

THE ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO

by Carlo Collodi



Once upon a time, there was a carpenter called Geppetto. One day he found a piece of wood that wept and laughed like a child, so, as he really wanted to have a baby, he made a marionette with it and called him Pinocchio. *"How nice it would be if it was a real baby!"* Geppetto said when he finished painting it. *"I will call you*

Pinocchio!" he said. *"Put me down!"* exclaimed the puppet. *"Are you a good boy?"* asked Geppetto. *"Of course I am! I'm the best boy in the world!"* said Pinocchio and ran out of the door. Geppetto loved his son, so he ran after him.

When Pinocchio came back home, no one was there, because Geppetto was still out searching for him. He was alone but suddenly he heard a voice: *"Pinocchio! Look up!"* There was a green Talking Cricket on the wall. *"Boys should be good to their parents!"*, it said. *"Good boys go to school and help people. But you're not a good boy. You're only a wooden marionette!"* Pinocchio shouted at him, took a hammer and killed the poor cricket. When Geppetto came home, Pinocchio cried: *"Oh Dad! I'm sorry that I was a bad boy! Please, give me something to eat!"* Geppetto gave him three green pears: all the food he had.



The next morning he sent him to school like a real boy. *"You must go to school. I want you to work hard and be a good boy. Goodbye, son, come back soon!"* Geppetto sold his coat to buy an A-B-C book for Pinocchio. But on his way to school, he disobeyed his father, sold his book and bought tickets to go and see the show of dancing marionettes. When they saw him, the puppets recognized their brother Pinocchio and stopped dancing. Suddenly the nasty director Fire Eater arrived, he was very angry because nobody was dancing, so he got mad with Harlequin, and wanted to burn him. Courageously Pinocchio saved him, so Fire Eater, moved, gave him five gold pieces for his father Geppetto.



Pinocchio walked home through the town. On his way, he met a Fox and a Cat. Pinocchio said them he was going to buy a new coat for his dad and an A-B-C book

for himself. The Fox said: *"You need to go into business. Listen! There's a magic field outside the town. Plant your golden coins there and they will grow into trees. Each one will have a thousand golden coins shining in the sunlight!"*



Pinocchio had dinner with the Fox and the Cat, but he had to pay for the meal, so he only had three coins left. Outside was dark. Pinocchio headed for the magic field there he saw the Talking Cricket again. *"Pinocchio, coins don't grow into trees!"* *"I haven't got any coins!"* lied Pinocchio. And

when he told this lie, his nose suddenly got longer. Just then two robbers grabbed the marionette. He hid the coins in his mouth and kept it shut. As the Assassins could not open his mouth, they hanged Pinocchio to the branch of an oak tree.

A Kind Fairy with Azure hair came to help Pinocchio and took him to her home. *"Hello Pinocchio, I'm your friend and I saw it all. Those robbers were trying to steal your money!"* *"Money? What money?"* asked Pinocchio. And his nose grew longer again. *"They wanted your money"* said the Kind lady. *"Where is it now?"* *"Under the tree"* lied Pinocchio. In fact it was in his



hand. So many lies! Again his nose got longer, it was as long as the bed now. So he showed her his coins, and at once his nose was perfectly alright again. *"Now don't tell any more lies, be good and go find your father"* said kindly the Fairy.

Pinocchio thanked her and hurried back to town. But then He met the Fox and the Cat again! *"Where did you go? And where is the money?"* said the Fox. Pinocchio didn't want to tell a lie so he showed them the coins. They persuaded him to plant the golden coins in the magic field. Pinocchio dug a hole, planted the coins, fetched some water and waited and waited, but nothing happened. The Talking Cricket appeared again and said: *"Pinocchio they took your money!"* so he looked in the hole and saw that it was empty.



Pinocchio wanted to go to the Kind Fairy again and speak to her. He started to cry. Suddenly a large white bird appeared. *"Come with me Pinocchio! I will carry you to the sea. Your father's looking for you. He's in a little boat"* it said. So Pinocchio got on the bird's back, and they flew away. They came to the sea and the wind was strong. Pinocchio saw Geppetto in a little boat. His father looked up and saw him. And then, suddenly, he fell into the water. Pinocchio bravely jumped into the sea. The waves were



big and Pinocchio went up and down all day. But he couldn't find his father. Some hours later, the water carried Pinocchio to an island.

He met an old woman, he helped her to carry a bucket of water and the old woman transformed herself into the Kind Fairy. Pinocchio started to cry: *"I want to be a real boy! I don't want to be a wooden puppet!"* *"If you go to school and work hard, you will become a real boy"* said the fairy.

So the next day Pinocchio went to school. He worked hard, he listened to the teacher, he didn't talk in class and he made friends with a boy called Candlewick. The Kind Lady was pleased with him. *"Tomorrow evening you'll be a real boy!"* she said.

The next day Candlewick invited Pinocchio to Lazyland, a fun place where nobody works, there are no teachers, one can play and eat sweet all day. They went there with a very strange wagon: it was pulled by twenty-four grey donkeys, who had shoes on their feet. Lazyland was a noisy place, there were children everywhere, playing, shouting and eating sweets. Pinocchio had a lot of fun, but one day he had a surprise: when he woke up he had ears like a donkey; in a little while he changed into a real donkey. The wagon driver took him to a donkey market and sold him.



A man bought Pinocchio to make a drum with his skin, so he threw him into the sea. Then a huge whale opened its mouth and suddenly Pinocchio found himself inside, where he saw... his father! When the whale opened its mouth, they swam out together. A dolphin carried them back to land.

Now Geppetto was too old and tired to walk, so Pinocchio took him home.

Pinocchio went back to school. He worked hard, every day he went to school and listened to his teacher, and at night he helped Geppetto working. The Kind Fairy was getting old too, so Pinocchio took food to her and helped her to carry buckets of water.

Some time later, Pinocchio had a dream. The Kind Fairy spoke to him. *"Pinocchio"* she said, *"You are brave! And now you are also kind. You work hard and you are good. Because of this you are changing. Your heart is now a real heart. One day you will be a real man. Pinocchio! You are not a marionette any more! You are a real boy!"*

And when Pinocchio woke up ... he saw that it was not a dream!

