



Hi there, I'm **Ashley**  
I'm an Elementary School Counselor,  
Curriculum Author, Blogger, and  
Boy mama. I specialize in all  
things Counseling & SEL.



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# SPOT THE ACADEMIC SKILLS

## Session Objective:

\*Students will identify and practice academic success skills such as organization, time management, focus, self-advocacy, and perseverance to improve their learning and school performance.

## I Can...Statement

I can use skills like organization and focus to help me learn.

## Materials:

- Board Game
- Task Cards
- Task Card Boxes (optional)

## Guiding Questions:

\*How can using academic success skills help me do my best in school?

## ASCA Standards Alignment:

\*Mindset: Belief in development of whole self, including a healthy balance of mental, social/emotional and physical well-being. (M 1)

\*Behavior: Social Skills: Leadership and teamwork skills to work effectively in diverse groups (B-SS 7)

## SEL Competencies:

\*Self-Awareness: Identifying Emotions.

\*Responsible Decision-Making: Analyzing situations.

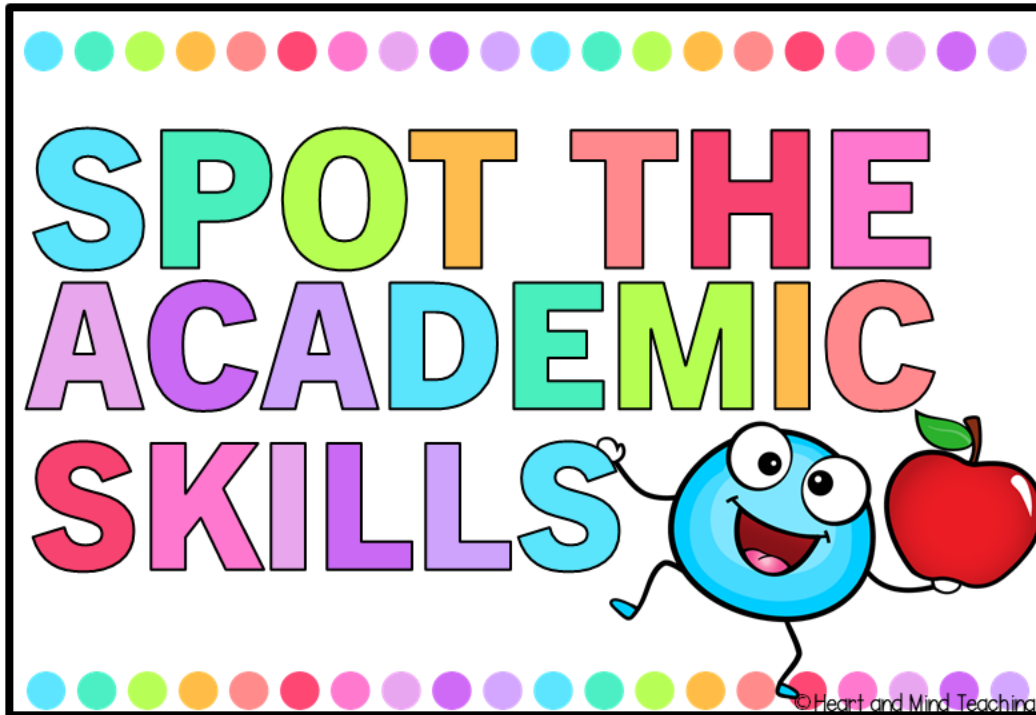
## Instructions

-Preparation: Print out and laminate the game board (it will last longer this way). Keep in mind if you purchase the other "Spot" task cards, they all use the same game board, so no need to print it again if you already have. Print out the game cards front-to-back, I would laminate these too. You may need to test your printer first to make sure it aligns correctly. Once printed, cut them out and store them in a task card box (or zip lock bag etc.).

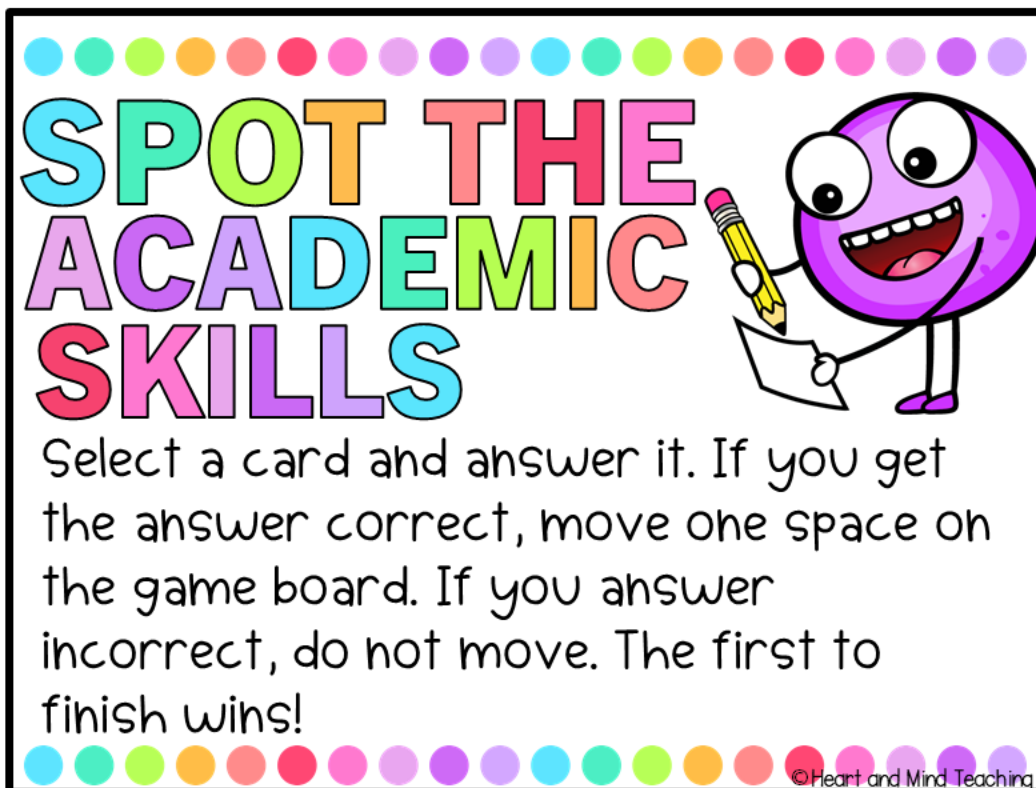
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-If playing with two or more players: Select a card and answer it. Flip the card to see if you got it correct. If correct, move your game piece one spot. If incorrect, do not move your game piece. The next player will now select a task card. If you land on a spot with a ladder, move in the direction of the arrow shown. If you land on a spot with a slide, slide down following the direction of the arrow. Continue until you reach the finish line, first to the finish wins!

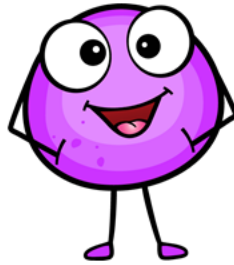
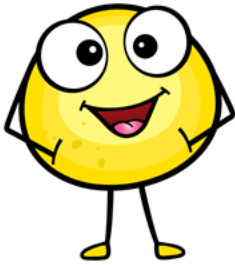
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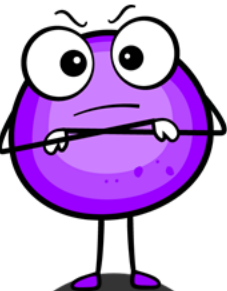
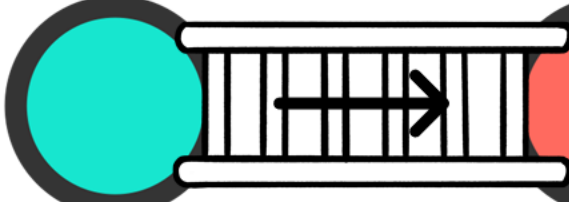
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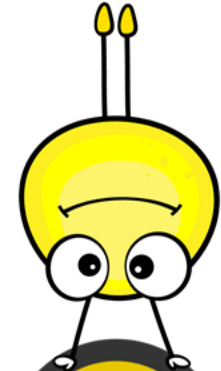
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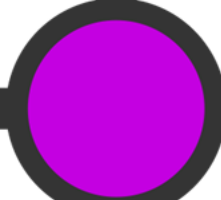
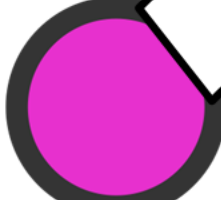
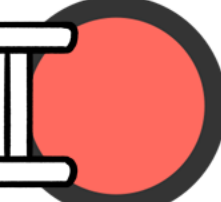
Move ahead two



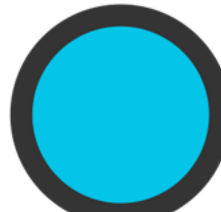
Lose a turn!



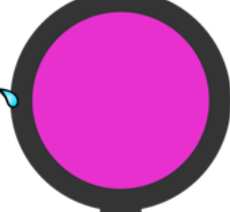
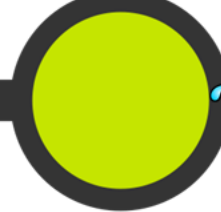
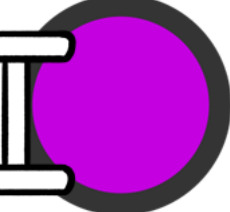
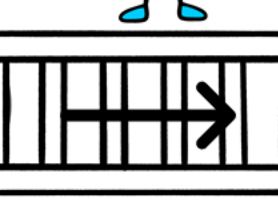
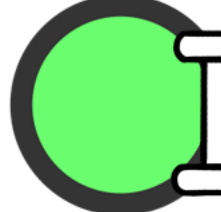
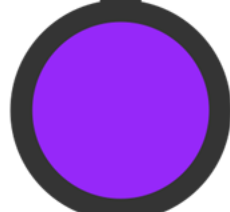
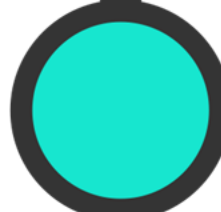
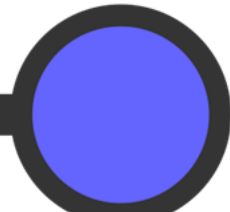
Move back two



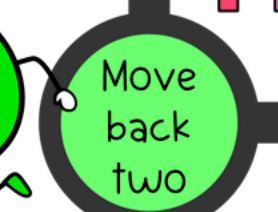
Move back two



Move ahead two

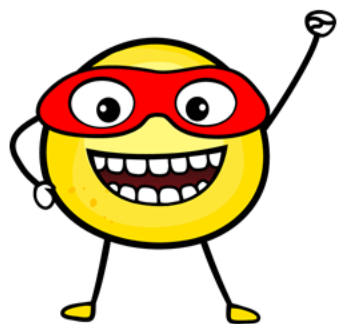


Lose a turn!



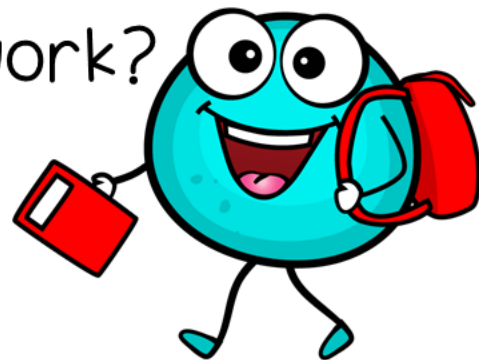
FINISH

What is an academic success skill?



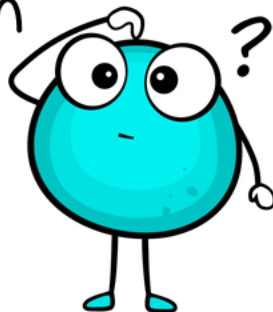
1

Which skill helps you keep track of homework?



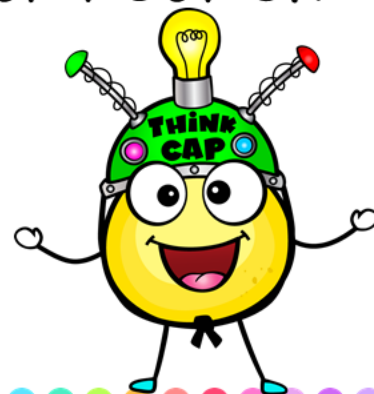
2

What should you do if you don't understand an assignment?



3

Which habit helps you do your best on tests?



4

What helps you finish work on time?



5

Which skill helps you stay focused in class?



6

Organization.

2

A skill that  
helps you  
learn and do  
well in school.

1

Studying and  
practicing.

4

Ask for help.

3

Paying  
attention.

6

Managing your time.

5

Which action helps you learn from mistakes?



7

What skill helps you listen and follow directions?



8

Which habit helps your brain be ready to learn?



9

True or False: Being organized can help lower stress.



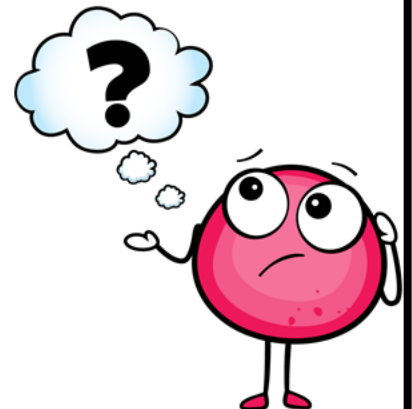
10

True or False: Making mistakes means you are failing.



11

True or False: Asking questions can help you learn.



12

Self-control.

8

Fixing errors and trying again.

7

True

10

Getting enough sleep and eating well.

9

True

12

False

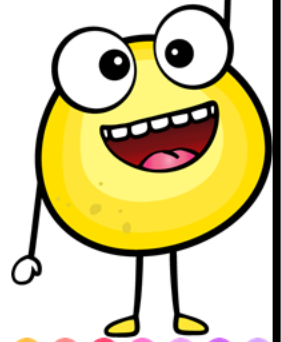
11

True or False: Time management means rushing all the time.



13

True or False: Trying your best is part of academic success.



14

True or False: Listening carefully helps you follow directions.



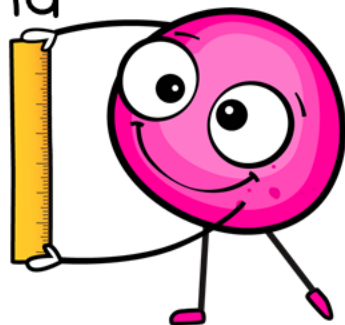
15

True or False: You should give up if schoolwork feels hard.



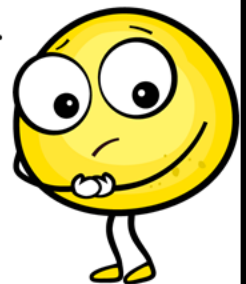
16

True or False: Success skills can be practiced and improved.



17

You forget your homework at home. What success skill could help next time?



18

True

14

False

13

False

16

True

15

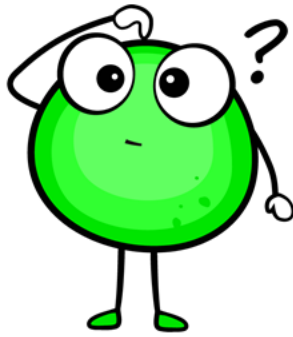
Organization

18

True

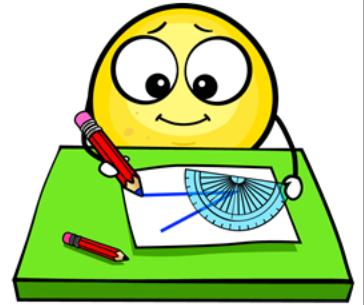
17

You don't understand directions for an assignment. What should you do?



19

Your project is due tomorrow, and you haven't started. What skill do you need?



20

You make a mistake on a math problem. What is the best response?



21

You feel distracted during a lesson. What can help?



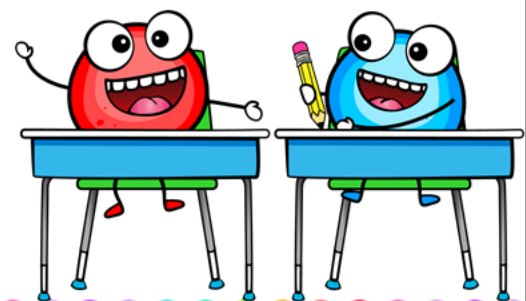
22

A test is coming up, and you feel nervous. What success skill can help?



23

You want to talk while the teacher is speaking. What skill should you use?



24

Time management.

20

Ask the teacher  
for help.

19

Focus and pay  
attention.

22

Fix it and try  
again.

21

Self-control.

24

Studying and  
practicing.

23

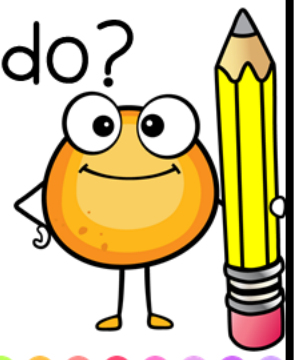
You feel frustrated with your work because it is hard.

What is a smart choice?



25

You finish your work early. What should you do?



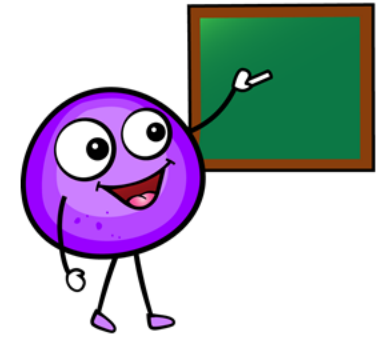
26

You notice your desk is messy and papers are missing. What skill is needed?



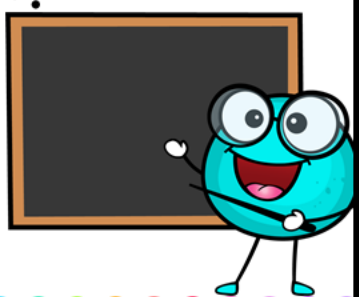
27

Why is paying attention important in class?



28

What should you do if you need help with schoolwork?



29

How can being organized help you succeed?



30

Check your work or  
read quietly.

26

Take a short  
break and keep  
trying.

25

It helps you  
learn directions  
and information.

28

Organization.

27

It helps you find  
materials and  
finish work.

30

Ask a teacher or  
trusted adult.

29

What is one way to manage your time?



31

Why is it important to try even when work is hard?



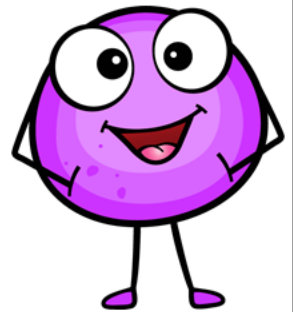
32

How does studying help you learn?



33

What can you do to stay focused in class?



34

Which habit helps you stay focused during class?

- A. Talking to friends
- B. Daydreaming
- C. Paying attention to the speaker
- D. Playing with supplies



35

What helps you finish assignments on time?

- A. Waiting until the last minute
- B. Time management
- C. Rushing
- D. Skipping steps



36

Trying helps you improve.

32

Use a schedule, planner/agenda, or plan ahead.

31

Listen, look at the speaker, and stay on task.

34

It helps you remember and understand.

33

B. Time management

36

C. Paying attention to the speaker

35

What should you do after making a mistake?

- A. Hide it
- B. Give up
- C. Learn from it and try again
- D. Get mad



37

Which skill helps you stay on task during independent work time?

- A. Focus
- B. Rushing
- C. Talking
- D. Avoiding work



38

What is a good way to manage your time?

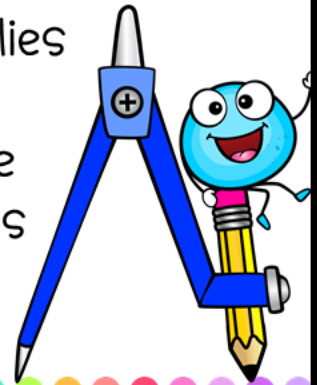
- A. Do everything at once
- B. Make a plan or schedule
- C. Forget deadlines
- D. Wait until tomorrow



39

Which action shows responsibility at school?

- A. Leaving work unfinished
- B. Forgetting supplies
- C. Turning in assignments on time
- D. Ignoring directions



40

A. Focus

38

C. Learn from it and try again

37

C. Turning in assignments on time

40

B. Make a plan or schedule

39



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# TASK CARD RESPONSES

<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	
<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>	
<b>9</b>	
<b>10</b>	
<b>11</b>	
<b>12</b>	
<b>13</b>	
<b>14</b>	
<b>15</b>	
<b>16</b>	



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# TASK CARD RESPONSES

<b>17</b>	
<b>18</b>	
<b>19</b>	
<b>20</b>	
<b>21</b>	
<b>22</b>	
<b>23</b>	
<b>24</b>	
<b>25</b>	
<b>26</b>	
<b>27</b>	
<b>28</b>	
<b>29</b>	
<b>30</b>	
<b>31</b>	
<b>32</b>	



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# TASK CARD RESPONSES

<b>33</b>	
<b>34</b>	
<b>35</b>	
<b>36</b>	
<b>37</b>	
<b>38</b>	
<b>39</b>	
<b>40</b>	

# SPOT THE ACADEMIC SKILLS

## TASK CARD ANSWER KEY

<b>1</b>	A skill that helps you learn and do well in school.
<b>2</b>	Organization.
<b>3</b>	Ask for help.
<b>4</b>	Studying and practicing.
<b>5</b>	Managing your time.
<b>6</b>	Paying attention.
<b>7</b>	Fixing errors and trying again.
<b>8</b>	Self-control.
<b>9</b>	Getting enough sleep and eating well.
<b>10</b>	True
<b>11</b>	False
<b>12</b>	True
<b>13</b>	False
<b>14</b>	True
<b>15</b>	True
<b>16</b>	False

# SPOT THE ACADEMIC SKILLS

## TASK CARD ANSWER KEY

<b>17</b>	True
<b>18</b>	Organization
<b>19</b>	Ask the teacher for help.
<b>20</b>	Time management.
<b>21</b>	Fix it and try again.
<b>22</b>	Focus and pay attention.
<b>23</b>	Studying and practicing.
<b>24</b>	Self-control.
<b>25</b>	Take a short break and keep trying.
<b>26</b>	Check your work or read quietly.
<b>27</b>	Organization.
<b>28</b>	It helps you learn directions and information.
<b>29</b>	Ask a teacher or trusted adult.
<b>30</b>	It helps you find materials and finish work.
<b>31</b>	Use a schedule, planner/agenda, or plan ahead.
<b>32</b>	Trying helps you improve.

# SPOT THE ACADEMIC SKILLS

## TASK CARD ANSWER KEY

<b>33</b>	It helps you remember and understand.
<b>34</b>	Listen, look at the speaker, and stay on task.
<b>35</b>	C. Paying attention to the speaker
<b>36</b>	B. Time management
<b>37</b>	C. Learn from it and try again
<b>38</b>	A. Focus
<b>39</b>	B. Make a plan or schedule
<b>40</b>	C. Turning in assignments on time

Black and  
white  
version

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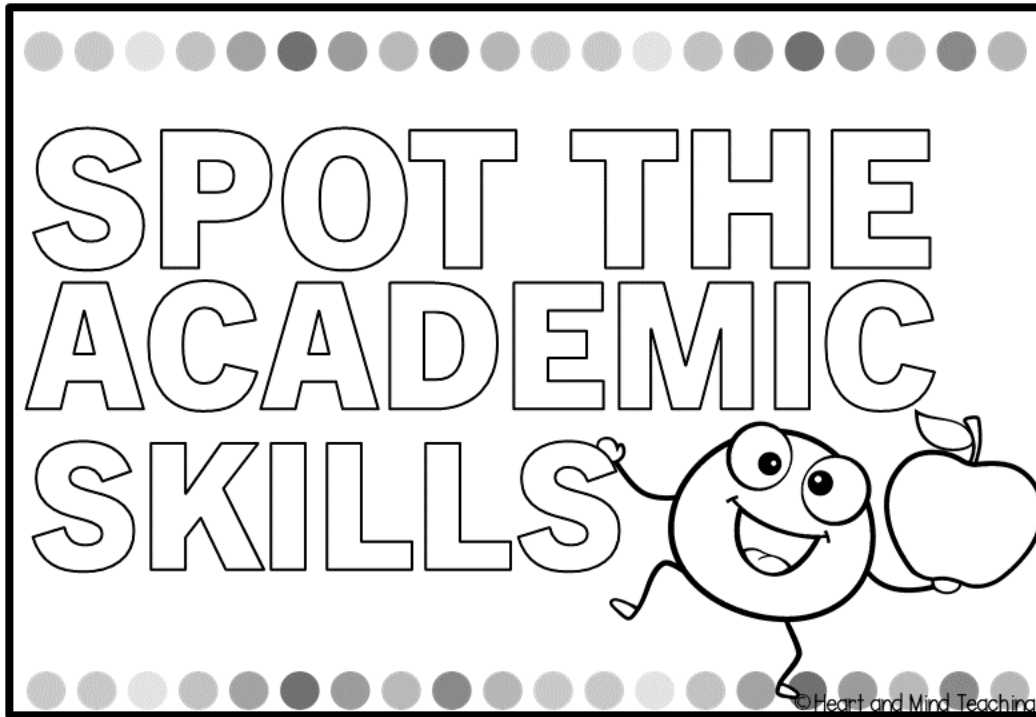
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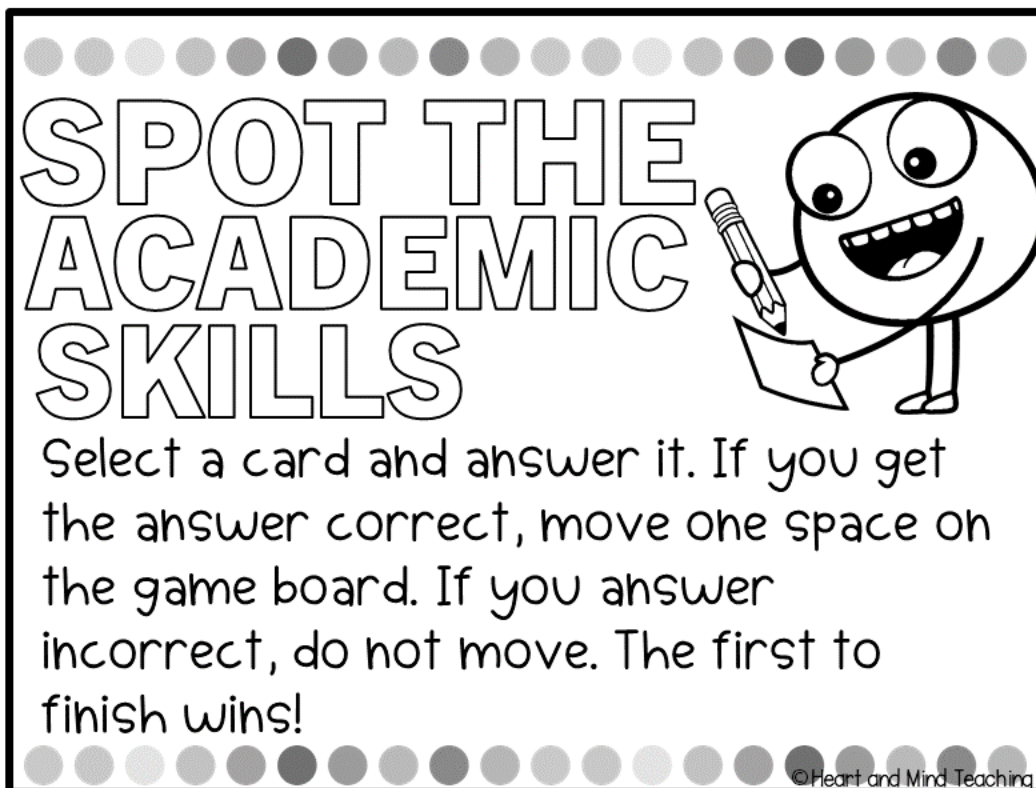
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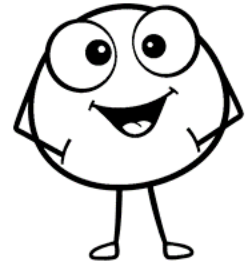
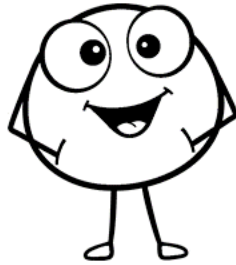
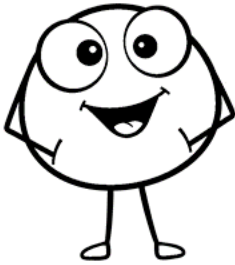
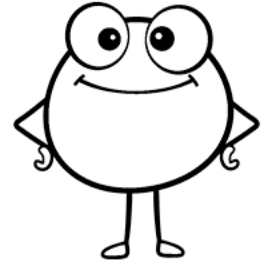
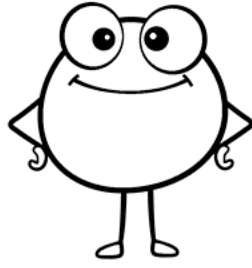
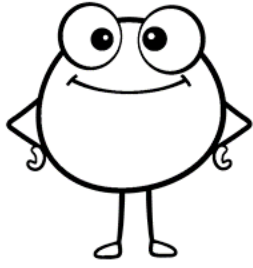
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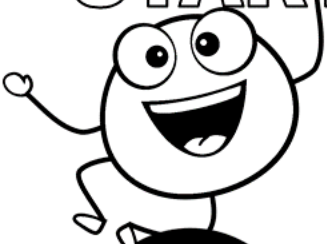
Tape to the inside top of the task card box.



# Game Pieces

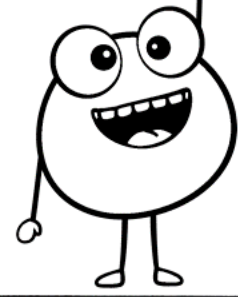


START

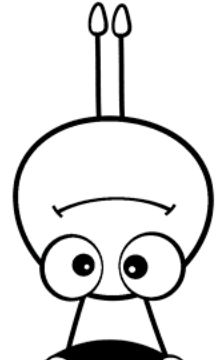


Move ahead two

Move ahead two



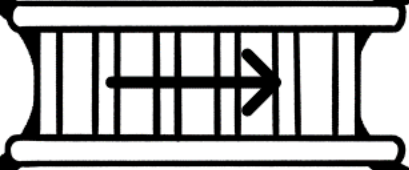
Move back two



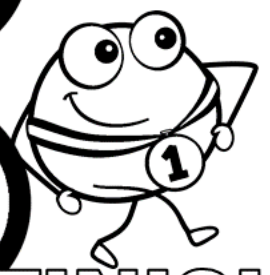
Lose a turn!



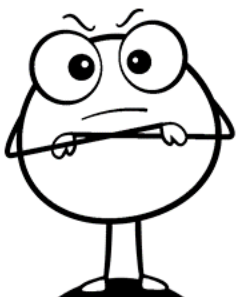
→



FINISH



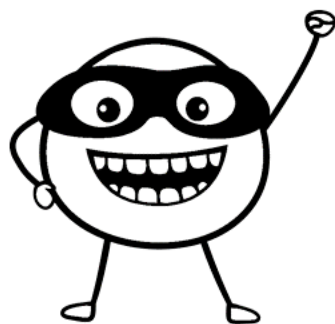
Lose a turn!



Move back two

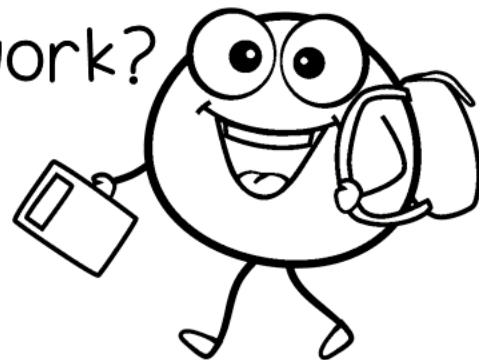


What is an academic success skill?



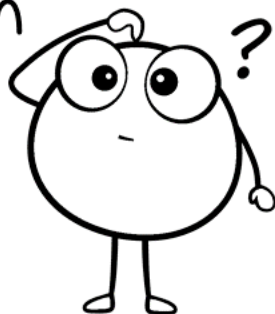
1

Which skill helps you keep track of homework?



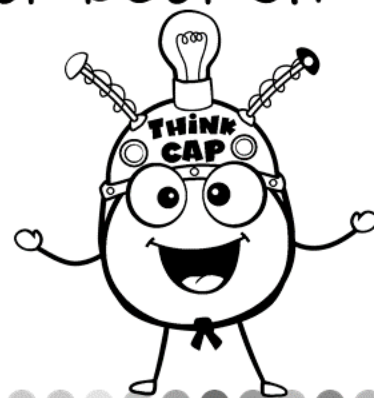
2

What should you do if you don't understand an assignment?



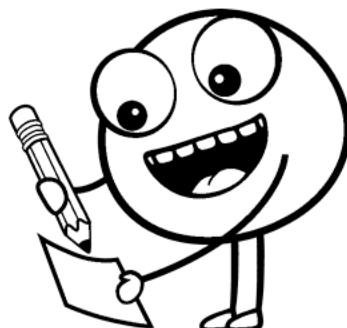
3

Which habit helps you do your best on tests?



4

What helps you finish work on time?



5

Which skill helps you stay focused in class?



6

Organization.

2

A skill that  
helps you  
learn and do  
well in school.

1

Studying and  
practicing.

4

Ask for help.

3

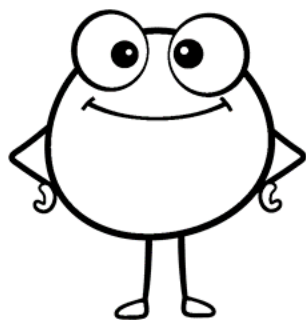
Paying  
attention.

6

Managing your time.

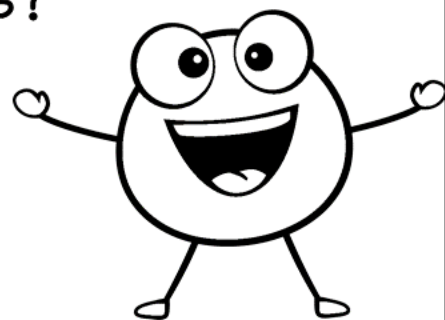
5

Which action helps you learn from mistakes?



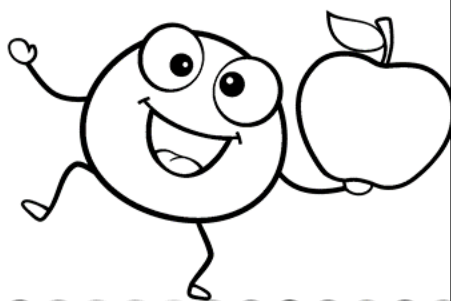
7

What skill helps you listen and follow directions?



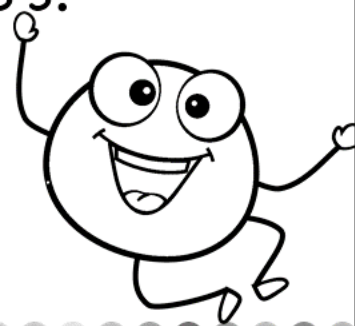
8

Which habit helps your brain be ready to learn?



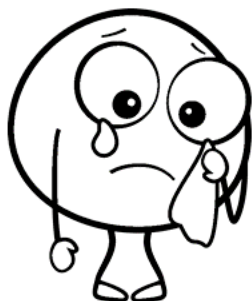
9

True or False: Being organized can help lower stress.



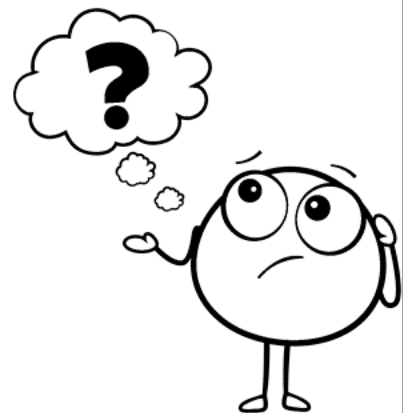
10

True or False: Making mistakes means you are failing.



11

True or False: Asking questions can help you learn.



12

Self-control.

8

Fixing errors and trying again.

7

True

10

Getting enough sleep and eating well.

9

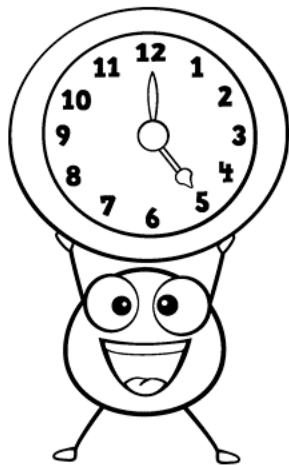
True

12

False

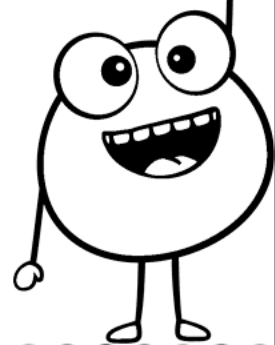
11

True or False: Time management means rushing all the time.



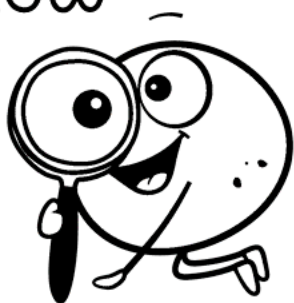
13

True or False: Trying your best is part of academic success.



14

True or False: Listening carefully helps you follow directions.



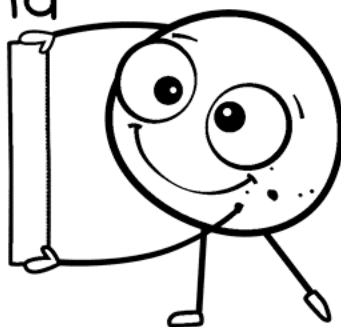
15

True or False: You should give up if schoolwork feels hard.



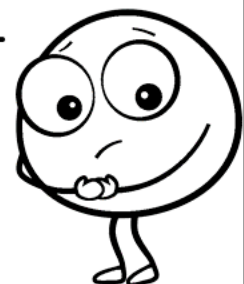
16

True or False: Success skills can be practiced and improved.



17

You forget your homework at home. What success skill could help next time?



18

True

14

False

13

False

16

True

15

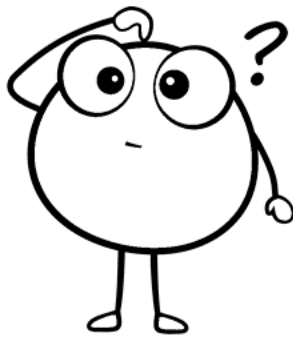
Organization

18

True

17

You don't understand directions for an assignment. What should you do?



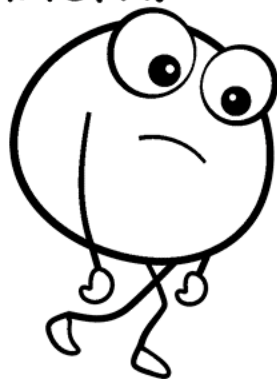
19

Your project is due tomorrow, and you haven't started. What skill do you need?



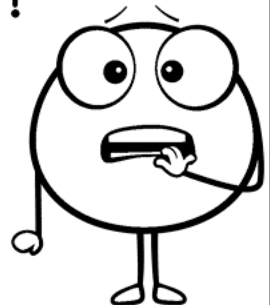
20

You make a mistake on a math problem. What is the best response?



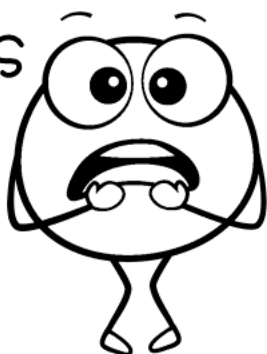
21

You feel distracted during a lesson. What can help?



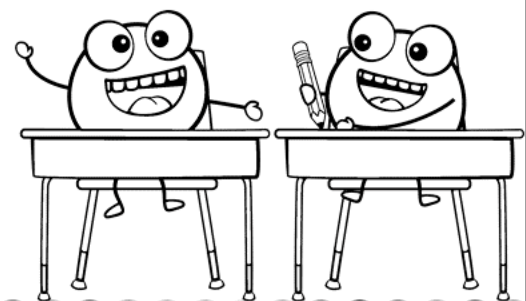
22

A test is coming up, and you feel nervous. What success skill can help?



23

You want to talk while the teacher is speaking. What skill should you use?



24

Time management.

20

Ask the teacher  
for help.

19

Focus and pay  
attention.

22

Fix it and try  
again.

21

Self-control.

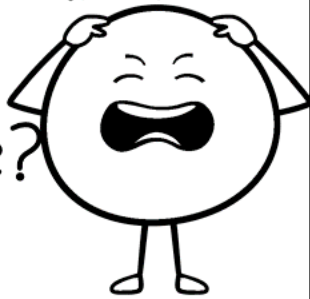
24

Studying and  
practicing.

23

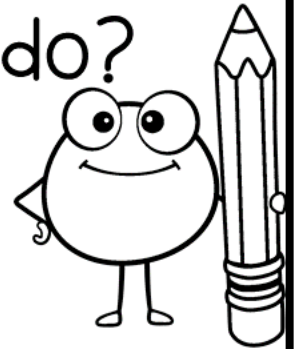
You feel frustrated with your work because it is hard.

What is a smart choice?



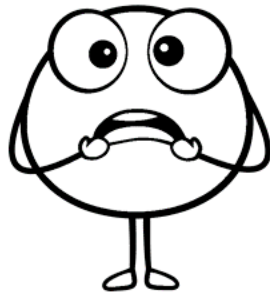
25

You finish your work early. What should you do?



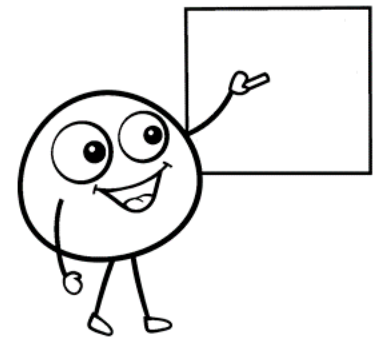
26

You notice your desk is messy and papers are missing. What skill is needed?



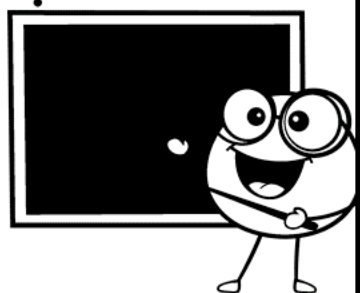
27

Why is paying attention important in class?



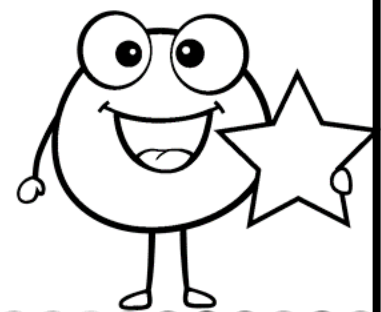
28

What should you do if you need help with schoolwork?



29

How can being organized help you succeed?



30

Check your work or  
read quietly.

26

Take a short  
break and keep  
trying.

25

It helps you  
learn directions  
and information.

28

Organization.

27

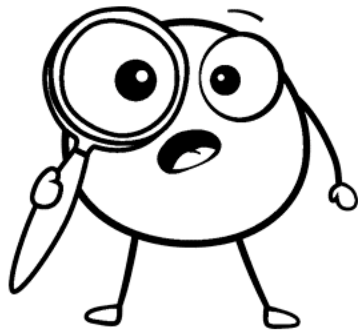
It helps you find  
materials and  
finish work.

30

Ask a teacher or  
trusted adult.

29

What is one way to manage your time?



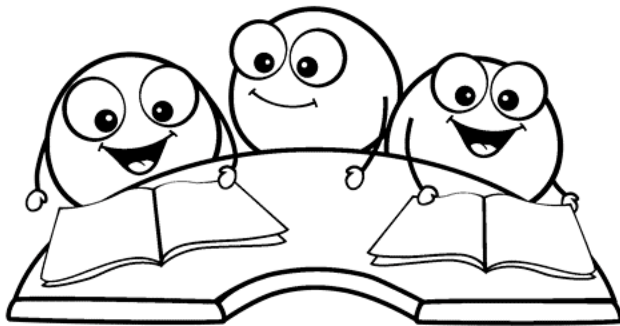
31

Why is it important to try even when work is hard?



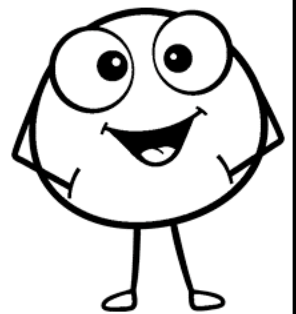
32

How does studying help you learn?



33

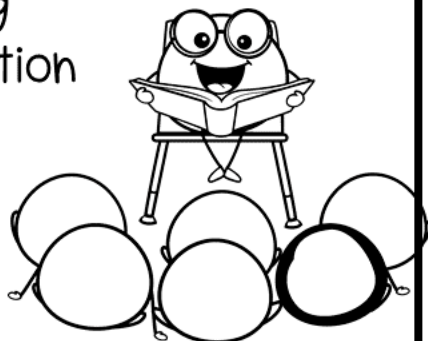
What can you do to stay focused in class?



34

Which habit helps you stay focused during class?

- A. Talking to friends
- B. Daydreaming
- C. Paying attention to the speaker
- D. Playing with supplies



35

What helps you finish assignments on time?

- A. Waiting until the last minute
- B. Time management
- C. Rushing
- D. Skipping steps



36

Trying helps you improve.

32

Use a schedule, planner/agenda, or plan ahead.

31

Listen, look at the speaker, and stay on task.

34

It helps you remember and understand.

33

B. Time management

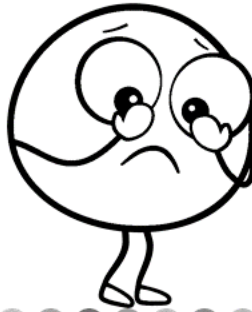
36

C. Paying attention to the speaker

35

What should you do after making a mistake?

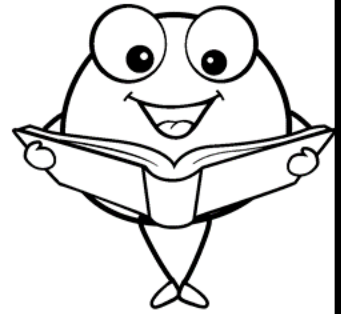
- A. Hide it
- B. Give up
- C. Learn from it and try again
- D. Get mad



37

Which skill helps you stay on task during independent work time?

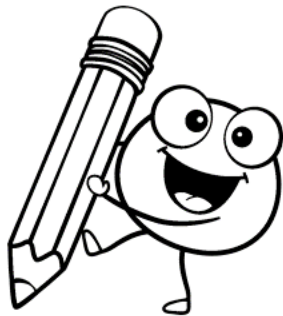
- A. Focus
- B. Rushing
- C. Talking
- D. Avoiding work



38

What is a good way to manage your time?

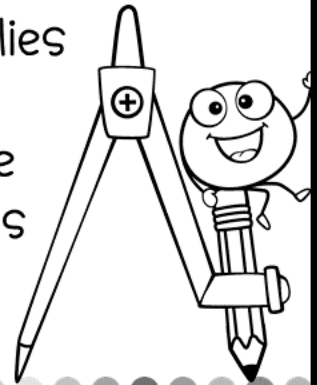
- A. Do everything at once
- B. Make a plan or schedule
- C. Forget deadlines
- D. Wait until tomorrow



39

Which action shows responsibility at school?

- A. Leaving work unfinished
- B. Forgetting supplies
- C. Turning in assignments on time
- D. Ignoring directions



40

A. Focus

38

C. Learn from it and  
try again

37

C. Turning in  
assignments on  
time

40

B. Make a plan or  
schedule

39



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# TASK CARD RESPONSES

<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	
<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>	
<b>9</b>	
<b>10</b>	
<b>11</b>	
<b>12</b>	
<b>13</b>	
<b>14</b>	
<b>15</b>	
<b>16</b>	



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# TASK CARD RESPONSES

<b>17</b>	
<b>18</b>	
<b>19</b>	
<b>20</b>	
<b>21</b>	
<b>22</b>	
<b>23</b>	
<b>24</b>	
<b>25</b>	
<b>26</b>	
<b>27</b>	
<b>28</b>	
<b>29</b>	
<b>30</b>	
<b>31</b>	
<b>32</b>	



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# TASK CARD RESPONSES

<b>33</b>	
<b>34</b>	
<b>35</b>	
<b>36</b>	
<b>37</b>	
<b>38</b>	
<b>39</b>	
<b>40</b>	

# SPOT THE ACADEMIC SKILLS

## TASK CARD ANSWER KEY

<b>1</b>	A skill that helps you learn and do well in school.
<b>2</b>	Organization.
<b>3</b>	Ask for help.
<b>4</b>	Studying and practicing.
<b>5</b>	Managing your time.
<b>6</b>	Paying attention.
<b>7</b>	Fixing errors and trying again.
<b>8</b>	Self-control.
<b>9</b>	Getting enough sleep and eating well.
<b>10</b>	True
<b>11</b>	False
<b>12</b>	True
<b>13</b>	False
<b>14</b>	True
<b>15</b>	True
<b>16</b>	False

# SPOT THE ACADEMIC SKILLS

## TASK CARD ANSWER KEY

<b>17</b>	True
<b>18</b>	Organization
<b>19</b>	Ask the teacher for help.
<b>20</b>	Time management.
<b>21</b>	Fix it and try again.
<b>22</b>	Focus and pay attention.
<b>23</b>	Studying and practicing.
<b>24</b>	Self-control.
<b>25</b>	Take a short break and keep trying.
<b>26</b>	Check your work or read quietly.
<b>27</b>	Organization.
<b>28</b>	It helps you learn directions and information.
<b>29</b>	Ask a teacher or trusted adult.
<b>30</b>	It helps you find materials and finish work.
<b>31</b>	Use a schedule, planner/agenda, or plan ahead.
<b>32</b>	Trying helps you improve.

# SPOT THE ACADEMIC SKILLS

## TASK CARD ANSWER KEY

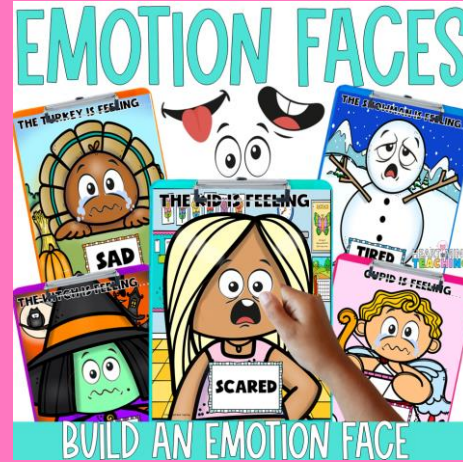
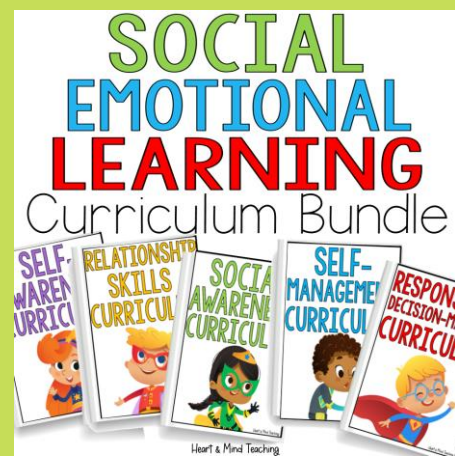
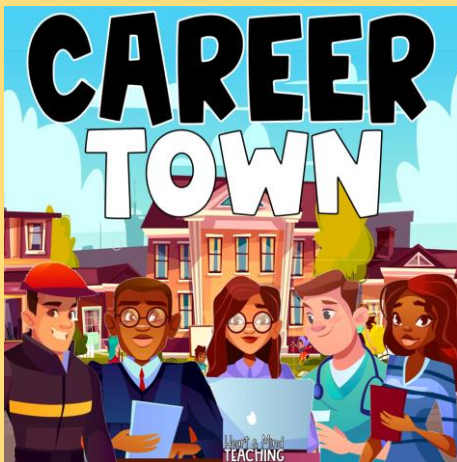
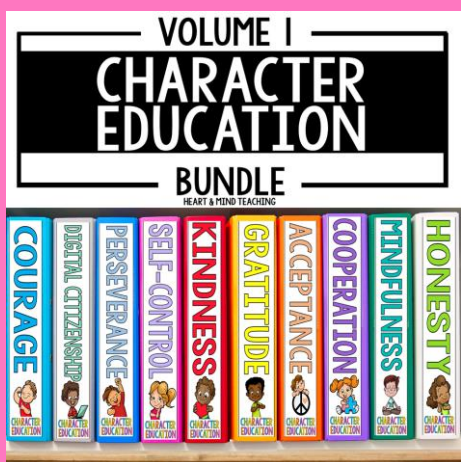
<b>33</b>	It helps you remember and understand.
<b>34</b>	Listen, look at the speaker, and stay on task.
<b>35</b>	C. Paying attention to the speaker
<b>36</b>	B. Time management
<b>37</b>	C. Learn from it and try again
<b>38</b>	A. Focus
<b>39</b>	B. Make a plan or schedule
<b>40</b>	C. Turning in assignments on time



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