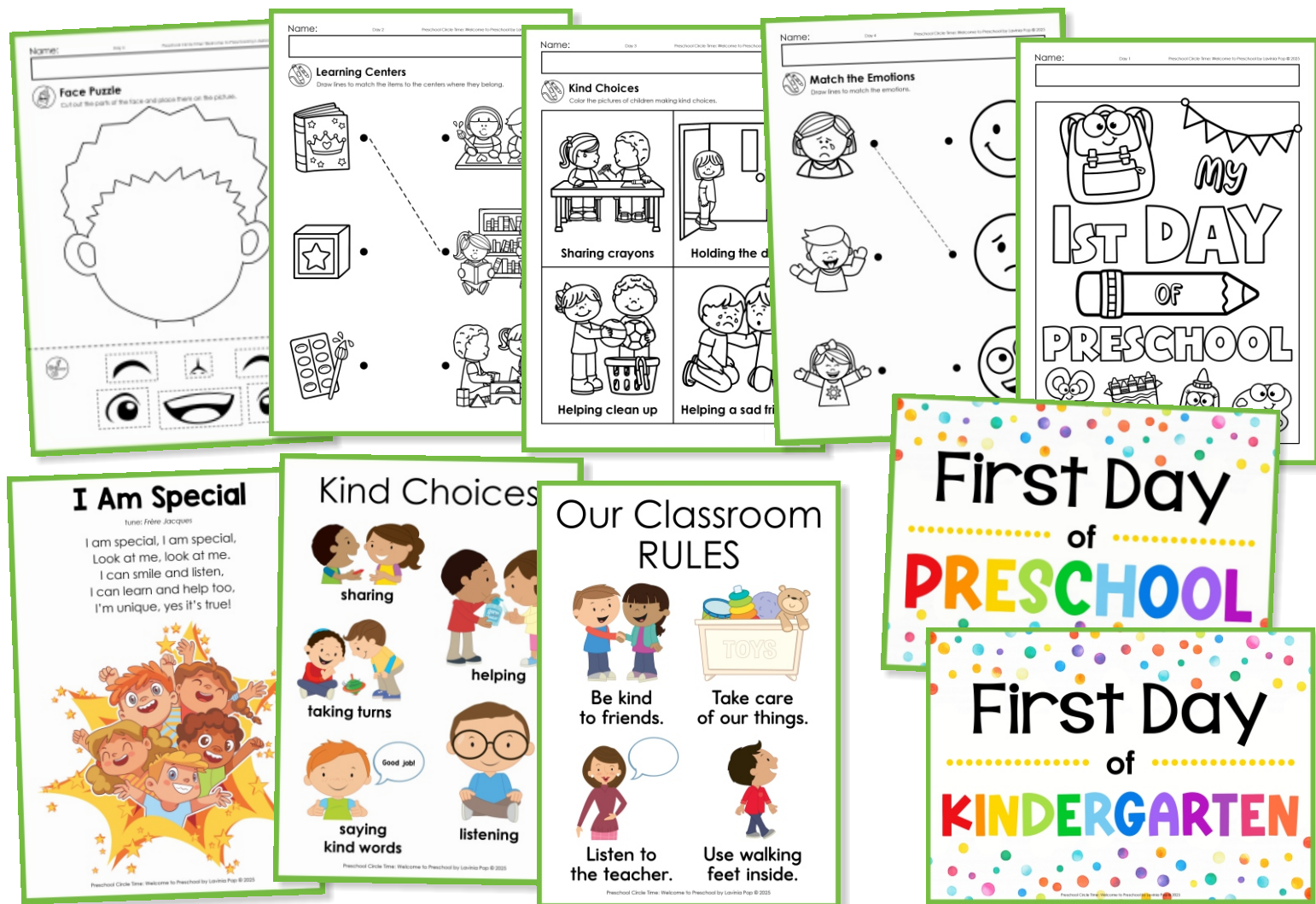


welcome to preschool CIRCLE TIME

5
LESSONS

circle time plans | songs | posters | activities | printables



Lavinia Pop

Welcome to Preschool PRESCHOOL CIRCLE TIME

5 lesson plans | songs | posters | activities | printables



Lavinia Pop

Thank you for downloading this product; I hope you will enjoy using it and that it will be a valuable resource for you! I value your feedback, so please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns whatsoever as I will endeavour to address them. And if you like what I've done, please let me know by leaving feedback at my online store :)

Lavinia

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ILLUSTRATIONS Kari Bolt, Erin Colleen Design, Little Red, Whimsy Clips, PartyHead Graphics, Ramona Majdis, Zip-a-Dee-doo-dah-Designs, Bunny on a Cloud, Krista Wallden - Creative Clips, Creating4 the Classroom, Rainbow Sprinkle Studio - Sasha Mitten, First Class Clipart, ClipArtisan, Muggy Studio

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PRINTING TIP This resource has been designed for printing on A4-sized paper. If you are printing on a different size, select "shrink to printable area" or "print to fit page" (or a similar option) in order for the contents of this unit to print correctly.

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Teacher Guide

Purpose of This Plan

This Circle Time plan is designed to gently welcome preschool and kindergarten children into the routines, expectations, and joys of school. Each day supports emotional safety, friendship, language development, and growing independence through fun, structured circle time experiences. The activities help children build confidence while creating a positive classroom community during the first week of school.

How to Use This Plan

- Each day follows a consistent structure: Introduction → Song → Read-Aloud → Discussion → Activity, with optional extension ideas.
- Feel free to shorten, extend, or adapt activities to suit your children's attention span and developmental needs.
- Repeat familiar songs, routines, and transitions throughout the week to build confidence and predictability.
- Circle Time activities work well before learning centers, small groups, outdoor play, or other classroom routines.

What to Expect the First Week

- Some children may cry, cling to a caregiver, or choose to observe before joining in. Stay calm, patient, and reassuring.
- Keep transitions simple and predictable by using visual schedules, songs, and familiar routines.
- Encourage participation without pressure. Children learn at different rates and will join when they feel ready.
- Focus on building relationships and helping children feel safe, secure, and included. A strong classroom community lays the foundation for future learning.

Tips for Circle Time Success

- Begin each day with a consistent welcome or greeting song.
- Seat children in a circle or semicircle so everyone can see and participate.
- Keep activities short, interactive, and movement-based to maintain engagement.
- Use visual supports, puppets, props, and expressive voices to bring stories and songs to life.
- Celebrate effort and participation rather than expecting perfect answers or behavior.
- Be flexible—it's perfectly okay to adjust the lesson based on your class's needs.

Developmental Goals This Week

Throughout this week's activities, children will:

- Build trusting relationships with teachers and classmates.
- Learn classroom routines and expectations.
- Practice listening, speaking, and participating in group discussions.
- Develop name recognition and early communication skills.
- Strengthen social skills such as kindness, sharing, and cooperation.
- Build confidence, independence, and a sense of belonging within the classroom community.

Happy Teaching :)

Getting Started

Thank you for choosing this Welcome to Preschool Circle Time resource. This five-day plan is designed to help children feel safe, welcomed, and excited as they begin a new school year. Through engaging songs, carefully selected read-alouds, meaningful discussions, and hands-on activities, children will build friendships, learn classroom routines, and develop confidence during their first week of school.

Although this resource was created for Preschool, many of the activities and printables are also suitable for Kindergarten. Where appropriate, both Preschool and Kindergarten versions of classroom materials have been included for added flexibility.

What's Included

This resource includes everything you need to teach a full week of Circle Time, along with printable materials that support each day's learning.

Daily Circle Time Lesson Plans

Each lesson follows a consistent structure to help children feel comfortable, engaged, and confident.

Each day includes:

- Introduction
- Theme song with suggested actions
- Read-aloud book recommendation
- Guided discussion questions
- Hands-on activity
- Materials list
- Optional extension ideas

Song Posters and Props

Each day's lesson includes a themed song to reinforce learning through music and movement. The resource also includes:

- Full song posters
- Individual verse posters
- Song props (where applicable)

Printable Activities

A variety of printable activities are included to reinforce and extend each day's lesson. Depending on the day's theme, these may include:

- Crafts
- Worksheets
- Coloring pages
- Matching activities
- Posters
- Classroom displays
- Group activities

These printables can be used as outlined in the lesson plans or adapted to suit your classroom routine and the needs of your children.

Flexible to Fit Your Classroom

Although this resource is organized as a five-day plan, each lesson can also be used independently. Feel free to adjust the order, spend extra time on a particular topic, or revisit activities throughout the first few weeks of school.

Most importantly, enjoy getting to know your children and creating a classroom where everyone feels welcome, valued, and ready to learn.

Happy Teaching! :)

Welcome to Preschool

	Objective	Read Aloud	Activity
Day 1	Welcome to Preschool Children will begin to feel safe and welcome in their new environment, learn each other's names, and begin building a sense of classroom community.	Book: "The Kissing Hand" by Audrey Penn Discussion: How Chester the raccoon felt about going to school. What helped him feel brave. Share something that helps you feel brave too.	My Name Crown Children will decorate a name crown to wear and help others learn their name. Materials: Crown template, crayons, stickers, glue.
Day 2	Exploring Our Classroom Children will learn about the different areas of the classroom, practice basic routines, and begin to feel confident navigating their space.	Book: "Llama Llama Misses Mama" by Anna Dewdney Discussion: How Llama Llama felt about starting school. What helped him feel better. Share something that helped you feel better when you missed someone.	Classroom Scavenger Hunt Children will explore and locate key parts of the classroom using picture clues. Materials: Scavenger Hunt printable, clipboards, crayons
Day 3	Being a Kind Friend Children will begin to understand what it means to be a kind and caring friend through stories, songs, and shared experiences.	Book: "Should I Share My Ice Cream?" by Mo Willems Discussion: What Gerald learned about sharing. How it feels to share with others. Share a time you shared something with a friend.	Kindness Match Game Children will pair up to complete "friendship challenges." Materials: Kindness Challenge cards
Day 4	All About Me Children will explore their own identity by sharing what makes them unique and special.	Book: "What I Like About Me!" by Allia Zobel Nolan Discussion: What the children in the book like about themselves. Why it's good to be different. Share something that makes you special.	All About Me Poster Today children begin a two-day project: their personal All About Me poster. Materials: All About Me printable, crayons
Day 5	We Are a Class Family Children will celebrate their classroom community, reflect on their first week, and feel a sense of belonging and pride.	Book: "Our Class is a Family" by Shannon Olsen Discussion: What makes a classroom feel like a family. How we can take care of each other. Share one way we can be kind to our class family.	Our Preschool Family Mural Each child adds their handprint, drawing, or name to a large collaborative poster. Materials: Butcher paper/poster, paint

Welcome to Preschool

Day 1: Welcome to Preschool

Children will begin to feel safe and welcome in their new environment, learn each other's names, and begin building a sense of classroom community.

Introduction

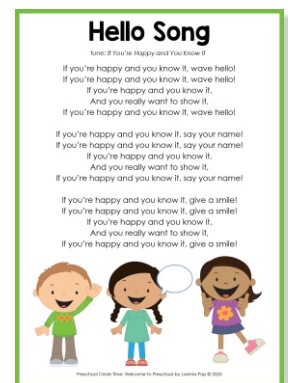
Ask: "What's your name?" Encourage each child to say their name confidently. Use name cards or a photo chart to help everyone learn names. Model: "My name is Miss Lavinia. I'm so happy to meet you!" Try a chant like: "Hello, hello, what's your name?" (each child responds). Say: "This is our preschool classroom! It's a safe and happy place to learn and play. This week, we'll get to know each other, explore the classroom, and talk about what makes us special."

Song

"Hello Song" (tune: *If You're Happy and You Know It*)

Actions:

- **Verse 1:** Children wave their hand high in the air while smiling.
- **Verse 2:** Place one hand on the chest and clearly say their name when it's their turn.
- **Verse 3:** Children put their hands on their cheeks and give a big smile.



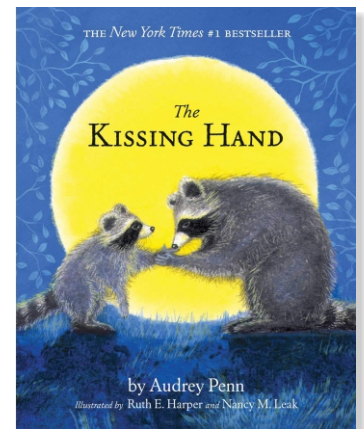
Read Aloud & Discussion

Book: "The Kissing Hand" by Audrey Penn

Before Reading: "This story is about a little raccoon who feels nervous on his first day of school. Have you ever felt a little scared about starting something new? Let's see what helps Chester feel better."

After Reading: "How did Chester feel on his first day? What did his mom do to help him feel brave? What can help you feel better when you miss your grown-up?"

Introduce the idea of a "safe place" in the classroom or a special object (e.g., class stuffed animal or calming corner).



Activity

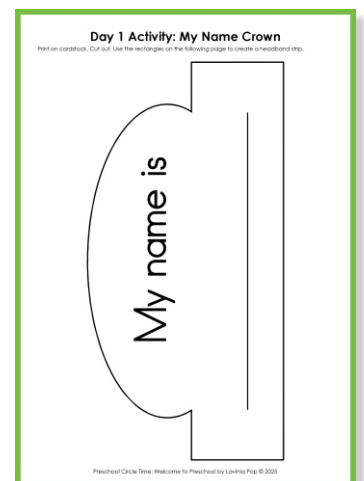
My Name Crown

Materials: Crown templates (pre-cut), crayons, markers, stickers, glue, colored paper scraps

Activity: Give each child a crown with their name. Let them decorate with coloring tools and stickers. Staple or tape to size and help them wear it. Throughout the day, use their name in songs, games, and transitions.

Extension:

- "First Day of Preschool" Photo: Take a picture of each child wearing their crown. Display in the classroom or print for families.
- Introduce a "Class Mascot" (stuffed toy) who visits circle time and models good listening.



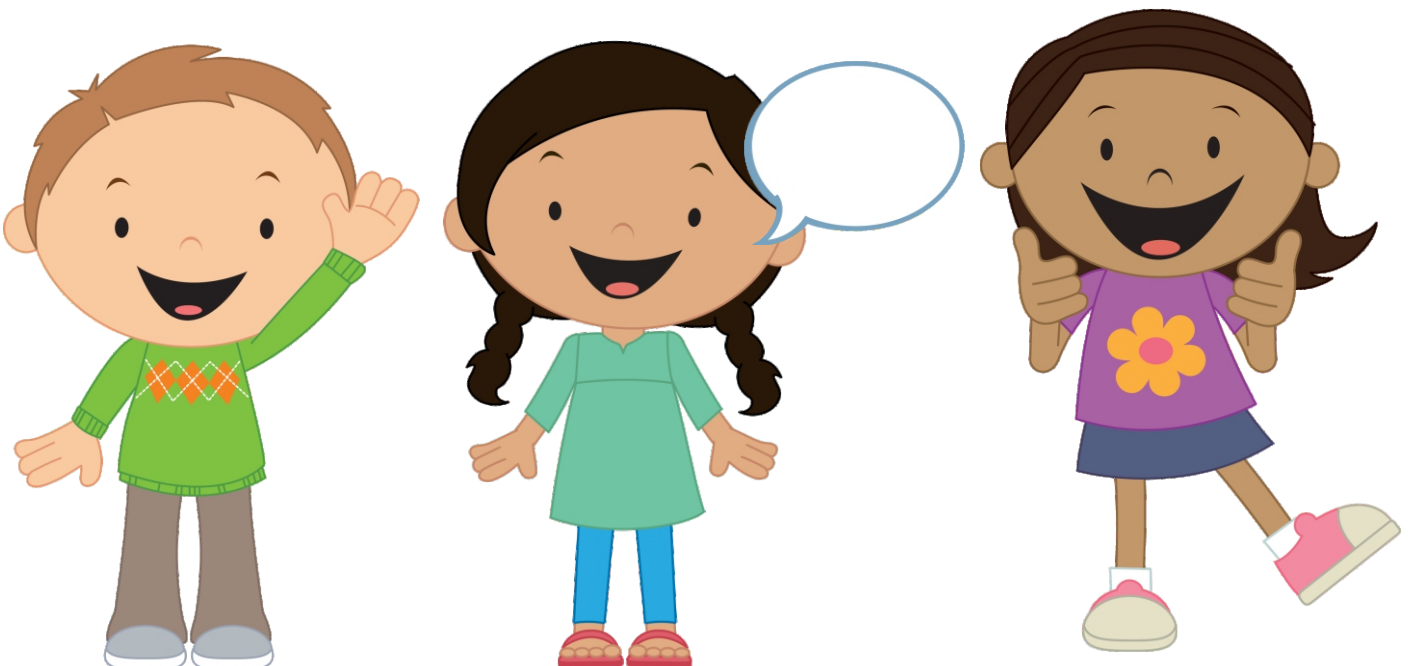
Hello Song

tune: If You're Happy and You Know It

If you're happy and you know it, wave hello!
If you're happy and you know it, wave hello!
If you're happy and you know it,
And you really want to show it,
If you're happy and you know it, wave hello!

If you're happy and you know it, say your name!
If you're happy and you know it, say your name!
If you're happy and you know it,
And you really want to show it,
If you're happy and you know it, say your name!

If you're happy and you know it, give a smile!
If you're happy and you know it, give a smile!
If you're happy and you know it,
And you really want to show it,
If you're happy and you know it, give a smile!





Hello Song

Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It

**If you're happy and you know it,
Wave hello!**

**If you're happy and you know it,
Wave hello!**

**If you're happy and you know it,
And you really want to show it,
If you're happy and you know it,
Wave hello!**



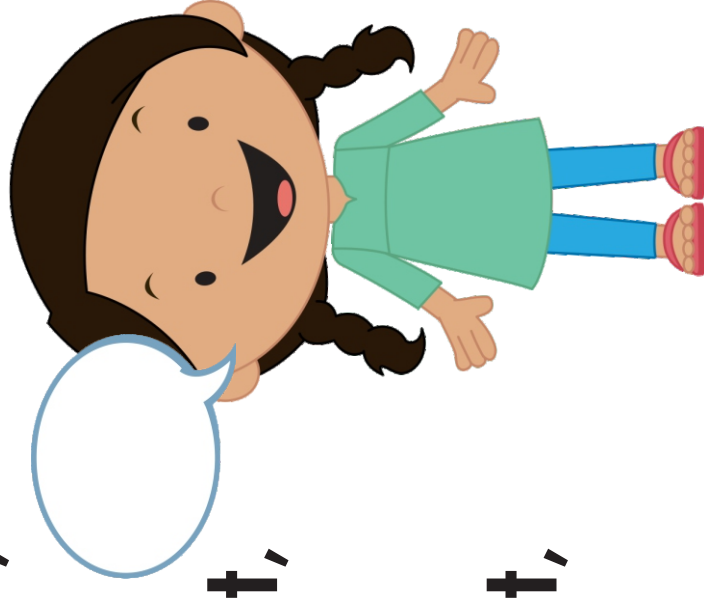
Hello Song

Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It

**If you're happy and you know it,
Say your name!**

**If you're happy and you know it,
Say your name!**

**If you're happy and you know it,
And you really want to show it,
If you're happy and you know it,
Say your name!**



Hello Song

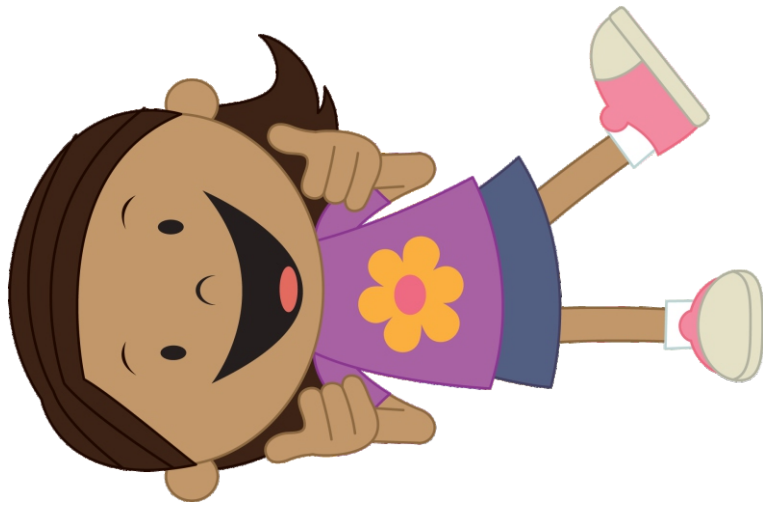
Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It

**If you're happy and you know it,
Give a smile!**

**If you're happy and you know it,
Give a smile!**

**If you're happy and you know it,
And you really want to show it,**

**If you're happy and you know it,
Give a smile!**



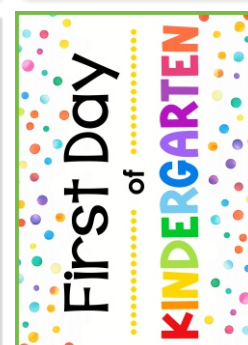
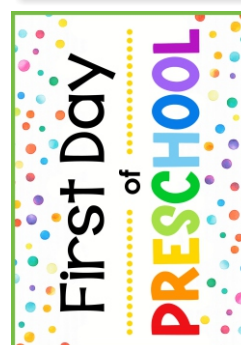
Welcome to Preschool

Classroom Posters

This section includes posters you might like to display in your classroom.

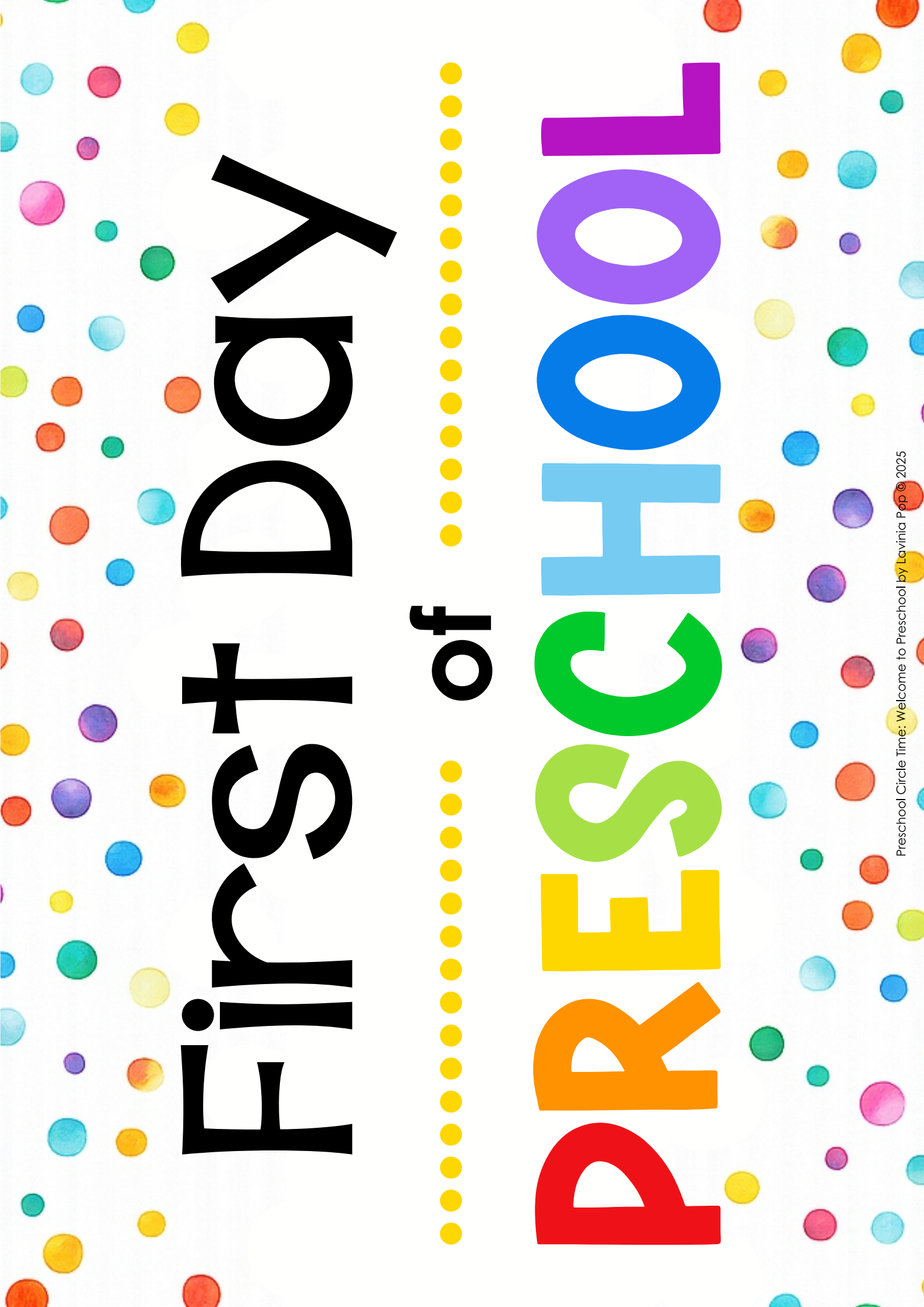


- Welcome to Preschool banner
- Welcome to Kindergarten banner
- Our Classroom Rules
- Feelings (2 versions)
- First Day of Preschool photo sign
- First Day of Kindergarten photo sign
- Kind Choices
- Unkind Choices



WELCOME TO PRESCHOOL BANNER. Print, laminate, cut and display.





First Day

of

PRESCCHOOL

Welcome to Preschool

Activities & Worksheets

This section includes all the necessary lesson printables, along with some additional activities and worksheets. You can use these pages as outlined in the lesson plan or on different days, depending on your needs.

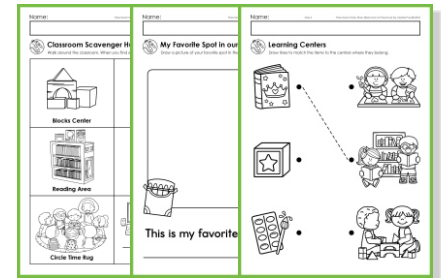
Day 1: Welcome to Preschool

- **Lesson Activity:** Name Crown
- *Additional Activity:* Letters in My Name Coloring
- *Additional Activity:* My 1st Day of Preschool Coloring
- *Additional Activity:* My 1st Day of Kindergarten Coloring



Day 2: Exploring Our Classroom

- **Lesson Activity:** Classroom Scavenger Hunt
- *Additional Activity:* My Favorite Spot in our Classroom
- *Additional Activity:* Learning Centers Matching



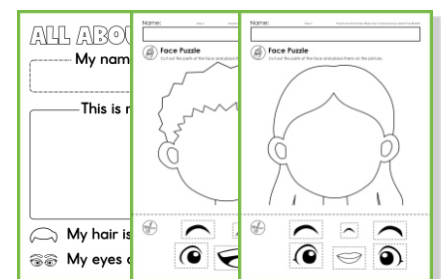
Day 3: Being a Kind Friend

- **Lesson Activity:** Kindness Challenge
- *Additional Activity:* Kind Choices Coloring



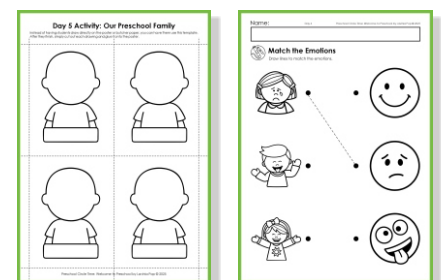
Day 4: All About Me

- **Lesson Activity:** All About Me
- *Additional Activity:* Face Puzzle Boy
- *Additional Activity:* Face Puzzle Girl



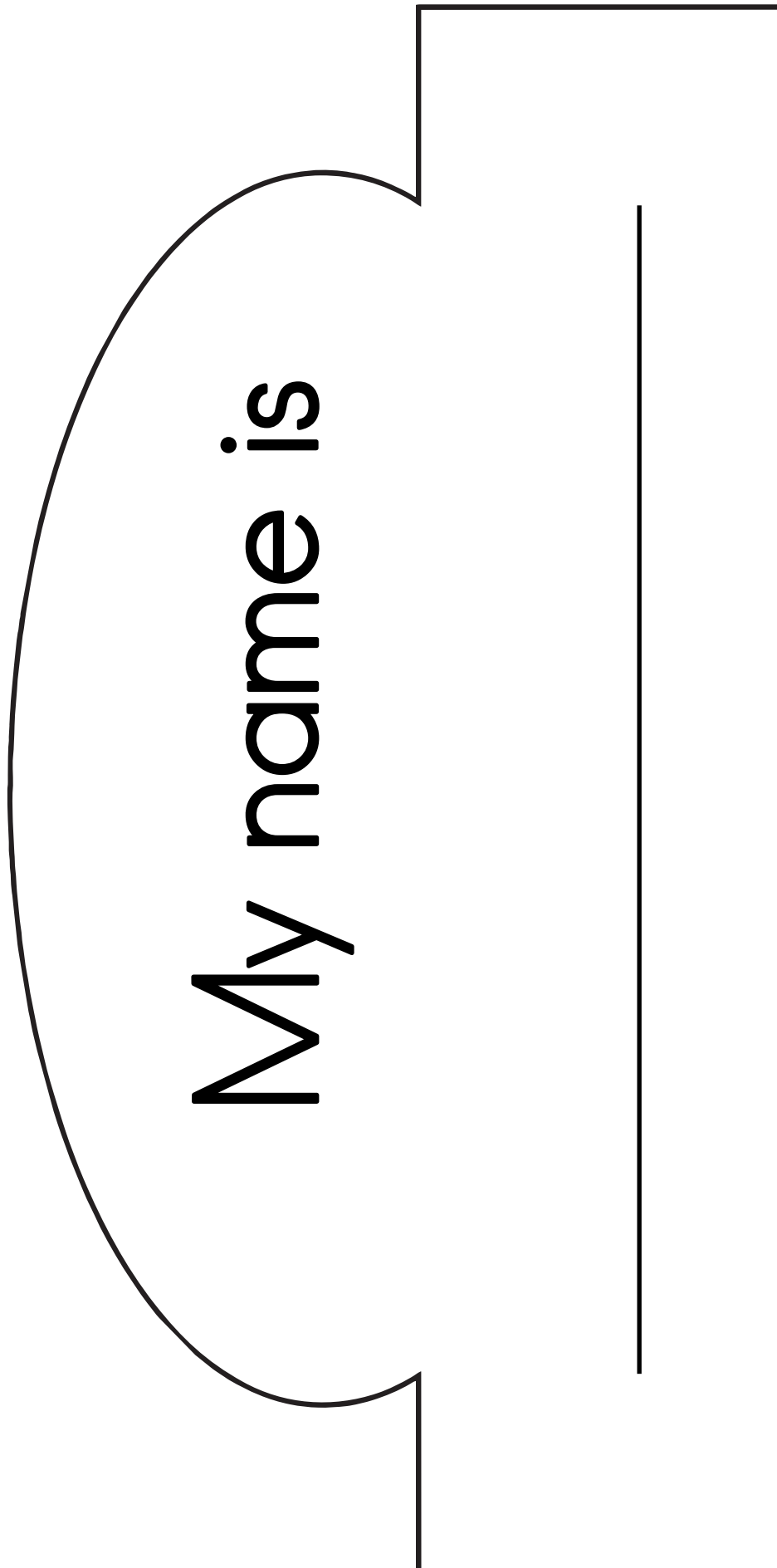
Day 5: We Are a Class Family

- **Lesson Activity:** Our Preschool Family
- **Lesson Activity:** Our Kindergarten Family
- *Additional Activity:* Match the Emotions



Day 1 Activity: My Name Crown

Print on cardstock. Cut out. Use the rectangles on the following page to create a headband strip.



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Name:

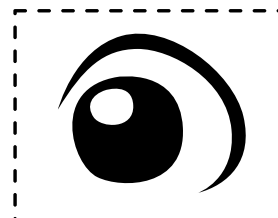
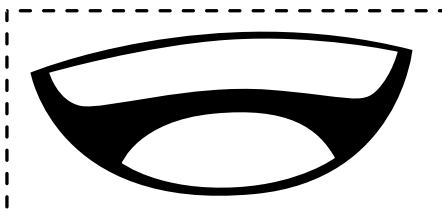
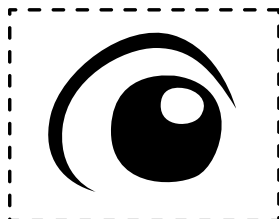
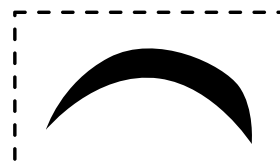
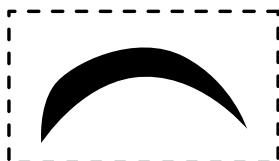
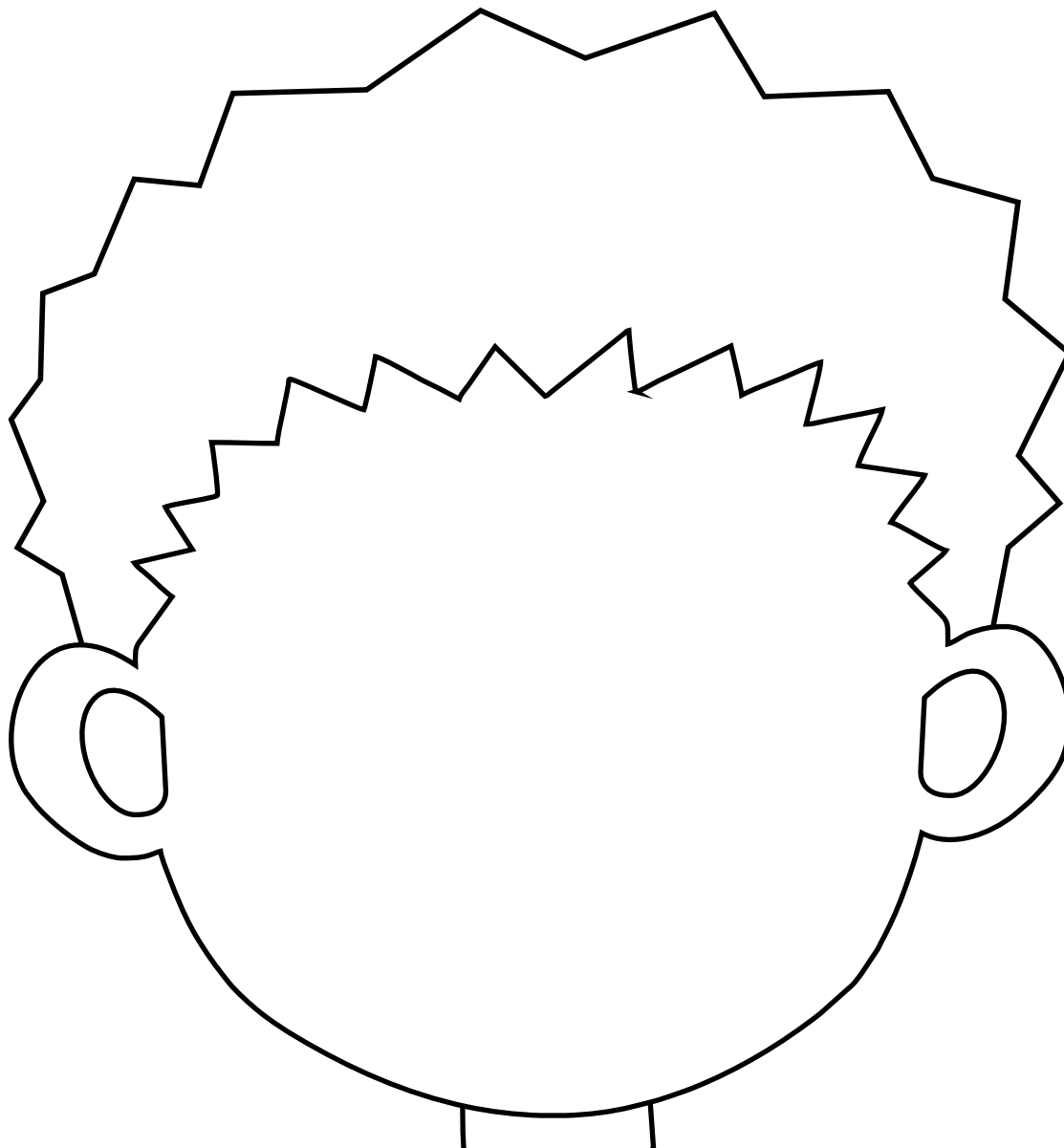
Day 4

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Face Puzzle

Cut out the parts of the face and place them on the picture.



Name:

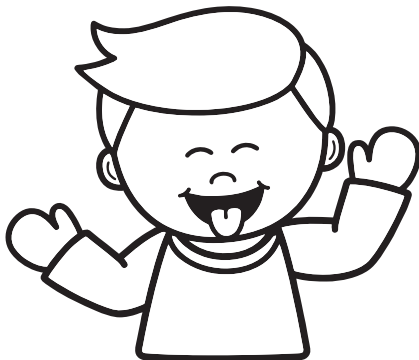
Day 5

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Match the Emotions

Draw lines to match the emotions.



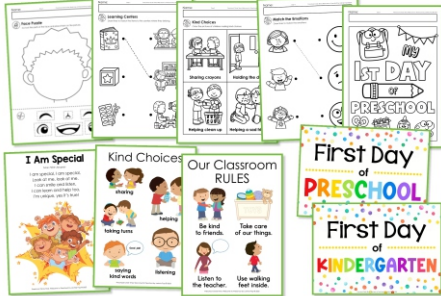
Additional Resources

welcome to preschool

CIRCLE TIME

circle time plans | songs | posters | activities | printables

5 LESSONS



Lavinia Pop

classroom

90 + CARDS

SCHEDULE CARDS

chalkboard & white backgrounds | Preschool, Kindergarten & Grade 1



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classroom

24 POSTERS

CENTER POSTERS

24 Bright Posters | Perfect for Preschool & Kindergarten Centers



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classroom door decor

FREE PRINTABLE



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name practice

EDITABLE PDF.



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days and months

LEARNING FOLDER



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back to school

9 printable activities for Preschool & Kindergarten

CENTER ACTIVITIES



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August

fine motor printable activities

MORNING TUBS



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