

LEARNING SUPPORT WORKSHEETS THAT REQUIRE KNOWLEDGE OF THE STORY

ANSWERS FOR TEACHERS

SCARY STORIES

If a worksheet does not appear in the list below, it is 'generic' in its requirements, calling on children's general basic skills, without specific reference to the story. In other words, a teacher will know what the correct answer is without having read the story at all.

THE GHOST TRAIN

1. After more than three hours of rides, hotdogs, pies and fairy floss, Katie was feeling rather ill. However, she and her brother Jason had \$6 left, which he was determined to spend before going home. They decided to go on a ghost train. The nearby sign said "Have the fright of your life." Ricky had been on it last weekend and said it was cool. They strolled over to the ticket booth, and a strange looking man with a bald head, squinty eyes and a crooked nose peered back at them from the little window. There was a jagged scar across his left cheek. Katie thought there was something odd about him; Jason thought Katie was imagining things. It was nearly closing time at the fun park. They had the ride to themselves. They sat in the front seat. The trains started moving immediately rattling out of the sunlight and into a dark narrow tunnel. The air was cold and musty. After the first bend, a gangly skeleton sprang out of a hole in the wall. Katie screamed. Further along, green lights came on; three trolls came up from below the track. They were hideous, drooling mouths and hairy bodies. They smacked their lips and reached for the children. One waved a race in Katie's face "yuck!" she screamed. Jason laughed he thought it was unreal. He liked the sound effects. After another bend a boy jumped in behind them. Something about him was creepy. He looked cold and frightened. Katie felt the hairs on her neck start to rise. Jason was too busy watching a flock of bats whoosh past them on invisible strings to notice. A headless ghost accompanied the train for a few seconds before vanishing. Then two ugly old witches appeared dressed in black robes, stirring a cauldron chanting:

"Eyes of a spider, brains of a rat,
Scales of a dragon, blood of a bat,
Slime of a snail, stems of four flowers,
Mix all together to make magic powers."

Jason thought it sounded cool and joked that they should try the recipe at home! Frankenstein lunged toward them mouth agape. Katie turned around to see their fellow passenger just staring blankly ahead. Frankenstein fell with a crash onto the track. A shower of blue sparks lit up the tunnel, there was a faint smell of singed cloth. Katie laughed and looked behind her again. The boy had vanished. The train stopped at the platform in the sunshine. The ticket seller asked if they'd enjoyed the ride. They said

yes, but they were worried about the boy who disappeared behind them. The man asked if he was wearing a yellow t-shirt and a black cap. “Yes,” Katie replied. He turned out to be the kid who jumped from the train last year. He fell onto an electric rail and was electrocuted.

2.

- park
- ride,
- rattled, tunnel
- screamed, hole
- track, hairy
- jumped
- creepy

3. Frankenstein lunged toward them mouth agape. Katie turned around to see their fellow passenger just staring blankly ahead. Frankenstein fell with a crash onto the track. A shower of blue sparks lit up the tunnel, there was a faint smell of singed cloth. Katie laughed and looked behind her again. The boy had vanished.

4. bald, squinty, jagged

THE OLD HOUSE

1. Suzy hated walking down that lane. An old, abandoned house was at the end of it. It didn't really look scary. On a windy day, the windows would shudder and the door would swing open and closed. Suzy didn't believe the stories about old Mrs. Higgins who used to live there. They say she went mad after her husband died and that she never left the old place again. Suzy was angry with Linda who was standing in front of the old house like a stunned animal. Pussy had gone into the house. Linda wanted to go in the house with Suzy and get her. Suzy grabbed hold of Linda's hand and led her up the creaky steps onto the warped timber porch. She held her breath as she pushed the front door open. They stepped inside to an abyss made of darkness. The cold, icy blackness engulfed them. Suzy couldn't see her hand in front of her face. She cautiously took one step after another on the ancient creaky floorboards. A fracture of light came from the other end of the house; Suzy figured it was the back door. Suddenly she could no longer feel Linda's hand. “Linda, where are you?” there was no reply. She waved her hand behind her. She felt nothing. She saw nothing. Something must have happened to Linda. Suzy told her to stop mucking around. There was no response. Suddenly she felt icy cold as if she'd been buried in a tomb. Her heart beat loudly, thumping in her ears. An icy cold finger of terror reached out and touched her. She had to get out and get the police to look for Linda. To hell with the stupid cat! She ran towards the door. Fear gave her the strength of thousands as she knocked it open and charged out into the sunshine. The warmth of the sun brought her relief, like a mother's hug. She was just about to burst into tears when she saw her sister. Linda was laughing as she stroked pussy “we scared you good didn't we?” Suzy took a deep breath, raised her right hand

and clenched her fist. She started pounding it into her left hand and chased her screaming sister back to their mother's place.

2. 2, 6, 1, 4, 5, 3

6. Suzy was just about to burst into tears when she saw her sister. Linda was laughing as she stroked pussy "we scared you good didn't we?"

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IN YOUR SLEEP

1. Beth Squealed. There was a spider running across the kitchen floor. She stomped, kicked and screamed. Dad ran in from outside. "Stop it!" he said as he picked her up like a doll and stood her on a chair. He found the spider on the floor. He scooped it up in his hands and took it outside to the garden. Beth screeched as she watched her dad put the spider under the rose bushes; he was perspiring, and mumbling something under his breath about being lucky. Beth said that he was a softy for not squashing it; it was only spider and it would only end up coming back into the house. "Just a spider?!? I could tell you a story about 'just' a spider that will make you think differently, young missy!" He told her a story about when he was nine and lived in a little house in the suburbs, with her grandparents, and his siblings. He thought it was neat; fairly bug proof, no mice or ants. One night something woke him. It was hairy, and tickling his eyelids. He opened his eyes and there it was! A massive, black hairy beast of a spider was sitting on his cheek. It was as huge as the whole side of his face. He panicked and jumped out of bed. The spider flew across the room and he squished against his desktop with his shoe as it tried to scuttle away. His dad got rid of the spider, and he calmed down and went back to sleep. The next day was the same as usual; he went to school, came home, ate dinner and watched a little TV. But when he opened his door that night he found his entire room covered in cobwebs. It stretched from floor to ceiling, all over the clothes in the drawers, on the bed, the toys, everywhere glistening in the moonlight. He screamed, his dad came running. He couldn't believe it, there in the web in big spidery writing was the message "IN YOUR SLEEP". They stayed in a motel that night and moved the next day. They lived in six different houses before the messages stopped. "Why did they stop?" asked Beth. "I found out what to do. Instead of killing them, I helped them. I didn't break their webs. I let them stay. I even fed them with flies sometimes. I guess I showed them I wasn't their enemy, and to this day I haven't had trouble with spiders." "Yuck" said Beth. He kissed her. Beth stared at him. Beth didn't believe him. As her father disappeared through the door, she noticed the same spindly black spider come crawling out of the bushes. She stomped on it. She didn't tell her dad about it. She didn't have to. When she went into her room that night she found everything covered in spider webs. There in the web, in the middle of her room in big angular letters was the message "IN YOUR SLEEP."

2. kitchen, screamed, picked, rose, hairy, jumped, shoe, bedroom

3. true, false, true, false, true, true, false

5. He found the spider on the floor. He scooped it up in his hands and took it outside to the garden. Beth screeched as she watched her dad put the spider under the rose bushes; he was perspiring, and mumbling something under his breath about being lucky.

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THE BOGEYMAN

1. Tom was a bad boy, he always playing up for his mother. “Be a good boy or the bogeyman will get you,” she warned him. He didn’t listen. He ran around shouting, and breaking things. He never did what his mother said. One night he was playing outside. His mother told him to come inside, but he didn’t listen. Suddenly the Bogeyman appeared. He grabbed Tom, stuffed him in his bag, tied the bag up and took him home. When he got to his place, he pulled tom out of the bag. “Here is our supper my dear,” he laughed. Tom looked around. He was in a horrible place. There were bones lying about on the floor. It was dark and it smelled awful. The Bogeyman’s wife came in; she was almost as ugly as he was. She poked tom in the ribs. “Not much flesh on him, is that the best you could find? I’ll have to sweeten him with herbs and sugar or he’ll taste terrible,” she said. “Now now my dear, it’s hard to find them you know.” The Bogeyman left to get the herbs and sugar. Tom looked at Mrs. Bogeyman. She was licking her lips and smiling a horrible smile. Tom asked her if the Bogeyman always had little boys for dinner. “Oh yes, but only the bad ones,” she said. He suggested chocolate pudding instead. Mrs. Bogeyman loved chocolate pudding but said she never got any. Tom told her that his mum had just made chocolate pudding and that he could go and get her some. Tom, smiling his sweetest smile promised he wouldn’t run away, and that he would come straight back. “Very well, but hurry straight back, I’m hungry,” she said. Tom ran all the way home, and locked himself in when he got there. He wouldn’t tell his mother what happened. But he promised never to be bad again. Time passed and Tom forgot his promise. He was back to never doing what his mother told him. One night when he was playing outside, the Bogeyman came and grabbed him and popped him in his bag again, and took him home. When he pulled him out of his bag, he snarled, “YOU! You’re the boy who tricked us. Look what I have hear my dear.” “YOU! You lied to me. But it doesn’t matter, you won’t get away a second time. The Bogeyman made Tom get under the sofa, while Mrs Bogeyman put the pot on to boil. The Bogeyman sat on the sofa watching the water boil. Poor Tom knew his end was near. “I don’t know why the water is taking so long to boil. I’m going to get my wife; but so you can’t escape, I’m going to chop off your leg.” Tom grabbed a large bone lying under the sofa. He stuck out the bone with is sock and shoe on it. The bogeyman got a chopper. There was a horrible sound of breaking bone. Tom crept out from under the sofa. The bogeyman was nowhere in sight. Tom ran away as fast as he could. He ran all the way home and locked

himself in. “What happened to your sock and shoe?” asked his mum. “They were pulled off by a gigantic dog, mum.” That was the last fib he ever told. From then on, Tom would always be a very good boy.

2. 6, 2, 5, 1, 4, 3

5. Tom had to get under the sofa.
The bogeyman told him to stick out his leg.
Tom put his shoe and sock on a large bone.
There was a horrible sound of breaking bone.
Tom crept out and ran home.

6. Tom was a bad boy, he always playing up for his mother. “Be a good boy or the bogeyman will get you,” she warned him. He didn’t listen. He ran around shouting, and breaking things. He never did what his mother said.

Poor Tom knew his end was near. “I don’t know why the water is taking so long to boil. I’m going to get my wife; but so you can’t escape, I’m going to chop off your leg.” Tom grabbed a large bone lying under the sofa. He stuck out the bone with his sock and shoe on it. The bogeyman got a chopper. There was a horrible sound of breaking bone.

I’M NOT AFRAID

1. A brave young man named Johnny can’t get a room for the night at the inn. The innkeeper knows of a place where he can stay if he’s not afraid, no one who’s stayed a night there has ever come out alive. Johnny accepts the challenge. The innkeeper gives him a lamp and some food and leads him up to a strange castle on top of the hill. There are cobwebs all over the floor, and no lights. Johnny is not afraid. He goes in, it’s cold and dark. He puts his lamp down on the table and starts to eat, when suddenly he hears a voice “Can I come in?” “Come in” Johnny replies. A leg comes down the chimney. “How odd” he thinks. Then comes another leg, and an arm, another arm then a body. The limbs attach themselves to the body, the headless creature comes toward Johnny. A bald green head appears on the body. The monster has red glaring eyes and breathes foul breath all over Johnny. He is not afraid. He leads Johnny through the castle, down some stairs to a dark, smelly cellar; there’s a stone slab on the floor. “Are you willing to look below?” asks the monster. “Certainly” says Johnny. He lifts the slab. There are three pots full of gold. The monster carries the gold back up to the table for Johnny. “Take your half” says Johnny to the monster. At that, the spell was broken. The monster’s legs, arms and body flew up the chimney, only the head remained. Johnny had proven himself brave enough to find the treasure, and like a true gentleman offered the monster his share. “Sir John, the castle and treasure are yours” and the monster’s head vanished too. When dawn came the innkeeper and villagers came in to find Johnny sitting calmly at the table. He lived there happily ever after.

2. room, full, place, castle, lamp, booming, come, down, thought

3. false, true, true, true, false
4. strange, smelly, dark, cold

THE HITCHHIKER

1. Mum had been up preparing for the family's holiday since 5 o'clock. Dad thought she had packed everything except the kitchen sink. We hit the road, leaving the noise and smog of the city. Mum was soon fast asleep snoring softly. Jessica relaxed in the back seat, looking out the window. The fields are lush and green after spring rains. Lambs scampered around, watched by their mothers. After a couple of hours, Jessica felt ravenous and asked to stop for lunch soon. Dad said they'd stop and have a meal at a pub, which was about twelve kilometres away. A few minutes later, after slowing to approach a narrow bridge, Jessica noticed a girl limping along the road. She'd obviously been in an accident. Her jeans were ripped and bloody. One of her shoes was missing. Dad stopped and asked her if she was hurt, or would like a lift. She nodded thankfully and slid into the back seat. Jessica shivered as she became aware of a sudden chill in the air. Maybe it was her imagination. She gave up trying to make conversation on the way to the pub, and started to read her book. Suddenly a kangaroo bounded out on the road directly in front of them. Dad braked, the car slew wildly and finally came to a screeching halt. His face was white with shock, as it was close. The hitchhiker had gone. Jessica thought she would have surely noticed if she had opened the door. Everyone scrambled out of the car and looked in all directions for her, even under the car. Dad decided they'd better go back in case she had fallen out. They drove back as far as the bridge but there was no one in sight. Shortly afterwards at the pub as the family waited for their meal, they discussed the mystery of the vanishing hitchhiker. A passing waitress overheard their conversation and interrupted, telling them of a local girl who had died in a serious accident at the bridge last week. "Did she have one shoe missing? Was she walking with a limp?" "Yes," Jessica said. "You're the third lot of customers who has given Tracey a lift since the accident. She was on her way to her Birthday party, looks as if she is still trying to get there." Jessica and her parents look at the waitress in bewilderment.

2. c, b, c

3. true, false, true, true

5. A passing waitress overheard their conversation and interrupted, telling them of a local girl who had died in a serious accident at the bridge last week. "Did she have one shoe missing? Was she walking with a limp?" "Yes," Jessica said. "You're the third lot of customers who has given Tracey a lift since the accident. She was on her way to her Birthday party, looks as if she is still trying to get there." Jessica and her parents look at the waitress in bewilderment.

A MONSTER AT THE WINDOW

1. It was mum's Birthday. Dad wanted to surprise her by taking her out to dinner and a movie. Kate said she would look after Tim for them. "We'll be back by eleven o'clock. Don't open the door to anyone," warned dad. "Have a great time," Kate called to her parents as they left the house. A strong gusty wind blew the front door shut. Kate was glad to be inside in the warm. After dinner, Tim begged Kate to read him a scary bedtime story. Kate found one about monsters and read it, then tucked Tim into his cot and turned out the light. It was only nine o'clock, too early for bed. Kate curled up on the couch in the lounge and read. Suddenly she became conscious of a strange tapping noise outside the window. It would stop for a few minutes before starting again. Kate thought it might have been a cat. She returned to her book uneasily. After a while, the noise became louder and more insistent. Feeling frightened she went and peeked through the curtains. "AAAAAEEEEEGGGHHH!" she screamed. A horrible monster with no face and a weird body that constantly changed shape was trying to get in the window. A misshapen claw was banging hard against the window. Kate ran and rang 000. "Please help me, mum and dad are out and there's a monster outside the window," she sobbed. A policeman arrived a few minutes later. Kate pointed to the window where the monster was. The policeman looked out and laughed. He went into the yard and came back with a muddy sheet on his arm. The wind had blown it off the line, and it was tangled in a rose bush. There was no monster after all, just a sheet with a broken sheet still attached. Kate decided never to read scary bedtime stories to Tim again.

2. Dad took mum out for her Birthday.
Kate read Tim a really scary story.
Later she heard a strange tapping noise.
She peeked out through the curtains.
A monster was trying to get in.
Kate rang 000 for help.

3. dinner, gusty, peeked, claw, blown

4. -Kate thought it was a monster tapping at the window. It turned out to be a sheet that had blown off the clothesline, with a broken peg attached to it.
- The policeman laughed because he discovered that the monster was actually a sheet that had blown off the clothesline, not a monster after all.

THERE'S A TRAIN COMING!

Two men were on their way to a lake to fish. They normally parked near the railway station, not this day! Their car got stuck in the middle of the train tracks. There was a train about five kilometres down the track, at a little town. Passengers on board were anxious to get home, there were Christmas shopping was piled up all around them. The train driver was travelling at 110 kph when he saw it. He braked and closed his eyes. Sparks flew. CRASHHHH!! The car disappeared, smashed to pieces. The train hit the car and rose up in the air. Its wheels left the track. But still it screamed forwards, sliding

along the rails. It passed the spot where the car had been. It slid across the bridge. It rocked for a moment, but it kept going. Because it was moving so fast, it kept going for another fifty metres or so. It stopped. The front carriage rolled off the tracks, turning over and over. Inside Christmas presents flew in the air. Passengers were thrown out of their seats. Everything went crazy. People screamed. The first carriage was lying on its side, completely off the track. The second carriage was hanging off the track at a crazy angle. The third carriage – incredibly – was still on the railway line. People arrived on the scene within minutes and smashed windows, pulling passengers to safety. Police cars, ambulances and fire trucks appeared, their sirens wailing. Within half an hour, hundreds of people were there. The injured were taken to hospital. One woman was taken by helicopter. Cuts and bruises were tended to; those crying were comforted and driven home. Incredibly, no one was killed.

2. no, yes, yes, no, yes, no, yes, yes