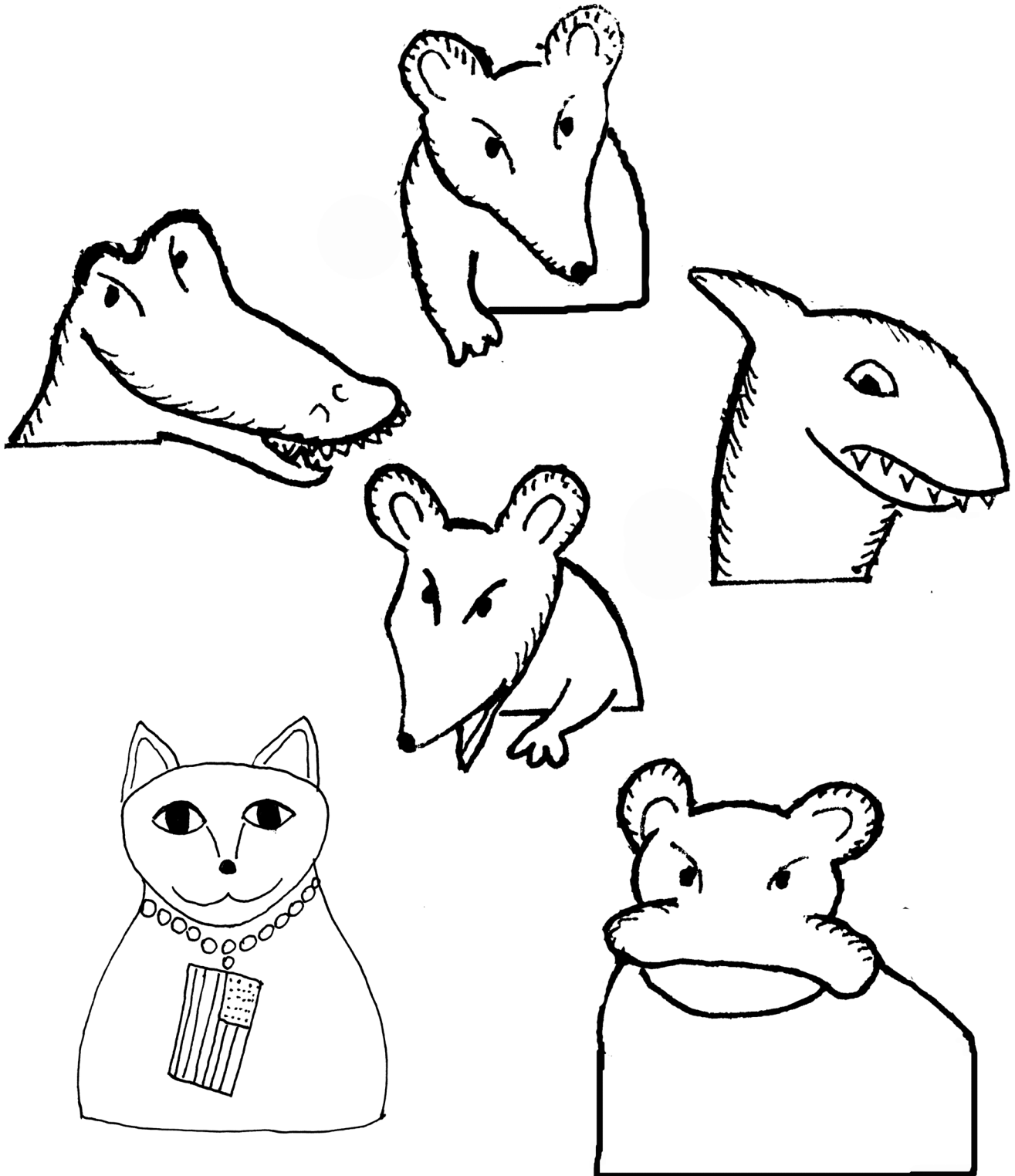


Miss Kitty: The Republican Cat Puppet and Tea Party
Lesson Five (Includes Chapters Seven and Eight)*
from **“Miss Kitty: The Republican Cat”** by Susanna Lohse

First, cut out the puppets below. They can be printed out and glued to popsicle sticks.



*all Chapters in Miss Kitty’s Book are called “Excerpts” - you are still getting complete chapters

Step One:

Miss Kitty (puppet) leads everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic,
for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Step Two:

Miss Kitty explains this excerpt:

Miss Kitty: This excerpt has do with the committee questioning me about my having contacted a printer named Dodge Henricks to have some flyers printed up so I could get the word out to my friends and neighbors about the National Mandatory Indoor Cat Act and the upcoming protest at Sugar Land City Hall.

Step Three:

Re-enact Excerpts 7 and 8 using the puppet cut-outs.

EXCERPT 7 – Miss Kitty Reveals How Republican Don't Whine, They Look for Solutions

This excerpt was taken from a line of questioning in which Miss Kitty was asked about what motivated her to protest The National Mandatory Indoor Cat Act of 2008.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: Miss Kitty, wouldn't you call the protest that you organized, just being whiney on your part? Can't you see the greater good that will come of making all cats stay indoors?

Miss Kitty: I am a proud Republican, and for the most part, we Republicans are not known to whine. Instead, we look for ways to solve a problem.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: You mean to tell me that you don't believe this is just a case of you being a whiner?

Miss Kitty: I have to admit that, as a domesticated cat, I have done my share of whining.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: Finally, I at least got you to admit that you have whined in the past. Please be specific about instances where you have whined.

Miss Kitty: Well, for example, I have whined to my mistress when I haven't been fed on time.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: Now, that wasn't so hard. Don't you see how your protesting this law is just another kind of whining?

Miss Kitty: Don't think for a minute that you are going to get me to admit to that. It's ironic that you, as a Democrat, would say such a thing, because it seems to me that you Democrats do more than your share of whining.

Congressman Gatorcrat: That's an outright lie! And it's too general a statement. What specific examples do you have to back this up?

Miss Kitty: Well, I often hear Democrats whine that we don't have enough solar power technology, and that we don't have free health care, and that oil company profits are too high, and that rich people are too rich, and should be taxed more.

Congressman Gatorcrat: All right, Miss Kitty. You can stop there.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: Miss Kitty, what you mentioned are legitimate complaints. They all address the greater good.

Miss Kitty: I beg to differ. I hear these complaints in the news quite frequently. Ironically, I hear and read of many Democrats who blame Democratic party lawmakers like you, Chairwoman Fishycrat.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: Like me? They do not, I'm their friend, I'm trying to help them.

Miss Kitty: But you are part of the government, aren't you?

Chairwoman Fishycrat: Of course, we in the House of Representatives are part of the Legislative Branch of the government.

Miss Kitty: Liberals love to blame government for not doing enough, but when it comes to government inventing new things, it doesn't have such a good track record. They ought not to look to the government for solutions to all problems, because it always has been, and always will be, industrious, independent individuals who make the world a better place.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: Of course, any time an invention is directed toward the greater good, I am in favor of that.

Miss Kitty: I don't believe the greater good gives most inventors their incentive. More often than not, their incentive is to help themselves. But that's not so terrible, because by helping themselves, they end up helping others. For example, a man who had cancer, realizing that doctors could only do so much for him, decided to look for his own cure. So he set to work in his own garage, and has now come up with a promising way to cure cancer. Another man, also in his garage, has developed a technology that enables cars to run on water.

Congresswoman Hippocrat: So, what does that prove?

Miss Kitty: I was just about to say . . .

Congressman Kraftycrat: Yes. What does that prove?

Miss Kitty: It proves that we need to place more trust in individuals, and we must leave them alone to create as they wish. Neither of them invented anything under a government mandate, but rather with their own free will. However, when an ingenious capitalist does create a product and a company, and he gets rich in the process, you Democrats want to punish him with higher taxes.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: But, we in the government still have to create laws that regulate businesses. We still have a purpose.

Miss Kitty: In my opinion, too much regulation and taxation stifles creativity. Besides, I don't believe any government legislation would have ever resulted in the invention of Silly Putty®, or Pop-Tarts®, or video games. That's the beauty of *Laissez Faire*, or leave us to do as we wish, as the saying goes.

EXCERPT EIGHT – Miss Kitty Explains the Sneaky Way in Which the Mandatory Indoor Cat Act Was Passed

Here, the committee becomes quite testy with Miss Kitty about why she didn't protest the law before it was passed.

Congressman Wranglycrat: Miss Kitty, if you are so concerned now about this law, why didn't you protest it before it was passed?

Miss Kitty: I didn't know about it.

Congressman Wranglycrat: I thought you were a knowledgeable cat. Don't you read the papers and watch television?

Miss Kitty: I only read the Wall Street Journal and some other magazines, and I do watch television and listen to the radio, but I never heard of it until after it was passed.

Congressman Wranglycrat: You aren't so well informed are you, Miss Kitty?

Miss Kitty: I wouldn't say that.

Congressman Wranglycrat: Well, then, why do you think it is that you never heard about this law before it was passed?

Miss Kitty: I believe it is because Congress passed it through what I would call stealth legislation.

Congressman Kraftycrat: Come now, Miss Kitty, you are imagining things. There is no such thing as stealth legislation.

Miss Kitty: Congress passes stealth laws all the time.

Congresswoman Hippocrat: You are going to have to explain yourself, Miss Kitty. We do no such thing.

Miss Kitty: Well, when you pass a large piece of legislation, you have a habit of tacking smaller bills onto a larger bill, and you do this, in my opinion, so no one will notice. That is what you did with the National Mandatory Indoor Cat Act. You tacked it onto a large farm subsidy bill that passed with a two-thirds majority despite President Bush's veto. That is what I mean by a stealth law.

Congresswoman Hippocrat: You are really naïve, Miss Kitty. That is simply the normal way we pass legislation. If we passed one bill at a time—why, it would be so—so inefficient!

Miss Kitty: It's still a sneaky way to pass a law, and I don't believe I am the only one who sees it that way.

Congresswoman Hippocrat: You just listen to too much talk radio, Miss Kitty. You really need to find out the truth. They are just telling you lies.

Miss Kitty: I don't believe that's the way it is at all. In fact, there is an irony here.

Congresswoman Hippocrat: Irony?

Miss Kitty: Well, under Mr. Clinton . . .

Congresswoman Hippocrat: That's President Clinton, to you.

Miss Kitty: I apologize if I offended you, but I don't believe I've ever heard a Democrat ever complain when those in the media refer to President Bush as Mr. Bush. I find it to be disrespectful, especially when he is still in office.

Here, Congresswoman Hippocrat rolled her eyes.

Congresswoman Hippocrat: That is not of any importance to this committee. Proceed with what you were going to say.

Miss Kitty: As I was saying, there is an irony, and that irony is that President Clinton's administration prosecuted Mr. Bill Gates and his company, Microsoft, for something called bundling—when a business bundles more than one product into a package. And, as I see it, Congress bundles legislation the same way.

Congresswoman Hippocrat: You are so naïve. It isn't the same thing. We aren't evil capitalists, like Bill Gates.

Miss Kitty: But aren't you forcing citizens to accept every single piece of legislation you pass, even when they don't want every single thing in the package?

Congressman Kraftycrat: I can see that this line of questioning is going nowhere. Madam Chairwoman, I believe we should adjourn for now.

Chairwoman Fishycrat: As you wish, Congressman Kraftycrat. This cat certainly has some odd ideas about how things ought to be done here in Washington.

END OF EXCERPT (CHAPTER) SEVEN

Step Five:

Serve tea and cookies and discuss Miss Kitty's experience in front of the committee. This is good time to explain why people are having tea parties and what they mean. Tea Parties are fundamentally a way to protest our nation's impending tax increases that will result from the stimulus package, placing a burden of over \$100,000 per family, of taxes not yet collected. One good way of explaining this is to tell children that if we had a credit card that said IRS on it, that the government has charged a lot of money on our IRS account, and that all Americans will have to pay their share of the bill, even if we don't pay the entire amount directly, all of us will pay somehow, with higher prices, and higher taxes. However, it's good to emphasize that as Americans, we can change things, and that we can prevail over this difficulty by electing representatives who will cut spending and cut our taxes.

(December 16, 1773) an organized refusal by Boston merchants to accept a shipment of tea, in protest against tea taxes retained after the British Parliament's repeal of the Townshend Acts. Patriots known as Sons of Liberty, led by Samuel Adams, Paul Revere, and others, dressed as Mohawks, boarded several British East India Company vessels and dumped 300 chests of tea into Boston Harbor.

Step Six - Lesson Conclusion - Teacher asks Miss Kitty to give closing words:

Miss Kitty, will you give us some closing words?

Miss Kitty: I'd be glad to. I am a Republican because I believe in life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and to me, this means limited government, fiscal responsibility, individual freedom and states' rights. We live in a wonderful country, and there's a lot to celebrate, especially if you're a cat, so, until next week, don't ever let your heart be filled with hate. Always stay on the sunny side of life.

SUNNYSIDE SONG

Stay on the sunny side, Always on the sunny side,
Stay on the sunny side of life
You'll feel no pain as we drive you insane,
If you stay on the sunny side of life.