

Vocabulary Words

1. Sibling /'sɪblɪŋ/ (Noun) A brother or sister.
Example: Sophie and Jake are siblings who always play together.
2. Abandon /ə'bændən/ (Verb) To leave something or someone behind and not take care of them anymore.
Example: The old house was abandoned and covered in vines.
3. Pebble /'pɛbəl/ (Noun) A small, smooth rock found on the ground or in water.
Example: They skipped pebbles across the lake, watching them bounce on the surface.
4. Stumble /'stʌmbəl/ (Verb) To trip or lose balance while walking or running.
Example: She stumbled over a root in the forest and nearly fell.
5. Resist /rɪ'zɪst/ (Verb) To say no to something you want to do or have because you know it's not a good idea.
Example: He tried to resist eating the cookies, but they smelled too delicious.
6. Lure /lʊr/ (Verb) To attract or persuade someone to go somewhere or do something, often by promising them something appealing.
Example: The bright colors of the candy lured the children into the sweet shop.
7. Cackle /'kækəl/ (Verb) To laugh in a loud, harsh way, often with a slightly evil sound.
Example: The witch cackled as she stirred her cauldron.
8. Outsmart /'aʊt'smɑrt/ (Verb) To use intelligence or cleverness to defeat or trick someone.
Example: The clever detective outsmarted the thief and solved the mystery.
9. Escape /ɪ'skeɪp/ (Verb) To get away from a place or situation where you are trapped or not free.
Example: The cat managed to escape from the closed room through a small hole.
10. Overcome /'oʊvər'kʌm/ (Verb) To successfully deal with or defeat a problem, difficulty, or challenge.
Example: With hard work and determination, she was able to overcome her fear of public speaking.
11. Wits /wɪts/ (Noun) The ability to think and make good decisions quickly.
Example: He used his wits to solve the riddle and open the mysterious door.



Hansel and Gretel: A Sweet Adventure

In a small village, there lived two **siblings** named Hansel and Gretel. They were poor, and their stepmother had a wicked heart. One day, she decided to **abandon** the children in the woods because there wasn't enough food for everyone.

Hansel and Gretel were clever, though. Hansel dropped **pebbles** on the path to create a trail, and they found their way back home. However, their stepmother tried again, leading them deeper into the forest. This time, Hansel left a trail of breadcrumbs, but they were eaten by birds, leaving the children lost.

Lost and hungry, Hansel and Gretel **stumbled** upon a magical house made of gingerbread and candy. They couldn't **resist** and began eating pieces of the house. To their surprise, a witch lived there, **luring** children to fatten them up and eat them.

[Scene: The Candy House]

Gretel: Hansel, look! A house made of candy!

Hansel: Yum! Let's have a little bite.

Witch: (**cackling**) Welcome, my little dears. Time for a tasty treat!

Gretel: We're not your treats! We're clever and brave!

Hansel: And you won't catch us, mean witch!

The witch trapped Hansel in a cage and forced Gretel to do chores. But Gretel **outsmarted** the witch and pushed her into the oven. The children **escaped** and found their way home with the witch's treasure. Their stepmother was gone, and they lived happily ever after.

This tale of bravery and quick thinking shows how Hansel and Gretel used their **wits** to **overcome** a tricky situation and outsmart the witch.

Comprehension Questions:

1. Who were the two main characters in the story?
2. Why did Hansel and Gretel's stepmother want to abandon them in the woods?
3. How did Hansel and Gretel create a trail to find their way back home the first time?
4. What happened to the trail Hansel made of breadcrumbs the second time?

5. What did Hansel and Gretel find when they were lost in the forest?
6. Why did the witch build a house made of gingerbread and candy?
7. What did the witch want to do with Hansel and Gretel?
8. How did Gretel outsmart the witch?
9. What happened to the witch in the end?
10. How did Hansel and Gretel finally escape and what did they find at home?

Discussion

1. If you were Hansel or Gretel, what kind of trail would you make to find your way home?
2. What would you do if you found a house made of candy in the forest?
3. How do you think Hansel and Gretel felt when they met the witch in the candy house?
4. If you had a magical power, how would you outsmart the mean witch?
5. What yummy treat would you want the magical house to be made of?
6. If you were trapped in a cage like Hansel, how would you try to escape?
7. Can you come up with a funny spell to make the witch's oven do something silly?
8. What's the first thing you would do if you found a treasure like Hansel and Gretel did?
9. If you were Hansel and Gretel, what kind of happy ending would you create for your stepmother?
10. What lesson can we learn from Hansel and Gretel about being brave and clever?