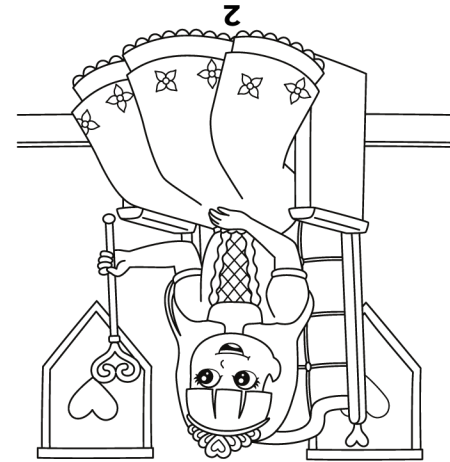
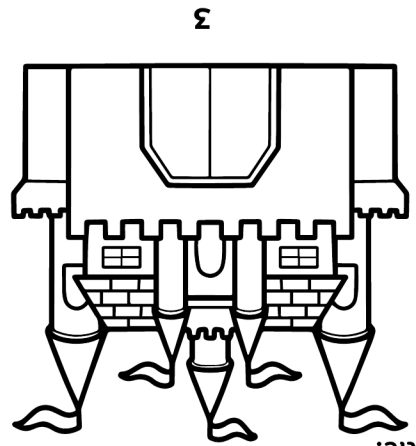


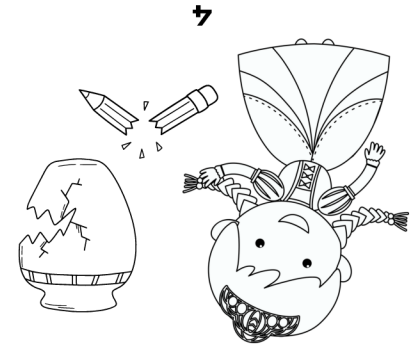
Long ago, there lived a princess. Every day, she noticed flaws around her. She could even tell who had left fresh footprints on the grass, or knew where every book was placed in her library. However, the princess kept her observations to herself, as she believed no one would want to constantly hear about such things.



The princess lived in a castle where everything was neat and in its place. The servants in the castle were constantly cleaning and putting everything back where it belonged. The walls of the castle were white, bright, and polished to a shine.



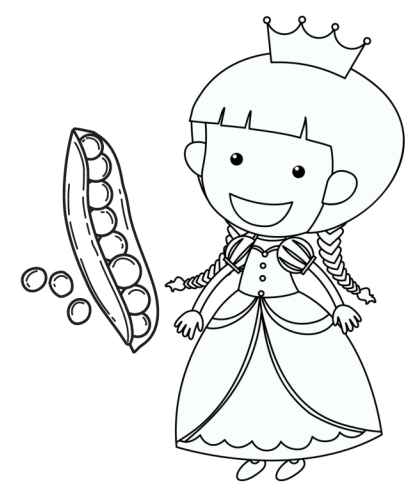
One day, the princess was riding in her carriage. A storm began. The horses got scared and ran so fast that a wheel of the carriage broke. The princess was left alone in the middle of the forest. While searching for the way home, she came upon a castle.



Knock-knock-knock, open up! The gates of the castle creaked open. The princess looked around and noticed that everything was in disorder. When she was brought to the queen, she asked if she could stay for the night and, in gratitude for the kindness, offered to tidy up the castle.

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THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA








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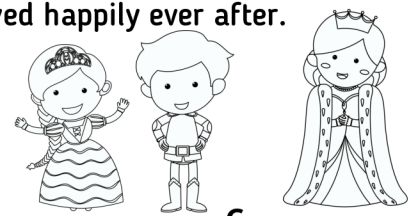
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The next morning, the queen asked how she had slept. “Unfortunately, Your Majesty, not very well,” said the princess. “Something small and hard, like a pea, was bothering me under the mattress.”

“My dear!” said the queen. “I asked my maid to place a pea under the mattresses. Only a true princess could have felt that. So, you are a real princess!”

Soon after, the princess and the prince celebrated their wedding and lived happily ever after.



The queen agreed. Then she noticed that the princess could be a good match for her son—the prince. To test this, she ordered a bed to be prepared with 20 mattresses, and beneath them, a single pea was hidden. The princess climbed to the top and settled on all those mattresses, but she couldn’t fall asleep—something beneath them was bothering her. At times like this, she wished she didn’t notice such little things.



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