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May 2017

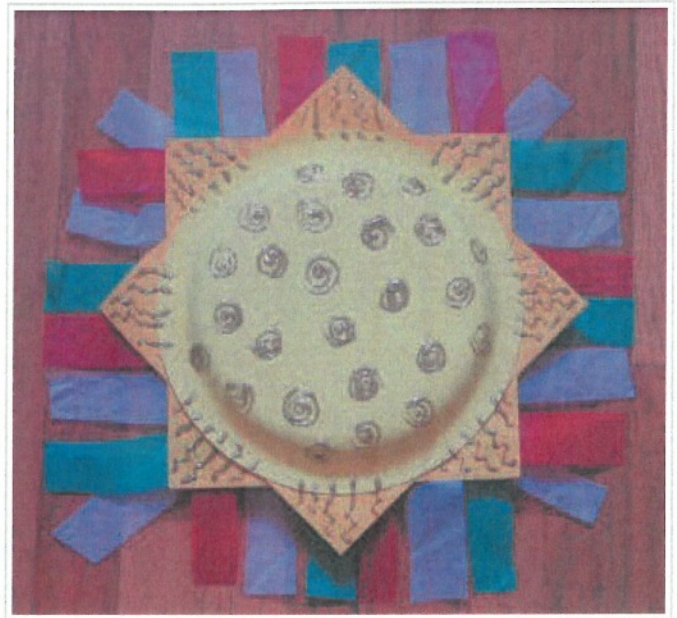
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 Hawaiian Lei Day and Mother Goose Day	2 Brothers and Sisters Day	3 Make a mystery bag. Put small items inside a paper bag. Have your child reach in and guess each item.	4 Star Wars Day	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 Nurses Day
7 Lemonade Day	8 No Socks Day	9 National Teachers Day	10 Let your child help you prepare a meal that includes an item starting with H (hint: ham, hummus, honey).	11 Eat What You Want Day	12 Limerick Day	13 Frog Jumping Day
14 Mother's Day	15 Straw Hat Day L. Frank Baum's Birthday (The Wizard of Oz)	16 Drawing Day Margaret Rey's Birthday (Curious George)	17 Teach your child "Humpty Dumpty" today. Help draw a picture of Humpty before and after.	18 Museum Day	19 Teach your child the song "The Itsy Bitsy Spider." Be sure to do the hand motions.	20 Armed Forces Day
21 Take a walk and talk about the different colors of the flowers you see.	22 Look for objects that are purple today. Count how many you and your child find.	23 Lucky Penny Day Margaret Wise Brown's Birthday (Goodnight Moon)	24 Play music and dance to the beat. Stop the music and have your child freeze.	25 Tap Dance Day	26 Use chalk to draw large shapes outside. Have your child jump, inside and outside of each shape.	27 Take your child the park today. Count how many children are there.
28 Hamburger Day	29 Memorial Day	30 Water a Flower Day	31 How many books did you read together this month? Help your child count them.	Foster Care Month National Barbecue Month National Bike Month National Hamburger Month		

Mexican Noise Maker

Music is an important aspect of Mexican culture. Your child can make his very own percussion instrument using simple materials such as paper plates, construction paper and tissue paper. Here's how:

What You Need:

- 2 paper plates
- Yellow acrylic paint
- Paint brush
- 2 sheets of yellow construction paper
- Safety scissors
- Green, white and red tissue paper
- Markers and/or glitter glue
- Glue
- Dried beans or rice



What You Do:

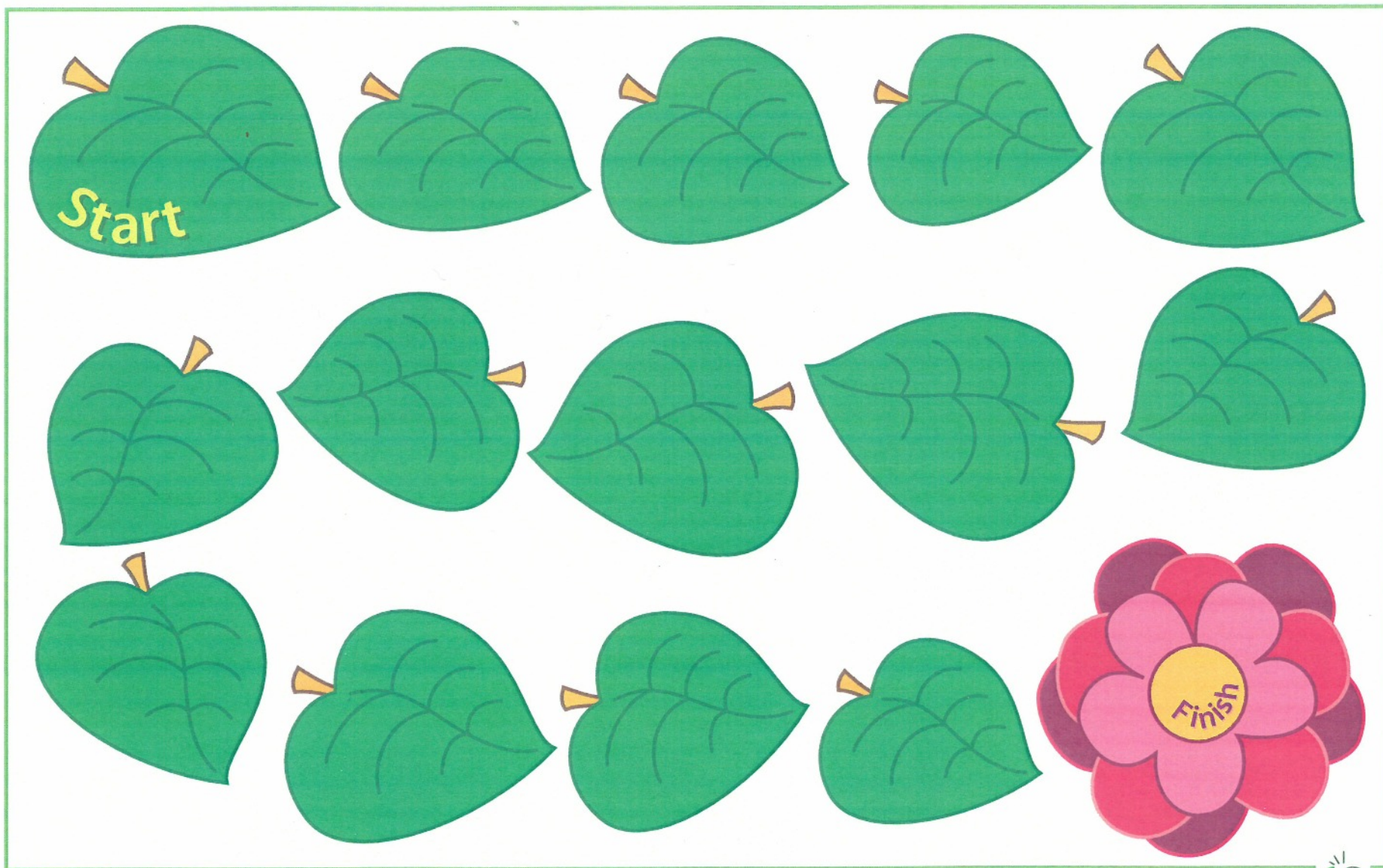
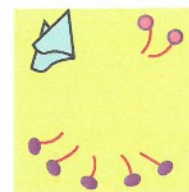
1. Ask your child to apply a coat of yellow paint to the bottom sides of each paper plate.
2. While the paint dries, help your child measure and cut the sheets of yellow construction paper so that they are square and the same width as the plates.
3. Overlap one piece of construction paper over the other, creating an 8-point star. Help your child glue them together.
4. Help your child cut the tissue paper into strips, about one inch wide and four inches long.
5. Ask your child to glue the strips of tissue paper around the edges of the 8-point star, alternating green, white and red strips in a clockwise direction until the entire star is trimmed.
6. When you sandwich them between the paper plates, triangular corners of the paper should protrude beyond the plates. These will be the rays of the sun.
7. When the plates are dry, encourage your child to decorate them with cheery pictures.
8. Apply glue to the inner rim of one paper plate and attach one side of the star to it.
9. Fill the second paper plate with a handful of dried beans or rice.
10. Apply glue around the inner rim of the second paper plate and stick the unattached side of star to it.
11. Allow the noisemaker to dry completely before your child plays with it.

For a little extra pizzazz, tie string to several jingle bells and glue or staple them around the rim of the noisemaker. If the plate is a little too large for your younger child to grasp, then try folding the plates in half and stapling them together so that you have a half-moon shape.

Penny Bug Race

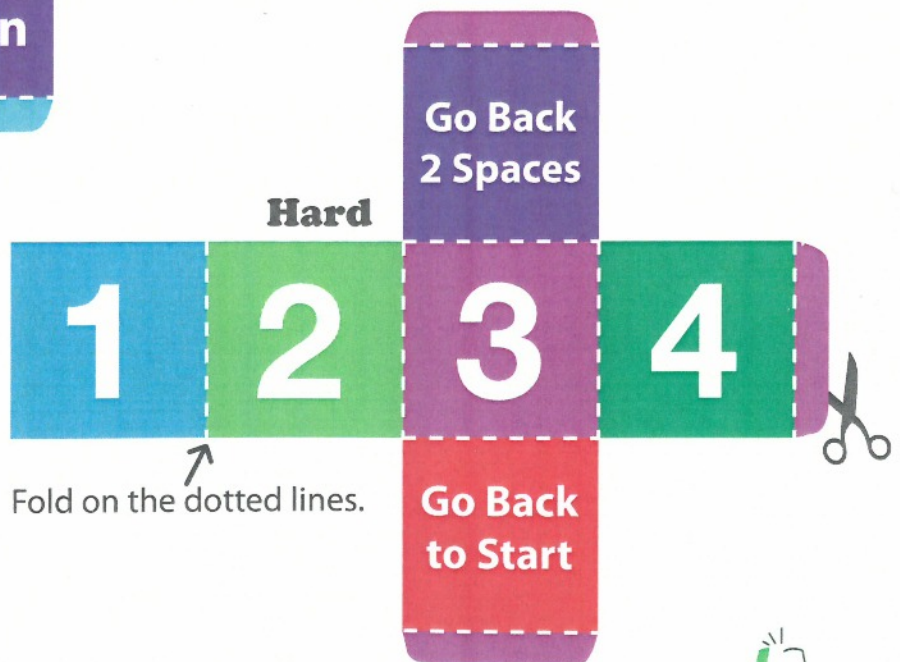
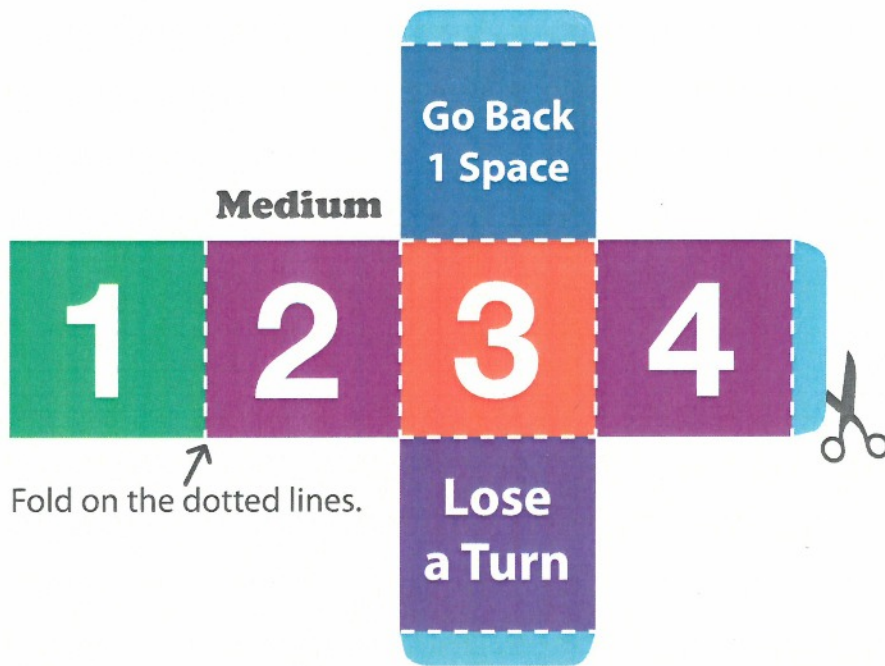
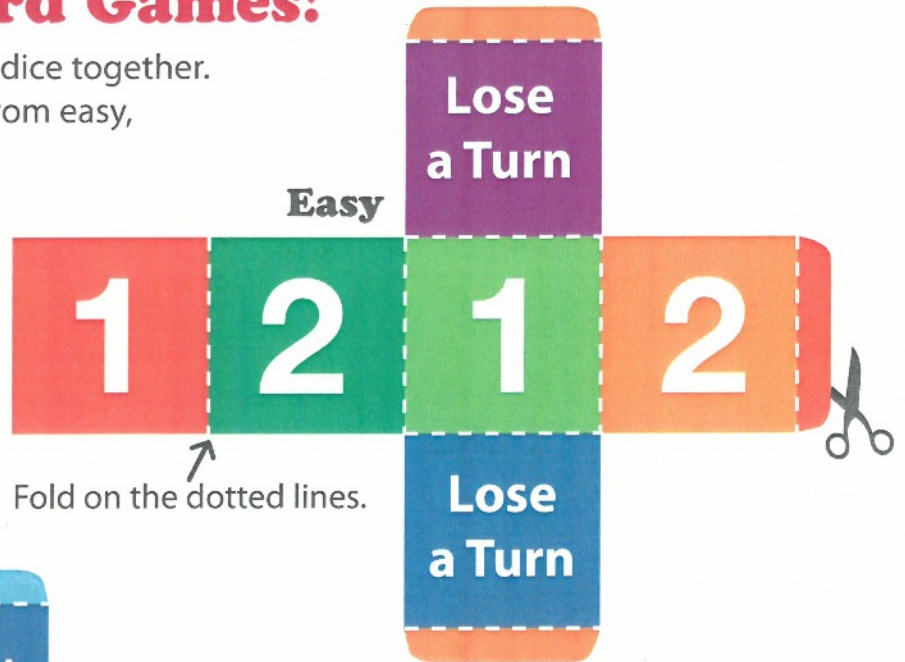
Have a grown-up help you with the die and game pieces.
Toss the die, then move your penny bug across the leaves to the finish!

Cut out the squares and tape a penny onto them to make a "Penny Bug" for the race!



Dice for the Board Games!

Ask a grown-up to cut and tape the dice together. Use one die per game. They range from easy, medium and hard.



Hamburger Cookies

Does your little one like to help you in the kitchen? If so, she'll love making and decorating these hamburger cookies! Made of simple Nilla wafers and frosting, these hamburger cookies will be sure to please. Make a plate full of these and serve them at your next BBQ or picnic for dessert, or pack it as a snack in her lunch for a special treat. Not only will she get practice developing her fine motor skills as she frosts the cookies, but she'll also be proud to share these with loved ones and friends!

What You Need:

- 1 box of vanilla wafer cookies, such as Nilla Wafers
- 1 box of chocolate mint cookies (like Keebler Grasshopper Cookies)
- 1 can of white frosting
- Food coloring
- 3 small bowls
- 3 spoons
- 1 butter knife
- 1 plate

What You Do:

1. Spoon some white frosting into each of the three bowls. Add red food coloring to the first bowl for the ketchup, yellow to the second bowl for mustard, and green to the third bowl for lettuce. Stir each one. Leave the remaining white frosting for the mayo.
2. With the knife, spread a little white frosting (mayo) on a Nilla Wafer (bun). Add one chocolate mint cookie for the burger. Spoon a dab of red frosting (ketchup), yellow frosting (mustard), and green frosting (lettuce) onto the Grasshopper Cookie (burger).
3. Add another Nilla Wafer on top of the frosting for the top bun.

Voila! Now your hamburger is finished. Enjoy!

