

## Comprehension skills

- 1 Why did the king stop to rest under a tree?
- 2 What time of day was it when the king awoke?
  - a) morning
  - b) afternoon
  - c) evening
- 3 Where was the boy when the king saw him?
- 4 What animals was the boy looking after?
- 5 What word is used for the biggest goose?
- 6 What is the king told to do to keep the geese together?
- 7 What did the geese do as they ran across the meadow?
- 8 What did the geese begin to eat when they got away from the king?
- 9 Where did the boy tell the king to stand?
- 10 How much did the king pay the boy?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Kings are important people. Why do you think the boy was so surprised to discover that the man was the king? What was unusual about the situation?

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 The boy was very helpful to the king by going to find his book. Think of a time when you have been helpful to someone. What did you do to help them? Write a summary of what happened.
- 3 The king promised to give the boy a gold coin.
  - a) How many other types of metals can you name?
  - b) What is an ingot and a carat?
  - c) Name two things which are measured in carats.

## Language development

- 1 A gooseherd is a person who looks after geese.  
What is a) a cowherd, b) a shepherd,  
c) a swineherd?
- 2 A number of geese together is called a gaggle or a flock. What name is given to a number of:  
cows sheep birds bees fish  
puppies trees people?
- 3 We say one **goose** but say two **geese**.
  - a) We say one **cow** but say two \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) We say one **fox** but say two \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) We say one **fly** but say two \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) We say one **wolf** but say two \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e) We say one **mouse** but say two \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 The gander was the head of the flock.
  - a) Give the feminine of: gander, bull, ram,  
billy goat, tomcat.
  - b) Give the feminine of: king, prince, boy, brother,  
uncle.
- 5 The geese cackled and hissed.  
What sounds do these creatures make?  
dog cat sheep pig donkey wolf lion  
horse frog cow
- 6 The boy **found** the book, but the king **lost** the  
geese.  
What are the opposites of these words in the story?  
land loved morning hot stopped  
asleep remembered short fast after

## Comprehension skills

- 1 During what part of the day does the slave make his escape?  
a) afternoon      b) evening      c) night
- 2 How were the slave's clothes torn?
- 3 Why didn't it take very long for the slave to fall asleep?
- 4 What noise awoke the slave?
- 5 What word describes how the lion moved towards the slave?
- 6 Why was the lion sad?
- 7 How did the lion react when the thorn was removed?
- 8 How long did Androcles live with the lion in the cave?  
a) 3 days      b) 3 months      c) 3 years
- 9 What did the lion do during the day?
- 10 Who had gathered in the great circus?
- 11 How do you think the lion recognised that the slave in the circus was Androcles?
- 12 How did the people react to what happened?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Androcles was brave. He was brave to escape from his master. He was brave to take the thorn from the lion's paw and he was brave when he was sent to the great circus. Do you think it is important to be brave? Can you think of a time when you have had to be brave? Write about bravery. You may include a picture if you wish.

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 Lions are not usually kept as pets. Use books or the internet to do some research about lions and write a few sentences about them. Have an adult help you if you use the internet.

## Language development

- 1 Where do these tame animals live?
  - a) a horse
  - b) a pig
  - c) a dog
  - d) a cow
  - e) a sheep
- 2 Where do these wild animals live?
  - a) a lion, b) a tiger, c) a bear, d) a fox, e) a hare
- 3 Name the homes of these birds.
  - a) an eagle, b) a canary, c) a hen, d) an owl, e) a pigeon
- 4 Where do these creatures stay?
  - a) a bee, b) a spider, c) a snail, d) a frog, e) a wasp
- 5
  - a) A tame rabbit lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) A wild rabbit lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) A town mouse lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) A field mouse lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e) A homing pigeon lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - f) A wild pigeon lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 A lion has fur.  
Name creatures which have:  
hair   fur   wool   feathers   scales.
- 7 The lion roars.  
Find the animal.

a) The _____ barks.	b) The _____ purrs.
c) The _____ bleats.	d) The _____ grunts.
e) The _____ squeaks.	f) The _____ brays.
g) The _____ howls.	h) The _____ lows.
- 8 Androcles kept the lion as a pet.  
Boys and girls keep all kinds of pets.  
Name any pets:
  - a) which run about the house.
  - b) which are kept in cages.
  - c) which are kept in the garden.

## Comprehension skills

- 1 Name two crops that are mentioned in the story.
- 2 What is the space between rows of crops called?
- 3 Which word best describes the hare?  
a) meek                      b) boastful              c) gentle
- 4 Which word best describes the hedgehog?  
a) rude                      b) mean                  c) clever
- 5 What animal does the hare say that the hedgehogs cannot run faster than?
- 6 How did the hedgehog feel when he heard the hare insult his family?
- 7 Why does the hedgehog say he must go home before the race?
- 8 Which three words were used to start the first race?
- 9 Why did the hare give up?
- 10 How does the hare feel at the end of the story?  
a) pleased                  b) proud                  c) sad

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 How does the hare's attitude change from the beginning of the story to the end? Do you think the hare has learned anything from the experience?

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 Hares have a coat of fur. Hedgehogs have spines. Why do you think they have different coverings? How do the prickly spines help the hedgehog?

## Language development

- 1 a) Name two creatures which move swiftly.  
b) Name two creatures which move slowly.
- 2 Which of these are good and which are bad?  
rude polite rough gentle noisy quiet  
rowdy mannerly
- 3 We say 'Mr and Mrs'. Complete the following  
a) father and \_\_\_\_\_ b) brother and \_\_\_\_\_  
c) boy and \_\_\_\_\_ d) husband and \_\_\_\_\_  
e) uncle and \_\_\_\_\_ f) nephew and \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 The rabbit's home is in a burrow.  
Name any other animals which live in the ground.
- 5 In which of these sentences did the boy run very quickly?  
a) The boy ran like a deer.  
b) The boy ran like a snail.  
c) The boy ran like lightning.  
d) The boy ran like a tortoise.  
e) The boy ran like a shot from a gun.  
f) The boy ran like an elephant.  
g) The boy ran like the wind.
- 6 a) Name any creatures which have long legs.  
b) Name any creatures which have short legs.
- 7 Explain the meaning of each of these words.  
hare hair tail tale right write  
sail sail week weak
- 8 Choose either a hedgehog or a hare. Write down as many words as you can think of that describe your chosen animal. They could be words to do with how it looks or sounds or even the way that it moves.



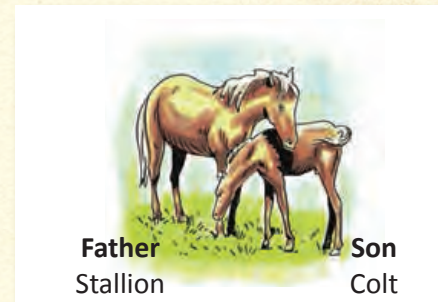
## Comprehension skills

- 1 What is the princess named after?  
a) a fruit                      b) a vegetable  
c) a flower
- 2 Find two reasons why many men wanted to marry the princess.
- 3 Which word best describes the princess' clothes when she left the palace?  
a) scruffy                      b) beautiful  
c) fine
- 4 When did the princess leave the palace?  
a) morning                      b) afternoon  
c) evening
- 5 Where did the princess meet a man riding a pony?  
a) by the roadside      b) at the castle  
c) on the dusty highway
- 6 What drink did the shepherd share with the princess?
- 7 What did the princess ask the shepherd to do with the cake?
- 8 What other item of food was in the shepherd's bag as well as cake?
- 9 What did the shepherd do when he met the king and queen?
- 10 What did the princess and shepherd do at the end of the story?



Bronco

## Horse family



## Uses of horses



Carthorse



Showjumping



# Cousins



Mule



Ass



Zebra



Donkey

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Before she met the shepherd, the princess met many people who were unkind to her along her journey. Why do you think those people treated her unkindly? What lesson does this story teach you about kindness?

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 On her journey, the princess met people riding on horses, on a pony and leading donkeys. These animals are all members of the horse family. What other animals in the horse family do you know? Name some animals in the horse family and write a sentence to describe each one.



## Comprehension skills

- 1 Where is the story set?  
a) a farm      b) a palace      c) an orchard
- 2 Find the lines in the story that describe four jobs that John Crabtree did.
- 3 Which word best describes the three sons?  
a) hardworking      b) lazy      c) helpful
- 4 Why did the eldest son say that they must be careful?
- 5 What plan did the sons come up with?
- 6 How long did they spend carrying out their plan?
- 7 Why were the branches of the trees bent almost to the ground?
- 8 What crops did the sons harvest? Name three.
- 9 What words does the youngest son use to describe his father?
- 10 What words does the eldest son use to describe his father?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 There was never any buried treasure in the orchard, but John did leave his sons treasure in another way. What do you think the real treasure was? What lesson do you think the sons have learned from their father?

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 An orchard is a plantation of fruit trees. What fruits do you most like to eat? Draw a picture of your two favourite fruits. Inside each fruit write a short description of it; you could write about the texture, colour, taste or smell of the fruits.

## Language development

- 1 Which of these are fruits:  
carrot, orange, daisy, banana, rose, cabbage, mango, cherry,  
turnip, tulip, grape, onion, lemon?
- 2 What colour is a ripe
- a) banana                      b) apple  
c) plum                        d) strawberry  
e) pear                         f) gooseberry?
- 3 **One**          **More than one**
- leaf \_\_\_\_\_  
man \_\_\_\_\_  
foot \_\_\_\_\_  
daisy \_\_\_\_\_  
tooth \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 We say ‘an orchard of fruit trees’.  
Put these words in their right places:  
string, matches, jam, milk, cards, drawers.
- a) a jug of \_\_\_\_\_                      b) a pack of \_\_\_\_\_  
c) a pot of \_\_\_\_\_                        d) a box of \_\_\_\_\_  
e) a ball of \_\_\_\_\_                        f) a chest of \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Old John was **not lazy**.  
Give one word instead of the two words in bold type.
- a) The spelling was **not easy**.  
b) The door was **not open**.  
c) The sum was **not right**.  
d) The paper was **not clean**.  
e) The coat was **not wet**.



## Comprehension skills

- 1 Write a list, in order, of all the people Juan Bobo meets along his journey.
- 2 Which word best describes Juan Bobo?  
a) rude                                      b) naughty                                      c) polite
- 3 Which option best describes how the butcher reacted to Juan Bobo?  
a) he was annoyed                      b) he was pleased  
c) he was not bothered
- 4 What job does a potter do?
- 5 What made Juan Bobo feel sad?
- 6 Which option best describes how the thieves reacted when they heard Juan Bobo call out?  
a) they found it funny              b) they ran away in fright  
c) they did not react
- 7 What type of bad weather did the thieves think was happening?
- 8 Which option best describes how Juan felt as he ran towards home?  
a) he was excited                      b) he was sad  
c) he was angry
- 9 Which option best describes how Juan Bobo's mother felt when she saw the gold?  
a) she was not happy              b) she was shocked  
c) she was upset
- 10 How does Juan Bobo explain how he came to have the gold?



# Critical literacy

## Thinking about the story

- 1 Juan Bobo's mother made sure that Juan always had good manners. She told him to 'be courteous and obedient with everyone'. Do you agree that it is important to have good manners? What have you learned from this story?

## Thinking beyond the story

- 2 People can show that they have good manners by saying good morning to each other. What are other ways to show that you have good manners? Write a bullet point list of as many as you can.
- 3 When Juan Bobo was happy to have the gold, he whistled a happy song. How do you show when you are happy? Do you whistle like Juan? Or maybe you hum a happy tune, or wear a big smile, or skip along your way? Think of a time that made you feel happy. Draw a picture of yourself and write about how you showed that you were happy.





## Comprehension skills

- 1 Why were the rice farmers happy when autumn arrived?
- 2 What sight puzzled Tama when he saw it?
- 3 Why do you think that Tama told Yone to be quick and to hurry?
- 4 Why did Tama choose to set fire to the crop instead of shouting or raising the alarm another way?
- 5 How was the village destroyed? Give as much detail as you can.

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Tama is Yone's grandfather. Do you have grandparents? What are they like? Write a paragraph to describe your grandparents.

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 Japan is a country in Asia. Look on a globe or in an atlas to find a map of Japan. Use books or the internet to do some research about Japan. Have an adult help you if you use the internet. Sketch an outline of the islands of Japan in the middle of a piece of paper and then surround your sketch with interesting facts about the country.

## Language development

- 1 a) A farmer is a person who farms.  
What is a baker, cleaner, singer, painter, dancer?  
b) Here are some harder ones.  
What is a butcher, barber, doctor, plumber, porter?
- 2 It was autumn and the crop was ready for cutting. Which season is it:  
a) When the birds are making their nests?  
b) When we go to the seaside and play in the sun?  
c) When the leaves are falling from the trees?  
d) When the snow is lying on the ground?
- 3 The grass was growing in a field.  
What grows in a:  
a) plantation  
b) garden  
c) paddy-field  
d) forest  
e) orchard?
- 4 The sun rises in the east and sets in the west.  
a) Which side of your school is sunny in the morning?  
b) Which side of your school is sunny in the afternoon?  
c) Point to east, west, north, south.
- 5 Look at the pictures on the left. Use the pictures to write the story of how rice is farmed. Write what happens in the correct order. Remember to use complete sentences.
- 6 We enjoy eating rice in many different dishes. Make a list of as many dishes as you can think of that include rice as an ingredient. Which one is your favourite?

## The Golden Touch

### Comprehension skills

- 1 Name the three characters we meet in this story.
- 2 Two characters are related. Who are they and what is their relationship?
- 3 How did Marigold feel when she saw the golden flowers?  
a) she was upset    b) she was happy    c) she was confused
- 4 Why couldn't Midas eat anything?
- 5 How did Midas feel when Marigold was turned into gold?  
a) he was pleased    b) he was horrified    c) he was puzzled
- 6 Describe two or three differences between the flowers when they were made of gold and when they were changed back to flowers.

### Critical literacy

#### Thinking about the story

- 1 Midas thought that gold would bring him happiness, but he was wrong. What lesson does Midas learn from his wish? What can you learn from the story of King Midas?

#### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 Gold is an expensive metal which is used to make the first place medals for sports events such as the Olympics. Jamaican sportsmen and women have won many Olympic medals. Use books or the internet to do some research about medal winners from Jamaica. Find out about four different people. Complete a table like this one with the information you discover.

Name of person	Type of medal	Sport they played

Remember, always have an adult around to help you when you are using the internet.

## Language development

- 1 Midas was a king.  
What is the title given to a king's:  
a) wife  
b) daughter  
c) son?
- 2 You use your hands to touch.  
What do you use to:  
a) hear  
b) see  
c) smell  
d) taste?
- 3 Marigold is the name of a flower.  
What other flowers are often used as names for girls?
- 4 Gold is a metal which is dug out of the ground. Name some other metals.
- 5 The sense of touch tells you how something feels. What words could you use to describe what these items feel like?  
a) a pillow  
b) a book  
c) a pineapple  
d) water
- 6 Here are some words for different types of homes. Which ones do you think royalty might live in?  
cottage palace hut castle shack house fortress  
apartment tower
- 7 Look at the pictures on the right. They are all items associated with royalty and many are made from gold and jewels. Why do you think royals often have items made of gold or jewels? What is special about them?



## Comprehension skills

- 1 The story is called 'Brer Rabbit Goes Fishing', but there is no fishing! What part of the story does the title refer to?
- 2 In which season of the year does this story take place?
- 3 For what reason did Brer Rabbit decide to get into the bucket? Give at least two details.
- 4 What were the conditions like at the bottom of the well? Find lines from the story to back up what you think.
- 5 Why did Brer Fox follow Brer Rabbit to the well? Give at least two reasons.
- 6 What did Brer Fox expect to see at the bottom of the well?
- 7 What does Brer Fox find at the bottom of the well?
- 8 Brer Rabbit calls 'Cheerio!' to Brer Fox from the top of the well. How many other words or phrases do you know which have the same meaning? List as many as you can.
- 9 What made Brer Fox feel sad when he was in the well?
- 10 Brer Fox had to leap out of the bucket. What other verbs could be used that have a similar meaning to 'leap'?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Brer Rabbit not only tricks Brer Fox but he also sets the farmer after him. Brer Fox nearly gets badly hurt. How do you feel about what Brer Rabbit did? Do you think he behaved in a good way to Brer Fox, or not? Write down how you feel about the actions of Brer Rabbit.

## Language development

- 1 Brer Rabbit was digging with a **spade**.  
Fill in the missing words.
  - a) Mother cut the loaf of bread with a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) The barber cut his hair with a pair of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) The teacher wrote on the board with a piece of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) The joiner struck the nail with a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e) The grocer weighed the cheese on his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 These fish are of different sizes. Place them in order (smallest first):  
herring   shark   goldfish   cod   minnow
- 3 A bucket is used to hold water.  
Which of these are used to hold water:  
bag, kettle, basket, bath, basin, box, tumbler, envelope, cupboard, boiler.
- 4 Name different kinds of fish which are sold in fish shops.
- 5 The farmer got his water from the well.
  - a) How do you get water at home?
  - b) Where does it come from?
- 6 It was summer and the sun was very hot.
  - a) Name the four seasons.
  - b) Which season do you like best? Why?
  - c) Which time of day do you like best? Why?



## Comprehension skills

- 1 How did the stream know when it had become a river?
- 2 What sight made the river feel proud as it ran into the village?
- 3 Why did the river feel proud?
- 4 Where did the river wish it could stay and why?
- 5 How did the river feel when it came to the city?
  - a) strong
  - b) happy
  - c) sad
- 6 Why did the river feel this way?
- 7 What made the river feel useful?
- 8 At the end of the story a wonderful thing happened. What was it, and why was it wonderful?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking beyond the story

- 1 The river felt proud as it grew bigger and stronger. What have you achieved to make you feel proud? Describe a time when you felt proud.
- 2 At the docks, foods from faraway lands were unloaded from cargo ships. What types of food do you think they were? Have you tried foods from other places? Name and describe some foods that come from other countries. If you have tried any, describe what they were like.

## Language development

- 1 The spring said, "Plop, plop, plop!"

Look at these words:

"Tick-tock!" "Crack! Crack!" "Pitter-patter!" "Pop!"  
"Rat-tat-tat!" "Toot! Toot!"

Now put them in these sentences.

- a) The cork gave a loud \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ went the clock.
  - c) The car sounded a warning \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_ went the rain on the window.
  - e) He knocked on the door with a sharp \_\_\_\_\_.
  - f) \_\_\_\_\_ went the lion-tamer's whip.
- 2 Put these in order (smallest first).
- a) teapot, pail, kettle, cup
  - b) city, village, country, town
  - c) river, stream, spring, sea
- 3 Do you know the name given to:
- a) the beginning of a river?
  - b) the sides of a river?
  - c) the end of a river?
- 4 Describe as many different kinds of bridges as you can.
- 5 Why does a river:
- a) get bigger and bigger?
  - b) always keep moving?
- 6 What name is given to:
- a) pipes which take away dirty water?
  - b) big buildings where things are made?
  - c) a place where many ships can load and unload cargoes?
- 7 Name as many different kinds of boats or ships as you can.
- 8 Give the opposites of these words:
- down   long   slowly   sad   dirty   wide   beautiful  
whispered   laughed   entered



## Comprehension skills

- 1 Here are some key events from the story. Put them into the correct order.
  - The queen tells the strange little man his name is Rumpel-Stilts-Kin.
  - The girl makes three deals with the little man who spins the straw into gold.
  - The king marries the girl and she becomes queen.
  - The king asks for the miller's daughter to be brought to the palace.
  - The little man arrives to take the child.
  - The queen sends her servants out all over the kingdom.
  - The king demands that the girl spins his straw into gold.
- 2 As the little man spins, he sings a song. Find a pair of rhyming words from his song.
- 3 When the queen's servant heard the little man in his house, he was singing another song. Find two pairs of rhyming words from that song.
- 4 Why do you think the girl cried each time the king asked her to spin gold?
- 5 Why do you think the little man stamped his feet when the queen told him his name?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking beyond the story

- 1 The Queen thinks of as many different names for the little man as she possibly can. People have many different names; some names are more common and some names are rare. Choose either boys names or girls names. Can you write down at least one name that begins with each letter of the alphabet? Is it possible?

## Language development

- 1
  - a) Whir! Whir! Whir! went the spinning-wheel.
  - b) Choo-choo-choo-choo! went the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) Bang! went the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) Ting-a-ling! went the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e) Crash! went the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2

<b>One</b>	<b>More than one</b>
box	_____
knife	_____
child	_____
roof	_____
baby	_____
- 3 Put these words in their right places  
cup   bag   bottle   cake   bunch
  - a) a \_\_\_\_\_ of flowers
  - b) a \_\_\_\_\_ of tea
  - c) a \_\_\_\_\_ of sweets
  - d) a \_\_\_\_\_ of milk
  - e) a \_\_\_\_\_ of soap
- 4 In the word **lamb** you do not sound the letter **b**. What are the silent letters in:  
hour   knee   talk   wrong   knife  
honest   calm   comb?
- 5 Give one word instead of the two words in bold type.
  - a) The man was **not in**.
  - b) The bag was **not heavy**.
  - c) The pencil was **not sharp**.
  - d) The river was **not deep**.
  - e) The boy was **not polite**.
- 6 The little man wore funny shoes. People wear different types of shoes for different reasons. Look at the pictures on the right. Choose five of the items of footwear. Write a sentence for each to say who would wear them and why. Remember, sentences should start with a capital letter and end in a full stop.

## Comprehension skills

- 1 Here are some key events from the story. Put them into the correct order.
  - A cow walks down the street and eats food from a shop.
  - Mary decides to write to her mother.
  - A loud sound of blowing trumpets is heard.
  - Bob, John and Mary take a trip into town.
  - John and Mary travel to India by boat.
  - Mary sees ladies wearing beautiful dresses called saris.
  - A group of pilgrims walk by.
  - John and Mary visit a real Indian house.
- 2 Why does Mary compare the women to butterflies?
- 3 Name two things which John saw when he arrived in town that he found surprising.
- 4 Why was the cow not chased away by anybody?
- 5 Where were the pilgrims going and what did they plan to do there?
- 6 Where was the sound of trumpets coming from?
- 7 What did the sound of trumpets mean was about to happen?
- 8 Why do you think Mary wants to write to her mother?



## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Read the part of the story which describes the Indian house. Draw and label a picture of the house and the items around it as it is described in the story.
- 2 John and Mary are surprised by the sights they see in the hot land of India. Have you ever been to a different country? What was it like and what did you see? Write a letter like the one Mary would write to describe it.

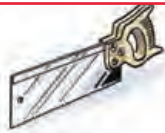
If you have not been to another country before, choose a country you would like to visit and use books or the internet to find out more about the place. Write a letter to describe what you are looking forward to when you do visit the place.

### Thinking beyond the story

- 3 The River Ganges is a major river in India. Use an atlas, books or the internet to find out the names of other major world rivers. Name at least five rivers. Which one is the longest river in the world?
- 4 The tiger is a fierce wild animal. What other fierce wild animals do you know? Draw and label some pictures of wild animals, or you could cut pictures from magazines or even print them out from a computer.

Remember to make sure there is an adult around to help you when you use a computer or the internet.





## Comprehension skills

- 1 Name four characters we meet in this story.
- 2 Name three tools that are used to work on the wood.
- 3 Why did Mr Cherry drop the wood in astonishment?
- 4 Why did Geppetto jump in pain?
- 5 What does the puppet steal from Geppetto?
- 6 Why was Geppetto angry when the puppet stole the item?
- 7 What did Geppetto teach the puppet to do?
- 8 Why were the people of the town astonished?
- 9 Can you name the tools shown on this page?
- 10 Read this list: dressmaker, engineer, gardener, hairdresser, joiner. Which of the tools on this page might be used by each of the people in the list?



## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Geppetto calls the puppet a 'bad rascal' but the people of the town think he is 'a clever puppet'. Do you think the puppet is a rascal, or do you think he is clever? Write a few sentences about what you think and why.

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 Policemen help to keep our communities safe. Find out more about policemen in your community; what is their uniform like, what vehicles do they use, is there a police station in your community? You could find out by visiting your local library to do some research or by asking an adult to share some facts with you.



## Language development

- 1 Point to these parts of the body.  
hair eyes ears nose cheeks mouth chin neck  
shoulders arms elbows wrists hands fingers back  
chest waist legs knees ankles feet toes
- 2 Which of these words should always start with a capital letter?  
table james chair mary garden basket  
ladder thursday feathers forest barrel july  
floor france sugar
- 3 On which parts of the body are these worn?  
hat collar gloves beads ring wig bangle  
ribbon scarf shoes belt
- 4 What would you use to:  
a) cut bread,                      b) sweep the floor,  
c) clean shoes,                    d) dry the dishes,  
e) polish the table,                f) stir the tea,  
g) eat meat,                        h) clean your teeth,  
i) tidy your hair,                  j) darn your socks?
- 5 Which is the right word in each sentence?  
a) The boy (threw, through) a stone.  
b) Mother uses (flower, flour) for baking.  
c) The girl bought (to, too, two) books.  
d) The farmer has to (sow, so, sew) the seed in spring.  
e) The sailor (rode, rowed, road) the boat across the river.
- 6 What?  
a) The cow gives us \_\_\_\_\_.  
b) Windows are made of \_\_\_\_\_.  
When?  
c) We can see the stars \_\_\_\_\_.  
d) We go to church \_\_\_\_\_.  
Where?  
e) We saw four little eggs \_\_\_\_\_.  
f) The bees live \_\_\_\_\_.  
How?  
g) He dug the garden \_\_\_\_\_.  
h) She sharpened her pencil \_\_\_\_\_.

## Language development

- 1 Find all of the pairs of rhyming words in the poem.
- 2 Being strong is the opposite of being afraid. What are the opposites of these words?
  - a) sad
  - b) ugly
  - c) heavy
  - d) wrong
  - e) dark
  - f) angry

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the poem

- 1 The sixth line of the poem tells us about 'the hands of love so soft'. Who do you think the hands belong to and why?

### Thinking beyond the poem

- 2 The poem is about not being afraid of things that could be scary like shadows or strange sounds. What things do you find scary and what do you think about to help you not be afraid? Express your feelings in one of the following ways:
  - Write your own short poem about not being afraid.
  - Draw a short story picture strip, like a comic strip, and write in the story beside the pictures.
  - Write a paragraph using complete sentences to describe your feelings.

## Comprehension skills

- 1 Describe the protective equipment the shepherd used when he was collecting honey and explain how it would protect him.
- 2 Why didn't the bear need to use the same protective equipment as the shepherd?
- 3 What made the bees angry and what did they try to do because they were angry?
- 4 Why could the bear manage to scramble back up to the top of the tree but the shepherd could not?
- 5 The shepherd had to face a fear when he tugged the bear's tail. Find lines in the story which tell you how afraid the shepherd was of the bear.

## Language development

- 1 Bears are very fond of honey.  
Which animals are very fond of:  
bones, milk, cheese, nuts, carrots, fish, lettuce, grass?
- 2 The bear in the story was a brown bear.  
a) What is a white bear called?  
b) Name other animals which are usually brown in colour.
- 3 Honey has a very sweet taste.  
Which of the following are very sweet:  
bread, sugar, jam, butter, cheese, cakes, milk, syrup?
- 4 The bear is protected from the stings of bees by his thick fur coat.  
How do these creatures save themselves from harm: snail, hedgehog, rabbit, mouse, monkey, cow, horse, elephant?
- 5 The bear climbed up the tree.  
Name any other animals which can climb trees.



- 6 Give the opposites of these words in the story: cold, far, long, top, large, quick, inside, thick, lost, clever, youngest, pulled.
- 7 Look at the animals below. They have different ways to protect themselves from harm. Choose two of the animals and do some research to find out more about them. Organise your findings in the form of a fact file. You could look in books or use the internet. Have an adult help you when you use the internet.

## Defence and attack



**Ostrich** – beak/feet



**Walrus** – tusks



**Goat** – horns



**Snake** – fangs



**Porcupine** – spines



**Eagle** – beak/talons



**Turtle** – shell



## Comprehension skills

- 1 Here are some key events from the first half of the story on pages 120 to 121. Put them into the correct order.
  - Ali Baba hides up a tree.
  - The thieves open a magic door by shouting “Open Sesame!”
  - Ali Baba goes out to cut some wood in the forest.
  - Ali Baba opens the magic door and finds treasure in the cave.
  - Ali Baba uses his donkey to carry sacks of treasure home.
  - The thieves leave with sacks of treasure.
  - A band of robbers on horses entered the forest.
  - Ali Baba hides the treasure in the stable.
- 2 Write your own list to summarise the key events from the second half of the story. You should write at least five points.
- 3 Describe what Ali Baba did with the treasure. Do you think he spent his money wisely?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Who do you think deserved to have the treasure more: Ali Baba or the band of thieves? Use examples from the story to explain your point of view.

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 Stealing is wrong. It is very bad to steal anything, no matter how small, that does not belong to you. What is the difference between stealing something and borrowing something?

## Language development

- 1 Each of these is done with your eyes or ears or voice. Which?  
speak, see, look, whisper, talk, hear, peep, stare, listen,  
shout, sing, spy
- 2 We say, 'A band of robbers'.  
Complete the following:
  - a) an army of \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) a gang of \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) a team of \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) a crew of \_\_\_\_\_
  - e) a choir of \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 In the story, the oil in the cellar was kept in \_\_\_\_\_ and the gold  
and silver in the cave was stored in \_\_\_\_\_.  
In what would you expect to find:
  - a) money
  - b) jam
  - c) milk
  - d) sugar
  - e) bread
  - f) sauce
  - g) tea?
- 4 Which of these men work with wood?  
barber, joiner, cobbler, baker, carpenter, lumberjack, miner, tailor,  
timber-merchant
- 5 In which room of a house is it usual to:
  - a) eat
  - b) sleep
  - c) wash your face
  - d) cook food?

What is: a lounge, a conservatory, a patio,  
an attic?

## Comprehension skills

- 1 Name the human characters that we meet in this story.
- 2 What is a baby ant called?
- 3 How long do baby ants 'sleep' for?
- 4 What do ants use to hear, smell and touch?
- 5 Why do ants look after greenfly?
- 6 Why is Tom glad that he is not an ant?

## Critical literacy

### Thinking about the story

- 1 Ants help each other in many ways. What do these ants do to help?
  - a) nurse ants
  - b) soldiers
  - c) pet-keepers
  - d) food hunters

### Thinking beyond the story

- 2 Choose a) or b).
  - a) Imagine that you are flying a spaceship and you land on a planet where only large friendly ants live. Write about your adventures.
  - b) Imagine that you are shrunk to the size of an ant. Write about how the world appears from your tiny new point of view.



## Language development

- 1 The ant uses its 'feelers' to hear, to smell, and to touch. What do we use to:  
a) hear, b) smell, c) touch, d) taste, e) see?
- 2 These words show size. Put a suitable word after each.  
a) a tiny \_\_\_\_\_ b) a big \_\_\_\_\_  
c) a little \_\_\_\_\_ d) a large \_\_\_\_\_  
e) a small \_\_\_\_\_ f) a great \_\_\_\_\_  
g) a vast \_\_\_\_\_ h) a huge \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 An ant has six legs. How many legs has a:  
hen, elephant, bee, rabbit, goose, spider, beetle, camel, fly, monkey, tiger, gorilla, wasp?
- 4 a) Name three insects which can fly.  
b) Name three insects which crawl, but cannot fly.
- 5 We say 'a slice of bread'. Complete the following.  
a) a piece of \_\_\_\_\_ b) a spoonful of \_\_\_\_\_  
c) a drop of \_\_\_\_\_ d) a scrap of \_\_\_\_\_  
e) a speck of \_\_\_\_\_ f) a puff of \_\_\_\_\_  
g) a pinch of \_\_\_\_\_ h) a blade of \_\_\_\_\_  
i) a splinter of \_\_\_\_\_ j) a ray of \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Look at the insects on page 131. Choose three of them. Write a description of what each one looks like. Use adjectives to make your descriptions as detailed as possible.

## The Wooden Horse of Troy

Late that night, when the people of Troy were fast asleep, strange things began to happen.

The Greek soldiers, who were inside the horse, quietly opened the door and climbed down ropes to the ground. It was dark and no one saw them. One soldier went down to the shore and lit a signal fire. The others opened all the city gates. Quickly the Greek ships returned to Troy, and the soldiers rushed into the city through the open gates.

The people of Troy were taken by surprise. They woke to find the Greek soldiers setting fire to their houses. The Trojans fought bravely, but soon the whole city was in flames. When Troy had been burnt to the ground, the Greeks sailed away once more. They had won victory by a clever trick and the long war was ended.

*(adapted)*

### Comprehension skills

- 1 Write a summary of the plot of the story. You should include the beginning, the middle and the end of the tale. You should write approximately one paragraph and you should use complete sentences.

### Critical literacy

#### Thinking beyond the story

- 1 Sadly, war still goes on in the world today. Some charities help people during times of war. Choose one of the charities in the list and do some research to find out what they do. You could use the library or the internet for research. Have an adult help you when you use the internet.
  - UNICEF
  - Doctors Without Borders
  - Save The Children