classroom LIBRARIES

STARTER CHECKLIST

When you are starting a classroom library for the first time, there's a lot to consider. Use this **Classroom Library Starter Checklist** as an easy reference guide that can help you surround your students with amazing books and build a classroom library that becomes the heart of your classroom.

- ☐ **Do I have enough books?**
  We recommend 300-600 books, but try to start out with at least 50.
- ☐ **Do I have a good mix of fiction and nonfiction?**
  Aim for a 50/50 mix so students can access literary and informational texts.
- ☐ **Does my classroom library feature different literary genres?**
  Examples include fantasy, mystery, historical fiction, realistic fiction, poetry and short stories.
- ☐ **Does my classroom library feature different informational genres?**
  Examples include biographies, autobiographies, narrative nonfiction and expository nonfiction.
- ☐ **Do I offer students books with different structures and formats?**
  Include picture books, chapter books, graphic novels and books with plenty of text features.
- ☐ **Do my books support a wide range of reading abilities?**
  Consider the reading and interest levels of your students when selecting books.
- ☐ **Am I including plenty of new and up-to-date titles?**
  New books get kids excited, so include lots of recently published titles.
- ☐ **Do my books provide cross-curricular opportunities?**
  Include titles to support learning in content areas like Art, Geography, Civics and STEM.
- ☐ **Do I have plenty of books that allow my students to see themselves and others?**
  Ensure diversity by choosing books with characters of different:

☐ Abilities and Disabilities	☐ Ethnicities	☐ Orientations
☐ Ages	☐ Genders	☐ Family Structures
☐ Cultural Experiences	☐ Global Perspectives	☐ Socioeconomic Backgrounds

For free, personalized assistance selecting the right books for your classroom library, email literacy@booksource.com or call 800.444.0435 and ask to speak with your Booksource Literacy Accounts Manager.

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WITH A GOOD BOOK
FLY HIGH
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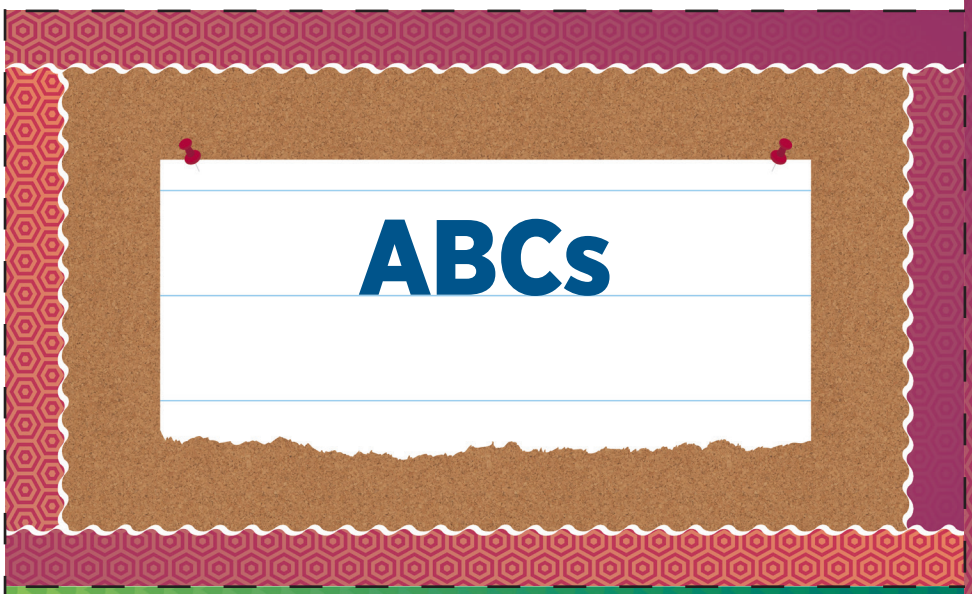
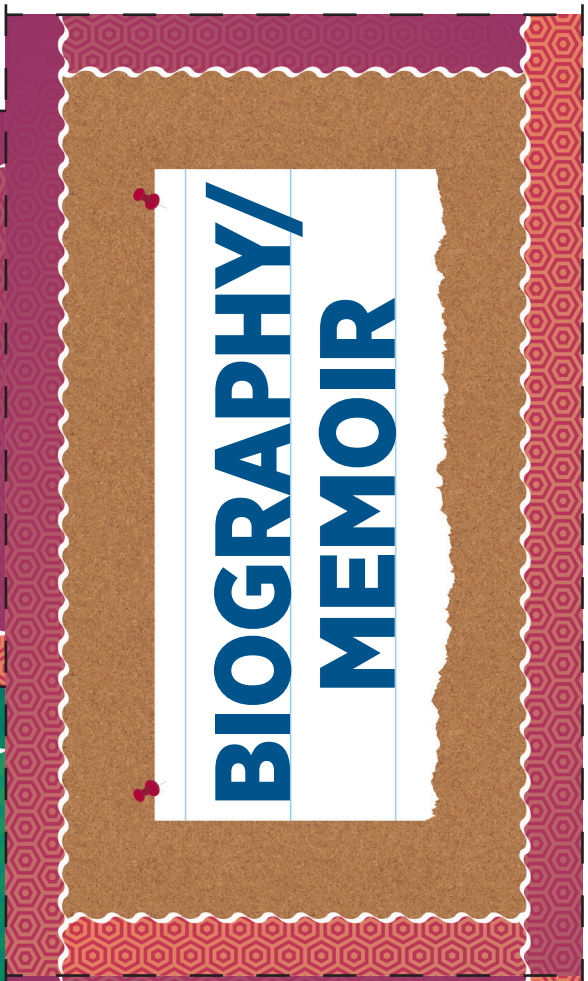
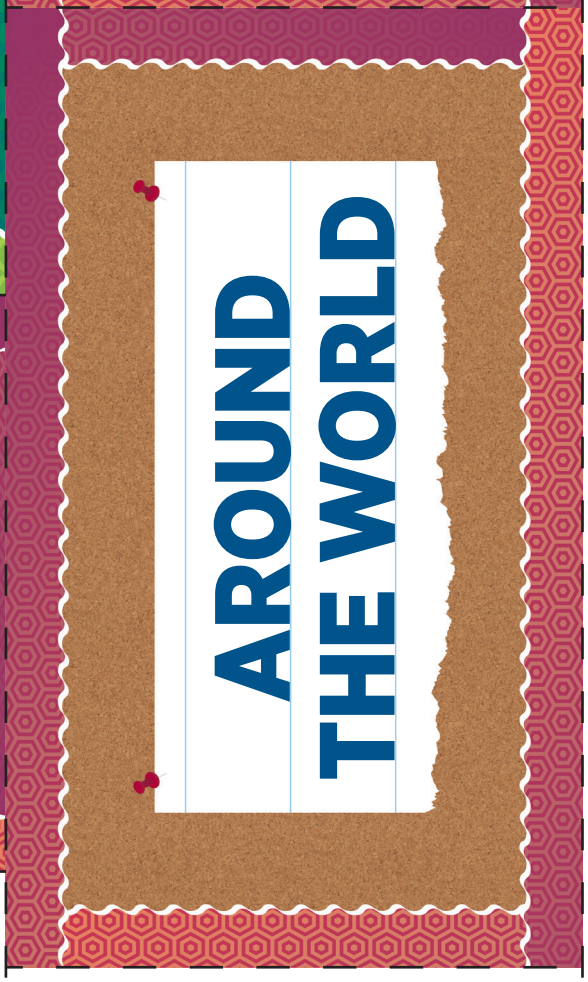

ABCs

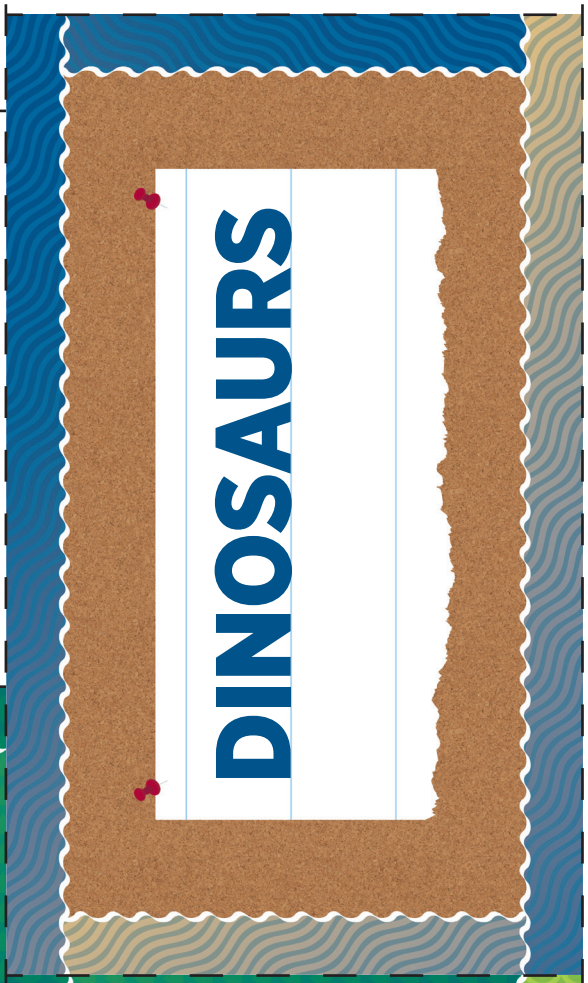
ADVENTURE

ANIMALS


BIOGRAPHY/
MEMOIR


AROUND
THE WORLD

BOOK
HOSPITAL


DINOSAURS

CLASSICS

COUNTING

COMIC
BOOKS

DYSTOPIAN

FAIRY TALES

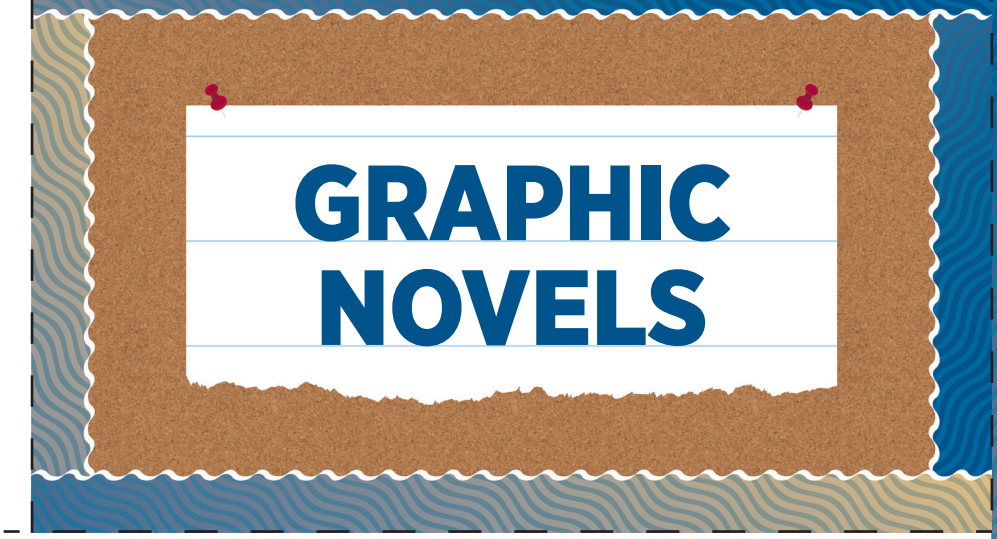
FAMOUS FIGURES

FICTION

FANTASY

FRIENDSHIP

FUNNY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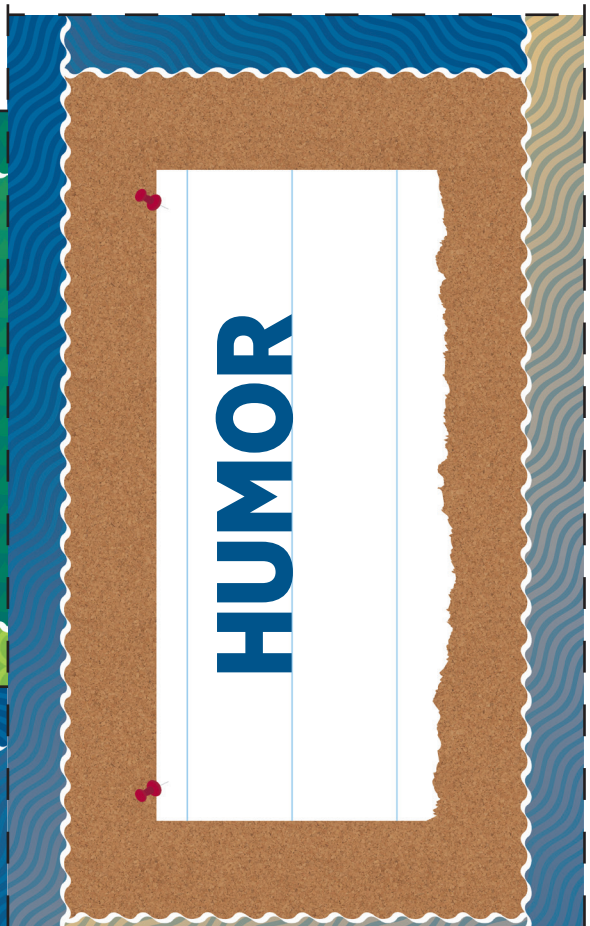
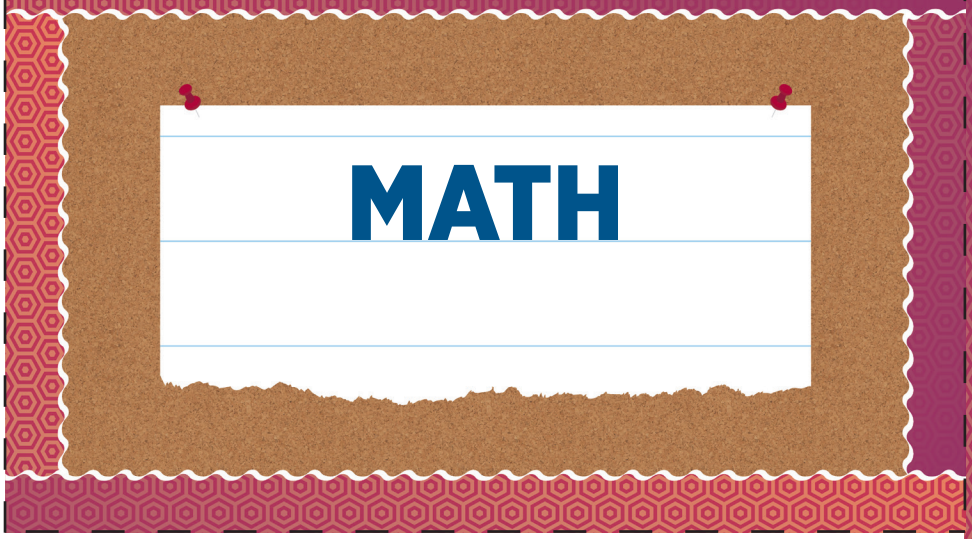
NOVELS


HUMOR

HISTORICAL
FICTION

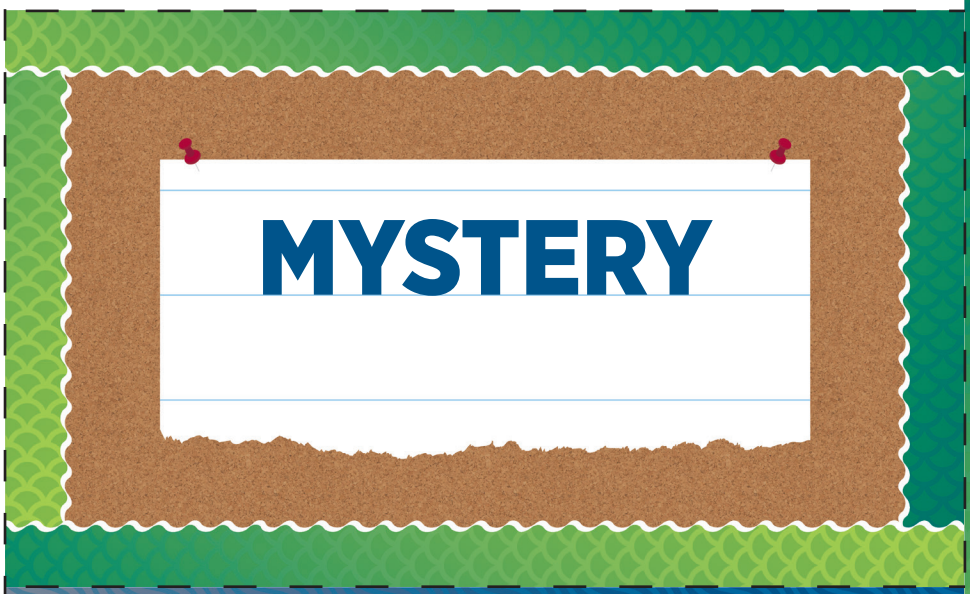
LGBTQIA+

MAGIC


MATH

MONSTERS

MENTAL HEALTH


MYSTERY

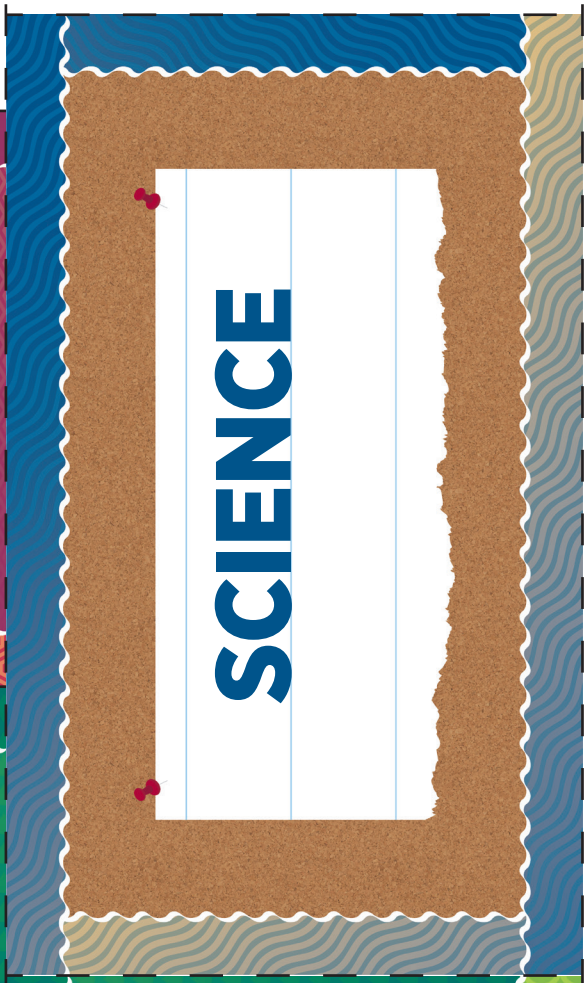
NATURE

NEW
READS

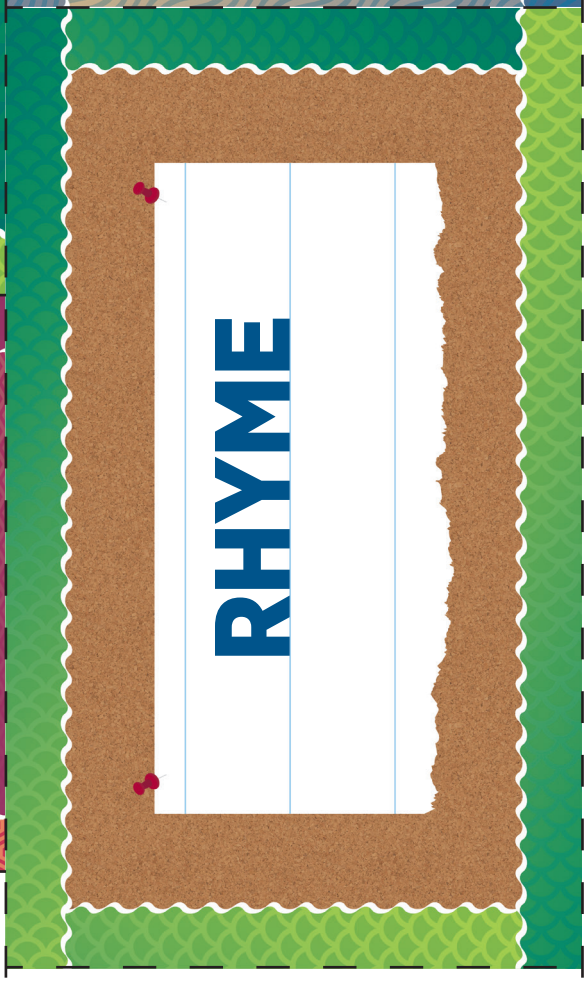
POETRY

NONFICTION

POPULAR
READS


SCIENCE

PROJECTLIT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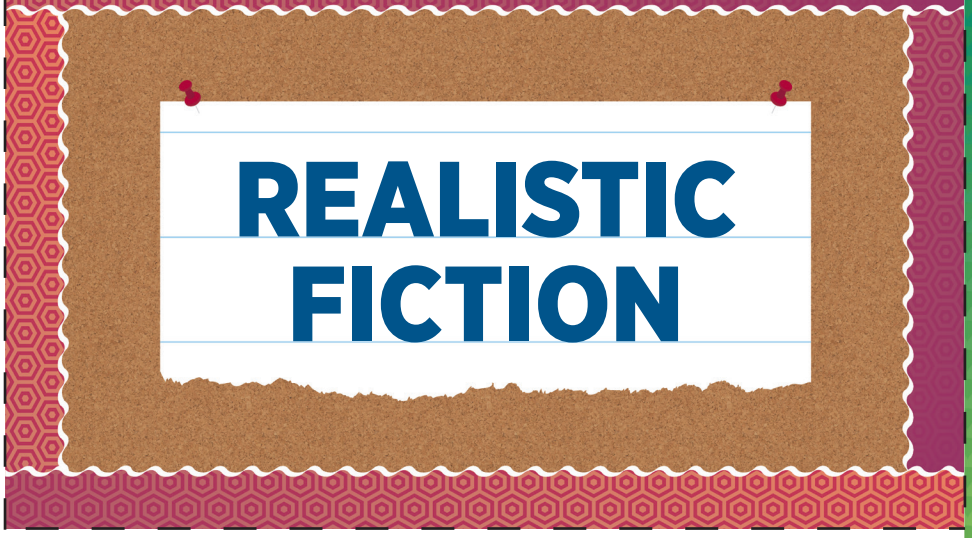
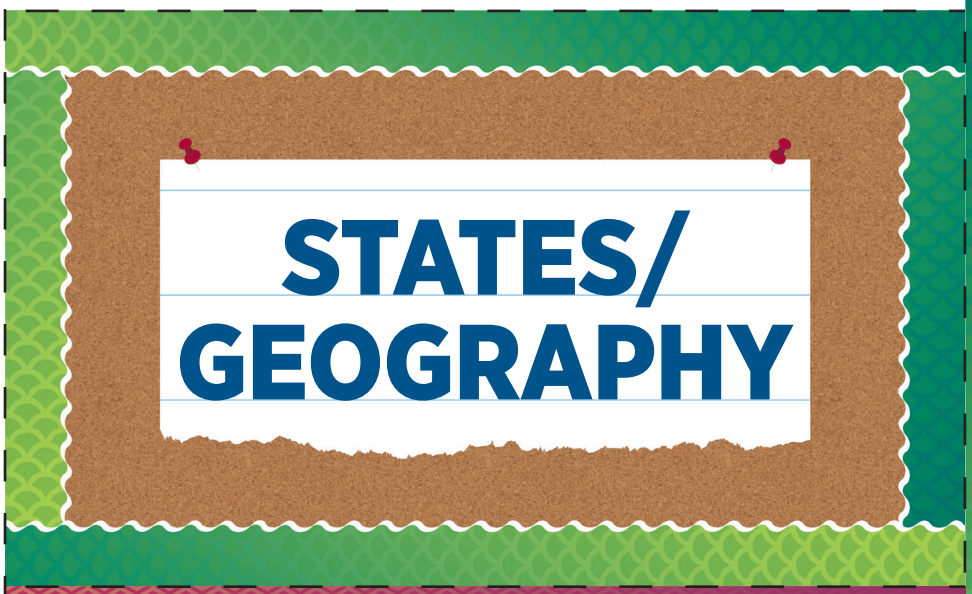
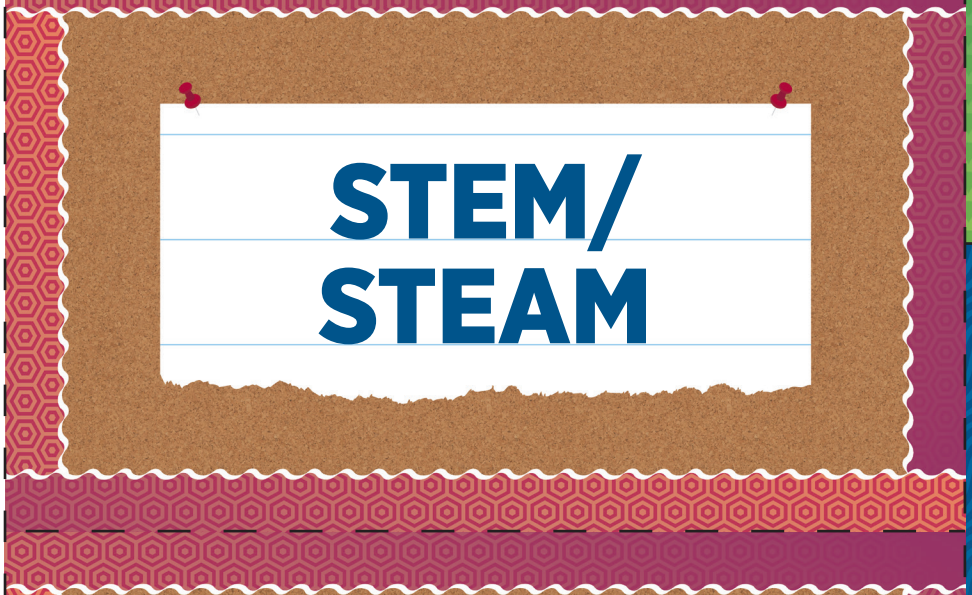
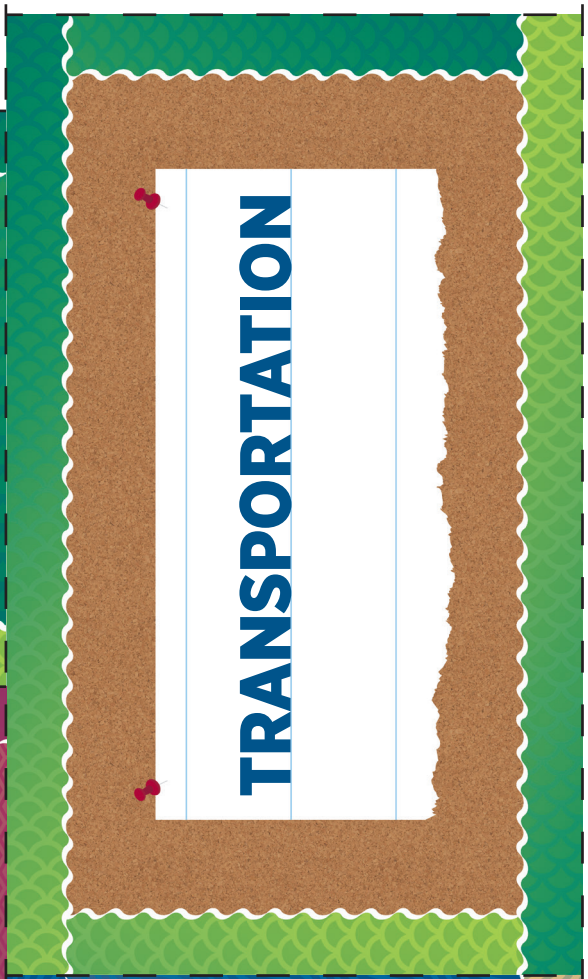

REALISTIC
FICTION

SCIENCE FICTION
SEASONS/ HOLIDAYS
SPACE
SPORTS
SPOOKY

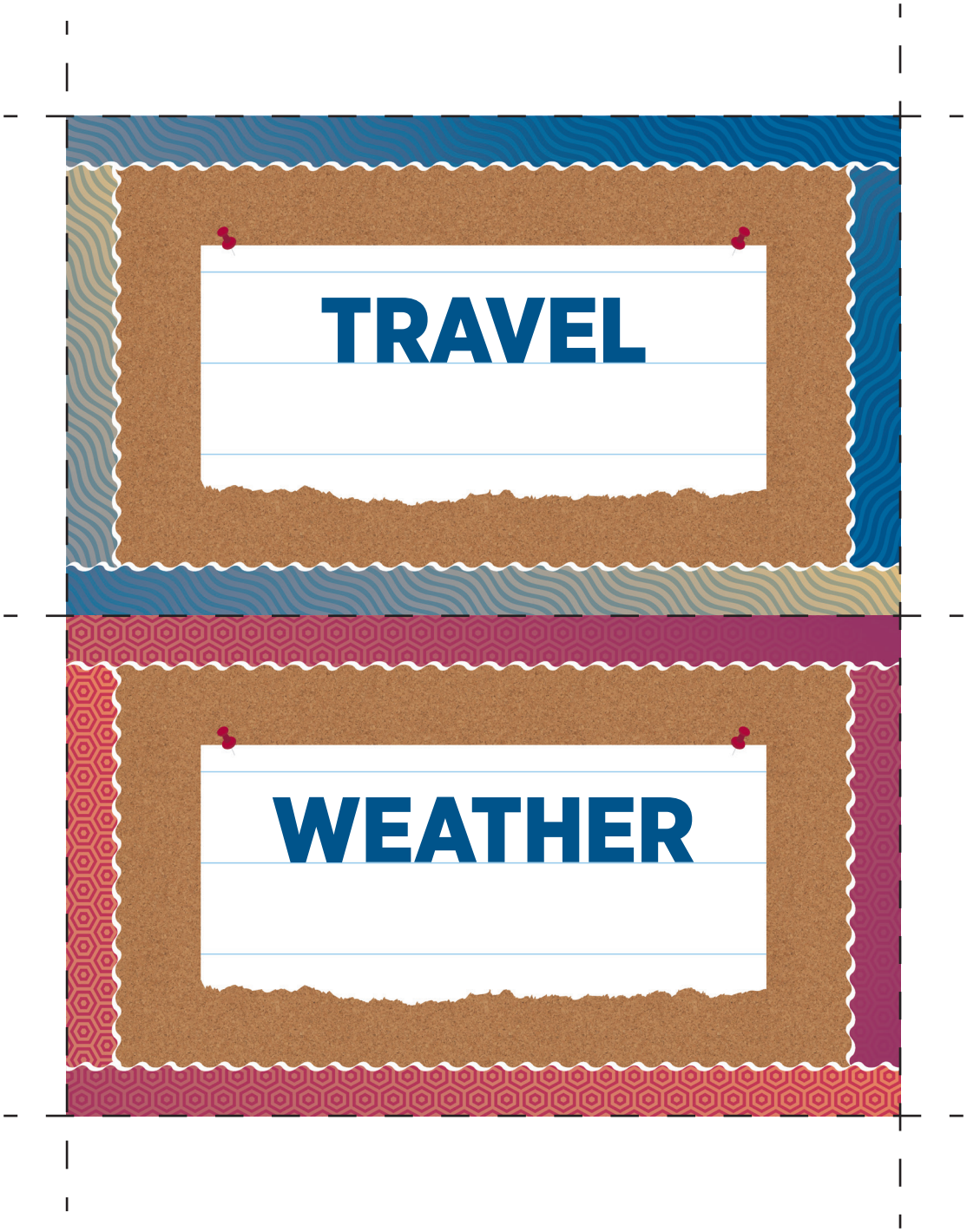

STATES/
GEOGRAPHY


STEM/
STEAM

SUPERHEROES


TRANSPORTATION

TEACHER
FAVORITES


TRAVEL
WEATHER

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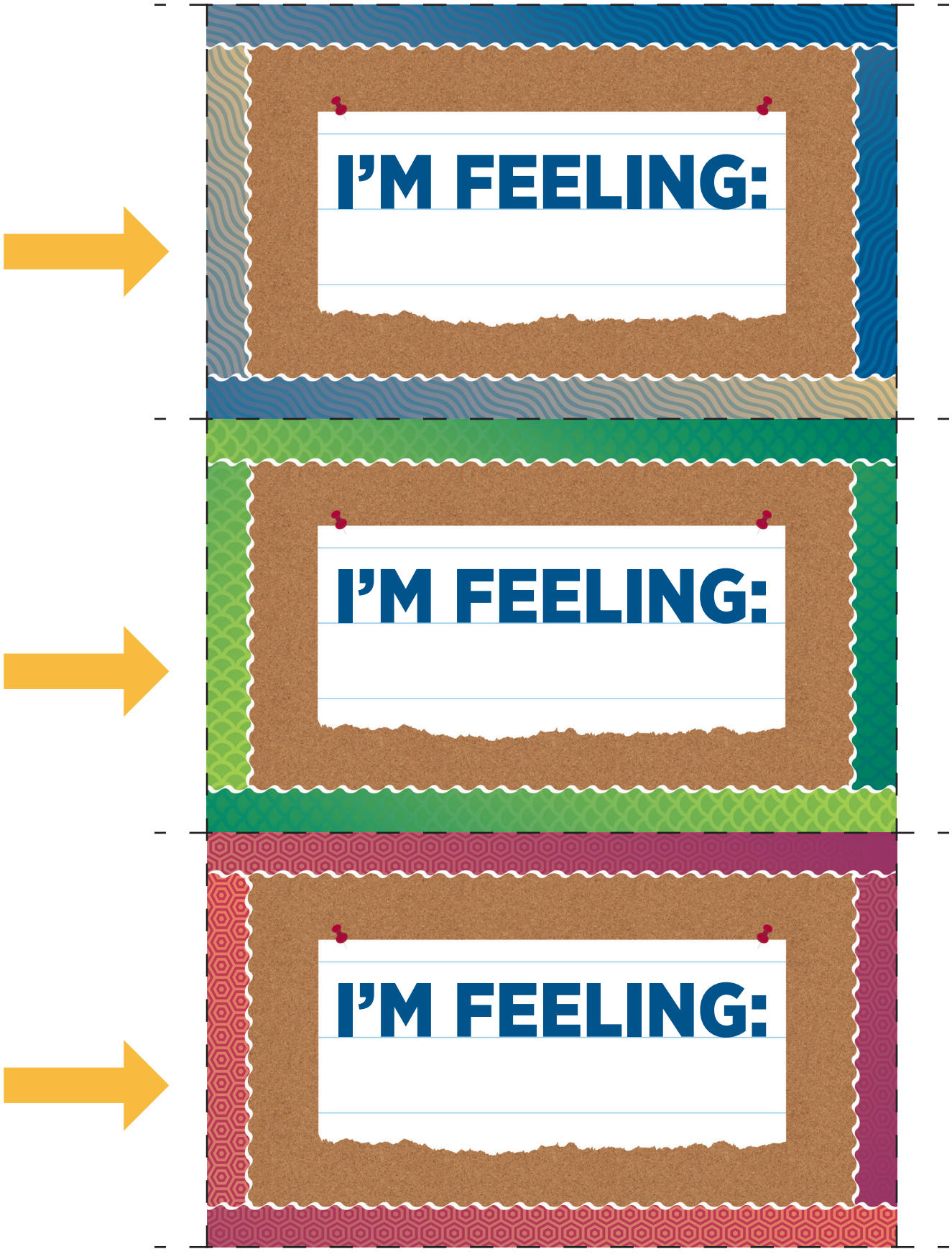

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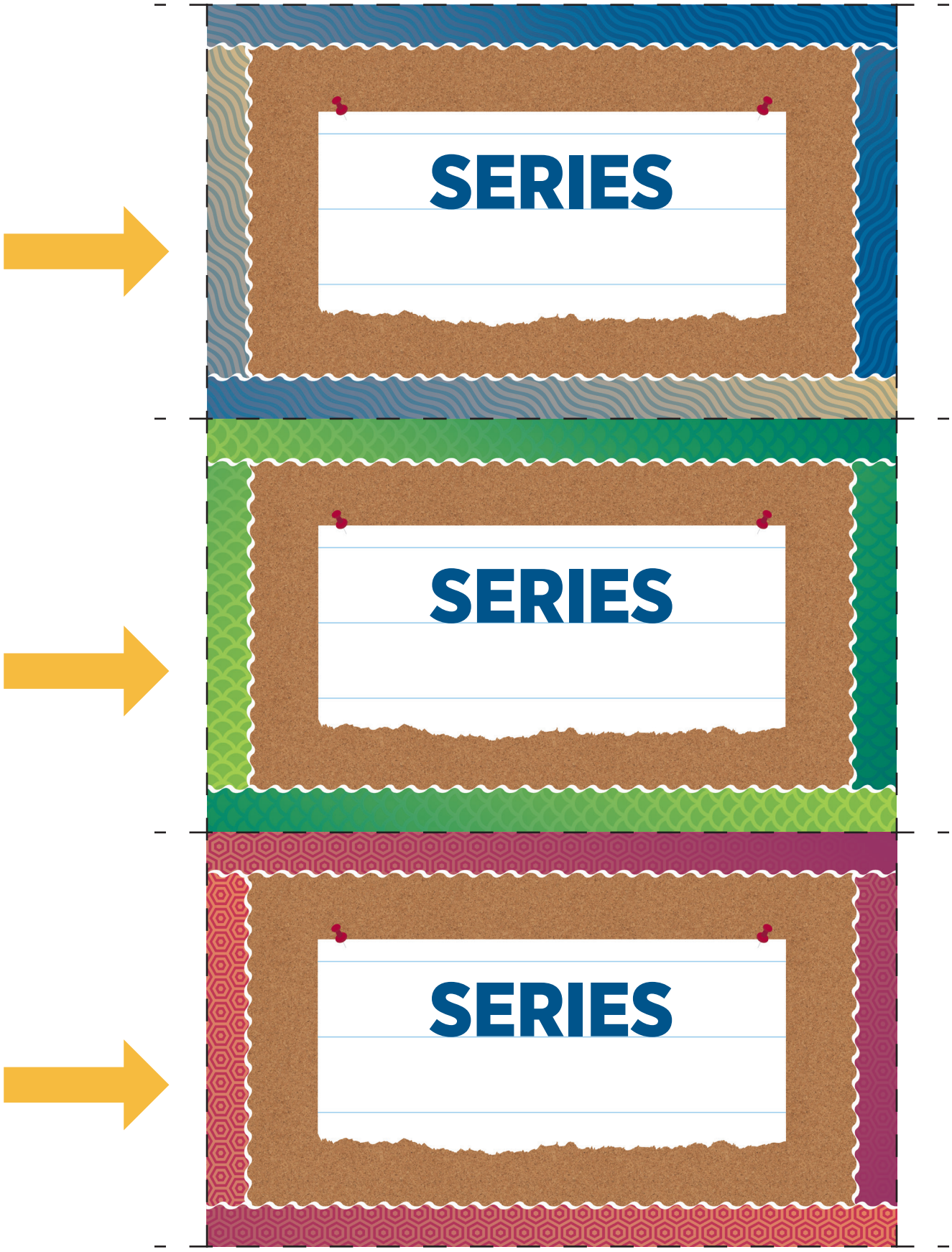
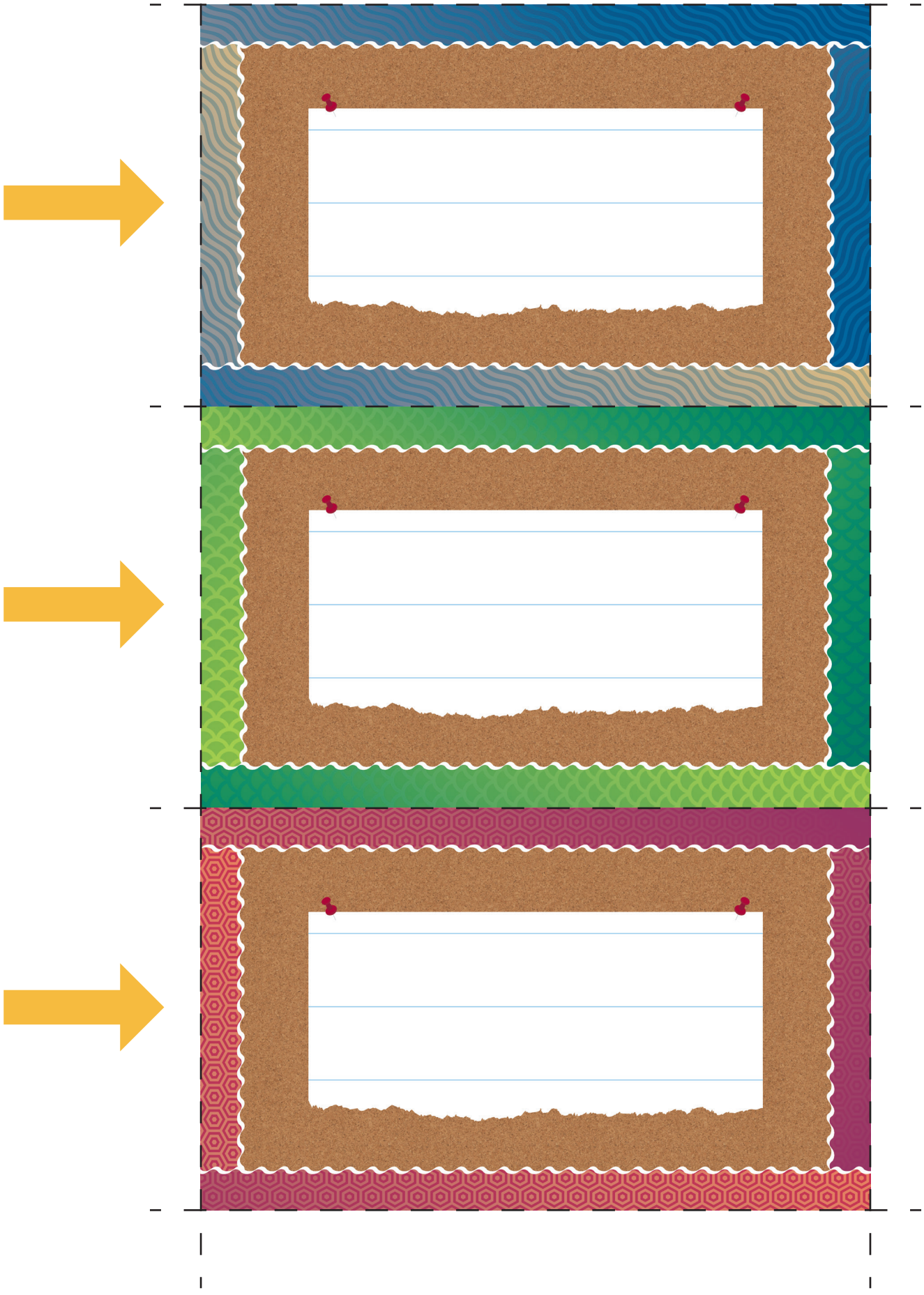
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