

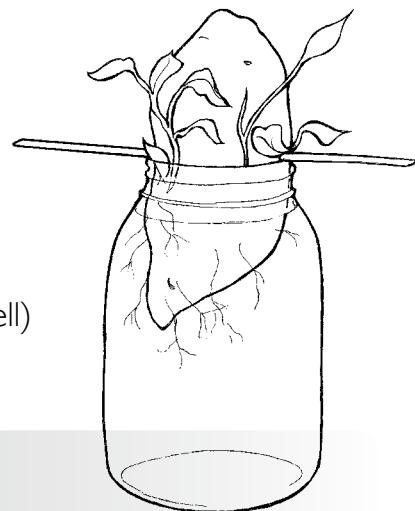
# Start a Sweet Potato Slip

This activity starts a sweet potato slip from sweet potatoes and shows what slips need to grow into plants.

To grow plants that will produce sweet potatoes, purchase sweet potatoes from a nursery or mail order catalog; follow instructions provided. A sweet potato from the grocery store will sprout leaves and roots, but will not produce sweet potatoes if planted.

## Materials Needed

- Unwashed sweet potato with eyes
- Sharp knife
- Permanent marker
- 3 wooden craft sticks
- Narrow mouth quart-size jar (an empty mayonnaise jar works well)
- Distilled or spring water



## The Activity

- Help your child fill the quart-size jar with water, leaving  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of space between the water and top of the jar.
- Make three  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch horizontal slits evenly spaced around the middle of the sweet potato.
- Help your child push a wooden craft stick into each slit, at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch into the sweet potato flesh. The wooden craft sticks create a tripod that supports the sweet potato on the rim of the jar. This allows half of the potato to be below the water level and half above.
- Place the jars in a warm location at or above 65 degrees F. In about a month, the slip sprouts will grow 8 to 10 inches from the top half of the sweet potato, which is the best length for transplanting to the garden.
- Have your child check the jar weekly to see the progress of the slip sprouts.
- NOTE: Place the jars on top of a water heater to speed the growing process.
- Explain to your child that the sweet potato slips are planted in the soil outside. The slips need soil, rain, sun, and time to grow into sweet potato plants. Sweet potatoes will grow on the plants under the ground. The sweet potatoes will be ready to remove gently from the soil in the fall.

# Sweet Potato Number Match

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Your child has been learning about sweet potatoes. A sweet potato is an oblong shaped, orange vegetable that tastes sweet. Help your child count

the sweet potatoes and draw a line between each sweet potato group to the correct matching number. See if your child can tell you five facts about sweet potatoes.

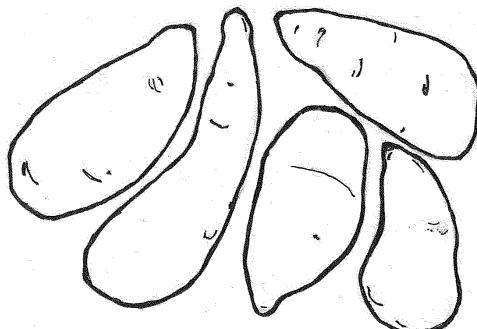
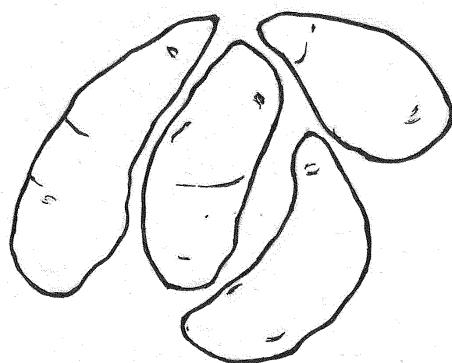
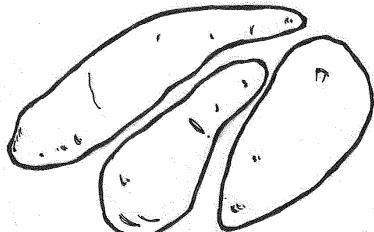
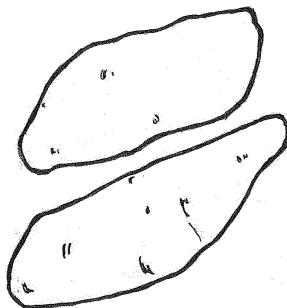
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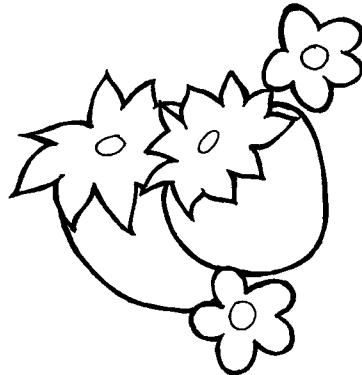
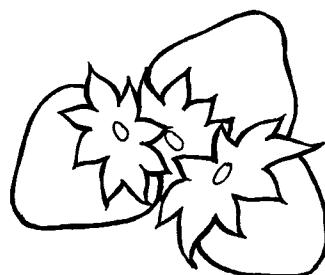
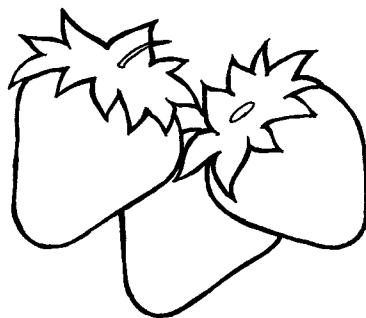


# Match the Strawberries

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Your child has been learning what strawberries look like. Ask your child to look closely at the berries on this page. Have your child find the two pictures of strawberries that look alike. Ask your child to put

a circle around the identical strawberries and draw a line from one match to the other. Talk about what makes these two pictures the same. What makes the other pictures of strawberries different?

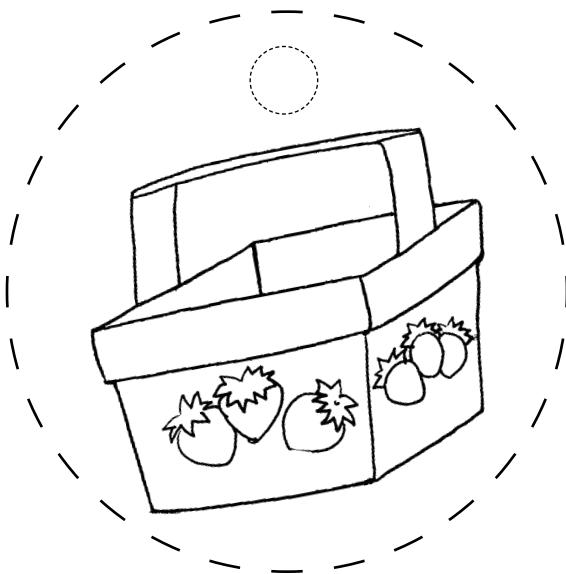
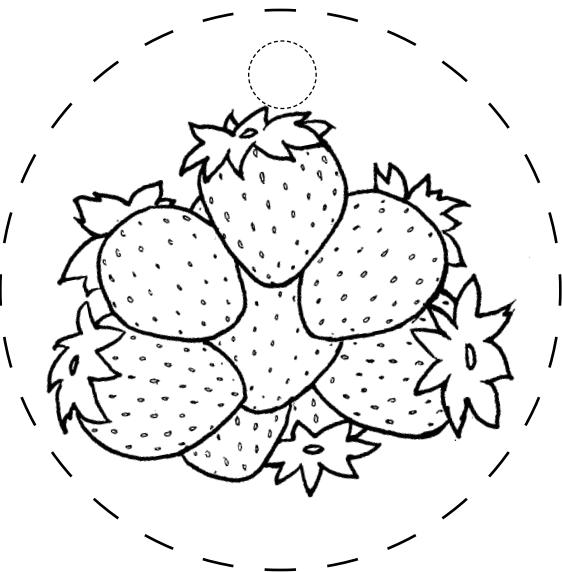
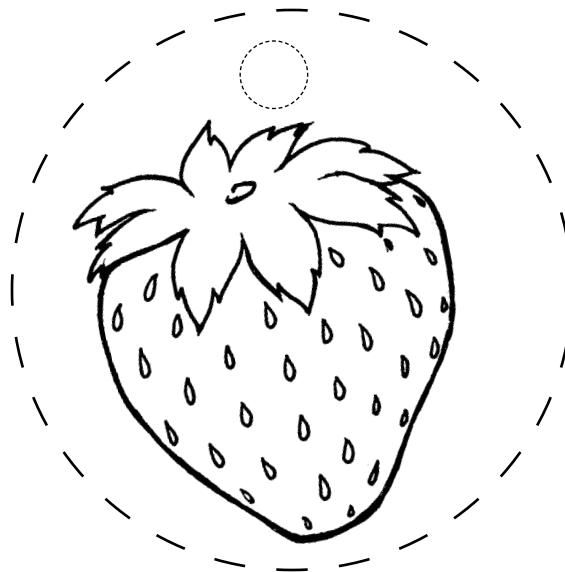


# Strawberry Fun Badge

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Help your child make their own 'berry' special badge. Have your child color the badges with crayons, paint, or markers. Help your child glue the pictures to a piece of thin cardboard such as an empty cereal box or file folder. When dry, cut

out each badge and trim the cardboard around the badge. Place a piece of double-stick tape on the back of the badge and attach to clothing. Or punch a hole in the top and thread string or yarn through to make a necklace.

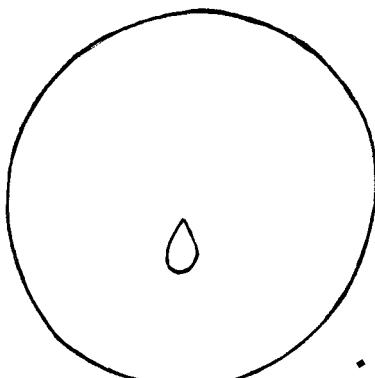


# Counting Crookneck Squash Seeds

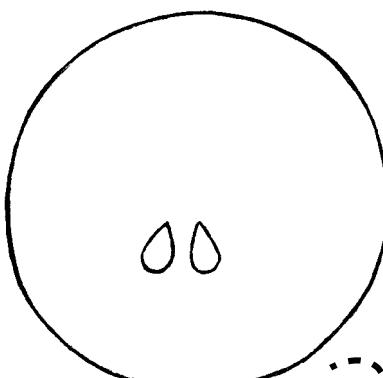
## Dear Parents and Guardians:

When children are familiar with new foods, they are more willing to taste new foods. In child care, your child has learned what the inside of crookneck squash looks like. Crookneck squash have many white, flat seeds. Help your child count the number of seeds in each squash half and trace the numbers

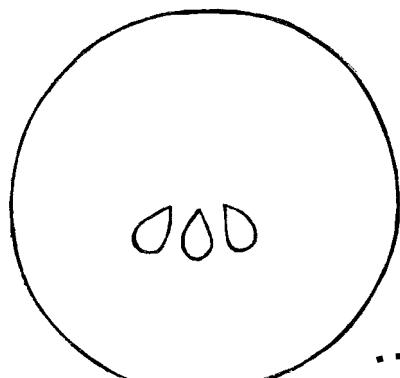
under each picture. Guide their hand as they trace the numbers, if necessary. Have your child count different ways to enjoy eating crookneck squash. Write those ideas on the lines below the traced numbers. Make a plan to enjoy a crookneck squash recipe this week!



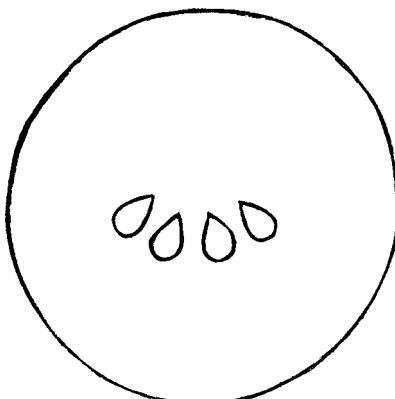
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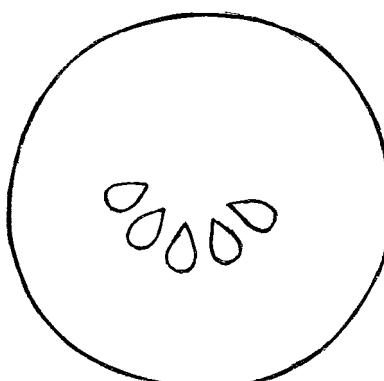
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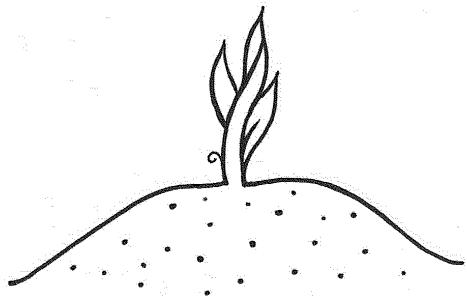
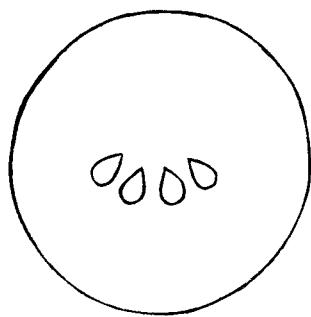
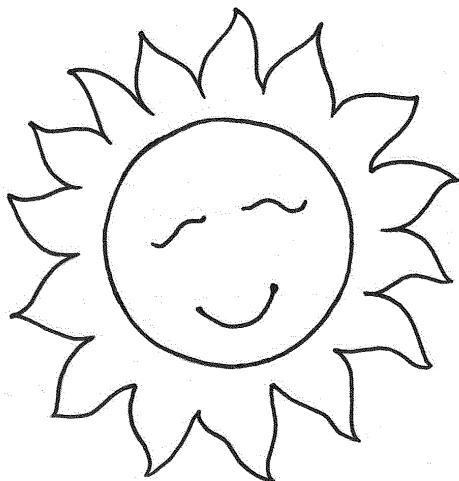
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# What Crookneck Squash Needs To Grow

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Crookneck squash plants start from the flat white seeds found inside the squash. Squash grow on vines above the ground. They can grow in home gardens or on large farms. Squash grows fast, particularly in hot weather. Squash stems and leaf

stalks are prickly so it is best to wear gloves when picking squash. Squash is picked in late summer or early fall. Ask your child to look at pictures below and draw a circle around the things a crookneck squash needs to grow.



1. sun, 2. rain, 3. soil

# Peaches Grow on Trees!

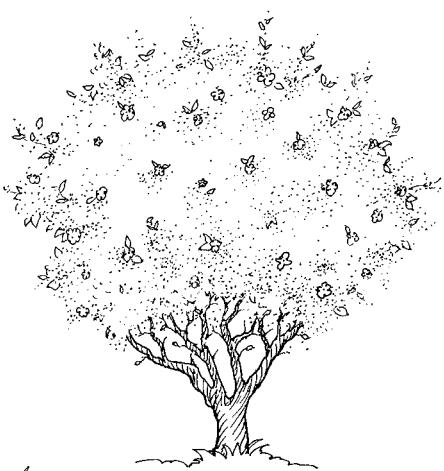
## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Review what your child has learned about growing peaches. Read aloud the picture captions and help your child number the pictures in order from 1 to 5, showing the stages of growing peaches.

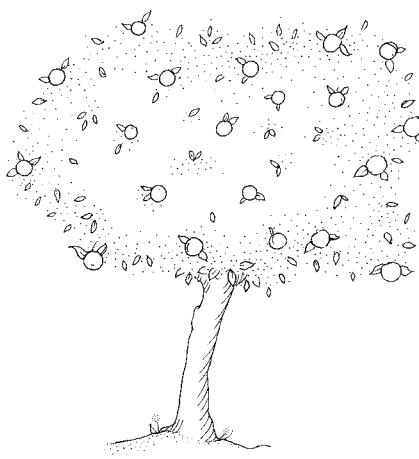
Then, have your child color the pictures. Later, cut the colored pictures apart and help your child glue the pictures on a piece of paper in the correct order.



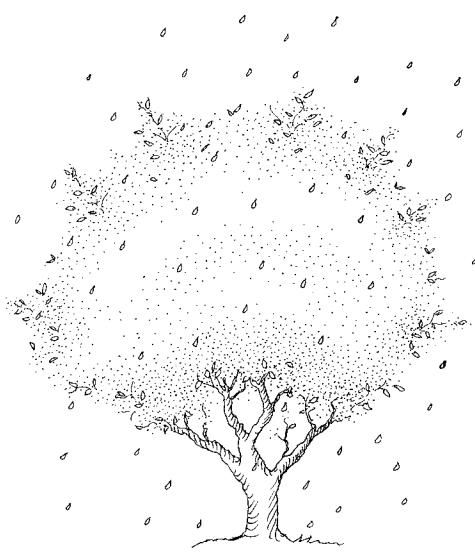
Planting a peach pit \_\_\_\_\_



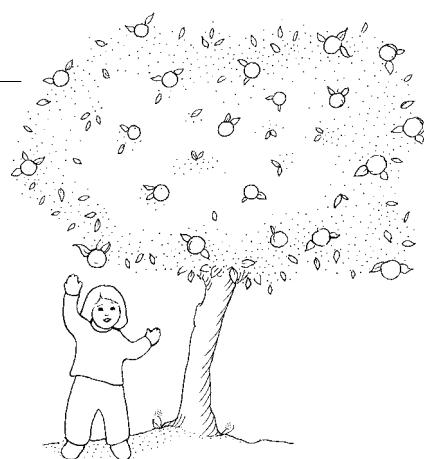
Peach tree has blossoms \_\_\_\_\_



Peaches growing on a tree \_\_\_\_\_



Rain on the peach tree \_\_\_\_\_



Picking ripe peaches \_\_\_\_\_

## Answers:

- (1) Planting a peach pit; (2) Rain on the peach tree; (3) Peach tree has blossoms; (4) Peaches growing on a tree; (5) Picking ripe peaches

# Story of How a Cantaloupe Grows

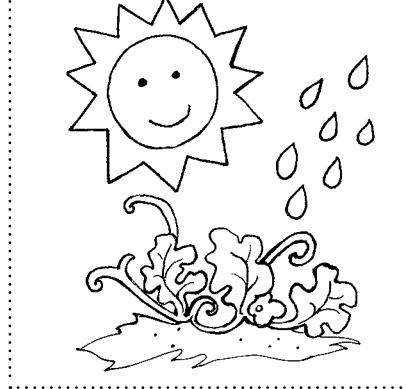
## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Your child has learned about growing and harvesting cantaloupe. Review what they have learned by reading this story together. The pictures show the steps of growing and harvesting a cantaloupe. Enjoy eating Cantaloupe Soup while you read this story

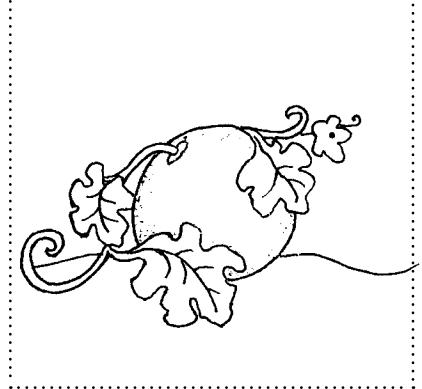
together. After you have read the story, you can cut the pictures apart and create a game for your child. Have your child practice putting the story of how a cantaloupe grows in the right order.



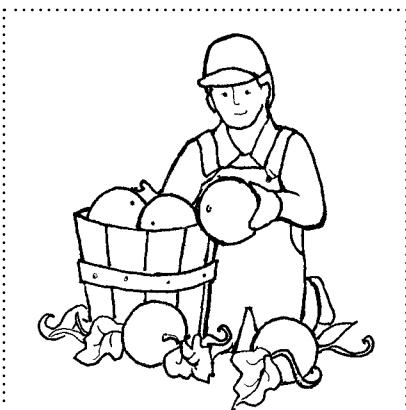
In spring, a farmer plants cantaloupe seeds in the ground.



The cantaloupe seeds grow vines on top of the ground. The plants need soil, a lot of sun, warm weather, water, and time to grow.



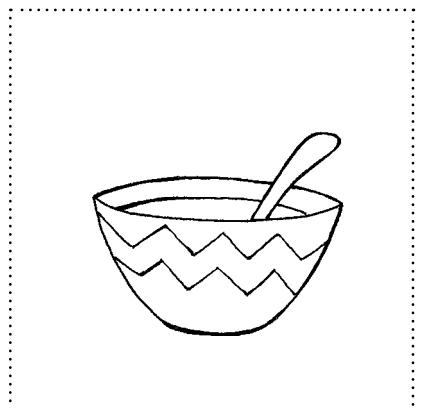
Cantaloupes grow on the vines and ripen to a tan color during the summer.



The farmer picks the cantaloupes.



The family chooses a cantaloupe at the grocery store or farmers' market.



The family makes and eats cantaloupe soup at home. Yum!