

BLINK AT HOME

Whale Watching

Can you find and count the whales?

Skills to Develop

- + Creative thinking
- + Counting
- + Mathematical thinking

Materials

- + Whale booklist [PDF]
- + Whale tail [PDF]
- + Paper
- + Crayons/colored pencils/markers
- + Tape

WHAT TO DO

During the Learning Activity

1. Discuss your child's prior knowledge about whales. Ask: *what do you know about whales? Where do they live? What do they like to eat? What else do you know about whales?*
2. Read your favorite book about whales or choose one from our whale booklist [PDF]. Ask: *what did you learn about whales?*
3. Invite your child to create whales using the art supplies. Ask questions about their artmaking process as they work.
4. Print out copies of the whale tail [PDF] or create your own whale tail shapes. Discuss that each whale has a unique pattern on its tails, similar to they way they have unique fingerprints on their fingers. Invite your child to create three simple whale tail designs, like yellow stars or green triangles. Help your child to recreate each tail design a few times.
5. Use tape to hang the whales and whale tails around the room. You may want to hide some of them for your child to find.
6. Invite your child to pretend play a whale watching excursion. Encourage your child to help count the whales they spot and count how many of each type of whale tail pattern they spot.

Extend the Fun

- + Add other elements to your pretend play, such as a whale watching boat or binoculars.

BLINK: WHALE WATCHING

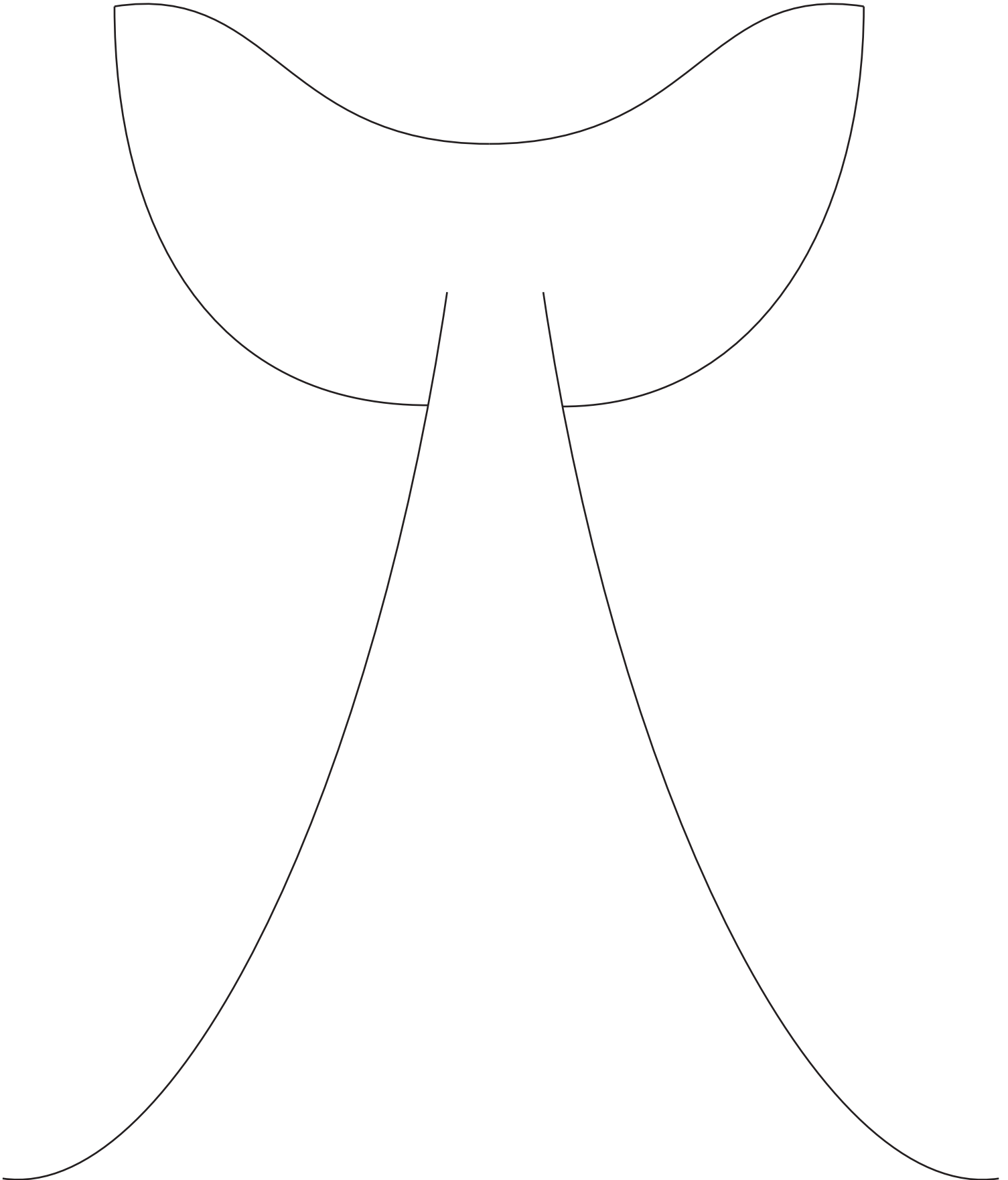
Whale booklist: Print and use

Can you find and count the whales?

- + *The Blue Whale* by Jenni Desmond
- + *The Boy and the Whale* by Mordicai Gerstein
- + *The Heart of a Whale* by Anna Pignataro
- + *Breathe* by Scott Magoon
- + *A Whale in the Bathtub* by Kylie Westaway and Tom Jellett
- + *Billy Twitters and His Blue Whale Problem* by Mac Barnett and Adam Rex
- + *Narwhal and Jelly* series by Ben Clanton
- + *The Eye of the Whale: A Rescue Story* by Jennifer O'Connell
- + *Humphrey the Lost Whale: A True Story* by Wendy Tokuda, Richard Hall, and Hanako Wakiyama
- + *If You Want to See a Whale* by Julie Fogliano
- + *The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies
- + *Big Blue* by Shelley Gill
- + *Little Whale* by Jo Weaver

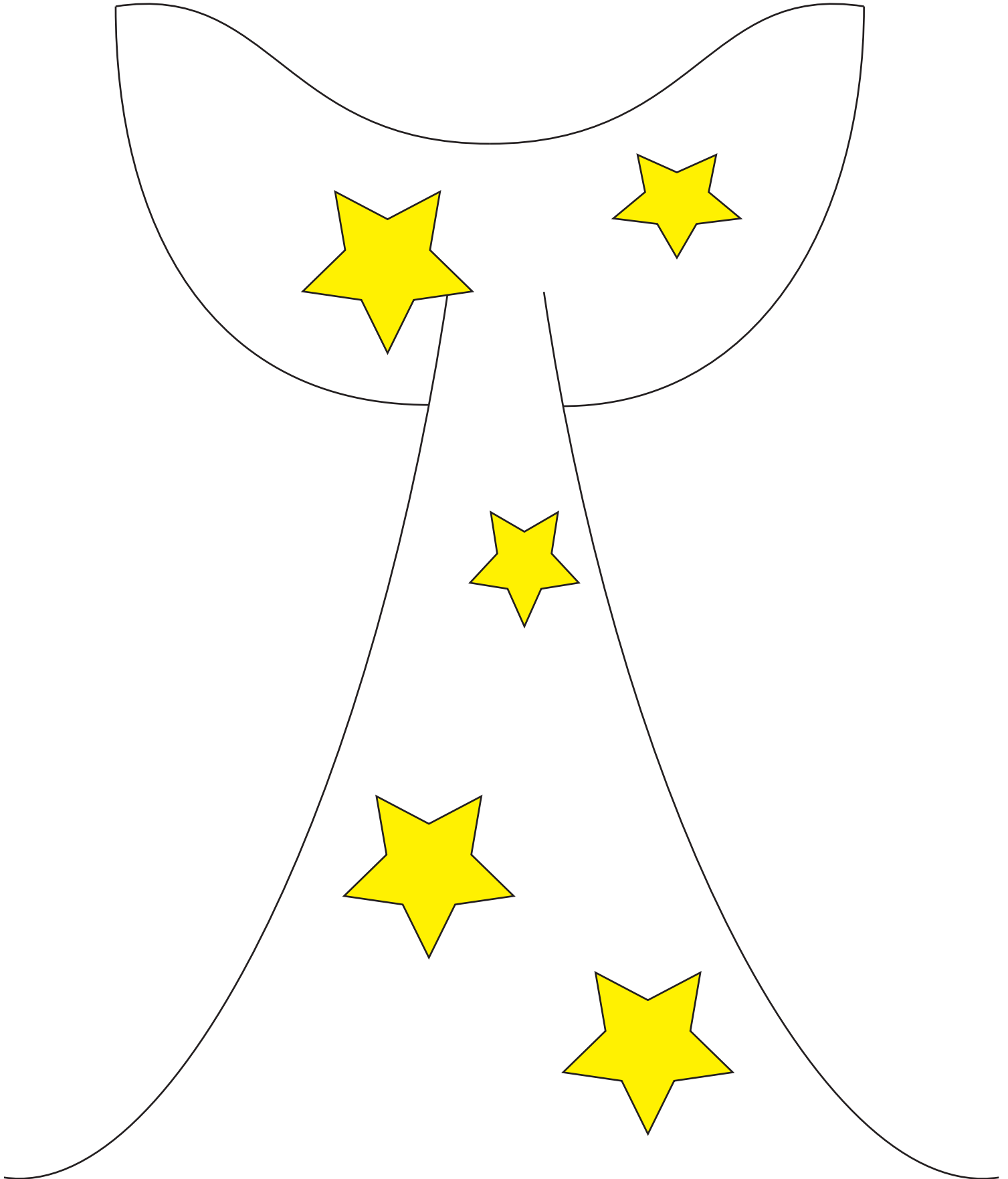
BLINK: WHALE WATCHING

Whale tail: create tail design, cut out, and tape on wall



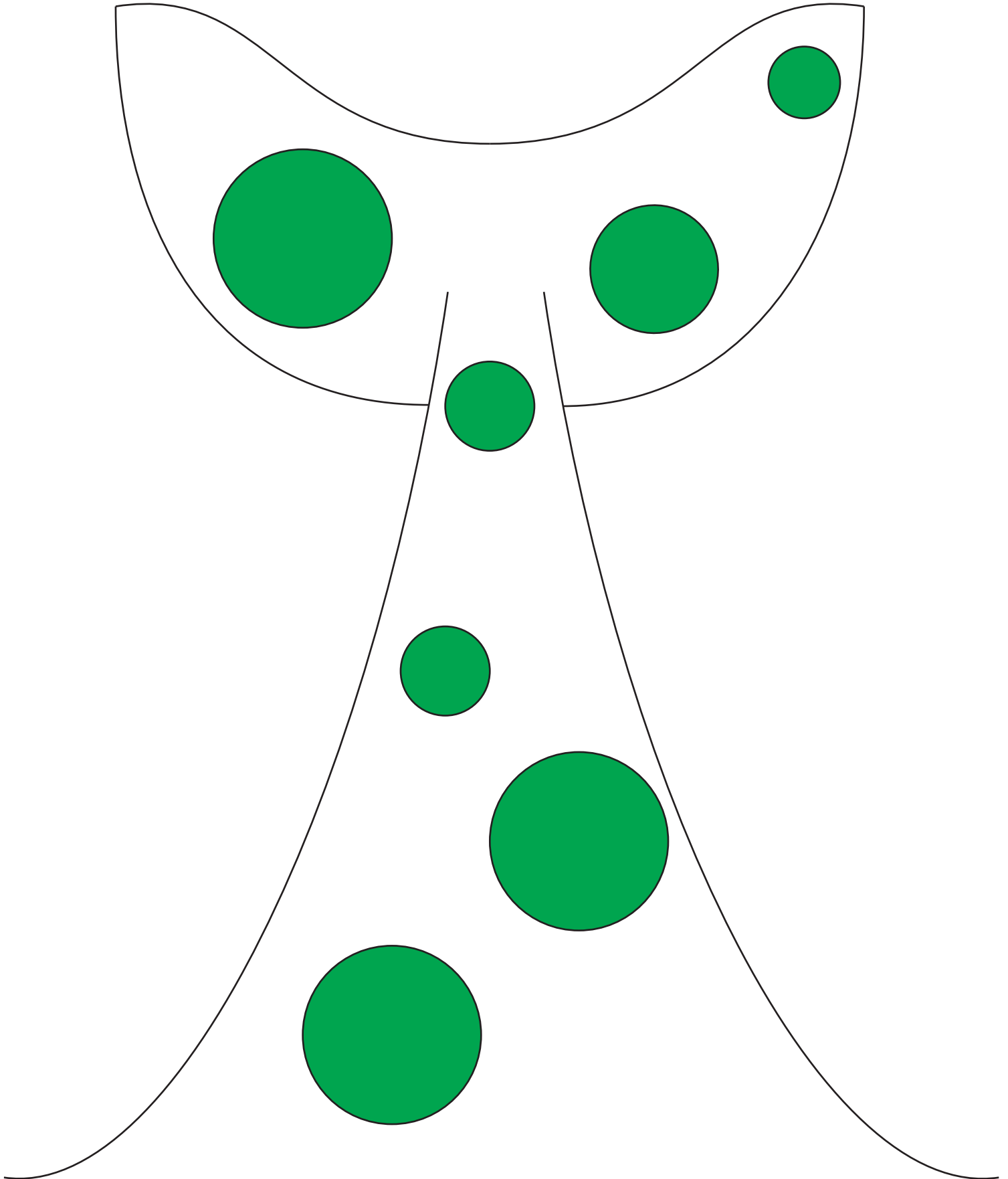
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