

Level 1-2
Hansel and Gretel

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

Hansel and Gretel is a story about two children whose parents leave them in the forest.

A wood-cutter is married to a mean woman. She wants to leave the children in the forest. The children hear her plan. Hansel goes outside and finds some small white rocks.

When Hansel and Gretel's parents take them into the forest, Hansel drops the white rocks on the ground. The children follow the rocks home. The stepmother makes a new plan. She locks the doors. Hansel cannot go outside and get more rocks.

Their parents take them into the forest again. Hansel drops pieces of bread on the ground, but birds come and eat them. The children get lost. They find a small house made of candy. An old woman asks the children to come into her house.

The old woman is a mean witch. She wants to eat the children. Gretel pushes the witch into the oven and saves Hansel.

The children find their way home. Their father is very happy to see them, and their stepmother is gone. They are all very happy!

2. Section Summary

► **Pages 6-10:** The family is very poor and hungry. The stepmother wants to leave the children in the forest. The children hear her plan. Hansel drops rocks on the ground. The children follow the rocks home.

► **Pages 11-15:** Their stepmother is angry. The next time their parents take them into the forest, Hansel drops pieces of bread on the ground. Birds come and eat the bread. The children are lost and hungry. They see a house made of candy. An old woman lives there.

► **Pages 16-20:** The old woman is a mean witch who wants to eat the children. Gretel tricks the witch and pushes her in the oven. Hansel and Gretel find their way home. Their father is very happy to see them. They also learn that their stepmother is gone. Everyone is happy!

B. Background and Themes

★ **Strangers:** Do not trust strangers. Hansel and Gretel didn't know the woman, but they trusted her. They went into her house because they thought she was being nice to them. Once inside, they learned who the old woman really was and what she wanted. Children need to be careful about who they trust. There are some bad people in the world that may try to hurt them.

★ **Blended families:** Many children have stepmothers, stepfathers, and stepsiblings. It is often difficult for everyone to get along. In this story, the stepmother was mean. She did not like her stepchildren, and she wanted to get rid of them. She convinced the children's father that he should get rid of his children. In the end, the father realized that his children were more important to him than his mean wife.

★ **Good vs. Evil:** This story is about good and evil. The children represent good while the stepmother and the witch represent evil. Sometimes, evil wins, but in this case, good wins. The witch dies, and the stepmother is gone. The children are reunited with their father, and they live happily ever after.

★ **Forest Safety:** It can be dangerous to go into the forest. People often get lost and need help to get out. Hansel was very clever to use the rocks to make a trail that they could follow back to their home. But the pieces of bread did not work. It is good to be prepared and to have a plan of what to do in case you get lost.

★ **Karma:** The stepmother wanted to get rid of the children. The witch wanted to put the children in the oven. In the end, the stepmother was gone, and the witch was burned up in the oven. They both received what they were trying to do to the children. This teaches us that what goes around comes around. If we are mean to others, bad things will eventually happen to us. We will get what we deserve. So, we should treat others how we want to be treated.

Answer Key

Part A. Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. It is from Germany.
2. They heard it from other people in Germany.
3. They put it in a book.

► Characters

1. Hansel
 - is clever
 - drops rocks
2. Gretel
 - gets scared
 - pushes the witch
3. Father
 - is a wood-cutter
 - happy in the end
4. Stepmother
 - is mean
 - makes a plan
5. Witch
 - is old
 - has a candy house

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Beginning: Pages 6-11

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about a family that lives in the forest.
2. I know the story called The Woodman and the Ax.
3. I think she will lock them in their room.

B. Review Questions

1. He is a wood-cutter.
2. He goes outside and finds some small white rocks.
3. They can't sleep because they are so hungry.

► Middle: Pages 12-15

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the children finding a candy house in the woods.
2. I would feel very sad.
3. I would feel very excited.

B. Review Questions

1. He couldn't get them because his stepmother locked the doors.
2. He eats the roof.
3. She wants them to come inside her house.

► End: Pages 16-20

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the children getting away from the witch.
2. I know the story called The Wizard of Oz.
3. They will push her into the oven.

B. Review Questions

1. She locks him in a room.
2. She wants to eat them.
3. Their father is happy to see them.

Mini Quiz

a. What goes around comes around.

→ If someone does something bad, something bad will also happen to that person.

b. A watched pot never boils.

→ If you wait anxiously for something, it seems to take a long time.

c. The early bird catches the worm.

→ If you want something, you have to go get it. If you are lazy, or you wait or hesitate, someone else will beat you to it. The person that works hardest will succeed.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. A: Is it deep enough?

B: Yes, it is.

5. A: Is it big enough?

B: I don't think so.

► Challenge

1. He finds some white rocks.

2. They are sad because their stepmother wants to leave them in the forest.

3. They find a house made of candy.

4. They are happy because they are together again.

Part B. Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

1. follow
2. forest
3. children
4. scared
5. lock
6. witch

f	o	l	l	o	w	b	n
k	s	o	t	n	a	e	h
a	m	c	j	i	r	s	w
v	g	k	a	d	l	f	i
p	e	r	l	r	o	p	t
u	t	i	w	d	e	s	c
s	h	m	c	k	t	d	h
e	o	f	o	r	e	s	t

B.

1. b
2. b
3. a
4. a
5. b
6. a
7. b

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Pages 6-11

A.

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. F

B.

1. c 2. a 3. d 4. b

C.

1. b 2. c 3. d 4. a 5. d

► Middle: Pages 12-15

A.

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

B.

1. Old woman

2. Stepmother

3. Hansel

4. Gretel

C.

1. c 2. b 3. d 4. d 5. a

► End: Pages 16-20

A.

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

B.

1. b 2. c 3. d 4. a

C.

1. b 2. c 3. a 4. a 5. d

Think and Write

1. stepmother
2. follow
3. forest
4. bird
5. hungry
6. candy
7. witch
8. pushes

Vocabulary Review

1. The wood-cutter has two children.
2. Hansel goes outside and finds some rocks.
3. The witch makes Gretel cook and clean.
4. The witch locks Hansel in a room.
5. Gretel pushes the witch into the oven.
6. The children find a candy house.
7. The old woman is a mean witch.
8. The stepmother is angry.
9. Their parents take them far into the forest.
10. Hansel drops pieces of bread.

Summary

A.

4	1
2	3

B.

1. The children have a mean stepmother.
2. Their parents leave them in the forest.
3. The mean witch wants to eat them.
4. Their father is very happy to see them.

Book Report

Story a → c → b → e → d