

## Home Visit Notes

**Lesson:** Shoot for the Stars

### **Objectives:**

- Encourage reading in the home and model reading skills.
- Empower the student with knowledge.
- Increase the confidence level of the student in the classroom and as a parent.
- Help students see themselves as capable teachers of their children.
- Foster fun learning interaction between parent and child.
- Reinforce knowledge learned in the classroom by following up in the home.
- Provide hands-on activities.
- Provide and encourage healthy snacks.

### **Activities:**

1. Read stars and space books such as "Goodnight Moon", "Mommies are for Counting Star", or the book "Stars, Stars, Stars" that was included in the kit. Encourage reading by using some of the other books on the Family Education Books about Stars resource list.
2. Color and count stars using the "How many stars" worksheet. Use more or less stars depending on ability by copying the page and deleting some of the stars or covering the stars with a sheet of paper.
3. Complete the star dot-to-dot sheet.
4. Trace the star shape with crayons or markers. Review shapes with the child. Make a star mobile with shapes. Allow the child to color and cut if appropriate. Use yarn to hang the shapes in a mobile.
5. Sing the song "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" teaching the child the motions. Have the child complete the "Star Light/Star Bright" sheet. If the child can't trace and cut the star out of construction paper, the parent can complete this part. Then have the child make a wish and add it to the star. Remind the child to look at the stars tonight.
6. Complete the statement "I am a star because..." Let the child tell you why he/she is a star. Have the parent write the response on the inside cover of the "I AM A STAR BOOK". Then write the child's name in the star on the front cover. The child can use the book to write down thoughts or to draw pictures. It is the child's creation and will be a keepsake for years to come. *(To make the book: Copy the cover page*

*on bright yellow card stock and fold it in half. Count out 7-10 pieces of white paper and fold in the middle. Place the paper inside the yellow cover and staple down the fold to form a book.)*

7. Setting the goal of "no snacks" for our children may not be feasible and is certainly contrary to your child's needs. Children's stomachs are smaller than our own, so they eat less at a sitting. Snacks provide a way for your child to recharge and sustain their energy until the next meal. Instead of eliminating snacks, plan a nutritious and delicious star snack.
8. Make a picture of what space looks like to you.
9. Show that the child is a star by making a star magnet. Place the finished magnet on the refrigerator.
10. Mix up some play dough and have the child use a star cookie cutter to make stars. The child could create an ornament for someone special.
11. Telescopes help us to see things that are far away. Magic telescopes help children to develop their imaginations and to understand the difference between real and pretend. Make a magic telescope to see the stars.

## Activity # 1 (Page 1 of 2)

### Family Education Books about Stars

#### Preschool

<u>Goodnight Moon</u>	Margaret Wise Brown
<u>Mommies are for Counting Stars</u>	Harriet Ziefert, Cynthia Jabar
<u>Pooh's Wishing Star</u>	Bruce Talkington, A. A. Milne
<u>Sleep Songs: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star</u>	Amanda Willwork, Jane Taylor
<u>The Sun is My Favorite Star</u>	Frank Asch
<u>Star Shapes with Other</u>	Chloe Daniel
<u>Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star: A Traditional Lullaby</u>	Sylvia Long

#### Ages 4-10

<u>A Book about Planets and Stars</u>	Bety Plisar Reigot
<u>Do Stars Have Points?: Questions and Answers About Stars and Planets</u>	Melvin Berger, Gilda Berger
<u>Draw Me a Star</u>	Eric Carle
<u>How Many Stars Fell From the Sky: A Navajo Legend</u>	Lisa Desimini, Jerrie Oughton
<u>How Many Stars in the Sky?</u>	Lenny Hort
<u>I Like Stars (Reading Road Series: Mile 1)</u>	Margaret Wise Brown
<u>Laura's Star</u>	Klaus Baumgart
<u>The Magic School Bus Sees Stars: A Book about Stars</u>	Scholastic Books, Inc Staff Scholastic
<u>Stars, Stars, Stars</u>	Scholastic Books, Inc Staff Scholastic

**Activity # 1 (Page 2 of 2)**

Star Spangled Banner

Francis Scott Key

The Sun

Seymour Simon

The Sun: Our Nearest Star

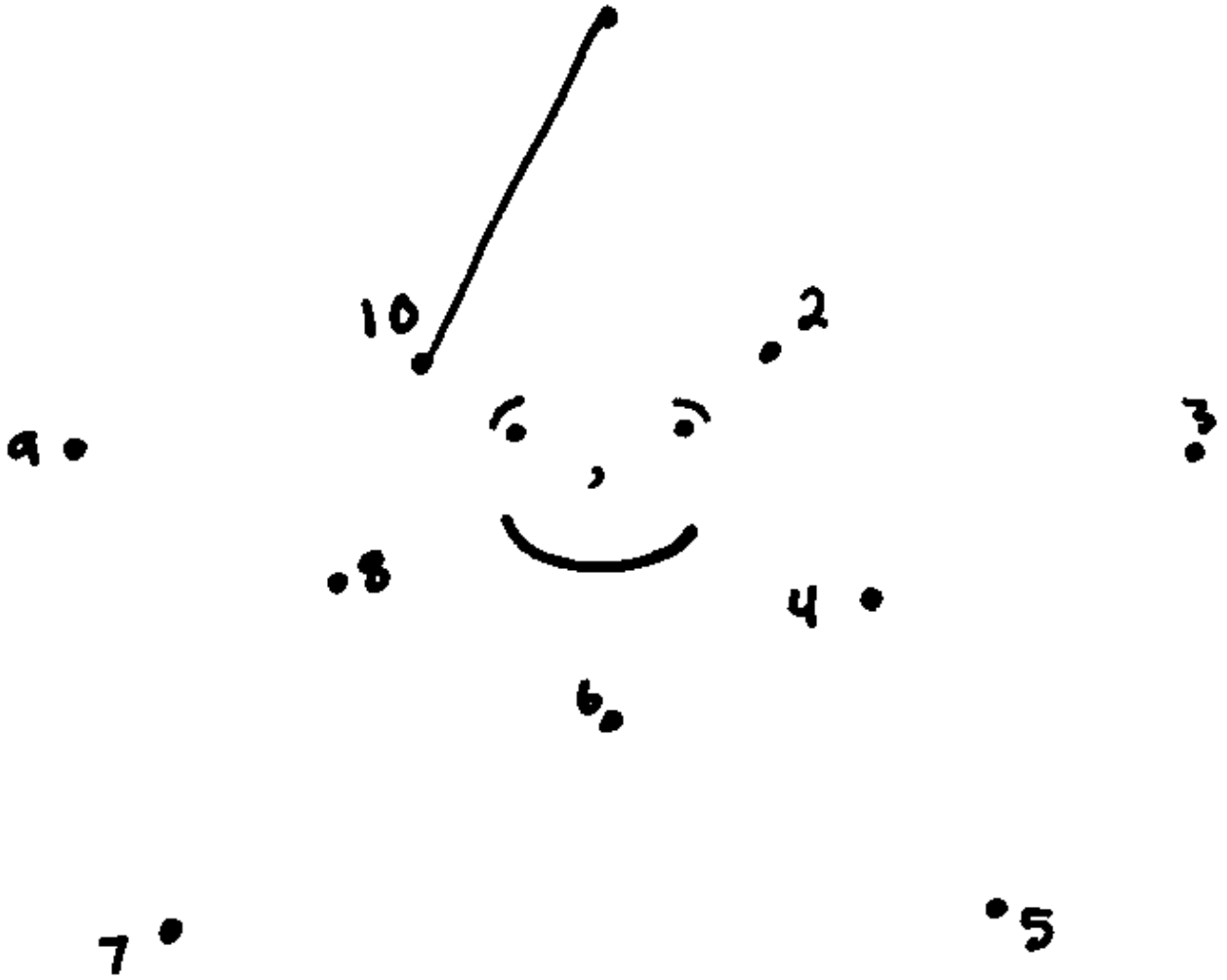
Frankly Mansfield Branley

Vincent Van Gogh: Sunflowers and Swirly Stars

Joan Holub, Brad Bucks

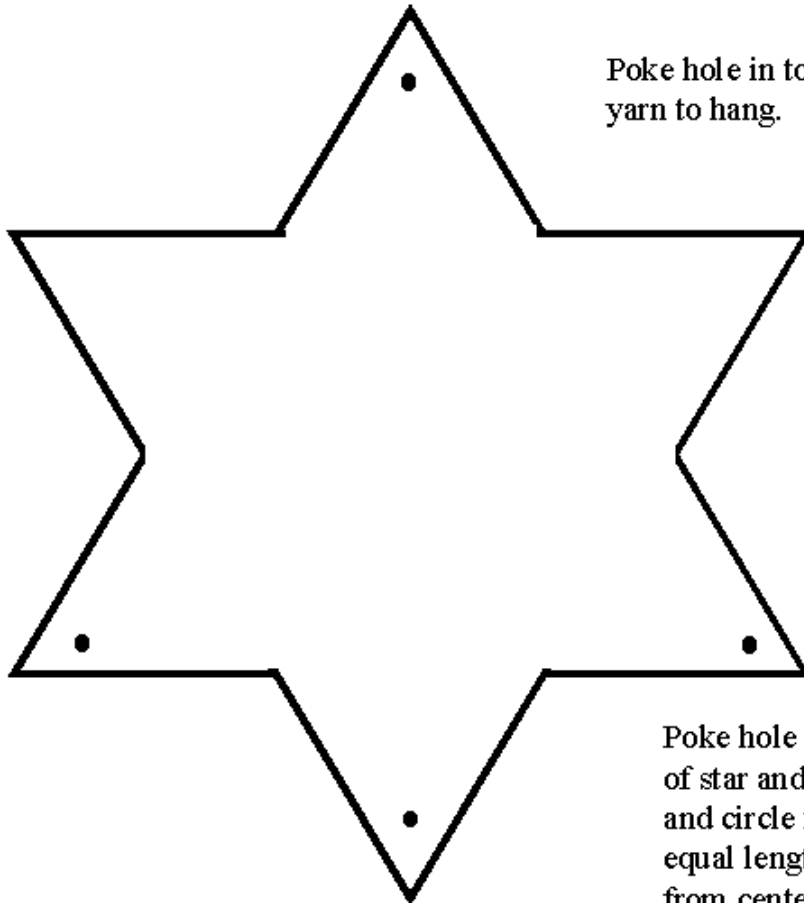
Activity # 3

# Dot to Dot Fun



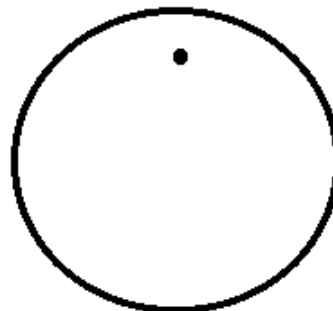
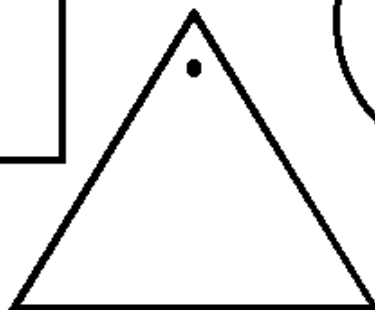
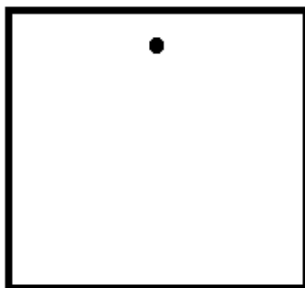
Activity # 4 (Page 2 of 2)

From DLTK's printable crafts for kids: [www.dltk-kids.com](http://www.dltk-kids.com)



Poke hole in top and thread yarn to hang.

Poke hole in each of three bottom points of star and in each shape. Hang square and circle from edge points of star with equal lengths of yarn. Hang Triangle from center point of star with longer length of yarn.



## Activity # 8

# Space Pictures

### Materials:

- 5" X 7" piece of thick paper (card stock)
- crayons
- black crayon
- toothpick
- newspaper
- construction paper

### Procedure:

- Cover the work area with newspaper to protect the table.
- Give the child a piece of card stock, various colors of crayons, a black crayon, and a toothpick.
- Have the child randomly color darkly with different colored crayons (except black) overlapping them and covering the entire sheet.
- When the sheet is completely covered, color darkly over the whole picture with a black crayon.
- Take a toothpick and scratch a picture of what the space looks like to them. It could be planets, a space ship, or just stars.
- Center and attach the space picture in the middle of a piece of construction paper.

## Activity # 9

# Star Magnets

### Materials:

- Yellow foam board
- Another color foam board
- Three colors of ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- A picture
- Magnet

### Procedure:

1. Using the smaller star template, cut a yellow star out of foam board and cut a circle in the middle for a picture.
2. Take a picture of the child using a digital camera or a Polaroid camera.
3. Tape the picture in the cut out.
4. Using the larger star template, cut a star out of the other color foam board and glue it to the back of the yellow star.
5. Write "Little" above the picture and "Star" below the picture on the yellow star with a permanent marker.
6. Glue a magnet to the back of the star. Cut two pieces of ribbon about 12" long. Fold them in half and glue to the back of the star. Glue a piece of scrap foam over the ribbon to secure. It will look like a shooting star when it is complete.



## Activity # 7 (Page 1 of 2)

### Peanut Butter and Jelly Star Sandwiches

#### Ingredients:

- 2 slices of your favorite type of bread
- 1 tablespoon peanut butter (creamy or chunky, whichever you prefer)
- 1 tablespoon of your favorite flavor of jelly
- Star-shaped cookie cutter

#### Procedure:

1. Spread peanut butter on one slice of bread.
2. Spread jelly on the other.
3. Place the peanut buttered slice on top of the jellied slice.
4. Place the cookie cutter in the center of the bread and press firmly to cut through both slices of bread.
5. Gently remove the cookie cutter and the star-shaped piece you've cut out.
6. Eat and enjoy!

Makes 1 star-shaped sandwich

*\*An alternative would be to use the cookie cutter to make a snack using cheese or Jello (jigglers).*

## "Star"Berry Smoothie

### Ingredients:

- 2 ice cubes
- 1 cup milk
- 1/3 cup cottage cheese
- 2/3 cup frozen strawberries
- 1 1/2 teaspoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Blender (You'll need help from your adult assistant.)
- Serving glass
- Measuring cups and spoons



### Directions:

1. Pour all of the ingredients into the blender.
2. Put the lid on the blender and blend for 45 to 60 seconds until smooth.
3. Pour your smoothie into a glass and enjoy.

## Activity # 10 (Page 1 of 2)

### Play Dough

This activity allows children an opportunity to manipulate as they learn. It is a good activity for kinesthetic or tactile learners.

**Make a play mat for each child before beginning this activity.**

#### **Materials:**

- Construction paper
- Wax Paper
- Iron
- Crayons
- Crayon sharpener
- Scissors (with pattern)

#### **Procedure:**

Have the child decorate a piece of construction paper and put his or her name on it. Place the paper on a piece of wax paper and sprinkle crayon shaving where desired. It takes quite a bit of shavings to get a good result. Cover it with another piece of wax paper and iron the two pieces together. **(ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED)** Cut the edges so that they are even. You can use patterned scissors for a nice effect. (Clear contact paper can be used instead of the wax paper.) Each child can create and play on his or her own play mat.

#### **Making the Play Dough:**

Homemade play dough is an excellent multi-sensory tool for encouraging learning. It makes an organic connection while encouraging artistic expression. It is a wonderfully calming, hands-on material. For this recipe, you will need:

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup all purpose flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup salt
- 1 Tablespoon cooking oil
- food coloring (Un-sweetened Kool-Aid can be substituted instead.)

Mix all ingredients until they form smooth dough. If you would like to save the dough for another time, be sure to store it in an air tight bag.

## Activity # 10 (Page 2 of 2)

If the child wants to make a very special Christmas ornament out of the dough:

- Cut out star shapes using a cookie cutter.
- Put a hole in the star with a toothpick.
- Allow the stars to air dry or bake in a warm (175 degrees) oven until they are dry.
- Paint the dry stars, add the child's name and the date.
- Attach a ribbon to finish it off.

## Activity # 5

# Star Light/Star Bright

This quick and easy craft will help children visualize their fondest wish.

### Supplies needed:

- White paper
- Dark blue and yellow construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- Crayons

1. Copy the star template and words to the poem "Star Light, Star Bright".
2. Trace a star on yellow construction paper. Cut the star out.
3. Glue the poem towards the bottom of the sheet of dark blue construction paper. Glue only the top ray of the yellow star towards the top of the blue sheet.

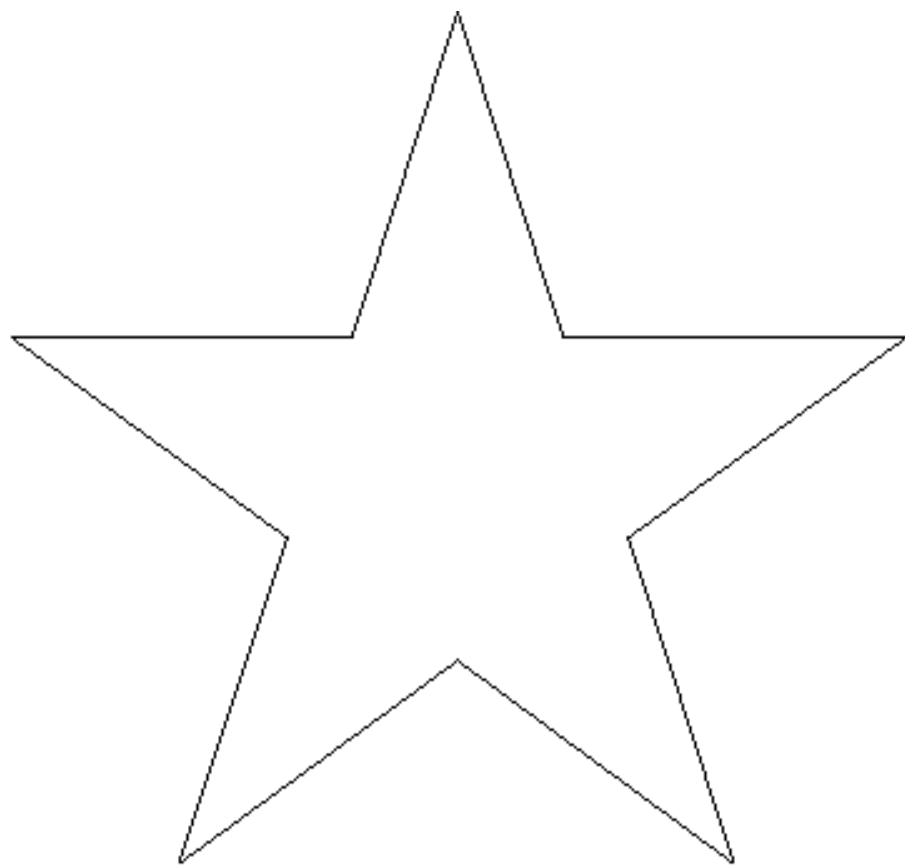


Glue only this ray of the star



4. Write "I wish" on the front of the star.  
Write your wish on the back of the star.
5. **Don't forget to look at the stars tonight.**





Star Light, Star Bright,  
First star I see tonight,  
I wish I may,  
I wish I might,  
Get the wish  
I wish tonight.

## Activity # 11

### Magic Telescope

Telescopes help us to see things that are far away. Magic telescopes help children to develop their imaginations and to understand the difference between real and pretend.

#### Materials:

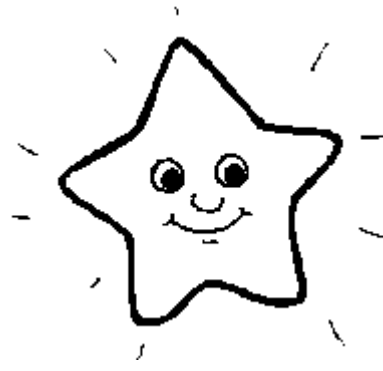
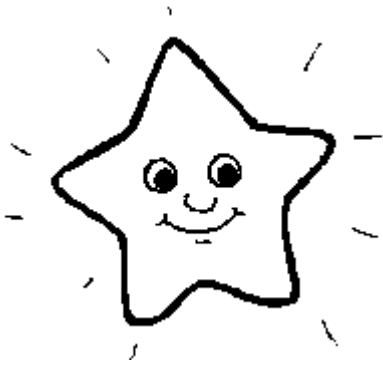
- An empty paper towel roll or two empty toilet tissue rolls
- Cellophane wrap
- Packing tape
- Construction paper
- Markers, crayons, stickers

#### Procedure:

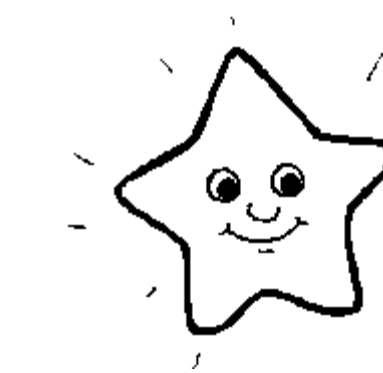
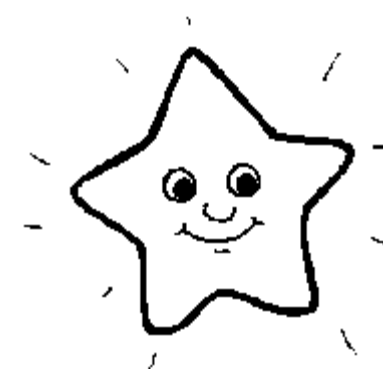
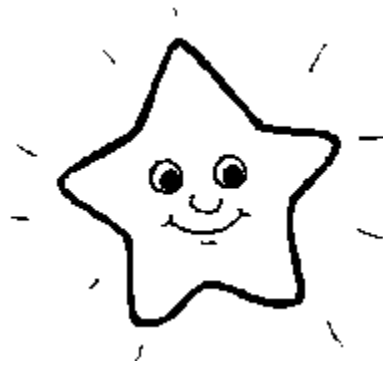
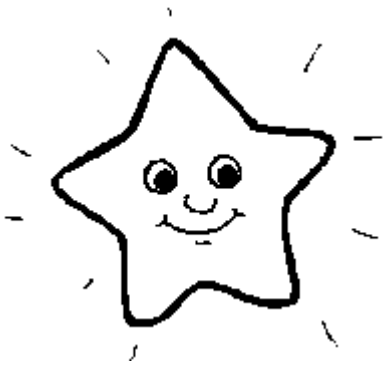
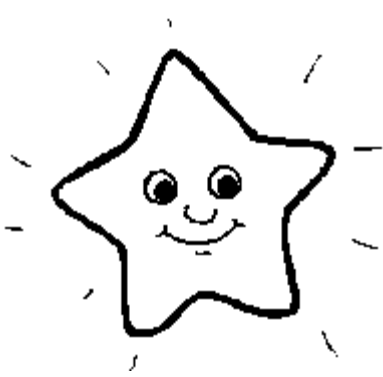
1. Cover one end of the towel roll with cellophane wrap and secure it with packing tape around the bottom edge. If you are using two tissue rolls, connect them together (end to end) with some packing tape.
2. Next cover the roll with construction paper. The child can decorate the roll with crayons, markers, stickers, etc.

When the project is completed have the child look through the telescope and imagine he/she is looking out at distant stars or planets. Ask the child to use his/her imagination and tell you what he/she sees. For example, "I see a comet. Can you see one? What does a comet look like to you? Has anyone seen a comet in the sky? What else do you think you might see when looking through a telescope?" When finished, have the child draw pictures of what he/she saw with the telescope.

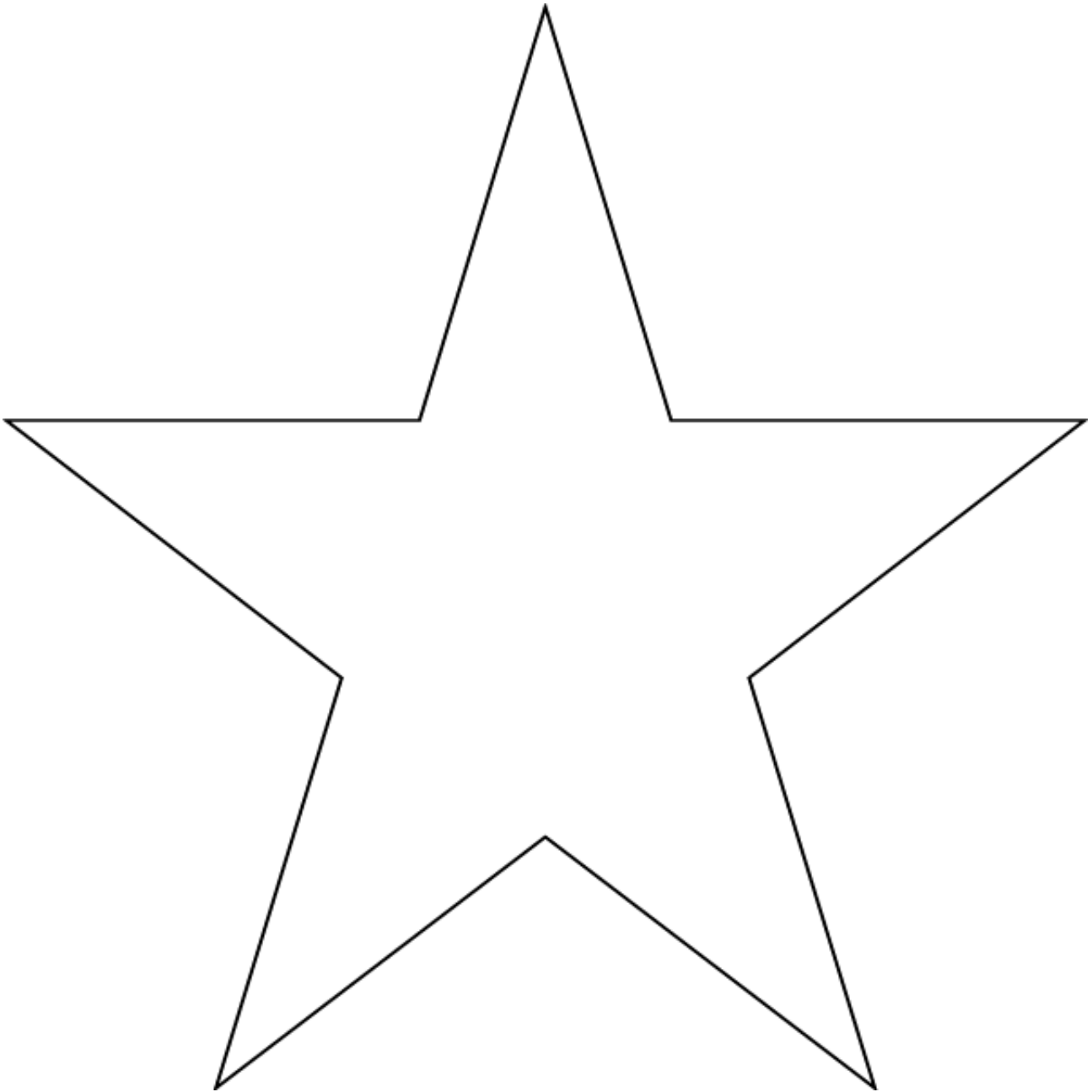
Activity # 2



How many stars are there?







I can draw a star!