

Trouble in withy wood

Teacher Resources, Week 3

This PDF contains:

- **Text Questions:** In this section, you will find questions about the chapter. These can be used orally in guided or shared reading discussions, as an independent comprehension exercise, or as part of a written homework or reading club activity.
- **Making the Choice and Voting:** Before choosing how to vote, students could discuss, as a group or a class, the wider context of the story and the consequences for the characters of each voting option at the end of the chapter. Students should be encouraged to use a variety of resources in their research, including books and the Internet.
- **Writing Activities:** Fiction Express for Schools provides a brilliant springboard into writing and some ideas and inspiration are provided in this section.
- **Other Extension Activities:** This section provides ideas for cross-curricular extension activities related to the chapter.
- **Worksheet:** This section provides printable worksheets for student use. Answers are also provided where appropriate.
- **Key Words and Phrases:** This section provides a selection of key words and phrases from the chapter for use in a classroom literacy display or 'working wall'.
- **Picture Resources:** This section provides images to inspire student discussion. These images can be displayed on a whiteboard or printed.
- **Resources:** Here you will find a list of relevant websites and books that students might find useful.

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Text Questions

Chapter 3: Battle!

1. Compare Usman's reaction to the goblins at the beginning of the story with his feelings about them at the end of the chapter.
2. Usman scoffed at the idea of the goblins. What does it suggest if you 'scoff' at something?
3. What missiles are the goblins using to destroy the sprite village? Go back to the chapter to find out.
4. Who is very keen to get to the underground cellar?
5. How do the sprites know that the goblins have reached the village?
6. Why is the thumping sound so loud?
7. Describe a goblin's foot. When Usman and Fatima first saw the goblin foot what were they expecting to see when they looked up? What did they really see?
8. Describe the rest of the goblin. Find the simile that describes the goblin's eyes. Does this simile help you to imagine what the goblin's eyes really look like?
9. Did you think it was funny when Usman said, "We're NOT fairies!"? Why?
10. What does Bogbean do to the sprite town hall? How does he feel when he stomps on this building? How do we know that goblins like to smash things up? Go back to the chapter to find evidence to answer this question.
11. Who doesn't want to go down into the cellar and why?
12. What does Fatima do that shows she is serious about not going into the cellar?

TEACHER NOTE: she crosses her arms

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13. What does Usman think will happen to them if they don't go into the cellar? Go back to the chapter and find the dramatic description he gives of how he imagines they might 'end up'?
14. What makes Usman change his mind?
15. What does Clover think about the idea of Usman and Fatima helping to fight the goblins? If you were Clover do you think you might have thought the same thing?
16. What does Usman do that makes Clover say, "They even look like goblins!"?
17. What does Captain Campion's platoon use as missiles to attack the goblins. Are these missiles effective? Why not?
18. How does Usman stop Hogweed from crushing Poppy with his foot?
19. Do you think you could suck your toe like Hogweed? What does this tell us about a goblin's body?
20. What does Usman do with his teeth that shows he is furious with the goblin.
TEACHER NOTE: He gnashes them.
21. What noise does the goblin make when he takes his toe out of his mouth? Have a go at trying to make this sound.
22. How did you react when you read "You fighty fairy! Me keep you for teddy bear!"? Did you think this was funny? Why? Do you think Fatima found this funny?
23. Do you think Clover is right to say they have to look after the wounded sprites first?
24. Can you imagine how Fatima feels at the end of the chapter? Do you think Usman is in real danger from the goblins?

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Making the Choice and Voting

What will happen next?

Option 1: Fatima sneaks away and goes after Usman alone.

Do you think Fatima would want to do this? What will be her main problem if she goes alone? Do you think there might be some advantages to her trying to rescue Usman on her own? Do you think she is capable of rescuing Usman even if she finds him? What risks will she be taking if you choose this option?

Option 2: The sprites prepare a plan for a rescue mission.

Can you imagine what this mission will be like? The sprites know the woods much better than Fatima. They might even know where the goblins have taken Usman. Do you think it would be better for Fatima to stick with the sprites rather than going it alone? Do you think any sprites in particular will help her? How do you think Captain Champion will feel about this? Would you like to see how the sprite platoons mount an attack against the big-footed goblins? Can you think of any reasons why the sprites might not be able, or even want, to rescue Usman?

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Writing Activities

Choose the option at the end of chapter 3 that you want to vote for. Write an account of what you would like to see happen in chapter 4 if this is the winning option.

In what way would you say a goblin is like a very naughty small child? Perhaps you have a young sister or brother that reminds you of a goblin sometimes! Discuss this idea with a friend or partner and then write a few sentences that would answer this question.

Imagine you are a sprite in the village. What will you do now the goblins have disappeared deep inside the woods? Write a letter to a sprite friend telling them what happens next in your village.

Imagine you are Usman being carried off into the woods by Hogweed. Write your own account of what happens to you next. Don't forget to use some emotion words so your reader knows exactly how you feel during your ordeal.

Do you remember what you used to do with your favourite teddy or soft toy? Write a description of what you think Hogweed will do when he gets home with his new Usman 'teddy bear'.

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Other Extension Activities

Art Activities

Using all the information and descriptions in chapter 3, draw a picture of one of the goblins. Put the name of the goblin next to your picture and then write an extended caption describing all the different parts of the goblin's body.

Chapter 3 mentions medic sprites caring for the wounded in the battle. Imagine that you have seen an advert to become a medic sprite. First design the advert and then write a letter applying to start training as a medic sprite. Make sure that you include any experience or qualities that would make you a perfect candidate.

Create a model of one of the goblins out of plasticine, papier mâché, pipe cleaners or other craft materials. Read the description again carefully to give you ideas and details.

Turn part of chapter 3 into a comic strip. You can use the template at the end of this section. Use captions, speech and thought bubbles to explain what is going on. You could recreate the battle using small models like Lego men or plastic toy soldiers and take photos of these to use in your comic strip.

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Research Activities

Do you know the story called *The Princess and the Goblin* by George MacDonald? See if you can find it in your school or local library. It has been popular with children for over 100 years! Have a go at reading this very old fairy tale.

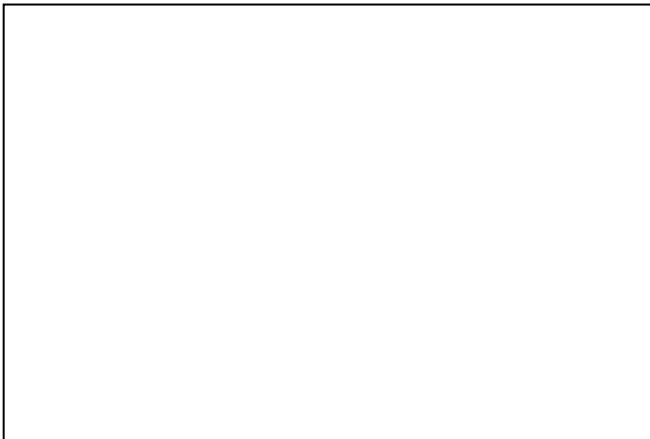
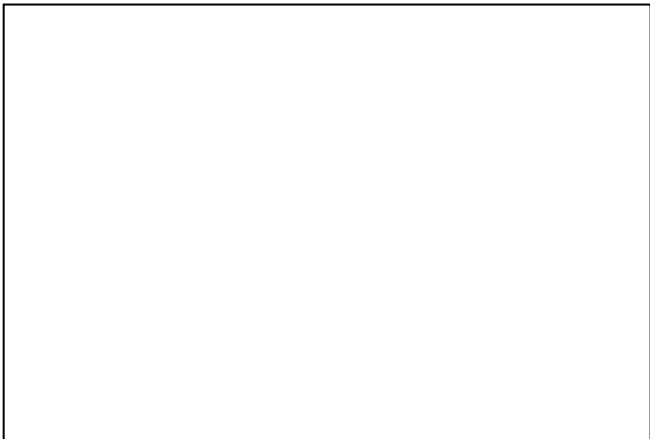
Using the Internet, find out all you can about the history of the goblin character in fairy tales and other stories. Then write some interesting fact sentences based on what you discover.

Drama Activity

Could you act like a goblin? Could you act like a sprite? Choose one of these characters and try to do a mime that you think would show which of these fairy-tale characters you were playing. Get other members of your class to guess which character you are.

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Templates: Comic Strip



Things you might like to add:



Thought bubbles



Speech bubbles



Sound effects

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Key Words and Phrases

Here is a list of challenging or potentially unfamiliar vocabulary used in Chapter 3 of *Trouble in Withy Wood*: **scoffed, demolition, onslaught, marauding, gnashing and scowled.**

You may wish to explore this vocabulary with your pupils, to aid their understanding of the chapter and enhance, or 'up level', the quality of their own writing.

You might like to use the boxed versions of the words below on your 'working wall' or literacy display!

scoffed

demolition

onslaught

marauding

gnashing

scowled

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Worksheet (page 1 of 2)

Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Make sure you use the correct punctuation.

1. Why does Poppy run zig-zagging through the crowd?

2. Why does everyone in the sprite village freeze?

3. Why does Fatima try to cover her nose and mouth?

4. What do the goblins chant?

5. Who says, "Let 'em have it!"?

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Worksheet (page 2 of 2)

6. What are Fatima's bonds made of?

7. Who is going to be to *blame* if something *backfires*?

8. Who gets swatted like flies?

9. Who gets a big sore toe?

10. Who gets kidnapped by the goblins?

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Worksheet: Possible Answers (page 1 of 2)

1. Why does Poppy run zig-zagging through the crowd?

Poppy runs zig-zagging through the crowd to avoid bumping into someone.

2. Why does everyone in the sprite village freeze?

Everyone in the village freezes because they have just realized the goblins have reached their village.

3. Why does Fatima try to cover her nose and mouth?

Fatima tries to cover her mouth and nose so she doesn't have to smell the goblin's feet.

4. What do the goblins chant?

The goblins chant, "Goblins go mash! Goblins go smash!" when they start demolishing sprite buildings.

5. Who says, "Let 'em have it!"?

Captain Champion says "Let 'em have it", when he orders his platoon to attack the goblins.

6. What are Fatima's bonds made of?

Fatima's bonds are the grass ropes tied around her wrists.

7. Who is going to be to *blame* if something *backfires*?

Poppy will be to blame if Usman and Fatima escape from the sprites, or if they turn out to be on the goblins' side.

8. Who gets swatted like flies?

The sprites that attack the goblins in the air get swatted like flies.

9. Who gets a sore toe?

Hogweed gets a sore toe after Usman jabs it with a spear.

10. Who gets kidnapped by the goblins?

Usman is kidnapped by the goblins at the end of the chapter.

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Picture Resources

This illustration is of a goblin.



Is this what you thought the goblins in chapter 3 might look like?

What makes the goblin in this picture different from any other pictures of goblins you might have seen?

How many fingers and toes does this goblin have?

Describe this goblin in 200 words.

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Picture Resources

This photograph is of strange rocks called hoodoos in Goblin Valley State Park in Utah, USA.



Why do you think the park is called 'Goblin Valley'?

Do you think these rock shapes look like goblins?

Do you think they look like something else?

Why do you think these rocks are shaped like this?

TEACHER NOTE: They have been eroded by wind-blown sand.

Find Goblin Valley State park in an atlas or on the Internet. Where is it in the USA?

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Resources

Books

The Hobbit by J.R.R Tolkien, Harper Collins Children's Books, 2013

The Company of Goblins by Celia and Michael Leofsy, Little Knoll Press, 2014

Goblins, Goblins Vs Dwarves and *Goblin Quest*, all by Philip Reeve, Kindle Books