

Imagination: Puss in Boots



Puss in Boots

In this activity sheet you'll learn about Walter Crane's 19th century children's book *Puss in Boots*. You'll also visit the Mirror of the World website to explore the actual book.

In the spotlight

Puss In Boots

Walter Crane

1874

Words to know

woodblock printing

Pages to visit

<http://www.mirroroftheworld.com.au/>

<http://www.mirroroftheworld.com.au/imagination/>

<http://www.mirroroftheworld.com.au/imagination/begins/>

http://www.mirroroftheworld.com.au/imagination/begins/puss_in_boots.php

The cat's creator

Walter Crane was born in England about 160 years ago. He was an artist who illustrated picture books. He believed that art should be part of everyday life, which is why he also painted books, wallpaper, tiles and designed clothes and costumes.

Walter Crane did not spend much time at school when he was young. He started drawing in his father's studio, making sketches of the hands and faces of people who wanted their picture painted. He began work as professional artist when he was only 13 years old.

His picture books were very popular, especially during the 1860's when picture books were still a very new thing. His illustrations of *Puss in Boots* and *Old Mother Hubbard* are still very popular today, over 100 years later.

The original story of *Puss in Boots* was written about 200 years before Crane illustrated his own book. It was written by Charles Perrault, who also wrote lots of other stories for children, including the *Mother Goose Fairy Tales*.

Walter Crane's pictures were influenced by Japanese **woodblock printing**. He didn't use woodblocks, but he made his drawings look just like these paintings, which have big sections of colour between thick black outlines.

Activity 1 – Get interactive!

You can read Puss in Boots page by page on the Mirror of the World website, as well as hear someone reading the story to you.

<http://www.mirroroftheworld.com.au/imagination/begins/pussinboots/papebypage.php>

Activity 2 – Who did it?

Do you recognise Puss in Boots from somewhere else? Which movie have you seen him in? After you have read and heard the story, match the character to the correct action.

The miller's son	I catch rabbits and take them to the King.
Puss in Boots	I become the Marquis of Carabas!
The King's daughter	I save the miller's son and dress him in new clothes.
The miller's son	I fall in love with the miller's son.
The King	I wear big yellow boots!
Puss in Boots	We gather the corn.
The Ogre	I get given a cat.
The workers in the field	I turn into a mouse!

Question time

1. What kind of character do you think Puss in Boots is? (Is he clever, sneaky, honest, friendly, cute?)

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2. What do you like most about him?

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3. Puss in Boots tells many lies in this story. Why does he lie? What do you think about his lying?

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4. Which is your favourite of picture of Puss In Boots? Why?

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Activity 3 – Fill the gaps

Answer Puss in Boots' questions.

Hmmm...what am I thinking?

Who do I help?

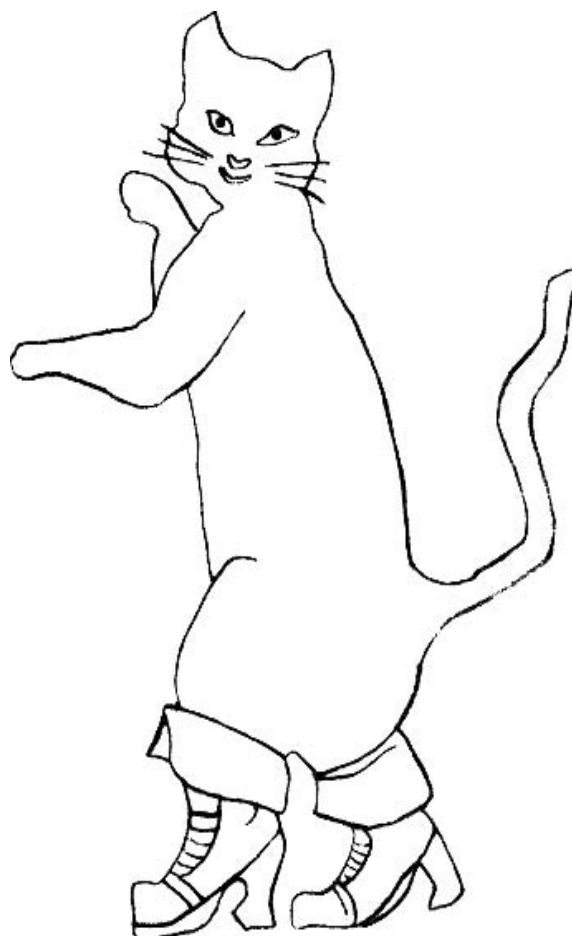
Why do I help this person?

Who do I trick?

What do you like most about me?

What kind of cat am I?

What do I look like?



Activity 4 – Every picture tells a story

In your own words, write what is happening in this picture from the story *Puss in Boots*.

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Now colour in the picture.



Activity 5 – Time to rhyme

What do you notice about the way the story sounds? Did you notice that is rhymes?

There are lots of rhyming words from *Puss In Boots*. Make a list of them.

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Now create some more rhyming words of your own. Here are some examples to get you started.

make	cake
knee	tree
	how
king	

Now use your rhyming words to write a funny poem.

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Activity 6 - Monkey in undies?

Create a new character for a picture book cover. What special thing will you give your character to wear, or to do? To get you started, here are some crazy combinations. Can you think of any more?

monkey	in	undies
mouse	with	afro
fish	in	socks
turtle	with	a tutu

Activity 7 – Draw your own children’s book

What is interesting about your character? Is there something really funny they say all the time? Is your character clever or silly? Do they trick other people? Do they help other people?

Now you that you’ve thought about your character, it’s time to draw them. Make sure you write their name, things they say and do, and anything else interesting about them.

Character’s Name:

Things I say

Things I do

Interesting and funny things about me

Did you know?

Walter Crane also wrote and illustrated more than 27 books for his own children.
