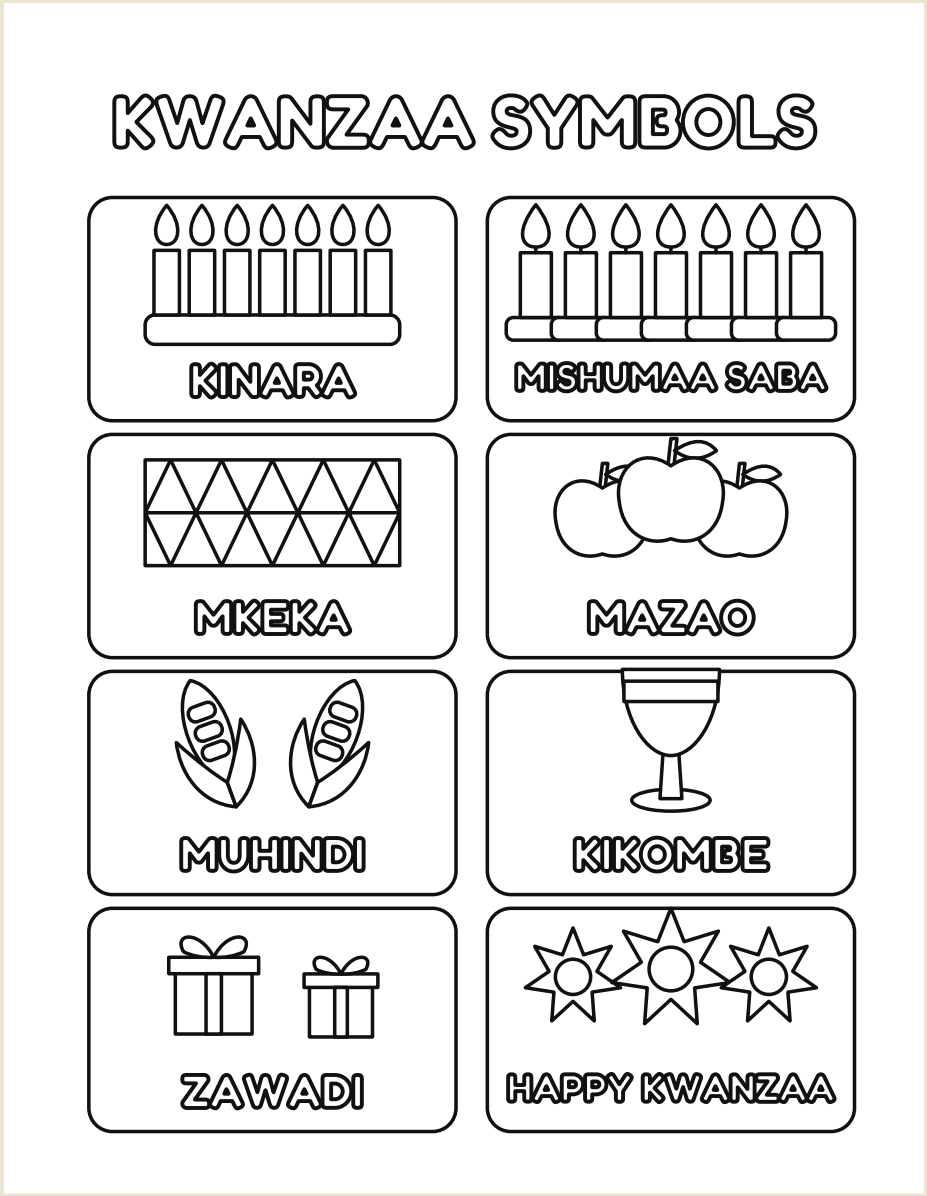
Colouring Nest

Kwanzaa Activity Pack

Free classroom pack for ages 5 to 9 | 37 pages | 16 activities

Reader, word mat, display, craft, coloring, principles, puzzles and answer keys



More for Kwanzaa: colouringnest.com/activity-packs/kwanzaa-activity-pack/

Every page in this pack is also free on our site, one by one. Free for home, home-school and classroom use; please do not sell or republish the pages.

Kwanzaa Activity Pack: contents

3-5 **Reader: reading questions, fold-up mini-book and answer key**
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa/

6-8 **Word mat in color and word cards, 8 to a page**
colouringnest.com/word-mats/kwanzaa-word-mat/

9-22 **Bunting: 13 flags to color and a page border**
colouringnest.com/templates/happy-kwanzaa-bunting/

23 **Craft: paper kinara with 7 flames to add, one a day**
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24 **Coloring page: the seven symbols**
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25 **Coloring page: kinara**
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27 **Principle 2: Kujichagulia (self-determination)**
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28 **Principle 3: Ujima (working together)**
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29 **Principle 4: Ujamaa (cooperative economics)**
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colouringnest.com/messages/happy-kwanzaa/

34-35 **Word search with answer key**
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36-37 **Literacy: word scramble with answers**
colouringnest.com/word-scramble/kwanzaa-word-scramble/

Teacher note

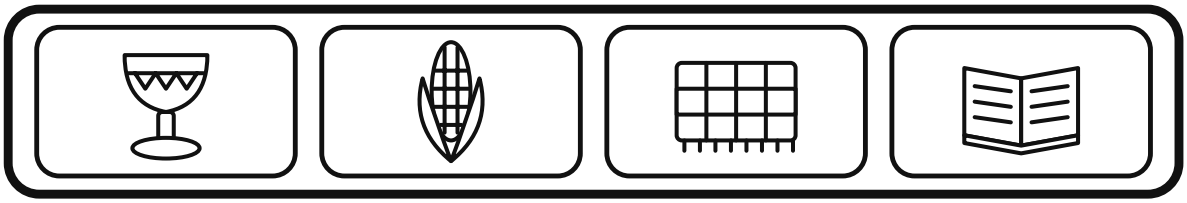
Read the mini-book first and keep the word mat out for writing. Make the paper kinara on day 1, then add one flame and color one principle page a day, from Umoja on 26 December to Imani on 1 January, and talk about what it means. Color the Happy Kwanzaa bunting flags in black, red and green for the display. The symbols pages, the card, the word search and the word scramble fill the rest of the week. Answer keys are in the pack; pull them out before you photocopy.

Kwanzaa runs from Saturday 26 December 2026 to Friday 1 January 2027, one principle a day.

Printing: print at 100% (actual size). The reader's mini-book is one sheet that folds into 8 little pages; the steps are on its web page. The word mat pages are landscape. Each page has a QR code that opens its own page, where it can also be colored online or printed again on its own.

What is Kwanzaa?

Read the book, then answer the questions.



Words: Swahili | principle | unity | kinara | mkeka

1. **How many days does Kwanzaa last?**

2. **Who started Kwanzaa?**

3. **What colours are the candles on a kinara?**

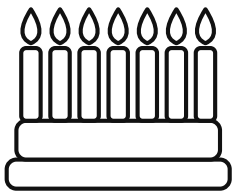
4. **What is the Kwanzaa feast called?**

5. **Why do you think books and handmade things are good Kwanzaa gifts?**

Name _____ **Date** _____ colouringnest.com

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What is Kwanzaa?



A Colouring Nest reader

Name _____

Words to know

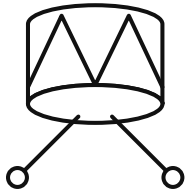
Swahili
a language spoken in East Africa

principle
an idea about how to live well

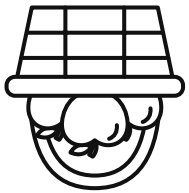
unity
being together as one

kinara
a candle holder for seven candles

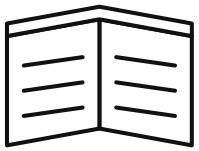
mkeka
a straw mat



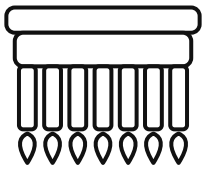
Kwanzaa is a celebration of African American family, community and culture. It lasts for seven days, from 26 December to 1 January.



Kwanzaa was started in 1966 by Dr Maulana Karenga, a teacher in the United States. Its name comes from Swahili words that mean first fruits of the harvest.



Each day has one of seven principles. A principle is an idea about how to live well. The principles include unity, working together, purpose, creativity and faith.



Families light a candle holder called a kinara. It holds seven candles: three red, three green and one black in the middle. One more candle is lit each day.

cut



On 31 December, many families share a big feast called Karamu. Some give small gifts, often books or handmade things.

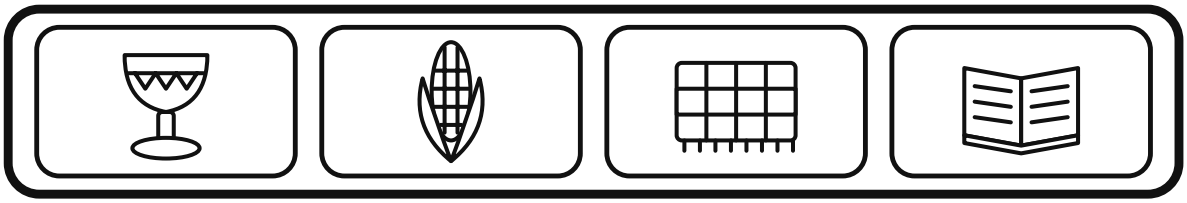


The kinara sits on a straw mat called a mkeka, with ears of corn and a unity cup. The corn stands for children, and the cup stands for unity.

Colour online, answer key and more:
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Answers

Answer key: What is Kwanzaa?



Words: Swahili | principle | unity | kinara | mkeka

1. How many days does Kwanzaa last?

   Seven days

2. Who started Kwanzaa?

   Dr Maulana Karenga

3. What colours are the candles on a kinara?

   Red, green and black

4. What is the Kwanzaa feast called?

   Karamu

5. Why do you think books and handmade things are good Kwanzaa gifts?

   Possible answer: they help people learn and be creative, like the principles

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Kwanzaa Word Mat

Look, say, write.



kinara



candles
mishumaa



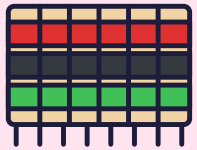
unity cup
kikombe cha umoja



corn
muhindi



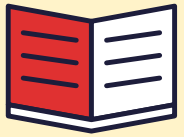
harvest
mazao



mat
mkeka



gifts
zawadi



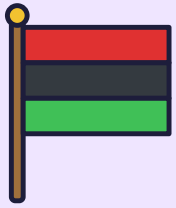
book



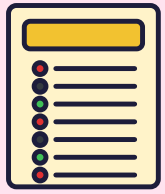
feast
karamu



drum
ngoma



flag
bendera



principles
Nguzo Saba

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Kwanzaa Word Cards

Cut on the dashed lines. Sheet 1 of 2.



kinara



candles

mishumaa



unity cup

kikombe cha umoja



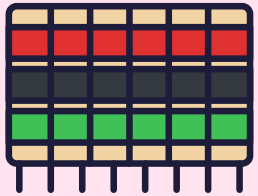
corn

muhindi



harvest

mazao



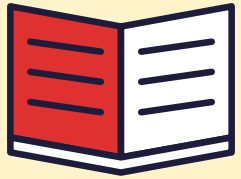
mat

mkeka



gifts

zawadi



book

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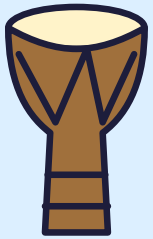
Kwanzaa Word Cards

Cut on the dashed lines. Sheet 2 of 2.



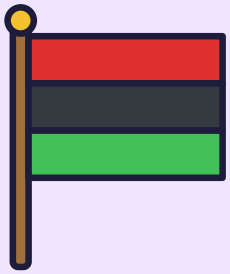
feast

karamu



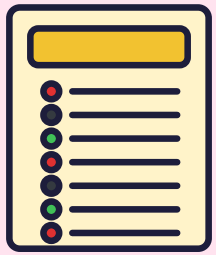
drum

ngoma



flag

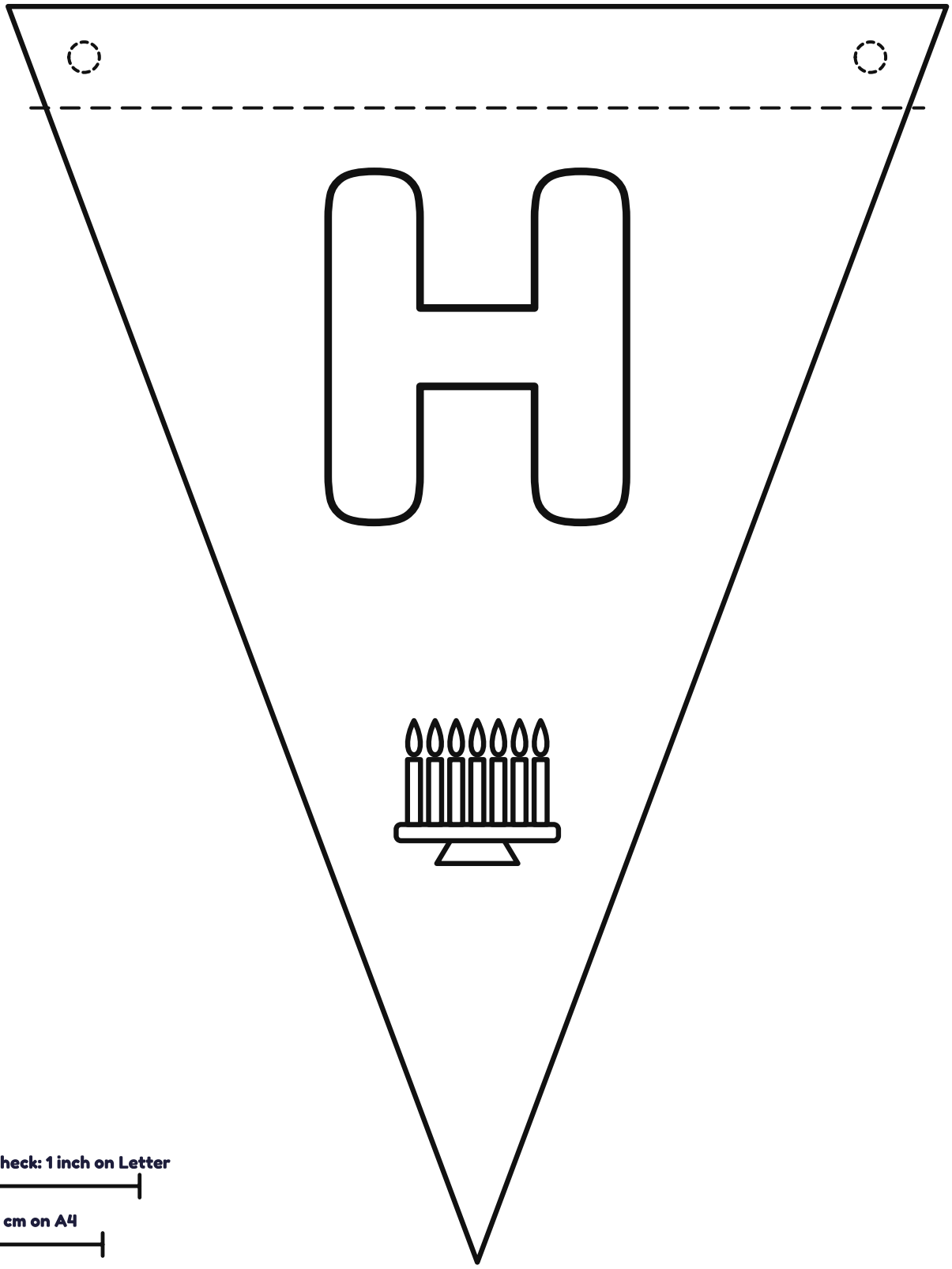
bendera



principles

Nguzo Saba

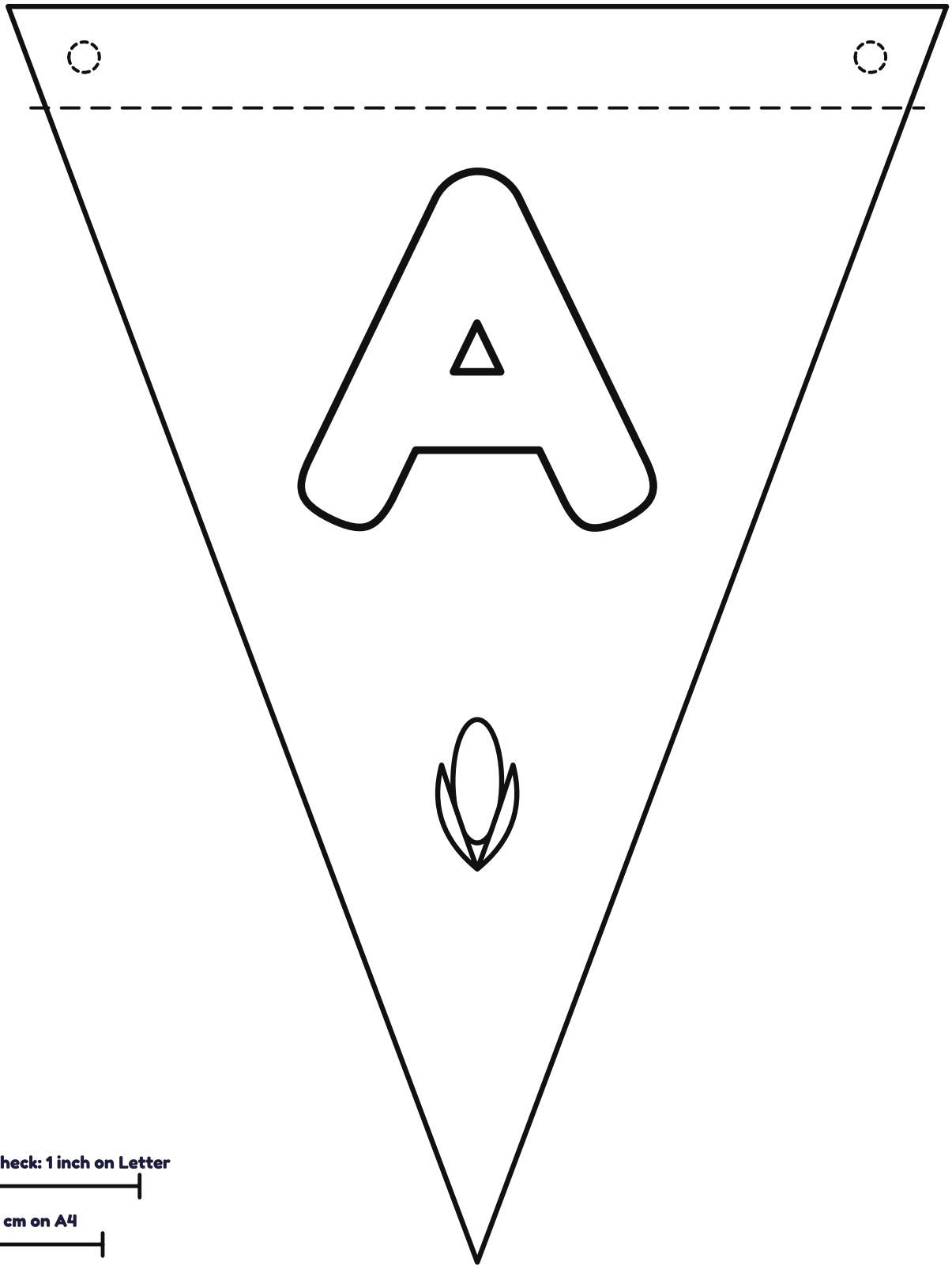
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Check: 1 inch on Letter

2 cm on A4

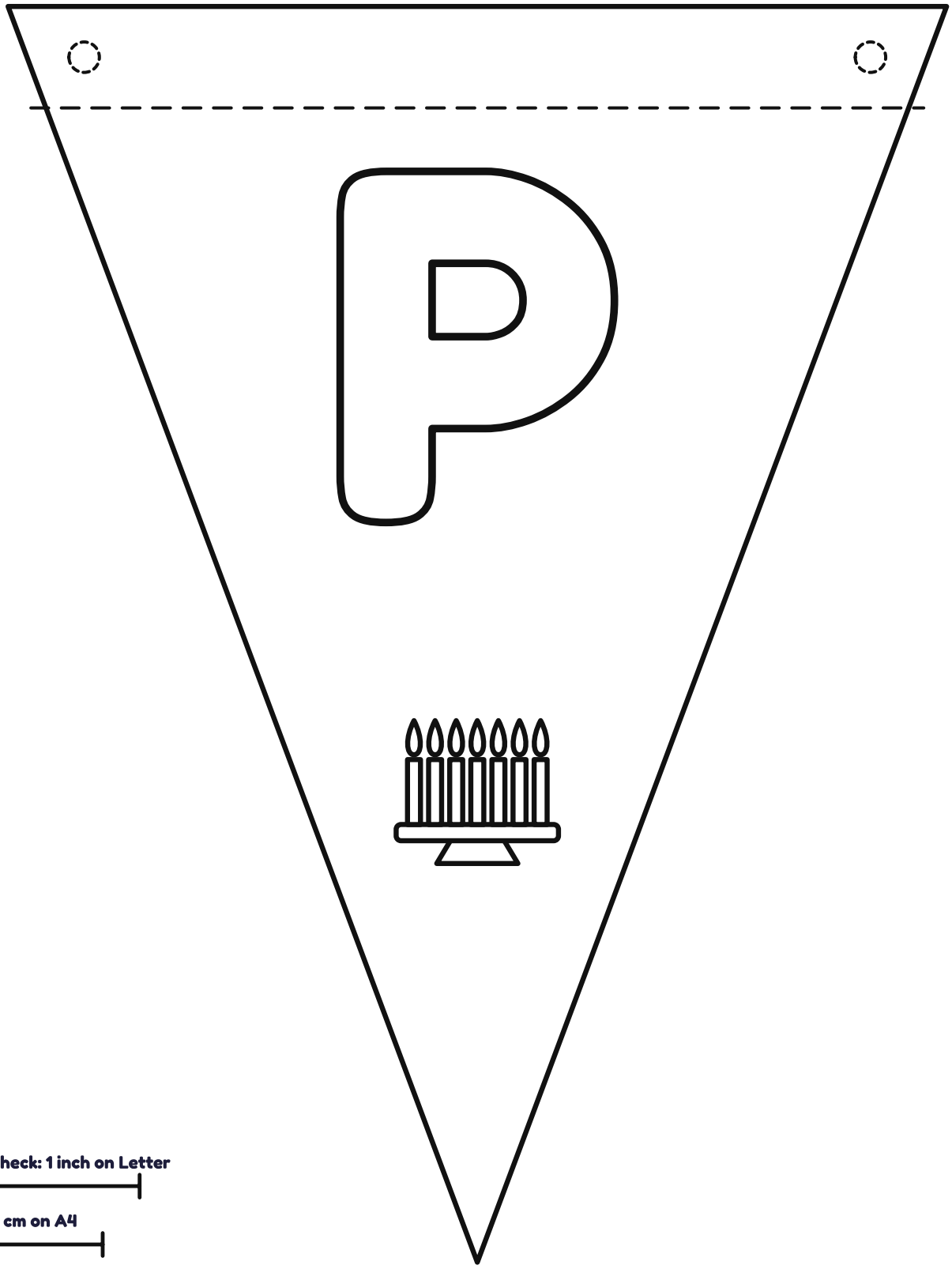
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2 cm on A4

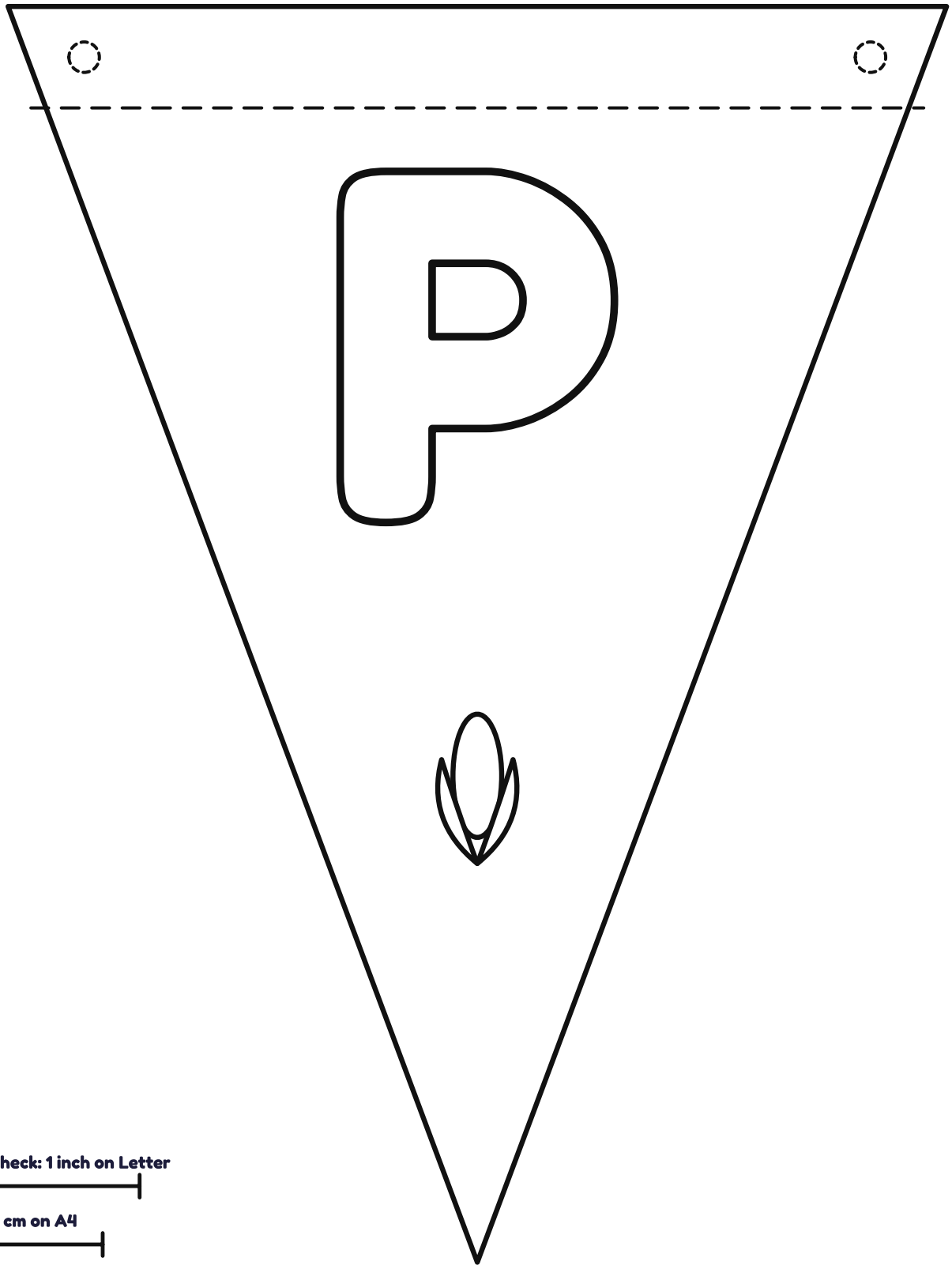
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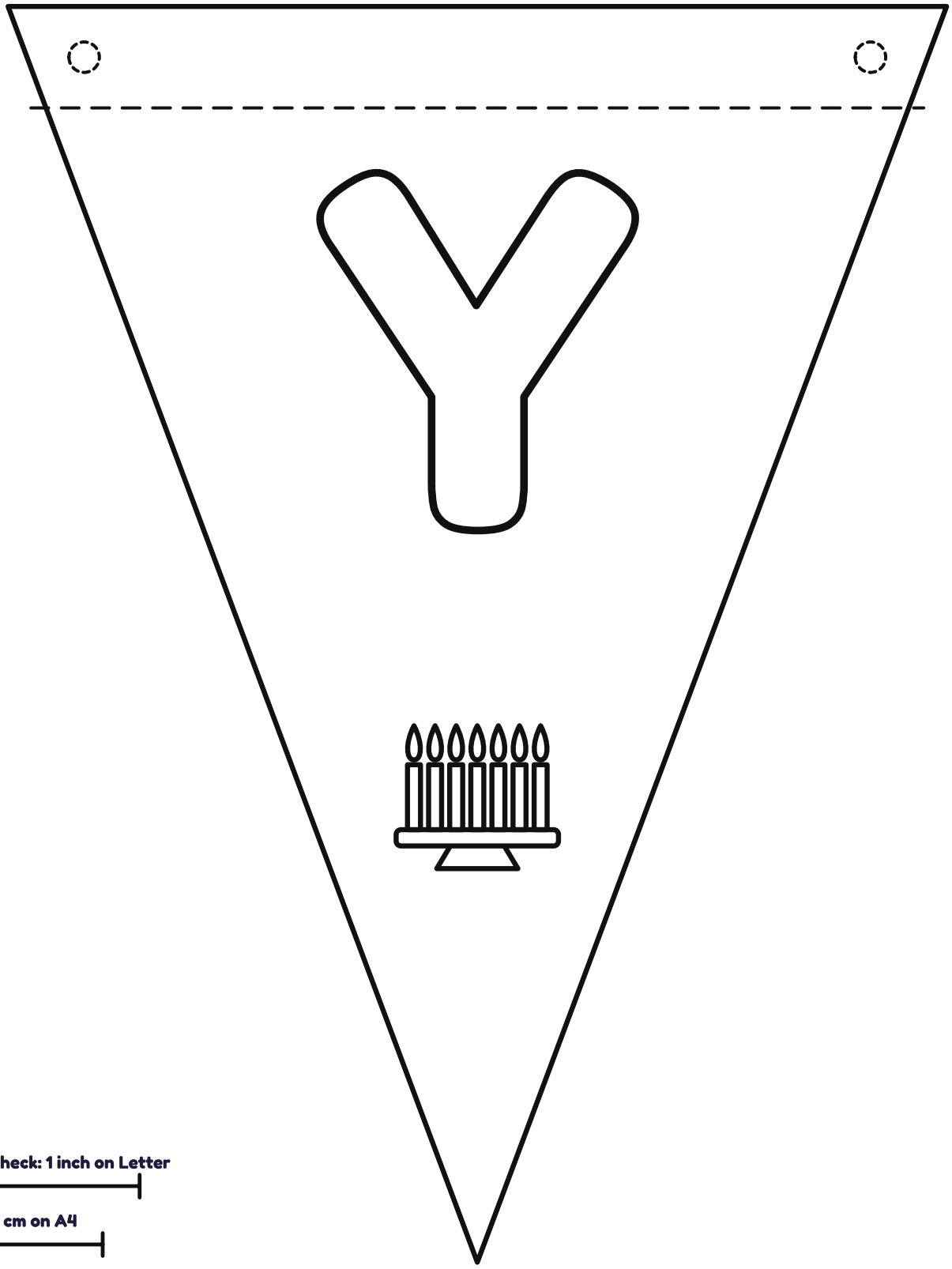
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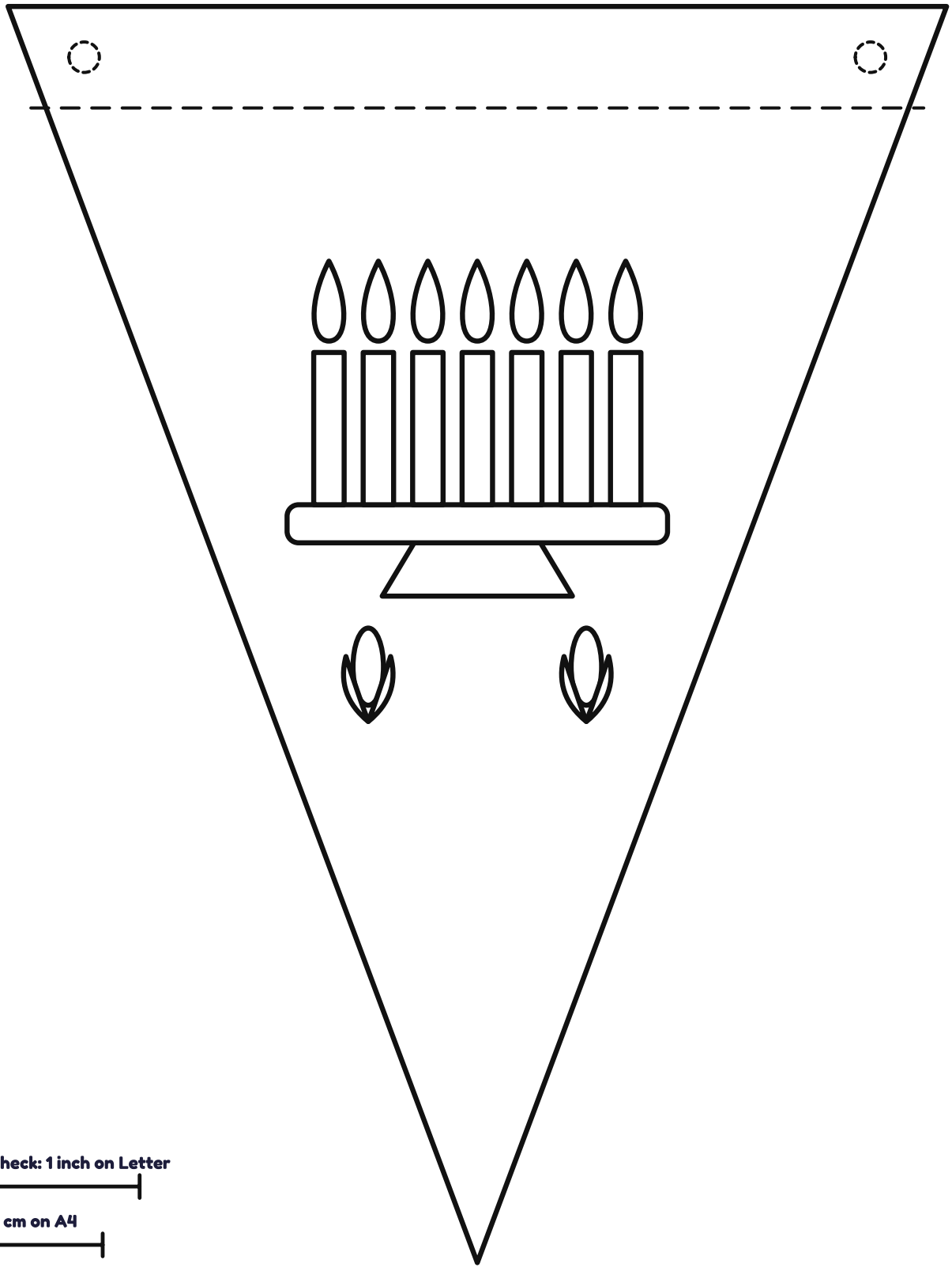
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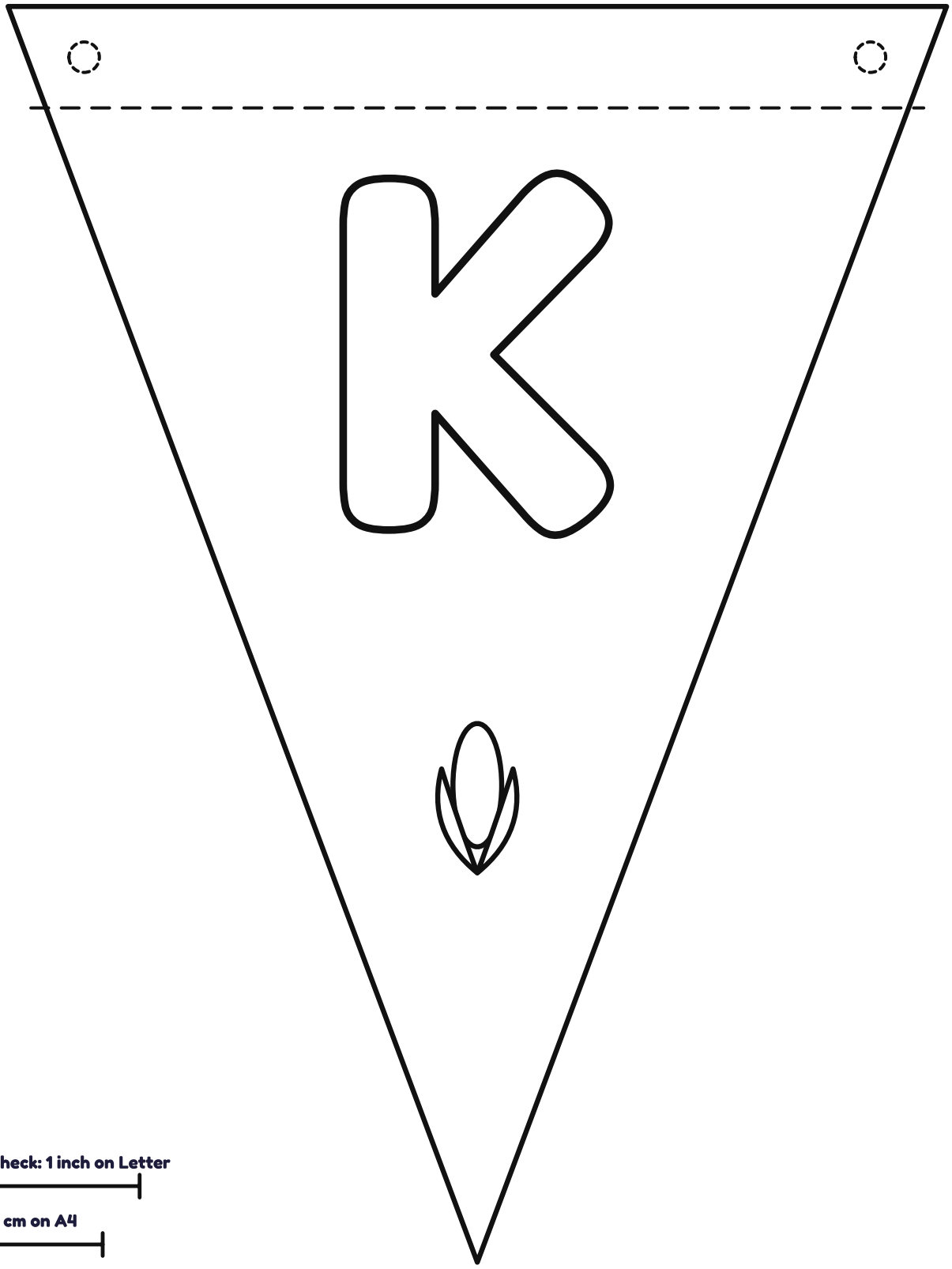
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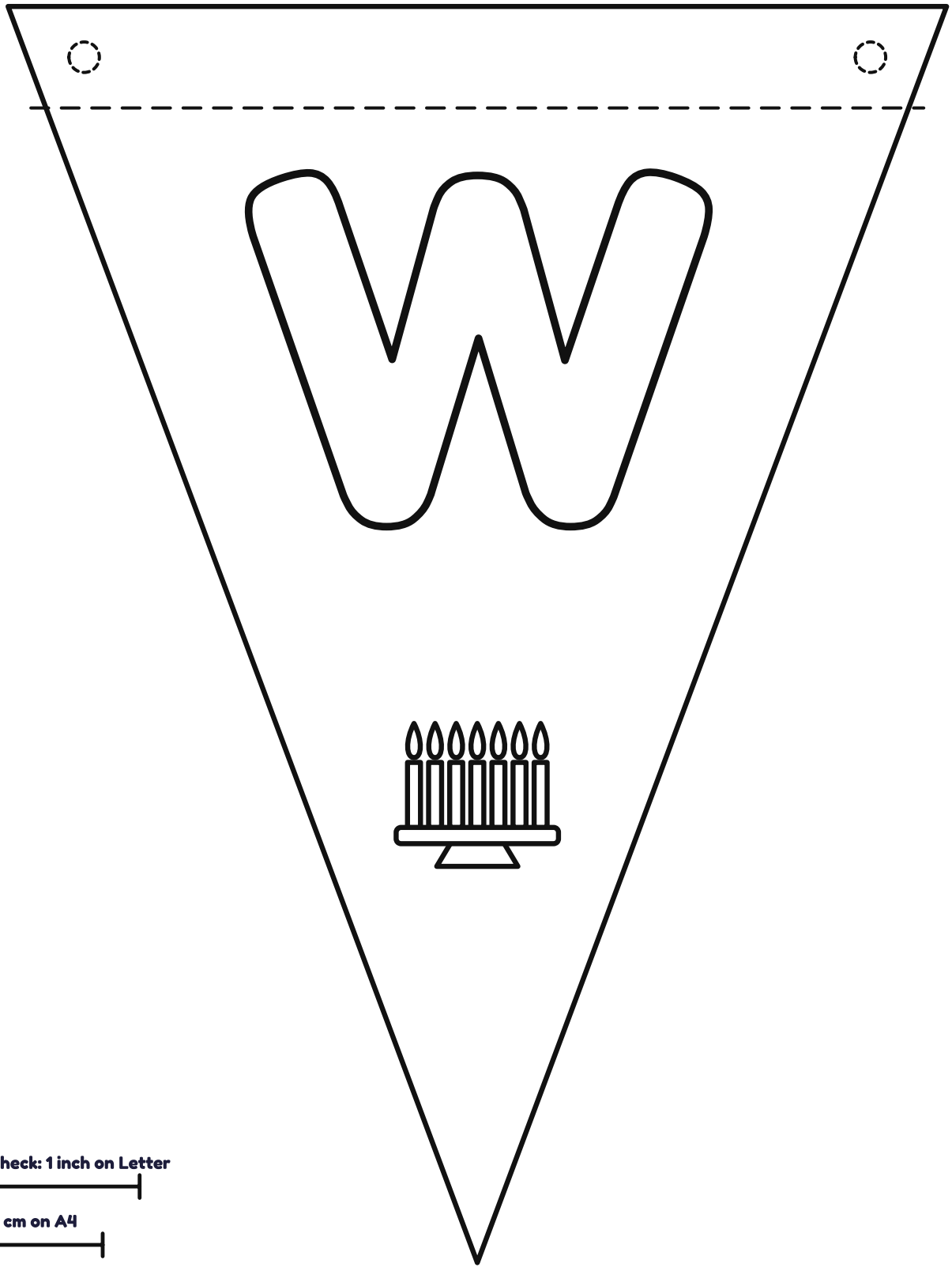
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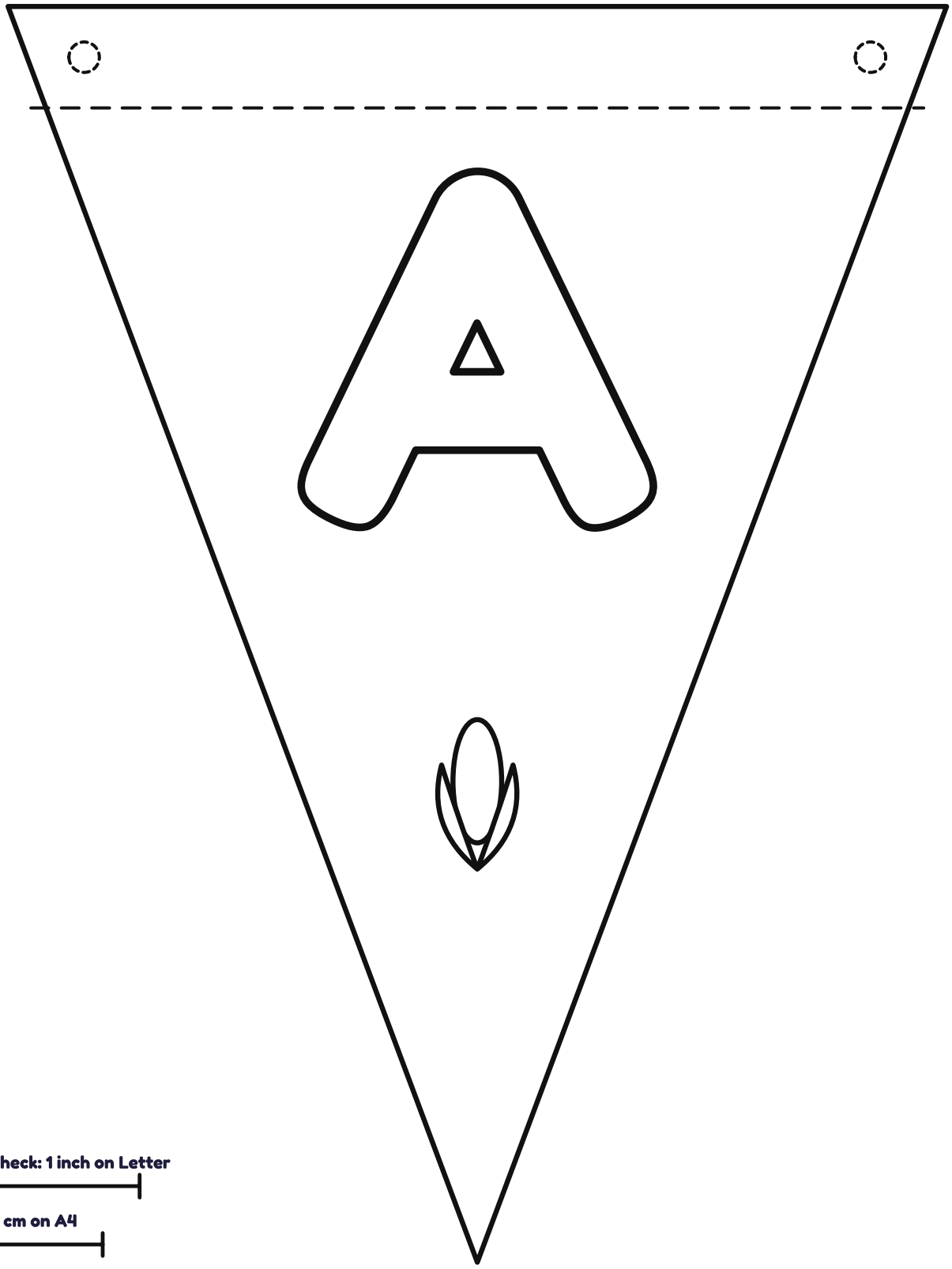
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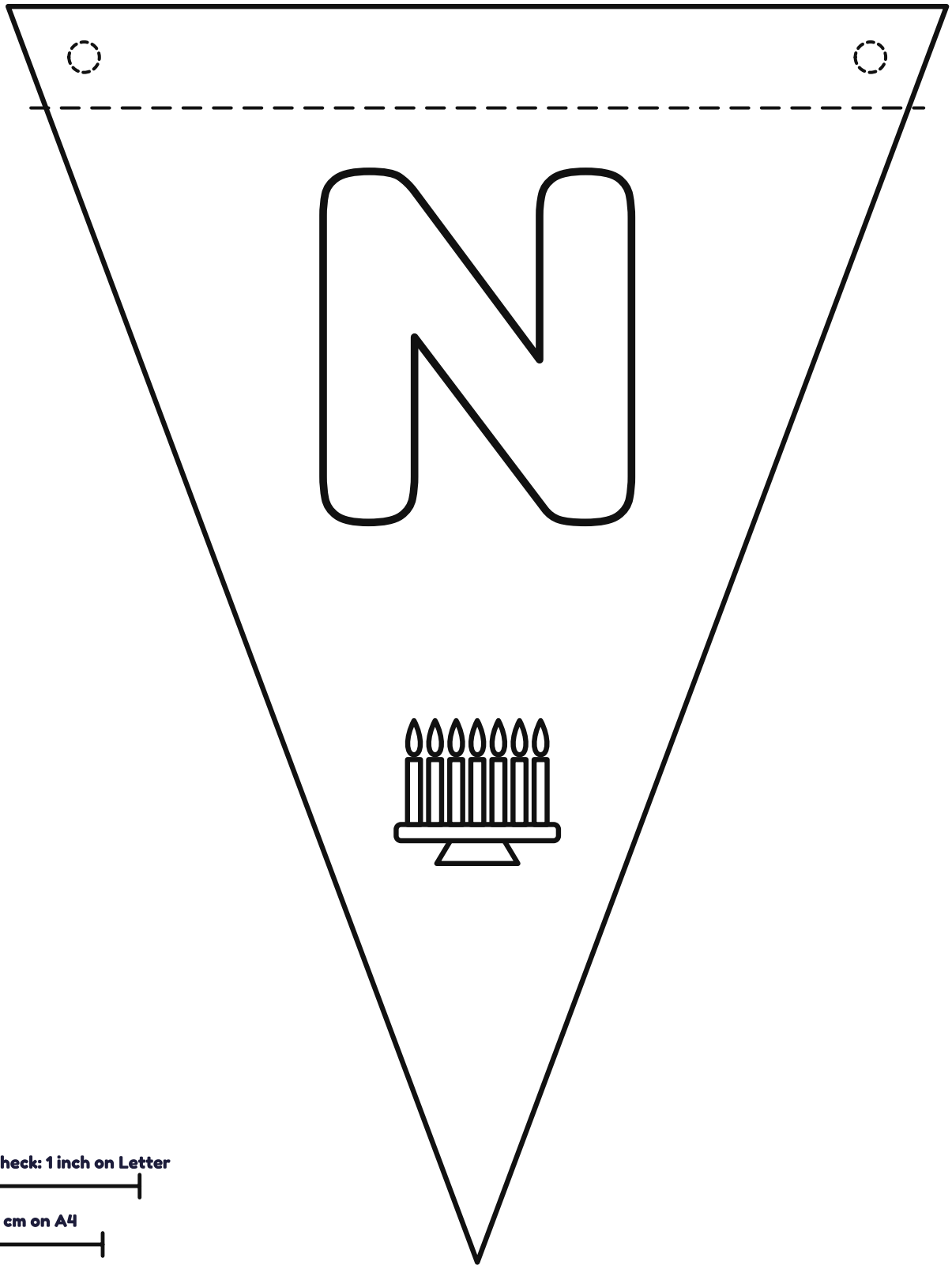
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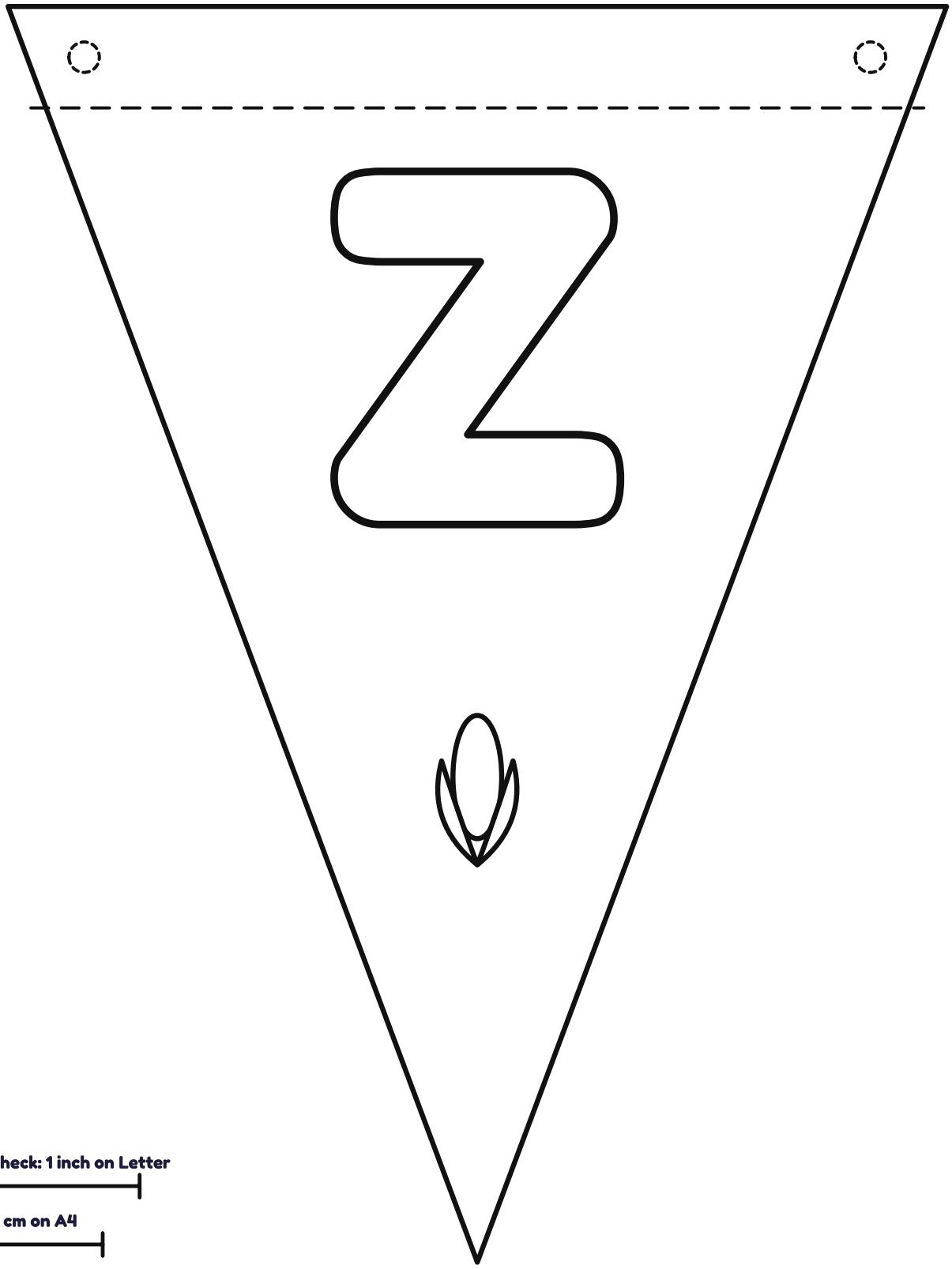
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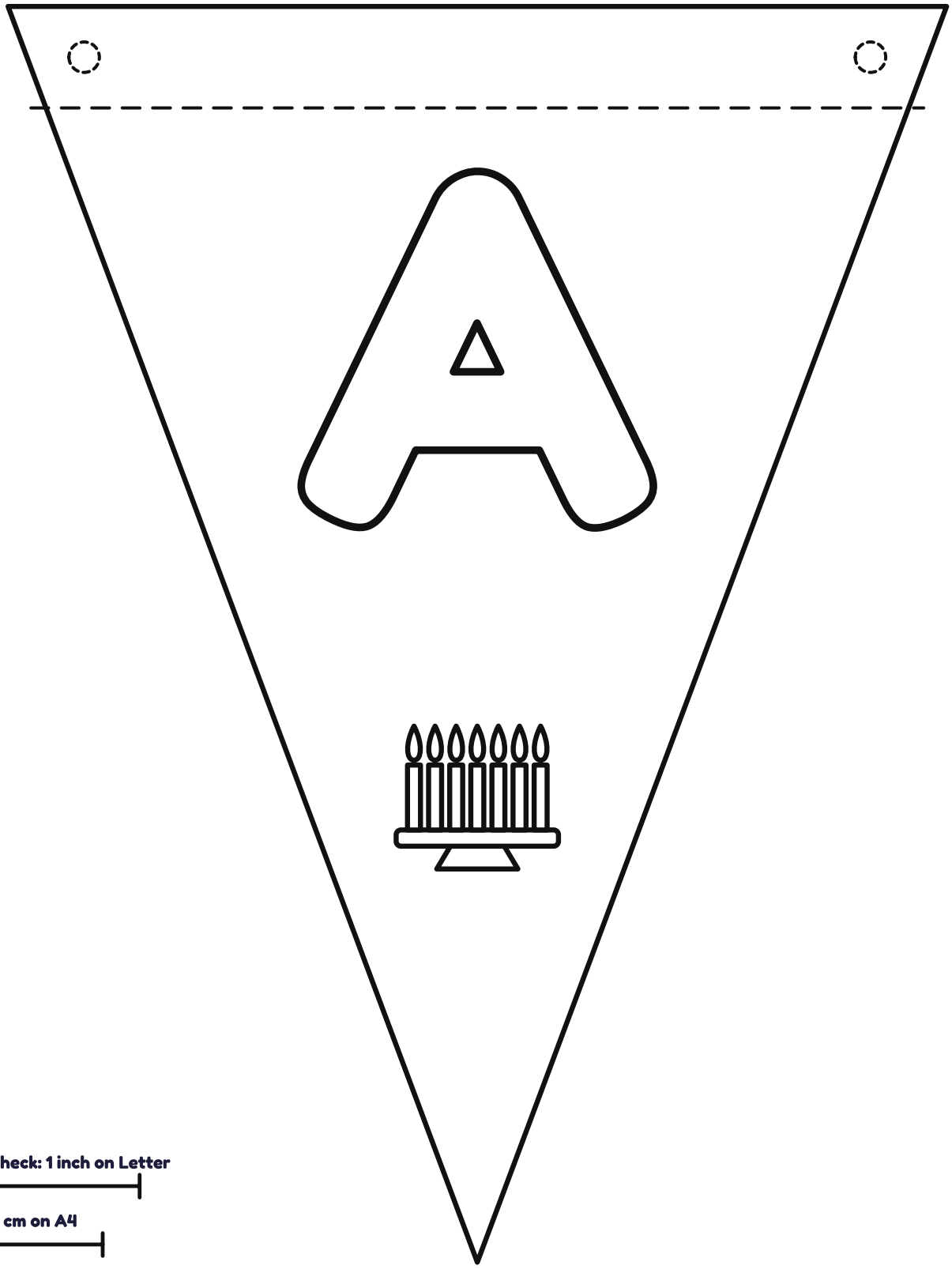
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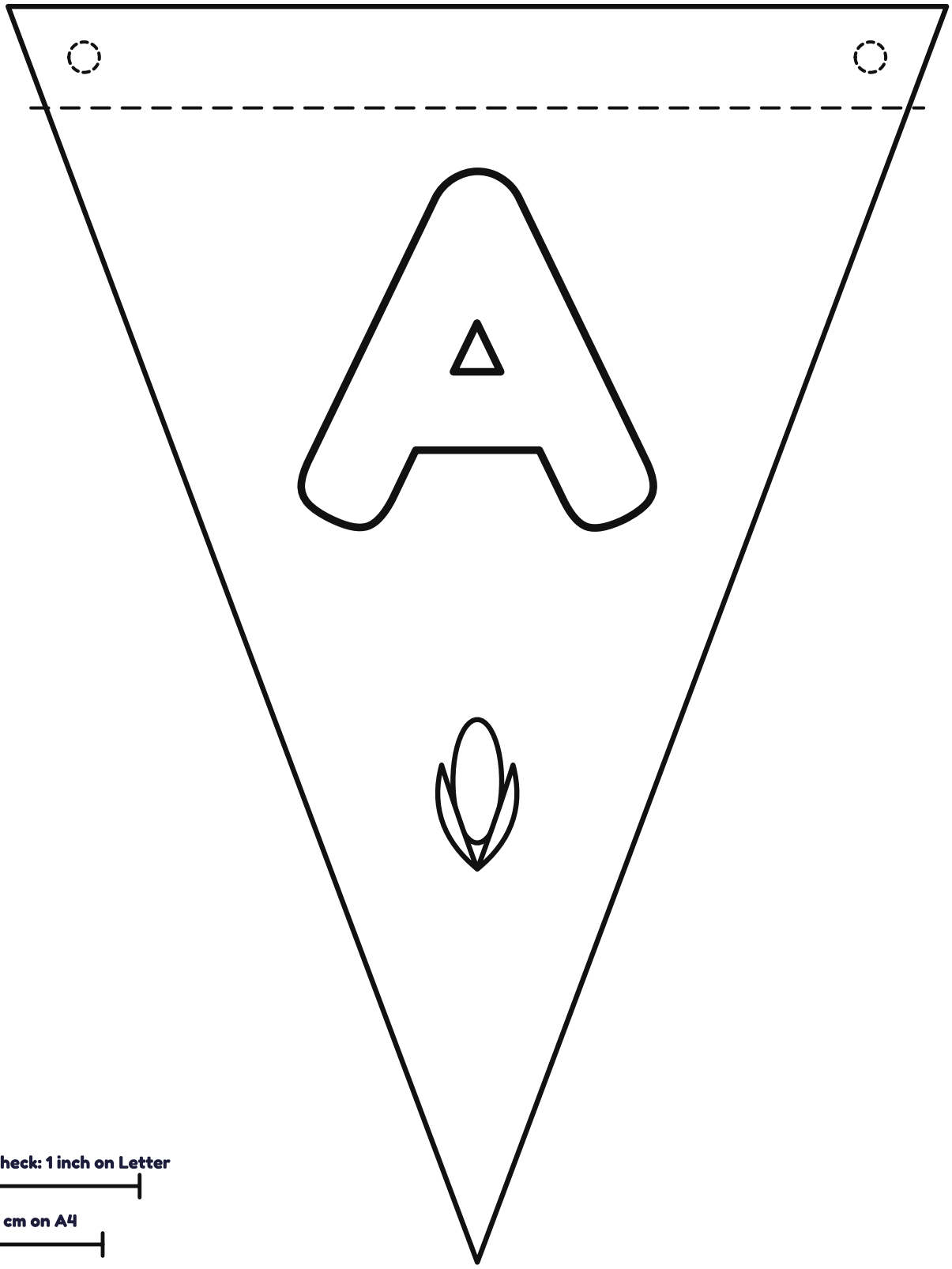
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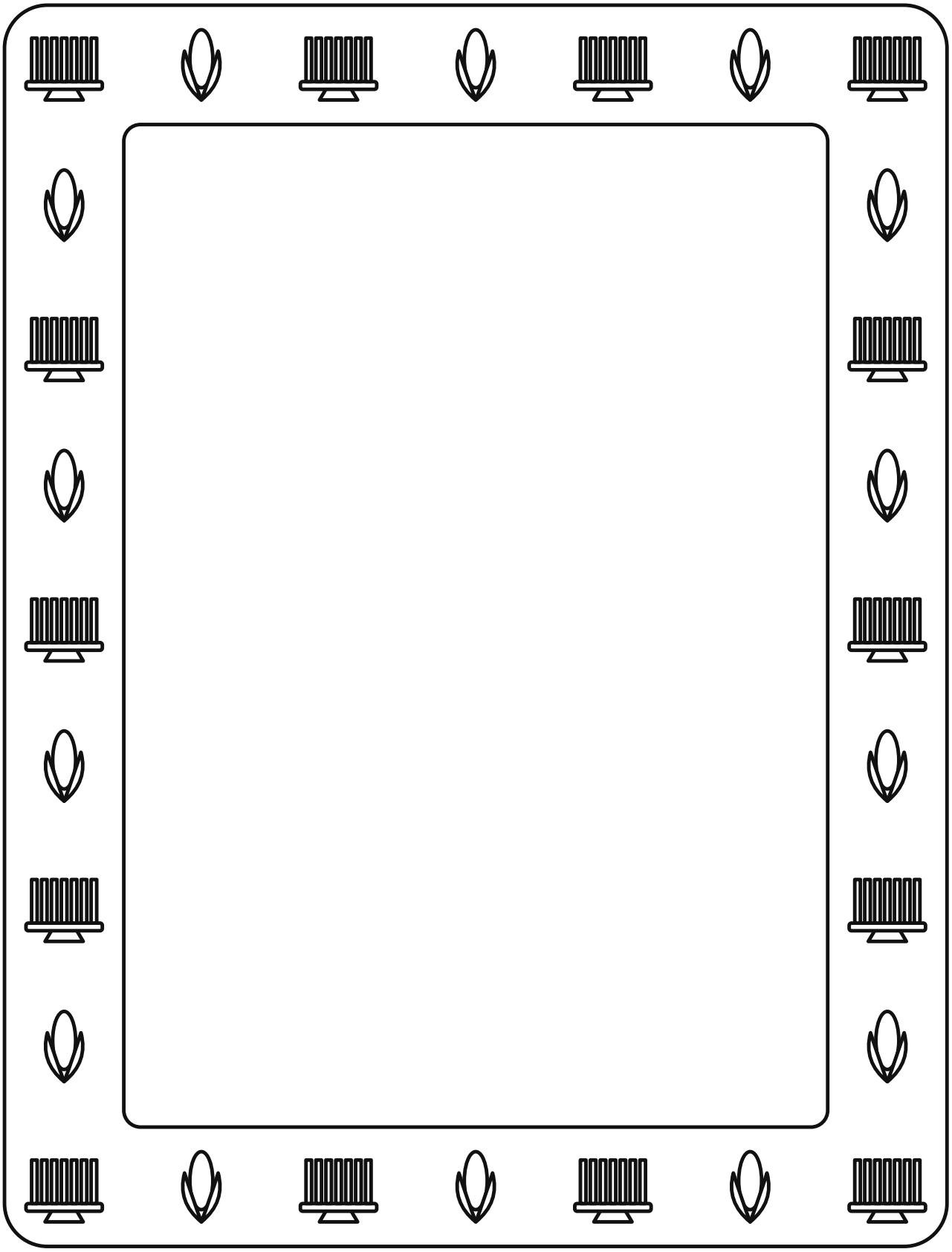
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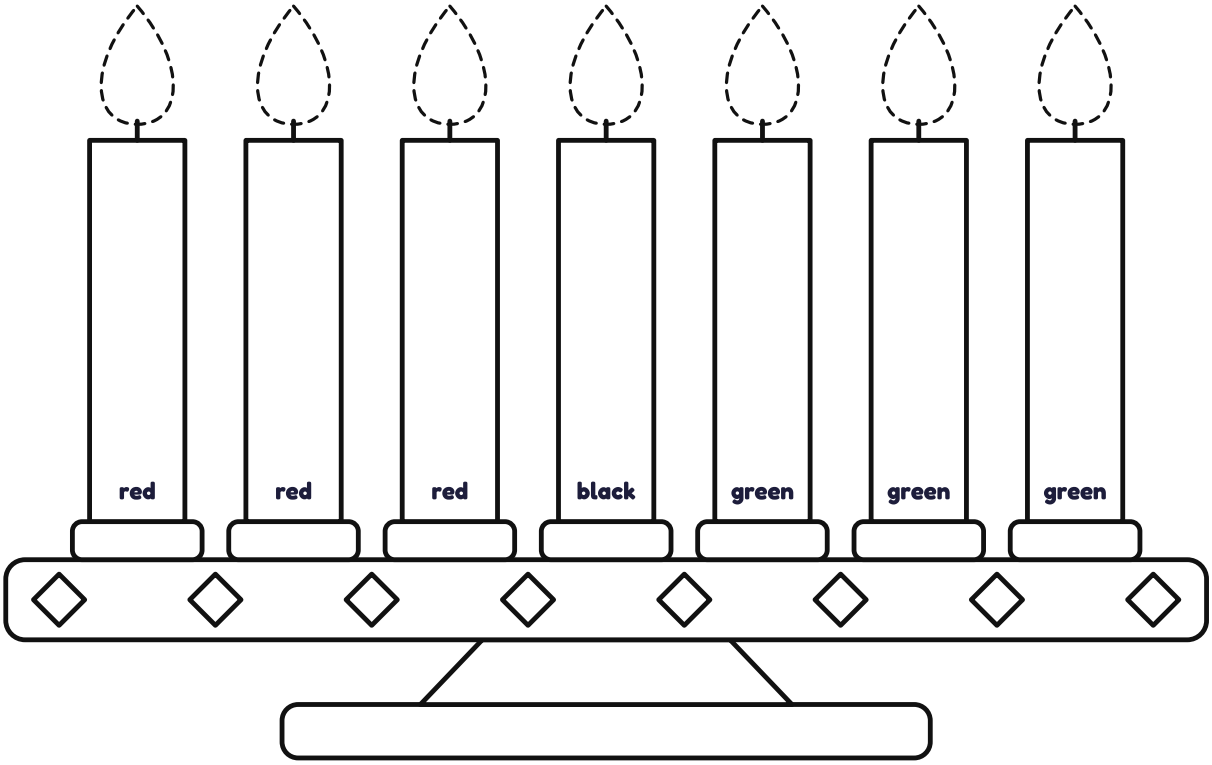
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Kwanzaa Kinara Craft

Color 3 red candles on the left, the black one in the middle and 3 green on the right



Flames: cut them out and add one each day, from 26 December to 1 January



Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Umoja	Kujichagulia	Ujima	Ujamaa	Nia	Kuumba	Imani
black candle	red candle	green candle	red candle	green candle	red candle	green candle

1 Color the kinara and the candles: red on the left, black in the middle, green on the right.

2 Cut round the kinara and glue it onto card. Cut out the seven flames.

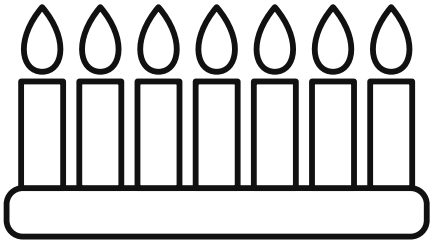
3 Day 1: glue a flame above the black candle. Then add one flame a day, on a candle of the color shown.

Check: 1 inch on Letter

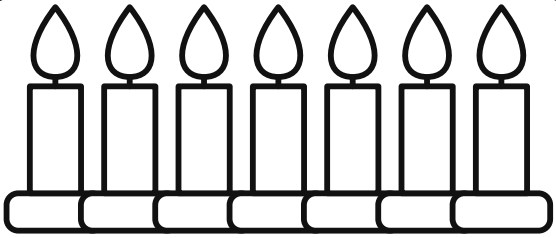
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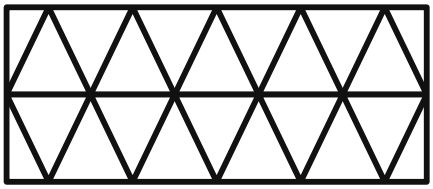
KWANZAA SYMBOLS



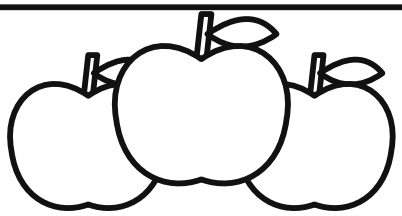
KINARA



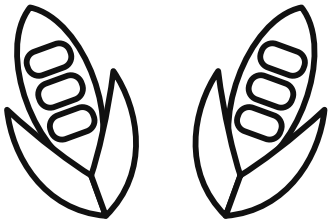
MISHUMAA SABA



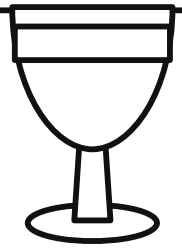
MKEKA



MAZAO



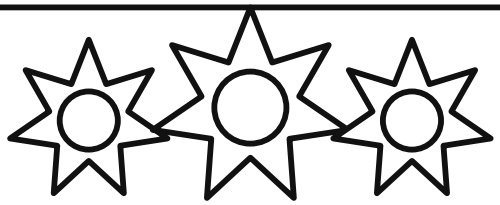
MUHINDI



KIKOMBE

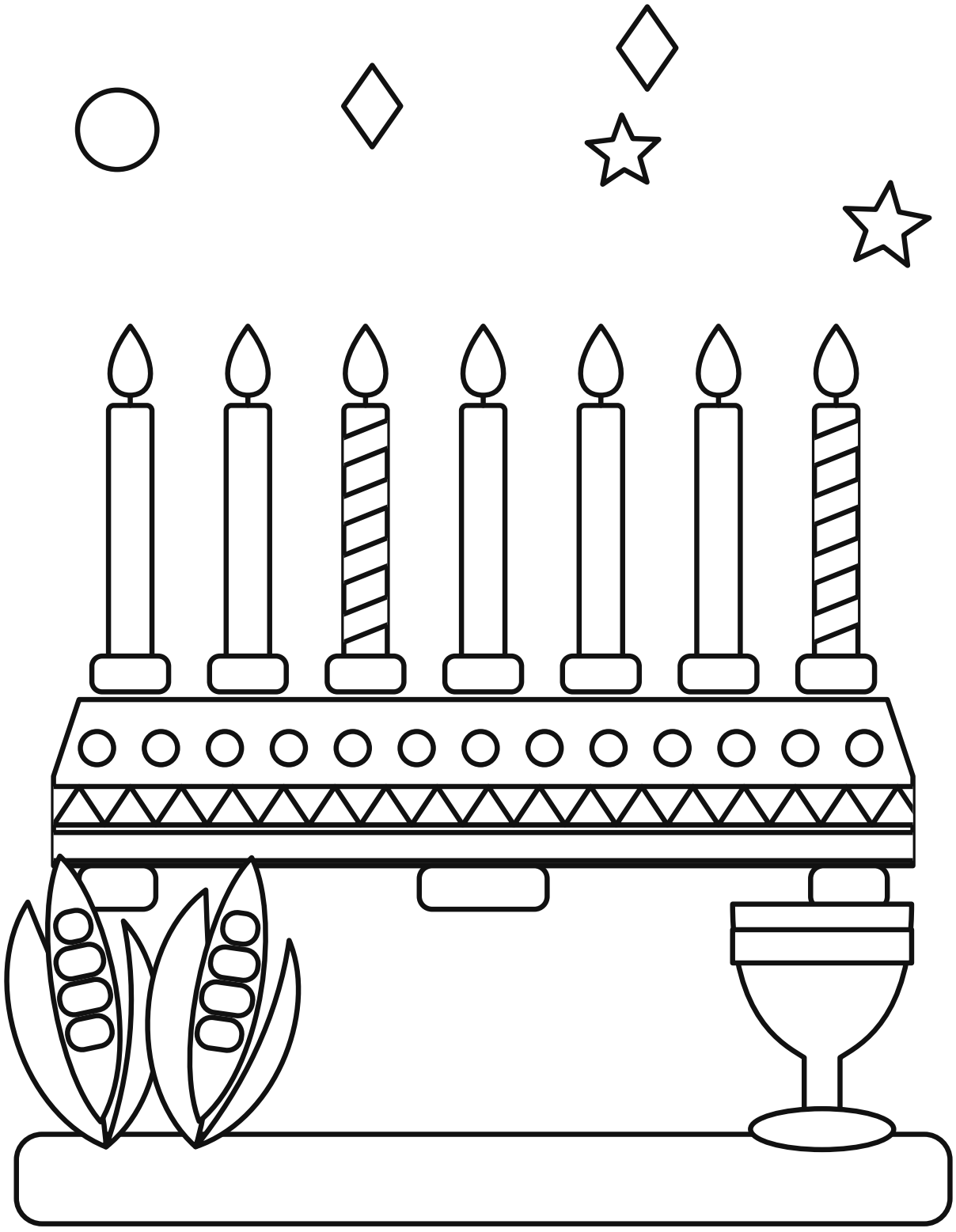


ZAWADI



HAPPY KWANZAA

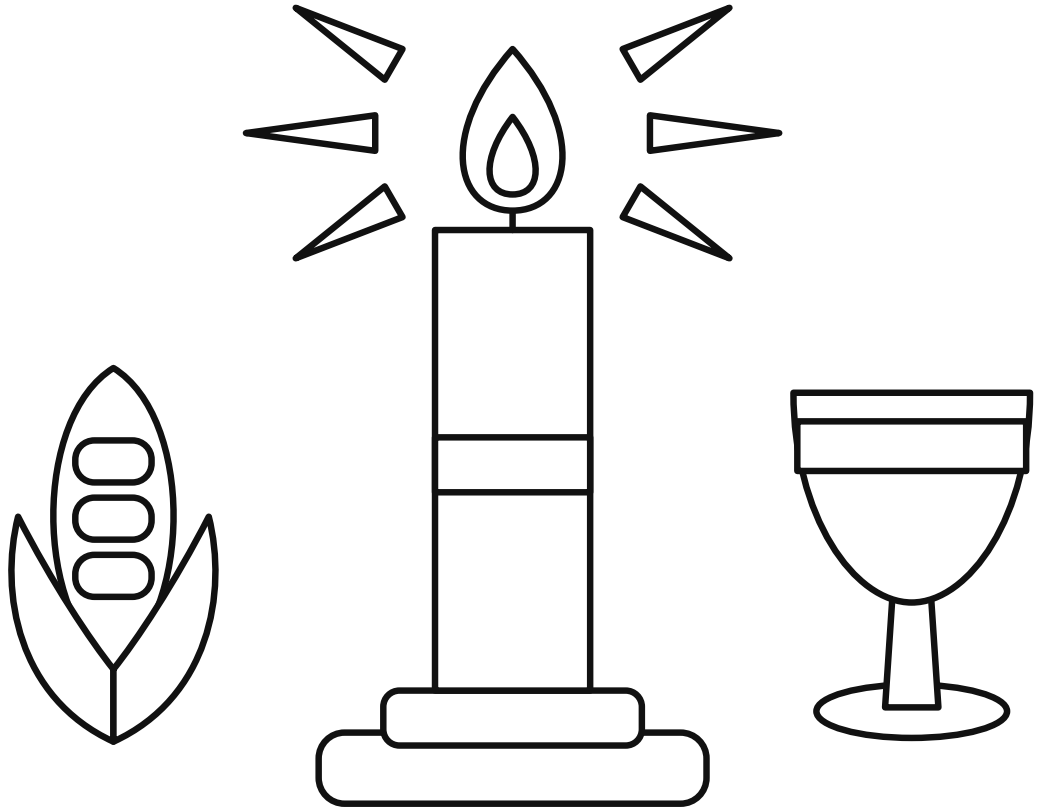
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DAY 1

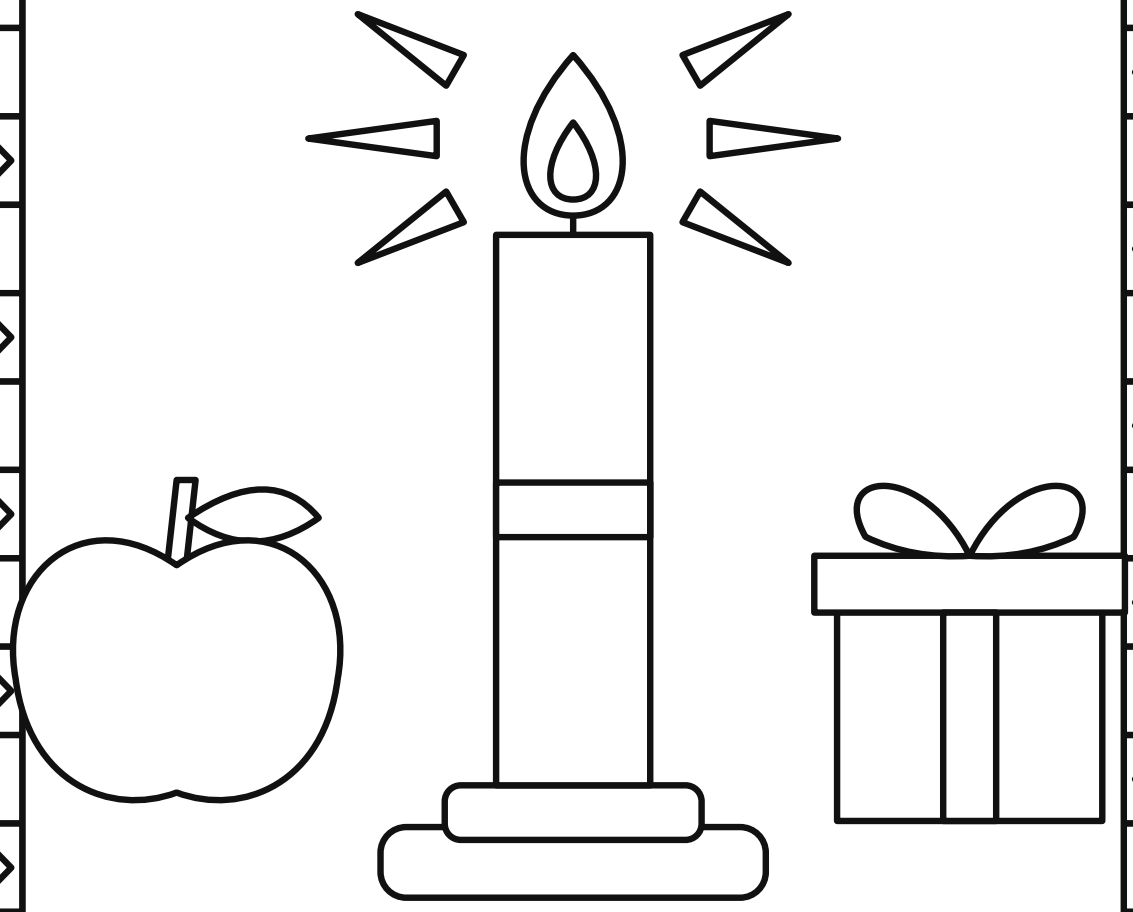
UMOJA



UNITY

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DAY 2
KUJICHAGULIA

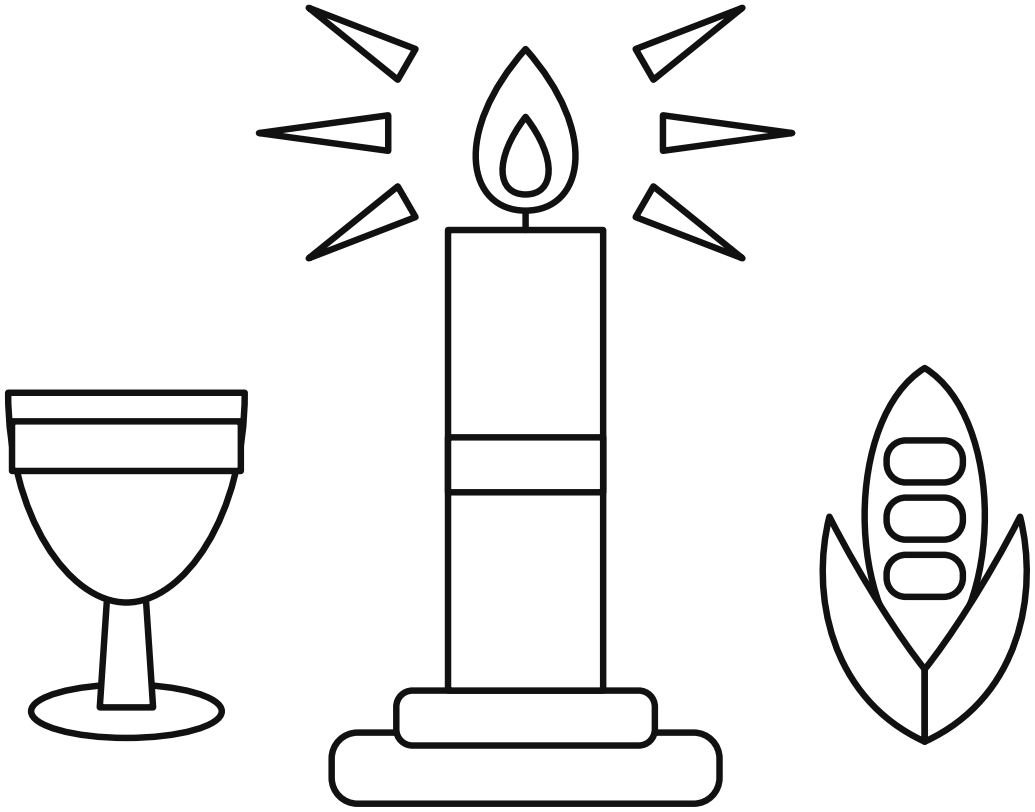


SELF-DETERMINATION

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DAY 3

UJIMA

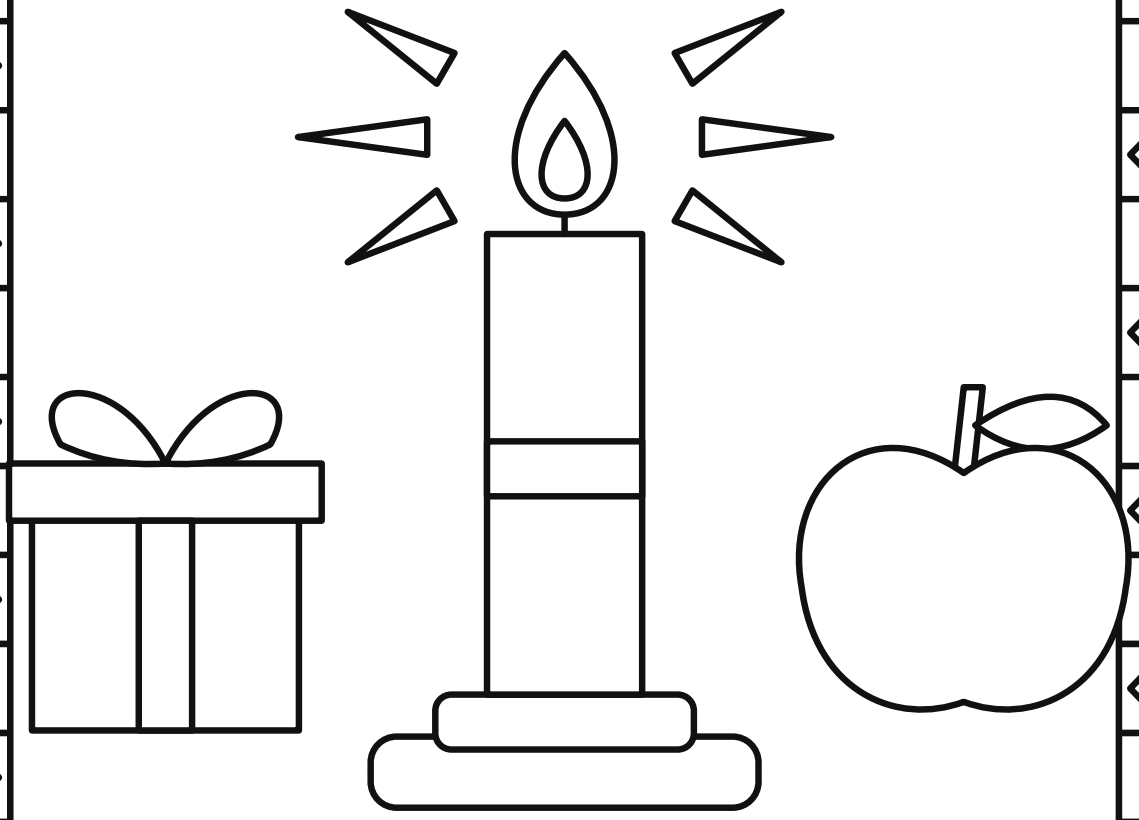


COLLECTIVE WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY

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DAY 4

UJAMAA

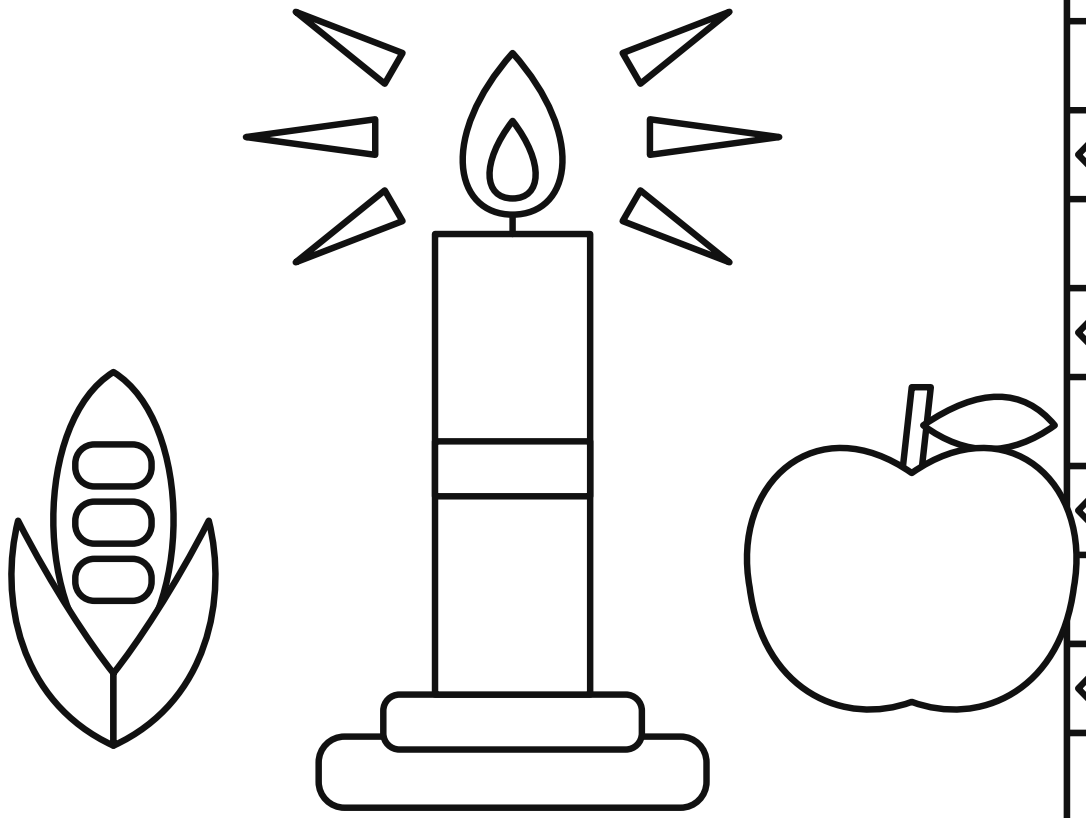


COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS

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DAY 5

NIA

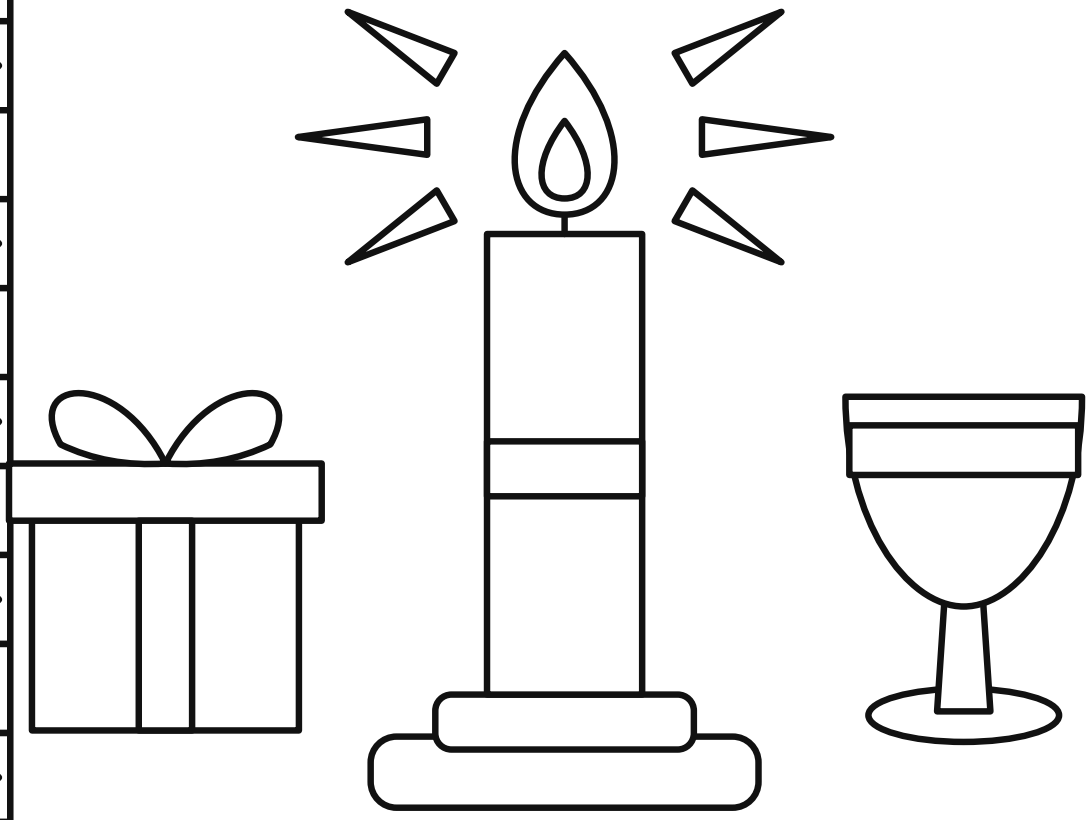


PURPOSE

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DAY 6

KUUMBA

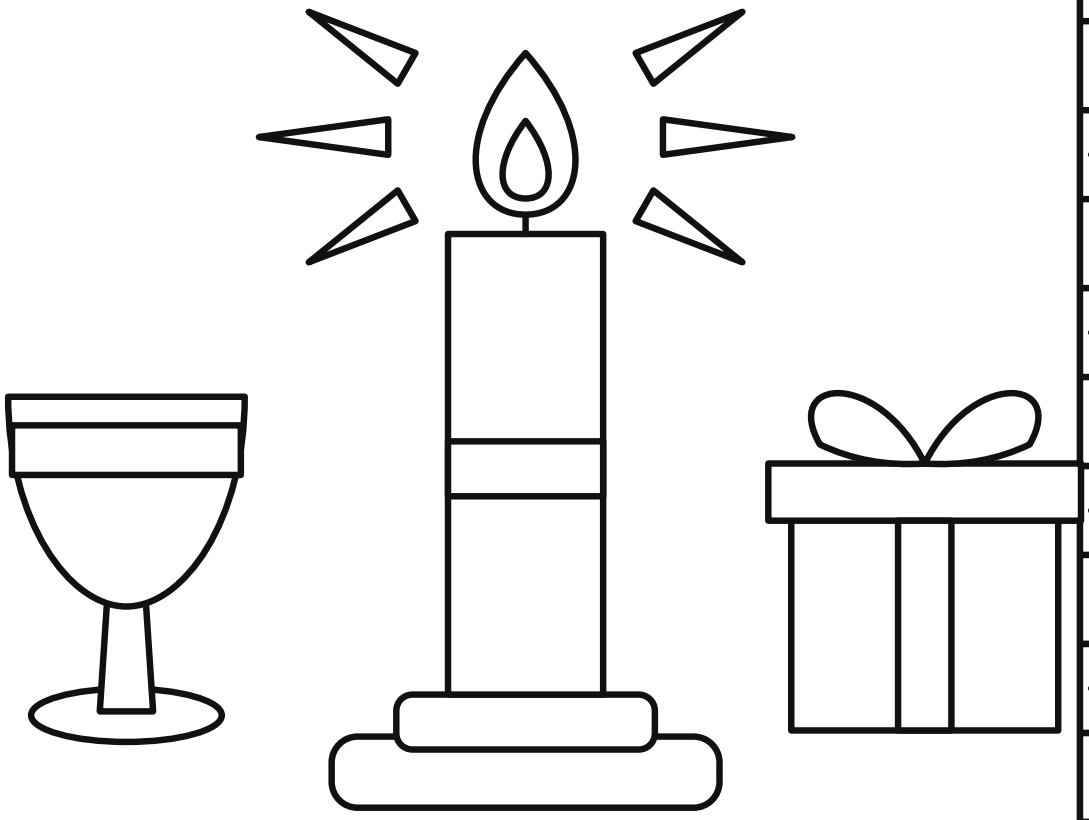


CREATIVITY

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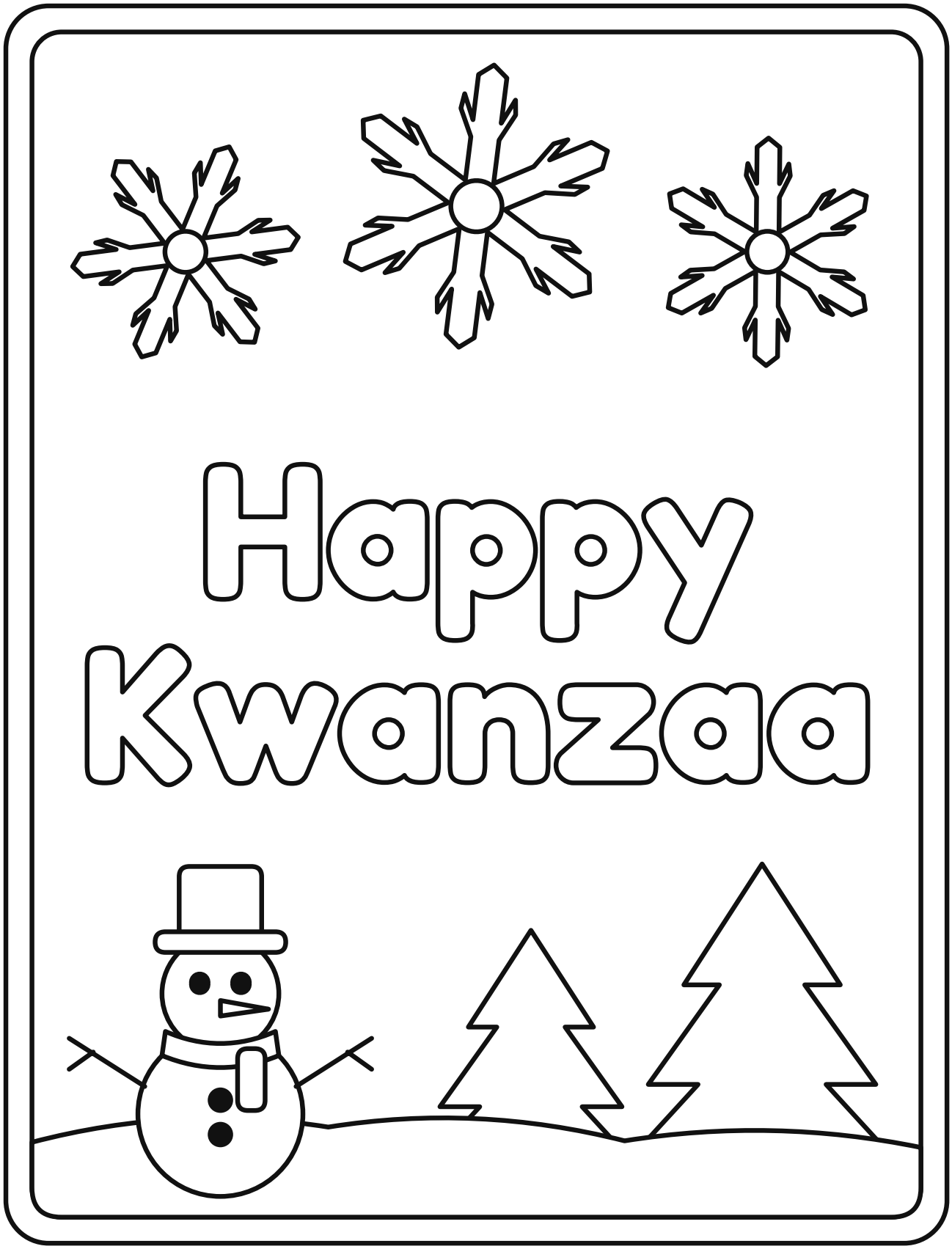
DAY 7

IMANI



FAITH

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Kwanzaa Word Search

Find 10 words. Words go across and down.

O	I	E	F	D	G	M	N	P	M
C	S	J	A	S	E	V	E	N	D
F	T	M	M	N	F	O	G	O	Q
P	C	K	I	N	A	R	A	I	F
B	O	Z	L	F	I	Q	L	U	E
L	R	N	Y	E	T	R	E	D	A
A	N	U	N	K	H	S	N	H	S
C	I	U	A	A	G	V	I	E	T
K	H	D	R	U	M	S	M	K	X
R	H	X	S	D	A	N	C	E	K

- ☐ CORN
- ☐ SEVEN
- ☐ RED
- ☐ FAITH
- ☐ KINARA
- ☐ BLACK
- ☐ FAMILY
- ☐ DRUMS
- ☐ FEAST
- ☐ DANCE

Colour online, answer key and more:
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Kwanzaa Word Search

Answer key

O	I	E	F	D	G	M	N	P	M
C	S	J	A	S	E	V	E	N	D
F	T	M	M	N	F	O	G	O	Q
P	C	K	I	N	A	R	A	I	F
B	O	Z	L	F	I	Q	L	U	E
L	R	N	Y	E	T	R	E	D	A
A	N	U	N	K	H	S	N	H	S
C	I	U	A	A	G	V	I	E	T
K	H	D	R	U	M	S	M	K	X
R	H	X	S	D	A	N	C	E	K

- ☐ CORN
- ☐ SEVEN
- ☐ RED
- ☐ FAITH
- ☐ KINARA
- ☐ BLACK
- ☐ FAMILY
- ☐ DRUMS
- ☐ FEAST
- ☐ DANCE

Colour online, answer key and more:
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Kwanzaa Word Scramble

Unscramble each Kwanzaa word. The word bank can help.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. A I K A N R → _____ 6
2. E D C S N L A → _____ 7
3. U T N Y I → _____ 5
4. A H V T S R E → _____ 7
5. O R C N → _____ 4
6. I S G T F → _____ 5
7. M F L I Y A → _____ 6
8. P R E O P U S → _____ 7
9. F I H A T → _____ 5
10. R V Y C I I A T T E → _____ 10
11. S E F T A → _____ 5
12. E V N E S Y A S D → _____ 9

Word bank

CANDLES CORN CREATIVITY FAITH FAMILY FEAST GIFTS HARVEST KINARA PURPOSE SEVEN DAYS UNITY

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Kwanzaa Word Scramble: Answers

Answer key

1	A I K A N R	→ KINARA	6
2	E D C S N L A	→ CANDLES	7
3	U T N Y I	→ UNITY	5
4	A H V T S R E	→ HARVEST	7
5	O R C N	→ CORN	4
6	I S G T F	→ GIFTS	5
7	M F L I Y A	→ FAMILY	6
8	P R E O P U S	→ PURPOSE	7
9	F I H A T	→ FAITH	5
10	R V Y C I I A T T E	→ CREATIVITY	10
11	S E F T A	→ FEAST	5
12	E V N E S Y A S D	→ SEVEN DAYS	9

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