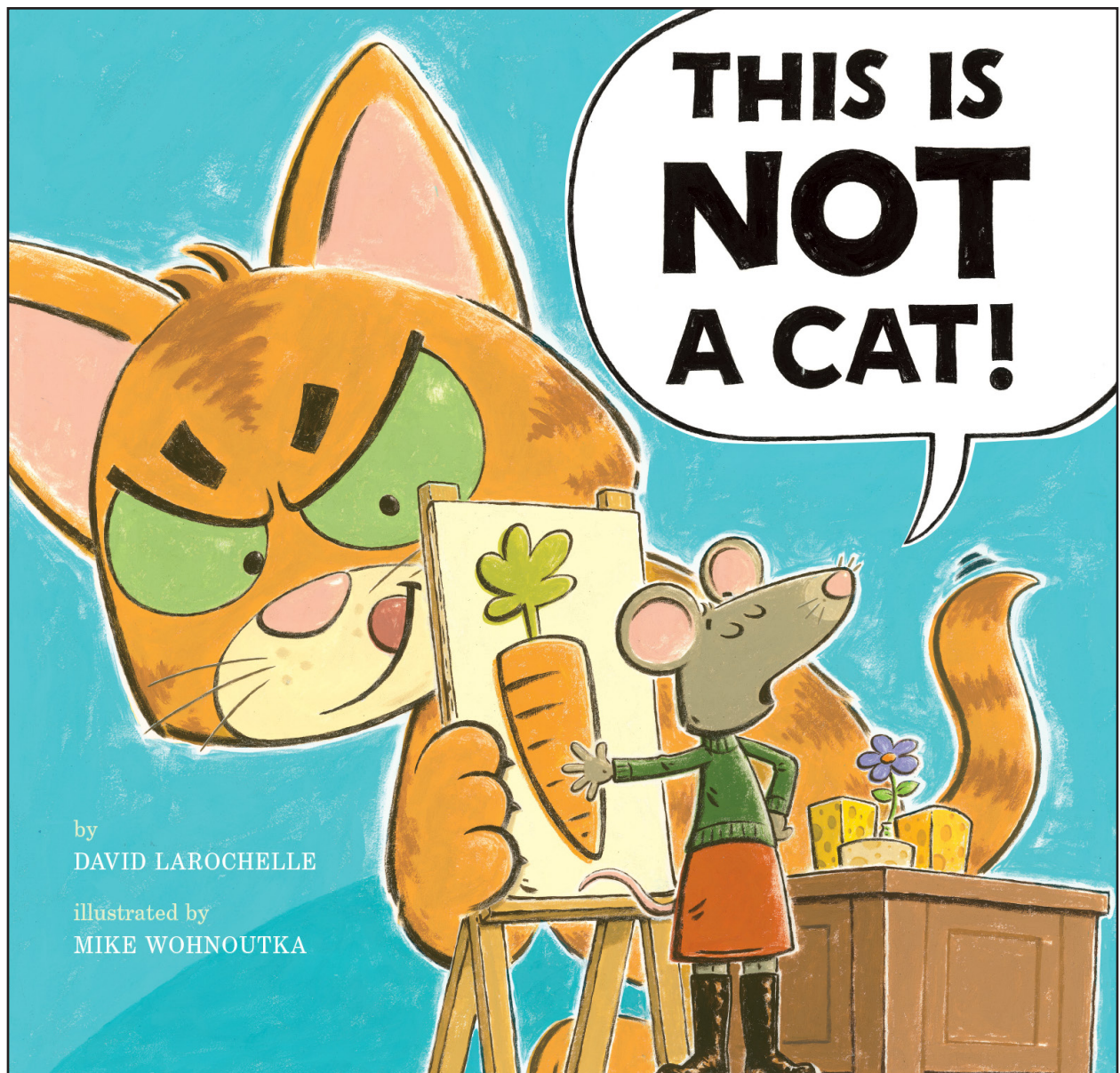




Activity – Kit –



STERLING CHILDREN'S BOOKS

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Try one or several of these SIMPLE ideas to create your own storytime for **THIS IS NOT A CAT!**

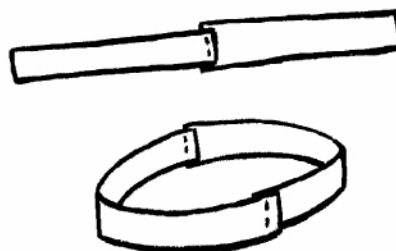
by David LaRochelle and Mike Wohnoutka

Sterling Children's Books, ISBN 978-1-4549-1574-4

Before reading the book:

Draw mouse whiskers on each child using an eyebrow pencil or washable marker.

Make simple headbands by stapling two long strips of gray construction paper together to fit each child's head. Staple 5-inch gray construction paper circles onto the headband for instant mouse ears.



Reading the book:

Show the cover and read the title. Ask whether or not the children think there's a cat on the cover.

Encourage your listeners to look closely at all the pictures. They might notice something that the mice in the book do not!

As you read the story, use PLENTY of expression!

After showing the last page, ask the children what they think will happen next. Do they still think there's a cat on the cover of the book?

Point out to older children that if they can read the five words in the title, they can read the whole story. They may wish to read it again along with you.

After reading the book:

Choose one or two of these other favorite read-aloud mouse books to share:

The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and The Big Hungry Bear by Audrey and Don Wood

Mouse Mess by Linnea Riley

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Joffe Numeroff and Felicia Bond

Try singing a new version of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star:

Squeaking, squeaking little mouse,

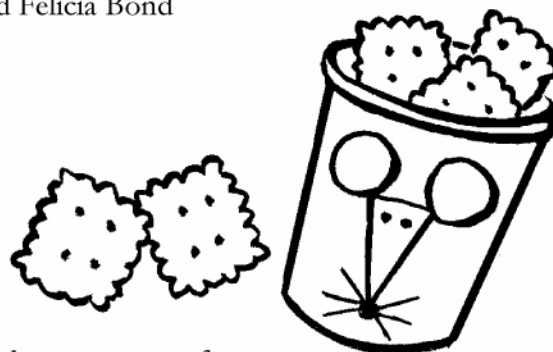
Cozy in your comfy house.

If you see that hungry cat

Better stay right where you're at.

Squeaking, squeaking little mouse,

Cozy in your comfy house.



Serve cheese-flavored crackers in paper cups on which you've drawn a mouse face.

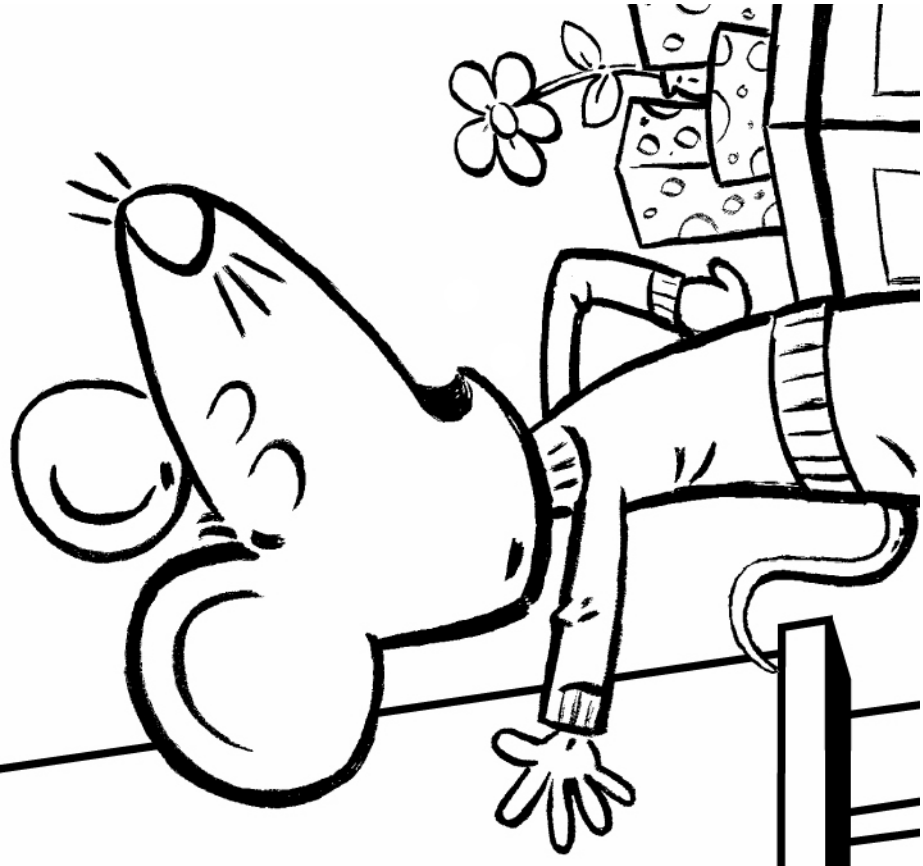
Give attendees a Miss Mouse coloring sheet and allow them to draw a picture of something that is NOT a cat. Display their creations in your own art gallery.

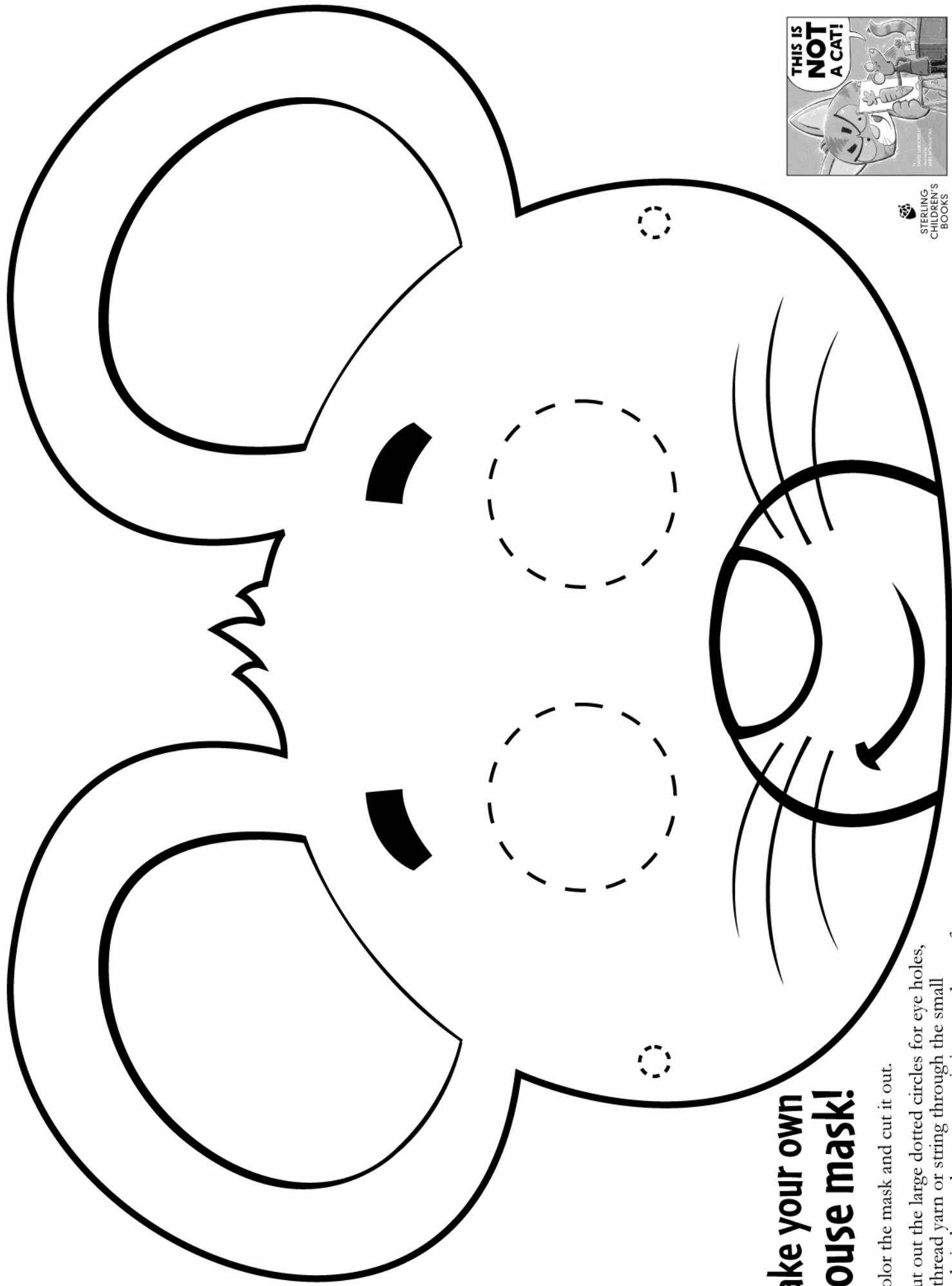
Print off copies of the board game for THIS IS NOT A CAT! As they leave, children can take one to play at home.



THIS IS **NOT** A CAT:

Miss Mouse is
pointing to
something that is
NOT a cat.
Draw a picture
of it!





Make your own mouse mask!

1. Color the mask and cut it out.
 2. Cut out the large dotted circles for eye holes, and thread yarn or string through the small dotted circles so that you can tie it around your face.
- Now you're NOT a cat, you're a mouse!



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BOOKS

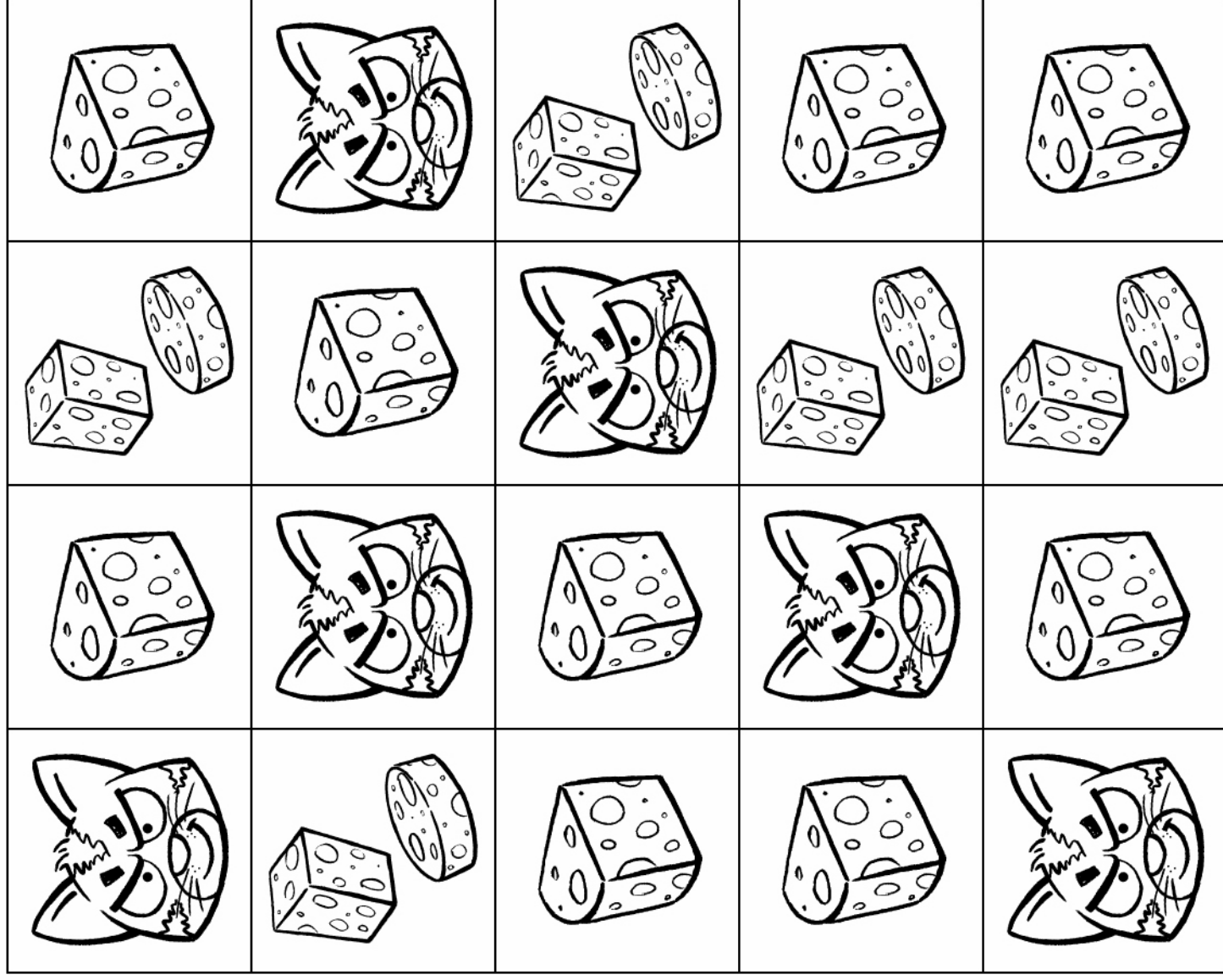
THIS IS **NOT** A CAT!

It's a game based on the book by

David LaRochelle and Mike Wohnoutka
Sterling Children's Books

Directions:

1. Cut out the cheese and cat tokens.
Fold each one in half and place them in a bowl.
2. Each player puts a game piece (such as a button or coin) on "Start."
3. On your turn, close your eyes and draw a slip of paper from the bowl. No peeking!
If it has a picture of cheese, move your game piece ahead one space. If it has two cheeses, move two spaces!
4. Keep drawing slips until you draw a cat.
Move one space backwards, then return all the slips to the bowl. It is now the next player's turn.
5. The first player to make it to school wins.
Watch out for cats!



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