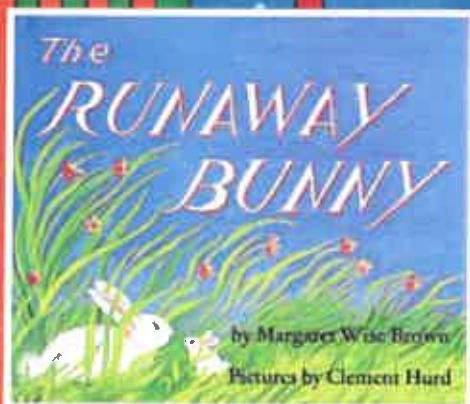


# GOODNIGHT MOON



by Margaret Wise Brown  
Pictures by Clement Hurd  
Harper & Row, Publishers

**MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA**

# About the Production

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The performance of *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny* employs a variety of styles of **PUPPETS**—including rod and table-top puppets—to tell the two stories. Amazingly, all of the puppets and scenic elements are manipulated by just three puppeteers!

In *Goodnight Moon*, part of the visual magic comes from the use of **BLACK LIGHT**. Black light makes fluorescent colors glow in the dark, and makes anything black invisible to the eye. In *Goodnight Moon*, the puppets and scenery are painted with fluorescent paint, which makes them really stand out under the ultraviolet light. The puppeteers are onstage as they work with the puppets. They wear black clothing and black masks and perform in front of a black wall. This makes them almost invisible to the audience and allows them to execute all kinds of visual illusions with the puppets.

The show also employs pre-recorded **NARRATION** of Margaret Wise Brown's text of the two stories, and original **MUSIC** composed by Steven Naylor especially for this production.

This production is by **MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA**. Founded in 1972, the company ranks among Canada's most respected creators of theater for children. Mermaid has performed for more than three million people on four continents.



## Make Your Own Puppets!

### Sock Puppet

[www.daniellesplace.com/HTML/puppets.html](http://www.daniellesplace.com/HTML/puppets.html)

### Rod Puppet

[www.puppets2000.com/index6b.html](http://www.puppets2000.com/index6b.html)

### Bunny Hand Puppet:

[www.bluebonnetvillage.com/puppet.htm](http://www.bluebonnetvillage.com/puppet.htm)



# Bunny Basics

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Rabbits are ground dwellers that live in environments ranging from desert to wetland. They have long ears that allow them to hear very well. In addition to their prominent ears, which can measure more than 4 inches long, rabbits have long, powerful hind legs and a short tail.

## Did You Know?

- Rabbits are not rodents but belong to their own order called **LAGOMORPHS**.
- Rabbits are **HERBIVORES**, which means they eat plants, but do not eat meat.
- Rabbits' teeth never stop growing. They keep them from growing too long by constantly chewing to wear them down. Rabbits will chew on almost anything but house rabbits especially like remote controls!
- House rabbits generally live 8-12 years.
- According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the oldest rabbit in the world lived to the age of 18.
- Larger rabbits generally have shorter lifespans than smaller rabbits.
- Outdoor rabbits have (on average) a much shorter lifespan because of the many risks and hazards associated with living outside.
- Rabbits should not be kept as a classroom pet.



## Ask your students:

- Can you think of any other famous rabbits besides the ones in *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny*?
- What do real rabbits eat? Do the rabbits in *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny* eat or drink anything?
- A herbivore is an animal that eats only plants, such as fruits, vegetables, grass, and leaves. Carnivores eat meat. Omnivores eat EVERYTHING. Are rabbits herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores? What about people?



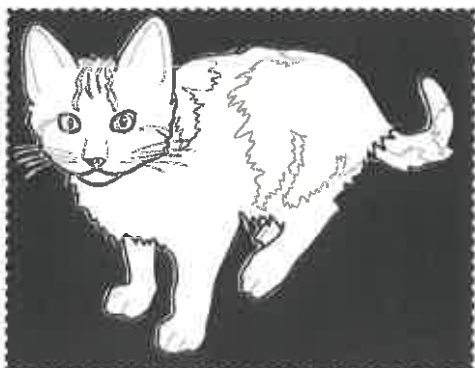
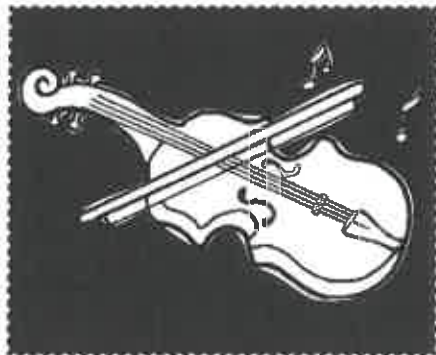
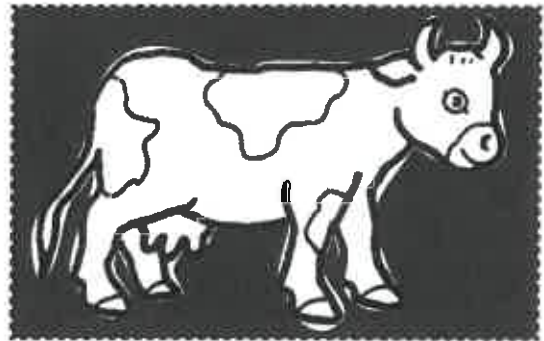
Students can play this online animal diet game to learn about the difference between the three types of eaters.

[www.sheppardsoftware.com/content/animals/kidscorner/games/animaldietgame.htm](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/content/animals/kidscorner/games/animaldietgame.htm)

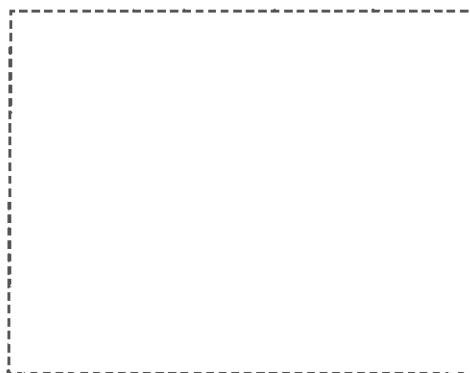
# Rhyme Time



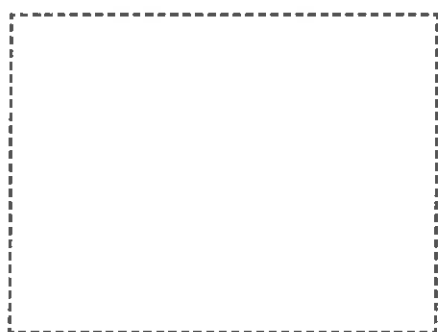
Cut out the pictures below. On the next page, have your students match the pictures to the correct spaces in order to create their own picture book for this nursery rhyme.



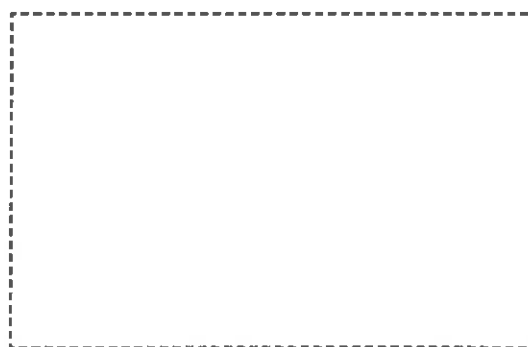
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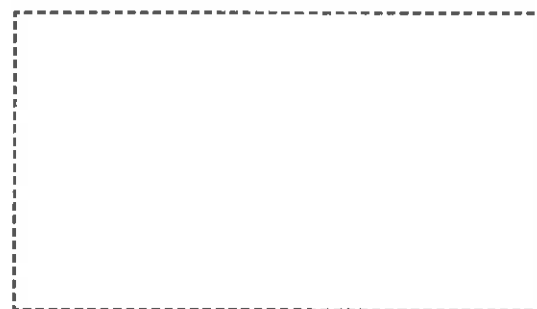


jumped

over the



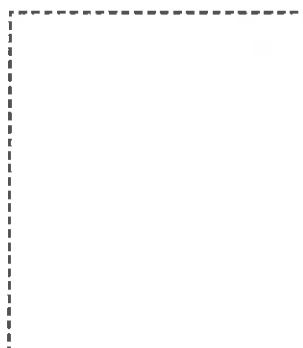
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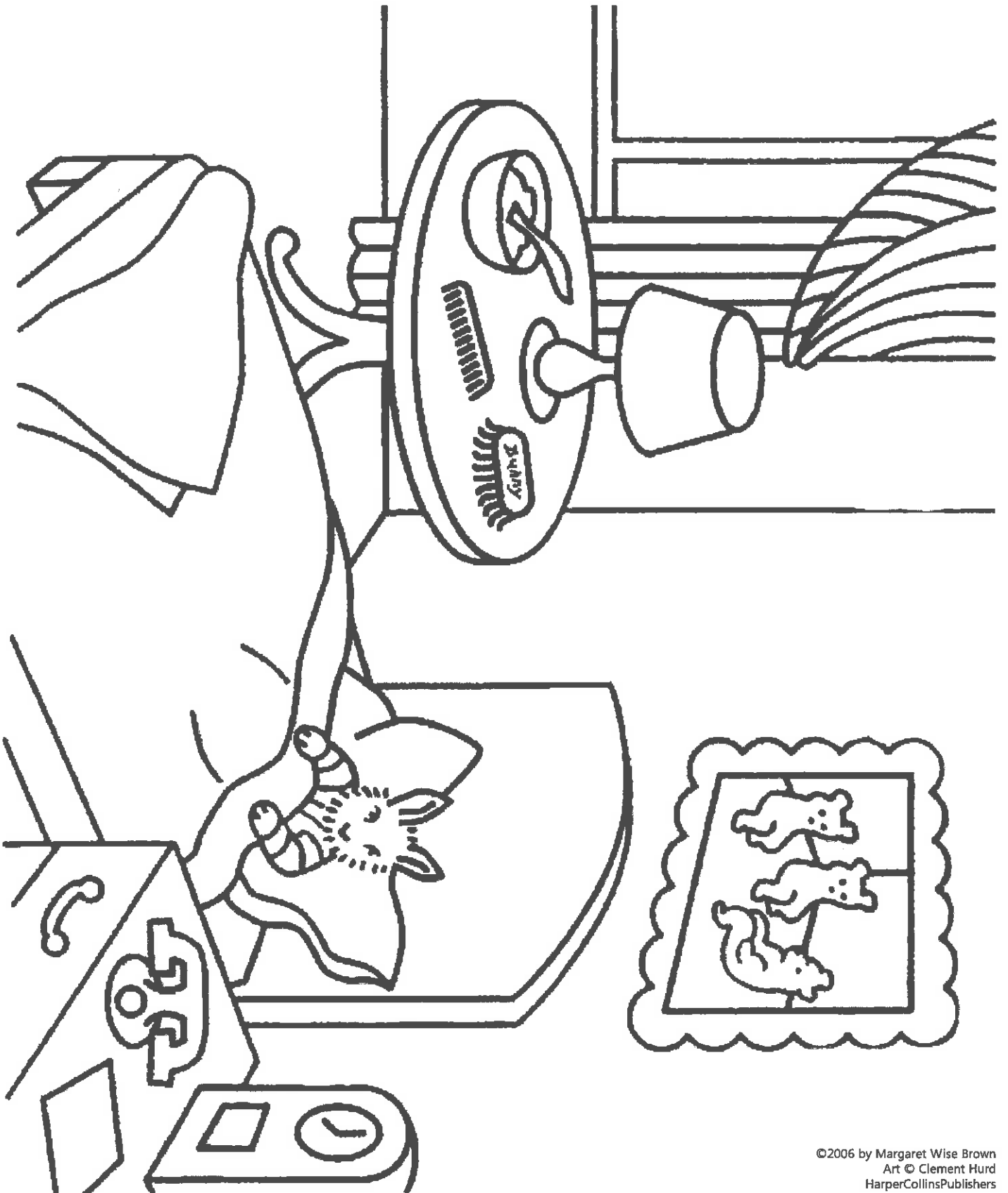


ran away with the



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# Color the Bunny



# What's My Job at the Show?

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Going to see a play at a theater is not the same as watching TV. When you are sitting in audience at the State Theatre, the actors will be in the same room as you. They will be able to hear and see everything that goes on in the audience. Use the key to find out what your job is at the performance.



look



listen



performance



audience



clap

When I go to a



, I am part of the



. This is a

very important job. I have to



and



carefully.

If I talk or move around, the actors and the



will have a

hard time paying attention to the



When the



is over, it's okay for me to





## Goodnight Moon / The Runaway Bunny

*Over the Moon: A Collection of First Books: Goodnight Moon, The Runaway Bunny and My World*, by Margaret Wise Brown, illustrated by Clement Hurd. HarperCollins, 2006.

*Goodnight Moon and Other Sleepytime Tales*. DVD. Not rated. HBO Home Video, 2000.

Learn more about Margaret Wise Brown at her website. See photos of her and view original manuscripts.

[www.margaretwisebrown.com](http://www.margaretwisebrown.com)

*The Runaway Bunny* was turned into a concert piece for violin, orchestra and narrator by composer Glen Roven. Visit the website to learn more and hear the music.

[www.kidsworld.com](http://www.kidsworld.com)



## Puppets

Visit Mermaid Theatre's website for more information on the show.

[www.mermaidtheatre.com](http://www.mermaidtheatre.com)

For more information about black light, check out

[www.bowtiffworks.com/question59.htm](http://www.bowtiffworks.com/question59.htm)

If you're interested in learning how to use puppets with your students, here are some useful resources:

*Making Puppets Come Alive*, by Larry Engler and Carol Fijan. Dover, 1997.

*A Show of Hands: Using Puppets with Young Children*, by Ingrid M. Crepeau and M. Ann Richards. Readleaf Press, 2003.



## Rabbits

Learn about keeping rabbits as pets at the NJ House Rabbit Society website.

[www.njhrs.com](http://www.njhrs.com)

First-School offers rabbit crafts and activities for young students:

[www.first-school.ws/THEME/animals/wild/rabbit.htm](http://www.first-school.ws/THEME/animals/wild/rabbit.htm)

Other books about bunnies:

*Funny Bunnies*, by Laurie Frankel. Chronicle Books, 2004.

*The Rabbit Handbook*, by K. Gendron. Barron's Educational Series, 2000.

*The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, by Beatrix Potter. Grosset & Dunlap, 2004.

*The Velveteen Rabbit*, by Margery Williams. HarperCollins, 1999.

*Guess How Much I Love You?* By Sam McBratney and Anita Jeram. Candlewick, 2008.