

chicago
children's
20th theatre

LEO LIONNI'S FREDERICK

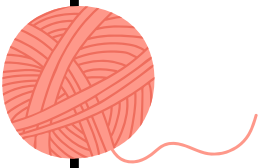
STUDY GUIDE



A MISCHIEF OF MICE

Humans aren't the only animals that have communities. A community of mice is called a **mischief**, a community of cats is called a **clowder**, a community of ants is called a **colony**, and a community of monkeys is called a **barrel**.

Draw a clowder of cats working together to pull down this ball of string:



Draw a colony of ants bringing food back to their ant hill:



Now draw a picture of YOUR community. Think back on a time when you had to work together as a team:



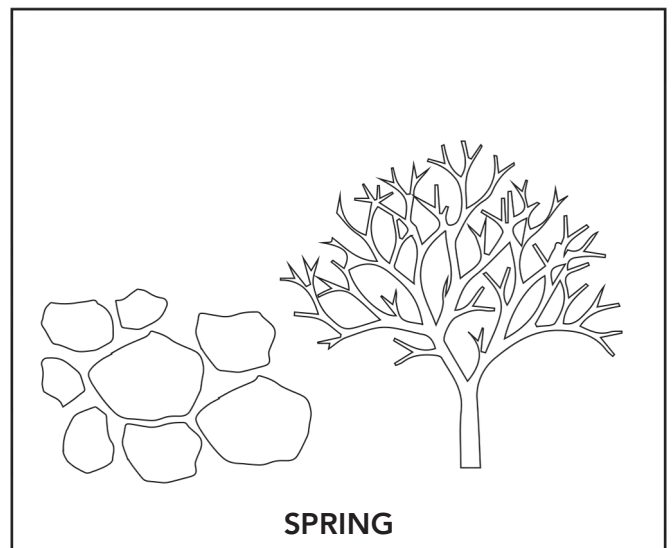
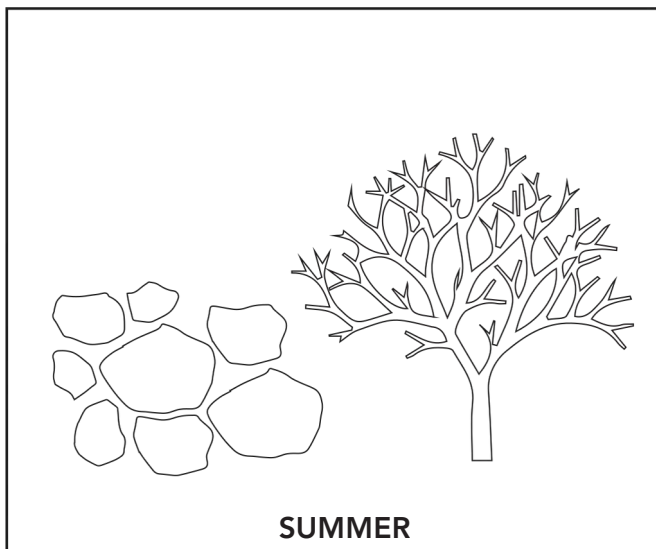
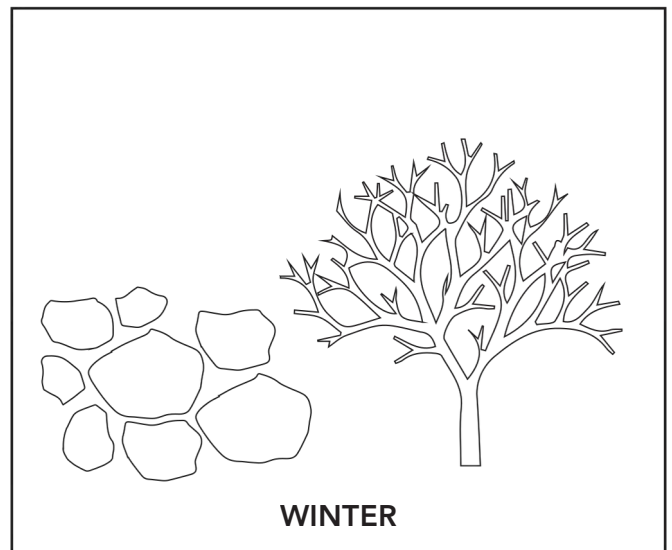
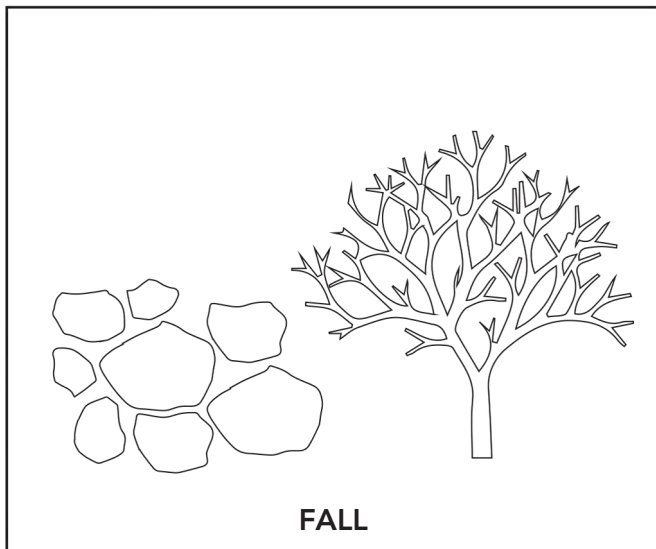
One of the big ideas in Frederick is community: what does community mean to you?

'TIS THE SEASON

For the mice in the forest, their entire way of life revolves around the four seasons. In the book, Frederick says to the other mice, "Aren't we lucky the seasons are four? / Think of a year with one less...or one more!" Even though the winter can be tough, Frederick wouldn't have it any other way.

How does nature change around us throughout the year?

DRAW HOW FREDERICK'S HOME LOOKS DURING EACH OF THE FOUR SEASONS.



DID YOU KNOW?

The seasons in the Northern Hemisphere (where Chicago is) are the opposite of those in the Southern Hemisphere. This means that in places like Argentina and Australia, winter begins in June instead of December. This happens because the Earth is tilted on its axis. For example, in June, Chicago is leaning towards the sun and so we have more hours of sunlight each day, but in December, Chicago is leaning away from the sun and so the days are shorter... and COLDER!

LOST IN THE SNOW

In our play, Frederick feels guilty for not helping his fellow mice gather food, so he goes back out into the snow storm to look for more.

HELP FREDERICK FIND HIS WAY DOWN TO THE BARN TO LOOK FOR FOOD.



DID YOU KNOW?

Mice are highly intelligent creatures and are known to escape out of very difficult mazes and solve complex puzzles.

SNOWFLAKES

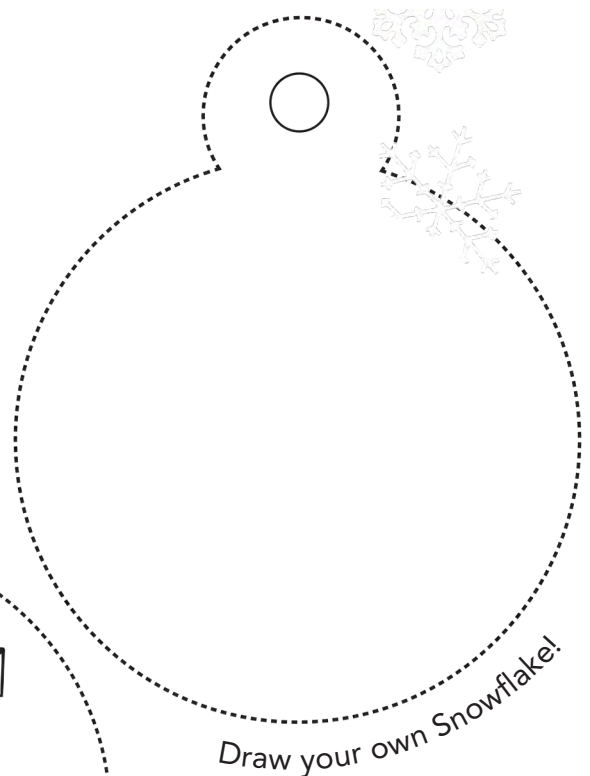
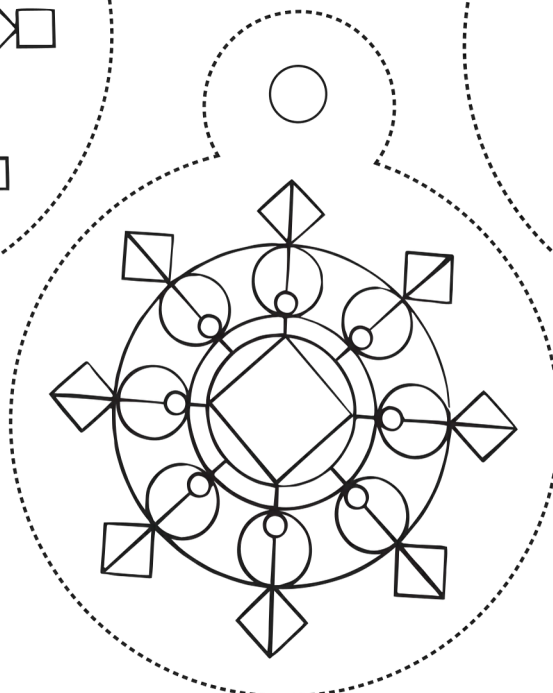
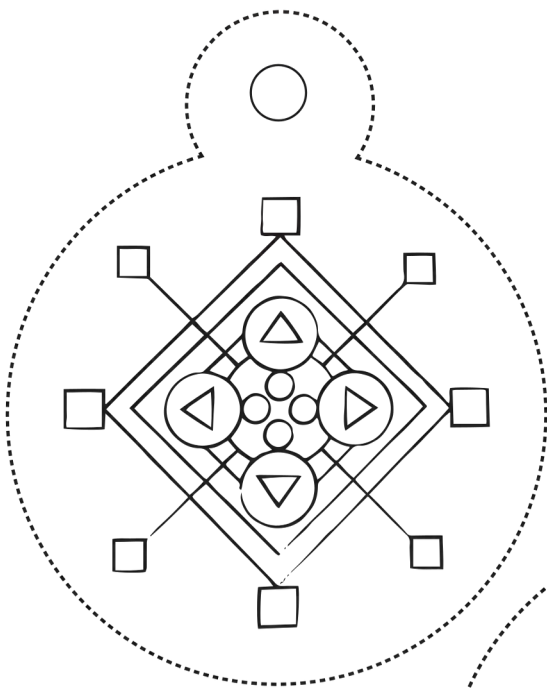


DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that no snowflake is like the other? Just like snowflakes are unique, each member of a community has a unique brain. Every person processes the world differently, some people think in words, some people think in pictures, some people think in numbers! We all have different ways of viewing the world around us. How does your unique brain see the world?

SNOWFLAKES (LIKE PEOPLE) ARE ALL UNIQUE! USE THE COLORING TEMPLATE BELOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN UNIQUE SNOWFLAKES.

1. Color the shapes in the snowflakes. There are circles, squares, and triangles.
2. Color in all of the circles red, the squares blue, and the triangles green.
3. Use a hole puncher to make holes at the top of each snowflake.
4. Run a length of string through your snowflakes so you can hang them up.



PREPARING FOR THE WINTER

Gathering enough food for the long winter is incredibly important for these mice and they need your help!

CIRCLE ALL OF THE ACORNS, SEEDS, NUTS, AND CORN COBS YOU CAN DISCOVER. KEEP TRACK OF EVERYTHING YOU GATHER AND SEE HOW GOOD OF A FORAGER YOU ARE.



OF ACORNS ____ + # OF SEEDS ____ + # OF CORN COBS ____

= # TOTAL PIECES OF FOOD ____

HOW DID YOU DO?

1 - 3 It is a Good Start

4 - 6 You Are in Good Shape

7 - 9 Nothing to Worry About

10 - 12 Winter is Going to be a Party!



DID YOU KNOW?

Different animals prepare for winter in different ways. Some gather up and store food like mice and beavers. Some hibernate (or sleep) for some of the winter like bears and snakes. Some migrate to warmer climates like birds. How do YOU prepare for winter?

MAKING A SCENE

When transforming the book of Frederick into a play, the playwright uses her imagination to come up with whole new scenes and characters. Now it's your turn! All you need to create your very own play with mice puppets is two popsicle sticks, glue, scissors, and an adult to help you. In our play, the conflict of the story centers around the question: how do we prepare for winter? Nellie wants to collect as much food as possible, Ernest wants to work on his machines, and Frederick wants to gather up all the words and images he can. Everyone has a strong idea of how to fix the problem, but they aren't all the same. In theatre we call this CONFLICT.

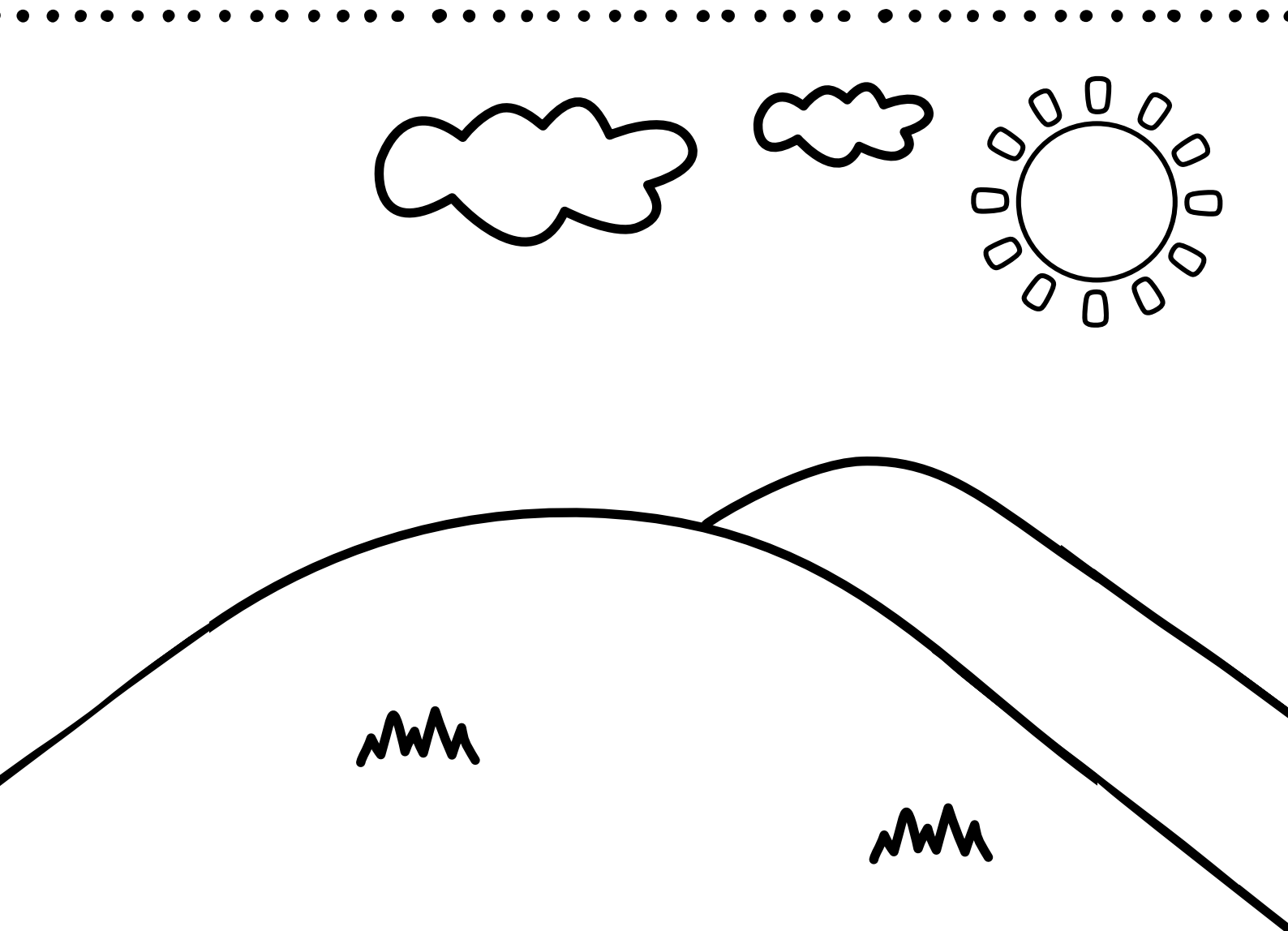
IN YOUR SCENE..

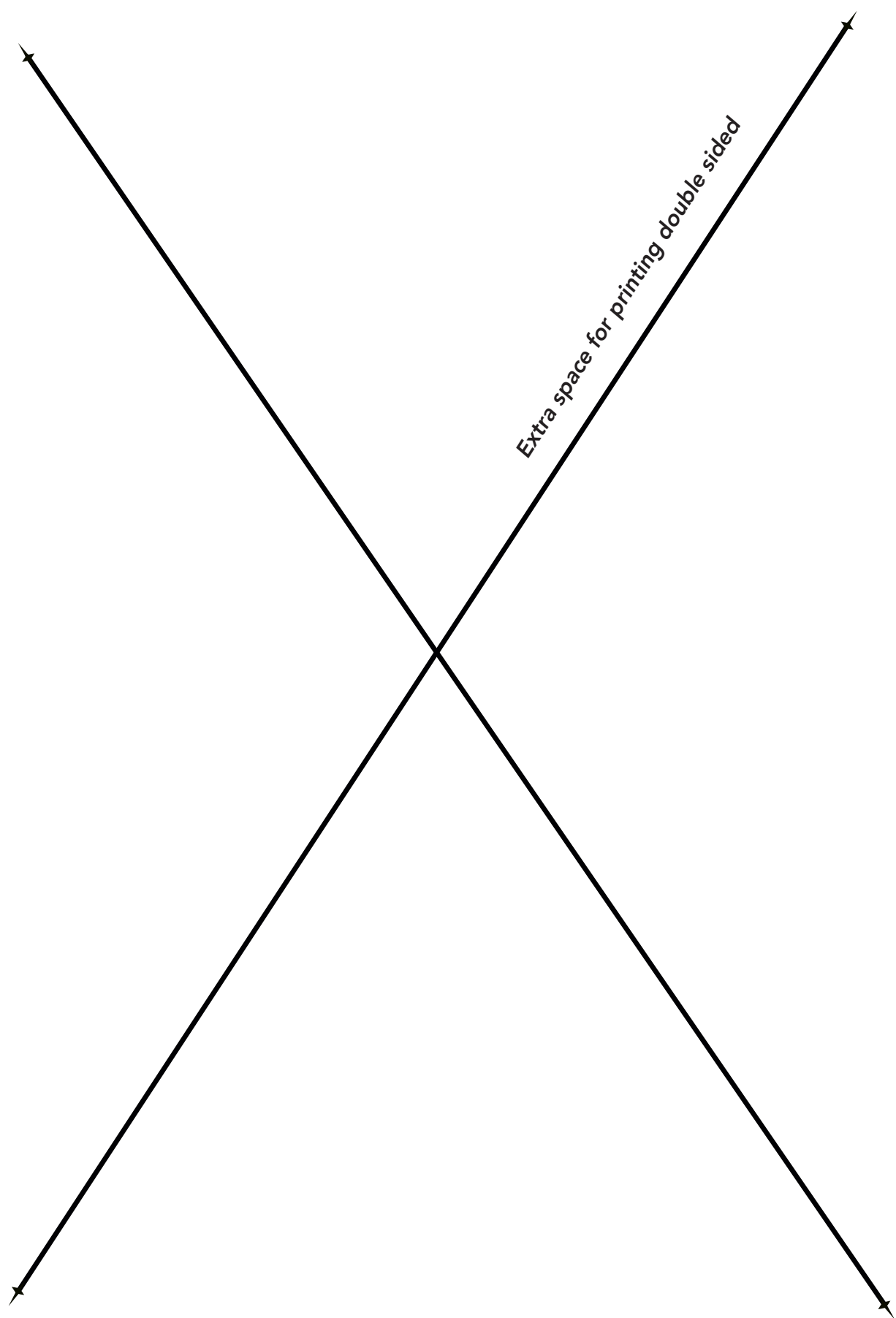
🌸 What is THE PROBLEM the mice need to solve?

🌸 What is THE CONFLICT between the characters?

🌸 How do the characters SOLVE THE PROBLEM in the end?

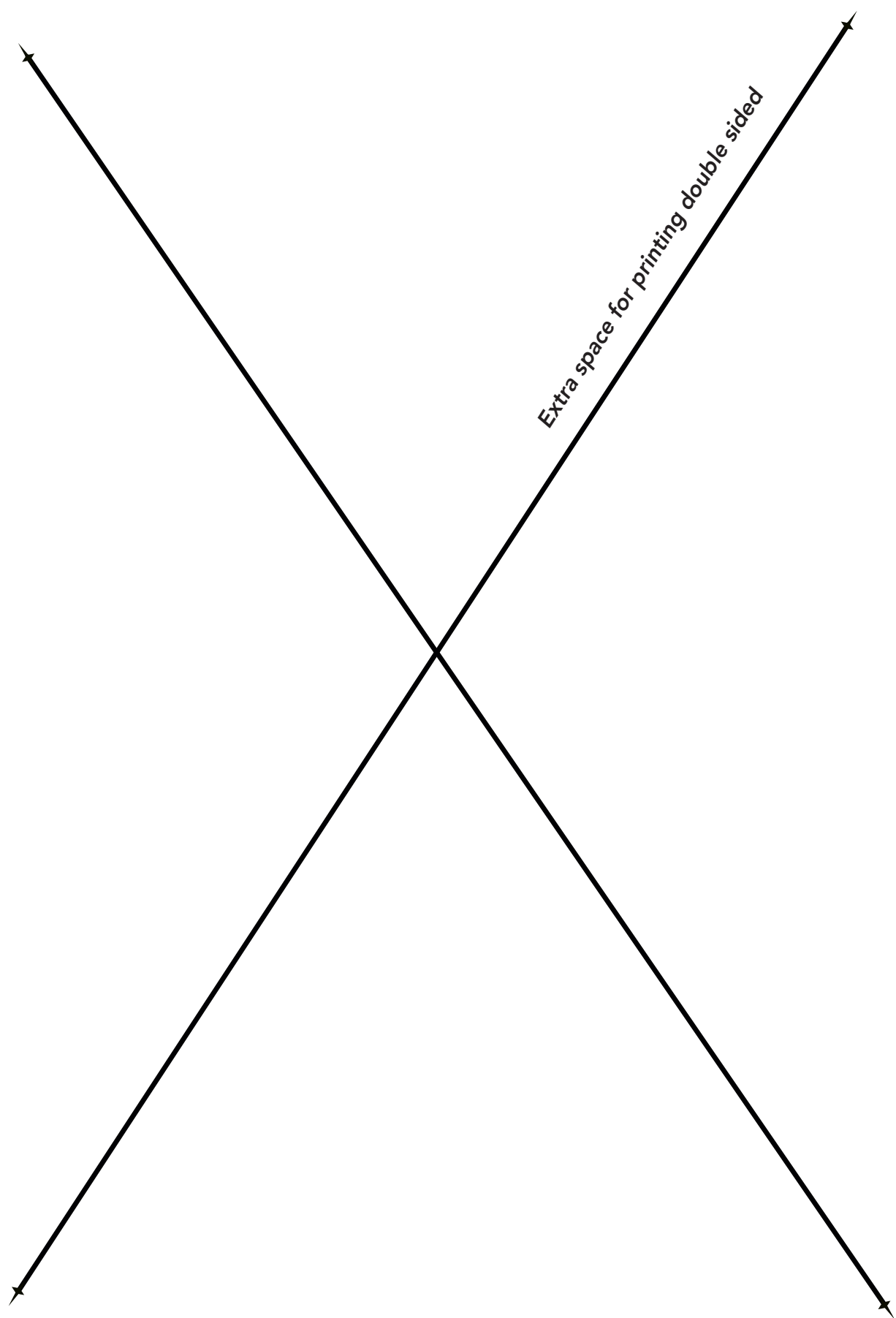
Cut out along the dotted line and color this scene to use this for your backdrop.





Use the mice below to create your puppets. Draw their faces to show what emotion each mouse is feeling! Use the clothes below to glue them on and show what season your mice are experiencing!





YOU'RE A POET AND YOU KNOW IT

At the end of the story, Frederick's unique brain full of words and imagery saves the day as others in his community begin to understand his unique abilities. Try out Frederick's special talent and create a poem of your own!

HERE IS ONE OF FREDERICK'S POEMS:

**"Who scatters snowflakes? Who melts the ice?
Who spoils the weather? Who makes it nice?
Who grows the four-leaf clovers in June?
Who dims the daylight? Who lights the moon?
Four little field mice who live in the sky.
Four little field mice...like you and I."**

Circle words in the poem that rhyme. Did you notice in the poem that "ice" rhymes with "nice," and "June" rhymes with "moon?" Now it's your turn. First you need to think of words that rhyme with each other. Here are some words to find rhymes for:

MICE	SPRING	SHOWER
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

NOW CREATE YOUR OWN POEM ABOUT NATURE WITH SIX LINES AND THREE RHYMING COUPLETS.

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
6	_____

WHAT DID YOU THINK OF FREDERICK?

A theatre critic is a person who professionally analyzes, evaluates, and appreciates theatrical performances, providing their opinion of the show to audiences. Become a theatre critic and write your own review of the show!

MY REVIEW OF "FREDERICK" AT CHICAGO CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Headline:

What is your name?

How old are you?

Where do you go to school?

1. What do you think this story was about?

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2. Describe the different elements of the show (Costumes, Lights, Sound, Props, Performers)

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3. What was your favorite part of the show?

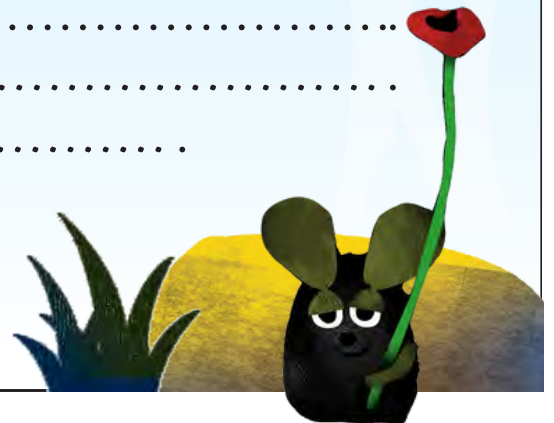
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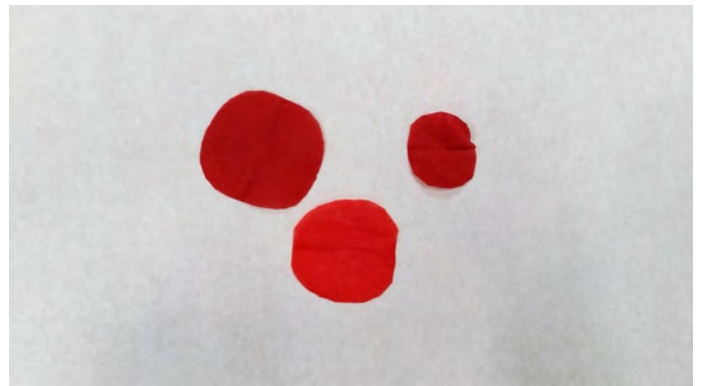
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HOW TO MAKE FREDERICK'S POPPIES!



Start with a few circles of tissue paper. Using a few different sizes works best.

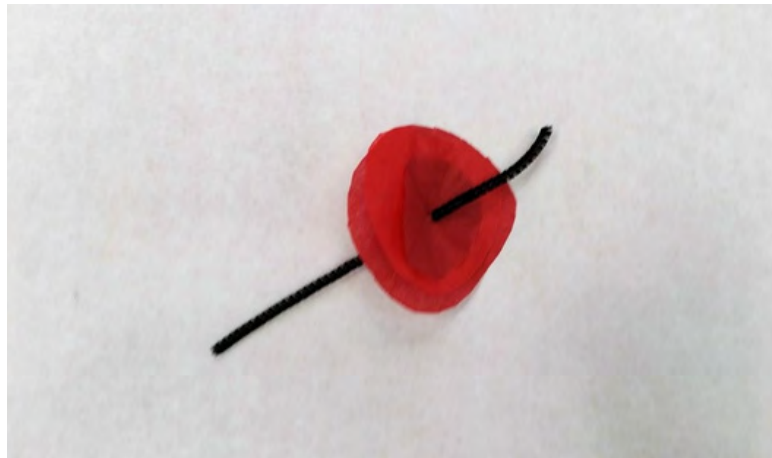


Layer the circles on top of each other.





Take a pipe cleaner and poke it through the middle of the petals. Pull about an inch and a half of pipe cleaner through the petals.



Make a loop and push the pipe cleaner back down through the same hole, leaving about an eighth of an inch on top.



Twist the pipe cleaner under the petals together. Complete with a small amount of white glue to help keep it together.





chicago children's 20th theatre SEASON

**These educational materials were created by
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