



Family Engagement

May 2020, Volume 2

Family Engagement is Necessary for Student Success!

Fun with Words

Riddles are a great way to stimulate anyone — kids included — who want to kick their brain out of routine thinking habits. The best [riddles for kids](#), like the [best jokes for kids](#), are challenging, fun word puzzles that push them to examine their assumptions while giggling at language itself. Not every riddle is easy, in fact riddles for kids should offer a [playful way](#) to wrestle with truly challenging questions. Most kids have a natural aptitude for the type of thinking they require, and will surprise you with how well they tackle a thinker. They just have to be the right riddles and answers — not too complex, not too easy. The best riddles engage a kid's [natural problem-solving skills](#) and make them laugh along the way. These 37 riddles and answers for kids — ranging from hard riddles to medium riddles to easy riddles — are ones that children can solve, and have fun while doing so.

<https://www.fatherly.com/play/the-best-riddles-for-kids-not-confusing/>

Riddle: What's black and white and blue?

Check in with yourself — and with your kid.

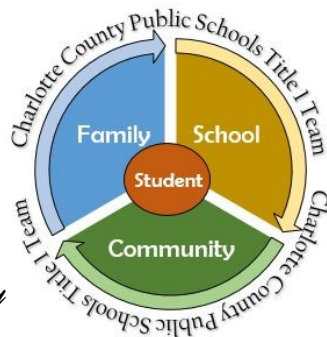
Each day, build in some time to assess how you're feeling, said Katharine Hill, a learning specialist and parent educator. Remote learning is new for everyone involved, and so checking in for just five minutes with a partner or friend, or even writing a note to yourself, to process what's working for you and what's not, can help you take a step back. You also want to check in with your child each day, said Amanda Marsden, a kindergarten teacher in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. "If your child wakes up on the wrong side of the bed, don't expect them to be a writer today," Marsden said. On grumpy days, don't force your children to strictly follow a set schedule.

Excerpt from: **Every School Day Feels like an Eternity**, by Jessica Grose

Family Survey

The Title I Team is taking the "pulse" of our families. We care about your well being and success during this time. Please use the link below to complete the survey. Thank you!

<https://forms.gle/ZiHiLqXWpRoxWoNn8>



Renee Wiley

Title I Resource & Family Engagement Liaison

Eight Easy Steps to Being at Home Regarding COVID-19. By C. McMillan

1. **Create a daily schedule for the family:** McMillan tells us to sit down with your children each morning and make a schedule of what the day is going to look like. Parents should make sure their child's schedule matches what they need to do that day. If you have phone calls scheduled at a specific time, this would be a good time, be sure your children have a quiet classwork task during this time.

Design a daily schedule and place it on the refrigerator so everyone in the family can see it. **Allow your children to help plan the schedule.** Regarding classwork, remember for most ages, a 30 minute time period for each class subject is recommended.

2. It is so important to **stand up and move:** When setting the schedule allow for gross motor movement. If your children are working on assignments for one hour, then get them up and moving, perhaps dancing or exercises for ½ hour. Follow the extra special teacher suggestions from school. Examples, go outside and play catch, hopscotch, hula hoops, basketball, running laps in the back yard.

3. **Schedule time to be with your kids:** Schedule a time for your children to have 15 or 20 minutes of mom and dad's undivided time. No lessons, no work, no computer, no phone, just hang out and talk.

4. **Embrace technology:** Children usually love technology. Put time on the schedule to Face Time grandma or grandpa or a favorite aunt. Ask them to read a book to the younger children or help with those division problems for the older kids.

5. If your child has special needs, **reach out to their school:** If your child has special needs reach out to the school and speak to the education specialists to help you adapt your schedule to their needs.

6. **Be mindful** of how you talk to kids about COVID-19: McMillan states to share with your children the reason school is not in session and speak to them about COVID-19. Be mindful of what you say and your nonverbal expressions as well. Kids pick up from their parent's body cues. Provide information that is age appropriate. Explain that this is very similar to the flu and tell them that not too many children are getting ill from this. Monitor the amount of time your children are hearing about COVID-19 on TV, and ask them if they have any questions. Be mindful of speaking about this to other adults in front of the children. Little kids have big ears and they listen when mom and dad are speaking.

7. Be on the **lookout for anxiety:** If you child is anxious over the situation, speak to them to alleviate their fears.

8. **Look for silver linings:** This is a challenging time for everyone. However, there is so much good going on. Families are spending more time together around the dinner table, playing board games, and spending time talking to each other. Mom and dad can use this time to teach their children the importance of how to deal with a difficult situation.

Even though this is a difficult time for everyone, social distancing, staying home does have its benefit.

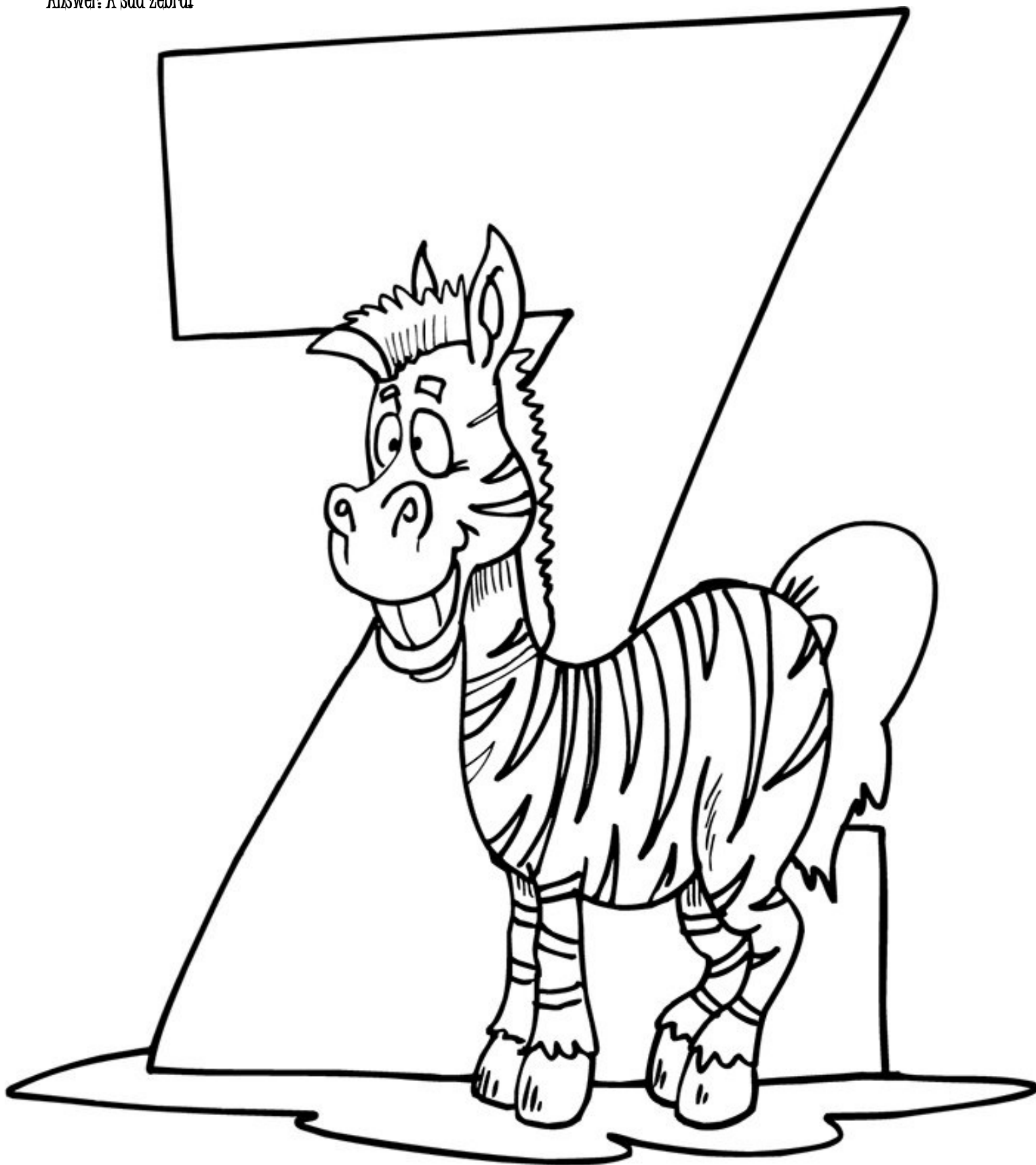
Resources: McMillan, C. (2020). 8 Tips for Working From Home With Kids During COVID-19. Yale Medicine. March 25.

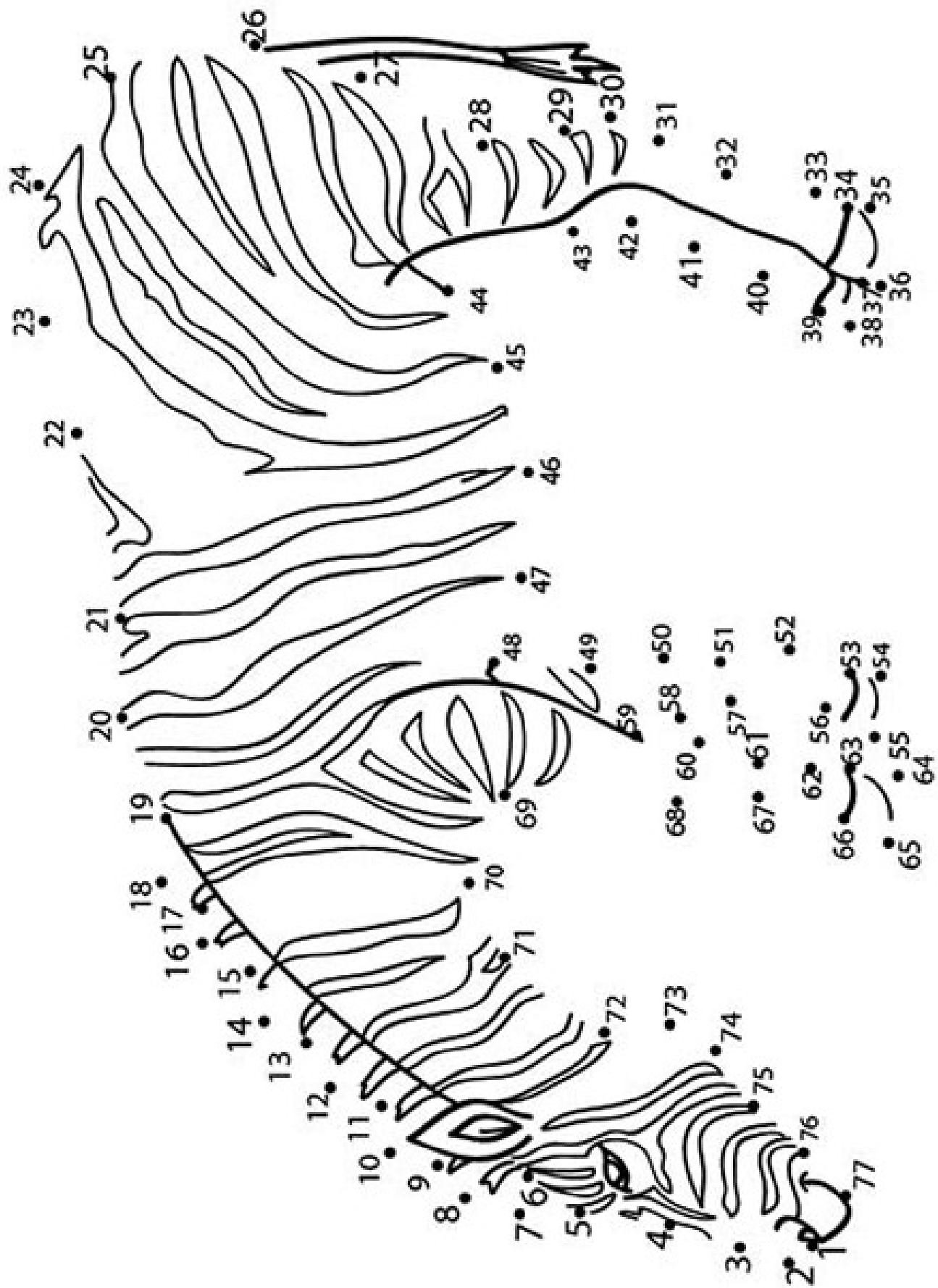
Special Thanks to Lois Cavucci, 5th grade teacher at Kingsway Elementary for sharing this article with us!

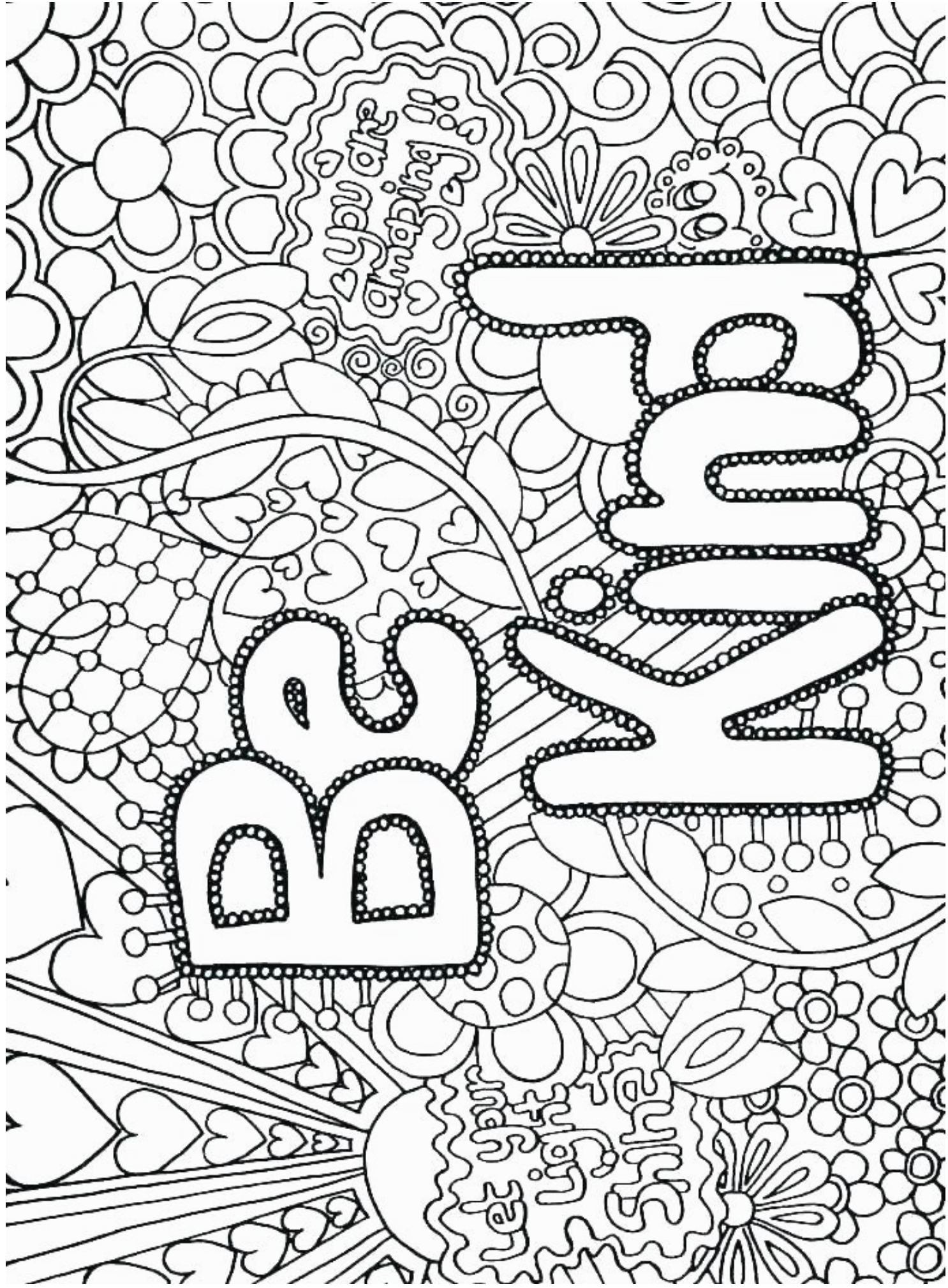


Riddle: What's black and white and blue?

Answer: A sad zebra!







Mandalas for Kids

Coloring Pages



123kidsfun.com

