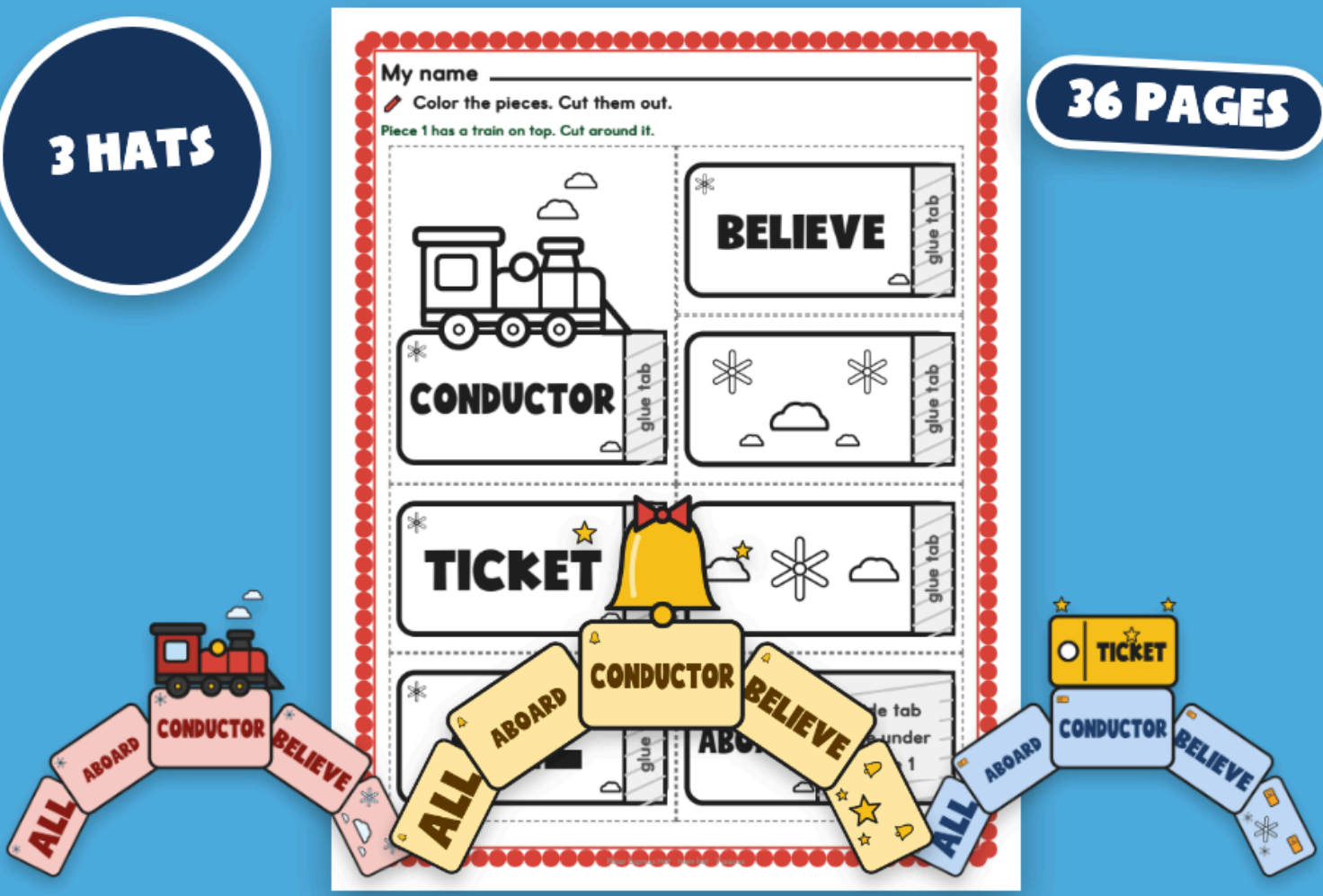
POLAR EXPRESS HAT CRAFT

Conductor hat craft
+ ticket punch strip

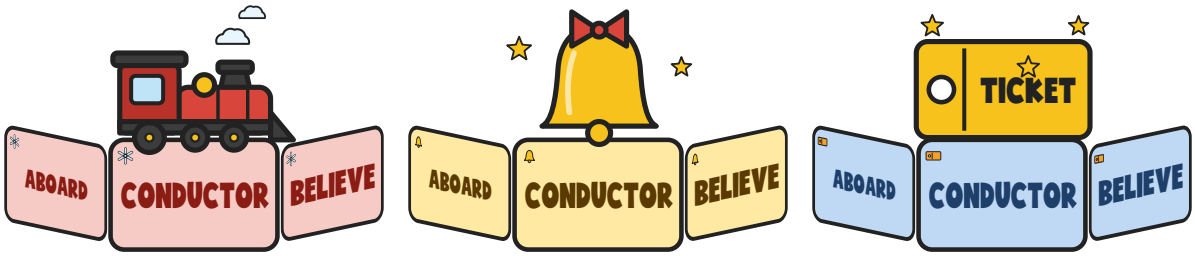
3 HATS

36 PAGES



Bright Path Sped

Polar Express Hat: Start Here



What's inside

- **Three conductor hats to make**: a train hat (pages 4-5), a bell hat (pages 6-7) and a ticket hat (pages 8-9), 7 pieces each. Piece 1 is the tall curved front panel with a topper about 2.2 times the band height. Worn, the band reads ALL ABOARD on the left, CONDUCTOR on the front and BELIEVE on the right, with TICKET at the back
- **A ticket punch strip**: 6 tickets to cut and punch (page 10), then glue in order to build a sentence on two levels (pages 11-12)
- **Meet the hats** (page 3), a **word bank** with trace-and-write lines for 6 words (page 13) and a **wear-it-or-ride-it sort** with 6 cards (page 14)
- **Writing on three levels** (pages 15-17): trace and draw, fill in the sentences, or write freely, starting from "All aboard! I will ..."
- A class data page with the answer key (18), a family letter (19) and **ink-saver copies** of every student page (pages 21-35)

How the hat fits any head

The band is 7 pieces in a row, each about 3.5 inches long and 1.75 inches tall. Each piece has a hatched glue tab on its right edge, so a piece goes under the next one. Glued, the 7 pieces measure about 20 inches around; the last piece has a long tab (about 1.8 inches) that slides under the band part of piece 1, so the band adjusts from about 20 to 21 inches. That fits a child whose head measures about 20 to 21 inches around. Try the band on before you glue the long tab.

The ticket punch strip

Cut the 6 tickets on page 10 (they print in a mixed-up order). Each ticket has a circle in its stub: punch a hole there with a hole punch (an adult can do it). Then lay the tickets on the glue mat in order: page 11 has a faint twin of each ticket, page 12 has blank boxes and the finished sentence to read.

Five days, one activity a day

- **Day 1: Meet the hats.** Page 3, then trace the word bank (page 13).
- **Day 2: Color and cut.** Color the band pieces (page 4, 6 or 8) and cut them out.
- **Day 3: Lay out and glue.** Lay each piece on its number on the mat, then glue the tabs in order and fit the band.
- **Day 4: Tickets, sort and write.** Cut and punch the tickets, build the sentence, do the sort (page 14), then the writing page for each child's level (pages 15-17).
- **Day 5: All aboard!** Wear the hat, send the family letter home.

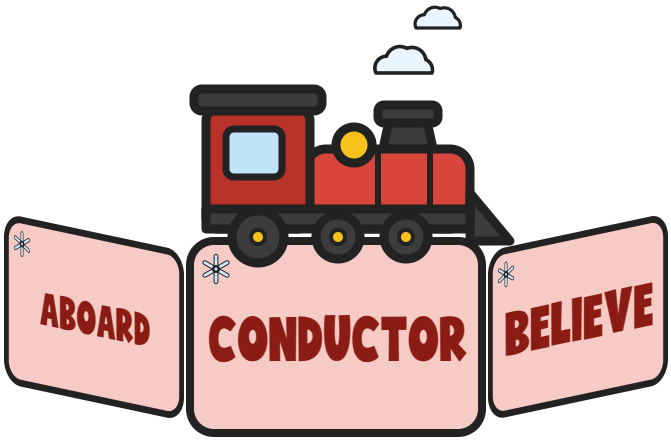
Easier or harder, and ink

- Easier: only the tall front piece and its two neighbors, pre-cut pieces, the circle-level pages. Harder: the square ticket mat and the triangle writing page. The shape beside the name line marks the level.
- Print on paper; card stock makes a sturdier band. The pieces are black and white outlines. Low on color ink? Print the ink-saver copies (pages 21-35); answers are the same. Answer key: page 18.

PREVIEW

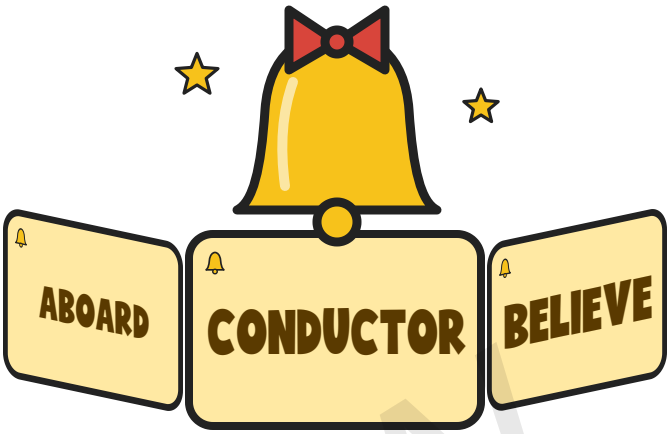
My name _____

Look at the hats. Which will you make?



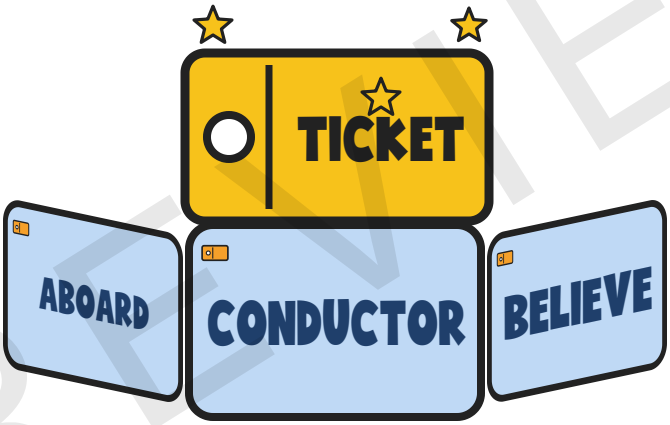
TRAIN HAT

Pieces on page 4.



BELL HAT

Pieces on page 6.



TICKET HAT

Pieces on page 8.

PREVIEW

1. Color
2. Cut
3. Glue the tabs

Wrap it around your head. Glue the last tab where it fits.

My hat is the _____

My name _____

Lay each piece on its number.

Glue each tab under the next piece. Slide the long tab of 7 under 1.

1



CONDUCTOR

glue tab

2

BELIEVE

glue tab

3

glue tab

4

TICKET

glue tab

5

glue tab

6

ALL

glue tab

7

ABOARD

slide tab glue under piece 1

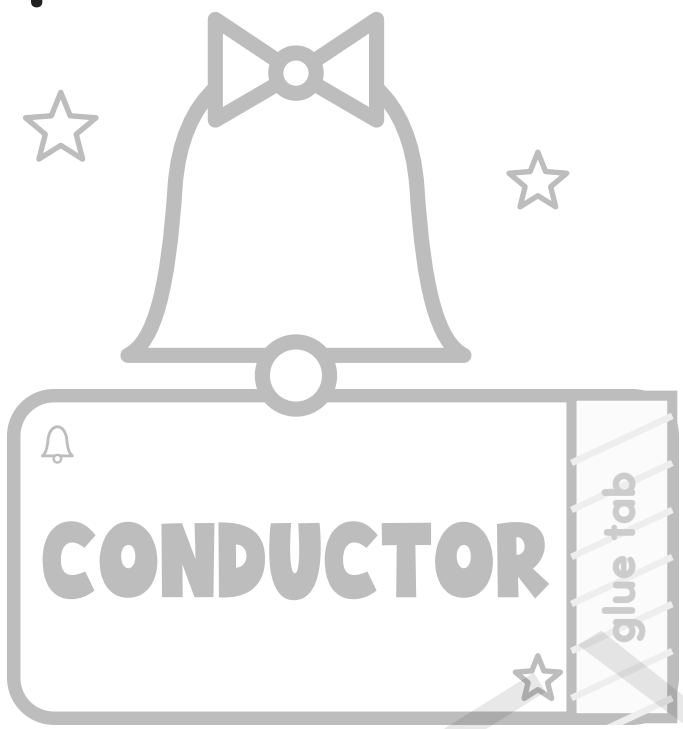
PREVIEW

My name _____

Lay each piece on its number.

Glue each tab under the next piece. Slide the long tab of 7 under 1.

1



CONDUCTOR

glue tab

2

BELIEVE

glue tab

3



glue tab

4

TICKET

glue tab

5



glue tab

6

ALL

glue tab

7

ABOARD

slide tab
glue under
piece 1

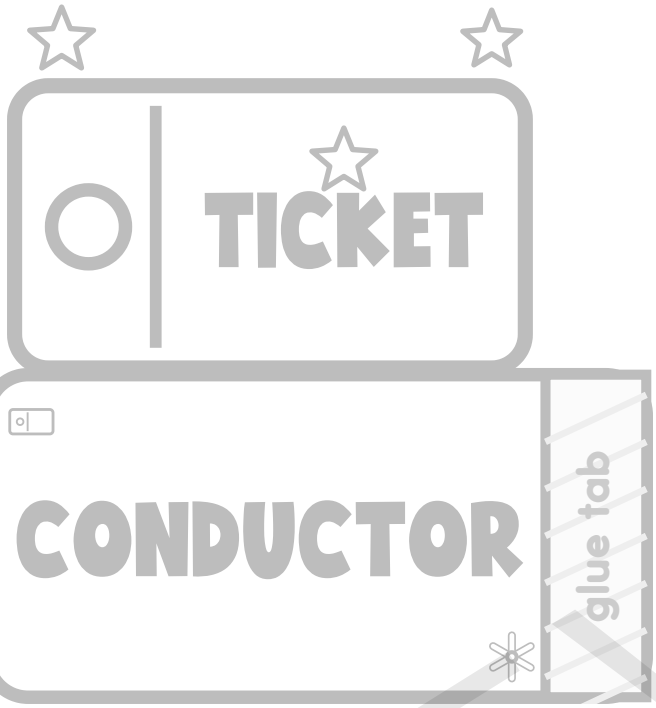
PREVIEW

My name _____

Lay each piece on its number.

Glue each tab under the next piece. Slide the long tab of 7 under 1.

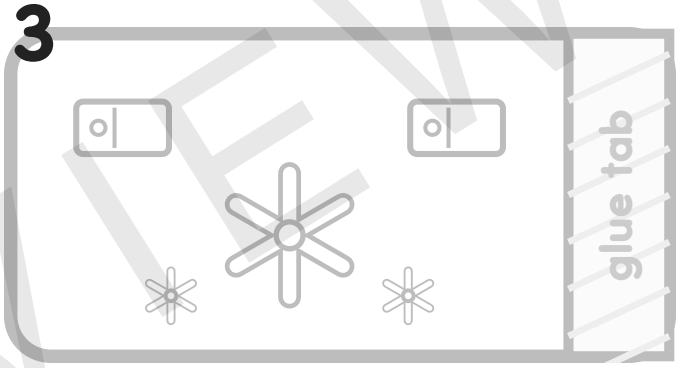
1



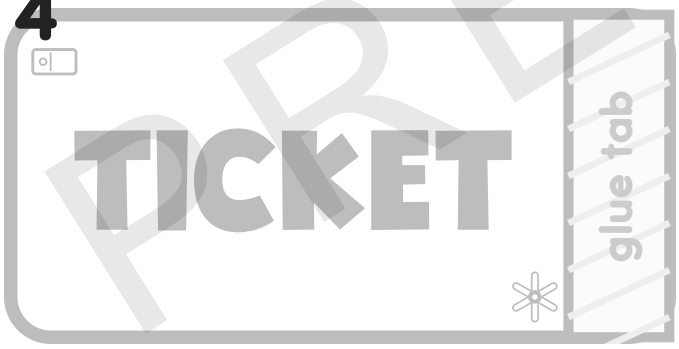
2



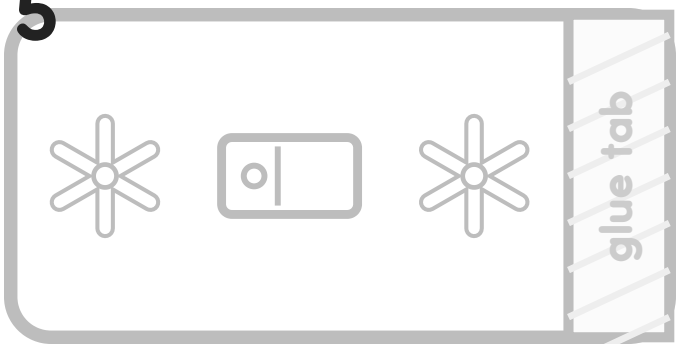
3



4



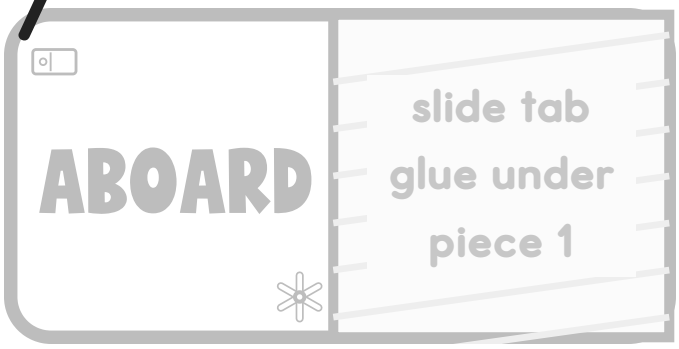
5



6



7



PREVIEW

My name _____ level ●

Lay each ticket on its twin.

Glue the tickets. Then read the sentence out loud.

1 punch here ALL ABOARD!

2 punch here !

3 punch here BELIEVE

4 punch here IN

5 punch here MY

6 punch here FRIENDS

PREVIEW

My name _____

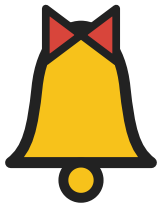
Trace the word. Write it.



train



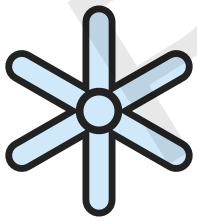
hat



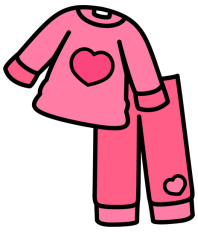
bell



ticket



snow

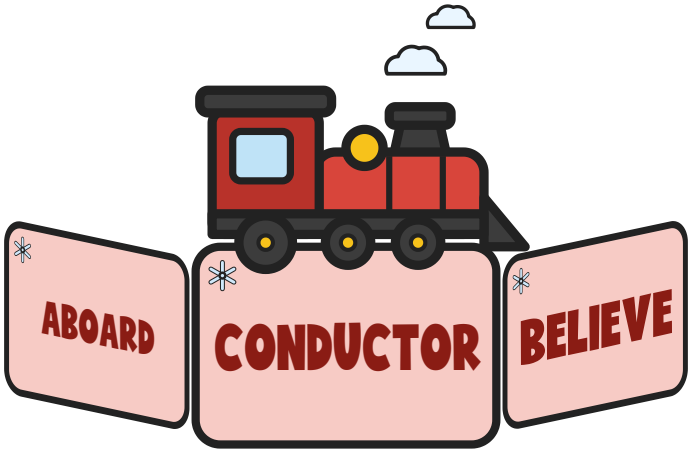


pajamas

PREVIEW

My name _____ level ●

Trace. Then draw.



All aboard!

I will ride.

Draw yourself in your hat.

PREVIEW

My name _____ level ▲

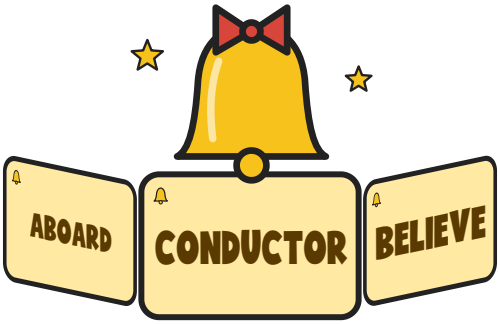
Write about it. Draw it.

All aboard! I will...

PREVIEW

Ink-Saver Pages

Pages 21-35: black-and-white copies of the student pages, for a printer low on color ink.



What is different

- Pages 3-17 again, one for one, with the same words, the same pieces and the same order
- Pictures are plain black lines on white, with a thin gray border and no color fill
- Cutting pieces are the same size, so every glue box still matches

Which page is which

Color page	Ink-saver page	Activity
3	21	meet the hats
4	22	train hat pieces
5	23	train hat lay-out mat
6	24	bell hat pieces
7	25	bell hat lay-out mat
8	26	ticket hat pieces
9	27	ticket hat lay-out mat
10	28	ticket punch strip, 6 tickets
11	29	ticket mat, faint twins
12	30	ticket mat, blank boxes
13	31	word bank
14	32	wear it or ride it sort
15	33	writing, trace and draw
16	34	writing, fill in
17	35	writing, write freely

Using them

- Print only the pages a child needs. The answer key on page 18 is the same for both sets.
- Children can color the pictures themselves, or leave them plain.

PREVIEW

My name _____

Color the pieces. Cut them out.

Piece 1 has a train on top. Cut around it.



CONDUCTOR

BELIEVE

TICKET

ALL

ABOARD

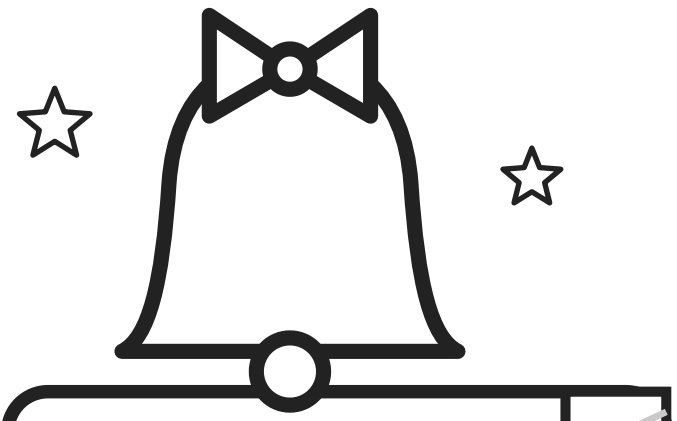
slide tab
glue under
piece 1

PREVIEW

My name _____

Color the pieces. Cut them out.

Piece 1 has a bell on top. Cut around it.



CONDUCTOR

BELIEVE



TICKET



ALL

ABOARD

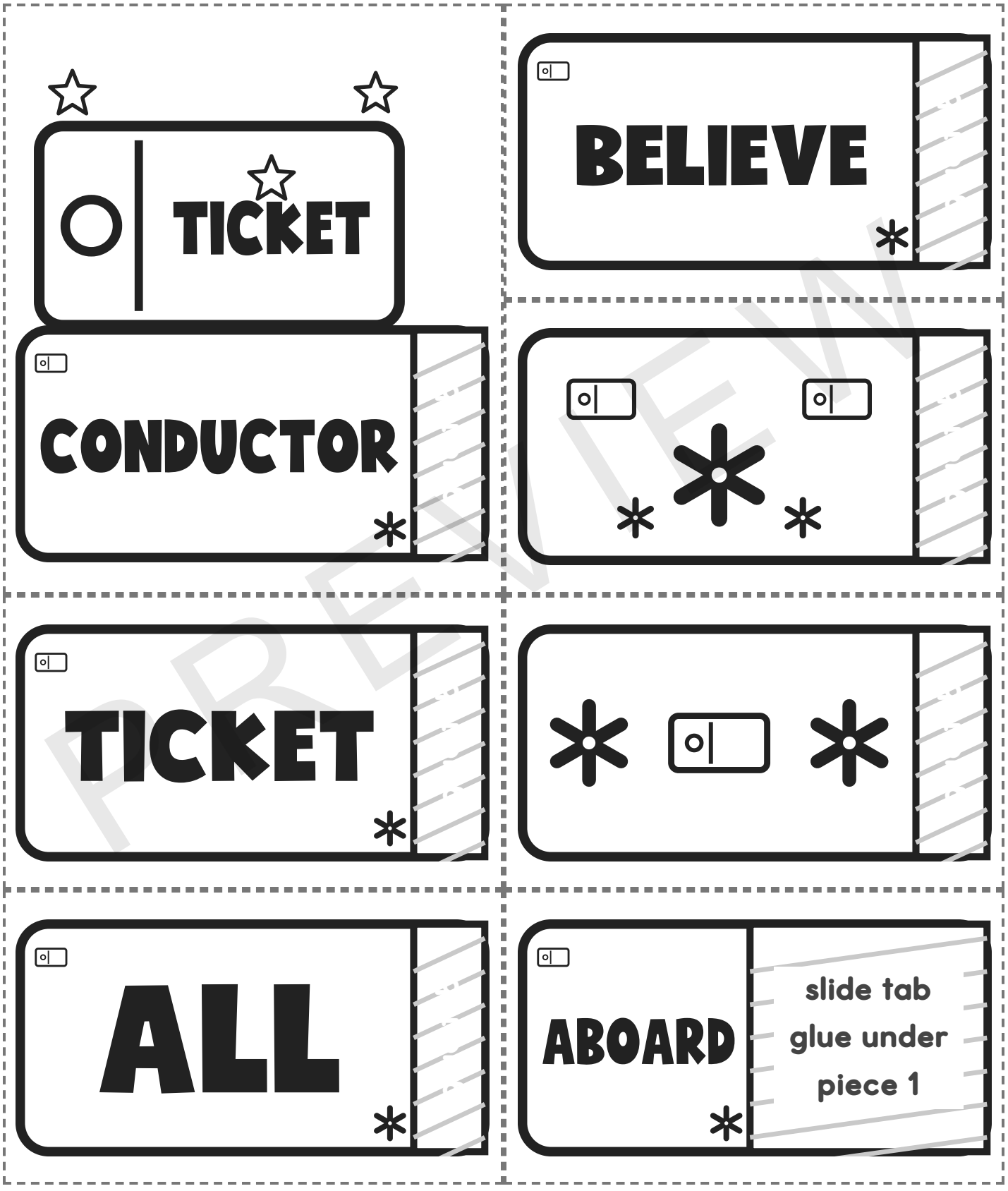
slide tab
glue under
piece 1

PREVIEW

My name _____

Color the pieces. Cut them out.

Piece 1 has a ticket on top. Cut around it.



PREVIEW

My name _____

Cut the tickets. Punch the circles.

Cut on the dashed lines. Use a hole punch on each circle.

IN	ALL ABOARD!
FRIENDS	I
BELIEVE	MY

PREVIEW

My name _____ level ■

Glue the tickets in order.

Read it: All aboard! I believe in my friends.

1

2

3

4

5

6

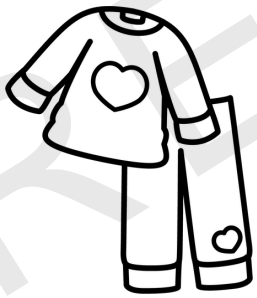
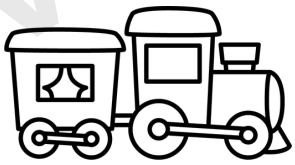
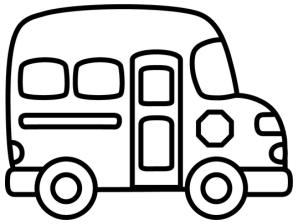
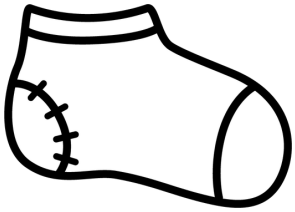
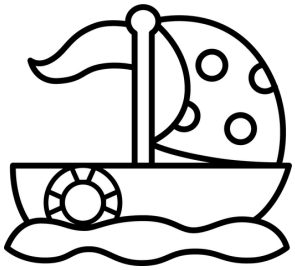
PREVIEW

My name _____

Cut the cards. Do you wear it or ride it?

wear it

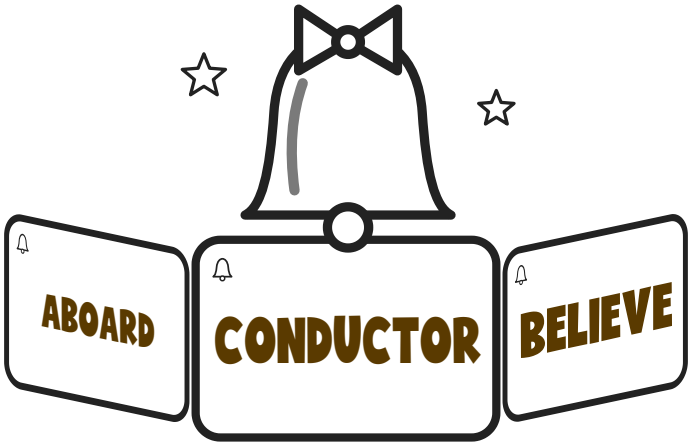
ride it

 pajamas	 train	 coat
 bus	 socks	 boat

PREVIEW

My name _____ level ■

Finish the sentences.



ride wear friends snow train believe

All aboard! I will

I believe in

My hat has

Draw your hat.

PREVIEW