

Dec. 6, 1949

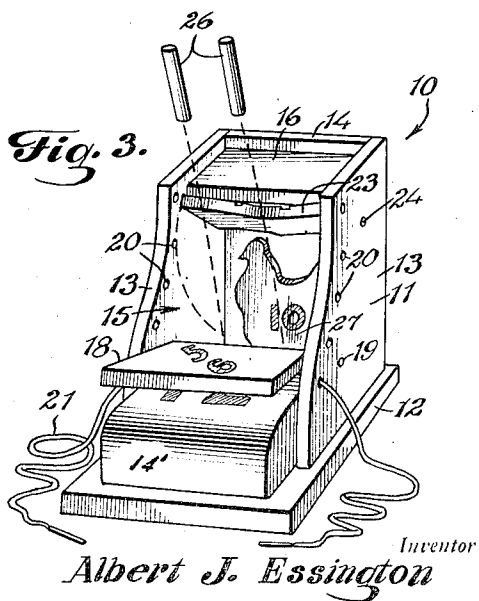
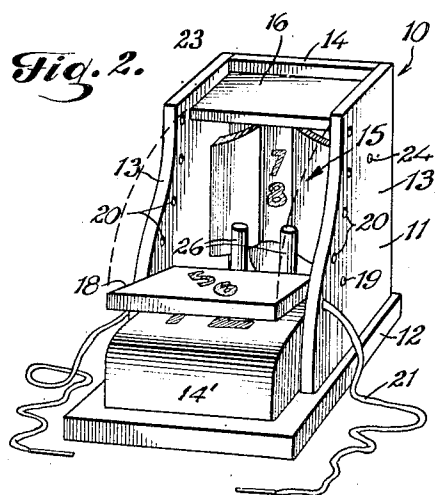
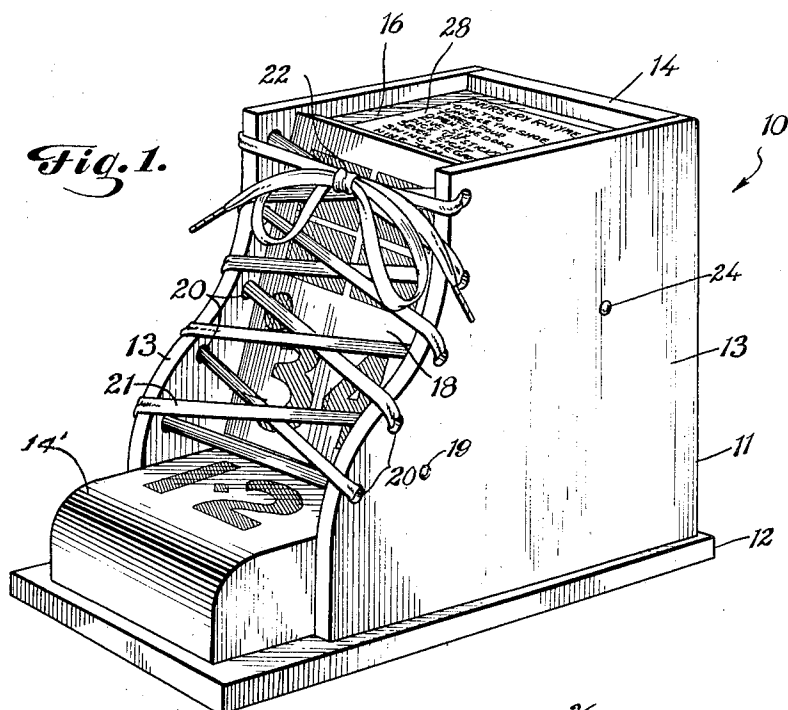
A. J. ESSINGTON

2,490,342

EDUCATIONAL TOY

Filed Aug. 17, 1946

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

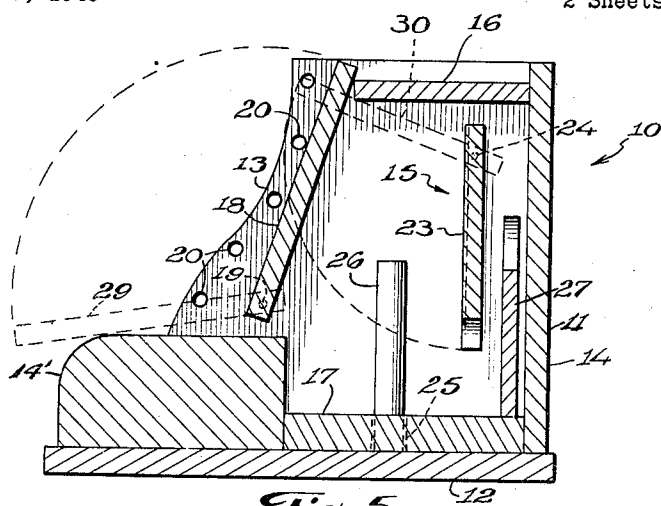


Fig. 5.

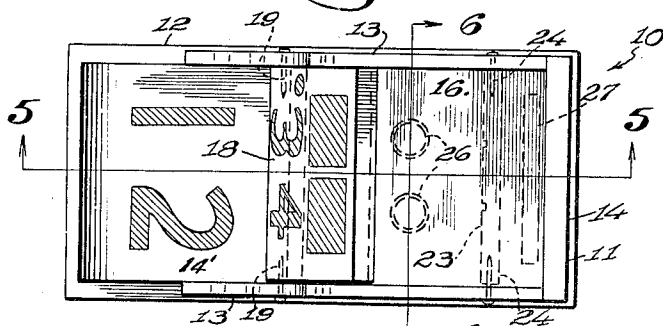


Fig. 4.

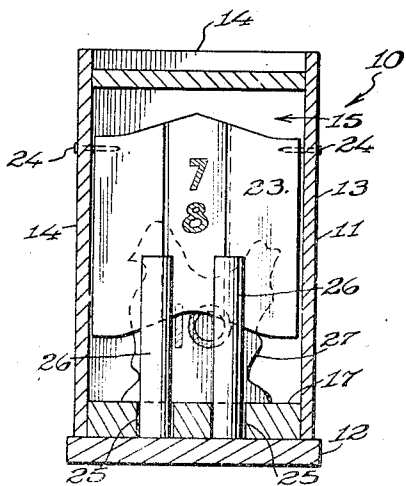


Fig. 6.

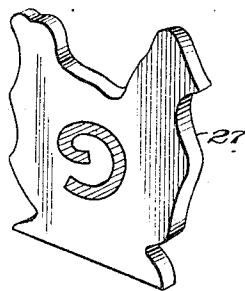


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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EDUCATIONAL TOY

Albert J. Essington, Penn's Grove, N. J.

Application August 17, 1946, Serial No. 691,257

4 Claims. (Cl. 35—8)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in toys, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a device of the character herein described, which may be effectively employed for education and amusement of young children.

A further object of the invention is to provide a toy which is of a structural, mechanical nature, and the use of which involves the recitation of a nursery rhyme.

Another object of the invention is to provide a toy which is simple in construction and in use, novel and highly pleasing in appearance, and which will not easily become damaged.

An additional object of the invention is to provide a toy which will readily lend itself to economical manufacture.

With the above more important objects in view, and such other objects as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially of the arrangement and construction of parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention, showing the same in the closed position.

Figure 2 is a further perspective view thereof, but showing the same partially open.

Figure 3 is a still further perspective view, but illustrating the invention in the fully opened position.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the subject shown in Figure 1, but omitting the shoe lace for purposes of clearness.

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 5—5 in Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a cross-sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 6—6 in Figure 4, and

Figure 7 is a perspective view of a hen character used in the invention.

Like characters of reference are used to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the invention consists of a toy designated generally by the reference character 10, the same embodying in its construction a housing 11 simulating the appearance of a shoe. The housing consists of a sole plate 12, a pair of side plates or uppers 13, a heel or back plate 14, and a toe cap 14', the same being secured together in any suitable manner, as will be clearly apparent.

It will be noted that the housing 11 provides

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what may be referred to as a chamber 15, this being closed at the top thereof by a plate 16, and a filler plate 17 is positioned in the bottom of the chamber, as is best shown in Figure 5.

A door 18 is swingably connected as at 19 to the uppers 13 and forms the tongue of the shoe. If the toy is constructed of wood, or the like, the swingable connections 19 of the door may simply assume the form of a pair of nails, screws, etc.

It will be observed that the uppers 13 are provided adjacent the door 18 with rows of apertures 20, and a shoe lace 21 is threaded through these apertures and bow tied as at 22.

It will be also noted that the shoe lace, in its tied position, will constitute releasable means for preventing the opening of the door 18.

Positioned in the chamber 15 adjacent the back plate 11 is a gate 23, this being swingable on and suspended from a pair of nails 24 provided in the uppers 13. The afore-mentioned filler plate 17 is formed with a pair of bores 25, these being adapted to removably receive the lower end portions of a pair of upright pins 26.

The pins 26 are disposed between the gate 23 and the door 18, and function as removable means for preventing the opening of the gate. Finally, a character or figure 27, simulating the appearance of a hen, is positioned in the chamber 15, behind the gate 23.

The shoe toe cap 14' is inscribed with the numerals "1—2" and the outer surface of the door carries the numerals "3—4." The inner surface of the door 18 is inscribed with the numerals "5—6," as is best shown in Figures 2 and 3, while the adjacent surface of the gate 23 carries the numerals "7—8." The hen 27 is inscribed, on the relatively opposite sides thereof, with the numerals "9" and "10."

The use of the invention can best be explained by quoting a nursery rhyme inscribed as at 28 on the upper surface of the plate 16, said rhyme reading as follows:

"One, two,
Unlace the shoe.
Three, four,
Open the door.
Five, six,
Pick up sticks.
Seven, eight,
Swing the gate.
Nine, ten,
A little red hen!"

It will be clearly apparent that in accordance with the above, the child is required to untie and

unlace the shoe lace 21 and to open the door 18 as indicated by the phantom lines 29. He will then remove the "sticks" or pins 26, thus facilitating the opening of the gate 23, to the position indicated by the phantom lines 30. The child may then remove the hen 27 from the shoe housing and the advantages of the invention, as well as its educational and amusing value, may be readily appreciated. The association of the strategically placed numerals with the progressive steps of removing the obstacles and opening the doors or gates, will undoubtedly provide the child with a highly instructive and entertaining source of amusement.

It is believed that the advantages and use of the invention will be clearly understood from the foregoing disclosure and accordingly, further description thereof at this point is considered unnecessary.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention it is to be understood that minor changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. An educational toy comprising a housing having a chamber formed with an opening, a door in said opening, a gate in said chamber behind said door, a figure in said chamber behind said gate, removable means on said housing for preventing opening of said door, and removable means in said chamber for preventing opening of said gate.

2. The device as defined in claim 1, wherein said housing includes a pair of spaced, rigid side

walls having edge portions formed with rows of apertures, said door being disposed between the apertured edge portions of said walls and being swingable outwardly therefrom, said means for preventing opening of said door comprising a lace threadable through said apertures transversely of said door.

3. The device as defined in claim 1, wherein said gate is swingable toward said door, said means for preventing opening of said gate including an upstanding pin removably positioned in said chamber between said gate and said door.

4. An educational toy simulating the appearance of a shoe and comprising a housing including a pair of spaced, rigid side walls forming a chamber therebetween, said chamber having an opening and edge portions of said walls adjacent said opening being formed with rows of apertures, an outwardly swingable door provided in said opening, a gate provided in said chamber and swingable toward said door, a removable figure in said chamber behind said gate, said chamber having a bottom formed with a bore forwardly of said gate, a lace threadable through said apertures transversely of said door to prevent opening of the latter, and an upright pin receivable in said bore to prevent opening of said gate.

ALBERT J. ESSINGTON.

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