

# Celebrate 100 years of World Thinking Day



22nd Feb 2026

# Our Friendship

Since 1926, **World Thinking Day** has united Girl Guides and Girl Scouts across the globe in a shared celebration of **friendship**, empowerment, and global sisterhood.

Now, in 2026, we mark a remarkable milestone; **100 years of connection.**

What began as a day to honour the birthdays of our founders, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, has grown into a powerful tradition that inspires millions to reflect, take action, and stand together for a better world.

This centenary is not just a celebration of the past, it's a call to shape the future. Let's honour our legacy and continue building bridges of understanding, kindness, and leadership for generations to come.

This challenge has been designed to help you celebrate **100 years of World Thinking Day** with the theme of '**Our friendship**'.

## Learn to tie a friendship knot

The friendship knot symbolises the ties which bind girls and adults who belong to the WAGGGS, it is a sign of the friendship they share. It is often tied in neckerchiefs by another friend in guiding.



<https://youtu.be/ckmIE94XOvk?si=7e51LBJIhaXfdkLJ>



# Symbols of Friendship from around the world

## Friendship Bracelets

Originating in Central and South America, these are woven with intricate patterns and exchanged between friends

There are lots of different bracelets you can make. The idea is to give what you make to another person as a symbol of your friendship.

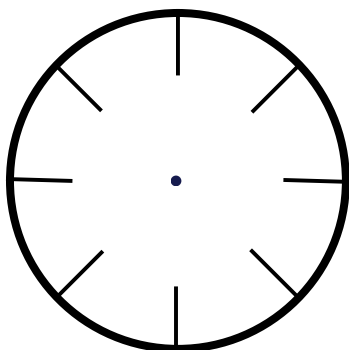


## Beaded Bracelets

Made with plastic beads and clear elastic, these are a modern friendship bracelet popularised by Taylor Swift fans. Letter beads are a great way to add messages for your friends.

## Bead swap bracelet

Provide each girl in your unit with a set of one colour/shape beads and enough so there is one for each girl. Girls are required to talk to each girl in the unit to swap their beads until they have one of every colour and shape to make their bracelet.



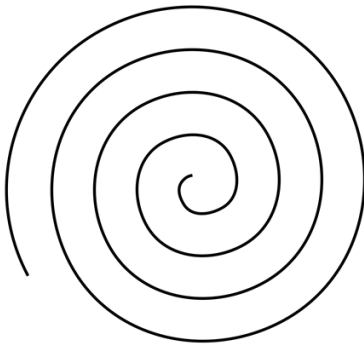
## Woven bracelets

Using seven strands of coloured wool, these are woven on a circular loom card. They are easy to make and really satisfying.

**There is a card template and instructions in the resources**

## Yellow Roses

We all know red roses symbolise love, but did you know yellow roses are to celebrate friendship in Europe.



Why not make roses from yellow paper, you can do this easily with a simple spiral that you roll up from the outside to the centre. Glue to a wire or pipe cleaner if you would like to make a bunch of yellow roses. There is a spiral template in the resources

## Hamsa Hand

Found in the middle east and North Africa, this is a symbol of protection, good fortune and blessing and is often given to friends.

There is a blank printable Hamsa hand in the resources which can be coloured and decorated and given to a friend.

You could also make these from air drying clay and paint them.



## Freundebuch, Friendship book

In Germany a friendship book is a notebook to collect and share information with your friends. you can write or draw about shared memories. It is passed among friends to fill out.



Make or purchase small notebooks and keep at your unit. Ask girls to swap these periodically to fill in an experience they have shared with another member of the unit. This would be great for a unit holiday or camp.

There is a template for making a tiny friendship booklet in the resources.

## Forget-me-nots

These small blue flowers are a symbol of remembrance and can be used express how much you value a friendship and shared memories.



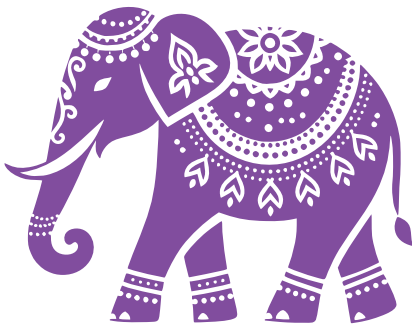
Why not try growing forget-me-nots from seed, they are quite easy to grow and can be planted in the garden. Give them to a friend to show how much you value them.

## Maneki-neko, beckoning cats

Common in Japan these brightly coloured cats with a raised paw are a symbol of good luck and good fortune. They are often given to friends as a symbol of your good wishes.



In the resources, there is a beckoning cat template to cut out and colour, it just needs to be rolled into a tube and glued.



## Elephants

In India and Thailand, elephants are a symbol of strength and loyalty. Statues of elephants are often given to friends as a symbol of a strong friendship.

Make an elephant statue from air drying clay or carve one from soap!

# Friendship games

## Find a friend scavenger hunt

Who likes broccoli? Who has 2 siblings? Who has been on an aeroplane and who has a cat?

Print each person a game sheet from the resources and mingle with your friends, ask them to sign their name on a question that applies to them.

Can you complete your board and find a friend for every question?



## Secret handshake challenge

In small groups make a secret handshake to show you are friends. How fun can you make it – it could include claps, elbows, fist bumps etc.

## Treasure of truth

Uncover hidden treasures (facts) about your friends!

Use the templates in the resources to provide each girl with a box to write:

- Something they love
- Something they have done
- Something they dream of doing



Ask them to try and write them in secret. Provide help to those who are not confident at writing.

Fold all the slips of paper and place in the treasure chest (box or bag)

Pick out a slip to read and all try to guess who it could belong to.

If you have a lot of girls, they might want to do this in sixes or patrols.

## Connection Hexagon

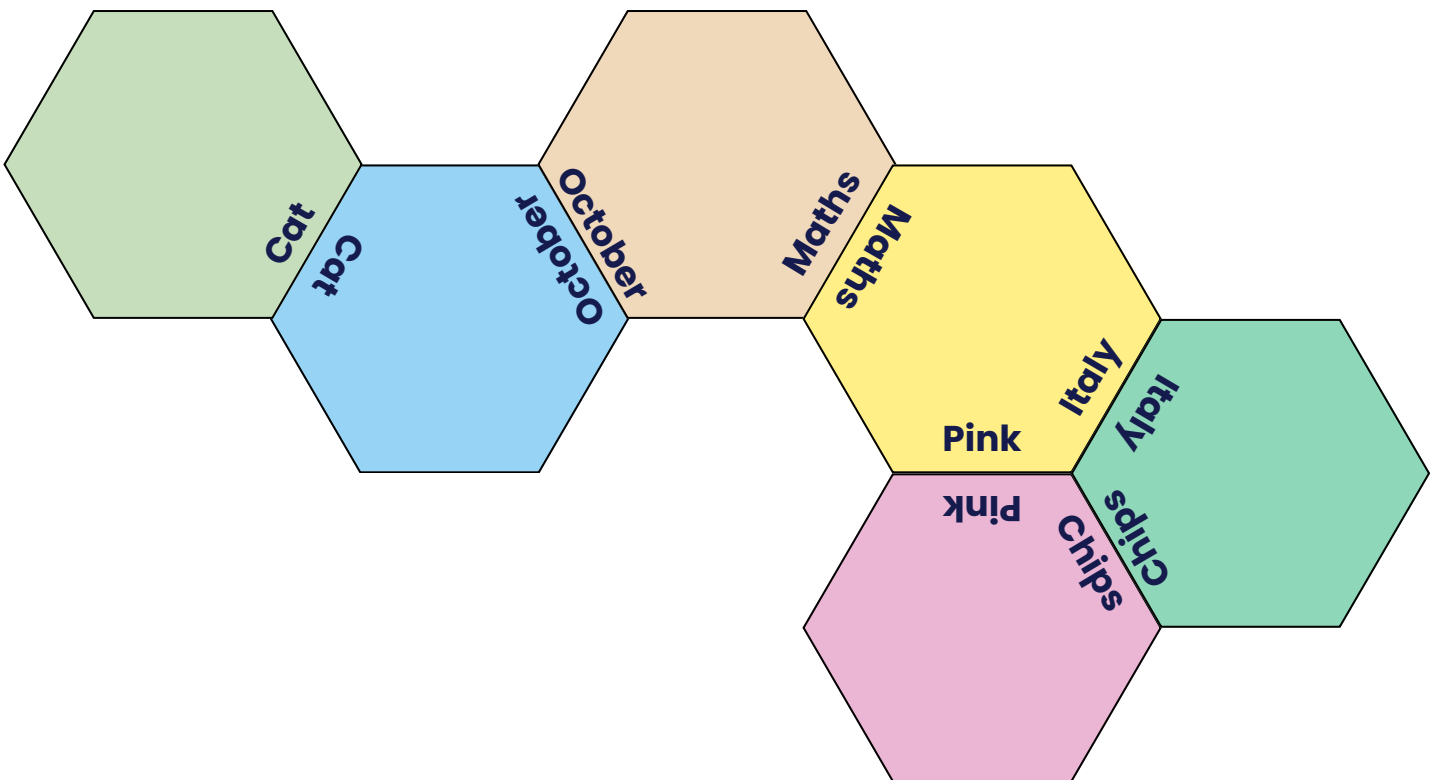
Use the templates in the resources to cut out a hexagon for each member of your unit.

As a group decide what question each of the numbers 1-6 represents

**Ideas:** birthday month, favourite colour, favourite food, worst subject, pets, favourite animal, somewhere they would like to visit, what they would like to be, hobby or sport etc.

Ask each person to fill in their six answers around the hexagon. This can be done by leaders too.

The girls now arrange their hexagons so each is touching a matching answer.



## Two truths

As a unit or in smaller groups. Girls take it in turns to tell three facts about themselves. Two are true - one is not.

The others in the group have to guess which is the fabricated fact.

## The Friendship Quest

Complete a magical quest by working together, sharing kind words, and solving challenges that celebrate friendship.

### In your meeting space create a “Friendship Map” with 5 locations:

- Kindness Kingdom
- Trusty Tower
- Giggle Grove
- Listening Lake
- Bravery Bridge

Each location has a challenge that encourages teamwork and friendship skills.

Work in teams of 3-6, each team gets a map. The aim is to collect a magical token from each location (printable tokens in the resources).

#### Kindness Kingdom

- Challenge: Each player gives a compliment to someone in their group.



#### Travel to Trusty Tower

- Challenge: One child is blindfolded. The others guide them through a simple obstacle course using only kind, clear instructions.



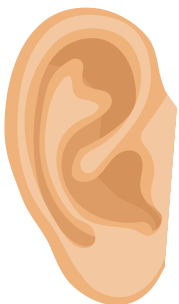
#### Enter Giggle Grove

- Challenge: Teams perform a silly skit or dance together.



#### Visit Listening Lake

- Challenge: Each child shares something they love, and others must repeat it back to show they were listening.



#### Cross Bravery Bridge

- Challenge: Each child shares a time they were brave or helped a friend.



Once all tokens are collected, teams return to the Friendship Circle. Each team shares one thing they learned about friendship.

#### Optional Add-ons:

They could get their Thinking Day badge as a reward for completing the quest. Let girls design their own friendship tokens.

# Say 'Hello'

Why not learn to say hello in another language?

You could also learn 'Hello' in British Sign Language and Makaton



## Create a greeting wall

There are speech bubble templates in the resources. Add your newly learnt greeting and decorate it to be displayed in your meeting space



Language	
French	<i>Bonjour</i>
Spanish	<i>Hola</i>
Chinese	<i>Nǐn hǎo</i>
Italian	<i>Salve</i>
Japanese	<i>Konnichiwa</i>
German	<i>Guten Tag</i>
Portuguese	<i>Olá</i>
Korean	<i>Anyoung haseyo</i>
Arabic	<i>Asalaam alaikum</i>
Danish	<i>Goddag</i>
Swahili	<i>Shikamoo</i>
Dutch	<i>Goedendag</i>
Greek	<i>Yassas</i>
Polish	<i>Dzień dobry</i>
Indonesian	<i>Selamat siang</i>
Hindi	<i>Namaste, Namaskar</i>
Norwegian	<i>God dag</i>
Turkish	<i>Merhaba</i>
Hebrew	<i>Shalom</i>
Swedish	<i>God dag</i>

# Spread the love

Here are some ways you could connect with people outside your unit and strike up new friendships

## Pen Pals

Exchange a postcard with another unit in another part of the UK or even in another country. You could even try a link up on zoom.

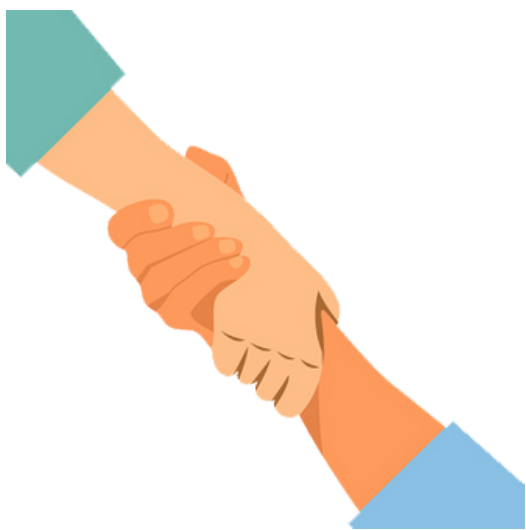


## Mail a hug

Use wallpaper to draw outlines of the upper body with arms outstretched. Girls decorate, fold and send to someone.

## Friendship rocks

Paint palm sized rocks a plain colour and then have the girls add kind messages smile, hope, you are loved, dream big etc. Spray with a sealant and hide them around your town. Between your unit or district, you could aim to paint **100** rocks



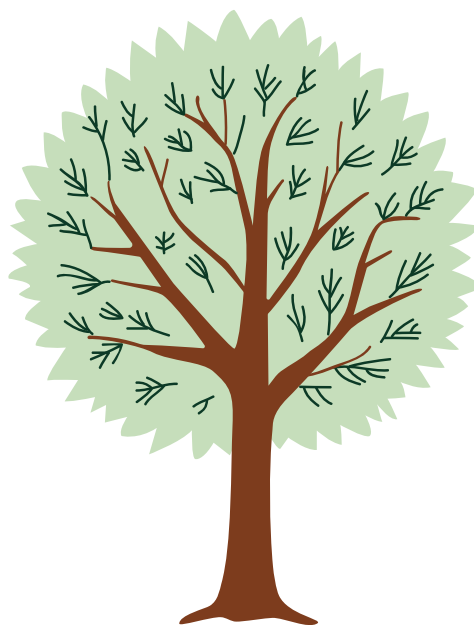
## Help those less fortunate

Show people in your community how caring you are by donating to food bank or work with another local charity to raise funds/donations for them. Perhaps try to raise **£100?**

## Make a friendship tree

If you are able, cut out a bare tree shape and display in your meeting space. Provide each girl with 3 leaf shapes. Before the following week ask them to try fill each with something they did for a friend that was kind or helpful. They could ask their leader, teacher or a parent to fill it in too.

Each week, add the leaves to the tree and watch it grow. - Can you get to **100** leaves?



# Songs of Friendship

## The World Song

Our way is clear as we march on,  
And see! Our flag on high,  
Is never furled throughout the world,  
For hope shall never die!

We must unite for what is right,  
In friendship true and strong,  
Until the earth,  
In its rebirth,  
Shall sing our song!  
Shall sing our song!

All those who loved the true and good,  
Whose promises were kept,  
With humble mind, whose acts were kind,  
whose honour never slept;

These were the free!  
And we must be,  
Prepared like them to live,  
To give to all,  
Both great and small,  
All we can give



## Make New Friends

Make new friends, but keep the old,  
One is silver, the other is gold.

A circle is round, it has no end,  
That's how long I will be your friend.

A fire burns bright, it warms the heart,  
We've been friends from the very start.

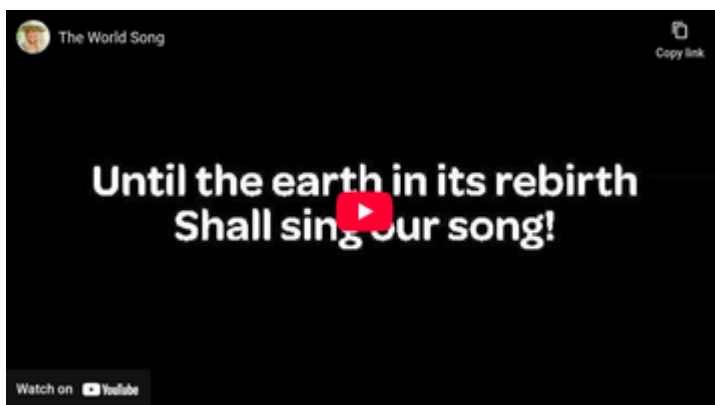
You have one hand, I have the other,  
Put them together, we have each other.

Silver is precious, gold is too,  
I am precious, and so are you.

You help me and I'll help you,  
And together we will see it through.

The sky is blue, the Earth is green,  
I can help to keep it clean.

Across the land, across the sea,  
Friends forever we will always be.



Hold a friendship sing along or disco. Here are some well known songs that are about friendship

## **The More We Get Together**



The more we get together, together, together  
The more we get together, the happier we'll be  
For your friends are my friends  
And my friends are your friends  
The more we get together, the happier we'll be

The more we play together, together, together  
The more we play together, the happier we'll be  
For your friends are my friends  
And my friends are your friends  
The more we play together, the happier we'll be

The more we sing together, together, together  
The more we sing together, the happier we'll be  
For your friends are my friends  
And my friends are your friends  
The more we sing together, the happier we'll be

The more we help together, together, together  
The more we help together, the happier we'll be  
For your friends are my friends  
And my friends are your friends  
The more we help together, the happier we'll be

**You're my best friend**  
Queen

**You've got a friend in me**  
Randy Newman

**We're gonna be friends**  
The white Stripes

**You've got a friend**  
Carole king



**Girl**  
Destiny's Child

**Friends**  
The Beach Boys

**We are family**  
Sister Sledge

**My Best Friend**  
Weezer

**Lean on me**  
Bill Withers

**I'll be there**  
Jackson 5



**Count on me**  
Bruno Mars

**I'll be there for you**  
The Rembrandts

**Thank you for being my friend**  
Andrew Gold



**Lean on me**  
Bill Withers

**That's what friends are for**  
Dione Warwick

# Host a '100' evening

Set up stations around your meeting place. In small groups girls go around to complete all of the challenges

Solve a 100 piece puzzle in the quickest time

Move 100 items into a bowl using chopsticks (i.e. popcorn kernels, skittles, beads)

Skip 100 times with a skipping rope

Build something with exactly 100 pieces of lego

Thread 100 beads in the quickest time

Make a paperchain of 100 links

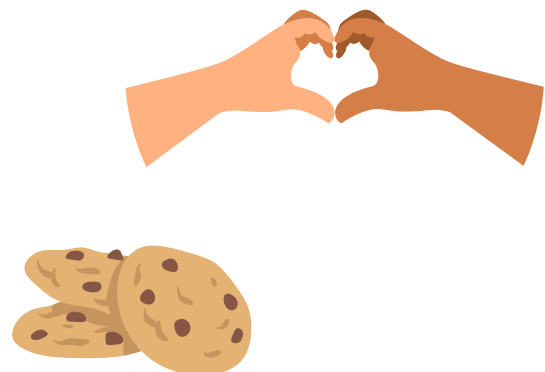
Count to 0-100 backwards

Roll a dice and add up to 100 - if it goes over 100, roll again to subtract until they get 100

## Hit 100

You could also take more time and spend a whole evening, or even a term doing 100 related projects and activities

- Make 100 cards and give them to friends and loved ones
- Take 100 pictures of hands making hearts
- Sing 100 songs
- Bake 100 cookies and share them
- Be quiet for 100 minutes
- Plant 100 daffodils
- Save 100 x 10p for charity



# Printable resources

## Woven bracelet loom

### Making your loom

Looms are made from a circle of card with 8 slits and a small hole in the middle. You can print and trace this template onto thicker card. Cereal box card is a good thickness.

### Preparing your thread

Each bracelet is made from 7 strands of embroidery thread or yarn. These should be approximately 50cm long.

The thicker the thread the quicker (and thicker) the bracelet

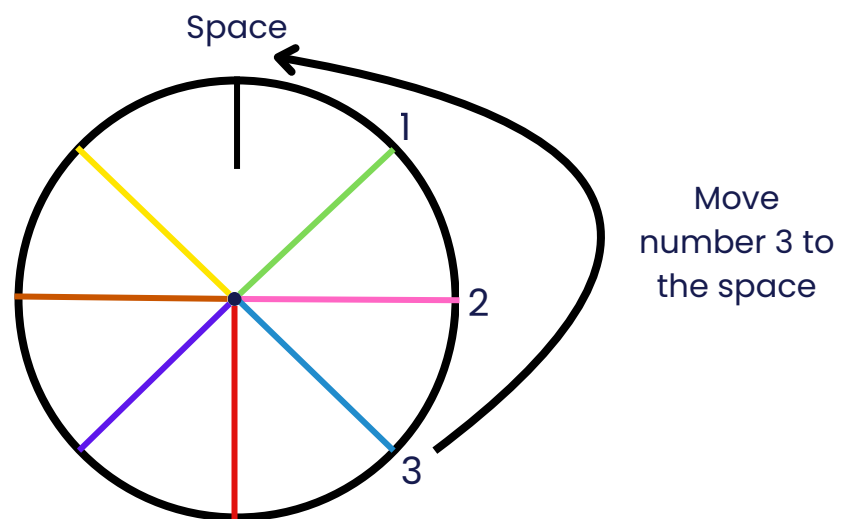
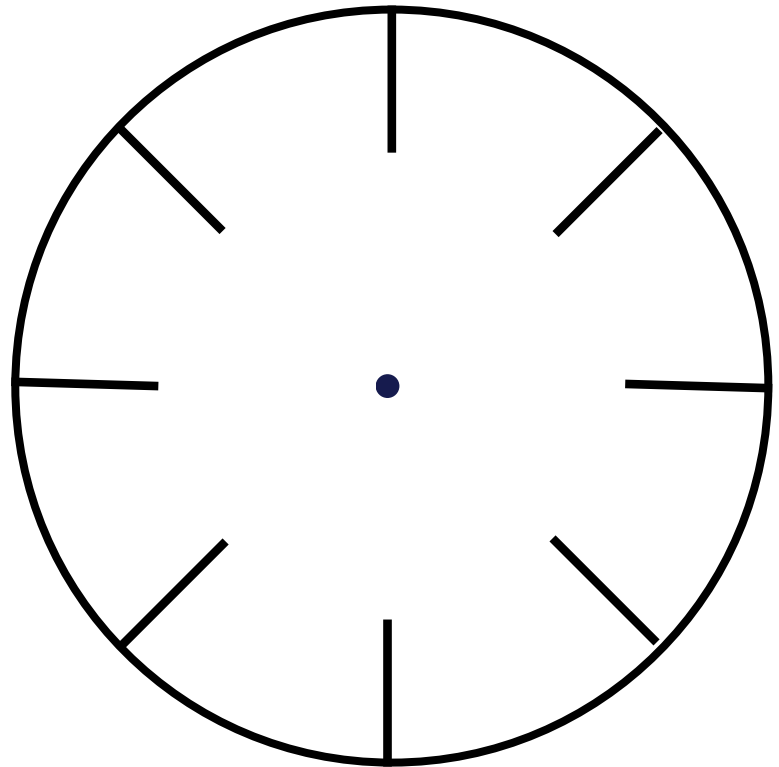
### Threading the loom

When you have your 7 strands of thread cut, tie them together at one end. Gather the loose ends together and feed all 7 through the hole in the centre of your card and pull through until you reach the knot. With the knot pointing down spread the 7 strands out into the slots of your card - there should be one slot empty.

### Weaving your bracelet

The simplest way to keep track of your weaving is to always point the spare slot away from you (you could point it at your friend that you are making the bracelet for!). From the space at the top, count three strands round. The third strand moves to the gap. Turn the card so the space is at the top and repeat until you have the length you require.

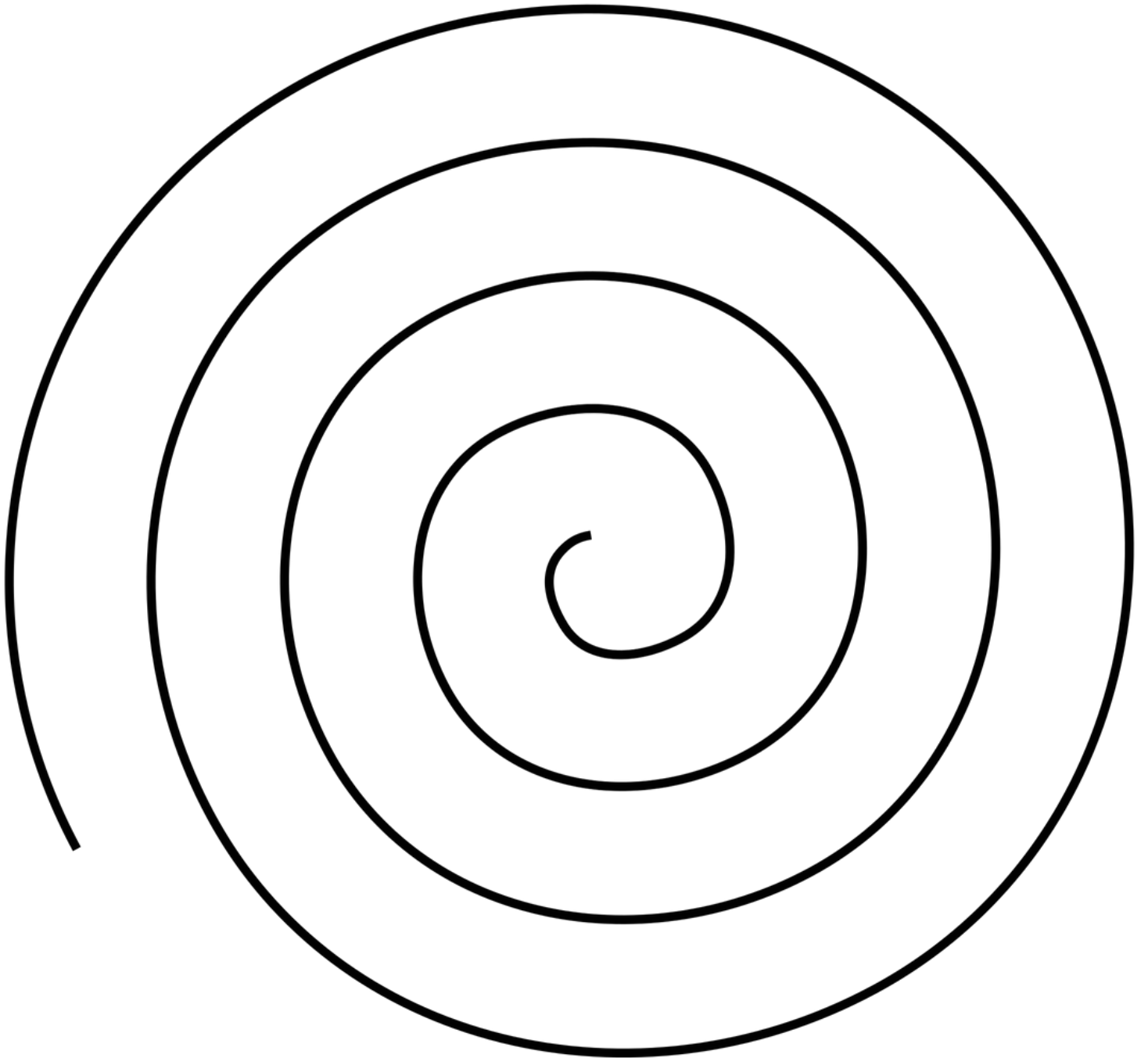
**To finish, simply tie another knot and trim the ends**



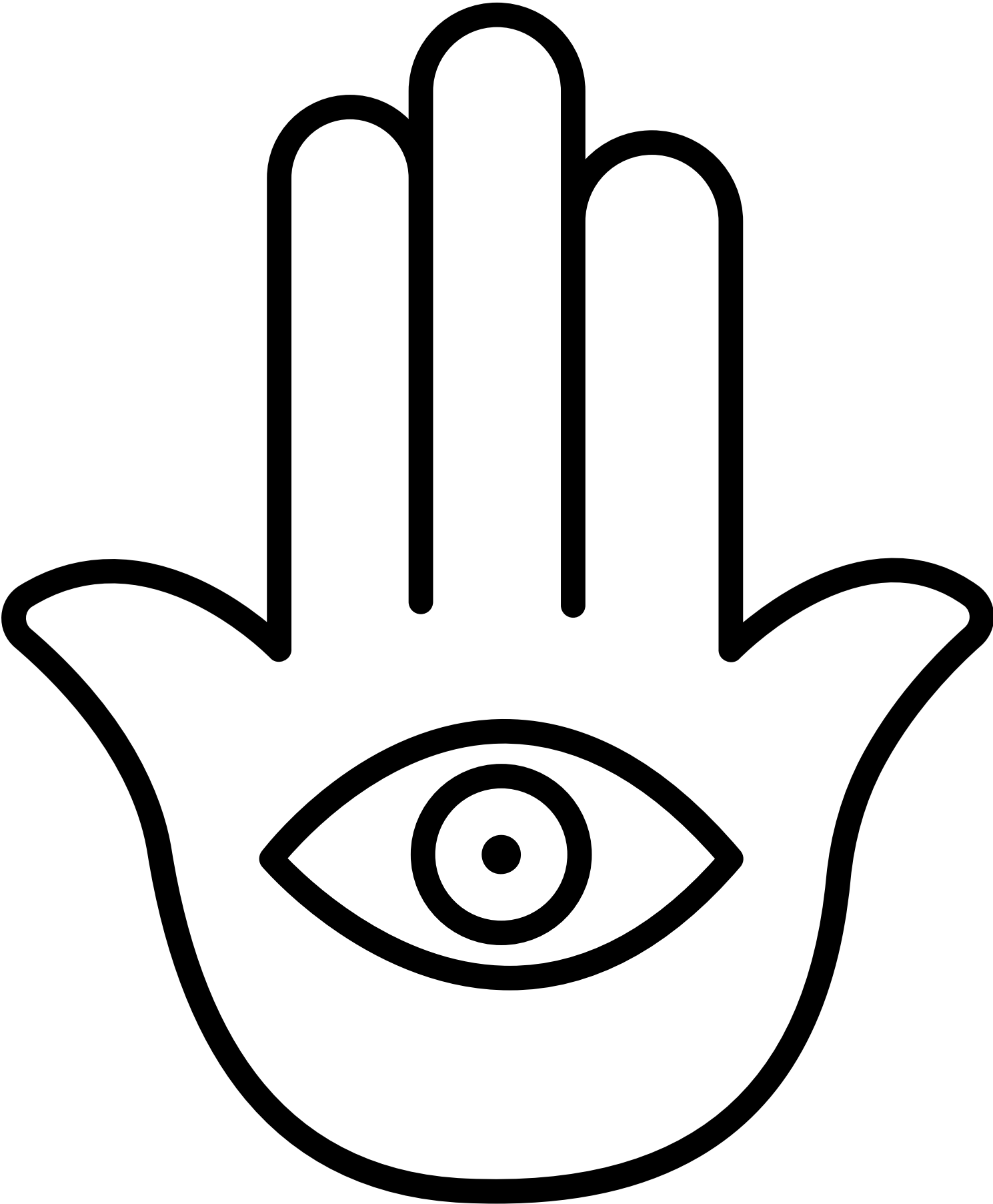
**There are lots of online tutorials**



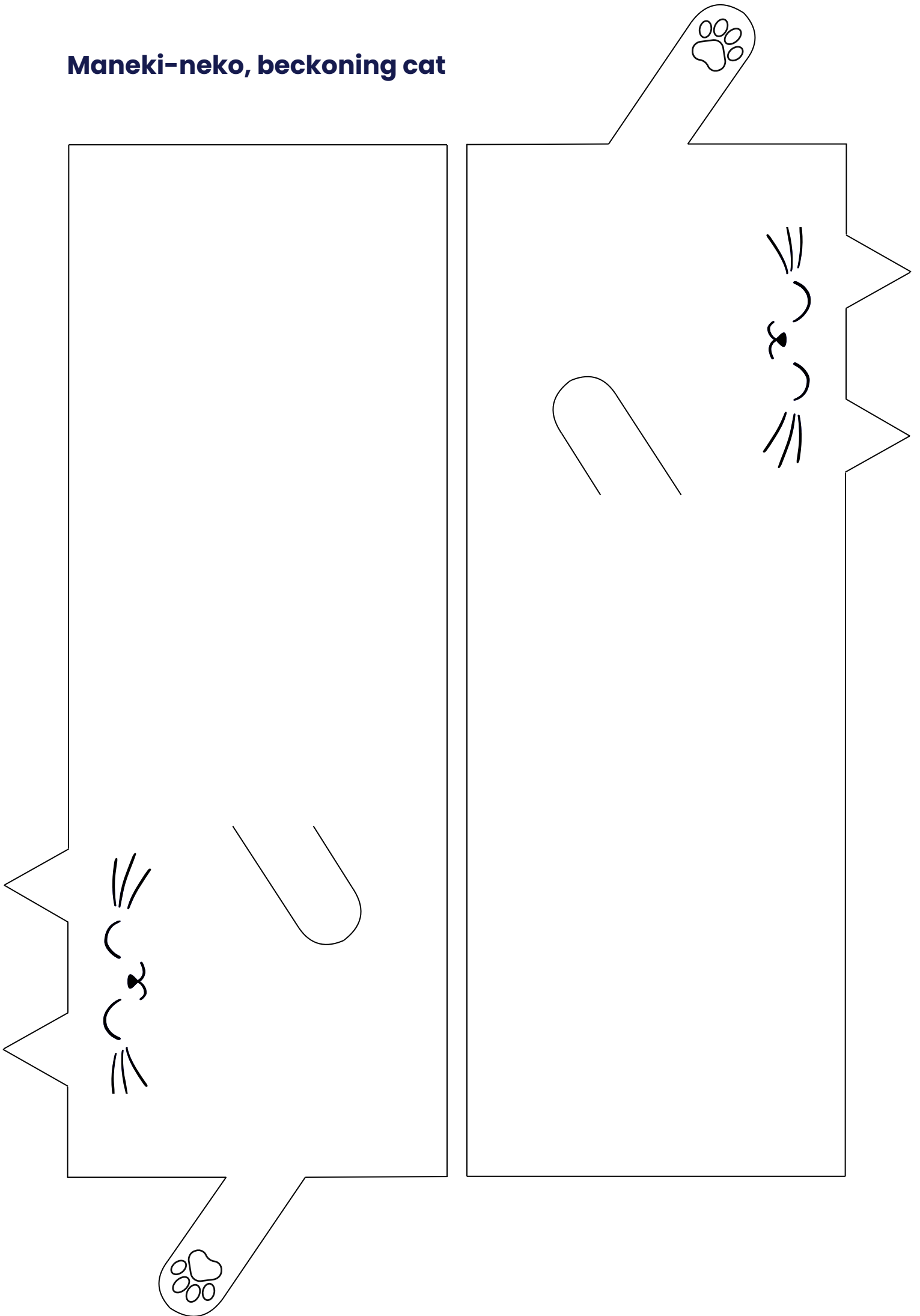
## Spiral for yellow roses



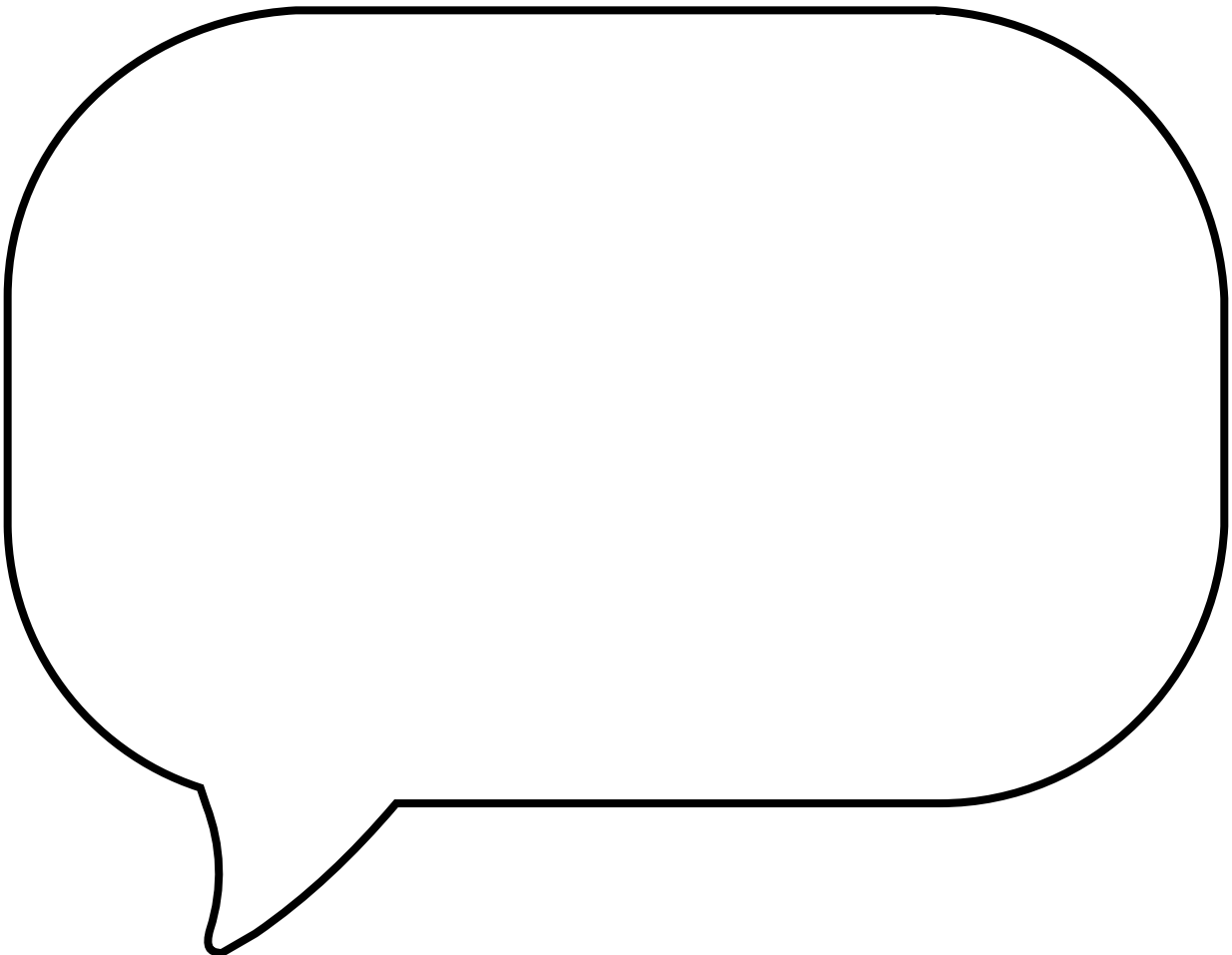
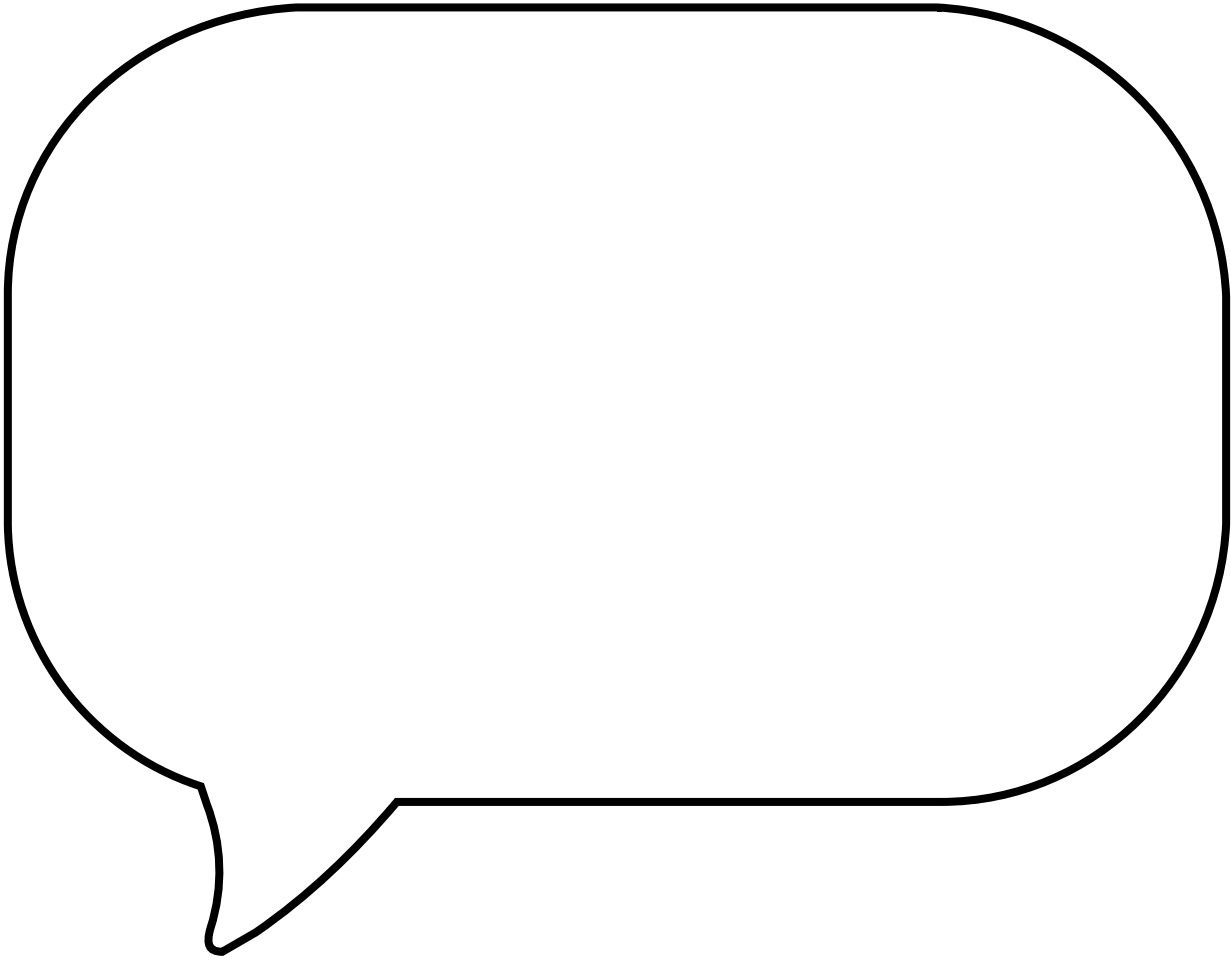
**Hamsa Hand**



# Maneki-neko, beckoning cat



## Speech bubbles for a greeting wall



## Find a friend – scavenger hunt

Born in another country	Likes broccoli	Was a Rainbow	Is wearing earrings	Can play an instrument
Favourite subject is maths	Born in the same month as you	Can speak more than one language	Favourite colour is purple	Has a cat
Walks to school	Has always lived in the same house	Favourite season is summer	Is a Leader	Has been to Disney land
Has been on an aeroplane	is older than 10	Is an only child	Lived in more than one city	Takes dance lessons

From a different school	Has a dog	Was a Rainbow	Went to the beach in summer	Has been on an aeroplane
Favourite subject is Art	Born in the same month as you	Can speak more than one language	Favourite colour is purple	Has a cat
Walks to school	Has always lived in the same house	Can play an instrument	Born in another country	Likes broccoli
Is over 8	Has picked apples off a tree	Has 2 siblings	Lived in more than one city	Takes dance lessons

# The Treasure of Truth

Something you love

Something you  
have done

Something you  
dream of doing

Something you love

Something you  
have done

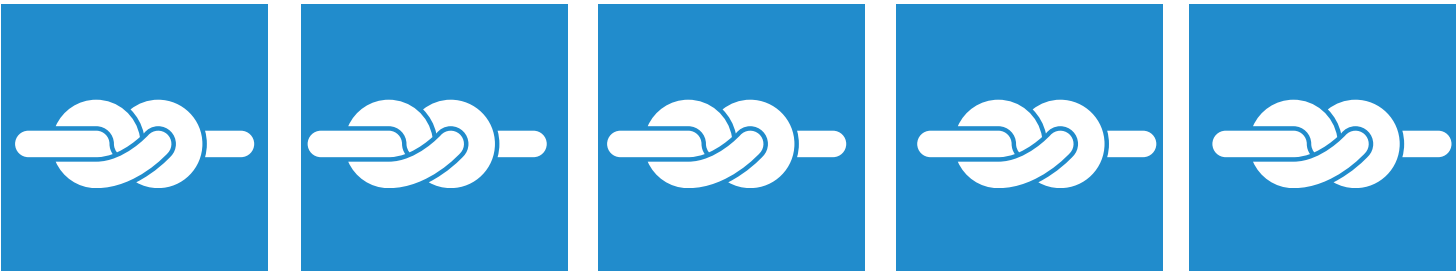
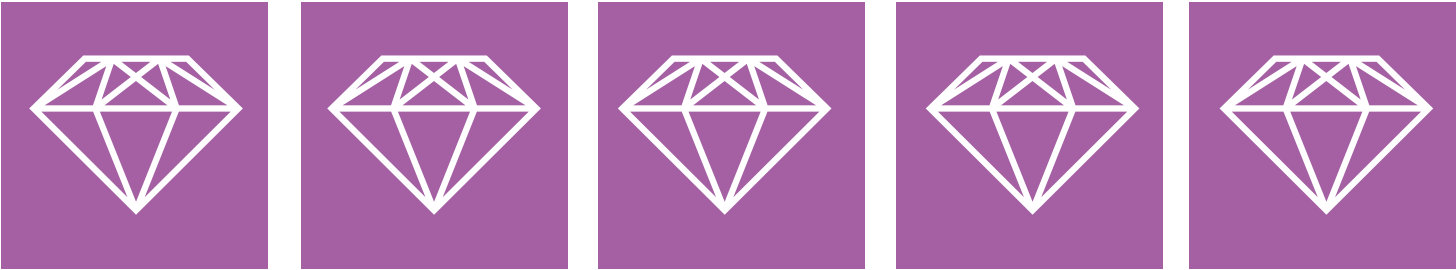
Something you  
dream of doing

Something you love

Something you  
have done

Something you  
dream of doing

The friendship quest tokens



# The friendship quest token collection card

**Collect 5 tokens to complete the Friendship Quest!**

--	--	--	--	--

**Collect 5 tokens to complete the Friendship Quest!**

--	--	--	--	--

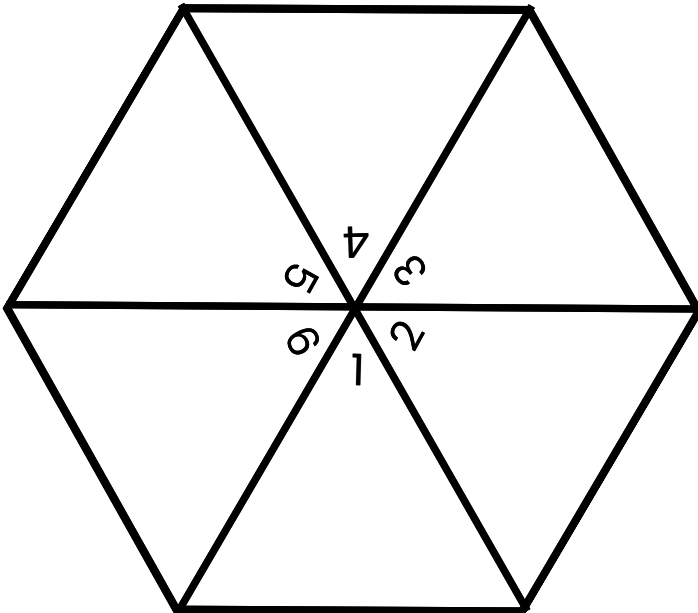
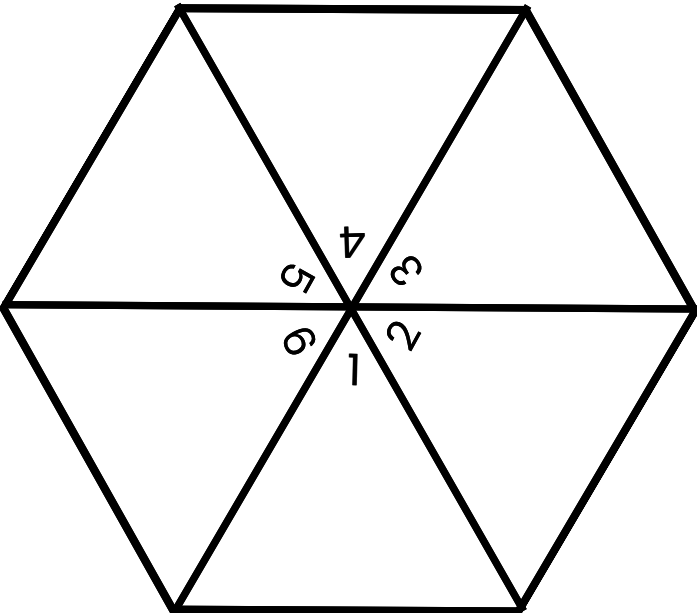
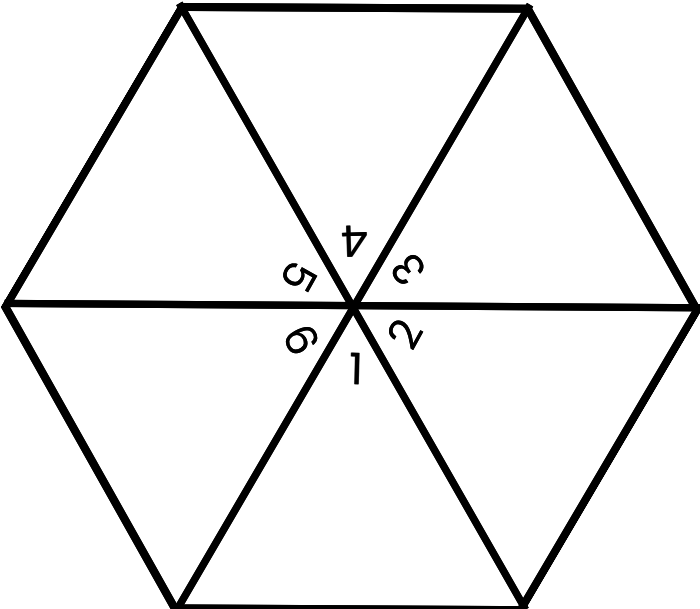
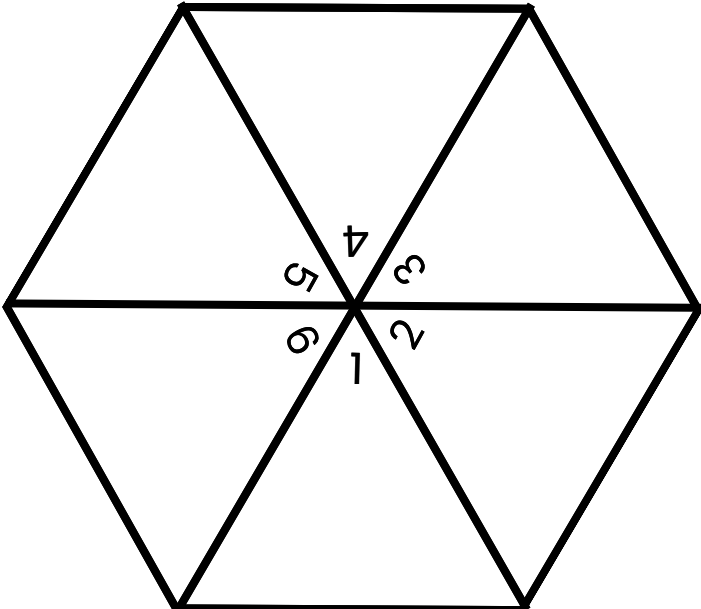
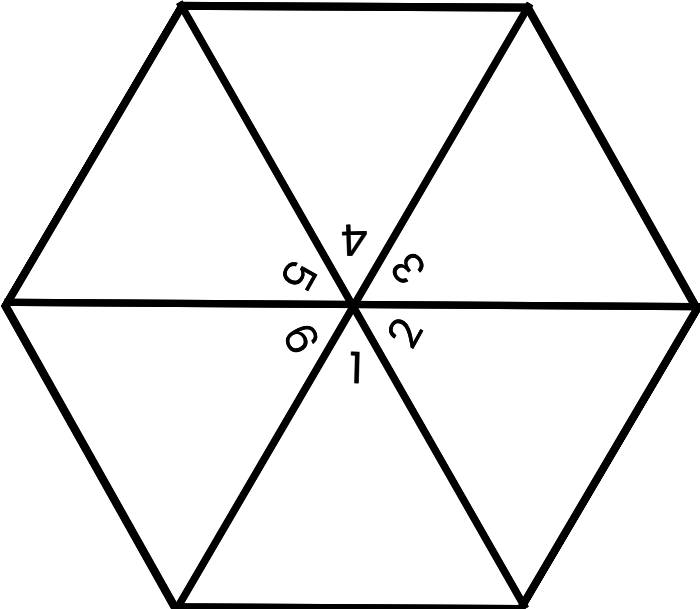
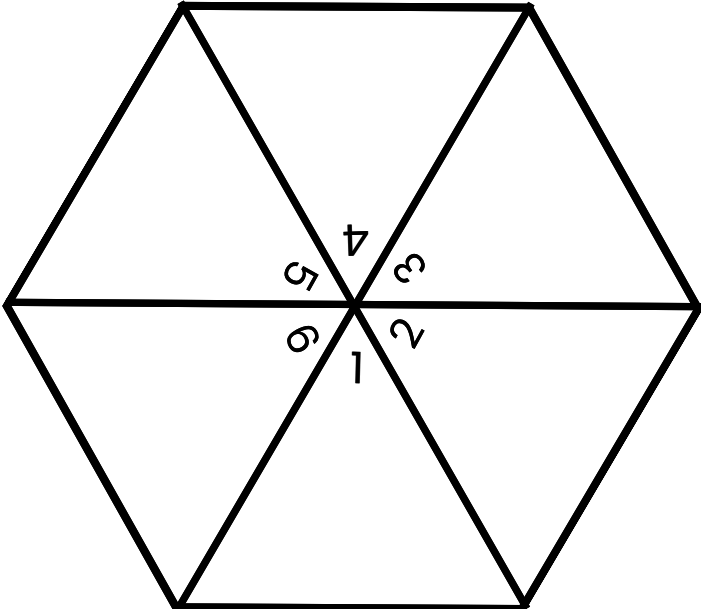
**Collect 5 tokens to complete the Friendship Quest!**

--	--	--	--	--

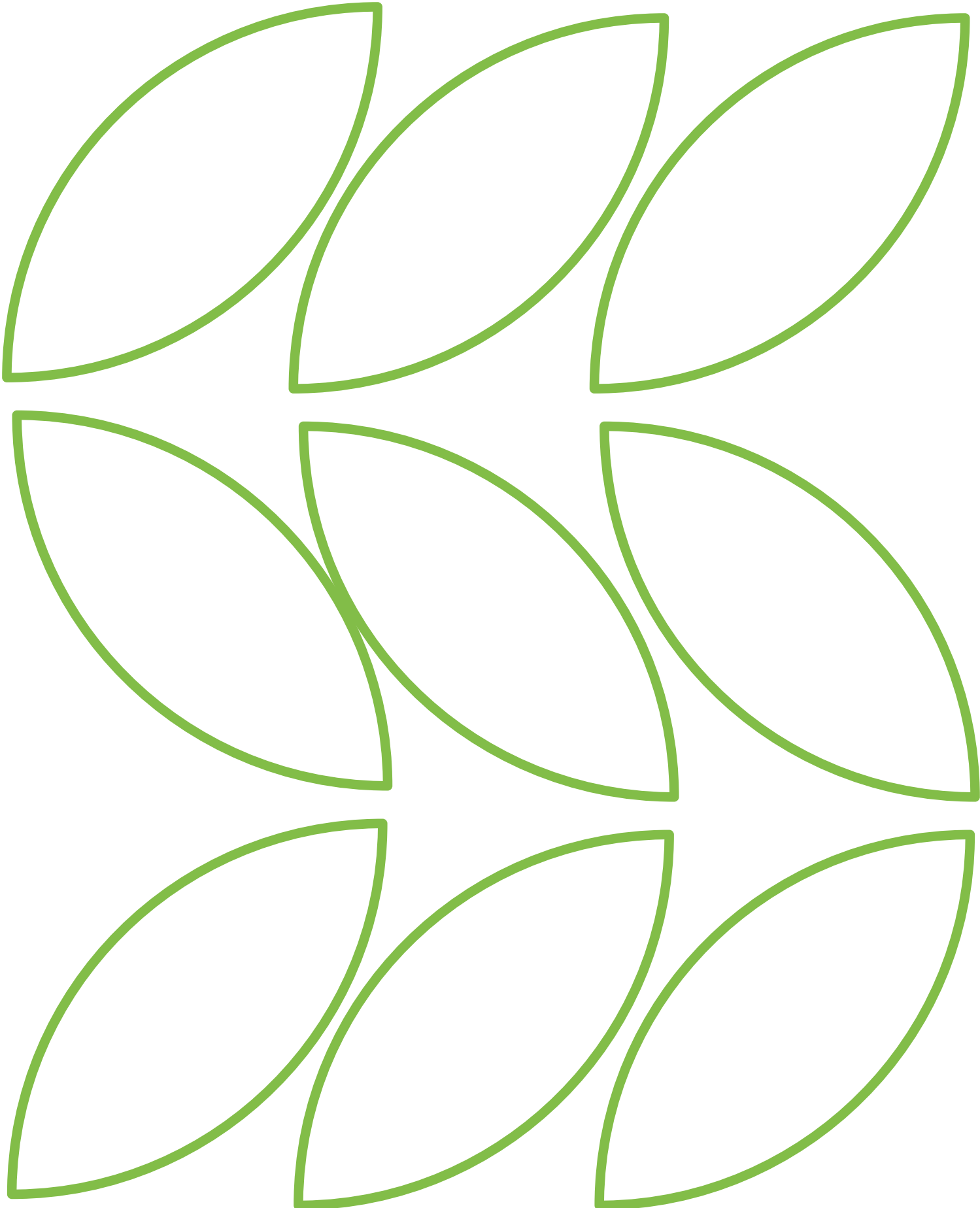
**Collect 5 tokens to complete the Friendship Quest!**

--	--	--	--	--

Connection hexagon



**Friendship tree leaves**



# Links to Girlguiding programme



UMA - A warm welcome (Take Action)  
UMA - Fastest friend first (Know Myself)  
UMA - Uncrumpled friends (Take Action)  
UMA - You've got a friend (Take Action)  
UMA - Buddy books (Know Myself)



UMA - Hot, Hot, Hot (Know Myself)  
UMA - Sole Mates (Know Myself)  
UMA - Buddy Bingo (Know Myself)  
UMA - Listening Legends (Know Myself)  
UMA - Brownie Beads (Know Myself)



UMA - Balloon frenzy (Know Myself)  
UMA - Aeroplane answers (Know Myself)  
UMA - Lava! (Know Myself)  
UMA - Balancing buddies (Know Myself)  
UMA - I'm good thanks (Know Myself)



UMA - Wildcard! (Know Myself)  
UMA - Slow as a Sloth (Know Myself)  
UMA - Memories last a lifetime (Know Myself)  
UMA - Welcome with open arms (Take action)  
UMA - I'm worth it (Know Myself)

# How to buy badges



Badges are £1.20 each and are available to purchase online from the Girlguiding Surrey West County Shop

[shop.ggsw.org.uk](https://shop.ggsw.org.uk)



## Branding Approval

RE: World Thinking Day 2026



Branding Matters <BrandingMatters@girlguiding.org.uk>  
To: Lara Hughes



Fri 18/07/2025 10:26

Hello Lara,

Many thanks for sharing your badge design for World Thinking Day 2026, Girlguiding Surrey West. I can confirm the design shared meets our refreshed branding requirements. The size, position and colour of the trefoil can be approved. It is okay to produce in Masterbrand (White Trefoil on Girlguiding dark blue Pantone® 2766 C background) as you have shown.

It's not critical to change / alter the design but in our experience, text is best displayed on a single flat colour block (not a pattern background). We can offer approval to the badge design but would suggest considering altering the white/yellow WTD design to a single colour for better badge readability.

Good luck with the badge production and event.

Kind Regards  
Ruth