

Similar & Dissimilar Critical Thinking Card Instructions

Preparation:

Decide if you are going to print just one card for the teacher, or print out one card per student. You will not need to print out anything for the children unless you would like them to color them. You may also wish to simply project a digital copy of your cards onto a screen for the children to look at as you lead a class discussion. Since there are two question cards per page, make sure that you display only one card at a time to avoid confusion.

To use:

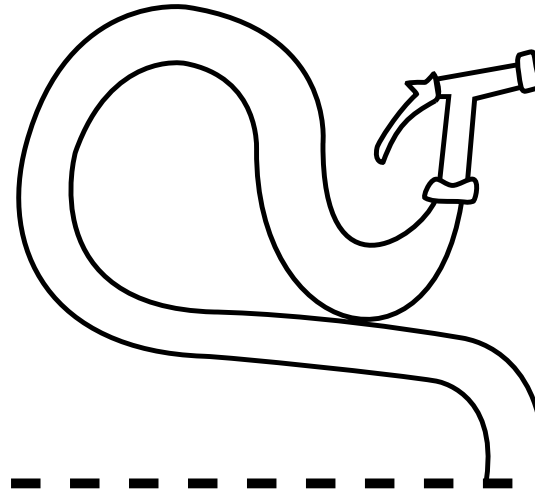
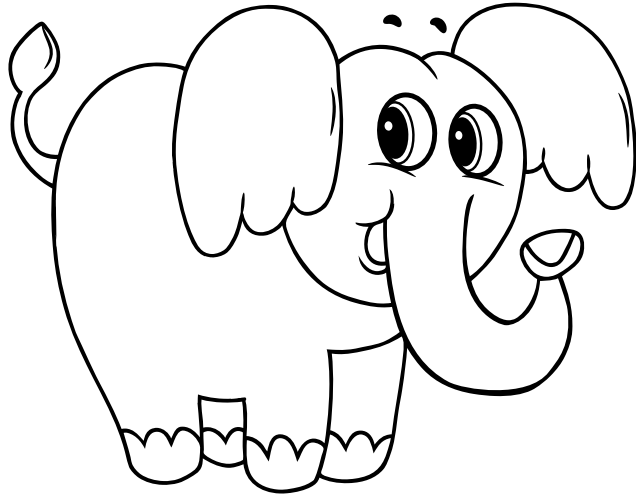
Tell the children, "Now we are going to use our best thinking skills, so put on your thinking caps! There are no wrong answers here, so you don't need to be nervous about getting anything wrong, because we are going to think creatively, like artists! The worst answer is not answering at all. All you need to do is tell me whatever pops into your head and try your best. Ready?"

Then show the children the top half of one of the cards, such as the elephant and the hose. Read them the prompt at the top of the card. "An elephant is like a hose because..." Then start calling on the children to see what they say! Praise them for all of their answers, discussing them as much as possible. Ask them to explain their thinking as much as possible. I suggest using name sticks or a check off list to make sure that everyone gets called on. Or, do this in small groups so that everyone gets multiple opportunities to speak.

If you choose to do this in small groups, the children may enjoy coloring the pictures while they chat. It may work to copy the cards front to back so that you have four different topics to work on and color while they talk. That might keep their hands busy while everyone takes a turn talking.

Some children may begin to focus on what the *shape* of the objects are on the page, rather than their *use*. In that case, do some practice with categorization to get them thinking in a different direction. I hope you enjoy this fun resource!

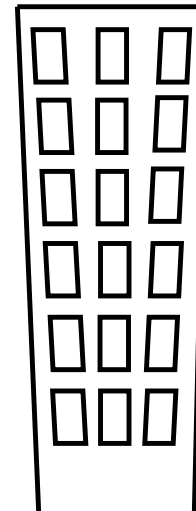
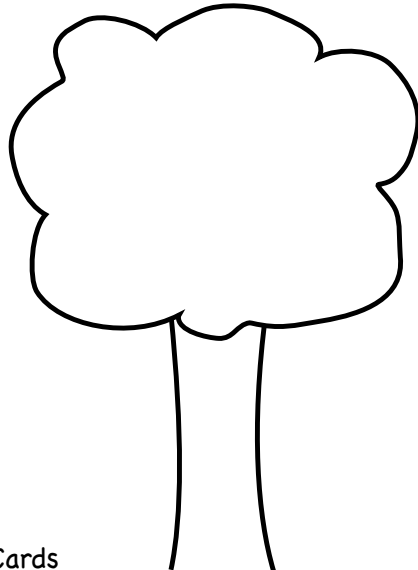
An elephant is like a hose because . . .



Critical Thinking Similar Cards

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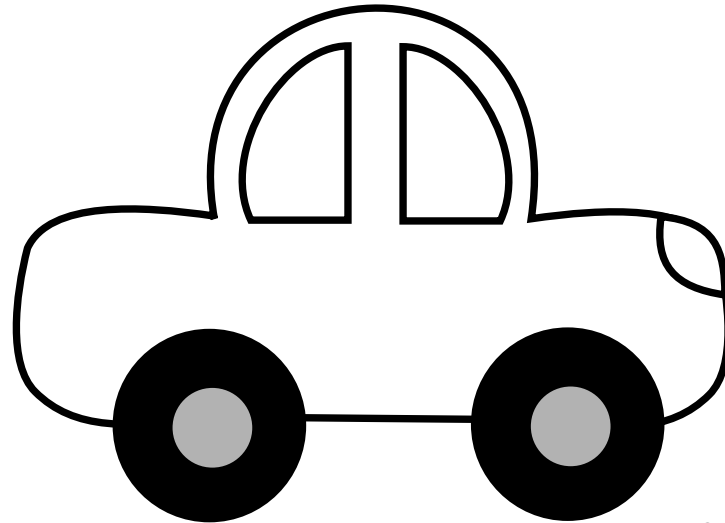
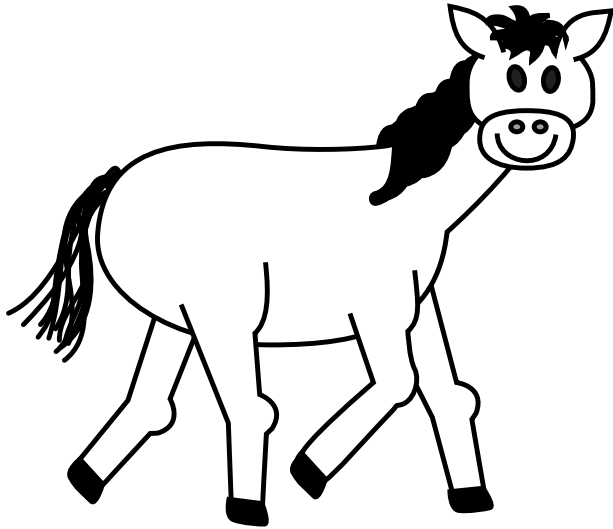
A tree and a tower are alike because . . .



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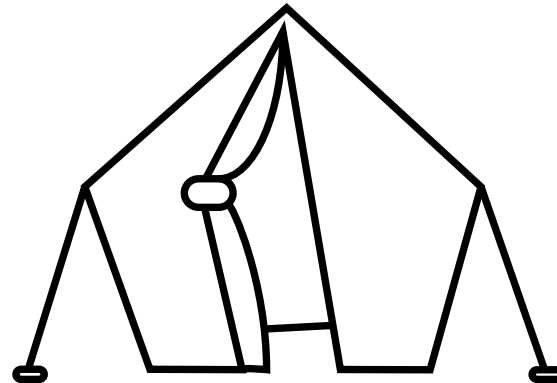
A horse is like a car because . . .



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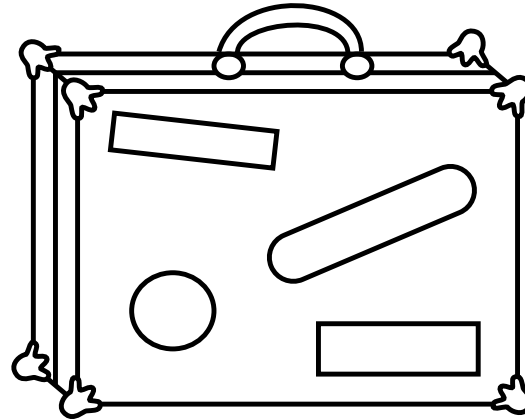
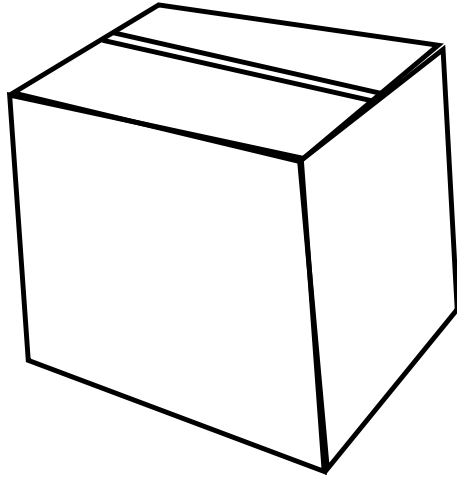
A house is like a tent because . . .



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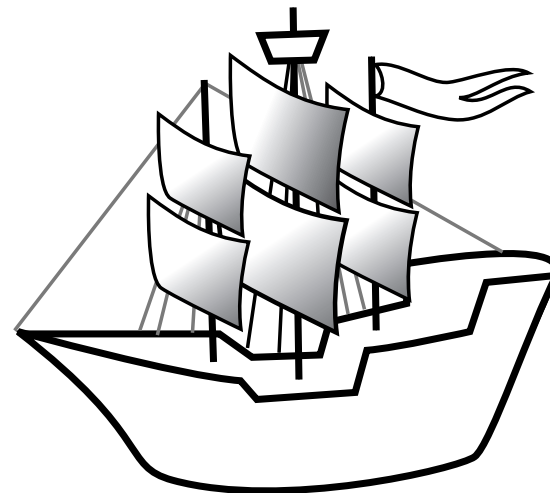
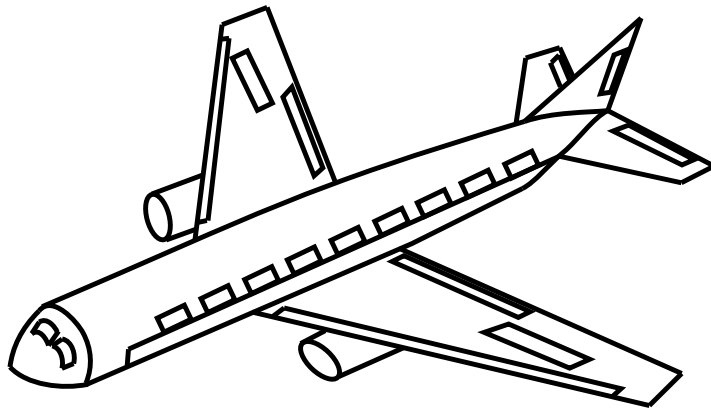
A box is like a suitcase because . . .



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A jet and a ship are alike because . . .



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