

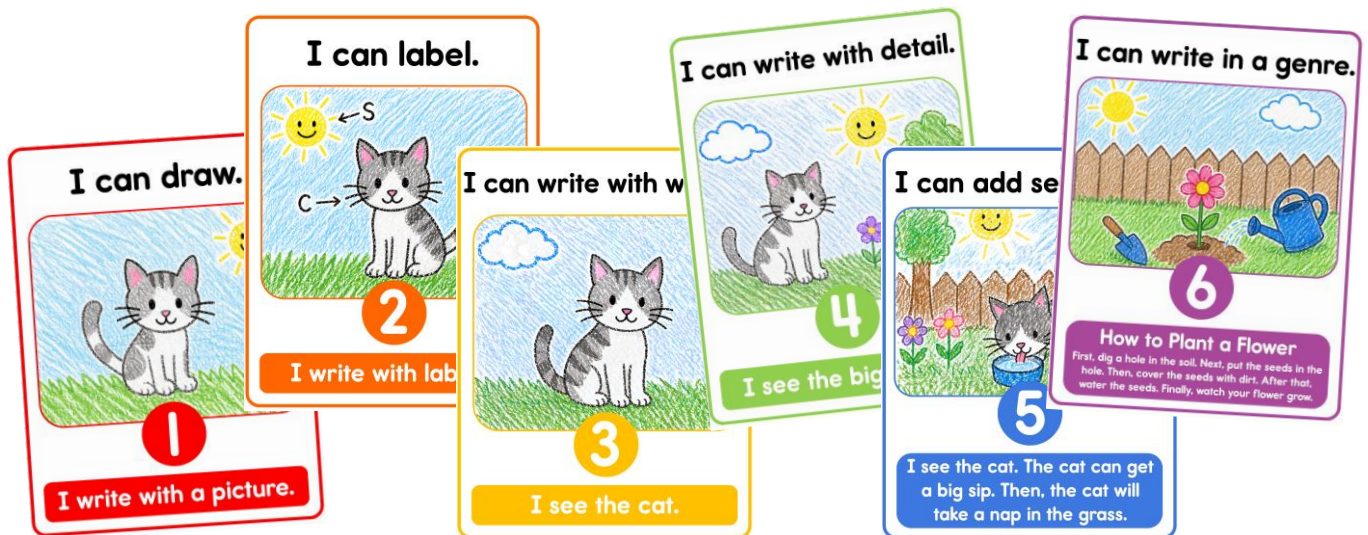
FREE DOWNLOAD ■ Little Minds at Work Free Writing Posters

Learning to write is a developmental process, especially for our youngest learners, and it begins long before students are expected to write full sentences. These posters are designed to support that journey by visually showing students how writing grows over time.

Each poster includes a simple "I can" statement paired with an example that reflects what student work may look like at that stage. The intentionally childlike illustrations help students see themselves in the work, making the progression feel achievable and meaningful. These posters can be used during writing instruction, as a reference during independent work, or as a tool to help students set goals and celebrate their growth.

This resource follows six clear stages of writing development. In Stage 1, students begin by drawing to share their ideas, learning that pictures are a form of communication. In Stage 2, they add labels, connecting sounds and letters to their drawings. In Stage 3, students move into simple sentences using high-frequency words, such as "I see the cat," beginning to understand how words match their ideas. In Stage 4, students add detail to both their pictures and their writing, expanding their sentences and strengthening their message. In Stage 5, they begin writing multiple sentences, building stamina and learning how to share more than one idea about a topic. Finally, in Stage 6, students transition into writing different kinds of texts, such as how-to, opinion, or narrative writing, where they begin organizing their ideas for a purpose.

Writing development is not linear, and students will naturally move between stages as they grow. These posters are meant to support that process, not rush it. Each stage represents important learning, and every step forward is worth recognizing. From drawing a picture to writing a complete piece, your students are writers at every stage of the journey.

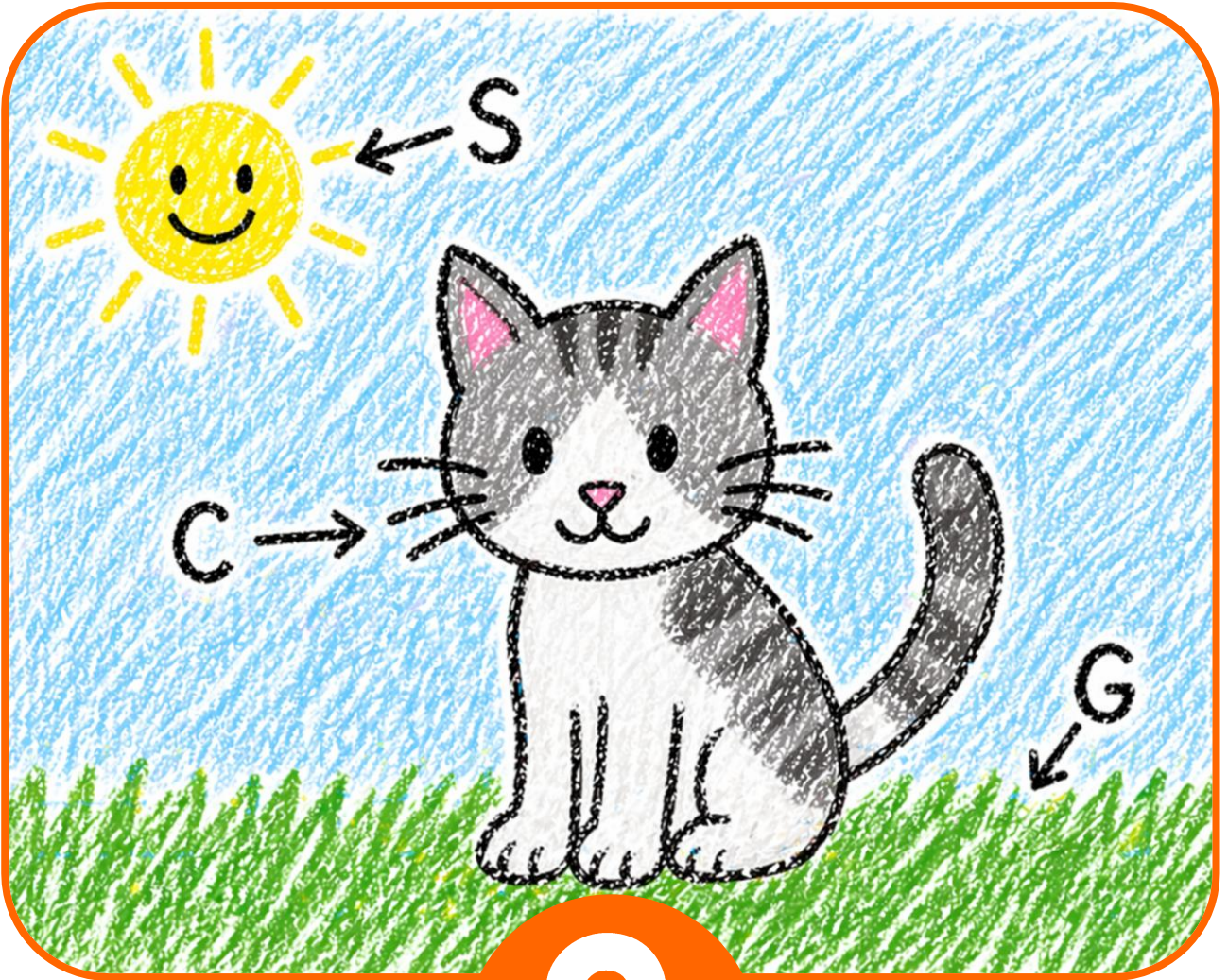


I can draw.



I write with a picture.

I can label.



2

I write with labels.

I can write with words.



3

I see the cat.

I can write with detail.



4

I see the big cat sit.

I can add sentences.



5

I see the cat. The cat can get a big sip. Then, the cat will take a nap in the grass.

I can write in a genre.



6

How to Plant a Flower

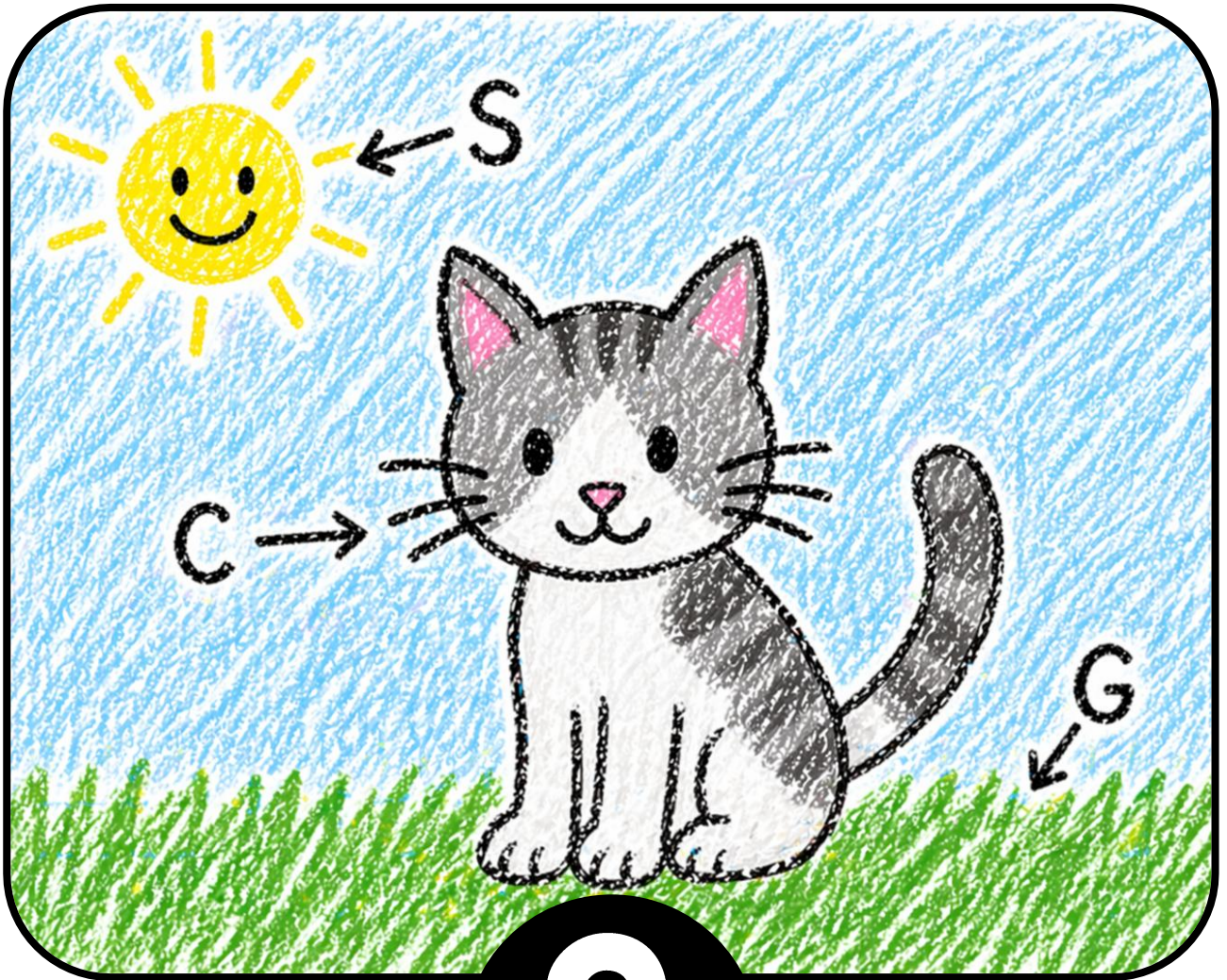
First, dig a hole in the soil. Next, put the seeds in the hole. Then, cover the seeds with dirt. After that, water the seeds. Finally, watch your flower grow.

I can draw.



I write with a picture.

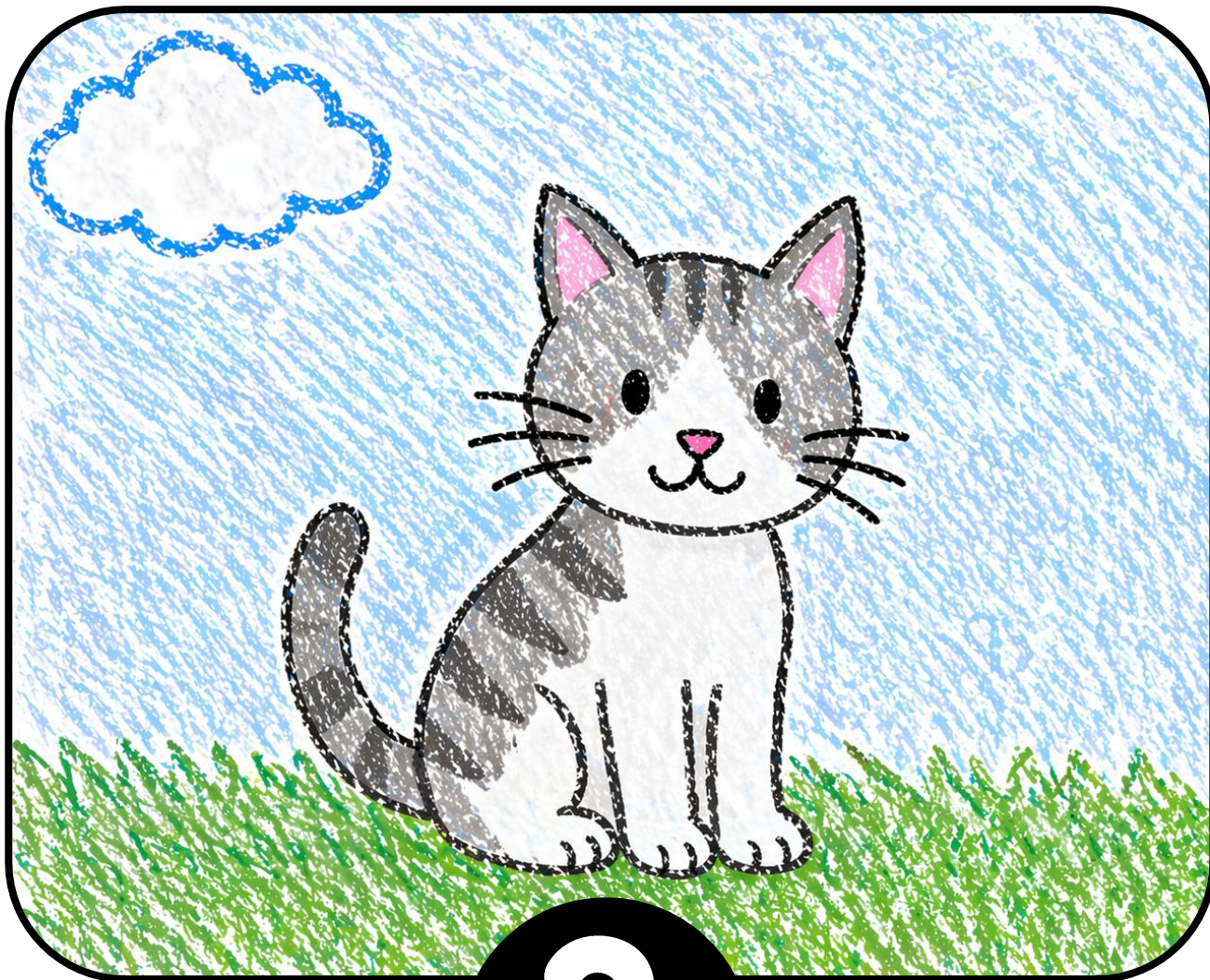
I can label.



2

I write with labels.

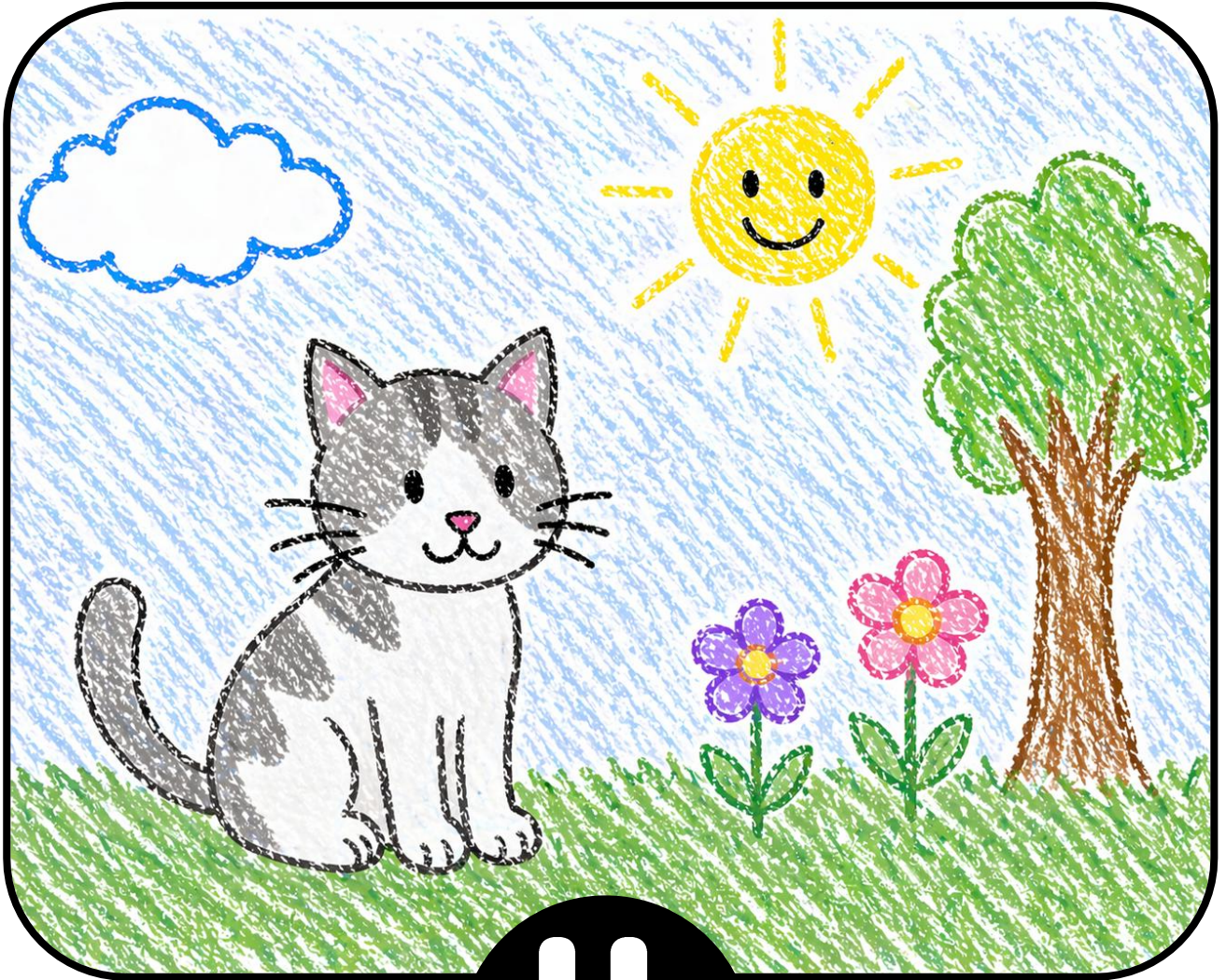
I can write with words.



3

I see the cat.

I can write with detail.



4

I see the big cat sit.

I can add sentences.



5

I see the cat. The cat can get a big sip. Then, the cat will take a nap in the grass.

I can write in a genre.

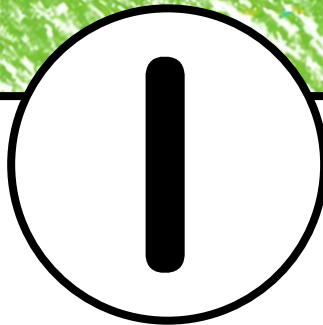


6

How to Plant a Flower

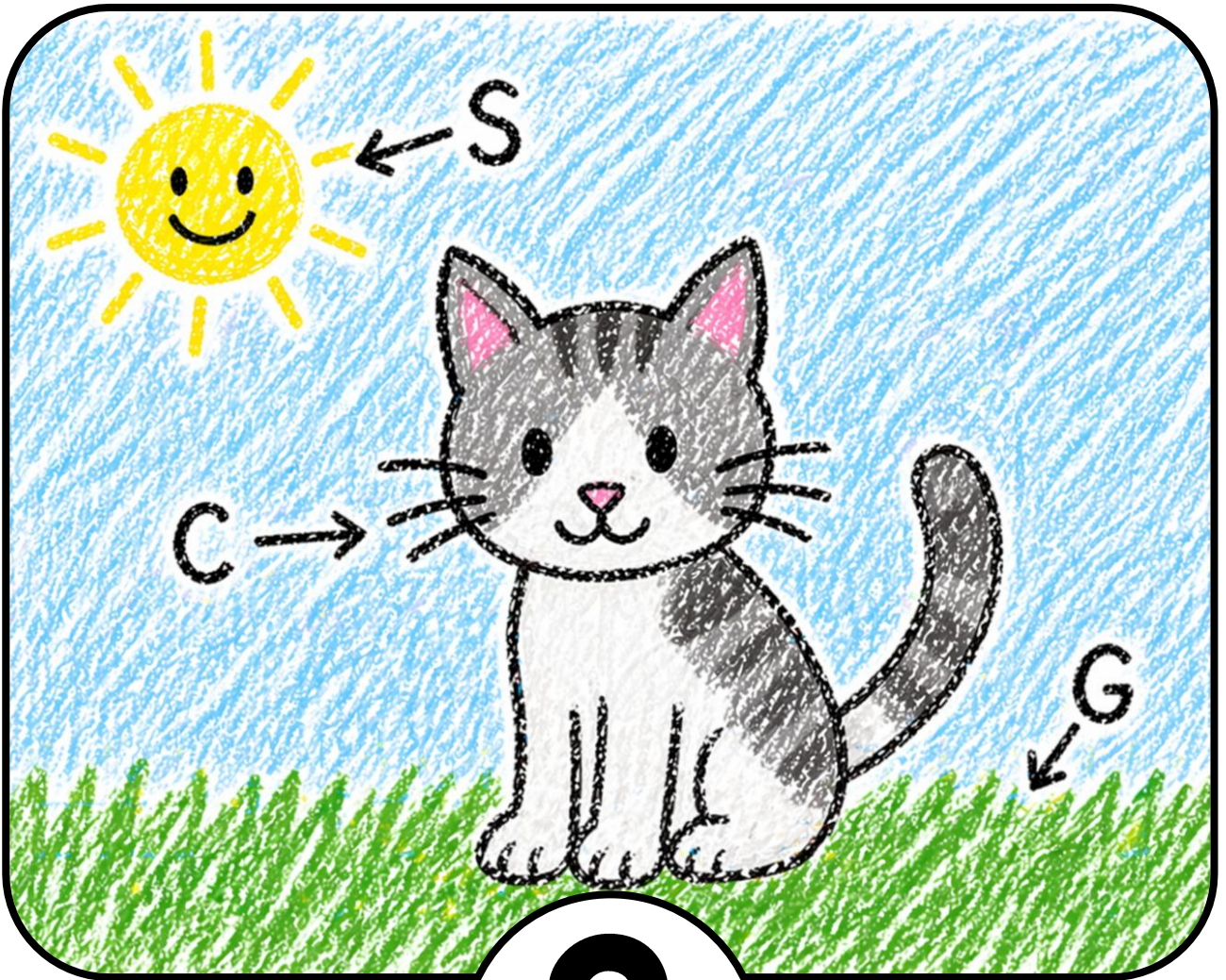
First, dig a hole in the soil. Next, put the seeds in the hole. Then, cover the seeds with dirt. After that, water the seeds. Finally, watch your flower grow.

I can draw.



I write with a picture.

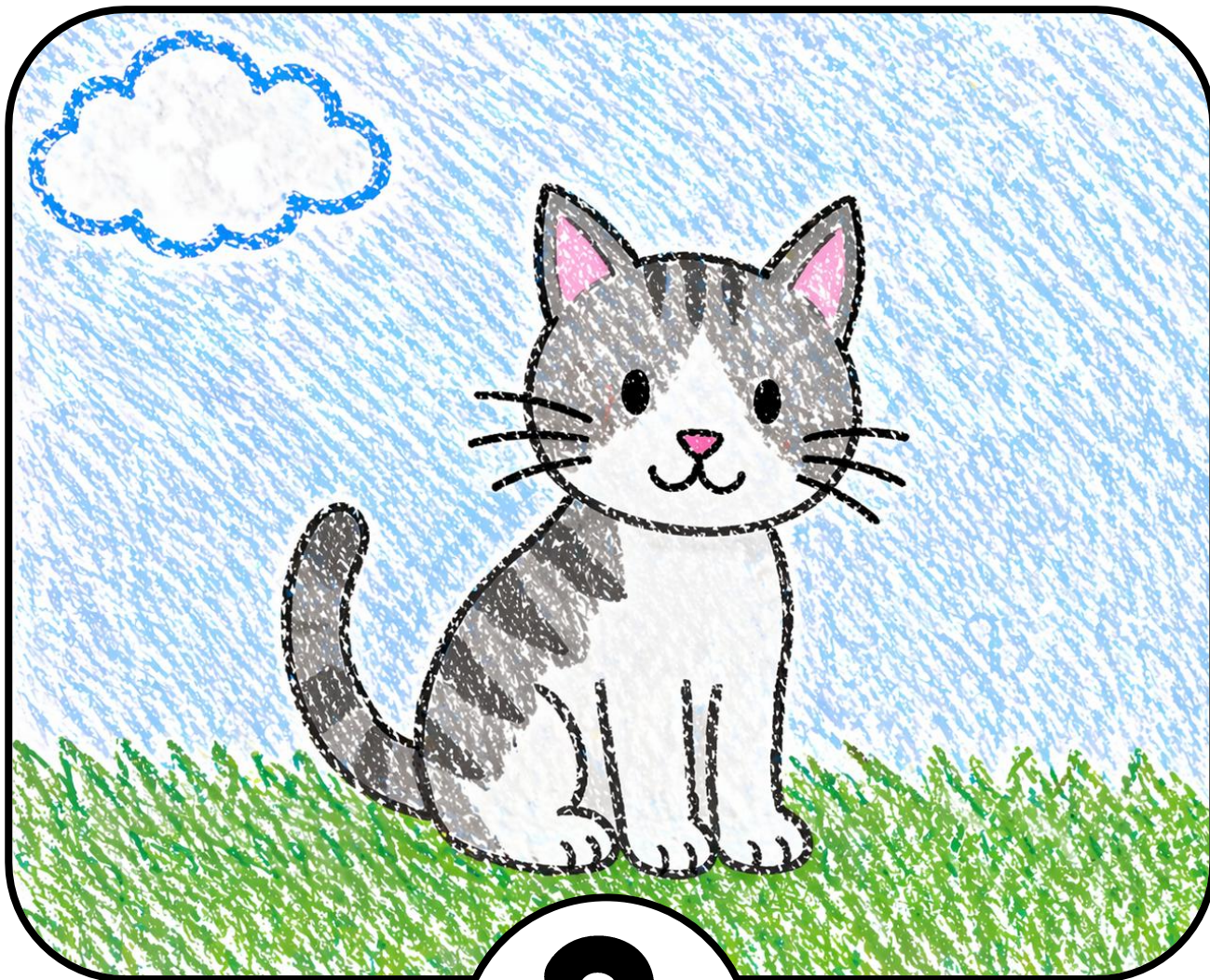
I can label.



2

I write with labels.

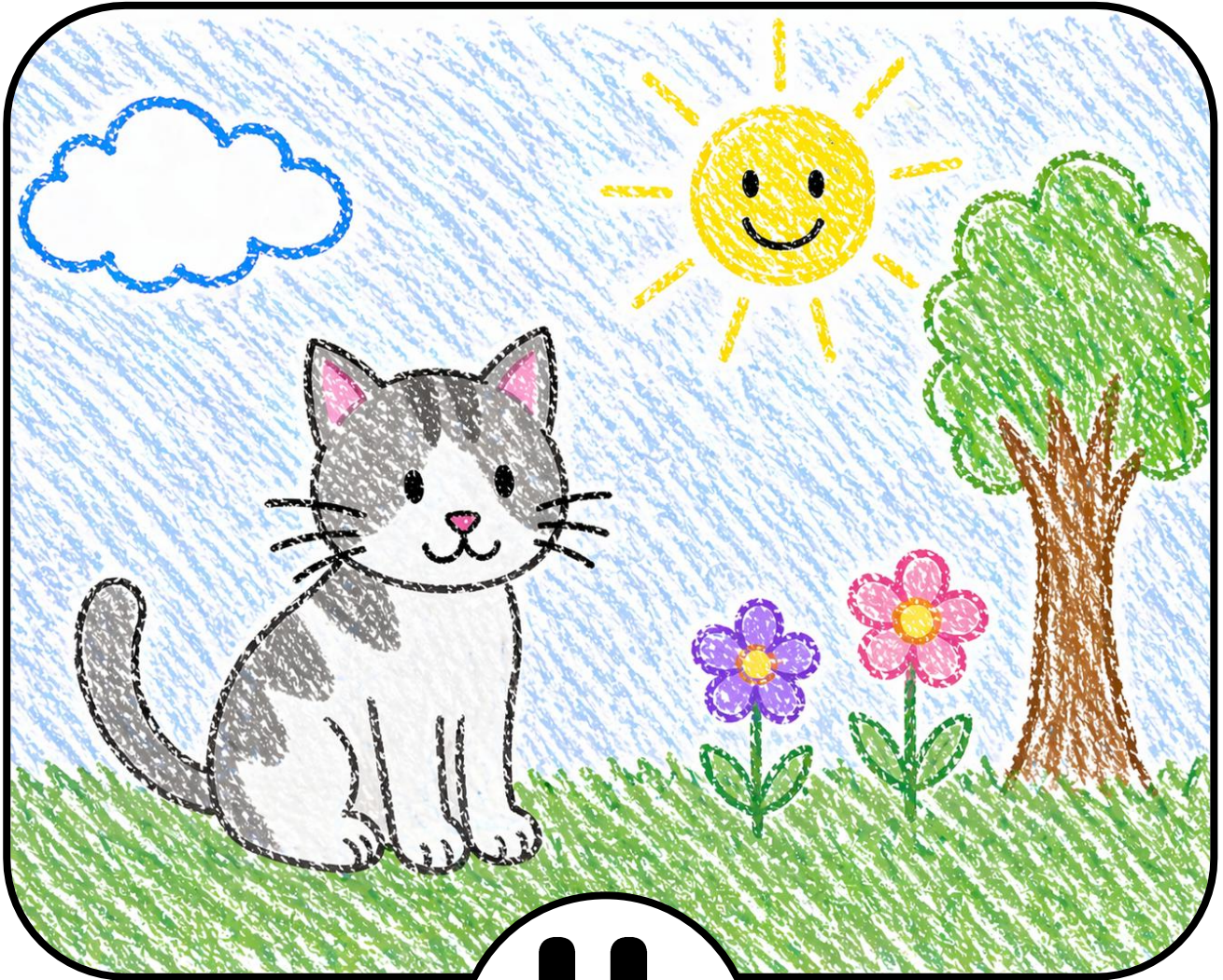
I can write with words.



3

I see the cat.

I can write with detail.



4

I see the big cat sit.

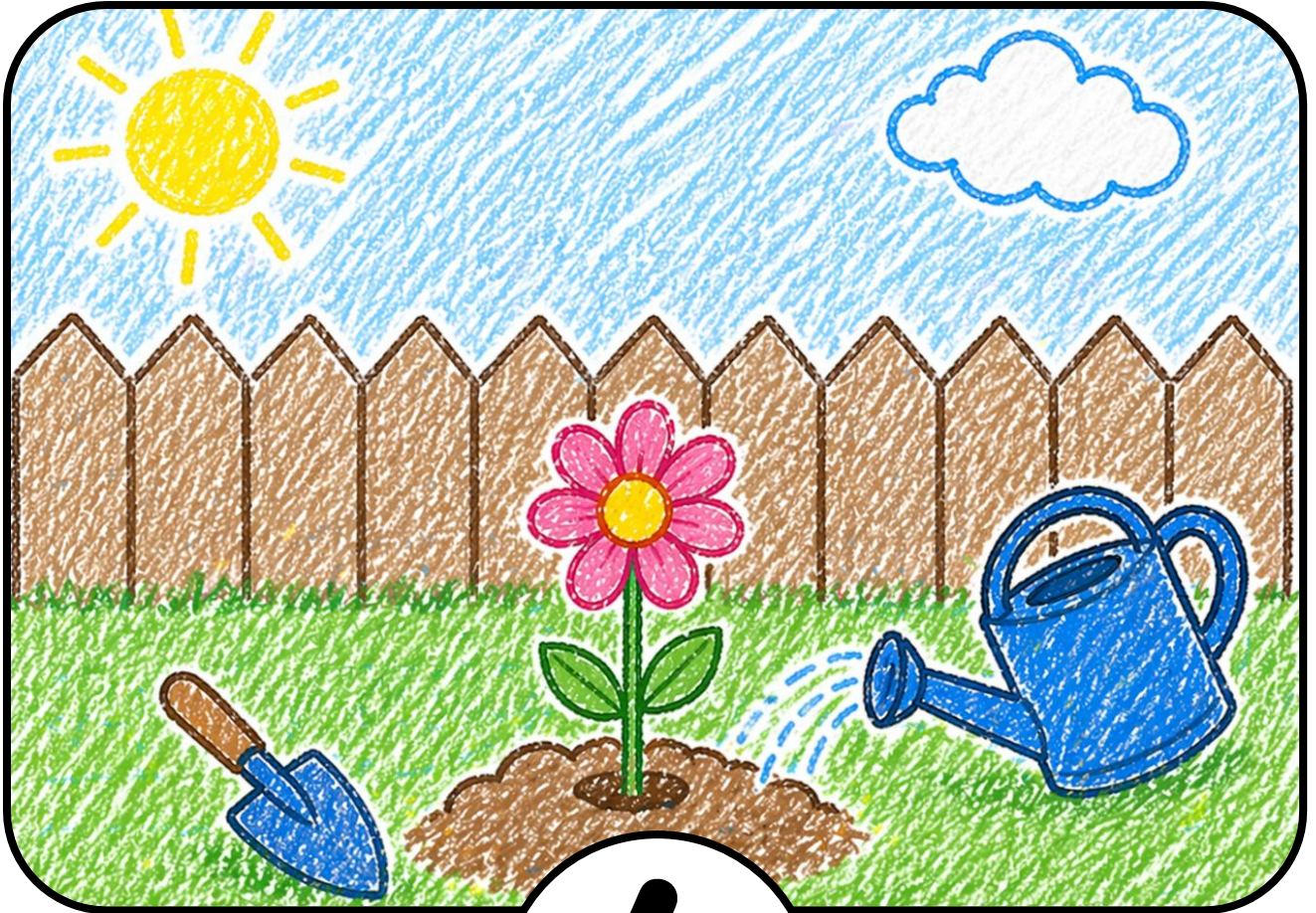
I can add sentences.



5

I see the cat. The cat can get a big sip. Then, the cat will take a nap in the grass.

I can write in a genre.



6

How to Plant a Flower

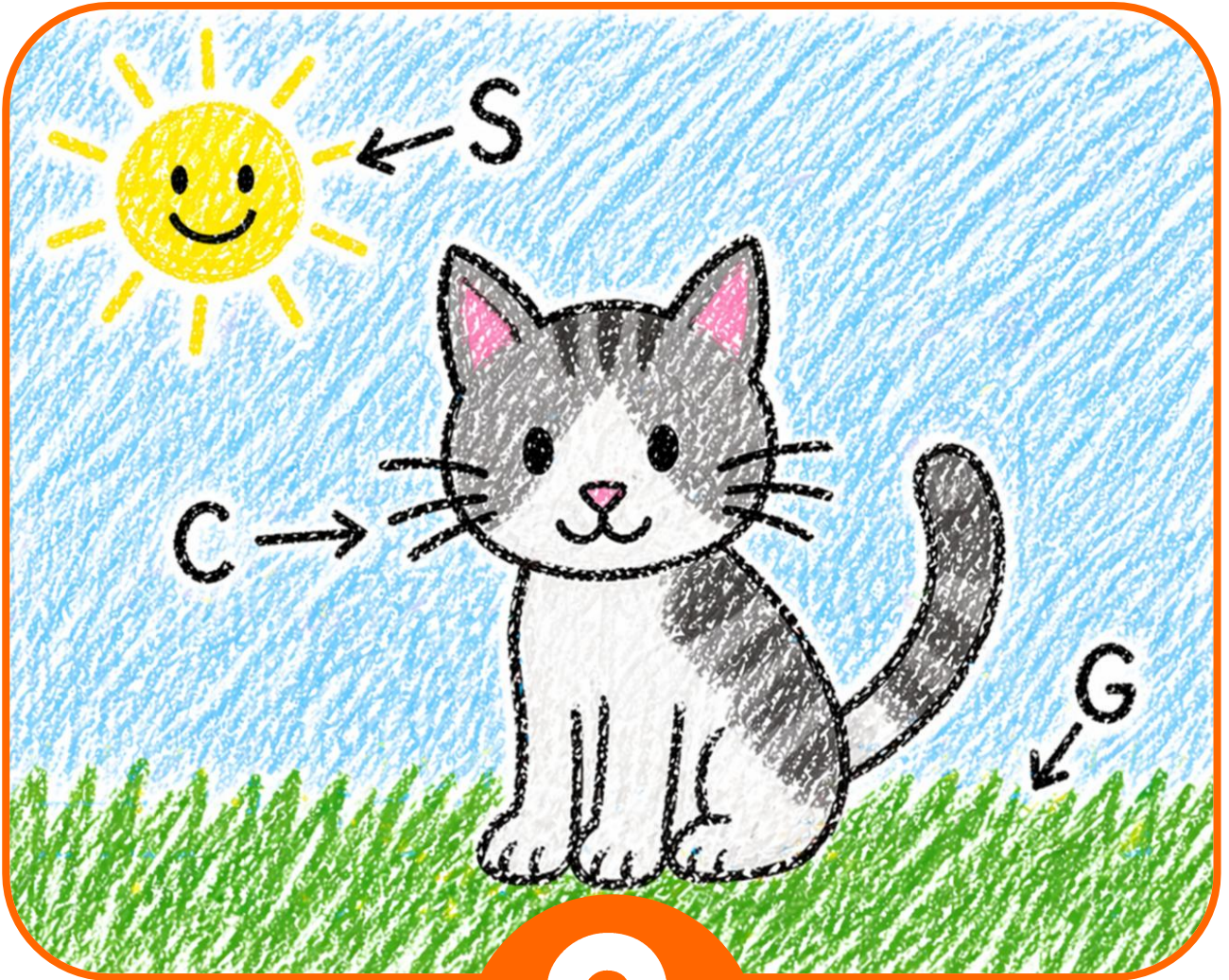
First, dig a hole in the soil. Next, put the seeds in the hole. Then, cover the seeds with dirt. After that, water the seeds. Finally, watch your flower grow.

I can draw.



I write with a picture.

I can label.



2

I write with labels.

I can write with words.



3

I see the cat.

I can write with detail.



4

I see the big cat sit.

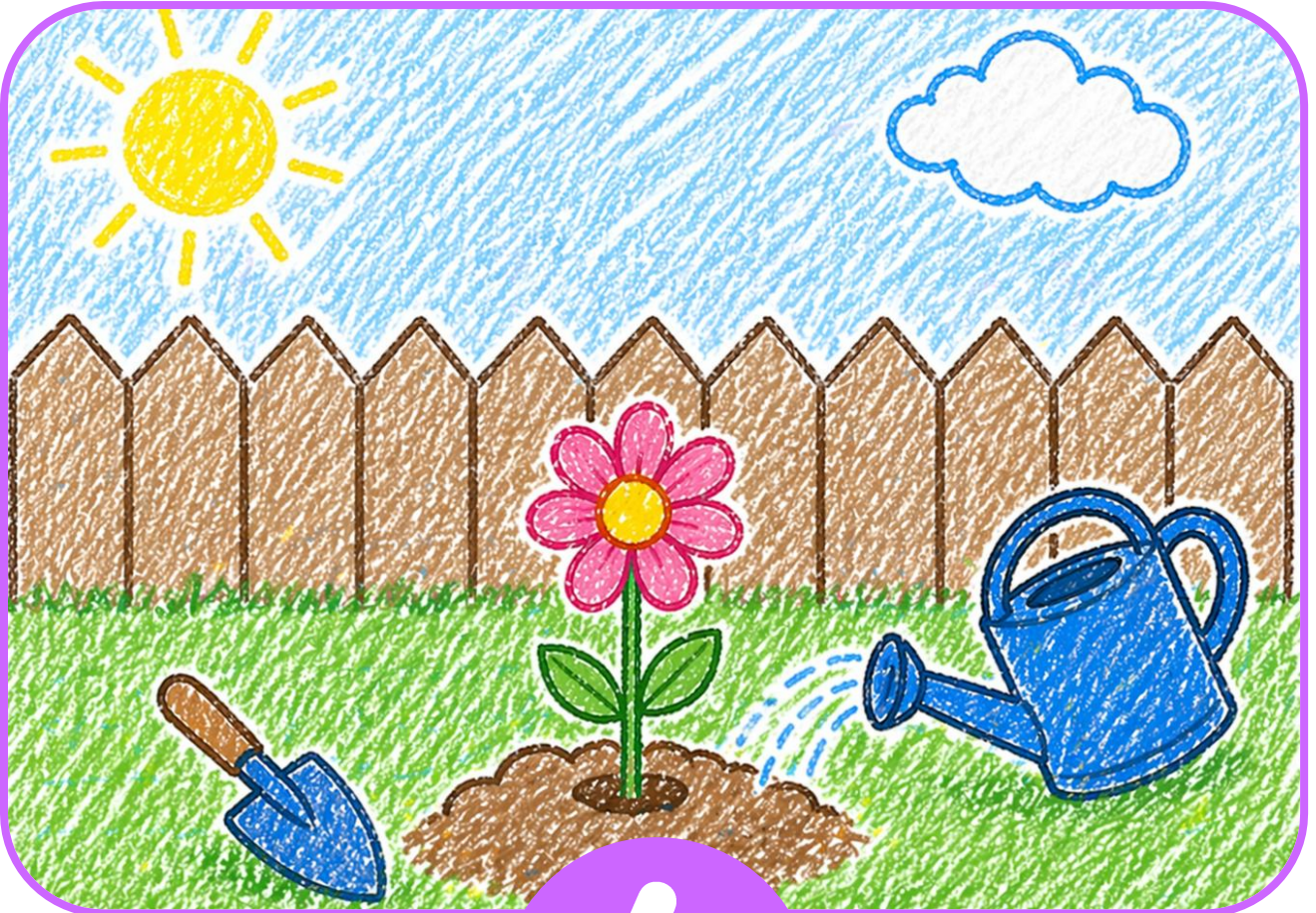
I can add sentences.



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I see the cat. The cat can get a big sip. Then, the cat will take a nap in the grass.

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How to Plant a Flower

First, dig a hole in the soil. Next, put the seeds in the hole. Then, cover the seeds with dirt. After that, water the seeds. Finally, watch your flower grow.



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