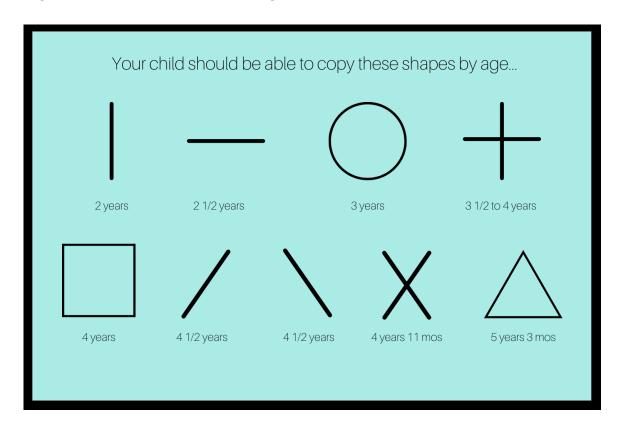




Tracing basic shapes is a gateway activity to learning to write letters. Forming lines, slanted lines, circles and other simple shapes are the building blocks for writing letters.

There is a typical progression of shapes that lead up to a child being ready to tackle forming letters.



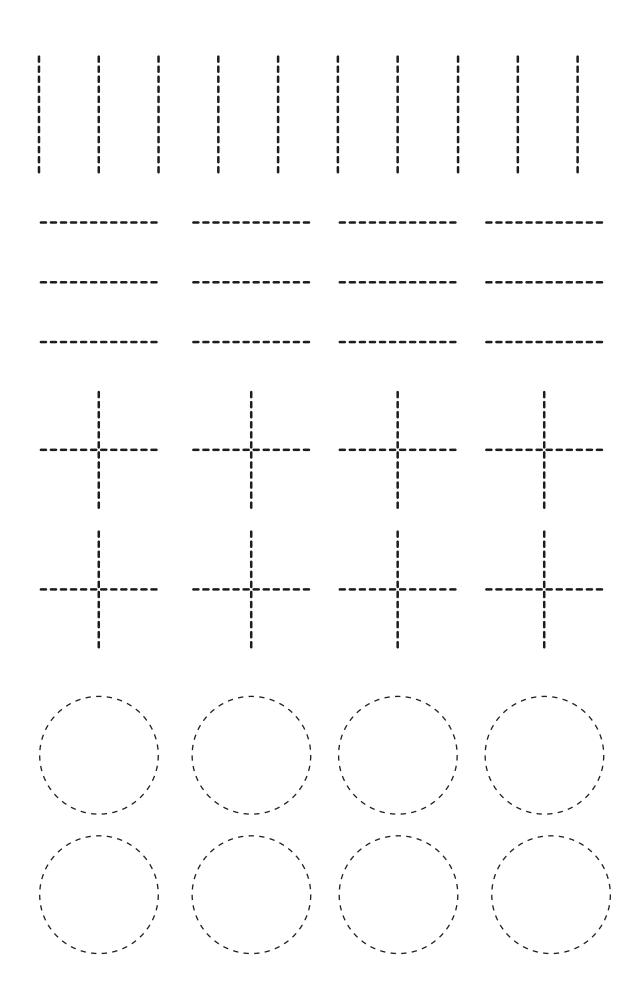
Keep in mind that all children develop at their own pace, and this is simply a guideline. Forward progress is more important than the rate of that progress.

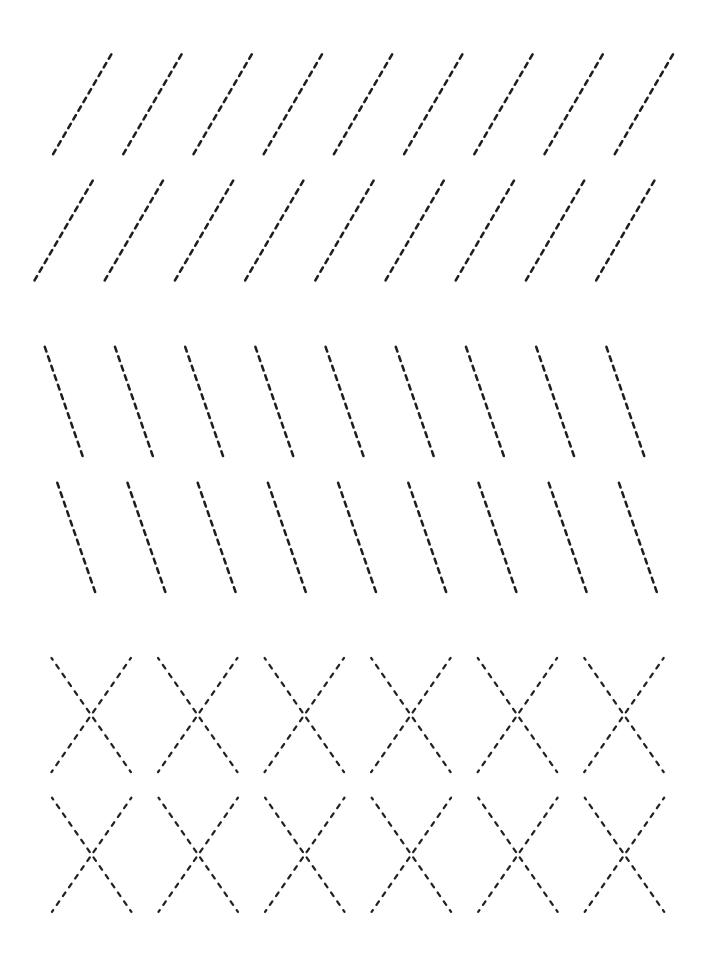
When tracing, encourage your child to hold the writing implement using fingertips and to start at the top and pull down, imitating proper letter formation.

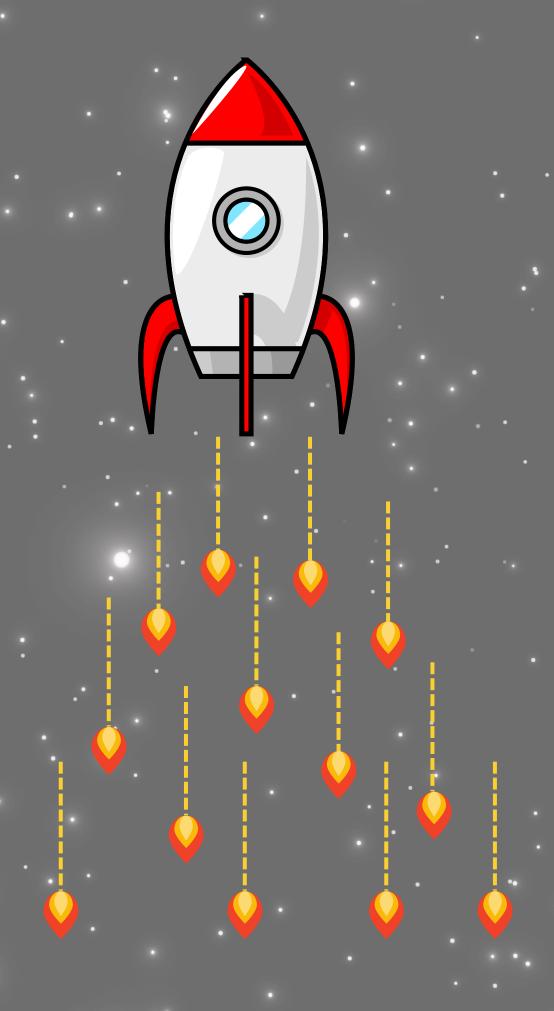
If your child's not yet ready to hold a pencil, don't force the issue. You can still use these worksheets to prepare for the next step. Here are some ways to adapt these activities:

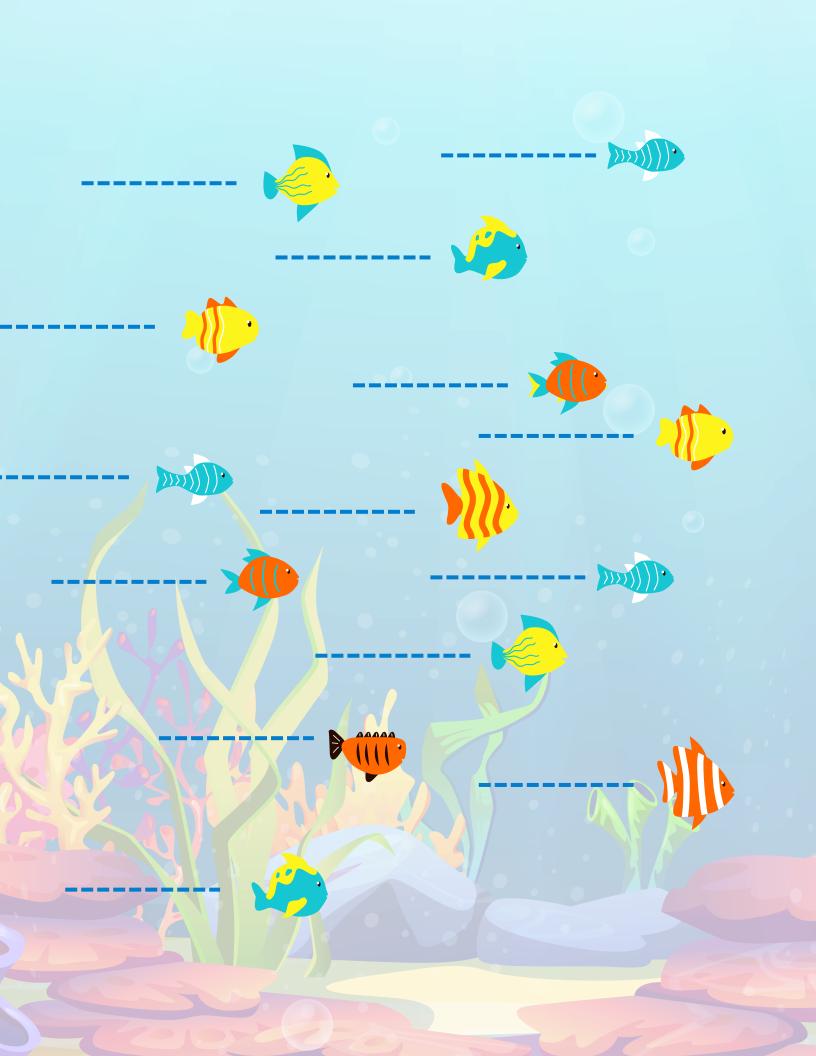
- Simply use a finger to trace over the shapes and forms.
- Place the page under a \*squishy bag and trace over the shapes with a finger or cut in half q-tip.
- Use a broken crayon for tracing instead of a pencil.
- Place a page on top of a mouse pad and go over the shapes by punch along it with a toothpick or push pin.

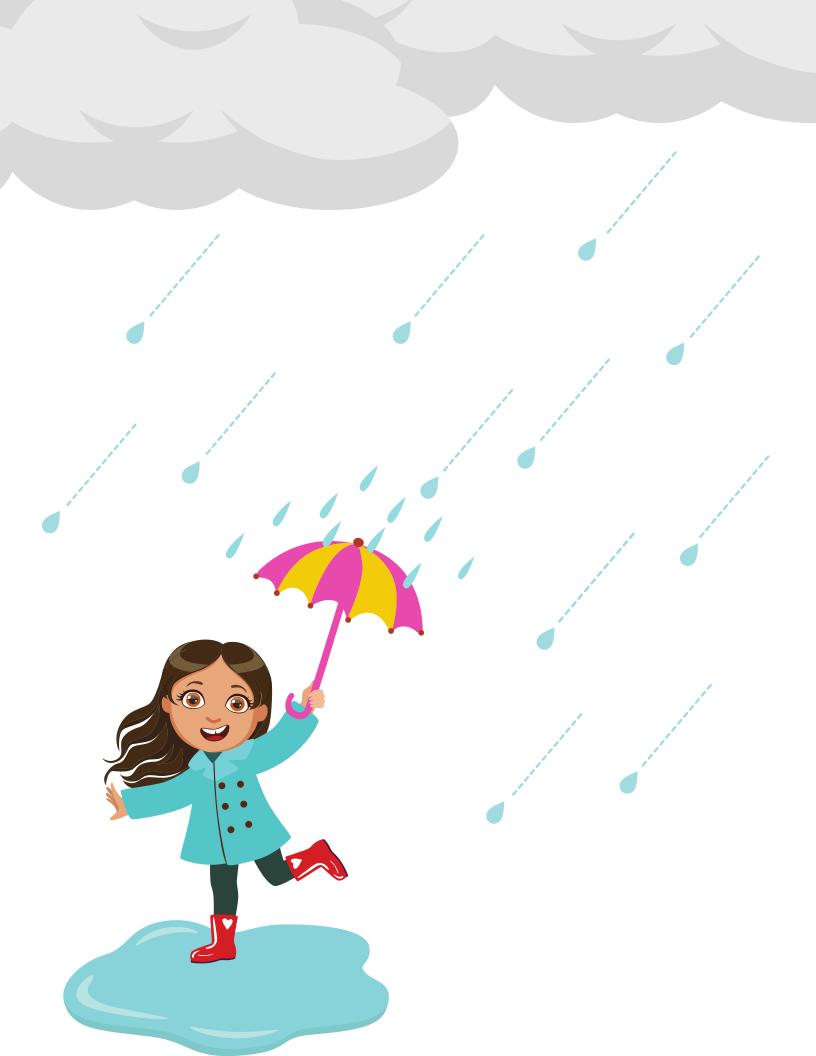
\*Learn how to make a squishy bag (aka sensory bag) in this youtube video: <a href="https://youtu.be/dBLeiLfaeps?">https://youtu.be/dBLeiLfaeps?</a> <a href="mailto:si=8Wi5p82i6PCndYRv">si=8Wi5p82i6PCndYRv</a>





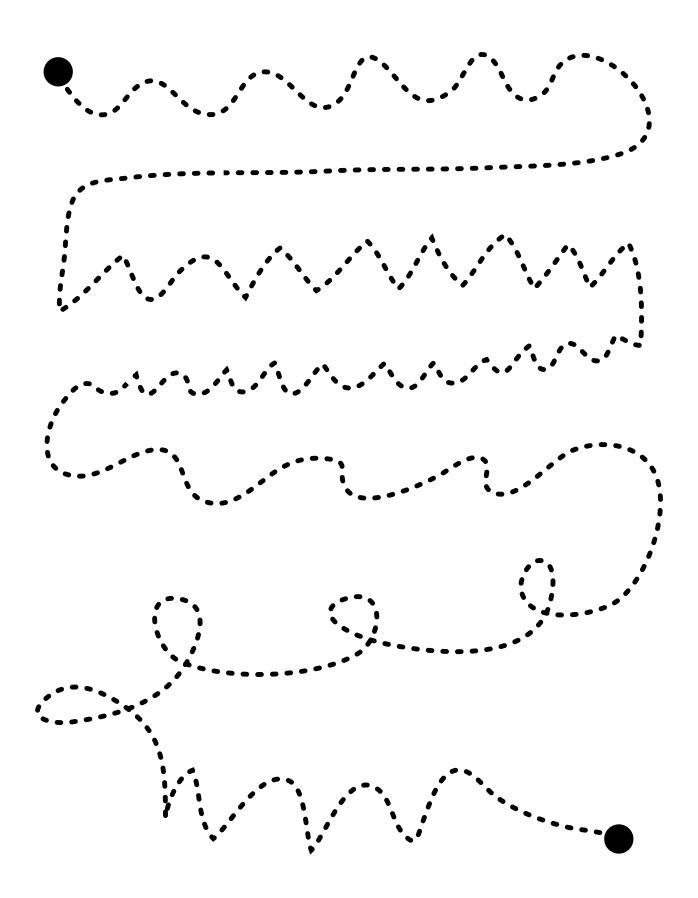


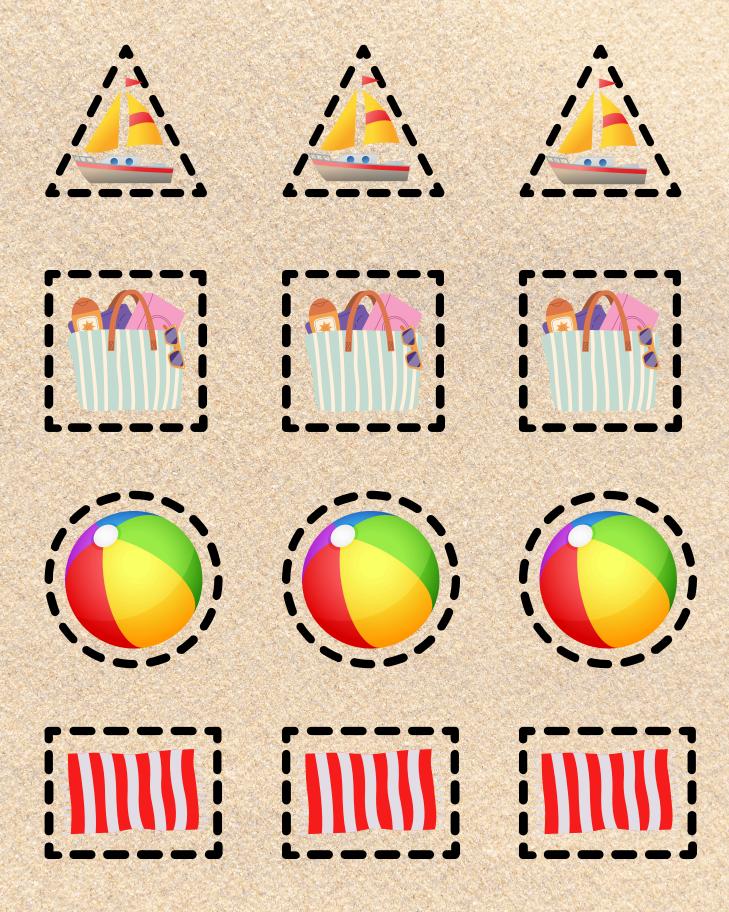


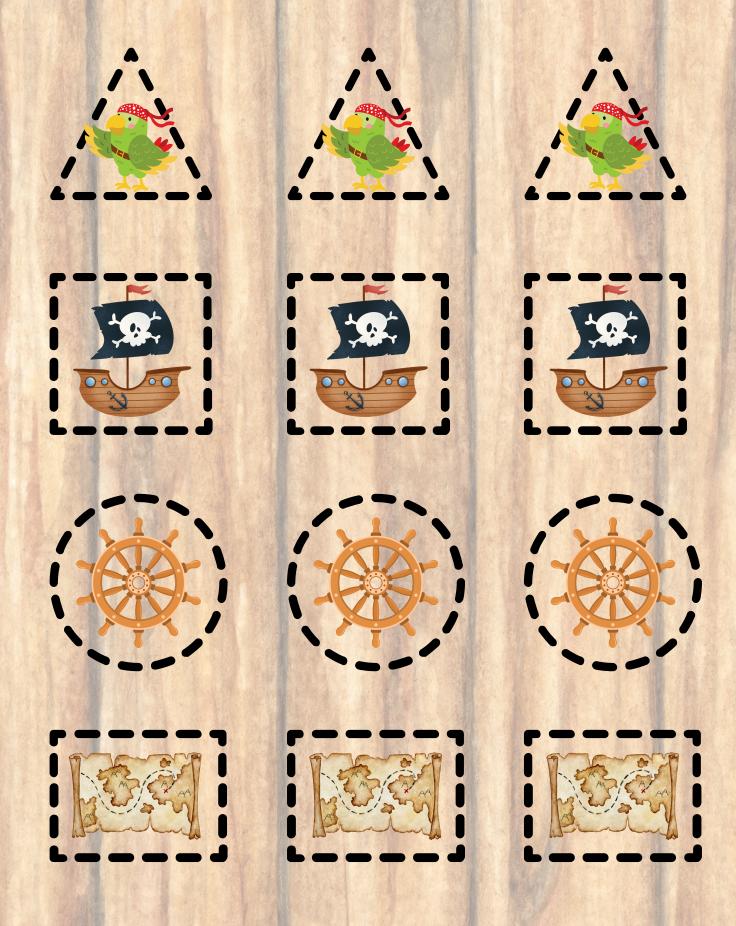


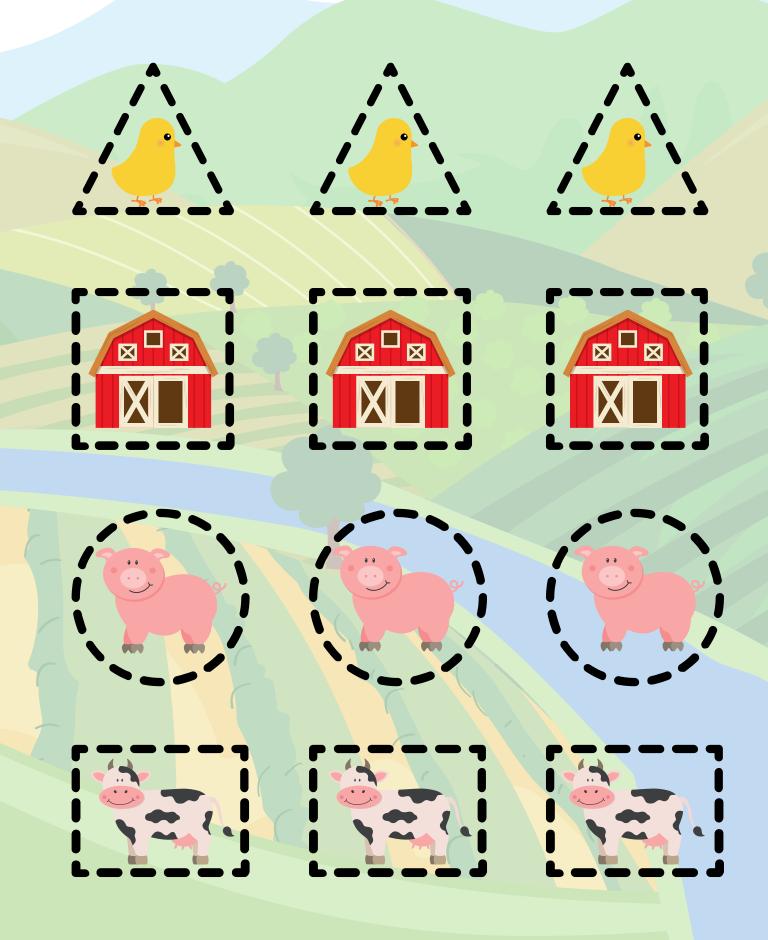


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## **WHAT'S NEXT?**

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