Which Way Out?

Family Note

Today your child explored patterns in square products, such as $3 \times 3$ and $4 \times 4$. The activity below provides practice in identifying square products. Have your child start at the picture of the Minotaur and use a pencil so he or she can erase wrong turns. If it would be helpful, suggest that your child mark each square product before attempting to find a path.

Please return this Home Link to school tomorrow.

According to Greek mythology, there was a monster called the Minotaur that was half bull and half human. The king had a special mazelike dwelling built, from which the Minotaur could not escape. The dwelling, called a labyrinth (la buh rinth), had many rooms and passageways that formed a puzzle. Whoever went in could not find their way out without help. One day, a Greek hero, Theseus, decided to slay the monster. To find his way out of the labyrinth, his friend Ariadne gave him a very, very long ball of string to unwind as he walked through the passageways. After Theseus slew the Minotaur, he followed the string to escape.

Pretend you are Theseus. To find your way out, you may go through only those rooms numbered with square products. Start at the Minotaur’s chambers and draw a path to the exit.