



SM38



15-20 minutes

PYRAMID OF SHADES



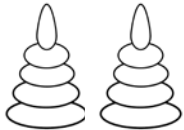
To develop the concept of different shades of colour
To develop colour classification – sorting by colour
To develop colour classification – grouping different shades of the same colour together



❖ A picture of a completed pyramid



❖ 2 blank pyramids



❖ The outline of the apartment building



❖ Paint bottles ready in a wide choice of colours

❖ A blob of white paint ready on a mixing tray/palette

❖ Water and a thin/medium paintbrush



Show your child the picture of the completed pyramid and ask questions about the colours: *What colour is the pyramid?* (blue); *Which ring is the lightest?* (the top ring); *What can we say about the colour of the next ring down?* (it's darker); *And the next ring?* (darker still); *And the bottom ring?* (it's the darkest).

Tell your child that they are going to be a pyramid painter. They are going to paint all the rings of the pyramid in different shades of one colour. Remind them how they make lighter shades of a colour, by adding different amounts of the colour to white paint.

Ask your child to choose a colour for their pyramid. Remind them to start at the top of the pyramid with the lightest shade (adding one small drop of their chosen colour to the white paint) and to paint progressively darker shades as they move down the pyramid (by adding one more drop each time of the coloured paint to what's already there).

They can repeat the process with another colour if they want to, on the second blank pyramid.



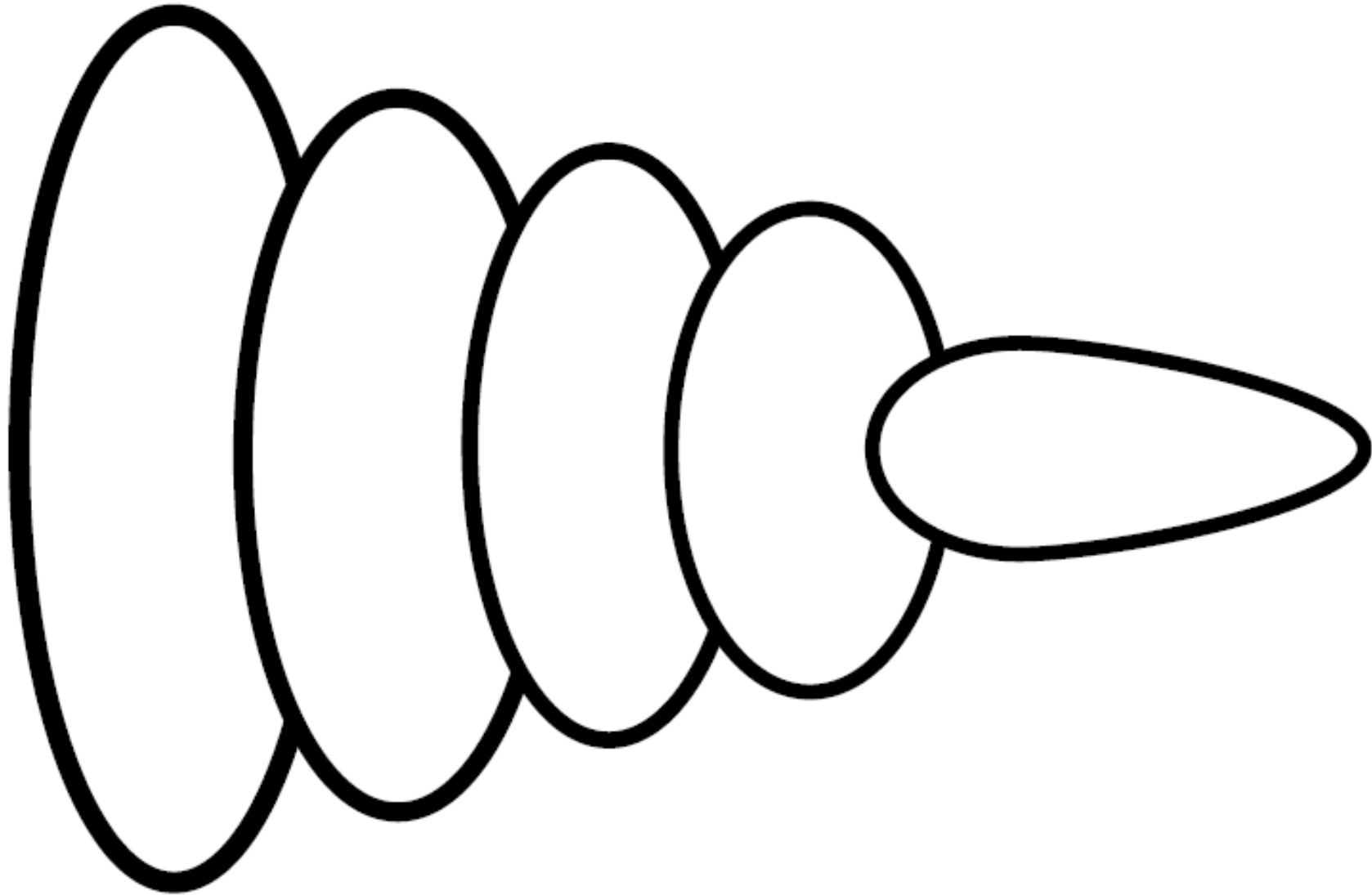
Give your child the A4 sheet of a three-storey apartment building and set the scene: *This building is new, and to make it easier to see the different floors, as well as to make it look prettier, the designers thought about painting each floor a lighter shade of brown instead of every floor being the same shade of brown. They have chosen you to be their painter, as you already know how to do this! So can you paint the building for them, starting with the lightest shade at the top and work down getting darker and darker as you go?*

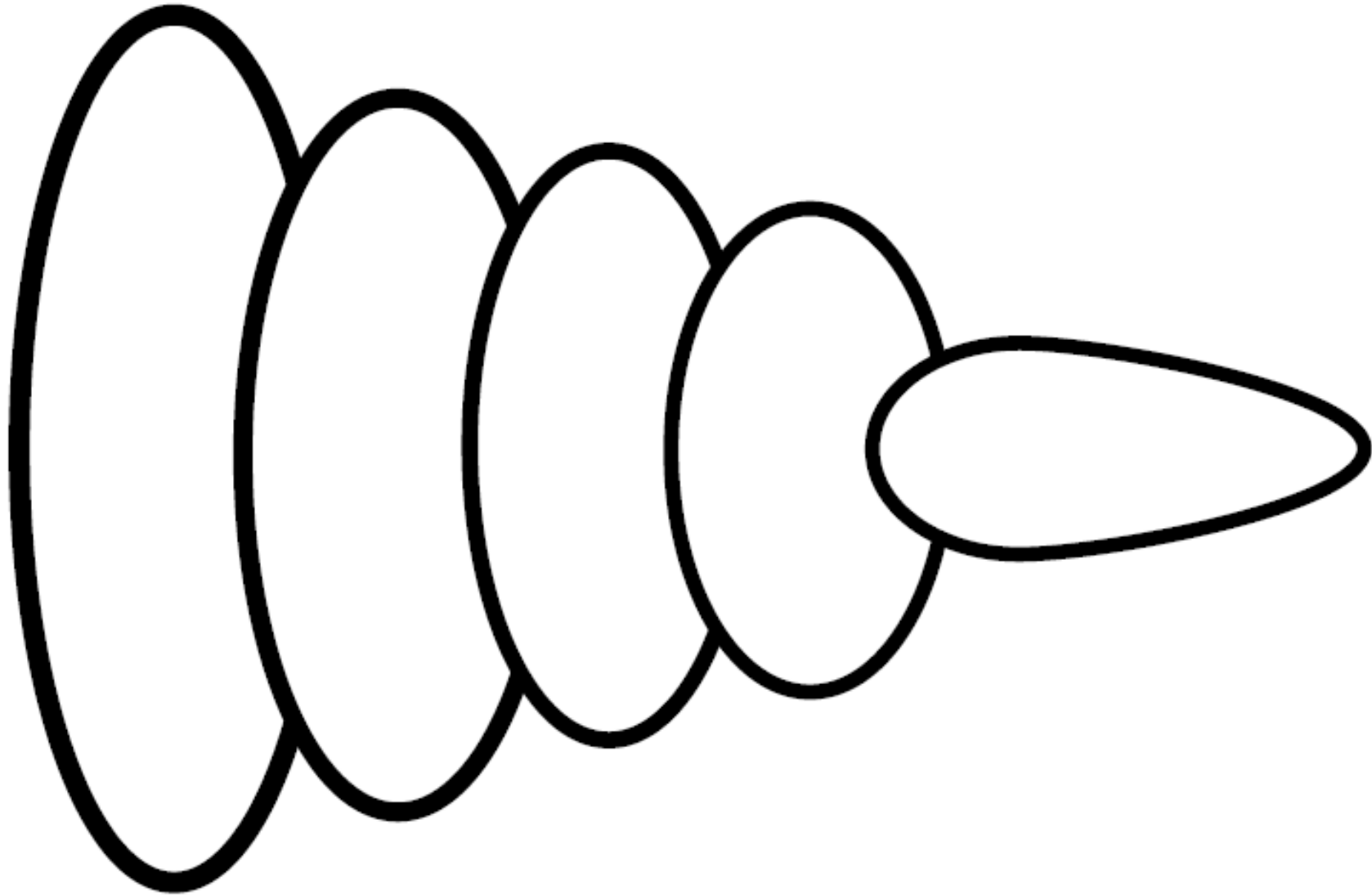
If necessary, remind them again of how they make lighter shades of a colour by adding different amounts of the colour to white paint.

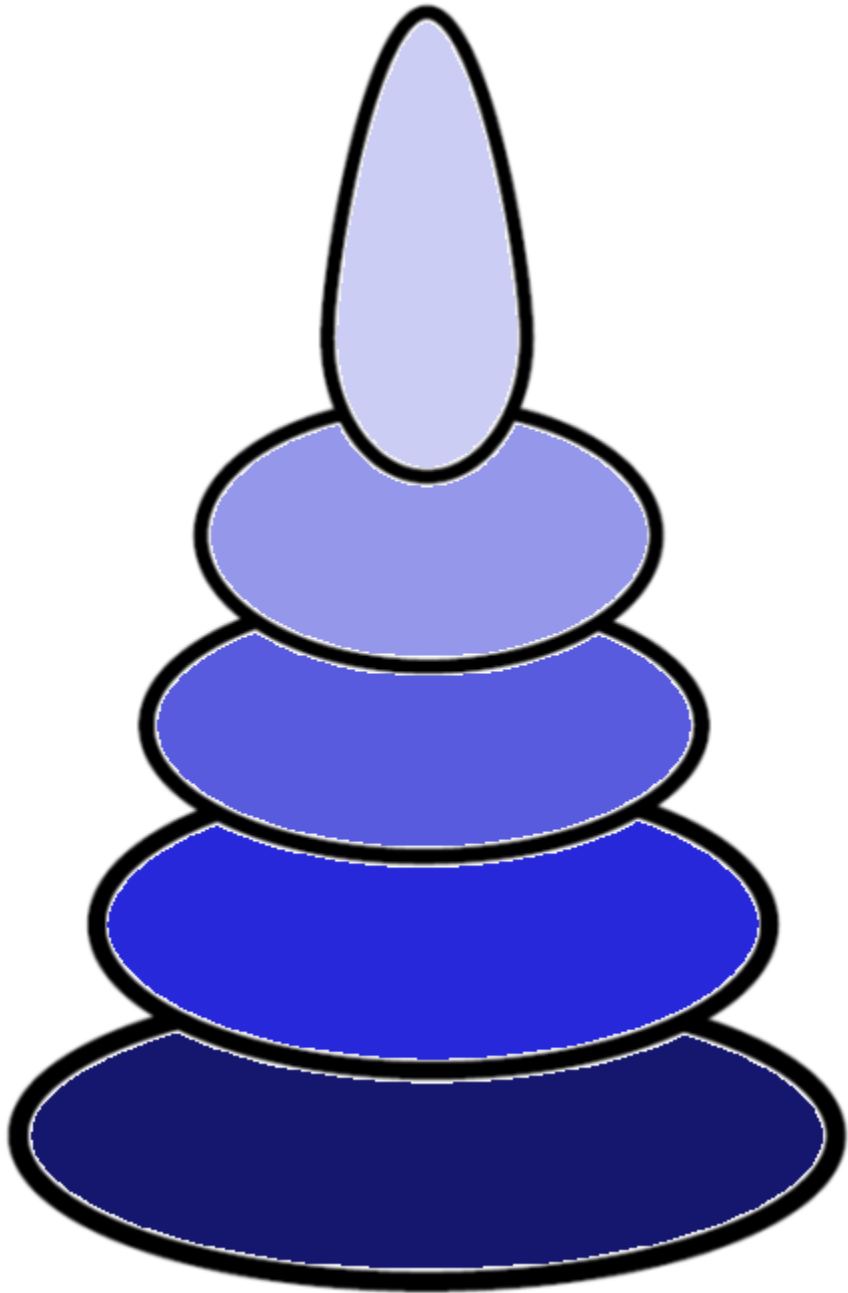
When they have finished, congratulate them on a job well done on behalf of the building designers and the new residents!



Your child can mix paint to create progressive shades of a colour.
Your child can paint a pyramid and an apartment building in progressive shades of a colour.







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