

## Hercules and the Wagoner

A lazy man was driving a wagon filled with hay. The road was muddy. The man was a careless driver. The wagon wheels soon got stuck in a rut. They were so stuck that the horses could not pull the wagon out of the mud.

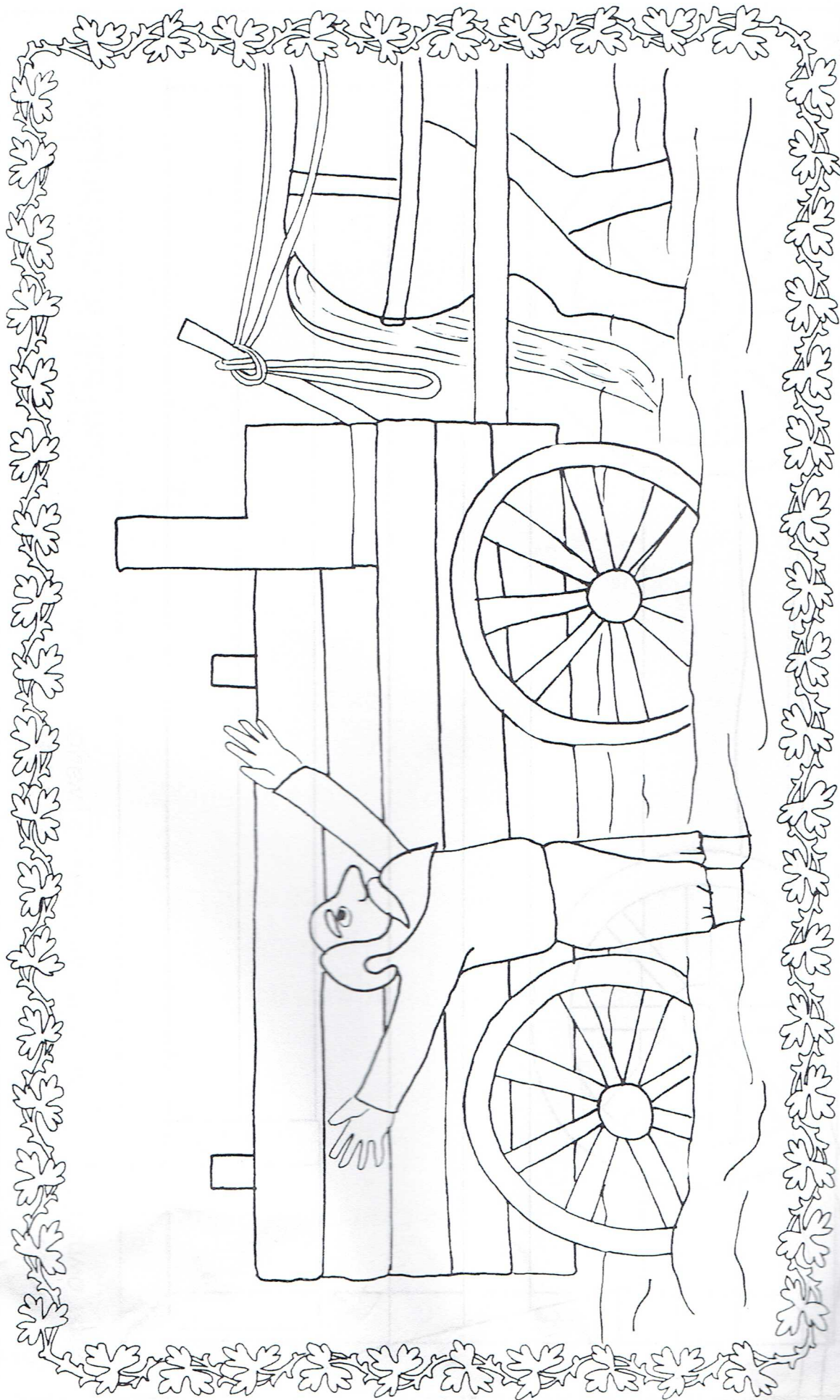
The wagoner got down. He looked at the wagon wheels stuck in the deep mud. He didn't try to move the wagon. Instead, he knelt down and began to pray for help. The man wanted Hercules, the god of strength, to help him move his wagon.

Hercules heard his prayer, but he was angry. He called down, "You are a lazy and careless man. You do not need my help. Instead, put your own shoulder to the wheel."

**Moral: The gods help those who help themselves.**

### Words to know:

lazy	wagoner	prayer
careless	knelt	strength
rut	Hercules	

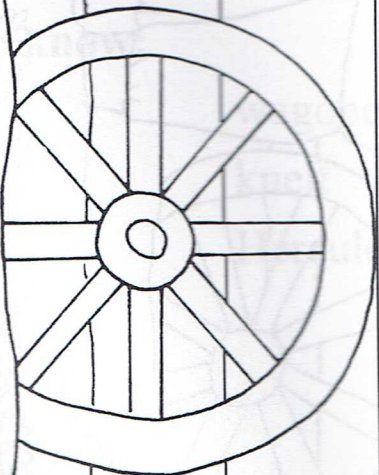
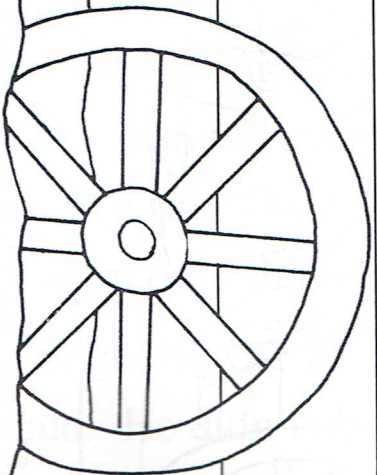


Write a sentence about the picture. Color the picture.

You, of course. Write your name below the picture.

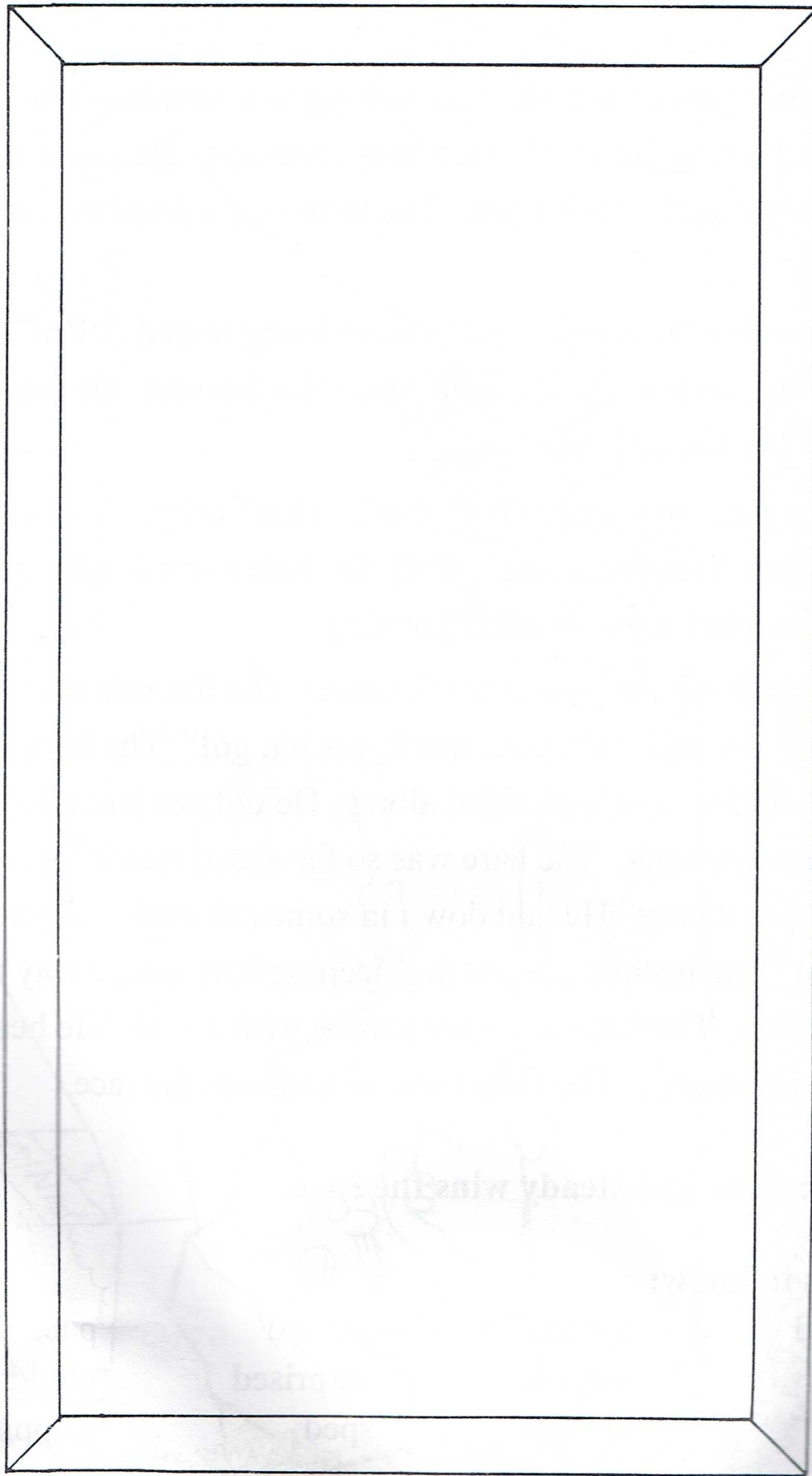


Write some directions that will help the man get his wagon out of the mud.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT  
Why is it important to try your  
hardest to do a job?

A noun can name who or what has something. Use an apostrophe  followed by an  to show ownership. What is in the  wagon? Draw a picture of what you think it might be.



This is 's picture .

Who does this picture belong to? You, of course. Write your name below the picture.