



Humpty Dumpty



Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the King's horses
And all the King's men
Couldn't put Humpty together again!

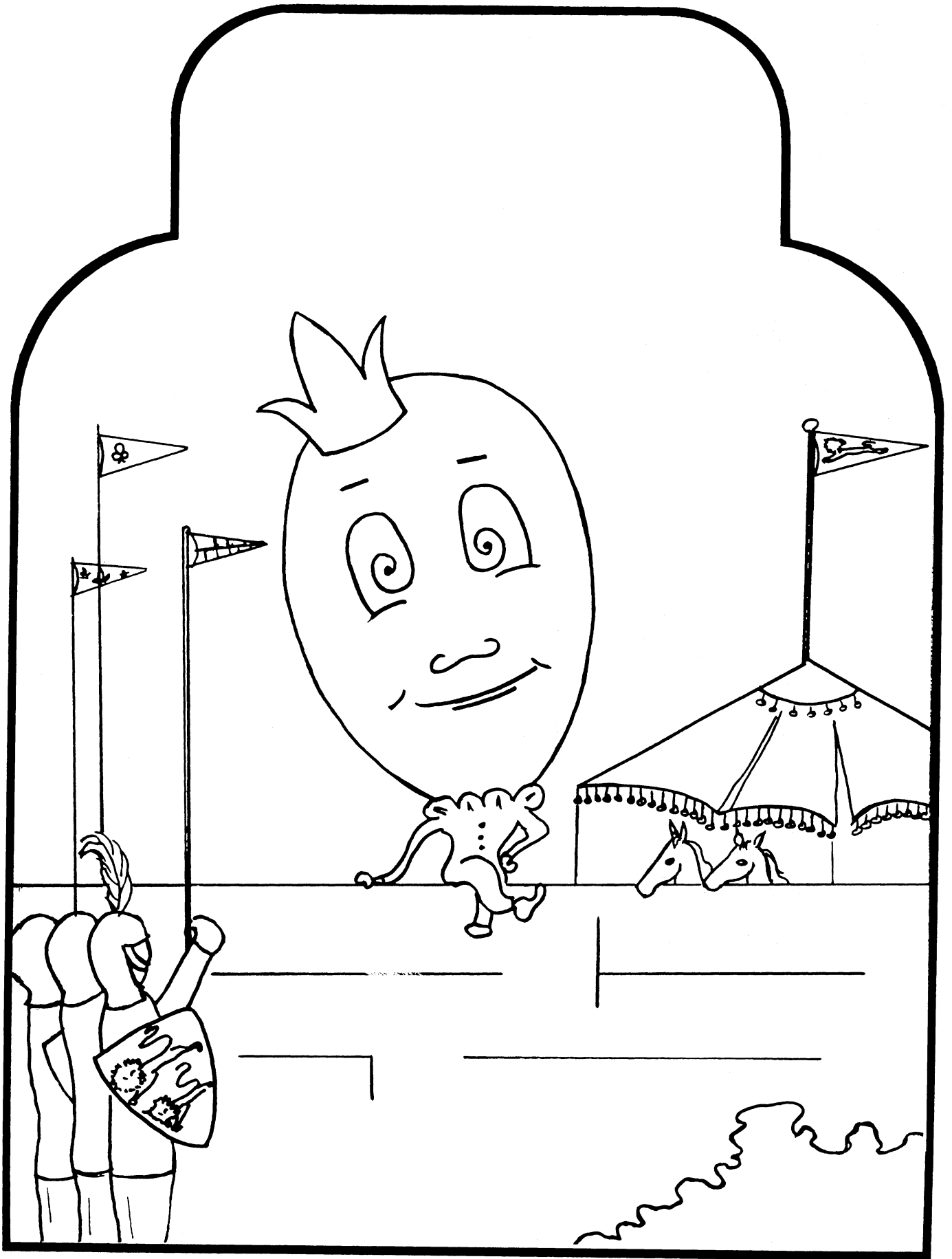
When Edward V became king he was only 12 years old and considered too young to rule. Therefore, his uncle Richard was named Protector of the Realm to rule temporarily until Richard was of age.

But Richard was very ambitious and wanted to be king also. He placed the young king and his little brother in the Tower of London where they both mysteriously disappeared. Then Richard III, "hump-back Dick," became the new king in 1483.

There were those who bitterly opposed Richard III, and two years later Henry Tudor, leader of the opposition, raised an army to fight the king. A great battle was fought on Bosworth Field. Richard was killed and his army defeated.

Although Richard's forces had been superior, neither his many men nor their fine horses could put him back on the throne again. Katherine Elwes Thomas believes that Richard III was Humpty-Dumpty.¹

1. Katherine Elwes Thomas, *The Real Personages of Mother Goose*, Lothrop, 1930, p. 39.



EGG PUZZLES

Art

Materials: vari-colored construction paper
felt marker
scissors
large oval pattern

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Method: Each child selects one of the colored pieces of construction paper, traces the oval pattern on it, and then marks it off into segments with a felt marking pen. The oval (egg) is cut out and then the segments are cut out to form a puzzle. Children take turns working their own and each other's puzzles. Using various colors helps children identify their own puzzle.

CREATING THINKING

Language Arts

Discuss why Humpty Dumpty couldn't be put back together again. What if he could be put back together? The teacher brings an egg to school, cracks it, and demonstrates the discussion.

EGG MATCHING GAME

Mathematics

The teacher cuts out 10 posterboard eggs. Each is divided in half by a jagged line. The matching halves are marked; one half with numbers, the other half with corresponding dots. They are then cut out along the jagged line. Children fit the corresponding pieces together.

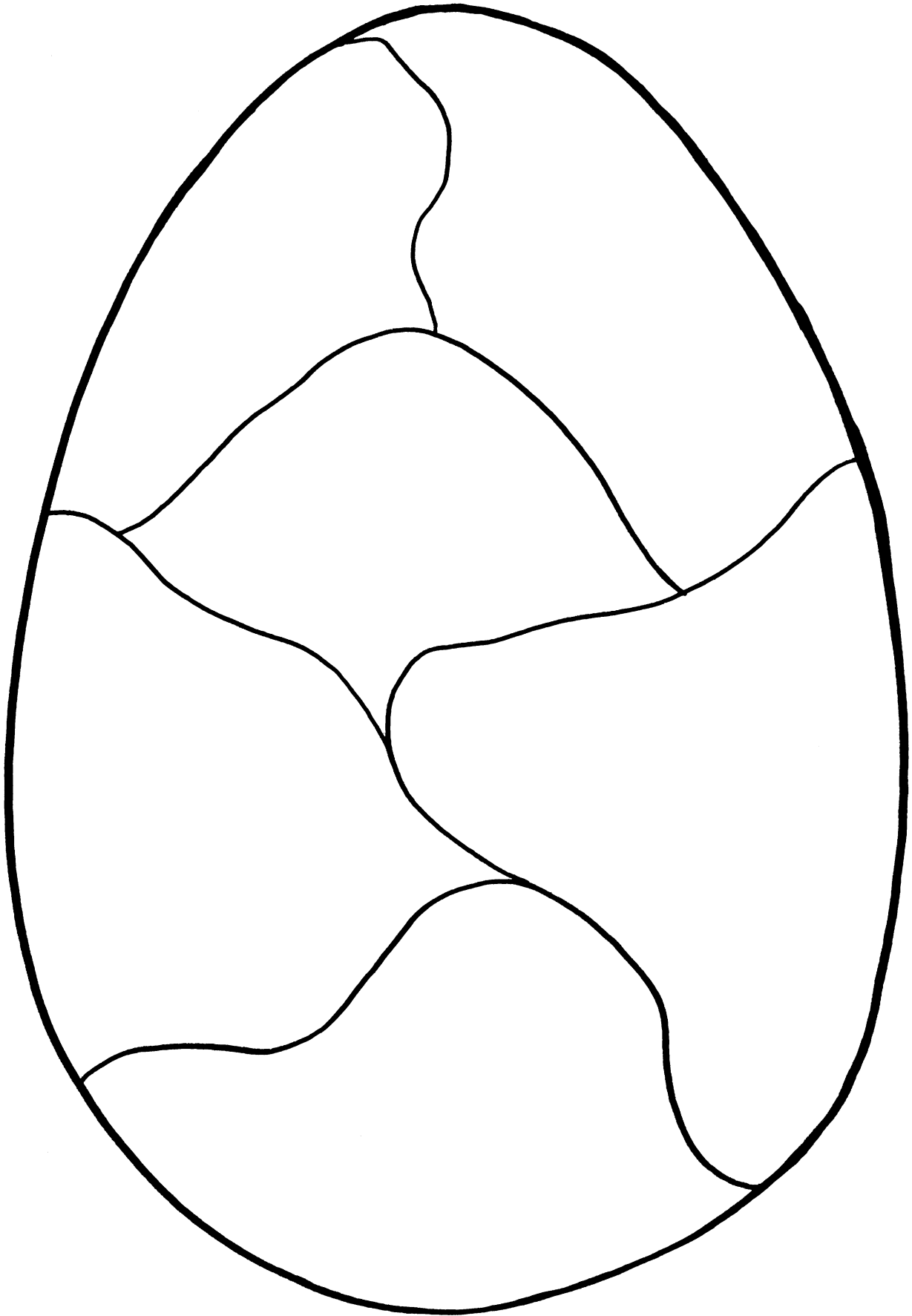
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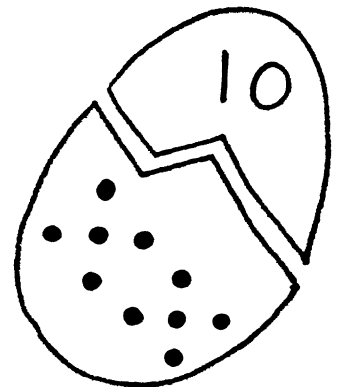
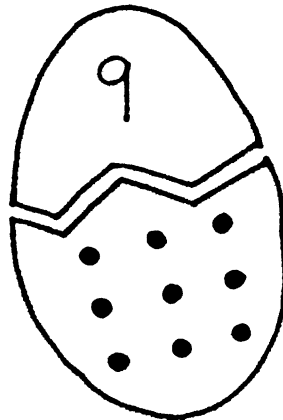
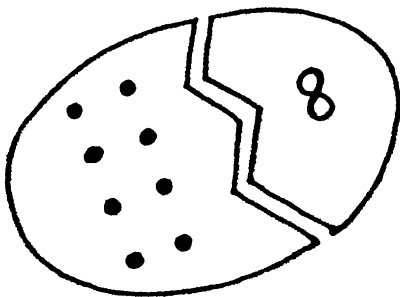
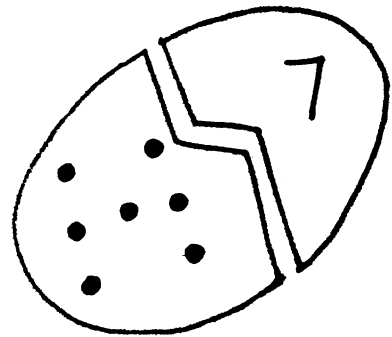
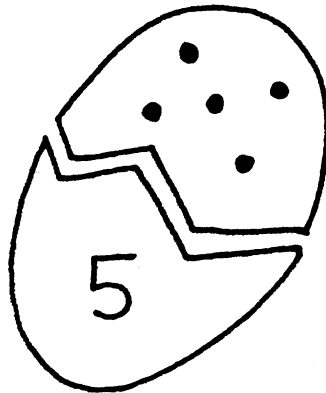
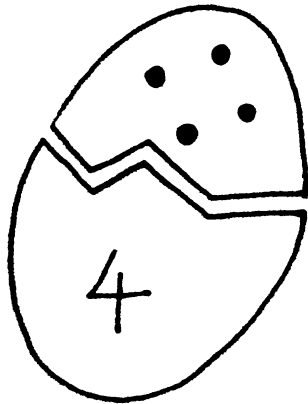
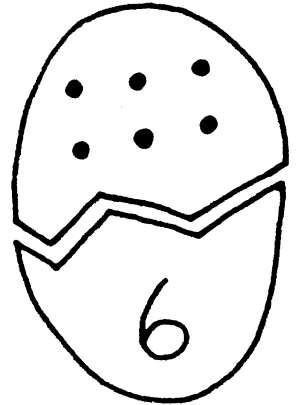
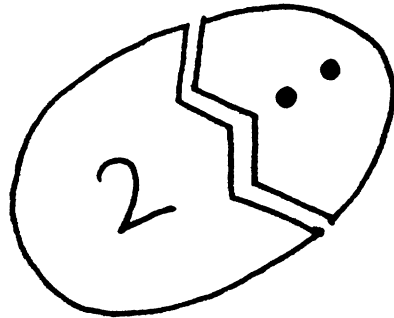
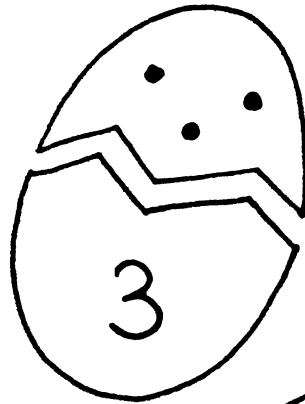
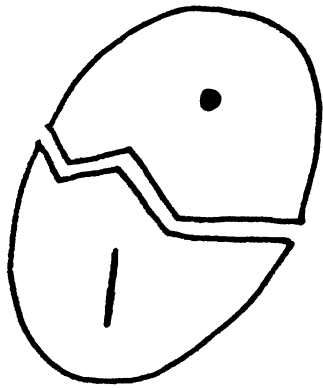
COMPARATIVE COOKING

Science

For one week, the teacher brings 3 or 4 eggs each day and cooks them in a different way. For example: Monday, scrambled eggs; Tuesday, hard boiled eggs; Wednesday, soft boiled eggs; Thursday, fried eggs; Friday, egg salad.

Children are given a small taste each day. A chart is prepared, and children select the method of cooking that they preferred.





EGG CONTAINER

Science

Each child is asked to design a small container in which an egg can be held safely when dropped from the top of a sliding board. Materials that can be used are shredded newspaper, styrofoam, cotton, etc. Children are encouraged to use their own ideas.

All containers may be tested by the class. Winners are those whose eggs did not break. Some kind of reward is suggested.

HUMPTY DUMPTY PLANTER

Science

Materials: a brick
a paper baking cup
 $\frac{3}{4}$ of an egg shell
dirt
grass seed
felt tip markers

Method: The paper baking cup is glued to the brick and the egg shell is glued inside it. With felt tip markers, the teacher draws a face on the egg shell. Dirt is placed inside the egg shell and grass seed planted in it. The brick is placed in a sunny spot in the classroom and lightly watered each day with a spoon by a student. As the grass grows it looks like Humpty Dumpty's hair.

