

# Reading Comprehension

## Set 6 Story 6

### The jar of oil

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NC Level 2b

## Notes to adults:

- These activity booklets are not tests. They should not be done under test conditions.
- They are to be used to teach comprehension - not test.
- The purpose is for the children to understand the story - every word, paragraph and page! In addition to this the children are also gaining valuable experience of answering SATs style questions.

## Assessment

- When marking these reading comprehension booklets it is best to do this with the child. Clarify misconceptions by underlining key words and phrases, circling important sentences and discussing the text together.
- When children complete three consecutive reading comprehension booklets of the same 'set' independently they can be moved onto the next set.

These booklets are not suitable for any children who have been assessed at 2A+.

## The jar of oil

Once there lived a poor man who was employed to do odd jobs for a prince.

One day, he had toiled so hard in the royal gardens that the prince presented him with a gift - a big jar of scented oil.



"Thank you, Your Royal Highness," said the poor man.

9

Why did the prince give the poor man the jar of oil?

a gift

he was poor

he smelled

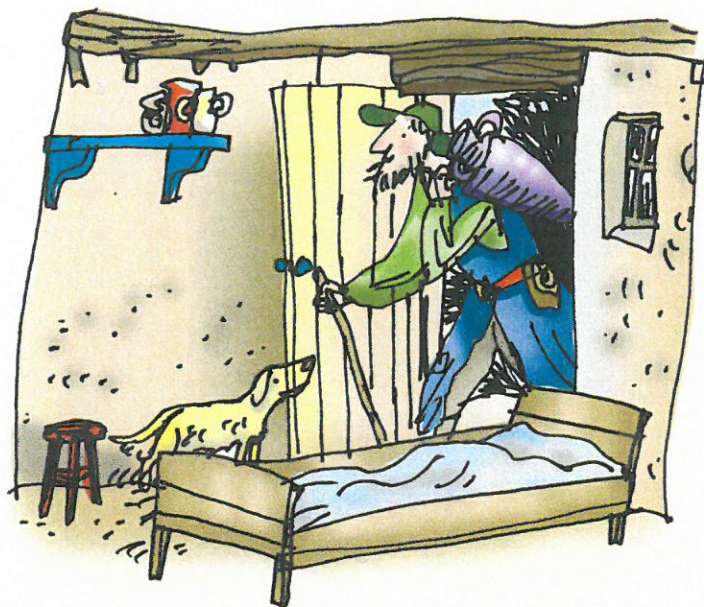
he asked for it

What did the poor man reply to the prince?

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He hoisted the jar of oil on to his back and took it to his little house. He had just one room, with a three-legged stool, a wooden cot and a shelf for his food.



How can we tell that the man is poor from the description of his house?

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He put the jar of oil on the shelf.

"I will sell it," he said to his yellow dog, pointing at the jar of oil with his stick.



"I will sell it for a jar of gold coins.

Think of all the good food I can enjoy when I am a rich man. Oysters, boiled goose, and big joints of lamb.

Hot bread fresh from the grill.

Sweet milk puddings, and banana jelly.

1

What does the man plan to do with the oil?

☐

enjoy it

☐

wear it

☐

point at it

☐

sell it

What food will he enjoy when he is a rich man?

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I will ask a rich girl - maybe a princess - to join me. We will marry, and live in a grand house - maybe a palace - with soft carpets and bright woollen rugs.



My princess will have the best embroidered dresses, with splendid rings on her fingers and gold around her neck.

Our garden will be full of green plants and tall trees. I will grow lemons, and mangos. And I will appoint a poor man, to do all the odd jobs.

What will the princess wear?

☐

green plants

☐

soft carpets

☐

embroidered dresses

☐

lemons

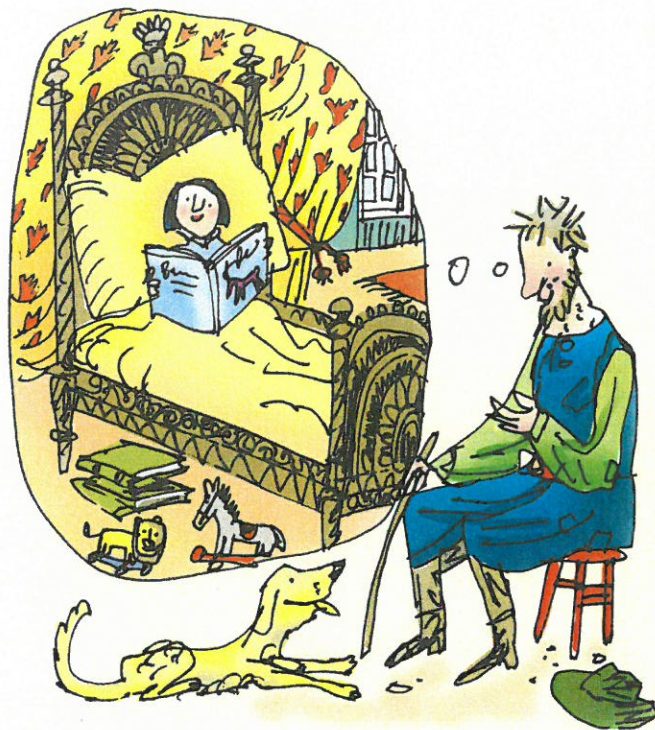
What is an 'embroidered dress'?

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We will have a strong,  
handsome son. His hair will be  
as black as midnight, and his  
lips as red as a sunset.  
He will sleep between cool  
satin sheets in a carved bed,  
with the softest pillows.



This boy will have lots of books and toys, but I will not spoil him.  
He will be as good as gold, and will bring us much joy.

1

What does the man imagine his son will be like?

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We will play together as dad and son. We will play fight with pointed swords and sticks like this! Oi! Oi!

And he swished his stick through the air, crashing it on to the floor.



What happens when the man swishes his stick around?



But he had knocked the jar of oil off the shelf!

The jar was smashed to bits. As for the oil, it ran right across the floor and out of the house, sinking into the soft soil by the door.



A poor man - and a foolish one. With one blow, he had destroyed the jar of oil - and all his grand plans as well.

1

What happened to the man's grand plans when he knocked over the oil?

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