

SNOW DAY FUN

Please enjoy the following at-home ideas and activities.

Feel free to take pictures to capture the moment and send them in for your child to share with his/her teacher.

Hot Chocolate Magic

Provide your kids with bowls, scoop up the snow and add it to your sauce pan. They will love watching it melt into chocolate goodness on the stove top with you. Here's a handy recipe for hot chocolate: 1 medium size box of carnation instant milk, large box of Nesquik, large container of creamer (or your favorite brand), 2 cups powdered sugar

Snowman Marshmallows

Marshmallow snowmen: put three jumbo marshmallows on a plate to create the snowman's body. Add chocolate chips for eyes and buttons and a butterscotch chip for the nose. Then, stick the whole thing in the microwave for about 7 seconds. Take out and attach thin pretzel sticks for arms. Then, enjoy this gooey treat!

Spa Day

Round up your mani & pedi supplies and stake out a place near the fireplace.

Game On

Love competition? Consider a Wii tournament or UNO.

Make Snow Ice Cream

Scoop up snow in waffle cones or cups.

- 1/2 cups half & half or whole milk
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 4 cups of clean snow or shaved ice

Blend the milk, sugar and vanilla together until the sugar dissolves. Mix 4 cups of snow and stir until you get the same consistency of ice cream. Add toppings or chocolate syrup to make a Snow Sundae!

Have an indoor picnic

Who needs a table and nice cooked meals? Make cookies and other finger foods ahead of time and let your kids decide where (within reason) to picnic.

Masking Tape City

Have kids who love cars? Get them started on a living room city project. The tape outlines the streets. Then the cars can drive around and even up and over some couches, chairs and such.

Make homemade play dough

1 cup flour, 1/2 cup salt, 2 tbsp. cream of tartar, 2 tbsp. oil, 1 cup water food coloring (optional), Scent (cinnamon, vanilla, mint, etc. – also optional).

In a saucepan, mix flour, salt, cream of tartar, scent ingredient, and oil. Slowly mix in water until it's all smooth. Then turn the heat on medium and stir until it forms a ball of dough. I used a heat-resistant rubber spatula so I could scrape the bottom of the pan easily. Once it's a ball, plop it onto some wax paper until it's cool enough for you to touch.

Make homemade finger paints

- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/3 cup of cornstarch
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 cup dish-washing soap
- food coloring

Put the sugar and cornstarch in a saucepan and then slowly mix in cold water. Then cook the mixture over low heat for 5 minutes, stirring constantly until you have a smooth gel. Let cool and then add dish-washing soap. Divide into as many containers as you would like colors and then mix in food coloring drops until you have your desired color. If you have colored dishwashing soap that can influence all the colors you try to create, which isn't always a bad thing.

Treasure hunt

Hide something in your house. Then post clues for your kids to find them.

OR – just play 'hot' and 'cold' telling your kids they're getting 'warmer' when they're getting closer and 'colder' when they're walking away from the 'treasure.'

OR – Have one of your older kids hide a treasure and draw a 'map' of how to find it.

Snowflakes

Use coffee filters. They're pre-cut in circles. Just fold them in half and half again. Then cut out some circles and triangles.

Fashion Shoot

Hang up some sparkly sheets and beads, add tulle or anything fun fabric, then have your girls dress up in their favorite costumes and have a fashion shoot!

Balloon Tennis

Materials: Paper Plates, Tape, Popsicle Sticks (plastic spoons or paint stirrers would work as well), Balloons

Simply tape the Popsicle sticks to the back of the paper plates, blow up some balloons and start playing, trying to keep the balloon off the ground. Hit the ball back and forth or make up your own rules as you go along. If you want to keep score, you can give a point to the person who lets the balloon hit the ground.

Basic Slime

In one of the bowls, mix $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of water and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of white school glue. If you would like colored slime, add a few drops of food coloring to the solution. In another bowl, mix $\frac{1}{2}$ tbs Borax with $\frac{1}{2}$ a cup of water and stir until the borax has dissolved. Add the borax solution to the glue solution and mix. You can also pour the solutions into a re-sealable plastic bag and mix. A slime-like texture should begin to form immediately. Continue to stir and knead until you get the consistency you want. Remove your slime from the bowl (or bag) and enjoy.

Glow-in-the-Dark Slime

For glow in the dark slime, simply add glow-in-the-dark paint to the glue solution of the Basic Slime Recipe.

Glitter Slime

We used transparent glue gel, to create this "sparkle slime" (as my daughter likes to call it). In the Basic Slime Recipe, use clear glue gel instead of white glue and add glitter. The resulting slime is a fun way to play with glitter, without leaving a trail of sparkles around your home.

Fluffy Borax Free Slime

Pour about $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of white glue into a bowl. Add about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of shaving cream by squirting it into the bowl. With a wooden spoon, mix these two ingredients together until you feel like there isn't any glue left (you can keep squirting small amounts of shaving cream into the bowl to achieve this consistency). Start adding small amounts of contact lens solution to this mixture. Since the contact lens solution is the "slime activator," you can keep adding it until you have fluffy slime.

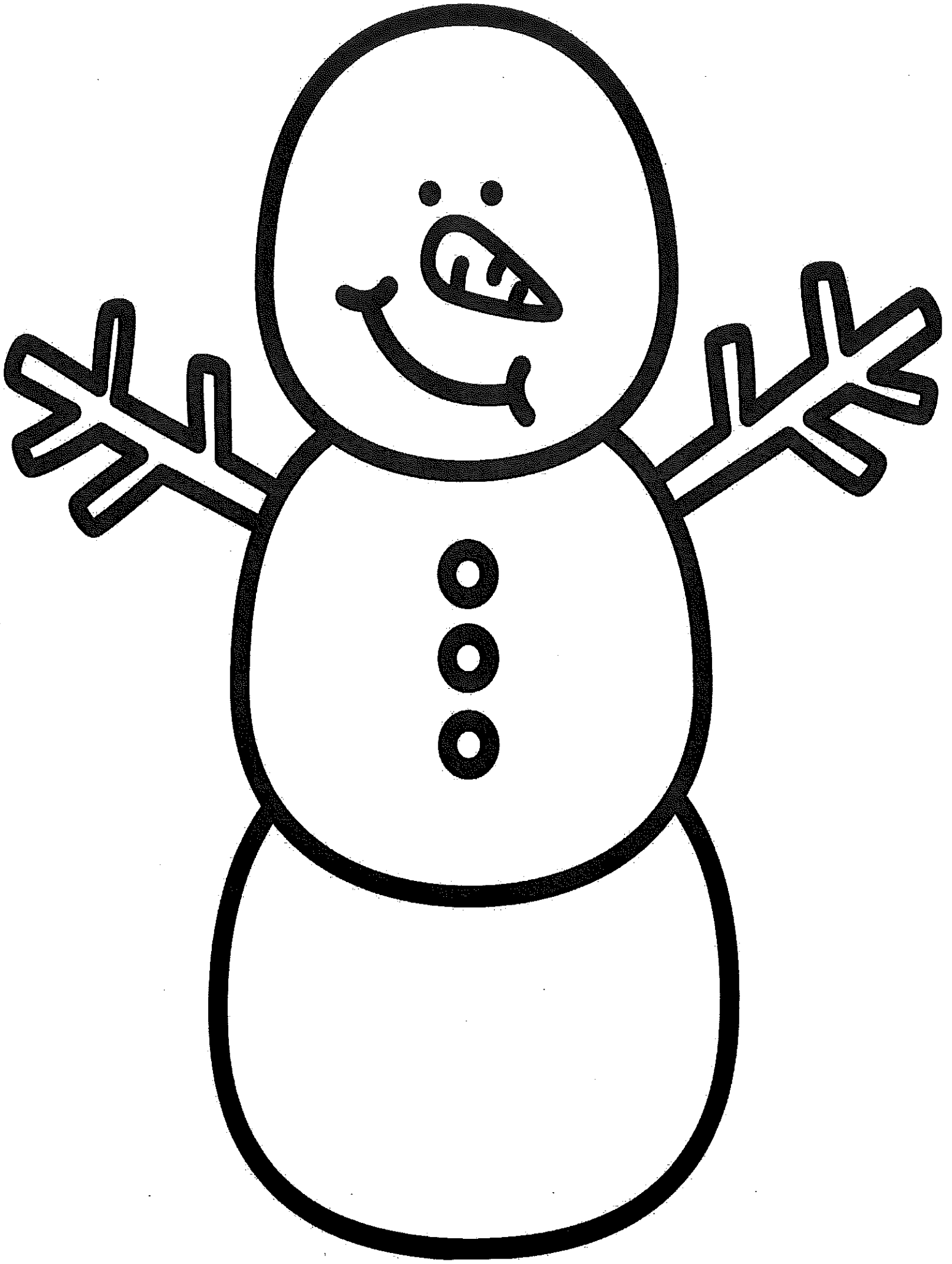
Five Minute Ice Cream

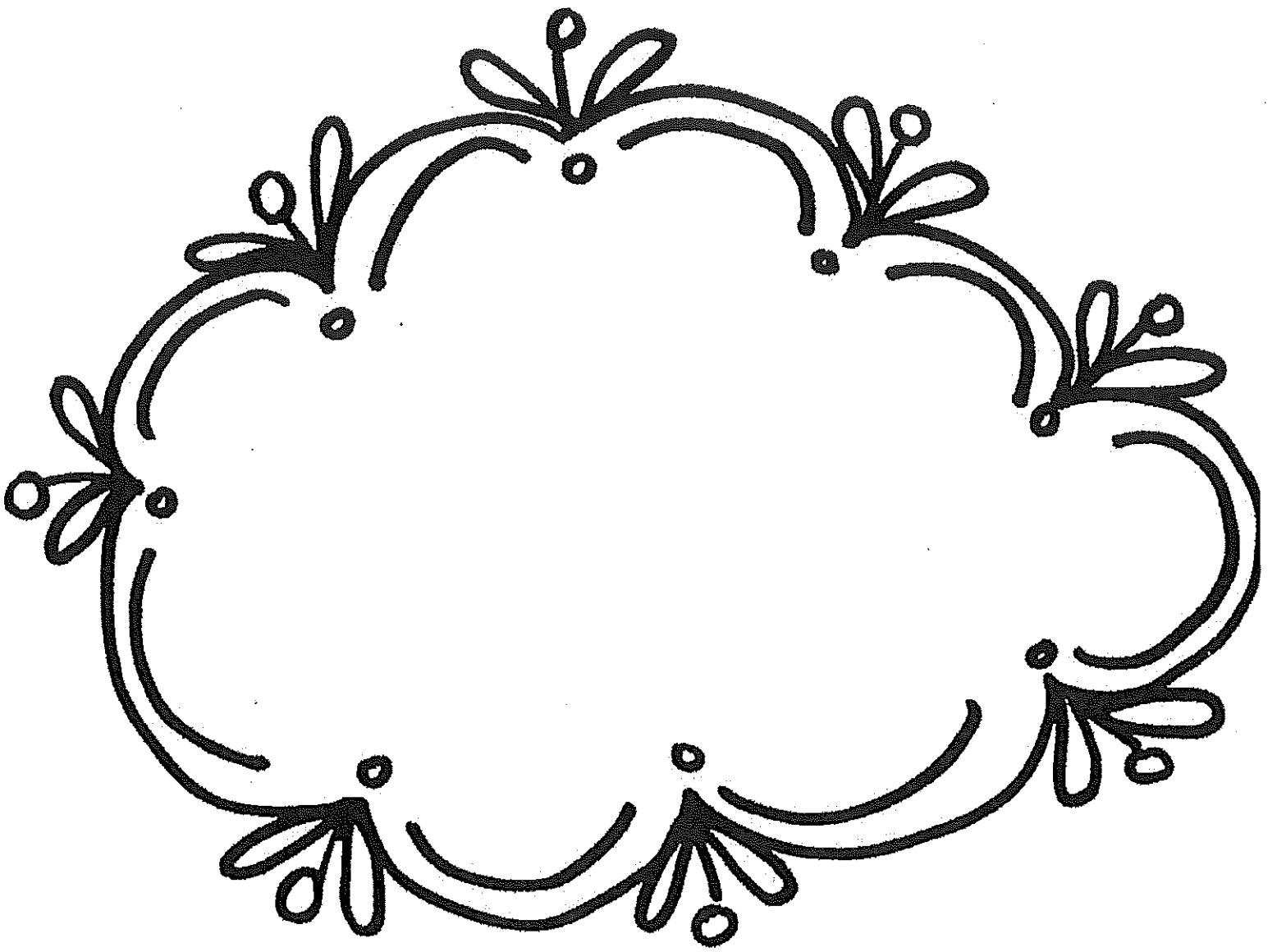
There are many recipes out there for making your own ice cream at home, but did you know that you can make your own ice cream in five minutes using two Ziploc bags? Here's what you'll need for this experiment: 1 tablespoon sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk, cream, or half and half, $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon vanilla extract (or other flavoring), 6 tablespoons salt, Enough ice to fill the gallon-sized bag halfway, 1 gallon-sized Ziploc bag, 1 pint-sized Ziploc bag

Ordinary table salt will work, but salt that has larger crystals, such as kosher salt or rock salt, will work much better. Mix the salt around in the ice and set aside. Make sure the pint bag gets buried in the ice. Seal the gallon bag. Shake the bags vigorously for five minutes. You might want to use a towel to hold them, since they will be very cold and slippery from condensation.

Your child's job is to disguise this snowman! The poor snowman doesn't want to melt, so he's hoping to trick Old Man Winter! Using items that you find around your house, dress the snowman up so that he or she won't melt!

Please feel free to make this a family project. The snowman thanks you for your help!



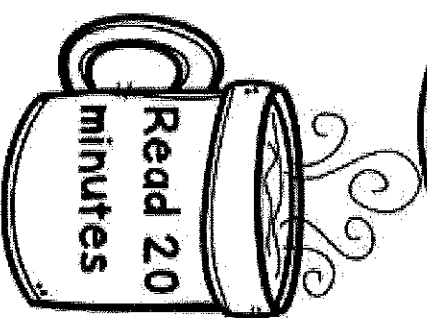
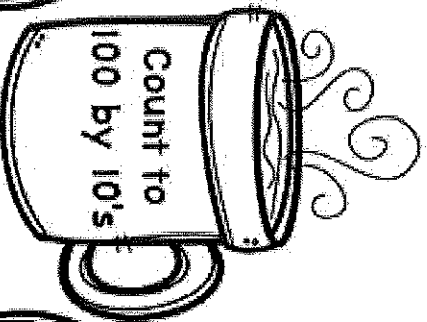
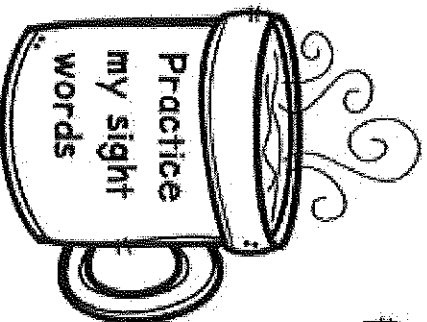
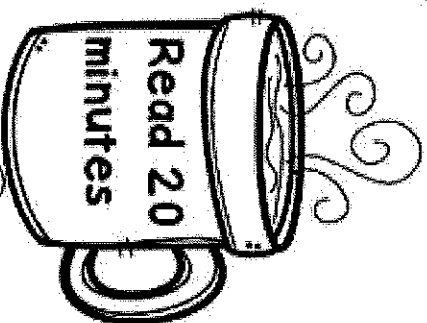
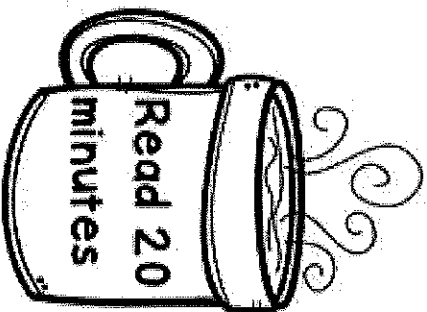
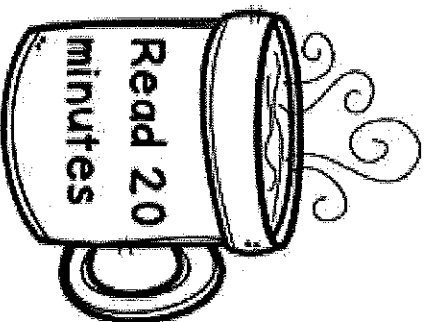
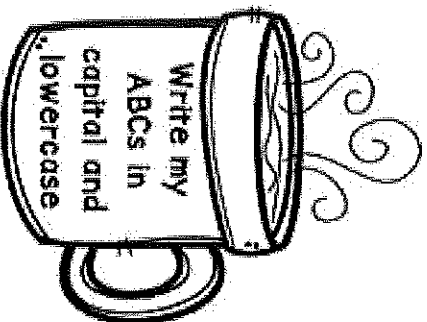
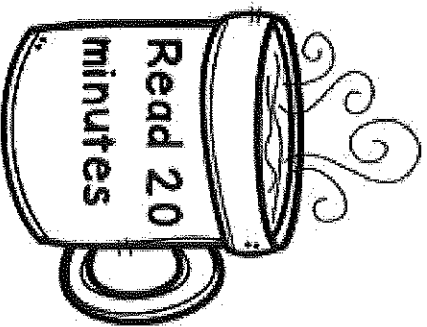


My snowman is disguised as a

Winter Challenge

Can you do these activities to keep your brain strong activity that you do (some are the same, color only one per time!)

Color in a mug for each



Parent Signature _____

Snowflakes Cutting Practice

Carefully cut along the dotted lines.

