

 5. – 8. razred osnovne škole

Let's build **A STORY!**

ZBIRKA NAJBOLJIH PRIČA LITERARNOG
NATJEČAJA NA ENGLISKOM JEZIKU

PROFIL Klett

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Tisak

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Član smo Europskog
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udžbenika.

Natječaj Let's Build a Story! osmišljen je kako bi kod učenika potaknuo kreativno izražavanje na engleskom jeziku te razvoj zdravih čitalačkih navika.

Zadatak je bio osmisliti priču na temelju devet predloženih ilustracija, a učenici od 5. do 8. razreda pokazali su veliku zainteresiranost, ali i zavidno znanje engleskoga jezika, kreativnost i iznimne spisateljske sposobnosti.

Dok su gradili svojih 468 priča, mlade je kreativce podržalo čak 194 vrijedna učitelja, tj. mentora.

Stručni žiri u sastavu Paola Accattoli, Mirela Priselac Remi i Tena Štivičić odabrao je 12 najboljih priča, tri po svakom razredu, a glas publike dodao je još jednu priču, stoga vam u ovoj zbirci donosimo sjajnih 13 priča.

Priče su opremljene zadatcima koje su izradili mentori najboljih priča.

Čestitamo i zahvaljujemo svim neumornim učiteljicama i učiteljima na njihovom trudu i svim hrabrim, mladim kreativcima na njihovim pričama!

Riječ stručnog žirija:

“Ključno je prepoznati individualne mogućnosti, interese i talent svakog djeteta. Kreativnost se teško razvija u krutom kalupu dizajniranom za prosjek. Današnji obrazovni sustav još ne prepoznaje tu činjenicu, ali nasreću, postoji sve više pojedinaca i inicijativa koji apostrofiraju taj problem.” **Tena Štivičić**

“Nikada nije prerano početi pisati. Ja sam svoju prvu pjesmu napisala s devet godina, ali ju nisam imala hrabrosti prijaviti na neki natječaj! Zato čestitam svima koji su hrabro sudjelovali u ovome divnom kreativnom procesu - uživala sam čitajući radove. Ma, ima li na svijetu išta ljepše od kreativnosti i mašte?” **Mirela Priselac Remi**

“Uvijek slijedite svoju maštu i pokušajte biti što precizniji u svojoj ideji. Pisanje je komunikacija i želimo da poruku koju šaljemo pričom svi mogu lako shvatiti.” **Paola Accattoli**

Uživajte u čitanju!

Vaš Profil Klett

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BEFORE READING...

- Every person and animal is special.
Guess what the characters in this story are like!
Connect the **adjectives** to the **nouns**. Read the story and check!

dangerous

stuffed

boy

dragon

intelligent

patient

girl

good-hearted

animals

scientist



THE BIG ADVENTURE... OR NOT?

AUDIENCE
AWARD

AUTHOR: Nera Tomrlin, Grade 5

MENTOR: Arijana Lenardić, OŠ Grgura Karlovčana, Đurđevac

Activities prepared by Marta Užarević

Once upon a time, there was a girl called... Oh, wait! She still exists. Not a lot of people see her, but I know she is out there somewhere. One day, if you are good enough, you might see her playing with her friends in the forest, but let's focus on the story for now.

There was a little fox who lived in the forest. Poor fox. People were ruining her home. They were cutting down trees because they needed wood to warm up their houses. But nobody cared about all the animals that lived there.



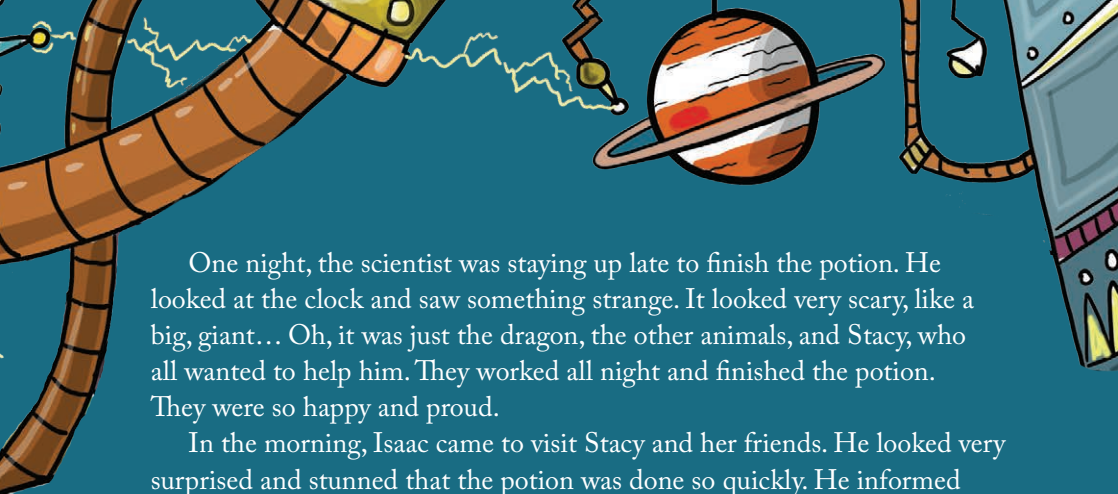


In that forest there lived a lot of other animals too, like bears, rabbits, owls, squirrels, and even a dragon. But don't worry, he's not dangerous.

They all loved to dress up and play. But they were worried, because they couldn't save their homes by themselves. A good-hearted girl Stacy wanted to help them. She understood their language. But she was still just a little girl, how could she help them?

Well, her father was a scientist, and he was trying to make a potion that would make people listen to what animals had to say. But he had to make sure that the animals were not going to use the potion in a bad way. One day, he met a very intelligent boy, Isaac. He decided that both Stacy and Isaac were going to train the animals and be their friends, so they could look after them. After a while, Stacy and Isaac became really good friends. And the potion was getting better and better.





One night, the scientist was staying up late to finish the potion. He looked at the clock and saw something strange. It looked very scary, like a big, giant... Oh, it was just the dragon, the other animals, and Stacy, who all wanted to help him. They worked all night and finished the potion. They were so happy and proud.

In the morning, Isaac came to visit Stacy and her friends. He looked very surprised and stunned that the potion was done so quickly. He informed them that he had found a new home for all the animals. He wanted to show Stacy something interesting. He gave her the binoculars.

Stacy looked through the binoculars and saw an old man looking at the photos and, next to him, on a small coffee table, there was a map. They decided to go there and ask him if he would loan them the map.

If you are asking yourself: "Why do they even want that map?" it's because it was not an ordinary map. It was an interactive map that showed the forest and all the places around it. So Stacy and Isaac explained to the man what had happened and he loaned them the map.

They immediately decided to start their trip. They thought that the map could help them to find another forest, until the trees grew again as they were before. Look at the red X on the map! It shows Stacy, Isaac, and their animal friends as they walk through the forest. There was a beautiful castle in front of them. They decided that Stacy, her father the scientist, and Isaac could go there often while the animals were in the forest, just in case other people came and wanted to cut down the trees. The map helped them to find a lot of different places around the forest.

They were so happy and they walked really fast so they could go to the new forest and play. They thanked the man and gave him back the map. In return, he gave them a wooden box full of toys.

Now, they are in the forest again, playing with their animal friends and having a lot of fun. The animals can talk because of the potion. They are very thankful to their human friends. But something distracts them. Stacy hears a familiar voice. It says: "Get up, Stacy! You are going to be late for school."





Stacy wakes up slowly; a little mad because she doesn't want this adventure to be just a dream. About 15 minutes later she is at school. She tells her friends about her dream. And right then, the teacher comes in and says: "This is our new pupil Isaac." Stacy thinks he looks really familiar. Wait a second... It's Isaac - Isaac from her dream! She asks herself was it really a dream or was everything real? In order to find out, she asks him whether he likes animals. Can you guess his answer? Of course, he says: "Yes. I love them so much that I dream about them all the time." Then he describes his last dream. She just stares at him a little bit and says: "What a coincidence! I had the same dream!" They stare at each other for a while, but then the teacher interrupts them. "You two lovebirds, sit down! The class is staring."

After school, Stacy invites Isaac to play with her stuffed animals, which he gladly accepts. They have so much fun. Suddenly, it seems that one little teddy bear quietly says: "Thank you..." At that moment, their eyes meet and they are shocked again. Who knows? Maybe, one day, the adventure will become real. Maybe you will see them playing in the forest with their animal friends. We have to be patient, but maybe it will happen. Maybe... Or maybe it has already happened? Who knows?



AFTER READING...

➤ What do the highlighted words mean? Circle the correct answer.

Potion is

- a) a drink with special powers. b) difficult homework.

Coincidence is

- a) something planned. b) something not planned.

If you **loan** something to somebody, they

- a) can keep it forever. b) must give it back to you.

Binoculars are used

- a) to make objects in the distance seem further.
b) to make objects in the distance seem nearer.

If you look **stunned**, you are

- a) very calm b) very surprised.

When you **stare** at something, you

- a) open your eyes and don't blink. b) close your eyes.

➤ The little fox is in trouble, help her send a text message to Stacy.

Use the correct form of these verbs:

help, cut, ruin, save, come, call.

Stacy, please _____ me!

People _____ my home.

They _____ down trees.


I can't _____ the forest

by myself. _____ Isaac

and please _____ quickly!



BEFORE READING...

 Use the Internet to look up information about Wales and choose the correct answer.

The capital of Wales is

- a) Edinburgh. b) Cardiff. c) Belfast.

The official language[s] in Wales is/are

- a) English and Welsh. b) Welsh. c) English.

The symbol of Wales is

- a) the white dragon. b) the green dragon. c) the red dragon.

Bore da in Welsh means


- a) Good morning. b) Good afternoon. c) Good evening.

The patron saint of Wales is

- a) Saint George. b) Saint David. c) Saint Andrew.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE FOREST

1ST PRIZE
grade 5

 AUTHOR: Ana Birač, Grade 5

MENTOR: Emi Belušić, OŠ Kaštanjer, Pula

Activities prepared by Emi Belušić

Once upon a time, in a remote coastal area of Wales, there stood a wonderful forest. A very old one, as local people would say, home and a source of life for the many animal species there. But just as dark clouds sometimes overcast a clear sky, an ominous dark cloud threatened to cast a shadow on these woods.

It was spring time. A small group of scouts arrived at the edge of the woods and set up their tent. There was David who was twelve and his younger sister Fiona, together with a bear named Pear, a squirrel named Jumpy, and a hare called Roy. A true fellowship of the forest. It happened that Pear, Jumpy, and Roy overheard some other animals whispering about a story of what was going on in the woods. At night, strange sounds and the ground shaking would break the silence and scare every living being around. David and Fiona quickly decided to find out what was happening. Everyone put on a mask as a disguise to scare the enemy, whoever or whatever it was. Pear carried a spyglass, and so they set off into the depths of the woods.





They were walking the whole day, and it was getting really dark when they came to a barren hilltop, full of stumps and cut trees with excavators crushing and digging the ground. Pear spotted a fox carrying her bag in the distance. She was in tears, having lost her beloved home in the forest. "It's the Loony Moon," said the tearful fox. "He is the true villain of our forest and he won't stop digging and cutting trees unless someone helps us. He lives in a strange cottage a couple of miles down this path." It was dark, but the scouts were bold and brave. Not hesitating for a moment, they set off and after a while they came to the cottage. The villain was at home, working in darkness, going through letters and trying to figure out something. He was an evil, greedy engineer and a thief above all. He would steal letters from people's mailboxes, or even books or toys. The fellowship managed to silently sneak into his house and scare him completely. Loony Moon was petrified and ran away through the window. On his desk were piles of stolen letters and a dusty old photo album with a name on it. "Look!" Fiona said, "He stole this photo album!" "Let's find the owner and give this back to him!" said David. They all agreed. It belonged to Mr. Morgan, an old man from a nearby town who happened to be a retired deputy. Mr. Morgan was so happy to have the photo album back after such a long time. Having explained to him how and where they had recovered it, he went through the pages and, remembering his happy childhood days, said: "I used to know Loony Moon. We were neighbours as

kids. Unfortunately, he didn't have a happy childhood and instead of trying to spend his days making other people happy, he became evil and made other people's lives miserable." Mr. Morgan continued his story: "I have heard that he became obsessed with toys, airplanes, and rockets. You see, he never had any toys to play with as a child. I am a retired local deputy and I will inform the authorities about him. Don't worry." "Great!" said the hare Roy. Mr. Morgan was pondering over a certain picture. Something crossed his mind: "Loony Moon could be after a chest of toys that I buried somewhere in the woods a long time ago.

I have the map, but I have to find it in my basement. He somehow knows about the chest's past and wants to dig it out. From the stolen letters, I guess."


The next morning, the hidden treasure map was on Mr. Morgan's desk while he was drinking coffee. "There you have it," said Mr. Morgan to David. "The chest is buried in that cut tree area. Loony Moon was desperately trying to get it."

In the following days, the locals decided to expel the villain from the area. His plans failed completely. No more airplanes, no rocket bases, no gold from the chest. It was all gone. The good news spread quickly. Our forest was filled with shouts of joy and happiness. The poor homeless fox could return home again, children could wander through the woods again. Lo and behold, darkness left the woods and everything started growing again.

The quest for that chest started the following day. It was beautiful and sunny. The spot where the chest had been buried was easily found. The chest was full of airplanes and rockets that Loony Moon craved. The forest was saved, the villain defeated, and the toys recovered. Goodness will always prevail!



AFTER READING...

 Are the statements true [T] or false [F]? Correct the mistakes.

Example: *The friends put on a mask to scare the enemy.* **T**

Pear spotted a horse in the distance. **F**

Pear spotted a fox in the distance.

David lived in a strange cottage. ____


Loony Moon stole stamps from people's postcards. ____

The photo album belonged to Mr. Morgan. ____


Mr. Morgan was a retired deputy. ____

Mr. Morgan found a Google map in the basement. ____

The locals expelled the villain from the area. ____

 Write a summary of the story using the words in the order they appear in the list: **spring, scouts, sounds, disguise, hilltop, fox, villain, cottage, photo album, retired deputy, neighbours, chest of toys, treasure map, airplanes and rockets, forest, defeat.**

BEFORE READING...

 Can you guess the meaning of the highlighted words?
Circle the correct answer.

Tree bark is

- a) under the ground. b) on the outside of a tree.

Hide and seek is

- a) a game. b) a festival.

A slope is

- a) a piece of land that goes high up.
b) the low land between two mountains or hills.

Security guards **patrol** the building at night.

- a) They defend people from theft.
b) They go around an area to check that it is free from trouble or danger.


To win first prize was a great **accomplishment**.

- a) They succeeded in doing something difficult.
b) They did not succeed in doing something difficult.

THE FOREST ADVENTURE

2ND PRIZE
grade 5



 AUTHOR: Ivan Šporer, grade 5
MENTOR: Barbara Sliepčević, OŠ Ivana Filipovića, Zagreb
Activities prepared by Emi Belušić

Professor Merk was cold. It was past midnight. He had been working all day and all night. He finally got to a point where he could transform tree bark into some kind of energy. But he was far from being done. He had to have more material to work on. He had to tell Jonathan to increase the work on cutting down trees. He was day-dreaming in his head: "The mighty, the glorious Professor Merk discovered a new kind of energy, which will help many poor people in the world because this kind of energy is almost infinite." But something troubled him. This kind of energy wasn't infinite. He was using the tree bark to make this energy, which was forcing





him to cut down trees. He thought to himself: “Well, who cares about trees and nature.” There are people who care about nature, and they are ready to stop anybody from hurting it.

Dan was looking through the binoculars, and he didn’t like what he saw. Lily, his younger sister shouted: “C’mon, let me see!” Dan replied: “Okay, okay, calm down a little bit”. “Just a minute,” he added. “This isn’t good,” he said. “What’s wrong?” asked Brundo Bear with his deep, rough voice. “I can’t see the forest, it seems it disappeared,” said Dan. “We need to do something about it. I’m going to go inside and find the map.” Dan was back in a few minutes.

“Okay, so here’s the plan. We are on this side and we need to get to the forest. That means we have to cross the railroads and go past the mountain. But now, it’s time we dress in our costumes.” “They’re in the chest,” said Lily. “Let’s go get them.” They went to the basement and opened the old chest filled with toys, costumes, and old photo albums. Dan took a dragon costume, Lily took a Native American costume, and Brundo took a pirate costume. They were ready for an adventure.

As Dan said, they crossed the railroads and went past the mountain and there they saw the slope where the forest was supposed to be, but the only thing they saw was a bunch of stumps. About 1 km to the south, they saw a building of a weird shape. Little did they know, that was Professor Merk’s laboratory.

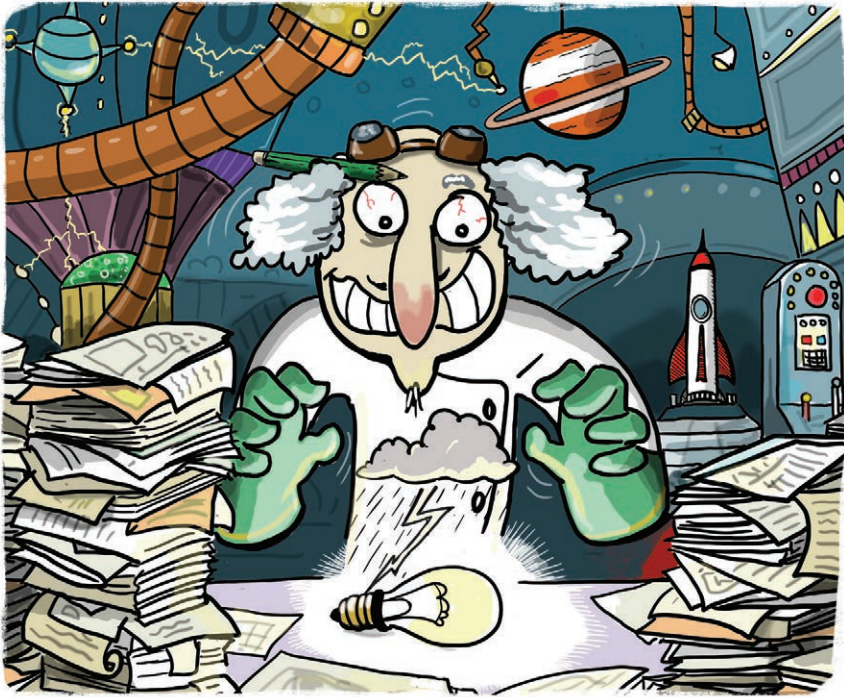


Brundo said: "Whoever is destroying the forest must be in that building." "Let's go inside," said Lily.



That wasn't so easy for them. There were some guards, and they were patrolling around the building. There were too many of them to just run inside. An idea flashed in Lily's mind: "We need some kind of distraction." She was thinking out loud: "We could make some very loud noise and the guards will go in that direction so we can slip into the building." They found some metal pots and took some sticks. They started hitting the pots and, as Lily said, the guards ran in that direction. Finally, Lily, Dan, and Brundo got into the building. The main corridor was empty but luck wasn't on their side all the time. The entrance to the professor's experiment room had a key-card lock and the only place they could get a key-card was the guard post. The problem was... the guard was still in there, and it seemed he was going to stay inside. They had to sneak in. Lily said: "Dan is best at sneaking, he should sneak in and take the key-card." "Okay," Dan said. He opened the door very quietly so the guard wouldn't hear





him. He was progressing very slowly, but he was making his way through the room. Suddenly, “CRUNCH!” he stepped on a soda can. Oh no! The guard started to turn around... “Well, I guess it was that mouse,” said the guard. “Phew,” Dan sighed. When the guard turned around, he quickly hid in the cupboard. Dan grabbed the key-card and went back to his friends. “Yes!” said Brundo, “Now we can unlock the door!” They slid the key-card through the lock. They went in...

Professor Merk was working. It was 1:27 am.

But he finally did it, he had created energy. This was the accomplishment of his life and... suddenly he heard something. And that “something” was talking to him: “Are you the man who destroyed the forest!?” “Well, I wouldn’t call it destroying, but...” “Enough nonsense,” yelled the monster. “Bring back the forest, or I will...” “You will, what?” asked Professor Merk, frightened by the monster’s voice. “I will punish you with my god powers,” said the monster. “Oh, so you’re a god,” said the professor while he stepped back. “Well then, I will bring back the forest with my machine.” The professor went to his machine and said to himself: “I know I will regret this.”



What actually happened, you ask?

Dan, Lily, and Brundo went inside the experiment room. Brundo said: “This must be the guy who destroyed the forest.” “But what can we do about it, he’s some kind of a mad scientist!” said Lily. “Brundo is good at making scary costumes, he can make a costume,” said Dan. “I already have an idea. We could combine our costumes to create something bigger.” And they did. They made a scary costume and they scared Professor Merk so much that he decided to bring back the forest. When Professor Merk pulled the lever, our heroes ran outside and shouted: “We did it!” They played hide and seek and they had fun in the forest they saved.




AFTER READING...

 Put these sentences in the right order to make a summary.

- ___ There were toys, costumes, and old photo albums in it.
- ___ Dan, Lily, and Brundo Bear saved the forest.
- ___ He didn't care about nature.
- ___ Dan decided to sneak in and steal the key-card so they could finally enter the laboratory.
- ___ They dressed up and were ready for an adventure.

1 Professor Merk discovered a new kind of energy.

- ___ They reached Professor Merk's laboratory, but there was a guard standing there.
- ___ They made a scary costume and they scared the Professor so he decided to bring back the forest.
- ___ Dan, Lily, and Brundo Bear went to the basement and opened an old chest.
- ___ Dan was looking through his binoculars and it seemed that the forest disappeared.

 **Dan and Brundo Bear are on holiday in Germany. Dan is writing a postcard to his sister, Lily. Complete the postcard with present simple, present continuous, or past simple of the verbs in brackets.**

Hi Lily,

We *are having* a great holiday here in Germany.

We ¹⁾ _____ [stay] in a hotel in the centre of Berlin.

It ²⁾ _____ [have got] a swimming pool and a gaming room.

We ³⁾ _____ [arrive] here on Monday. During the trip

I ⁴⁾ _____ [sleep] and Brundo Bear ⁵⁾ _____ [look] out of the window.

On Tuesday we ⁶⁾ _____ [take] a walk along the East Side Gallery. The weather ⁷⁾ _____ [not be] very cold so we

⁸⁾ _____ [enjoy] our day out.

Yesterday we ⁹⁾ _____ [visit] Berlin Zoo where Brundo Bear


¹⁰⁾ _____ [play] with his friends.

Love,

Dan



BEFORE READING...

 Imagine a holiday in WonderLand. Answer the questions.
Use the past simple when describing your trip to WonderLand.

Where were you on holiday?

When did you go there?

Who did you go with?

How did you travel?

Where did you stay?

Who did you meet?

What did you do there?


What was WonderLand like?

What did you like best?

When did you get back home?

WONDERLAND

3RD PRIZE
grade 5

 AUTHOR: Nicol Držaić, Grade 5
MENTOR: Biljana Sušec, OŠ Franje Seta, Bednja
Activities prepared by Emi Belušić

This is WonderLand! A beautiful place where animals walk and talk like humans! It looks like a normal world but, if you look deeper, you will find secrets, stories, and... bad people. Yes, bad people. But let me tell you about WonderLand first. It is a place that contains magic. It has everything that can make you happy! Colours, animals, and... forests! Green leafy forests! Spend your time there and you'll be happier than ever!

Let's get back to the part with bad people. This is Larry. Larry is a scientist. He hates nature, the forests, and every single animal in them. He has some grandchildren, but he doesn't give them sweets like other grandparents. He just ignores them! He thinks they hate him, and this is why he is alone. So that is where the story begins!



Mike and Daniela are brother and sister. They love nature. They have three amazing animal friends, Berry the bear, Cici the squirrel, and Hopsy the rabbit! One day they found their old toys in the attic and started looking through them. There was a lot of weird stuff in there, like these binoculars that can see really far! They found some old costumes that they hadn't seen in years. Suddenly, there was a strange sound. VRRRRR! Mike grabbed the binoculars and looked. The sound was coming from the forest. Daniela shouted: "Let's go save the forest!"



They packed up and ran until they got to the forest. But when they arrived, the forest was peaceful. Animals were either sleeping, eating, or playing. The gang were too tired and they decided to rest before going back. VRRRRRRR!

They got scared and ran to the nearest house. Their animal friends were terrified, especially Hopsy. After some time, the noise stopped and they decided to look outside. The forest was gone!



A weird but friendly fox came. It was Richey, Hopsy's old friend. Richey was desperate. He had lost his home and was looking for a new one. Cici said that they should use a map to find him a new home.

The first place they visited was a Royal Castle. Richey knocked on the door. A queen opened. She asked with a lovely tone of voice: "Who dares disturb the magical DRAGON Kingdom?" She looked down and saw Richey. "A fox?! GET OUT OF HERE! I'm allergic to foxes!" she shouted. They ran away laughing.

The second place they found was the tree of three KoKo Birds. They were crazy, so Richey had to pretend he was crazy too! He almost got stuck in a little hole but he got through. The KoKo Birds said: "Stuck in a tree there, I see! Why are you here, tell us my dear!" Richey replied: "Can I have the honour of living with you guys?" The KoKo Birds became angry and kicked him out of their hole. He didn't speak in rhymes!

The third place they found was the Super Cool Animal Hotel. When they arrived, a pretty bunny lady said: "Hello there, my children! Do you need a room?" She gave them four keys, to four different rooms, to choose from. Room 100 was a mess! It had spilled juice on the bed, pizza in the bath tub, and hundreds of flies in a cobweb. "Get me out of this stinky hole!" said Richey. They went to the second room, number 105. Everything in the room was pink! Even the water! Richey didn't like it. They got to room number 150. They opened the door and suddenly BOOM! The room exploded! They saw confetti. The room was for birthday parties! Richey thought it was too noisy. Finally, they came to the last room, room number 160. It was dark! The lights were flickering, there was cobweb all around... This was a Hallowe'en room! Somebody screamed! They all screamed, too, and ran away from the hotel.



They got to a little green forest. It was peaceful. Richey wanted to build a house there. The friends helped him build it. He was so happy! They were chatting and playing when suddenly... VRRRRR! "Go, little ones! Let me destroy the forest!" It was Mr. Larry!

They decided to use their old costumes to fight Mr. Larry. They took the costumes out of the bag. Mike was a scary Dragon, with a powerful sword! The sword was actually a broom. Daniela was a dangerous Indian girl with a gun! The gun was an umbrella! Berry was a Pirate! Hopsy was a Knight! And Cici was a Squirrel-Man! They ran to Mr. Larry's lab! There were some men guarding the entrance. They had a plan! Cici attacked from the right, Hopsy from behind, Berry from the left, and Mike and Daniela attacked from the front! They knocked the men out in five seconds!



They got inside his lab! It was long and scary. They stood next to each other and formed a dragon-looking creature. Mr. Larry became scared and started to fight with a pen! The kids were stronger and won! Mr. Larry was done. He saw the bunch of kids and he realised they were working together to fight for what they love. He realised how amazing that is, and how amazing kids can be! He felt sorry and cried: "Please kids! Have some mercy! I am alone and that is why I wanted to destroy the forest. I wanted animals to come and be my friends!" The kids let him go. He promised never to hurt the forest or the animals again. They all became Nature's Best Buddies, a forest club, but that's another story.

Twenty years later, Mr. Larry was going through some old photos. He found a photo of Nature's Best Buddies. He smiled. "Ah! You are all grown up now. I'm so proud. Thank you, my friends!"



AFTER READING...

🇪🇸 ➤ Match the beginnings of the sentences in A to the endings in B.

A

- 1 Mike and Daniela found
- 2 The fox lost
- 3 The first place the children visited
- 4 The Queen
- 5 The Koko birds
- 6 Room number 160
- 7 The group decided to use
- 8 Mr. Larry promised

B

- a) was allergic to foxes.
- b) never to hurt the animals again.
- c) was a Hallowe'en room.
- d) their old toys in the attic.
- e) was the Royal Castle.
- f) kicked Richey out of their hole.
- g) their old costumes to fight Mr. Larry.
- f) his home.

🇪🇸 ➤ Find words or expressions in the text that mean the same as the following.

Scientist Larry never gives that to his grandchildren.

Name of the rabbit.

You can see very far with them.

A mythical monster.

An area with a large number of trees.

Name of the fox.

Any living creature other than a human being.


Opposite of sad.

A man who had a duty to fight for his king in the Middle Ages.

Opposite of young.



BEFORE READING...

 What are the comparative and superlative forms of these adjectives? Write them down.

magnificent	<i>more magnificent</i>	<i>the most magnificent</i>
strange	<i>stranger</i>	<i>the strangest</i>
angry	_____	_____
mad	_____	_____
creepy	_____	_____
obvious	_____	_____
convincing	_____	_____
big	_____	_____
old	_____	_____
mystical	_____	_____

HOW JOSEPH SAVED THE WORLD

1ST PRIZE
grade 6

AUTHOR: Filip Zebić, Grade 6

MENTOR: Nikola Hodalj, OŠ Jelkovec, Sesvete

Activities prepared by Nikola Hodalj

Act I: Memories and Bonbons

This is a story you can't comprehend! Your mind will be blown! It's a story of Joseph, a cranky old man. He was looking through his photo album eating bonbons. He remembers everything he did.

He owned a tiger, had a magnificent beard, and saved us all from an eco-disaster. Yes, you heard me right! I will tell you that story now, after Joseph eats his bonbons (now I want a bonbon, too!)





Act II: A Hallow Night with Robots

It was Hallowe'en. Joseph and his friends were going around trick or treating, as you do, and everything was grand. Joseph was a dragon, his friend Molly was Pocahontas, Scrap the rabbit was a knight (in not so shining armour), Caleb the bear was a pirate (eyepatch included), and Skitter the squirrel was a super squirrel. While they were trick or treating, a strange lab containing Doctor Rudolph's inventions also contained quite a mess. Doctor Rudolph invented chainsaw-wielding robots to help the woodcutters, but the robots went haywire and chopped down entire forests themselves. All the woodland critters were angry and our masked group just happened to stumble upon them.


Act III: A Clue to Success

The woodland critters told us that a mad robot with saws had run through the woods shouting the name Rudolph. Molly remembered that she had seen this name in the newspapers. They didn't pay much attention to that because it was Hallowe'en, but the next day they all met in the park with the newspapers and read an article that said: "Doctor Rudolph - Genius of the Century!" It said that he had invented robots, named Billys, but it also said no picture had been taken of him and the interview was given by his so-called servant, named Igor. These newspapers were from three days ago, but today's news said the robots had broken down and the last sighting of them was in Broomrad woods. "Woods no more!" said Scrap. "Yes, what he said," said Caleb. "Let's go!" said Joseph, ever so heroically.

Act IV: Stereotypical Mad Scientist Inc. At Your Service

"You couldn't tell this was a forest," said Molly. "I can't jump on the trees, there aren't any!" said Skitter. Luck was heading their way, because they found a note that fell from a robot labelled: "Stereotypical Mad Scientist Inc. Meet us at Microfish Lake! Don't forget to feed the fish!"





Molly said: "That's half a kilometre away from us." "True," said Joseph, "Let's look through my binoculars." "You had binoculars the whole time?!" asked Molly. "Yes, and I call dibs!" Joseph looked through the binoculars and saw Doctor Rudolph in a window at the top of the lake. He had a creepy grin, a cucumber nose, and goggles. Molly wanted to look and Joseph obliged. They just needed a plan to get there.



Act V: Getting In Undetected!

"Wait! I have a plan!" said Joseph, "What if we combine our costumes into a dragon?" "That won't work, he'll see it's us," said Molly. "But our shadows won't be obvious," said Joseph. So they grabbed their costumes and went. But how did they get inside? Well, the note said to feed the fish and so they did. The ground suddenly shifted and they fell down. They quickly made a dragon that had a convincing shadow. Doctor Rudolph walked by and saw the shadow. He ran in fear, dropping a box he was carrying, and a map fell out of the box. They took a peek and left with the map, undetected.

Act VI: The Road to the Treasure!


There were big mountains on the map – the Peckorn Mountains. They saw the mountains from Microfish Lake and X marked a spot they already knew. It was an abandoned house on the street on which they lived. They went there immediately. There was a chest in the house and the chest contained - treasure!

Act VII: Rejoice, Epilogue is Here

Inside the chest were old toys, but at the bottom was a bag of fairy dust, a mystical item granting you any wish. All five of them wished for something. Molly wished for the forest to be restored and for the robots to be destroyed. Caleb wished for a lifetime supply of corndogs. Skitter wished for a bouncy castle. Scrap wished to be a Knight of the Round Table, and Joseph wished for more adventures in the future. All of the wishes came true. As for Doctor Rudolph, he had created the robots in order to destroy the forest but fortunately his plan was foiled!



AFTER READING...

 Match the words from columns A and B to create phrases used in the story.

~~go~~ go pay
grant come take
run call chop
stumble break
wish get

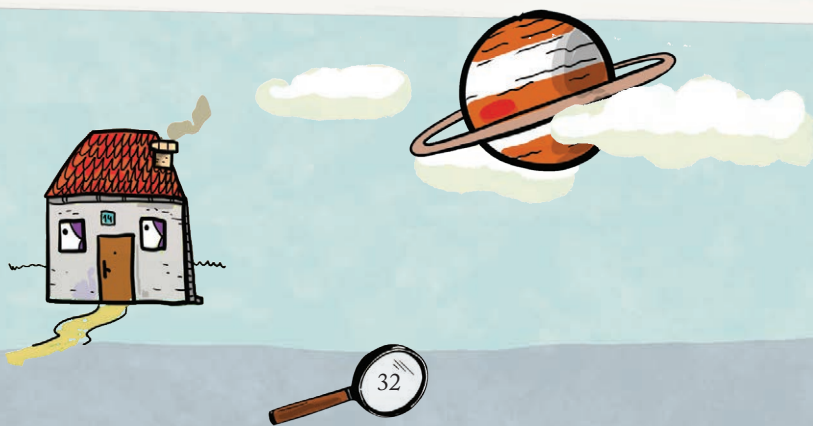
dibs for down
down upon in fear
a peek haywire
wishes true attention
in ~~trick or treating~~

Go trick or treating.



🇪🇸 Complete the summary of the story using the past simple form of the phrases from the previous exercise. Be careful – one verb has to be used in its negative form.

One Halloween Joseph and his friends *went trick or treating* as all children do. They ¹⁾ _____ some woodland critters who were angry because robots ²⁾ _____ and ³⁾ _____ their entire forest shouting the name "Rudolph". Joseph and his friends ⁴⁾ _____ to what the woodland critters were telling them because it was Hallowe'en. However, the next day they read about Rudolph and the robots in the newspaper. In the Broomrad Woods they found a note that fell from a robot and saw that they were produced at Microfish Lake. This place was half a kilometre away. Joseph saw the lab first because he ⁵⁾ _____ on the binoculars. They ⁶⁾ _____ the lab undetected because Dr. Rudolph ⁷⁾ _____ when he saw their very convincing shadow of a dragon. He also dropped a map. The map led them to a chest containing a bag of fairy dust that ⁸⁾ _____. Molly ⁹⁾ _____ the forest to be restored. Her wish ¹⁰⁾ _____.



BEFORE READING...


 Are you good at solving riddles? Do you know any? Try to answer these:

Q1: A boy was rushed to the hospital emergency room. The ER doctor saw the boy and said, "I cannot operate on this boy. He is my son." But the doctor was not the boy's father. How could that be? *

Q2: A boy fell off a 20-foot ladder but did not get hurt. Why not? **

Q3: Which letter of the alphabet has the most water? ***

Q4: What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years? ****

 In the story you are about to read, Howard and his friends will have to solve a riddle to save the forest. Read it and try to solve it.

You are locked in a room with three doors. You will not survive for long, so you need to escape. Behind the first door is a tank with five hungry sharks. Behind the second door is a glass tunnel that magnifies the sun creating temperatures too high for living beings. Behind the third door is a fire. How do you escape?

HINTS:

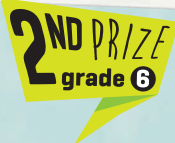
* Besides fathers, who else is a parent?

** How high did the boy climb?

*** Don't think about letters, think first about big surfaces of water and then pronounce them.

**** Now take a look at letters.

EVEN AN EGG CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



 AUTHOR: Petra Gudasić, Grade 6

MENTOR: Nada Škrtić, OŠ Grabrik, Karlovac

Activities prepared by Nikola Hodalj

Howdy!

I'm Harold. I found one of my old photo albums yesterday, and I remembered all of my adventures with my sister Anna, our bear friend Jerry, and our pets, squirrel Cindy and rabbit Jim. Anna was very curious and not shy at all, unlike me. We found Jerry in our basement searching for some food after people took his mum and trapped her in a zoo. He was still a baby so we kept him as our pet-friend. We didn't tell our mum about



him until he grew up about a year later. She never went into the basement because it was our job to clean it. She was a bit mad at first but then she realised how much we love him. Our dad taught him how to fish and hunt.

Of all our journeys I remember this one the best...

Behind our house there was a beautiful forest. Every day we would go out and play in it. While we were cleaning the basement, we found some old costumes. We decided to dress up and go to the forest. What we saw changed our lives... The forest... it was gone!!! No leaves. No trees. Nothing. Just stumps everywhere. We were so surprised, sad, confused. All at the same time. We went to explore the nothingness. Something cracked and we were suddenly in a laboratory. We were even more confused. It turned out that the ceiling had cracked and we had fallen through... There was a loud *POOF*! Behind us was a scientist. He started to yell: "I did it! I did it!" He turned around and said: "Ha! You fell through my trap. Don't worry, I won't hurt you. I just need you to do one thing. Get a giant owl's egg." "Why?" asked Anna. He replied: "Well... it's a long story. I want to be the smartest scientist in the world. The potion is almost done. I just need the yolk of a giant owl's egg. Bring it to me by midnight." "What do we get in return?" asked Anna. "Whatever you want," said the scientist. "We want you to bring the forest back," said Cindy. "AND a big chest of toys," added Jerry. "That's easy. If you succeed, of course." He gave us a map and told us to hurry. We followed the railroad and got to a forest where, according to the map, there was supposed to be a giant owl's nest. We walked around the forest for a bit and spotted the nest. Suddenly, behind us was a giant owl. "What are you doing here?" she asked.

"We were hoping you would give us one of your eggs."

"And why do you need my egg?"

"People deforested the forest behind our house and they will soon do the same to yours. We need the yolk of your egg to make a potion so we can revive the forests."

"Why should I trust you?"

"Well, you can risk losing your home or you can spare an egg and make sure you and your family are safe."

"Ok, ok, I will give you only ONE egg if you solve this riddle."



You're locked in a room with three doors. You won't survive for long, so you need to escape. Behind the first door is a tank with five hungry sharks. Behind the second door is a glass tunnel that magnifies the sun creating temperatures too high for living beings. Behind the third door is a fire. How do you escape?

"That's easy. Through the second door. I will wait until it's night time," said Anna.

"Well done. Here's the egg."

The owl helped us bring the egg to the railroad. We found an old cart and pushed the egg back to the lab. "Wow! That was fast" the scientist said, "Here's your potion. Spill it in the well, in the middle of the forest, and all the trees will come back to life. And of course, here's the box of toys."

We did what he said and the forest returned. It wasn't the same as before, but it was good enough for us. We went back to the house to look through all the toys. There were so many of them!


Suddenly, we were interrupted by the TV...



BREAKING NEWS!!!

"We have just been informed that a man who seems to be the smartest in the world has discovered a new element. Yes, the fifth element is real..."

AFTER READING...

 Fill in the summary of the story with the past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

When one day, Harold, Ann, and their pet friends *went* [go] to their favourite forest, they *didn't find* [not find] anything: the forest was gone. They _____ [walk] into a laboratory and suddenly they _____ [fall]. A scientist _____ [trap] them but he _____ [not want] to hurt them. He only _____ [want] them to bring him a giant owl's egg for a potion that would make him the smartest scientist in the world. The children _____ [say] "Yes" and _____ [ask] him a favour in return: to bring the forest back and a big chest of toys. The scientist _____ [give] them a map and _____ [tell] them to hurry. They _____ [walk] to a forest where they soon _____ [spot] a nest and _____ [find] the giant owl. The giant owl _____ [help] them because owls are smart birds and they also want the forests restored. The children _____ [push] her egg into an old cart and, luckily, it _____ [not break]. The scientist _____ [keep] his promise and the children _____ [get] their forest back, along with a box of toys.



BEFORE READING...

➤ Complete this introduction to the story with the possessive form of the nouns in brackets and then try to guess what happened in the story.

It was a night when stars were falling. They are called shooting stars. As you well know, shooting stars make *other people's* [other people] wishes come true. Peter couldn't sleep that night so his grandfather James told him a story that happened long ago when he was _____ [Peter] age. _____ [James] sister Joanna was also part of the story. Slipper the Squirrel, Honey-Money the Bear and Short-Ear the Rabbit were _____ [James and Joanna] best friends. There was a forest near _____ [the children] house and it was their most favourite place in the world. However, _____ [a crazy scientist] plan was to destroy the forest. Can you guess what happened? Read the story and find out. Find out also what _____ [Peter] wish was and what happens to _____ [shooting stars] wishes. Do they also come true?



A WISH UPON A SHOOTING STAR



AUTHOR: Ivona Herout, Grade 6

MENTOR: Karolina Leskovic Hrčica, OŠ Ljudevita Gaja, Krapina

Activities prepared by Nikola Hodalj

It was a warm October night. The sky was full of shooting stars and the air was full of wishes. One shooting star was watching her friends falling and thought: "If we make wishes come true, what about our wishes? Will they come true? I hope mine will. I wish... I wish... I wish to make someone happy and make their wish come true." With that thought she fell from the sky, hoping her wish would come true.



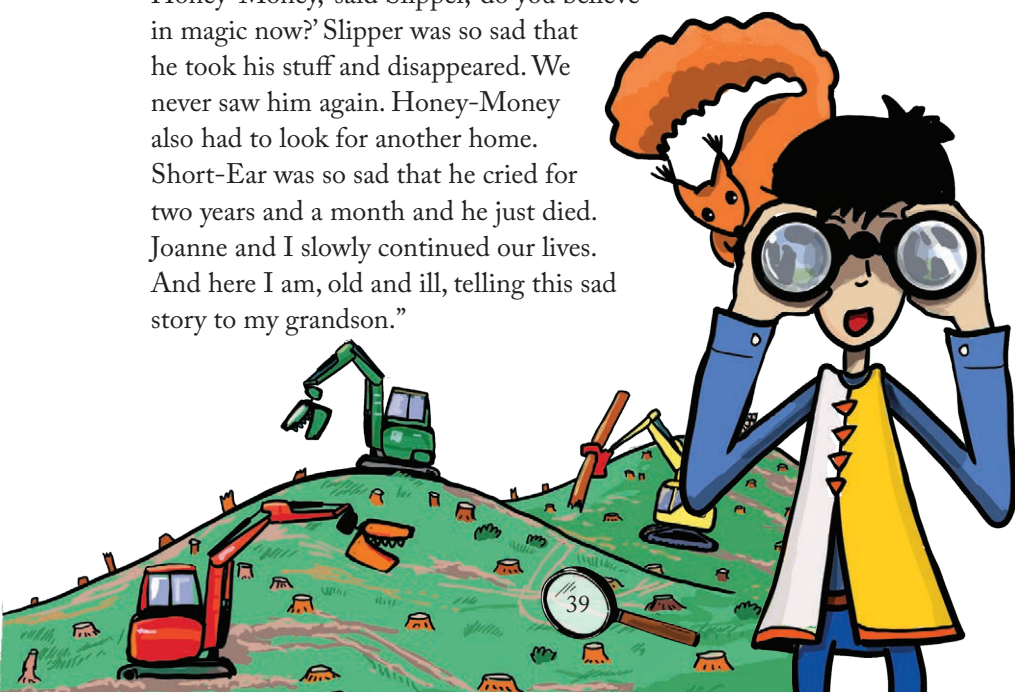


Hundreds of kilometres below, Peter couldn't sleep. He wasn't tired so he went to the living room. His grandfather James was sitting in a chair and looking at an old photo album. "Hi, grandpa," said Peter. "Hi," said James, "Why aren't you in bed?" "Guess I couldn't sleep," said his grandson. James smiled: "If you can't sleep, maybe I should tell you a story."

"When I was a little boy," James began, "I had lots of friends. My best friends were Slipper the Squirrel, Honey-Money the Bear, and Short-Ear the Rabbit. And, of course, my very, very, very annoying sister Joanne. You know her, she lives across the street. And, also, there was a bat, Screech, but he always slept. We played in the forest. It was the most beautiful forest in the history of the planet. That forest was everything to us. We were there each and every day. So, one Hallowe'en we found costumes in an old chest and went trick or treating. I was dressed up as a dragon, Joanne went as an Indian, Slipper was a superhero, Honey-Money was a pirate, and Short-Ear was a knight. As we were returning home, the wind blew a piece of paper into our faces. It was a map! We very excited so we followed the map. We found a hut. It was really weird. It was definitely a hut, but it was made of

metal. Joanne started running and before I could stop her she had already knocked on the door. I started yelling at her so I couldn't see Slipper, Honey-Money, and Short-Ear entering the hut. Then Joanne and I went in, too. We saw a crazy scientist screaming as we walked in. 'Oh, you are just children. And animals. Didn't see that at first. I thought you were monsters. Because of the costumes, right?' he said. 'Now come on, go home, you little worms.' We were very suspicious of him so we stayed. 'We aren't going anywhere. What are you doing? Show us,' said Joanne. The scientist laughed: 'Sure, I'll show you. But first, tell me something. What in this world do you love the most?' It was a simple question for us. We were young and naïve so we all said: 'The forest.' The scientist smiled horribly and said: 'Here, let me show you. See this light bulb? It's magical.' Honey-Money laughed: 'Magical? Huh, according to your age, you were born in the 18th century. So, yeah, to you electricity is magic.' The scientist looked at him very angrily and whispered: 'Shut up, you freak. Like I said, it's magical. With this, I can destroy everything I want! Like, let me see, hmm... Your little forest.' I felt like he just said that he would kill my best friend."

"It was too late when we realised our mistake. The next morning, we ran out of our house even before breakfast. We were looking at the place which used to be our forest. However, there was nothing there but some grass and destroyed trees. I took my pair of binoculars to look at it closely. 'So Honey-Money,' said Slipper, 'do you believe in magic now?' Slipper was so sad that he took his stuff and disappeared. We never saw him again. Honey-Money also had to look for another home. Short-Ear was so sad that he cried for two years and a month and he just died. Joanne and I slowly continued our lives. And here I am, old and ill, telling this sad story to my grandson."




“Well, it is sad, grandpa,” said Peter. “I wish we could get that forest back!” As he was saying that, the shooting star was falling. And, what a miracle, the next morning, the forest was there, beautiful and strong like it was before it was destroyed.

And what about the shooting star? Like every shooting star before and after her, she fell into the ocean of wishes and drowned. But she wasn’t sad. Her wish came true. She made someone happy.




AFTER READING...

 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

annoying pirates laughs
wish chest blow yell

- a) You don't have to yell; I can hear you all right.
- b) When you _____ out candles on your birthday cake you have to make a _____.
- c) My brother watches sit-coms and _____ all the time when I'm trying to do my homework. He is so _____.
- d) At the bottom of the sea we found a _____ with treasure that belonged to _____.

 All the statements are false. Correct them and you will come up with a summary of the story.

When James was a little boy, he didn't have many friends.

When James was a little boy, he had lots of friends.

One Hallowe'en, James and his friends bought costumes in a fancy costume shop and went trick or treating.

While they were returning home, they found an old newspaper on the floor.

The map led them to a beautiful villa.

There they saw a nice old man who smiled gently.

He showed them a magic carpet and asked them what in the world they loved the most.

The next morning, the trees in their favourite forest were bigger and greener.


The squirrel, the bear, and the rabbit lived long and happily in their forest.

The next morning a new small forest was there.

The shooting star wasn't sad because she drowned in the ocean of wishes.



BEFORE READING...

 Discuss the following questions.

What do you like doing on a rainy day?

Do you ever turn over the pages of an old family photo album?

How does it make you feel? What has changed?

What are your dearest childhood memories?

1ST PRIZE
grade **7**

OLIVER'S FOREST ADVENTURE

 AUTHOR: Maja Marković, Grade 7

MENTOR: Bojana Palijan, OŠ Ivana Zajca, Rijeka

Activities prepared by Bojana Palijan

It was a cold, rainy October afternoon. Oliver was feeling extremely bored. There was nothing on TV and his old, fragile bones couldn't handle going outside in such weather. So he decided to do what he always did at times like that. He opened the dusty wooden drawer and pulled out a thick wide blue book. It was a book filled with pictures, memories he had made over the past. He loved to reminisce about all of the adventures in his life. After looking at them for a while, he turned the page to the photo he would always come back to. It was a photo of him posing with Samantha, his now deceased wife, Max the Squirrel, Tony the Bear, and Lilly the Rabbit. They were all just children then. And with a light smile on his lips, Oliver remembered the greatest story of them all.



It happened on a hot day in July. He and Samantha were best friends at the time and they would spend all the summer holidays playing in the nearby forest. In the good old days talking animals were no wonder, so having Lilly, Tony, and Max as friends wasn't unusual. That day, Max came to his house looking very sad. Some people were cutting down the trees! That meant not only that they would lose a place to play, but Max, Lilly, and Tony would also lose their homes! They were devastated, until Samantha, his sweet, clever Samantha, came up with an idea. A scientist lived just a mile away from them. All the newspapers said he had invented a potion which made plants grow faster and bigger. He should be able to help them! "But Samantha," Max whined, "He's crazy! He hates local people and has no sympathy for animals either! Why would he help us?" They all sat in silence for a while, thinking it over. Oliver's face suddenly lit up and he exclaimed "Exactly! He's crazy! Which means if we dress up strangely, we can convince him we were sent from the future to convey the mission of saving the forest to him." They all agreed happily.

And so they headed towards Matilda, a nice chubby lady with rose tinted cheeks. She held open a store with many uncommon things, costumes being one of them. After getting the suits from an old chest and promising Matilda they would pay next time, they proceeded to the scientist's house. They got more than a few confused looks for wearing a pirate, dragon, knight, superhero, and a Native American outfits. The costumes weren't quite coordinated or appropriate, but those were the only ones Matilda had. They could only hope it would work. The sun was already falling by the time they arrived at the dilapidated cabin. They knocked and a big brown eye looked at them through a hole in the door. "Who are you? What do you want?" the scientist asked

quickly, his voice high pitched from nervousness. Oliver cleared his throat and then said in a serious tone: "We are the Rescue Team and we're from the future. Our job is to prevent catastrophes from happening in the future by travelling to the past. We demand you give us your plant growing potion in order to stop the Earth from decomposing." It was quiet for a few moments and they thought they had failed, when the scientist opened the door. He dropped some papers from





his arms as soon as he saw them wearing such unusual clothes. It took him a while to form a proper sentence. "Come in, come in, so sorry for being rude earlier, gentlemen," he apologised fearfully. They followed him inside. The cabin seemed abandoned and small from the outside, but from the inside it was huge and equipped with the newest technology. While they were admiring the view, the scientist brought them a bottle with green liquid in it. "Here it is," he said. "Thank you, sir, your help will be noted." It wasn't until then that they realised how tired they were from all the walking. "Say,

do you by any chance have a vehicle we can use to get to our destination?" Oliver wondered. "Oh, of course, you can use my car." Oliver almost fainted. He had only heard of cars and was very interested in them. The thought of actually seeing one sent tingles through his body.

The scientist led them to a red car with white lights and black tires. It was beautiful. As soon as the scientist started driving, they were all incredibly shocked, Lilly even felt sick from the speed. They got back home in no time. There were even fewer trees in the forest than before. They watched the scientist drip tiny drops of the potion on the ground, leaving huge and strong trees growing behind him. Other people from the town couldn't believe their eyes; the forest was wider than ever. The wood cutters were terrified, they thought that the town was haunted and ran away immediately. Their home was saved, and Samantha was so excited she gave Oliver a small kiss on the cheek.

Oliver closed the book. The loving memory of his friends turned to bitterness when he realised he was the last one alive. The thought of such an adventure never happening again ached too much. But he smiled anyway. His friends may not be here anymore, but their stories lived on. So he got back in his wheelchair and pretended it was the scientist's car, reliving it all over again.



AFTER READING...

➤ Match words in A with their explanations in B.

convey **ache** **haunted**
reminisce **proceed**
dilapidated **deceased**
devastated **bitterness**

continue/move **dead**
agony/grief **crushed**
possessed **remember** **be painful**
communicate **shabby/ruined**


Now complete the sentences with the words in A. Be careful when using verbs. Make any necessary changes. Then read the story and check.

- 1 Oliver _____ about the last time he and his friends were together.
- 2 He missed his _____ wife and his friends very much.
- 3 They were _____ by the loss of a place to live and play.
- 4 Oliver wanted to _____ the information about the mission to the scientist.
- 5 They left the shop and _____ to the scientist's house.
- 6 They found themselves in front of an old _____ cabin.
- 7 Everybody ran away because they were afraid the town was _____.
- 8 The sweetness of the past turned to the _____ of the present.
- 9 The memory was so painful that it made his whole body _____.

➤ The story ends in a sad tone. How else could the story have ended? What if the animals were still alive? What if Oliver and his wife had children and grandchildren? What if there was someone at the door? What would make Oliver feel better? Rewrite the last paragraph in 60 - 70 words beginning after this line: "Oliver closed the book." Give an alternate ending to the story in a more joyful and optimistic tone.



BEFORE READING...

 Tick the sentences you agree with. Then explain your choice.


Yes No

- ☒ ☐ Time travel has been a very popular topic in the film industry.
- ☐ ☐ Time travel would be fatal for humans to try.
- ☐ ☐ If I could go back in time, I would just be an invisible observer.
- ☐ ☐ If I could, I would go back in time to change the past.
- ☐ ☐ If I could, I would travel into the future to see the future me.

GOING BACK

2ND PRIZE
grade 7



 AUTHOR: Tonka Bogović, Grade 7
MENTOR: Bojana Palijan, OŠ Ivana Zajca, Rijeka
Activities prepared by Bojana Palijan

A long time ago, in a small town called Philsborough, there lived a scientist. He never left his house because he could invent anything he needed. But he still wanted more. He wanted new childhood memories and for that he would have to go back in time and nobody can do that, right? However, the scientist was a special man. He made a small time machine that looked like a lightbulb. He turned the bottom part of the lightbulb twice and felt a strong wind blowing in his face. Everything went black. The next thing he remembered, he was lying in the grass and a pair of light blue eyes were staring at him. Suddenly, he heard himself speaking in a boy's voice. He realised it was him, a child again. He did it – he went back in time.

"Where am I?" he asked.

"You are in an enchanted forest. It's beautiful, isn't it? What's your name? I'm Lucy, nice to meet you," said the girl, helping him up. She had short black hair and she wasn't very tall.

"I'm Damien," said the scientist. People usually referred to him as the scientist and nothing more so he wasn't used to people calling him by his name.

"Listen, Damien," Lucy said, "we need your help. They are cutting down enchanted forests and they are on their way to this one as we speak!"

"Then we have to get away from here," Damien grabbed Lucy's arm.

"No! Don't you understand, we have to warn the animals, come on!" Lucy pulled Damien deeper into the forest. They ran as fast as they could and warned all the animals. Some of them ran away while some decided to stay with Lucy and Damien. And so, the kids continued their adventure with a bear, a squirrel, and a rabbit. The animals wanted to find another forest to live in and so they started their search. But, that was easier said than done. People had already cut down many forests and it was difficult to find an unspoiled one. They were wandering around for days and were already starting to lose hope when they found an abandoned house. They went inside and found a big wooden chest. Inside the chest there were many toys and costumes. They needed a break from all the searching, so they put on the costumes, took some toys, and went out to play. As a thank you note, Damien left a map that would lead its finder to the place where he was later going to leave the time machine.

They played in their costumes not thinking about anything. While Damien was dancing with Lucy, he saw the rabbit running to the other side of the house. He was so deep in thought that he didn't notice that he had stopped dancing.

"What's wrong?" Lucy asked. "I think I saw something, come on." Damien took Lucy's hand and together they went to the other side of the house. When they saw what was behind the house, they stood speechless. In front of them was a huge enchanted forest. The bear and the squirrel, which followed them, ran into the forest laughing. Lucy hugged Damien. "We did it! We actually did it!"



Both of them went inside the house, letting the animals enjoy their new home. Lucy sat on the chest with a big smile on her face. "Now the animals can live in the forest and you and I can live here, in this house!"

"Actually, Lucy," Damien looked away, "I have to go home. I came from the future with a time machine." Lucy's eyes filled with tears. "But I thought that we were going to live here, together, with the animals." Damien sat next to her. "I really wish we could, Lucy, I really wish we could."

Damien didn't want to leave her, but he had to go back. His mission in the past was completed. After saying goodbye to all his new friends, Damien returned to his old life as a scientist. He felt lonely, now more than ever. He missed Lucy, the way she laughed, talked, danced... He was deeply sad.



One day, just as the clock struck half past one, the door of the scientist's house opened. A lady entered - it was Lucy! He was so shocked that he froze. Behind her were the bear, the squirrel, and the rabbit from the past. Damien was very happy. He could finally have a family and stop being lonely! Lucy ran to him. Damien saw tears in her eyes. She was crying from how happy she was. They hugged, just like they used to when they were kids.

"How did you get here?" asked Damien.


"One day, while I was cleaning the chest, I found a map, your map. So I followed it, found the time machine and came here, to you!"

They started a family, and people began to accept the scientist because he became kinder and caring. He loved his new life; he loved Lucy and their animal friends. To make them live longer, he brewed a potion of long life so they would never leave them.

Many years later, Damien was turning over the pages of his photo album, looking at his memories of when he went back to the past. He looked at Lucy who was playing with the animals. They were laughing and throwing toys all over the room. At that moment, Damien realised how lucky and happy he was in his new life, as a scientist, a husband, and a friend.




AFTER READING...

 Match examples 1 - 3 from the story with descriptions a - c.
Which tenses did we use in each sentence?

- 1 One day while I was cleaning the chest, I found a map.
- 2 I followed it, found the time machine, and came here.
- 3 They were laughing and throwing toys all over the room.

- a Three finished actions in the past.
- b Two actions in progress at the same time in the past.
- c An action which was in progress when another action happened.

 Write sentences with *when* or *while* and the given prompts.

Damien / dance / he see the rabbit.

Damien was dancing when he saw the rabbit.

or

While Damien was dancing, he saw the rabbit.

1 Damien / lie / in the grass / he hear a voice.

2 They / wander around / they find an abandoned house.

3 Damien / leave the map / he look inside the chest.

4 Lucy / smile / she sit down on the chest.

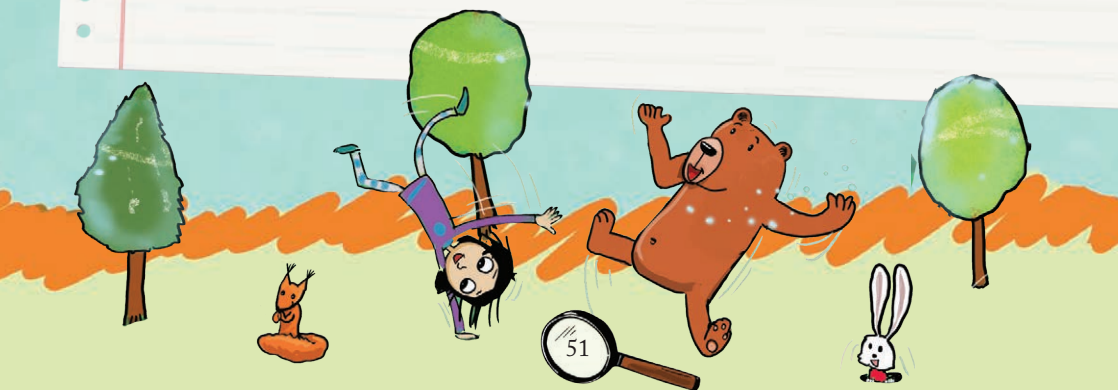
5 Lucy / play with the animals / Damien / realise / how happy he was.




🇪🇺 ➤ Imagine having a time machine that can take you anywhere you want to go – back into the past or forward into the future.

- ▶ Write a story about the trip you took in about 100 words.
- ▶ Present your ideas clearly, organising your writing into three paragraphs. Include an interesting beginning and ending for your writing.
- ▶ Think about the following questions: Where did you go? What happened? Who did you meet? How was it? How did you feel coming back?
- ▶ Use accurate grammar – past simple and past continuous.
- ▶ Begin your story with this sentence:

The most incredible thing happened to me last weekend.



BEFORE READING...

 Use the clues to complete the crossword with words from the story.
Then read the story and check.

1 move forward on hands and knees; babies move like that

2 appear like a ghost at a place to disturb people

3 forever alive; never dying

4 a traditional folk story; a myth

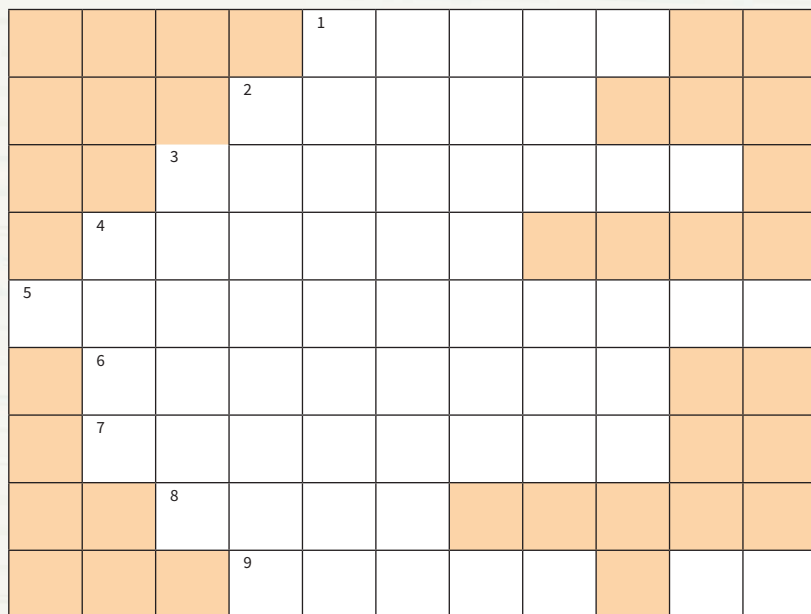
5 the place to which someone is going; the journey's end

6 causing horror; shocking, terrible

7 hear something unintentionally, without meaning to hear

8 the opposite of locked

9 put on or wear a special costume



The first letters of the words give a nine-letter magic word.

The magic word is _____.





THE ADVENTURE

AUTHOR: Ariana Đurović, Grade 7

MENTOR: Ivana Leko, OŠ Eugena Kumičića, Rijeka

Activities prepared by Bojana Palijan

It was a battle. The Indian princess, her fellow pirate Eyepatch, and me, her partner Fire Breath, charged at the enemy with the ninja squirrel as their all-seeing eye and their rabbit knight as a distraction. With her sword that was actually an umbrella, she yelled as they all started running. The enemy was petrified with fear and when they saw us, they fled. The battle was won. The Level map was ours. Legend says that it leads to a secret treasure. Something every kid wants.

The map stretched all the way from the sea to the Castle of the Talking Chairs. There were mountains and a forest in the middle, but we could easily go around the mountains and through the forest with our magic bikes and get to the treasure. I looked through my binoculars and saw that our destination was actually pretty close. All we had to do is go through the forest.

My sister, Brother Bear, Sam the Squirrel, and Teddy the Rabbit all started moving while my sister told us a story along the way. It was about a boy who never grew up. It was my favourite story growing up. I never wanted to grow up myself. As we reached the forest, we saw something horrible. All the trees were gone. Cut down. That forest is one of the most magical places and one of the biggest and most important parts that keep the Adventure running. It is an incredible beauty to our eyes, and gives all the woodland creatures a home and special apples that make you fly.

A fellow squirrel told us everything about a new person in the Adventure. He was a scientist and he was trying to create a serum to become immortal because he was afraid of dying. The squirrel overheard one of the scientist's followers telling others about it. He cut down the trees when he saw what kind of magic they had. The squirrel said that all the trees were destroyed and the only way to grow them back was to plant a seed from one of the special apples. However, the scientist took them all. Then I knew that the treasure could wait and that we had to get those seeds. The squirrel told us he has placed his lab at the end of where the forest once was. We went straight away. When we reached the lab it was heavily guarded, so we had to sneak inside.

There was an old ventilation system big enough for all of us to sneak through. Only Brother Bear had some difficulty. We were very quiet as we crawled all the way to the main lab. We saw the Loon, as my sister called the scientist behind all of this. Probably because he was crazy. My sister had a knack for naming people and things. Anyway, he was experimenting with a lightbulb but all that happened was a rainy cloud that shot a small lightning bolt from it. To him, that was a success. He yelled happily and then went back to his desk and started writing something down. I looked down and saw an old book on one of the many piles that were there. I read the legend that was written in the book. It spoke of a monster that haunted people who did bad things with the magic of the Adventure. It haunted them until they left the land of the Adventure. I came up with an idea. The scientist was trying another experiment when Teddy the Rabbit started speaking in a low voice.





“Well, hello there, scientist.”

As I remember, the scientist turned around and looked confused at first, but later on he grew afraid.

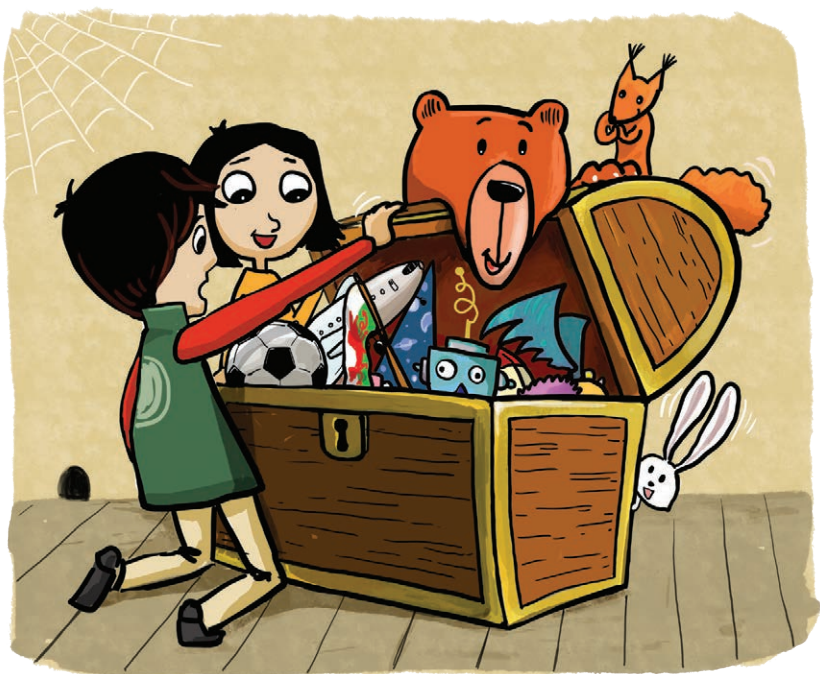
“I am the spirit of the Adventure. I see you came here for your experiments. I guess I should have told you. The magic of the Adventure is precious and anyone who messes with it should be punished. The magic was never meant to be used for experiments in a lab or anything that will hurt anyone in the land.”

“I merely wanted to understand it better. I never meant for it to hurt anybody. I’m sorry oh Great Spirit of the Land,” the scientist said. He was scared and he was shaking a little. Teddy continued...


“You are making me angry with all of your talk. Leave and never come back or I will be forced to call my loyal subjects and have them take you and your people out of the Adventure. Just let me tell you something. They are very aggressive when they are angry and they won’t have mercy on you. Now, do I make myself clear?!”

The Loon was shaking as he agreed. He called his men and they packed their things and went away for good, never to be seen again. I took one of the apple seeds and planted it in the forest. The trees magically started to grow back and made us all fly. We went back to our treasure hunt flying around until we found it. It was buried under an X mark on the ground. We started digging until we found it. We took the chest out and opened it. What was inside was amazing. It was full of toys of all kinds, costumes, and candy. We had fun with the toys all day long, dressed up in the costumes, and later on we ate candy. That was just one of our days in the Adventure.

I'm old now. I keep remembering these moments and the adventures we had. I remember what it felt like to be a kid without a care in the world. I even act like a kid these days. I guess no one ever has to leave childhood. At least, not mentally. Most people don't understand the importance of our childhood experiences. My childhood was fun, full of adventure and true friends, which are really hard to find. It took me a whole month to start being friendly with the Ninja Squirrel! It was all real. Never forget your childhood. Believe me, it will be worth it.



AFTER READING...

 Read the sentences and choose the word [A, B or C] which you think fits best according to the story.

1 The story starts with a battle. The battle was won because the enemy was _____.

- A** exhausted **B** bored **C** frightened

2 The group of friends decided to follow the treasure map and go _____ through the forest.

- A** on foot **B** cycling **C** by car

3 The main character loved the story his sister told them on the way because it reminded him of _____.

- A** a relative **B** a friend **C** himself

4 When they reached the forest, they faced another problem. It was _____.

- A** deforestation **B** pollution **C** animal extinction

5 To solve the problem, they had to get into a heavily guarded lab _____.

- A** gently **B** secretly **C** quickly

6 The legend said that people who harm the magic of the Adventure get haunted by a monster as _____.

- A** a reward **B** an experiment **C** a punishment


7 Children saved the forest thanks to a magic _____.

- A** plant **B** potion **C** spell

8 The main character believes that childhood experiences are _____.

- A** useless **B** valuable **C** silly



 Read the following famous quotes on childhood and choose the one you like best and you agree with. Explain your choice in 70 -80 words. Include your opinion about how you hope your childhood will influence you as a grown-up.

"What one loves in childhood stays in the heart forever."

~ Mary Jo Putney,
an American novelist

"One of the luckiest things that can happen to you in life is, I think, to have a happy childhood."

~ Agatha Christie,
an English writer

"There's something about childhood friends that you just can't replace."

~ Lisa Whelchel,
an American actress


"Childhood means simplicity. Look at the world with the child's eye - it is very beautiful."

~ Kailash Satyarthi, an Indian children's rights activist and a Nobel Peace Prize winner

"Men do not quit playing because they grow old; they grow old because they quit playing."

~ Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.,
an American physician and poet

BEFORE READING...

-  Before reading the story, think about science. It has both positive and negative impacts on our environment. Can you think of any for both of these categories?



ZOE'S STORY

1ST PRIZE
grade 8

AUTHOR: Valentina Karlović Terceira, Grade 8

MENTOR: Morea Banićević, OŠ Rikarda Katalinića Jeretova, Opatija
Activities prepared by Morea Banićević

This is a story about me and my brother saving a beautiful magical forest. My name is Zoe, I'm eight years old, my brother's name is Jake and he is ten. We love nature, mostly forests, because you can play all sorts of games there like tag, hide 'n' seek, freeze tag, adventure. Wait a minute, adventure isn't a game, well unless you want it to be a game. It's also where you can see a lot of beautiful plants and animals.

That's where we meet our animal friends. Rebeca the Rabbit, Serena the Squirrel, and Boris the Bear. We met them while playing hide 'n' seek; I was hiding while Jake was seeking. 15 minutes passed, and he still hadn't found me; all of a sudden, I heard a voice, "What are you doing in my house?" I turned around and saw a tiny squirrel staring at me and talking; I screamed and next thing I knew I was on the ground and everything went black.

I could only hear the squirrel talking but then I heard my brother yell my name "Zoe!" I didn't know what had happened until I woke up. From that day on we hung out and played with our new friends in the magical forest every day.

One day when we were on our way to the forest, Serena, Rebeca, and Boris ran towards us screaming with angry looks on their faces. "Your people are destroying our forest, you must have told them about our forest, don't act all innocent!" "What are you talking about?" Jake said. "You really don't know?" Serena asked. We shook our heads, Boris, Serena, and Rebecca looked at each other and then at us. They took us to a hill that was close to the forest. "What is it?" I asked, "It's over there," said the fox, pointing to a



valley. Jake took his binoculars out and looked through them, and gasped. "What? What do you see?" I asked impatiently. "See for yourself," he said, passing me the binoculars. I looked through them and saw lots of cranes and trucks taking away the wood from the forest, trees were being cut down. It was a horrible sight. "Why are they doing this?" I cried in disbelief. "We don't know, we thought you would know," they cried in unison. "Why don't we head down and ask the workers and drivers why?" Jake suggested.

We all agreed, so we headed down to what was left of the forest to ask what was going on. It was crowded and loud and everyone just passed us by. We were able to ask one worker. "Excuse me," Jake said, "What?" the worker yelled back at us. "We just wanted to ask what is going on here," I said, annoyed by this man. "That's none of your business kids, now run along and go bother someone else," he said angrily, as he walked away.

I noticed something had fallen out of his pocket and I picked it up. "Hey Jake," I said. "Yeah?" he replied. "What's this?" I asked. "It looks like some sort of map, one that led them to this forest," he said. "So that's how they found our forest," said Boris, "Now we can use this map to go to whomever



is the boss of these people.” We followed the map back to the start and eventually found a big facility surrounded by a wired fence that said ‘DANGER HIGH VOLTAGE’.

We knocked on the giant iron door. We could hear evil laughter and electricity sparking, and when the iron door opened a scientist emerged... “What do you want?” he asked furiously. “W-we would, I-like to know w-why you’re c-cutting down the forest,” I said, scared by this man. “That is none of your business, little girl,” he said with a smirk on his face. “Actually, it is,” said Jake, “Our friends live in that forest and you are destroying it.” “Alright, I will tell you since you are so desperate. I am using the magic from those trees to create a new source of energy! Imagine, unlimited energy, it’s brilliant!” he said laughing. We all looked at each other worriedly. I said to myself, “Is this man CRAZY? It’s not his forest and he has no right to steal its magical power...”

“I told you everything, now SCRAM!”

We ran away to the one person that we could trust... our grandfather.

Grandfather did know the scientist, and told us that his name was Kimberly. He showed us photos of him with Kimberly and told us how the scientist went mad. He told us how Kimberly feared mythical forest creatures. This gave us an idea as to how to scare the scientist.

We dressed up in costumes to disguise our identities. I wore an Indian costume, my brother a dragon costume, Boris a pirate costume, Rebecca a knight costume, and Serena was in super-hero costume. We set off to the scientist’s evil lair to give him a good fright. When we arrived, the door was open, so we snuck in and prepared our attack.

Following the sound of Kimberly’s mad laughter, we made loud beastly noises to scare him. With terror in his voice he screamed “Who are you?” “We are the Creatures of the Forrest,” we growled, “We’ve come to take back the magic of our forest that you stole from us!” With great fear in his voice, he dropped to his knees and cried, “I’m sorry, I’m sorry. Please don’t hurt me!” he begged. “Here! Take these seeds, which I harvested from the trees... Plant them and your magical forest shall return. I promise never to steal from nature what isn’t mine to take...” With that, he ran from his evil lair and was never seen again...

And so, we planted the seeds with our animal friends and saved the magical forest.



AFTER READING...

 Look at the text again to find the words for the following definitions:

a secret or private place; sometimes a habitat for wild animals

a) _____ [leə]

the process of gathering crops or seeds b) _____ ['hɑ:vɪst]

a sudden intense feeling of fear c) _____ [fraɪt]


to give someone a different appearance d) _____ [dɪs'gɑ:z]

refusal to accept that something is true or real e) _____

[,dɪsbɪ'li:f]

a place provided for a particular purpose f) _____ [fə'sɪlɪti]

smile in an irritating way g) _____ [smɜ:k]

 Zoe and Jake's grandpa knows Kimberly, the evil scientist. Years ago, the two were best friends, as well as colleagues, and Kimberly wasn't nearly as evil as he is today. However, their friendship suddenly ended. Write what happened in 90 – 120 words. You have to use at least 7 of the 10 proposed words and/or expressions. Change tense if needed.

jealous
runs away
frequently


magical seeds
high voltage
screams

scientific experiments
explosion

grandchildren
attacks




BEFORE READING...

 Skim through the text and try to answer the following question: do you think it is a scary story? If you think so, find at least FIVE words or expressions to support that claim.

THE SQUIRREL FROM WHELDRAKELEAF CASTLE

2ND PRIZE
grade 8



 AUTHOR: Valentina Lazić, Grade 8
MENTOR: Dino Gomeri, OŠ Trpinja, Trpinja
Activities prepared by Morea Banićević

It was a rainy afternoon, and Grandpa Dylan was seated at the table, looking at his old photo album. He was impatiently waiting for his grandsons to arrive. They visit him every Sunday. “Ah, how time flies when you are young,” he sighed, while looking at an old photo of him swaying in a swing. He remembers that day very well. That was the day when Kelly and he went to Wheldrakeleaf Castle. Kelly was his classmate. She had big blue eyes and loved candy. She always had chocolate bonbons in her pockets. Kelly lived with her father, Mr. Connor, who was a scientist. Her dad gave her a white stuffed rabbit – a toy which Kelly lost that day. That is why Kelly asked Dylan for help. That day after school, they searched Kelly’s house but the white rabbit was nowhere to be found. “We haven’t checked the attic yet,” Kelly said, and started to climb the stairs. She loved that rabbit and was desperate to find it. The attic was dark and smelly. It was full of dust and old clothes, books and a big teddy-bear in the corner. Dylan heard some noise coming from behind a large wooden chest. When he opened it a big cloud of dust covered the attic. When the dust settled, Dylan and Kelly saw three pairs of ears – small brown ones, medium brown ones, and large white ones. The ears were moving! Kelly’s toy rabbit was alive, and so was the teddy-bear from the corner. There was a strange squirrel, too. Kelly screamed. Dylan hugged her and tried to calm her down. “We have been waiting for you. We need your help,” said the squirrel. “Talking toys?!” Dylan thought to himself.

But those were Kelly's talking toys, so Dylan and she agreed to help them. They climbed into the wooden chest and, all of a sudden, found themselves on a hill. "At the other end of the forest," said the squirrel, giving the binoculars to Dylan, "in Wheldrakeleaf Castle, lives an evil scientist. He's destroying the forest by cutting trees with his giant metal machines and is using it for his evil experiments." The squirrel started to cry as she explained: "I'm homeless," she sobbed. Teddy and the rabbit looked on in amazement. "We don't know anything about the evil scientist," said Teddy while holding the rabbit. "Look," said the squirrel, wiping away her tears and revealing a map. "This is the magical land of Wheldrakeleaf. We need to follow this railroad to reach the castle. We need to stop the evil scientist," said the squirrel angrily. Everybody agreed. Dylan took Kelly by the arm as they followed the squirrel into the forest. The forest was truly beautiful. Everyone laughed and danced. Night fell slowly. But Wheldrakeleaf Forest was even more beautiful at night. There were sparkling butterflies flying everywhere. Everyone was joyful. Everyone except the squirrel. She crossed her tiny arms and seemed deep in thought. She was quiet. Kelly offered her chocolate bonbons but the squirrel refused. "Strange," Kelly thought, "everyone loves my bonbons." The moon seemed



close. Dylan, Kelly, and the rest crossed the railroad, circled the mountains and, there it was – Wheldrakeleaf Castle. The wind was getting stronger. A storm was coming. “We better hurry,” said Dylan quietly. They sneaked past the castle walls and entered the main building. The inside of the castle was dark. There were all sorts of things lying around. “Let’s use these things and create a scary monster to frighten the scientist,” Kelly suggested. Everybody agreed. Dylan dressed in a dragon costume he found in an old closet and took a broom from the corner. Kelly put an Indian feather bonnet on her head and held a black umbrella tightly. Teddy dressed as a pirate, Kelly’s rabbit as a knight, and the squirrel as a bandit. They were ready. “But where is the evil scientist?” asked Dylan bravely. “There,” answered the squirrel pointing to the top of the main building of the castle. Bright light was coming from the room at the top. They started climbing. As they climbed, the light became brighter. Soon, they were at the top. They slowly entered the room. There he was – the evil scientist. He was dressed in a white lab coat. His back was turned to the door. They couldn’t see his face. Kelly imagined his big crazy eyes and a mad man’s smile. It seemed he was experimenting with electricity. It was almost half past two. They jumped from the dark creating a large shadow of a scary monster. Dylan roared. Teddy and the rabbit shouted. They scared the scientist. He dropped his magnifying glass and slipped on some paper. He turned around to see what creature had attacked him. He had neither crazy eyes nor a mad man’s smile. Kelly instantly recognised him. Those were her father’s eyes. That was her father’s smile. “Daddy!” she shouted and ran towards him. But the squirrel blocked her path. “My plan has worked. I finally have you all in one place,” said the squirrel. “You will never leave Wheldrakeleaf Castle. I will trap you here as I’ve trapped your father...” But the squirrel’s words were interrupted by Mr. Connor. “No!” he screamed viciously. He turned towards the squirrel. “I will never let you harm my daughter,” he said. He pressed a big red button on a machine next to him. There was a bright light and a loud sound... Ding-dong. “Uh, that must be my grandsons,” thought Grandpa Dylan to himself. “It’s the perfect opportunity to tell them this story. They will be really amazed with the ending... Kelly, darling, are those our grandsons at the door?” he asked while putting some chocolate bonbons into his pocket. “Yes, honey,” Kelly answered, as she entered the room with two little boys – one dressed as a pirate, the other dressed as a knight.



AFTER READING...

🚩➤ Arrange the lines in order to tell a story. The rhymed words will help you.

But in a moment there was a bright light
Casting electricity everywhere
And grandpa's story, magical and old
Took him and his crush to Wheldrakeleaf
They saw kind eyes when he turned his head
And the squirrel was the one indeed
Still remains yet to be told
The land was beautiful, but the storm was strong
About talking toys, who, to his disbelief
Which was the sign that something was wrong
And they saw a scientist working there
He had no evil grin; but instead
1 It happened long ago, he remembered it well
Who almost did an evil deed
Which shattered the memories into the night
An old grandpa who had a story to tell

🚩➤ Find the words in the text that mean the same as:

- a) a medieval warrior _____
- b) a type of a hat that is usually tied under the chin _____
- c) to keep someone in an enclosure or a cage _____
- d) someone who is happy and cheerful is _____
- e) a tube with magnifying lenses used to make
far away objects appear larger _____



Wheldrakeleaf is a land of knights and pirates. The castle in the centre of the land is occupied by pirates. The King's knights are trying to banish the pirates from the castle, and they need help in doing that. As they had signed the peace treaty, they can't use their swords. The only thing to do is to enter the castle during the night and scare off the pirates. Help the knights devise a plan and reconquer their castle.


Your text has to have 70-100 words. Use these words, change tense where necessary.

disguise





BEFORE READING...

 Think about the following: if there were a thing called a Forest Spirit, what would its role be?



THE STORY *TA-DA*

3RD PRIZE
grade 8

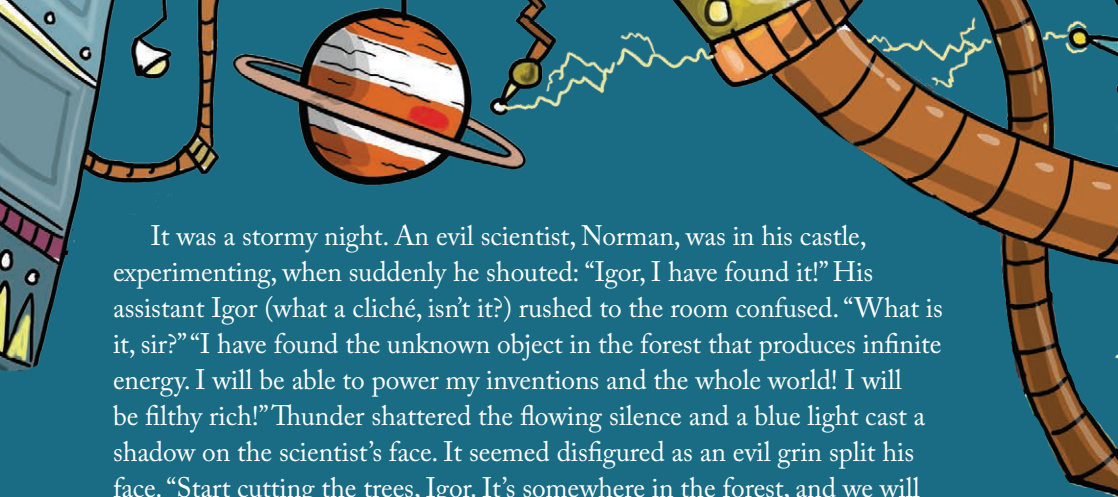
AUTHOR: Katarina Polonijo, Grade 8

MENTOR: Ines Jelenović, OŠ Frana Krste Frankopana, Krk

Activities prepared by Morea Banićević

"Ahh, the good old times..." said Grandpa James, while going through his old photo album. He felt nostalgic after looking at all those photographs, depicting his happiest childhood memories. He was about to close the album when an old photo fell to the ground. "What is that?" he wondered. It was a photo of him in a beautiful forest with his friend Lily. He remembered that forest well, by the most unusual adventure he had ever participated in. You want to know what happened, don't you? Alright, you asked for it.





It was a stormy night. An evil scientist, Norman, was in his castle, experimenting, when suddenly he shouted: "Igor, I have found it!" His assistant Igor (what a cliché, isn't it?) rushed to the room confused. "What is it, sir?" "I have found the unknown object in the forest that produces infinite energy. I will be able to power my inventions and the whole world! I will be filthy rich!" Thunder shattered the flowing silence and a blue light cast a shadow on the scientist's face. It seemed disfigured as an evil grin split his face. "Start cutting the trees, Igor. It's somewhere in the forest, and we will have to dig deep in order to find it. No matter the cost or the time it takes us to find it." Igor grumpily took a shovel and looked at the spot on the map where Norman was pointing.

After three long hours of travelling, James and his friend Lily arrived at the old forest, to where they camp every spring. They loved camping there because it was always such a beautiful and special place. At least it was.

Lily yelled: "What happened here?! Who did this?" The whole forest was cut down. It seemed defeated with its big old trees lying on the ground.





Animals were still running away from the fallen trees. James noticed a sad squirrel on the nearest fallen tree. Crouching down, he asked: "What's wrong, little fella?" The squirrel replied: "They destroyed my home. Almost all of our homes. I don't have anywhere to go to. I couldn't do anything against those metal monsters." "Do you know who did this?" Lily asked. "It must be Norman, the

scientist who lives in that castle over there. Only he is evil enough to do such a thing..." "We must confront him!" James yelled, "This shall not be tolerated!" The squirrel jumped with enthusiasm and asked "Do you really think we can fix this?" "I'm not sure how, trees won't be able to grow anymore..." "Oh, you really think they can't? Believe me, they can! This is a magical forest, haven't you noticed?" James and Lily were confused. "Magical? How?" "There is a life source beneath the forest. I believe that is the thing Norman is looking for. According to the legend, the Forest Spirit hid underground and it is able to renew trees, make everything alive... and I'm not sure if you noticed, but I'm a TALKING squirrel!" Lily was puzzled. "Why didn't the forest regenerate then?" "No one knows," the squirrel said, "That's why everybody is leaving. But there is still hope, isn't there?" "Yes, yes, there is," James responded quickly, "What are we waiting for, then? I already have a plan!"

"We look a bit silly, don't you think?" Lily asked James. "It doesn't matter," responded James, "The important thing is that we scare Norman." The trio, now accompanied by the squirrel's friend, a bear, was on its way to the castle. They decided to scare Norman off with their costumes and convince him to leave the area, hoping that the forest would recover. They found their way to the castle by following the path on the map. After a short while, they entered and James whispered: "Alright everyone, you know the plan and your parts. Let's go!" They found Norman in his lab and started screeching and yelling. Norman, who started to run away in fear and in a hurry, decided to hide where he had sent Igor to dig. The group went after him.




Igor was in the forest, obediently digging a hole in the ground. He thought he saw something at the bottom. When Igor saw Norman running towards him, he was sure that Norman sensed he had something to tell him. He was pointing at the bottom and explaining to Norman that he had (hopefully) found it, when he saw an angry group running after Norman. Since Igor had already dug a huge hole, Norman was quick to find the unearthed emerald rock of huge power. The bear ran faster and tried to stop Norman, but it was too late, Norman had already taken it. The group then saw the most beautiful light when the rock flew from Norman's hands and started shining as brightly as the Sun. The squirrel was frightened when he recognised the Forest Spirit shining from the rock. The group was shocked. "Thank you for setting me free Norman," started the rock, "but the damage you did in the forest is terrible. A horrendous crime against nature was done, and you are responsible for it. From this day forward, you are banished from the forest and forbidden to set foot in here. Leave now and never return!" finished the Forest Spirit. Norman ran away frightened and the Forest Spirit started regenerating the forest.


Finally, everything was just the way it should be. The animals returned, the treetops were humming a song about the wind, and James took Lily back to the campsite. They even had new friends to go camping with.



AFTER READING...

 Order the sentences to get the summary of the story.

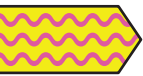
- ___ A Forest Spirit took control over the forest.
- ___ The squirrel revealed to the kids it was Norman who was the villain.
- ___ Norman was forever banished from the forest.
- ___ Grandpa James was remembering the old times.
- ___ James and Lily, disguised in costumes, scared the evil scientist.
- ___ James and Lily witnessed the destruction of the forest.
- ___ Norman found out about the object of infinite energy.

 Explain what happened!

During your camping trip, you found a hidden rock with a Forest Spirit inside. It was sleeping for centuries, but you accidentally woke it up. It looked around and was unpleasantly surprised when it saw the damage humans had done to the Earth.

In ten sentences, say to it what happened to our planet. You may help yourself with these words and expressions:


global warming acid rain ozone layer deforestation
money greed ice caps endangered animals




ANSWER KEY

The Big Adventure... or Not?

Before reading...

-  good-hearted girl, [not] dangerous dragon, intelligent boy, stuffed animals, patient scientist

After reading...

-  a], b], b], b], b], a]



Stacy, please **help** me!
People **are ruining** my home.
They **are cutting** down trees.
I can't **save** the forest by myself. **Call**
Isaac and please **come** quickly!




The Fellowship of the Forest

Before reading...

-  b], a], c], a], b]

After reading...


-  F, F, T, T, F, T


The Forest Adventure

Before reading...

-  b], a], a], b], a]


After reading...


-  5, 10, 2, 8, 6, 1, 7, 9, 4, 3

-  1 are staying, 2 has got, 3 arrived, 4 was sleeping, 5 was looking, 6 took, 7 wasn't, 8 enjoyed, 9 visited, 10 played

WonderLand


After reading...

-  1 d, 2 h, 3 e, 4 a, 5 f, 6 c, 7 g, 8 b

-  sweets, Hopsy, binoculars, dragon, forest, Richey, animal, happy, knight, old

How Joseph Saved the World

Before reading...

-  angrier, the angriest; madder, the maddest; creepier, the creepiest;
more obvious, the most obvious; more convincing, the most convincing;
bigger, the biggest; older, the oldest; more mystical, the most mystical



After reading...

- ➡ go haywire, pay attention, grant wishes, come true, take a peek, run in fear, call dibs, chop down, stumble upon, break down, wish for, get in
- ➡ 1 stumbled upon, 2 went haywire, 3 chopped down, 4 didn't pay attention, 5 called dibs, 6 got in, 7 ran in fear, 8 granted wishes, 9 wished for, 10 came true

Even an Egg Can Make a Difference

Before reading...

- ➡ Q1: The doctor was his mom.
Q2: He fell off the bottom step.
Q3: C.
Q4: The letter M.

After reading...

- ➡ walked, fell, trapped, didn't want, wanted, said, asked, gave, told, walked, spotted, found, helped, pushed, didn't break, kept, got

A Wish Upon a Shooting Star

Before reading...

- ➡ Peter's, James's, James and Joanna's, the children's, a crazy scientist's, Peter's, stars'

After reading...

- ➡ b) blow, wish; c) laughs, annoying; d) chest, pirates

Oliver's Forest Adventure

After reading...

- ➡ convey – communicate, ache – be painful, haunted – possessed, proceed – continue/move, dilapidated – shabby/ruined, deceased – dead, devastated – crushed, bitterness – agony/grief, reminisce – remember
- ➡ 1 reminisced, 2 deceased, 3 devastated, 4 convey, 5 proceeded, 6 dilapidated, 7 haunted, 8 bitterness, 9 ache

Going Back

After reading...

- ➡ 1 c, 2 a, 3 b
- ➡ 1 Damien was lying in the grass when he heard a voice.
OR While Damien was lying in the grass, he heard a voice.
2 They were wandering around when they found an abandoned house.
OR While they were wandering around, they found an abandoned house.
3 Damien left the map while he was looking inside the chest.
OR When Damien left the map, he was looking inside the chest.
4 Lucy was smiling when she sat down on the chest.




OR While Lucy was smiling, she sat down on the chest.

5 Lucy was playing with the animals when Damien realised how happy he was.

OR While Lucy was playing with the animals, Damien realised how happy he was.

The Adventure

Before reading...

 1 crawl, 2 haunt, 3 immortal, 4 legend, 5 destination, 6 horrible, 7 overhear,
8 open, 9 dress up

After reading...

 1 c, 2 b, 3 c, 4 a, 5 b, 6 c, 7 a, 8 b

Zoe's Story

After reading...


 1 lair, 2 harvest, 3 fright, 4 disguise, 5 disbelief, 6 facility, 7 smirk

The Squirrel from Wheldrakeleaf Castle

After reading...




It happened long ago, he remembered it well
An old grandpa who had a story to tell
About talking toys, who, to his disbelief
Took him and his crush to Wheldrakeleaf
The land was beautiful, but the storm was strong
Which was the sign that something was wrong
And they saw a scientist working there
Casting electricity everywhere
He had no evil grin; but instead
They saw kind eyes when he turned his head
And the very squirrel was the one indeed
Who almost did an evil deed
But in a moment there was a bright light
Which shattered the memories into the night
And grandpa's story, magical and old
Still remains yet to be told.

 a) a knight, b) a bonnet, c) to trap, d) joyful, e) binoculars

The Story *Ta-da*

After reading...

 6, 4, 7, 1, 5, 3, 2





PROFIL Klett

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