

# The Ugly Duckling and The Tortoise and The Hare

Teacher's Guide

January 31, 9:45 am & 1 pm

http://www.corbianarts.com/

# LIED CENTER OF KANSAS

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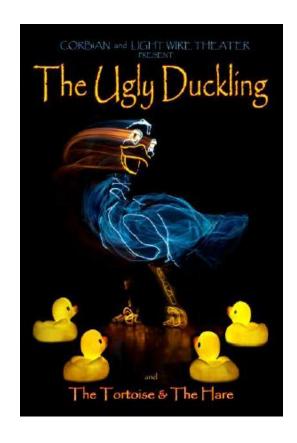
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# The Creators

#### **Corbian Visual Arts and Dance**

The show's creators Ian Carney and Corbin Popp met while dancing in Twyla Tharp's Broadway show Movin' Out. Becoming fast friends through their mutual love of art, theater and technology, Corbin showed Ian a product called EL wire and their creative partnership took off. EL wire is electroluminescent wire powered by batteries and is used mostly to illuminate walkways, signs and instrument panels on cars. Carney and Popp quickly built rudimentary versions of the two main characters, Professor Henslow and Darwin. Then, with the help of their wives, Eleanor Carney and Whitney Popp (who are also dancers), they began to build the rest of their puppetry-based creatures and flesh out the original story. Relocating from New York City to New Orleans (Ian and Eleanor's hometown), they continued the creative process. It was here, in the Katrina ravaged city, that the show began to take shape. The result, after years of engineering and development is Darwin the Dinosaur. Truly unique and visually dazzling, Darwin, recipient of the prestigious Jim Henson Foundation Grant, is an innovative theatrical experience lauded by audiences and critics all over the Americas and Europe.

#### **Lightwire Theater**

and, in conjunction with Corbian Visual Arts and Dance, began pre-production on their first project, The Ugly Duckling and The Tortoise and the Hare, in January 2011. Using Corbian's signature electroluminescent puppetry, Lightwire Theater has adapted two classic tales for the stage; "The Ugly Duckling" and "The Tortoise and the Hare." Stephen Charles Nicholson, after relocating from New York City to New Orleans for the first Darwin tour, continues his involvement with Corbian Visual Arts and Dance and now Lightwire Theater on The Ugly Duckling and the Tortoise and the Hare. Corbin manages to amaze everyone with his boundless energy. He may push pencils by day as a dental student in Mesa, AZ, where he now lives with his wife Whitney and their daughters Addy and Zoe, but somehow he manages to wire electrical boxes, build ducks and offer sound advice on many aspects of the new project after hours, on weekends and from that other dimension

to which many of us suspect he has access.

Ian and Eleanor Carney founded Lightwire Theater

# **About the Performance**



Corbian Visual Arts and Dance will present two stories: A classic Hans Christian Anderson tale "The Ugly Duckling" and the traditional Aesop fable "The Tortoise and the Hare." These stories will be brought to life through electroluminescent puppetry, dance, and music. The electroluminescent wire (EL Wire) puppets and props will be mainly three dimensional and brought to life by 3 performers who are dressed in full black. Each story will feature classical and contemporary music ranging from jazz to pop. Short narration will precede each story.

Lights will only be used for bows. The show requires a completely darkened house, however, given the audiences' age the transition will be gradual, using nighttime sounds to dim the lights and early morning noises (like roosters crowing) to reintroduce the lights.

# **Technology**



1: Copper in the middle of the EL wire conducts electricity, letting it travel from one place to another.

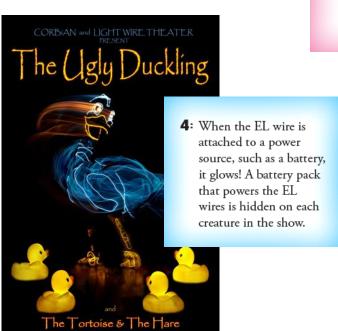
2: A material called phosphor surrounds the copper wire.

The phosphor glows when electricity runs through the wire.



**3:** A colored plastic tube surrounds the phosphor and copper, completing the EL wire.





# **Creating the Show**



First they drew what they wanted the animal to look like



Then they made a puppet with a helmet and aluminum wire



Then they put it on and start to rehearse



Finally they added EL wire and a power pack, turned it on and this is what it looks like in the dark.

# **Ugly Duckling**

#### **Synopsis**

Of the five eggs in Mother Duck's nest, one is the largest and last to hatch. Bigger and paler than the others, this last hatchling is treated as a outsider by Mother Duck and her ducklings. He may be the best swimmer of the brood, but this alone is not enough to ensure his acceptance. Knowing only rejection, this Ugly Duckling goes out into the wild alone. Reflecting upon his plight under the glow of a remote willow tree, he sees a wily cat creeping in the direction of Mother Duck's nest. The Ugly Duckling follows and watches as one lagging duckling is captured and taken back to the cat's lair. In true heroic fashion, this Ugly Duckling succeeds in vanquishing the cat and rescuing the captured duckling. Celebrated by Mother Duck and her ducklings for his uniqueness, all realize that he may have been an ugly duckling, but he has grown into a beautiful and powerful swan.

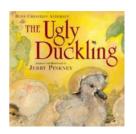


#### Hans Christian Andersen

Through there are many adaptations today, The Ugly Duckling was originally published by Hans Christian Andersen in 1844. Andersen lived from 1895 to 1875 in Denmark, during which time he is credited with some of the most well-known fairytales, including: The Little Mermaid, The Emperor's New Suit, The Princess and the Pea, and Thumbelina.

# **Book Suggestions**

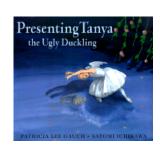
The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Andersen, illustrations by Jerry Pinkney. Three-time Caldecott Honor artist and four-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Award, Jerry Pinkney doesn't disappoint with this lovely, old-fashioned, richly textured watercolor adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's The Ugly Duckling. This adaptation is a Caldecott Honor Book.





The Ugly Duckling written and illustrated by Rachel Isadora. Set in the wilds of Africa, Caldecott Honor winner Rachel Isadora's stunning interpretation of the beloved Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale portrays African animals and landscapes with beautiful detail. As the ugly duckling searches for a place where he can fit in, Isadora's vibrant collages capture the beauty in everything from glistening feathers to shimmering sunsets.

Presenting Tanya, The Ugly Duckling by Patricia Lee Gauch and illustrations by Satomi Ichikawa. When Tanya's ballet teacher, Miss Foley, chooses her to dance the lead in the spring recital of The Ugly Duckling, Tanya wonders, Why? Right from the start, rehearsing is hard. Tanya feels clumsy. "Poor Tanya," she hears someone whisper, "she really is an ugly duckling." She wonders if she will ever get the dance right. It is at the dress rehearsal that she truly becomes the duckling, and in becoming the duckling, rises magically to her role as the ballerina swan. With Satomi Ichikawa's shimmering pastel watercolors, Patricia Lee Gauch's newest story of the littlest dancer is a multi-layered testament to the swan waiting to emerge within each of us.



#### 🜟 THINK!

- Why does the duck sit upon the nest of eggs at the beginning of the story?
- What were some of the things that were "ugly" about the ugly duckling?
- Why did the ugly duckling run way from home?
- How would you handle a situation where somebody was teasing you?
- Talk about a place where you feel "accepted."

### **Fun Facts About Swans**

See if you can complete these facts about swans.



The area where swans live is called their \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Homeland
- в. Habitat
- c. Wetland



A swan's egg usually hatches in \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.

- A. Four
- в. Eight
- c. Twelve



Baby swans are called \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Ducklings
- в. Cygnets
- c. Goslings



Swans put their heads underwater to

- A. Hide
- в. Eat
- c. Cool Off



Baby swans are in danger of other animals called \_\_\_\_\_\_

- A. Hunters
- в. Scavengers
- c. Predators



Before the winter, swans \_

- A. Fly South to warmer places
- в. Stay where they are
- c. Fly North to colder places

Answers: 1.B, 2.A, 3.B, 4.B, 5.C, 6.A

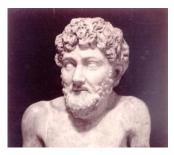
# **Tortoise and The Hare**

#### **Synopsis**

Ridiculed by the Hare, the Tortoise challenges him to a race. They set off and the Hare takes a commanding lead right away. Thinking he will win easily, the Hare allows himself to be distracted with many modern day activities; texting, video games and the paparazzi, of course. The Tortoise continues to trudge along at his methodical pace and, despite the fact that the Hare is a swifter creature, wins the race due to his discipline and fortitude.

#### **Aesop**

Like The Ugly Duckling, there are many adaptations of The Tortoise and the Hare though the story is attributed to the Book of Fables by Aesop. Aesop was a slave who many believe lived in Samos, a Greek island in the eastern Aegean Sea, but others say he came from Ethiopia. The name of his first owner was Xanthus. It is believed that he eventually became a free man. It is not known exactly when the first book of Aesop's fables was written, as the fables were originally handed down through generations like myths, tales and legends. It is, however, believed that Aesop lived from about 620 to 560 BCE. Many of Aesop's fables in The Book of Fables have been found on Egyptian papyri known to date between 800 and 1000 years before Aesop's time.



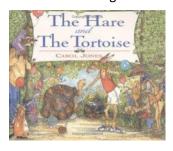
This casts doubts on the authorship of many of the fables attributed to Aesop and the Aesop's Fables book. Many of the fables were possibly compiled by Aesop from existing fables, much in the same way that the Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes were a compilation of existing rhymes. Each on of Aesop's fables has a lesson, or moral- just like a parable or allegory.

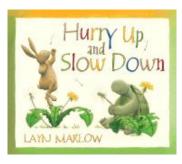
#### **Book Suggestions**



The race adapted by Caroline Repchuk and illustrated by Alison Jay. In this modern retelling of the classic fable, Hare makes a bet with Tortoise that he can reach New York City first. They set off from England heading east, with Tortoise opting for a leisurely cruise and Hare choosing various modes of transportation, from cars to hot-air balloons to camels. Jay's unique illustrations provide life to this tale, recording Hare's travel woes, from barely escaping alligators to a fender-bender, with quieter insets showing Tortoise's trip for contrast.

The Hare and the Tortoise retold by Carol Jones Boston. Sure of winning the race with a tortoise, a hare dawdles about to make it more fun. Full page illustrations alternate with pages of text that have holes peering at portions of the illustrations.





Hurry Up and Slow Down adapted by Layn Marlow. Hare likes to hurry through the day, unlike tortoise, but manages to slow down for his favorite bedtime story.

#### ★ Think!

- · Why did the tortoise challenge the hare to a race?
- Why was the hare so sure that he would win the race?
- How did the tortoise win the race even though he is slower than the hare?
- · Why do you think the author chose to use animals as his characters?
- Why do you think the author used a tortoise and the hare as the main characters?

#### **Turtle or Tortoise?**

# QUESTION 1

Which spends most of its life in the water?



OR

TORTOISE?

# QUESTION 3

Which has webbed feet?



OR



### QUESTION 5

Which lives on land and doesn't migrate, living in the same place its whole life?



OR



# QUESTION 7

Which is herbivorous, meaning it only eats plants?



OR



### QUESTION 9

Which is omnivorous, meaning it eats plants and insects.



OR



#### **Rabbit or Hare?**

# QUESTION 2

Which is born without any hair and is blind?



OR



# QUESTION 4

Which usually lives in burrows or tunnels in the ground, where they prefer to stay during daylight hours?



OR



# QUESTION 6

Which grows larger and has longer ears?



NR



### QUESTION 8

Which tends to spend most of their time alone? They do not travel in a group.



OR



#### QUESTION 10

Which can live with humans and makes a better pet?



OR



Answers: 1.turtle, 2. rabbit, 3. turtle, 4. rabbit, 5. tortoise, 6. hare, 7. tortoise, 8. hare, 9. turtle, 10. rabbit

# **Lesson Plans**

#### Is it a duck? Is it a chick?

Students will compare and contrast the characteristics of a chick and a duckling by using a Venn Diagram.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

By using the Venn Diagram to compare/contrast the characteristics of the chick and the duckling, the students will improve their observational and organizational skills.

#### **Time Needed**

30 minutes

#### **Materials**

- The Chick and the Duckling by Mirra Ginsburg
- · A large sheet of bulletin board paper with a Venn Diagram
- Large individual pictures of a chick and a duckling. Place each in a circle of the diagram
- Markers

#### Lesson

- 1. Teacher will read The Chick and the Duckling by Mirra Ginsburg. As the children recognize the pattern, they will probably join in. The teacher will lead a discussion of the book, focusing on how the chick and the duckling were alike/different.
- 2. The teacher will then explain to the children that to see the comparisons more clearly, the class could make a Venn Diagram. If the class has not experience this type of graphing, then more explanation would be required.
- 3. The teacher would then place the paper with the diagram before the students and ask for observations about the chick and duckling. The students would decide if the characteristics described the chick, the duckling, or both. The teacher would write the students answers in the appropriate place as guided by the students.

#### **Assessment**

- Teacher observation of students participation
- The finished product (the diagram)
- Review discussion: Students explain how the chick and duckling are different. How are the alike?

#### **Kansas Common Core State Standards**

**English Language Arts** 

- Reading Standards for Literature
  - o RL3: Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details
  - o RL9: Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories

#### Mathematics

- · Measurement and Data
- o 3: Classify objects into given categories; count the numbers of objects in each category and sort the categories by count Science
  - Life Science
    - o S3.B1: The student will develop an understanding of the characteristics of living things.

#### **Hand Print Swan Craft**

Supplies
White paper
Small white cup
Orange and black construction paper
Tape
Glue
Pipe Cleaner
Scissors
Your hands and one of your feet



#### Instructions

- Take two pieces of white paper and lay one on top of the other. Trace your hand print on the top one with all of your fingers and thumb spread apart. Cut out the hand print through both sheets of the white paper, creating two hand prints. Repeat. Now you should have four white handprints. They will become your swan's wings. Next take two of the hand prints and lay one over the other and shift it in place so the fingers intermingle and you can see all eight and the two thumbs. Glue or tape them together this way. Repeat with the remaining two hand prints. Set them aside and let them dry.
- Trace one of your feet on white paper with your shoe off. Cut it out. This will become your swan's neck. Take a pair of scissors and curl the heel end of the foot print so it curves over. Now take your pipe cleaner and thread it directly up the middle of your foot print and extend it about one inch beyond the end of the heel. This will make your swan's neck curvy, flexible, and bendable. Set aside.
- Next cut out the pieces you will need to put together your swan's head. (Attached) Take a piece of black paper and fold it in half. Cut out the small piece shown with the straight line of the template on the fold.
- Next take a piece of orange paper and fold it in half. Cut out the other longer piece shown with the straightline of the template on the fold. Now slip the orange piece over the piece of pipe cleaner that you left extended when you created your swan's neck. Glue or tape in place.
- Now add the black piece further up the pip cleaner, slightly overlapping the orange. Glue in place.
- Now let's assemble your swan! Use a small paper cup with the open part of the cup headed toward the rear of the swan.
- Glue or tape the hand print wings you created on either side of the swan's body pointing backwards. Now add the foot print neck to the front of the swan. Trim the sides of the foot print if the toes are too wide. Bend the pipe cleaner so it is arched.

#### **Sequencing: The Hare and the Tortoise**

#### Objective

Students discuss the sequence of events in the story and retell the story with a partner.

#### **Materials**

- The Hare and the Tortoise. There are many versions. One that you might use is The Hare and the Tortoise retold and illustrated by Helen Ward.
- A chalkboard, white board, or paper to record information from text
- Sequence Chain Graphic Organizer
- Blank Paper, pencils, crayons/markers, and paper lunch bags.

#### Lesson

- 1. Introduction
  - a. Tell students that they will be putting the events of this story in order and then retelling the story. Model an incorrect retelling of a story. Here's an example: Martha told Billy not to worry- she would have done the same thing. Martha started to cry. The end. Then Billy told Martha he was sorry. Billy got angry and shouted at Martha. Once, Martha stepped on Billy's toe by accident. Billy and Martha were best friends.
  - b. Have students tell you which events are not in the correct order and then have them retell the story in the correct sequence, discussing how much the order of events, or sequence, changes the story.

#### 2. Vocabulary

- a. Retell- to tell again
- b. Hare- an animal similar to a rabbit, with longer hind legs and ears
- c. Tortoise- a kind of turtle that lives on land, not in water
- d. Fable- a fictitious story told to enforce a truth or a moral
- e. Moral- expressing or teaching about good behavior
- 3. Measurable Objectives
  - a. Explain to the students that after you read the story you will be talking about the sequence of events. Explain that they will use a Sequence Chain graphic organizer to remember the parts of the story and then retell the story to the class.

### 4. Focused Instruction

- a. Before reading the Hare and the Tortoise, discuss the terms hare and tortoise and explain that a hare is similar to a rabbit, and a tortoise is similar to a turtle. Discuss how fast a hare can run and how fast a tortoise can walk, and predict who would win a race between them. Talk about the story as an example of a fable, which is a story that teaches a lesson called a moral. Some versions of this fable will include the moral, "Slow and steady wins the race," while others may not explicitly state this.
- b. Read the story, having students use a graphic organizer to record events in the story. Show them the graphic organizer, and explain that because there are six boxes in the sequence chain, they will choose one event from the beginning, four events from the middle, and one event from the end of the book and write them all on the graphic organizer. Think aloud while you complete the first box and look back at the text to check other events. Continue reading and have students think of the events from the middle of the book. List the events and ask student to arrange the ideas into the sequence that they happen in the story. Then, narrow the events to the four most important ones and have students write them in the middle boxes of the graphic organizer. Continue reading to the end of the story and have students complete the last box of the sequence chain on their own. Using the graphic organizer, model a retelling of the first two events of the story. Tell the students that they do not need to say exactly hast is written down, but that the events need to be in the correct order.

### 5. Guided Practice

a. Group students and have them practice retelling the story including all the events from the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Tell them that they will make puppets for the hare and the tortoise and retell the story for the class. Circulate through the room as students use the graphic organizer to retell the story, providing feedback as necessary.

#### **Kansas Common Core State Standards**

**English Language Arts** 

- Reading Standards for Literature
  - o Key Ideas and Details
    - RL.1: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text
    - RL2: Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson
    - RL3: Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details

#### Theater Arts

- Developing Scripts
  - o The student knows the basic elements of a story
    - 1: Identifies the beginning, middle, and end of a story
    - 2: Sequences events according to basic story structures of beginning, middle, and end
    - 3: Identifies the conflict and resolution of a story
    - 4: Distinguishes conflict from resolution
    - 5: Analyzes theatrical works to identify parts of the plot

# 3-D Turtle Craft Materials:

Printer and paper

Stapler

Scissors

Glue

Wiggly eyes or white paper

#### Instructions:

- · Print the template
- Color the template pieces
- Cut slits in each corner of the large body shape
- Staple or tape the paper together so it overlaps slightly and forms a bowl shape
- Glue the eyes on the head (moon shape)
- Glue the head onto the front of the body
- Fold the tabs on the feet and tail and glue them to the inside of the body



# Rabbit Windsock Craft Materials:

White cardstock

Tissue/crate paper (spring colors)

String

Stapler

Glue

#### Instructions:

- Glue the eyes, ears, nose and mouth to white cardstock
- Staple or glue the tissue/crate paper to the bottom
- Staple or glue cardstock edge together
- Staple the string to the top and hang up



# **Additional Learning Activities**

#### **Questions for After the Show**

# One of the best things about seeing theatre and dance is being able to have a conversation after the show. Here are some questions to think about:

- 1. How was the show the same or different from other versions of *The Ugly Duckling* and *The Tortoise and the Hare* you have read?
- 2. What was your favorite part about the play and why?
- 3. What did you think about the puppets? How did they help tell the story?
- 4. How was music used in the show? How did music help tell the story?
- 5. What was the moral or lesson of each story? How might you apply these lessons to your own life?
- 6. In *The Ugly Duckling*, the duckling gets very sad when people make fun of him for being different. What are ways you can make somebody feel better if they are feeling sad or left out?
- 7. In *The Tortoise and the Hare*, the tortoise wins by not giving up. What things in your life have you accomplished by not giving up?

#### **Activities**

Myths, Folktales and Fairytales Internet Project http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/index.htm

Compiled by Scholastic, Inc., this project is a compilation of contributions from many authors to create a rich resource for learning about writing in these genres.

Writing with Writers Series by Scholastic: Myths Writing Workshop with Jane Yolen <a href="http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/mythswshop">http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/mythswshop</a> index.htm

An online workshop for students written by prolific folklore author Jane Yolen and presented by Scholastic, Inc.

Fracture Fairy Tales and Fables with Jon Scieszka

http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/fractured fairy.htm

Explore fractured fairy tales with Jon Scieszka, author of The True Story of the Three Little Pigs! And Squids Will Be Squids.

# **Additional Resources**

EL Wire Ideas (That's Cool Wire Company)

http://www.thatscoolwire.com/articleDetail.asp?articleID=33

Images illustrating the different way that electroluminescent wire can be used.

Sur la Lune Fairytales

http://www.surlalunefairytales.com/introduction/index.html

This website offers an assortment of questions, essays, guides, links that explore the history and cultural significance of fairytales.

JigZone

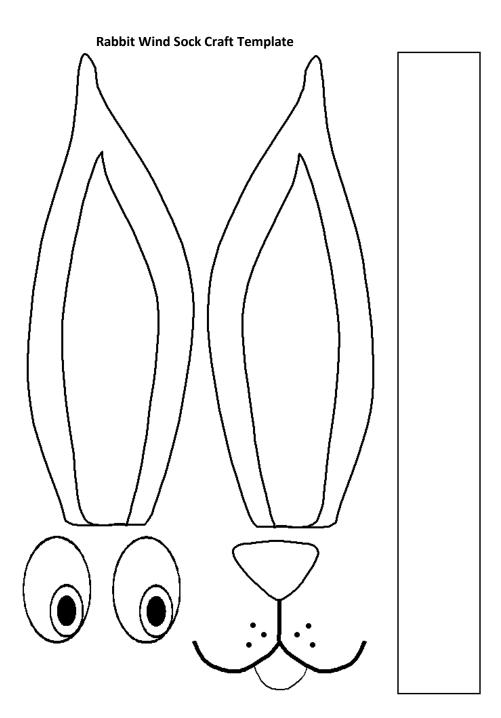
http://www.first-school.ws/puzzlesonline/animals/duck.htm

Duck Online Jigsaw Puzzle

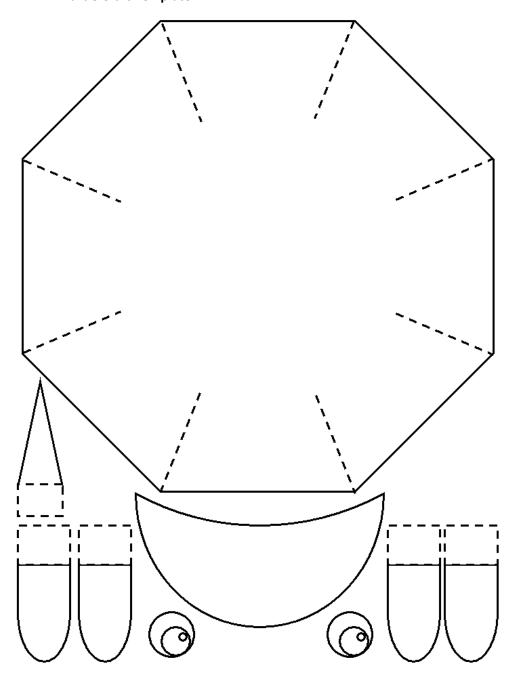
Speakaboos

http://www.speakaboos.com/

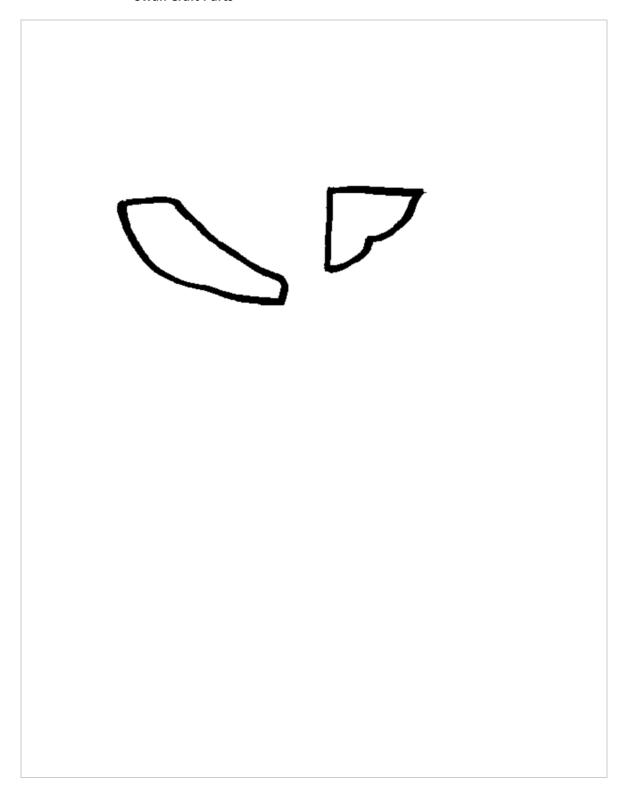
Animated Stories, Worksheets, Lesson Plans, & other activities



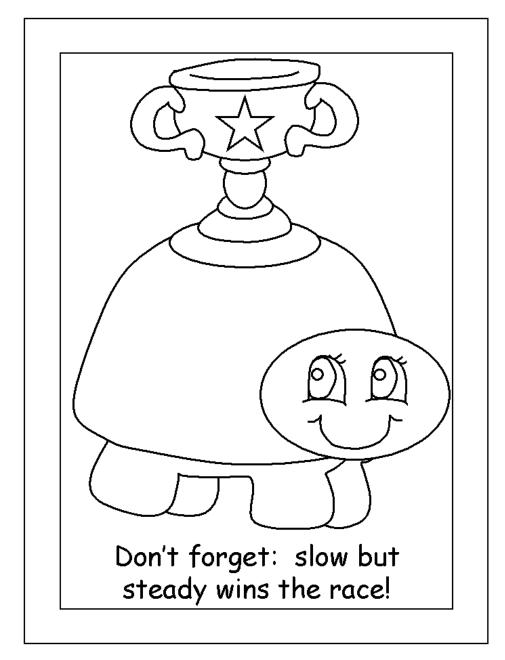
# **Turtle Craft Template**



### **Swan Craft Parts**



# **Coloring Fun!**



# **Sequence Chain Worksheet**

