

Quick Start Package

For Pre-K /K/ 1

Regent Christian Online Academy

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Homeschooling Methods

There are many different homeschooling methods. If you are new to homeschooling, you will find it helpful to read about the most common methods to discover what best suits you and your family.

Traditional Method - Using curriculum and teaching method that is similar to what is used in public school.

[Classical Education Method](#) - Based on a three-part process of training your mind; Grammar Stage (memorization), Logic Stage (“why”), and Rhetoric Stage (applying knowledge). This method is best described by Susan Wise Bauer.

[Charlotte Mason Method](#) - A three-pronged educational approach centered on atmosphere, discipline, and life teaching.

Eclectic Method - The family takes bits and pieces of various different methods to form their own unique homeschooling environment.

[Montessori Method](#) - Based on the idea that learning should be a natural, self-directed process. It is also commonly referred to as child-led learning.

Unschooling – A child-led type of approach to homeschooling. Unschooling homes typically let their current interests dictate what they choose to study, incorporating traditional subjects as they go. This method is more difficult to make work in the DL environment, but can be done if there is extensive parent reporting and strong evidence of learning.

[Homeschooling Styles Overview](#)

Language Arts Strategies

Letter / Sound Awareness

Alphabet Book - Make an alphabet booklet, with one letter per page. Write the letter on each page in both capital and lower case. Work on one page at a time and discuss the sound the letter makes. For each page, have your child cut out pictures from magazines, draw pictures, glue on photos of family members, or use stickers of things that start with that letter. For the vowels, you can include pictures for both the short and long sounds.

Scavenger Hunt – Go on a scavenger hunt for things around the house or outside that start with the alphabet letter being studied.

Blending Sounds – Print out the Blending Mat on page 10. Place it in a protective sheet, and have your child write on it using a dry erase crayon. If your child is in the beginning states with printing the letters, you can use magnetic alphabet letters. Dictate three letter words to your child, and have him/her sound out the beginning sound, beginning and ending sounds, or, for more advanced students, all three sounds. Examples of words to use – cat, bed, pig, dog, bug, etc.

If you prefer a workbook approach, use the Making Words worksheet on page 11 to sound out the beginning sound, beginning and ending sounds, or all three sounds heard in each word.

Rhyming Time – Play rhyming games, where you give your child a simple word, such as dog, and he/she thinks of a word that rhymes with it, such as hog.

Read rhyming books together, and have your child finish the sentence with the rhyming word.

Sing the song, “Down by the Bay” by Raffi to have even more rhyming fun together.

Printing Practice

Play dough – Form the alphabet letters, both capital and lower case, out of play dough. There are free printable [Play dough Mats](#) available.

Rice Box – Fill a shallow box with rice, and have your child use his/her finger to “print” the letters, both capital and lower case, in the rice.

Paper – Use printing practice worksheets to learn to print the alphabet letters. See page 12 for a sample printing practice worksheet.

Reading Comprehension Skills

Predicting With Pictures– Flip through the pages in a storybook, and ask your child what he/she thinks the book is about based on the pictures seen. Read the book together and discuss whether or not your child’s prediction was correct.

Predicting Without Pictures – Begin reading a story that your child has not looked at or heard before. At the height of the conflict, have your child make a prediction about what he/she thinks will happen. Finish reading the story and discuss whether or not your child’s prediction was correct.

Narration – After reading a story, ask your child to explain or retell the story to you. You can guide your child by asking him/her more pointed questions about the story. Encourage your child to provide specific examples from the text.

Literary Elements – After reading a story, have your child identify who the story was about (use the term “character”), where the story took place (setting), what the problem in the story was (conflict), and how the problem was solved (resolution). After completing this orally for several different stories, have your child complete the Story Map worksheet on page 13. Your child can draw pictures in each of the boxes. More advanced students can draw pictures and sound out simple words to explain each literary element.

Math Curriculum

For more information about the different math curriculums available please see the [Regent Christian Online Academy](#) webpage.

[Math U See](#)

The first book of Math U See is Primer. You do not have to complete the Primer book in order to begin Alpha. There is no placement test for Primer, but the Alpha placement test is included in this package.

[Primer Sample](#)

[Alpha Sample](#)

[Saxon Math](#)

Saxon math starts with a Kindergarten book. The placement test is included in this package.

[Saxon Math K Sample](#)

[ABeka Math](#)

ABeka offers a Kindergarten book, entitled Numbers 5. The Grade 1 book is entitled Arithmetic 1. There are no placement tests available.

[Numbers 5 Sample](#)

[Arithmetic 1 Sample](#)

[Horizons Math](#)

Horizons Math offers a Kindergarten book. The placement tests begin with the Grade 1 book, which is included in this package.

[Horizons K Sample](#)

[Horizons 1 Sample](#)

[Jump Math](#)

Jump Math is available beginning in Grade 1. There are no placement tests available.

[Jump Math Samples](#)

Apples Mini Unit



Christian Foundations

Creation – Read Genesis 1 – 2:3 with your child. Review the days of creation, and what was created on each day. Using the Creation Story worksheet on page 14, have your child draw a picture in each box to represent what God created each day. Ask your child on which day God would have created the apple tree. Have him/her add an apple tree to the worksheet. (Day 3)

God’s Provision for Man – Read Genesis 2:4 -17. Discuss God’s instructions to Adam. Brainstorm the fruits that could have been on the trees Adam was allowed to eat from.

Language Arts

Books - Order apple themed books, both fiction and non-fiction, from your local library, and read them throughout the week. I highly recommend the book Fall Apples: Crisp and Juicy by Martha E. H. Rustad.

I Like Apples Mini Book– Print out the mini book on pages 15-17. Cut the pages in half and staple together as a booklet. Have your child trace over the colour words on each page. Have your child colour the apple the corresponding colour. Practice reading the story together, having your child point to the words as you read it. For more advanced readers, have your child read the story to you.

Apple Starts With A – Teach the two sounds (short and long) of the letter A. Decorate a block letter capital A and lower case a with red finger painted dots, which can be turned into apples by drawing on a stem.

Practice forming the capital and lower case letter A on a flat surface using apple seeds.

Math

Sorting – Set many different coloured apples in front of your child and ask your child to sort them according to colour. You can do the same sorting activity by size, stem or no stem, etc.

Pattern Apples – Use different coloured apples to create patterns (ABAB, AABAAB, etc.) Have your child continue on the pattern. Encourage your child to create a pattern of apples for you to continue on.

Counting Apples – Print out the My Apple Counting Book on pages 18-19. Cut the page into quarters, and staple together in order. Have your child trace the number, trace the corresponding number of times around the shape of the apple with red, and glue in the corresponding number of apple seeds inside the apple.

Science

How Apples Grow – Read a book about how plants grow. Fall Apples: Crisp and Juicy by Martha E.H. Rustad or How Do Apples Grow? by Betsy Maestro explain how apples grow in an easy to understand way. Have your child colour, cut apart, and sort the plant growth sequence cards on page 20.

Apple Tree Through the Seasons – Name the four seasons with your child, and explain that you will make an art project depicting the apple tree throughout the seasons.

This art project will require 4 pieces of white card stock paper that will be glued onto a poster board when completed, and a sheet of bubble wrap, cut into small squares.

Each page will represent a different season. Paint your child's arm and hand brown, and press onto all 4 cardstock papers, and let dry. This will become the trunk and branches of the tree.

Fall- Have your child dip small squares of bubble wrap into green, yellow, and brown paint and press onto the tree branches. This will make the leaves. Your child can add a few leaves to the ground as well.

Winter – Have your child dip a small square of bubble wrap into white paint and press onto the tree branches. This will become snow on the bare tree. Your child can also add some white paint to the ground for more snow.

Spring – Have your child dip a small square of bubble wrap into green paint and press onto the tree branches. This will become the green leaves. Let dry. Your child can use a finger dipped in pink paint to dot on pink blossoms.

Summer – Have your child dip a small square of bubble wrap into green paint and press onto the tree branches. This will become the green leaves. Let dry. Your child can use a finger dipped in red paint to dot on red apples.

Additional Projects

Baking - Make apple sauce or apple pie with your child. This is a great opportunity to practice math skills!

Field Trip - Visit an apple orchard. If in the Lower Mainland, The Taves Family Barn is a fantastic place to visit. I would highly recommend booking a homeschool tour with them.

Mini Lapbook Introduction

A lapbook is a large folder full of smaller booklets. Each small booklet covers a different part of the overall theme. Lapbooks provide an enjoyable hands-on way for children to organize information. Lapbooks work well with different learning styles and ages because lapbooks can be easily tailored to your child's needs. Upon completion, the child has a beautiful booklet that can be proudly shown to the Home Learning Support Teacher, as well as family and friends. Because a lapbook is flat, it is easy to keep for years to come!

In this Quick Start Package Folder you will find an All About Me lapbook to try. As you work through this lapbook, remember to center your child's learning on God's truth. I would suggest including Psalm 139:13-14 in your child's lapbook, and encourage your child to memorize this verse as well.

For you created my inmost being;

You knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalm 139:13-14

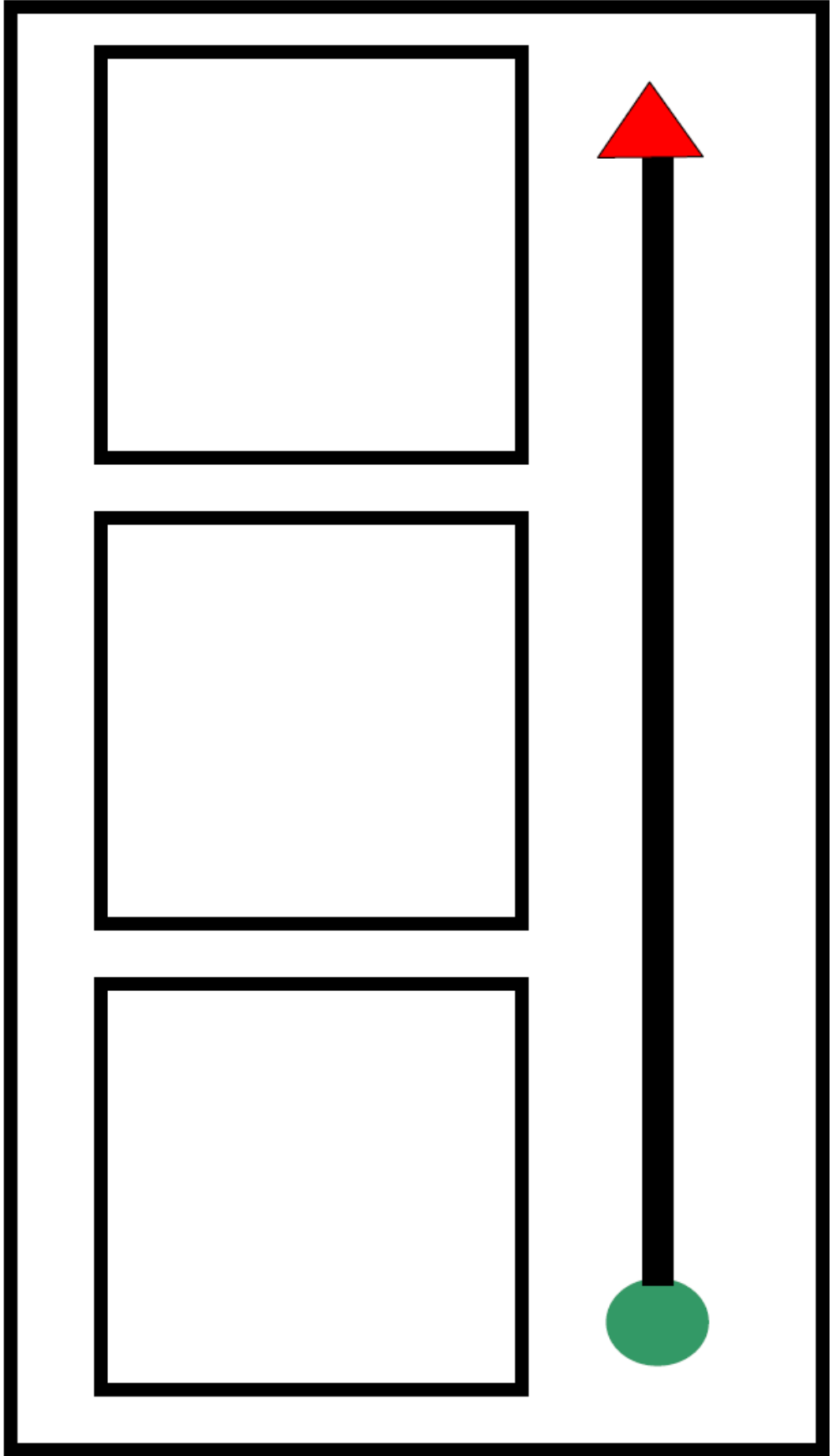
There are many lapbook websites with free resources, resources that can be purchased, or even blank templates to make your own. Here are a few recommendations

[Homeschool Share](#)

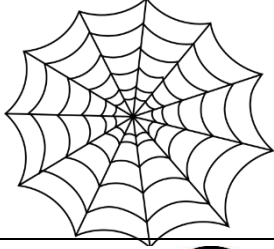
[Live and Learn Press](#)

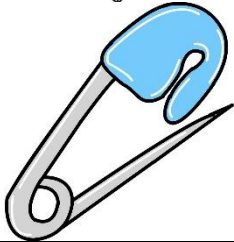
[Hands of a Child](#)

Blending Mat

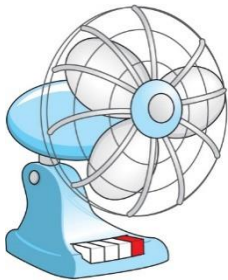


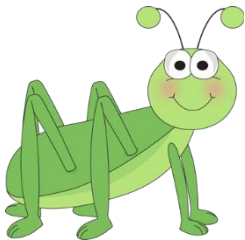
Making Words





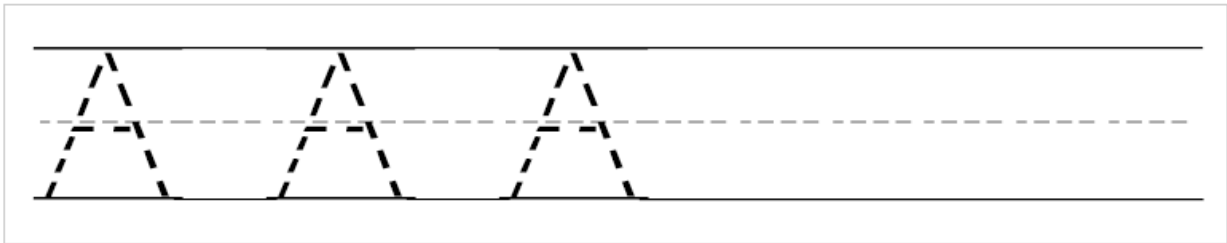




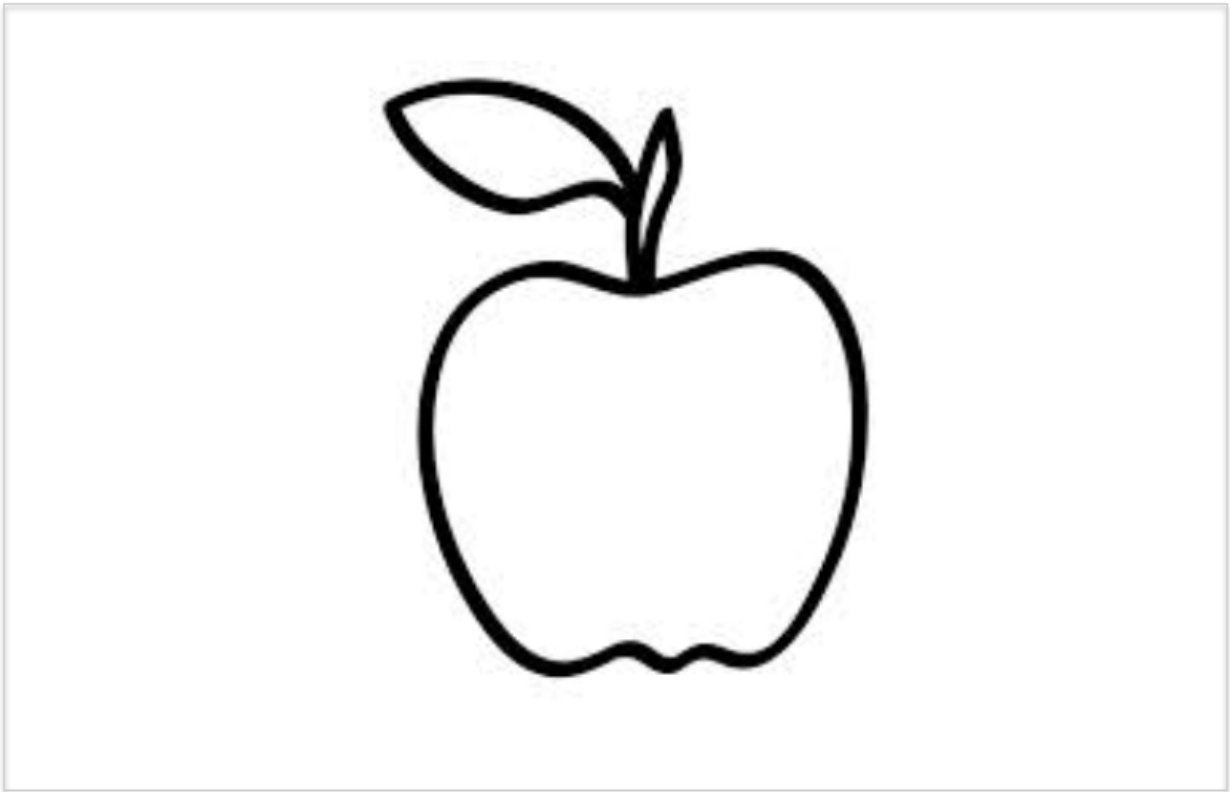


Name _____

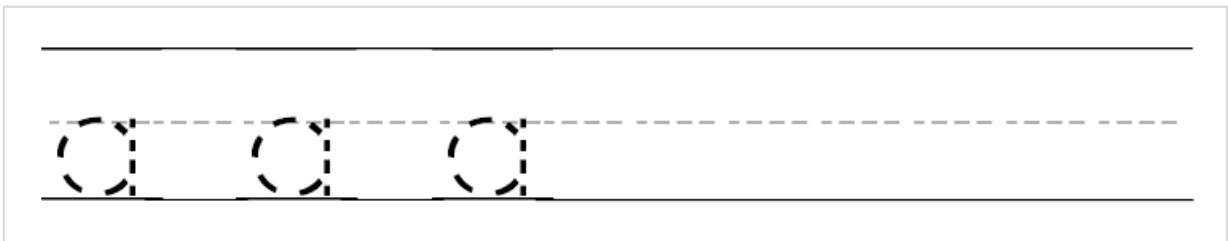
Trace and Write



Color



Trace and Write



Setting:

Solution:

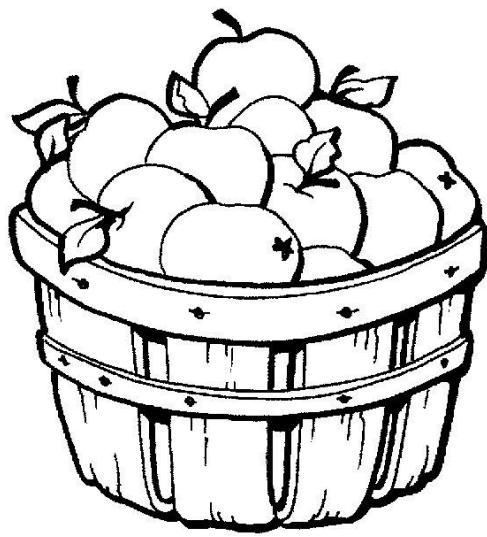
Story Map

Title:

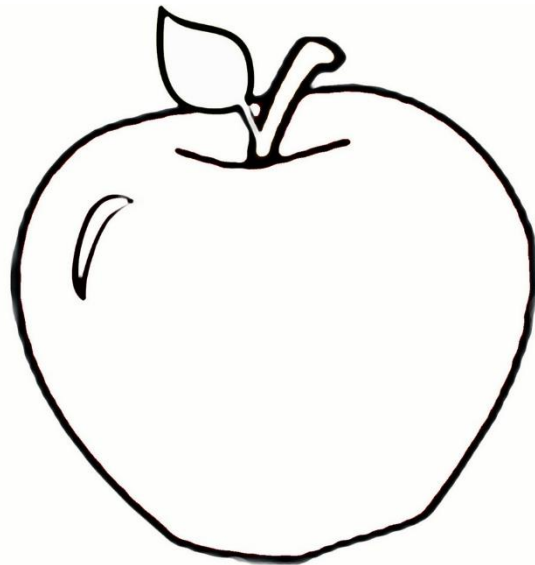
Characters:

Problem:

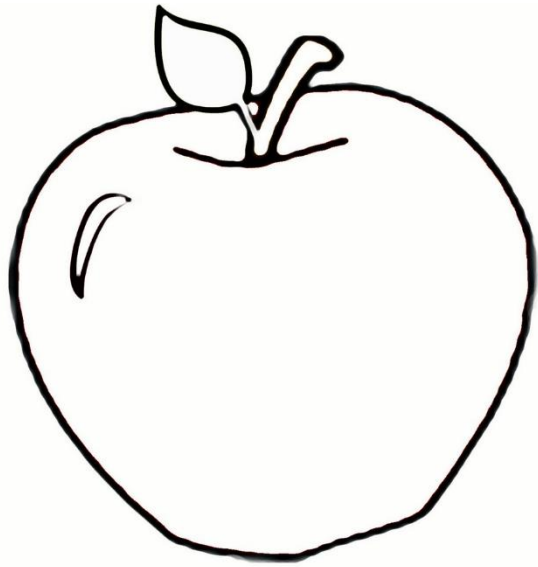
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<div data-bbox="1317 1461 1422 1730" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Day Four</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="1317 1096 1422 1341" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Day Five</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="1317 716 1422 961" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Day Six</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="1317 304 1422 590" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Day Seven</p> </div>



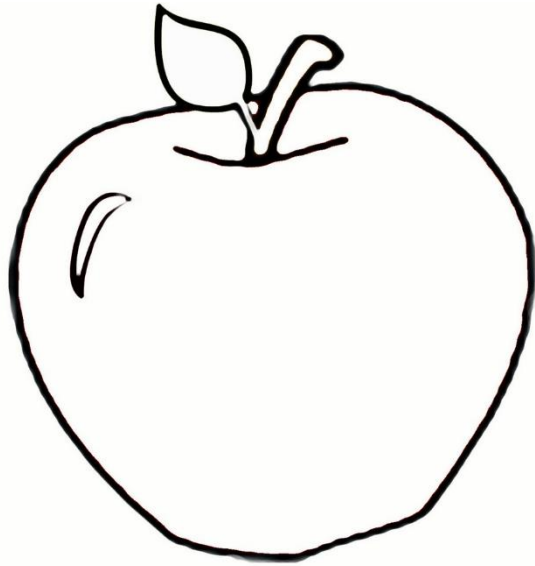
I like apples.



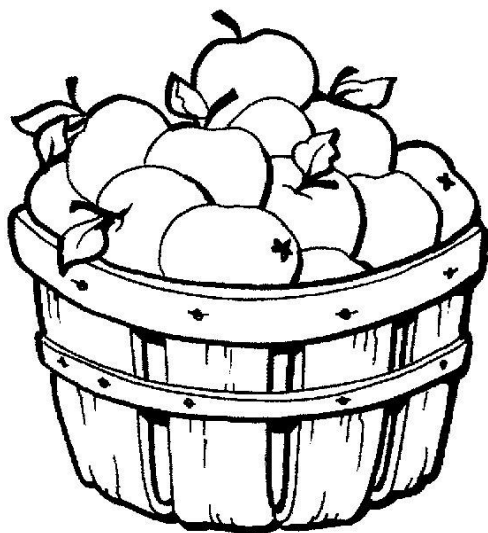
red apples



yellow apples

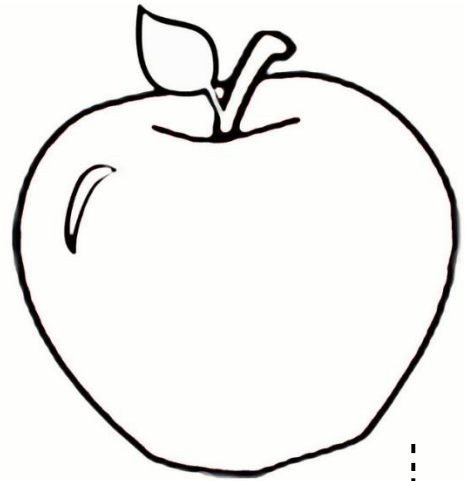


green apples

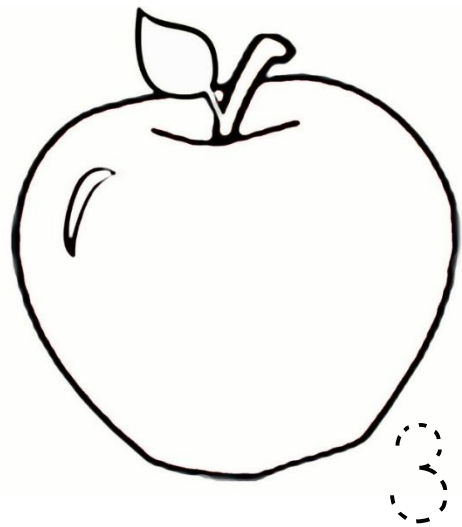
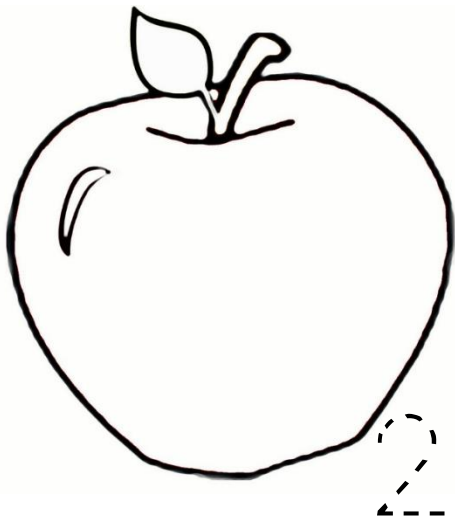


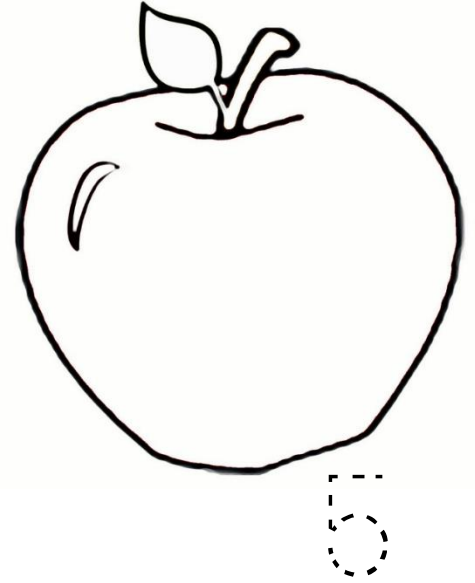
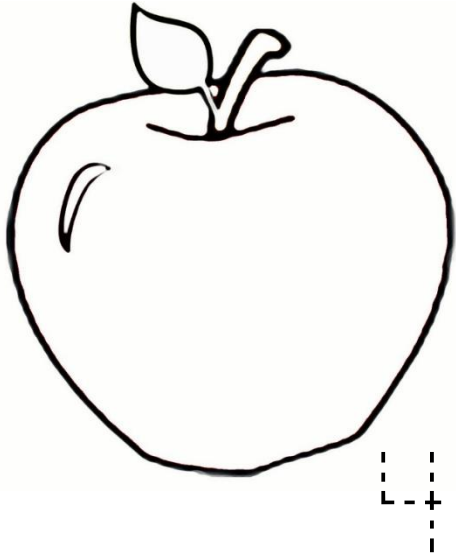
I like apples.

My
Apple Counting
Book



Name _____





Apple Life Sequencing Cards



seeds



sprout



seedling



tree



blossom



apples