



MAY 2023

HCPC CONNECTIONS

HARNETT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN



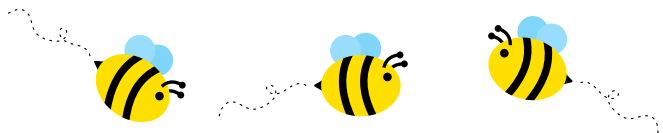
HELLO, FRIENDS!

We're all a *buzz* for the month of May! May will not only bring us flowers, but also numerous opportunities to play, learn, connect, and show our appreciation for so many important individuals - mothers, teachers, child care providers, and Memorial Day for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Check out the pages that follow so you'll know when to *swarm* over to HCPC playgroups, parent groups, yoga and zumbini classes and special events! We'll *bee* so happy to see you!

SPECIAL DATES

- **May 2nd:** National Teacher Appreciation Day
- **May 11th:** COP Mother's Day Lunch
- **May 12th:** National Child Care Provider Day
- **May 14th:** Mother's Day
- **May 29th:** HCPC closed in observance of Memorial Day.



HCPC MISSION:

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for young children and families in Harnett County, through community based programs focusing on health, education, and family support.

HCPC STAFF:

Tara Fish, Executive Director

Dollie Adcock, Healthy Activities Specialist

Janine Bogwicz, Community Outreach Coordinator

Jordan Ellis, Family Support Specialist

Debbie Fann, Fiscal Specialist

Ashleigh Goss, Early Childhood Program Specialist

Whitney Heath, Family Support Specialist

Melanie Jacobson, Early Childhood Program Specialist

Carmen Martell, Lead Family Support Specialist

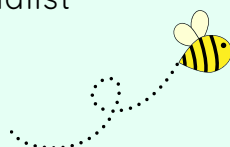
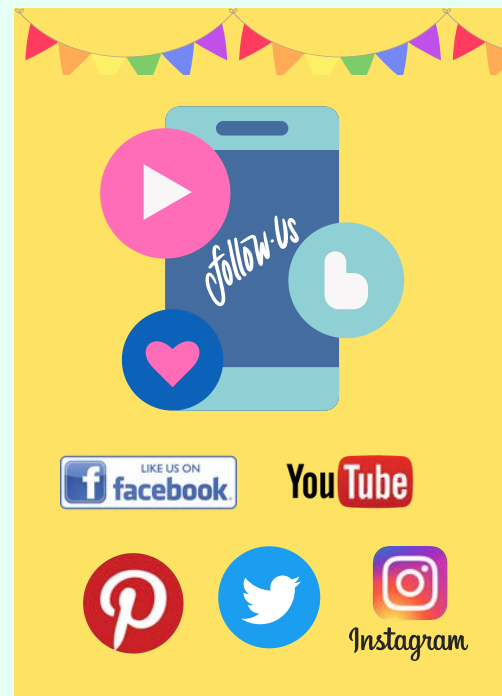
Kim Polinski, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist

Amy Rackley, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist

Lynda Turlington, Early Childhood Program Coordinator

Lena West, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist

Katie Willoughby, Family Support Specialist

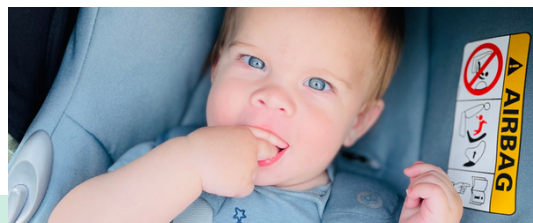


Hi! My name is Ashleigh. After moving all around the world with my husband's military career I'm happy to be back home in Harnett County. With more than 15 years of experience in the early childhood field I look forward to supporting childcare providers in Harnett County as an Early Childhood Program Specialist with the Harnett County Partnership for Children STEP team. I have been happily married for 18 years and have 3 daughters: 15, 13, and 11.













A LOOK BACK AT APRIL:



SUN.	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
<div>   </div>	<div>1</div> <div> 10am- Zumbini (APL) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 11am- Zumbini (APL) 1pm- RTG (YMCA) 2:30pm-RTG (Lillington) </div>	<div>2</div> <div> 10am- Rock n' Roll Yoga (HCPL) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington)  </div>	<div>3</div> <div> 10am- Zumbini (EPL) 10:30am- RTG (Antioch) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>4</div> <div> 9:30am- COP (Lillington) 1pm- RTG (YMCA) 4:30pm- COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>5</div> <div> 10:30am- Open Play (Lillington) </div>	<div>6</div>
<div>7</div>	<div>8</div> <div> 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 1pm- RTG (YMCA) 2:30pm-RTG (Lillington) </div>	<div>9</div> <div> 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>10</div> <div> 10am- Zumbini (YMCA) 10:30am- RTG (Antioch) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 11am- Zumbini (YMCA) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>11</div> <div> <div>12pm-2pm</div> <div>Mother's Day COP (Lillington)</div> </div>	<div>12</div> <div> 10am- Rock n' Roll Yoga (APL) 10:30am- Open Play (Lillington) National Child Care Provider Day  </div>	<div>13</div>
<div>  </div> <div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div> 10am- Zumbini (EPL) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 1pm- RTG (YMCA) 2:30pm-RTG (Lillington) </div>	<div>16</div> <div> 10am- Zumbini (HCPL) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 11am- Zumbini (HCPL) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>17</div> <div> 10:30am- RTG (Antioch) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>18</div> <div> 9:30am- COP (Lillington) 10am- Rock n' Roll Yoga (EPL) 1pm- RTG (YMCA) 4:30pm- COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>19</div> <div> 10am- Rock n' Roll Yoga (DPL) 10:30am- Open Play (Lillington) </div>	<div>20</div>
<div>21</div>	<div>22</div> <div> 10am- Zumbini (APL) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 11am- Zumbini (APL) 1pm- RTG (YMCA) 2:30pm-RTG (Lillington) </div>	<div>23</div> <div> 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>24</div> <div> 10am- Zumbini (YMCA) 10:30am- RTG (Antioch) 10:30am- RTG (Lillington) 11am- Zumbini (YMCA) 2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>25</div> <div> 9:30am- COP (Lillington) 1pm- RTG (YMCA) 4:30pm- COP (Lillington) </div>	<div>26</div> <div> 10:30am- Open Play (Lillington) </div> <div>  </div>	<div>27</div>

-  - Lillington Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)
-  - YMCA Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)
-  - Circle of Parents (COP)
-  - Zumbini
-  - Erwin Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)
-  - Spanish Speaking Groups (RTG)
-  - Open Play
-  - Rock n' Roll Yoga

May



SUN. MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SAT.

28

29

30

31

HCPC Closed for Memorial Day



10am- Zumbini
(HCPL)

10:30am- RTG
(Lillington)

11am- Zumbini
(HCPL)

2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP
(Lillington)

10am- Rock n' Roll Yoga
(CPL)

10:30- RTG
(Erwin)

10:30am- RTG
(Lillington)
2:30pm- Spanish Speaking COP
(Lillington)



LOCATIONS:

APL - Angier Public Library
CPL - Coats Public Library
DPL - Dunn Public Library
EPL - Erwin Public Library
HCPL - Harnett County Public Library

Erwin Groups: 494 Antioch Church Rd, Dunn
Lillington Groups: 170 Pine State St., Lillington
YMCA - 107 Carletta Cage Dr, Cameron



MAY IS ALSO:

National Bicycle Safety Month

During National Bike Month, teach bike safety by talking with your children and sharing the following simple tips to keep bike riding safe and fun.

- Wear a helmet - It is the single most effective safety device available to reduce head injury and death from bicycle crashes.
- Actively supervise children until you're comfortable that they are responsible to ride on their own.

National Mental Health Month

The stigma around mental health and treatment has long existed, even though this has started to change. Still, people hesitate to seek help or even talk about it with their loved ones for fear of being judged and facing unnecessary backlash. Simple logic dictates that if we are hurt anywhere, we must seek treatment to get better. This applies to both our mental and physical well-being.

National Water Safety Month

National Water Safety Month encourages parents/caregivers to reinforce the importance of water safety skills with the whole family. Swimming is not only a fun, healthy activity, but an important life skill for all individuals. Yet drowning is the leading cause of accidental death for children ages 1-4. Learning basic water safety skills saves lives, and is a great introduction to the world of swimming and lifelong health.





CHILD CARE SEARCH



Need help finding child care? Child Care Search covers Chatham, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, and Wayne Counties. They can be reached at **1-855-231-8717**.



CHILD CARE SUBSIDY



Through Child Care Subsidies, families can ensure their children are safe and well-cared for in licensed child care facilities while parents are away at work. For more information, contact the Harnett County Department of Social Services at **(910) 893-7500**.

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY



FREE BOOKS
FOR CHILDREN, UNDER 5 YRS OLD

More Info and Registration at
www.harnettsmartstart.org



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER
YOUR CHILD FOR FREE BOOKS!

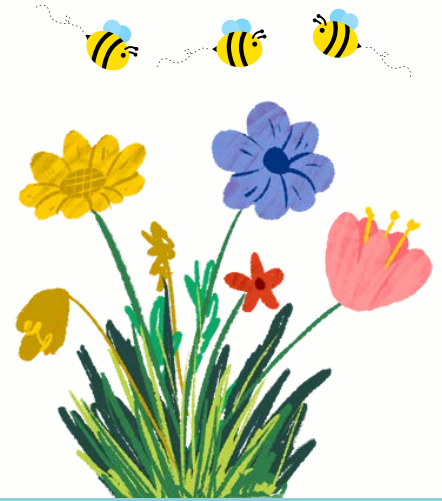




Circle of Parents

Círculo de Padres

circle of parents®
Sharing Ideas. Sharing Support.



Parenting is joyful, but can also present difficulties and challenges.
Es una dicha ser padres, pero también presenta dificultades y desafíos.

Feel empowered, supported, and strengthened as you attend weekly Circle of Parents' meetings. Join other Harnett County parents/caregivers at our Circle of Parents' group.

Siéntase empoderado, apoyado y fortalecido mientras asiste a las reuniones semanales del Círculo de Padres. Únase a otros padres/proveedor de cuidados del Condado de Harnett en nuestro grupo de Círculo de Padres.

- SPANISH-SPEAKING CIRCLE OF PARENTS
TUESDAYS @ 2:30PM / 170 PINE STATE ST. LILLINGTON
- CÍRCULO DE PADRES DE HABLA HISPANA
MARTES @ 2:30PM / 170 PINE STATE ST. LILLINGTON
- LILLINGTON MORNING CIRCLE OF PARENTS
THURSDAYS @ 9:30AM / 170 PINE STATE ST. LILLINGTON
- LILLINGTON EVENING CIRCLE OF PARENTS
THURSDAYS @ 4:30PM / 170 PINE STATE ST. LILLINGTON

To register, email familysupport@harnettsmartstart.org or call 910-893-2344.
Para registrarse, envíe un correo electrónico a familysupport@harnettsmartstart.org
o llame al 910-893-2344.





HEALTHY HABITS FOR HARNETT

MAY & JUNE YOGA CLASSES

ARE YOU READY TO ROCK ???

Join Ms. Dollie for a
Rock-N- Roll Yoga Class!



I ♥
ROCK
N ROLL



Scan QR Code to register

Tuesday, May 2nd @ 10:00- Harnett County Public Library-Lillington

Friday, May 12th @ 10:00- Angier Public Library

Thursday, May 18th @ 10:00- Erwin Public Library

Friday, May 19th @ 10:00- DunnPublic Library

Wednesday, May 31st @ 10:00- Coats Public Library



CHILDREN AGES 3-5



Calling All Super Friends.....

The world's mightiest heroes will gather for a
Super Hero yoga class .



Scan QR Code to Register

Harnett County Library (Lillington)- June 2nd @ 10:00

Dunn Library- June 7th @ 10:00

Angier- June 9th @ 10:00

Coats Library- June 21st @ 10:00

Erwin Library- June 23rd @ 10:00





HEALTHY HABITS FOR HARNETT

MAY & JUNE ZUMBINI CLASSES

Harnett County Public Library (Lillington)
Angier Public Library
Erwin Public Library
Saleeby YMCA

MAY
zümbini®
with Ms. Dollie



Registration Required
Space is Limited



JUNE
zümbini®
with Ms. Dollie



Registration Required
Space is Limited

Harnett County Public Library (Lillington)
Angier
Erwin Public Library
Saleeby YMCA



HEALTHY HABIT TIP OF THE MONTH

When can you introduce honey to your baby?
Babies under 12 months should not be given honey, because honey contains bacteria that an infant's developing digestive system can't handle.

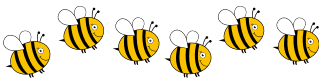




NC PRE-K



2023-2024 NC PRE-K
APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT:



WHAT IS NC PRE-K?

NC Pre-K is a free educational program designed to prepare eligible children for a successful entrance to Kindergarten. Utilizing a play based curriculum, NC Pre-K facilitates developmentally appropriate learning for children that focuses on both cognitive and social/emotional development. Students who participate will be provided with a 6.5 hour day, which follows the public school calendar. Families who are interested in applying are encouraged to review the eligibility requirements listed below.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

*Children who are age 4 by August 31, 2023 and meet income eligibility requirements based on family size.

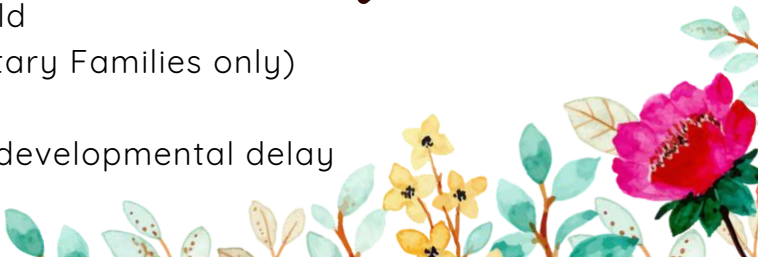
*Children who are not income eligible, may still be able to participate, if one of the following criteria is met:

- Developmental Delay - with documentation
- IEP
- English as a Second Language
- Active Duty Military / Disabled Veteran
- Chronic Health Condition



WHAT IS REQUIRED TO APPLY?

- Copy of Child's Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residency (Actively Living in Harnett County)
- Proof of Regular Gross Income for the household
- Proof of Active Duty Status / VA Disability (Military Families only)
- Copy of child's IEP (if applicable)
- Copy of diagnosis or therapies as a result of a developmental delay





Join us for

OPEN PLAY FRIDAYS

10:30am - 12:30pm

Family Connections @ 170 Pine State St, Lillington





READY TO GROW



Ready to Grow Playgroup facilitates developmentally appropriate playgroups for children and caregivers who reside in Harnett County. Eligible children must be between the ages of birth through 5 years old. Playgroup facilitators use Kaleidoscope Play & Learn Curriculum to provide hands on activities that focus on early literacy and social emotional competency. Caregivers learn about the purpose of play and will connect with other parents during group time. Children and caregivers will participate in coordinated group activities to prepare the children for success in school.

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Erwin Playgroup meets on Wednesdays from 10:30am - 12pm @ 494 Antioch Church Rd, Dunn, NC 28334

Lillington Playgroup meets on Mondays at 10:30am-12pm and 2:30pm-4:pm & on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:30am-12pm @ 170 Pine State St, Lillington.

Lillington Spanish-Speaking Playgroup meets Wednesdays from 2:30pm-4pm at 170 Pine State St, Lillington. All are welcome!

YMCA Playgroup meets on Mondays and Thursdays from 1pm-2:30pm at 107 Carletta Cage Dr, Cameron.

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HAVE FUN



READY TO GROW PLAYGROUP

THEME OF THE MONTH:

Let's Learn to Measure!



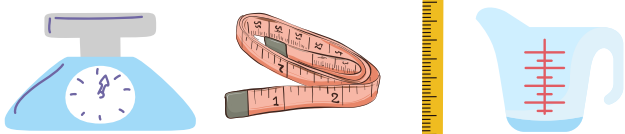
KEY MESSAGE

1. Important math concepts, such as measuring and the ability to describe the properties of an item are learned at an early age in the context of play.
2. Children are natural experimenters, so helping guide that curiosity (by providing tools and the language to match it) will help children develop important math skills.
3. We can find opportunities throughout the day to work on these skills. Involving children in cooking projects can teach children how to measure ingredients. Having cups in the bathtub allows children to understand volume by experimenting with how much water can fit in the big cup vs. the small cup.
4. Learning how to use measuring tools and describing properties such as size, weight, and shape are important pre-academic skills that children will need in order to be successful when they enter school.



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MONTH:

- Inch By Inch by Leo Lionni
- Measuring Penny by Loreen Leedy
- Mr. Cookie Baker by Monica Wellington
- I Love Tools! by Philemon Sturges and Shari Halpern
- Length by Henry Arthur Pluckrose





GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

El Grupo de Juegos Listo para Crecer tendrán sus reuniones en persona en Lillington. Las familias del condado de Harnett, que tengan niños recién nacidos hasta 5 años de edad, son bienvenidos a participar. Las familias tendrán la oportunidad de aprender y jugar con otras familias en persona.



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Erwin Playgroup - Miércoles de 10:30 de la mañana a 12 de la tarde
@ 494 Antioch Church Rd, Dunn, NC 28334

Lillington Playgroup - Lunes de 10:30am - 12pm y 2:30pm-4pm, Martes y Miércoles de 10:30am -12pm @ 170 Pine State St, Lillington, NC 27546

Lillington Habla-Hispana Playgroup - Miércoles de 2:30 de la tarde a 4:00
@ 170 Pine State St, Lillington. Todos son bienvenidos!

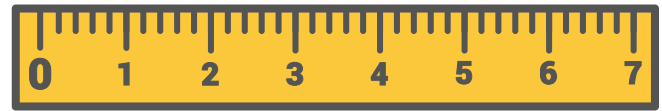
YMCA Playgroup - Lunes y Jueves de 1pm - 2:30pm
@ at 107 Carletta Cage Dr, Cameron.

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GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

TEMA DEL MES:

Aprendamos a Medir



MENSAJES CLAVE:

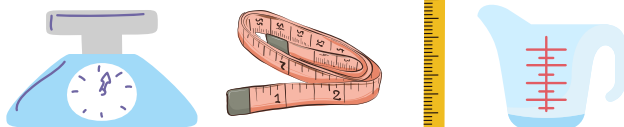
1. Los conceptos matemáticos importantes, como medir y la capacidad de describir las propiedades de un elemento, se aprenden a una edad temprana por medio del juego.
2. Los niños son experimentadores naturales, por lo que ayudar a guiar esa curiosidad (proporcionando herramientas y el lenguaje para que coincida) ayudará a los niños a desarrollar habilidades matemáticas importantes.
3. Podemos encontrar oportunidades a lo largo del día para trabajar en estas habilidades. Involucrar a los niños en proyectos de cocina puede enseñarles cómo medir los ingredientes. Tener tazas/vasos en la bañera permite a los niños entender el volumen experimentando con cuánta agua puede caber en la taza/vaso grande frente a la taza/vaso pequeña.

MENSAJE CLAVE CONTINUACIÓN:

4. Aprender a usar herramientas de medir y describir propiedades como el tamaño, el peso y la forma son habilidades pre-académicas importantes que los niños necesitarán para tener éxito cuando ingresen a la escuela.

LIBROS RECOMENDADOS:

- Inch By Inch by Leo Lionni
- Measuring Penny by Loreen Leedy
- Mr. Cookie Baker by Monica Wellington
- I Love Tools! by Philemon Sturges and Shari Halpern
- Length by Henry Arthur Pluckrose





STEP



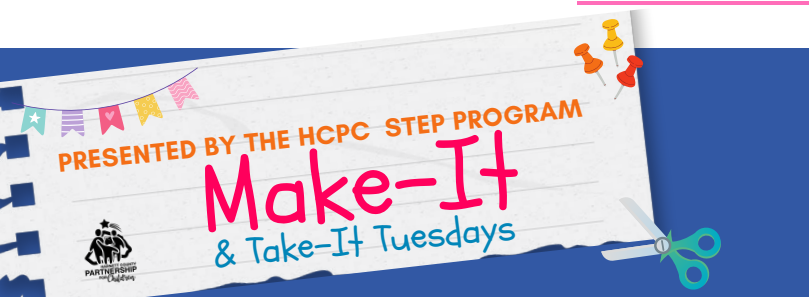
NATIONAL PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

Childcare workers are celebrated on this day, including teachers, nannies, and caregivers, all of who are essential workers in helping working parents continue to provide for their families. The day focuses on building awareness of the holiday, thanking childcare workers, and showcasing their contributions to their communities. From a simple thank you and gifts to social media posts and hashtags, this holiday is deserving of our attention.

THANK
you *for all you do!*



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHERS & DIRECTORS:



PRESENTED BY THE HCPC STEP PROGRAM

Make-It & Take-It Tuesdays

We are hosting Make-It & Take-It activities on the last Tuesday of every month for early childhood teachers and directors! Our office hours will be from 9am - 7pm at 327 Pine State St, Lillington. All projects will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Come as your schedule allows - there is no set time or need for an appointment. Questions? Email lynda.turlington@harnettsmartstart.org or call 910-893-2344.

MAY 30TH

Everything Conscious Discipline – Social Stories, Greeting Aprons, I Love You Rituals.



JUNE 27TH

Spoons, cups, and faces – Homemade games for children.



HARNETT COUNTY EARLY
CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS
WALK THE RED CARPET

YOU ARE THE STARS OF THE SHOW!

Join us for a star-studded evening, featuring speaker Dante Poole, a founder of Life Sculptors, who will deliver a powerful uplifting presentation that will energize and renew you!

DINNER WILL BE CATERED BY BLACKMON'S
360° PHOTO SPIN

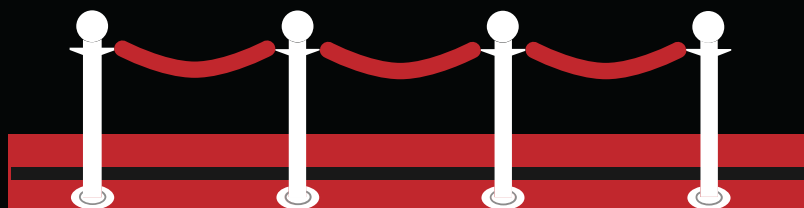
MAY
18

Harnett County Commons Area
(308 W Cornelius Blvd,
Lillington)

6:00
PM



RSVP BY FRIDAY MAY 12TH
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/YC46D57F](https://tinyurl.com/YC46D57F)



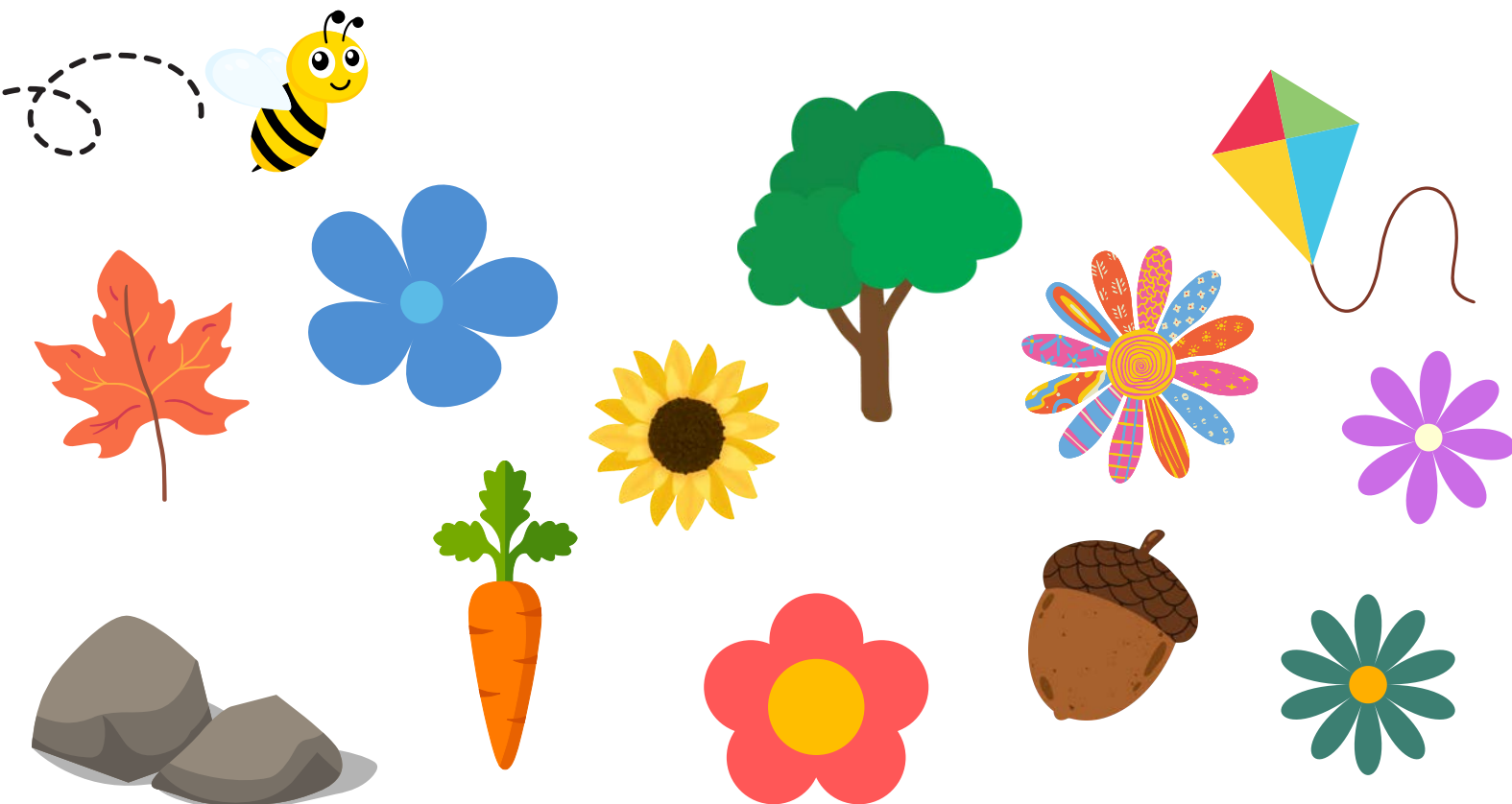


KIDS' CORNER



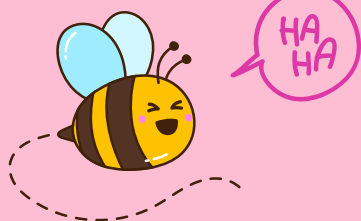
HELP THE BEE FIND FLOWERS - CIRCLE ALL THE FLOWERS BELOW.

Young children start to classify and categorize things around them very quickly in trying to understand how things are interconnected. This activity can help build vocabulary, encourage concentration and memory, and helps develop hand-eye coordination.



JOKE OF THE MONTH:

What type of bee can't make up its mind?



*A maybe!



FUN FACT OF THE MONTH:

DID YOU KNOW?



Bees cannot see the color red.



(To tune of 'The Wheels on the Bus')

THE BEES IN THE FLOWERS

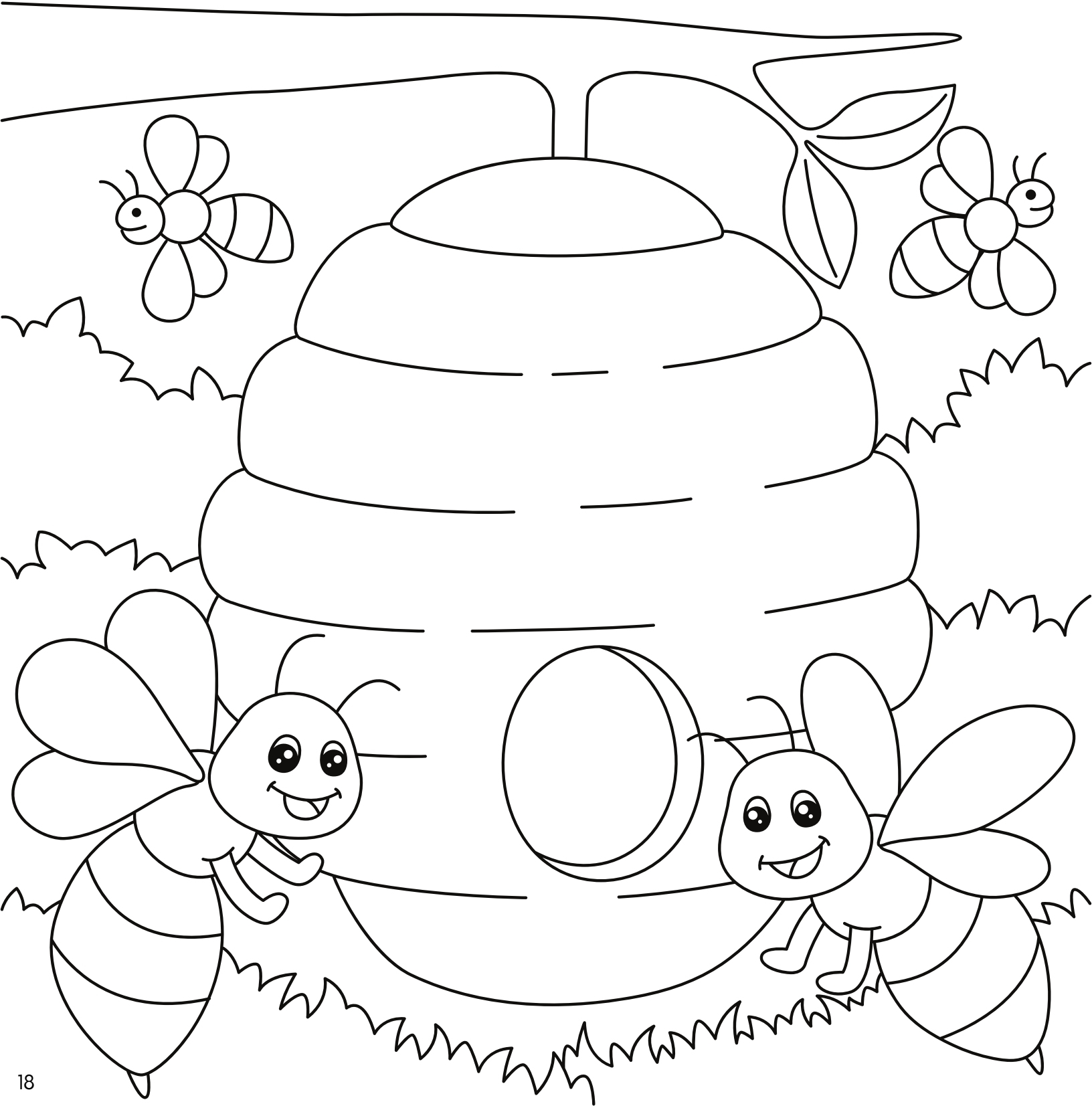
The bees in the flowers go buzz buzz buzz....

Buzz buzz buzz, Buzz buzz buzz

The bees in the flowers go buzz buzz buzz

All around the garden

COLORING FUN:



A GIFT TO GIVE SOMEONE SPECIAL:

A gift for your mommy, grandmother, aunt, or someone who cares for you!

Thanks for Bee'ing So Wonderful!



To: _____

From: _____