



Games

Play to match colors and numbers, to compare, sort, and count, and to add and subtract.

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Match

Match the number of the top card in the pile.

Set up

Mix up the cards. Pile them face down to make the Draw pile.

Turn over the top card in the Draw pile. Place it face up to start the Match pile.



How many dots on the card in the Match pile?

Play

Take turns. On your turn:

1 Turn over the top card in the Draw pile



How many dots are on the card you turned over?

2 Look for a match

Does your card have the same number of dots as the card on top of the Match pile?

Yes: Place your card face up on the Match pile.

No: Discard your card.

Your turn is over.

End the game

Keep taking turns until the Draw pile is empty. The game is over.

Find the winner (optional)

Keep track of how many matches you make. The player who made the most matches wins.

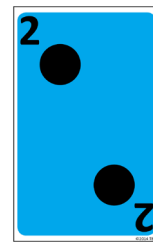
Materials

Per game

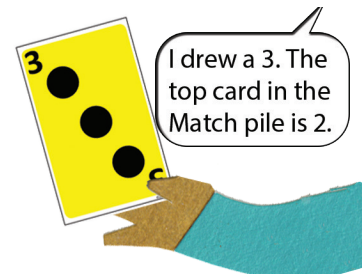
Ladybug Card Deck,
cards 0-4



Draw pile



Match pile



I got the last card from the Draw pile and it's a match!



Variations

Color match (Easy). Match color instead of number. If the top card in the Match pile is green, you can match with any green card.

Play to 6 (Medium) or Play wild (Hard). Use cards 0-6. For even more challenge, include Wild Cards.

A Wild Card can be any of the four card colors and any number from 0 to 6.



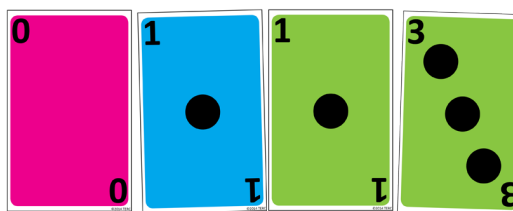
Match number or color (Hard). On each turn, match the color or the number of the top card in the Match pile. If the top card is a blue 2, you can match with any blue card or any 2.

I don't have a 2 but I have another blue card so I can use that.



Match number or color in a row (Hard). Instead of making a Match pile, make a Match Row. Start with one card face up. On each turn, look for a match on the left or right side of the row. Use cards 0-6 and Wild Cards.

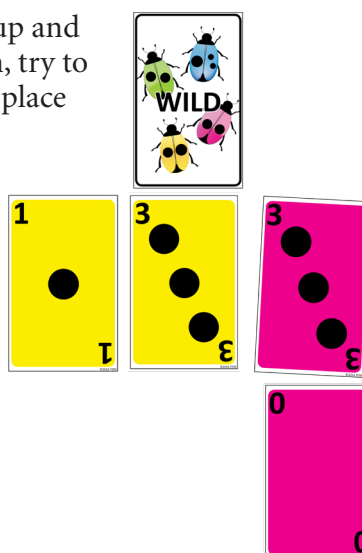
I can put my pink 3 on either end.



Play in two directions (Hard). Match across or up and down. Start with one card face up. On each turn, try to match the number of dots or the color. You can place your card one of these ways:

- above the match
- below the match
- next to the match.

Use cards 0-6 and Wild Cards.



Share the Teddy Bears

Draw a card to find out how many teddy bears to take.
If you take two, share the wealth!

Set up

Mix up the cards. Place the cards face down to make the Draw pile.

Play

Take turns. On your turn:

1 Turn over the top card in the Draw pile

2 Get your teddy bears

If you draw a 1, take one teddy bear.

If you draw a 2, take two teddy bears and:

- keep one teddy bear
- give one to the other player



How many teddy bears do you have in all?

Your turn is over.

End the game

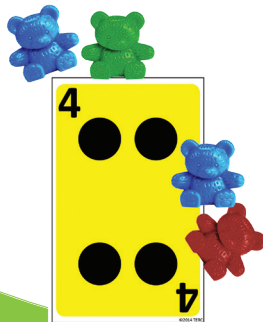
Keep taking turns until the Draw pile is empty. The game is over.

Find the winner (optional)

The player with the most teddy bears wins.

Variations

Share the teddy bears to 4 (Medium). Play with cards 0, 1, 2, and 4 in two colors (total of eight cards), and 14 teddy bears. If you draw a 4, take two teddy bears and give two to the other player. If you draw a 0, don't take any teddy bears.



Share the teddy bears to 6 (Hard). Play with cards 0, 1, 2, 4, and 6 in two colors (total of ten cards), and 26 teddy bears. If you draw a 4, take two teddy bears and give two to the other player. If you draw a 6, take three and give three to the other player. If you draw 0, don't take any teddy bears.



Materials

Per game

Ladybug Card Deck, cards 1-2 in three colors (total of six cards)

9 teddy bear or other counters



Same or Different?

Compare handfuls of beads to see if both players grabbed the same amount.

Materials

Per game

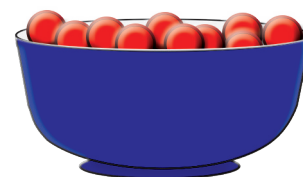
one bowl of blue beads or counters and one bowl of red beads or counters

Easy. Use objects sized so a child can hold 2-4 in one hand.

Medium. Use objects sized so a child can hold 5-6 in one hand.

Set up

Each player chooses a bowl of objects to use.



Play

1 Grab a handful

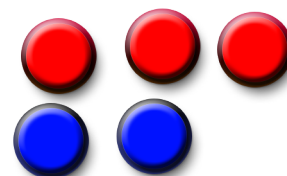
Each player grabs a handful from a different bowl.

2 Match them up

Lay out your objects and pair them up.



Can you match each red one with a blue one?
Are there any left over?



3 Same or different?

Decide if your handfuls have the same or a different amount.

End the game

Put your objects back in the bowl. The game is over.

Find the winner (optional)

At the start of the game, decide who will be Same and who will be Different. If the handfuls have the same amount, Same wins. Otherwise, Different wins.



Variations

Match up (Easy, Medium). Try this with plastic bottle caps in one bowl and beads in the other. Match them up by placing the beads in the bottle caps.

Count it out (Easy, Medium). Count to find out how many each person has.

Save the game (Easy, Medium). Glue your objects on paper to show how you matched them up.

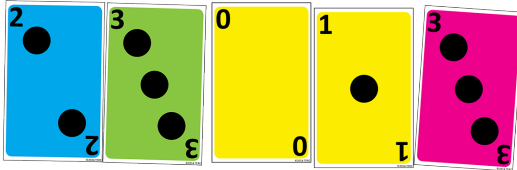
Total of 10 (Hard). Play until you grab handful that total exactly 10.

Secret Card

Ask yes-or-no questions to identify the Secret Card.

Set up

Spread out the cards face up.



Decide who will pick the first Secret Card. Each player will have a turn.

Play

1 One player secretly picks a card

Do not remove the card from the layout.

2 The other player asks a yes-or-no question

Ask a question to try to identify the secret card. Ask about features of the cards. Do not ask if a certain card is the secret one.



*Is it blue?
Does it have two dots?
Does it have more than two dots?*

3 Answer and rule out cards

The player who picked the secret card answers the question and removes any cards that were ruled out. For instance, if someone asks "Is it blue?" and the answer is no, remove the blue cards.



How do you know which cards to remove?

Materials

Per game

Medium. Ladybug Card Deck, any 3-4 cards.

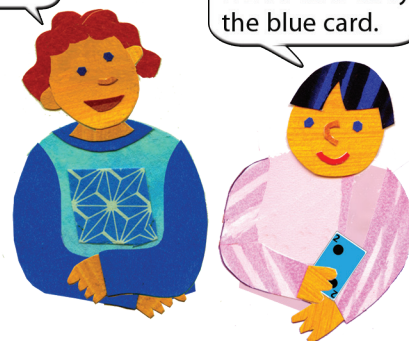
Hard. Ladybug Card Deck, any 5-6 cards.

I'm secretly picking the green 3.



Is it blue?

No. I'll take away the blue card.



4 Keep asking and answering

Play until the secret card is the only card left.

End the game

The game is over when both players have had a turn to pick the secret card.

Find the winner (optional)

Keep track of how many questions you ask to identify the secret card. The player who identifies the card with the fewest questions wins.

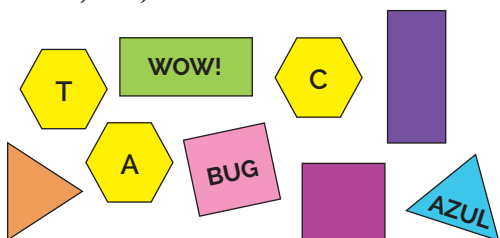
Variations

Tell someone (Medium, Hard). After you secretly pick a card, whisper your choice to an adult. The adult can remind you if you forget what you picked.

Secret button or Secret shape (Medium, Hard). Play with buttons or with word, letter, or blank shapes on pp. 51-70.

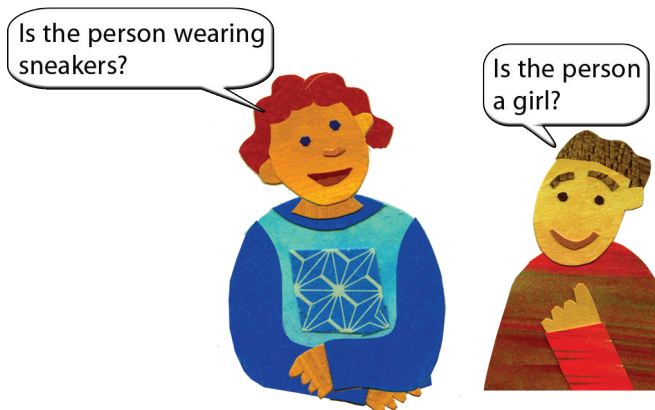


Ask yes-or-no questions about colors, number of holes, size, or letters.



Play with a group (Hard). Play with three or four players. One picks the secret card; the others take turns asking yes-or-no questions. The player who narrows the layout down to the secret card wins.

Secret person (Medium, Hard). Play with 4-10 people. An adult secretly picks one person in the group. To narrow down to the secret person, players ask yes-or-no questions.



Piggy Bank

Take turns putting pennies in the piggy bank. Can you fill the bank?

Set up

Mix up the cards. Pile them face down next to the piggy bank to start the Draw pile.

Play

Take turns. On your turn:

1 Turn over the top card in the Draw pile

2 Get your pennies

If you draw 1, take one penny.

If you draw 2, take two pennies.



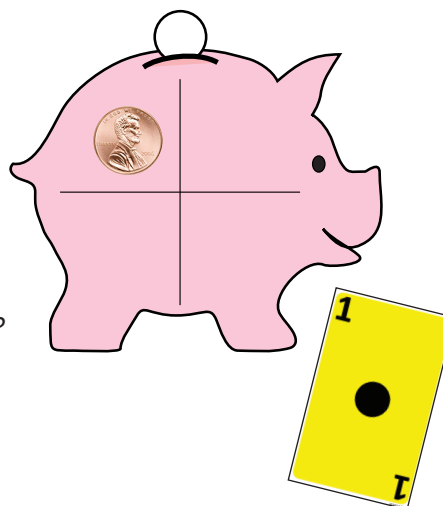
*How many dots on the card?
How many pennies do you take?*

3 Put your pennies in the piggy bank

Put one penny in each space in the piggy bank. If you have an extra penny, put it aside. Your turn is over.



How many spaces are full? Are any empty?



End the game

Keep taking turns until the piggy bank is full. The game is over.

Find the winner (optional)

The player to put the last penny in the piggy bank wins.

Variations

Piggy bank 6 (Medium). Play with cards 0-3. Use the Piggy Bank 6 Board (p. 9).

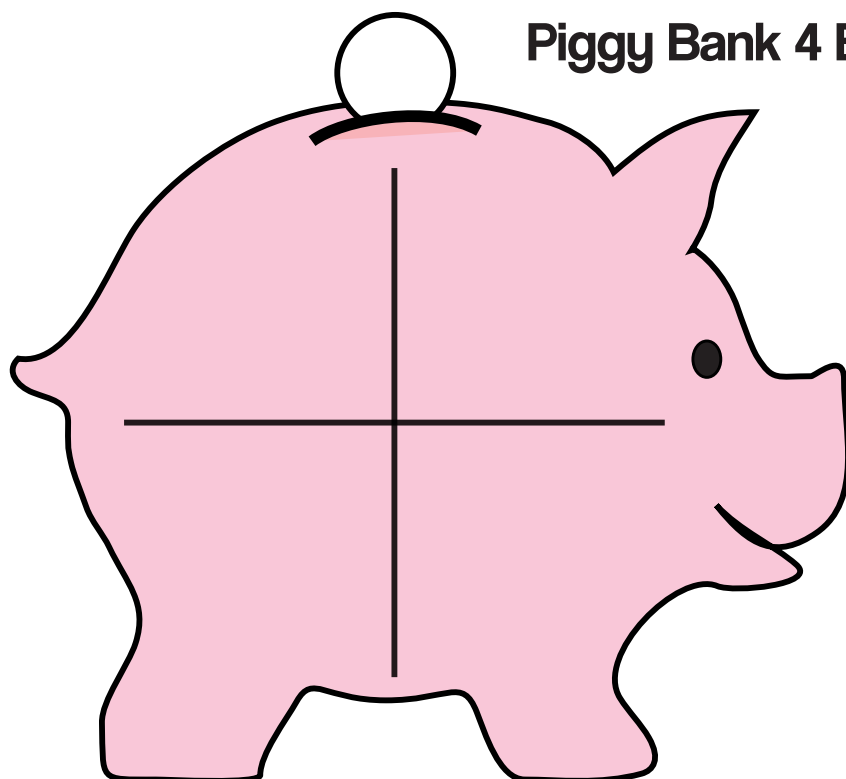
Piggy bank 10 (Hard). Play with cards 0-6 and Wild Cards. Draw a piggy bank board with 10 spaces.



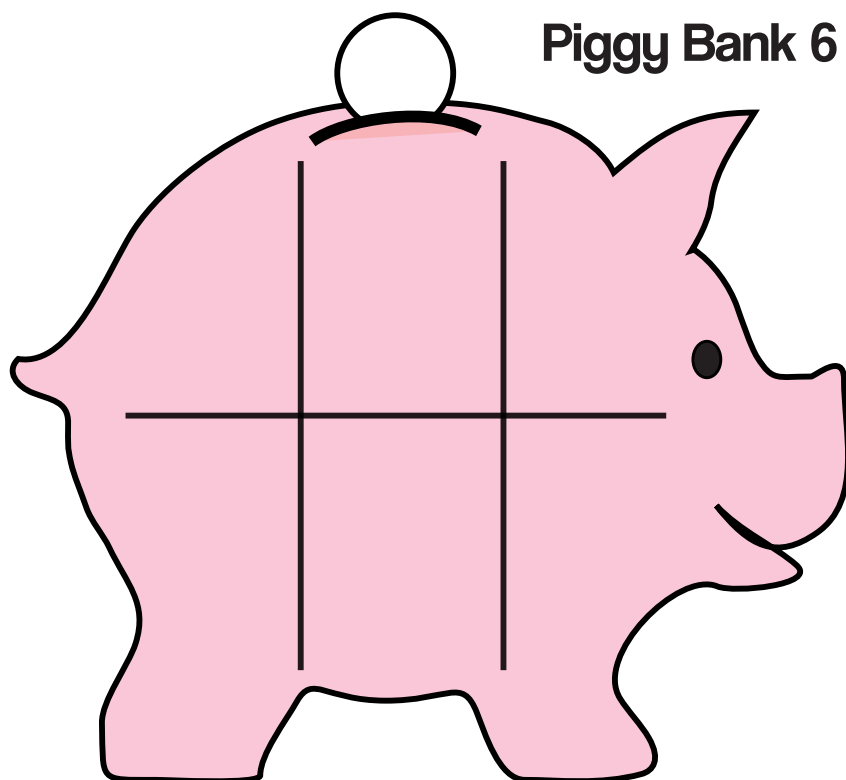
A Wild Card can be any of the four card colors and any number from 0 to 6.

Nickels and dimes (Hard). Play with nickels or dimes. Count by 5s or 10s to find how much you have in all.

Piggy Bank 4 Board



Piggy Bank 6 Board



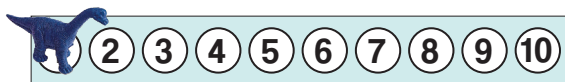
Dinosaur Dash

Take turns helping the dinosaur dash to 10.

Set up

Mix up the cards. Place the cards face down to make the Draw pile.

Put the dinosaur on number 1 on the game board.



Play

Take turns. On your turn:

1 Pick a card

2 Dash



What number does your card show?

Read the number on your card. Help the dinosaur dash that many spaces.

If the dinosaur:

- reaches 10 (or more), the game is over.
- reaches a number less than 10, your turn is over.



How far is the dinosaur from 10?

Materials

Per game

Ladybug Card Deck, cards 1-3

Dinosaur Dash 10 Board (p. 11)

dinosaur or other counter



End the game

Keep taking turns. The game is over when the dinosaur reaches 10.

Find the winner (optional)

The player to get the dinosaur to 10 wins the game.

Variations

Dinosaur dash 20 (Hard). Use the Dinosaur Dash 20 Board (p. 11). Play with cards 0-3 or cards 0-6.

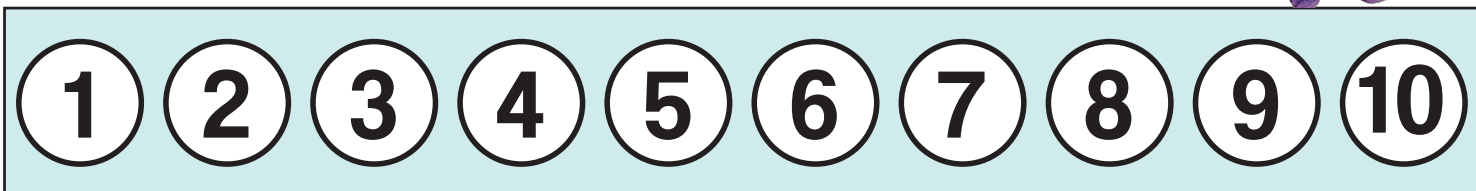
Double dinosaurs (Medium, Hard). Each player has a dinosaur. Move your own dinosaur on your turn. First person to get to the end of the board wins.

Dinosaur dash 100 (Hard). For extra challenge, use the Dinosaur Dash 100 Board (p. 12). Use cards 0-6 and Wild Cards. On each turn, players draw two cards. They find the total and move that many spaces on the board.

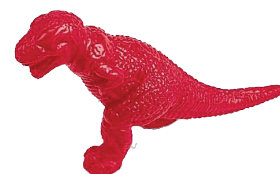
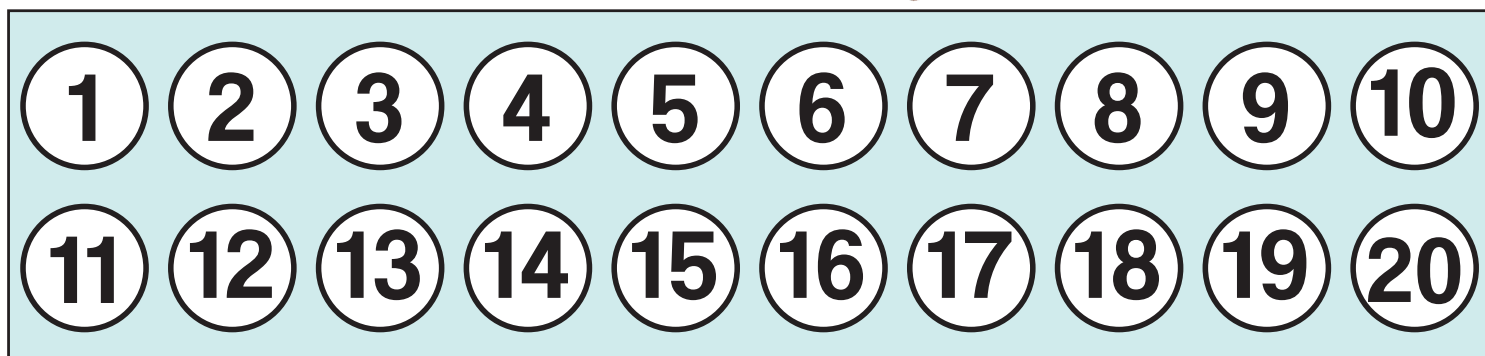
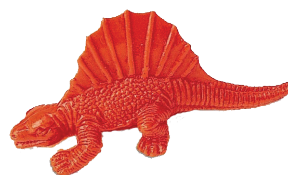




Dinosaur Dash 10 Board



Dinosaur Dash 20 Board



Dinosaur Dash 100 Board



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	20
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

Hide, Share, and Compare

One, two, three—share and compare. Do your fingers match your partner's?

Set up

Sit or stand facing your partner.

Materials

none

Play

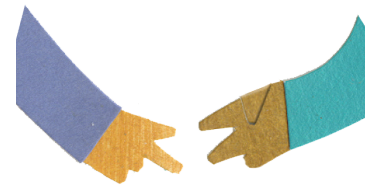
1 Each player secretly picks a number

Secretly pick 1, 2, or 3. Hide your secret number of fingers behind your back so your partner can't see.



2 One, two, three, show!

On the count of three, hold out your fingers.



3 Same or different?



Do we have the same number of fingers out?

Compare to see if you match.

End the game

Shake out your fingers! The game is over.

Find the winner (optional)

At the start of the game, decide who will be Same and who will be Different. If you match, Same wins. Otherwise, Different wins. Then, switch roles and play again.

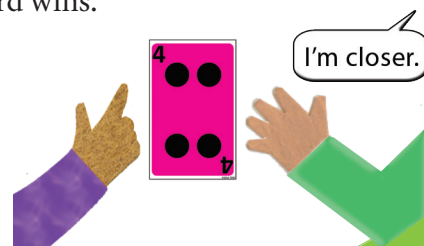
Variations

Play with counters (Easy, Medium, Hard). Instead of using your fingers, hold, share, and compare a secret number of counters.

Play your hand (Medium). Play with 1 to 5 fingers.

Play two hands (Hard). Play with 0 to 10 fingers.

Closest match (Hard). Mix up Ladybug cards 0-6 and pile them face down. Each player holds out between 0 and 6 fingers. Then, they turn over the top card in the deck. The player closest to number on the card wins.



Empty the Toy Box

Teddy bears are escaping the toy box. Try to catch the last one.

Set up

Put one teddy bear in each space in the toy box.

Play

Take turns. On your turn:

1 Plan

On each turn, players will take one or two teddy bears. Try to plan ahead so you take the last one.



*If you take two, how many will be left?
Could you get the last one?*

2 Take one or two teddy bears



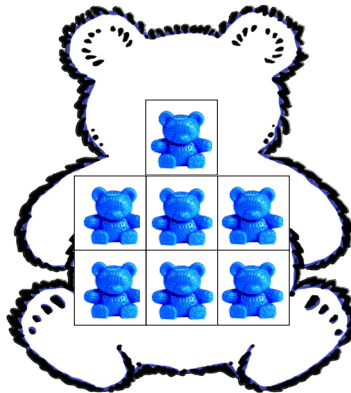
How many teddy bears are left in the toy box?

End the game

Keep taking turns until the toy box is empty. The game is over.

Find the winner (optional)

The player who takes the last teddy bear wins.



Materials

Per game

7 teddy bear or other counters

Empty the Toy Box Board (p. 15)

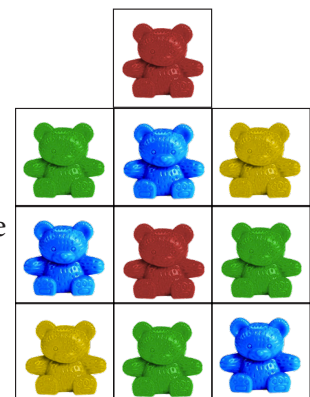
There are 4 left. If I take 2, Mellie will take the last 2 and the game will be over.



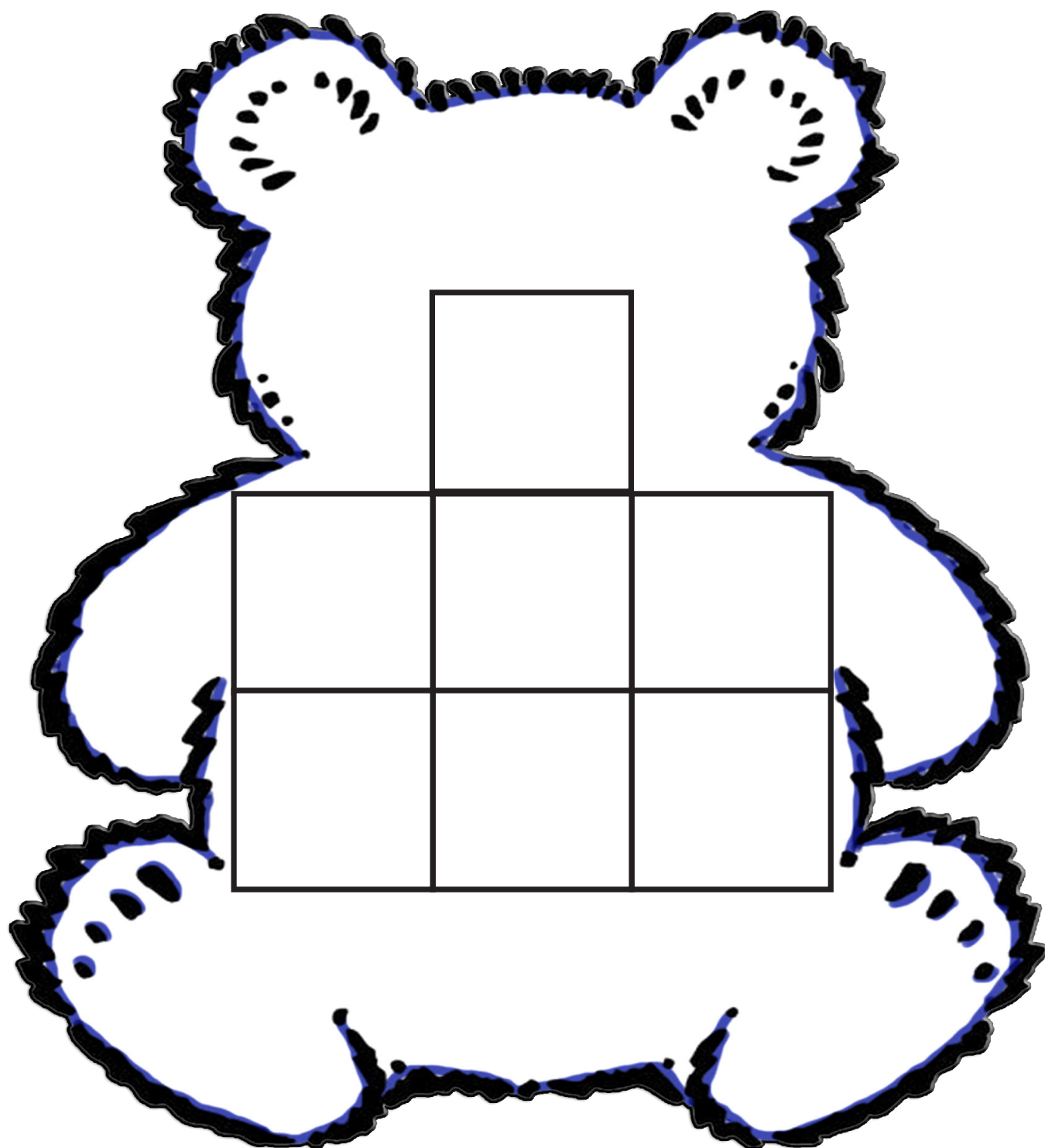
Variations

Fill the toy box (Medium, Hard). Start with seven teddy bears and an empty toy box. On each turn, players can put one or two teddy bears in the toy box. The player to put in the last teddy bear wins.

Ten teddy bears (Hard). Make a "toy box" with ten squares and put a teddy bear in each one. On each turn, take one, two, or three teddy bears. The player who takes the last teddy bear wins.



Empty the Toy Box Board



Flip and Match

Flip two cards to make a match with this memory game.

Set up

Mix the cards up and lay them out face down:

Easy. Two rows of three cards each.

Medium. Two rows of five cards each.

Hard. Four rows of four cards each.



Materials

Per game

Easy. Ladybug Card Deck, cards 1-3, in two colors (total of 6 cards).

Medium. Ladybug Card Deck, cards 0-4, in two colors (total of 10 cards).

Hard. Ladybug Card Deck, cards 0-3, in four colors (total of 16 cards).

Play

Take turns. On your turn:

1 Turn over two cards



*How many dots on the card you turned over?
Do you remember where the other 3 card is?*

2 Look for a match

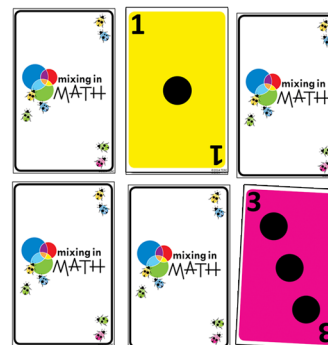
Do both cards have the same number of dots?

Yes: Take both cards out of the layout. Keep the pair.

No: Turn the cards face down in the layout. Make sure to put them back where you found them.

Your turn is over.

Not the same
number of dots.
No match.



End the game

Keep taking turns. The game is over when no cards are left in the layout.

Find the winner (optional)

The player who made the most pairs wins.

Variations

Match colors (Easy). Make pairs with matching colors instead of matching numbers.

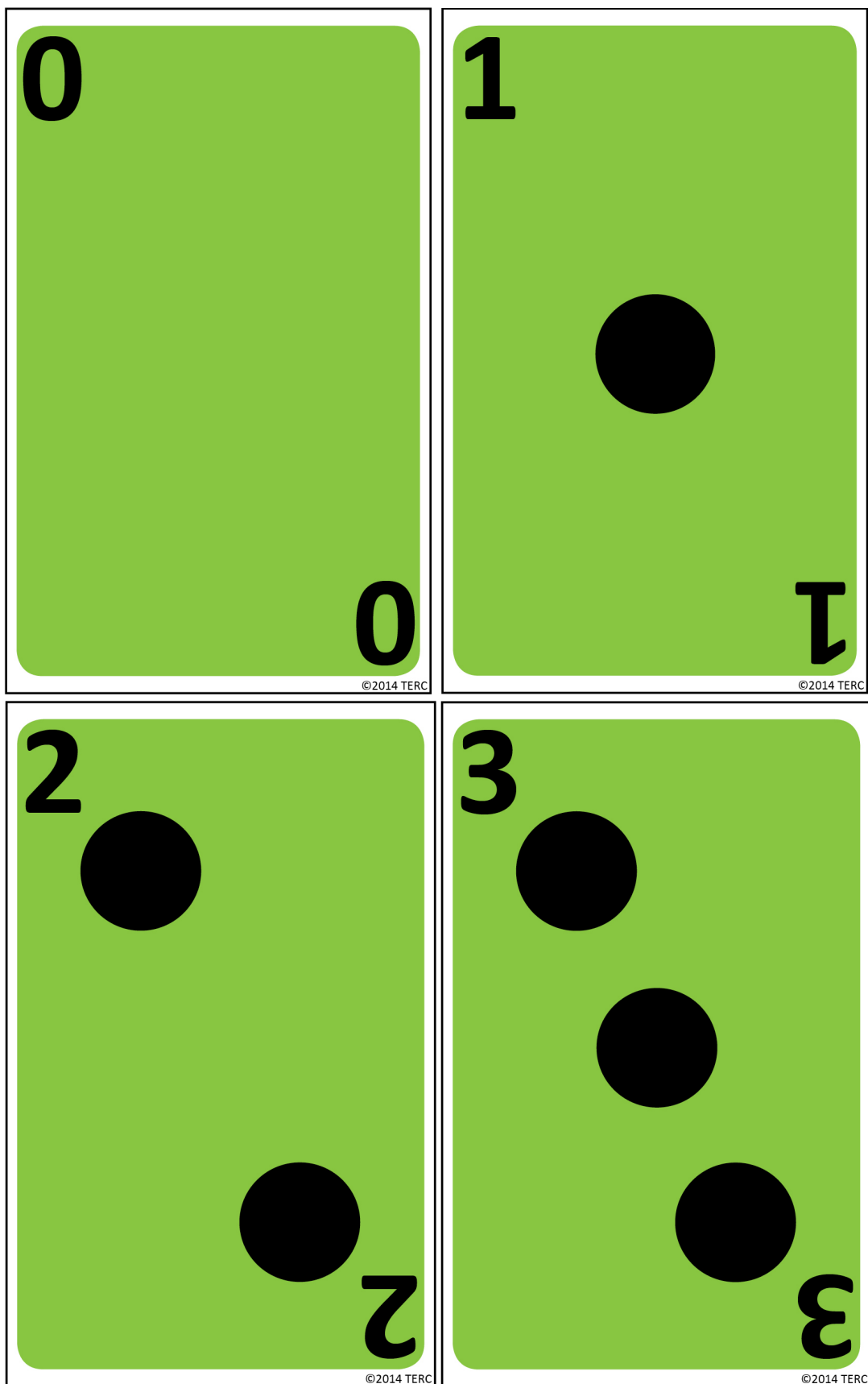
Exact match (Easy, Medium). Use two Ladybug Card Decks. Include duplicate cards in the layout. Match color and number to make a pair.

Find five (Hard). Lay out cards 0-5 in two colors. Look for pairs of cards that add up to 5. For even more challenge, use Wild Cards.

A Wild Card can be any of the four card colors and any number from 0 to 6.



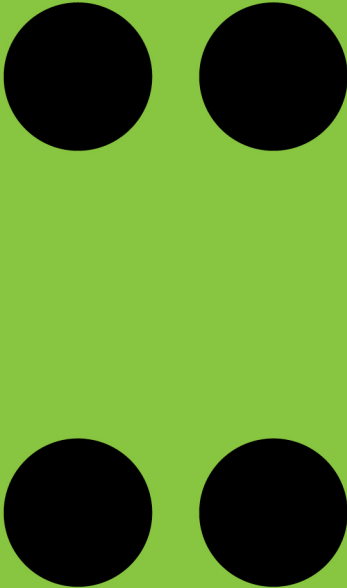
Ladybug Card Deck



✂ Cut out and back each card with cardboard or construction paper.

Ladybug Card Deck

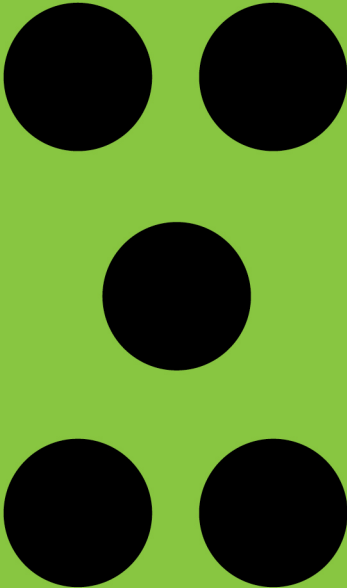
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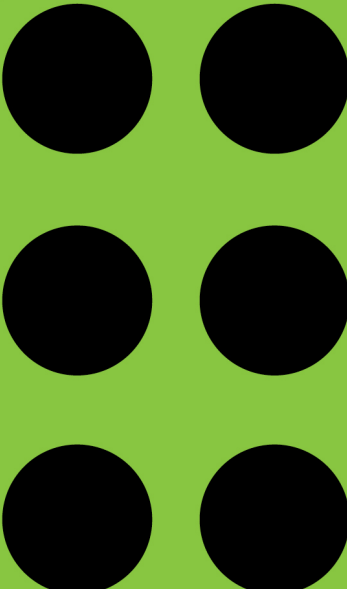
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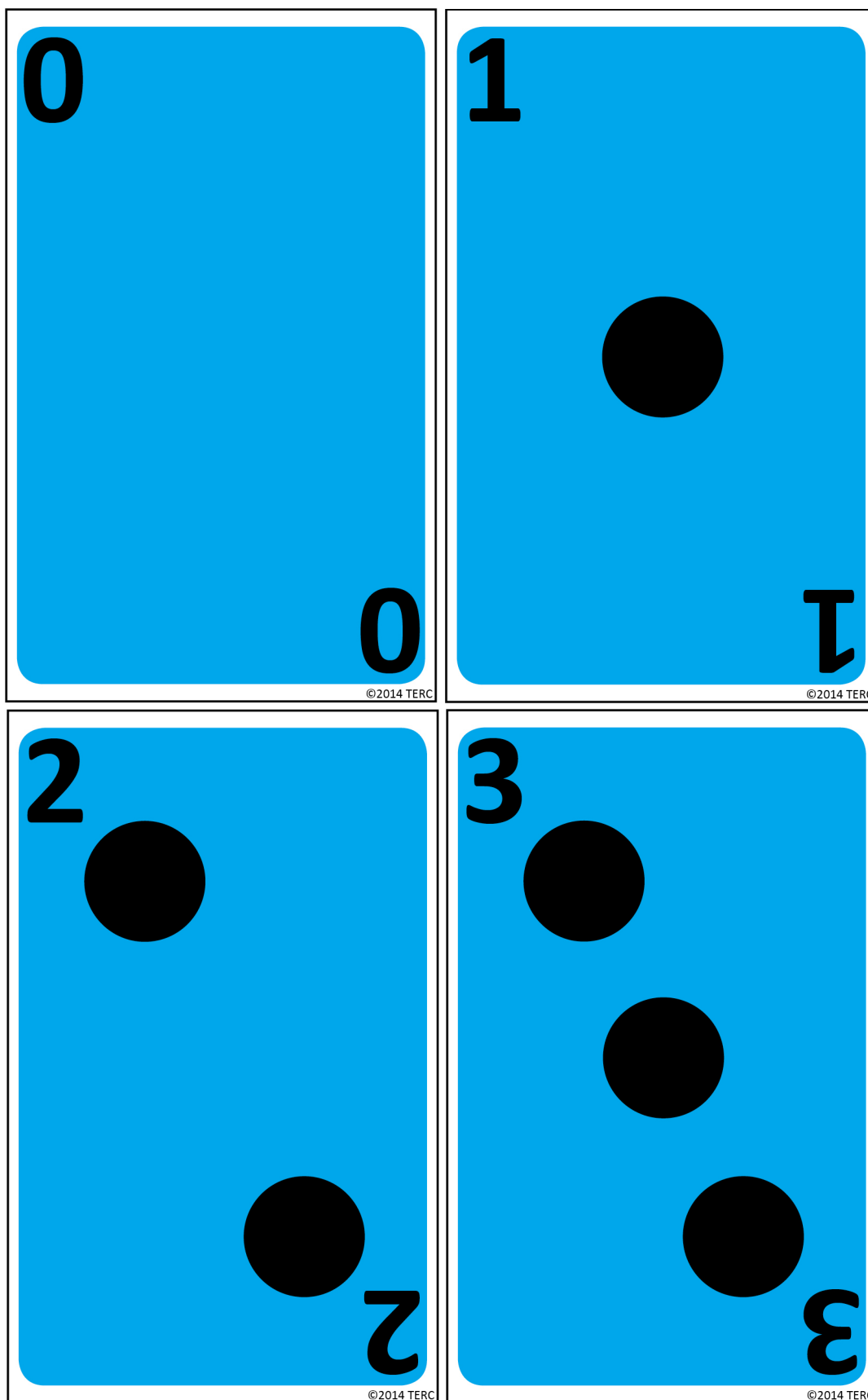


WILD

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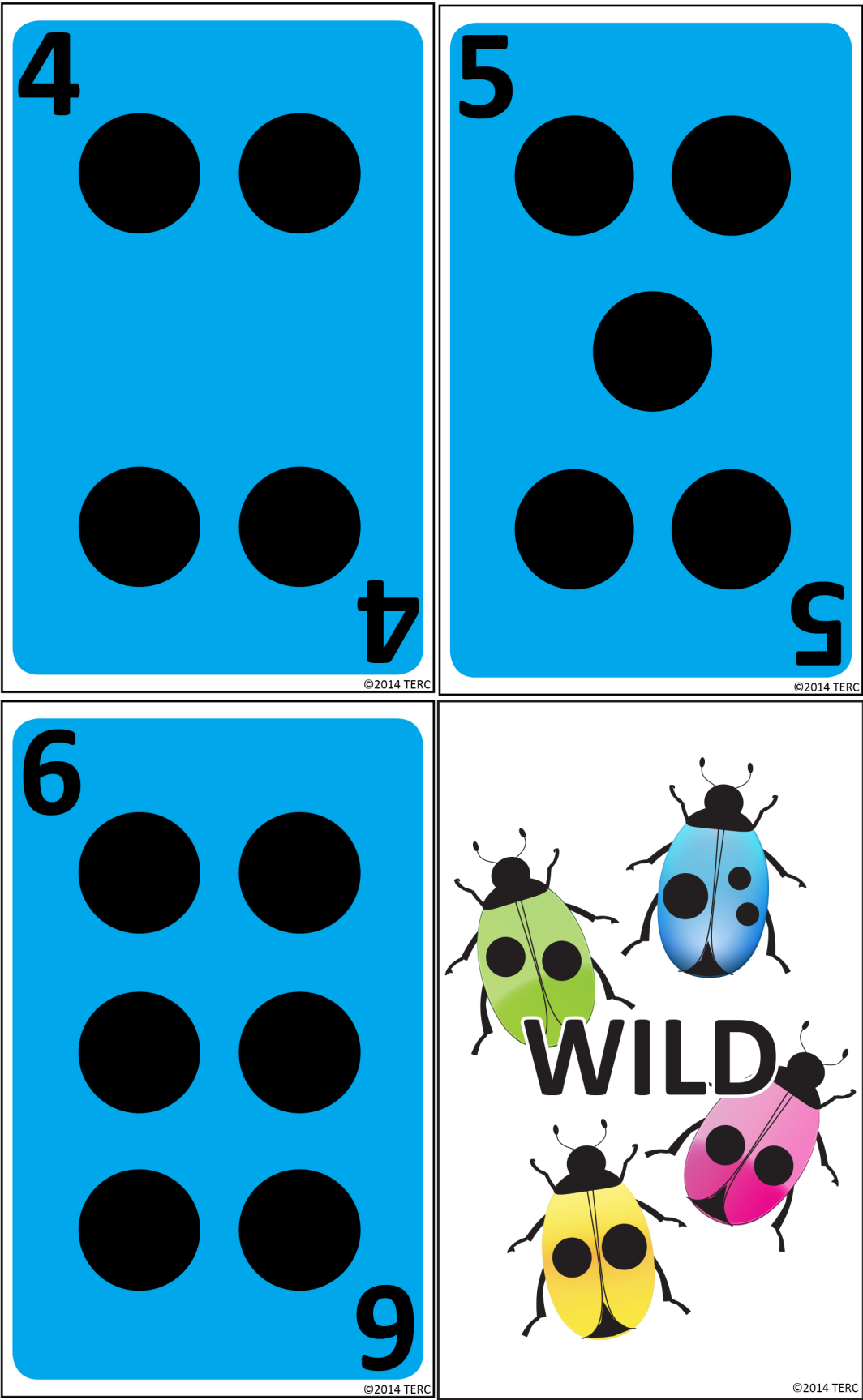
✂ Cut out and back each card with cardboard or construction paper.

Ladybug Card Deck



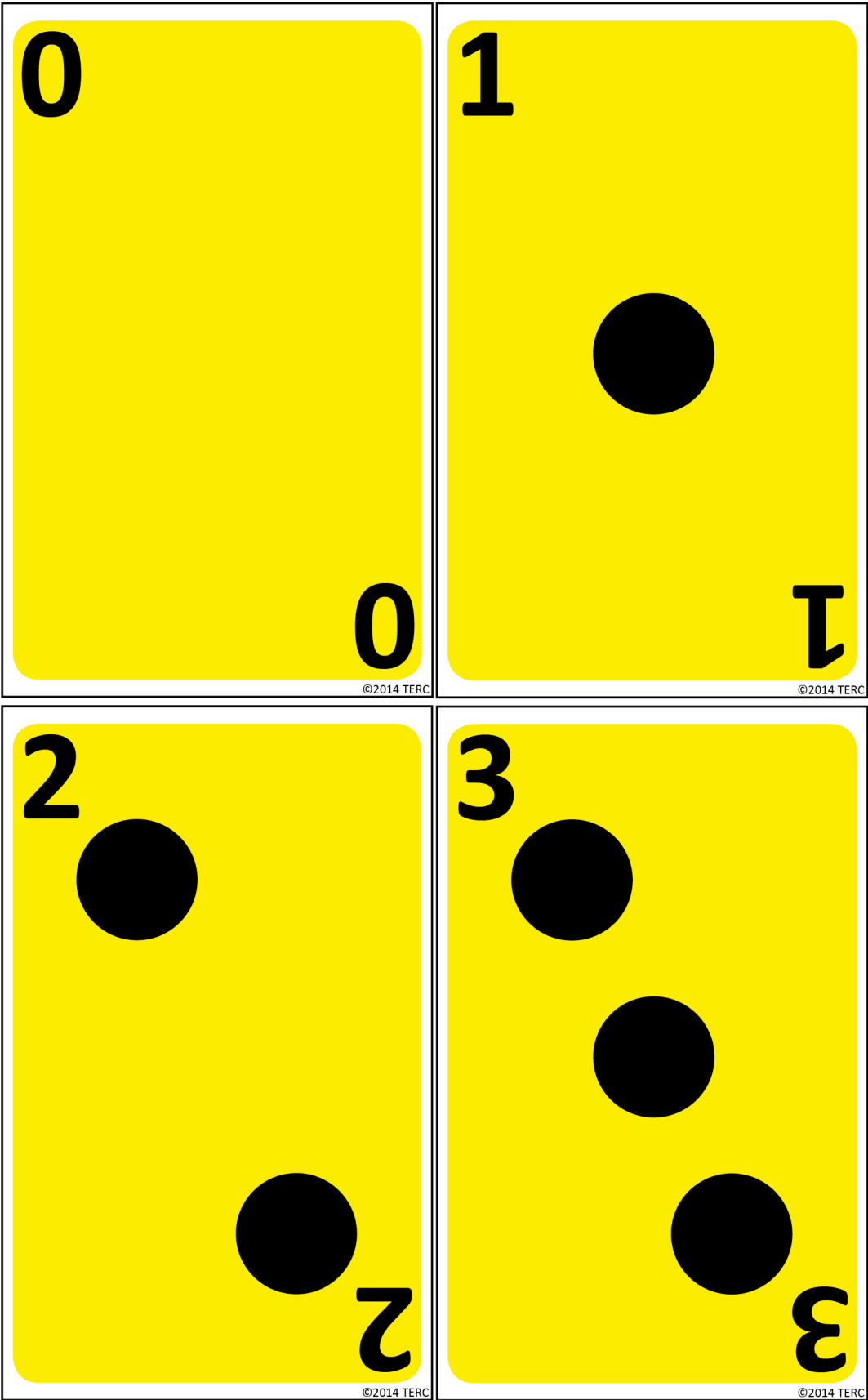
✂ Cut out and back each card with cardboard or construction paper.

Ladybug Card Deck



✂ Cut out and back each card with cardboard or construction paper.

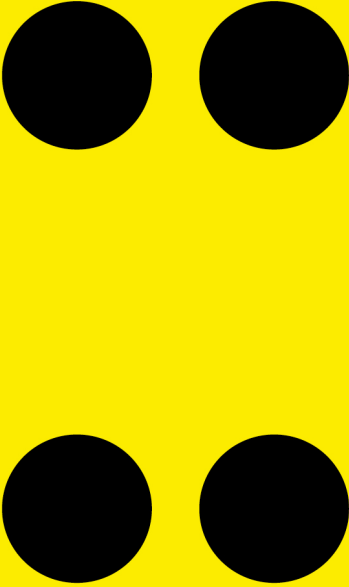
Ladybug Card Deck



✂ Cut out and back each card with cardboard or construction paper.

Ladybug Card Deck

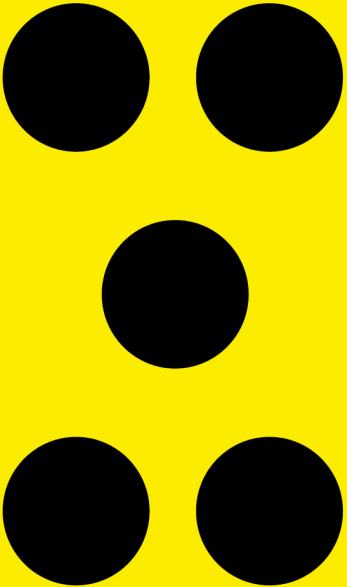
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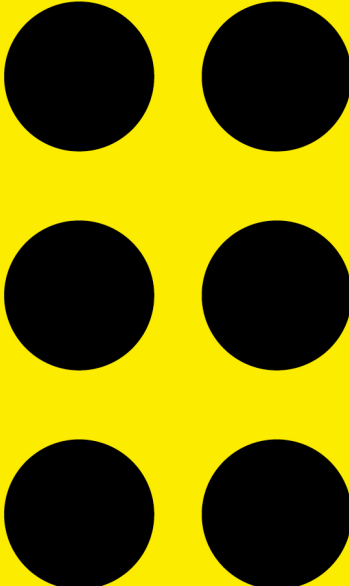
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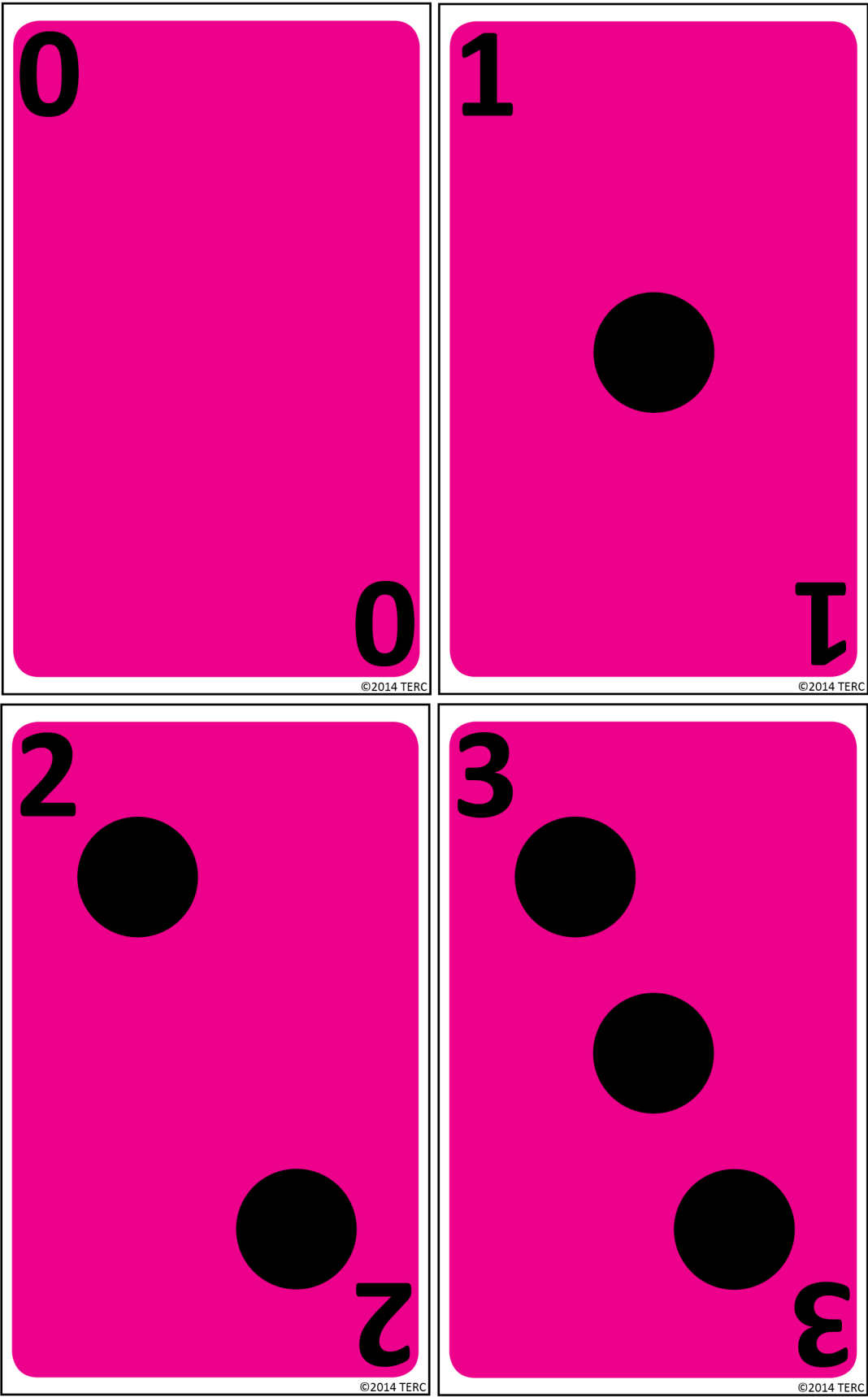


WILD

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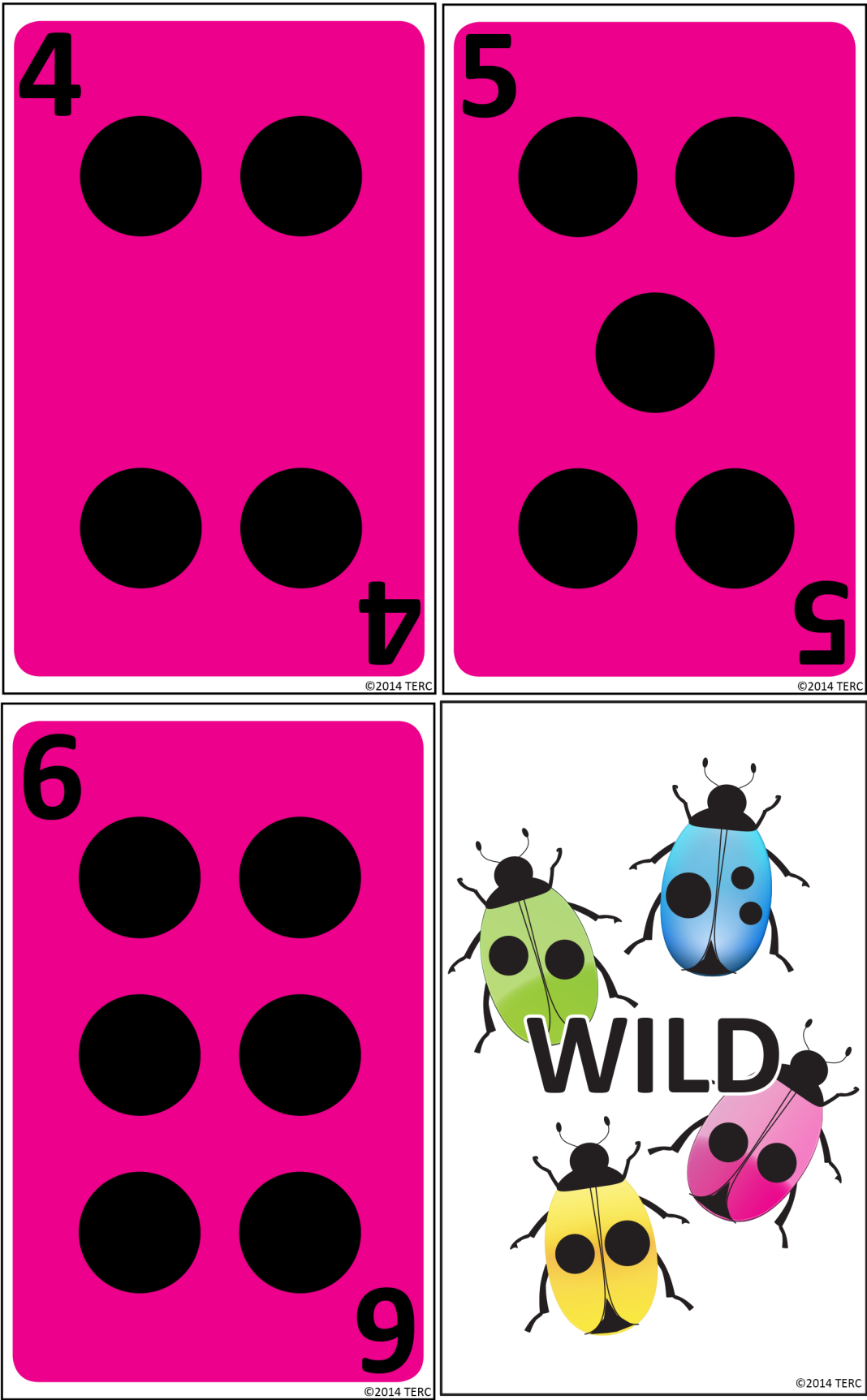
✂ Cut out and back each card with cardboard or construction paper.

Ladybug Card Deck



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