

# PINOCCHIO

Once upon a time lived a wood carver named Geppetto. He made puppets from pieces of wood, and he called his favorite puppet Pinocchio.

- I would love to be a father to a real boy like Pinocchio- he wished.

That night, the blue fairy, who knew Geppetto was a good man, cast a magic spell over Pinocchio. The very next day, Geppetto awoke and was very happy to find that Pinocchio could walk, sit and talk like a real boy.

Geppetto wanted to send Pinocchio to school. He sold his only coat for a spelling book.

- Now you can go to school like a real boy - said Geppetto as we waved goodbye to Pinocchio.

On the way to school, Pinocchio stopped to watch a puppet show in a town.

- How would you like to join my puppet show? - asked the evil puppet master.

Pinocchio happily agreed. He was locked inside the evil puppet master's caravan. He wished he was safe with Geppetto. The blue fairy suddenly appeared. She had heard Pinocchio's wish and set him free. Pinocchio is happy to be free.

- I'm going straight to school- he said.

But he met an evil fox who told him all about a wonderful place called fun island. Pinocchio forgot all about school and gave the fox his spelling book in return for a ticket to Fun island.

- Where are you going, Pinocchio?- asked the blue fairy.

- I'm on the way to school - lied Pinocchio.

Pinocchio's nose grew very, very long. He wished he hadn't told a lie. The fairy called a bird to peck off his long nose because Pinocchio was very sorry. Pinocchio promised never to be naughty ever again and went straight to school.

At school, Pinocchio told his friend all about fun island. His friend wanted to go with him. Pinocchio and his friend hurriedly climbed aboard a ship that was going to Fun Island. On the island they didn't know that little boys were turned into donkeys and used for very hard work.

Pinocchio cried and wished he hadn't come to the island. He also wished he didn't look like a silly donkey. The blue fairy had heard his wish and with a wave of her magic wand his donkey ears and tail disappeared. Pinocchio sat on the shore, sadly looking out to the sea. He wondered if he would ever see Geppetto again.

Suddenly, he saw Geppetto who had sailed out to the sea in search of Pinocchio. Geppetto didn't see the huge whale behind him. The whale swallowed Geppetto and his boat. Pinocchio knew he had to save Geppetto. He jumped into the water and swam with all his might. As he got closer, the whale opened his mouth and Pinocchio swam right in. Deep inside the whale's belly, Pinocchio and Geppetto hugged each other, happy to be together again.

- We must find a way out- said Geppetto - we will make a fire from the wood of my boat.

The smoke made the whale sneeze. They shot out of the whale's mouth and back into the sea. Pinocchio and Geppetto swam safely to shore. They were both tired. They laid on the sand and

fell asleep. When Geppetto awoke, he saw that the blue fairy, as a reward for being so brave, had turned Pinocchio into a real boy.

- At last my wish has come true!- cried Geppetto.

## The Princess and the pea

Once there was a prince who was looking for a princess. But she must be a real princess. The prince went right round the world, and although he found several once upon a time the beautiful princesses, there was always something not quite right about them. In the end he came home, very disappointed.

One night, there was the most terrible [storm](#). It thundered, it lightnined and the rain poured down in sheets. The king and queen and prince sat round the fire toasting crumpets. Suddenly there was a ringing of the bell at the palace gates. Putting on his mackintosh, the king went to see who could be outside on such a dreadful night. When he opened the gates a princess was standing there. But what a sight she was! Water streamed off the ends of her long hair, ran down her clothes and into her shoes.

- "You'd better come in," said the king, leading the princess into the palace where she stood, dripping, and not looking at all like a princess.

- "Yes, I am a princess," she assured them.

The old queen was doubtful. "We'll soon see about that," she said to herself. And she went to prepare the spare bed for their young visitor.

First she took off all the bedding and then she laid a pea at the very bottom. On top of the pea she put twenty mattresses and on top of the mattresses she put twenty feather beds.

The next morning the princess was asked how she had slept.

- "I hardly slept a wink all night," she said. "The bed was desperately uncomfortable. There was something hard at the bottom of it and I'm sure I am bruised all over."

Now they knew she was a real princess. For no one but a princess would be able to feel a pea through twenty mattresses and twenty feather beds! The prince was thrilled to bits for he had already fallen in love with her. And they decided to be married.

As for the [pea](#), well it was put into a museum where it may still be seen if no one has stolen it.

# The hare and the turtle

In the world of the animals, there was a very arrogant hare because she said to everyone she was the fastest. That's why she was always laughing at the slow turtle.

-Look at the turtle! Hey [turtle](#), don't run so much that you're going to get tired of going so fast!- The hare used to say laughing at the turtle.

One day, they were talking and it occurred to the turtle to make a strange bet with the hare.

-I'm sure I can win you a race- she said.

- To me?- asked the hare astonished.

-Yes, to you. Let's put our bet on that stone and let's see who wins the race.

The hare, very amused, accepted. All the [animals](#) met to watch the race. The road and the finishing line were marked. Once it was ready, the race started among big applause.

Relying on her speed, the hare left the turtle go and she remained lazing about. She had time enough to win such a slow creature!

Then she start running, she run fast as the wind while the turtle went slow but without stopping. At once she went ahead. She stopped next to the road and she sat to rest.

When the turtle passed by her side, the hare made fun of her once more. She left her advantage and set out her quick walk. She did the same several times but, in spite of her mocks, the turtle kept her way until she arrived to the finishing line. When the hare woke up, she ran with all her might but it was too late, the turtle had won the race.

That day was very sad for the hare and she learnt a lesson she would never forget: you must never mock of the others.

## **Greedy boy.**

There lived a twin brother called Sam and Tom! They were identical twins, even their mother found it too hard to differentiate between them during the initial months of birth. However, they were like two poles when it comes to everything other than their appearance. They neither agree with anything nor do they share even one single trait!

Sam had no friends, whereas for Tom the world was friendship. Sam loved sweets and Tom loved to eat spicy foods. Sam was mommy's pet and Tom was daddy's pet. While Sam was generous, Tom was greedy!

As they grew up, their father wanted to share his fortune equally. However, Tom did not agree and he argued that whoever is more intelligent and strong, will gain higher share of wealth than other.

Sam agreed. Their father decided to organize a competition between the two. And they ordered the two sons to walk as long as they can in and they should return home before the sunset. Whoever covers the longer distance and returns home before sunset will get huge amount of wealth proportionate to the distance they covered. They don't carry watch to calculate time.

Both started to walk a long way during a sunny day. Sam walked slowly and steadily, while Tom urged to win over Sam started to run instantly.

The distance they cover until mid-noon will be equal to the distance they would reach home before sunset. It was mid-noon and Sam decided to return back as he could reach home on time.

However, Tom, with his greediness to earn more wealth, did not turn his way back home even after mid-noon. He walked two times longer distance that what Sam was covered and decided to return back before the sunset. He urged to return home as the Sun turned orange in the evening. Unfortunately, he could not even make half way to home and the moon rises.

He lost the race and was defeated because of greediness!