the littlest Preservationist
Coloring book with activity pages
One day after school, Tommy said to his mom, “I don’t like old buildings!”

“Well, did you know we live in an old building?” asked Tommy’s mom.

“Tomorrow, when we take Roscoe for a walk, Dad and I will show you how much fun old buildings can be,” said Mom.
“Old buildings connect us to our history,” said Tommy’s dad.

“Like our house?” asked Tommy.

“Yes. See the triangles on the top of the porch, Tommy? Those are called BRACKETS. They were used as support and as special decoration,” said Mom.

Tommy said, “Tomorrow I want to try and pick out neat parts of old buildings.”
The next day, Tommy noticed something.

“Mom, why is there a monster on that building?”

“That is a GARGOYLE. They were placed on buildings for good luck and decoration. This one covers a rain spout,” said Mom. “Try to pick out other parts of buildings.”

“We call these neat parts ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS!” said Dad.
“I see another one! Dad, do you see the bird on top of that pointy thing?” asked Tommy.

“I sure do,” said Dad! “That is called a FINIAL. They are used for decoration and are usually at the highest point of old buildings.”

“I thought it was just a spot for birds to sit!” joked Tommy.
Mom asked Tommy, “Do you remember the building that had the FINIAL?”
“Yes,” said Tommy. “What was the finial sitting on?”
“That little room is called a CUPOLA. They were put on buildings to let in sunlight and to also let in outside fresh air,” said Mom.
“Sort of like a skylight or old fashioned air conditioning!” said Tommy.
“Look at that HUGE door!” Tommy exclaimed.

“That door uses a ROMAN ARCH. A long time ago, the Romans used arches to honor heroes returning from war. The arches also held up the building’s heavy walls and roof,” explained Dad. “That is why some of this architecture is called ROMANESQUE.”
Tommy shouted, “I see another arch! This one has a neat ‘zigzag’ pattern on it!”

“Those ‘zigzags’ are called CHEVRONS. They were used to make arches even more special,” said Mom.

“Let’s see if we can find more fun pieces of architecture before we go home,” said Dad.
“Wow,” exclaimed Tommy, “this old building is now used as an ice cream store!”

“What do you call that piece of the building that is sticking out from the roof?” asked Tommy.

“That is called a CORNICE. It is a piece of molding that helps join the wall and the roof,” said Mom.

“Tommy, you have done a great job today!” said Dad.

“Dad, I think old buildings are neat. There are so many fun parts to them!” said Tommy.
Matching Game

Directions: Help Tommy practice what he has learned by matching the piece of architecture with the correct name.
Gargoyle
Cornice
Roman Arch
Cupola
Finial
Bracket
Chevron
“What did you do this weekend?” asked Latoya.

“I learned about old buildings,” said Tommy. “Did you know old buildings are fun? And they are important to save and use!”

“Really?” asked Latoya. “Is my house old? I wonder how I can tell if it is old?”

“You have to look really closely at the building. There are all sorts of architectural elements to look for in old buildings. Come on, I’ll show you!” exclaimed Tommy.
Latoya needs your help!

Directions: Help Tommy’s friend Latoya find different parts of her house that will help her determine if it used to be an old building.

- Gargoyle
- Cornice
- Roman Arch
- Cupola
- Finial
- Bracket
- Chevron