

Troop 5384: Fourth Meeting for 2010-2011

6:45pm – 7:00pm Pre-Meeting

Banner Handprints and Names: Under the guidance of Troop Adults, the girls will put handprints and names on the two banners prepared for Zimbabwe. There will be some worksheets on Zimbabwe for the girls to work on while they are waiting for their turn to make handprints.

7:00 – 7:15pm Daisy Circle and Troop Business

To transition into the Daisy Circle, we will sing the “Make New Friends” song as we are sitting and settling in.

*Make new friends, but keep the old,
One is silver and the other’s gold.*

The first part of Troop Business will be to discuss what the Daisies did with their “A helping hand was here” notes – how were they helpful to their families over the past two weeks? This will complete their work toward the “friendly and helpful” Petal Patch.

The second part of Troop Business will be to talk about World Thinking Day and Zimbabwe. We will discuss what World Thinking Day is, why we are going to think about Zimbabwe, and why we are making banners. We’ll then talk about two amazing things in Zimbabwe—Victoria Falls and the Great Zimbabwe.

The final part of Troop Business will be to discuss the upcoming Field Trip to see Excerpts from the Nutcracker. We will talk about what we will be doing after the break – learning the story and making puppets so we can play out the story for fun.

7:15 – 7:25pm Break/Physical Activity/Bathroom Break

More banner handprints and name signing if needed, and “Daisy to Daisy” Game.

7:25pm – 7:55pm Reading Time and Nutcracker Puppets

Book: *The Story of the Nutcracker*

Nutcracker puppets: Girls will be able to decorate and mount nutcracker-related puppets and then make up scenes for the Nutcracker.

7:55pm – 8:00pm Friendship Squeeze

Troop 5384: Fourth Meeting Make-up Lesson (to be completed at home)

The fourth meeting is serving two purposes: to introduce the children to World Thinking Day, and to prepare them for our trip to see excerpts from the Nutcracker.

1. **Introduction to Thinking Day:** Please read the following to your child.

Every year on Feb. 22, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world take a moment to think about their sisters in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). The idea for reserving a special day each year on which Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world would celebrate being a part of an international movement was born at the 4th International Conference held in the United States in 1926. The date chosen for Thinking Day was Feb. 22, the birthday shared by the founder, Lord Baden-Powell, and the World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell (Olave). In July 1999, at the 30th World Conference, "World Thinking Day" was adopted, emphasizing the world aspect of Thinking Day.

This year, our Troop is learning about Zimbabwe, a country in Africa. In fact, the Troop Leader will be in Zimbabwe between December 4th and 15th of this year and will be bringing presents to the Girl Guides association of Zimbabwe! Although Thinking Day isn't until February, we will start learning about Zimbabwe now.

2. **Zimbabwe Worksheet:** Attached is a worksheet to help your child begin to learn about Zimbabwe. First, please show your child where Zimbabwe is on a map and explain that it is a country in Africa. Then use the first worksheet to explore some of the things Zimbabwe is famous for: the Great Zimbabwe (a Medieval city-state) and Victoria Falls. Have your child complete the second worksheet.
3. **The Nutcracker:** During the Daisy meeting we will be learning about the Nutcracker through reading a book titled *The Story of the Nutcracker*. If you own such a book, please read it with your child; if not you can read her the synopsis given here. Then have your child create her own Nutcracker puppets so she can play out some of the scenes. She doesn't need to complete every puppet; please have her do her favorite two to start (and then more if she feels like it!). If she will be coming on the field trip to see the excerpts from the Nutcracker, she can use the dolls to play out the story and that will help her prepare for the ballet version. Don't worry if her story varies from the actual one – it is still of value for her to play with the dolls and get used to the characters!

Synopsis of the Nutcracker: *The Nutcracker tells the tale of a little girl named Clara and her magical adventures with a nutcracker doll. The night of Christmas Eve, she is given the nutcracker doll by her godfather. Her brother Fritz is jealous of Clara's present and breaks it, but Clara's godfather repairs it with a handkerchief around its face. That night, Clara is worried about her nutcracker and sneaks into the living room to check on it.*

As the clock strikes midnight strange things begin to happen. Clara begins shrinking as the Christmas tree grows high above her. The toys around the tree come to life while the room fills with an army of mice, lead by the fierce Mouse King. As the Nutcracker awakens, he leads his army of toy soldiers into battle with the mice. The Mouse King corners the Nutcracker and battles him one-on-one. The Nutcracker and his army can go on no longer and are captured by the mice and their King. Clara makes a final daring charge throwing her slipper at the Mouse King, hitting him square on the head. The Mouse King drops to the floor and the mice run away, carrying off their leader's lifeless body.

The Nutcracker turns into a Prince and takes Clara on a journey to the Land of Snow, an enchanted forest wonderland where they are welcomed by dancing snowflakes. The Prince then escorts Clara to the Land of Sweets where they are greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy. The Prince tells her about their daring battle with the army of mice and she rewards them with a celebration of dances: the Spanish dance, the Arabian dance, the Russian dance, the Chinese dance, the Mirliton dance and the waltz of flowers. As a finale, the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Cavalier dance a beautiful Pas De Deux. At the end of the last dance, Clara awakens from her dream and finds herself by her Christmas tree with her beloved Nutcracker.

To earn credit for this meeting, your child will need to bring in two completed nutcracker puppets and the completed Zimbabwe coloring sheet. Also, please have your child describe what she did with her “A Helping Hand was Here” notes during the next meeting she attends so she can complete the requirements for the “friendly and helpful” Daisy Petal Patch.

Zimbabwe

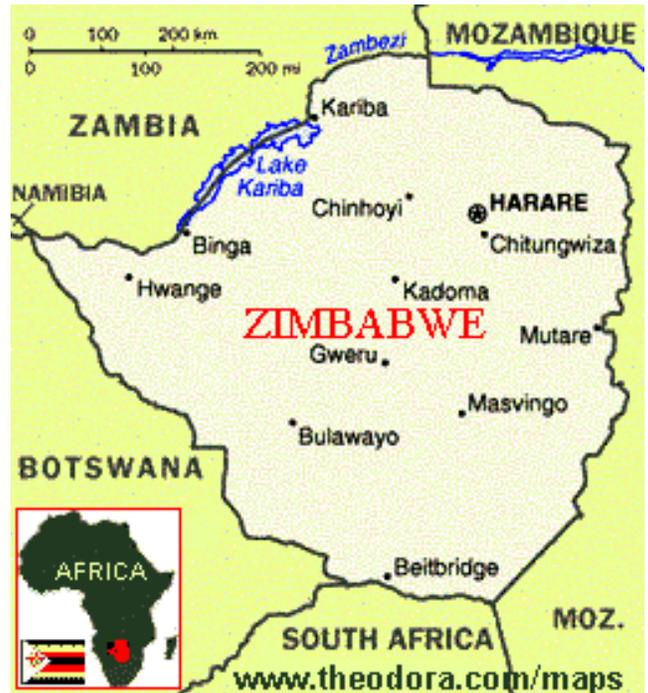


The **Great Zimbabwe** was a city-state built that existed from about 1300 to 1525. **Great Zimbabwe** was a highly organized city with designated areas for markets, housing, public gatherings, and places of worship. A massive wall surrounded the city. The stone used to make the wall, and the palaces and other buildings of the city, were laid so skillfully that they held together without any mortar! Some of the stone walls were 16 feet thick and 30 feet high!



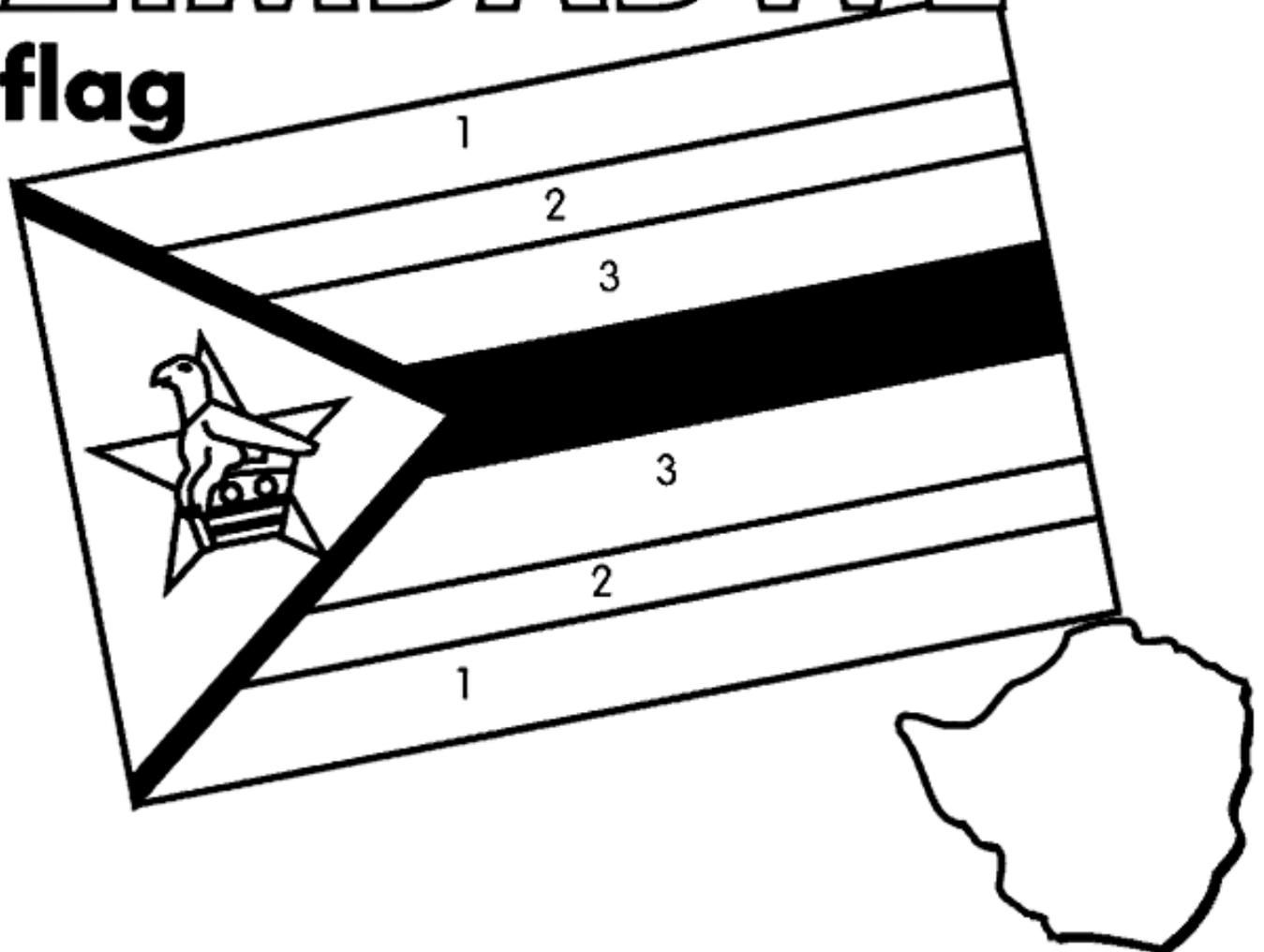
Zimbabwe was rich in gold. The people of Zimbabwe traded this gold with people from other cities and places. For their gold, Zimbabweans received glass beads, cloth, and porcelain. The wealth of the Zimbabwean kings grew. With this wealth they built large palaces, decorated with stone carvings and gold ornaments. Some of the massive stone walls of these palaces still stand today. In fact, the word Zimbabwe means "great stone house."

Victoria Falls is a humongous waterfall between Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is one of the ten largest waterfalls in the world. It is 350 feet high (about the height of a 30 story building and 1 mile wide!



ZIMBABWE

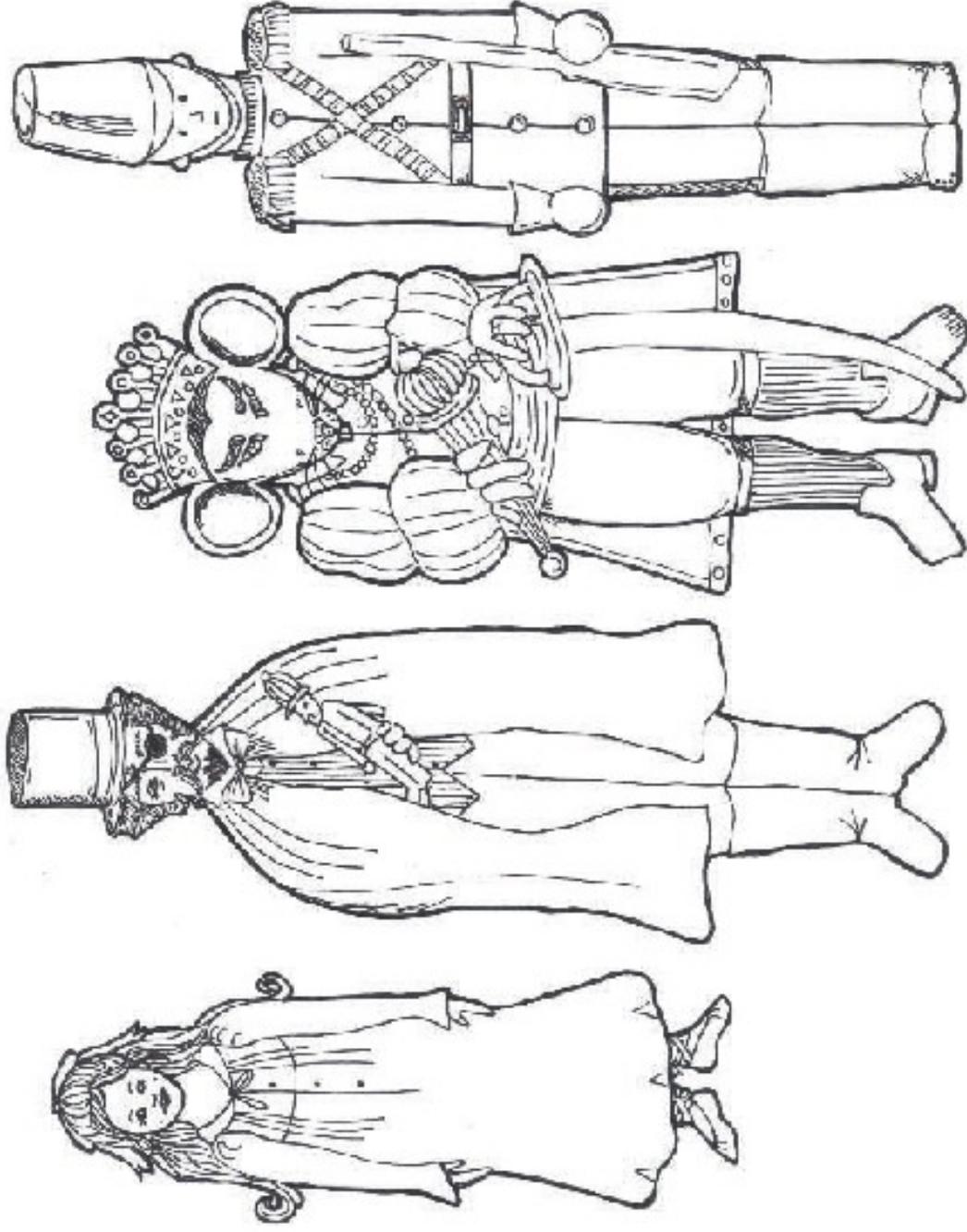
flag



To color the flag of Zimbabwe, use Crayola® crayons, markers, or colored pencils. Color the shape numbered 1 in green. Color the shapes numbered 2 in golden yellow and the shape numbered 3 and the star in red. Color the animal in the middle of the star orange. Leave the rest of the flag white.

Did you know? April 18th is Zimbabwe Independence Day, a national holiday to commemorate the recognition by Great Britain of Zimbabwean independence in 1980. Prior to this date, Zimbabwe had been the British colony of Southern Rhodesia.

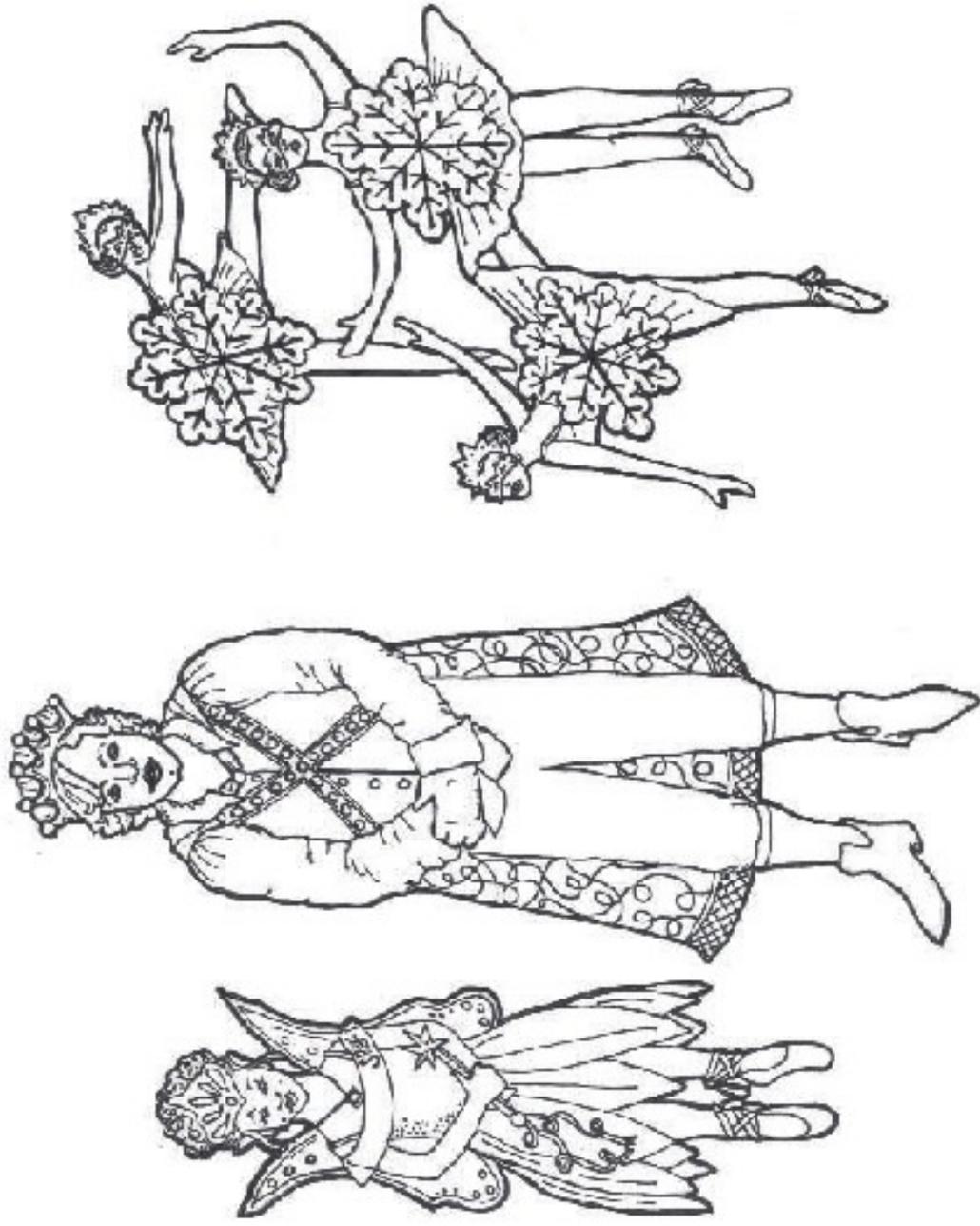
Nutcracker color and cut puppets. Once the characters are cut out, attach to a popsicle stick and create your own puppet show.



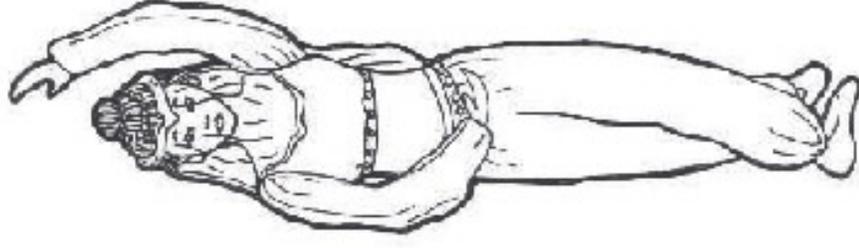
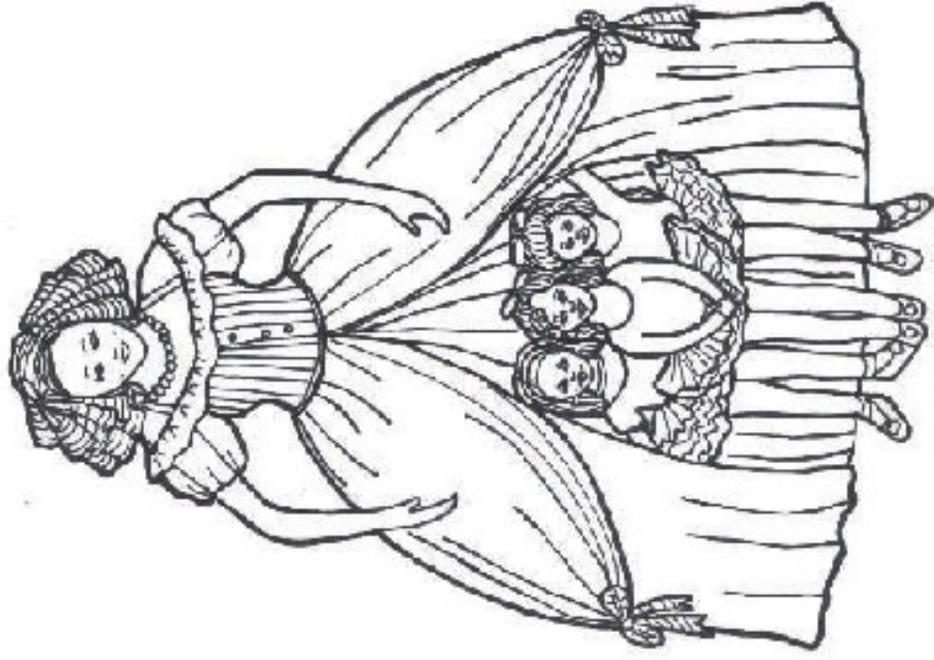
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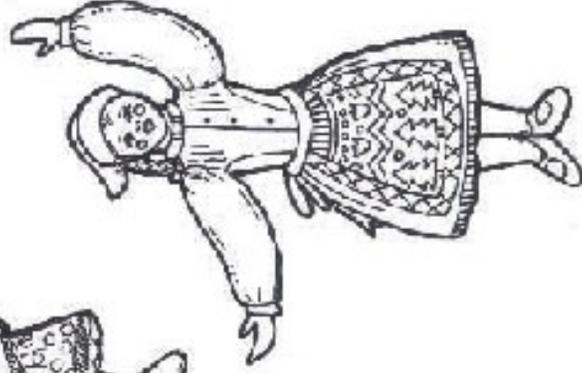
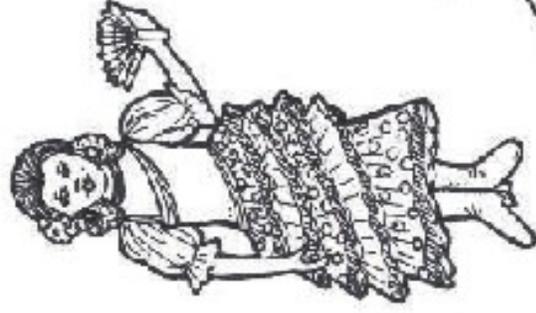
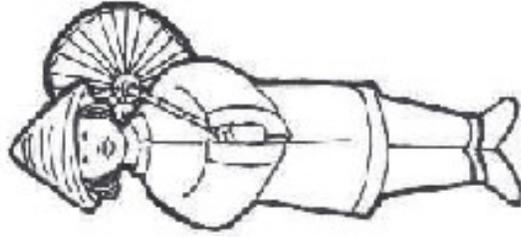
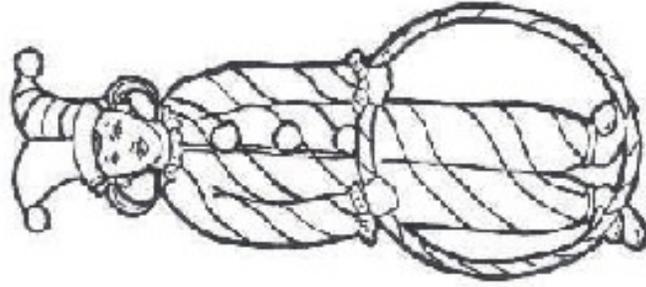
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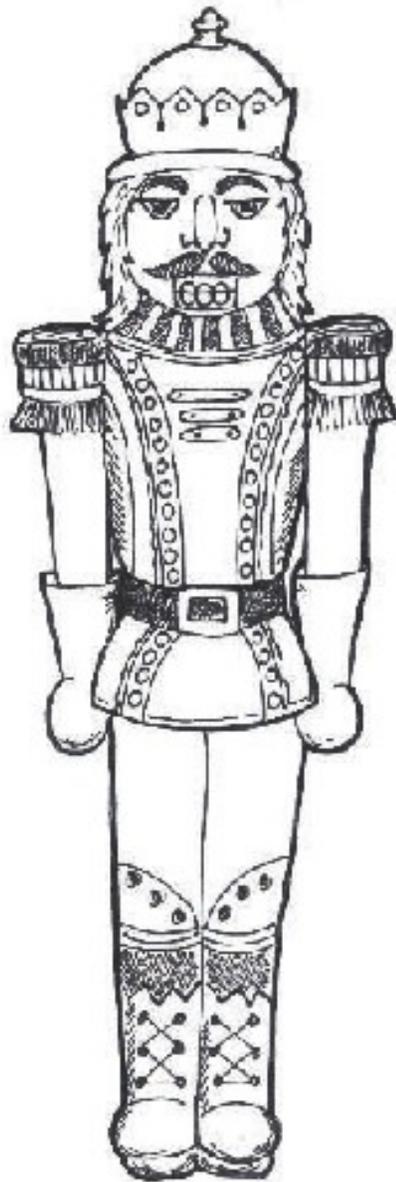
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