

Topic: Space

Subject: Maths

Activity 1 – Planet sorting and matching

Key areas of learning:

- Maths – Sequences / Matching / Sorting / Size Recognition
- Fine Motor Skills

What you will need:

- 2 Large pieces of paper
- Colouring pencils or crayons or paint
- Child scissors (Optional)
- Blu-tac

Keywords:

Sun, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Big, Little.

What to do:

- Watch this YouTube first to introduce the planet names to your child
- [Planet Song / Preschool Learning \(YouTube\)](#)
- On one large piece of paper draw 8 different size circles (draw around lids of different sizes if this helps, i.e. jar lids, milk tops, plates, cups etc)
- Colour each circle a different colour
- From smallest circle to the largest circle write their names on them in this order: Mars, Venus, Earth, Neptune, Uranus, Saturn & Jupiter (Mars is the smallest circle and Jupiter is the largest circle)
- If your child is confident with scissors, allow them to cut out the 8 circles. If they need help you can do hand over hand cutting with them.
- On the second large piece of paper, draw a large Sun on the left hand side and colour it yellow
- From the Sun, draw a straight line to the right, going to the end of the paper
- Place the 8 circles that you have cut out onto the line you have drawn on the large paper with the sun on it, in this order from the Sun. Nearest to the Sun is Mercury, then Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus & last is Neptune
- Draw around the cut out planets, so that their size is the same on the piece of paper with the Sun on (N.B. the planets will not be in size order of smallest to largest).

- Take the cut out planets off the paper & put some blu-tac on the back of them
- Get your child to match the cut out planets to the ones on the large paper with the sun on it

Extension:

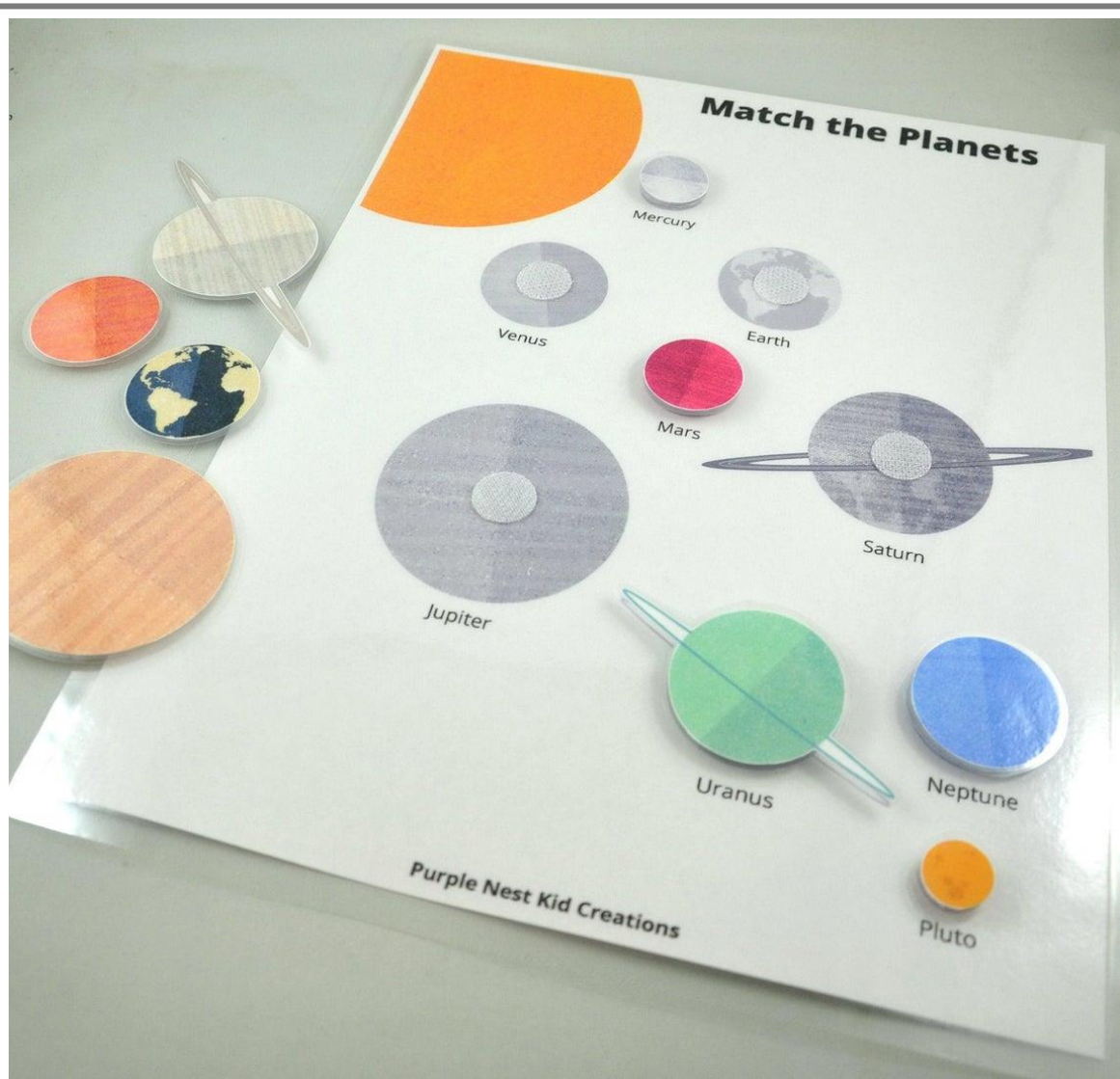
- Use questioning to develop this activity further. Ask questions like “Which planet is bigger, Saturn or Earth?” “What colour is Neptune?” “Which planet is next to the sun?”

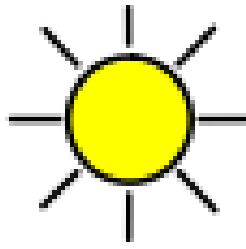
Attachments:

- Watch the first link below and you can have lots of fun dancing and exercising to the planets
- [Eight Planets / Dance Along /Space Song / Pinkfong Songs For Children \(YouTube\)](#)
- This second link below is a great short movie that takes you into Space, where you visit the different planets

[My Fantastic Field Trip To The Planets - \(YouTube Full Movie\) 35 Minutes](#)







sun



mercury



venus



mars



earth



saturn



jupiter



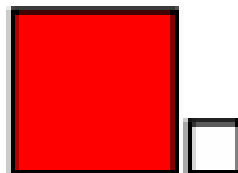
uranus



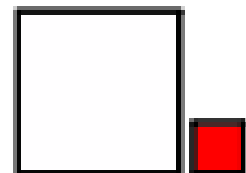
pluto



neptune



big



little

Activity 2 – Sorting aliens

Key areas of learning:

- Maths (Sorting)
- Creativity

What you will need:

- Alien template (see attachment)
- Eye template (see attachment)
- Glue
- Colouring pens/pencils

Preparation:

- Colour the eyes (red, yellow, blue)
- Cut eyes out ready for your child to sort.
- Cut the alien out ready for your child to colour in green.

Keywords:

- Alien, eye(s), green, red, blue, yellow,

What to do:

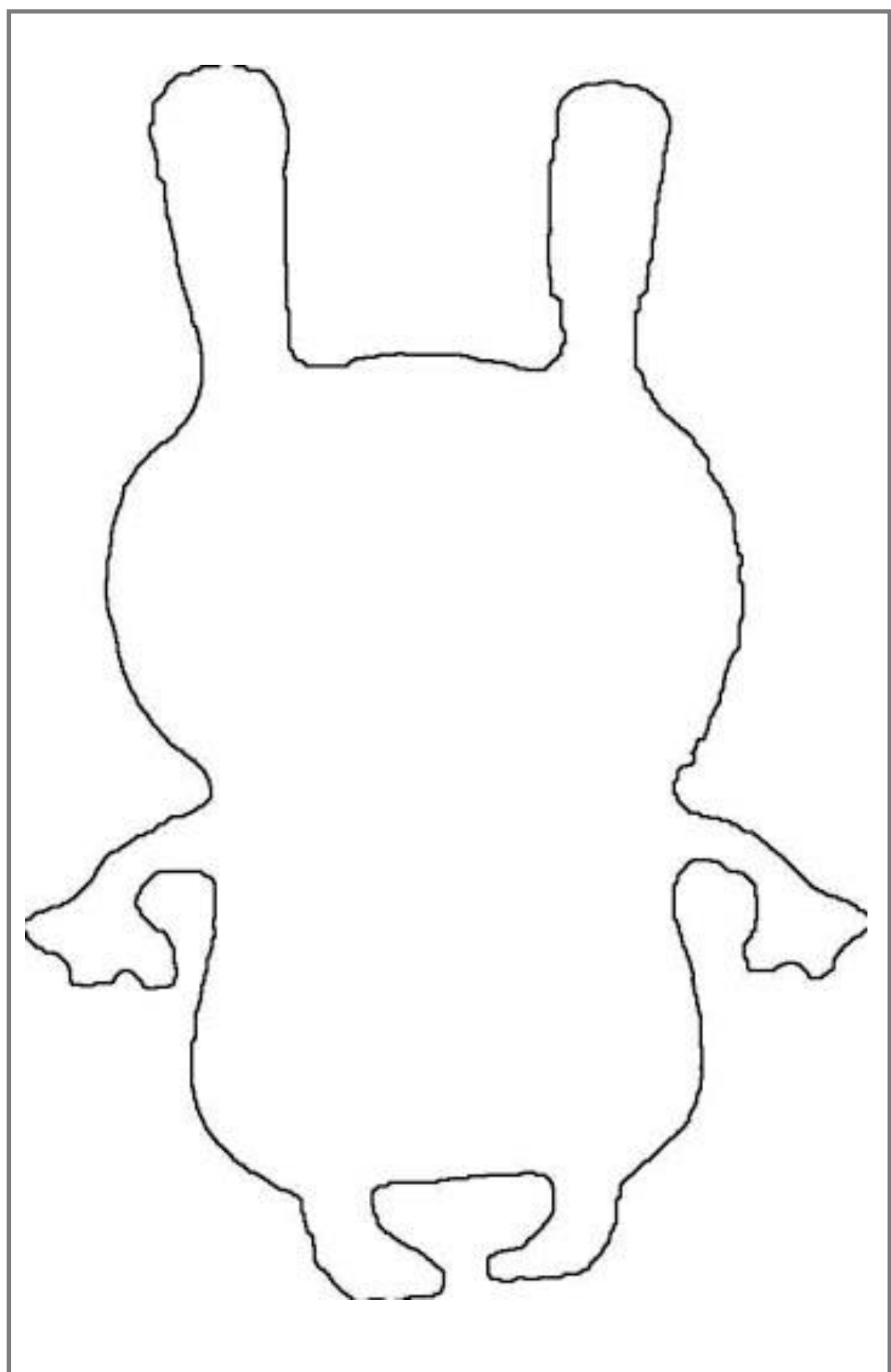
- Encourage your child to colour in the alien template. You can even encourage your child to draw their own alien.
- Lay out the coloured symbols which are attached. With the coloured eyes out and ask your child to sort them to where the symbols are, you may need to demonstrate this first.
- Ask your child to stick the symbols onto the alien, then match with the same coloured eyes

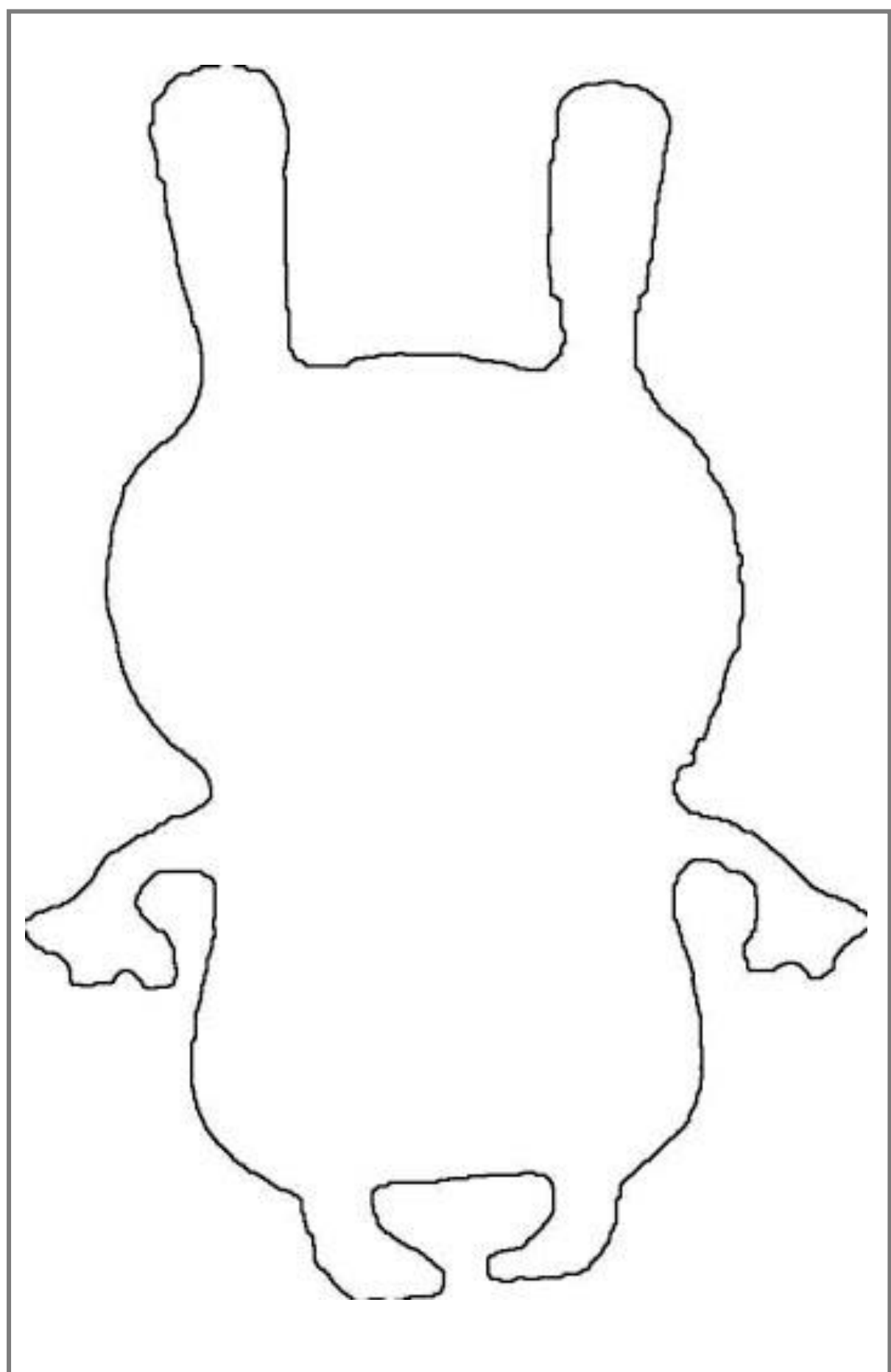
Extension:

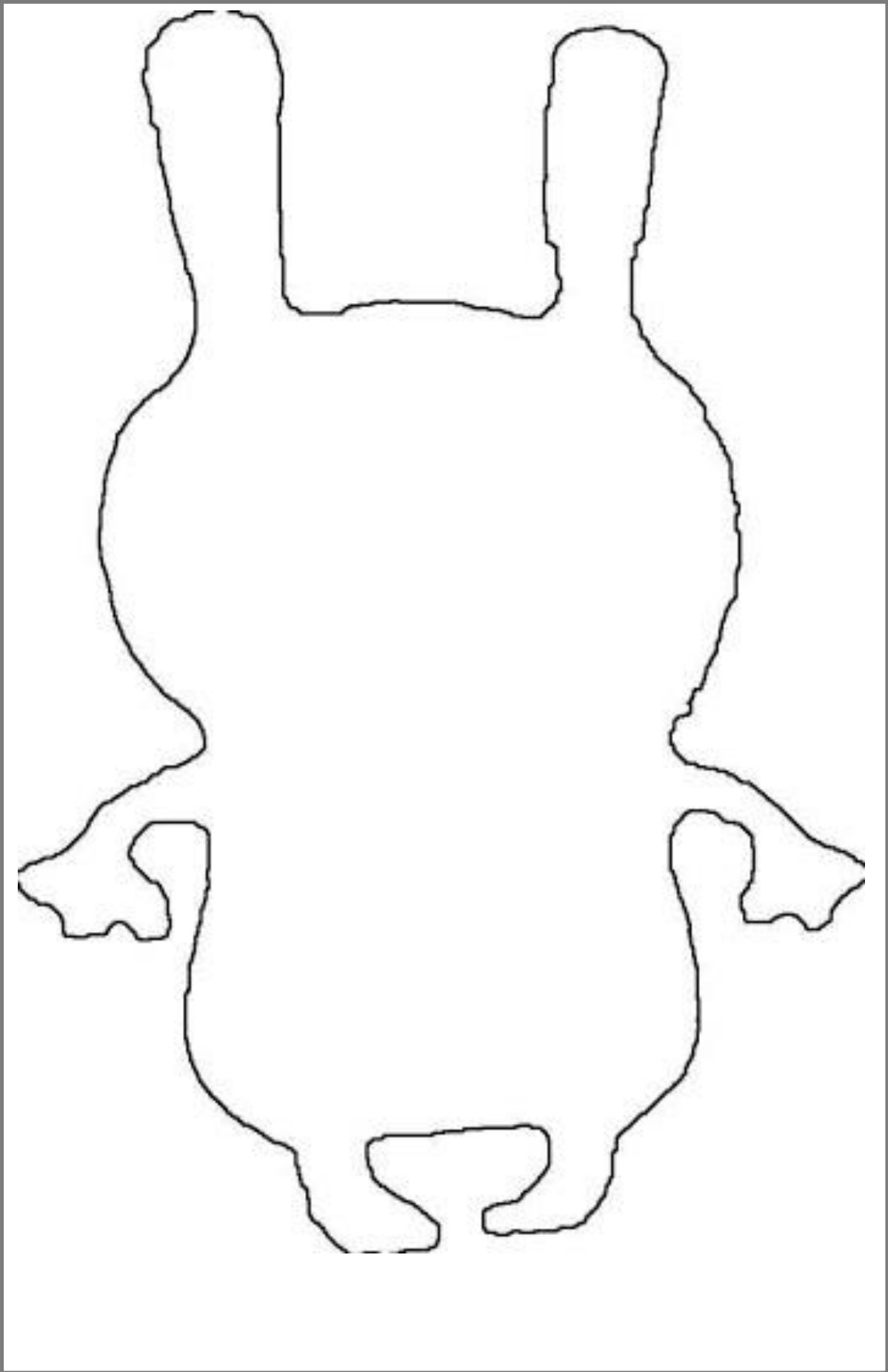
- Use questioning to extend the learning, e.g. “how many blue eyes?” If your child is able to, write the number down and encourage them to trace that number.

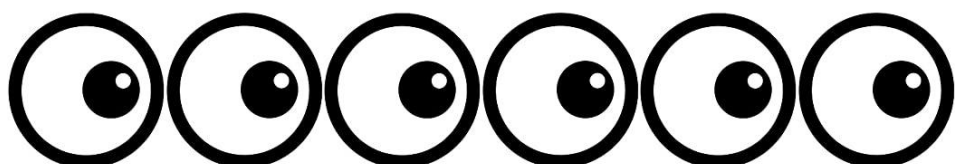
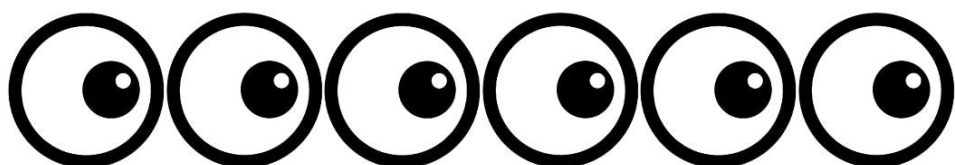
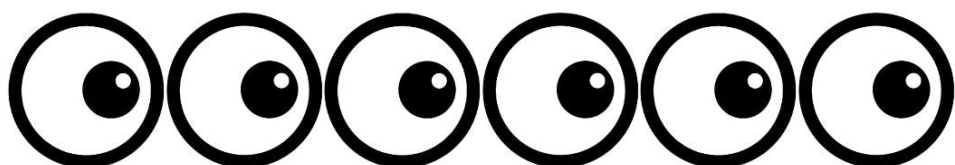
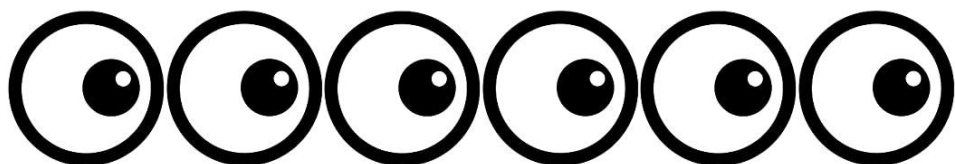
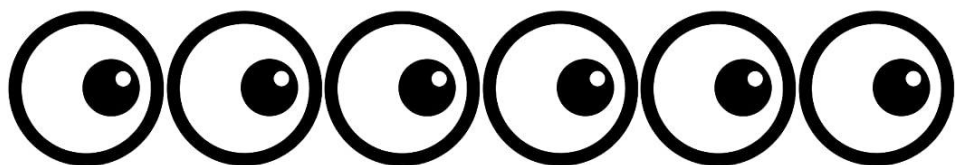
Attachments:

- See below.







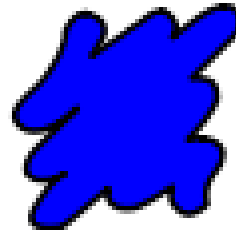




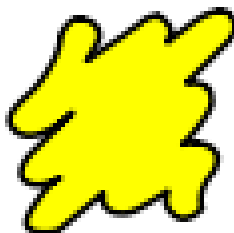
green



red



blue



yellow

1

1

2

2

3

3

4

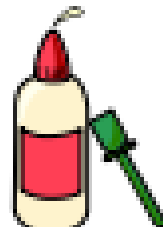
4

5

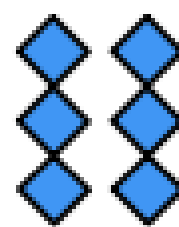
5



colour



glue



same

Activity 3 – Rocket counting

Key areas of learning:

- Maths - Number recognition
- Maths - Counting
- Communication
- Fine motor skills

What you will need:

- Background scene of moon, space and stars (to extend the activity you and your child can make your own starry scene using paints crayons pencils or even a collage from magazines and newspapers)
- Toilet roll cardboard tubes
- Sheet of rocket pictures to cut out
- Glue
- Numbers 1 – 10 symbols
- Rocket, moon and stars symbols
- Number tracing sheet

Keywords:

Numbers 1 – 10, moon, rocket, sky, stars

What to do:

- Cut out the rockets and help your child to stick them to the toilet roll tubes or just use the pictures if you prefer.
- Place the first rocket on the floor show your child the rocket symbol and say rocket. Ask them to say rocket if they can.
- Show your child the number 1 symbol and say 1. Place the second rocket, count along each rocket, show the number 2 symbol and say 2. Repeat up to 3, 5 or 10. Depending on your child's level. Encourage your child to repeat the numbers (if they are able to) after you or count themselves as they/you point at the numbers.
- You can say "the rockets are going to blast off to the moon in 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, BLAST OFF".
- Fly the rockets up to the stars and moon scenes and repeat the counting as above as they fly through the stars or land on the moon.
- Trace numbers 1-10.

Extension:

- Put a number of rockets on the moon, or in the stars, lay out the number symbols and ask your child "How many rockets can you see?"
- Ask your child to put 3 rockets onto the moon. Repeat this with various different numbers of rockets.
- Put a number of rockets into the stars scene and then ask your child to take 1 rocket away. Repeat taking away more rockets. How many is left?
- Write out numbers 1 – 5 and ask your child to copy them or ask them to write numbers 1-10 themselves.

Can you trace the numbers?

1 2 3

4 5

1

one

2

two

3

three

4

four

5

five

6

six

7

seven

8

eight

9

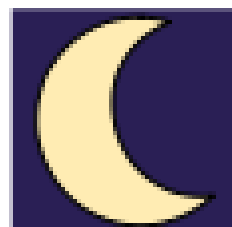
nine

10

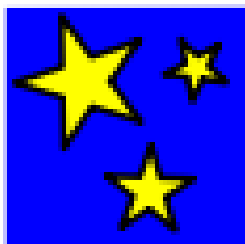
ten



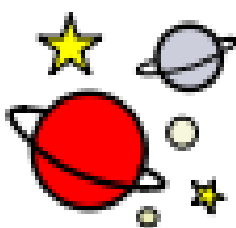
rocket



moon



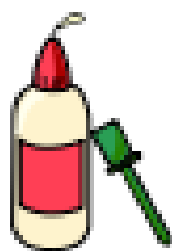
stars



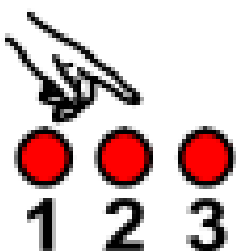
space



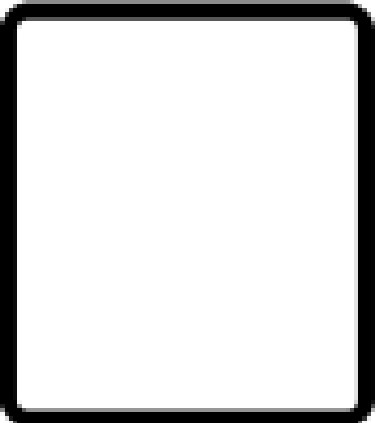
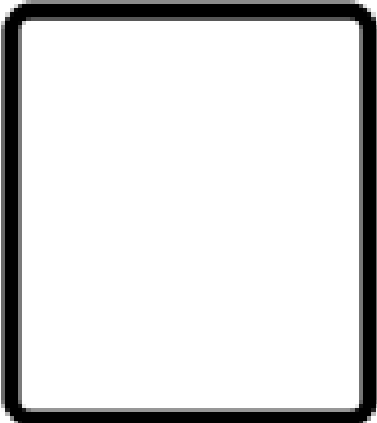
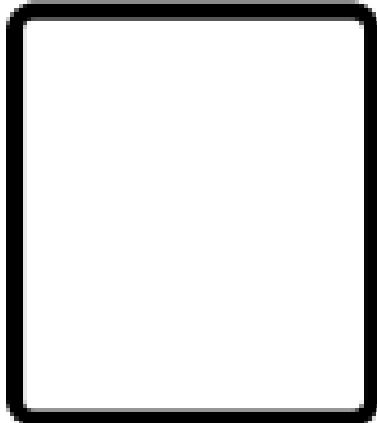
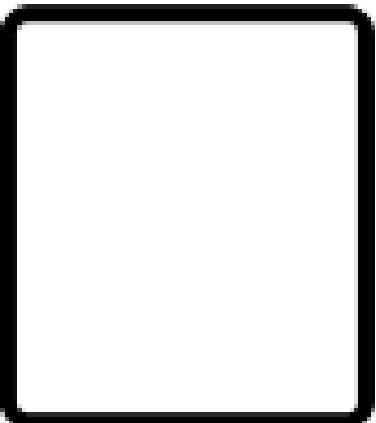
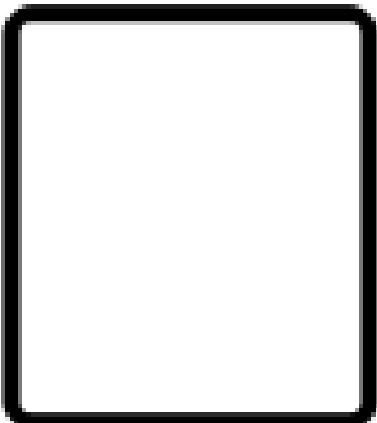
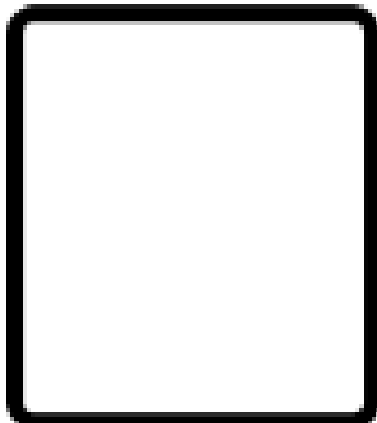
stick

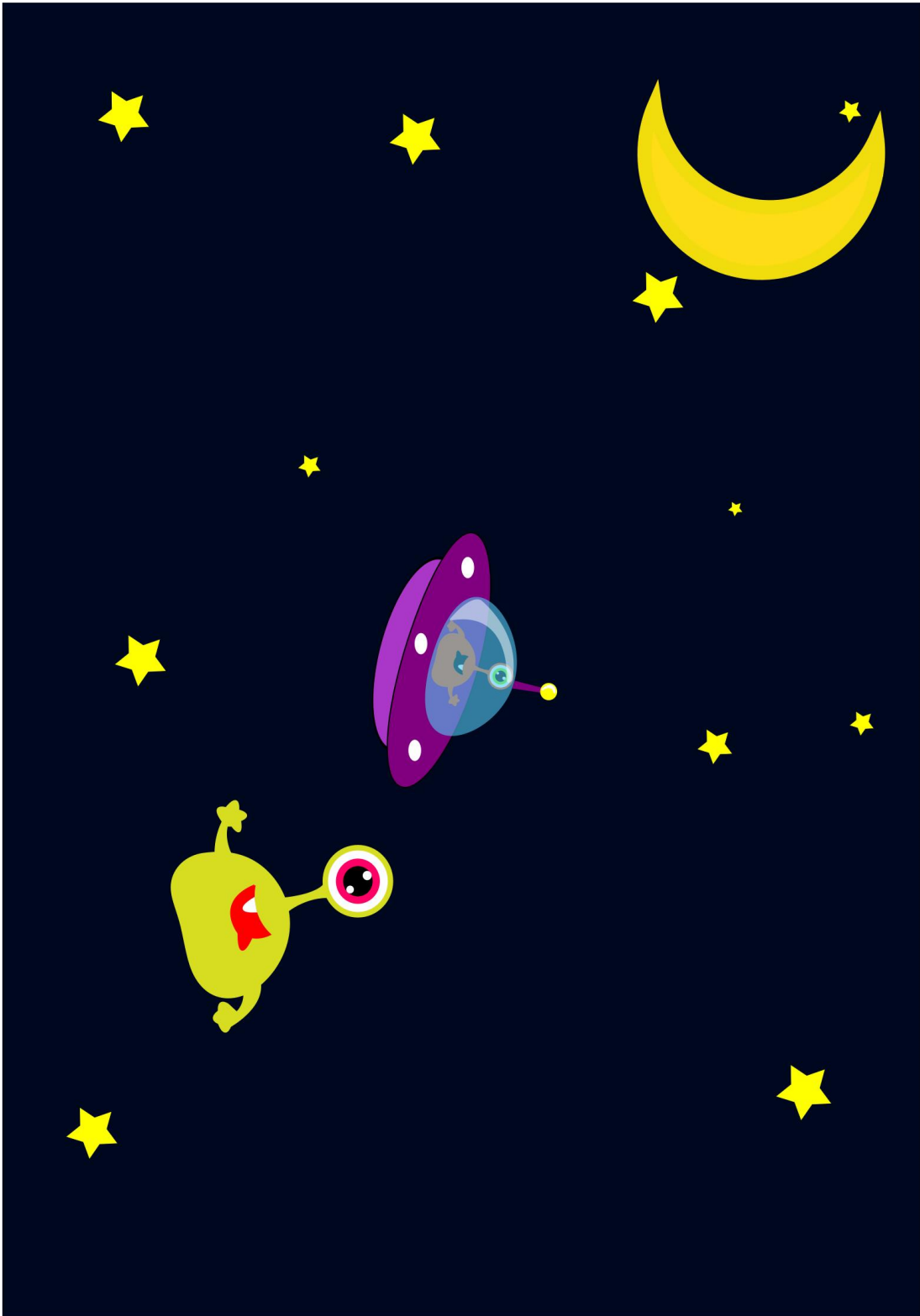


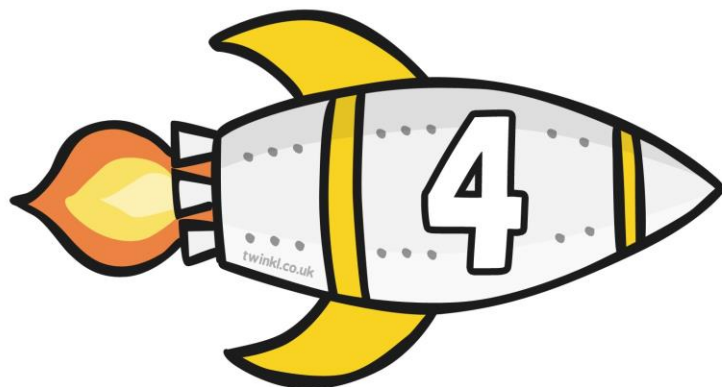
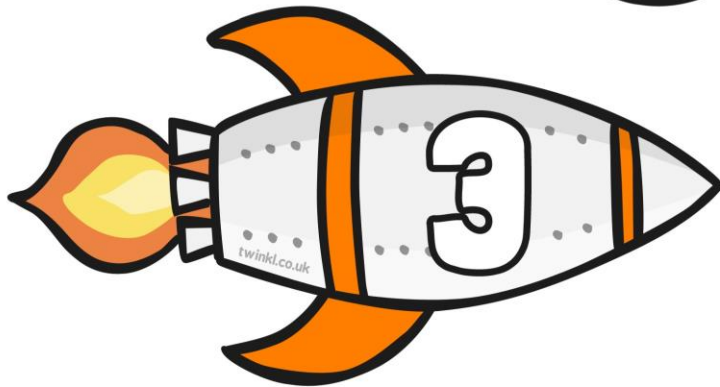
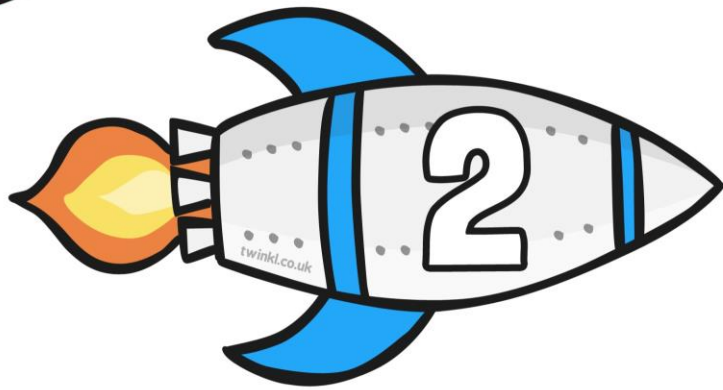
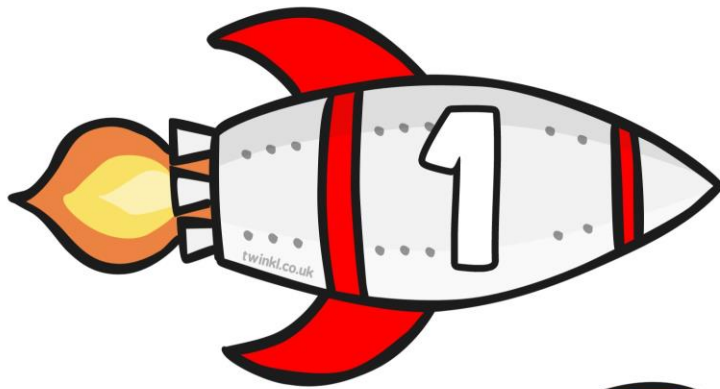
glue

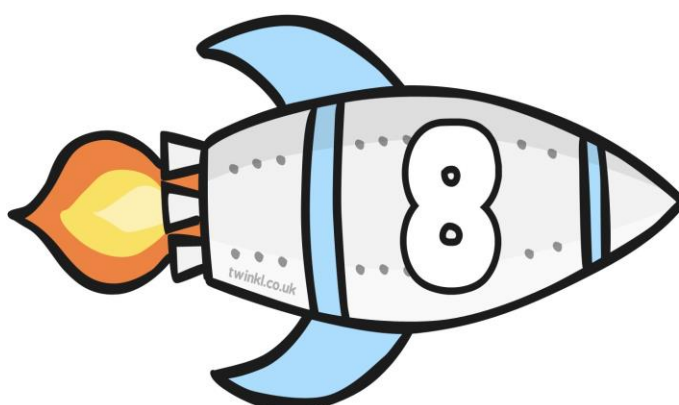
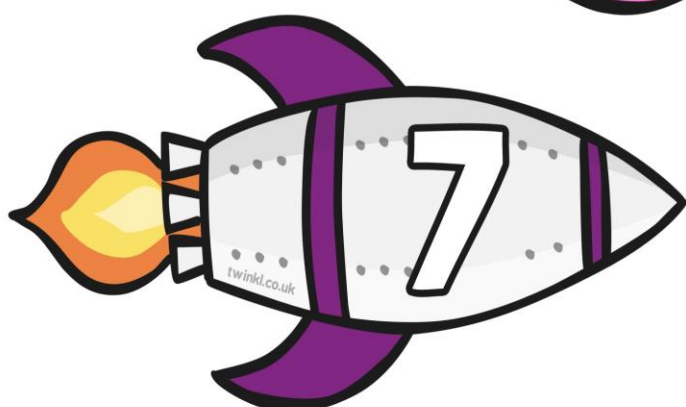
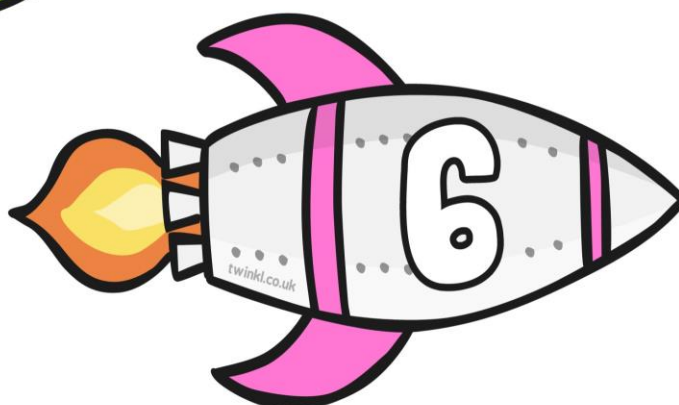
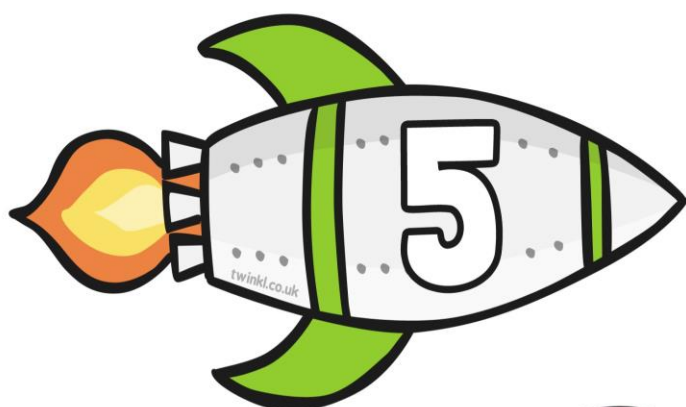


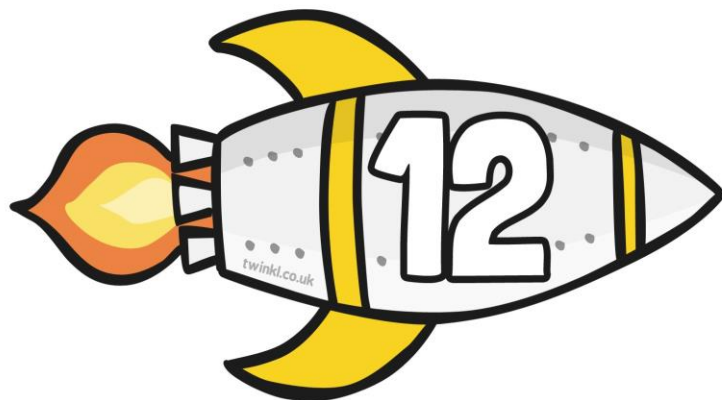
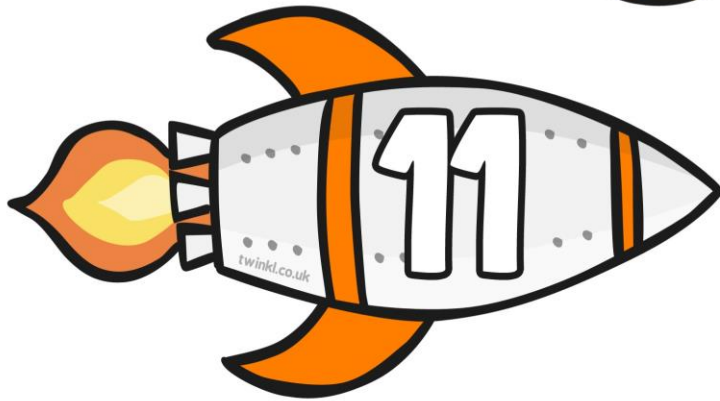
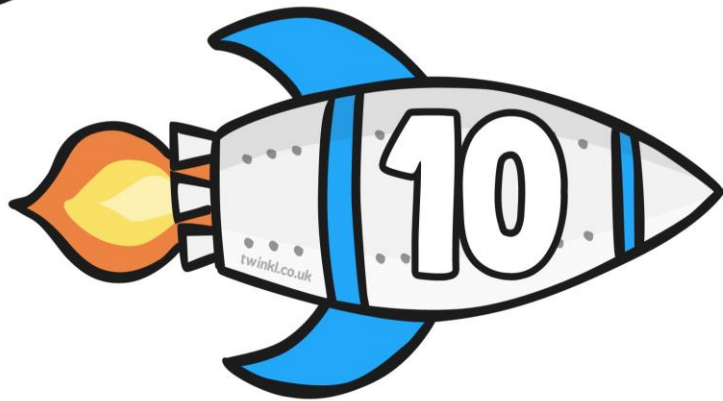
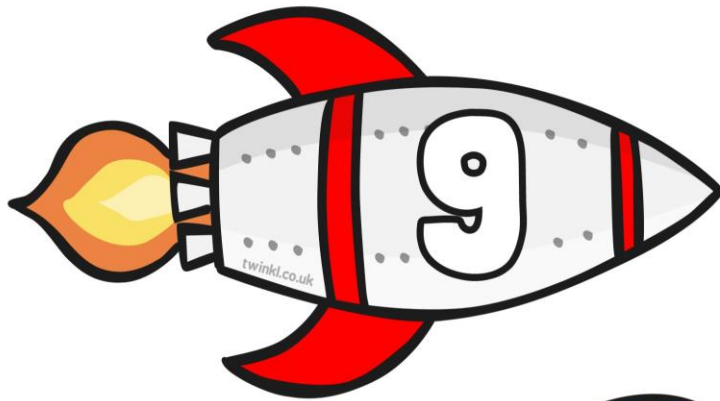
count











Activity 4 – Shape rocket

Key areas of learning:

- Maths - Shapes
- Fine motor

What you will need:

- A4 coloured paper/ plain white paper/ cardboard
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Shapes/ objects around the house (will be fine if you don't have shapes)
- Coloured pens/pencils (if you don't have coloured paper to colour the paper)

Keywords:

Circle, square, triangle, rectangle, stick, same, numbers

What to do:

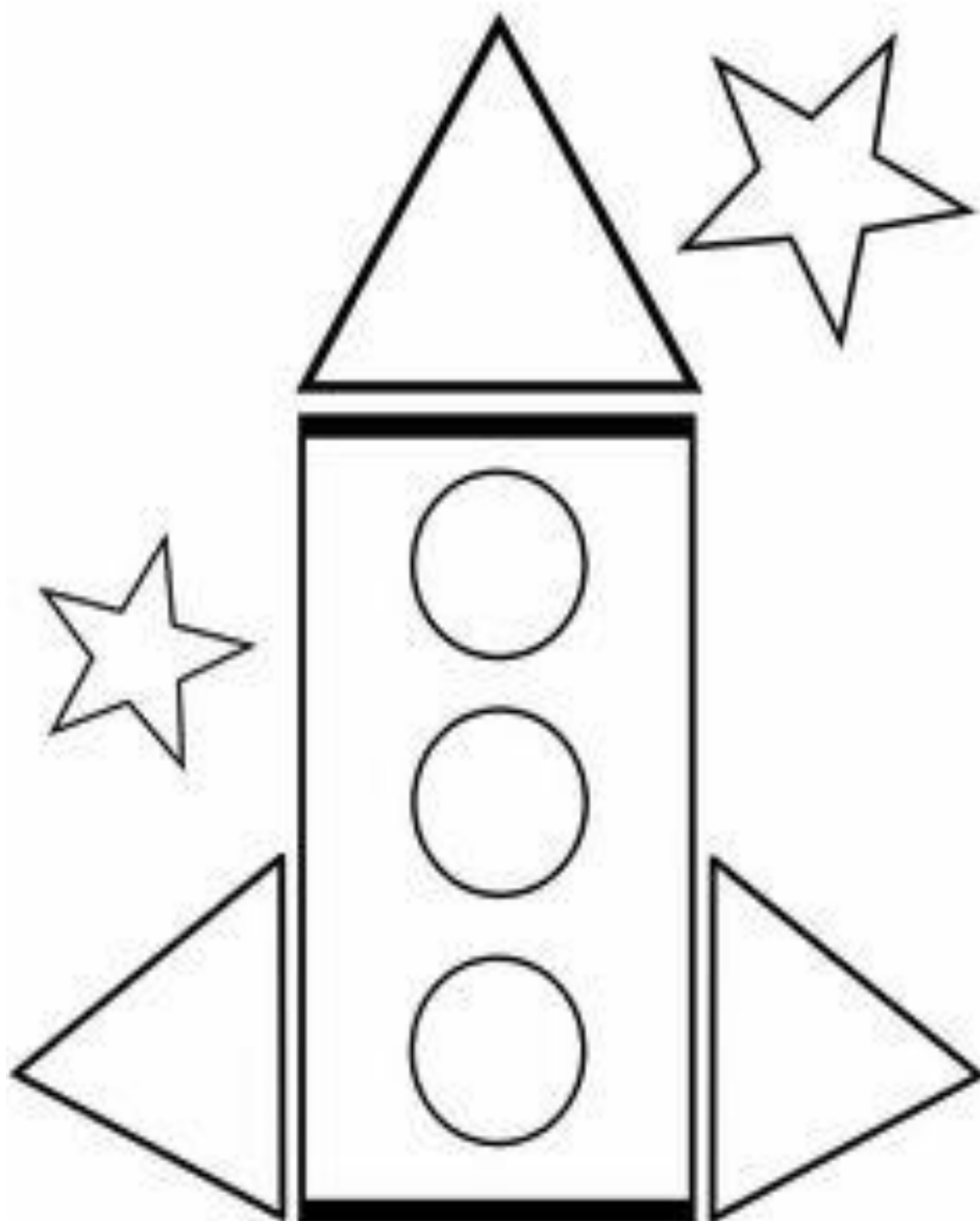
- Draw around the different shapes/objects and cut them out. Your child can cut them if you feel appropriate.
- Encourage your child to stick the shapes onto the paper/cardboard to make a rocket. Name each shape as they stick them down. You can use the template provided for children to match the shapes.
- Once it's all stuck down and you didn't use coloured paper you can let your child choose what colours they want to use to colour in their rocket ship

Extension:

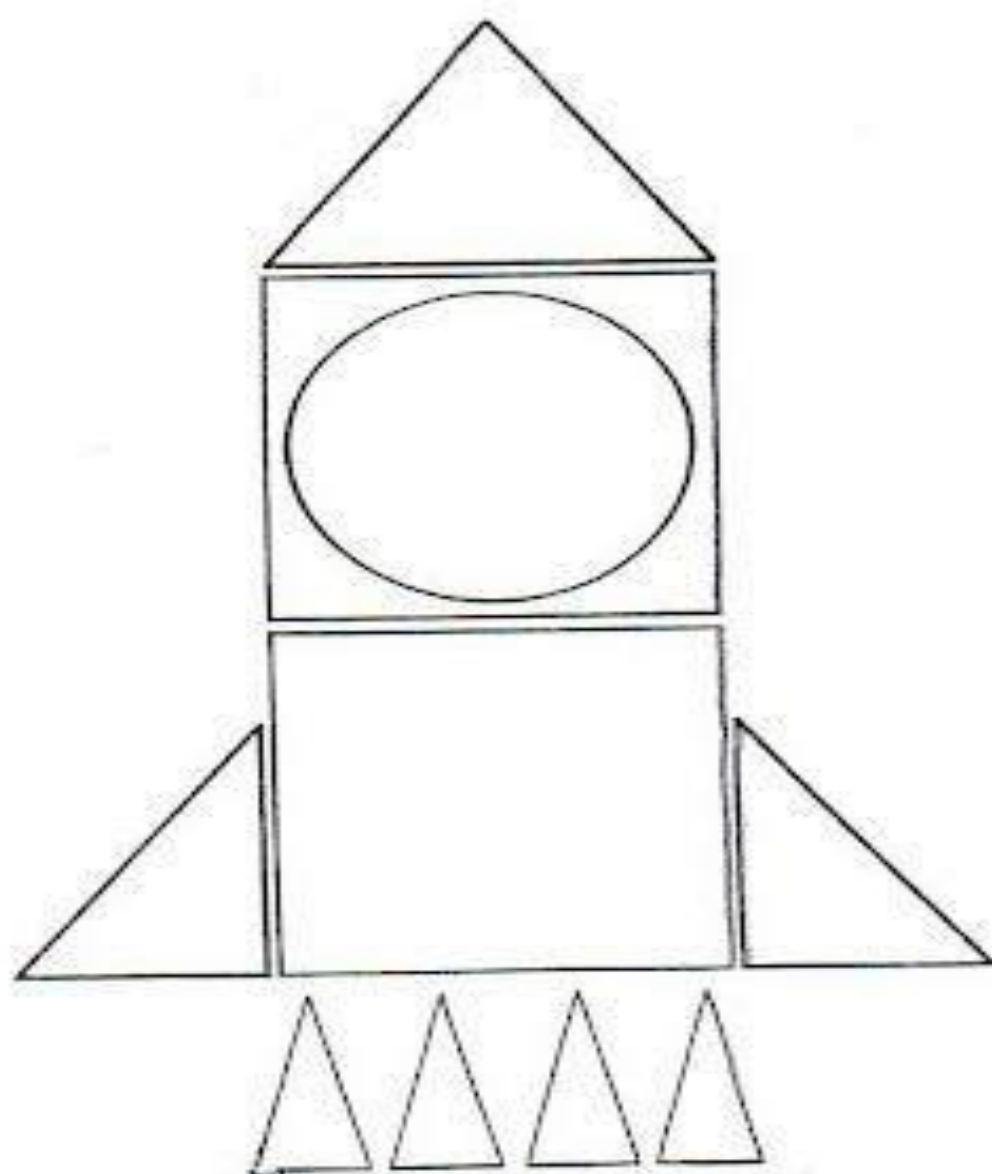
- Use questioning to develop this activity further. Ask questions such "what colours can you see?", "how many circles are there?", "do you think the rocket will go fast or slow?"

Attachments:

- Picture example (see below)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DEHBrmZxAf8> ('zoom zoom' song)



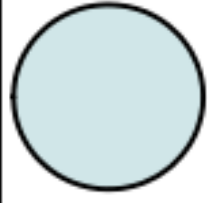
www.NonToyGifts.com



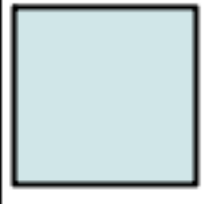



Shape


Rocket




circle



square



triangle



rectangle




star



rocket



scissors



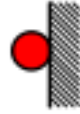
glue




colour



What



It's



more



Yes



finished



No



no symbol

