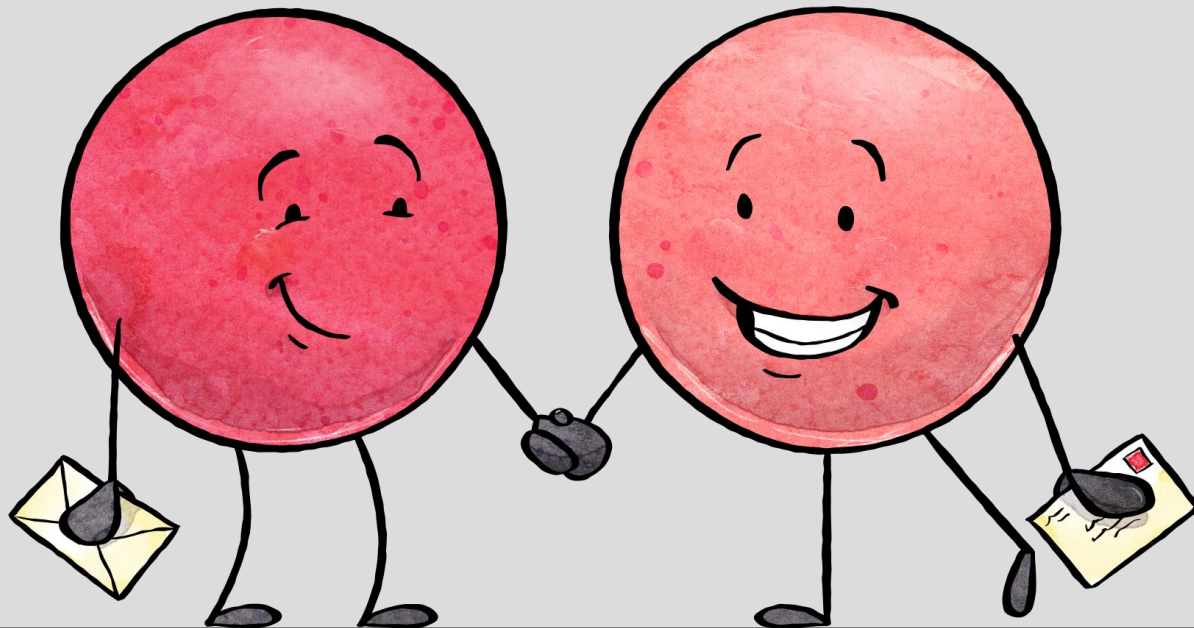


# Decodable Readers

## Friendship Stories

8 decodable readers and board games



  
Follows a  
structured  
progression  
of skills

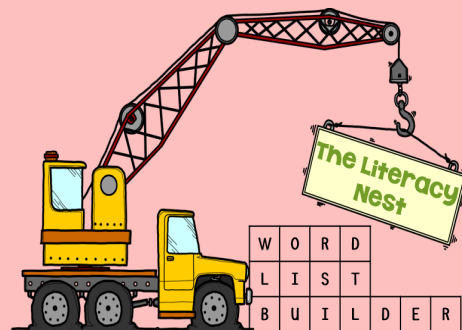


Seasonal Resources for Orton-Gillingham Lessons!



I hope you enjoy this resource! Here are a few ways to stay in touch with me!

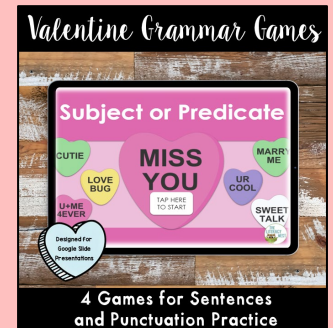
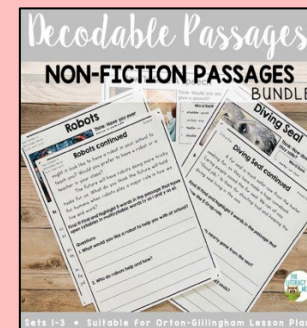
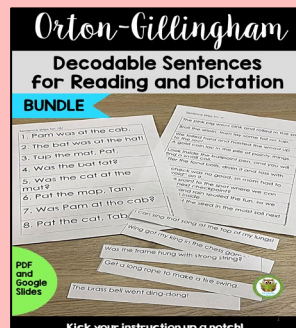
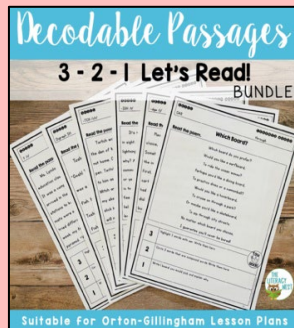
- Follow [my store](#).
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### Join Word List Builder!

- Unique search engine
- Create save and print your own word lists, word cards, phrase templates and games!
- time-saving for O-G lesson planning
- [GO HERE](#) to sign up!

You may also like the following resources. Click any image below.



[Click here for more Orton-Gillingham resources.](#)

# Friendship Stories

Thank you for your purchase! This is a set of 8 decodable mini books. You will need to print, assemble and staple them into books prior to use. They follow a structured progression based on the [sequence](#) I use to create my O-G resources. Each book will feature a culmination of skills and concepts. Please refer to the table of contents to see which skills are addressed in each book.

These stories are written to use during the month of February, or whenever you celebrate friendship! They're fun seasonal activities that will reinforce decoding skills.

Since using pictures to guess or read an unknown word is NOT following the science of reading, but rather a compensatory habit, I took special care not to include pictures that readers could use to guess at words. Instead, I've included some photos and clip art mixed with empty boxes on some of the pages, so your students may briefly sketch or illustrate what they visualized as they read. This is a good way to check their comprehension!

You will find comprehension questions on the back page of each mini-book. I hope you enjoy using these just as much as I enjoyed writing them for your students and mine!

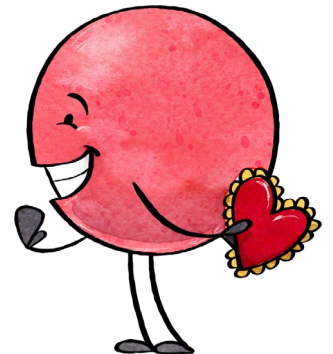
Happy reading!  
Emily Gibbons, M.Ed. C/AOG, CSLDP



Click [HERE](#) for a tutorial to show how the books can be assembled.



[GO HERE FOR THE  
GOOGLE SLIDES VERSION.](#)



Page #	Title (The word cards come after each book.)	Skills	O-G Level
5-11	Dots Hug	CVC (all short vowels)	1
12-18	The Fox and The Sloth	Digraphs, Initial and Final Consonant Blends	1
19-25	A Note From A Friend	VCe (all long vowels)	1
26-32	The Sweet Greeting	Vowel Teams, suffix -ed	2
33-39	Salt and Pepper	R-Controlled Vowels	2
40-46	Cupid Bunny	Open Syllables, Common Suffixes	3
47-53	The Case of the Missing Locket	Schwa A, C+LE soft c and g vowel suffixes	4
54-60	No Place Like Gnome	Silent Letters	5
61-64	Game Directions and Board Games		

Skills: CVC (all short vowels)

Red words: the, was, of, said

Vocabulary: heart

Question: Which dot asked for the hug?

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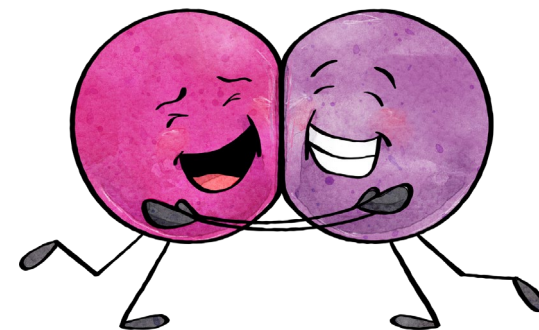
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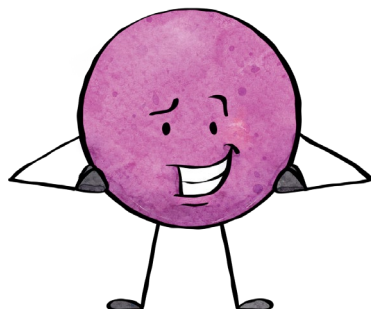
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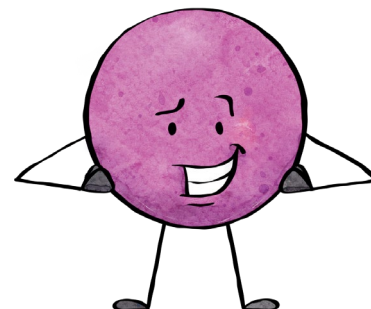


## Dots Hug

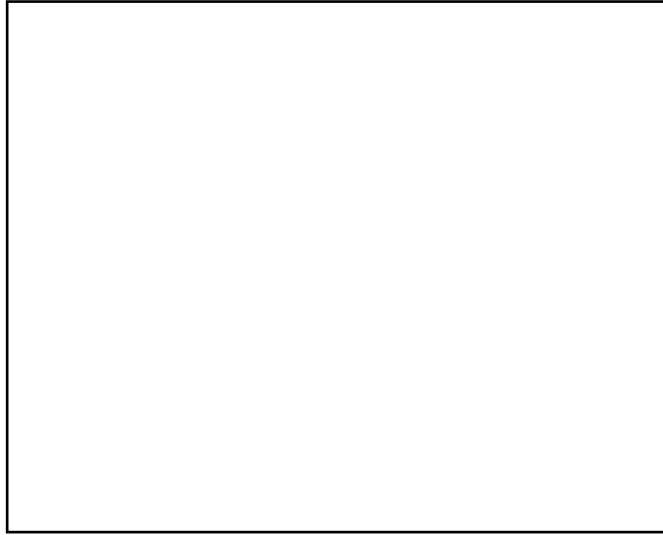
Written by: Emily Gibbons



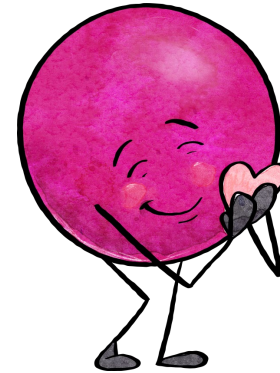
Sal Dot said, "Val Dot is fab."



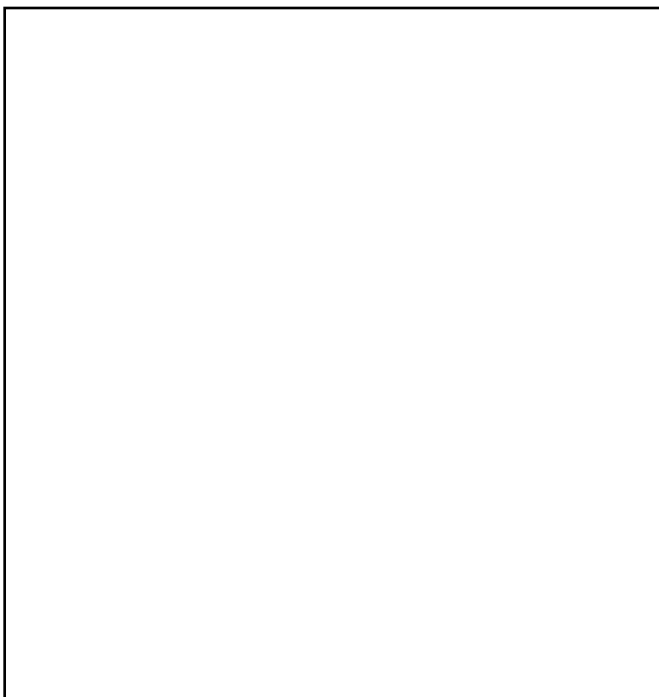
"Val Dot is a fab pal."



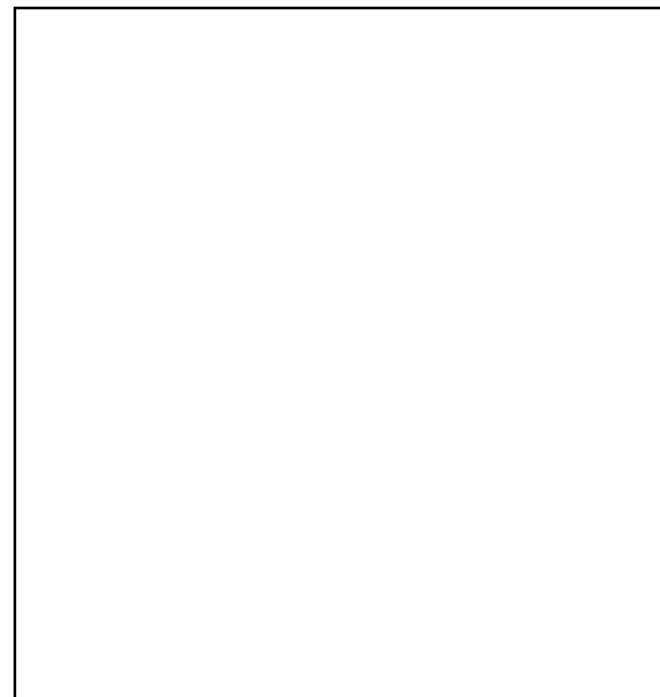
Sal Dot got Val Dot a heart.



Sal Dot is a pal,” said Val Dot.

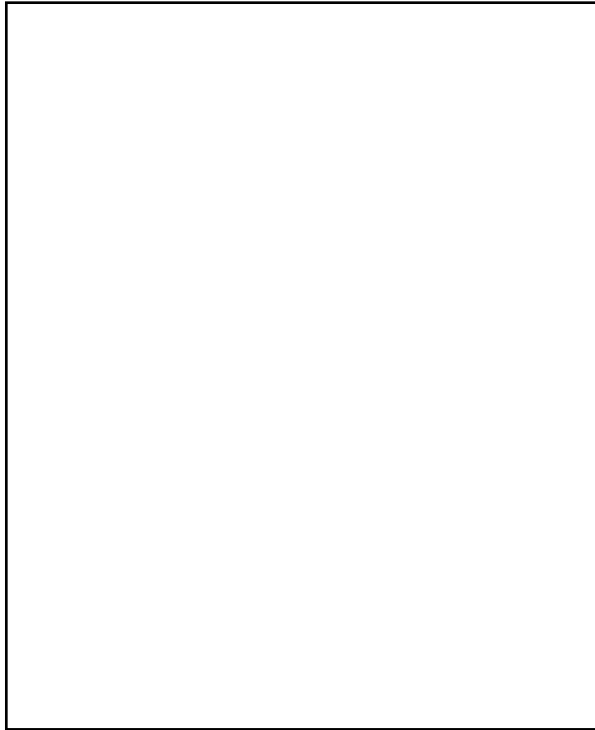


“Can I get a pal hug, Val?”  
said Sal Dot.

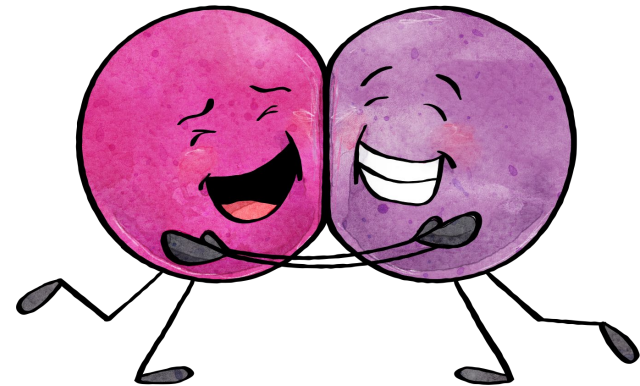


Yes, Sal. You can get a pal  
hug.” said Val Dot.

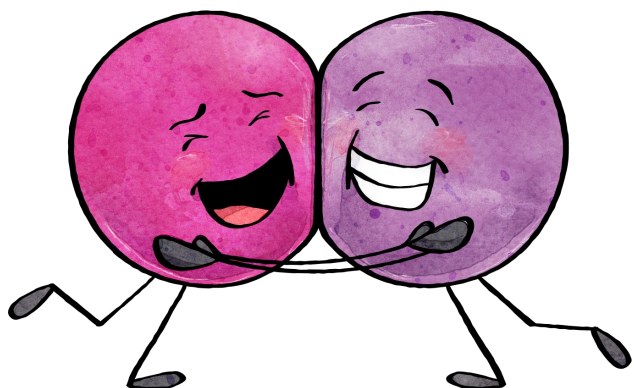




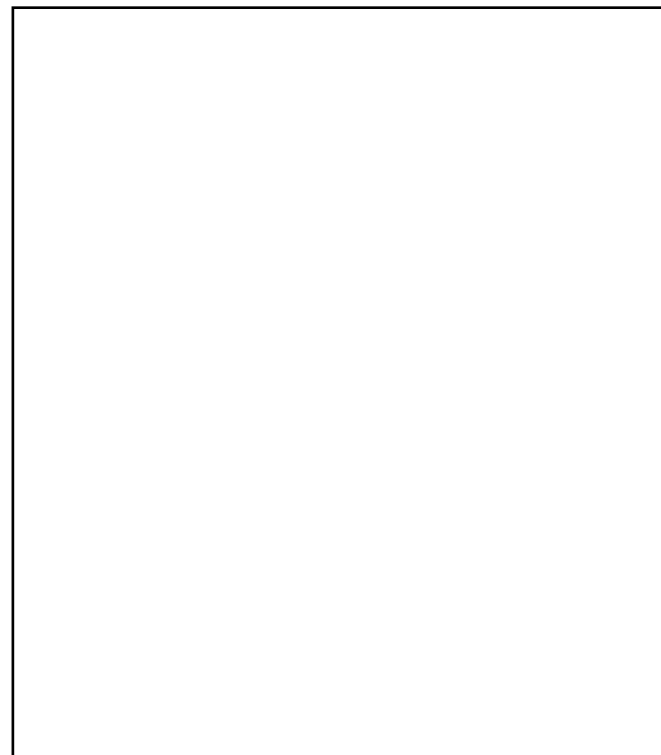
Sal got set. Val got set.



It was a BIG pal hug!



The pal hug was a lot of fun.



Who needs a hug?  
Draw it here.

dot

can

hug

Val

Sal

get

fab

pal

fun

big

got

set

Skills: digraphs, blends, short vowels

Red words: the, was, of, said, do, to, are, is, were, love, heart

Question: What were the gifts?

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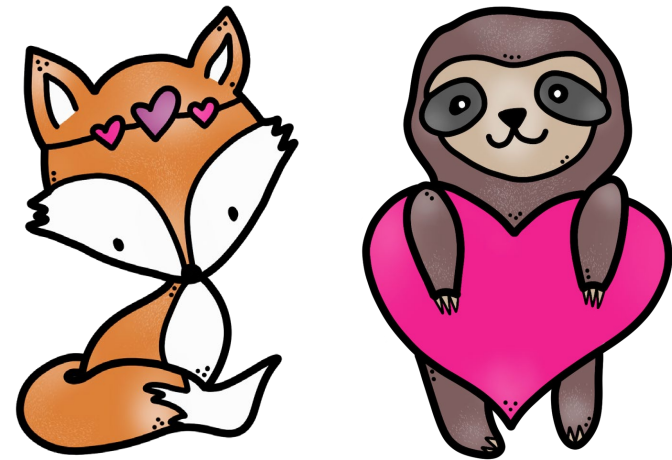
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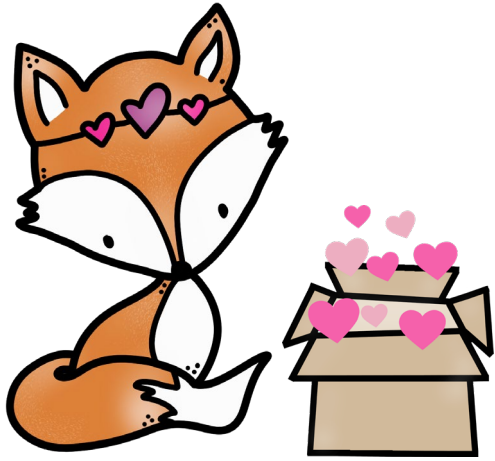
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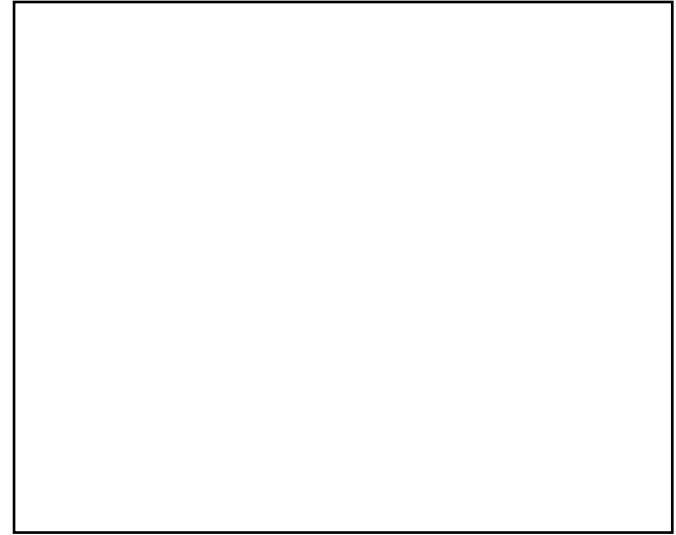


# The Fox and The Sloth

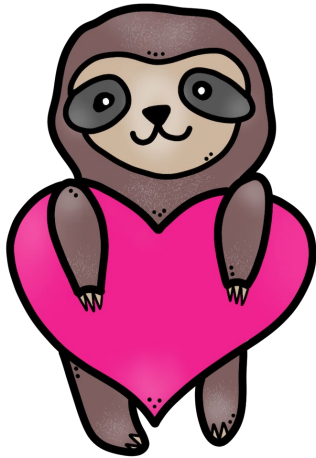
Written by: Emily Gibbons



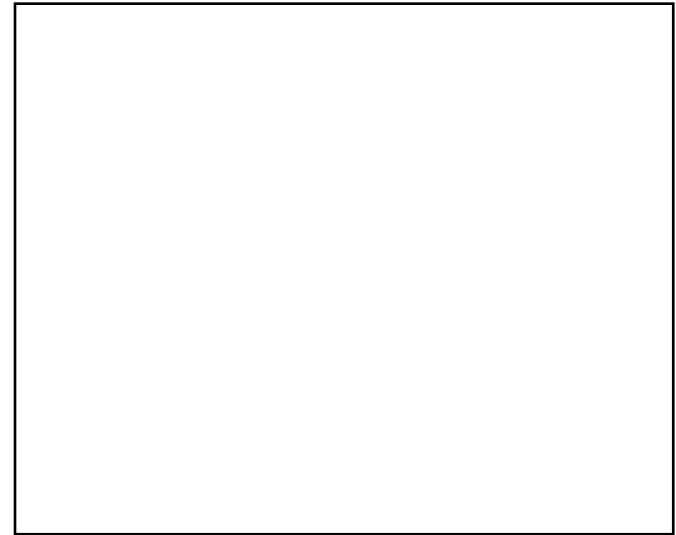
Fox had a plan to get a gift  
for Sloth. She got a box. In  
the box was a fish kit.



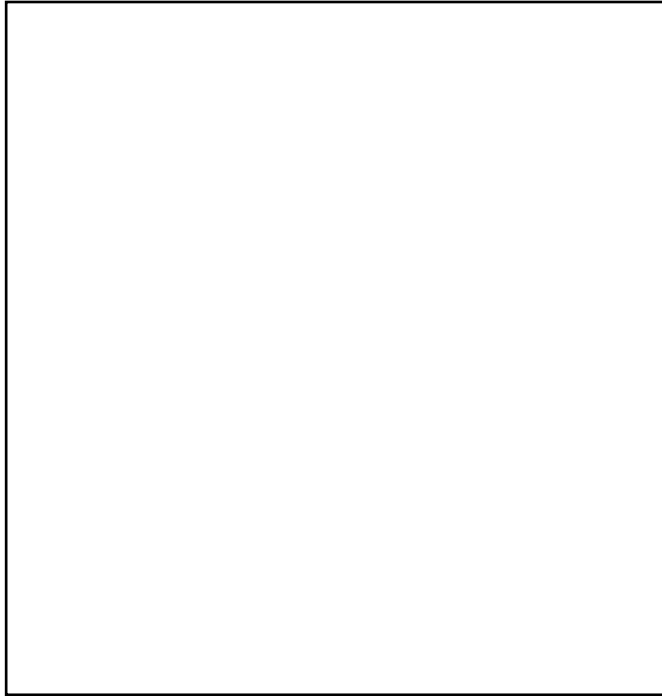
Sloth will love this fish kit!"  
said Fox.  
"Hush! Do not tell him."



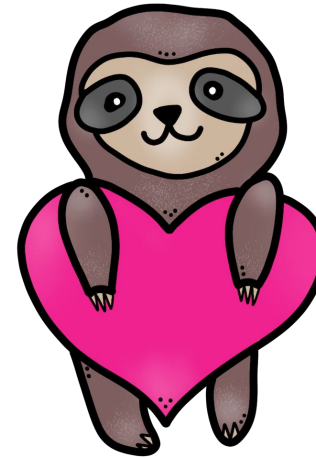
Sloth had a wish to give Fox  
a gift. Sloth spent his cash  
to get it at a shop.



“Fox is the best pal. I wish to  
give this big heart. Hush!  
Do not tell Fox!” said Sloth.



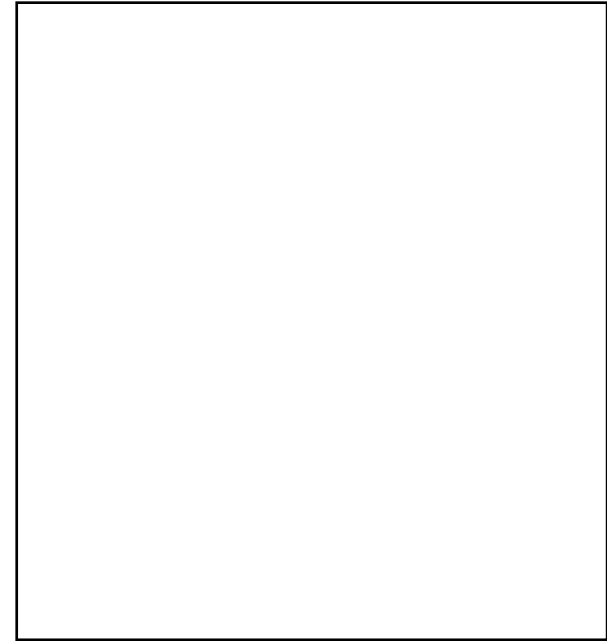
Fox and Sloth were set to  
give gifts. The pals met on  
a path and sat.



Sloth held the heart up to his  
chest. It was big, flat and  
thin. Fox had to gasp.  
“That is the best gift, Sloth!”

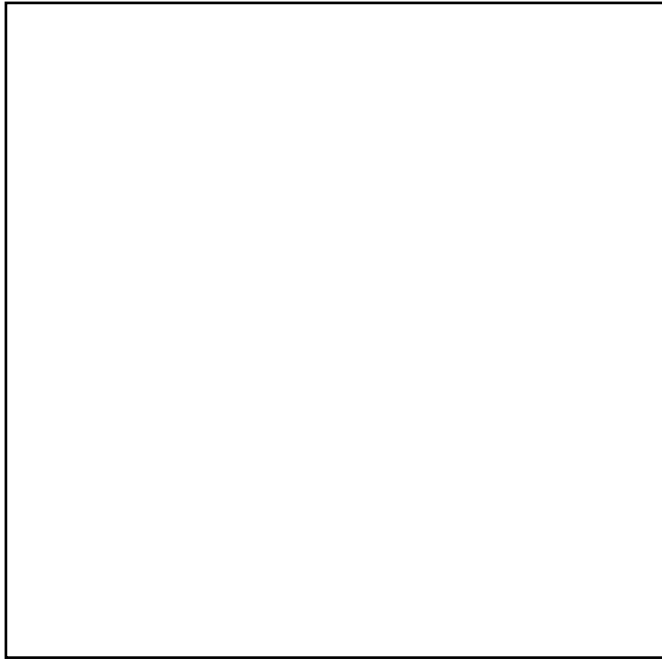


Next, Fox got the box to hand to Sloth. "It is a kit to get fish!" said Sloth. "This is the best gift, Fox!"



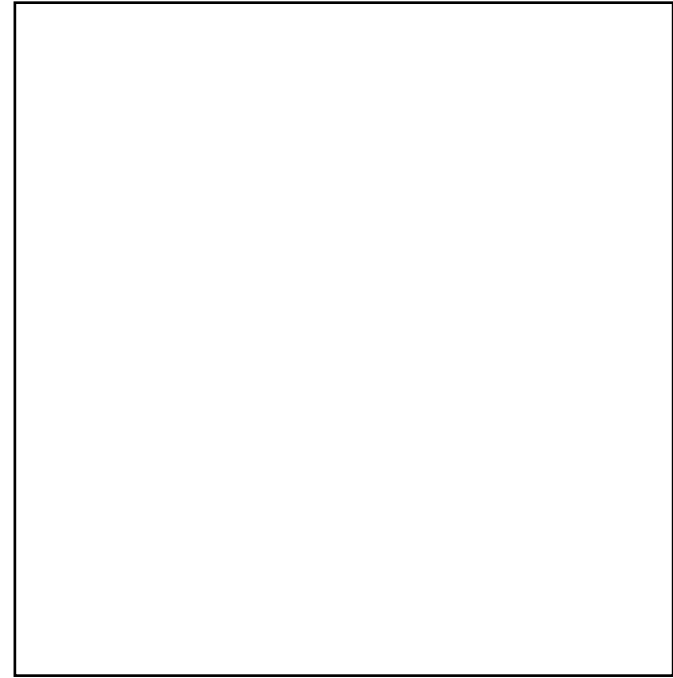
When Fox and Sloth were done with gifts, the pals went on a trip to a pond to have fun with the fish kit.





“I am glad to fish with you,  
Sloth,” said Fox.

“And I am glad you are a pal,  
Fox,” said Sloth.



Where should Fox put the  
big heart? Draw it here.



Fox

Sloth

gift

plan

wish

shop

fish

spent

pond

path

went

flat

thin

gasp

hand

hush

Skills: VCe (all long vowels)

Red words: the, was, of, said, heart, friend,  
were, together

Question: Why did Ice Cream say, "We  
were made to go together"?

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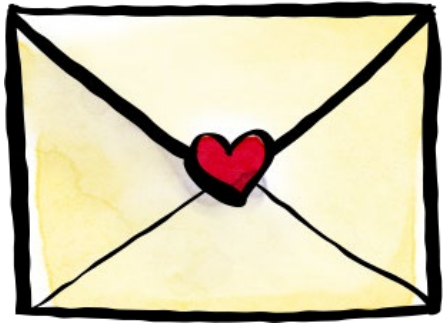
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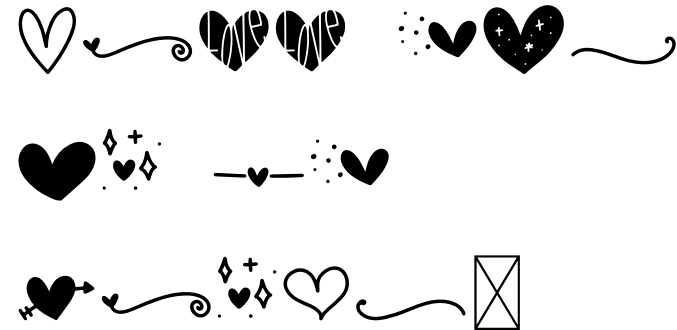


# A Note from A Friend

Written by: Emily Gibbons



A white note came to my box at five. It had a cute heart-shape to tape it shut. The heart made me smile.

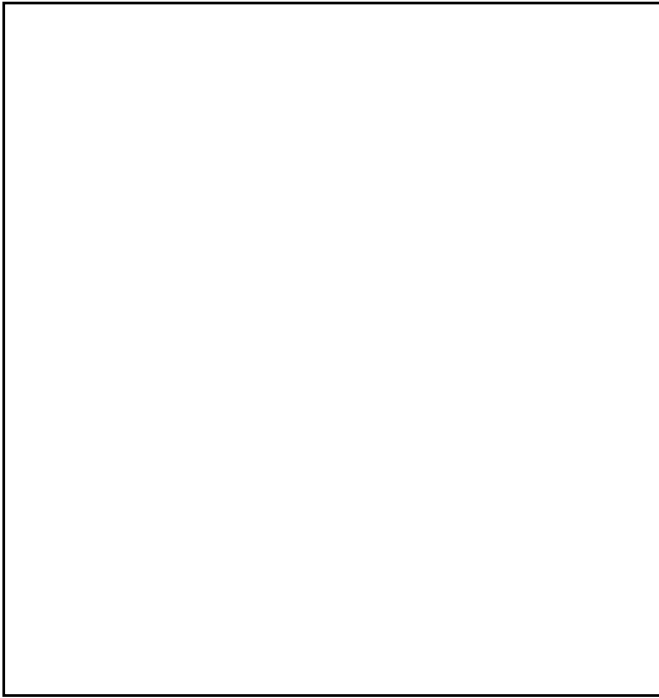


I had to lift the heart shape.

In the note was a code!

Was this a safe note?

There was no name on it.

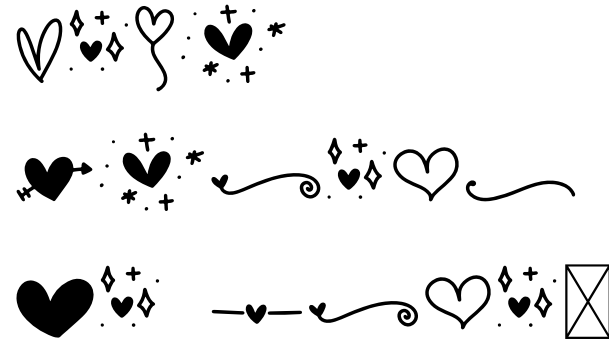


Why did the note have a code?

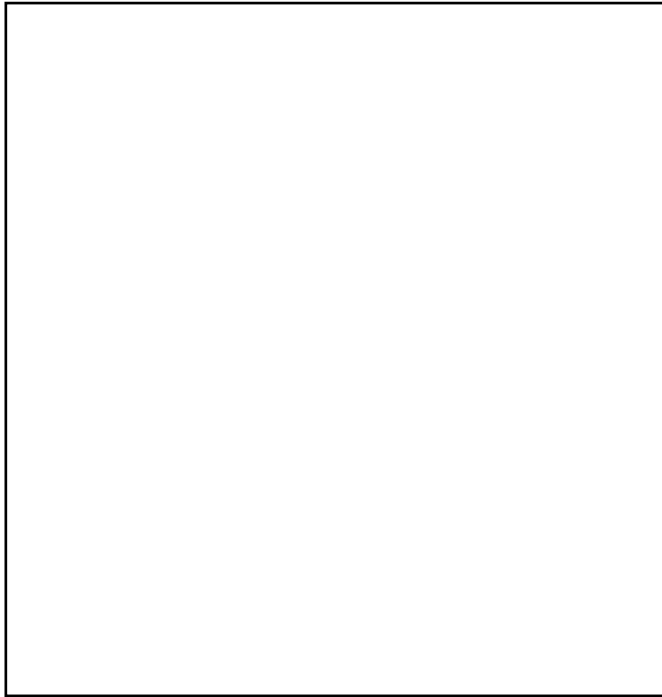
Why was there no name?

“This must be a joke,” I said.

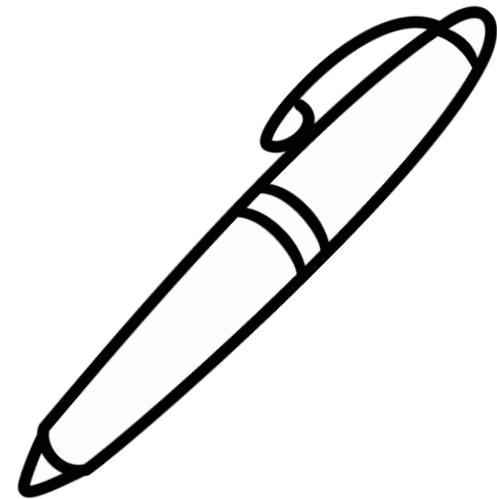
“I will toss this note in the trash  
and go to bed.”



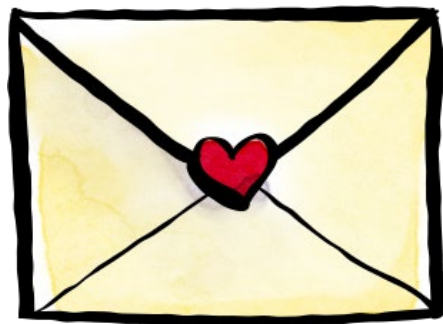
When I woke up, the next note  
came. Yikes! I gave the tape in  
the shape of a cute heart a RIP.  
The note had a code, but it was  
not the same! I gave it a stare.



“This code gave me a chill” I said. I did not like this note game at all. It was time for the joke to stop. But when?



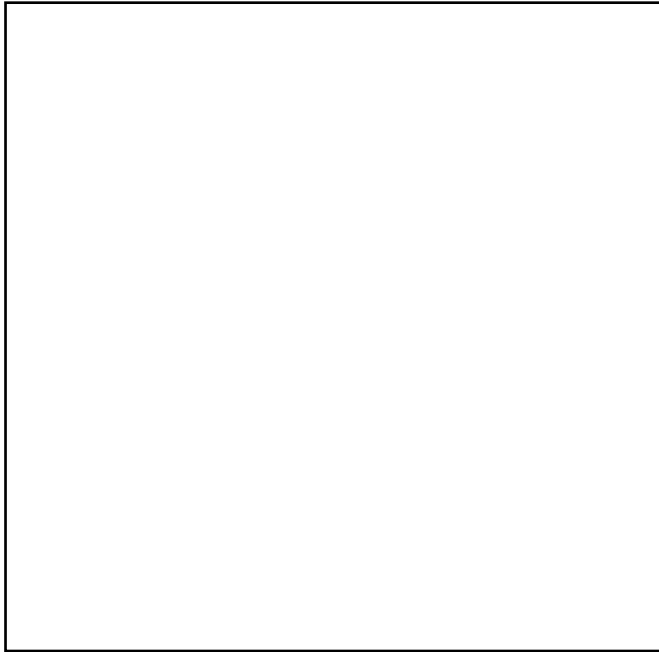
I sat at my desk to jot a note back. My note was not in code. “Stop this note game or tell me the code!” I said.



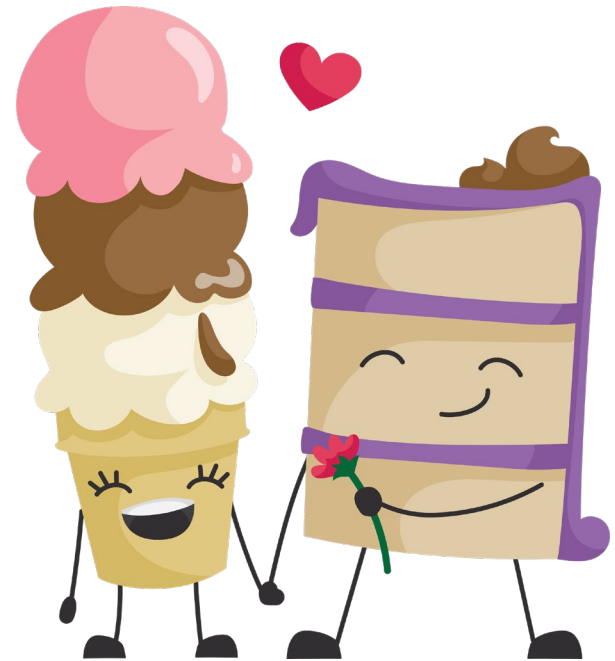
I left my note in the box next  
to my gate and went to bed.  
When I woke up, a note was  
there! I hope this note did not  
have a code on it.



“I wish to have a friend. Will you  
be mine? I will not send a code.  
Be at the bake shop at five. Ride  
your bike to spot me there.”



I got on my bike to go to the  
bake shop. Cake was there  
with a rose. "Hope you will be  
my friend. That is no joke!"  
said Cake with a smile.



I had to smile back. "That  
will be just fine!" I said.  
"We were made to go  
together."



white

note

shape

five

cute

tape

smile

name

code

joke

bake

bike

came

same

cake

gate

Skills: Vowel Teams

Red words: said, friend, were, there, you,  
could

Question: Why did her friend call it “snail  
mail”?

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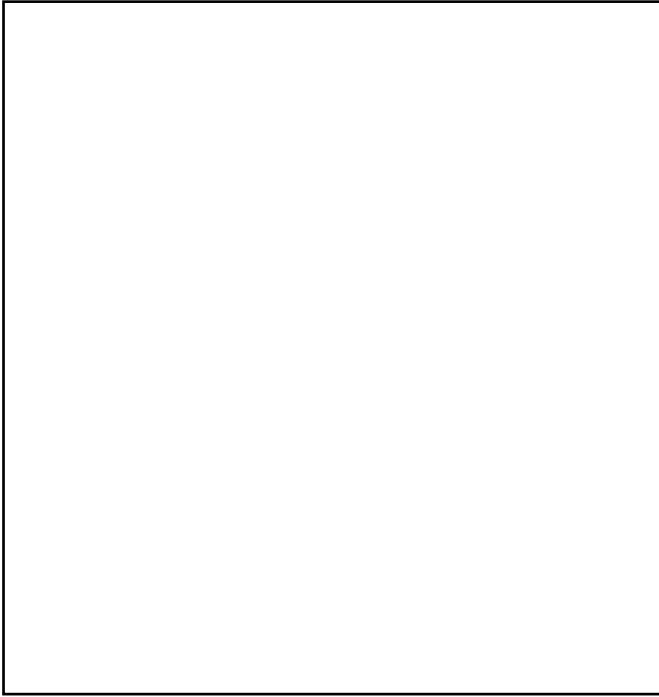
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# The Sweet Greeting

Written by: Emily Gibbons



It was close to Valentine's Day,  
and I felt blue. My best friend  
went off to the next state. Her  
dad had a new job there.



When she left, she said,  
"Check the mail in your box  
each day. I will send you a  
Valentine's Day greeting soon.

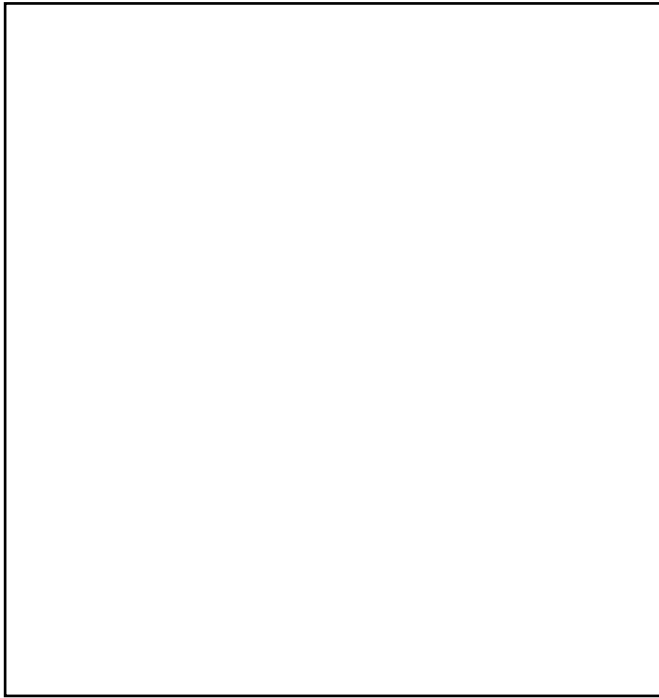


I said, "That is so sweet! I will send you a greeting, too."

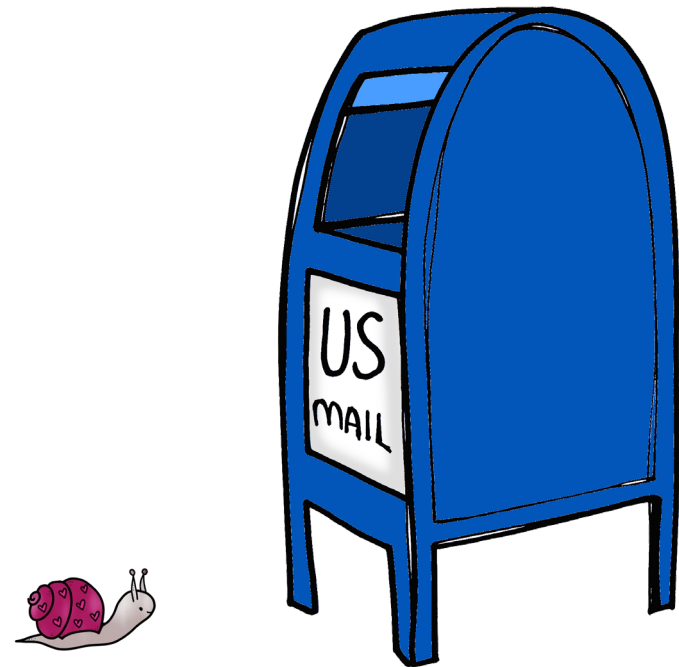
Each day of that week I went to look in the box. I could not wait to check. There was lots of mail.



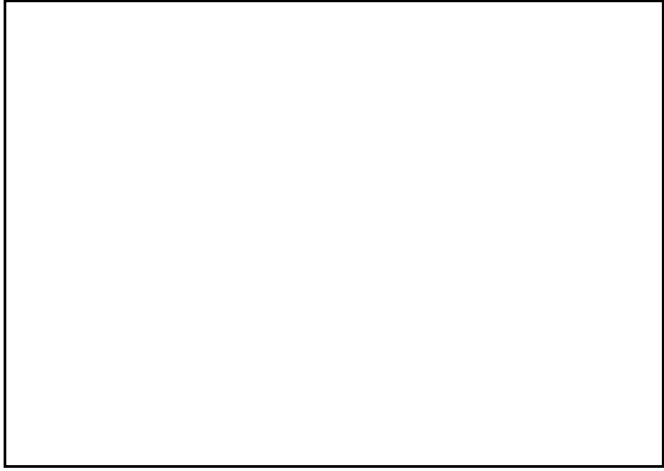
Much to my dismay, there was no mail for me. "The mail must be slow to get here," I said. "It will be here soon." I went to my room to read for a bit.



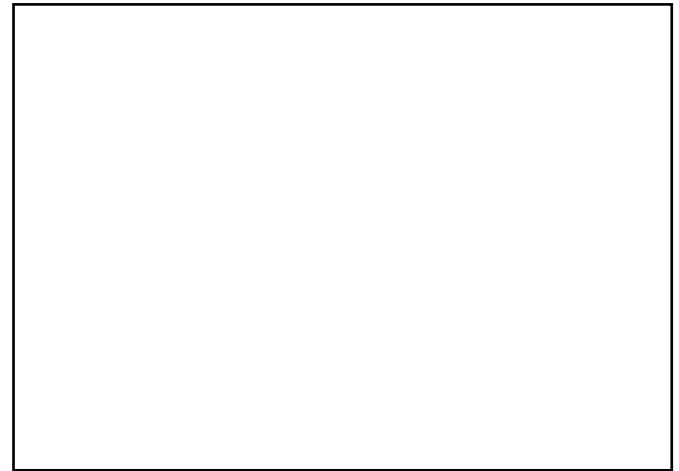
The next day was Sunday, so there was no mail to come. My friend sent me an email. "I got your mail! Did my greeting come yet?" she asked.



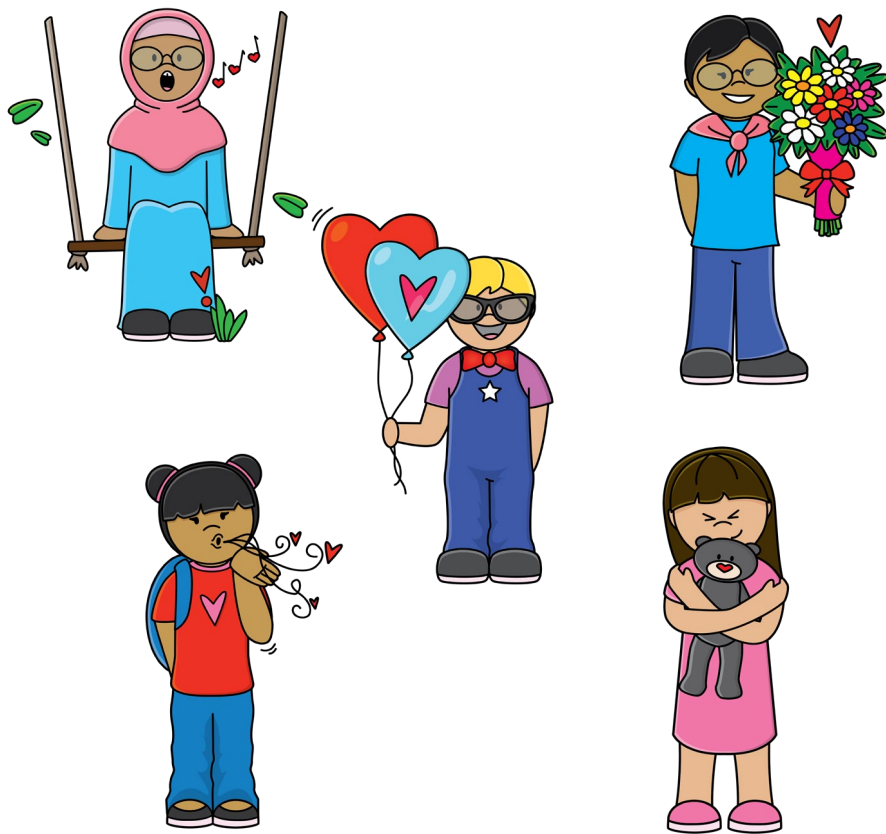
"Not yet, but I bet it will be here soon. I think the mail is slow," I explained. My friend sent an email back. "That's why they call it snail mail!" she joked.



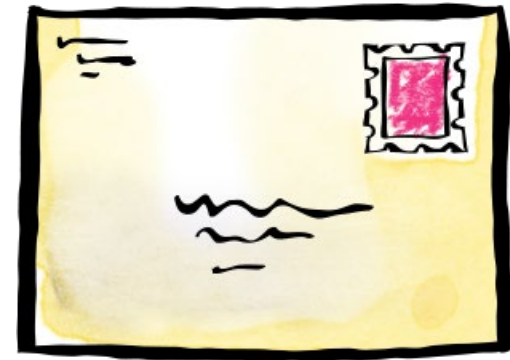
The next day was Valentine's Day! Her greeting had to come today. I got dressed and went to eat. Mom left me some sweet treats and a note with a bear that said, "I love you beary much."



I went to look out the window. A mix of rain and snow was falling. "I hope my greeting won't get wet when the mail comes today," I said to Mom. I had a strong feeling it would be there when I came home.



After a fun day with songs,  
balloons, flowers and treats, it  
was time to go home. I ran to  
the mailbox. Was this the day?  
I had to wait so long!



I went to reach in for the mail. It  
was my friend's Valentine  
greeting! I looked inside to read  
the note. "We are far away, but I  
will see you soon in the spring. I  
can't wait. Happy Valentine's Day  
to my best friend.

greeting

mail

week

look

snail

soon

snow

rain

dismay

sweet

day

wait

Sunday

new

slow

window



Skills: R-Controlled Vowels

Red words: said, should, were, together, again

Question: Why did Pepper return to Salt?

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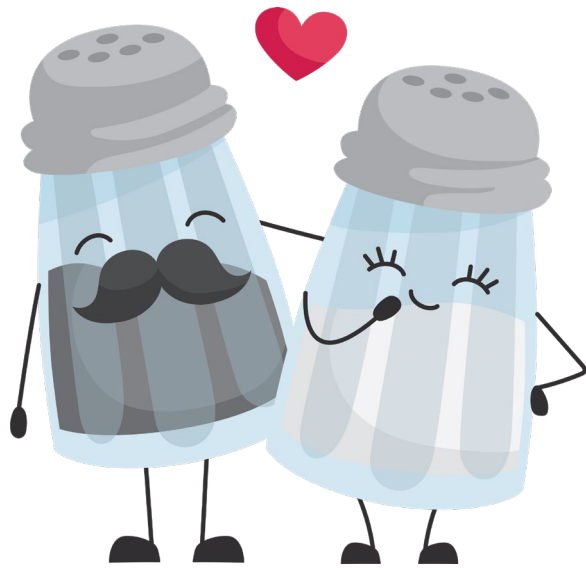
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# Salt and Pepper

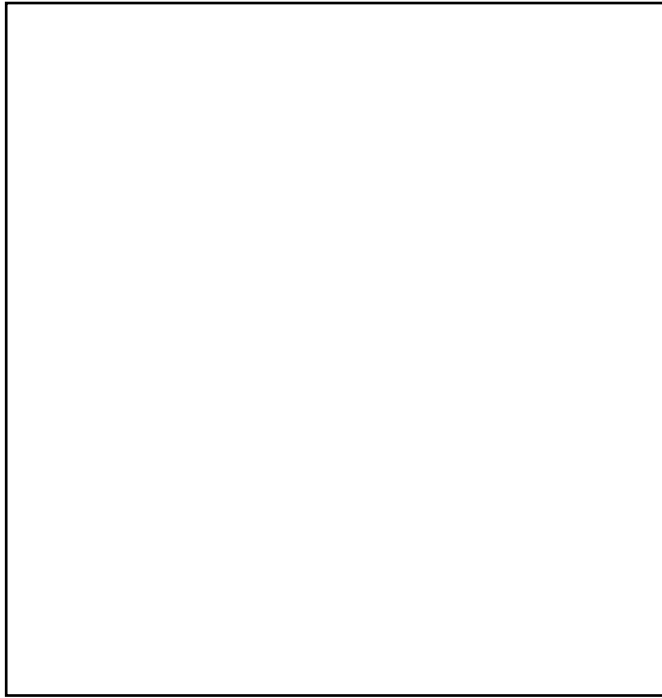
Written by: Emily Gibbons



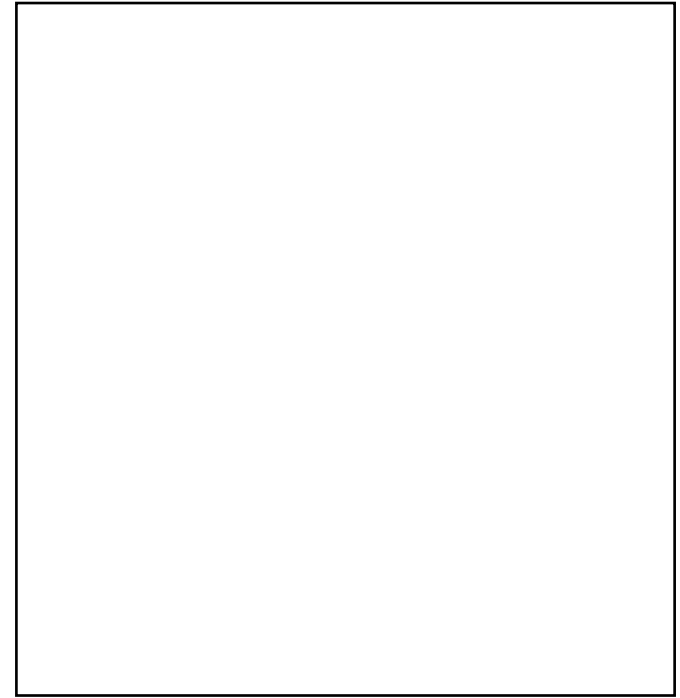
Salt and Pepper were happy.  
They made dinner taste better.  
It was hard to forget them  
when it was time to cook. Life  
was good.



One day, Pepper said to Salt,  
“Why not stir things up a  
bit? I have the perfect plan.  
Let’s hide from the cook.”



Salt did not want to stir the pot.  
“That will hurt cook’s feelings!”  
Salt said in a stern tone. “Perhaps  
that plan is perfect to you, but I  
think it’s a dirty trick.”

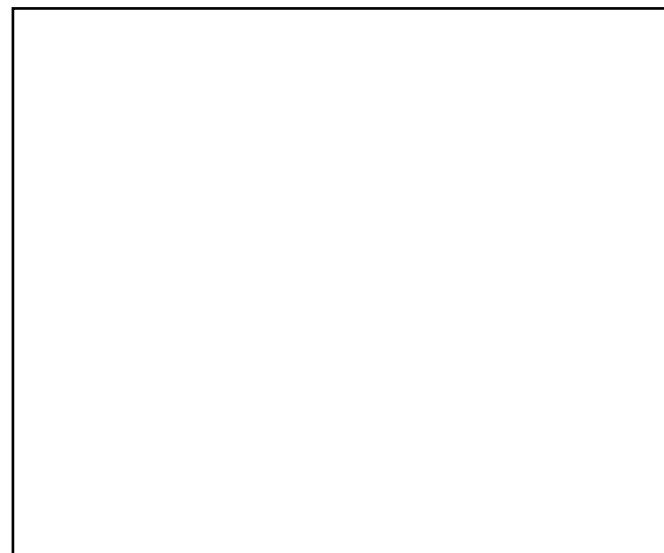


Pepper took off with a smirk.  
He turned back and said, “Well  
I’m going. See how food tastes  
without me, Miss Expert,” and  
he stormed off.



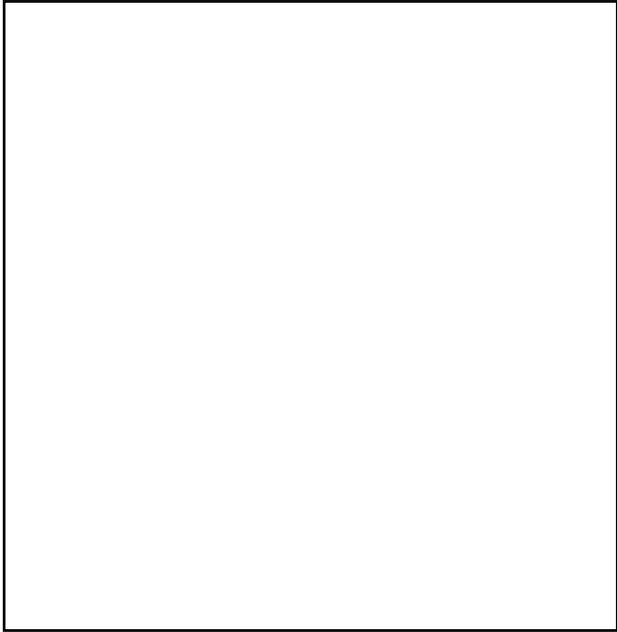
Salt did not understand. They had the perfect life. Why was Pepper shaking things up? She felt like she could burst. Then she let out a low murmur.

“Pepper will be back.”



As it turned out, life was harder for Pepper without Salt. No one wanted just one shaker.

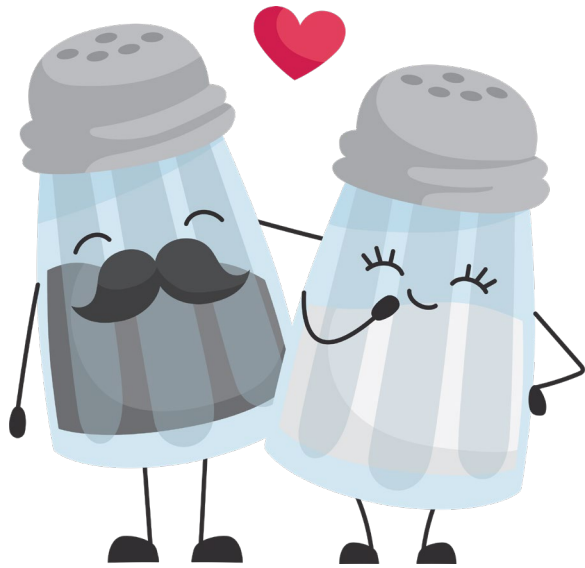
“Perhaps Salt’s plan was better. We should be a pair,” he said.



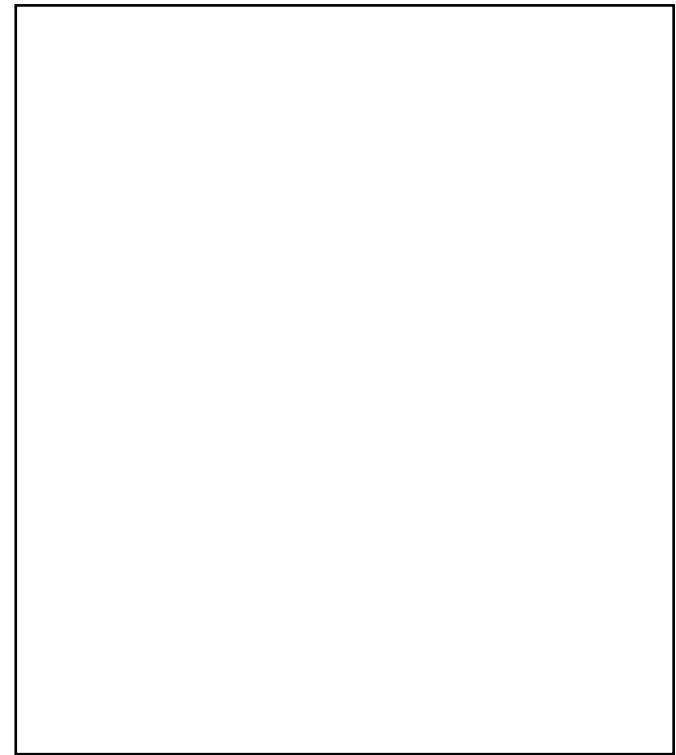
After Pepper had left, Salt still helped the cook, but something was missing. She needed Pepper's help. "We are better together," said Salt sadly.



One morning, Pepper burst into the kitchen. "I played a dirty trick, but I will never hurt you again. We belong together. Can we shake things up, Salt?"



Salt turned to Pepper. "Thank you for returning," After all, as a pair we are better. Let's start fresh with some turnip soup. Ready to stir the pot?"



Draw a picture of two objects that are better when they are together.

Pepper

dinner

hard

stir

perfect

dirty

smirk

stormed

expert

perhaps

turned

burst

murmur

harder

better

hurt

Skills: Open Syllables, common suffixes

Red words: have said, from, someone

Question: What would you do if you were Cupid Bunny?

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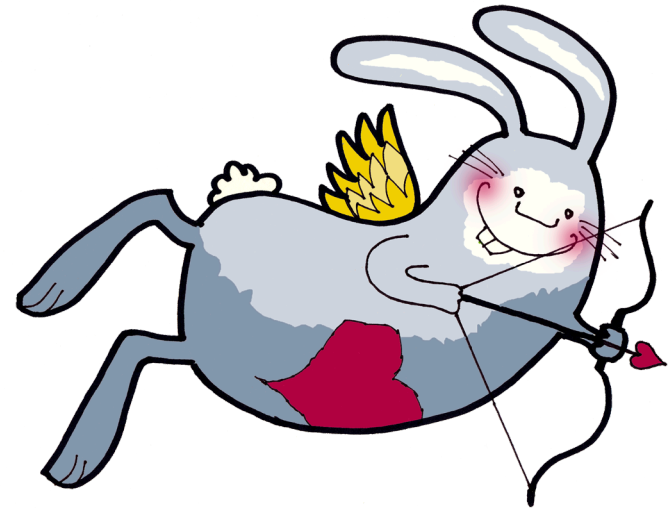
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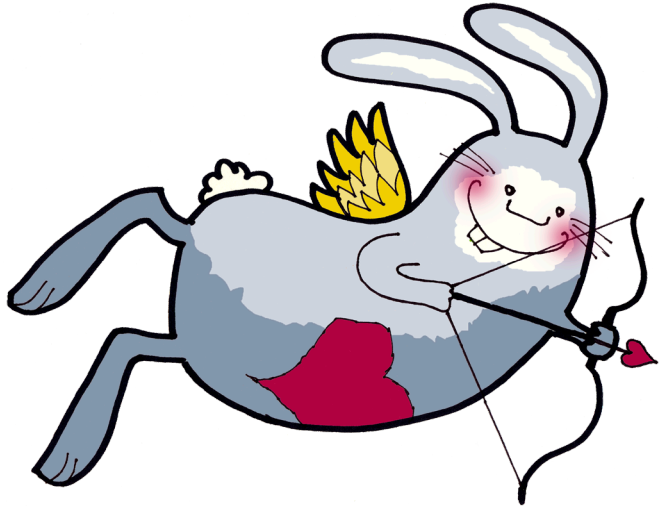
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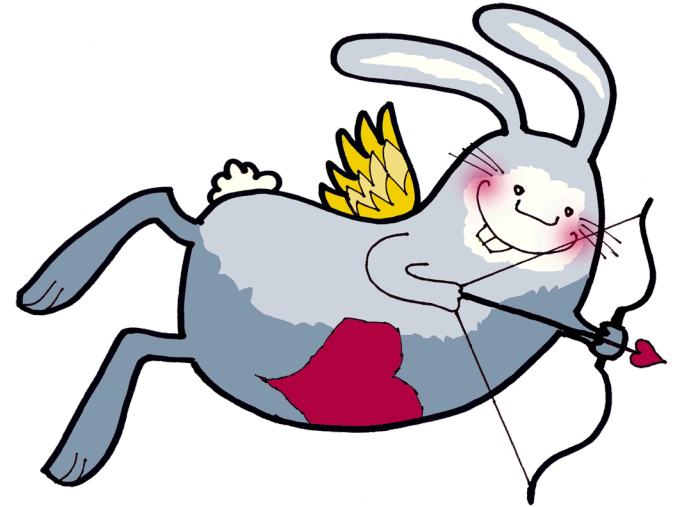
# Cupid Bunny

Written by: Emily Gibbons

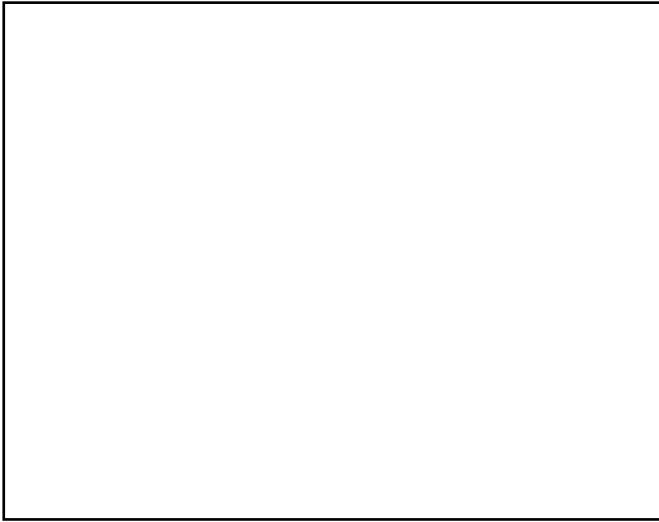




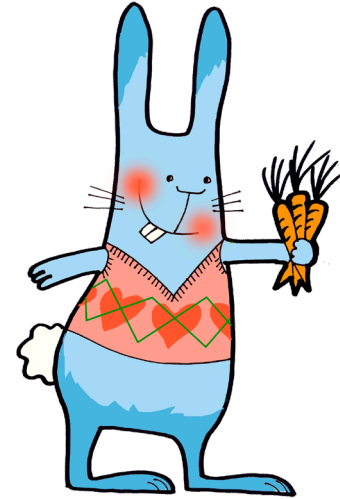
Cupid Bunny here. No, I'm not the Cupid you see that looks like a tiny baby, but I've got super cool arrows and shiny gold wings!



No, I'm not the kind of superhero that fights crime. But I CAN fly, and my arrows have powers. Sit down and relax while I tell you how it all began.



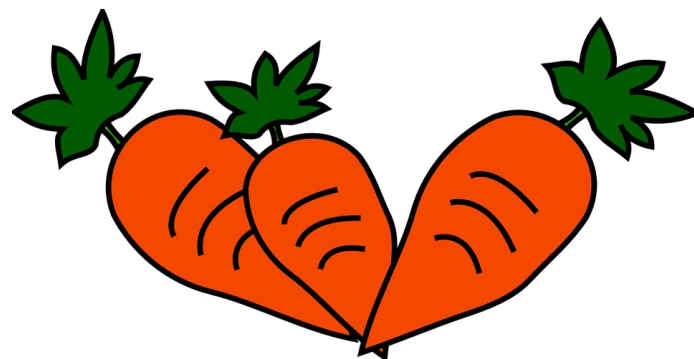
One day I was heading to  
a donut shop. I'm a frequent  
customer at a local diner. They  
make the best carrot cake  
donuts. Locating a booth, I sat  
down to eat and read the news.



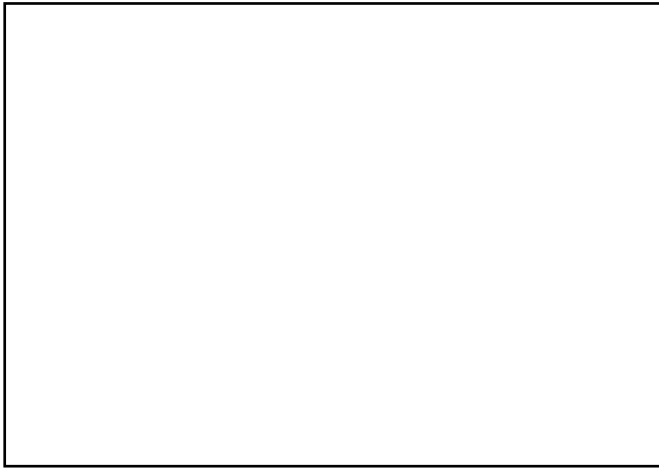
As I proceeded to take the  
first bite of my donut, I was  
stopped. I looked up from  
reading my paper and saw  
another bunny standing beside  
me. "Take these. You'll thank  
me later." he said.



“Um, OK, thanks?” My reply was a bit shady, but I was polite. I took the carrots home and left them on the counter to snack on later. What else DO you do when someone gives you carrots?



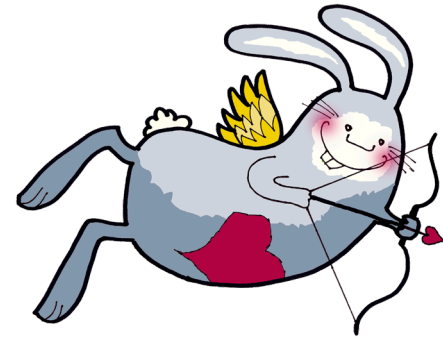
Being a bunny, I like snacks, so when I was hungry, I grabbed the carrots and sat on my sofa. I opened wide and took one bite, two bites, three bites. Then I began to feel weird.



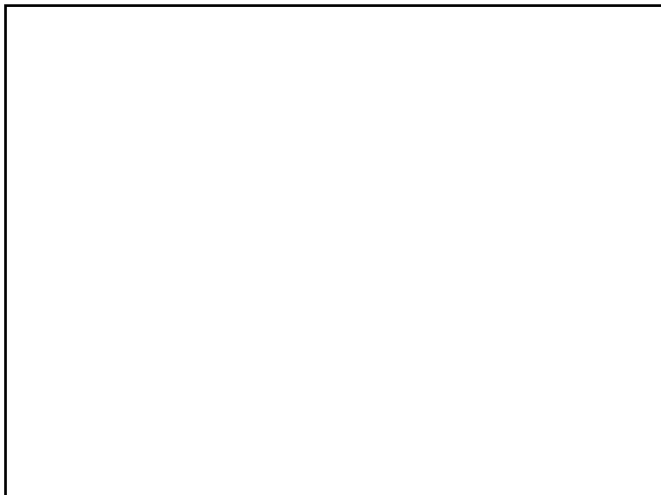
Feeling sleepy, I decided to nap.  
When I woke up, you would NOT  
believe it. I had a pair of shiny  
gold wings on my back and a big  
rosy heart on my belly.

I had become...

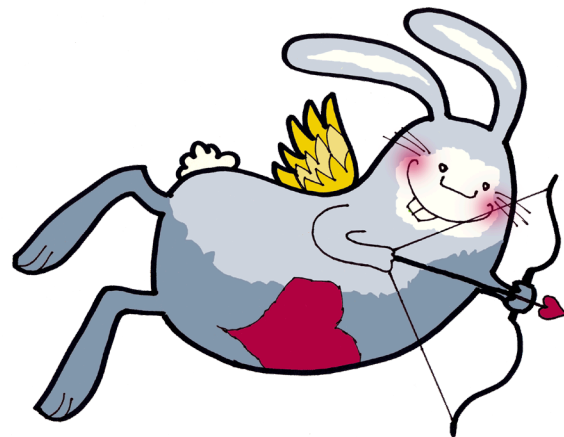
*CUPID BUNNY*



“Holy cow! It was the  
carrots!” I said to myself. I  
had seen photos of baby  
Cupids but not one with long  
ears and a fluffy tail. At the  
time, I debated whether to  
find the bunny that gave me  
the carrots or not, but I  
refused.



From that moment on I declared, "Cupid Bunny is who I am and who I will remain." I had no plan next, but the future seemed bright. Cupid Bunny was not going to be just any superhero. Cupid Bunny would be a helper to all bunnies!



Sometimes, when I am out flying and helping other bunnies, I am still reminded of the bunny that left me the carrots in the diner. Being Cupid Bunny is beyond my wildest dreams. I would thank him over and over.

cupid

baby

tiny

donut

diner

local

paper

beside

later

shady

open

began

declare

debate

super

hero

Skills: Schwa vowels, C+LE, soft c and g

Red words: you, were, who

Question: Who do you think stole the  
locket any why?

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# The Case of the Missing Locket

Written by: Emily Gibbons



It was the day before  
Valentine's Day when I received  
a strange call on my cell phone.  
"The famous Romeo locket is  
missing from the museum. you  
must help us at once!



I'd gotten calls for missing  
people before, but never  
lockets. "I'll be over at eight,"  
I replied. I fiddled for my  
keys in my pocket and left  
the office for the museum.

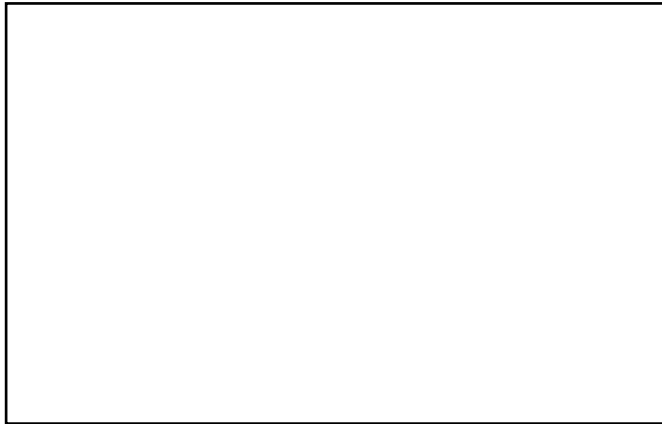




The Romeo locket was a gold bauble once owned by Dutchess Margery Romeo in the 1800s. After her husband, the Duke passed, she struggled with money, so she sold the gold locket to a museum for a hefty price.



Romeo's relatives were outraged that the locket was sold. They vowed to smuggle it out of the museum one day. I had an urge to head right to Cecil Romeo's house, the son of the Dutchess, but I waited.



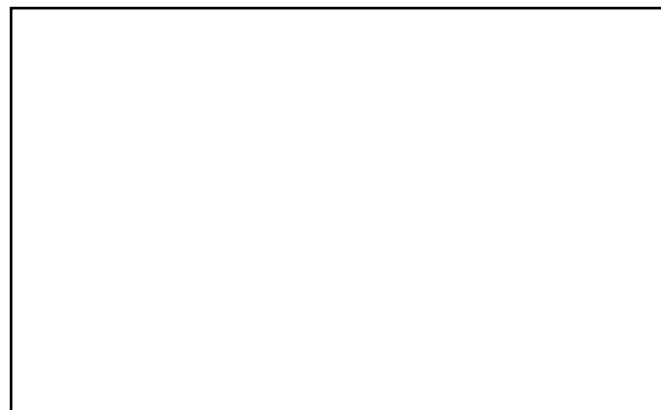
A few muddy boot prints and some fingerprints were discovered near the case by the police when I arrived at the museum. As a private detective, I follow any leads I can get my hands on to crack the case.



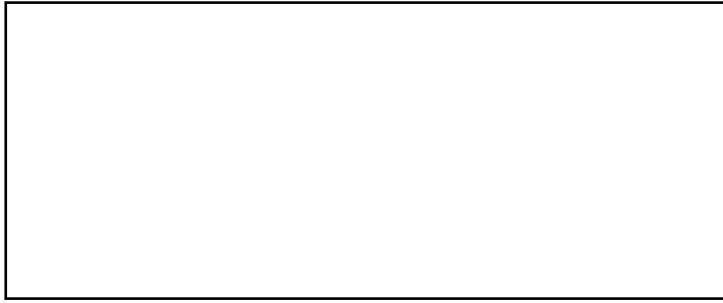
The museum guard said an alarm went off at midnight. The thief headed down a back alley and disappeared from there. Video footage picked up someone wearing a long coat, boots and a fedora.



After gathering clues, my cell phone rang. Another strange voice on the line. "Cecil Romeo has the locket," mumbled an unfamiliar female voice. "Find it by Valentine's Day but beware of danger." I hadn't a single clue who that was.



Cecil Romeo lived in an old home with a marble statue of a lion out front. A quick internet search led me to his home. I rang the bell. "I've been expecting you, Detective. Come inside," said Cecil smoothly. We sat in the library.



“Do you want to tell where the Romeo locket is, or will I have the police arrest you?” I didn’t stumble over my words. Cecil grinned with his hands folded.

“I have no locket here, detective. Would you care for some tea?” he asked. “I don’t have time for that,” I snapped.



Cecil’s butler entered the library with a tea tray. He stumbled over a cat sauntering by. “MEE-OWW!” yowled the cat. The tray sailed in the air. Cecil went to reach for it. The gold locket slipped from the tray onto the floor. “I changed my mind, Cecil. I will have a cup of tea,” I said.

locket

strange

fiddled

office

struggled

price

cell

smuggled

single

marble

stumbled

change

Cecil

received

danger

voice

Skills: Silent letters

Red words: where, they're there, their

Question: When did the gnome's heart  
soften?

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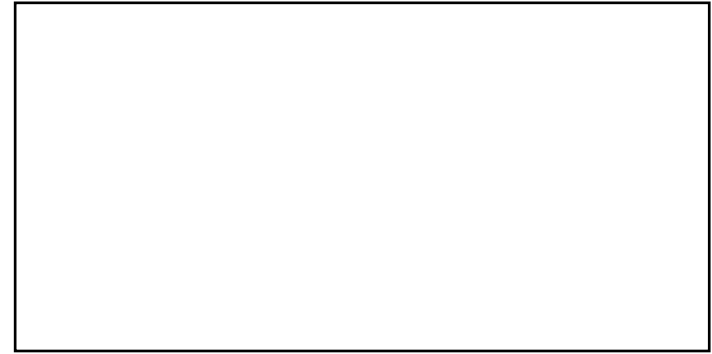


# No Place Like Gnome

Written by: Emily Gibbons



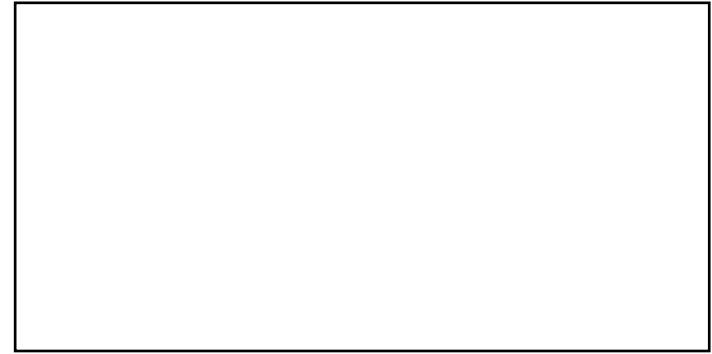
Listen, I'm simply not the type of gnome that likes to go out on a limb. Home is where I prefer to stay. That's why I can honestly say, "There's no place like gnome. Lately, though, I'm having a problem. Allow me to explain.



It's February, and the other gnomes in the knoll have been knocking on my door. They're trying to talk me into celebrating this holiday called Valentine's Day. Holidays about love make my knees wobble, so I wrote a note.

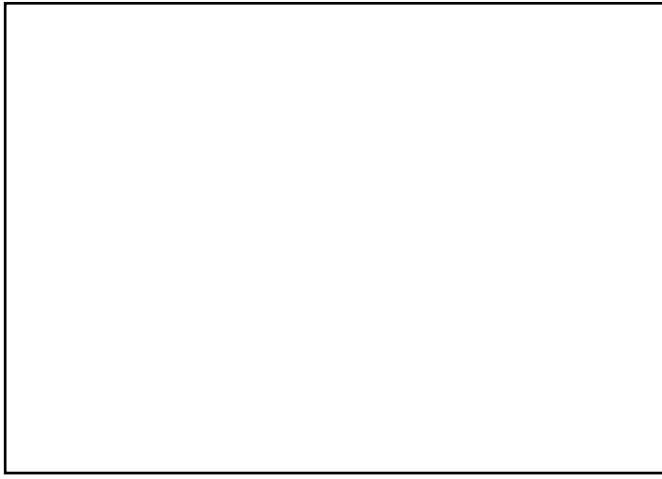


I wrote, "Don't try and wrangle me into sending chocolate and bouquets of flowers to a secret admirer. I'm a solitary gnome and that's the way I prefer to be."  
I hung the sign on my door, but it was no use.



The next day, some trickster left me a box of chocolates.  
Hmmp! These gnomes are trying to get me to play their little guessing game and eat chocolates, but they're wrong.  
I tried one piece. It didn't make my nose wrinkle. The chocolate actually tasted delicious.

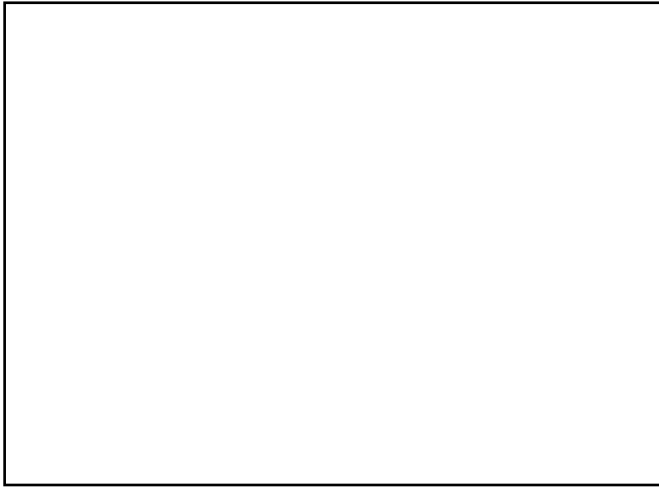




I'm still not budging! They can't soften my heart with carnations and love potions and mushy gushy rhymes. I picked up the box of chocolates and tossed them out my front door. That's when I saw another gift.



A bouquet of carnations was next to a love mug. A card was fastened to the side. No doubt, these gnomes were at it again. Snatching the gifts, I stormed inside. Hmmph! Valentine's Day is for fools! I peeked inside the mug. (Sniff) Were those thumbprint cookies?



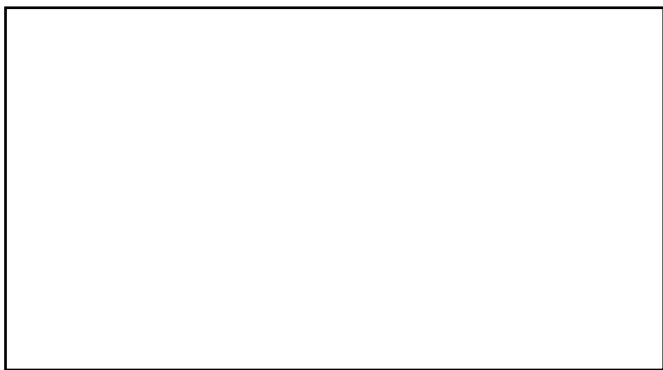
Which gnome knew my favorite  
cookies were thumbprint  
cookies filled with raspberry  
jam? They thought they'd get  
me, but they were wrong, very  
wrong. As I munched on a  
cookie, I opened the card.

*A Valentine's Day Rhyme*

Roses are red,  
and candy is a treat.  
Please be my Valentine.  
I think you're sweet.  
(even if you act a little grouchy,  
sometimes)

From,  
Guess your secret admirer

XO



Should I have crumpled the  
poem my secret admirer wrote  
to me? I guess not. So, I  
wrapped up the last jar of dill  
pickles I made this past fall and  
stuffed it in my knapsack.  
Hmmp! I could feel my heart  
softening. And I began to like it.

“Did you enjoy the raspberry  
thumbprint cookies I made for  
you? said a kind voice.

“I gobbled up every last  
morsel,” I replied. “Thanks for  
the rhyme... I guess. These are  
for you.” I handed her my last  
jar of pickles. That day,  
a friendly gnome named Wren  
took a chance on a solitary  
gnome like me. I’m glad she did.

gnome

listen

soften

fasten

raspberry

wrote

knoll

knew

doubt

thumbprint

knapsack

rhyme

wrinkle

knocking

knees

guessing

# GAMES

**Laminate the game boards or place in plastic sheet protectors. Assemble the game cubes.**

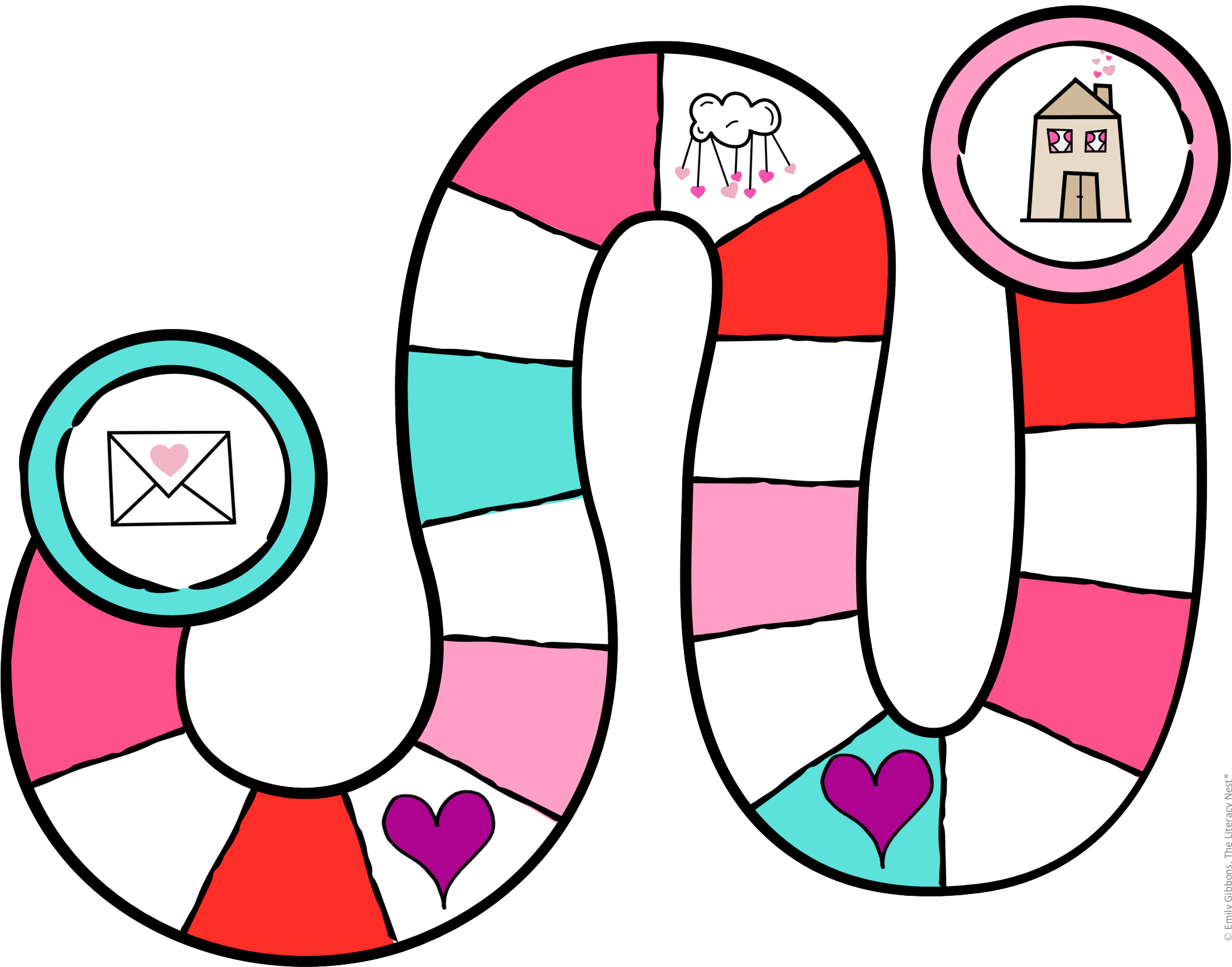
**Use mini erasers or plastic counters for game pieces, and a pencil and paperclip for a spinner, white boards, markers and erasers**

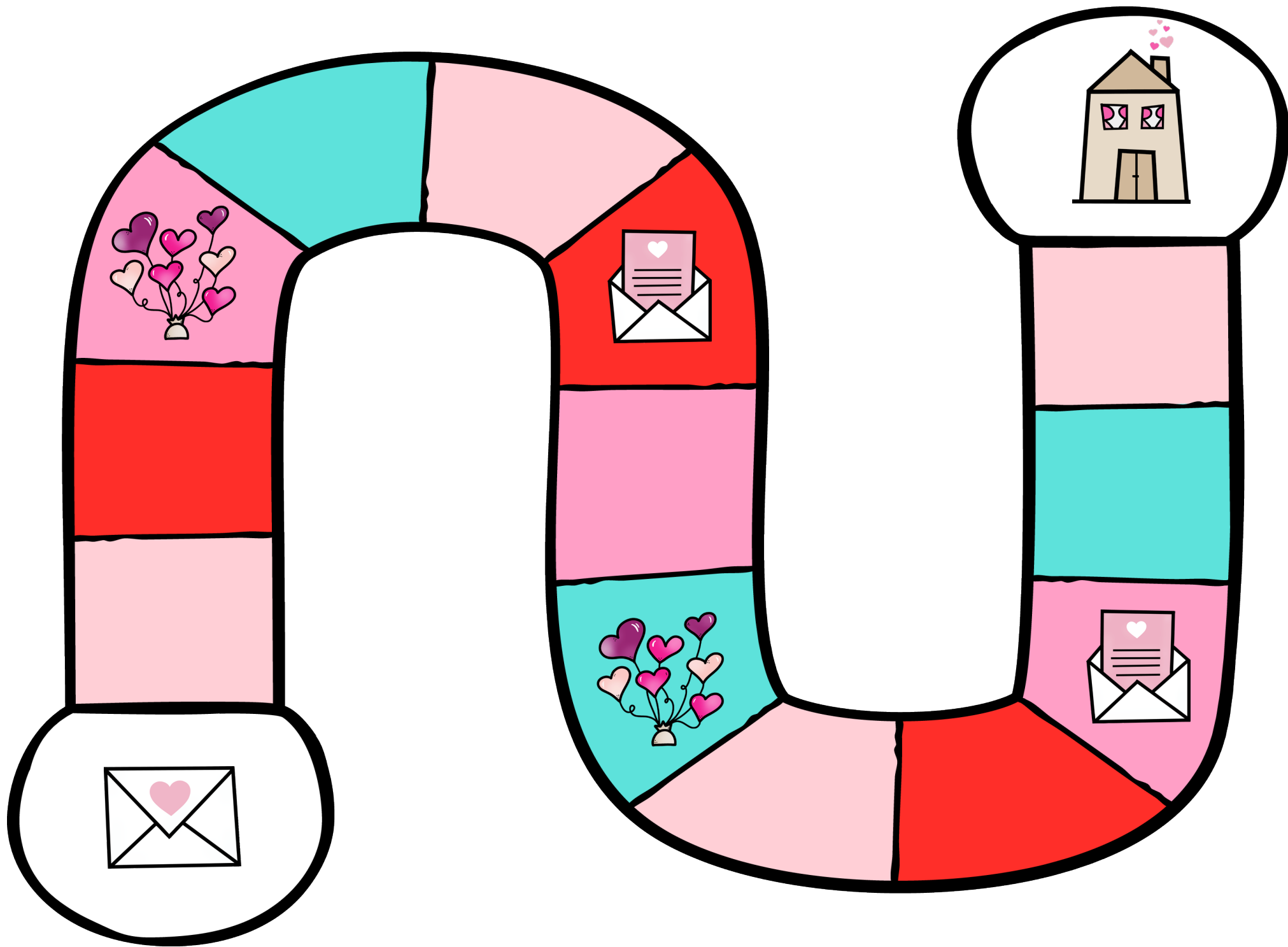
**These games are open-ended, so you can use them with any set of word cards and create your own rules for playing.**

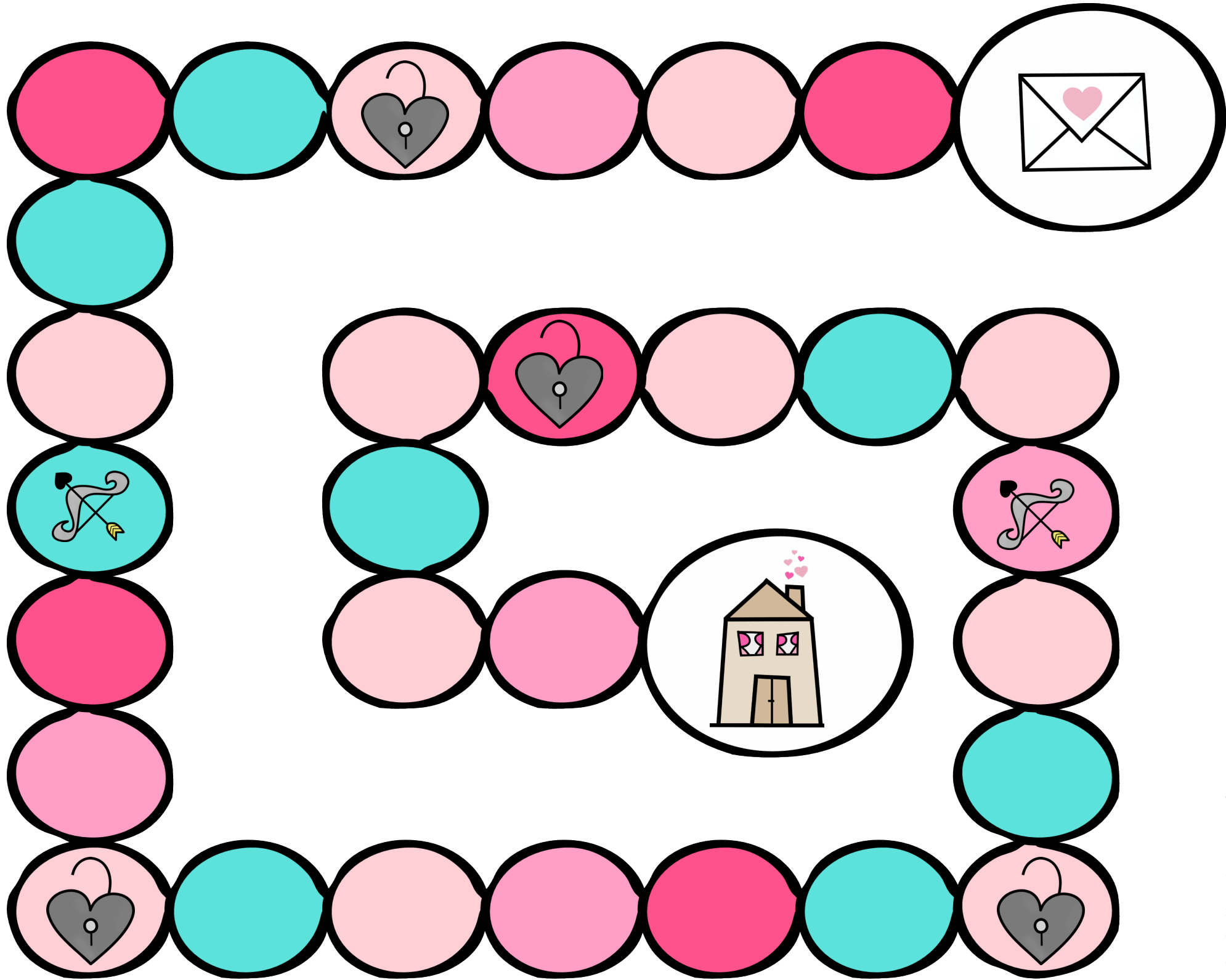
**Use the word cards at the end of each decodable reader to play these games.**

**There are 3 different boards to choose. Here are some suggested rules for playing.**

1. Player A- Spin the spinner, while Player B chooses a card to read out loud.
2. Player A Choose an option: spell the word or write the word in a sentence on the white board. Player B checks.
3. If the word is spelled correctly, Player A may advance on the game board.
4. Switch roles.
5. To win: Be the first player to reach the finish space.
6. Create and agree on rules for landing on the spaces that have an object like moving ahead or going back a space.









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