

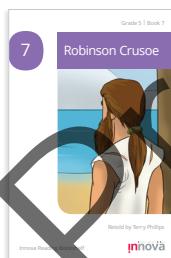
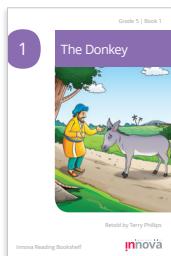
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Dick Whittington and His Cat



Retold by Terry Phillips

Titles in the Innova Reading Bookshelf, Grade 5



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Dick Whittington and His Cat



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Dick Whittington and His Cat

Once upon a time, there was a poor orphan boy called Dick Whittington. He lived in a small village and often had nothing to eat. He had nowhere to sleep, either.

One day, a villager said to him,
"There's gold on the streets of London. Go there and get rich!"

Dick smiled and said, "I'll go to London. I'll get rich."

He arrived after a long journey.
The streets were grey and dirty and there was no gold.
Dick was tired and hungry.
He fell asleep near a big house.

What happened next? Read and choose.

1. Dick woke up and went home.
2. A man came out of the house and found Dick.

Look at the next page. Check.



There's gold
on the streets of London.
Go there and get rich!



Dick Whittington and His Cat

A man came out of the house and found Dick.
He was a rich merchant called Mr Fitzwarren.
He was a kind man. He said, "You must come in
and eat something."

The merchant's daughter, Alice, was sorry for Dick.
She asked her father, "Can this boy stay here?
He can work as a servant."

The merchant said, "Yes, of course. He can help Cook in the kitchen."

Dick was happy and thanked his new master.
But the cook did not like Dick and did not want him in her kitchen.

What happened next? Read and choose.

1. Dick worked hard in the kitchen.
2. Cook did not let Dick work in her kitchen.

Look at the next page. Check.



Dick Whittington and His Cat

Dick worked hard in the kitchen.
He helped Cook a lot, but she still did not like him.

Dick was happy in the big house,
but there was one big problem.
He could not sleep at night. His tiny bedroom was in the attic
and rats woke him up every night.
He thought, "I hate these rats."

One day, Dick went to the market.
He only had one penny in his pocket.
He saw a woman with cats for sale. He ran up to her
and asked her, "How much is that cat?"
The woman replied, "You can have her for a penny."
Dick was very happy and gave the woman his coin.
He took the cat home.

What happened next? Read and choose.

1. The cat caught all the rats.
2. The rats caught the cat.

Look at the next page. Check.

an attic

I hate
these rats.

rats

How much
is that cat?

You can have her
for a penny.

a pocket

a penny

Dick Whittington and His Cat

The cat caught all the rats.
Now Dick could sleep well, and he was very happy.

One evening, Mr Fitzwarren came into the kitchen
and told Dick and Cook, "I'm going to a faraway land
on my ship. I'm going to sell things there."

Servants often gave their masters things to sell in those days.
Perhaps their masters could sell them for a lot of money.
Mr Fitzwarren said to Cook, "Please give me something to sell."

She gave him a beautiful dress.
Then he turned to Dick.
He said, "Do you have something for me?"

Dick started to cry.
He said, "Master, I have nothing to give you. I only have my cat."

Mr Fitzwarren said, "I can take your cat
or you can come on my ship."

What happened next? Read and choose.

1. Dick gave Mr Fitzwarren his cat.
2. Dick went on Mr Fitzwarren's ship.

Look at the next page. Check.



Dick Whittington and His Cat

Dick gave Mr Fitzwarren his cat. Dick's heart broke because his cat was a good friend to him.
But Dick did not want to go on the ship and he wanted to give his master something.

Mr Fitzwarren sailed to a land called Barbary. He had dinner on the first night in the queen's castle. There were hundreds of rats in the castle!

"My dear queen," he said, "I have a cat on my ship. It can catch all these rats."
The queen smiled, "Bring this animal to me immediately!"

Dick's cat caught all the rats and the queen was very happy.
"Here," she said, "Take this."
She gave Mr Fitzwarren lots of gold and silver.

What happened next? Read and choose.

1. Mr Fitzwarren returned to London.
2. Mr Fitzwarren married the Queen of Barbary.

Look at the next page. Check.



Dick Whittington and His Cat

Mr Fitzwarren sailed home with Dick's cat
and returned to London.

He ran into the house and shouted, "Dick! Dick! I'm home
and I have your cat!"

But Dick was not in the house. Where was he?
We need to go back a few days ...

Cook was unkind to Dick after Mr Fitzwarren went away.
She gave him too much work and she did not give him
enough food, so Dick decided to run away.
He thought, "I'll go back to my village."

Early one morning, he left the house quietly.
He walked for three days, and he slept under trees
and under hedges.

On the fourth day, he heard some church bells.
Dick thought, "The bells are speaking to me."
He listened carefully.
The bells said, "Turn back, Dick Whittington, Mayor of London.
Turn back!"

Dick was very surprised, but he thought,
"I won't go back to my village. I'll return to London.
My luck will change."

What happened next? Read and choose.

1. Mr Fitzwarren saw Dick in the street and took him home.
2. Dick went back to the house, but the cook did not open the door.

Look at the next page. Check.

Dick! Dick!
I'm home and I have your cat!

I'll go back
to my village.

A few days earlier ...

Turn back,
Dick Whittington,
Mayor of London.
Turn back!

The bells
are speaking
to me.

I won't go back
to my village.
I'll return to London.
My luck will change.

Dick Whittington and His Cat

Mr Fitzwarren saw Dick in the street and took him home.
Cook was angry, but Dick was very happy.
He had his cat again, and his old job.

But Mr Fitzwarren said, "Dick, you don't need a job.
You're a rich man."

He gave Dick the gold and silver from the Queen of Barbary.

Dick could not believe his luck. He said, "I don't believe it!"
But it was true.

This is almost a true story.
The real Dick Whittington lived from 1354 to 1423.
He married Mr Fitzwarren's daughter, Alice,
and he was Mayor of London four times.
He helped poor people in the city,
and people in England remember his name today.
His money still helps people.

What is the moral of the story? Read and choose.

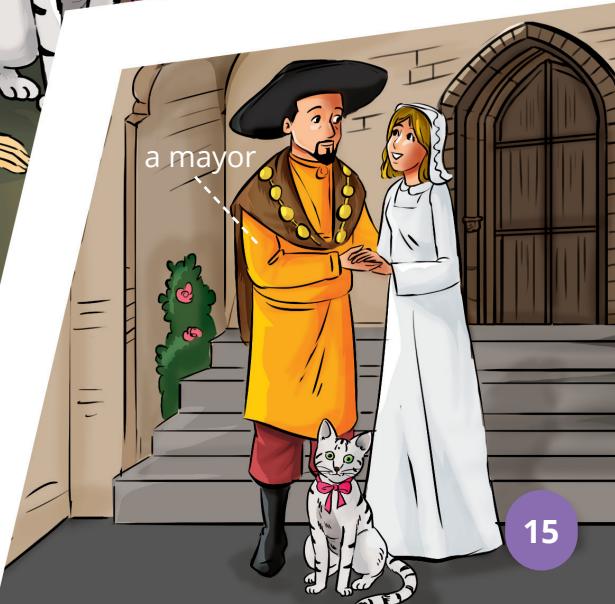
1. Do not give up.
2. Do not believe stories about 'streets of gold'.



Dick, you don't need a job.
You're a rich man.



I don't believe it!



a mayor

Picture dictionary



gold



silver



gold and silver



a merchant



a servant



a cook



an attic



rats



a penny



a pocket



a dress



a ship



catch / caught



bells



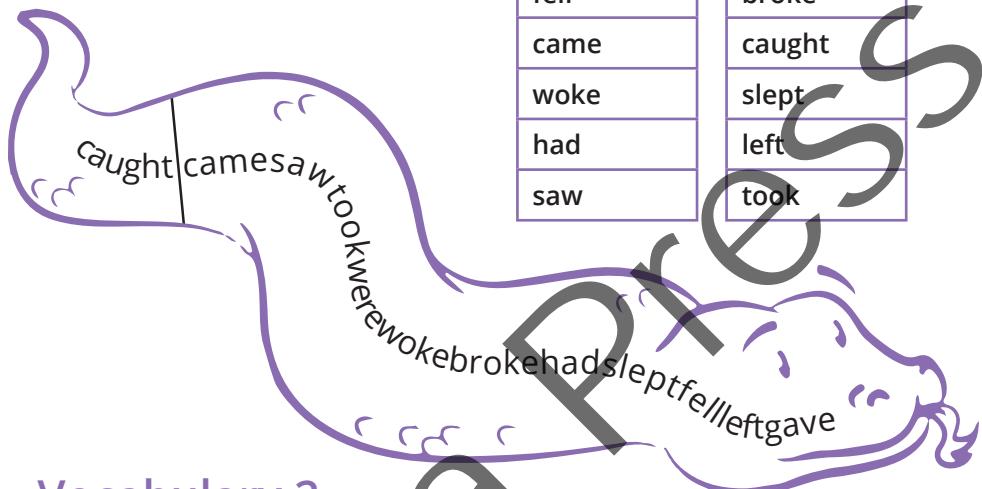
a mayor

Exercises

Vocabulary 1

Read the words.

Find the words in the snake.



Vocabulary 2

Find pairs of words. Draw lines.

rich

dirty

asleep

kind

new

happy

hungry

beautiful

good

unkind

sad

old

poor

thirsty

ugly

bad

awake

clean

Dick Whittington and His Cat

Vocabulary 3

Write the numbers.

	a cook
	a dress
	a mayor
	a merchant
	a penny
	a pocket
	a servant



1



2



3



5



4



6



7

Dick Whittington and His Cat

	a ship
	an attic
	bells
	gold
	rats
	silver

8



9



10



11



12



13



Dick Whittington and His Cat

Comprehension

Tell the story. Number the sentences in order.

	Dick was happy in the house. He worked hard, but his tiny bedroom was full of rats.
1	Dick Whittington had no mother or father. He lived in a small village and often had nowhere to eat or sleep.
	Mr Fitzwarren came out of his house and invited Dick in. His daughter asked her father to give him a job.
	Mr Fitzwarren said that Dick could help Cook, but Cook did not like Dick and did not want him in her kitchen.
	Mr Fitzwarren said, "Dick, you don't need a job. You're a rich man."
	Mr Fitzwarren took Dick's cat and went to Barbary. The cat killed all the rats in the queen's castle. The queen gave Mr Fitzwarren gold and silver.
	Mr Fitzwarren went home and saw Dick in the street. He took him back to his house. He gave Dick his cat.
	One day, he went to the market and bought a cat. He took the cat home and she caught all the rats.
	One day, a villager told him about gold on the streets of London. He decided to go there and get rich.
	One evening, Mr Fitzwarren said, "I'm going to a faraway land. Please give me something to sell."
	The cook gave him a beautiful dress, but Dick only had his cat. He gave the cat to Mr Fitzwarren.
	When he arrived in London, the streets were grey and dirty, with no gold. He fell asleep near a big house.

Dick Whittington and His Cat

Grammar

Tell part of the story. Tick (✓) the best way to complete each sentence.

1. Dick Whittington often had nothing to eat and ...
 nowhere to sleep, too. nowhere to sleep, either.
2. One day, a villager talked to him about London, "There ...
 is gold on the streets." are gold on the streets."
3. Dick arrived after a long journey. There ...
 were no gold. was no gold.
4. Dick fell asleep outside Mr Fitzwarren's house. He said, ...
 "You should come in." "You must come in."
5. His daughter asked her father, ...
 "He can stay here?" "Can he stay here?"
6. Dick was happy in the house but, at night, ...
 he cannot sleep. he could not sleep.
7. His tiny bedroom was in the attic and every night ...
 rats woke him. rats wake him.
8. He went to the market and ...
 bought a cat. buys a cat.
9. His cat ...
 catches all the rats. caught all the rats.
10. One evening, Mr Fitzwarren said, "I'm ...
 go to a faraway land." going to a faraway land."
11. He said, " You can come, or I can ...
 took your cat." take your cat."
12. Dick ...
 gave him his cat. gave his cat him.

Dick Whittington and His Cat

A poem

This is the story of Dick and his cat.
The cat is important. You'll hear about that.
Dick was a poor boy. He lived far away
From London, with streets made of gold, so they say.

Dick walked down to London. "I'll be rich. I am sure."
But the streets were not gold and the people were poor.
He slept near a big house in London and then
The merchant came out and invited him in.

His daughter said, "Please, can this poor boy stay here?
He can work as a servant." The merchant said, "We're
Happy to have you." But Cook wasn't sure.
She didn't like Dick. He was young. He was poor.

Dick worked in the big house. He worked every day.
But each night in his bedroom, large rats came to play.
So Dick couldn't sleep, but he thought of a plan.
"I must get a cat. I hope that I can."

He went to the market. He saw a small cat.
He looked and he thought, "I really like that."
He spoke to the woman, "How much is that cat?"
She said, "It's a penny." Dick smiled, "I have that."

The cat caught the rats. Now Dick slept all night.
His cat was a friend. Everything was all right.
Then one day, in the kitchen, the merchant told Dick
And the cook, "I am going away on my ship."

"I'm going to sell things. Give me something to sell."
The cook had a beautiful dress. Dick said, "Well,
I have nothing to give you. Only my cat.
But he is my friend so I couldn't do that."

The merchant said, "I must take something from you,
Or you can come with me. Well, Dick? You can choose."
Dick gave him his cat. His heart broke in two.
But he didn't like ships, so what else could he do?

Dick Whittington and His Cat

The man took Dick's cat and he went on his way.
He sailed to a country, far, far away.
He met a rich queen with a problem with rats.
The man helped the queen. He gave her Dick's cat.

The cat caught the rats. The rats were all dead.
The queen thanked the merchant. "Thank you," she said.
She gave him some silver and gold. After that,
She gave him Dick's cat back. She didn't need that.

The merchant sailed home, but Dick was not there.
The merchant was worried. Where was the boy? Where?
Then he saw Dick one day and he took him inside.
He gave Dick his cat, and Dick started to cry.

"I'm happy," said Dick, "with my cat and my job."
The merchant laughed then. "Dick, you don't need a job.
Here's gold and here's silver. You're a rich man. It's true."
This story is almost a true story, too.



Dick Whittington and His Cat

Answer key

Vocabulary 1

caught|came|saw|took|were|woke|broke|had|slept|fell|left|gave

Vocabulary 2

rich	poor
dirty	clean
asleep	awake
kind	unkind
new	old
happy	sad
hungry	thirsty
beautiful	ugly
good	bad

Vocabulary 3

a cook 10; a dress 6; a mayor 11; a merchant 13; a penny 7; a pocket 12; a servant 8; a ship 4; an attic 1; bells 2; gold 5; rats 9; silver 3.

Comprehension

1. Dick Whittington had no mother or father. He lived in a small village and often had nowhere to eat or sleep.
2. One day, a villager told him about gold on the streets of London. He decided to go there and get rich.
3. When he arrived in London, the streets were grey and dirty with no gold. He fell asleep near a big house.
4. Mr Fitzwarren came out of his house and invited Dick in. His daughter asked her father to give him a job.
5. Mr Fitzwarren said that Dick could help Cook, but Cook did not like Dick and did not want him in her kitchen.
6. Dick was happy in the house. He worked hard, but his tiny bedroom was full of rats.
7. One day, he went to the market and bought a cat. He took the cat home and she caught all the rats.
8. One evening, Mr Fitzwarren said, "I'm going to a faraway land. Please give me something to sell."
9. The cook gave him a beautiful dress, but Dick only had his cat. He gave the cat to Mr Fitzwarren.
10. Mr Fitzwarren took Dick's cat and went to Barbary. The cat killed all the rats in the queen's castle. The queen gave Mr Fitzwarren gold and silver.
11. Mr Fitzwarren went home and saw Dick in the street. He took him back to his house. He gave Dick his cat.
12. Mr Fitzwarren said, "Dick, you don't need a job. You're a rich man."

Grammar

1 nowhere to sleep, either. 2 is gold on the streets." 3 was no gold.

4 "You must come in." 5 "Can he stay here?" 6 he could not sleep.

7 rats woke him. 8 bought a cat. 9 caught all the rats.

10 going to a faraway land." 11 take your cat." 12 gave him his cat.

For Teachers and Parents

Aim

To develop the skill of reading to non-native speaker young learners.

Encouraging learning

Classic tales retold with **engaging full-page illustrations**.

A hook at the end of every page: '**What happened next?**' encourages young learners to predict, then check for themselves.

The stories are **fun** and often have a **moral** to discuss in the children's first language after reading.

Illustrations with speech and thought bubbles

Detailed **full-colour illustrations** support every page of prose text. **New nouns** are captioned. The illustrations and bubbles mean that children can understand a lot of the story before they read, or while they read, the prose text.

Audio file

The audio is available for free at www.innovapress.com/readers or through the QR code.

Exercises and poems

Vocabulary, comprehension and grammar exercises for each story, and **poems**, too!

Level of prose text

Grade 1: 100L – 200L, 50 – 150 words

Grade 2: 200L – 300L, 100 – 250 words

Grade 3: 200L – 300L, 250 – 350 words

Grade 4: 300L – 400L, 300 – 450 words

Grade 5: 400L – 600L, 400 – 900 words

Young learners with a slightly lower Lexile level will be able to understand the stories in each case because of the support from the illustrations.

Reading skills in Grade 5

Skill 1: Understanding sentences

Medium-length sentences with basic English sentence patterns are introduced systematically.

Each sentence is on its own line in the prose text in the early stories so children can see the structure clearly, and begin to internalise basic sentence patterns in English. Then the sentences merge into paragraphs in later stories.

The patterns in Grades 5 are:

- all the patterns in Grades 1 to 4 plus
- S V O O, e.g., *Nasruddin gave the man two pennies*.
- adverb and adjective, e.g., *much closer there is/are/was/were ...*
- *too vs not enough*
- S V that S V ..., e.g., *I think that you can carry heavy things all day.*
- closed and open questions in the present simple and past simple
- a small range of modals

Skill 2: Understanding relationships between sentences and paragraphs

Links between sentences – e.g. indefinite to definite article, noun to pronoun etc – are reinforced from earlier grades, and *this* and *that* are introduced.

Subskill 3: Predicting next events in a continuing story

The 'What happens next?' feature on each page makes this essential subskill fun, and enables a teacher or parent to check how much the young learner has understood about the story and the possible continuation sentences.

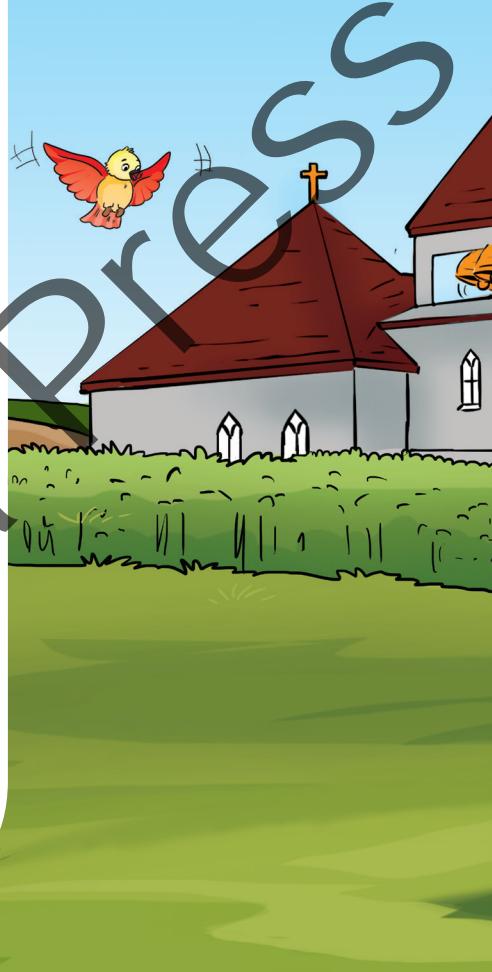
Guide for Teachers and Parents

Comprehensive methodology notes online which include alternative routes through the story, group and individual activities and extension activities for children who finish quickly.

Grade 5

Innova readers are designed by ELT experts in the UK specifically for children whose first language is not English.

- **Classic tales** enable young learners to develop the skill of reading.
- **A controlled syllabus progression** for vocabulary and sentence structure ensures easy comprehension and consolidation of what is learned.
- **An interactive element** at the end of every page challenges young learners to predict "What happened next?".
- **An audio version** is available free at innovapress.com/readers or by scanning the QR code below.
- **Exercises and poems** check vocabulary, comprehension and grammar, and help young learners appreciate English poetry.



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