

Level
2

The Golden Goose



Summary of the story

The Golden Goose tells the story of a young boy called Simpleton who is kind and generous to a little old man. The old man tells Simpleton that when he cuts down the tree, he will get a surprise. The surprise is a golden goose. Simpleton decides to take the goose to market and sell it. On his way, he stops at an inn for the night. The daughters of the innkeeper, seeing the goose's gold feathers, try and steal one but they become stuck to the goose. The next day, Simpleton continues to the market, and soon has a group of people all following him, all stuck to one another. As the line of people walk past the palace, the beautiful but serious princess sees them and begins to laugh. Simpleton looks up at her and they fall in love and get married.

About the authors

The story was written by the Grimm brothers. Jacob Ludwig Karl Grimm, 1785-1863, and Wilhelm Karl Grimm, 1786-1859. Both brothers were professors of German literature and librarians at the University of Göttingen, Germany and collectors and writers of folk tales.

Related topics and themes

Animals. Pupils should look at the migratory habits of different birds. Where geese fly from and to in spring and autumn and so on. Farmyard animals and other domestic animals.

Fairy Tales. There is a good brother and a bad brother. Different things happen to them in their life. This could lead to a discussion on leading a good life.

Senses. What things do the pupils see which make them laugh ?

World/environment. In class look at the work of the forester. Talk about rain forests in danger. What types of trees are cut down? Are new trees always planted in their place? What is happening to green belt areas in the world?

Making use of the Reader

Follow my leader game. When the people are following Simpleton, they resemble a follow-my-leader game. Have the pupils create their own game with a leader as a relaxing activity after they have finished reading *The Golden Goose*. Get one child at the front and then one by one all the pupils put one hand on the shoulder of the pupil in front and everyone should follow everyone one else. Gather the correct number of pupils to create the part in the story when they all walk past the castle in the follow my leader way.

Cloze exercise. Copy this out on the board or on paper and give a copy to each pair. In pairs they must find the missing word. 'You're a good boy,'old man said. 'Cut thedown, and you are going to

have a nice'. Simpleton cut the tree. Suddenly it down, and there was a golden Simpleton was happy. He could take it to the Simpleton walkedthe market. Night came, and he stoppeda small inn. Threelived there. Kate said her sisters: 'Did you see thatgoose? Just one of itscan make us rich!'

Feather headbands. Give each pupil a large feather. Have the pupils draw around the feather. Cut out several feathers and colour in bright colours. Cut out a broad strip of card which will fit around each pupil's head. Staple ends together. Staple each feather to the band to make a feather head band, native American style.



The Golden Goose

Game. Divide the class into pairs. One pupil tries to stay completely serious while the other has to tell jokes or an amusing story to make him/her laugh. When the pupil laughs, the pair switch roles. Whichever pupil remains serious the longest is the winner.

Using the accompanying video or audio cassette

Watching or listening for specific information/post-reading/whole class

Before watching or listening to the cassette (if the pupils have already read the book) elicit the names of the main characters from the story and write them on the board. Tell the pupils to, for example, stand up when they see Simpleton or when he speaks, to clap, and so on with all the characters. This will result in very energetic and active viewing or listening.

During watching and listening – whole class prediction. Play the video or audio cassette story through in its entirety. The second time through, stop just before a dramatic event in the story, (for example before Simpleton cuts down his tree) and ask the pupils to tell you what happens next, then view or listen to see if they were right.

Simultaneous reading and listening in groups will help the pupils with pronunciation and intonation.

Record the pupils dramatizing the story on audio or video cassette.

Notes on the activities in the factsheet

Activity 1. The picture has been taken from pages 12-13 of the Reader.

Activity 3. Wordsearch. Pupils should circle or colour the words they can find in the grid. The words they need are at the bottom of the activity. There are words written diagonally and from bottom to top.

Activity 4. Pupils could discuss other ways the story could end in groups or the whole class and then individually think of a way to finish the story. After they have finished, all the groups should listen to each other's new endings and choose the best from the group.

Answers to the activities

In the Reader

Before you read

The boy is happy. The boy is wearing boots. He has a golden goose with him. They are walking along the road. The goose is looking at the boy.

After you read

John is scared. page 4. Simpleton is clever/good. page 1. Or, surprised, page 3; very happy, page 6; happy, page 7; asleep, page 9. The old man is hungry. pages 3 and 6. Or little, page 3. Bess is stuck. page 10 The Princess is smiling. page 14. Or, young, beautiful, page 13. The goose is golden. page 7.

In the factsheet

Activity 1

1. Because she can see all the people stuck together. 2. Under Simpleton's arm. 3. Happy. 4. The soldier. 5.any answer is possible here.

Activity 2

2. Simpleton has one brother. 3. The little old man was hungry. Or, The hungry old man was little. 4. Simpleton took the golden goose to the market. 5. Kate put her hand on the goose. 6. Simpleton asked the king 'May I marry your daughter?'

Activity 3

S	I	M	P	L	E	T	O	N	P	B	F	H	U	C
E	K	G	O	G	I	V	S	T	U	C	K	U	G	U
N	T	F	L	A	U	S	H	E	D	N	M	H	Z	L
G	Y	R	I	U	A	G	O	B	R	L	I	Q	R	K
S	S	E	C	N	I	R	P	L	D	O	N	O	Y	K
G	M	H	I	K	D	G	K	Q	D	E	K	B	O	Q
S	S	T	M	S	N	W	H	P	M	E	F	E	P	Y
U	A	A	A	O	O	R	W	G	L	R	N	H	W	H
T	L	E	N	O	P	O	F	Y	C	T	T	G	A	U
V	R	F	U	T	G	G	C	O	E	K	K	Q	L	W



The Golden Goose

Name.....

Activity 1

Look at the picture. Answer these questions.

1. Why is the princess laughing?
2. Where is the golden goose?
3. How does the king feel?
4. Who is behind the third sister?
5. What do you think Simpleton said to the princess?



Activity 2

Make sentences with these words.

Example: in boys' the father the worked forest

Answer: the boys' father worked in the forest

1. brother Simpleton one has

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2. little man the hungry old was

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3. the market golden Simpleton goose to took the

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4. put goose hand on Kate her the

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5. daughter asked your king marry Simpleton the may

.....



The Golden Goose

Name.....

Activity 3

Wordsearch

Look at the ten words under the box. Now find them in the box and circle them with a pencil.

S	I	M	P	L	E	T	O	N	P	B	F	H	U	C
E	K	G	O	G	I	V	S	T	U	C	K	U	G	U
N	T	F	L	A	U	G	H	E	D	N	M	H	Z	L
G	Y	R	I	U	A	G	O	B	R	L	I	Q	R	K
S	S	E	C	N	I	R	P	L	D	O	N	O	Y	K
G	M	H	E	K	D	G	K	Q	D	E	F	B	O	Q
S	S	T	M	S	N	W	H	P	M	E	F	E	P	Y
U	A	A	O	O	R	W	G	L	R	N	H	W	H	
T	L	E	N	O	P	O	F	Y	C	T	T	G	A	U
V	R	F	U	T	G	G	G	O	E	K	K	Q	L	W

Feather

Policeman

Forest

Princess

Golden

Simpleton

Goose

Stuck

Laughed

Tree

Activity 4

Look at page 13 of the book. You can write *YOUR* ending of the story here.

When she saw the line of men and women the princess started to laugh.

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