

# The Writing on the Wall

**Main Point:** King of kings and Lord of Lords.

**Biggie Verse:** It will be known to the ends of the earth that God rules. Psalm 59:13.

**Based On:** Daniel 5.

In the book of Daniel, we see over and over God proving Himself to be the King of kings and the Lord of lords. He proved it to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, patiently working on him until the king finally understood who is the true King of kings. This time we look at King Belshazzar, who was not given a second chance by God.

**Purpose:** To encourage kids to fully commit to the leadership of God, who rules over all.

**Print:** Black and white on letter-size paper. It's probably best to print just one copy, and use that as a master to photocopy as many times as needed -- the number varies from activity to activity.

**Prep:** The object lesson activity, if done to "top craziness level," requires a long sheet of marker-proof paper taped to a wall and at least one marker. A blanket for kids to comfortably lie on is recommended. Marker-proof paper can be purchased from the paint departments of big box stores. Be sure to double the paper over to be safe. (You've been warned!)

**Object Lesson:** One of the funniest, silliest ever! This time, an activity serves as the object lesson. Do this before telling the Bible story. Because the story is about a disembodied hand writing on a wall, the kids write their first names on a wall—by holding a marker in between their toes! Each kid is given a chance to lie down and struggle to sign a sheet of marker-proof paper that runs along the wall, taped from the base of the wall up. To make this extra fun, turn it into a two-team race to get everyone signed. To make setup easier, have kids stand (with a pal to help support) on marker-proof paper laid on the floor. When finished, tell the Bible story followed by the Wrap Up.

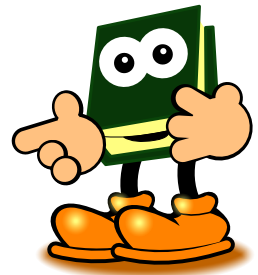
**Bible Story:** See the next page.

**Wrap Up:** Take a few moments to impress upon the kids that not only does the story of the writing on the wall prove that God is the true ruler of the universe, it demands that we ourselves commit to the Kingship of God in our own lives—not just for today but forever.

**Activity Pages:** The Do It Yourself Comic and the Mug Shots activity serve to make the Bible story even more memorable to the kids. The Coloring Page reinforces the idea the Jesus is our Ruler.

**Object Lesson Demonstration Video:** <https://youtu.be/RDtBeHDE-sA>

# Teacher's Bible Story



The Bible Story is paraphrased for clarity and abridged for brevity.

## The Writing on the Wall • Based on Daniel 5

King Belshazzar threw a giant party for a thousand of his friends. Wine was served in the gold and silver cups that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from God's temple in Jerusalem. The partygoers drank, praising the gods of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood and stone.

Suddenly a human hand appeared and wrote on the wall! The king's face turned pale and he was so afraid that his knees knocked together and his legs gave out.

He said to his enchanters, astrologers and sorcerers, "If you can tell me what the message says, I will clothe you in royal purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck! You will be made the third highest ruler in all of Babylon!"

But no one could decipher the message.

So Daniel was brought in. He said, "Keep those gifts for yourself or give them to someone else. But I will read the message to the king and tell him what it means.

"God gave King Nebuchadnezzar power, greatness, glory and splendor. But when his heart became hard with pride, God stripped him of it all. He was driven away and given the mind of an animal; he lived in the wilds and ate grass like cattle; his body was drenched with dew, until he finally admitted that God Most High rules over the kingdoms of men and sets over them anyone He wishes.

"But you, O Belshazzar, walk in pride, though you knew all this. Therefore God wrote this message: 'Mene, Mene, Tekel, Peres.'

**"Mene: Numbered.** God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

**"Tekel: Weighed.** You have been weighed on God's scales; you don't measure up.

**"Peres: Divided.** Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

That very night Belshazzar was killed. Darius became king.

Daniel had been captured by enemy soldiers of King Nebuchadnezzar, ruler of Babylon. God blessed Daniel and raised him to the highest level of government. Daniel served God by serving Nebuchadnezzar according to God's wishes. But after a long reign Nebuchadnezzar passed into the pages of history. Daniel lived on and continued to serve new kings in Babylon for many years, including one named Belshazzar.

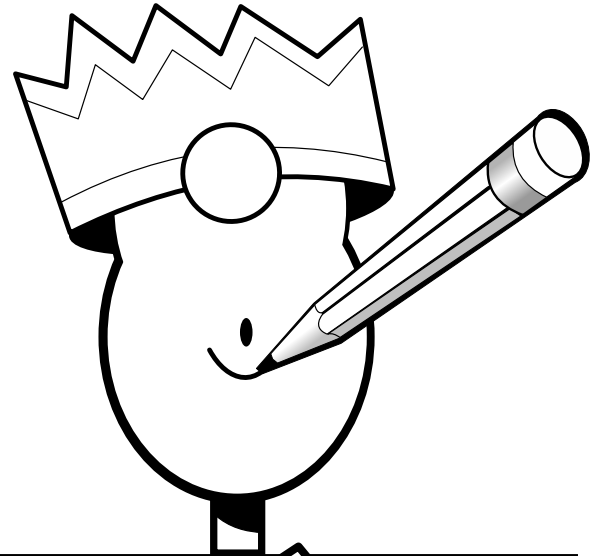
Once again in the Bible, God proved that it is He who truly rules over all the earth and those in it. Have you come to know that God is our King and Ruler?

# Do It Yourself Comic!

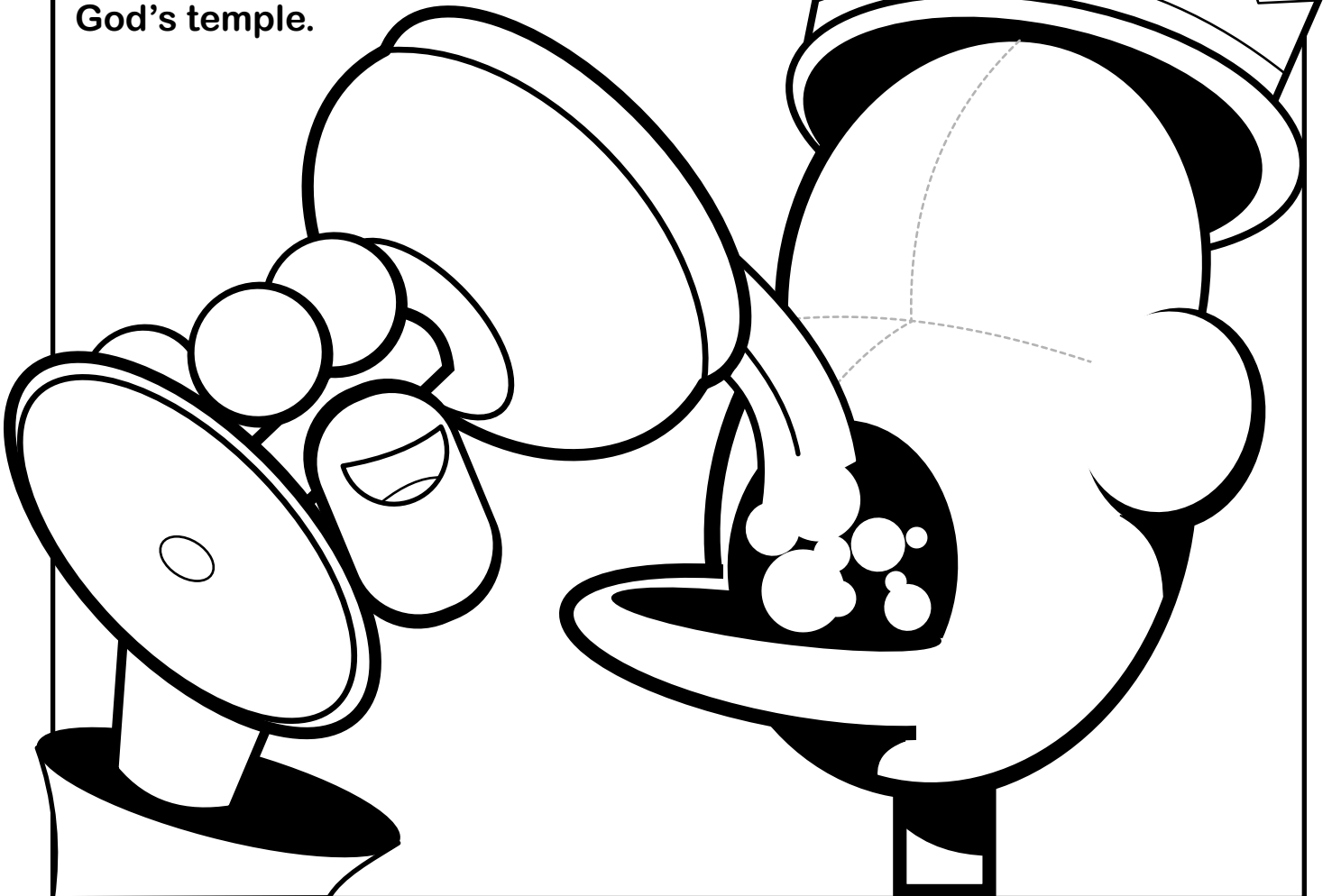
Based on Daniel Chapter 5

We drew the  
story, now YOU  
draw the faces!

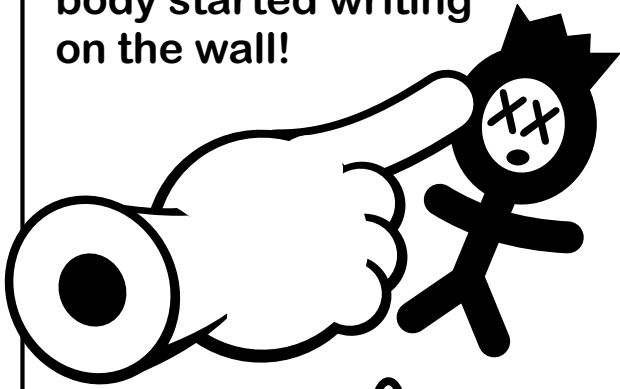
King Belshazzar.



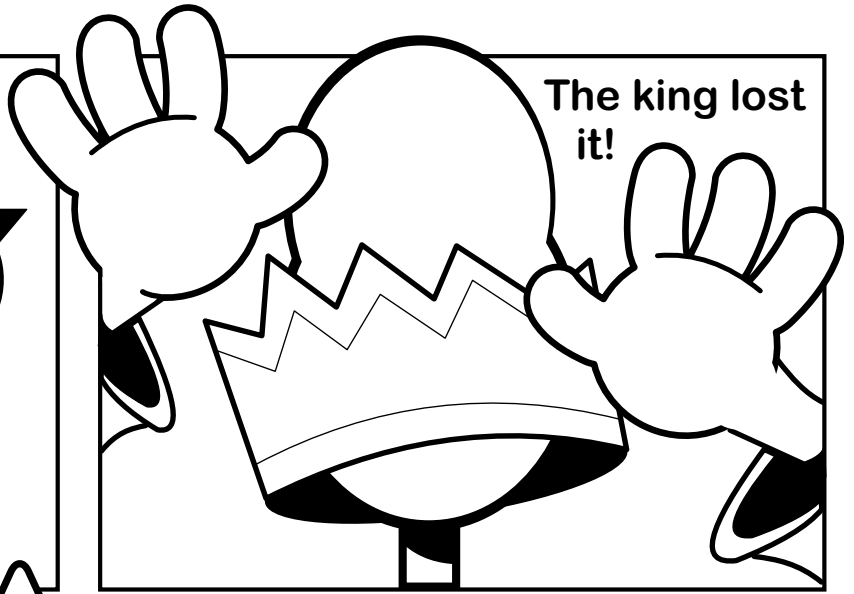
So here we have King Belshazzar  
insulting Almighty God by drinking wine  
from the gold and silver cups stolen from  
God's temple.



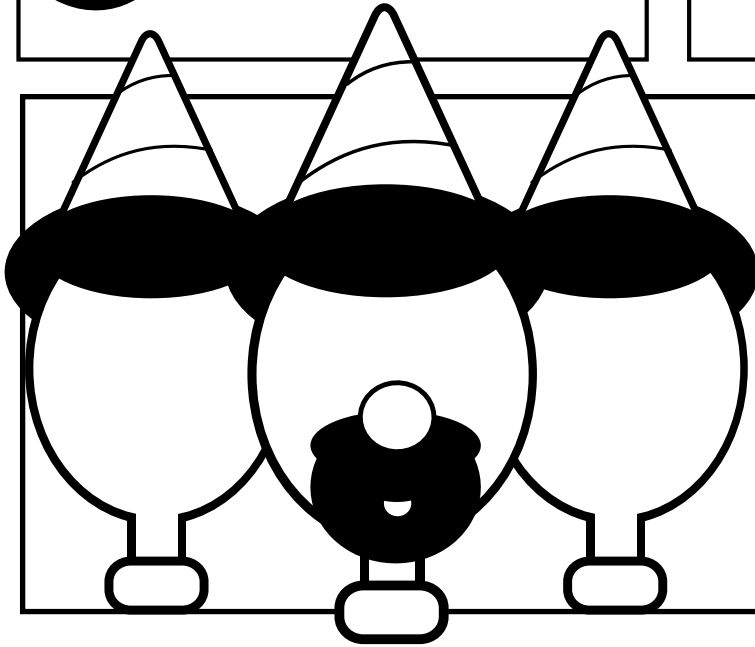
Suddenly a hand with no body started writing on the wall!



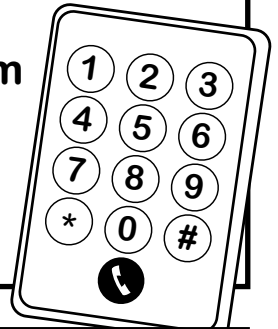
The king lost it!



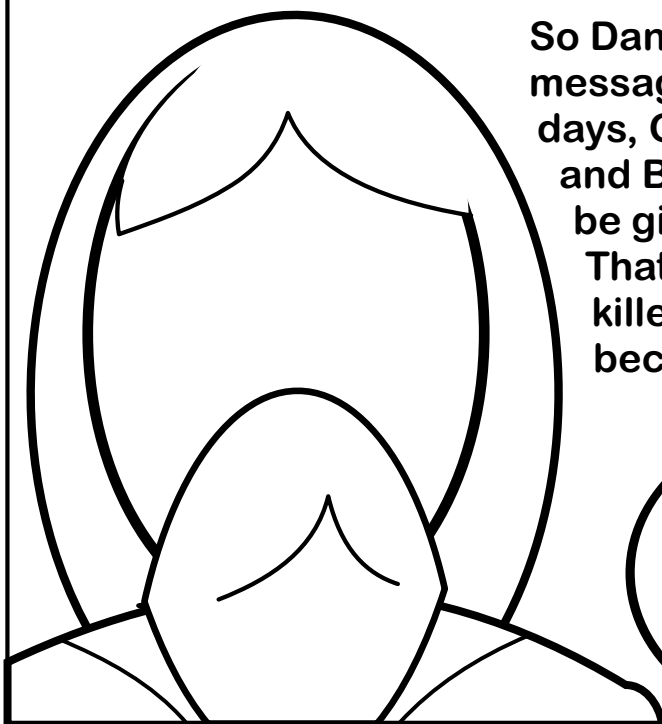
As usual, the magicians and enchanters were useless. They could not explain the message written on the wall.



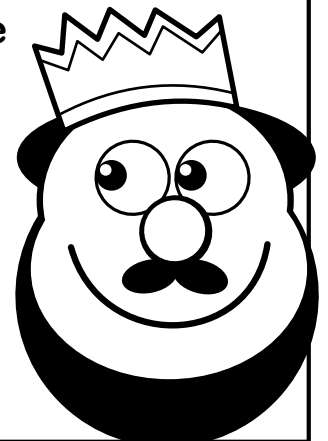
The queen told them to call Daniel...



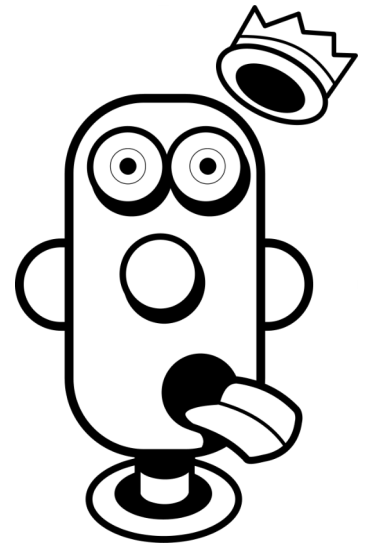
So Daniel, now well along in years, told the message: God had numbered Belshazzar's days, God had weighed him in the scales, and Belshazzar's kingdom was going to be given to the Medes and Persians. That very night Belshazzar was killed and Darius the Mede became king.



Hello, there. Darius here. Anybody up for a party?



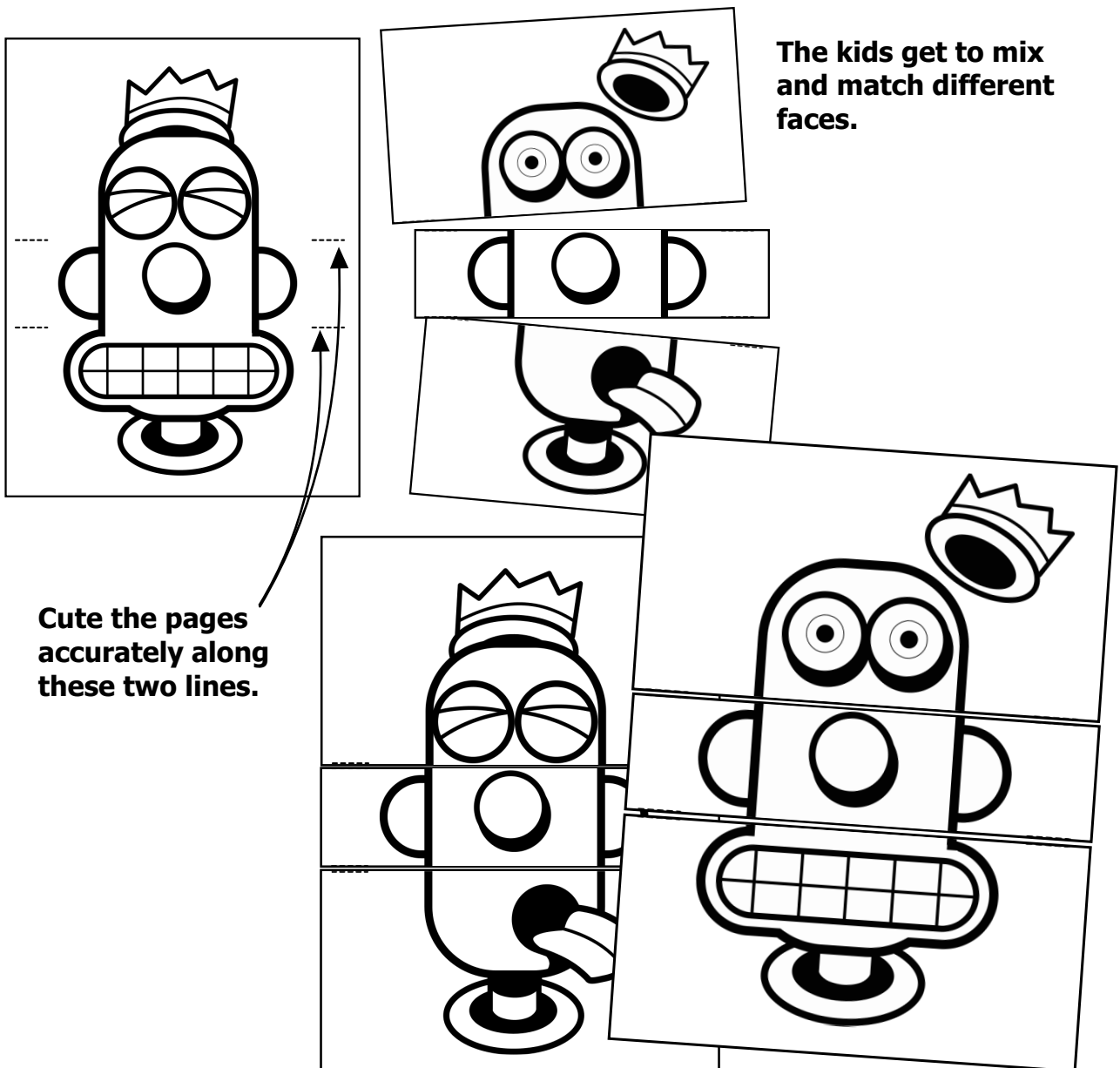
# Mug Shots!



**Print:** Letter-size (cardstock is best), black and white, single-sided.  
One copy is good for up to five kids.

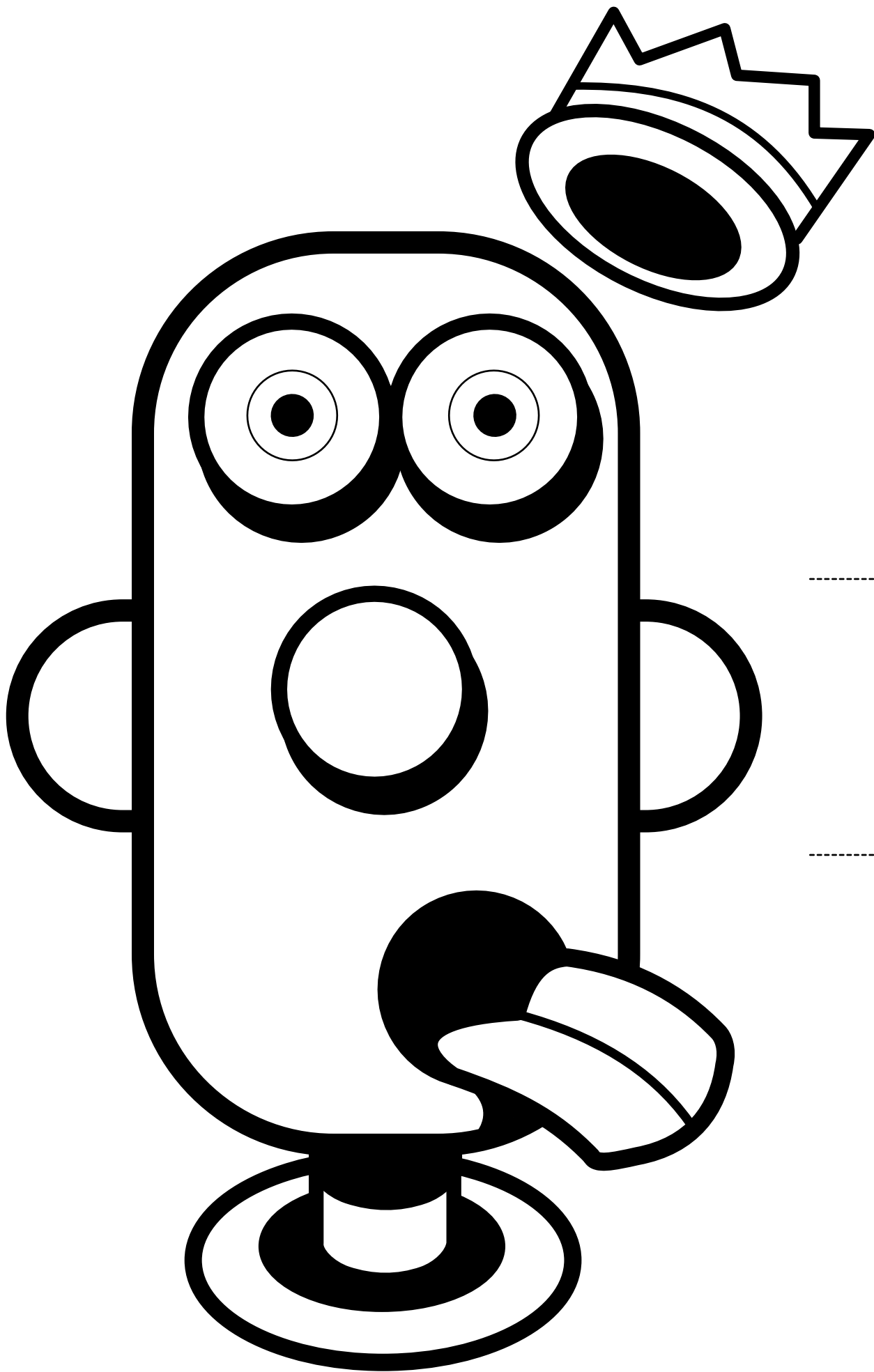
**Prep:** Cut each page along the dashed lines.

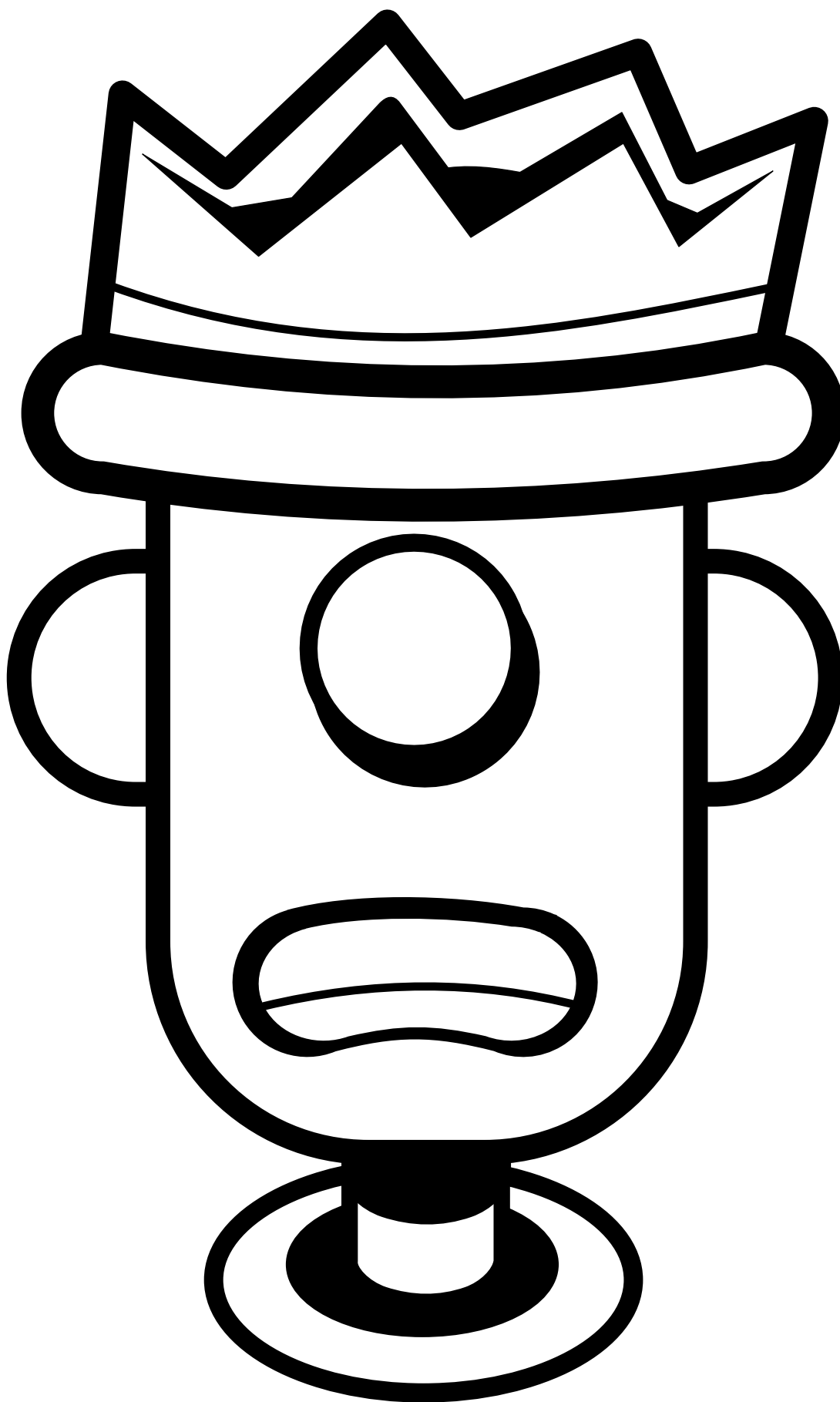
**Play:** Give the kids a pile of faces to mix and match. Remind them that they are making silly expressions that King Belshazzar might have had when he saw the hand writing God's message on the wall.

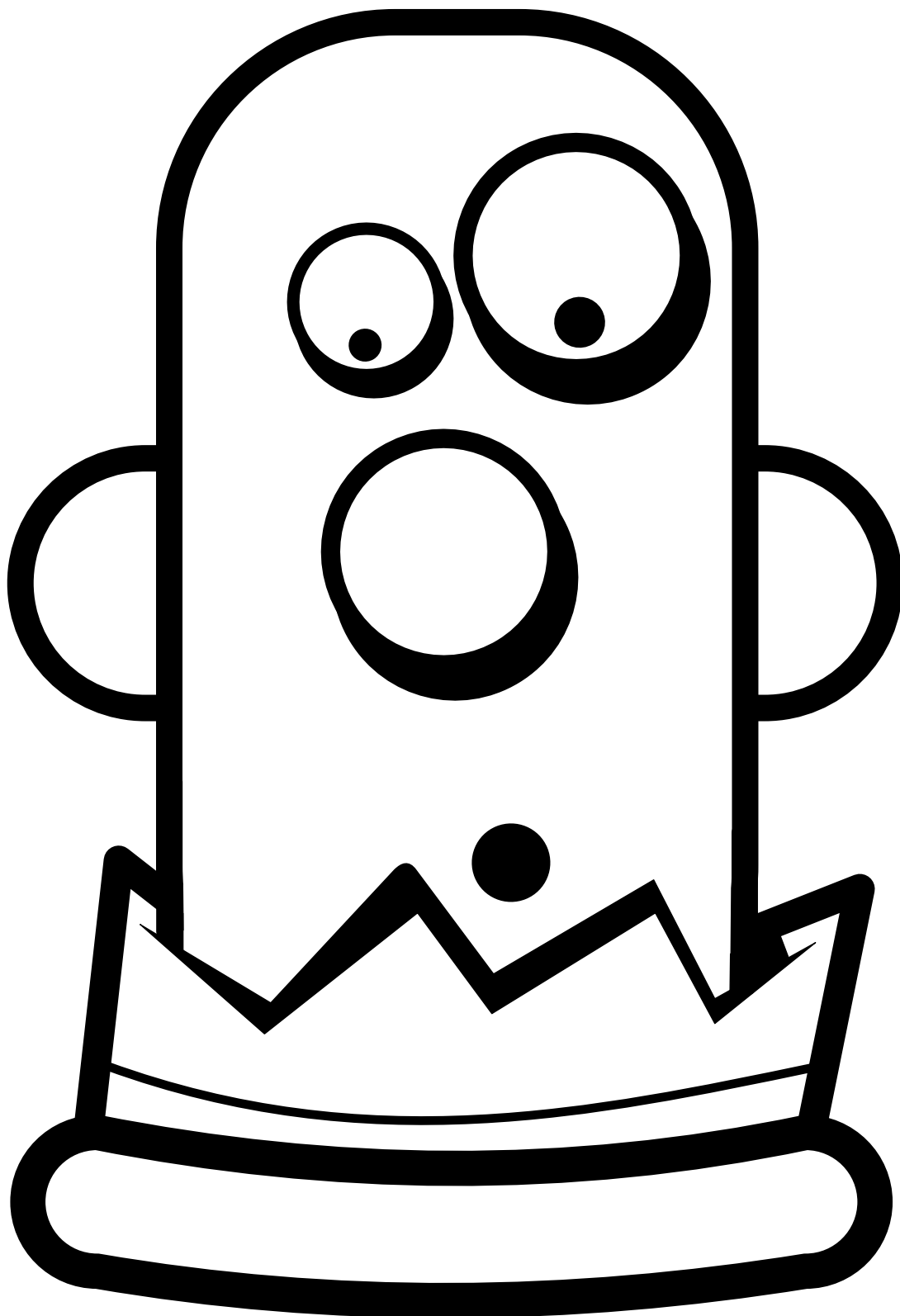


The kids get to mix and match different faces.

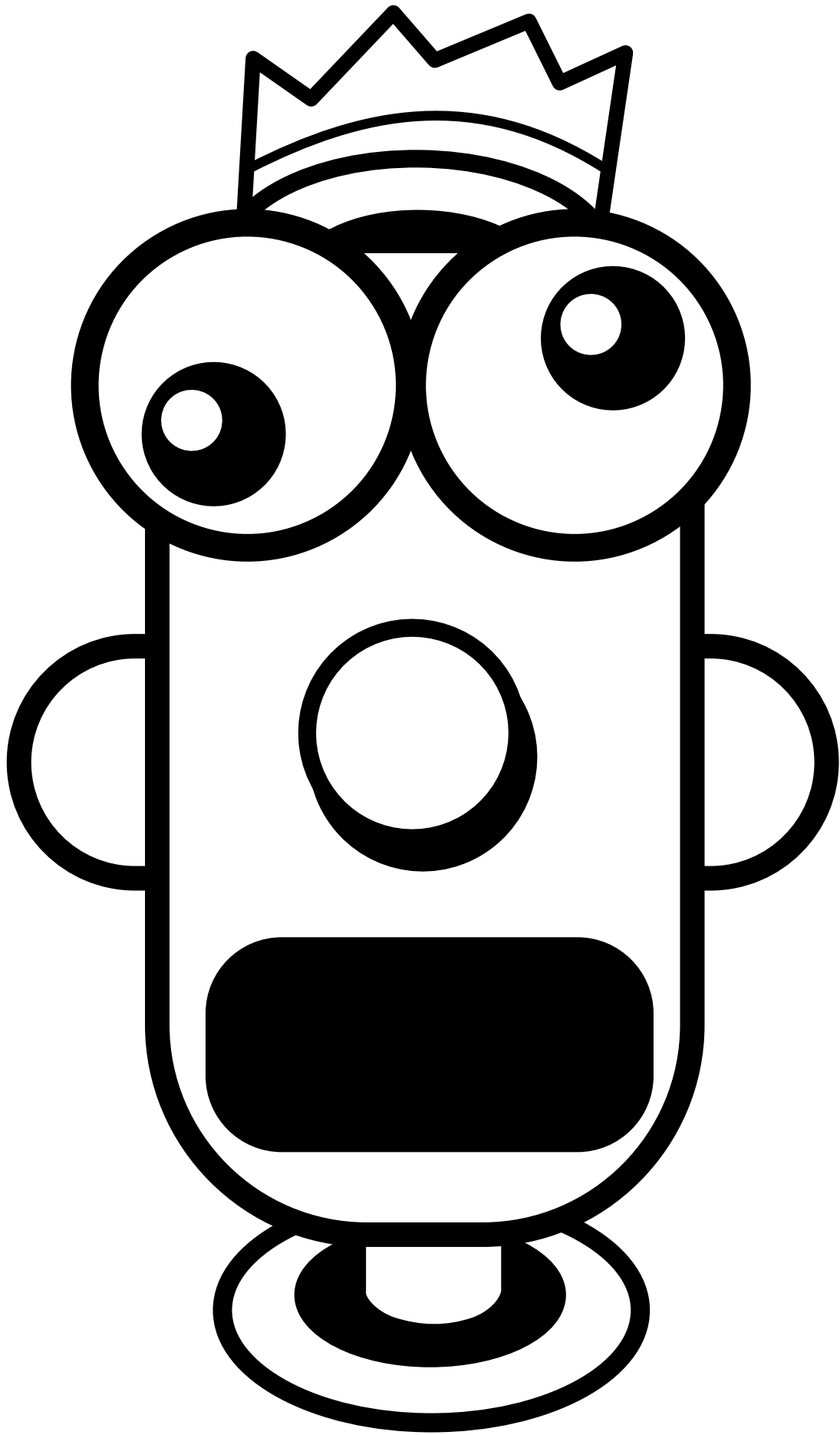
Cut the pages accurately along these two lines.

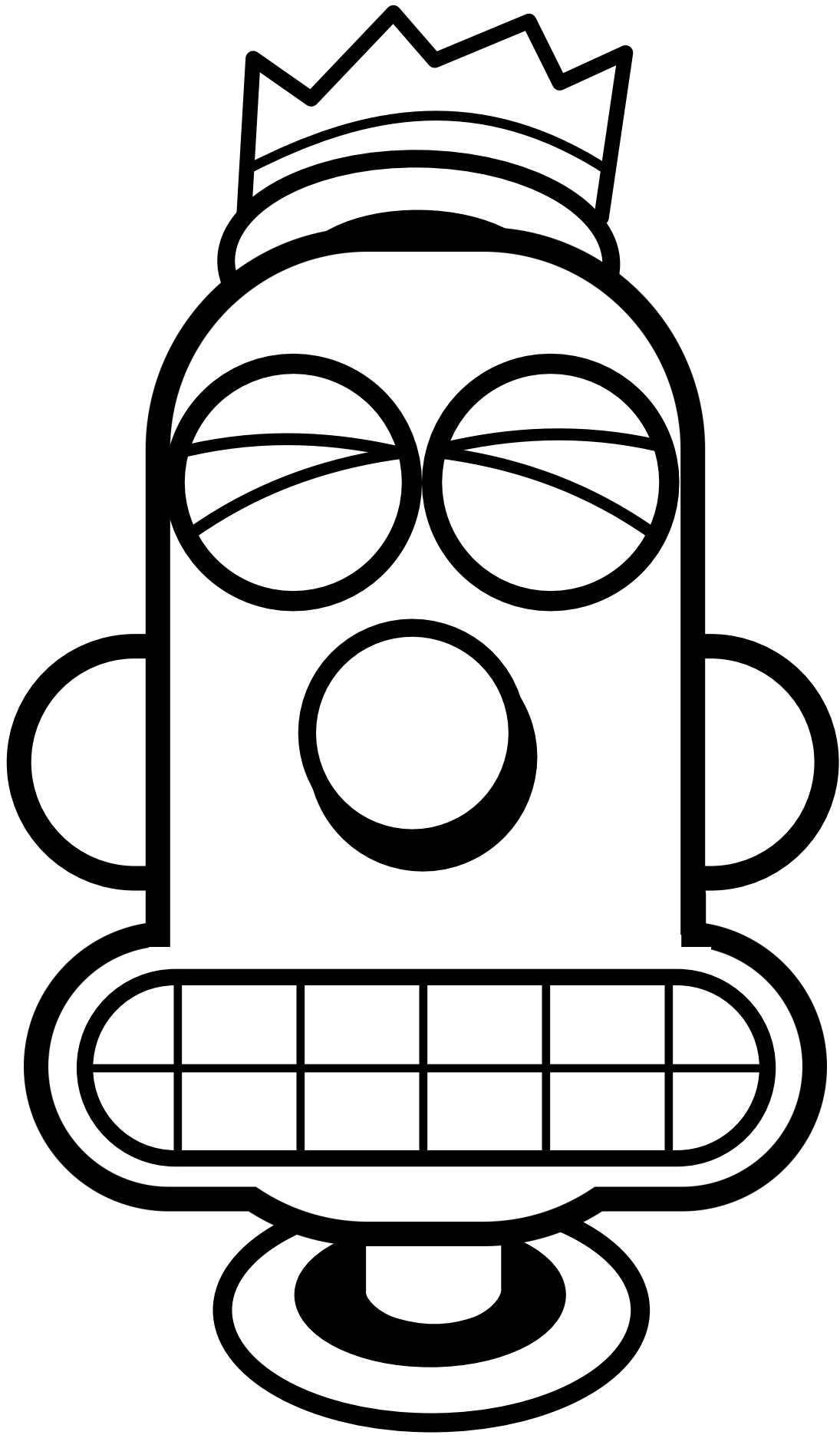












Jesus is King  
of everything.

