

# The Woodcutter and the Magpie

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Distributor



Age

10

Genre

Folktale

Word Count

474 Words

## Story at a Glance

Once upon a time, a woodcutter saved a mother magpie and her baby birds by killing a snake that was trying to eat them. Months later, the snake's wife took revenge on the woodcutter by paralyzing him. If he could not ring the temple bell before dawn, he would die. Just when he thought his life was over, the temple bell rang and the snake's wife released him. The woodcutter found the mother magpie he had helped months before, dead, under the heavy bell with all her bones broken. She had hit the heavy bell until her bones were all broken.

## Activity Ideas

After reading the story, *The Woodcutter and the Magpie*, let's learn the new words in the story. And, dig deeper into the story!

### Key Words

horror

great fear

magpie

a noisy, long-tailed, black-and-white crow

greedy

filled with a selfish desire

cottage

a small house

drowsy

sleepy

paralyzed

unable to move

coil

to wind in a circular fashion

revenge

payback

## Words Use

Choose the word that best completes each sentence.

**01** The \_\_\_\_\_ man wanted all the gold for himself.

- ① greedy
- ② drowsy
- ③ revenge

**02** A \_\_\_\_\_ is a small house.

- ① temple
- ② cottage
- ③ horror

**03** He was so \_\_\_\_\_ he just wanted to go to bed.

- ① temple
- ② revenge
- ③ drowsy

**04** The woodcutter was \_\_\_\_\_ and could not move his arms or legs.

- ① slithering
- ② paralyzed
- ③ amazed

**05** The snake wanted \_\_\_\_\_ against the woodcutter and planned to get even by killing him.

- ① revenge
- ② slithered
- ③ powerless

# Words Building

After reading *Woodcutter and the Magpie*, write the meaning of each word in your own words.

**horror**

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**magpie**

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**greedy**

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**cottage**

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**drowsy**

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**paralyzed**

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**coil**

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**revenge**

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## Understanding #1

Select 'True' if the statement is correct and 'False' if the statement is not correct. If you choose 'False' as an answer, think about what the right answer is.

- 01** The woodcutter saved the baby birds from the snake. T / F
- 02** The mother magpie touched the woodcutter with her beak. T / F
- 03** The woodcutter was able to run away from the snake. T / F
- 04** A monk had rung the bell in the temple. T / F

## Understanding #2

### 01 What is the main idea of the story?

- ① A mother magpie gave her life to repay the woodcutter for saving her babies.
- ② A lost woodcutter should never trust an old woman.
- ③ A woodcutter should never kill a snake.

### 02 When the woodcutter heard a noisy bird, \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① he looked up and saw a snake
- ② he looked around and saw an eagle
- ③ he looked away and saw a falcon
- ④ he looked up and saw a magpie

### 03 The woodcutter saw a dead bird's body \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① in a bird's nest
- ② near the snake
- ③ on the ground near the bell
- ④ near the grave

### 04 The bird broke her bones ringing the bell because \_\_\_\_\_.

- ① the snake hit the bird
- ② she hit the brick by mistake
- ③ the bell was so huge and heavy
- ④ she was in a hurry

## Understanding #3

Choose the order of the pictures that shows what happened in the story.

A



B



C



D



① B-C-A-D

② C-A-D-B

③ A-D-B-C

④ D-B-C-A

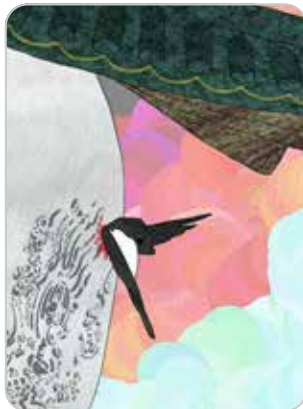
Read the passage below and choose the matching picture.

~~Before long, they reached the Royal Sea Palace. The King of the Sea looked at Hare. "We should take out your liver. It is the only medicine that will cure me."~~

①



②



③



④



# Coloring Sheet

📅 DATE:

👤 NAME:



# Speaking Fluency

Speak about the picture out loud.



The mother magpie \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

The woodcutter \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
" \_\_\_\_\_."



The woodcutter set off for \_\_\_\_\_.

To his surprise, the only thing he  
saw was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
It was \_\_\_\_\_,  
whose neck \_\_\_\_\_.

## Critical Thinking

Think about the questions and express your ideas or opinions about them.

**01** Who was the old woman? Why did the old woman really invite the woodcutter in for a meal?

**02** Why had the magpie struck the heavy bell until her bones were all broken?

**03** Why was the sound of the temple bell ringing unexpected?

# Writing

Write about the story on a separate piece of paper.

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Title

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Author



Can this story happen in real life?

Yes

No



This story is about

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(a little boy and a dog, a scarecrow, an old tree, etc.)

Draw a picture about the story and write a sentence or two about the picture.

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# Making Your Own Story

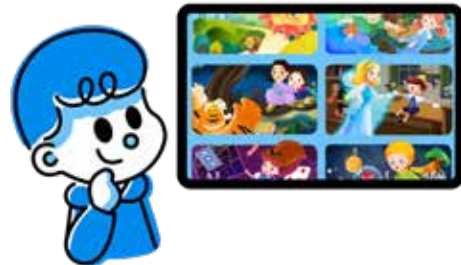


Download and make your own story in StorySelf.

Become a main character in the storybook



① Make your own face character in StorySelf.



② Choose *The Woodcutter and the Magpie* story.



③ Choose your face character.



④ Enter the story and become the main character of the story.

Make your own voice storybook



① Enter the story, *The Woodcutter and the Magpie*.



② Press the subtitle.



③ Record your voice for the subtitle.



④ Enjoy your voice in the storybook.

# Answer Sheet

## Words Use

- 1 - ①
- 2 - ②
- 3 - ③
- 4 - ②
- 5 - ①

## Understanding #1

- 1 - T
- 2 - T
- 3 - F
- 4 - F

## Understanding #2

- 1 - ①
- 2 - ④
- 3 - ③
- 4 - ③

## Understanding #3

- Top - ②
- Bottom - ①

## Speaking Fluency

[Left]

The mother magpie landed for a moment on the woodcutter's shoulder, and lightly touched his cheek with her beak. The woodcutter knew she was saying, "Thank you."

[Right]

The woodcutter set off for the temple to see who had made the bell ring. To his surprise, the only thing he saw was the body of a dead bird on the ground near the bell. It was the mother magpie, whose neck was bent and bloody.

## Critical Thinking

### Possible Answer

1. The old woman was actually a snake. She invited the woodcutter in for a meal because she wanted revenge on the woodcutter for killing her husband months ago.
2. The magpie struck the heavy bell until her bones were all broken because she wanted it to ring. The woodcutter had saved her and her children before and she was trying her best to save him by ringing the bell.
3. The sound of the temple bell ringing was unexpected because the woodcutter had no way of telling anyone to ring the bell. The woodcutter had been paralyzed, so he couldn't move or talk. He didn't expect anyone to help him or even know that he was in danger.