



My School Family Memories: A student-made book for an end of year ritual

The “My School Family Memories” student-made book provides a template for students to record memories from their school year. This personalized keepsake can be printed by families to complete at home, distributed through the school for families to complete at home, or completed as part of the language arts curriculum in school.

Rituals are joint activities that bind us together and mark important occasions in our lives. Incorporating a ritual with the completion of this book will help offer a sense of closure to the school year. You can learn more about end of year rituals in the webinar titled End of Year Rituals to Honor, Celebrate and Heal.

This book is appropriate for children of all ages, however younger children may need adult help to put their thoughts into writing.

Materials:

- Book page printouts
- A way to bind the pages into a book (stapler, hole punch and yarn, spiral binding, etc.)
- Optional: Glue stick or photo tape and photos. If any of these photos are not available, the student can draw them instead.
 - o One 2x3-inch student school picture or “first day of school” photo (vertical/portrait)
 - o Two 2x3-inch photos of the class, the student with school friends or the student with the teacher (horizontal/landscape)
 - o Optional photos for the prompts on each writing page (various sizes)

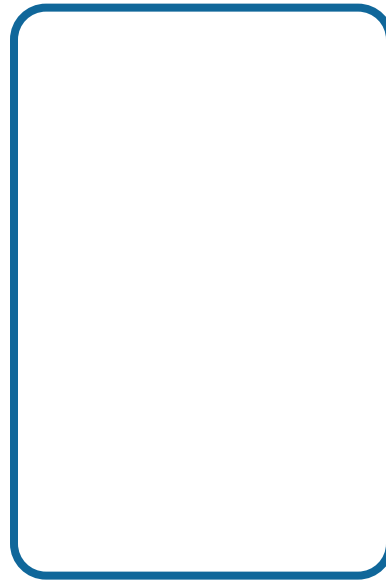
Create the books:

- Print the book.
- Affix the 2x3-inch student school picture or “first day of school” photo to the cover page. (Instruct students to draw themselves if photos aren’t available.)
- Affix a 2x3-inch photo of the class, the student with school friends, or the student with the teacher on the “Our time together” poem page. (if photos aren’t available, instruct students to draw the class.)
- Instruct the student to follow the writing prompts for each page and fill the space at the bottom with photos and/or drawings depicting images from the prompts.
- Affix a 2x3-inch photo of the class, the student with school friends, or the student with the teacher on the final page. (if photos aren’t available, instruct students to draw instead.)
- Bind the book pages together using a stapler, hole punch and yarn, spiral binding, or other means.
- Conduct an end of year ritual to celebrate the student’s accomplishment of completing the school year. Design your end of year rituals using ideas from the webinar titled End of Year Rituals to Honor, Celebrate and Heal.

My School Family Memories

school year

name



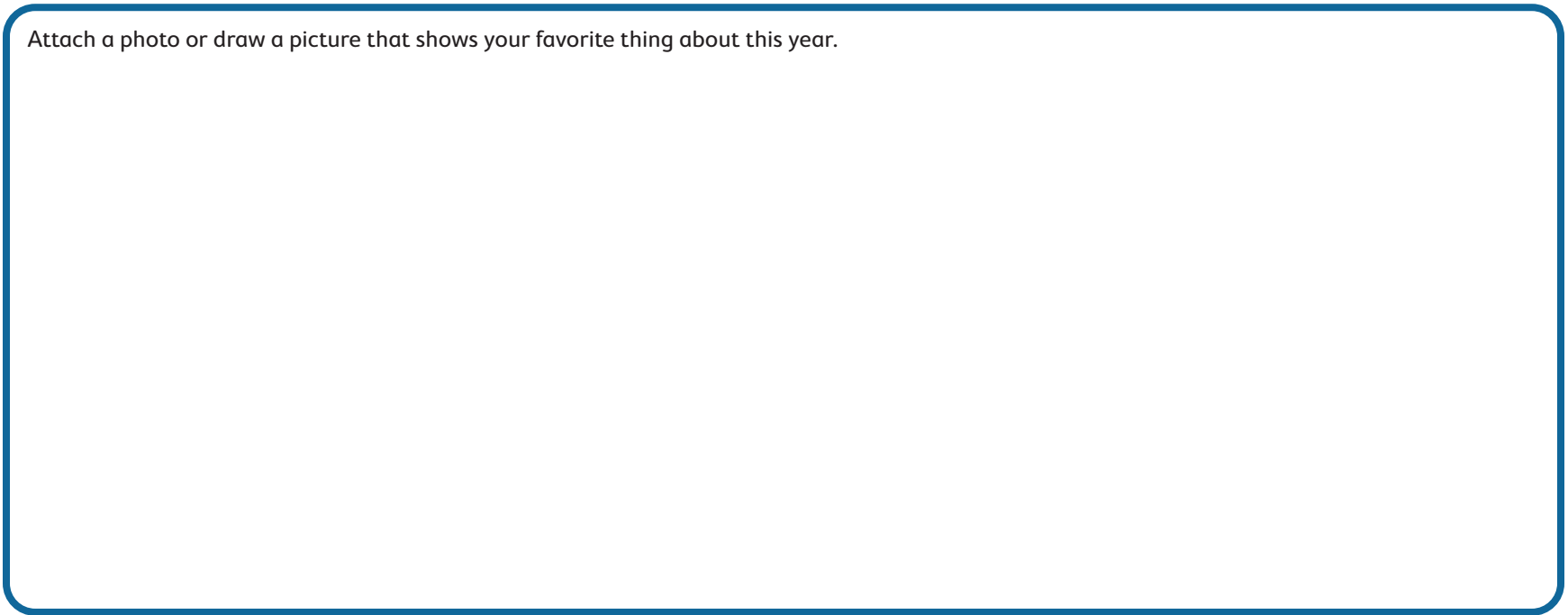
Our time together is complete.
Getting to know each other has been a treat.
The year was full of learning and laughter,
And now it is time for the adventures that come after.

I grew and I smiled, and I had some difficult times, too.
One thing is for certain: I will always remember you!



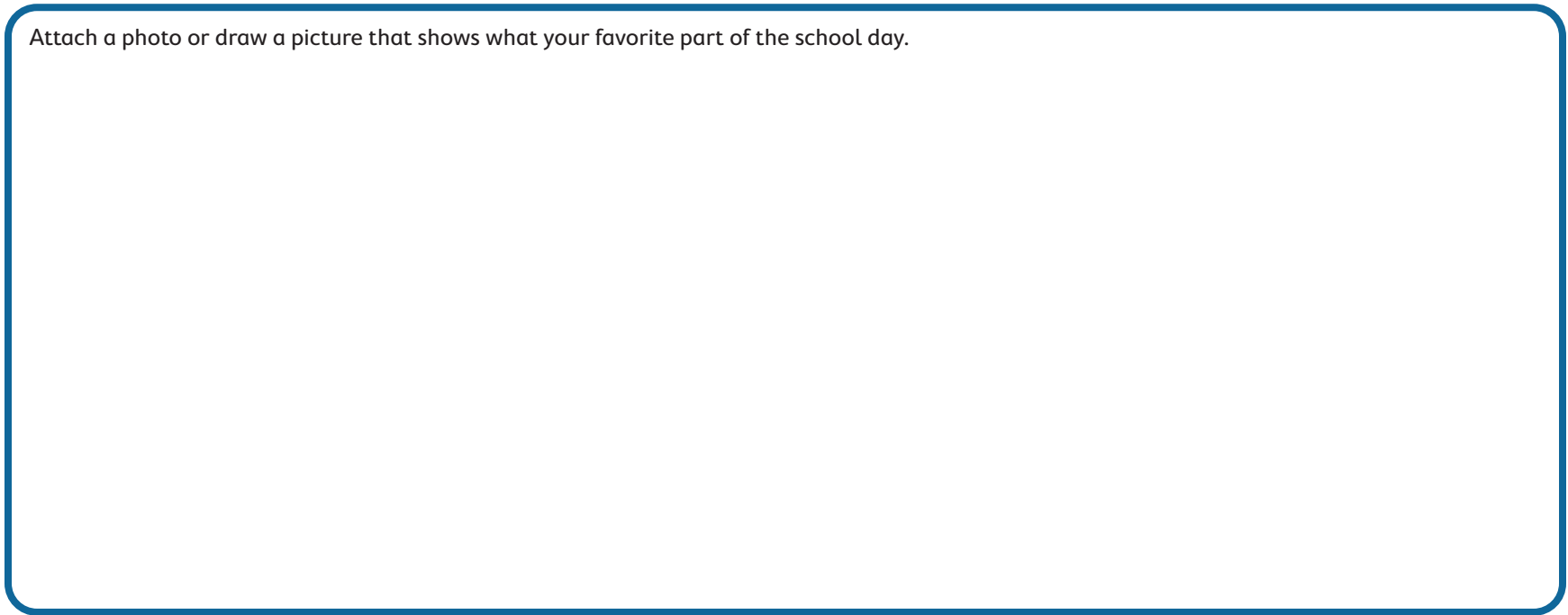
My favorite thing about this year was:

Attach a photo or draw a picture that shows your favorite thing about this year.



My favorite part of the school day was:

Attach a photo or draw a picture that shows what your favorite part of the school day.

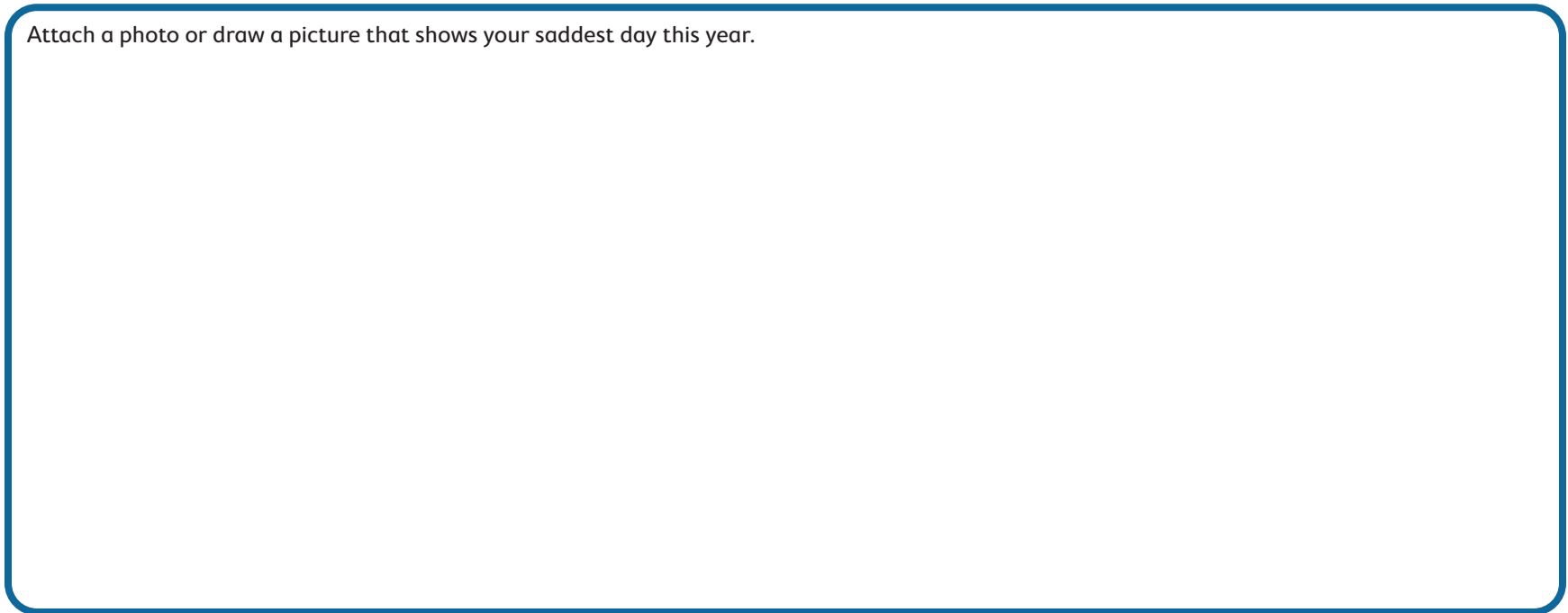


My favorite day this year was:

Attach a photo or draw a picture that shows what your favorite day this year.

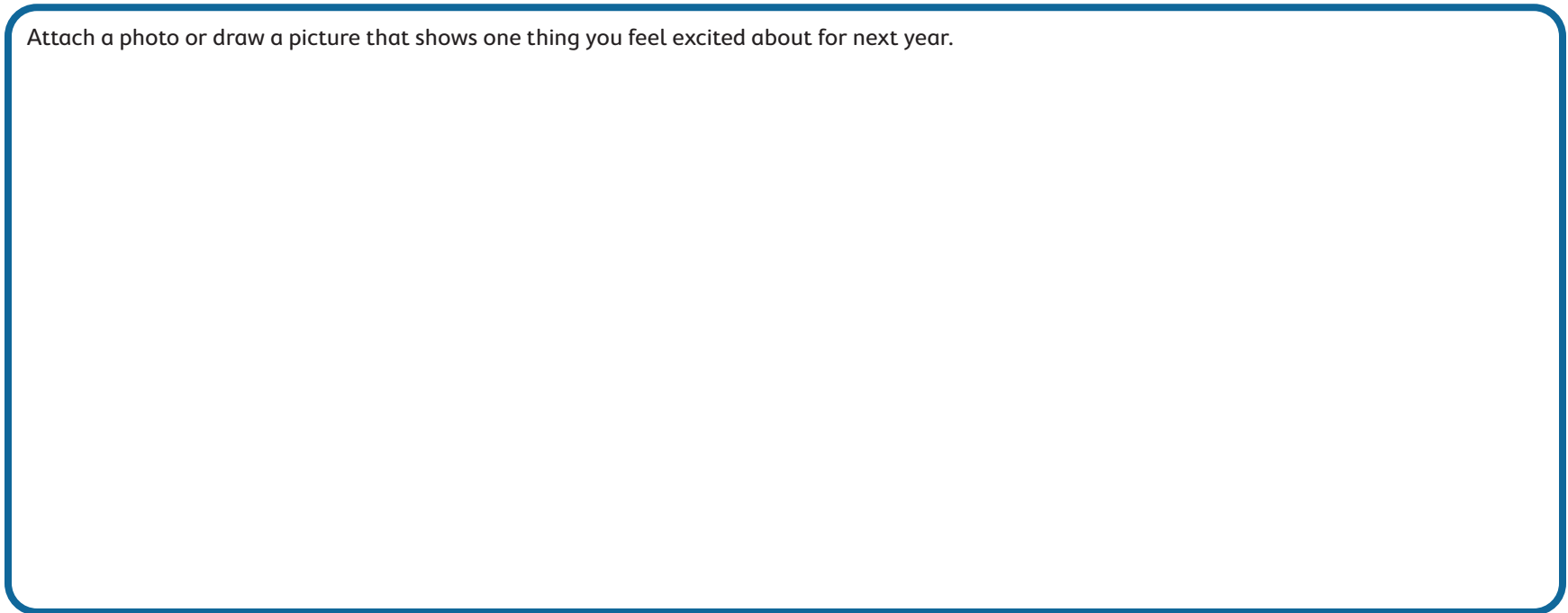
My saddest day this year was:

Attach a photo or draw a picture that shows your saddest day this year.



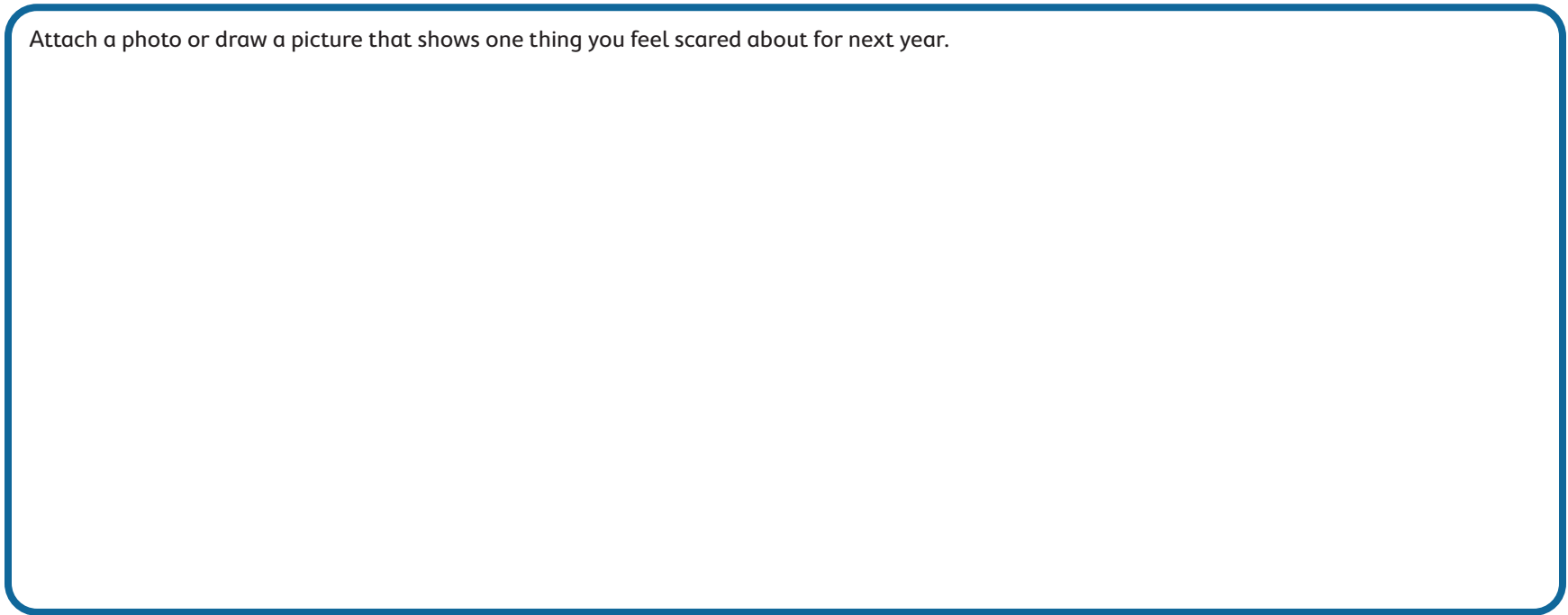
One thing I feel excited about for next year is:

Attach a photo or draw a picture that shows one thing you feel excited about for next year.



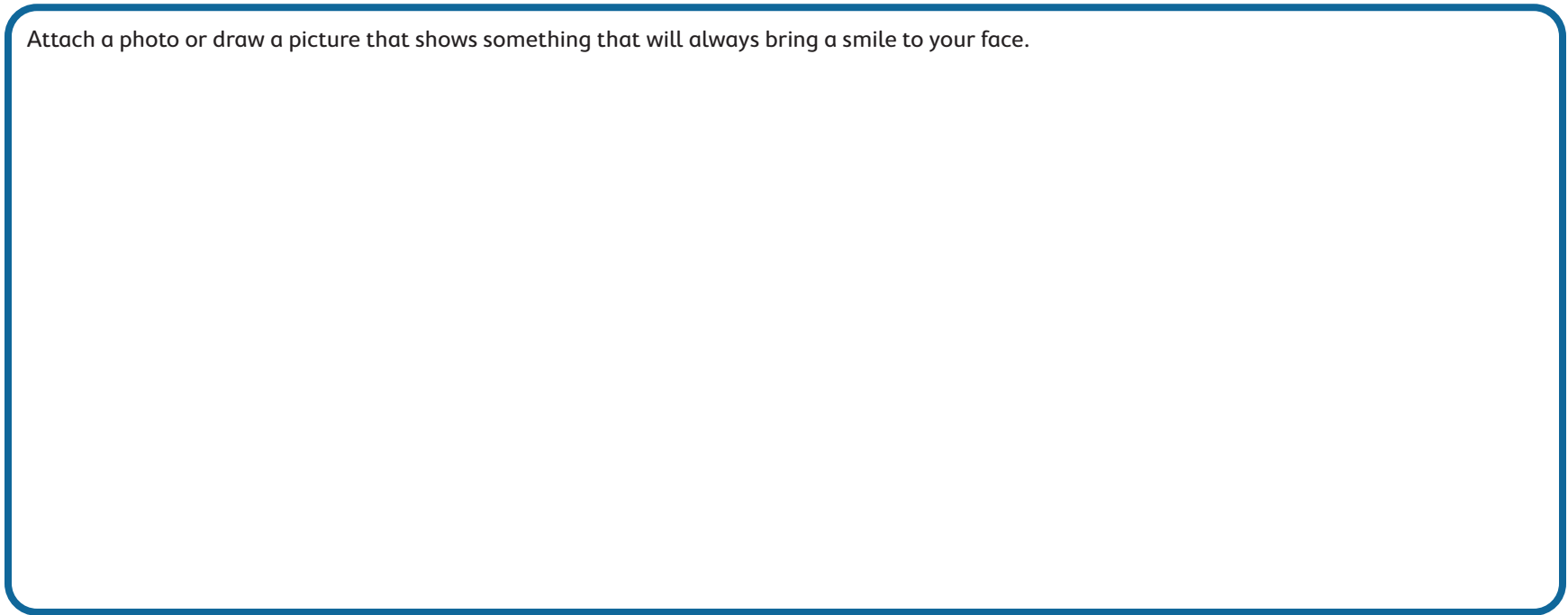
One thing I feel scared about for next year is:

Attach a photo or draw a picture that shows one thing you feel scared about for next year.



Something about this year that will always bring a smile to my face is:

Attach a photo or draw a picture that shows something that will always bring a smile to your face.



I will always remember this school year.
Sometimes it seemed easy, sometimes it seemed hard,
Sometimes it felt scary and sometimes it felt exciting.
I will always remember how we helped each other and worked through it all... together.



I DID IT!
YOU DID IT!
WE DID IT!

