Fairy Tales 2nd GRADE







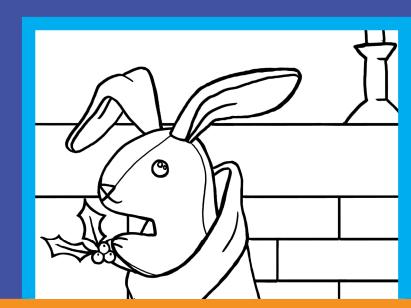




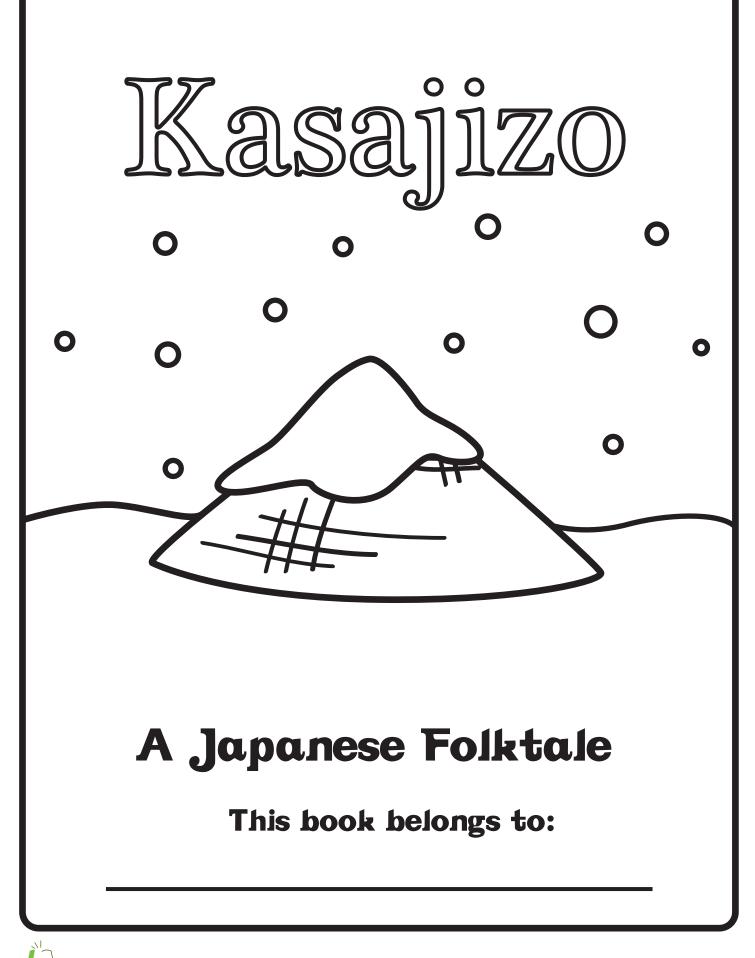
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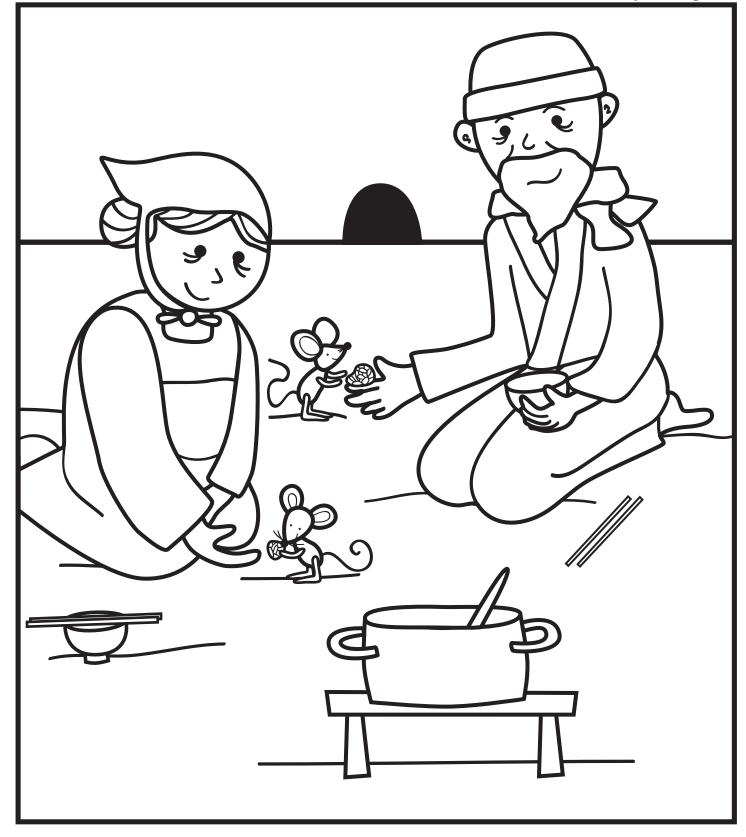
Fairy Tales: Classics Known and New

Kasajizo: A Japanese Folktale Treasure Island Briar Rose Part I Briar Rose Part II The Velveteen Rabbit Part I The Velveteen Rabbit Part II

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Once upon a time there was an old man and his wife who were so poor that they were nearly out of rice. It was almost New Year's day and the snow that covered the ground prevented them from gathering materials for weaving hats to sell for money. The mice in their house were hungry too so the old couple gave them the last of their rice.

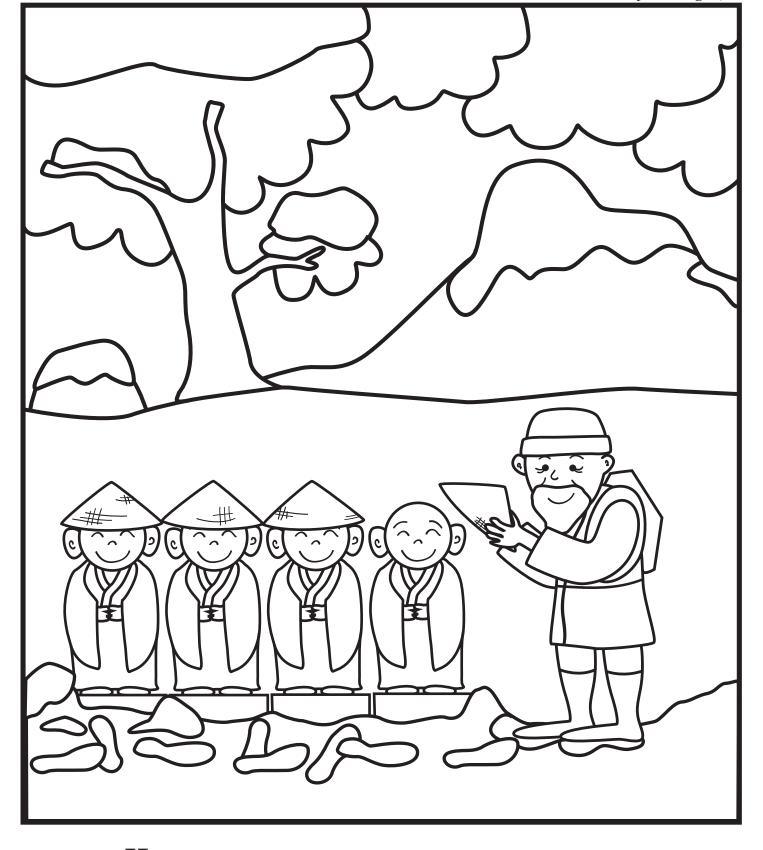


The mice were so grateful that they gathered materials for the couple to make hats to sell.



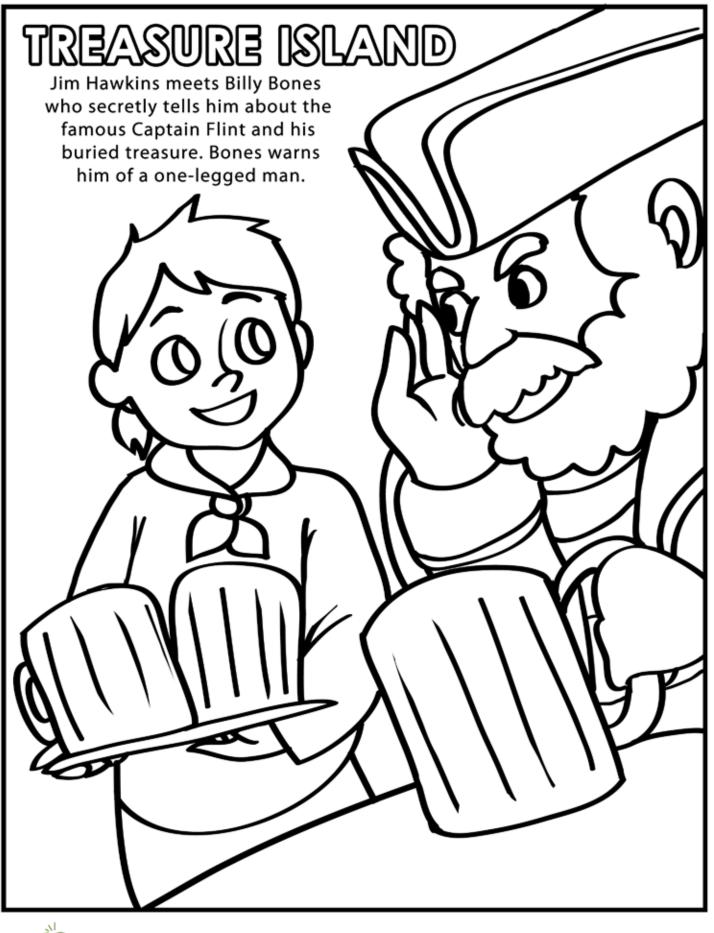
On the way to town, the old man saw stone statues of Ojizo-sama, which are supposed to protect the people in the town. The old man noticed that their heads were covered in snow so he gently brushed the snow away.

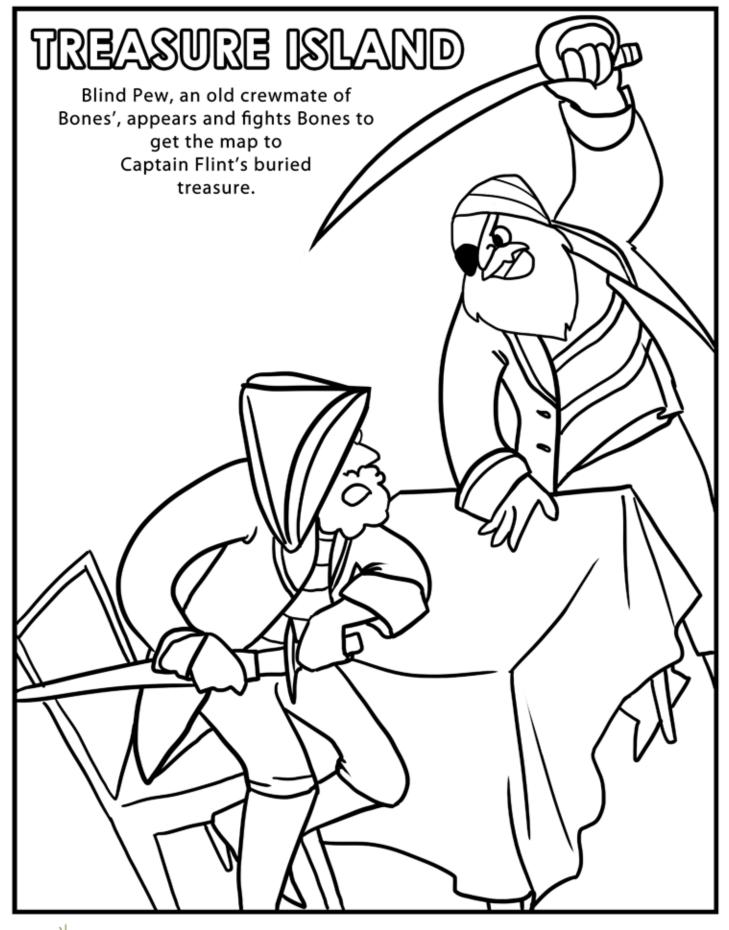
He continued to town to sell his hats but no one bought any. He was disappointed and started to walk home. As he came upon the Ojizo-sama statues, he felt badly for not having something to give to them. Seeing that their heads were covered again in snow he decided to give the Ojizo-sama statues his hats.

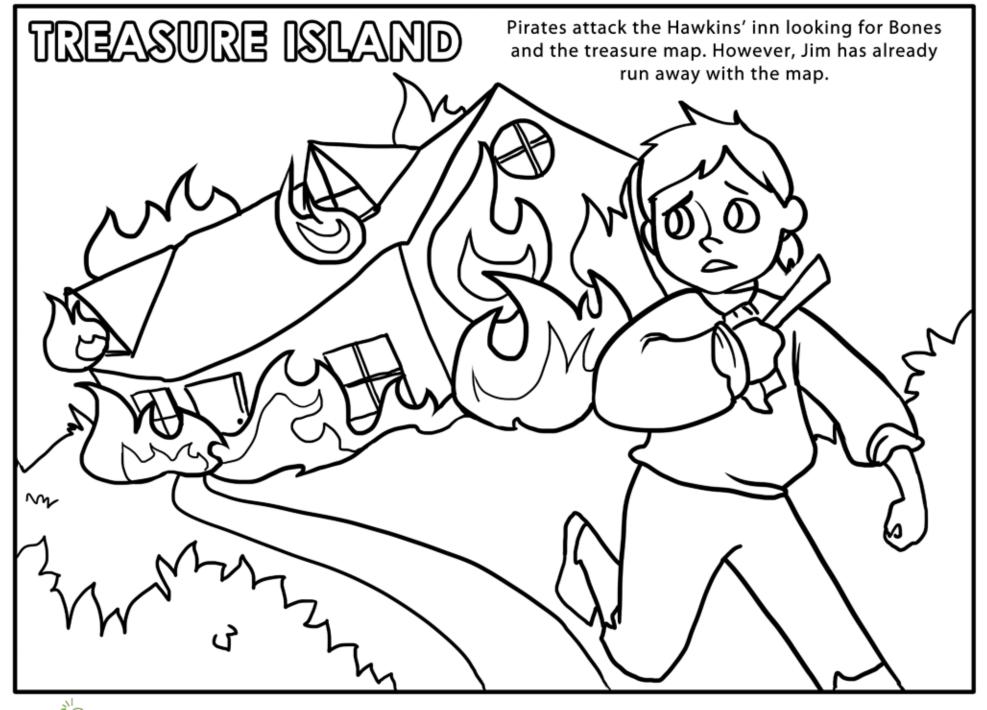


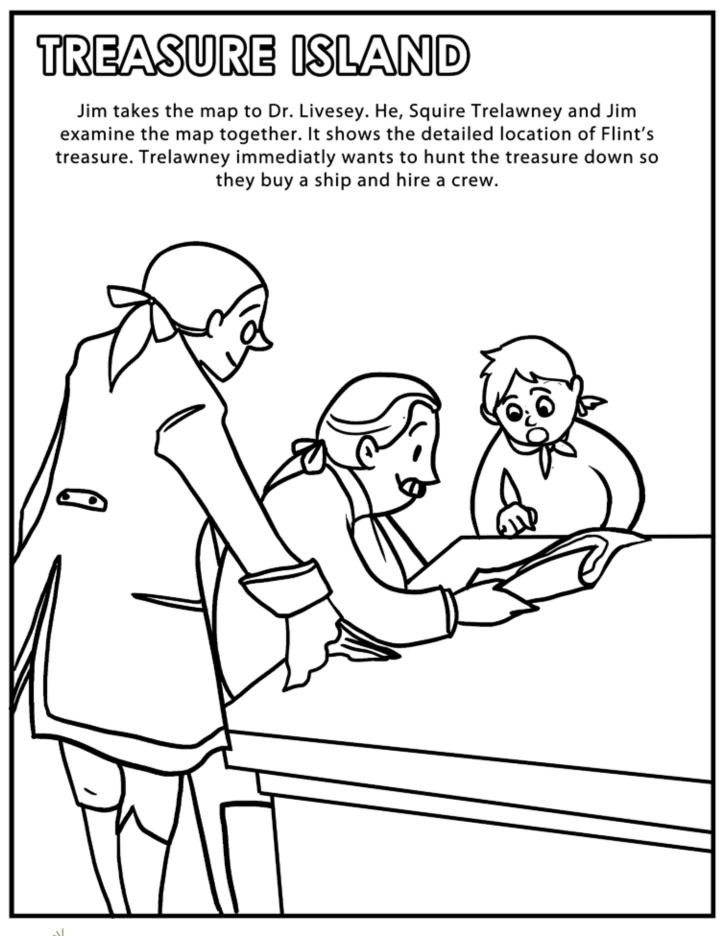


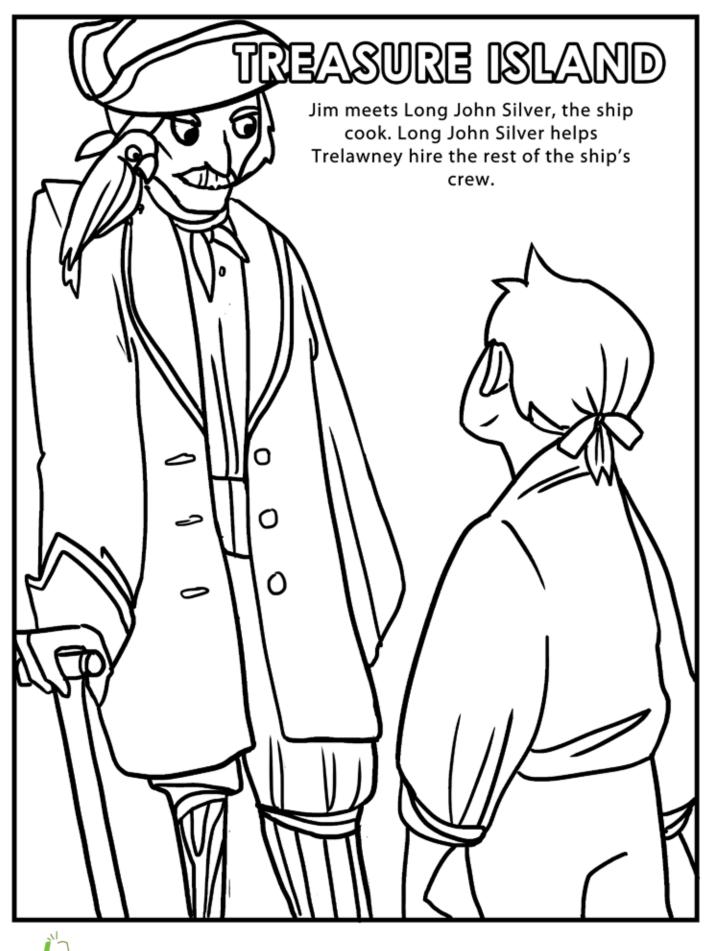
The man returned home empty handed and told his wife and the mice what happened. They all agreed that it was a kind thing to do. Just then, they heard voices outside yelling, "Happy New Year!" They ran outside to see the Ojizo-sama statues with a sleigh full of food. The old man, his wife and the mice shared the food and celebrated the New Year.





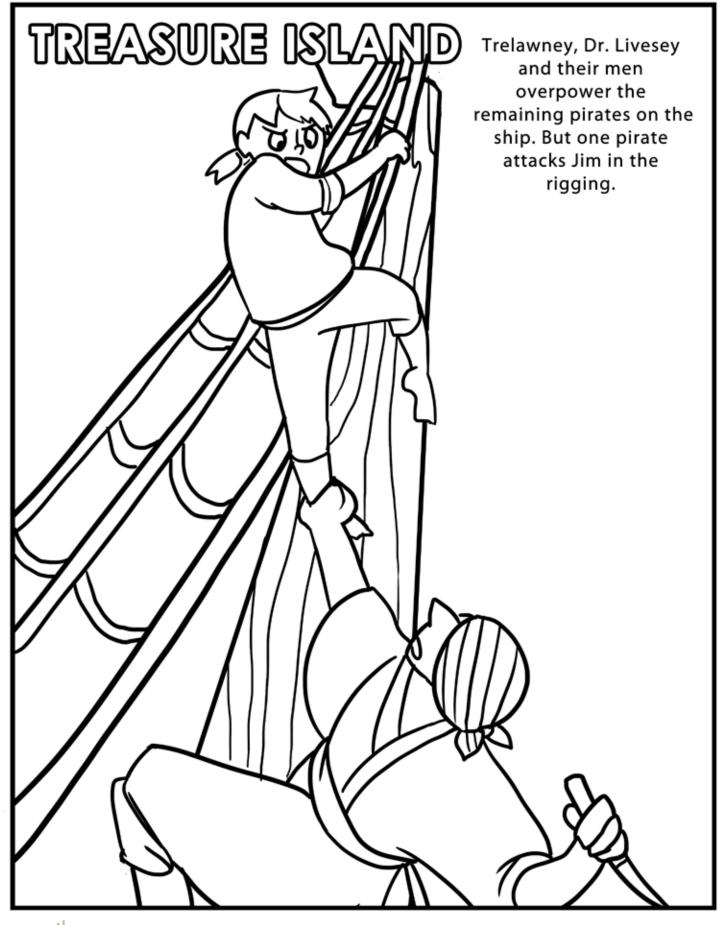


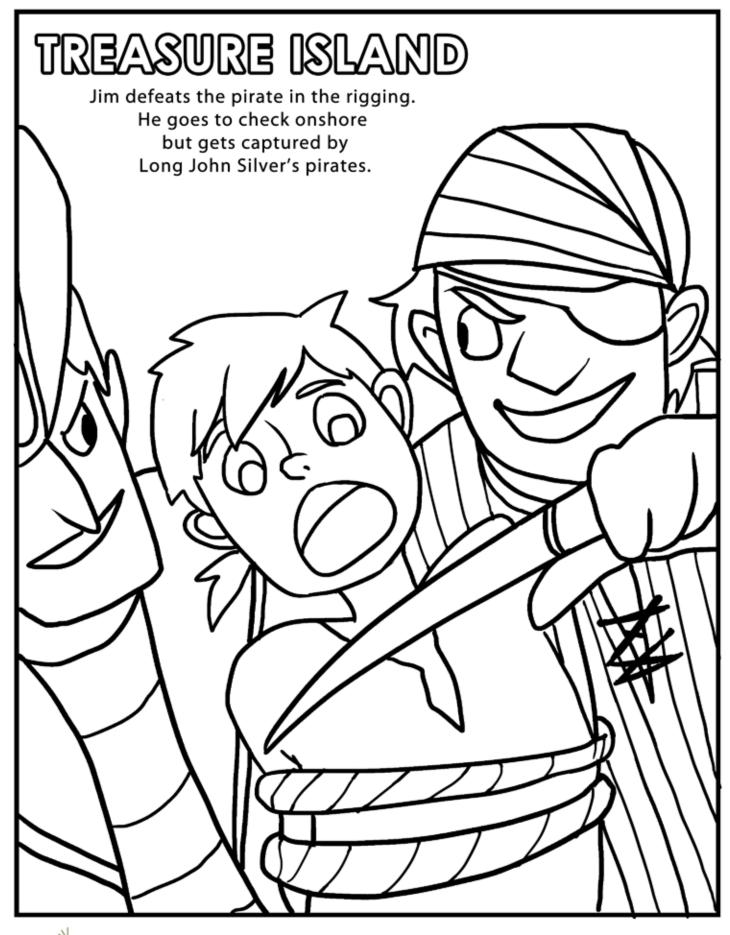


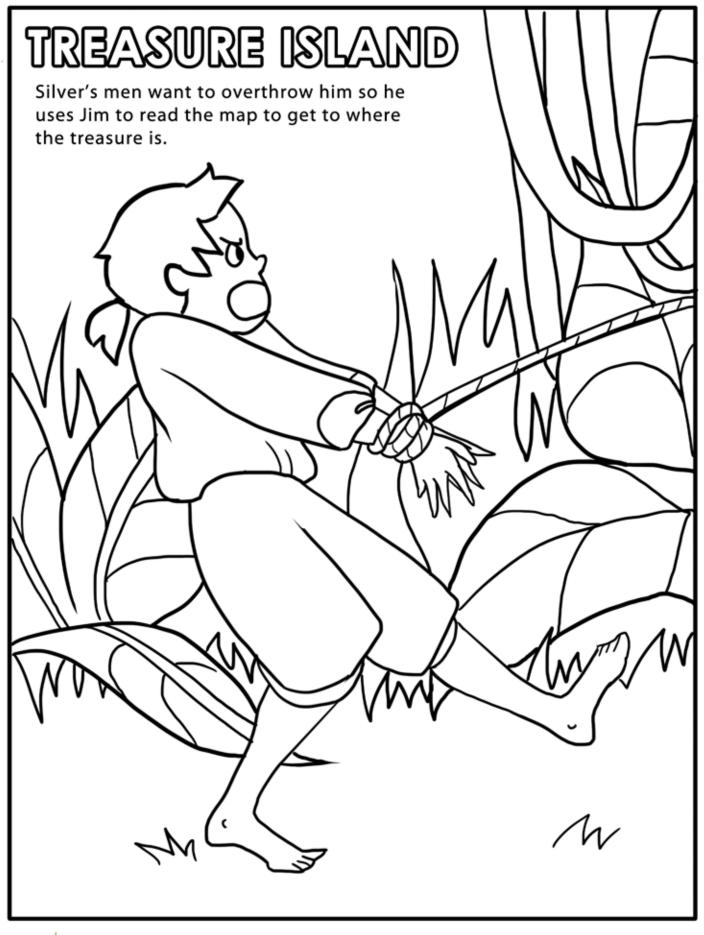


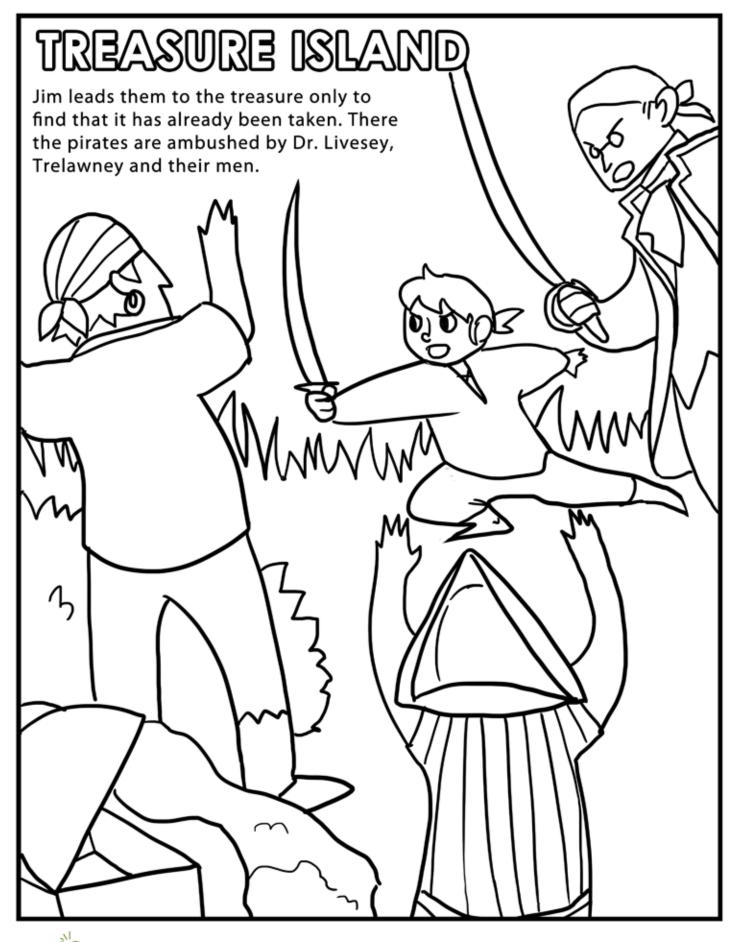


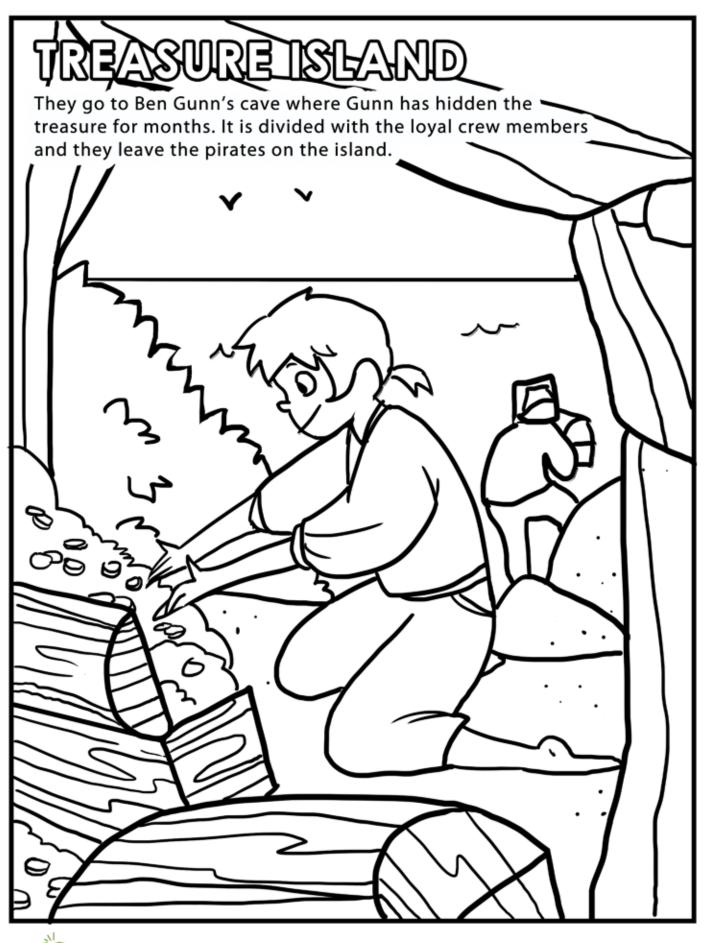


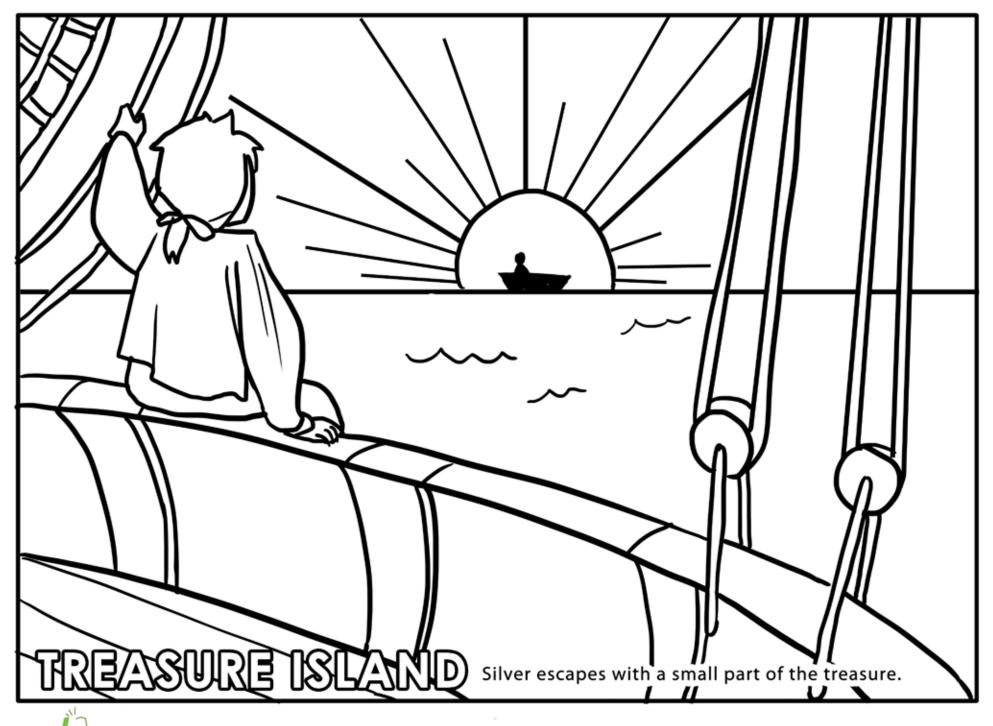


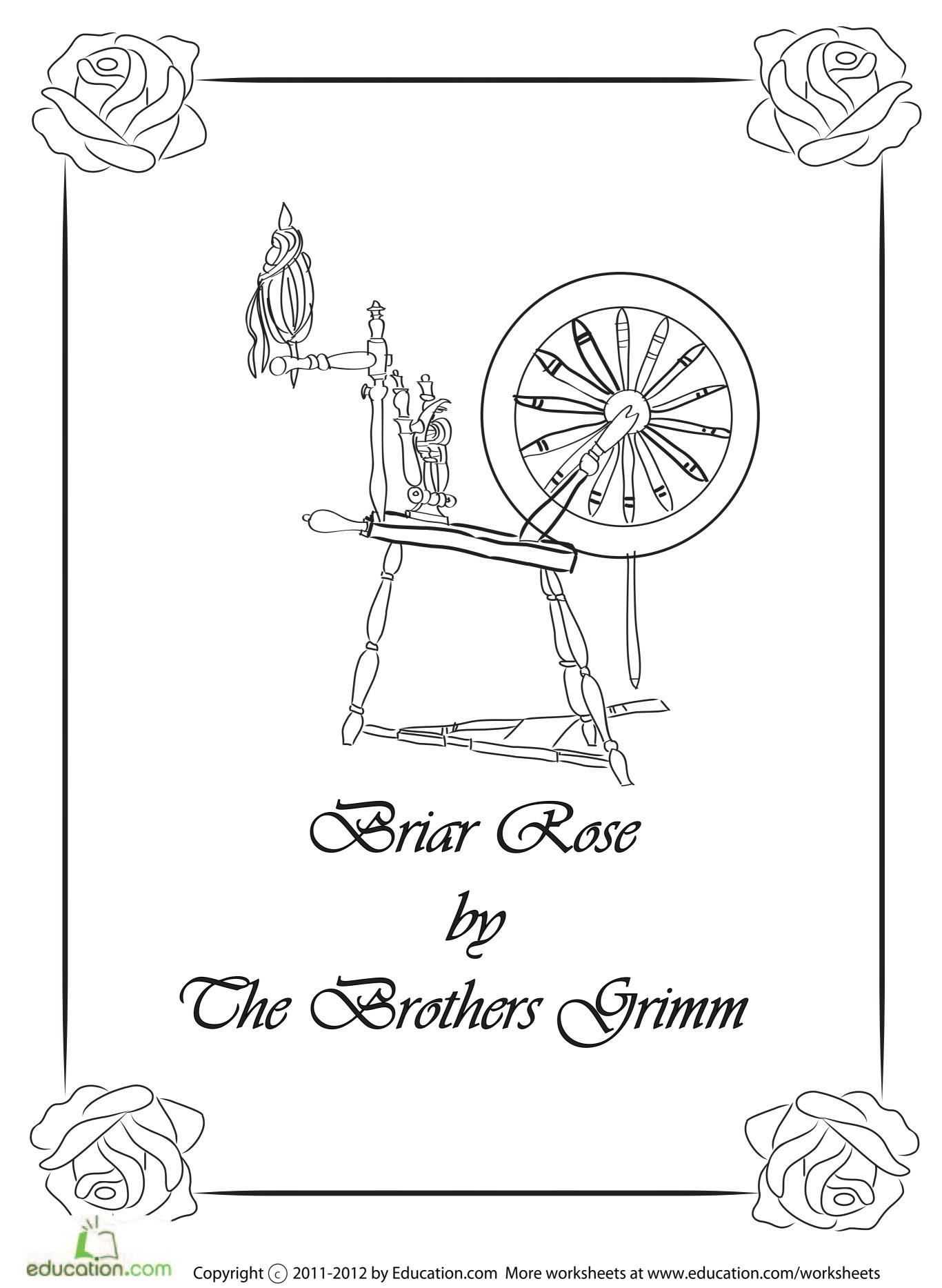


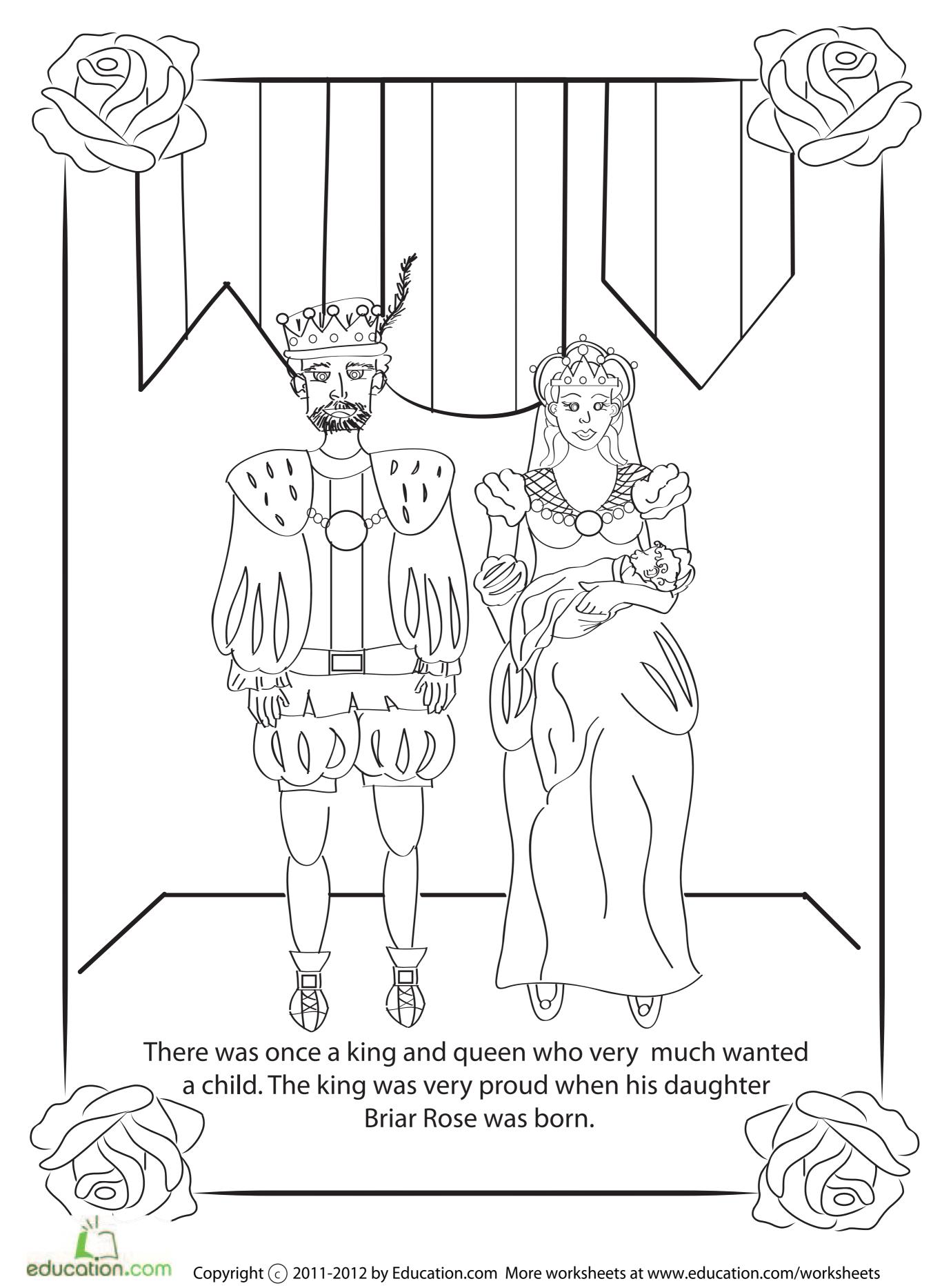


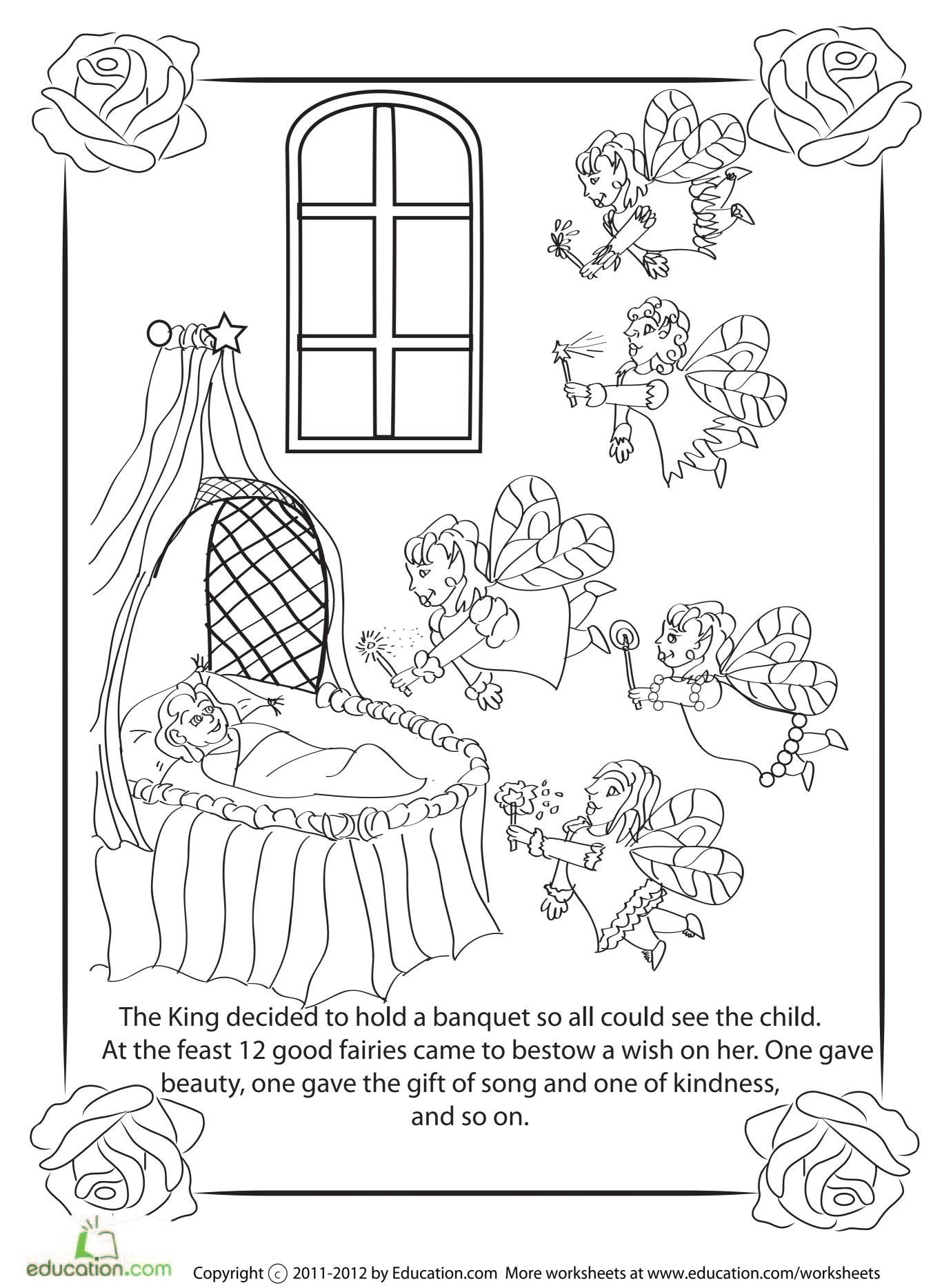








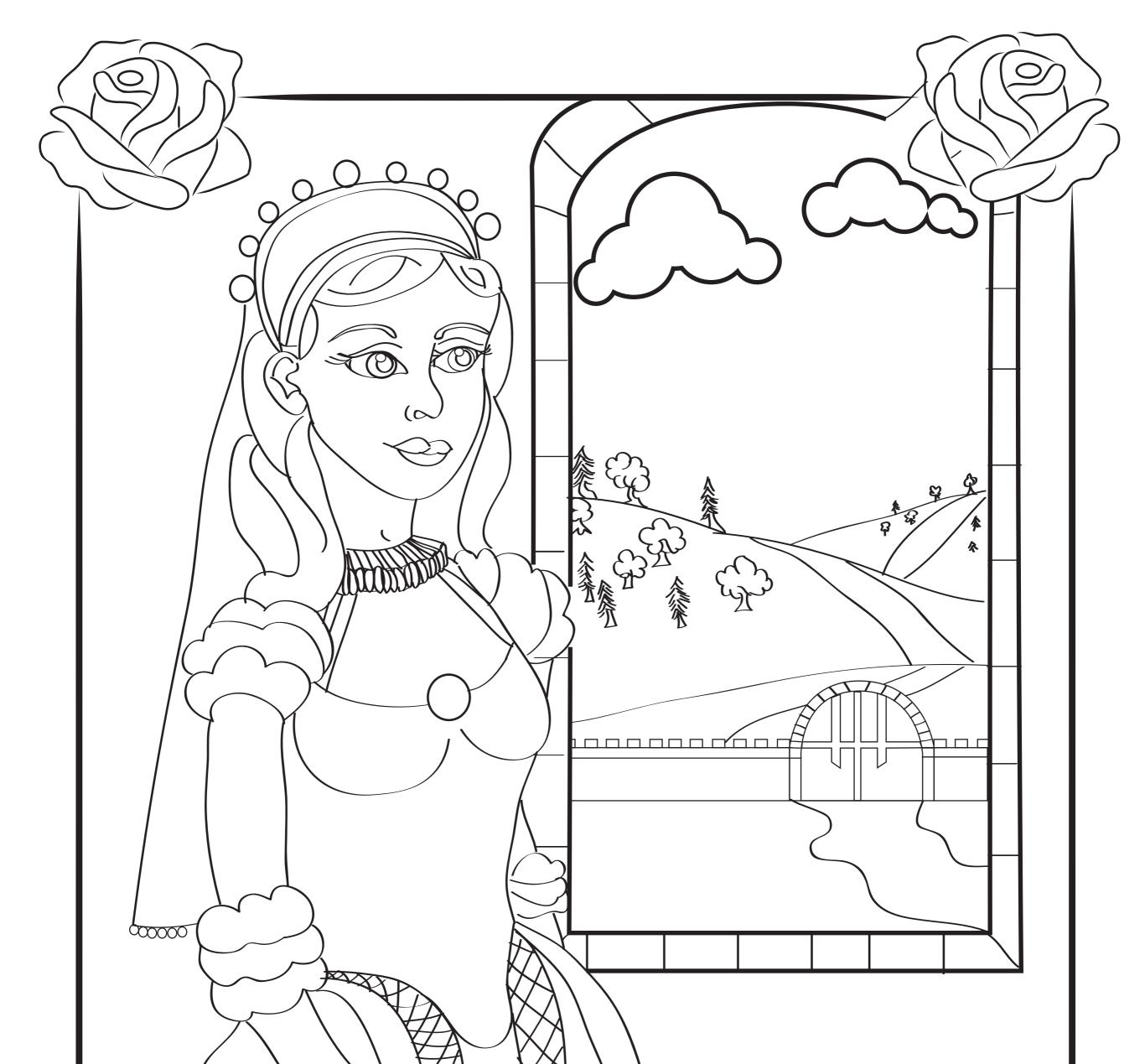






But a 13th fairy, who was mean and evil, felt left out. So she cursed Briar Rose, saying, "She shall die after touching a spinning wheel." The last fairy had not given her gift. To save the girl she cast a spell that would make her sleep for 100 years instead.

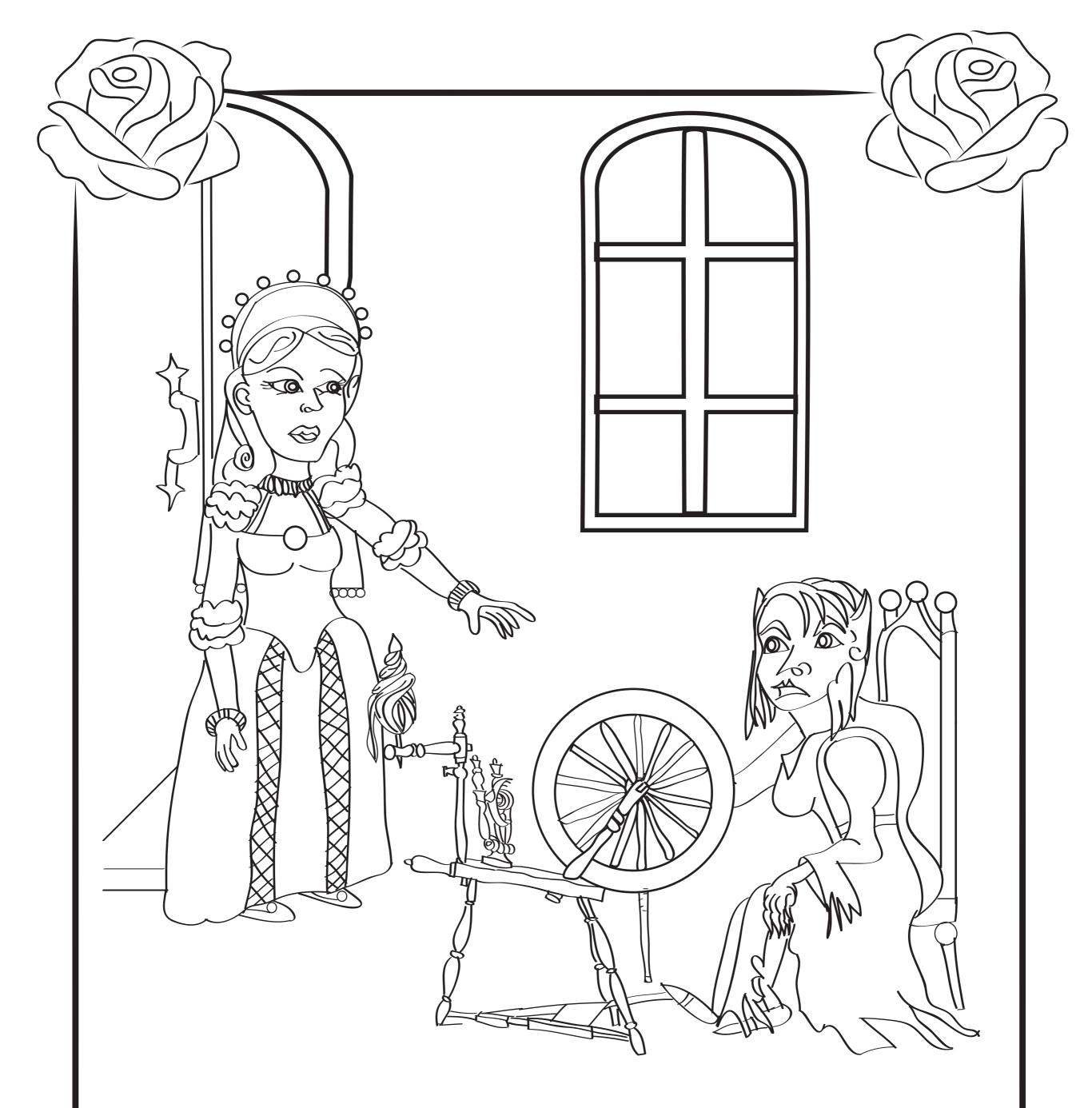
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Briar Rose did grow in grace and beauty, but the one spell the good fairies left out was curiosity. Briar loved to go about the castle and into the forest to explore and find new things.

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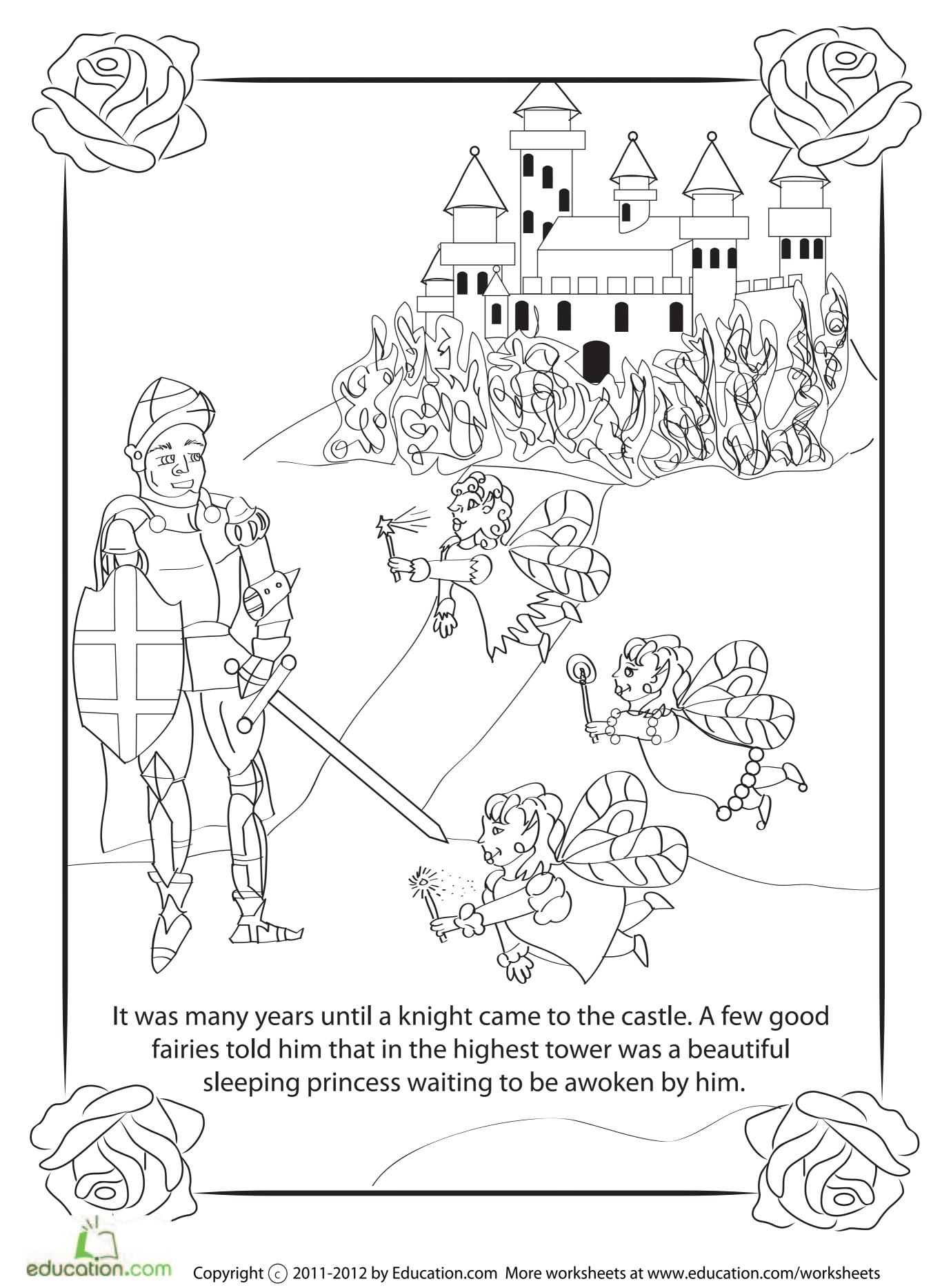
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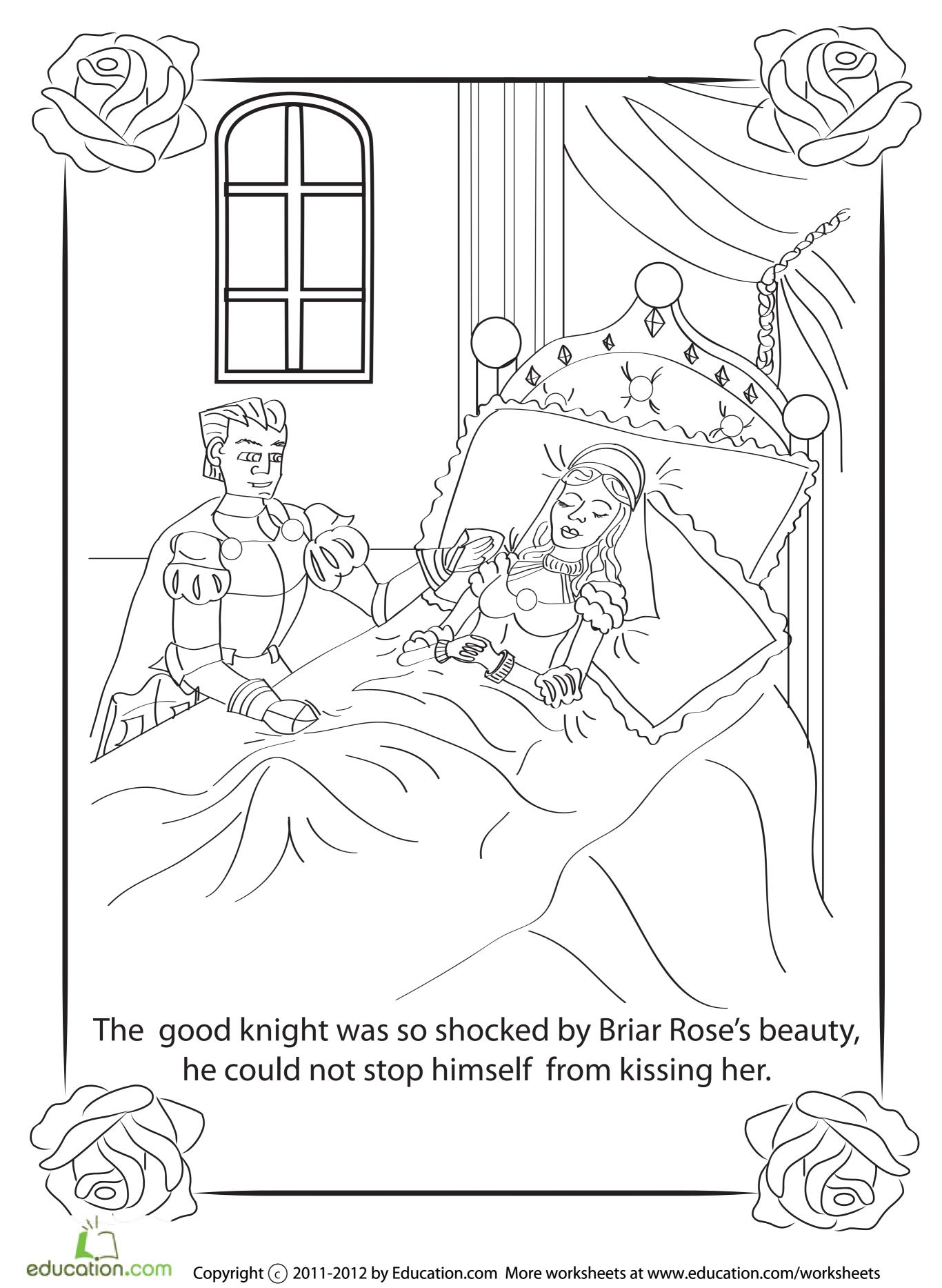


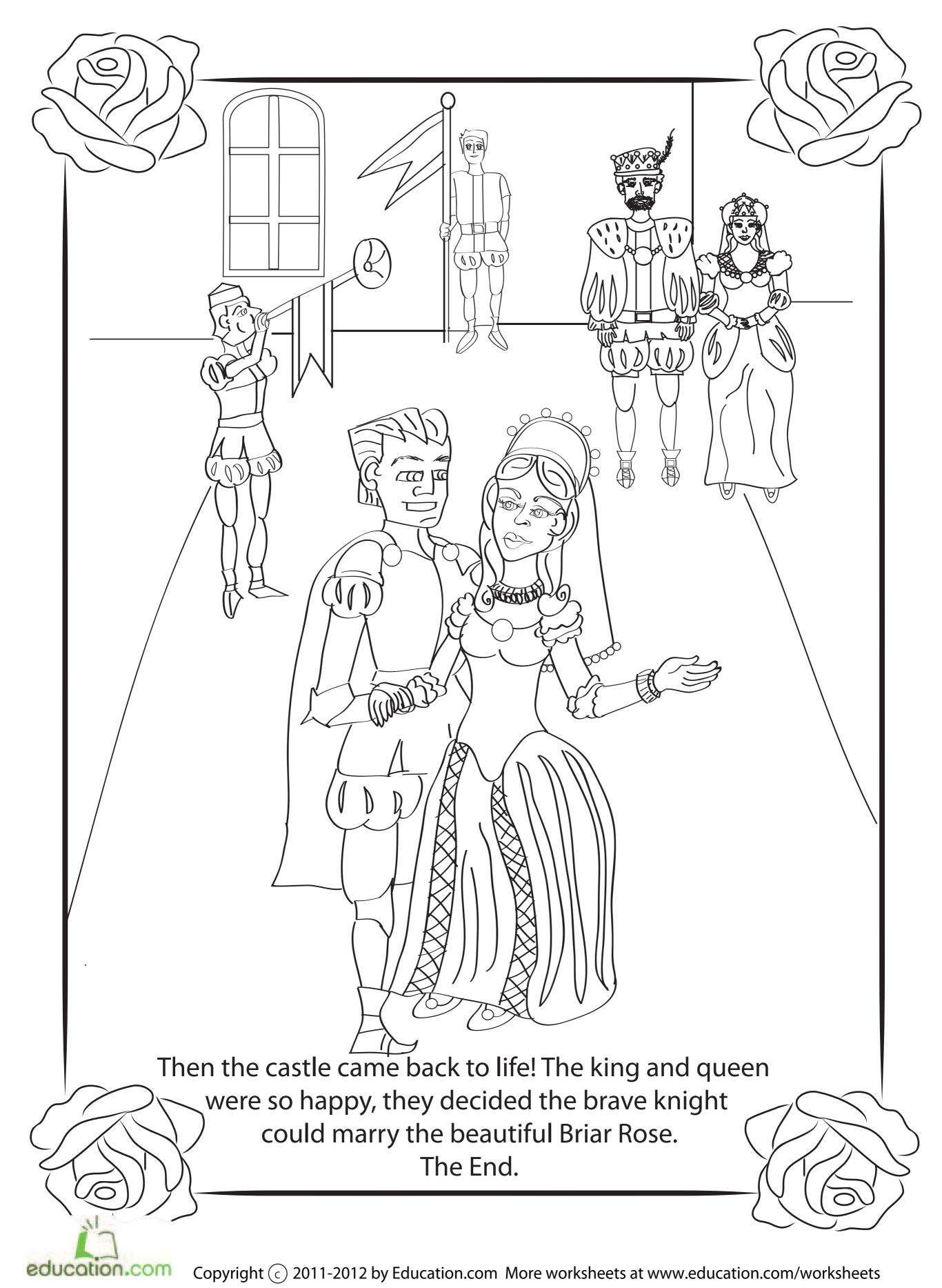
On the morning of Briar Rose's birthday she found at the tip most top tower was the mean fairy spinning wool. She could not help herself and touched the sharp spindle and fell instantly asleep.

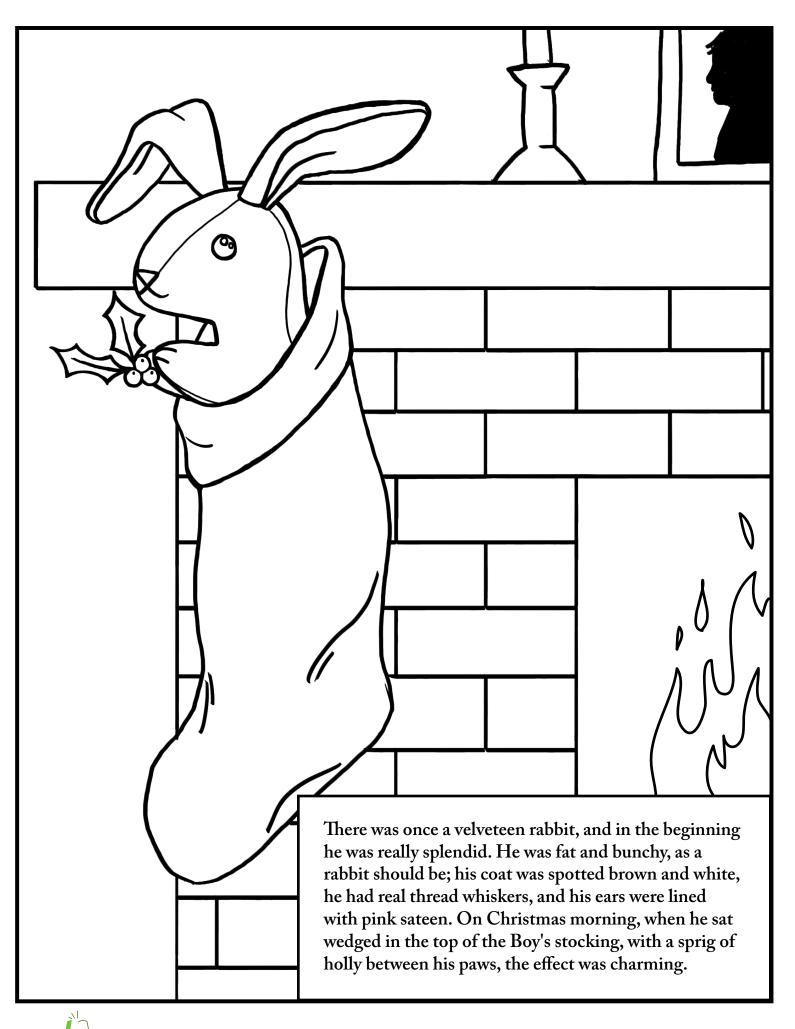
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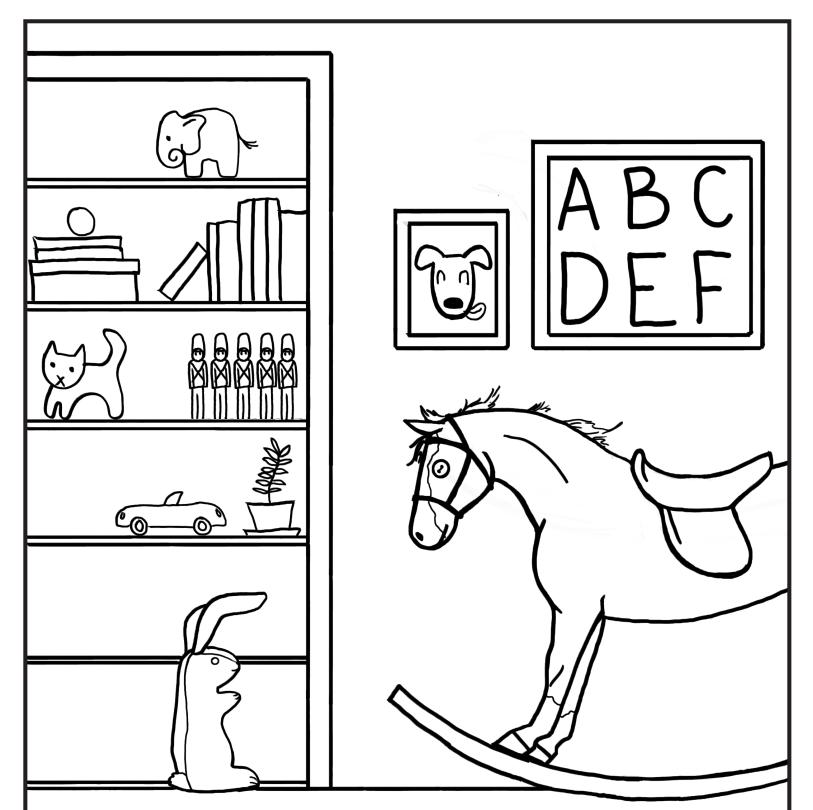




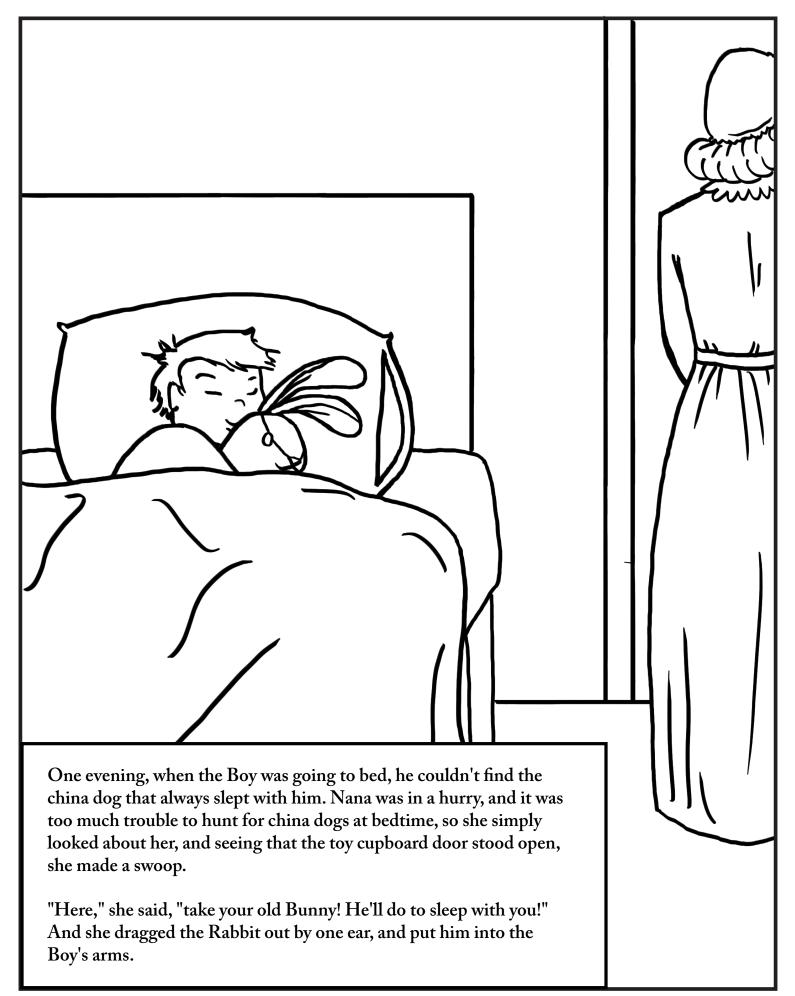


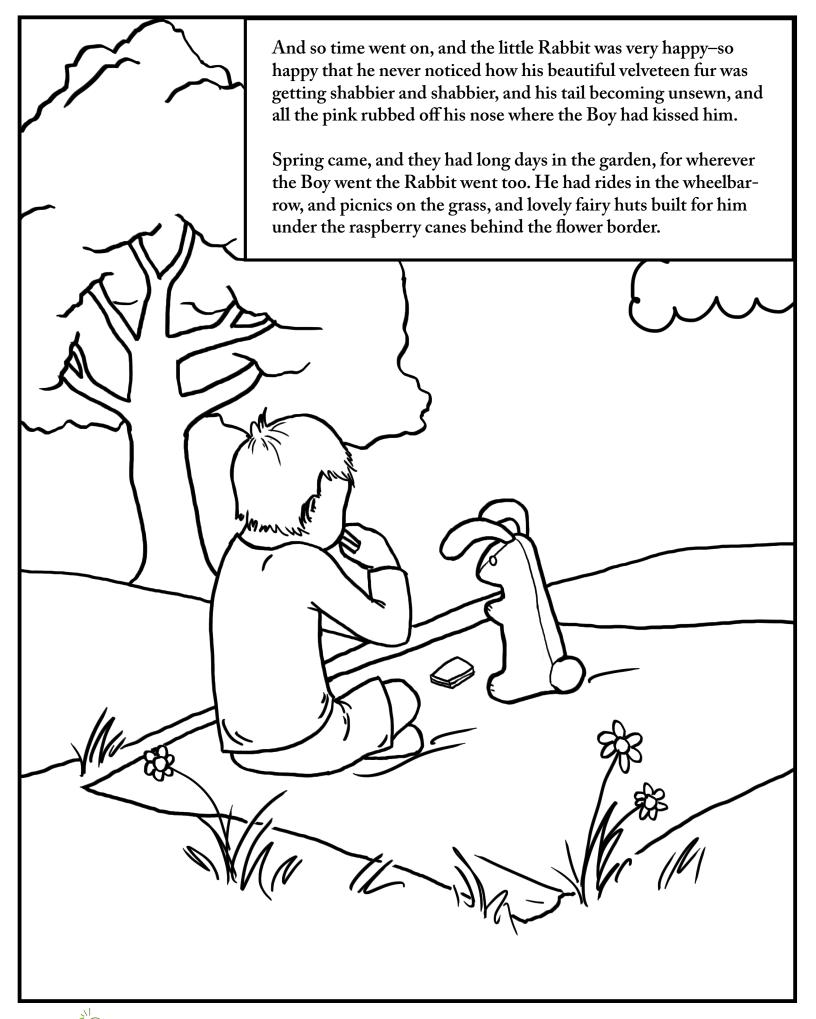


For a long time he lived in the toy cupboard or on the nursery floor, and no one thought very much about him. He was naturally shy, and being only made of velveteen, some of the more expensive toys quite snubbed him. The mechanical toys were very superior, and looked down upon every one else; they were full of modern ideas, and pretended they were real.



The Skin Horse had lived longer in the nursery than any of the others. He was so old that his brown coat was bald in patches and showed the seams underneath, and most of the hairs in his tail had been pulled out to string bead necklaces. He was wise, for he had seen a long succession of mechanical toys arrive to boast and swagger, and by-and-by break their mainsprings and pass away, and he knew that they were only toys, and would never turn into anything else. For nursery magic is very strange and wonderful, and only those playthings that are old and wise and experienced like the Skin Horse understand all about it.

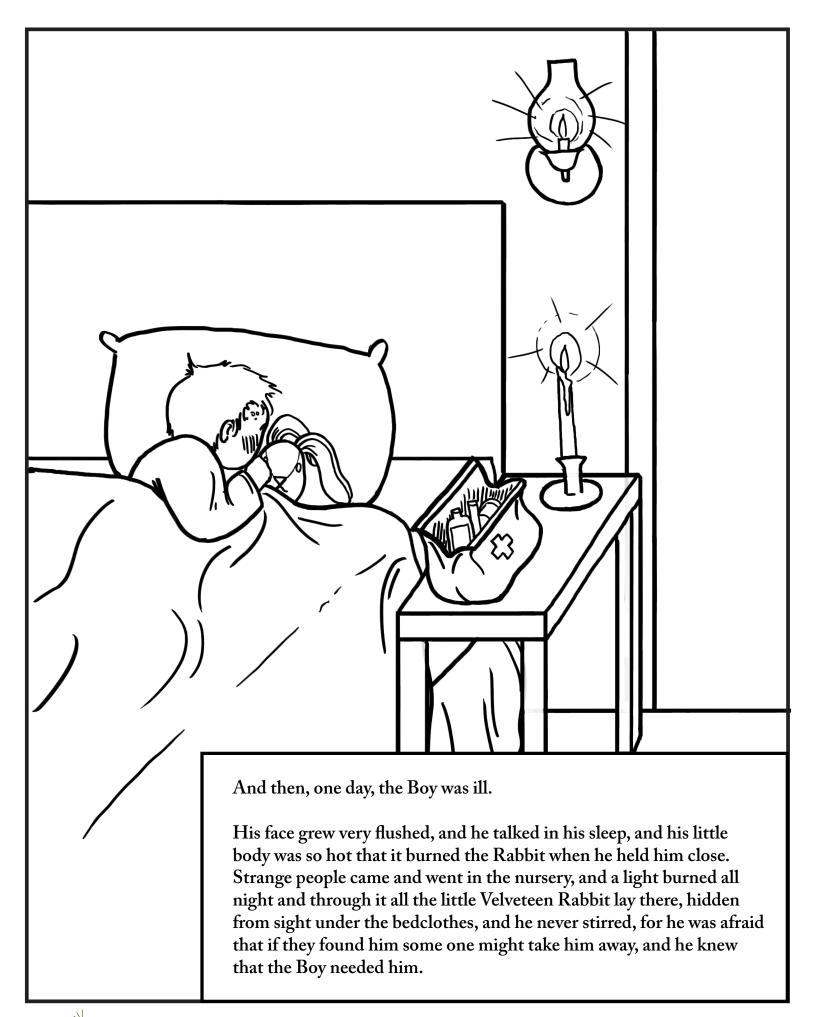


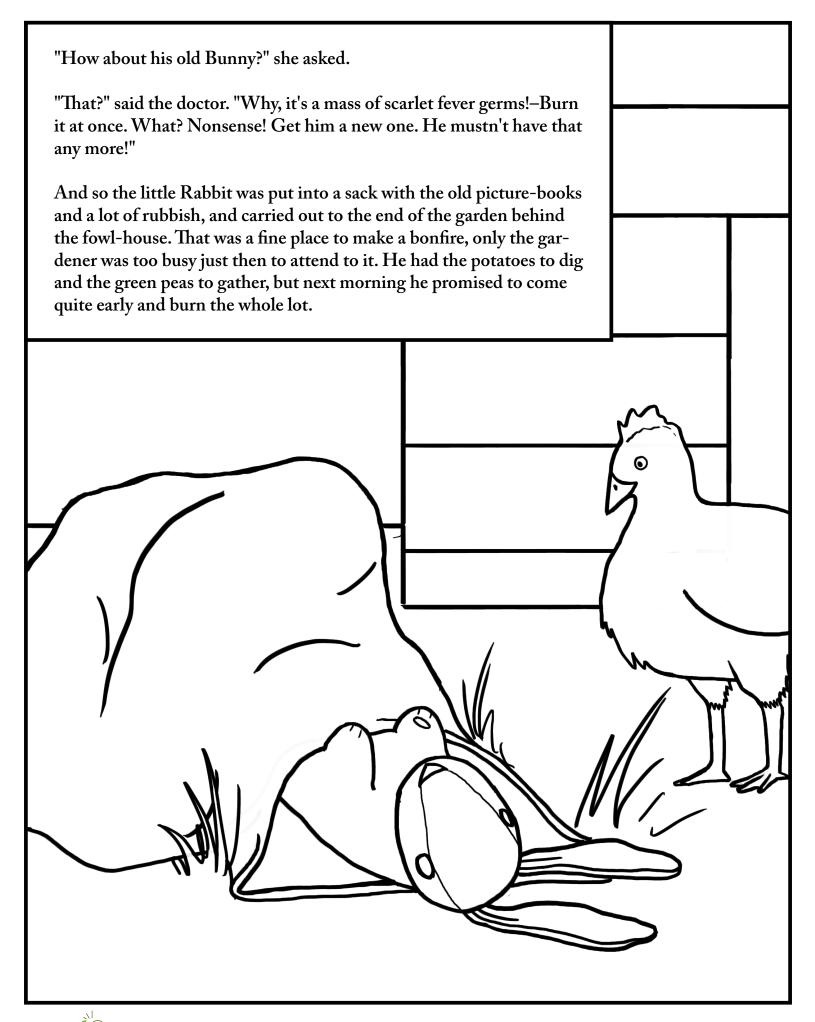


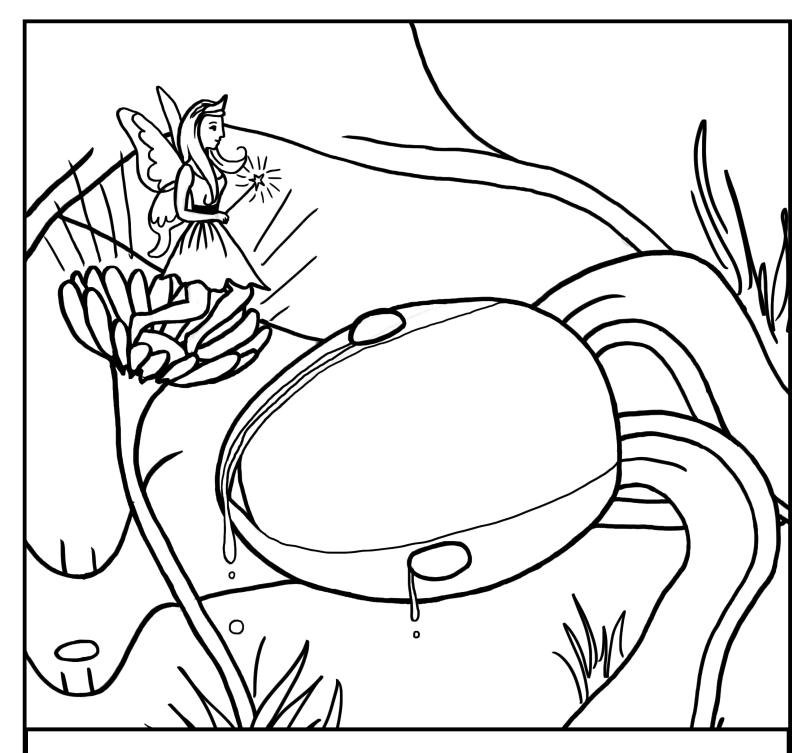
One evening, while the Rabbit was lying there alone, watching the ants that ran to and fro between his velvet paws in the grass, he saw two strange beings creep out of the tall bracken near him.

They were rabbits like himself, but quite furry and brand-new. They must have been very well made, for their seams didn't show at all, and they changed shape in a queer way when they moved; one minute they were long and thin and the next minute fat and bunchy, instead of always staying the same like he did. Weeks passed, and the little Rabbit grew very old and shabby, but the Boy loved him just as much. He loved him so hard that he loved all his whiskers off, and the pink lining to his ears turned grey, and his brown spots faded. He even began to lose his shape, and he scarcely looked like a rabbit any more, except to the Boy. To him he was always beautiful, and that was all that the little Rabbit cared about. He didn't mind how he looked to other people, because the nursery magic had made him Real, and when you are Real shabbiness doesn't matter.









And a tear, a real tear, trickled down his little shabby velvet nose and fell to the ground.

And then a strange thing happened. For where the tear had fallen a flower grew out of the ground, a mysterious flower, not at all like any that grew in the garden. It had slender green leaves the color of emeralds, and in the centre of the leaves a blossom like a golden cup. It was so beautiful that the little Rabbit forgot to cry, and just lay there watching it. And presently the blossom opened, and out of it there stepped a fairy.

"You were Real to the Boy," the Fairy said, "because he loved you. Now you shall be Real to every one."

