

## **COVER LETTER**

**Dear Lower Elementary Community,**

Happy Spring Learning at Home Families,

Spring is officially here! Other than our surprise snow storm earlier this week, what have you noticed about the changing weather? Have you noticed any first flowers of spring such as snow drops or crocus poking up yet?

These plans will be the last set of plans until after our spring break which lasts from Monday March, 29th through Monday April, 5th. School resumes Tuesday April 6th. Our next meeting times will be Friday, March 26th and not again until April 9th. The next plans will be on our website Monday, April 12th.

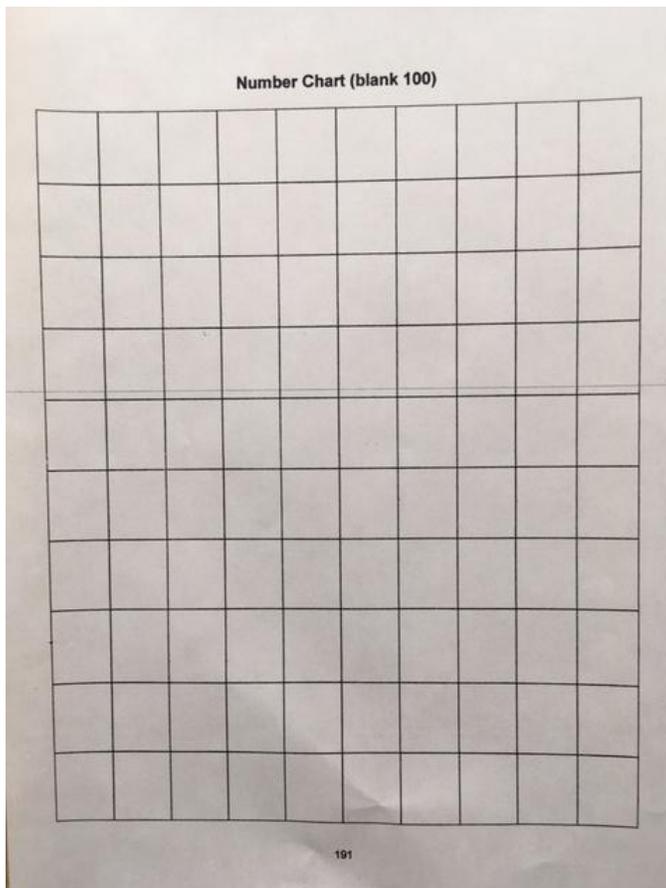
For our Friday, April 9th meetings, we will be moving to scheduling one meeting for all Learning at Home children who would like to attend. Let me know if 10 am would work for all of you. We are flexible with times in the morning, however will be back in the classroom for in-person learning beginning at 12 noon. We are aware that one of our families has a spotty internet and it is more reliable to use Facetime through Facebook for meetings. Let Megan know if you would be able to switch to having one Facetime meeting instead of Google Meets for everyone to join.

Happy Spring,

Megan, Rebekah, Deb, Arden, and Lisa  
Lower Elementary Guides

## Math and Geometry

- **Daily Math Practice** - Khan Academy: Please use our class code so that we are able to monitor your progress and practice.
- **Math Facts** - In continuation of the learning of multiplication facts, use this blank grid (also found in Additional Materials) for skip counting. To use this tool, the child decides on a number table to work on. For example, the number table of 3. On this sheet, the child writes every third number. So, the first and second squares are blank and then the number 3 is written. The fourth and fifth squares are blank and the sixth square has a 6 written in. The child then practices the number order for the table of three and also has a visual pattern of the numbers in the grid. A grid can be made for every number 1 - 10 (so ten blank papers are needed).

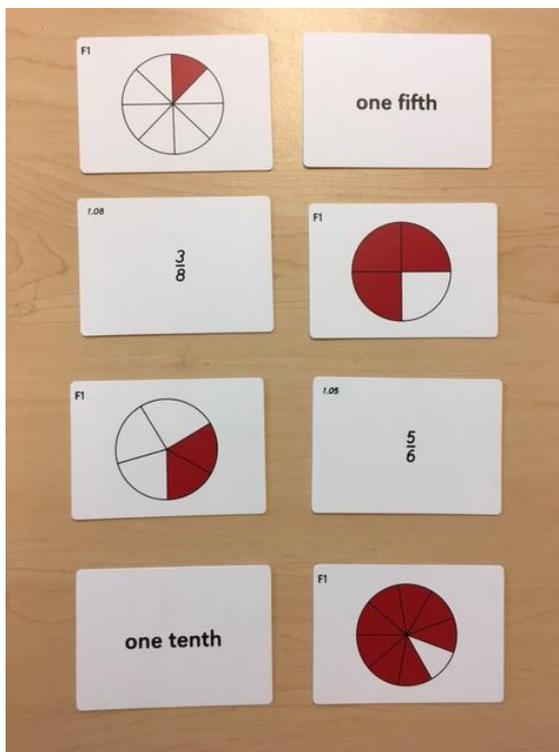


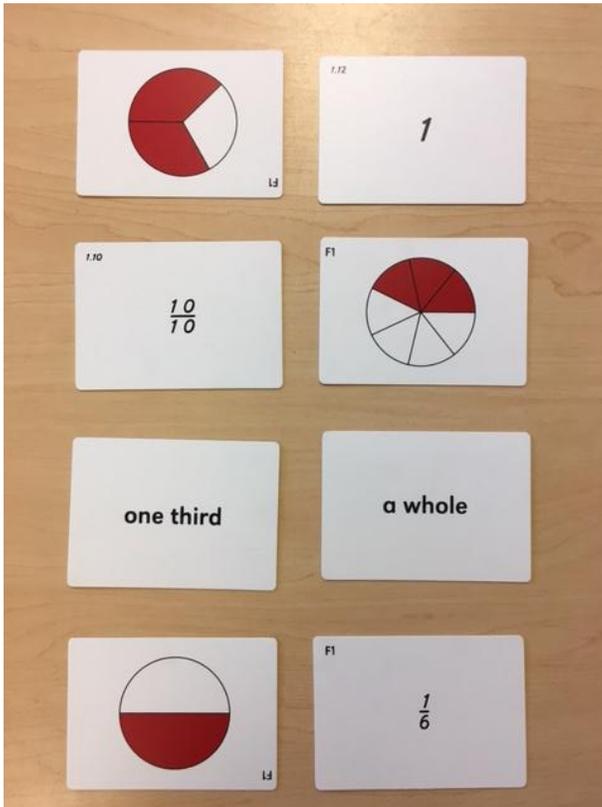
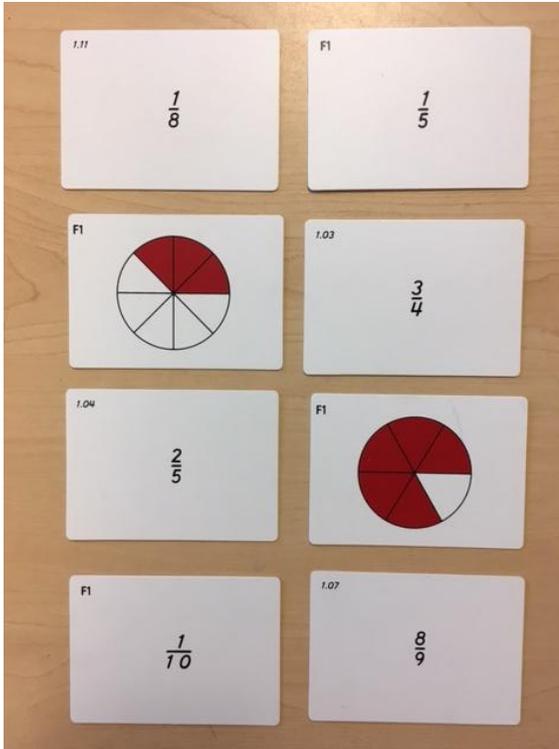
- **Fractions**

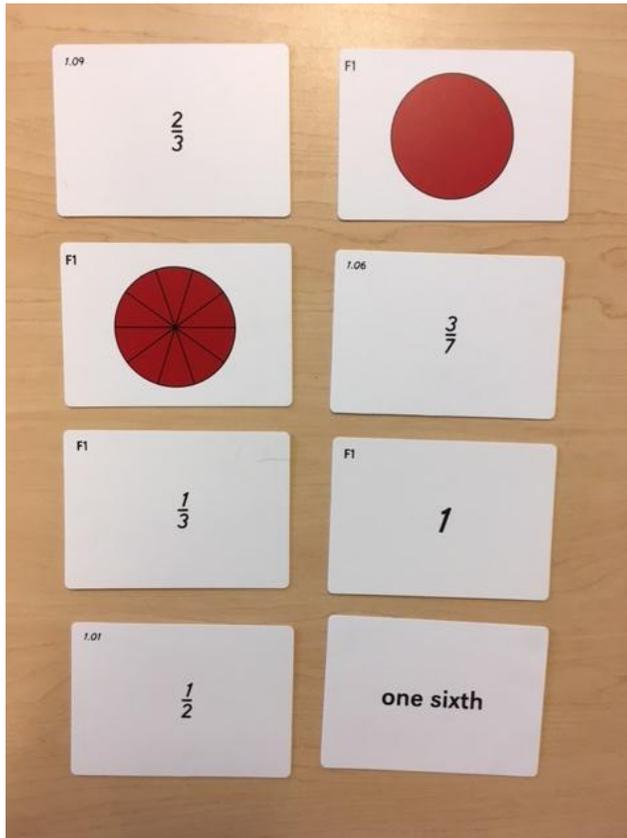
Last time we introduced fraction names, symbols, and equivalence using the [Montessori fraction pieces](#) tool.

Here are some cards to practice these concepts in the next few weeks. The idea is to write the numeral symbol, numeral name, and circle piece representation for each number. For example:

$1/2 =$  one half  $=$  







In the Additional Materials folder you will find a file with these fraction practice sheets, if your child would like more ways to explore this concept.

#### Fraction of a Whole Check-in

Write the shaded fraction of each shape below.

#### Fractions

What fraction of each shape is shaded?  
Write the missing numerator or denominator for each.

See the pie charts and write the equivalent fractions in the box.

- **Roman Numerals**

After our story of our numerals, we can explore different number systems that have been used in the past, and are still used in some cases today. The Roman

numerals were the method of numeration in Europe for hundreds of years. However, the introduction of the Indo-Arabic numeral system started to be more widely used for computation around 600 years ago. However, we can still see the Roman numerals as a counting system in some parts of our society today. Can you find Roman numerals around you? In what cases are Roman numerals used?

Observing this chart, can you decipher the Roman numeral system?

1	I	11	XI	50	L
2	II	12	XII	100	C
3	III	13	XIII	500	D
4	IV	14	XIV	1000	M
5	V	15	XV		
6	VI	16	XVI		
7	VII	17	XVII		
8	VIII	18	XVIII		
9	IX	19	XIX		
10	X	20	XX		

The numbers of 1, 2, 3 make sense, but what happens at 4? What happens again at 9? Write numbers in Roman numerals for a friend to translate to Hindu-Arabic numerals. And vice versa.

### **Geometry:**

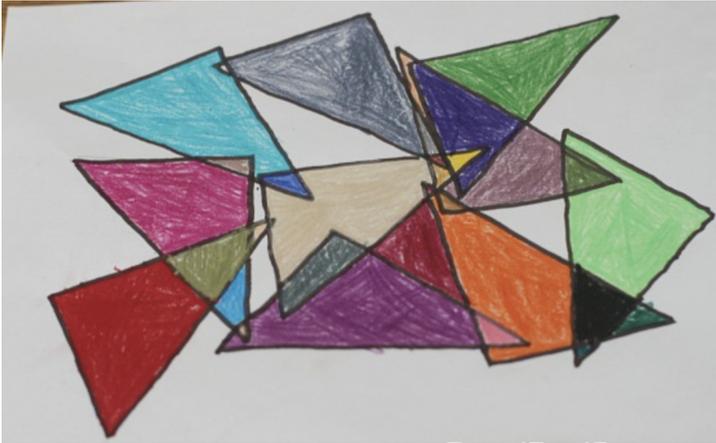
#### **Geometric art**

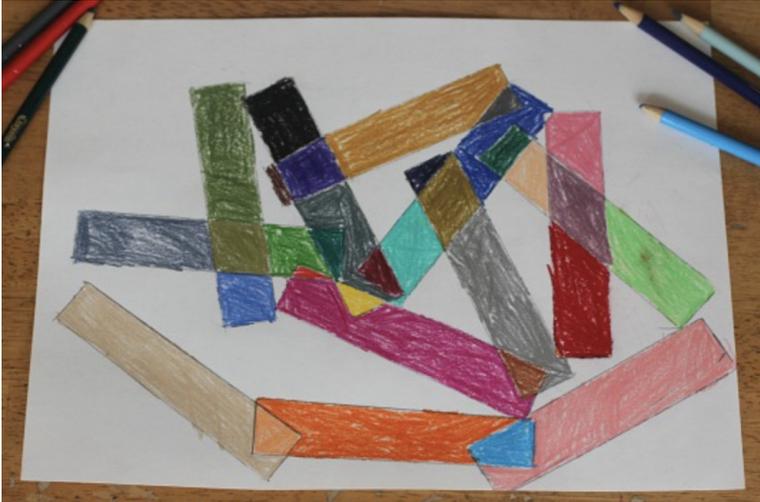
Use these examples of the artful display of geometric shapes to inspire colorful and appealing art pieces.

- 1) For this activity you need to use a template geometric shape in order to trace the shape. For example, for a circle you could use the rim of a glass. For a square you could trace around a coaster. If you can't find an object to trace, you can carefully make a shape, using a thicker piece of paper or cardboard.

- 2) Once you have your template shape, trace it in various positions on a single piece of paper. You can trace it in a random order or you can precisely place it in a pattern.
- 3) Once you have several shapes drawn, then find appealing and interesting ways to color in the new and unusual shapes and patterns you've created with the intersecting shapes, using a color pencil. (Color pencils are general recommended for coloring as it allows better development of the hand for writing and also fine motor control such as pressure and precision).

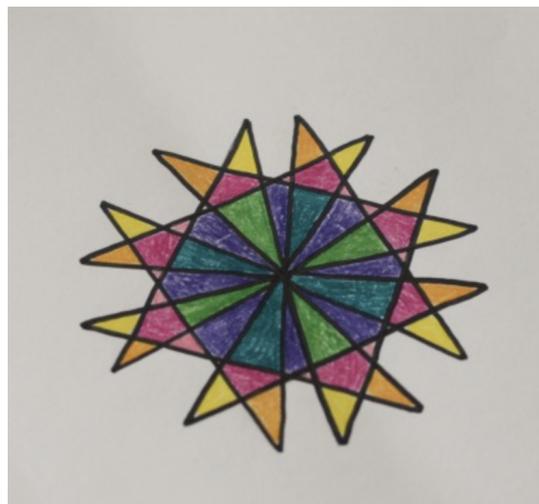
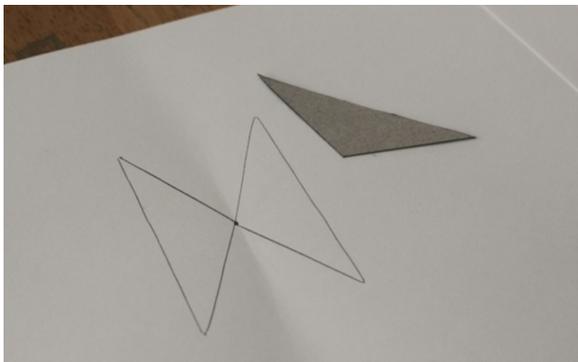
Here are fun examples:





This example below uses the pattern of facing two triangles tip to tip. Repeat this pattern by rotating the facing triangles first by 45 degrees and then the in between angles. Once it is traced then, color in the other shapes that have

emerged, like the square in the middle and the outlier mini-triangles.



## Science and Culture

- **Encyclopedia Britannica**- This is an amazing resource for science and culture for inspiration on research projects. Leelanau Montessori has a subscription for you to enjoy! Login with the following:

**User ID: leelanau**

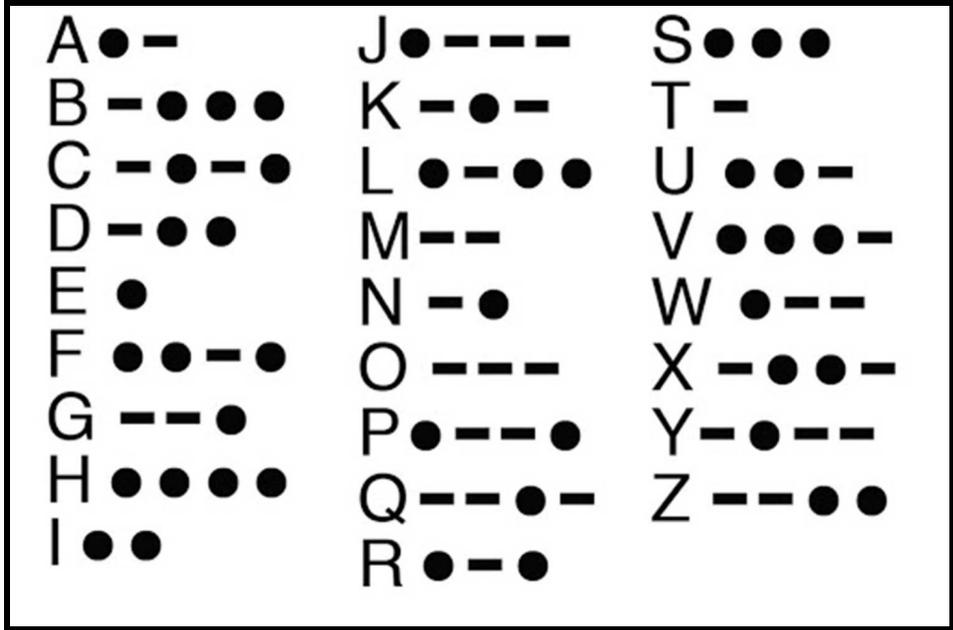
**PW: school**

[Science | Britannica LaunchPacks](#)

<https://packs.eb.com/science>

- **Make your own ancient language scavenger hunt** - In "The Story of the Alphabet", you were introduced to early writing, and other forms of writing such as nautical flags and morse code. The Ancient Egyptians used Hieroglyphics to write.





(Morse Code)

Using the different forms of writing try making a scavenger hunt for your family to follow and solve. Be creative! One message could be in morse code and say "Look behind the couch". The next message behind the couch could be written in Hieroglyphics and tell your family members to look in the fridge.

- **Guided Research Study**

Fact Guide about

## Snakes



*(San Francisco Garter Snake)*

**Physical Characteristics**

**Nourishment**

**Reproduction**

**Region**

**Habitat**

(found in Additional Materials)

Use this Snake Study Guide to answer these questions about snakes:

- How does a snake use its tongue?
- What types of things do snakes eat for food?
- How do snakes eat food that is really large?
- What are the three different ways snakes have babies?
- Where do snakes live in the world? Where do they not live?

\_\_\_\_\_ Here are other suggested activities which you can do with this work

- Draw the smallest snake size and the largest snake size using the actual measurement.
- Draw the skeleton of a snake and all of its parts.
- Draw the internal parts of a snake.
- Make a triorama of a snake with their young, in their habitat.



(Here's an example of a triorama with early animals. See Triorama making instructions in Movement, Music, and Enrichments section)

## History

March is Women's History month! Read up on your favorite female historical figure, and write up a summary of what you learned. Here are some titles to check out at the library:

*"Rad American Women A-Z"*

*"Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?"*

*"Are You An Echo?"*

*"Women In Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed The World"*

*"Buffalo Bird Girl: A Hidatsa Story"*

So many libraries are open for in-person browsing now, hopefully you can find them with ease!

## Language Arts

### **Creative Writing**

Check out this photo. Use this as an inspiration to your own creative writing:



Some formats to consider:

- A cartoon with captions
- A magazine advertisement
- A punchline joke
- A mystery story

### **Parts of Speech**

The next part of speech introduced is the **preposition**. Prepositions have a certain order or relationship with the noun, and show where or what kind. Here is a list of commonly used prepositions: above, across, against, along, among, around, at, before, behind, below, beneath, beside, between, by, down, from, in, into, near, of, off, on, to, toward, under, upon, with and within.

To practice, gather either a flower and a vase, or a basket and a ball. Plenty of other things could be used from around the house. Using any of the different prepositions listed above move your flower or ball in relationship with the vase or basket. For example:

- Put the flower in the vase.
- Put the flower across from the vase.
- Move the flower near the vase.
- Bounce the ball toward the basket.

- Roll the ball into the basket.

Write out these sentences in the language notebook. Skip a line in between each one so you can symbolize them. The symbol for the preposition is a green bridge because it shows a relationship between two things as a bridge does.

The Function of Words / Parts of Speech	
 noun	A noun names a person, place, thing, or an idea.
 article	An article signifies the existence of a noun. The three articles are a, an, the.
 adjective	An adjective describes a noun.
 pronoun	A pronoun replaces a noun or another pronoun.
 preposition	A preposition shows the connection between nouns, pronouns, and phrases to other words in a sentence.
 verb	A verb conveys an action or an event.
 adverb	An adverb describes a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.
 conjunction	A conjunction connects words, phrases, and sentences.
 interjection	An interjection is added to a verse to express an emotion.

## Making your Own Dictionary

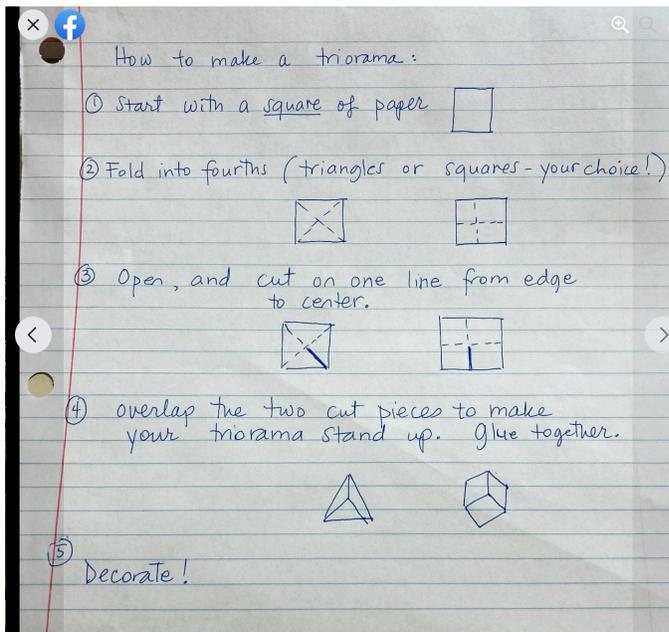
Several of our in-person learners have chosen to create their own dictionary by putting a sticky note in the last quarter of their language notebook. Using the last part of it, they add words they come across in their reading which they do not know, or had a hard time sounding out.

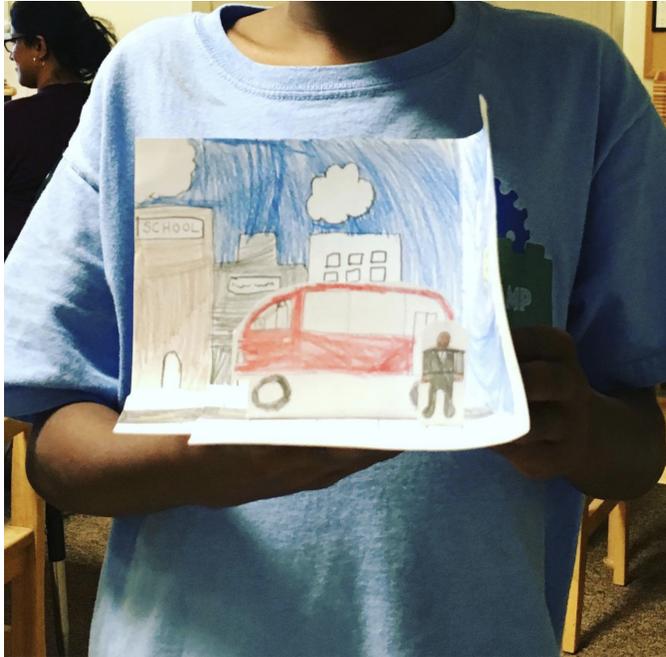
Refer to this section several times a week to practice these words in several different ways. A helpful activity is to put these words in sentences and symbolize them. We have been working with the noun, adjective, verb, adverb and preposition. If anyone is interested in a symbol stencil let us know and one can be put in the document vault for your use. Use clay or playdough to make your own solid symbols.



## Movement, Music, Enrichment

How to make a Triorama (as referenced in the Culture section)





### Fraction Art!

Use felt, needle and thread to make a fraction display:

