



What is Maryland EXCELS?

Maryland EXCELS is the state's quality rating and improvement system for licensed child care and early education programs that meet nationally recognized standards.

Maryland EXCELS provides information that families need to make informed decisions when choosing child care and early education programs.

Visit MarylandEXCELS.org for more information!







Let Kacey, the Maryland EXCELS Quality Koala, help you discover the importance of high-quality child care and early education.

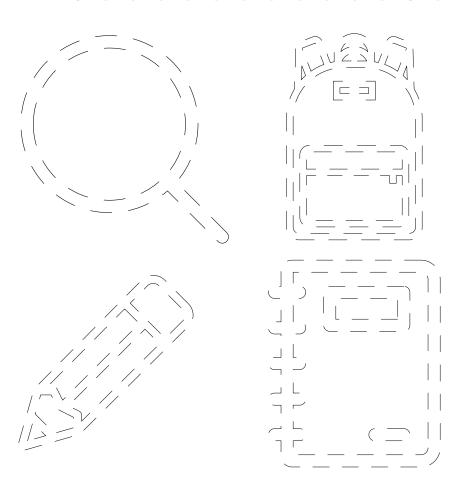
Kacey, along with friends Carly the Crab and Oliver the Owl, have lots of fun activities for you to do with your young children.

Follow Kacey @MarylandEXCELS for valuable tips and information about child care and early education.

Visit MarylandEXCELS.org/meet-kacey/ for more!

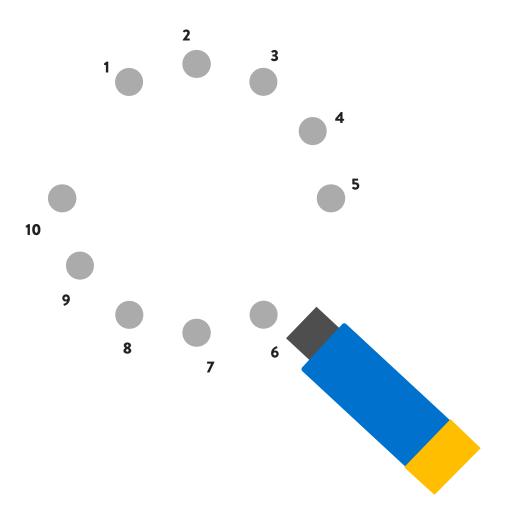
Page 4 Trace the lines

Trace the dotted lines to help find Kacey's magnifying glass, backpack, pencil, and notebook.



Connect the Dots Page 5

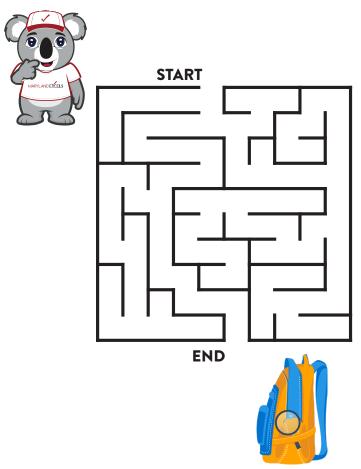
Connect the dots numbered 1-10 to reveal Kacey's magnifying glass.



Page 6 Maze

Help find Kacey's backpack at the end of the maze.





Word Search Page 7



Find Kacey's animal friends in the word search.

crab, owl, pig, dog, cat,
bear, hen, fish, fox

FOXHPQSOUY
NQCETQXAFP
BCANHLUMPK
WRDIELGBDZ
MAOAWQFEWC
HBGKQKKAVA
NTXCPEWRUT
PGAPKYQMWQ
IOWLFISHKS
GWMNRYYNBZ

CRAB DOG HEN
OWL CAT FISH
PIG BEAR FOX

Page 8 Hidden C

Help find Kacey's friends and other items.



n Objects

owl • crab • pencil • bearbackpack • magnifying glass • hat



Page 10 Snack Time

Help Kacey pack healthy snacks for a picnic with friends. Draw the snacks you would pack in Kacey's backpack.



Fill in the missing letters to complete the words below.

1. C___W

6. B___AR

2. P___G

7. CR___B

3. D___G

8. F__SH

4. F__X

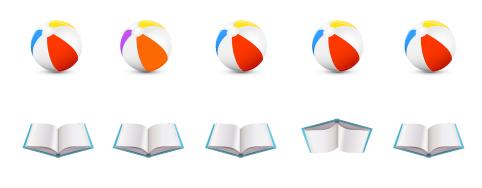
9. H__N

5. O__L

10. C___T



Circle the item that is different in each row.





Fill in the blanks with words to help finish the story.

Kacey, Carly, and Oliver went on an exciting adventure

today! They decided to visit the _______.

Place

They were So Surprised to See a ______ that

could fly around. Then they Saw a ______ with

______ Spots. They all laughed when they found

Color

a ______ that made a funny ______

Toy

when they picked it up. They Started to get hungry, So they

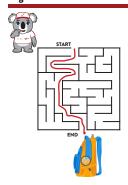
bought their favorite ______ for a Snack. After

they ate, it was time to go home. It was a very fun day for

Kacey, Carly, and Oliver!



Answer Key Page 14



1. C<u>O</u>W

2. P__G

5. O<u>W</u>L

6. B<u>E</u>AR

7. CR<u>A</u>B

3. D<u>O</u>G 8. F__SH

4. F<u>Q</u> X

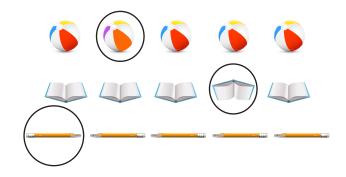
9. H<u>E</u>N

10. CAT

FOX HPQSOUY N Q C E T Q X A F P B C A N H L U M P K W R D I E L G B D Z M A O A W Q F E W C H B G K Q K K A V A H B G K Q K K A V A N T X C P E W R U T GAPKYQMWQ OWLFISHKS **GWMNRYYNBZ**

DOG CRAB HEN CAT OWL FISH PIG BEAR FOX







The Division of Early Childhood at the Maryland State Department of Education is responsible for early care and education in Maryland. The mission of the Division is to improve early education in Maryland so that young children are well prepared for school.

earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org





Quality Matters Find the best quality care for your child.

Visit MarylandEXCELS.org and search Find a Program.





IDEALS Institute