

# JESUS IS RISEN!

## Jesus is Risen Sunday School lesson

This single-lesson curriculum teaches kids ages 4-10 about the death and resurrection of Jesus. This is a great activity for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, or Easter Sunday. The lesson is designed so that kids of all ages can be in class together, but depending on the size of your group you may want to split up into smaller age-level groups. If you want, you can even invite parents to learn along with their kids!

The lesson is structured as a group story time using *Jesus is Risen! An Easter Pop-Up Book*, by illustrator Agostino Traini. You'll need at least one copy of the book for each class, but you may also choose to have multiple copies for kids to look closer, or a copy for each child to take home with them as a keepsake. Before you begin, decide how many copies of the book you'd like to use for your class or classes.

Next, read through the story time script. You'll see you will be reading through the pop-up book, and also introducing other information and questions not in the book. Bold text is for you to read aloud. Plain text is not intended to be read aloud, but contains instructions for teachers. We recommend two teachers, or a teacher and a helper, for each class: one to hold the book, the other to read the script and the text of the book.

Now you're all set!





Today we're going to read a story that's full of surprises. Do you like surprises?

This story is about Jesus. Jesus is God's Son. He came to earth a long time ago as a baby and grew up to be a man. Jesus loved all people. He showed God's love to people by healing them and teaching them how to follow God's ways.

Some people didn't like Jesus. They had Jesus killed on a cross. After he died, he was put in a tomb with a big stone blocking the entrance. But God had a big surprise! Let's find out more about God's surprise.

Open Spread ONE and read the text.

The women were going to Jesus' tomb with spices to put on his body. They loved Jesus and were sad because they missed him.

## QUESTIONS

- What had happened to Jesus three days before?
- When do you feel sad?
- What was the surprising thing that had happened at the tomb?





Instead of finding Jesus in the tomb, the women were surprised to be greeted by an angel.

Open Spread TWO and read the text.

## QUESTIONS

- What did the angel look like? How would you feel if you saw an angel? Why do you think the angel told the women not to be afraid?
- Where was Jesus?
- What did the angel tell the women to do?



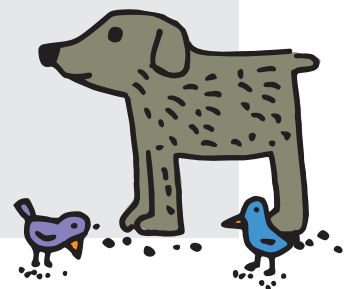


The women were excited to tell their friends that Jesus was alive.

Open Spread THREE and read the text.

## QUESTIONS

- What makes you excited?
- Who surprised the women in the garden?
- The women were so happy to see Jesus! How do you greet someone you love who you are excited to see?





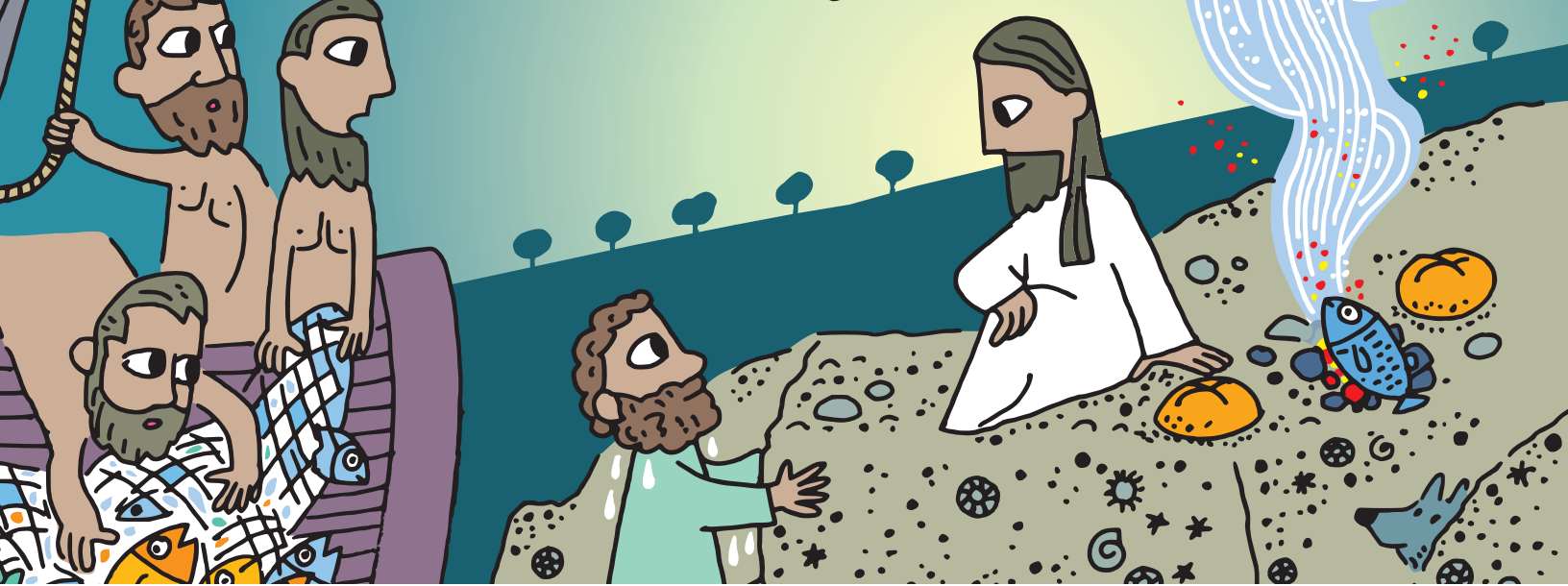
The disciples were afraid and hiding from the people who killed Jesus. Suddenly, Jesus was in the room with them! The disciples thought Jesus might be a ghost and they were afraid.

Open Spread FOUR and read the text.

## QUESTIONS

- What do you do when you feel afraid?
- How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus appeared?
- Why did Jesus invite the disciples to touch his him?
- How might touching Jesus have changed their minds?





Jesus appeared on the beach as the disciples were fishing, but they didn't recognize him. Then, the disciples caught a large net full of fish and ate them for breakfast with Jesus.

Open Spread FIVE and read the text.

## QUESTIONS

- Why do you think they didn't know who he was?
- Which disciple recognized Jesus first? How did he respond?
- What do you eat for breakfast?



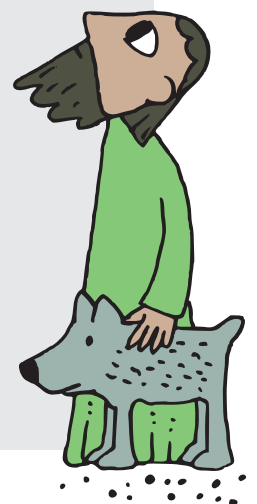


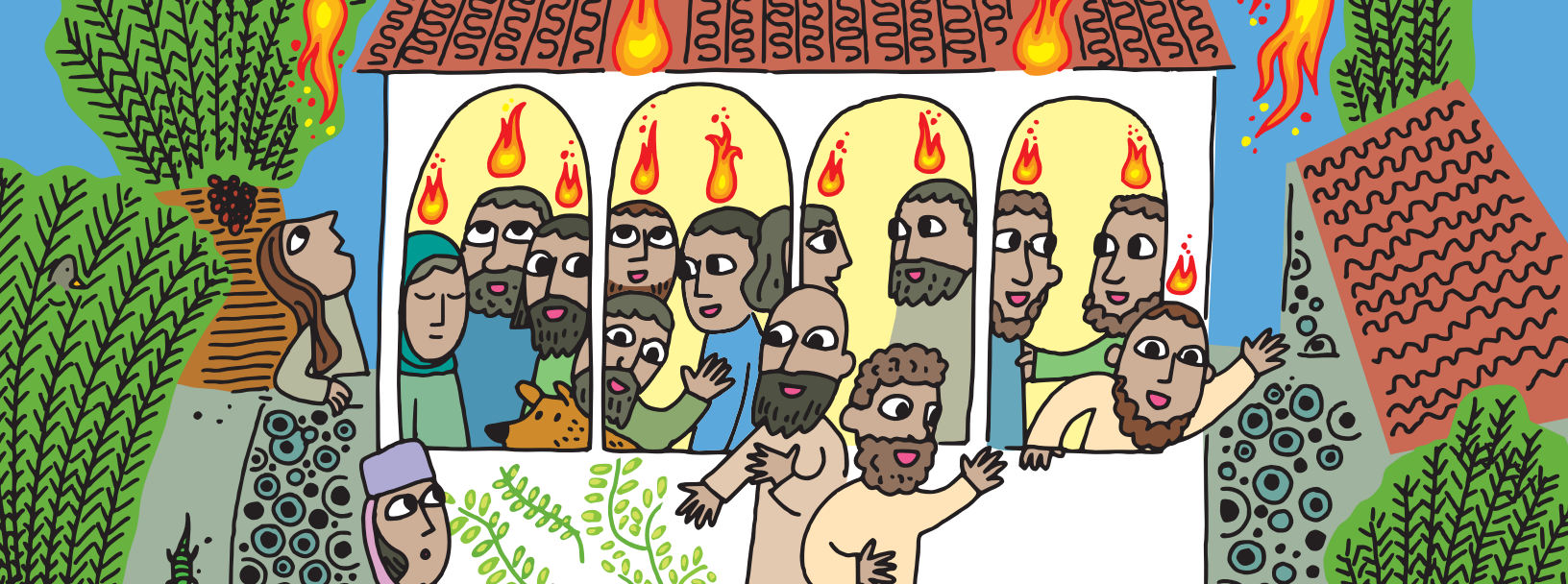
Jesus told his disciples to share the story about his life to everyone they could, baptize them, and teach them. Jesus said goodbye to his disciples and ascended, or rose up, into heaven.

Open Spread SIX and read the text.

## QUESTIONS

- Have you been baptized or seen someone baptized? What happened?
- Who teaches you about Jesus?
- What's surprising about how Jesus left the earth?
- How do you think the disciples felt to say goodbye to Jesus?
- What do you think it was like to watch Jesus ascend?





After Jesus ascended to heaven the Holy Spirit came. Amazing things happened through the Holy Spirit like tongues of fire over each of the disciples' heads and they could all speak in different languages they didn't know. The Holy Spirit helped the disciples be ready to go into the world and tell everyone about Jesus.

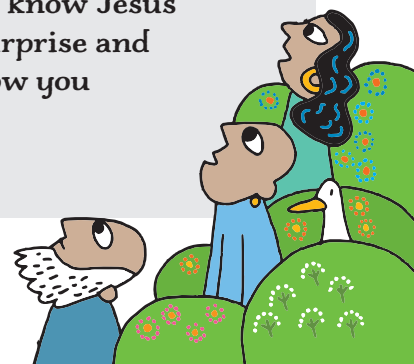
Open Spread SEVEN and read the text.

## QUESTIONS

- What languages can you speak?
- Who can you tell about Jesus?
- What will you tell them?

## PRAYER

God, thank you for the story of Jesus. We are amazed and joyous that Jesus is alive! Thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to help us share the story with our friends and neighbors so they can know Jesus too. Help us to be full of surprise and wonder as we grow to know you more. Amen.





# Activity

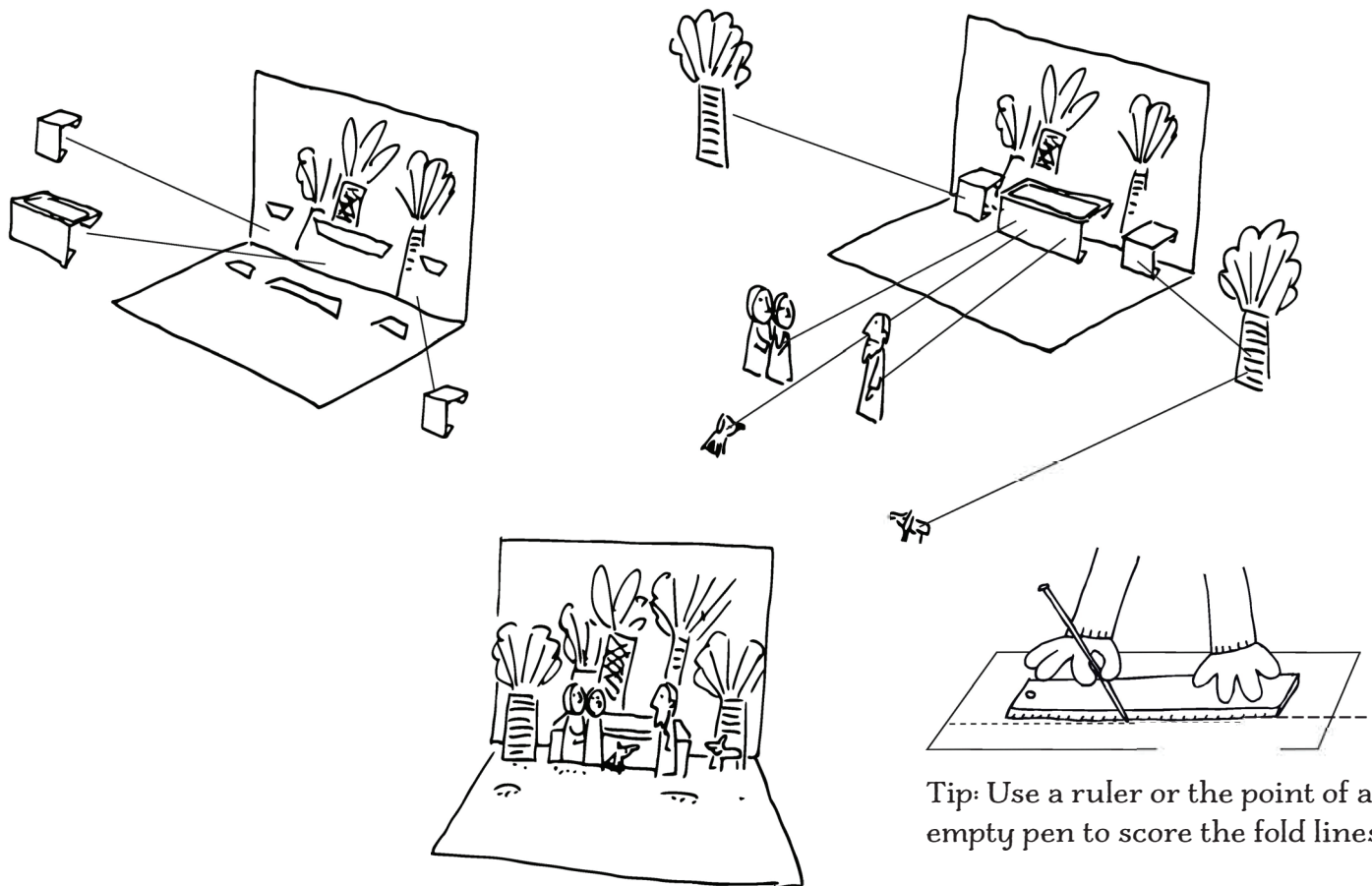
The activity allows kids to create a pop-up scene from the book!

## Supplies:

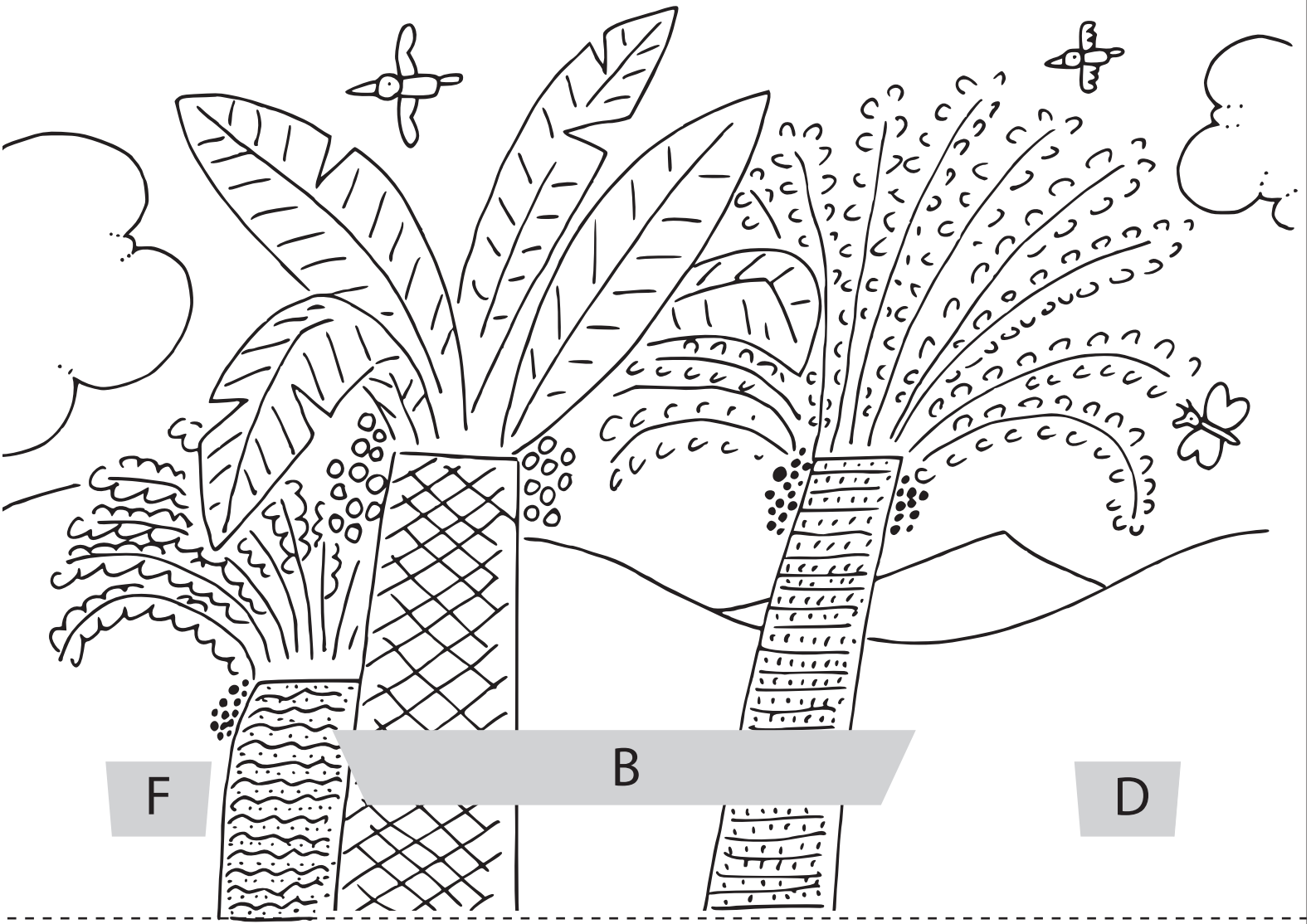
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- Scissors
- Glue, glue sticks, or tape
- Printouts

## Instructions:

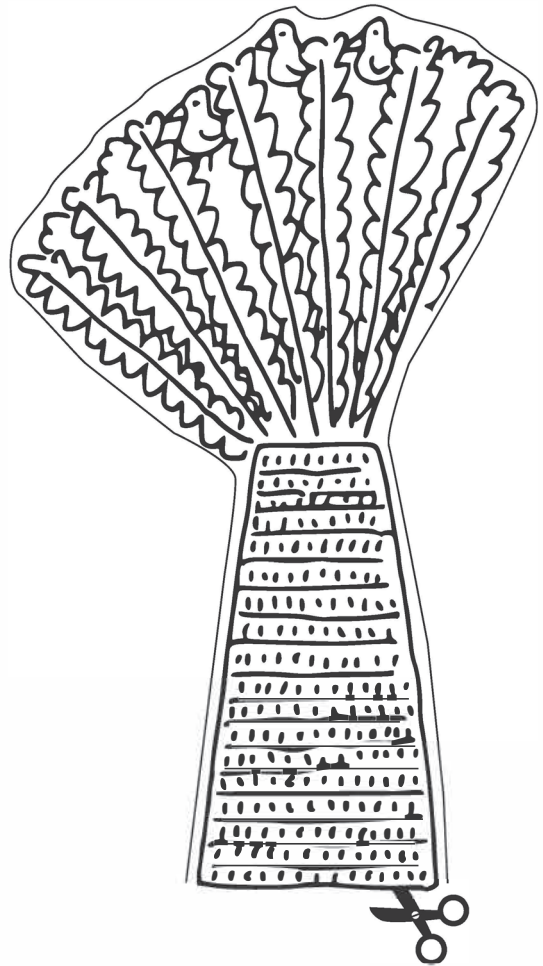
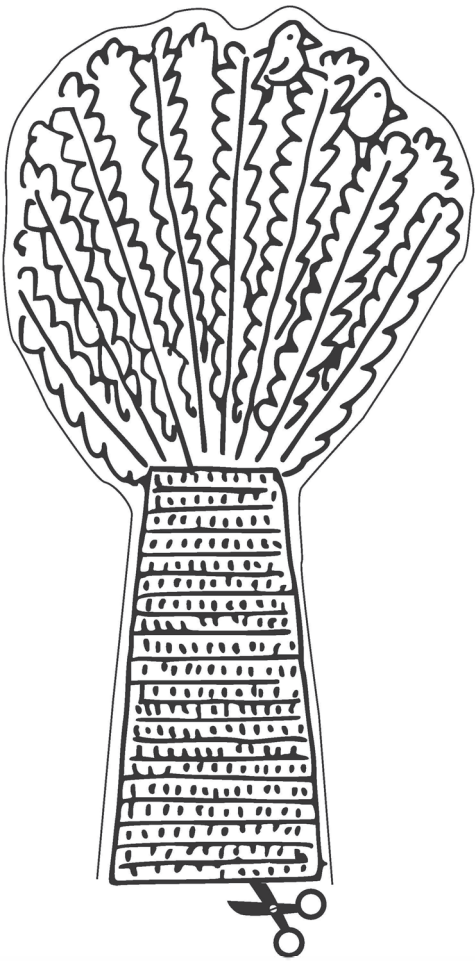
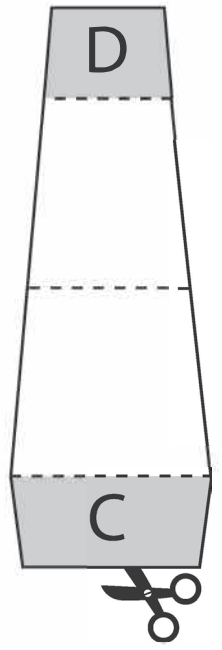
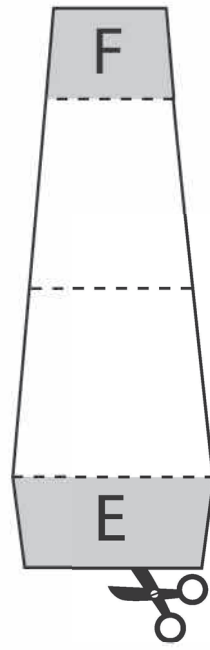
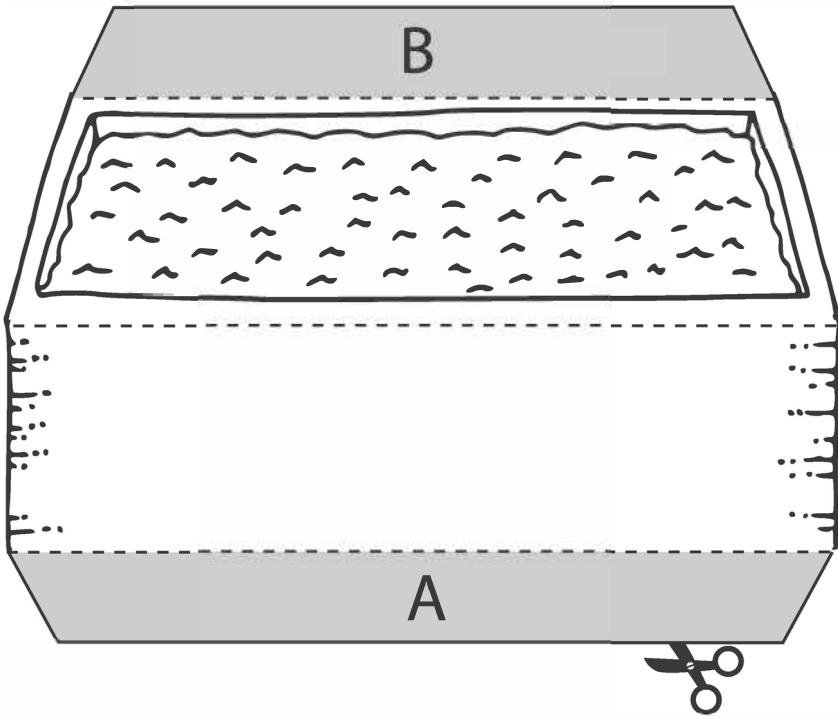
- Print out the activity sheets. Pass out copies for each learner.
- Have the kids color the illustrations before cutting out the pop-up sections. Show them the page from the book for inspiration.
- After kids have colored the illustrations with the colors they want, have them cut out the pop-up sections, then fold along the dotted lines.
- Tape or glue the tabs to the larger sheet of paper. Using a ruler, or the tip of an empty pen, to score the fold lines will help the paper fold cleanly.
- Use a ruler to fold lines cleanly.
- Then have them insert the objects and characters, as shown below or how they want.
- Note: the pop-ups will be sturdiest if you can print on a stronger sheet of paper, like cardstock paper. Taping construction paper behind regular printer paper will also help the pop-ups to be sturdy.



Tip: Use a ruler or the point of an empty pen to score the fold lines.



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cut  
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