



Five Senses Literature Lessons

Foundations & Fundamentals Level: Orange

A hands-on, easy-to-use, age-appropriate
introduction to letters, numbers, shapes
and colors for children ages 4–8.

Laura Sowdon, OTR/L
Five Senses Learning, LLC

Five Senses Literature Lessons – Foundations & Fundamentals – Level: Orange
Version 1.1

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Pacing The Program

Each lesson in Foundations & Fundamentals is intended to take a week. You should read through the lessons and make a plan for which books and activities you will do each day with your child.

Many other programs have a letter of the week and focus on a single letter, which results in a 26 week program. For many of us, spending an entire school year to get through the alphabet is exhausting and not desirable. So, this program moves a little faster. It alternates between teaching one and two letters each week. Because you will review the phonics pages you have made with your child every day as you go, you can move faster, knowing that those concepts can be solidified with practice. By teaching handwriting in a way that focuses on learning the letters grouped by shape, they become easier and less confusing for the child to begin writing.

Not every lesson has a new color, shape or number. This is intentional. Instead of introducing as much new information as possible during every single lesson, you will have a little time and space to review with your child what you have gone over so far. In the last few lessons, several numbers are introduced instead of extra shapes or colors. Some children will grasp these larger numbers and some will not. This is intended as an introduction to these concepts and you can plan to review them further when your child is ready.

Education is not a race to be won, but a journey to be enjoyed. Take your time. Look for ways to review what your child is learning in real life. Point out the color of their shirt, the letters on signs and the shape of objects in your home. Count together and play with the ideas introduced in the fun books that go along with each lesson in this program.

The go-along pages for each lesson can be found in the Student Worksheet Packet. There are different packets designed for right handed, left handed, and students that have low vision, or poor fine motor control, so that you can have the correct packet for your child. This packet includes pages for the letter parts, phonics, handwriting, shapes, and other pages necessary for full use of the lessons. You will need to purchase the correct packet for your child to get the full benefits of this program. If you have questions about which packet is right for your child, please contact us for a consultation.

Lesson 2

T, F, 2, Orange, Triangle



Reading For The Week

Grandfather Tang's Story by Ann Tompert



Additional Reading

Fox in Socks by Dr. Seuss (We also will read this for the X lesson.)

Triangle by Mac Barnett



Letters: T and F



Number of the week: 2



Shape of the week: Triangle



Color of the week: Orange



Supply List

- Red and yellow paint, art paper
- Globe or world map
- Tangrams (see Student Workbook for template)
- Blocks or legos



Nursery Rhyme: *Diddle Diddle Dumpling My Son John*

Diddle, diddle, dumpling, my son John,
Went to bed with his stockings on;
One shoe off and one shoe on,
Diddle, diddle, dumpling, my son John.



Phonics

Practice the sounds of F and T this week. If your child struggles with T, show them how their tongue taps the top of the mouth to make that sound. Make the T sound over and over for fun.

When you practice the sound for F with your child, notice how it can be elongated, unlike T. To make the sound for F, the top teeth touch the back of the lower lip. This sound can be hard for some children and may be easier when looking in the mirror to see the shape of their mouth after you demonstrate.

Make pages for your phonics book for T and F. T can be pictures of a tiger toy, tater tots or table. F starts the words fork, fan, and flower.



Pre-writing

This week, use the pre-writing workbook page with the cross or plus sign, with your child to work on drawing that simple shape with lines that go from top to bottom, and across the page, cutting through the other line.



Less mature children will want to make this shape with 3 strokes and not bisect the line. But bisecting lines is an essential part of learning to write. When you later introduce writing lower case f and t, your child will need to be able to do this skill.



Handwriting

In addition to making these letters from our letter pieces, build them from blocks, legos, sticks and other straight items around your house. Have your child use their entire body to make a T and an F when you work on each of those. T is easily made by holding both arms straight out from the body to either side. F requires that the child hold one arm straight out in front of them and the other below it, bent at the elbow so that it fits under. Take a picture of your child making the letter.

Once your child has a good grasp of how to make the letter in many different ways, you can complete the handwriting worksheets.



This Week's Shape

This week's shape is the triangle. There are 2 pages in the Student Workbook to work on triangles.

The first page is the pre-writing page for triangles. This page is designed to not only teach your child to draw a triangle but to prepare them for writing A in a future lesson. So, please have your child follow the circle-arrow-square method while using these pages, and be sure to point out the “bounce” of the open circle at the top of the triangle. The child should stop and turn their pencil's direction like a bouncing ball, instead of lifting the pencil to start a new line.

There is also a page with a large triangle for you to have your child cut out. Before cutting, have your child color, trace or decorate the triangle. Hang it up to look at this week as you look for triangles in everyday objects.



This Week's Number

This nursery rhyme emphasizes having 2 shoes but those 2 shoes are in different places. This week, focus on the number 2. Look for things you have 2 of. Have your child look in the mirror and notice they have 2 hands, 2 feet, 2 eyes, and 2 ears. Then look around your home for things that come in sets of 2- socks, shoes, and mittens. Do you also have 2 doors? Or 2 bathrooms? Notice that there are 2 faucets in the bathroom, one for hot and one for cold water.



Gross Motor Development

Act out the story, and have your child pretend to be one fox fairy while you pretend to be the other. Encourage them to crawl, scamper, flap their arms to fly and hop like the bunny. Before starting this game, set limits on where you will play, staying in the room or in the yard, so that this game does not get out of control. If you have multiple children that can play together, remind them to not get carried away the way the foxes in the book do.

Animals in the story:

- Foxes
- Rabbit
- Dog
- Squirrel
- Hawk
- Turtle
- Alligator
- Goose
- Foxes



Art

Have your child make orange from red and yellow finger paint by mixing them together. Foxes are often a shade of orange. Is your orange that color? Is it the color of the fruit orange? Encourage your child to paint things that are orange with their paint. Pumpkins, fall leaves, oranges, and foxes are all fun choices.



If your child is sensory defensive and won't touch paint- you can put the red and yellow paint inside a ziplock bag, or 2 for safety, and squish them together without touching them.



Social Studies and Body Awareness

We sometimes talk about when a road has a T, and give directions by telling someone to turn left or right at the "T." Explain this idea to your child, then point out a T in toy car or train tracks, and while driving on real roads. Go a step further, and make roads with chalk on a driveway or floor, have the road have a place where it comes to a T and work with your child on pretending to be a car that follows directions. Tell them to turn left, then circle around and turn right. If your child has not learned their left from right, use a washable marker to put an L on their left hand to help them learn.



Geography and Social Studies

This story is set in China, and that is where tangrams were invented. Find China on a map or globe with your child. Review where you live on the globe, and point out how far away China is.



For a fun way to tie the lesson together, you may go out for Chinese food this week. Encourage your child to try using chopsticks, the fine motor control of using them is wonderful for developing hand-eye coordination needed for other tasks.



Math

Tangrams are sets that have several different triangles and a few other shapes that can be used to make pictures. It is like a puzzle, but with endless possibilities.

In the Student Workbook is a template of tangrams. Glue that on a piece of thin cardboard and make a set or two to use with your child. You can use this set with your child to make the shapes in the story, either as you read it again, or you can just look through the pictures in the book.

Look at the triangles with your child and compare their sizes, large and small. Point out how some of them have sides that are equal, and some do not. The important part of making a triangle is that it has 3 sides and those sides can be many different lengths.



If your child is interested, you can explain how the angles in the triangles can be equal or not, creating different kinds of triangles, like equilateral and right triangles.



Social Skills

The 2 fox fairies in the story are friends, but they play a game that turns dangerous. Ask your child if they have ever played a game that went wrong. What did they do? Discuss options for what they can do if playing with a friend ever becomes dangerous or upsetting. Talk about what your child could say to make the friend stop, such as saying, “I don’t like this game now. Can we play something else?” Or if the friend can’t stop, getting an adult or older child to help.



Student Workbook Tangerine

Companion workbook for the
Foundations & Fundamentals program.
Right-handed learners. Standard sizes.

Lesson 2

T, F, 2, Orange, Triangle



Letters of the week: T and F



Number of the week: 2



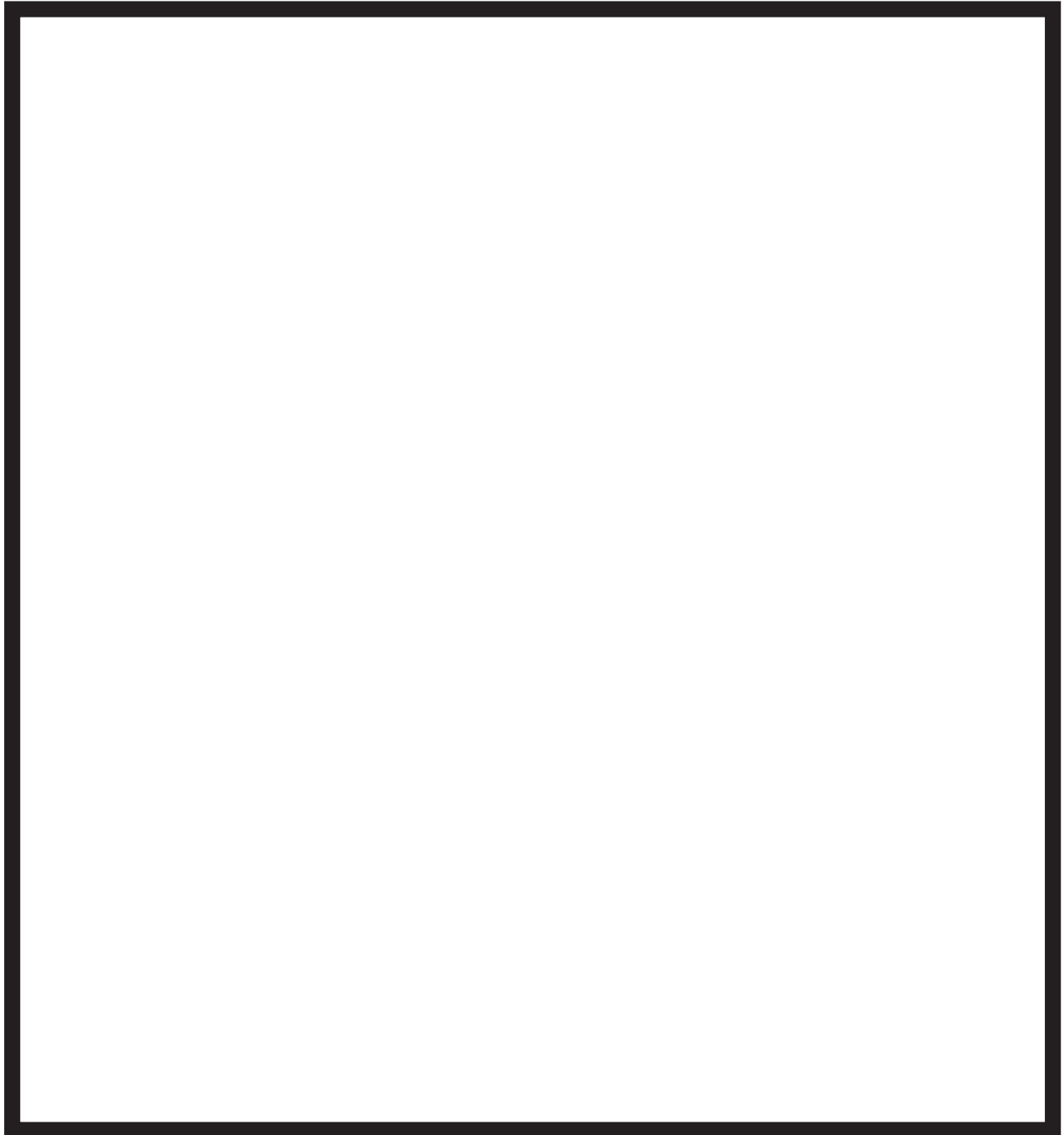
Shape of the week: Triangle



Color of the week: Orange

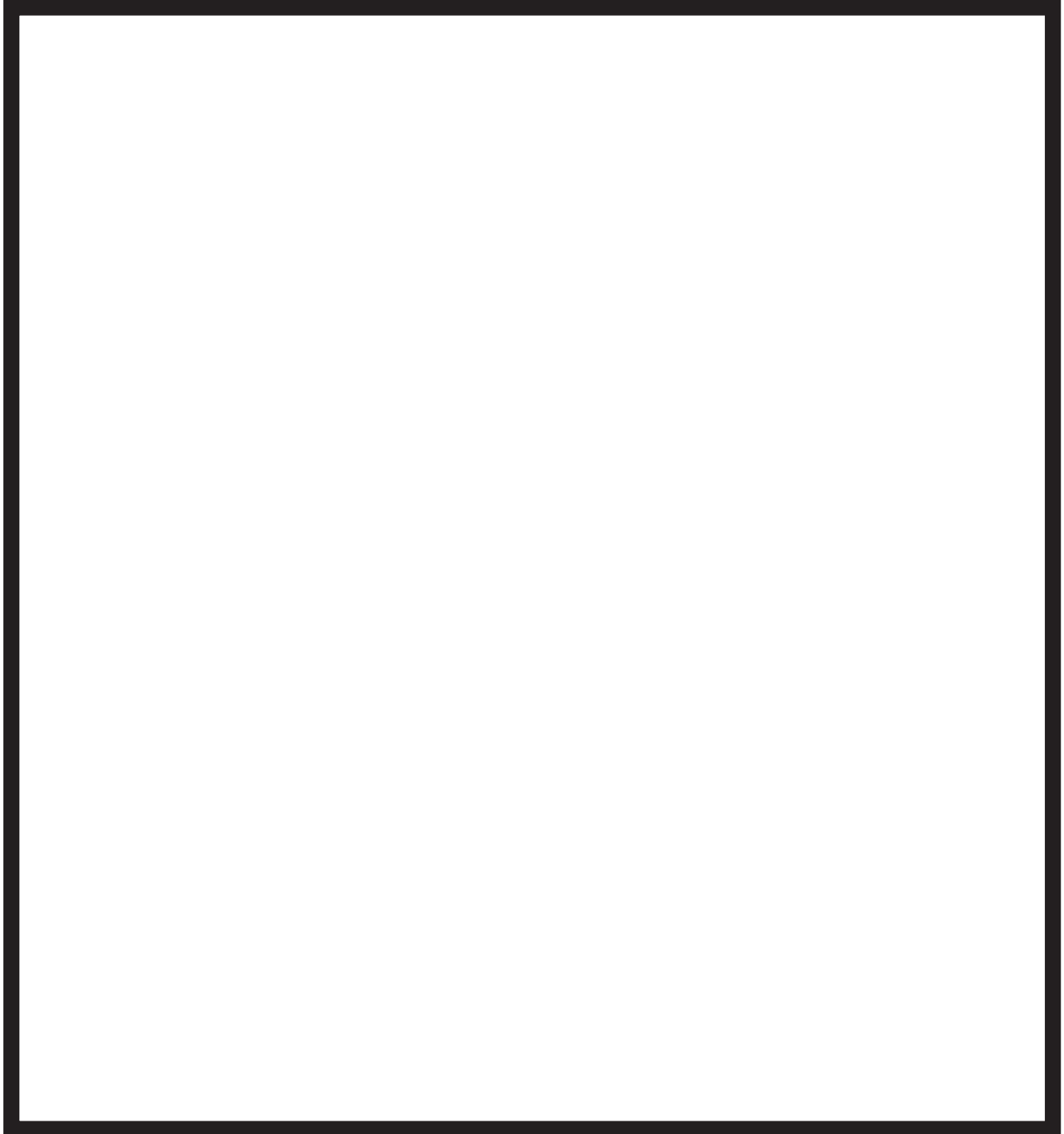
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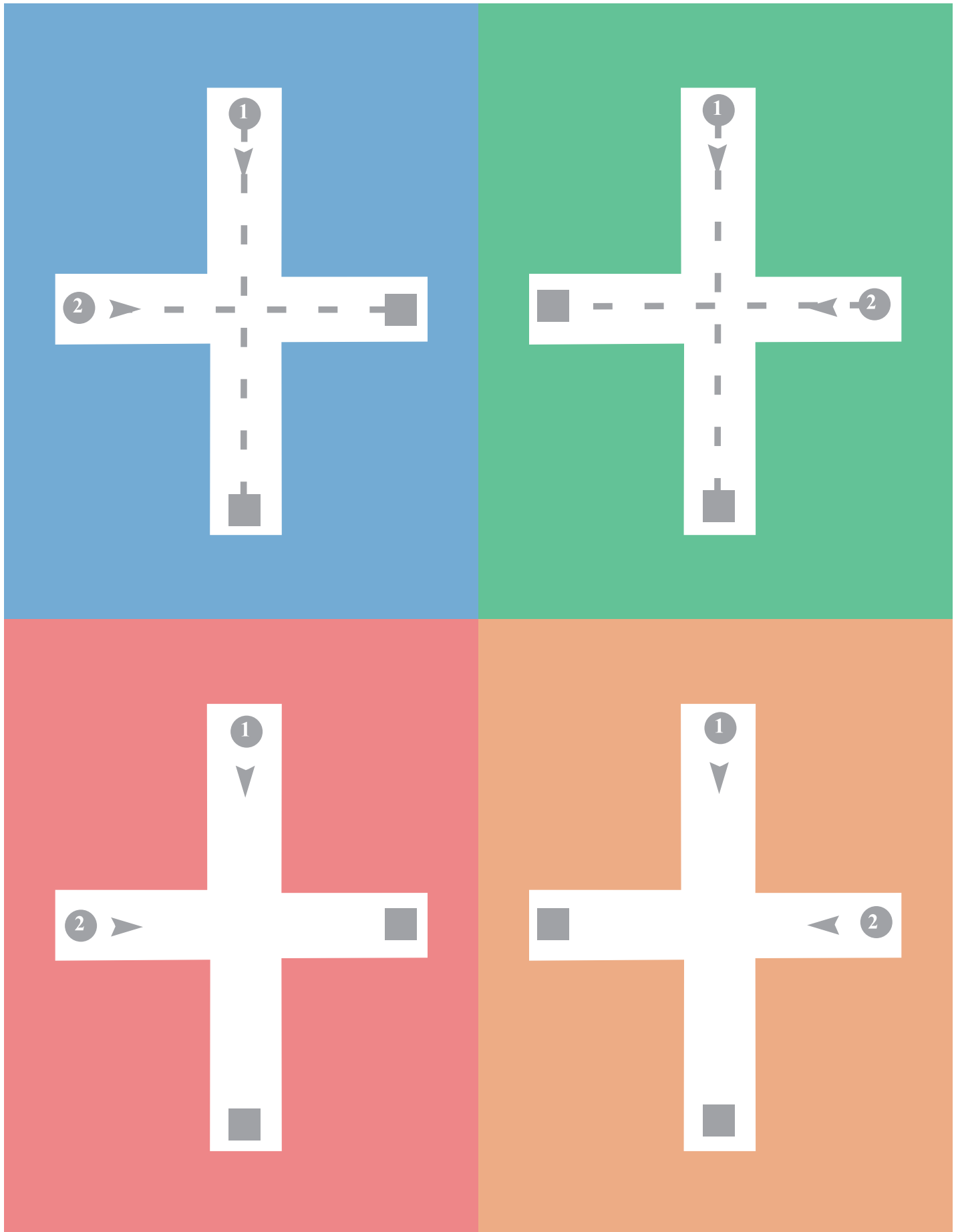
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- Shape: Triangle
- Number: Two
- Tangrams template

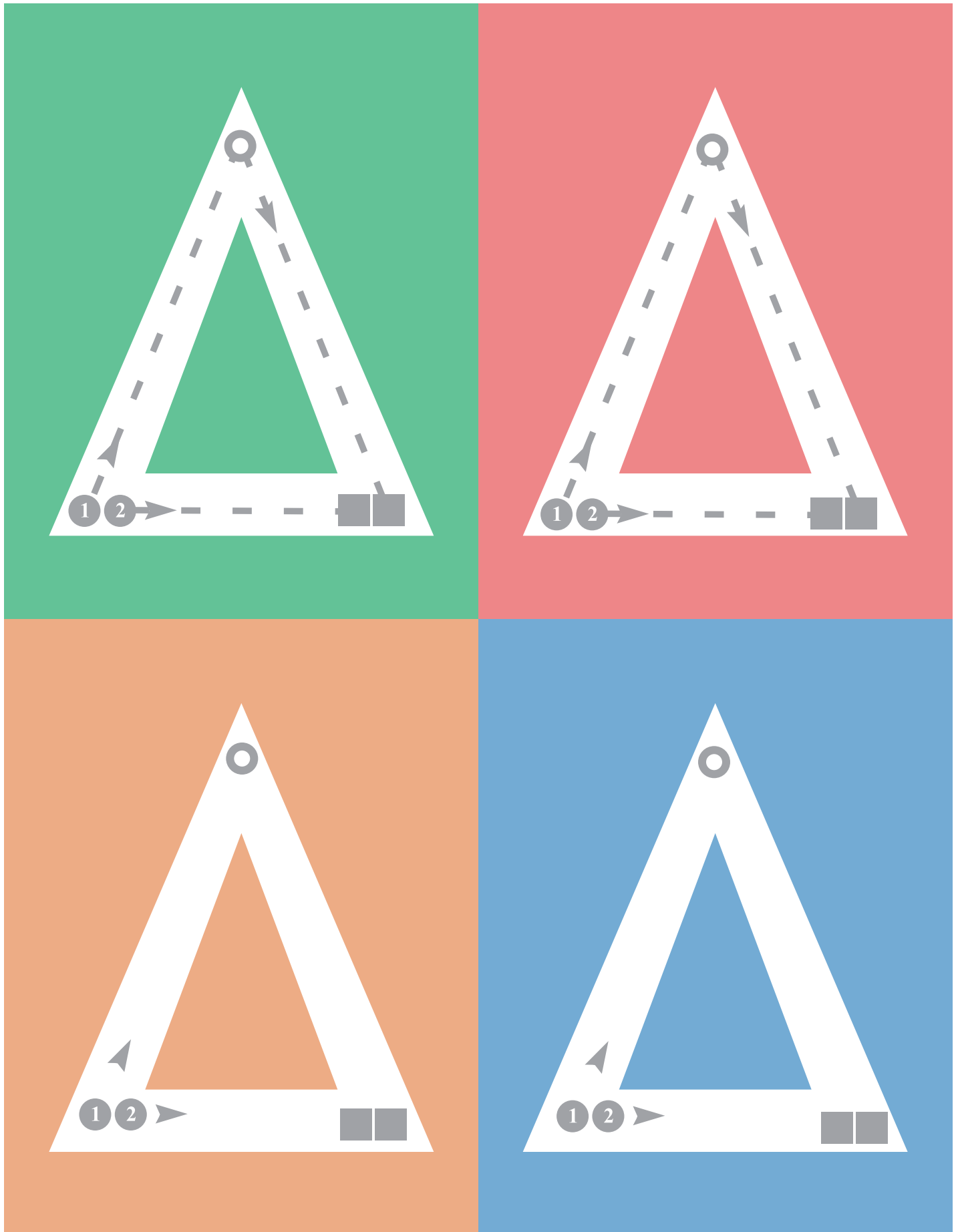


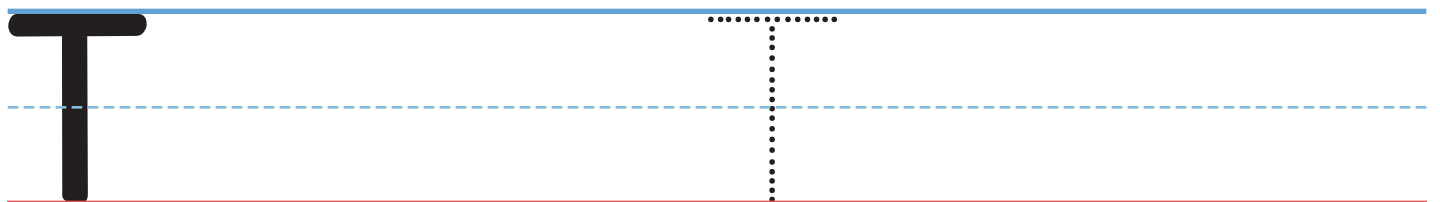
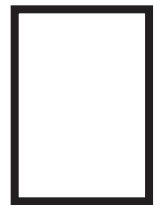
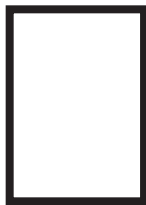
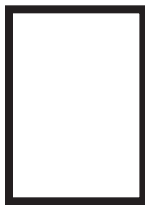
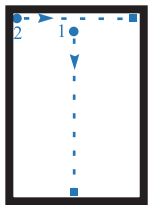
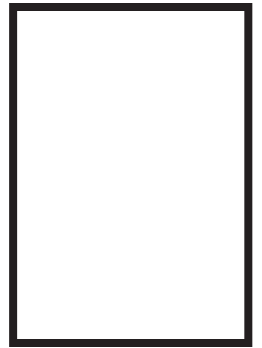
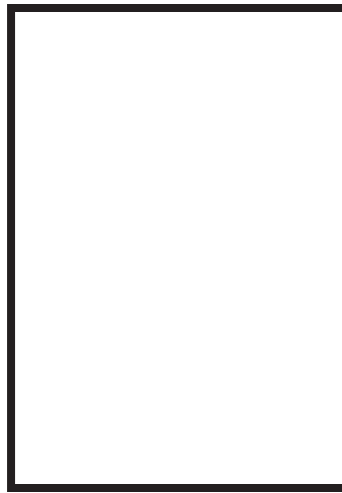
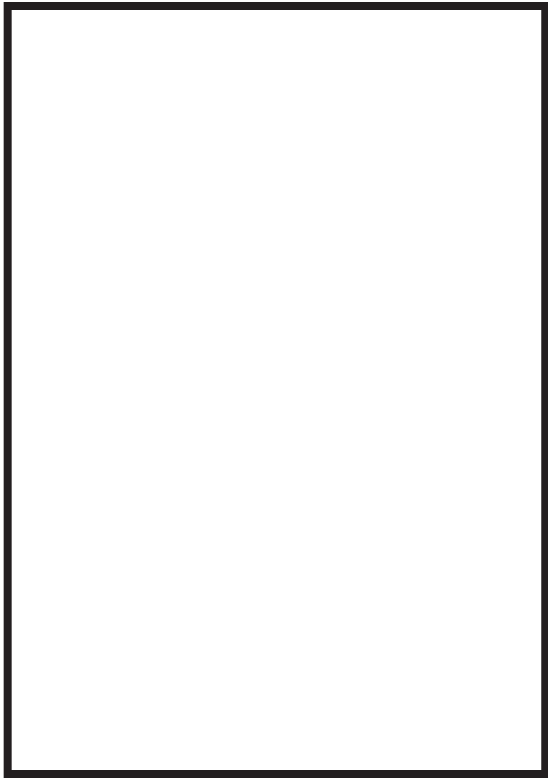
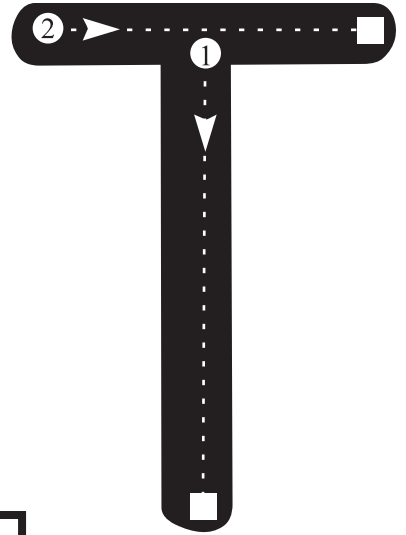
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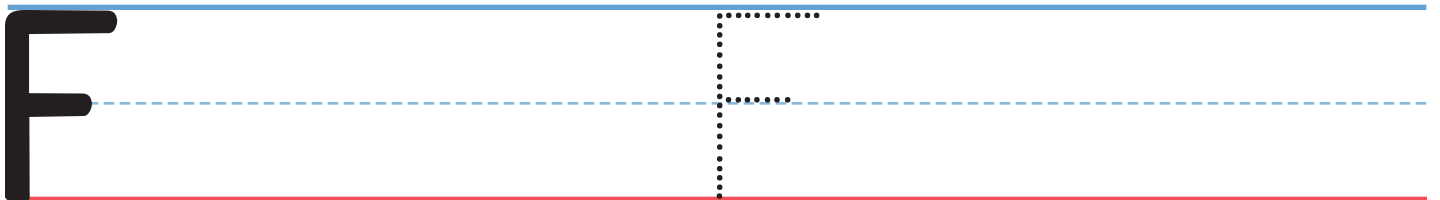
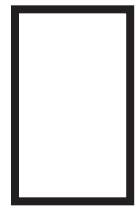
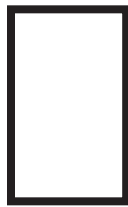
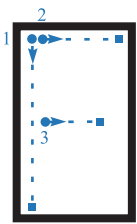
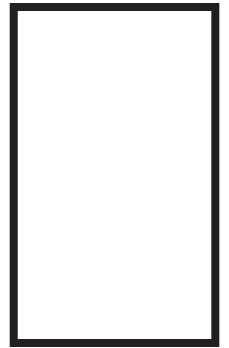
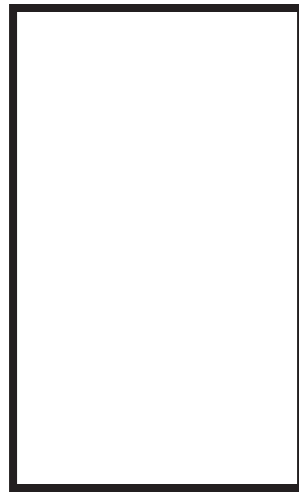
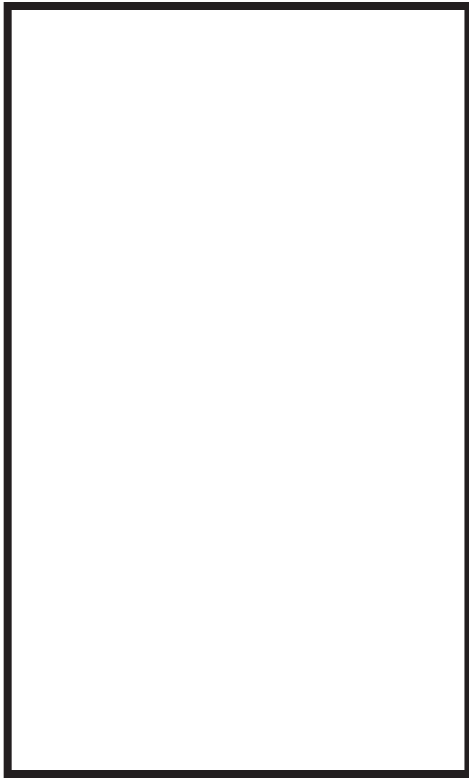
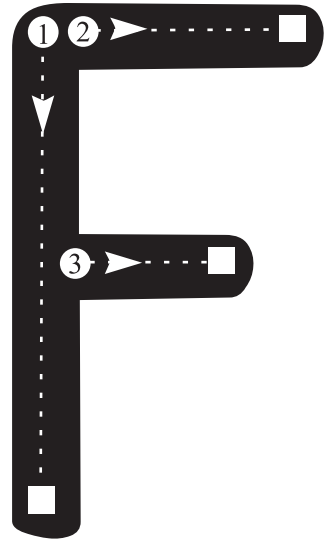
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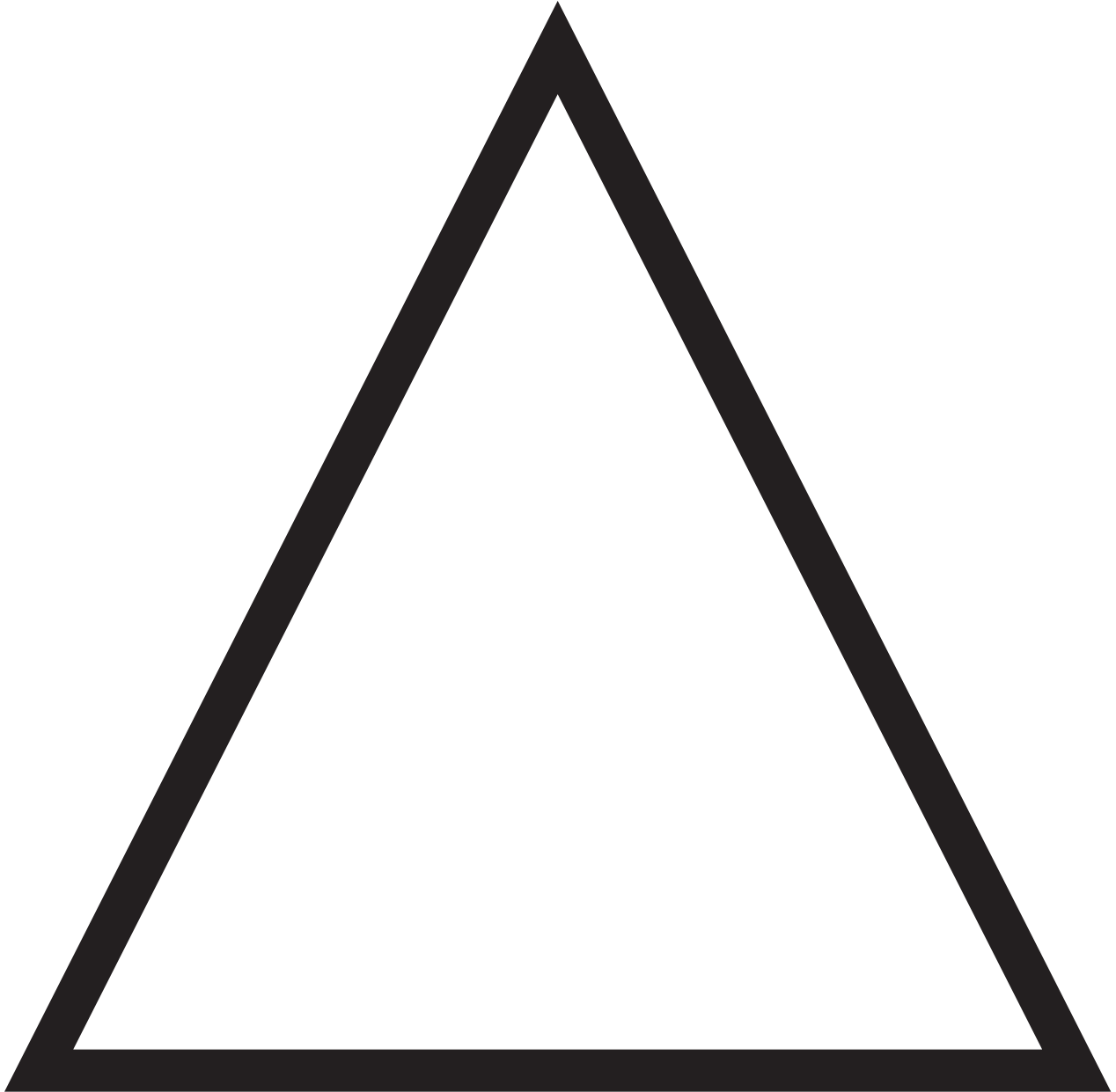




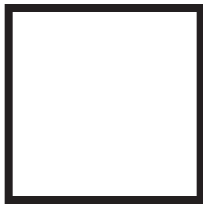
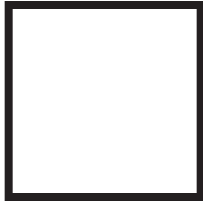




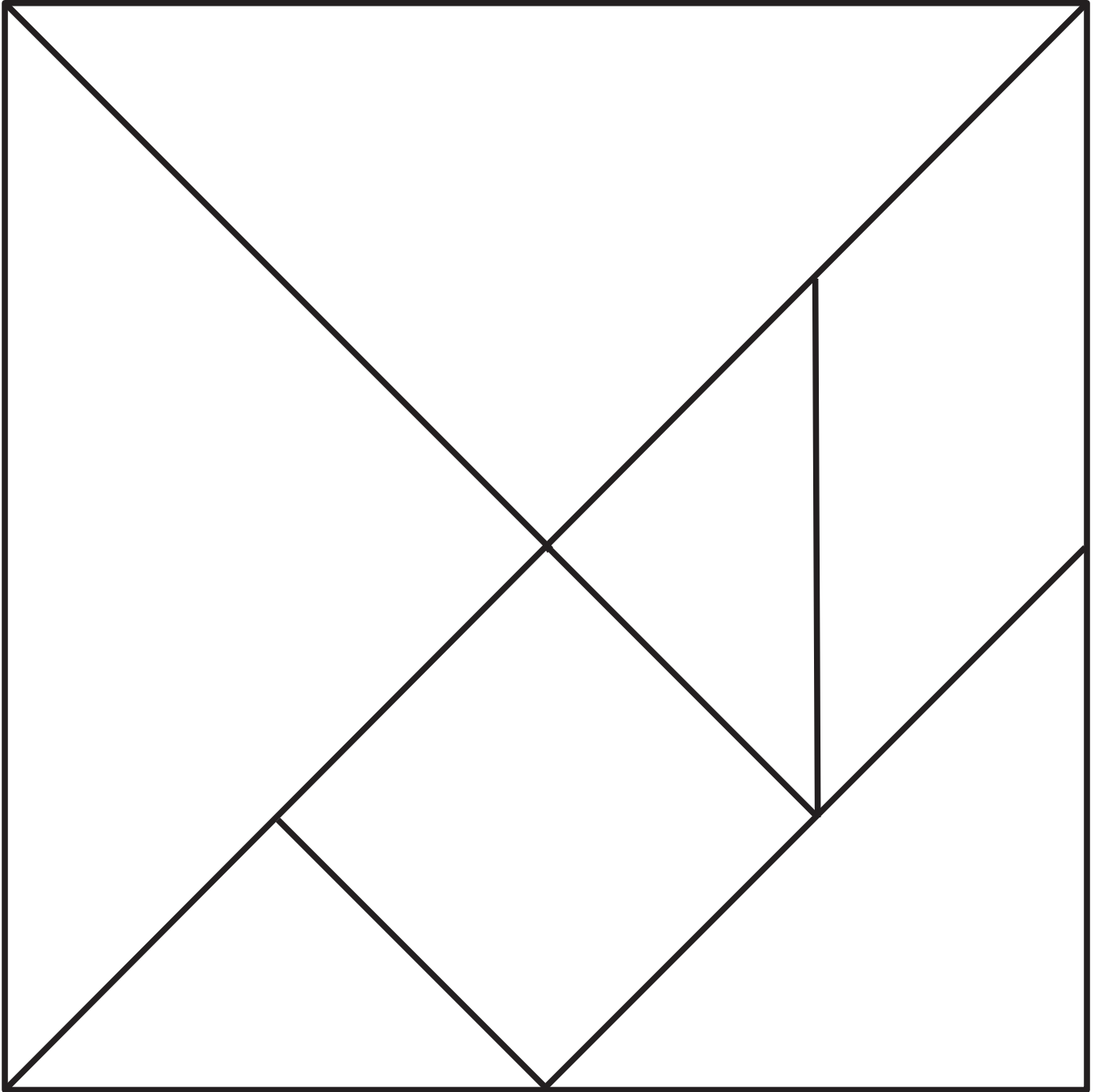
Triangle



2



Tangram Template





Student Workbook Apricot

Companion workbook for the
Foundations & Fundamentals program.
Left-handed learners. Standard sizes.

Lesson 2

T, F, 2, Orange, Triangle



Letters of the week: T and F



Number of the week: 2



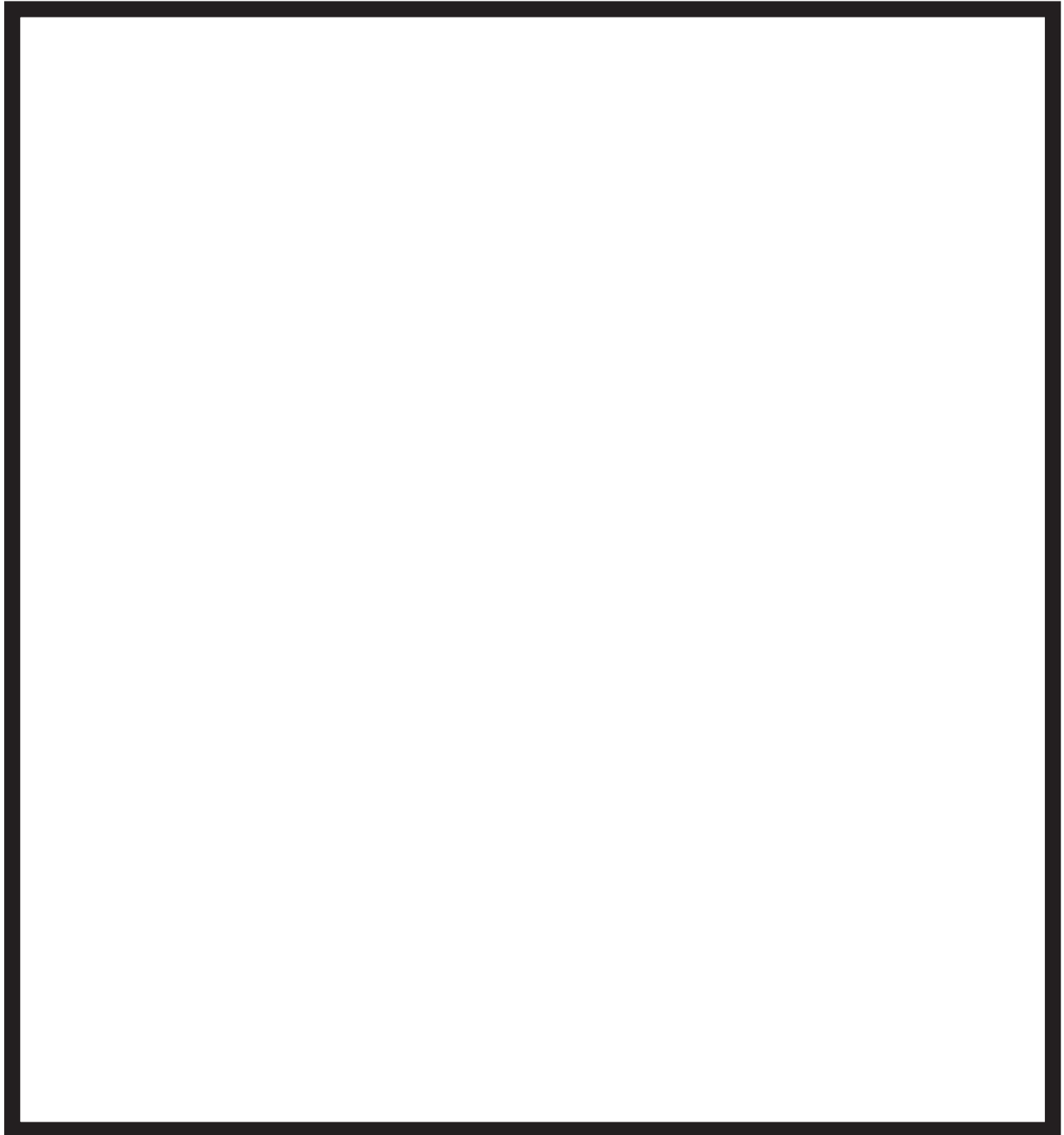
Shape of the week: Triangle



Color of the week: Orange

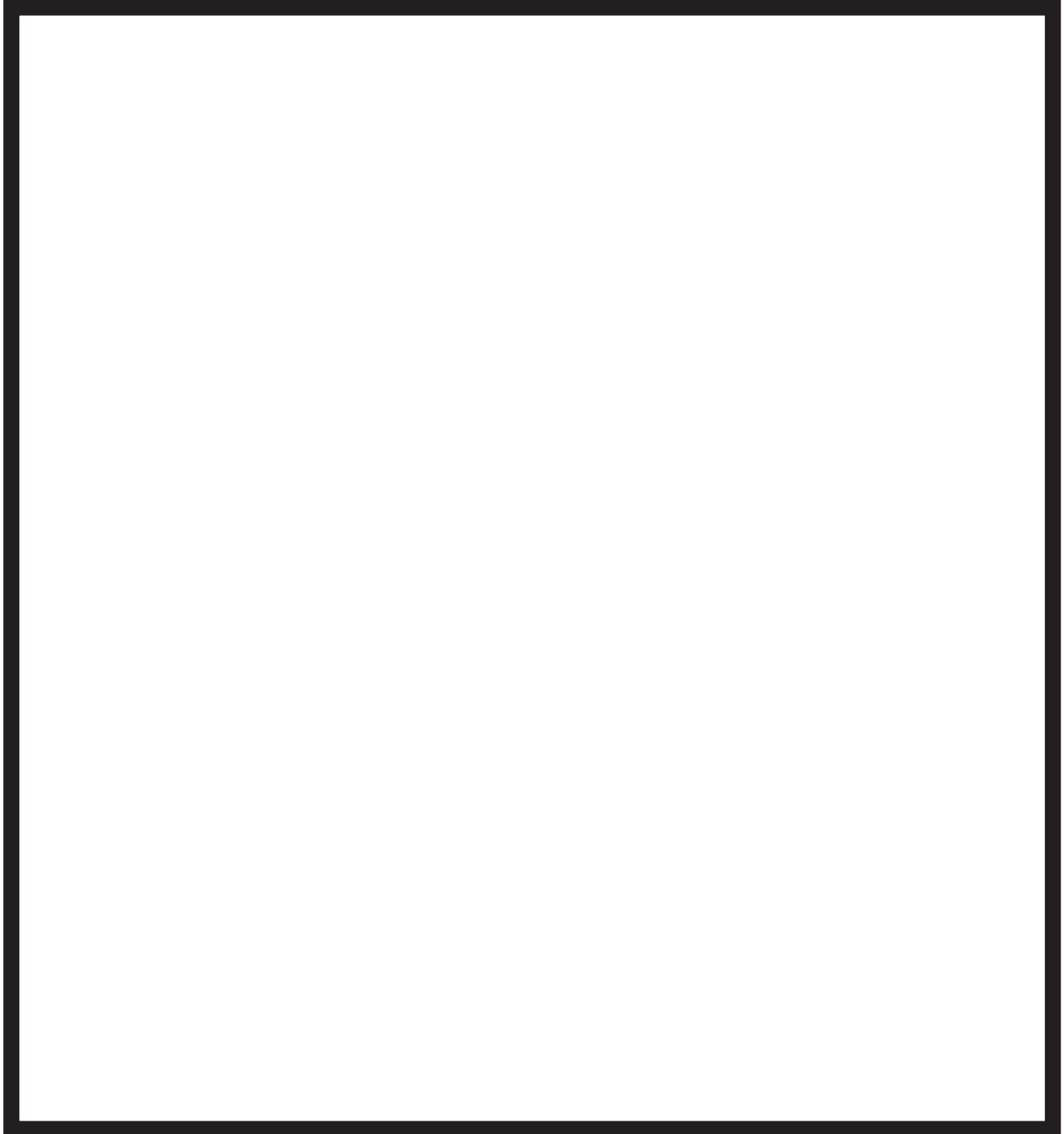
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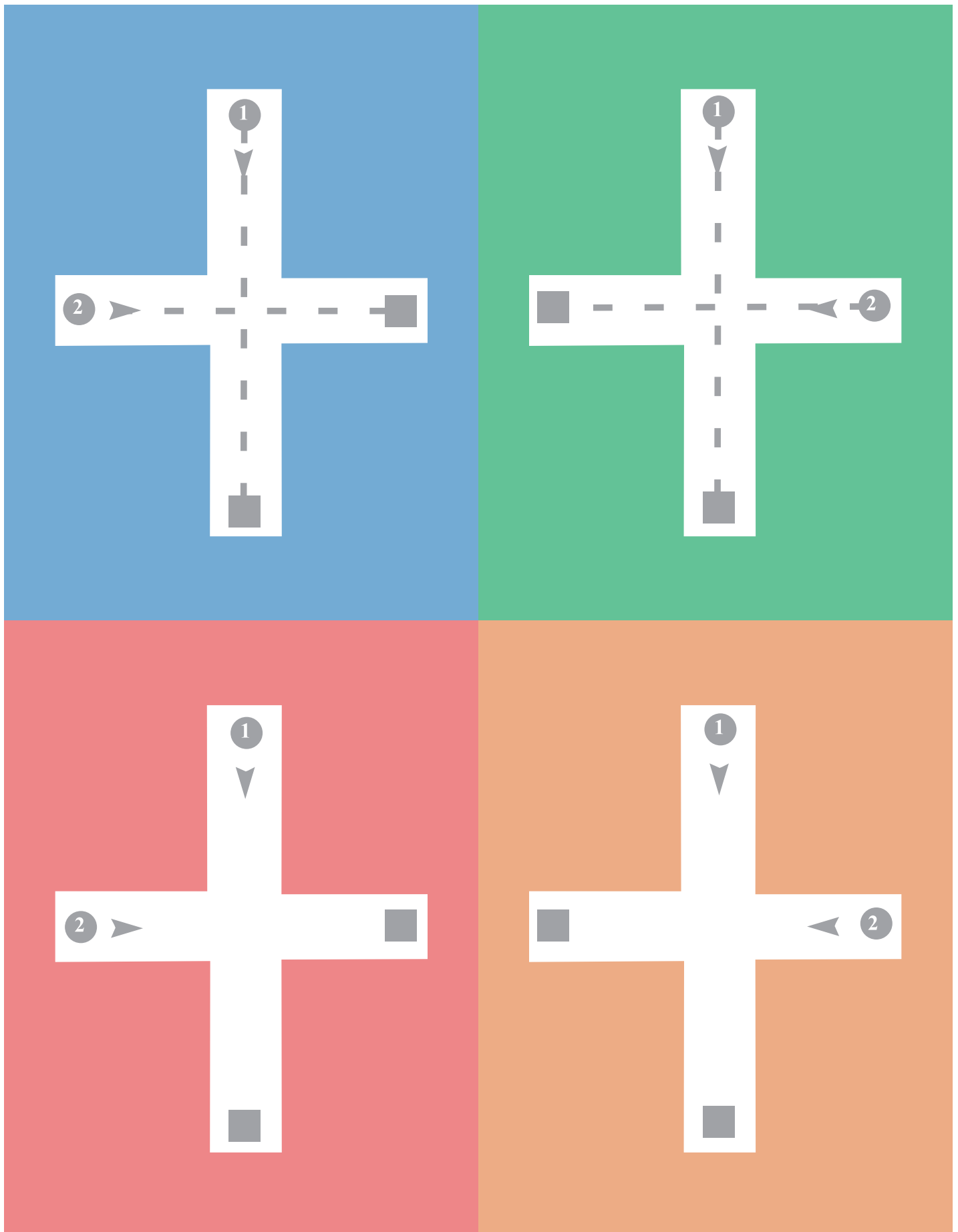
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- Shape: Triangle
- Number: Two
- Tangrams template

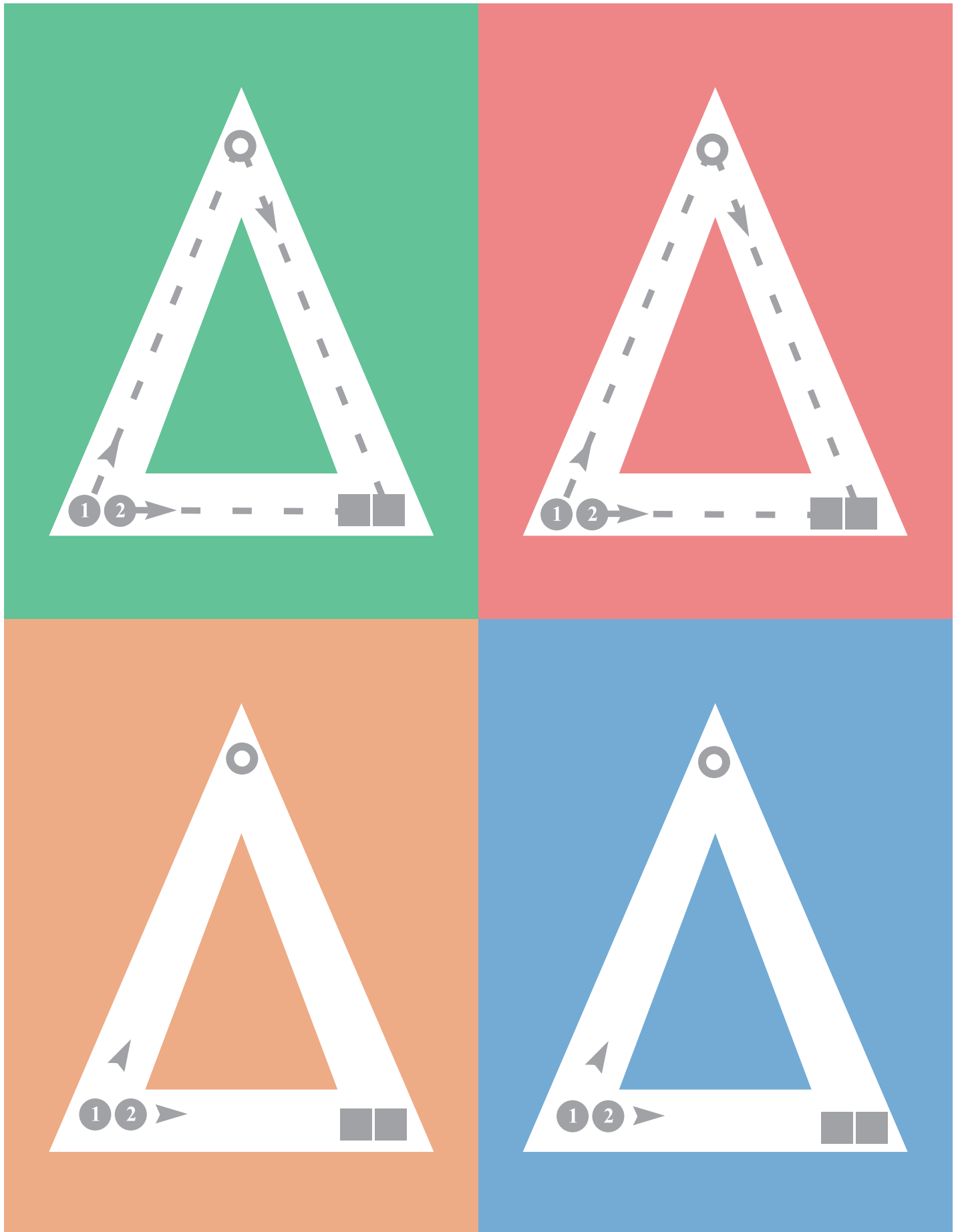


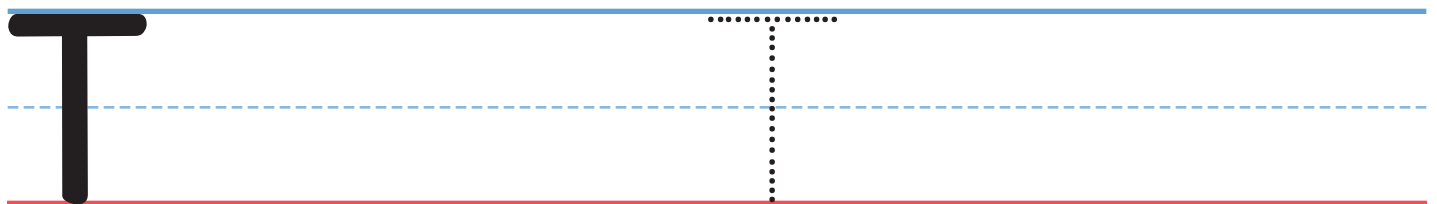
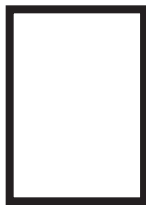
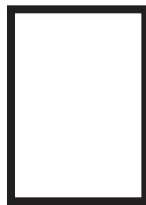
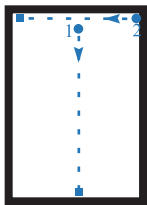
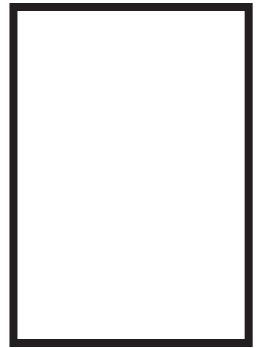
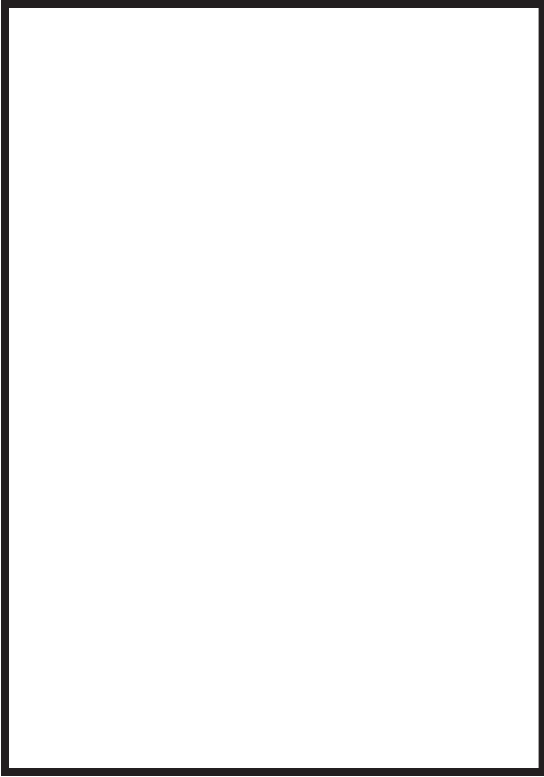
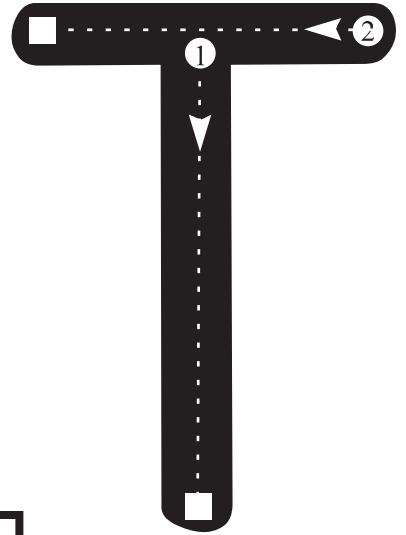
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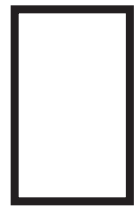
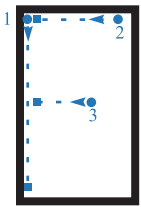
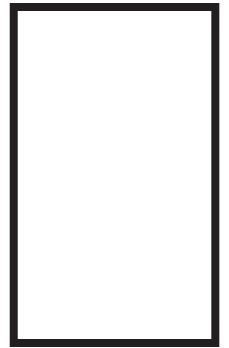
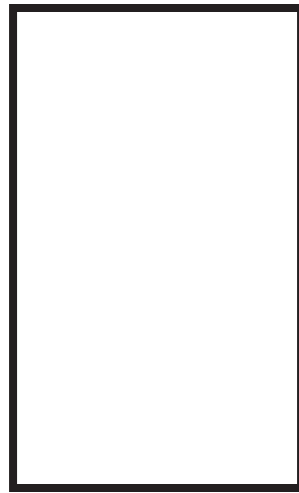
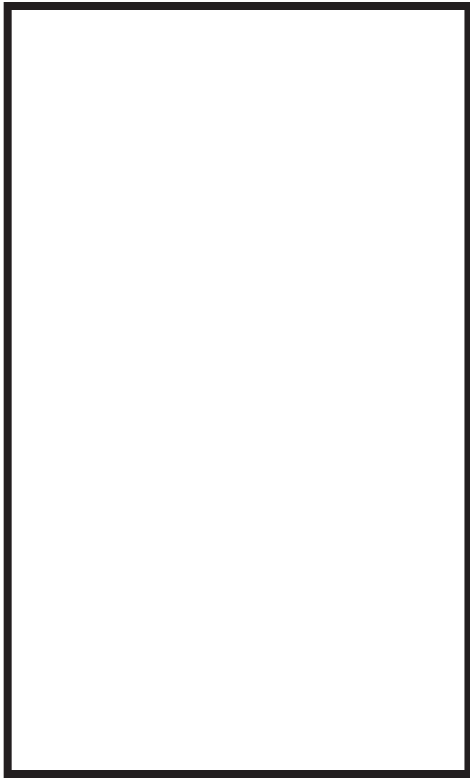
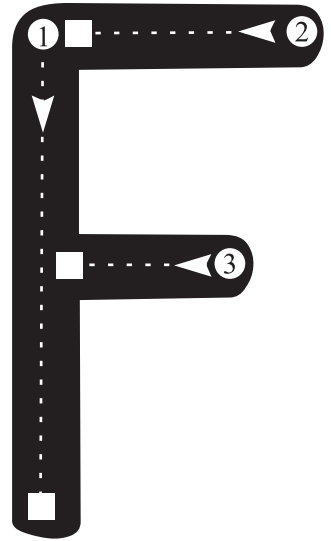
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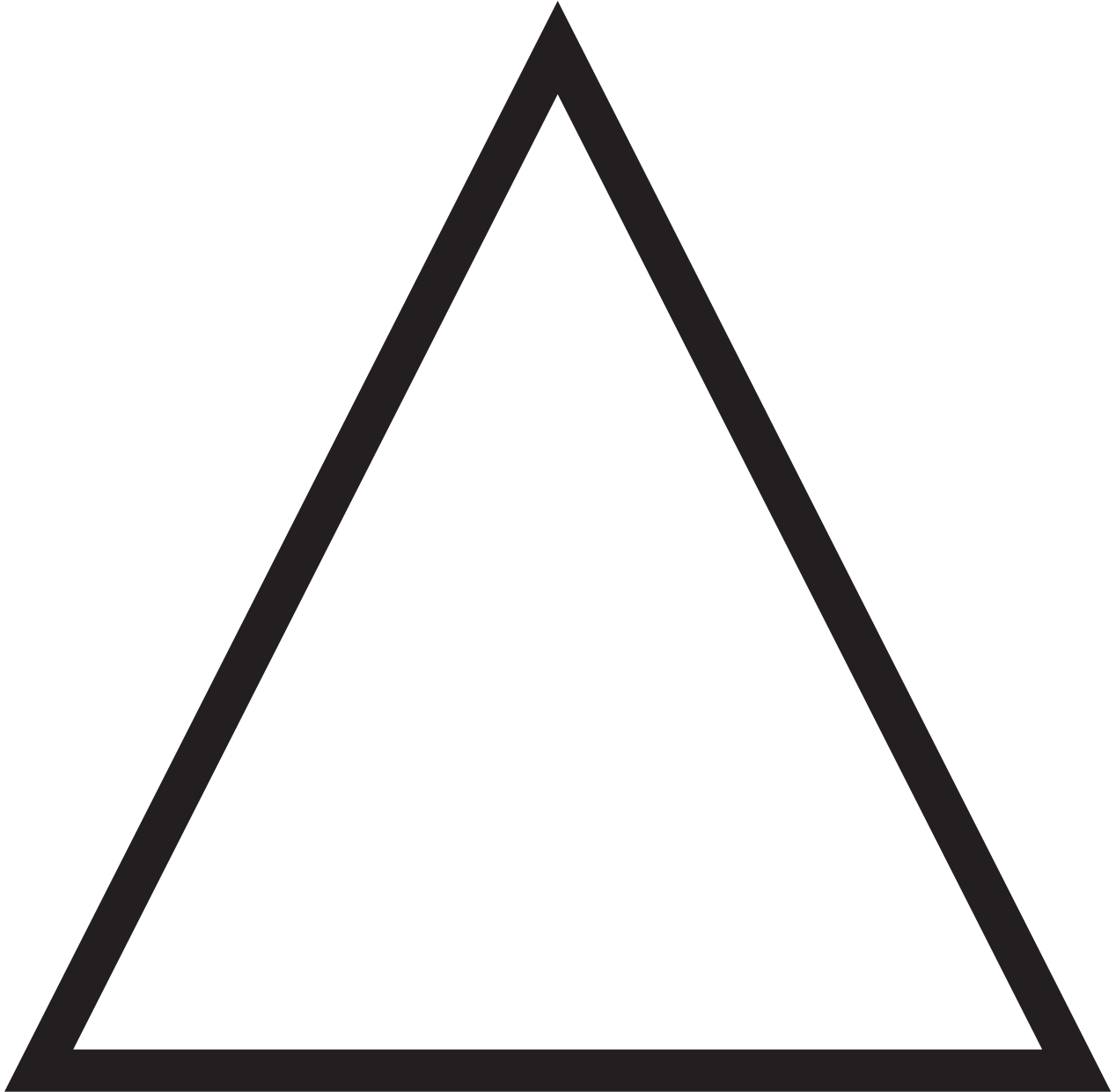




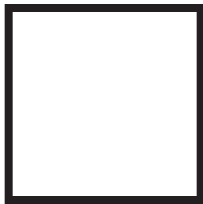
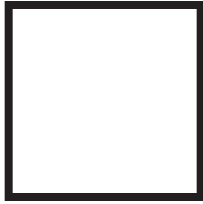




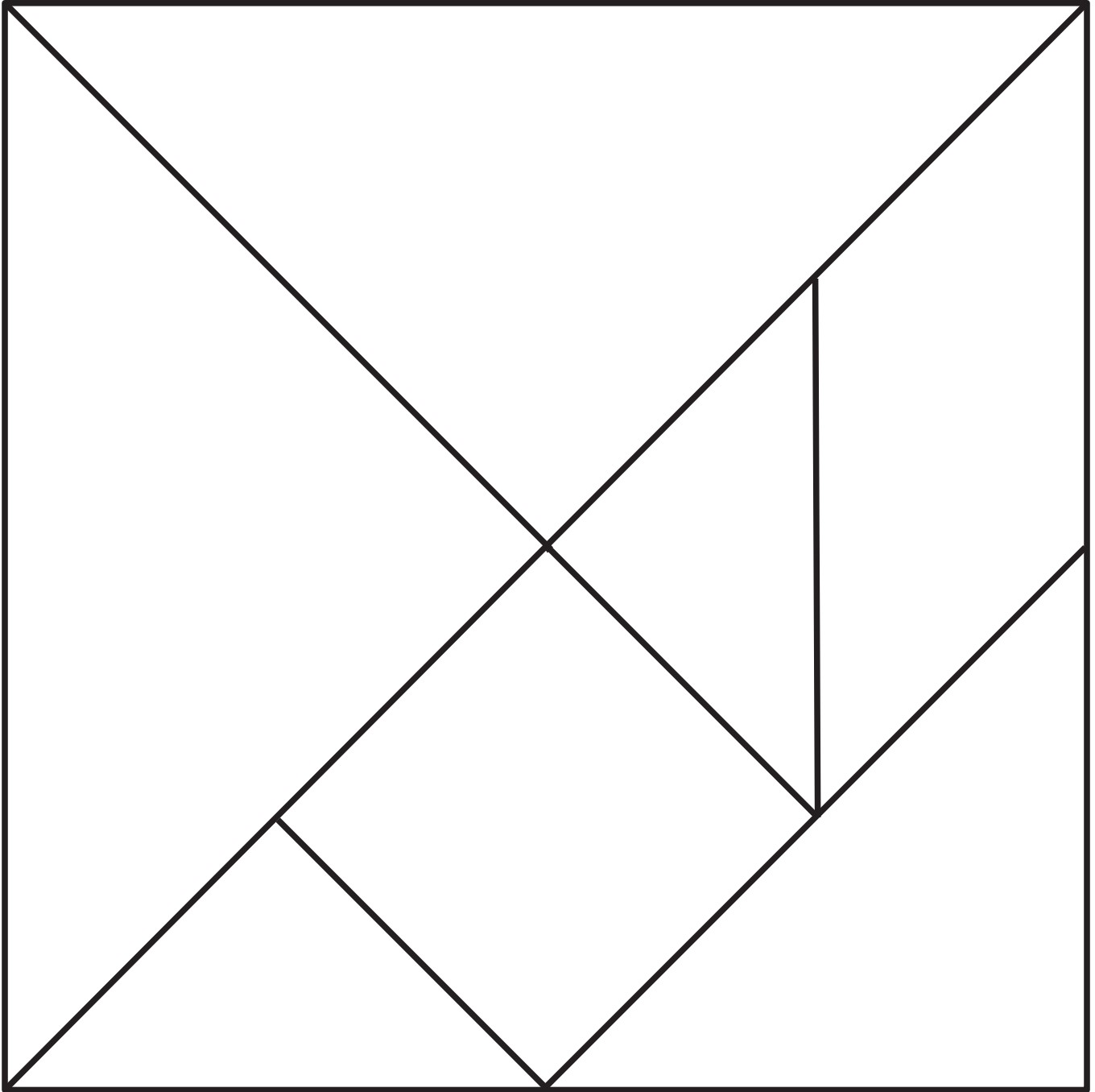
Triangle



2



Tangram Template





Student Workbook Pumpkin

Supplementary workbook for the
Foundations & Fundamentals program.
For children with impaired fine motor or
impaired vision issues.

What is different about Pumpkin?

In this workbook, we have replaced our regular handwriting worksheets with two new worksheets. The first worksheet shows the letter at approximately 10 inches tall, using the full piece of paper, for tracing. The second shows the letter at about half that size on the page with boxes for targeted writing. These smaller versions are still over twice as big as the goal writing size in Tangerine or Apricot, and the pages are less cluttered.

We've used contrasting colors, orange and blue, for the directional arrows and boxes. Our research indicates, that for some children, these colors will help make the letters and shapes easier to see. However, if your printer only works in black and white, these pages will still print just fine in shades of black and grey.

We've added more pre-writing pages to use with your child to work on pencil or crayon control. These additional pages are designed to be used to teach your child to draw controlled lines and shapes in a larger format, again making them the size of a full sheet of paper, or the size that best fills the page. In addition to those, we've included the pre-writing pages that are in the Tangerine and Apricot packets, to give you more ways to work on pencil control and drawing with your child.

All the lines are thicker and the letters are enlarged for the phonics pages. The lines are also wider on the shapes pages, in case your child wants to try cutting them out or coloring them.

On the math counting pages, all the boxes are filled in and outlined, to make them easier to see, and the numbers are larger.

Lesson 2

T, F, 2, Orange, Triangle



Letters of the week: T and F



Number of the week: 2



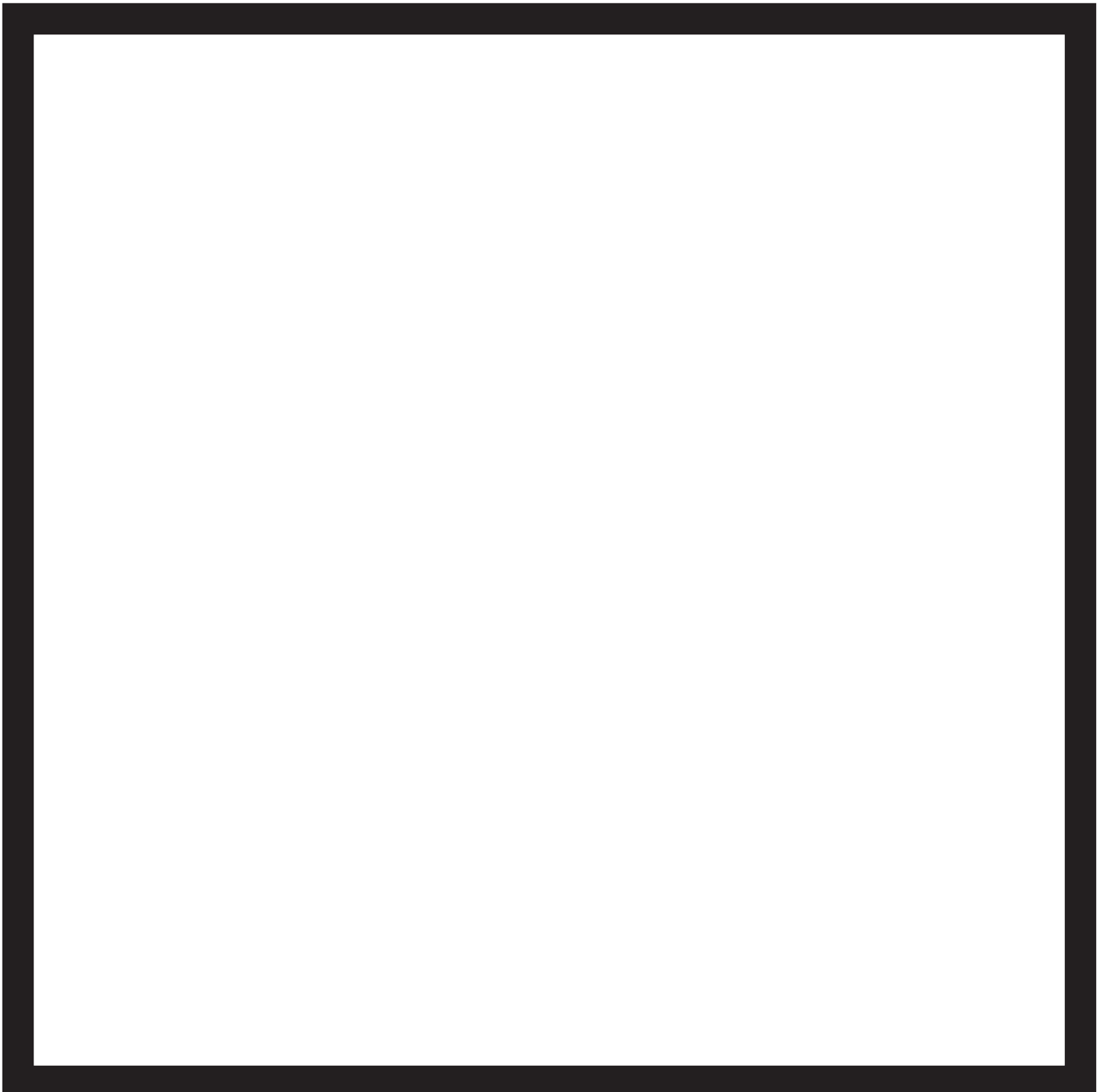
Shape of the week: Triangle



Color of the week: Orange

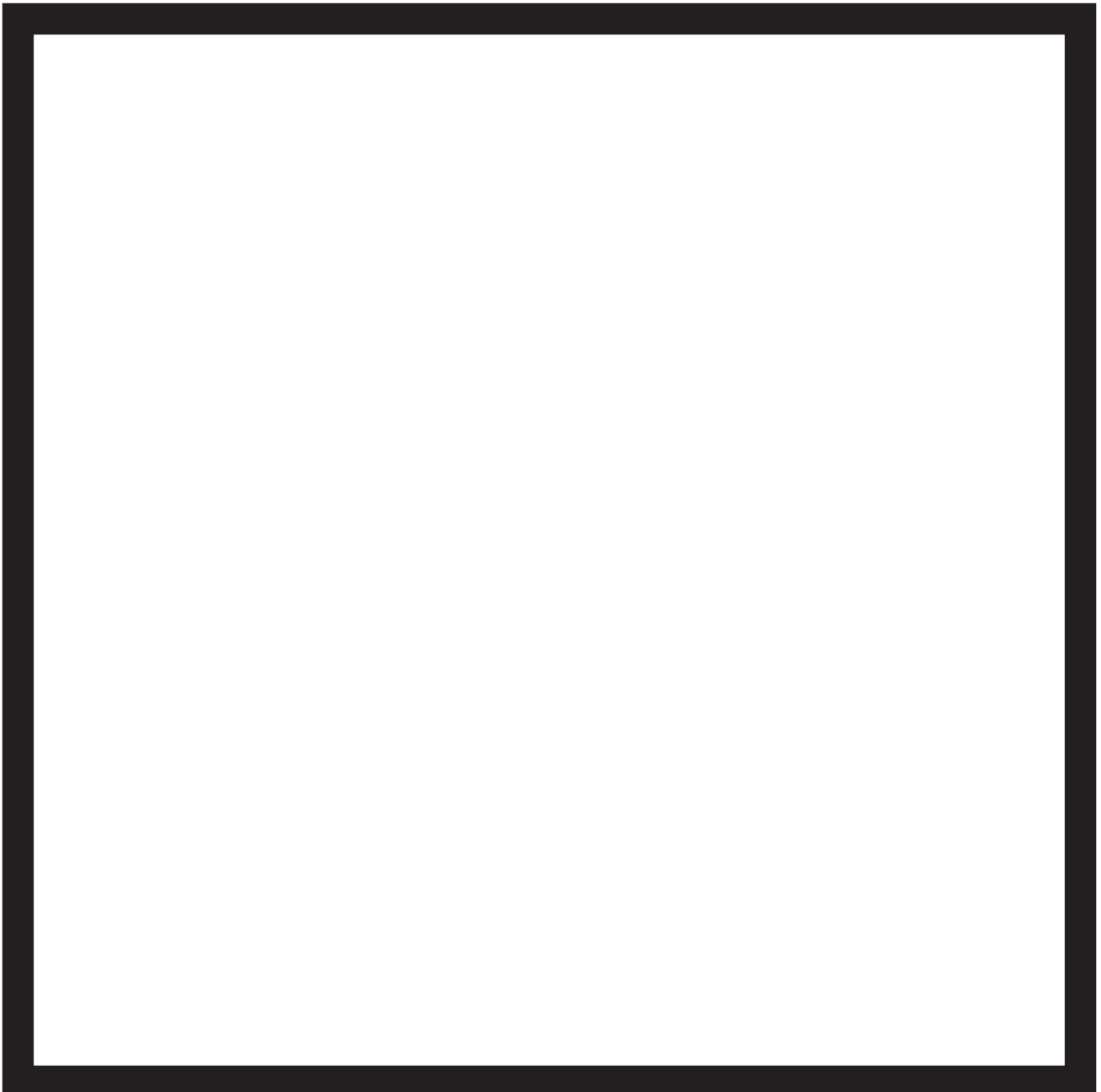
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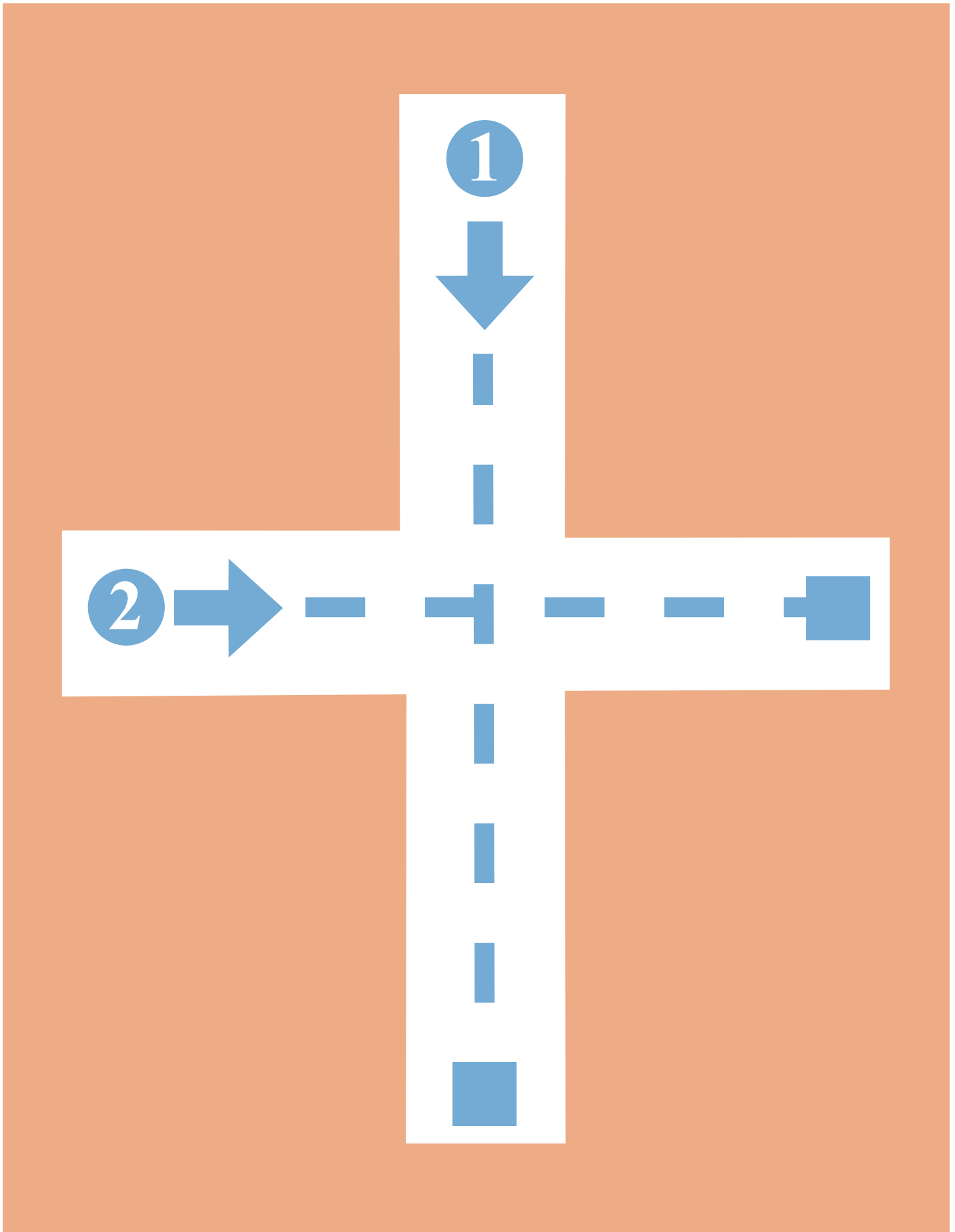
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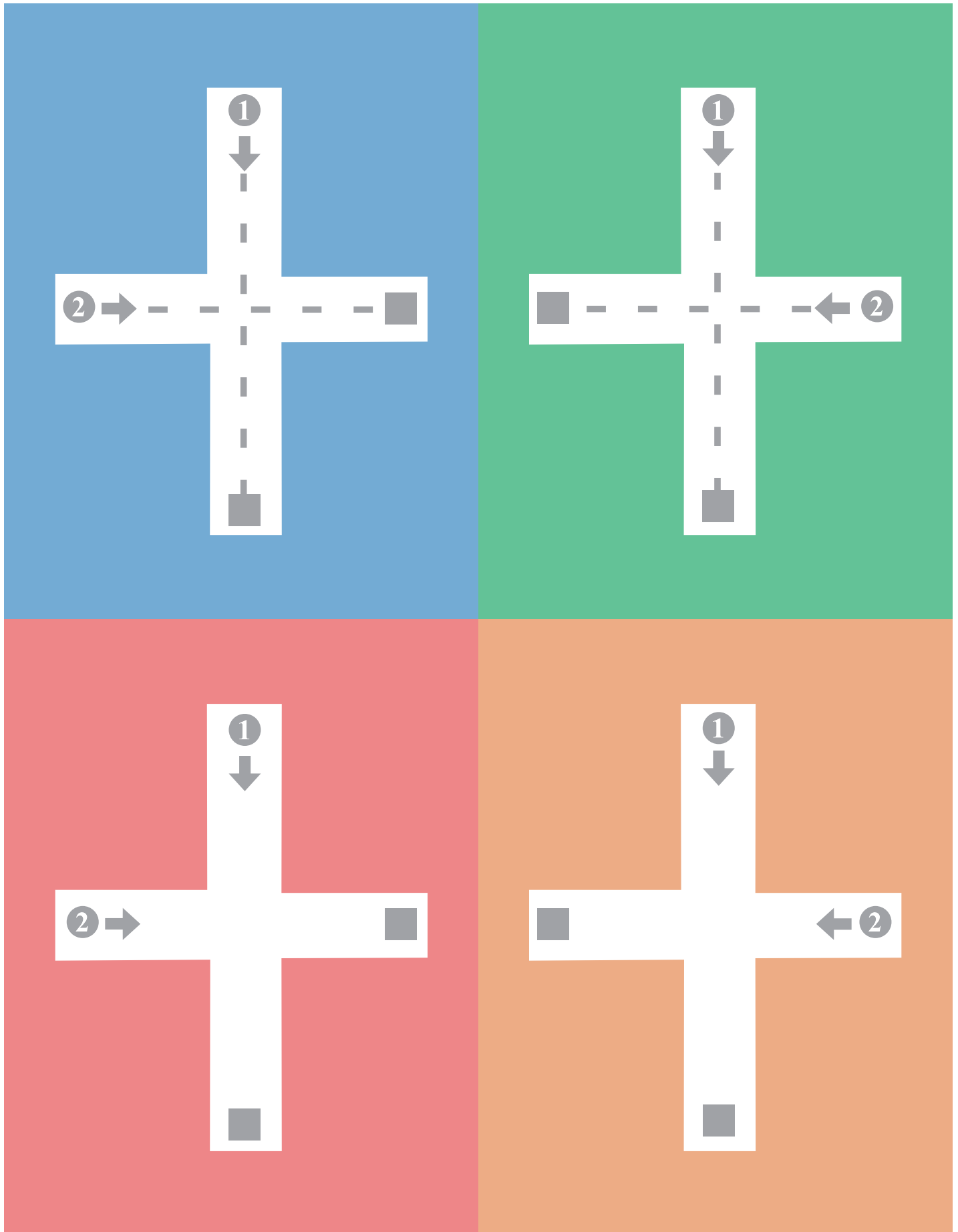


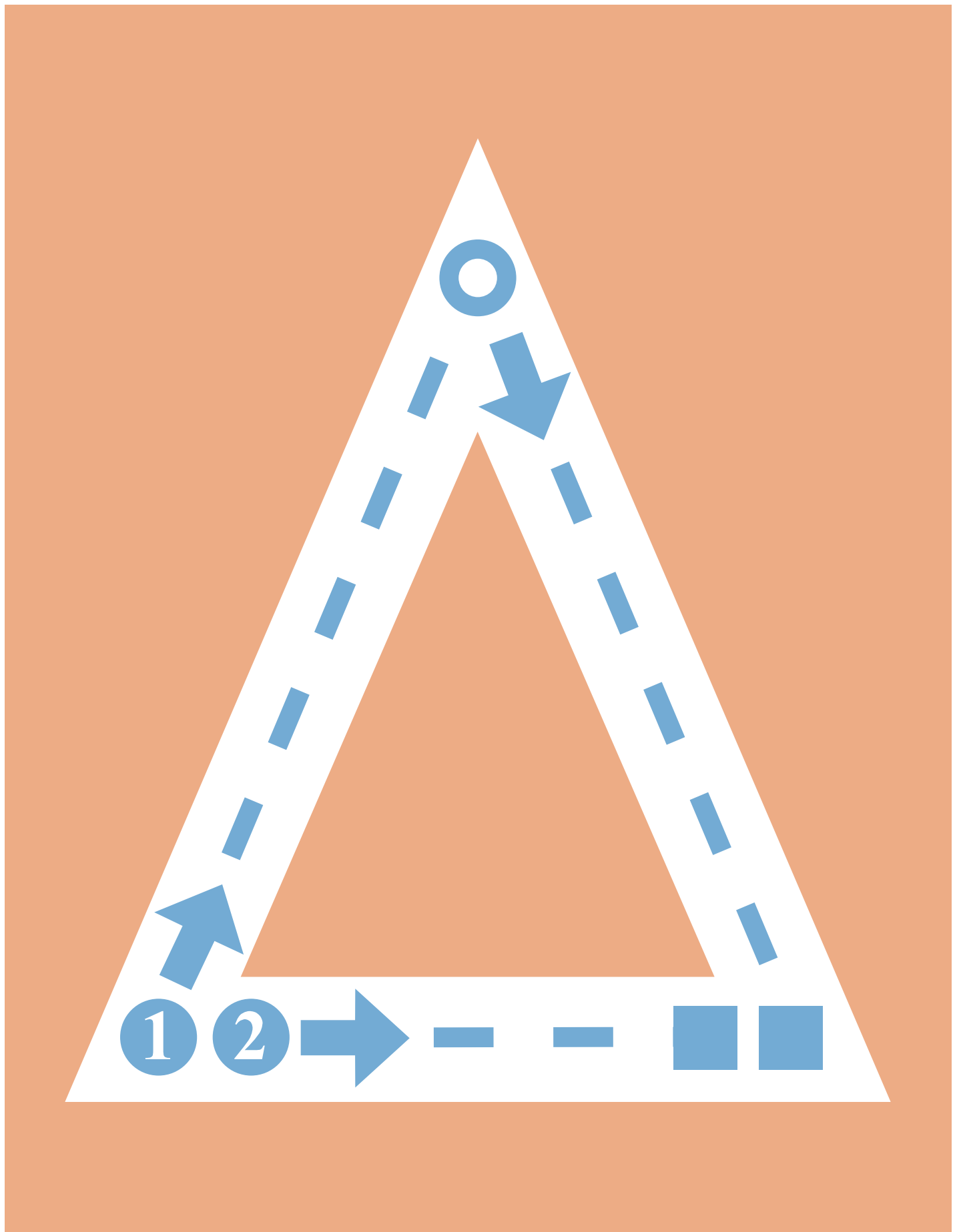
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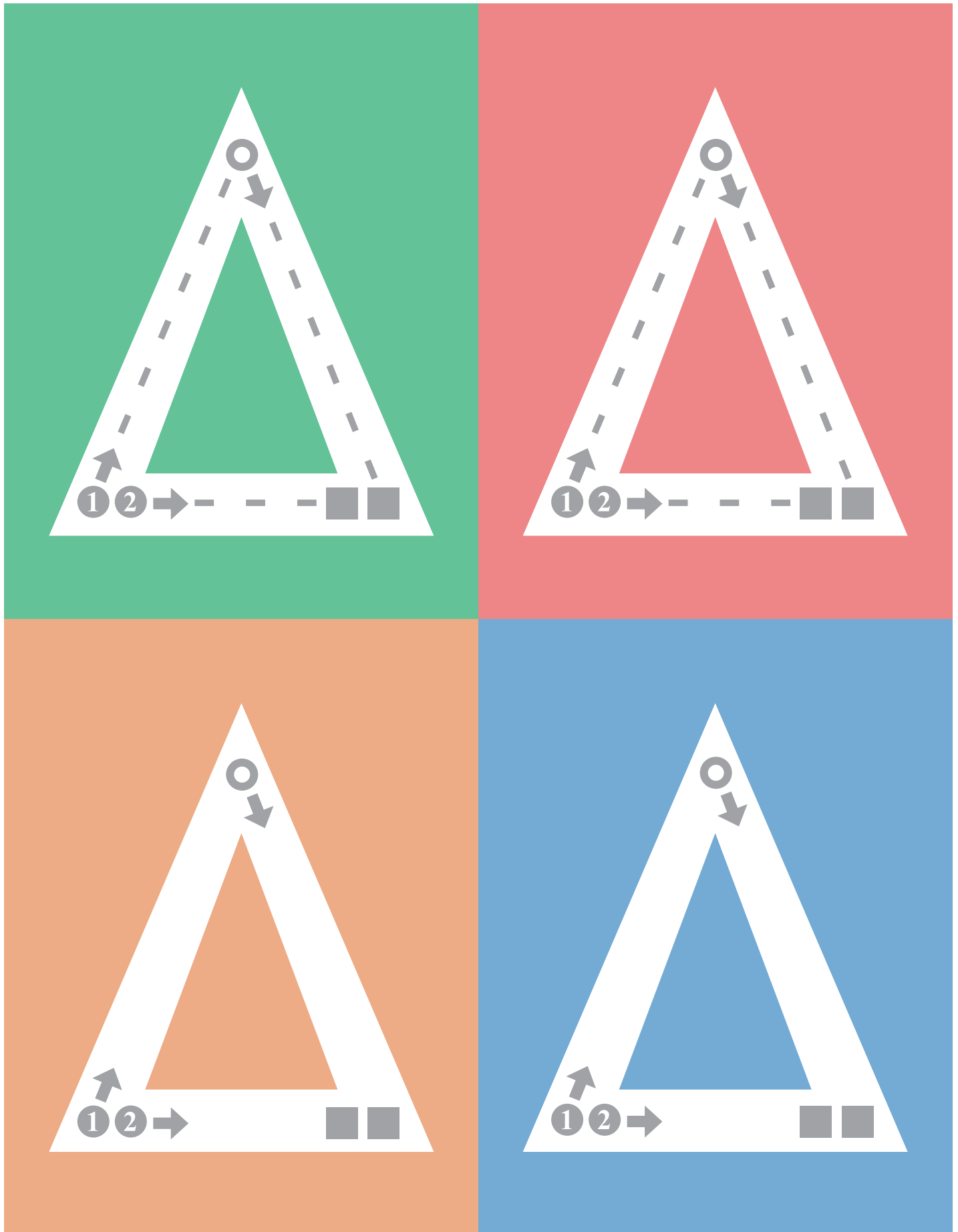
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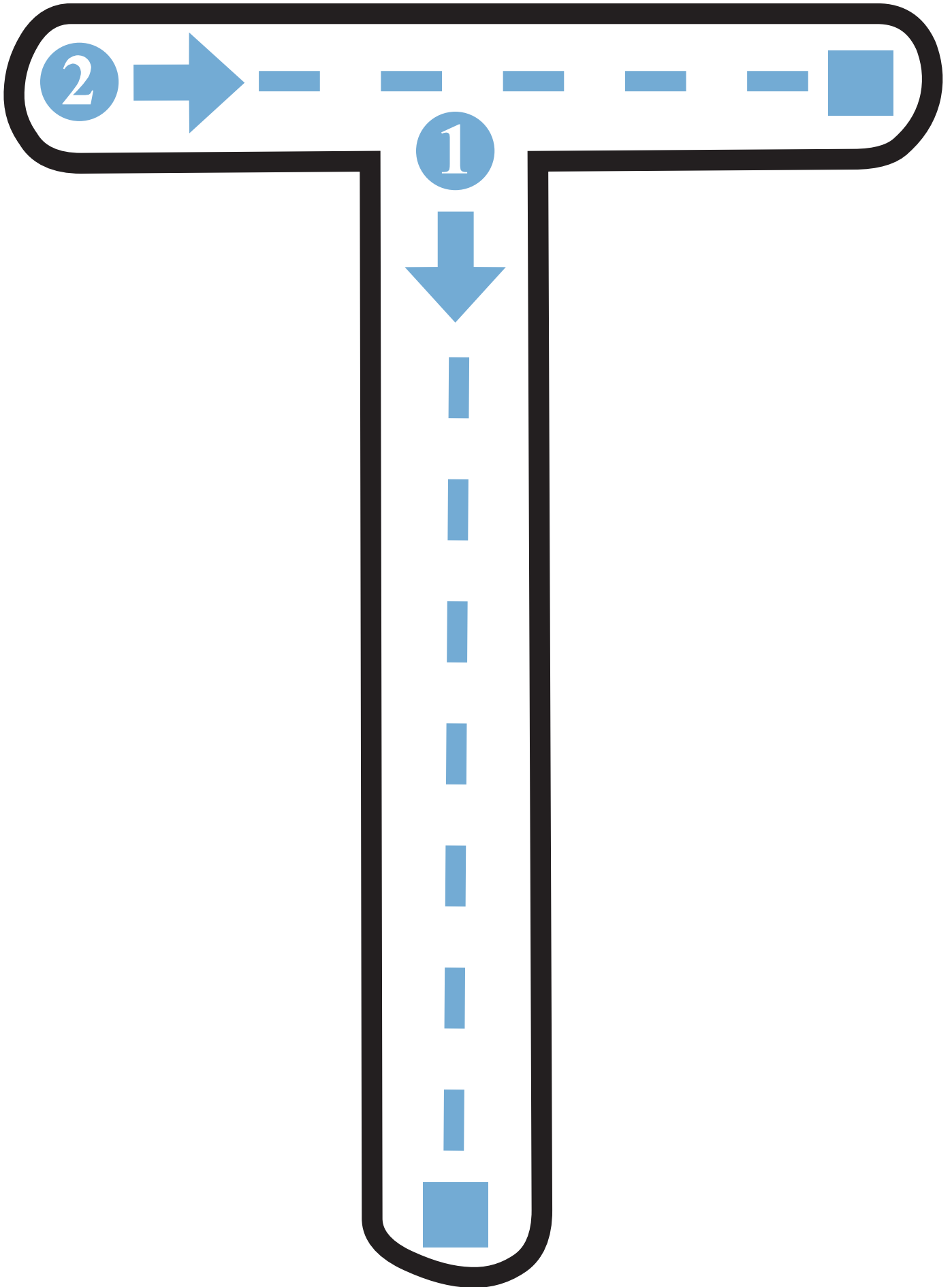


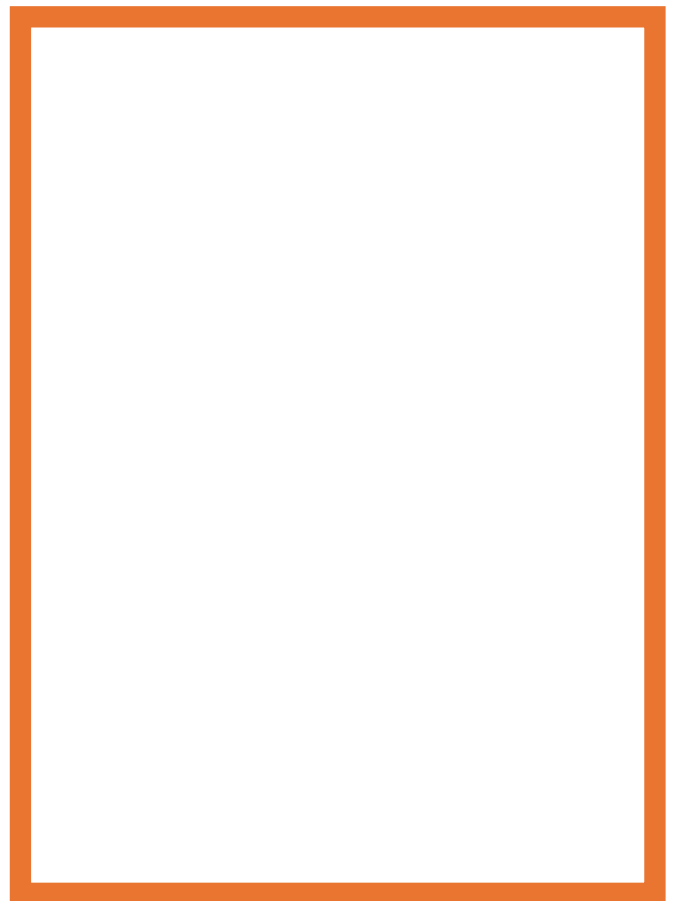
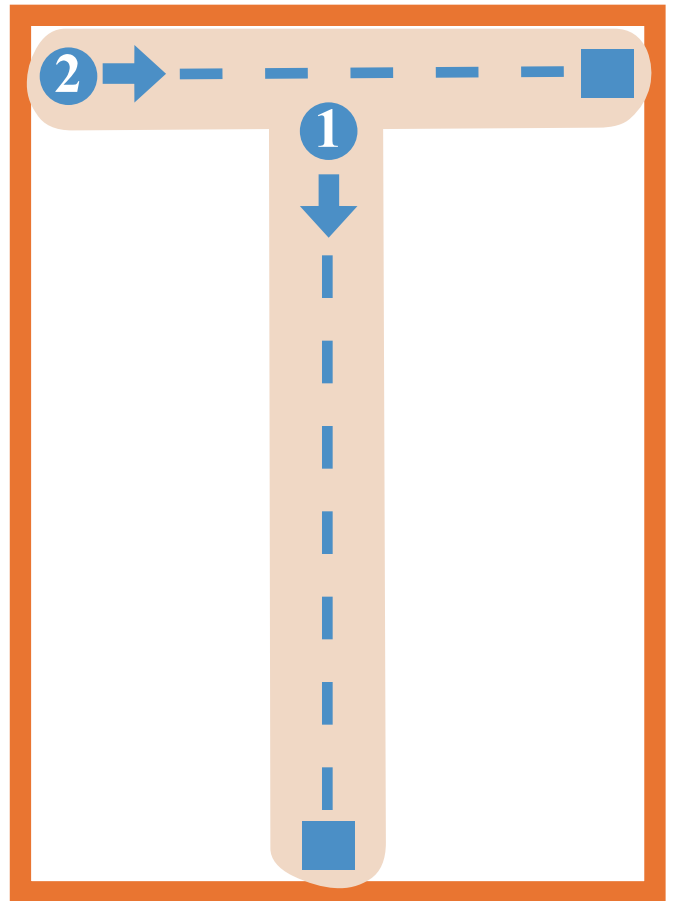
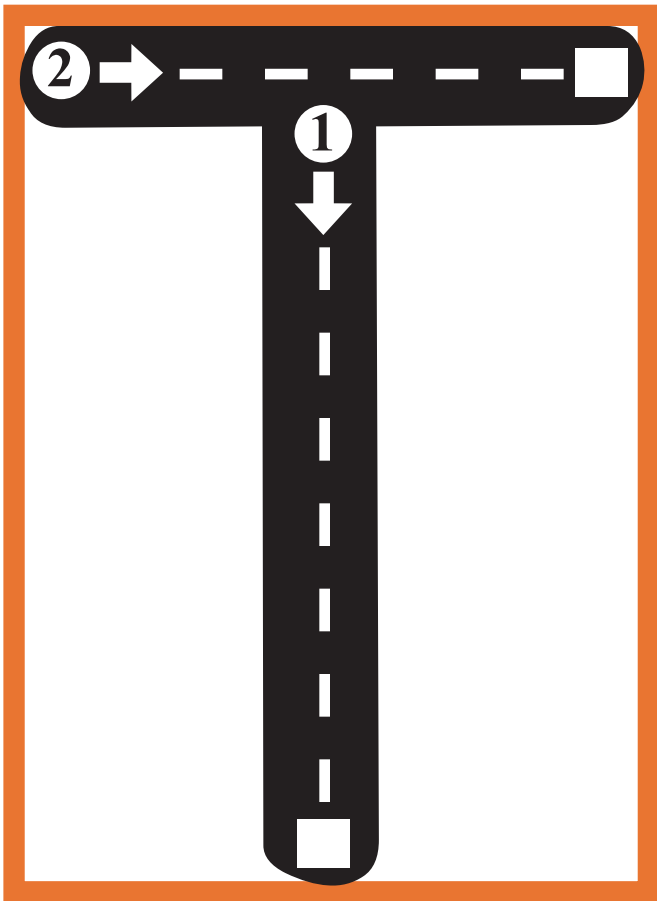


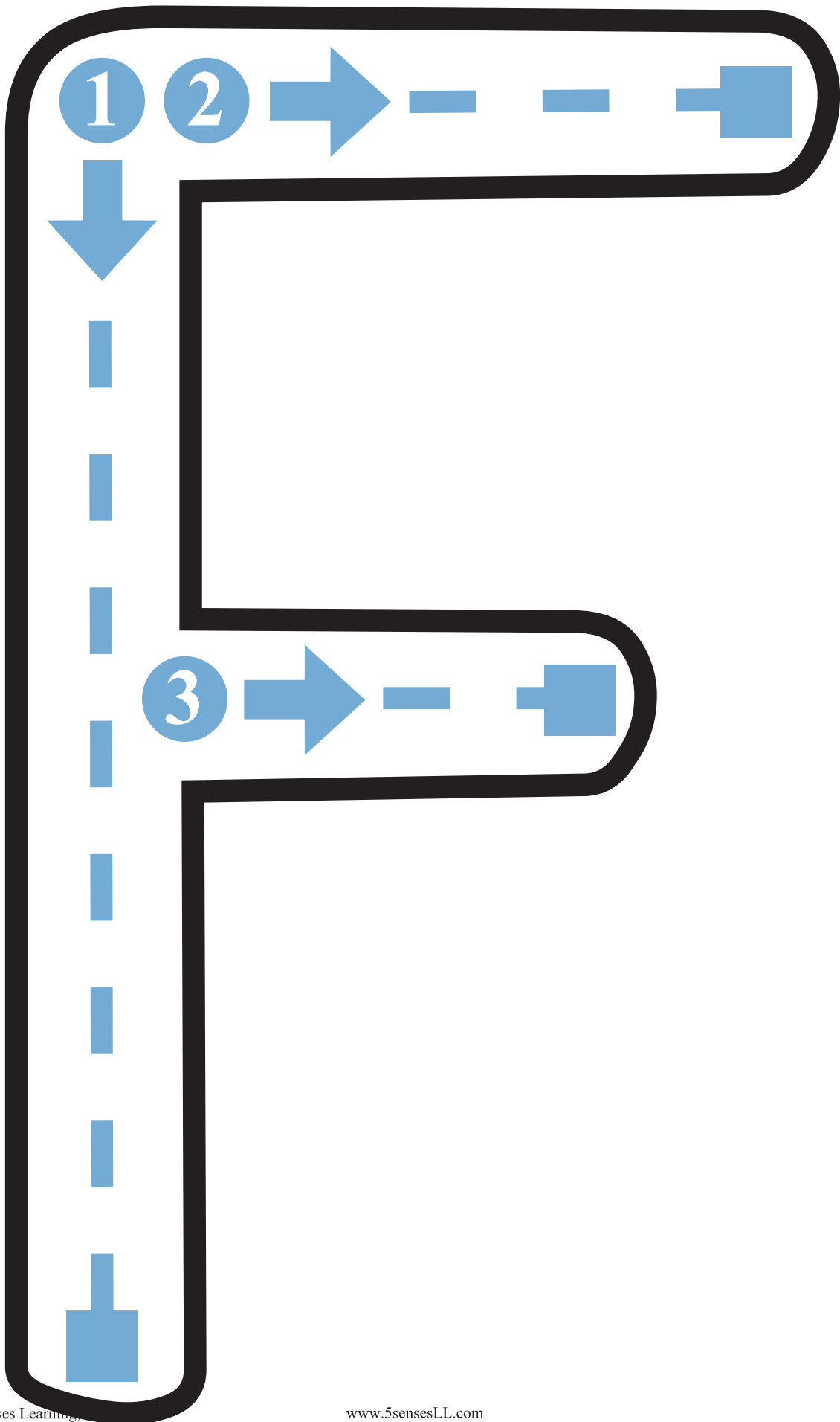


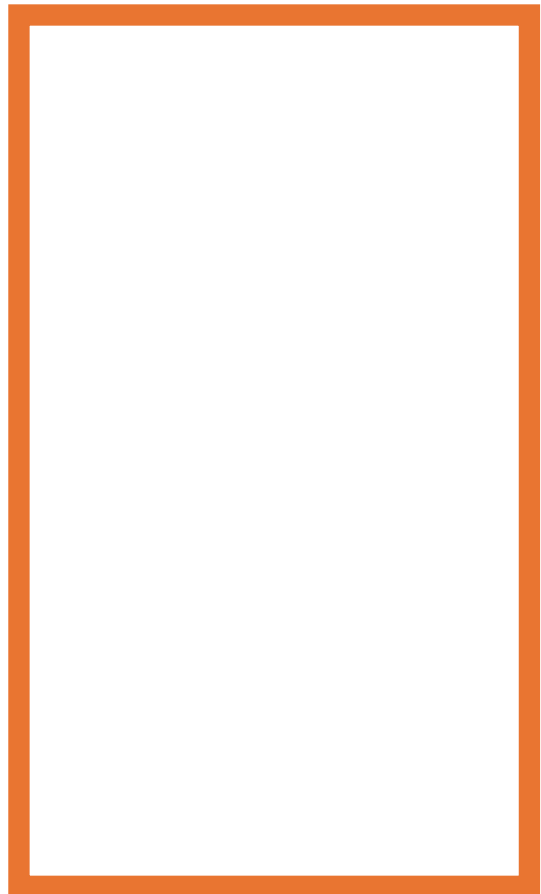
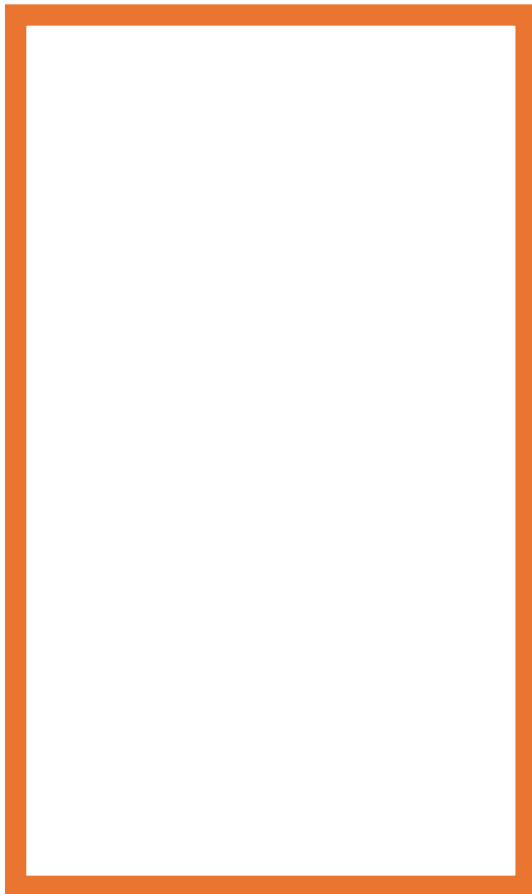
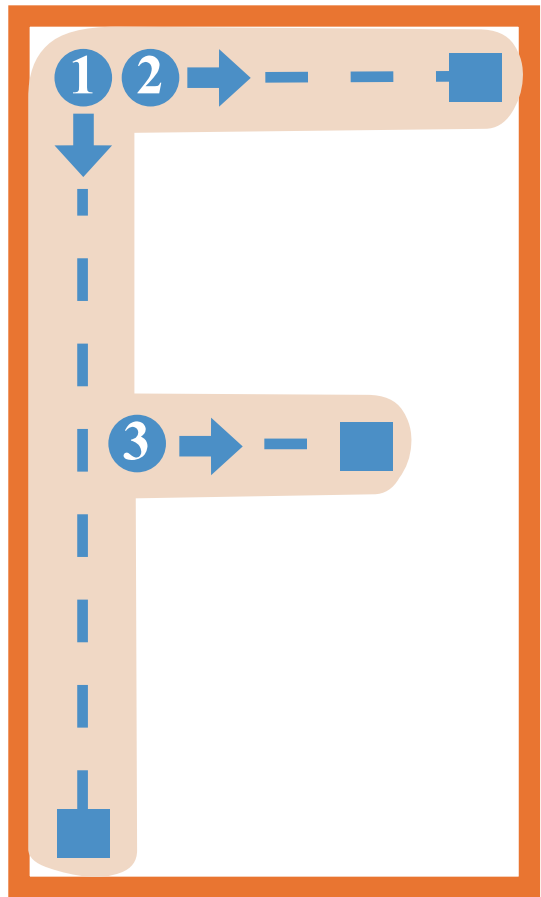
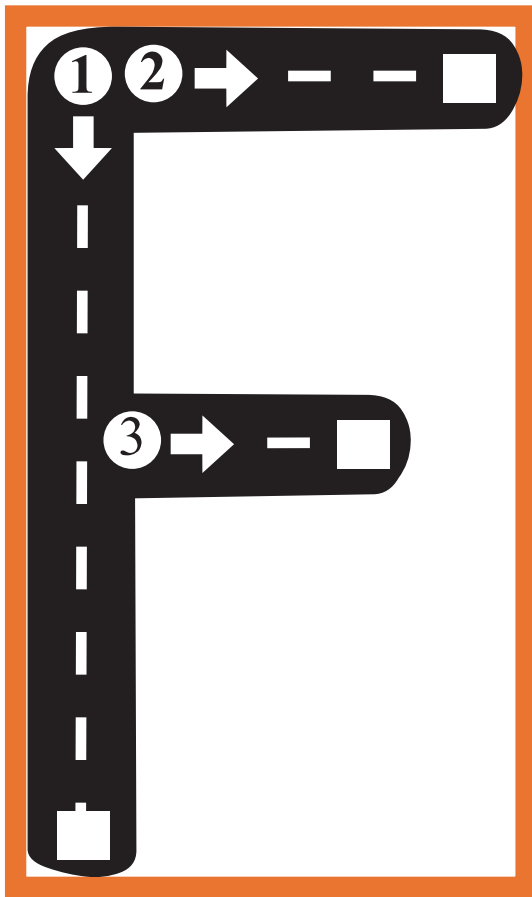




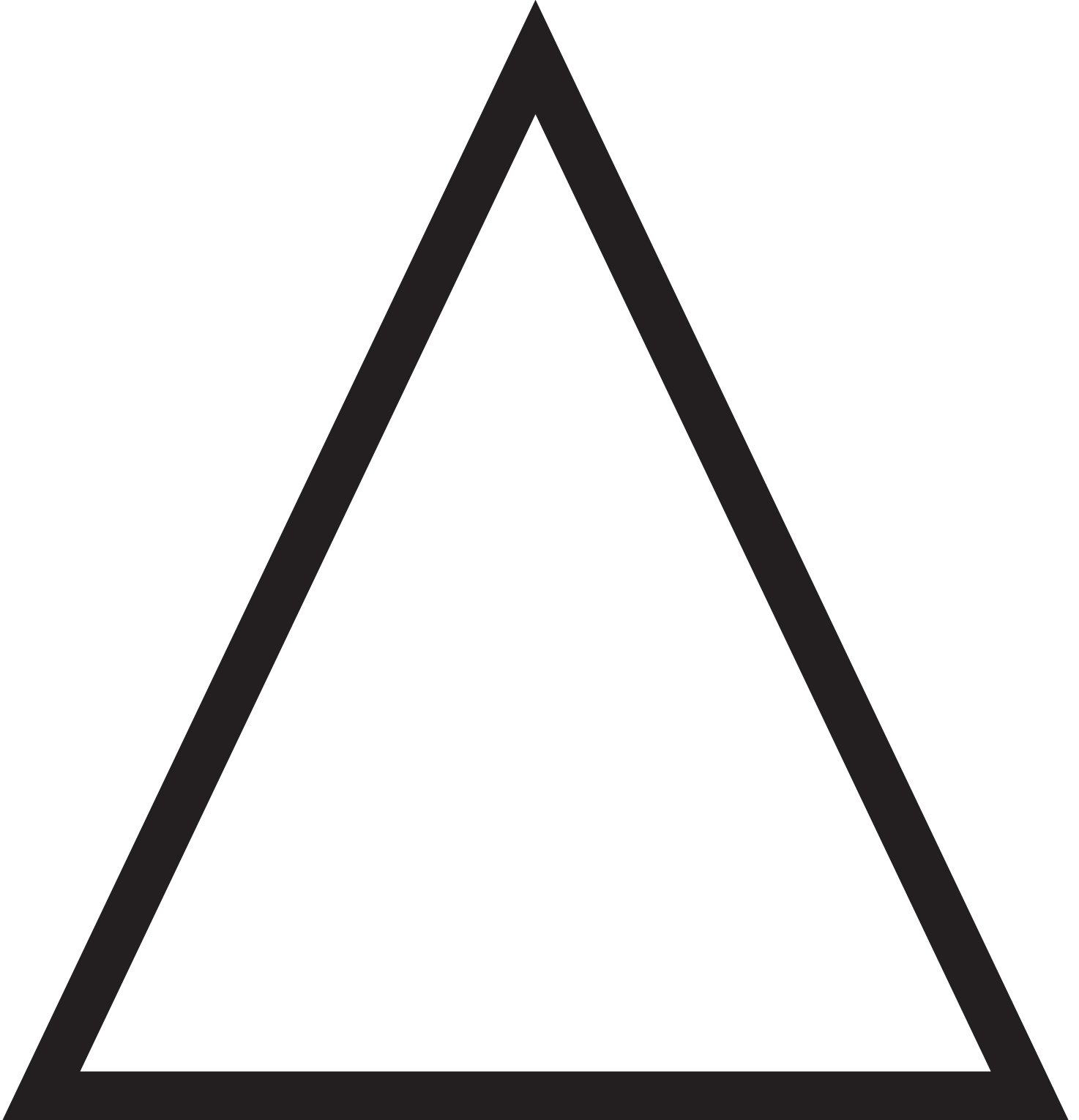








Triangle



2



Tangram Template

