

-back to-

SCHOOL

SURVIVAL GUIDE



CHILDREN'S
LIGHTHOUSE
EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL



Introduction

As kids return to school this fall, Children's Lighthouse has put together a survival guide to help bring families back up to speed. Whether parents are preparing for the return to the school year, are looking for ways to fill the time in the morning before their kids head to school, or would like some inspiration for afternoon activities, we're providing a comprehensive guide that fits every family's activity needs. This guide is available for anyone to download and print, and we encourage you to snap photos of you and your family working through it together. Don't forget to share it with us on social media and tag us!

Table of Contents:

- 3 - Ants on an Apple Log
- 4 - After School Honey Cheerio Bars
- 5-6 - DIY Backpack Tags
- 7 - Binder Covers
- 8-9 - Monster Corner Bookmarks
- 10 - Paper Plate School Bus
- 11-12 - Mason Jar Supply Holders
- 13-20 - Back to School Coloring Pages

Ants on an Apple Log

After a great day of school, kids need a quick and easy bite. These after-school snacks are fun to make and offer a delicious and nutritious twist on the classic ants on a log.

Ingredients:

- 1 jar of peanut butter
- 1-2 apples
- 1 oz box of raisins
- *If desired, 12-ounce pack of semi-sweet chocolate chips

Directions:

- Gather all the ingredients
- Carefully cut the apple into small wedges.
- Lay the apples down on their side.
- Scoop half a teaspoon of peanut butter and spread it on one side of the apple.
- Place the raisins in the peanut butter. (If adding chocolate chips, mix chocolate chips in with the raisins)
- Enjoy!



After School Honey Cheerio Bars

After a long day of learning, we could all use a little something sweet. We've provided a recipe for our favorite peanut butter honey Cheerio bar. It's the perfect four-ingredient, easy-to-make snack!

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp coconut oil
- ½ cup of honey
- ½ cup of peanut butter
- 3 cups of multi-grain Cheerios



Directions:

- Place wax paper in a square baking dish (either 8x8 or 9x9) and set it to the side.
- In a large stovetop pot, melt the coconut oil over medium heat.
- Add in honey and peanut butter and stir until everything is hot and well combined.
- Remove from heat and mix in Cheerios. Pour into your baking dish and press down firmly.
- Refrigerator for a minimum of an hour. Then cut into 2-inch squares.
- Store leftovers in an airtight container in the fridge.

DIY Backpack Tags



Every student needs a backpack. But what can bring the whole family together and encourage children's creativity is the freedom to make a tag for their backpack.

Supplies:

- Duct tape sheets in colors of choice
- 3 inches x 5 inches piece of clear film, acetate or clear plastic bags from duct tape sheets
- Scissors
- Colorful rings
- Old throw-away business cards
- X-Acto knife
- Straight edge
- Hot Glue
- Glue gun

Instructions on the next page!

DIY Backpack Tags

Instructions:

- Cut a piece of clear film, acetate or clear plastic bag. Set it aside.
 - * Aim to have a size of 4 ½ inches by 3 ½ inches.
- Cut two pieces from a duct tape sheet.
 - * Aim for the pieces to be 5 ½ inches by 3 ½ inches.
- To make the loop, cut a strip of duct tape.
 - * Aim for the strip to be 6 inches by 1 inch.
- Fold the edges to the middle of the sticky side and press flat. Fold this piece in half. Set it aside.
- Take one of the 3 ½ inches by 5 ½ inches pieces of duct tape and, using the X-Acto knife, cut a window for the ID information to be viewed. Cut little slits in the corner of the window and fold the duct tape back to the sticky side.
 - * Place the clear film on the sticky side of the duct tape.
 - * Fold the outside edges back to the sticky side to give it a finished look. This is the front piece of the tag.
- Take the second piece of 5 ½ inches by 3 ½ inches piece of duct tape and cut the window slightly bigger than the first window.
 - * Attach this to the inside of the front piece.
- Cut two more pieces of duct tape that are ¼ inch larger than the finished front piece.
- While sticking the two pieces together, insert the loop at the long end previously made for hanging the tag. This will be the back piece of the tag.
- Hot glue the front piece to the back piece.
- Attach the tag to your backpack!

Binder Covers

Take your kids' binders to the next level by letting them decorate and make the binders truly their own!

Supplies:

- Binders
- Washi Tape or Duct tape
- Cardstock (3 pieces)
- Scissors



Instructions:

- Cut the card stock to fit the clear front binder flap.
- Grab your decorative washi tape or duct tape and begin to experiment with colors and styles.
- Try creating a pattern with different rows of similar styles of washi tape or duct tape.
- Repeat pattern on the next piece of cardstock for the back cover.
- Cut the card stock to fit in the clear plastic cover on the spine of the binder.
- Repeat the same pattern used for front and back or try a new pattern.
- Enjoy your customized binder for the rest of the year. You can easily swap it out or redesign it as desired.

Monster Corner Bookmarks

Eat up your books with these monster corner bookmarks!
You'll never lose track of your page again.

Supplies:

- Two pieces of paper in different colors
- One piece of white paper
- One black marker
- Tape or glue
- Scissors



Instructions on the next page!

Monster Corner Bookmarks

Instructions:

- Start by folding one of the colored pieces of paper in half.
- Fold the left and right corners to the center point.
- Cut off the excess part and cut through the middle to get two triangles.
- Unfold the triangles to have two squares.
- Fold the squares in half to get a rectangle.
- Fold the rectangle in half again the other way to make a square.
- Unfold the square to see four small squares. Cut one square out.
- Now cut the adjacent two squares from the one you've cut out diagonally through the square.
- Fold the little triangles inward.
 - * Apply some glue or tape to the inner one.
- Use the other colored paper to make a tongue, eyes, some crazy eyebrows or even horns.
- Once desired additional items have been cut, attach them with glue or tape to either the inside or outside of the monster. For best results attach the tongue to the inside of the monster's mouth and the teeth to the outside of the monster's mouth.
- Place monster corner bookmark in the top corner of the book as you are taking a break from reading to keep your place.

Paper Plate School Bus

The wheels on the bus go round and round! Help your kid become comfortable with the school bus and excited to get back to school.

Supplies:

- 1 paper plate
- Black paint
- Yellow paint
- White paint
- Paintbrush
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Newspaper

Instructions:

- Prepare surface with newspaper or plastic bags.
- Cut plate in half evenly directly down the middle. Use half to hold the yellow and black paint globs.
 - * Save the second half to be painted.
- Paint half the plate yellow. Set aside to dry.
- Once the paint is completely dry, begin to draw the various elements with a pencil.
 - * Use a pencil to draw a black rectangle in the middle of the plate.
 - * Inside the rectangle, use a pencil to block out the words "School Bus" and above that outline a square, triangle, square and triangle.
 - * Below the rectangle draw large circles.
- Use the black paint to fill in the outlined shapes leaving the outlined letters for "School Bus" empty.
 - * You can also add white paint inside the letters.



Mason Jar Supply Holders

Stay organized this school year with these different mason jars. Pencils, glue sticks, paint brushes, crayons and more, these jars will keep your supplies organized this school year.

Supplies:

- Mason jars
- White primer paint
- Pencil
- Acrylic paint
- Paint pens
- Paintbrushes
- Green card stock
- Washi or painter's tape
- Sealant (optional)
- Old newspaper



Instructions on the next page!

Mason Jar Supply Holders

Instructions:

- Place old newspaper down to cover your workspace and protect it from paint spills.
- Place the jar's mouth down on the newspaper and spray evenly with white primer paint.
- Sketch out the different designs with a pencil.
- Paint the mason jars using acrylic paint. You may need 2-3 layers of paint depending on the thickness.
 - * For any straight lines, use washi tape or painter's tape to mark the edges.
 - * For thin lines, use paint pens as opposed to paintbrushes.
- For different designs:
 - * Pencil: use pink paint at the bottom of the bottle and fill $\frac{1}{4}$ of the jar, then use grey paint for a small $\frac{1}{2}$ inch strip and then yellow paint on the rest of the jar to design a pencil. Paint the lid black.
 - * Calculator: use grey paint all around except for a rectangle about a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch below the lid. Then outline 16 squares in a 4 x 4 formation. Paint the rectangle white and the squares green. Paint the lid grey.
 - * Apple: Paint the jar red and the lid green.
 - * Glue: Paint the whole jar white except for a blue square in front. Paint the lid orange.
- Add facial features if desired.
- Cut a leaf out of the green card stock for the apple jar and glue it to the jar.
- If desired use sealant to lock in the paint.

Back to School Coloring Pages

Add some color to these great back-to-school pages, and tackle the different activities to get back into the school spirit! You can even use your school colors!



Reference Links & More!

- <https://www.joann.com/kids-identifier-tags/3165880P149.html>
- <https://theinspirationboard.com/diy-binder-covers/>
- <https://www.easypeasyandfun.com/diy-corner-bookmarks/>
- <https://www.honeyandlime.co/back-to-school-fun-easy-paper-plate-school-bus-shapes-craft/>
- <https://colormadehappy.com/mason-jars-craft-school-supplies/>
- <https://www.classroomdoodles.com/back-to-school.html>

Children's Lighthouse is not a sponsor of, or in any way affiliated with, the reference sites listed above.

All about Me

MY FAMILY

Age _____ Birthday _____

Favorites

When I grow up

My Superpower

Biggest Fear

FOOD _____

COLOR _____

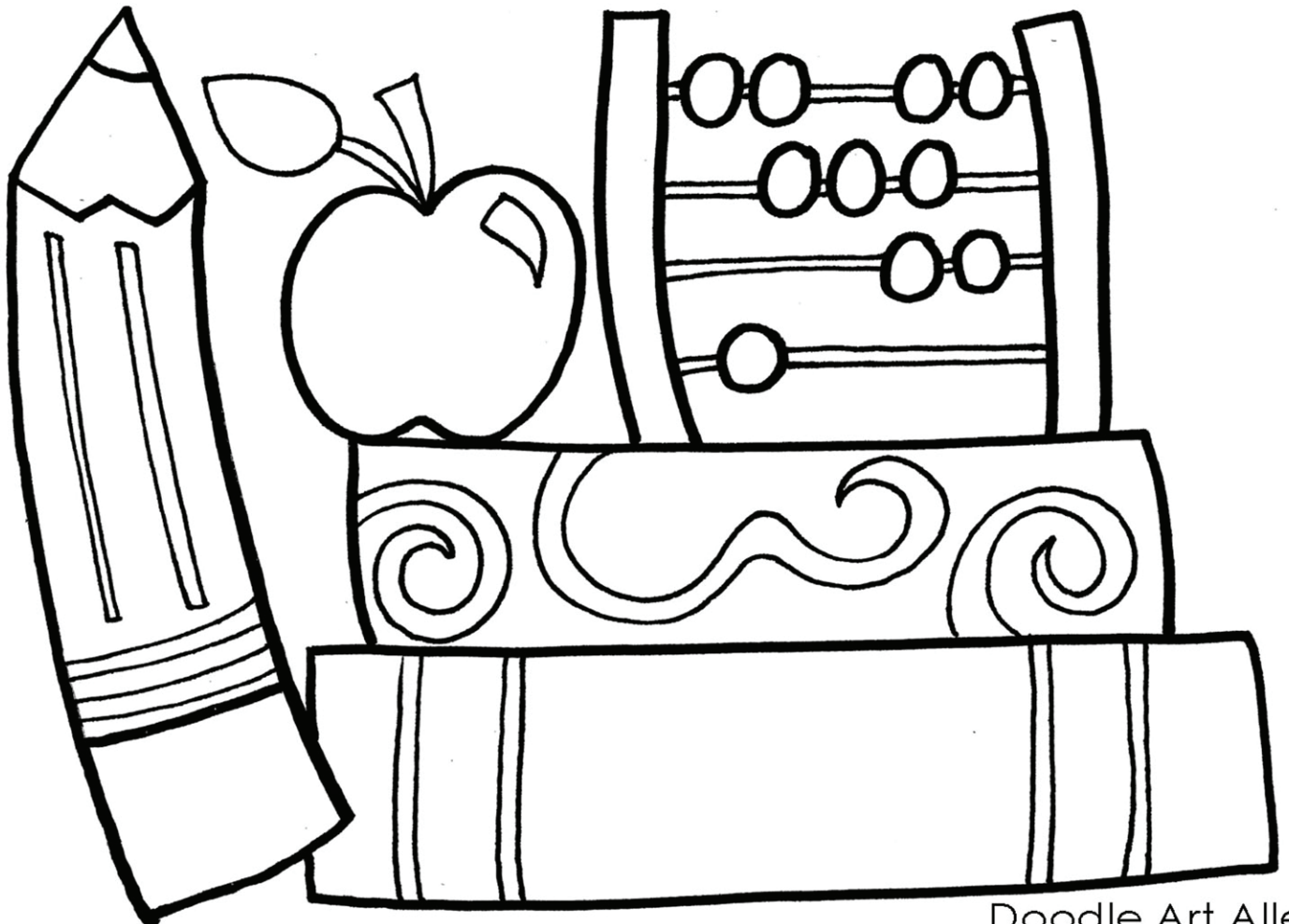
Activity _____

MUSIC _____

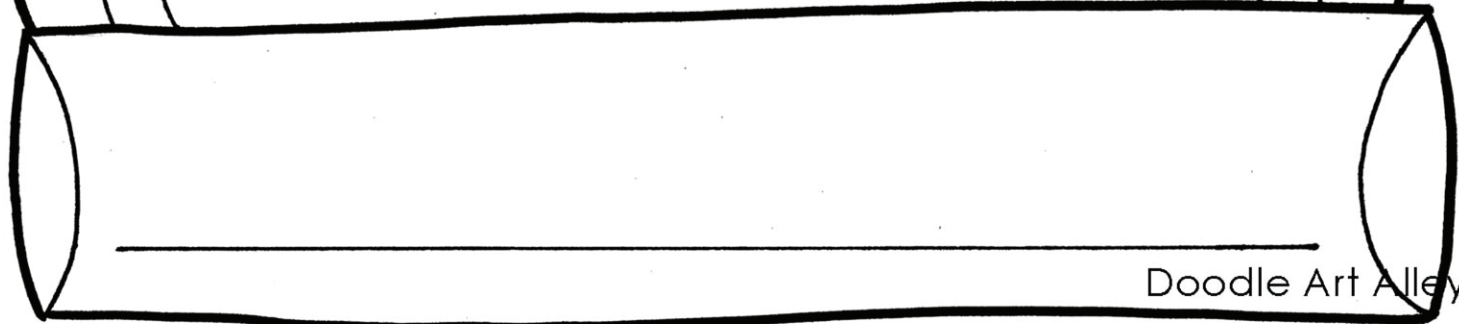
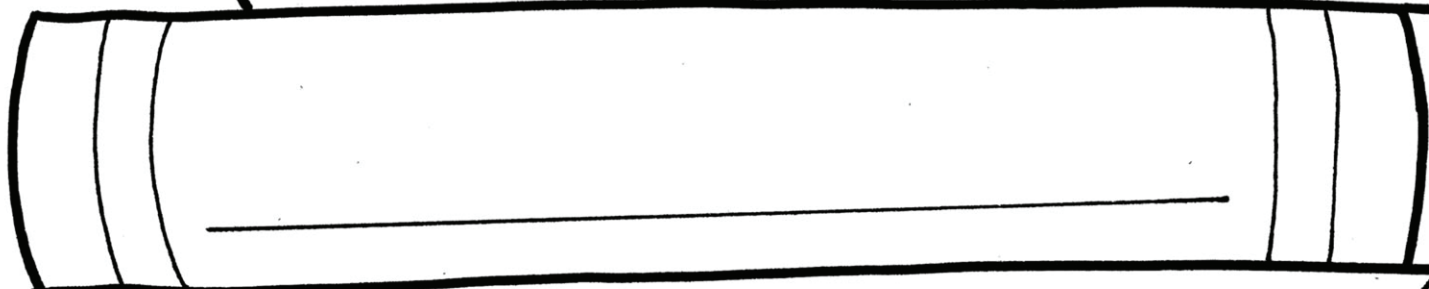
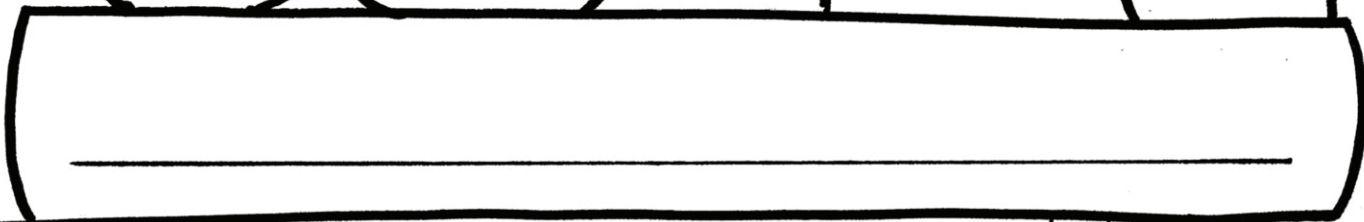
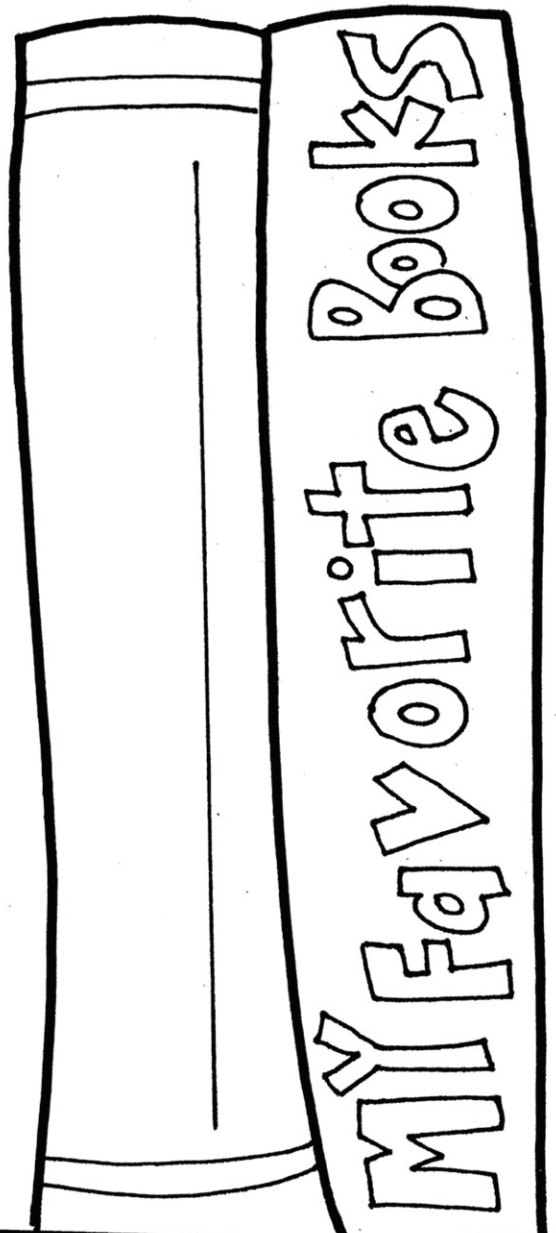
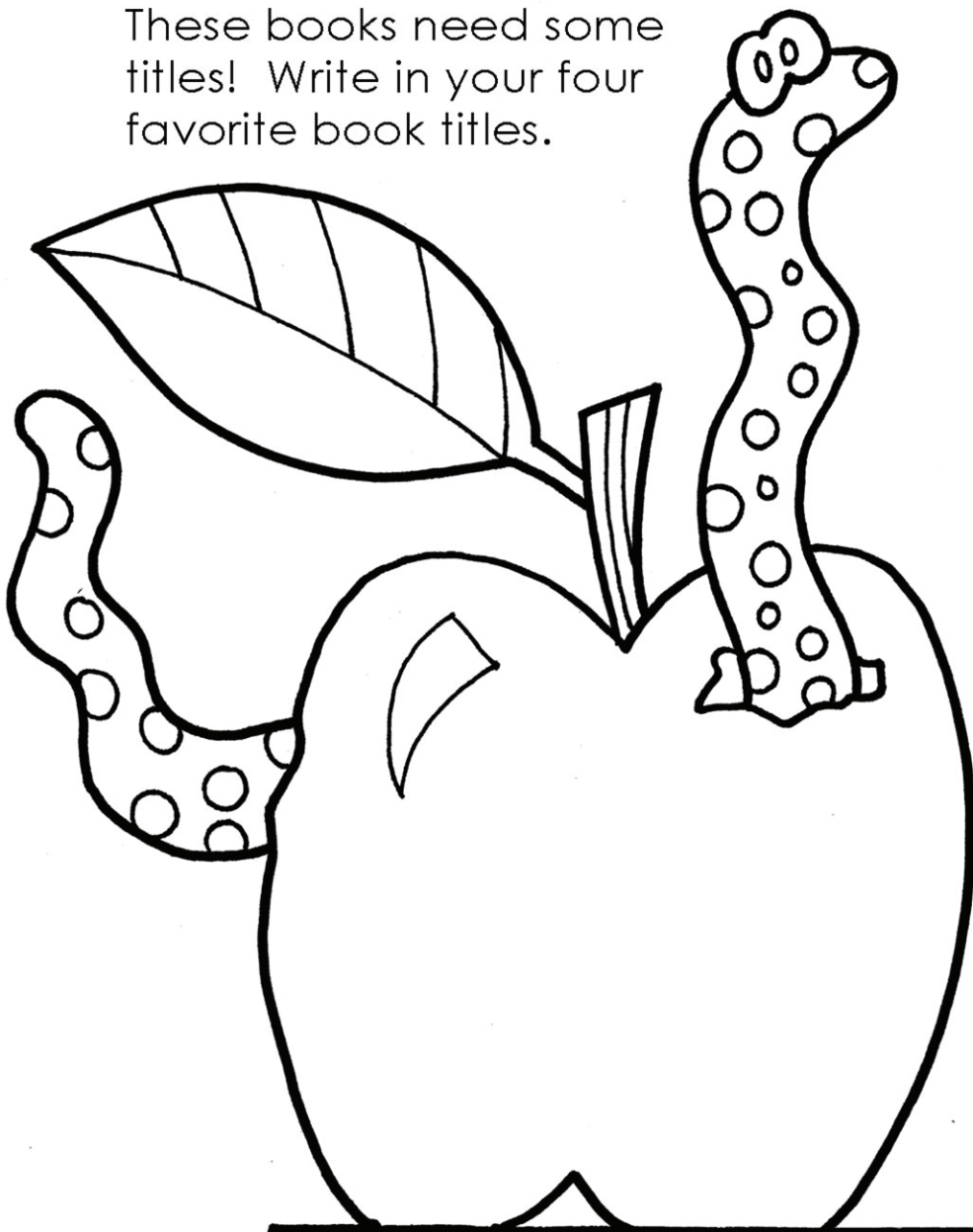
MOVIE _____

Subject _____

Vacation _____



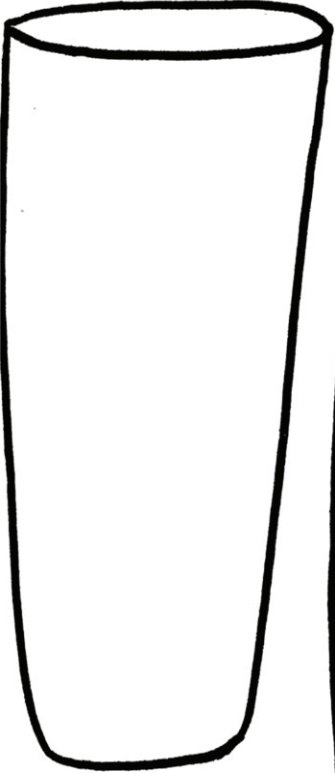
These books need some titles! Write in your four favorite book titles.



LUNCH TIME

MAINDISH

Drink



DESSERT

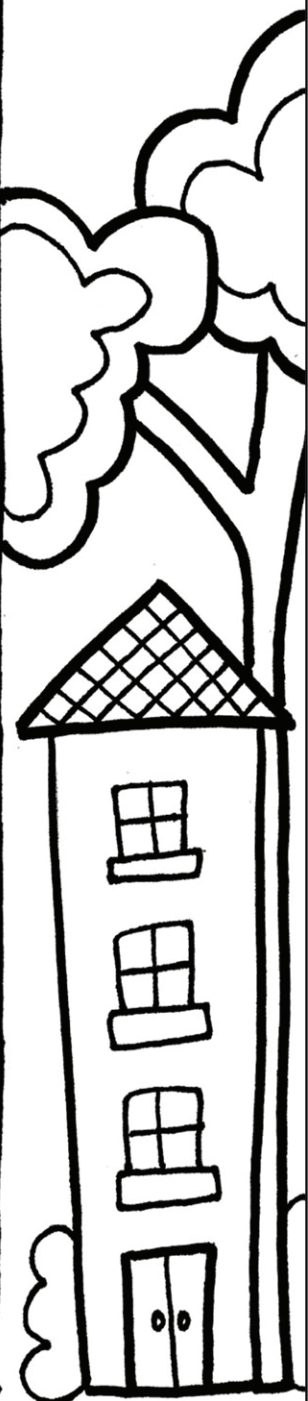
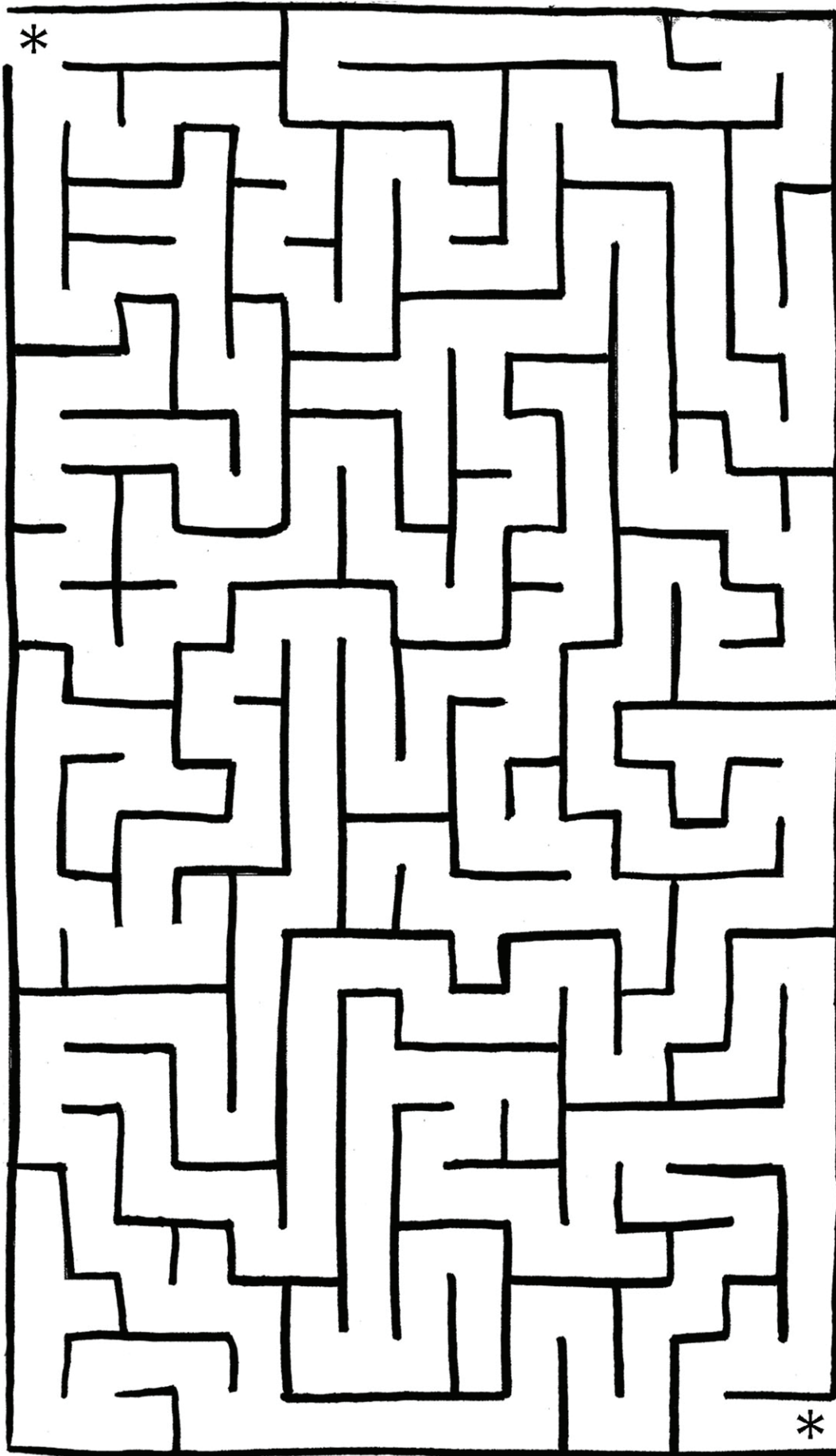
FRUIT and

VEGGIES

Draw what you had for lunch today!

School Maze

School's out for the day. Can you find your way home?



M Y Z
C D U B C R K S G
C P L P Z B W E P B K Q F
F Y G R Q V Z O R E Y B V U J R H
R E M J T H O M R L R E A R K Y Q Q S
X E N I O A Q X P L O P V V T I V W G M P
P L P O R J V N I T N P G O K N M N C Q T
J K U F A A T O N S C O D Z R O B I Y P V U I
J Y R F V P V G I B Z D T V Q Q D Y W X W L O
B V C B T L Z V H T A A Q F K Y A S C I S U M M H
D L U P E Z L J P B V T K W V E Q S G G A Y N X L
Y S Y R A R B I L X T E G I R P R N S R D E A G U
K A F W O H O U U H R E I T D N O S F N E G O W O N K
Z E Z U K O I H T A M A B U S B O L A W F C L S Z C H
S D V D K H W G I A X C V C K D C R O H X Q E R P H S
G E S W S E O V T R H I R F Y Y N J W B X L R N W
N O S S L T Z Y O W E G X L K B H S J S R Z O B X
W L U K G R U Q V N R T Y T P D R U S P W G G V H
I B K K F H D C Q P N I B P E N C I L C F F K
L Y Z Y Z C E E O Q D Q L T I I L F E A D K G
N M T X G H Z N H P M U V M R L E U L G C
B Y F J C C A S T U P P L A Y G R O U N D
L R E P A P M X M Z L X A T X T F F C
Z U K R K R O W E M O H G R P T U
O M R C J L Y X N H O J A
Y U S G R Q X N H
I C Z

teacher
student
math
reading
books
literature

spelling
history
science
art
music
gym

playground
desk
pencil
paper
glue
ruler

recess
lunch
homework
bus
library
computers

Back to School Word Search

RHYME TIME

Draw in pictures that rhyme with the pictures below

