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(54) **COLORING KIT**

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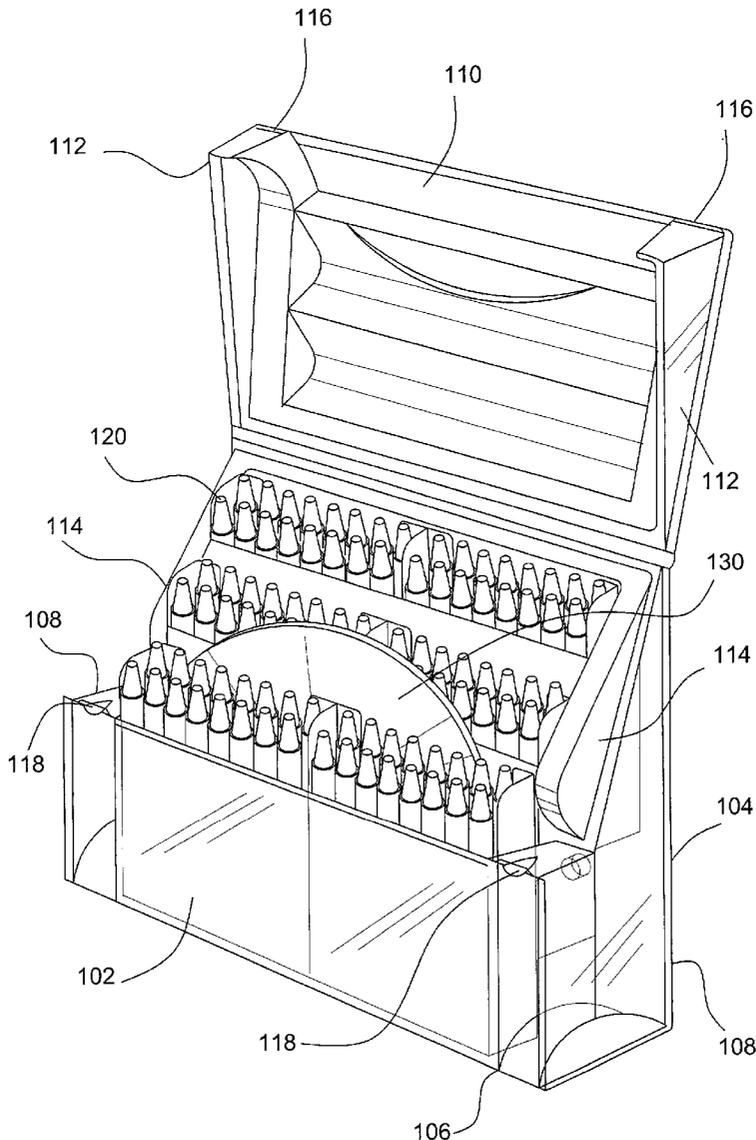
(57) **ABSTRACT**

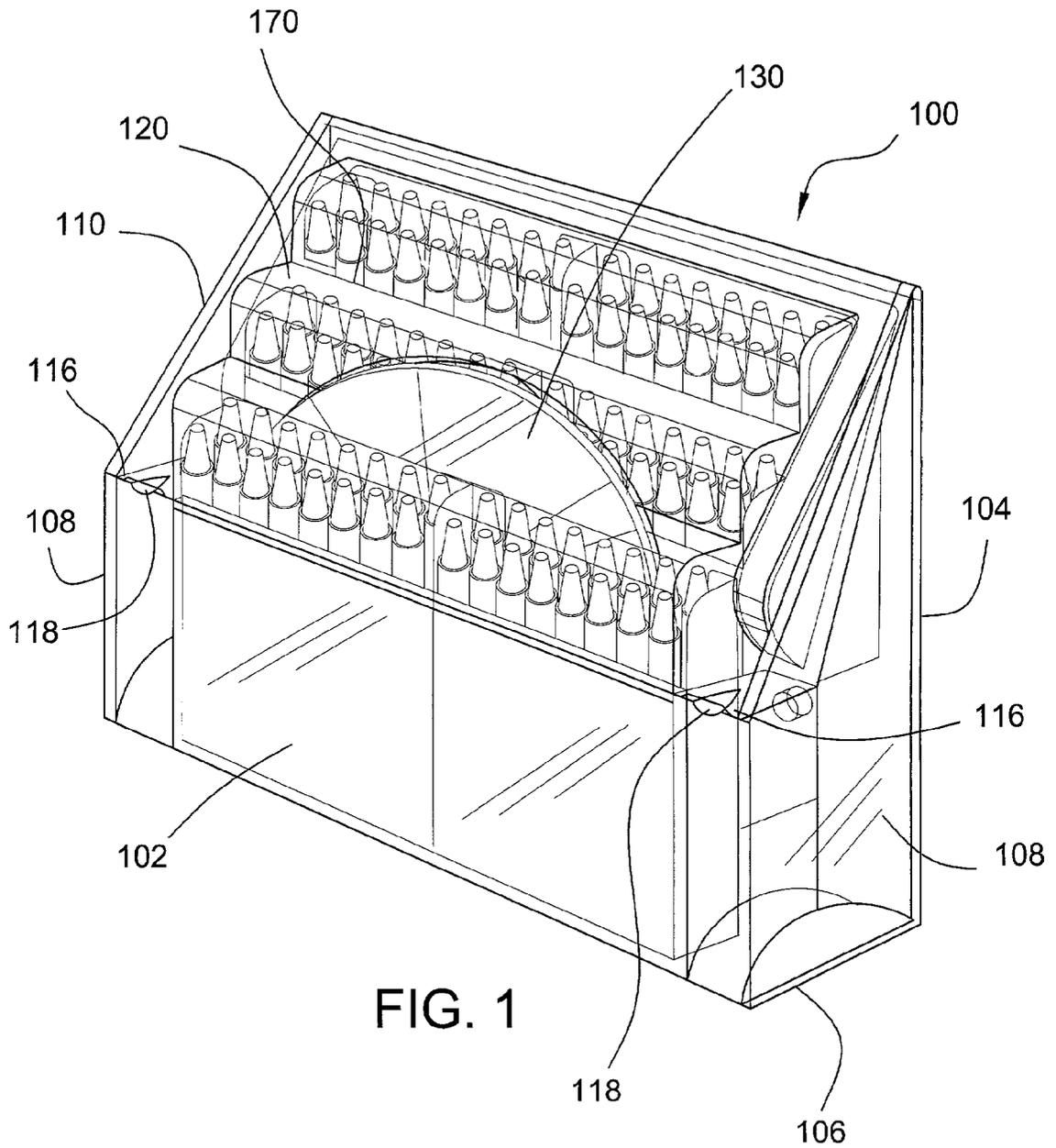
A coloring kit is disclosed which includes writing instruments for making marks in color, a storage container for the writing instruments, and a compact disc that has instructions for reproducing displays of interactive activities utilizing the writing instruments from a personal computer. The interactive activities may include a coloring book or similar such activities. The end user or customer may print physical copies of the displays from a personal computer coupled to a printer. In some embodiments, the storage container may also enclose and store the compact disc.

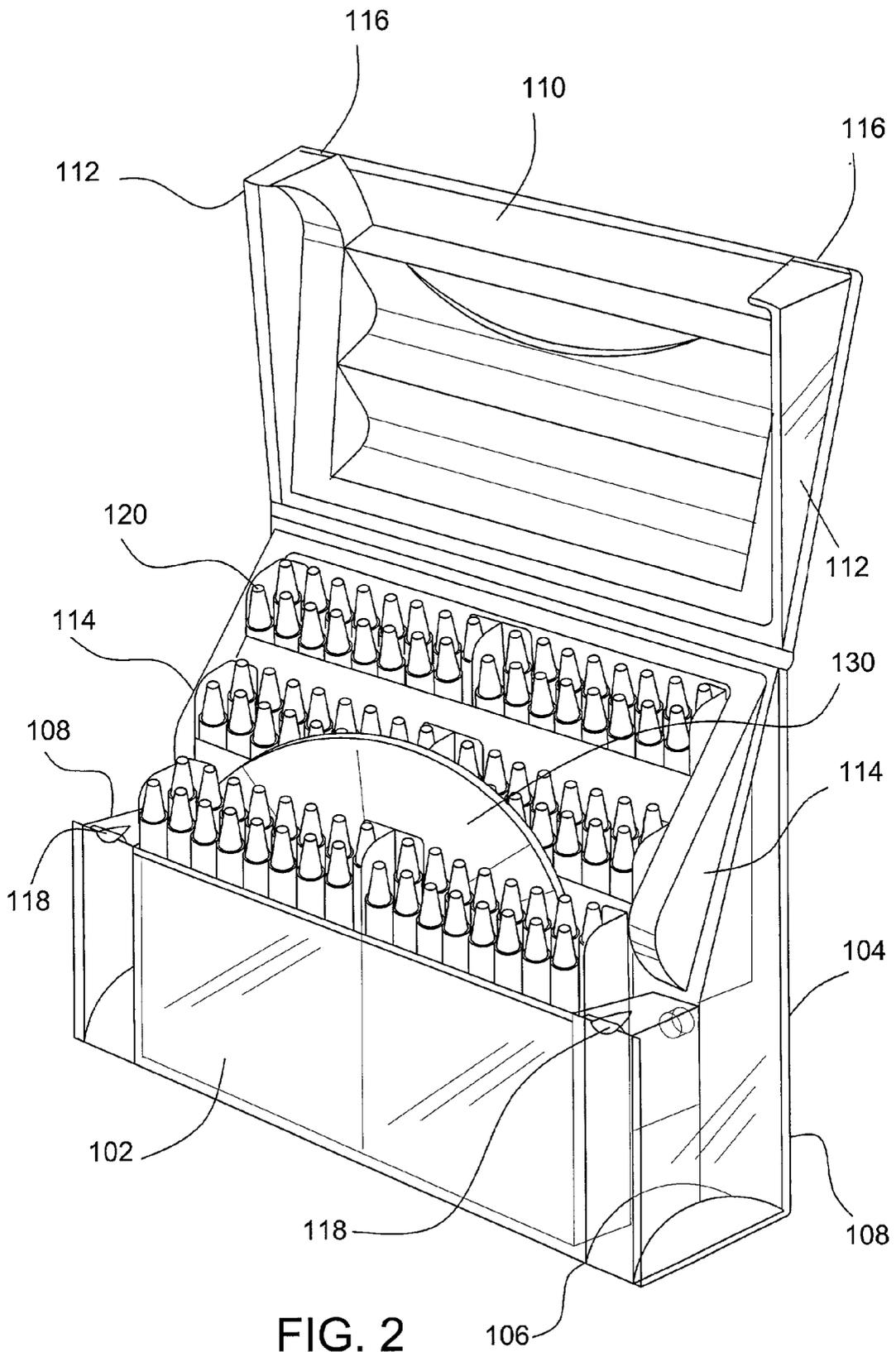
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(21) Appl. No.: **10/120,943**

(22) Filed: **Apr. 11, 2002**







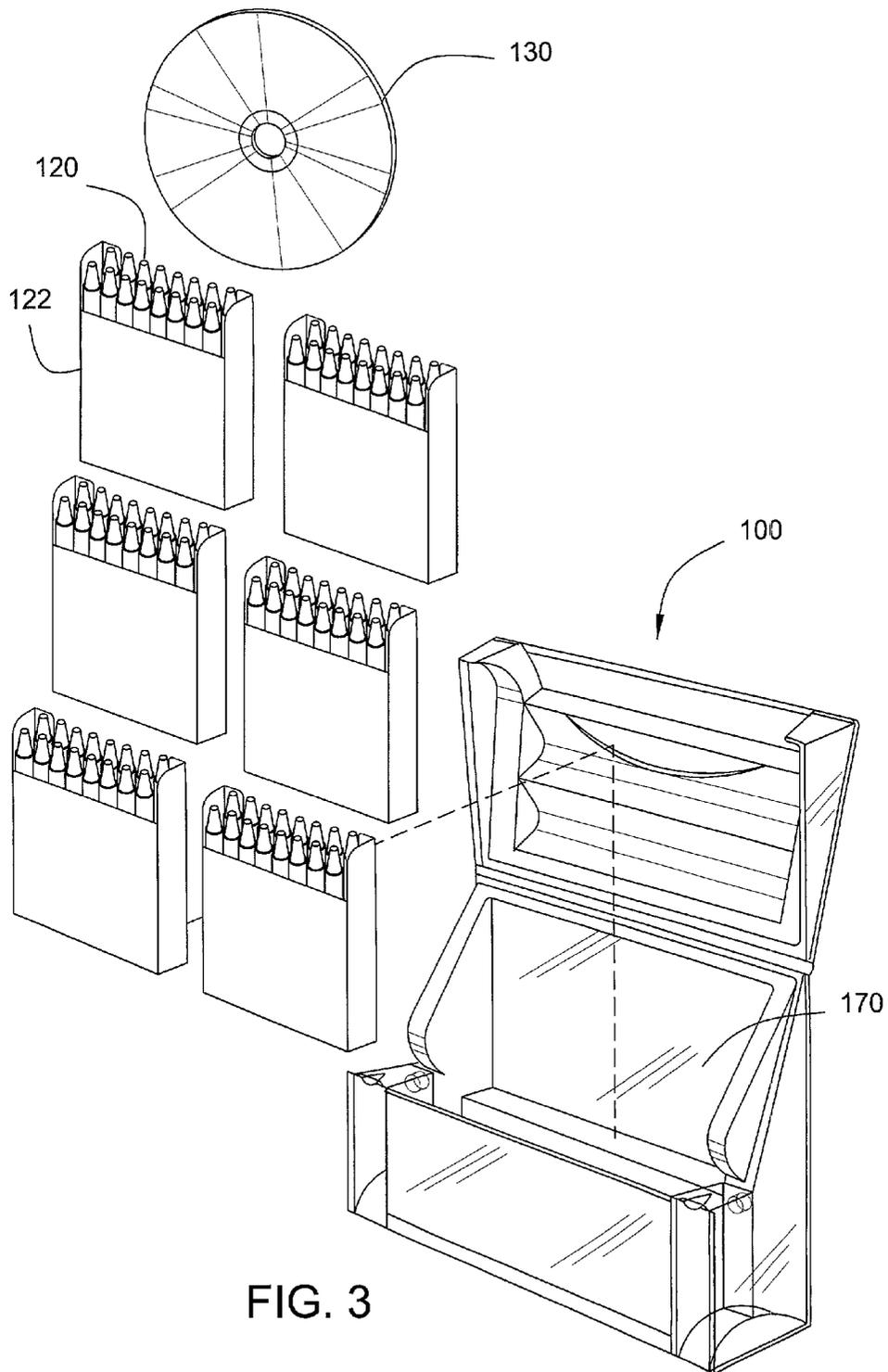


FIG. 3

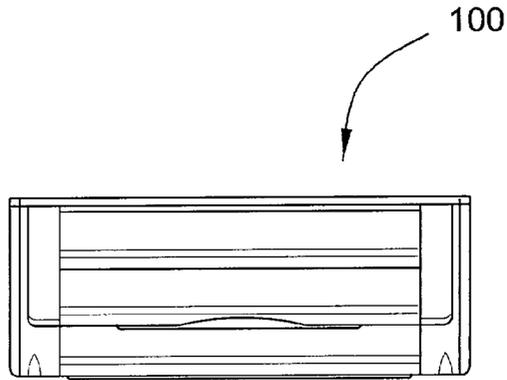


FIG. 7

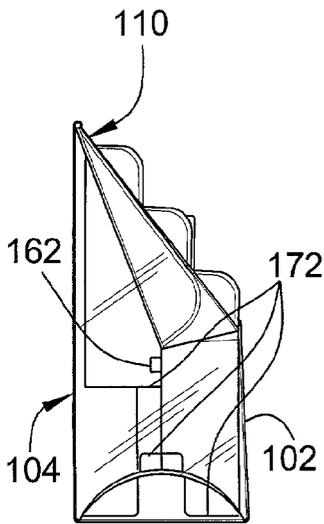


FIG. 5

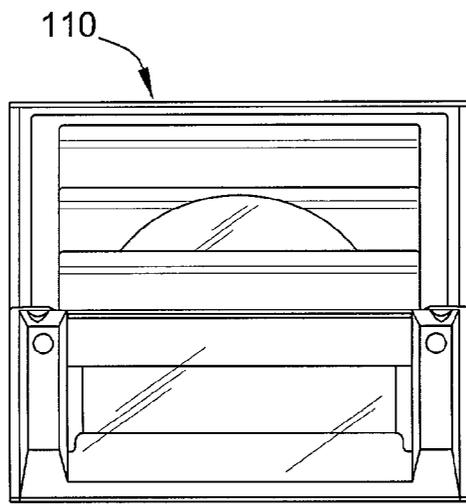


FIG. 4

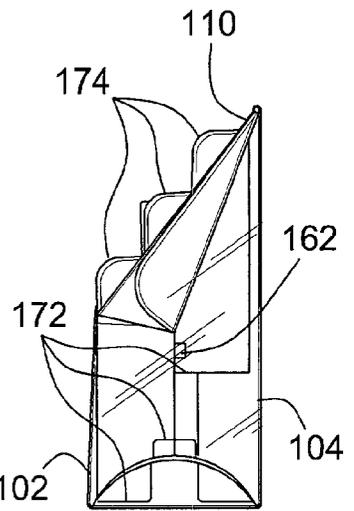


FIG. 6

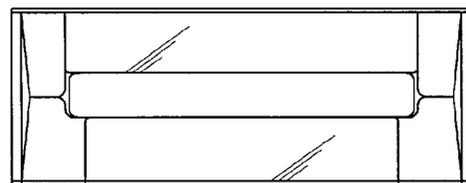


FIG. 8

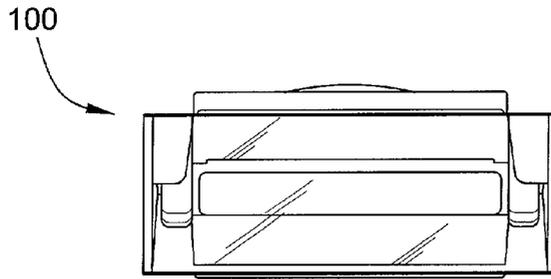


FIG. 12

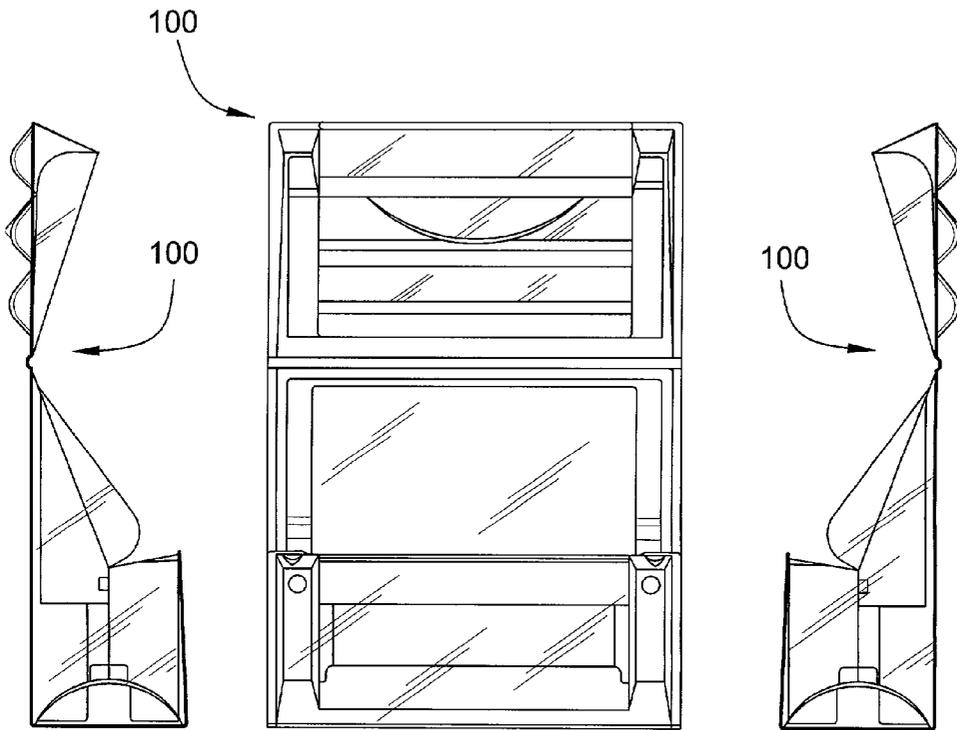


FIG. 10

FIG. 9

FIG. 11

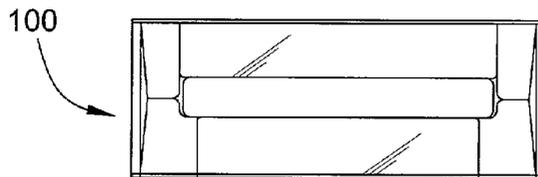


FIG. 13

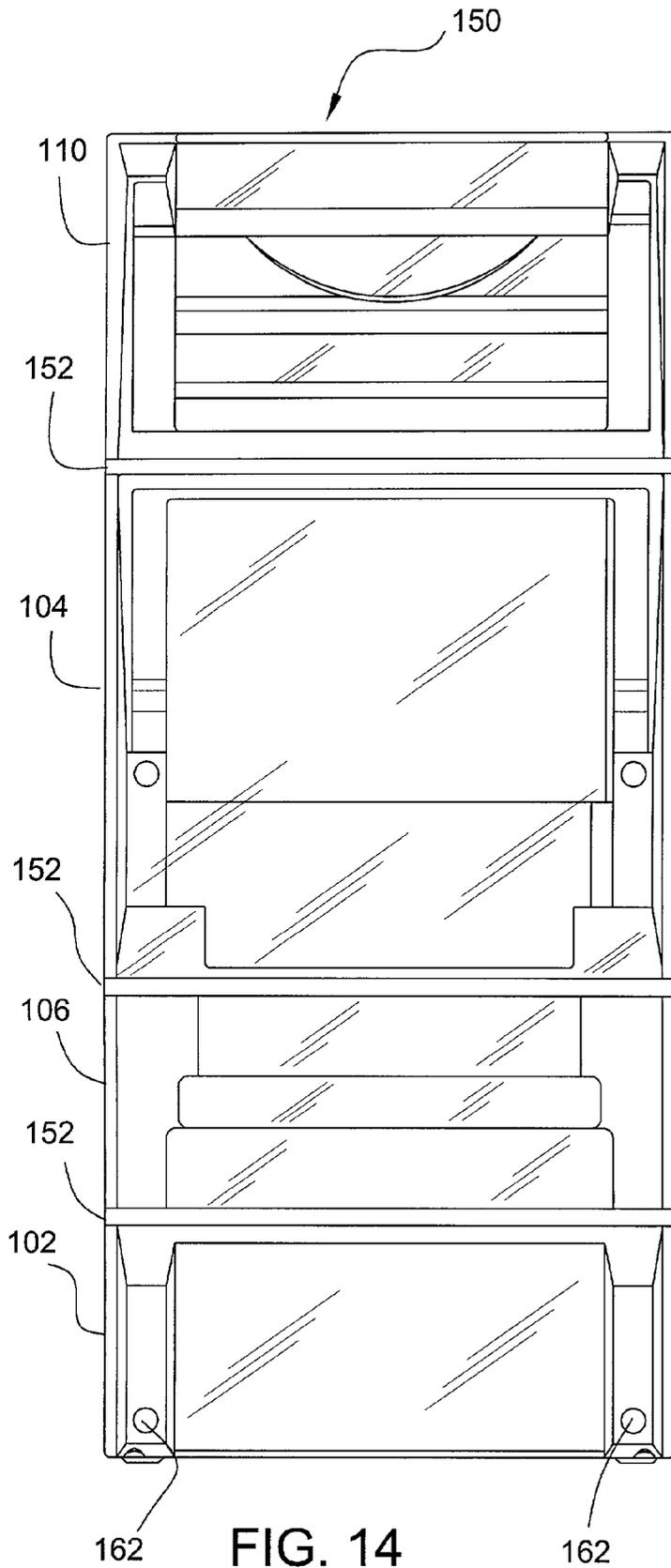


FIG. 14

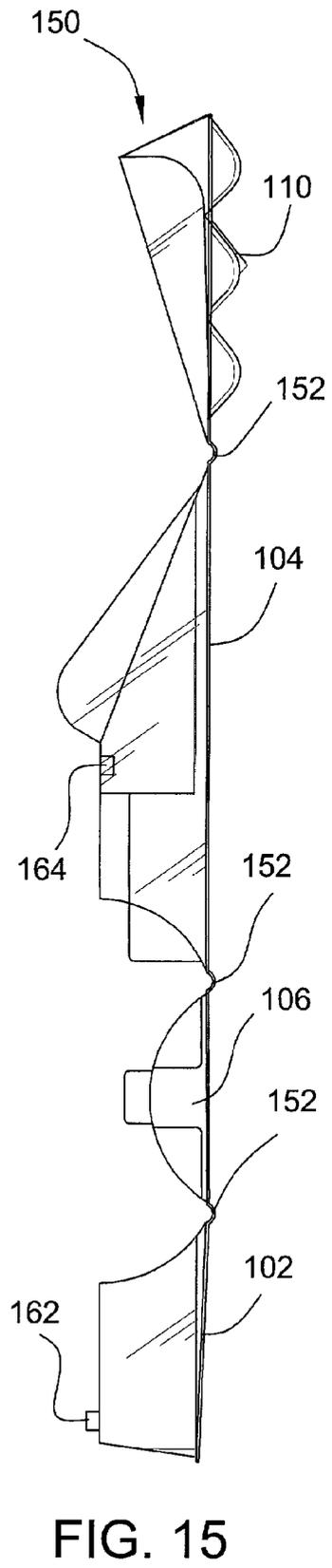


FIG. 15

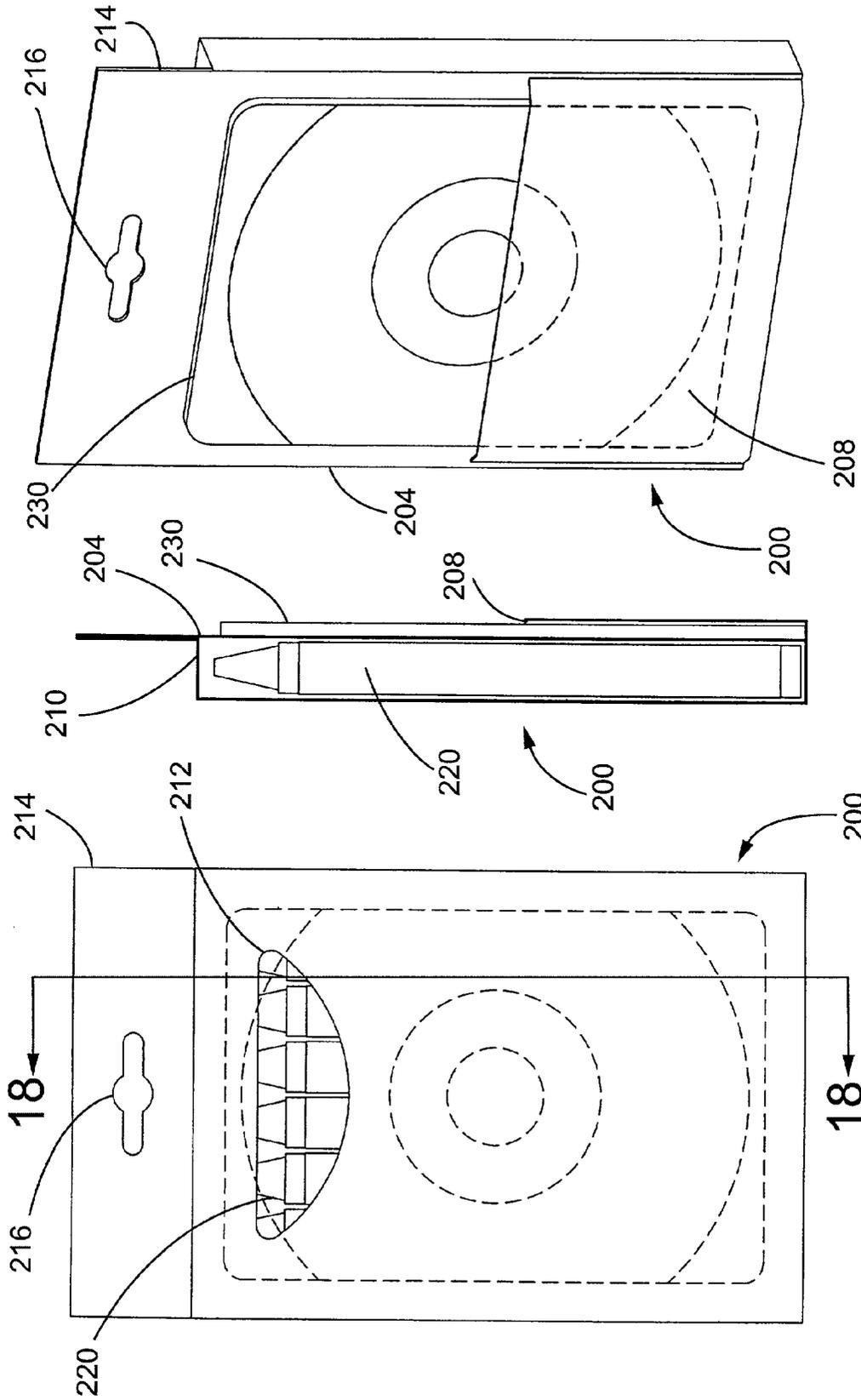


FIG. 16

FIG. 18

FIG. 17

FIG. 19

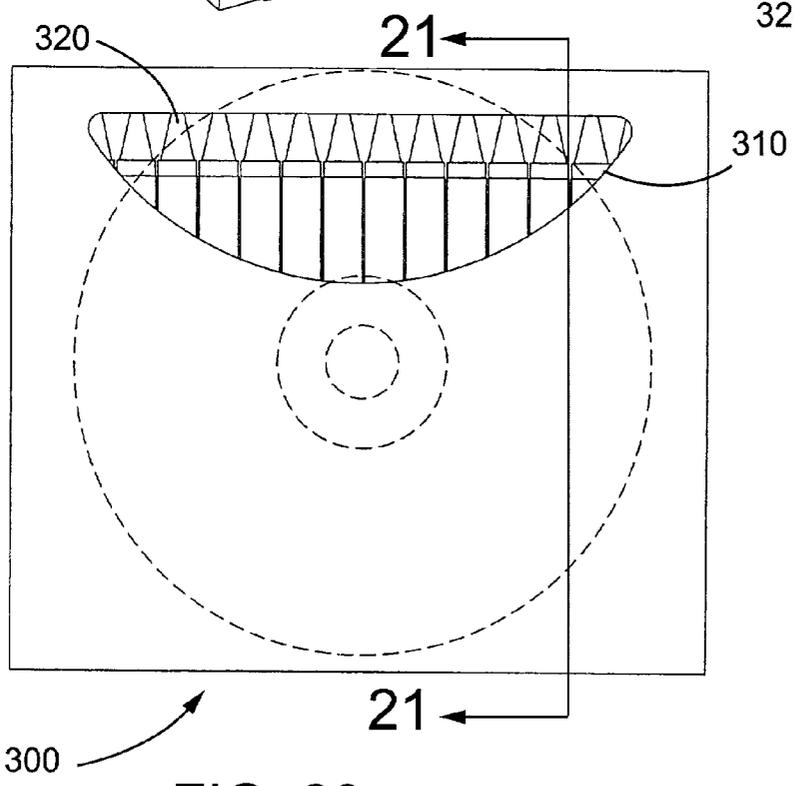
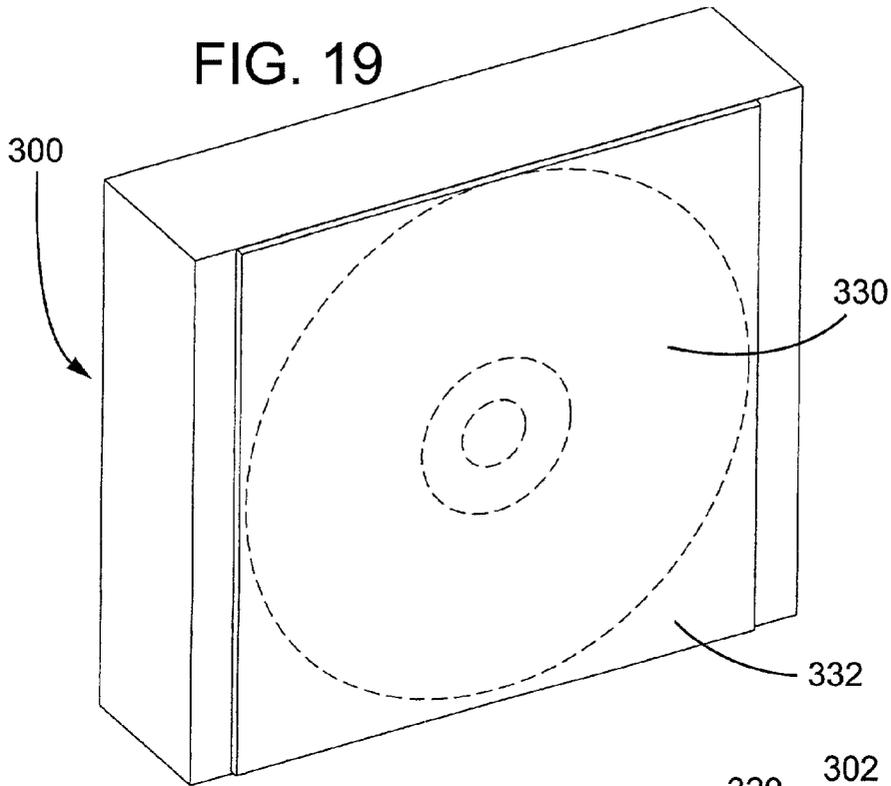


FIG. 20

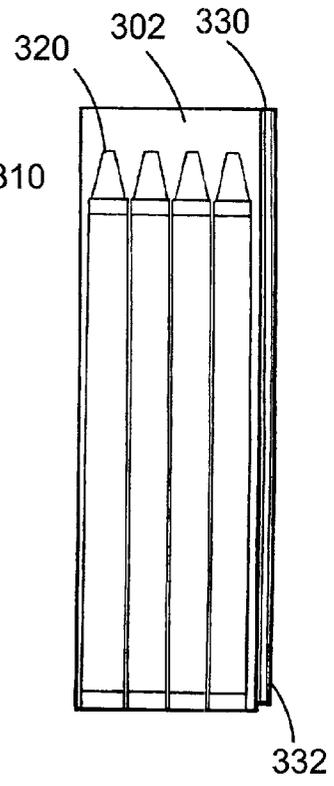


FIG. 21

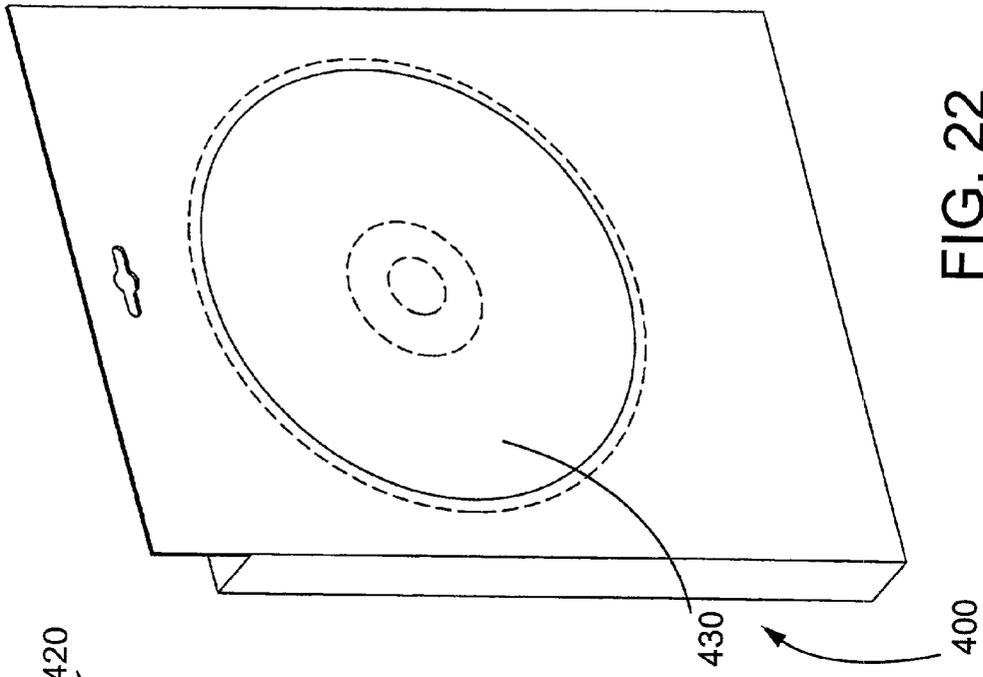


FIG. 22

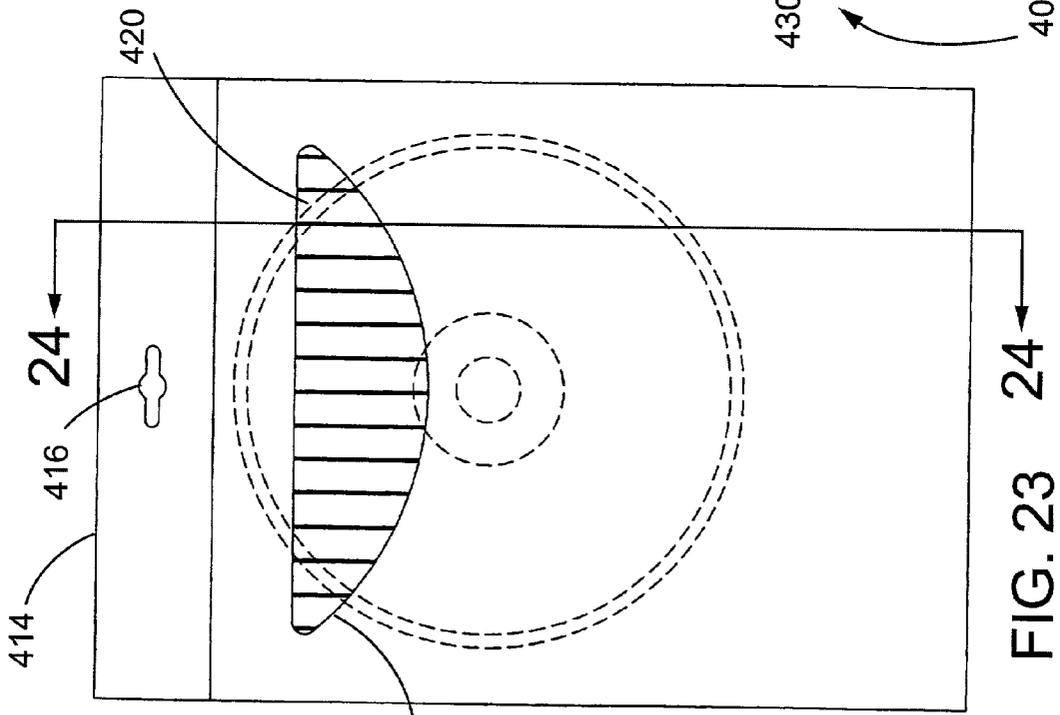


FIG. 23

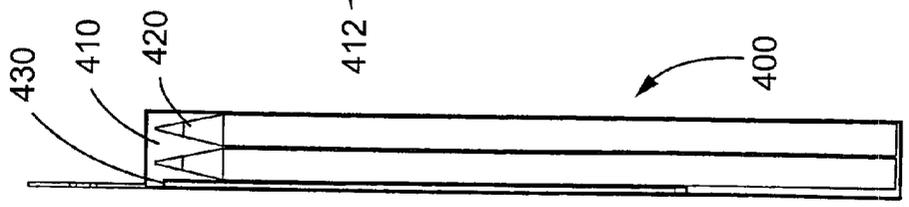


FIG. 24

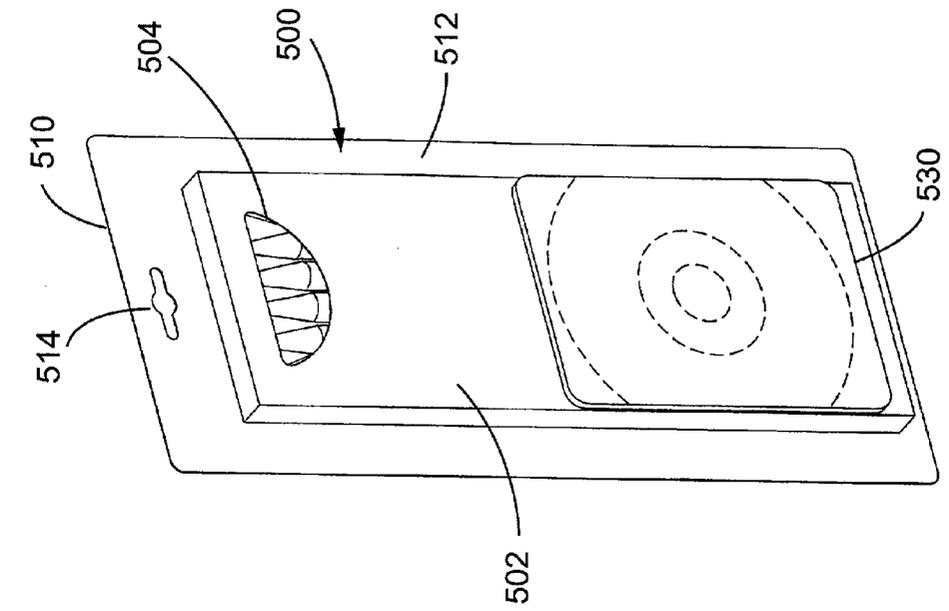


FIG. 25

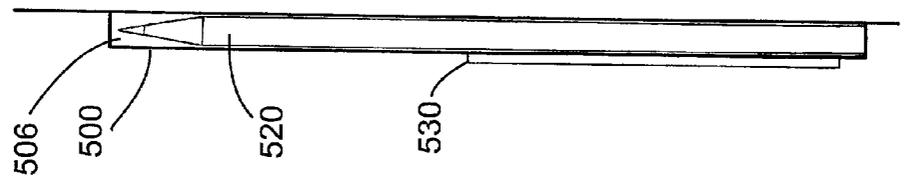


FIG. 27

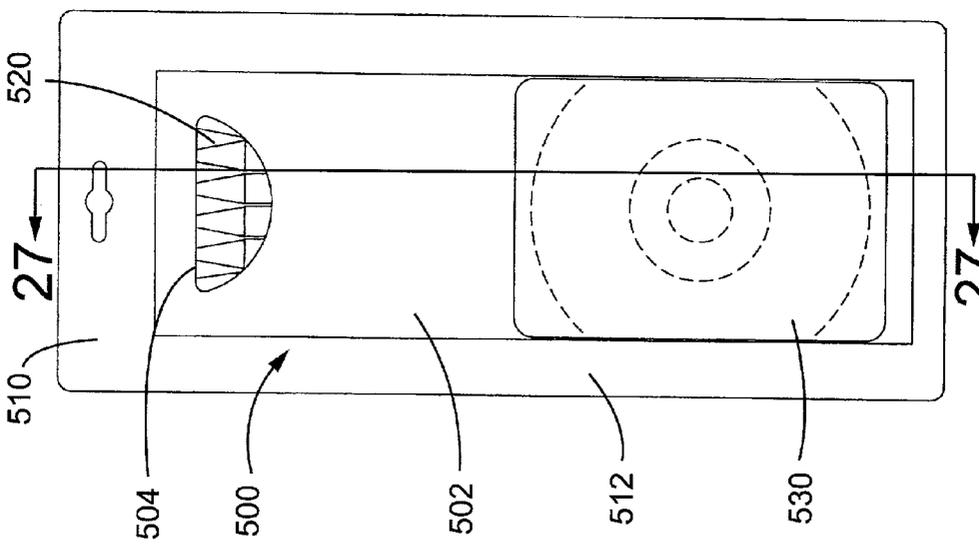


FIG. 26

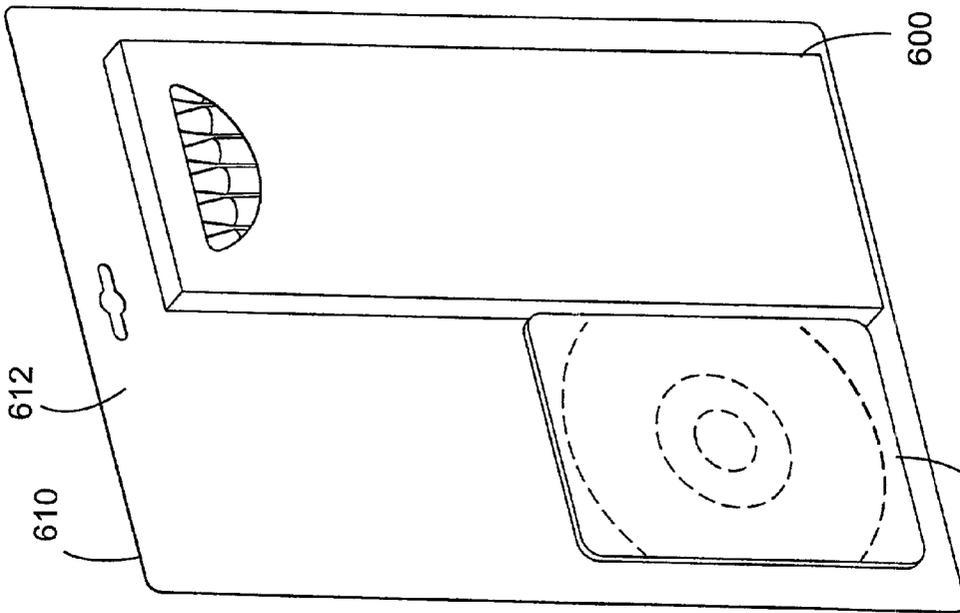


FIG. 28

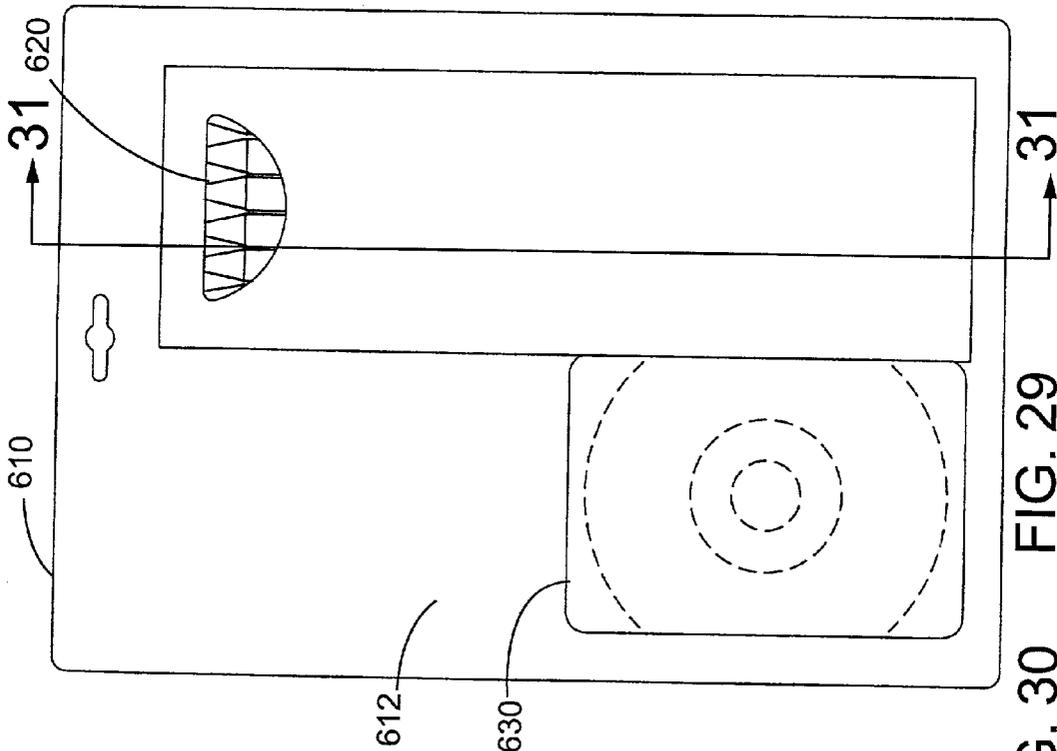


FIG. 29

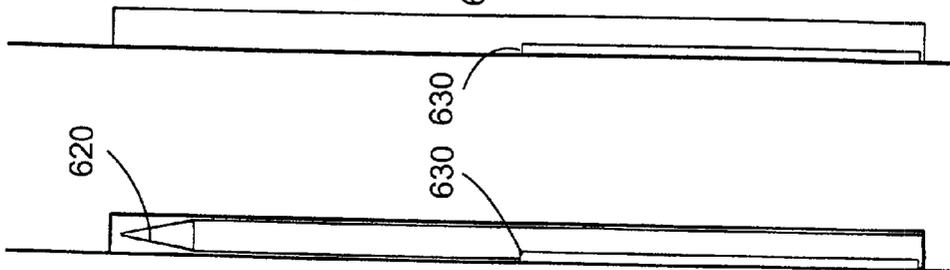


FIG. 30

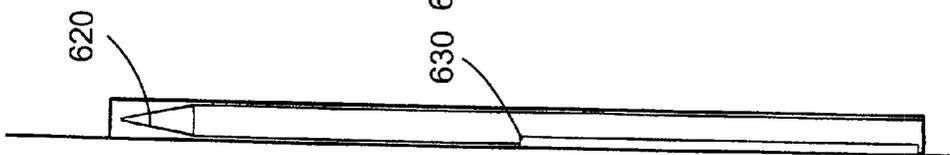


FIG. 31

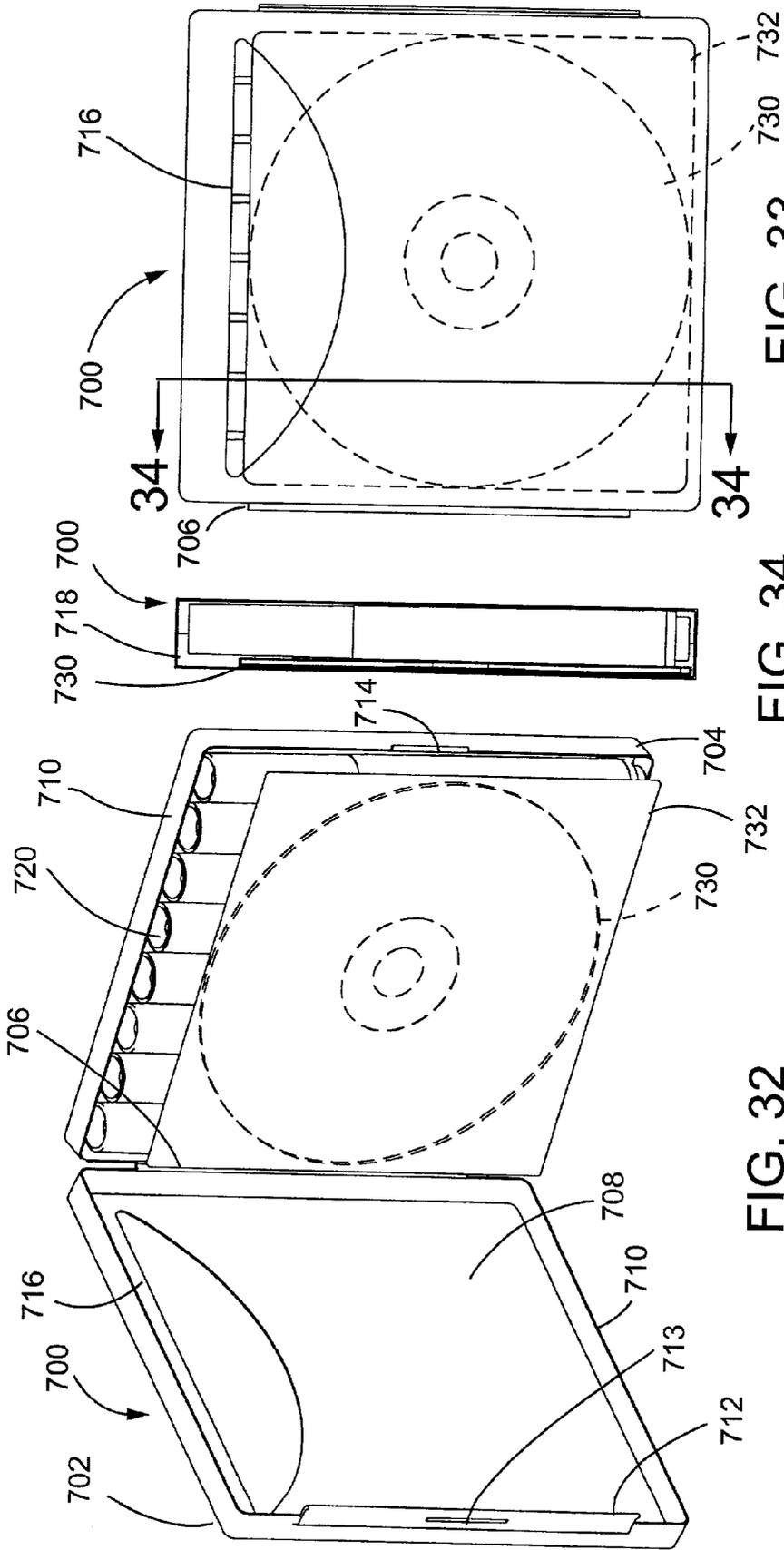


FIG. 33

FIG. 34

FIG. 32

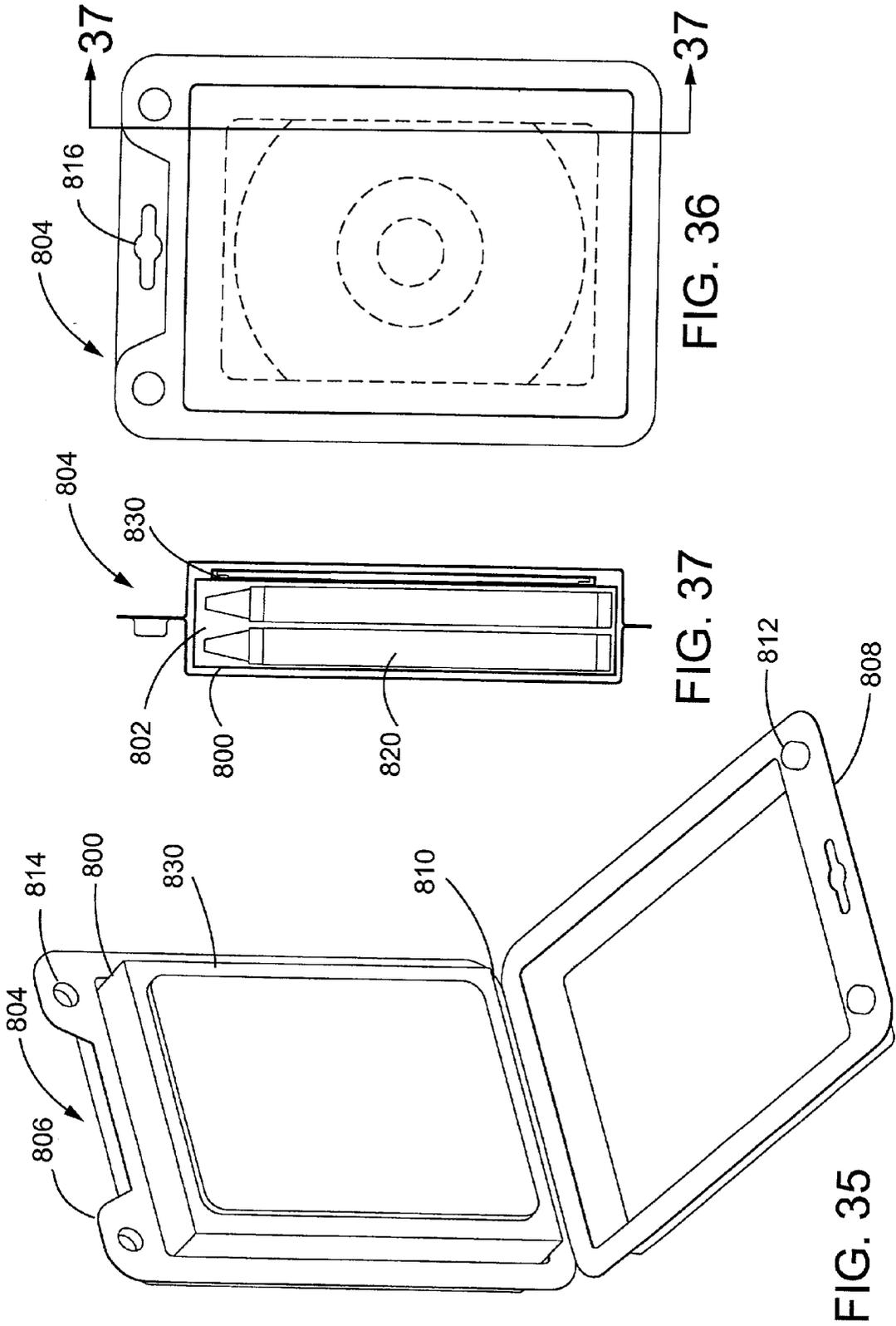


FIG. 36

FIG. 37

FIG. 35

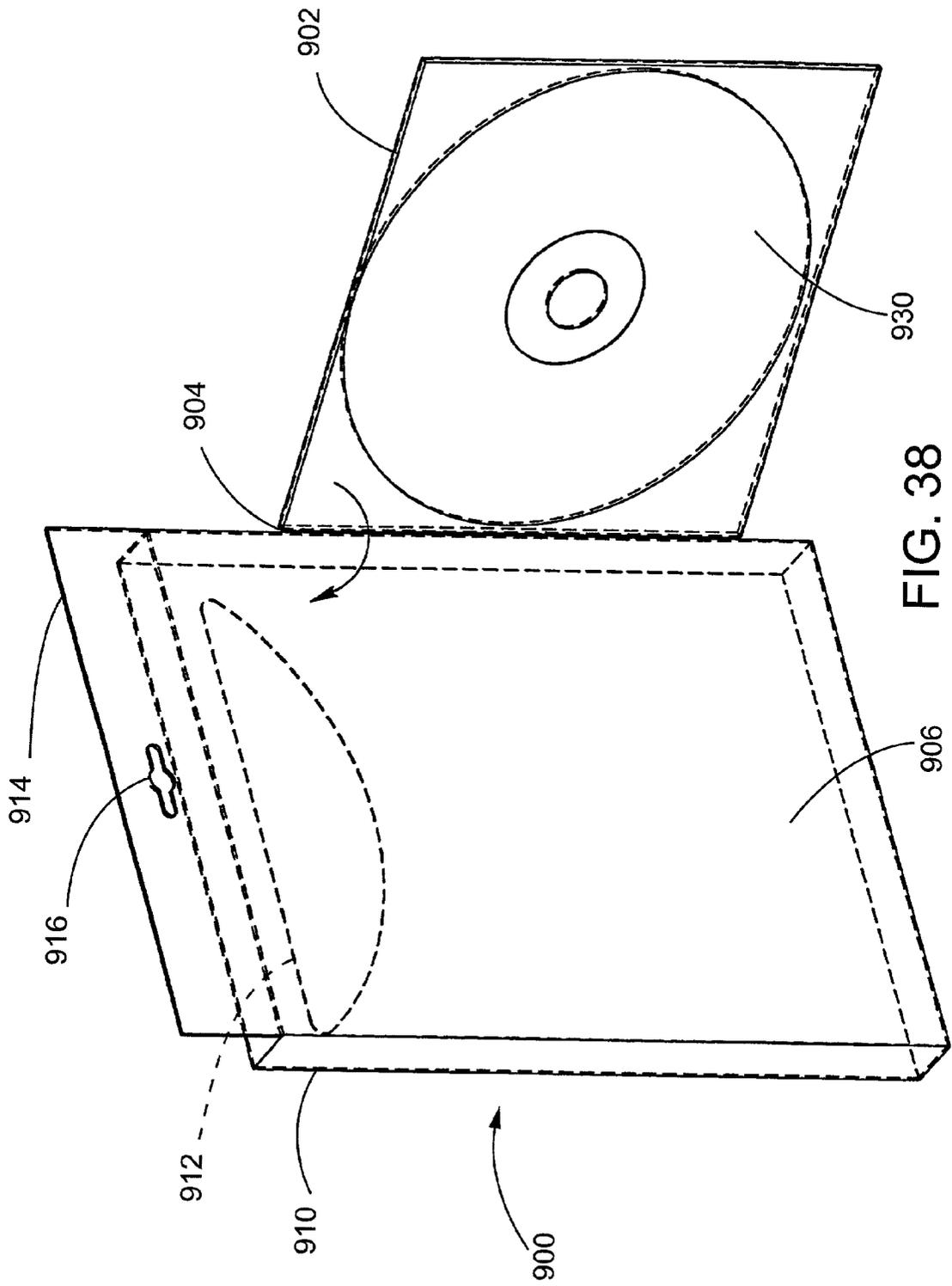


FIG. 38

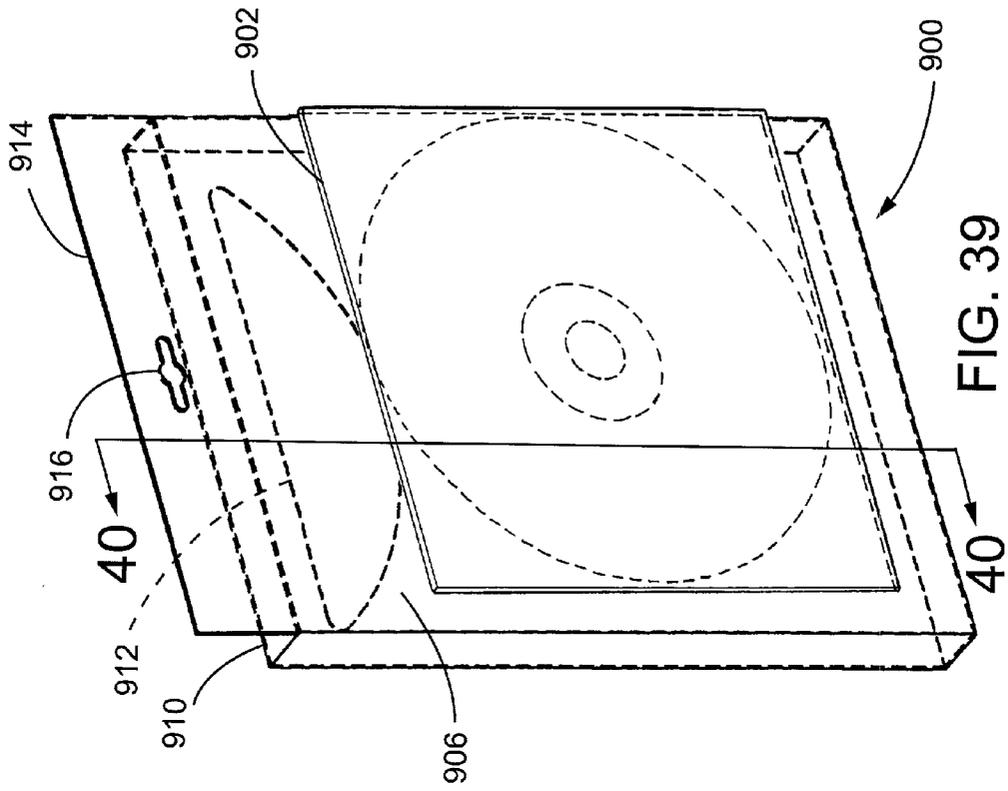


FIG. 39

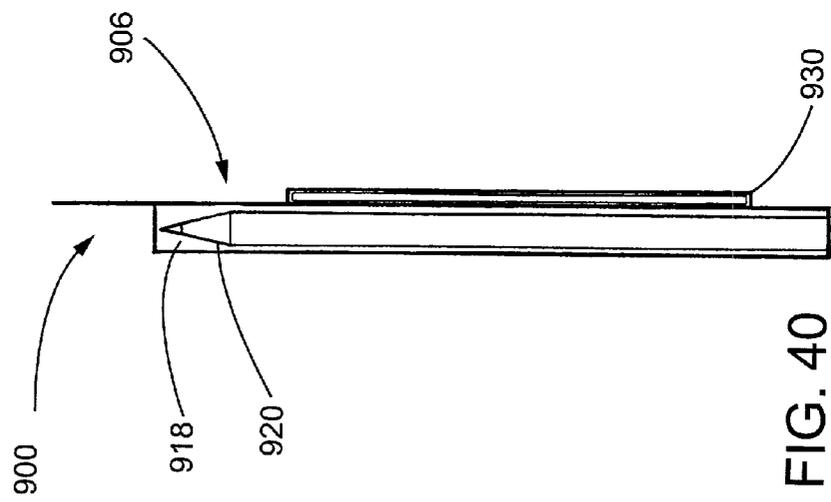


FIG. 40

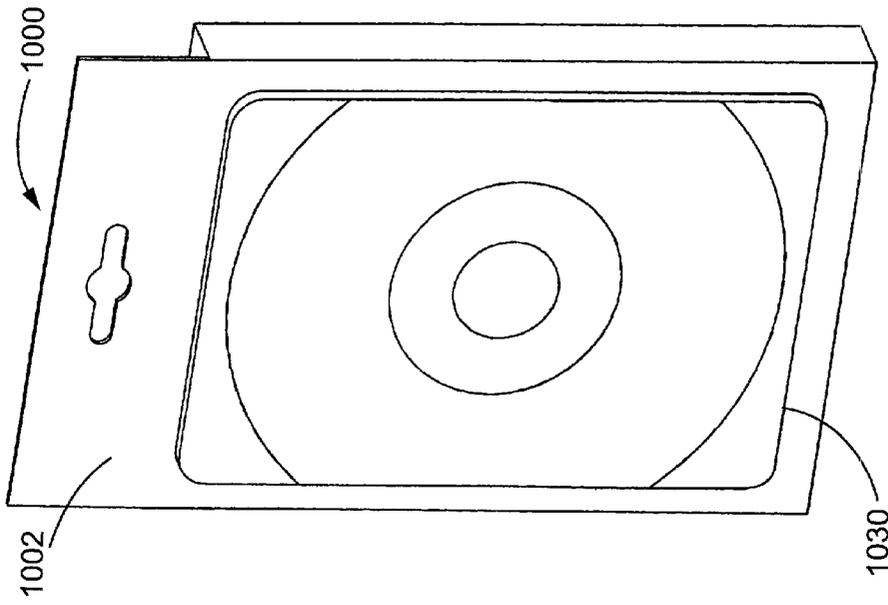


FIG. 41

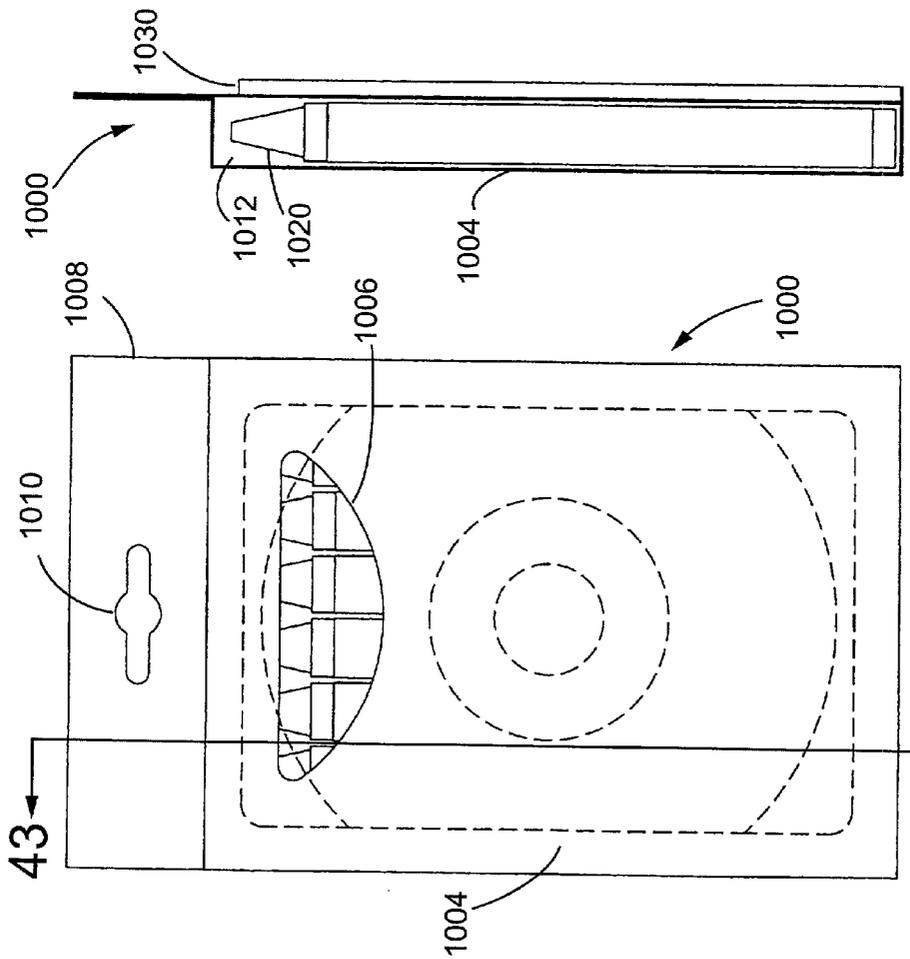


FIG. 42

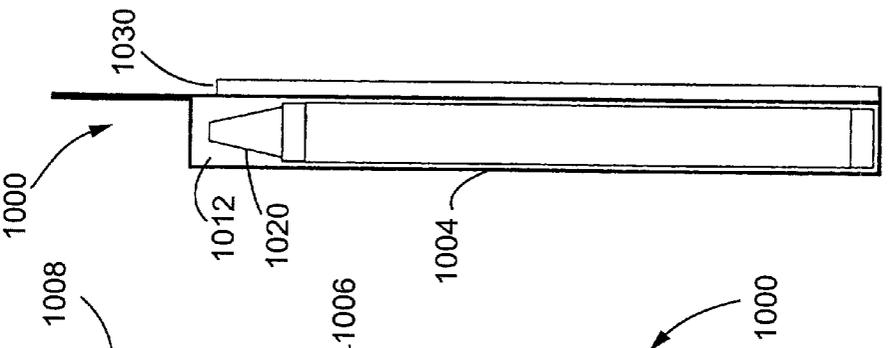
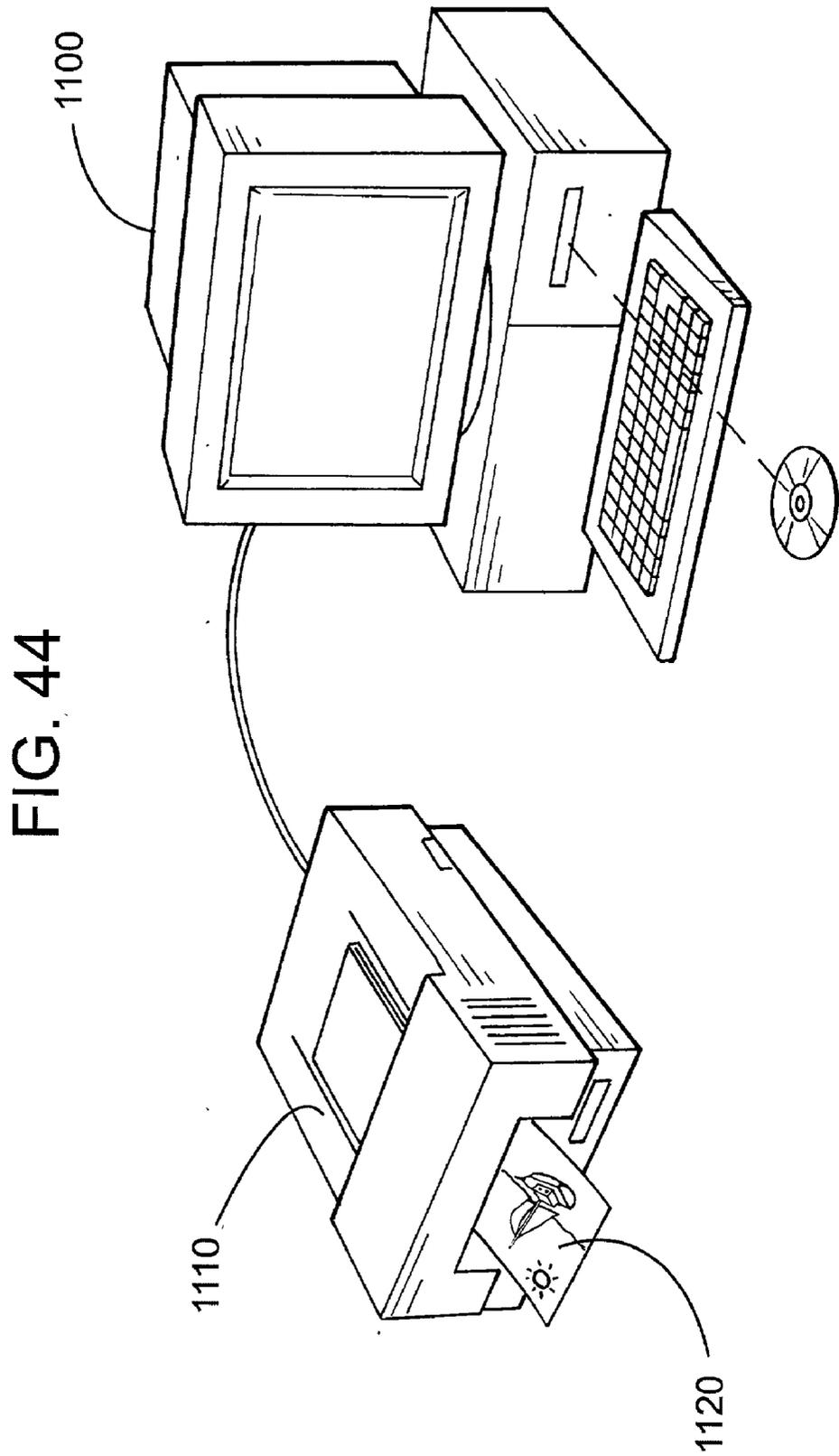


FIG. 43



COLORING KIT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] Writing instruments capable of making marks in color are available. Examples of such writing instruments include crayons, markers, and colored pencils. Young children are known to use such colored writing instruments to create drawings and pictures on a surface or canvas, both as a form of amusement and for educational value. To provide the child a variety of colors to draw with, the writing instruments are typically distributed in sets including multiple writing instruments each capable of marking in a different color. Often included with the set is a container for storage of the writing instruments when not in use. Such a storage container is especially desirable among young children who are known to have a propensity for losing items.

[0002] Also, various interactive activities and crafts are available in which the child can participate while using the colored writing instruments. Examples of such activities include coloring books and connect-the-dots games. Traditionally, displays of such activities have been distributed in physical form such as printed-paper booklets. Often times, the physical displays of the activities must be purchased separately from writing instrument sets. Additionally, when distributed in a physical medium, only one display of the activity is obtained allowing only one use since the display is often consumed by its use.

[0003] It is therefore advantageous to combine the beneficial features and advantages described above in a way that eliminates the noted disadvantages.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The present invention provides in a single kit a writing instrument or plurality of writing instruments, a container for enclosing and storing the writing instruments and a compact disc. The compact disc preferably contains data and information for printing out from a computer and a printer sheets displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. The user will be able to print physical copies of the interactive displays from a personal computer attached to a printer.

[0005] Also encompassed by the present invention is method for distributing writing instruments and sheets displaying interactive activities for use with the writing instruments. The method involves storing on a compact disc information for reproducing physical copies of the interactive displays on a personal computer coupled to a printer and distributing the compact disc along with the writing instruments.

[0006] An advantage of the present invention is that both writing instruments and interactive displays that involve those instruments maybe distributed together as a package. Another advantage is that the interactive displays are distributed on a compact disc that allows for multiple copies to be created, and thus multiple uses of a single display. Another advantageous aspect of the present invention is that a container is provided for distributing and storing the writing instruments and compact disc. These and other advantages of the present invention, as well as additional inventive features, will be apparent from the description of the preferred embodiments provided herein.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a kit assembled in accordance with the teachings of the present invention with the lid closed.

[0008] FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the kit of FIG. 1 with the lid open.

[0009] FIG. 3 is an exploded perspective view of the kit of FIG. 1.

[0010] FIG. 4 is a front view of the container shown in FIG. 1.

[0011] FIG. 5 is a left side view of the container shown in FIG. 1.

[0012] FIG. 6 is a right side view of the container shown in FIG. 1.

[0013] FIG. 7 is a top view of the container shown in FIG. 1.

[0014] FIG. 8 is a bottom view of the container shown in FIG. 1.

[0015] FIG. 9 is a front view of the container shown in FIG. 1 with the lid open.

[0016] FIG. 10 is a left side view of the container shown in FIG. 1 with the lid open.

[0017] FIG. 11 is a right side view of the container shown in FIG. 1 with the lid open.

[0018] FIG. 12 is a top view of the container shown in FIG. 1 with the lid open.

[0019] FIG. 13 is a bottom view of the container shown in FIG. 1 with the lid open.

[0020] FIG. 14 is a front view of a thermoformed plastic sheet.

[0021] FIG. 15 is a side view of the thermoformed plastic sheet of FIG. 14.

[0022] FIG. 16 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention.

[0023] FIG. 17 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 16.

[0024] FIG. 18 is a cross sectional view taken along line 18-18 in FIG. 17.

[0025] FIG. 19 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention.

[0026] FIG. 20 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 19.

[0027] FIG. 21 is a cross sectional view take along line 21-21 of FIG. 20.

[0028] FIG. 22 is a rear perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention.

[0029] FIG. 23 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 22.

[0030] FIG. 24 is a cross sectional view taken along line 24-24 of FIG. 23.

[0031] FIG. 25 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention.

[0032] FIG. 26 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 25.

[0033] FIG. 27 is a cross sectional view taken along line 27-27 of FIG. 26.

[0034] FIG. 28 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention.

[0035] FIG. 29 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 28.

[0036] FIG. 30 is a side view of the kit of FIG. 28.

[0037] FIG. 31 is a cross sectional view taken along line 31-31 of FIG. 29.

[0038] FIG. 32 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention with the sections opened.

[0039] FIG. 33 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 32 with the sections closed.

[0040] FIG. 34 is a cross sectional view taken along line 34-34 of FIG. 33.

[0041] FIG. 35 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention with the clamshell opened.

[0042] FIG. 36 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 35 with the clamshell closed.

[0043] FIG. 37 is a cross sectional view taken along line 37-37 of FIG. 36.

[0044] FIG. 38 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention with the swing out sleeve opened.

[0045] FIG. 39 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 25 with the swing out sleeve closed.

[0046] FIG. 40 is a side view of the kit of FIG. 25 with the swing out sleeve closed.

[0047] FIG. 41 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention.

[0048] FIG. 42 is a front view of the kit of FIG. 41.

[0049] FIG. 43 is a cross sectional view taken along line 43-43 of FIG. 42.

[0050] FIG. 44 is a perspective view of a personal computer, a printer, a compact disc and an activity sheet in accordance with the teachings of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0051] One embodiment of the present invention is shown in FIG. 1. A container 100 is provided for enclosing and storing a plurality of writing instruments 120 and a compact disc 130. The exterior of container 100 is defined by a front panel 102, a rear panel 104 generally parallel to the front panel, a bottom side 106 generally perpendicular to both the front and rear panels, and two side panels 108. Additionally, the container 100 includes a top panel or lid 110 that extends angularly upward from the front panel 102 to the rear panel 104. Thus, while the front profile of container 100 appears generally rectangular as seen in FIG. 4, the angled lid 110 appears as a slant from the front panel to the rear panel in the side profiles seen in FIGS. 5 and 6. The panels of container 100 surround and define an internal cavity 170 in which writing instruments 120 and compact disc 130 are enclosed. As best illustrated in FIG. 2, to gain access to the internal cavity, the lid 110 is pivotally connected to rear panel 104 by

a living hinge. The container 100 is opened by pivoting the lid 110 up off of the front panel 102 and closed by pivoting lid 110 adjacent to the front panel 102.

[0052] To stop container 100 from unintentionally opening and exposing the internal cavity 170, a closure mechanism is provided for holding lid 110 in the closed position. More specifically, as shown in FIG. 2 two flanges 112 are located at the edges of the lid 110 and extend perpendicularly from it. As the lid 110 is pivoted to close the container, the flanges 112 begin to overlap recessed portions 114 of the side panels 108. As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, tabs 116 on the lid 110 engage tabs 118 on the front panel 102, thus retaining the lid 110 adjacent the front panel 102 and enclosing the internal cavity 170.

[0053] An exploded view of the container 100, the writing utensils 120, and the compact disc 130 removed from the internal cavity 170 is shown in FIG. 3. The particular writing utensils 120 illustrated are cylindrical shaped, elongated wax crayons of varying colors. However, the specific description is exemplary only and should not be construed as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included in the presently described embodiment. For example, the writing instruments may be markers and/or pencils. For increased organization and ease of assembly, the crayons 120 may be pre-assembled in jackets 122, with each jacket comprising sixteen crayons split into two rows. Referring back to FIG. 2, the crayons 120 in their jackets 122 are retained vertically upright within the internal cavity 170. To enhance the display, every second horizontal row of crayons is tiered or stepped upwards as the rows extend from the front panel 102 towards the rear panel 104.

[0054] Still referring to FIG. 2, it can be seen that the compact disc 130 is positioned between the second and third rows of crayons and is partially visible above the second row. In other embodiments, the compact disc can be located before the first row, or between the first row and the second row, or between the third row and the fourth row, or between the fourth row and the fifth row, or between the fifth row and the sixth row, or after the sixth row. In addition, in other embodiments, the compact disc may be enclosed in a container or a sleeve. For example, the container may be a compact disc jewel case or the sleeve may be a plastic sleeve or a paper sleeve.

[0055] Preferably, as illustrated in FIG. 44, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer 1100 and a printer 1110 sheets 1120 displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The user can retrieve the compact disc accessing the internal cavity, then run the compact disc on a personal computer to print the displays. Afterwards, the compact disc can be returned to the container for storage.

[0056] In this embodiment, the compact disc 130 is a full size compact disc. A full size compact disc is circular and has an outside diameter of approximately $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches (12 centimeters), a thickness of approximately $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch (0.16 centimeters) and center hole with a diameter of approximately $\frac{9}{16}$ of an inch (1.5 centimeters). In another embodiment, the compact disc may be a mini compact disc. A mini compact disc is circular and has an outside diameter of approximately $3\frac{1}{8}$ inches (8 centimeters), a thickness of approximately $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch (0.16 centimeters) and a center

hole with a diameter of approximately $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch (1.5 centimeters). In yet another embodiment, the compact disc may be a business card compact disc as shown in FIG. 16. A business card compact disc is rectangular and has a length of approximately $3\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch (8.6 centimeters), a width of approximately $2\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch (5.7 centimeters), a thickness of approximately $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch (0.16 centimeters) and a center hole with a diameter of approximately $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch (1.5 centimeters).

[0057] To achieve the stepped display of the crayons, it can be seen in FIGS. 5 and 6 the interiors of the panels form specially shaped ledges 172 along the bottom of the internal cavity for raising the sleeves of crayons. As is also evident, the sloped lid 110 must provide relief 174 for accommodating the raised crayons.

[0058] Preferably, the present embodiment of the container is constructed from a thermoformed plastic sheet 150 illustrated in FIGS. 14 and 15. The front panel 102, bottom panel 106, rear panel 104, and lid 110 can be seen respectively as distinct sections of the sheet each separated by hinge or pivot portions 152. The sections fold together to form the container seen in FIG. 1. To fasten the front panel section 102 to the rear panel section 104, pins 162 can be seen in FIGS. 14 and 15 protruding from the front panel section 154. The pins 162 align with depressions 164 formed on the rear panel section 104. As can be seen in FIGS. 5 and 6, when the sections are folded together, the pins 162 snap fit into the depressions 164 to hold the container together. Preferably, the plastic used to construct the container is transparent so that a customer may view the crayons and compact disc through the container before purchase.

[0059] Another embodiment of the present invention is illustrated in FIGS. 16 through 18. FIGS. 17 and 18 show a generally rectangular, six-sided container 200, the sides of which define an internal cavity 210 for enclosing and storing a plurality of writing instruments 220. Additionally, in accordance with the present invention, a compact disc 230 is removably secured to the rear panel 204 of the container 200.

[0060] To gain access to the internal cavity and writing instruments contained therein, often times a peripheral side of the container is pivotally joined with an adjacent side to form a lid. The lid can then be rotated about the pivoted joint to open and close the container. As another example of a suitable method of accessing the internal cavity, the container may be constructed in the form of a sleeve and a box. In such an example, an open topped box containing the writing instruments is covered by a multisided sleeve of substantially the same dimensions as the box so as to enclose the open top. However, as will be recognized by those skilled in the art, alternative methods for accessing and enclosing the internal cavity are available and equally acceptable and the illustrated embodiment is not to be limited to the aforementioned descriptions.

[0061] FIGS. 16 through 18 also illustrate that the container 200 may include an aperture 212 for viewing the internal cavity and writing instruments contained therein. The container 200 may include an extension section 214 with a punch out 216 extending from the rear panel 204 beyond the general confines of the container for hanging the container from a display rack. The container 200 can be

constructed from any suitable material. Preferably, the container is constructed primarily out of paper products such as cardboard.

[0062] As evident in FIGS. 17 and 18, the cylindrical writing utensils 220 are stored vertically upright along a single horizontal row within the enclosed internal cavity 210. The particular writing utensils displayed are generally cylindrical shaped, elongated wax crayons; however, the specific description is exemplary only and should not be construed as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included with the presently described embodiment. For example, the writing instruments may be markers and/or pencils. Nor should the present embodiment be construed as limited to only a single horizontal row of writing utensils contained in the internal cavity. For example, in other embodiments, the container may include two rows, three rows, four rows, or five or more rows of writing instruments. The crayons 220 may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the internal cavity 210 by accessing the internal cavity 210 via one of the methods described above.

[0063] As shown in FIG. 16, the compact disc 230 is removably secured to the rear panel 204 of the container 200. To accomplish this, an additional panel of material 208 may be affixed in such a manner to form a pocket. The pocket panel 208 may be smaller than the rear panel 204 and may be located near the bottom of the container. Three edges of the pocket panel maybe adhesively fastened to the corresponding perimeter of the container 200 while the fourth edge forms the opening for the pocket. The compact disc 230 may then be inserted into the pocket for distribution with the container. Preferably, as illustrated in FIG. 44, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer 1100 and a printer 1110 sheets 1120 displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The user can remove the compact disc from the pocket then run the compact disc on a personal computer to print the displays. Afterwards, the compact disc can be secured in the pocket of the container again for storage.

[0064] To accommodate the small size of the container illustrated in FIGS. 16 through 18, a business card sized compact disc 230 is secured to the container 200 rather than a full sized compact disc. Business card sized compact discs are substantially the same as typical full sized compact discs except, instead of having a circular disk geometry, they are shaped to resemble business cards. Business card compact discs store information in the same method and manner as typical full sized compact discs and can be played in many standard compact disc players. However, the business card sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the disclosure with regards to the particular sized compact disc. For example, in another embodiment, the container may include a mini compact disc. In addition, when the size of container 200 increases, a full sized compact disc may be secured to the rear panel of the container.

[0065] Another embodiment of the present invention is illustrated in FIGS. 19 through 21. A six-sided container 300 is disclosed, the sides of which define an internal cavity 302 for storing and enclosing writing instruments 320. In

accordance with the present invention, a compact disc **330** is secured adjacent to the container by shrink-wrapped plastic film **332**.

[**0066**] The internal cavity maybe accessed in a variety of ways to retrieve and replace the writing instruments contained therein. For instance, a peripheral side of the container may be pivotally joined with an adjacent side to form a lid. The lid can then be rotated about the pivoted joint to open and close the container. As another example of a suitable method of accessing the internal cavity, the container may be constructed in the form of a sleeve and a box. In such an example, a five-sided, topless box containing the writing instruments is covered by a multisided sleeve of substantially the same dimensions as the box so as to enclose the open top. However, as will be recognized by those skilled in the art, alternative methods for accessing and enclosing the internal cavity are available and equally acceptable and the illustrated embodiment is not to be limited to the aforementioned descriptions.

[**0067**] Also shown in **FIG. 20**, the container may include an aperture **310** through one side for viewing the internal cavity and writing instruments **320** included therein. Though the container may be constructed from any suitable material, preferably paper products such as cardboard are used.

[**0068**] As evident in **FIGS. 20 and 21**, the cylindrical writing utensils **320** are stored vertically upright in horizontal rows within the enclosed internal cavity **302**. The particular writing utensils displayed are generally cylindrical shaped, elongated wax crayons; however, the specific description is exemplary only and should not be construed as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included with the presently described embodiment. For example, the writing instruments may be markers and/or pencils. Nor should the present embodiment be construed as limited to only the displayed number of horizontal rows of writing utensils contained in the internal cavity. For example, in other embodiments, the container may include one row, two rows, three rows, or five or more rows of writing instruments. The crayons **320** may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the internal cavity by accessing the internal cavity by one of the methods described above.

[**0069**] As shown in **FIGS. 19 through 21**, a full sized compact disc **330** is located adjacent a side of the container opposite the side including the aperture **310**. The compact disc is secured to the container by a shrink-wrapped plastic film **332**. Preferably, as illustrated in **FIG. 44**, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer **1100** and a printer **1110** sheets **1120** displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The compact disc **330** can be unsecured from the container for printing the displays from a personal computer by cutting and removing the shrink-wrapped plastic film **332**. After the compact disc has been removed and used, the compact disc can be stored inside the container **300**.

[**0070**] Notably, the size of the container **300** illustrated in **FIGS. 19 through 21** permits a full sized compact disc to be secured to the side of the container. However, the full sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the

disclosure with regards to the particular sized compact disc. Accordingly, a business card compact disc or a mini compact disc may be secured adjacent to the container.

[**0071**] **FIGS. 22 through 24** illustrate another embodiment of the present invention. A six-sided container **400** is disclosed, the sides of which define an internal cavity **410** for enclosing and storing a plurality of writing instruments **420**. Also, in accordance with the present invention, a compact disc **430** is securely enclosed in the internal cavity **410** along with the writing instruments **420**.

[**0072**] The internal cavity may be accessed in a variety of ways to retrieve and replace the writing instruments contained therein. For instance, a peripheral side of the container may be pivotally joined with an adjacent side to form a lid. The lid can then be rotated about the pivoted joint to open and close the container. As another example of suitable method of accessing the internal cavity, the container may be constructed in the form of a sleeve and a box. In such an example, a five-sided, topless box containing the writing instruments is covered by a multisided sleeve of substantially the same dimensions as the box so as to enclose the open top. However, as will be recognized by those skilled in the art, alternative methods for accessing and enclosing the internal cavity are available and equally acceptable and the illustrated embodiment is not to be limited to the aforementioned descriptions.

[**0073**] Also illustrated in **FIG. 23**, the container **400** may include an aperture **412** for viewing the internal cavity and writing instruments contained therein. The container **400** may include an extension section **414** with a punch out **416** extending one of the sides beyond the general confines of the container **400** for hanging the container from a display rack. The container **400** can be constructed from any suitable material. Preferably, the container is constructed primarily out of paper products such as cardboard.

[**0074**] As evident in **FIGS. 23 and 24**, the cylindrical writing instruments **420** are stored vertically upright in horizontal rows within the enclosed internal cavity **410**. The particular writing instruments displayed are generally cylindrical shaped, elongated pencils; however, the specific description is exemplary only and should not be construed as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included with the presently described embodiment. For example, in other embodiments, the writing instruments may be markers and/or crayons. Nor should the present embodiment be construed as limited to only the displayed number of horizontal rows of writing instruments contained in the internal cavity. For example, in other embodiments, the container may include one row, three rows, four rows or five or more rows of writing instruments. The pencils **420** may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the container **400** by accessing the internal cavity **410** by one of the methods described above.

[**0075**] As best shown in **FIGS. 22 and 24**, a full sized compact disc **430** is enclosed in the internal cavity **410** between the writing utensils and a container side opposite the side including the aperture. Preferably, as illustrated in **FIG. 44**, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer **1100** and a printer **1110** sheets **1120** displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The compact disc can be

removed from the container to print the displays by accessing the internal cavity. The user can remove the compact disc from the pocket, then run the compact disc on a personal computer to print the displays. Afterwards, the compact disc can be returned to the internal cavity of the container again for storage.

[0076] Notably, the size of the container **400** illustrated in **FIGS. 22 through 24** permits a full sized compact disc **430** to be enclosed inside the internal cavity. However, the full sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the disclosure with regards to the particular sized compact disc. Accordingly, a business card compact disc or a mini compact disc may be included in the container.

[0077] Another embodiment is illustrated in **FIGS. 25 through 27**. A six-sided rectangular container **500** is disclosed, the sides of which define an internal cavity **506** for enclosing and storing writing instruments **520**. In accordance with the present invention, a compact disc **530** is secured adjacent to the front side **502** of the container by a preferably transparent plastic film **512** that retains both the compact disc and the container to a blister card **510**. The blister card **510** includes a punch out hole **514** for hanging the container and compact disc from a display hook. After purchase by the consumer, the blister card **510** and its associated plastic film **512** may be discarded.

[0078] The internal cavity maybe accessed in a variety of ways to retrieve and return the writing instruments contained therein. For instance, a peripheral side of the container may be pivotally joined with an adjacent side to form a lid. The lid can then be rotated about the pivoted joint to open and close the container. As another example of suitable method of accessing the internal cavity, the container may be constructed in the form of a sleeve and a box. In such an example, a five-sided topless box containing the writing instruments is covered by a multisided sleeve of substantially the same dimensions as the box so as to enclose the open top. However, as will be recognized by those skilled in the art, alternative methods for accessing and enclosing the internal cavity are available and equally acceptable and the illustrated embodiment is not to be limited to the aforementioned descriptions.

[0079] Also shown in **FIGS. 25 and 26**, the front side **502** of container **500** may include an aperture **504** through one side for viewing the internal cavity and writing instruments **520** included therein. Though the container may be constructed from any suitable material, preferably paper products such as cardboard are used.

[0080] As evident in **FIGS. 26 and 27**, the cylindrical writing instruments **520** are stored vertically upright in horizontal rows within the enclosed internal cavity **506**. The particular writing instruments displayed are generally cylindrical shaped, elongated pencils; however, the specific description is exemplary only and should not be construed as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included with the presently described embodiment. For example, in other embodiments, the writing instruments may be markers and/or crayons. Nor should the present embodiment be construed as limited to only the displayed horizontal rows of writing utensils contained in the internal cavity. For example, in other embodiments, the container may include two rows, three rows, four rows or five or more

rows of writing instruments. The pencils **520** may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the container **500** by accessing the internal cavity **506** by one of the methods described above.

[0081] As shown in **FIGS. 25 through 27**, a business card sized compact disc is located adjacent the front side **502** of the container below the aperture **504**. The compact disc is secured to the container by the plastic film used to retain the container **500** and box to the blister card **510**. Preferably, as illustrated in **FIG. 44**, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer **1100** and a printer **1110** sheets **1120** displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The compact disc can be unsecured from the container for printing the displays off a personal computer by cutting and removing the plastic film associated with the blister card **510**. After the compact disc has been removed and used, the compact disc can be stored inside the container **500**.

[0082] Notably, due to the size of the container **500** illustrated in **FIGS. 25 and 26**, a business card sized compact disc **530** is preferably secured to the front side of the container by the plastic film associated with the blister card **510**. However, the business card sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the disclosure to a particular sized compact disc. For example, in another embodiment, a mini compact disc may be secured to the container. Furthermore, as the size of container **500** increases, a full sized compact disc may be secured to the container.

[0083] A similar embodiment to the previously described embodiment is illustrated in **FIGS. 28 through 31**. The business card sized compact disc **630** is mounted on a blister card **610** adjacent to side of container **600** that encloses the writing instruments **620**. The compact disc **630** is secured to that location by the plastic film **612** associated with blister card **630**. In other embodiments, the writing instruments may be markers and/or crayons. Also, in other embodiments, the container may include two rows, three rows, four rows or five or more rows of writing instruments. Furthermore, in other embodiments the compact disc may be a mini compact disc or a full size compact disc.

[0084] Another embodiment is illustrated in **FIGS. 32 through 34**. A container **700** is disclosed which defines an internal cavity **718** for enclosing and storing a plurality of writing instruments **720**. Additionally, in accordance with the present invention, a compact disc **730** inside a sleeve **732** is enclosed inside the internal cavity along with the writing instruments **720**.

[0085] The container **700** includes two sections, a front section **702** and a back section **704**, that are interconnected by a living hinge **706**. More specifically, both sections are generally formed by a planner surface **708** with a raised wall **710** extending around the perimeter of the surface. When the sections are folded toward each other along the living hinge, the area enclosed between the two planner surfaces and the adjoining perimeter walls defines the internal cavity.

[0086] As shown in **FIG. 32**, to retain the sections in a clamped position and enclose the internal cavity, there is included a closure mechanism on a side of the container **700**.

More specifically, a latch **712** is located on the edge of the front section **702** opposite the edge with the living hinge. The latch **712** rises beyond the perimeter wall **710** and includes a slit **713** disposed through it. Correspondingly, located on the back section **704** at the edge also opposite the edge with the living hinge, a protrusion **714** extends from the perimeter wall away from the area that defines the internal cavity. When the two sections are clamped shut, the protrusion **714** aligns with and inserts itself into the slit **713** located on the latch **712** securing the container closed. To open the container and access the internal cavity, the latch **712** is pulled back releasing the protrusion **714**, as will be readily apparent to one skilled in the art.

[0087] Also shown in **FIGS. 32 and 33**, the front section may include an aperture **716** for viewing the internal cavity and the writing instruments enclosed therein. Preferably, the container is constructed from plastic. More preferably, the container is constructed from plastic formed by injection molding.

[0088] **FIG. 32 and 34** show that the cylindrical writing instruments **720** are stored vertically upright in a single horizontal row within the area that defines the internal cavity **718**. The particular writing instruments displayed are generally cylindrical shaped, elongated markers; however, the specific description is for purposes of example only and should not be considered as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included with the presently described embodiment. For example, in other embodiments, the writing instruments may be crayons and/or pencils. Nor should the present embodiment be construed as limited to only the displayed number of horizontal rows of writing utensils contained in the internal cavity. For example, in other embodiments, the container may include two rows, three rows, four rows or five or more rows of writing instruments. The markers **720** may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the container **700** by accessing the internal cavity **718** by the method described above.

[0089] As shown in **FIGS. 32 through 34**, a full sized compact disc **730** enclosed in the internal cavity **718** between the writing utensils and the front section **702**. The compact disc may be stored inside a sleeve **732** for protection. Preferably, as illustrated in **FIG. 44**, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer **1100** and a printer **1110** sheets **1120** displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The compact disc **730** can be removed from the container **700** to print the displays by accessing the internal cavity. After obtaining the displays by running the compact disc **730** on a personal computer connected to a printer, the compact disc **730** can be returned to the internal cavity for storage.

[0090] Notably, the size of the container **700** illustrated in **FIGS. 32 through 34** permits a full sized compact disc **730** to be enclosed inside the internal cavity. However, the full sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the disclosure with regards to the particular sized compact disc. Accordingly, a business card compact disc or a mini compact disc may be enclosed inside the internal cavity.

[0091] Another embodiment is shown in **FIGS. 35 through 37**. A plastic clamshell package **804**, a type of

packaging generally well known in the art, surrounds and encapsulates a six-sided container **800** and a business card sized compact disc **830**. Two sections of the clamshell, a front section **806** and a back section **808** are joined by a living hinge **810** that allows the sections to be folded over themselves such that they are adjacent to one another. When folded against each other, the sections define an interior volume preferably sized to closely fit the container **800** without leaving excessive space. To retain the sections together, two protrusions **812** may be located on the back section **808** of the clamshell, which when the sections are folded together align with and fasten themselves into two indentations **814** on the front cover **806**. Also, as indicated in **FIG. 36**, the clamshell may include a punch-out **816** for hanging the clamshell package from a display hanger. Preferably, the clamshell is made from clear or transparent plastic to allow viewing of its contents. After use by the consumer, the clamshell package **804** may be used to store the container **800** and the compact disc **830**.

[0092] Shown in **FIG. 37**, the sides of container **800** define an internal cavity **802** for enclosing and storing writing instruments **820**. The internal cavity may be accessed in a variety of ways to retrieve and replace the writing instruments contained therein. For instance, a peripheral side of the container may be pivotally joined with an adjacent side to form a lid. The lid can then be rotated about the pivoted joint to open and close the container. As another example of suitable method of accessing the internal cavity, the container may be constructed in the form of a sleeve and a box. In such an example, a five-sided topless box containing the writing instruments is covered by a multisided sleeve of substantially the same dimensions as the box so as to enclose the open top. However, as will be recognized by those skilled in the art, alternative methods for accessing and enclosing the internal cavity are available and equally acceptable and the illustrated embodiment is not to be limited to the aforementioned descriptions. Though the container may be constructed from any suitable material, preferably paper products such as cardboard are used.

[0093] Also evident in **FIGS. 37**, the cylindrical writing instruments **820** are stored vertically upright in horizontal rows within the enclosed internal cavity **802**. The particular writing instruments displayed are generally cylindrical shaped, elongated wax crayons; however, the specific description is exemplary only and should not be construed as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included with the presently described embodiment. For example, in other embodiments, the writing instruments may be markers and/or pencils. Nor should the present embodiment be construed as limited to only the displayed number horizontal rows of writing utensils contained in the internal cavity. For example, in other embodiments, the container may include one row, three rows, four rows or five or more rows of writing instruments. The crayons **820** may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the container **800** by accessing the internal cavity **810** by one of the methods described above.

[0094] As shown in **FIGS. 35 and 37**, the business card sized compact disc **830** is located adjacent to container **800**. The compact disc is secured to the container by the clamshell package **804** when the clamshell sections are folded together. Preferably, as illustrated in **FIG. 44**, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from

a computer **1100** and a printer **1110** sheets **1120** displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The compact disc can be unsecured from the container for printing the displays off a personal computer by separating the sections of the clamshell **810**. After the compact disc has been removed and used, the compact disc can be stored inside the container **800**.

[**0095**] Notably, as displayed in **FIG. 35**, a business card sized compact disc **830** is best suited to accommodate the illustrated container **800** and clamshell package **804**. However, the business card sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the disclosure to particular sized compact disc. For example, in another embodiment, a mini compact disc may be secured to the container. Furthermore, as the size of container **800** and clamshell **804** increases, a full sized compact disc may be secured to the container.

[**0096**] Another embodiment is displayed in **FIGS. 38 through 40**. A six-sided container **900** is disclosed, the sides of which define an internal cavity **918** for enclosing and storing a plurality of writing instruments **920**. Also, in accordance with the present invention, a compact disc **930** is secured to swing out sleeve **902** that is interconnected to the container **900**.

[**0097**] The internal cavity maybe accessed in a variety of ways to retrieve and return the writing instruments contained therein. For instance, a peripheral side of the container may be pivotally joined with an adjacent side to form a lid. The lid can then be rotated about the pivoted joint to open and close the container. However, as will be recognized by those skilled in the art, alternative methods for accessing and enclosing the internal cavity are available and equally acceptable and the illustrated embodiment is not to be limited to the aforementioned description.

[**0098**] To enable the swing out sleeve **902** to lay flat against the rear panel **906** as illustrated in **FIG. 39**, or alternatively to swing away from the container as illustrated in **FIG. 38**, the swing-out sleeve **902** may be interconnected to an elongated upright edge of the rear panel **906** by a living hinge **904**. The compact disc may be secured to the sleeve in a number of ways. For instance, the sleeve **902** may define a pocket into which the compact disc **930** may be inserted. Alternatively, the inner face of the sleeve **902** may include a flexible hub, as common in compact disc jewel cases, for retaining the compact disc **930** to the sleeve. Other alternative methods of securing the compact disc to the sleeve will be readily apparent to those of skill in the art, and the present embodiment is not intended to be limited to the disclosed examples.

[**0099**] The container **900** may include, as illustrated in **FIGS. 38 and 39**, an aperture **912** on the front panel **910** for viewing the internal cavity and writing instruments contained therein. The container **900** may include an extension section **914** with a punch out **916** extending from the rear panel **906** beyond the general confines of the container **900** for hanging the container **900** from a display rack. Though the container **900** can be constructed from any suitable material, preferably, it is constructed primarily out of paper products such as cardboard.

[**0100**] Typically, elongated, cylindrical writing instruments **920** may be enclosed in the internal cavity **910** in

vertically upright, horizontal rows. The actual writing instruments stored may include, but are not limited to, pencils, crayons, and markers. The writing instruments may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the container **900** by accessing the internal cavity by the method described above. In other embodiments, the container may include two rows, three rows, four rows, or five or more rows of writing instruments.

[**0101**] The compact disc **930** is secured to the container **900** via the sleeve **902** as discussed above. Preferably, as illustrated in **FIG. 44**, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer **1100** and a printer **1110** sheets **1120** displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the writing instruments. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. The compact disc **930** can be removed from the container **900** to print the displays by accessing the internal cavity. After obtaining the displays by running the compact disc **930** on a computer, the compact disc **930** can be returned to the internal cavity **910** for storage.

[**0102**] Notably, the size of the container **900** and sleeve illustrated in **FIGS. 38 and 39** permit a full sized compact disc **930** to be enclosed inside the internal cavity. However, the full sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the disclosure with regards to the particular sized compact disc. Accordingly, a business card compact disc or a mini compact disc may be secured to the swing out sleeve **902**.

[**0103**] Another embodiment is displayed in **FIGS. 41 through 43**. A six-sided container **1000** is disclosed, the sides of which define an internal cavity **1012** for enclosing and storing a plurality of writing instruments **1020**. Also, in accordance with the present invention, a compact disc **1030** is adhesively secured to the rear panel **1002** of the container **1000**.

[**0104**] The internal cavity may be accessed in a variety of ways to retrieve and replace the writing instruments **1020** contained therein. For instance, a peripheral side of the container may be pivotally joined with an adjacent side to form a lid. The lid can then be rotated about the pivoted joint to open and close the container. As another example of suitable method of accessing the internal cavity, the container may take the form of a sleeve and a box. In such an example, a five-sided, topless box containing the writing instruments is covered by a multisided sleeve of substantially the same dimensions as the box so as to enclose the open top. However, as will be recognized by those skilled in the art, alternative methods for accessing and enclosing the internal cavity are available and equally acceptable and the illustrated embodiment is not to be limited to the aforementioned descriptions.

[**0105**] Also illustrated in **FIG. 42**, the container **1000** may include an aperture **1006** through the front panel **1004** for viewing the internal cavity and writing instruments contained therein. The container **1000** may include an extension section **1008** with a punch out **1010** extending the rear panel **1002** beyond the general confines of the container **1000** for hanging the container from a display rack. The container **1000** can be constructed from any suitable material. Preferably, the container is constructed primarily out of paper products such as cardboard.

[0106] As evident in FIGS. 42 and 43, the cylindrical writing instruments 1020 are stored vertically upright in horizontal rows within the enclosed internal cavity. The particular writing instruments displayed are generally cylindrical shaped, elongated, wax crayons; however, the particular description is for purposes of illustration only and should not be considered as limiting the types and forms of writing instruments that maybe included with the presently described embodiment. For example, in other embodiments, the writing instruments may be markers and/or pencils. Nor should the present embodiment be construed as limited to only the displayed horizontal rows of writing instruments contained in the internal cavity. For example, in other embodiments, the container may include two rows, three rows, four rows, or five or more rows of writing instruments. Pencils 1020 may be selected and removed from and, after use, returned for storage to the container 1000 by accessing the internal cavity by one of the methods described above.

[0107] A business-sized compact disc 1030 is shown in FIG. 41 adjacent to the rear panel 1002 of the container 1000. In particular, the compact disc 1030 is releasably secured to the container with a light tack adhesive. Preferably, as illustrated in FIG. 44, the compact disc will contain data and information for printing out from a computer 1100 and a printer 1110 sheets 1120 displaying interactive games and activities utilizing the crayons. Most preferably, it will contain data for what amounts to a coloring book. Due to the light tack adhesive, the user can remove the compact disc from the container after purchase for use in with a personal computer to print sheets containing the displays. Desirably, the light tack adhesive will remain attached to the container 1000 and not pull away with the compact disc 1030 allowing for immediate use of the disc with a computer. However, if the adhesive remains on the compact disc, it should be easily removable from the compact disc.

[0108] Notably, the size of the container 1000 illustrated in FIGS. 41 through 43 requires that a business card sized compact disc 1030 to be enclosed adjacent the container 1000. However, the business card sized compact disc shown in the figures is for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as limiting the disclosure with regards to the particular sized compact disc. For example, in other embodiments, a mini compact disc or a full size compact disc may be secured to the rear panel of the container. Furthermore, after the compact disc has been removed and used, the compact disc may be stored inside the container 1000.

[0109] While this invention has been described with an emphasis upon the disclosed embodiments, it will be obvious to those of ordinary skill in the art that variations of the embodiments may be used and that it is intended that the invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described herein. Accordingly, this invention includes all modifications encompassed within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined.

[0110] For example, for each of the embodiments noted herein, the writing instruments may be crayons, markers and/or pencils with appropriate adjustments to the size of the kit. Furthermore, for each of the embodiments noted herein, the compact disc may be a full size compact disc, a mini compact disc and/or a business card compact disc with appropriate adjustments to the size of the kit. In addition,

each of the embodiments may include more than one compact disc with appropriate adjustments to the size of the kit. The kit may include one, two, three, four, or five or more compact discs.

What is claimed is:

1. A coloring kit comprising:
 - a writing instrument,
 - a container made of plastic, the container including an internal cavity for removably storing the writing instrument, and
 - a compact disc.
2. The kit of claim 1 wherein the kit includes a plurality of writing instruments.
3. The kit of claim 2 wherein the container includes a front portion, a bottom portion connected to the front portion, a rear portion connected to the bottom portion, and a lid pivotally connected to the rear portion to open and close the container.
4. The kit of claim 2 wherein the compact disc is enclosed in the internal cavity among the writing instruments.
5. The kit of claim 1 wherein the compact disc is a full size compact disc.
6. The kit of claim 1 wherein the compact disc is a business card compact disc.
7. The kit of claim 1 wherein the compact disc is a mini compact disc.
8. The kit of claim 1 wherein the compact disc is inserted in a protective sleeve.
9. The kit of claim 1 wherein the container is constructed from a thermoform molded sheet.
10. The kit of claim 2 wherein the writing instruments are generally cylindrical in shape.
11. The kit of claim 2 wherein the writing instruments are positioned vertically upright in the container.
12. The kit of claim 2 wherein a portion of the writing instruments are grouped together in a jacket.
13. The kit of claim 3 wherein the bottom of the internal cavity is tiered.
14. The kit of claim 2 wherein the container further includes a top section and a bottom section.
15. The kit of claim 14 wherein the top section and the bottom section are connected by a living hinge.
16. The kit of claim 14 wherein the container is injection molded.
17. The kit of claim 14 wherein the compact disc is enclosed in the container with the writing instruments.
18. The kit of claim 14 wherein the top section of the container has an aperture for viewing the compact disc and writing utensils stored in the internal cavity.
19. The kit of claim 2 wherein the writing instruments are crayons.
20. The kit of claim 2 wherein the writing instruments are markers.
21. The kit of claim 2 wherein the writing instruments are pencils.
22. The kit of claim 2 wherein the container further includes
 - a) a top section having a planar surface and a perimeter wall,
 - b) a bottom section having a planar surface and a perimeter wall,

- c) the top and bottom sections are interconnected by a living hinge, the internal cavity forming between the planar surfaces and perimeter walls of the top section and bottom section when the top section and bottom section are folded over the living hinge against each other.
- 23.** A coloring kit comprising:
- a plurality of writing instruments,
 - a container made of card board material, the container including an internal cavity for removably storing the writing instruments, and
 - a compact disc.
- 24.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is removably secured to the container.
- 25.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is enclosed in the internal cavity with the writing instruments.
- 26.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is inserted into a pocket on an exterior panel of the container.
- 27.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is inserted into a slit through an exterior panel of the container.
- 28.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is shrink-wrapped adjacent to an exterior panel of the container.
- 29.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is associated with the container by using a blister card and a plastic cover attached to the blister card.
- 30.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the container includes a sleeve pivotally connected to a edge of the container such that the sleeve is capable of pivoting flat against a panel of the container.
- 31.** The kit of claim 30 wherein the compact disc is secured to the sleeve.
- 32.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is secured to an exterior panel of the container with an adhesive.
- 33.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is a full size compact disc.
- 34.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is a business card compact disc.
- 35.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the compact disc is a mini compact disc.
- 36.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the writing instruments are crayons.
- 37.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the writing instruments are markers.
- 38.** The kit of claim 23 wherein the writing instruments are pencils.
- 39.** A method for making a kit which includes writing instruments and a compact disc for generating sheets displaying interactive activities utilizing the writing instruments comprising:
- providing a plurality of writing instruments,
 - providing a container made of plastic, the container including an internal cavity for removably storing the writing instruments, enclosing the writing instruments inside the internal cavity, and
 - providing a compact disc with information for instructing a computer to reproduce on sheets of paper displays of interactive activities utilizing the writing instruments.
- 40.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the compact disc is enclosed in the internal cavity.
- 41.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the compact disc is adjacent to an exterior panel of the container.
- 42.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the compact disc is a full size compact disc.
- 43.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the compact disc is a business card compact disc.
- 44.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the compact disc is a mini compact disc.
- 45.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the writing instruments are crayons.
- 46.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the writing instruments are markers.
- 47.** The kit of claim 39 wherein the writing instruments are pencils.
- 48.** A method for making a kit which includes writing instruments and a compact disc for generating sheets displaying interactive activities utilizing the writing instruments comprising:
- providing a plurality of writing instruments,
 - providing a container made of card board, the container including an internal cavity for removably storing the writing instruments, enclosing the writing instruments inside the internal cavity, and
 - providing a compact disc with information for instructing a computer to reproduce on sheets of paper displays of interactive activities utilizing the writing instruments.
- 49.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the compact disc is enclosed in the internal cavity.
- 50.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the compact disc is adjacent to an exterior panel of the container.
- 51.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the compact disc is a full size compact disc.
- 52.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the compact disc is a business card compact disc.
- 53.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the compact disc is a mini compact disc.
- 54.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the writing instruments are crayons.
- 55.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the writing instruments are markers.
- 56.** The kit of claim 48 wherein the writing instruments are pencils.

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