

Daily tips for Learning at Home – Number 34

Make a Perfect Pinwheel!

Follow the instructions below to have a go at making your own pinwheel. The colouring stage is a chance for your child to be as creative as they like – crayons, colouring pencils – you could even try finger painting. Just have fun!

This is an opportunity to let them make choices – which colour paint they want, choose their own straw, etc.

What do I need?

Scissors
Glue Stick
Paper straw
Pin (a drawing pin or similar)
A stopper for the back of the pin
(a piece of rubber, foam, cork etc)

What will we learn from this?

Pinwheels are great to help children learn:

- About how things work – simple construction
- About **forces** – the pinwheel needs us to blow on it or use the wind to make it spin
- Problem solving
- New words

What do we do?

- Colour in your pinwheel from the template (or make your own). Don't forget to colour the small pentagon as well.
- Cut along the lines.
- Glue each of the black dots into the centre, one of top of another, using a twisting motion.
- Once you have finished all four corners, glue the pentagon on top, in the middle of the pinwheel.
- Pinch one end of the paper straw to make it flat.
- Carefully push your pin through all the layers of your pinwheel and the straw, (you could use some blu-tack or a rubber behind the pin to keep your fingers safe!)
- Put a stopper on the point of the pin.

You can try different sizes of paper to make bigger or smaller pinwheels.

If you don't feel up to the decorating, just follow the instructions using a piece of coloured paper.

TOP TIP

Try blowing on the pinwheel from the side, then turn it to face you and blow straight in the middle of the pinwheel. What happens?

How can we take it further?

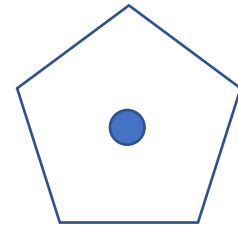
Make a rainbow pinwheel using lots of different colours to spread a bit of happiness during lockdown. You could even try a splatter pattern using paint and an old toothbrush, or even draw your own pencil template for your child to colour in.

It will look even better if you colour the back of the pinwheel as well, in a different pattern or colour to the front. You can double side or template by printing two copies and sticking them back to back.

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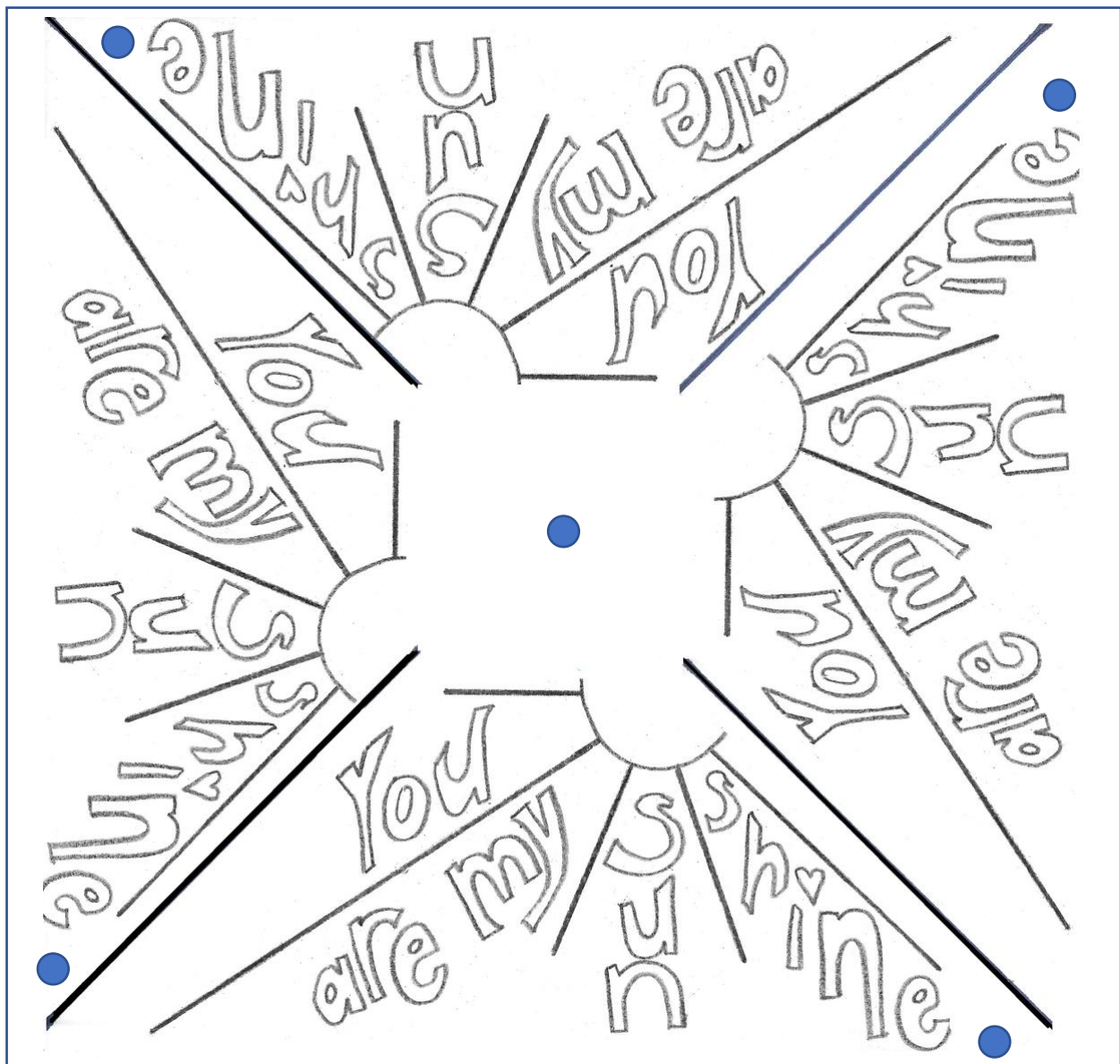
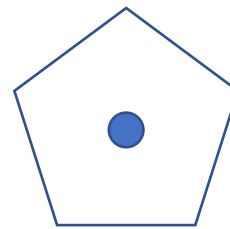
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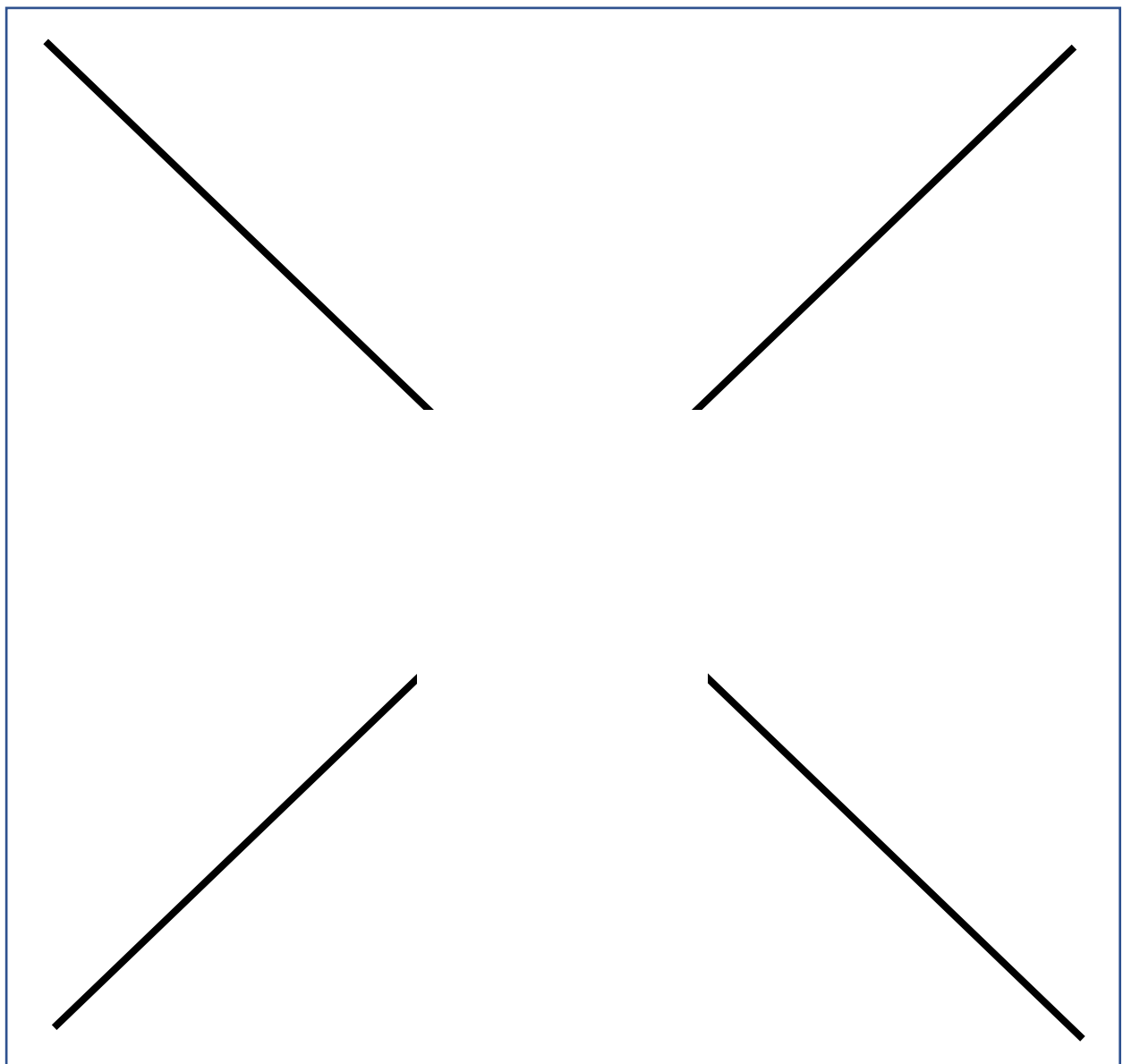
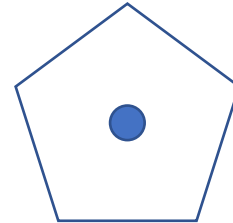
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