

Scientists' Guidebook

This guide belongs to:



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You are a scientist!

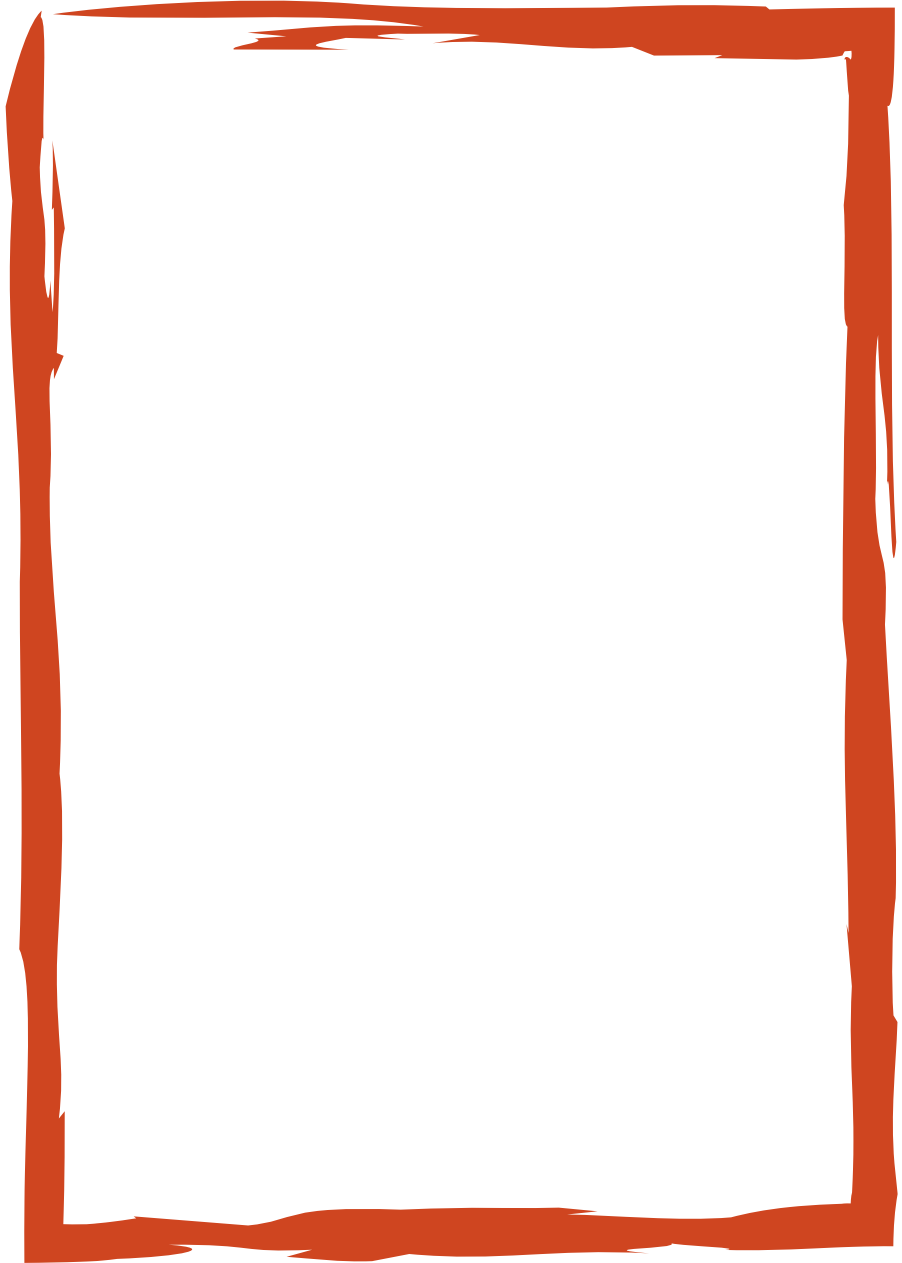
All members of the Language and Me Project are scientists. Scientists are children and adults who want to learn new things.

In the Language and Me Project, we learn about how language works.

Thank you for joining our scientific team!

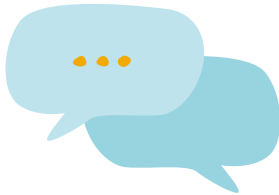


Draw a picture of yourself
here.



Language is listening, talking, reading and writing.

We use language in so many places!
Check all of the places where you enjoy
listening or talking.

☐

School

☐

Home

☐

Sports field

☐

Choir

☐

On the phone



Check off the places where you enjoy reading and writing.

☐

Restaurant

☐

Online

☐

Library

☐

With my pet

☐

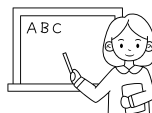
With my family

☐

With my friends

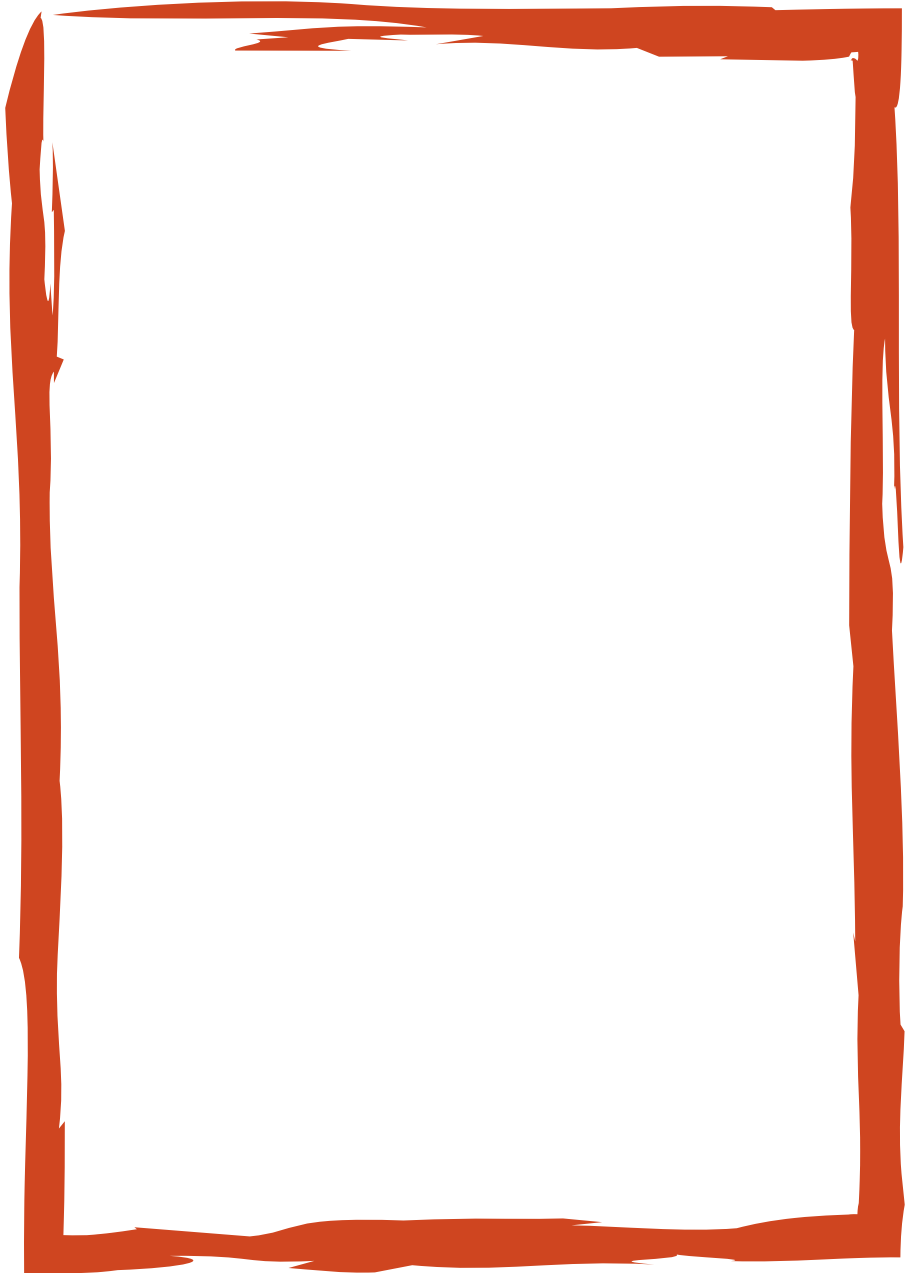
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With my teacher



What is your favorite book to read or listen to?

Draw a picture of yourself
talking or reading in your
favorite place.



The background of the entire page is a dense, colorful pattern of various letters, numbers, and symbols in different sizes and colors (red, blue, green, yellow, orange, purple, etc.).

Language is words

Did you know that there are over **100,000 words** in the English language?

Draw or write your favorite word here:

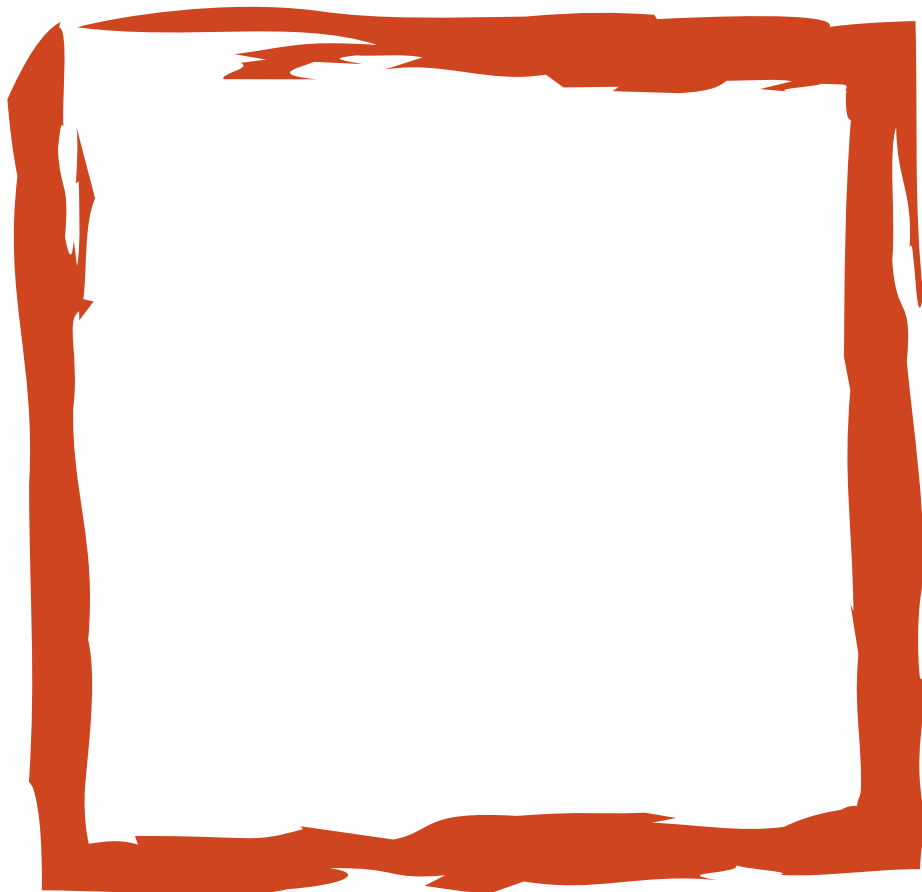
Be a language scientist

Scientists ask questions to learn new things.



Ask someone,
**"What is your
favorite
word?"**

Write or draw their answer here:



Language is always changing

Young people often create new words. Sometimes, others find these words useful, so they start using them, too.

The words for these games are:



Baseball



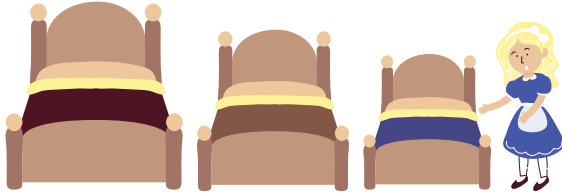
Basketball

What new word
would you use for
this game?



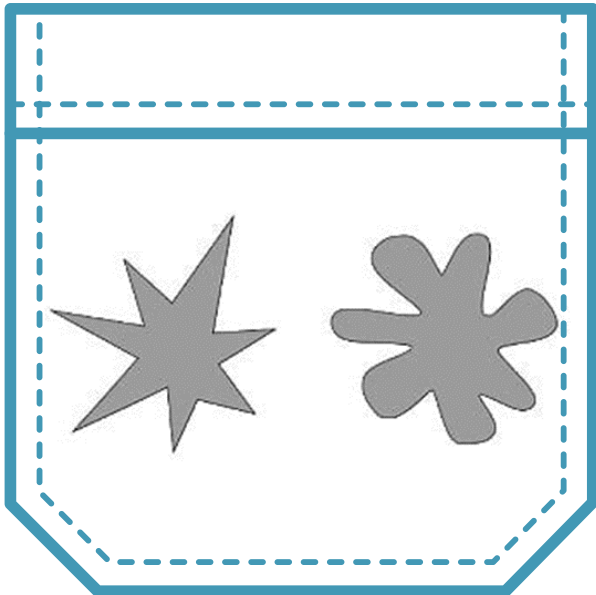
Be a language scientist

Remember Goldilocks? She thought that one bed was too hard, one bed was too soft, and one bed was just right.



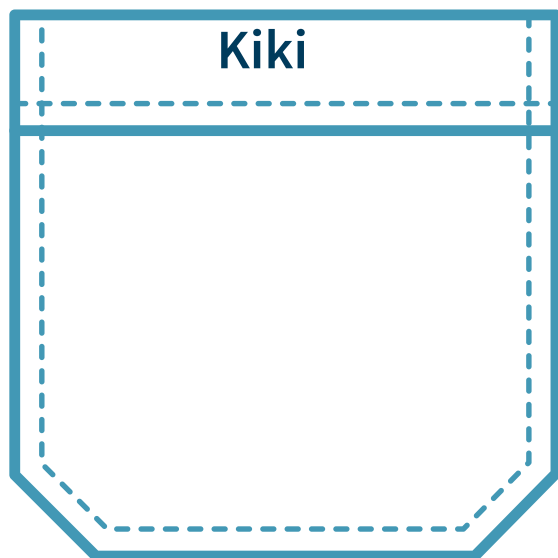
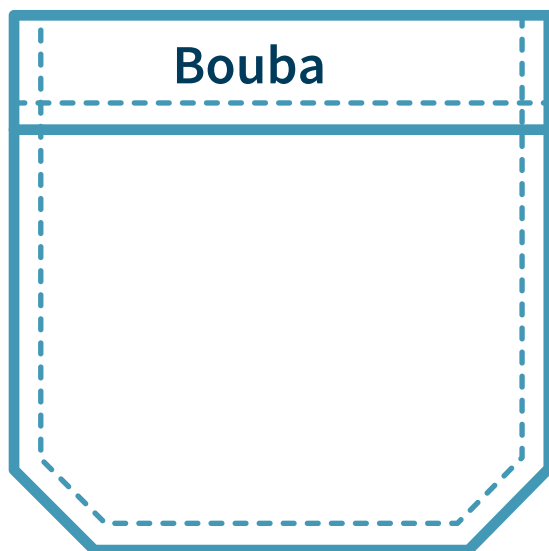
Sometimes words seem “just right,” too.

Look at the shapes in the pocket. One of them is called “bouba” and the other one is called “kiki.”



Which word seems 'just right' for each shape?

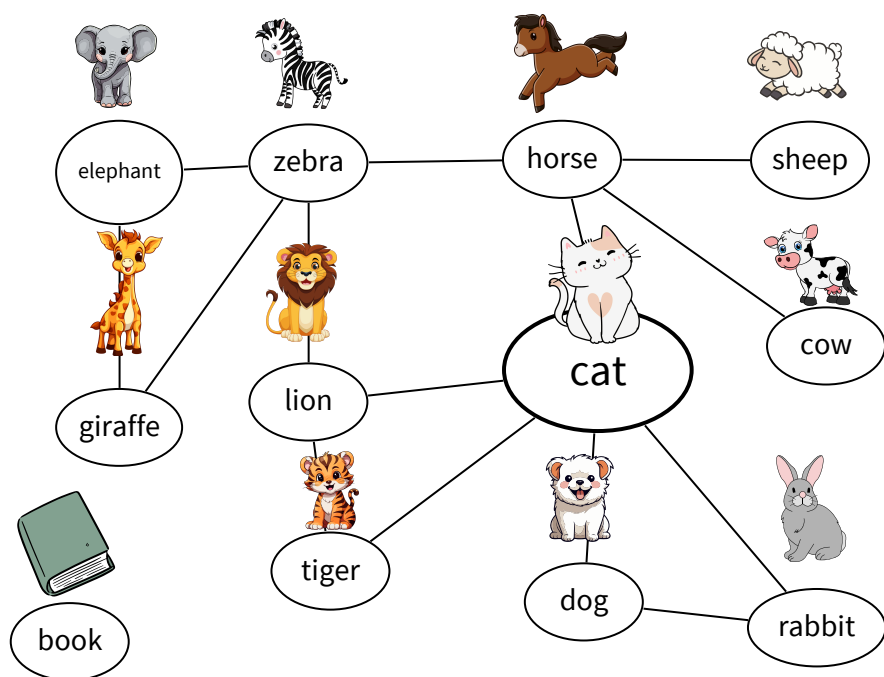
Draw the shapes in the pockets to show your answer.



Words have neighbors

People have neighbors. They are folks who live close by. Did you know that words have neighbors, too?

Here is the neighborhood for the word **cat**.



Some neighbors of the word *cat* live close by, because they name animals that are similar to cats.

Some words, like *book*, are not neighbors at all, because they have nothing to do with cats.

Find word neighbors

Circle the word that is a neighbor of cat.

Bread



Tiger



Sun



Circle the word that is a neighbor of toast

Bread



Tiger



Sun



Circle the word that is a neighbor of cloud

Bread



Tiger



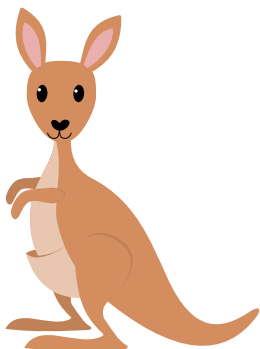
Sun



Be a language scientist

Words are useful. Below are four words.
Ask everyone in your family to say
which one is the most useful word.

Kangaroo



Stop



Tree



Color



What did you learn?



Did everyone pick the same word?

What word do you think is most useful?

Why?

Duck or Rabbit?



Different people may see the same picture in different ways. Each person has a point of view or *perspective*.

Did you see the duck or the rabbit, first?

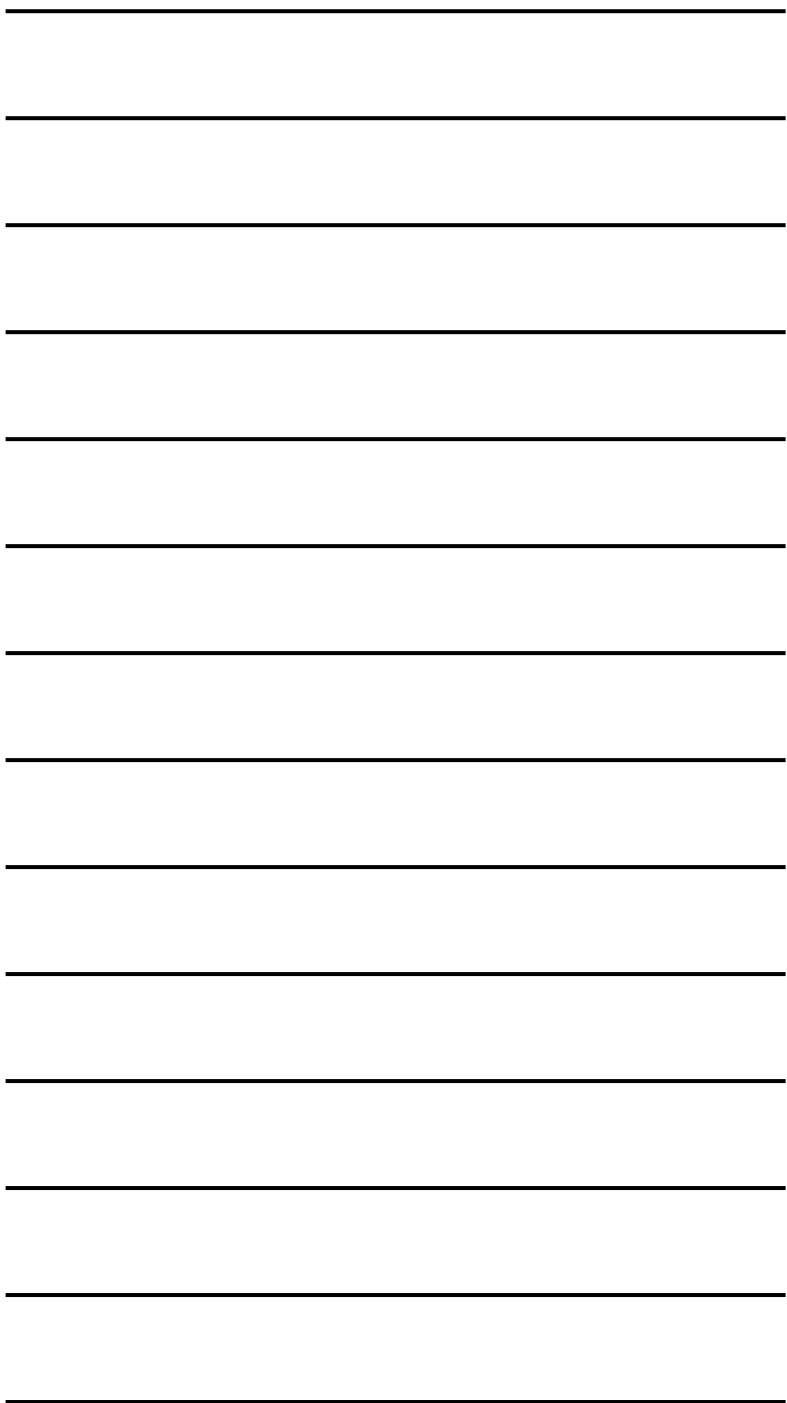
Can you see the other animal?

In the Language and Me Project, we are excited to hear about **YOUR** perspectives.

We are happy that you are
becoming a language scientist!

Soon, a scientist named Nichole will meet
with you to do fun activities that involve
language. Draw a funny hat on Nichole's
picture, because scientists like to laugh!





BOYS TOWN

**National Research
Hospital**

