

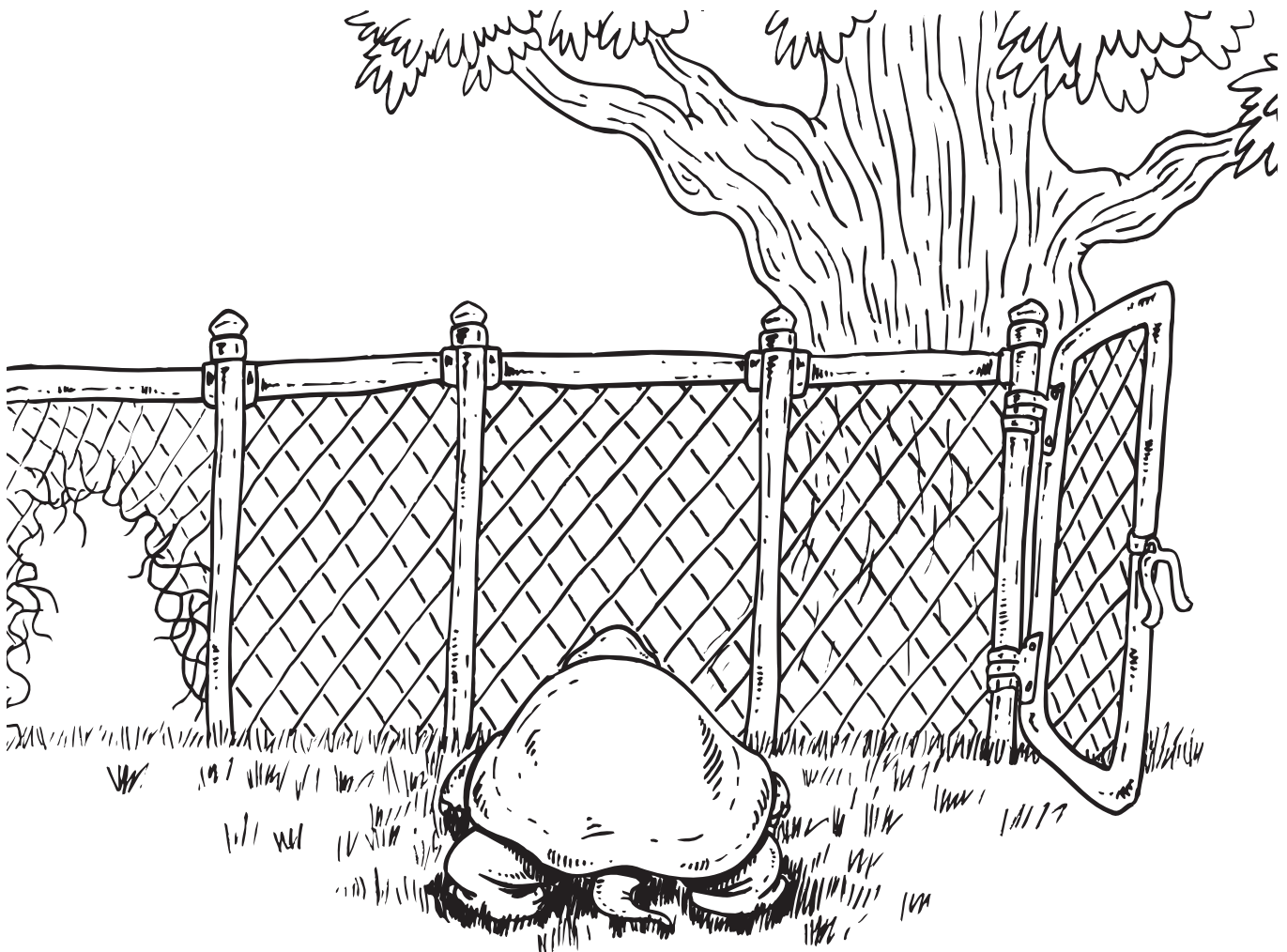
LIFE ISN'T FAIR...

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULD QUIT!

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SECTION ONE: OBSTACLES, FAIRNESS AND PERSEVERANCE



SECTION 1.1: PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION: OBSTACLES, FAIRNESS AND PERSEVERANCE

Use the following definitions and examples on this page and the cartoon and quote on Learner's Workbook page 2 to discuss the meaning of obstacles, fairness and perseverance with learners. Write the words and their definitions on the board or large piece of paper where all can see.

Obstacles are roadblocks that are sometimes in the way of our goals, or something we want. For example, I see an Ipod I really want, but I have no money. I want to work to make some money, but I can't get hired at a supermarket. I am only 14. I can't get the money from my parents, because they are always struggling with the bills. Something I want is the Ipod, no money is the obstacle. My goal is to work for the money. Not being able to work until I am 16 is the obstacle.

Fairness is when something is just not right. For example: I see a lot of kids at school whose parents bought them Ipods, but my parents have no money. That doesn't seem fair to me. I want to get the Ipod honestly, but I can't get a job.

Perseverance is never giving up, no matter what. Putting one foot in front of the other, trying to do the next right thing, even when life doesn't seem fair. For example: I could ask around the neighborhood and see if anyone wants their car washed. I could look for people who have lawn mowers and see if they need their lawn mowed. I could put up signs for walking dogs, or perhaps help out elderly people get their groceries. In time, I could own a brand new Ipod.

Learner’s Workbook: Page 2

READ/REVIEW

Have students study the definitions from the previous page and the cartoon and quote on Learner’s Workbook page 2 for the following activities.

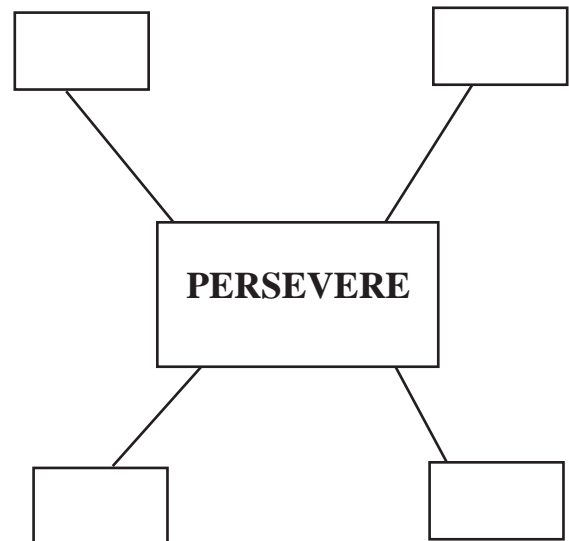
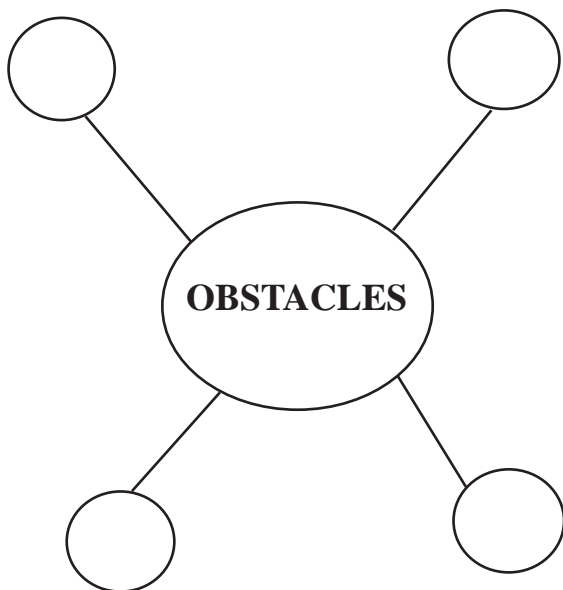
BRAINSTORM/DISCUSSION

After students have examined the words and their definitions, along with the cartoon, encourage them to share their feelings and experiences. You may wish to ask the following questions:

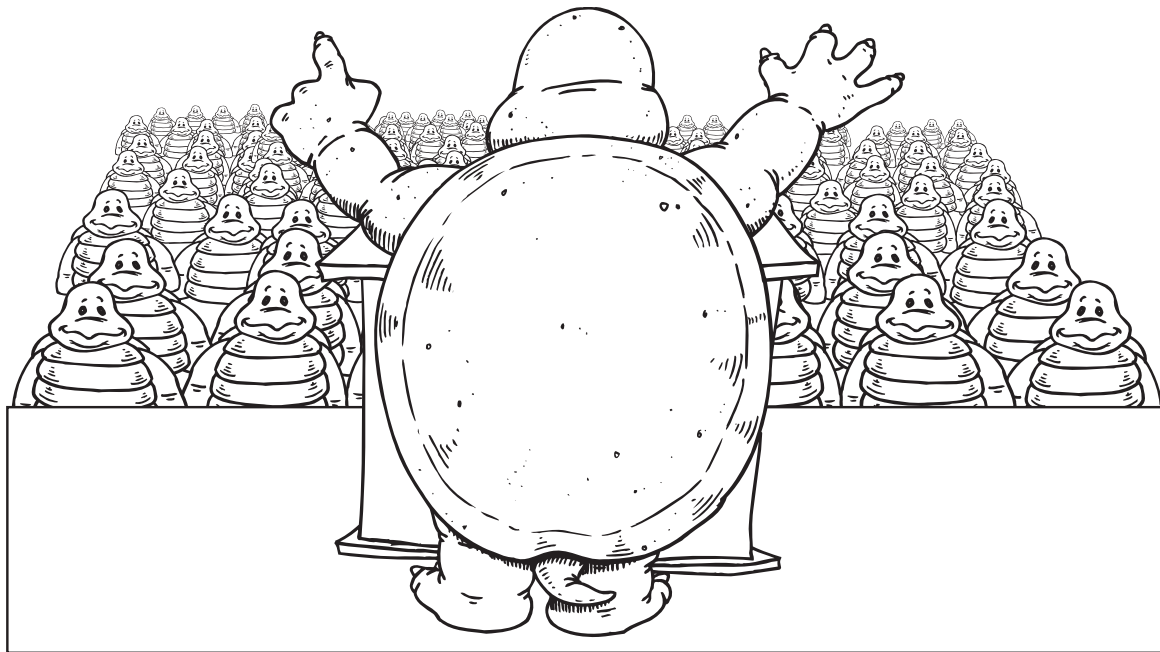
1. Have you ever had a similar experience to the boy who wanted an Ipod?
2. Discuss things in your life that seem tough. Have you or should you ever walk away and quit?
3. Does quitting solve the problem or bring you closer to your goal?
4. Is there something in your life that you have felt or feel is a constant struggle?
5. Why do you think in Mr. Iacocca’s quote he states you should persevere and work hard for what you want?
6. Why doesn’t he just tell you to steal the Ipod?

ACTIVITY

1. Create a Mind Map by writing the word *obstacle* in a large circle on the board or large piece of paper where all can see. Now write some of the obstacles learners shared in the Brainstorm/Discussion Activity around the word “obstacle.”
2. Now draw a second Mind Map by writing the word *persevere* in the middle. Have students share ways they may have successfully persevered through their Mind Map obstacles. Let students know they are going to learn about many people and the tools they have used to make it through and around obstacles in life. So, even if they have more in the *Obstacle Mind Map* than in the *Perseverance Mind Map*, they’ll learn tools to work through these obstacles.



SECTION 1: OBSTACLES, FAIRNESS AND PERSEVERANCE



"Boys, there ain't no free lunches in this country. And don't go spending your whole life complaining that you got raw deals. You've got to say, 'I think that if I keep working at this and want it bad enough, I can have it.' It's called perseverance."

— Lee Iacocca, former CEO of Chrysler

SECTION 1.2:

BEGIN THE STORY

OBSTACLES/ROADBLOCKS IN OUR WAY

Learner's Workbook: Pages 3-7

Instructor's Manual: Pages 10-14

INTRODUCTION

Inform learners that you will be reading the story titled "Life Isn't Fair...but that doesn't mean you should quit."

BRAINSTORM/DISCUSSION

Brainstorm with learners what they think "Life Isn't Fair" means. Some questions to direct the discussion include:

- a. Tell about some things that are fair.
- b. Tell about things that are not fair.
- c. Discuss things in their lives that seem tough. Have you or should you walk away or quit?
- d. If you quit, would the end result bring you closer to your goal?
- e. Think of things in your life that were or are not fair.
- f. What things in your life have caused a struggle?
- g. What happens when you continue the struggle? Do you eventually succeed?

READ

Have learners read workbook pages 3-7, instructor's manual pages 10-14 using a process called jump reading. Call on one person to read until the end of a sentence or thought. Then anyone who wants to read jumps in.

Questions to ask: *What was the obstacle in the turtle's way? Do you think he felt it was fair that he couldn't get the apple?*

ACTIVITY

Have learners get into groups of three or four and list obstacles that they have overcome. Then come together as a large group and share their experiences.

WRAP-UP

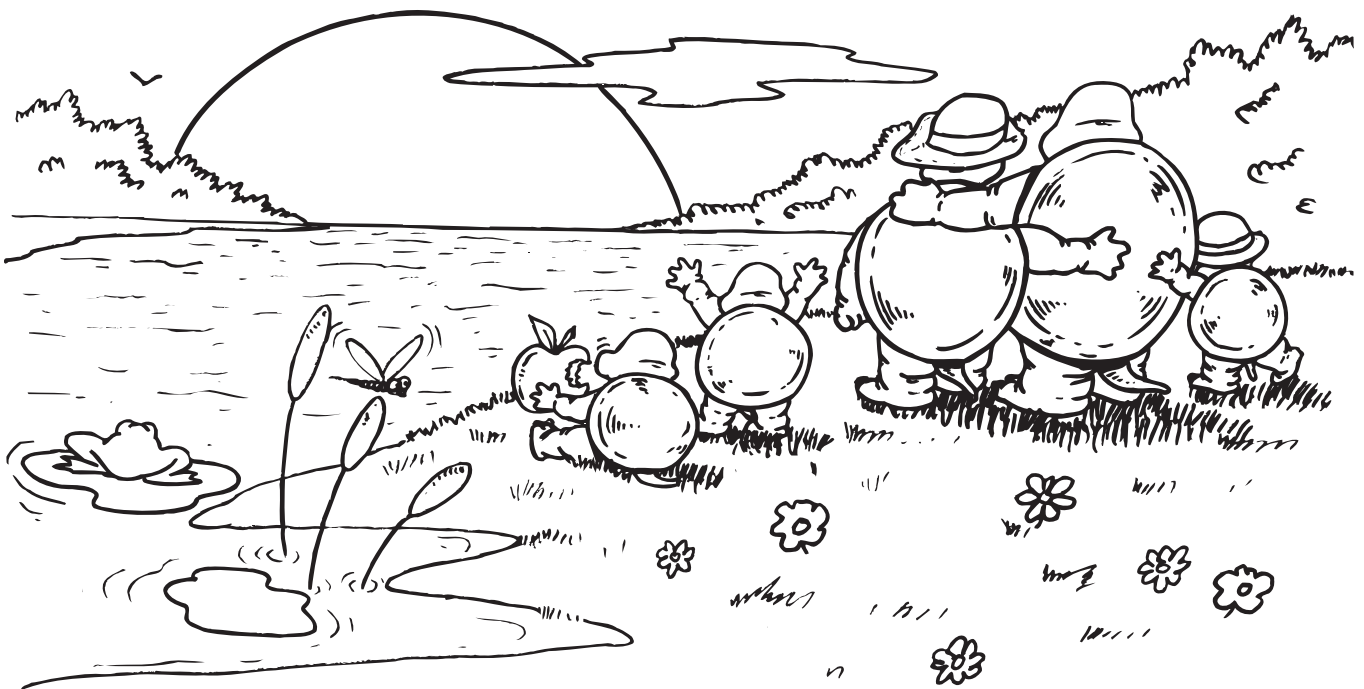
Ask learners what they learned from today's lesson. If time permits have them fold a piece of paper in four parts and illustrate four obstacles that they have experienced. Under each picture, direct them to write how they could work around that obstacle.

INTRODUCTION

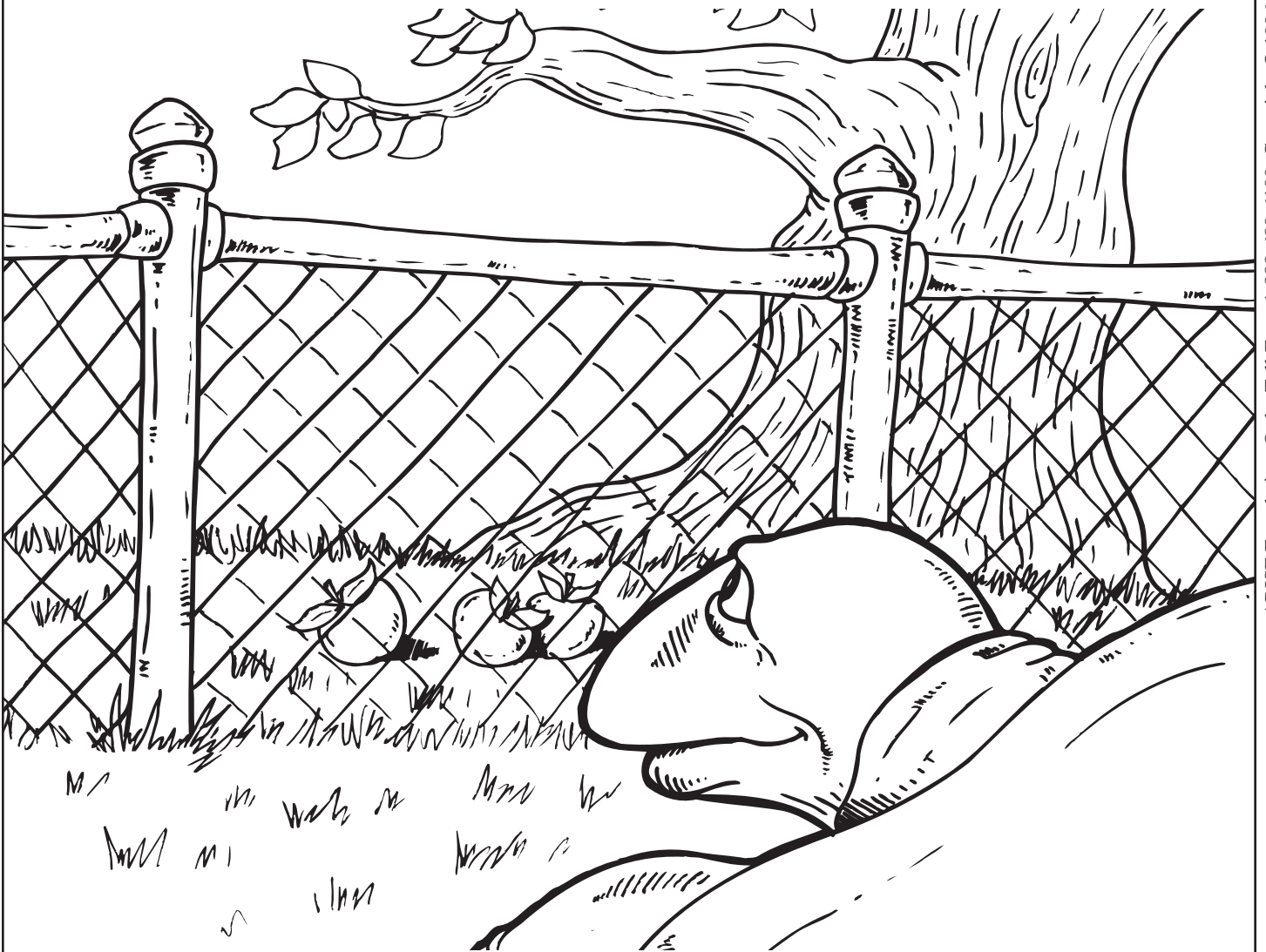
There once was a man who went bankrupt. He created and drew cartoons for a living. A certain cartoon studio virtually forced him to give up his rights to a very popular character that he created: Oswald the Rabbit. As a result, he lost everything. He lost everything and the studio continued to make money off of his cartoon. It wasn't fair, but he didn't give up. He kept looking for another way: a year later he found one. With some help from his brother, he created a new character and eventually added sound to his creation. The man was Walter Elias Disney and his new creation was Mickey Mouse. Perhaps you know him better as Walt Disney.

Now, take a minute to think about what life would be like if he had chosen to give up on his dreams just because he came across an obstacle. Just because life isn't always fair.

The following is a cartoon about turtles, but more importantly it is a story about not giving up, no matter what. Just like Mr. Disney.



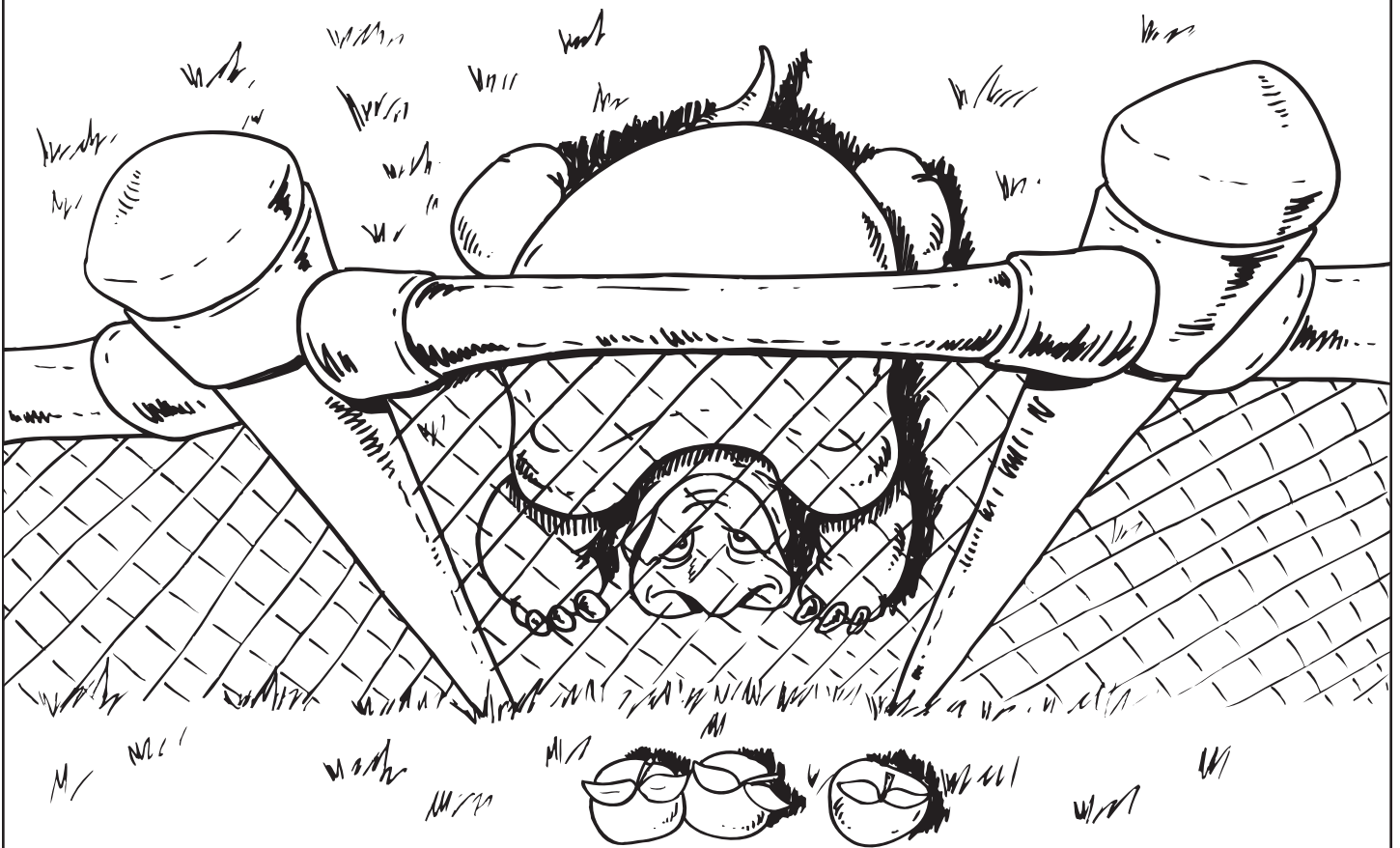
Once upon a time, there was a turtle named Tommy who spotted some apples that had fallen at the foot of a tree.

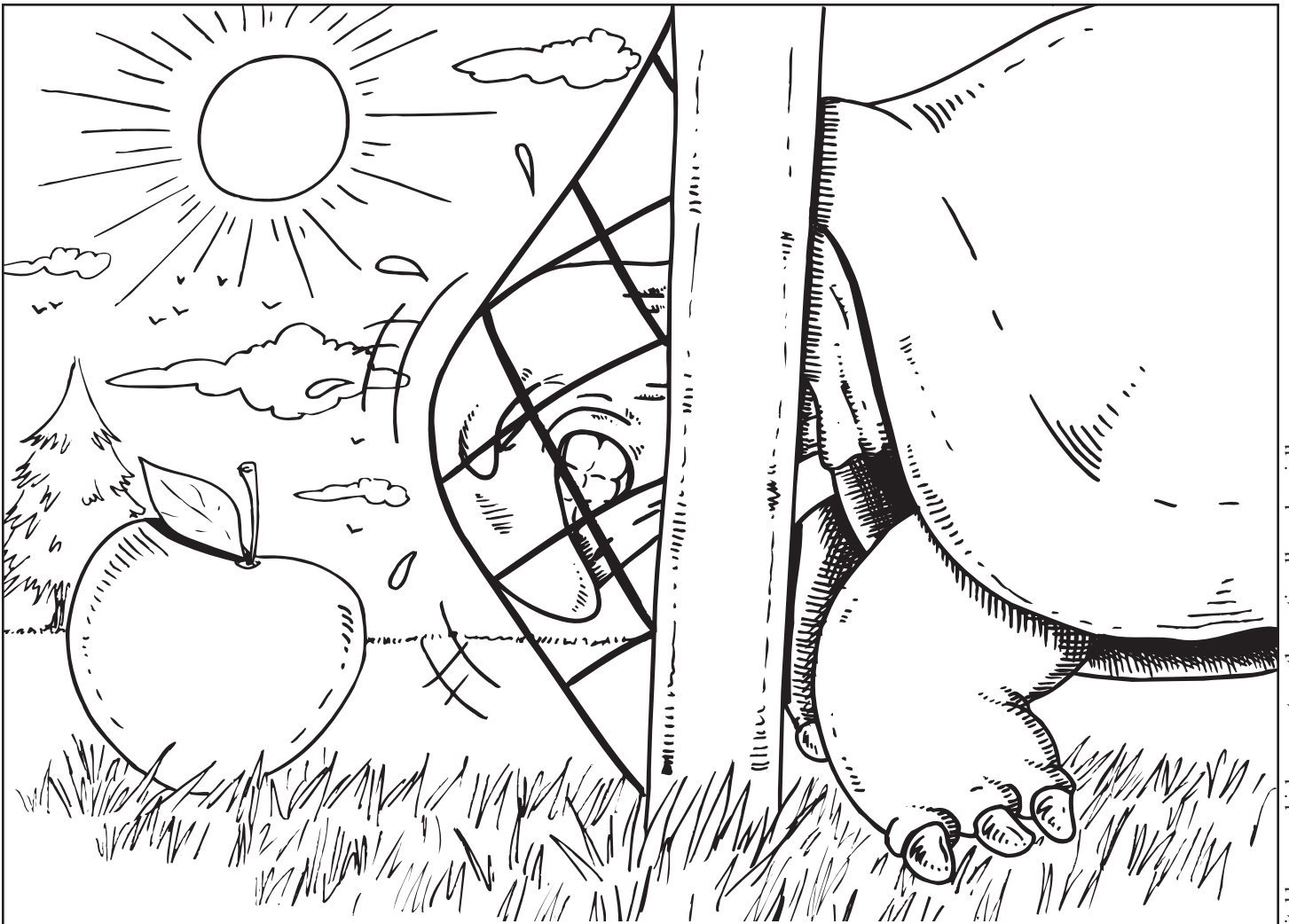




Tommy crawled out of his home along the river and began walking toward the apples when he suddenly bumped into a fence.

Being a turtle, he didn't really know what a fence was or understand what it was for. All Tommy knew was that it stood between him and the apples he wanted.





Tommy spent hour after hour trying to push his way through the fence. All that mattered was this miserable fence making it impossible for him to get to his apples. It seemed that the only way to the apples was in one direction — through the fence.