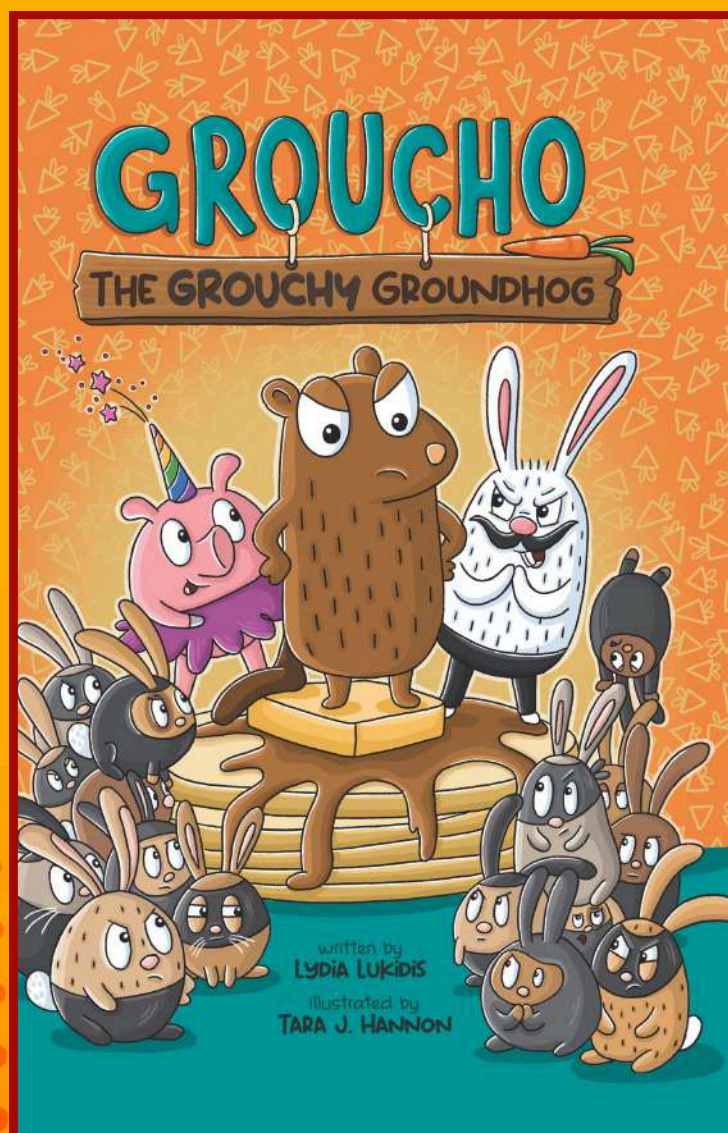
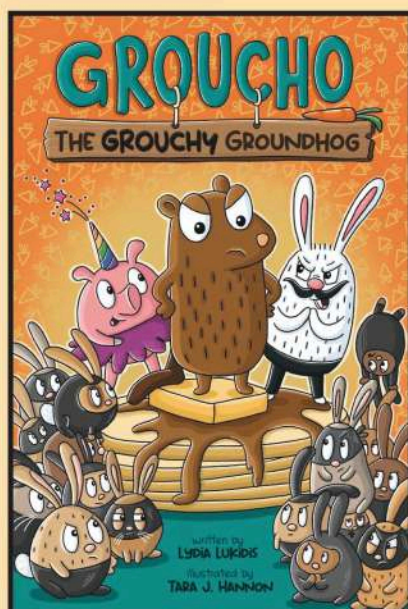


GROUCHO THE GROUCHY GROUNDHOG

-Activity Guide-





GROUCHO THE GROUCHY GROUNDHOG

Written by Lydia Lukidis
Illustrated By Tara J. Hannon
Fueled by Pancakes

Commander Hare E. Bun Bun has stolen all of the pancakes in Critter Creek! Now Groucho the grouchy groundhog and his overly cheery neighbor, Blork, the unicorn pig must work together to save breakfast... and lunch... and dinner! But will they succeed?

- July 15, 2025
- Length: 80 pages
- ISBN13: 9781524898397
- Grades: K - 1 Ages: 6 - 8

LYDIA LUKIDIS

Lydia Lukidis is an award-winning author of 60+ trade and educational books for children. Her titles include UP, UP HIGH: The Secret Poetry of Earth's Atmosphere (Capstone, 2025), and DEEP, DEEP, DOWN: The Secret Underwater Poetry of the Mariana Trench (Capstone, 2023) which was a Crystal Kite winner for the Canada and North America division, Forest of Reading Silver Birch Express Honor, a Cybils Award nominee, and winner of the Dogwood Readers Award. What else does Lydia love? Garfield, pancakes, and slapstick comedy!



TARA J. HANNON

Tara J. Hannon is the author-illustrator of the early graphic novel series, BIRTLE (AMP Kids) and the chapter book series, THE ONLY GHOST (Penguin Workshop). She is excited to be illustrating this graphic novel series, GROUCHO THE GROUCHY GROUNDHOG, written by Lydia Lukidis!

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Main Characters

GROUCHO

Grumpy? Check.
Lazy and sarcastic?
Check and check.

Groucho has no idea how he ended up being the hero of this book. All he wants to do is sleep, complain, and eat pancakes!



Please note:
Groucho is a groundhog and most definitely **NOT** a mole.

BLORK

Blork is half pig, half unicorn, and all smiles. She's Groucho's neighbor and bestie (although he may not agree). Always chasing adventure and fun, Blork also harbors a secret hankering to be a superhero.

Fun fact: Blork can recite 101 knock-knock jokes in under five minutes.



COMMANDER HARE E. BUN BUN

The Commander wants you to know he is neither "cute" nor "fluffy." He prefers to be described as evil and utterly despicable. His biggest dream? World domination!

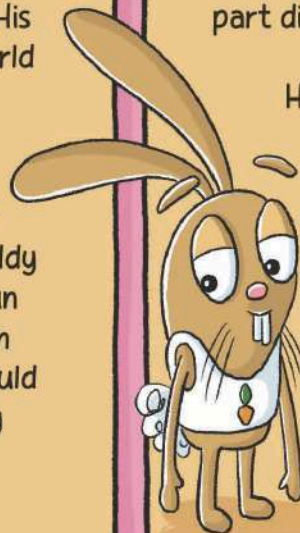


Fun fact: His full name is Commander Bartholomew Fuddy Duddy Hare E. Bun Bun the Sixteenth (although he would rather eat moldy carrots than admit that).

DING DONG

Much like his name suggests, Ding Dong is part ding and part dong.

He's Commander Hare E. Bun Bun's right-hand (or rather, paw) bunny and loyal sidekick.



Main Characters

BUNNY BANDITS

Don't be fooled by how innocent these bunnies look. They are anything but cute and fluffy. The Band of Bandit Bunnies make up the Commander's secret army. You don't want to get on their bad side.



LOU TENNANT

Lou Tennant is the chief police officer in Critter Creek.



This rhinoceros has only one thing on her mind: **JUSTICE.**

Unfortunately, she's always late to the scene.

DEPUTY DAWG

Deputy Dawg is Lou Tennant's second in command. He asked to write his own bio and had only one thing to say:

ARF!



GROUCHO

Discussion Questions

- Blork is very different from Groucho. How do they make a good team?
- Is it OK to be grumpy? What do you do when you are grumpy? What makes you feel better?
- Would you want to be friends with Blork or Groucho? Why or why not?
- What are Groucho's favorite things? Would you like those things too? Why or why not?
- Groucho didn't want to help with the emergency at first. What changed his mind?
- How would you feel if someone tried to steal something you love in your town? What would you do?
- Why do you think Commander Hare E. Bun Bun wants to steal all the pancakes? Do villains always have a good reason for being bad?
- Do you think Groucho wants to be a hero, or does he just keep getting dragged into things?



GROUCHO

Discussion Questions

- What does Groucho learn by the end of the story, even if he doesn't admit it? Do you think he had fun?
- If you could add a new character to this story, what animal would they be? Would they help Groucho or join the Bandit Bunnies?
- What makes this story funny? Can you find a favorite joke, pun, or silly moment?
- Imagine you are Groucho. What would you say if someone woke you up from a nap with a pancake emergency?



GROUCHO Word Search

A B I H F F B F C N R J W Y N V Q K S U
Y P D J C Z C Q E F E F U M A G G K Y L
K X X I E E L H K A H L P O D K X Z R Z
L B S N V U J G H I X U L G I M W X U K
R L I G R O U N D H O G Q O W T D Z P A
F O P H D H S A N T J O G M C N S A C E
U R Y K Q B U V B U P A N C A K E S G W
V K Z J W D V N I C C T E P R M I I G L
E U H D Y P V J L B R X P L R Q A J X Q
P M N Q G H S U O B I I Z Q O G B R S Q
P G S I C R P T C P F W T M T W P R S L
X H R O C B Y N W D I B C T S V U U L Y
B R C O Z O W K W Y Z G U S E F S R B J
U S Q I U B R X S K F U V N Z R H U B K
P E A D N C S N Q W A E U M N I S E L V
I V K X O W H Q G R U M P Y O I F F R M
S H R C G M F Y B T Q Y G T L L E J F O
I W W C M K C B E F P I O T R D Z S A Q
W A B R P W J V K K Q Z M D G M I J Y V
Y N Q J K Y Q M A N K C I K R Q M Q T G

groundhog

pancakes

critters

hero

bunnies

grouchy

carrots

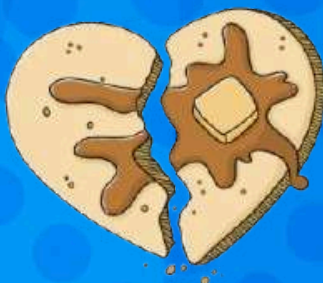
pig

grumpy

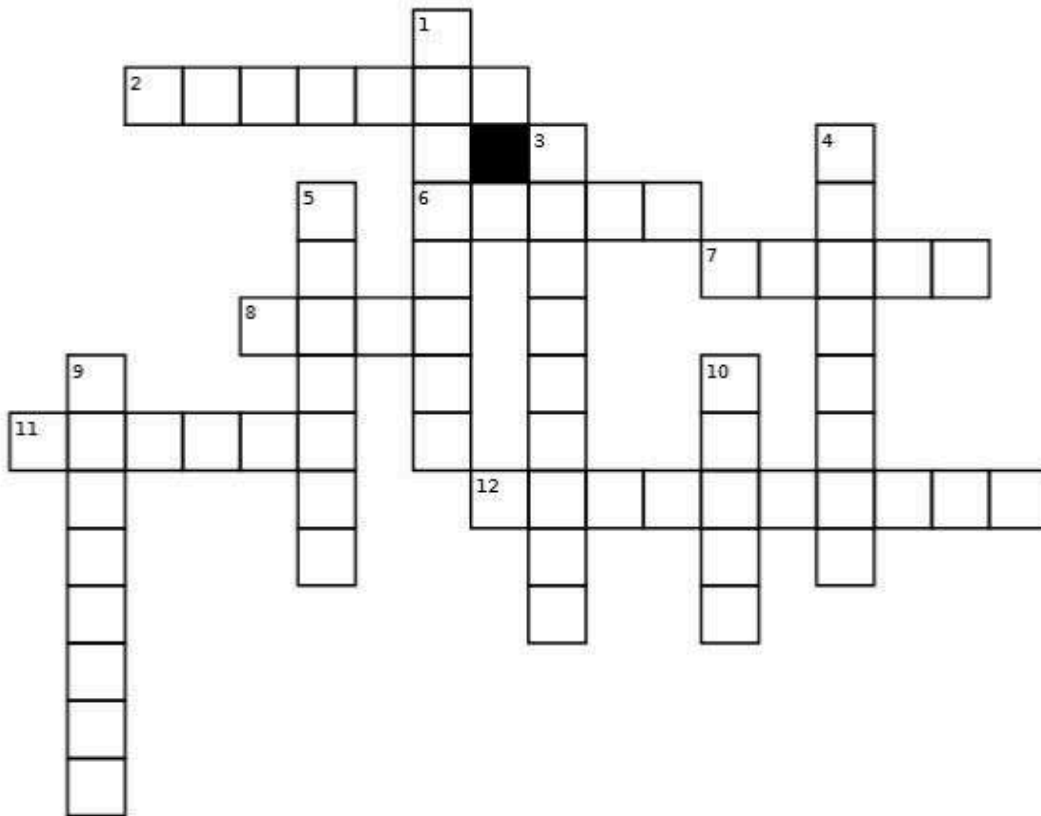
unicorn

syrup

Blork



Groucho Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. What item does Blork wear as a cape?
3. What kind of animal is Groucho?
4. What food does Groucho love more than anything?
5. What does Groucho ride through town?
9. What type of gas makes everyone laugh?
10. Who thinks she's Groucho's best friend?

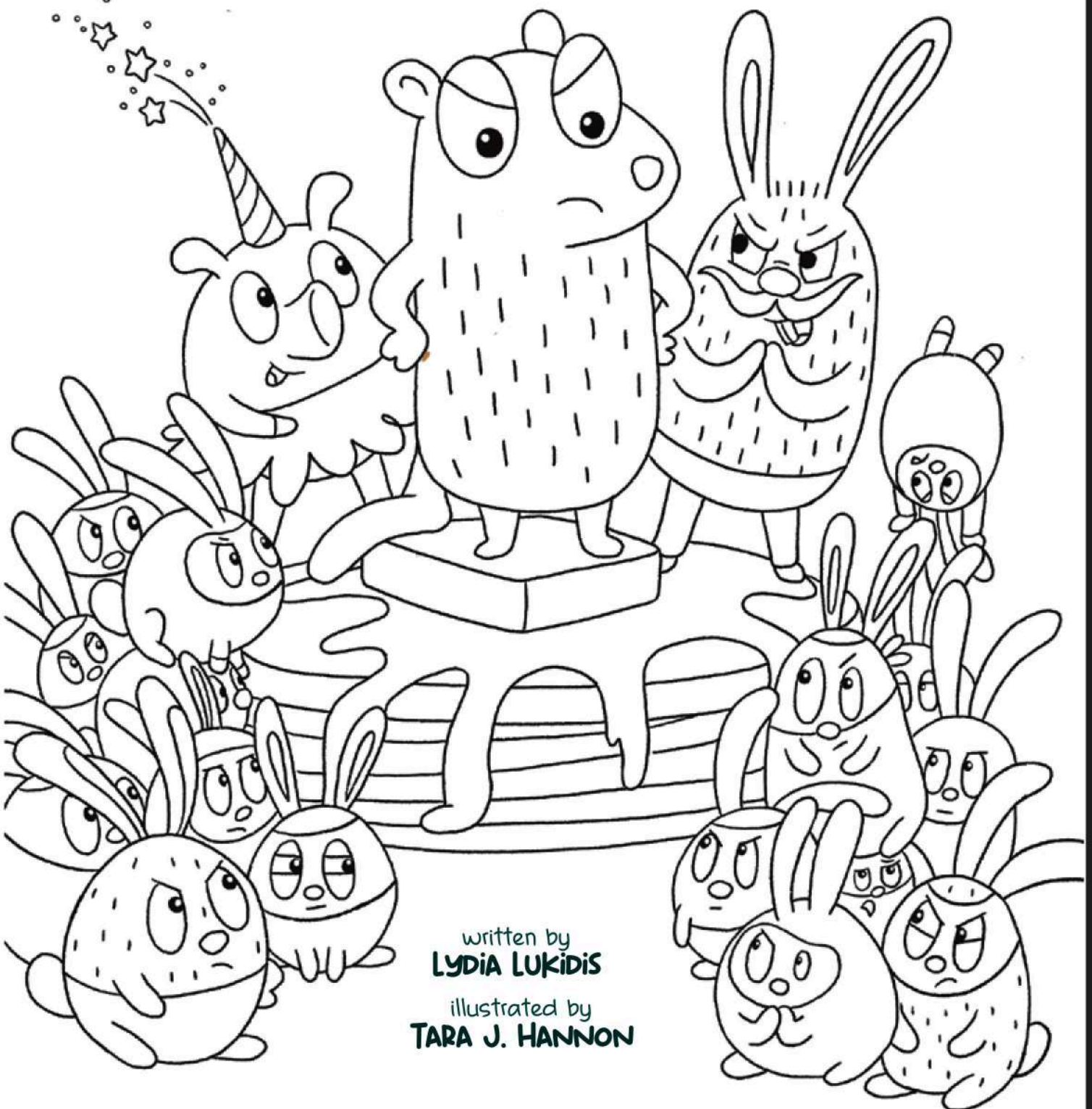
Across:

2. What musical instrument does Blork use to wake Groucho?
6. What is Groucho covered in when he's tied up at the end?
7. What kind of animal is Ding Dong?
8. What kind of animal do people confuse Groucho with?
11. What country does Commander Hare E. Bun Bun live in?
12. What kind of animal is Lou Tennant?



GROUCHO

THE GROUCHY GROUNDHOG



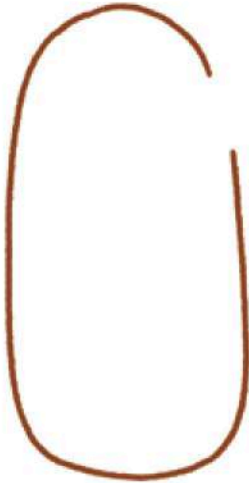
written by
LYDIA LUKIDIS
illustrated by
TARA J. HANNON

What is Groucho so grouchy about? | How many bandit bunnies can you count? | What makes Bork happy?



LET'S DRAW GROUCHO

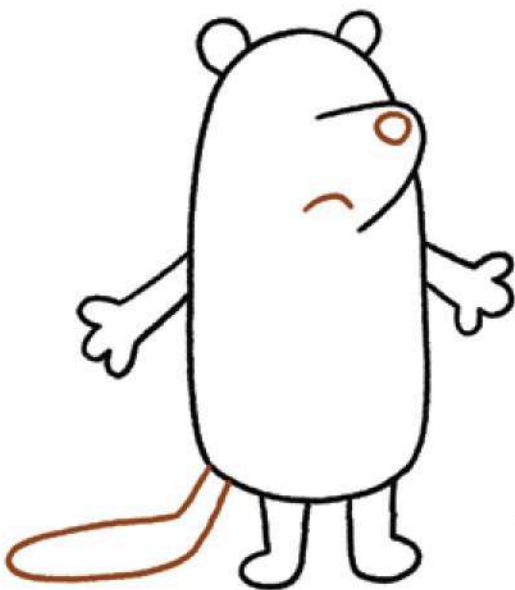
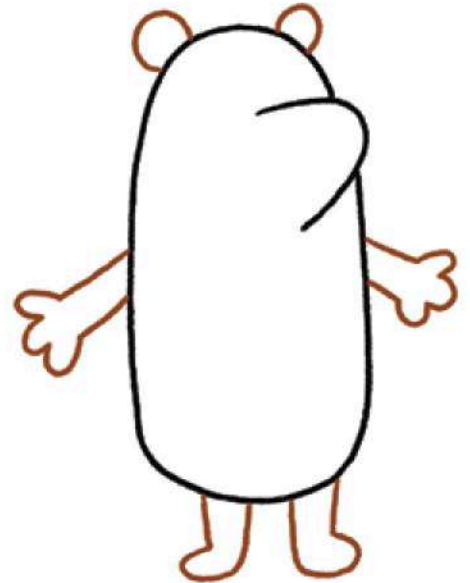
DRAW A SHAPE THAT LOOKS LIKE A PICKLE. LEAVE IT SLIGHTLY OPEN AT THE TOP RIGHT.



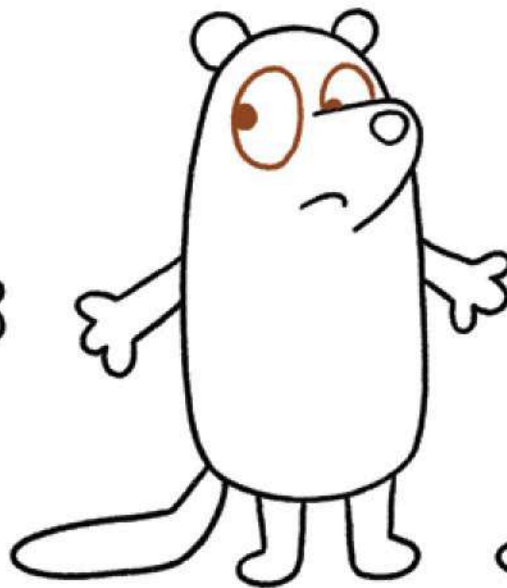
DRAW A SIDEWAYS 'U' IN THE SPACE YOU LEFT. THIS WILL BE HIS SNOUT.



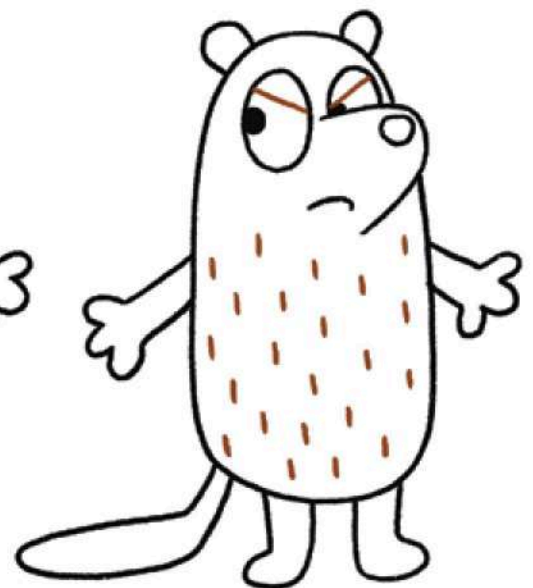
ADD EARS, ARMS AND LEGS.



ADD A ROUNDED FLAT TAIL, A FROWN, AND AN UPSIDE-DOWN TRIANGLE FOR HIS NOSE.



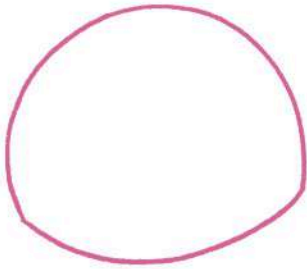
DRAW ONE LARGE OVAL AND A HALF CIRCLE TO MAKE EYEBALLS. ADD PUPILS - REMEMBER TO THINK ABOUT WHERE GROUCHO IS LOOKING.



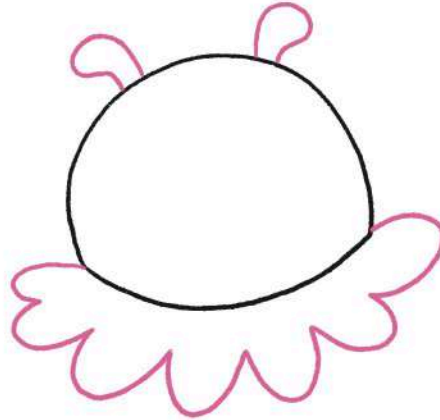
ADD SLANTED EYE LIDS TO MAKE HIM LOOK GROUCHY AND HAIR LINES TO MAKE HIM LOOK SCRUFFY.

LET'S DRAW BLOK

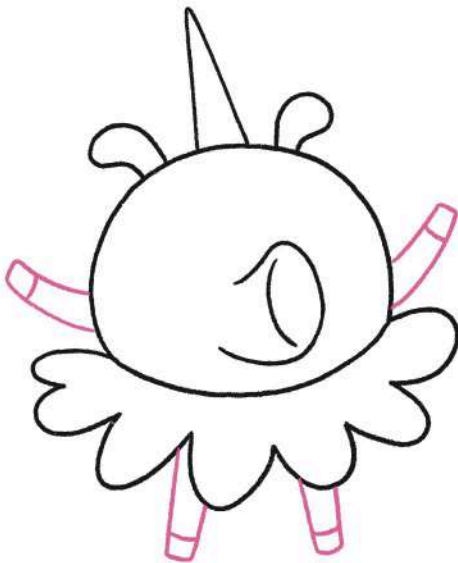
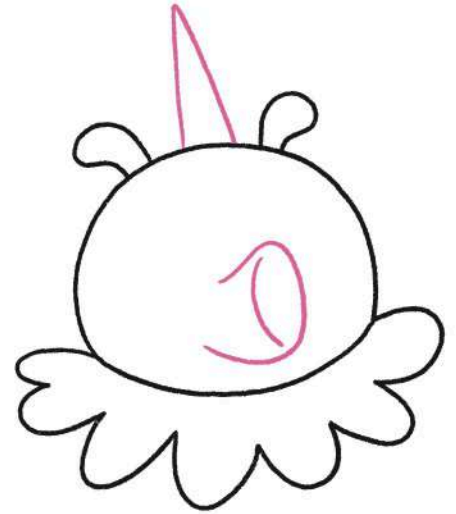
DRAW A CIRCLE WITH A SLIGHTLY FLATTENED BOTTOM.



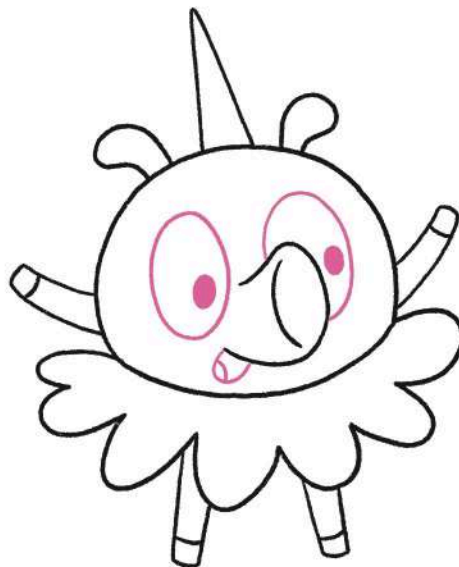
ADD A FLOOFY TUTU TO THE BOTTOM OF THE CIRCLE. DRAW EARS THAT ARE SHAPED LIKE UP-SIDE-DOWN SOCKS.



ADD A UNICORN HORN AND A PIGGY NOSE.



ADD ARMS AND LEGS, DON'T FORGET TO ADD LINES FOR BLOK'S TINY HOOVES.

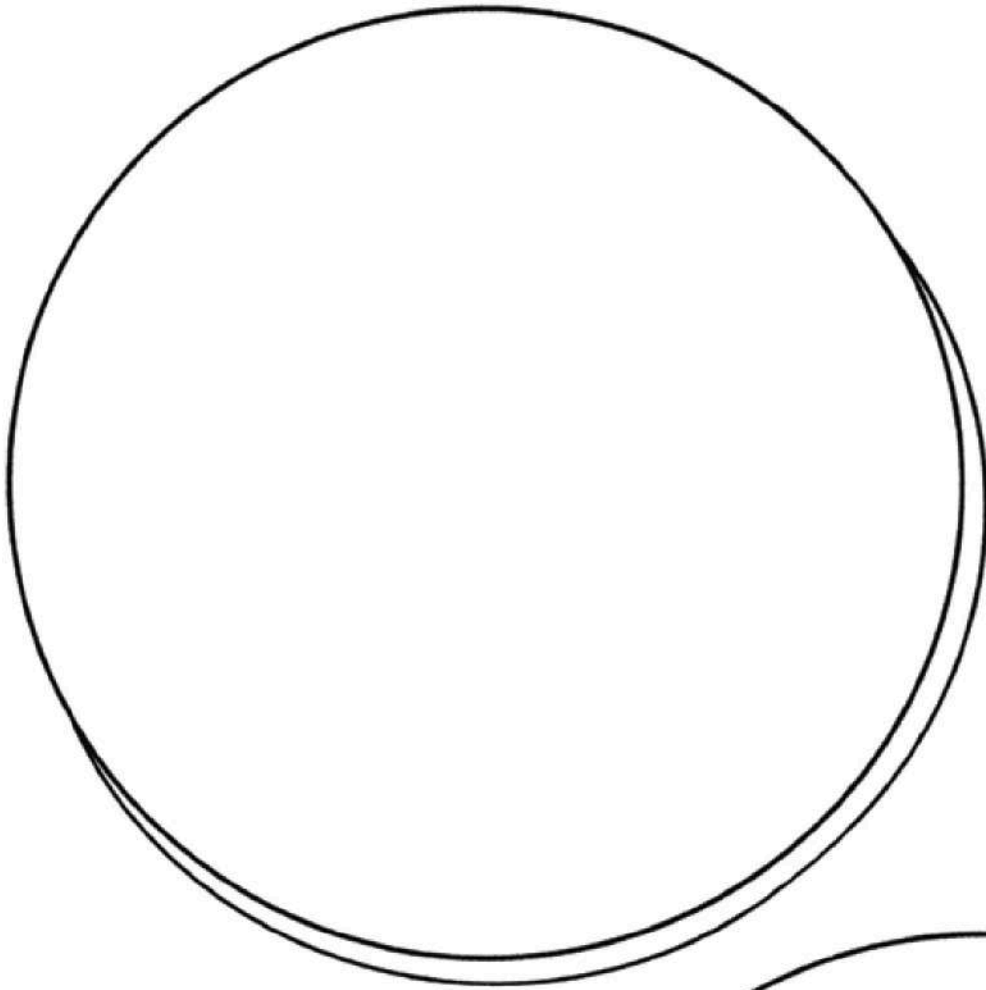


DRAW ONE LARGE OVAL AND A HALF CIRCLE TO MAKE EYEBALLS. ADD PUPILS - REMEMBER TO THINK ABOUT WHERE BLOK IS LOOKING.

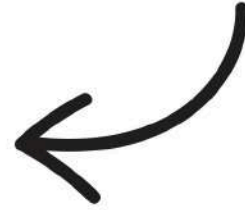


LASTLY, ADD EYE LASHES, LINES ON BLOK'S UNICORN HORN AND HER MAGIC STARS!

YOU DID IT!



Create the most
DELICIOUS pancake
you can think of!

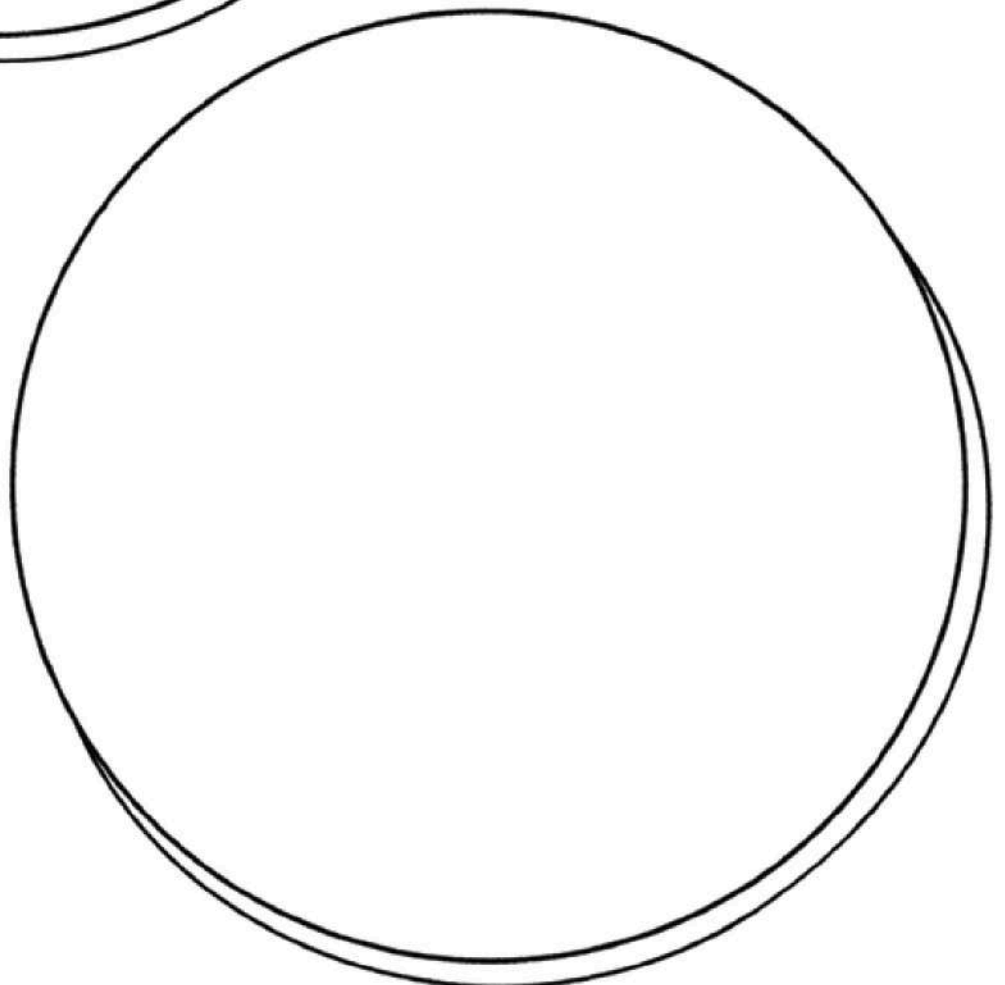


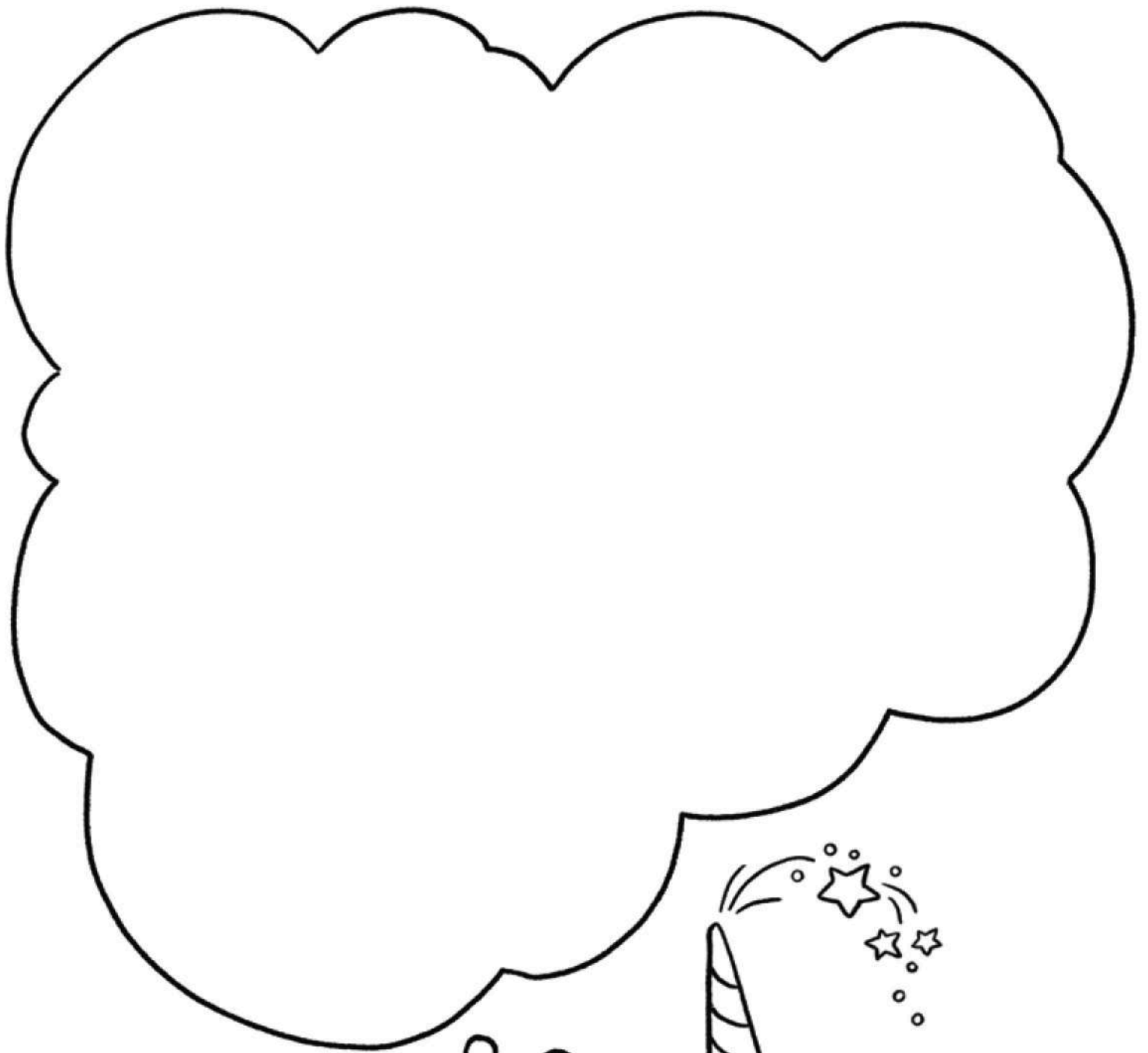
What would
you call it?

Create the **SILLIEST**
pancake you can
think of!



What would
you call it?





We know that
GROUCHO dreams
about pancakes.
But what food does
BLOrk dream about?

Draw Blork's dream meal above!





Harrumph.
I didn't approve any
of this!

Written by Lydia Lukidis

Illustrated by Tara J.

Published by Andrews McMeel Publishing

Fueled by pancakes!



Andrews McMeel
PUBLISHING®