

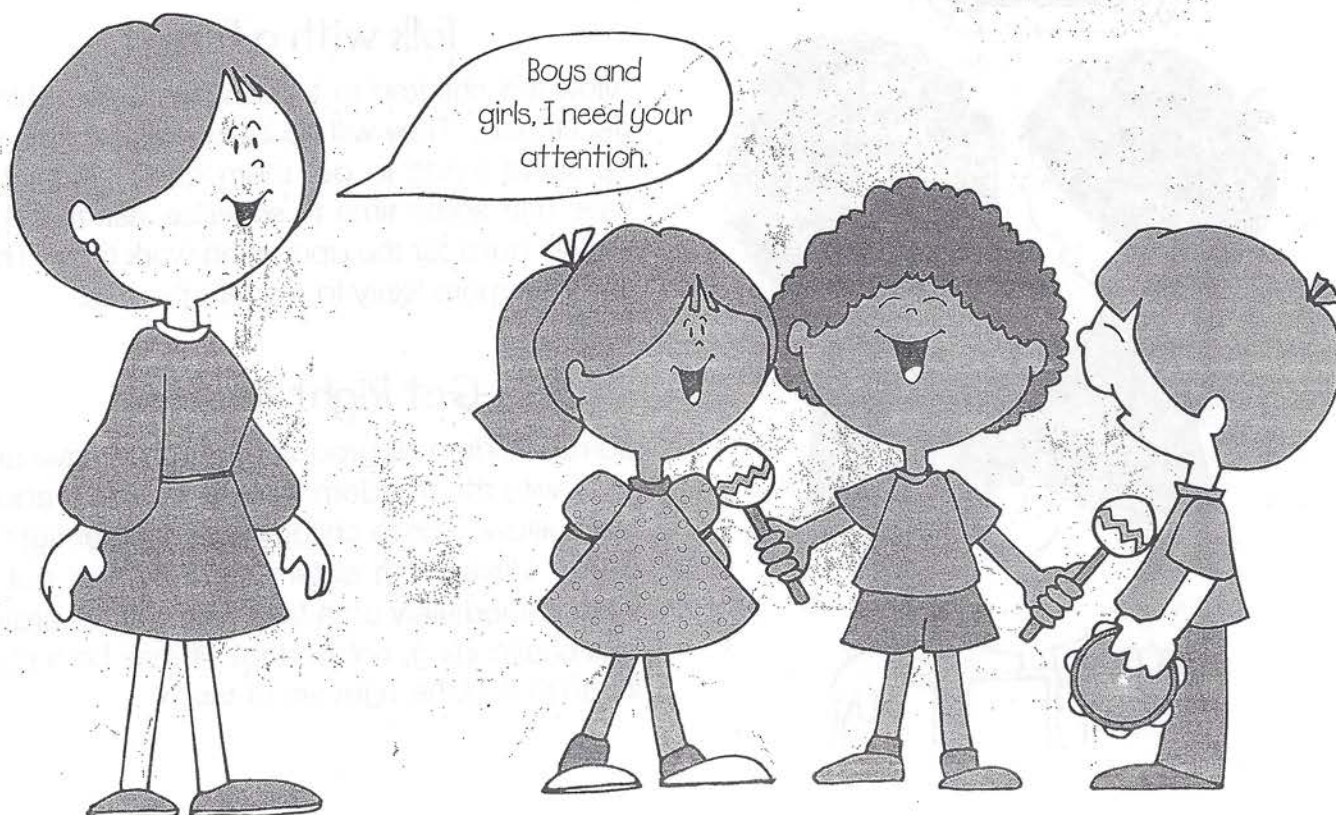
Switching Signals

Have a signal to warn children that only a short time is left before they must completely stop a task. Typically the only times this isn't done is during emergency situations. Also, a signal that tells students to stop what they are doing, clean up and move to the next activity or time of the day is important.

The signals listed are "attention getters." Teach students to respond to the appropriate signals.

**"Boys and girls (alternate with girls and boys),
I'd like to have your attention."**

The best signal is a special phrase spoken in a normal tone of voice, "Girls and boys, I need your attention," at which point they are expected to get quiet so their teacher may speak. This signal seems the most realistic because it is how many people behave in the real world.





Tapping on a Glass

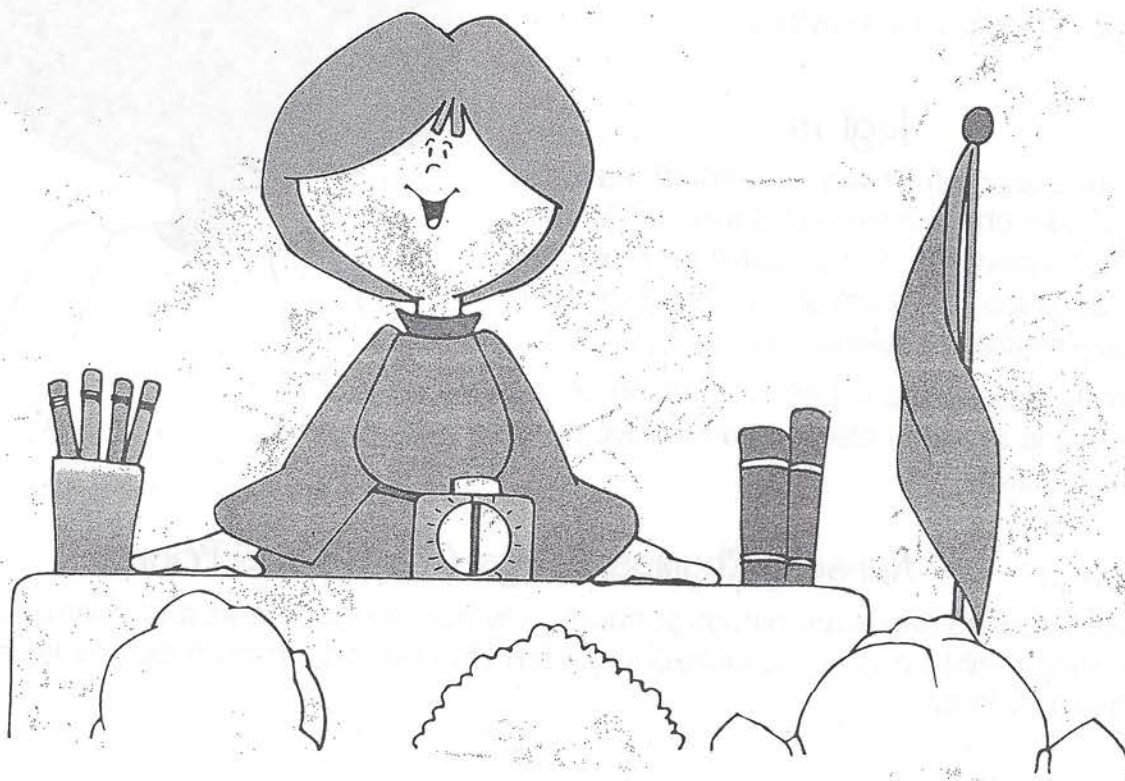
Everyone has attended a dinner where someone taps on a glass to get attention. This can also be used in the classroom at breakfast, snack or lunch. It is fairly realistic and something that children will probably hear again in their lives, a signal to listen to the speaker.

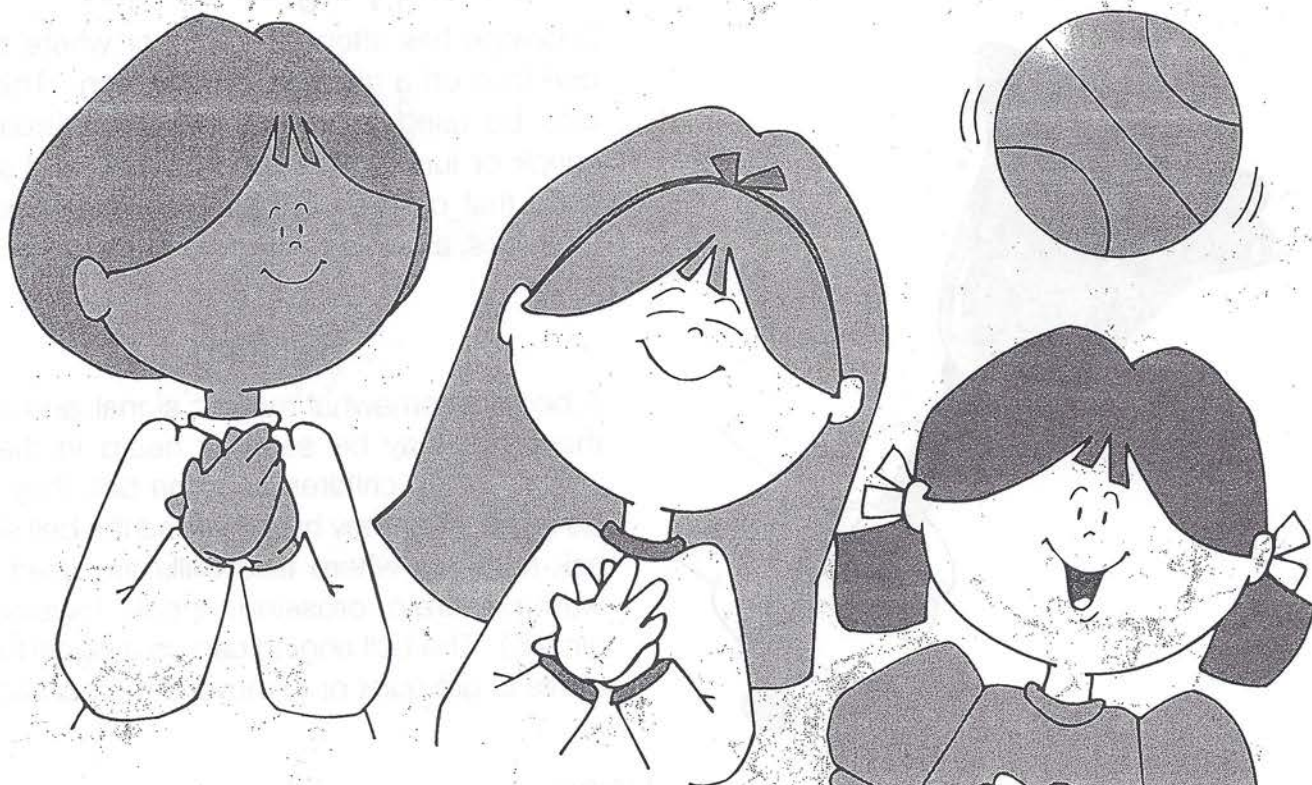
Bell Ring

A bell is a somewhat realistic signal, and something that may be seen or heard in the real world. When children hear the bell, they must be quiet. After they have learned the bell signal, ask students where else bells are used as a warning (train crossing, clock towers, fire alarms). The bell ringing can be a signal for students to get quiet or to move to the next activity.

Timer

Use a timer for relatively standard and sequential periods in the classroom. The timer is something students might be used to hearing. At home it signals a time to check the cooking to see if it is done. In the classroom it can signal a time for children to check their work to see if they are almost done and ready to move on. It could also signal a time to move to the next activity.





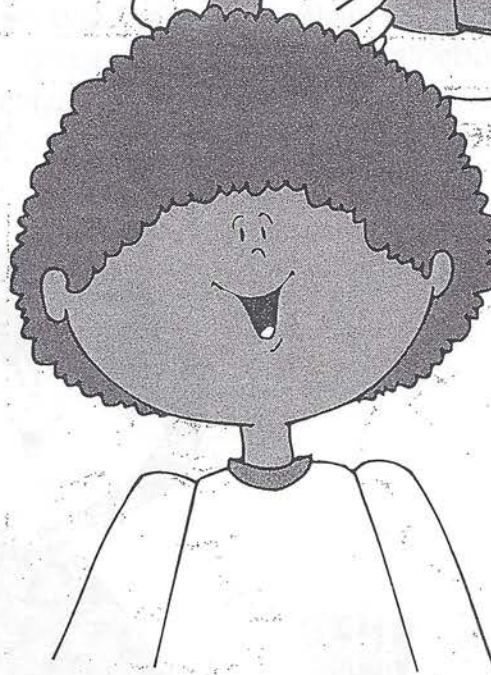
Basketball Bounce

Bounce a basketball to get students' attention. The noise is different from the noise in the room. Then tell them what they must do next. If the class sings or says a cleanup song, rhyme or rap, it can signal the rhythm.

Lights

In many classrooms teachers turn off the lights as a cue for children to quiet down and listen to an announcement. It is effective for most children because it is a visual cue when they are already involved in talking and moving.

In some classrooms a flick off and on of the lights is the signal to clean up and move on to the next activity.



Nursery Rhymes, Songs, Chants and Poems

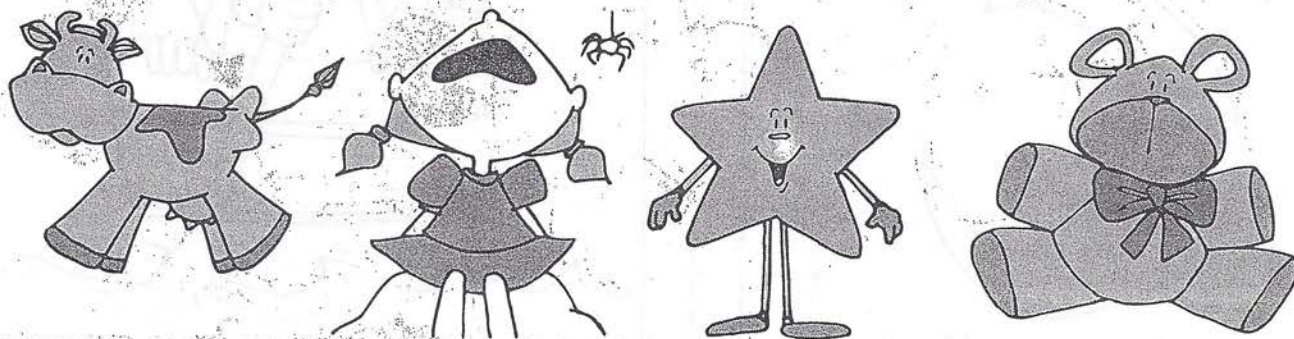
On the following pages are names of nursery rhymes, songs, chants and poems. Included are ways they might be used as signals to switch. In addition, children can make books of the rhymes they know.

Nursery Rhymes, Songs, Chants and Poems

Post a set of nursery rhymes, songs, chants or poems in various spots in the room. Use them when it is time for students to stop what they are doing, chime in, clean up and move to the next activity. For example, nursery rhymes may be the cue to go from group time to centers; songs are the cue to clean up centers and get in line for recess; etc.

The pictures that follow may be copied, colored and posted. As a rhyme, song or poem is learned, take time to color the pictures and hang them up.

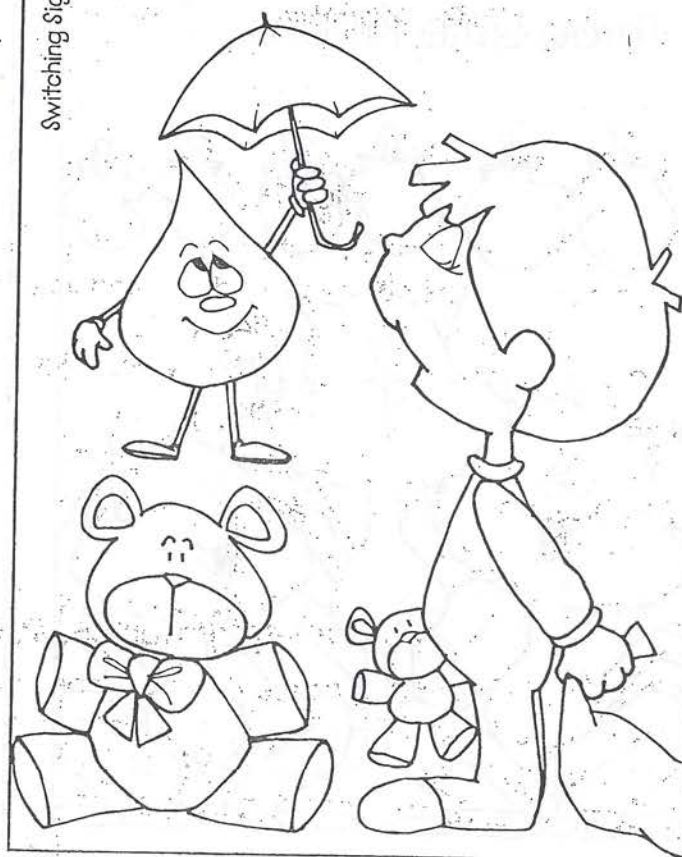
Periodically during the year or as they are learned, have the children color a copy of the rhymes, songs and poems that they know and put them in a book of Rhymes I Know. If students are old enough they can write a copy of the rhyme, song or poem to go along with the picture, using whatever invented spellings are needed.



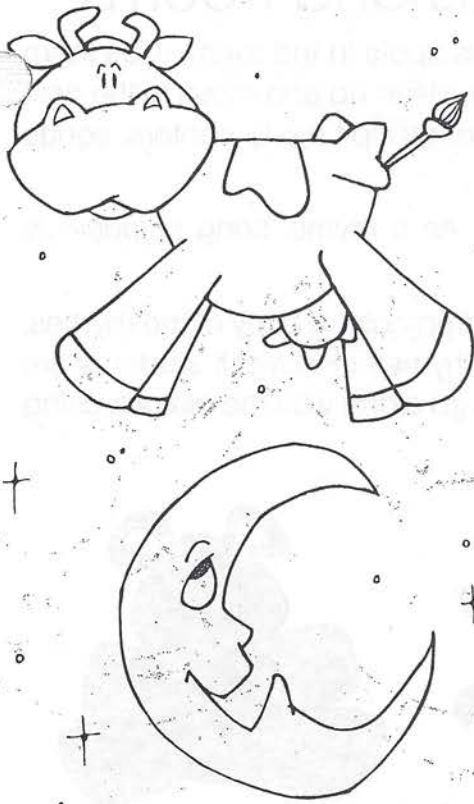
Rhymes I Know



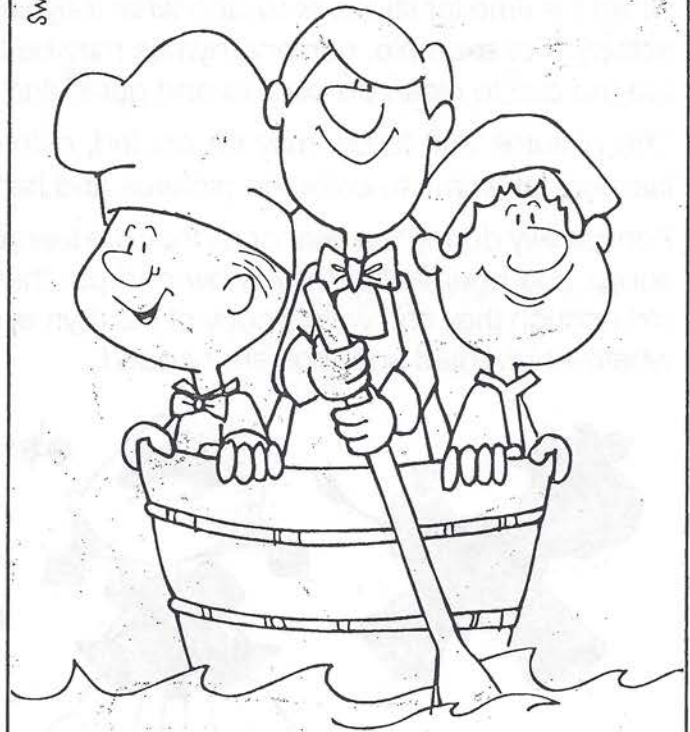
Rhymes We Know



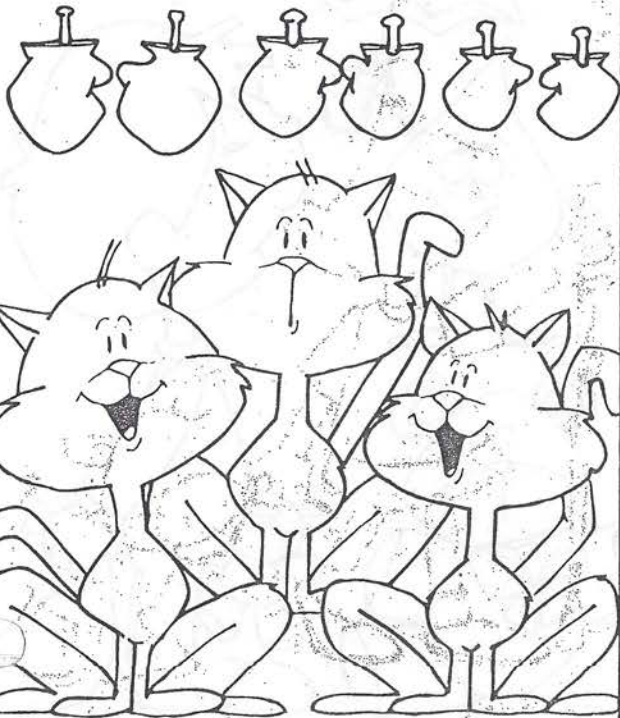
Hey, Diddle, Diddle



Rub a Dub Dub



Three Little Kittens

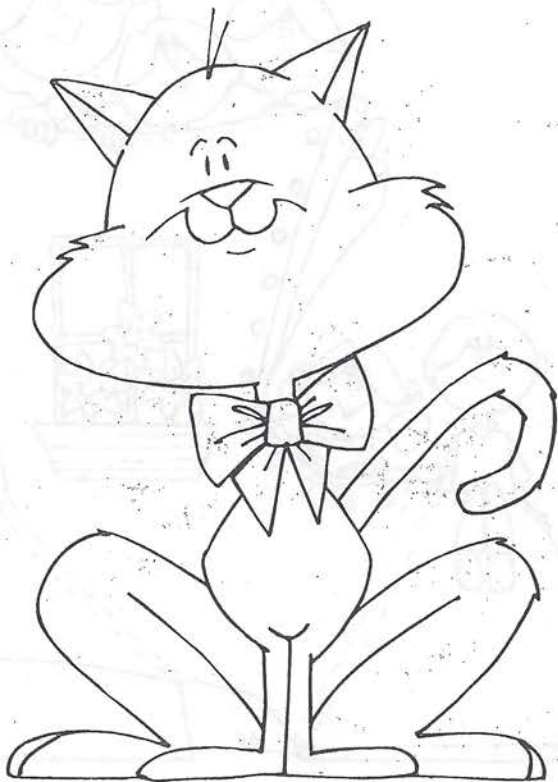


Rain, Rain, Go Away



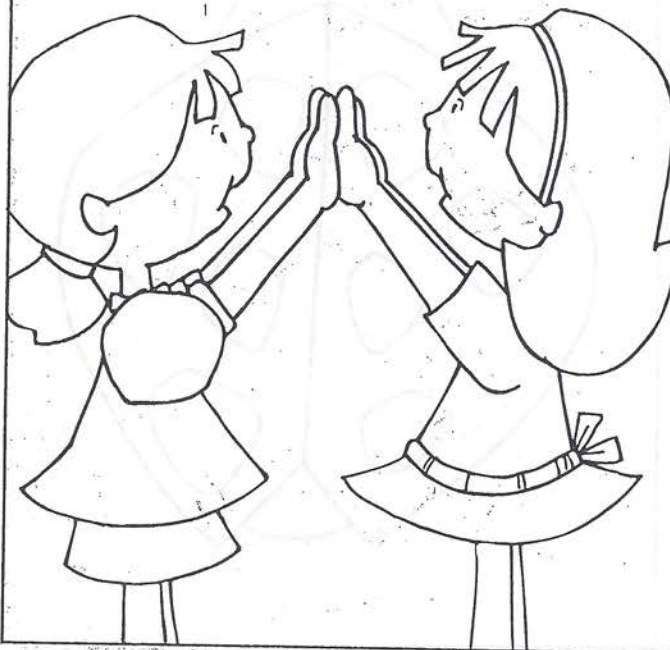
Switching Signals

Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat



Switching Signals

Pat-a Cake



Switching Signals

Wee Willie Winkie

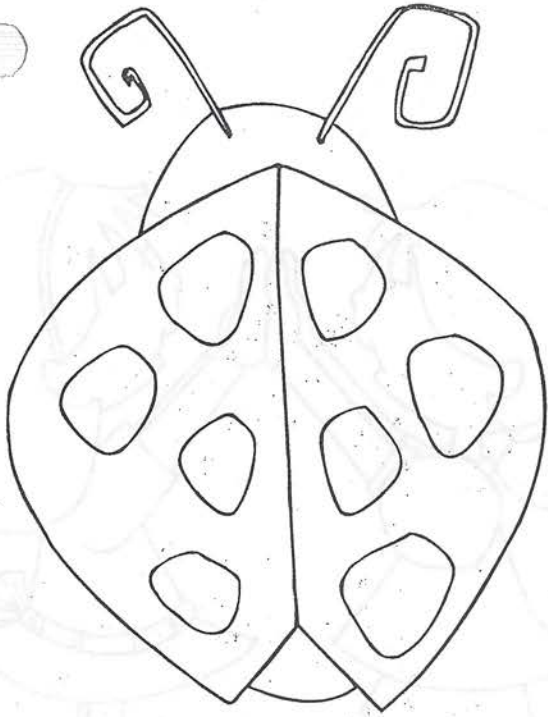


Switching Signals

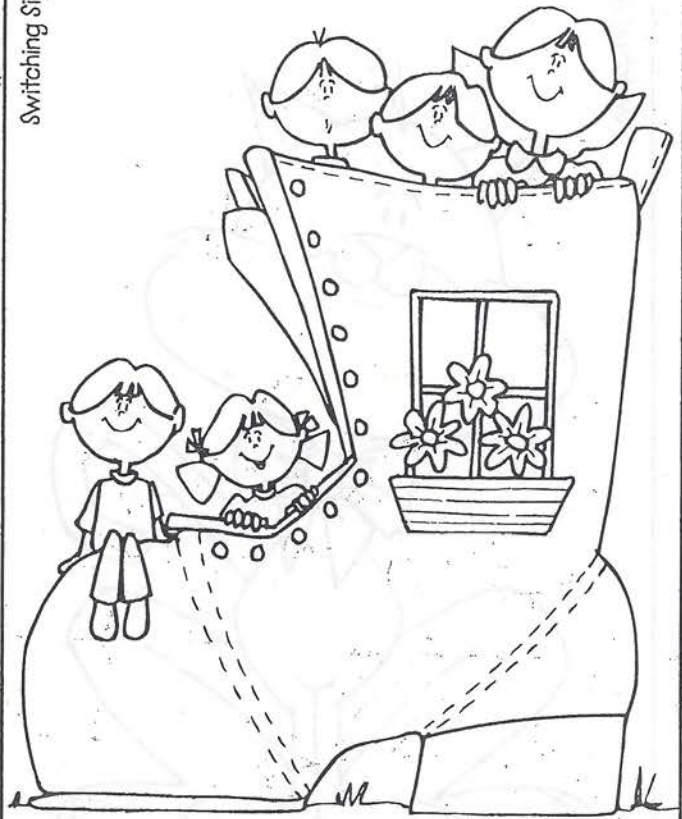
To Market, to Market



Ladybug, Ladybug



Old Woman and the Shoe



Old Mother Hubbard



Jack and Jill



Switching Signals

Diddle, Diddle, Dumpling



Switching Signals

Old King Cole



Switching Signals

Little Bo Peep



Switching Signals

Little Miss Muffet



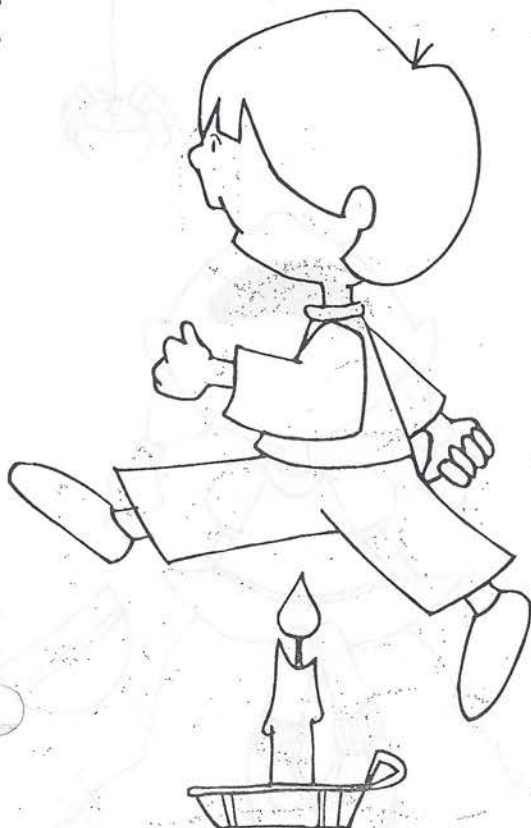
Little Jack Horner



Jack Sprat



Jack Be Nimble



There Was a Crooked Man



Switching Signals

Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater



Switching Signals

Mistress Mary



Switching Signals

Georgie Porgie

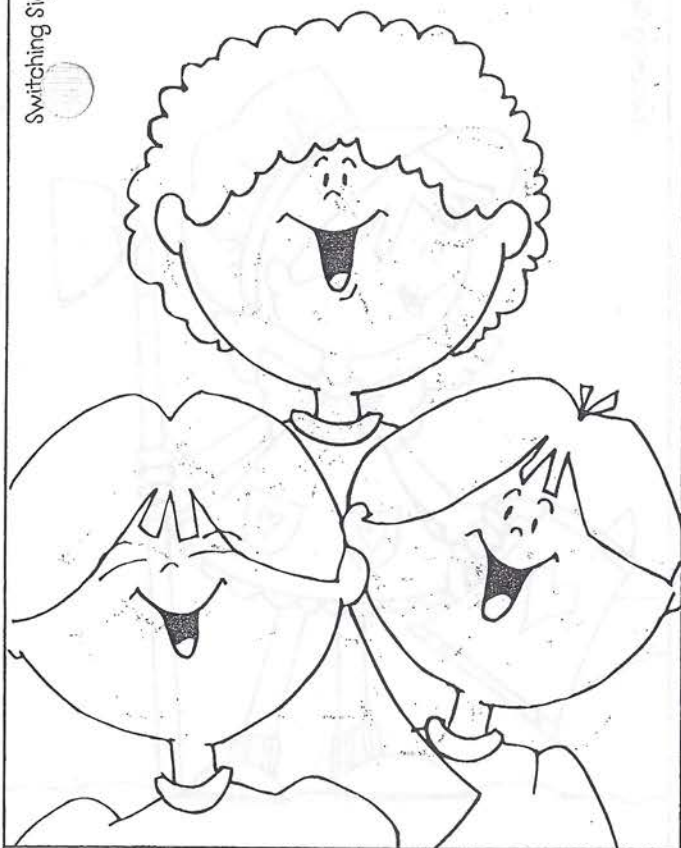


Switching Signals

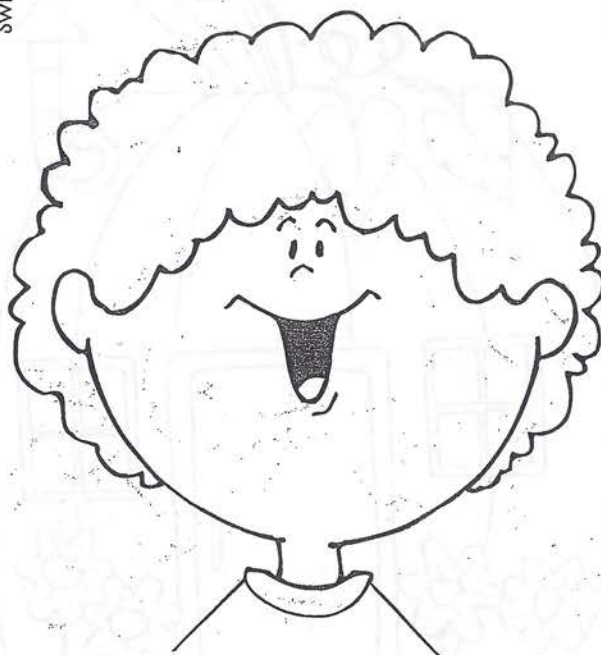
Hickety Pickety My Black Hen



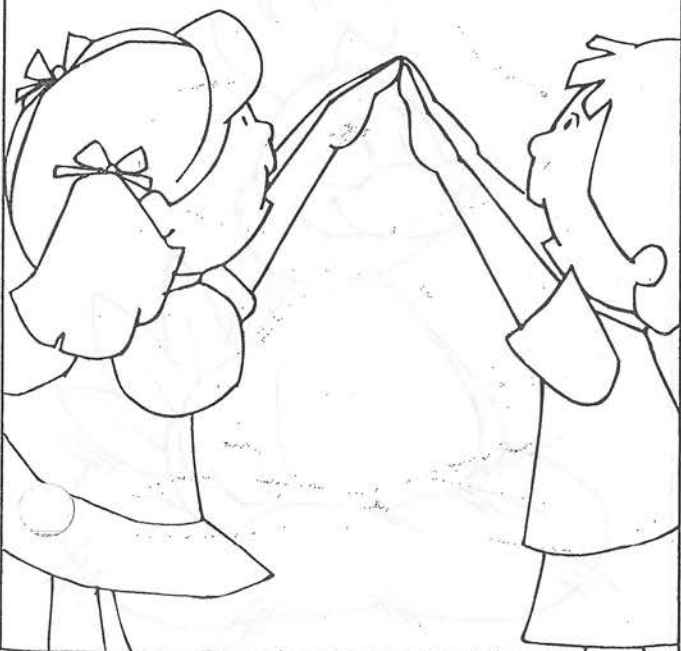
Songs We Know



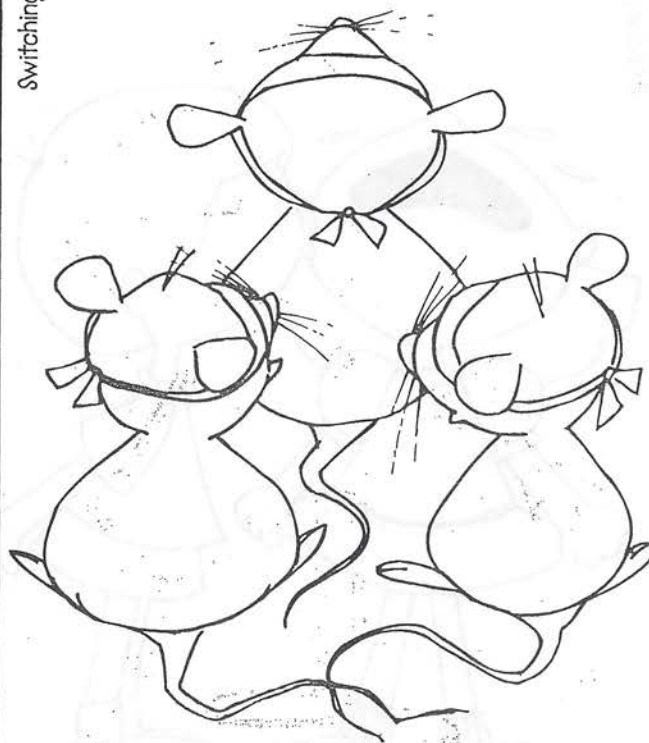
Songs I Know



London Bridge



Three Blind Mice



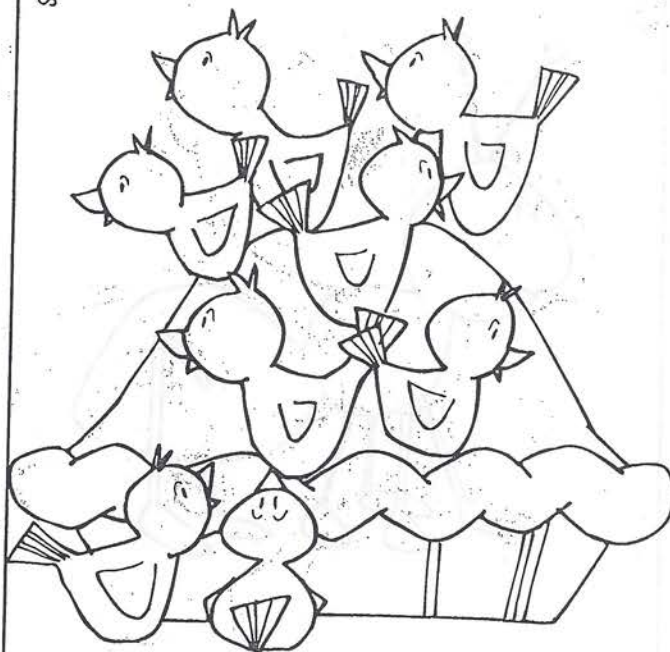
Switching Signals

Ring Around the Rosie



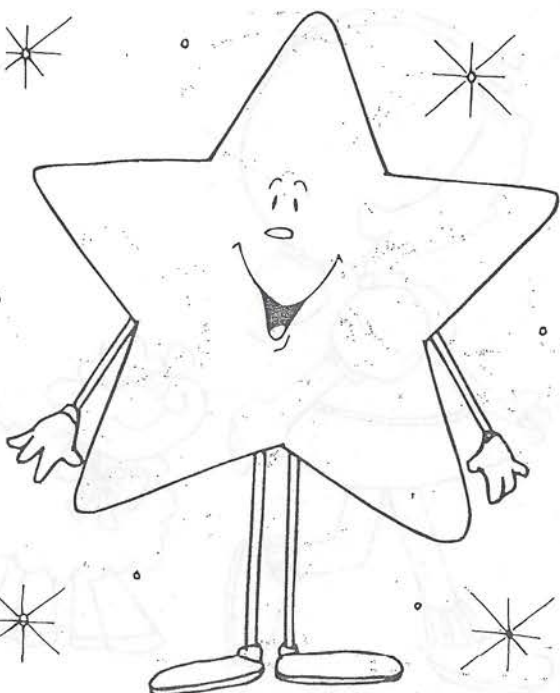
Switching Signals

Sing a Song of Sixpence



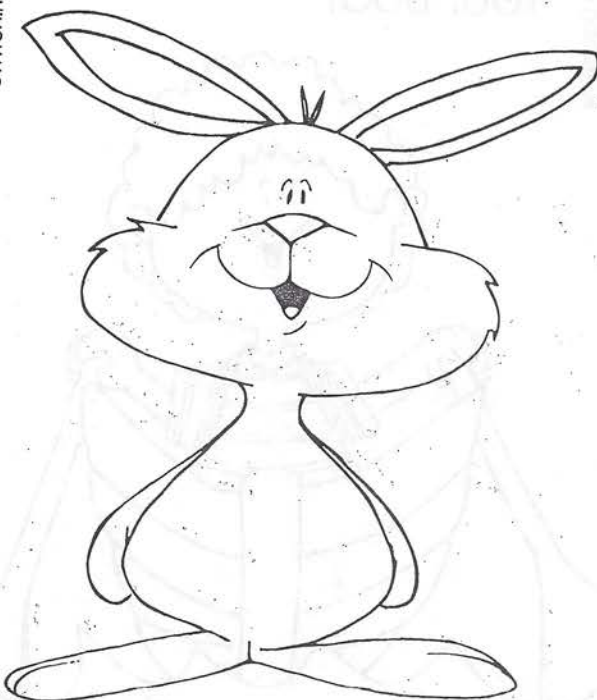
Switching Signals

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

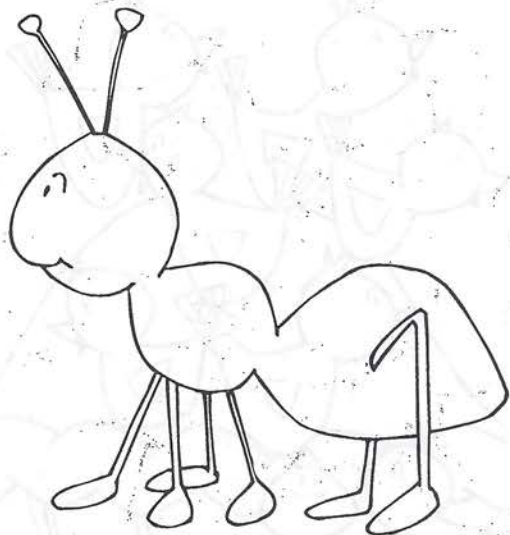


Switching Signals

Little Bunny Foo Foo



The Ants Go Marching



If You're Happy and You Know It



Row, Row, Row Your Boat

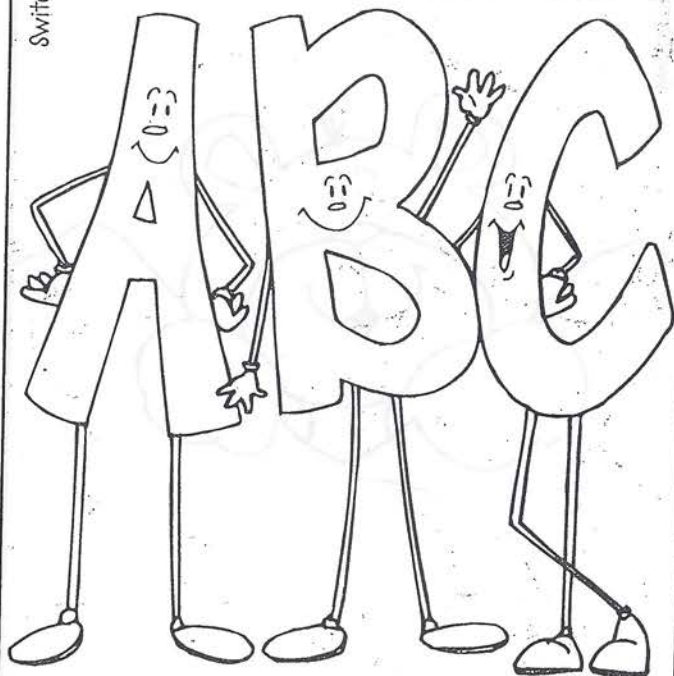


Mary Had a Little Lamb



Switching Signals

ABCs



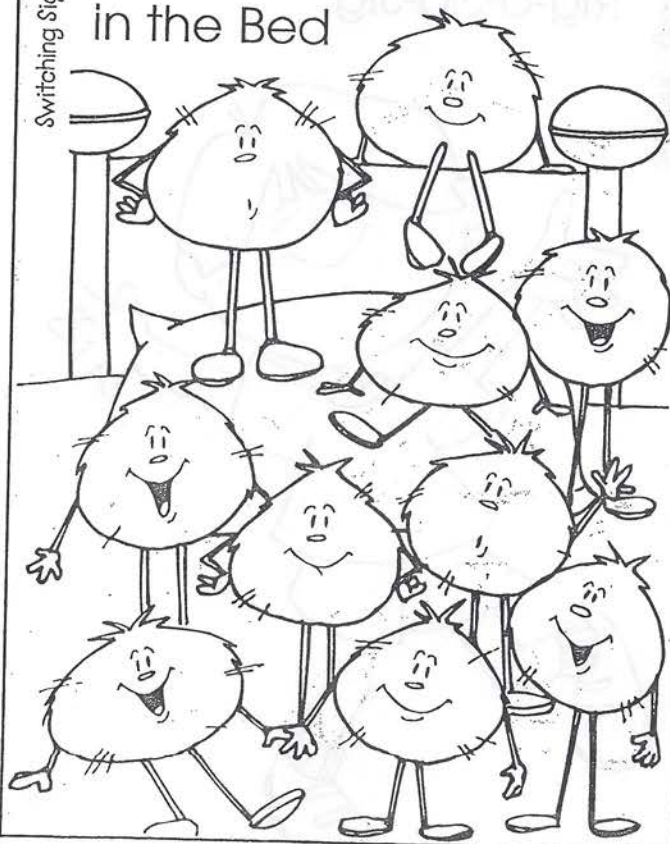
Switching Signals

Baa Baa Black Sheep



Switching Signals

There Were 10
in the Bed

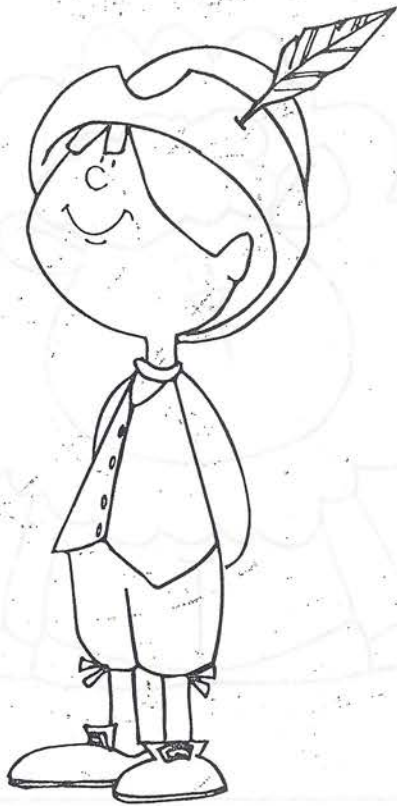


Switching Signals

The Old Woman Who
Swallowed a Fly



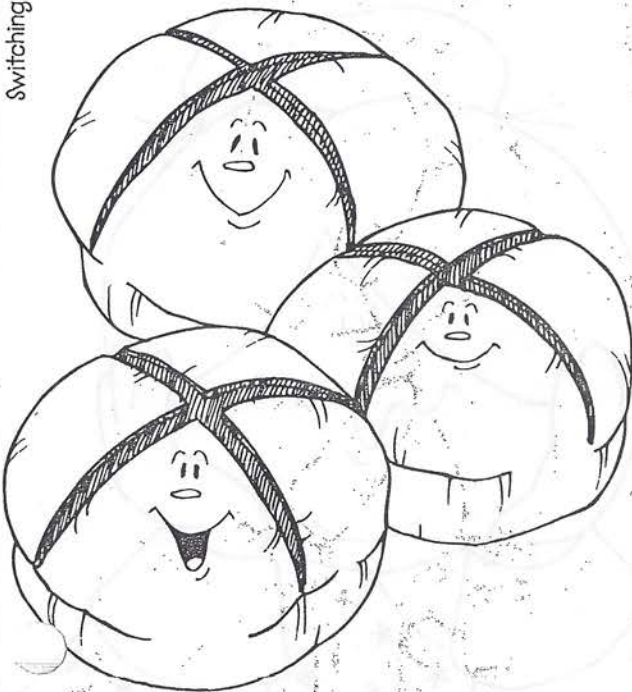
Yankee Doodle



Bear Went over the Mountain



Hot Cross Buns

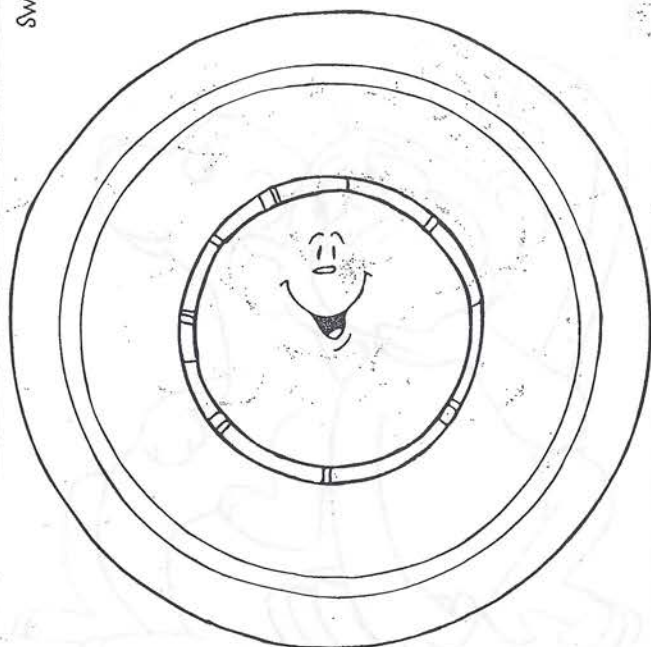


Rig-a-Jig-Jig



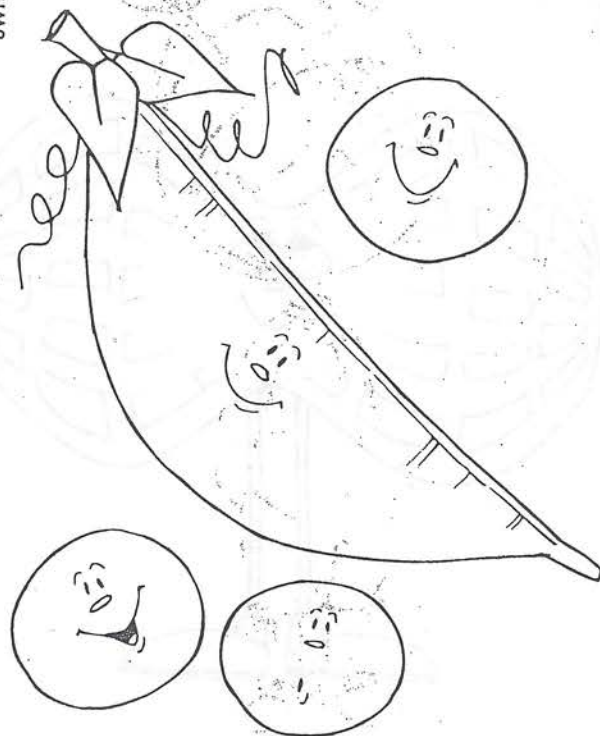
Switching Signals

There's a Little Wheel



Switching Signals

Oats, Peas, Beans and Barley Grow



Switching Signals

Love Somebody,
Yes I Do!

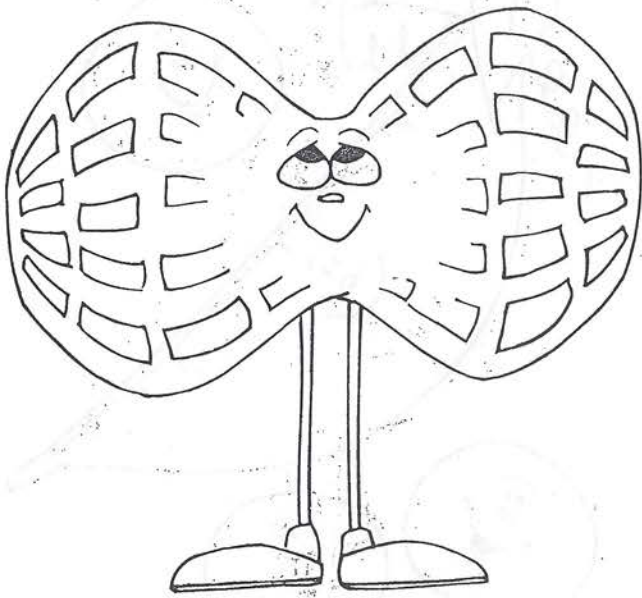


Switching Signals

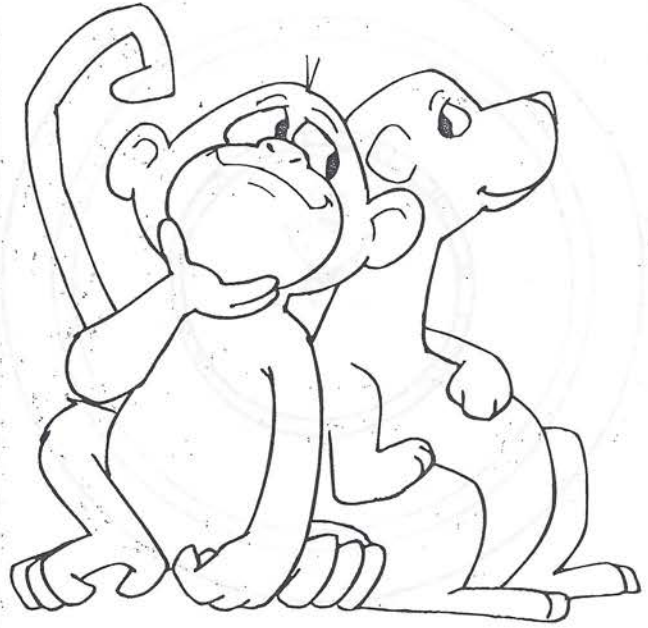
Are You Sleeping?



Found a Peanut



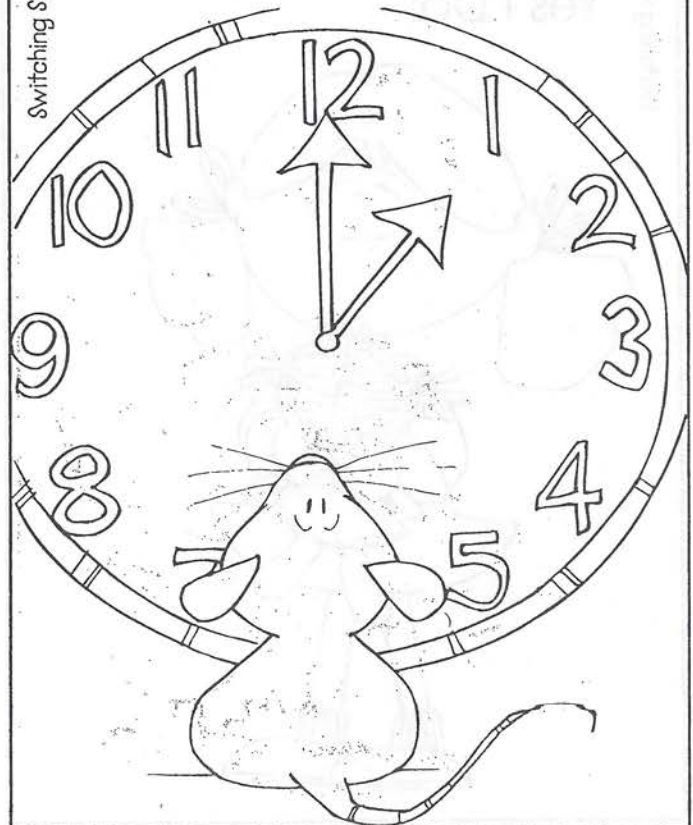
Pop Goes the Weasel



It's Raining; It's Pouring

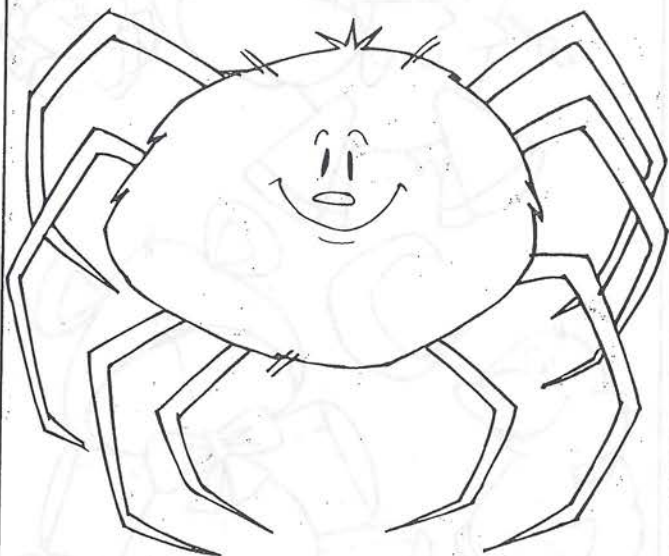


Hickory, Dickory, Dock



Switching Signals

Eensy Weensy Spider



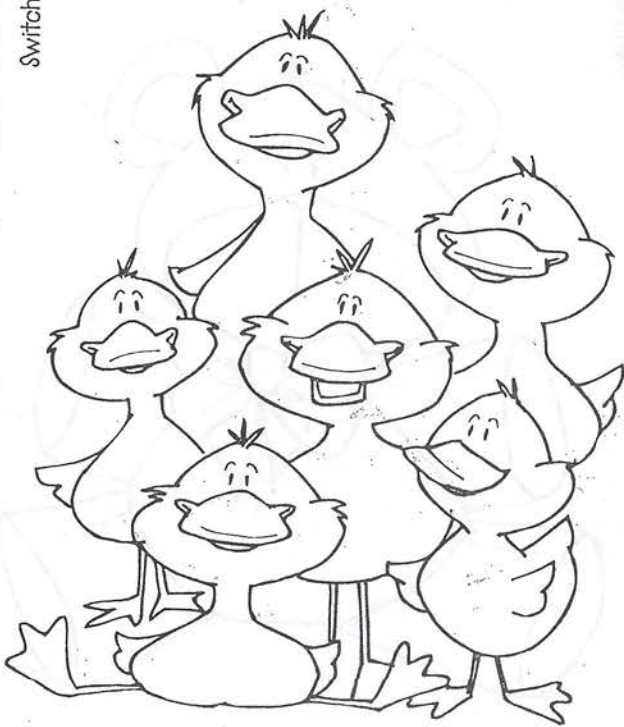
Switching Signals

Little Sir Echo



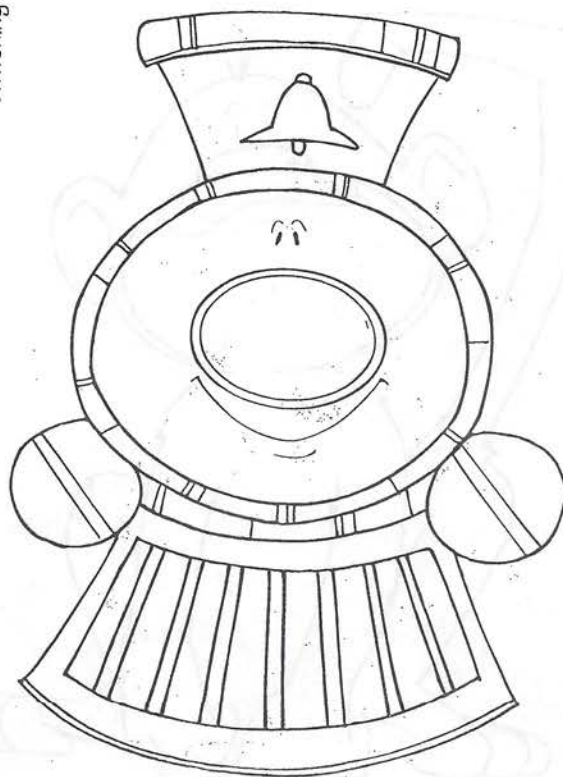
Switching Signals

Six Little Ducks That I Once Knew



Switching Signals

Down by the Station



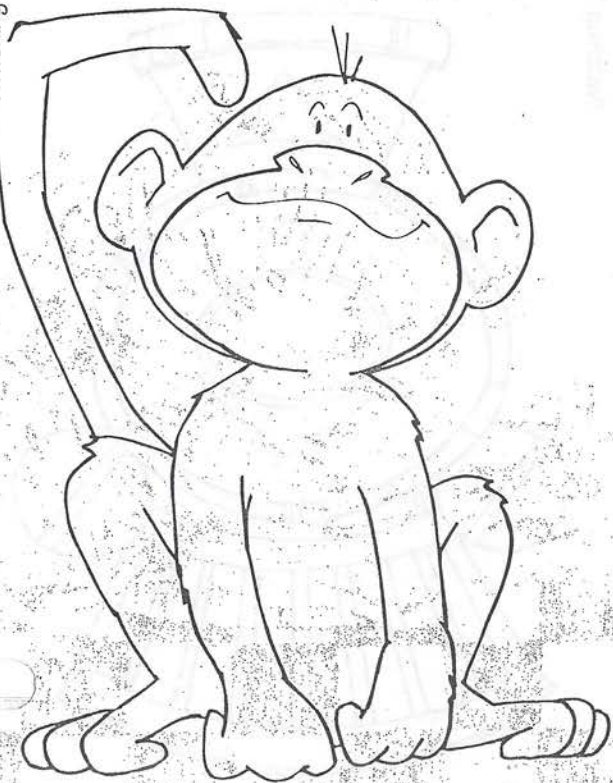
Poems and Chants We Know



Poems and Chants I Know



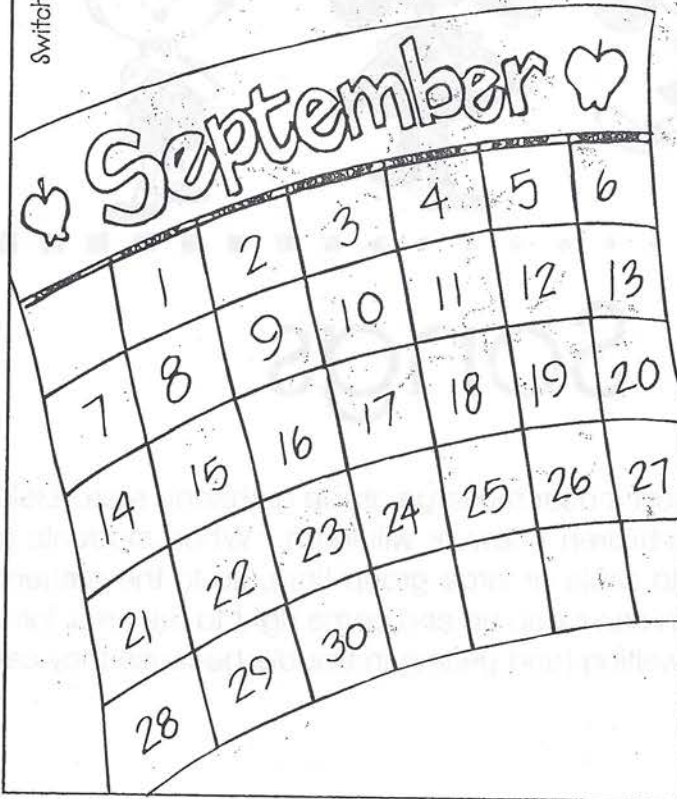
Five Little Monkeys



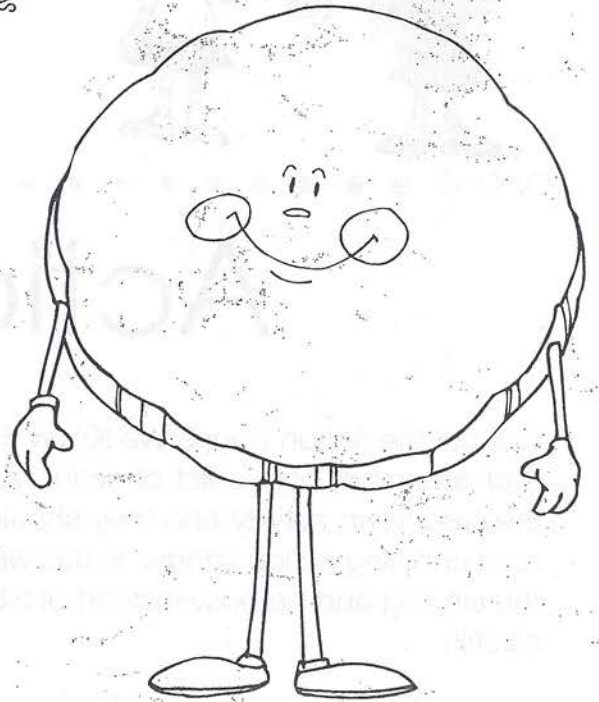
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear



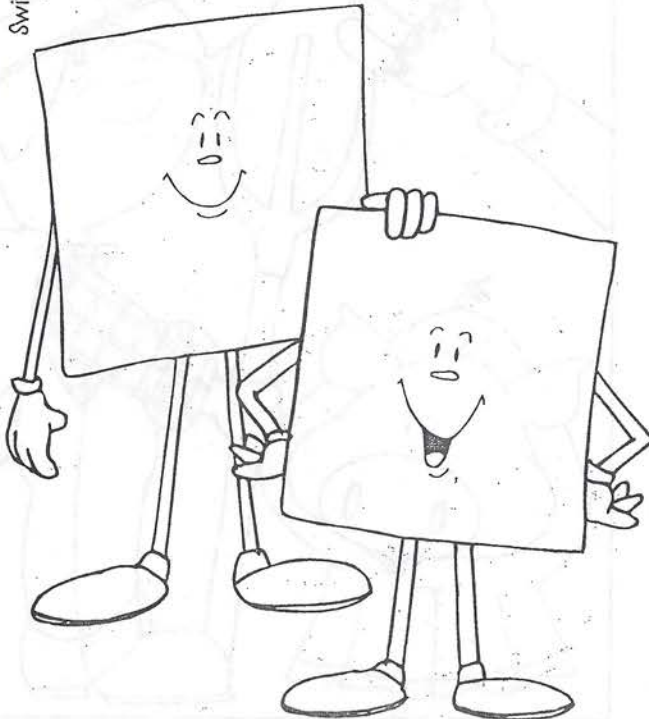
Thirty Days Hath September



Shel Silverstein's Pancake?



Shel Silverstein's Two Boxes



Shel Silverstein's Spaghetti

