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The Sugar-Plum Tree



Have you ever heard of the Sugar-Plum Tree?

It is a wonder of great renown!

It blooms on the shore of the Lollypop sea

In the garden of Shut-Eye Town;

The fruit that it bears is so pleasantly sweet

(As those who have tasted it say)

That good little children have only to eat

Of that fruit to be happy next day.

When you get to the tree, you would have a hard time

To capture the fruit which I sing;

The tree is so tall that no person could climb

To the boughs where the sugar-plums swing!

But up in that tree sits a chocolate cat,

And a gingerbread dog prowls below -

And this is the way you manage to get at

Those sugar-plums tempting you so:

You say a word to that gingerbread dog

And he barks with such terrible zest

That the chocolate cat is at once all agog,

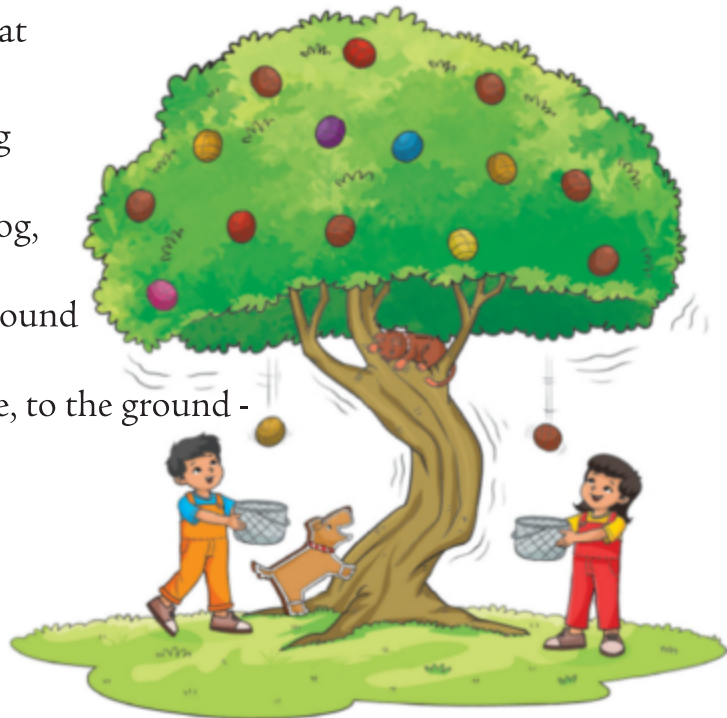
As her swelling shape and size suggest.

And the chocolate cat goes jumping around

From this leafy branch to that,

And the sugar-plums tumble, of course, to the ground -

Hurrah for that chocolate cat!



renown: something that is famous;

boughs: large branches;

zest: happiness and excitement

A. Comprehension



1. State whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F).
 - a. No one knows about the sugar-plum tree. ☐
 - b. The fruits of the sugar-plum tree are delicious. ☐
 - c. It is easy to get hold of a sugar-plum fruit. ☐
2. What happens to the good little children who eat the sugar-plum fruits?
 - a. They want to stop eating the fruits. ☐
 - b. They wish to play all day long. ☐
 - c. They feel happy the next day. ☐
3. Why are the fruits of the sugar-plum tree difficult to get?
.....
4. What might the word agog mean in this poem? Tick the answer.
 - a. nervously waiting and watching ☐
 - b. calmly and peacefully sleeping ☐
5. How does the chocolate cat look when it is agog? Tick the answer.
 - a. bigger ☐
 - b. smaller ☐
 - c. invisible ☐
6. How do the chocolate cat and gingerbread dog make the sugar-plums tumble to the ground?
.....
7. How do you think the poet wants you to feel after reading the poem? Why?
.....
8. Fill in the blanks with the right words from the box.

wonder tempting capture zest

 - a. My grandmother dances with the of an eighteen-year-old.
 - b. The smell of the vanilla cake baking in the oven is me.
 - c. The Taj Mahal is a great of Indian history.
 - d. Nehal managed to a photo of the beautiful sunset.



B. Composition

Imagine and write about your own magical tree. What makes it special and unique? Say where it is located, what kind of fruit it bears, and mention any creatures that live in it.