Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Infants Activity Pack

Week 8-Term 2

Traditional Carnival Characters

Carnival 2022 will be celebrated on **Monday 28th February and Tuesday 01st, March.**

Carnival is celebrated every year on the **Monday and Tuesday before Ash Wednesday**. This is the beginning of the period of lent which is a time of prayer and fast for Christians.



Traditional Carnival Characters

Over one hundred years ago, Carnival looked very different to what we see today. The Carnival characters of the past (long ago) are called **Traditional Carnival Characters**. Each character has its own **origin, costume** and **performance.**

Did you know?

Every Carnival Friday, school children portray traditional characters through the streets of Port of Spain.

Let us look at a few of them.



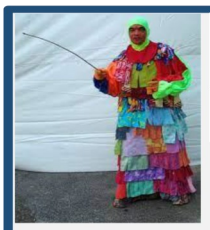
Dame Lorraine

The former enslaved Africans would put on costumes and make fun of the clothing and behaviour of their master's wives and how they dressed.

Midnight Robber



The Midnight Robber looks like a cowboy with a huge hat and a cape. He usually gives a speech to the audience. In the past, the costume was black but today, any colour is used.



Mr. Felix Edinburgh as the Pierrot Grenade

Pierrot Grenade

The Pierrot Grenade shows how brilliant he is by his ability to spell words. This costume consists of many colourful pieces of cloth attached to a gown. His face is painted white and he dances across the stage with a whip in his hand.



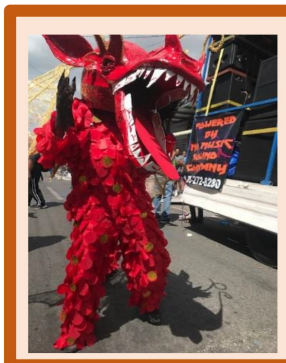
Burrokeet

This costume is of Spanish origin.

It consists of a dancer riding a donkey.







Dragon

The dragon is a fierce beast from hell that wants to destroy everything. He has a head, movable tongue with wings and a long tail. His one weakness is that he cannot cross holy water. His frustration is a dance.

More Traditional Carnival Characters



Gorilla mas



Fancy clowns





Blue devil



Baby doll



Have you ever seen the Sebucan dance before?

The dance looks like the **maypole** dance. People make a circle around a pole with ribbons. Each person holds on to a ribbon and dance around the pole forming pretty patterns. The dancers wear costumes, paper crowns, masks and hats. Cuatros and maracas make beautiful music for them to dance.

Infant 1

Sound of letter 'o'

The names of these pictures begin with the short 'o' sound.



ox



onion

O

Circle the 4 pictures with names that begin with the short 'o' sound.



Sight Words

Say the word	big	my	look
Spell it!	b-i-g ↓ big	m-y ↓ my	l-o-o-k ↓ look
Colour it!	big	my	look
Trace it!	big	my	look
Circle it!	big bag beg big big	my my by me my	look book look lock look
Read it!	Look at my big ____. My ____ is big too.		

Addition and Subtraction

Remember

When we add we join groups of objects together.	When we subtract we take away objects from a group.

We can practice adding and subtracting at the same time!

How many cookies are there in total?
Count all the cookies. There are five cookies in total.



3 add 2 equal 5

Count the cookies. Take away 2 cookies. How many are left?



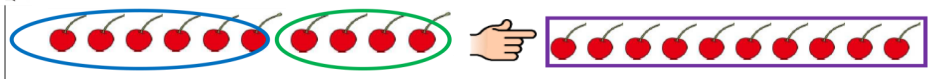
5 take away 2 equals 3

Count the cookies. Take away 3 cookies. How many are left?

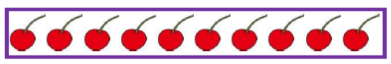


5 take away 3 equals 2

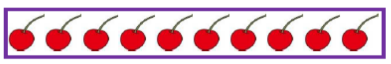
Now, let's practice!



6 add 4 equal ____



10 take away 4 equals ____



10 take away 6 equals ____

Solid Shapes

ACTIVITY: Where am I?

Circle the solid that fits the description below. The first one is done for you.

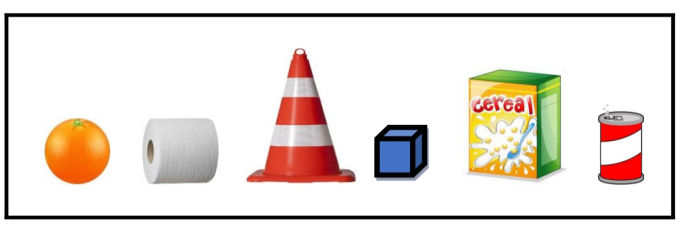
1. I am next to  .



2. I am on top of  .



3. I am between  and  .



Infant 2

ch

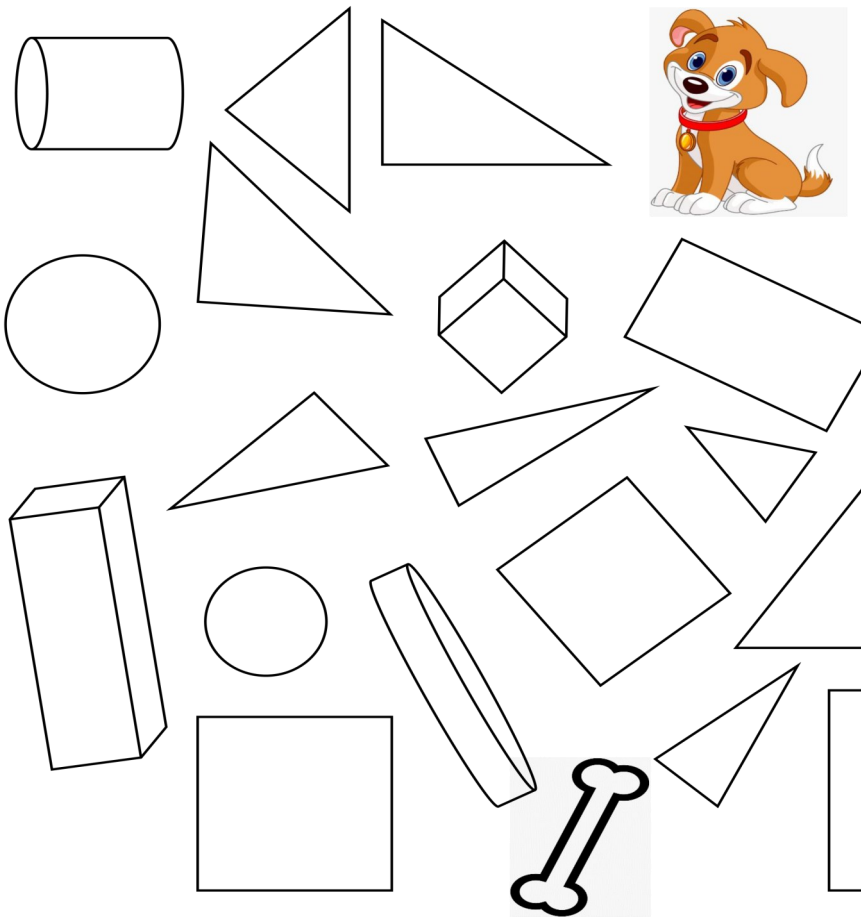
Look at the pictures and say the words. Circle the words that begin with the /ch/ sound like in chain. Colour the chain.

ch



Shape Maze

Colour the triangles to help the dog find the bone.



Comprehension



1. What is the boy holding?

_____

2. What are they doing?

_____

_____

3. State 2 ways in which you help at home.

_____

_____

4. Suggest a suitable title for the picture.

_____

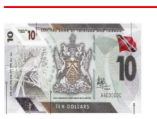
_____

Money

Money of the same value can be shown in different ways.

Twenty dollars:	Twenty-five cents:
 or   	 or  or  

Can you write in the missing values so that the money on the left is of equal value to the money on the right?

1.  
2.  
3.  

Traditional Carnival Characters

Moko Jumbie

The Moko Jumbie is of African origin. Masqueraders are usually dressed in brightly coloured long pants or skirts with a shirt. Both males and females wear **stilts** which make them very tall. They may also wear a hat. The Moko Jumbie protects people against evil and would dance all day in the streets.





Sailor Mas

Sailor mas was introduced when British, French and America naval (sea) ships came to Trinidad and Tobago. The mas shows the uniforms worn by these sailors. The portrayal includes a sailor dance. There are several types of sailor mas.

White Sailor Mas
This is considered traditional sailor mas.



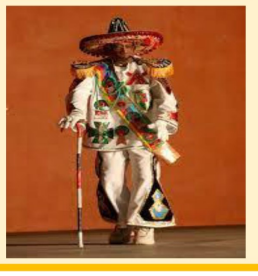
The King Sailor

A white pants and a shirt with a sailor collar are worn. There is a red sash across the chest. The masquerader walks with a walking stick in his hand.



The Fancy Sailor

The headpiece worn is decorated and painted to look like birds, animals or plants. The outfit is white and decorated with ribbons, medals and other materials.



Indian Mas

There are **many types of Indian mas**. Each type of Indian mas has its **own dance and speech**. Costumes are beautifully decorated with head pieces ofte made of feathers.



Authentic (real) Indian mas closely resembles the clothing of Native Americans.



Blue costumes are fancy and blue in colour.



Indian chief – warrior chief and his family



Black Indian – This is a mixture of Red Indian with African clothing. Their faces are painted black.



Red Indian - This mas is a tribute to the Warahoon (First Peoples) who settled in south Trinidad. No feathers are used to make this mas.



Fancy Indian – These costumes do not represent the real wear of the First People.



TTT series – Got Carnival on YouTube where you can see the portrayal of many of the characters identified in this pull out.

Which traditional carnival mass would you like to portray? You may even be able to portray one during the next carnival celebrations.

Let us keep traditional mas alive!



A heartfelt thank you to **NALIS**, family and friends who continue to support us at the Ministry of Education in educating and ensuring that our students and teachers have additional resources during this pandemic.

Activity

Colour the traditional carnival characters.



Burrokeet Mas



Midnight Robber Mas



The characters in this activity were provided by Mr. Keri Nicholas Reefer from his publication,

My Trinbago Colouring Book