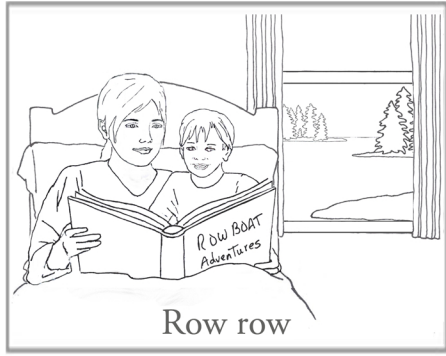
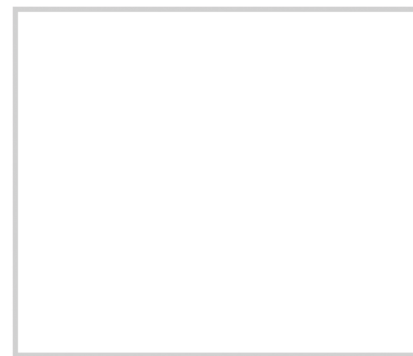
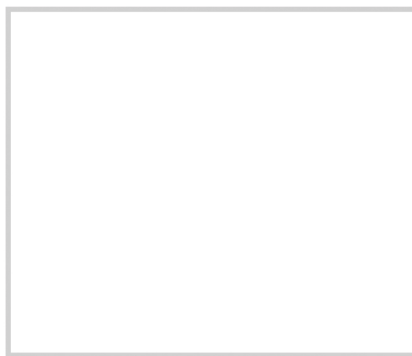


Row your boat



Row row



Row ...
 She tried changing the story –
 once.
 Let's pretend this book changes
 into a boat floating on your bed. It
 will take you anywhere you want
 to go – ANYWHERE. But he
 started to cry.

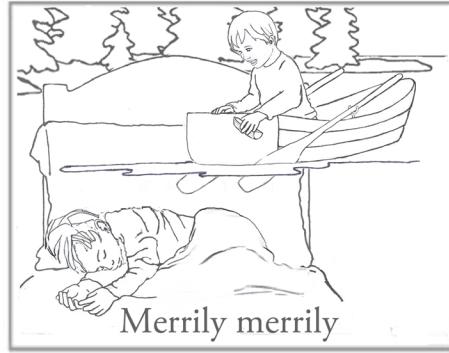
Gently ...
 He really was a sweet kid. And it
 was nice to be curled up in bed –
 warm and cosy next to someone
 who listened so intently to every
 word you said. Nobody else had
 time to listen to her.

All the grownups she saw were
 busy. And because she was always
 babysitting she really didn't have
 any friends. When her dad left, she
 and her mom moved across town
 and none of the kids she grew up
 with were at her new school.

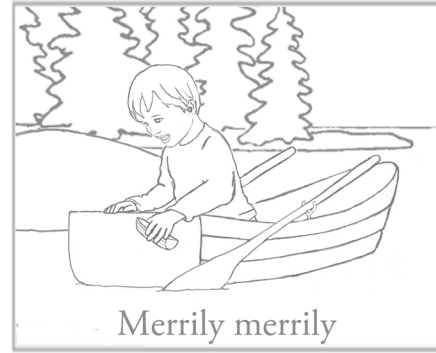
... the stream.
 Her dad was fun. Since he left her
 mom rarely laughed anymore. He
 used to make her laugh all the time.
 He made her aunt laugh too but that
 made her mom mad. Then her dad
 was gone and they moved away
 from her grandmother and her aunt.
 Now everyone she knew was gone.

Life is ...
 YEAH, right. She was stuck and
 she was going to stay stuck. No
 money, no friends, no dad, no
 family besides her mom and she
 was always working and angry.
 And where would she get a boat?
 Was there even a stream near
 town?

Merrily ...
 She'd heard in the news someone
 had recently rowed across the
 ocean so she could too. Row to
 strange lands where there were
 castles, palaces, cathedrals and
 coliseums. History was her
 favourite subject because it taught
 her nothing stays the same.



Merrily merrily



Merrily merrily

... but a dream.
 FINALLY - the kid's asleep. Susan
 said to make sure to leave his toy
 boat next to him so it's there when
 he wakes up or reaches for it in his
 sleep. I wonder if his father gave it
 to him? I still have a picture of my
 dad my grandmother slipped to me
 when my mom wasn't looking.

... where will you go?
 My aunt was going to school to
 learn how to take care of kids. She
 wanted to be a nanny to some
 celebrity's kids so she could travel
 all over the world with them. I'd
 like to do that too.
 And I have lots of time to learn and
 practise while I'm babysitting.

