



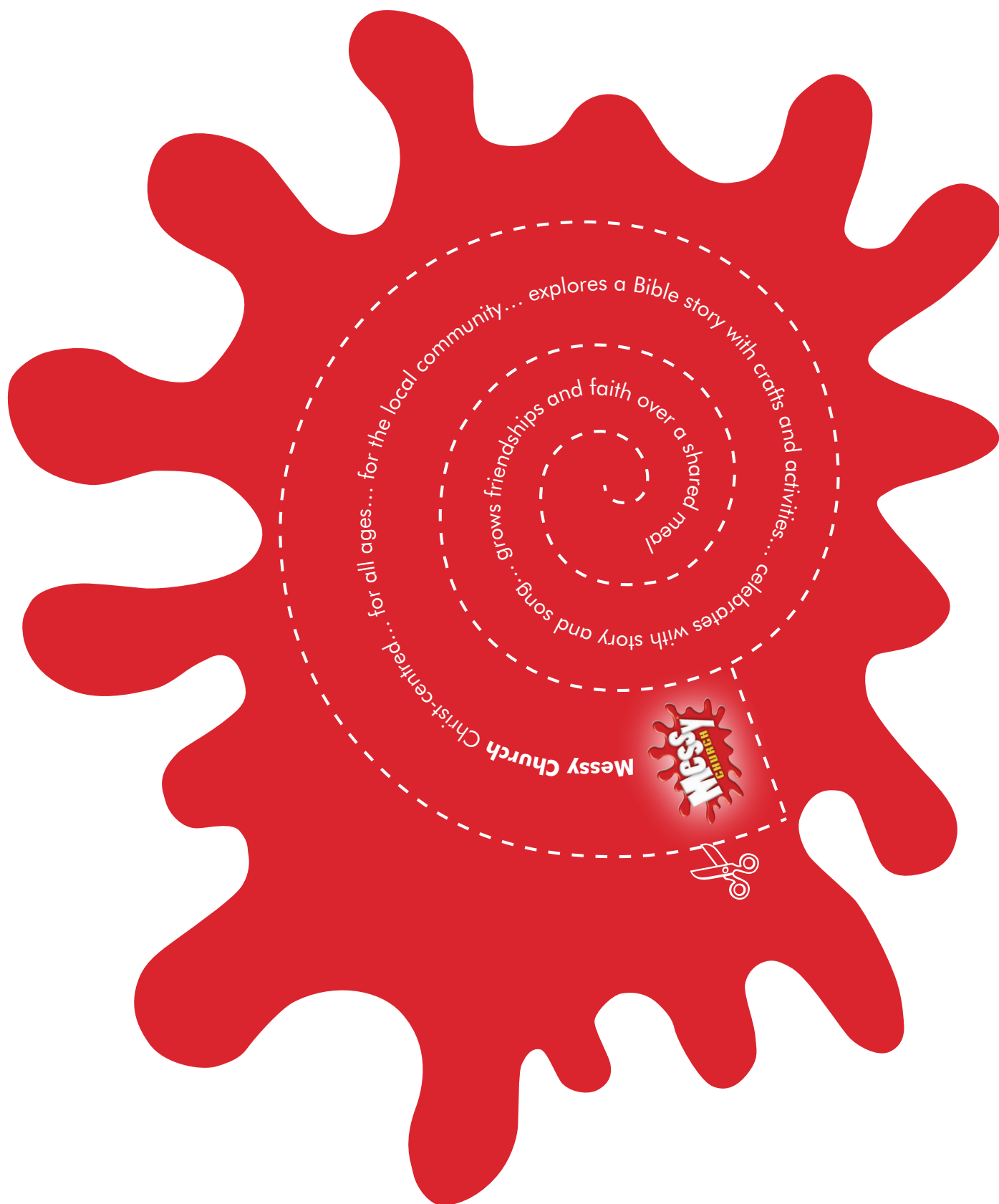
**September–December 2014**

**Support material**

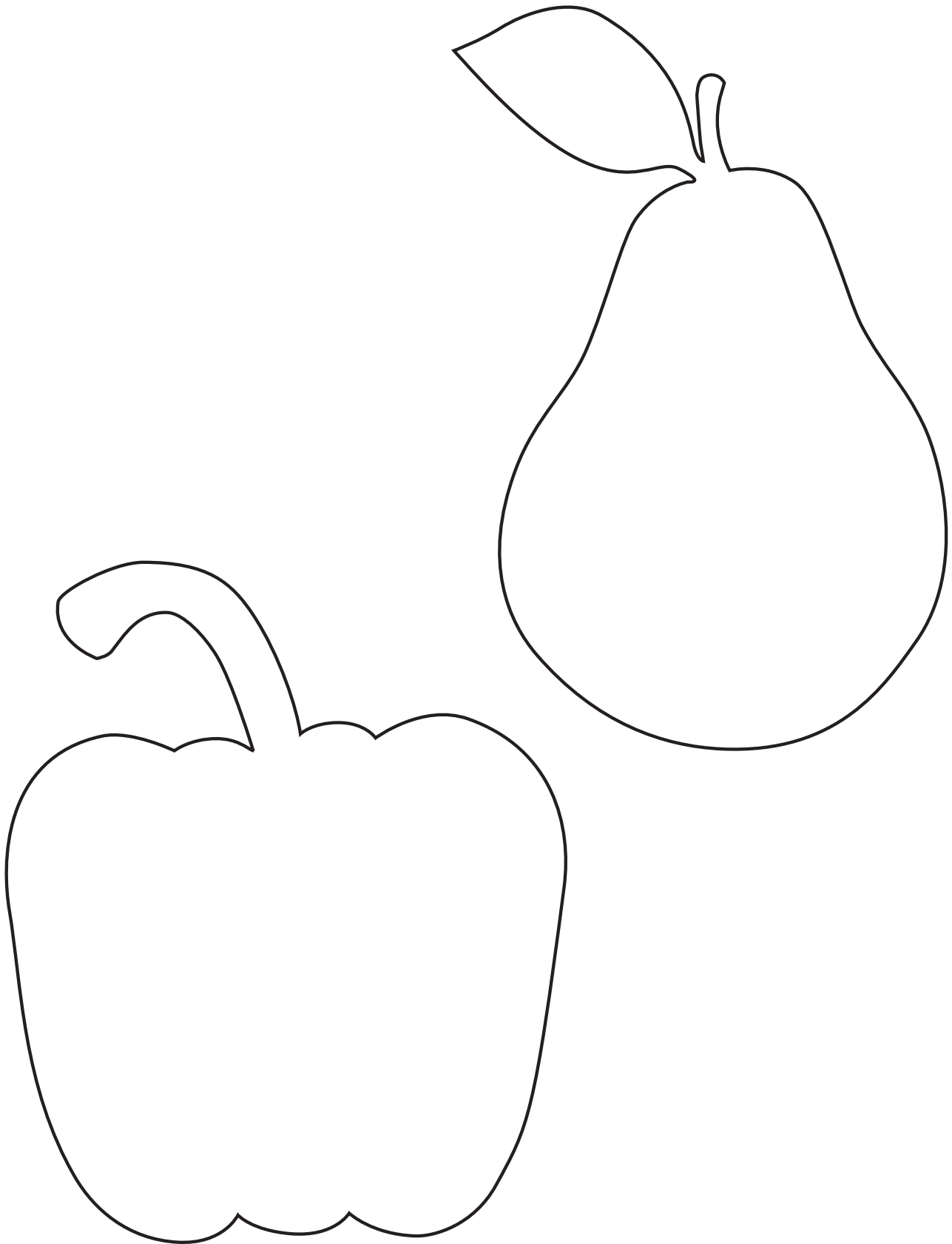


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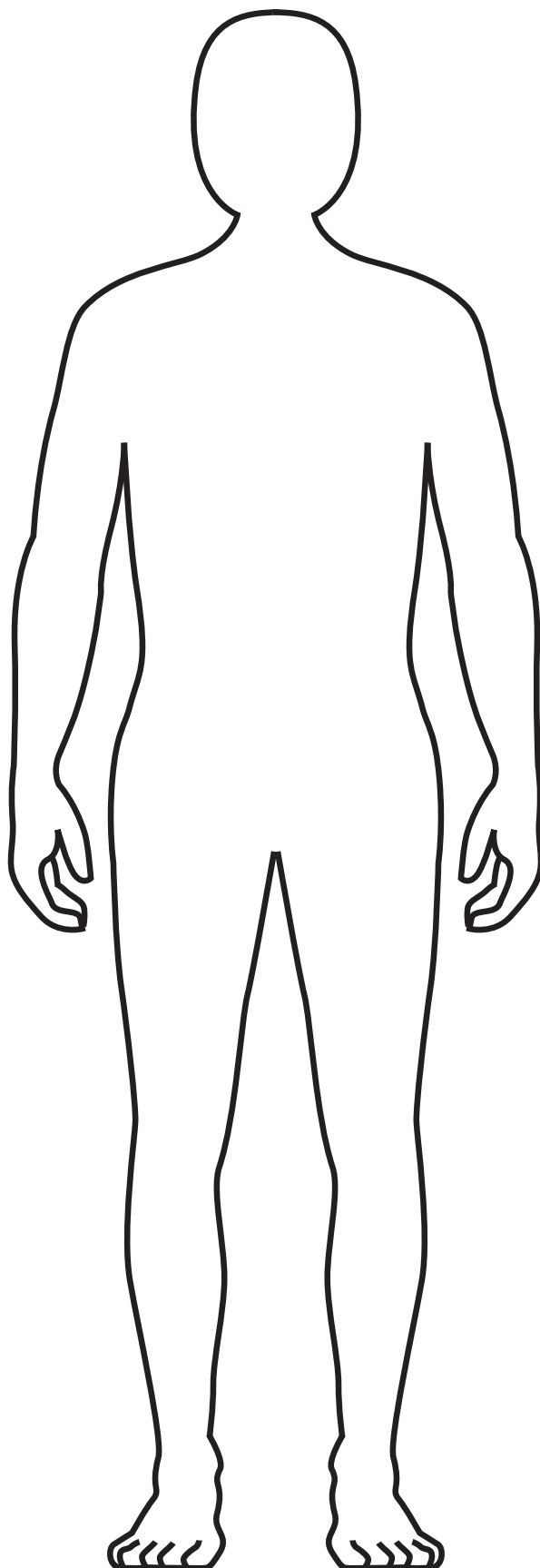
# Messy Church core values reminder card



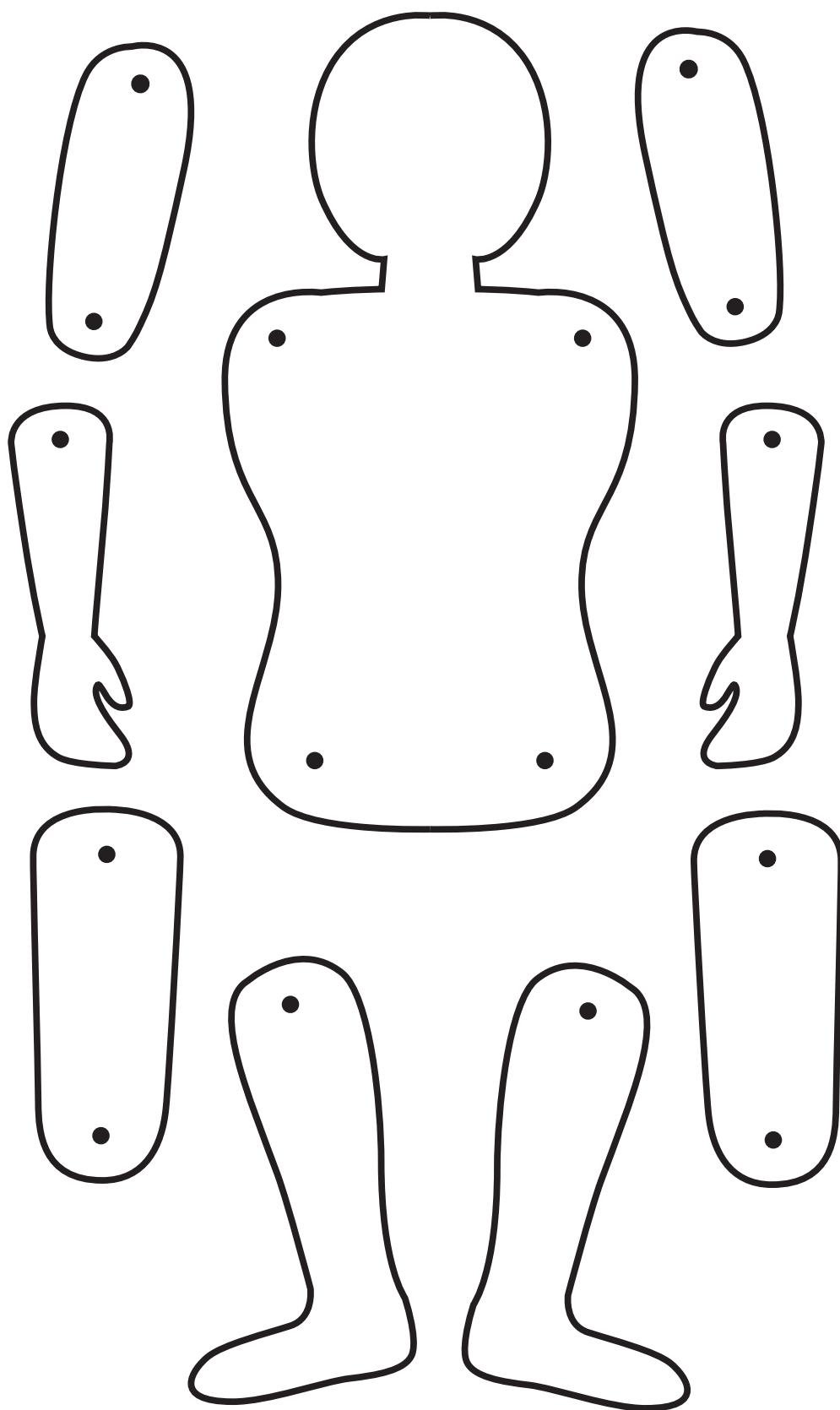
# Fruit and vegetable prayers templates



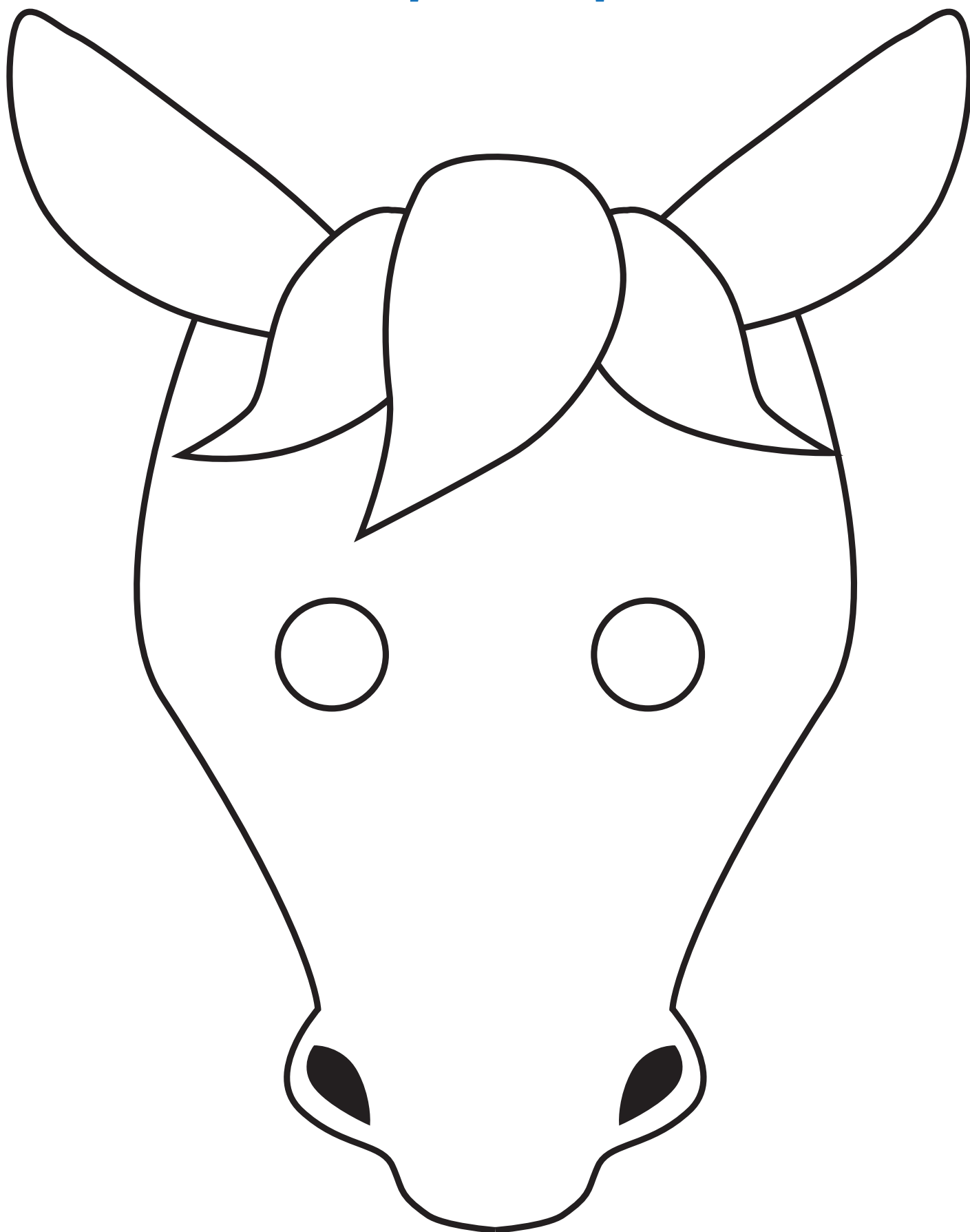
# Body search template



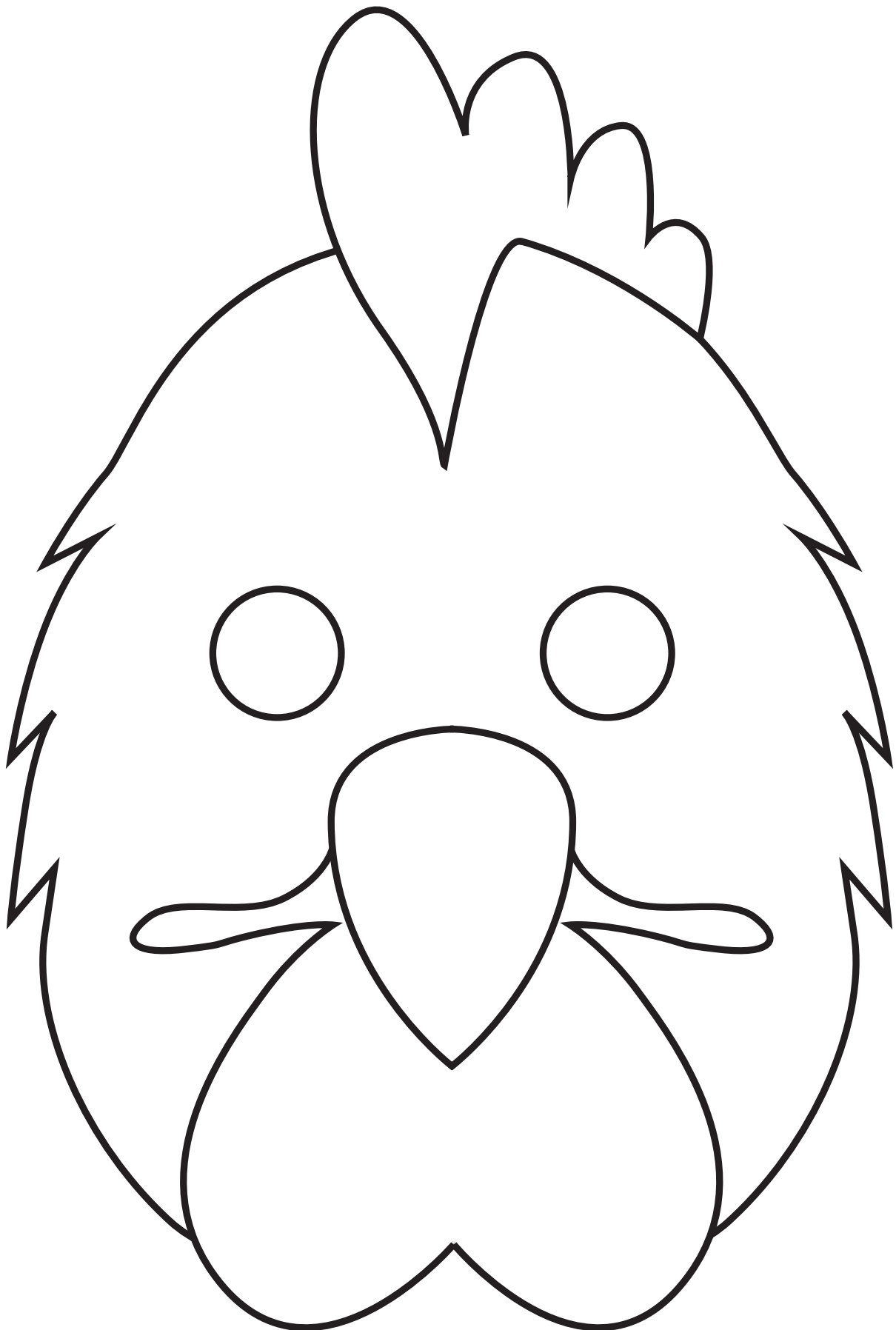
# Body parts template



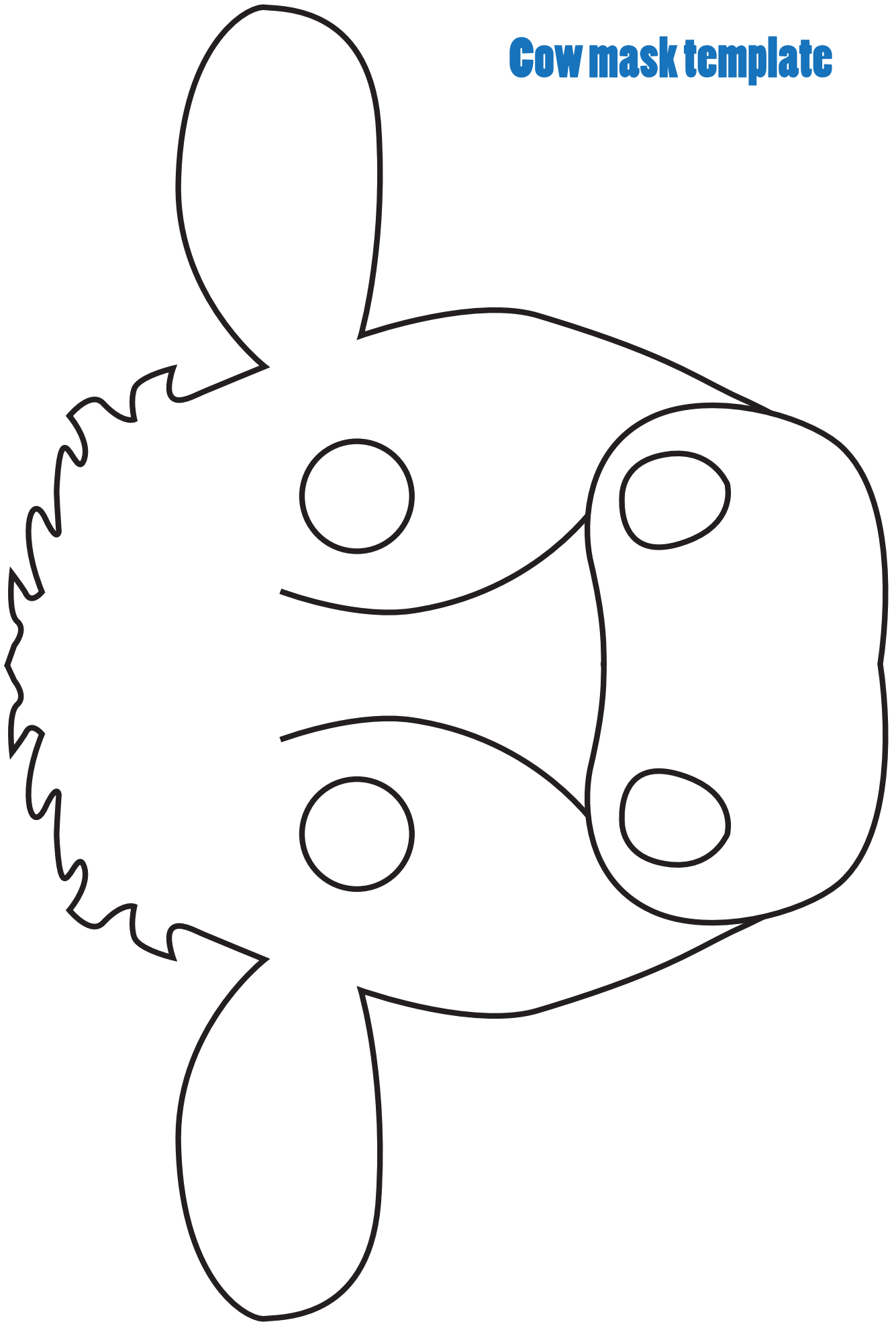
# Donkey mask template



# Chicken mask template

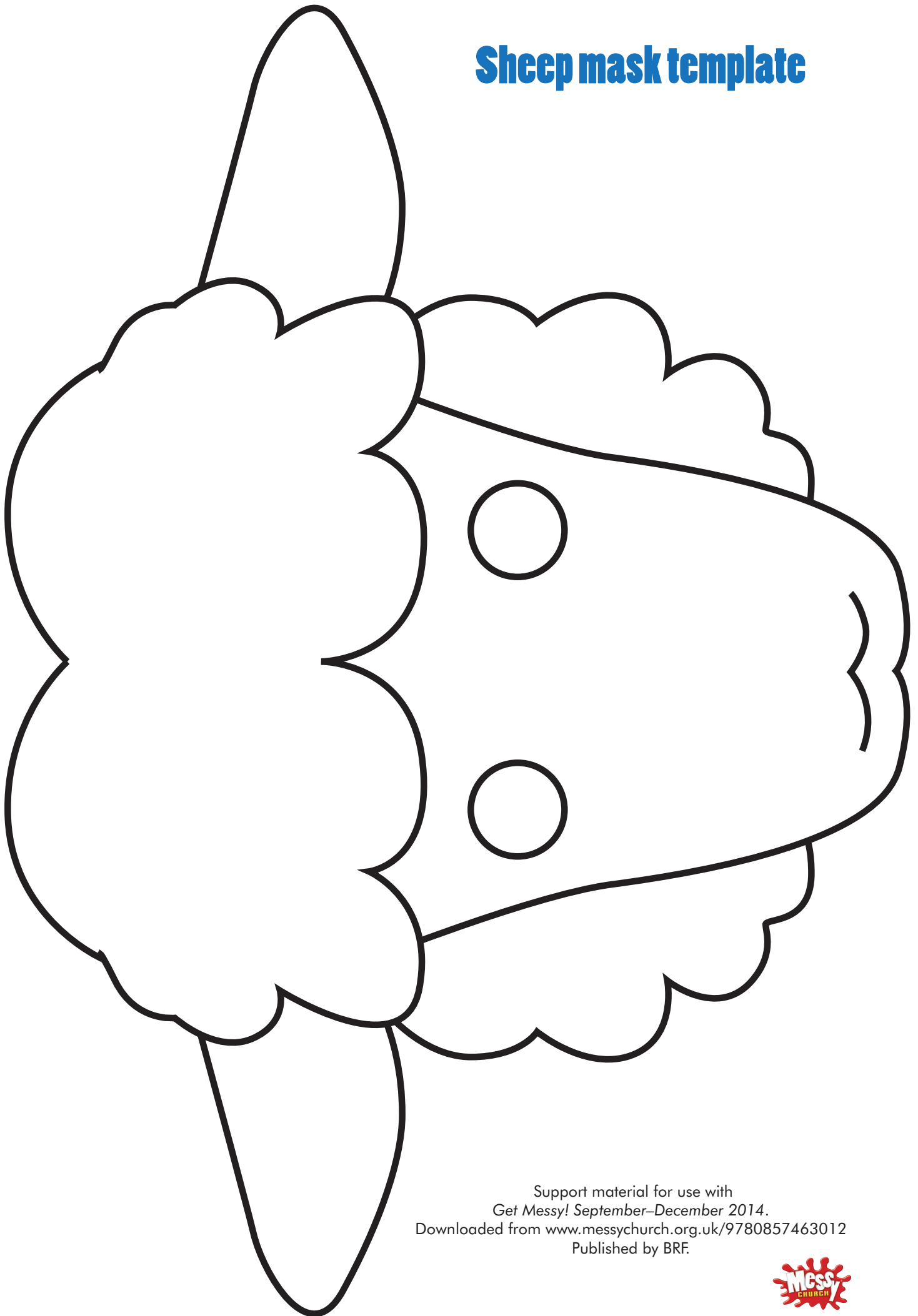


## Cow mask template





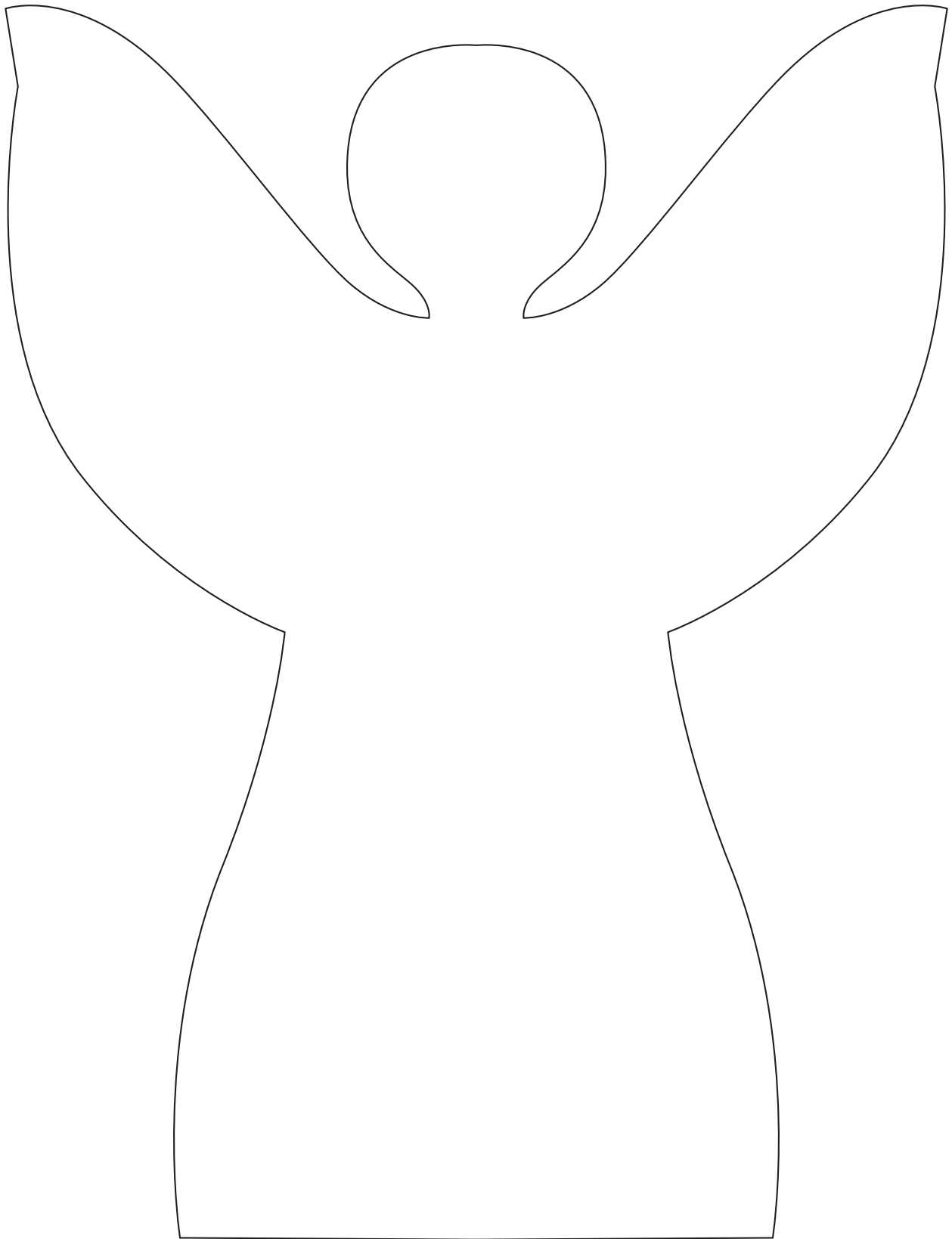
# Sheep mask template



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# Angel template



# Mealttime cards

## The man who wanted bigger barns

- What kinds of food do farmers grow?
- What is needed for crops to grow well?
- What kind of treasure would you like to find?

## Your body is a temple

- What kinds of games do you enjoy playing?
- What does it mean when it says in the Bible, 'your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit' (1 Corinthians 6:19)?
- How can we look after our bodies mentally and emotionally as well as physically?
- What has challenged you today at Messy Church?

## Jesus' friends

- Who are your closest friends? How do they help you?
- If you had lived when Jesus did, would you have been his friend? Why?
- Is Jesus your friend today?

## Powerlessness at Christmas

- Have you ever taken part in a school nativity play? Who or what were you?
- Did you have a choice or was that just the role you were given?
- Do you think that Jesus had a choice about coming to earth?
- How are you going to celebrate Christmas this year?

# Handout sheet—The man who wanted bigger barns

Today we're looking at the story Jesus told about the man who had far more than he needed. He thought what he owned mattered more than anything. We want to keep all our treasure in heaven.

## What are we doing today?

1. BIG picture—Beautiful fields of grain.
2. Packing game—We have so much more than we need.
3. Build a small barn—What is our treasure?
4. Build a big barn —Where do we keep our treasure?
5. Junk model tractor—Producing food is hard work.
6. Bread rolls—Where does our food come from?
7. Biscuit barn—Let's share our food.
8. Fruit and vegetable prayers—Let's thank God for all he gives us.
9. Tractor wheels—God provides all we need.
10. Veggie tasting—Enjoy the variety.

# Handout sheet—Your body is a temple

At this time of year there are lots of scary images around. By contrast, we want to celebrate our brilliant body that God made and what it can do, and think about how we can use our bodies to worship God.

## What are we doing today?

1. Body search—Our bodies are brilliantly made from different parts.
2. Praise streamers—We can use our bodies to praise God.
3. Worship box—The temple was a lovely building where people worshipped God.
4. Healthy bodies—We need to look after our bodies by eating healthy food.
5. Body challenge—It's good to keep fit and active!
6. Wonderfully put together—God made us and knows us.
7. Lovely on the inside—Making something lovely for the home reminds us to fill our lives with good thoughts, words and actions.
8. Heart prayers—Write your prayer on a sticky heart.
9. Body beetle—What are our bodies worth?
10. Apple bobbing—Just some fun!



# Handout sheet—Jesus' friends

We are thinking today about the story of Lazarus. He was a good friend of Jesus, and both he and his sisters learned to trust Jesus even when things looked really bad. We will be learning that Jesus is sad when we are sad and wants to help us.

## What are we doing today?

1. Mummification—Can you wrap up a whole person the way Lazarus would have been?
2. Stink jars—Identify the smells if you can.
3. 'God cares' space—Time to share our happiness and sadness with God.
4. Mary and Martha cupcakes—Decorate a cupcake with Maltesers® and Minstrels® while retelling the miraculous story.
5. Dark tomb—Imagine Lazarus walking from darkness to light.
6. Sand timer—Waiting for God's timing.
7. Design a handkerchief—Make a beautiful hanky to mop up any tears!
8. Family portrait—Who's in your family?
9. Cheering-up card—Make someone's day a bit brighter.
10. 'God is here' collage—We can share our feelings with God.

# Handout sheet—Powerlessness at Christmas

Today we are going to be looking at the Christmas story and making and doing all sorts of things to help us remember and understand what it is really all about.

## What are we doing today?

1. Jesus' birthday balloons—Write short prayers to thank God for sending Jesus.
2. Shoebox stable scene—Jesus wasn't born in a smart hospital but a smelly stable.
3. Star biscuits—Think of the magi following the star to Bethlehem.
4. Animal masks—Jesus was born among the animals.
5. Junk throne—The junk symbolises the rubbish Jesus takes from our lives.
6. Lego® stable—Experience feeling as helpless as baby Jesus!
7. Support a local project—Share God's love in practical ways this Christmas.
8. Chocolate nativity log—Jesus satisfies our spiritual hunger.
9. Glitter angels—Imagine the shepherds' awe at seeing a host of angels.
10. Parachute games—Christmas style!

# Take-home ideas and Sunday treats

## The man who wanted bigger barns

### Take-home idea

Collect small change over the following month. Decide as a family which charity to give it to.  
Make a cake or some biscuits to give away.

### Sunday treat

As you sit down for your family meal on Sunday, spend some time talking about which food each person likes best, then say together: *Dear Lord, thank you for all the food we have on our table to eat. Thank you for all the different colours and tastes. Thank you for all the good gifts you give us. Amen*



# Take-home ideas and Sunday treats

## Your body is a temple

### Take-home idea

Make a chart and do a five-a-day health check, putting a tick against each person's name every time they eat fruit or vegetables. Extend the idea to include a tick for five minutes of exercise, or for five minutes of prayer or sitting quietly enjoying the world around you.

### Sunday treat

Find a pebble, shiny stone or bead and take turns holding it, saying, 'Thank you, Lord,' for something you have done this week. Keep the pebble in the worship box if you made one.

# Take-home ideas and Sunday treats

## Jesus' friends

### Take-home idea

Find a time when you are all together. Each person takes it in turn to talk about how their day or week has gone. What has been good and what has not been good? Together thank Jesus that he has been with you through everything.

### Sunday treat

*Heavenly Father, thank you for always being with us. Thank you for caring for us and being a really good friend to us. Thank you that you know exactly how we are feeling. Send your Holy Spirit to comfort us when we are sad. Help us to listen to you. Amen*

# Take-home ideas and Sunday treats

## Powerlessness at Christmas

### Take-home idea

Produce some small cut-outs of the wise men and on the back of each write, 'The wise men searched for Jesus and found him; wise people do the same today.' Give them to your friends as a way of introducing the Christmas message.

### Sunday treat

Write prayers for your family and the other Messy Church families on gift tags and hang one on the Christmas tree each day during Advent.