Here’s a reminder of summer to keep in mind as we face autumn and winter. This block will fit into August on your Calendar Quilt, our theme for this year. In October you’ll get December’s block and then you can put the calendar together. (Last month’s Summer Butterfly block was for June).

Yummy Ice Pop Fabric:
Have fun choose appealing colors for the ice pop/ice cream bar—strawberry, lime, orange, lemon, raspberry, blue (blueberry), gold (butterscotch) and chocolate brown. Or how about dotted fabric indicating chocolate chip or sprinkles? You’ll need a background that contrasts—something light and not distracting. Look at tone-on-tones. Finally, you’ll need a scrap of tan or brown for the stick.

Cutting Directions: Label pieces A through H as you cut them.

Ice pop/ice cream bar fabric:
Cut one strip 4” by 21”. Sub-cut into one 3½” by 9” A rectangle, one 4” B square and one 3½”by 6” C rectangle.

Background:
Cut one strip 3½” by 36”. Sub-cut into two 3½” by 12½” H rectangles, two 3” x 4” G rectangles and one 1½” E square.

Cut one 4” F square.

Brown or Tan:
Cut one 1-3/8” by 4” D rectangle.

Assembly Directions: Sew with scant ¼” seams.

1. Draw a diagonal line on E. Place E RST on the upper left corner of A. Sew on the line. Trim seam leaving ¼” allowance. Press E into place in the corner. Set aside.

2. Sew one 4” side of D to a 4” side of G. Repeat on the other side of D with the second G. This piece should be 4” high by 6½” wide. Trim if necessary. Set aside.

3. Make the corner with the bite missing. This is easier than you think. Make two BF sections. You can practice making one and pass it along with your block or use it in an improvisational piece of your own.

Directions: Place B and F on top of each other on your cutting board, both right side up. Cut a gentle curve from mid-top to mid-right side. Place the background semi-circle piece of F RST with the Ice Pop color B. Match the center of the curve on each by folding each piece in half. You’ll notice that the ends of the arc don’t reach the edges of B. That’s okay, as you’ll be trimming this section. Closely pin the two fabrics together. Sew a 1/8” seam. Press the seam allowance toward the semicircle. Practice on the BF set with the Ice Pop colored semicircle.

4. Trim the BF section to 3½” square

5. Sew BF to C along the 3½” side of B.

6. Sew the long side of A to the long side of FBC.

7. Attach GDG to the bottom of AC. This section should measure 12½” high by 6½” wide. If it doesn’t, trim it to those dimensions.

8. Finally, sew one H to each side of the center section. Press well. Measure and trim to 12½” square.

BOM GUIDELINES: To enter the monthly drawing for the Blocks of the Month, make one, two or three blocks, following the color and pattern directions above. Your name is entered into the drawing once for each block submitted. The winner takes home the blocks entered by other participants. Please attach your name, address, and phone number to the back of your block(s). Consider including leftover scraps (pinned to the back or in an attached baggie) and the second BF section for the winner to use in her final setting.

If you cannot bring the blocks to the meeting, mail them to the MQ office. Allow adequate time for them to arrive by Friday the week of the meetings. Mail to Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 253 State Street, St. Paul, MN 55107.

We draw the Block of the Month winner at the Saturday meeting each month except December and June. If not present, winners will be notified by phone or e-mail. Blocks may be picked up during the month at the MQ office, or claimed at the next meeting.