

Mashed Potatoes

a listening comprehension activity



by
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ALL ABOUT *Reading*

Mashed Potatoes

Good listeners grow up to become good communicators, and listening comprehension is the precursor to reading comprehension. With this silly and oh-so-simple game, you can help your child build listening comprehension skills in a format that's fun for the whole family.

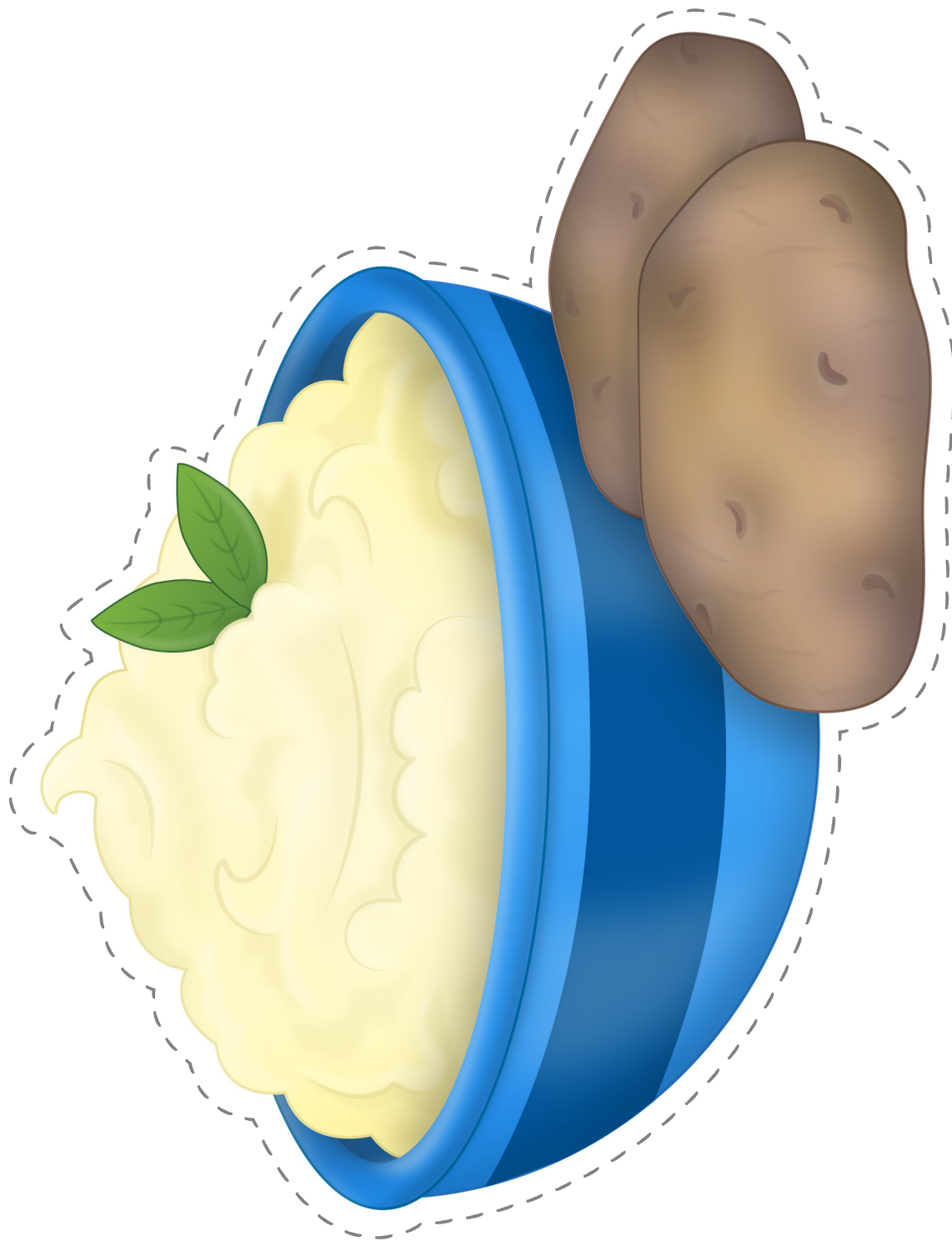


Instructions

1. Print pages 3-4 (color version) or pages 5-6 (black-and-white version).
2. Cut out the bowl of mashed potatoes, the question cards, and the serving spoon. Place the question cards in a pile on the table.
3. Explain to your child that you're going to ask several questions. Emphasize that he or she must respond with the words "mashed potatoes."
4. Select the first card, read the question aloud, and wait for your child's response ("Mashed potatoes!"). As you read the questions, your child will be able to visualize the silly circumstances. Then let the giggles begin!
5. As your child answers each question with "mashed potatoes," he or she can pretend to spoon a large helping of mashed potatoes from the serving bowl.
6. Feel free to get silly with this activity and create additional new answers for your child to use in subsequent games. Here are a few ideas to get you started!

Instead of "mashed potatoes," your child could also say:

- broccoli soup
- chocolate pudding
- cottage cheese
- applesauce





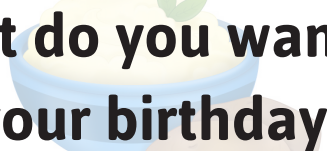
What's your name?



What do you use to wash your hair?



What is in your pocket?



What do you want for your birthday?



What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?



What do you use as a bookmark?



What do you put on your toothbrush?



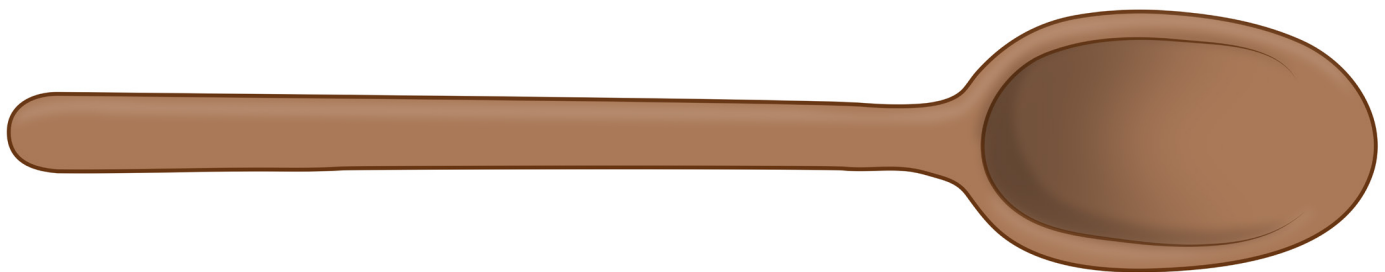
What do you put in the toaster?

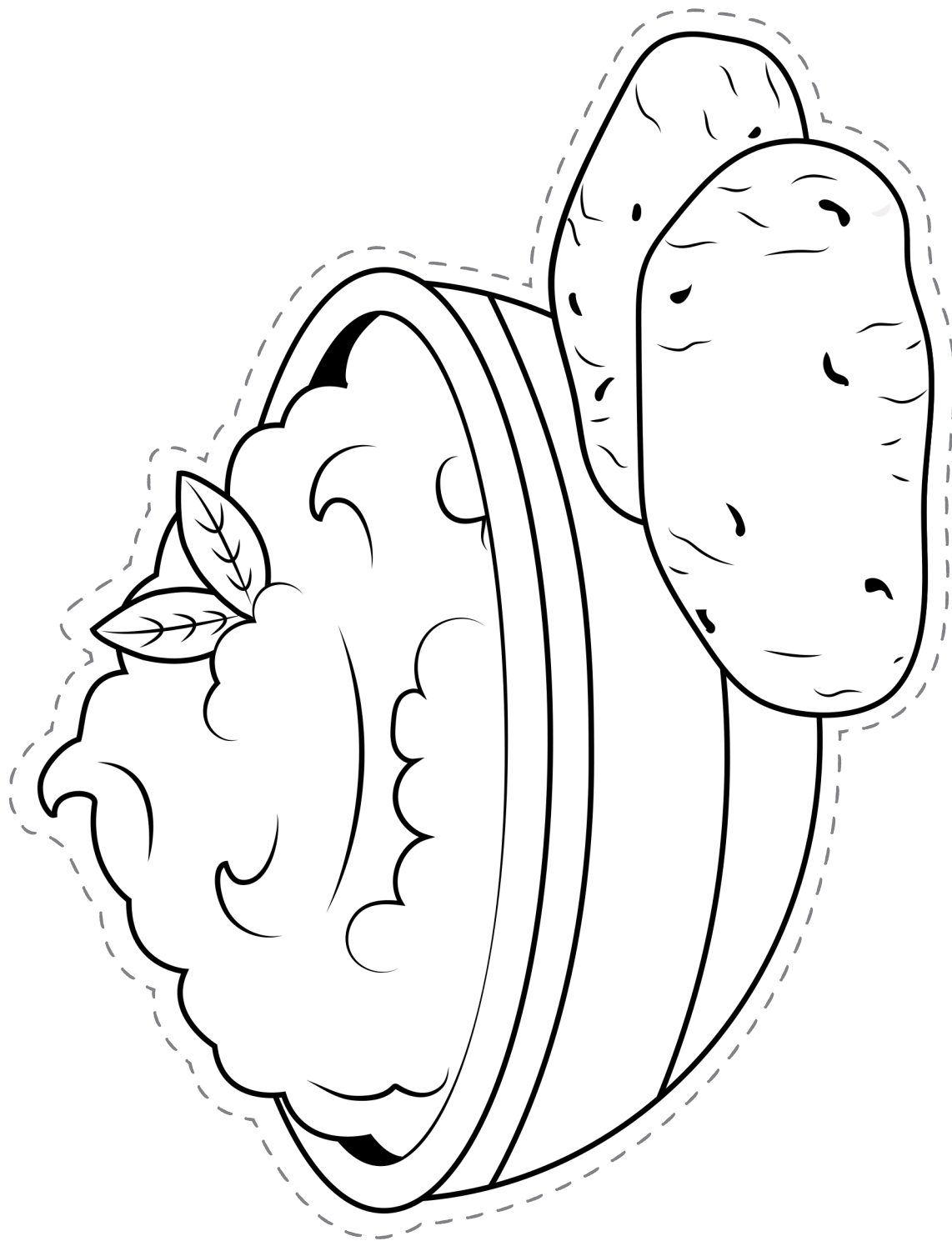


What do you use to fill a balloon?



What do you keep under your pillow?





What's your name?

What do you use to wash your hair?

What is in your pocket?

What do you want for your birthday?

What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?

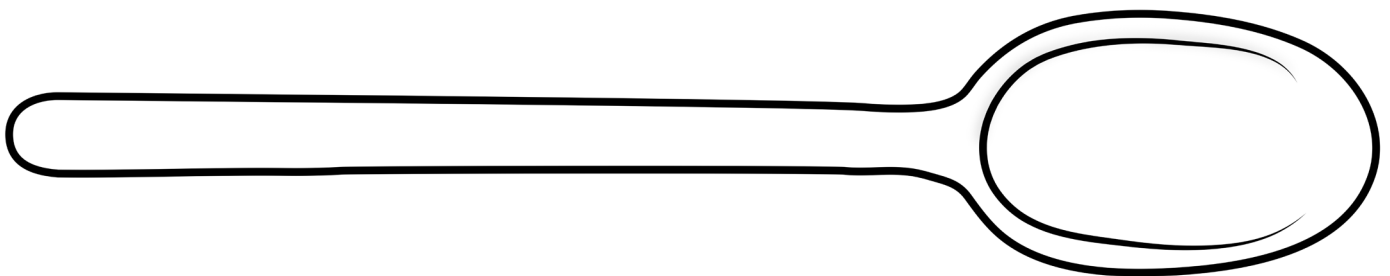
What do you use as a bookmark?

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What do you put in the toaster?

What do you use to fill a balloon?

What do you keep under your pillow?





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