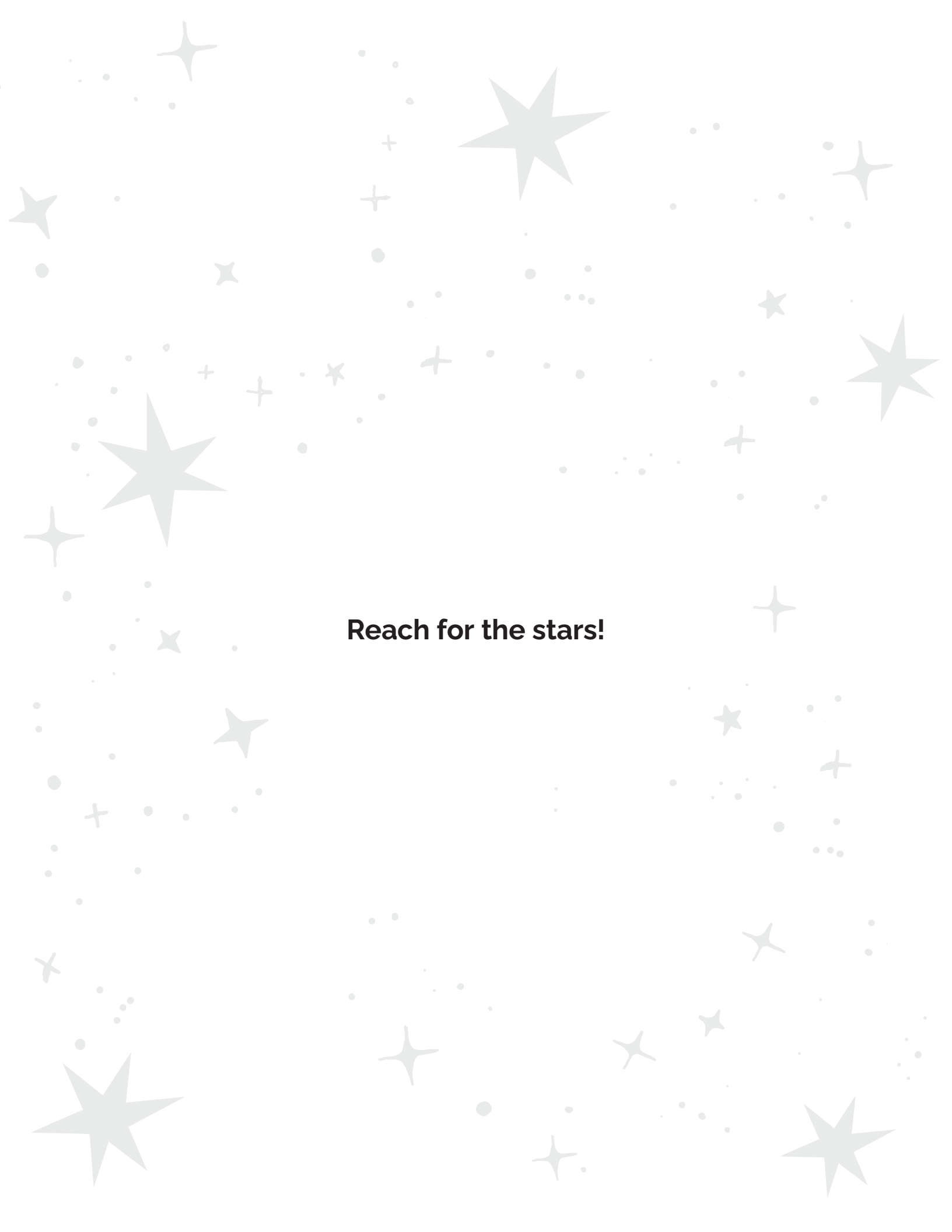


An
interactive
story for
parents and
students in
Ontario

Welcome to **KINDERGARTEN** in Ontario!



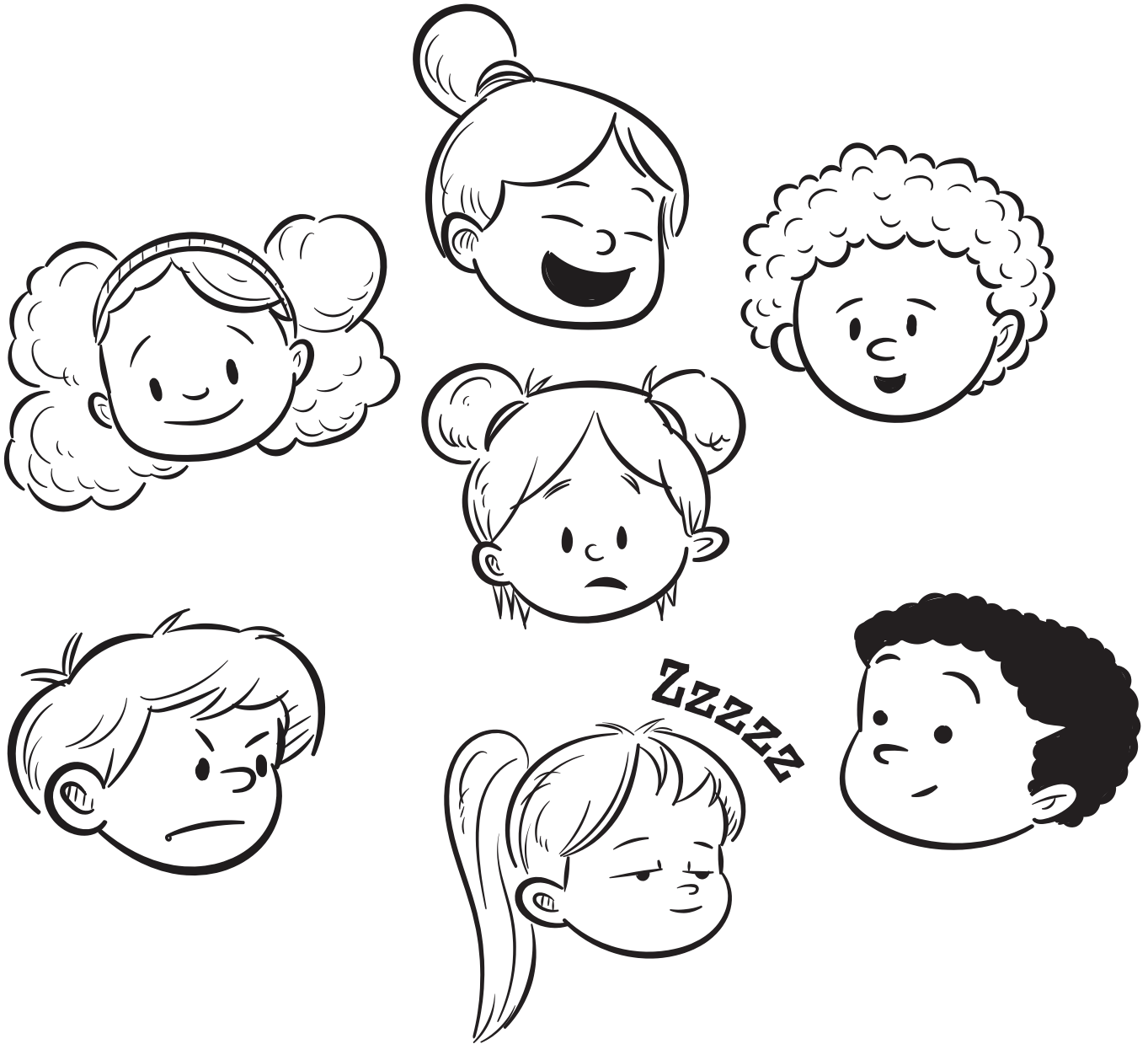
The background is a light gray color with a subtle pattern of stars and dots. There are several large, five-pointed stars in a light gray color, scattered across the page. Additionally, there are many smaller, four-pointed stars and dots, also in light gray, creating a starry night effect. The stars and dots are of varying sizes and are distributed throughout the entire background.

Reach for the stars!

Welcome to
KINDERGARTEN
in Ontario!



Circle the picture that shows how you feel.



Hi! My name is _____. Today is my first day in
school! I feel _____.

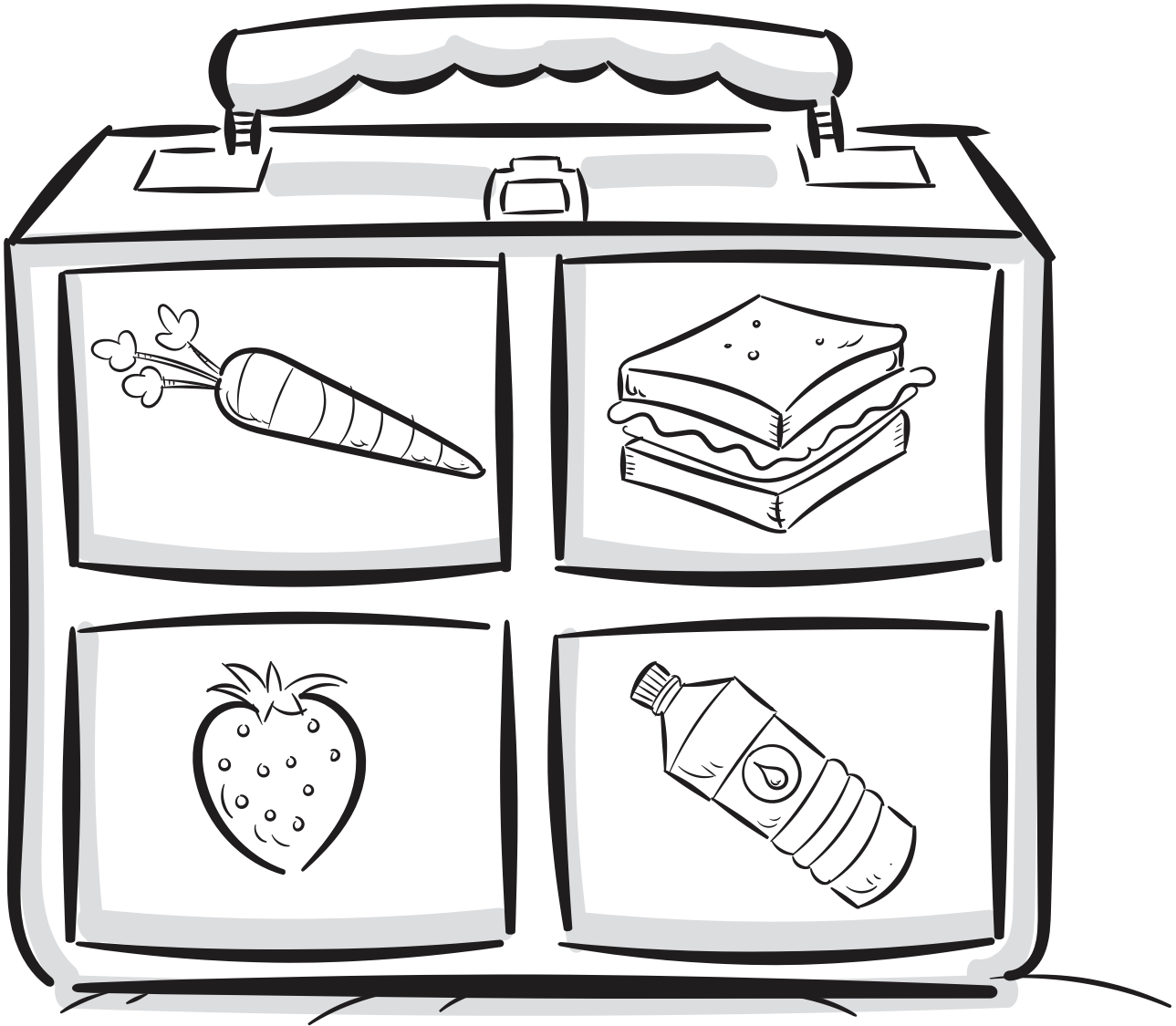
In the first blank space, write your name.

In the second blank space, write a word to describe how you feel.

For example, "happy" or "shy".



Colour the food and drink in the lunchbox.



I take delicious food for my lunch,
like _____ and _____.

In the first and second blank spaces, write the name of something you take for lunch.



Draw 1 or 2 items you put in your backpack.

Example: Clothes, a pencil, book, stuffie or anything else you want to draw.

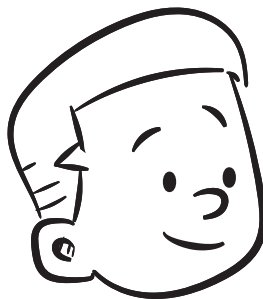
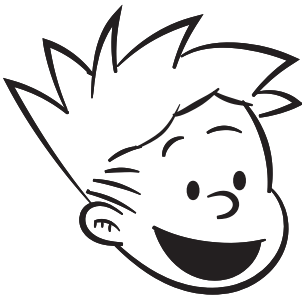
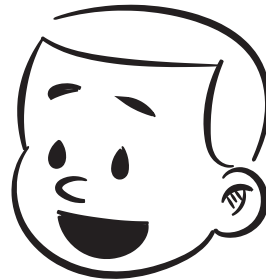
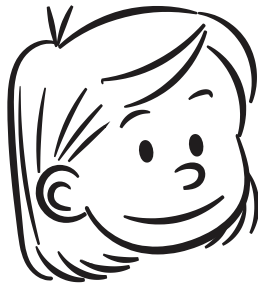


**I pack my backpack with _____ and
_____ .**

In the first and second blank spaces, write the name of something in your backpack. For example, "pencils" and "clothes".



Circle the person you talked to.



I ask my _____,
"What will kindergarten be like?"

In the blank space, write down who you talked to about kindergarten.



Complete the maze to get to your school.



START ↓



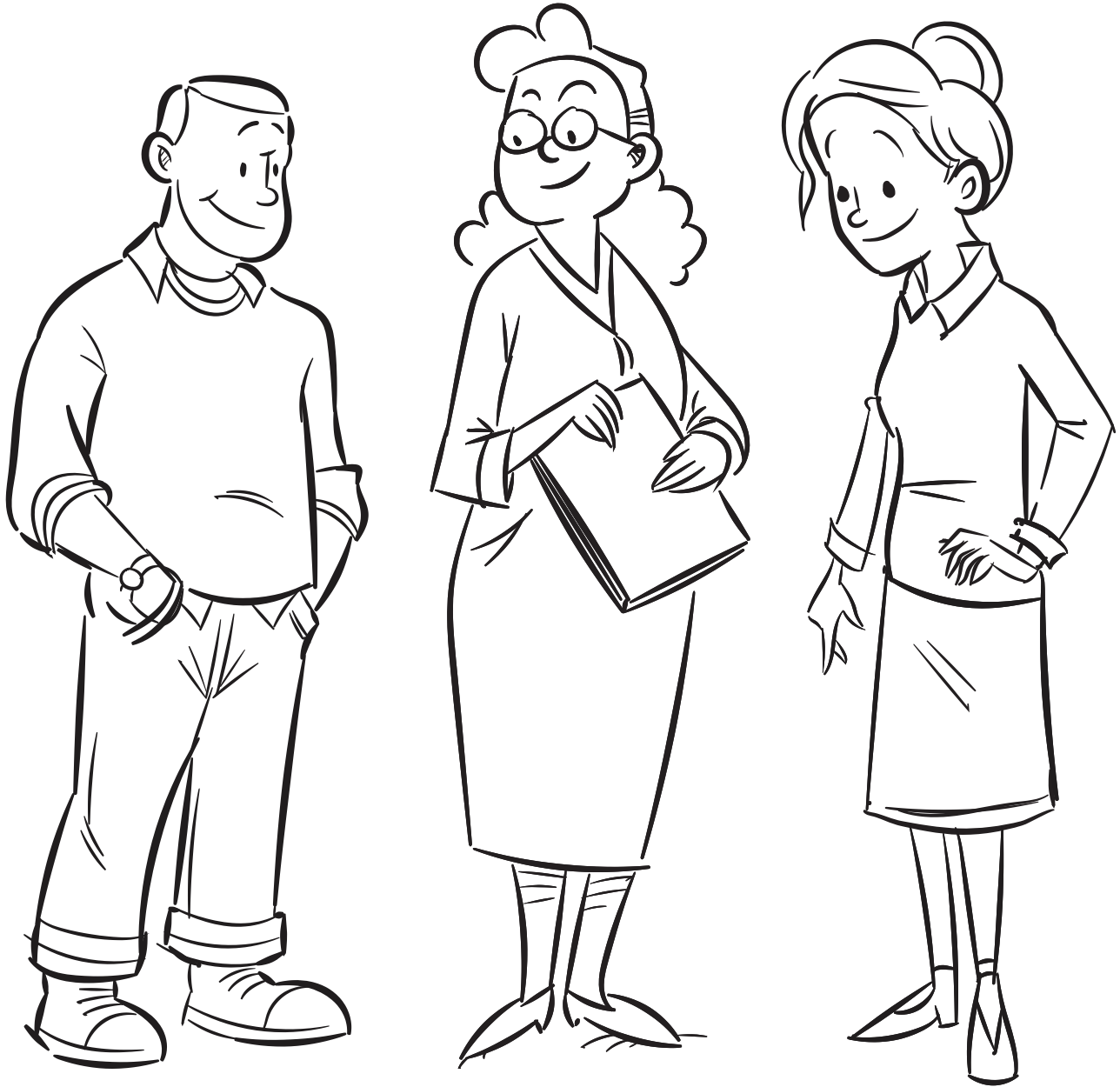
I _____ to school.

When I arrive, I say, "My school is so big!"

In the blank space, write a word to describe how you got to school.
For example, "walk" or "run".



Colour in your teachers.

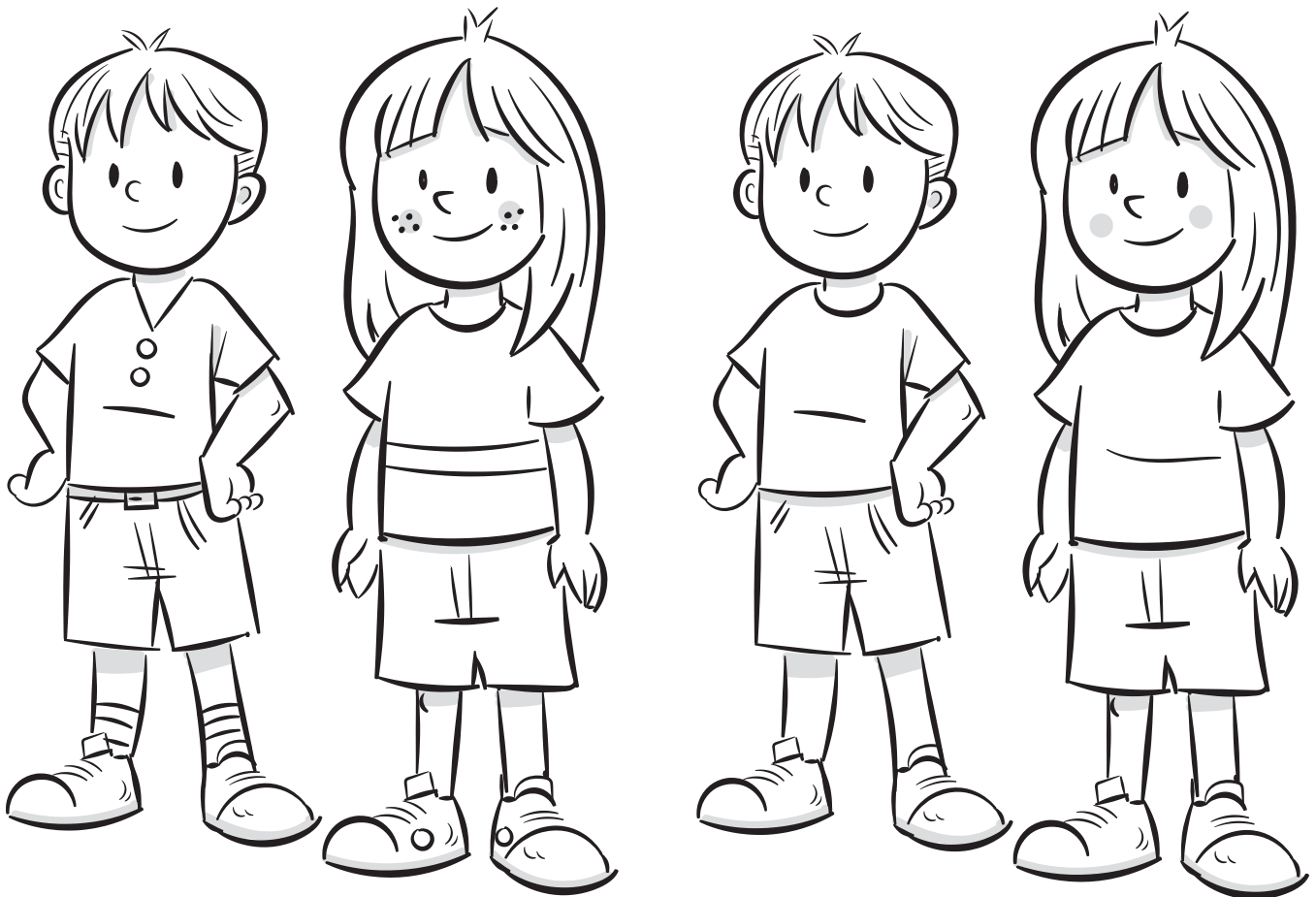


**My teachers' names are _____ and
_____.**

In the blank spaces, write the name of 1 or 2 teachers.



Find three differences between the two groups of friends.

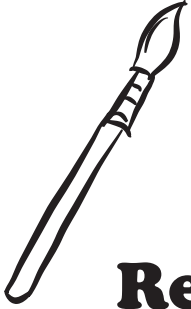


I meet a new friend. My friend's name is _____.

In the blank space, write the name of a friend.



Circle your favorite classroom activities.



**Reading a
book**

**Playing
with
blocks**

**Painting
or
colouring**

**Playing
with toys**

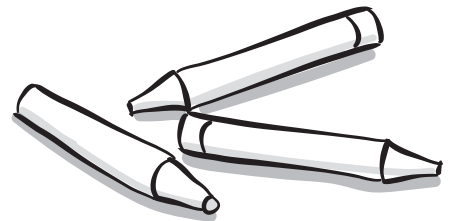
**Meeting
new
friends**

**Using
scissors
and glue**

**Listening
to a story**

**Dancing
to
music**

**Singing
with my
class**



My favourite activity in class is _____.

In the blank space, write the name of your favourite activity.
For example, "reading" or "singing".



Connect the word to the drawing of the activity.



Hula hoop



Hide and seek



Ball games

Hopscotch



Jumping

Running



We play outside. My favourite thing to do is

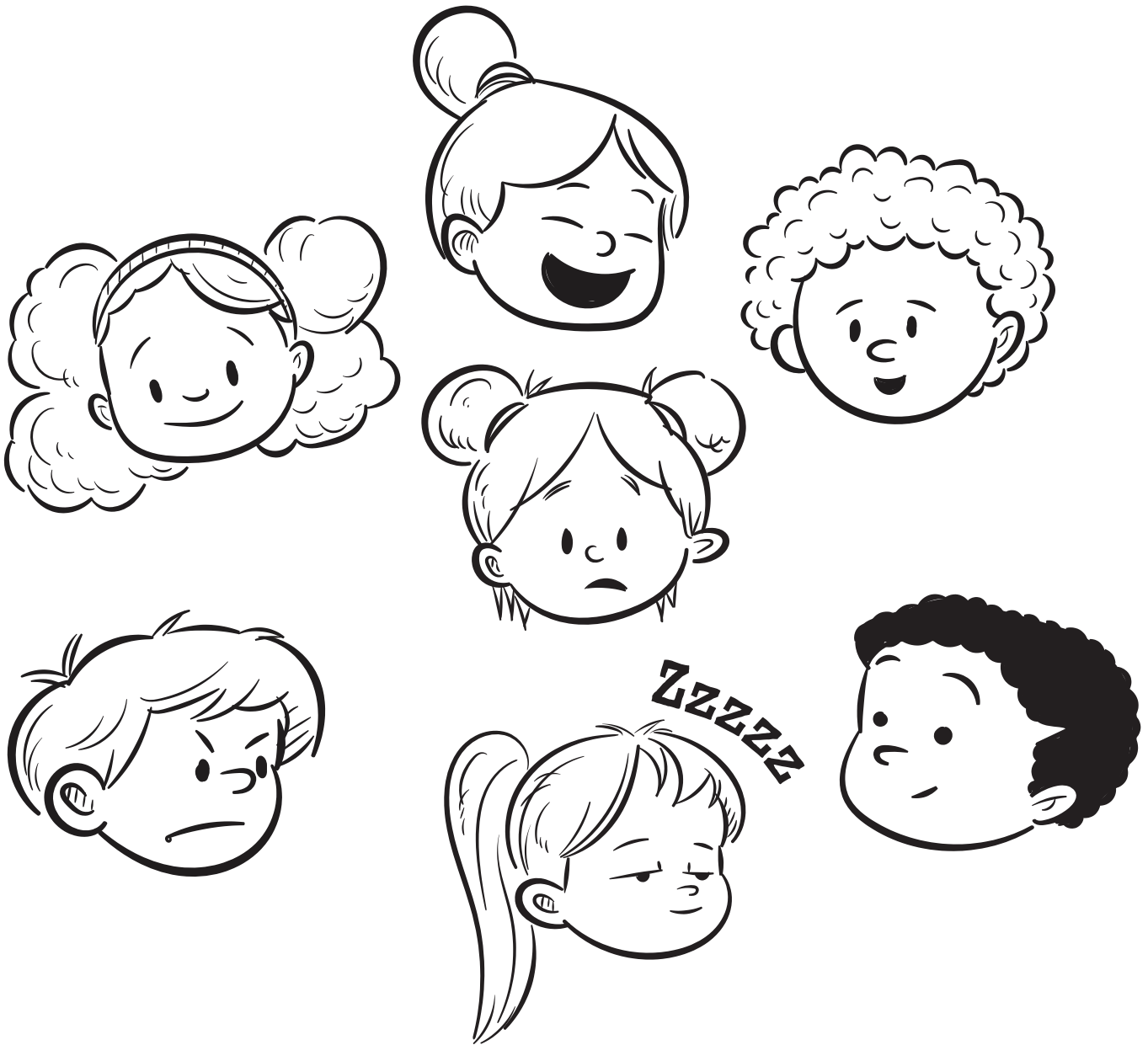
_____.

In the blank space, describe your favorite thing to do when your class goes outside.
For example, "running" or "playing on the slide".





Circle the picture of how you feel.



After school, I feel _____.

In the blank space, write a word to describe how you feel.
For example, "happy" or "sleepy".



Draw yourself smiling and waving goodbye.



Kindergarten is a wonderful adventure where you'll make new friends, learn exciting things and feel welcome every day. **Welcome to kindergarten in Ontario!**



FREE scribble zone! Draw whatever you like!





FREE scribble zone! Draw whatever you like!



Kindergarten in Ontario: A quick guide for families

Welcome to Ontario

Starting kindergarten is an exciting milestone for both you and your child. This brochure provides information to help families understand and get to know Ontario's kindergarten program. For more information, please visit ontario.ca/KindergartenReady.

What is kindergarten in Ontario?

Kindergarten is the start of school in Ontario. It is a free 2-year program for 4- and 5-year-old children. It gets your child ready for Grade 1 and sets them up to be successful.

In kindergarten, students gain:

- early reading, writing and math skills
- creativity, problem-solving and social skills

Kindergarten is optional but it's a great way to give your child a strong start.

How do I register my child?

Register at your school in January or February for your child to start school in September. Online registration and interpretation services available. Registration is also possible throughout the school year for newcomers who arrive at any time.

You will need to bring:

- proof of your child's age (birth certificate/passport)
- proof of your address (lease or utility bill)
- your child's immunization records
- your child's baptismal certificate if you are registering in a Catholic school

Immigration status does not affect your child's eligibility.

Find schools near your home, at ontario.ca/FindSchools.

Preparing your child for kindergarten

- Speak positively about school to help your child get excited.
- Establish routines (morning preparation, getting dressed, meals).
- Consider visiting your school before the first day. You can contact the school directly to request a visit.
- Help your child learn to use the toilet, get dressed, and eat on their own.
- Support social skills by encouraging your child to play with other children and join community activities.
- Speak to your child's educators if you have any questions or concerns about your child's school experience.

Language support

- Ask about orientations and language supports for students and their families in school boards.
- Talk to your child's educators about how to support your child learning a new language in class and at home.
- Continue using your home language(s) with your child to support their language development.

Communicating with your school

- Talk to your child's teachers regularly.
- Ask about an interpreter and translation supports.
- Attend meetings and other events held at your school.
- Participate in volunteering opportunities and parent councils.
- Ask about parent resources on school websites.

Practical tips and safety

- Ensure your child attends school regularly and arrives on time.
- Check if you are eligible for school bus transportation or establish safe walking to and from school routines.

- Dress your child in comfortable clothing suitable for the weather and pack extra clothes.
- Learn about your school's policy about food allergens, to protect kids who get sick from certain foods.
- Pack nutritious snacks and lunches that respect this policy (for example, nut-free or peanut-free).

Get extra support

- **Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)** help families understand school procedures and community resources. They are available through local YMCAs.
- ontario.ca/EarlyON: Find free drop-in programs in your community at EarlyON Child and Family Centres.
- ontario.ca/SpecialEducation: Special Education support services are available for children who require additional help.

Together for your child's future

Ontario schools value your involvement and cultural contributions. Together, we help your child thrive in kindergarten and beyond.

Discover the magic of the first day of kindergarten with this delightful parent-child interactive activity book. Dive into fun and engaging activities designed to make the transition to school exciting and memorable.

For more information about kindergarten in Ontario, please visit [**ontario.ca/KindergartenReady**](https://ontario.ca/KindergartenReady).

