



Let's Grow this



with **sparkler**

An activity book for families with
young children and toddlers

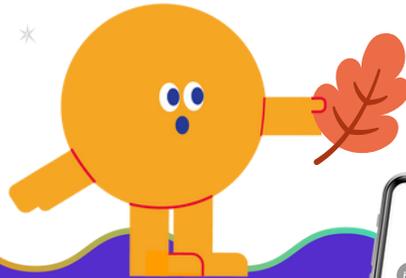


About Sparkler

Sparkler is a mobile app for families with young children (prenatal – age 5). It's available for iOS and Android devices in English, Spanish, Chinese, French, and Arabic.

Your family can use Sparkler to:

- **Know:** Understand your child's development with the mobile Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ)
- **Play:** Spark early learning with fun, off-screen play activities to practice early skills with your child
- **Grow:** Follow your child's progress reaching milestones
- **Connect:** Get answers or support from your school, family resource center, home visitor, doctor, or other provider.



To download the mobile app, scan this QR code and create your account. Sign up with your program or community's code!

This activity book is designed to help children grow stronger hearts, words, minds, and bodies. These are the four Sparkler friends! Each one represents an area of learning.



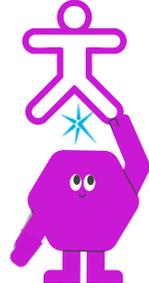
Heart



Words



Mind



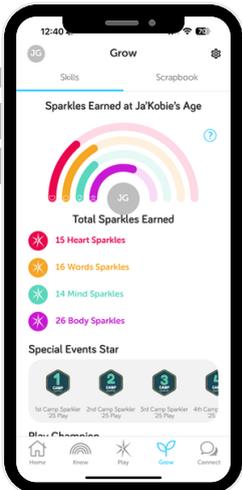
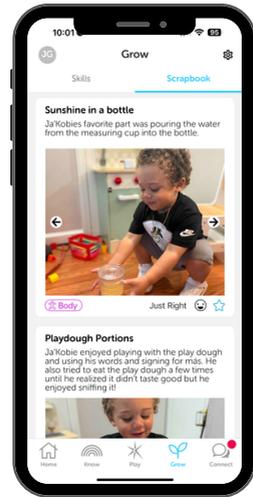
Body



Families can explore here and then scan the QR code on the page to find related activities in the Sparkler mobile app.



Play along in the app by pressing “We Did It” and adding a photo to grow your memories. Track all that you learn together with your child in your Sparkler scrapbook!



Watch your child's rainbow grow as you make progress together! As you play each activity, you'll also be able to earn Sparkles and digital badges along the way.

Fall Prints

Paint with nature

- 1 Let's make some autumn art!
- 2 Watch me cover the cut side of half an apple in paint and press it onto a sheet of paper. I made an apple print! Now it's your turn to make an apple print.
- 3 Now let's dip pinecones into the paint and paint with them. What do pinecone prints look like? What other natural objects that we see in the autumn can we transform into art?



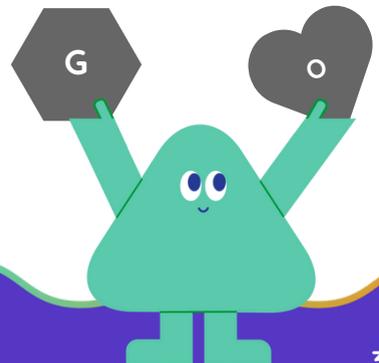
Mind

Making art with apples, pinecones, and other natural objects will help your child practice creativity, strengthen small muscles, and see everyday objects in new ways.



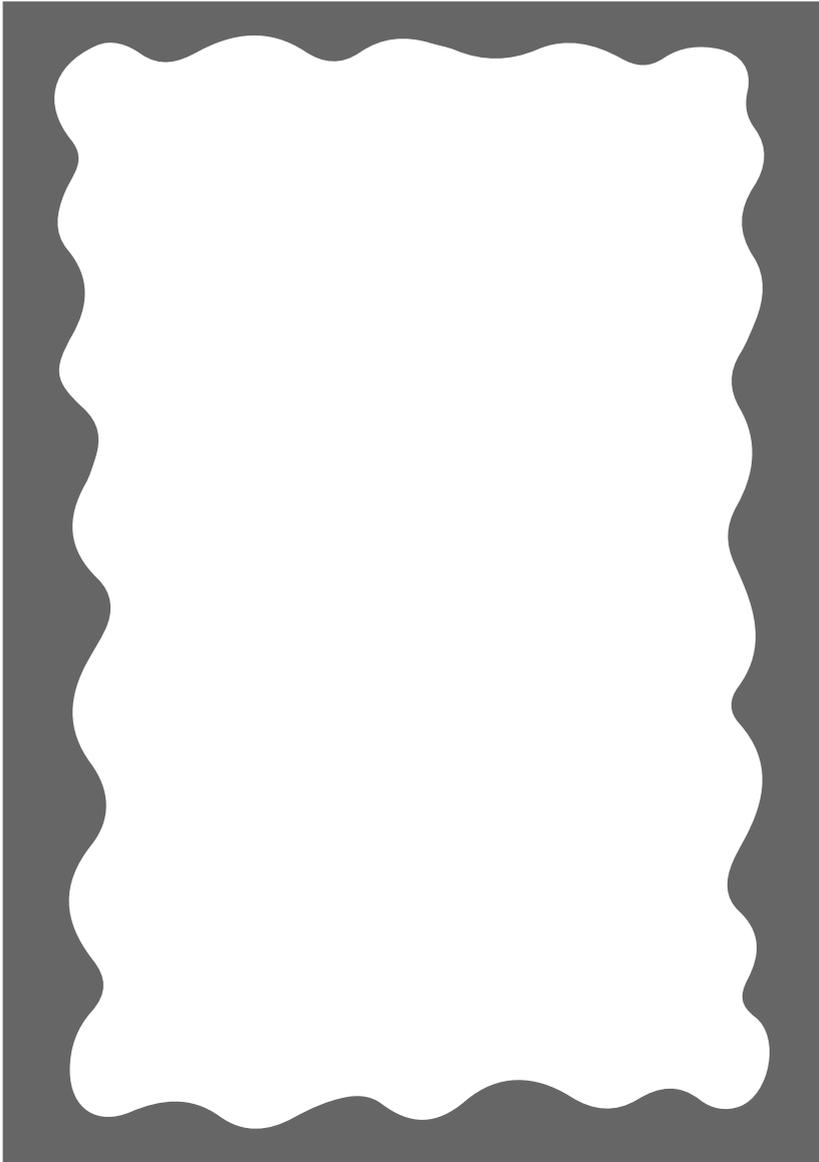
We Did It!

Don't forget to add this activity to your Sparkler scrapbook!



Fall Prints

Try printing with apples, pinecones, or other fall treasures from outdoors. See what shapes you can discover!



How many Sparkler friends do you see?

Which Mystery Message letters do you see?



Paint Your Pumpkin

Decorate a pumpkin

- 1 Pumpkins are one of the plants people harvest in the fall. Sometimes, people decorate pumpkins!
- 2 Let's paint our pumpkin. Should we paint a design on it ... or a picture ... or a face?
- 3 Look what we created! Let's paint some more.



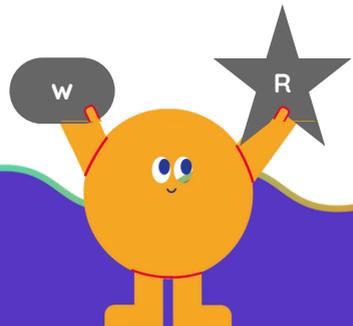
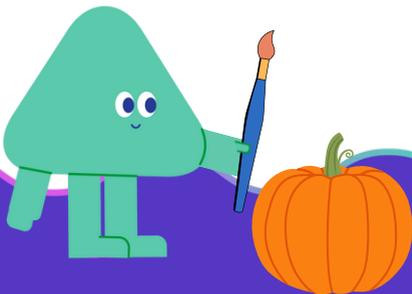
Mind

Painting and decorating a pumpkin will help your child practice creativity, focus, and using descriptive language to share their ideas.



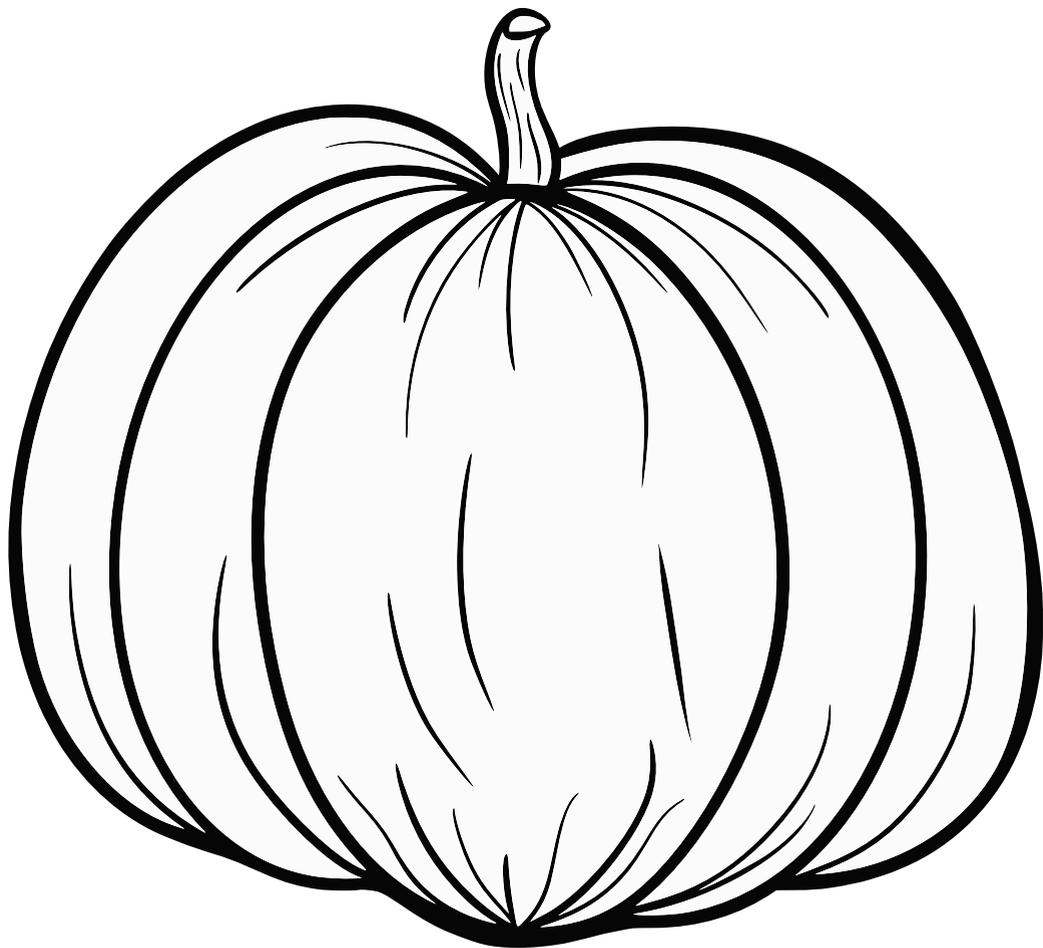
We Did It!

Don't forget to add this activity to your Sparkler scrapbook!



Paint Your Pumpkin

Color a design to decorate your pumpkin!



How many Sparkler friends do you see?

Which Mystery Message letters do you see?



Bob for Apples

Collect apples to grow muscles!

- 1 Let's bob for apples!
- 2 Use these tongs and see if you are able to pick up one of the apples floating in the water..
- 3 It's tough to grab the slippery apples! Let's try one more time.

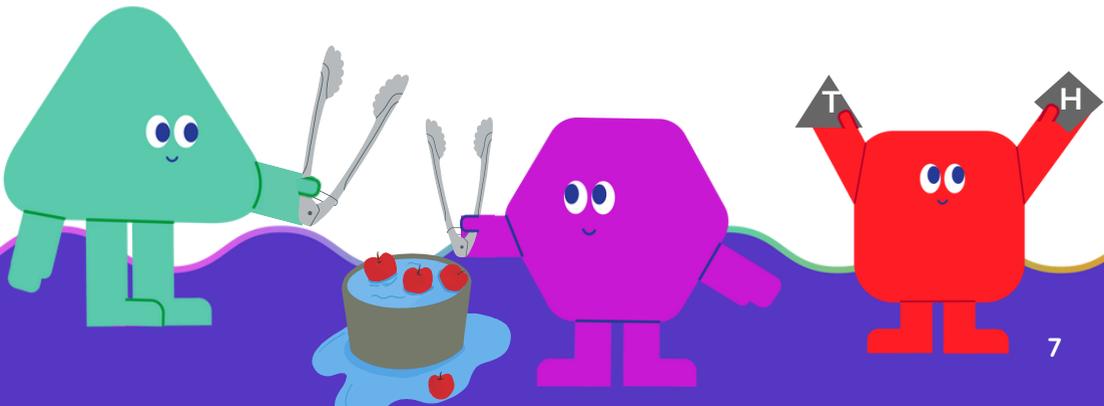
 Body

Bobbing for apples helps children practice gross motor skills as they reach, stretch, and balance, while also building fine motor skills by using their hands and fingers to hold and squeeze.



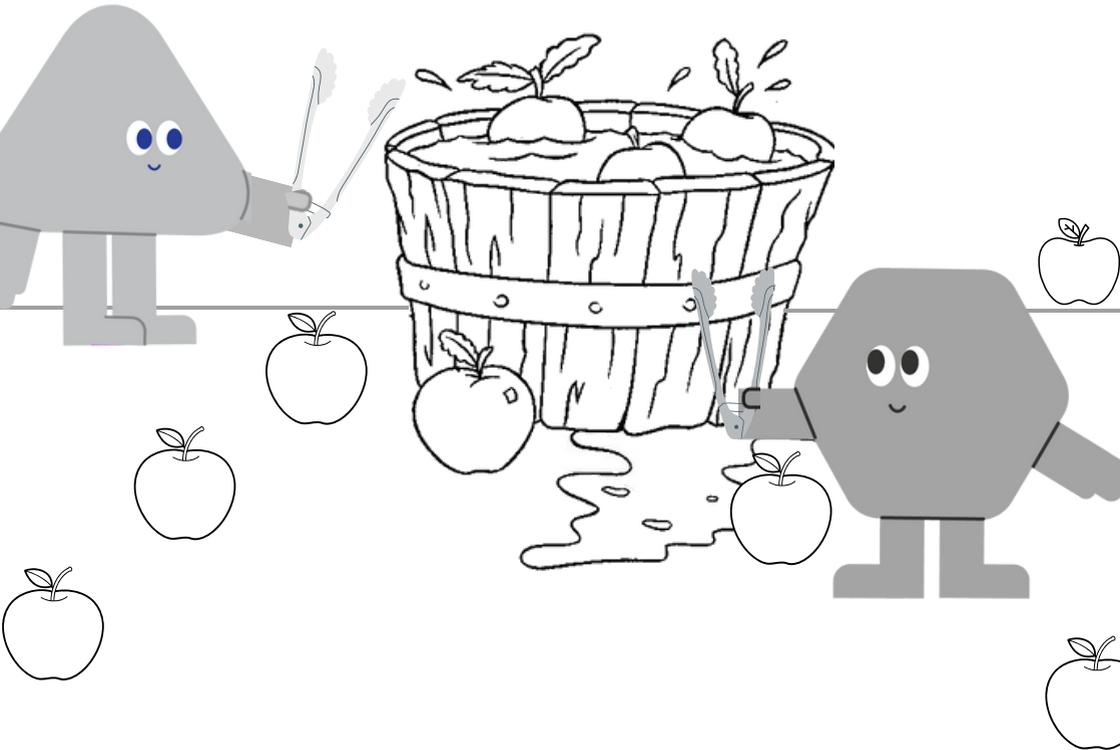
We Did It!

Don't forget to add this activity to your Sparkler scrapbook!



Bob for Apples

Look! Our Sparkler friends are bobbing for apples. Can you count the apples in the picture and color them in?



How many Sparkler friends do you see?

Which Mystery Message letters do you see?



Autumn Sorting

Sort nature's bounty

- 1 Let's go outside and collect nature items! There are so many different seeds and leaves that fall from trees and flowers to the ground in the autumn. Let's bend down to pick them up and put them into a bag, basket — or just into our pockets!
- 2 Let's sort the items in our collection. Let's put the leaves in one pile, the pinecones in another pile, and the acorns in another pile. We can create an "other" pile if we've collected other types of natural objects.
- 3 Now, let's sort our items in another way. We can sort by size or by color. What other ways can we arrange our fall nature items?



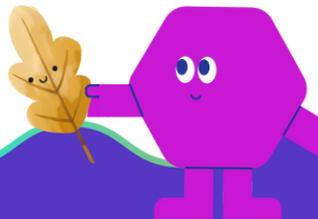
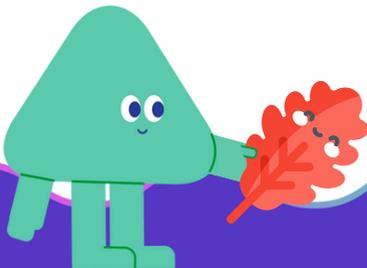
Mind

Collecting and sorting will help your child practice noticing details, recognizing patterns, and organizing ideas.



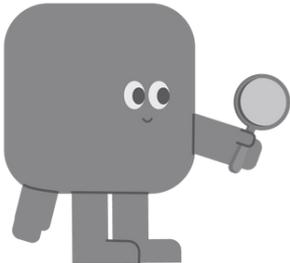
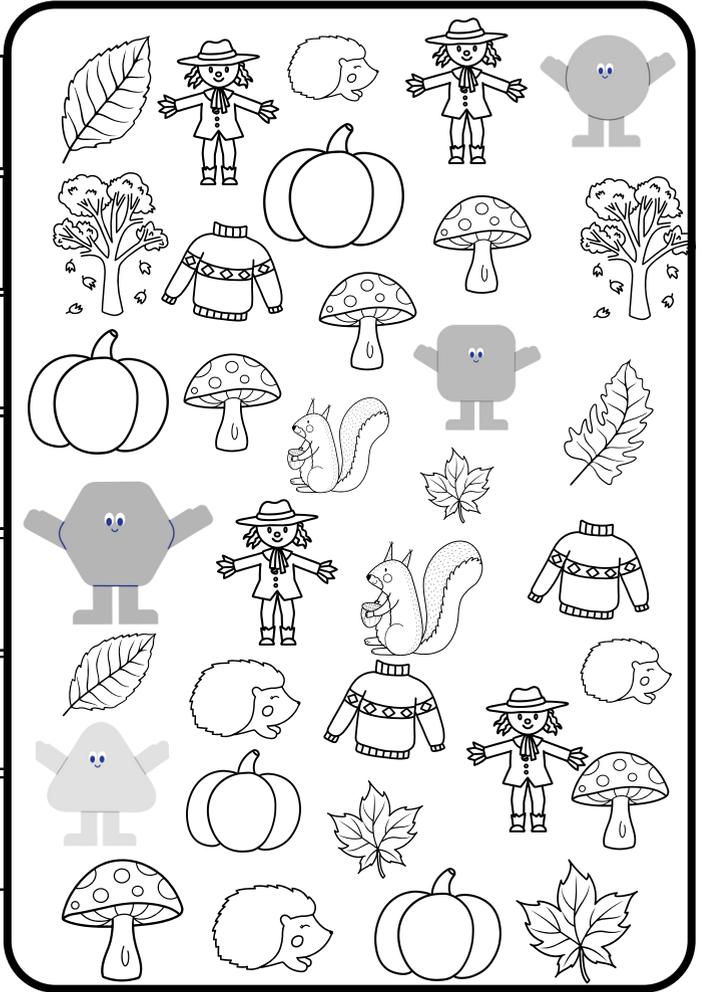
We Did It!

Don't forget to add this activity to your Sparkler scrapbook!



Autumn Sorting

Help our Sparkler friend sort the fall items.
Can you count how many are in each group?



How many Sparkler friends do you see? _____

Which Mystery Message letters do you see? _____



Pinecone Bird Feeder

Make a bird snack

- 1 It can be hard for birds to find food in the fall. Let's make a snack for them! I've tied a string around the top of a pinecone so that our bird feeder will be easy to hang up for the birds.
- 2 Let's use a popsicle stick to spread nut butter (or seed butter) on the pinecone's scales. Then, we can roll the pinecone in birdseed!
- 3 Let's hang our bird feeder in a tree for the birds. How do you think they will feel when they discover this yummy treat?

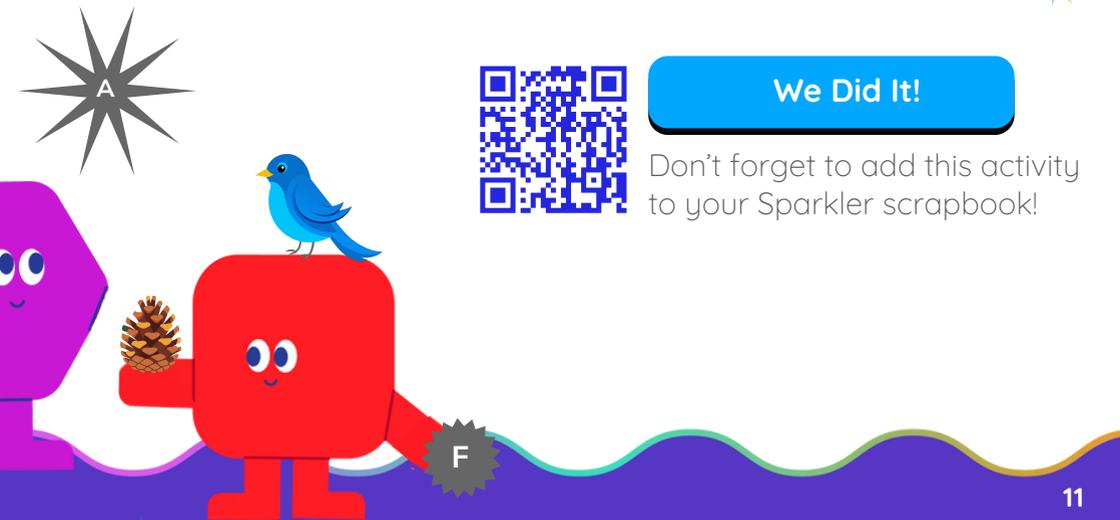
Heart

Making a bird feeder will help your child practice caring for animals, strengthen small muscles, and build empathy.



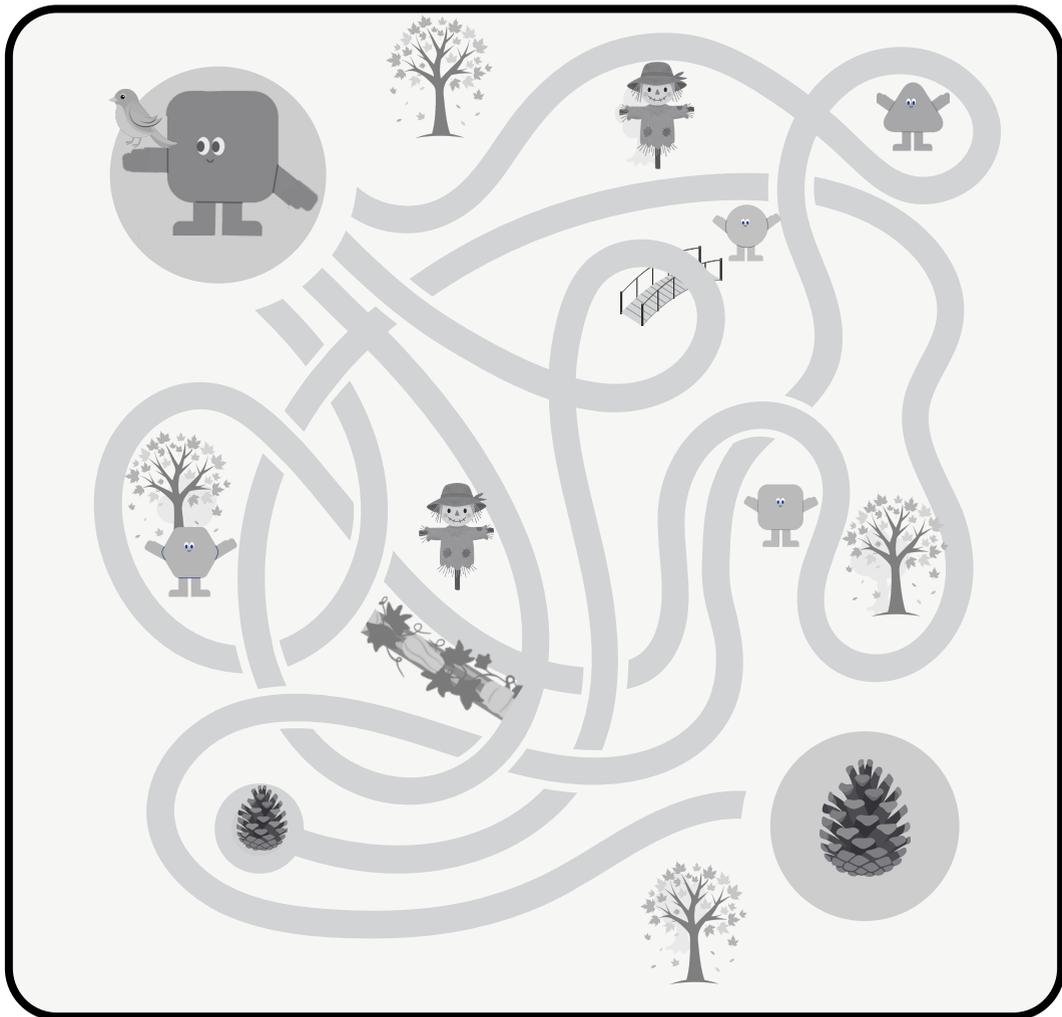
We Did It!

Don't forget to add this activity to your Sparkler scrapbook!



Pinecone Bird Feeder

Let's help our Sparkler friend feed a bird by finding the pinecones!



How many Sparkler friends do you see?

Which Mystery Message letters do you see?



Seed Stick

Make art with pumpkin seeds

- 1 Let's make art with the seeds from our pumpkin!
- 2 Start by squeezing glue all around the piece of cardboard. Let's watch the glue drip all around.
- 3 Now, let's pick up a pumpkin seed and stick it into the glue. Can you cover all of the glue with pumpkin seeds? Let's let the glue dry and then admire the pumpkin seed masterpiece you created!

Body

Making art with pumpkin seeds will help your child practice fine motor skills, notice patterns, and create their own masterpiece.



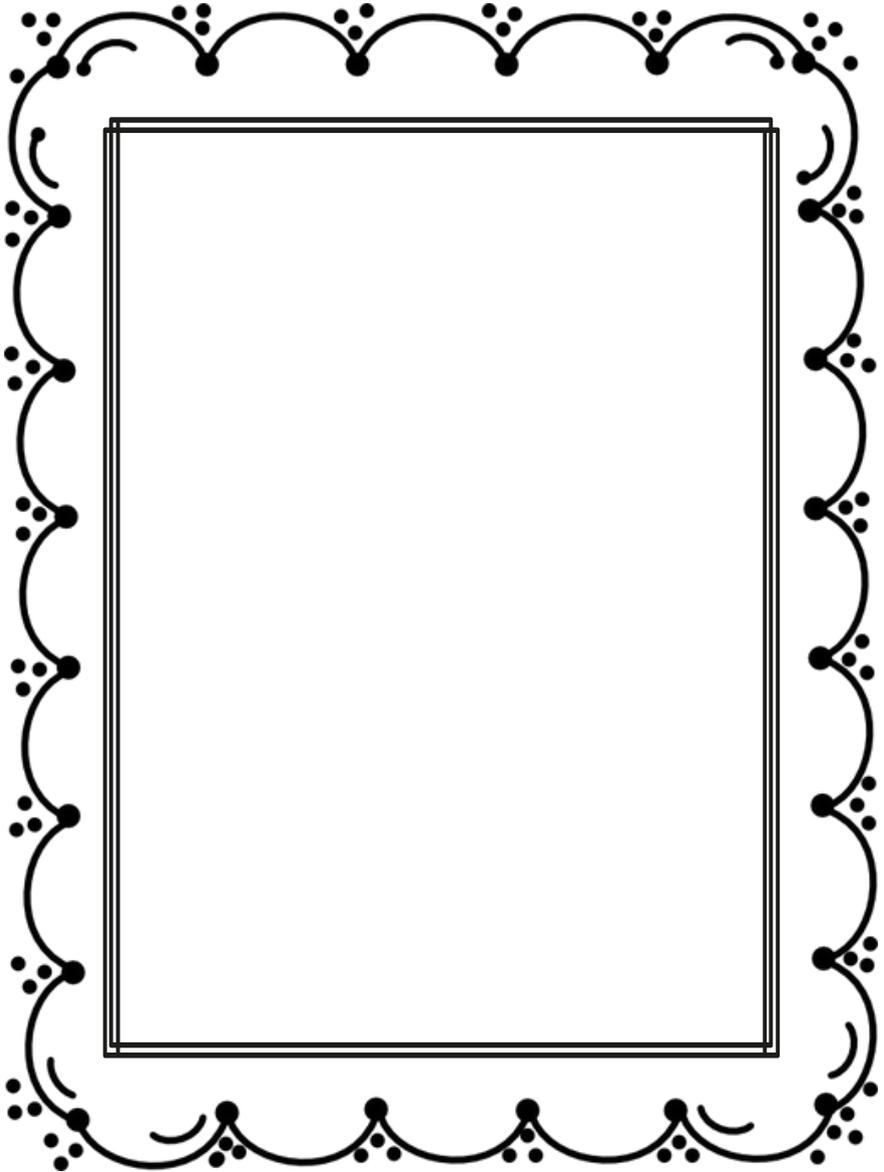
We Did It!

Don't forget to add this activity to your Sparkler scrapbook!



Seed Stick

Glue your pumpkin seeds inside the frame, then add color with markers to complete your masterpiece!



How many Sparkler friends do you see?



Which Mystery Message letters do you see?

Fall Walk

Observe the Fall

- 1 Let's go on a walk outside and look for signs of fall!
- 2 The air feels cooler! The sun is rising later in the morning! Birds and butterflies are migrating south! The leaves are starting to change from green to brown, orange, yellow, and red! Acorns and leaves are falling off the trees! Let's see if we can spot any squirrels eating acorns and getting ready to hibernate for winter!
- 3 How many signs of fall can we spot as we walk around outside together?

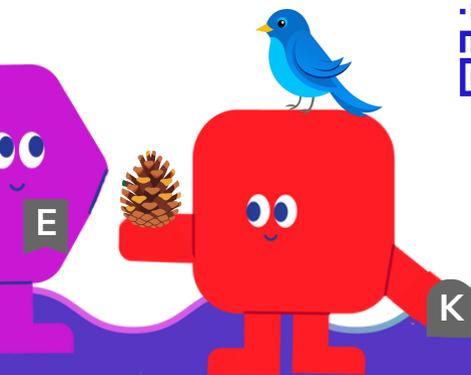
♥ Heart

Going on a fall walk will help your child practice noticing changes in nature, build curiosity, and use words to describe what they see.



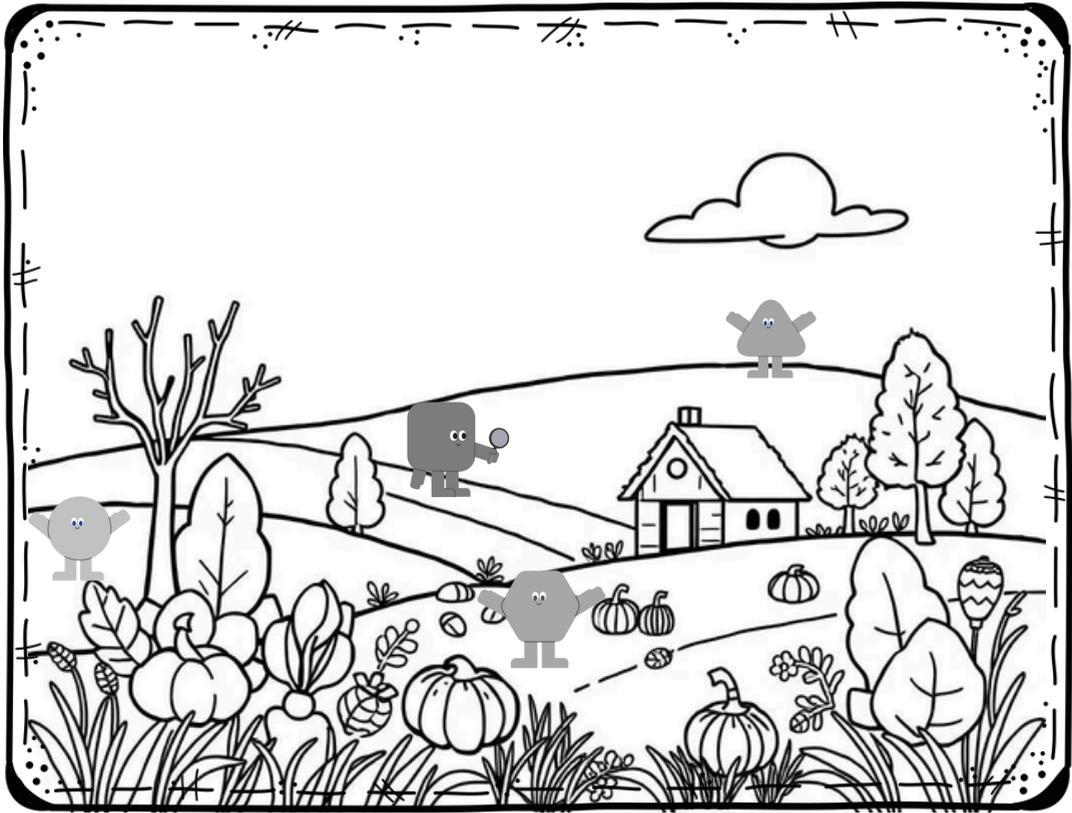
We Did It!

Don't forget to add this activity to your Sparkler scrapbook!



Fall Walk

Our Sparkler friends went for a fall walk. Can you help discover all the fall items in the picture?



How many Sparkler friends do you see?

Which Mystery Message letters do you see?



Unlock the Mystery Clue!

Fill in the letters to unlock the hidden message!



Key : Write each letter on the symbol.





Keep learning and growing together every day with Sparkler!

Learn about all the milestones your child is achieving, play to learn every day, and connect to someone who can help you if you have questions or need support.

Questions?

Questions about Sparkler?
Email support@playsparkler.org

