

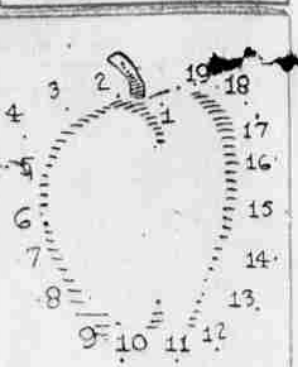


OUR KIDDIES PAGE



"Oh, Everything Was Playing Tag, and Everything Was Gay, Old Mr. Sun Was Smiling At His Children In Their Play"

BEDTIME PENCIL PICTURES



My grandpa Groggy, who lives near Bloomington, sent us a big barrel of — Tuesday. They are the best we ever eat an' most of em are gone already. Just follow the dots an' you'll see who he sent us.



The Circus

This way to the great big show!
The finest on earth, you know!
With Madam Fluff-Fluff
And the best with a ruff.
This way to the world's best show!

The clowns will make lots of fun,
For each and for everyone,
With leaping through flames
And all sorts of games,
And giggles more than a ton.

Black Puss Cat and Miss Mouse

A HANDSOME black Puss Cat crouched before the only opening which led into Miss Mouse's comfortable home.

"Twas a very comfortable home for Miss Mouse, because it was just where she wanted to live.

This opening was very small, and as it was under a very large stationary refrigerator it had only been covered so far by handsome black Puss Cat. The large refrigerator, although not movable, stood on four stout legs, which were six inches high, and so Mary Ann, the faithful maid in the kitchen, could scrub under it with strong soapy water several times a week, and many a dousing little Miss Mouse received.

But she didn't dare squeak, because she knew in her own tiny, mouse heart, that she hadn't a right in the world to be living in her comfortable quarters, so although the soapy water made her eyes smart and her nose go

me to stop watching for you to come out. I have made up my mind that it is my duty to either destroy you or else drive you from the home.

"You know as well as I do that is the reason I am allowed to live in this lovely, clean house. Mice are creatures which really folks don't like. And as for your cousins, the rats, they are even more obnoxious."

"But, Black Puss, I can't help being what I am," squeaked Miss Mouse, "and what am I to do? Where shall I go to, this bitter, cold weather? The snow is everywhere, and so, of course, I can't live out of doors, and I'm sure I don't want to be caught in your sharp claws, which I know can hurt very cruelly."

Black Puss Cat thought a while, and then he said, "I will give you until tomorrow morning to go and live somewhere else, but no longer will I listen to your pleadings." So he walked to

to pack up your few belongings, and have you decided where you will move?"

"Have mercy, dear, handsome Puss Cat; wait until the snow is gone, won't you?" cried the trembling creature.

"I must do my duty, so you must either leave or be destroyed."

"But I can't think where a poor little mouse can live this cold weather!" cried the mouse.

Then Black Puss told Miss Mouse that in the next square he had discovered an empty stable, where there were several mice living. "You can go and live with them."

"But how can I travel through this deep snow?" squeaked Miss Mouse.

Then Black Puss said, "Although you are a pest and a nuisance, I feel sorry for you. So if you will come out I will take you in my mouth and carry you down to the stable."

"But your sharp teeth, they will pierce my tender flesh!"

"On my honor, Miss Mouse, I will carry you as tenderly and carefully as if I loved you dearly, instead of considering you my lawful prey to be eaten. So if you will promise me that you will never return to this house, or inform any of those pests living in that empty stable, I will see that you will be with those other mice in a few moments."

Little Miss Mouse wept bitterly for a while and with many weak squealings begged to be allowed to remain in her comfortable quarters until Spring.

But handsome Black Puss Cat said, "No! No! Come out at once, or the first thing you know the sun will be rising."

So trembling and shaking and squeaking, little Miss Mouse, after promising never to return to the house, was carried tenderly and carefully to the stable, and Black Puss Cat trotted back to the house and slept the sleep of a clear conscience.



Luck Charms

Rebecca—"Brother Bunny, I've seen you have some very narrow escapes from dogs in this woods. I believe you are a lucky individual!"

Bunny—"They say a rabbit's foot brings good luck to the one that carries it. I always tote four of them around with me everywhere I go."

Why Stories

WHY MATSUE LOVED THE PINE.

(A Japanese Legend.)

MATSUE was the pretty daughter of a fisherman who lived at Takasago, near where the great Pine Tree of Takasago upheaved its giant branches to the sky.

Matsue loved the pine tree and liked nothing better than sitting under its branches.

Especially was she fond of the pine needles which fell from the tree, playing with them and even making herself a beautiful dress and sash out of them.

There were so beautiful that Matsue declared she would save them for her wedding day, though as yet no lover had appeared to woo her.

In another part of the country lived Teoyo, a brave youth who was always seeking adventures.

One day he stood on the seashore watching a heron fly up to the blue sky, far away, even over to the village where lived Matsue with her family.

"I'll follow that heron," said Teoyo, "and see what kind of a land it has flown to."

So one day Teoyo dived into the sea and swam away in the direction in which he had seen the heron fly.

It was a long way, however, to Takasago, and before he was near it his strength gave out and he lay helpless, buffeted about by the winds and waves, until he lost consciousness.

But the water did not drag him down, but bore him along all finally it tossed him ashore, almost at the feet of Matsue sitting under the pine tree.

"The poor boy," said the compassionate Matsue, and she dragged him under the tree and placed him on a couch of fragrant pine needles.

It was not long before Teoyo recovered his senses and the very first thing he did was to fall in love with Matsue, she was so pretty and sweet.

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Do You Love "Bunnies"?

If you do here are a few Don'ts for you to remember:

Don't forget that they require feeding twice a day—in the early morning and in the evening.

Don't forget that green food should constitute at least half the meal.

Don't forget that they should be fed regularly, and make as much change in the diet as you can.

Don't forget if they should get sick, they can be cured very often by simply giving them a change of food.

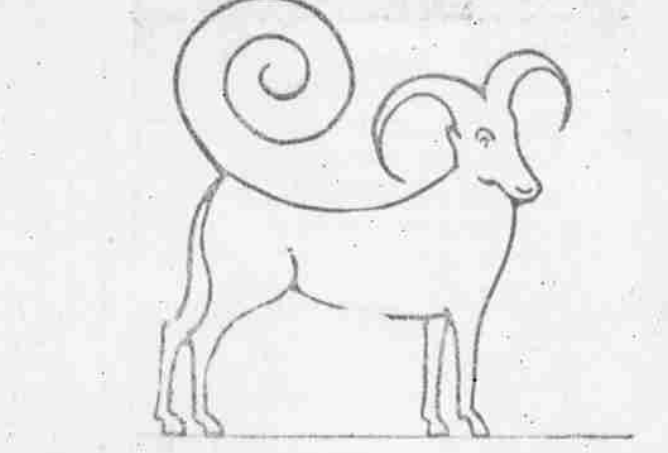
Don't forget that there is an enormous amount of green food that you can find among the common weeds.

Don't forget that some of these are

poisonous to rabbits, more or less. The chief ones are poppy, (foxglove), scarlet pimpernel, potato leaves, foliage of geraniums, chrysanthemums, rhubarb and tomato.

The rain is silver, sunshine gold, The dew is pearls, frosts diamonds hold; The rainbow's gemmed. How can all be Quite safe? Earth has no lock nor key?

My doggie's name is Ginger. You're wondering perhaps, Just why he's called so odd a name; Well just because Ginger stings.



A Ball Park Goat

"Get on to My Carrot!" Said He.

tickle! tickle! she knew she deserved all she got!

Black Puss Cat often tried to tell his beloved mistress and Mary Ann that Miss Mouse lived in a mouse home, under the refrigerator, but somehow or other they couldn't understand.

So one morning, when Mary Ann was very busy giving the dining-room a thorough housecleaning, he said to himself:

"I'm going to try my level best to put that mouse out of the kitchen this very morning."

So he crawled under the refrigerator and crouched and watched, and after he'd been watching for quite a length of time, he heard Miss Mouse cry, in faint, squeaking tones:

Puss Cat, won't you go away and take a nice, long nap back of the kitchen stove? I am very, very hungry, and now while watchful Mary Ann is away from the kitchen, is a good time for me to have a tiny scrap of a lunch.

"I happen to know where there is a delicious morsel of cheese, which is lying back of the cakebox in the pantry, which I would enjoy nibbling very much."

"You who are fortunate enough to possess the love of the entire family, certainly have quantities of goodies given to you," cried little Miss Mouse. "And you," answered Black Puss Cat "whom everyone denounces as a pest, and a thief, and a nuisance, are asking



Mary Estelle

Mary Estelle loves fairy tales,
She reads them night and day,
And she always lives in a land of dreams,
Of castles and heralds and babbling streams,
And lords and ladies gay.
Even her clothes are strangely odd,
And not like other girls.

For she is hurried from head to foot,
And she is jeweled and intricately sweet;
With hair so neatly curled,
It may be tried to live in banks—
But I would rather see
Our boys and girls at romping play
With hearts that are light and merry
and gay.
Which would you rather be?

