



Welcome to the Animal Restaurant

Make pretend foods from playdough, then use numbered order slips to serve a line of animal customers in sequence.

Helps Your Child Grow



Counting and Cardinality

Matching each order number with an animal's place in line helps your child connect larger numbers with later positions in a sequence.



Fine Motor

Rolling, pressing, molding, and releasing playdough foods gives your child practice using finger strength and control.



What You'll Need



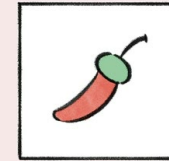
Playdough



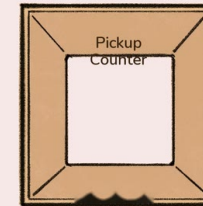
Food molds



Toy animals



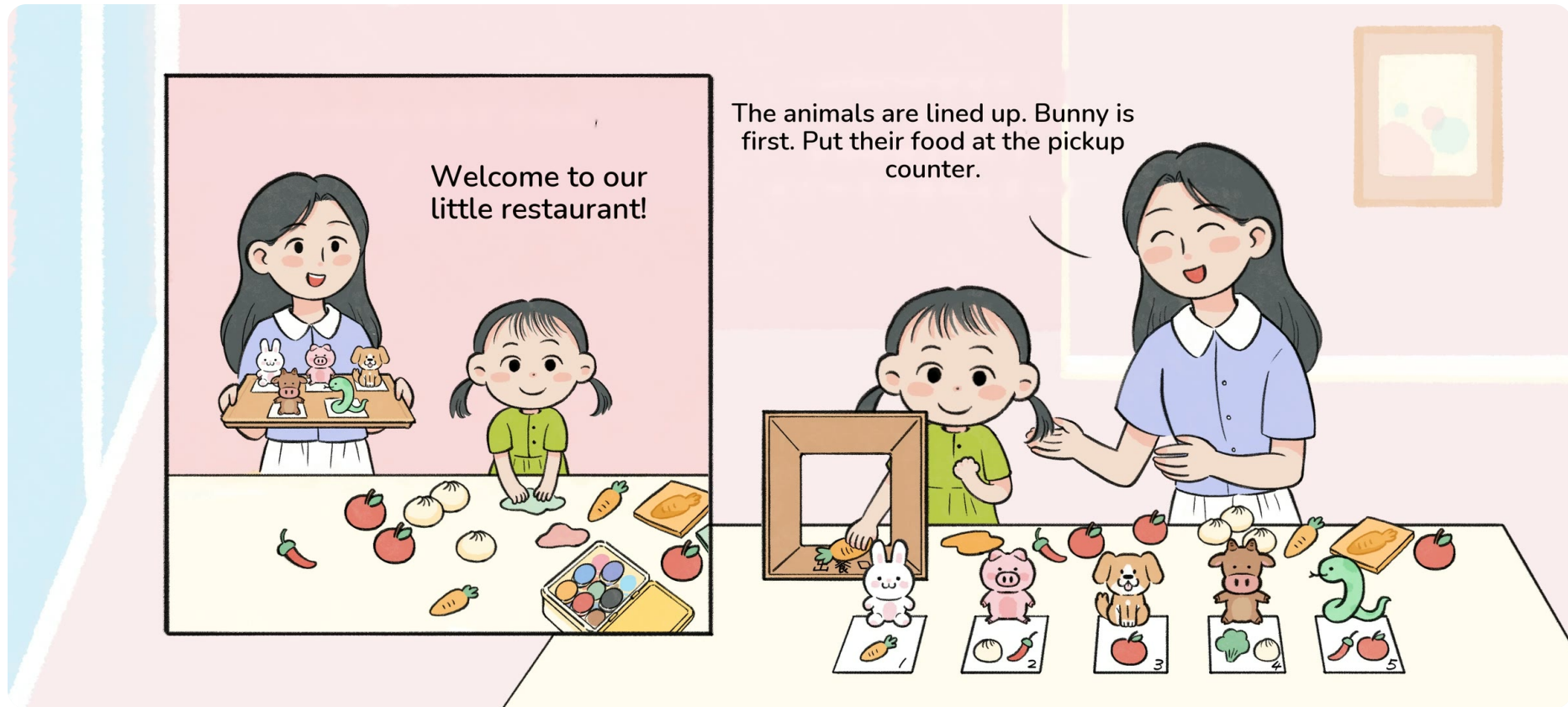
Draw each order on
a blank note



Cardboard

What You'll Need

1. Playdough, food-shaped molds, small animal figures, blank sticky notes with the animals' orders drawn in advance, and cardboard arranged as a serving window



Put the Animals in Line

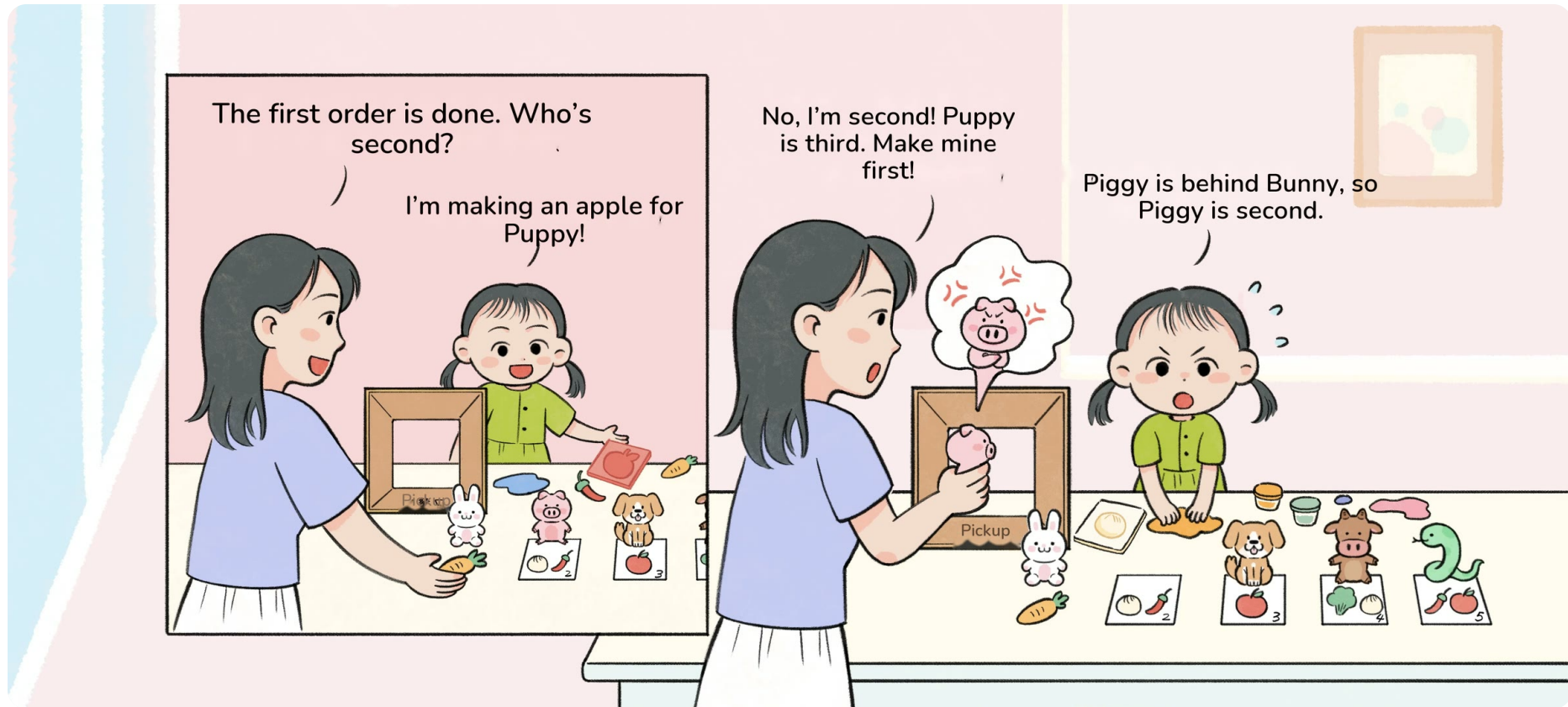
Invite the animals to order from your child's playdough restaurant. Arrange the customers in a line, place the matching order slip in front of each one, and number the slips from 1 to 5. Ask the restaurant owner to serve them in order.

Observations

- Uses a playdough mold to make pretend food
- Begins with the order slip numbered 1

Tips

- Prompt your child to check the number on each order slip before deciding which one to make first.



No Cutting in Line

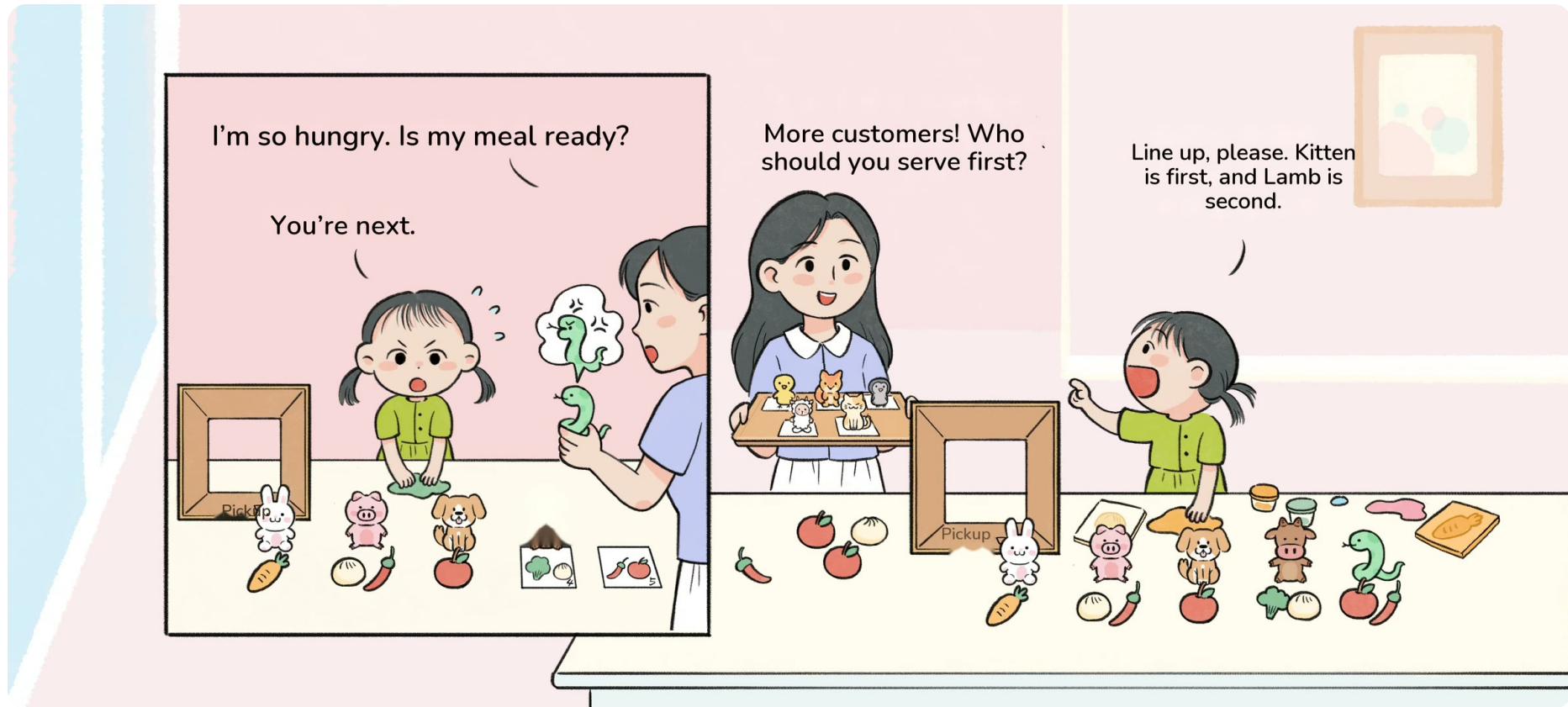
If your child skips an order, speak as the animal who was passed over: “Hey, I was next.” Invite your child to look at the line and the numbers again, then decide which food should be served next.

Observations

- Responds to the feelings of the animal whose turn was skipped
- Stays focused while making the playdough food

Tips

- Filling the orders makes the relationship between the written number and each animal's position in line visible.



New Customers Arrive

Let an animal near the back of the line ask when the food will be ready. See whether your child can keep serving in order while the restaurant gets busy. After all five orders, add new customers and invite your child to arrange and number the line.

Observations

- Lines up the animals in numerical order
- Explains where the animals should stand in line

Tips

- After arranging the animals, invite your child to write 1 through 5 on the order slips.