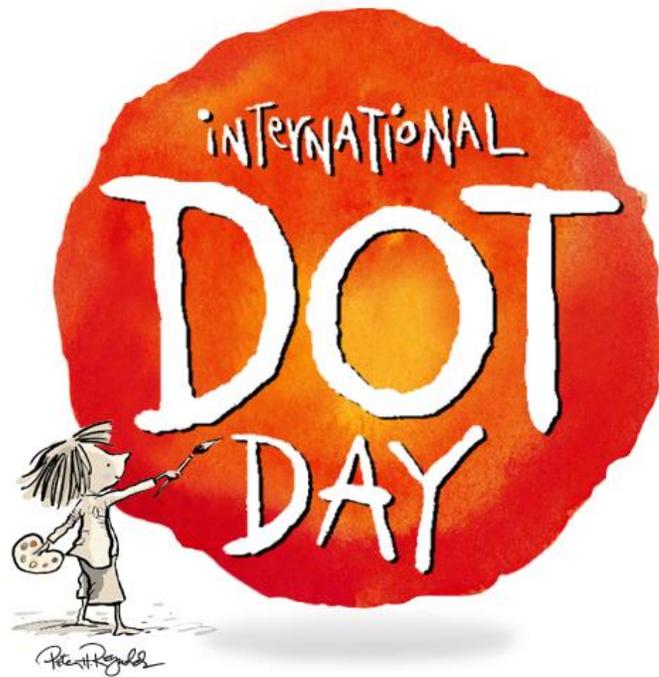


International Dot Day



Discussion Cards

Laura Candler's
Teaching Resources

International Dot Day

Discussion Cards

from Laura Candler

What is International Dot Day?

International Dot Day is an unofficial day of celebration that takes place on or around September 15th. It's an exciting day because it's all about encouraging kids to discover how they can make a difference. Why is it called "Dot Day"? To find out, read the book that inspired this special day. *The Dot*, written by Peter Reynolds, is a short picture book suitable for all ages. It's the story of Vashti, who became upset in art class because she didn't think she could draw. Her teacher challenged her to "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." So Vashti defiantly jabbed the paper and made a dot, and what happened after that shows how one simple act can snowball into something important.

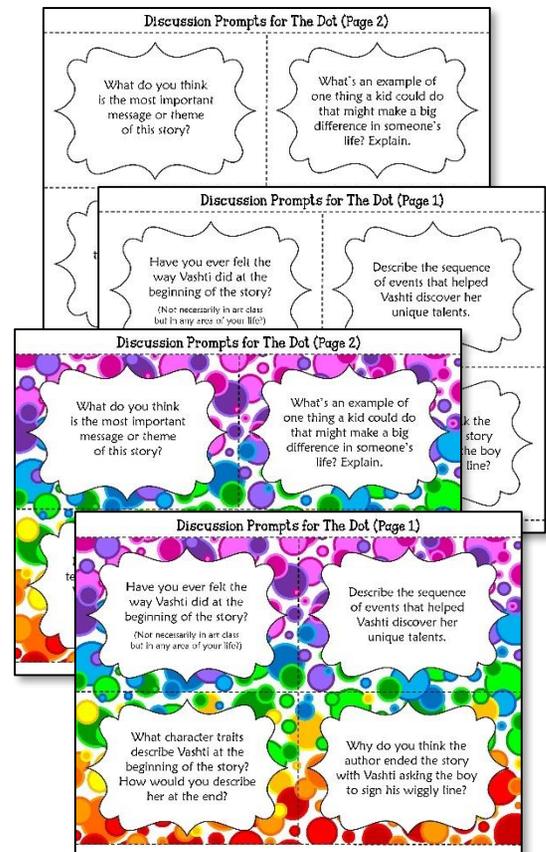
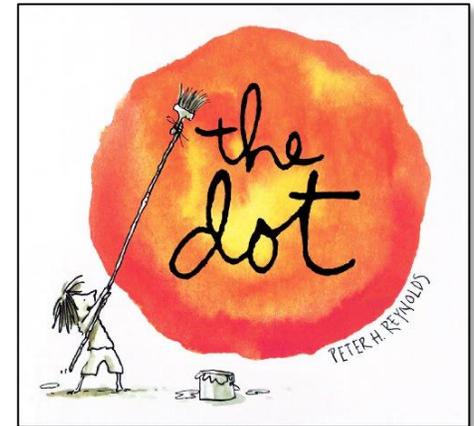
Discussion Cards for *The Dot*

If you want to celebrate International Dot Day with your students, the best place to get started is by reading *The Dot* to them. The story is short, but there's so much to discuss! You can use the discussion cards in this packet to get started, but feel free to add your own questions, too. There are 8 discussion cards, and I created them in both color and black and white. I also created a set of blank cards for you to make up your own questions, but it's not editable so you'll have to write your questions on the cards after you print the blank ones.

I suggest starting out with a whole class discussion, and later you might want to have students use the cards to discuss the questions in small groups. You can also use the cards as writing prompts after you've discussed them as a class.

Where to Learn More about International Dot Day

Visit my blog, Corkboard Connections, to learn more about International Dot Day and to find links to additional activities and where to purchase the book. Happy Dot Day!
<http://corkboardconnections.blogspot.com/2013/09/celebrate-international-dot-day.html>



Discussion Prompts for The Dot (Page 1)

Have you ever felt the way Vashti did at the beginning of the story?

(Not necessarily in art class but in any area of your life?)

Describe the sequence of events that helped Vashti discover her unique talents.

What character traits describe Vashti at the beginning of the story? How would you describe her at the end?

Why do you think the author ended the story with Vashti asking the boy to sign his wiggly line?

Discussion Prompts for The Dot (Page 2)

What do you think is the most important message or theme of this story?

What's an example of one thing a kid could do that might make a big difference in someone's life? Explain.

How did Vashti's art teacher encourage her? What can you do to encourage others?

How do you dream of "making your mark" in the world? What's one small way you can start working on it now?

Discussion Prompts for The Dot (Page 1)

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Discussion Prompts for The Dot (Page 2)

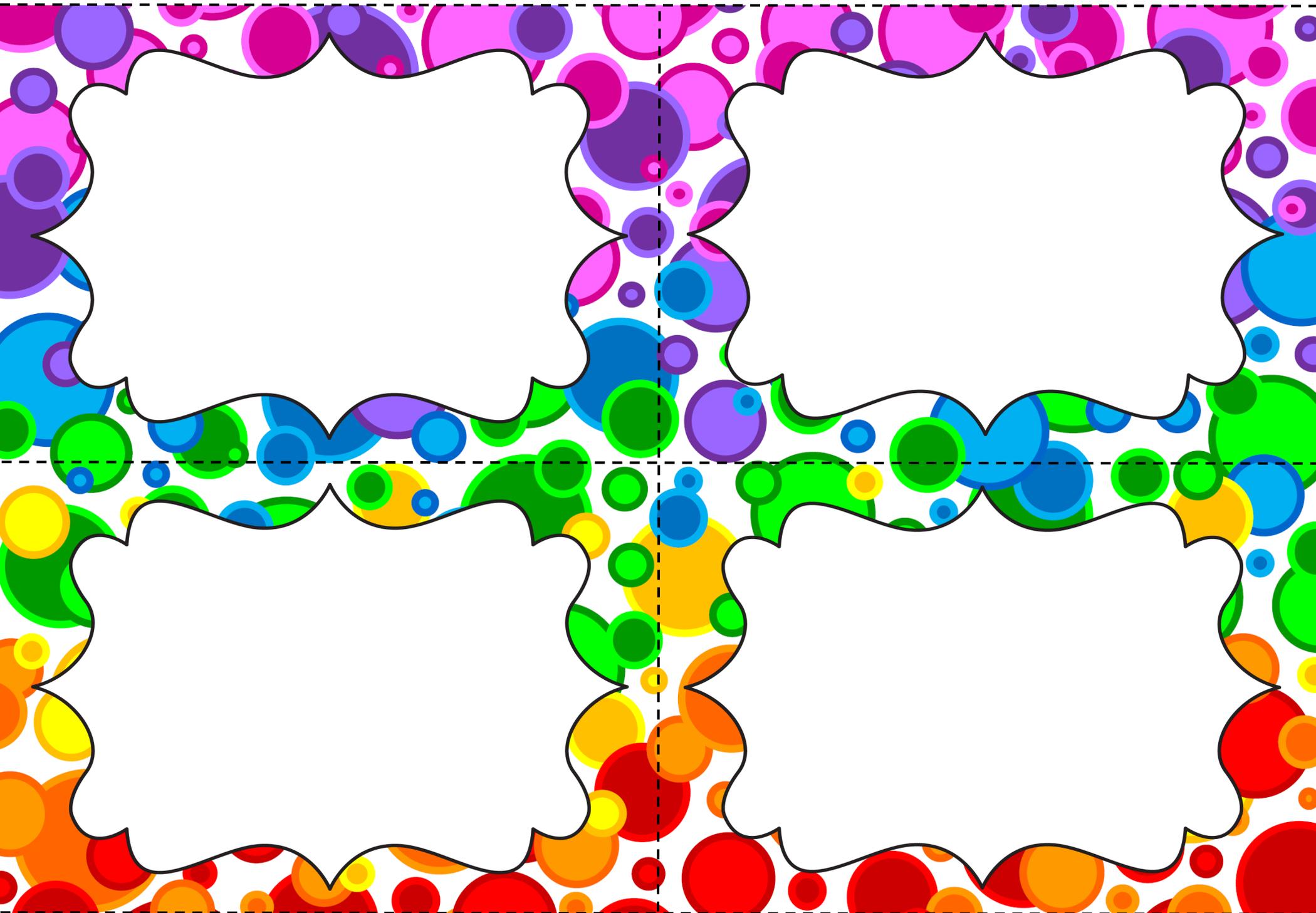
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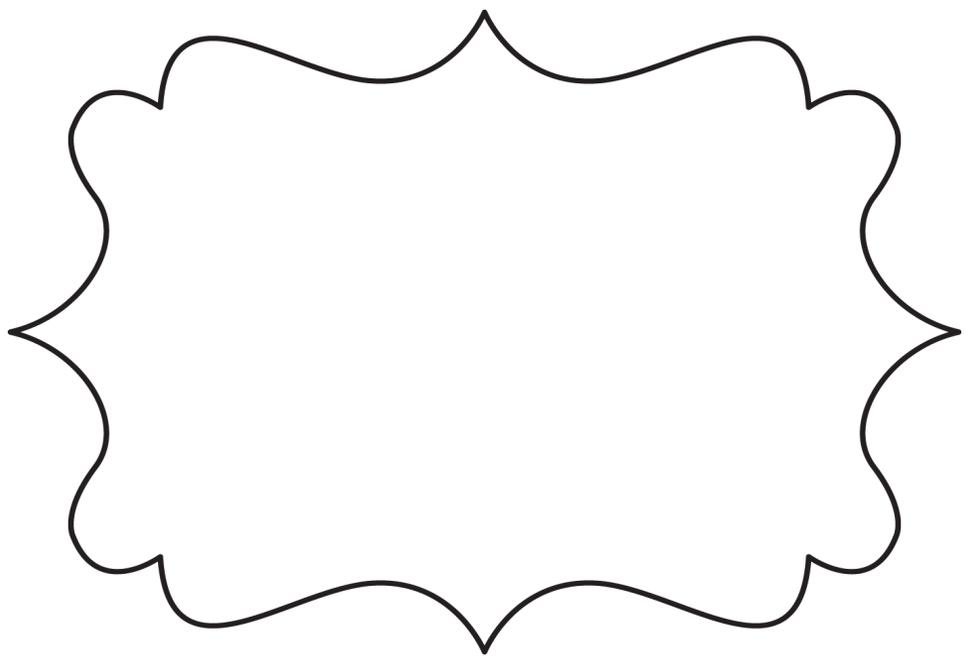
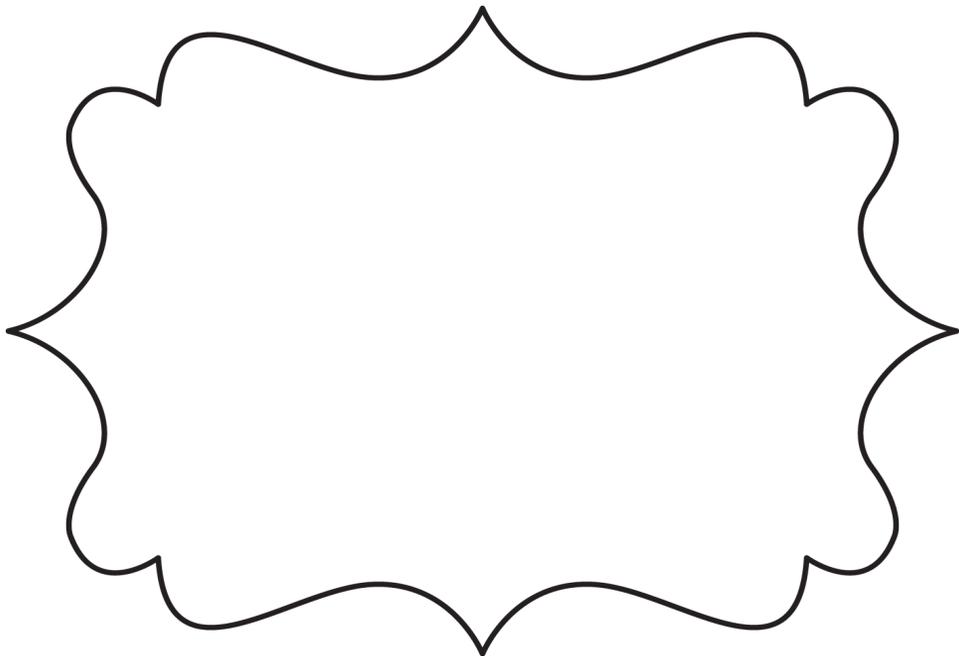
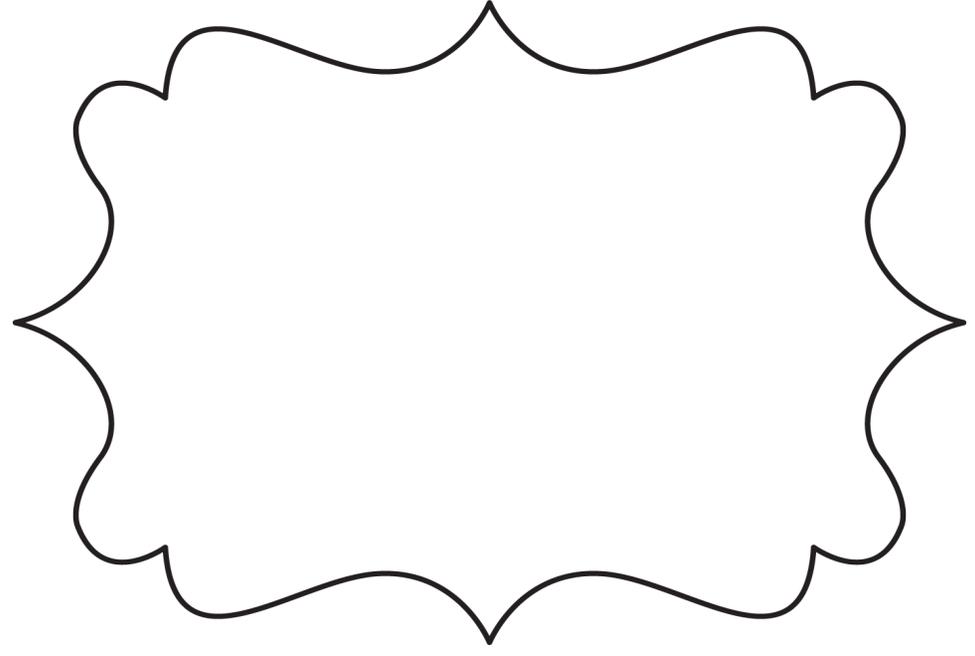
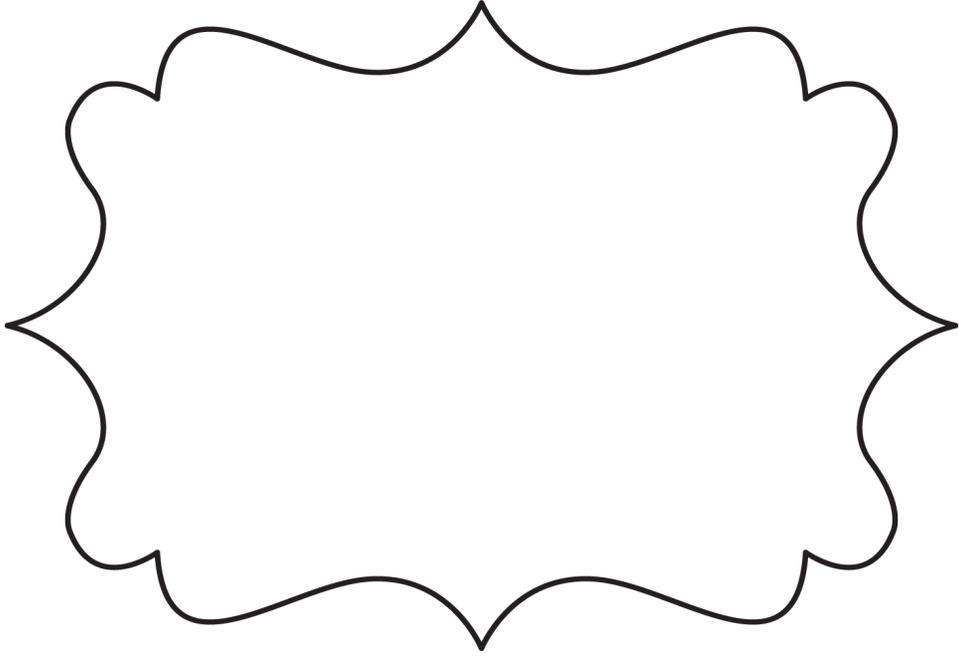
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Discussion Prompts for The Dot



Discussion Prompts for The Dot



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