

## The Woodsman and the Serpent

One day in winter a woodsman walked briskly through the forest. He was coming home from his work. It was bitterly cold. He was in a hurry to reach his warm cottage. Suddenly he saw something black on the path in front of him. As he came nearer, he saw that it was a snake.

The woodsman was kind. He saw that the snake was still alive, so he picked it up. He put it under his coat to keep it warm. Then he hurried on his way.

It was dusk when the woodsman reached his home. He put the snake by the fireplace. The woodsman's children sat quietly and looked at the snake. As the snake got warm, it began to feel better and move. One of the children reached over to touch it. The snake raised its head. It put out its fangs. It was about to bite the child. So the woodsman took his axe and killed the snake.

**Moral: Expect no gratitude from the wicked.**

### **Words to know:**

briskly

cottage

wicked

bitterly

dusk

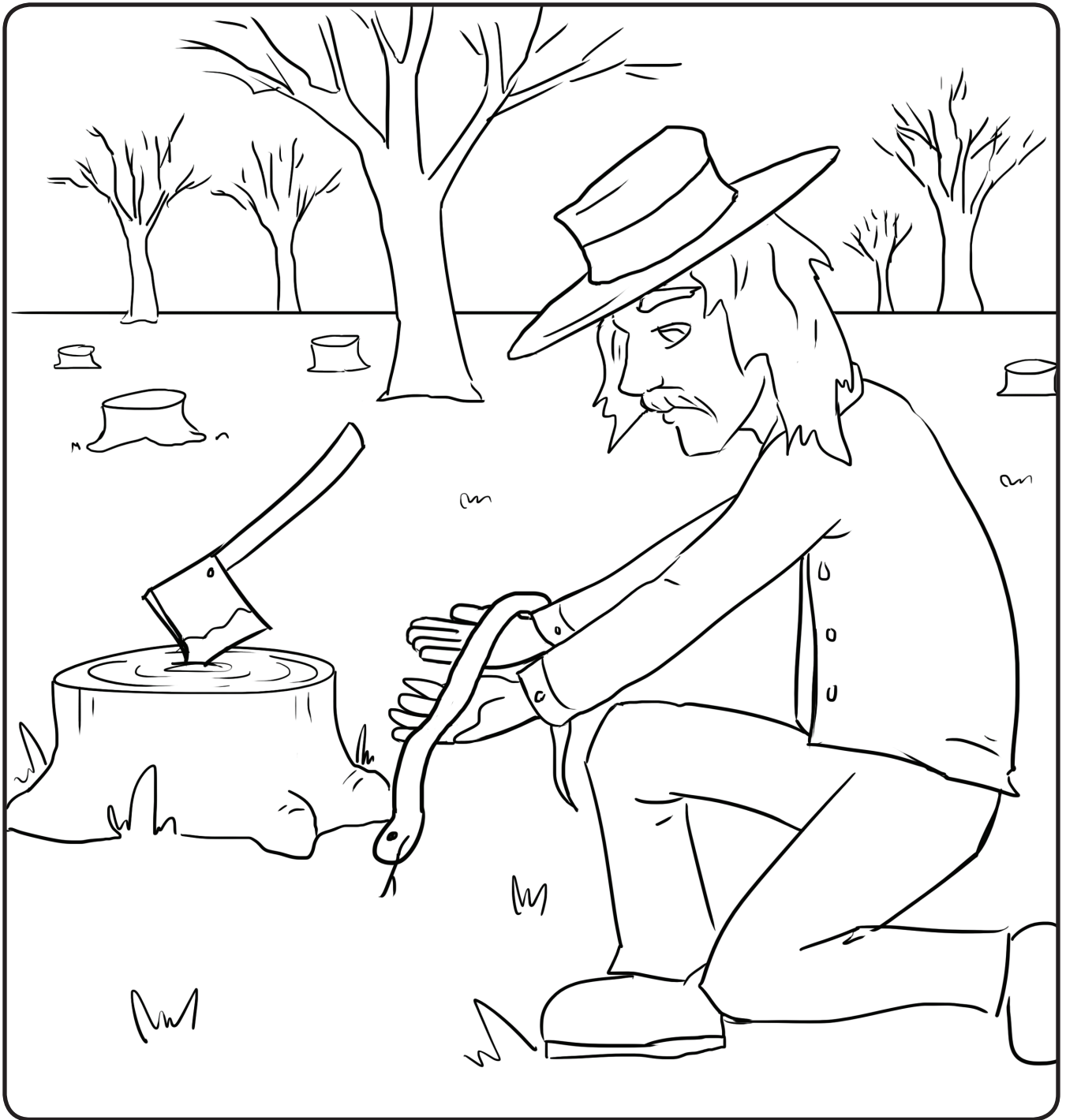
raised

fangs

wicked

gratitude

expect



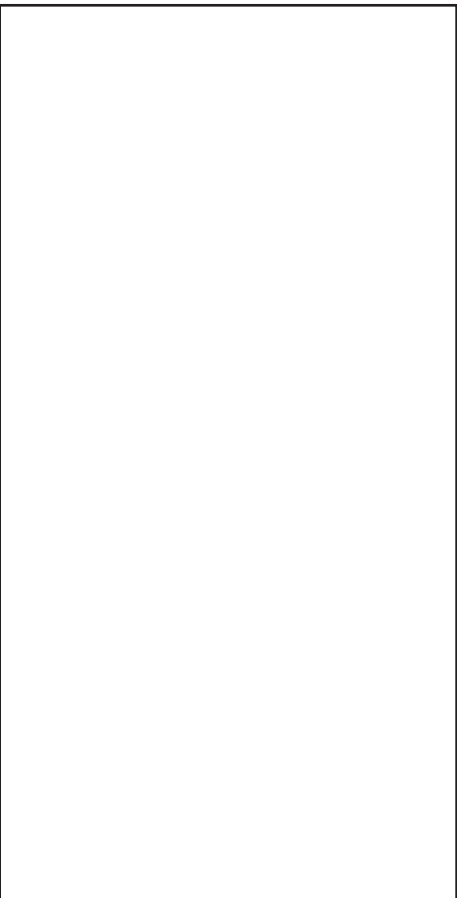
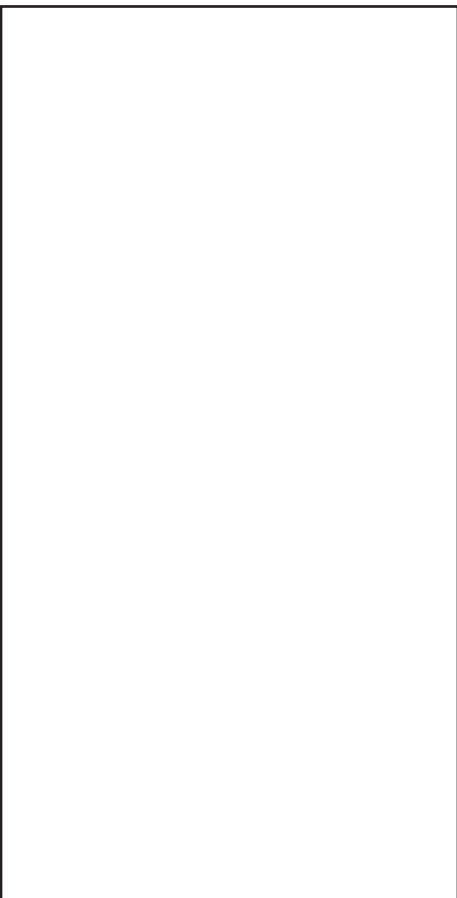
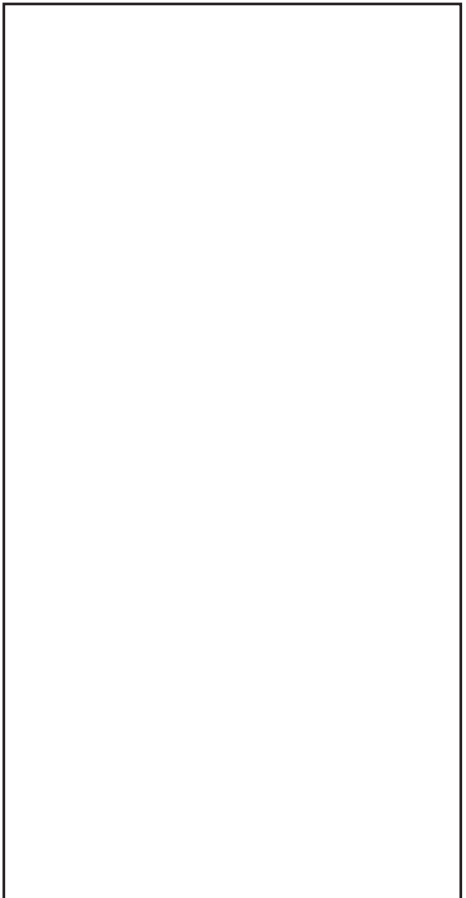
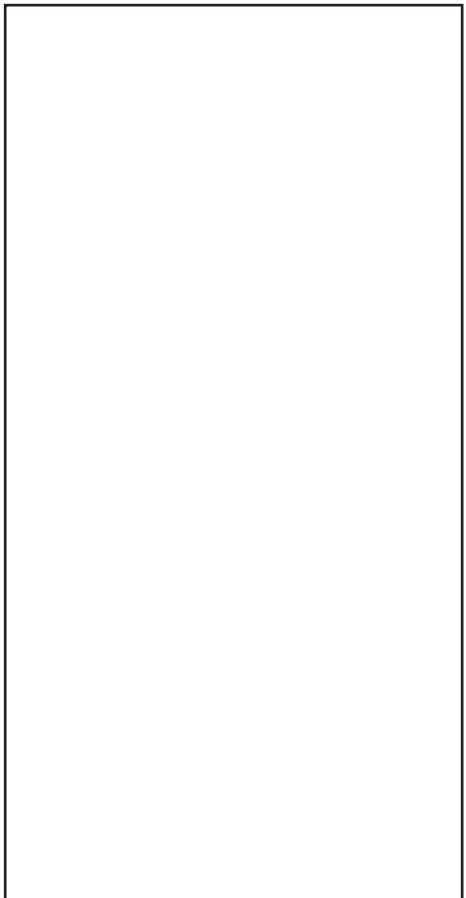
Write a sentence about the picture. Color the picture.

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Do you think the man did the right thing? Can you tell the story a different way? Draw pictures that tell your new story.



Write a new moral for your story.

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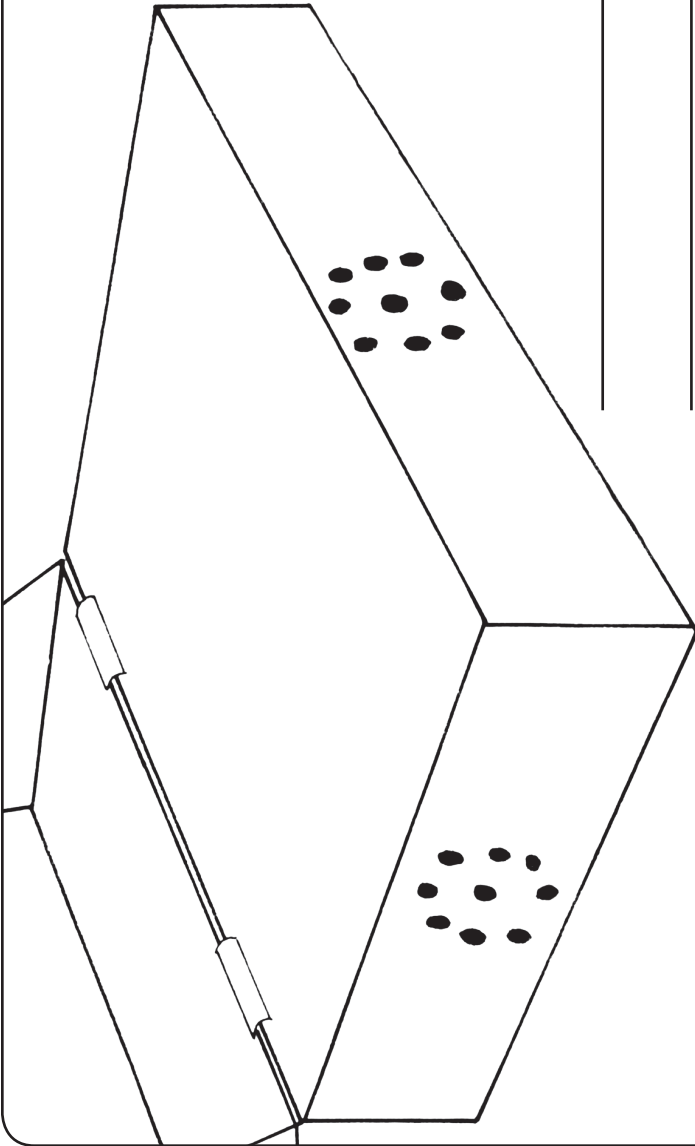
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SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

How do animals  
protect themselves?

What might happen if this box from the pet shop was sent to your house? How would you feel? What would you do? What animal would you like to find inside? Draw the animal inside the box. Write a story about it. Give your story a title.



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