

# Section 2: Family Letter

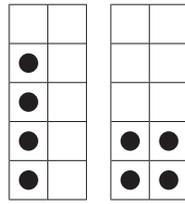
NAME

DATE

## Dear Families,

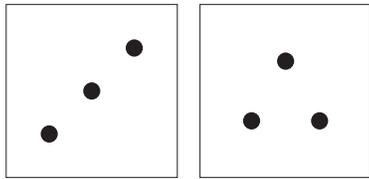
We are beginning Section 2 in *Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics*. Below is information about the main topics we will learn about during Section 2. We will also continue to explore and practice the concepts and skills we began in Section 1.

**Counting and Comparing Sets** In Section 2, children will extend early counting experiences to count sets of objects in different arrangements. They will also be introduced to a tool called a *ten frame*. They will use ten frames to see and show numbers in a variety of ways.

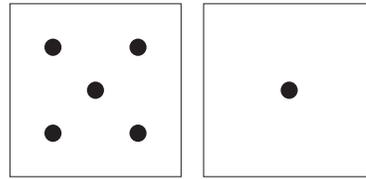


The number 4 is shown on a ten frame in two ways.

In *Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics*, children play games frequently to reinforce skills and concepts and develop problem-solving strategies. In Section 2, children will practice counting, matching, and comparing sets of dots by playing *Match Up with Dot Cards* and *Top-It with Dot Cards*.



Children find matching sets in *Match Up*.



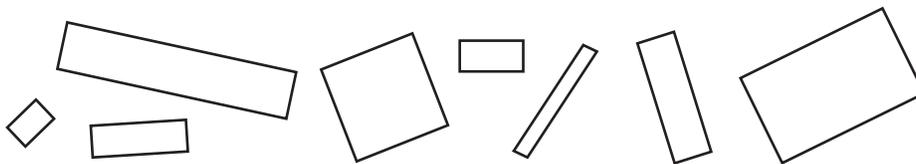
Children compare sets to see which is greater and which is less in *Top-It*.

**Number Stories** A “number story” is another name for a word problem or story problem. Early in the year, children solve number stories in a variety of ways, including acting them out and using objects, fingers, and drawings.



“I have 3 red apples and 2 green apples. How many apples do I have in all?”

**Shapes** Children will make shape collages and explore and describe real-world examples of shapes to help them learn the properties of triangles, circles, and rectangles. They will also learn to recognize the same shape in different sizes and orientations.



Although the shapes above look different from one another, children learn that all these shapes are rectangles. They also learn that a square is a special type of rectangle!

# Triangles at Home

## Home Link 2-3



NAME

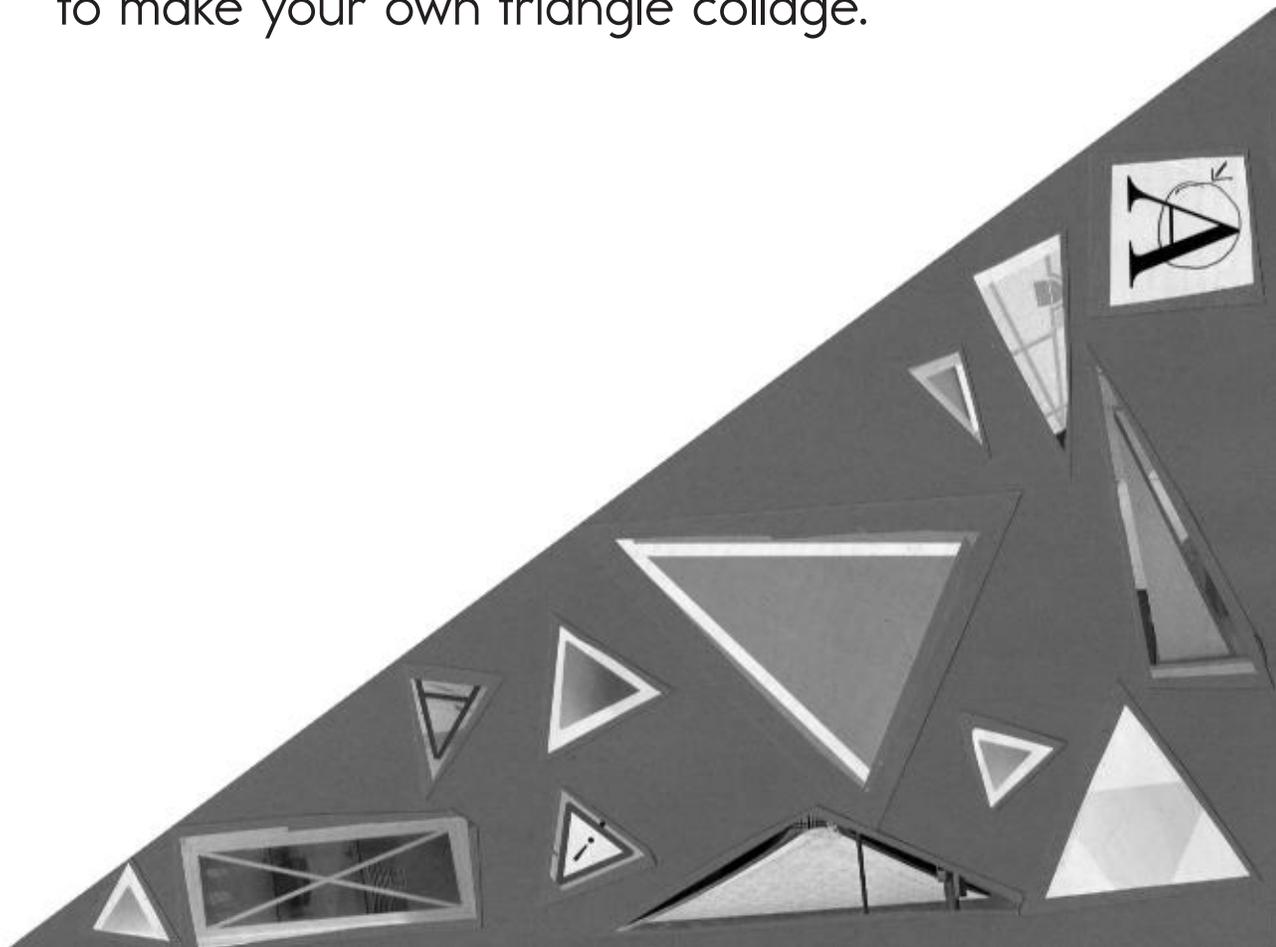
DATE

### Family Note

We learned about triangles in school today. We learned that triangles can come in lots of different shapes and sizes, as long as they have three straight sides and three vertices (corners). As your child looks for triangles around the house, help him or her find varied examples of triangles in everyday objects and pictures. It is important that children be exposed to a wide variety of examples of each type of shape.

Tell someone at home what a triangle is.

- Look around your house for lots of different triangles. Draw some of them on the back of this page.
- You might also cut out triangles from magazines to make your own triangle collage.



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# Pocket Problems

Home Link 2-5

NAME

DATE

## Family Note

In school we have begun to explore addition and subtraction using what we call “pocket problems.” You can use an envelope, a paper bag, or a cup as your “pocket.” Pocket problems allow children to use concrete objects to add and subtract. If your child has difficulty solving the problems mentally, encourage him or her to open the envelope or small paper bag and count the objects.

Use an envelope, a paper bag, or a cup as your “pocket.” Do pocket problems with a family member:

- Count aloud as you place a few beans, coins, buttons, or other small objects in your pocket.
- Add two more objects to your pocket.
- Ask your partner to say how many objects there are now without looking inside.
- Pour out the objects and count them to check.

Empty the pocket and repeat with a different number of objects. This time, instead of putting more objects into your pocket, take a few objects out. Ask your partner to say how many objects are still in your pocket.



# Sorting Groceries

## Home Link 2-7

NAME

DATE

### Family Note

One lesson in each section of *Kindergarten Everyday Mathematics* will be an Open Response and Reengagement Lesson. These lessons provide children with opportunities to solve interesting problems using their own strategies and reasoning. On the first day, children solve an Open Response problem, which is a problem with more than one possible strategy or solution. On the second day, children discuss their work from the first day to reengage with the problem and to learn more about the mathematics involved.

These lessons provide opportunities for children to solve problems that are approachable, but require persistence. Children gain confidence by explaining their thinking and by listening to the explanations of others. They will also see that there is more than one way to solve a problem, which promotes flexible and creative thinking. Ask your child to talk to you about the problems and his or her mathematical thinking throughout the year. You will enjoy seeing your child become a confident problem solver.

In today's lesson, children sorted collections of objects in different ways and explained their groups and sorting rules. Children can apply this type of thinking at home in many ways, including sorting groceries.

Before unpacking a grocery bag, try to guess how many items are inside it. Then count to see how close you were.



- Sort the groceries in the bag into groups. Explain why you put certain items together.
- Can you think of a different way to sort the items?

# Circles at Home

## Home Link 2-8

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### Family Note

We learned about circles in school today. As your child looks for circles around the house, help him or her find different examples of circles in everyday objects and pictures. Also help your child notice the difference between true circles and other curved shapes such as ovals or beans.

Tell someone at home what a circle is.

- Look around your house for lots of different circles. Draw some of them on the back of this page.
- You might also cut out circles from magazines to make your own circle collage.



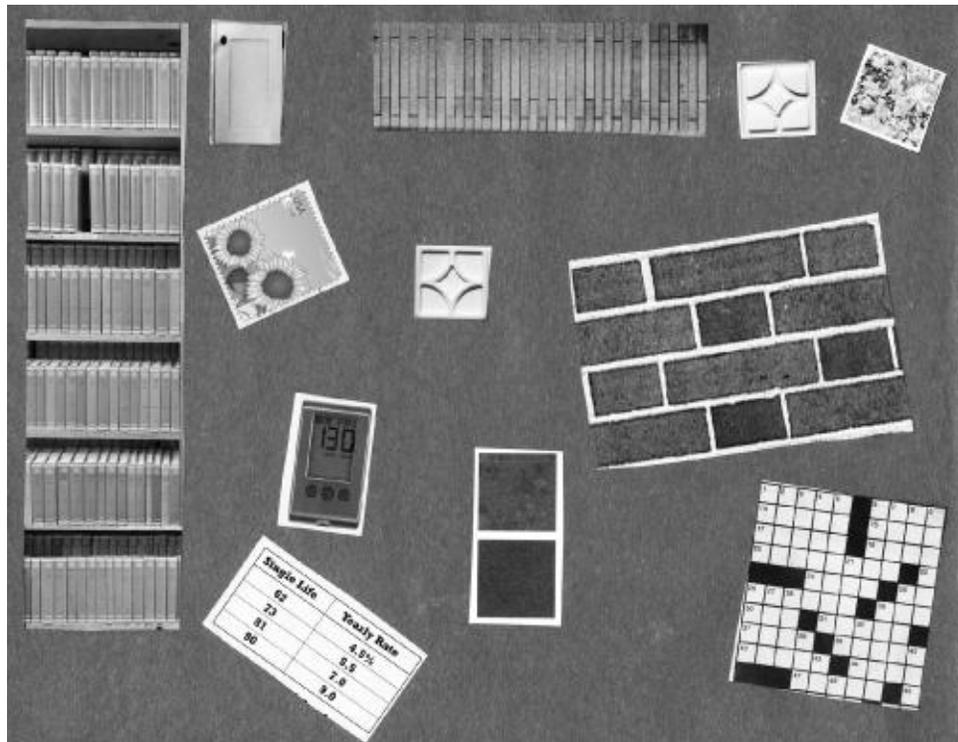
# Rectangles at Home

## Family Note

We learned about rectangles in school today, including why a square is a special kind of rectangle. (Both have 4 straight sides, with opposite sides the same length. Both also have 4 right angles—vertices that look like “Ls” or “square corners or angles.”) As your child looks for rectangles around the house, help him or her find varied examples of rectangles (including squares) in everyday objects and pictures. It is important that children be exposed to a wide variety of examples of each type of shape. Also help your child notice differences between rectangles and other four-sided shapes.

Tell someone at home what a rectangle is. Also explain why a square is a special kind of rectangle.

- Look around your house for lots of different rectangles. Draw some of them on the back of this page.
- You might also cut out rectangles from magazines to make your own rectangle collage.



# Number Stories at Home

Home Link 2-13

NAME

DATE

## Family Note

We have been telling and solving number stories in school. Number stories help develop children's problem-solving skills and provide a solid foundation for addition and subtraction. At this point in the year, share number stories with your child using informal language and everyday contexts. Focus on numbers within 5 (or within 10 if your child is proficient with smaller numbers). Do not worry about representing the stories with symbols or equations; we will focus on that skill later in the year.

Tell number stories for family members to solve.  
Ask them how they solved your number stories.

Next have a family member tell a number story for you to solve.

- Show how you can use your fingers, counters, or pictures to model and solve the number story.
- Draw a picture of one of the number stories. Bring it to school to share with the class.

