



OPERATION ICE CREAM

by **Raye Lankford**

**MARTHA
SPEAKS**™



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The contents of this printable certificate were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. The project is funded by a Ready to Learn Grant (PR/AWARD No. U295A100025, CFDA No. 84.294A) provided by the Department of Education to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.



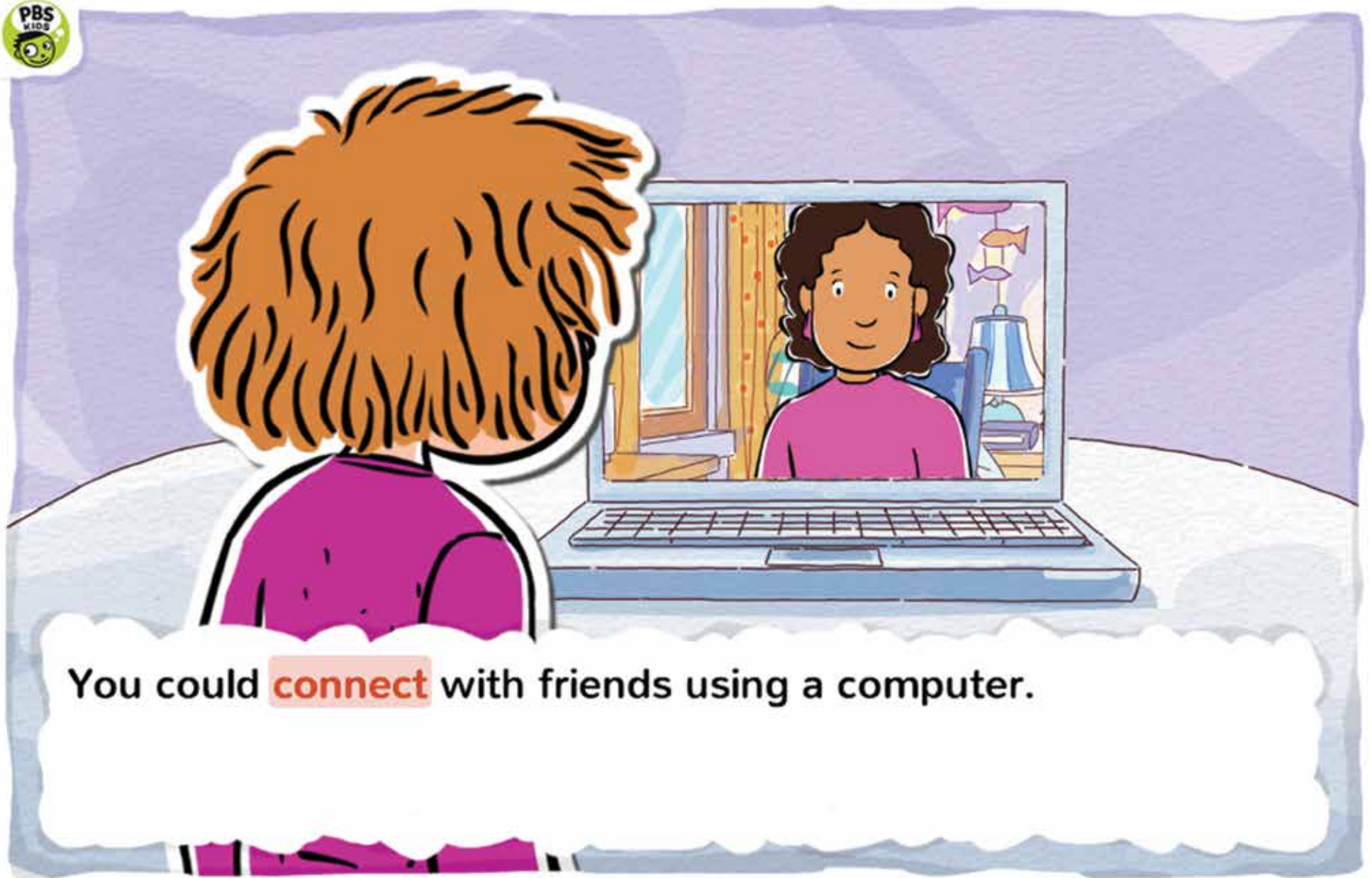
Thanks to **technology**, it's so easy to **communicate** with your friends. You could **decide** to have an ice cream party, and in seconds get in touch with everyone you know.

technology: technology is the use of science or engineering to create useful things.

communicate: when you communicate, you tell someone something.

decide: when you decide, it means you think about something and then make up your mind.

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You could **connect** with friends using a computer.

connect: when you connect with someone, you talk or meet with them to tell them something.

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If you have a cellphone, you can use its texting **technology** to type out a **message**.

technology: technology is the use of science or engineering to create useful things.

message: a message is something you want to tell someone else.



Or you could use an old-fashioned **innovation** such as a rotary telephone to call your friends and ask them to come over.

innovation: an innovation is a new idea, thing, or way to do something.

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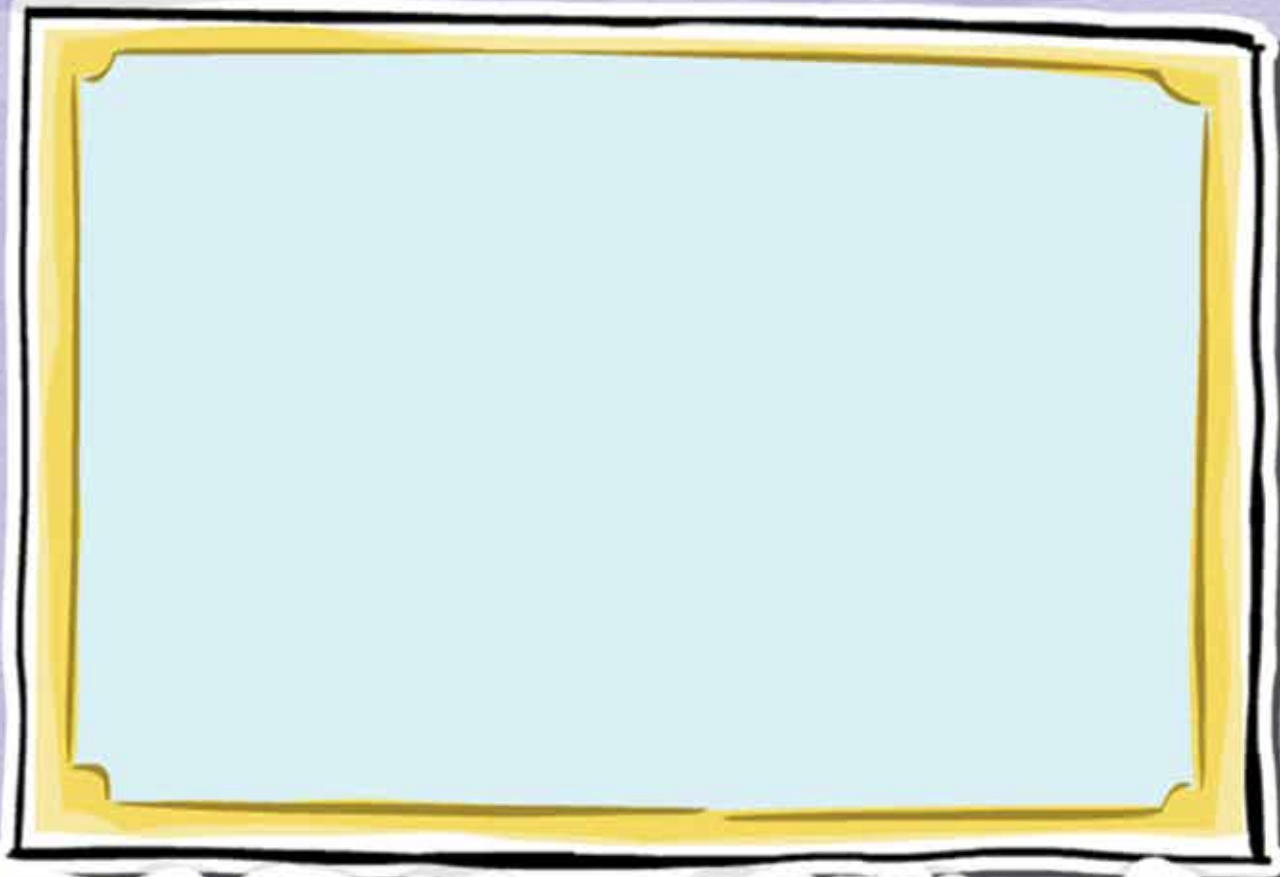


But suppose the power went out and you couldn't use a computer or a cellphone? And suppose your dog was hogging the rotary telephone? Without modern **technology**, how could you get the **information** about your ice cream party to your friends?

technology: technology is the use of science or engineering to create useful things.

information: when you want information about something, you want to know things about it.

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You could make an invitation to invite everyone over. You might draw a **simple** picture to show what you were trying to say. A picture is a great way to **communicate** because even kids who can't read can understand it.

simple: when something is simple, that means it does not have a lot of parts and it is easy to understand.

communicate: when you communicate, you tell someone something.

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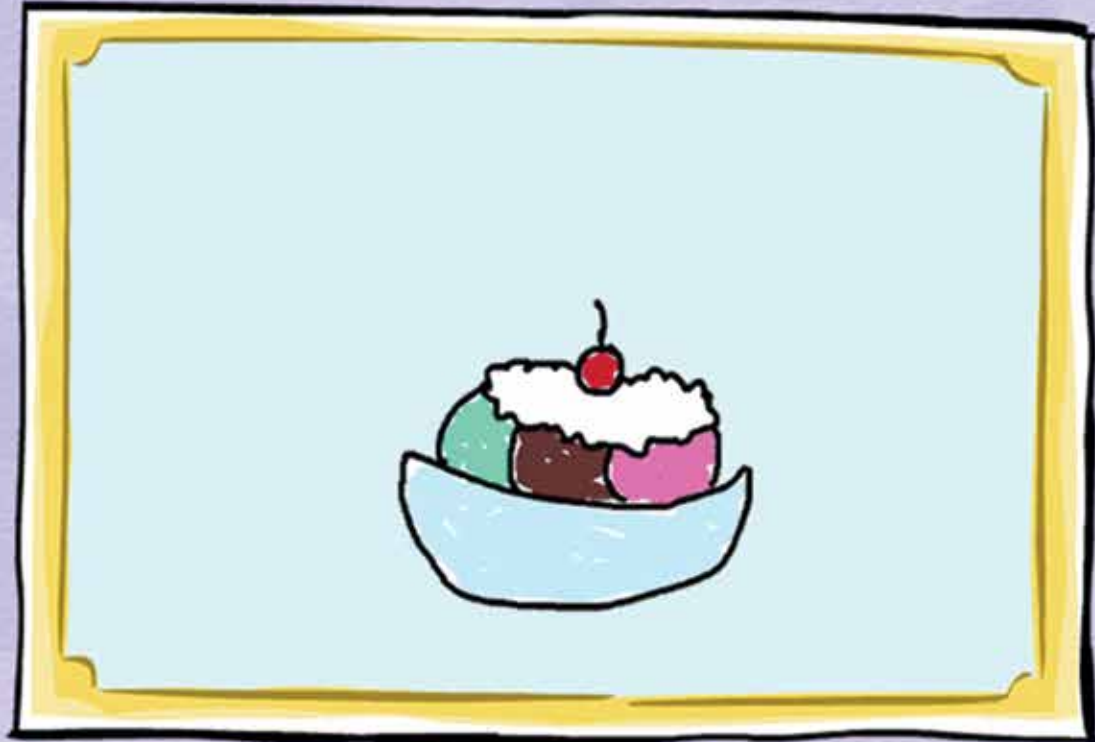
Ice Cream
Party

You Are Invited

I ♥ Ice Cream

Yum Yum

Party Time!



But a picture of a bowl of ice cream might be mistaken for a bowl of mashed potatoes. People might think you're having a mashed potato party! If you add words to your card, your **message** will be easier to understand.

message: a message is something you want to tell someone else.

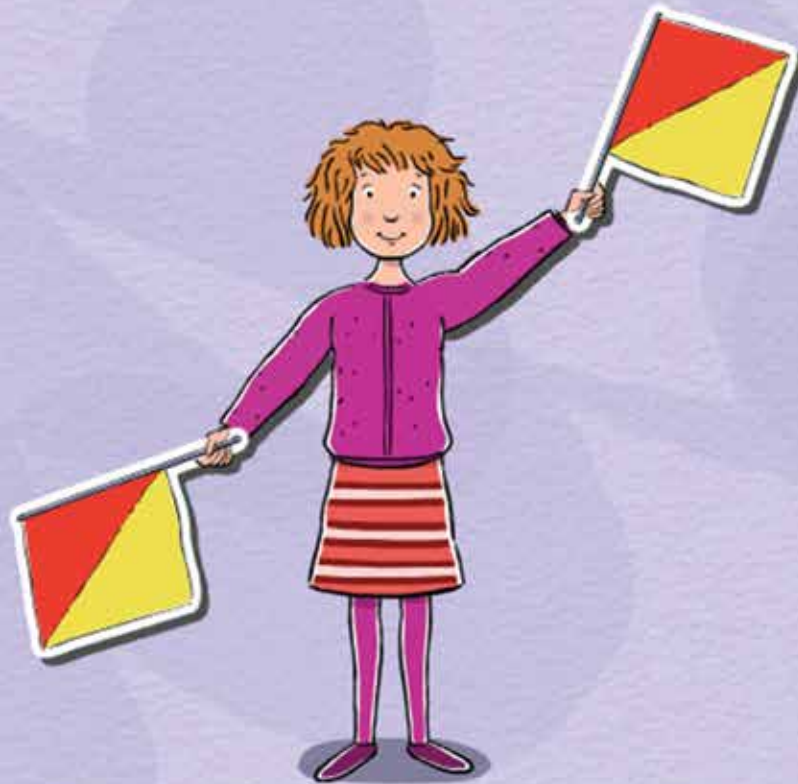
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If you don't have stamps to mail your invitations, you could tell your friends about your party by flashlight. By flicking the flashlight on and off in certain patterns, you can send really **complex messages** in code.

complex: when something is complex, that means it has a lot of parts and it is not easy to understand.

messages: a message is something you want to tell someone else.



If one of your friends lives farther away, you might send **signals** with flags. If you have a pesky big brother and you want to talk to your friends in secret, use a special code when you send your flag signals.

signal: a signal is something that tells you what to do, gives directions, a warning, or other information.



But the best way to tell your friends about your ice cream party is face-to-face. Whatever method you use to **communicate**, be sure you tell the whole gang that it's time for a yummy ice cream party!

communicate: when you communicate, you tell someone something.

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