

ZARA AND FINN'S SLEDDING ADVENTURE



Downhill Sledding
STEM Story & Activities



Early Learning
with Lori

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resource.

I'm an early
childhood educator
with a focus on
science and math,
and I love sharing my
passion for discovery
and high quality
materials that make
your job easier.

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CLIP ART & FONTS



RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON TEACHERS PAY TEACHERS

CUT & FOLD
STEM Crafts

GROWING BUNDLE

PLANT SCIENCE
BUNDLE: 3 Experiments

Mint Green Onion Basil

Exploring the Parts of a Plant

ZARA AND FINN'S SLEDDING ADVENTURE

LESSON FOCUS

Students will listen to a story, explore the concept of hills and slopes, and use creative activities to deepen their understanding of hills and ramps.

Time: 20–30 minutes

Theme: Winter Hills and Sledding

MATERIALS

The Sledding Adventure

Printable Figures

Chart paper or whiteboard for discussion

Crayons, scissors, and glue sticks

LESSON

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Gather the class for circle time and show them the Zara and Finn figures.
- Say: "Today, we're going to hear about Zara and Finn's sledding adventure. They try two hills—one short and one tall—and we'll help them figure out which hill is faster!"
- Briefly discuss sledding: "Have you ever gone sledding? What kind of hill do you think is best—a tall one or a small one?"

Read the Story (5–7 minutes)

- Read *The Sledding Adventure* aloud to the class.
- Use the Zara and Finn figures to act out the story as you read. (Use a ramp as the hills.)

Discussion (5 minutes)

- After the story, ask the class:
 - “Which hill do you think was faster—the small hill or the tall hill?”
 - “Why do you think the hills might be different?”
- Write their answers on chart paper or the board.

Creative Activities (10–15 minutes) Choose from the following activities:

Activity 1: Make Zara and Finn Figures

- Give each child the printable figures of Zara and Finn to color, cut, and fold into standing characters.
- Optional: Use the directions poster to show the steps to make the figures.

Activity 2: Create Your Own Sledding Adventure

- Distribute the lined writing page.
- Say: "Now it's your turn to imagine an adventure! Where will Zara and Finn sled? What kind of hill will they go down? You can write a story."

Activity 3: Build Your Own Hills

- Set out clipboards, pieces of cardboard or long blocks for children to make their own slopes. Using Zara and Finn figures test the slopes to see which sledder goes faster.
- Pass out the cut-and-paste page.
- Ask the children to draw their hills, then cut out Zara and Finn and glue them onto the hills.

Closing (3 minutes):

- Gather the children to share their creations.
- Ask: "What did you learn about sledding today? What kind of hill do you think is the most fun?"
- Celebrate their ideas and stories.

Extension Ideas

- **STEM Exploration:** Use blocks or objects to create ramps and let students roll toy cars or balls down to see how slope affects speed.
- **Outdoor Activity:** If there's snow, create small "sledding hills" outdoors.

ZARA AND FINN'S SLEDDING ADVENTURE

One snowy afternoon, Zara and Finn bundled up in their warmest clothes and grabbed their sleds. When they got to the sledding hill, they saw two slopes—one small and gentle, and the other one was tall and steep.

“Let’s try the little hill first,” Zara said. Finn nodded, and they climbed to the top.

They pushed off together and slid smoothly down the gentle slope. “That was fun!” said Finn.

“Let’s see what the tall hill is like,” Zara said with a grin.

At the big hill, they climbed to the top and zoomed down. Snow flew in all directions as they raced to the bottom. “That was awesome!” Finn said, laughing.

“Yeah, but I wonder... which hill lets us sled faster?” Zara asked. “Let’s have a race and find out!” Finn suggested.

Finn went back to the little hill, and Zara climbed up the tall one. They got ready at the top of their slopes.

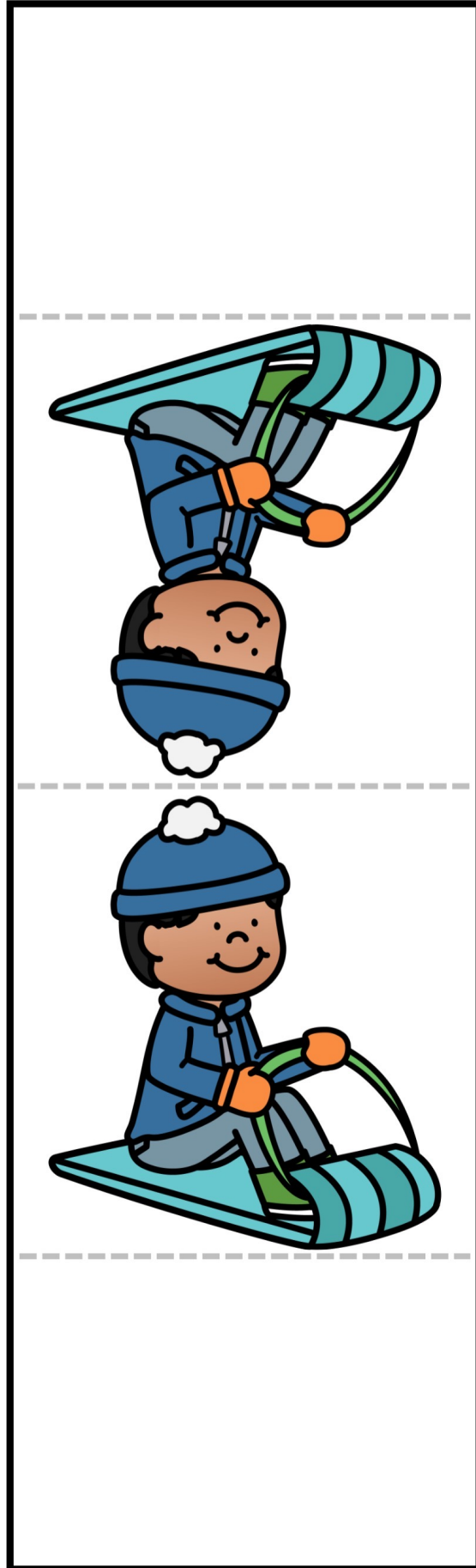
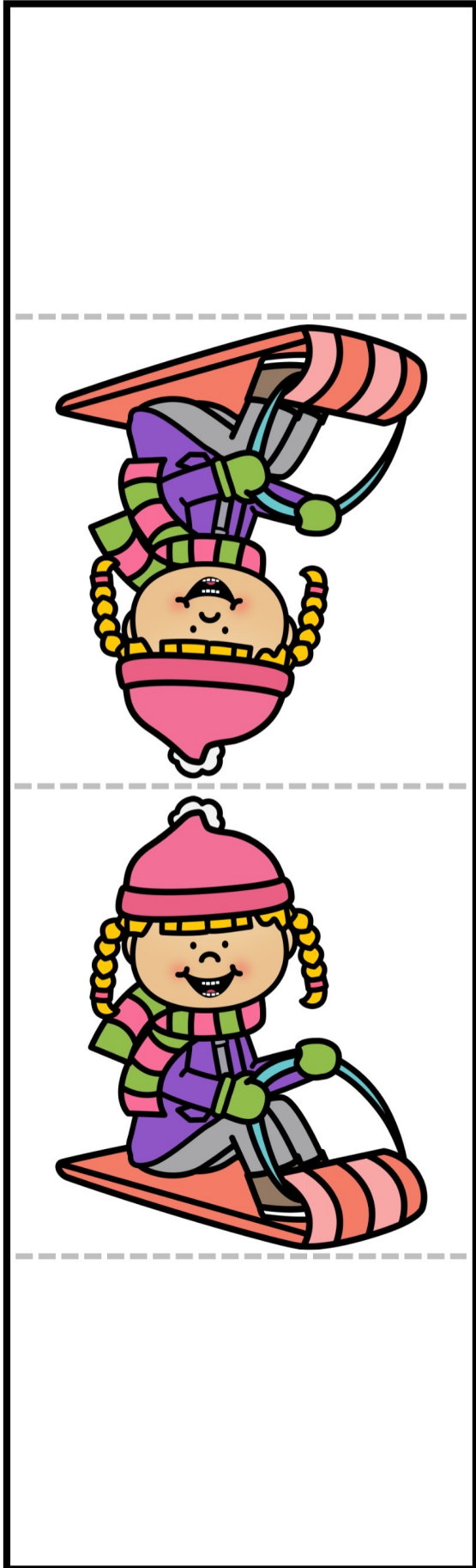
“Three, two, one—go!”

They slid down their hills at the same time. Zara zipped down the steep hill, snow flying behind her, while Finn sped smoothly along the smaller hill. When they reached the bottom, Zara looked at Finn and laughed. “Do you think the tall hill was faster?”

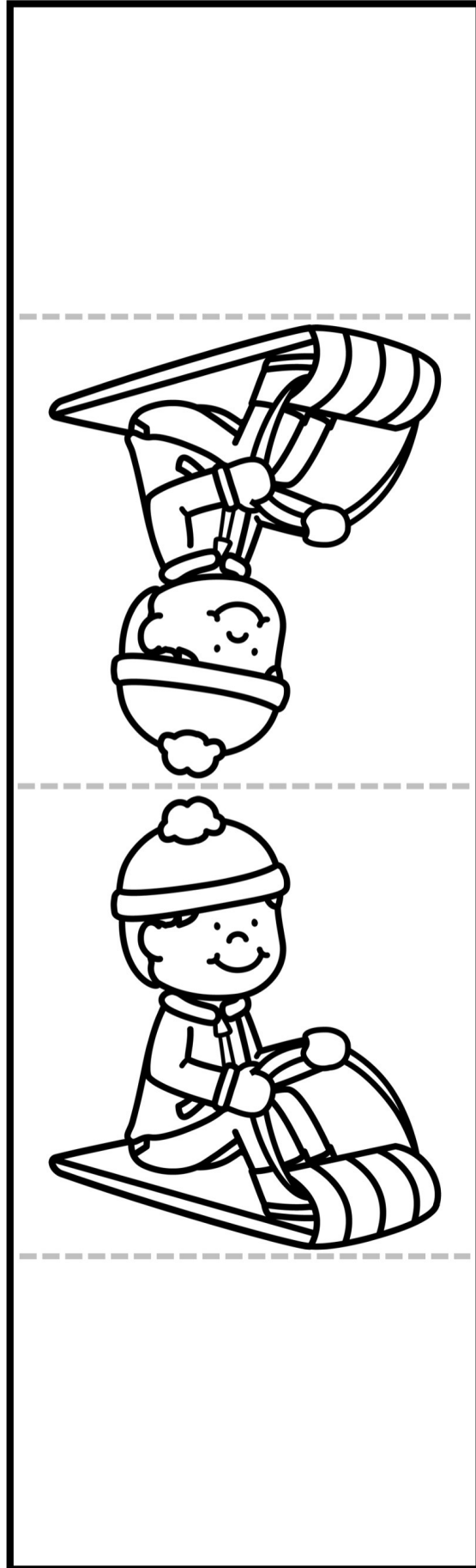
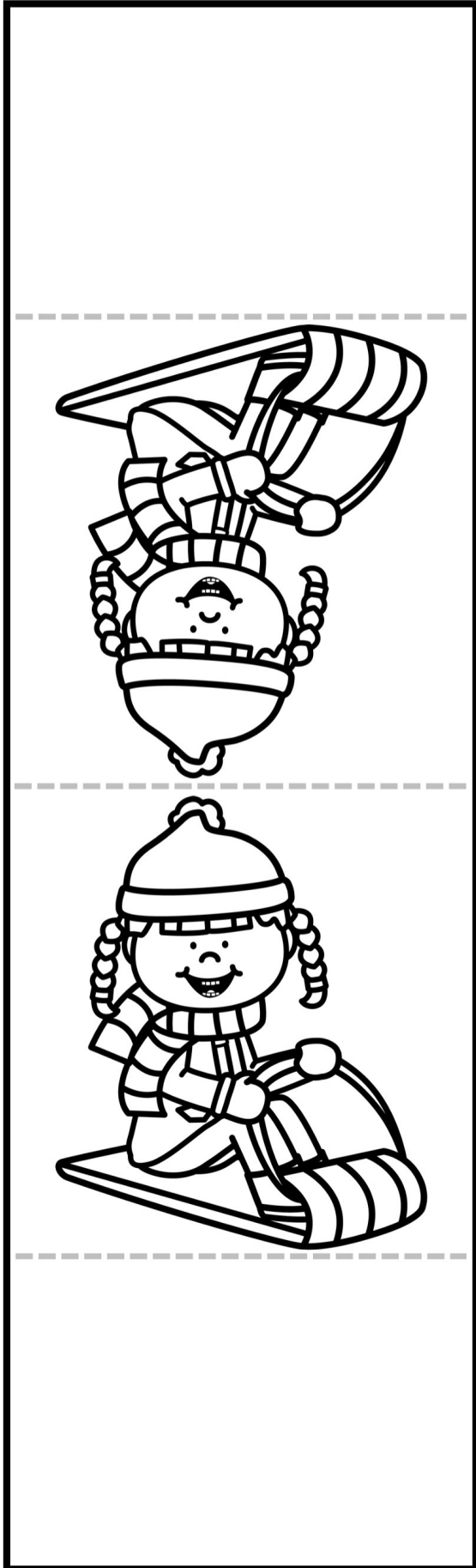
“I’m not sure,” Finn said, shaking his head. “Let’s switch hills and race again!”

What do you think? Which hill was faster?

ZARA AND FINN'S SLEDDING ADVENTURE

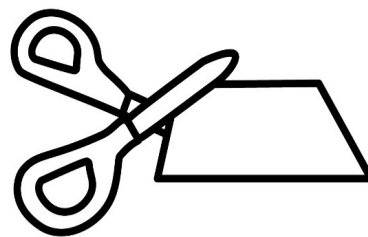


ZARA AND FINN'S SLEDDING ADVENTURE

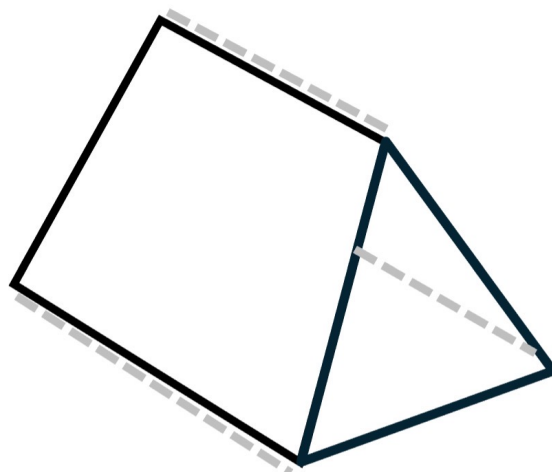


ZARA AND FINN'S SLEDDING ADVENTURE

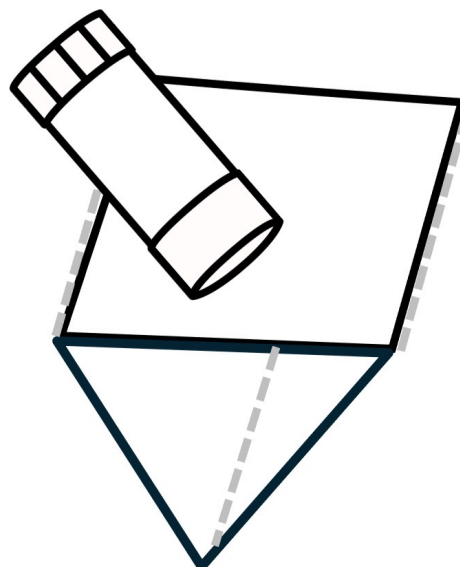
1. Cut _____



2. Fold -----



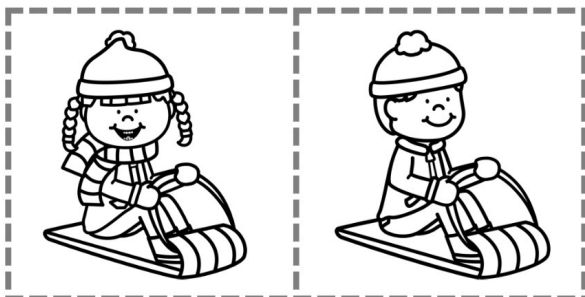
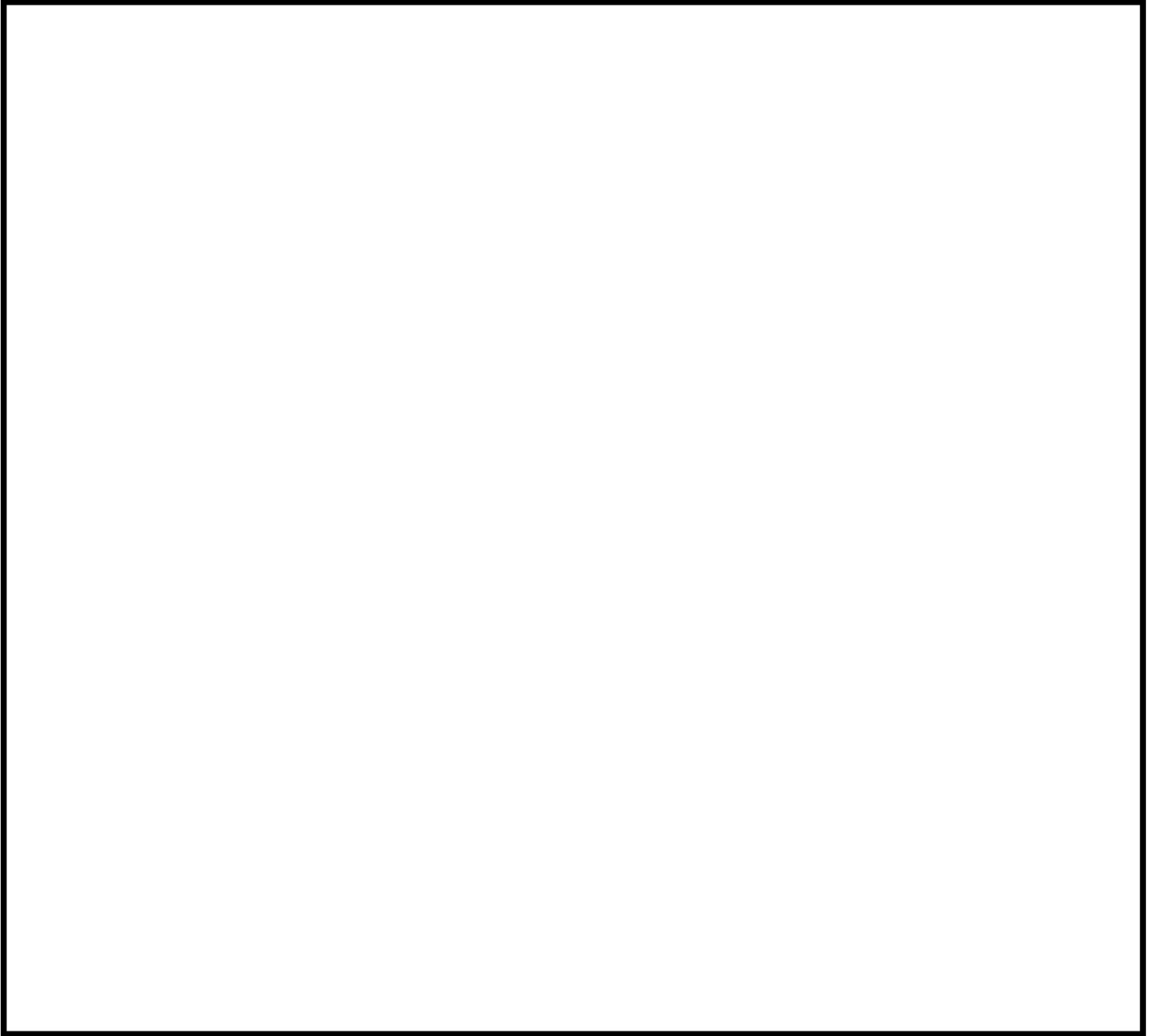
3. Glue or Tape the Bottom Flap



Zara and Finn's Sledding Adventure

Name: _____

Draw the hills. Cut and paste Zara and Finn to show their sledding adventure.



Name: _____



Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.