



L13



WHAT HAVE WE GOT IN COMMON?



10-15 minutes



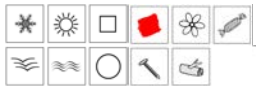
To develop the ability to generalise - categorise objects and classify them according to a common feature or features
To master the ability to create symbols to represent categories



❖ 9 Common Quality cards



❖ 11 Symbol cards



❖ Some sheets of A4 paper and a pencil (per child - optional)



Live Grouping - What Do We Have In Common?

This game will only really work if you can do it with more than just you and one child. Round up some other family members or friends, or leave it out if not possible.

Part I: Ask the players to go and stand with the other players according to criteria you give them. Say things like: *All the girls here, all the boys there. Now, all those with dark hair here and those without dark hair over there.* Use other criteria too (visible and invisible characteristics) such as: people wearing cardigans, people who have brothers or sisters, people with birthdays in winter or summer, people who like sweets, people who like peas, people with earrings and so on.

Add any other criteria for classification that you can think of, relevant to your players, and also ask them to come up with their own ideas too.

Part II: Now make the game more complicated. Choose a criterion but don't say it, for example wearing black shoes. Ask the players with black shoes to stand somewhere, without explaining how they have been chosen. Ask the others to think about what they have in common, and wait for them to identify the common feature.

Then have the players take it in turns to lead the game by calling out a group of people that share a common feature of their own idea.

Guess What We Have In Common:

Tell your child that you are going to show them some pictures. Show them the 'all flying' Common Quality card, and explain that all the things they can see have something in common. Ask if they can cleverly work out what it could be.

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Your child can place himself/herself into groups on the basis of features that they have or do not have in common.
Your child can identify the common quality in groups of pictures.
Your child can allocate a shared meaning to symbols representing different qualities, e.g. hot, cold, red.
Your child can think of and/or draw as many objects as they can that possess the meaning symbolised.



WHAT HAVE WE GOT IN COMMON? – continued



Repeat with each of the other Common Quality cards in turn (all wooden, all sharp, all floating, all round, all green, all cold, all standing on one leg and all hot). If your child can't see what the pictures have in common, support them by asking questions that help them to think about the invisible characteristics of each object, as well as visible ones, to find the common element for each card.

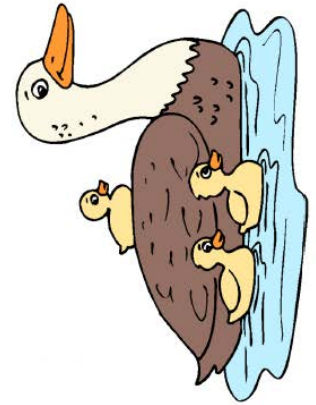
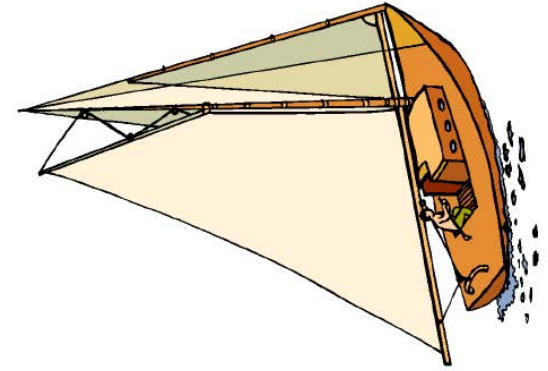
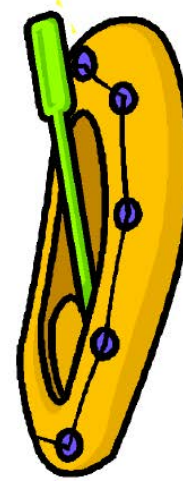
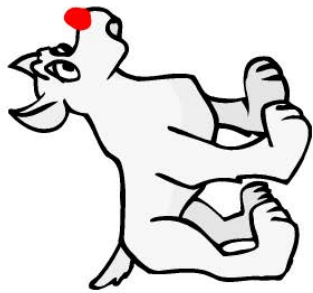
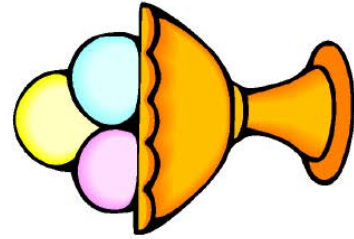
What Can This Symbol Be?

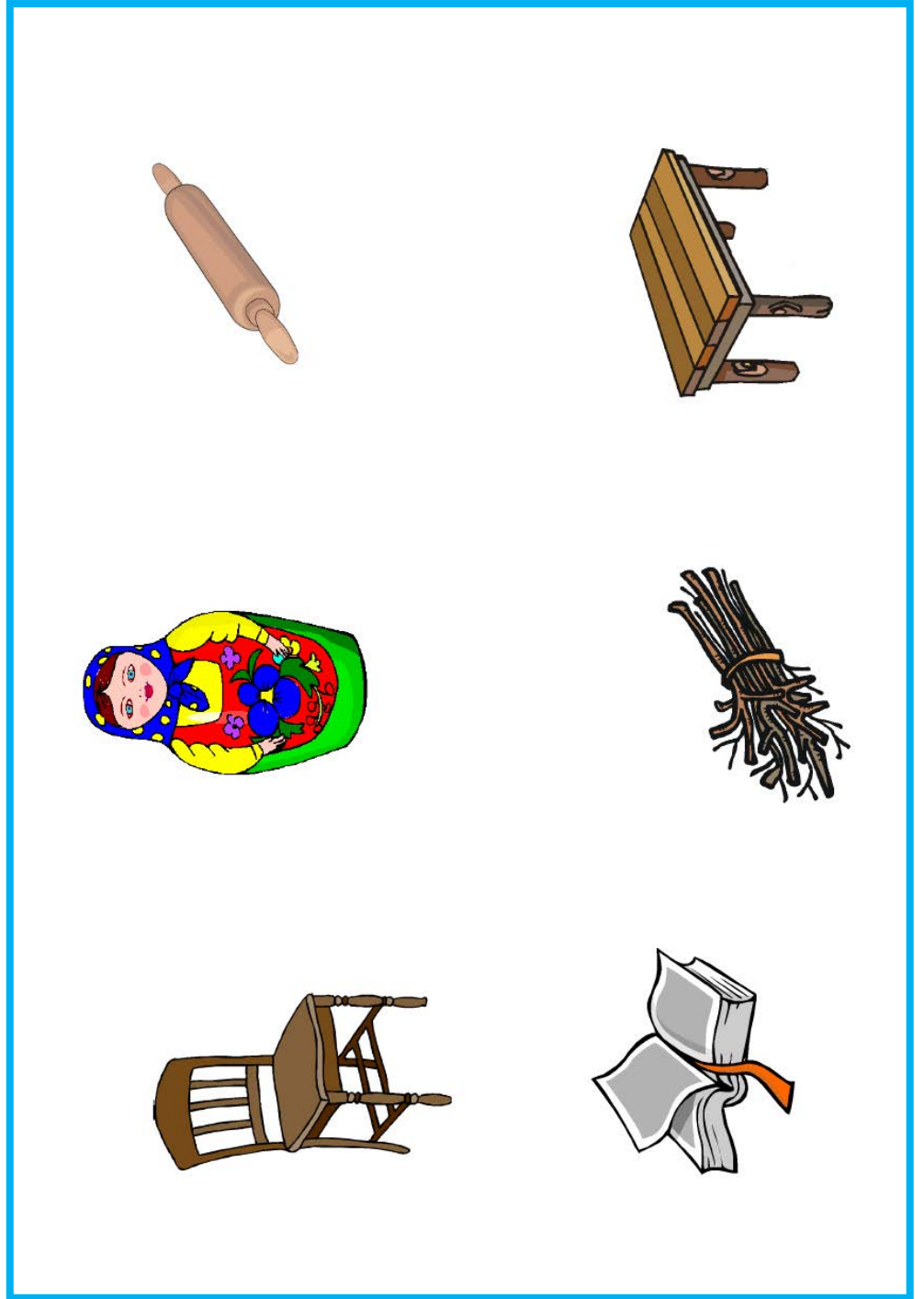
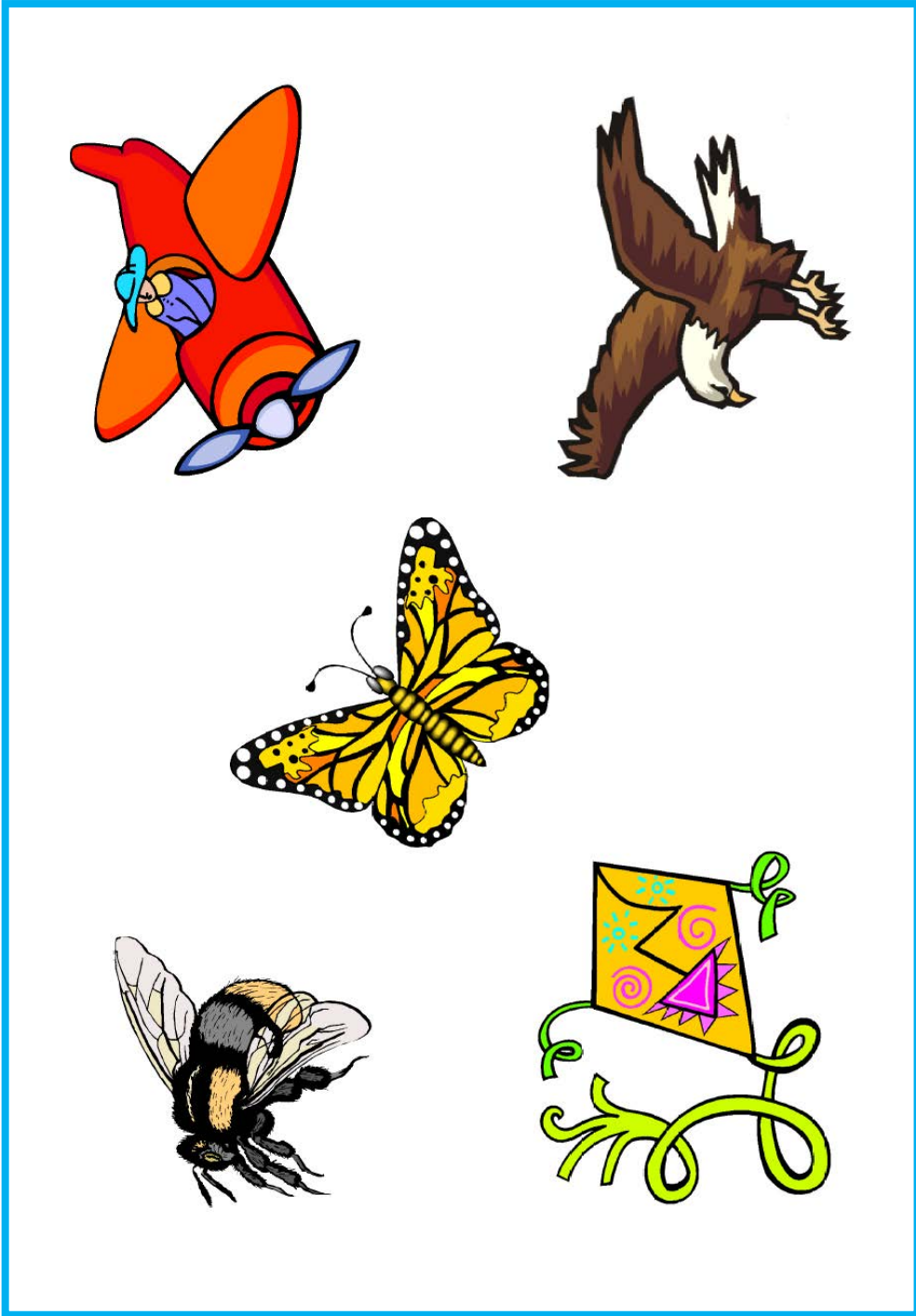
Show your child the set of symbol cards, and ask them if they can suggest what each symbol might represent. Agree that the following meanings: snowflake – things that are cold, the sun – things that are hot, wings – things that fly, waves – things that float, a circle – things that are round, a square – things which are square, red – things which are red, a flower – things that grow, a sweet – things that are sweet, a nail – things that are metal and a log – things that are wooden.

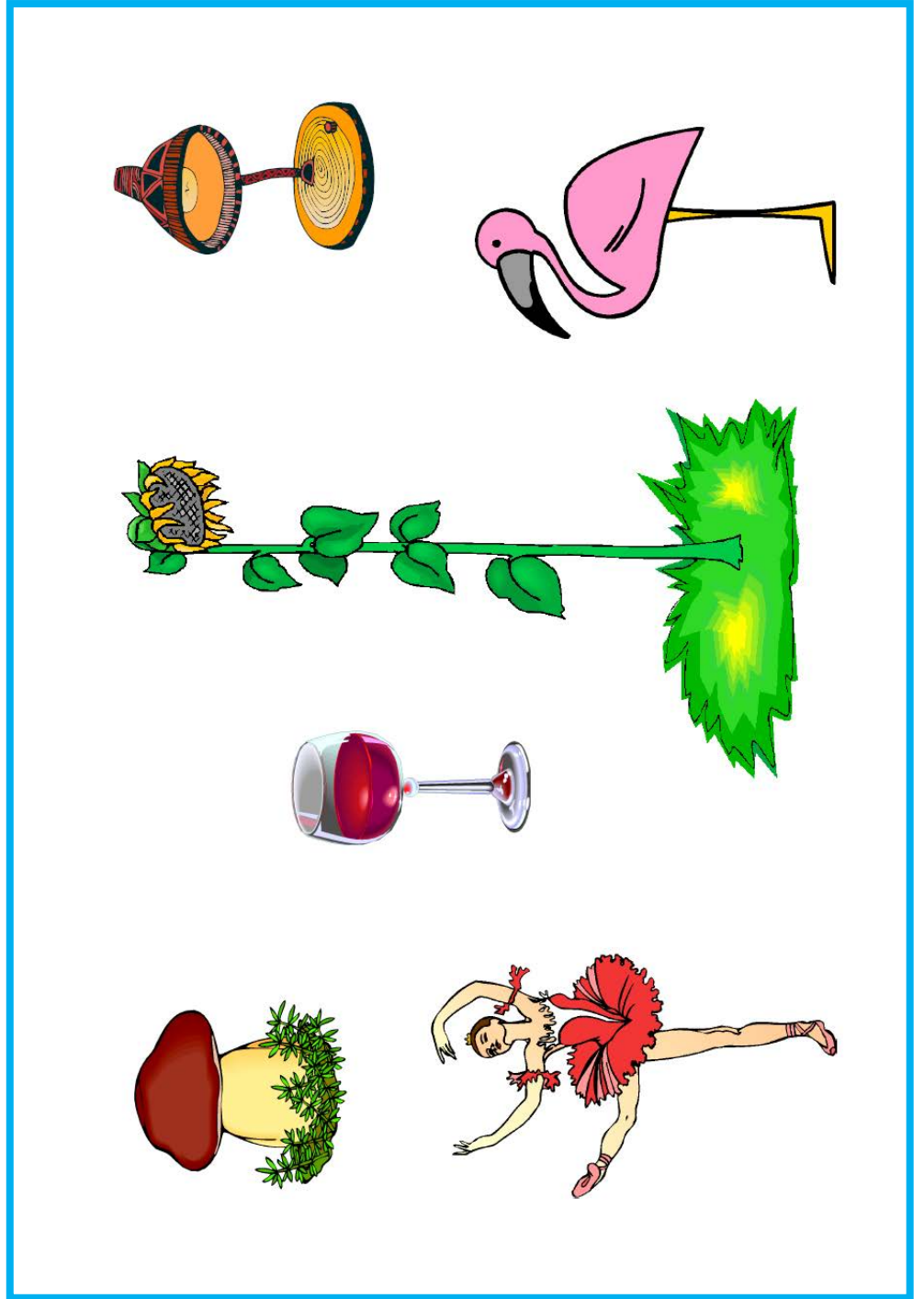
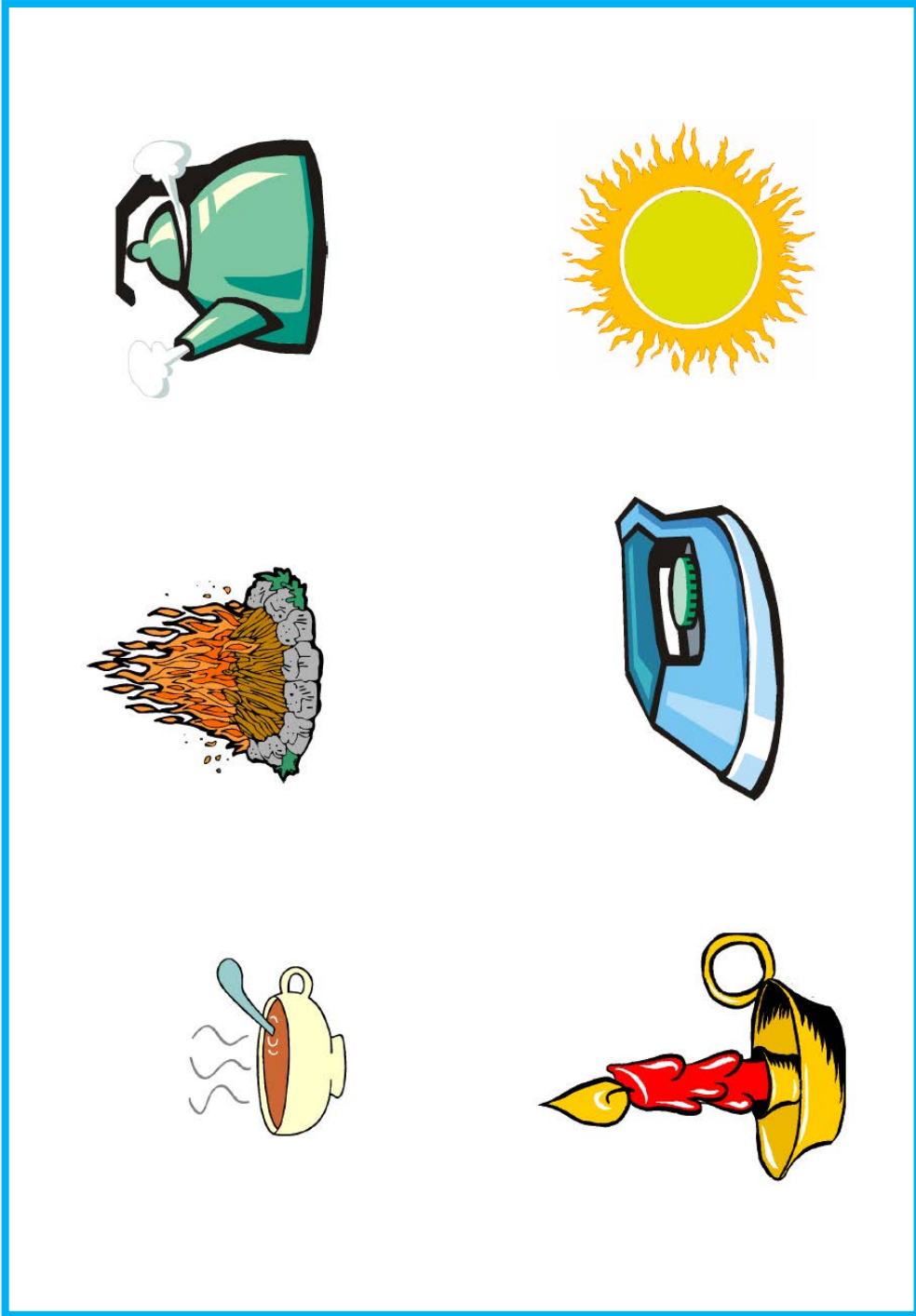


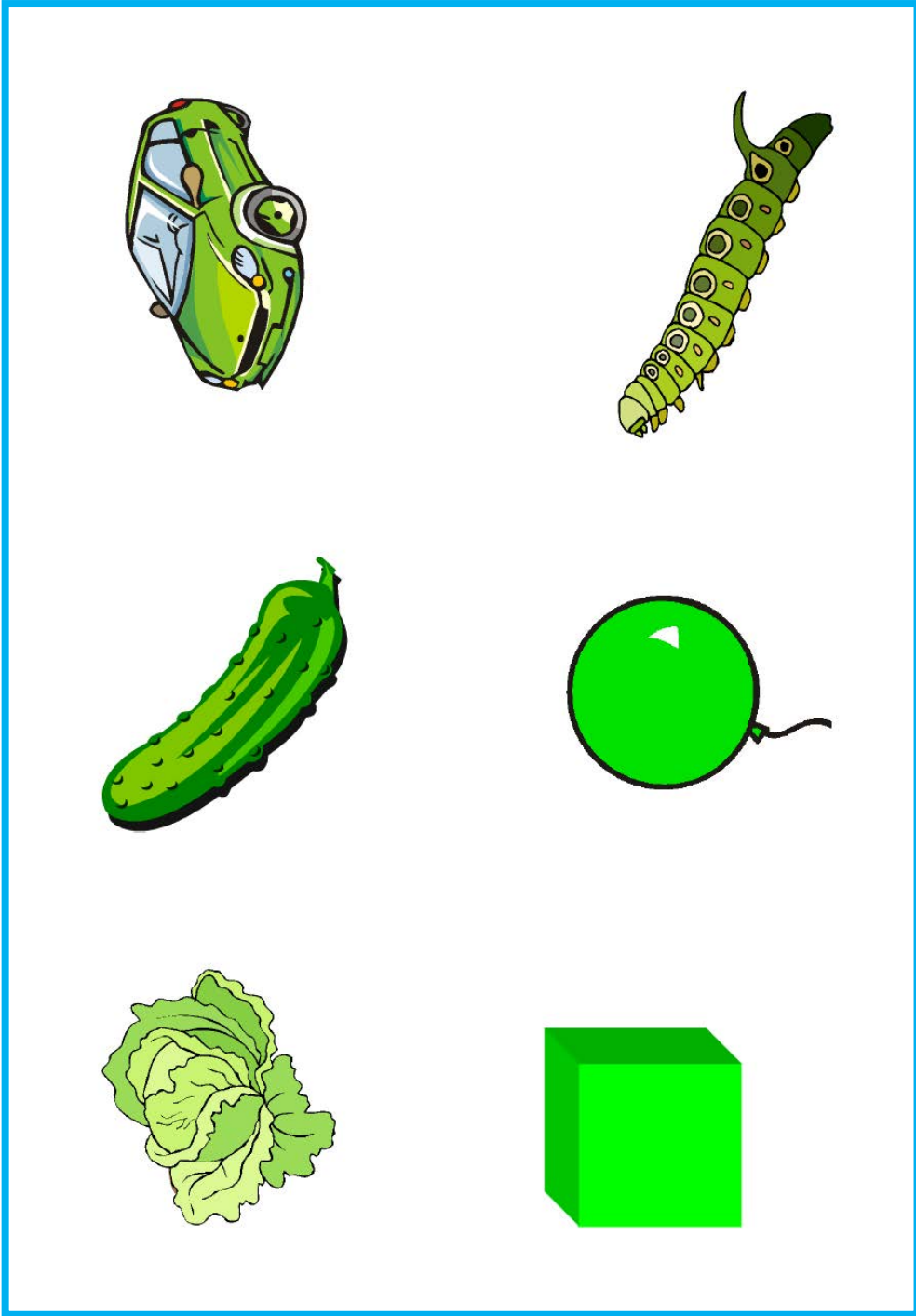
Shuffle the cards, and ask your child to choose one. Give them a couple of minutes to think of as many things as they can that have the feature symbolised on their card. Have your child tell you what they have thought of, and add some of your own ideas too. They could also draw their ideas if they prefer – for example, all the things with that feature on one A4 sheet of paper.

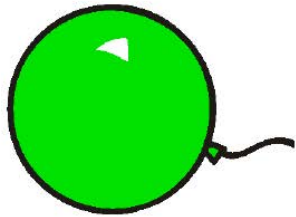
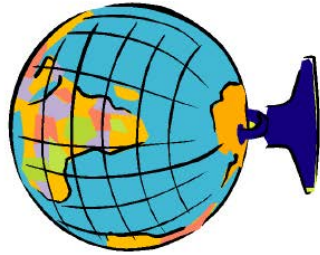
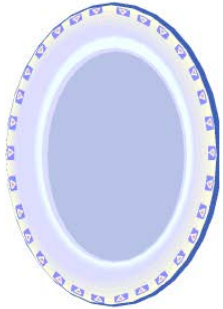
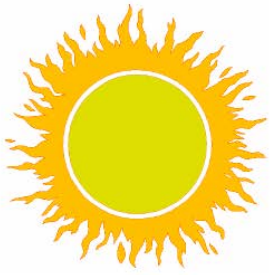
Repeat for some or all of the other symbol cards.



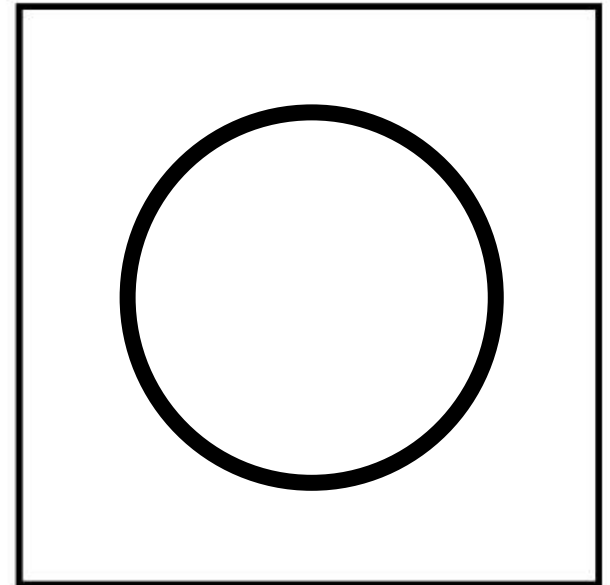
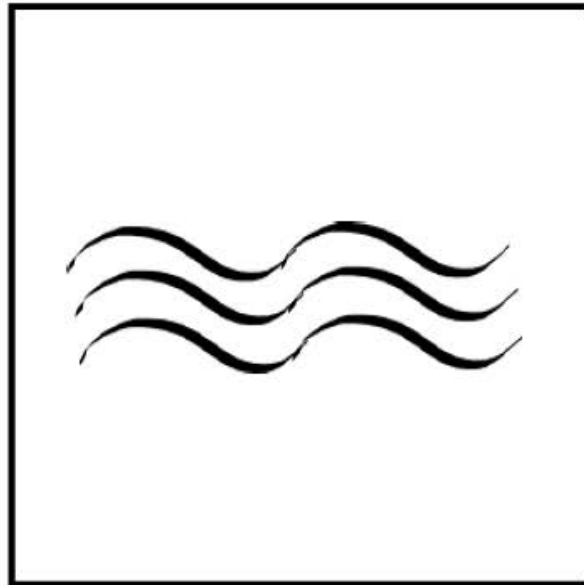
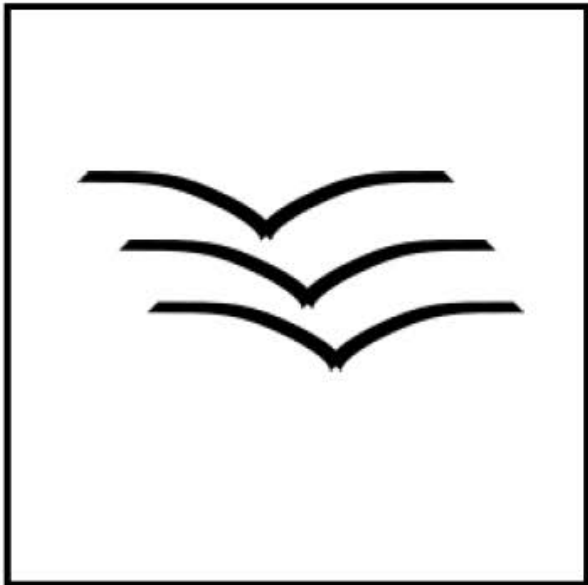
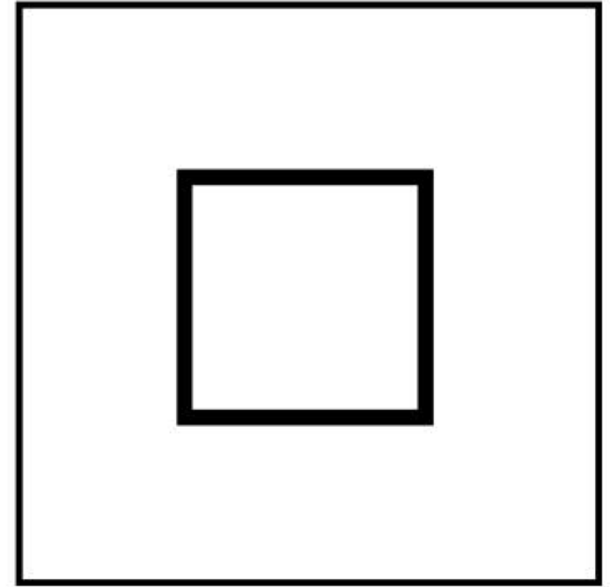
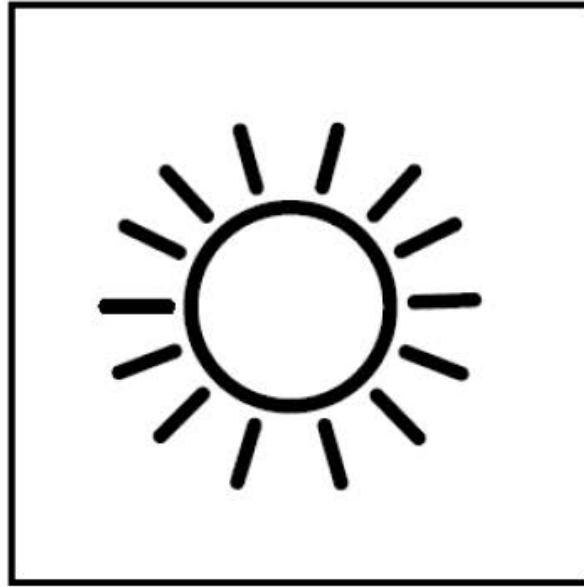
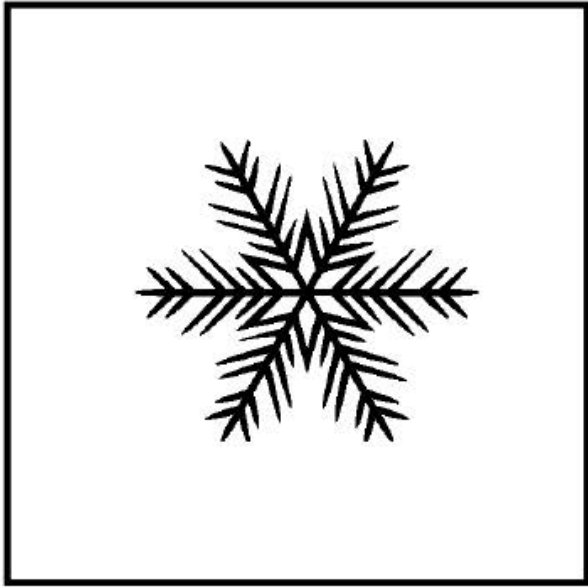








Cut out each symbol card separately.



Cut out each symbol card separately.

