How to Catch a Leprechaun

CRAFT & WRITING UNIT



58 pages · craft · 3 levels

PreK · Kindergarten · 1st · 2nd Grade

by Bright Path Sped

CATCH A LEPRECHAUN

Catch a Leprechaun Week — Start Here

Do one activity a day. Pull the page and go.

This week

- [ ] Start each day at circle time with the pictures and words on the vocabulary cards. Children love the repeat, and each day they join in more.
- [ ] Then do that day's activity. Every student page has one short direction and a picture, so a paraprofessional can run it too.
- [ ] Teach the core word **catch** all week: point to it on the talker or core board every time it comes up during the day.
- [ ] Cutting pages are built for small hands: five or more big pieces, lined up so every cut is one straight line. Pre-cut them for students who are not cutting yet.
- [ ] Sorting, counting, letters and writing come in three levels, marked with a small shape so children do not compare: ● starting (errorless matching), ▪ building, ▲ ready for more.
- [ ] Print the color pages, or use the ink-saver pages at the back on a photocopier.
- [ ] **Day 5 craft:** Glue the big trap down. Glue the body inside it, then the beard and the head on top of the body. Add the hat, the arms, the boots and the shamrock. Your leprechaun is caught!

DAY	EACH DAY	ALSO PRACTICING
Day 1	Sort: animal or not? (3 levels)	cutting straight lines, gluing, sorting
Day 2	Count the coins and glue or write the number (3 levels)	counting 1–5, 6–10
Day 3	Letter H: find it, match it, or hear it (3 levels); trace or write	letter H, beginning sound, pencil grip
Day 4	Set a trap: put the steps in order.	life skill: making a plan, first/next/then/last
Day 5	Craft: build a leprechaun in a trap.	coloring, cutting straight lines, gluing, following steps

PREVIEW

CATCH A LEPRECHAUN

The Words and the Craft

Say the words together, then do the activities.

Words to use all week

coin, shamrock, rainbow, hat, box, footprints, eyes, look, star

Circle-time chant: Catch a Leprechaun!

Build a little trap, so green,
the neatest trap you've ever seen.
Tiptoe, tiptoe, peek inside,
where did that **leprechaun** hide?

An original chant by Bright Path Sped. Have children clap on each 'trap,' tiptoe in place on 'tiptoe,' and cover their eyes on the last line.

Ways to stretch the week

- [ ] Say the vocabulary words together at circle time each morning and point to the picture as you say each one.
- [ ] Point to the core word on a talker or core board every time it comes up during the day, not only on the word-of-the-week page.
- [ ] Put the vocabulary pictures on a ring and let a student “read” them to a partner.
- [ ] Send one activity home early in the week if a family asks for extra practice — every page works alone.
- [ ] Let a student who finishes early tell a partner one thing they would put in a trap, pointing to the trap.
- [ ] Line the leprechaun traps up on a shelf, and let each student point to the hat on theirs.
- [ ] Keep the family letter and the vocabulary card together in a send-home folder so the words travel home.
- [ ] Use the ink-saver pages at a center or in a photocopier tray so every student takes a set home, not just the class set.

What you’ll want on hand

Crayons or markers, a glue stick, and child-safe scissors (or pre-cut the pieces for students who are not cutting yet). Nothing else to prep — every page is ready to print.

A sentence to start with

Say it first, then write or draw it: **To catch a leprechaun I will ____.** Students who are not writing yet can point to a vocabulary picture, draw, or tell an adult who writes the word for them. Any of these counts.

PREVIEW

CATCH A LEPRECHAUN

Smartboard Circle Time

Whole-group practice before the paper activity.

How to use these slides

- [ ] The next 9 pages are slides for the whole class: open this PDF on your smartboard or projector and go full screen.
- [ ] Children come up and tap or circle with the board pen: name the pictures, sort, count, find the letter, put the steps in order, and say the core word.
- [ ] They follow the week: do the matching slide before each day's paper activity, so the whole group sees the idea once before anyone works alone.
- [ ] They are landscape pages sized for a widescreen board. Skip them when you print the student pages — the paper set starts right after.

What you'll want on hand

A smartboard, interactive projector, or any screen the whole group can see; a board pen or a finger for tapping and circling; and the vocabulary cards read aloud once before the first slide, so the pictures and the core word are already familiar faces.

What the nine slides cover, in order

A title slide with the week's pictures, name-the-picture practice, a whole-group sort, three counting slides, a letter hunt, the life-skill sequence in order, and the core word to say together.

Make it work for every learner

- [ ] Call on a student to come to the board, but let anyone answer out loud or point from their seat — the slide works either way.
- [ ] Pause on any slide as long as the group needs; there is no timer and no wrong answer to rush past.
- [ ] A student who uses a talker or core board can point to the matching picture there instead of on the screen.
- [ ] A student who is not yet pointing independently can be handed over hand, or can simply watch and listen — whole-group time counts even without a turn at the board.
- [ ] Revisit yesterday's slides for a minute before today's new one — the repetition is the point of a theme week.
- [ ] Keep the pace slow and the praise specific: name exactly what the student did right before moving to the next slide.

No smartboard yet? A tablet propped up, or even the pictures printed one to a page and held up by hand, runs the same nine slides just as well — the point is the whole class looking at the same picture together, not the device it is shown on.

PREVIEW

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GREAT FOR MARCH

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PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

Find every H and h!



Hh is for hat

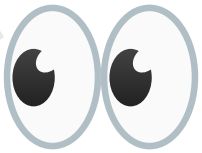
H	N	h	n	H	M
h	b	H	K	H	h

PREVIEW

My name: _____

Catch a Leprechaun words

✂ Cut out the cards for circle time.

 coin	 shamrock	 rainbow
 hat	 box	 footprints
 eyes	 look	 star

PREVIEW

Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

© Bright Path Sped

My name: _____

Match each picture.



Animal








Not an animal





PREVIEW

✂ Cut on the dashed lines.



Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

© Bright Path Sped

My name: _____

Count the coins. Glue the number.



PREVIEW

✂ Cut on the dashed lines.

1	2	3	4	5

Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

© Bright Path Sped

My name: _____

Trace the letters.



H h

H H H H H

h h h h h

Hh Hh Hh

Draw a hat here.

Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

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PREVIEW

My name: _____

Set a trap. What comes first?

1. First	2. Next	3. Then	4. Last

One picture does not belong. Leave it out.

✂ Cut on the dashed lines.



wait and watch



get a box



take a nap



look inside



put out a coin

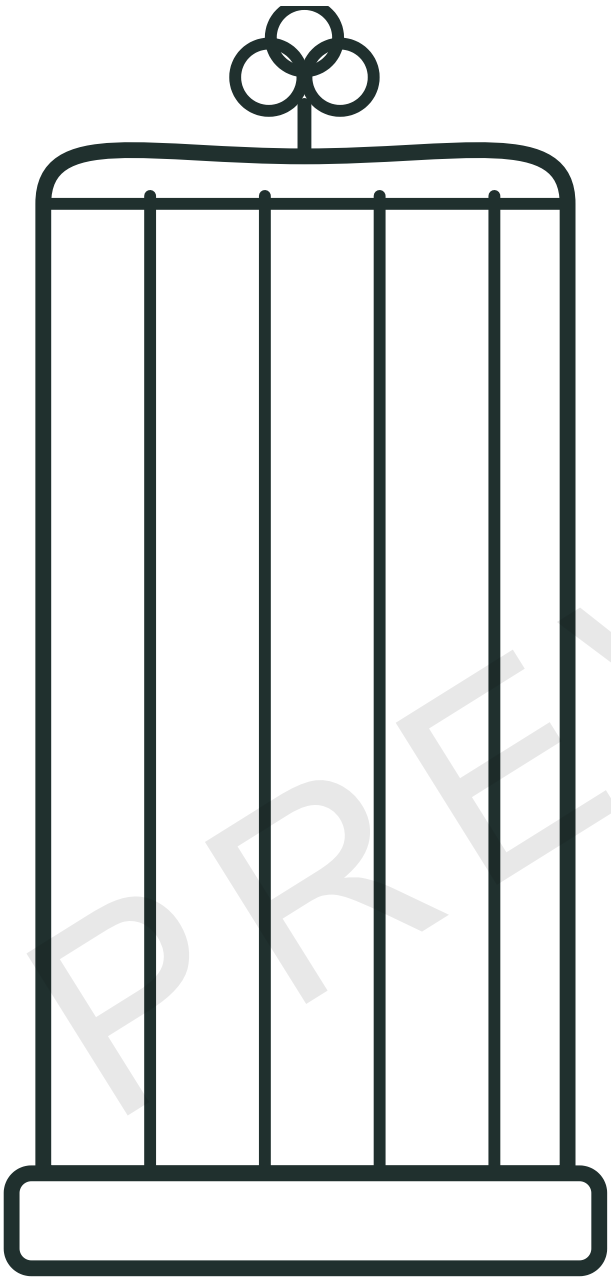
Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

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PREVIEW

My name: _____

Cut out the trap and the pieces.





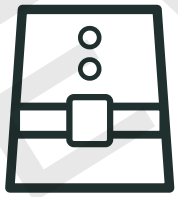
Hat: glue it on top of the head.



Head: glue it above the beard.



Beard under the head.



Body in the middle of the trap.



Arm on the left side.



Arm on the right side.



Boot at the bottom left.



Boot at the bottom right.



Shamrock by the leprechaun.

PREVIEW

Cut on the dashed lines. Every cut is straight.

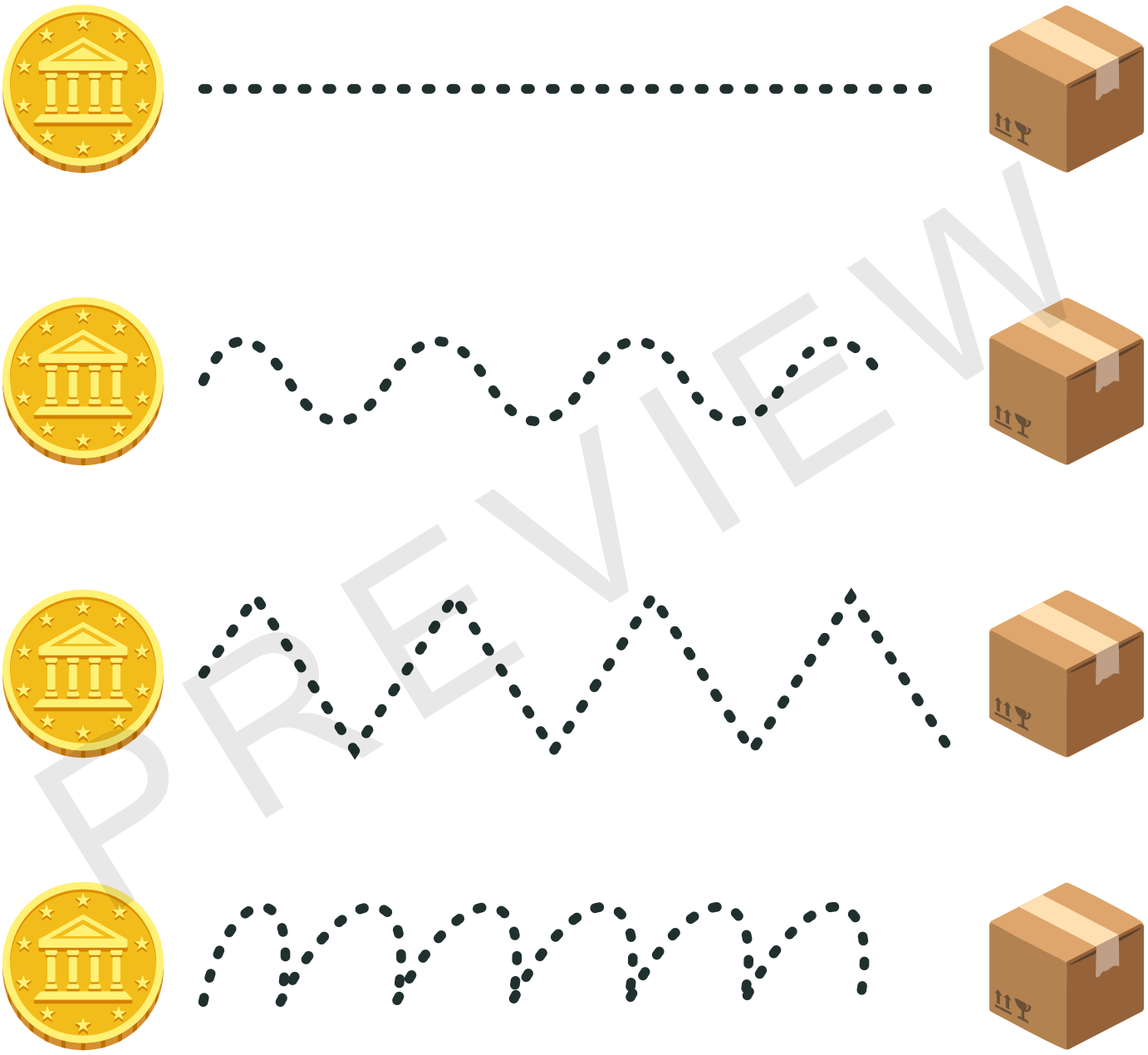
Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

© Bright Path Sped

My name: _____

Catch a Leprechaun · Fine motor

Help the coin get to the box.



PREVIEW

Color a star when you finish!

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My name: _____

Say it. Find it on your talker.

Our word this week

catch



I can catch the ball.

PREVIEW

Color a star when you finish!

© Bright Path Sped

CATCH A LEPRECHAUN

Who Did What This Week

One row per student. Handy for IEP notes and progress reports.

How much help? Write one code in each box

I = did it on their own · G = gesture or pointing · V = told what to do · H = hand-over-hand · – = absent

Day 1: Sort: animal or not? (3 levels) · Day 2: Count the coins and glue or write the number (3 levels) · Day 3: Letter H: find it, match it, or hear it (3 levels); trace or write · Day 4: Set a trap: put the steps in order. · Day 5: Craft: build a leprechaun in a trap.

STUDENT	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5

PREVIEW

CATCH A LEPRECHAUN

Family Letter

Send home on Day 1. The lines are for your own note.

Dear family,

This week our class is learning about **making a plan to catch a pretend leprechaun with a paper trap, a craft with a trap to color, a leprechaun to build, and a page to write about it**. We say the same words every day and do a new activity with it: sorting, counting, letters, a life skill and a craft.

Our word of the week is **catch**. Try using it at home: “Catch it!” “Can you catch me?”

Try at home: make a paper trap at home and take turns hiding a gold coin for the other person to find.

You do not need any special materials for this — just a few minutes together, whenever it fits your day.

Ask your child to show you their favorite page from this week and tell you about it in their own way — pointing, a word, or a full sentence all count.

This week’s words: coin, shamrock, rainbow, hat, box, footprints, eyes, look, star.



Practice the word “catch” anywhere you go this week — in the car, at the table, at bedtime.

Questions about this week’s activities? Send a note back with your child and we will follow up. Thank you for practicing with your child every day this week — it makes a real difference in how quickly the words stick.

Thank you!

PREVIEW

My name: _____

Catch a Leprechaun words

✂ Cut out the cards for circle time.

 coin	 shamrock	 rainbow
 hat	 box	 footprints
 eyes	 look	 star

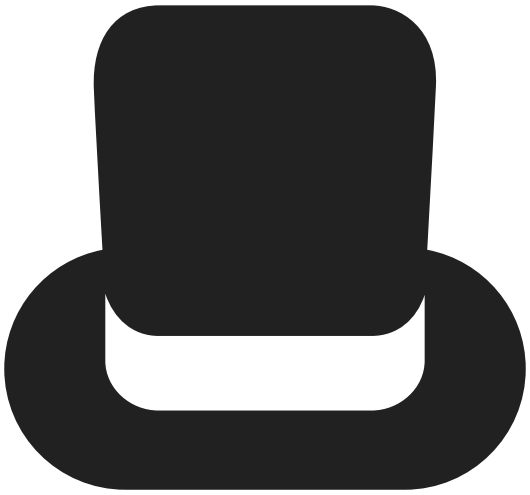
PREVIEW

Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

© Bright Path Sped

My name: _____

Glue H on each H.



Hh

hat

H H H H H

Glue one in each circle.

✂ Cut on the dashed lines.

H H H H H

Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

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PREVIEW

My name: _____

Set a trap. What comes first?

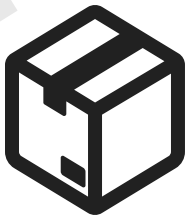
1. First	2. Next	3. Then	4. Last

One picture does not belong. Leave it out.

✂ Cut on the dashed lines.



wait and watch



get a box



take a nap



look inside



put out a coin

Color a star when you finish! ☆ ☆ ☆

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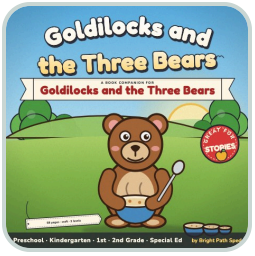
PREVIEW

CATCH A LEPRECHAUN

More From Bright Path Sped

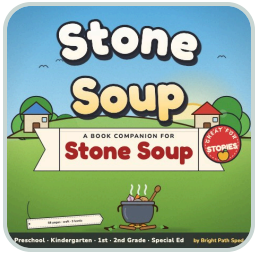
A few more theme weeks that pair naturally with this one.

Every Bright Path Sped theme week follows the same five-day format — one simple sort, count, letter, life-skill or craft activity each day, at three levels so the whole class can join in, whatever each child is working on. If “Catch a Leprechaun” worked for your room, these theme weeks are built the exact same way and pair naturally with it:



Goldilocks

A folktale companion about three bears and a visitor, with its own sort, count and letter activities and a bear craft.



Stone Soup

A folktale companion about a pot of soup and sharing food, with its own sort, count and letter activities and a soup pot craft.



Little Red Hen

A hard-working hen theme week with a bread-baking sequence and a kitchen craft.



Caps for Sale

A book companion about a peddler and his caps, with its own sort, count and letter activities and a craft.

PREVIEW

⭐ Click **Follow** on the store page to hear about new theme weeks as they’re added — new ones show up in your Followed Stores feed on TPT, and every update to a theme week you already own is always a free re-download from **My Purchases**, with no need to repurchase.

Every Bright Path Sped theme week shares the same look and the same five-day plan, so once your class knows how one week runs, every week after it runs itself.