

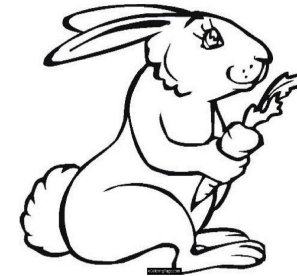
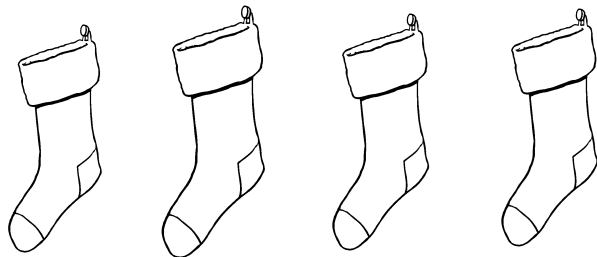


# 'Twas the Night Before Christmas

With apologies to Clement Clarke Moore,  
by Kristin Campbell

## For Violin and Narrator

'Twas the night before  
Christmas, when all through  
the house,  
not a creature was stirring,  
not even a *jack rabbit*.

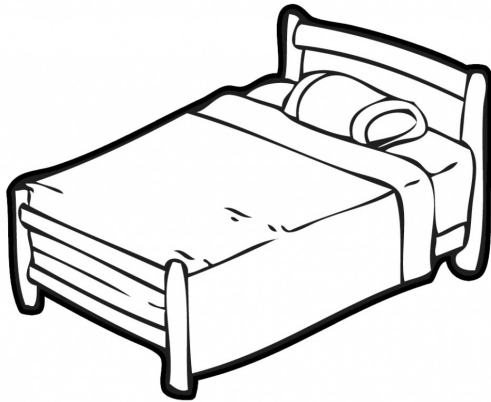


JACKRABBIT EATS CARROTS

[clap pattern]

The stockings were hung  
by the chimney with care,  
in hopes that Dr. Suzuki  
soon would be there.

The children were nestled  
all snug in their beds, while  
visions of *ice cream cones*  
danced in their heads.



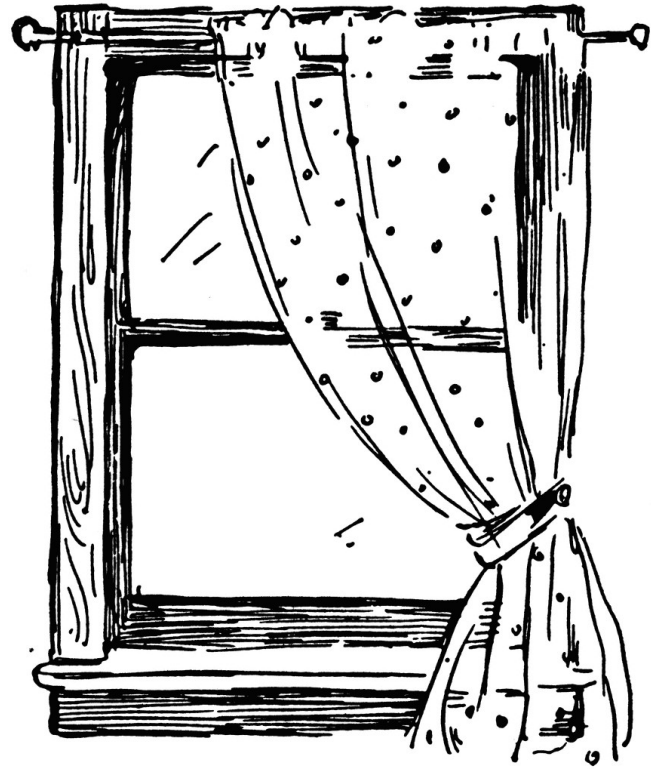
ICE CREAM - shh! - CONE  
[clap pattern]

And Mama in her 'kerchief,  
and I in my cap,  
had just settled our brains for  
a long winter's nap.

When out on the lawn there  
arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from my bed to see  
what was the matter.  
*(Pluck G, D, A, E)*

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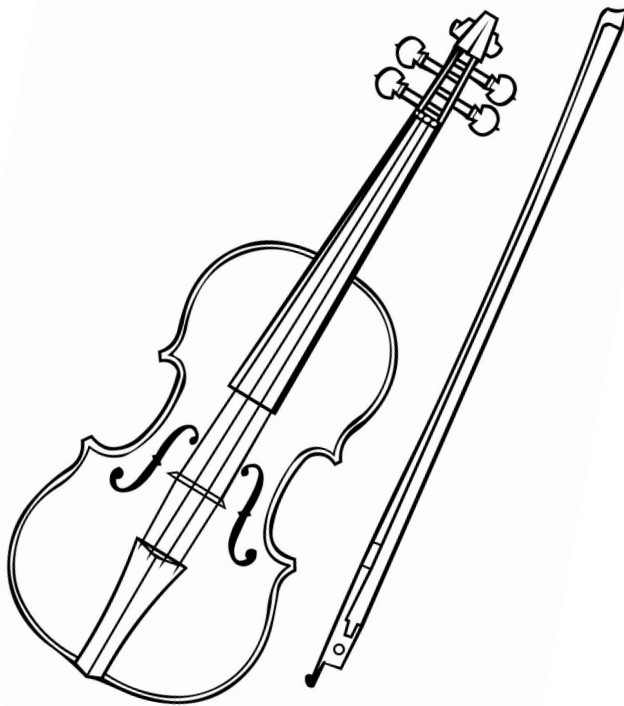
Away to the window I flew  
like a flash, I opened the  
curtains and threw up the  
sash.



When what to my  
wondering eyes did appear,  
But a violinist giving good  
cheer.

By a little old man so lively  
and quick, I knew in a  
moment he must be Dr.  
Suzuki.





More rapid than eagles his  
bow it did fly,  
And he smiled, and  
shouted, his favorite  
Twinkle variations:

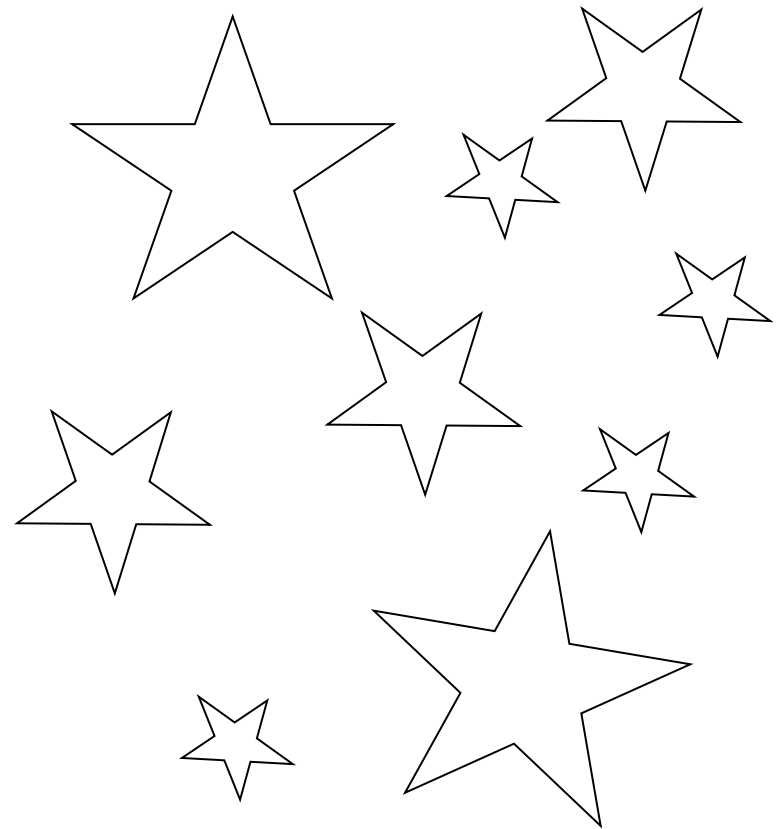
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Now, *Mississippi Stop Stop!*  
Now, *Jack Rabbit Eats Carrots!*  
Now *Ice Cream sh Cone!*  
Now, *Strawberry Popsicle!*  
Now, *Mississippi Alligator!*

[Clap each one]

With good tone and  
straight bow,  
Away at them all he did go!

And then, in a twinkling, I  
heard from his string,  
A song I had heard on that  
new CD thing.



As I drew in my head, and  
was turning around,  
Into the room Dr. Suzuki he  
did bound.  
He got his feet ready, with  
*stand, zip, now step!*

---



His *bow hold* was perfect. His  
thumb was quite bent.  
His fingers were round  
A better hold could not be found.





His *violin was placed on his shoulder* quite tall!

His jaw then went down on the chin rest with his head oh so tall.

His *bow found the strings* making no sound at all.

Right in the middle, still standing so tall.

He played on his E string  
*Mississippi Stop Stop*,  
His favoritest thing!  
Oh, he was having a ball  
As he played it 5 times in all!

Then checking his scroll  
Onto the A string did his bow roll.  
And 5 times on A did his bow play.



MISSISSIPPI STOP STOP



Then he began to grin as he said  
*ice cream sh! cone* now is ahead.

ICE CREAM - shh! - CONE      Back to the E string did his bow roll  
And 5 times he played it with all his soul.

He looked at me then and nodded his head.

You know what's next,

“A string 5 times” in the middle he said!

“This is great fun!” he said with a smile,  
”I think we should go on for a while!”

*Jack rabbit eats carrots* came out of his bow  
This time it was his A string I know,

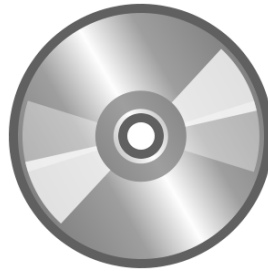
But oh, ho, ho, ho,  
He changed to the E.  
A, then E, A then E, A and then E  
Did his bow flee!



JACKRABBIT EATS CARROTS

Just as his bow took a turn for the E  
I looked up at him and said with a plea,  
My arm is tired from this great playing spree  
Can I just take a knee or maybe go pee?

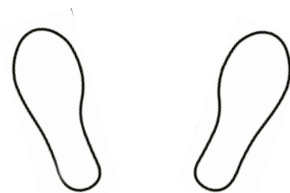
“Sure” he said, “Just sit right down and don’t you dare frown.  
We can listen with glee to that awesome CD!”





As we picked up the violin and bow  
I got all ready to go,

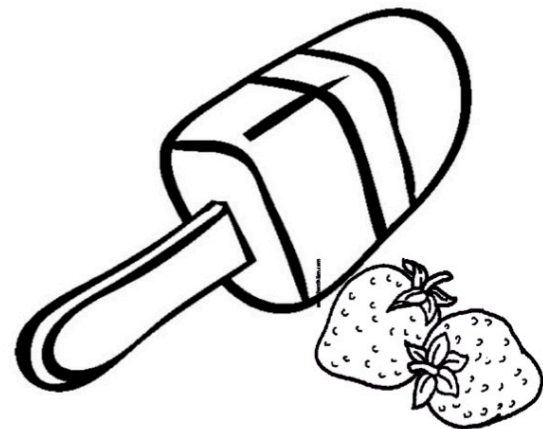
“Knowledge plus ten thousand times is skill,” he did say.



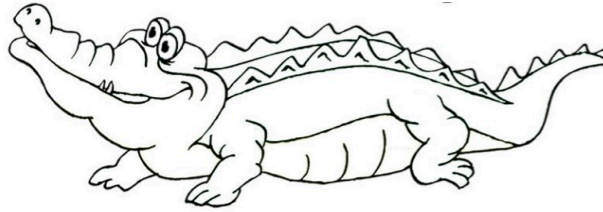
*Feet, bow-hold, violin,*  
“Now, I’m ready to play!”

*Strawberry popsicles* now  
sprang to life with 5 on the E,  
It's berry you see!

Then roll to the A,  
Don't let that bow stray!  
5 more today, we will now play.



STRAWBERRY POPSICLE



MISSISSIPPI ALLIGATOR

Then he turned to me with a wink,  
“A string or E string? What do you think?”

This is my most favorite pattern of all,  
Let’s play 5 on the \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
[“what do you say!” or “now there you see!”]



We rolled to the \_\_\_ to continue our song,  
5 more times, Say! this is mighty long!



We finished our mission!  
I'm a great musician!

With violins in rest position  
We took a bow for our  
great rendition!

Our time is over. Now don't be sad,  
since practicing Twinkles will make your heart glad!

He picked up his case, turned to the door,  
I'll be back tomorrow to make music  
some more.

But I heard him exclaim,  
as he walked out of sight—  
*"Merry Practicing to all,  
and to all a good night!"*

