

AN EKLAVYA PUBLICATION

# THE MOUSE AND THE PENCIL

A PICTURE STORY



V. SUTEYEV

# **The Mouse and the Pencil**

Text and illustrations - V. Suteyev

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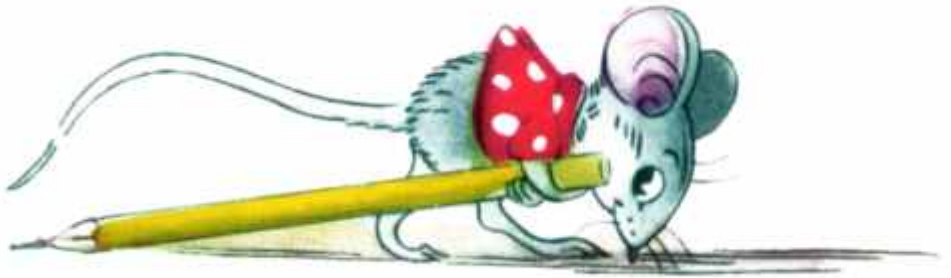
Phone: (0755) 267 1017, 255 0976

[www.eklavya.in](http://www.eklavya.in)

[pitara@eklavya.in](mailto:pitara@eklavya.in)



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One day a little mouse was looking for something to eat. He found a pencil and ran off to his hole with it.

"Do let me go!" begged the pencil. "What use am I to you? I'm only a piece of wood. I'm not good to eat."



"I'm going to gnaw you!" said the mouse. "I have to gnaw something all the time to keep my teeth sharp. Here I go!" And he bit the pencil hard.

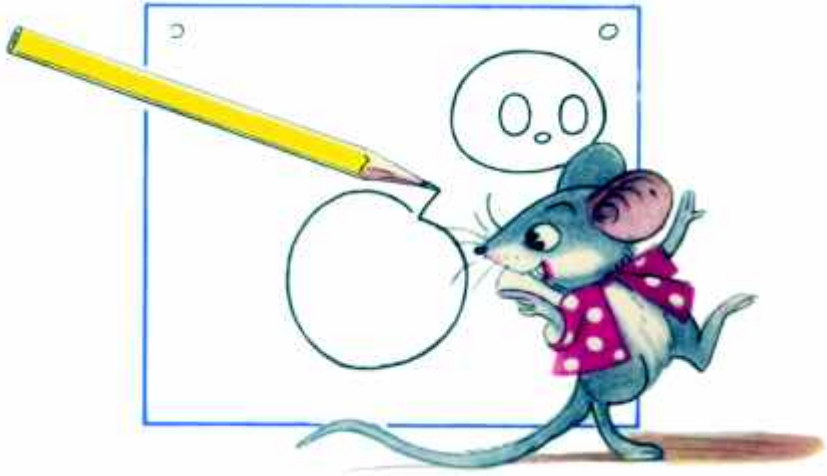
"You're hurting me!" said the pencil. "Let me draw you one last picture, and then you can do what you like!"



"Very well," agreed the mouse. "You draw something. I shall gnaw you into tiny pieces afterwards!"



The pencil sighed heavily, and drew a big circle and three small circles inside it.



"Is this cheese?" asked the mouse.

"Let's call it cheese," agreed the pencil, and it drew another big circle under the first one.

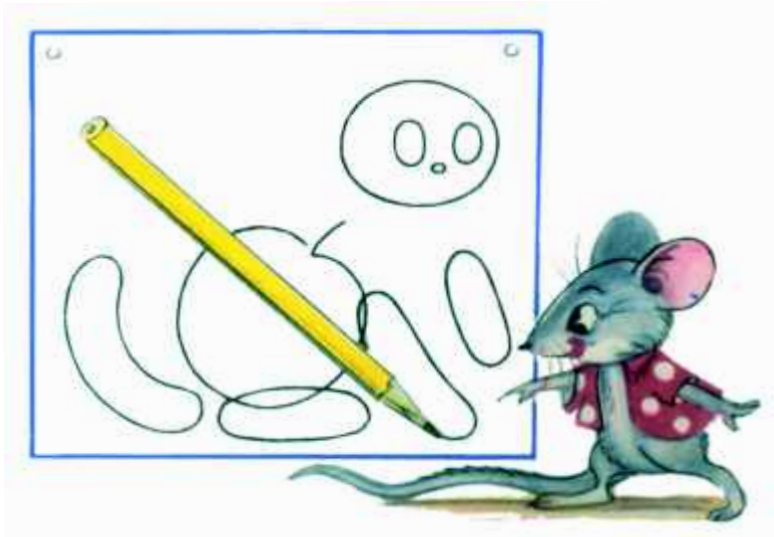


"That's an apple," squeaked the mouse.

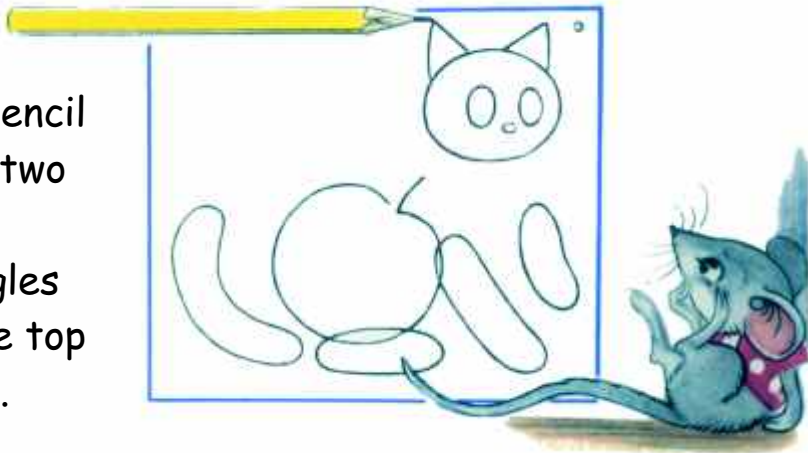
"Let's call it an apple," said the pencil, and it began drawing some funny curved things near the second circle.



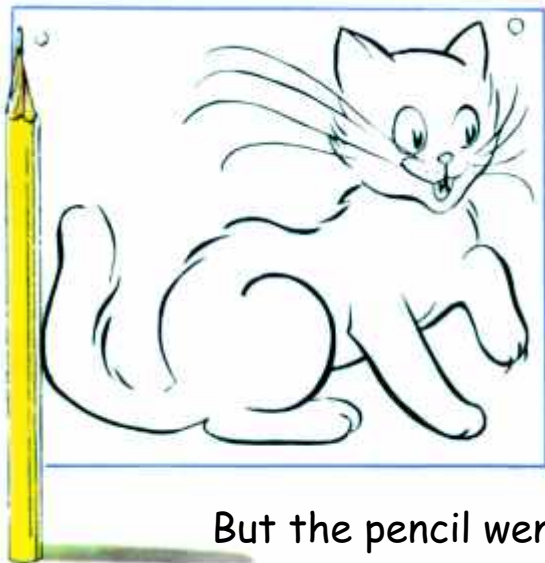
"Why, those are cucumbers," said the mouse, licking his lips. "I wish you'd hurry. I simply can't wait to get my teeth into them!"



The pencil  
drew two  
little  
triangles  
on the top  
circle.



"Oh, oh!" squeaked the mouse. "Now you've  
made it like a cat! Don't go on!"



But the pencil went on, till it had drawn long whiskers and a mouth on the top circle.

And the mouse cried out in terror,  
"It's a real cat! Help!"



Now see if YOU can  
draw a cat that looks  
real enough to frighten  
away the mice!

