



## Castle Project

This simple castle project is a fun addition to our knight, princess, and dragon projects! I do them when we study fairy tales and make a bulletin board out of them, mounting a fairy tale that the each child himself right next to it! We also display our Fairy Tale Book Report Lapbooks nearby. This is all done for our annual Open House, when parents come to visit our classrooms to see the children's work.

### Preparation:

Cut all of the paper pieces listed in the chart ahead of

time. Make sure that you pay attention to how many pieces of each item are needed per child. For example, each child will need two tower top pieces, but only one castle body piece, etc.

#### A. Get white stickers for the windows and doors.

We gave the children six round, white stickers of about .75 inches each, and then cut some white address labels down to give them five rectangles each. Children could also be given white paper (or any other color) instead of stickers. To make a circle, give kids a square and show them how to round off the corners to make a circle. Another alternative is to purchase a large, round hole punch at a craft store. But to me, this is MUCH more work than it is worth, and the punches soon become dull with repeated use.



#### B. Decide if you want to duplicate or pretrace the triangles and castle tops, or let the children just do their own thing.

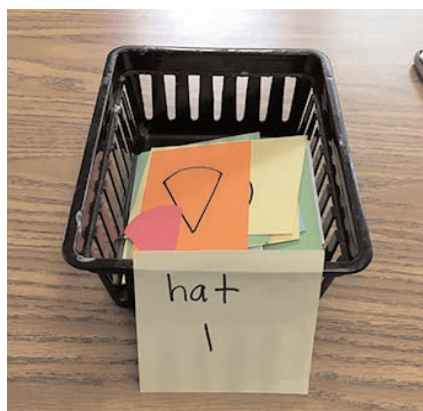
I did not do this for my students, opting instead to let them try it themselves! However, the samples shown were done by first and second graders. So I have provided patterns for you to duplicate or trace, just in case you prefer to give them help with that part.



#### C. Decide if you want to let the children make other creative items to go on their castles, such as little people or flags, etc.

If so, then you'll need to provide some paper scraps for them to work with! Personally, I think it is VERY good for children to exercise a little bit of creative muscle and just try to make a few things on their own! (Lots of

samples shown on the last page of this document.)



**D. I recommend setting up the pieces in plastic tubs that are labeled with sticky notes that say what each piece is for, and how many each child needs.** (For example, see the photo of the princess' hats in the plastic basket.) Once you have all of this set up, you're ready to roll!

**Note:** This project will only take about 20 minutes to complete, unless you want to give the children extra time to do some creative things with extra paper.

Castle Part	Dimensions in Inches	Color	Quantity Per Child	Instructions for Prep
castle body (center)	6 x 9 (if tracing) 8.5 x 11 (if copying)	any color	1	duplicate, trace, or cut
tall tower column	2 x 7	any color	1	cut
shorter tower column	2 x 8	any color	1	cut
tower tops	3 x 3 (if tracing) 8.5 x 11 (if copying)	any colors (mixed colors recommended!)	2	duplicate, trace, or cut
door	2 x 2	any	2	cut
round windows	1 x 1	white	6	purchase stickers or cut
rectangular windows	1.25 x 1	white	5	purchase stickers or cut
Other creative items?	paper scraps of various sizes	various colors	?	none

## Procedure:

### 1. Castle Body (Center):

If you have duplicated the master for the children, have them just cut it out. If not, show

them how to make one inch cuts along the top, fold them down and then cut along the fold. In the photo to the right, the child made some extra triangles on the bottom, just for fun!

## 2. Tower Columns:

Glue both tower columns on either side of the castle body. It doesn't matter which side they go on!

## 3. Tower Tops:

If you pre-traced or duplicated them, just cut out the triangles for the towers. Otherwise, show the children how to make a triangle out of a square.



## 4. Door:

The door just needs to be glued down. But some of my children glued it on just one side so that it could open!

## 5. Windows:

Assuming you are using stickers, all the children will need to do is lay them down. If you cut paper, then for round windows you'll need to round off the corners.

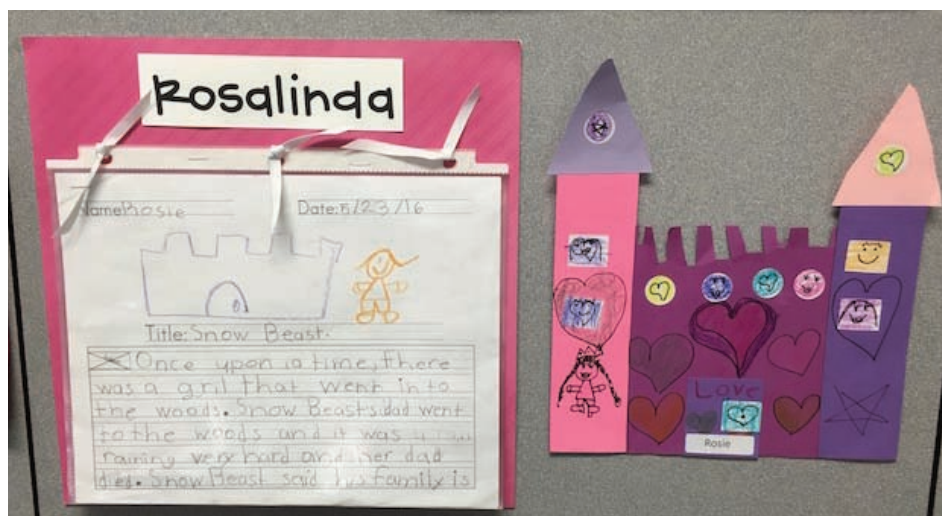
## 6. Other Creative Items:

Let the children do these on their own!



## To Display:

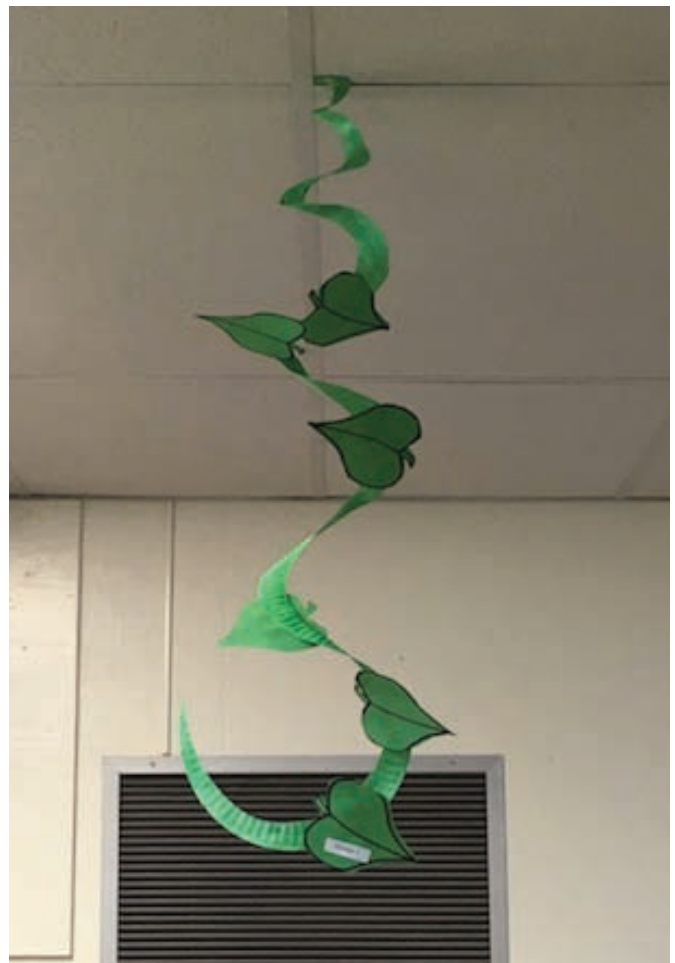
This castle project was part of our Fairy Tale unit, and we displayed them right next to some stories that the children wrote themselves. Their job was to write their own fairy tale that incorporated elements from two different fairy tales! So for example, instead of Beauty and the Beast, it might be Beauty and the

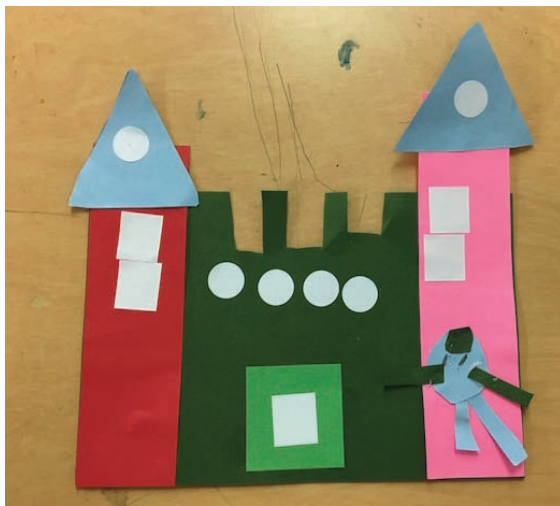
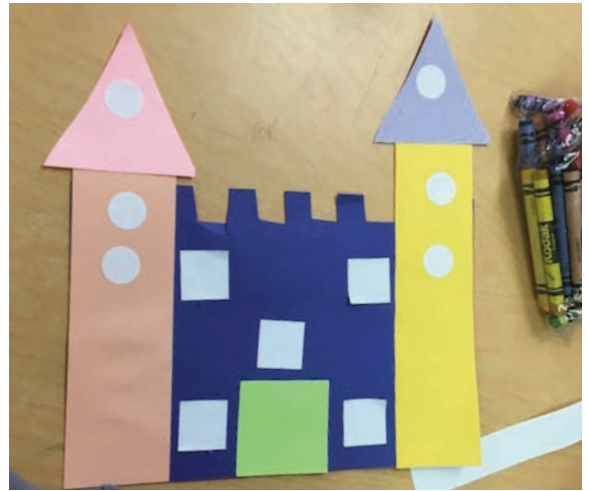
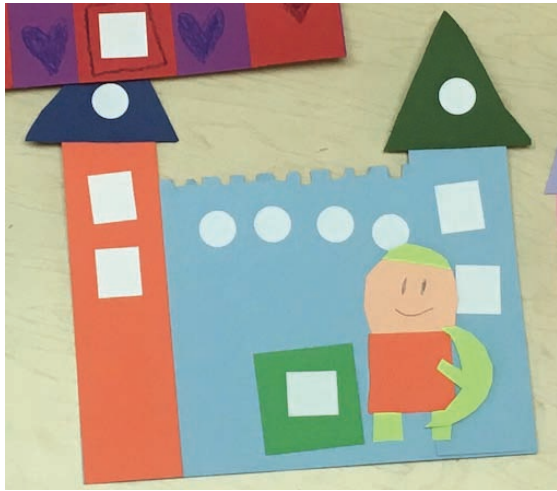


Beanstalk. We practiced writing a couple of these together first, mixing up the characters, settings, and problems in the stories. All of the stories had to start with "Once upon a time," and have a happy ending. I was surprised that many of the children were more inclined to write a sad ending instead! I told them that the problem HAD to be resolved somehow; we couldn't just let the sleeping princess lie there forever and the knight kill everyone, etc.

Of course, we also put up our knights, princesses, spiral beanstalks, dragons, and Fairy Tale Lapbook Book Reports!

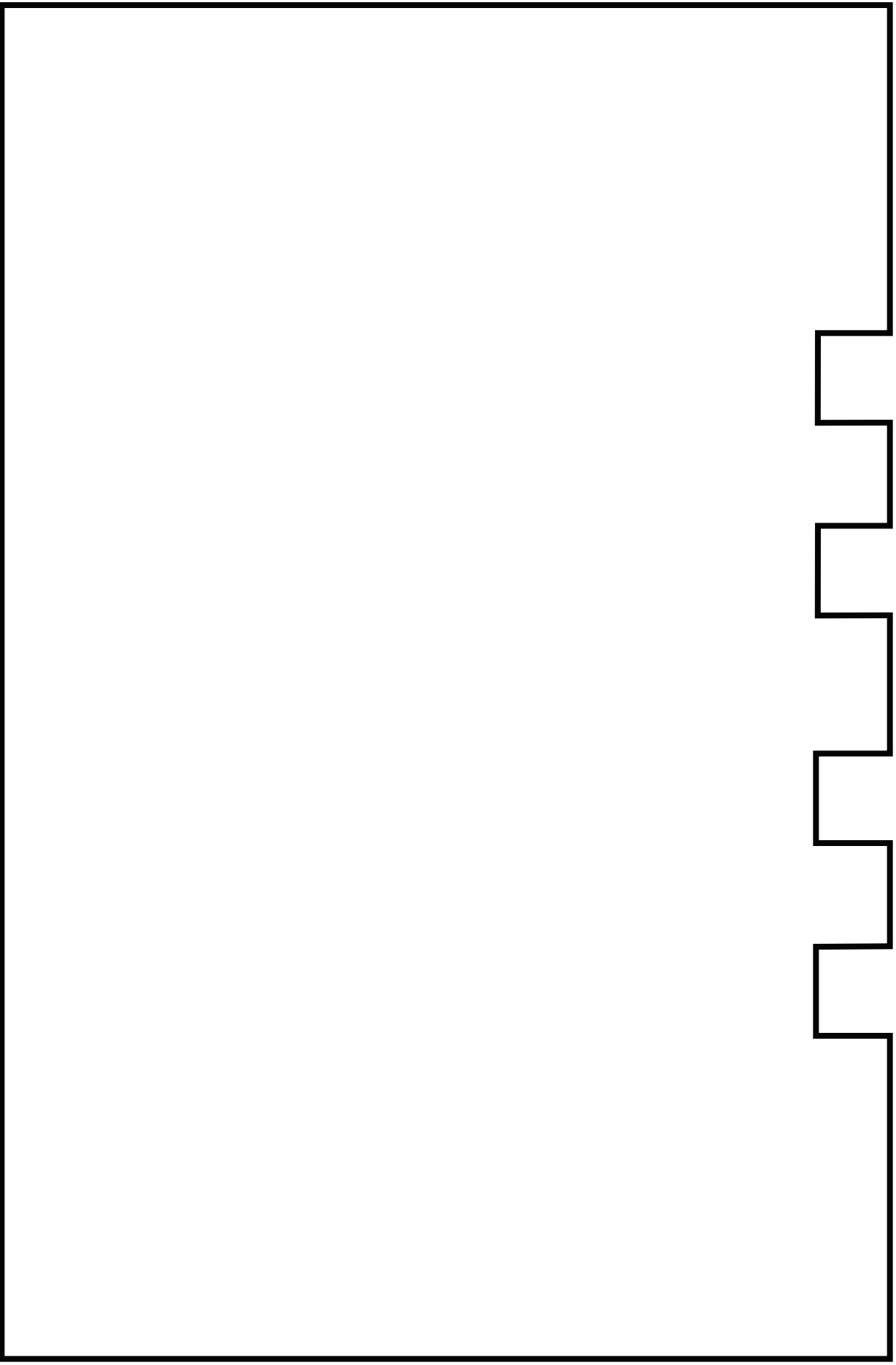
## Princesses, Dragons, and Knights: OH MY!



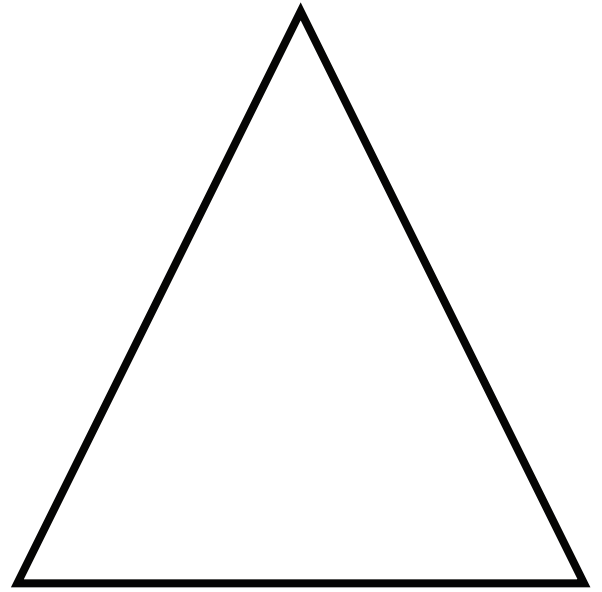
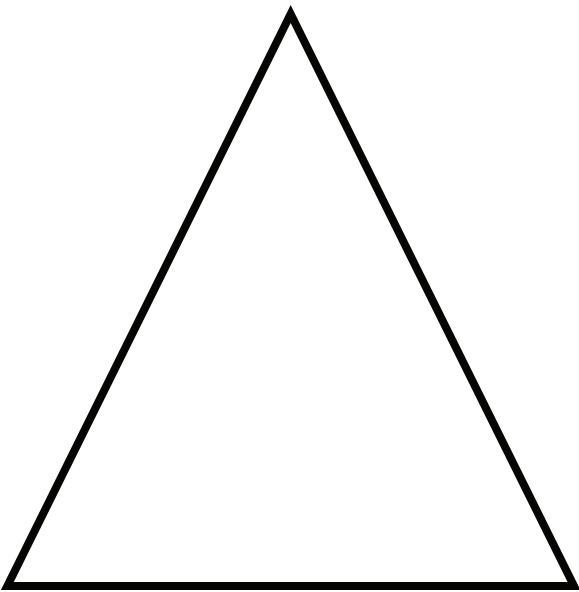
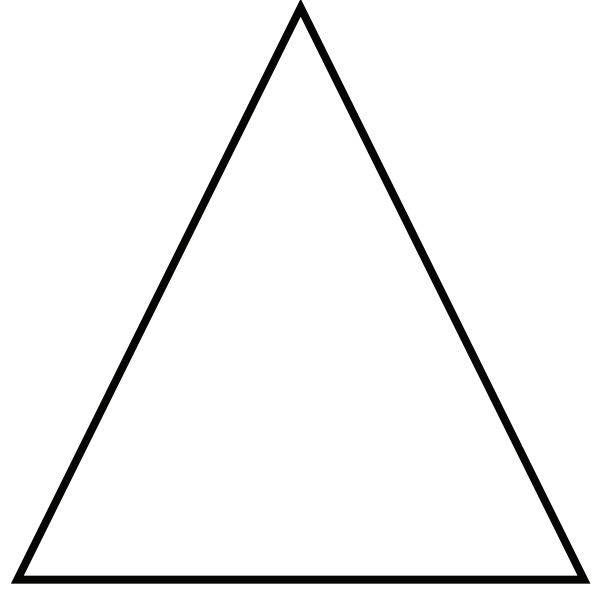
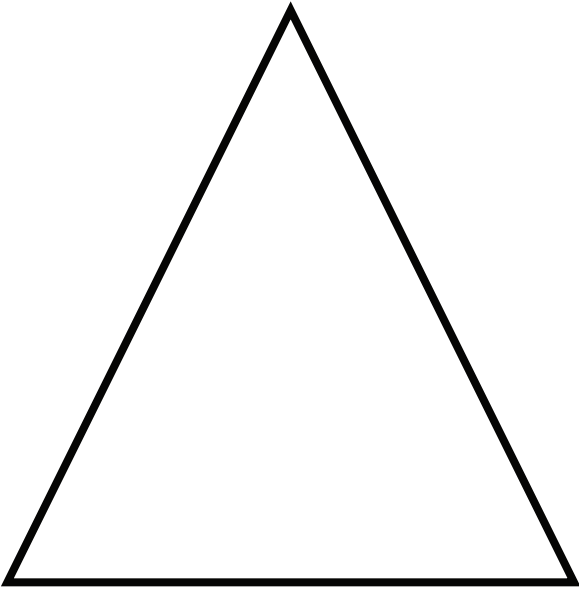
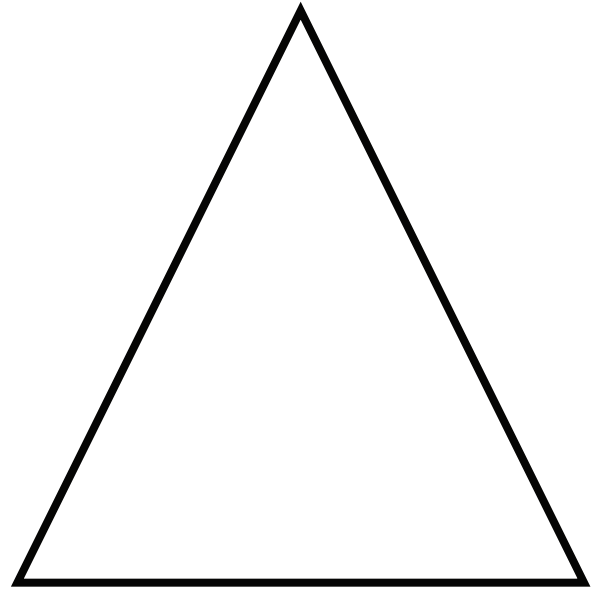
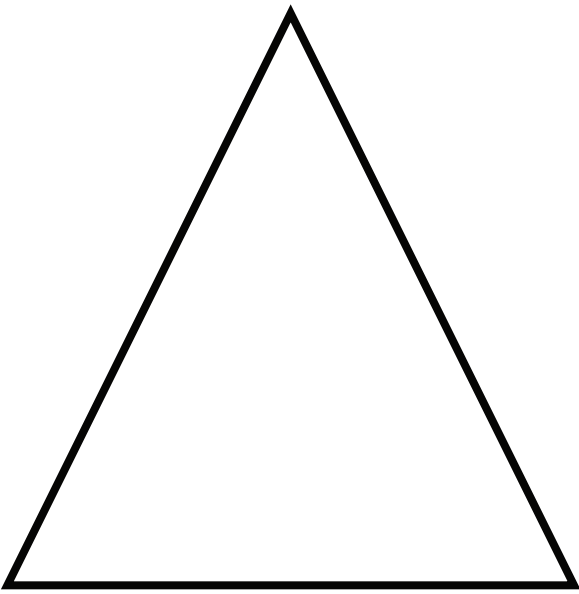


We also learned how to draw some castles, and then the kids started making some castles on their own when we studied three dimensional shapes!





Tower Top



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid).



