

STEPPING STONES

A Path to Critical Thinking

By Vera Schneider

Recommended for grade K

Critical thinking skills are essential to every aspect of learning. Studies show that the earlier these skills are introduced, the greater a child's chances for academic success. A child who can think critically will be a better reader, writer, test-taker, and learner—both inside and outside of the classroom.

Stepping Stones is one of few published programs designed to develop critical thinking skills at the primary level. Before children begin to read, Book 1 teaches them to examine relationships, discover patterns and sequences, make inferences, and use logic to solve problems that they will encounter every day.

Three easy ways to order:

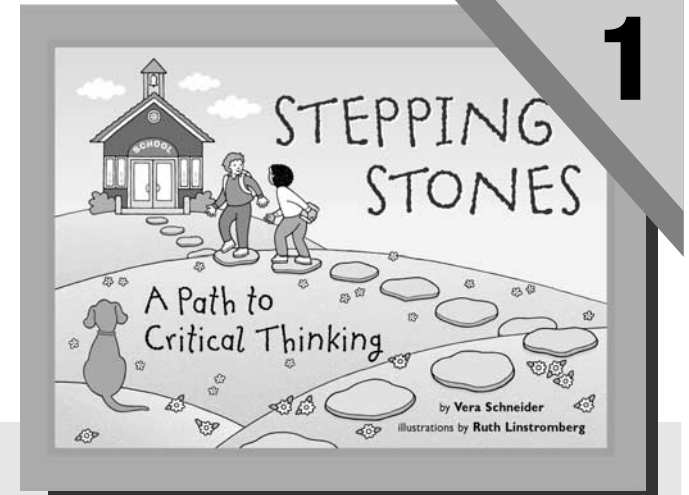
Toll free: 800.225.5750

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Recommended Companion Material

See our *Companion Material* recommendations on page 6 for great materials that complement *Stepping Stones*.



How to Use the Following Pages:

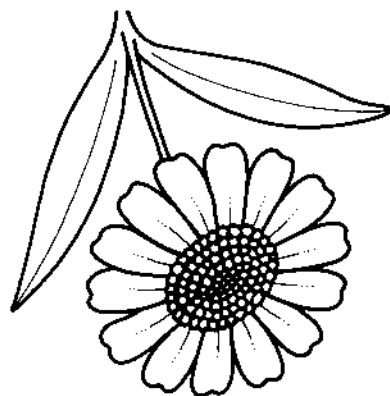
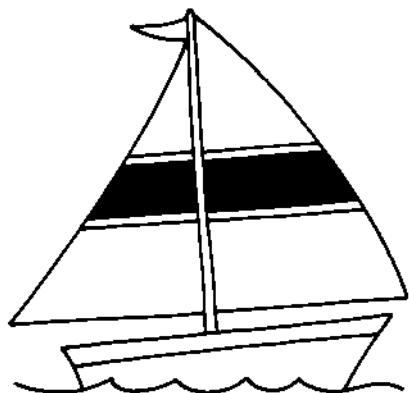
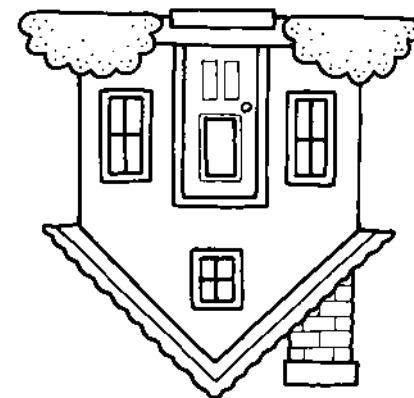
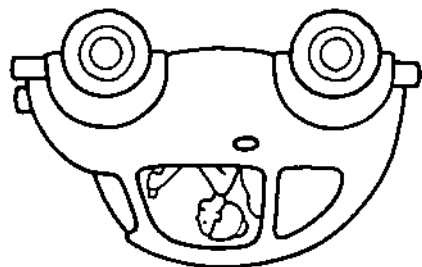
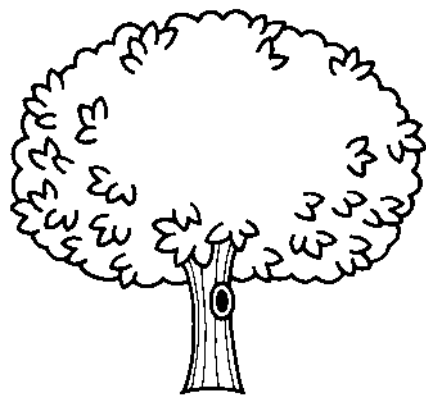
- Try these critical thinking exercises with your entire classroom, a small group, or an individual student.
- Ask your students to look carefully at and think about the relationships between each picture. *How are they the same? How are they different?*
- Encourage your students to think of a logical item to complete the pattern. If each child has their own paper, ask them to draw their answers. Suggested answers are given in the margin, but accept any answer the child can justify or explain.
- You may get many solutions to the same problem. Share them by initiating a discussion, displaying the completed pages, or sending them home with your students.



Name _____

Date _____

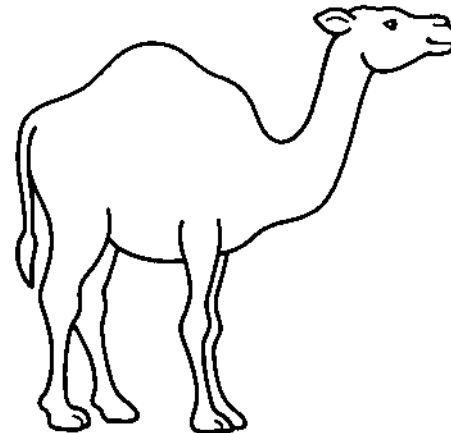
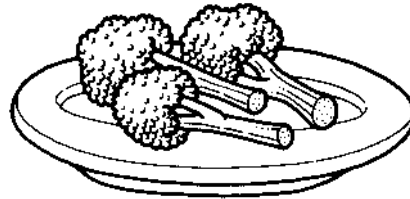
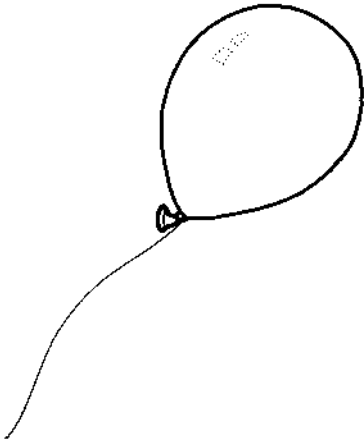
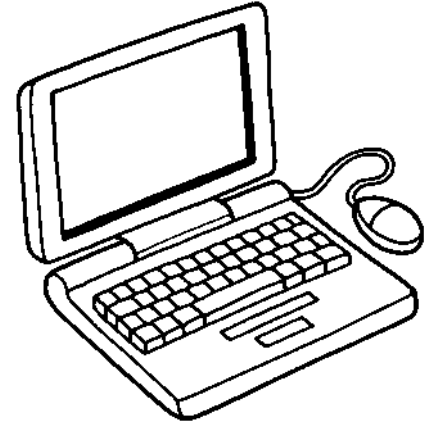
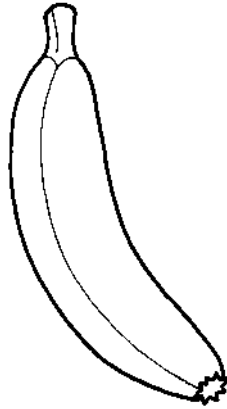
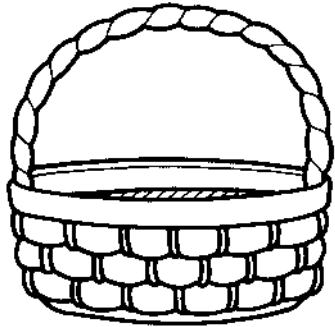
What comes next? Continue the pattern.



Name _____

Date _____

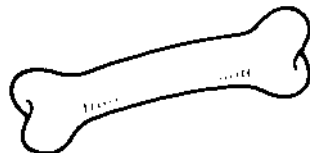
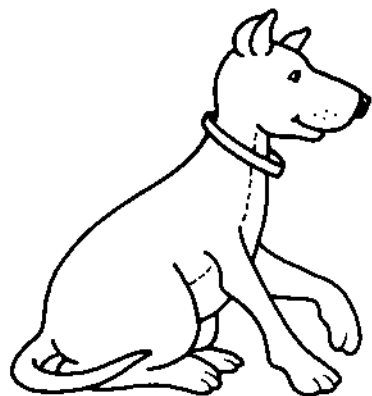
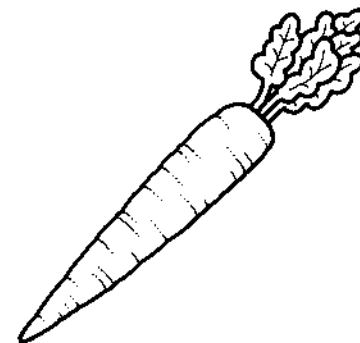
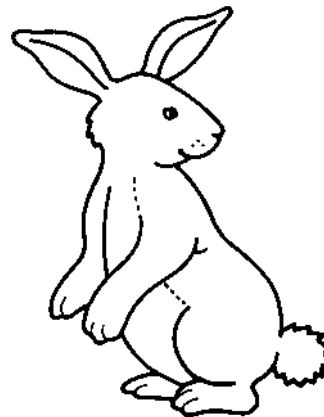
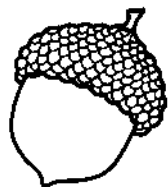
What comes next? Continue the pattern.



Name _____

Date _____

What comes next? Continue the pattern.



Name _____

Date _____

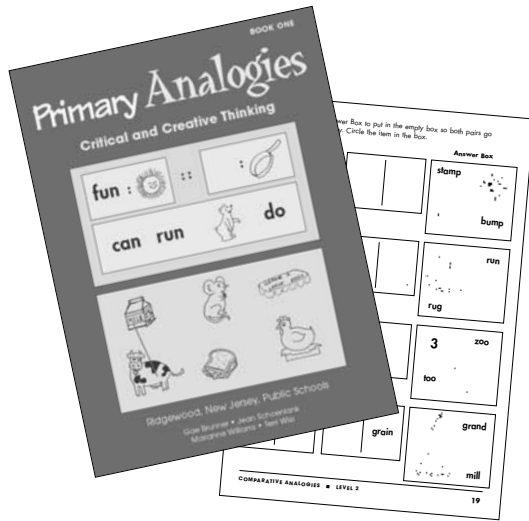
What comes next? Continue the pattern.

K m A l z b c

g X y D e _____

Recommended Companion Material

EPS offers a wide range of products and programs that complement the critical thinking activities in *Stepping Stones*. We recommend the following series to help young readers develop critical thinking, reasoning, and comprehension skills.



Primary Analogies: Critical and Creative Thinking

Recommended for grades K–3

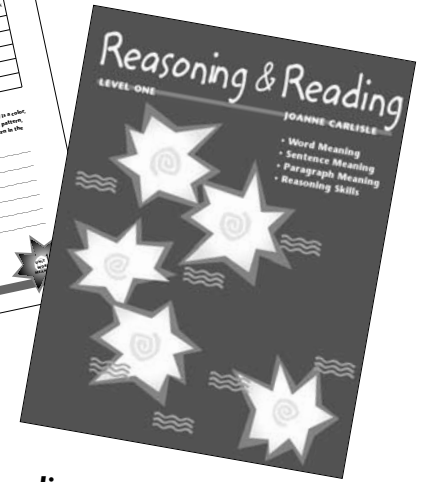
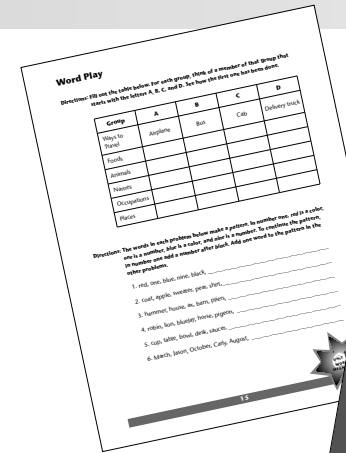
This systematic program teaches analogous thinking on many levels. Students complete picture and word analogies in five major categories: descriptive, comparative, categorical, serial, and causal. These thinking, reasoning, and analogy skills help improve students' reading, writing, and test scores.

Search and Sort

Recommended for grades K–4

Word sorting is an excellent way for children to learn the patterns of language. *Search and Sort* contains over 200 pre-designed, reproducible word and picture sorts that can be incorporated into any curriculum. These hands-on activities build students' decoding, spelling, and critical thinking skills while encouraging cooperative and interactive learning.

For more information about these series or to place an order, visit www.epsbooks.com or call 800.225.5750 to speak to a customer service representative.



Reasoning and Reading

Recommended for grades 3–8

This series provides excellent follow-up programs once students have mastered basic critical thinking skills. *Reasoning and Reading* integrates reasoning, language, and reading comprehension to foster more advanced thinking skills.

