END OF THE YEAR

End of Year activities

PACK 1

how to SUCCEED in 3

how to SUCCEED in 4th grad

how to SUCCEED in 5th

THE THINKER BUILDER
MICHAEL FRIERMOOD

FUN & FRESH!

Terms of Use

Credits

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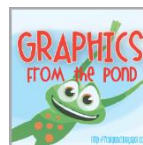
Get to know You activities

THE THINKER BUILDER
MICHAEL FRIERMOOD

Clue #1

Clue #2

Clue #3

Clue #4

WHO AM I?

Click!

Have you checked out my Back to School Activities?

I think you'll love 'em!

Fun & Fresh for BACK to SCHOOL

Clue #2

Clue #3

WHO AM I?

My Hopes and Dreams Include:
My own House
Become a doctor

GIVE UP?
(look Inside)

7 activities

grades 3-5

It's Me!

Jasmine

Introduction

· ·

   I sure hope these activities help you wind down the year in a fun and fresh way! Each activity begins with a description/notes sheet, and is followed by the printables and/or photographic instructions. When an activity includes printables that are grade-specific, you'll find a version for grades 2-6, as well as a generic "this class" version. Many printables are not grade-specific. Here are the six activities:

#1: "How to Succeed" Brochure
#2: "Song and Dance" of Learning
#3: "Summer Goals" Flap Booklet
#4: "My Future" Poem and Portraits
#5: "A Crowd of Compliments"
#6: "A Suitcase of Memories"

FUN & FRESH
ⒺⓃⒹ ⓄⒻ ⓎⒺⒶⓇ
# activities

"How To Succeed" Brochure

In this activity, students will create a brochure for *next year's students*. The brochure is meant to be like an instruction manual for how to succeed in the current grade (brochure options include 2nd-6th grades). Since the year is winding down, who better to reflect on a great school year and share tips and advice to the incoming crop of students?

Use the "Brainstorming Bubbles" planning page for students to chat in partners or groups to get ideas. The questions on the planner don't all exactly match with what students will fill-in on the brochure. It's meant to collect lots of ideas that can be used where appropriate.

The brochure is a tri-folded page, and will need to be copied front-to-back. Once copied, use the dashed lines to help fold correctly.

Inside the brochure are lots of fun opportunities for students to share their "secrets to success" to their grade level. I like to have students use the letter (located on the first inside flap) to write a note of encouragement.

Have students turn these in to you to save for next year's new class. What a comfort for a nervous new student to get some helpful and fun advice in a cool little brochure!

Brainstorming Bubbles

for
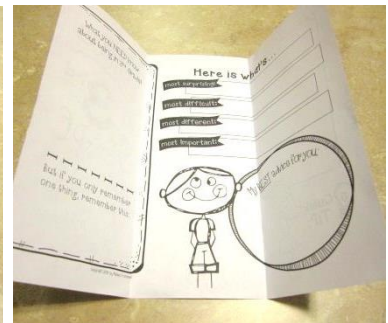
"how to Succeed in second grade"

What are the best things about second grade?

What has helped you do well in second grade?

What tips and advice could you give a new second grader?

What could you say to encourage a new second grader?

Brainstorming Bubbles

for

"How to Succeed in Third Grade"

What are the best things about third grade?

What has helped you do well in third grade?

What tips and advice could you give a new third grader?

What could you say to encourage a new third grader?

Brainstorming Bubbles
for
"How to Succeed in Fourth Grade"

What are the best things about fourth grade?

What has helped you do well in fourth grade?

What tips and advice could you give a new fourth grader?

What could you say to encourage a new fourth grader?

Brainstorming Bubbles

for

"how to Succeed in fifth grade"

What are the best things about fifth grade?

What has helped you do well in fifth grade?

What tips and advice could you give a new fifth grader?

What could you say to encourage a new fifth grader?

Brainstorming Bubbles
for
"how to Succeed in sixth grade"

What are the best things about sixth grade?

What has helped you do well in sixth grade?

What tips and advice could you give a new sixth grader?

What could you say to encourage a new sixth grader?

Brainstorming Bubbles

for
"How to Succeed in This Class"

What are the best things about this class?

What has helped you do well in this class?

What tips and advice could you give to next year's students?

What could you say to encourage next year's students?

UPDATED DESIGN
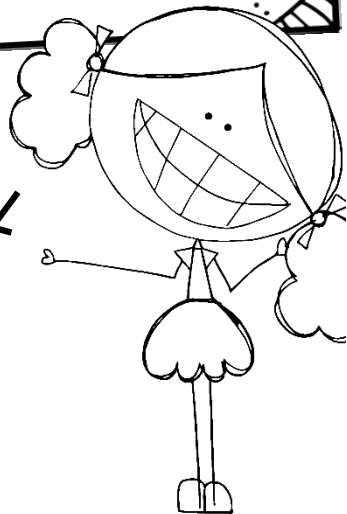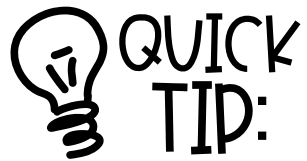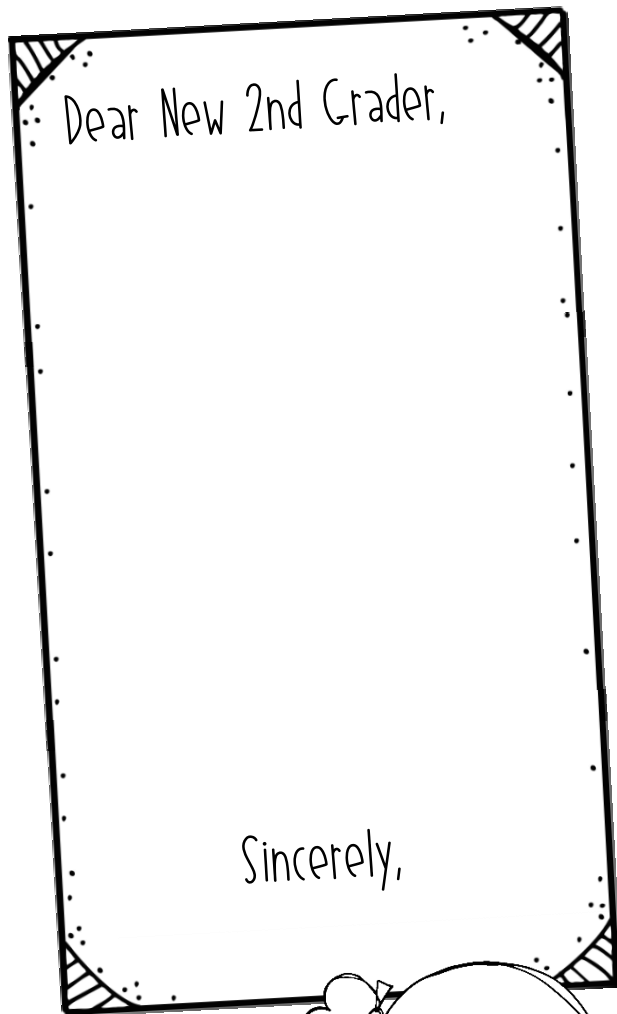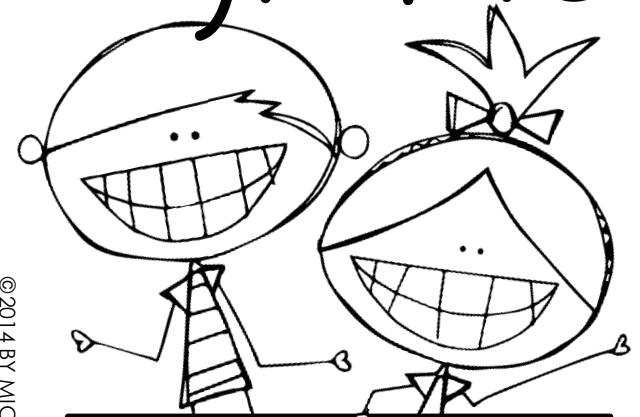
Dear New 2nd Grader,

Sincerely,

💡 QUICK TIP:

top 5 reasons why second grade ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

how to SUCCEED IN 2ND grade

your guide to **GREATNESS!**

written by:

HERE IS WHAT'S...

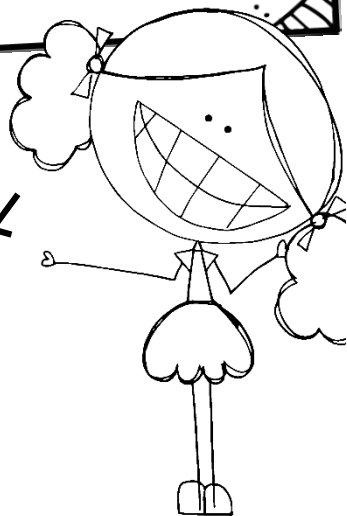What you NEED to know about being in 2nd Grade:

most surprising

most difficult
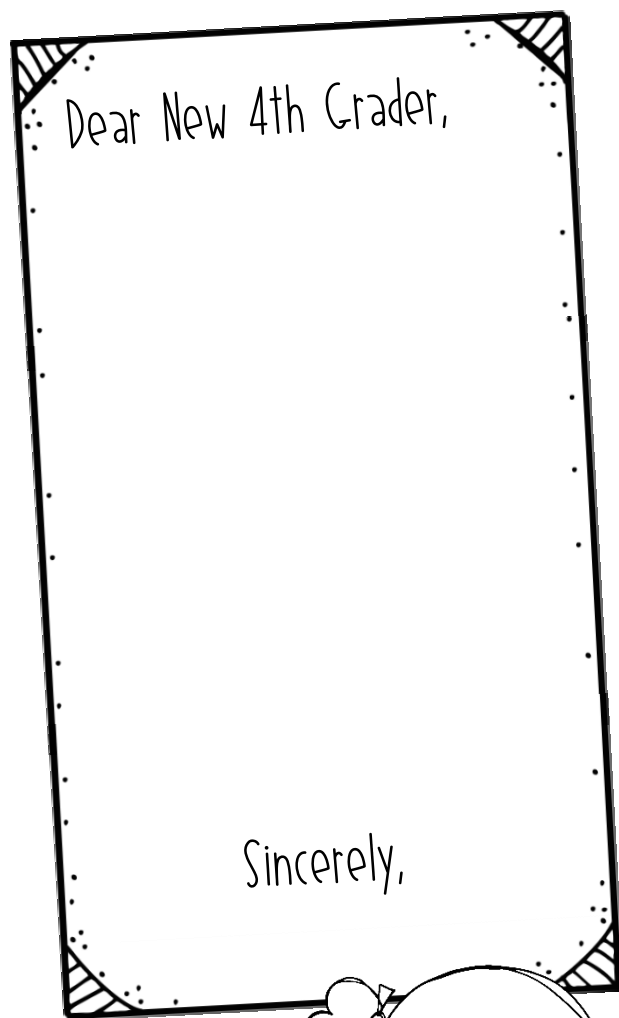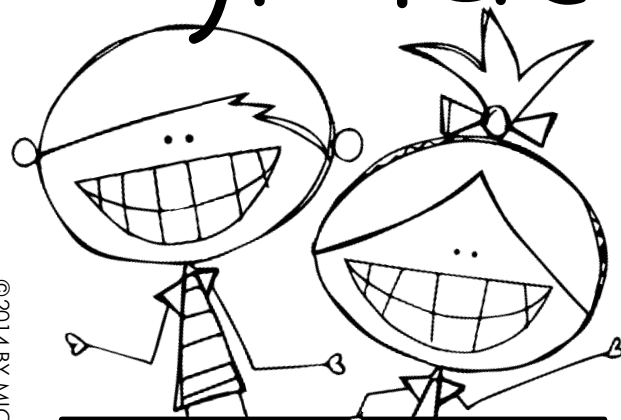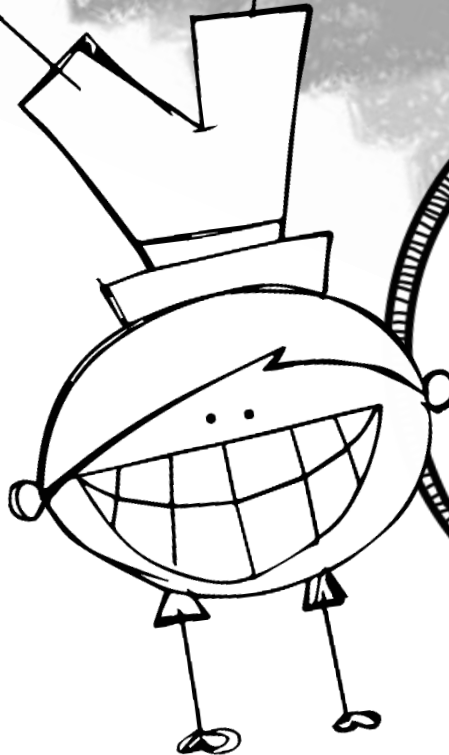
most different

most important

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My **BEST** advice for you:

Dear New 3rd Grader,

Sincerely,

💡 QUICK TIP:

top 5 reasons why third grade ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

how to SUCCEED IN 3RD grade

your guide to GREATNESS!

written by:

HERE IS WHAT'S...

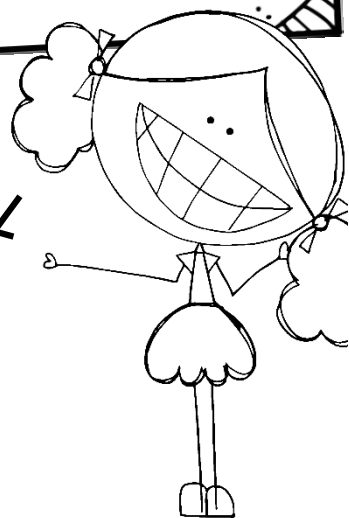What you NEED to know about being in 3rd Grade:

most surprising

most difficult

most different

most important

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My **BEST** advice for you:

Dear New 4th Grader,

Sincerely,

💡 QUICK TIP:

top 5 reasons why fourth grade ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

how to SUCCEED IN 4TH grade

your guide to GREATNESS!

written by:

HERE IS WHAT'S...

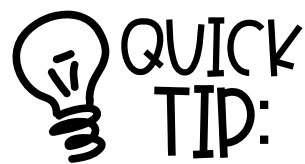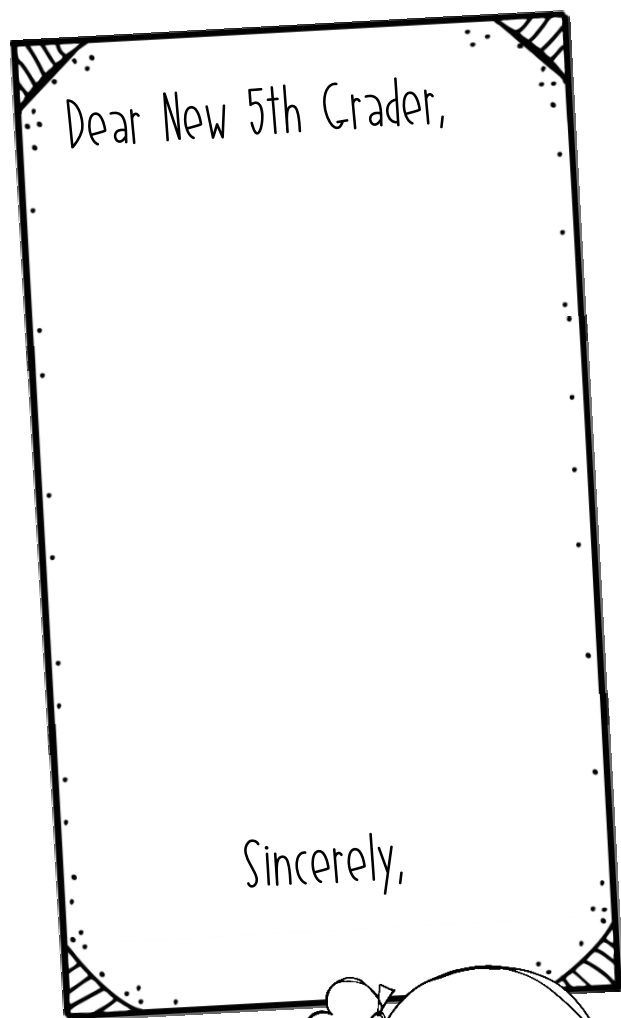What you NEED to know about being in 4th Grade:

most surprising

most difficult

most different

most important

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My **BEST** advice for you:

Dear New 5th Grader,

Sincerely,

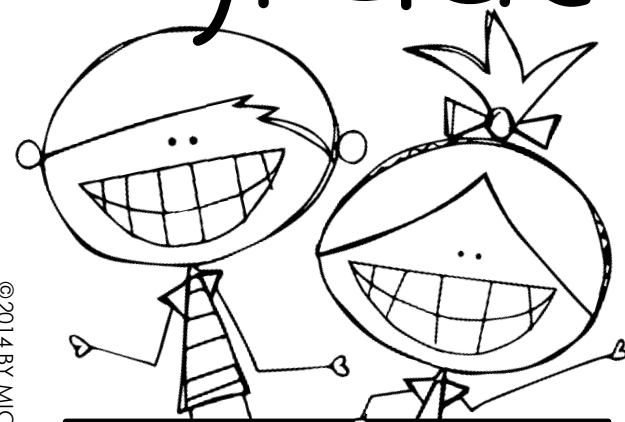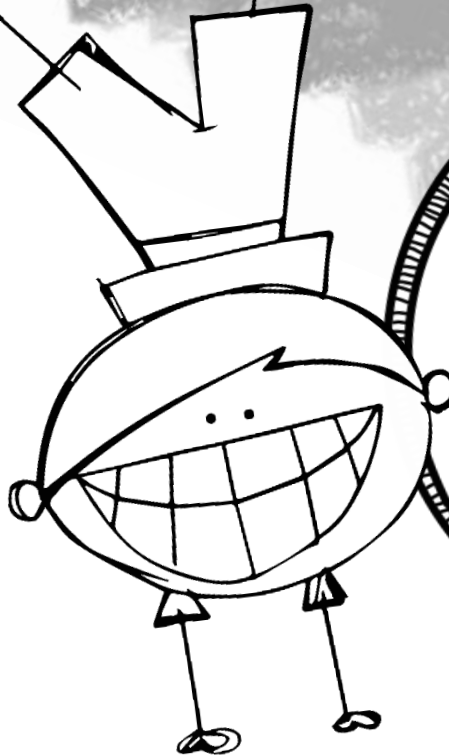💡 QUICK TIP:

top **5** reasons why fifth grade ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

how to SUCCEED IN **5TH** grade

your guide to GREATNESS!

written by:

HERE IS WHAT'S...

What you NEED to know about being in 5th Grade:
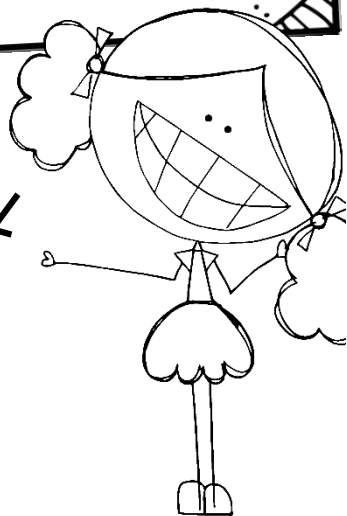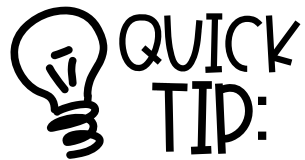
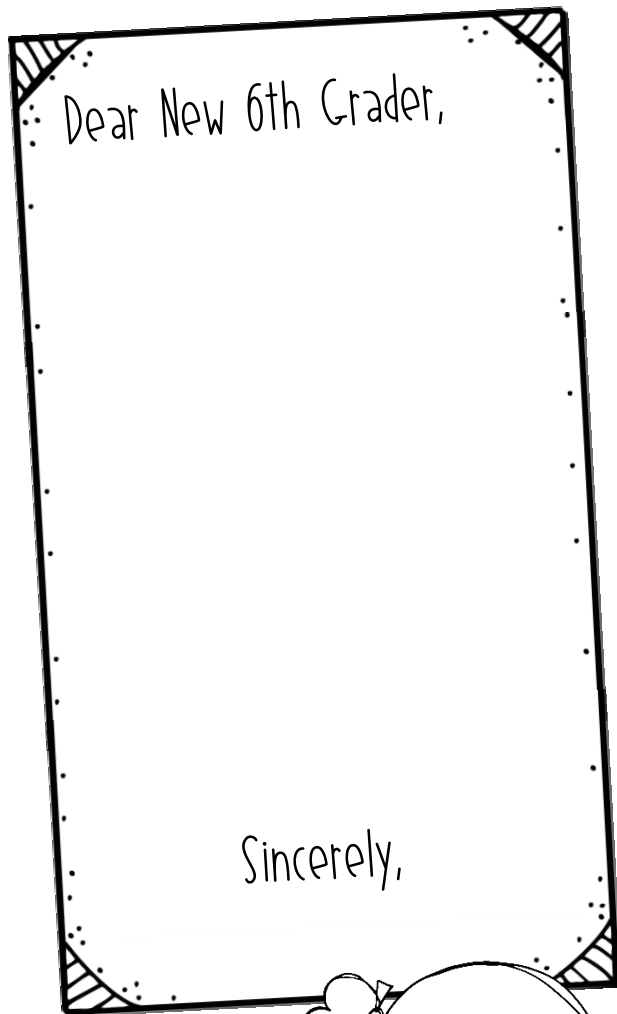**most surprising:**

most difficult:

most different:

most important:

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My BEST advice for you:

Dear New 6th Grader,

Sincerely,

💡 QUICK TIP:

top 5 reasons why sixth grade ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

how to SUCCEED IN 6TH grade
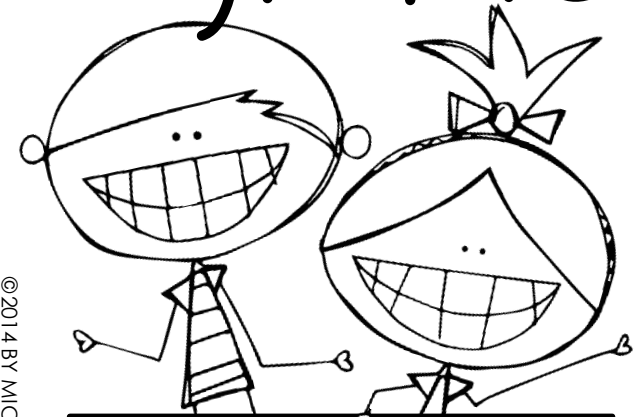
your guide to GREATNESS!

written by:

HERE IS WHAT'S...

What you NEED to know about being in 6th Grade:
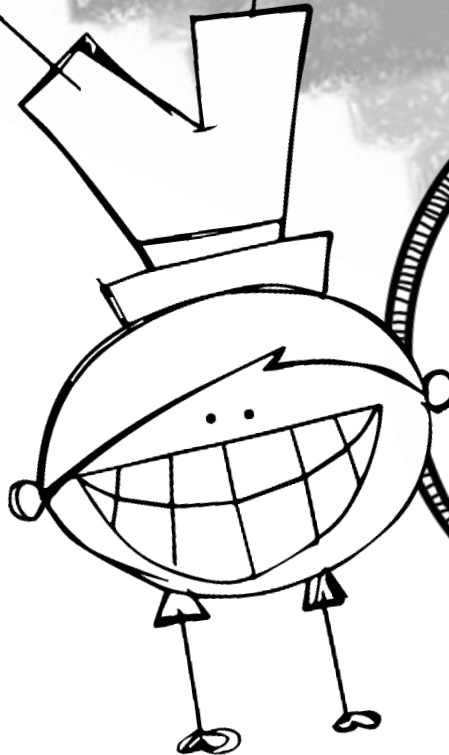
most surprising

most difficult

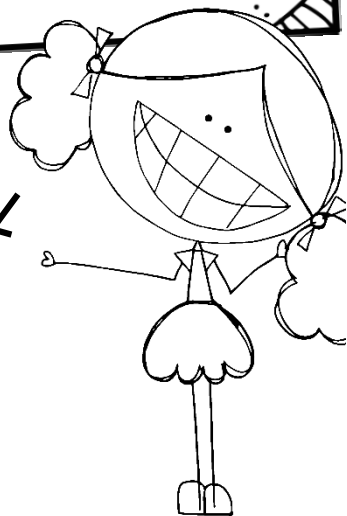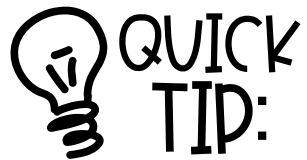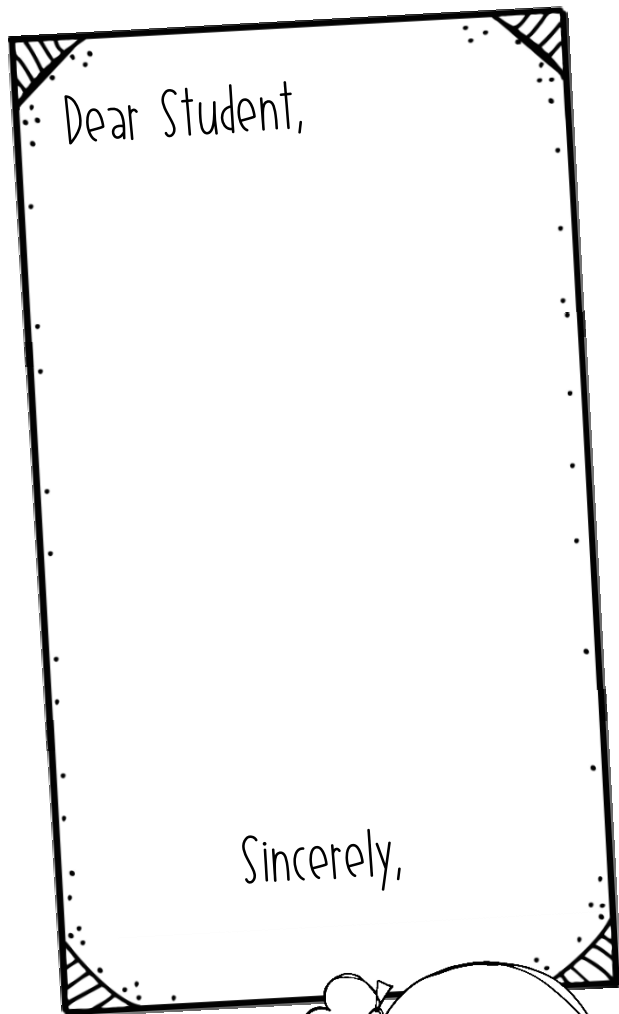most different

most important

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My **BEST** advice for you:

Dear Student,

Sincerely,

QUICK TIP:

top 5 reasons why this class ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

how to SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS

your guide to GREATNESS!

written by:

HERE IS WHAT'S...

What you NEED to know about being in this class:

most surprising

most difficult

most different

most important

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:
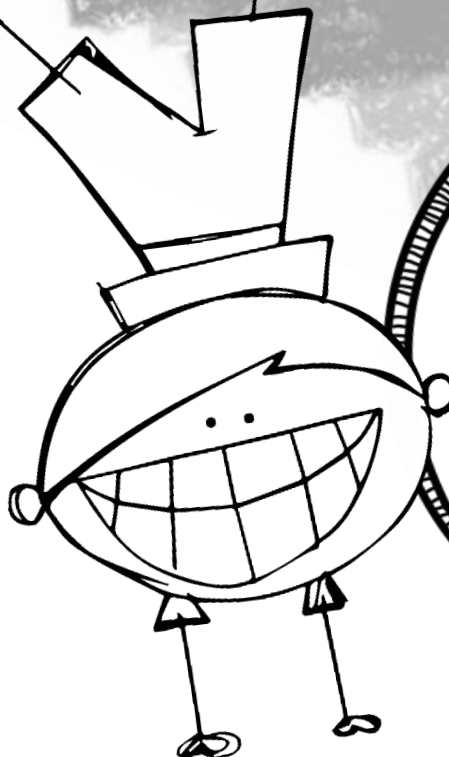
My **BEST** advice for you:

Original Design

Dear New 2nd Grader,

Sincerely,

Quick TIP:

Top **5** Reasons Why Second Grade ROCKS!

#**1**

#**2**

#**3**

#**4**

#**5**

how to SUCCEED in **2**nd grade

Your Guide to Greatness!

Written By:

What you NEED to know about being in 2nd Grade!

Here is what's...
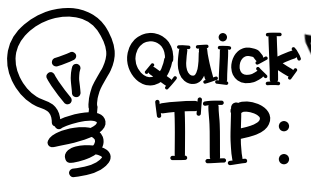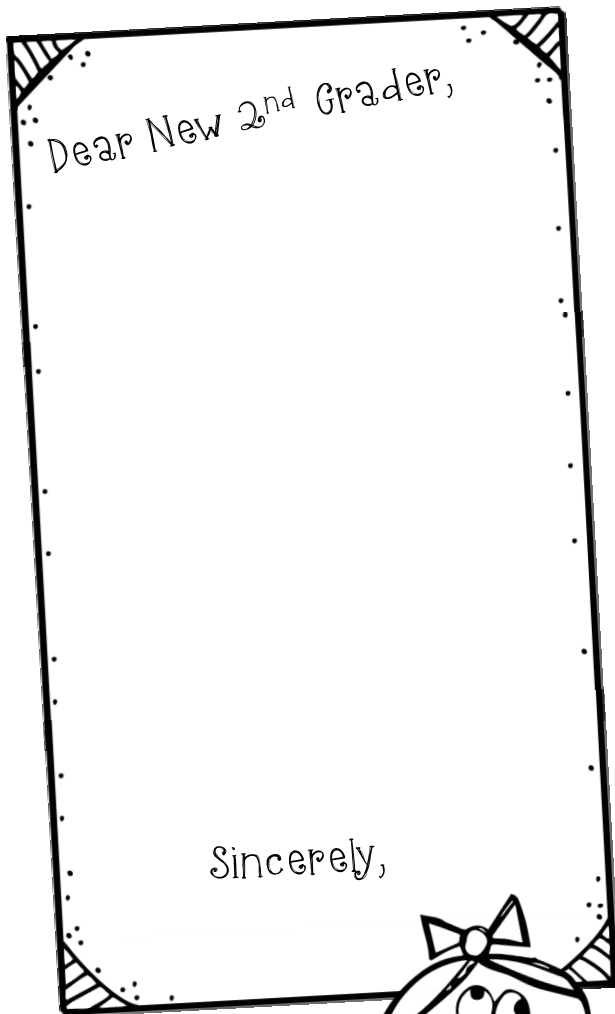
most surprising:

most difficult:

most different:

most important:

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My BEST advice for you:

Dear New 3rd Grader,

Sincerely,

Quick TIP:

Top **5** Reasons Why Third Grade ROCKS!

#**1**

#**2**

#**3**

#**4**

#**5**

How To SUCCEED in **3**rd GRADE

Your Guide to Greatness!

Written By:

What you NEED to know about being in 3rd Grade!

Here is what's...

most surprising:

most difficult:

most different:

most important:

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My BEST advice for you:

Dear New 4th Grader,

Sincerely,

💡 **Quick TIP:**

Top 5 Reasons Why fourth grade ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

---

how to SUCCEED in 4th grade

Your Guide to Greatness!

Written By:

What you NEED to know
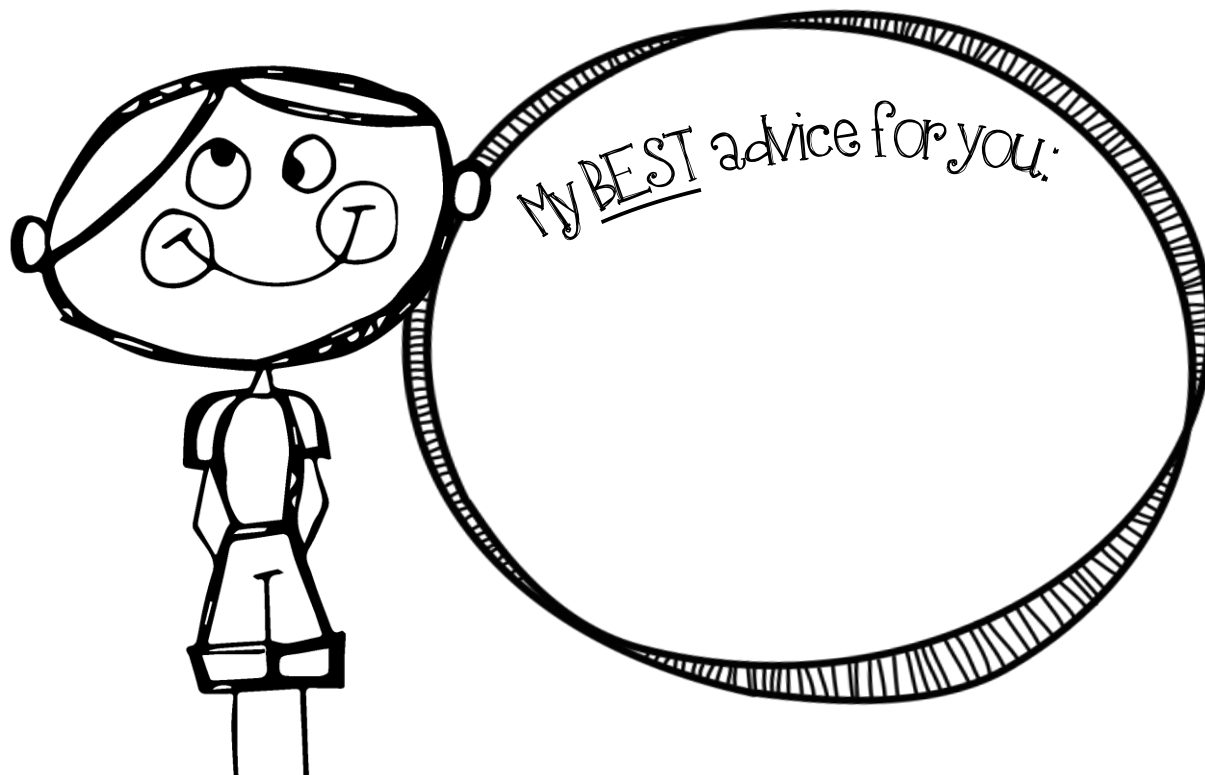about being in 4th Grade!

Here is what's...

most surprising:

most difficult:

most different:

most important:

My BEST advice for you:

⊢ ⊢ ⊢ ⊢ ⊢ ⊢ ⊢

But if you only remember
one thing, remember this:

Dear New 5th Grader,

Sincerely,

💡 **Quick TIP:**

Top 5 Reasons Why fifth grade ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

How to SUCCEED in 5th GRADE

Your Guide to Greatness!

Written By:

What you NEED to know about being in 5th Grade!
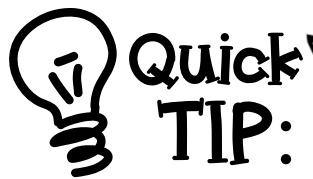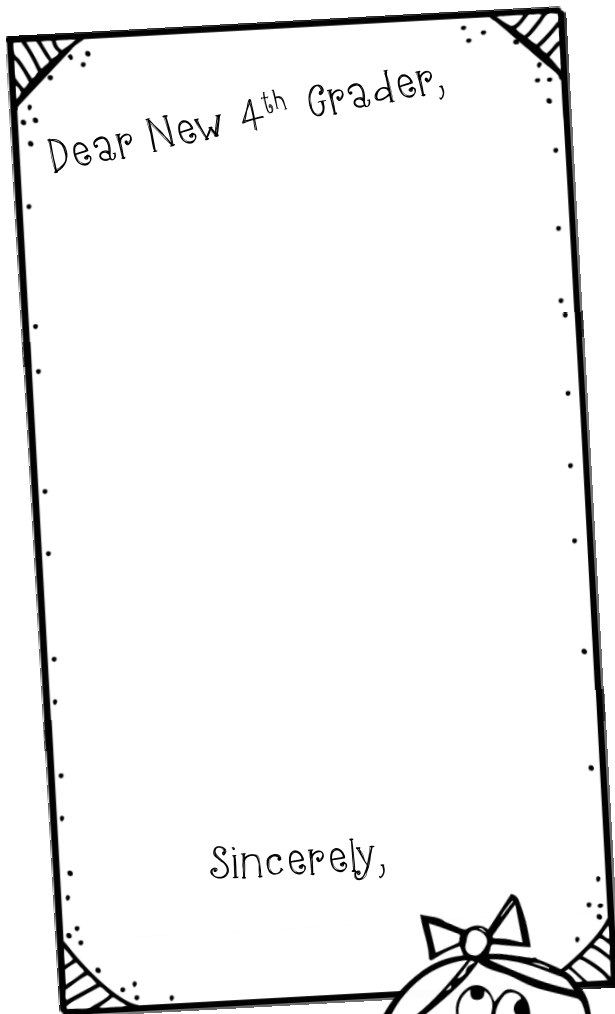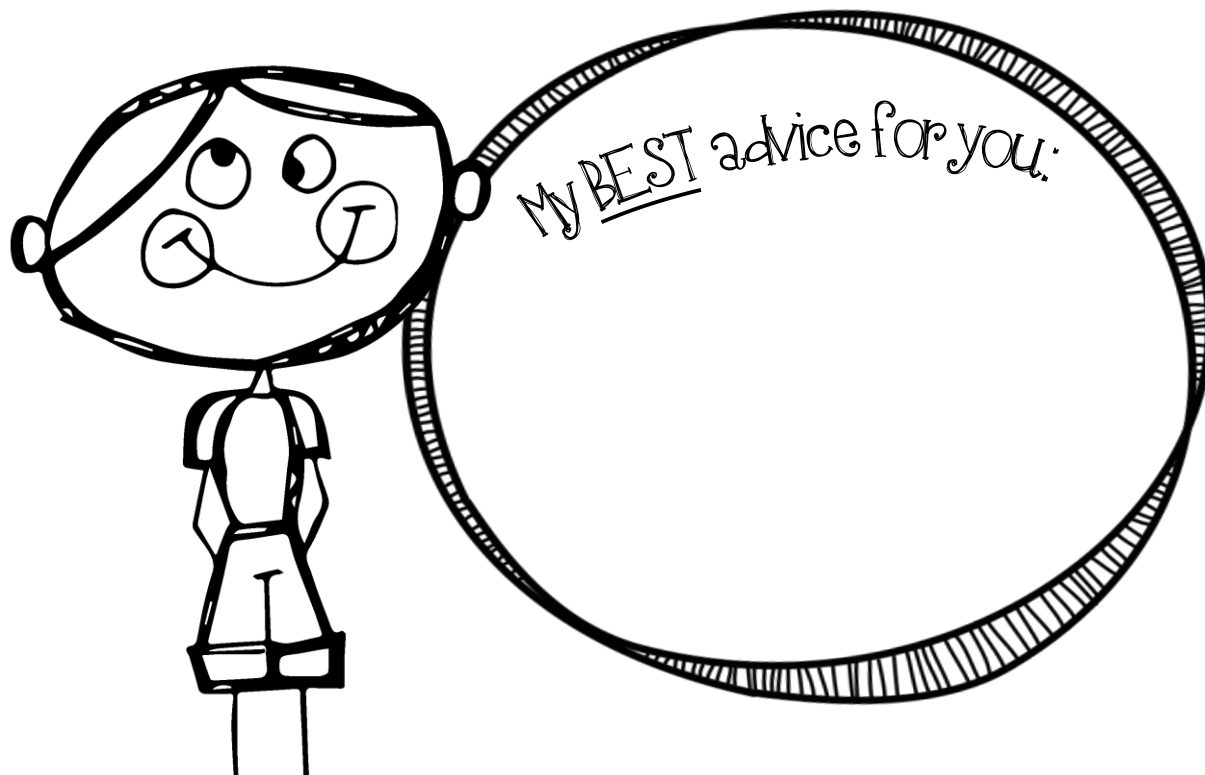
Here is what's...

most surprising:

most difficult:

most different:

most important:

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My BEST advice for you:

Dear New 6th Grader,

Sincerely,

💡 **Quick TIP:**

Top 5 Reasons Why sixth grade ROCKS!

#**1**

#**2**

#**3**

#**4**

#**5**

how to **SUCCEED** in **6**th **gRADE**

Your Guide to Greatness!

Written By:

What you NEED to know about being in 6th Grade!
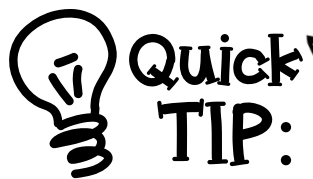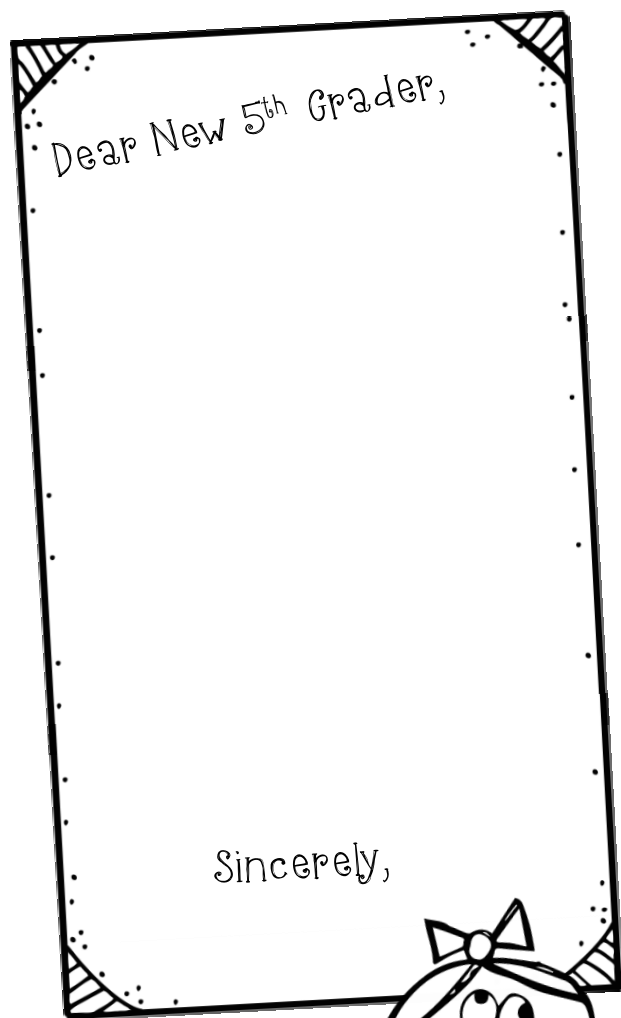
Here is what's...

most surprising:

most difficult:

most different:

most important:

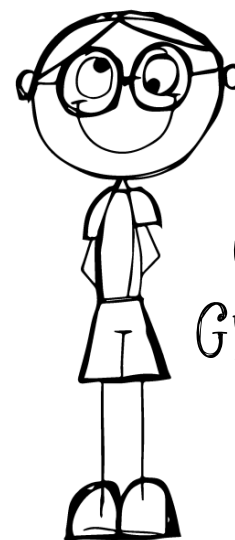But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My BEST advice for you:

Dear Student,

Sincerely,

💡 Quick TIP:

Top 5 Reasons Why This Class ROCKS!

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

how to SUCCEED in THIS CLass

Your Guide to Greatness!

Written By:

What you NEED to know about being in this class!

Here is what's...

most surprising:

most difficult:

most different:

most important:

But if you only remember one thing, remember this:

My BEST advice for you:

FUN & FRESH
ⒺⓃⒹ ⒪Ⓕ ⓎⒺⒶⓇ
activities

"Song-and-Dance" of Learning

In this activity, students will work in small groups to create an end-of-year song/rap to showcase some of the things they've learned over the course of the school year. Then they'll create dance moves to go along with their song.

You might start by talking to students about song structure, how there is usually a section that gets sung several times during the song, called the chorus. Then there are different verses, which have different words but still follow a similar tune. If you're feeling adventurous, have students pick a current song to sing as an example to notice the verses and the chorus.

Explain to students that their chorus section should be the "big idea" of the grade level, and that each verse should focus on a different subject. Students will write three verses, so they can choose any three subjects that they want (I normally ask them to stick to academic subjects.) For example, one group's chorus might be about how fun yet challenging third grade is, and their three verses might be about certain things they've learned in math, spelling, and science.

The planning page is for groups to brainstorm ideas and write a draft of their song. It also contains some formatting cues to help the song rhyme. The planning page can also be used to brainstorm ideas for the dance moves that will accompany their song. I ask students to make their dance moves "fit" the words of their song.

The groups will then use the final paper to write their song and to practice, and (if possible) will have it displayed to the class during their final performance.

END OF YEAR
SONG-AND-DANCE

DIRECTIONS: Write the lyrics to your End-of-Year song. You need a chorus and three verses. (The chorus gets sung several times.) Then create motions or dance moves for important parts of your song. Practice your song and movements.

Chorus:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Verse #1:

_____

_____

_____

{Chorus}

Verse #2:

_____

_____

_____

_____

{Chorus}

Verse #3:

_____

_____

_____

{Chorus}

{Chorus}

"SONG-AND-DANCE" Planner

Name: _____

Ideas for Chorus:

Write the Chorus:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Rhyme
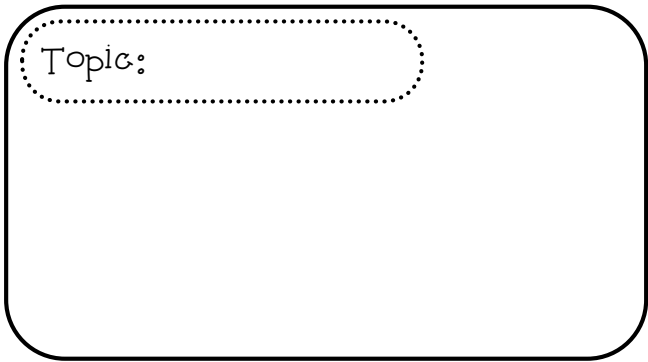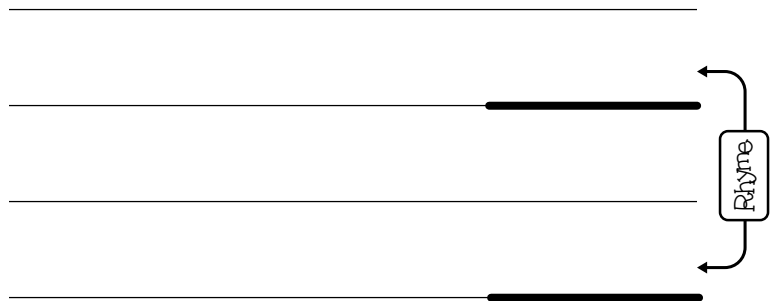
Ideas for Verse #1:

Topic:

Write Verse #1:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Rhyme
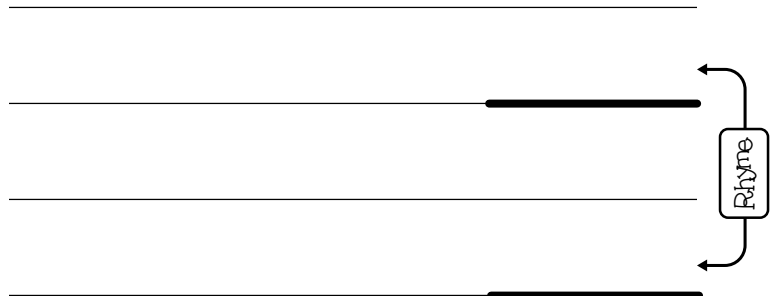
Ideas for Verse #2:

Topic:

Write Verse #2:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Rhyme
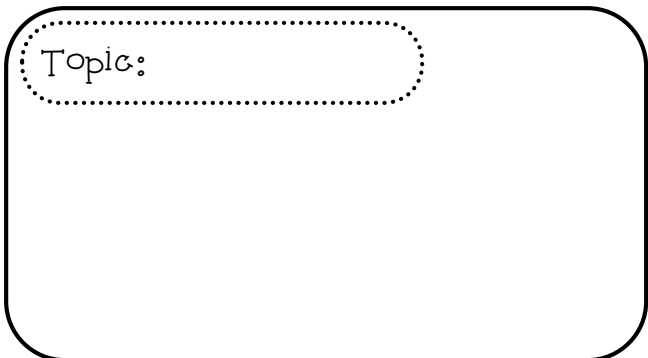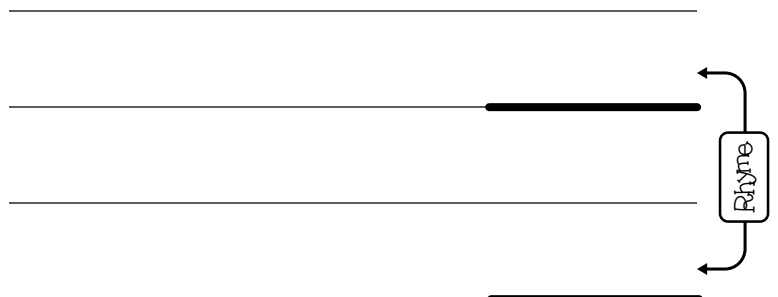
Ideas for Verse #3:

Topic:

Write Verse #3:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Rhyme

FUN & FRESH
END OF YEAR
activities

....

"Summer Goals"

In this activity, each student will create summer goals with a flap-booklet. There are two versions of the flap-booklet: one version includes opportunities to write *three* goals (flaps open upward), and the second version includes opportunities to write *four* goals (flaps open side-ways).

I like to brainstorm ideas as a class for this activity. Talk to students about the different goal "categories" that will be on their flap-booklet: something to start, something to complete, something to improve, something to try once. I like to make a chart on the board and help students with various topics they might consider for each category, like sports, academics, hobbies, exercise, and friendships.
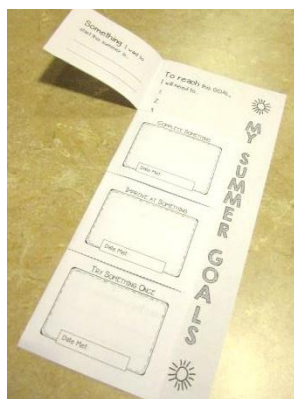
For example, students may want to **start** learning how to sew or exercising everyday; **complete** three chapter books or their half-finished tree house; **improve** at multiplication facts or golf; **try once** sushi or the high diving board.

You will copy the flap-booklet as a two-sided copy. Show students how to cut the dashed lines (the short lines) and FOLD lengthwise along the dotted line.

On the front cover, students will draw themselves doing or accomplishing the goal (to help them "visualize" themselves doing it!). On the inside, they write the actual goal statements and the things they will need to have/do to meet the goals.

Something I want to
start this summer is...

_____

_____

_____

To reach this **GOAL**,
I will need to...

1.

2.

3.

Date Met:

Something I want to
complete this summer is...

_____

_____

_____

To reach this **GOAL**,
I will need to...

1.

2.

3.

Date Met:

Something I want to
improve at this summer is...

_____

_____

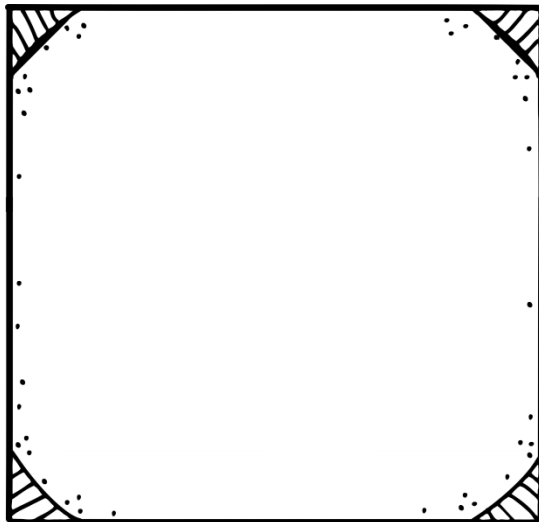_____

To reach this **GOAL**,
I will need to...

1.

2.

3.

Date Met:

☼ MY SUMMER GOALS ☼

Start Something
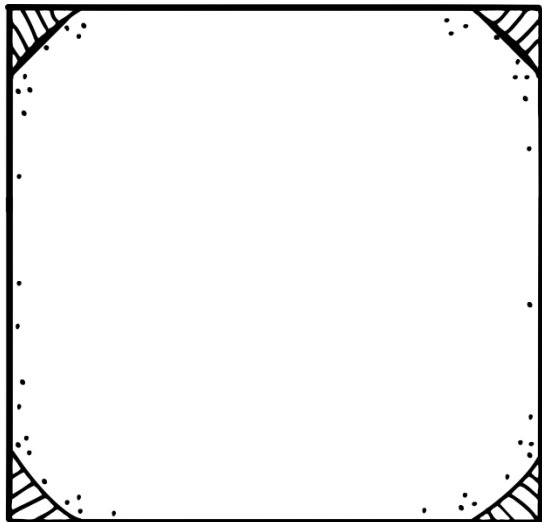
Complete Something

Improve at Something
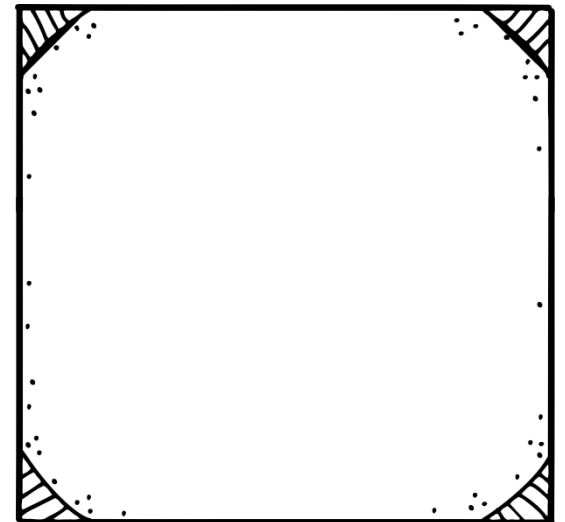
Something I want to start this summer is...

_____

_____

_____

To reach this GOAL, I will need to...

1.

2.

3.

Something I want to complete this summer is...

_____

_____

_____

To reach this GOAL, I will need to...

1.

2.

3.

Something I want to improve at this summer is...

_____

_____

_____

To reach this GOAL, I will need to...

1.

2.

3.

Something I want to try once this summer is...

_____

_____

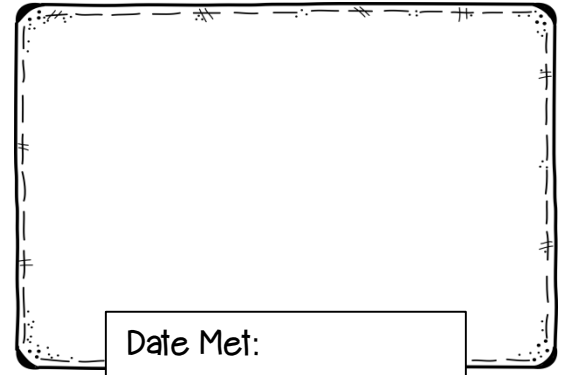## To reach this GOAL, I will need to...

1.

2.

3.

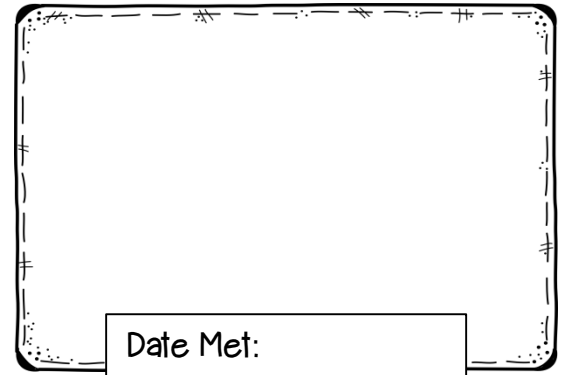MY SUMMER GOALS
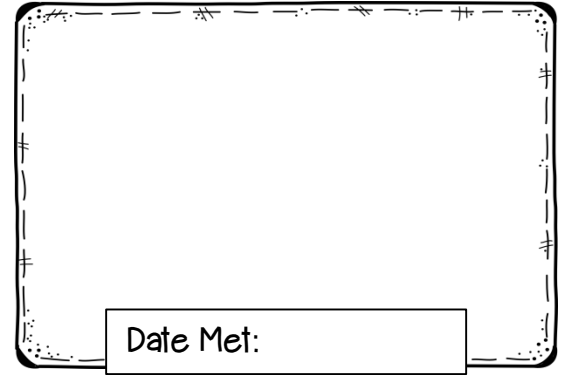
START SOMETHING
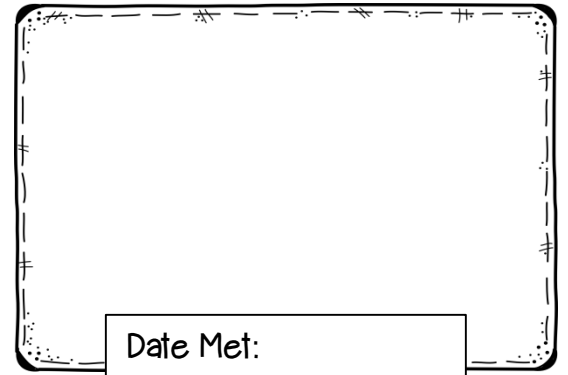
Date Met:

COMPLETE SOMETHING

Date Met:

IMPROVE AT SOMETHING

Date Met:

TRY SOMETHING ONCE

Date Met:

FUN & FRESH
ⒺⓃⒹ ⒪Ⓕ ⓎⒺⒶⓇ
activities

"My Future"

In this activity, students will look into their future. They create a series of self-portraits, as well as a structured poem.

For "The Future Me," have students calculate their ages for each picture frame, to get a sense of how to draw themselves. Have them draw a "head-and-shoulders" view in the foreground for each frame. In the background, students need to draw objects or a scene that would help show the kind of person they want to be for that year. It might include a place of work, hobbies, or people who will be important to them. Remind them also that their clothing can say a lot about themselves, too!

For the poem, "A Look into My Future," point out that the entire poem is written in present tense, but students will choose a different year to write about for each section. This will make the reader feel like they are moving through time with the author. Students can, but don't have to, use the same years from their self-portraits.

The "Today I am ___" sentence is intended for students to write their age (for each stanza). So in the first stanza students will be writing for the present day time. For the second stanza, students will move into the future, like "Today I am 15, and I am a sophomore in high school."

While much of this is pure guessing and conjecture, it's fun for students to start picturing themselves later in life, and to at least *start* thinking about their bright futures.

The Future Me

This Year...

In 5 years...

In 10 years...

In 25 years...

"A Look into My Future"

BY:

Today I am _____, and I am a _____.
I love to _____.
I have become so good at _____.
My friends say I am _____.
And I say I am _____.

And time passes.

Today I am _____, and I am a _____.
I love to _____.
I have become so good at _____.
My friends say I am _____.
And I say I am _____.

And time passes.

Today I am _____, and I am a _____.
I love to _____.
I have become so good at _____.
My friends say I am _____.
And I say I am _____.

And time passes.

Today I am _____, and I am a _____.
I love to _____.
I have become so good at _____.
My friends say I am _____.
And I say I am _____.

And time passes.

FUN & FRESH
END OF YEAR
activities

"A Crowd of Compliments"

In this activity, students write compliments about their peers, so that each student will have a page full of compliments to take home.

Use the Assembly Instructions to guide students through setting up their compliments-page, where they will create a drawing of themselves and attach it, pop-out style, to the compliments page.

Once all students have their own compliments-page ready, have them lay them out on their desks and get a pencil ready.

Tell them that when they hear the music, (or turn the lights off), they will get up and roam around the room. When the music stops, they will sit down at the nearest desk (not their own), and write a thoughtful compliment in one of the speech bubbles of that student's page. When the music begins again, they will get up and repeat.

There are 15 empty speech bubbles on the form, so most likely, you won't have *every* student give a compliment to *every other* student (unless you have a really small class!).

Monitor for appropriateness. I always like to preface the whole activity with some discussion about what makes a good compliment: it should be personal, thoughtful, and NOT about appearances or clothing.

A Crowd of COMPLIMENTS
Assembly Instructions

Choose a blank face to color. Cut out your the self-portrait and the rectangle for the pop-up stand.
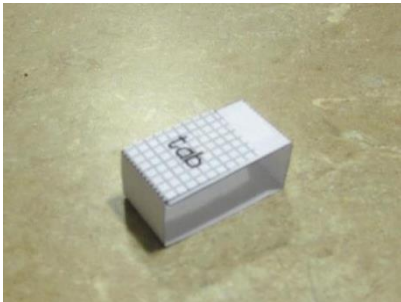
Fold the rectangle along the dotted lines to form a box-shape. Use the tab to glue or tape it together.
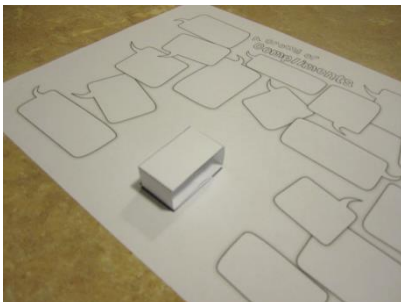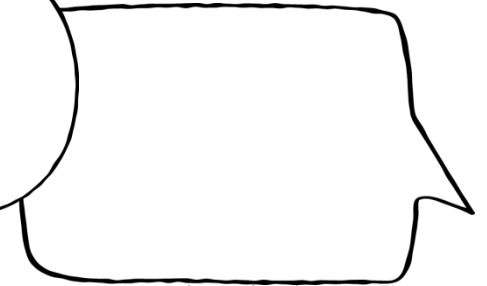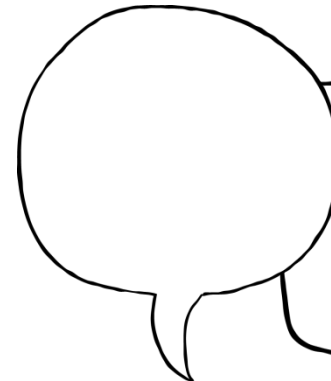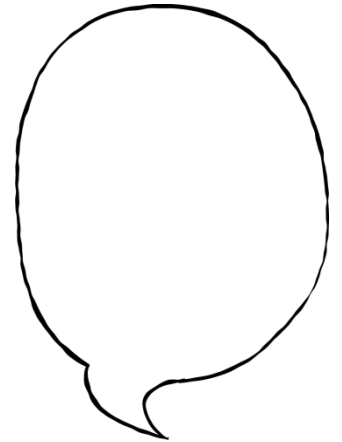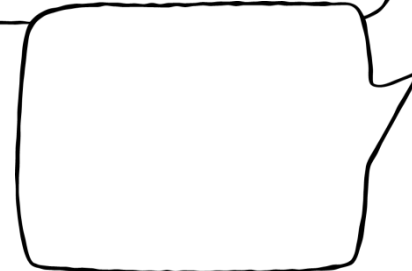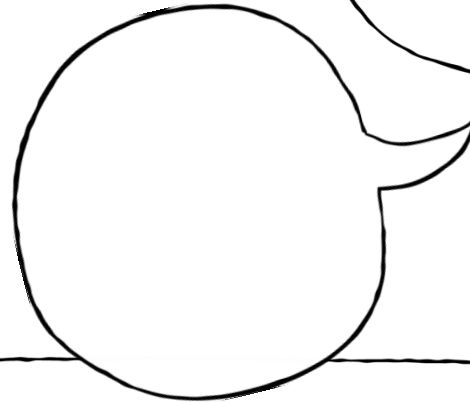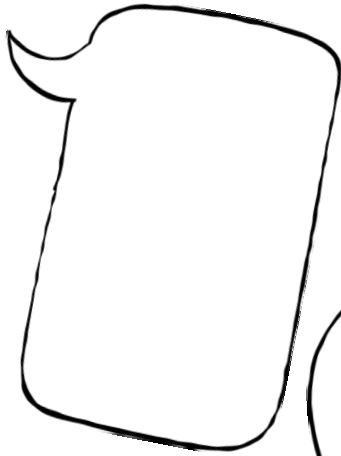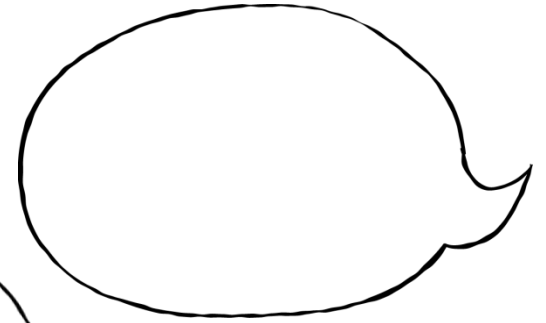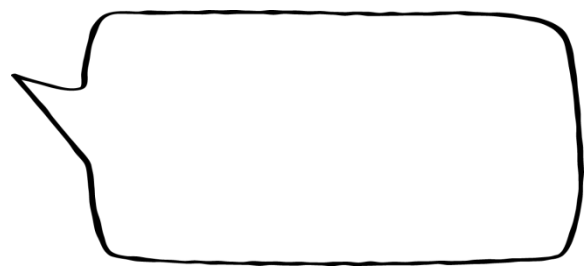
Glue the pop-up stand to the Compliments Sheet.

Glue the self-portrait to the pop-up stand. It's now ready for compliments!

A Crowd of compliments
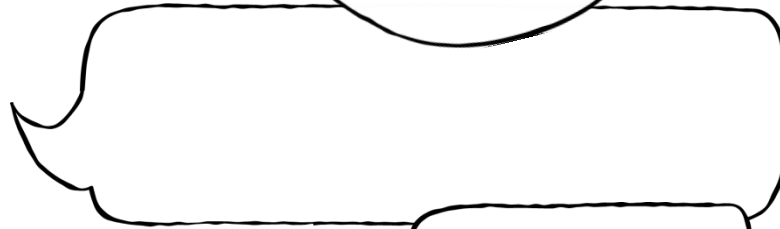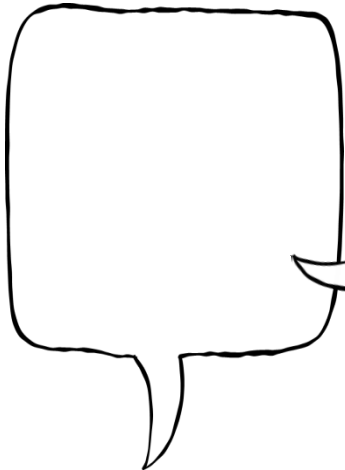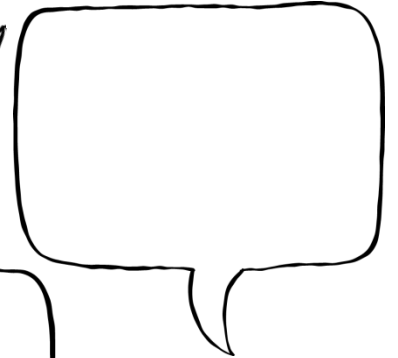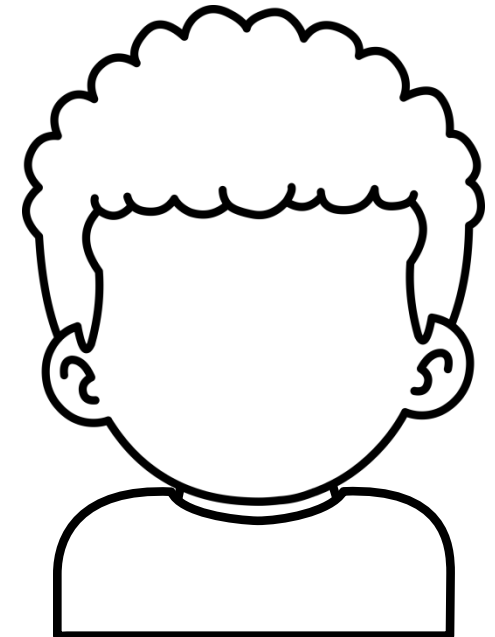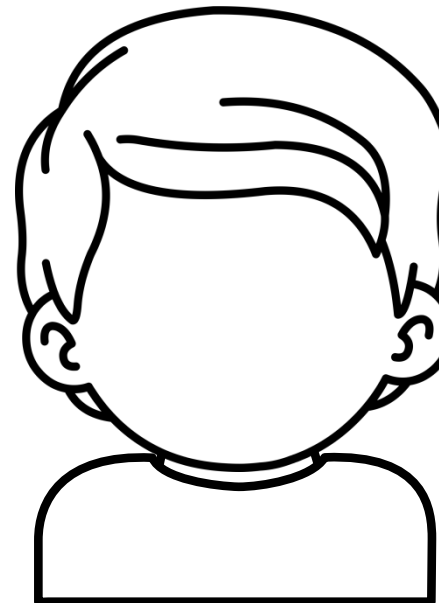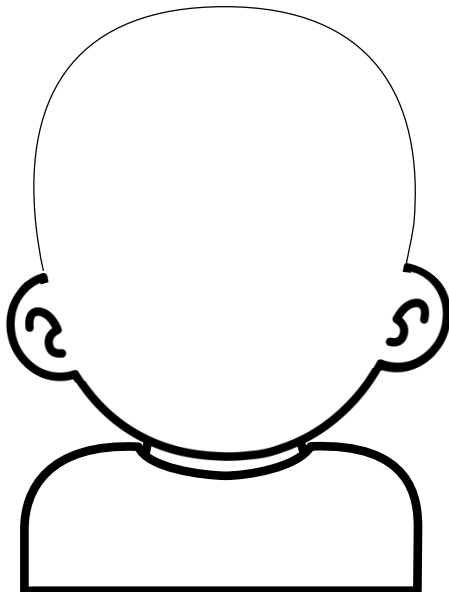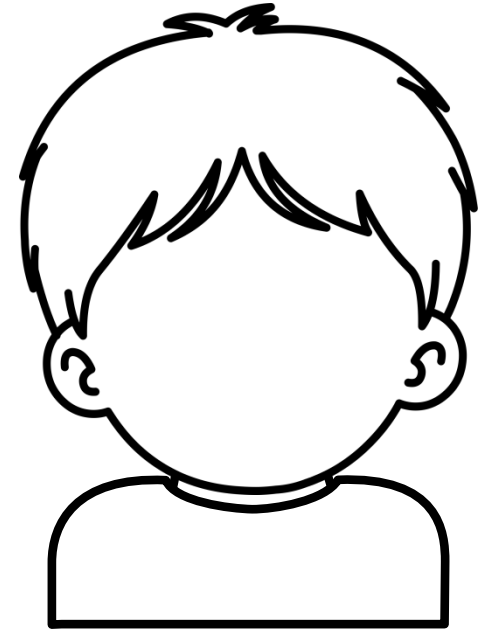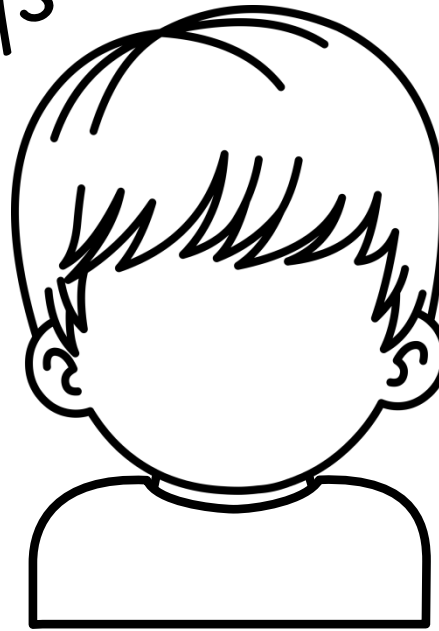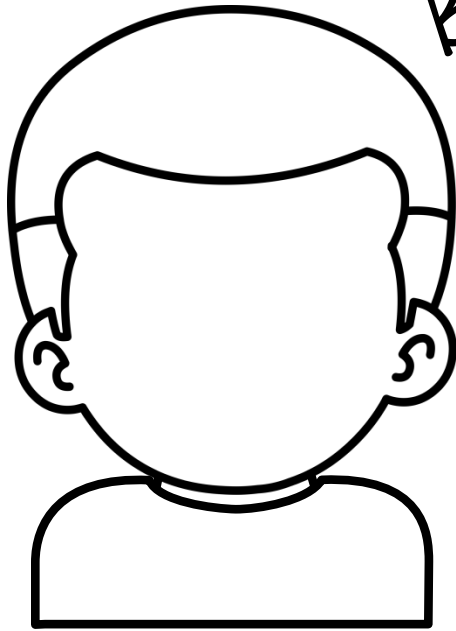
Glue Stand Here

Choose a face and create a self-portrait. Write your name on the shirt. Then cut yourself out. Glue the pop-out stand. (below) to the Compliments Sheet. Then glue your cut-out portrait to the stand.

Boys

tab

Cut out this rectangle and fold along the dotted lines. Overlap the tab and paste to make a box shape. This will be the pop-out stand.

Choose a face and
create a self-portrait.
Write your name on the
shirt. Then cut yourself
out. Glue the pop-out
stand. (below) to the
Compliments Sheet.
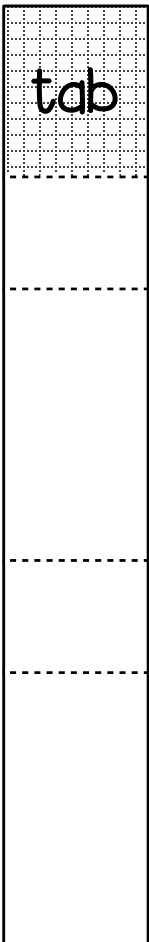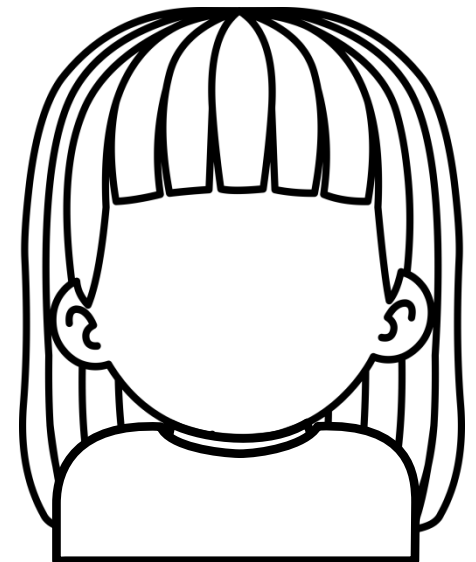Then glue your cut-out
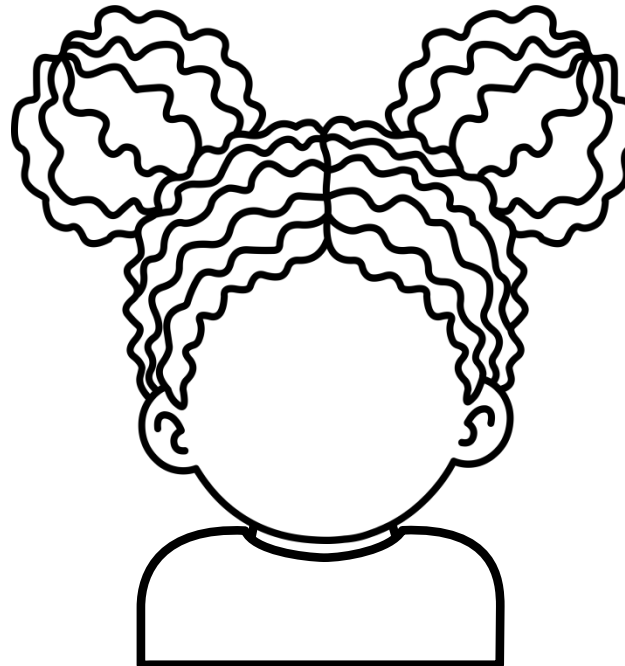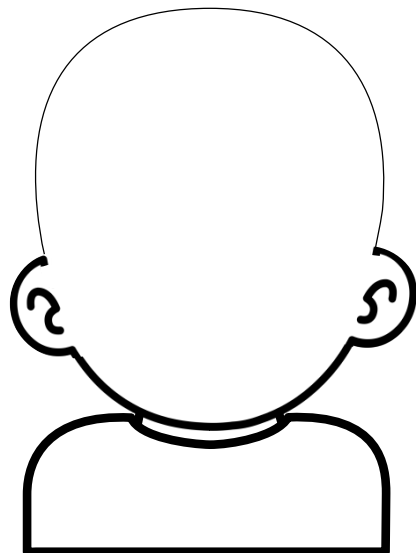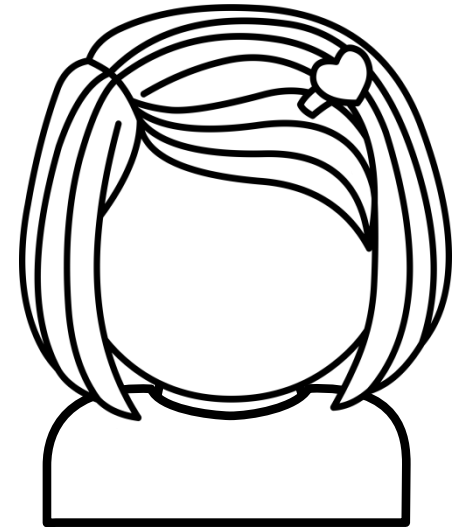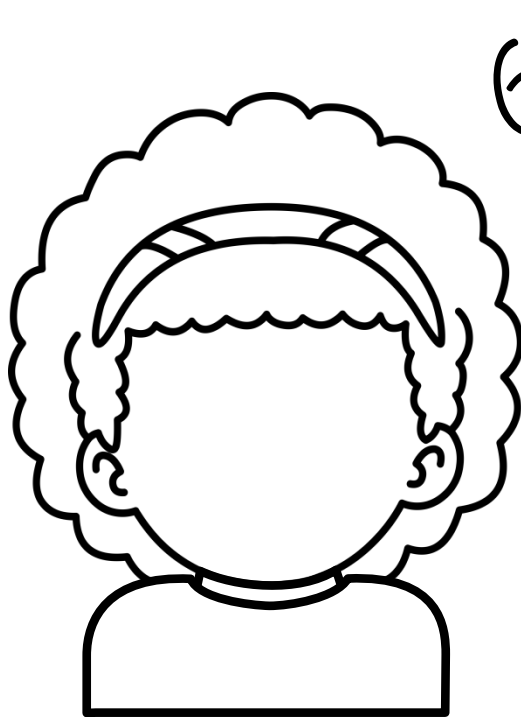portrait to the stand.

Girls

tab

Cut out this
rectangle
and fold
along the
dotted lines.
Overlap the
tab and
paste to
make a box
shape. This
will be the
pop-out
stand.

FUN & FRESH
END OF YEAR
activities

"A Suitcase of Memories"

In this activity, students will build a suitcase in which they will "pack" their best memories of the year (suitcase options include 2nd-6th grades). This activity has several step-by-step directions, so please use the photographic assembly instructions to help guide you and your students.

Once students have constructed their suitcases, have them brainstorm the best memories of the year. They can be from the whole class/school, or more personal memories. I like to start a list on the board of the memories that most students share.

Then, students choose six memories to include in their suitcase.

For each memory, they need to draw and cut out a miniature version of an item that represents the memory (scraps of construction paper work great for this). It needs to be small enough to fit into the suitcase pouch. Then they will describe their memories on the fold-out pages.
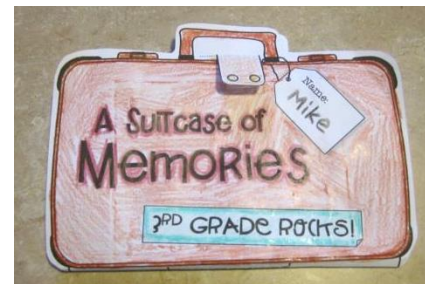
"A Suitcase of Memories" ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS
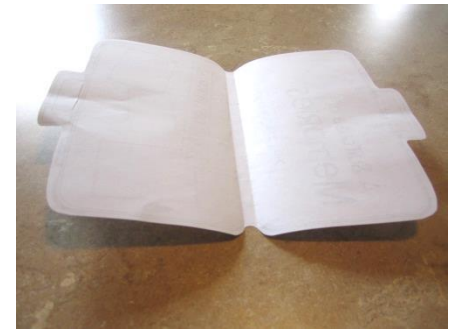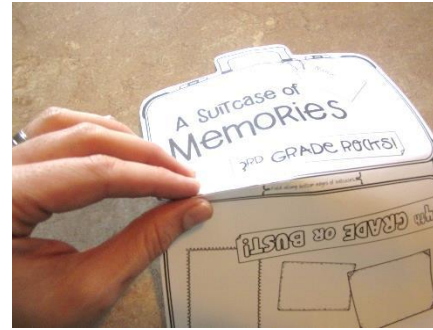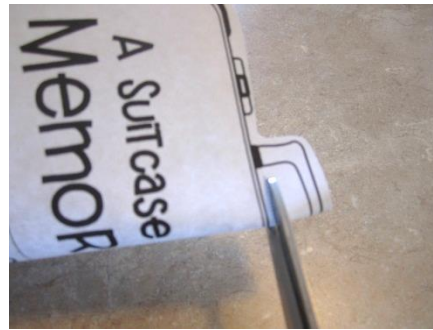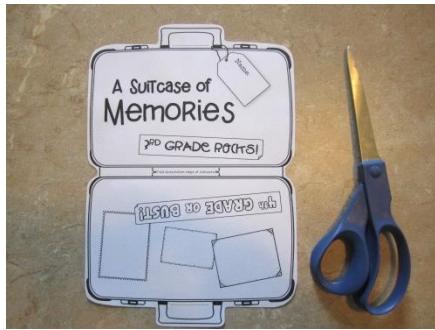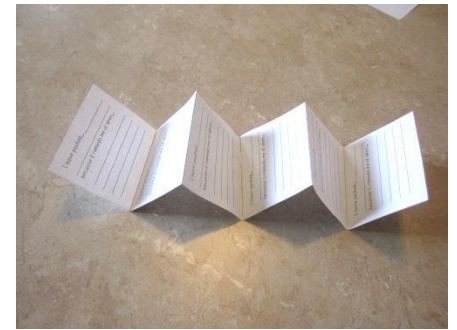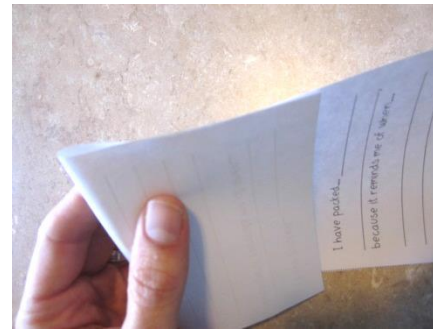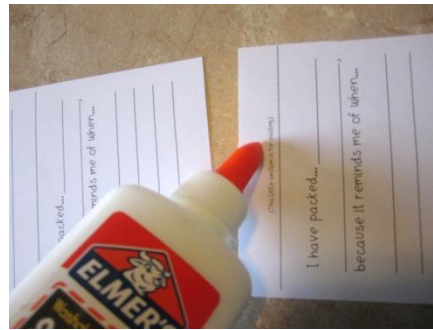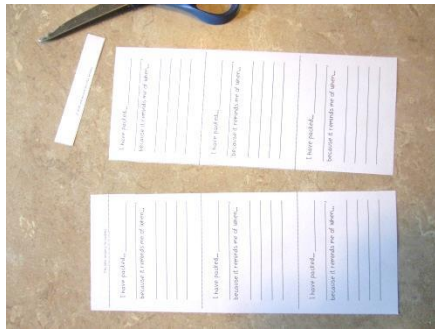
1. Cut out the suitcase template. Cut slits in the handles. Fold the suitcase so it can close.

Fold and glue top flap
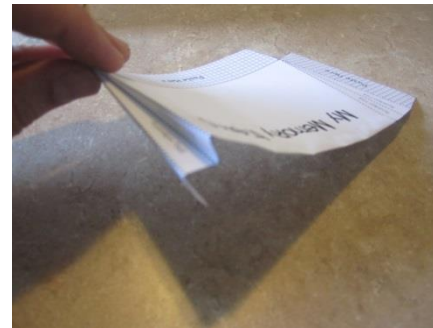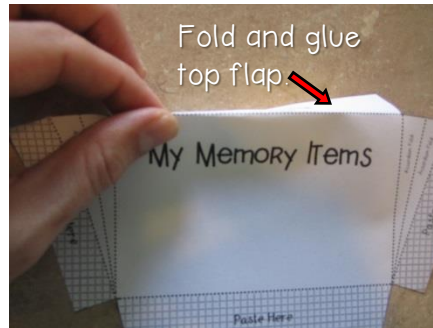
2. Cut out the pouch that will hold the memory items. Fold along the dotted lines. Some folds are like an accordion.

My Memory Items

Flip down.

3. Glue the pouch to the inside of the suitcase. Align the bottom of the pouch with the crease of the suitcase.

4. Cut apart the memory-writing foldable. Glue the strips together. Fold it like an accordion.

Fold down the first memory page.

Put glue on the back of the first memory page.

Turn down the glue-side onto the open suitcase.
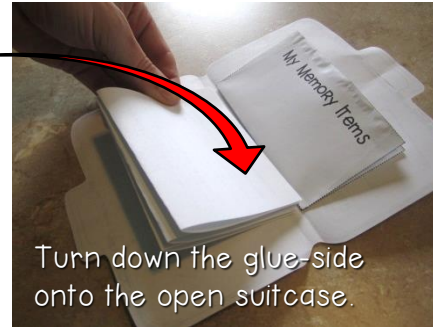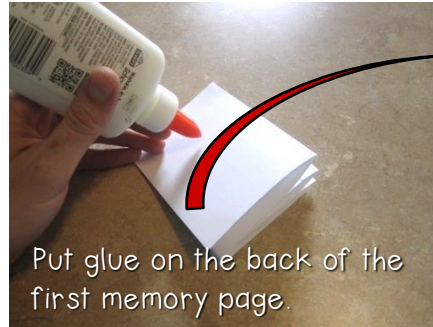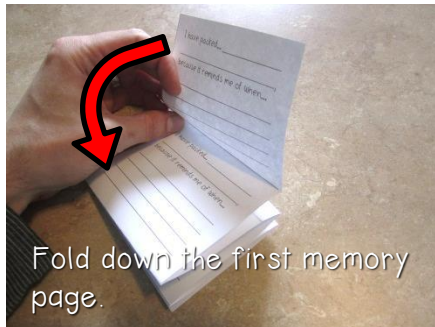
5. Attach the memory-writing foldable to the suitcase.

4th GRADE OR BUST!

Flip suitcase over and fold down buckle. (Don't glue it.)

A Suitcase of MEMORIES

3RD GRADE ROCKS!
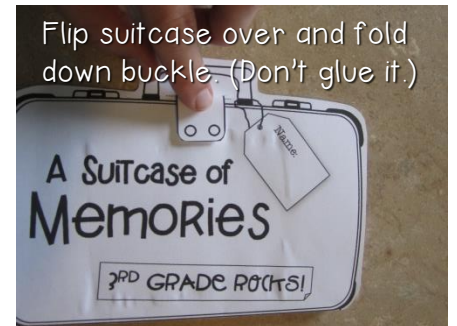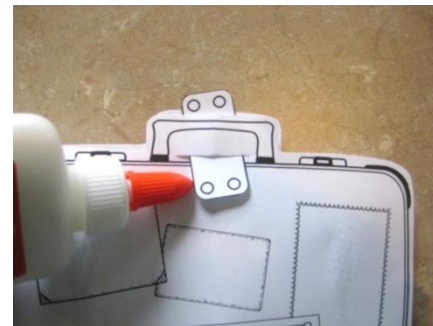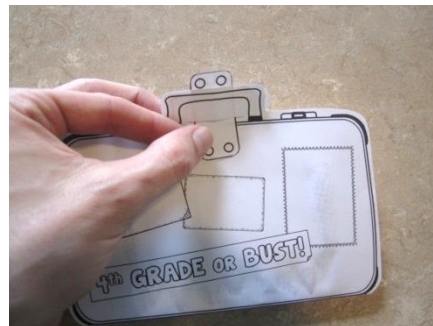
6. Cut out the suitcase buckle. Slide it through the handle slits. Glue one side only.

Fully Assembled...
ready for students to pack it full of memories!

A Suitcase of
Memories

3RD GRADE ROCKS!

Name:

A Suitcase of
Memories

3RD GRADE R

My Memory Items

I have packed...
because it reminds me of when...

I have packed...
because it reminds me of when...

I have packed...
because it reminds me of when...

I have packed...
because it reminds me of when...

I have packed...
because it reminds me of when...

I have packed...
because it reminds me of when...
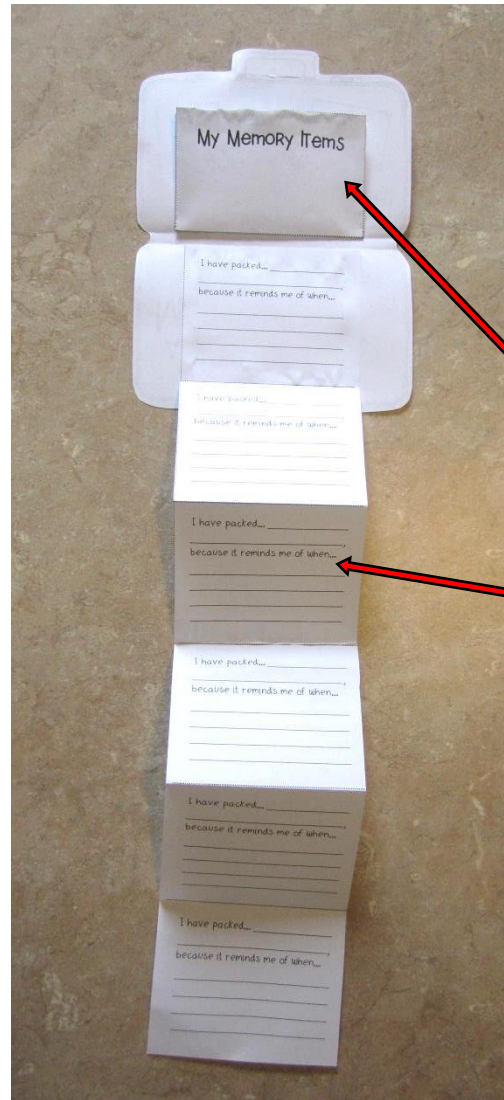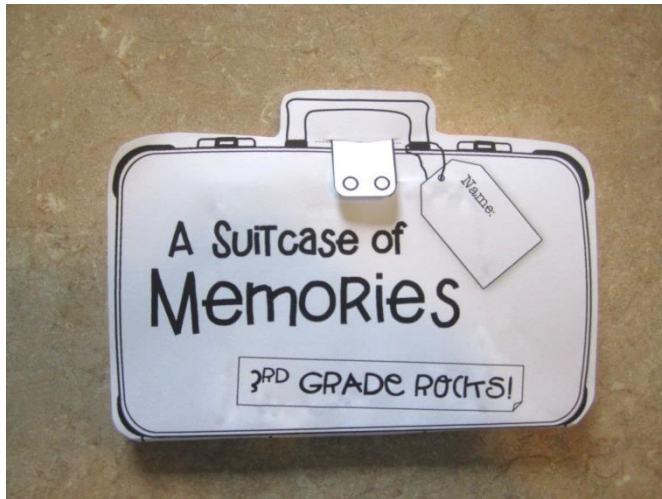
Now students draw and cut out their memory-items to pack into their suitcase, and they write about each of the memories that connect with their items.

Completed Sample

A Suitcase of **Memories**

Name: Mike

3RD GRADE ROCKS!

My Memory Items

I have packed... a ruler

,
because it reminds me of when...
Joey and I were trying
to measure our hand
and he accidentally snapped
it in half! It was hilarious!

I have packed... a blue ribbon

,
because it reminds me of when...
our class won the
tug-of-war contest with

Directions: Cut out the suitcase along the dashed lines. Cut the slit in the handle sections. Then fold the suitcase-halves so the handles meet together.

Name:

A Suitcase of Memories

2ND GRADE ROCKS!

Fold along bottom edges of suitcases.

3rd GRADE OR BUST!

Directions: Cut out the suitcase along the dashed lines. Cut the slit in the handle sections. Then fold the suitcase-halves so the handles meet together.

Name:

A Suitcase of Memories

3RD GRADE ROCKS!

Fold along bottom edges of suitcases.

4th GRADE OR BUST!

Name:

A Suitcase of Memories

4th GRADE ROCKS!

Fold along bottom edges of suitcases.

5th GRADE OR BUST!
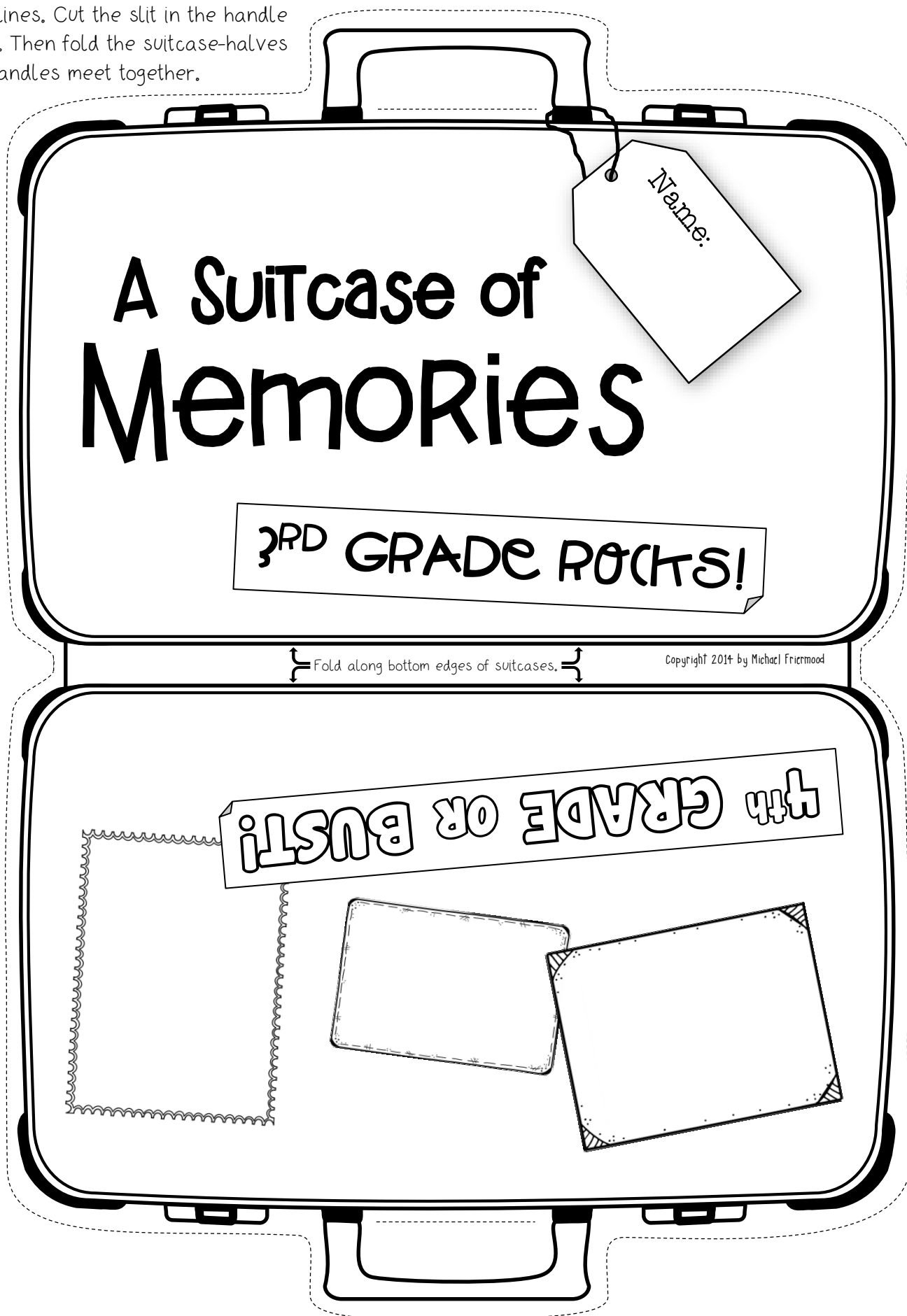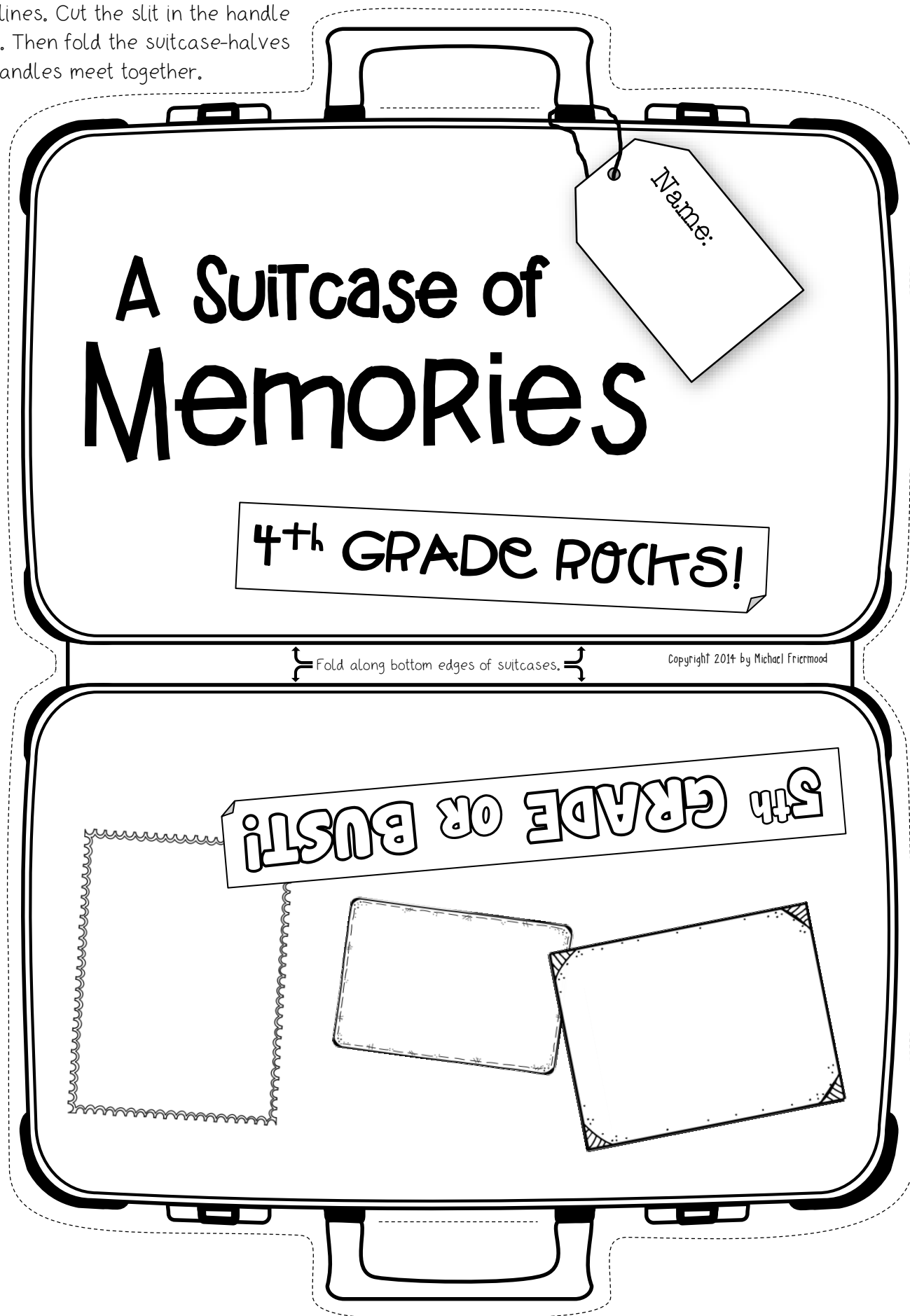
Directions: Cut out the suitcase along the dashed lines. Cut the slit in the handle sections. Then fold the suitcase-halves so the handles meet together.

Name:

A Suitcase of Memories

5th GRADE ROCKS!

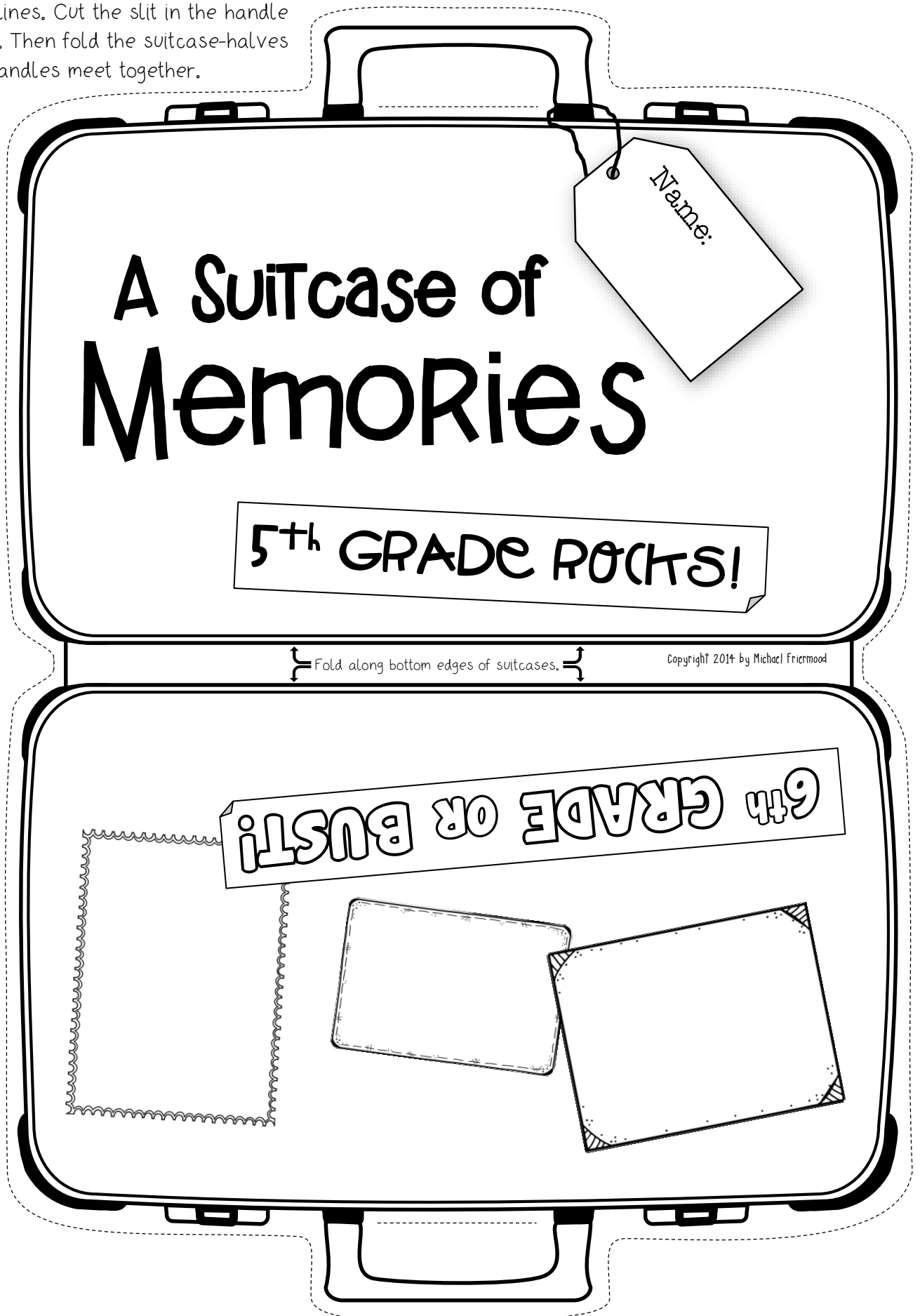Fold along bottom edges of suitcases.
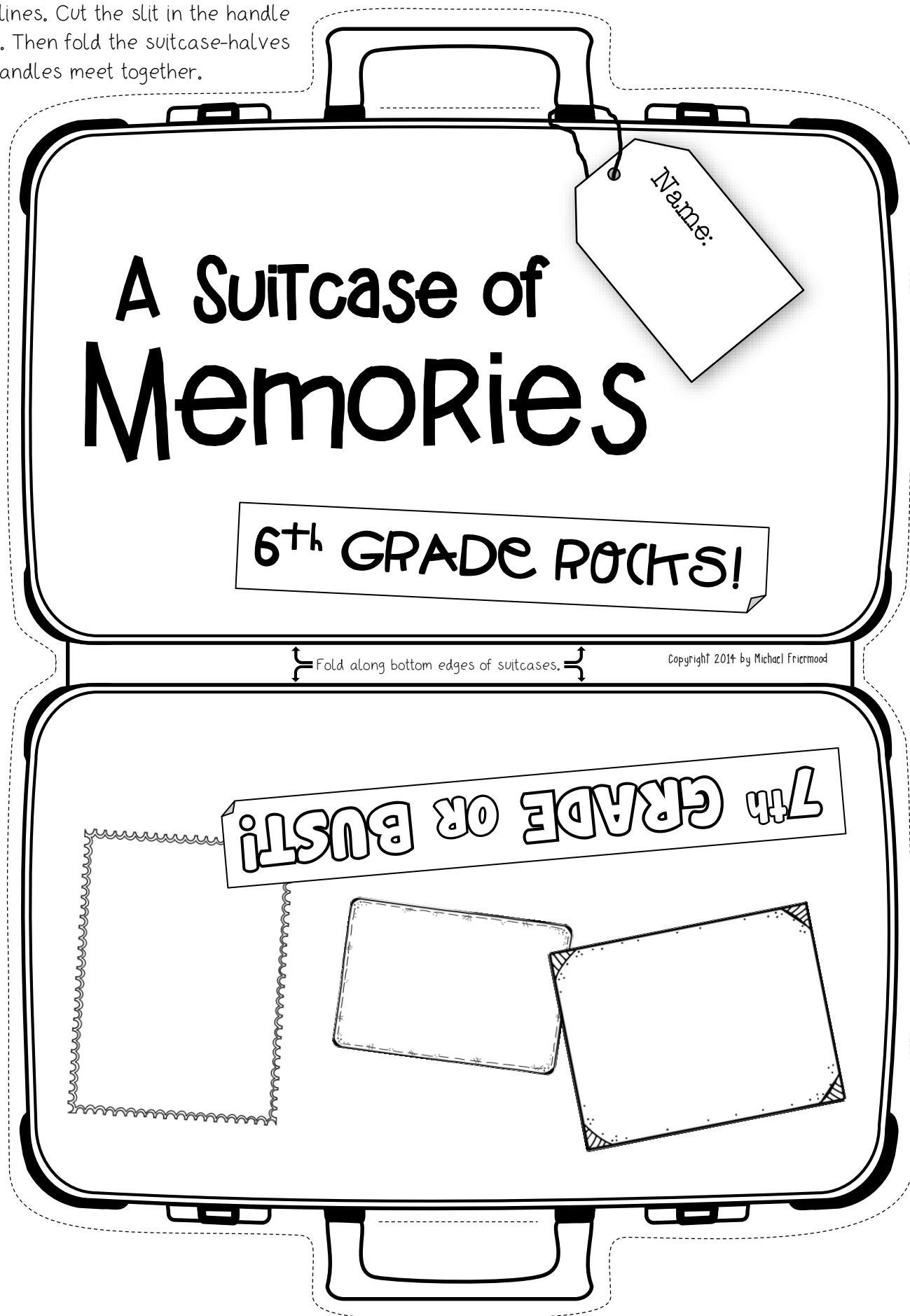
6th GRADE OR BUST!

Directions: Cut out the suitcase along the dashed lines. Cut the slit in the handle sections. Then fold the suitcase-halves so the handles meet together.

Name:

A Suitcase of Memories

6th GRADE ROCKS!

Fold along bottom edges of suitcases.

7th GRADE OR BUST!

Name:

A Suitcase of Memories

This class Rocks!

Fold along bottom edges of suitcases.

SUMMER BREAK OR BUST!

I have packed... _____

_____,
because it reminds me of when...

_____

_____

_____

I have packed... _____

_____,
because it reminds me of when...

_____

_____

_____

I have packed... _____

_____,
because it reminds me of when...

_____

_____

_____

I have packed... _____

_____,
because it reminds me of when...

_____

_____

_____

I have packed... _____

_____,
because it reminds me of when...

_____

_____

_____

I have packed... _____

_____,
because it reminds me of when...

_____

_____

_____

Fold this flap down for strength.

Accordion Fold

Accordion Fold

My Memory Items

Accordion Fold

Accordion Fold

Paste Here

Paste Here

Paste Here

Buckle Directions: Cut out this buckle. Slip it through the slits in the suitcase handle. Paste ONE side to the outside of the suitcase. Fold the other side down, but don't glue it.