# **OCTOBER 2021**

Developed in association with PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center and Stages Theatre Company



# SPOOKLEY'S NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH CELEBRATION TOOLKIT

The End of Bullying Begins With You!

**Spookley** is a square pumpkin who lives in a round pumpkin patch world. He helps early learners discover that the things that make us different are the things that make us special.

As the "Official Spokes-Pumpkin" for National Bully Prevention Month, Spookley the Square Pumpkin is here to help remind us that **The End of Bullying Begins with You.** 

# PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Discuss with your young person what Spookley's message means.

- How do **individual actions** stop bullying? What do those actions look like?
  - How can each of us contribute to making the world **kinder**, more **accepting**, and **inclusive**?

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# **READ THE BOOK**

*The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin* Read *The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin*. The book is available for purchase at Spookley.com and a video reading by the author is available for free on the official **Spookley YouTube channel**.

## WATCH THE MOVIE

The *Spookley the Square Pumpkin* movie can be seen on Disney Junior and Netflix and is available for rental or purchase via all of the major digital platforms (e.g., Amazon, Apple, Google, YouTube).



# DISCUSS

Use the discussion guidelines on the next page.

# **AT-HOME ACTIVITIES**



#### TAKE THE PLEDGE

Join Spookley and friends in **taking the Pledge** to create a world without bullying through kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. Help us make this the biggest bullying prevention pledge ever! Take a photo or video of your family **taking the Pledge** and share it on social media and include the hashtag #spookley20.



#### ACTS OF KINDNESS TRICK-OR-TREAT BAG

Filling a bag with tricks or treats is fun, but have you ever thought of filling a bag with kindness? Discuss with your young person what an act of kindness is. What does it look like? What does it feel like? How does it make the world more accepting and inclusive? Then create a "trick-or-treat" bag not for tricks or treats but for acts of kindness.

Your family can add to the bag by "collecting" acts of kindness that they either do or witness. Write them on slips of paper and put them in the bag. Examples include *"I witnessed an act of kindness. I saw someone..."* or *"I did this today to show kindness to someone else..."* Create a graph to tally the growing collection and display it on a family bulletin board.

# **BULLYING PREVENTION AND TOLERANCE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

QUESTIONS	KEY THEMES AND OBJECTIVES
How do you think Spookley felt when he was teased by the other pumpkins? How do you think it would feel if you were teased by someone?	Use empathy to help children recognize that they would feel badly if they were teased and bullied.
How do you think Spookley felt by the end of the story?	Lead children to recognize that it is okay to be different.
What are some things that you can do if you are being teased or bullied? What are some things that you can do if you see someone else being teased or bullied?	<ul> <li>Have children recognize that they can be problem solvers and take action to counteract bullying</li> <li>Tell an adult</li> <li>Speak up for yourself and friends</li> <li>Be a friend – remove victim from the situation</li> <li>Intervene – tell the child who is bullying that it's not OK and it's not allowed</li> <li>Note: It's best to focus on behavior rather than labels. For instance, don't encourage children to label someone a "bully" but rather teach them how to recognize bullying behavior. You may wish to visit pacerkidsagainstbullying.org for more strategies</li> </ul>
What are some things that you can do to show kindness and tolerance towards others?	Lead children to recognize that it feels good to make others feel good.
How does it feel when others are nice to you?	
<b>SPOOKLEY MOVIE QUESTIONS:</b> How did Spookley feel when Big Tom and Little Tom say, "he's not like ushe's a freak of nature".	Have children recognize different roles of individuals in a bullying situation. Point out that Big Tom and Little Tom never stop to think about how their behavior affects Spookley. Lead your young person to recognize that it feels good when others understand how we think and feel, and that each of us can make someone else feel good by understanding their thoughts and feelings.



**Unity Day is October 20.** Wear and share orange to show unity for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion and to send a visible message that no child should ever experience bullying.

# **WEAR AND SHARE**

Explore your family closets to find orange attire to wear on Unity Day.

# ORANGE YOU CREATIVE? CRAFT ORANGE ACCESSORIES!

The fun part of any outfit is the accessories. How about a hat? A pendant? A wristband? Use the templates at the end of this document to help your young person create orange accessories to wear on Unity Day.

#### **MATERIALS:**

For all templates Orange or white cardstock 8 1/2" x 11" Markers or crayons Stickers or other embellishments (optional) Stapler or tape Scissors

For hat, you will also need a 2" strip of cardstock long enough to wrap around head. For pendant, you will also need yarn or string and a hole punch.

# **CREATE A SPOOKLEY COSTUME**

Take your orange-y best to the next level with a Spookley the Square Pumpkin costume. Use the template and instructions at the end of this document.



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# WEEK 3: CELEBRATE

The countdown is over. The preparations are in place. **IT'S UNITY DAY!** Time to gather in-person or online to celebrate and share your efforts and commitment with others.

# WEAR YOUR ORANGE

Show off your orange in solidarity for a kinder, more inclusive, and accepting world. Include your orange accessories from Week Two.

## SHARE YOUR ORANGE

Record your family in their orange attire with a photo or video and share on social media. Be sure to include the hashtag #spookley20.

# **CHALLENGE IT FORWARD**

When you share your efforts, nominate another household to **take the Pledge**. Challenge them to nominate someone too and spread the message of kindness.

# WEW GRAB THE POPCORN Watch the all new *Spookley's Halloween Show!*, premiering October 20th. You can watch it for free on the <u>Spookley YouTube channel.</u>



Determine ways to continue bullying prevention efforts all year to create a kinder, more inclusive, and more accepting world.

# SET A GOAL AND KEEP COLLECTING!

As a family, commit to continuing to collect acts of kindness. **Set a goal** of how many acts can be collected in the next year. To keep the project momentum going, set smaller goal milestones to celebrate throughout the year. Smaller goals can be set monthly, or timed with holidays.

**RE-NAME THE BAG** from a trick-or-treat style to something less tied to the month of October. Ideas include *Collection of Kindness* or *Kindness From (street address)*. Keep a record of the growing tally.

# **KEEP SPOOKLEY IN YOUR HOME**

Promoting kindness, acceptance, and inclusion is not only for the month of October; it can be celebrated throughout the year. Spookley can become a part of your home in several ways:

- A Spookley plush on a shelf
- A Spookley print out displayed on a wall, see next page
- A Spookley craft created by your young person

# AND THERE'S MORE!

Your family can meet Spookley's friends, who each have a valuable message for children to discover. Make every day a holiday with these books from Holiday Hill Farm:

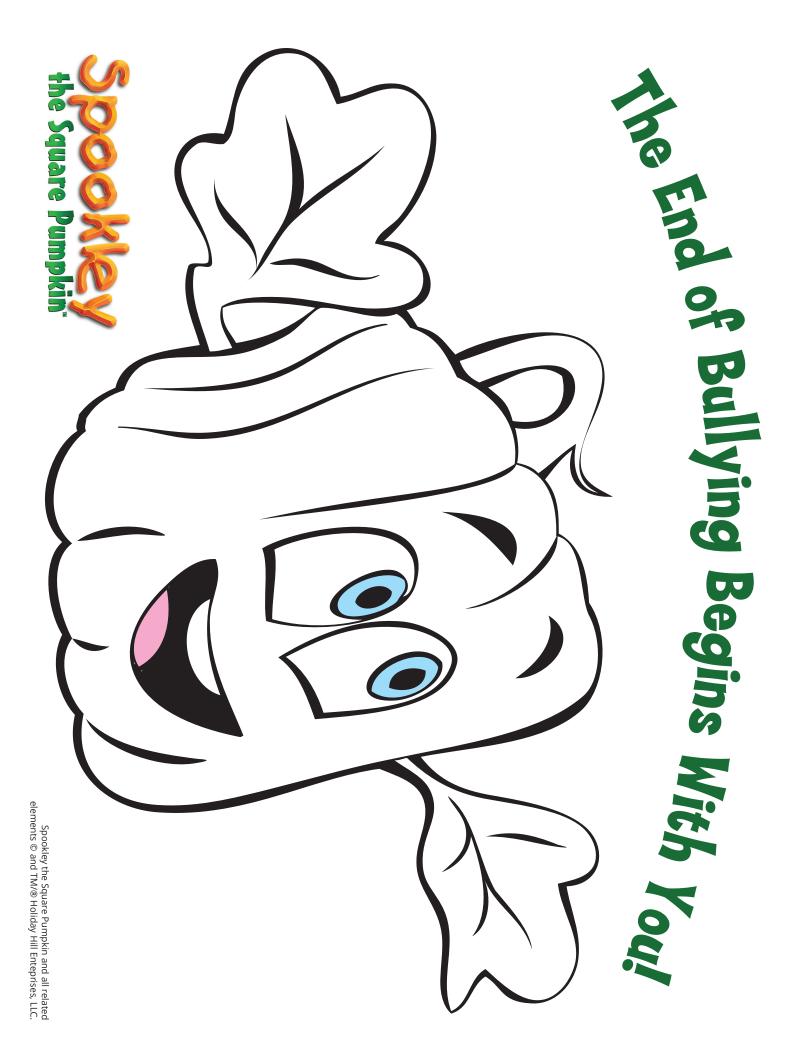
*Mistletoe and the Christmas Kittens* teaches the value of unselfish acts of kindness.

Lyla the Lovebug helps us understand the true power of love.

*JellyBean and the Unbreakable Egg* is a lesson in the value of teamwork, the importance of kindness, and the amazing power of a good hug.

Beacon the Bright Little Firefly shows us the value of thinking for yourself.

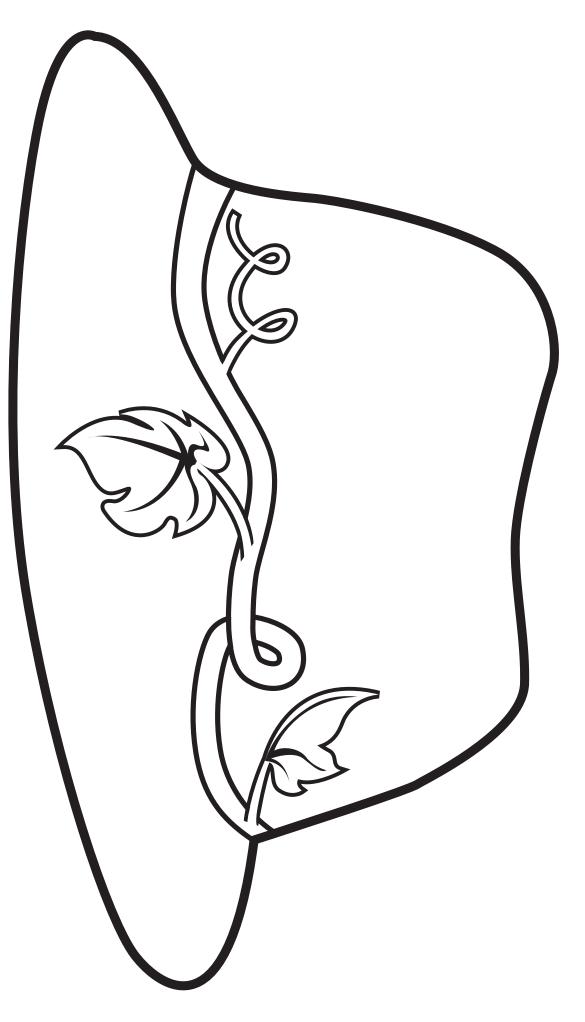
**A Family to be Thankful For** reminds us that families come in all shapes and sizes.



# HAT TEMPLATE

1. Color and decorate hat and 2" wide cardstock strip.

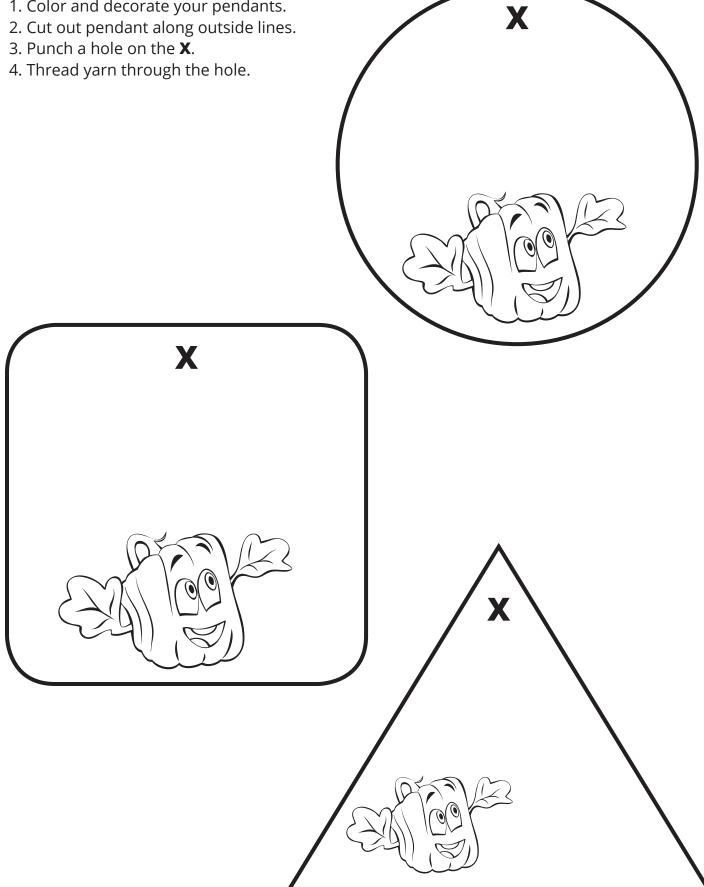
- 2. Cut out hat.
- 3. Attach hat to the middle of the cardstock strip with staples or tape.
- 5. Attach the two ends of the strip with staples or tape so it fits snuggly on head.

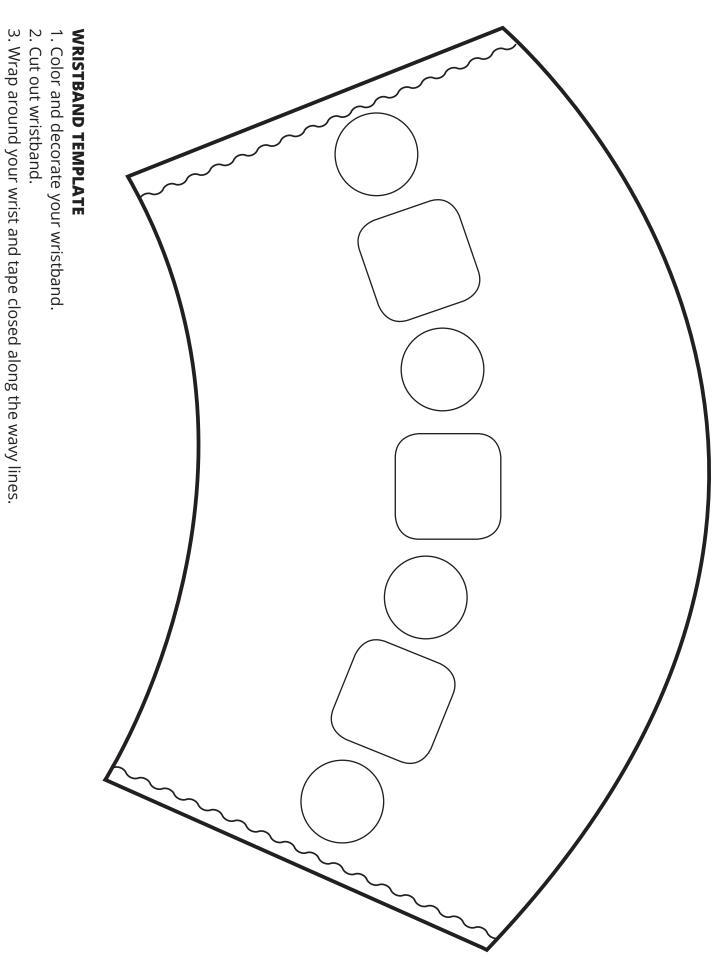


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#### **PENDANTS TEMPLATE**

1. Color and decorate your pendants.





# **SPOOKLEY COSTUME TEMPLATE**

#### **MATERIALS:**

Large square box Green paper or felt Scissors Pencil/Marker/Pen Glue or Stapler Green pipe-cleaners Green headband or green cardstock (17" x 22") Optional: green gloves

#### **TO START**

Your child can wear either a brown, green, or orange t-shirt and brown, green, or orange leggings as a base costume.

#### DIRECTIONS

#### **SQUARE PUMPKIN BASE**

- 1. Find a square box that fits your child. Size should cover the measurements across shoulders and from below neck to top of thighs.
- 2. Remove flaps from the bottom of the box.
- 3. Secure flaps on top of box and cut a hole in center large enough to comfortably fit over your child's head.
- 4. Cut a hole on each side of the box so your child's arms can fit through.
- 5. Paint all sides of the base orange (like a pumpkin) and draw in darker lines to indicate the lines of a pumpkin.

#### FACE

Using the provided templates, print and cut out Spookley's eyes and mouth. Attach to face of pumpkin base.

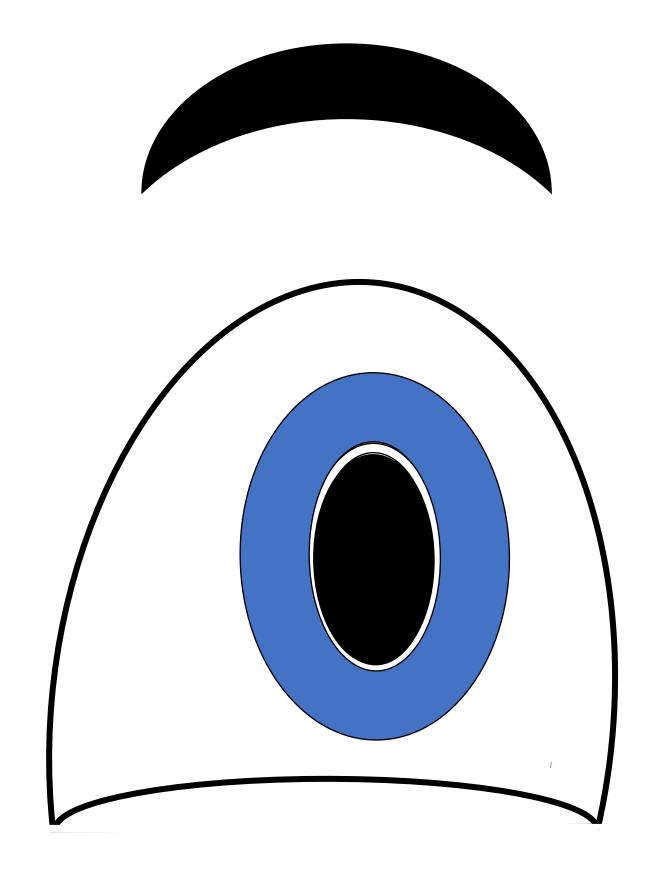
#### ARMS

Using the provided templates cut one left and one right arm vine out of either green paper or green felt. Attach to green pipe-cleaners and wrap around you child's wrists. A green glove is an added touch to further the pumpkin vine look.

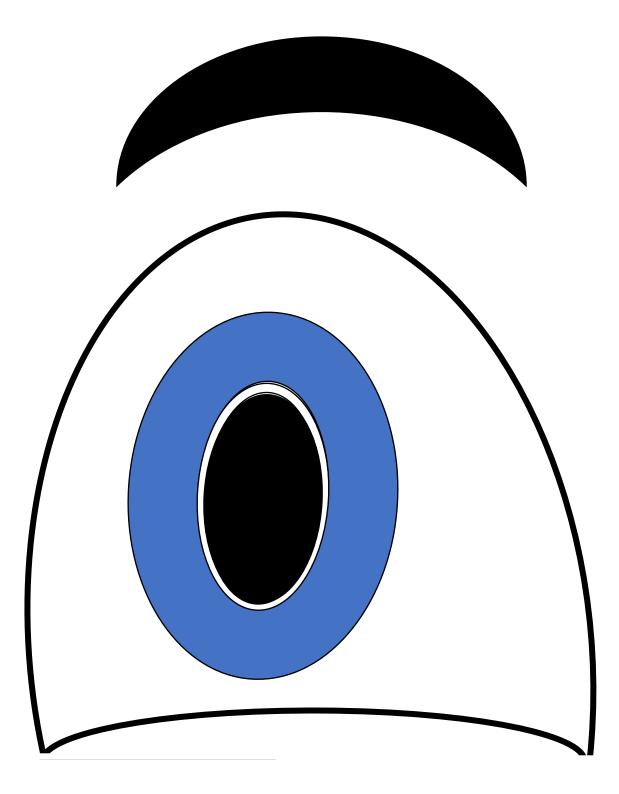
#### HEAD

Using the provided template make a headband hat for your child to complete the Spookley look. Cut the vine top out of either green paper or green felt. Attach to either an existing green headband or make one out of green cardstock.

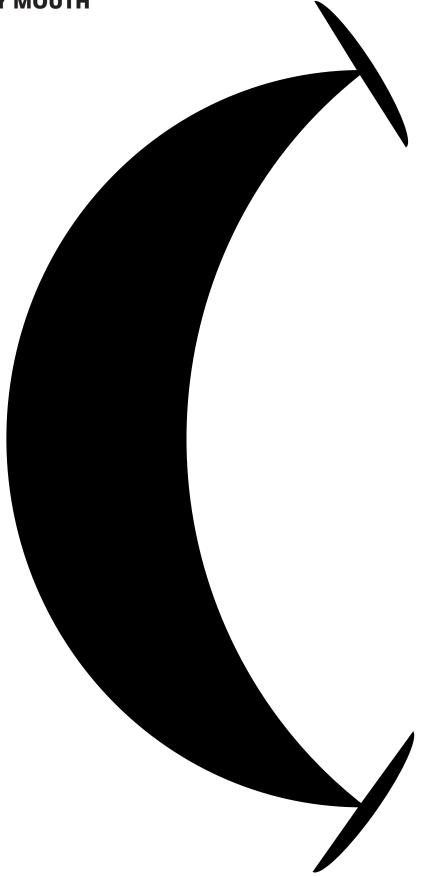
#### **SPOOKLEY LEFT EYE**



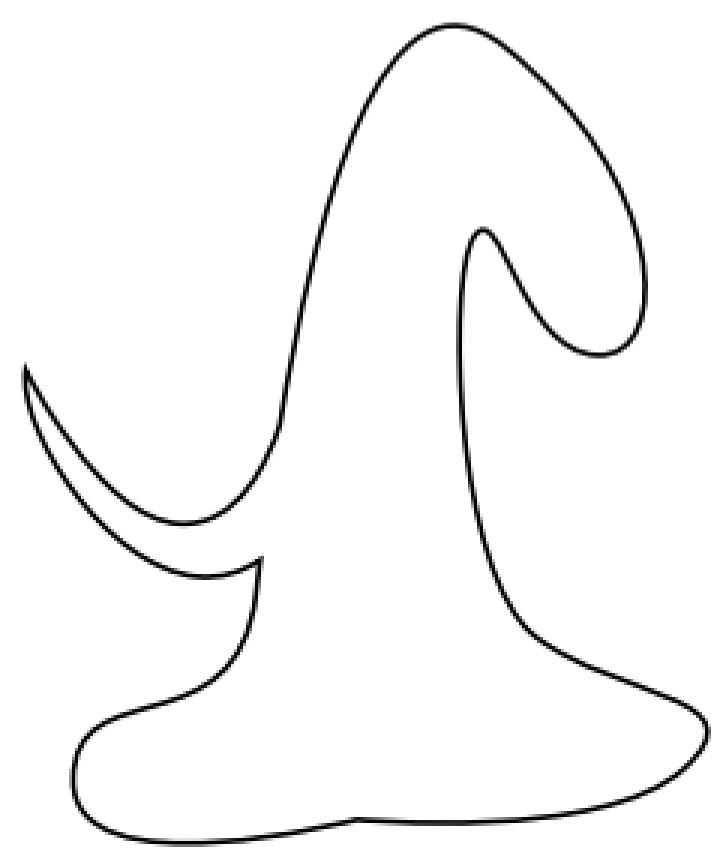
#### **SPOOKLEY RIGHT EYE**



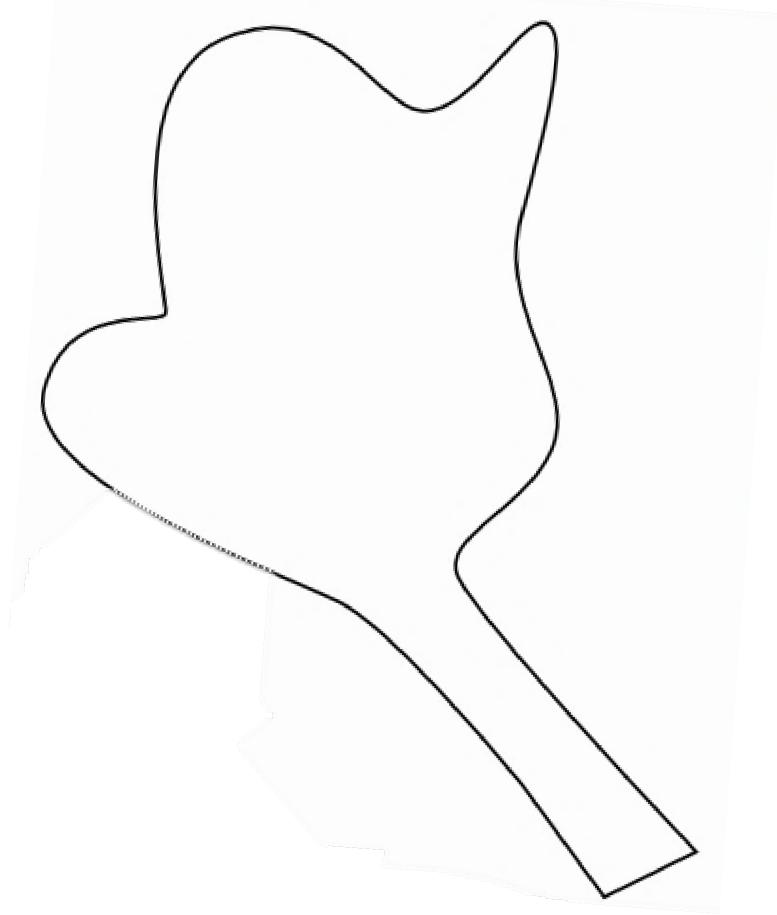
#### **SPOOKLEY MOUTH**



#### **SPOOKLEY STEM**



#### **SPOOKLEY RIGHT ARM**



#### **SPOOKLEY LEFT ARM**

