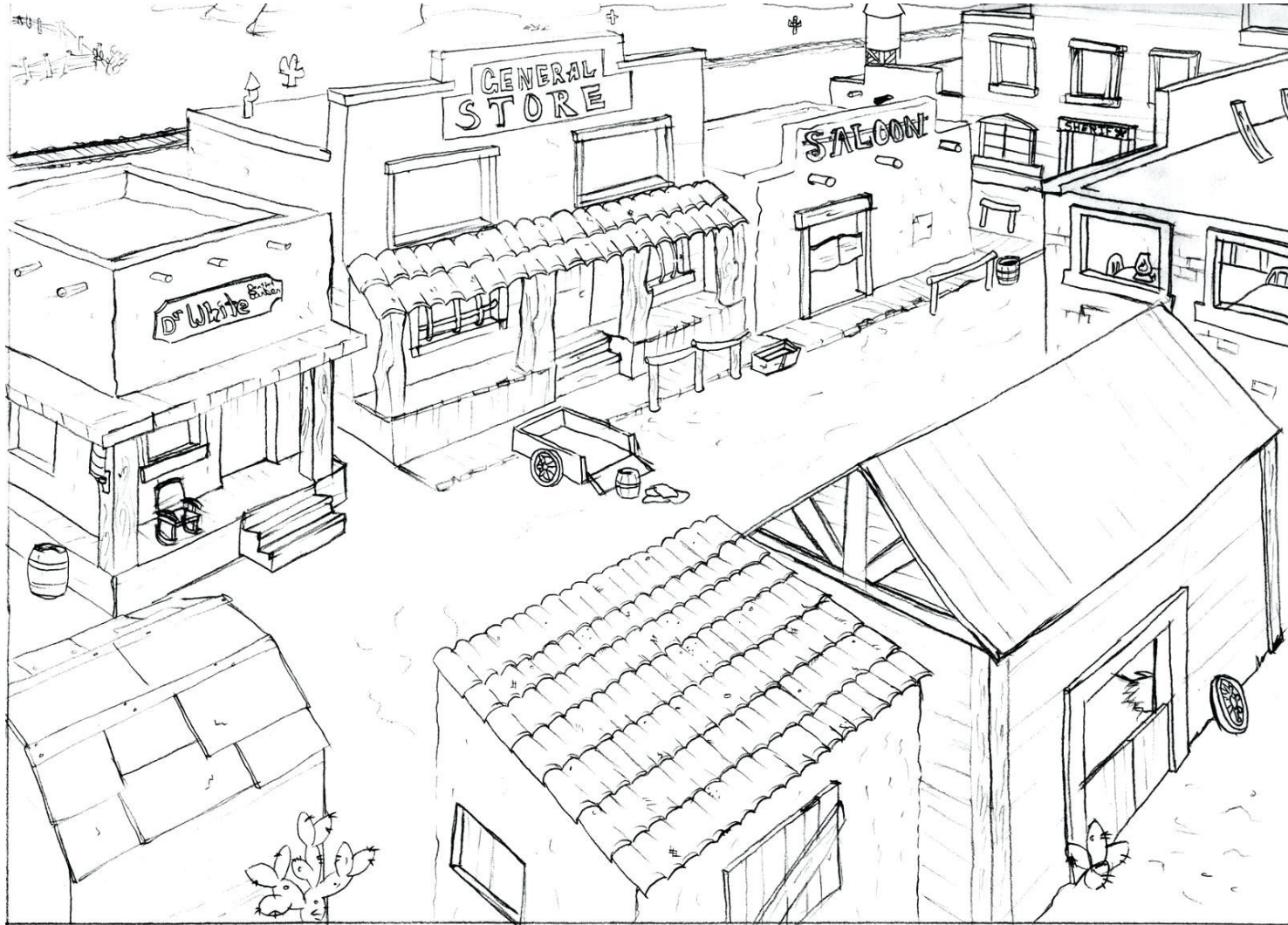


Billy Goes to Town



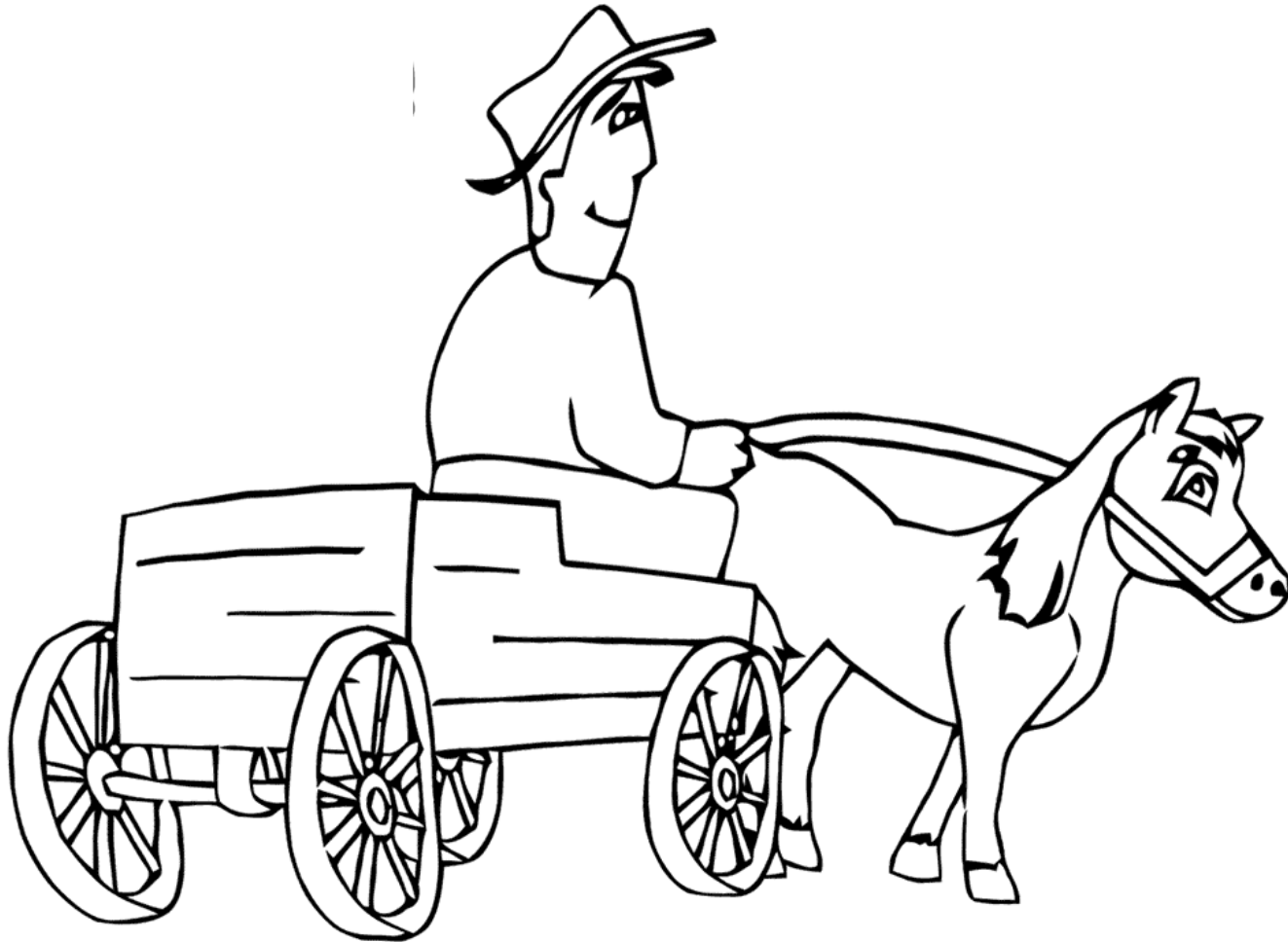
This is Billy. Billy is 6 years old and likes to spend time helping his dad. Yesterday Billy helped his dad pick apples. Billy did such a good job his dad said Billy could go to town with him today as a reward. Billy is very excited to go to town. There are so many things to see there.



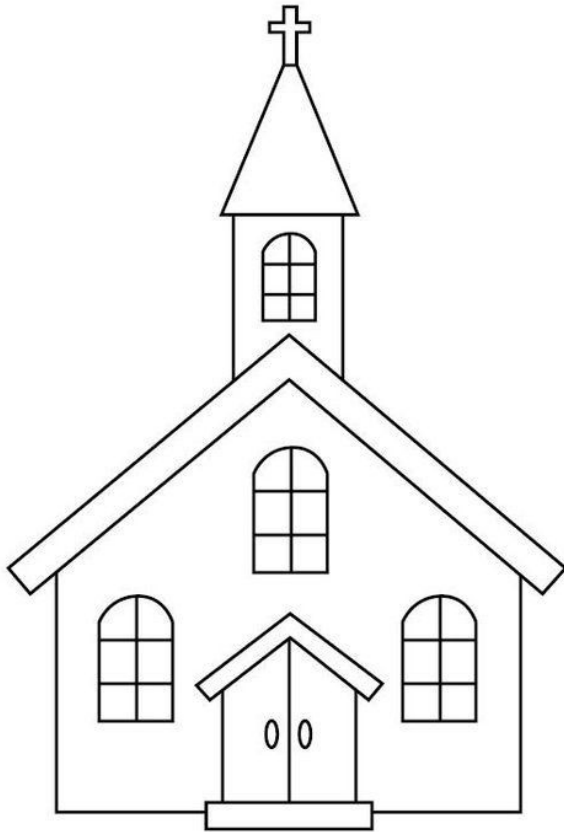


Billy lives on a farm in Cedar County, Iowa. They raise corn, cows, pigs and chickens on their farm. They also have a small apple orchard and pick apples to eat and sell every fall. Billy stays busy helping his dad with all the chores of taking care of the animals, but picking apples is his favorite.

The only way to get the apples to town is to load them in the wagon and have their horse May, pull the wagon there. Billy loves May, she is his favorite horse because she is so gentle.

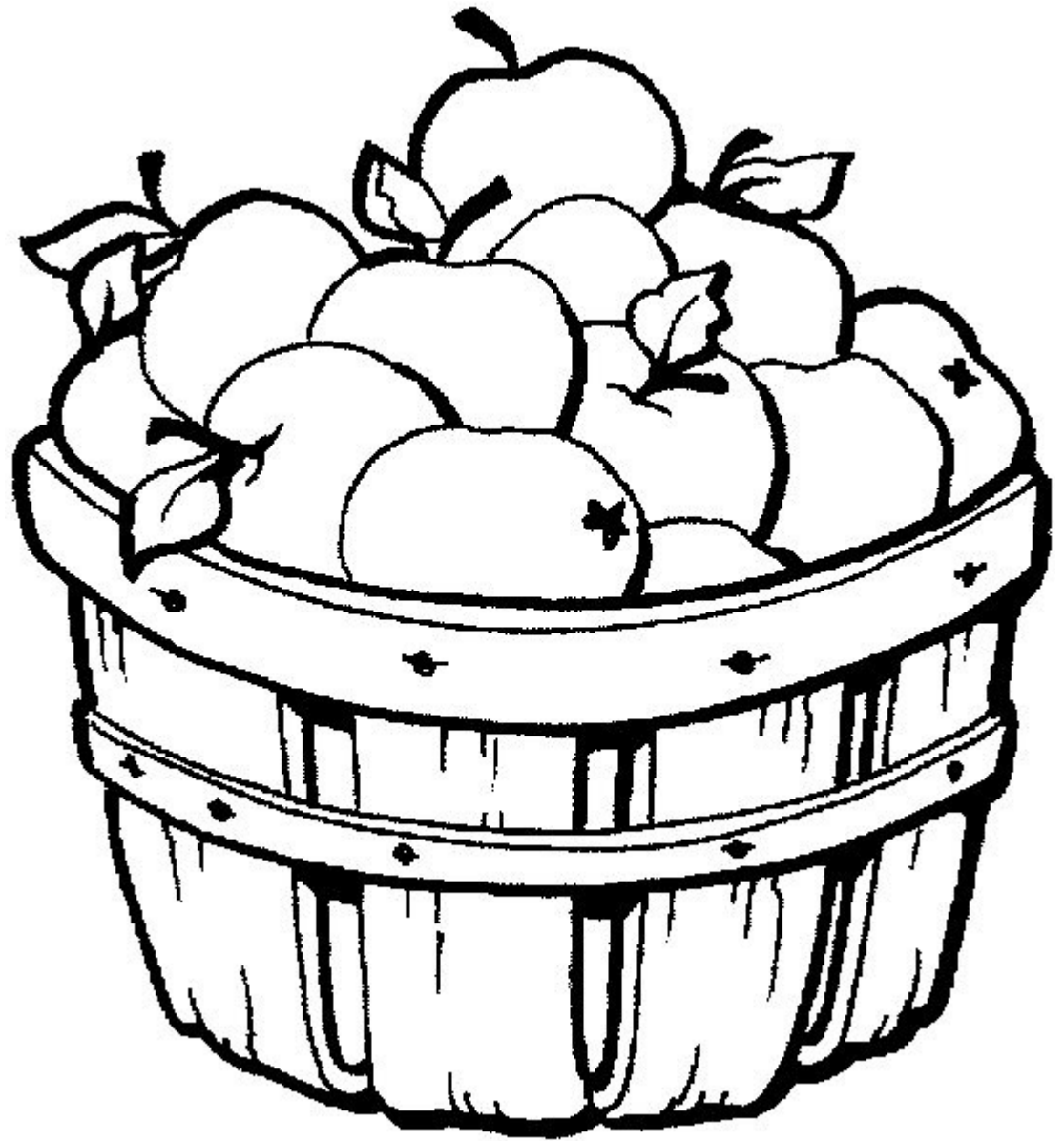


Billy lives a little over 5 miles from Tipton. It will take almost 2 hours to get to town but Billy knows it will go fast because there are lots of things to see on the way. The first thing Billy sees is the church his family goes to on Sundays. A little while later they pass the school Billy goes to. Billy likes school. His teacher, Miss Fullerton, is really nice.

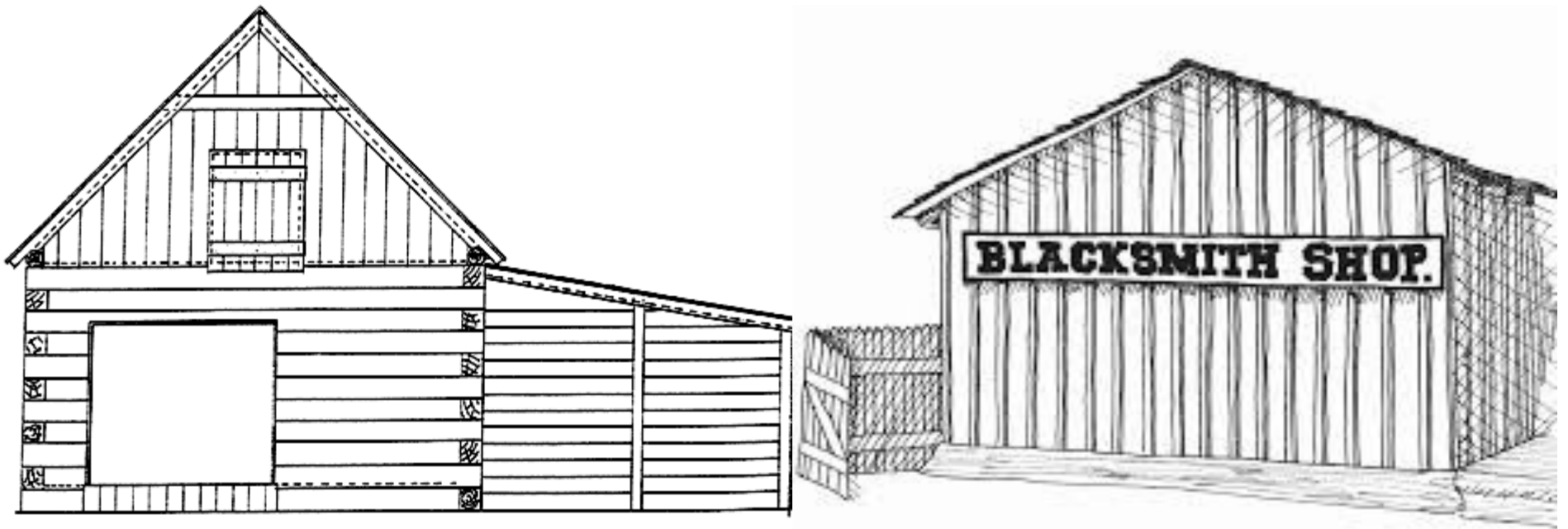


When Billy and his dad get to town they will sell their apples to the man at the General Store. He will put them on sale in his store for everyone else.

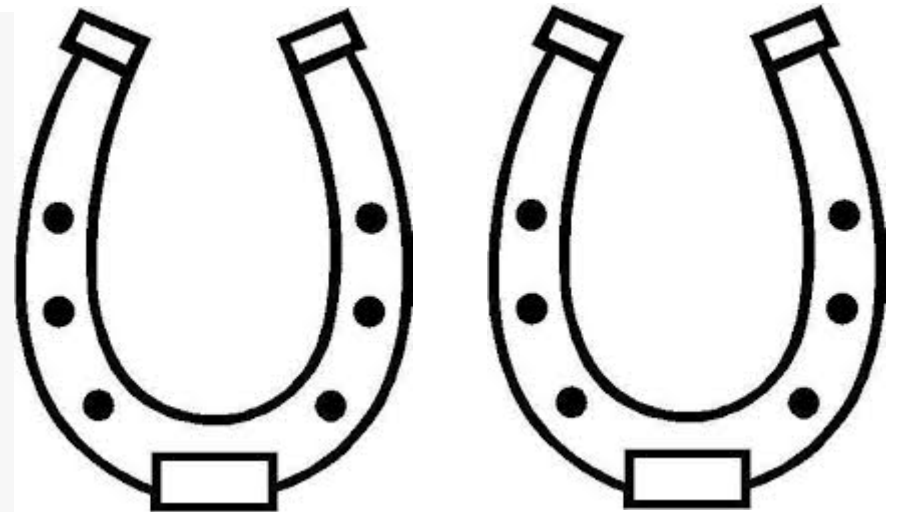
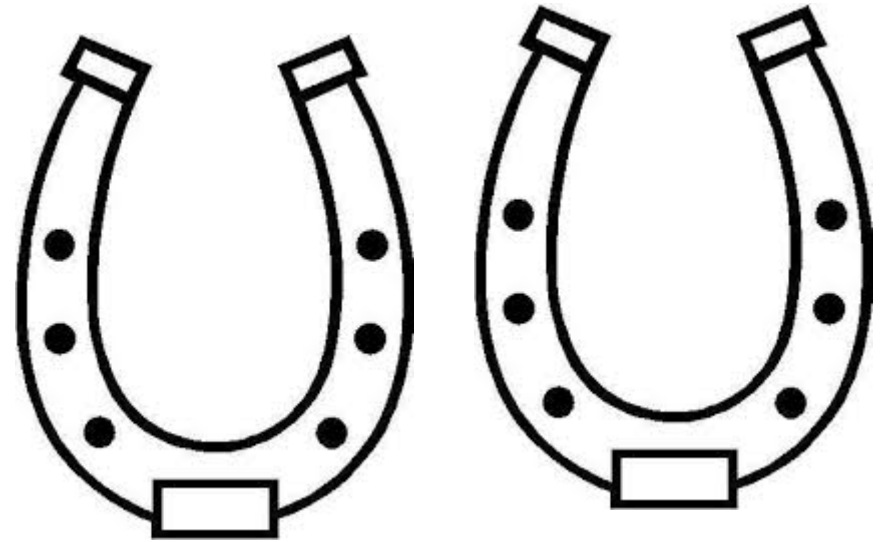
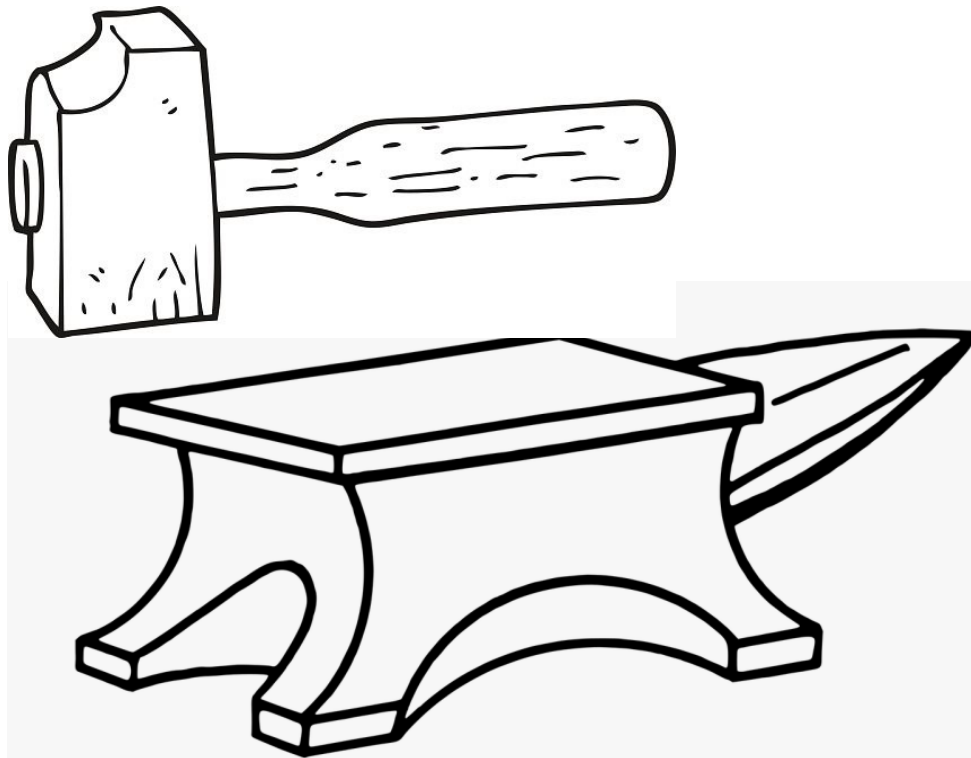
Billy's mom has already canned many jars of applesauce and spiced apples. She will put the rest of the apples they pick this year in the cellar. Billy's mom will use those apples in pies, breads and cake.



After dropping off the apples Billy and his dad go to the livery stable. This is where May will spend the day while they are running errands. Next door to the livery stable is a blacksmith shop. The black smith makes all sorts of things out of metal by heating it up and pounding it into the shape he wants.



While she stays at the livery stable May, will get new horse shoes for her feet. The blacksmith will make these on his anvil and use a mallet to pound them into shape. Once the shoes are made and cooled he will nail them on May's feet.





After leaving May at the livery stable and setting up the order for her new horse shoes with the blacksmith Billy and his dad walk to the bank. Billy's dad will deposit some of the money he made from selling their apples to the man at the General Store. Billy's dad said the bank will take care of their money and hold it until they need it. The money Billy's dad didn't deposit is for the things they need to buy today.



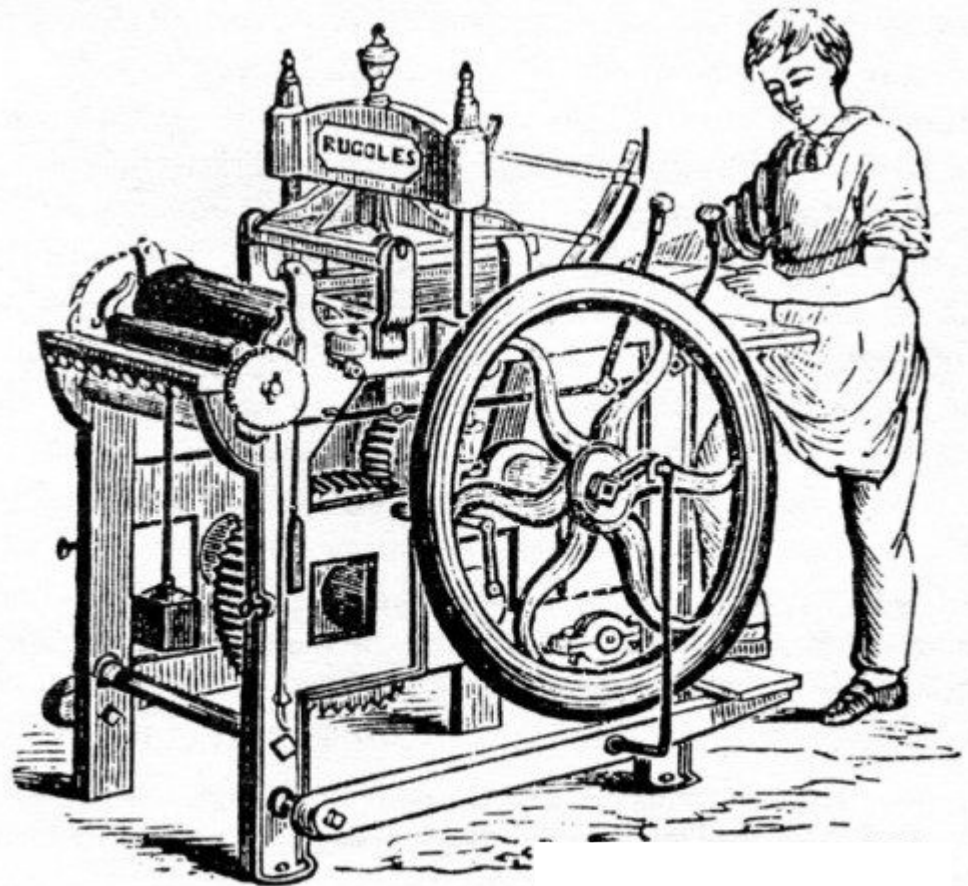
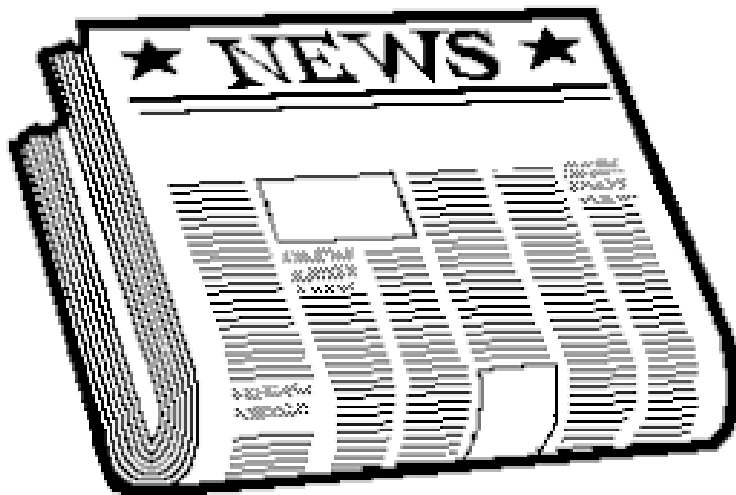
Billy's dad also gave Billy 5 pennies for helping with picking the apples. Billy has never had any money of his own and starts to imagine what he will buy with it.



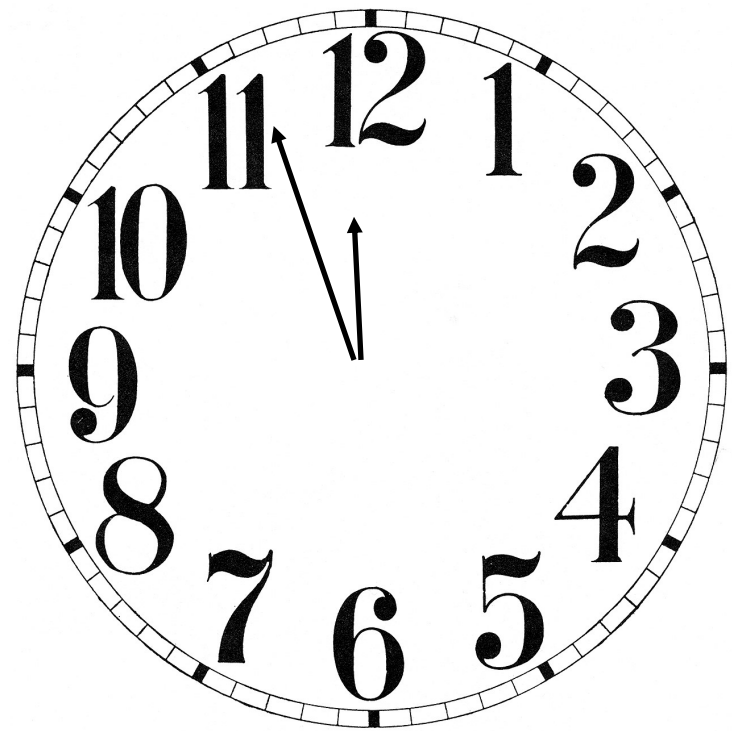
Next Billy and his dad go to the post office. Billy's dad buys a stamp for a letter he is sending to Billy's Grandpa and Grandma. Billy's dad also asks for any letters that might have come for them since the last time his dad was in town. The postman gives Billy's dad one letter and his dad tucks it in his pocket. Billy knows his dad will open it and read it out loud tonight after supper. He loves it when they get mail and he can hear about family in other parts of the country.



When they leave the post office Billy and his dad go next door to the newspaper office. Billy's dad will buy the newspaper from last week and this week to take home and read it after Billy goes to bed. Billy can't wait until he knows how to read and then he can read the newspaper too.



When Billy and his dad walk in front of the court house Billy's dad points at the big clock by the boardwalk. Billy's dad says, "Billy when the little hand and the big hand both point straight up at the number 12 it will be noon. Since it is almost noon let's go get something to eat."





Billy and his dad walk to the café on the corner across the street from the Hotel. They go inside and sit by a window where Billy can watch all the people in the busy town go up and down the street. Billy and his dad order chicken and dumpling soup for lunch and Billy's dad ordered a piece of apple pie for them to share. The apple pie is yummy but not as yummy as Billy's Mom's pie.

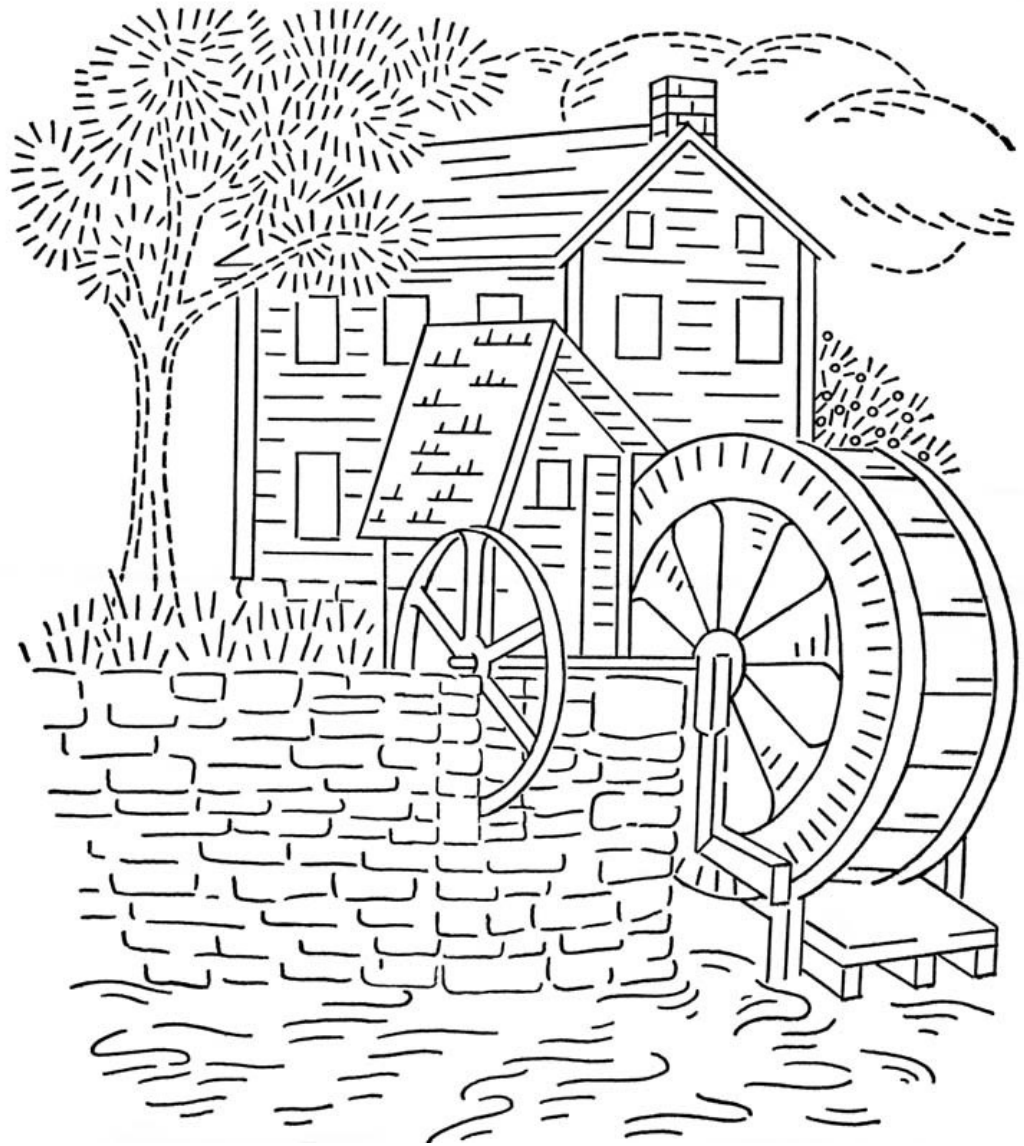
After lunch Billy and his dad go to the Library. Billy has only been here once before. He is surprised again by how many books they have. He hands the librarian at the desk the book his dad brought home a couple of weeks ago. He quickly goes over to the kids book section. Billy is excited to pick out his own book this time. Billy likes all the books he sees and has a hard time picking just one. Finally he picks out one with lots of different little stories in it.



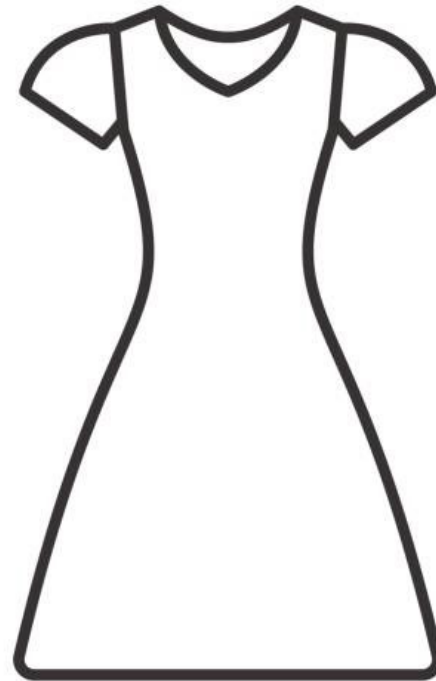
Next they go to the apothecary. Billy likes to go to the apothecary because of the different shapes and sizes of the jars the apothecary has on his shelves. There are green ones, blue ones, red ones and clear ones. They all hold something different. Billy's mom wanted some cinnamon and cream for her hands. She says the apothecary makes the best hand cream.



Billy and his dad then walk to the end of the street where the mill is built by a stream. Billy is fascinated with the mill. He watches as the water pushes a big paddle wheel in a slow steady circle. He knows that the paddle wheel makes very large stones on the inside of the building turn in circles. The mill owner puts grain between the stones and the stones will grind the grain into the flour his mom uses for baking.



Billy's dad pays the mill owner for a very big bag of flour. They will pick it up as they leave town today. Billy likes the pretty pattern on the flour bag and knows his mom will be able to make herself a pretty dress from it.



The last store Billy and his dad go to today is the General Store. This is Billy's favorite store because it has all kinds of things in it. There will be tools, fabric, groceries, and candy. "Of course!" Billy thinks to himself he can spend his pennies on candy at the General Store.

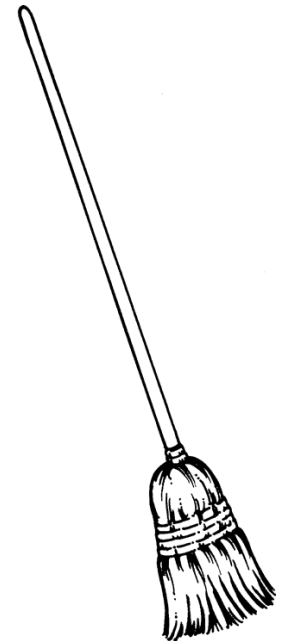
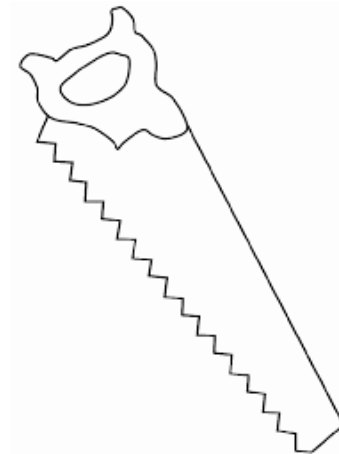
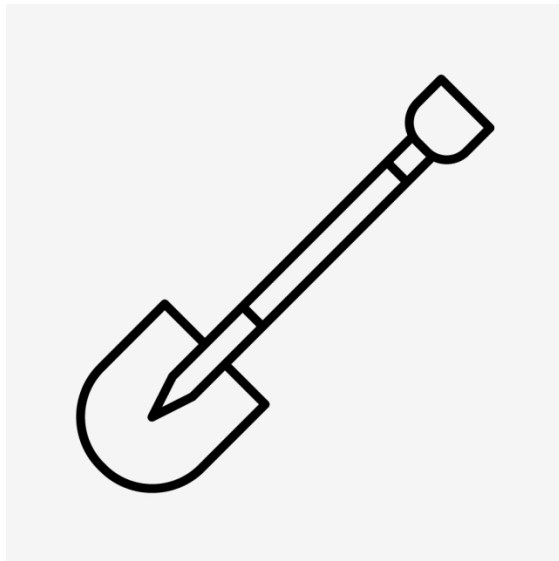
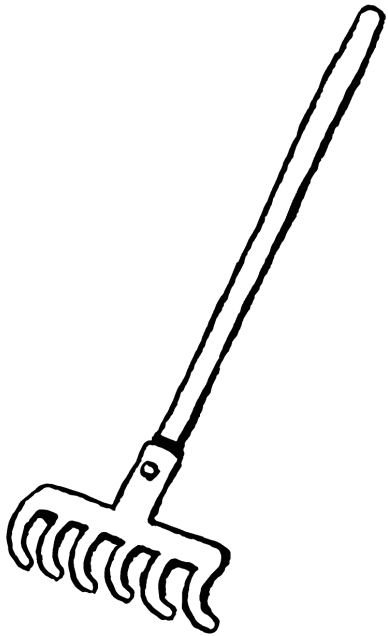


When they get inside Billy sees Mr. Whiskers laying on the top shelf of the grocery section.

Normally, Billy would try to coax Mr. Whiskers down so he could pet him. Today, instead, Billy needs to help his dad with the shopping. Then he can choose which candies to buy.



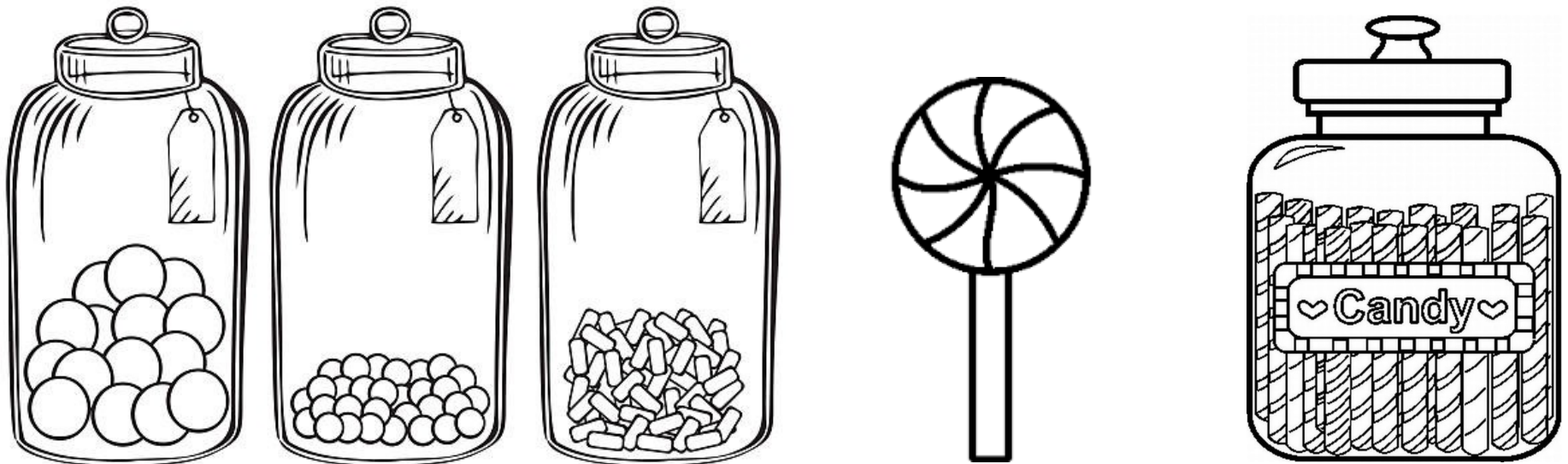
Billy's dad goes to the tool section and picks out a new rake, shovel and saw for the farm. Billy picks out a new broom for his mom that she asked them to bring home today. They take these items to the counter at the side of the store.

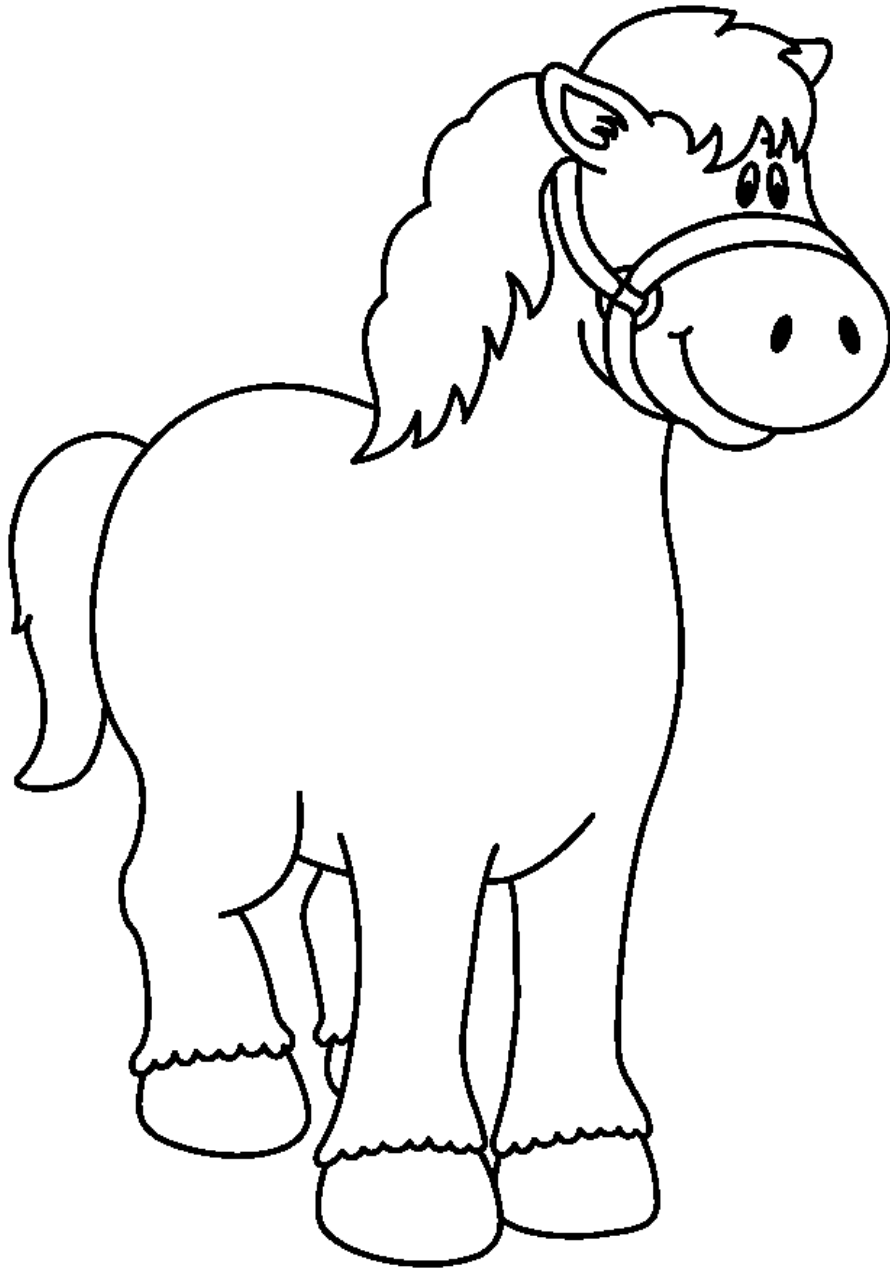


At the counter Billy's dad asks for a bag of coffee beans, a bag of sugar and a bag of salt. These bags aren't as big as the bag of flour and are much easier to carry.



While Billy and his dad wait for the clerk in the General Store to gather the groceries his dad ordered Billy looks over the candy very carefully. It is hard to make up his mind on what he wants. There are sour balls, lemon heads, licorice bits, lollipops, and peppermint sticks to pick from. Billy finally decides to get a lollipop for 2 pennies and 1 peppermint stick for 1 penny. This will leave him 2 pennies to save for later—just like his dad.





Billy and his dad are now ready to go back for May and their wagon. Billy's dad pays the blacksmith for May's new horse shoes and also asks for a sack of nails. After they load the wagon they pull out of town and head for home.



Billy can't wait to get home. He wants to tell his mom about everything he saw in town. He also wants to show her the candy he bought with his very own money and how he saved 2 pennies for later.

The End



Courtesy Of

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