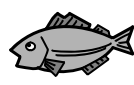




Hailstones



and



Halibut



Bones



Adventures



In



Color



by



Mary O'Neill



Like

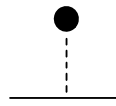


Acrobats

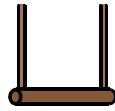


on

a



High



Trapeze,



The



Colors



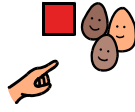
pose



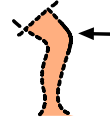
and



bend



their

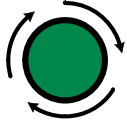


knees



Twist

and



turn



and



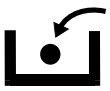
leap



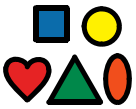
and



blend



Into



shapes



and



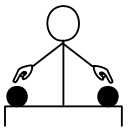
feelings



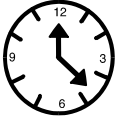
without



end...



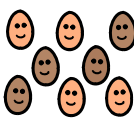
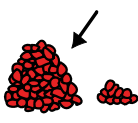
What is purple?



Time is purple



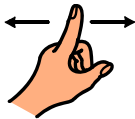
Just before night



When most people

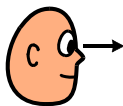


Turn on the light



But if you don't it's

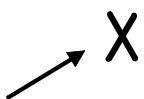
a



A beautiful sight.



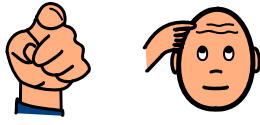
Asters are purple,



There's purple ink,



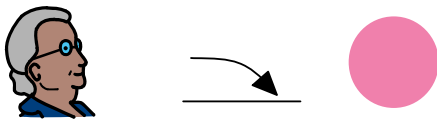
Purple's more popular,



Than you think.



It's sort of a great



Grandmother to pink.



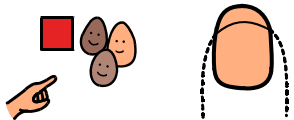
There are purple shadows



And purple veils,



Some ladies purple



their fingernails.



There's purple jam



And



purple



jell



And

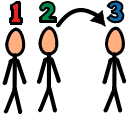
a



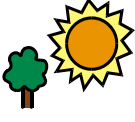
purple



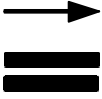
bruise



Next



day



will



tell



Where



you



landed



When



you



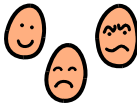
fell



The



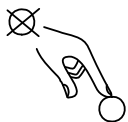
purple



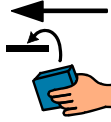
feeling



Is



rather



put-out



The



purple

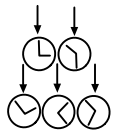


look



is

a

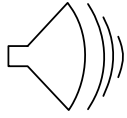


Definite



pout.

,

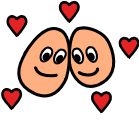


But

the

purple

sound



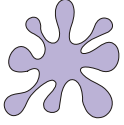
Is

the

loveliest

thing

a



h h h

It's

a

violet

opening



In

the

spring



What



is



gold?



Gold



is

a



metal

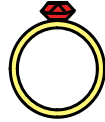


Gold



is

a



ring



Gold



is

a



very



Beautiful



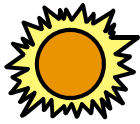
thing,



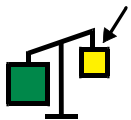
Gold



is



the sunshine



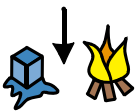
Light



and



thin



Warm

as

a



muffin



On



your



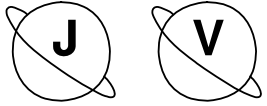
skin



Gold is the moon



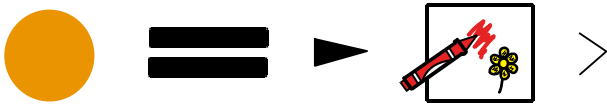
Gold are the stars



Jupiter, Venus



Saturn, and Mars.



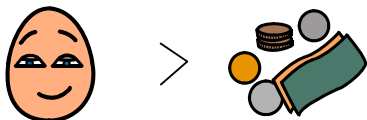
Gold is the color of



Clover honey



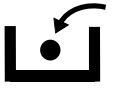
Gold is a certain



Kind of money.



Gold is alive



a

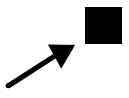


In

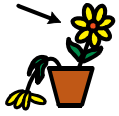
a

flickering

fish

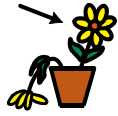


That



lives

its



life



a



In

a

crystal

dish.



Gold



is



the



answer



To



many

a



wish.



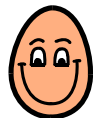
Gold



is



feeling



Like

a

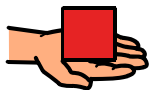


king



It's

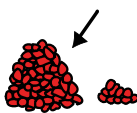
like



having



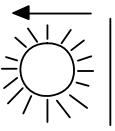
the



most



Of everything



Long time ago



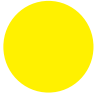
I



was



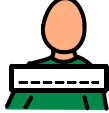
told



Yellow's



mother's



name



Is



gold.



What



is



Black?



Black



is



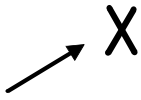
the



night



When



there



isn't

a



star



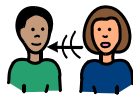
And



you



can't



tell



by



looking



Where



you



are.



Black



is

a



pail

>



of paving tar



Black



is



jet



And



things



you'd



like



to



forget.



Black



is

a



smokestack



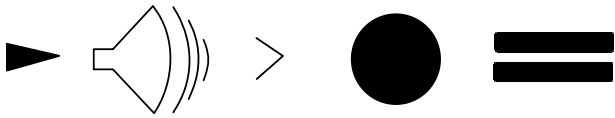
Black is a cat,



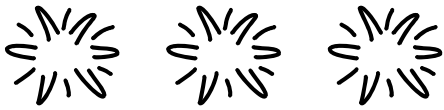
A leopard, a raven,



A high silk hat.



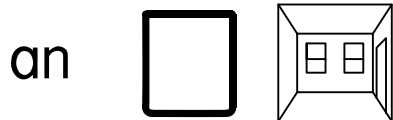
The sound of black is



"Boom, Boom, Boom!"



echoing in



An empty room.



Black is kind



It covers up



The rundown street,



The broken cup.



Black is charcoal



And patio grill,



The soot spots on



The window sill.



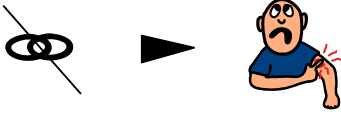
Black is a feeling



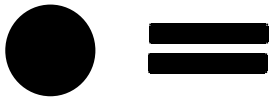
Hard to explain



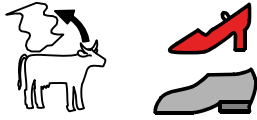
Like suffering but



Without the pain



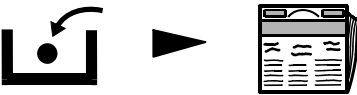
Black is licorice



And patent leather shoes



Black is the print



In the news.



Black is beauty



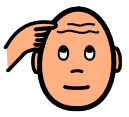
In it's deepest form



The darkest cloud



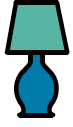
In a thunderstorm.



>



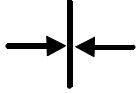
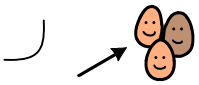
Think of what starlight



And lamplight would lack



Diamonds and fire flies



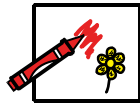
If they couldn't lean against



Black.



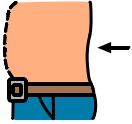
What is Brown?



a



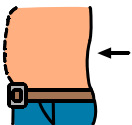
Brown is the color of a country road



a



Back of a turtle



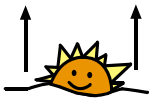
a



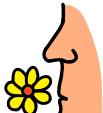
Back of a toad.



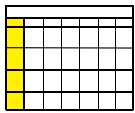
Brown is cinnamon



And morning toast



And the good smell of

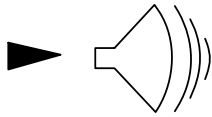


The Sunday roast.



Brown is the color of work

&



>

a

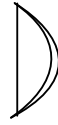


and the sound of a river,



&

a



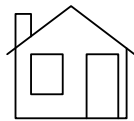
Brown is bronze and a bow

&

a



and a quiver.



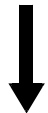
Brown is the house



On the edge of town



Where the wind is tearing



The shingles down.



a

Brown is a freckle



a



Brown is a mole



Brown is the earth



When you dig a hole.



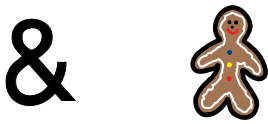
Brown is the hair



On many a head



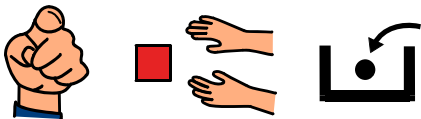
Brown is chocolate



And gingerbread.



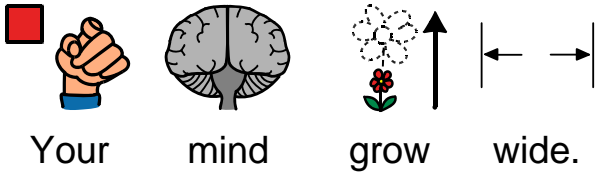
Brown is a feeling



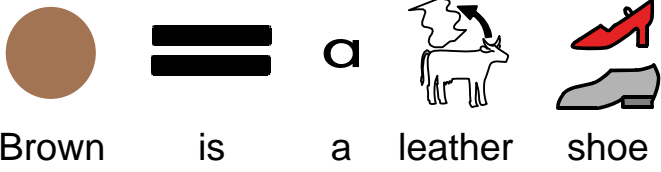
You get inside



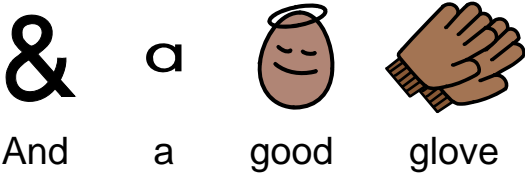
When wondering makes



Your mind grow wide.



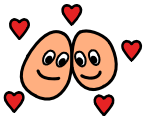
Brown is a leather shoe



And a good glove



Brown is comfortable



As love.



What



is



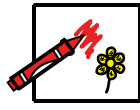
blue?



Blue



is



the color



of the sky



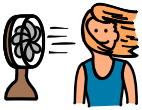
Without

a



a

cloud



Cool,



distant,



beautiful



And



proud.



Blue



is



the quiet



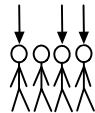
sea



and



the eyes



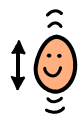
of some people,



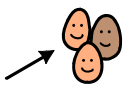
And



many

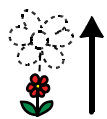


agree



As

they



grow



older



and



older



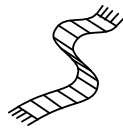
Blue



is



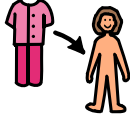
the



scarf



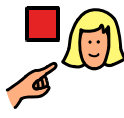
Spring



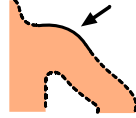
wears



on



her



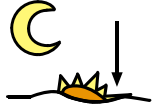
shoulder.



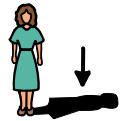
Blue



is



twilight,



Shadows



on



snow,



Blue



is



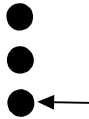
feeling



Way



down



low.



Blue



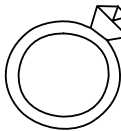
is

a



heron,

a



A sapphire ring



You



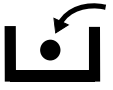
can



smell



blue



In



many

a



thing;



Gentian

&

and



larkspur,



Forget-me-nots, too.

&

And



if



you



listen



You



can



hear



blue



In



wind



over



water

&

And



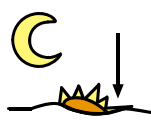
wherever flax blooms,

&

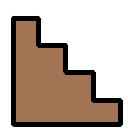
and



when



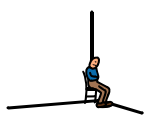
evening



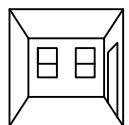
steps



into



Lonely



rooms.



Cold



is



blue;



Flame



shot



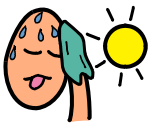
from

a

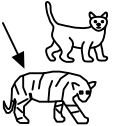
welding torch



Is too;



Hot,



wild,



screaming, blistering



blue,



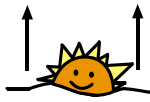
and



on



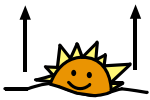
winter



mornings



The



dawns



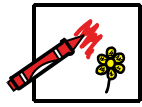
are



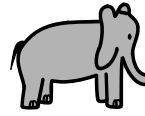
blue.



What is Gray?



an



Gray is the color of an elephant



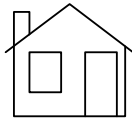
a



And a mouse



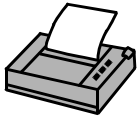
a



And a falling apart house.



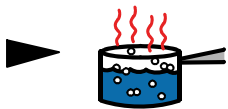
It's fog and smog,



fine print and lint,



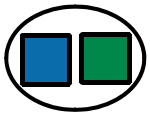
It's hush and



The bubbling of oatmeal mush.



Tiredness and oysters



Both are gray,



Smoke swirls



and grandmother curls.



So are some spring coats



And nanny goats.



Eagles are gray



a



And a rainy day

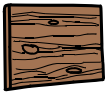


a

The sad look of a slum



And chewing gum



Wood ash



and



linen



crash.



Pussywillows

are

gray



In



a



velvety way.



Suits,



shoes



And



bad



news,



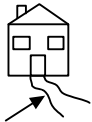
Beggars



hats,



And



alley



cats



Skin



of



a



mole



and



a



worn slipper



sole



Content

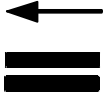
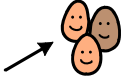
is

gray



and

sleepiness too



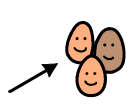
They

were

gray

suede

gloves

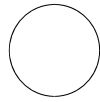


When

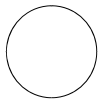
they're

touching

you.



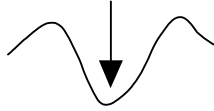
What is White?



a



White is a dove



And lily of the valley



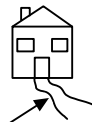
a



And a puddle of milk



an



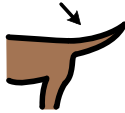
Spilled in an alley

a



A ship's sail

a



A kite's tail

a



A wedding veil



Hailstone and



Halibut bones



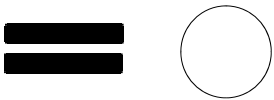
And some people's



Telephones.



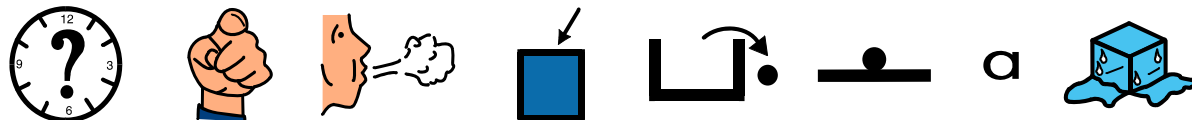
The hottest and most blinding light



Is white.



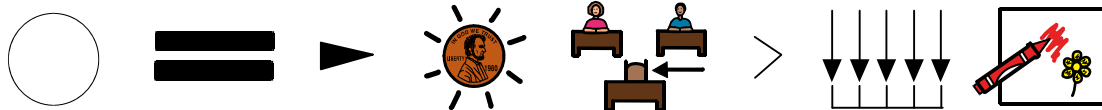
And breath is white



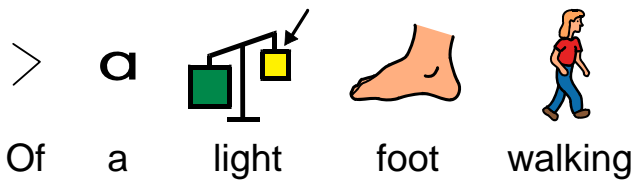
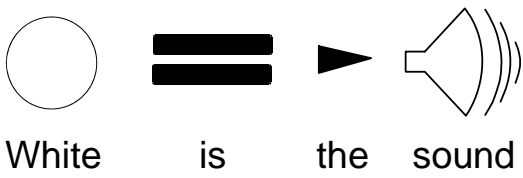
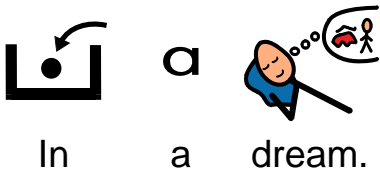
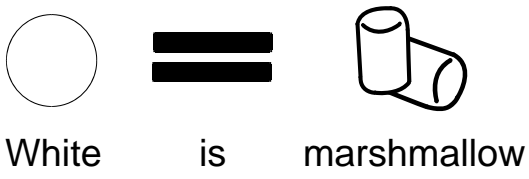
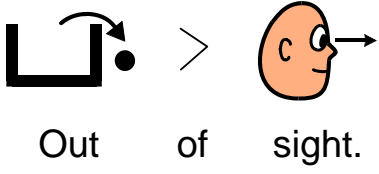
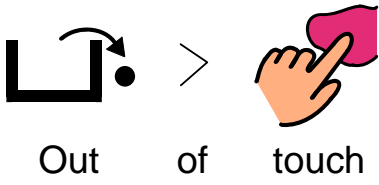
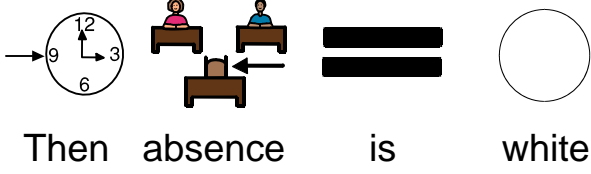
When you blow it out on a frosty



night.

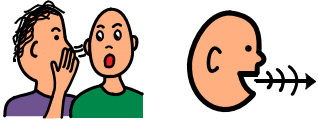


White is the shining absence of all color





White is a pair of



Whispers talking.



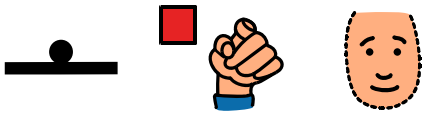
White is the beautiful



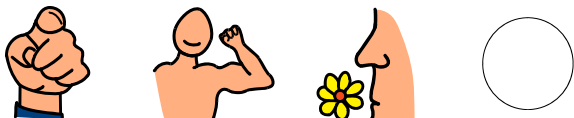
Broken lace



Of snowflakes falling



On your face.



You can smell white



In a country room



Toward the end of May



In the cherry bloom.



What is Orange?



a



Orange is a tiger lily,

a



A carrot,

a



A feather from

a

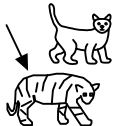


A parrot,

a



A flame,



the wildest color



You can name.



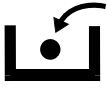
a



Orange is a happy day



Saying good-bye



In

a



sunset



that



Shocks



the



sky.



Orange



is



brave



Orange



is

bold



It's bittersweet



And



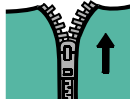
marigold.



Orange



is



zip

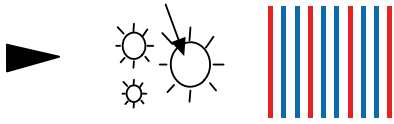


Orange



is

dash



The brightest stripe



a

In a Roman sash.



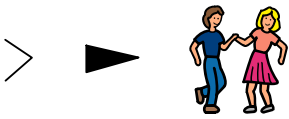
Orange is an orange



Also a mango



Orange is music



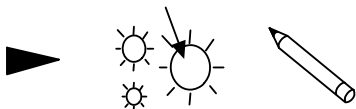
Of the tango.



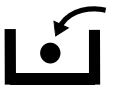
Orange is the fur



Of the fiery fox,



The brightest crayon



In



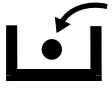
the



box.



And



in



the



fall



When



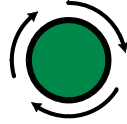
the



leaves



are



turning



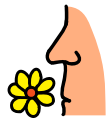
Orange



is



the



smell



of



a



bonfire



burning.



What



is



Red?



Red



is

a



sunset



and



bright.

Blazy



Red



is



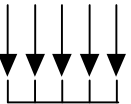
feeling



brave



With



all



your

might.

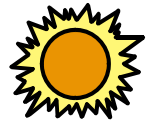


Red



is

a



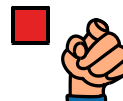
sunburn



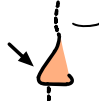
Spot



on



your



nose,



Sometime



red



Is

a



red,



red



rose.



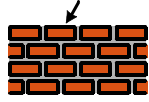
Red squiggles out



When you cut your hand.



a



Red is a brick and

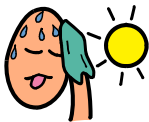
a



A rubber band.



a



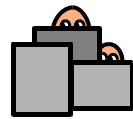
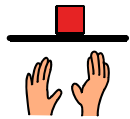
Red is a hotness



You get inside



When you're embarrassed



And want to hide.



Fire-cracker, fire-engine



Fire-flicker

red



And

when

you're

angry



Red

runs

through

your

head.



an



Red

is

an

Indian,

a

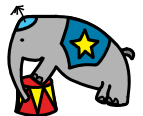


A Valentine heart,



The trimming on

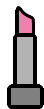
a



A circus cart.



a



Red is a lipstick,



a



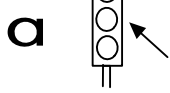
Red is a shout



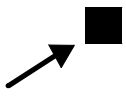
REd



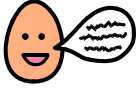
is



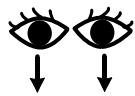
a signal



That



says



"Watch out!"



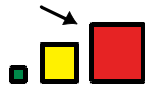
Red



is



a great



big



Rubber

ball.



Red



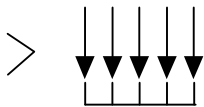
is



the giant-est



Color



of all.



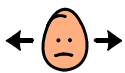
Red



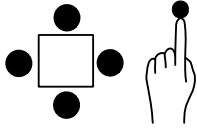
is



a show-off



No



doubt about it



But

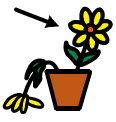


can



you

imagine



Living without it?



What



is



Pink?



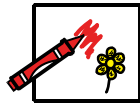
Pink



is



the



color

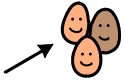


of

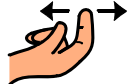
a



rose.



They



come



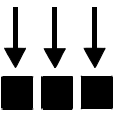
in

other



colors

,



everyone



knows



Pink



is



the mother-color



of

a



rose.



Pink



is

a



new



baby



a



The inside of a shell.



Pink

a



cooked



shrimp



And

a



a canterbury bell.



Pink

is

peachbloom



Gauzy

and

frail



The wind's exquisite



Wedding veil.



a



Pink

is

a

bon bon



a



Pink

is

a

blush,



Some Easter bunnies



Are

plush

pink.



an



If

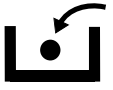
you

stand

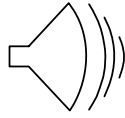
in

an

orchard



In the middle of Spring



And you don't make a sound



You can hear pink sing,



A darling, whispery



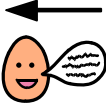
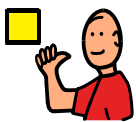
Song of a thing.



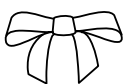
Pink is the beautiful



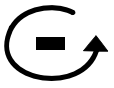
Little sister of red.



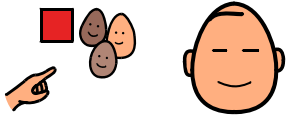
My teacher said,



And a ribbon girls tie



Round



their heads.



Pink



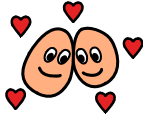
is the sash



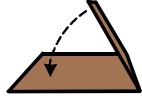
With



the



lovely



fold



You'll



remember



When



you're



old.



Pink



is the flower



On

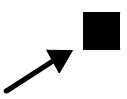
a



lady's



hat



That



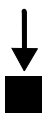
nods



and



bows



This



way



and

that.



What is Green?



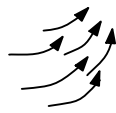
Green is the grass



And the leaves of trees



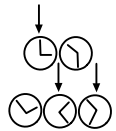
Green is the smell



Of a country breeze.



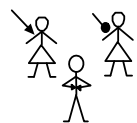
Green is lettuce



And sometimes the sea



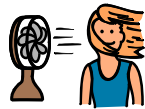
When green is a feeling



You pronounce it N-V.



a

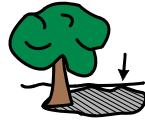


Green

is

a

coolness



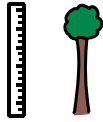
You

get

in

the

shade.



Of the

tall

old

woods



Where

the moss

is

made.



a

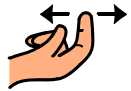


Green

is

a

flutter



That

comes

in

the

Spring



when

frost

melts

out



Of everything.



a



Green

is

a

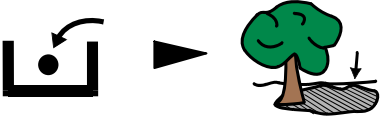
grasshopper



Green is jade



Green is hiding



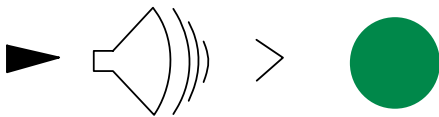
In the shade



Green is an olive



And a pickle



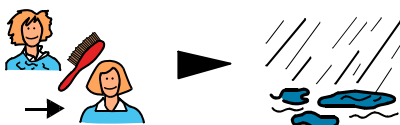
The sound of green



Is a water trickle



Green is the world



After the rain



Bathed



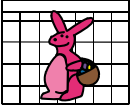
and



beautiful



Again.



April



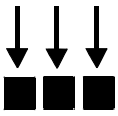
is



green



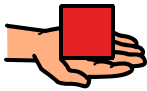
Peppermint, too.



Every



elf



has



One



green



shoe.



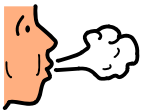
Under



a



grape arbor



Air



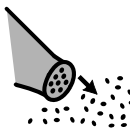
is



green



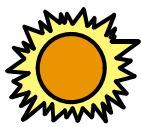
With



sprinkles



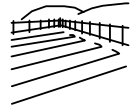
of



sunlight



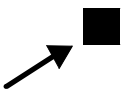
In between.



Green is the meadow,



Green is the fuzz



That covers up



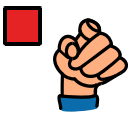
Where winter was.



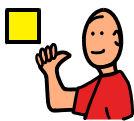
Green is ivy and



Honeysuckle vine.



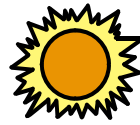
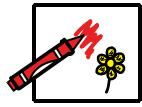
Green is yours



And Green is mine.



What is Yellow?



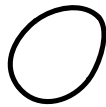
Yellow is the color of the sun



The feeling of fun



an



The yolk of an egg

a



A duck's bill

a



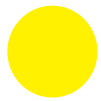
A canary bird.



a



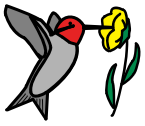
And a daffodil.



Yellow's sweet corn



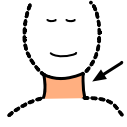
Ripe oats



Hummingbirds'



Little



throats



Summer



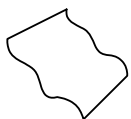
squash



and



Chinese



silk.



cream



on

top



of Jersey



milk



Dandelions

and



Daisy

hearts



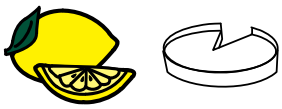
Custard



pies



and



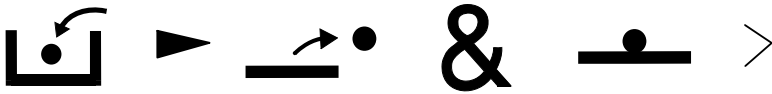
Lemon tarts.



Yellow blinks



On summer nights



In the off and on of



Fire fly .



Yellow's a topaz



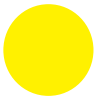
A candle flame

a

Felicity's a



Yellow name.



Yellow's mimosa

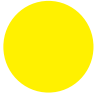


And



i

guess,



Yellow's



the



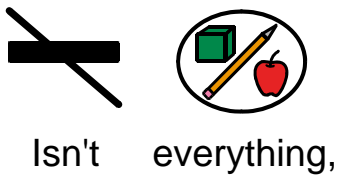
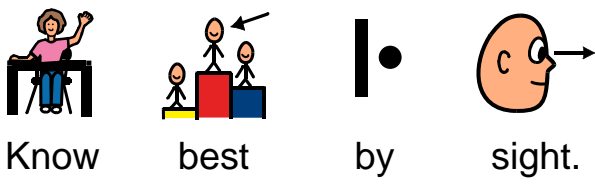
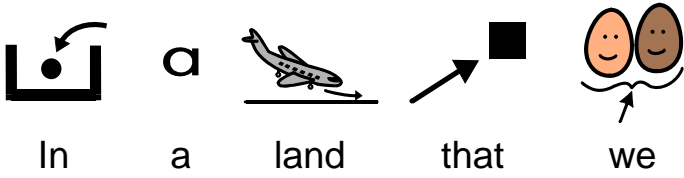
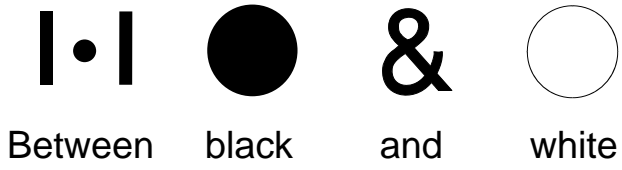
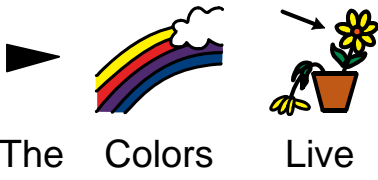
color



of



Happiness.





And



colors



cry



Turn off



the



lights



And



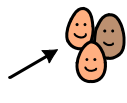
colors



die,



And



they

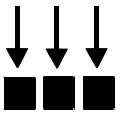


make



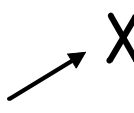
you

feel



Every

feeling



there



is



From



the grumpiest grump



To the fizziest fizz.



And



you



and



you



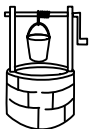
and



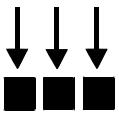
I



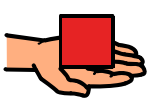
Know



well



Each



has

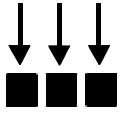
a



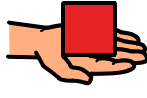
taste



And



each



has

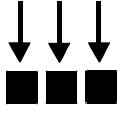
a



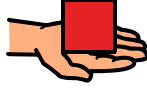
smell



And



each



has

a

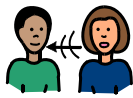


wonderful



Story

to



tell.

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