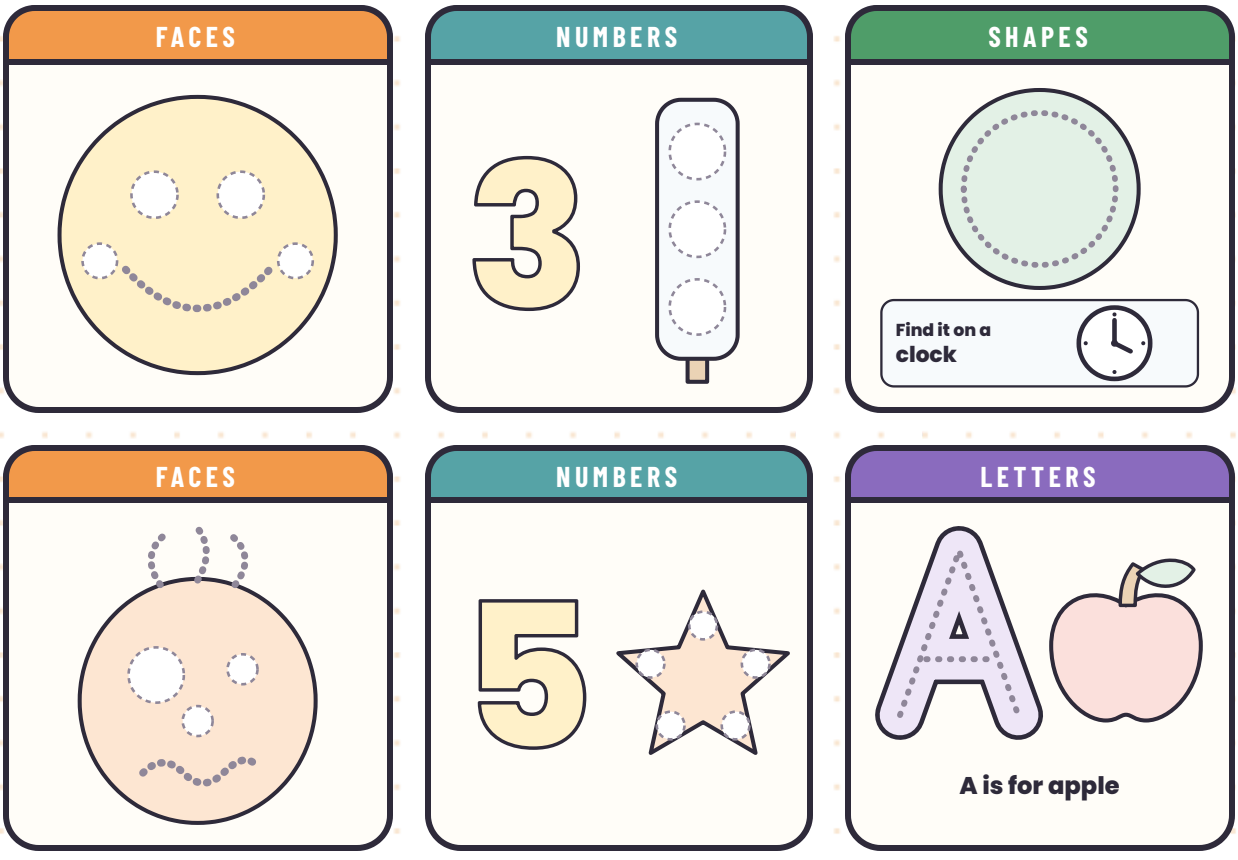
Free printable | Ages 2 to 4 | US Letter

Free Playdough Mats

for Toddlers: Faces, Numbers, Shapes and Letters

8 mats, one per page, with the words to say



2 faces | 2 numbers | 2 shapes | 2 letters

Prints in black and white. Nothing to cut. Slides into a dry-erase pocket.

Playdough is not food. Children under 3 need a grown-up within arm's reach.

START HERE

Which mat for which age

Eight mats, one on each page. Pick by age, print one, and a session takes about 10 minutes.

1 Print and protect

Print at “Actual size” (100 percent), not “Fit to page”. Black and white is fine. Slide each page into a dry-erase pocket or tape it to a baking tray so the dough stays clean.

2 Start with the youngest band

Every mat shows its age band in the top corner. Start with the band that fits your child, and try the next band up when it feels easy.

3 Read the three steps

Steps 1 and 2 say what to roll and where to press. Step 3 is one thing for you to say while they play.

4 No dough today?

Use stickers, dot markers, torn paper or pom-poms on the same outlines. Trace the dotted tracks and fill the dashed circles.

The four groups

Ages 2 to 3

Faces

page 3: Happy Face
page 4: Silly Face

Ages 3 to 4

Numbers

page 5: Number 3: Traffic Light
page 6: Number 5: Starfish

Ages 3 to 4

Shapes

page 7: Circle
page 8: Rectangle

Ages 4 to 5

Letters

page 9: Letter A
page 10: My First Letter

Safe and simple

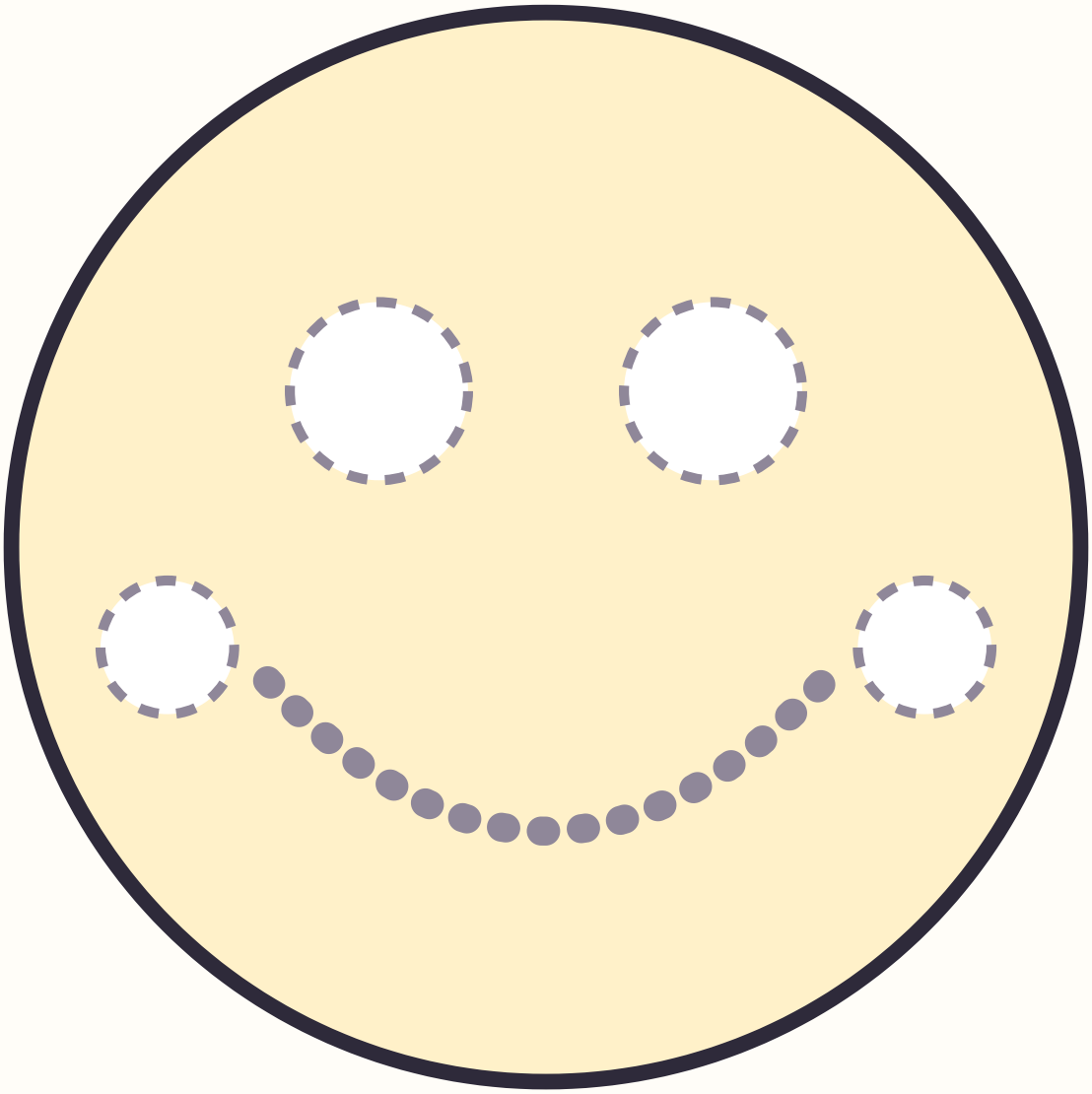
- **Playdough is not food. Children under 3 need a grown-up within arm’s reach.**
- Small dough pieces and add-ons like beads and buttons are a choking risk for children under 3. For them, use big pieces only and let a grown-up roll the small ones.
- If your child has food allergies, read the label on your dough before you start.

Short on time? Print only the page for your child’s age band and slide it into a pocket. One mat is enough for a whole afternoon.

Ages 2 to 3 HAPPY FACE · MAT 1 OF 8

Happy Face

Squish dough flat for the face, press two eyes and two cheeks on the dashed circles, then lay a snake along the smile.



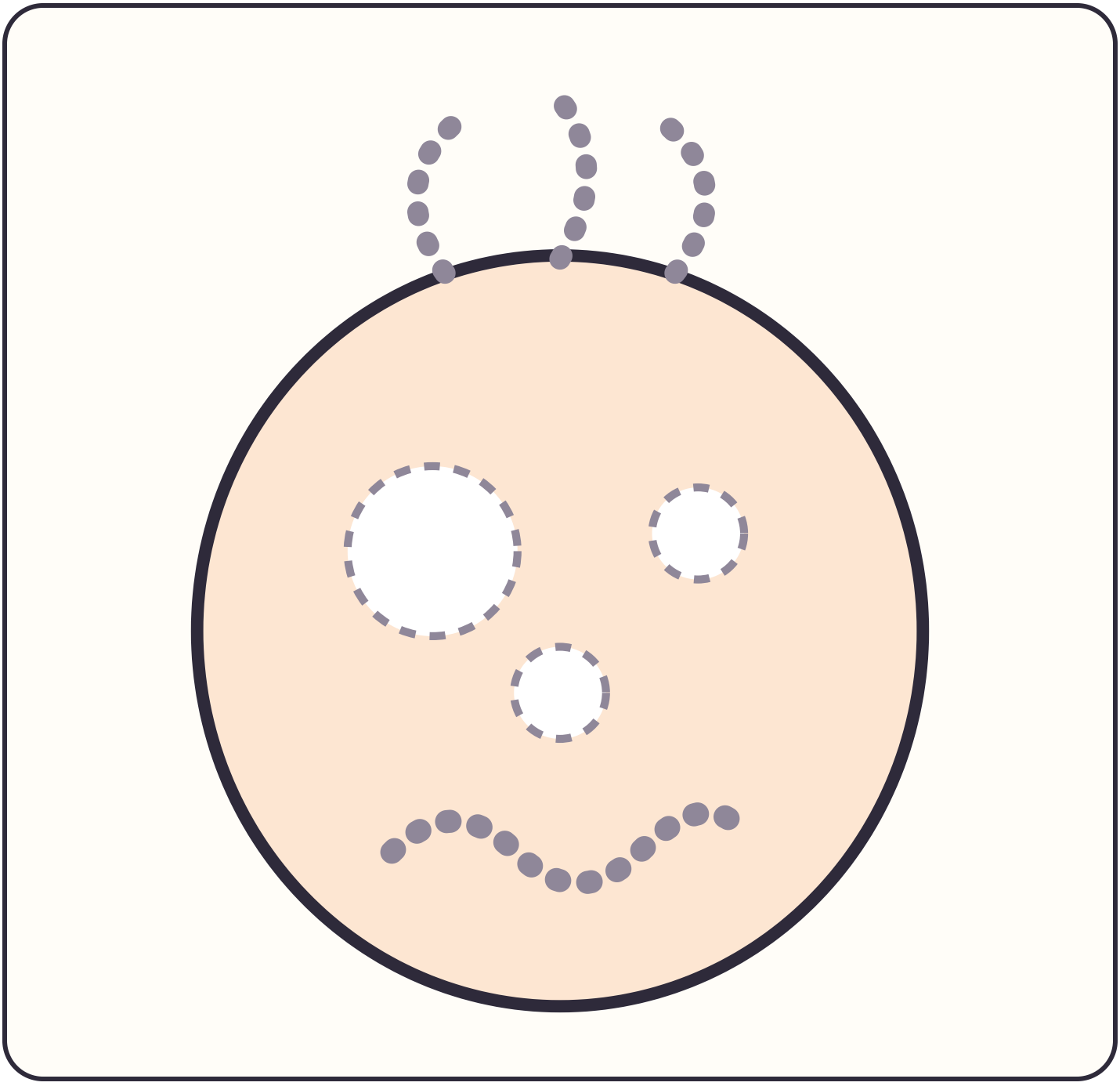
1. Squish a ball of yellow dough flat to fill the face.
2. Roll 4 small balls and press one on each dashed circle, 2 for eyes and 2 for cheeks. Lay a snake along the smile.
3. Say: “This face is happy! Touch the eyes. Where is the smile?”

PLAYDOUGH IS NOT FOOD. CHILDREN UNDER 3 NEED A GROWN-UP WITHIN ARM’S REACH.

Ages 2 to 3 SILLY FACE · MAT 2 OF 8

Silly Face

Press a big eye, a small eye and a nose on the dashed circles, then roll snakes for the hair and a wiggly mouth.



1. Squish a ball of orange dough flat to fill the face.
2. Press a big ball, a small ball and a nose ball on the dashed circles. Roll 3 snakes for hair and 1 wiggly snake for the mouth.
3. Say: “This face looks silly! Which eye is bigger? What would you change?”

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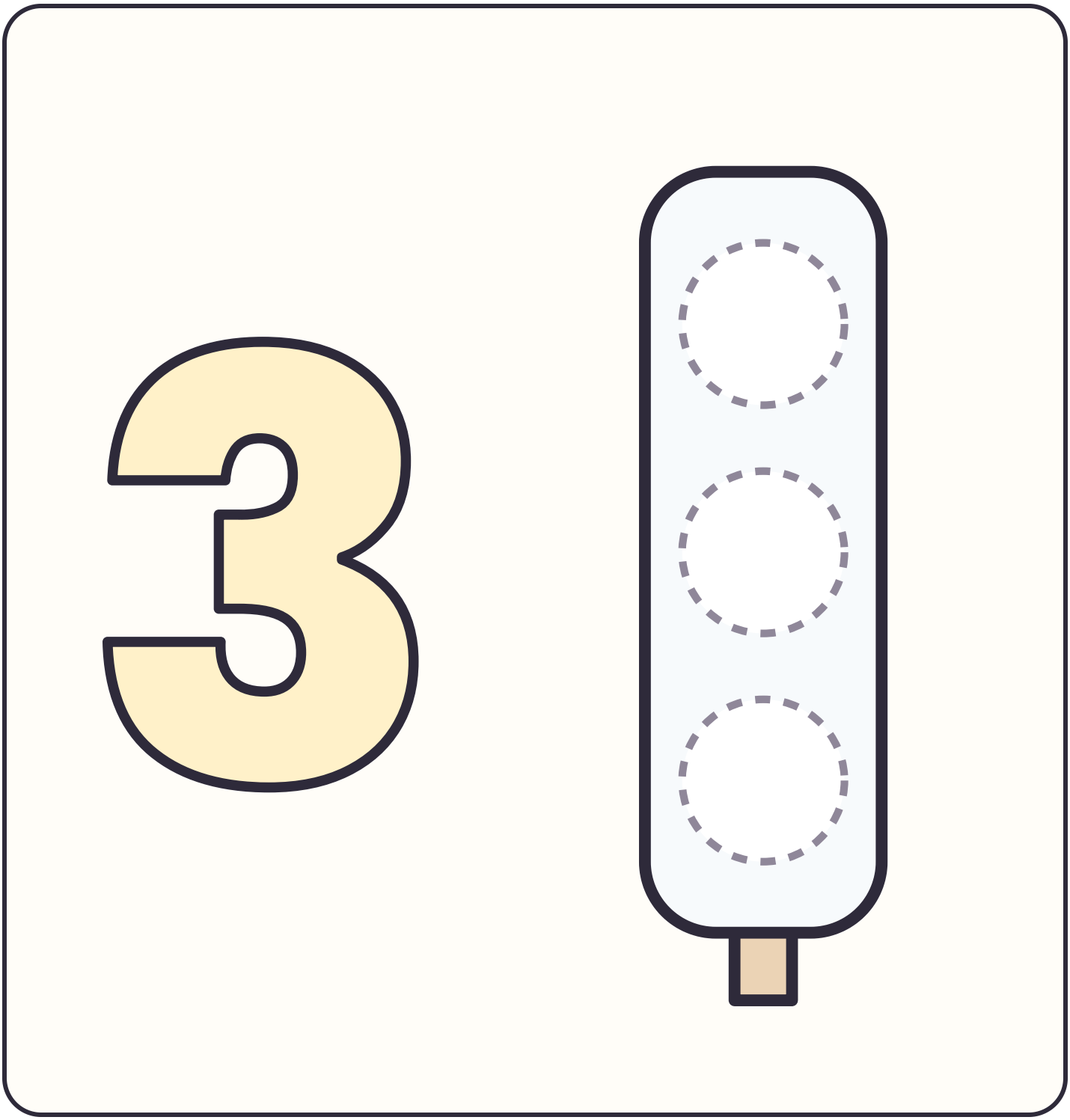
Ages 3 to 4 NUMBER 3 · MAT 3 OF 8

Number 3: Traffic Light

Roll a snake and lay it along the big 3, then press 3 balls on the dashed circles.



1. Roll a snake of dough and press it along the big number, starting at the top.
2. Roll 3 small balls and press one on each dashed circle.
3. Say: “Red, yellow, green. Which light is your ball on?”

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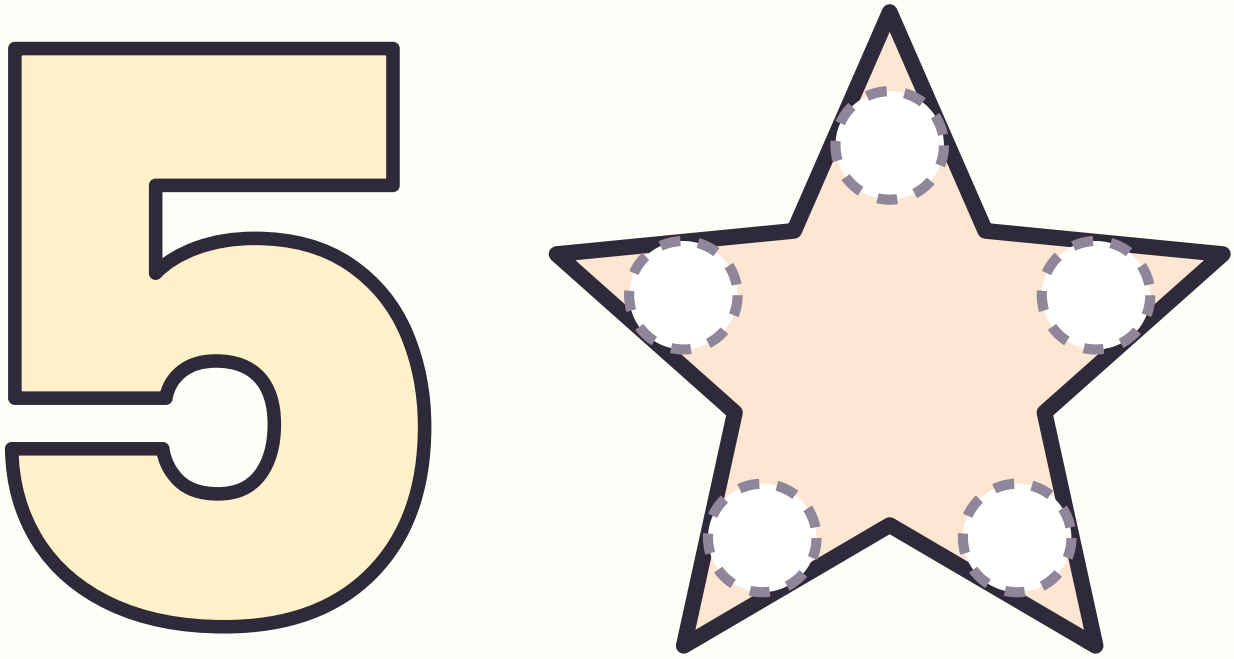
Ages 3 to 4 NUMBER 5 · MAT 4 OF 8

Number 5: Starfish

Roll a snake and lay it along the big 5, then press 5 balls on the dashed circles.



1. Roll a snake of dough and press it along the big number, starting at the top.
2. Roll 5 small balls and press one on each dashed circle.
3. Say: “This is five. Touch each ball and count: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.”

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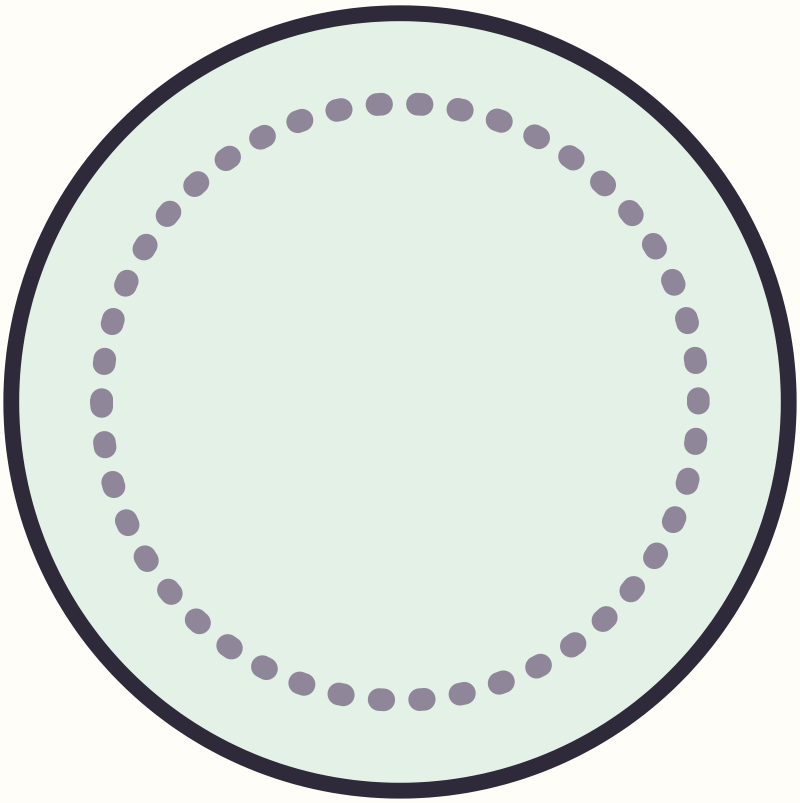
Ages 3 to 4 SHAPE TRACK · MAT 5 OF 8

Circle

Roll a snake and lay it along the dotted line to make the circle, then fill the middle flat.



Find it on a clock



1. Roll a long snake of dough and lay it along the dotted line.
2. Squish a flat piece of dough to fill the middle of the shape.
3. Say: “A circle is round. It has no corners. Can you find a circle in the room?”

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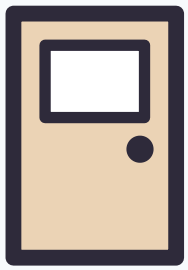
Ages 3 to 4 SHAPE TRACK · MAT 6 OF 8

Rectangle

Roll a snake and lay it along the dotted line to make the rectangle, then fill the middle flat.

Find it on a door



1. Roll a long snake of dough and lay it along the dotted line.
2. Squish a flat piece of dough to fill the middle of the shape.
3. Say: “A rectangle has 2 long sides and 2 short sides. Run your finger along them.”

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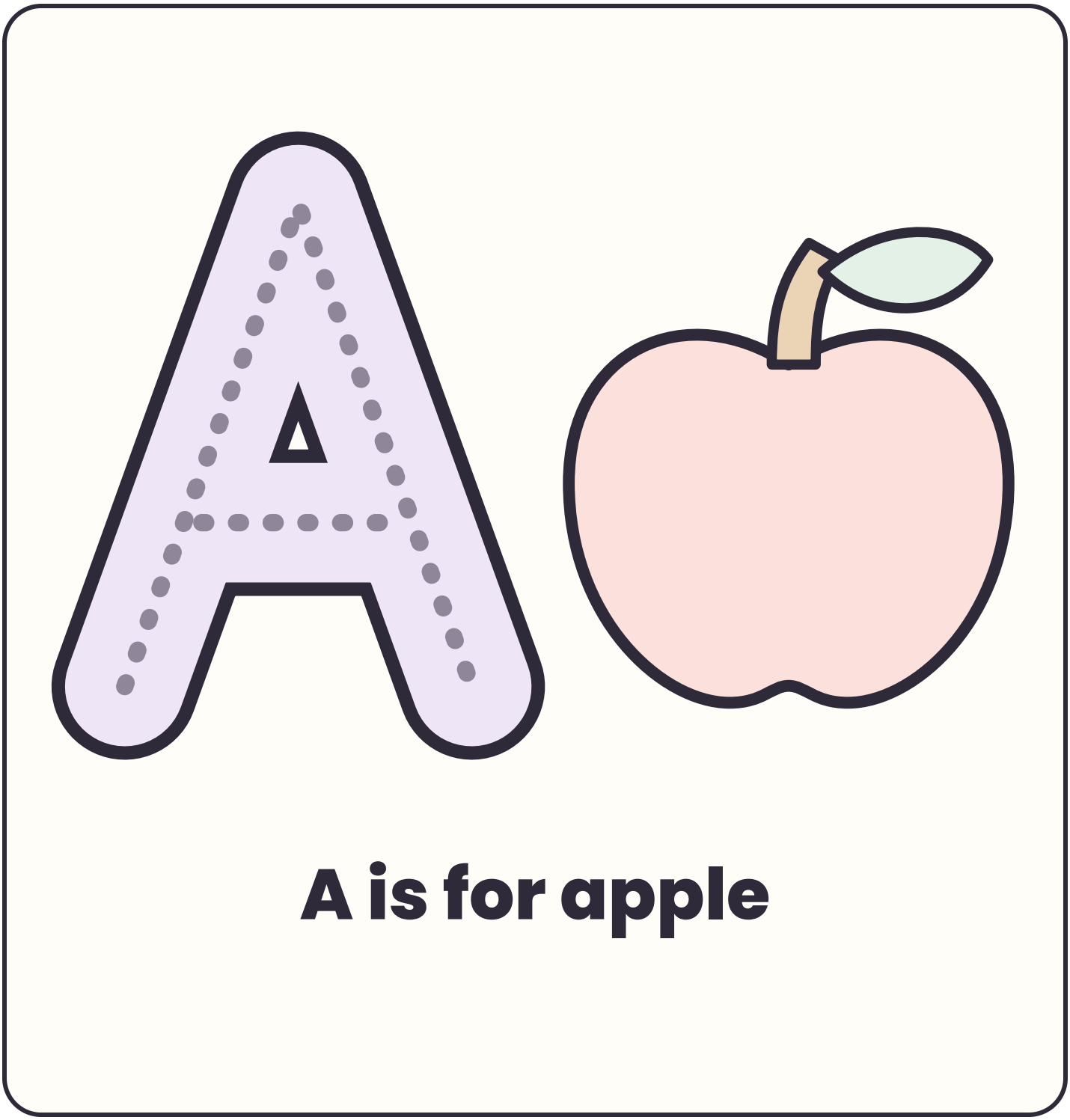
Letter A

Roll a snake and lay it along the dotted path to build the A. Say its sound as you go.



1. Roll a snake of dough and lay it along the dotted path, starting at the top.
2. Pinch off any extra and press the ends down.
3. Say: “A says aaa, like apple. What else starts with aaa?”

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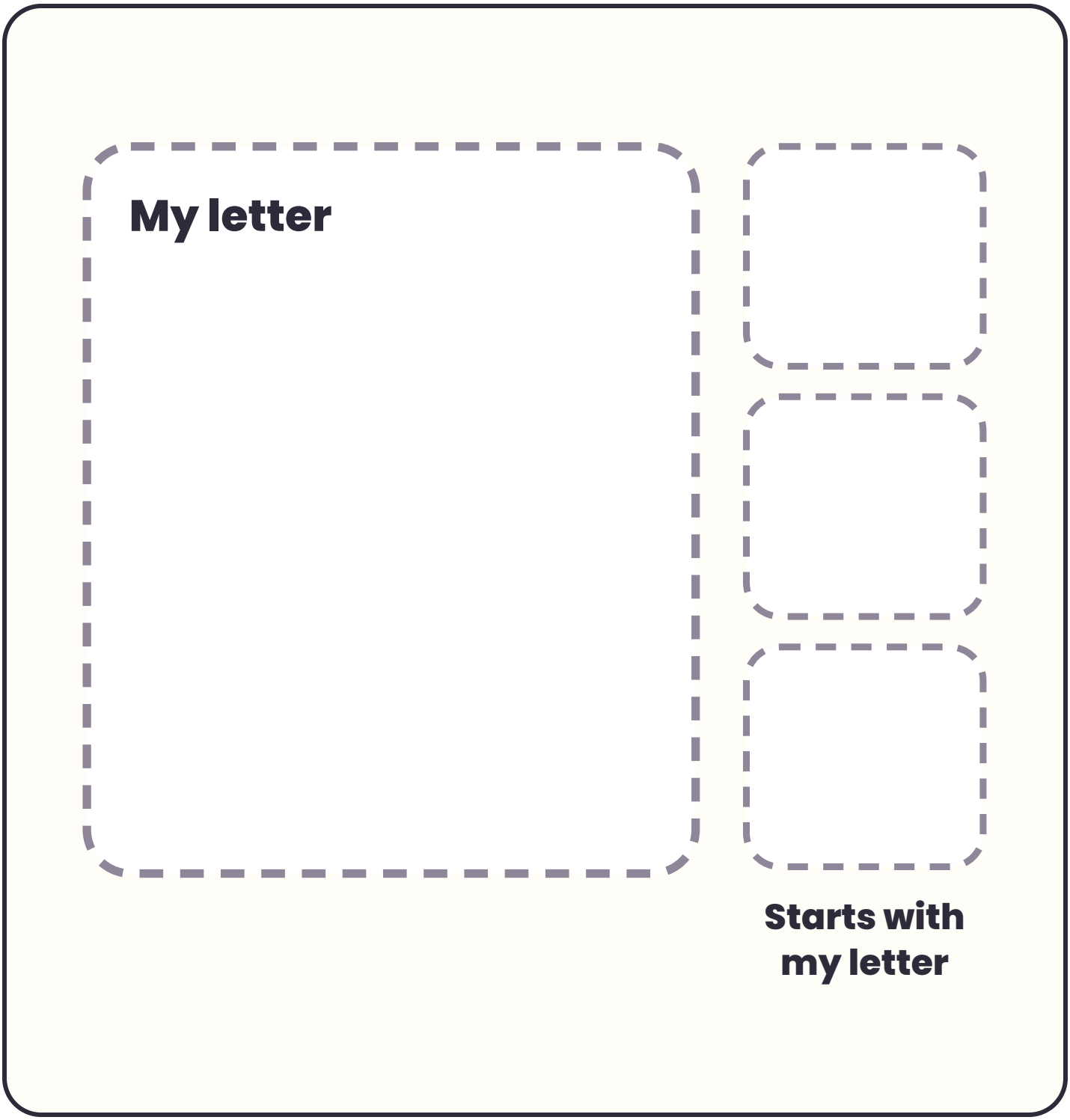
Ages 4 to 5 FIRST LETTER · MAT 8 OF 8

My First Letter

A grown-up writes the first letter of your child's name in the big box. Cover it with a snake of dough.



1. A grown-up writes the first letter of the name in the big box, in pencil or marker.
2. Roll a snake and lay it over the letter. Press small balls into the little boxes.
3. Say: "This letter starts your name. What else starts with the same sound?"

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FOR GROWN-UPS

What to say while they play

A mat works best when you talk about it, not when you quiz. Say one thing, then wait.

Four lines that work

- **Faces:** “How does this face feel?” Then turn the smile upside down and ask again.
- **Numbers:** touch each ball as you count, then ask “How many are left to fill?”
- **Shapes:** run a finger along each side and ask “Where is a circle in this room?”
- **Letters:** say the sound, not the name: “A says aaa, like apple.”

Want more mats? Playdough Mats Pack

The Playdough Mats pack has 40 mats on 44 pages, sorted by age, with squish and roll mats, numbers 1 to 10, shapes, letters, animals and a winter set. Every mat has the same three short steps with one thing to say.

See the Playdough Mats pack

puddlesandplay.com/shop/playdough-mats-pack

Keep these mats going

- Pick one mat a day, and let your child choose on weekends.
- Wipe the pocket clean after play and the same mat is ready again tomorrow.
- Ask your child to teach you: they say what to do, you follow.

VISIT US AT

puddlesandplay.com

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