

ANIMAL ALPHABET PUPPET PATTERNS



Zoo-phonics Animal Alphabet Puppets

Preparation and Instructions

Activity Objective: The purpose for these Animal Puppets is to reinforce letter sound skills, whether you are working on “a – z” mastery or combining the Animal Puppets (that represent specific letter sounds) to form various phonemes (“bl,” “ch,” “ea,” etc.) within words. Students can also spell out whole words easily. The puppets can be used to stimulate conversation and imagination!

This product contains reproducible Animal Puppet Patterns for the 26 Zoo-phonics Animals (“a – z”) in **two sizes**. They are designed to be used to create paper bag puppets, finger puppets, stick puppets, stick, headband or “painter’s cap” characters.

Preparation and Activities

1. *Finger or Stick Puppets.* Using the small Puppets, run off a set for each of your students (the whole alphabet, a specific grapheme/phoneme, or just the vowels). Have children color the Puppets, and then glue (white glue or glue gun) onto tongue depressors or popsicle sticks. If you are making finger puppets, simply tape or glue to a strip that wraps around the child’s finger, or, create a back that is the same shape as the Animal and place on top of the finger.
2. *Head Bands.* Reproduce whichever Puppets (larger) will be needed in the activity. Have the students color their Puppets, and then glue them onto a wide strip that will fit around the child’s head. Children can group to spell out word family words. By using the small finger puppets, each child can spell out an “at” family word (bat, cat, fat, hat, mat, pat, rat, sat, vat). Or, give a letter to each child, so you can play “The Make It Say…” Game (see “Word Building” below).
3. *Paper Bag Puppets.* Either reproduce the entire set of large Puppets, or choose those Puppets appropriate to your activity. Have the students color the Puppets, and then glue them to the bottom flat section of the paper bag. When the child sticks his or her hand in the bag, the Animal should be vertical and able to be seen easily by the students. Choose just the vowels, use those letters necessary to spell out specific word families, or have all a – z letters available for spelling.
4. *Mini-Books.* Choose whichever Animal Puppets the students want to write about. Reproduce the Puppet, and then cut a back panel to fit the Animal Puppet. Have the students color their Animal Puppets. Now cut lined paper to fit each Animal Puppet. Staple at the left edge. In this little booklet, the children can collect words to fit (e.g. “c” words to put in the Catina Cat booklet) or they can write a story or poem about Catina Cat. Perhaps they can collect scientific information on cats (wild or domesticated) and/or write a report to put inside.
5. *Painter’s Caps.* Ask someone at a paint store if they will donate painter’s caps for your class, one per student. Label each cap with the student’s name. To the crest of each cap, glue a piece of Velcro. To the back of each Puppet, glue the other half of the Velcro. Activity: Hand out an Animal Puppet to each student. Now call out words. The students will Velcro his or her letter onto the cap, come to the front if his or her letter helps to spell the word, and get in the right order in the word. They are then to lead the class in Signal, sound and closure*.
6. *Matching Letter to Its Sound.* Hand out one Animal Puppet to each child. Now call out all the letter sounds in the alphabet, one at a time, out of sequence. Children will answer by holding up the correct Animal Puppet. When they have mastered this, try initial, medial and ending sounds within words.
7. *Left or Right?* Give each student a Lizzy Lizard and a Robby Rabbit Puppet on a stick. When you call out left, they are to hold up high Lizzy’s Puppet in their left hands. When you call out “right,” they are to hold up Robby Rabbit in their right hands. After a little practice, call them out quickly. Left and right will become automatic.
8. *Teach “Vowels – the Hardest Workers.”* Call out vowel sounds. Children will hold up the appropriate Puppet (or will stand if that Animal Puppet is on a headband, etc.). Now try calling out all the letters in the alphabet OUT OF SEQUENCE. Students will hold up the appropriate vowel when called. Try getting faster and faster with this activity.
9. *Word Building.* Call out CVC words. The students who have the letters to spell that word will come to the front of the class, get into order, and then lead the class in Signal, Sound and Closure of that word. When your students are comfortable, add blends, the digraphs, and then simple high frequency words.

* “Close “ or “closure” means to “state the word” once it has been blended.

Special Directions for Jerry Jellyfish Olive Octopus and Robby Rabbit

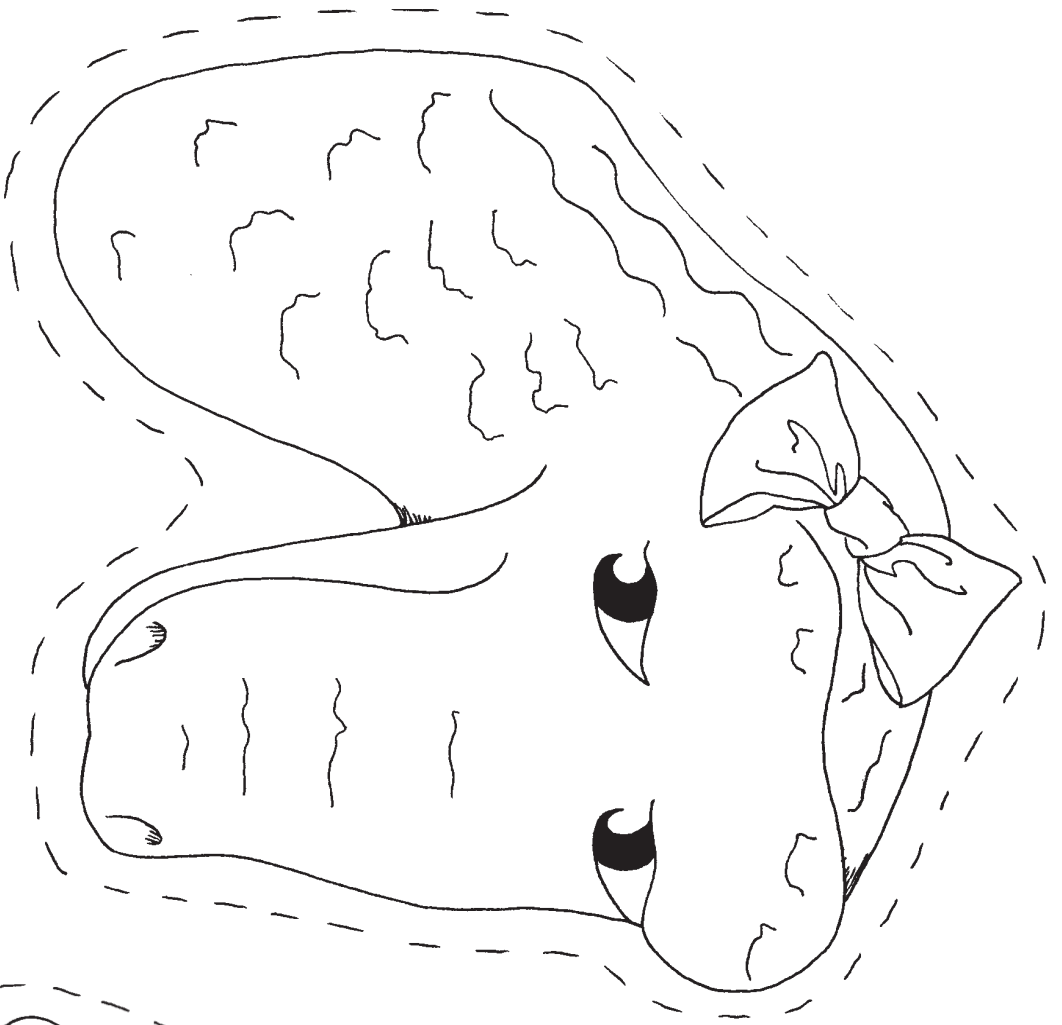
(For Animal Puppets with protruding pieces)

1. To help Robby’s ears stand up, glue strips of tagboard to the backs of his ears.
2. For Jerry Jellyfish’s tentacles, glue yarn or curling ribbon underneath his headpiece so they dangle.

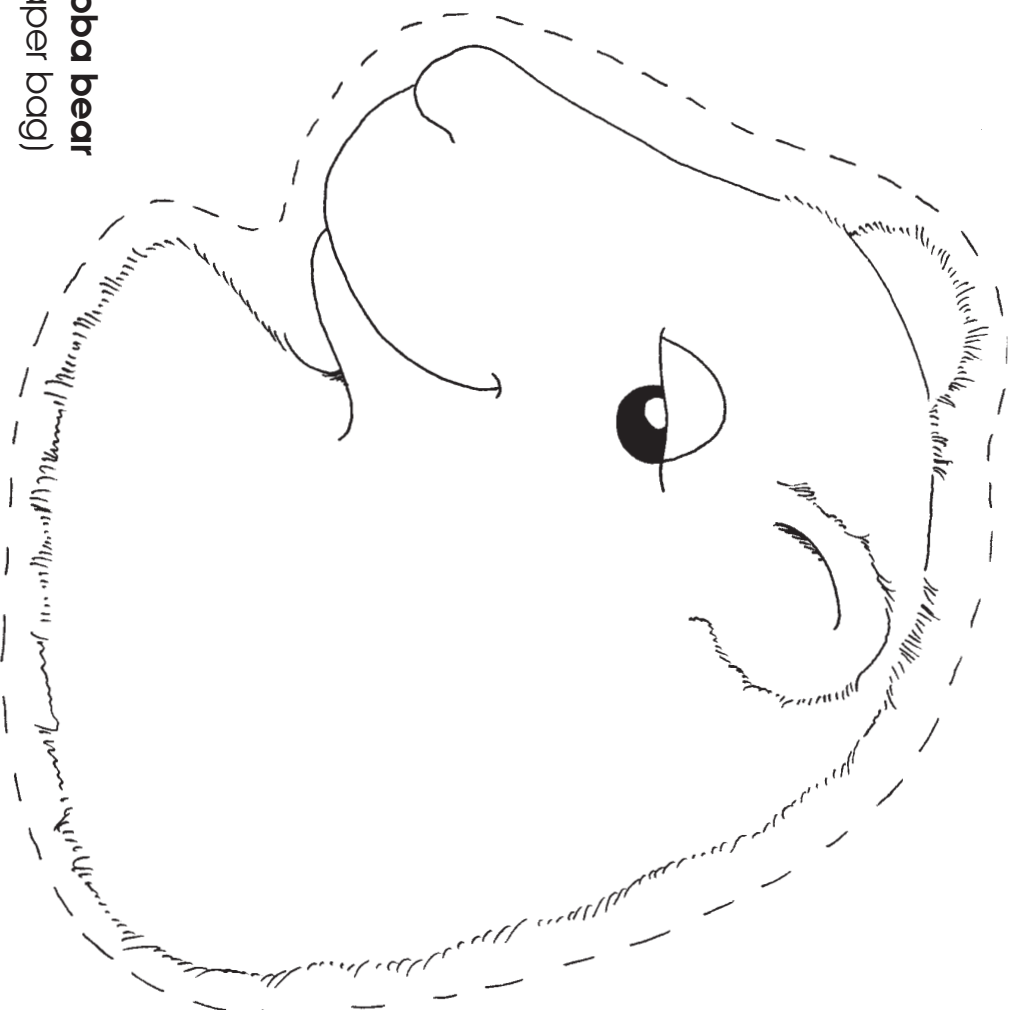
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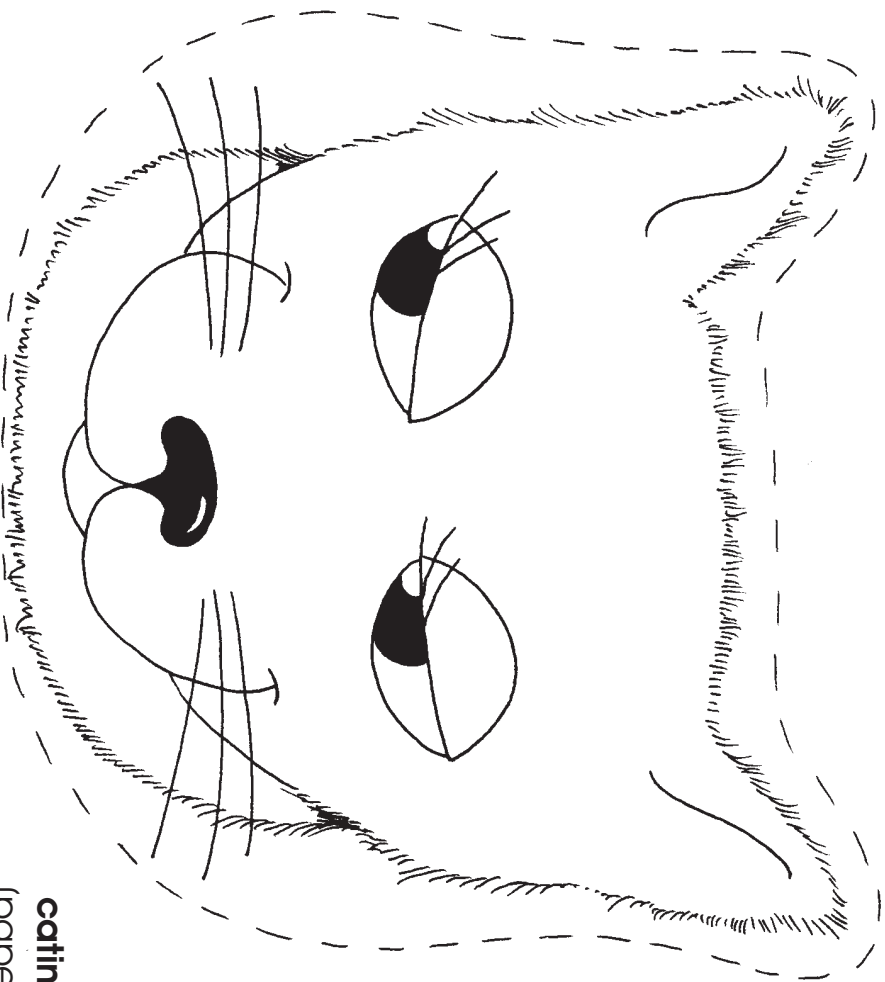
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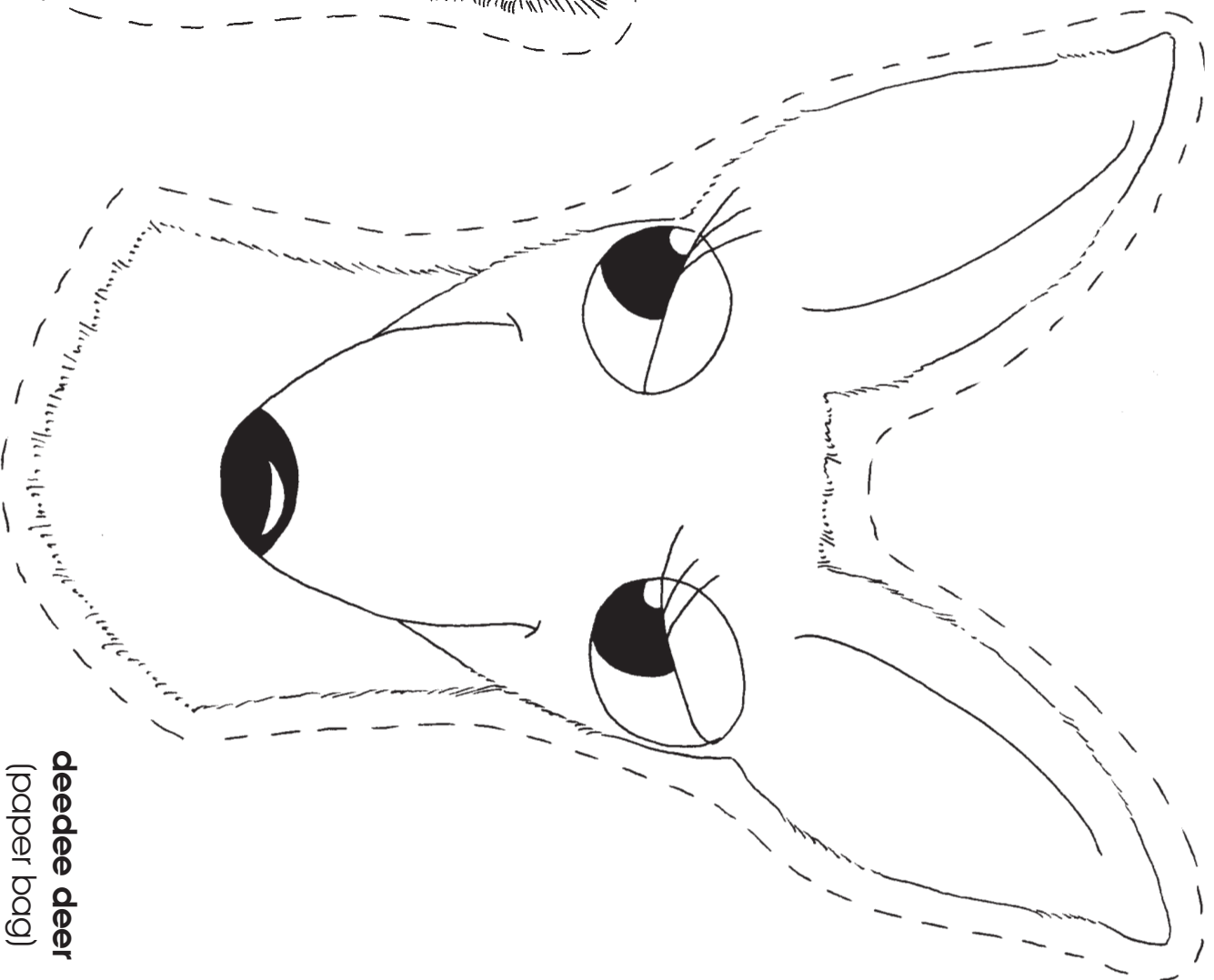
allie alligator
(paper bag)



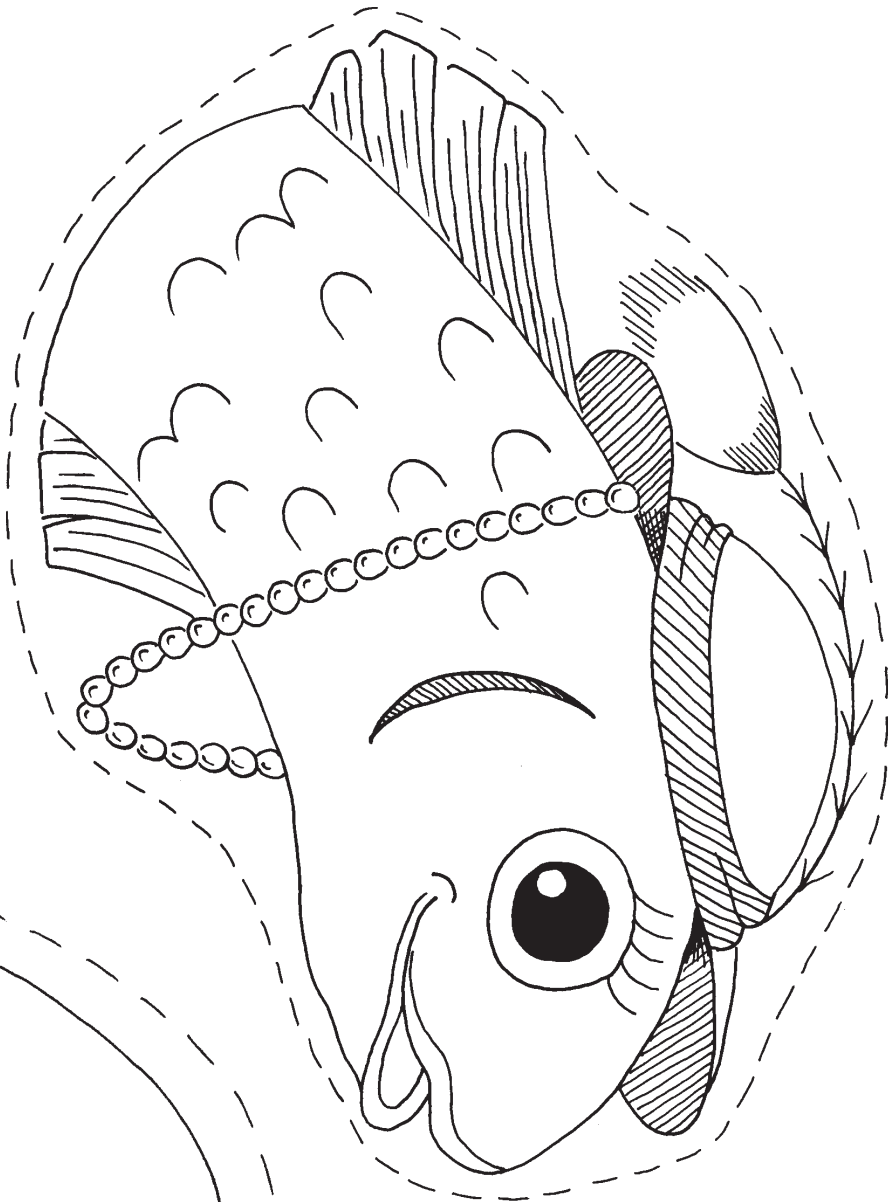
bubba bear
(paper bag)



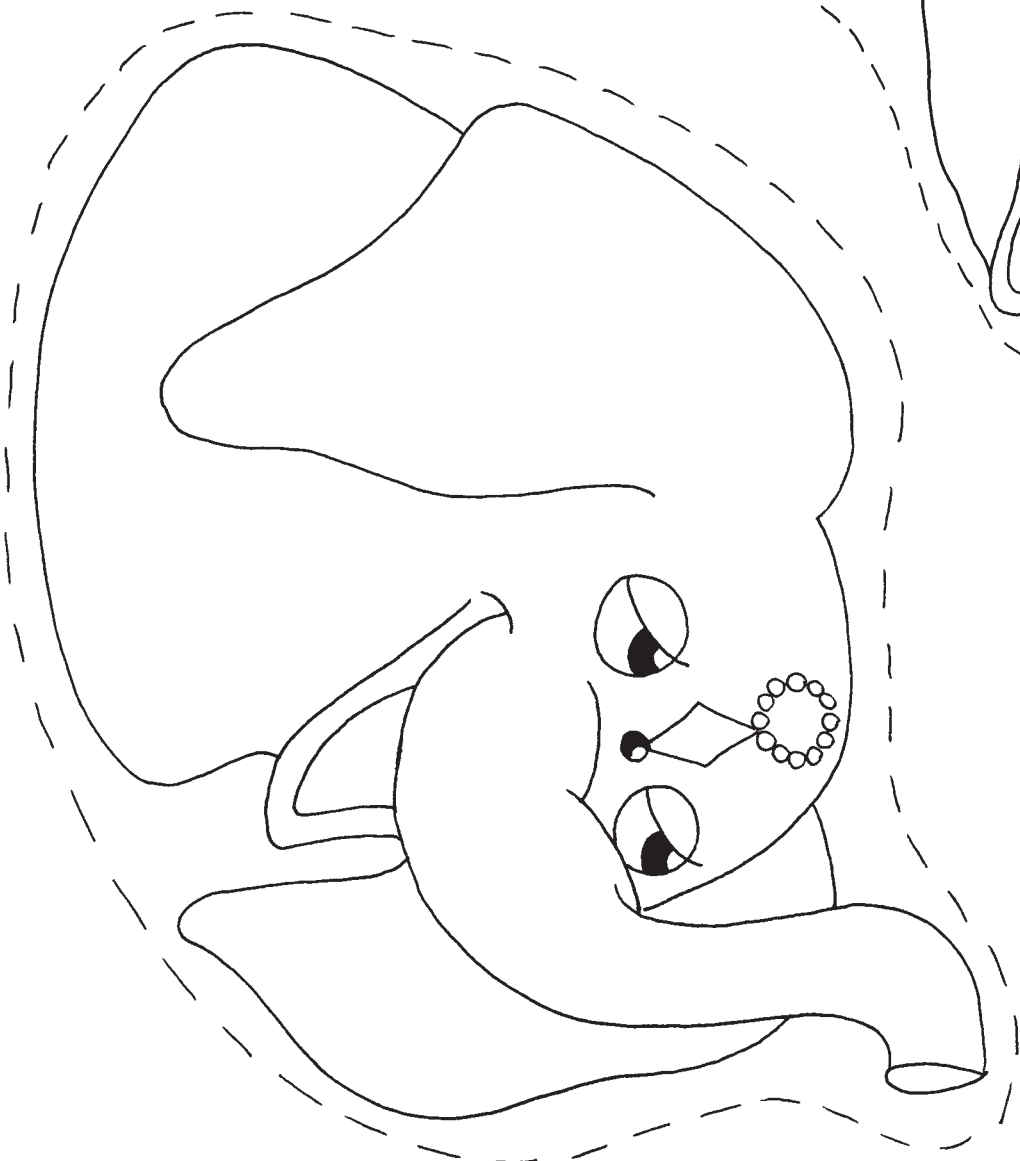
catina cat
(paper bag)



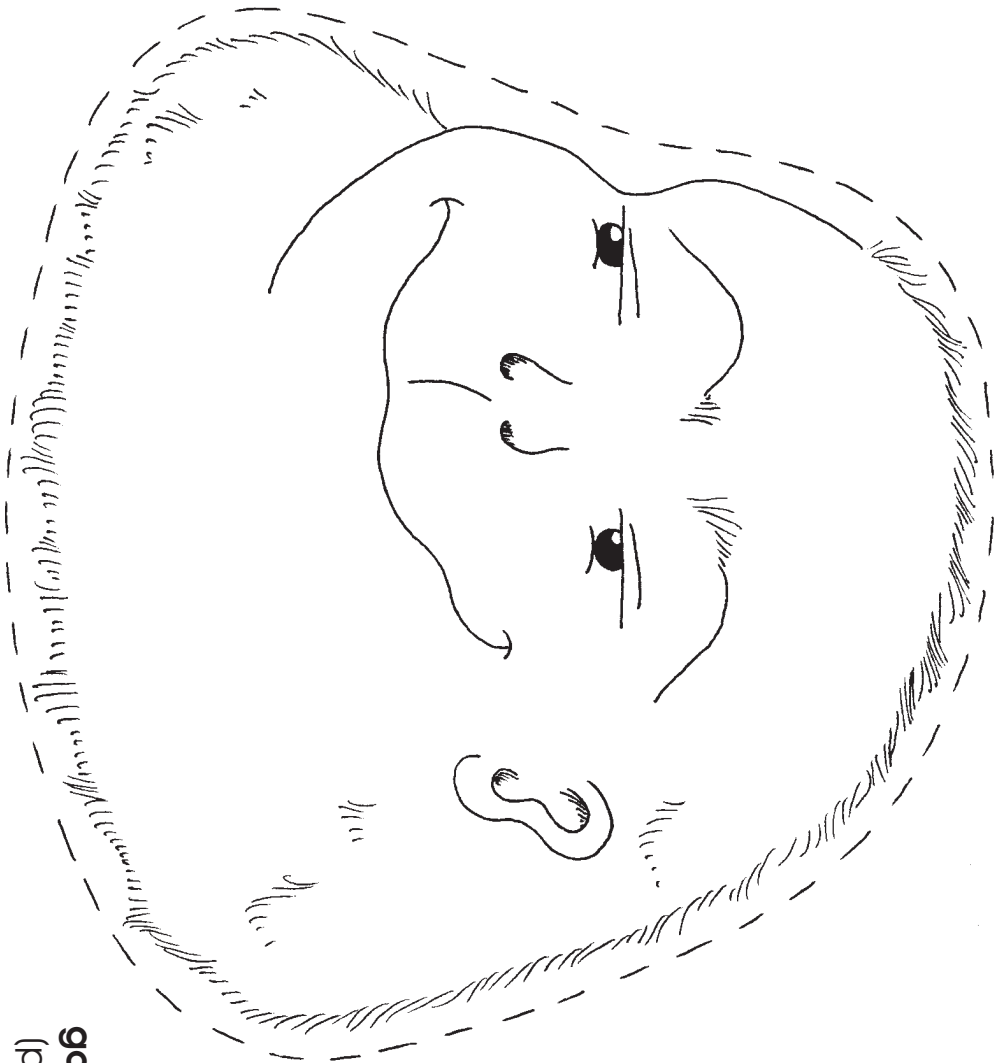
deedee deer
(paper bag)



francy fish
(paper bag)



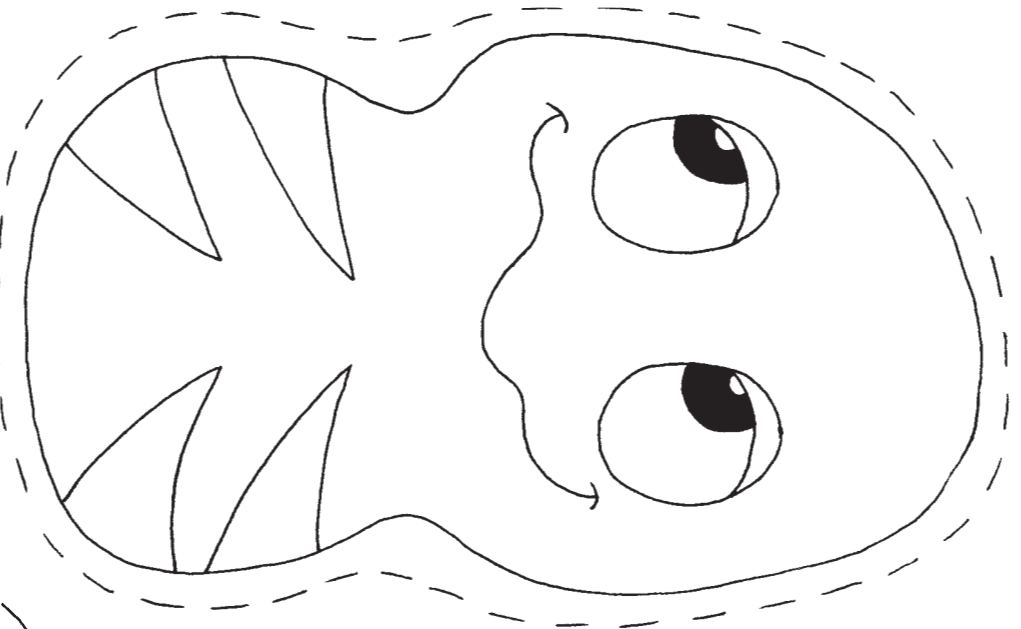
ellie elephant
(paper bag)



gorilla
(paper bag)

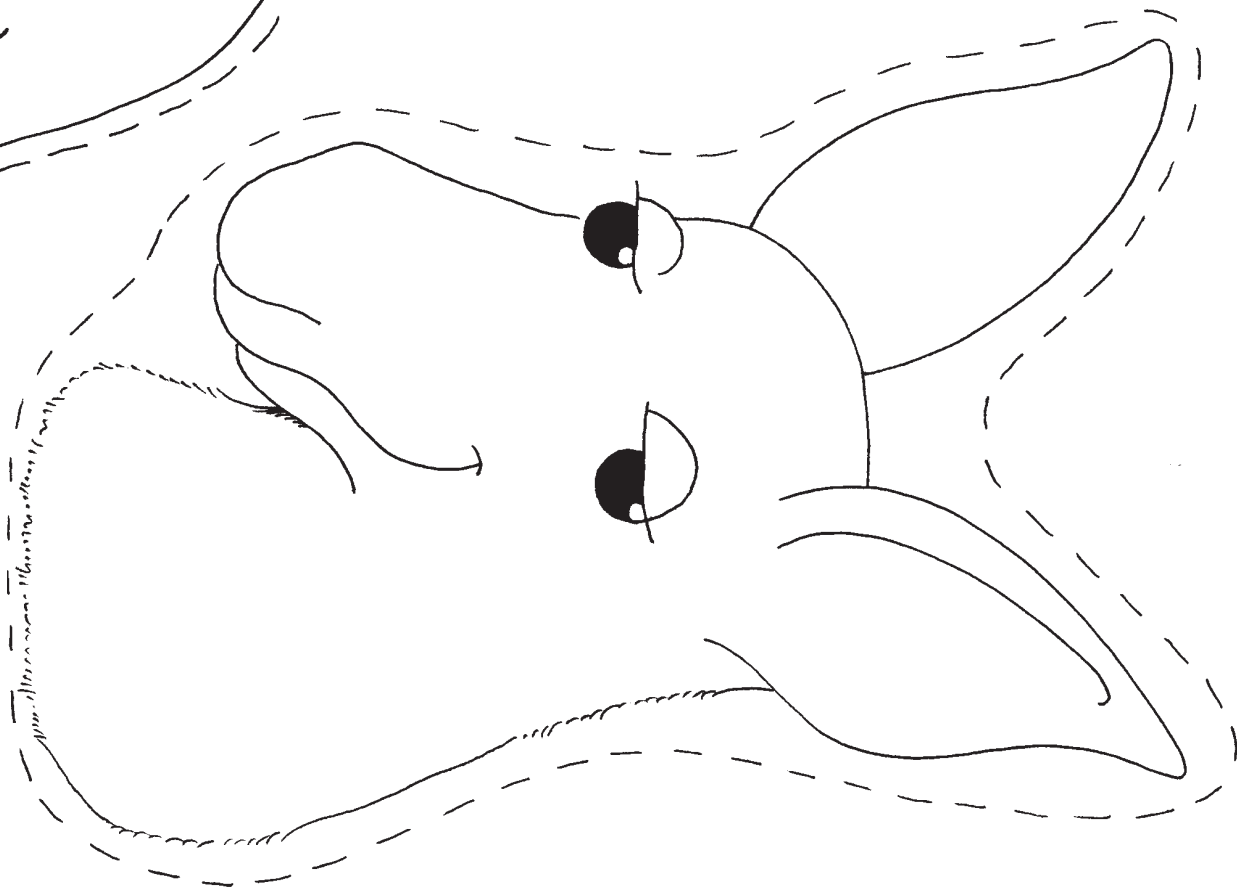
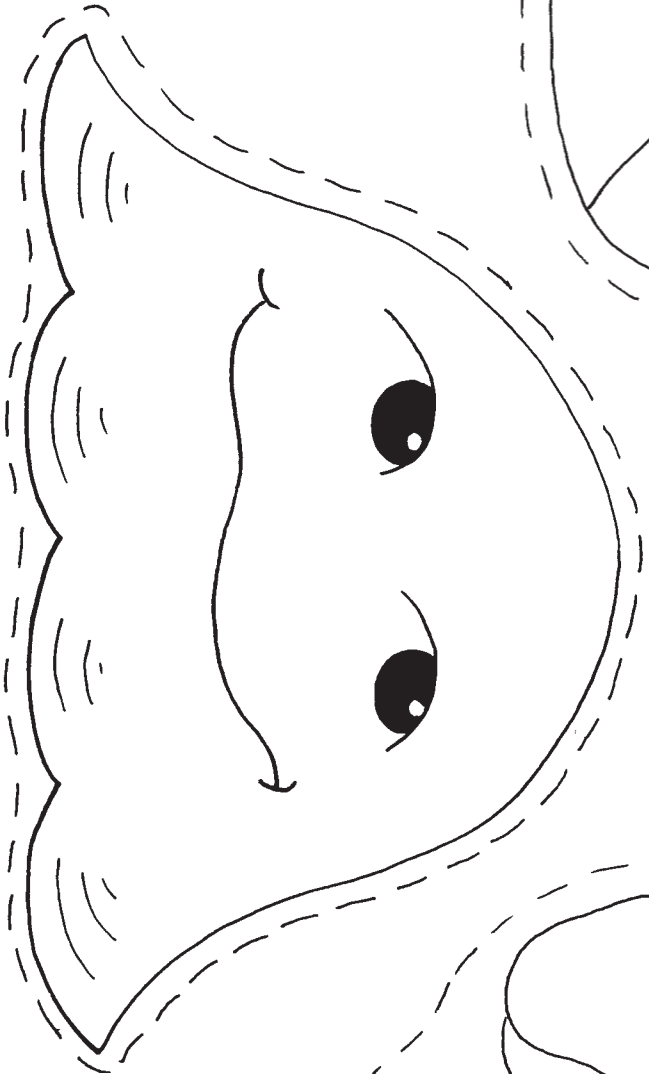


horse
(paper bag)



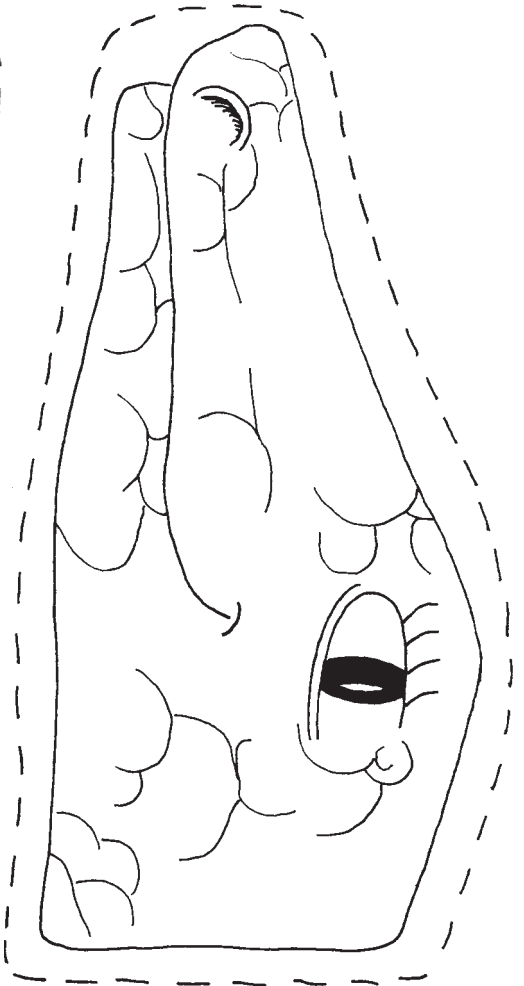
jerry jellyfish
(paper bag)

inny inchworm
(paper bag)

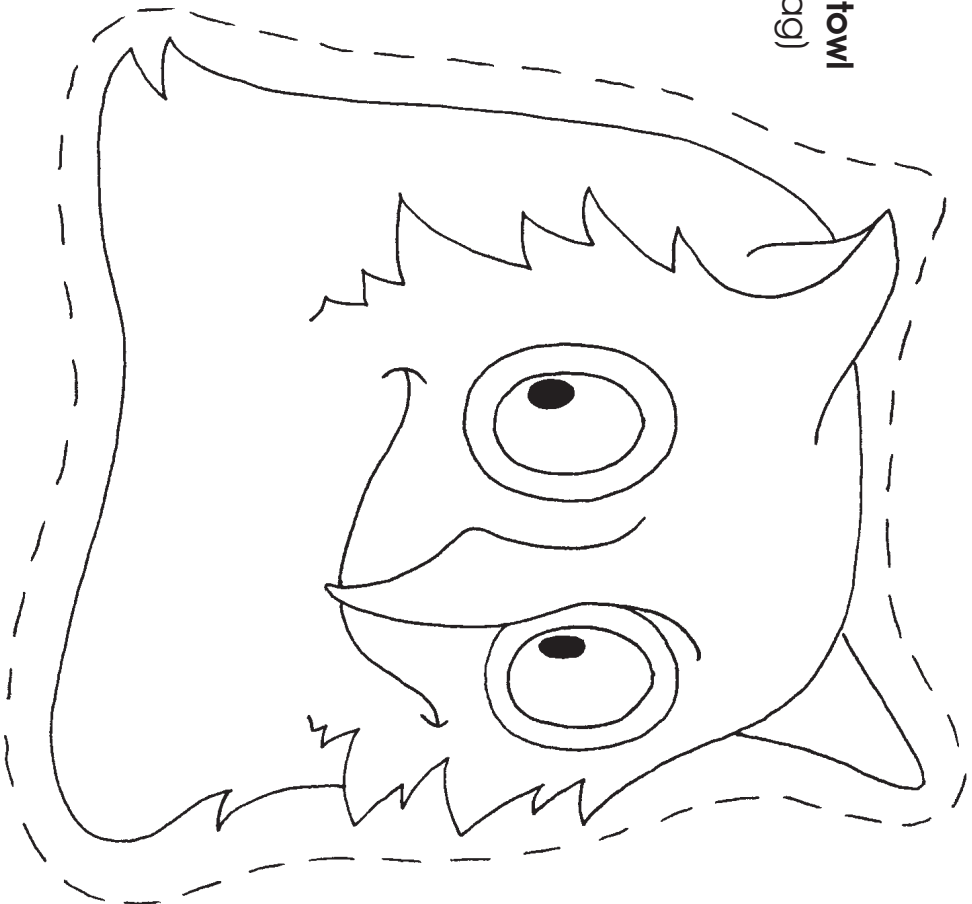


kayo kangaroo
(paper bag)

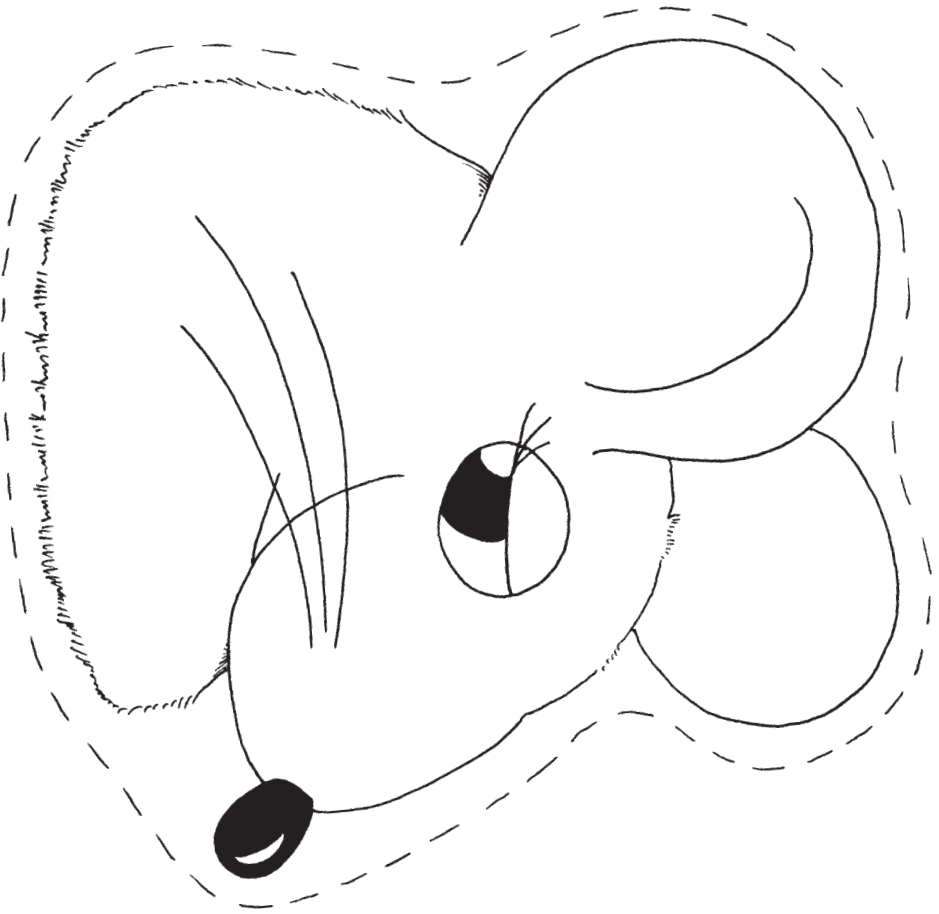
lizzy lizard
(paper bag)

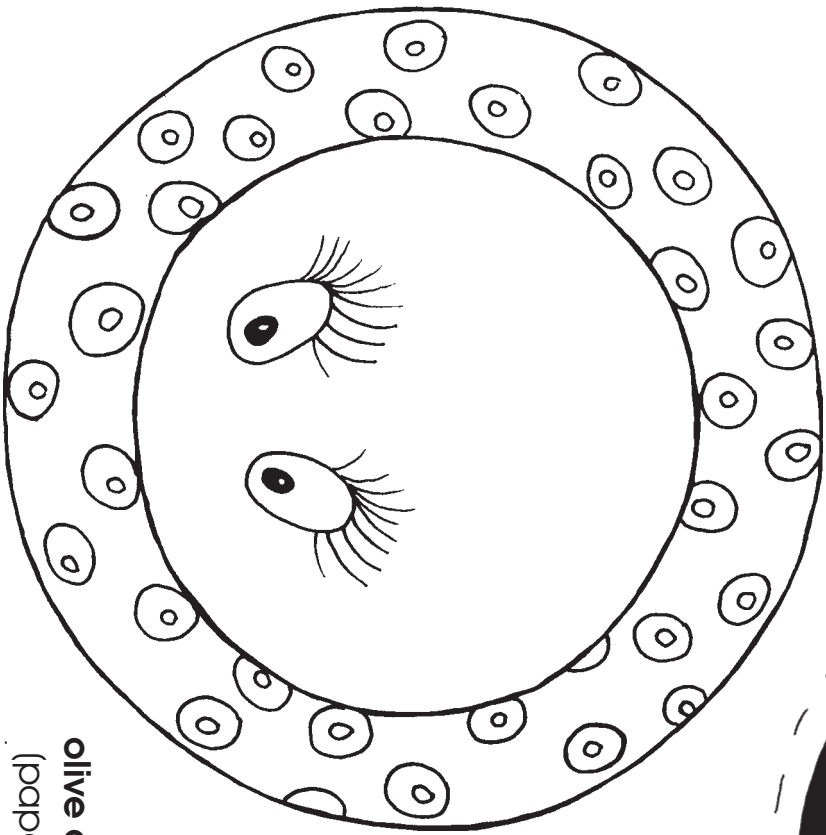


nigel nightowl
(paper bag)



missy mouse
(paper bag)



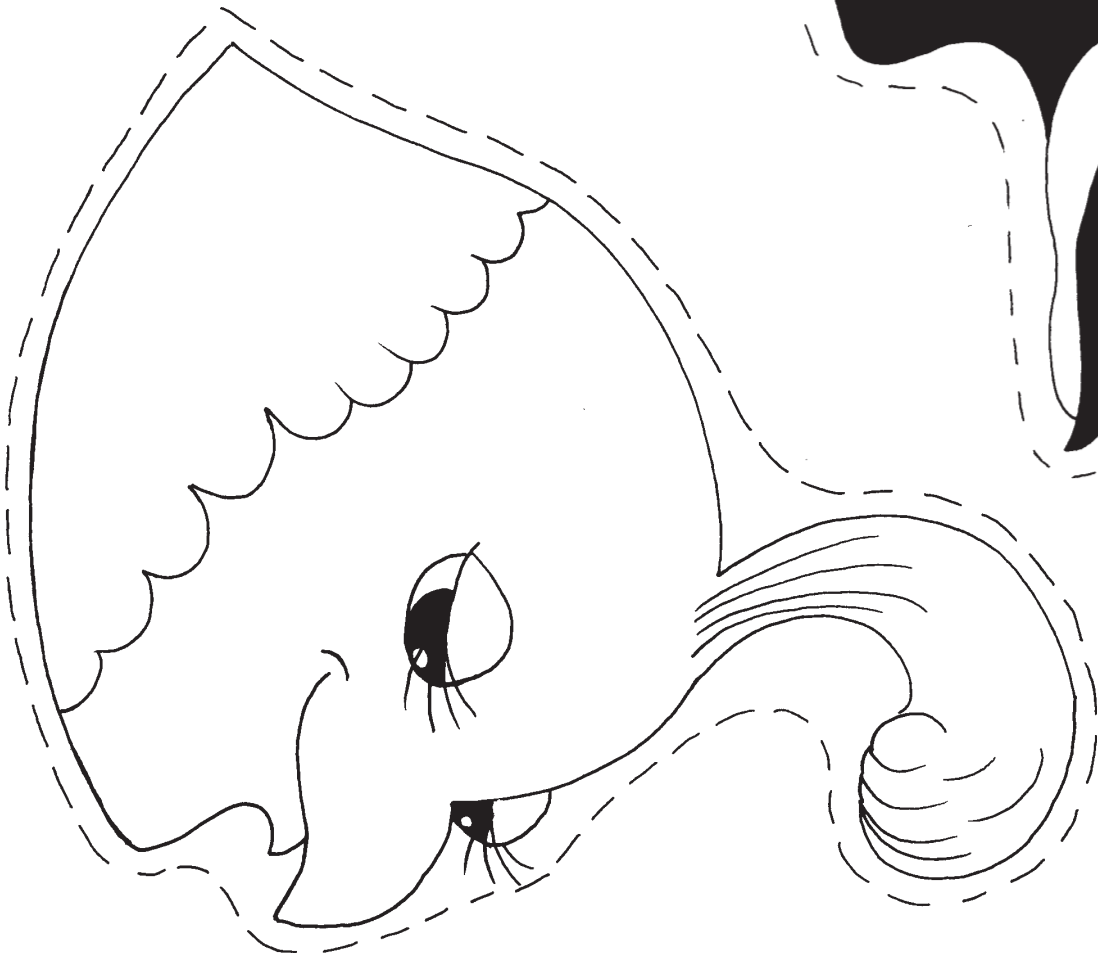


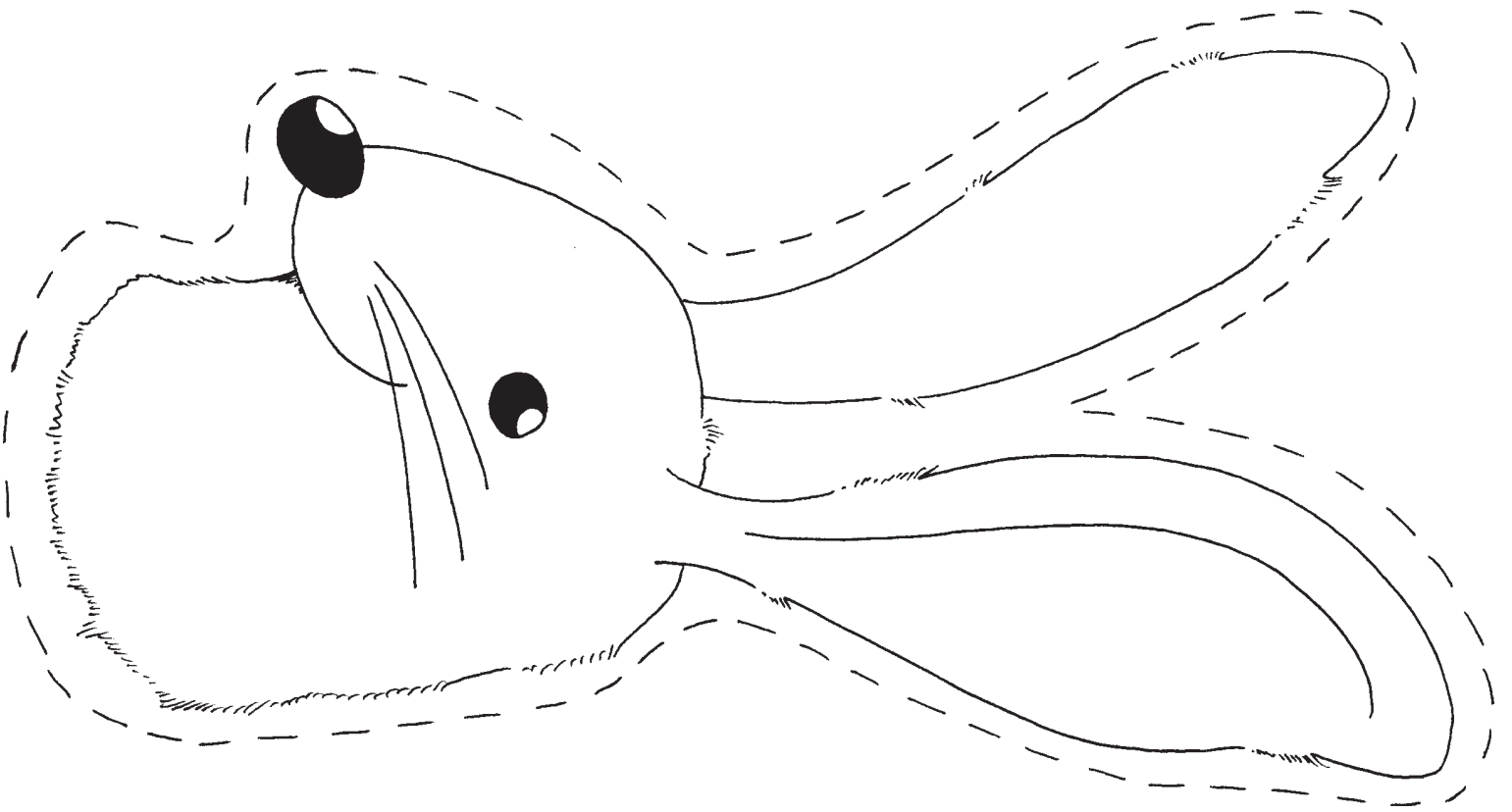
olive octopus
(paper bag)

peewee penguin
(paper bag)

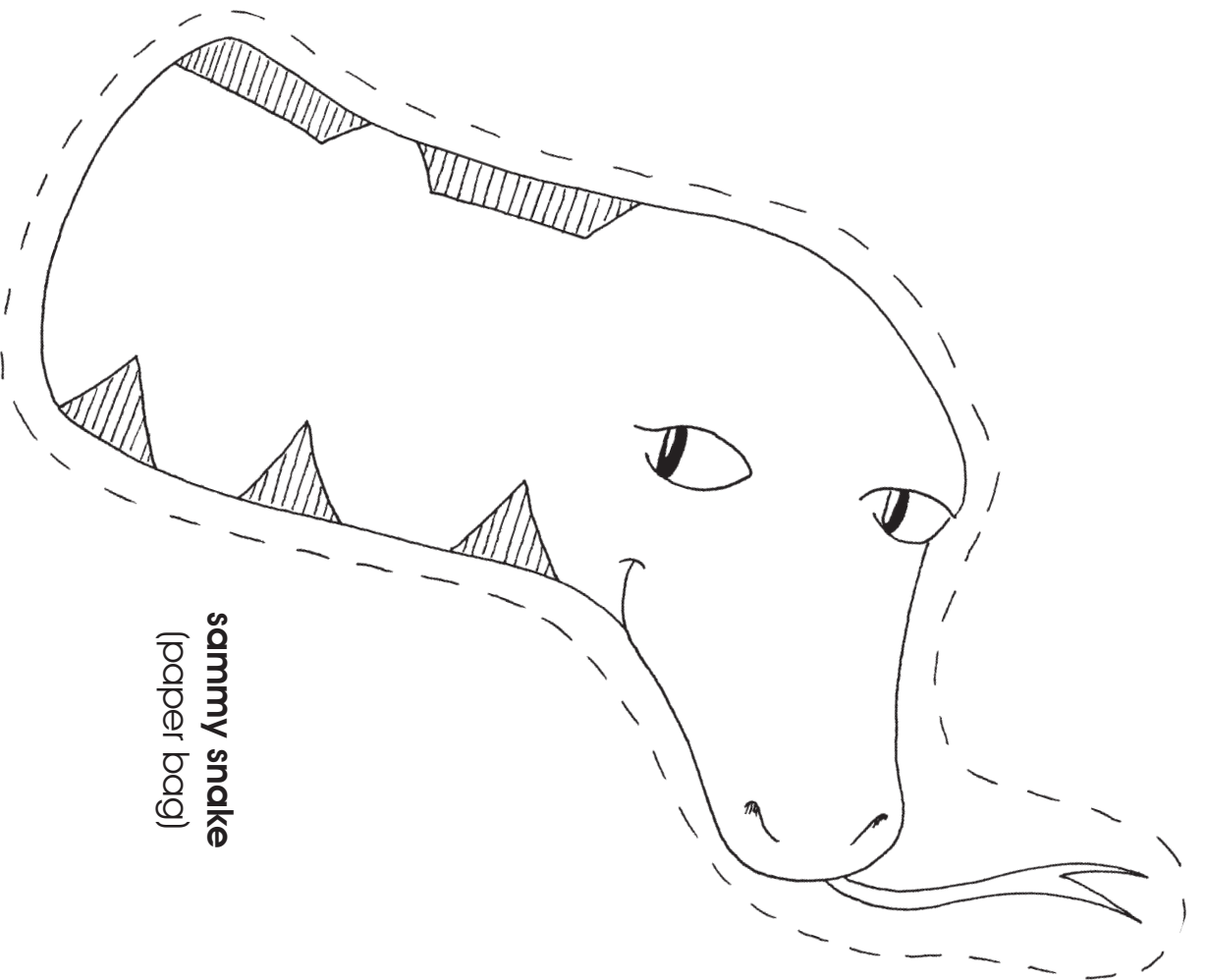


queenie quail
(paper bag)





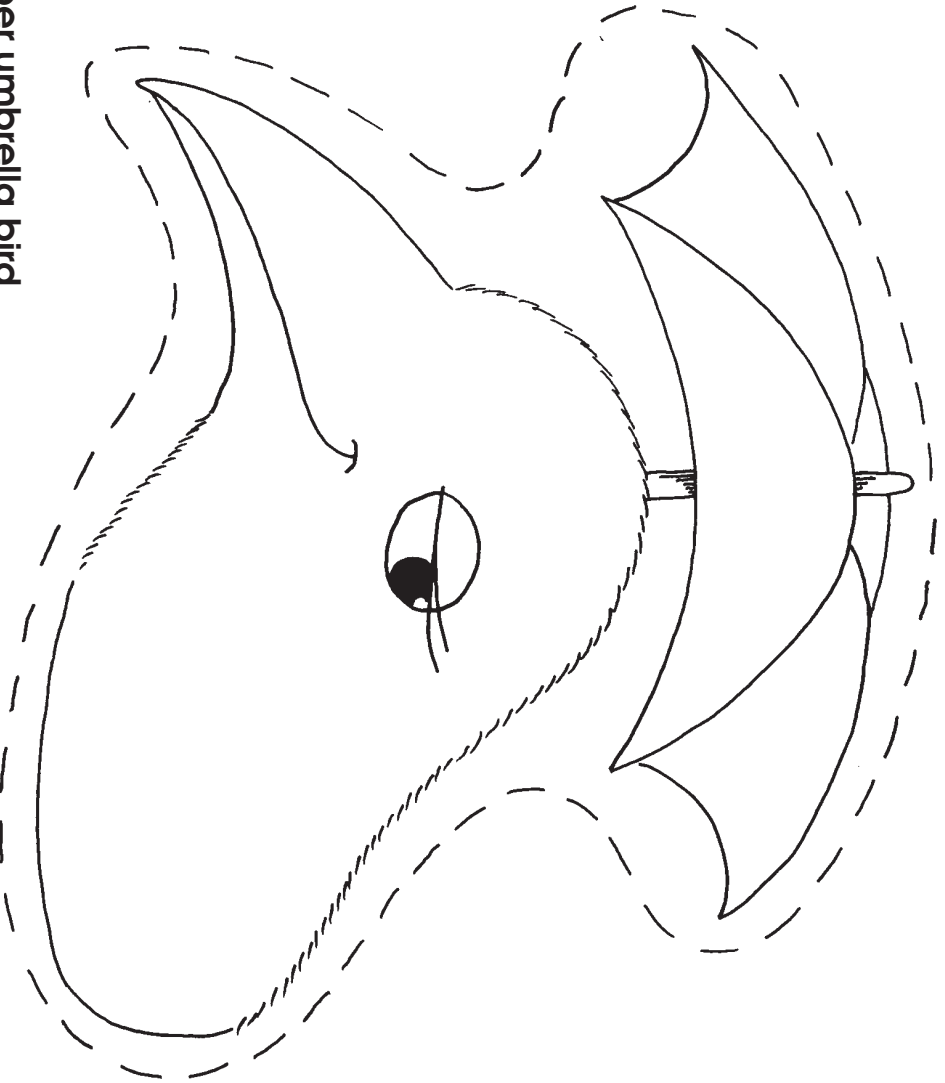
robby rabbit
(paper bag)



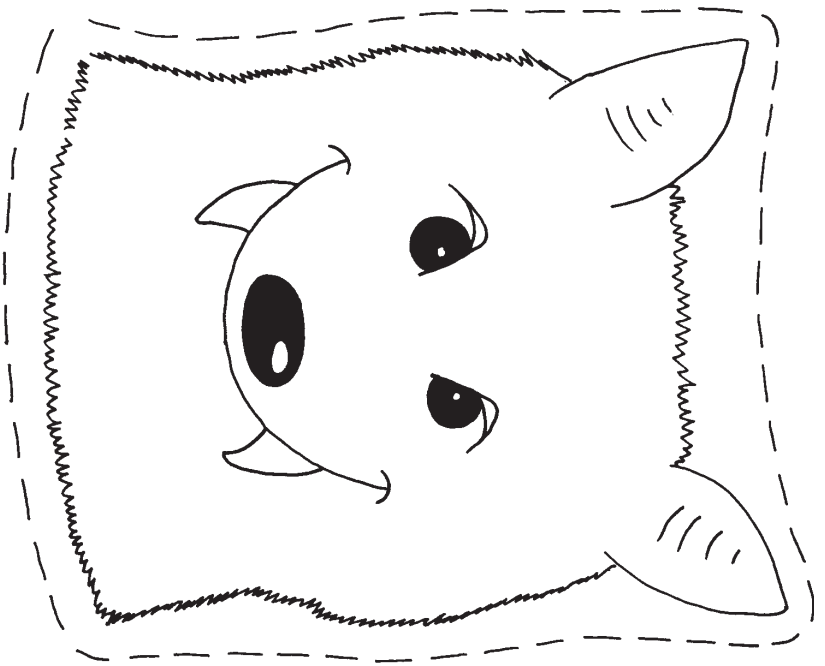
sammy snake
(paper bag)



timothy tiger
(paper bag)



umber umbrella bird
(paper bag)



vincent vampire bat
(paper bag)

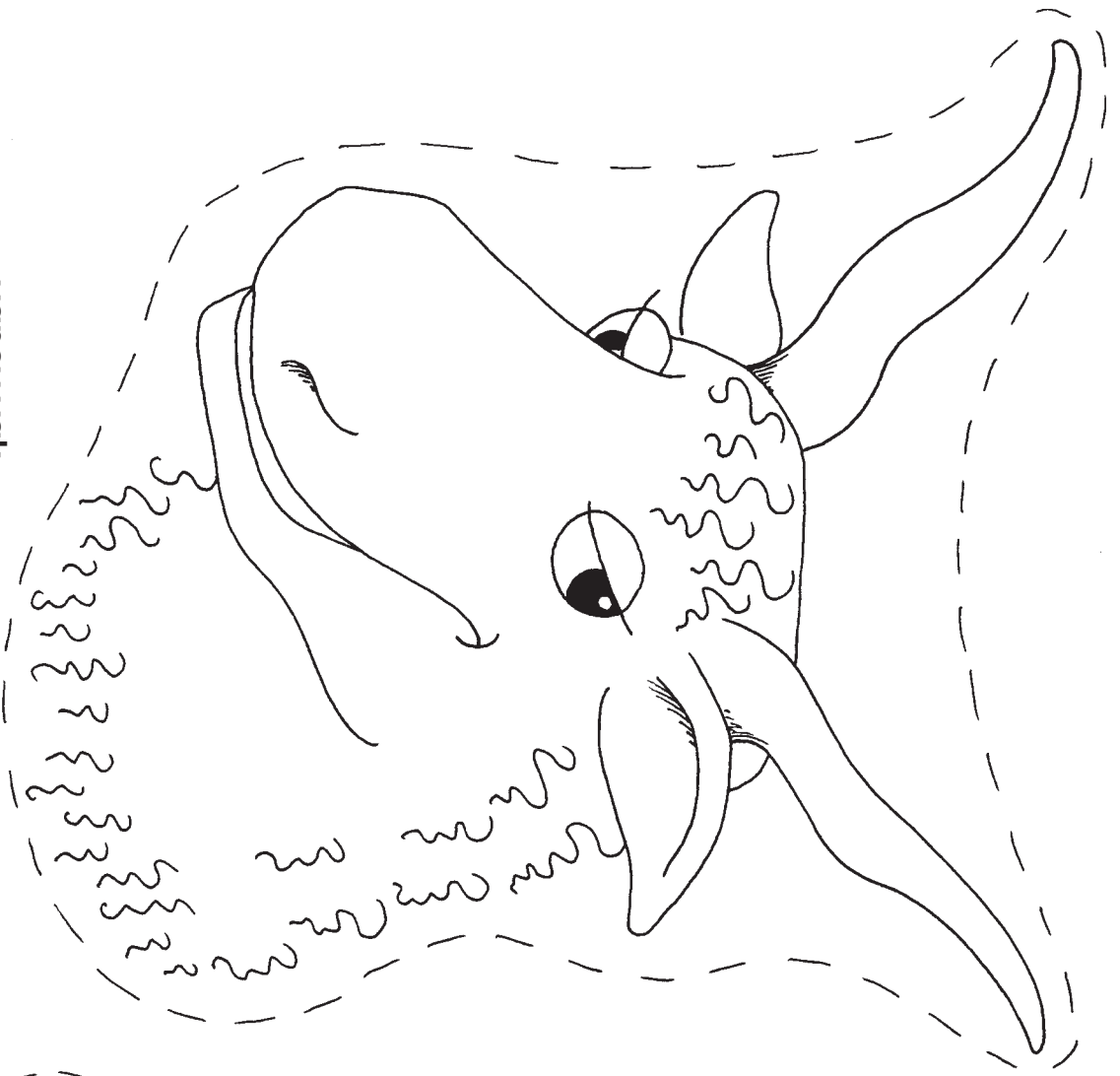


willie weasel
(paper bag)



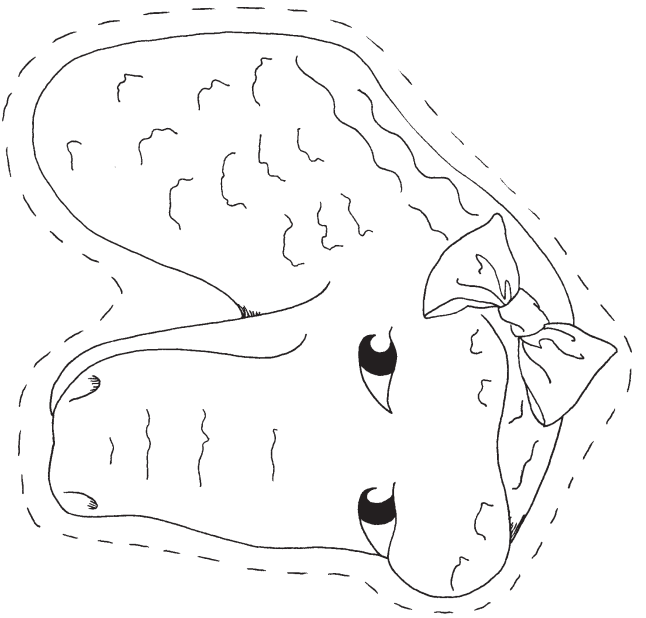
xavier fox
(paper bag)

yancy yak
(paper bag)

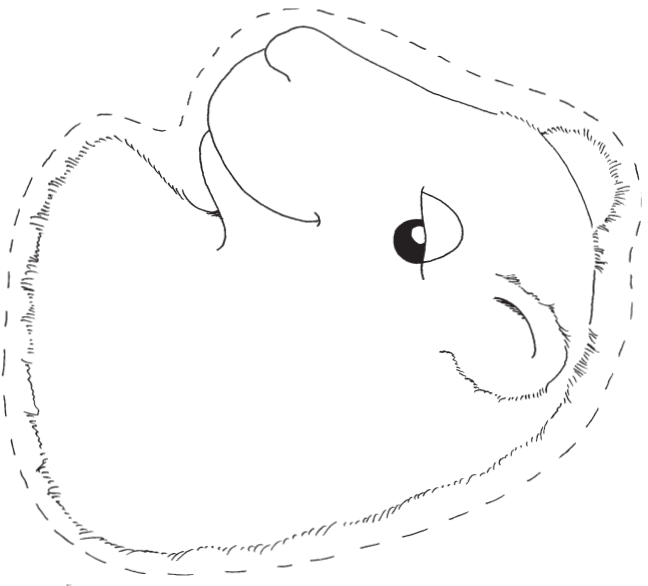


zeke zebra
(paper bag)

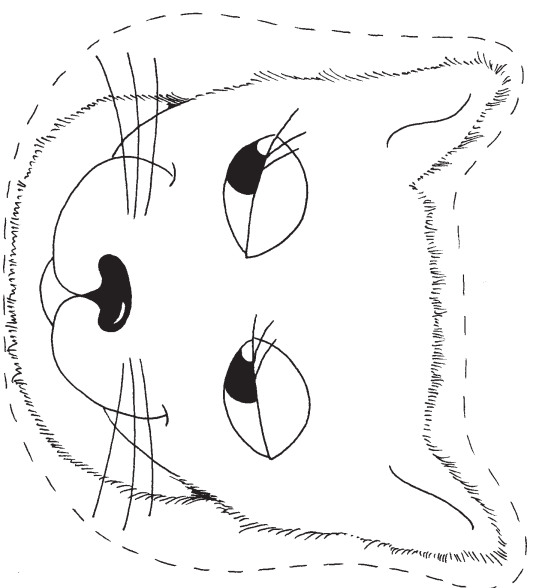




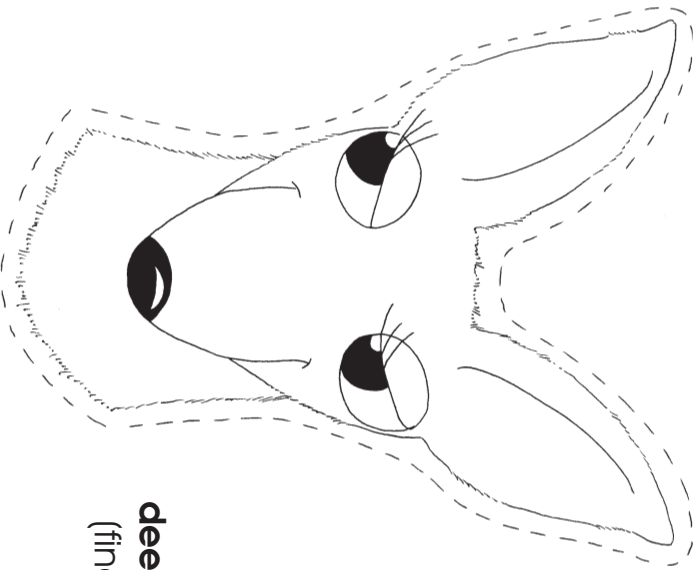
allie alligator
(finger/stick)



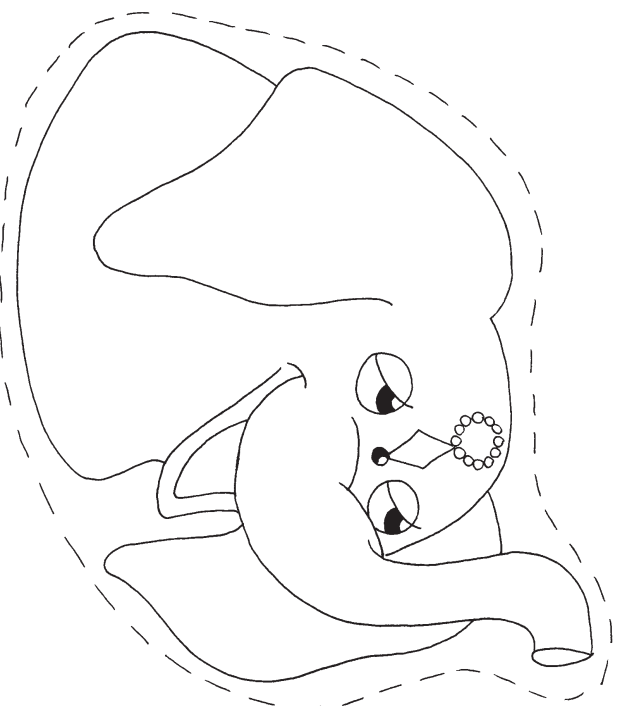
bubba bear
(finger/stick)



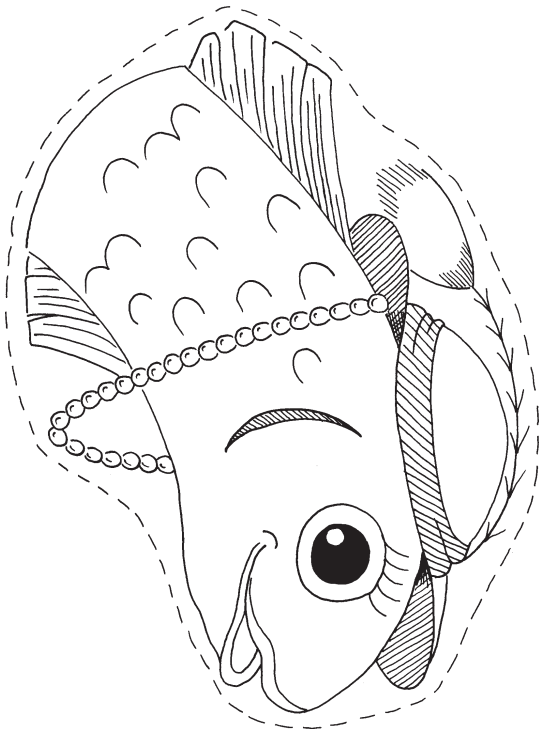
catina cat
(finger/stick)



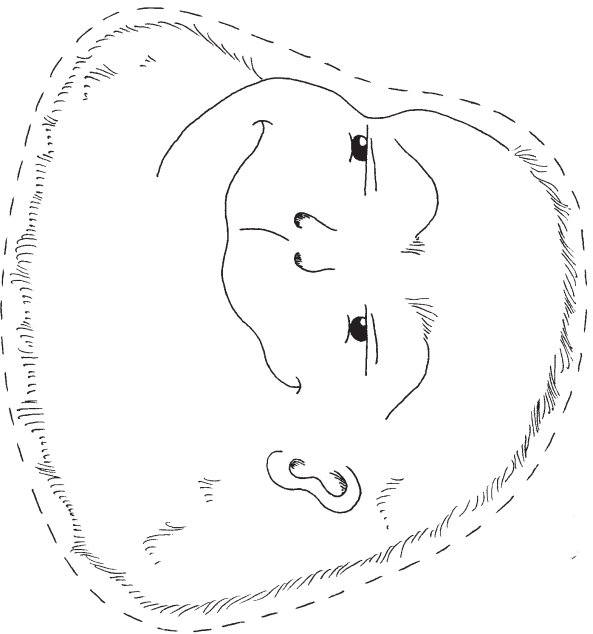
deedee deer
(finger/stick)



ellie elephant
(finger/stick)



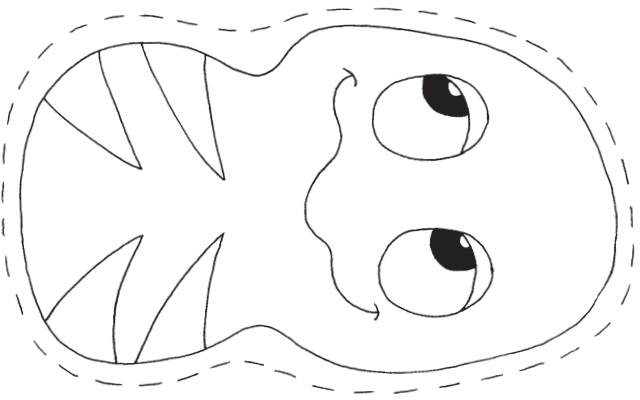
francy fish
(finger/stick)



gordo gorilla
(finger/stick)

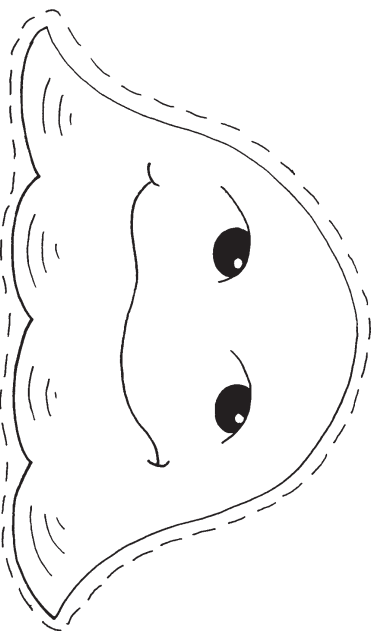


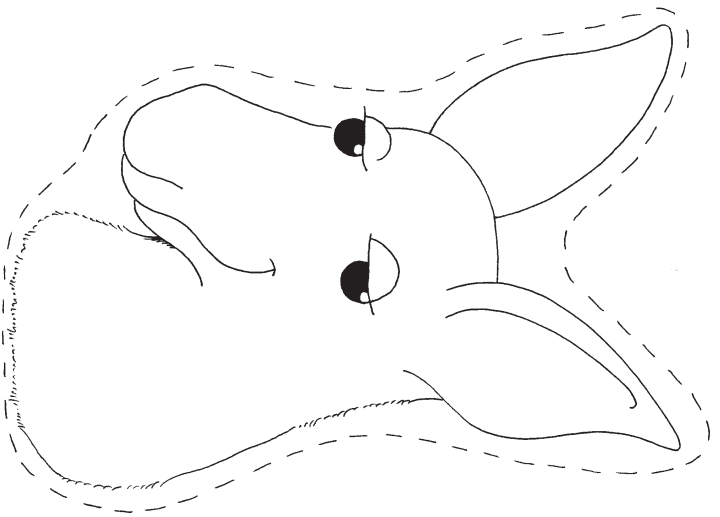
honey horse
(finger/stick)



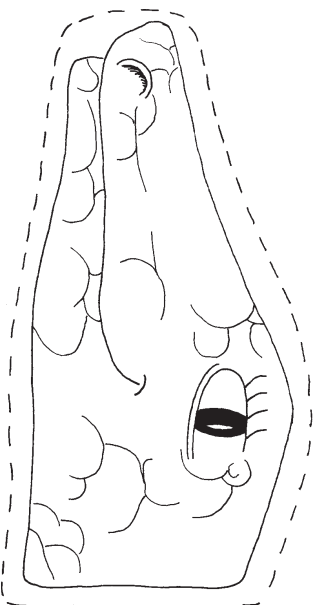
inny inchworm
(finger/stick)

jerry jellyfish
(finger/stick)

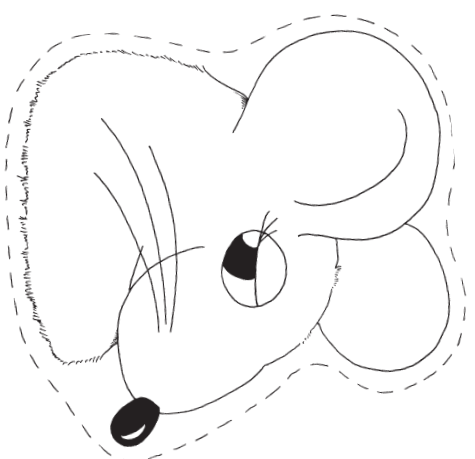




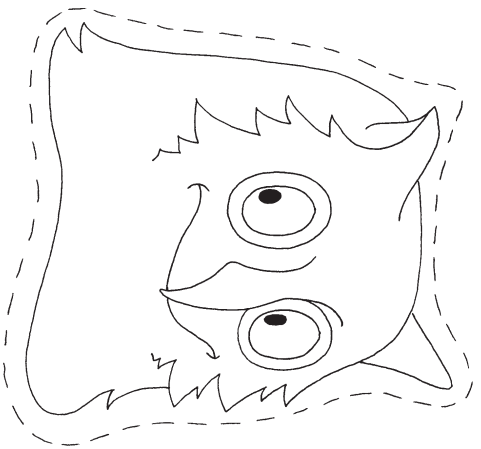
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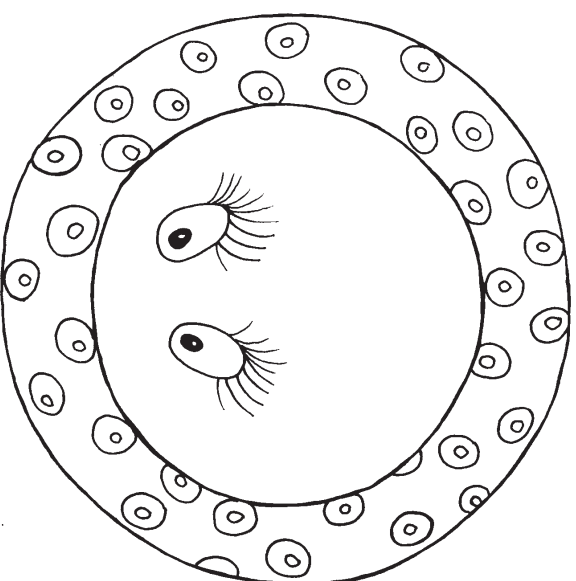


missy mouse
(finger/stick)



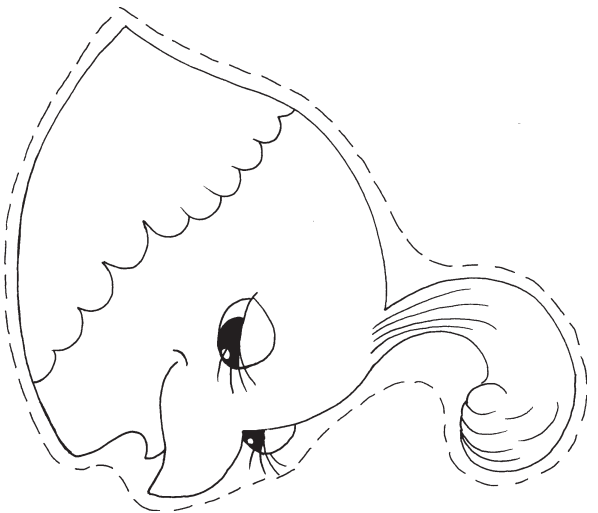
nigel nightowl
(finger/stick)

olive octopus
(finger/stick)

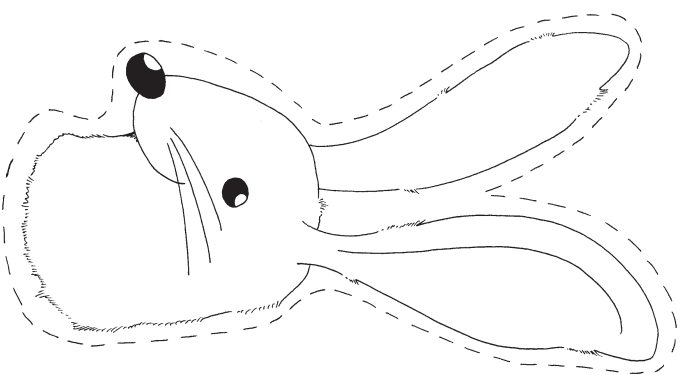




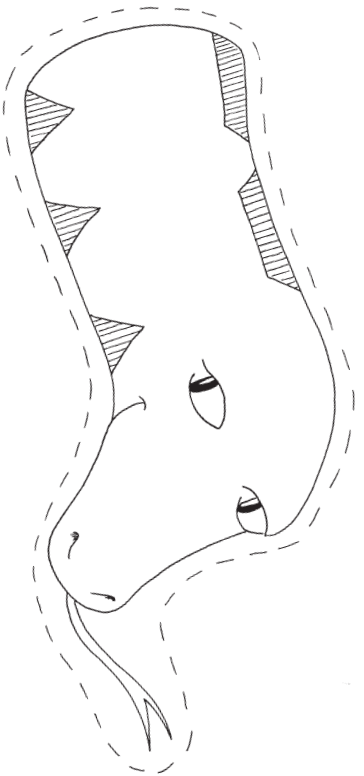
pee-wee penguin
(finger/stick)



queeny quail
(finger/stick)



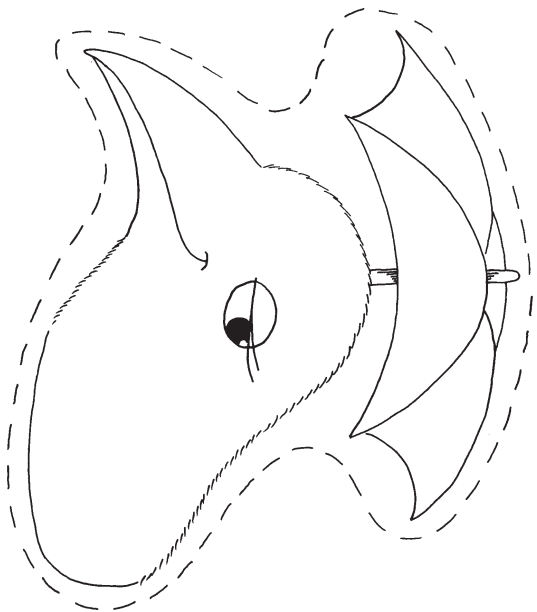
robby rabbit
(finger/stick)



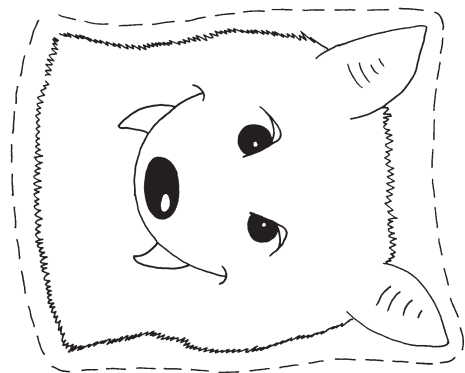
sammy snake
(finger/stick)



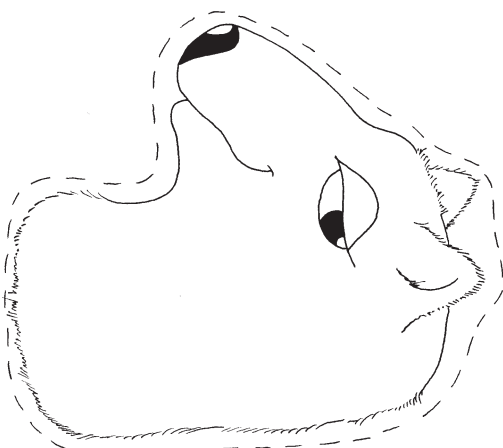
timothy tiger
(finger/stick)



umber umbrella bird
(finger/stick)



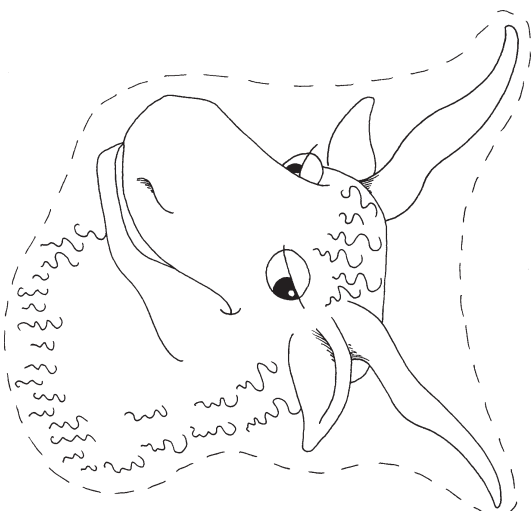
vincent vampire bat
(finger/stick)



willie weasel
(finger/stick)



xavier fox
(finger/stick)

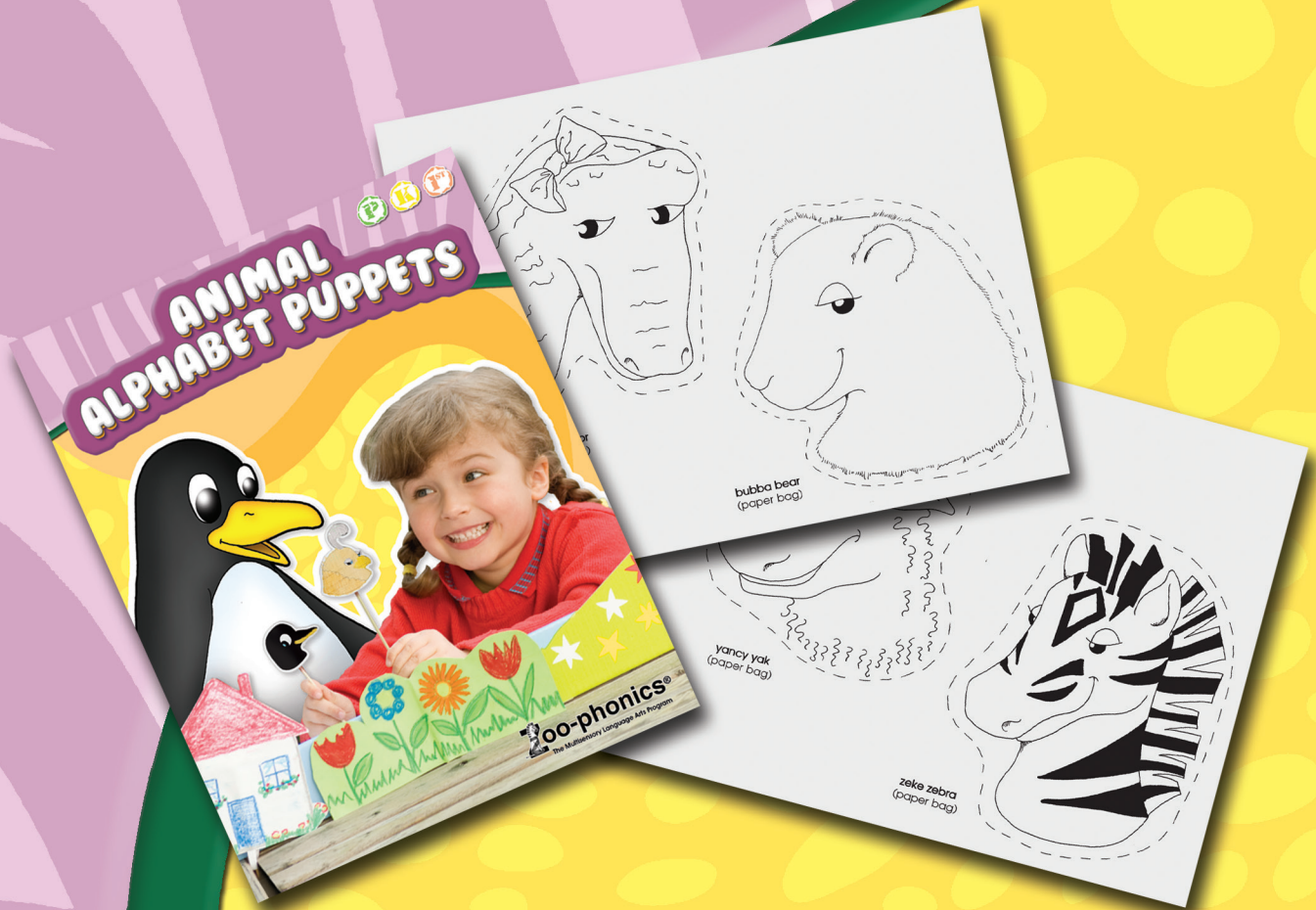


yancy yak
(finger/stick)



zeke zebra
(finger/stick)

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These reproducible patterns of the 26 Zoo-phonics Animals come in two sizes, designed to be used to create paper bag puppets, finger puppets, stick puppets, pellen puppets, and headband and painter's cap characters.

These puppets reinforce alphabet, phonemic awareness and phonics skills. It also makes great book jackets for student journals.

By the Authors of the Zoo-phonics® Program

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