

## The Impossible Tasks

### Discussion questions to encourage critical thinking.

*These questions and any others you can think of can be discussed after reading the story together. Don't ask them all at once.*

*The experience of reading is supposed to be enjoyable and not an inquisition.*

*Many questions can be asked as you are reading the story or before you turn to a new page ask, what do you think will happen next?*

*The answers I have provided are a guide only and I have not addressed all issues otherwise we could have a new novel on our hands.*

*Your child may think up some amazing responses, reasons and opinions.*

*Encourage unusual, creative or original ideas.*



The witch turned the princess into a frog at the end of the book.

Do you think the princess deserved to have this happen to her? Why?

*Most children will probably say yes because she was a spoilt, demanding and insensitive person. Some might think that no one should be turned into a frog – unkind etc.*

Should the witch have changed all the other princesses into frogs? Why?

*Maybe No this time – unkind, cruel etc but, if Yes above why No now? Good discussion point.*

The princess collected the heads of all the suitors who failed the tasks. What do you think of this?

*Yuck. Horrible etc etc.*

*Perhaps a discussion could then centre around present-day big game hunters collecting trophies. Mounting swordfish, bear or stag heads!*

If you were the prince would you have kept on doing the tasks? Why or why not?

*Maybe they would have given up earlier when they discovered what kind of person the princess was.*

The princess asked for certain characteristics in the prince she wanted to marry

( page 10) What would you have on your list for a prince or princess?

*A few suggestions: honest, forgiving, generous, patient, humble, fair, kind, polite, loyal, loving, ambitious, encouraging, considerate...*

Which character did you like the most in the story? Why?

The prince seemed not very keen on kissing frogs. Do you think he should have been reluctant?

*Most children will agree with him..yuck.*

*But....if he carried on kissing frogs then maybe a lot more princesses would be saved.*

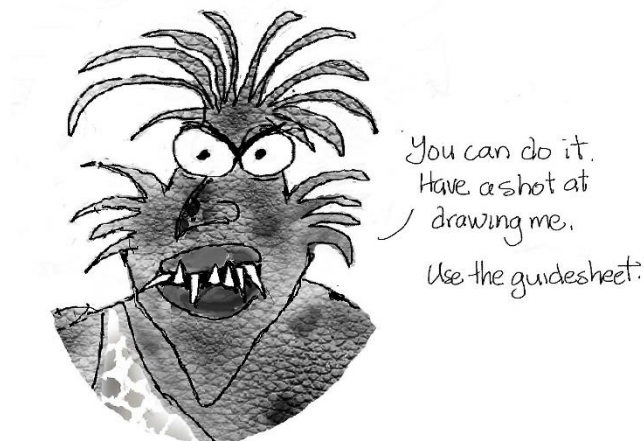
*On page 118 he says that he may require the witch to return the frogs to princesses.*

*Hmmm, only **may** – a bit indecisive. Maybe he really doesn't mind kissing them?*

## Creative activities & Imagination Boosters

Make up some other impossible tasks that the princess could ask the prince to do.

Draw your own monster like Gormiss – see the drawing guide.

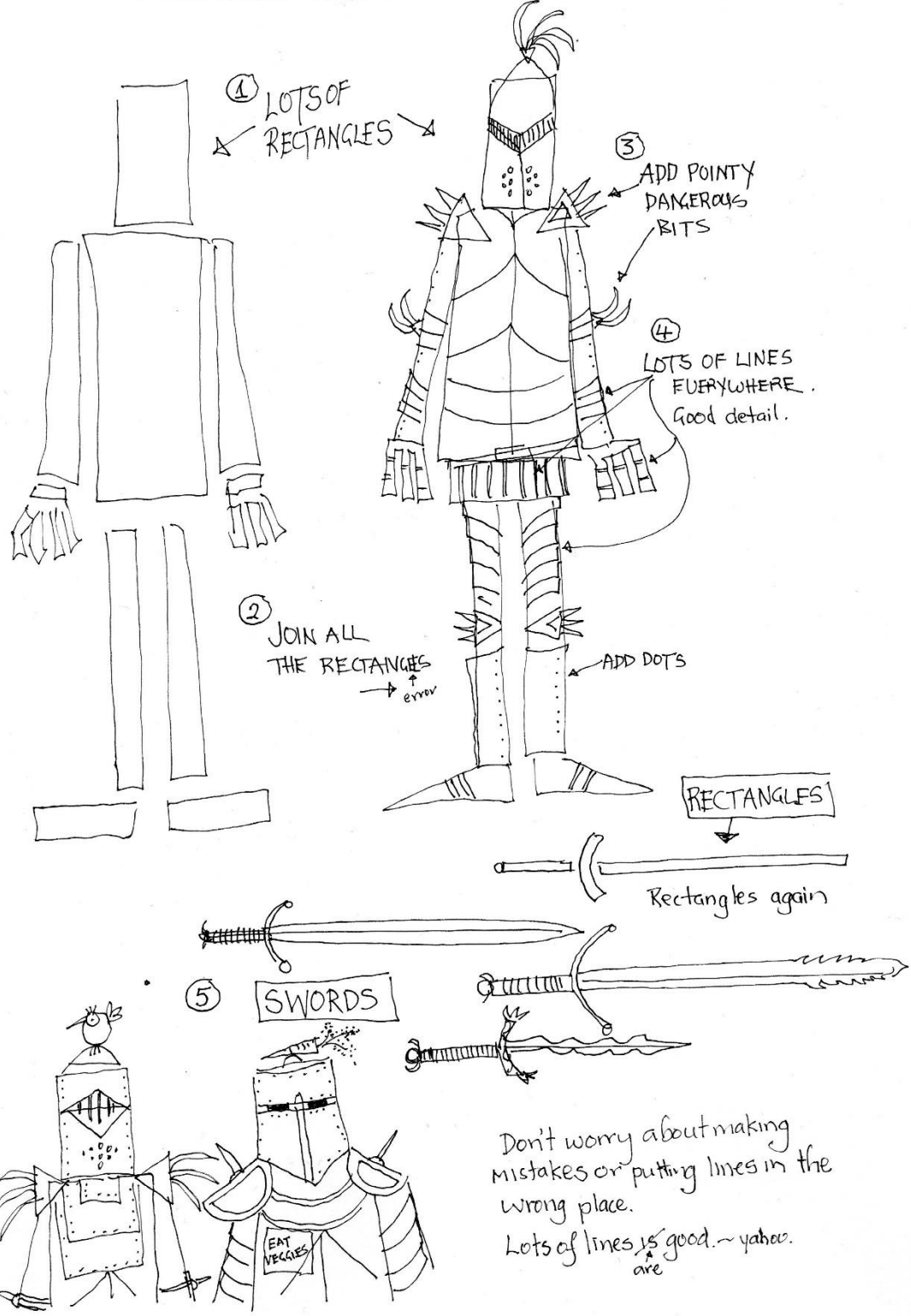


See if your parents would let you cook some chops like the farmer, on the BBQ....*don't burn them.*

Make a castle like the witches ( page 107). Maybe you could use cardboard boxes and make a large enough one for youngsters to crawl into. A bedroom castle.

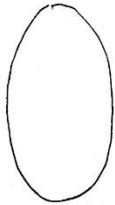
Draw your own Dark Knight. Use the drawing guide. Look up medieval armour on *Google* to check out the different kinds of armour.

# HOW TO DRAW A DARK KNIGHT.



Don't worry about making mistakes or putting lines in the wrong place.  
Lots of lines is good. ~ yaboo.  
are

# HOW TO DRAW A GORMISS CREATURE



oval shape



eyes  
& nose



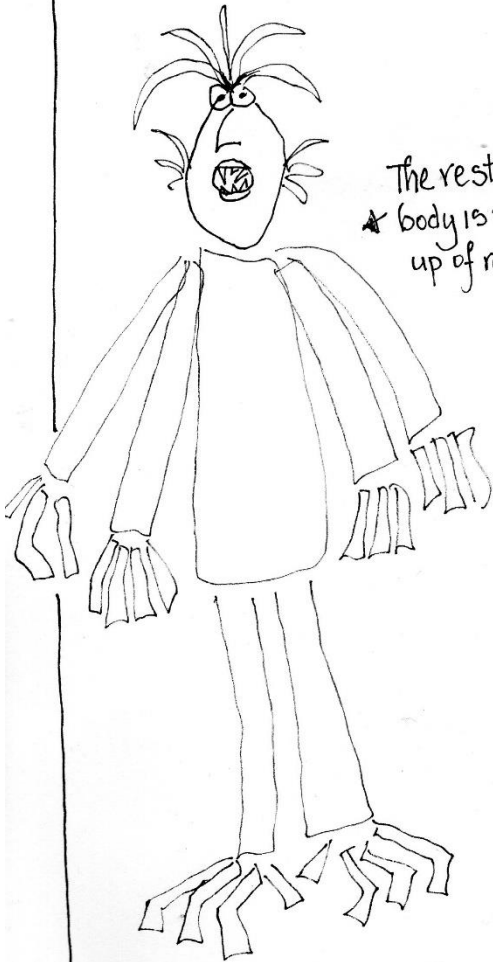
mouth



lips

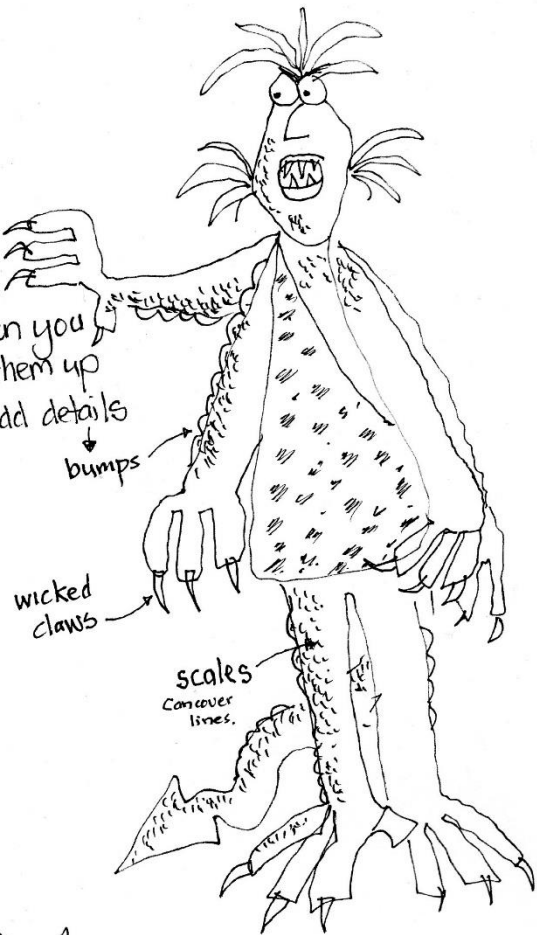


pointy bits  
& crooked teeth



The rest of the  
body is made  
up of rectangles

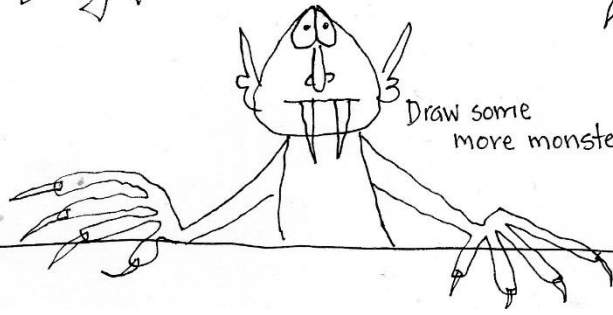
And then you  
join them up  
and add details



bumps

wicked  
claws

scales  
cover  
lines



Draw some  
more monsters

