

# Introduction

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This book is designed to help children develop the kind of visualisation skills that lie at the heart of problem-solving and creativity. It also gives students excellent practice in listening.

How does the concept work? Here are a couple of activities that will give you the idea.

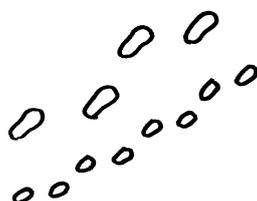
For a moment, please play the part of the student. This is what your teacher (or parent) says to you:

“A father and his young son went walking in the snow. They left tracks that you can see from above. How would that look?”

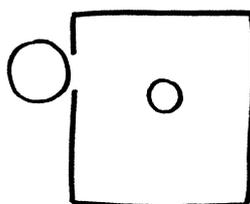
Another:

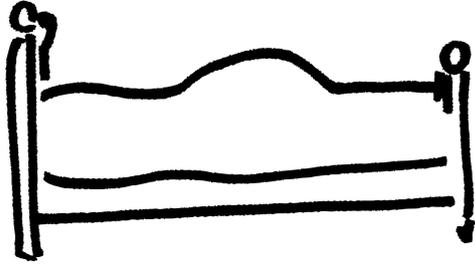
“A circle found a hole in the side of a square just big enough for it to get in, and went inside. Its friend, also a circle, tried to get in, but it was too big. How would that look?”

In the first example, students would obviously have to think about shoe sizes. But that’s not all. The matter of stride must be considered. A father’s footprints would be further apart than the child’s. The footsteps also have to be going in the same direction. Thus, an adequate response would be:



In the second example, students grapple with a more abstract situation - circles and squares. To be successful, they must make a square with a “door” that is just about the size of a circle, and the circle must then be drawn inside the square. But the second circle, outside of the square, has to be drawn larger. Remember, it must be too large for the opening. So the solution might look something like this:



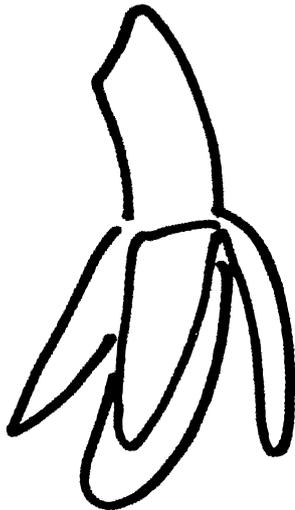


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## SILLY LUMP

My silly little brother thought he was hiding from my mum by crawling under the blanket. How would that look?

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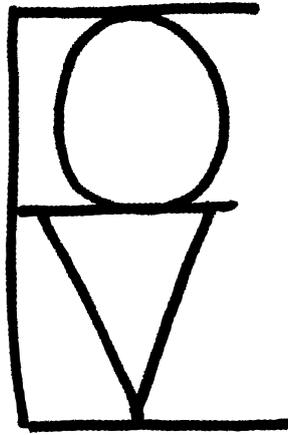


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## BANANA

I peeled the banana halfway down and then took a bite. How would that look?

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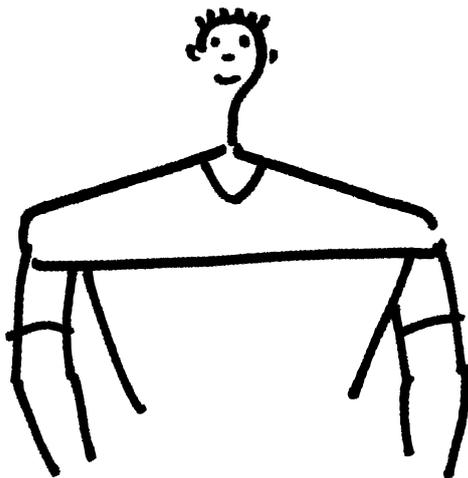


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## STUCK LETTERS

An O and a V are stuck in a capital E. They are stuck so tightly that they can't get loose. How would that look?

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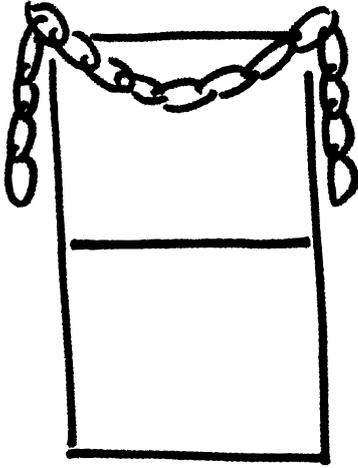


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## COAT HANGER

I traced around a coat hanger and turned my drawing into a picture of a person with a small head and very broad shoulders. How would that look?

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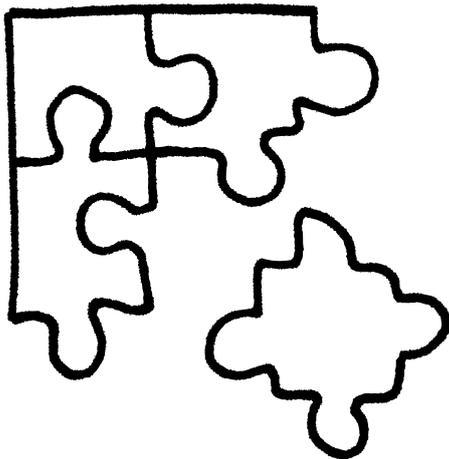


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## WINDOW DRESSING

I made a paper chain and hung it over a window in my bedroom for decoration. How would that look?

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## PUZZLE PIECES

Three of the puzzle pieces fit together, but the fourth didn't go with the others at all. How would that look?

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