

Theme: Winter Weather

6 Good Books:

The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

Winter Lullaby by Barbara Seuling

Time to Sleep by Denise Fleming

Geraldine's Big Snow by Holly Keller

When It Starts to Snow by Phillis Gershtator

The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

Winter theme poster

Winter name tags

Winter puppets/masks

Creative art

- a) Finger paint in shaving cream, add silver glitter.
- b) Splash blue tinted watercolor on to a large paper with a paintbrush. It's raining!
- c) Thick white paint on black or grey paper – use brush, cotton swab, or fingers.
- d) Paint a large umbrella shape on the easel.
- e) Glue cotton ball and pieces of foil on grey or blue paper.
- f) Tear up white doilies and stick on a round piece of sticky Contact paper. Tape the Contact to the table to keep it still.
- g) Give the children some twigs to add while using playdoh. They can be bare trees, or anything at all.

Music and finger plays

I'm a little snow person,
Short and fat
Here are my buttons,
And here is my hat.
When the snow comes out,
I cannot stay.
Slowly I just melt away.....

Warm hands, warm
Do you know how?
If you want to warm your hands,
Warm your hands right now. (Blow on them, rub them together, put them inside the opposite sleeve)

This is how we dress on a cold winter day.
We put on our jackets to go out to play.

Then we put on our boots
For walking in the rain.
Next, our hats and our mittens,
Because the wind begins to blow.
And now we're all ready to go out and play.
We'll stay nice and warm on this cold winter day.

Language and Early Literacy

- a) Match mitten pairs by color, or shape.
- b) Look out the window as a group, and talk about the weather you see. During the conversation, use descriptive words that may be new to the children. When finished, sit in the circle time area and show some photos/pictures of weather. Hold up a photo of rain and ask "Did you see any rain?" Did you see any wind? Snow? Lightning? Clouds? Sun? Fog? etc.
- c) Sort hot weather/cold weather pictures.
- d) Play 123, look and see with a collection of winter items. Children look at the items, name them then hide their eyes in their laps. Teacher removes one of the items. 123, look and see! What's missing?

Number and Logical Thinking

- a) Make an AB pattern with the mitten collection. Chant it while pointing – red, blue, red, blue, red what comes next? Children continue the pattern.
- b) Arrange snow people in order of size.
- c) Which is the different snow person in a set of 3 or 4? Which ones are the same?
- d) Count ice cubes into a pot (or any container that makes a noise when the ice cubes are dropped). Have the children do it.

Science and Nature

- a) Explore a tub of snow if you have some in your area.
- b) Fill a tub with some ice cubes. Drip some different colors of food colors or liquid watercolor over them, and a heavy sprinkle of salt.
- c) Categorizing pictures of hot and cold. Do you think this would feel hot, or cold? Do this activity after touching real hot and cold things, below.
- d) Play the game "Hot Potato" with an ice cube. Pass it from hand to hand, and watch it melt.
- e) Open an umbrella. How interested children how it stays open, and how it closes. Hold their hands as they open and close it.

Sensory discrimination (visual, tactile, auditory, taste and smell)

Does this feel cold, or warm? Children can do this with their eyes open or closed. Try a bag of frozen vegetables, and ice cube, some snow, cold water, a glass that was in the fridge or outside for a while, warm

water, warm food, someone's hand, a piece of clothing just put of the dryer, a ceramic mug just out of the dishwasher etc.

Physical development

- a) Tape some grey paper puddles across the floor. Children can jump from puddle to puddle. Splash!
- b) Toss rolled up socks "snowballs" into a laundry basket (or similar).
- c) Lace a snowman.
- d) Practice using zippers, and buttoning.
- e) Do what I do – be raindrops, snowflakes, clouds floating, frogs jumping into puddles etc Play some music while you are doing i



Winter

Name tags – cut out as rectangles, or around the shape. Use to tape on clothes, cubbies, or for any other use during the theme unit.



Blank rectangular box for a name tag.



Blank rectangular box for a name tag.



Blank rectangular box for a name tag.



Blank rectangular box for a name tag.





Make the rain,,,







child



mittens



hat



boots



umbrella



snowman



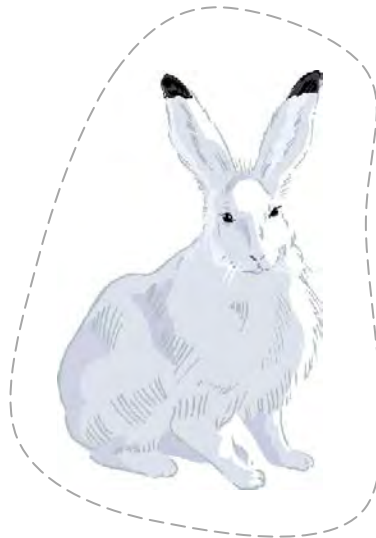
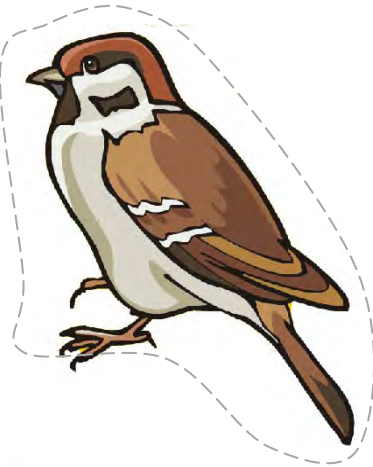
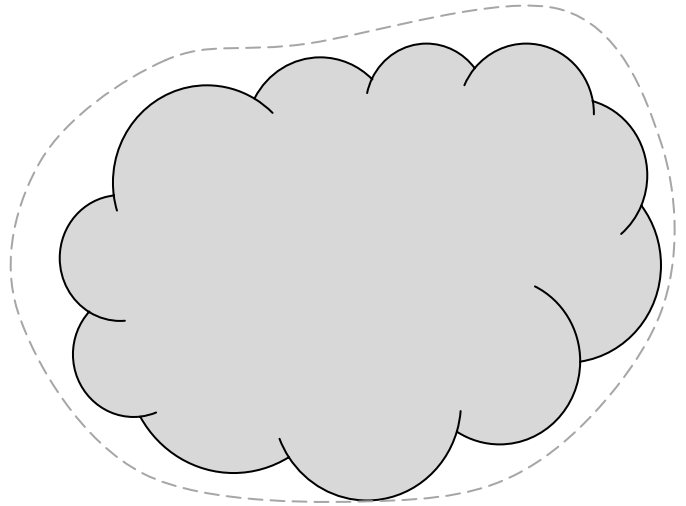
rain



fireplace



Cut out the pictures and count them onto the tree/snow graphic.



Categorize cold weather/warm weather photos





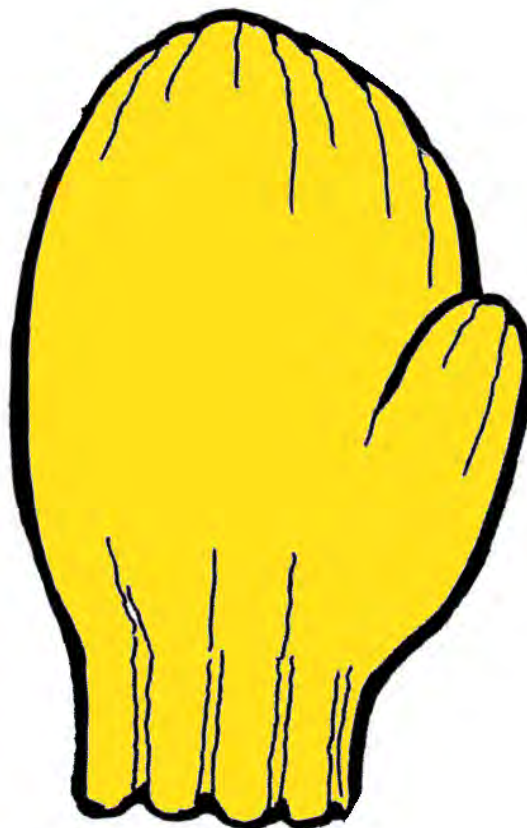
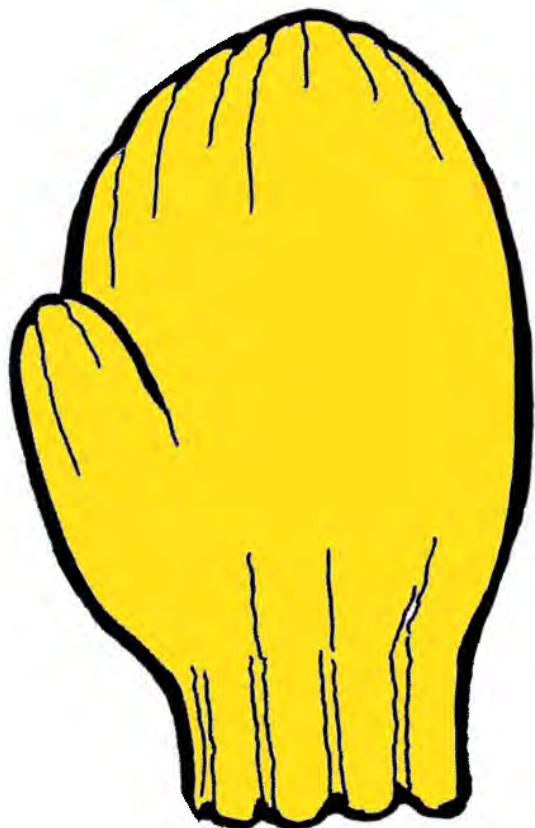
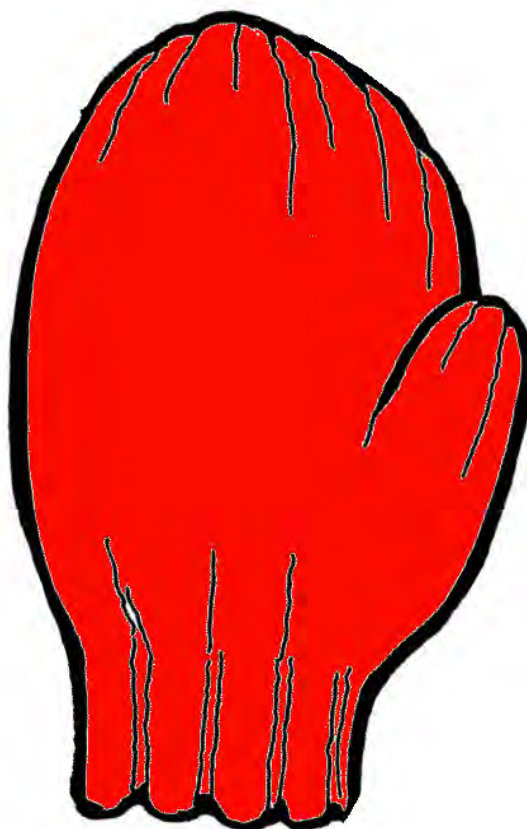
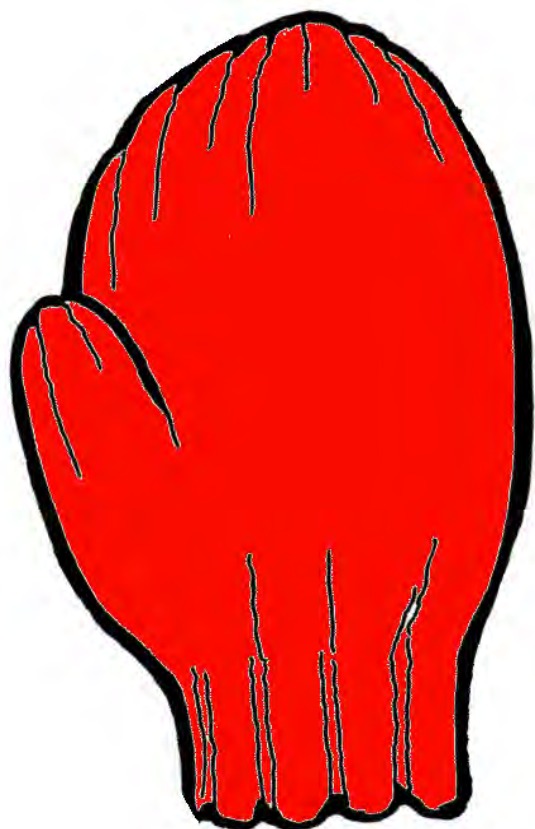


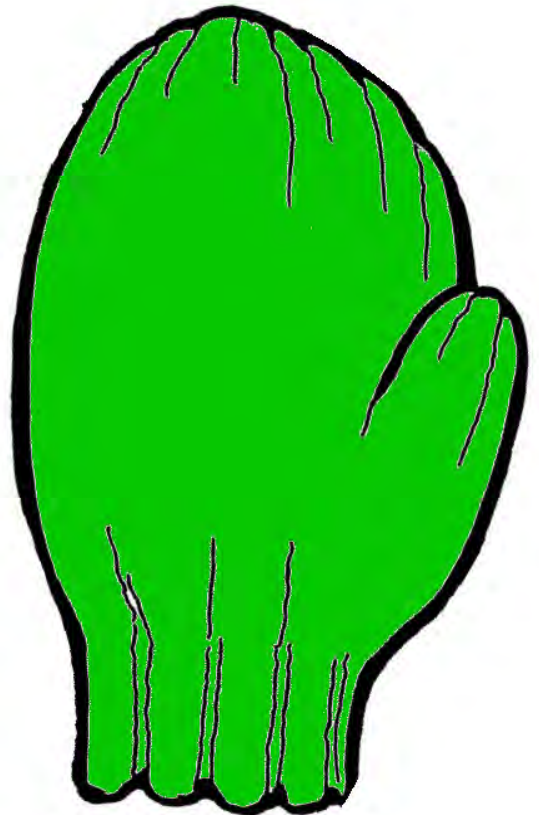
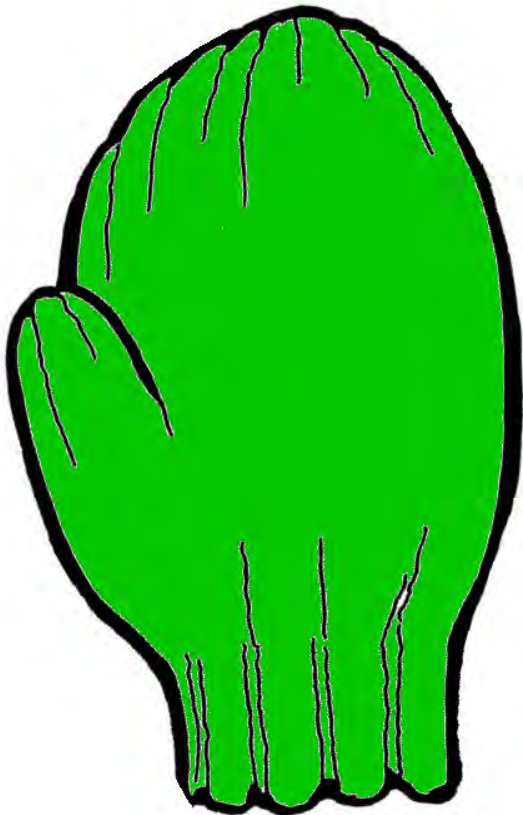
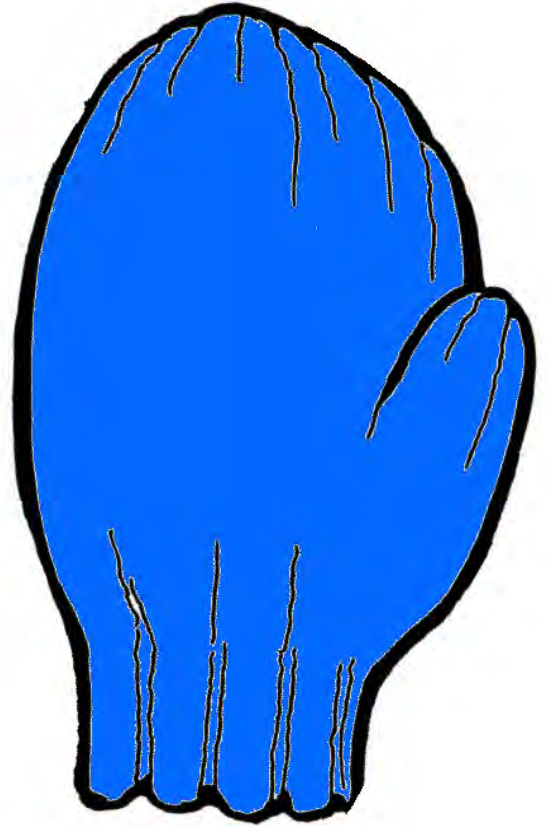
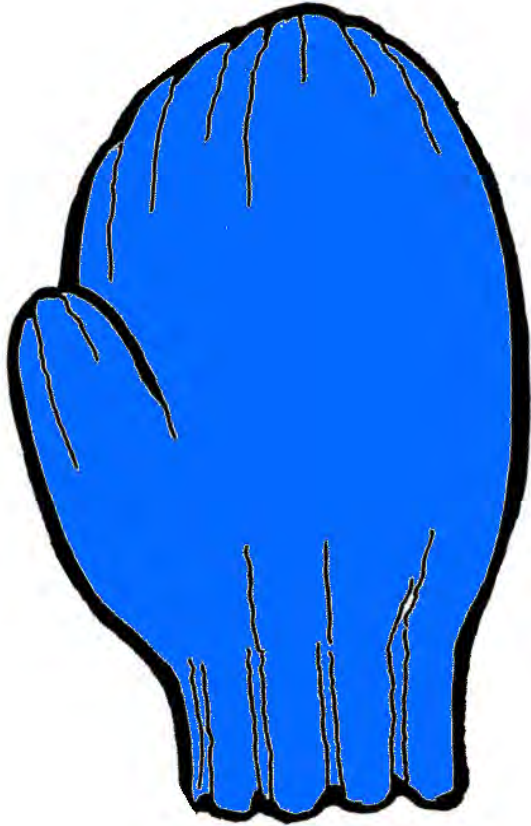


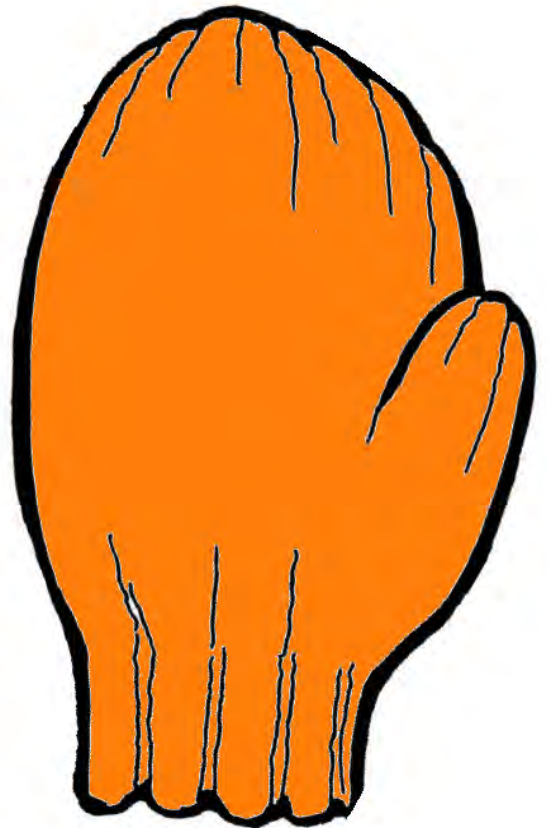
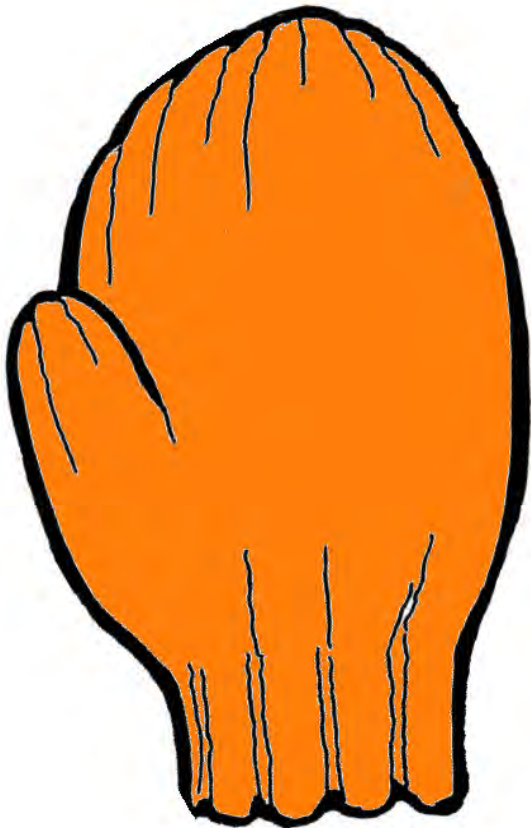
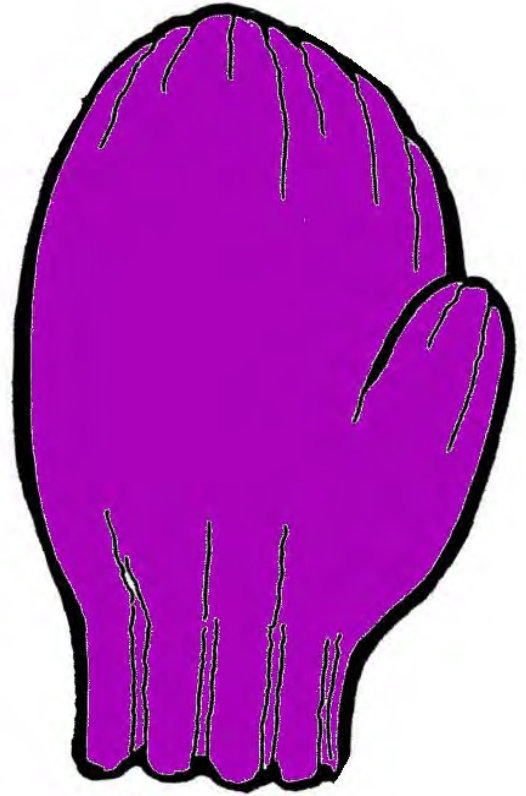
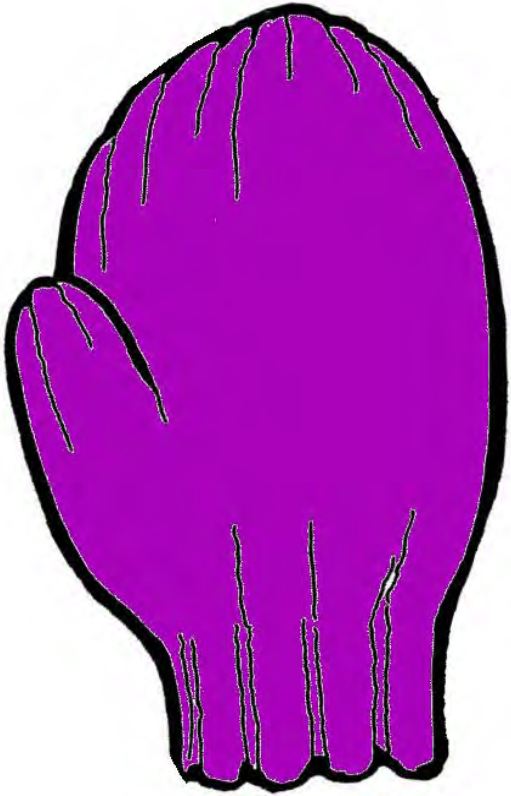
Patterning cards – print several copies – begin an ABAB pattern, children tell what comes next.

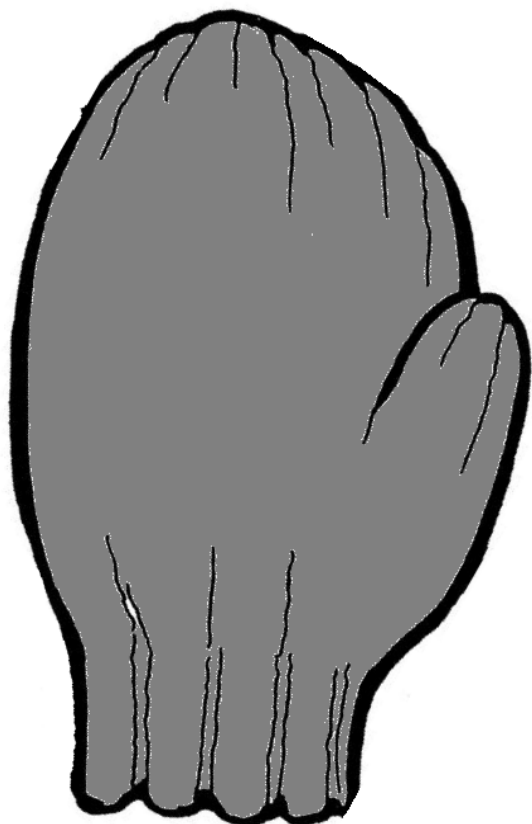
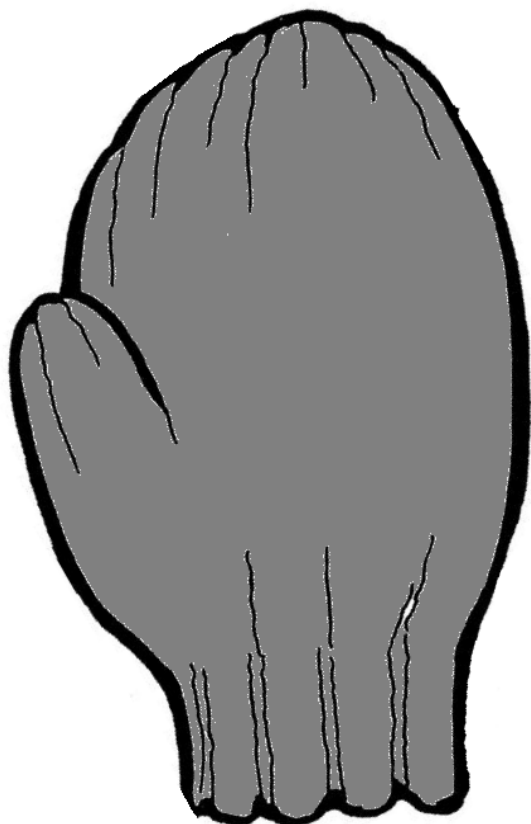
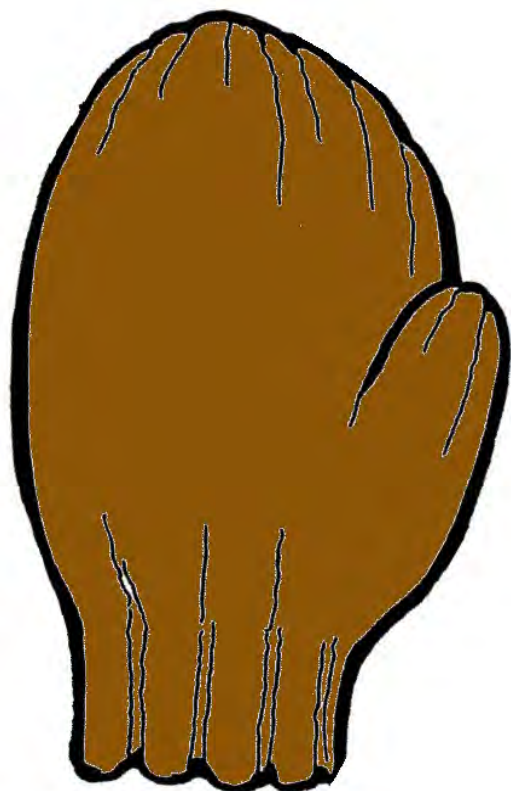
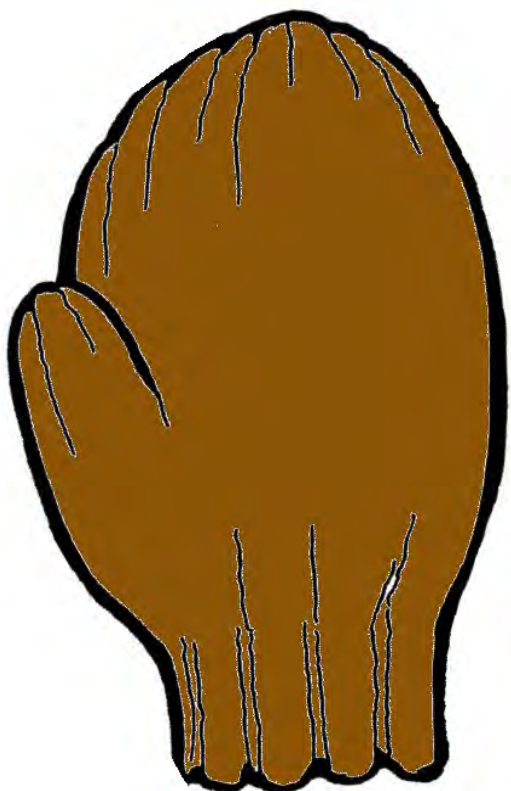


Color cards for games – match like color mittens.









Arrange in order of size.

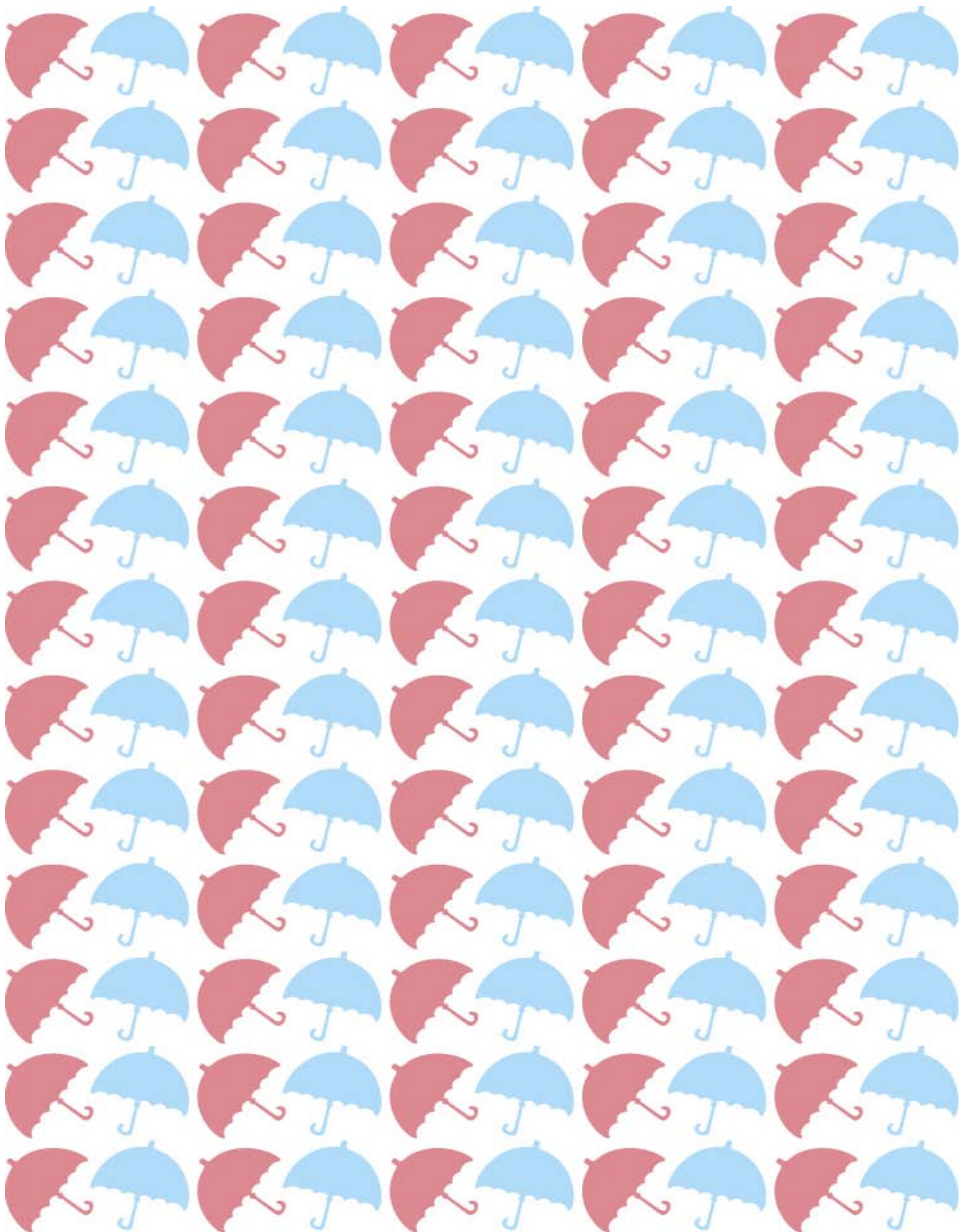






Print several copies – cut into pieces and use for collage art work.





Arrange in order of size.

Shape Lacing Print on cardstock. Cut out on the line, and use a hole punch to make holes around the edge of the picture, about a half inch in. Make a lot or a few, depending on the level of your children. They can weave through the holes using a piece of yarn with some tape around the end. The weaving does not need to be "correct".





Puzzle – print on cardstock, cut into 4 pieces.



Puzzle – print on cardstock, cut into 4 pieces.

