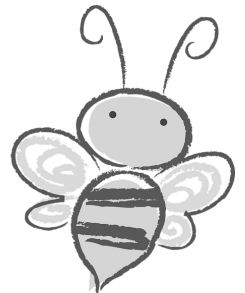
Nature Crossword



Using the clues at the bottom of the page, fill in the grid below with the answers.



1.			2.		3.		4.
5.							

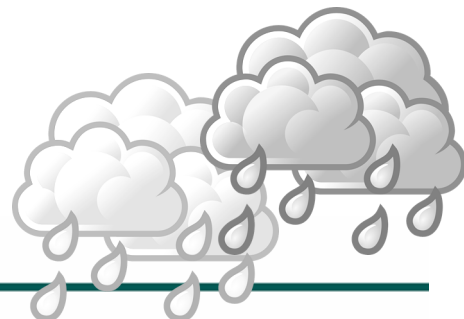


Down

1. The _____ shines during the day.
2. A _____ is a big animal, with antlers. Rhymes with 'goose'
3. A _____ is a yellow and black striped insect that can sting you.
4. _____ is water that falls from the clouds.

Across

1. Spring, _____, fall and winter.
5. What is the ocean made of?



Did You Know...?

Here are seven incredible Science facts! Be sure to share your new knowledge with others!



Open Source Image

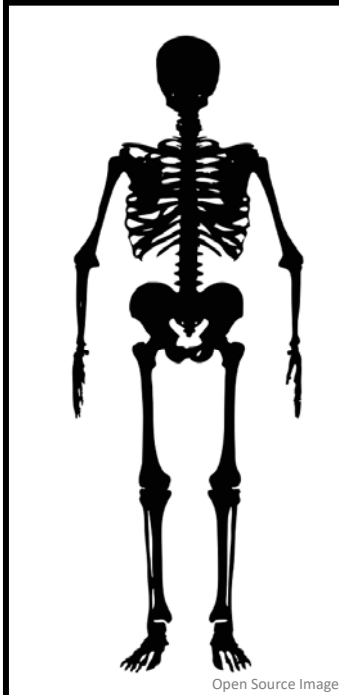
Many animals and insects have “adaptations” (changes in how they look or act) that help them survive. For example, the Indian Rose Mantis looks identical to a leaf, and is able to blend in with its environment. This helps it to avoid becoming another animal’s dinner!



Open Source Image

Hummingbirds are the only bird that can fly backwards! They can do this because their wings flap in a figure-8 pattern.

Bonus Fact: Many species of hummingbirds’ heart rate can reach over 1200 beats per minute (that’s over 20 beats per second)!



Open Source Image

Babies have around 100 more bones than adults! In a process called “ossification”, babies’ bones, many of which are cartilage, fuse and turn into single bones. At birth, a baby has just over 300 bones, while an adult human has 206. How many bones do you know the name of?



Open Source Image

Over half of the world’s oxygen comes from oceans! Marine organisms, such as algae and phytoplankton, use a process called photosynthesis to convert sunlight into oxygen.



Open Source Image

Sharks don’t have a single bone in their body! Instead, they contain only cartilage (which is what the “bones” in human noses and ears are made of). Bonus Fact: Some sharks move non-stop, in order to survive. This is because they must continuously have oxygen going through their gills. If they stopped moving, they would suffocate.



Open Source Image

The average cumulus cloud weighs over one million pounds! This is because they are made up of tiny droplets of water or ice crystals, which, when added together, weigh a lot!



Open Source Image

In a process called “thermal expansion” (getting bigger because of increased temperature) the metal of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France expands in the summer heat. It can grow up to 15 centimeters taller in the summer than in the winter! The concept is the same as the mercury in a thermometer expanding as it gets warmer.



How do animals hide?

Play a game of hide and seek to discover how animals can hide in plain sight!



DISCOVERY

WHAT YOU NEED

- 1 A toy animal (could be plastic or stuffed)

WHAT TO DO

- 1 Play a game of hide and seek by hiding the toy animal in an accessible place around your home.
- 2 The objective is to hide the toy animal in plain sight (i.e., not in cupboards, closets, under furniture, etc.), but also where it blends in with the surroundings, where it is camouflaged.
- 3 Ask a friend to look for the "hidden" toy animal. Was it easy to find? Why or why not?
- 4 Hide the toy animal in different locations, places where the degree of camouflage varies. Is it easier or harder to find? Why or why not?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- ★ The way an animal uses its colour, shape and texture to blend in is called Camouflage.
- ★ Camouflage helps keep an animal from being seen by something that wants to eat it.
- ★ Some animals change colour with the seasons.
- ★ An octopus changes both its skin colour and skin texture to blend in.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- ★ People also use camouflage.
- ★ Soldiers wear clothing with colours and patterns that help them blend in with their surroundings.

INVESTIGATE FURTHER:

- ★ Try hiding a different animal. Is it easier or harder to find than the first animal you tried?
- ★ Colour a picture of your favourite animal so that it could blend in somewhere in your home. Cut it out and hide it in that spot. Ask someone to try to find it.



Why can we see shadows at night?

Take a walk after dark to find shadows.



DISCOVERY

WHAT YOU NEED

- 🕒 A dark area with a light source (e.g. the moon, a street light, an outdoor building light, car lights, etc.)

WHAT TO DO

- 1 Go for a walk after dusk to search for shadows.
- 2 As each shadow is found, identify the object that is making the shadow.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- ★ To see a shadow, there must be a source of light and an object that blocks that light.
- ★ Sources of light may be natural (sunlight or moonlight) or artificial (incandescent, fluorescent or halogen lighting).
- ★ When an object blocks the beam of light shining on it, a shadow appears.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- ★ A shadow created by blocking the sunlight is also called shade.
- ★ A sun umbrella, the brim of a hat or a visor in the front window of your car blocks light and creates a shadow. These items can help keep us cooler in high temperatures and protect our eyes from direct light.

INVESTIGATE FURTHER:

- ★ Take the same walk during the daytime. Are the shadows the same? What happens on a cloudy day?
- ★ Try this walk as a search for shadows inside your home. Do shadows change when the light source changes?

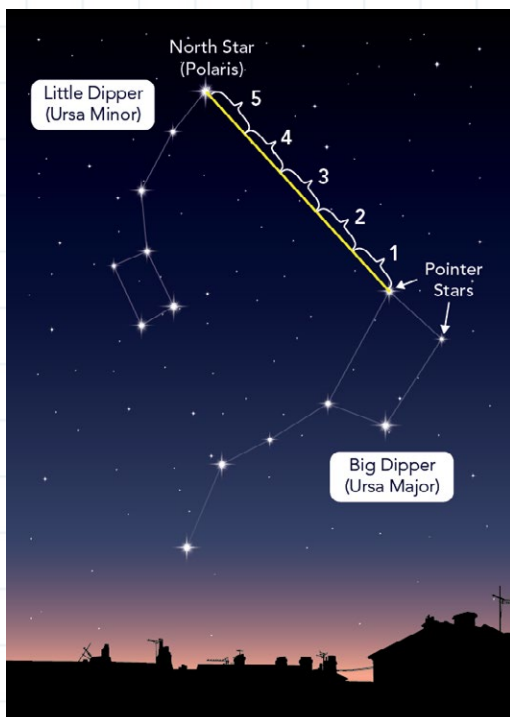


How can I tell which way is north at night?

Do you like to look at the stars? What can you identify in the night sky? Try finding some important constellations tonight!

WHAT YOU NEED

- Image of the Big Dipper and Little Dipper (on this page)
- Dim light source, such as a flash light or cell phone covered with thin material



WHAT TO DO

- 1** Before you go outside, try your best to memorize the image and the instructions so you know what to look for as you are looking up.
- 2** If you need a reminder while you are outside, cover the end of your flashlight with thin material to dim it or use a dim cell phone screen to look the image when you're outside (this way you see the image and the night sky without losing your night vision; if the light is too bright, you may need to wait a few moments for your night vision to return).
- 3** Go outside to a dark area where you have a clear view of the night sky above you. Locate the Big Dipper (Ursa Major); it looks like a big pot in the sky.
- 4** Once you have located the Big Dipper, find the two 'Pointer Stars' on the end of the 'pot' portion of the Big Dipper. Imagine a line that extends from up past the Pointer Stars that is five times as long as the distance between the Pointer Stars. You will find a star at the end of that line, which is at the end of the constellation that looks like a similar version of the Big Dipper. This is the North Star!



Is feeling always believing?

Get your hands cold for science and explore the topic of sensory adaptation.



DISCOVERY

WHAT YOU NEED

- 3 Bowls or trays (big enough to fit your hands)
- Water taps (for access to cold and hot water)

WHAT TO DO

- 1 Fill one bowl 1/2 full with ice (or cold) water, another bowl with warm (not hot) water and the last bowl with room-temperature water.
- 2 Arrange the bowls in a straight line.
- 3 Put one hand in the cold bowl and another in the warm bowl and leave them there for a minute or so. Quickly plunge both hands into the room temperature bowl. What temperature does your left hand register? What about your right hand? Why do you think they feel that way?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- ★ This is an example of neural adaptation (or sensory adaptation), which is the change over time in the responsiveness of the sensory system to a constant stimulus.

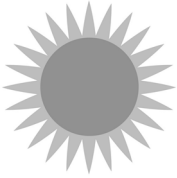
WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- ★ After being outside in the cold for a while, the thermoreceptors get used to the cold and start to treat it like it is the "normal" temperature, so that if you put your hands under warm water, it feels almost like hot water.
- ★ It also happens in the very hot, sunny summer weather: warm water may seem really cold on your skin, especially if you have a sunburn!

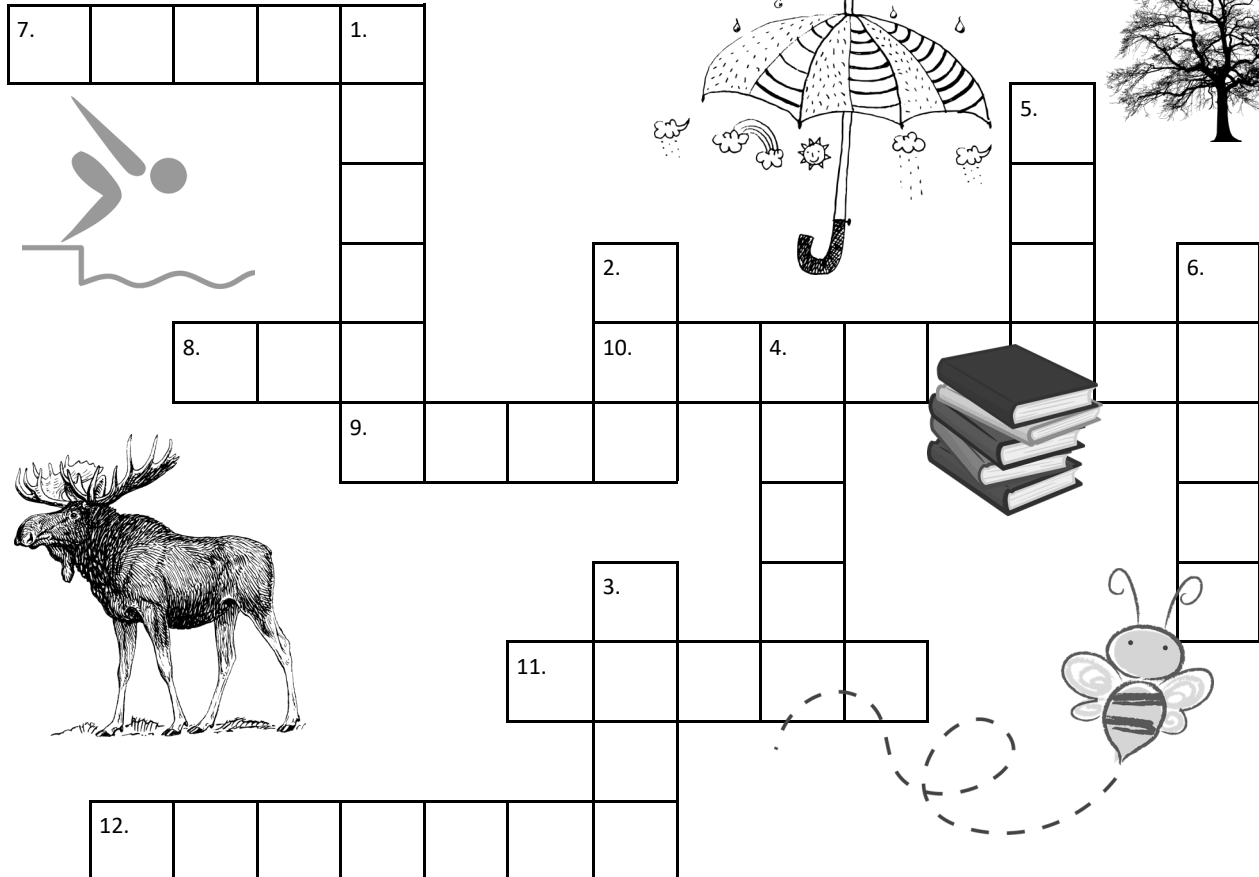
INVESTIGATE FURTHER:

- ★ Try other examples of sensory adaptation! Rub your index finger gently over a piece of coarse sandpaper a few times. After a minute or two, rub the same finger over the paper again. Does it feel as coarse as it was the first time, or does it feel smoother?
- ★ Take a sip of sugar water (dissolve 1 tablespoon of white sugar in a glass of water) and swish it around your mouth for a minute (but do not swallow it!). Spit it out, and then drink some fresh water. Did the fresh water taste how you expected it?

Crossword



Using the fill-in-the-blank clues at the bottom of the page, fill in the grid below with the answers.



Down

1. The four seasons: winter, spring, _____, and fall.
2. The _____ shines during the day.
3. The _____ shines at night.
4. There are a lot of _____ at the library.
5. You might go swimming in a _____.
6. Rivers, lakes, and oceans are examples of bodies of _____.

Across

7. A forest is made up of _____.
8. A _____ is a yellow and black striped insect that can sting you.
9. _____ is water that falls from the clouds.
10. If it rains, to keep dry you might need to hold an _____ above your head.
11. A _____ is a big animal, with antlers, and rhymes with "goose".
12. Wear sunscreen so you don't get a _____.

Word Search



All of the words from the list at the bottom of the page appear in the letters below. They may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal. Can you find all of the words? There are also words hidden in the letters that do not appear in the list. How many can you find?

C A M P T A Z W O L I C G C C U J S Y D F L R B F
N M G I Z P P L C G H U N I P Z L Y X I T C O O L
O U S I W E L A E L E P H A N T M S M O X A D F O
H A C L O U D M A O H E I X O O P E O P S T E L C
N M A F L E V M N K J U R B U S I Z O O E E Y O K
S O K L M P S S U D M E B E X V O N S Y A R D N R
H H E V H A Q U I M G W I Z M C A N E H L P L M E
J U E Y C O O B I O D L M S W I U E C A K I E E P
K A C I K S O E L U D D Q W M N V A Z E M L M Q R
P U A Y A S Z A Z N S I S E T T S I O S E L O K S
L L R C N O P Y U T T K A T N V U K B S P A R D N
M S A M T P I T B A S O H O N S S U M M E R S T U
O I B I T A Z A N I N B O Q O M O L B Y A B W L S
I W O L N J L O U N R I O A I S F O S D U L K C G
M E U I J K O W O T D D V D S E Y H U N D R A P O
R D L I M W I A T U Z Q S I B U Z E O L O P Y J O
S I O V W E M U P S A H P M P S E R R S F D A I S
T G V A S E N M E U S U C V C P C B M A L A K U E
E M K E O P W S L M Q L O Z S E D M B T E U Z W O
R E I V R R D E M F L O W E R B O O F M W O N E M

BIRD
CLOUD

HERB
MOOSE

GOOSE
PLAIN

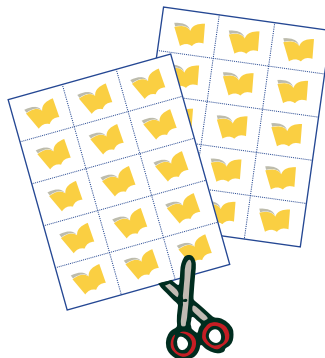
CAMP
CANE

KAYAK
MOUNTAIN

Fishing for Matches

Set up

Cut out the “Fishing for Matches” cards. Notice how there are two of every picture? Shuffle the deck so they’re all mixed up. Lay them face down on a table.

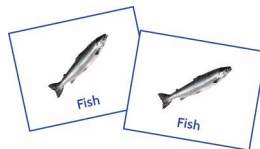


Play

Put your memory to work!

The first player flips one card over – everyone take a look and remember what it is. Turn the card back over. The next player does the same.

When it’s your turn, look at the card you’ve flipped over, and try to remember: have you seen its matching card? If you have, try to find it! You have one chance to flip over a second card. If it’s the matching card, congratulations! Take both cards off the table. If not, turn both cards back over. Now it’s the next player’s turn.



What You’ll Need:

Activity sheet for each family and safety scissors.



Winner

Once the players have matched all the cards and the table is clear, which player has the most cards? They’re the winner!



Take it Further:

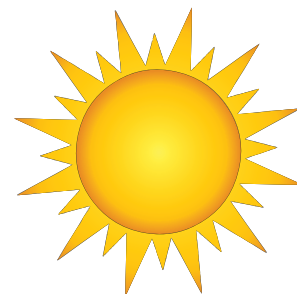
You can make your own cards with letters from the alphabet, favourite words or drawings. Work as a family to create your own matching game!



Fish



Fish



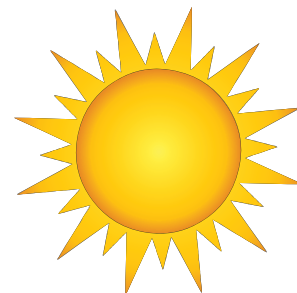
Sun



Fishing Rod



Fishing Rod



Sun



Seagull



Seagull



Boat



Fisherwoman



Fisherwoman



Boat



Fisherman



Fisherman



Life Jacket





Paddle



Paddle



Life Jacket



Propeller



Propeller



Net



Clock



Clock



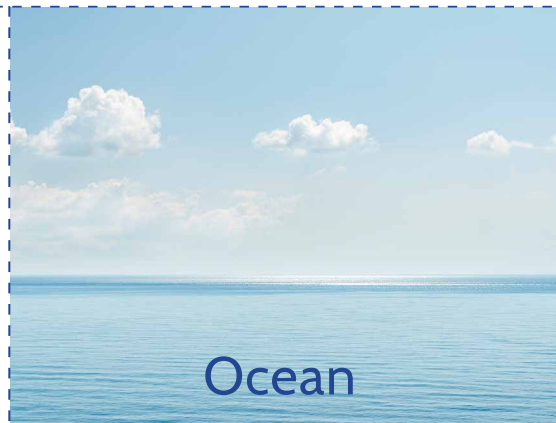
Net



Steering Wheel



Steering Wheel



Ocean



Hat



Hat



Ocean

