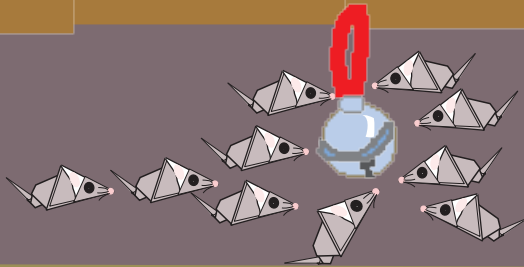
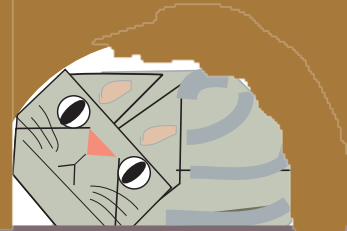


Belling A Cat (Aesop's Fable)

MICE IN COUNCIL:
AGAINST Cat sat
a Council of Mice.
Every Mouse came out
prompt with advice
And a bell on Cat's throat
Would have met a round vote
Had the bell-hanger not
been so nice.
THE BEST POLICY OFTEN
TURNS ON AN IF.



A group of mice called a meeting to make a plan to rid themselves of their enemy the cat.

They wanted to find a way to know when the cat was coming so they could run away.

One young mouse had an idea. He said, "All we have to do is hang a bell around the cat's neck. When we hear the bell ring we will know that the cat is coming."

All the mice liked this idea.

But an old mouse interrupted to say,

"The plan of the young mouse is good but who will put the bell around the cat's neck?"

It is one thing to say that something should be done but quite a different matter to do it.

To "bell a cat" means to attempt an impossibly difficult task.

"It is easy to propose impossible remedies."

***Diagrams of the cat.