

Ages **2** and Up

KUMON

Kumon First Steps Workbooks

Let's Fold!



Your child will develop fine motor control skills while having fun with paper folding and basic origami activities.

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.

■ Develop the ability to concentrate and focus

If your child can fold paper at will, or fold small parts and corners accurately, then he or she has mastered basic folding skills. In general, young children usually develop folding skills in the following order:

1. Folding paper without reference to specific instructions.
2. Folding paper along single designated lines.
3. Folding paper along several lines and aligning corners.

The exercises in this book are designed to

take your child through each of the above skills, step by step, so that he or she masters each one before moving on. Learning to fold along designated lines allows your child to improve his or her ability to concentrate and focus.

■ Develop spatial awareness and the ability to work with shapes

Your child will gain a greater awareness of shapes and how they can be created and combined through these paper folding and origami activities. These activities start by emphasizing the ability to repeatedly fold paper along a single designated line. Then children learn how folding along more than one line can create different shapes and even fun objects such as paper hat and toys.

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 aims to teach children how to fold paper. At first, you can make creases along folding lines to make folding easier for your child. Please encourage him or her to experience the joy of folding, and to enjoy the change in illustrations created by folding. What is most important for you and your child is to have fun together while

doing each exercise.

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.

How to use this book



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 fold paper 1

When you fold paper, you either fold downwards or upwards as shown in the top two photographs on the right.

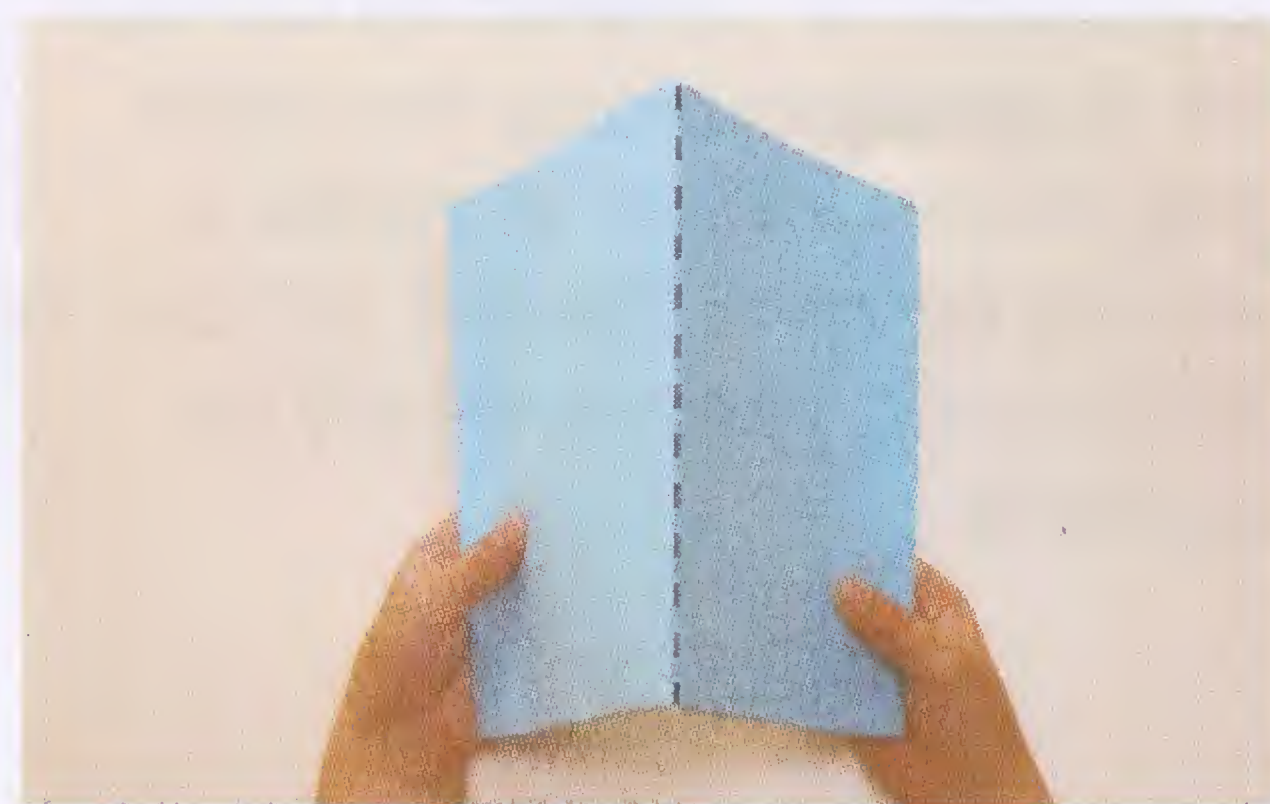
"Folding downwards" means to fold paper so that the downward folding line will show on the outside of the paper. The downward folding line is indicated as — — — in this workbook.

"Folding upwards" means to fold paper so that the upward folding line will be hidden inside the paper. The upward folding line is indicated as — — — in this workbook.

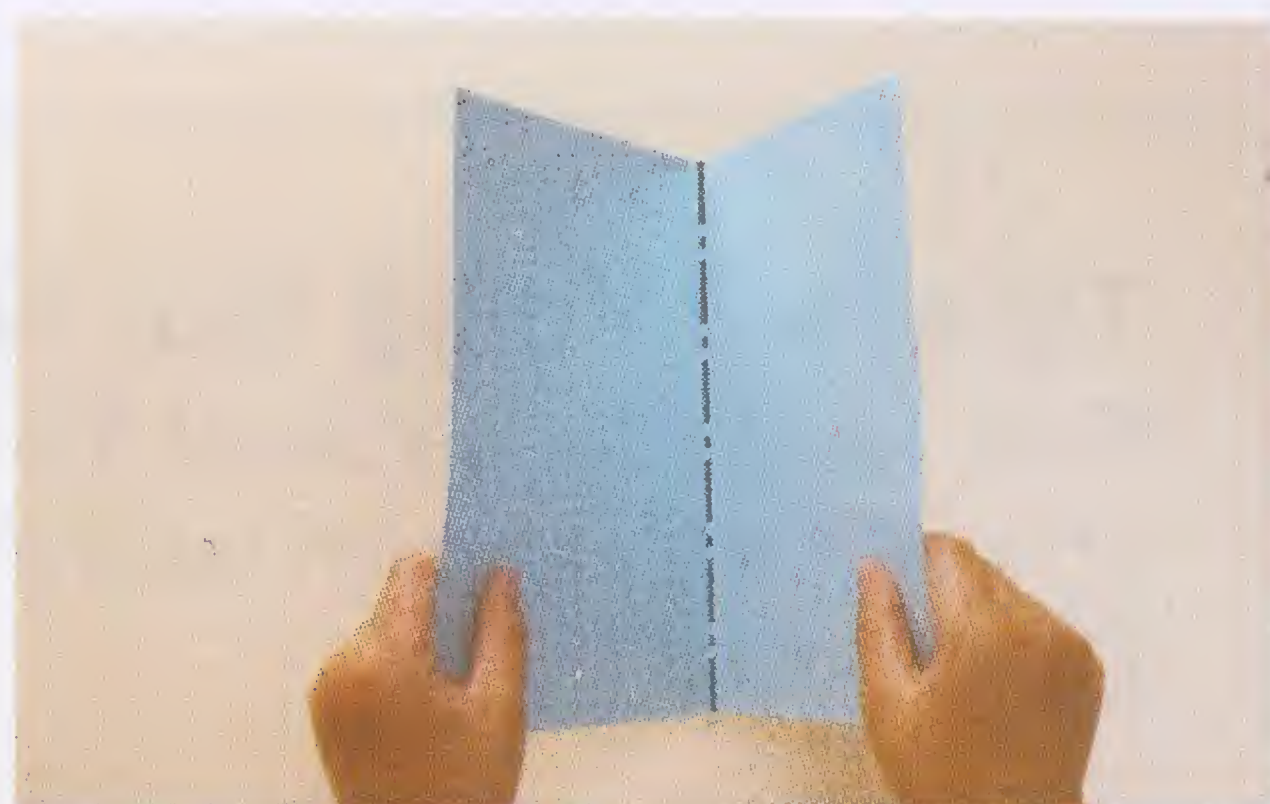
If your child confuses the folding lines, he or she will not be able to create the right shapes. Please read the directions carefully to see whether your child needs to fold downwards or upwards.

When folding upwards, the folding line will be hidden inside. In that case, your child can use the downward folding line printed on the back as a guide.

At first, basic skills such as folding along the folding lines, judging whether to fold upwards or downwards, and joining corners together may be very difficult for young children. You can try making creases first for your child to make the activities easier.



▲ Folding downwards



▲ Folding upwards



▲ When folding upwards, the folding line will be hidden inside. Please use the downward folding line on the back as a guide.

How to use this book



How to fold paper 2

Your child will have to learn to hold the paper steady with one hand while folding along a designated line with the other hand. It does not matter if your child's folding is slightly off the designated line. You and your child can still have fun playing with the finished activities.

(Note) Some pages contain directions for parents to cut out the illustration along the solid gray lines in order to make a perfect square. Please cut out the designated part as neatly as possible.



▲ The lines are a little askew, but well folded.

Tips for folding four corners of a square piece of paper

First, locate the center of the square as shown below.

This technique, which is often used in origami, will be useful in exercises **17** through **22**.



❶ Fold paper horizontally in half.



❷ Fold it again in half.

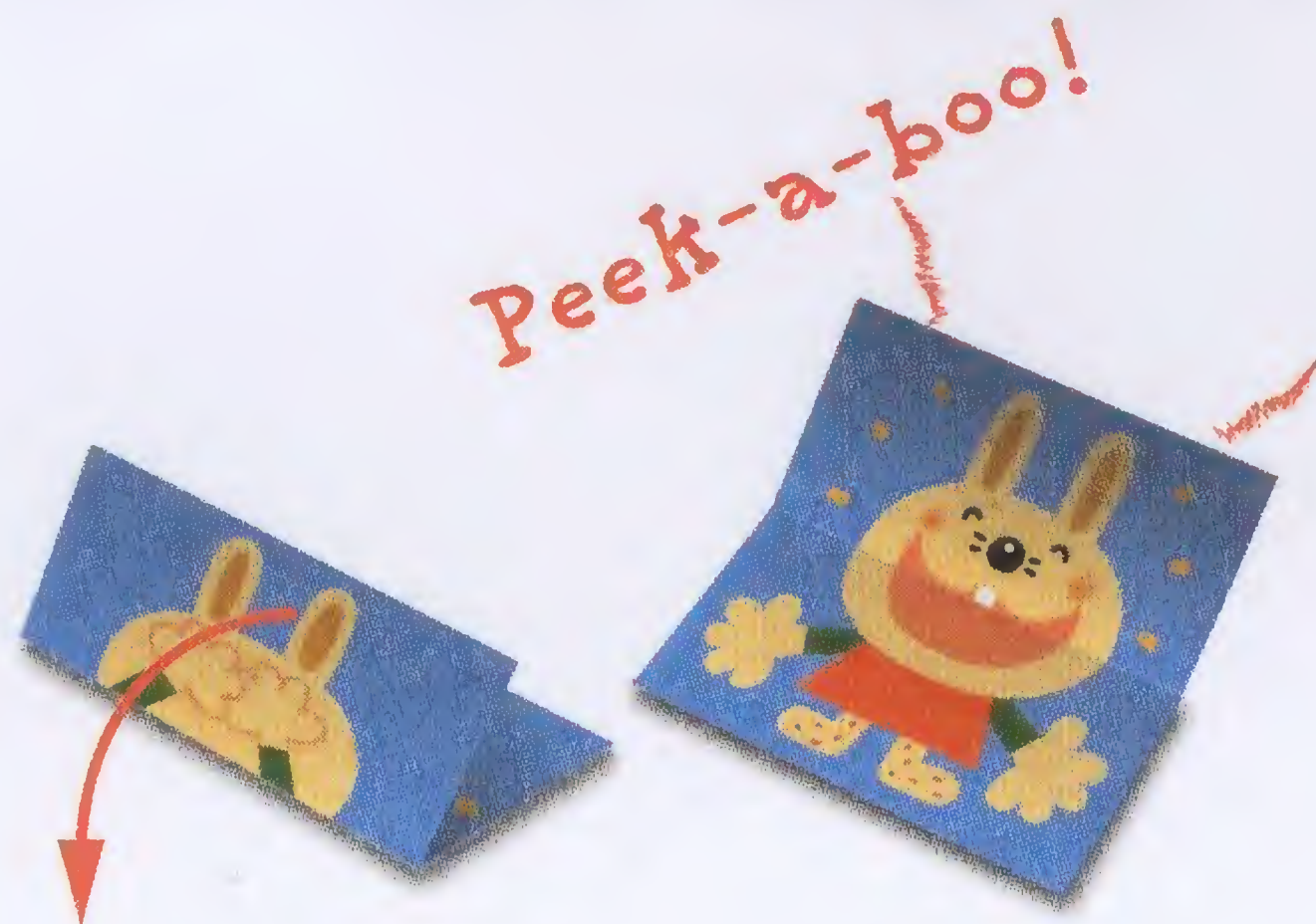


❸ Unfold the paper and then fold the four corners to the center by using the creases as guides.

1

Peek-A-Boo!

To parents In this exercise, your child will practice folding paper from the bottom up. Use the downward fold line on the back of the page as a guide. If your child has never tried to fold paper, you can fold and then unfold along the designated line to create a crease for your child to use as a guide. After your child has completed folding, play peek-a-boo with him or her.



Fold upwards along — — — — — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — — for your child.

rabbit



Peek-A-Boo!

Peek-A-Boo! is a simple, but fun, game that can be played with a baby or a young child. The child is hidden behind a screen or a blanket, and the parent or caregiver calls out "Peek-A-Boo!" to encourage the child to peek out. This game helps to develop the child's understanding of object permanence, which is the concept that objects continue to exist even when they are not visible. Peek-A-Boo is also a great way to build a bond between the parent and the child, as the child learns to trust that the parent will always be there.

Fold upwards along ———

✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along ———.



2

Peek-A-Boo!

To parents

After your child has finished folding, draw your child's attention to the illustration and then say "Boo!" as you open the fold.



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

panda



✂ Parents, please cut along ————— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.



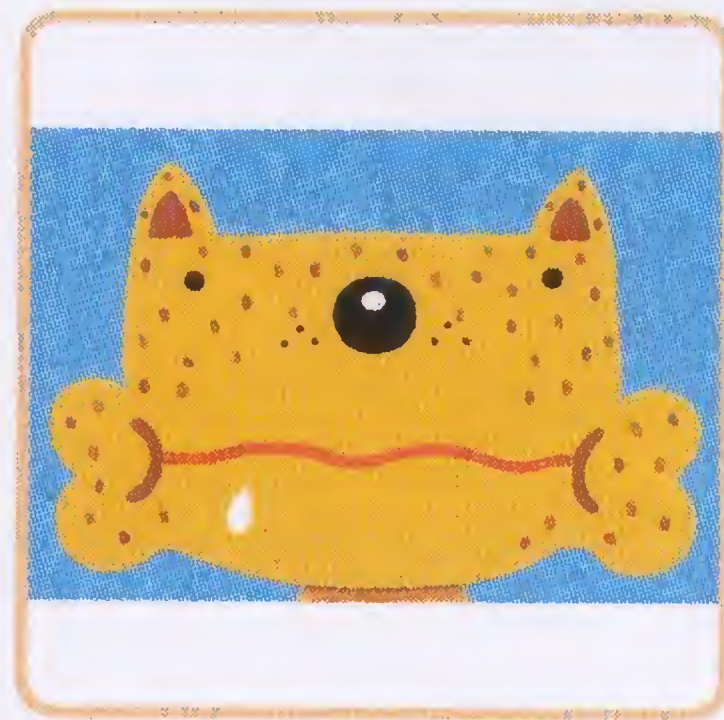
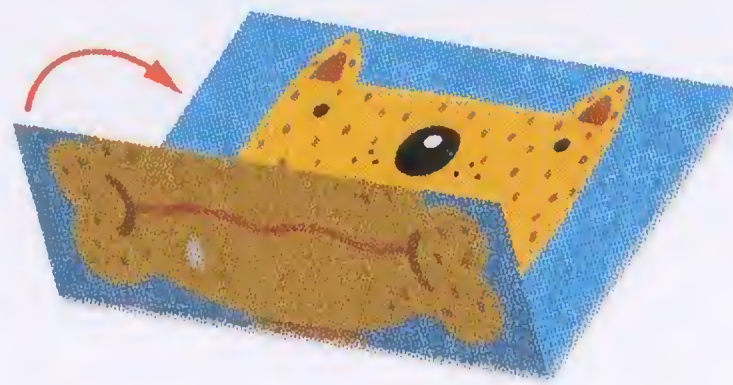
3

Yum!

To parents

Encourage your child to play with the finished activity by saying, "The doggie is opening his mouth. Let's give him a bone."

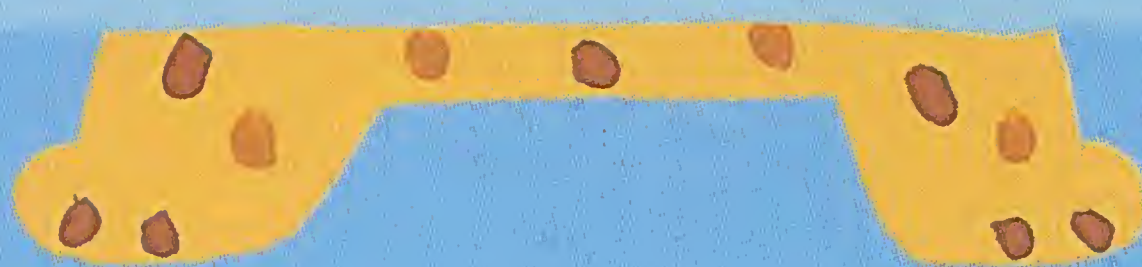
Crunch!



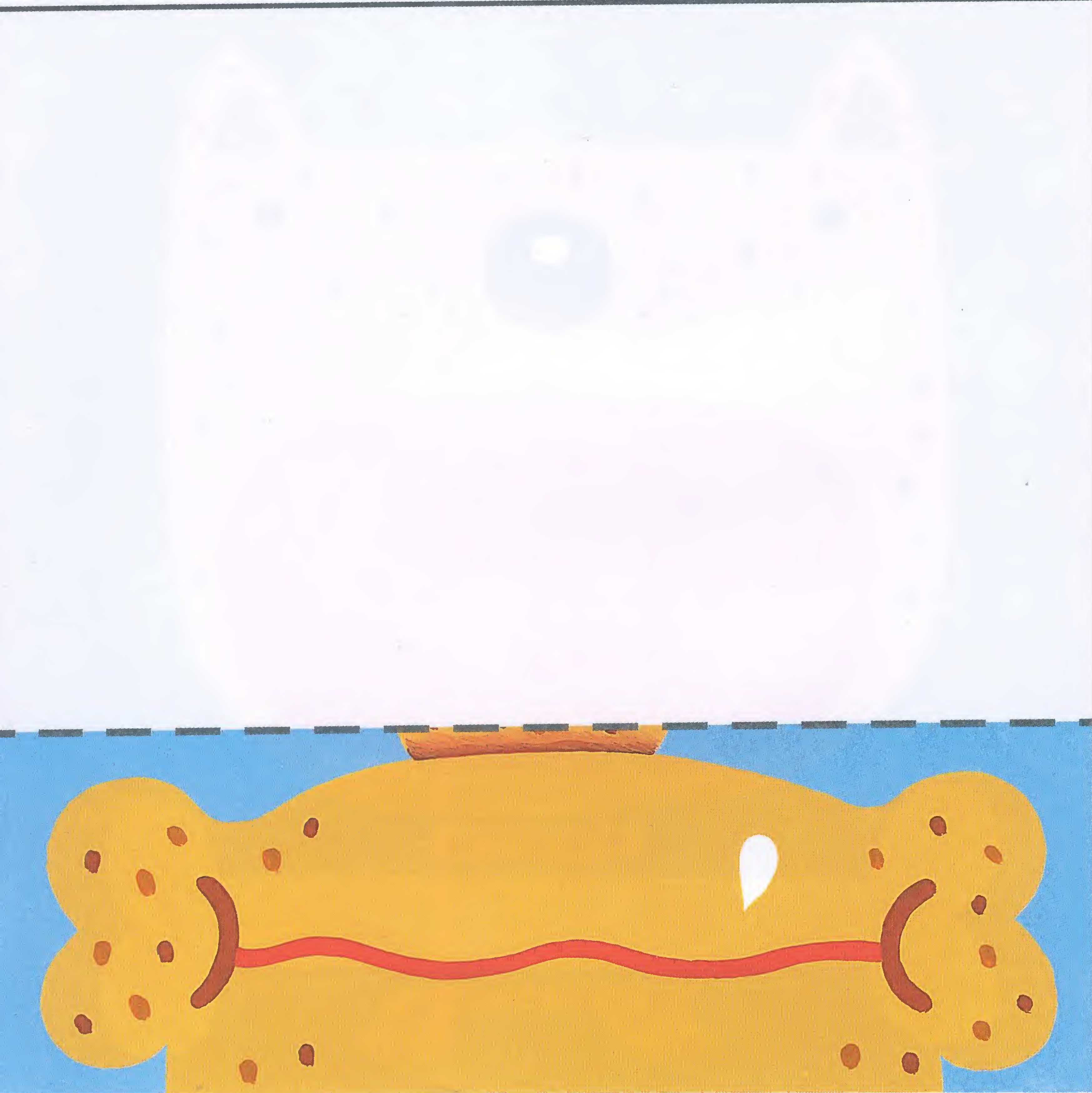
Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

dog



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - -.





Don't Cry...

To parents

Encourage your child to have fun folding by saying, "The boy is crying. Let's make him smile."

Smile!



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

boy



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.





What Should I Wear Today?

To parents

From this page forward, your child will practice folding paper vertically along two designated lines. You can first show him or her how to do it, while saying something like, "Let's get him dressed."

Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

Done!

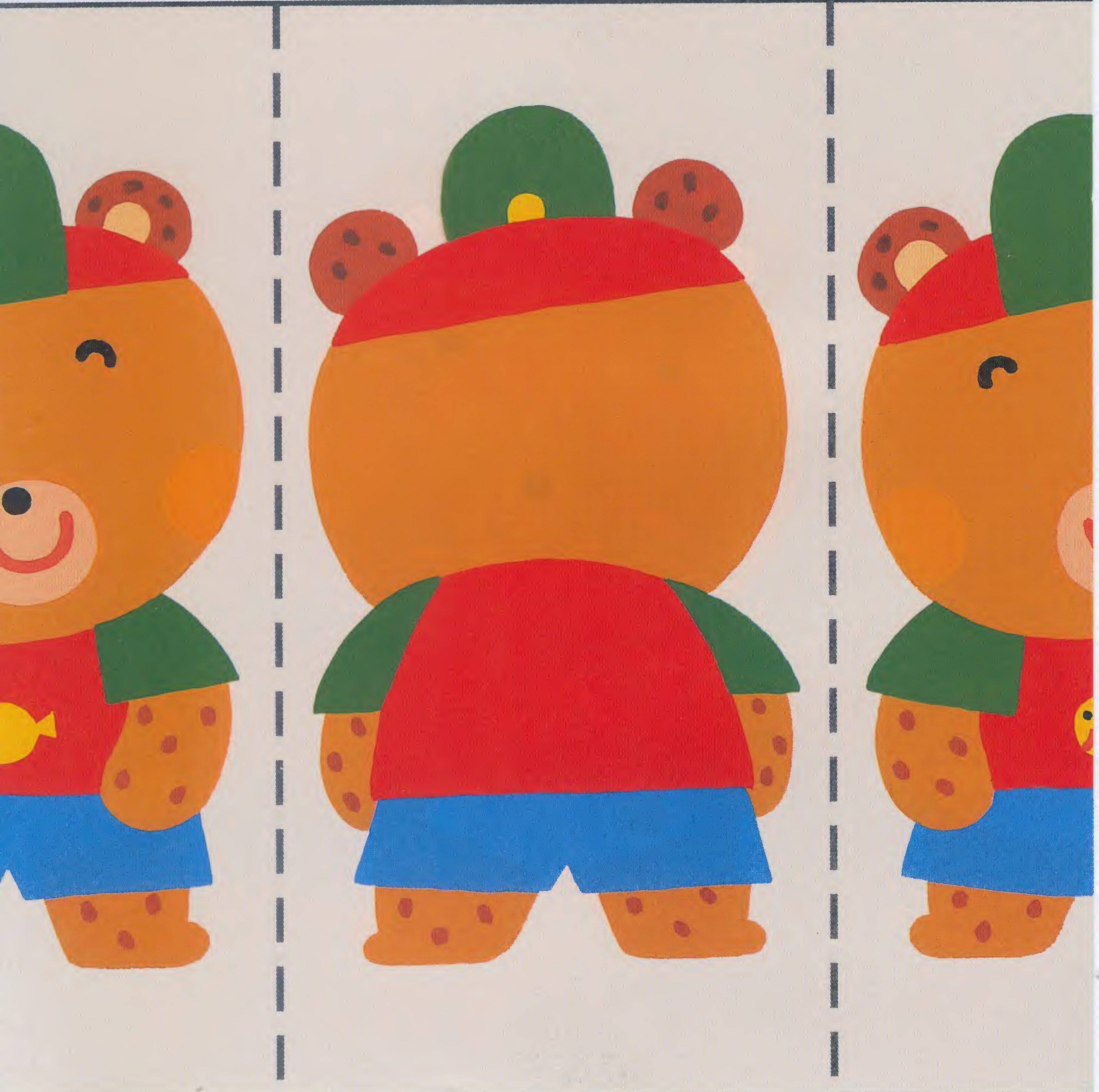
Please make a light crease in the center to use as a guide.



bear



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - -.



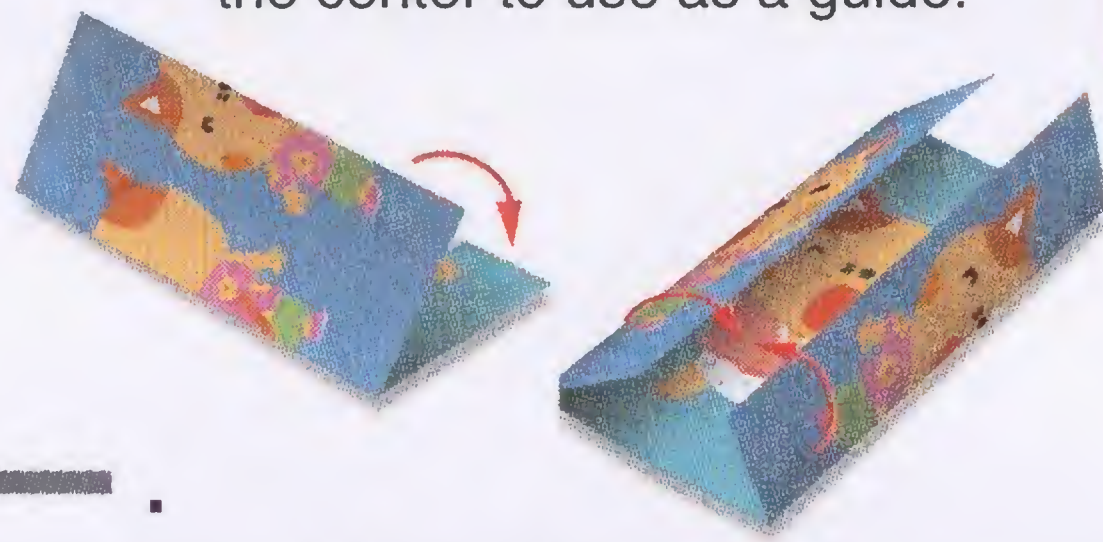


What Should I Wear Today?

To parents

Folding along a straight line is not easy for a child, so be sure to give your child lots of positive encouragement.

Please make a light crease in the center to use as a guide.



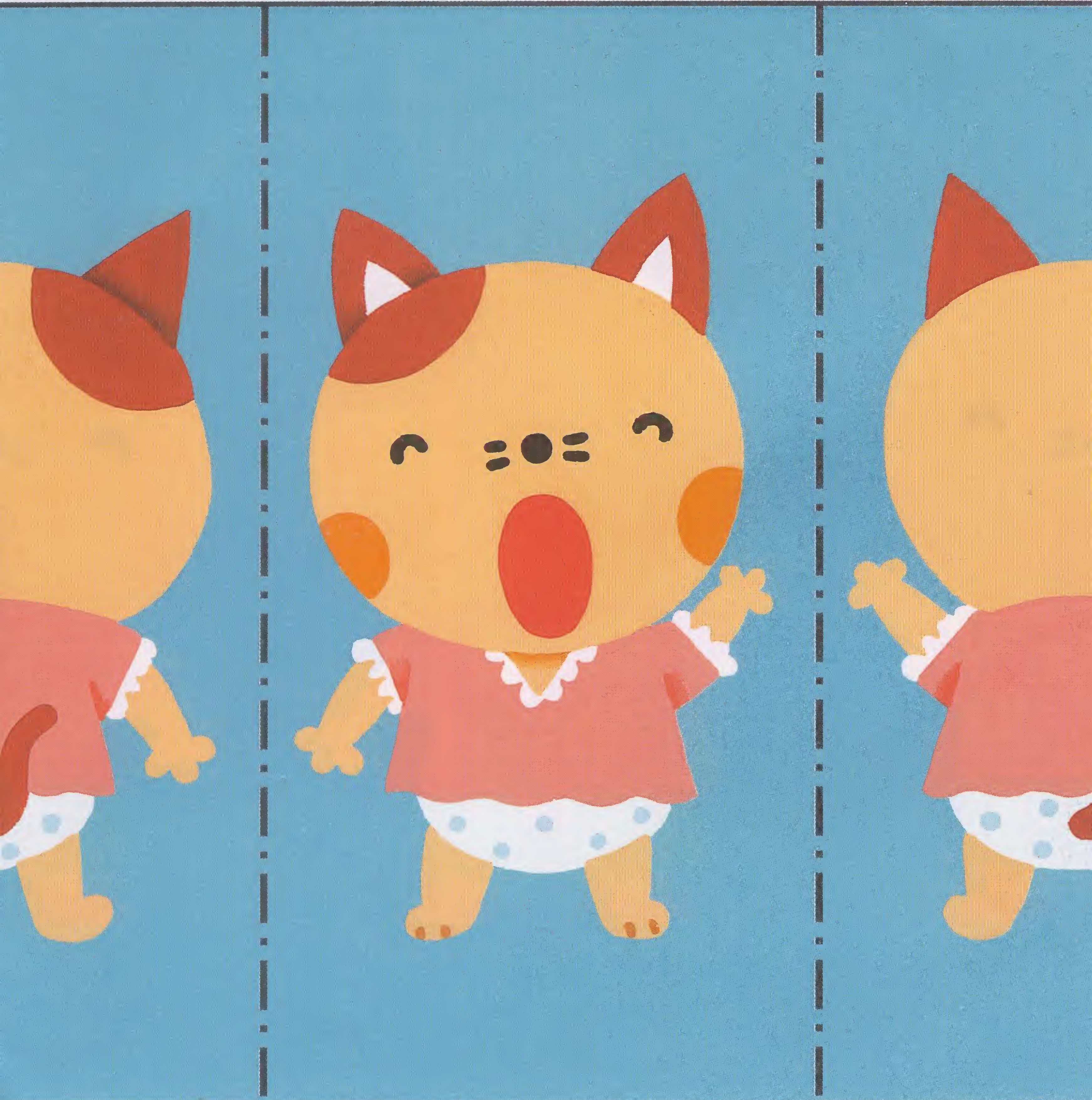
Done!



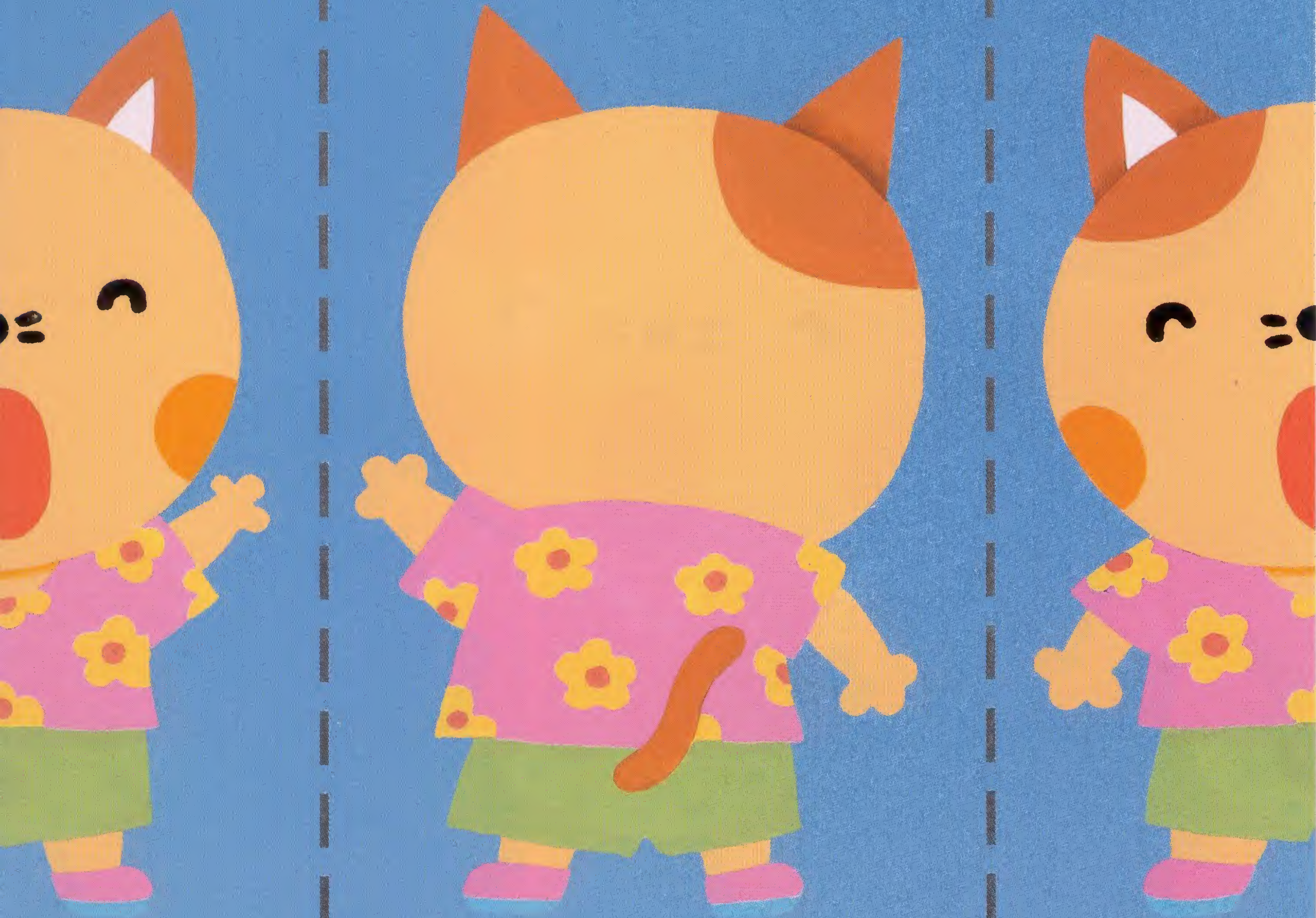
Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

cat



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.

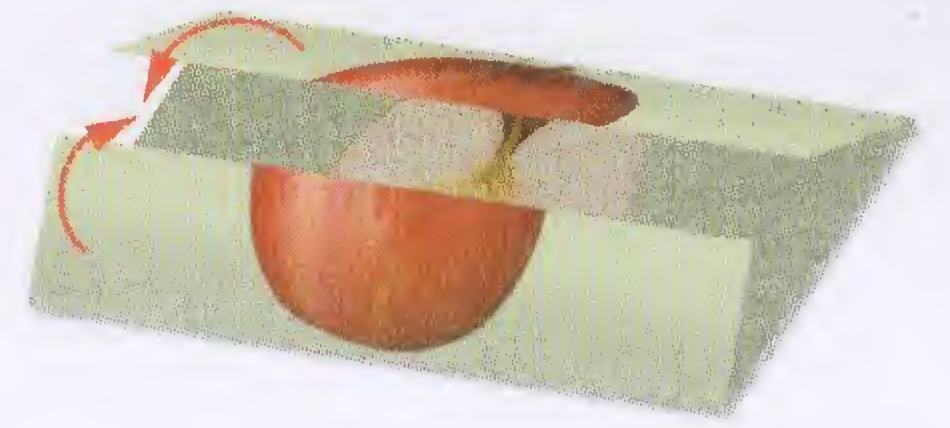




Cutting an Apple

To parents

Ask your child, "What is this?" while he or she is folding. If you have an apple on hand, you can cut it in half and show the cross section to your child. When he or she has completed the activity, turn the paper over and say "apple" aloud while pointing to the word.



Fold upwards along — . . .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

apple



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.



apple

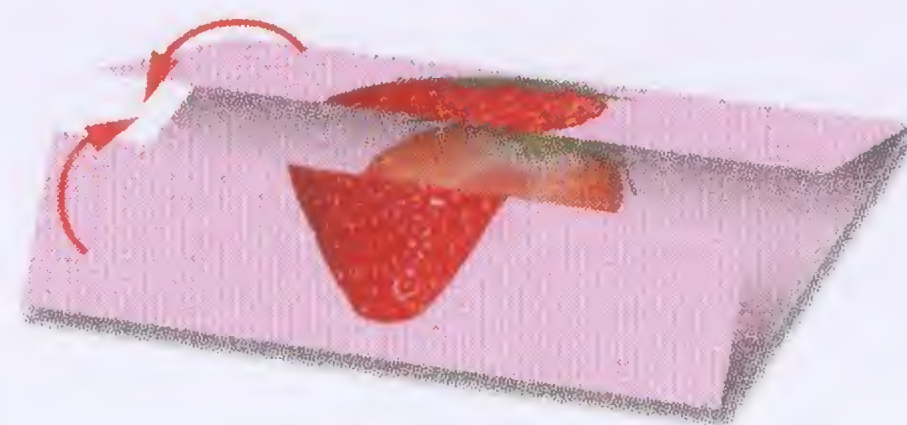




Cutting a Strawberry

To parents

Ask your child to guess what kind of fruit is in this picture. Do not be concerned if your child cannot fold perfectly straight. When your child has completed folding, say “strawberry” aloud while pointing to the word.



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

strawberry



✂ Parents, please cut along ————— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.



strawberry

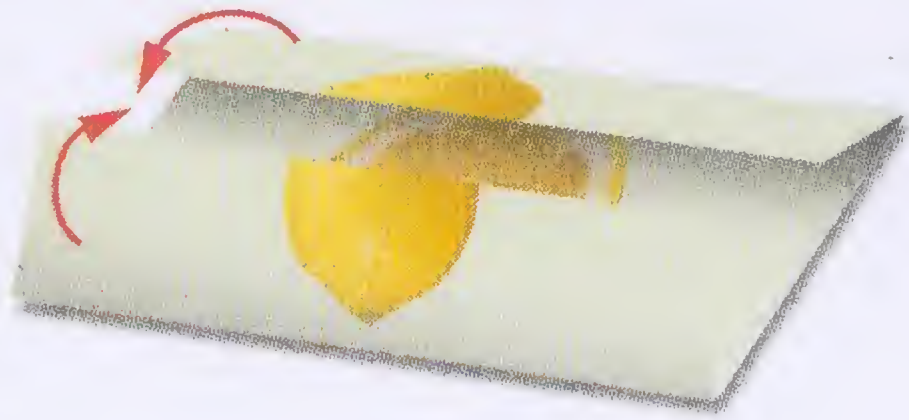




Cutting a Lemon

To parents

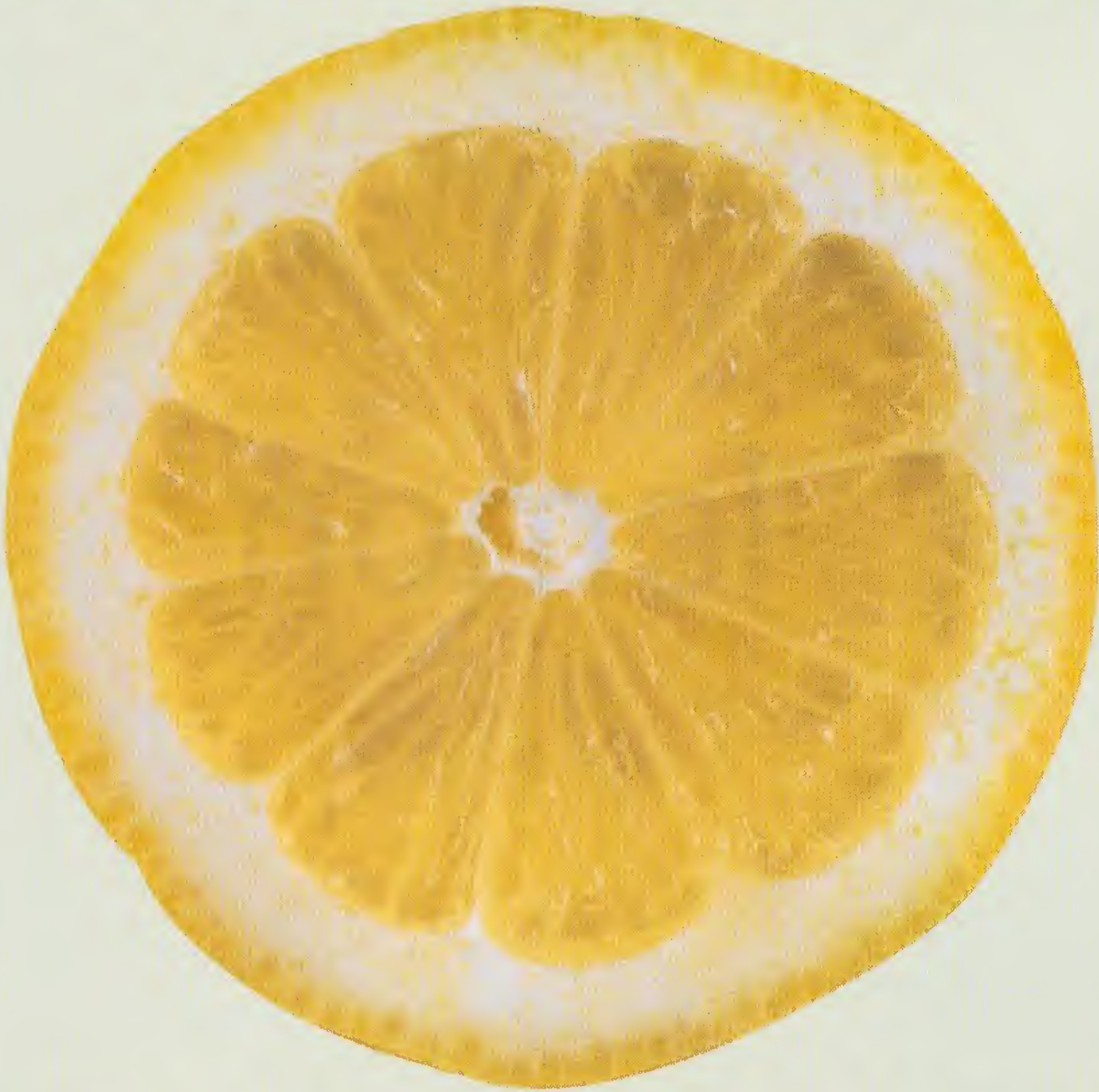
Ask your child to guess the shape of the lemon. When your child has completed the exercise, turn the paper over and say “lemon” aloud while pointing to the word.



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

lemon



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.



lemon

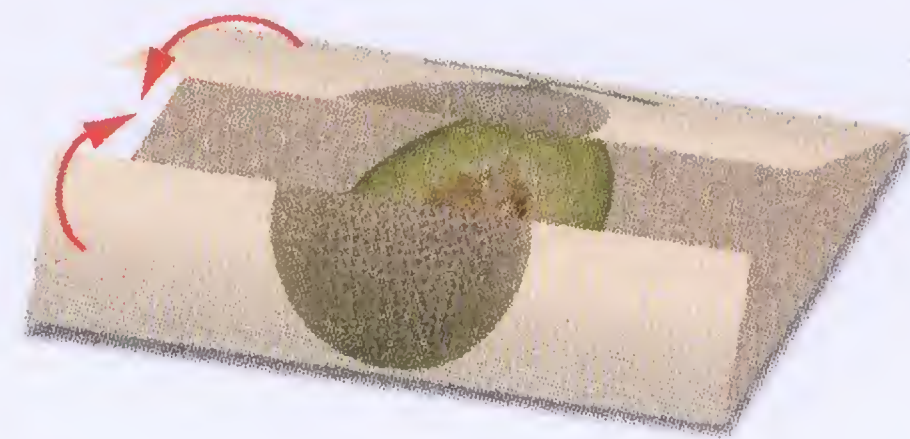




Cutting a Melon

To parents

Show your child the picture of the inside of the melon first and ask him or her what it is. When he or she has finished folding, turn the paper over and say “melon” aloud while pointing to the word.



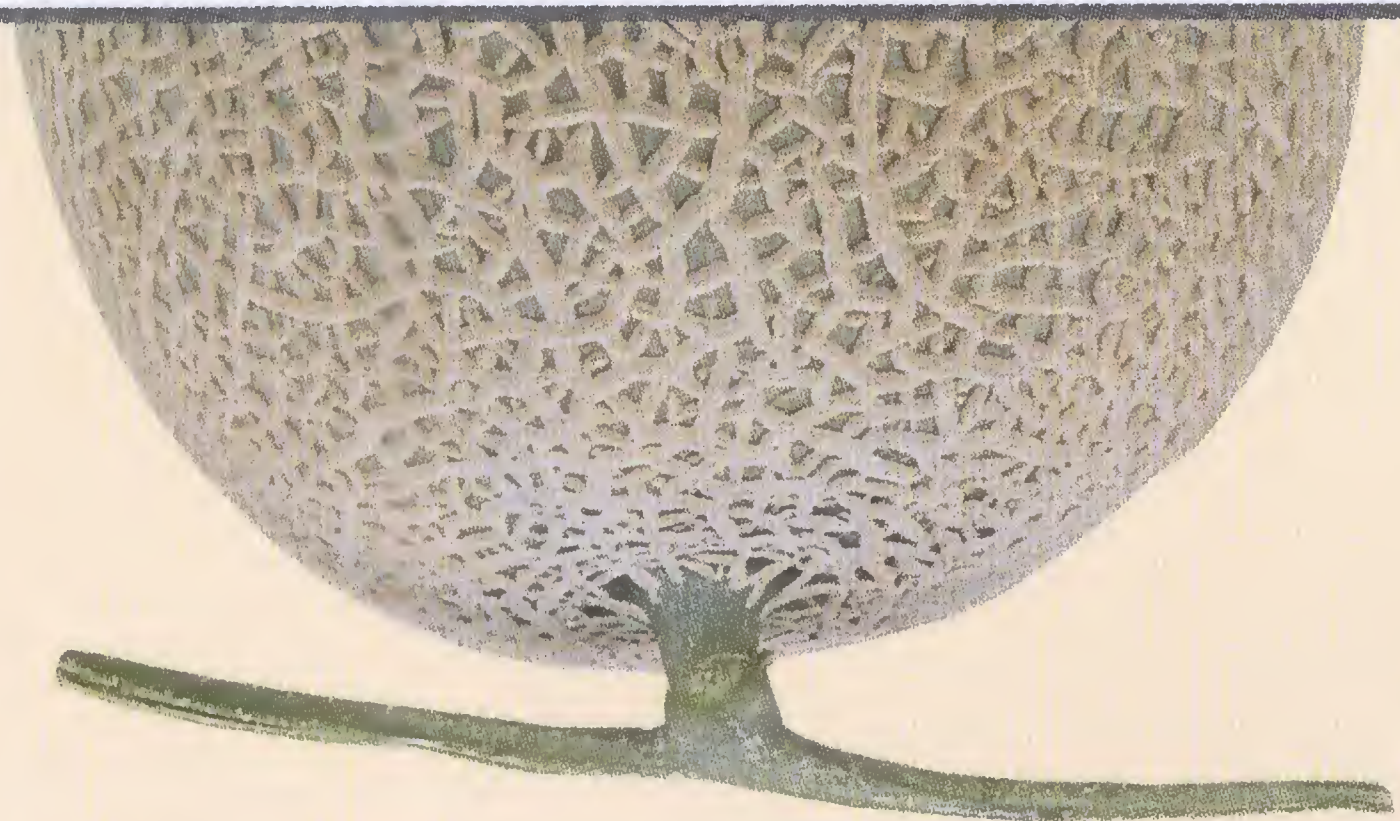
Fold upwards along ——— .

✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child.

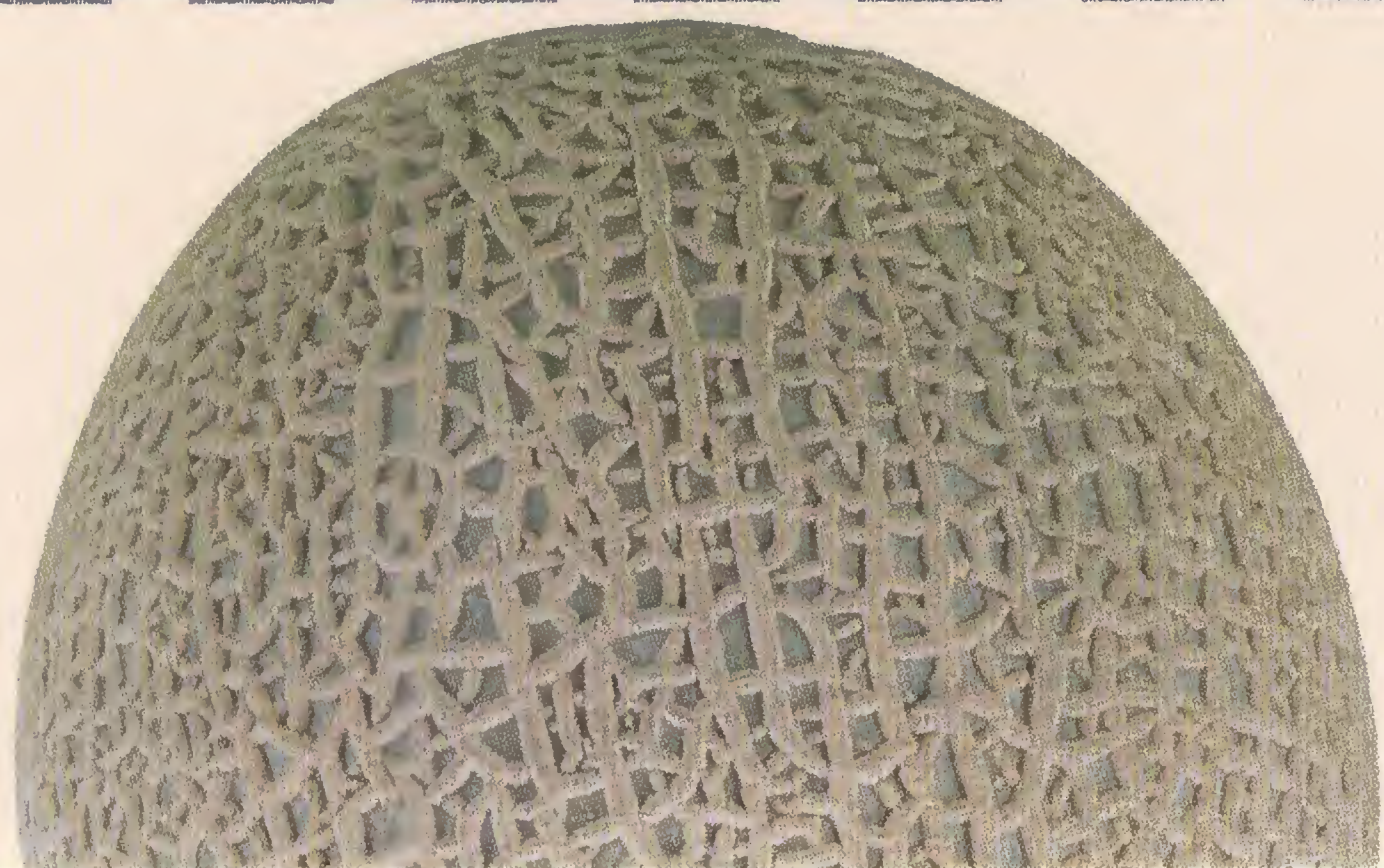
melon



✂ Parents, please cut along ————— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.



melon





Cutting a Papaya

To parents

Your child may not be familiar with this fruit—it might be fun to take a trip to the store together to buy one. When your child has finished folding, offer lots of praise.



Fold upwards along — — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

papaya



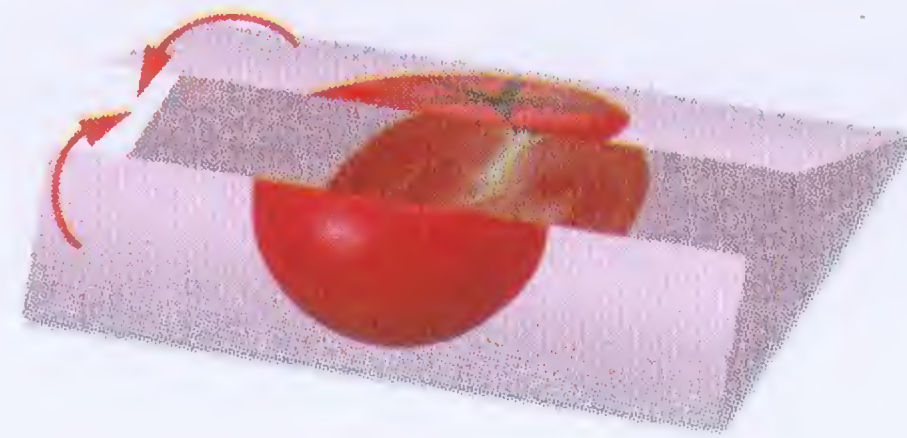
✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - -.

papaya

Cutting a Tomato

To parents

If you have a tomato on hand, you can cut it in half and show the cross section to your child. When your child has completed the activity, turn the paper over and say “tomato” aloud while pointing to the word.



Fold upwards along — • — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

tomato



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - -.



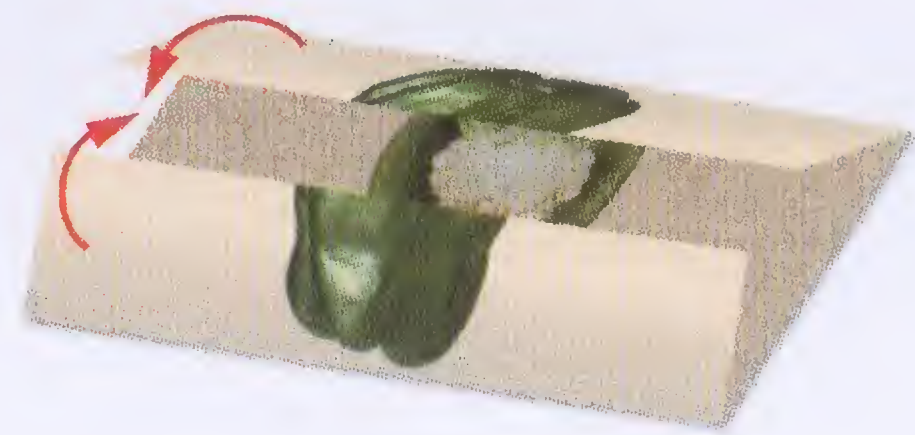
tomato



Cutting a Green Pepper

To parents

When your child has finished folding, compare this page with his or her previous work. Do you see any change? If you notice some improvement, offer lots of praise by saying something like, "You're really getting good!"



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

green pepper



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.



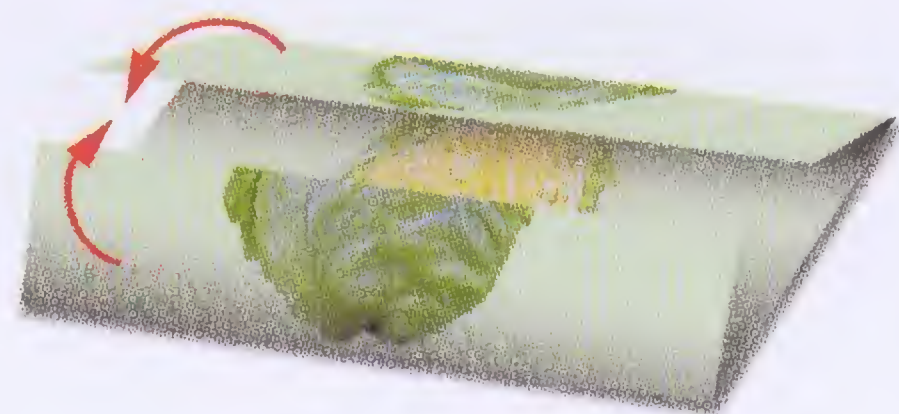
green pepper



Cutting a Cabbage

To parents

It may be a good idea to show your child the cross section of a real cabbage when you cook it. When your child has finished folding, turn the paper over and say “cabbage” aloud while pointing to the word.



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

cabbage



cabbage

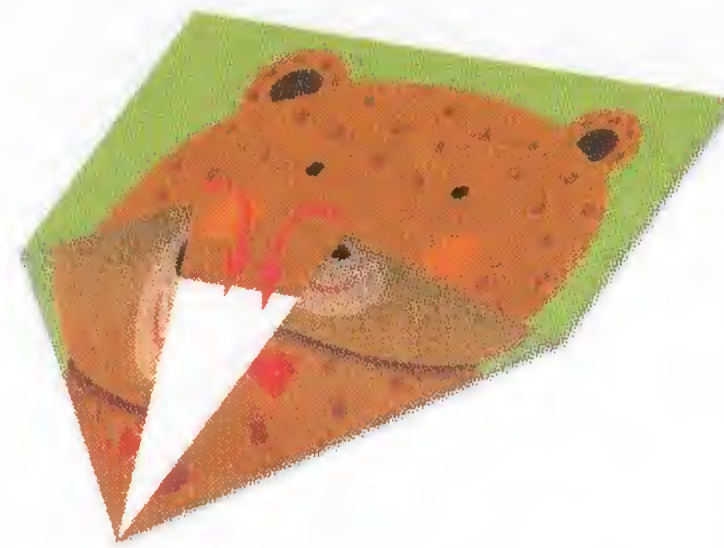


15

Who's This?

To parents

Cut out the colored part carefully so that the flaps form a neat image when folded. Say something like, "Who is this? Can you guess?"



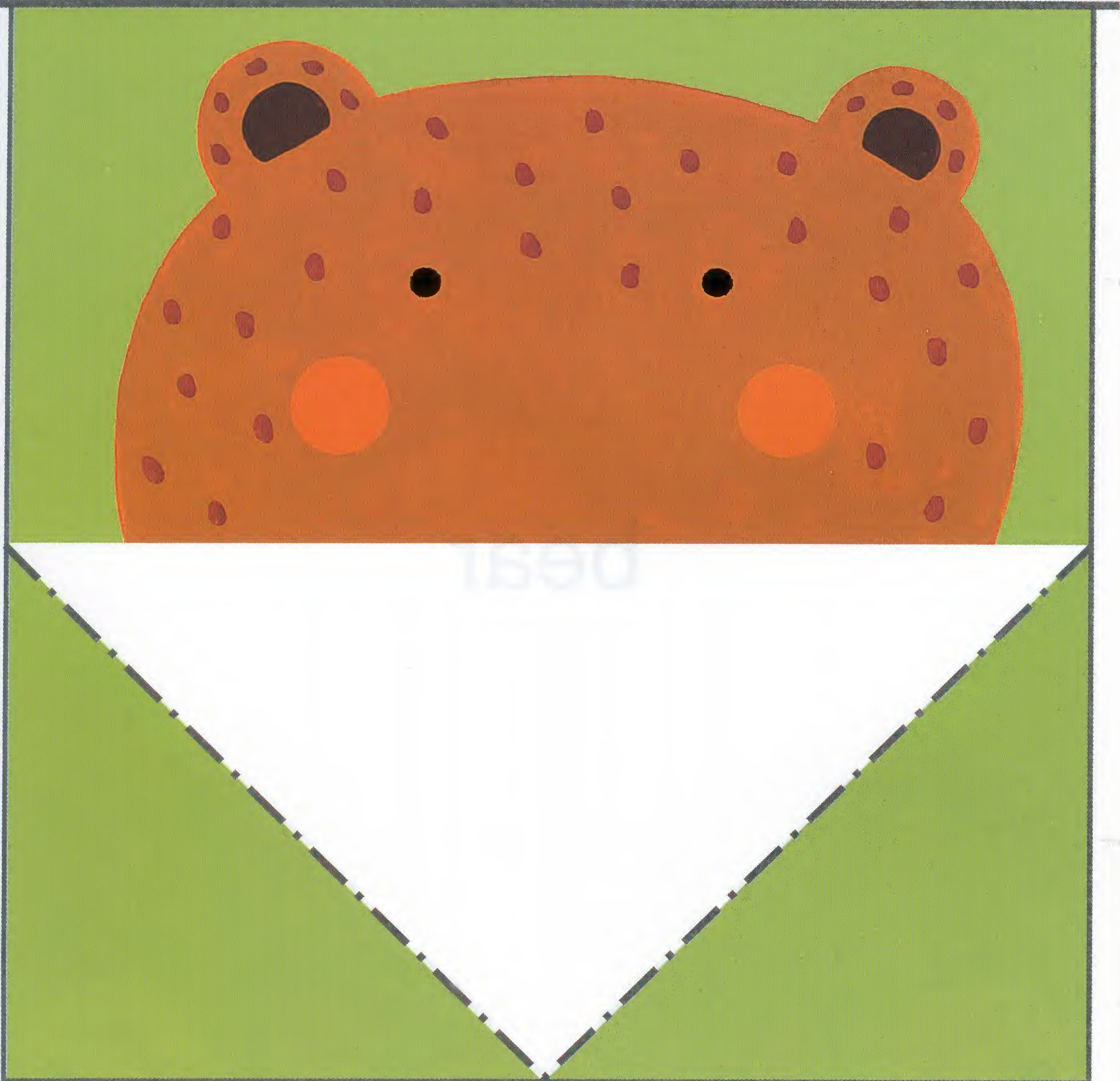
Done!



Fold upwards along — . — .

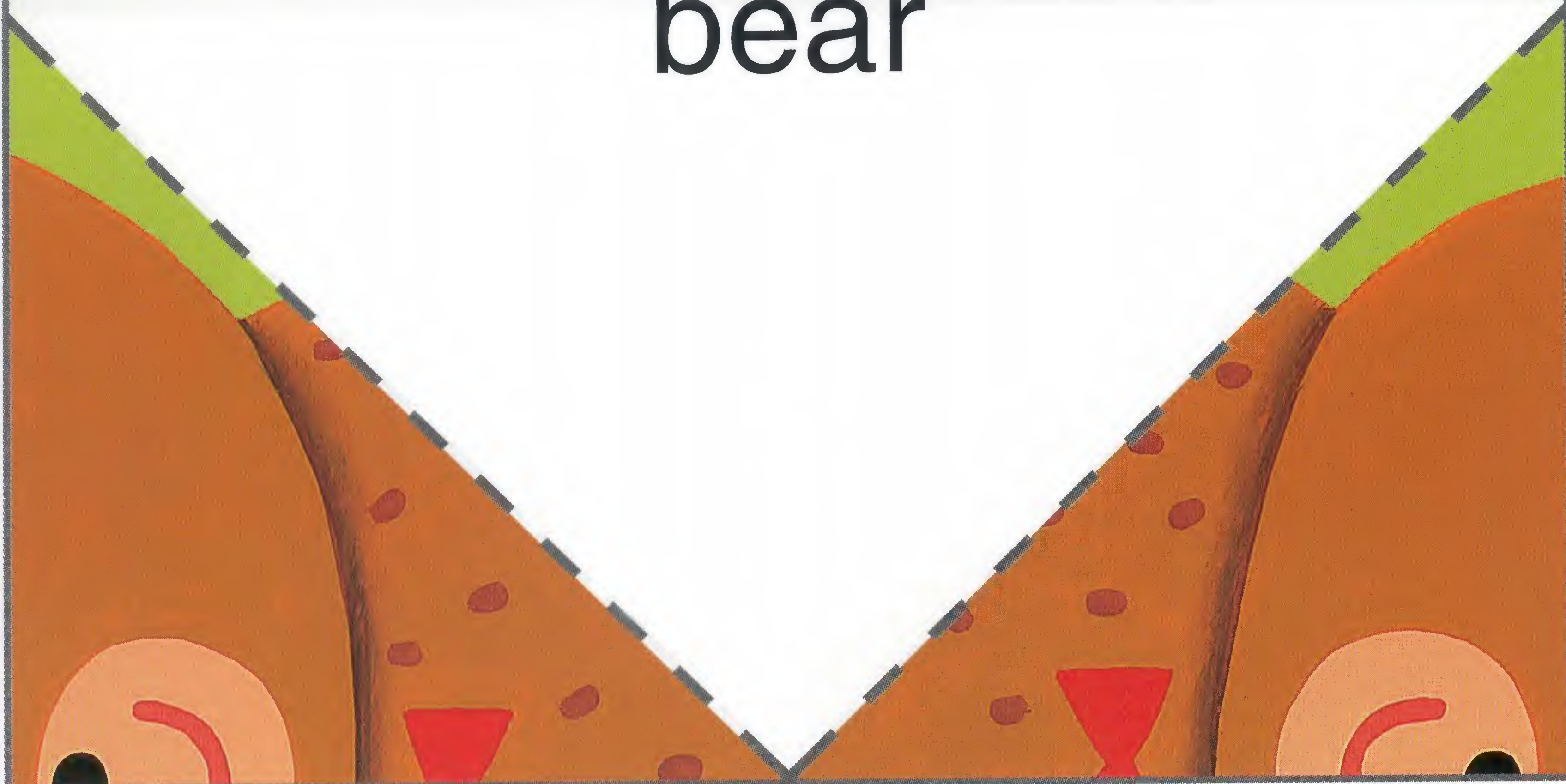
✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

bear



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - -.

bear



16

Who's This?

To parents

Tell your child to try to cover the white part with the flaps if he or she seems to be having difficulty.



Done!



Fold upwards along ——— . ——— .

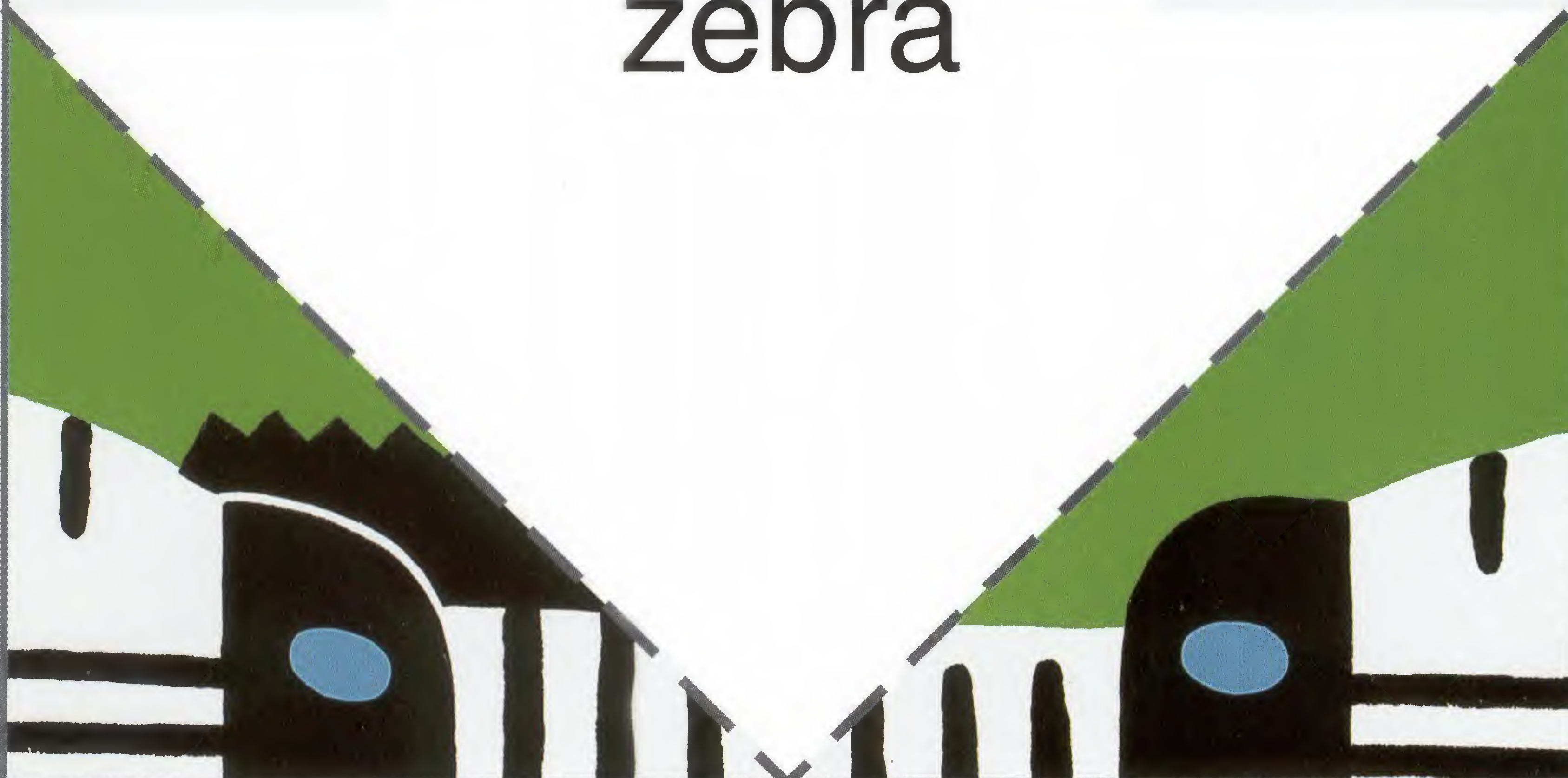
✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child.

zebra



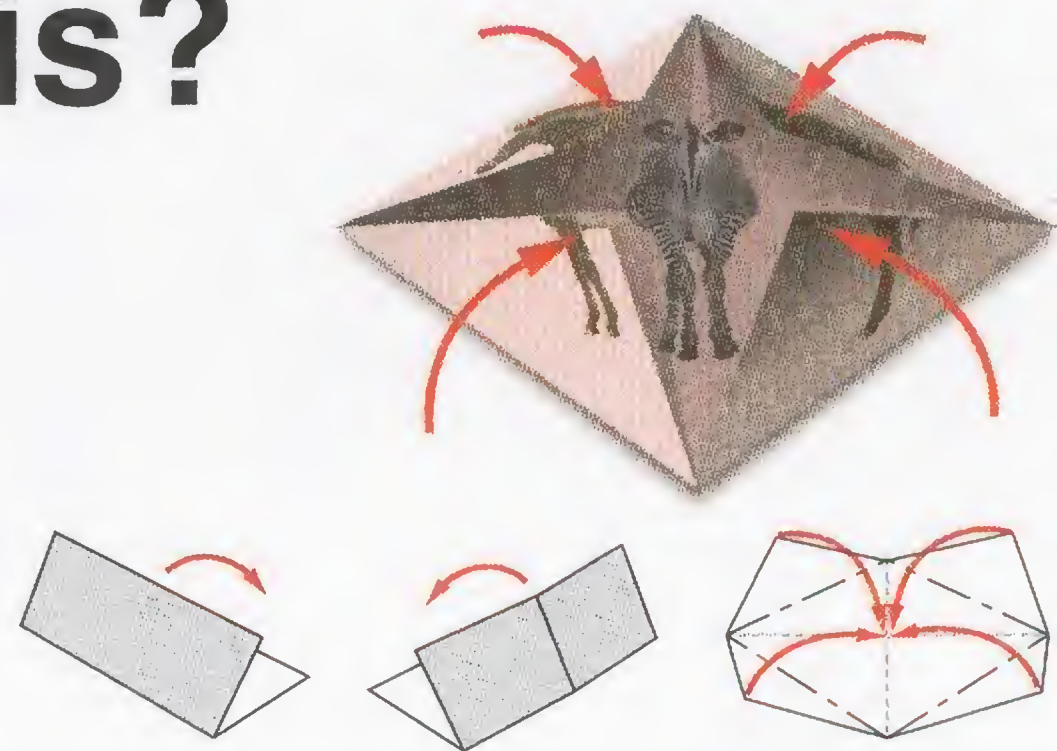
✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.

zebra



Whose Back is This?

To parents From this page on, your child will practice folding diagonally from each of the four corners. You can make creases first for your child if he or she seems to be having difficulty. Before you start, mark the center by folding the paper into four squares as shown on the right, so that your child can use the cross lines as guides.



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

zebra



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - -.

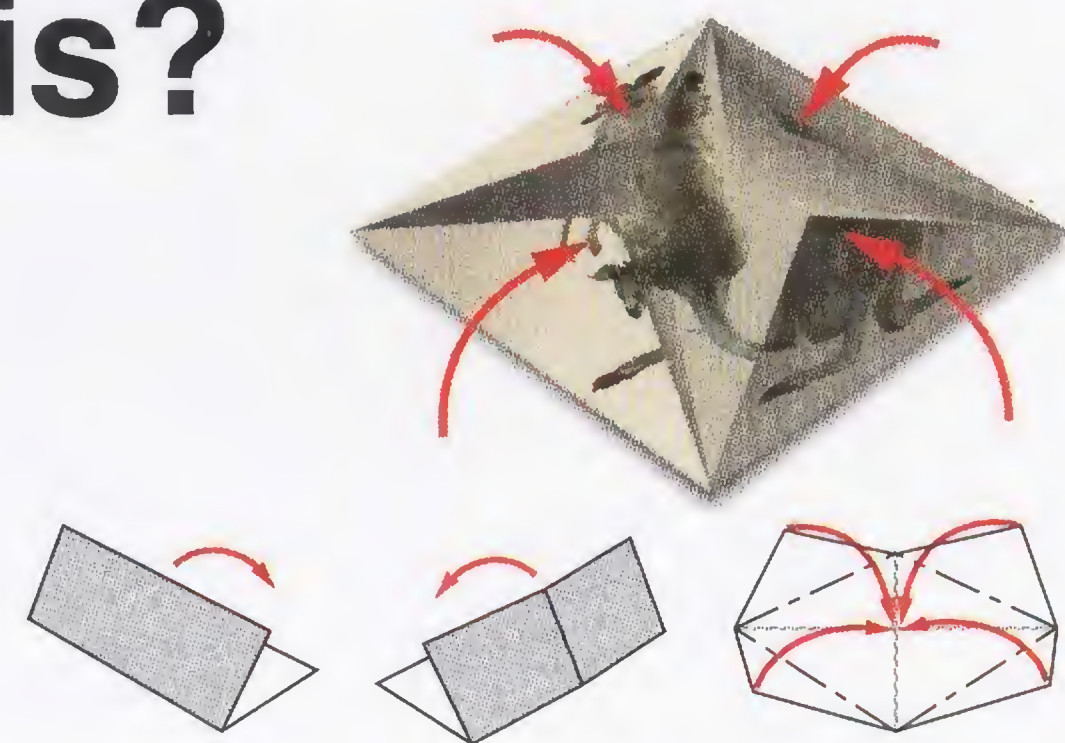


zebra

Whose Back is This?

To parents

When your child has completed the activity, say something fun like, "The mommy kangaroo has a baby in her pouch." Turn the paper over and say "kangaroo" aloud while pointing to the word.



Fold upwards along — . — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

kangaroo



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.

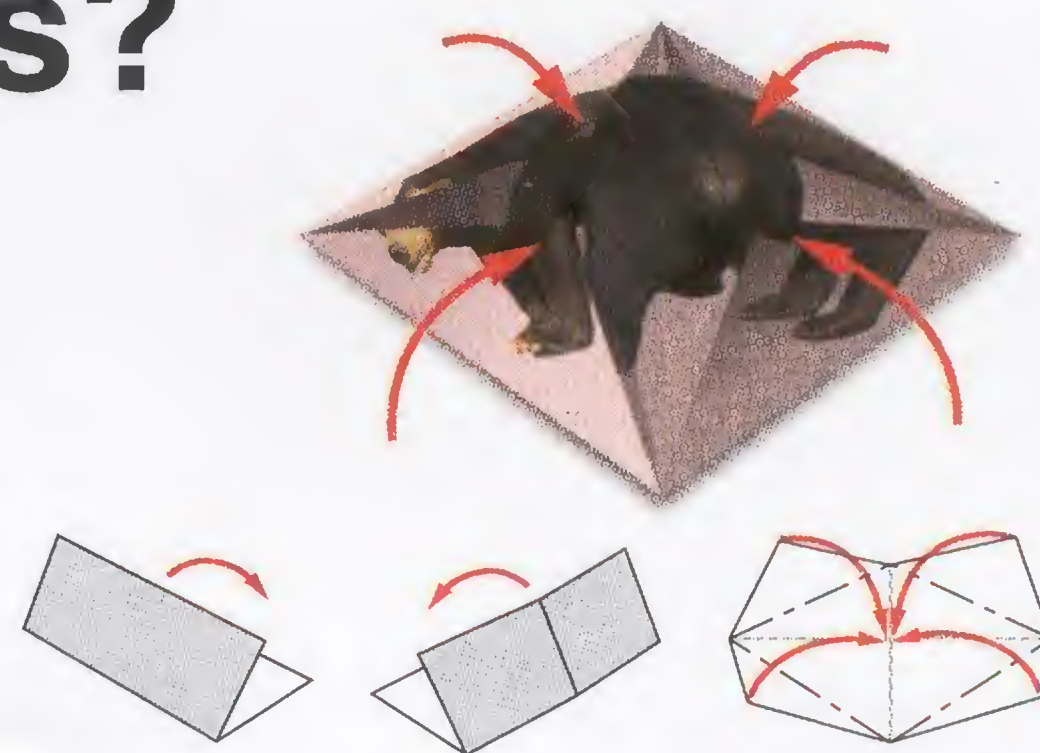


kangaroo

Whose Back is This?

To parents

Enjoy a guessing game with your child by saying something like, "What animal do you think this is? Let's fold it and see."



Fold upwards along — — — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — for your child.

bear



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.



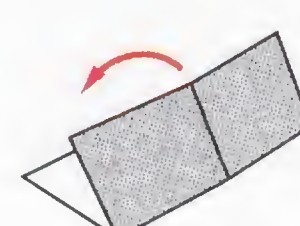
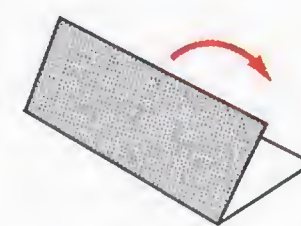
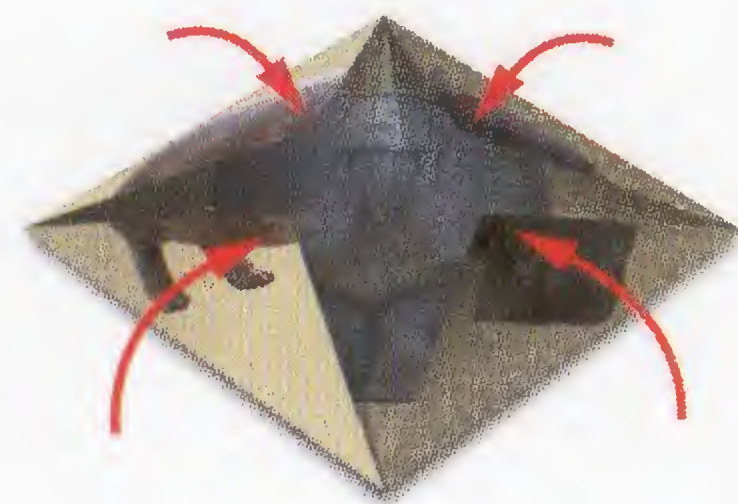
Whose Back is This?

To parents

Try to make this exercise fun for your child by asking something like, "Whose bottom do you think this is? Let's fold it and see." When your child has finished folding, turn the paper over and say "hippo" aloud while pointing to the word.

Fold upwards along — — — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.



hippo



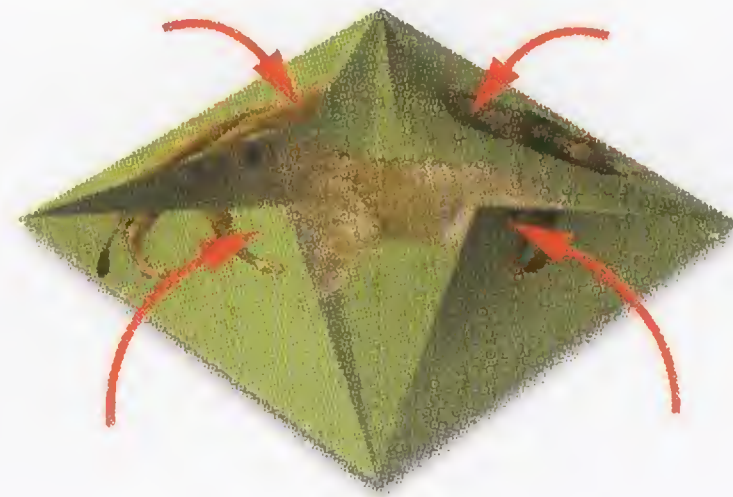
✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - -.

hippo

When I Grow Up...

To parents

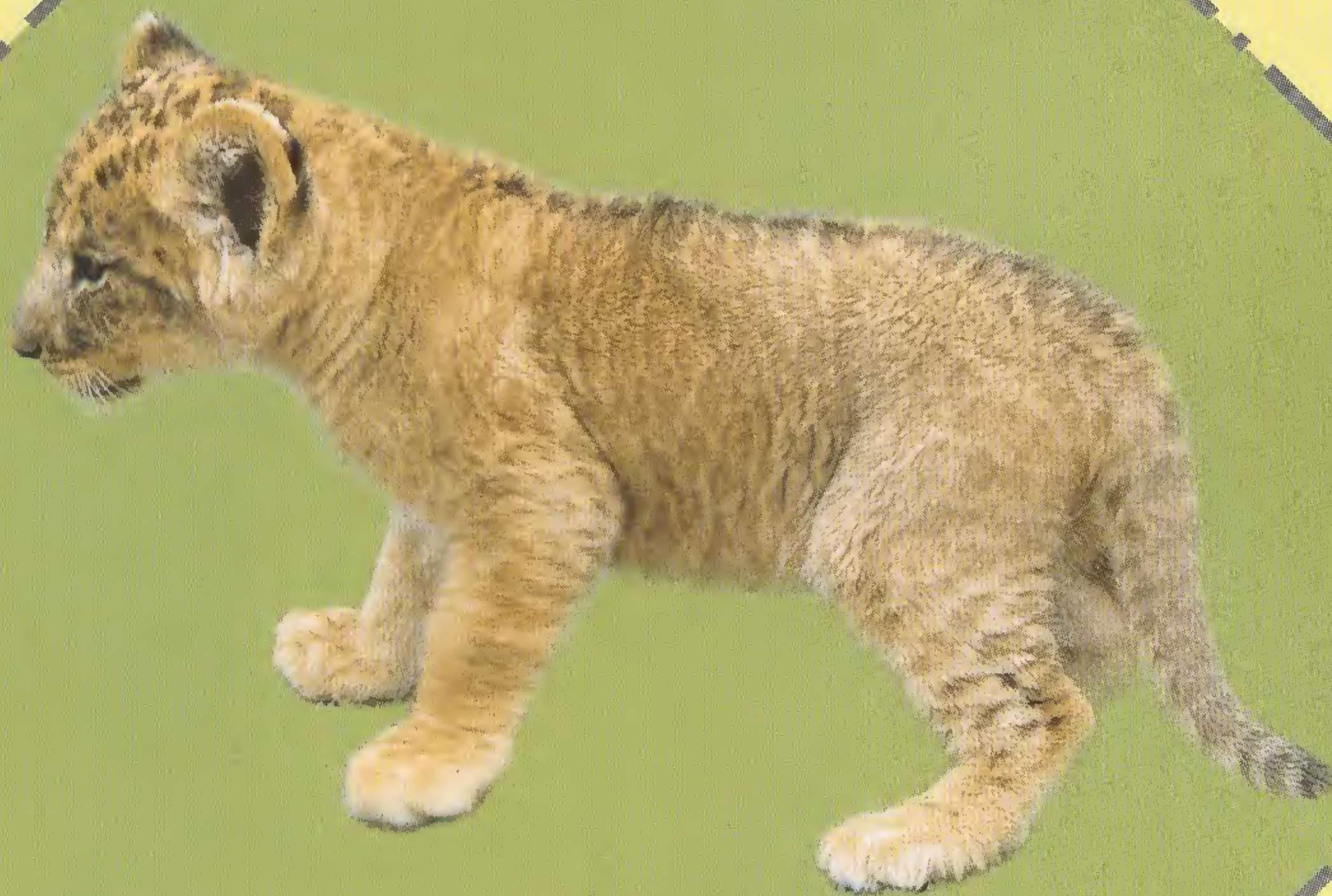
These next two exercises each feature a photo of a full-grown animal on one side of the page, and a baby animal on the other. Discuss with your child how the appearance of a baby animal changes as it grows into an adult. Photos in this exercise show a lion cub and a grown male lion.



Fold upwards along — . — .

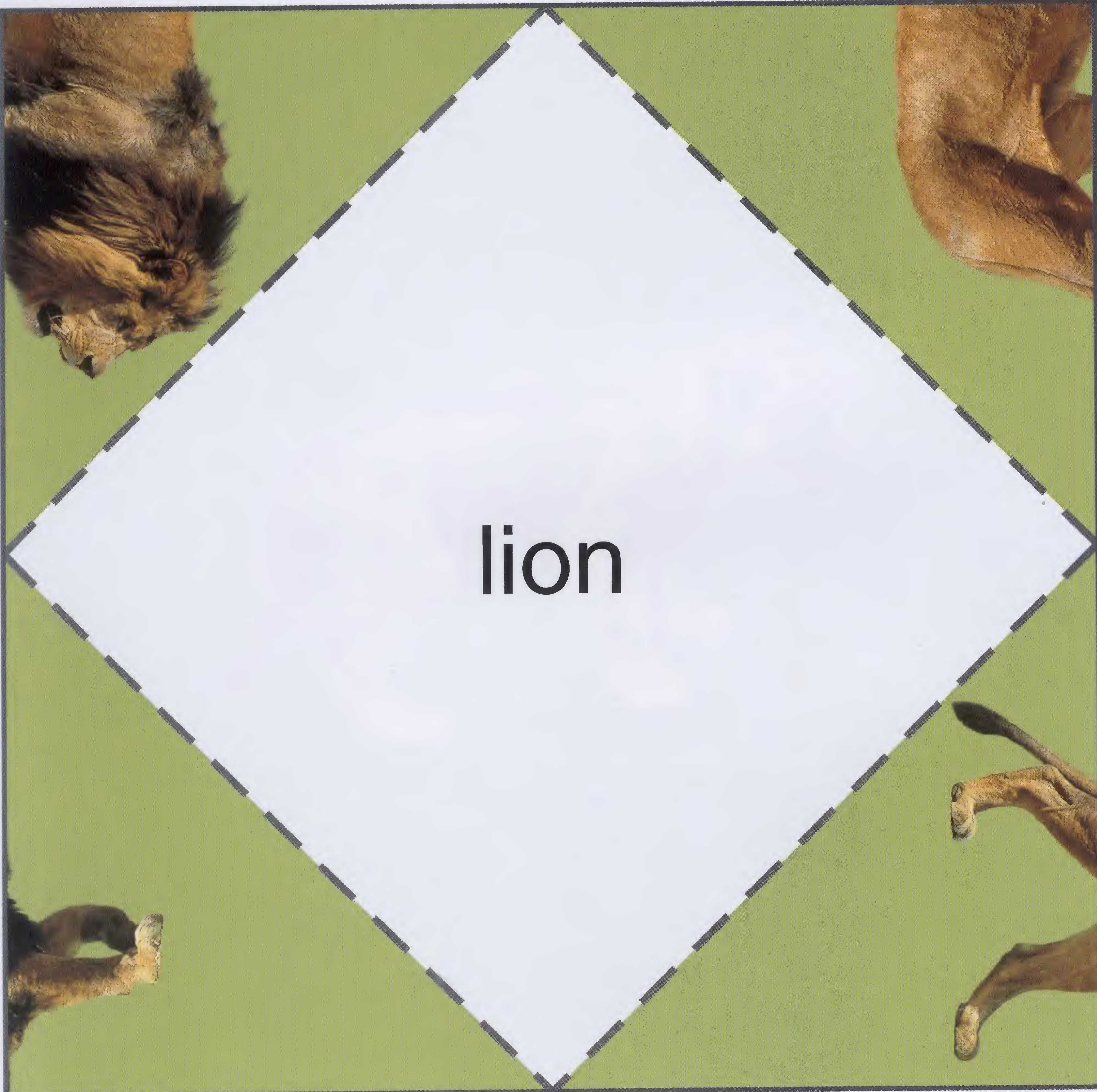
✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

lion



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - -.

lion

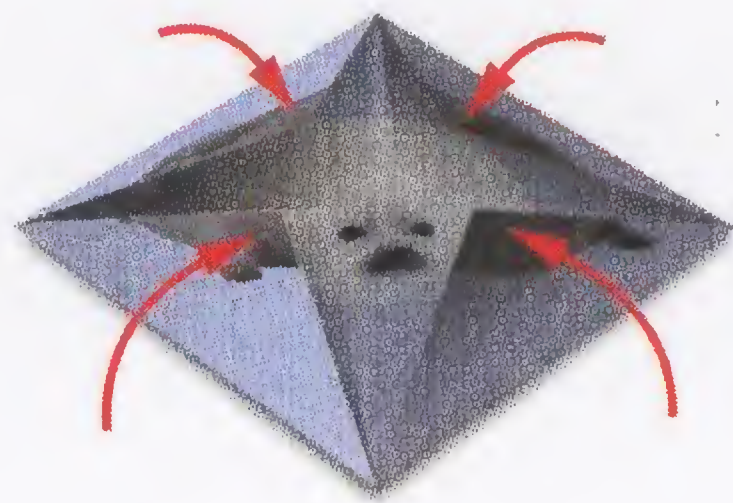


22

When I Grow Up...

To parents

If your child has managed to fold the corners to form a neat square, offer lots of praise. Draw your child's attention to how the color and texture of the seal's skin changes as it matures into an adult.



Fold upwards along — — . — — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — — for your child.

seal



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - -.



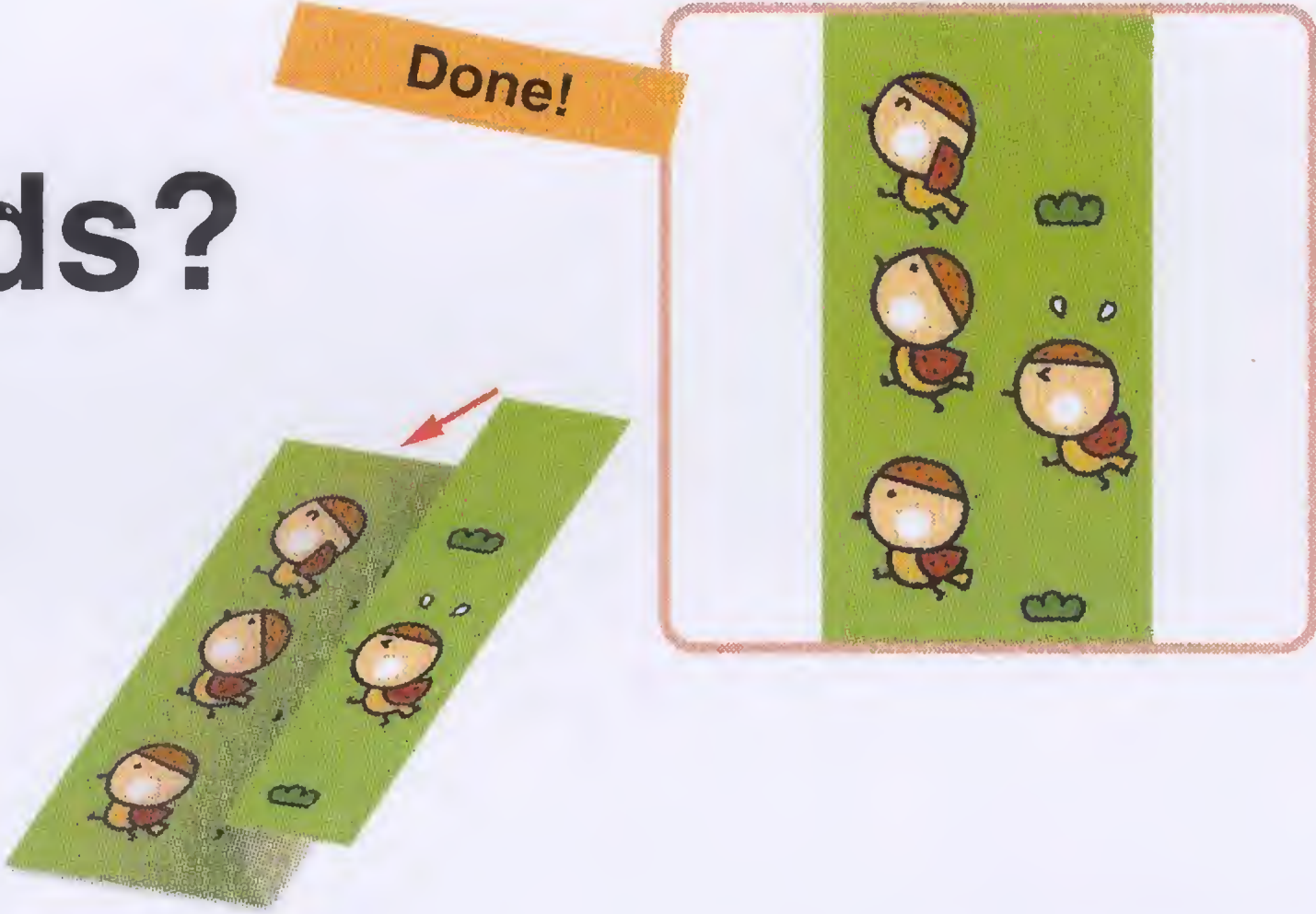
seal

How Many Birds?

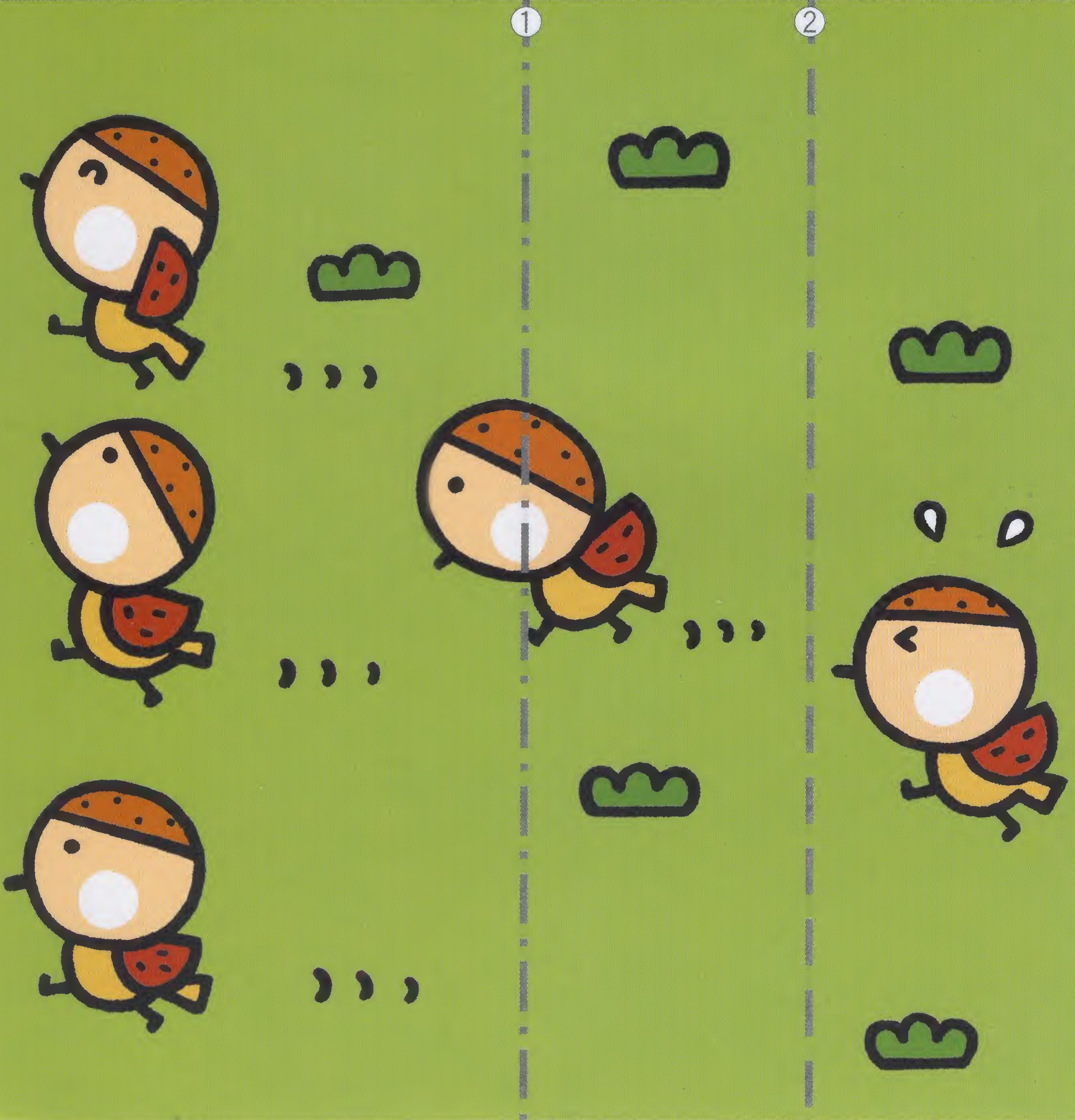
To parents From this page on, your child will practice folding both upwards and downwards on the same page. When he or she is finished, say something like, "I think there's somebody missing here. Do you want to count the birdies?"

Fold upwards along — — — — and downwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.



birds



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

2

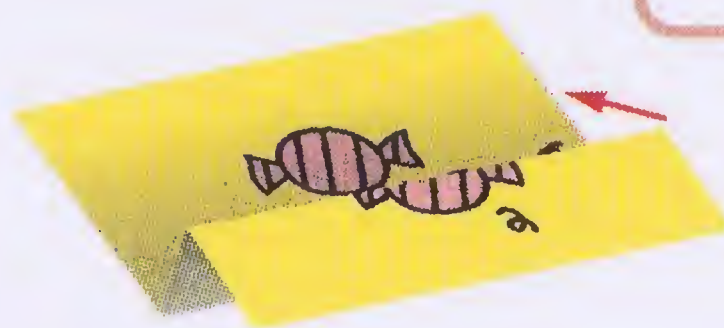
1

How Many Candies?

To parents If your child seems to be having difficulty deciding which way to fold, give him or her a hint by saying something like, "First up, and then down." When your child is finished, open the fold and say something like, "Look, there are four more candies inside."

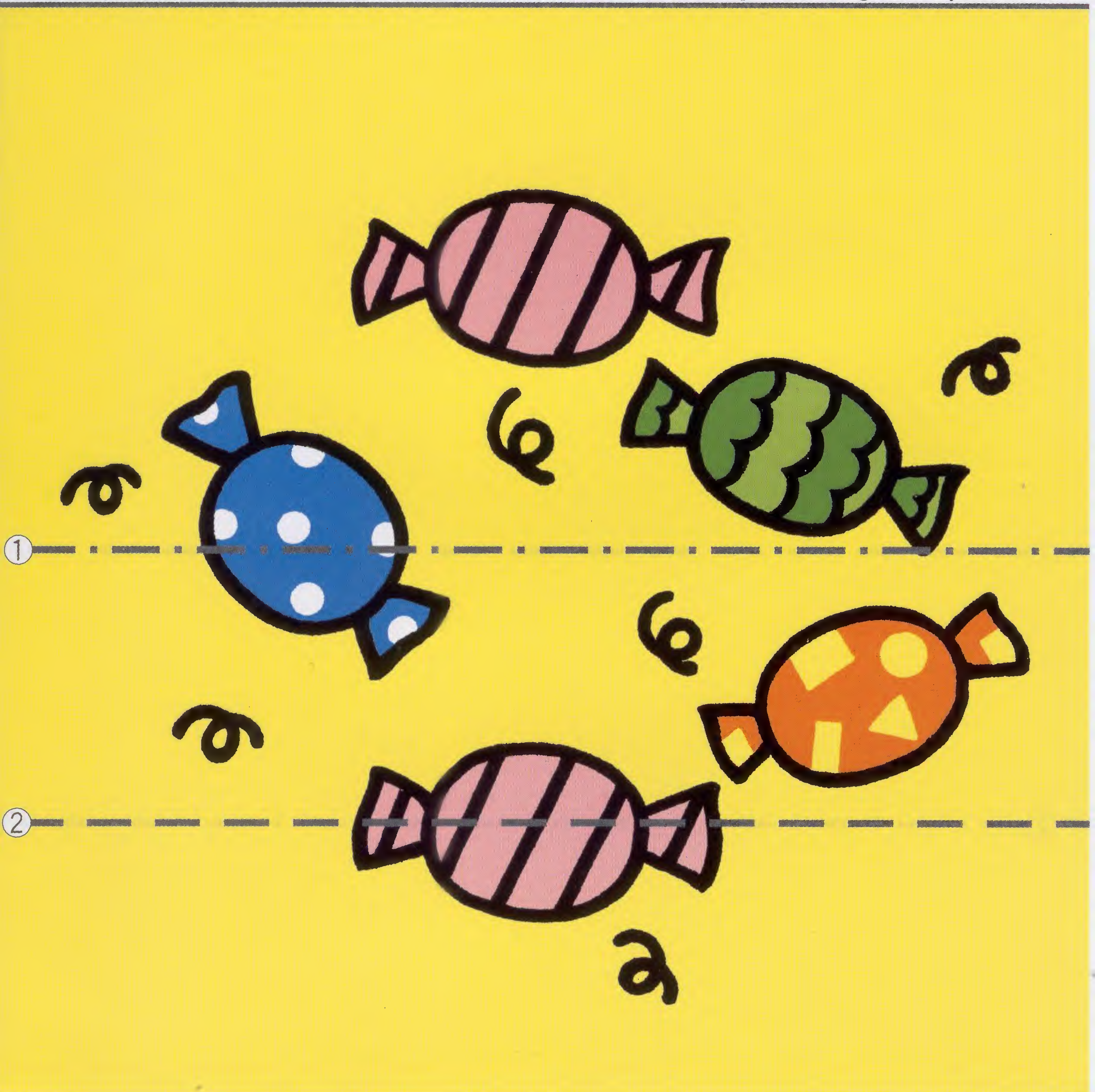
Fold upwards along — — — — and downwards along — — — —.

Done!



candy

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.



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

1

2

25

Aren't You an Alligator?

To parents On this page, your child will continue to practice folding upwards and downwards on the same page. However, now the activities get more difficult as the illustration becomes hidden by the back of the page when your child folds upwards. If your child seems to be wondering where to fold next, please help him or her.

Fold upwards along — — — — and downwards along — — — —.



Done!



frog

alligator

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - and upwards along - - - -.

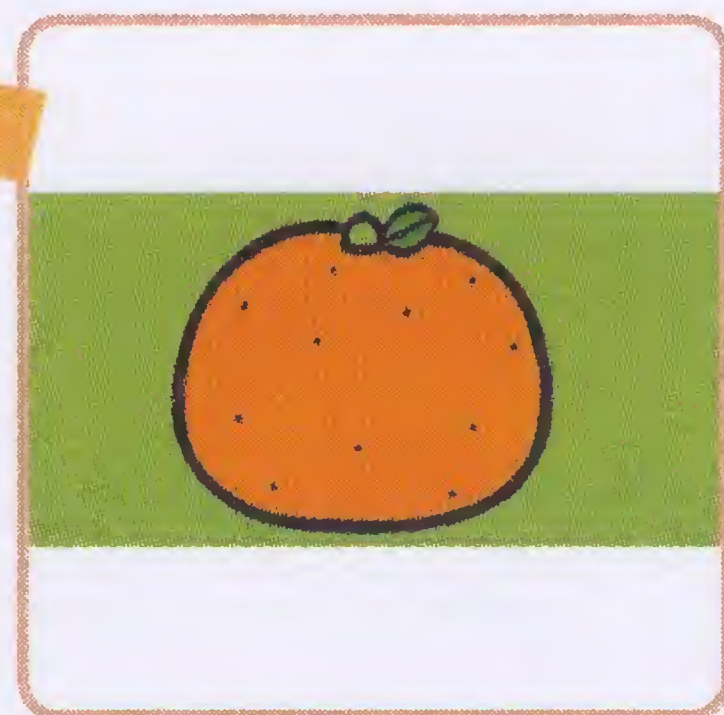
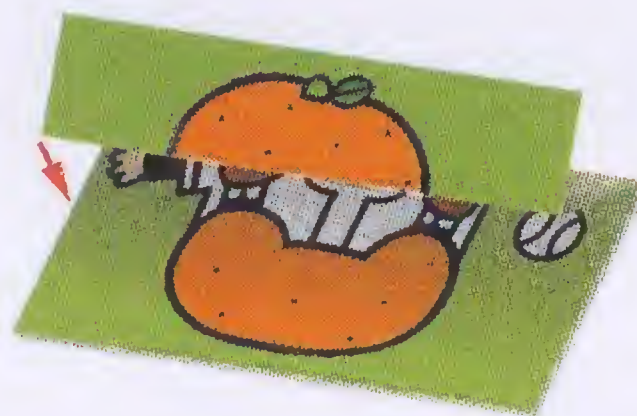
2

1

Aren't You a Baseball Player?

To parents

Encourage your child by saying, "The boy's turned into an orange!" Say "baseball player" and "orange" aloud while pointing to the words.

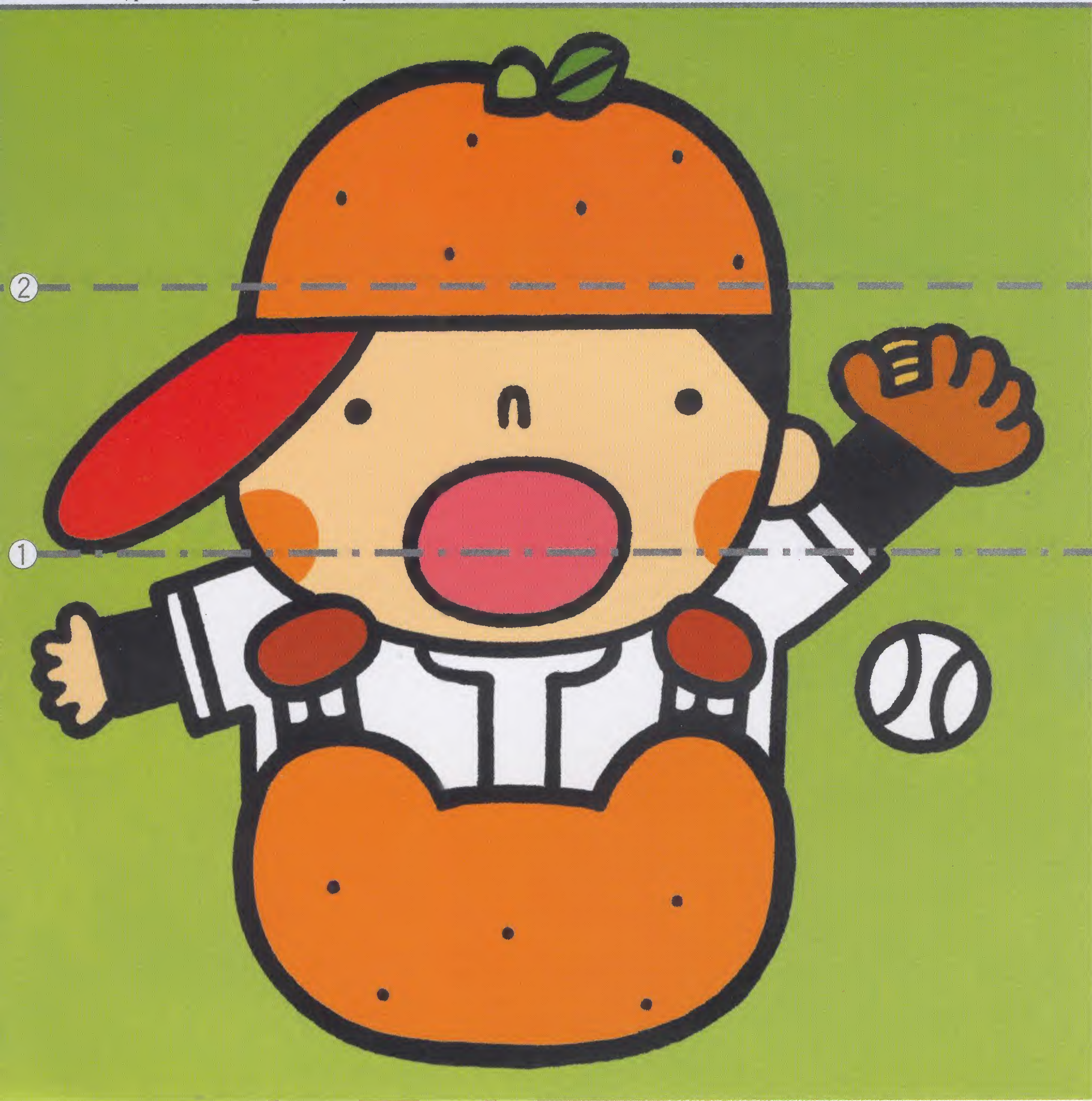


orange

Fold upwards along — — — — and downwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.

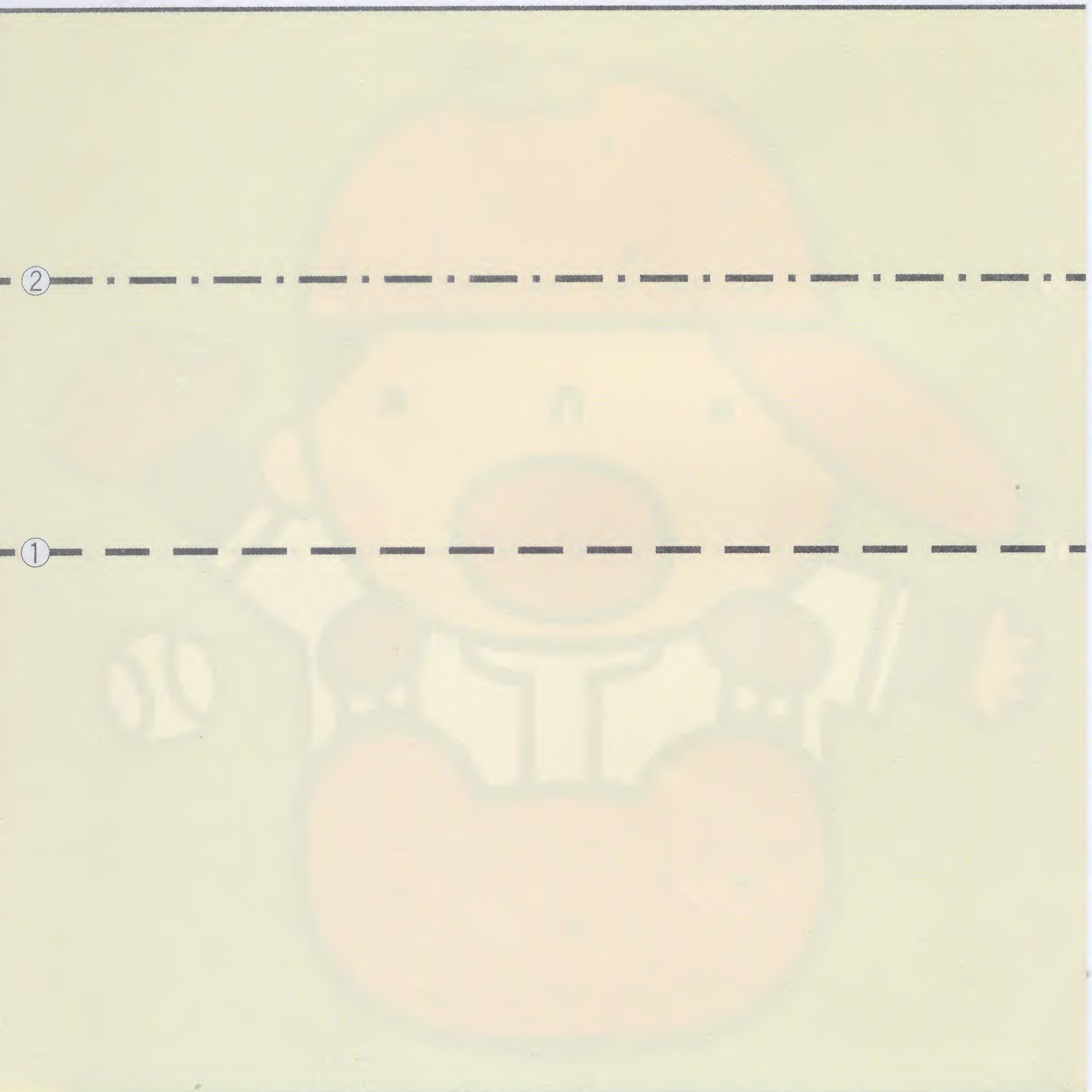
baseball player



Don't You
a Baseball Player?

Fold downwards along ——— and upwards along ———.

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



Aren't You a Captain?

To parents

Your child can fold upwards neatly if he or she uses the downward fold line on the back as a guide. Say something fun like, "Wow, the captain has turned into a ship!" when your child is done folding.

Fold upwards along — — — — and downwards along — — — —.

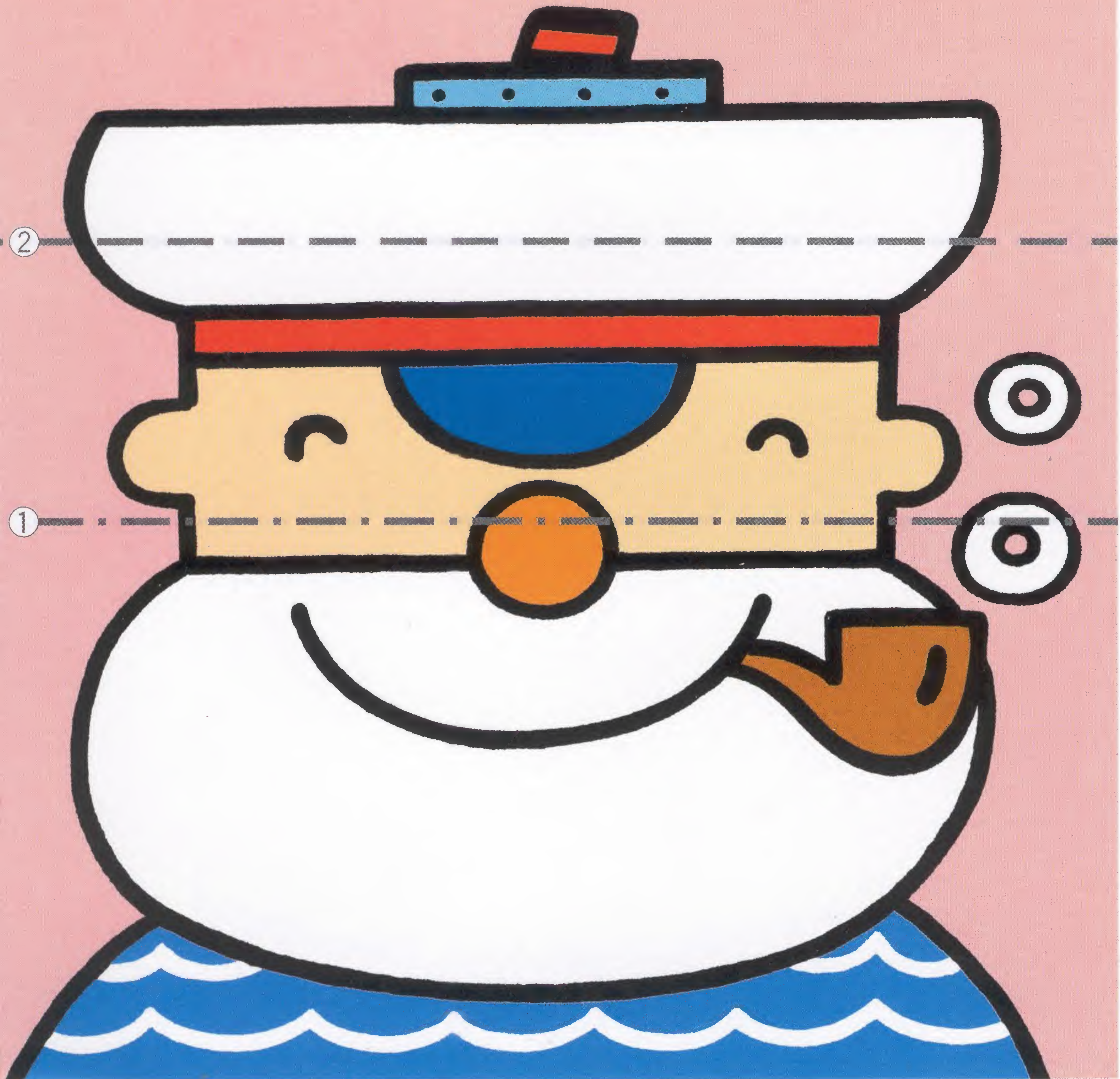
✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.

Done!



ship

captain



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

2

1

Aren't You an Elephant?

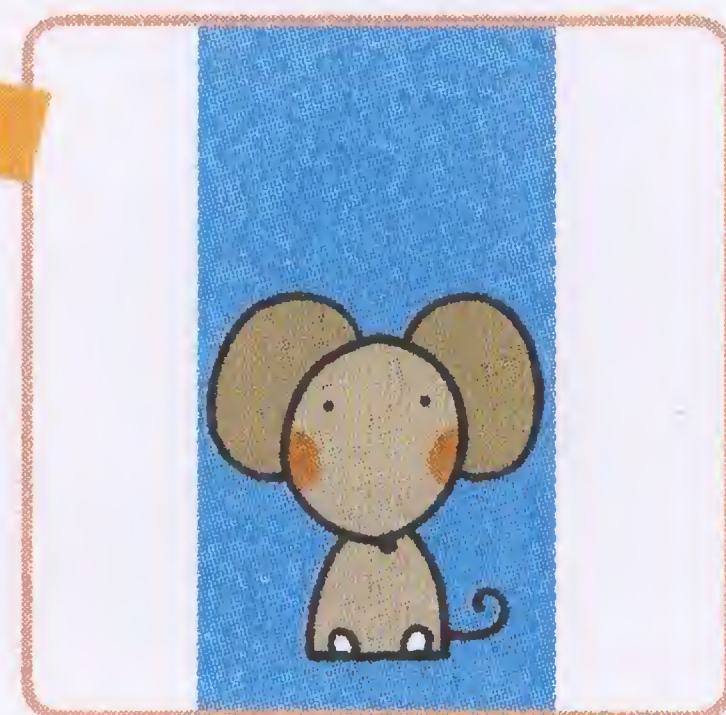
To parents

Once your child has finished folding, he or she will be able to switch between the two images by opening and closing the fold. Say "elephant" and "mouse" aloud while pointing to the words.

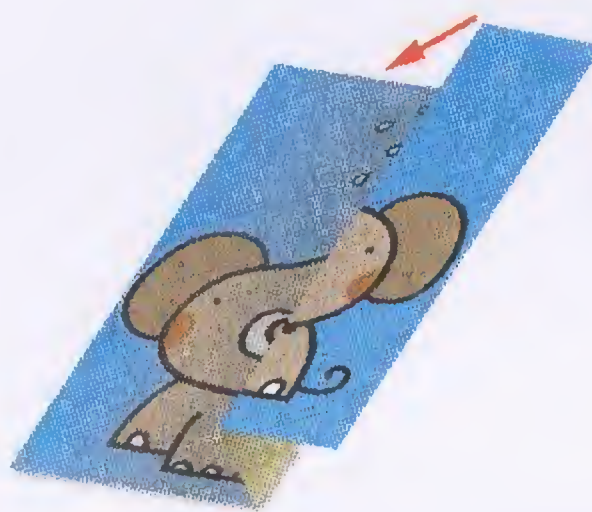
Fold upwards along — . — and downwards along — — — .

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

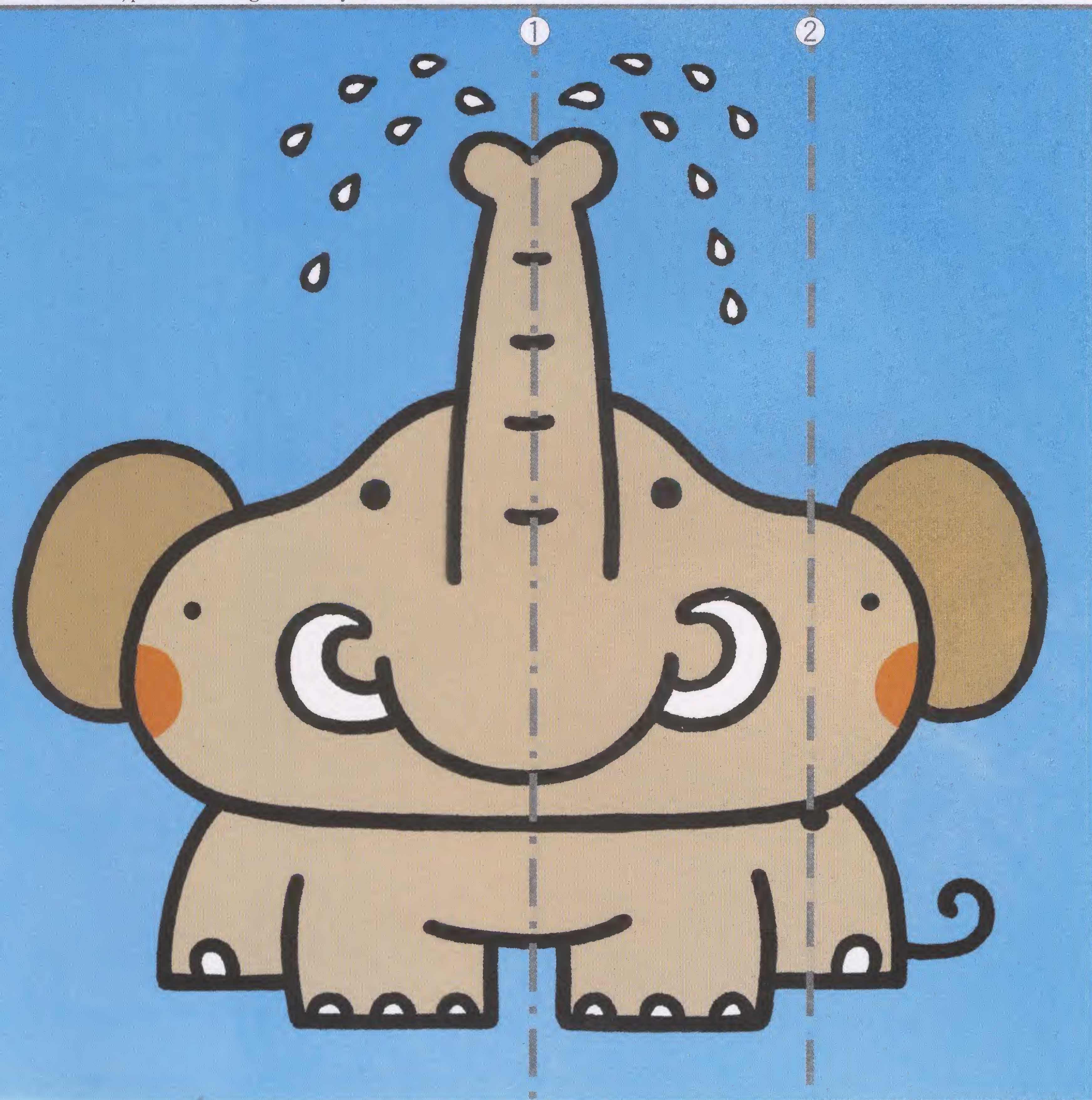
Done!



mouse



elephant



Aren't You a Donkey?

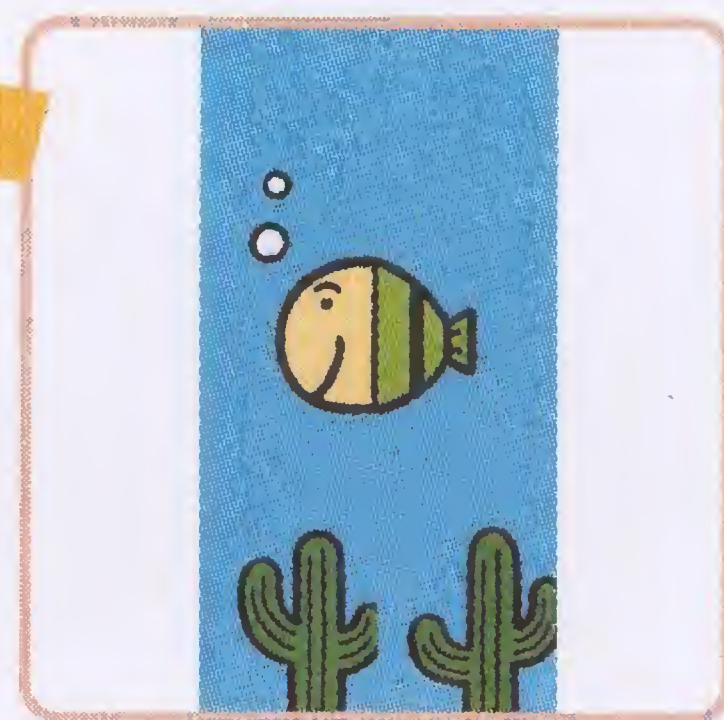
To parents

Constantly offer positive comments and praise about your child's work so that he or she gains confidence. Say "donkey" and "fish" aloud while pointing to the words.

Fold upwards along — — — — and downwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.

Done!



fish



donkey



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - and upwards along - - - - .

1

2



Let's Go to the Halloween Party!

To parents From this page on, your child will practice folding the paper several times to create a series of illustrated actions. If your child seems confused about which way to fold, please offer some guidance. Talk about Halloween when your child has finished folding.

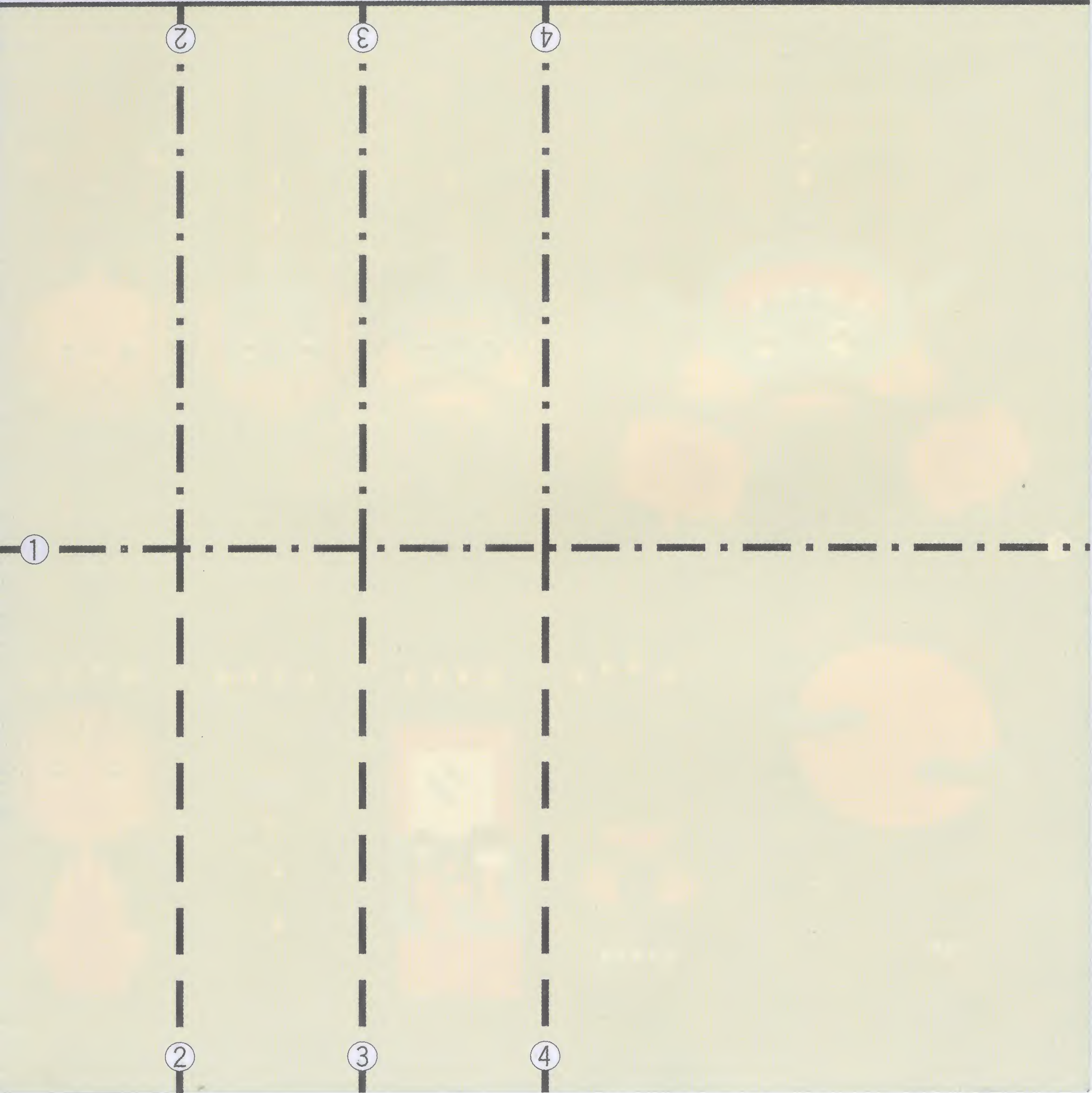
Fold downwards along — — — — and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.

I am a vampire!



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



I Will Eat You Up!

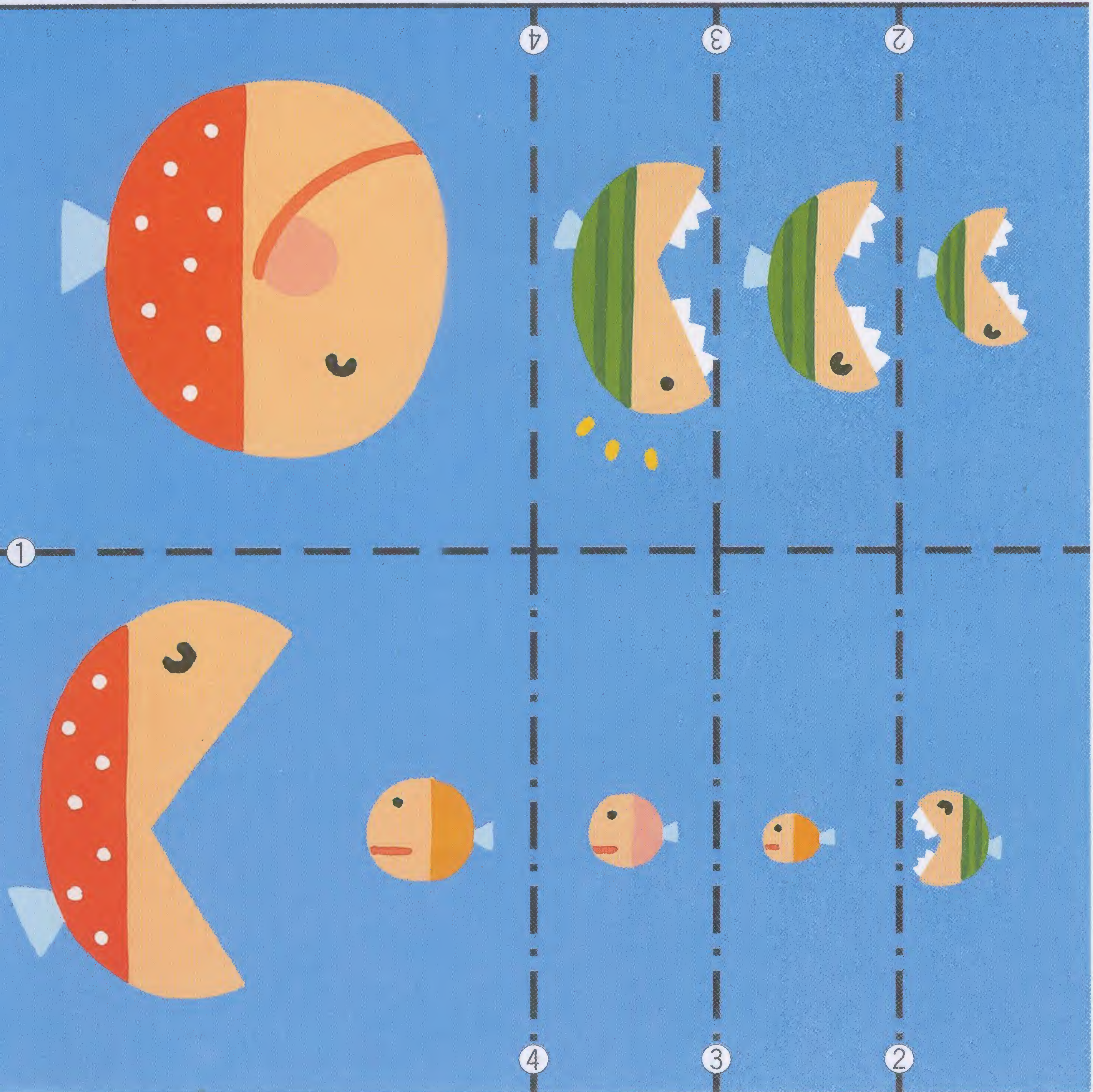
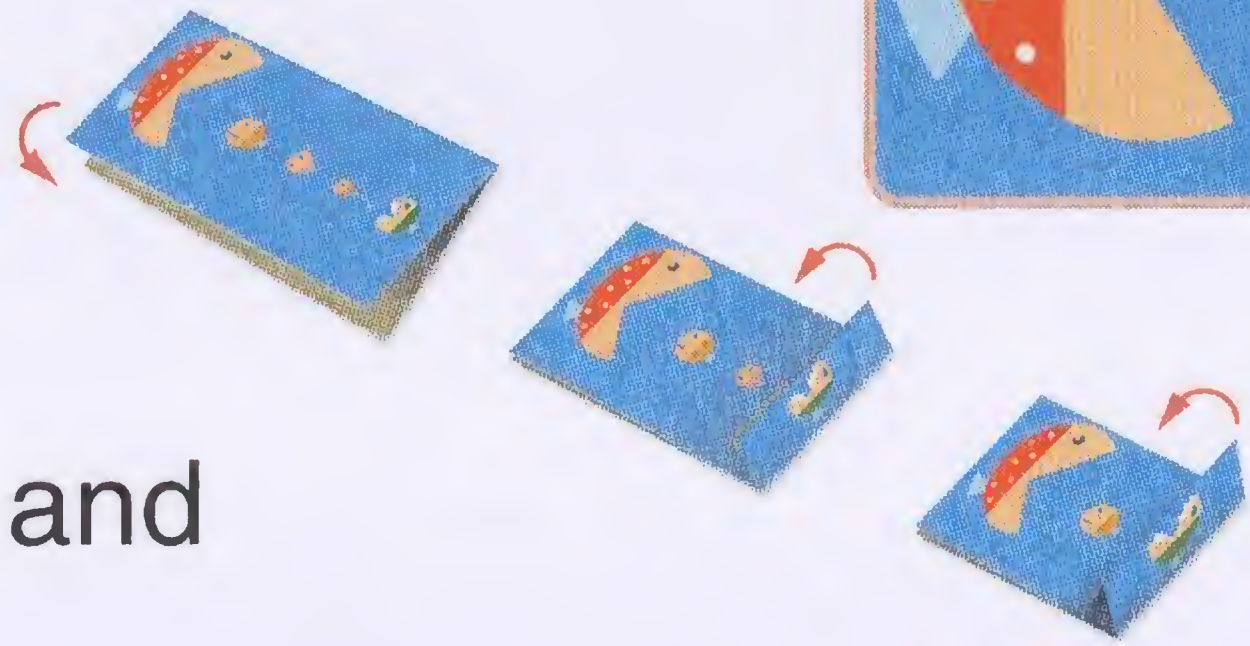
To parents

Make up a funny story about a greedy fish who keeps eating all the smaller fish until the day he encounters a fish far bigger than himself.

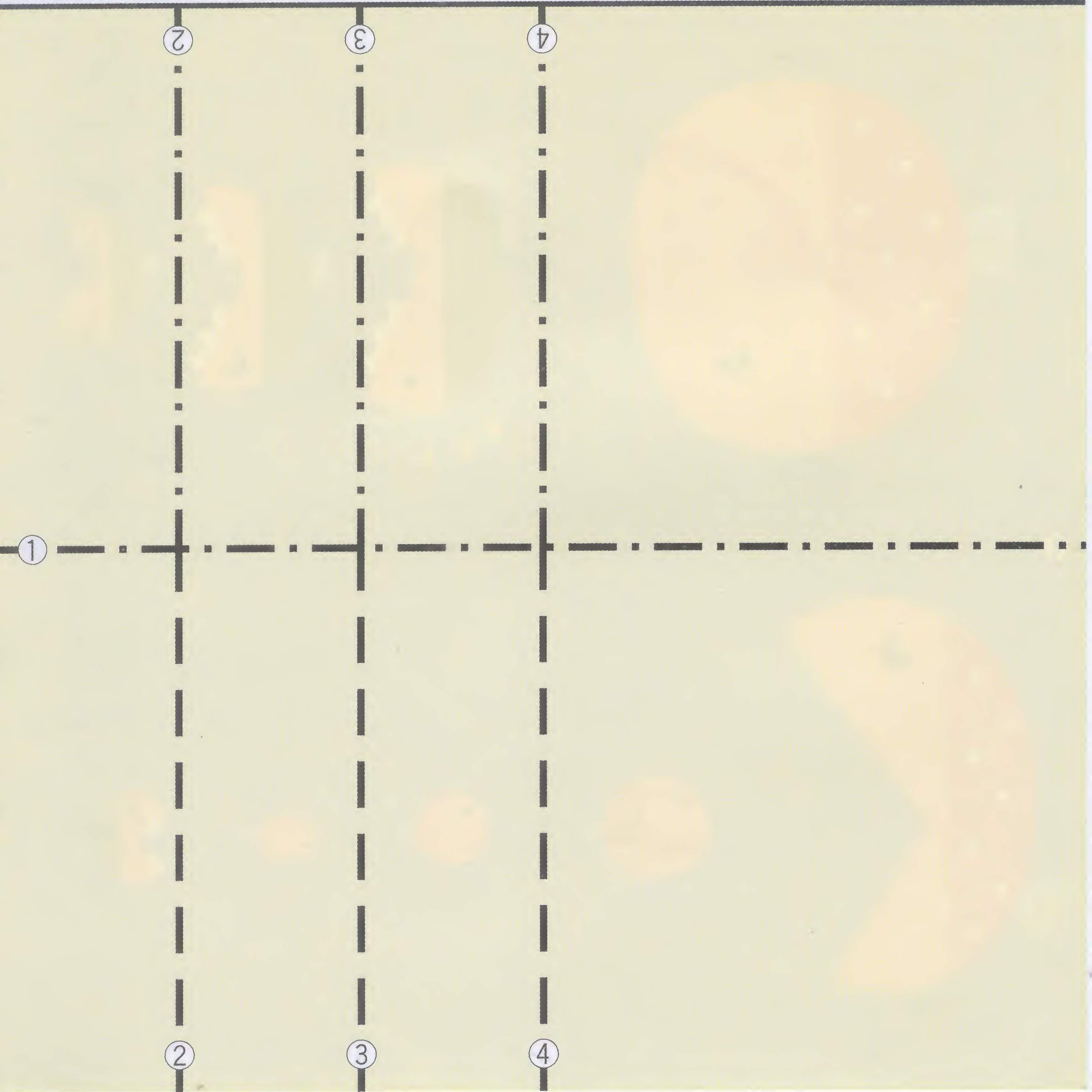
Fold downwards along — — — — and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.

Oops!



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



Rock, Paper, Scissors!

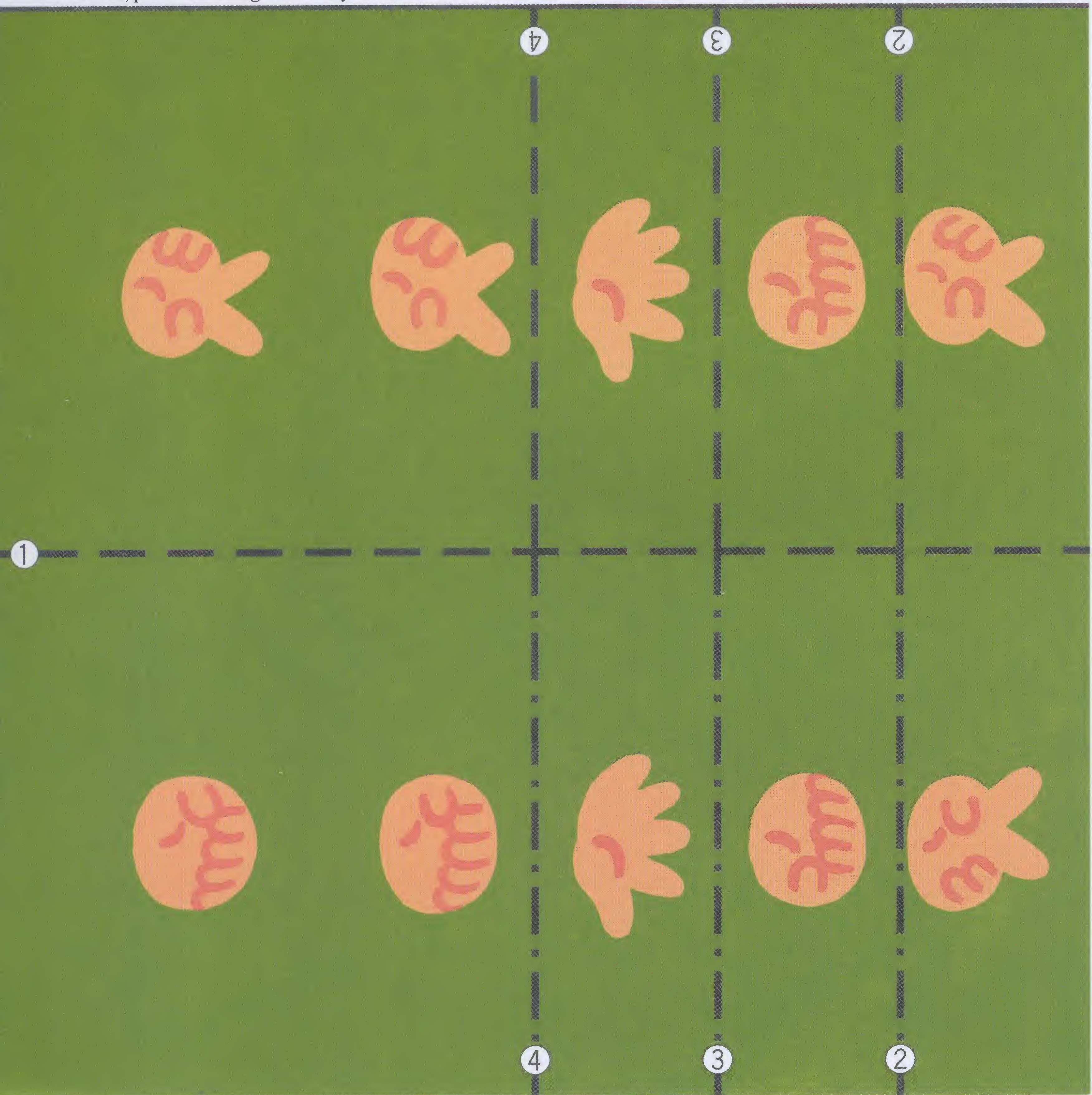
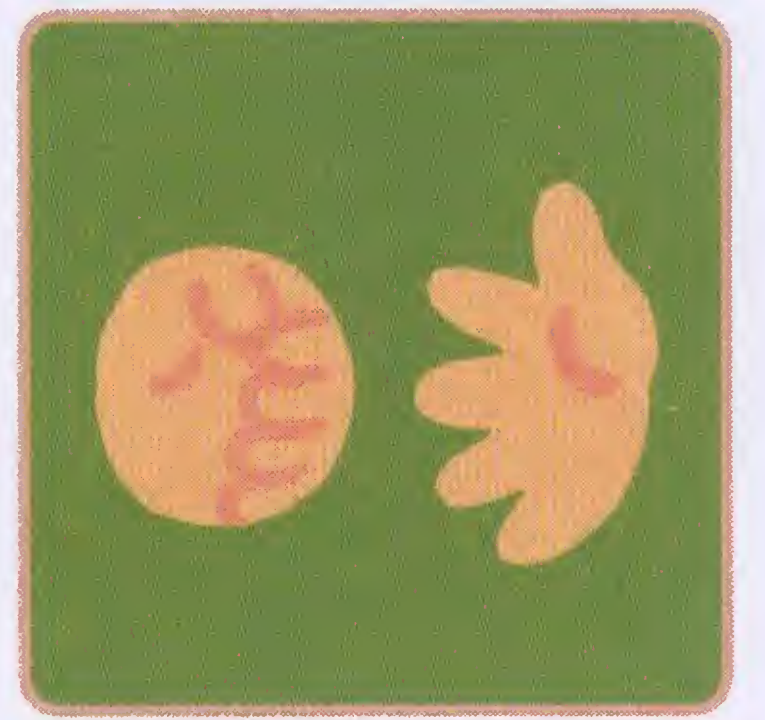
To parents

If it is too difficult for your child to fold at these narrow intervals, you can help complete this exercise and encourage him or her to unfold it. Enjoy a game of Rock, Paper, Scissors!

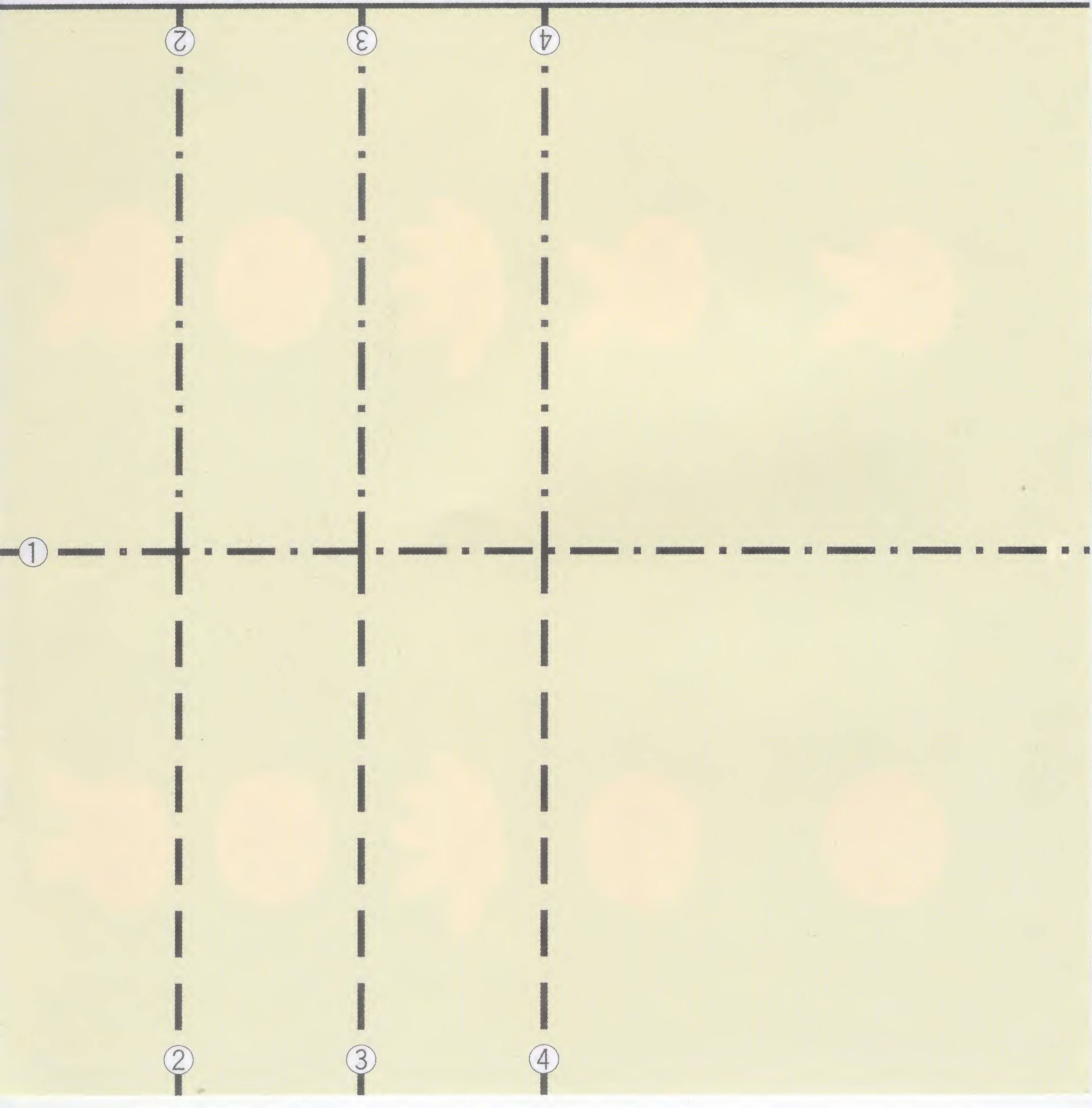
Fold downwards along — — — — and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.

Paper beats rock!

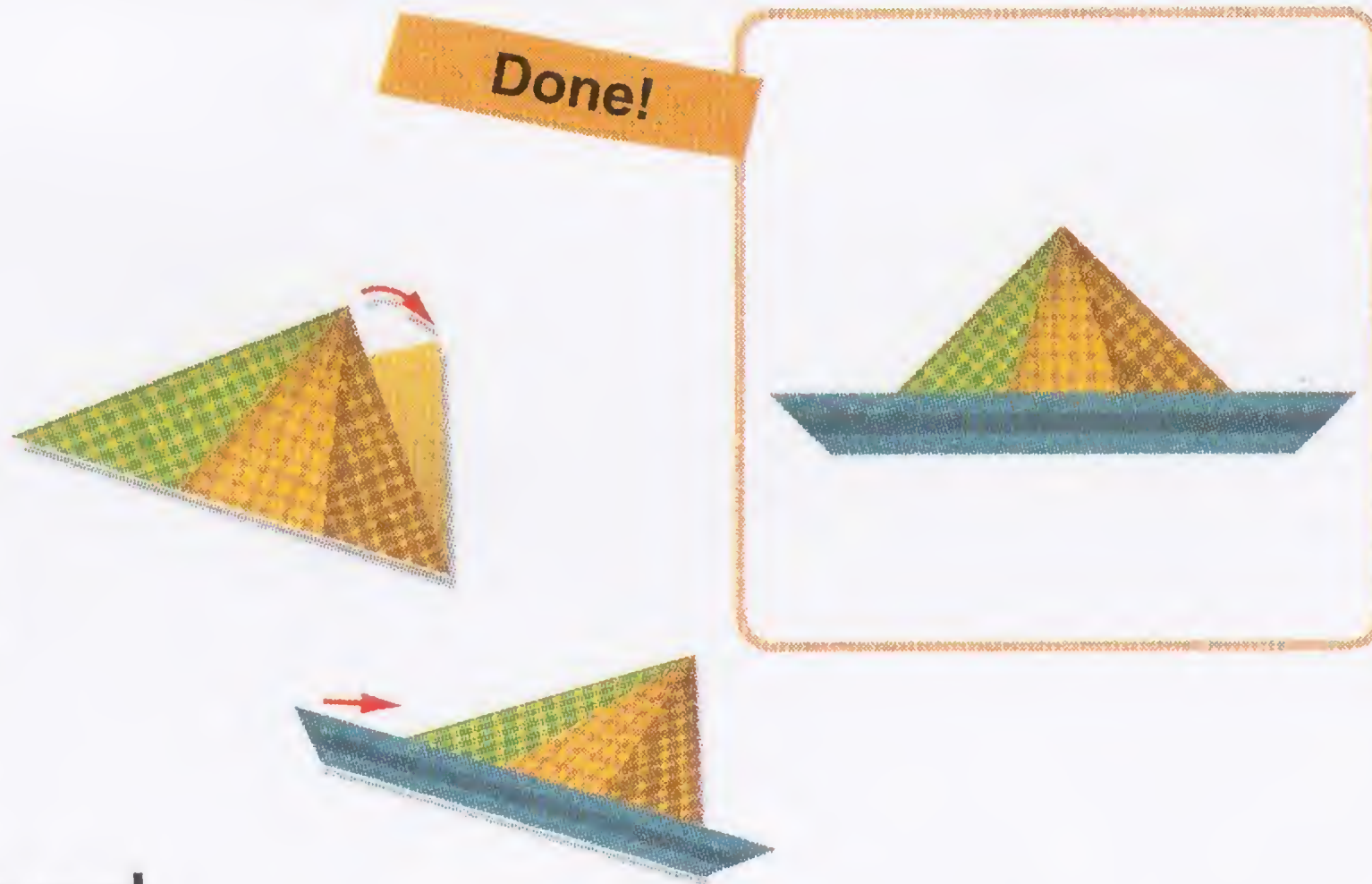


✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child. Fold upwards along - - - and downwards along - - - .



To parents

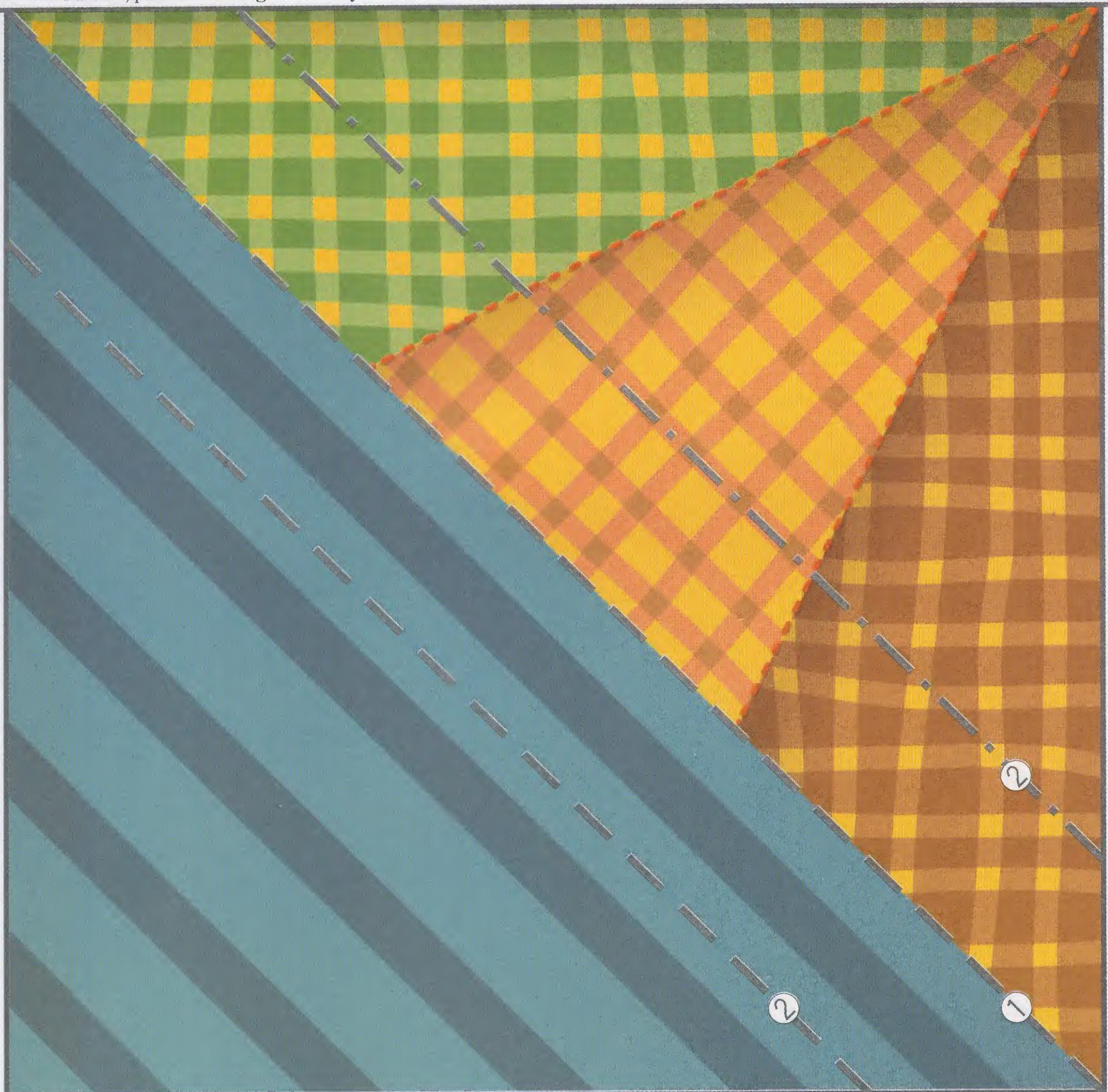
Please cut out the illustrated part carefully so the patterns will match properly. When your child has completed the exercise, say “hat” aloud while pointing to the word.



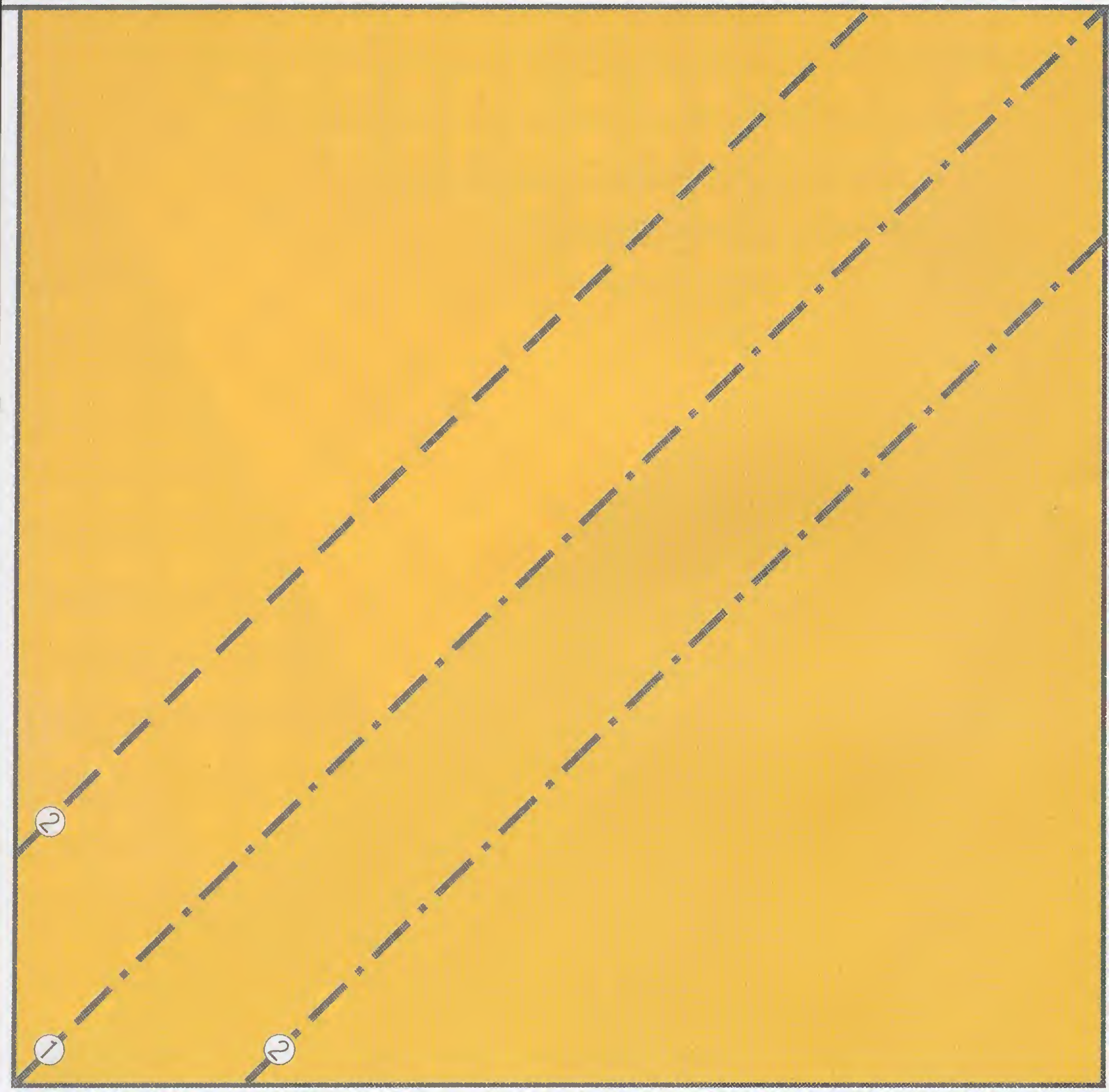
Fold downwards along — — — — and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

hat



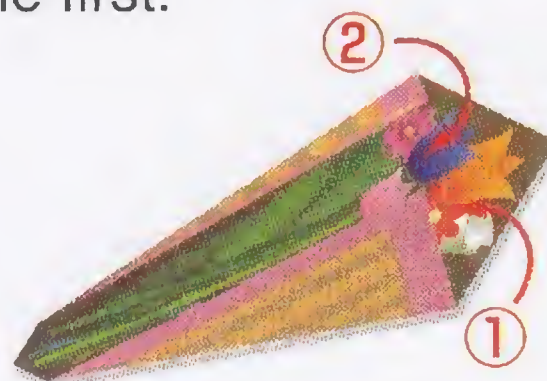
✂ Parents, please cut along  for your child. Fold upwards along  and downwards along .



To parents

Teach your child how and in what order to make the folds. When your child has finished folding, say “flowers” aloud while pointing to the word.

Be sure to have your child fold along the ① line first.

**Done!**

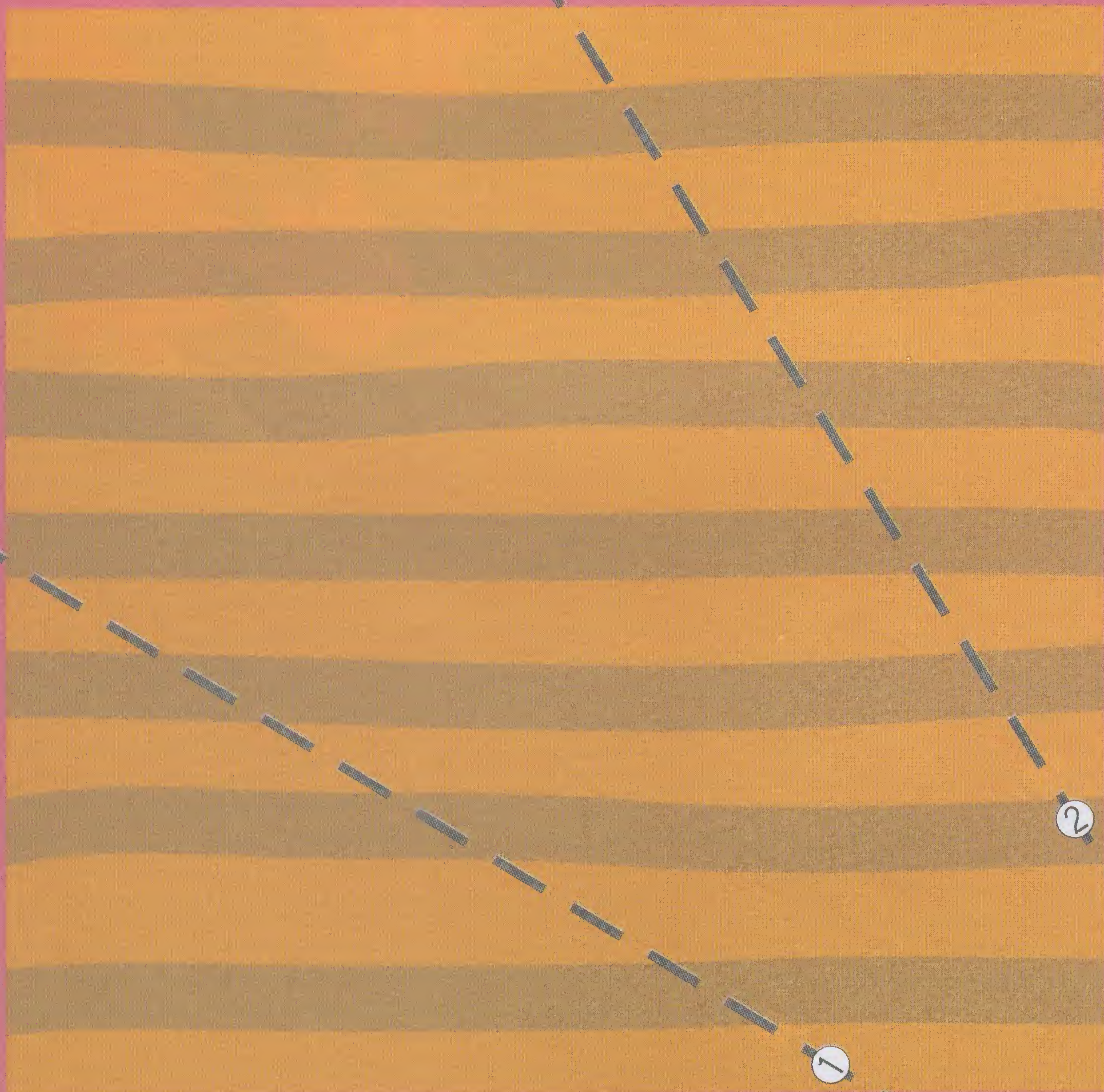
Fold upwards along — — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — — for your child.

flowers

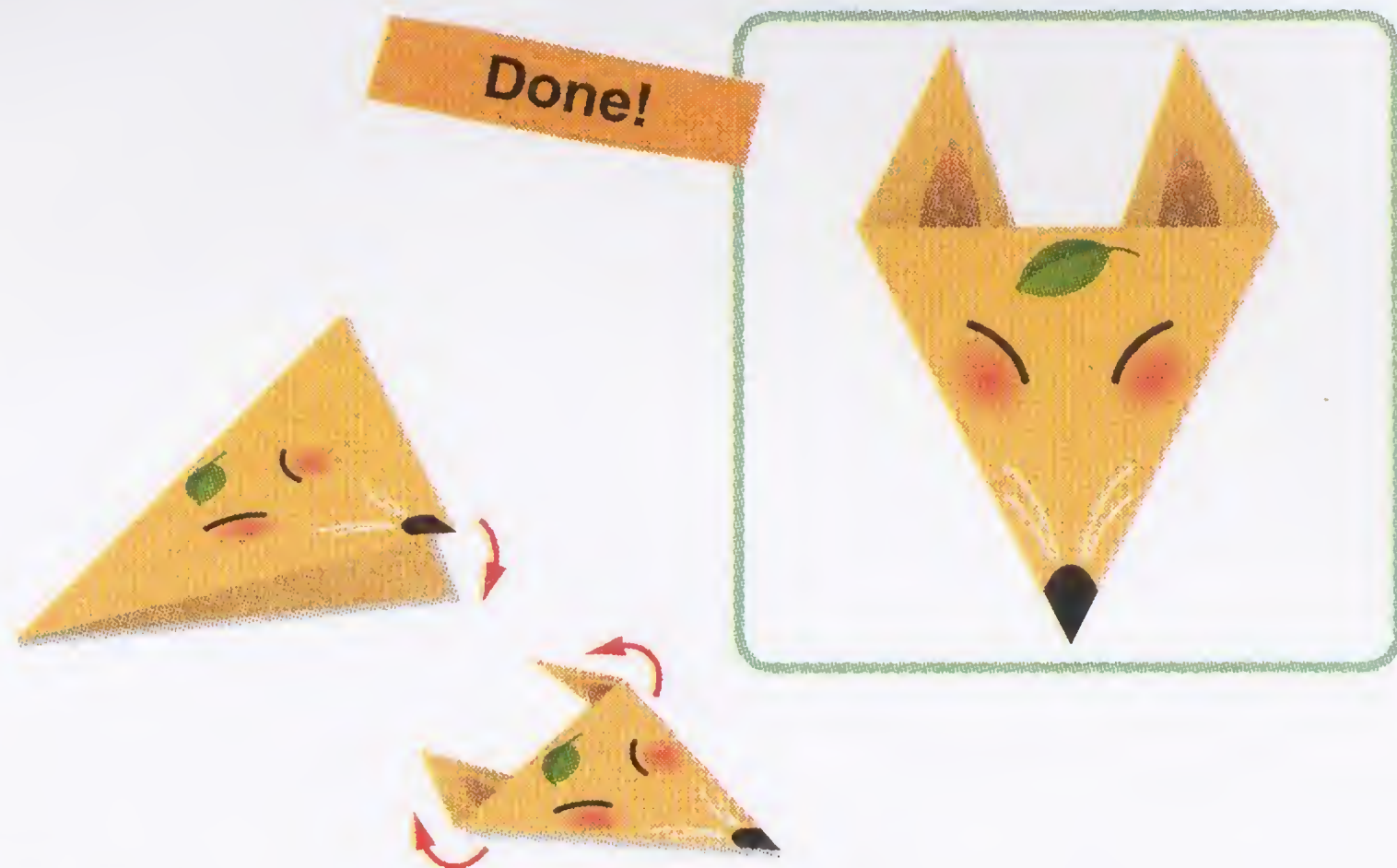


✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold downwards along - - - - - .



To parents

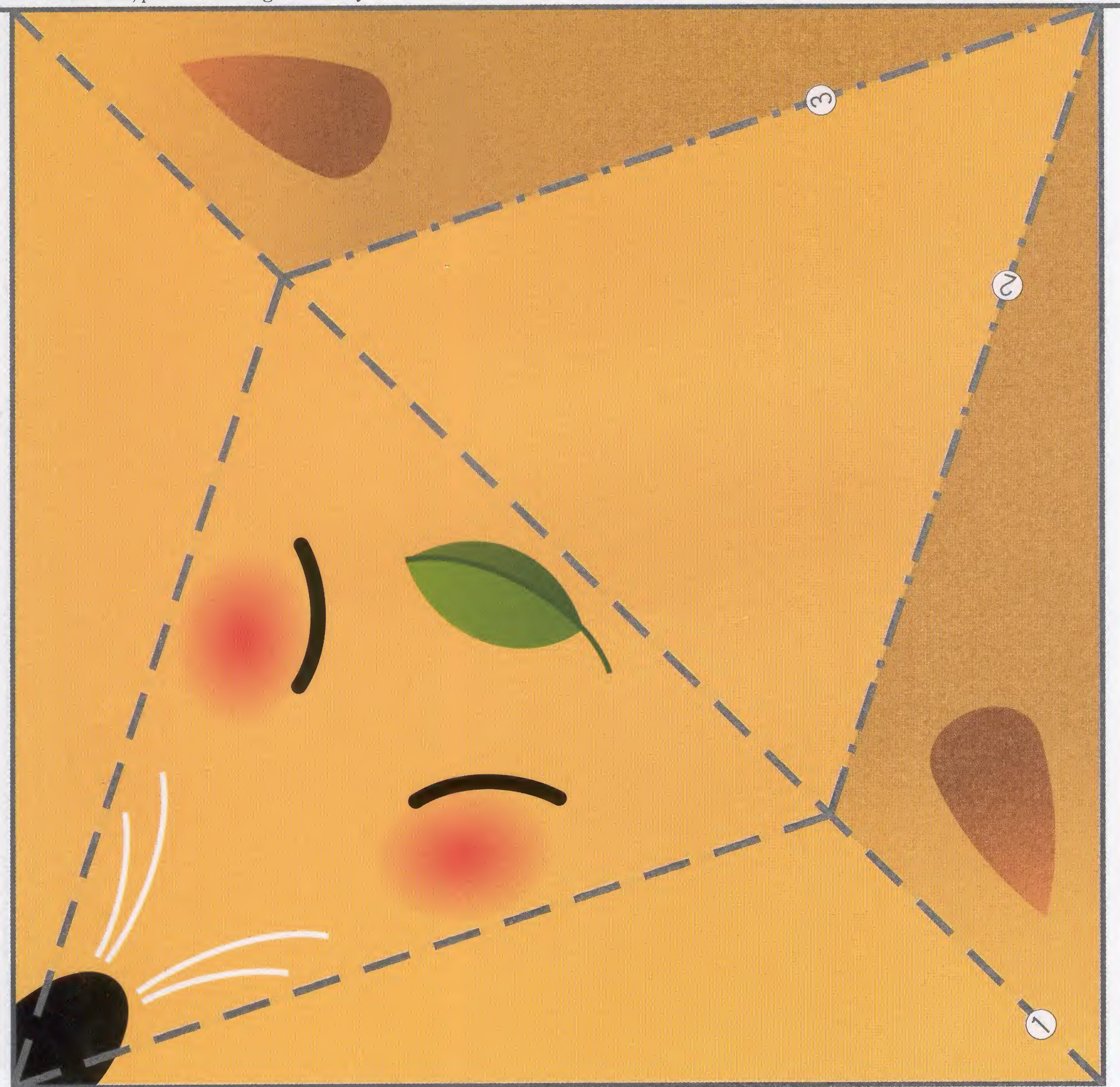
When your child has completed the exercise, say “fox” aloud while pointing to the word.



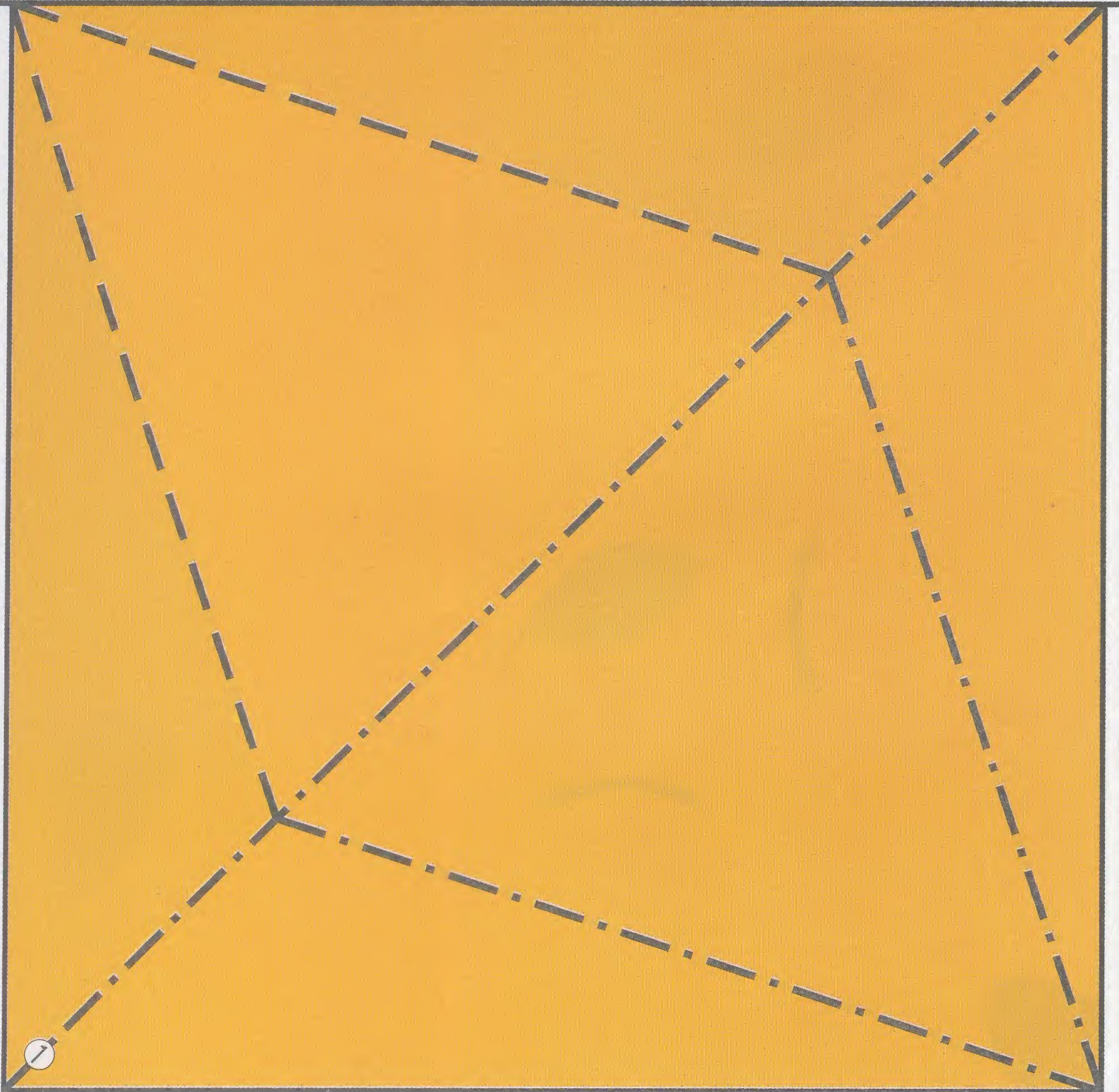
Fold downwards along — — — — and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

fox



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold upwards along - - - - - and downwards along - . - . - .

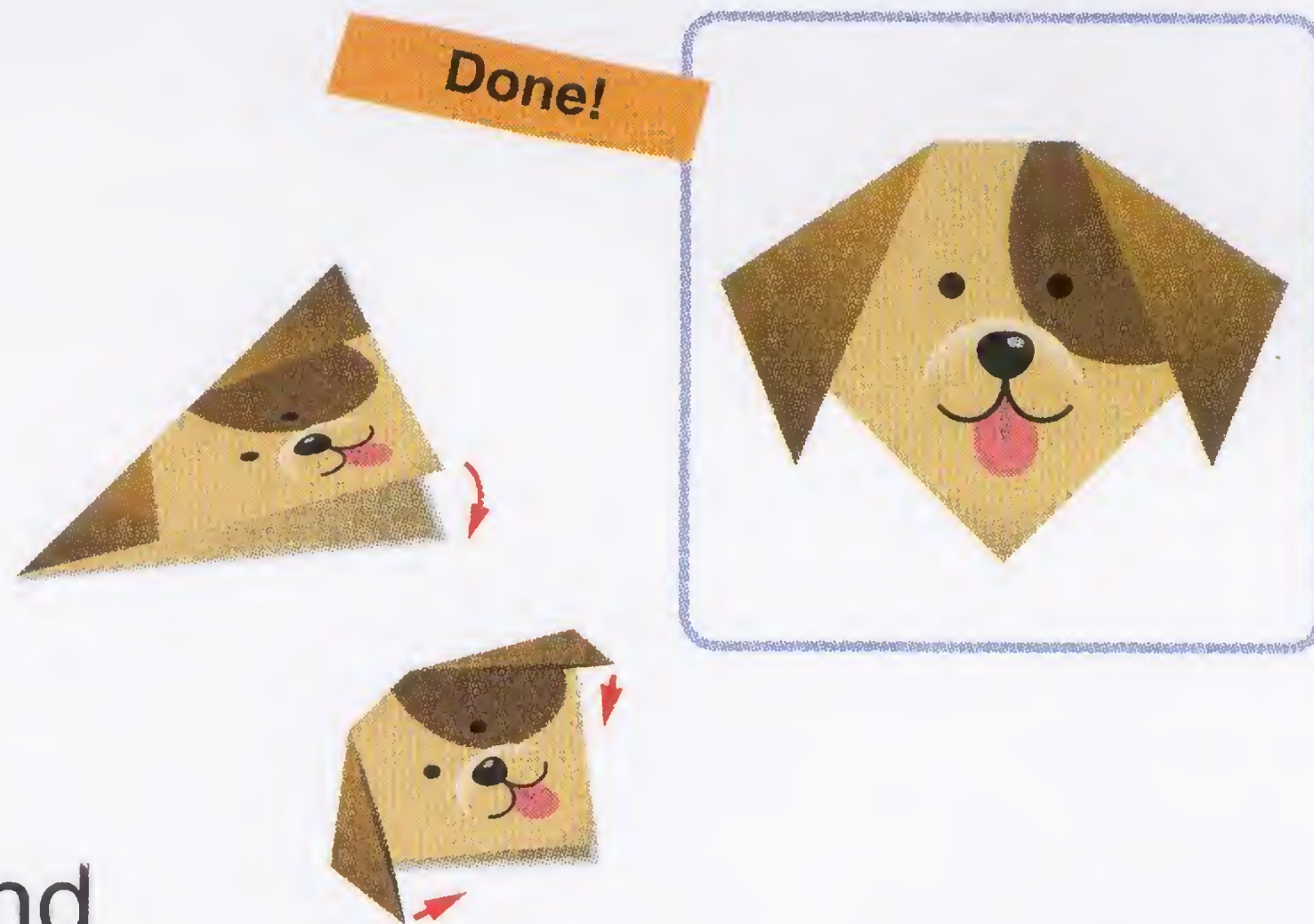


To parents

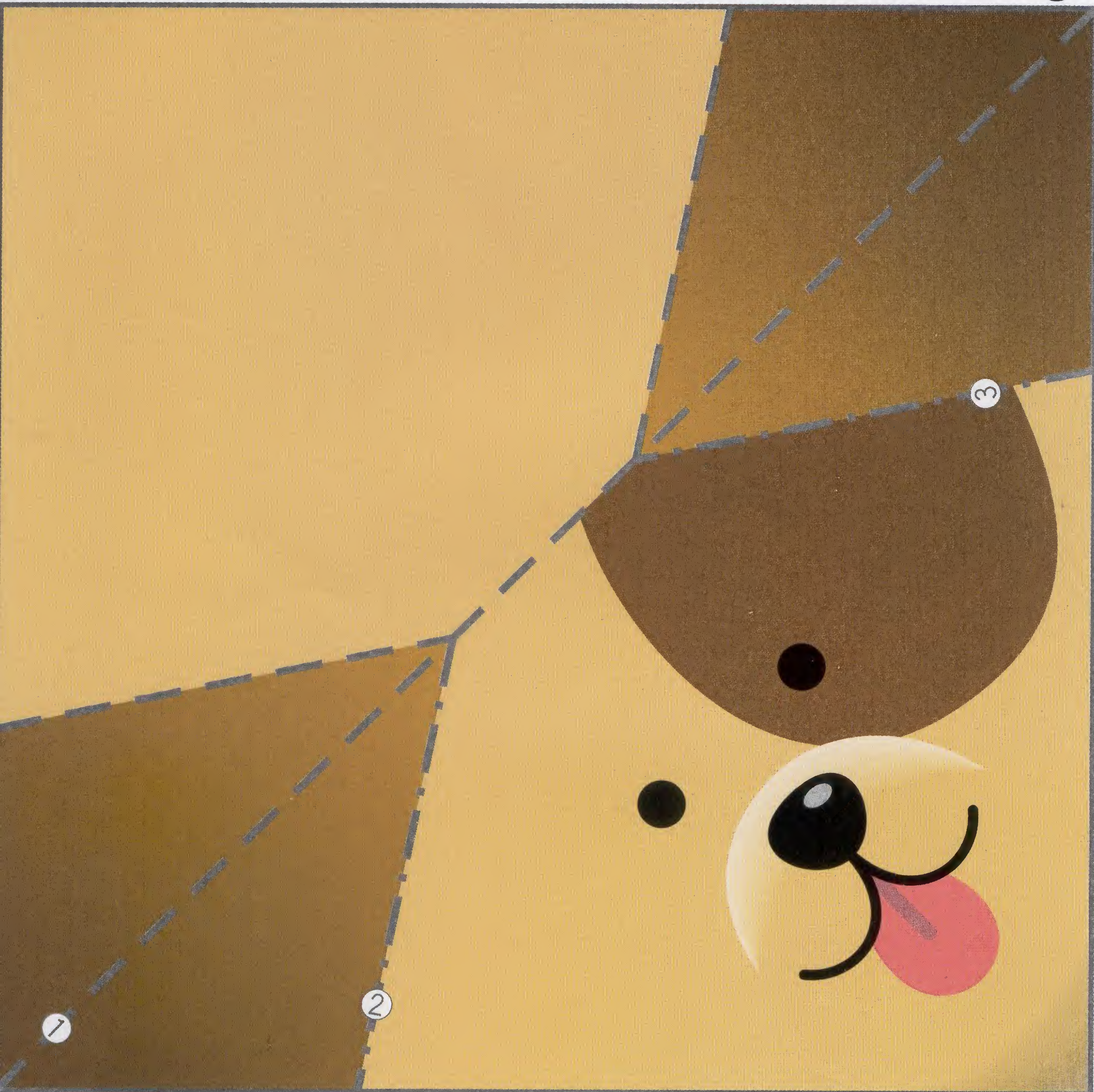
Make sure your child folds in sequence with the numbers. When he or she has completed the exercise, say “dog” aloud while pointing to the word.

Fold downwards along — — — — and upwards along — — — —.

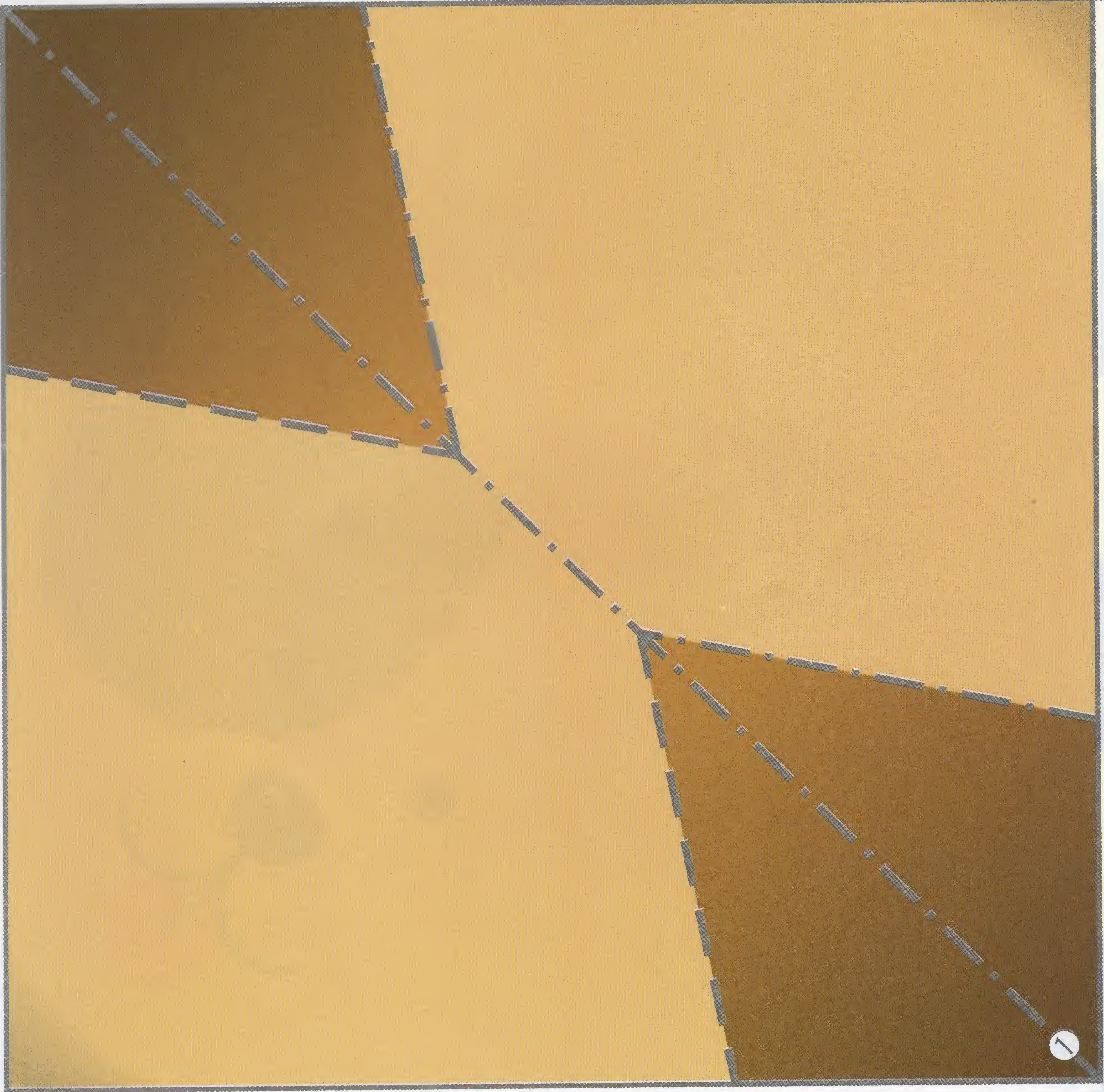
✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.



dog



✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold upwards along - - - - - and downwards along - . - . - .



37

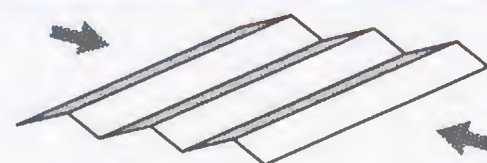
What Kind of Animals Are These?

To parents Your child will practice accordion-folding, which means alternately folding downwards and upwards. When your child has completed this exercise, you will see an illustration of zebras from one side of the page, and tigers from the other side of the page.

Fold downwards along — — — —
and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — for your child.

Done!



* You can see two different images from opposite angles.

tigers / zebras



[illegible]

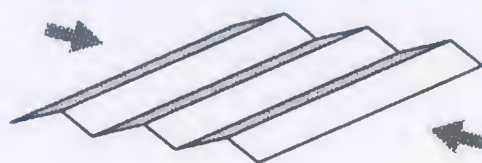
To parents Your child will practice accordion-folding, which means alternately folding downwards and upwards. This is a very difficult technique, so when your child has successfully completed the exercise by him- or herself, offer lots of praise.

Fold downwards along — — — —
and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child.



Done!



* You can see two different images from opposite angles.

When we watered
the flowers...



Blooming Flowers

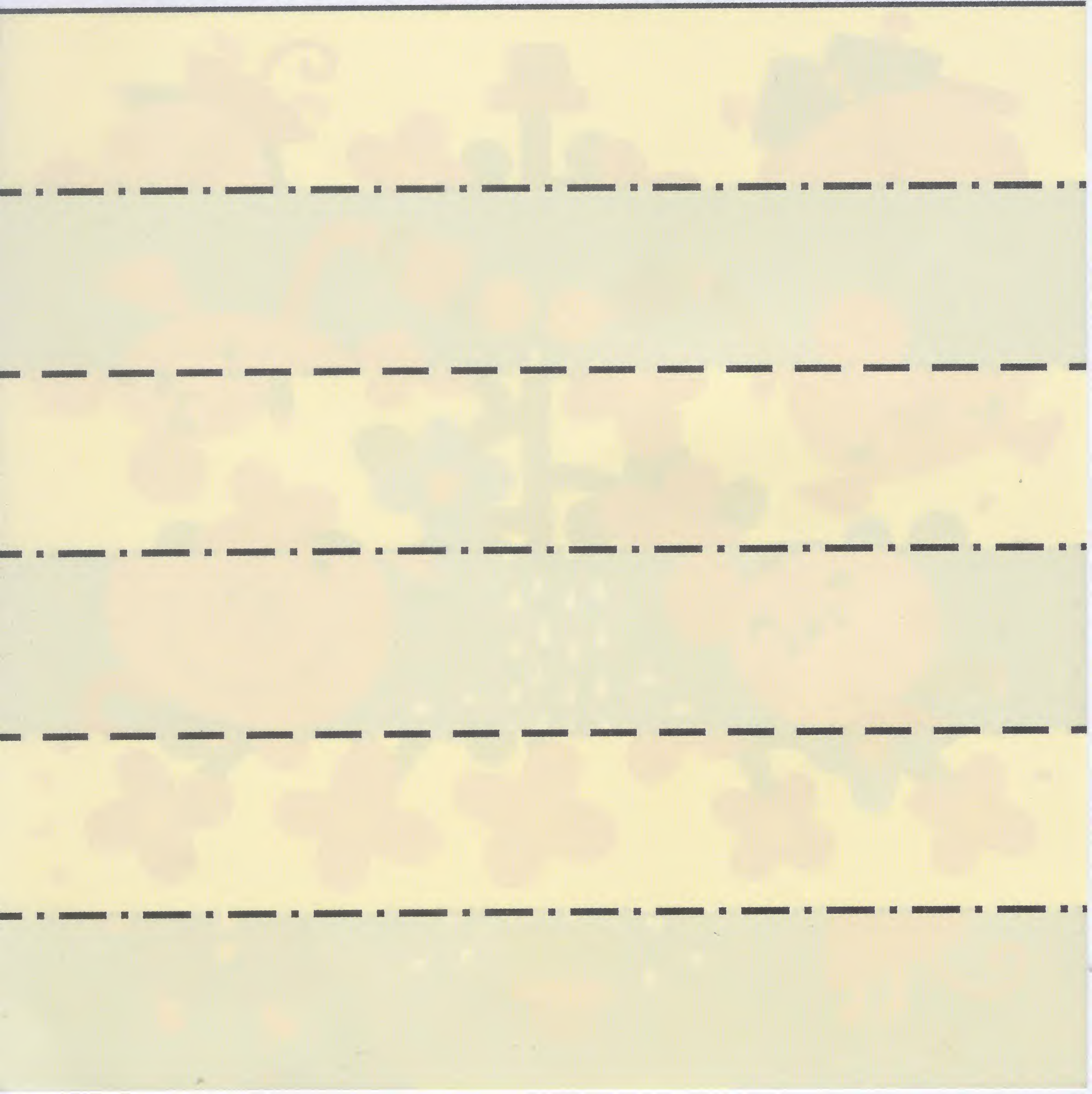


Instructions for cutting and folding the paper to create a flower.

When we watered

the flowers along the line and upwards along the line.

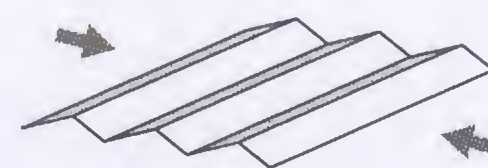
✂ Parents, please cut along ——— for your child. Fold upwards along ——— and downwards along ———.



Magic Lamp



To parents This is the last page of this workbook. Compare how your child has managed to fold this exercise with his or her previous work. Please offer lots of praise for your child's effort and achievement. It may be a good idea to keep this workbook as a record of your child's growth and development.



* You can see two different images from opposite angles.

Fold downwards along — — — — and upwards along — — — —.

✂ Parents, please cut along — — — — for your child.

When I rubbed the lamp...



KUMON

Certificate of Achievement

_____ is hereby congratulated on completing

Let's Fold!

Presented on _____, 20__



Parent or Guardian