

The Princess and the Pea

The Princess and the Pea

What have you learned about royal families?

- Kings and queens and their children, princes and princesses were the most important and powerful people in the kingdom
- Princes and princesses grew up getting whatever they wanted and having servants do everything for them

The Princess and the Pea



Denmark is a country in Europe. The read aloud you will hear today was published in Denmark in 1835, almost 200 years ago! The author's name was Hans Christian Andersen.

The Princess and the Pea

Have you ever eaten peas? Describe what peas look and feel like. You are about to hear a story about a princess and a pea. What do you think a real princess is like? Listen to find out how a pea helps determine who is a real princess.

The Princess and the Pea



Once upon a time, there was a prince who wanted to marry a princess--but not just any princess. He wanted to marry a real princess. So he traveled all over the world looking for a real princess.

The Princess and the Pea



How do you think the prince will know if he has met a real princess?

He went from kingdom to kingdom and he met plenty of princesses.

Remember a kingdom is a country ruled by a king or a queen.

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Of course, they were all beautiful, talented, graceful, and kind. The word graceful means moving, speaking or acting in a beautiful way. But never did the prince feel that he had found an absolutely, totally, completely real princess. So, sad and disappointed, he returned home.

The Princess and the Pea



Back at the castle, his mother, the queen, asked him, "Did you find a princess?"

"Oh, I found plenty of princesses," the prince replied, "but I never felt sure that I'd found a real princess."

The Princess and the Pea



That night there was a terrible storm. Lightning flashed, thunder crashed, the wind howled, making a long, loud, and sad sound, and the rain pounded down. In the middle of the storm, there was a knock at the palace door. The king opened the door and there, standing in the rain, was a princess.

The Princess and the Pea



And oh my, she was a mess! Her hair was dripping, her clothes were torn and muddy, and water poured out of her shoes.

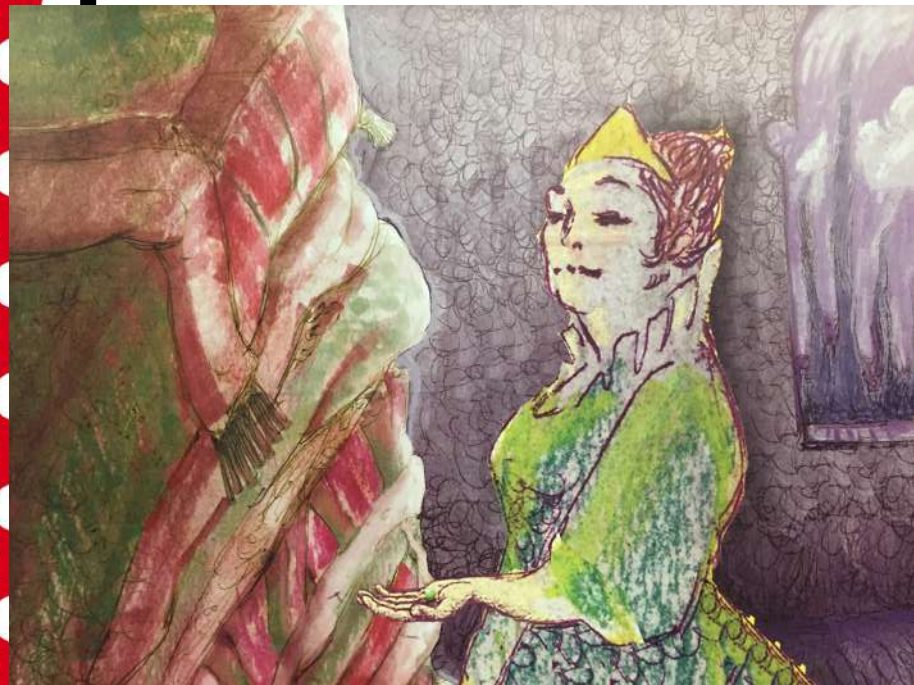
"Who are you?" asked the queen.
"I am a princess," she said.
"Really. A real princess."

The Princess and the Pea



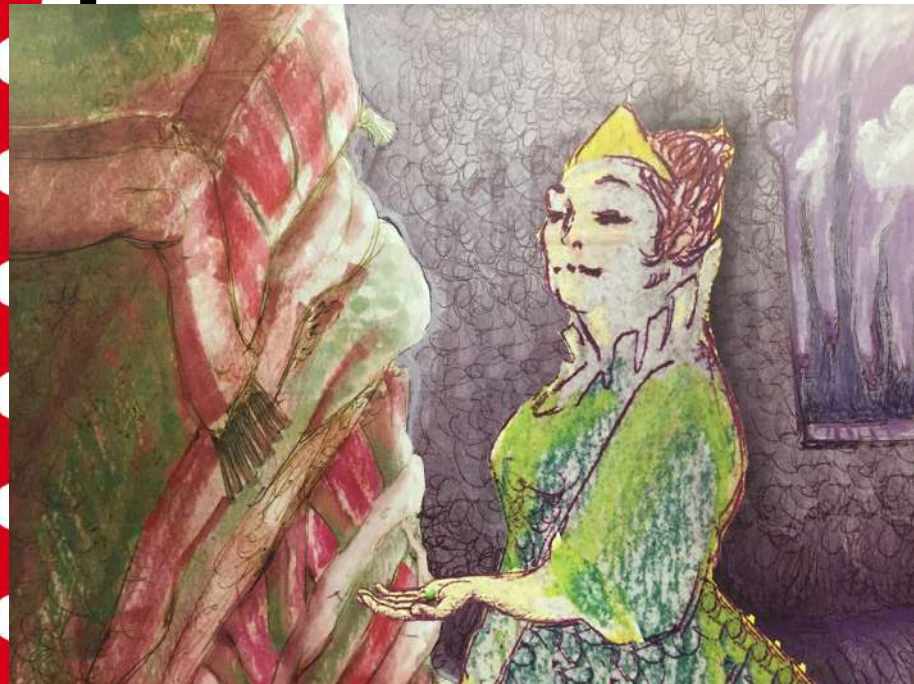
*Does she look like a real princess
to you?*

The Princess and the Pea



“Humph!” said the queen, and she thought to herself, “We’ll soon see about that!” The queen went into a bedroom and took all the sheets and blankets off the bed. Then she put one tiny pea on the bed, and on top of that she piled twenty mattresses, and on top of those, twenty feather filled pads.

The Princess and the Pea



“Here is where you will sleep tonight,” she said to the princess.

Why do you think the queen put a pea under the soft mattresses and pads? Does this look like a comfortable bed to sleep in?

The Princess and the Pea



The next morning at the breakfast table, the queen asked the princess, "Did you have a good night's sleep?"

"No, not at all," said the princess. "I tossed and turned all night. Something in the bed was so hard and lumpy--why I'm bruised black and blue all over."

The Princess and the Pea



So, she had felt the pea through the twenty mattresses and twenty feather filled pads. The queen and her son smiled at each other. Surely, only a real princess could be so delicate and sensitive.

The word delicate means fragile and easily broken or hurt.

The Princess and the Pea



So the prince married her and felt happy that he had at last found a real princess. And as for the pea, it was placed in a museum, where it may still be seen, if nobody has taken it.

And that, children, is a real story!

The Princess and the Pea

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

In the beginning of the fairy tale, what trouble does the prince have finding a princess as he travels from one kingdom to another?

The Princess and the Pea

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Describe how the princess looks when she arrives at the prince's castle.

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Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What test does the queen use to see if this person is a real princess?

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Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

Does the princess sleep well? Why or why not?

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Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

Do you think it is polite for the princess to tell the queen that she has not slept well? Do you think it is wise for the prince to choose whom to marry based on whether or not the person is a real princess?

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Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

The last line of the tale says this is a “real story”.
Which parts of this story could actually happen?
Which parts of this story are fantasy?

Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

The Princess and the Pea

*In the read aloud you heard, “Of course, the princesses were all beautiful, talented, **graceful** and kind.”*

*Say the word **graceful** with me.*

Whisper graceful to the ceiling.

Whisper graceful to your neighbor.

Let's clap it out.

The Princess and the Pea

*If someone is **graceful**, s/he moves, speaks, or acts in a beautiful way.*

The bride looked very graceful as she danced at her wedding.

The Princess and the Pea

*Have you ever seen anyone who seemed graceful?
Try to use the word graceful when you tell about
it.*

“The student was graceful when...”

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*What's the word we have been talking
about?*

Let's clap it out.

The Princess and the Pea

I will describe a situation. If it is an example of something graceful, please put your thumbs up. If it is not an example of graceful, thumbs down.

The Princess and the Pea



Thumbs Up = Graceful

Thumbs Down = Not graceful



The first time Sam tried to play the violin, it made a loud, screechy sound.



The Princess and the Pea



Thumbs Up = Graceful

Thumbs Down = Not graceful



*The winner of the school talent show
danced beautifully on the stage.*



The Princess and the Pea



Thumbs Up = Graceful

Thumbs Down = Not graceful



*Ling tripped and fell as she walked across
the room.*



The Princess and the Pea



Thumbs Up = Graceful

Thumbs Down = Not graceful



At the swimming pool, Waleed did a perfect back dive into the pool.



The Princess and the Pea



Thumbs Up = Graceful

Thumbs Down = Not graceful



*The princess sang sweetly as she walked
softly through the forest.*

