

V is for Valentine Week

Suggested Books:

- The Story of Valentine's Day by Nancy Skarneas
- The Night Before Valentine's Day by Natasha Wing
- Fancy Nancy" Heart to Heart by Jane O'Connor
- Plant a Kiss by Amy Krause Rosenthal
- The Berenstain Bears Valentine's Party by Jan Berenstain, Mike Berenstain
- Valentines Are for Saying I Love You by Margaret Sutherland
- One Heart: A Valentine Counting Book by Maryann Cocca-Leffler
- The Ballad of Valentine by Allison Jackson
- The Berenstain Bears Funny Valentine by Stan and Jan Berenstain

Vocabulary Words:

Valentine, Heart, eleven, pink, heart, love, neighbor, skinamarink, share, hugs, kisses

Songs and Fingerplays:

Oh Valentine, oh valentine

(To the tune of "O Christmas Tree")

Oh Valentine, oh valentine
I think you'll like my valentine
It's big and pink and lacey too
These special words say I love you
Oh valentine, oh valentine
I think you'll like my valentine.

I'll Make a Valentine

(Sung to "London Bridge")

I'll make a bright red valentine, Valentine,
Valentine.
I'll make a bright red valentine, and give it right to
you.
I'll trim it up with lace and bows, Lace and bows,
lace and bows.
I'll trim it up with lace and bows, and give it right to
you.

Make a Heart

I part my hands together, this is how I start;
I curve my fingers right around and I can make a
Heart!

Note: Act out the song with your hands

Skinnamarink

Skina Marinky dinky d-dink, skinna marinky doo I
love you.
Skina Marinky dinky d-dink, skinna marinky doo I
love you.
Skina Marinky dinky d-dink, skinna marinky doo I
love you.
I love you in the morning and in the afternoon,
I love you in the evening, and underneath the moon
Skina Marinky dinky d-dink, skinna marinky doo I
love you.

I Am Your Heart

I am your heart and I go beat, beat (clap hands
when you say beat, beat)
I pump blood while you are asleep (pretend asleep).
I pump blood when you jump up and down. (Jump)
I pump blood when you run around. (Run)
I pump blood when you move your feet (march)
I pump blood as you take your seat. (Sit down)

Love, Love, Love, Love

(For Christian Homes)

Love, love, love, love
The gospel in one word is love
Love your neighbor as your brother
Love, love, love.

Peace, peace, peace, peace

The gospel in one word is peace
Love your neighbor as your brother
Love, love, love.

(Can be sung in a round with older children)

Calendar Time:

Gather several items that begin with the sound of
the letter V. Try a video (if your child knows what it
is!), a piece of velvet, an unbreakable vase, a picture

of a violin, vacuum cleaner, or veterinarian. Mount a large V on the wall near the calendar, along with a heart cut from pink paper, and a number 11. Have a jar with eleven crayons for counting. Every day, when you gather around the calendar, besides discussing what day of the week it is, or what the weather is like, talk about the concepts – the heart shape, the color pink, the number eleven, etc.

Dramatic Play:

Spread a pink tablecloth over the toy table; add a plastic vase with pink or red plastic roses, and an empty heart-shaped box of chocolates. Add a pink dress-up, or pink shoes or a pink hat and handbag.

Blocks:

Make a few signs for buildings, like “John’s Garage” or “Cyndie’s Restaurant”. Write the signs on sturdy

white paper or cardboard, letter them clearly in black, and add a few heart stickers to the signs. When the child comes to build, encourage him or her to add the signs to their building. Take their picture with their building before they knock it down.

Music:

All of the tunes for the recommended songs are listed on the SONGS page. This week, you and your child can watch the youtube video of Skinamarinky-Dinky-Dink together and try to sing along. Play recordings of famous love songs for naptime. You might try Tchaikovsky’s Sleeping Beauty Ballet – if you’ve watched Disney’s Sleeping Beauty much, the melodies will sound very familiar.

Projects:

Make Valentines: Set out pink, red, and white construction paper, heart-shape punches or heart shapes you already cut, doilies, glue sticks, sticky foil stars, scraps of ribbon or yard, and other craft materials as you see fit. Let child make one or more pretty pictures. You can let them dry, then cut the picture to fit on top of a blank greeting card, or fold the picture into a card. Mail to grandparents, friends, and other loved ones.

Rice Play: color 20 pounds of dry rice pink.

(Directions are found here:

<http://raisingcreativechildren.com/color-rice-sensory-table/>) Pour into a small plastic child’s pool and set on a sheet on the floor (to make clean-up easier). Bury small wrapped chocolates in the rice – no more than you’d let your child eat. Let child dig and play in the rice, and enjoy the chocolate treat. Rice play is a quiet, entertaining activity, and helps develop small motor control, eye-hand coordination, and more.

Valentines Post Office: Take one of the valentines your child made the day before, and invite him to mail it to a family member or pet. Help him to put it into an envelope, lick it shut, and then you fill in the address. Child can write his name on a small piece of paper, which you add to upper left-hand corner, or if you have a return address label, let child place that there. Attach a stamp. Drive child (or walk) to the post office, and let him mail the card. In a few days, let him check the mail, and see how his card was mailed back to him. Then let him deliver the card to the family member.

Make Heart Shaped cookies: Use your favorite cut-out cookie recipe. You can make the dough ahead of time for very young children, or let the child help you make them. Roll out and cut with heart-shaped cutters. Decorate with colored sugar, then bake, or bake first, then decorate with frosting and cinnamon candies.

Hearts cutting practice: You draw (or trace) hearts on several sheets of construction paper. Let your

child (supervised) practice cutting out the hearts on the line. This is only for children who have had lots of experience with scissors. For younger children, just give them pieces of pink, red, or white paper and let them cut it up into bits. If the child sits in a box and cuts, then all the bits are trapped inside the box, and cleanup is easier. Otherwise, spread a sheet on the floor under the table. Pick it up and shake it carefully over a trash can when child is done. Those little bits of cut paper can be really hard to pick up!

Peppermint Playdough: make a new batch of playdough, substituting peppermint extract for the vanilla, and coloring it pink, or red and white, or making separate balls and using all three colors. Eventually, the child will mix it all together and it will all be pink, but the child will surely enjoy the mixing process! Recipe for playdough is found here: <http://raisingcreativechildren.com/homemade-play-dough-recipes/>

Color Mixing pictures: Place a sheet of colored construction paper in the bottom of a cake pan. Squirt a blob of white and red tempera paint on the paper. Add a marble or two. Child tilts the pan to get the marbles to roll through the paint, dragging color all over the paper. The child should be able to see red lines, pink lines, and white lines. Stop this activity before the picture is a muddy mess and let him make another picture. These pictures often turn out quite lovely! Watch the activity, though. You do not want a child to pop the marble in his mouth, or let the paint-covered marble fly out of the pan and onto a sofa or carpet. For a very young child, omit the marble, and let the child drag a straw through the paint blobs to mix the colors.

Shaving Cream Fingerpaint: This is a calming, quiet activity, easy to do and easy to clean up. Just spray a little shaving cream on a table top, and let the child play with it. (Or you can spray it on the wall in the shower, and give your child a bath). You can add a few drops of red paint or red food dye to the shaving cream, but then you should spray it on

freezer paper on the table, and have the child wear a smock. You can sprinkle red-colored sand on the shaving cream for a different texture. Have child smooch it, drag his finger through it, trace his name in it, drive a toy bulldozer through it, etc. When child is done, he washes his hands and you wash off the table. The room may smell nice and fresh after this activity, depending on the brand of shaving cream you use!

Matching Game: Cut out matching pairs of hearts from colored foam. Write capital and lower case letters on the pairs. For example, on a large pair of pink hearts, write an upper and lower case letter V, on a smaller red heart, write both upper and lower case letter a, etc. You can do the whole alphabet, or just the letters in Valentine. Or you can make matching pairs using numbers. One heart would have a picture of three objects and the matching heart would have the number 3, etc. Attach refrigerator magnets to the backs of the heart pairs, and either let the child match them up on the refrigerator, or on a steel cookie sheet (magnets don't stick to aluminum). Steel cookie sheets and magnetic pieces make a great car toy!

Candy Hearts Math: Buy a small box of conversation hearts. (Make sure child's hands are clean for this activity). Shake some out on a paper plate. Let child sort them by color. How many of each color? Look for similar messages on the hearts, or specific letters. An older child might be able to sort the hearts by messages. How many of each message? When done, child may eat the hearts.

Heart Stamped Cards: Use heart-shaped cookie cutter. Put a little pink or red paint on a paper plate. Dip cookie cutter in paint, then press cookie cutter on to white construction paper. Repeat. Let dry, then fold the card and let child sign his name, before giving it to a friend.

Hear My Heart Beat: Let your child lay his ear on your chest and listen for your heart beat. You can

listen to his heartbeat. Sometimes you can feel the heart beat at the wrist or the neck. Or you can use an empty toilet tissue roll like a stethoscope to hear the heart beat better. Once the child hears it, then both of you exercise. Do some jumping jacks, play tag, do sit-ups, or pump a swing. Then try listening to the heart beat again. Can your child tell the difference? Can he hear that your heart is beating faster?

Bird Valentine: Cut a piece of stale bread into a heart shape. Child spreads it with peanut butter, then presses bird seed onto the peanut butter. You could run a piece of ribbon or yarn through the heart and hang it on a tree, or lay the heart valentine on a windowsill or fence railing. Go inside and watch through the window – can you see birds eating the valentine? (If you have a webcam, it

would be great to aim it on the bread, so you can share images of the birds when they do come to eat.)

Make Valentines Bean Bags: Bean bags are easy to make! Start with some sturdy pink or red fabric (or felt), and cut into heart shapes about six inches across. Stitch almost all the way around the edge, turn outside right, partially fill with dry beans, and stitch the gap closed. You can stitch by hand, or by sewing machine. If you do not sew, You can partially fill pink or red socks, tie a knot in the ankle and throw them around. You can partially fill small zip bags with M&Ms, and toss them around, then eat them for snack. Bean bags are great toys – they can be thrown in the house, usually don't break anything, and don't make a lot of noise or mess. It's worth it to invest in a few.

Valentines: Monday

Date: _____

Concepts: Vv, 11, heart, pink

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity; Practice vocabulary words & concepts. Teach "Oh Valentine" song.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Play lotto. (Can make a Valentine lotto using seasonal stickers)
8:15	Free Play: Set out props in dramatic play, blocks, music, & books areas.
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack: use a heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut American cheese into hearts.
10:15	Outside time:
11:15	Project: Make Valentines Cards
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash hands
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time
4:30	Table Time: Rice Play. Worksheet 1.
4:45	Project: Make Heart-shaped cookies
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journals
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed

Valentines: Tuesday

Date: _____

Concepts: : Vv, 11, heart, pink

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity; Vocabulary words; Concepts, Songs Teach I'll Make a Valentine
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Puzzles
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside time
11:15	Project: Post Office. Have child mail a valentine to a family member or pet
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time:
4:30	Table Time: worksheet 2.
4:45	Project: Fingerpaint with Shaving Cream
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journals
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

Valentines: Wednesday

Date: _____

Concepts: Vv, 11, heart, pink

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity; Vocabulary words; Songs.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Hearts cutting practice
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside
11:15	Project : Make new peppermint-scented Playdough
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time
4:30	Table Time: worksheet 3.
4:45	Project: Color mixing Pictures
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journals
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

Valentines: Thursday

Date: _____

Concepts: Vv, 11, heart, pink

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity; Vocabulary; Songs.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Lacing Cards
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside
11:15	Project : Candy Hearts Math
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time
4:30	Table Time: worksheet 4.
4:45	Project: Heart Stamped cards
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journal
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

Valentines: **Friday**

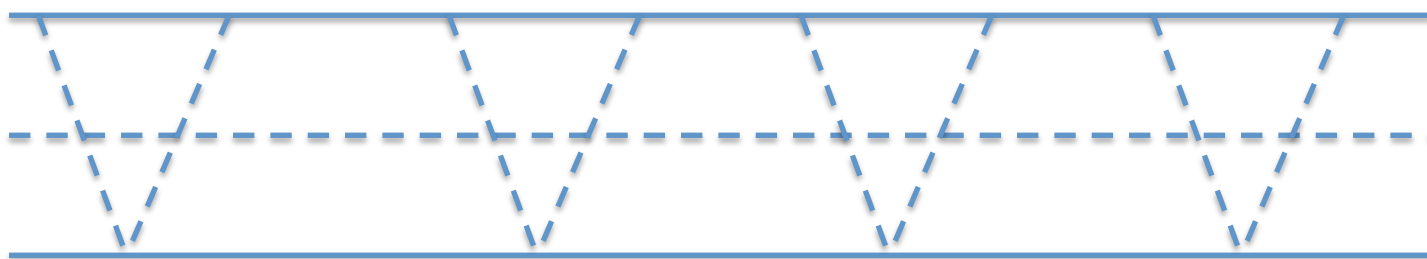
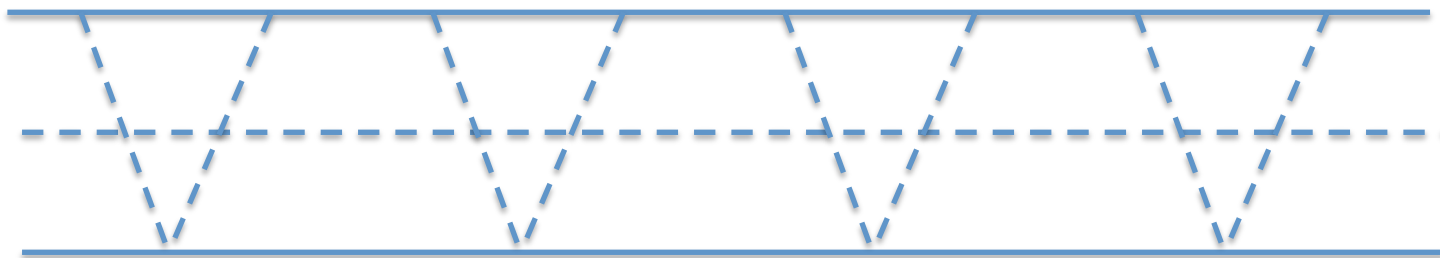
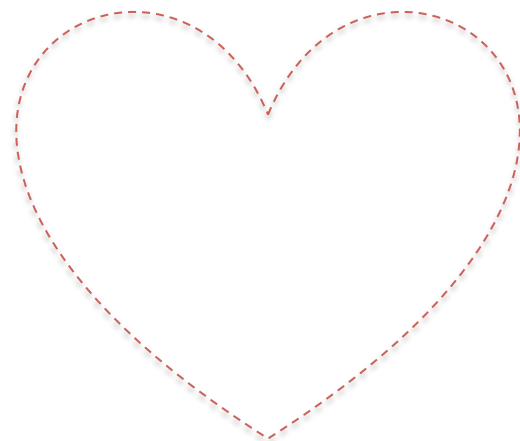
Date: _____

Concepts: Vv, 11, heart, pink

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity; Vocabulary words; Songs.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities (scissors practice/colorforms/tiddlywinks/discovery/sensory play)
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside: hear my heart beat
11:15	Project: Bird Valentine
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside
4:30	Table Time: worksheet 5.
4:45	Project: Make Valentine Bean Bags, toss them around
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journal
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

V is for Valentine, worksheet 1

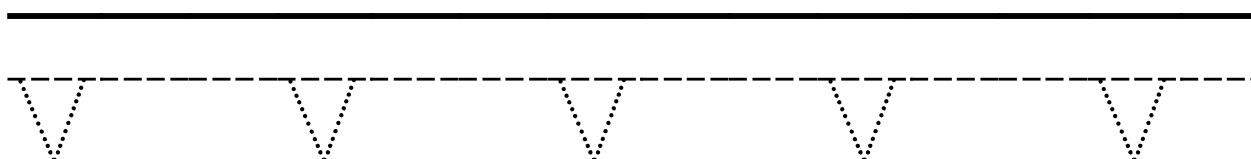
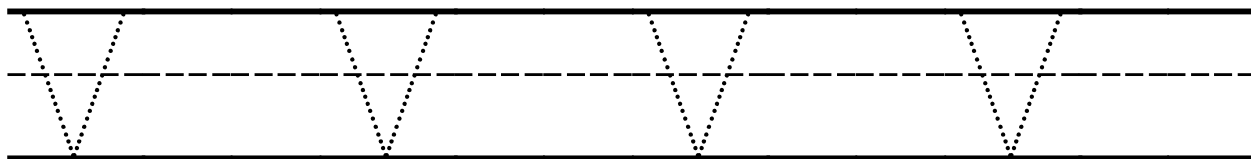
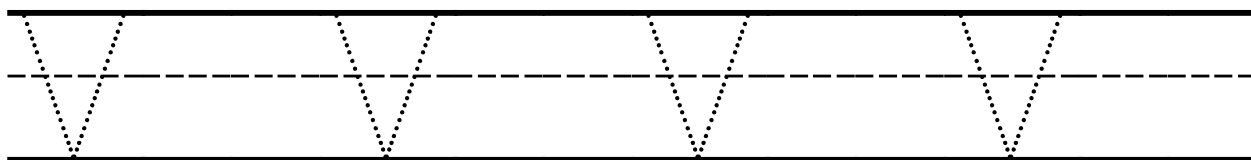
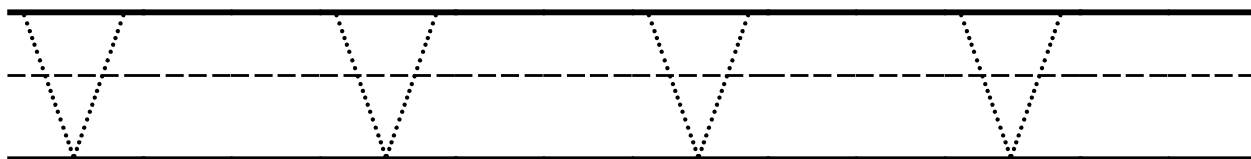
V is for
Valentine



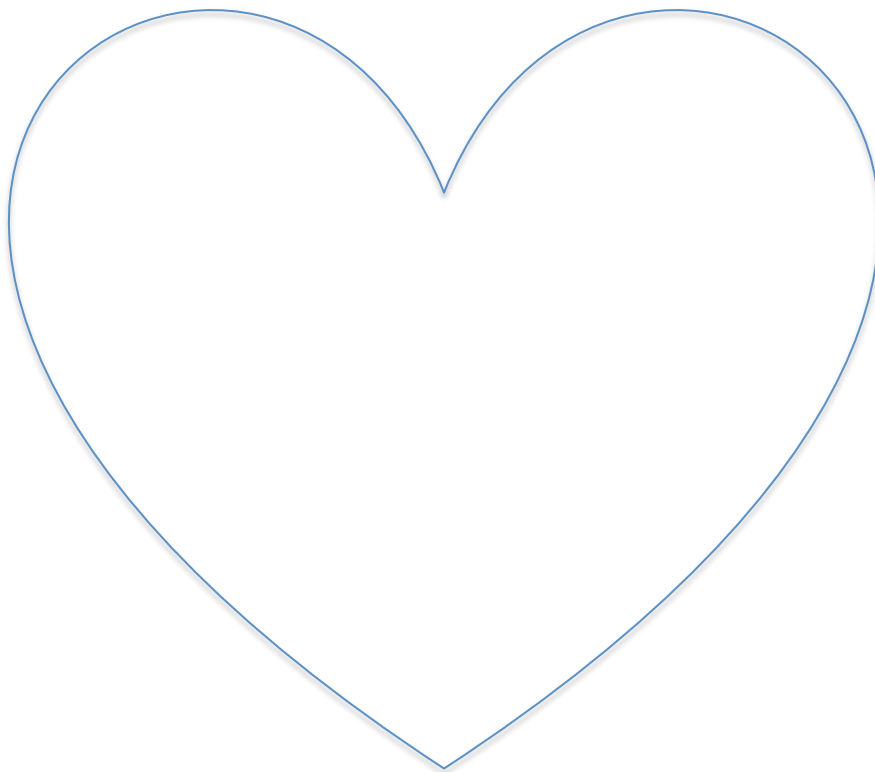
Worksheet 2: Circle the things that start with the sound of the letter V.



Practice writing:



Color the valentine pink. Decorate it however you want. Then practice writing the word below.



Pink Pink

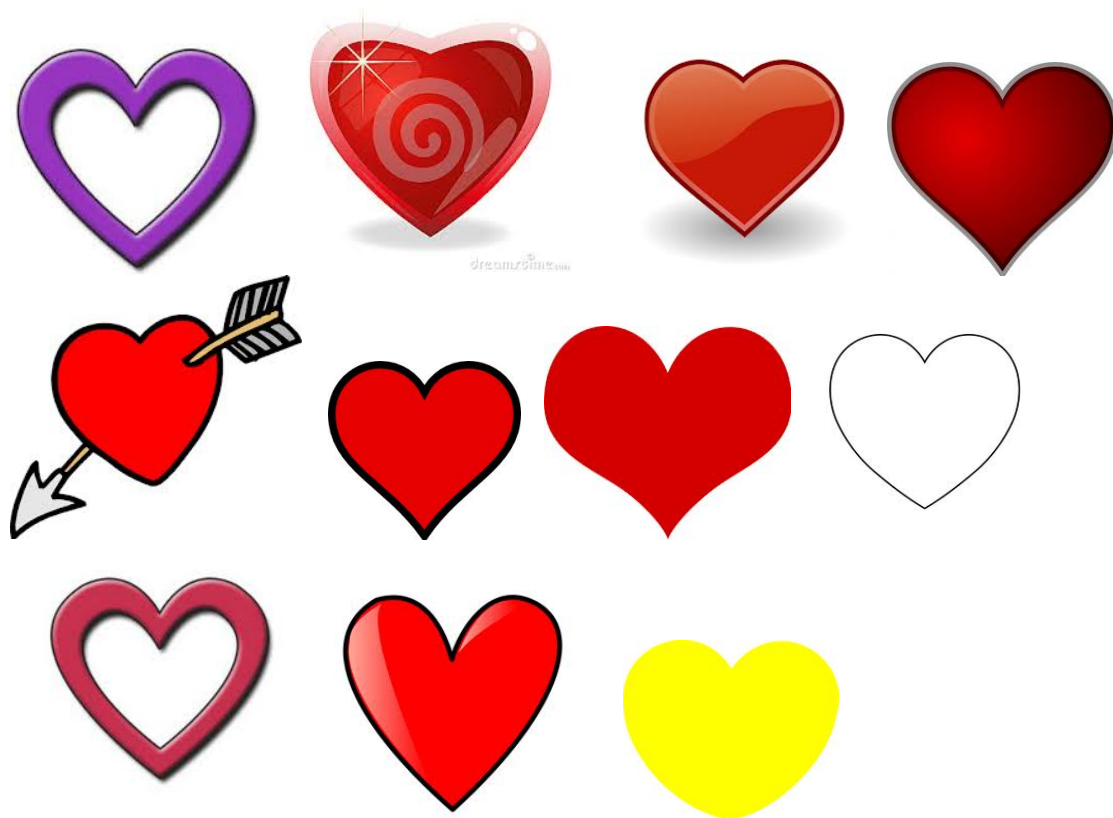
pink pink



V is for violin.

V is for

Valentine.



How many?

1 1

1 1

1 1

1 1

1 1

1 1

1 1

1 1