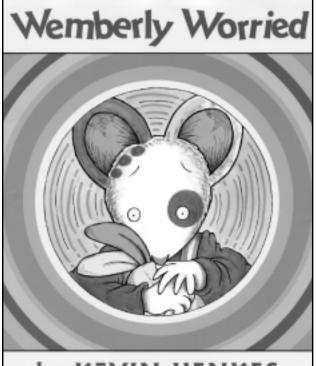
## Meet Wemberly,

winsome worrywart and newest mouse heroine from the creator of *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and the Caldecott Honor Book *Owen*.



Beloved author-illustrator Kevin Henkes speaks to the heart of worriers everywhere in this tender, universal story.



by KEVIN HENKES



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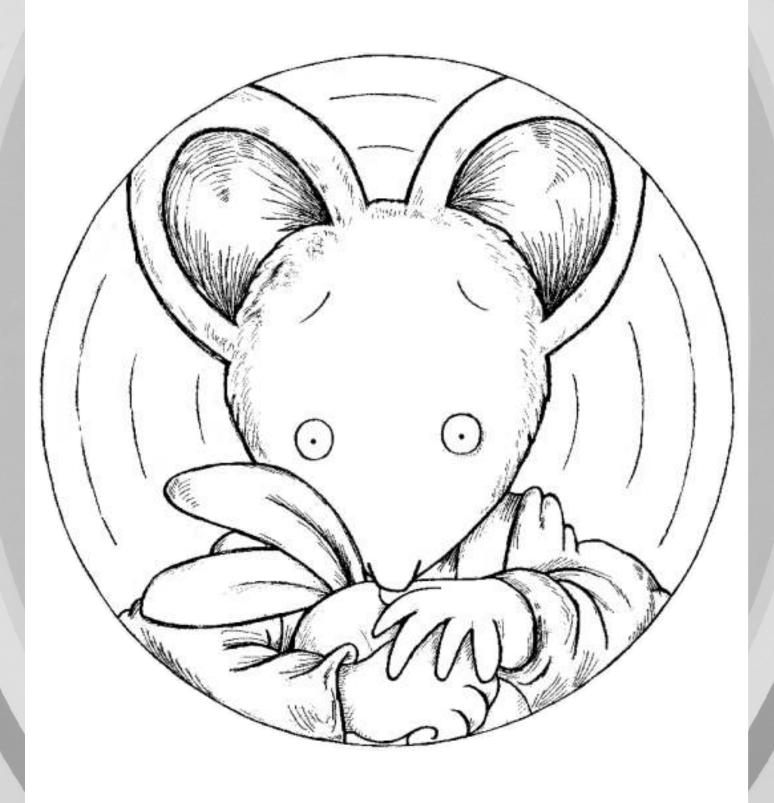


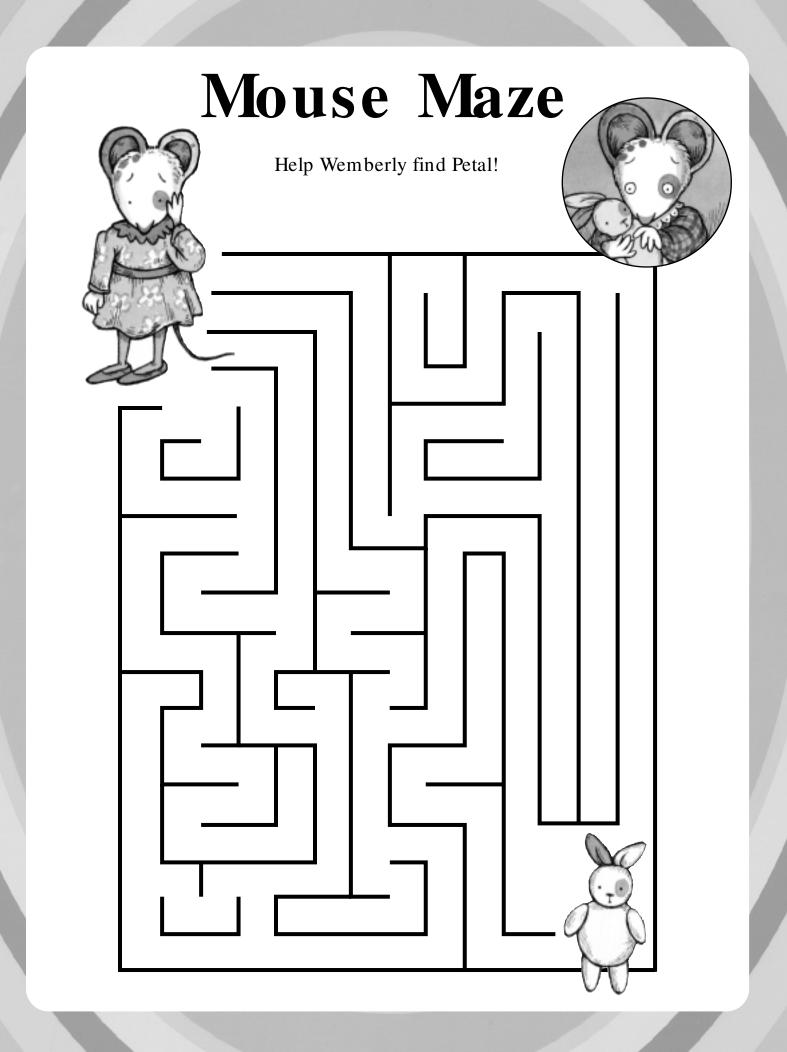
There's a little bit of Wemberly in all of us, but in this case you don't need to worry—here's all you need to know to host a fabulous Kevin Henkes mouse party in honor of his latest mouse heroine.



# **Coloring Page**

Everyone can be an artist!





### **Dot-to-Dot Mouse**

Link the dots for a nifty trick. See who appears with her rabbit sidekick!



## Wemberly's School Is Fun Word Search

Search up, down, across, and diagonally to find what Wemberly loves about school.

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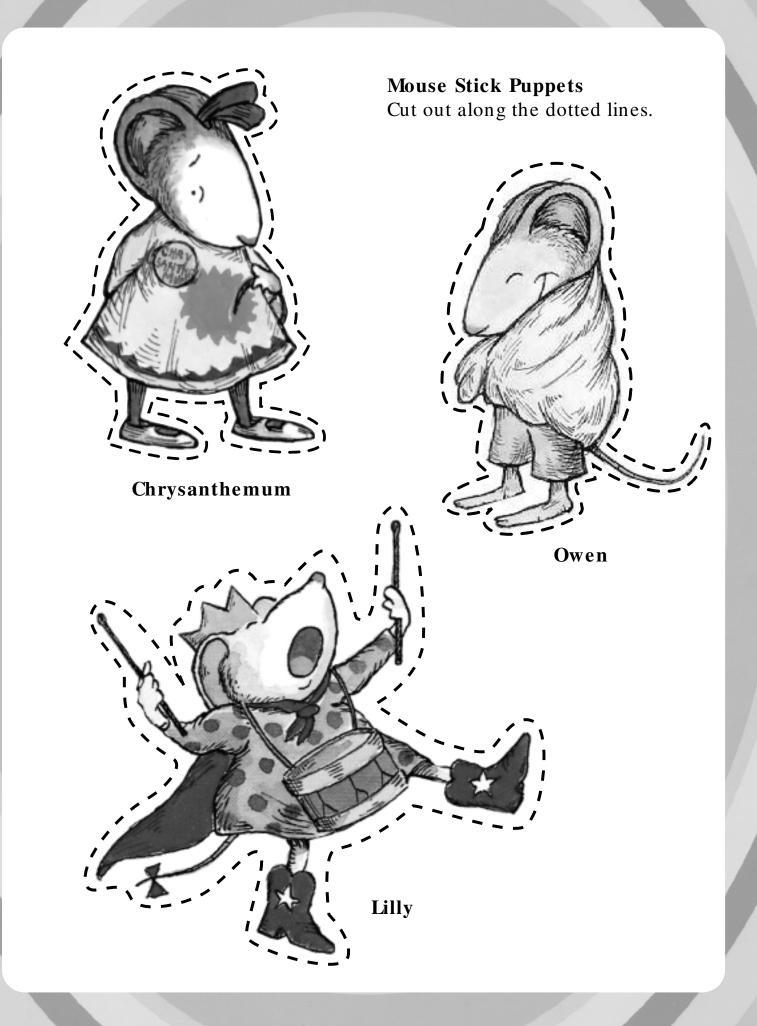
## Make Mouse Stick Puppets

Color and cut out the mouse characters Wemberly, Lilly, Chrysanthemum and Owen. Glue them or attach them with double-sided tape to Popsicle sticks for perfect paper puppets.

Then turn a table on its side, drape a sheet across the front for dramatic effect, and you've got a mini-stage for mousemimicking puppeteers. Let the children act out their favorite scenes from the books with their mouse puppets.



Wemberly



## Wemberly's Worry List

Wemberly has an imagination as tall as the tree in her front yard, but most of the things she worries about will never even happen. What are some of things you worry about that probably won't happen? Make a list of worries—they're probably not so bad after all!

1.
 2.
 3.

\* Remember—it helps to talk about what's worrying you with a parent, teacher, or friend.

## Is That Your Final Answer?

Host a Kevin Henkes Mouse Quiz Show. Let eager contestants face off against each other to loudly name that mouse.

For example: She's as brave as you please and has a little sister, Louise. Answer: Sheila Rae (Sheila Rae, the Brave)

- 1. When he comes for the weekend, Sophie wishes he'd pick another friend.
- 2. She loves her name, but when she is teased she just doesn't feel the same . . .
- 3. These two friends practice safety on their bikes. Then Lilly moves in, and they say "Yikes!"
- 4. Her quarters, sunglasses, and her special purse were really a sight, but when she pulled them out in class, the time just wasn't right.
- 5. He's a little baby mouse; his fur is white and sweet. At first his big sister thinks he's really not so neat.
- 6. She finds a lot of things that really make her fret. But does she like her new teacher and school? You bet!







Award prizes to everyone who calls out the right answer. Or set up teams, score points, then give prizes to all!

I. Wendell (A Weekend with Wendell) 2. Chrysanthemum (Chrysanthemum) 3. Chester and Wilson (Chester's Way) 4. Lilly (Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse) 5. Julius (Julius, the Baby of the World) 6. Wemberly (Wemberly Worried)



No friends yet and unfamiliar faces are common first-day-of-school worries. Improvise on the old favorite *The More We Get Together*, using every party guest's name to show that making friends is a song!

Example: The more we get together, together, together, The more we get together, the happier we'll be. 'Cause Wemberly is my friend and Wemberly is your friend. The more we get together, the happier we'll be.

Try other verses using feelings like "silly," "nervous," "cheerful," "sleepy," "hungry," "playful," "surprised," or "scared."

## Music To Your Mouse Ears

Wemberly's DON'T WORRY (BE HAPPY!) Hit Parade of Songs

• If You're Happy and You Know It

(Have fun with this one! Change the verses as you go along: *If you're worried and you know it* . . .)

- Oh Dear, What Can the Matter Be?
- Ha, Ha, This-a-Way
- Hickory Dickory Dock
- Three Blind Mice
- Little Miss Mousie



## **Best Supporting Mouse Contest**

One of Wemberly's biggest fans is her grandmother. She has confidence in Wemberly—even if Wemberly doesn't always have confidence in herself.

Ask the children who their biggest supporters are. What do these supporters do that makes them so special? Let each child make a unique award ribbon to take home for his or her winning supporter. Suggest recognizable Kevin Henkes mouse exclamations and adjectives such as *Wow!* and *Nifty!* for the ribbons. This activity could be turned into an essay contest as well.

# Calling All Mice!

Using a variation of the classic game Telephone, whisper a key phrase from a Kevin Henkes mouse book into a child's ear ("Do you rodents think you can handle a semicircle?") and let the tele*fun* begin! Each child whispers the phrase to

the next, and the one at the end of the "phone line" gleefully shouts it out loud. What was the original phrase, and what has it hilariously become?

## Serve Refreshments

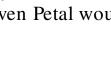
Every party needs snacks, especially with a room full of nibblers. Here are some simple ideas to make your event simply savory.

### MOUSE MORSELS

- Fill a basket with miniature soft cheeses encased in wax. Everyone can unwrap an irresistibly cheesy prize.
- Offer every mouse's favorite interactive cheese—string cheese!
- Give American cheese a Henkes twist—use cookie cutters to press it into a variety of fun shapes. Be sure to serve chilled or on a cracker so it won't melt.

### PETAL'S BUNNY BITES

Artfully arrange baby carrots on a platter for a crunchy treat that even Petal would be proud of.





### RECIPES

Use the recipes we've enclosed to create tempting treats such as:

WEMBERLY'S "DON'T-CRY-OVER-SPILLED-PUNCH" PUNCH Because hungry mice are also thirsty mice.

CHRYSANTHEMUM'S PARCHEESI NIPS Who could resist these?

CHESTER & WILSON'S NEVER-BETTER PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES



Peanut butter always spreads the fun.

LILLY'S NIFTY CHEESE STRAWS Because everything tastes better with straws.

MR. SLINGER'S CHEESE CRISPIES Not just for breakfast anymore.

### WEMBERLY'S "DON'T-CRY-OVER-SPILLED-PUNCH" PUNCH

1/2 cups sugar
 1 quart pineapple juice
 2 cups warm water
 1 quart ginger ale

Dissolve the sugar in the pineapple juice and warm water. Add the ginger ale and pour over a block



of ice in a punch bowl and serve. For a twist, add fresh fruit to the punch bowl.

### CHRYSANTHEMUM'S PARCHEESI NIPS

1 cup grated Cheddar cheese 1 cup grated Swiss cheese 1/4 pound butter 1 cup flour Salt to taste

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Put the cheeses and butter in a mixing bowl or food processor and blend until smooth. Add the flour and salt and mix well. Roll out to 1/4inch thickness. Cut the dough into

2-inch squares. Place squares on a cookie sheet and bake 15 minutes. Makes 48 mouthwatering nips.

### CHESTER AND WILSON'S NEVER-BETTER PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

cup shortening
 teaspoon vanilla
 cup sugar
 cup brown sugar
 eggs, beaten

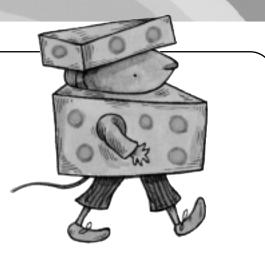
cup creamy peanut butter
 cups flour
 teaspoon salt
 teaspoons baking soda
 Chocolate sprinkles



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a mixing bowl, cream shortening, vanilla, and sugars. Add the eggs and beat well. Stir in the peanut butter. Mix together the flour, salt, and baking soda, and add to the peanut butter mixture, combining thoroughly. Form dough into tiny balls and place on greased cookie sheets. Press each cookie twice with the back of a fork to make a crisscross design. Bake 8–10 minutes or until firm. When still warm, shower generously with the chocolate sprinkles. Makes 50–60 cookies.

### LILLY'S NIFTY CHEESE STRAWS

1/4 pound butter2 cups flour1/4 teaspoon ground pepper or paprika1 pound sharp Cheddar cheese, gratedSalt to taste



Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cream the butter until light. Add the flour, pepper (or paprika), cheese, and salt. Knead until dough forms a ball, then roll out on a floured board or pastry cloth. Cut into strips 5 inches long and 3/8 inch wide. Place on a greased cookie sheet and bake 6 minutes, until golden. Makes 36 crunchy straws.

### MR. SLINGER'S CHEESE CRISPIES

2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
1 cup butter, softened
2 cups flour
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
2 cups crisp rice cereal

Cream butter and cheese together. Add flour, then garlic salt. Add crisp rice cereal. Roll into small balls and place on ungreased cookie sheet. Press flat with fork. Bake at 350 degrees for 12 minutes or until light brown. Makes 80 to 100.

