

# Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

## Word Family Caterpillar Poster Set

Congratulations on your purchase of this Really Good Stuff® **Word Family Caterpillar Poster Set**—a vibrant, interactive teaching tool to help students understand the concept of word families.

### This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- **Word Family Caterpillar Poster Set**, Write Again® wipe-off laminate
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

### Displaying the Word Family Caterpillar Poster Set

Before you punch out and display the **Word Family Caterpillar Poster Set**, make copies of this Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide and file the pages for future use. Or, download another copy of it from our Web site at [www.reallygoodstuff.com](http://www.reallygoodstuff.com).

### Introducing the Word Family Caterpillar Poster Set

Before introducing the *Poster Set*, decide how you plan to use it. Either hang all of the *Caterpillar Segments* up at once, or hang each one as you introduce the word family on it.

Gather students near the *Poster Set*. Ask them what it means to be a family and what they think it means to be a word family. Explain that there are many word families and that this caterpillar is going to help list all of the word families that they will learn. Point to the word family you will be studying and review the word family ending. Then, point to the hyphen and ask students what they think should replace the hyphen. Review with students the example word on the *Caterpillar Segment* and then model for students how to try letters of the alphabet to make a word. Ask students to brainstorm different word family words and add them to the list on the *Caterpillar Segment*.

### Additional Word Families

Copy and color the *Word Family Caterpillar Reproducible*. Write the word family ending your class is studying and add it to the displayed *Poster Set*.

### Shaving Cream Word Families

During small group instruction, gather the group at a table where they can easily see the *Poster Set*. Place

some shaving cream in front of each student. Remind students not to touch their eyes with the shaving cream. Review a word family you have been studying by having students make a list of words in that word family: Using their finger or a chop stick to write in the shaving cream, ask students to write as many words as they can.

**Variation:** Instead of shaving cream, have students write the words, using flattened Play-Doh® and chop sticks or using a dry erase marker on the table and a wet wipe to erase.

### Giant Classroom Caterpillar

Cut large circles out of construction paper. Create a large round caterpillar head out of construction paper. Gather students together where they can easily see the cutout circles and the *Poster Set*. Introduce a new word family, such as *-at*, by writing it onto a large dry erase board or chart. Ask students if they can think of any words to make in that word family. As they share their words, write them onto the construction-paper circles. Ask a student to come up and hold the caterpillar head. Ask different students to come up to add different word circles to the body. After the caterpillar is assembled, review the new word family by writing the words they made onto the appropriate *Caterpillar Segment*.

### Word Family Spinners

On a small paper plate, use a black marker to make equal pie sections. Put a dot in the center and lay a paper clip so that the black dot shows through the edge of the paper clip. Poke a brad through the black hole. (**Note:** When you flick the paper clip with your finger, the paper clip should spin around the plate.) In each pie section, write a different word family ending, such as *-an* and *-it*. Make a large chart with each word family ending as a heading for a column. Collect a set of magnetic letters.

Explain to a group of students that you are going to play a game to review the word families you have studied. Allow each student to spin the spinner and pick a magnetic letter to set before the word family ending to make a word. As each word is made, write the words on the large chart.

# Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

## Word Family Caterpillar Poster Set

### Word Family Floor Fun

Using masking tape, tape a word family that you are studying to the floor. Write or type large letters of the alphabet on pieces of paper (so that when you place a letter before the ending it makes a word). Use this as a literacy center for students to rotate through.

### Word Family Die Reproducible

Copy and distribute the *Word Family Die Reproducible*. To make the cube shape: Instruct students to cut along the solid outside lines and fold along the dotted lines. Tell students to glue all of the flaps except for the top flap.

Direct students to work with a partner to play Word Family Roll: Each pair takes turns rolling the die, adding a letter to the ending that comes up to create a word, and writing that word on a piece of paper. The student in each pair who comes up with the most correct words wins.

### Roll a Word Family Literacy Center

Copy the *Word Family Die Reproducible* and the *Word Family Sort Reproducible*. Create a word family center by gathering a set of magnetic letters, the die you made using the reproducible, and the copies of the *Word Family Sort Reproducible*. Explain that students are to pick a magnetic letter and then roll the word family die. Each time students make a word, they are to write it on their *Word Family Sort Reproducible*. The goal is to pick letters and roll the die to make enough words to fill up the entire chart on the reproducible.

### Nat the Caterpillar Reproducible

Copy the *Nat the Caterpillar Reproducible*. Gather lunch-sized paper bags and index cards. Color and cut out the pattern for the caterpillar's head and glue the head to the top of a paper bag. Cut out and glue the poem to the front of the paper bag and cut out the mouth to make an open slot. Cut index cards into four equal squares. Write a set of word family words on the small index card squares.

Gather students and explain that each of them will make a Nat the Caterpillar. Show students your Nat the Caterpillar. Read the poem and show them how he can eat the word families by putting the word cards into his

cutout mouth. (**Note:** You may also want to copy the poem on a large piece of flip-chart paper so that students can read the poem as you point to each word.)

Explain to students the instructions for cutting out Nat. After creating their puppet, allow them to work in groups to come up with words to write on their index cards and feed to their Nat. Gather students back together and ask the groups to share their word family cards as they feed them to their Nat.

### Word Family Ladder Reproducible

Copy and distribute the *Word Family Ladder Reproducible*. Instruct students to fill in the word family ending. Tell students to write one word from the word family on each rung. Have students decorate the word family ladders and display the reproducibles on a bulletin board.

### My Own Word Family Caterpillar Reproducible

Copy the *My Own Word Family Caterpillar Reproducible*. Create a large caterpillar on chart paper or a dry erase board. During small group instruction, review the word families on the *Word Family Poster Set*. Distribute the reproducible and direct students to fill in a word family ending, such as at, in the blank in the title. Then ask a few students to come up and write each of their word family words in one of the circles. As one student writes the word on the chart paper or board, the other students are to write the word on their reproducible.

**Variation:** Use this as an assessment tool: Give students a copy of the reproducible and instruct them to pick a word family ending and to write words in each circle to make their own word family caterpillar.

### Word Family Book Reproducible

Copy the *Word Family Book Reproducible*. This can be put in a literacy center, created a page at a time during small group instruction, or used as an independent assessment. To make a booklet: Cut along the black lines and stack the pages with the title page on top. Staple the pages together in the left top corner. Direct students to write a letter in each blank to make a word family. Students will repeat this process on each page to complete their book.



My Word Family Book By:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ an

\_\_\_ an

\_\_\_ an

\_\_\_ an

\_\_\_ an

\_\_\_ an

**The -an word family**

\_\_\_ ot

\_\_\_ ot

\_\_\_ ot

\_\_\_ ot

\_\_\_ ot

\_\_\_ ot

**The -ot word family**

\_\_\_ it

\_\_\_ it

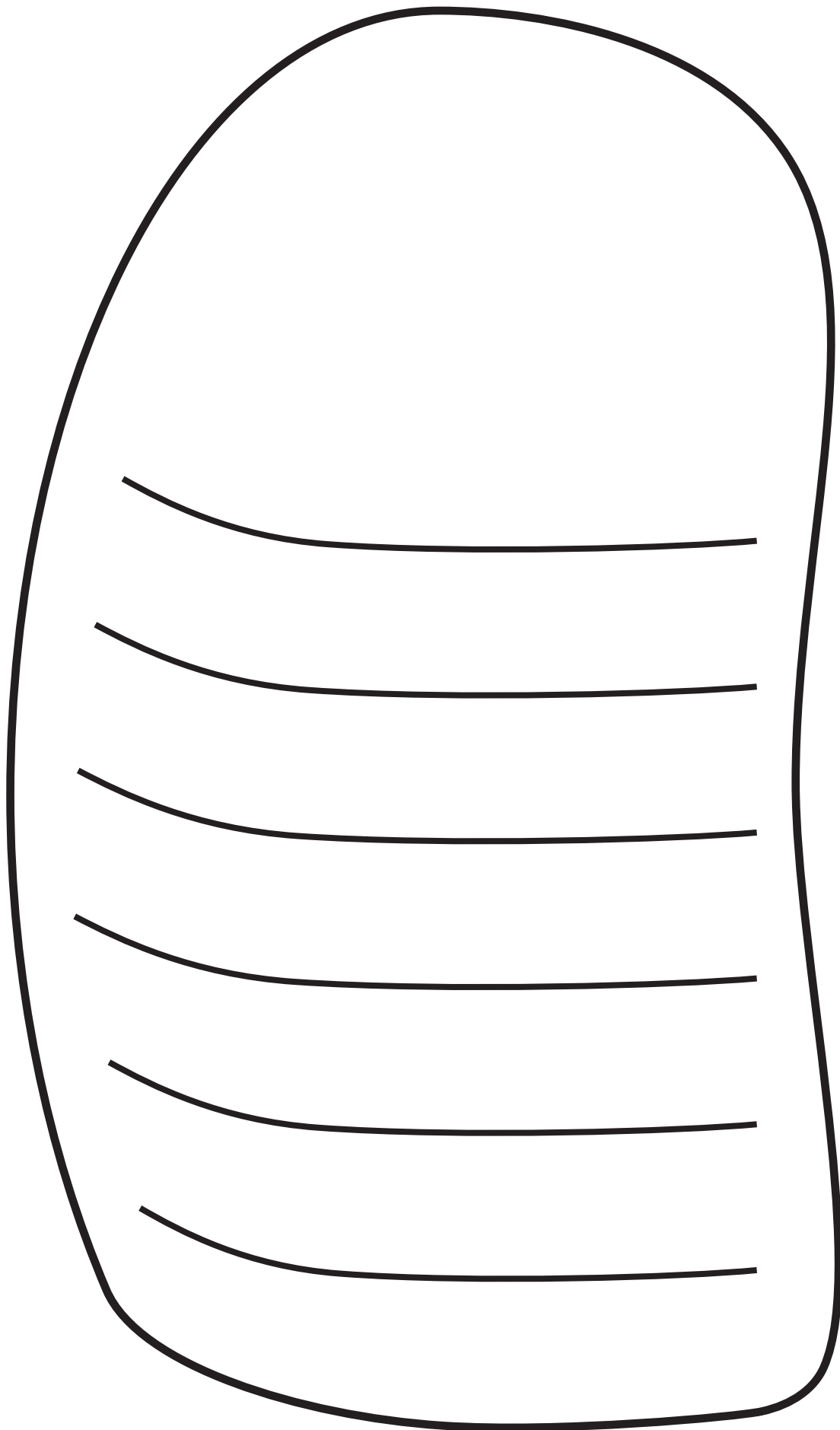
\_\_\_ it

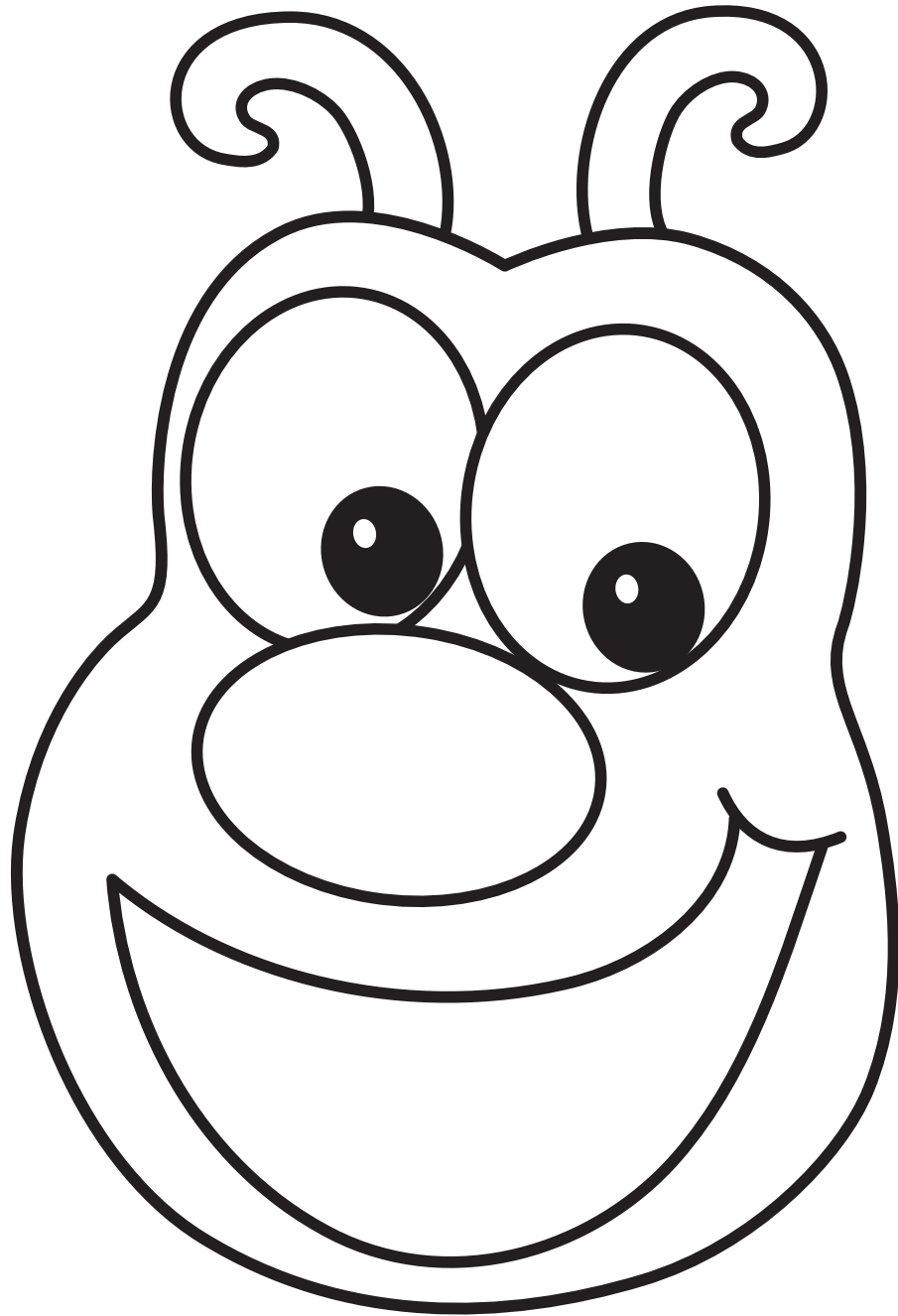
\_\_\_ it

\_\_\_ it

\_\_\_ it

**The -it word family**





## **Nat the Caterpillar**

Nat the Caterpillar sleeps in his silk **mat**.

He's eaten so many word families **that** he's gotten pretty **fat!**

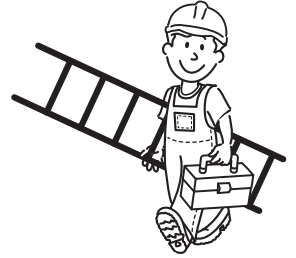
His friend, **Pat**, came to bring him a new **hat**,

But she only found a butterfly—imagine **that!**

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

# My Word Family Ladder

Write a word from your word family on each rung of the ladder.



\_\_\_\_\_

Word family ending

1.

2.

3.

4.

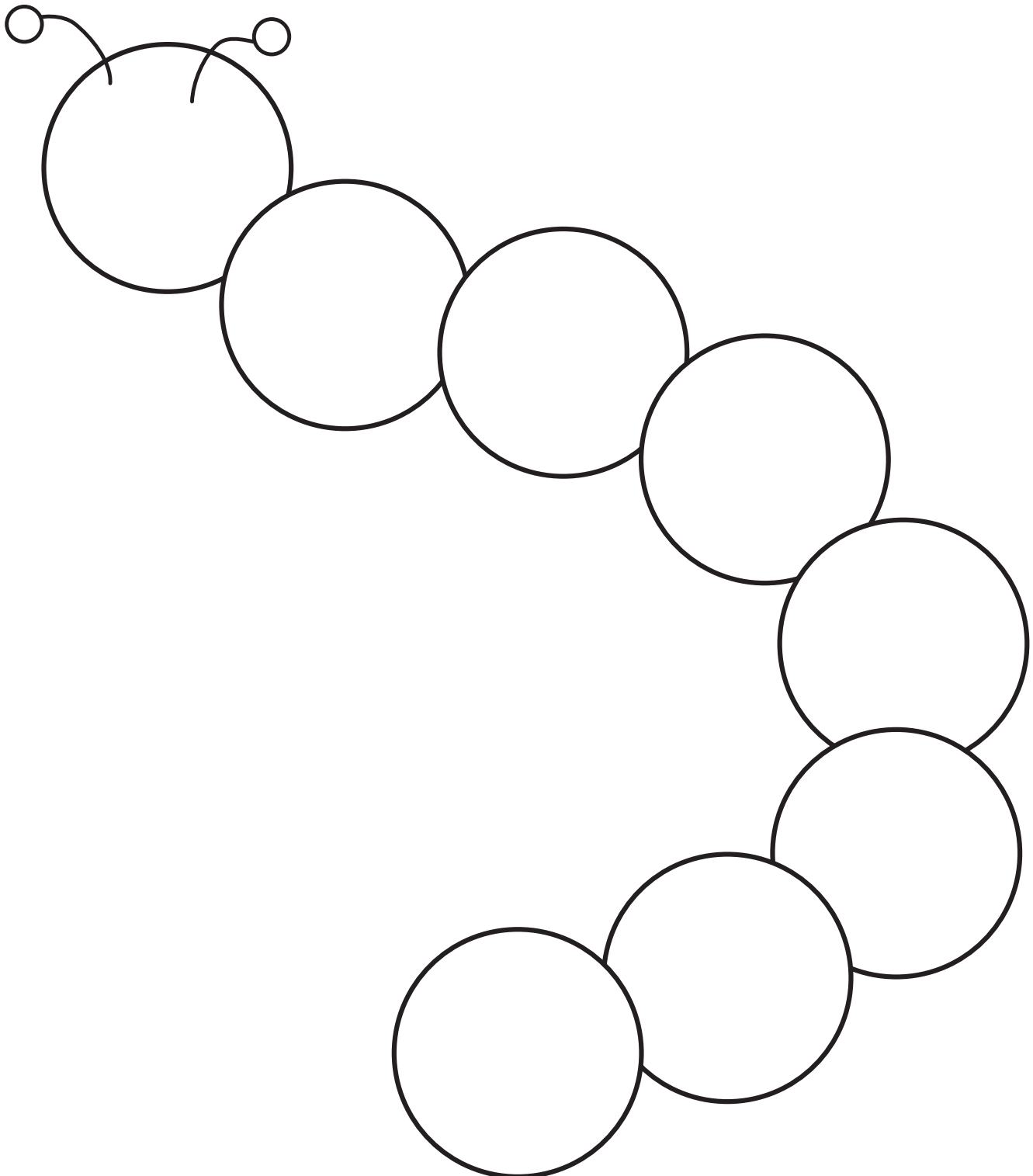
5.

6.

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

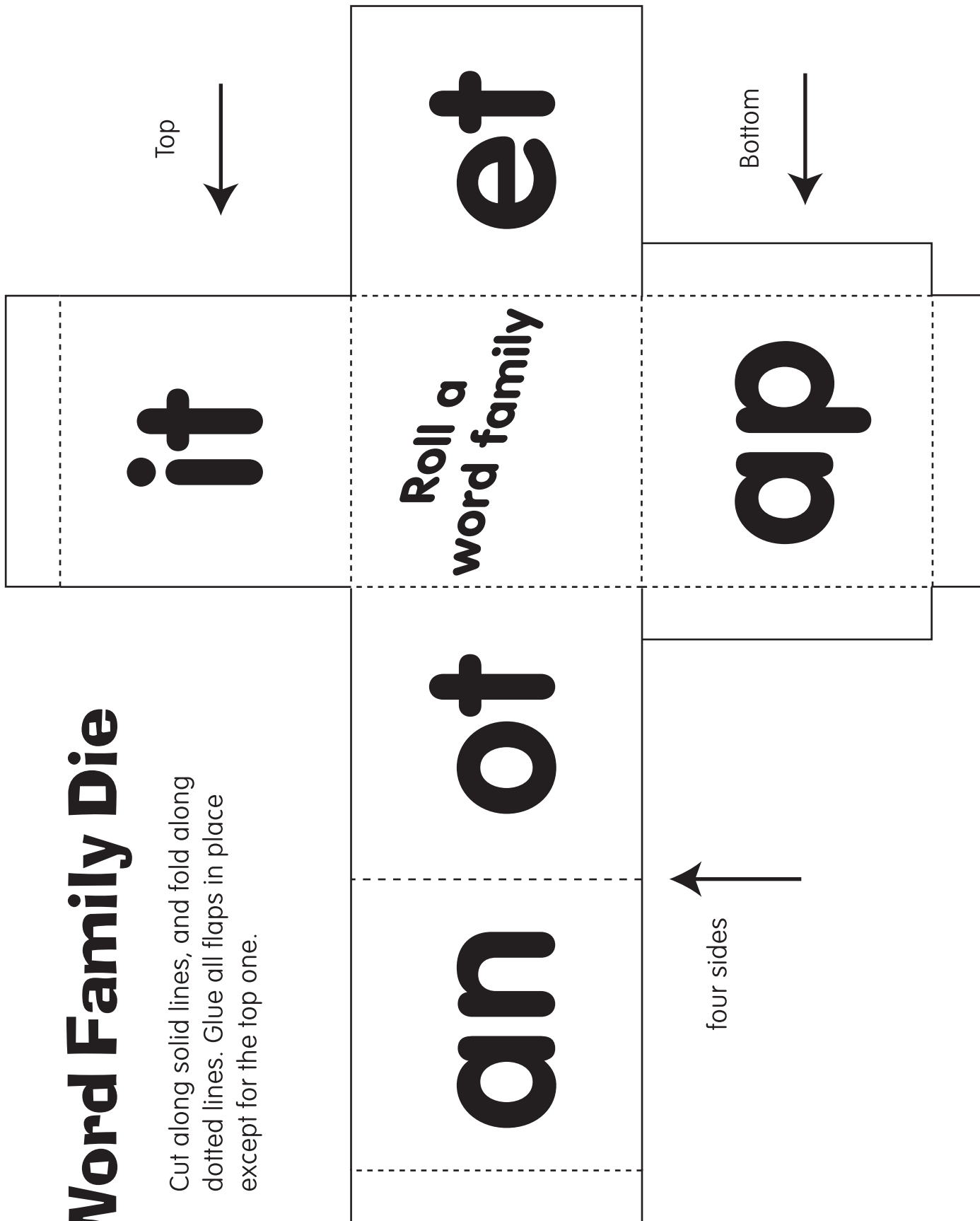
# My Word Family Caterpillar with

---



# Word Family Die

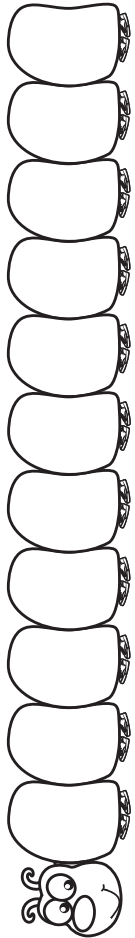
Cut along solid lines, and fold along dotted lines. Glue all flaps in place except for the top one.





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

# LOOK at my word families!



<b>_an</b>	<b>_ap</b>	<b>_et</b>	<b>_it</b>	<b>_ot</b>			