

Reading Is Fun



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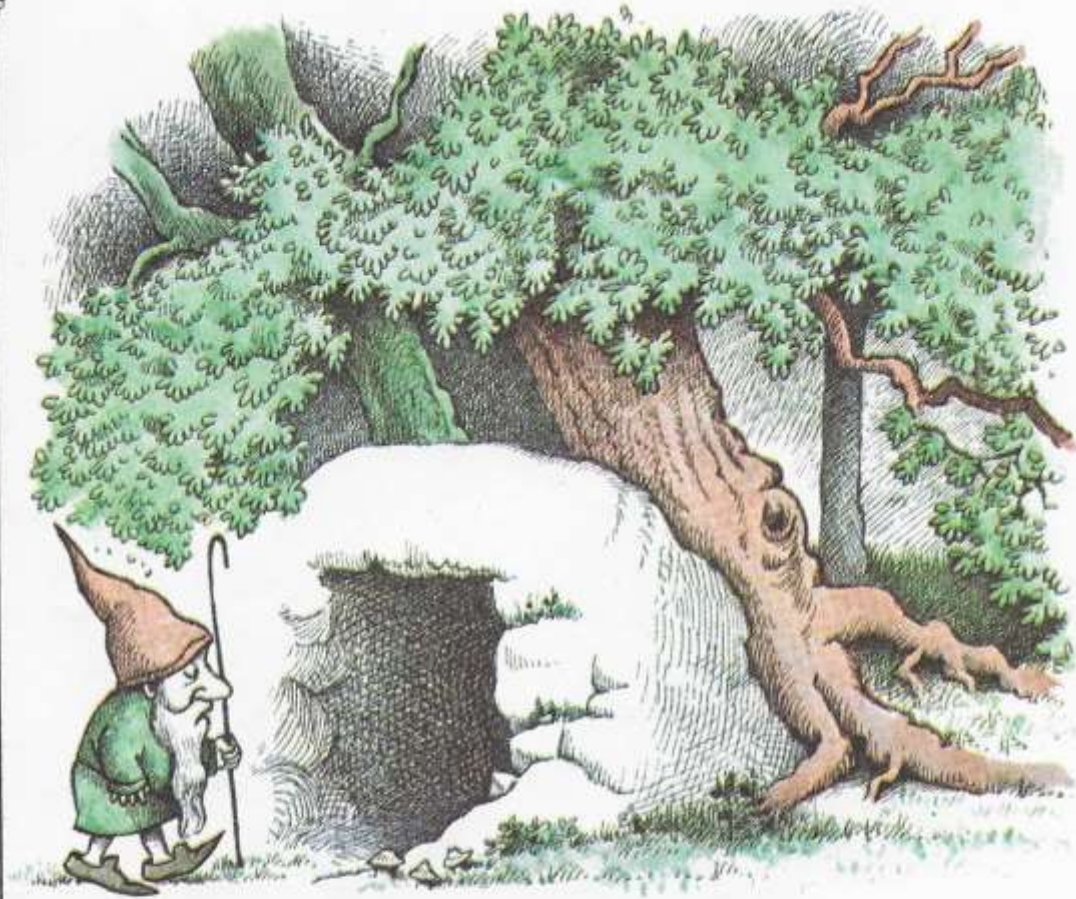
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Goblin Story

Else Holmelund Minarik

One day a little goblin
went by an old cave.

It was old,
it was cold,
it was dark.

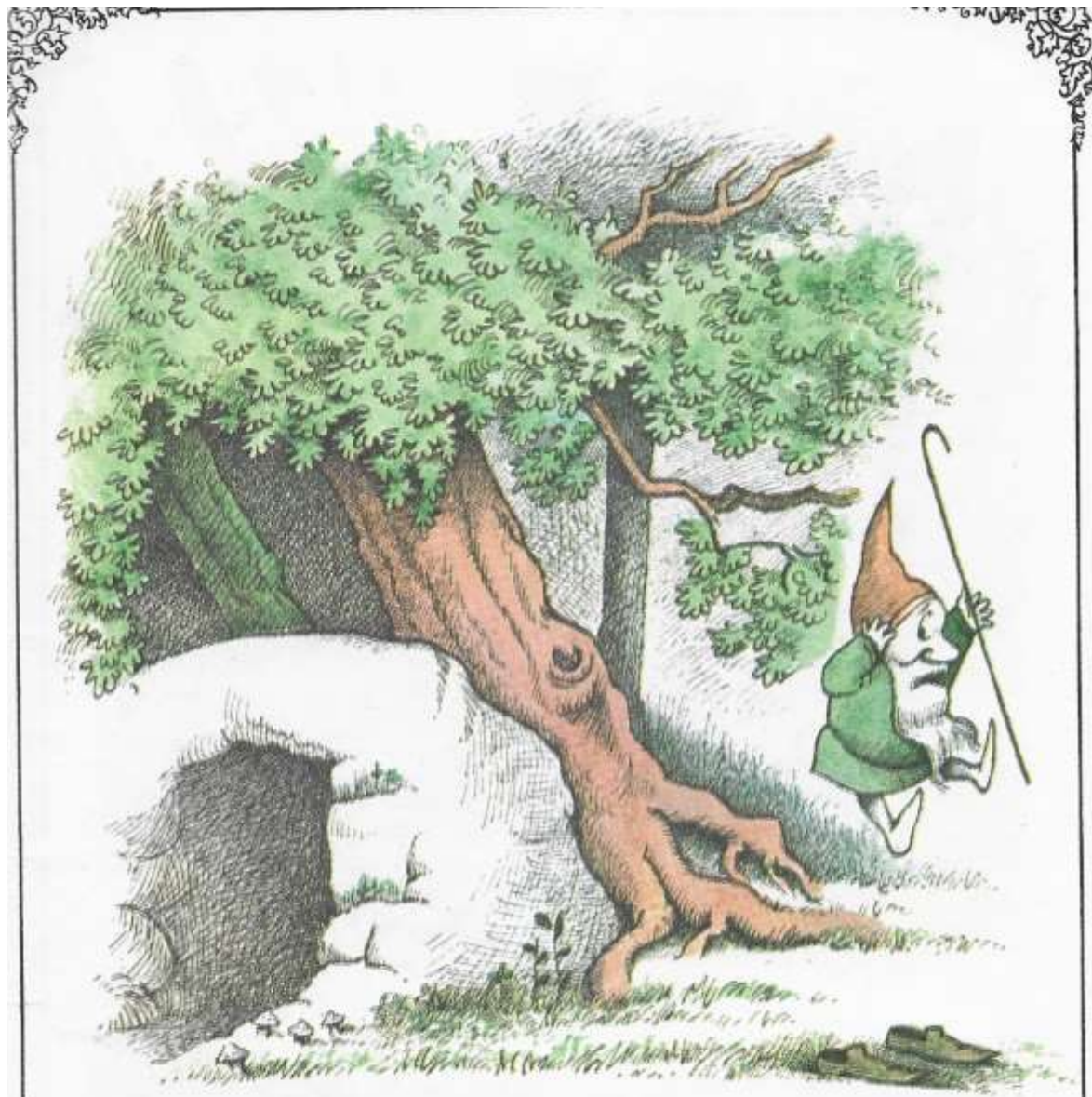


And something inside it went bump.

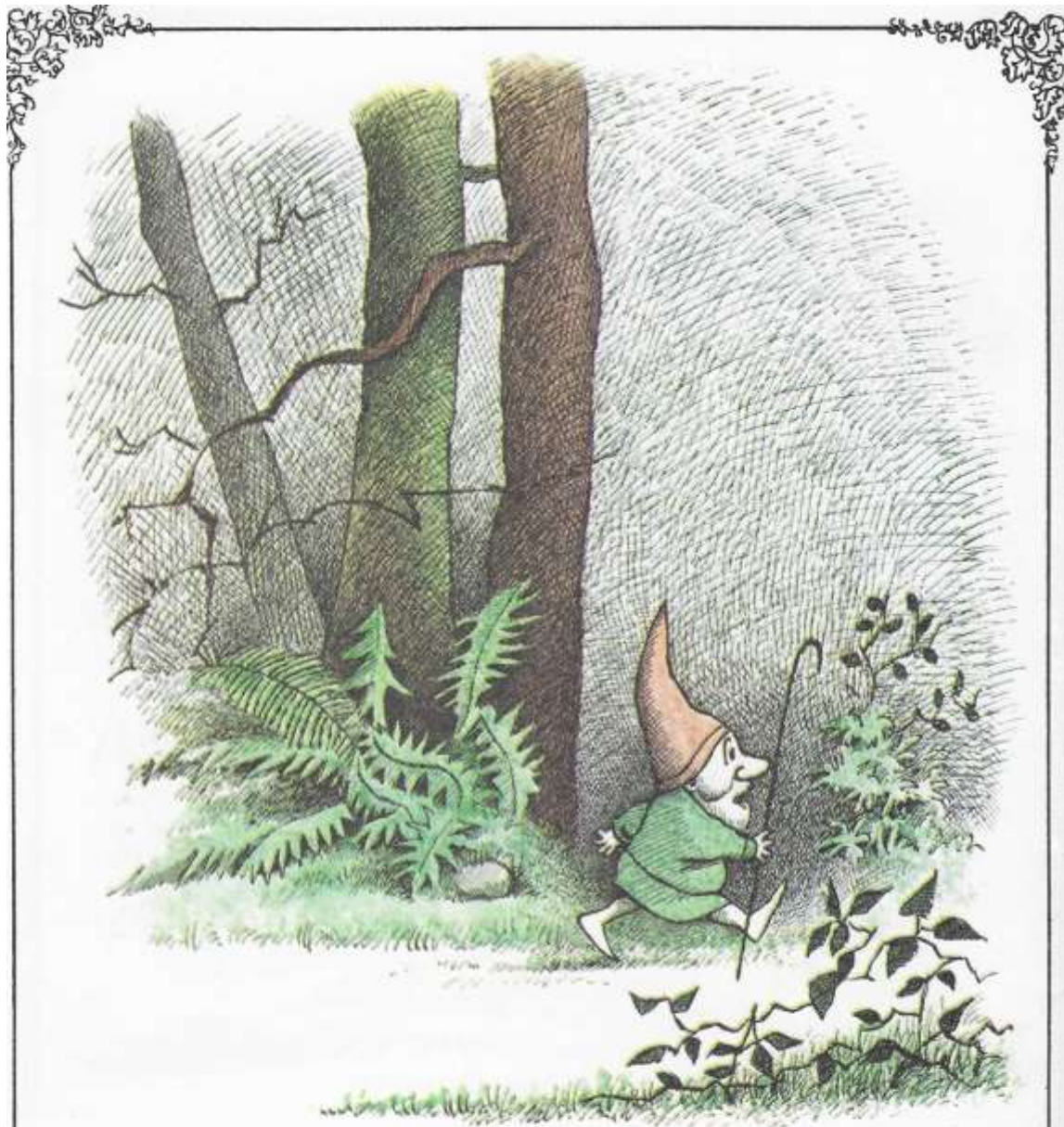
What was that?

BUMP!

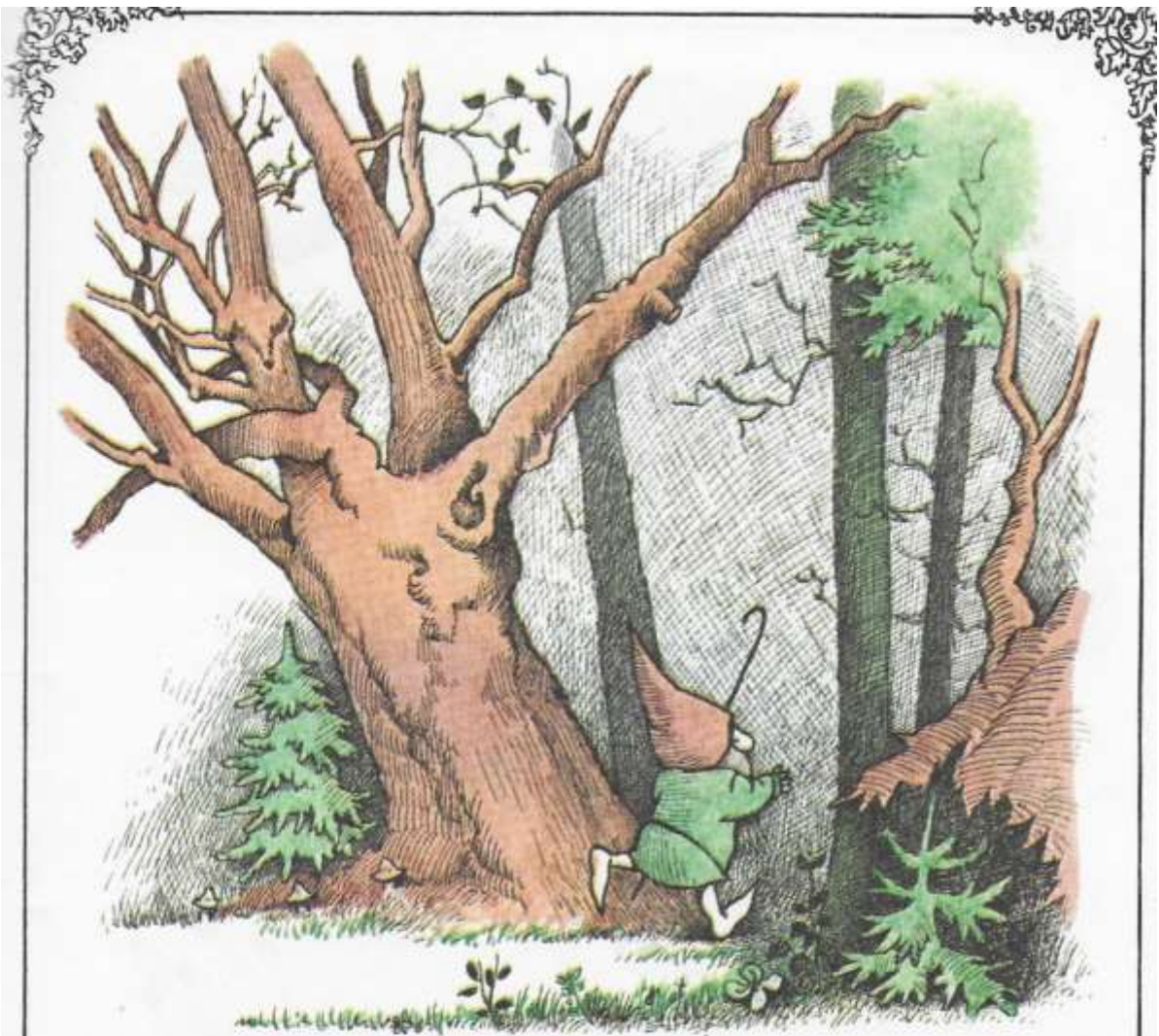
“Hoo-oo—” cried the goblin.



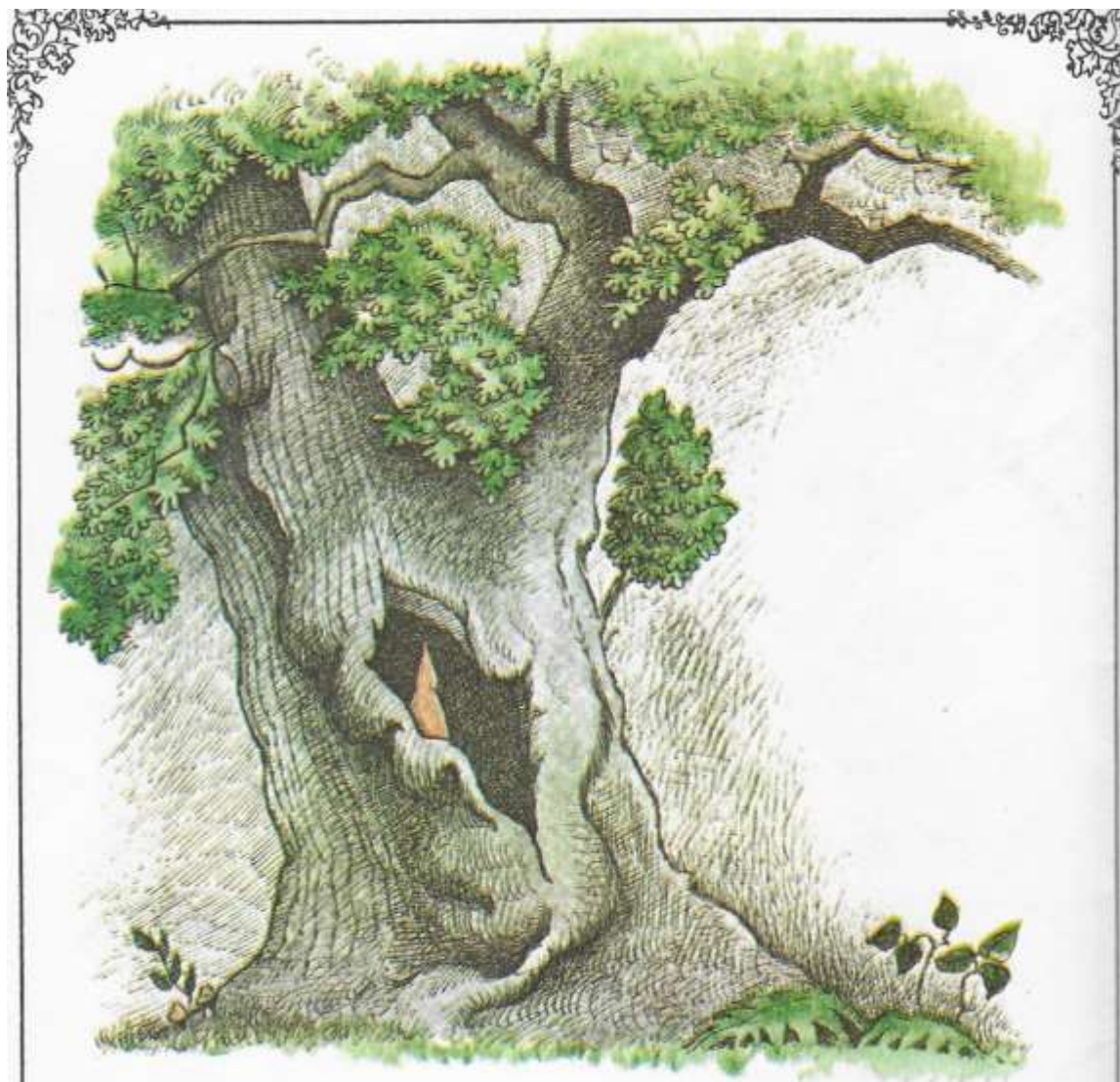
He got so scared that he jumped
right out of his shoes.
Then he began to run.



Pit - pat - pit - pat - pit - pat —
What was that?
SOMETHING was running after him.



Oh my goodness, what could it be?
The goblin was too scared to look back.
He ran faster than ever.
But so did the **SOMETHING** that went
pit - pat - pit - pat - pit - pat —



The goblin saw a hole in a tree.
He jumped inside to hide.
The pit - pat - pit - pat came closer,
closer—CLOSER—till it stopped,
right by the hole in the tree!

Then all was quiet.

Nothing happened.

Nothing.

The little goblin wanted to peek out.

It was so quiet.

Should he peek out?

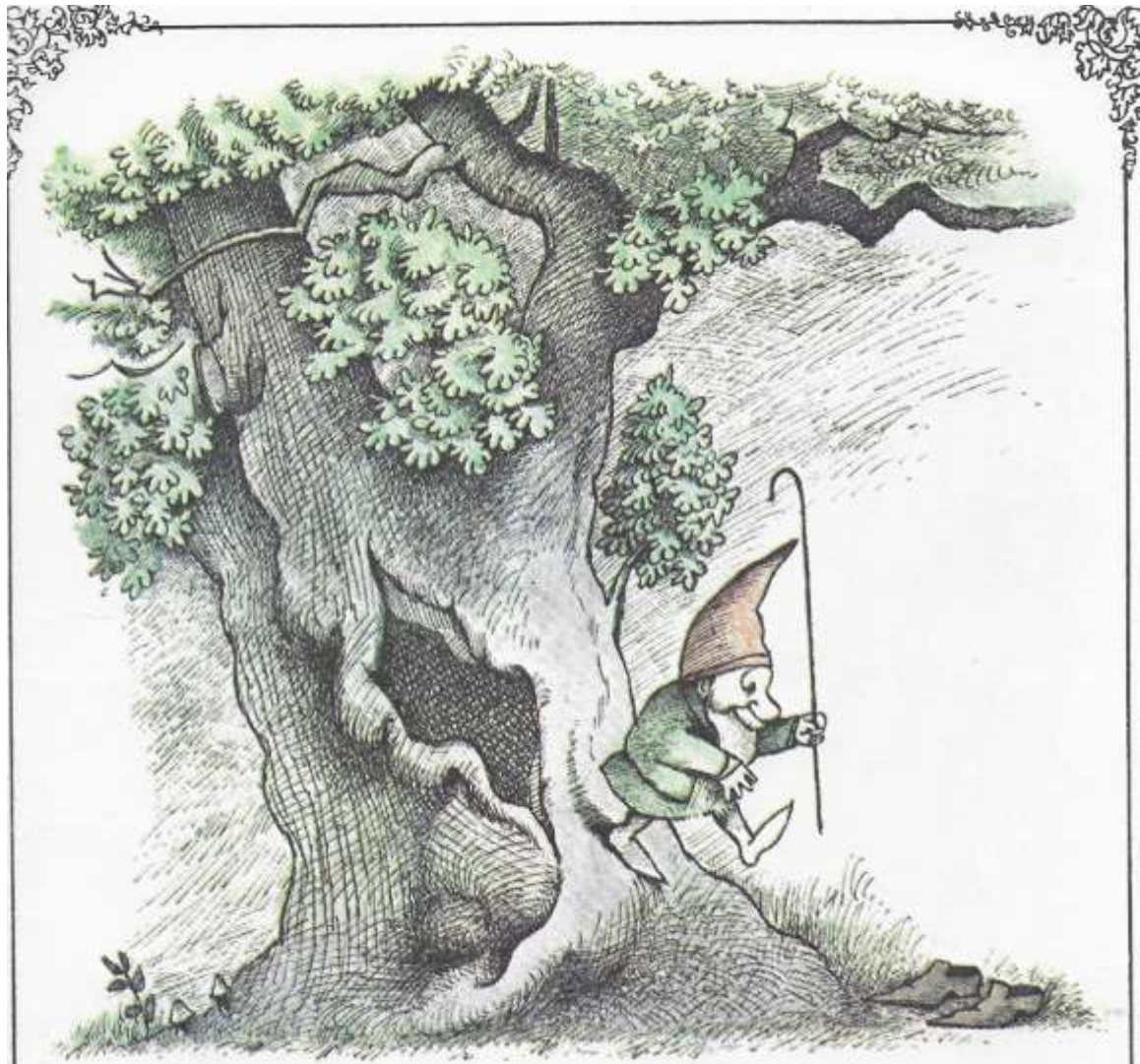
Yes, he would. He **WOULD** peek out!

And he did.

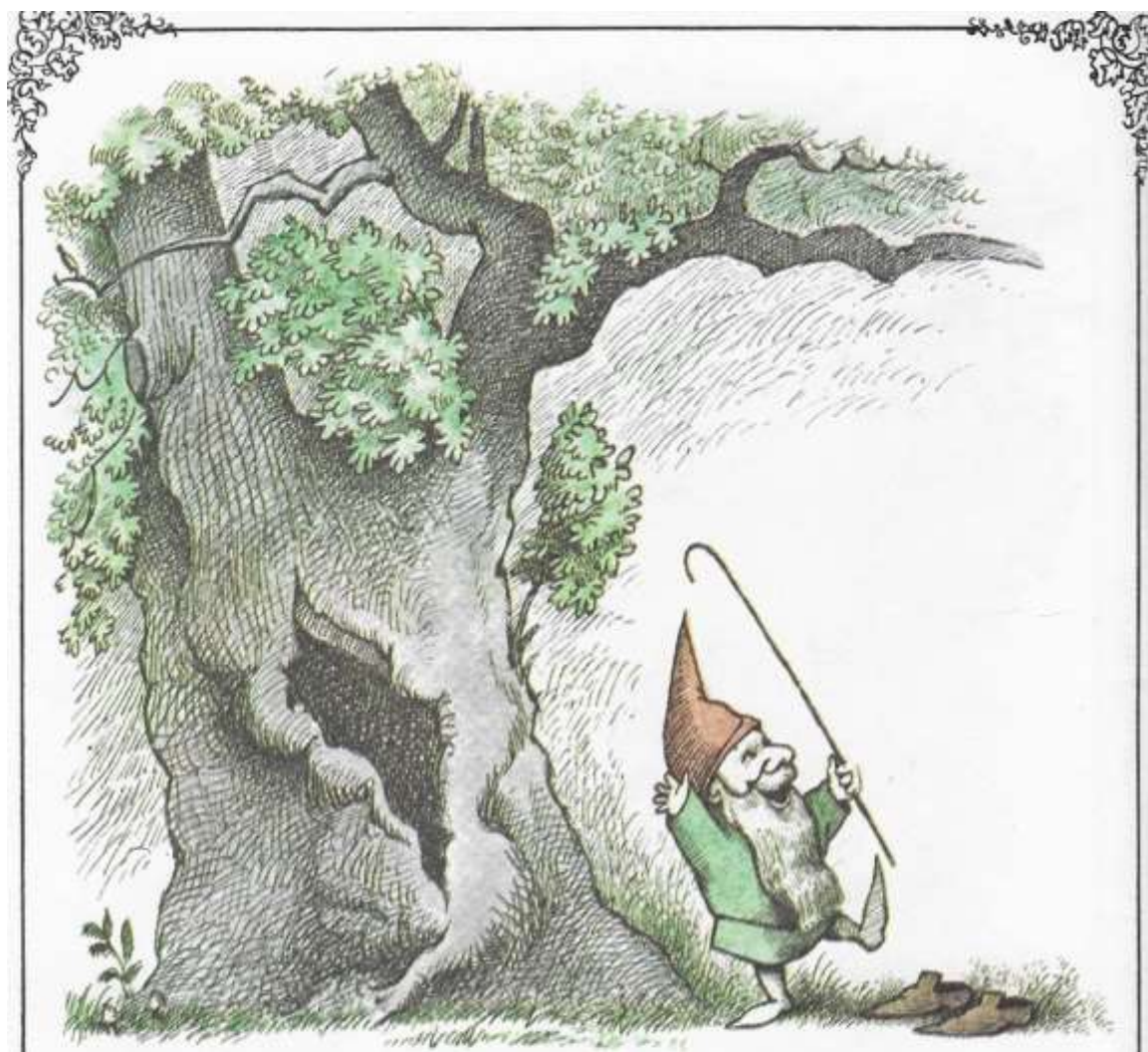
“Eeeeh—!” cried the goblin.

Do you know what he saw?





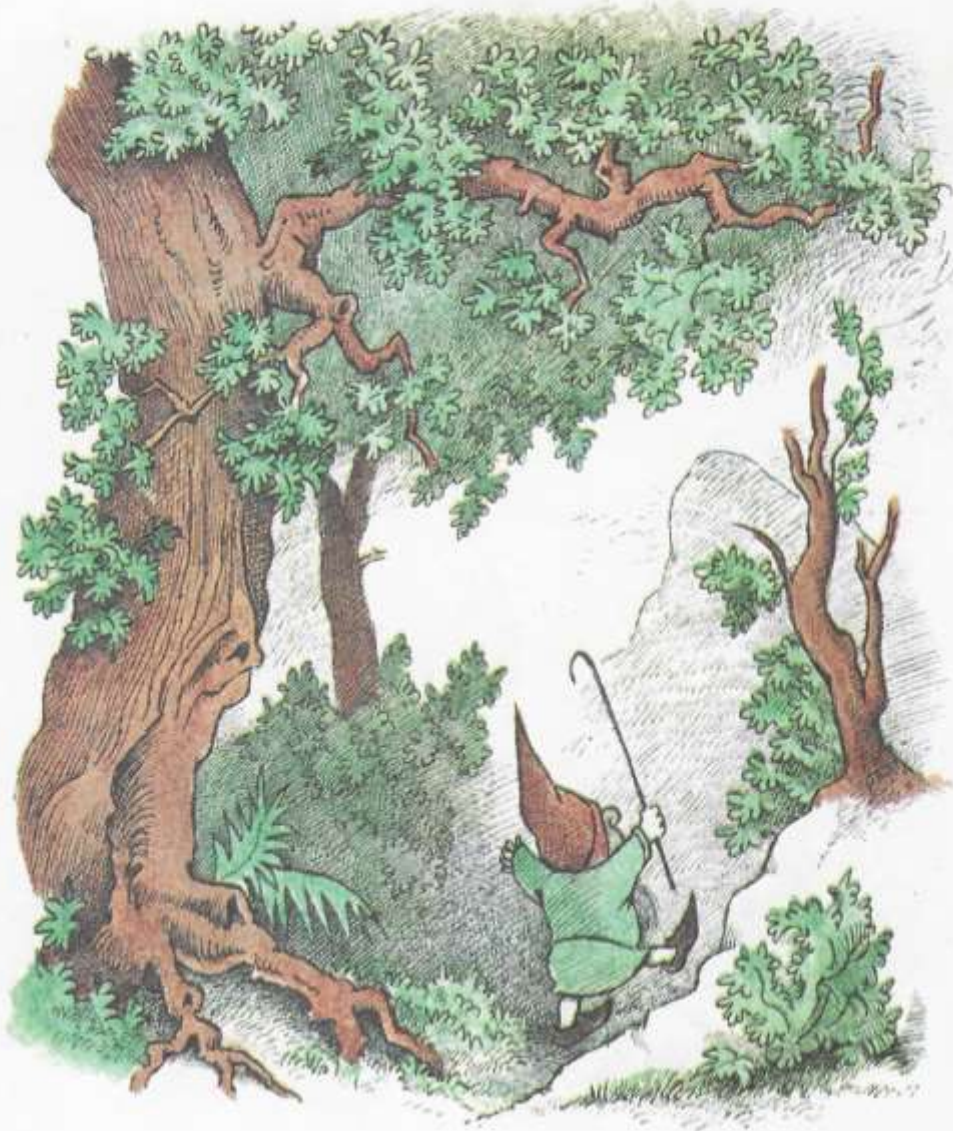
He saw—his SHOES!
His own little shoes
—and nothing more.
“Goodness,” said the goblin,
hopping out of the tree.



“That old bump in the cave
made me jump right out of my shoes.
But they came running after me,
didn't they!
And here they are!”



He picked up his shoes,
hugged them,
and put them back on.



“Good little shoes,” said the goblin.
“You didn’t want to stay behind,
did you!” He laughed.

“Who cares about an old bump,
anyway,” he said.
So he snapped his fingers,
and skipped away—just like that!

WORD STUDY EXERCISE

First Names

I. Read and Spell

Ann	Sarah	Barbara
Ruth	Henry	Maureen
Karl	Pedro	Ian
George	Joseph	Catherine
Joan	Ricardo	Kenneth
Maria	Patrick	June

II. Read and Answer

1. What is another name for people with these names?
Robert William Elizabeth Richard Thomas
2. What are some other first names? Don't say them if you can't spell them.



The Little Red Hen

English Folk Tale

One day a little red hen found a grain of wheat.

She called the cat.

She called the dog.

She called the pig.

She called the cow.

She said to them,

“Who will help me plant the wheat?”

“Not I,” said the cat.

WORDS TO WATCH

wheat

flour

ourselves

“Nor I,” said the dog.

“Nor I,” said the pig.

“Nor I,” said the cow.

“Then I will plant the wheat myself,” said the little red hen.

And she did.



The wheat grew and grew until it was ripe.

“Who will help me cut the wheat?” said the little red hen.

“Not I,” said the cat.

“Nor I,” said the dog.

“Nor I,” said the pig.

“Nor I,” said the cow.

“Then I will cut it myself,” said the little red hen. And she did.



When the wheat was all cut, the little red hen said,

“Who will help me take the wheat to the mill?”

“Not I,” said the cat.

“Nor I,” said the dog.

“Nor I,” said the pig.

“Nor I,” said the cow.



“Then I will take it myself,” said the little red hen. And she did.



When the wheat was ground into flour at the mill, the little red hen said, “Who will help me bake the bread?”

“Not I,” said the cat.

“Nor I,” said the dog.

“Nor I,” said the pig.

“Nor I,” said the cow.

“Then I will bake it myself,” said the little red hen. And she did.

When the bread was all baked, the little red hen said,

“Who will help me eat the bread?”

“I will,” said the cat.

“I will, too,” said the dog.

“I will, too,” said the pig.

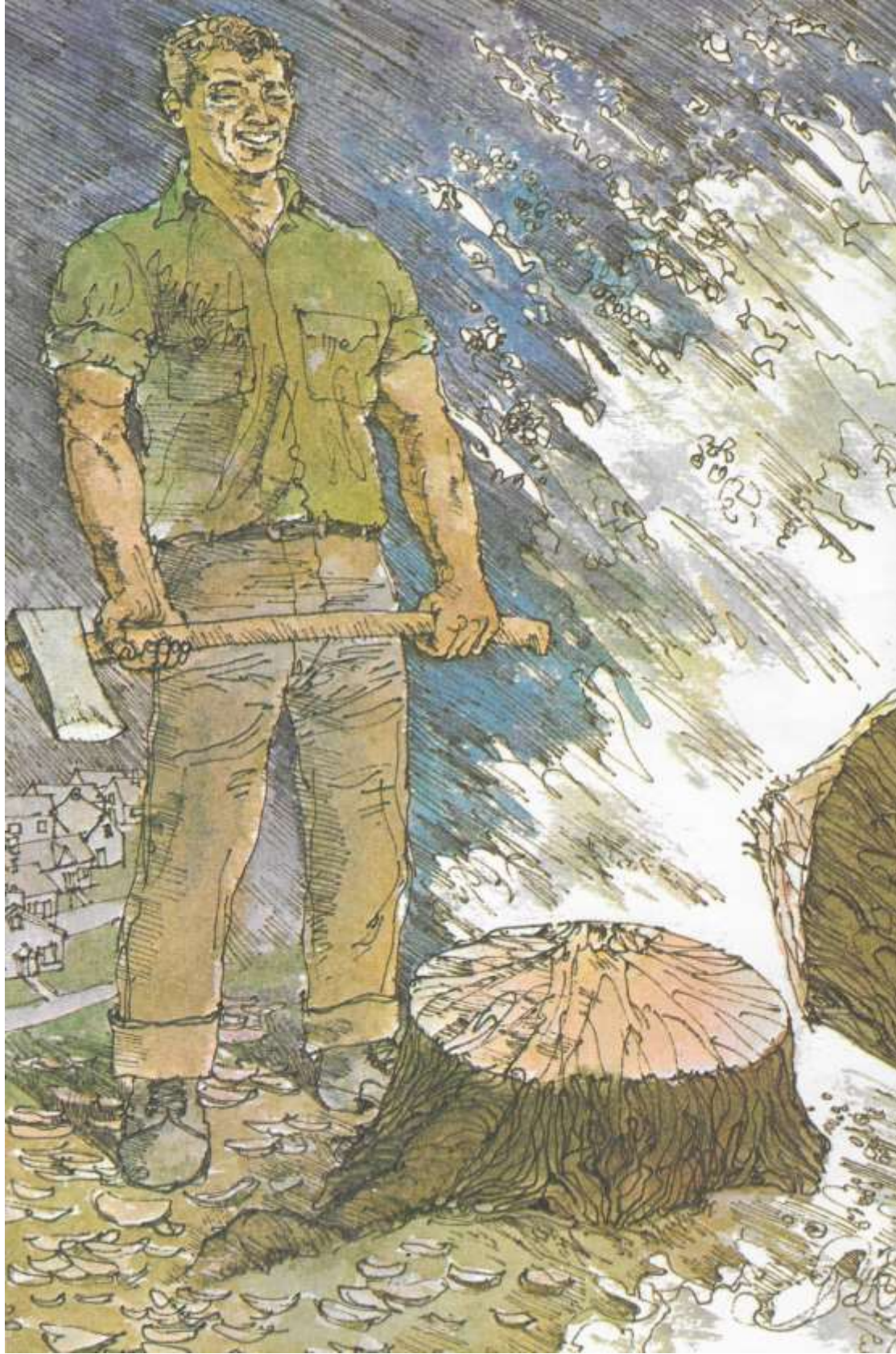
“I will, too,” said the cow.



“No,” said the little red hen. “You would not help me plant the wheat or cut the wheat or take it to the mill. And you would not help me bake the bread. My baby chicks and I will eat it all ourselves.”

And they did.





A Great Splish Splash

American Folk Rhyme

If all the seas were one sea,
What a great sea that would be!
And if all the trees were one tree,
What a great tree that would be!
And if all the axes were one ax,
What a great ax that would be!
And if all the men were one man,
What a great man he would be!
And if the great man took the great ax,
And cut down the great tree,
And let it fall into the great sea,
What a splish splash that would be!



Beth Learns to Write

Arther S. Trace, Jr.

David is six years old. He is in the first grade. He likes school. David has a little sister. Her name is Beth. Beth wants very much to go to school. But she is too young. She is only four years old.

WORDS TO WATCH

school

arithmetic

enough

four

bigger

thought

brother

learn

tomorrow

One day Beth said to her brother, "David, what do you do in school?"

"Oh, we read and write and spell," said David, "and we do arithmetic."

"I want to read and write and spell and do arithmetic, too," said Beth.

"You cannot do those things yet," said David. "You are much too little. When you are much bigger, like me, then you can learn all the things that I know."

"I can learn now. I am big enough now. Show me how to read and write now," said Beth.

"Silly," said David. "You are much too little. Wait two more years. Then you can learn."

"No. I want to learn now," said Beth. "Show me how you write your name and then I will write my name."

David thought this was very funny, but he did what his sister asked him to do. He got a pencil and some paper and he wrote:

David

"Now I will write my name," said Beth. Beth took the pencil and wrote:

David

"There," said Beth, "that is my name."

"No, Beth," said David. "That is not your name. That is my name."

"Then show me how to write my name," said Beth. David smiled. He took the pencil and wrote:

Beth

"That is how your name looks," said David. "Do you think you can write it now?"

"Yes, I can write it now," said Beth.

So Beth took the pencil and wrote:

BETH

"There," said Beth. "I did write my name. Now I can read and write too. I can read and write better than you can. Tomorrow I will start going to school."

Rhyming Words (with the vowel a)

I. Read and Spell

<i>bat</i>	<i>make</i>	<i>day</i>	<i>mail</i>	<i>bear</i>
cat	rake	hay	tail	hair
fat	cake	say	sail	tear
hat	lake	pay	hail	care
mat	bake	gay	pail	fare
rat	take	way	nail	rare

II. Read and Answer

1. Find three words that rhyme with each of these words:

man map game paw

2. Add more words to the lists in Part I.

III. Write

The fat cat sat with his tail in the pail.

The House That Jack Built

Mother Goose

This is
the house
that
Jack built.



This is the malt
That lay in the house that Jack built.



This is the rat,
That ate the malt
That lay in the house that Jack built.



This is the cat,
That killed the rat,
That ate the malt
That lay in the house that Jack built.



WORDS TO WATCH

built

crumpled

forlorn

worried

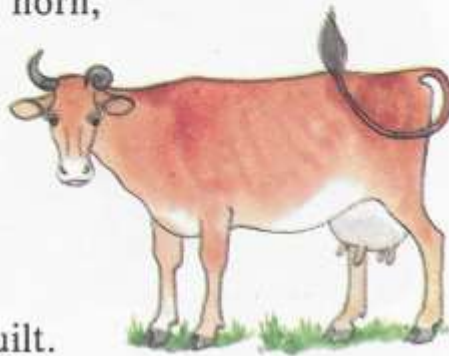
maiden

tattered

This is the dog,
That worried the cat,
That killed the rat,
That ate the malt
That lay in the house that Jack built.



This is the cow with the crumpled horn,
That tossed the dog,
That worried the cat,
That killed the rat,
That ate the malt
That lay in the house that Jack built.



This is the maiden all forlorn,
That milked the cow with the crumpled horn,
That tossed the dog,
That worried the cat,
That killed the rat,
That ate the malt
That lay in the house that Jack built.





This is the man all tattered and torn,
That kissed the maiden all forlorn,
That milked the cow with the crumpled horn,
That tossed the dog,
That worried the cat,
That killed the rat,
That ate the malt
That lay in the house that Jack built.



The Story of the Red Envelopes

Gordon Lew

Chinese New Year is here!

May and Ming get up early. They go to greet their grandparents on New Year's Day. Their grandparents give them some red envelopes.

Ming is very happy. He yells: "Oh boy! Money!" Ming opens the first envelope, takes out the money, and throws away the red envelope!

May says, "Ming, don't throw the red envelope away. You're supposed to keep it."

"Why?" asks Ming.

"Because along with the money is a wish from our grandparents. Look! There's something printed on the envelope."

The one Ming had thrown away has a bat on it. The bat means "blessing." The Chinese words bat 蝠 and blessing 福 both sound and look alike. May says, "Look! You've broken the bat's wing!"

Another envelope has a fish on it. It is a wish that in the coming year there will be plenty of food for everyone. The words fish 魚, and plentiful 餘 have the same sound, "yue."

Still another envelope has peaches on it. It is a wish for long life. The Chinese use the peach as a birthday fruit.

Some of the envelopes have old Chinese coins printed on them. These are wishes for a prosperous year. Some have the Chinese words 大吉 on them, to wish a New Year full of good news and good thoughts. Some have bamboo on them. It is a wish for peace.

Ming says to May, "Wow! There are so many good wishes printed on these red envelopes. I guess I will save the envelopes as well as my money. Thanks for letting me know."



The Little Turtle

Vachel Lindsay

There was a little turtle.

He lived in a box.

He swam in a puddle.

He climbed on the rocks.

He snapped at a mosquito.

He snapped at a flea.

He snapped at a minnow,

And he snapped at me.

He caught the mosquito.

He caught the flea.

He caught the minnow.

But he didn't catch me.

Rhyming Words (with the vowel e)

I. Read and Spell

<i>pet</i>	<i>seed</i>	<i>sheep</i>	<i>tea</i>	<i>head</i>
bet	lead	heap	me	shed
let	bead	deep	sea	red
set	need	leap	bee	Ned
wet	read	reap	he	Ted
net	speed	keep	tree	bed

II. Read and Answer

1. Add more words to the lists in Part I.
2. Find and spell three words that rhyme with these words:

seat beef end best

III. Write

1. The bee in the tree will not see me.
2. Ned saw Ted's red head under the bed.
3. The sheep tried to leap and fell in a deep heap.

The Old Woman and Her Pig

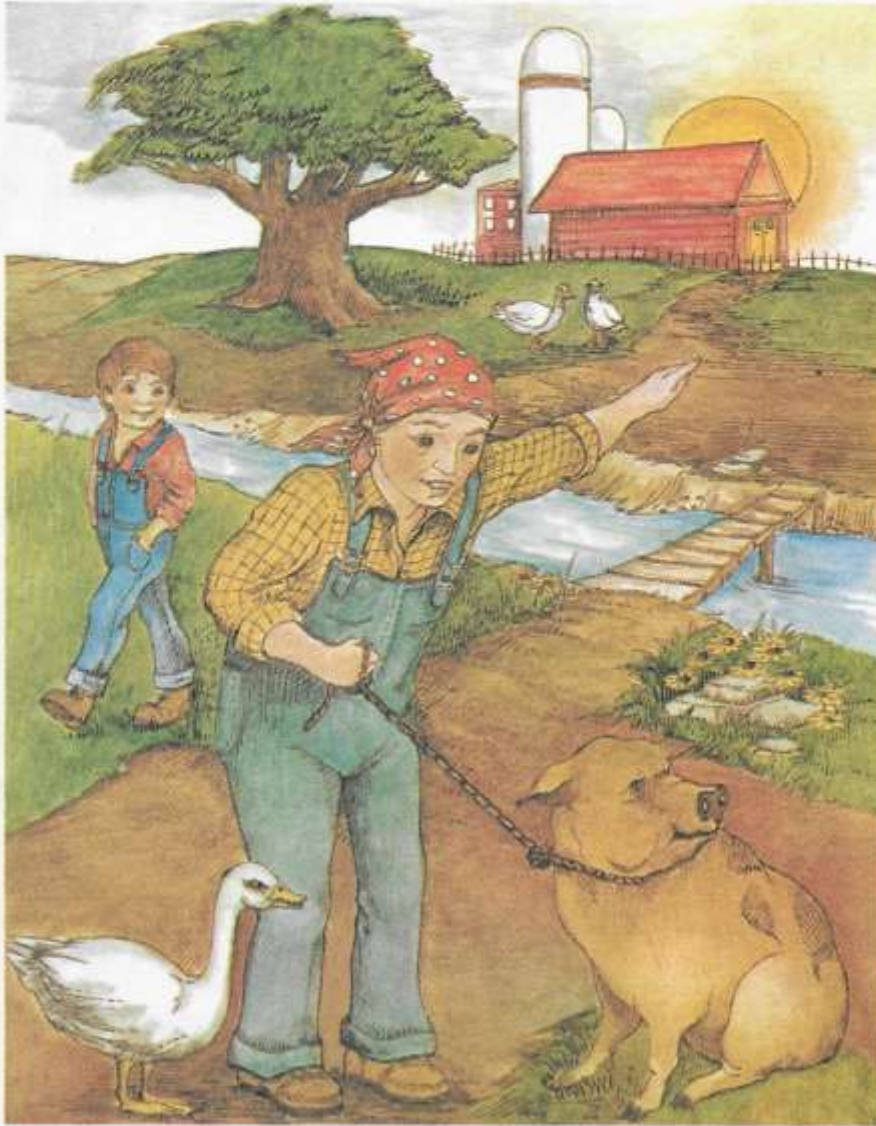
English Folk Tale

An old woman went to market and bought a pig.

Pig had four legs,

But pig would not go.

“Well,” said the old woman, “what shall I do?”



She went a little farther, and she called to a dog,

“Dog, dog, bite pig.

Pig will not go,

And I should have been home two hours ago.”

But the dog would not.



She went a little farther, and she called to a stick,

“Stick, stick, beat dog.

Dog won't bite pig,

Pig will not go,

And I should have been home two hours ago.”

But the stick would not.



She went a little farther, and she called to a fire,

“Fire, fire, burn stick.

Stick won't beat dog,

Dog won't bite pig,

Pig will not go,

And I should have been home two hours ago.”

But the fire would not.



She went a little farther, and she called to some water,

“Water, water, quench fire.

Fire won't burn stick,
Stick won't beat dog,
Dog won't bite pig,
Pig will not go,
And I should have been home two hours ago."



But the water would not.

She went a little farther, and she called to an ox,

"Ox, ox, drink water.

Water won't quench fire,

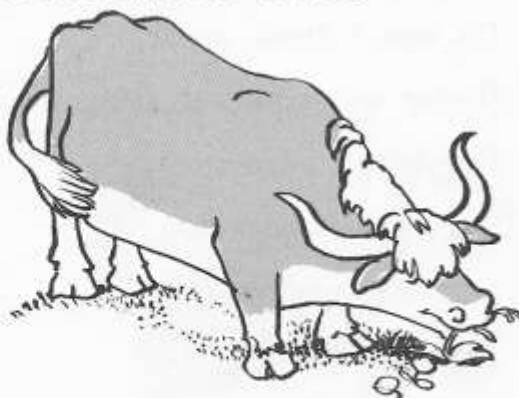
Fire won't burn stick,

Stick won't beat dog,

Dog won't bite pig,

Pig will not go,

And I should have been home two hours ago."



But the ox would not.

She went a little farther, and she called to a butcher,

"Butcher, butcher, kill ox.

Ox won't drink water,

Water won't quench fire,

Fire won't burn stick,

Stick won't beat dog,



Dog won't bite pig,
Pig will not go,
And I should have been home two hours ago."

But the butcher would not.

She went a little farther, and she called to a rope,
"Rope, rope, hang butcher.

Butcher won't kill ox,
Ox won't drink water,
Water won't quench fire,
Fire won't burn stick,
Stick won't beat dog,
Dog won't bite pig,

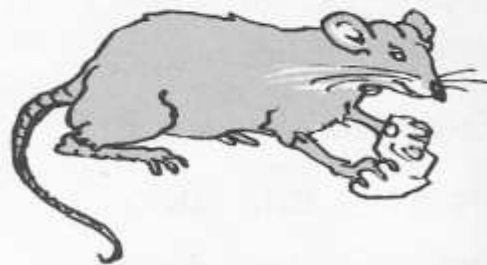


Pig will not go,
And I should have been home two hours ago."

But the rope would not.

She went a little farther, and she called to a rat,
"Rat, rat, gnaw rope.

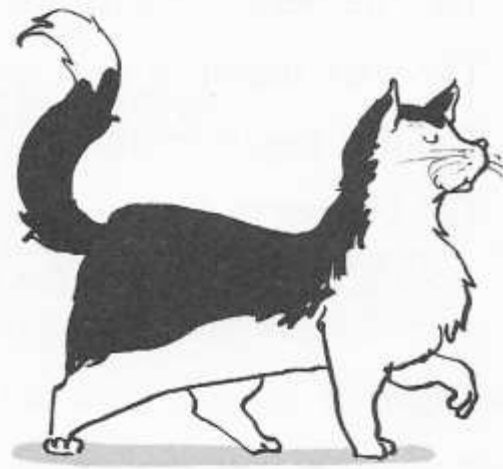
Rope won't hang butcher,
Butcher won't kill ox,
Ox won't drink water,
Water won't quench fire,



Fire won't burn stick,
Stick won't beat dog,
Dog won't bite pig,
Pig will not go,
And I should have been home two hours ago."
But the rat would not.

So she went a little farther, and she called to a cat,
"Cat, cat, kill rat.

Rat won't gnaw rope,
Rope won't hang butcher,
Butcher won't kill ox,
Ox won't drink water,
Water won't quench fire,
Fire won't burn stick,
Stick won't beat dog,
Dog won't bite pig,
Pig will not go,



And I should have been home two hours ago."

"I will kill the rat if you will give me a saucer of milk," said the cat.

"Very well," said the old woman. So she gave

the cat a saucer of milk, and the cat lapped
it all up.

Then the cat began to kill the rat,

The rat began to gnaw the rope,

The rope began to hang the butcher,

The butcher began to kill the ox,

The ox began to drink the water,

The water began to quench the fire,

The fire began to burn the stick,

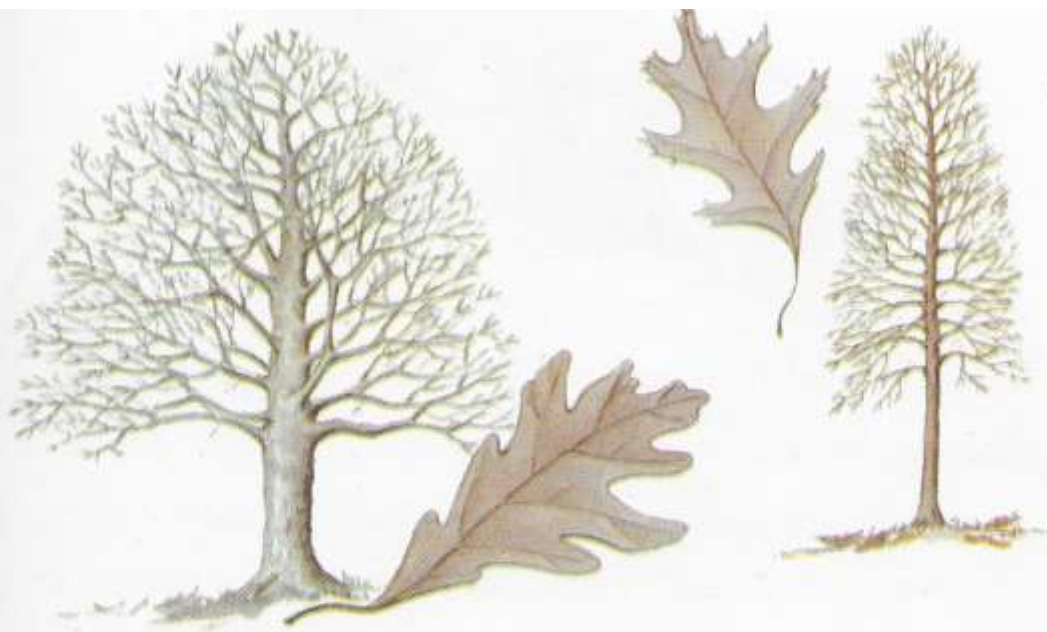
The stick began to beat the dog,

The dog began to bite the pig,

The pig began to go;

So it's all over, and the old woman's home again now.





The Oak Tree

A large oak tree is growing at the edge of the meadow. If you listen, you might hear a sparrow singing with all the joy in the world. You might hear the wind blowing through its branches. Or, if you listen very carefully, you might hear the buzzing of bees that live in the center of the trunk.

It is springtime and the flat leaves of the oak tree are green. They will stay green all summer. In the fall the leaves will become bright red or yellow. In the winter the leaves will fall,

WORDS TO WATCH

edge

germinate

acorns



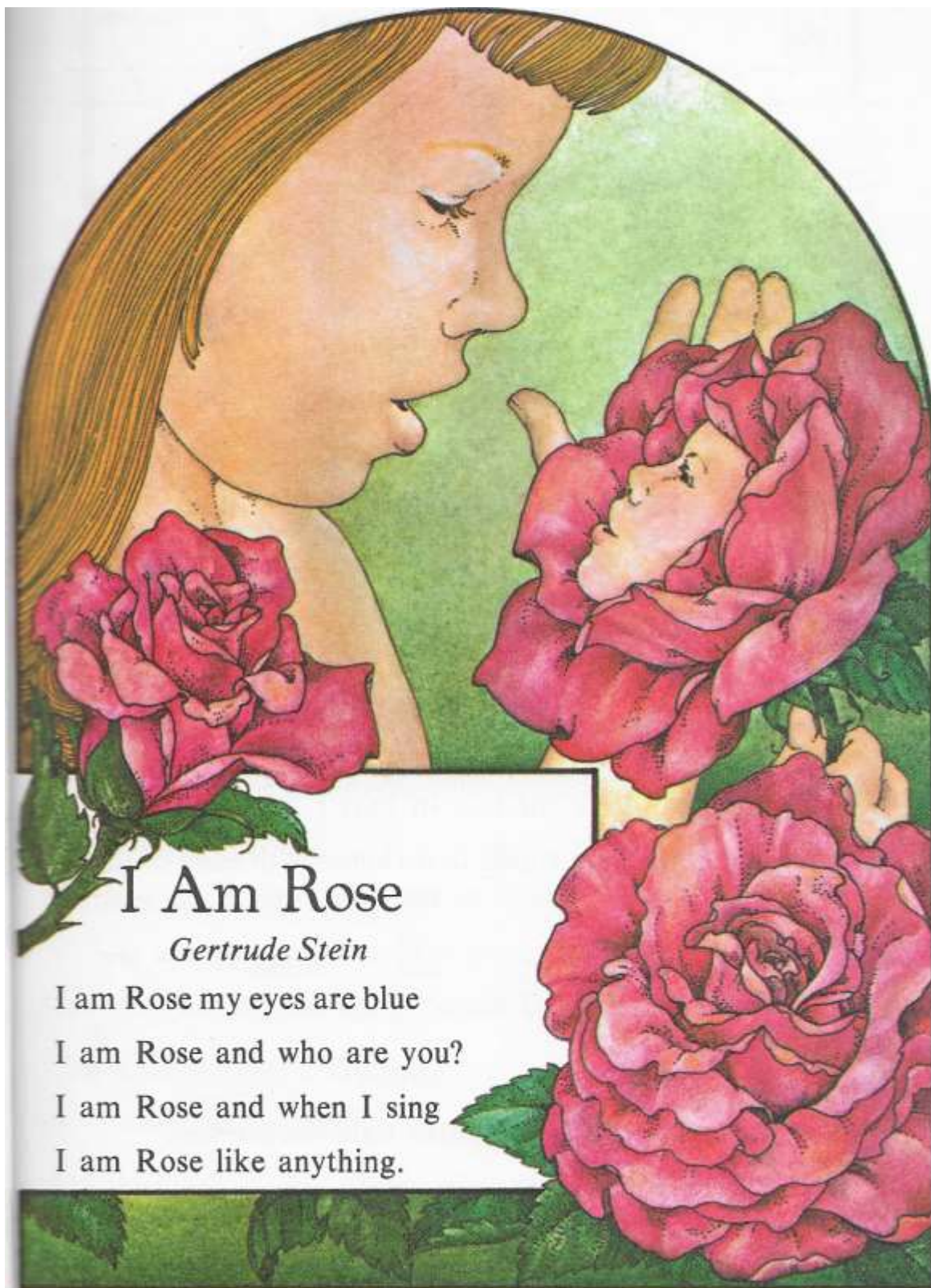
leaving the oak tree bare until the following spring. The new green leaves will grow once again.

Towards the end of summer, acorns will appear and ripen on the branches. Inside each acorn is a seed. Inside each seed is a small new plant. Squirrels and other animals will eat some of the acorns. Other acorns may be carried away by children or washed away during a rainstorm. Sometimes an acorn will remain where it has fallen all winter. Then in the spring, the seed inside it may germinate and grow into a new oak tree. At first it will be small, but after many years it too will become a large oak tree.

This is why people say, “Great oaks from little acorns grow.”

QUESTIONS

1. What happens to the leaves of an oak tree during the year?
2. What animals might you find in an oak tree?
3. When someone says, “Great oaks from little acorns grow,” what do you think he means?



I Am Rose

Gertrude Stein

I am Rose my eyes are blue
I am Rose and who are you?
I am Rose and when I sing
I am Rose like anything.

Rhyming Words (with the vowel i)

I. Read and Spell

<i>sit</i>	<i>kite</i>	<i>ride</i>	<i>mile</i>
hit	bite	side	pile
bit	bright	tide	tile
fit	light	hide	file
pit	night	wide	dial
lit	tight	lied	style

II. Read and Answer

1. Add more words to the lists in Part I.
2. Find and spell three words that rhyme with each of these words:

tin shirt tire mice

III. Write

1. It is not right to tie the kite so tight.
2. The bright light might not be right.
3. Curt hurt Bert with some dirt.



The Gingerbread Boy

American Folk Tale

Once upon a time there lived a little old woman and a little old man.

One day the little old woman made a boy out of gingerbread.

She put it into the oven to bake.

By and by she opened the oven door to see if it was done.

Out jumped the Gingerbread Boy!

WORDS TO WATCH

gingerbread

field

about

oven

pleased

could

should

himself

caught

Away he ran, out of the door and down the road.
The little old woman and the little old man ran after him.
But the Gingerbread Boy looked back and called out,

“Run! run! as fast as you can!

You can't catch me,

I'm the Gingerbread Man, I am! I am!”

And they could not catch him.

The little Gingerbread Boy ran on and on.

Soon he came to a cow.

“Stop, little Gingerbread Boy,” said the cow. “I should like to eat you.”



But the little Gingerbread Boy called out,
“I've run away from a little old woman,
I've run away from a little old man,
And I can run away from you,
I can! I can!”

The cow ran after him.

But the Gingerbread Boy looked back and called,

“Run! run! as fast as you can!

You can’t catch me,

I’m the Gingerbread Man, I am! I am!”

And the cow could not catch him.

The little Gingerbread Boy ran on and on.

Soon he came to a horse.

“Please stop, little Gingerbread Boy,” said the horse.

“You look very good to eat.”

But the little Gingerbread Boy called out,

“I’ve run away from a little old woman,

I’ve run away from a little old man,

I’ve run away from a cow,

And I can run away from you,

I can! I can!”

The horse ran after him.



But the Gingerbread Boy looked back and called,

“Run! run! as fast as you can!

You can't catch me,

I'm the Gingerbread Man, I am! I am!”

And the horse could not catch him.

By and by the Gingerbread Boy came to a field where
man was working.

The man saw him running and called,

“Do not run so fast, little Gingerbread Boy; you look ver
good to eat.”

But the little Gingerbread Boy ran faster and faster.

As he ran, he called,

“I've run away from a little old woman,

I've run away from a little old man,

I've run away from a cow,

I've run away from a horse,

And I can run away from you,

I can! I can!”

The man in the field ran after him.



But the Gingerbread Boy looked back and called out,

“Run! run! as fast as you can!

You can’t catch me,

I’m the Gingerbread Man, I am! I am!”

And the man could not catch him.

Then the little Gingerbread Boy saw a fox.

By this time, the little Gingerbread Boy was very pleased with himself.

He was pleased that he could run so fast.

So he called out to the fox,

“Run! run! as fast as you can!

You can’t catch me,

I’m the Gingerbread Man, I am! I am!

I’ve run away from a little old woman,

I’ve run away from a little old man,

I’ve run away from a cow,

I’ve run away from a horse,

I’ve run away from a man in the field,

And I can run away from you, I can! I can!”

“Why,” said the fox very politely, “I wouldn’t dream of catching you.”

Just then the little Gingerbread Boy came to a river. He

dared not jump into the water. Still, the cow, the horse, and the people were chasing him, and he had to cross the river to keep out of their reach.

“Jump on my tail and I will take you across,” said the fox.

So the little Gingerbread Boy jumped on the fox’s tail, and the fox swam into the river. A little distance from the shore the fox said,

“Little Gingerbread Boy, I think you had better get on my back or you may fall off!”

So the little Gingerbread Boy jumped on the fox’s back.

When they were in the middle of the river, the fox cried out suddenly,

“The water is deep. You may get wet where you are. Jump up on my nose!”

So the little Gingerbread Boy jumped up on the fox’s nose.

Then in a twinkling the fox threw back his head and snip, snip, snap! he ate up the Gingerbread Boy!





The Pine Tree

Joan Elma Rahn

Did you ever see a tree with leaves shaped like needles? The pine tree has leaves that look like long, green needles. They do not look like the flat leaves of the oak tree.

The pine tree holds some of its leaves all year around. The tree is always green. It is evergreen.

WORDS TO WATCH

evergreen

needle

chipmunk

squirrel

piñon

lodgepole



Pine cones grow on the branches of pine trees. In each cone are many seeds. Squirrels and chipmunks eat some of the seeds.

Other seeds fall to the ground. Each seed has a wing. When the seed falls, the wind may blow on the wing. If the wind is strong, it blows the seed away from the tree.

Inside each seed is a small, new plant. After the seed lands on the ground, the little plant in it grows into a new pine tree. It, too, will have cones and needle-shaped leaves.

There are many kinds of pine trees. There are white pines, red pines, pitch pines, lodgepole pines, and others. The seeds of the piñon pine are good to eat.

People use the wood from pine trees to make houses, furniture, boxes, paper, and many other useful things.

QUESTIONS

1. How is a pine tree different from an oak tree?
2. How is a pine tree the same as an oak tree?
3. What is inside a pine cone?
4. What is inside a pine seed?
5. What are some kinds of pine trees?
6. What can the wood of pine trees be used for?

Five Little Squirrels

American Folk Rhyme



Five little squirrels sat up in a tree.

The first one said, "What do you see?"

The second one said, "A man with a gun."

The third one said, "Then we'd better run."

The fourth one said, "Let's hide in the shade."

The fifth one said, "I'm not afraid."

Then BANG went the gun, and how they did run.

WORDS TO WATCH

first

third

fifth

second

fourth

squirrels

Numbers (1 to 10)

I. Read and Spell

one	four	eight
two	five	nine
three	six	ten
	seven	

II. Read

three	two	ten
seven	five	eight
four	nine	six
	one	

III. Write

One, two, three, four, five:

I caught a hare alive.

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten:

I let him go again.



The Three Billy Goats Gruff

Norse Folk Tale

Once upon a time there were three billy goats named Gruff. They were all going up to the hillside to eat the green grass and make themselves fat.

But on the way up they had to cross a bridge. Under the bridge lived a great ugly troll, with eyes as big as saucers and a nose as long as a poker.

WORDS TO WATCH

troll	youngest	groaned
saucer	tiniest	hoarse
poker	creaked	hardly

The youngest Billy Goat Gruff crossed the bridge first.
“Trip, trap! Trip, trap!” went the bridge.

“Who’s that tripping over my bridge?” roared the troll.

“Oh! it is only I, the tiniest Billy Goat Gruff. I’m going up to the hillside to make myself fat,” said the billy goat with his small voice.

“I’m coming to gobble you up,” said the troll.

“Oh, no! Please don’t eat me up. I’m too little,” said the billy goat. “Wait a bit until the second Billy Goat Gruff comes. He’s much bigger.”

“Very well. Be off with you, then,” said the troll.

A little while later, the second Billy Goat Gruff came across the bridge.

“TRIP, TRAP! TRIP, TRAP! TRIP, TRAP!” went the bridge.

“Who’s that tripping over my bridge?” roared the troll.

“It is I, the second Billy Goat Gruff. I’m going up to the hillside to make myself fat,” said the second billy goat, who had a louder voice.

“I’m coming to gobble you up,” said the troll.

“Oh, no! Don’t eat me. Wait a little bit until the big Billy Goat Gruff comes. He’s much bigger.”

“Very well! Be off with you, then,” said the troll.

Just then up came the great big Billy Goat Gruff.

“TRIP, TRAP! TRIP, TRAP! TRIP, TRAP!” went the bridge, for the big billy goat was so heavy that the bridge creaked and groaned under him.

“Who’s that tramping over my bridge?” roared the troll.

“IT’S I! THE BIG BILLY GOAT GRUFF,” said the billy goat in his big hoarse voice. And he flew at the troll, and poked him and knocked him, and tossed him into the river. After that he went up to the hillside. There the billy goats got so fat that they were hardly able to walk home again. If the fat hasn’t fallen off them, they’re still fat. And so—



Snip, snap, snout,
This tale’s told out.

The Swing

Robert Louis Stevenson

How do you like to go up in a swing,
Up in the air so blue?
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing
Ever a child can do!

Up in the air and over the wall,
Till I can see so wide,
Rivers and trees and cattle and all
Over the countryside—

Till I look down on the garden green,
Down on the roof so brown—
Up in the air I go flying again,
Up in the air and down!





Everyone Has A Job

Anonymous

“I don’t feel like going to school today,” said María one morning. “I am going for a walk through the fields.”

So instead of going to school, María strolled along through the nearby meadow. She walked and walked. The clear blue sky and the fresh air made her feel good. But soon she became bored because there was no one to play with. All her friends were in school.

Suddenly she saw a horse. “Mrs. Horse,” said María,

WORDS TO WATCH

instead

meadow

Mr.

strolled

bored

busy

through

because

nectar



“how would you like to run and play with me in the meadow?”

“No, I have no time now to play,” said the horse. “I must help my master plow his fields for the spring planting.”

So María went on, and before long she met a robin.

“Mr. Robin! Mr. Robin!” María called. “Come and play with me.”

“I cannot play with you, little girl,” replied the robin. “I am busy finding worms to feed my babies.”

María walked on a little farther until she came upon a honeybee.

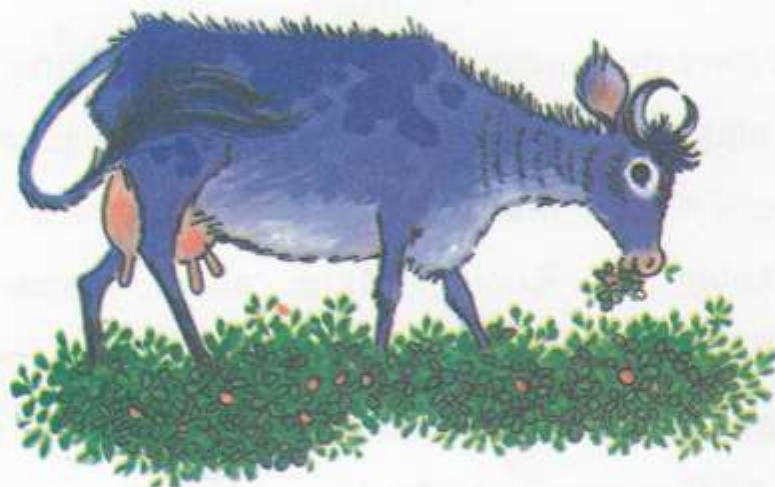
“Please come and play with me, Miss Bee,” said María.

“I cannot play with you,” said the bee. “I must gather nectar from the flowers to make honey for food.”

Then María began to think. She thought and she thought. Suddenly she ran toward school as fast as she could go.

QUESTIONS

1. Why didn't María have any children to play with?
2. Whom did María meet in the meadow?
3. What did María learn from talking with the animals in the meadow?
4. Why did María run off to school?
5. Would you have done the same? Why?



The Purple Cow

Gelett Burgess

I never saw a Purple Cow,
I never hope to see one;
But I can tell you, anyhow,
I'd rather see than be one.

Rhyming Words (with the vowel o)

I. Read and Spell

<i>hop</i>	<i>hot</i>	<i>floor</i>	<i>hook</i>	<i>boat</i>
mop	rot	tore	took	coat
pop	pot	boar	brook	float
top	tot	roar	look	wrote
drop	trot	more	book	goat

II. Read and Answer

1. Add more words to the lists in Part I.
2. Find and spell three words that rhyme with each of these words:

soup rope home bone

III. Write

1. The cook took the book to the brook.
2. The goat on the boat is eating your coat.
3. Don't drop the pop on top of the mop.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- I. A. You have read these stories in your book. Tell what each story is about.

Goblin Story

The Little Red Hen

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

The Story of the Red Envelopes

Beth Learns to Write

The Old Woman and Her Pig

Everyone Has A Job

- B. Which story do you like best? Why?

- C. Read the story you like best to your class or read it again to yourself.

- II. A. Learn by heart one of the poems you have read in your book and recite it to the class.

- B. Copy the poem you like best. Copy it carefully.

Part Two

Poems and Fables

I've read some stories in my book
I've never read before,
And now that I can read so well
I'm ready for some more.



Old Mother Hubbard

Mother Goose Rhyme

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard,
To get her poor dog a bone.
But when she got there
The cupboard was bare,
And so the poor dog had none.

WORDS TO WATCH

cupboard

laughing

fruiterer

joiner

tripe

cobbler

coffin

hatter

delight

She went to the baker's
To buy him some bread,
But when she came back
The poor dog was dead.



She went to the joiner's
To buy him a coffin,
But when she came back
The poor dog was laughing.

She took a clean dish
To get him some tripe,
But when she came back
He was smoking a pipe.



She went to the hatter's
To buy him a hat,
But when she came back
He was feeding the cat.

She went to the barber's
To buy him a wig,
But when she came back
He was dancing a jig.



She went to the fruiterer's
To buy him some fruit,
But when she came back
He was playing the flute.



She went to the tailor's
To buy him a coat,
But when she came back
He was riding a goat.



She went to the cobbler's
To buy him some shoes,
But when she came back
He was reading the news.


This wonderful dog
Was Dame Hubbard's delight;
He could sing, he could dance,
He could read, he could write.





The Tale of a Black Cat

Anonymous

Once there was a little girl named Tamar; and there's a



 that stands for Tamar. Tamar's house was not a very


good one. So she built a new wall on this side of it.  And


then she built a wall on that side of it.  You can see now


that she had two nice rooms in her house, though not very


large. Next she put in windows to look out of—one in this

room  and one in that room.  Then she made a tall

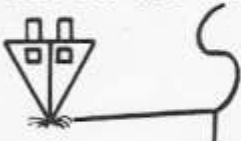
chimney on this side of her house.  And then she made a

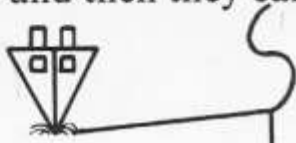
tall chimney on the other side of her house.  After that

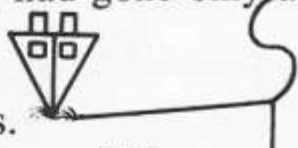
she started some grass beside her door, like this. 


Not far away from Tamar's house lived a little boy named Saul; and there's an S that stands for Saul. When Tamar had finished her house, she thought she would like to go and tell Saul what she had been doing. So she came out of her door and walked along, this way,  over to where he lived. Saul was glad to see her. They went into the kitchen and sat down. Tamar explained to Saul how she had built two new walls to her house and put in windows and made two tall chimneys, and how she had started the grass in front of her door. "And now, Saul," said she, "I want you to come over and see how well I've fixed things."

“I’ll put on my cap and go back with you,” said Saul. But when he was ready, he said, “We might go down to the cellar first and get some apples to eat on the way.” So they went

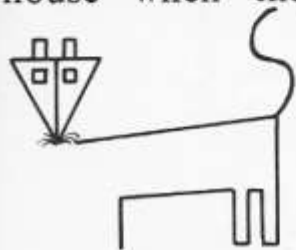
down to the cellar, like this.  They got some

apples, and then they came up outdoors by the hatchway, like this. 

Now they started for Tamar’s house, but the walking was bad. They had gone only a few steps when they tumbled down, like this. 

However, they were quickly up, like this. 

And they walked along until they were nearly to Tamar’s house when they tumbled down again, just like this.

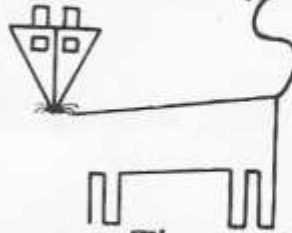


And they were no sooner up on their

feet, like this



once more, like this.

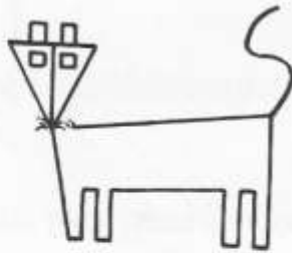


than they tumbled down

But they

were nearly to Tamar's house now. They got up and were

going into the yard straight toward the door, like this,



—when Saul pointed toward the doorstep and cried out,

“O-o-o-o-o-o-hh! See that big **BLACK CAT!**”



Daddy's Nursery Rhyme

Little Jack Horner
Sat in the corner,
Eating his curds and whey;
 There came a big spider,
 Who sat down beside her,
And the dish ran away with the spoon.

“Daddy, you haven’t got it right!”



The Fox and the Grapes

Aesop

One day a fox was running along a dusty road. He was hot and thirsty. Soon he saw some grapes hanging on a vine in a garden nearby.

These grapes were large and ripe and juicy. They looked very good to the fox.

“How I wish I could get some of those grapes,” said the fox.

The fox jumped high in the air. But he did not get the grapes.

He jumped again and again. But he still could not get them.

At last he had to give up.

“I am sure they are very sour grapes,” said the fox as he walked away. “I do not like sour grapes.”



A Sailor Went to Sea

American Folk Rhyme

A sailor went to sea
To see what he could see,
And all that he could see
Was sea, sea, sea.

Little Green Riding Hood

Gianni Rodari



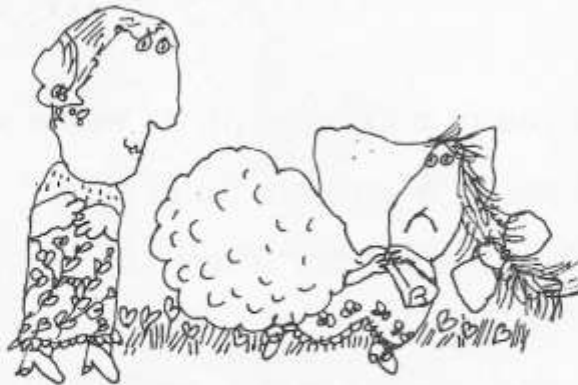
“Once upon a time there was a little girl called Little Yellow Riding Hood.”

“No! *Red* Riding Hood!”

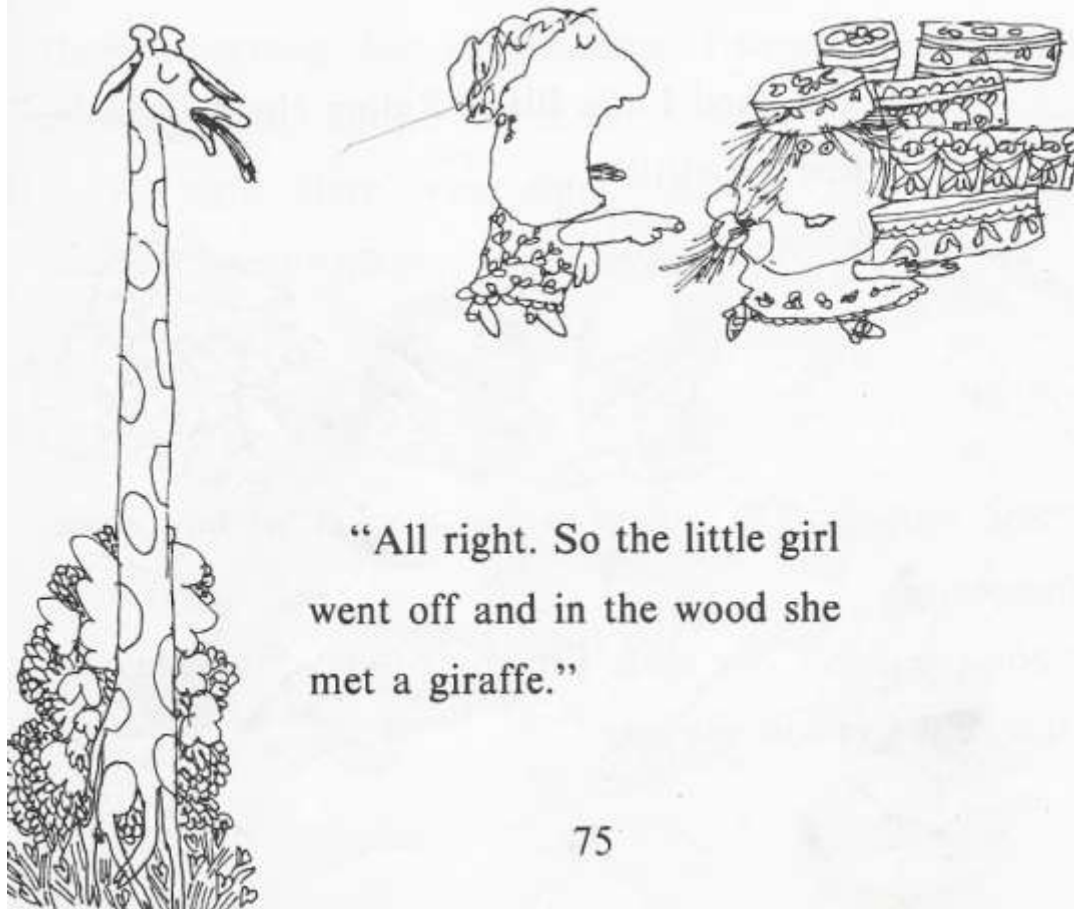
“Oh yes, of course, Red Riding Hood. Well, one day her mother called and said: ‘Little Green Riding Hood—’ ”



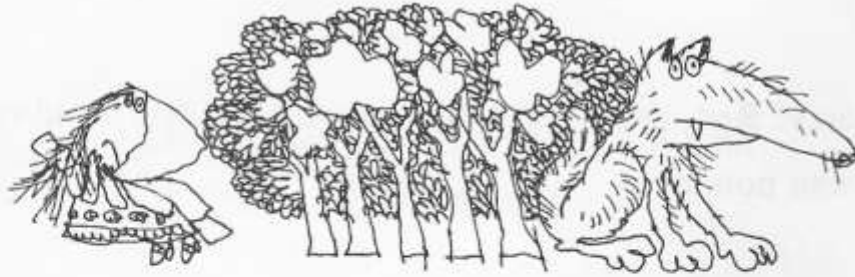
“Sorry! Red. ‘Now, my child, go to Aunt Mary and take her these potatoes.’ ”



“No! It doesn’t go like that! ‘Go to Grandma and take her these cakes.’ ”



“All right. So the little girl went off and in the wood she met a giraffe.”



“What a mess you’re making of it! It was a wolf!”

“And the wolf said: ‘What’s six times eight?’ ”

“No! No! The wolf asked her where she was going.”



“So he did. And Little Black Riding Hood replied—”

“Red! Red!! Red!!!”

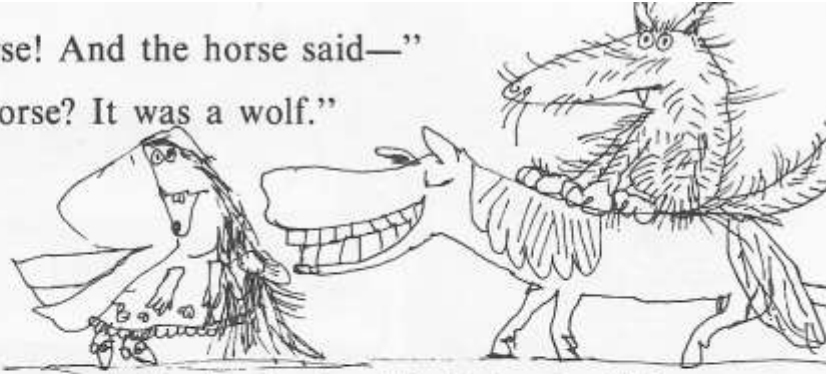


“She replied: ‘I’m going to the market to buy some tomatoes.’ ”

“No, she didn’t. She said: ‘I’m going to my grandma who is sick, but I’ve lost my way.’ ”

“Of course! And the horse said—”

“What horse? It was a wolf.”

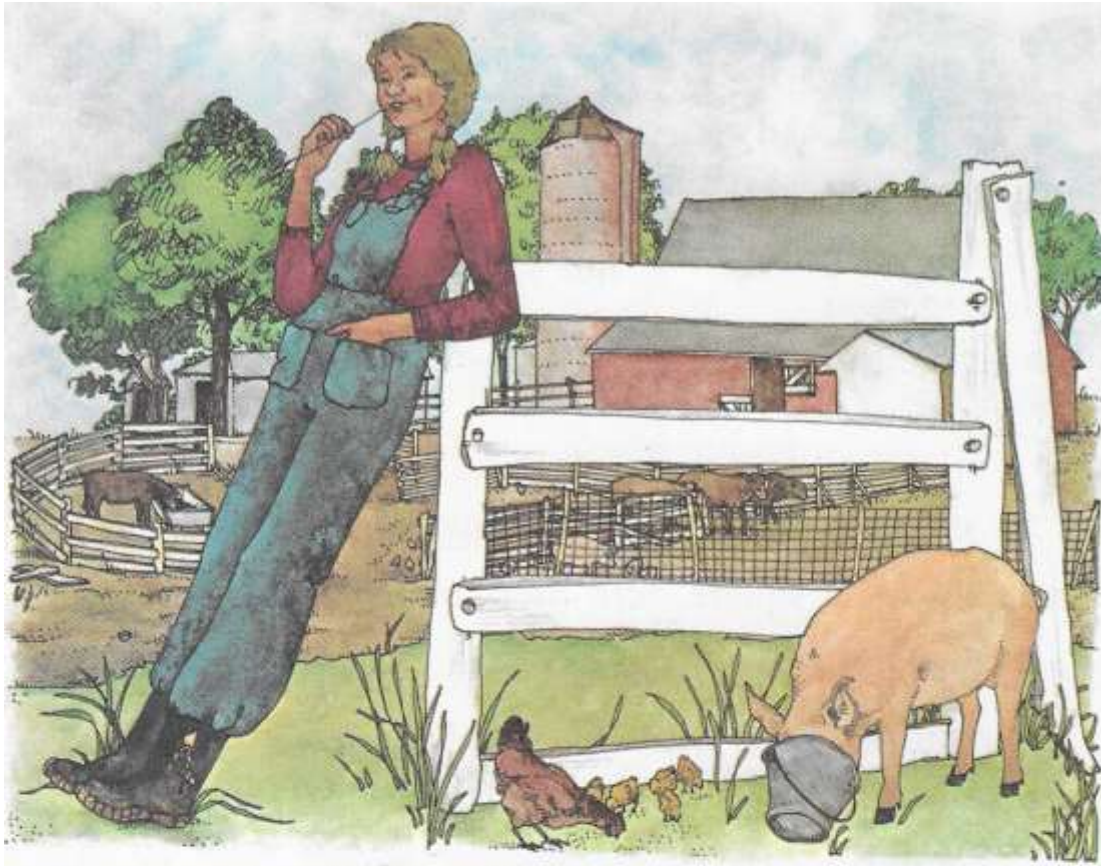


“So it was. And this is what it said: ‘Take the 75 bus, get out at the main square, turn right, and at the first doorway you’ll find three steps. Leave the steps where they are, but pick up the dime you’ll find lying on them, and buy yourself a packet of chewing gum.’”

“Grandpa, you’re terribly bad at telling stories. You get them all wrong. But all the same, I wouldn’t mind some chewing gum.”

“All right. Here’s your dime.” And the old man turned back to his newspaper.





The Barnyard

Maud Burnham

When the farmer's day is done,
In the barnyard, every one,
Beast and bird politely say,
"Thank you for my food today."

WORDS TO WATCH

barnyard

tight

pigeon

politely

animals

neigh

beast

done

sty

The cow says, "Moo!"
The pigeon, "Coo!"
The sheep says, "Baa!"
The lamb says, "Maa!"
The hen, "Cluck! Cluck!"
"Quack!" says the duck;

The dog, "Bow Wow!"
The cat, "Meow!"
The horse says, "Neigh!
I love sweet hay!"
The pig near by,
Grunts in his sty.

When the barn is locked up tight,
Then the farmer says, "Good night!"
Thanks her animals every one,
For the work that has been done.

Rhyming Words (with the vowel u)

I. Read and Spell

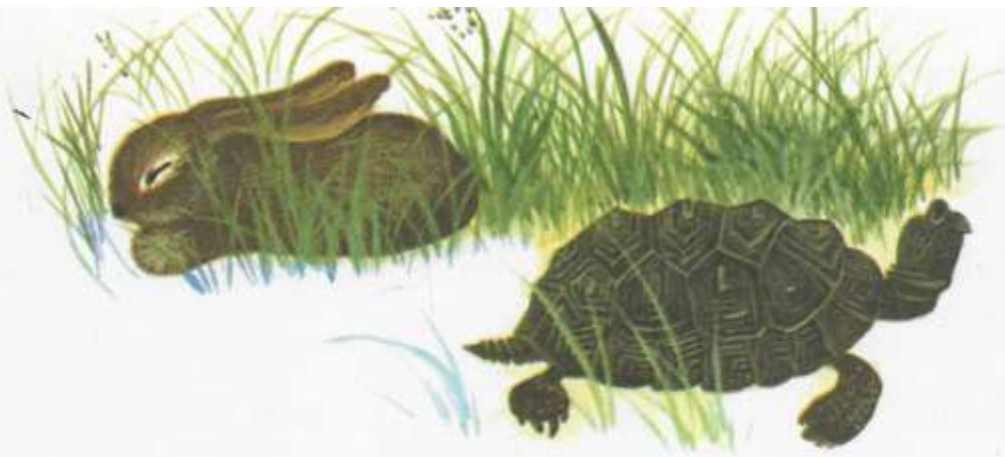
<i>rug</i>	<i>cut</i>	<i>bump</i>	<i>flute</i>	<i>sound</i>
bug	hut	hump	shoot	wound
tug	nut	lump	root	round
mug	rut	dump	boot	found
dug	jut	stump	fruit	hound
hug	but	jump	hoot	ground

II. Read and Answer

1. Find three words that rhyme with each of these words:
sun under dust tumble bull
2. Think of another word with a **u** in it and find words that rhyme with it.

III. Write

A bug dug in the ground and found a nut.



The Hare and the Tortoise

Aesop

One time a hare said to the other animals, “I can beat anybody in a race. I can run like the wind. Who will dare to race with me?”

The animals did not say anything because they were afraid that the hare would beat them.

But then the tortoise said quietly, “I will run a race with you.”

“That is a good joke,” laughed the hare. “Why, I will be out of sight before you get started.”

“Wait until you have won the race before you say anything,” said the tortoise. “Shall we race?”

The hare agreed. They chose the starting place and the goal.

The race began, and soon the hare was far ahead of the tortoise.

But the hare ran so fast that he became tired. He stopped by the side of the road and lay down to take a nap. He was sure that he would wake up in time to beat the tortoise.

The tortoise plodded slowly on. When the hare woke up, the tortoise was near the goal.

The hare jumped up and ran as fast as he could toward the goal line, but he was not in time. The tortoise crossed the goal line first and won the race.

The tortoise turned to the other animals and said, "I learned long ago that if you do something steadily you can often do it well, even if you are slow."

QUESTIONS

1. Why did the hare lose the race?
2. Why did the hare laugh when the tortoise said he would race with him?
3. Why were the other animals afraid to race with the hare?
4. Why wasn't the tortoise afraid to race with the hare?
5. What do you think people mean when they say, "Slow and steady wins the race"?



The Rich Man and the Poor Tailor

Leo Tolstoy

Once upon a time a rich man and a poor tailor lived in the same house. The rich man lived upstairs and the poor tailor lived downstairs.

WORDS TO WATCH

once	bothered	became
tailor	richer	finally
upstairs	unhappy	brought
downstairs	because	happier

The tailor liked to sing when she worked. She sang one song after another. But the rich man liked to sleep a lot, and the singing bothered him.

One day the rich man said, "Tailor, I will give you a bag full of money every day if you will stop singing."

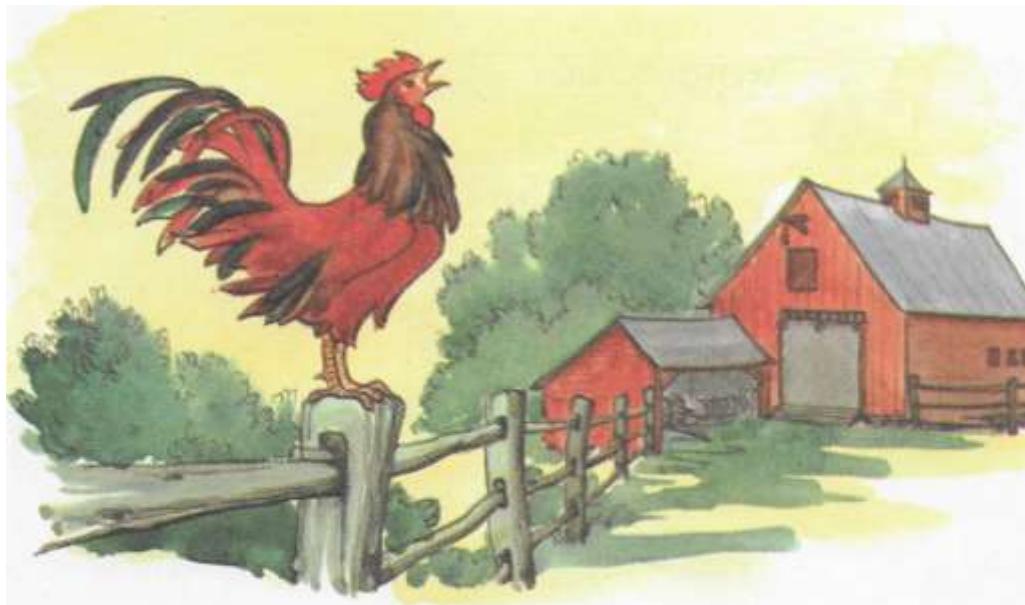
"Fine," said the tailor. And so the tailor stopped singing and became richer and richer. But the more money she got from the rich man, the more unhappy she became, because she wanted very much to sing again.

Finally she brought all her money back to rich man. "Here," she said, "take your money. I cannot be happy if I cannot sing."

And so she gave the money back to the rich man and went away singing. She sang and she sang and she was happier than ever before.

QUESTIONS

1. Why was the tailor happier than ever, after she gave the money back to the rich man?
2. Can you think of other things more important than money?



Cocks Crow in the Morn

Mother Goose

Cocks crow in the morn
To tell us to rise,
And he who lies late
Will never be wise;
For early to bed
And early to rise
Is the way to be healthy,
And wealthy, and wise.

Clothes

I. Read and Spell

hat	dress	boots	raincoat
cap	shoes	earmuffs	muffler
shirt	scarf	suit	overcoat
socks	tie	rubbers	swimsuit
pants	coat	blouse	sweater

II. Read and Answer

1. Which clothes are worn in snowy weather?
2. Which clothes are worn in all kinds of weather?

III. Write

Boots and coats we wear in snow,
But when the snow and winter go,
Then with its showers comes the spring,
And so our raincoats are the thing.
At last we feel the summer's sun;
Then off go the coats for summer fun.



THE PLUM PIT

Leo Tolstoy

One day a father bought some plums at the store. He took the plums home, put them in a large bowl, and told his children not to eat them until after dinner. All the children stood around the bowl and admired the plums, but they did not eat them.

WORDS TO WATCH

children

know

everyone

worse

admired

laughed

But little Johnny had never tasted plums before. When everyone had left the room, he took one of the plums and ate it.

Before dinner, Johnny's father saw that one of the plums was gone. He told the children's mother about it.

After dinner the children's mother said, "Did any of you children eat one of these plums?"

All the children said, "No." Johnny's face turned red as a beet, but he also said, "No, I didn't eat it."

Then the mother said, "If one of you did eat a plum, that is bad. But that is not what worries me. What is worse is that plums have pits. If you eat the pit, it might choke you, and you might die."

Johnny turned pale and said, "No, I threw the pit out the window."

Then everyone laughed, and Johnny began to cry.

Finally the mother said, "Don't cry, Johnny. We know that you won't do anything like this again."

"No," said Johnny, "I won't. I promise."

QUESTIONS

1. What did Johnny do?
2. Did he think he was wrong?
3. When Johnny said he threw the pit out the window, why did everyone laugh? Why did Johnny cry?



Little Jack Pumpkin Face

Anonymous

Little Jack Pumpkin Face

Lived on a vine;

Little Jack Pumpkin Face

Thought it was fine.

First he was small and green,

Then big and yellow;

Little Jack Pumpkin Face

Is a fine fellow.

The Lion and the Mouse

Aesop

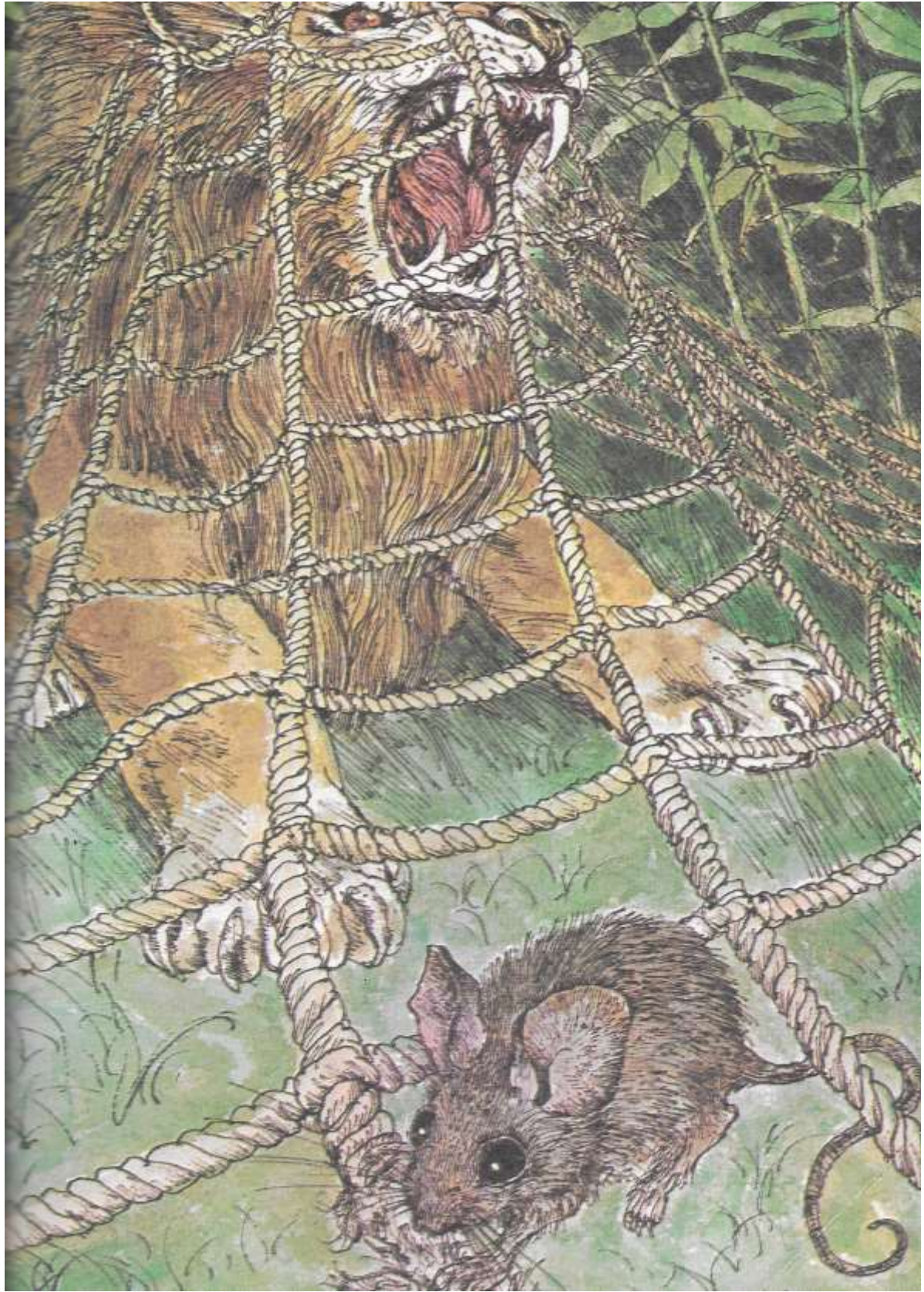
One day a mouse by accident ran across the paws of a sleeping lion and woke him up. The lion was very angry at being awakened. He grabbed the mouse and was going to swallow him. But just then the mouse cried out, "Please, kind sir, I didn't mean to wake you up. If you let me go, I can help you some day."

The lion thought that the idea of a mouse helping a lion was so funny that he let the mouse go free.

But only a week later the mouse heard a lion roaring loudly. He went closer to see what the trouble was, and there was the lion caught in a hunter's net. The mouse remembered his promise, and he began to gnaw the rope. He kept gnawing and gnawing until soon the lion was free.

WORDS TO WATCH

mouse	perhaps	remembered
accident	loudly	promised
awakened	closely	gnaw
grateful	trouble	understood



Then the lion understood that little friends can be great friends.

QUESTIONS

1. Why was the lion angry?
2. Why didn't the lion eat the mouse?
3. What did the lion learn?
4. Can you expect kindness to be returned? Why do you feel this way?



Hearts Are Like Doors

Anonymous

Hearts, like doors, will open with ease,
To very, very little keys,
And don't forget that two of these
Are "Thank you" and "If you please!"

Colors

I. Read and Spell

red

pink

tan

green

gray

brown

black

white

purple

blue

yellow

orange

II. Read and Answer

1. What colors mixed together make orange?
2. What colors mixed together make green?
3. What colors mixed together make gray?
4. Name some other colors.

III. Write

THE RAINBOW

See those colors way up high?

That's a rainbow in the sky.

Red and yellow and blue and green:

A prettier sight I've never seen.