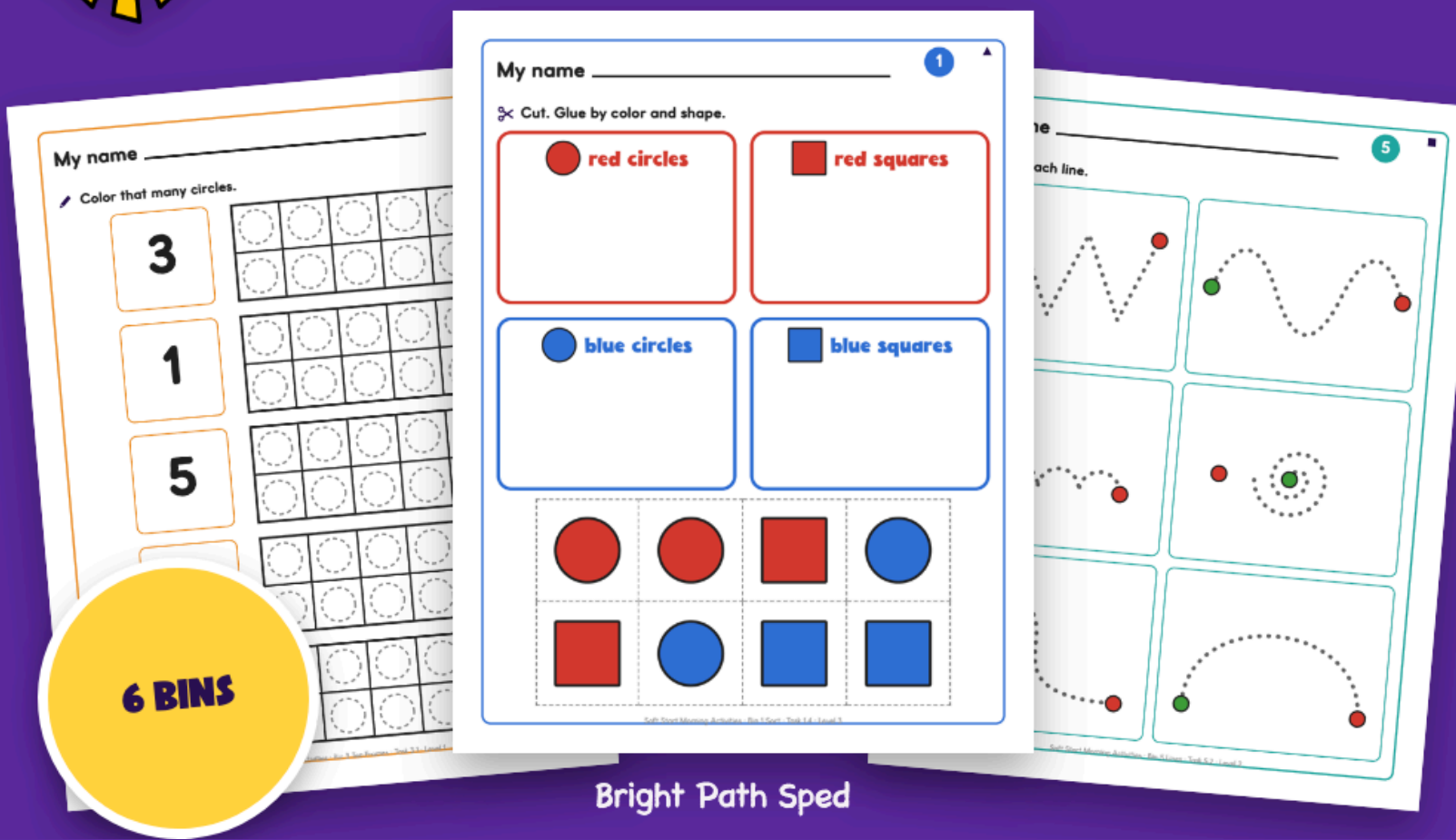
SOFT START MORNING ACTIVITIES

24 Independent Bin Tasks



6 BINS

Bright Path Sped

Soft Start Morning Activities

Start Here: independent bin tasks, 24 one-page tasks in 6 bins

What this is for

A soft start gives students something calm and doable to begin the day with while you greet families, take attendance and check in with each child. Each of the six bins holds four one-page tasks. A student takes one task, works alone, and checks a box on the morning checklist.

Three steps

1. **Set up.** Print the tasks and fill the six bins, four tasks in each (page 3). Tape a label on each bin (page 4).
2. **Student works.** The student writes a name, picks a bin, does the task and checks a box on the checklist (page 7).
3. **Check and record.** Look at the work with the answer key (pages 37 and 38) and mark the recording sheet (pages 33 to 35).

Which page for which situation

I need to	Go to
Setting up the six bins for the first time	page 3
Bin labels to print and tape on the bins	page 4
Words to say with students	page 5
Questions to ask and ways to extend	page 6
The checklist a student keeps	page 7
A student needs a smaller step (look for the circle)	page 8
Recording what a student did	page 33
Checking the work	page 37

PREVIEW

Three levels, marked with a shape

The small shape in the top corner of every task is its level. A circle is a starting task. A square is the standard task. A triangle is a step up. Children see shapes, not numbers, so no one compares. In each bin the first task is a circle, the middle two are squares and the last is a triangle.

What is in this file

- 24 one-page tasks, 4 in each of 6 bins, plus an ink-saver copy of task 1.1
- 13 cut-and-glue tasks with 86 pieces in all, and 11 trace, color and write tasks
- A morning checklist with 6 boxes, 6 bin labels and a set-up page
- 3 recording sheets, a filled example, a 2-page answer key and a What's next page

Teacher page. Print, laminate and tape one label on each bin.

1

Sort



2

Numbers



3

Ten Frames



4

Shapes



5

Lines



6

Patterns



PREVIEW

Ask and Extend

Questions to ask at the table

- Sort: "How are these the same? What color is this one? Is it big or small? Which bin is it for?"
- Numbers: "Touch each dot as you count. How many dots? Which number says that?"
- Ten frames: "Is the frame full or does it have empty spaces? How many more fill it?"
- Shapes: "How many sides? How many corners? Is the line straight or does it curve?"
- Lines: "Where does the line start? Where does it stop? Go slowly, stay on the dots."
- Patterns: "Say the pattern out loud. What comes next? Which one repeats?"

Ways to extend a task

- After a sort, ask the student to sort the same pieces a different way: by color, then by shape.
- After a number match, ask the student to build the same number with counters, blocks or fingers.
- After a ten frame, say a number and ask how many more make 10.
- After tracing a shape, find the same shape somewhere in the room and point to it.
- After a pattern, make the same pattern with blocks, claps or taps (clap, tap, clap, tap).
- Save the finished pages in a folder so a student can see what they have done this month.

Making the bins your own

- Print one bin's tasks on colored paper to match its label.
- Add a small timer if your students use one. This product does not set a time for you.
- Keep a finished-work tray next to the bins so a student can turn in a page without help.
- Write a note for yourself about prompts that help one student:

  _____

Cutting tips

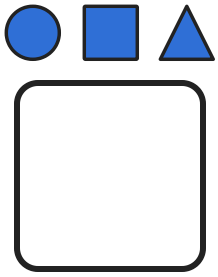
- Show how to cut on the dashed line, one straight line at a time.
- Pre-cut the strips into rows if cutting is hard for a student, so the student only makes short snips.
- A page where the student only traces, colors or writes needs no scissors.

PREVIEW

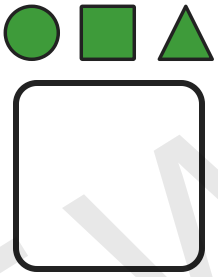
My name _____

Check a box when a bin is done.

1 Sort



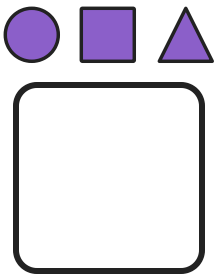
2 Numbers



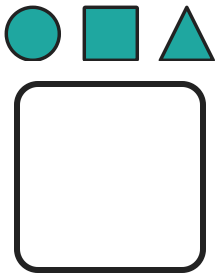
3 Ten Frames



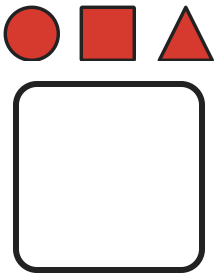
4 Shapes



5 Lines



6 Patterns



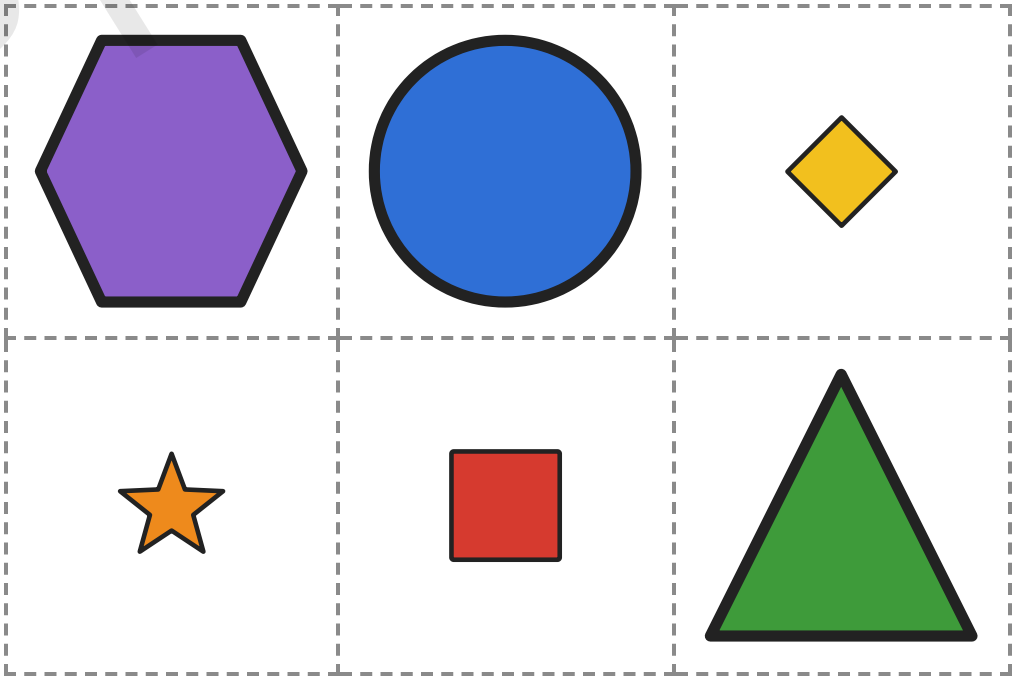
PREVIEW

1

My name _____

Cut. Glue big and small apart.

big	small



PREVIEW

My name _____

1

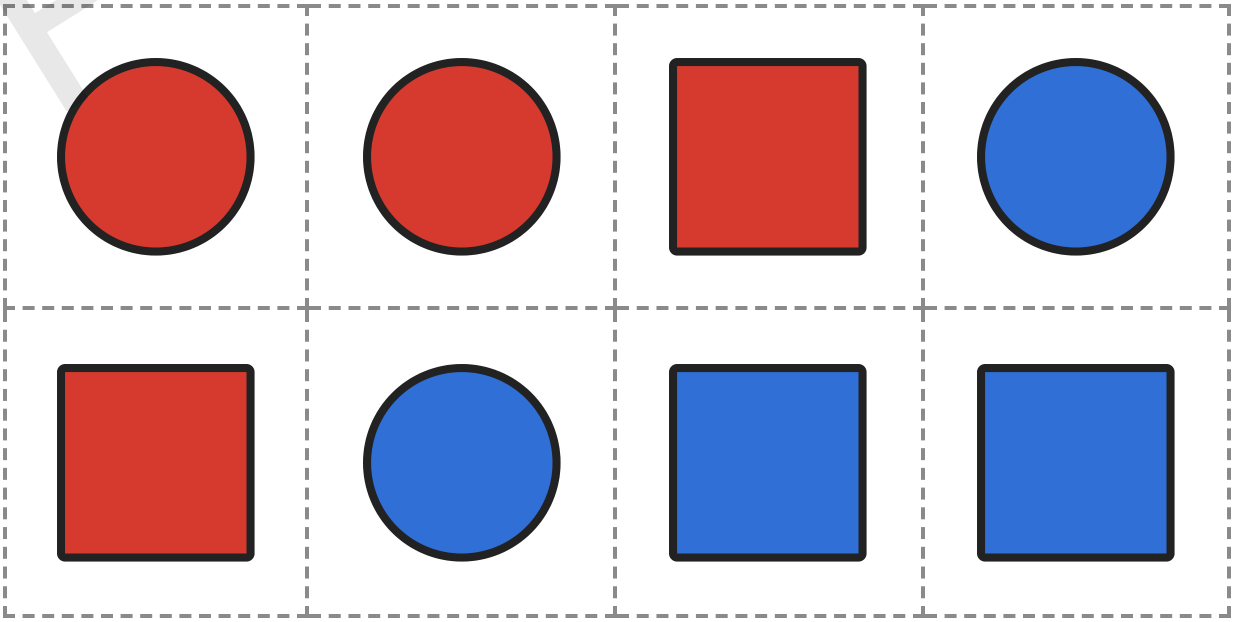
Cut. Glue by color and shape.

red circles

red squares

blue circles

blue squares

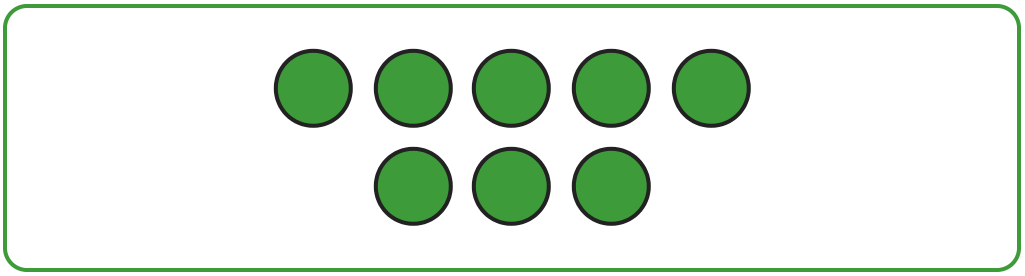


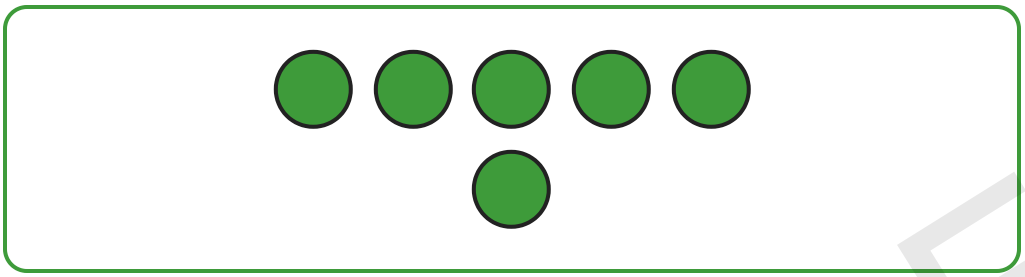
PREVIEW

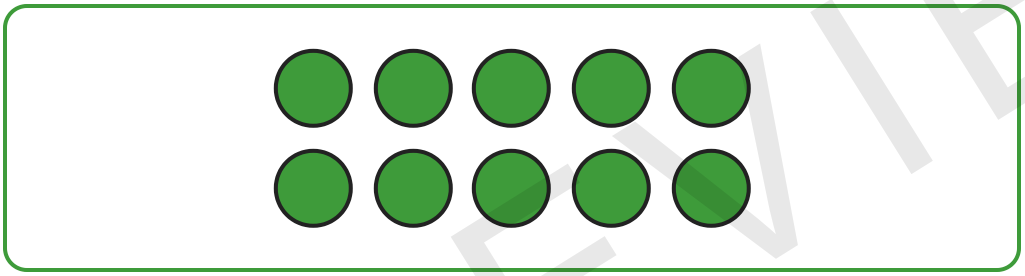
My name _____

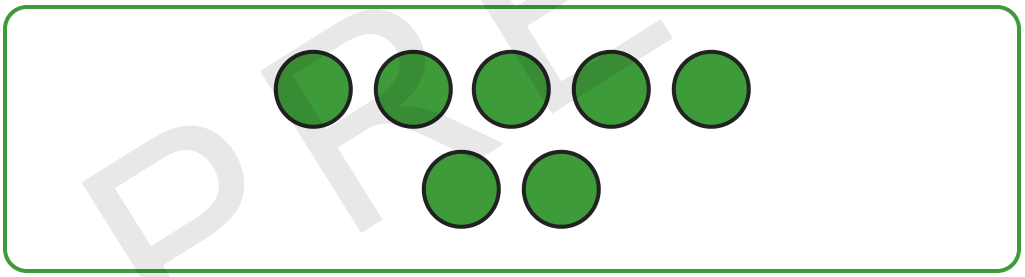
2

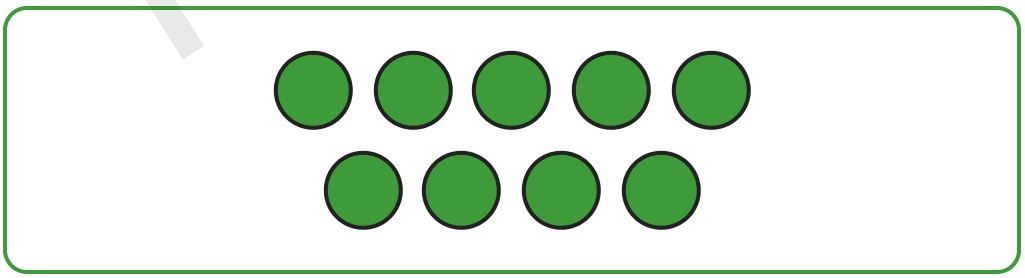
Cut. Glue the number for the dots.


to


to


to


to


to

6	7	8	9	10

PREVIEW

My name _____

2

Cut. Glue the numbers in order.

start				
				end

PREVIEW

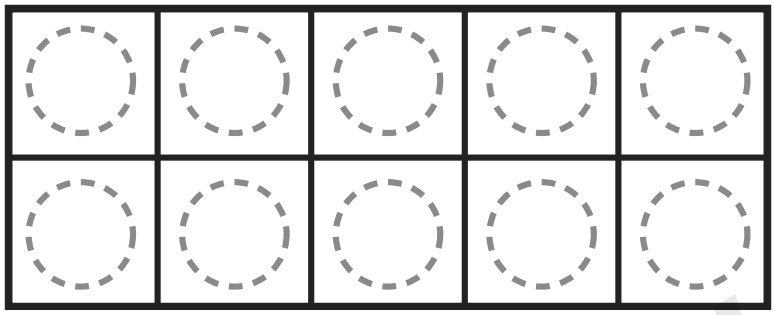
3	4	2	1	9
8	7	6	5	10

3

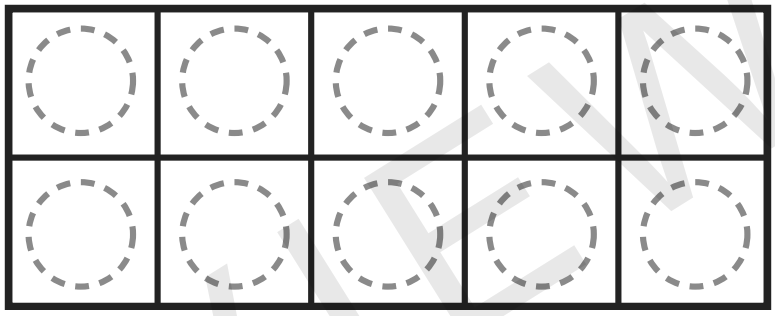
My name _____

Color that many circles.

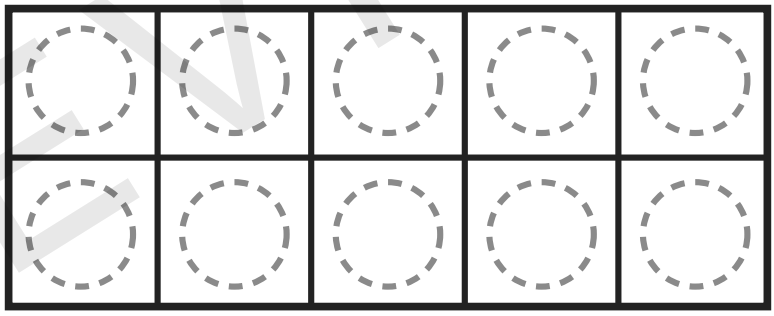
8



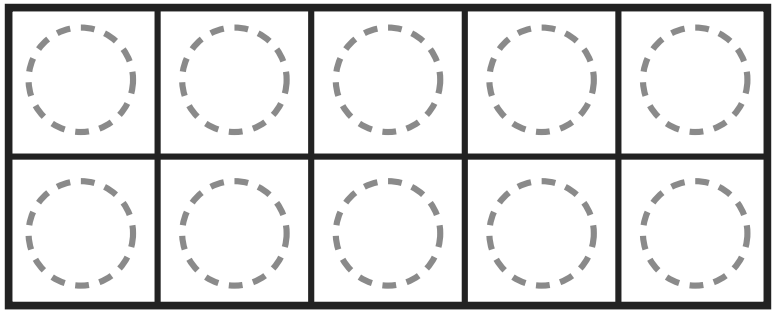
6



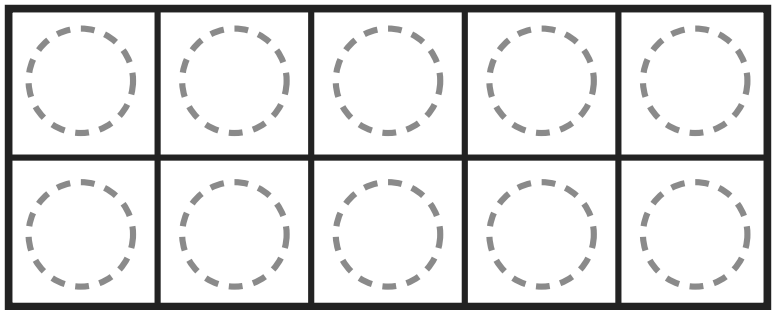
10



7



9

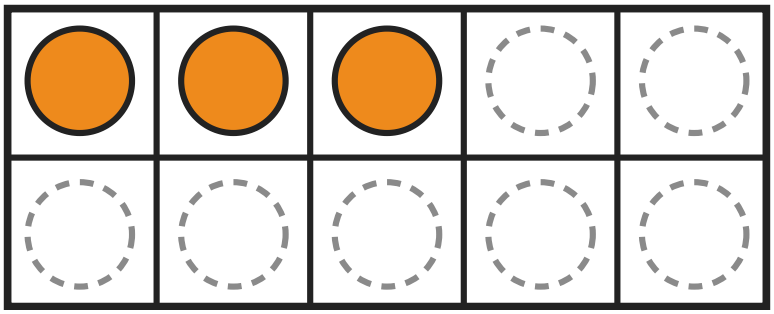


PREVIEW

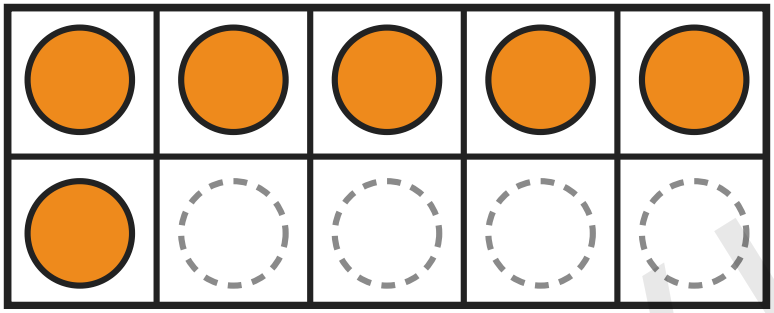
3

My name _____

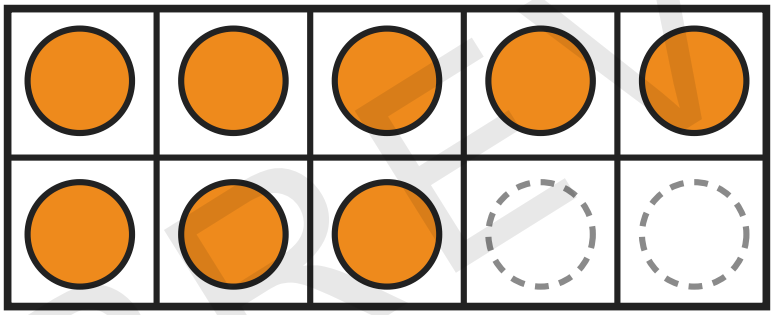
Color the rest. Write how many.



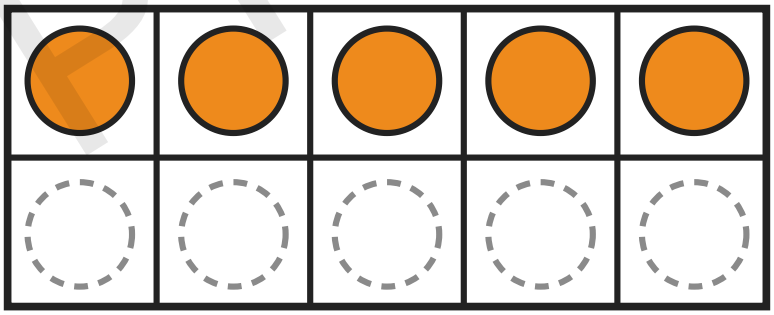
how many more? ☐



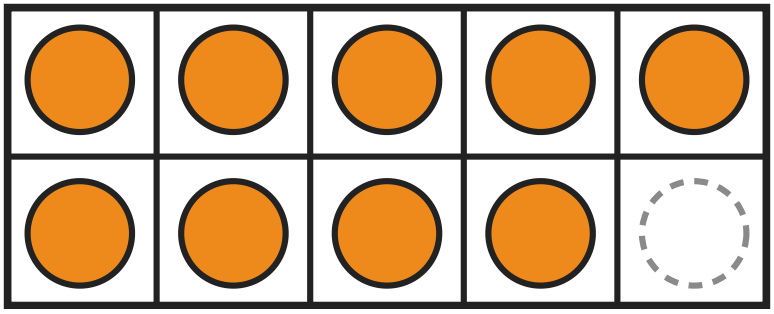
how many more? ☐



how many more? ☐



how many more? ☐



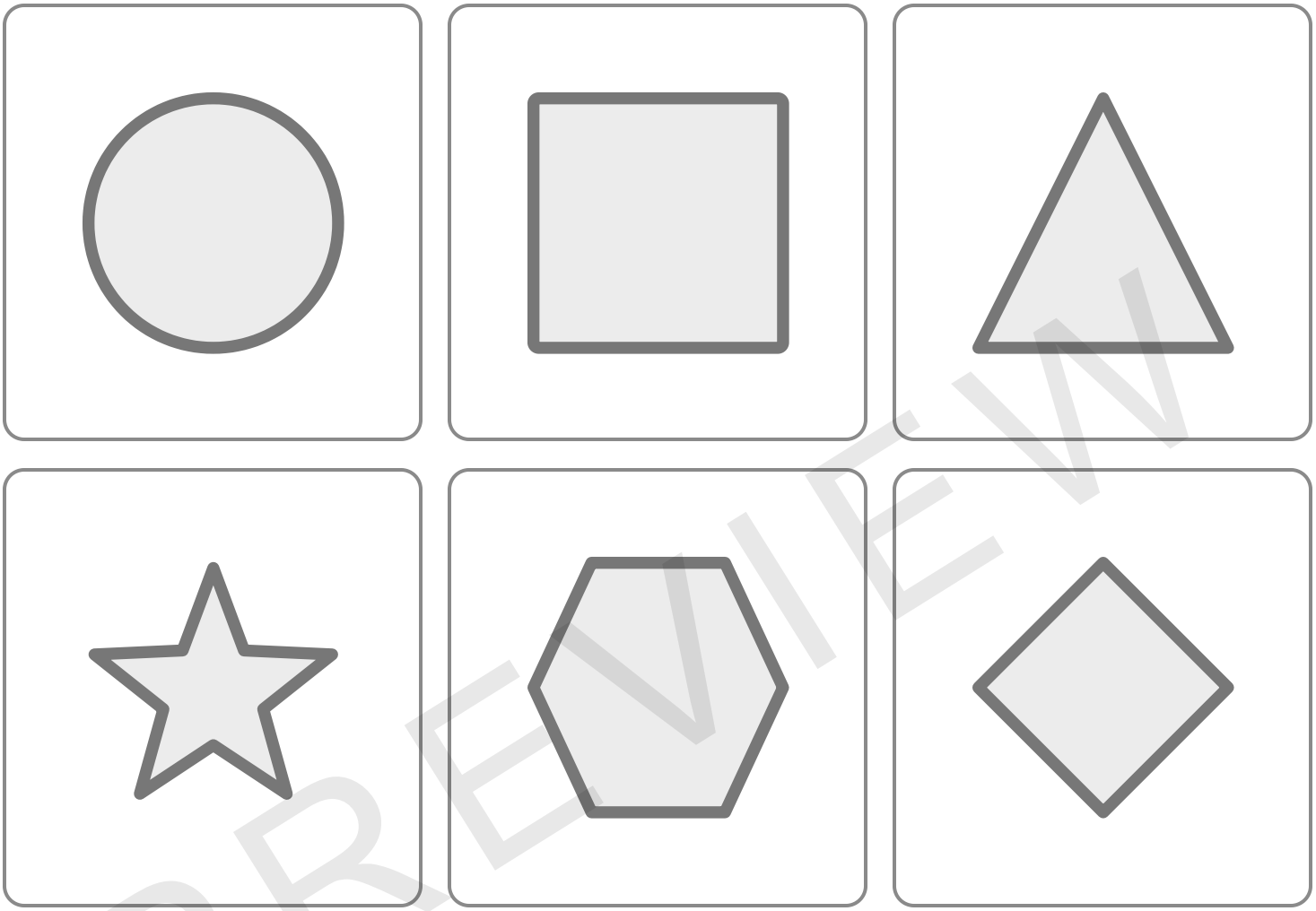
how many more? ☐

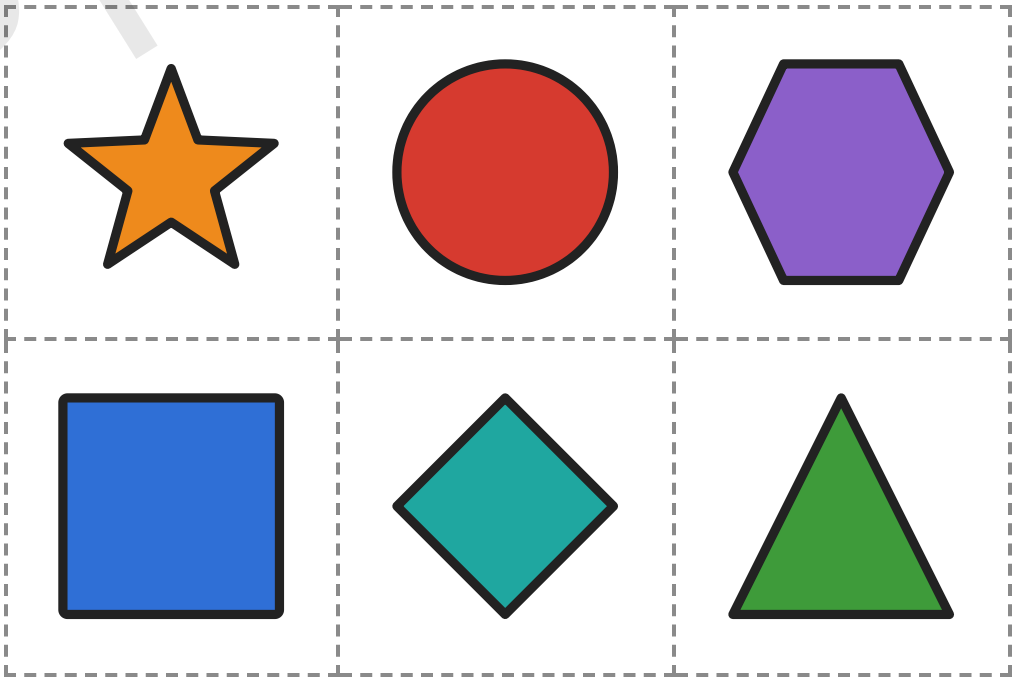
PREVIEW

4

My name _____

Cut. Glue each shape on its twin.



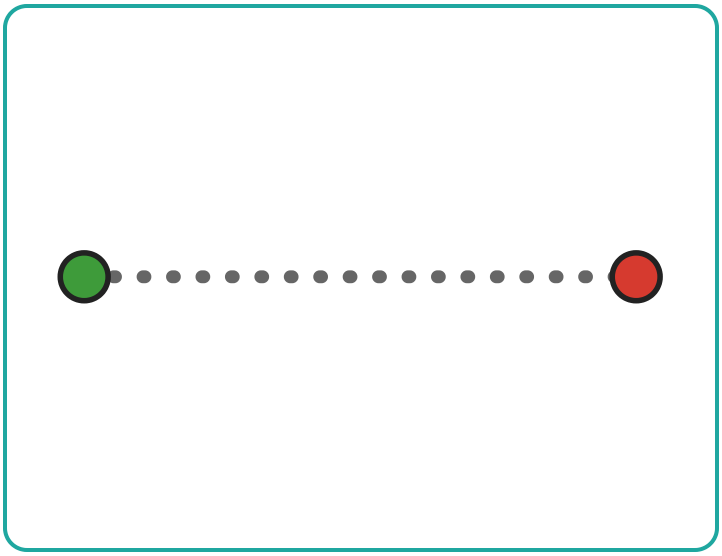


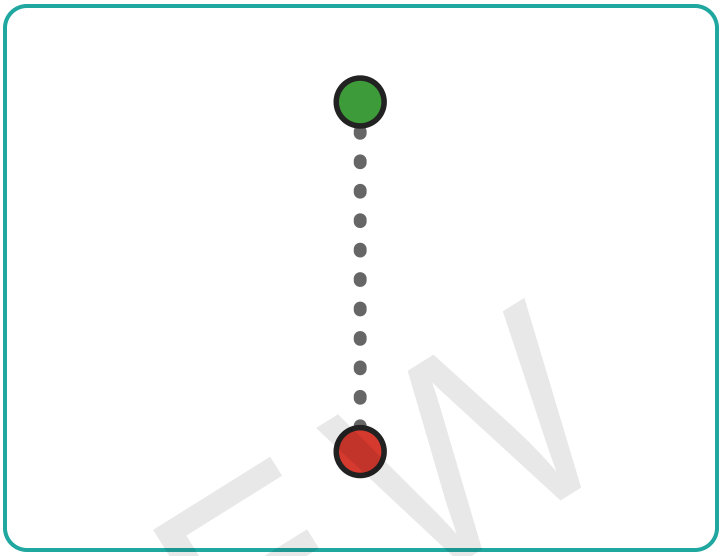
PREVIEW

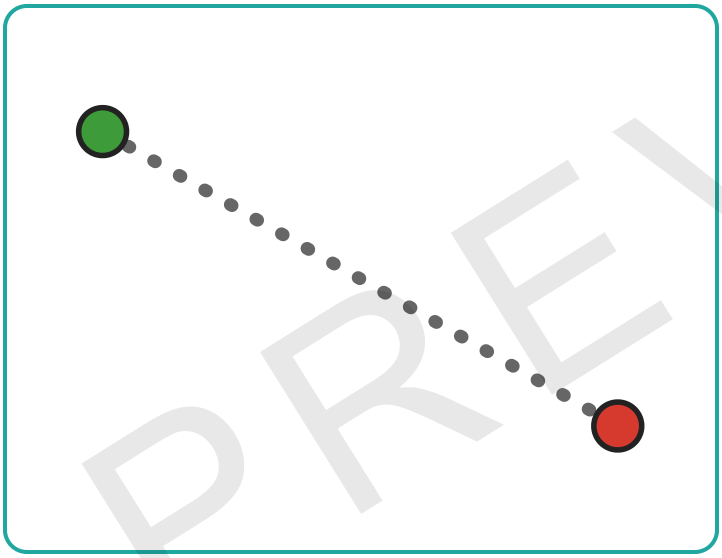
My name _____

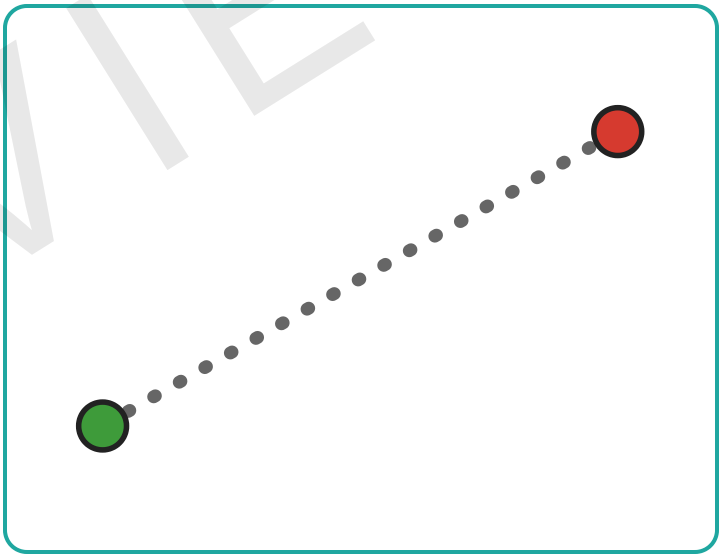
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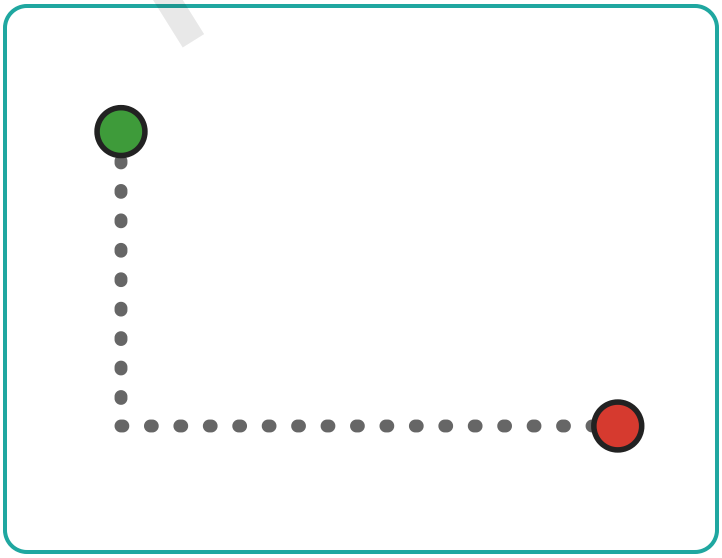
Trace each line.

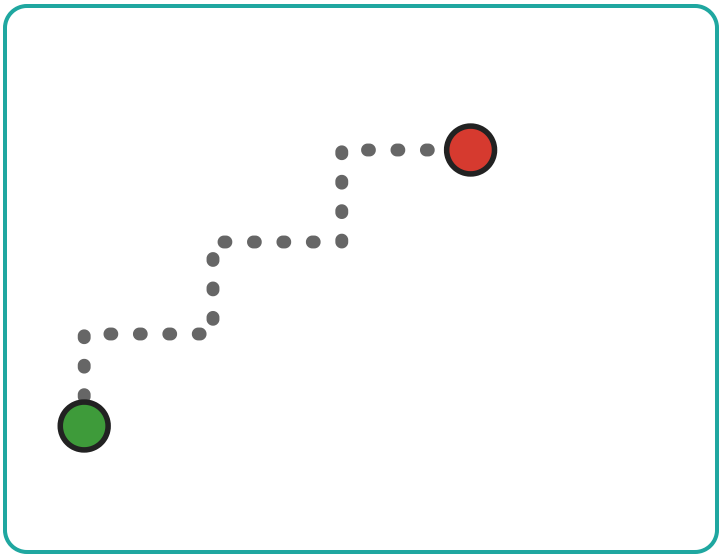










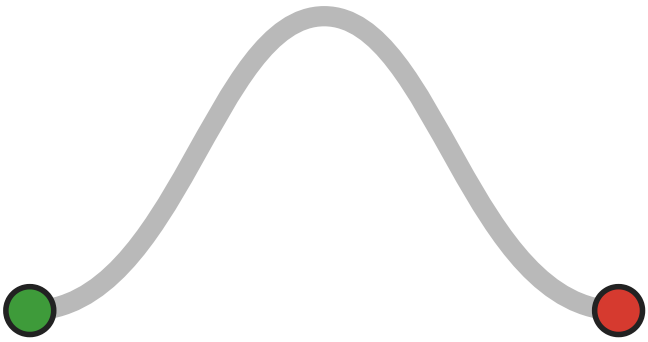


PREVIEW

My name _____

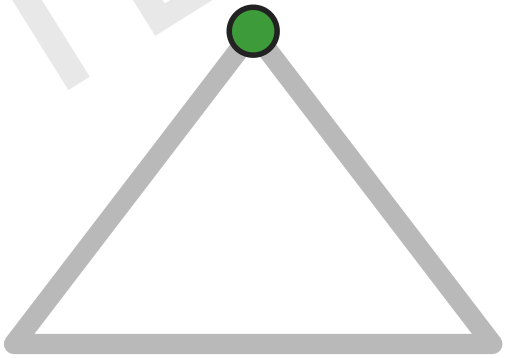
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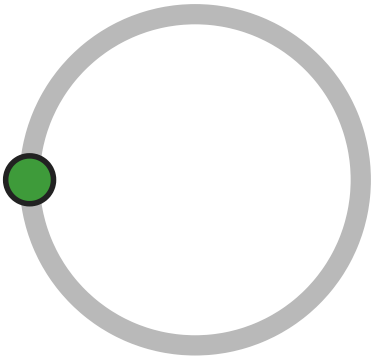
Trace the line. Then cut.











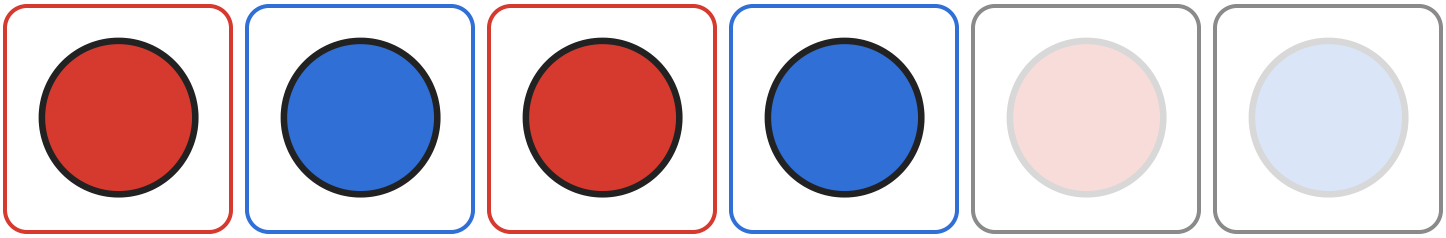


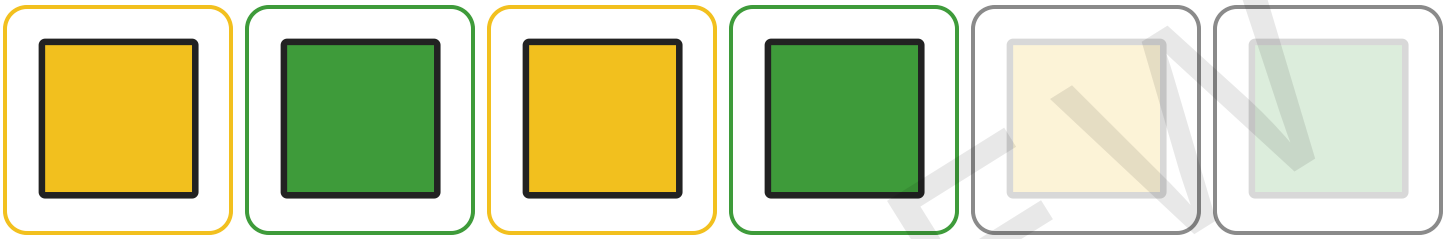
PREVIEW

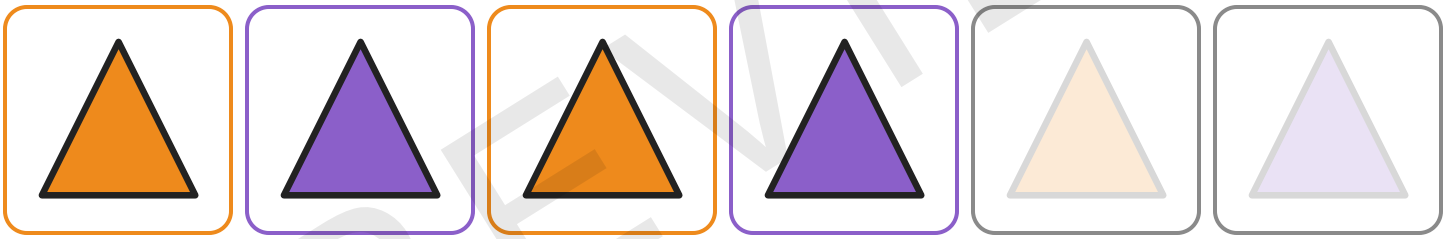
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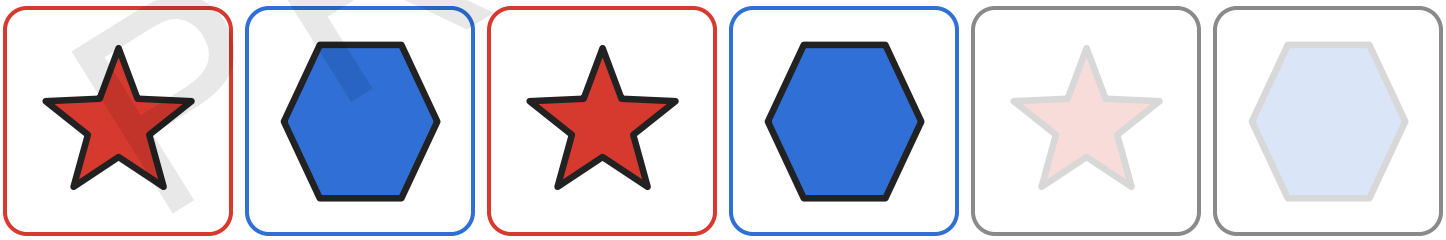
My name _____

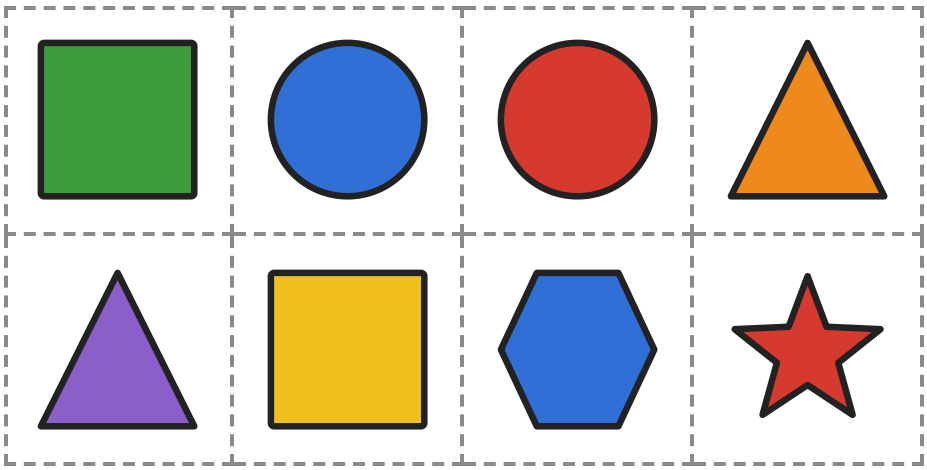
Cut. Finish each pattern.









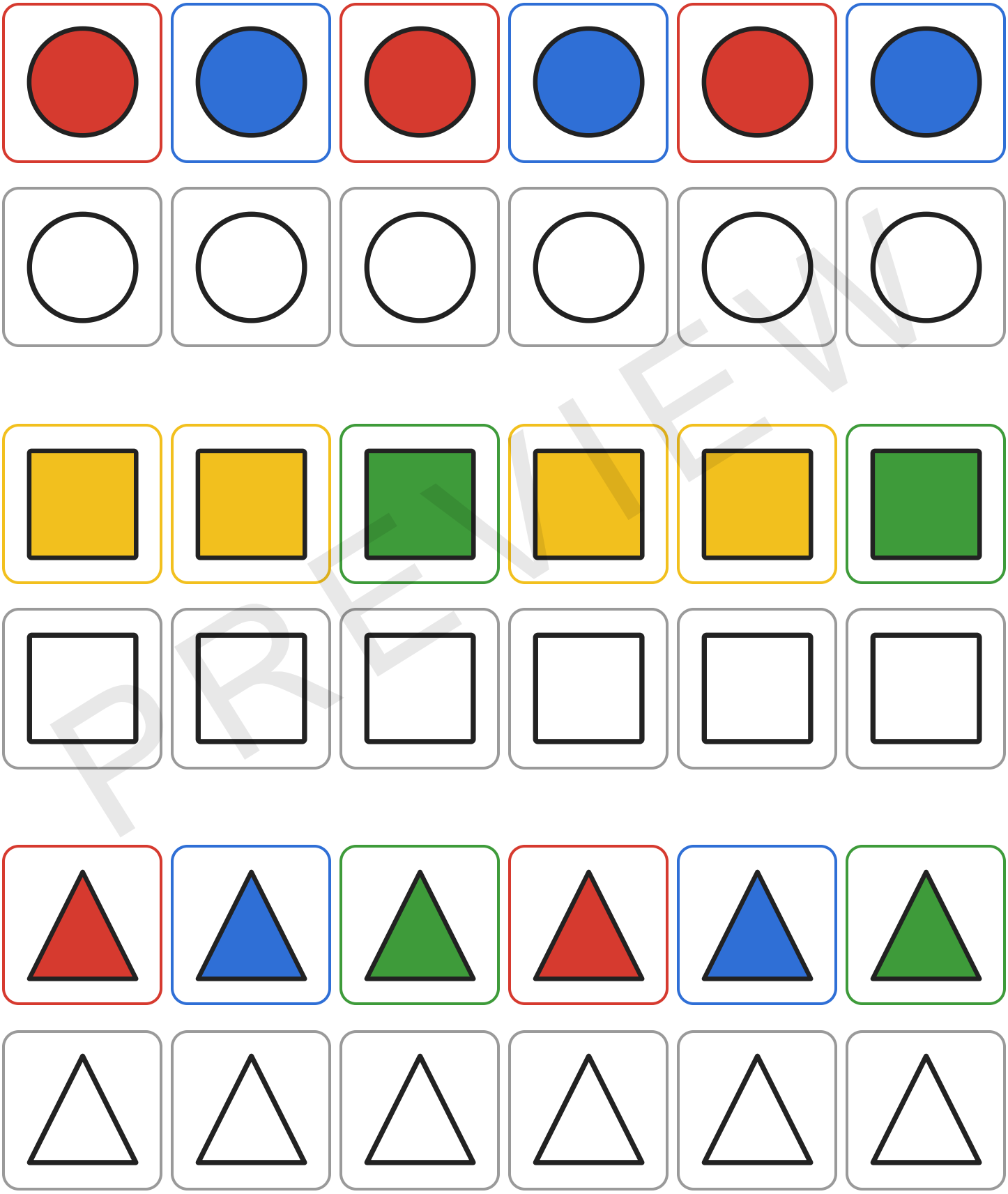


PREVIEW

My name _____

6

Color to match the pattern.



PREVIEW

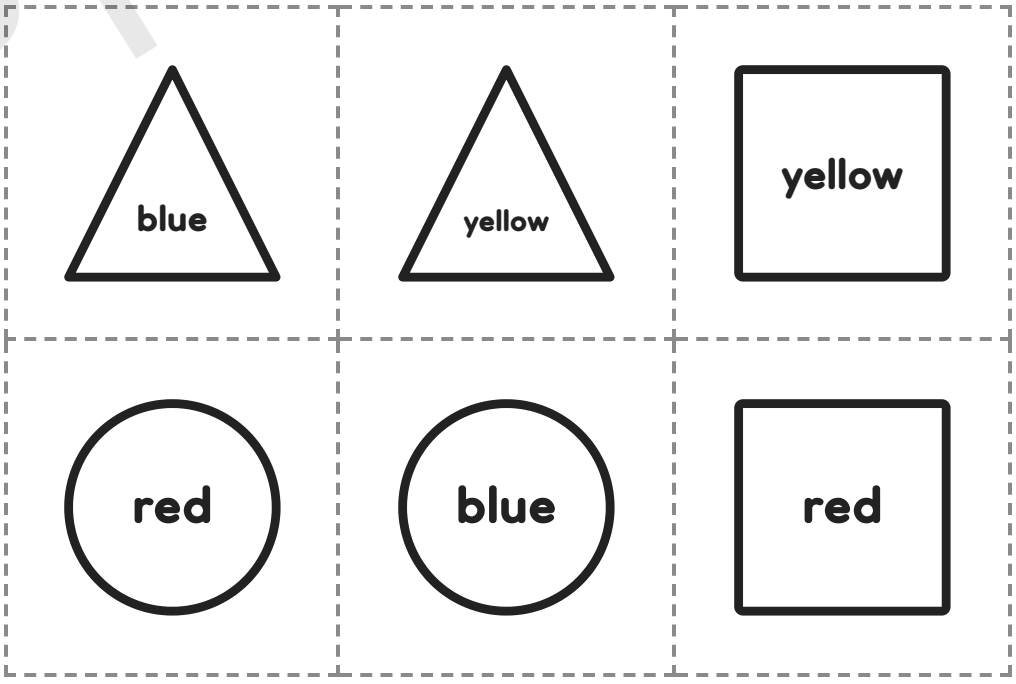
1

My name _____

✂ **Cut. Glue each shape in its color.**

red	blue	yellow

PREVIEW



Recording Sheet 2: Whole Class

Week of _____ Adult _____

Write the date, or a mark (+ P –), in the box when a student finishes a bin task. The column heads are the bin numbers.

Student	1	2	3	4	5	6	Notes

PREVIEW

Example: Recording Sheet 1, Filled In

An invented student, not a real child

Student: Sample Student (invented) Week of: sample week Adult: sample teacher

Bin	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	+	Notes
1 Sort	+	+	+	+	4	Needed no help
2 Numbers	+	P	+	P	2	Counted with a finger
3 Ten Frames	P	+	P	P	1	Used a model for frames
4 Shapes	+	+	+	P	3	Cutting got easier
5 Lines	P	P	+	–	1	Stays near the line, slowly
6 Patterns	+	P	–	–	1	Needs a sample row first

Totals for the week: + 12 P 9 – 3 (24 tasks in all: 12 + 9 + 3 = 24)

How to read it

- Bin 1 is all plus marks, so Sample Student did all four Sort tasks on their own (1 bin like that).
- Bin 6 has a not-yet on tasks 3 and 4. A good next step is a sample row to look at first, then the circle task again.
- The row totals in the + column are the plus marks in that row. They add up to 12.

Next step for Sample Student (invented): work on Bin 5 and Bin 6 with the circle tasks first.

PREVIEW

Answer Key 2 of 2

Task numbers match the small tag at the foot of each task page. Pictures on trace pages are in page order, reading across, then down.

Bin 4: Shapes

- **4.1 Trace the shapes.** Circle, square, triangle, rectangle, diamond, oval, in page order (reading across, then down).
- **4.2 Copy the shape.** Square, triangle, rectangle, diamond, down the page. The copy does not need to be perfect: look for the same number of corners and sides.
- **4.3 Match the shape twins.** Each colored shape goes on the gray outline with the same shape: circle (red), square (blue), triangle (green), star (orange), hexagon (purple), diamond (teal), reading across, then down.
- **4.4 Match shape names.** Reading across, then down: circle, square, triangle, rectangle, star, hexagon.

Bin 5: Lines

- **5.1 Trace straight lines.** Answers vary. Look for the pencil staying on the dotted line from the green dot to the red dot in all six boxes.
- **5.2 Trace curvy lines.** Answers vary. Look for the pencil staying on the dotted line from the green dot to the red dot in all six boxes (the spiral stops in the middle of the curl).
- **5.3 Trace the line, then cut.** Answers vary. Look for the pencil staying on the gray line from the green dot to the red dot (all the way around on the closed shapes), then the six boxes cut apart on the dashed lines.
- **5.4 Draw a line to the same shape.** Red circle on the left goes to right row 3, blue square on the left goes to right row 5, yellow triangle on the left goes to right row 1, green star on the left goes to right row 4, purple hexagon on the left goes to right row 2.

Bin 6: Patterns

- **6.1 Finish the AB pattern.** Row 1 (AB): red circle, blue circle; Row 2 (AB): yellow square, green square; Row 3 (AB): orange triangle, purple triangle; Row 4 (AB): red star, blue hexagon.
- **6.2 Finish the pattern, 4 kinds.** Row 1 (AAB): red circle, blue square; Row 2 (ABB): yellow circle, yellow circle; Row 3 (ABC): orange triangle, teal hexagon; Row 4 (ABAC): blue star, red triangle.
- **6.3 Color to copy the pattern.** Copy rows match the shapes above them in color: pattern 1: red, blue, red, blue, red, blue; pattern 2: yellow, yellow, green, yellow, yellow, green; pattern 3: red, blue, green, red, blue, green.
- **6.4 Draw the next shapes.** Row 1: orange star, teal circle; Row 2: purple diamond, yellow square; Row 3: red triangle, blue star; Row 4: orange diamond, orange diamond.

PREVIEW