

# Hear me Roar!

Discovering the sights and sounds of the orchestra through Saint-Saëns'  
*The Carnival of the Animals*

## Teacher Resource Kit

Grades 2-5

Cross Curricular Activities



Boston Philharmonic

**“Crescendo!” Outreach Program**

[www.bostonphil.org](http://www.bostonphil.org)

Dear Educator,

**T**he Boston Philharmonic believes that classical music can be enjoyed at any age, and it is never too early to begin learning. We are committed to providing opportunities and tools for our community to learn about and help create a personal connection to classical music. As part of our vision to make music accessible to everyone, we have developed guides and activities that will engage children and provide resources for teachers at a time when many public school districts are forced to cut music programs from the curriculum. Elementary school teachers can click on our study guides for activities to incorporate into their classrooms, or parents can explore the music together with their children. We hope you will enjoy learning more!

Sincerely,

The BPO “Crescendo!” Team

## Contributors to this study guide :

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Jeffrey Filiault



Photo by: Jeffrey Filiault

# THE FAMILIES OF THE ORCHESTRA



**Strings:** Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Harp and Guitar

The string family is traditionally made up of the violin, viola, cello, and double bass. A bow is used on these instruments made of horse hair that glides across the strings and creates sound. The harp and guitar are also stringed instruments and the strings are plucked to create a sound.

**Brass:** Trumpet, French horn, Trombone, and Tuba

Most often, instruments in the brass family are made of brass. To create a sound, the musician uses a cup-shaped mouthpiece that vibrates against their lips. The sound then gets amplified in the body of the instrument.



**Woodwinds:** Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, and Bassoon

Instruments in the woodwind family are mostly made of wood; however, they can sometimes be made of metal or plastic. The musician blows into the instrument, sometimes through a reed, and a sound is created by the air resonating in the body of the instrument. The player presses keys on the body of the instrument to block the air and create different notes.

**Percussion:** Timpani, Bass Drums, Cymbals, and Triangle

Instruments in the percussion family make sounds when the body of the instrument is hit, shaken, tapped, or rubbed by another object. Instruments in the percussion family are made up materials that are naturally resonant such as wood, metal, and skin.



# LEARNING ABOUT TEMPO

## What is Tempo?

Tempo is a word that means at what speed you play the music. Look at the chart below to see a bunch of different tempos ranging from slowest to fastest. Largo is the slowest tempo and presto is a very fast tempo. Can you think of an animal that moves very slowly to the tempo *largo*? What about an animal that moves very quickly like the tempo *presto*? Are there any animals that move at medium speed like *andante*?

The different tempos are marked into the musicians' scores. The conductor then knows how quickly or slowly to conduct the music.

## Try this...

Cut out the tempo chart and arrow. Attach the arrow to the chart with a brad where all the points meet. Listen to *The Carnival of the Animals* and move the arrow to what you think is the tempo.



# COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

## Camille Saint-Saëns



**C**amille Saint-Saëns was a **composer** who lived in France. He was born in 1886 in Paris, the capital of France. He learned to play the piano when he was very young, and had written his first **symphony** when he was just 16. Saint-Saëns was the first composer to write music for the movies.

### Fun Fact:

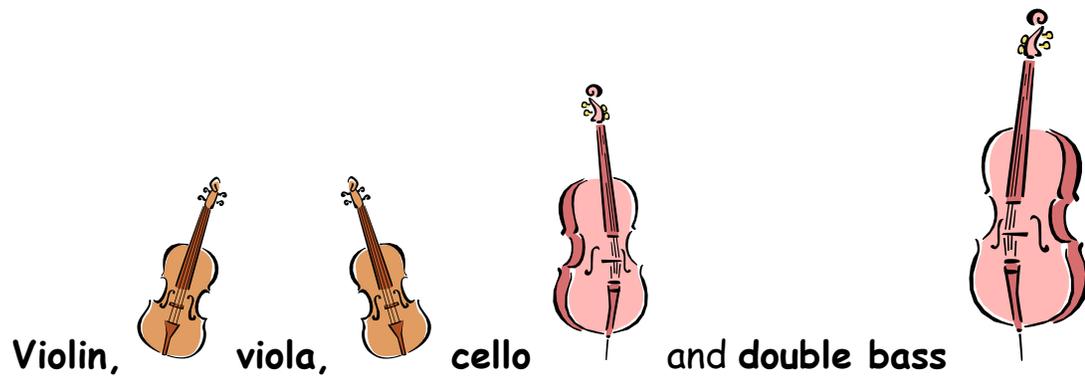
The Eiffel Tower was built in 1889 and is the tallest structure in Paris. It was originally built as the entrance arch for the World's Fair.

The Eiffel Tower is 1,063 ft. tall



## THE INSTRUMENTS OF THE CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS

In *The Carnival of the Animals*, Saint-Saëns uses violins, viola, cello, double bass, two pianos, xylophone and the glass harmonica. These instruments are members of the **string** and **percussion** families.



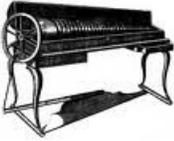
are from the string family.

The **xylophone**  is from the percussion family.

The image shows a xylophone, which is a percussion instrument consisting of a series of wooden bars of varying lengths, each with a mallet. The bars are arranged in two rows and are supported by a frame.

The **piano**  is considered part of the percussion family, because the sound is produced by small hammers that strike the strings inside the body of the instrument.

The image shows a grand piano, which is a large keyboard instrument with a lid that can be raised or lowered. It has a curved body and three legs.

The **glass harmonica**  a rare instrument, and it is a member of the percussion family. It is played by running your fingers along the glass to create vibration.

The image shows a glass harmonica, which is a rare instrument consisting of a series of glass bowls of varying sizes, each with a mallet. The bowls are arranged in a row and are supported by a frame.

# CARNIVAL ACTIVITY

Saint-Saëns chose strings and percussion for his music, but there are many other instruments that could also represent the animals in this piece. Think of all the instruments that you know. Which instruments would you choose to represent these animals if you were writing your own version of *The Carnival of the Animals*? What tempo would you choose for each animal?

**Animal**

**Instrument**

**Tempo**

**Animal**

**Instrument**

**Tempo**



Lion

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Kangaroo

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Hen and Rooster

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Aquarium of Fish

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Donkey

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Cuckoo

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Tortoise

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Tropical Birds

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Elephant

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Swan

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

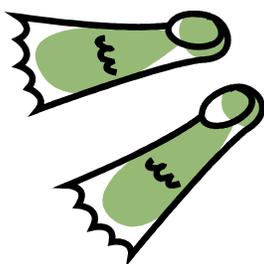
# THE INSTRUMENTS OF THE CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS

## The Glass Harmonica



**B**enjamin Franklin is an important person in the history of America. He helped create the United States and signed The Declaration of Independence, which was a letter written to the King of England when the United States was fighting to become its own country. Benjamin Franklin was also a writer, a scientist and an inventor.

### Some of Benjamin Franklin's Inventions...



#### Flippers -

These help you to swim by imitating duck feet.



**Bifocals**—A type of glasses to help you see things both up close and far away.



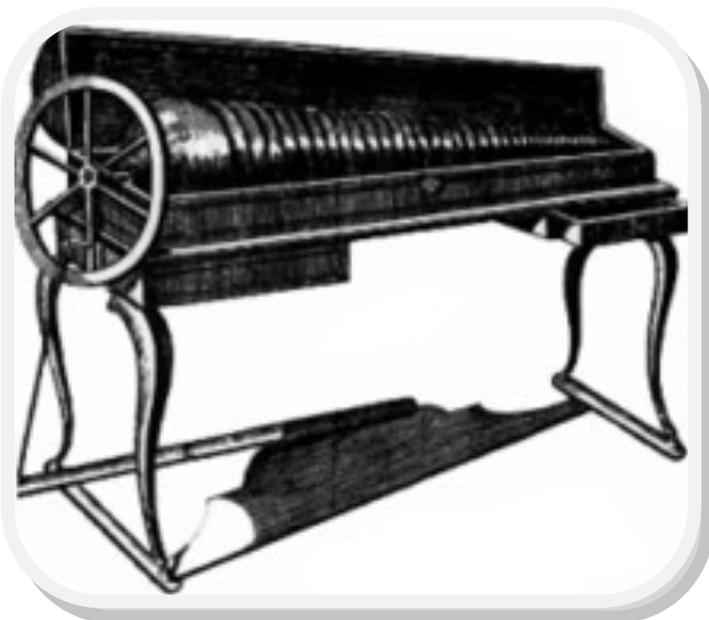
#### The Lightning Rod—

This helped keep people and their houses safe from lightning.

**Do you know anything else Benjamin Franklin Invented?**

# THE INSTRUMENTS OF THE CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS

## The Glass Harmonica



Franklin

### Try This!

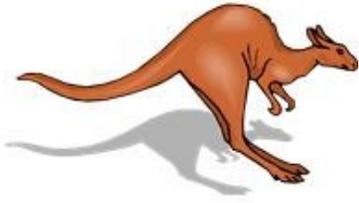
Make your own version of the glass harmonica and play along during *The Carnival of the Animals*.

- 1.) Take three or four glasses and fill them up with different amounts of water.
- 2.) Then, dip your finger in one of the glasses and run it along the rims of the glass.
- 3.) Can you feel the your finger tingle when it rubs against the glass? That is called a vibration.
- 4.) Try listening to which glass has the lower sound and line up the glasses from lowest to highest.

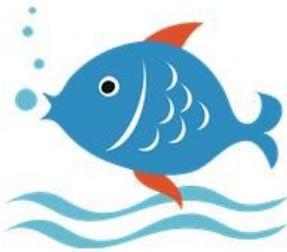
In 1791, Benjamin Franklin invented the Glass Harmonica. This is an instrument that is used in “The Carnival of the Animals.” To make sound, the player dips his or her fingers in water and then glides them against the rim of the glass bowls. The bowls spin and the vibrations make different pitches. Depending on how big and small each bowl is determines how high or low the pitch is.

# FRENCH LESSON

## An Introduction to the Names of the Animals in French



The kangaroo- Le kangourou



The aquarium- L'aquarium



The birds- Les oiseaux



The swan- Le cygne

# FRENCH LESSON

## An Introduction to the Names of the Animals in French



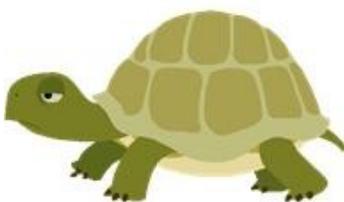
The lion- Le lion



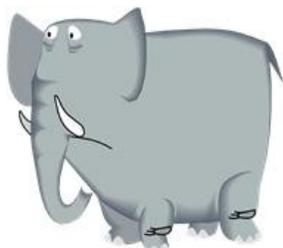
The hens- Les poules



The donkeys- Les ânes



The turtle- La tortue



The elephant- L'éléphant

# MASK ACTIVITIES



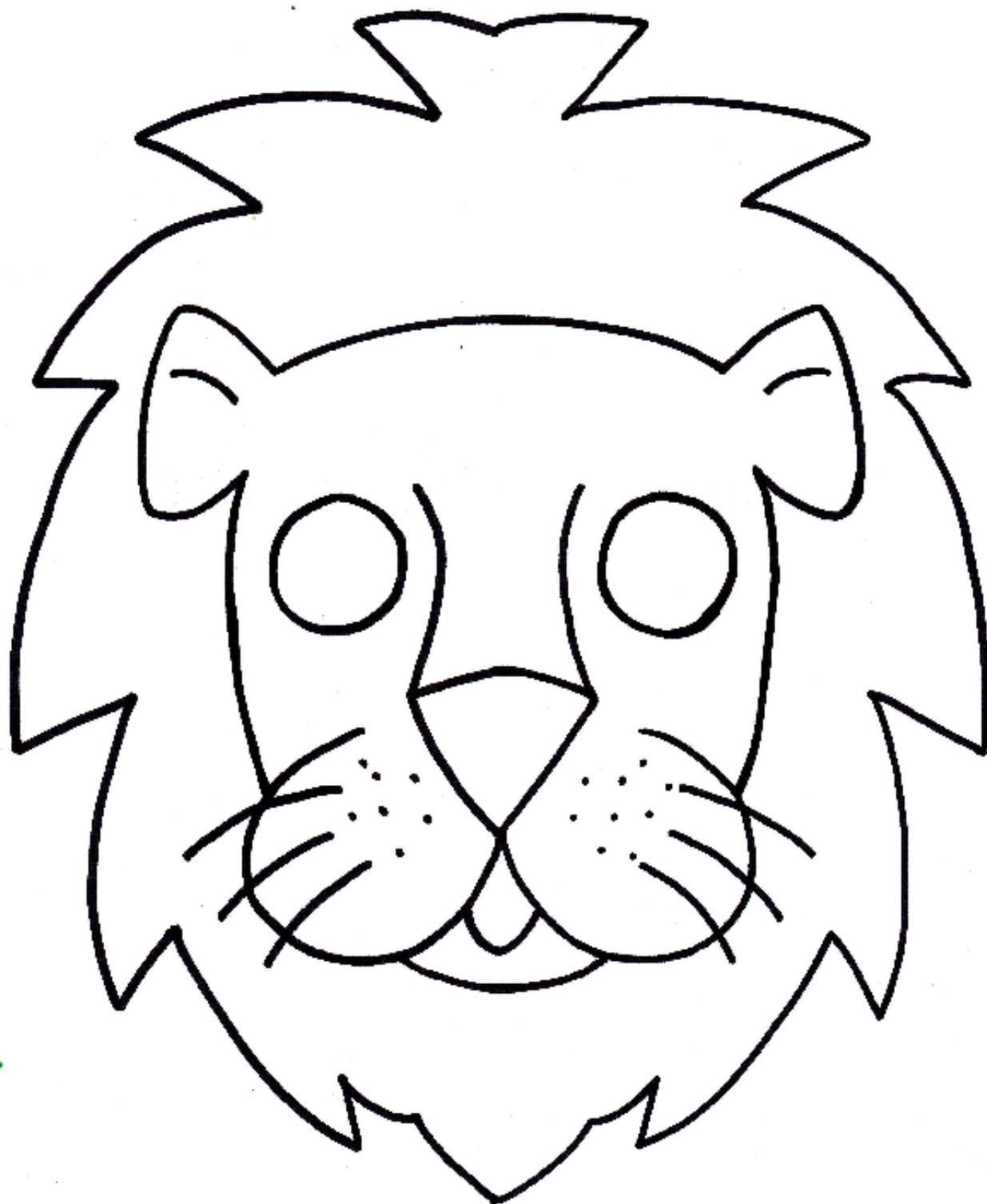
Color and cut out the masks on the following pages , then use them to act out *The Carnival of the Animals* with your class.

## Think About This...

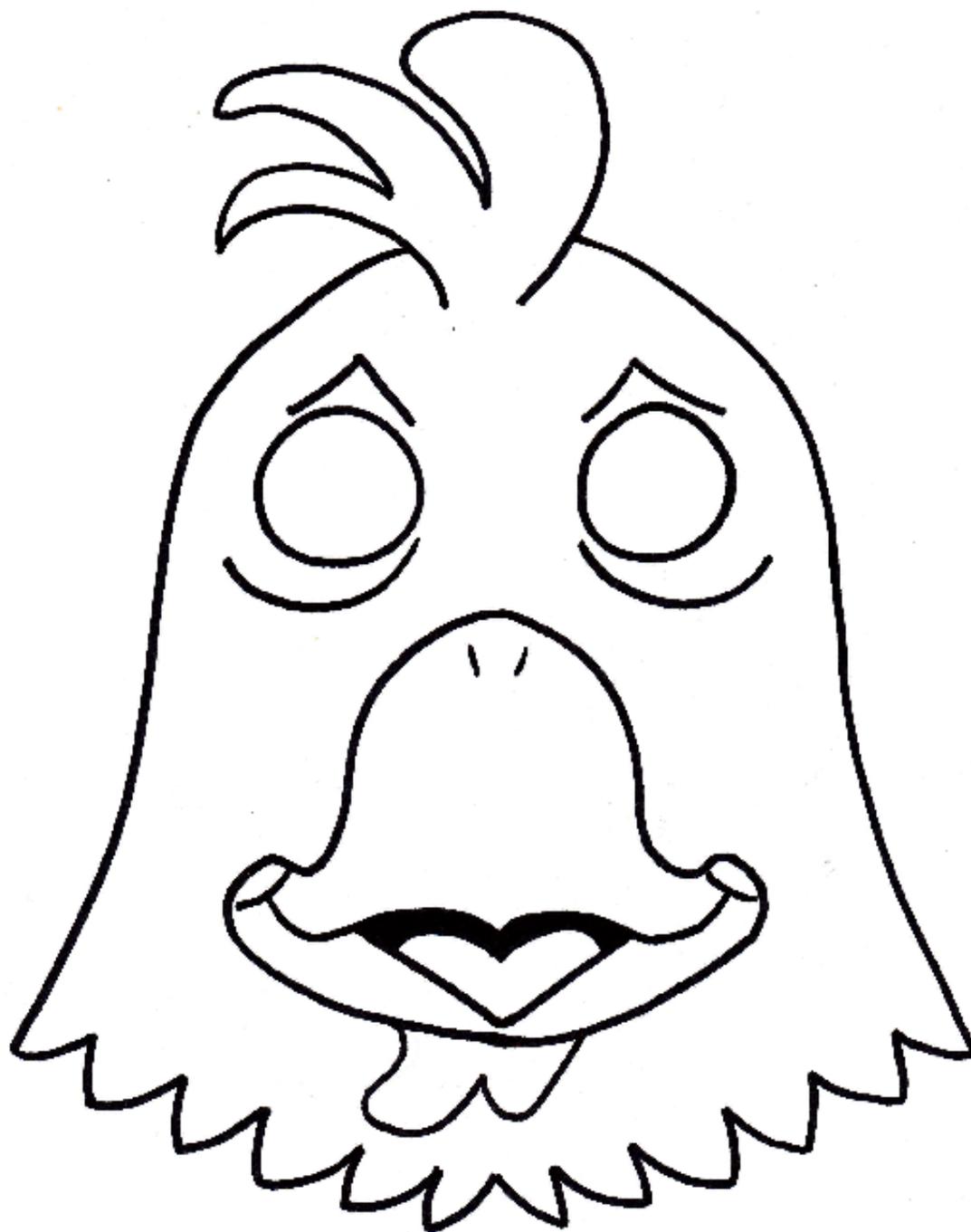
- 1.) How does each animal move? Does it take big steps or small steps? Does it move slowly or quickly? Is its movement heavy or light?
- 2.) Compose your own music for each of the animals by using instruments in the classroom, and experiment by making animal noises with your voice.

Adjectives are words that are used to describe things that we see. Have one person in the class place objects into five different mystery bags. Each person in the class can then feel the objects in the bags without looking. Generate a list of adjectives as a class for each mystery bag. Do any of the adjectives describe a certain animal featured in *The Carnival of the Animals*? Think about these adjectives as you act out the animals while wearing the masks.

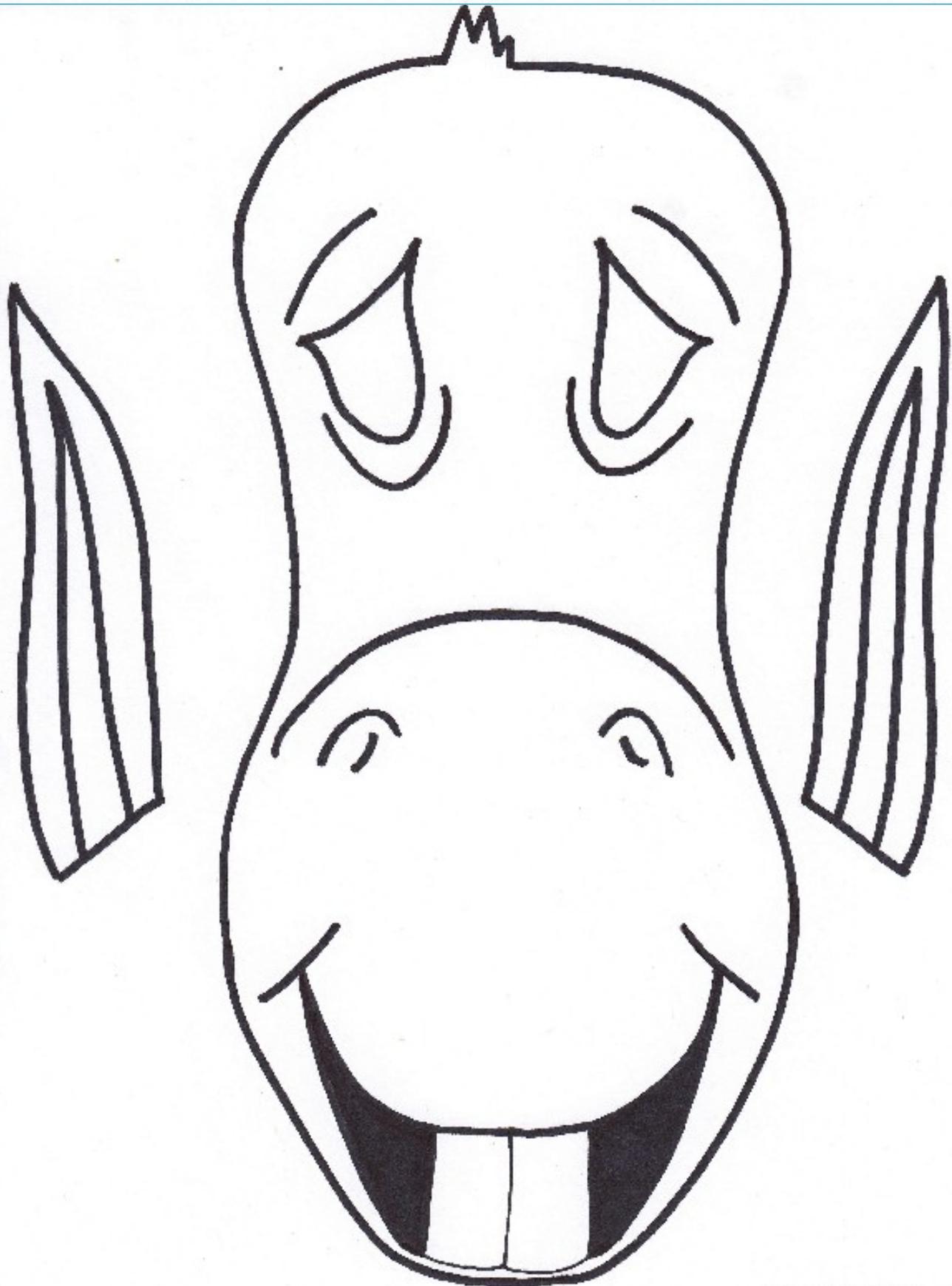
# LION MASK



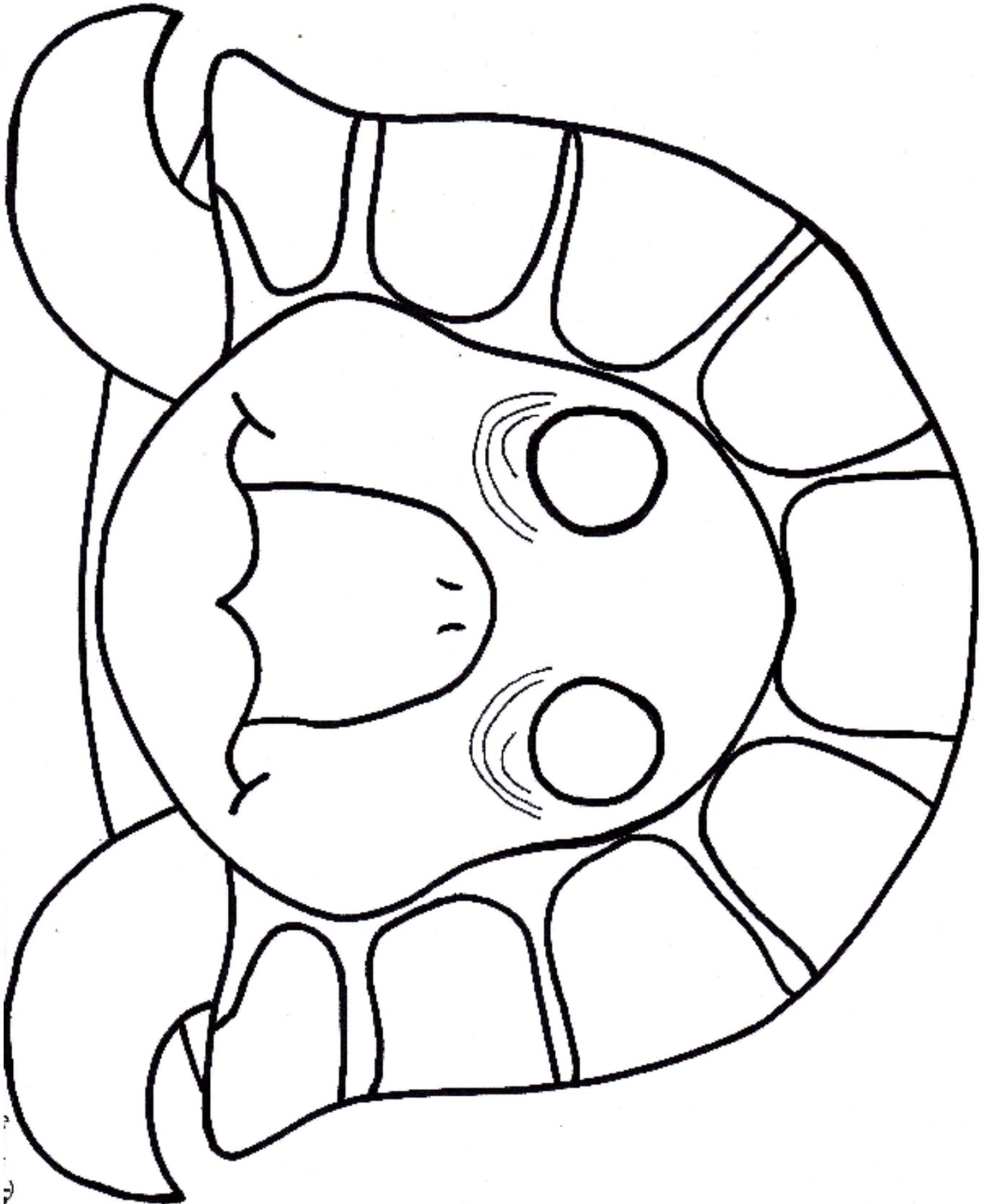
# HEN MASK



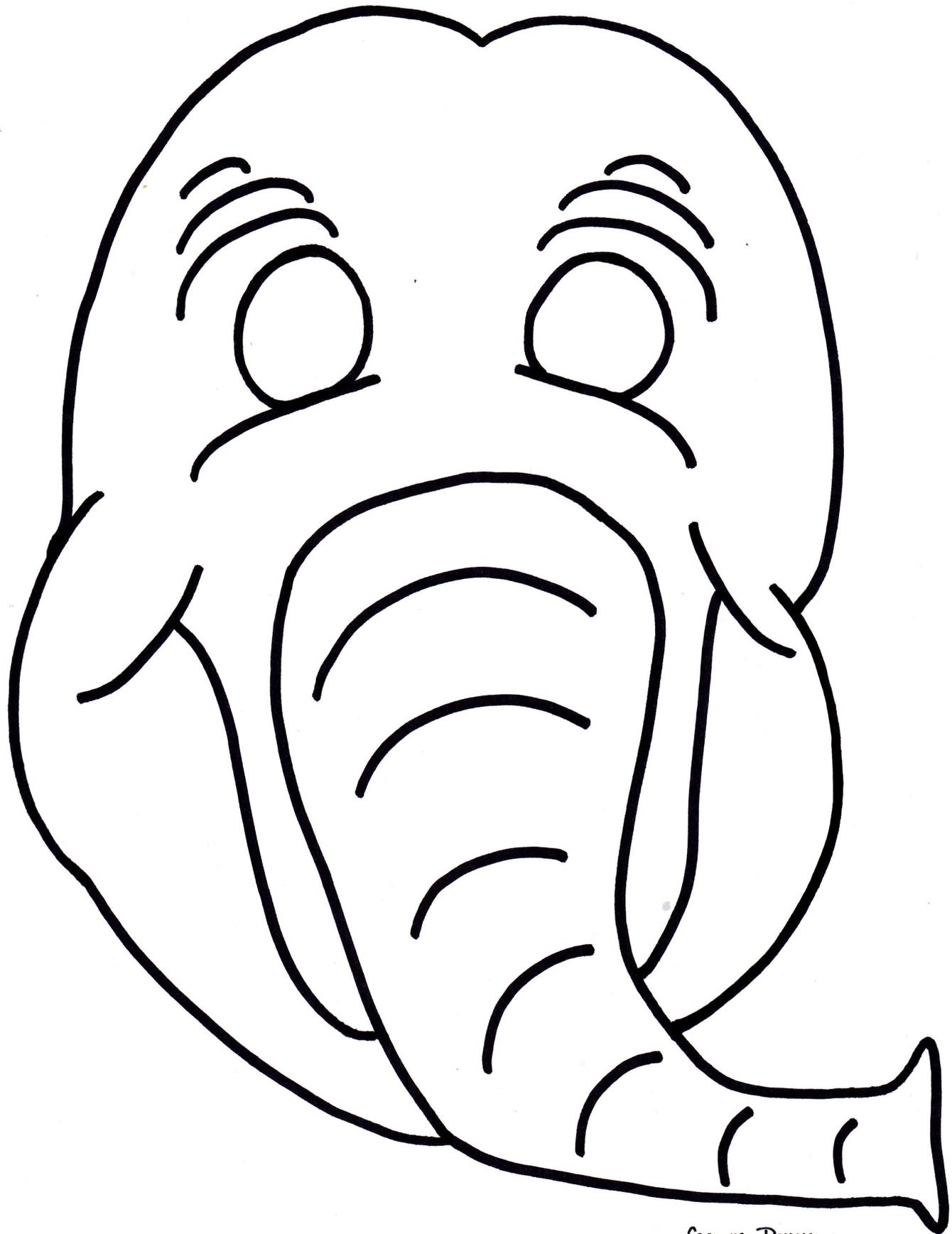
# DONKEY/LONG EARS MASK



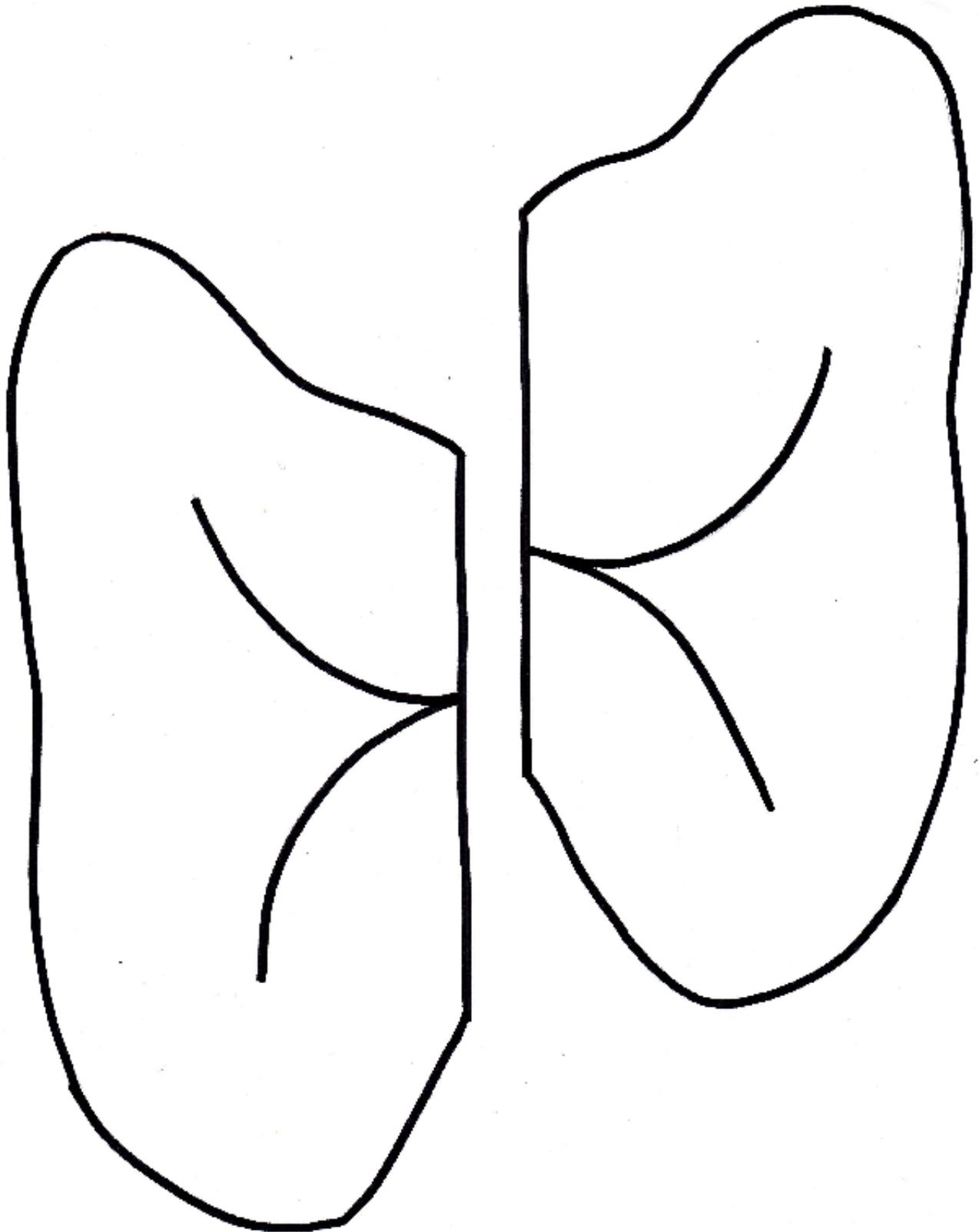
# TORTOISE MASK



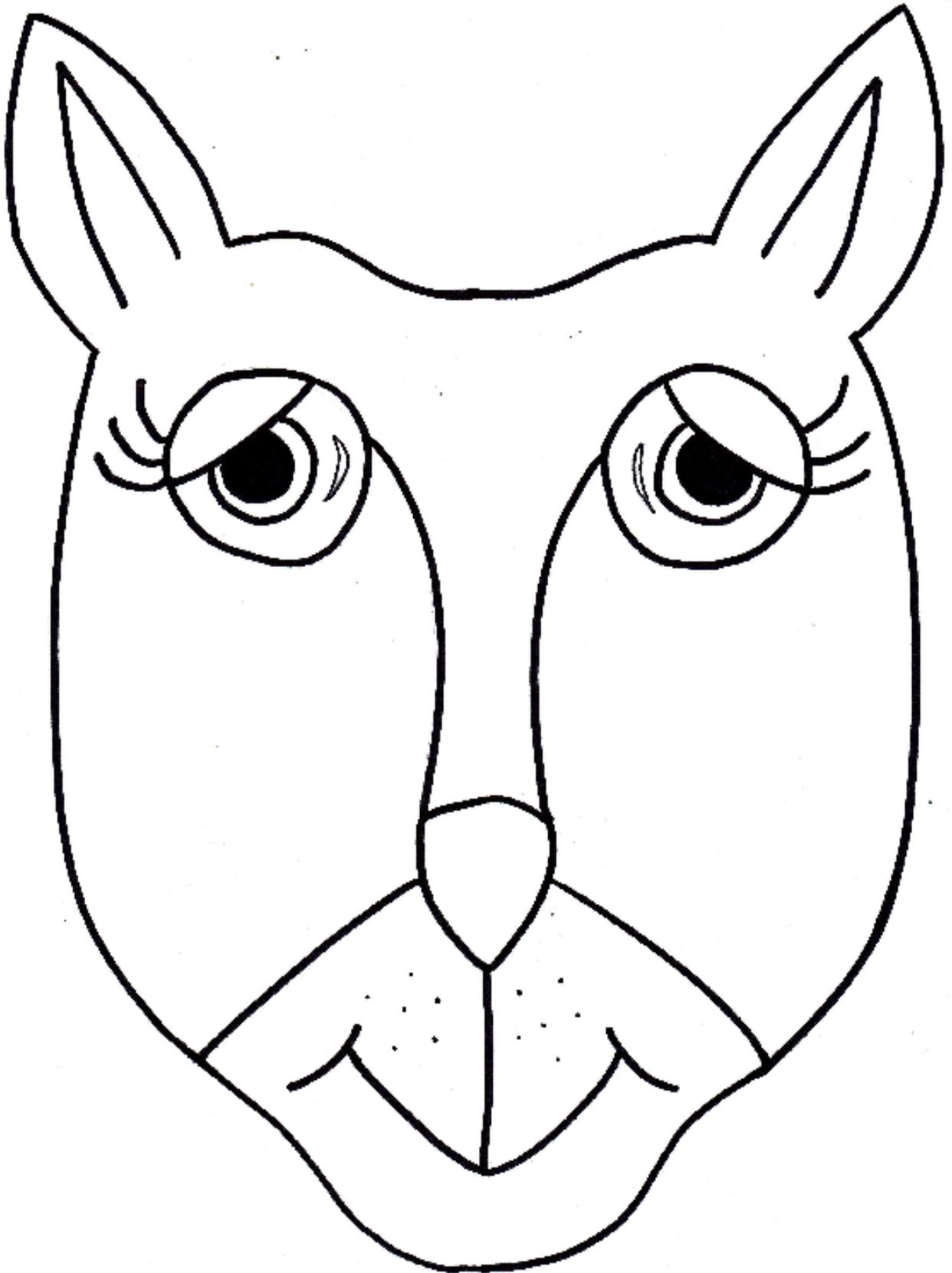
# ELEPHANT MASK



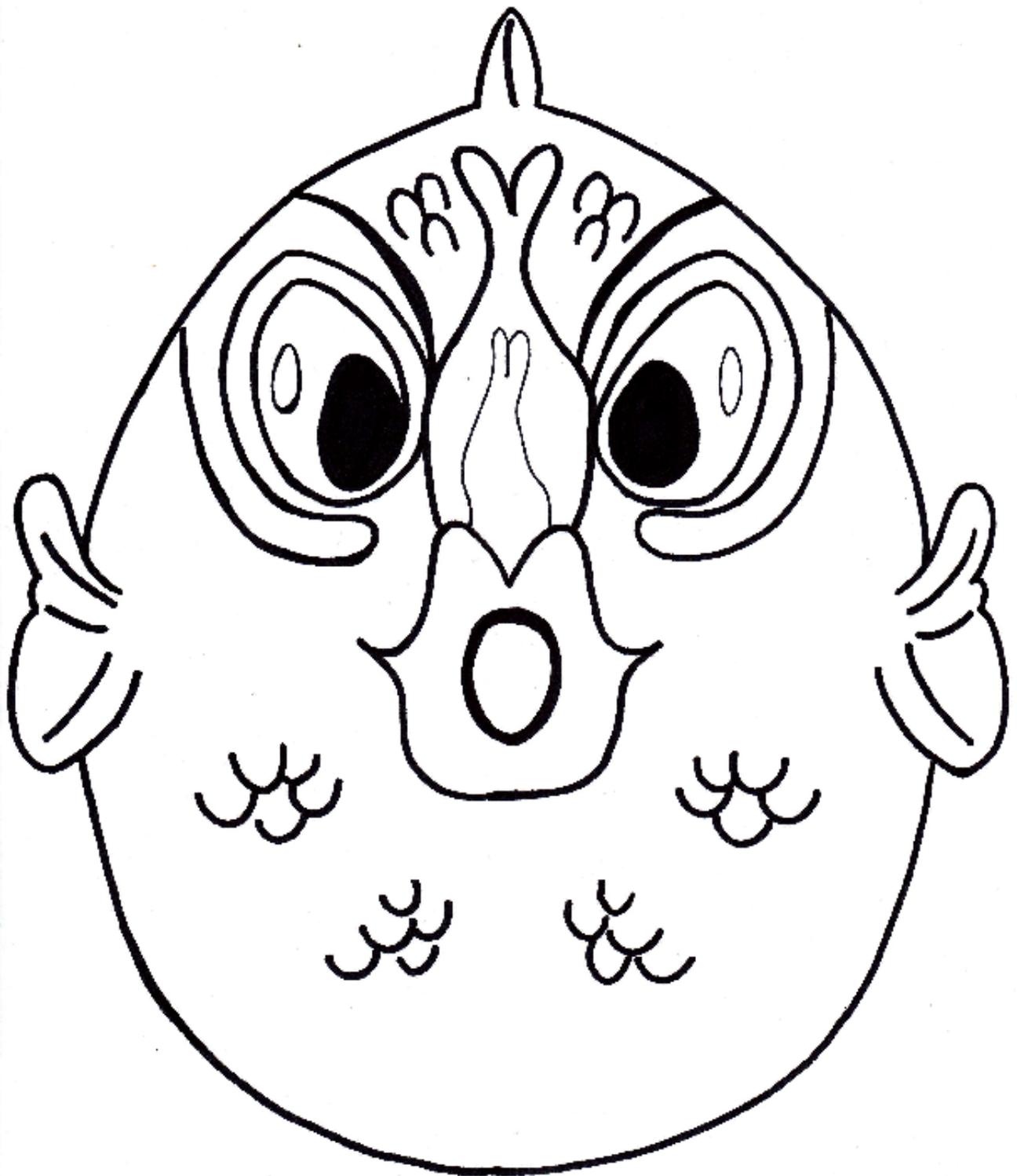
# ELEPHANT EARS FOR MASK



# KANGAROO MASK



# AQUARIUM MASK



# CUCKOO MASK



# AVIARY MASK



# FOSSIL MASK



# SWAN MASK

