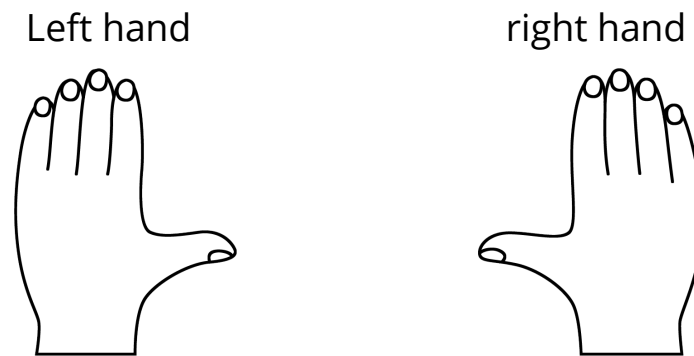


Introduction b and d Reversal

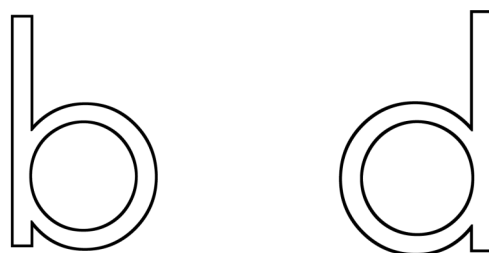
Sometimes, it is hard to remember which letter is “b” and which letter is “d” because they look so very much the same. Both letters have a circle and a straight line, the circle just switches sides for each letter. They are tricky letters!

But, you can learn tricks to outsmart them and remember which one is which. For example, have you ever had trouble remembering which hand is your right and which hand is your left? Most of us do at one time or another (even adults!). Look at the illustration below:



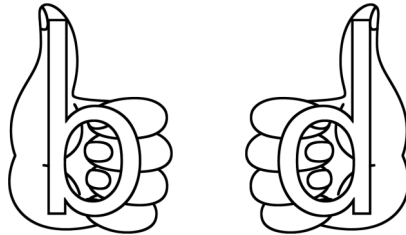
If you look at the hands, or your own hands when you hold them the same way, you can see that the left hand forms a letter “L” and the right hand does not. This is one way to help remember which is which.

You can use tricks like this to keep the letters “b” and “d” straight, and you’ll soon be able to remember the letters with no problem!



b and d Reversal Tricks

One way to remember the difference between “b” and “d” is to make a fist with your left hand, with the fingers facing you, and straighten the thumb. The larger, rounder part of your hand looks a little like the circle on the “b,” and the thumb sticking up looks like the straight line. Now, do the same thing with your right hand. You’ve made the letter “d.”



But what about remembering which hand is which letter? Think of the word “bed” and a picture of a bed. Your hands are the posts on the bottom, like this:



The letter “b” comes first on the left at the beginning of the word. The letter “d” comes last on the right at the end of the word.

Read these words, and use your hands and the word “bed” to remember which letter is “b” and which letter is “d.”

bad

bin

dog

den

dad

but

bid

dip

bit

bit

did

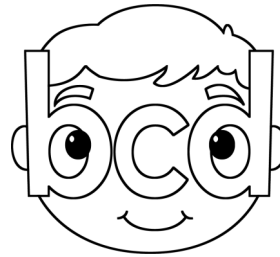
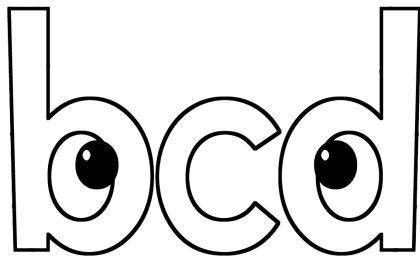
bun

b and d Reversal Tricks

The next trick just uses the alphabet. Think of the letters: “. . . b, c, d . . .” The letter “b” comes first on the left at the beginning. The letter “d” comes last on the right at the end of those letters. At the bottom of the page, write the letters, “b, c, d” in order, with the letters almost touching, like this:



Now, pretend this is a pair of glasses and draw eyes in the “b” and the “d.”



Now the circles of the letters "b" and "d" are the lenses in the glasses, and the straight lines are the arms. Since they are in the same order as they are in the alphabet, you know that "b" comes first before "d."

Read these words and think of the alphabet and the glasses to remember which letter is "b" and which letter is "d."

bag

dot

bat

bus

beg

dam

dab

bud

dim

box

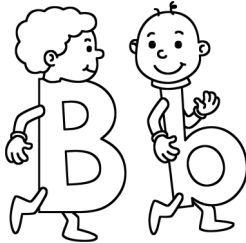
dig

dot

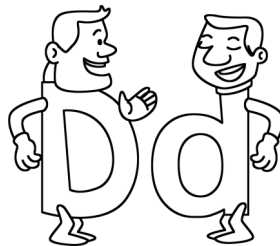
b and d Reversal Tricks

There are lots of other tricks you can use to remember the difference between “b” and “d.”

Think of “b” as two people walking and talking to each other. One is an uppercase “B,” and one is a lowercase “b.” When these two people are walking, the straight sides are on the same side of the letter, so they can both walk the same way, like this:



But, when an uppercase “D” and a lowercase “d” are walking and want to talk to each other, they have to stop to talk to each other because their straight sides are on opposite sides of the letter. They cannot walk in the same direction. If the “d” turned around to go in the same direction as the “D,” it would become a “b.”



Here’s another trick. Put your right hand on a piece of paper and trace around it. Write the letters “a, b, c, d,” and “e” above your thumb and fingers, starting with your thumb. If you use the finger for the letter “b” as the straight side of the letter, you only have one way you can make the large circle for the rest of the “b” on your hand. Or, you can use the finger for the letter “d” for the straight side of the letter, and the circle for the rest of the letter is on your hand in a different position.

Just by holding your hand near what you are reading, you can remember which letter is a “b,” and which letter is a “d.”



b and d Reversal Tricks

There are more tricks you can do that use your hands. Make an “ok” symbol. If you use your left hand to make the symbol, you can see the letter “b.” If you use your right hand to make the symbol, you can see the letter “d.” Hold your hands in front of you and think of the order of the alphabet. By holding your hands in front of you and saying your abc’s you see that the “b” is first (on your left hand), and the “d” comes later (on your right hand).



You can also lay your hands down in front of you, with the thumb straight out. If you wanted to make a “b” or “d” and keep the straight line of the letter next to your fingers, you have to make the “b” on your left hand (coming first if you say your abc’s) and the “d” on your right hand (coming later if you say your abc’s).



Just find a trick that works for you, and keep using it until you can read the letters without stopping to think about it!

b and d Reversal Activities

Look at the pictures below. Cut out each picture and paste it in the box under the letter that the word starts with. Remember your "b" and "d" tricks!

"b"

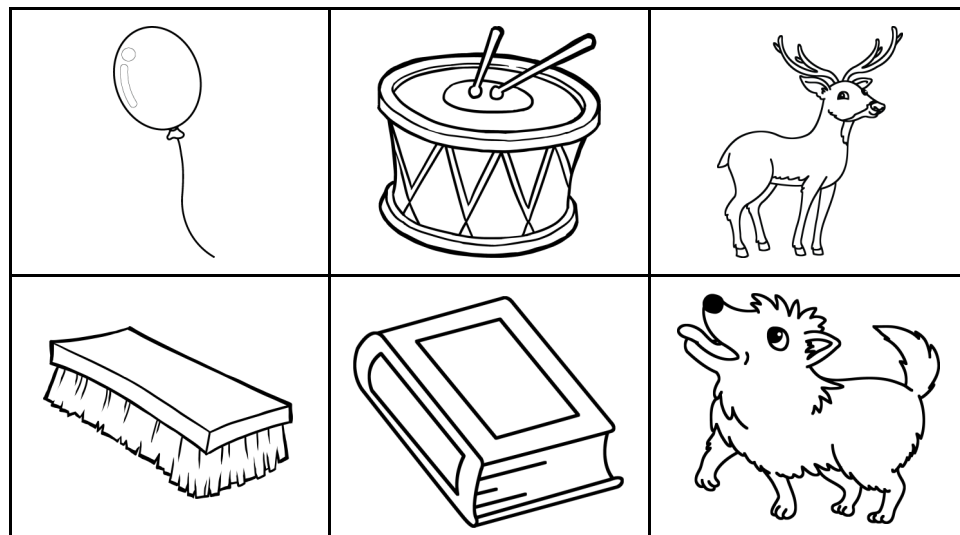
"d"

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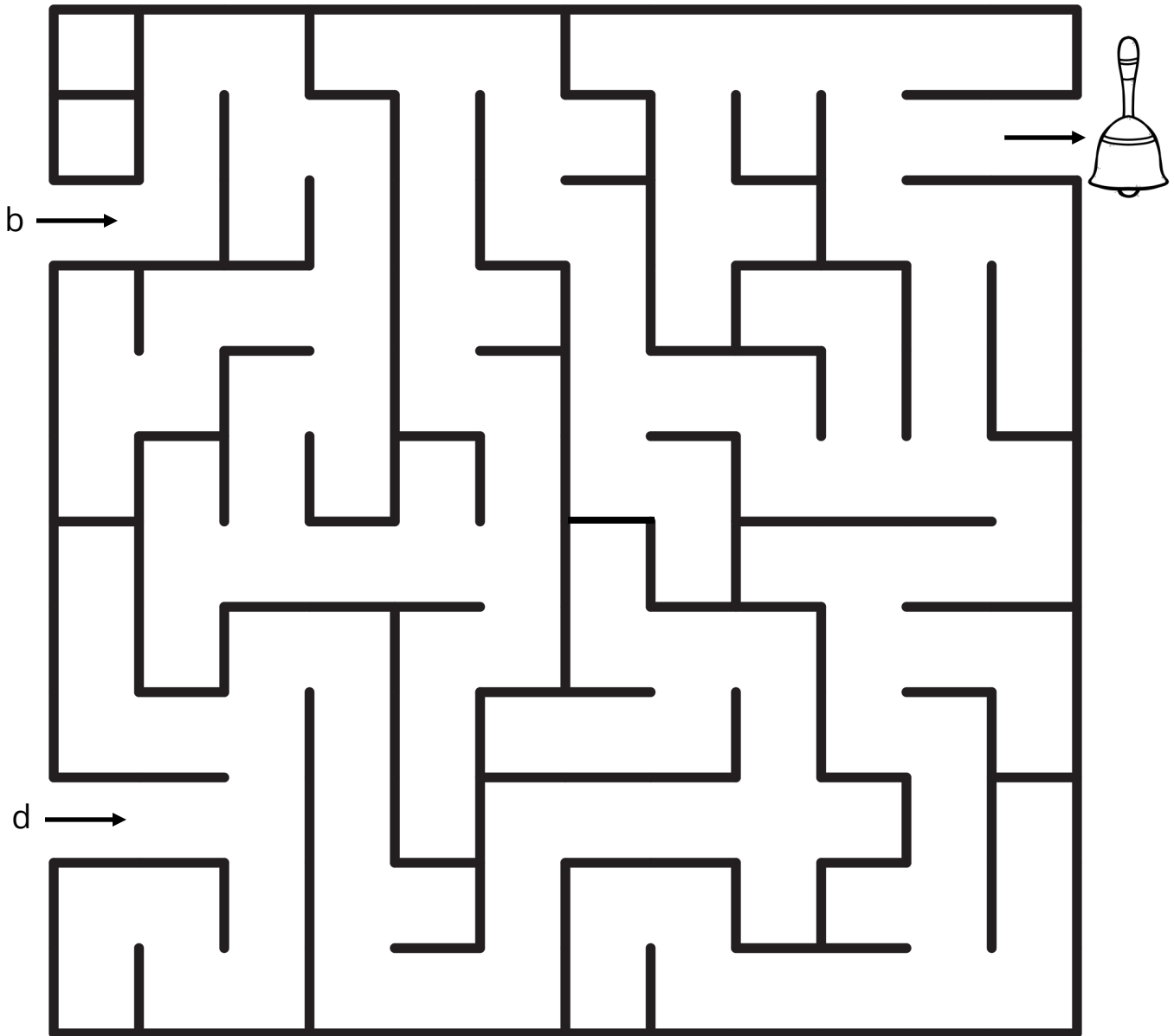
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b and d Reversal Activities

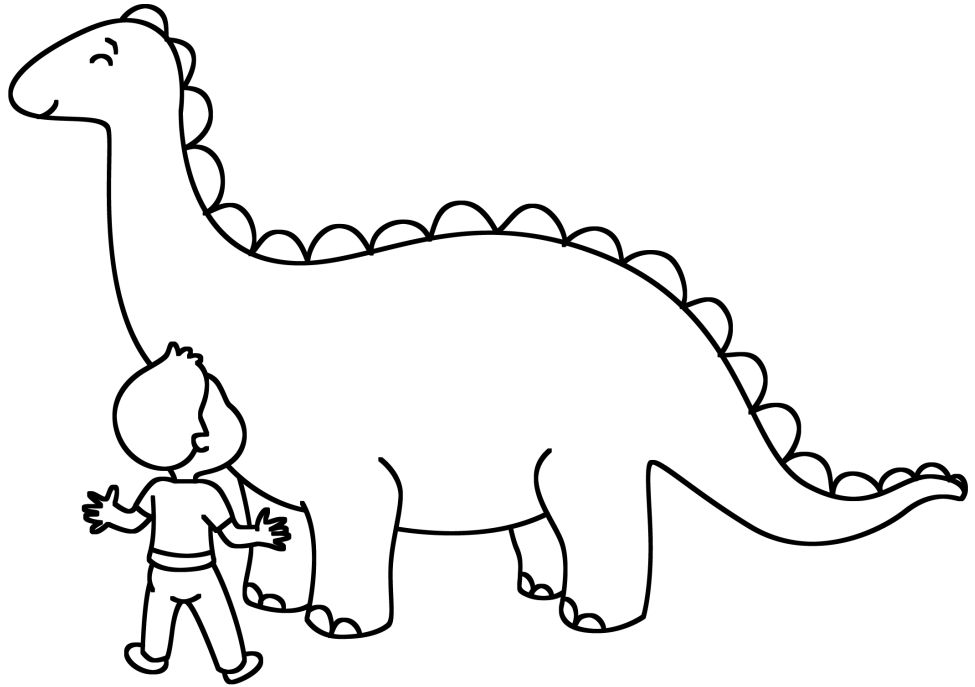
Look at the maze below. There are two ways into the maze; one way for "b," and one way for "d." Look at the picture at the end of the maze. Decide if the word starts with a "b" or "d," and enter the maze there. If you are right, you can find your way through the maze!



b and d Reversal Activities

Draw a line to match the pictures below to the words. Remember your "b" and "d" tricks!

dig



big

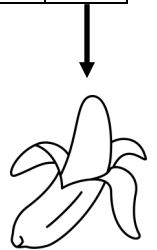


b and d Reversal Activities

Follow the letter "b" through the maze. Start at the arrow and be careful to stay on the letter "b" through the whole maze to reach the picture at the end.

↓

b	a	a	c	d	b	b	b	e	g	d	b	b	b	b	b
b	b	b	d	g	b	a	b	d	s	h	b	a	f	c	b
a	c	b	a	b	b	c	b	f	k	c	b	b	b	a	b
f	s	b	b	b	d	t	b	d	f	d	c	c	b	f	b
k	w	h	r	n	s	h	b	a	b	b	b	j	b	d	b
c	i	k	q	m	i	r	b	x	b	d	b	c	b	c	b
b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	e	b	a	b	l	b	d	b
b	d	q	a	o	h	r	v	o	b	d	b	p	b	i	b
b	j	c	v	j	c	y	c	j	b	c	b	d	b	c	b
b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	p	b	g	b	n	b
q	d	c	u	n	a	f	p	e	a	t	b	a	b	c	b
a	m	z	k	l	y	b	b	b	b	b	b	d	b	u	b
d	a	b	b	b	b	b	d	h	d	d	z	a	b	d	b
n	d	b	x	c	m	a	d	z	c	d	y	t	b	a	b
c	d	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	w	b



b and d Reversal Activities

Circle the word below the line that correctly finishes each sentence. Don't forget your "b" and "d" tricks!

1. How many _____ are in a week?
bays days

2. How many cookies _____ you eat?
did bid

3. I gave mom the _____ for the baby.
dib bib

4. I saw a _____ outside with a lot of legs.
bug dug

5. My dad had to _____ a hole in the yard to plant a tree.
big dig

6. A fox lives in a _____.
den ben

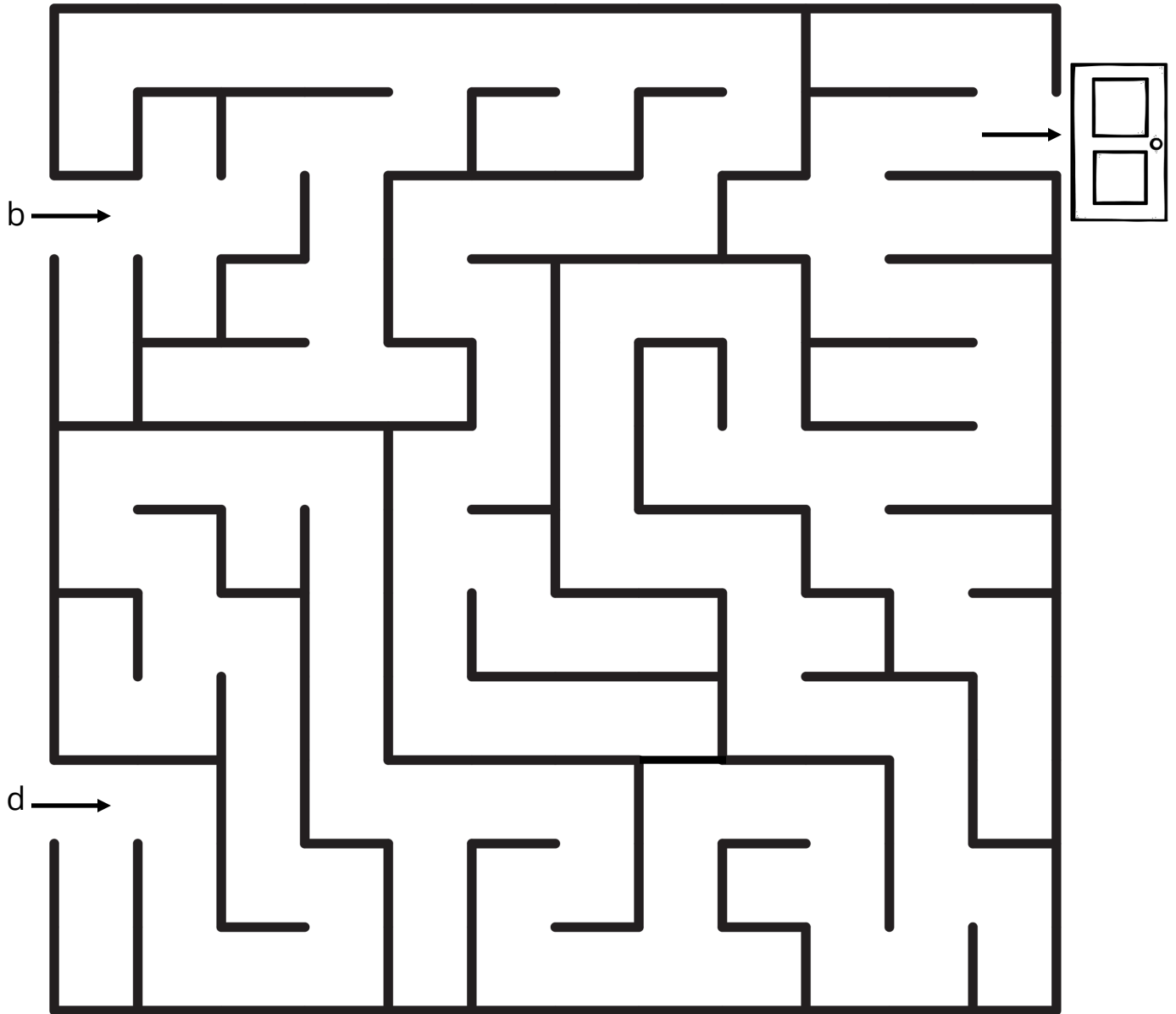
7. The shirt had pretty red _____ all over it.
bots dots

8. My _____ likes to go for hikes with me.
dad bad

9. I saw a friendly _____ when I went to see my grandma.
bog dog

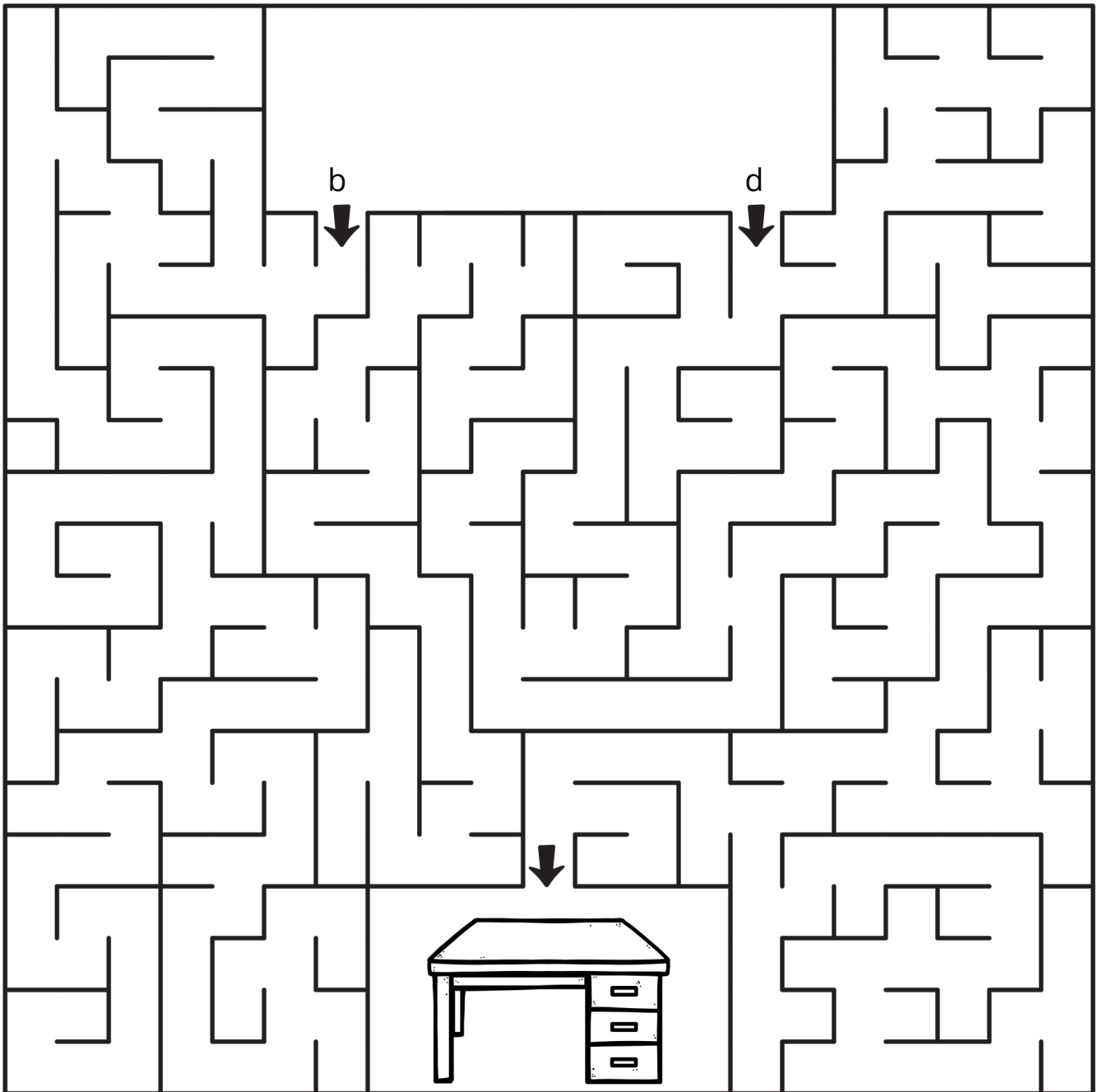
b and d Reversal Activities

Look at the maze below. There are two ways into the maze; one way for “b” and one way for “d.” Decide which letter starts the name of the picture you see at the end of the maze. If you are right, you can get through the maze.



b and d Reversal Activities

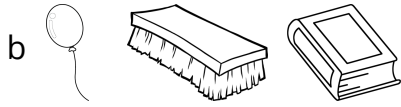
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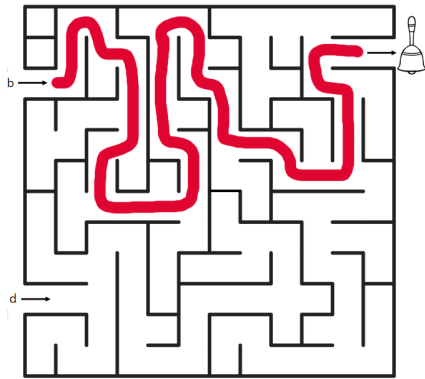
b and d Reversal Activities

Answer Key

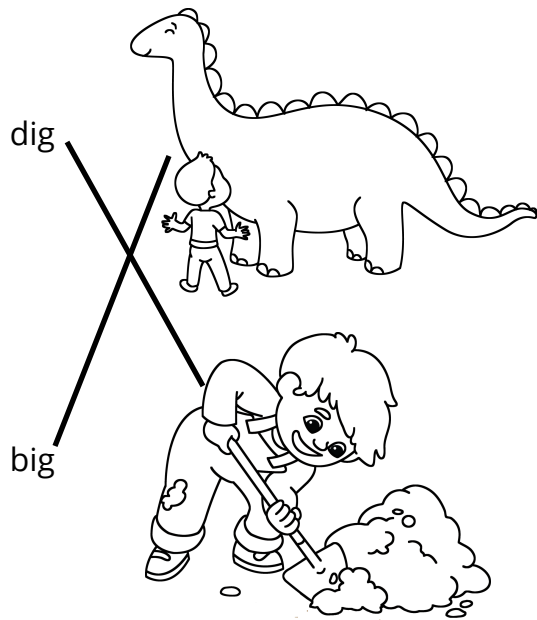
Page 7:



Page 8:



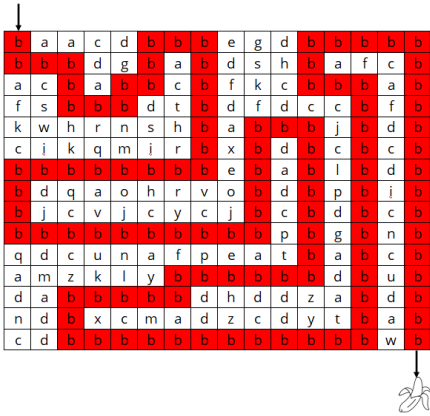
Page 9:



b and d Reversal Activities

Answer Key

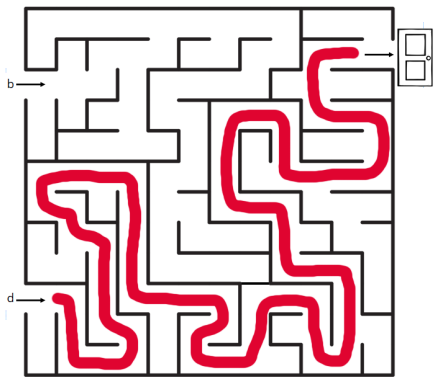
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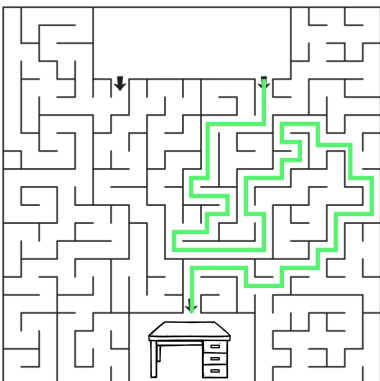
Page 11:

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. days | 6. den |
| 2. did | 7. dots |
| 3. bib | 8. dad |
| 4. bug | 9. dog |
| 5. dig | |

Page 12:



Page 13:



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