Acorn Counting Contest



Hello! Have you met Iris the squirrel?

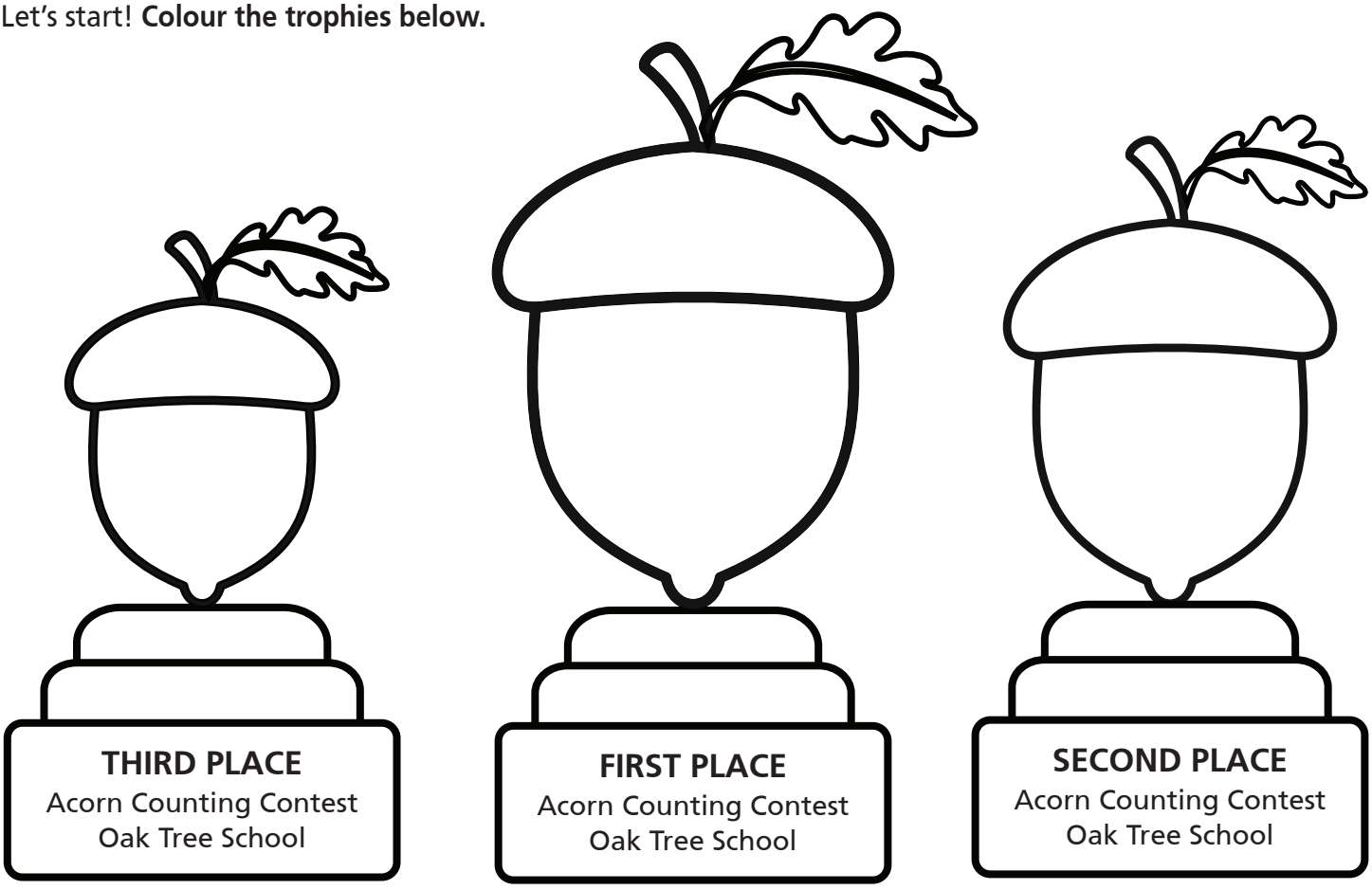
Last year, Iris had trouble seeing things clearly. Her mom took her to an eye doctor, and she got eyeglasses. Now she can see clearly, learn at school and play with her friends.

A few months ago, Iris turned 8 years old, and children like you helped celebrate her birthday. Do you know what her birthday wish was? To win the Acorn Counting Contest at school.

Every day at school, Iris walks past the three trophies showcased in the hallway. She thinks about what it would feel like to win one.

Tomorrow is the last day before summer break and the day of the contest. Tomorrow, one of those trophies could be hers.

Let's start! **Colour the trophies below.**



COLOUR THE TROPHIES

Summer 2026 operationeyesight.com

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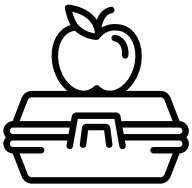
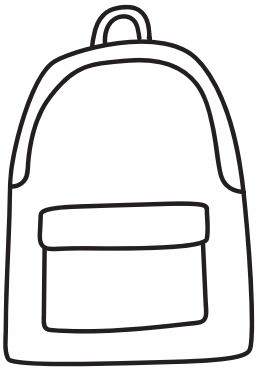
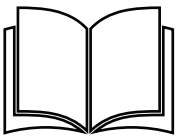
Iris is excited about tomorrow's contest. She cannot wait to get to school early tomorrow and starts to pack her bag.

Which items should Iris pack for school? Below are all the items on her desk. **She needs to pack 5 of the 10 items.**

Draw a line from each correct item to her school bag.







PACK THE BAG

Did you know? Around the world, more than 450 million children have an eye condition that needs treatment. Many simply need an eye exam and a pair of eyeglasses to see clearly.

Source: International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), Vision Atlas: Child Eye Health



The next day, Iris is so excited that she leaves home early. As you can see, Iris's house is in the top left square and the school is in the bottom right. **There are different ways she can get to school.**

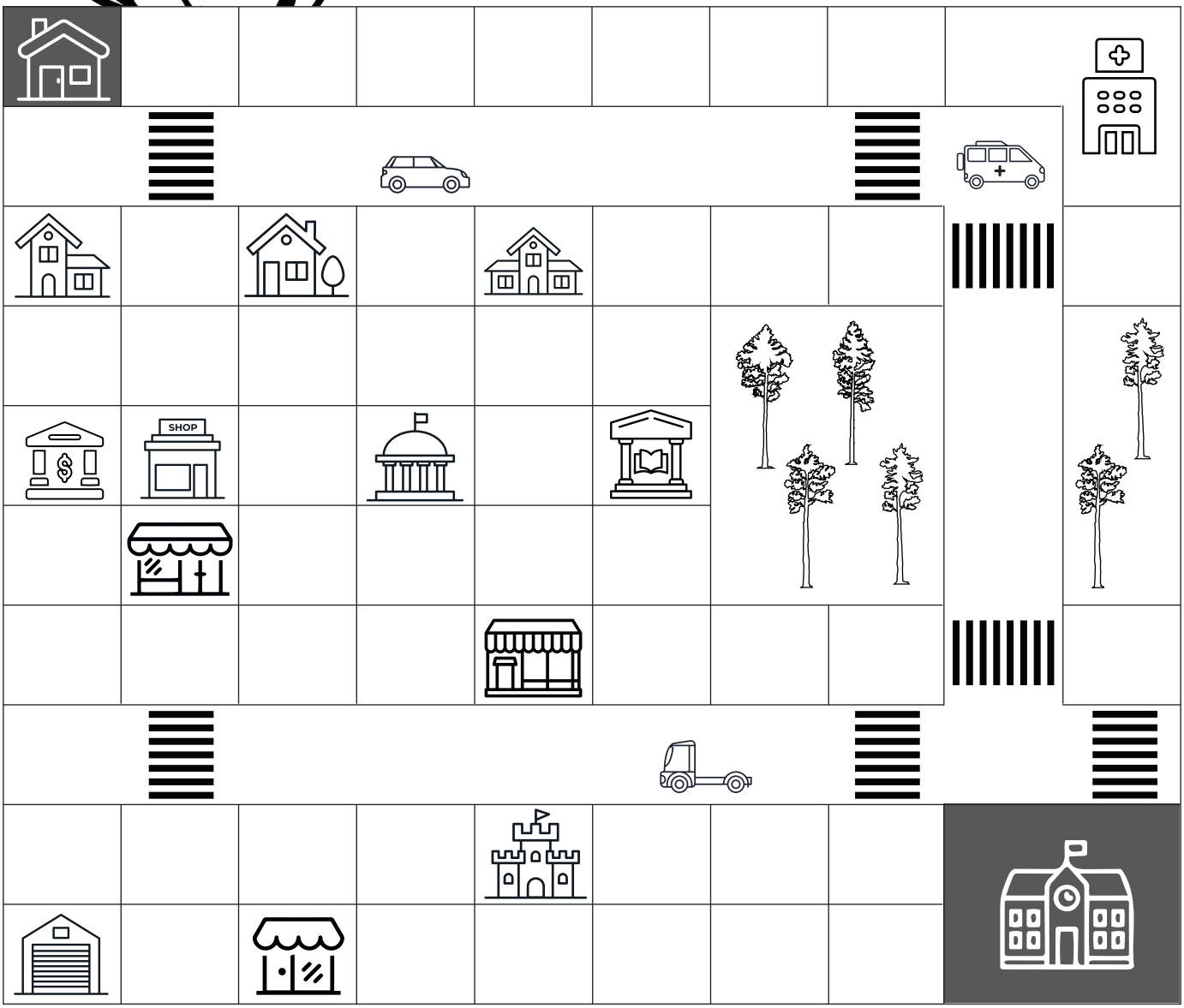
Each square takes 1 minute to walk through.

Each crosswalk takes 1 extra minute to cross safely.

It takes 5 minutes to cross the park.

Draw a route from Iris' house to school and calculate how many minutes it takes.

Extra challenge: Can you find the fastest route?



FIND THE WAY

Did you know? Clear vision helps children learn and participate in class. Studies show that providing eyeglasses to children who need them can improve learning by an amount equal to about half a year of schooling.

Source: International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), The Value of Vision.

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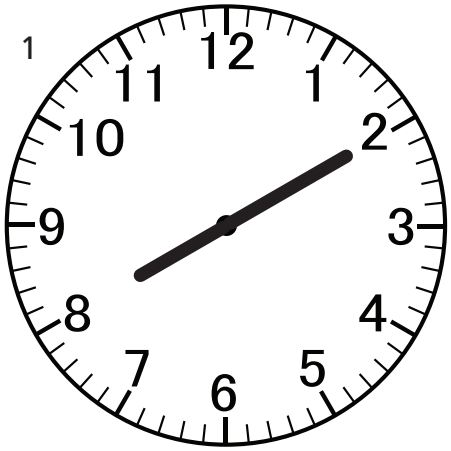
The Acorn Counting Contest begins at 11 a.m. Iris is so excited that she keeps checking the clock in her classroom.

Starting at 8:10 a.m., she looks at the clock five times.

What time did the clock show each time?

1



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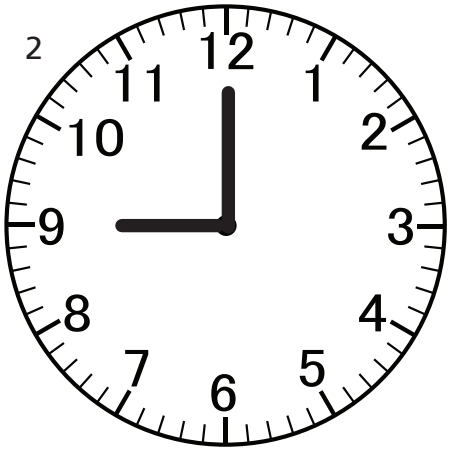

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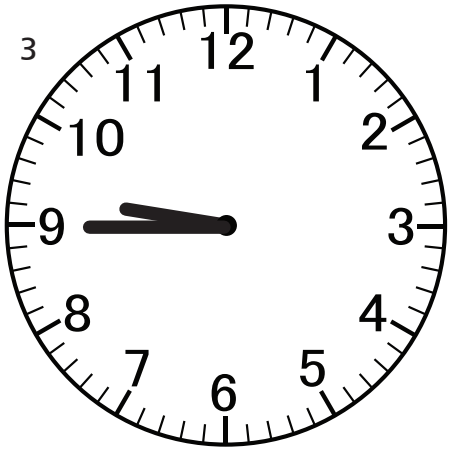

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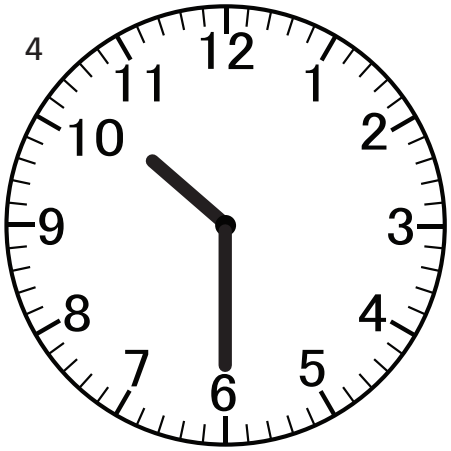

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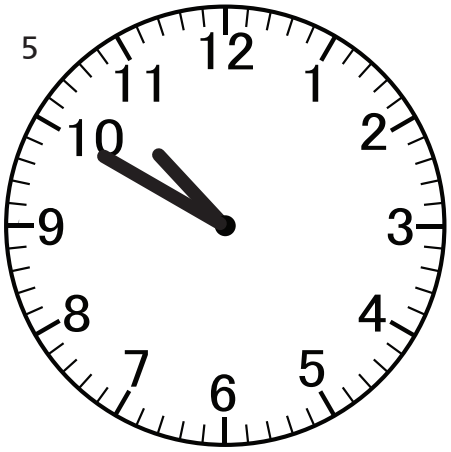
5



___:___

How long before the contest starts?

___:___

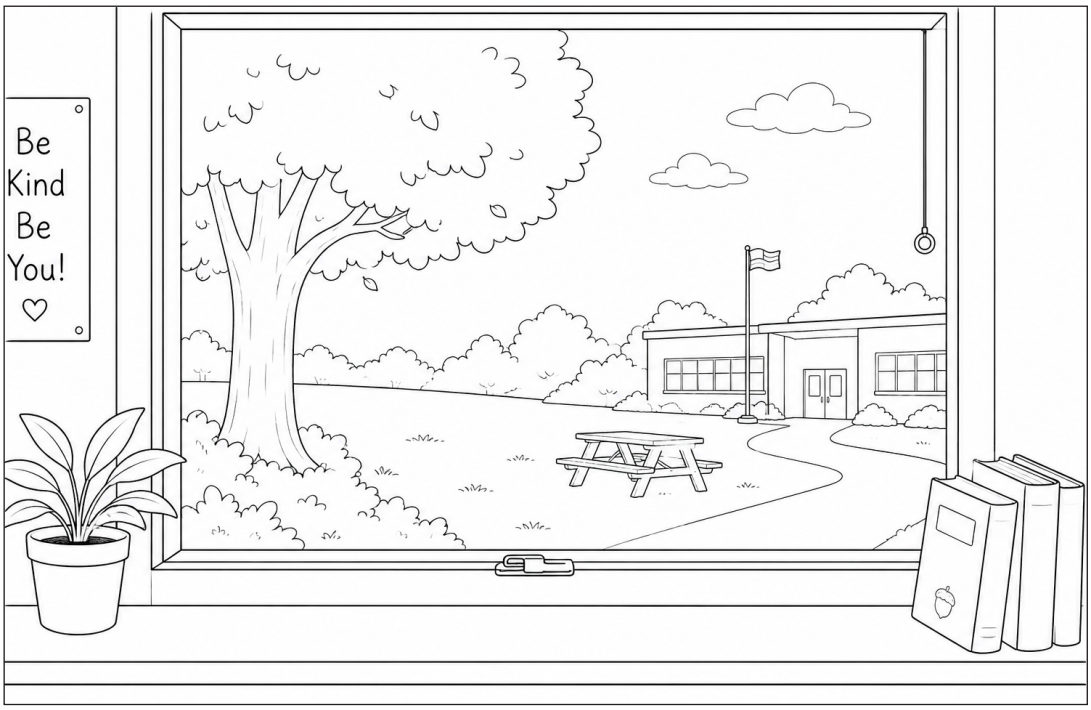
READ THE TIME

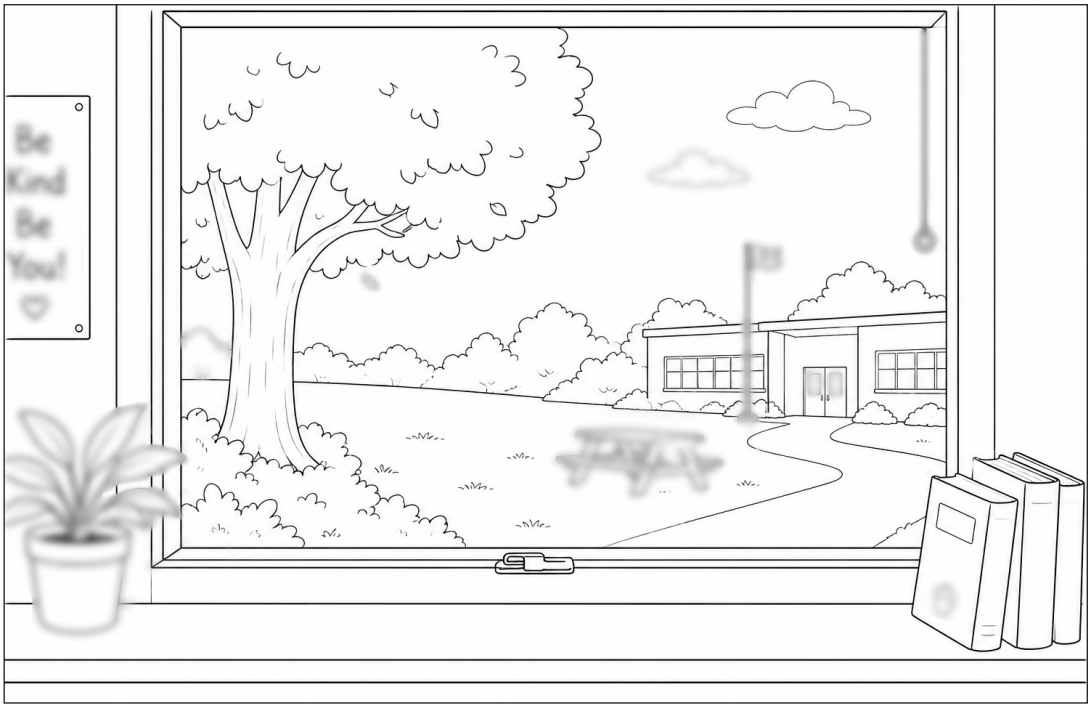
Did you know? A pair of eyeglasses can do more than help a child see clearly. When children see clearly, it eases worries for their families and help them be active members of their communities. A $20 donation can help provide a child with eyeglasses. Learn more at operationeyesight.com.

A few minutes before the contest, Iris notices that things look blurry.

There are ten things that look blurry to Iris.

Compare the two images below and circle everything that looks blurry.





SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Did you know? When children see well, life gets easier for their families. When children can be at school, their parents can spend more time working and caring for the household.

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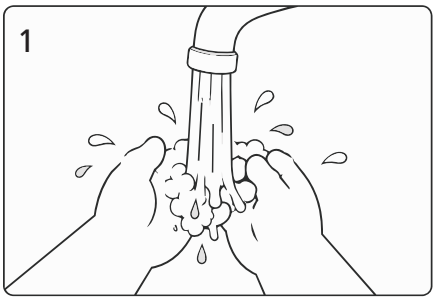
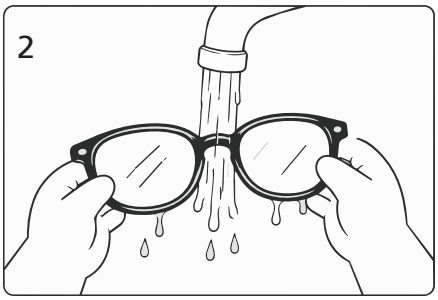
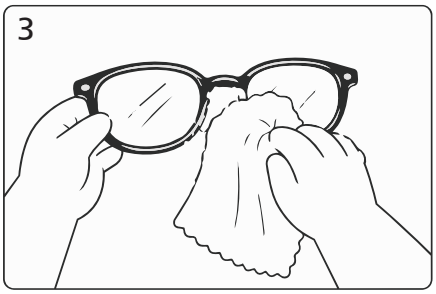
Uh-oh! Iris needs to clean her eyeglasses so she can see clearly for the Acorn Counting Contest. She goes to the washroom to clean them.

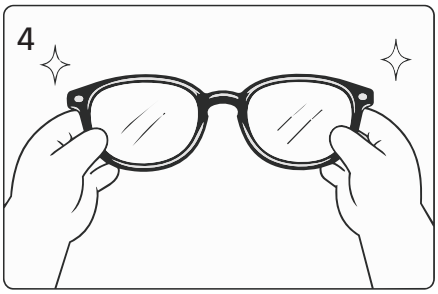
Can you help her put the steps in the correct order?

Fill in the blanks. Then match each sentence to the correct picture and put the steps in order.









a. She checks that her eyeglasses are _____.
(loud | sleepy | hungry | clean)

b. She wipes them with eyeglass cleaning _____.
(sock | cloth | leaf | brush)

c. Iris washes and dries her _____.
(paws | tail | backpack | notebook)

d. She rinses her eyeglasses with _____.
(milk | ketchup | water | juice)

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Did you know? A gift of $20 can help a child in Africa or South Asia get the eyeglasses they need. Learn how you can help.
Visit operationeyesight.com/how-you-can-help or scan the QR code

It's 11 a.m.! Time for the Acorn Counting Contest.

In the school hall is a giant summer notice board filled with drawings, announcements, photos, and decorations. Acorns are hidden all over the board.

Iris' challenge is to count every acorn she can spot. Count along with Iris and color each acorn as you find it to keep track.

How many acorns can you find?



Number of acorns: _____

I SPY

Did you know? Washing your hands often and gently cleaning around your eyes with a clean cloth can help protect your eyes and prevent infections.

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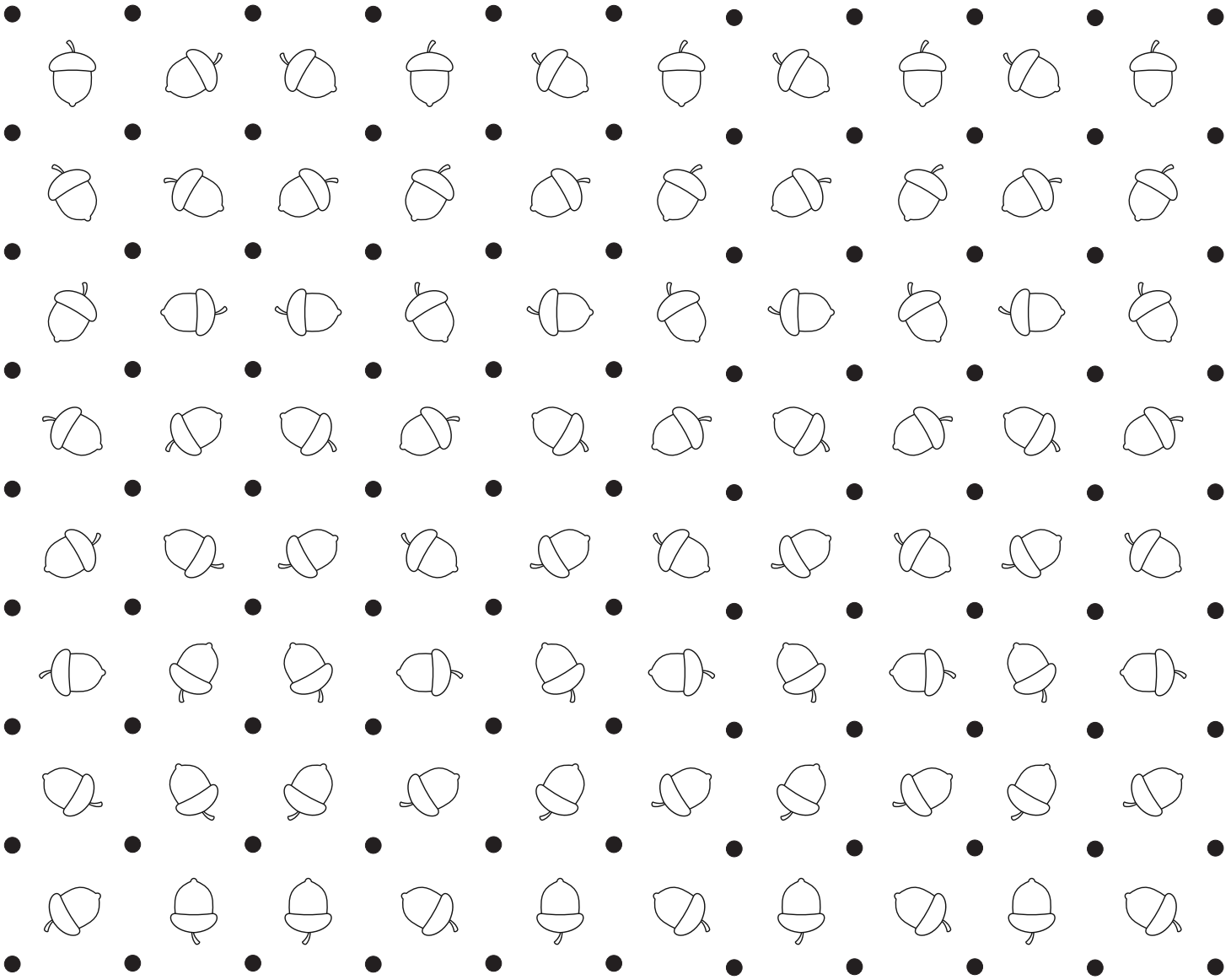
Not everyone counted the same number of acorns.

Top contestants: Oakley counted 17, Mittens counted 20, Birch counted 19 and Iris counted 20.

It's a tie for first place! To decide who gets the trophy, the teacher has one final challenge. It's acorn dots and boxes!

RULES: You play for Iris. Get a friend to play for Mittens. Take turns drawing one line connecting two dots. Keep taking turns, drawing one line at a time. Each time you complete a box, color the acorn inside it and take another turn. Whoever collects the most acorns wins.



DOTS AND BOXES

Did you know? Eating healthy food supports healthy eyes. Colourful fruits and vegetables like carrots, leafy greens and berries will help keep your eyes strong.

Who won first place?

It's time to give out the trophies. Birch won third place. **Cut out Birch from the next page and place him on the third-place spot on the podium. Cut out the other two and place them in the correct places.**



CUT OUT AND COLOR

Did you know? In many places, children don't have regular access to eye health care. Our school eye health programs help make sure every student gets their eyes checked and receives help when they need it.

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When Collins from Ghana was just two years old, his mother noticed something was wrong with his eyes. She took him for treatment, but it did not improve his condition.

Years later, during one of our school eye screenings, doctors found that Collins had a cataract and needed surgery.

With the support of his mother, Collins underwent the procedure.

Today, at 15, he can see much better. His mother describes it simply: she is relieved, and grateful.

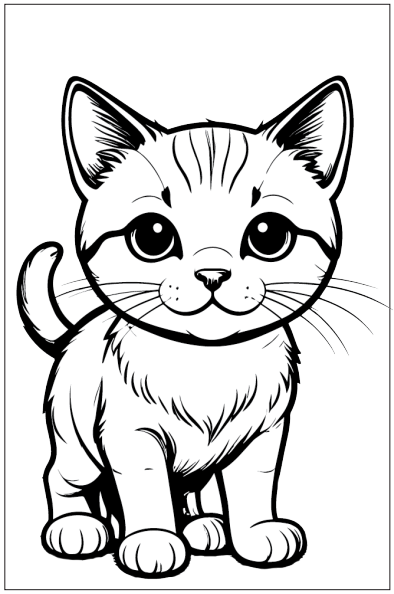
Most people think cataracts only happen to adults, but children can get them too, shaping how they learn, grow, and experience the world around them.

Help bring more futures back into focus. A monthly gift of $75 can fund one cataract surgery and related care, while $5, $10 or $20 a month helps more people get the treatment they need.

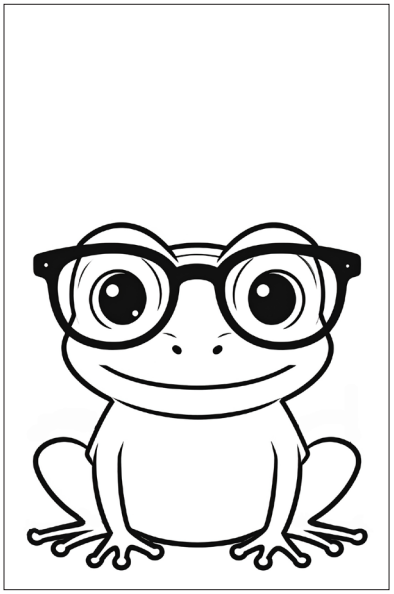
operationeyesight.com/donate-monthly



Iris



Mittens



Birch

Help more children like Collins see clearly.

A gift of $20 can help provide a child with the eyeglasses they need to learn, play and participate with confidence.

Donate today. Visit operationeyesight.com/donate or scan the QR code.

Iris is very happy she won the trophy with her dear friend Mittens. After wishing her friends a good summer break, she rushes home to show her mom her trophy.

Finally, the summer vacation has begun! Back in her room, Iris places her trophy on her desk. In her backpack is the summer safety checklist her teacher gave her.

Let's go through it and select the correct answers.

1. The sun is very bright. What should you wear?

   ☐ A winter scarf ☐ Sunglasses ☐ Rain boots

2. You are going on a bike ride. What should you wear?

   ☐ A blanket ☐ Slippers ☐ A helmet

3. You notice your glasses are smudged. What should you use to clean them?

   ☐ An eyeglass cloth ☐ Mud ☐ A sandwich

4. You are spending the day outside. What should you bring?

   ☐ A pillow ☐ A toaster ☐ Water bottle

5. You are at the beach. How can you protect your eyes from the sun?

   ☐ Wear sunglasses and a hat ☐ Look directly at the sun

   ☐ Cover your eyes with leaves

6. You are crossing the road. What should you do?

   ☐ Close your eyes ☐ Look both ways before crossing

   ☐ Run as fast as you can

7. You are going swimming. What should you do with your eyeglasses?

   ☐ Put them somewhere safe ☐ Leave them on the bottom of the pool

PIN THE EYEGLASSES

Did you know? Our school eye health programs help students get their eyes checked. In 2025, Operation Eyesight helped 229,362 children get eye screenings.

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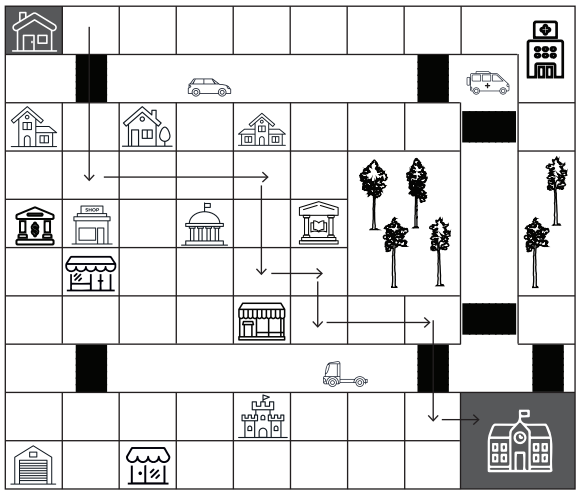
Answers:

Page 2 - Eyeglasses case, lunch box, book, water bottle, pencil case

Page 3



Total time spent on the fastest route: 17 minutes

Page 4 - 1 - 8:10, 2 - 9:00, 3 - 9:45, 4: 10:30, 5: 10:50

Page 5 - Blurred objects are: poster on the wall, leaves of the plant, leaf falling from the tree, shrub behind the tree, picnic table, flagpole, windows on the door, cloud and window blind cord.

Page 6 - 1 = c: paws, 2 = d: water, 3 = b: cloth, 4 = a: clean

Page 7 - There are 20 acorns on the noticeboard

Page 11 - 1: Sunglasses
2: A helmet
3: An eyeglass cloth
4: Water bottle
5: Wear sunglasses and a hat
6: Look both ways before crossing
7: Put them somewhere safe

When one child sees clearly, their whole world changes.

Your support helps provide eye screenings, eyeglasses and sight-saving care for children and families around the world.

Donate today. Visit operationeyesight.com/donate or scan the QR code