

Ages **2** and Up

KUMON

Let's Cut Paper!



Your child will develop fine motor control skills while having fun using scissors to cut lines and shapes.

How to use this book

2

How to cut with scissors

Show your child how to cut along the designated lines. It is perfectly okay if your child cannot cut completely accurately. He or she will gradually learn to do so.

The first step in cutting is learning how to properly manipulate scissors. Check to see if your child can open and close the scissors in one stroke, and also check to see if he or she can hold the scissors at a right angle to the paper. It does not matter if the line your child cuts is uneven like the one shown on the right.



▲ At the early stages, children usually cut unevenly.

Please do not be concerned if your child cuts off the designated line, or if he or she cannot stop the scissors at a designated point. Please encourage him or her to learn to align the scissors with the cutting line.

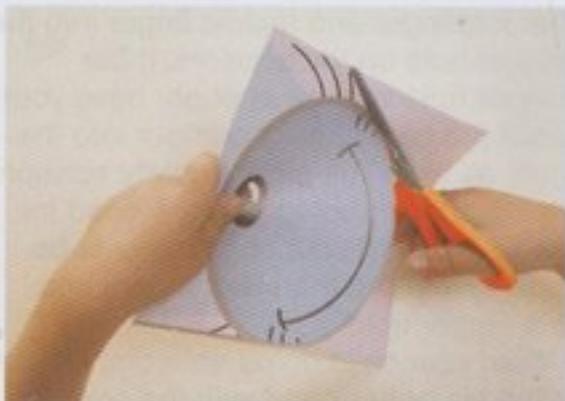


▲ Cutting diagonal lines can be difficult.

Show your child how to hold the paper at the opposite side from the scissors and near the cutting line, but not too close to the blades. This is a difficult skill that requires some getting used to.

Tips for cutting neatly

Open the scissors wide and cut half an inch, then open the scissors wide again and cut another half an inch. Repeat this procedure.



▲ In order to cut neatly, use the part of the blades nearest to the joint in the scissors.

How to use this book

1

Relax and enjoy!

Kumon's First Steps Workbooks are designed so that children and parents can learn and have fun together. Children learn best from active and participatory parents, so please help your child with the activities in this book. By helping your child, you are encouraging him or her to develop a desire to learn, as well as laying the foundation for your child to become a self-motivated learner.

How to choose and hold scissors

Scissors can be dangerous if not handled properly. Keep an eye on your child when he or she is doing the cutting exercises.

How to choose a good pair of scissors

- 1 Choose safety scissors with round tips.
- 2 Choose scissors with holes that suit your child's hands and fingers so that he or she can hold them easily.
- 3 Choose scissors your child can open and close easily.



▲ Please choose easy-to-use safety scissors. Pictured on the right are plastic safety scissors.

How to hold scissors properly

Show your child how to put his or her thumb into the smaller hole and his or her forefinger and middle finger into the bigger hole on the scissors. If the bigger hole is large enough, have your child put his or her ring finger into the hole as well. The plastic safety scissors in the above photograph are good for beginners, but your child may not be able to fit more than two fingers into the bigger hole.

When your child holds scissors, please align his or her hand with the scissors so that they form a straight line when viewed from above.



▲ Please try to align your child's hand with the scissors so that they form a straight line.

Kumon First Steps Workbooks help children develop fine motor skills as preparation for writing letters and numbers.

Special features of this book

1. This book's simple design can help children as young as two learn important basic skills while having fun.
2. This book allows parents and children to share meaningful playtime together.
3. This book is structured so that your child will develop fine motor control skills while acquiring new vocabulary.

The aims and purpose of this book

■ Develop fine motor skills

Your child will improve finger strength and dexterity. This will help your child hold and use a pencil correctly, which is an important skill for more advanced learning.

■ Improve scissor control

If your child can manipulate scissors and cut along designated lines accurately, then he or she has acquired basic scissor control. In general, young children usually develop scissor control in the following order:

1. Cutting by opening and closing scissors once (one stroke).
2. Cutting along a line by opening and closing scissors repeatedly.

3. Cutting easily along straight lines and curves.

The exercises in this book are designed to teach children the above three skills in order of difficulty. You may think that it is not safe to give children scissors, but for this very reason, it is very important to teach them how to use scissors properly.

■ Enhance children's sense of shape

As children cut along straight lines and curves, or cut out circles and animals, they will associate words such as "straight" and "curved" with the shapes they represent. Your child's creativity and shape composition ability will be greatly enhanced.

How to use this book

1. To make the exercises easier for your child, please cut out the illustrated portion of each page for him or her.

2. This book requires scissors. Please use a pair of child-safe scissors and show your child how to hold them. Teach him or her not to point scissors at others, not to cut things other than paper, and to be careful not to cut his or her fingertips or other body parts.

3. When your child has completed each page, please offer him or her lots of praise.

4. Please refer to the "To parents" notes in this book, which provide more comments and advice on how to help your child enjoy and learn from this book.

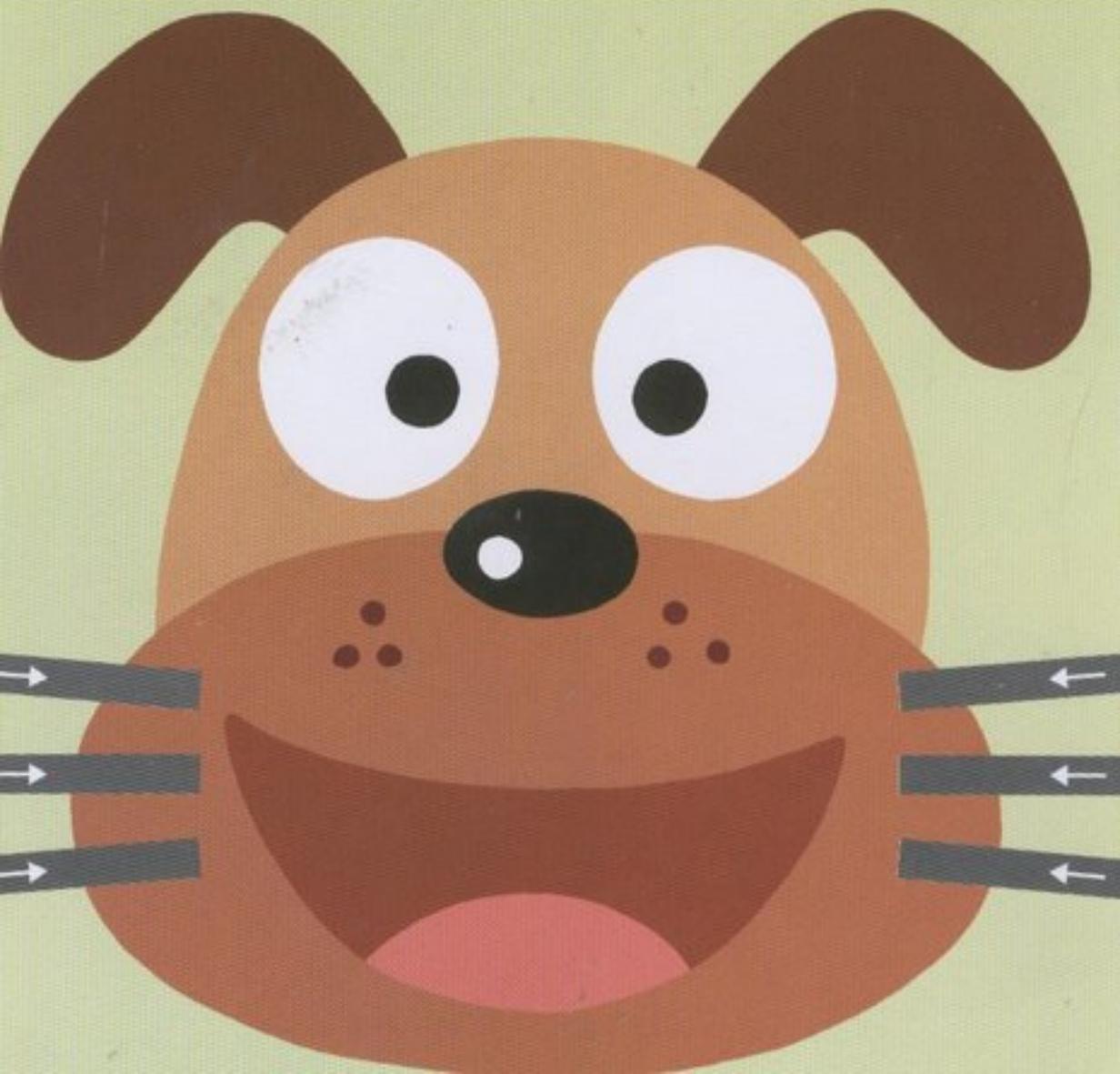
5. Try to limit the number of pages your child will complete in a day. It is best to end the day's work when your child still wants to do more.

1**Woof!****To parents**

Your child will practice cutting short lines with one stroke. First, say "dog" aloud while pointing to the word. It is okay if your child goes off the cutting line or cuts unevenly. Please keep an eye on your child so he or she will not get hurt.

**Snip!****Cut along** .

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

dog

2

Meow!

To parents

Encourage your child to practice opening and closing the scissors. If he or she is having difficulty holding the paper steady while cutting, you can place the paper on the table.

Snip!



Cut along .

Parents, please cut along  for your child.

cat



3

Growl!

To parents

It is okay if your child cuts off the line or cuts unevenly. The important thing is for him or her to enjoy the exercise.

Snip!



Cut along .

© Parents, please cut along  for your child.

tiger



4

Vroom!

To parents

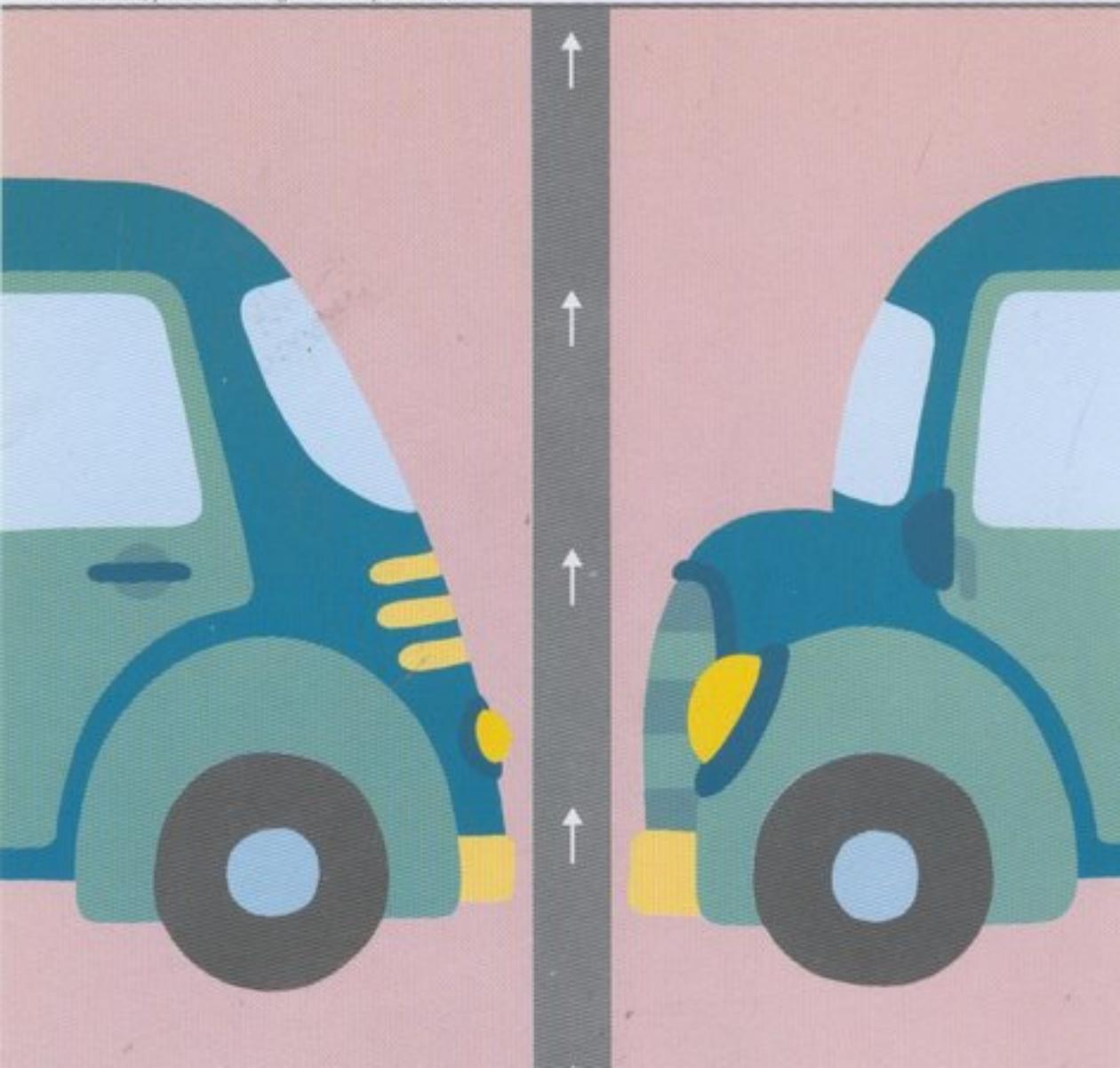
From this page on, your child will practice opening and closing scissors repeatedly to cut longer lines. It is okay for your child to stop after one stroke and start over again. When your child has successfully cut both parts out, offer lots of praise and encourage him or her to arrange the parts as shown above.

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.



car



5

Summer Splash!

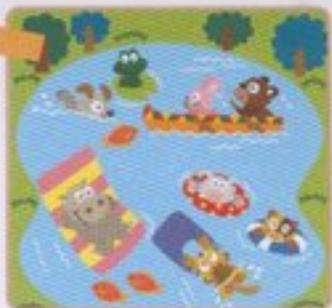
To parents

Have your child arrange the pieces after cutting them, and say something like, "See, the animals are having fun in the water."

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

Done!



splash



6

Ship Shape

To parents

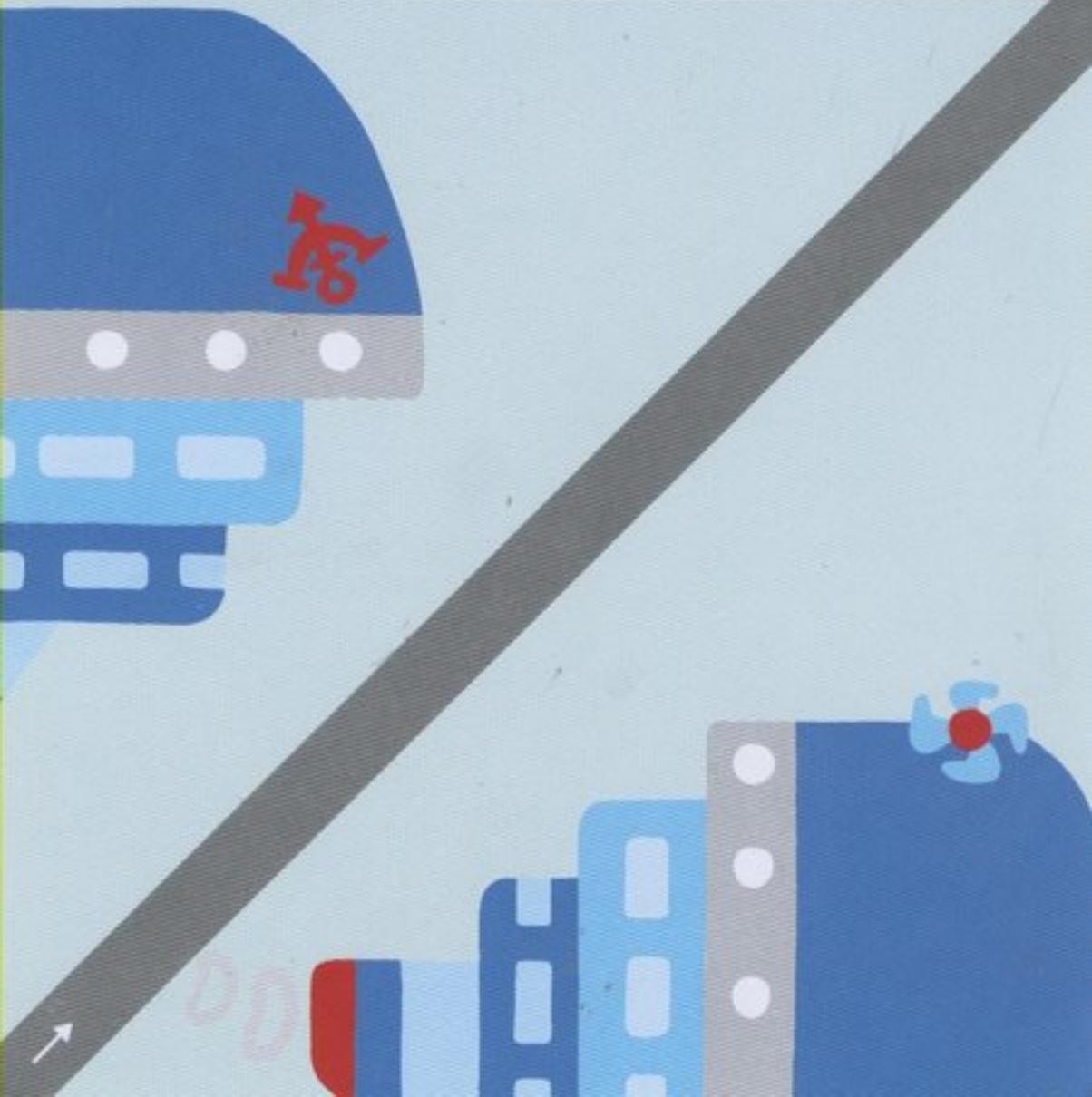
The line on this page is diagonal and longer than before. Do not be concerned if your child's cutting is askew. When your child is finished, offer lots of praise and encourage him or her to arrange the parts as shown above.

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.



ship



8

Tug-of-War!

To parents

Ask if your child wants to cut the page out of the book by him- or herself. When your child has successfully cut out all the parts, help him or her tape the pieces together and enjoy a friendly match of tug-of-war with your child.

Go, Blues, go! Go, Reds, go!



Please use scotch tape.

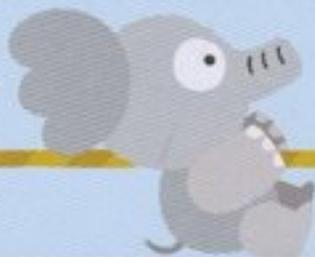


The Reds won!

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

Parents, please cut along  for your child.

tug-of-war



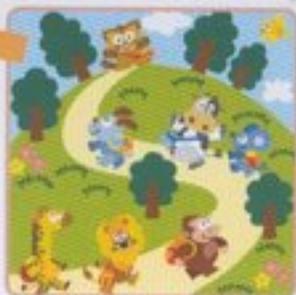
9

Let's Go Hiking!

To parents

This exercise is more complicated than the previous ones. If your child seems to be having a difficult time cutting properly, you can guide his or her hand in the right direction. Give appropriate help so that your child can enjoy the activity without feeling pressured.

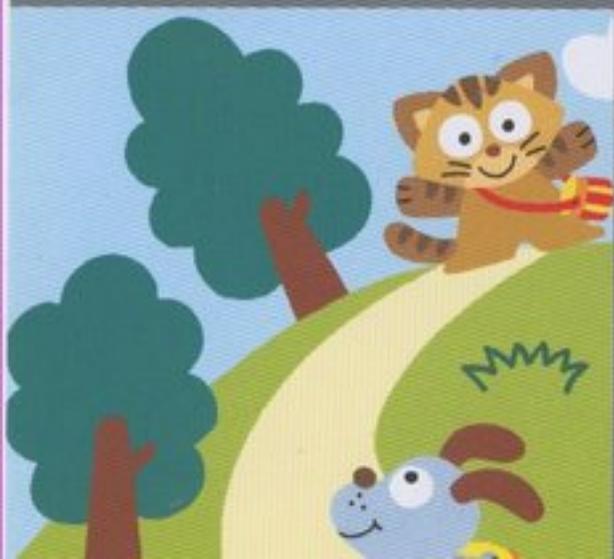
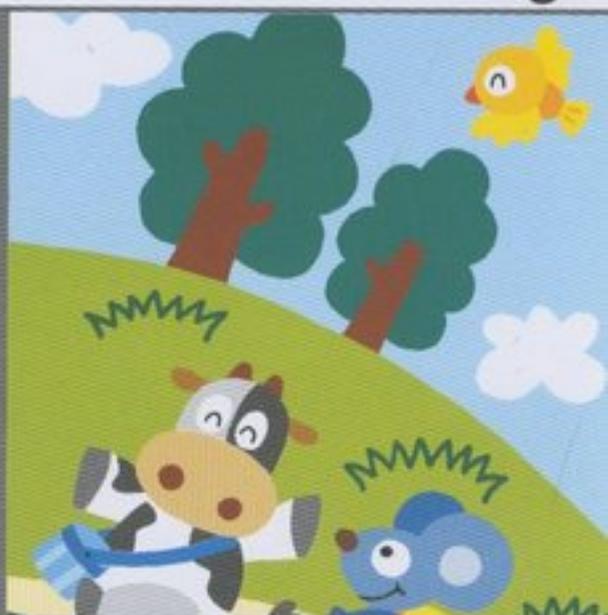
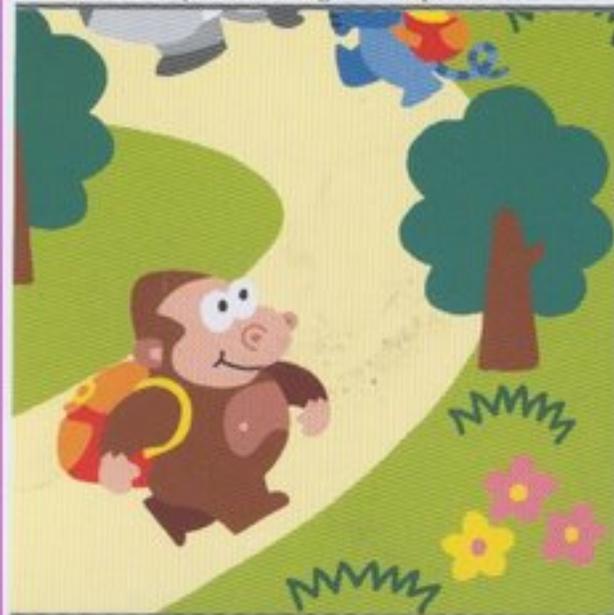
Done!



Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.

hiking



10

On the Farm

To parents

From this page on, your child will learn how to stop cutting at a designated point. Encourage him or her to stop at the ★. Mastering this skill is an important step in learning how to manipulate scissors with complete control.



Done!



Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child. Fold upwards along .

sheep



11

Leopard in a Cage!

Done!



To parents

In this exercise, your child will cut a single stroke with the scissors, and then stop. After your child has completed the activity, encourage him or her to fold the edges upwards, as you say something fun like, "Let's put the leopard in the cage."

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child. Fold upwards along .

leopard



12

Catch a Butterfly!



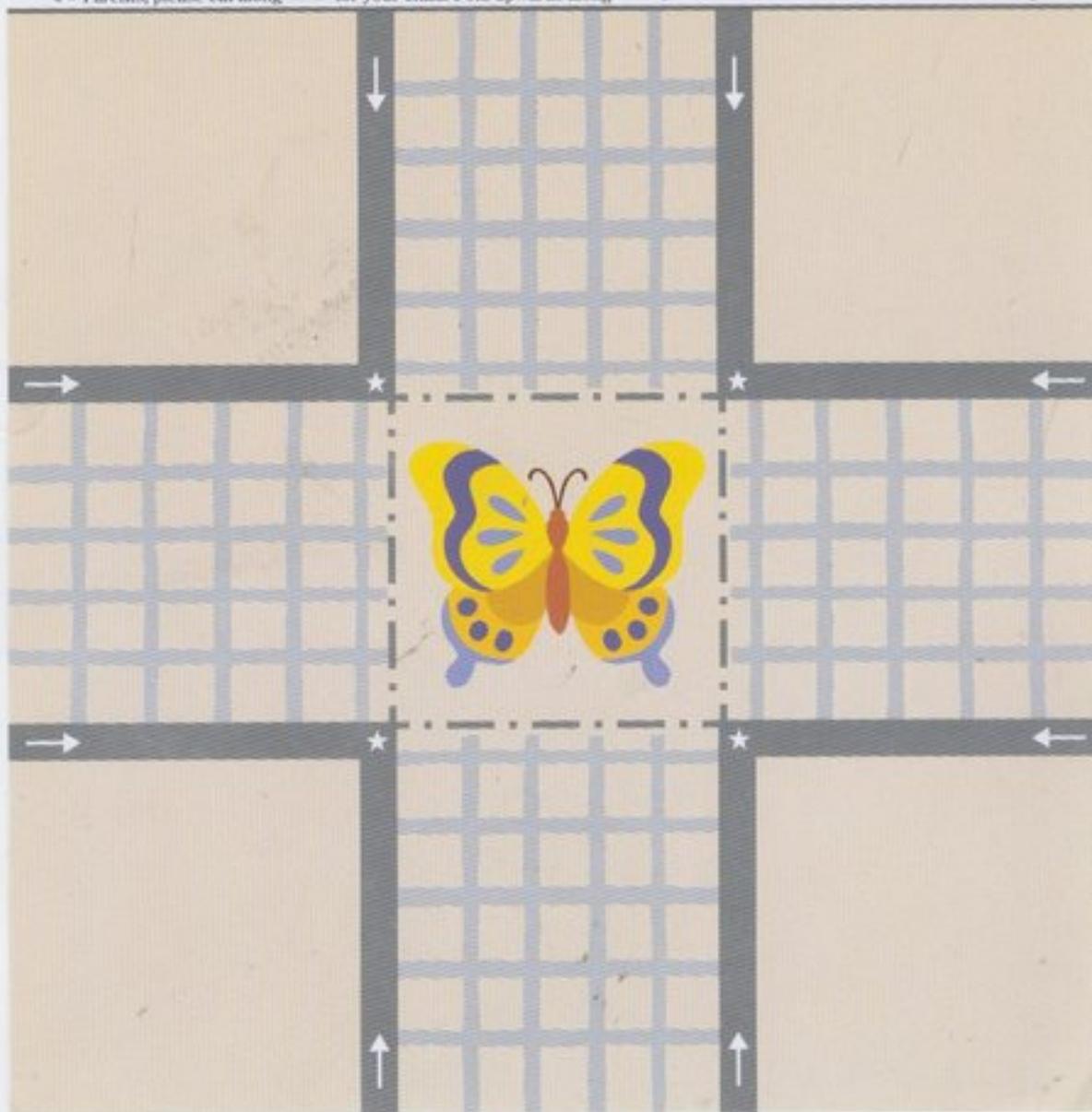
To parents

From this page on, your child will cut several strokes with the scissors before stopping at a designated point. If your child seems to be having difficulty, you can show him or her an example, as you say something like, "Let's stop at this star ★." After the exercise is done, say something like, "Look, we caught a beautiful butterfly!"

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child. Fold upwards along .

butterfly



13

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear!

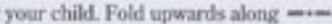
Wiggle,
wiggle!



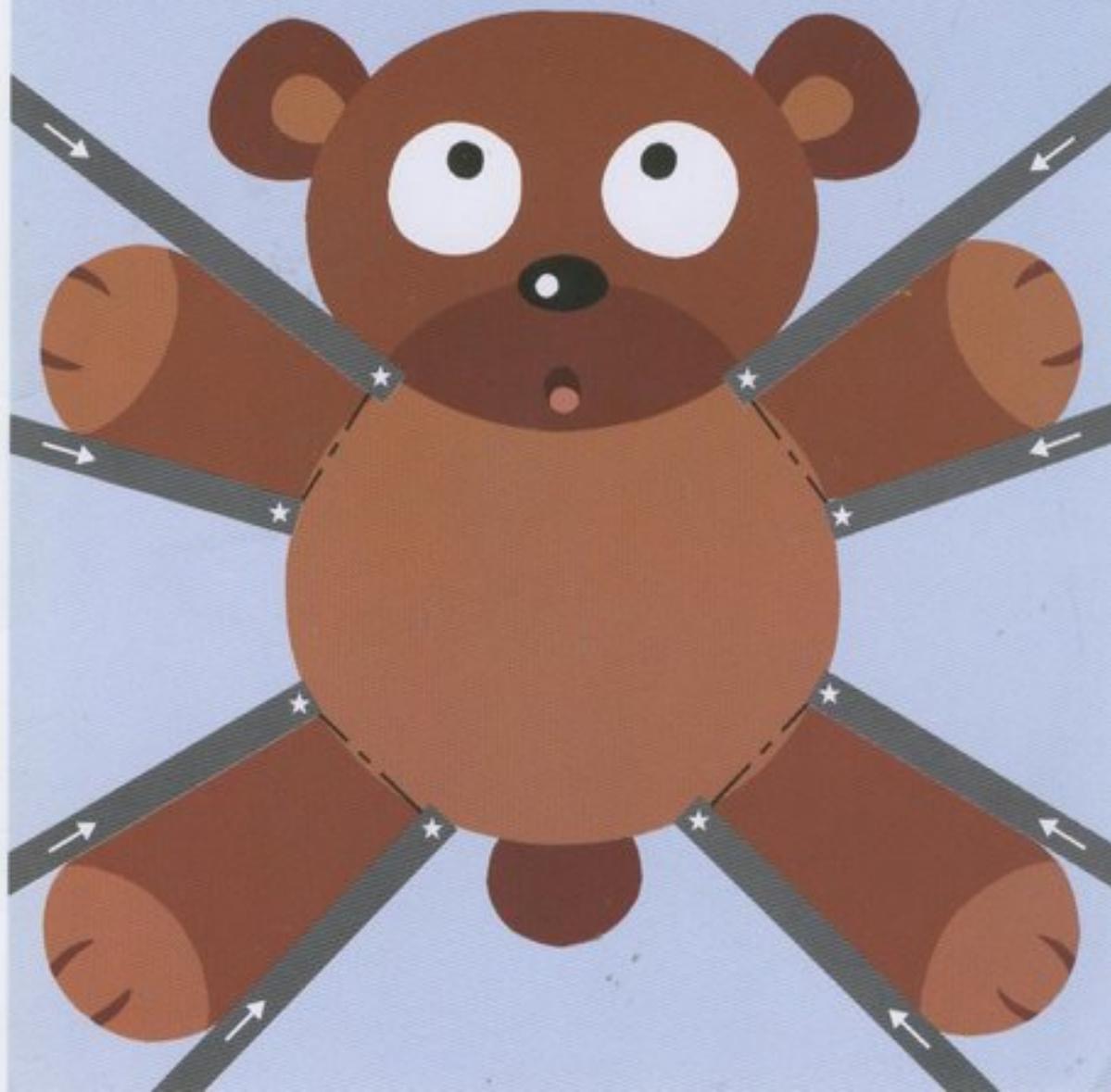
To parents

You can pretend to be the bear and say something fun like, "I want to move my legs, please help me!" while your child is cutting. When he or she has completed the exercise, please fold the edges and wave the bear's legs.

Cut along .

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child. Fold upwards along .

bear



14

Meow!

Wiggle,
wiggle!



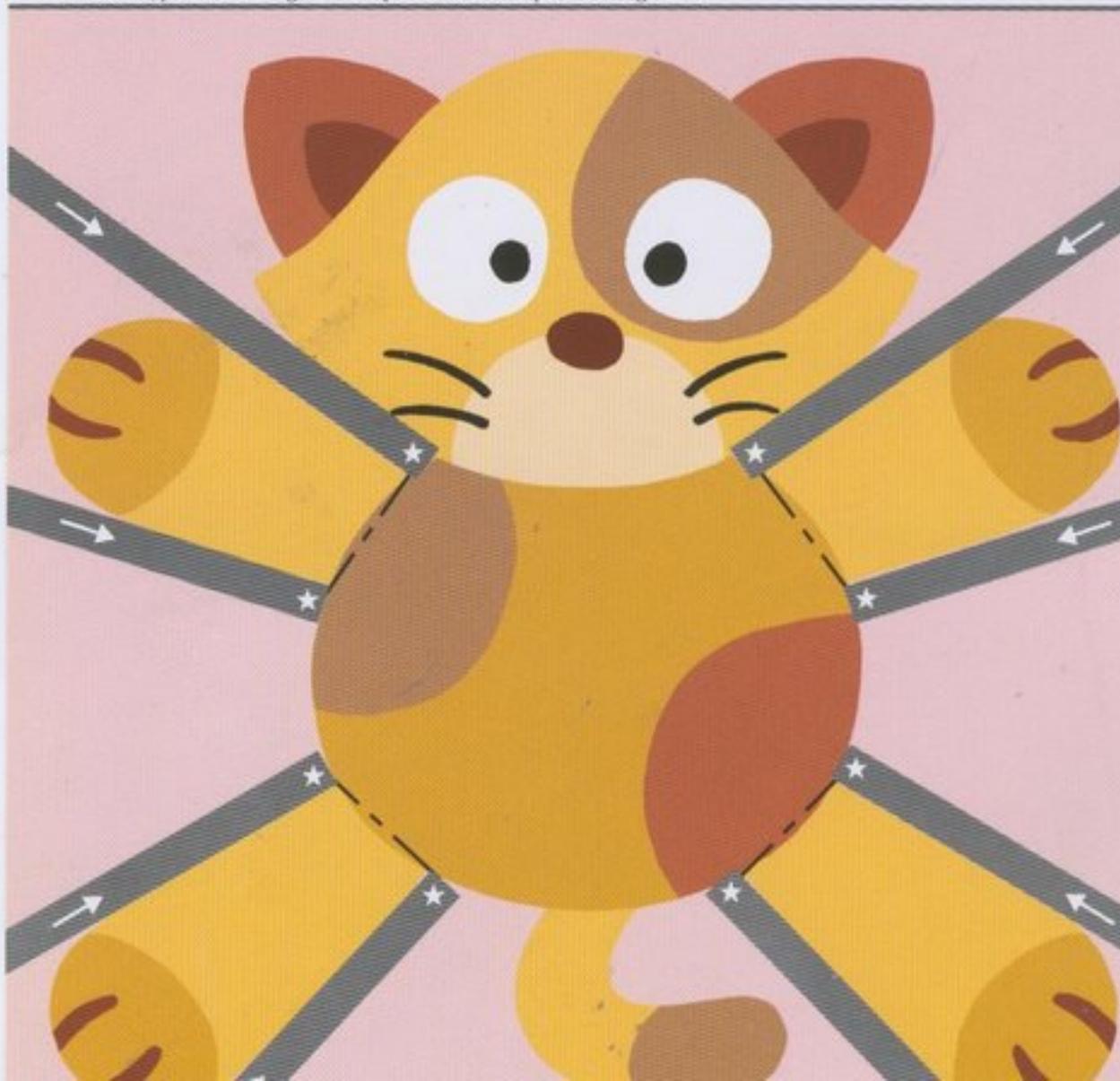
To parents

Through repeated practice, children gradually learn to hold scissors steadily. You can pretend to be the cat, and say something fun like, "I want to tickle you!"

Cut along .

cat

Parents, please cut along  for your child. Fold upwards along .



15

Tweet! Tweet!

Flap,
flap!



To parents

After cutting the page out of the book, show your child how to turn the paper as needed in order to cut each line. After your child is finished, flap the bird's wings and say, "Tweet, tweet! I'm flying!"

Cut along .

Parents, please cut along  for your child. Fold upwards along .

bird



16

Wiggling the Legs

To parents

Encourage your child to practice cutting short lines, so that he or she will get used to holding, opening and closing the scissors. When your child has completed the exercise, offer lots of praise and say something like, "Very good! You made lots of legs."



Wiggle, wiggle!

Cut along .

✂️ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

octopus



17

Zigzags

Snip, snip!



To parents

From this page on, your child will practice changing the direction of the cutting stroke in the middle of the line. Remember to cut along the gray line to remove the illustrated portion of the page from the book and give it to your child. Then give your child a hint by saying something like, "Stop at the star and change direction, and then stop at the star again."

Cut along .

Parents, please cut along  for your child.

crab



18

Sour Lemon

To parents

Cutting in zigzags is a difficult skill to master, so when your child has successfully cut the paper, offer lots of praise. Have fun opening and closing the boy's mouth.

It's so
sour!



Cut along .

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.

sour face



19

Spider Web

To parents

After your child has cut along the designated lines, hold the paper up and let the cut portion spiral down so that the spider descends. Say something like, "The spider says bye-bye!"

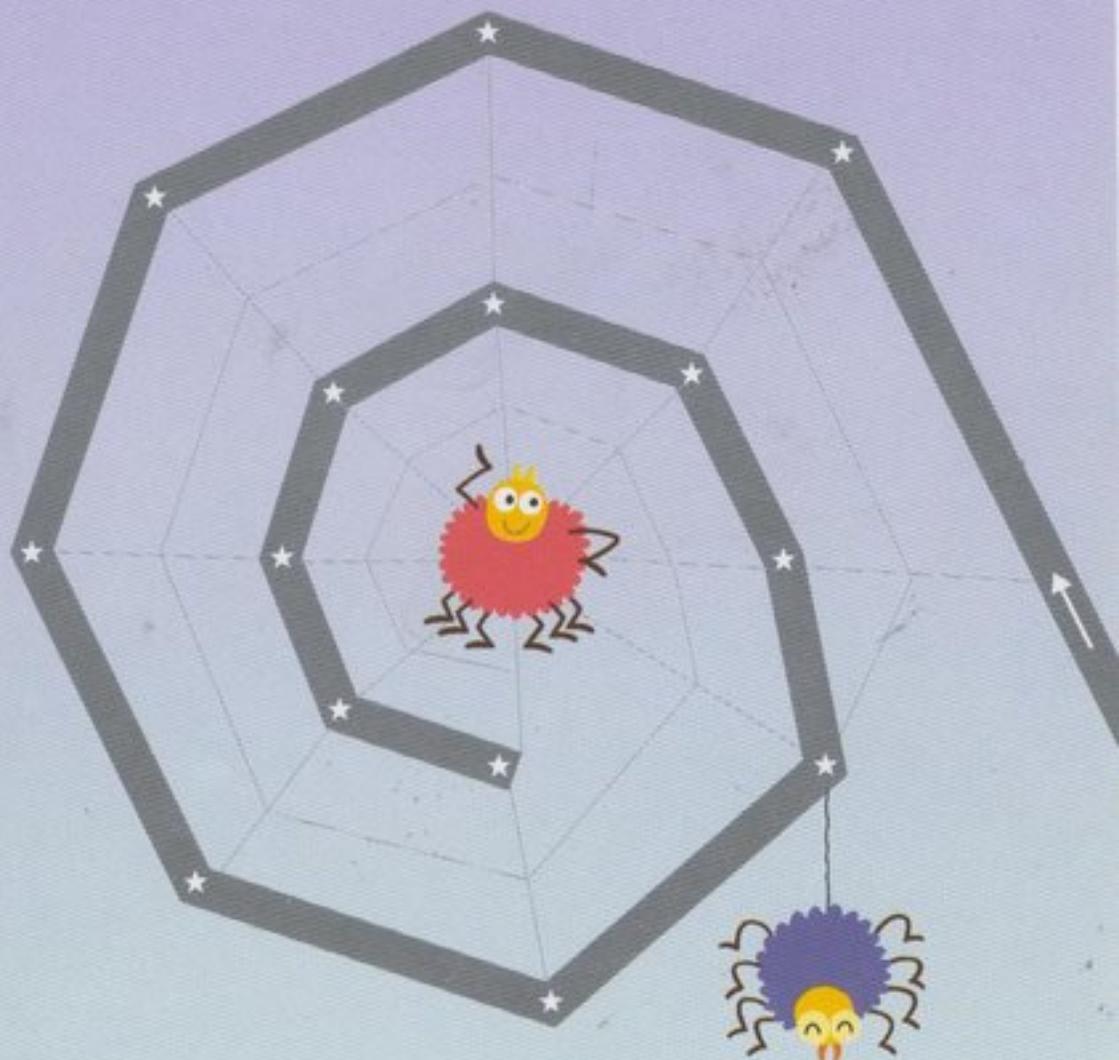
Cut along .

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.



Going down

spiders



20

Fishing Line

To parents

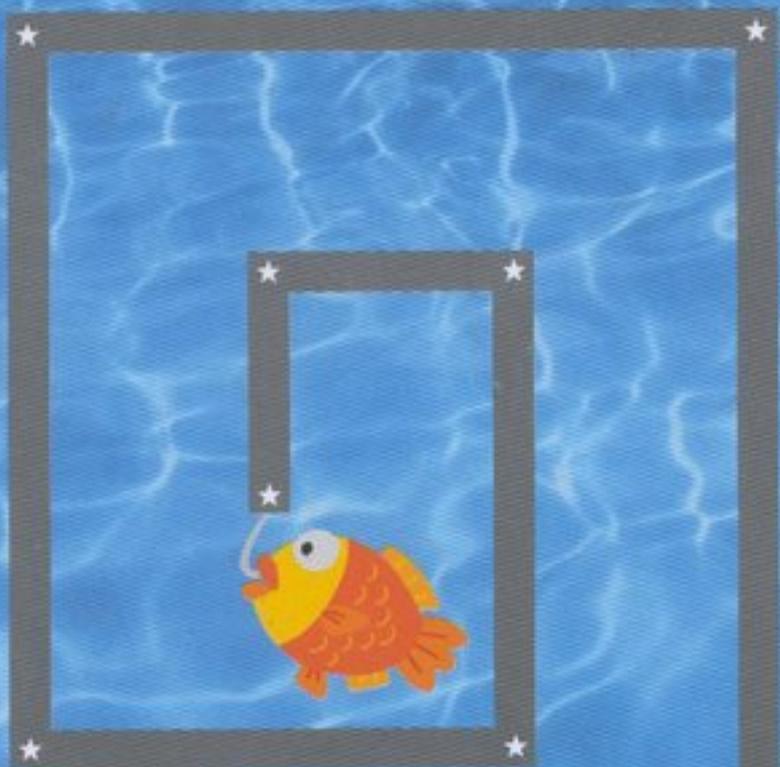
It is important for your child to learn how to hold paper with the other hand while he or she is cutting. Help your child keep adjusting the paper to the right direction so that he or she is always holding the scissors straight.



Cut along .

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

fishing



22

Yummy Banana!

To parents

From this page on, your child will practice cutting curving lines. It is okay if your child cuts off the line, or cuts in straight lines in the beginning. Help your child open and close scissors with short strokes in order to cut curves neatly. Have fun moving the gorilla's mouth.

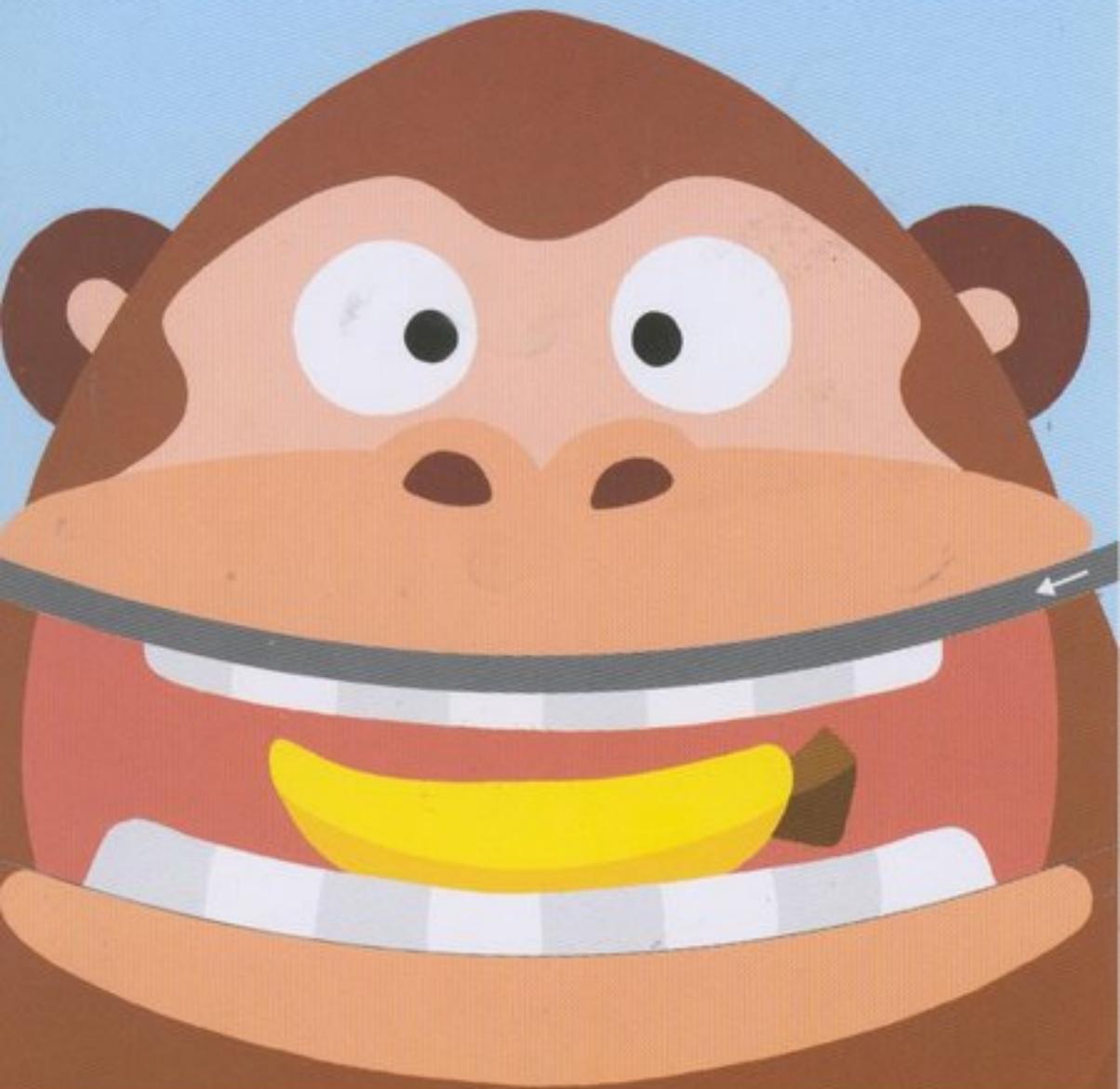
Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child.



What a
big bite!

gorilla



23

Gone Fishing

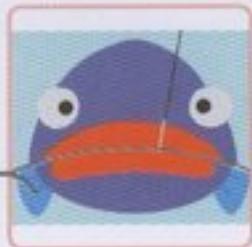
To parents

Encourage your child to cut curves slowly and steadily. When he or she has successfully cut the paper, encourage him or her to open and close the fish's mouth.

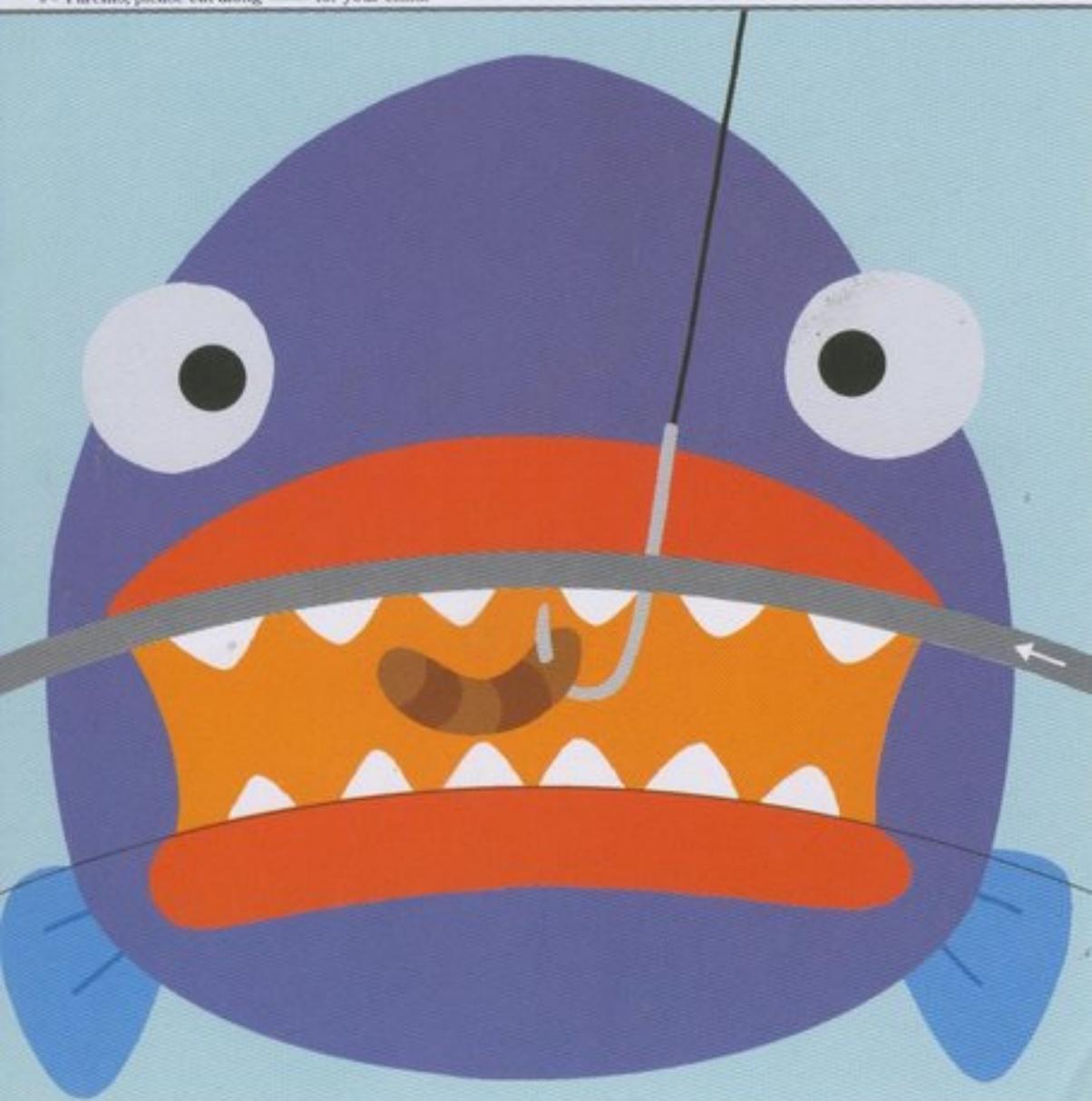
Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

I found a
goodie!



fish



24

Neigh!

To parents

In this exercise, the curving line is getting more difficult. When your child has finished cutting, pretend to be the horse and say something like, "It's so yummy. Thank you."

I love
carrots!



Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

horse



25

He Ate What?

To parents

Help your child open and close the scissors with short strokes in order to cut curves neatly. Through repeated practice, he or she will acquire firm scissor control.

*Munch,
munch,
munch!*



Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

© Parents, please cut along  for your child.

goat



26

Jelly Beans!

To parents

Now your child will practice cutting very wavy curves. It is okay for him or her to cut at angles at first. Remind your child to change direction with each cutting stroke.



It's so sweet!

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

© Parents, please cut along  for your child.

sweet face



27

Watermelon Patch

To parents

In this exercise, your child will practice cutting long lines and curving lines together. By now, you have probably noticed a big improvement in your child's paper cutting skills.

Watermelons!



Cut along .

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

watermelons



28

Hiss!

To parents

In this exercise, your child needs to hold the paper and turn it while cutting. Make sure he or she is holding the scissors at the proper angle. After the exercise is done, your child can dangle the wiggling snake.

Cut along .

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

wiggling!



snake



29

Peel the Apple

To parents

In this exercise, your child needs to hold the paper and turn it while cutting. Make sure he or she is holding the scissors at the proper angle. When the exercise is done, let the paper unwind and say something like, "Look at the apple peel!"

Cut along .

» Parents, please cut along  for your child.

What a
long peel!



apple



30

What Am I?

To parents

If your child seems to be having difficulty, please turn the paper for him or her so that he or she can hold the scissors straight. When your child has successfully cut out the parts, encourage him or her to complete the lion's face by turning the center part around.

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

Done!



lion



31

My Horn is Upside Down!

To parents

In this exercise, your child will cut very sharp corners. Encourage your child to have fun by pretending to be the rhino and saying something like, "Hey, my horn is upside down! Please fix it!"

Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.

Done!



rhino



32

Turn Your Frown Upside Down

To parents

When your child has successfully stopped the scissors at the right position, offer lots of praise. Have your child turn the cut out portion around to make the seal smile.

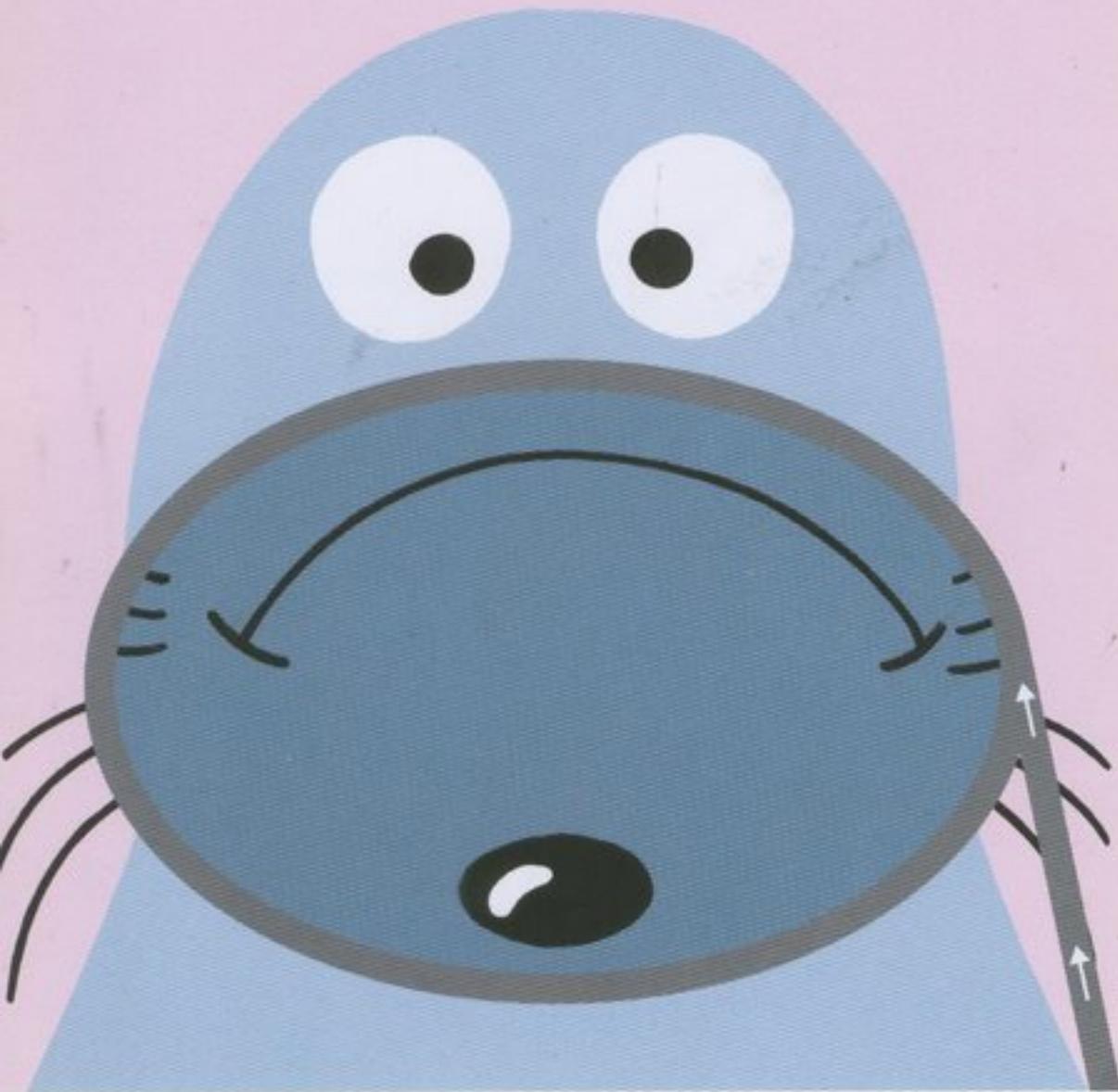
Done!



Cut along  and arrange the parts as shown above.

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

seal



33

Bounce, Bounce!

To parents

Starting with this page, your child will cut out familiar objects. In this exercise, your child will practice turning the paper steadily around while cutting to make evenly curved lines.

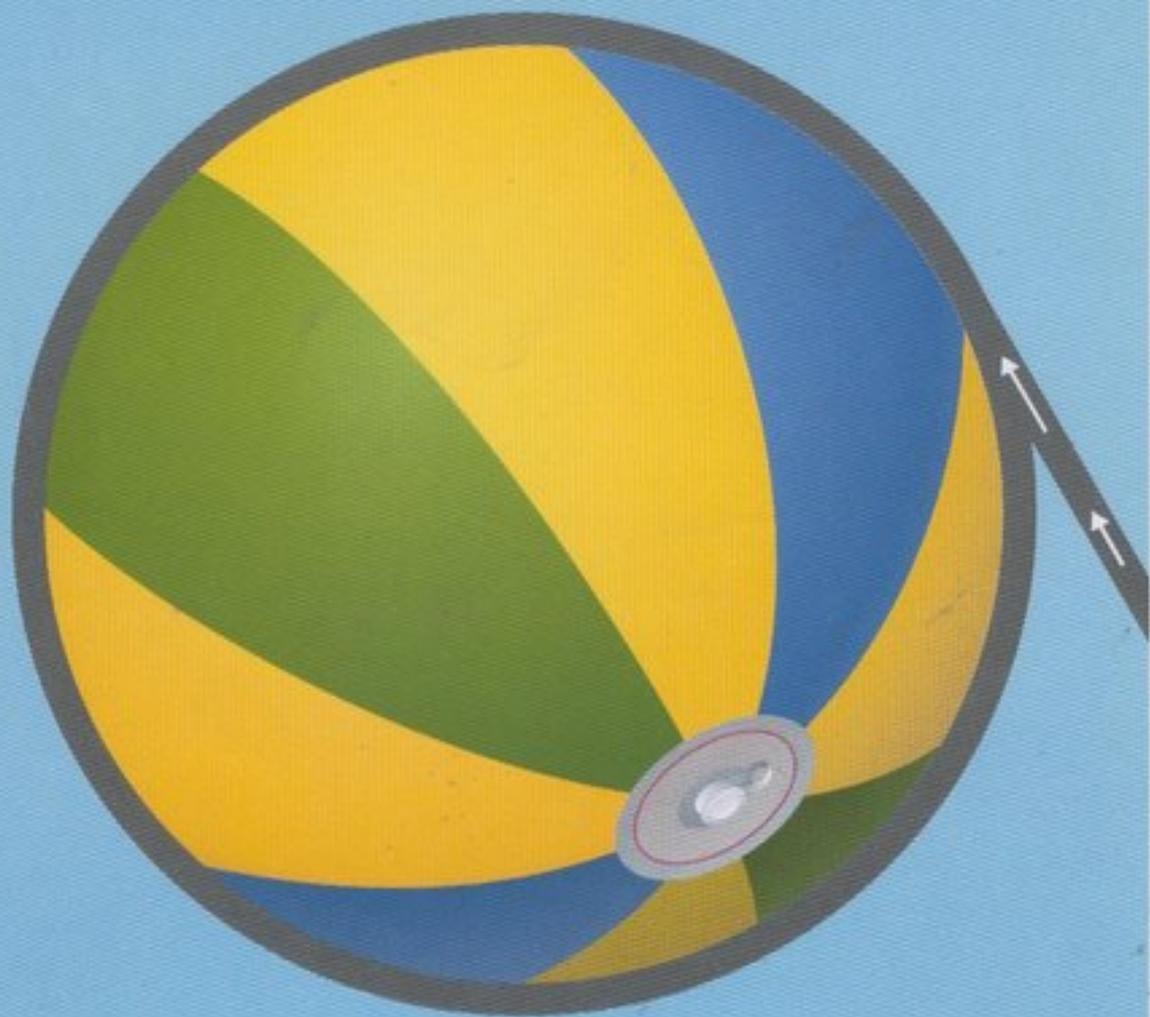
Done!



Cut along .

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

beach ball



34

Lunch Time

To parents

When your child has successfully cut out the sandwich, offer lots of praise. You can play a picnic game with the things your child has made throughout this workbook.

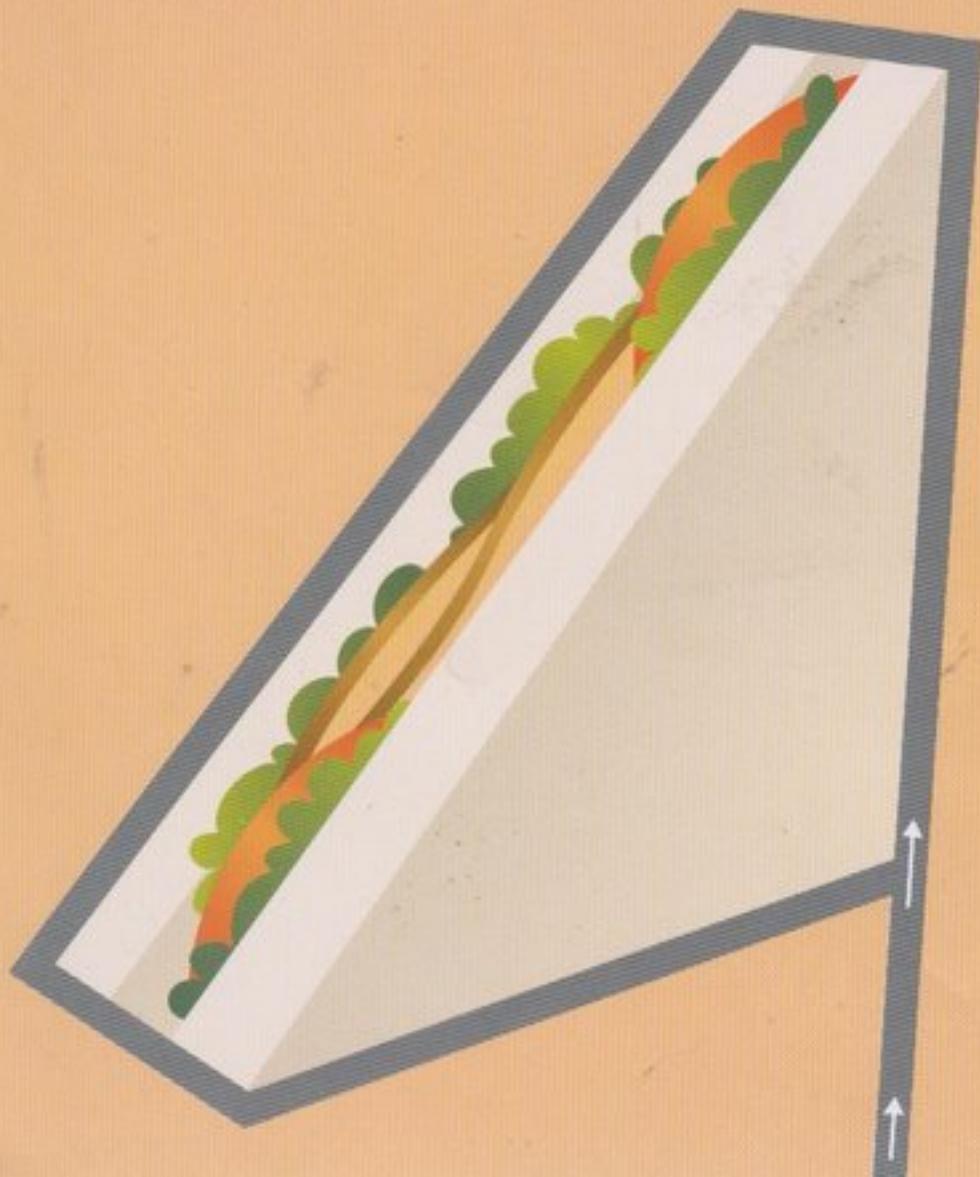
Done!



Cut along .

☞ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

sandwich



35

Beep Beep

To parents

If your child is cutting off the line and seems to be cutting into the picture, help him or her adjust the cutting direction. Even if he or she cuts too far, you can always mend it with tape.

Done!



Cut along .

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

bus



36

Hippo

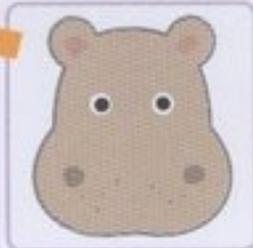
To parents

Starting with this page, your child will cut out animal faces. If he or she is having difficulty, you can suggest that he or she stop cutting and then adjust the paper in the right direction. When your child has completed the exercise, offer lots of praise.

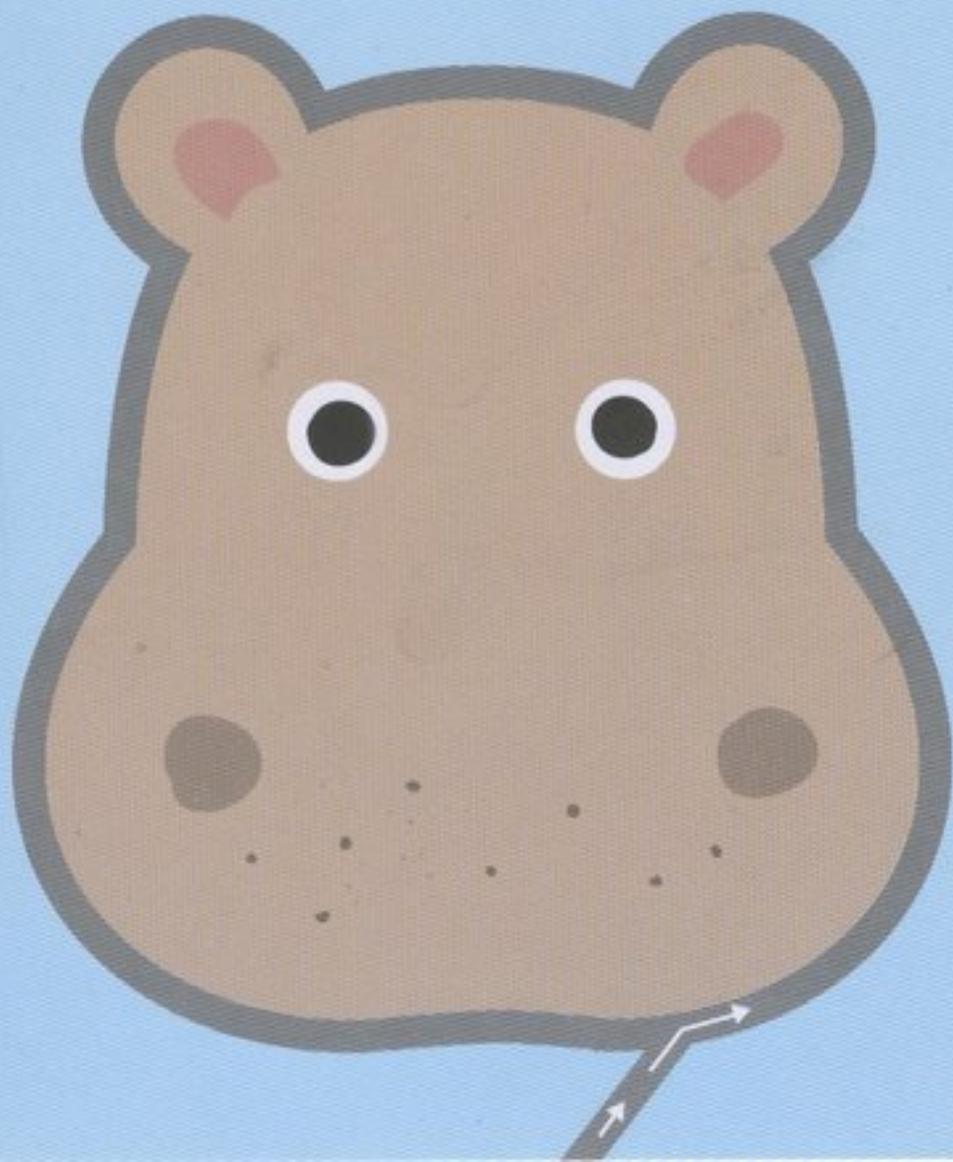
Cut along .

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.

Done!



hippo



37

Elephant

To parents

It is okay for your child to close the scissors after each stroke, but if he or she seems to be able to control the scissors well, you can show him or her how to keep moving the scissors without completely closing them. When your child has successfully cut out the elephant, offer lots of praise.

Cut along .

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.

Done!



elephant



38

Rabbit

To parents

When your child has successfully cut out the rabbit, you can make a puppet by attaching it to a stick. You could do the same with other animals and play a pretend jungle game.

Done!



Cut along .

✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child.

rabbit



39

Cow

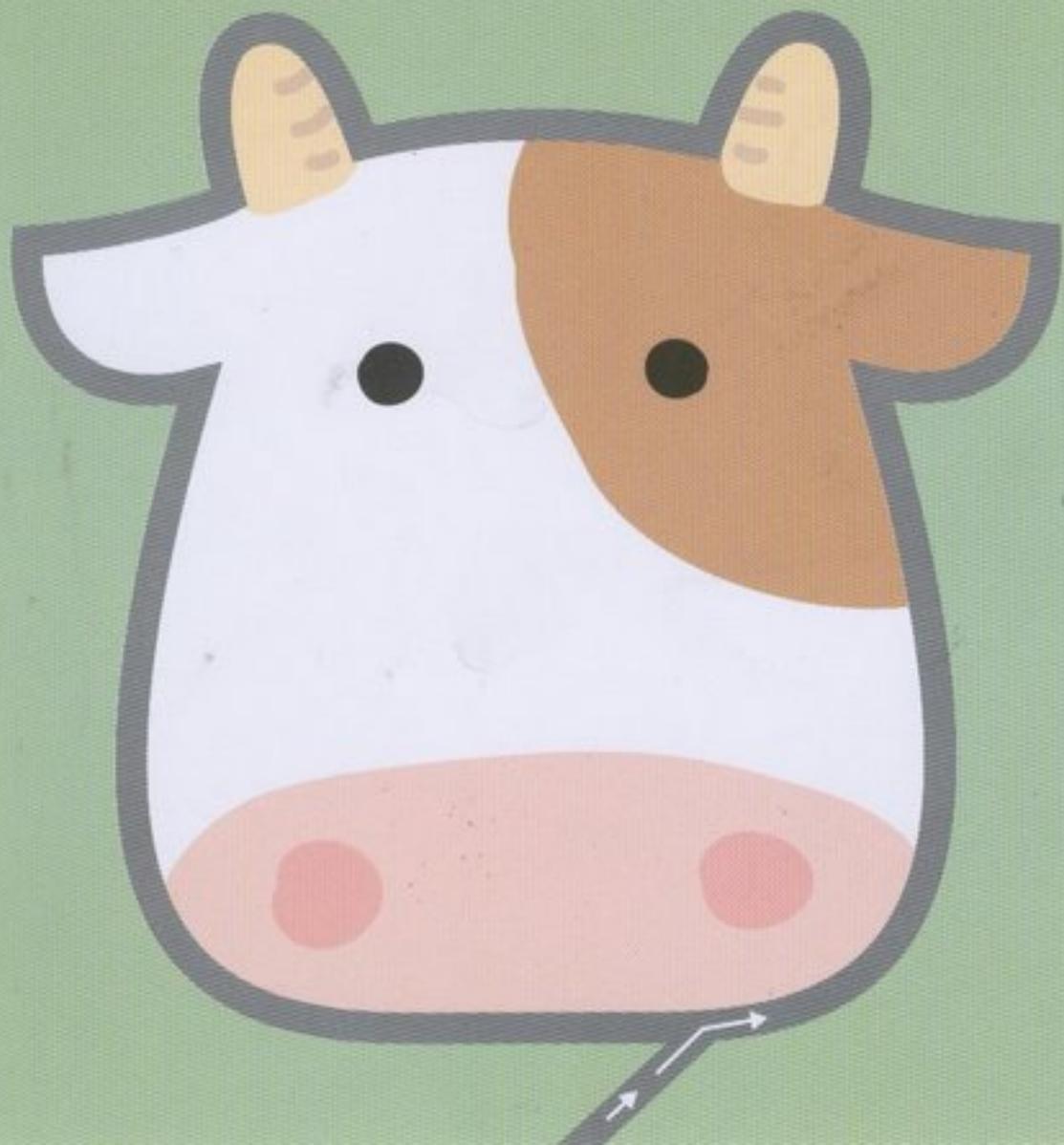
Done!

**To parents**

This is the last page of this workbook. Please compare your child's work on this activity with his or her work at the beginning of the workbook. You should notice enormous improvement. Be sure to tell your child how proud you are of him or her. It may be a good idea to keep this workbook as a record of your child's growth and development.

Cut along .

 Parents, please cut along  for your child.

COW

KUMON

Certificate of Achievement

_____ is hereby congratulated on completing

Let's Cut Paper!

Presented on _____, 20____



Parent or Guardian

Let's Cut Paper!



DRAWING BOARD KUMON

To parents

This is a reusable drawing board—excellent for scribbling, drawing, and writing messages. Please use a water-based marker and erase with a damp cloth.

