

The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 1

www.kanepress.com

Activities for *The Mousier the Merrier!*

DIG FOR BURIED TREASURE!

For each child (or small group), you will need:

- ▶ A printout of the activity sheet on page 2, showing 10 numbered boxes
- ▶ 15 countable objects such as buttons or pennies (objects should all be of the same kind)
- ▶ One plastic spoon
- ▶ A container filled with small beans, rice, or sand, in which you have buried up to 10 objects (container should be deep enough for "digging")
- ▶ When the first counter is found, have the child put that counter in box 1 on the activity sheet and say the number aloud. Each of the next counters found should be placed in boxes 2, 3, and so on.
- ▶ When children are finished digging, have them count up all the "treasures." Ask: "How many counters have you found altogether? Do you think you've found them all? How can you tell?" (Possible response: *There is a button in each box on my paper.*)

Dig Into It!

- ▶ Give each child or group a copy of page 2 and a plastic spoon. Explain that there are small objects buried in the container and that the child's job is to *carefully* dig in and find each one. (Note: For small groups, children can take turns digging for "treasure.")
- ▶ Out of the child's sight, bury a different number of counters (up to 10) and repeat the activity. Then, point to each object as you and the child count together. Ask, "How many counters did you find all together? Did you find more or fewer than you did the last time?"

Bonus: Prepare the container again, now burying up to 15 assorted small objects. Give each child a copy of page 3 and crayons or markers with which to draw each object as it is uncovered, one drawing to a box. When the treasure hunt is finished, count the objects and repeat the questions.



The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 2

www.kanepress.com

For use with
DIG FOR BURIED TREASURE!

1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10

The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 3

www.kanepress.com



For use with **DIG FOR BURIED TREASURE!**



5	10	15
4	9	14
3	8	13
2	7	12
1	6	11



The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 4

www.kanepress.com

NUMBER MAZE!

For each child you will need:



- ▶ One copy of page 5
- ▶ A crayon or pencil

- ▶ Page 5 shows two number mazes: "Help Wanda Find Her Book!" and "Help Albert Find the Cheese!"
- ▶ Have children start with Wanda and draw a path to her book by counting the numbered squares in order from 1 to 15. As children follow the path, they may trace each number with a crayon or pencil and say the number aloud. Did Wanda find her book?
- ▶ Now repeat the activity with Albert's maze. Did Albert find the cheese?

Challenge:

Ask children, "Now can you trace each path backward? Say the numbers aloud from 15 to 1 as you go along!" Tell children they may use the number line at the side of the page to help.



The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 5

www.kanepress.com

For use with **NUMBER MAZE!**

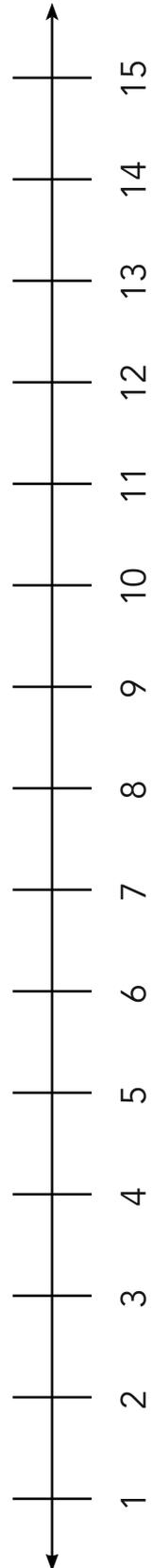
Help Wanda Find Her Book!

 START		3	14	11	12
		2	9	10	13
1	6	12	8	6	14
2	3	6	7	5	15
9	4	5	14	FINISH 	
10	3	8	1		

Help Albert Find the Cheese!

	2	3	14	15		
	11	12	13	10		
	10	9	8	4	12	8
	8	14	7	6	5	7
	2		3	4	15	
	1	1	8	6		

number line



The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 6

www.kanepress.com

ALL ABOARD THE MOUSE EXPRESS!

- ▶ Print out a copy of pages 7 and 8 for each child. (Children may color in the mice and the train if they wish.) Cut out the 15 mice and the three sections of the Mouse Express train.
- ▶ Have children put the first section of the train (with five cars) in front of them on the table. Now have them find the mice numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
- ▶ Tell children when they hear the call for "all aboard" to put one mouse on each of the five train cars. The mice should be in order from 1 to 5. Now call, "**ALL ABOARD THE MOUSE EXPRESS!**"
- ▶ Next, have children line up the second section of the train at the end of the first section. Have them find the mice numbered 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
- ▶ Call out, "**ALL ABOARD THE MOUSE EXPRESS!**" Then have children put the new mice in order on the empty train cars.
- ▶ Finally, have children add the third section of the train. Call out, "**ALL ABOARD THE MOUSE EXPRESS!**" and have them put the rest of the mice in order onto the empty train cars.
- ▶ Together, count ALL the mice aloud from 1 to 15 and then say, "**ALL ABOARD THE MOUSE EXPRESS! CHOO CHOO!**"

Bonus:

Starting with 1, assign a different number to each child, and have him or her write that number in large print on a piece of paper. (If there are more than 15 children, you may wish to draw a large number line that they may refer to, or divide them into groups on a different sides of the room.)

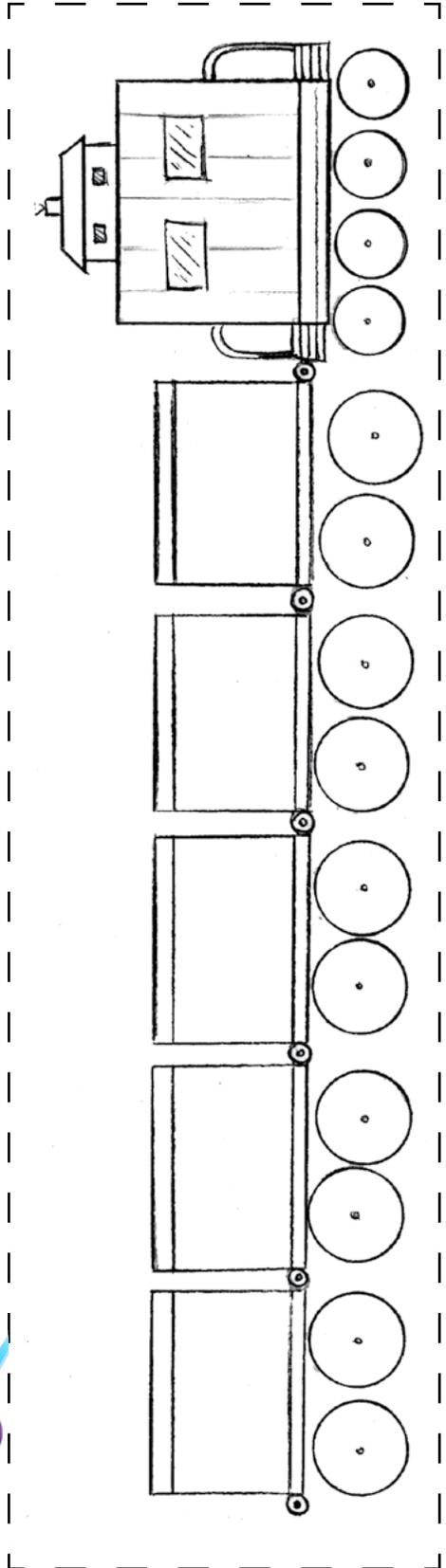
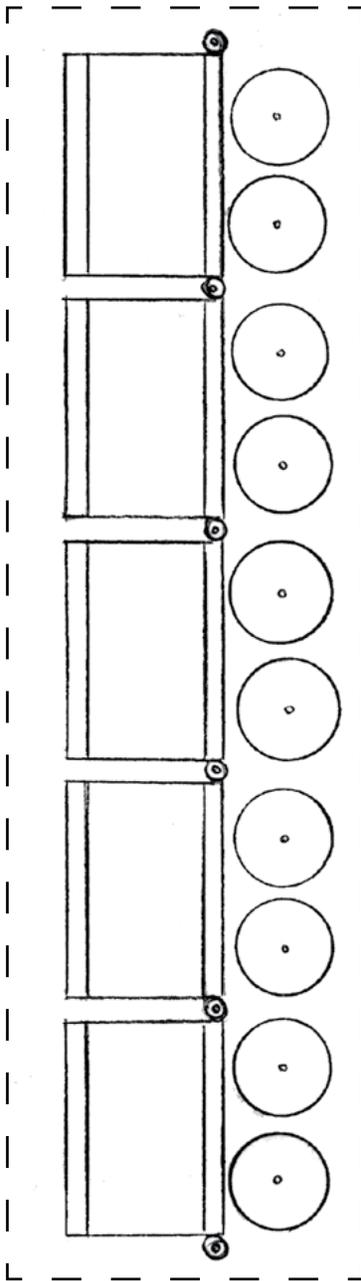
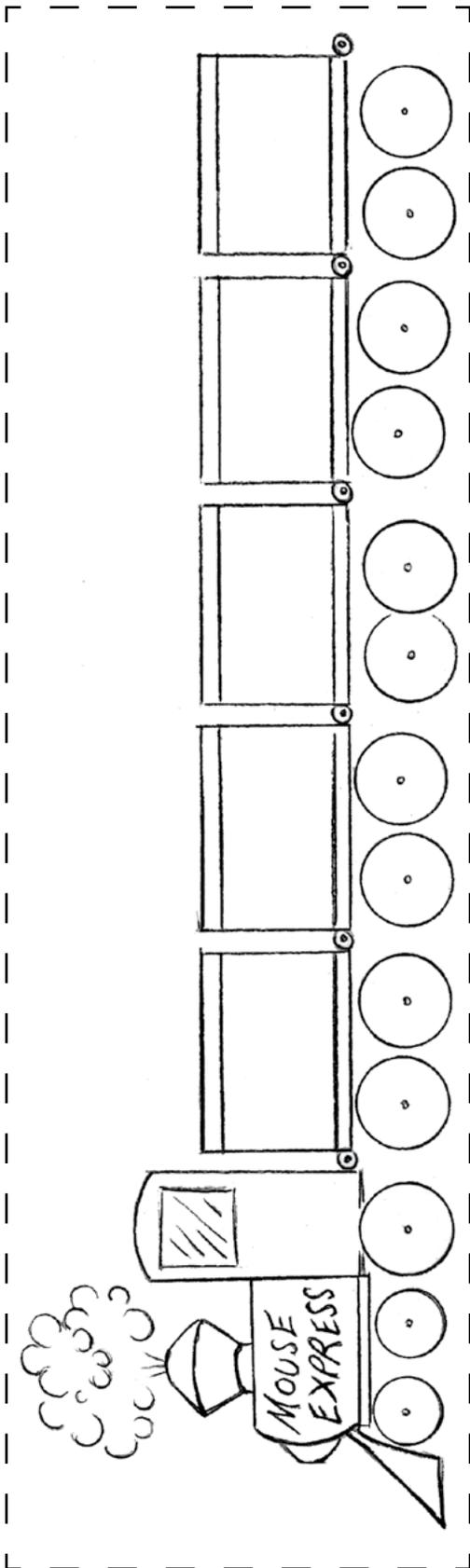
Now call "**ALL ABOARD THE KID EXPRESS!**" and have children line themselves up in number order. When everyone is lined up, together call out, "**CHOO CHOO!**" as the Kid Express chugs around the room!



The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 7

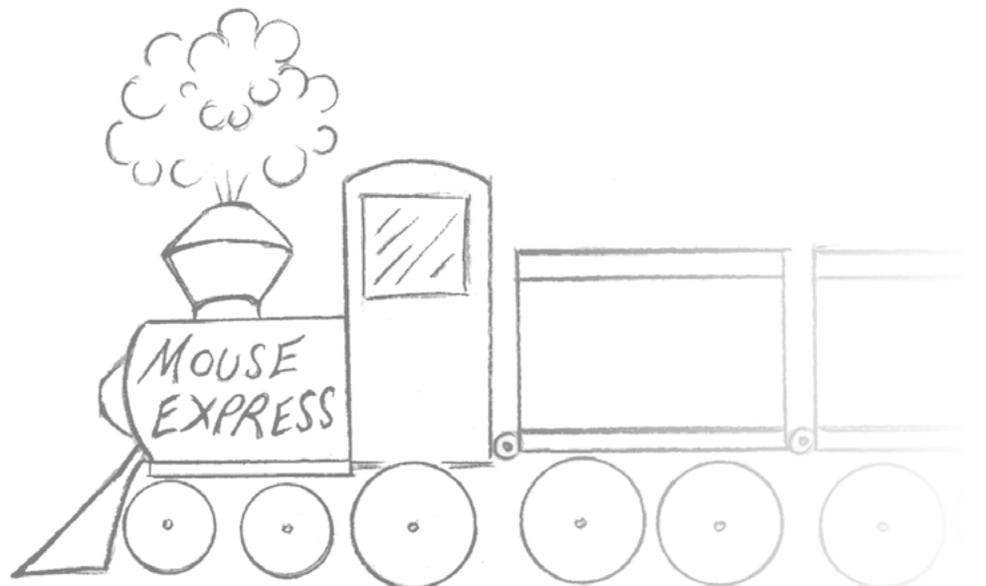
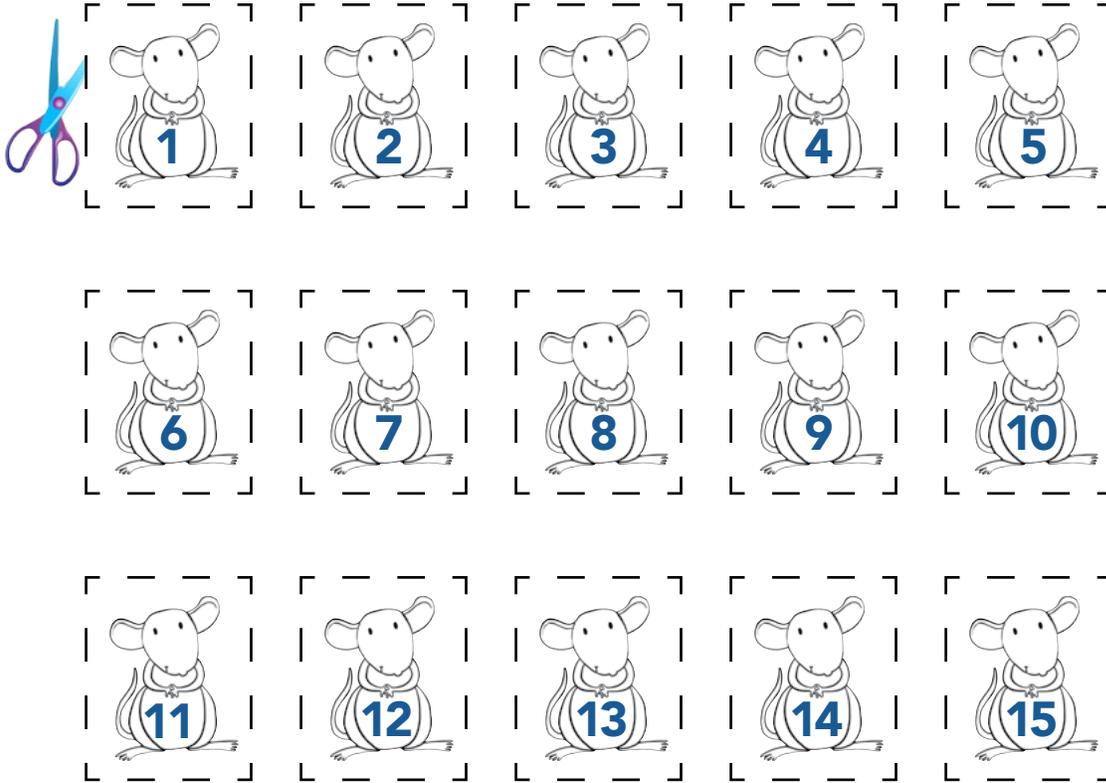
www.kanepress.com



The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 8

www.kanepress.com



The Mousier the Merrier!

Printable Activity Page 9

www.kanepress.com

For use with the **TRY THIS!** activity on page 31 of *The Mousier the Merrier!*

