Examples of Why Countries Trade

Buying and Selling Bananas

Ecuador is a country that sells bananas to other countries around the world. One country might buy bananas from Ecuador if it doesn't grow bananas itself. For example, Italy does not grow bananas so it buys bananas from Ecuador.

Another country might buy bananas from Ecuador even though that country grows bananas too. This is because there are many types of bananas that can be grown. For example, Africa grows bananas that are good for cooking but not good to eat just by themselves.

Buying and Selling Cars

Germany is a country that sells cars to other countries around the world. One country might buy cars from Germany because it doesn't make cars itself. For example, Israel buys cars from Germany.

Another country might buy certain parts of a car because its factories do not make all the parts that are needed to make the cars. For example, the United States makes cars. But, they buy some parts for those cars from other countries such as Mexico. This is because, in Mexico, the parts do not cost as much to make.
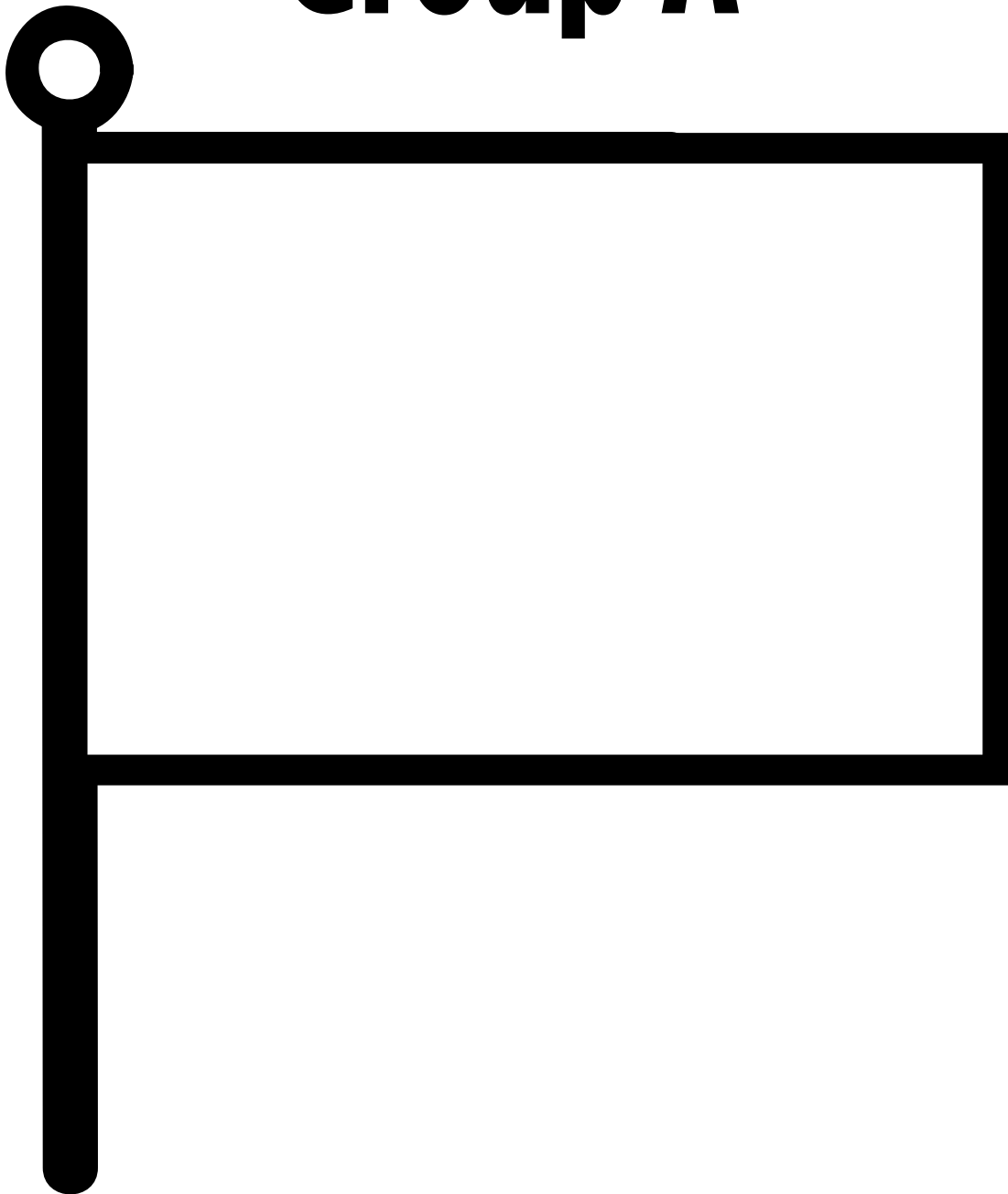
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Rules of the Game

- During this game, you will work in a group of four students. Each group will be a country!

- Each group will get materials to build a new building that will go in their country. The goal is to build the tallest building in the world!

- Each group will have different supplies. For example, some groups might have tape but other groups might not have tape.

- Groups will have to listen to the teacher while they build. Sometimes, your teacher will make an announcement that groups can trade supplies. When that happens, groups can trade supplies with other groups. Other times, your teacher will make an announcement that no trading is allowed. When this happens, you cannot trade supplies with other groups.

Country Name

Write a name for your country on the flag below. You can write a name of a real country or you can write a pretend name.
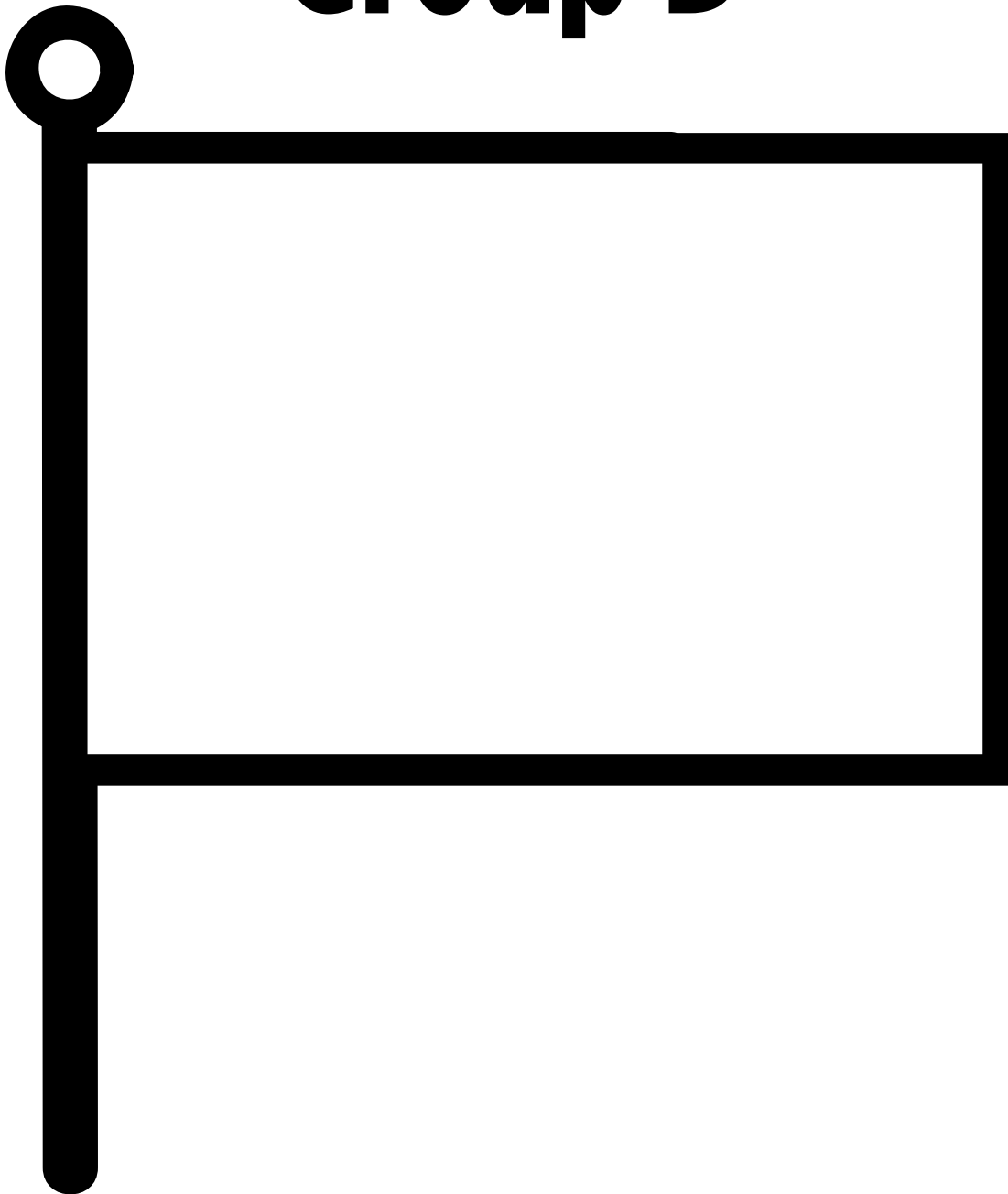
Group A

Country Name

Write a name for your country on the flag below. You can write a name of a real country or you can write a pretend name.
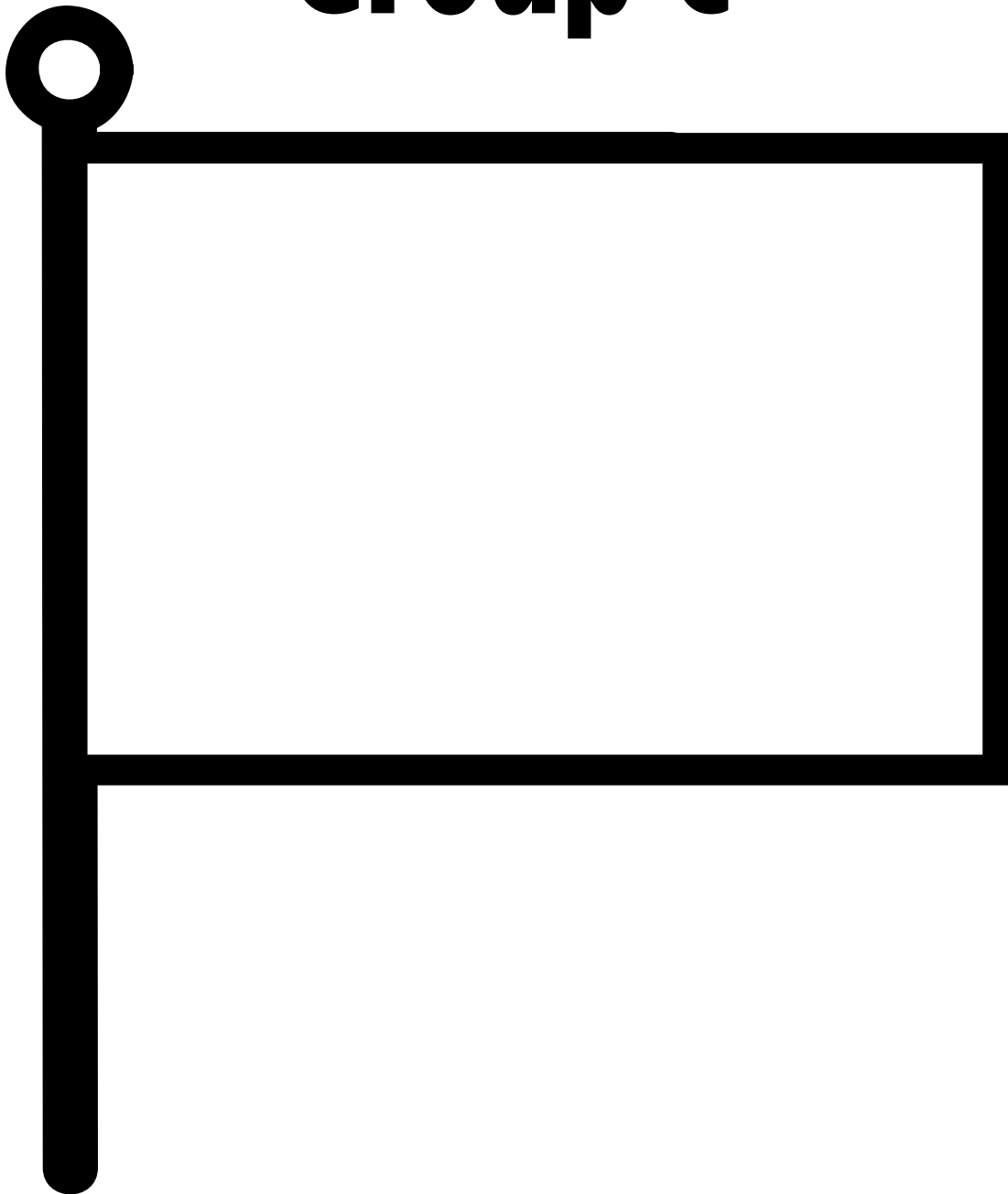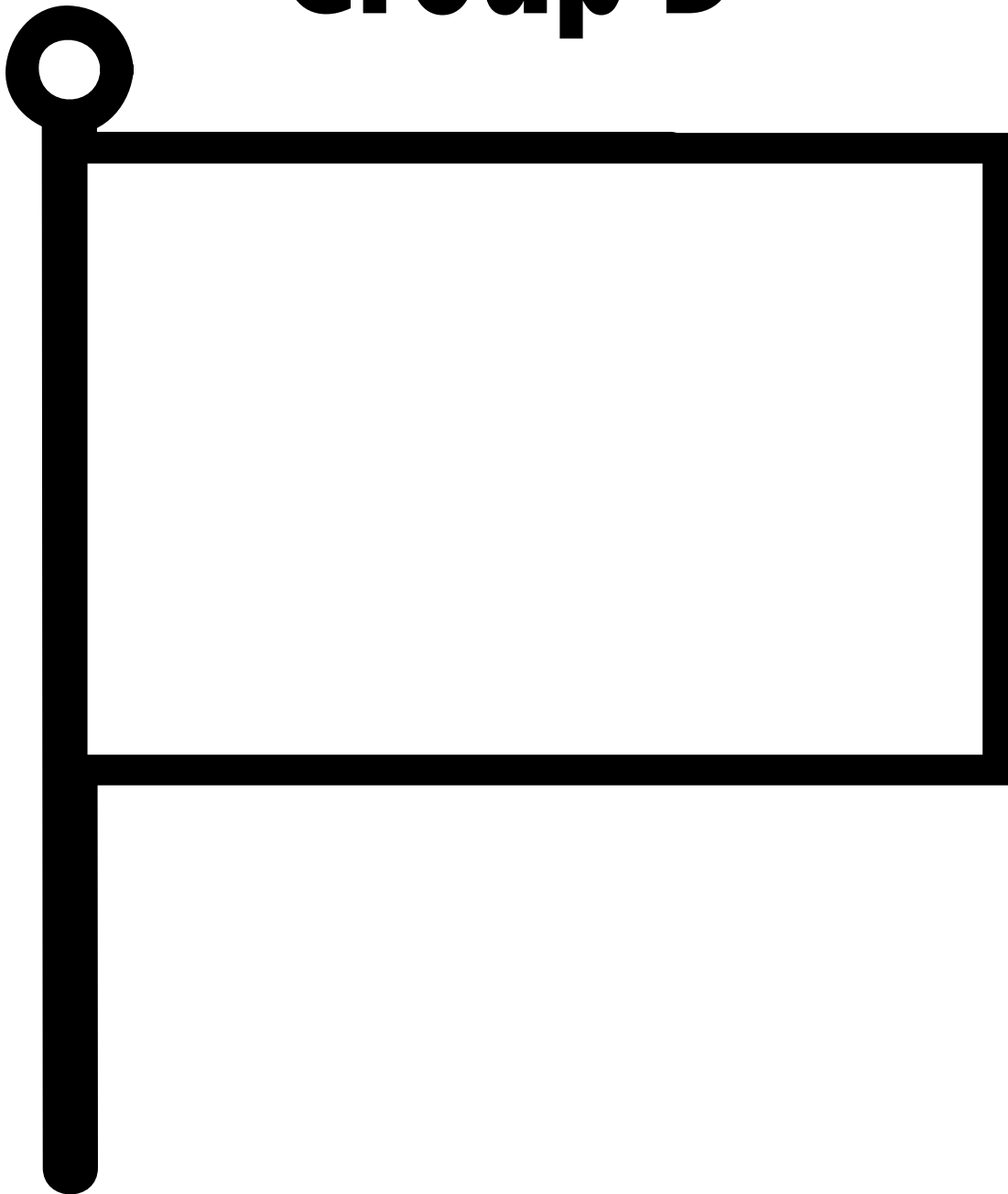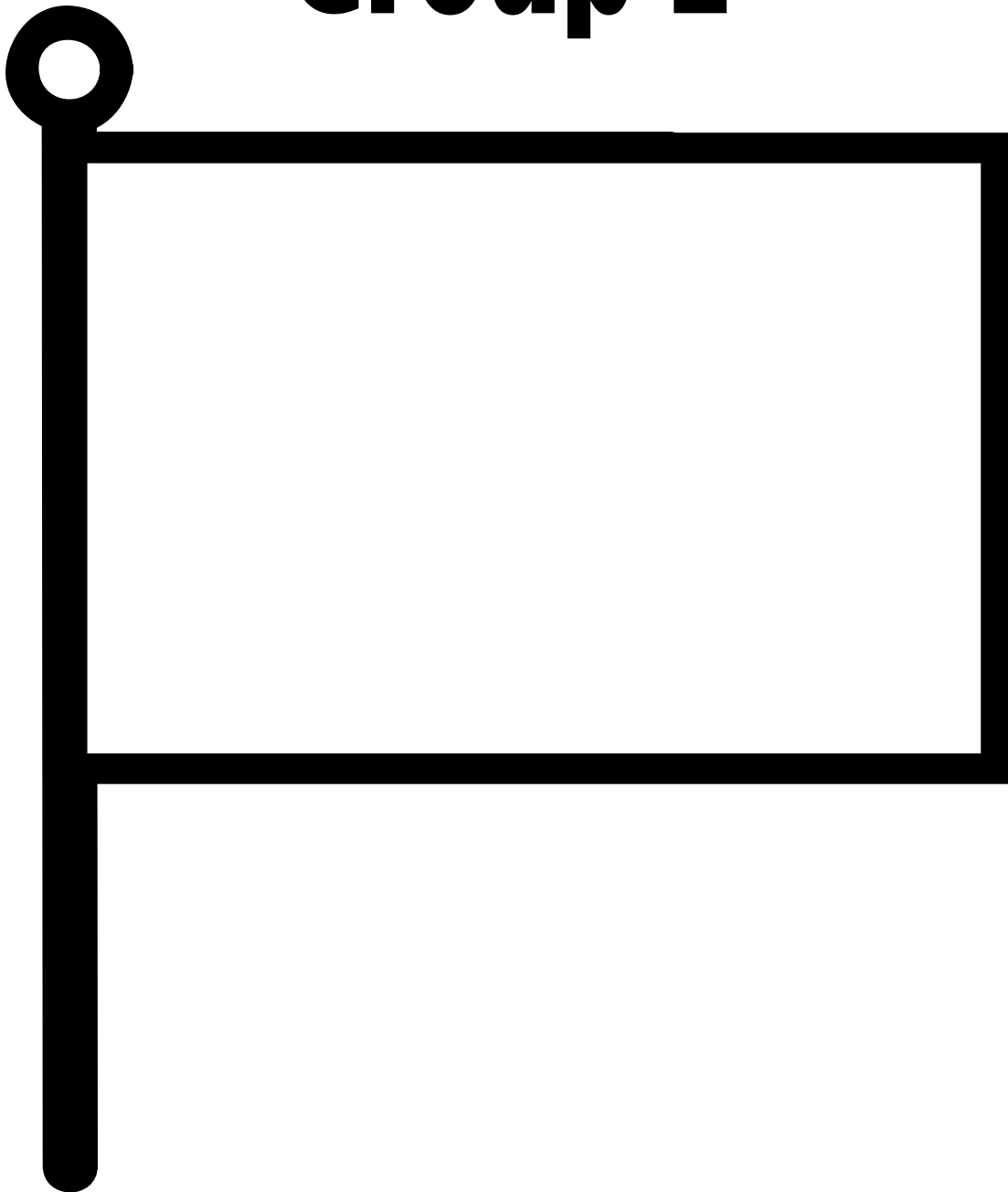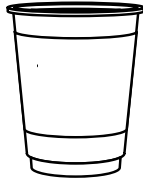
Group B

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Country Name

Write a name for your country on the flag below. You can write a name of a real country or you can write a pretend name.

Group C

Country Name

Write a name for your country on the flag below. You can write a name of a real country or you can write a pretend name.
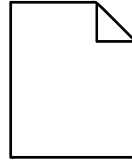
Group D

Country Name

Write a name for your country on the flag below. You can write a name of a real country or you can write a pretend name.

Group E

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Materials List

Use this materials list to help decide what supplies your group wants to get from other groups and what supplies you would be willing to give up.
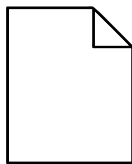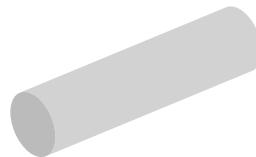
Group A

Cups   Construction Paper
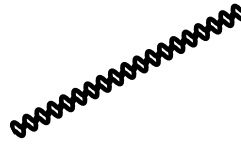
Group B

Construction Paper   Cardboard Tubes
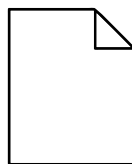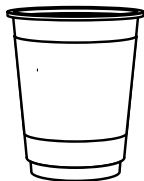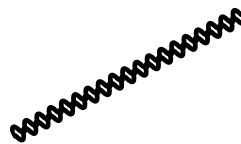
Group C

Tape   Pipe Cleaners

Group D

Tape   Contruction Paper

Group E

Cups   Pipe Cleaners

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