

Valentine's Day Fun: Holding Hearts Art Project

Grade Level: K-5 (adaptable)

Time Required: 45-60 minutes

What Students Will Create:

Students will create an adorable Valentine's day display featuring a playful animal holding a heart in its paws. This engaging mixed-media project combines coloring, cutting, and assembly skills.

Materials Needed:

Animal template printout (included) or a guided drawing tutorial (bear and dog included)
Colored paper OR white paper coloring materials (one of the following: watercolor, paint sticks, oil pastels, crayons, or torn paper collage)

Scissors

Glue stick

What's Included:

Multiple animal templates (dog, cat, tiger, lion, bear, fox)

Guided Drawing Printout for Dog & Bear

Step by step photo guide teacher instructions

Skills Practiced:

Fine motor skills (cutting, gluing)

Color theory and media exploration

Following multi-step directions

Creative expression

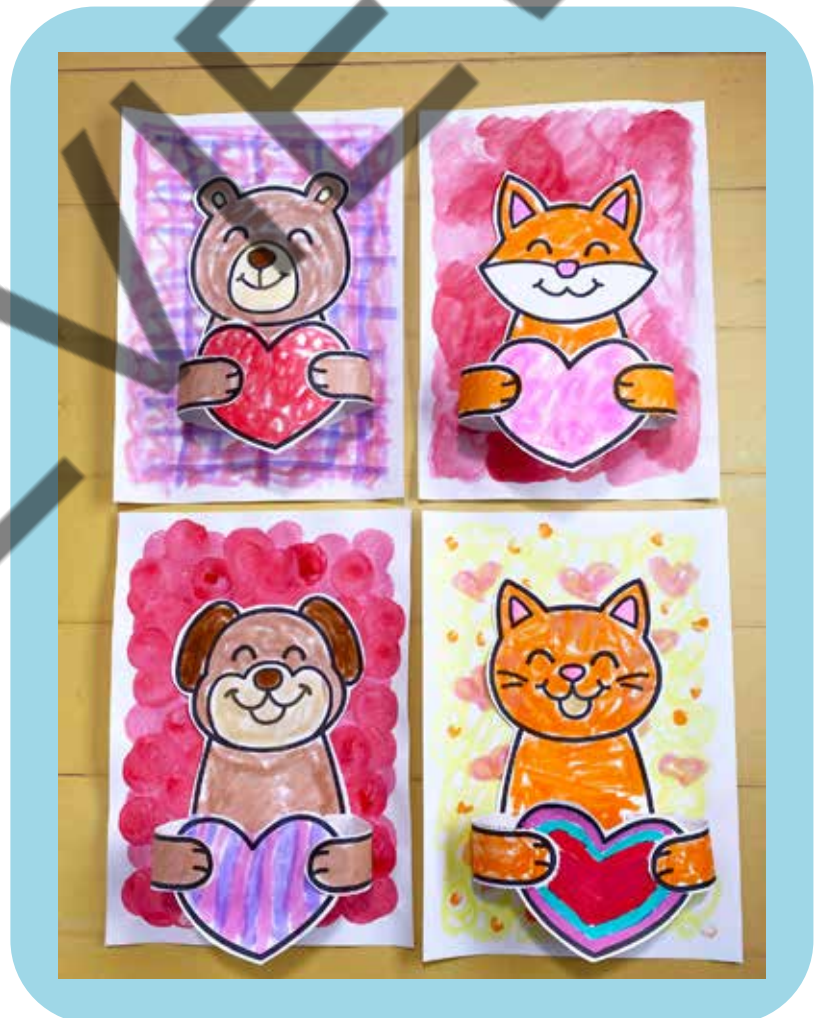
Spatial awareness

Tips for Success:

Demonstrate the paw fold clearly

Have sample finished projects visible

Consider creating backgrounds in a previous class session



Differentiation Options:

Younger students: Pre-cut pieces, simplified coloring.

Older students: Draw the animal by themselves, add additional details, create patterned backgrounds, experiment with mixed media.

Extension activity: Write a Valentine's day story or poem about their animal.

Step-by-Step Instructions:

Step 1:

Create the background

Depending on the age group and time available there are more ways to create the background.

You can have students use a sheet of colored cardstock as a background.

You can have the students paint the background with any medium that they are comfortable with. I recommend paint sticks, watercolors or dabbing with sponge brushes.

Another alternative is to create the background by making a mosaic with paper scraps or torn tissue paper.



Step 2:

Color the animal and the heart

(or have the students draw a cat or a bear with the guided tutorial included in this lesson). Students color each part of the animal template using their choice of coloring materials.

As the templates feature larger areas to color paint sticks work really well.

Crayons and markers are great picks as well.



Step 3:

Cut Out the Pieces

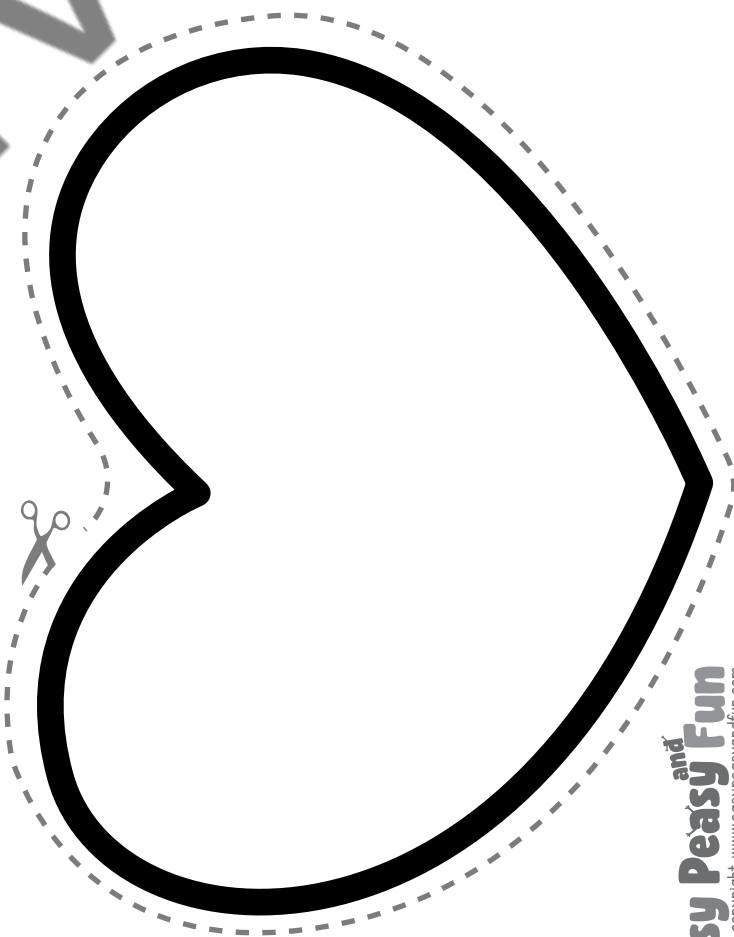
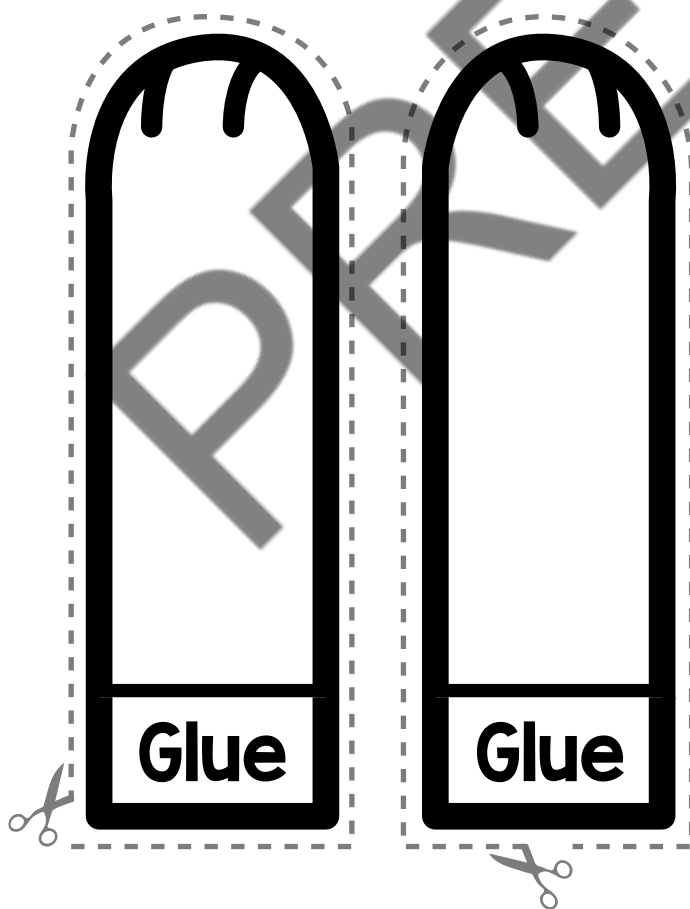
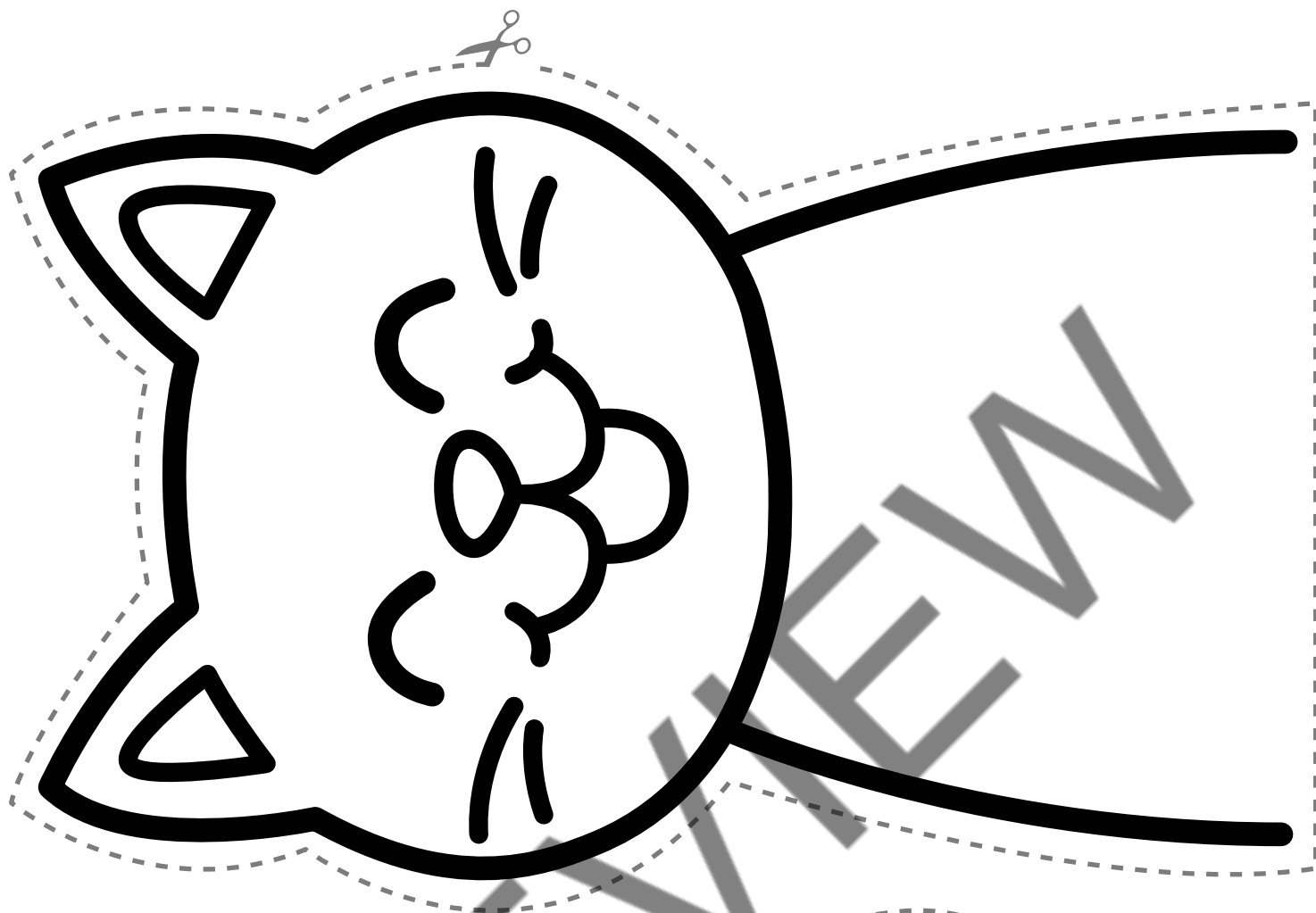
Carefully cut out all animal parts along the dashed lines.

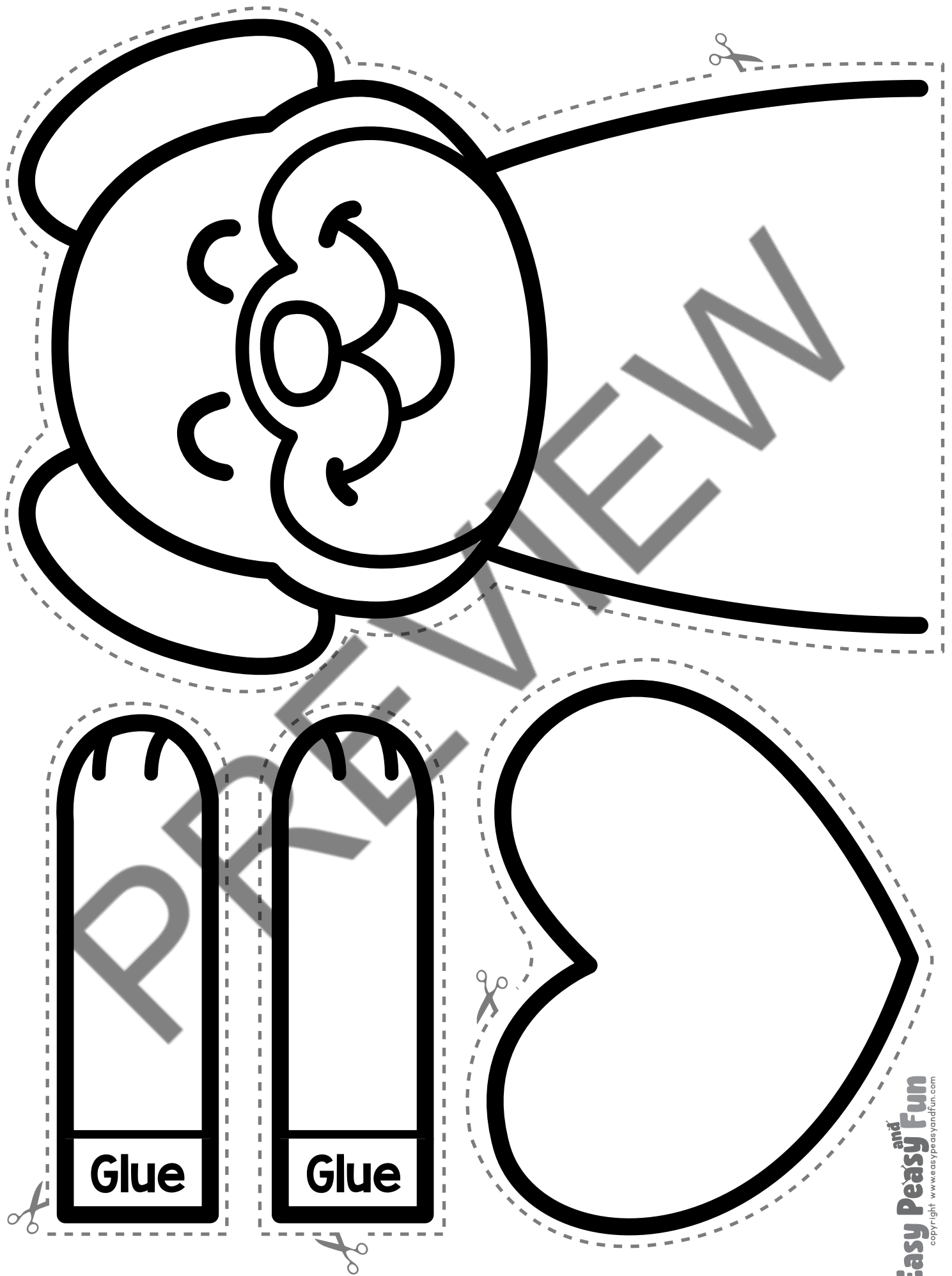
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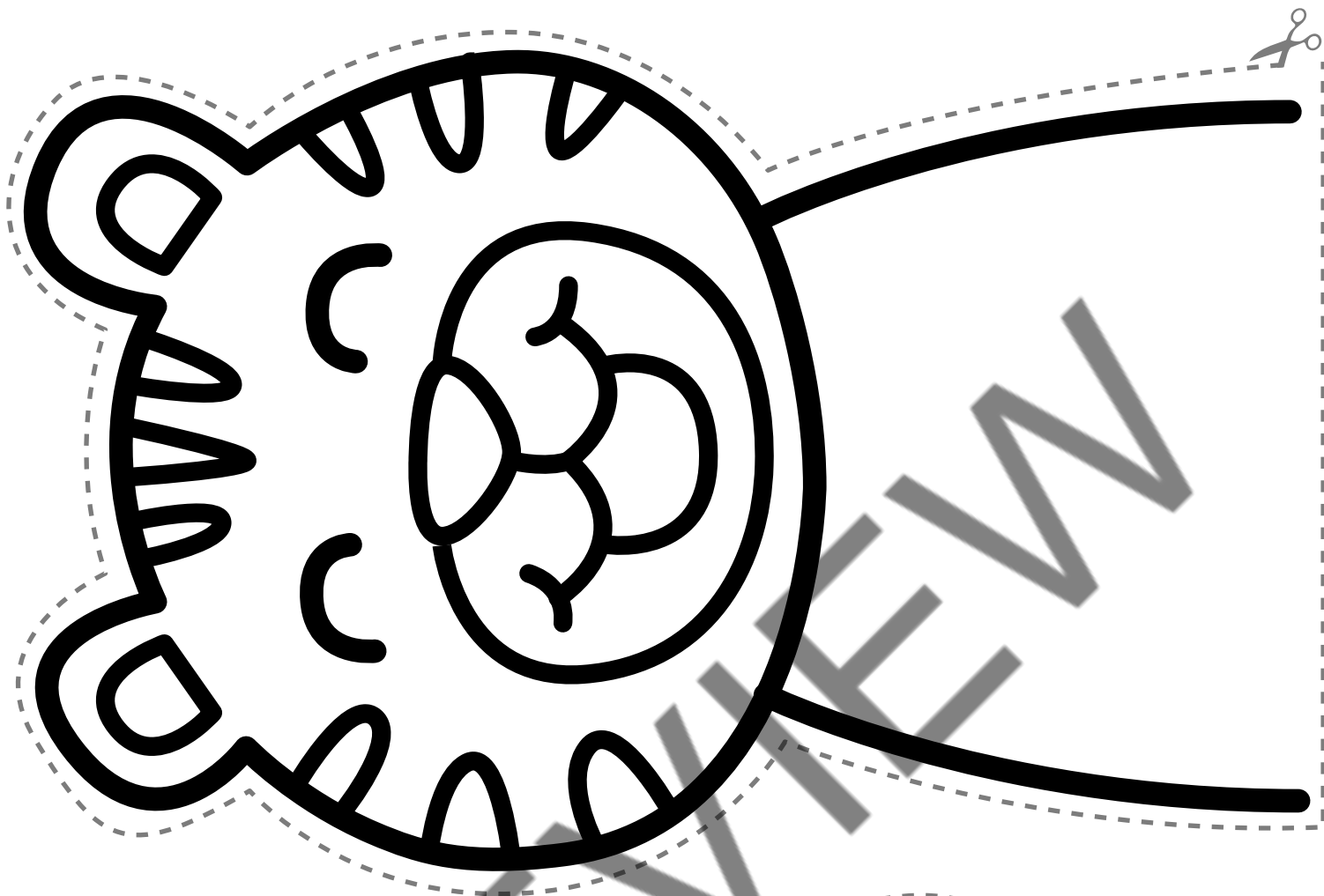
Assemble the Animal

Glue the main animal body onto the background. Fold along the bold line on the paws and apply glue to the area marked with glue. Stick each arm onto the bottom part of the animal's body (to the sides). Apply glue on the inside of the paws and glue on the heart.

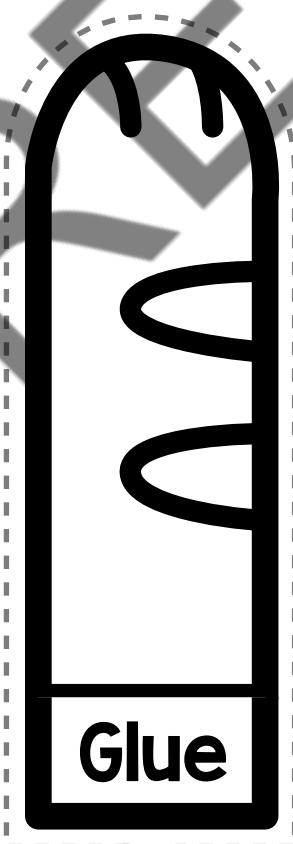




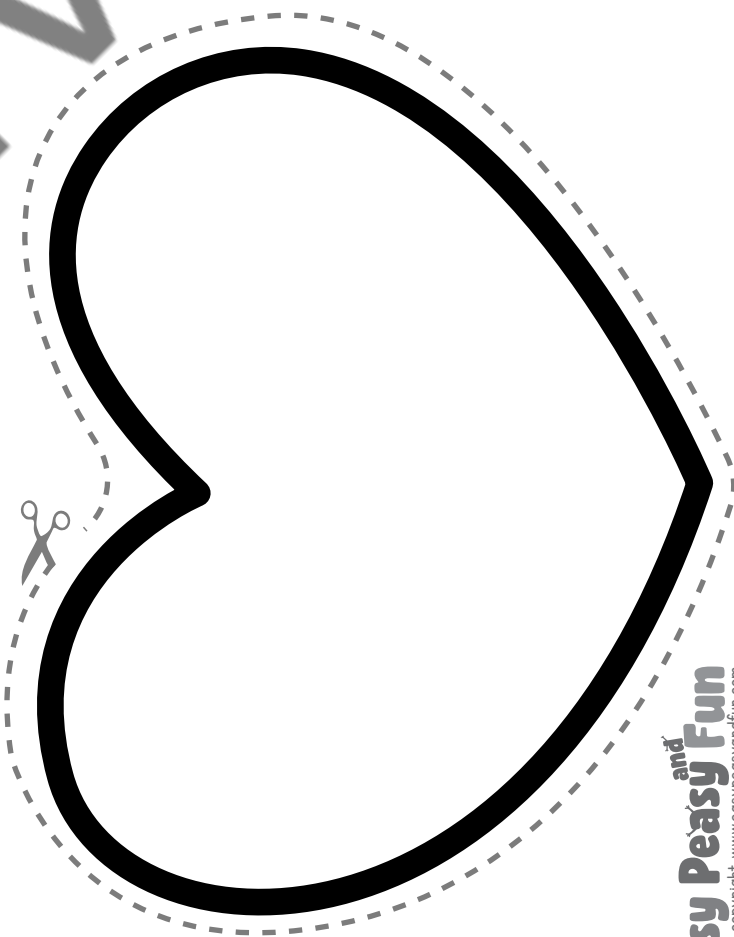


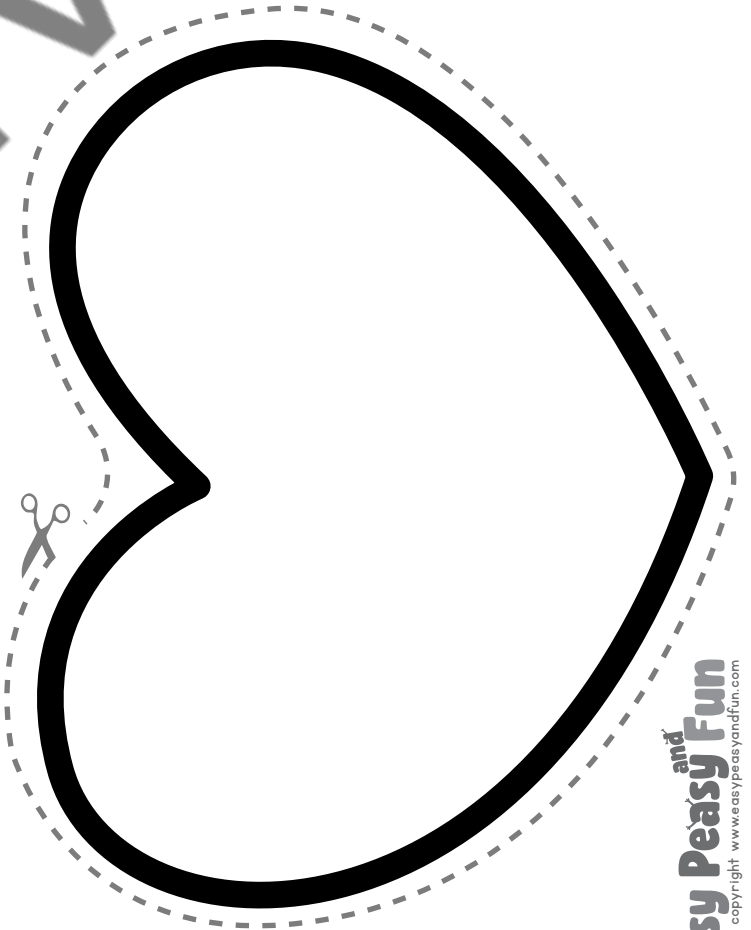
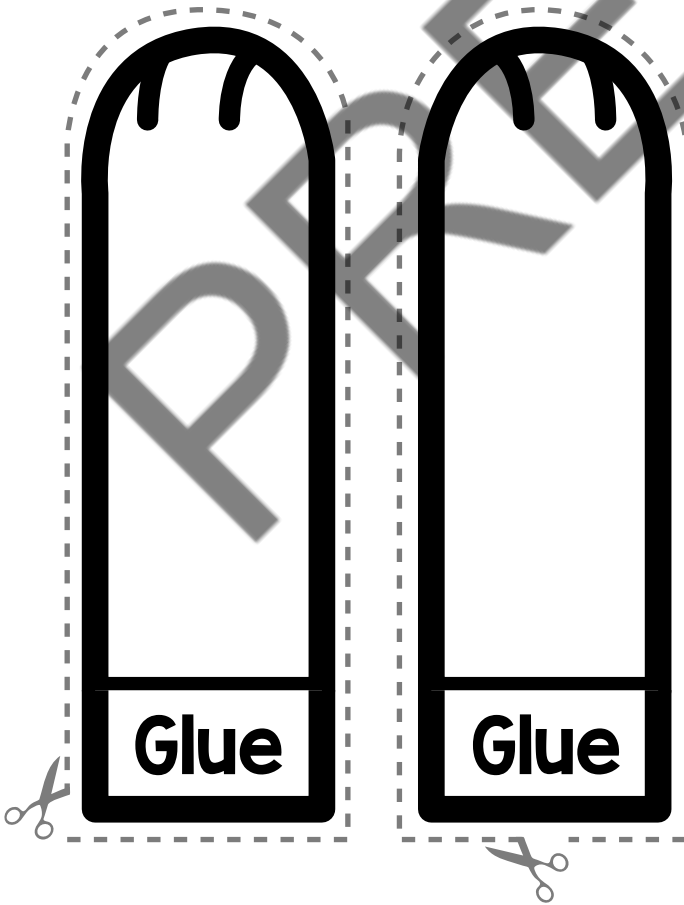
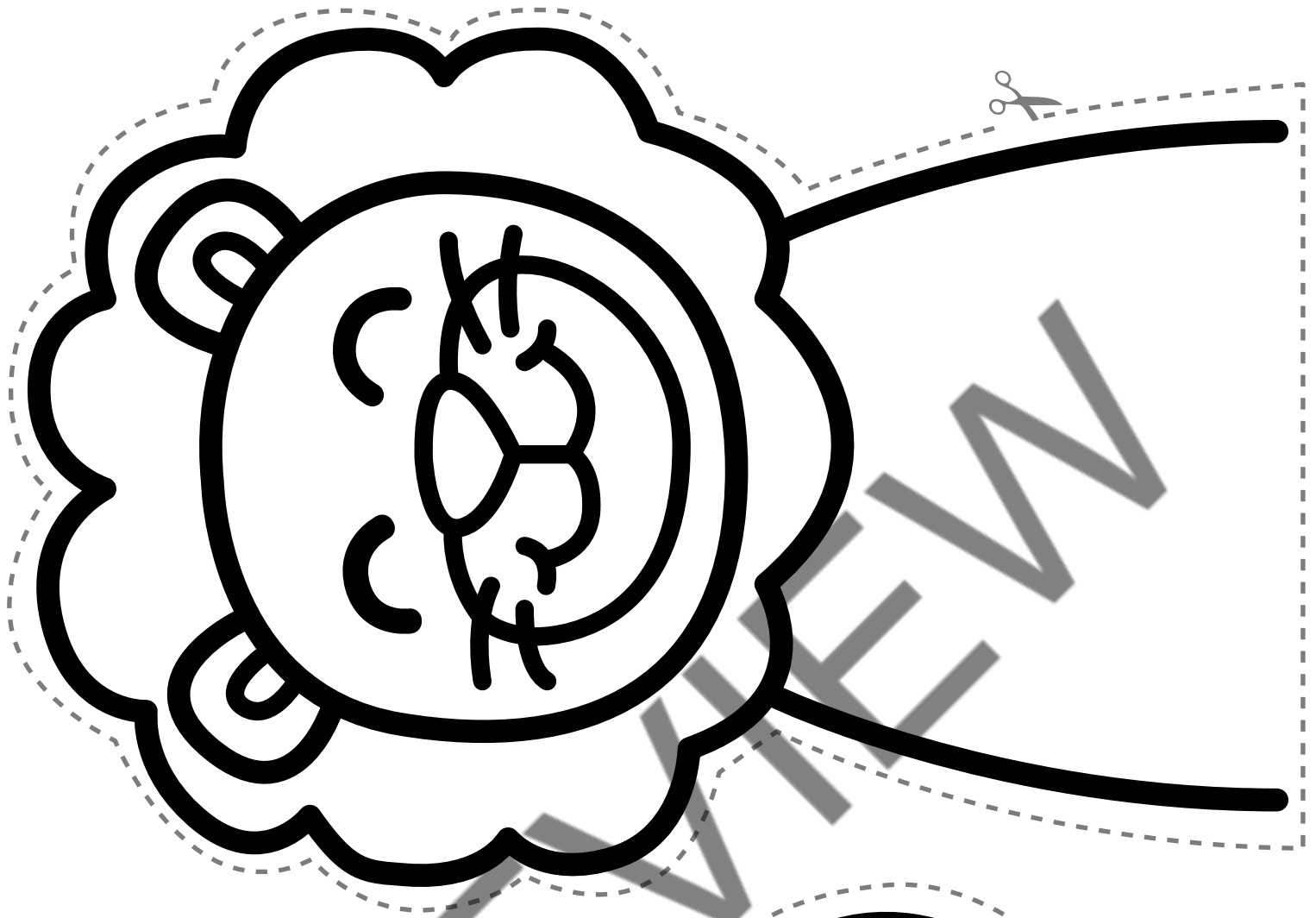


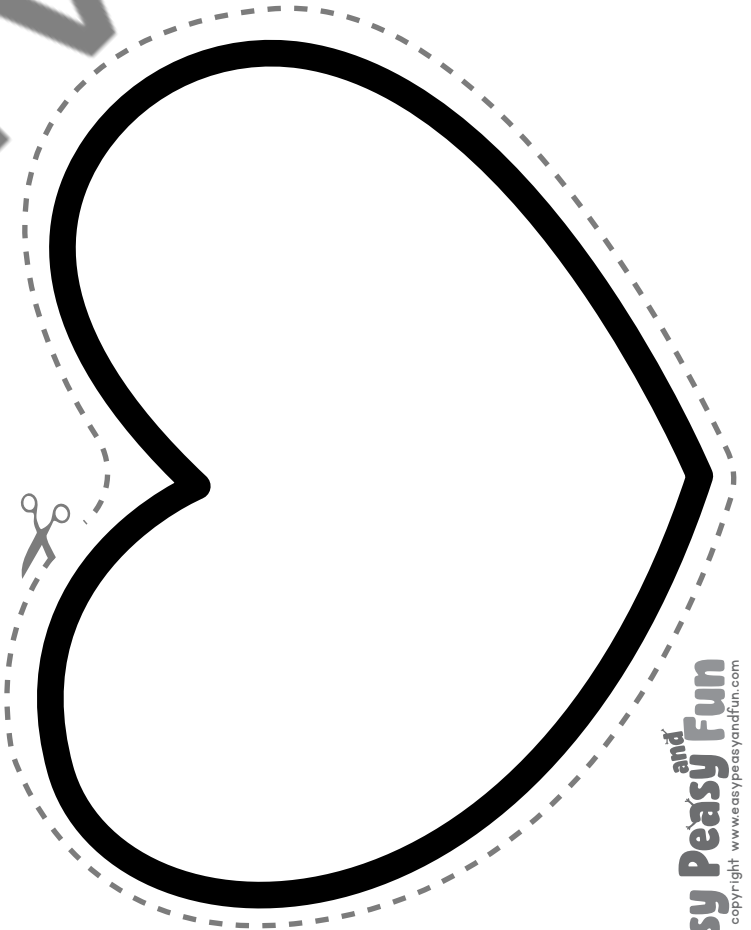
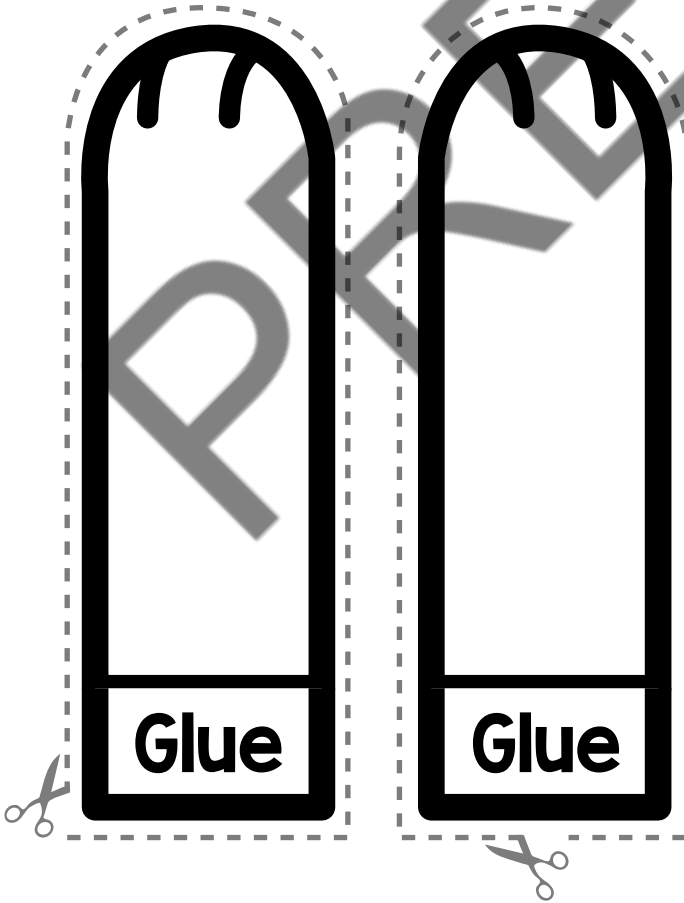
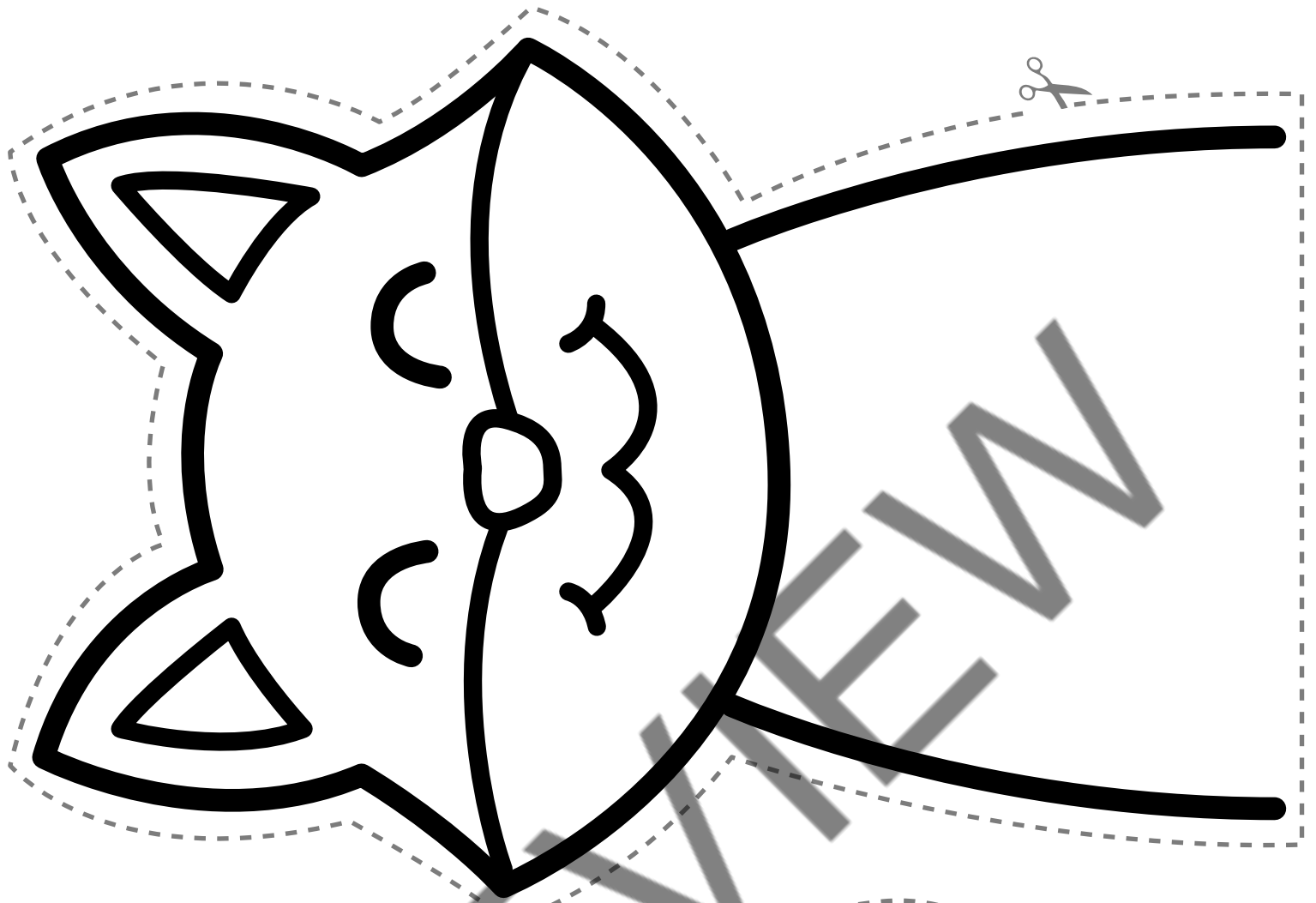
Glue

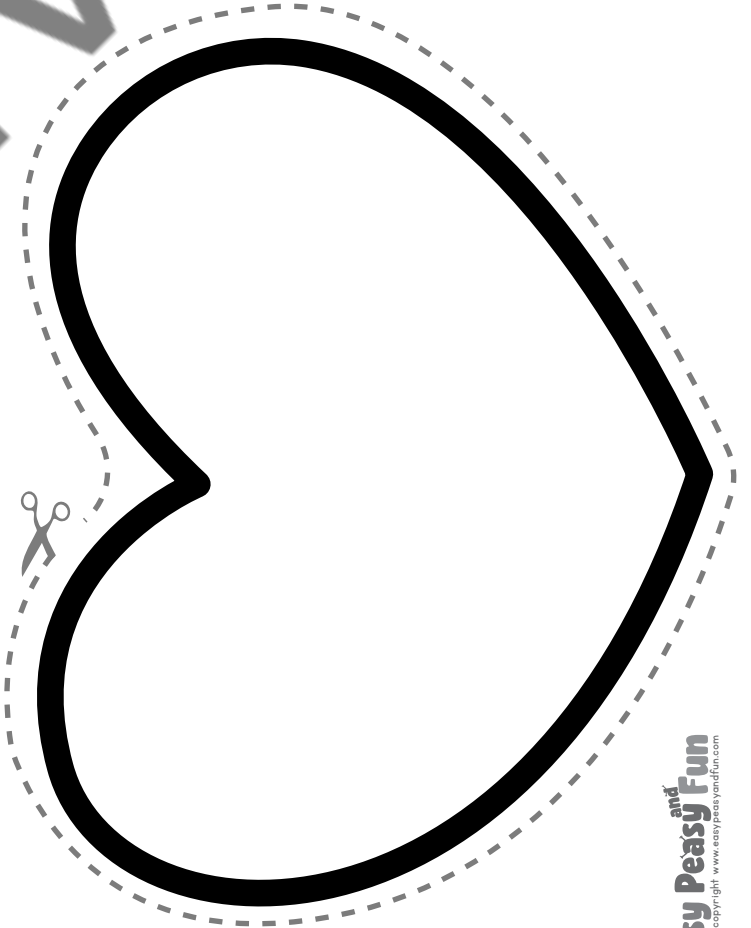
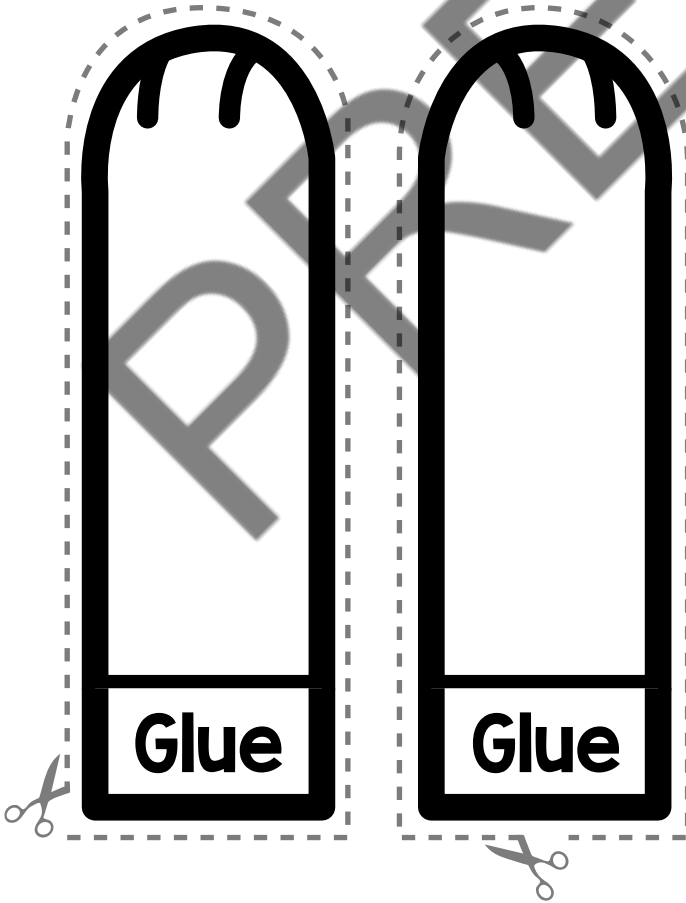
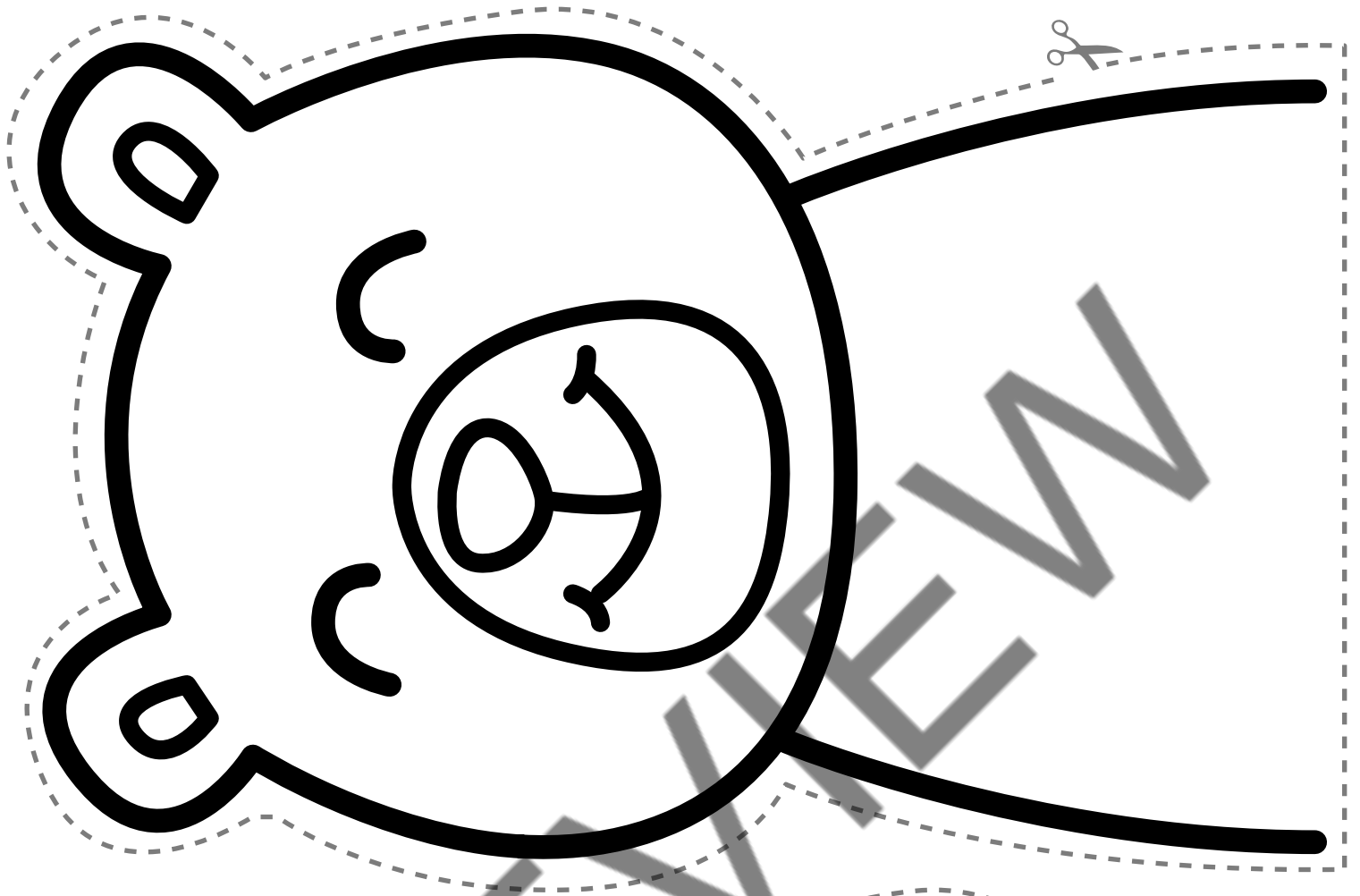


Glue

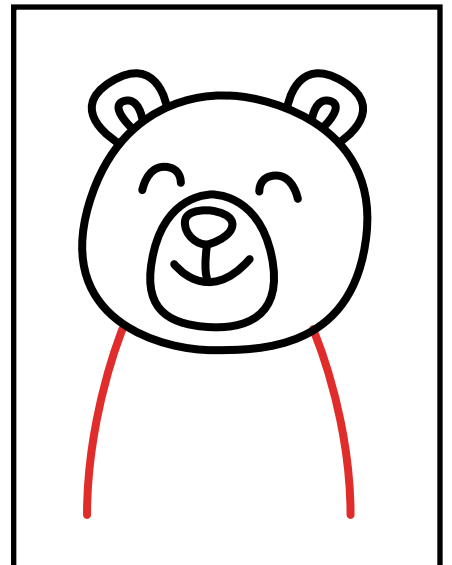
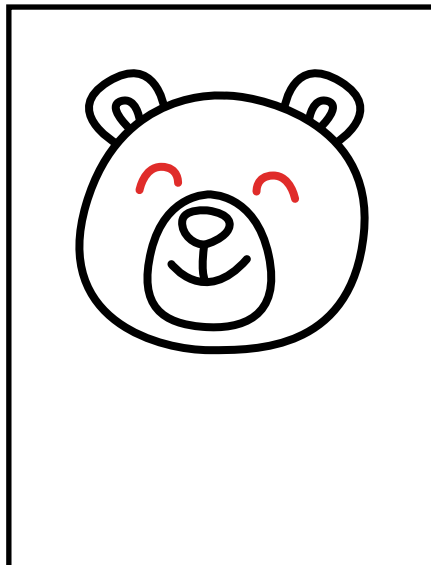
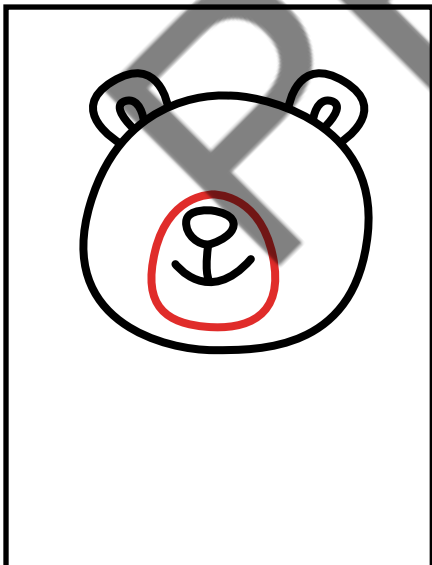
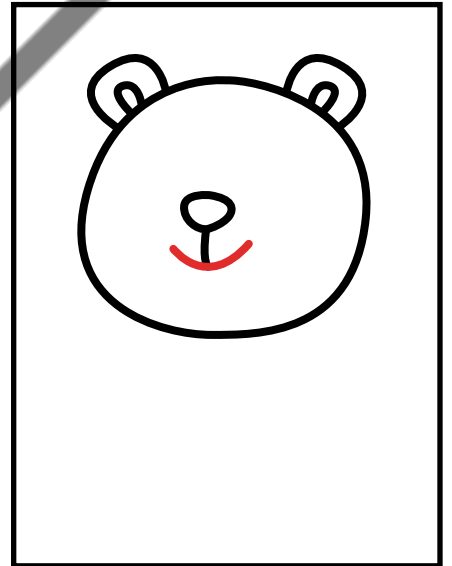
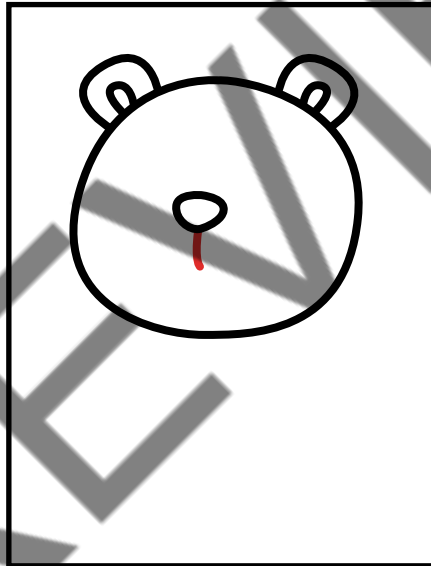
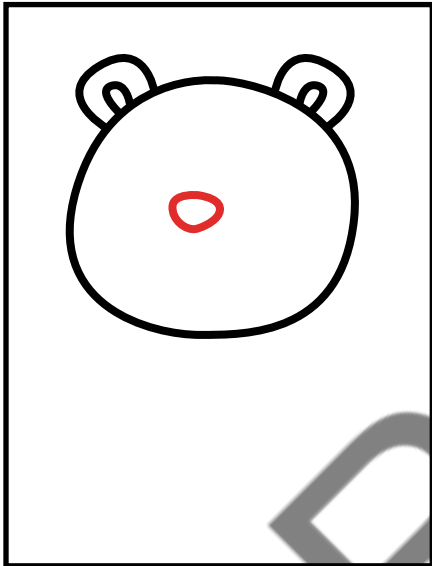
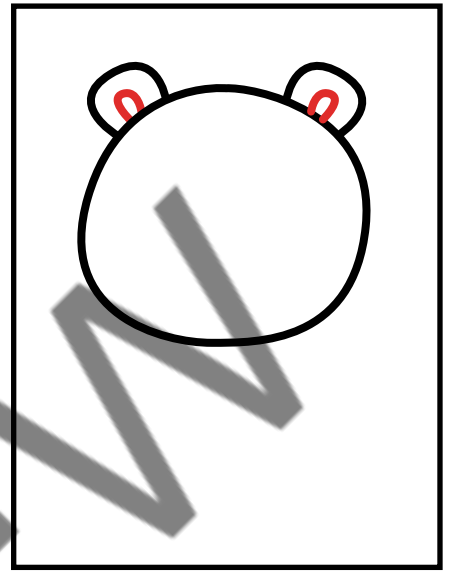
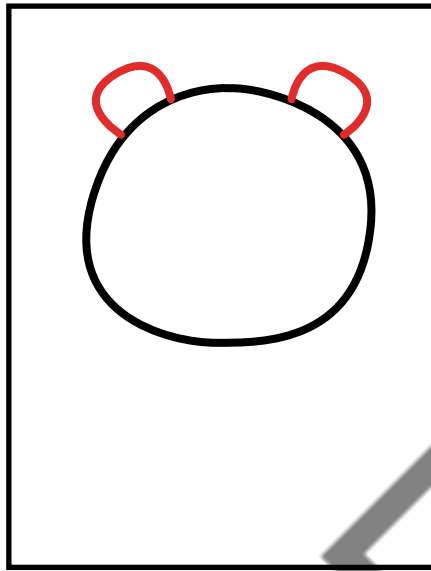
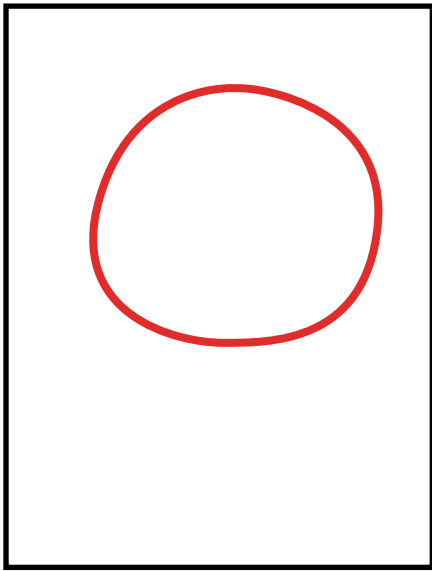




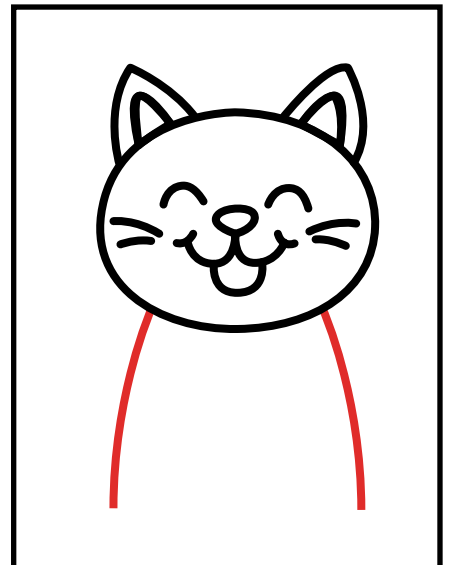
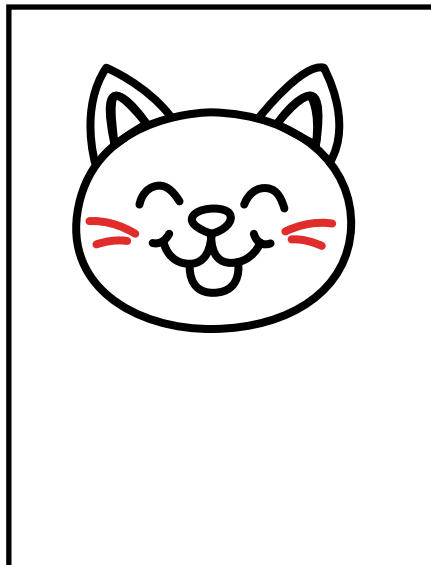
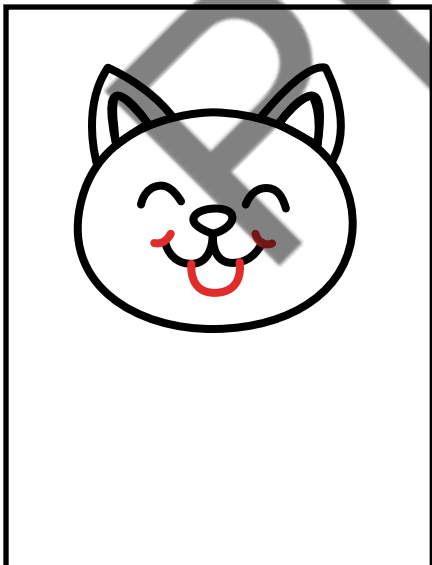
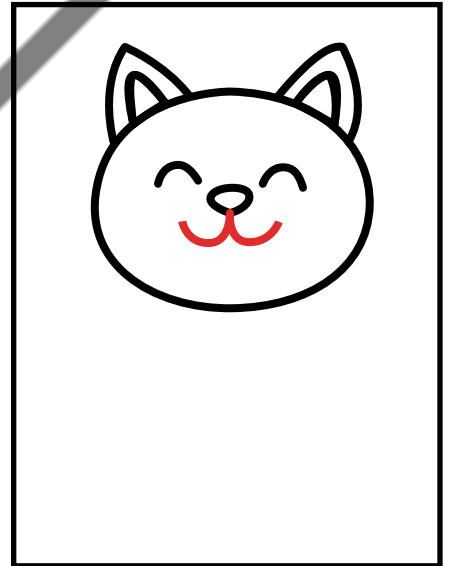
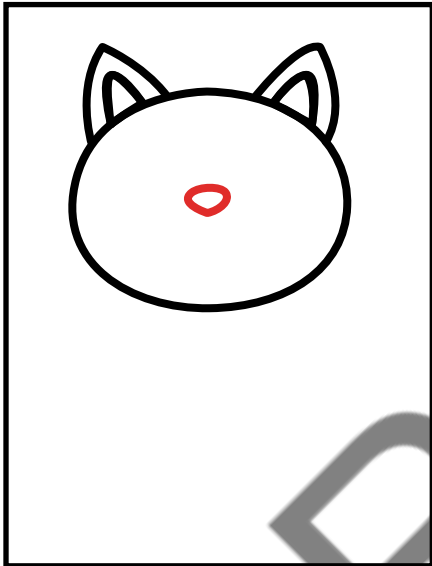
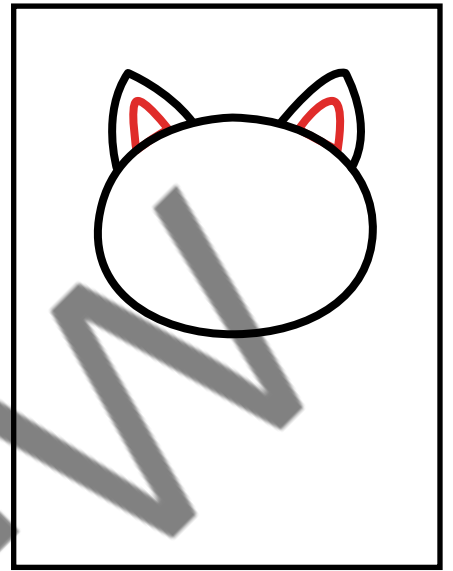
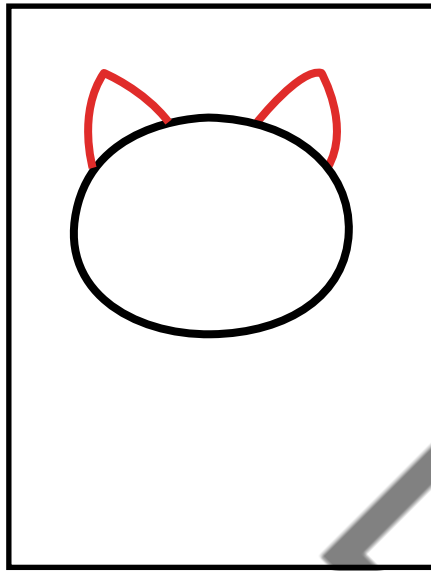
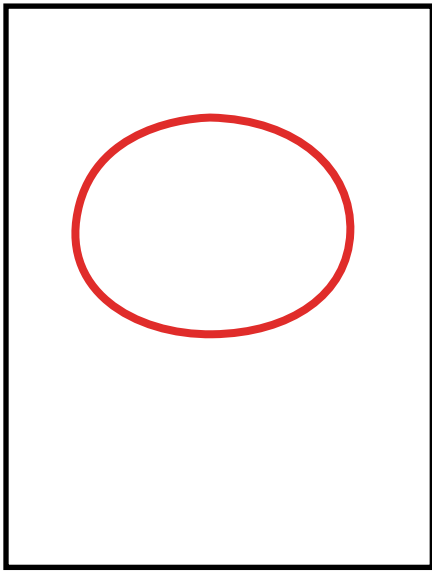




Draw a Bear



Draw a Cat



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