

Level 3-5
The Magic Swan

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

The Magic Swan is about a boy who uses a magic swan to make his life better.

Peter was small and weak. His two brothers were very mean to him. Peter wanted to make his life better.

An old woman heard him crying. She gave him some advice. She told him where to find a beautiful white swan. Whoever touched the swan would get stuck to it. She also gave Peter a magic stick that would free anyone who got stuck to the swan. She told Peter to lead the people who got stuck to the swan to the Princess. If Peter could make the Princess laugh, he would become rich.

Peter led the swan down the road. A dirty man tried to pull out one of the swan's feathers. When the swan screamed, Peter said "Hold on, Swan!" The man got stuck to the swan.

After that, a girl, a chimney sweep, and a clown also got stuck to the swan. Peter led them to the castle. The Princess saw them and laughed.

The King wanted to give Peter a reward. The King offered Peter a choice between a thousand gold coins or some land for a house. Peter chose the land. Peter touched the people with the magic stick to free them, and they ran away.

The Princess thought the swan was beautiful, so she touched it. When she did, she became stuck to it. She became Peter's wife.

Peter kept his promise to the old woman. She became Peter's head housekeeper.

2. Section Summary

► **Pages 6-11:** Peter did not like his life. He told an old woman about it. She told him to move to a new place. She told him where he could get a magic swan and what he should do with it. She told him not to forget her.

► **Pages 12-17:** The old woman told Peter to use the swan to catch people and take them to the Princess. If Peter could make the Princess laugh, he would become rich. He walked down the road with the swan, and he soon caught a dirty young man and a girl.

► **Pages 18-24:** Next, Peter caught a chimney sweep and a clown. He took them all to the castle. When the Princess saw so many people stuck to a swan, she laughed. The King gave Peter some land as a reward. The Princess married Peter, and the old woman became their housekeeper.

B. Background and Themes

★ **Keeping Promises:** It is important to do what you say you are going to do. It proves that you are honest and that people can trust you. If you don't keep your promises, people will not want to help you or believe you in the future. The old woman helped Peter, and Peter made a promise to the old woman. He kept his promise. When he became rich, he invited the old woman to come and live with him.

★ **Leaving Home:** It is difficult to move away from home, even when life is hard there. It is where many memories are made. But there comes a time when we have to move away and live on our own. Peter had a hard life, but he was sad to leave his childhood home.

★ **Stealing:** Stealing is wrong. The old woman encouraged Peter to take the swan and use it to make his life better. In this story, it was wrong for Peter to take the swan, but none of the characters were hurt by Peter's actions, so it makes it seem OK. He used the swan to make his life better. However, you should never steal, even if you think it will make your life better.

★ **Making Dreams Come True:** Sometimes life is not what we want it to be. We have to take action to make our own dreams come true. Peter decided he did not want to continue living with his mean brothers. He took his life into his own hands and went out in search of a better life. With the help of the old woman, he became rich and completely turned his life around.

★ **Humor:** It is important to have a good sense of humor, to laugh, and to be able to make others laugh. Sometimes, it can lead to great things. Peter used humor to become rich. By making the Princess laugh, he was given a great reward and was able to change his life.

★ **Sharing Problems:** When we are feeling bad, it is important to talk to someone. Other people can support, encourage, and give us advice about what to do. It is not good to keep our problems to ourselves. When we don't ask for help, our problems can become too big for us to bear. Peter was very sad about his life. When he told the old woman about his problems, she was able to give him the help he needed.

Answer Key

Part A. Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. He is from Scotland.
2. He is best known for the stories he did not write.
3. There are twelve books in the series.

► Characters

1. Peter	2. Old Woman
<u>small and weak</u> <u>sad</u>	<u>helpful</u> <u>kind</u>
3. Clown	4. Princess
<u>does tricks</u> <u>in a circus</u>	<u>beautiful</u> <u>marries Peter</u>

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Beginning: Pages 6-11

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about a boy and an old woman.
2. There are mean sisters in Cinderella.
3. I would tell my parents.

B. Review Questions

1. He was crying because he did not like his life.
2. He looked at his childhood home.
3. She told him to take a sleeping man's swan.

► Middle: Pages 12-17

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the boy stealing a swan.
2. Another story that has a magic bird is Jack and the Magic Beans.
3. I would not try to help them because I would not want to get stuck, too.

B. Review Questions

1. They wanted to touch it because it had beautiful feathers.
2. A young girl tried to help him.
3. It could be used to free the people from the swan.

► End: Pages 18-24

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about Peter taking the people to see the Princess.
2. My favorite part is the acrobats.
3. I promised my sister I would play with her, but I did not do it.

B. Review Questions

1. The chimney sweep asked him for help.
2. He took them to the castle.
3. She became Peter's wife because she got stuck to the swan.

Mini Quiz

a. Loose lips sink ships.

→ Giving important information to an enemy or competitor may lead to big losses.

b. Time and tide wait for no man.

→ Delaying a decision will not prevent events from happening.

c. The end justifies the means.

→ Unfair methods may sometimes be used if the result is good.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. B: The students were watching the teacher.
5. A: The people were watching a concert.

► Challenge

1. They were making fun of Peter.
2. She gave him a magic stick.
3. They got stuck to the swan.
4. He wanted the Princess to see them.

Part B. Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. <u>sw</u> an | 2. un <u>tie</u> |
| 3. <u>ci</u> rcus | 4. <u>to</u> uch |
| 5. carr <u>ia</u> ge | 6. <u>w</u> ea <u>k</u> |
| 7. <u>tr</u> ick | 8. <u>cl</u> own |
| 9. <u>co</u> in | 10. su <u>dd</u> en <u>ly</u> |

B.

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. promised | 2. collected |
| 3. pull | 4. chimney sweep |
| 5. sticks | 6. village |
| 7. rich | 8. feathers |
| 9. begged | 10. behind |

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Pages 6-11

A.

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

B.

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

C.

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

► Middle: Pages 12-17

A.

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

B.

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

C.

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

► End: Pages 18-24

A.

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

B.

1. King
2. Princess
3. Peter
4. Clown

C.

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

Think and Write

- | | | | | |
|------------|----------|----------|------------|-------------|
| 1. touched | 2. stuck | 3. funny | 4. laughed | 5. Princess |
| 6. land | 7. magic | 8. ran | 9. swan | 10. wife |

Vocabulary Review

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| 1. weak | 2. wrong | 3. feathers | 4. road | 5. Suddenly |
| 6. castle | 7. carriage | 8. until | 9. coins | 10. forget |

Summary

A.

c → f → d → b → e → a

B.

1. The old woman told Peter what to do.
2. Peter took the man's swan while he was sleeping.
3. The Princess laughed.

Book Report

Story a → e → b → d → c