



Toddler Curriculum



Free

Day Trial

Series II

Welcome Friends

No Part of this book may be reproduced in any manner, other than for use in your child care facility or home without written permission of the publishers.

Special Thanks to Helena at Graphic Garden Graphics www.graphicgarden.com, Country-Graphics.com by Lisa, Cheryl of ArtbyCheryl.com, & DiscoverySchool.com for permission and license to display their graphics on the pages of 'Reach for the Stars Toddler Curriculum'

Copyright © 2003 - 2004 'Reach for the Stars'
All Rights Reserved
Refer all inquiries to
Robyn Birge & Pam Ball
Information: info@reachforthe-stars.com

The activities included in '**Reach For The Stars**' Toddler Curriculum are designed to be used with children between the ages of 12 - 30 months and under the direct supervision of a qualified child care professional, early childhood instructor, or parent.

Reach for the Stars

Creative Lesson Plans for Early Childhood Educators,
Child Care Professionals, and Parents.



Welcome,

It is our pleasure here at **Reach For The Stars Toddler Curriculum** to provide you with an exceptionally fun and easy to use program for the littlest people in your lives. We look forward to assisting you in creating a loving, nurturing, and learning environment where your littlest ones can have fun, explore and learn about the world around them. **Reach For The Stars Toddler Curriculum** is specially designed to help children develop habits of observation, discovery, questioning, listening and creativity.

Our desire is to extend the utmost respect for early childhood education, stimulate the instructor as well as the child, foster curiosity, inspire learning and provide an interactive program conducive of these endeavors.

With **Reach For The Stars Toddler Curriculum** learning is always fun. Experience is knowledge and discovery makes for fun learning and a bright future.

Sincerely,

Robyn Birge

Pam Ball

Reach For The Stars Toddler Curriculum Staff



www.reachforthe-stars.com

Copyright © 2003—2004 '**Reach for the Stars**' ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Cognitive & Language

Good Morning

Good Morning, good morning to you.
We're all in our places
With sunny faces,
and this is the way
to start a new day!

Learning Sign Language

Materials Included:

Sign Language Letter & Cards - Pg 7 - 9

Work with the children on learning the signs for apple and tree. Remember it may take some time. Be sure to continue to use your sign cards from day to day, week to week, month to month. Send home copies of the sign cards so the parents will learn be able to follow along at home as their child learns the new signs.

Apple

Pivot knuckle of the right closed index finger back and forth on the right cheek two times.

Tree

Place the right elbow in the left palm with right fingers pointing up. Pivot the right wrist and wiggle fingers.



Music & Movement

Apple Picking Sorting Game

Materials Included:

Apple Patterns - Pg 10

Materials Needed:

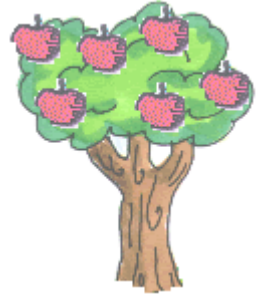
Poster board

Red construction paper

Glue

Sticky backed Velcro

Small baskets



Draw an apple tree on a piece of poster board. Cut out large and small apples from construction paper and laminate them. Glue a piece of Velcro to the back of each apple and a corresponding piece of Velcro to the tree. Stick the apples on the tree and invite the children to pick and sort the apples into baskets.

Literacy & Books

Ten Apples Up on Top!

by Seuss, Theo Lesieg, Roy McKie

The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree

by Gail Gibbons

Dumpy's Apple Shop

by Julie Andrews Edwards

Apples A-Plenty From September Series II Week Four Day Two

Math & Science

Explore an Apple

Materials Needed:

Apples
Small paper plates
Plastic picnic knives



What you Do:

Gather the children around the table and show them an apple. They will probably already know what it is and have several things to say about it.

Look at all the different colors of apples and the little spots. You may want to pass the apple around allowing the children closer inspection. Ask them to look at the stem end and the flower end of it. Let them twist the stem until it falls off.

Cut the apple in half sideways to explore the star pattern inside. Tell them the story of the 'Star inside the Apple'

Cut the halves into smaller pieces one piece per child. Pass out the plastic knives. Allow them to cut their apple into even smaller pieces. Let them eat their apple and discuss the "crunch" sound it makes when they bite it.

Sensory & Art

Apple Prints

Materials Needed:

Cut apples from Math & Science
White Construction Paper
Red paint
Paper plates

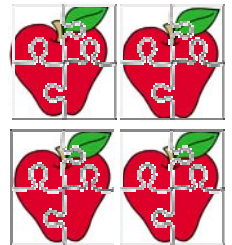
Place red paint on paper plates. Invite the children to dip their apple pieces into the paint and press it onto their white paper! See what kind of designs they can make!

Small & Large Muscle

Apple Puzzles

Materials Included:

Apples Puzzle Sheets - Pg 48



Materials Needed:

Ziplock Sandwich Bag
Laminator

Print out 2 copies of the apple puzzle sheet. Use one for your base and the other will be the actual puzzle cut apart. Laminate both sheets for durability. Store your puzzle pieces in a Ziploc baggie taped to the back of the base.



Invite the children to do the puzzles. Over and over again.

When they are finished place their pieces in a plastic bag and let them take them home!

Dear Parents,

Below you find a list of the words we will be learning to sign for this month. Please work with your child on these signs at home as we are doing so here. If you are unsure of the directions for a sign please ask, I will be happy to show you how to do it. On the back of this form you will find hints on helping your child learn some basic words.

September Sign Language Words

Week One

Mommy

The fingers of the five hand shape is wiggled with the thumb by the side of the chin. This position is also used for other signs relating to females.

Daddy

The thumb of the open hand taps the side of the forehead. Male signs are typically made by the forehead.

Week Two

Play

Make the letter Y hand shape with both hand and shake away from you and toward you several times.

Ball

The hands are holding onto a ball.



Week Three

Stop

Bring the little-finger side of the right flat hand down sharply at right angles on the left palm.

Go

Point both index fingers toward each other and rotate them around each other as they are moved away from the body.

Week Four

Apple

Pivot knuckle of the right closed index finger back and forth on the right cheek two times.

Tree

Place the right elbow in the left palm with right fingers pointing up. Pivot the right wrist and wiggle fingers.

Helpful Hints for Teaching Sign Language

Be consistent. Use the sign the same way every time for the same action or object. This will help your toddler become familiar with the sign and she will be able to sign it back to you sooner.

Be happy. Frowning and bored voices will not make a toddler eager to sign.

Be open to interpretation. Toddlers will not always make a sign correctly the first time they sign it, just like they won't speak a word correctly the first time they speak it. Keep signing the word the correct way and your toddler will soon grow more accurate.

Be open to suggestion. Sometimes a toddler will create a sign for him/herself. Feel free to continue using it, and applaud her creativity.

Be full of praise. Act excited when the toddler uses a sign correctly, and let him/her know how wonderful you think he/she is.

Be expressive. Use your face and body in addition to your hands. You should also say the word as you sign it. Alter the tone of your voice depending on the context. Make it sound fun and interesting.

Be varied. Not as in the sign, but as in the places you sign. Don't just sign at home, for example, or when company's around, or when you're not in the public eye. Signing with toddlers works best when it's worked into your life as a natural means of communication instead of something you only do part of the time or only in certain places.

Be patient. Toddlers can take weeks or even months before they make their first sign. And sometimes even when they've done a sign correctly for days and even months they may stop using it. Keep on doing what you are doing and eventually they will get back on track.

Be prepared to be amazed. Children will open your eyes to his world and it's a great place to be!

Have FUN! Remember to make it fun for both you and your child! You will be amazed how much your child will pick up when they see you having fun too!

Cat

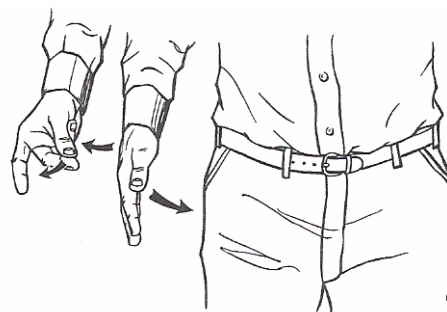
Making the F hand sign with both hands, place them under the nose, palms facing out, then move them out sideways. This sign may also be done using the right hand only.



dog

Slap the right flat hand against the right leg and snap the right middle finger.

Note: Snapping may be difficult for toddlers. Just encourage them to do their best.



Mommy

The fingers of the five hand shape is wiggled with the thumb by the side of the chin. This position is also used for other signs relating to females.

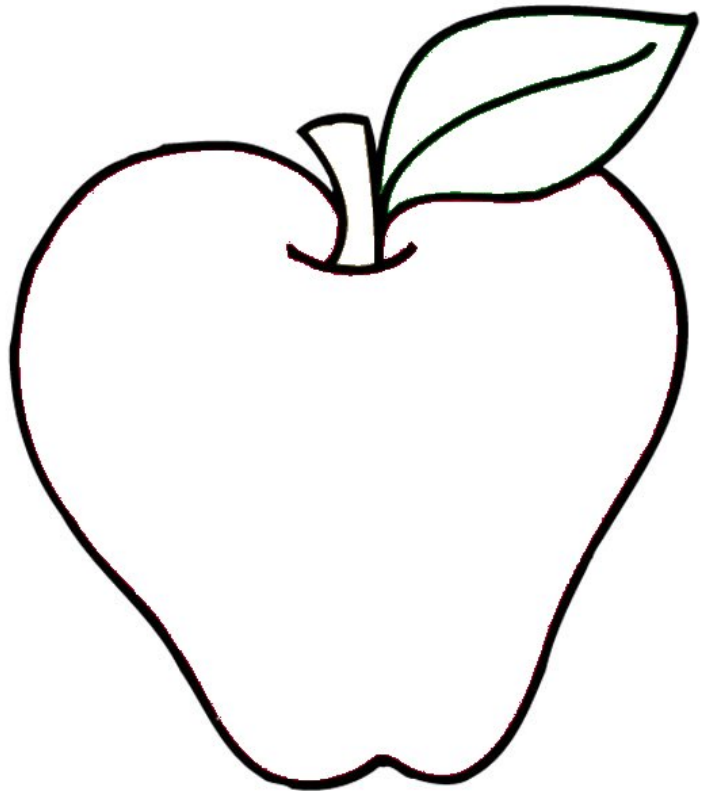
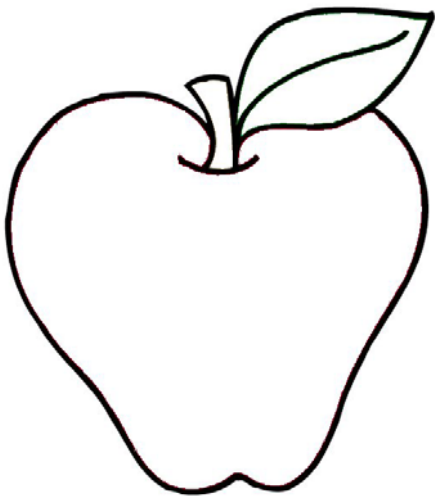
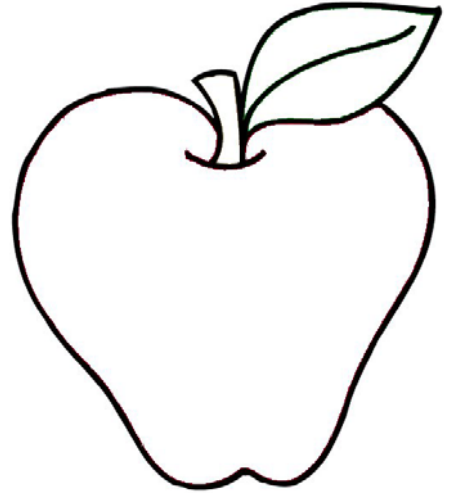
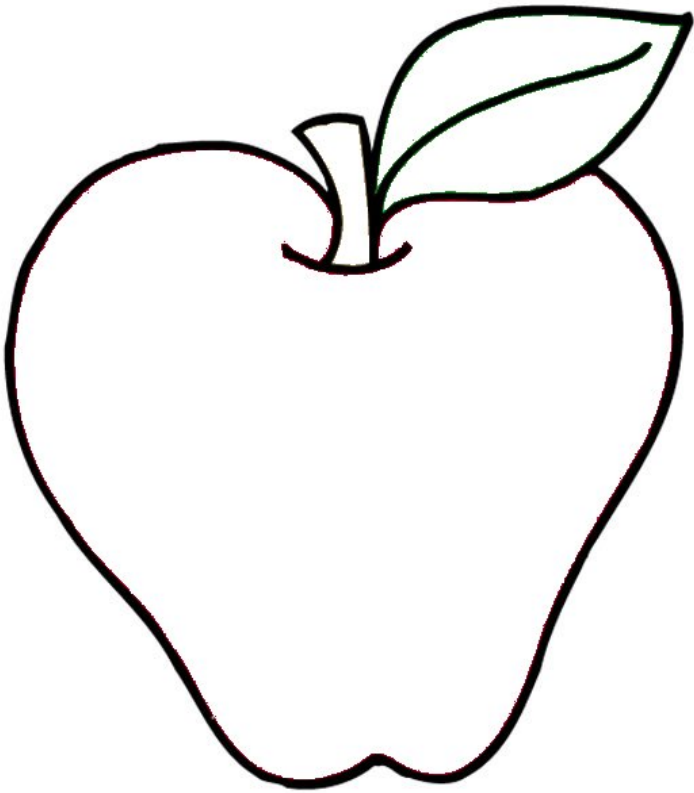


Daddy

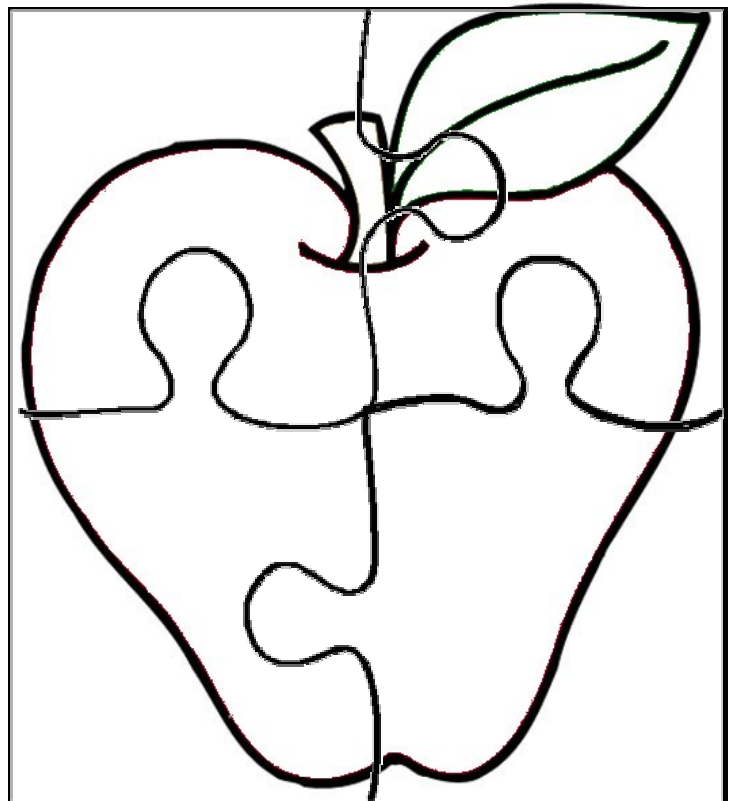
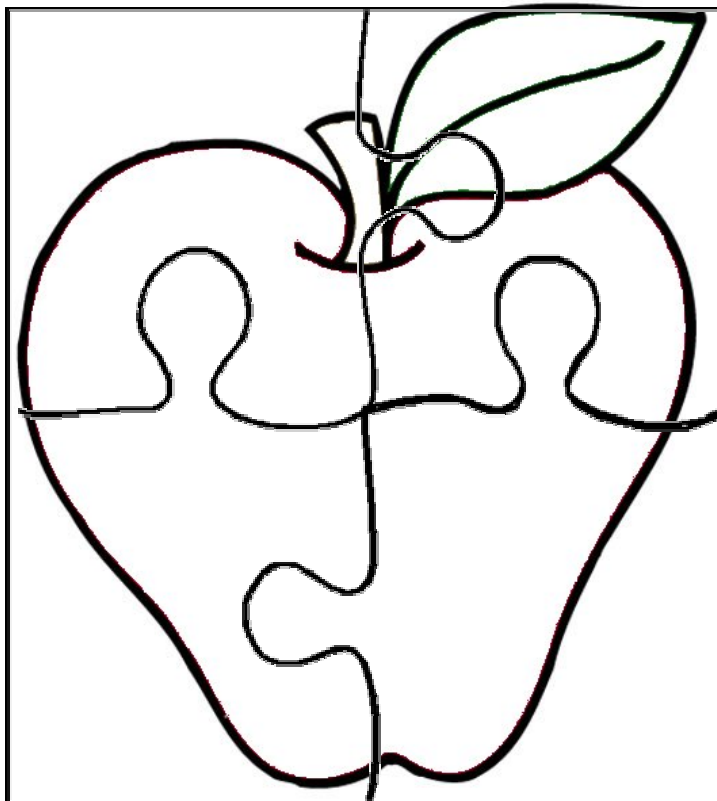
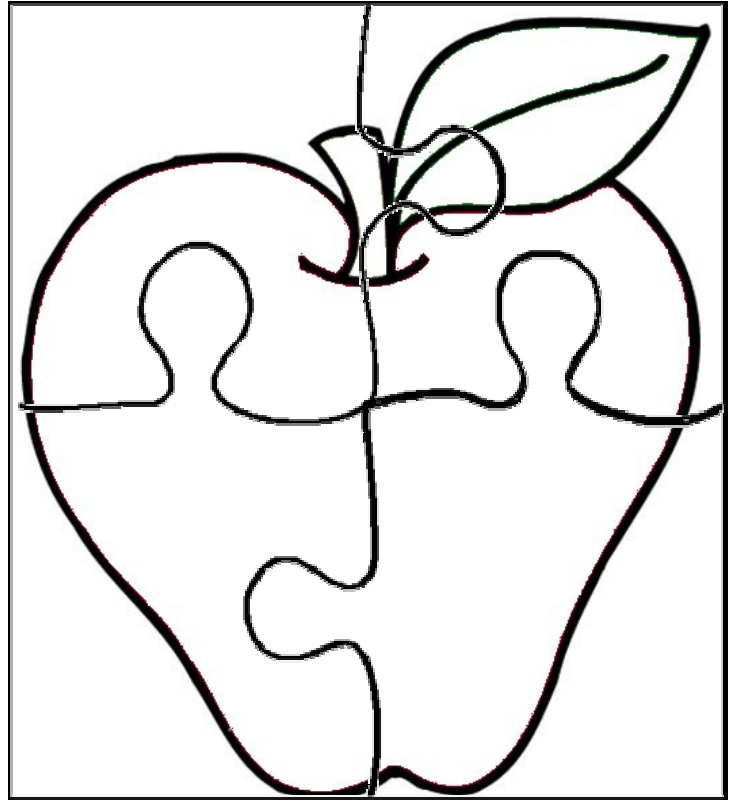
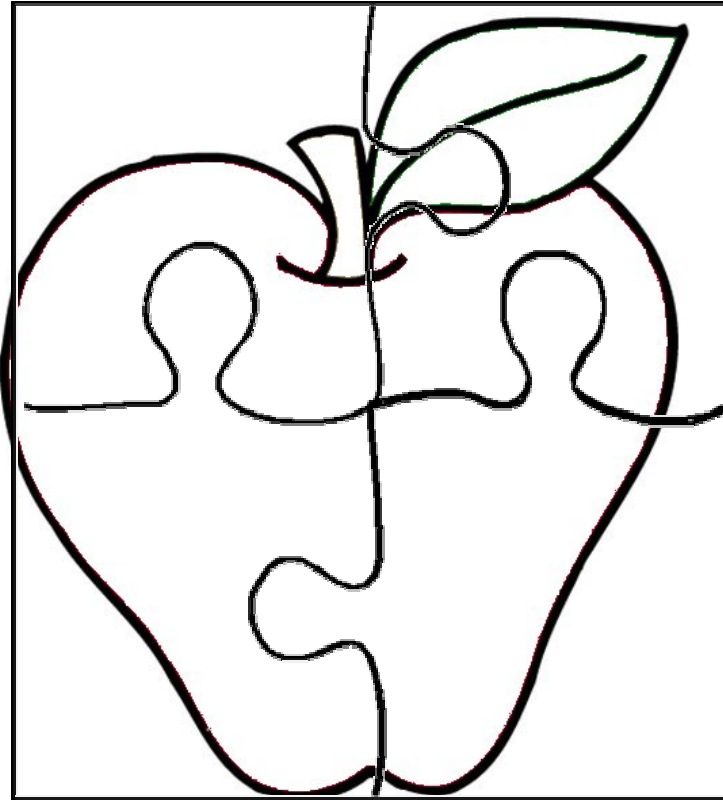
The thumb of the open hand taps the side of the forehead. Male signs are typically made by the forehead.



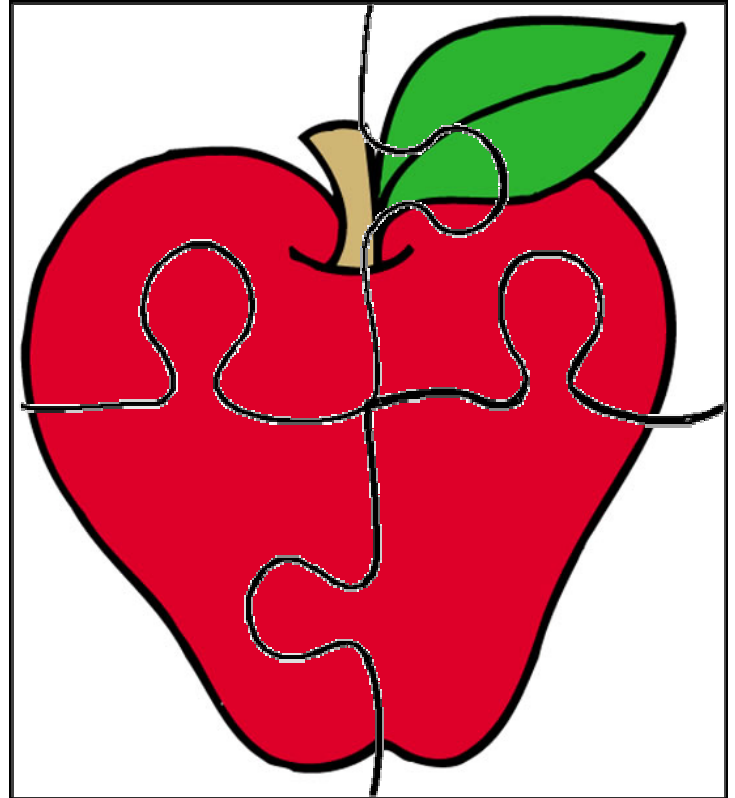
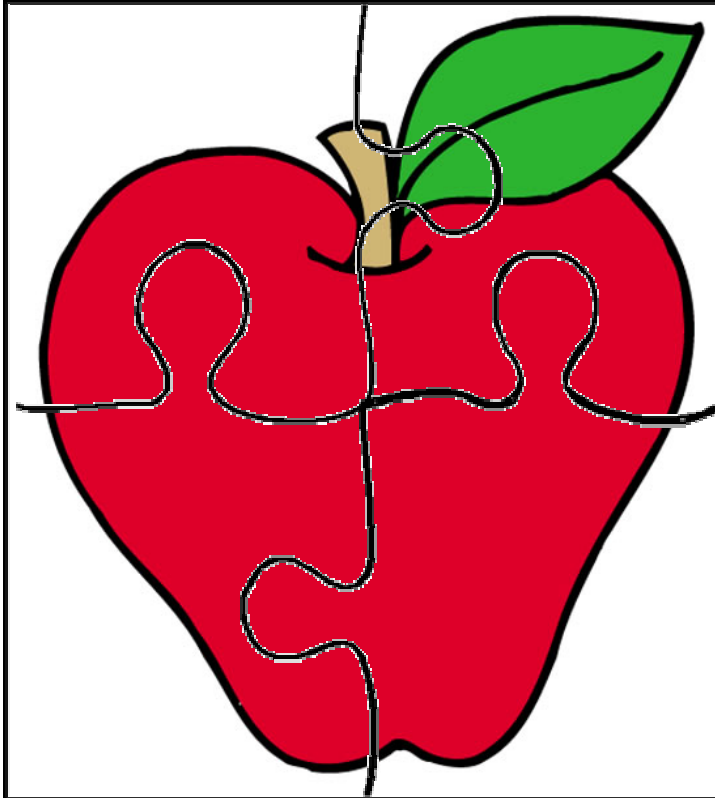
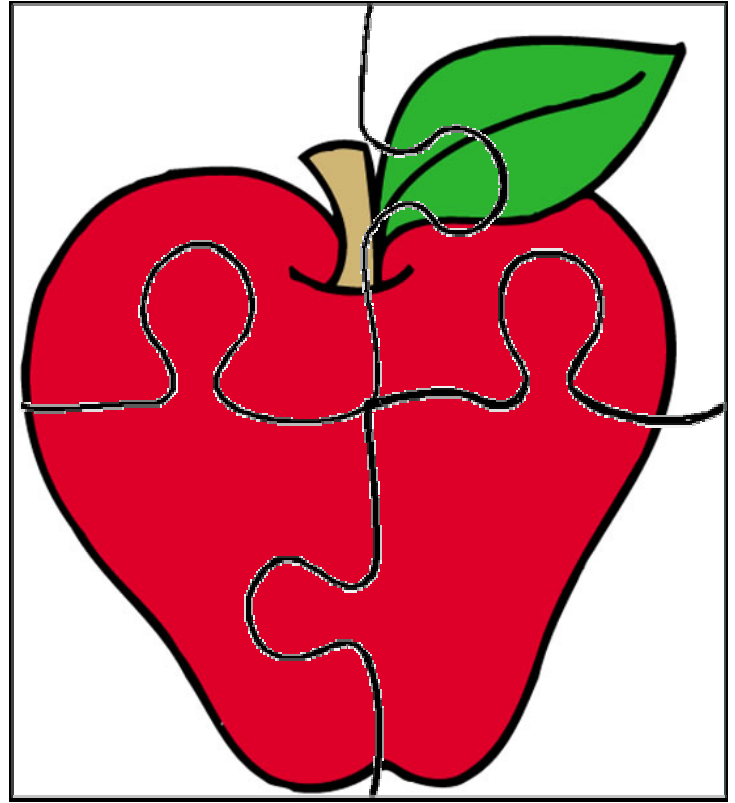
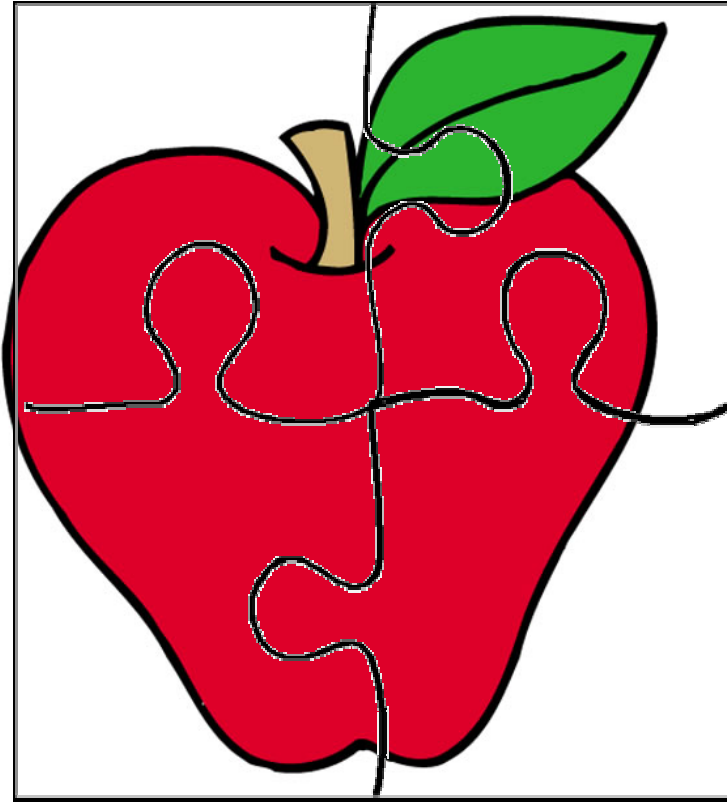
Apple Picking Sorting Game



Apple Puzzles



Apple Puzzles





Thank you for trying Reach for the Stars Toddler Curriculum.
We hope you enjoy it as much as we enjoyed creating it for you and will consider returning to purchase our curriculum.

Thanks!


Robyn Birge & Pam Ball

Copyright © 2003 - 2005 'Reach for the Stars' All Rights Reserved
Refer all inquiries to
Robyn Birge & Pam Ball
Information: info@reachforthe-stars.com
Support: support@reachforthe-stars.com