Dear Readers

**Taking Pride in Skills**

Several months ago, the Highlights High Five™ team tested this month’s craft, “Pretend-Play Hot Cocoa” (pages 34–35) with a group of young children. All the kids enjoyed making the craft, but one little boy, age two and a half, absolutely loved it. In “Who Touched the Poster?” (pages 6–9), Tex and Indi demonstrate a different competency. When they offer to help their sister fix a problem, they show their social-emotional development.

Have fun this month celebrating your child’s growing abilities!

Sincerely,

Meghan Dombrink-Green, Editor

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**February 2019**

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**Your High Five!**

Send us your photos at highlights.com/HighFive.

“Seasoned Pretzels” are just as much fun to shake as they are to eat! Just ask Faira, age 2, from Georgia. Yum! (September 2018)

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As part of our mission to help make the world a better place for the children of today and tomorrow, Highlights is committed to making responsible business decisions that will protect our natural resources and reduce our environmental impact.

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Highlights High Five™ has received the Family Choice Award, the Association of Educational Publishers Distinguished Achievement Award for Preschool Fiction and the Preschool Periodical of the Year Award, the Learning Magazine Teachers’ Choice™ Award for the Family, the NAPPA Gold and Silver Awards, and awards from Parent’s Choice® and the National Parenting Center.

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Wearing glasses is no big deal. They make everything look so real. Glasses help you see near or far, at school, the park, or in the car. Glasses in all colors and shapes. Mine are red. I think they’re great!
Spot sees a groundhog.

Spot wants to have a race.

Oops! Where is it going?

There it is.

There it goes.

Groundhog wants to play hide-and-seek!
Tex and Indi were playing in the living room while their sister, Arizona, worked on her weather poster for school. “The raindrop gems are almost dry,” said Arizona. “Try not to touch this poster while I get my markers.”

Tex and Indi kept playing in their cardboard boxes. “Now I’m driving a fast car through the ocean,” said Indi. “And I’m flying in my helicopter right above you,” said Tex. “Now I’ve got to jump out!”
When Arizona returned, she looked at her project. “I told you not to touch my poster,” she said.

“We didn’t touch it,” said Tex and Indi.

“Meow,” said Charlie, and he hopped onto the sofa.

“Look,” said Indi. “Charlie has a gem in his tail.”

“Oh, kitty,” said Tex. “That’s one of Arizona’s raindrops.”

“I’m sorry I thought it was you,” said Arizona. “Now I have to do it again.”

“It’s OK,” said Indi. “I’ll help you.”

“Me too,” said Tex. “I’ll make sure Charlie doesn’t help.”

“Thanks,” said Arizona. “That’s really nice of you guys.”

“We’ll make this the best weather poster ever!” said Indi.
Trash Truck

By Becky Foster Still

Rumble tumble bumble crash!
Here's the truck to swallow our trash.

Grumble jumble crumble smash!
Grabs our garbage—makes it hash.

My First Hidden Pictures Puzzle

Find these objects hidden in the big picture.

Banana Party Hat Ball

Heart Ruler Teacup

Comb Spoon Shell

Art by Jeff Crowther
Piggies’ Bedtime
By Dianne Duffy • Art by Maria Karipidou
This little piggy hogs the blankets.
This little piggy counts sheep.
This little piggy snores softly.
This little piggy can’t sleep.
This little piggy cries oink, oink, oink . . .
and then he snoozes deep.

What groups of 5 do you see?
What else will you count?
Chica-Chick had grown since last winter, so Grandma Hen was taking her shopping for new shoes. The store owner measured Chica-Chick’s feet.

“Me gustan estas sandalias,” said Chica-Chick, pointing to a pair of sandals.

“I also like those sandals, but it is too cold for them. Let’s find shoes that will keep your feet warm,” said Grandma Hen.

Chica-Chick held up a shiny red shoe. “Me gustan estos zapatos,” she said.

The store owner brought the red shoes in her size. Chica-Chick tried them on, but they were uncomfortable.

Me gustan estas sandalias. Me GOOSE-tahn ESS-tahs sahn-DAH-lee-ahs I like these sandals.

. . . esos zapatos. ESS-tohs sah-PAH-tohs I like these shoes.

Spanish pronunciation by Linda Elman
Then Chica-Chick spied a pair of silver boots. “Me gustan estas botas,” she said. The store owner brought the boots in her size. Chica-Chick tried them on. “¡Son perfectas!” she said. “Yes,” said Grandma Hen. “Those boots are perfect for the winter.”

Me gustan estas botas. I like these boots.

¡Son perfectas! They are perfect!

Grandma Hen paid for the boots and Chica-Chick wore them right away. “¡Gracias, abuela!” she said.
Off We Go!

How are these pictures the same?

How are they different?
Granny’s Best Valentine

By Eileen Spinelli  •  Art by Mike Brownlow

Little Bunny liked Valentine’s Day. He liked making valentines for his family and friends. He liked delivering them.

This valentine was very special. It was for Granny. Little Bunny worked on it all morning.

As Little Bunny, Mama Bunny, and Baby Bunny walked to Granny’s house, the sun hid behind a cloud. The sky grew dark. The wind blew. It caught Granny’s valentine and whooshed it into the air.
Little Bunny chased after it. But before he could snatch it, the valentine plopped into a puddle. It was ruined!

When Little Bunny reached Granny’s house, he told her what had happened. “No valentine,” he said. He blinked back some tears.
Granny grinned. “Of course there is a valentine.”

“There is?” asked Little Bunny. He checked his pockets. “Where?”
“You,” she said. “You are my valentine! And you’re even better than a card because you’re a real live valentine!”
Little Bunny cheered and gave Granny the biggest valentine hug ever. 😘
1. Sit on the ground.

2. Now lie flat.

3. Next, flip over on your back.

4. Reach those arms.

5. Kick your feet.

6. You’re land swimming! Now repeat!
Activity

Squeeze Your Own Juice

By Crystal Irwood • Photos by Jim Filipski, Guy Cali Associates, Inc.

You Need
• 2 or more oranges, peeled and cut in half
• 1-gallon zippered plastic bag
• Strainer
• Cup

Before You Begin
Wash your hands.

1. Put the orange halves into the plastic bag. Push any extra air out of the bag and seal it.

2. Squeeze the bag of orange halves with your hands.

3. When you can see juice, carefully open the seal on one corner of the bag. Place the strainer over the cup, then pour the juice into the cup.

What Else?
What other fruits could you use to make juice?

Which would give you more juice, a grapefruit or an orange? Why?
Activity

Pretend-Play

Hot Cocoa

By Shannon Wrobleski  •  Photos by Jim Filipski, Guy Cali Associates, Inc.

You Need

• Sheet of old newspaper
• Cup or mug
• Brown paper
• Cotton balls

1. Crumple the newspaper and put it into the cup.
2. Tear the brown paper into small pieces.
3. Crumple the small pieces.
4. Put the crumpled paper into the cup.
5. Add cotton balls on top.