

CLOVERBUDDIES

**A 4-H EXPLORATION ACTIVITY SERIES FOR
CLOVERBUD MEMBERS**

APRIL 2026



PROJECT EXPLORATION:

PLANT & SOIL SCIENCES

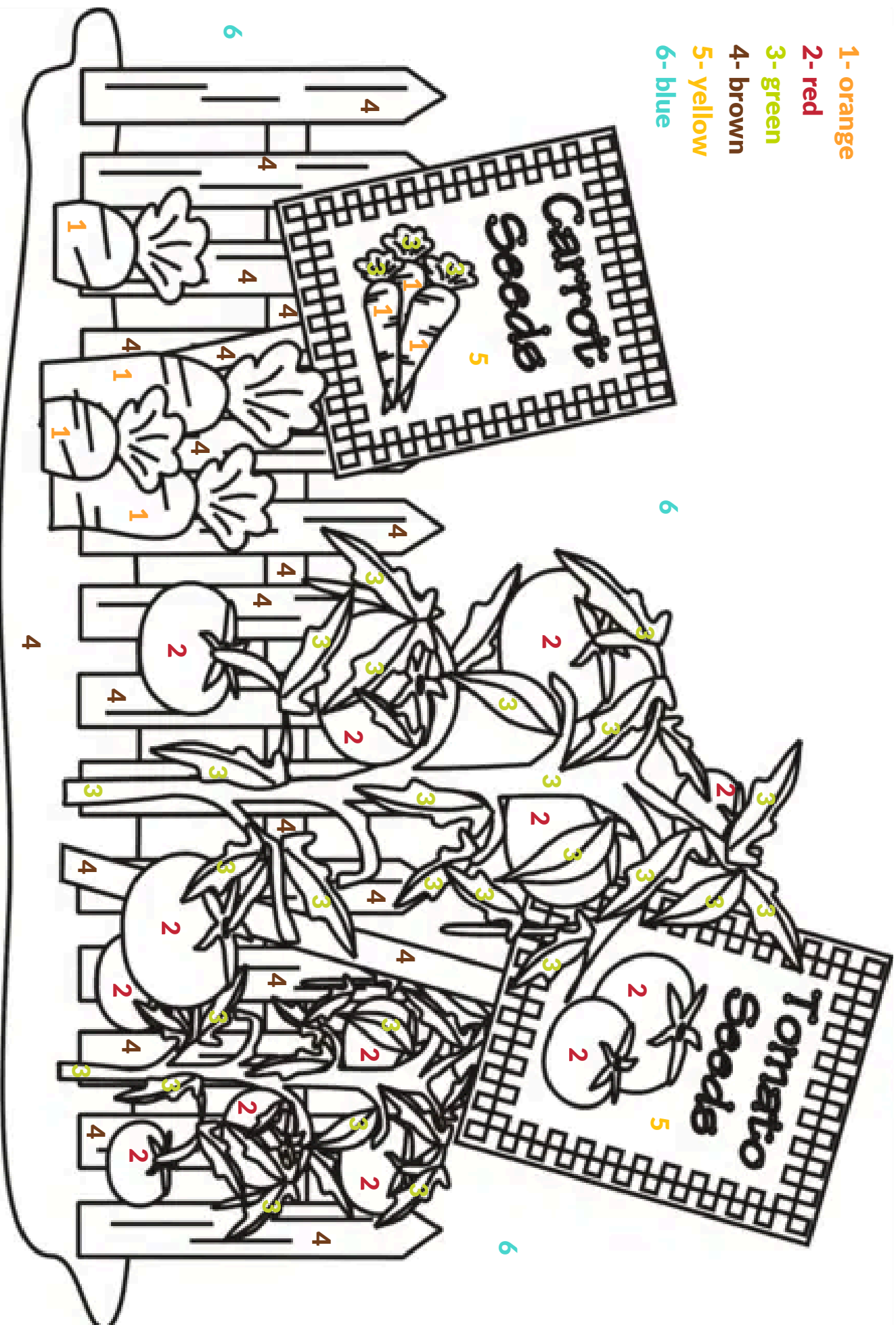


UW-MADISON EXTENSION
LA CROSSE COUNTY

VEGETABLE GARDEN

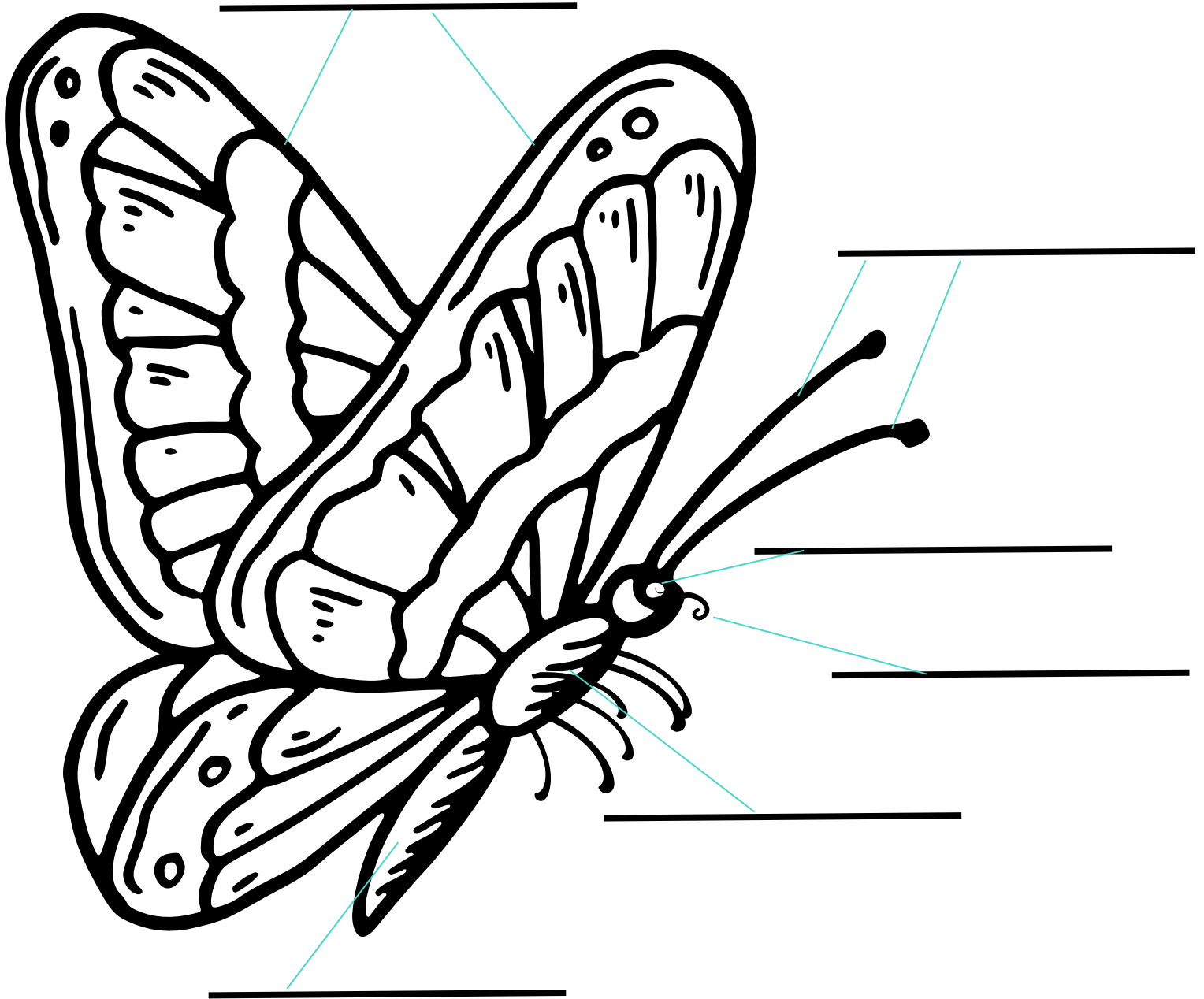
Gardening is a great way for you to start learning about plant and soil sciences! You can watch your own fruits and vegetables grow, and investigate the soil if anything is going wrong with your plants. Color in the picture by coloring the parts of the picture according to the key below!

- 1- orange
- 2- red
- 3- green
- 4- brown
- 5- yellow
- 6- blue



POLLINATOR ACTIVITY

A pollinator is anything that helps carry pollen from the male part of the flower (stamen) to the female part of the same or another flower (stigma). The movement of pollen must occur for the the plant to become fertilized and produce fruits, seeds, and young plants. Color the picture below of a butterfly, which are great pollinators! Then using the word bank below label the parts of the butterfly.



Word Bank:

Head

Abdomen

Proboscis

Wings

Antennae

Thorax

DIRT CUPS

You can't grow plants until you get down and dirty....in the soil, that is. Soil is made up of multiple layers, each performing their own unique duty. You can make your own (delicious) diagram of the soil layers by following the directions below!

MATERIALS:

- Chocolate and butterscotch chips mixed together
- Chocolate pudding
- Chocolate Cookies (whole and crushed)
- Shredded coconut mixed with green food coloring
- Gummy worms
- Clear cups or glasses
- Spoons
- Sticky post-its or labels

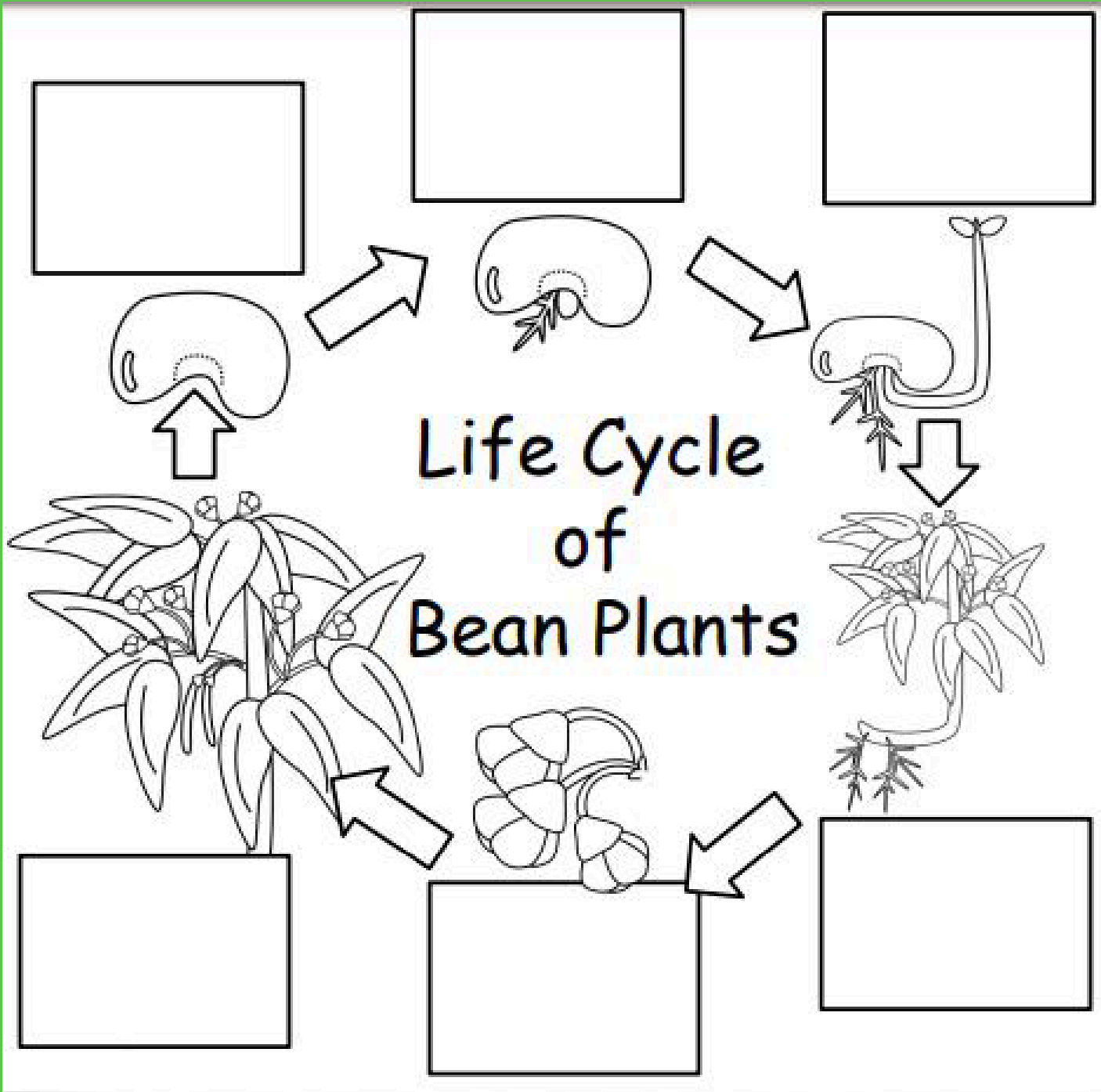


DIRECTIONS:

1. To represent the bedrock, place one whole chocolate cookie at the bottom of your clear glass.
2. Next create a layer of chocolate and butterscotch chips on top of your chocolate cookie to represent parent material.
3. To represent subsoil, add a layer of chocolate pudding on top of the chocolate and butterscotch chips.
4. On top of the subsoil goes the topsoil, which will be represented with the crushed chocolate cookies!
5. Organic material lives in and on top of the topsoil, so to represent this add in your gummy worms (representing worms and other insects), and colored coconut shreds (representing grass) —you can have some worms laying flat and some sticking up in the air if you want.
6. Now see if you can remember which soil layer is which, and label them! While labeling your soil layers, talk about the function of each layer and why it's important. Then go ahead and use your spoon to dig up your soil layers and eat them up!

BEAN LIFE CYCLE MATCH

Plants grow just like you and me. Below is a diagram of a bean's life cycle. Cut out the boxes with the bean's life cycle stages and see if you can match them up to the blank boxes on the diagram! While you match up the life cycle stages, think about how you could help the bean while it's in that stage (for example, should the bean be getting water, if so how much?)



flowers

seed

roots

seedling

sprout

beans

GROWING MIRACLES

Did you know that you can regrow certain vegetables from their original scraps? This is a handy trick to know as vegetables are essential to a healthy diet. Look at some of these “magic veggies” below and pick your favorite to regrow at home!

Cut the top off a carrot and place in small bowl, cut side down, and fill with an inch of water. Place dish in sun and change water every day. Transplant to soil when the tops sprout new shoots.

carrots

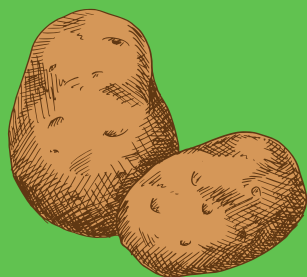


peppers

Carefully open a pepper and scrape out the seeds, removing any flesh of the pepper. Plant seeds about 1/2” deep in soil and place in a sunny area.

Place the bottom of an onion in soil with endcap down. Once roots appear, remove the old onion bottom and allow roots to continue growing.

onions



potatoes

Cut a potato in half, making sure each half has at least 1-2 eyes. Let pieces sit overnight at room temperature until they are dry to the touch. Plant a foot apart about 8” deep in soil.

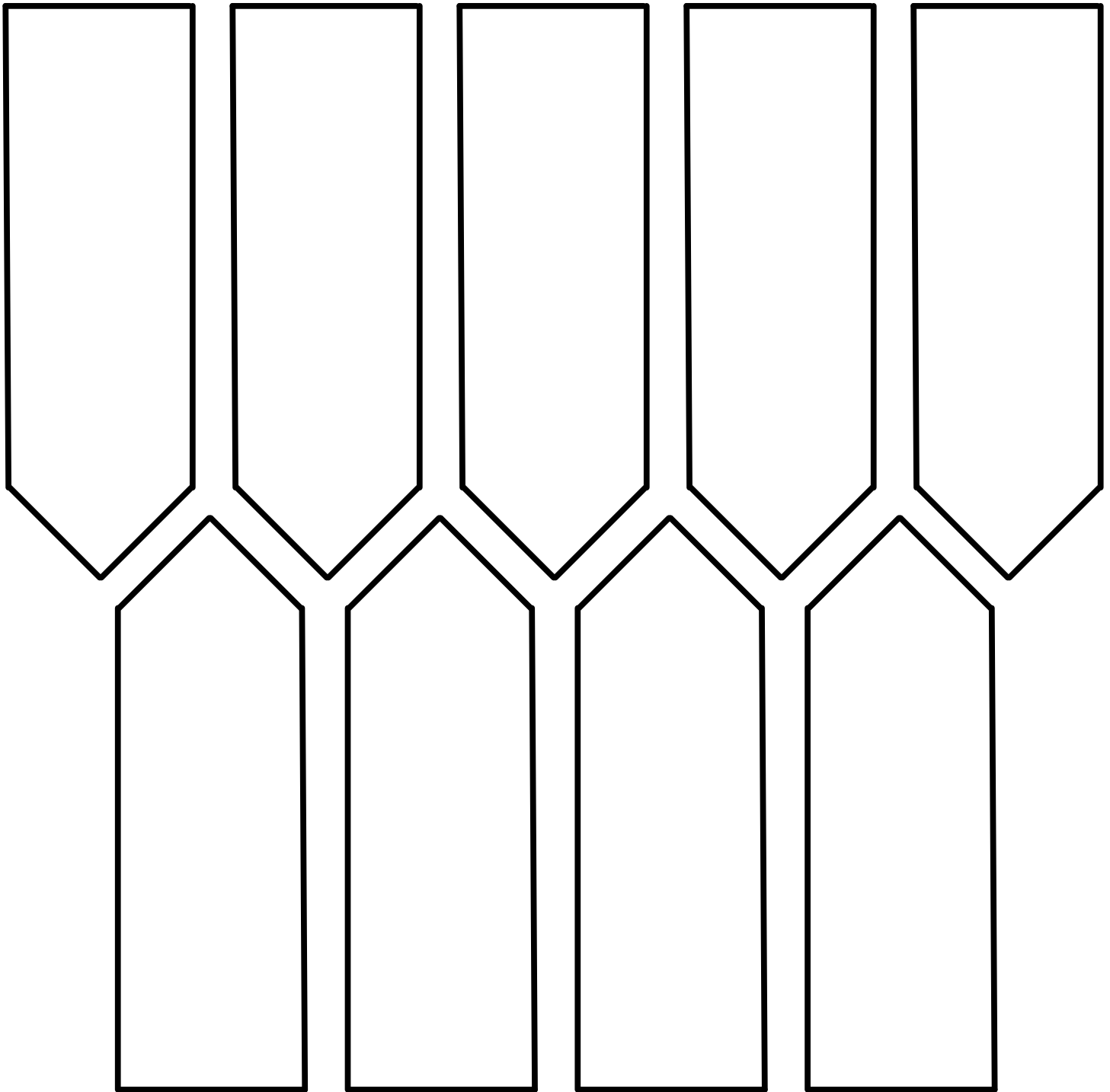
Place celery base, stalks facing upright, in a small bowl with water. Place bowl in sunny area and change water every day. After 5-7 days, transplant in soil up to the leaf tips.

celery



PLANT MARKERS

Color and cut out your own plant label markers! Attach to a toothpick, kabob stick, popsicle stick, paint stick, or straw with some tape or glue to add sturdiness. These markers will stick in the soil and help you remember what plant is growing there.



MARCH ANSWER KEYS

Answers to all Cloverbuddies activities will appear on the back cover of the following month's issue. For answers to this issue, watch for March's installment of Cloverbuddies!

SCRAMBLED DANCE

1. free style
2. interpretive
3. hula
4. clog
5. square
6. ballet
7. modern
8. polka
9. ballroom

MUSIC THEORY

Eighth Note		Half Rest	
Quarter Rest		Sixteenth Note	
Thirty-Second Note		Eighth Rest	

THEATER SEARCH



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