

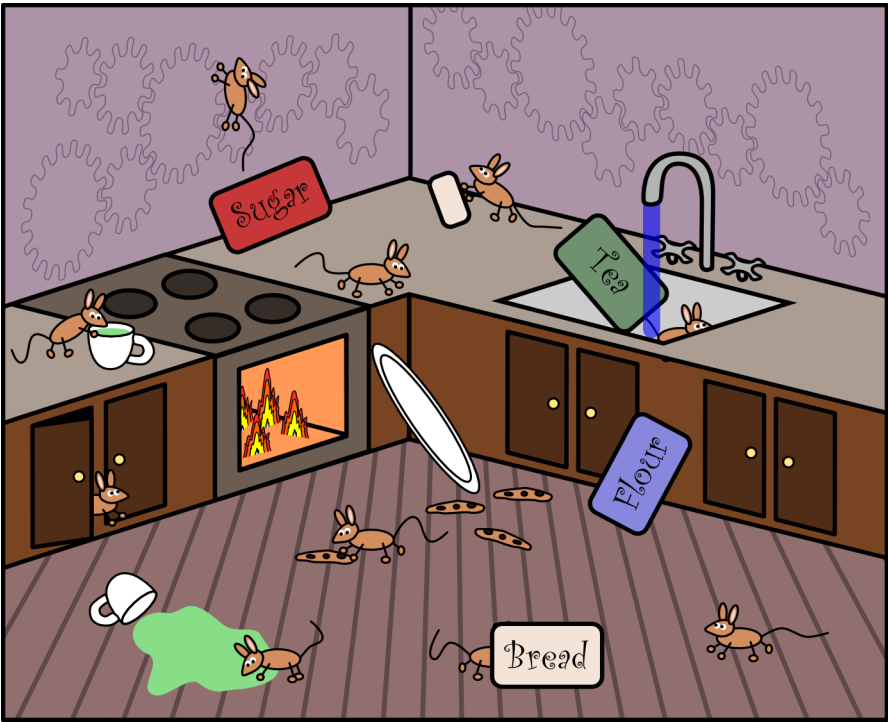
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## MICE TROUBLE

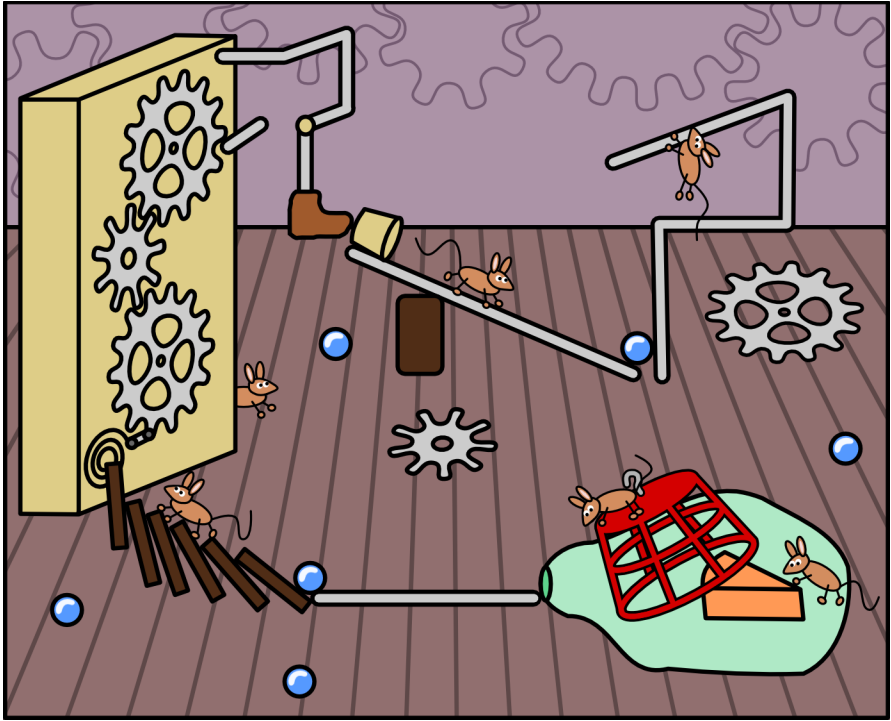
Once upon a time, there lived a little gnome named Nerni who loved to invent things.

She lived in a cave hidden deep in the magic forest.

During one particularly rainy winter, a family of mice moved into the cave. At night, the mice snuck into Nerni's workshop and knocked over her tools. They also got into her kitchen and ate her food.



Nerni couldn't catch the mice, and she didn't want to hurt them.



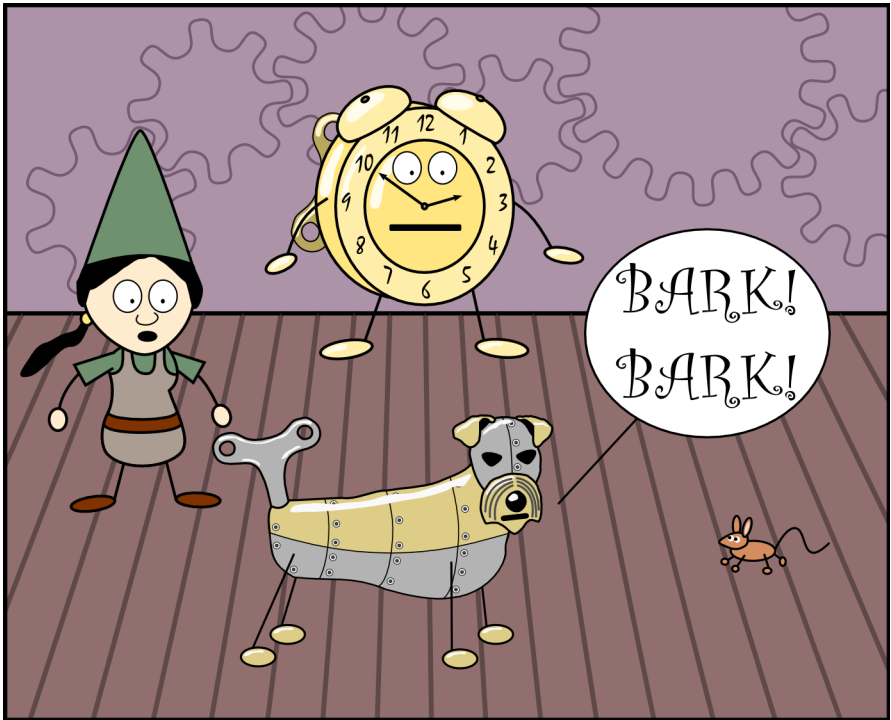
What was she to do? Then, Nerni had a great idea! She would invent a mechanical dog! She rummaged in her spare parts for gears and springs.

She sent Clock out to gather rods and sheets of metal from the smith.



When they finished assembling the parts, they had a shiny dog made of brass and steel.

Nerni wound up the dog's spring, and then..."Bark! Bark!"



The dog jumped up and ran out of the workshop. Nerni and Clock ran after it. The dog dug its way into the mouse hole and then...

“Bark! Bark!” It scared the mice out of the cave and into the rain.



The poor mice looked very cold and wet and sad.



Nerni invited them back in. “You can live here too,” she said, “but no more knocking over my tools or eating all my food. We have to share.”

The mice promised to be good, so they all went inside and shared a tasty lunch.

