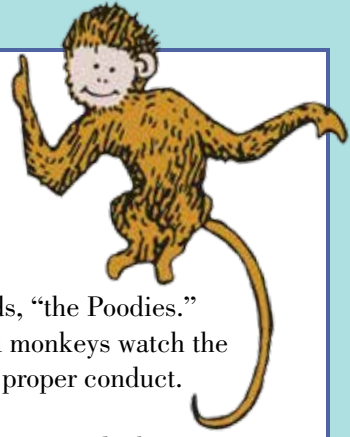


MORE CAPS FOR SALE

The Story Behind the Story



by mimicking her imaginary friends, “the Poodies.” In *More Caps for Sale*, the mindful monkeys watch the peddler and unintentionally learn proper conduct.

When Sayer finished the text for this sequel, she made a list of objects she would need for each page’s illustration. Intimate knowledge of the subject matter in Slobodkina’s paintings and illustrations supplied Sayer with a mental archive of source material from which to choose. Then she scanned, extracted, and manipulated images to create the desired scenes. Every tree, chair, lamp, building, cap, and, of course, monkey was produced using Slobodkina’s original art.

Although many of the images were taken from *Caps for Sale* illustrations, the peddler’s bed and some of the people were extracted from *Circus Caps for Sale*, the house from *Jack and Jim*, the furniture from *Moving Day for the Middlemans*, and the banana from Slobodkina’s oil painting *Still Life with Bananas*. Reflecting upon hours of conversations with Slobodkina on perspective and her choices in stylization, Sayer employed great care to develop each layout as the artist herself might have done. Through this posthumous story, Sayer reawakens Slobodkina’s voice.



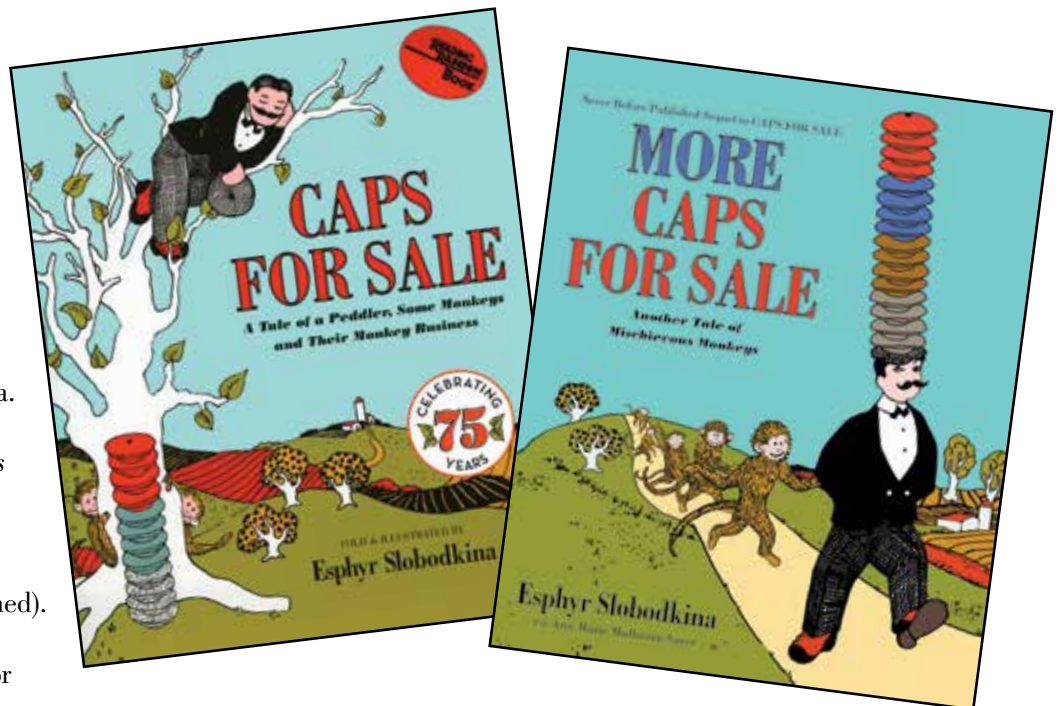
Photo Courtesy of the Slobodkina Foundation

Ann Marie Mulhearn Sayer began an association with Esphyr Slobodkina in 1994, which lasted until Slobodkina’s death in 2002. Although distanced by over forty years in age, the women soon became fast friends with a mutual interest in writing and storytelling.

Sayer and Slobodkina spent hours talking about children’s books, and Sayer scored musical versions for five of Slobodkina’s books during Slobodkina’s lifetime. Slobodkina evaluated every motive and lyric, suggesting changes or elaborating on a character’s intended temperament, giving Sayer a grasp of each personality in the stories.

It was Slobodkina’s wish that after her death Sayer continue her work and keep Slobodkina’s art, books, and illustrations in the public eye for future generations to enjoy.

More Caps for Sale is based on story ideas from Slobodkina’s and Sayer’s imaginations with prior permission from Slobodkina. The theme of *More Caps for Sale* is not only a continuation of *Caps for Sale*, but is also woven from concepts present in Slobodkina’s first illustrated children’s book, *Mary and the Poodies* (unpublished). In *Mary and the Poodies*, Mary inadvertently learns good behavior



Art copyright 1940 and 1947, © renewed 1968, by Esphyr Slobodkina. Art copyright © 2015 by Ann Marie Mulhearn Sayer and Esphyr Slobodkina

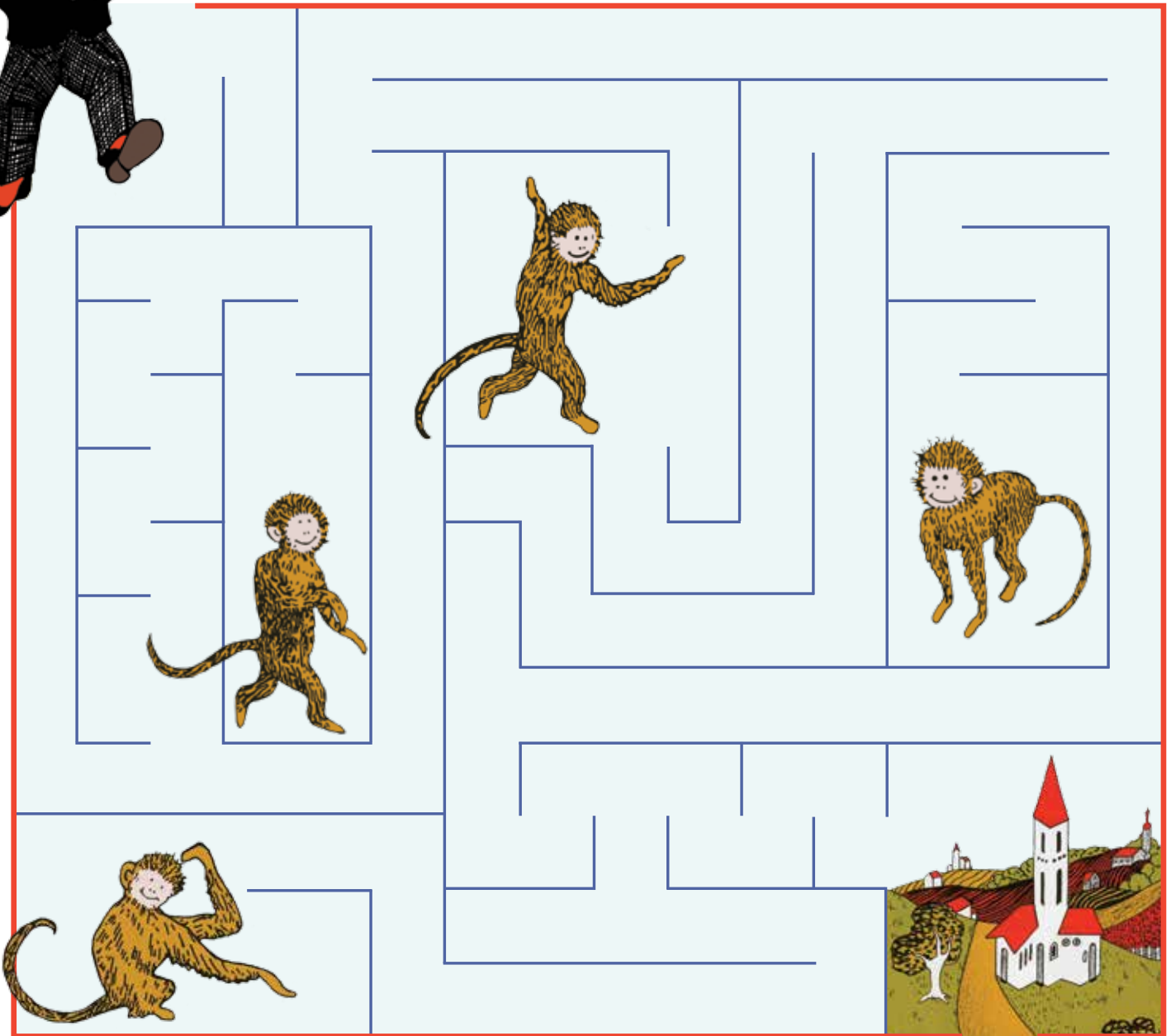
HELP THE PEDDLER GET TO TOWN

Maze Activity

Help the peddler find his way to town so he can sell his caps.
Draw a line to show him the correct path. Watch out for those mischievous monkeys!



START



FINISH

HOW MANY MONKEYS?

Counting Activity

The monkeys are helping the peddler sell all his caps. How many caps do you see in the picture below?

How many monkeys do you see? How many people? Can you count them all?

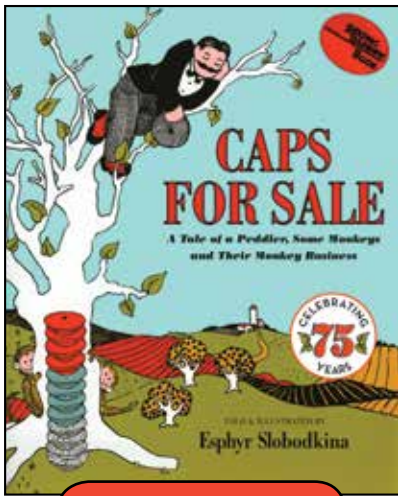
Write your answers in the blanks below.



_____ Caps

_____ Monkeys

_____ People



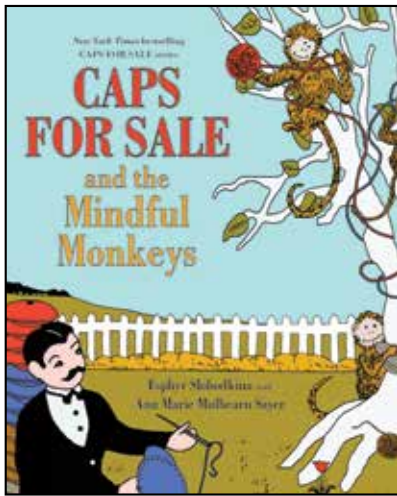
Celebrating
75 years!

CAPS! CAPS FOR SALE!

Drawing Activity

The monkeys have run off with the peddler's caps again! Give him some new caps to sell by drawing them on top of his head.
How many caps will he sell today?





GIVE IT A CHANCE

When the peddler visits his friend Essie, she tells him “Sometimes what we don’t want is exactly what we need.” Do you think that’s true? Write about why you agree or don’t agree with Essie’s advice on the lines below!



