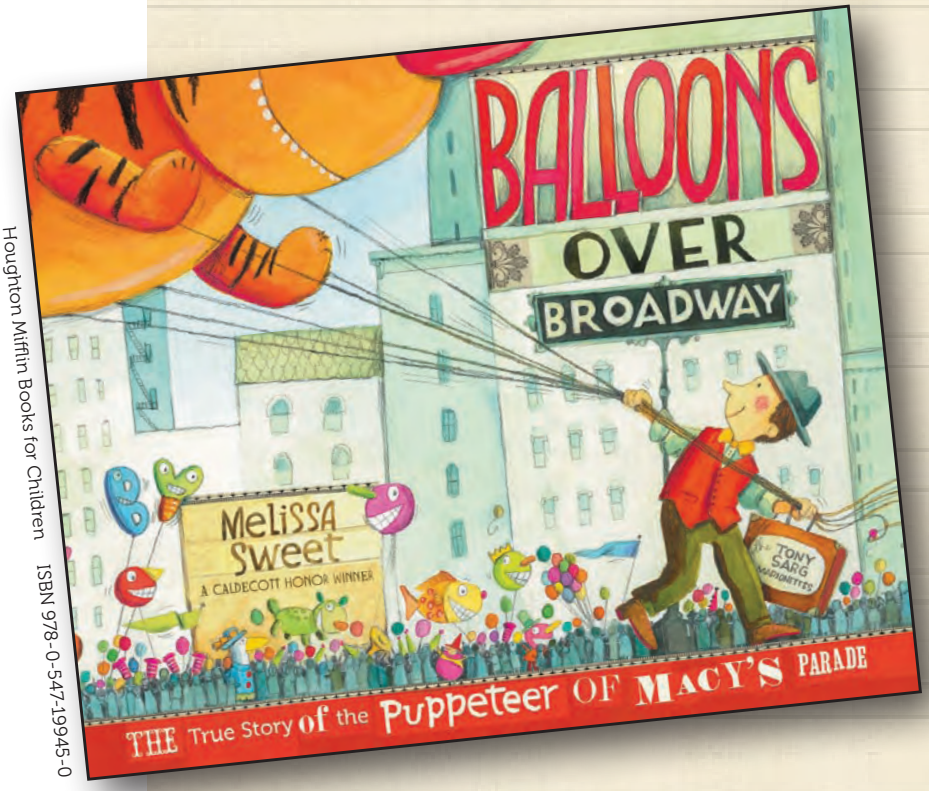
BALLOONS OVER BROADWAY Activity Kit



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BALLOONS OVER BROADWAY

The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade

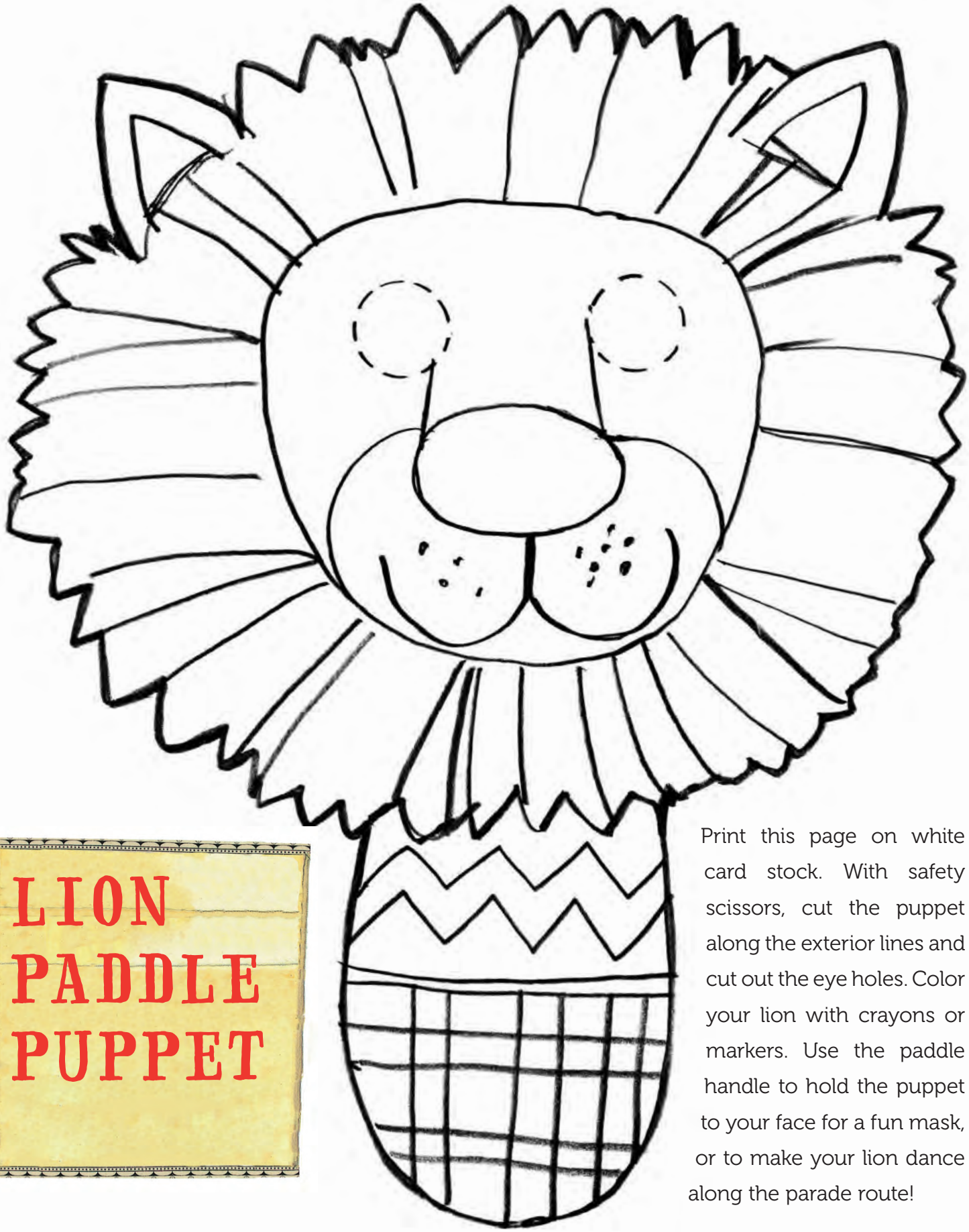
By Melissa Sweet

EVERYONE LOVES MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE! From Montana to Maine and Kentucky to California, families across the country begin their Thanksgiving celebrations by watching the parade as it winds its way through New York's iconic streets. How do they maneuver those huge balloons of favorite characters down Manhattan's crowded avenues?

BALLOONS OVER BROADWAY tells the amazing story of Tony Sarg, the incredible puppeteer and marionette master who created the first Macy's larger-than-life parade balloons in 1928. "With a marionette, the controls are above and the puppet hangs down, but what if the controls were below and the puppet could rise up?" Tony thought. And everyone's favorite Thanksgiving tradition was born!

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

Use the activities in this fun kit to create your own BALLOONS OVER BROADWAY adventures!



LION PADDLE PUPPET

Print this page on white card stock. With safety scissors, cut the puppet along the exterior lines and cut out the eye holes. Color your lion with crayons or markers. Use the paddle handle to hold the puppet to your face for a fun mask, or to make your lion dance along the parade route!

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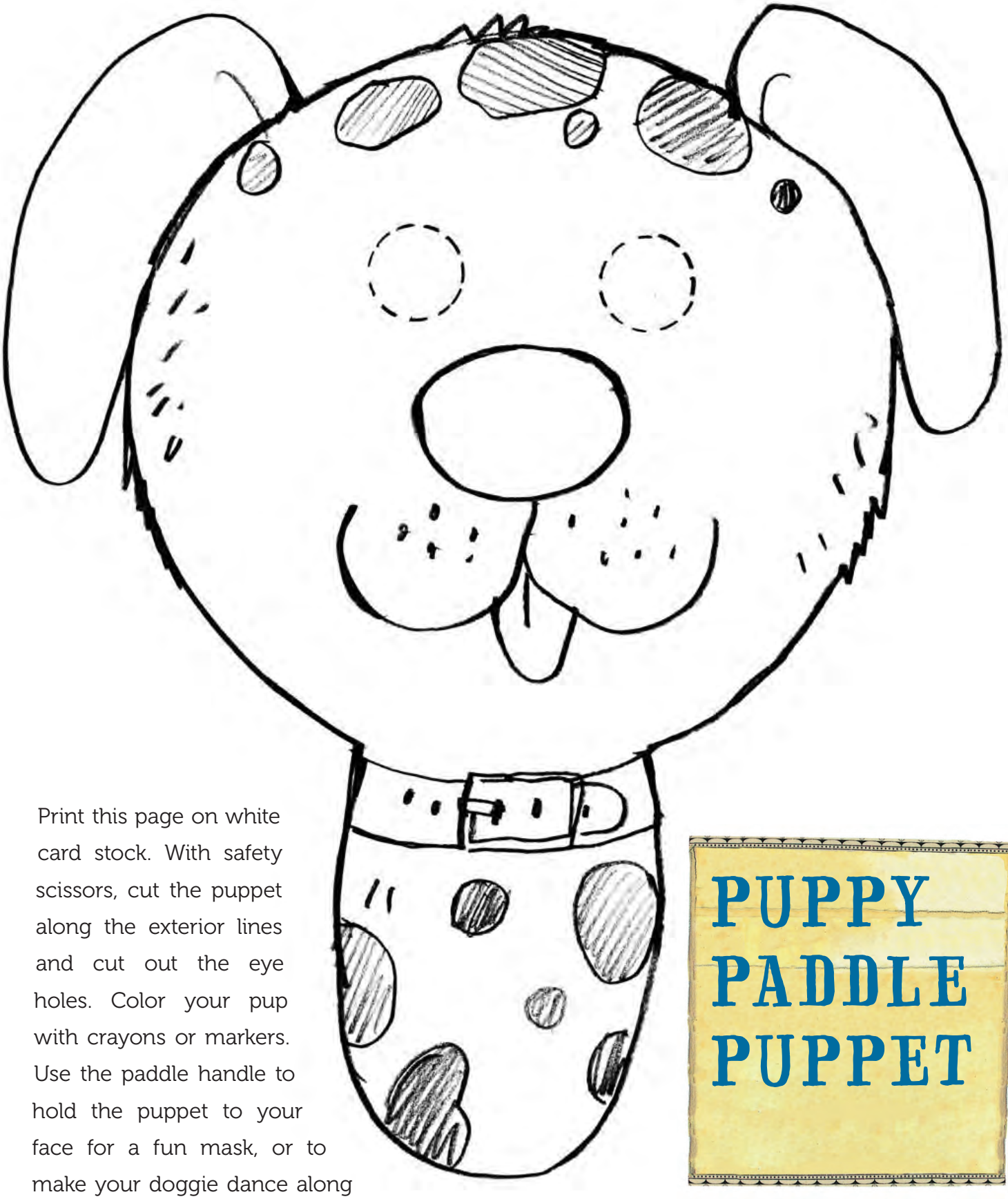

PUPPY PADDLE PUPPET

Print this page on white card stock. With safety scissors, cut the puppet along the exterior lines and cut out the eye holes. Color your pup with crayons or markers. Use the paddle handle to hold the puppet to your face for a fun mask, or to make your doggie dance along the parade route!

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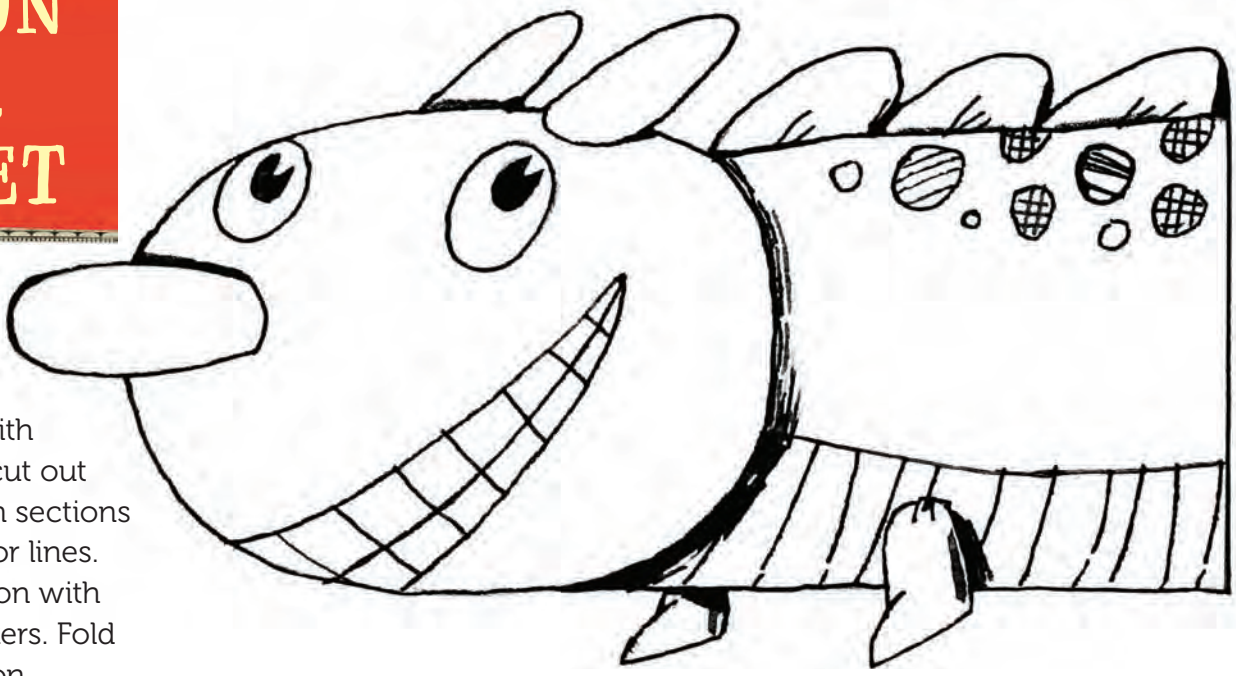
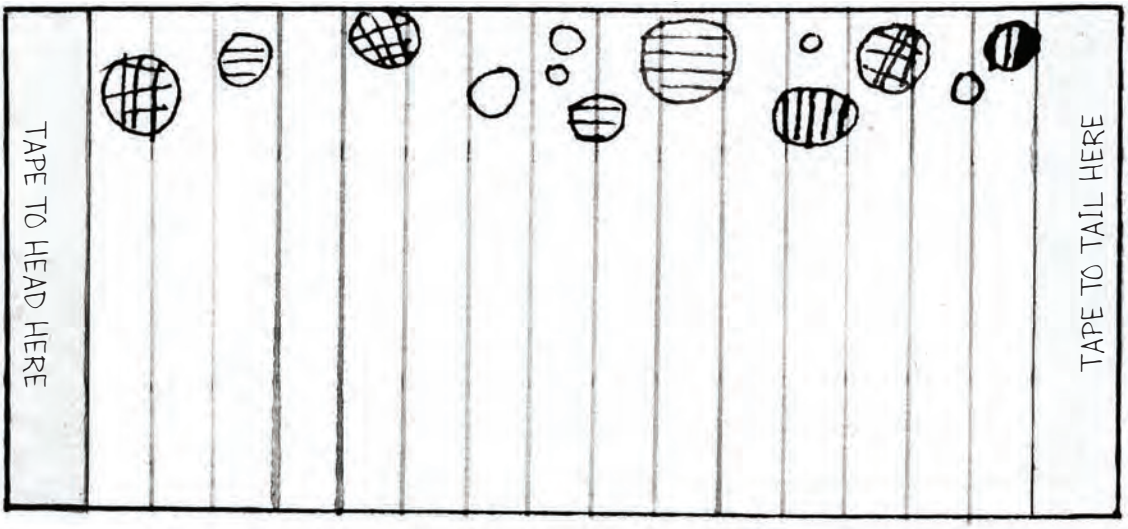
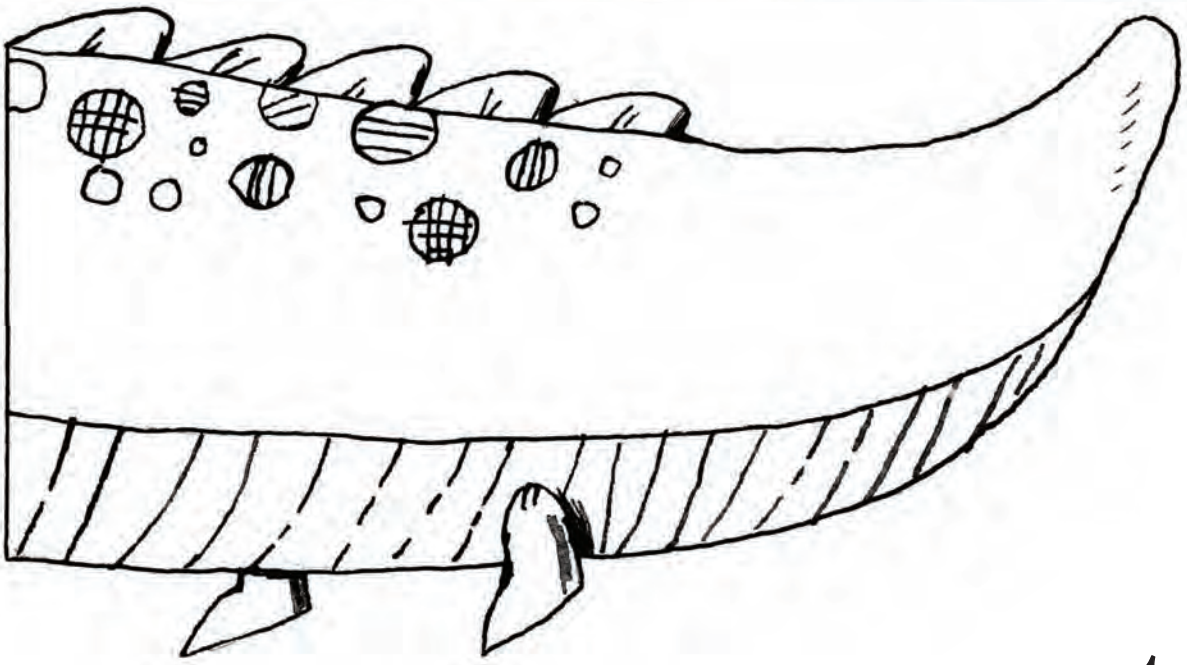
DRAGON STICK PUPPET

Print this page on white paper or card stock. With safety scissors, cut out the three dragon sections along the exterior lines. Color your dragon with crayons or markers. Fold the center section accordion style along the faint lines. On the back side, tape the dragon head and tail to the left and right sides of the center section to connect all three parts. Tape the top of a stick (try a wooden chopstick) to the back of the head section between the dragon's feet so that the majority of the stick appears below; do the same with a stick to the tail section. Hold a stick in each hand to make your dragon puppet shimmy and sway along the parade route!







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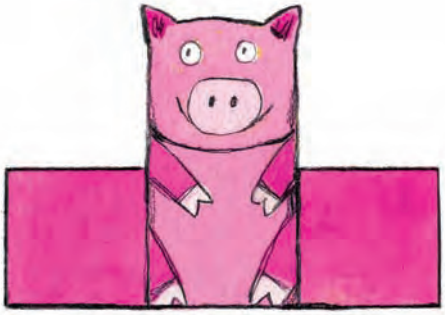
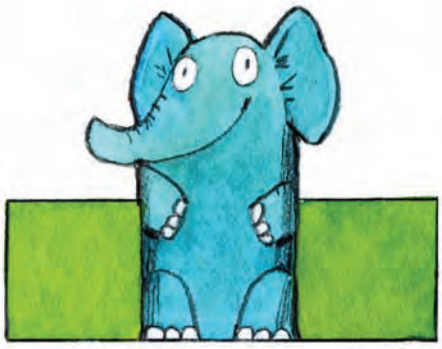
FINGER PUPPET PARADE TROUPE

Print this page (with a color printer) on white paper or card stock. With safety scissors, cut out the puppets along the exterior lines. Wrap the colored bands behind each animal figure and tape securely. Now your puppets will stand by themselves or can be slipped on to eager fingers! Store your puppets in a BALLOONS OVER BROADWAY Puppet Box (kit pages 6-7).





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BALLOONS OVER BROADWAY PUPPET BOX

Create this puppet box for storing your Finger Puppet Parade Troupe (kit page 5).

Box Lid

Print this page (with a color printer) on white paper or card stock. With safety scissors, cut out the box lid along the exterior lines. Fold along the black lines, putting the white sides together. Fold the tabs at the dotted lines, putting the white sides together. With the white side facing up, pull the four sides up, tucking the flaps at each corner behind the rectangle portion. Have a friend help you tape to secure. Turn over and you have the lid for your box! Now create the bottom of your box (kit page 7).

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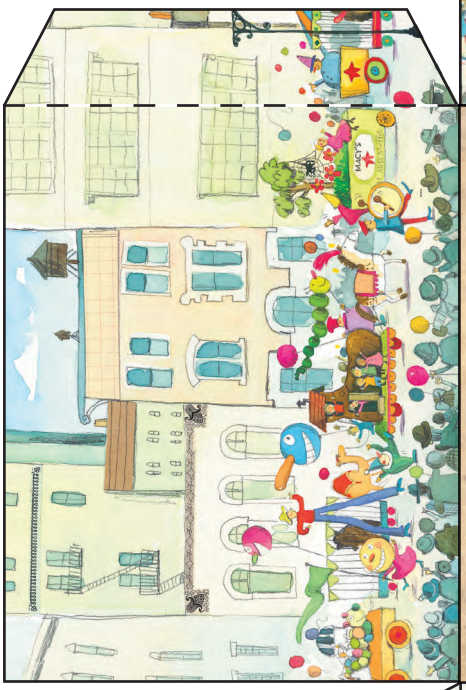
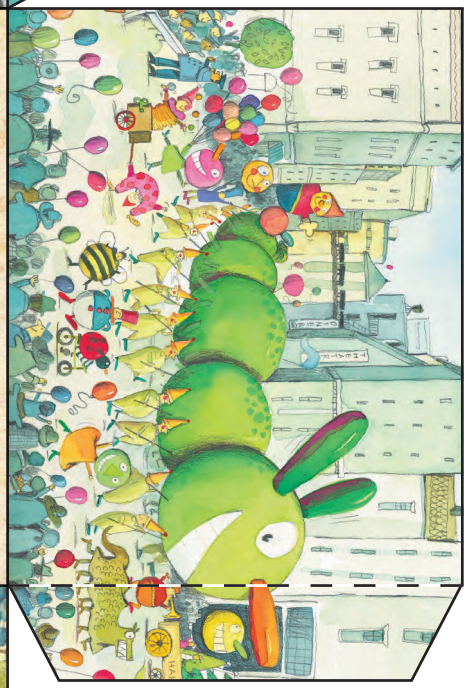
BALLOONS OVER BROADWAY PUPPET BOX

Create this puppet box for storing your Finger Puppet Parade Troupe (kit page 5).

Box Bottom

Print this page (with a color printer) on white paper or card stock. With safety scissors, cut out the box bottom along the exterior lines. Fold along the black lines, putting the white sides together. Fold the tabs at the dotted lines, putting the white sides together. With the white side facing you, pull the four sides up, tucking the flaps at each corner behind the rectangle portion. Have a friend help you tape to secure. Now you have the bottom for your box! Add your Finger Puppet Parade Troupe (kit page 5) and top with your box lid (kit page 6), and your puppets are safely stored until the next parade!





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PARADE ROUTE MAZE

Find the best parade route to take the dragon from the starting line to Macy's.

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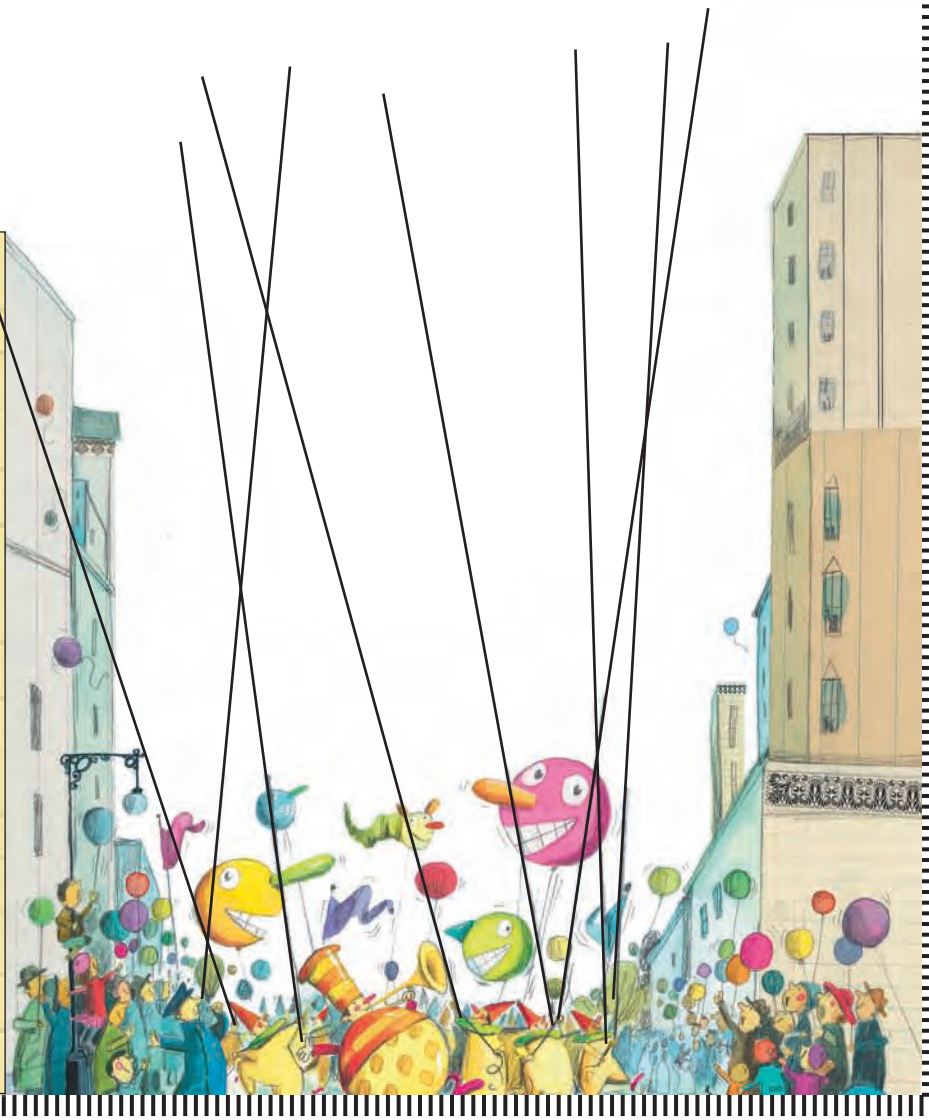
DESIGN YOUR OWN PARADE BALLOON!

Draw a giant balloon
for the crowd to enjoy!
What will it be? A zebra?
A snowman? A dragon?
Use your imagination!



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MAKE A PARADE HAT!

Cut a two-inch wide strip of construction paper long enough to wrap comfortably around your head. Tape the ends together to make a ring of paper. Cut out the elephant below and affix him to the front of your construction paper ring and place the ring on your head. Can you move like a Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade balloon?

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