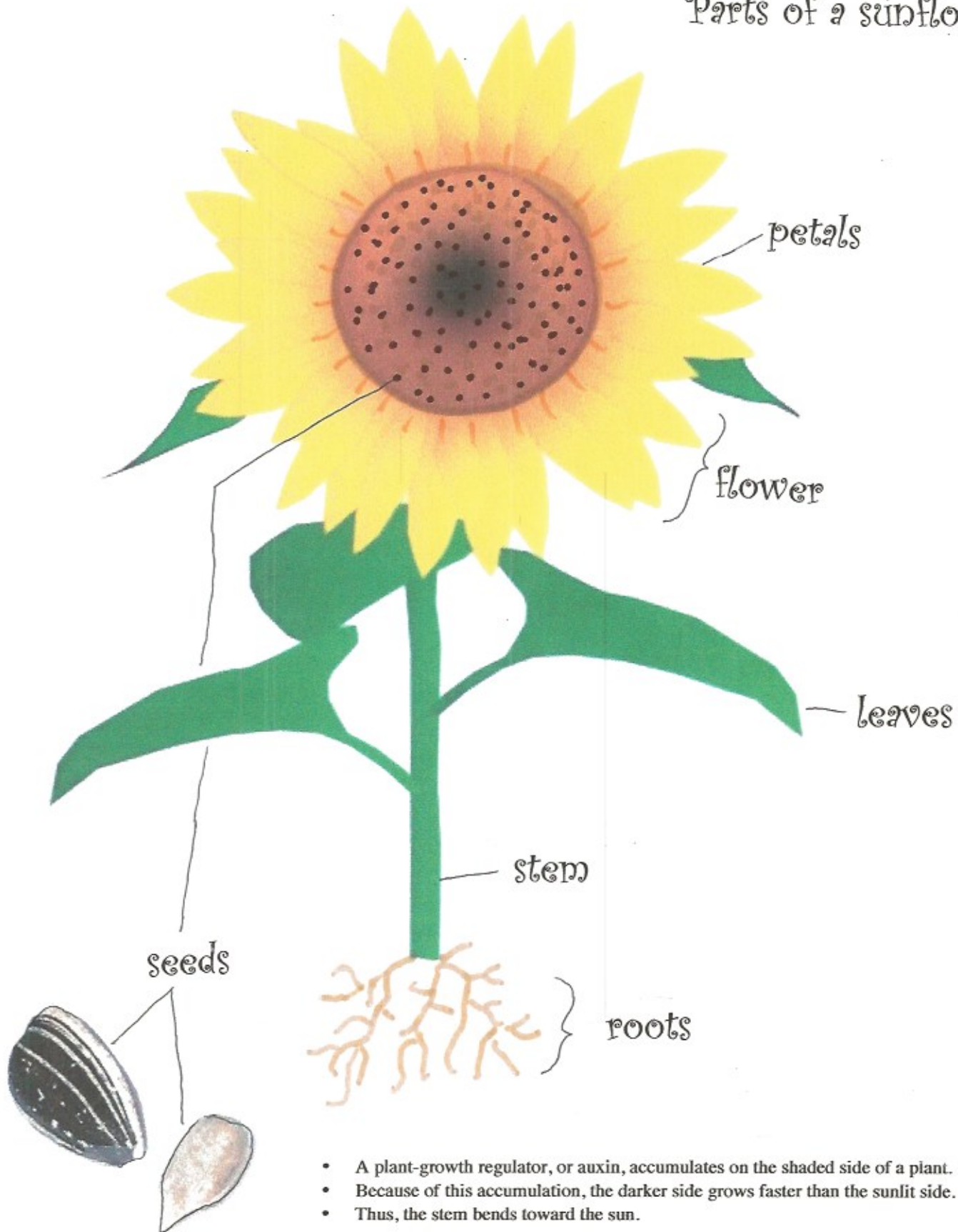


# Sunflower Packet



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## Parts of a sunflower













- A plant-growth regulator, or auxin, accumulates on the shaded side of a plant.
- Because of this accumulation, the darker side grows faster than the sunlit side.
- Thus, the stem bends toward the sun.
- The flowering head tracks the sun's movement; this phenomenon is known as heliotropism.
- The sunflower resembles one huge flower, but a single sunflower head hosts 1,000 to 2,000 individual flowers. The yellow petals are actually protective leaves that cover the center of the head while it is growing. Each of those tiny flowers will eventually generate a sunflower seed.















Ss is for sunflower.

Alphabet word cards









 Aa	 Bb
 Cc	 Dd
 Ee	 Ff
 Gg	 Hh
 Ii	 Jj

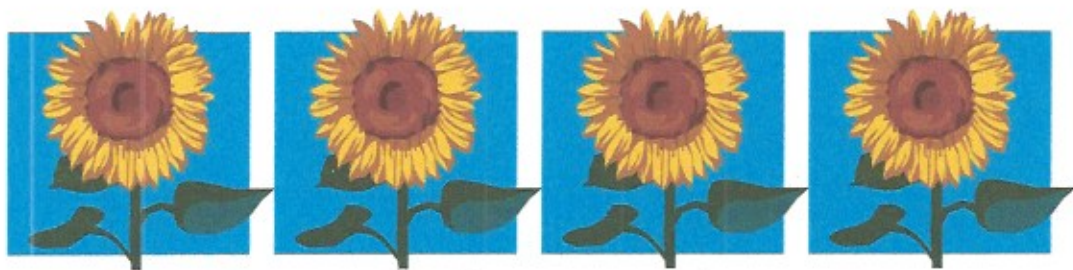
Alphabet word cards

 Kk	 Ll
 Mm	 Nn
 Oo	 Pp
 Qq	 Rr
 Ss	 Tt



Alphabet word cards

 Uu	 Vv
 Ww	 Xx
 Yy	 Zz
My Sunflower ABC Booklet	By:
	



## Sunflower Facts\*

- Sunflowers date back a long time ago. Remains of sunflower seeds have been found in archaeological digs in North America 3,000 years old.
- It's been discovered that in Peru, the Aztecs worshipped sunflowers. They did so by placing sunflower images made of gold in their temples and crowning princesses in the bright yellow flowers.
- Sunflowers are believed to have first originated in Europe in the early 1500s. The seeds, as well as the flowers themselves, were brought over by Spanish settlers returning to visit relatives.
- 
- The scientific name of sunflowers is Helianthus, Helia stands for sun and Anthus stands for flower.
- Sunflowers will attract birds to your garden as they like to eat the seeds.
- Sunflowers grow fairly fast. They can grow 8 to 12 feet tall in a rich soil within six months.
- Sunflowers require only 90 to 100 days from planting to maturity.
- According to the 1996 Guinness Book of Records, the Netherlands holds the record for growing the tallest sunflower. It was 25' 5.5" tall and grown in 1986 by M. Heijmf.
- Also according to Guinness, the largest sunflower head on record measured 32 ½ inches across its widest point and was grown in Canada.
- The Soviet Union grows the most sunflowers.
- The sunflower is the national flower of Russia.
- The sunflower is the state flower of Kansas. It is known as the sunflower state.
- The sunflower is native to North America and was used by the Indians for food and oil.

- Sunflower seeds are used to make oil, bird seed and for snacking.
  - Wild sunflower is different than domesticated sunflower.
  - Sunflower heads consist of 1,000 to 2,000 individual flowers joined together by a receptacle base.
  - A well-known sunflower characteristic is that the flowering heads track the sun's movement, a phenomenon known as heliotropism. That means that their head points towards the east at sunrise and then motor cells in the sunflower's stem tilt the flower bud to try to receive the most amount of sunlight. By evening, the sunflower head is pointing west, towards the sunset! Overnight, the sunflower resets its eastward position to once again trace a 180 degree arc, tracking the sun's position throughout the day from sunrise to sunset.
  - The daily orientation of the flower to the sun is a direct result of differential growth of the stem.
  - A plant-growth regulator, or auxin, accumulates on the shaded side of a plant when conditions of unequal light prevail. Because of this accumulation, the darker side grows faster than the sunlit side. This is why the stem bends toward the sun.
  - Sunflower seeds are rich in oil, which they store as a source of energy and food.
  - Sunflower seeds are crushed to give us oil. We can use sunflower oil for cooking.
  - Experiments have shown that sunflower oil can be made into plastics, and future research shows that sunflower oil has the potential to create fuel for cars and other machinery.
  - Sunflowers are also used to make yellow dye, and their dried stems were even used to stuff life jackets!
- 
- A single sunflower can have up to 2,000 seeds.
  - There are more than sixty different varieties of sunflowers in the world. The most common is the bright yellow one with the dark brown center.
  - New varieties of sunflowers are being developed. Some of them are orange, tan or maroon instead of vibrant yellow. Some even have striped petals! A few have greenish-yellow centers instead of brown. They've also produced a low-pollen form of sunflower that has helped reduce allergic reactions in people with asthma and other allergies. This new sunflower also lives longer.





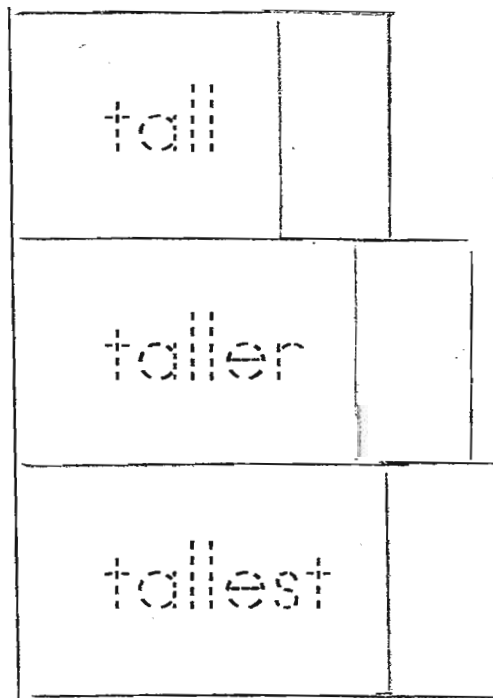
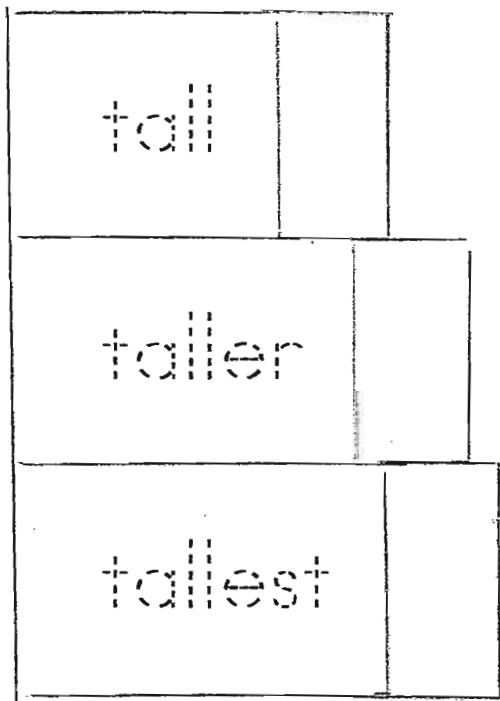
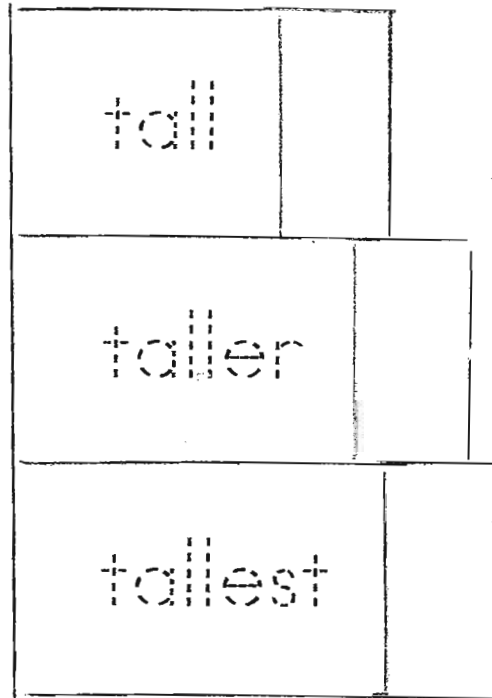
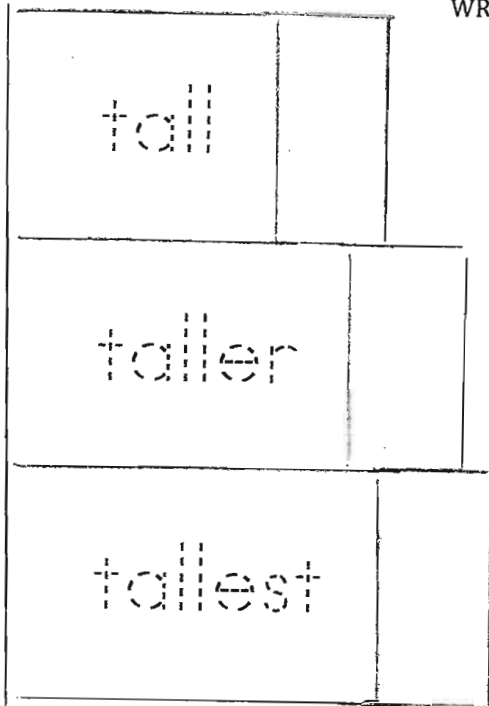


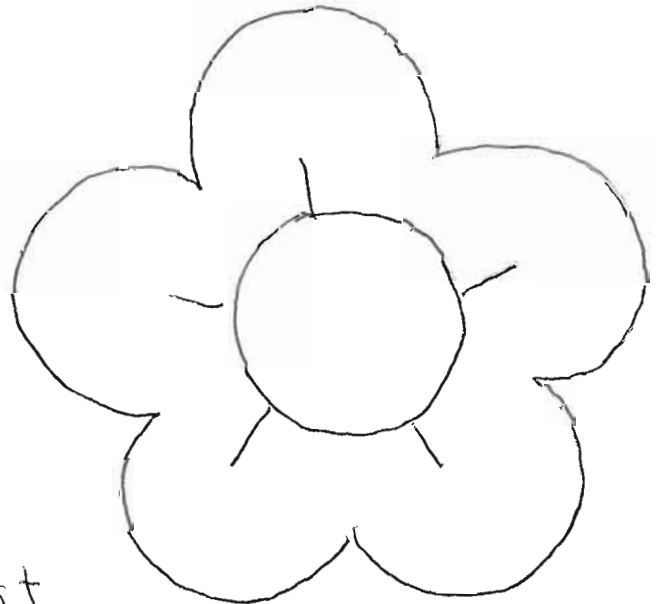
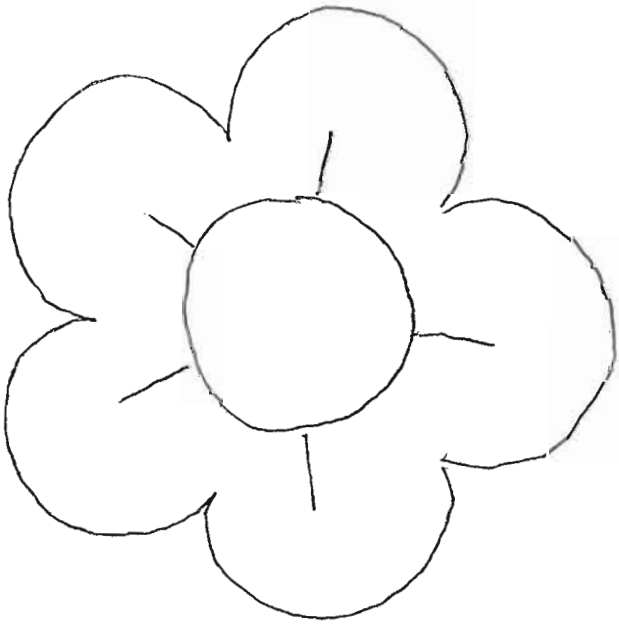
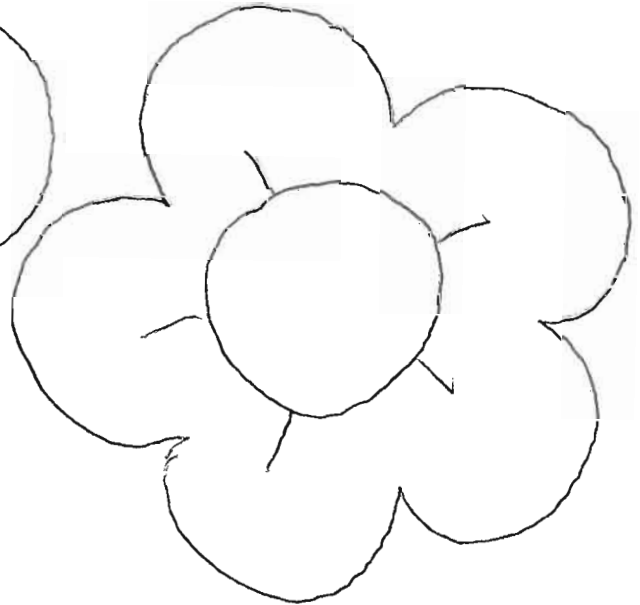
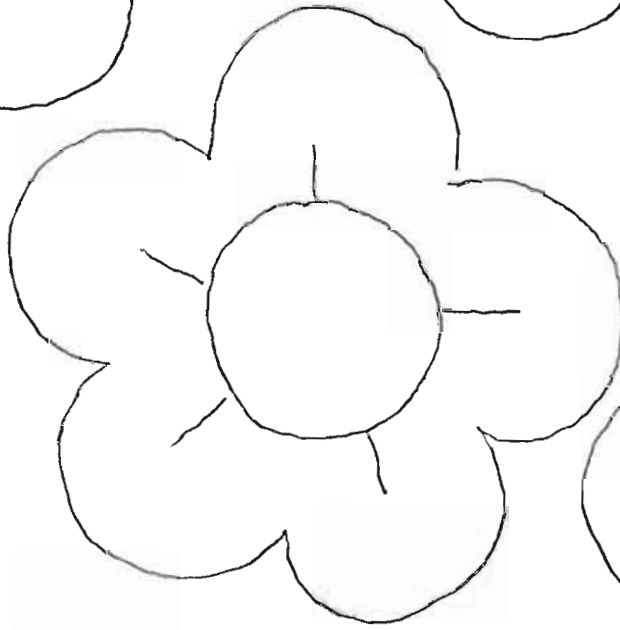
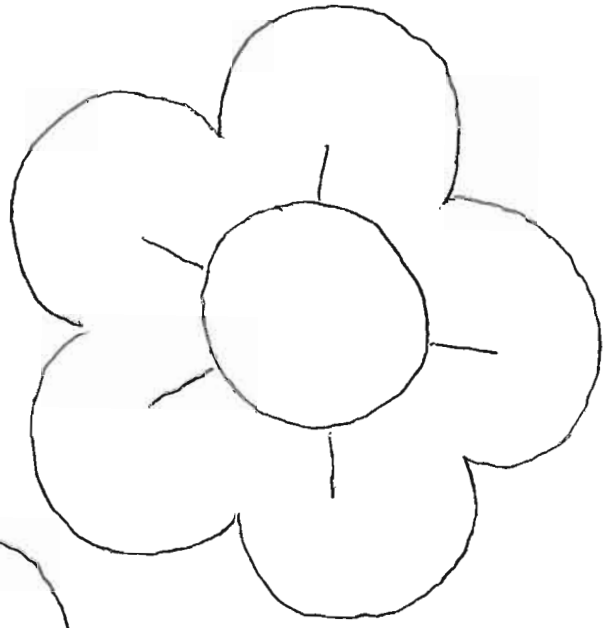
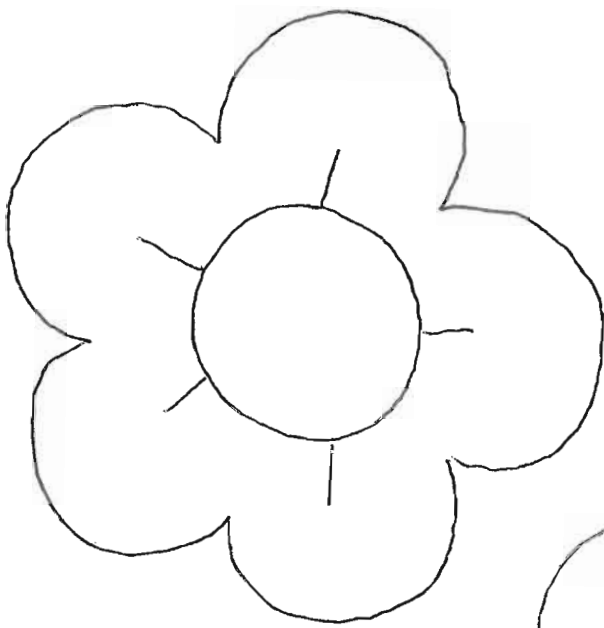
### What's the tallest flower in the garden?

- Demonstrate the comparative adjectives tall, taller and tallest by having students make 3 flowers using green-colored straws for stems. You can pre-cut the two shorter straws to expedite things, or add a math extension by passing out rulers and telling students how long you want these two straw-stems to be and then have them measure and snip.
- If you have a **Big Lots** store in your community, they have huge pastel colored straws that make the “tallest” flower even more fun to make.
- Use a flower punch to make fancy centers for your flowers or simply run off my flower pattern on a variety of colored construction paper and have students cut them out.
- Punch holes in the centers with a hole punch and then carefully insert the blossom.
- Run off leaves on green construction paper. Each student needs 2 leaves for the short flower, 4 for the medium, and the tallest one, unless you are using the giant straws and then 6 leaves look nicer. This can be a lot of cutting for little ones, so you may want these pre-cut and simply make a template and cut 5 at a time.
- Stick the leaves to the straws using glue dots.

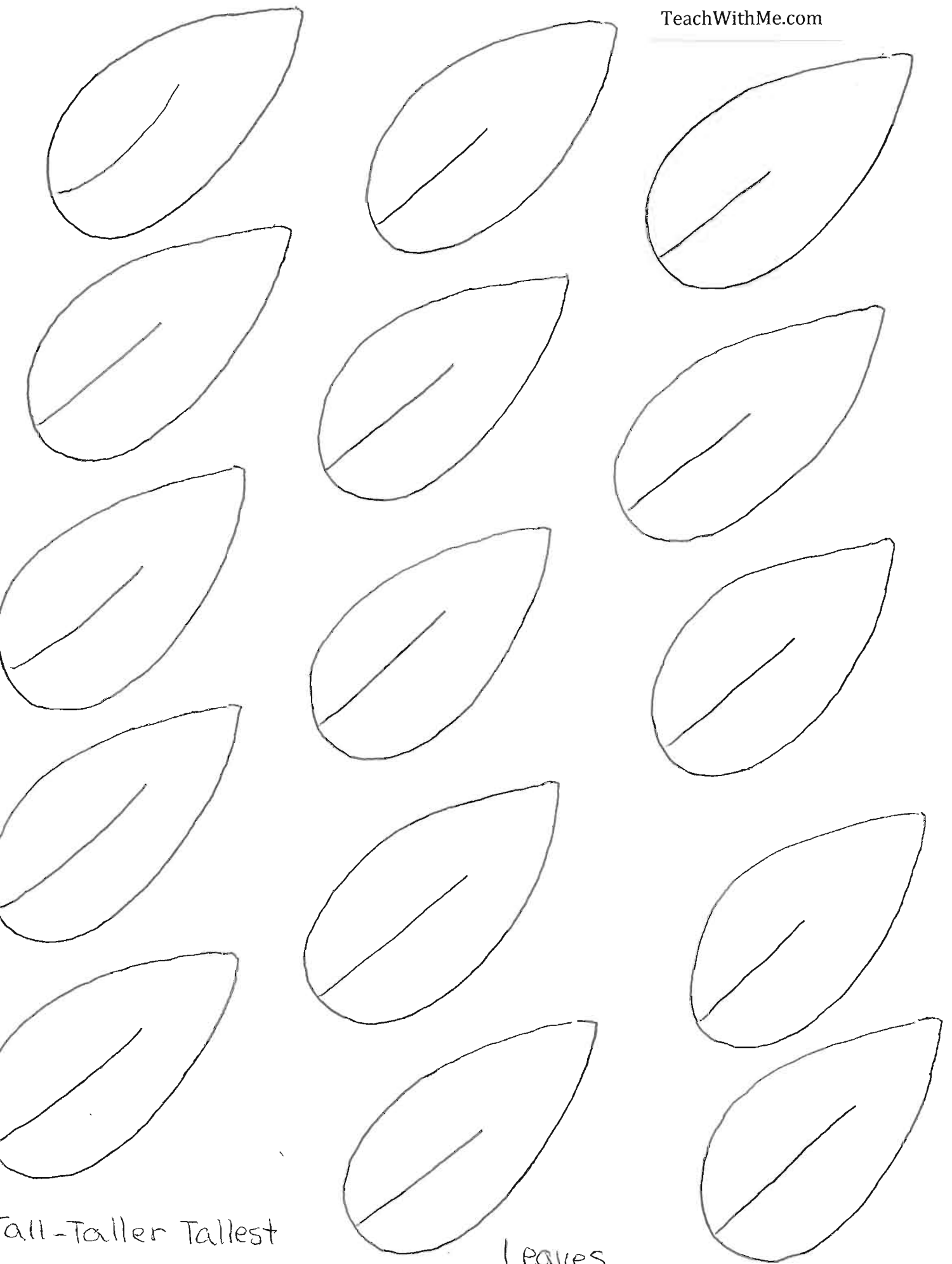
TRACE the words.  
CUT out the boxes.  
WRAP & GLUE the tabs around the straws.

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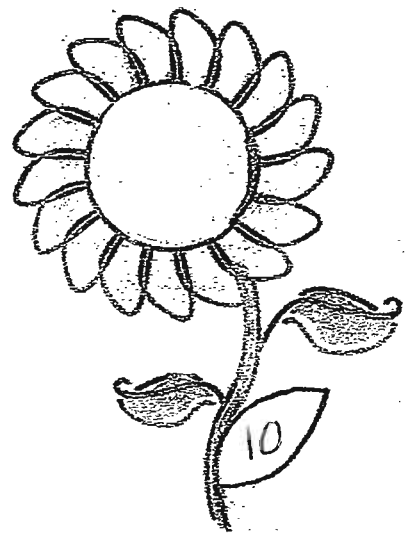
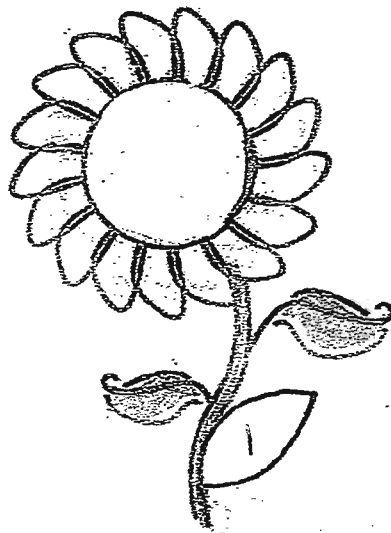
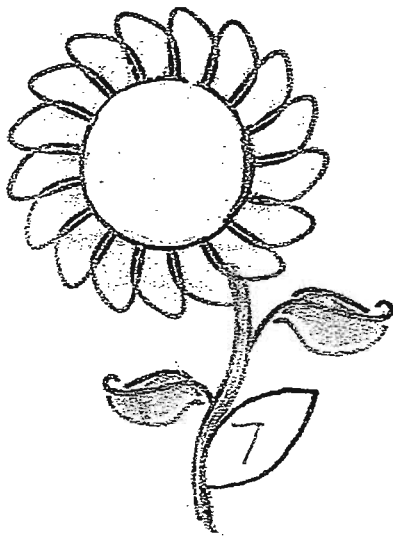
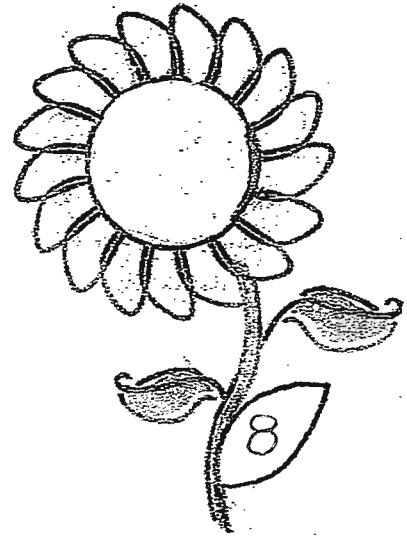
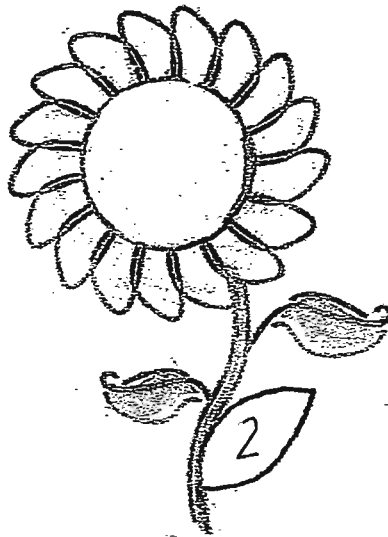
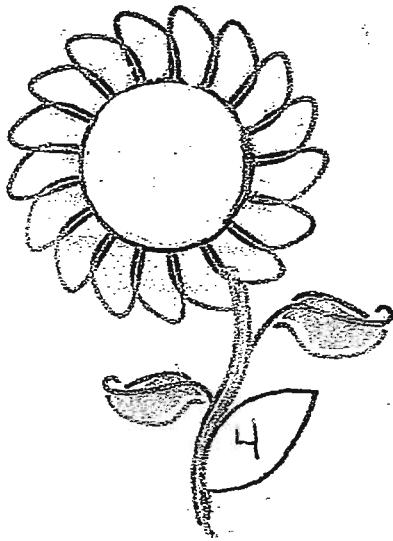
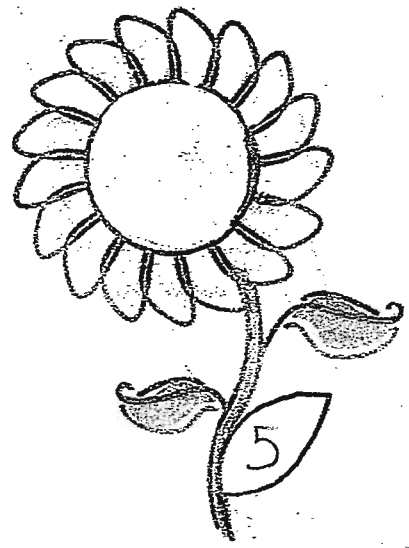
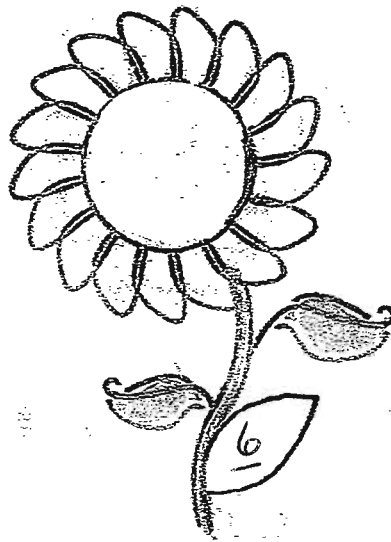
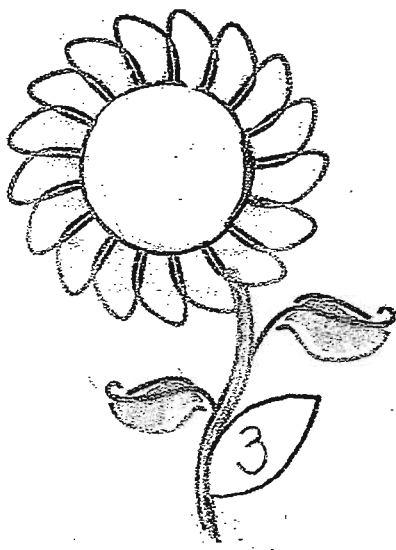




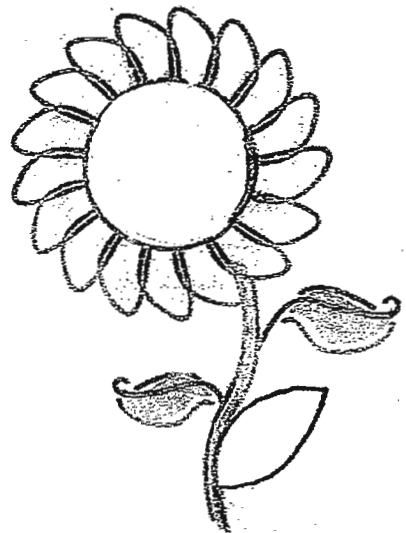
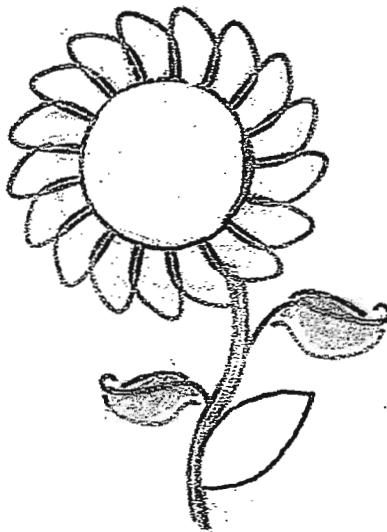
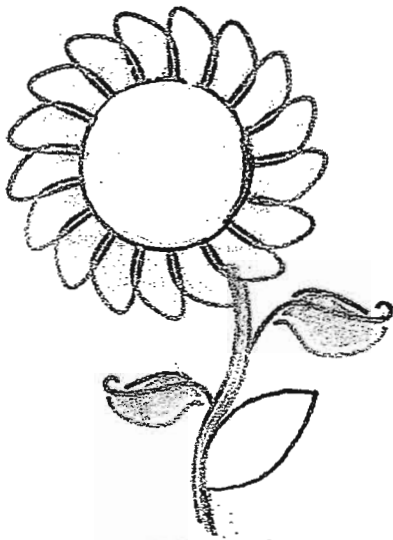
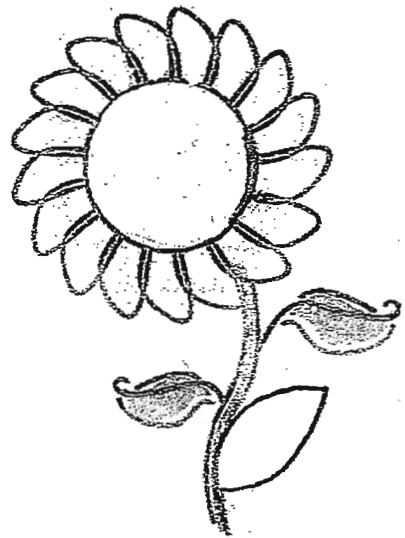
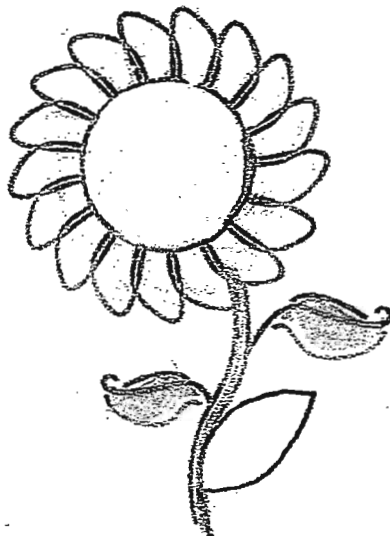
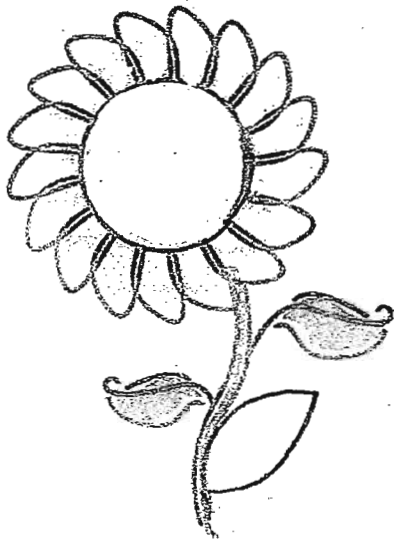
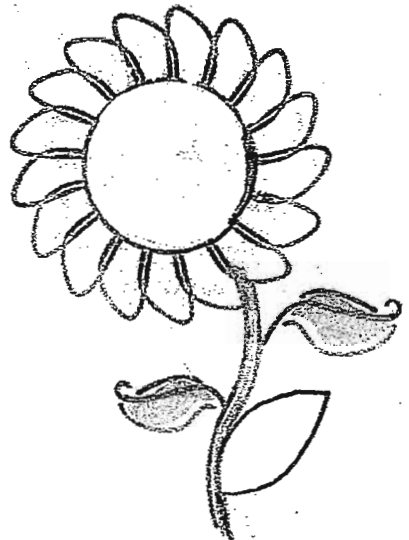
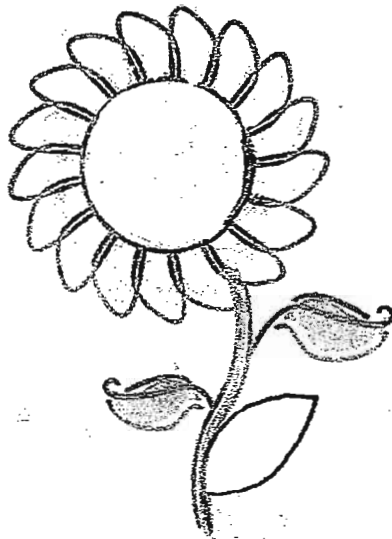
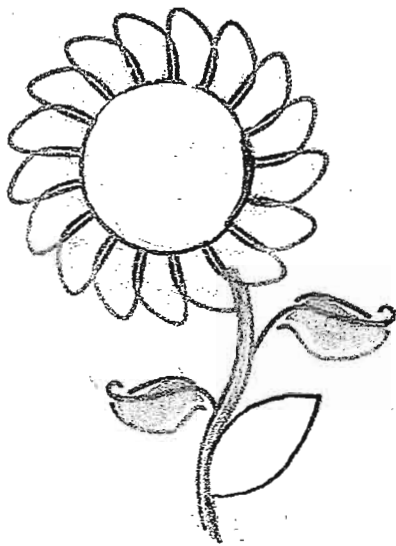


Tall-Taller Tallest

Leaves

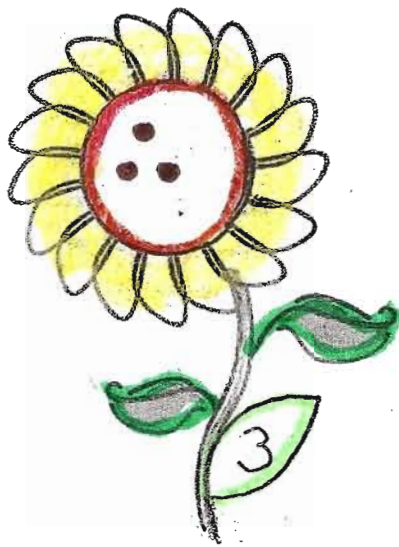


Look at the number on the leaf. Using a brown marker, make that many dots (seeds) on your sunflower. COLOR the sunflowers YELLOW. TRACE the center circle BROWN. TRACE the leaves GREEN.

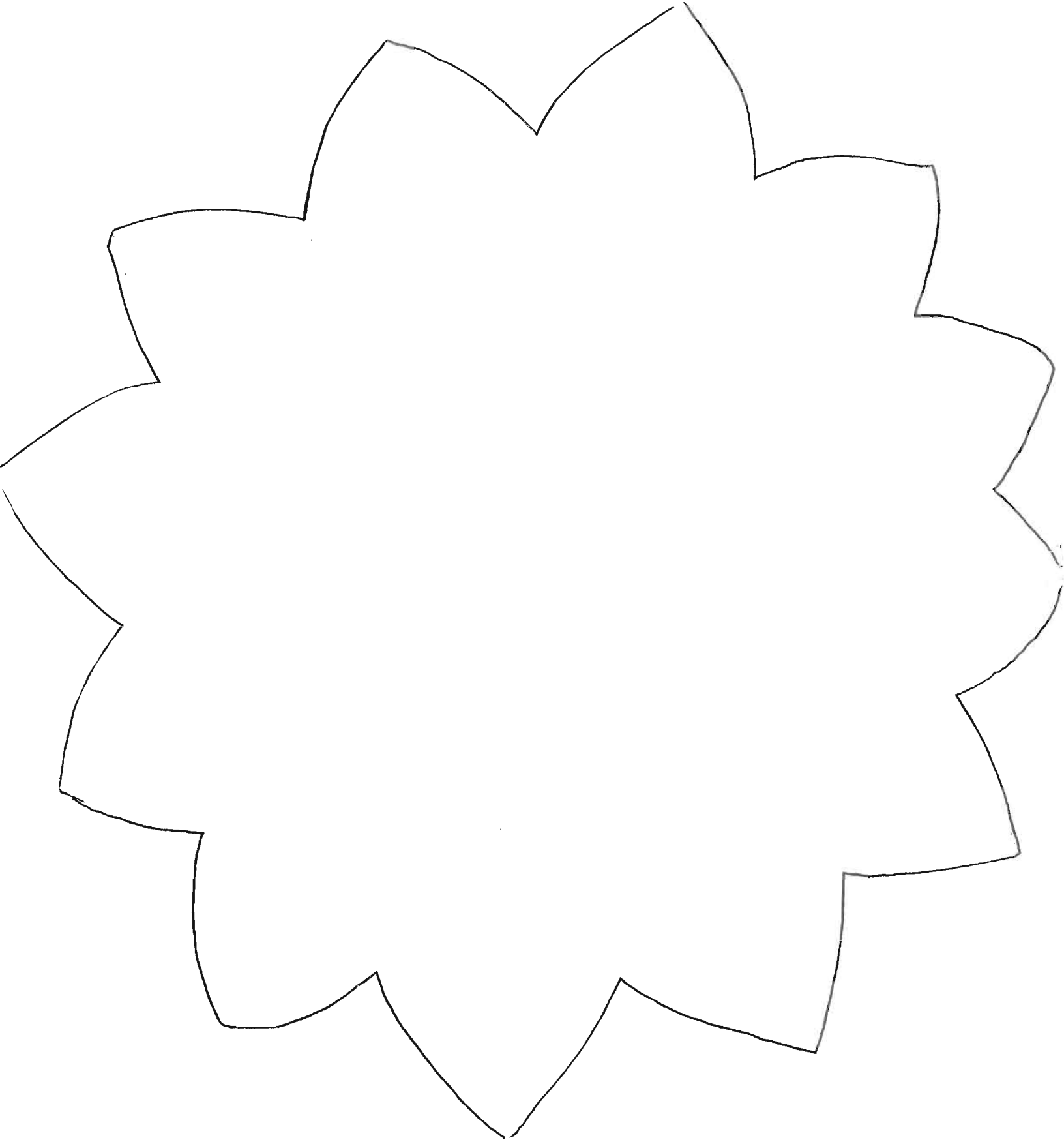


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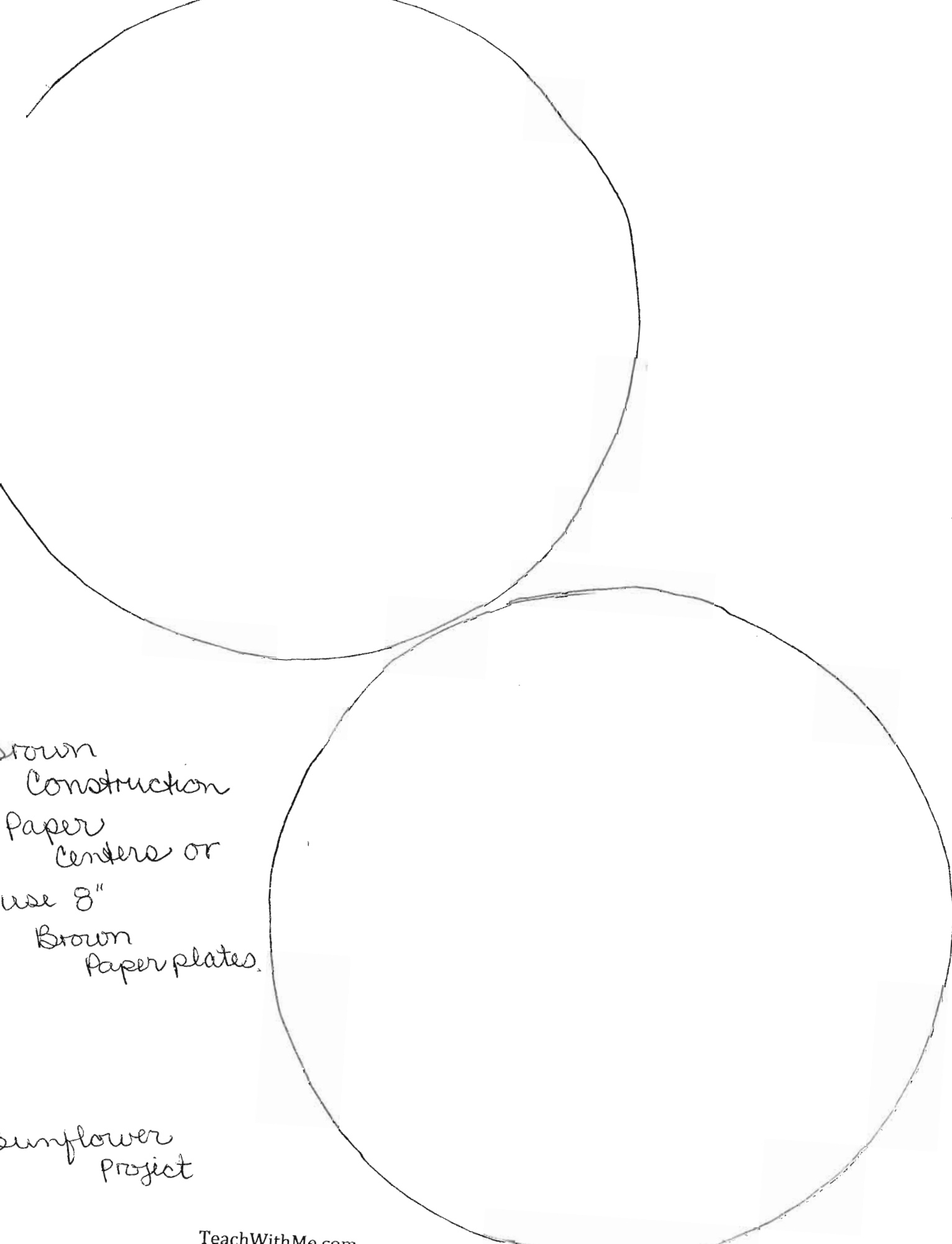




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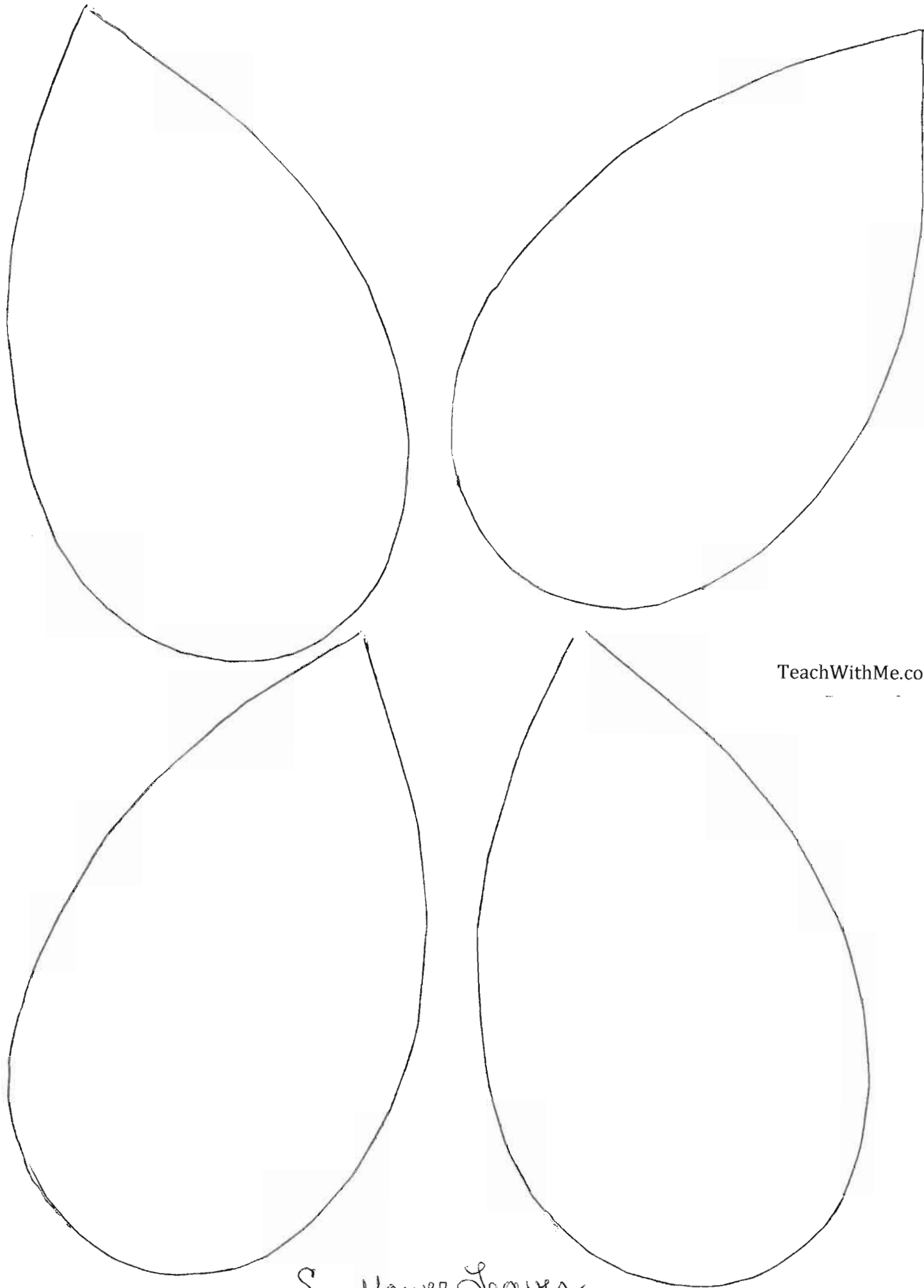
Sunflower — yellow construction paper



Brown  
Construction  
Paper  
Centers or  
use 8"  
Brown  
Paper plates.

Sunflower  
Project





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Sunflower Leaves

# Graphing Time

Do you like sunflower seeds?



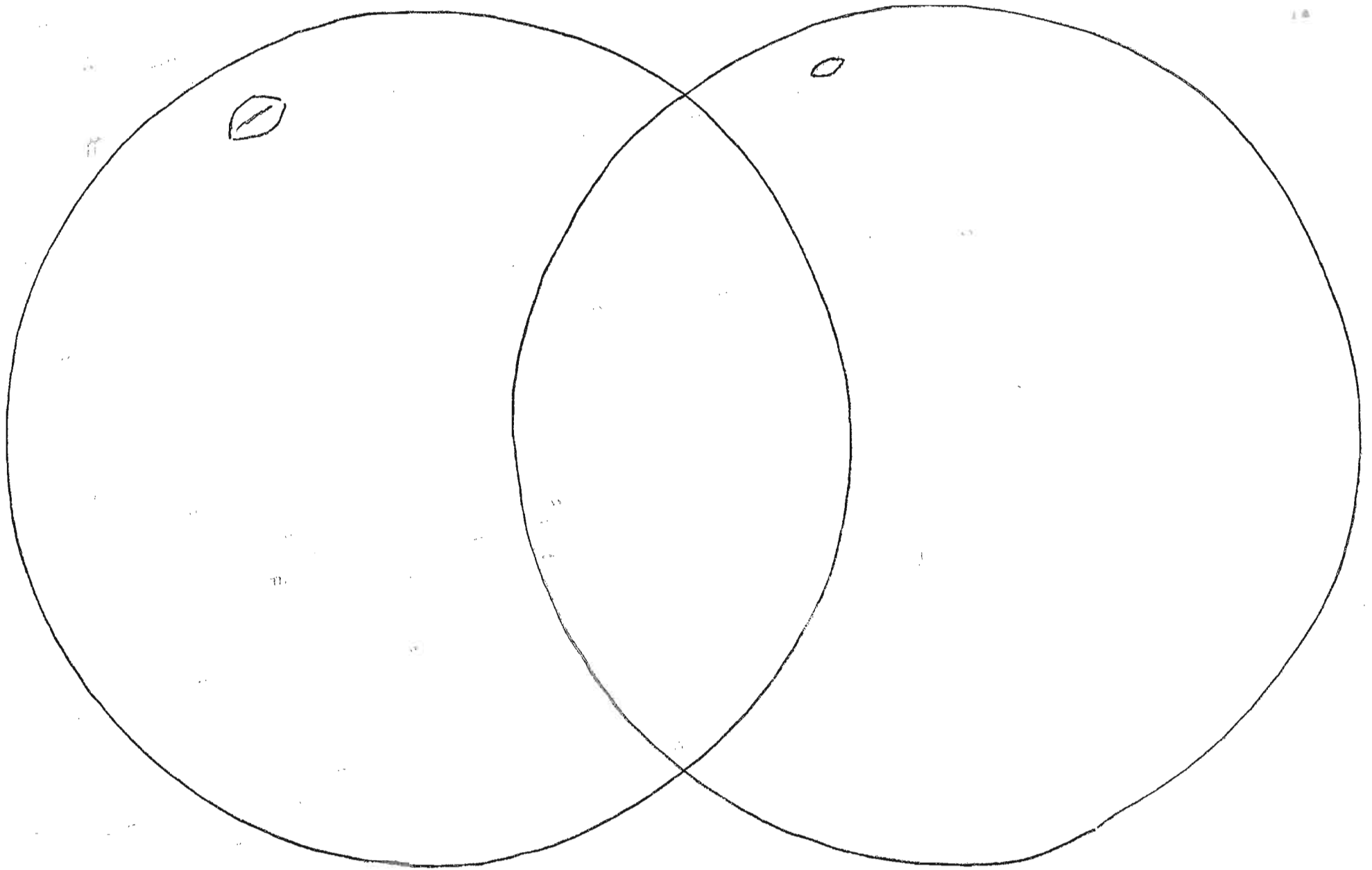
yes

no

Total:

Total:

# Sunflower seed Venn diagram



Seed with shell on.

Seed without shell.

[illegible]