

# The fairest story Of them all...

The story of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* is one of the most well-known and popular of all fairy tales. Few people in the world haven't heard the story of the charming young princess who is nearly killed by her evil stepmother, but is helped by a group of seven loveable dwarfs. And there can't be many of us who haven't glanced in a mirror and felt like saying "Mirror, Mirror, on the wall, who's the fairest of us all?" hoping that it might answer, "You are!"

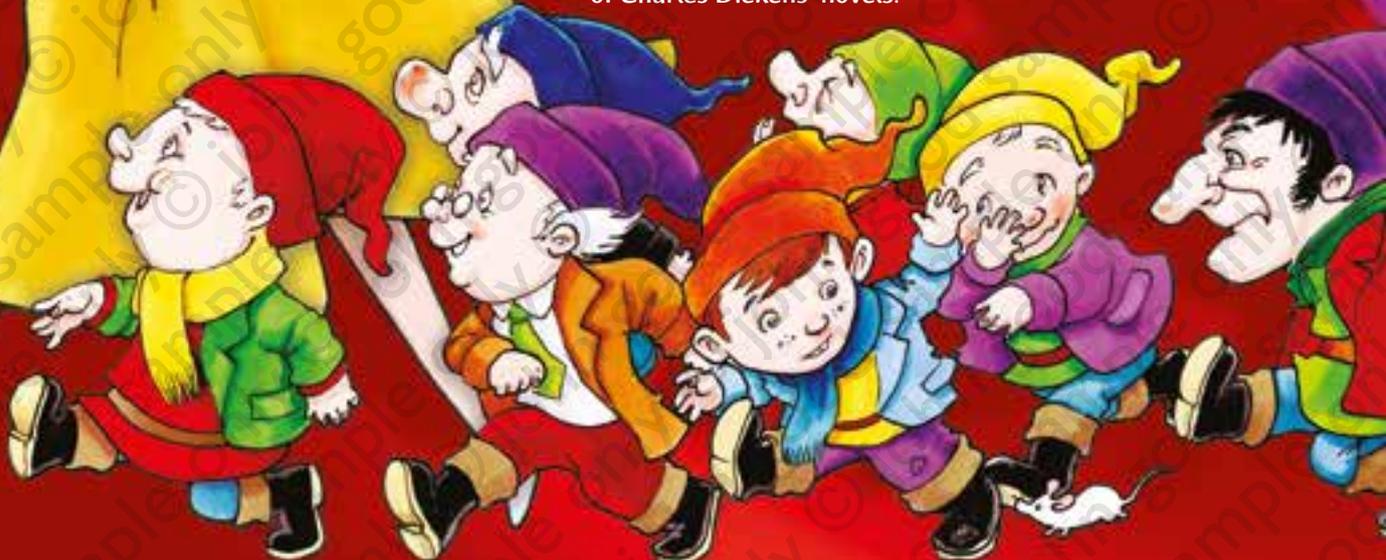
## Where does the story come from?

Although the story of Snow White is one of the most famous fairy tales, no-one knows exactly where it comes from, who first told it, or how old it is. As far as we know, the first time *Snow White* was written down was in a collection of folk stories and legends put together more than 180 years ago by two German brothers: Jacob Ludwig Grimm (1785-1863) and Wilhelm Carl Grimm (1786-1859).

The Brothers Grimm were fascinated by both language and myths. They spent many years travelling around Germany, collecting words for what was to become a well-respected dictionary, and finding out about the stories peasant farmers and country villagers had learned from their grandparents and were now passing on to their grandchildren.

They finally published a book called *Kinder und Hausmärchen* (*Children's and Household Tales*) between 1815 and 1818, which contained many of these folk tales. As there were very few books around at the time, and almost nothing written especially for children, the book became very popular and many of the tales in it became children's favourites.

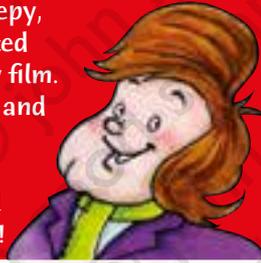
The first English book of Grimms' fairy tales appeared in 1823 with drawings by George Cruikshank, who later illustrated many of Charles Dickens' novels.



## The story has changed!

Did you know that the story of Snow White, which we all know today, is not the same as the original one that the Brothers Grimm first wrote down? Over the years, parts of the story have changed, especially after the Disney cartoon was released. Here are some of the differences:

 In the original story, the dwarfs don't have their own names and personalities and don't feature very much; all we know is that there are seven friendly little men who look after Snow White. The famous names Doc, Dopey, Sneezzy, Grumpy, Sleepy, Happy and Bashful were all created by the makers of the Walt Disney film. Apparently, more than 50 names and personalities were considered by Disney, including Tubby, Burpy, and Biggy-Wiggy, before the final Seven Dwarf names were chosen!



 In the very original version of the story collected by the Grimms, Snow White is a princess who is hated by her own mother, the Queen. The mother tries to kill the daughter, and nearly succeeds, until her father – the King – finds out what is happening. He is so angry that he executes the Queen. Gruesome stuff! Although the Grimms collected this story, they never printed it in that form. Instead, they altered parts of the tale, making the evil queen into a stepmother and introducing the Prince who rescues Snow White.

 There is no kiss to wake up Snow White in the original story. Instead, she is taken away by the prince on a cart, and the poisoned apple stuck in her throat becomes dislodged when his cart hits a pothole.

 In the original tale, the wicked stepmother tries three times to kill Snow White, not just once.

 In the original tale, the stepmother does not die while trying to kill the dwarfs. Instead she suffers a far more grisly fate by having to wear a pair of red-hot shoes!



© John Good

## The Disney cartoon

Although many fairy tales have been turned into films or cartoons, none have been as universally popular as Walt Disney's version of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. It was the first feature-length Hollywood cartoon and at the time was regarded as an extraordinary achievement. Even today, most of us come to know Snow White by watching the cartoon as a child.

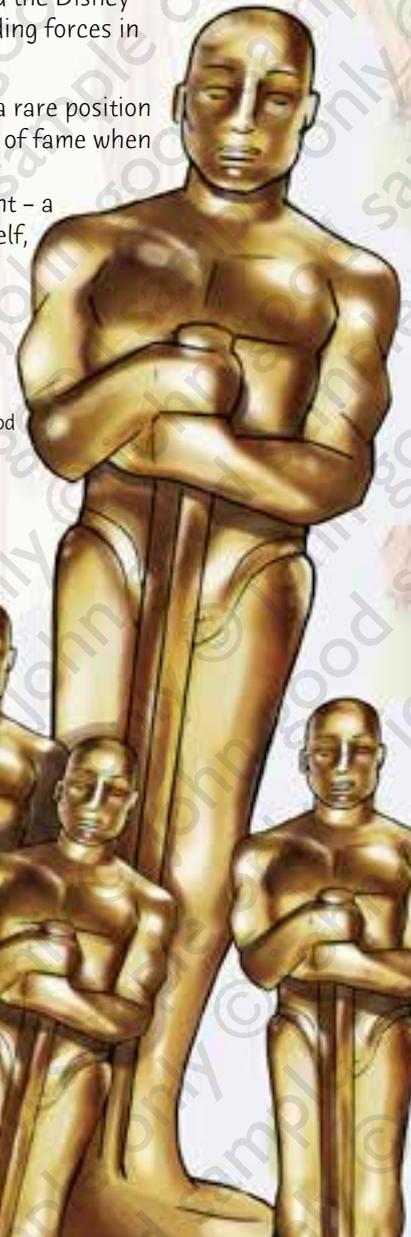
Before this film was released – in time for Christmas 1937 – Hollywood mostly thought of animation as a way to produce short comedy cartoons which cinema owners liked to screen before the main bill.

But Disney believed the skills of his cartoon artists could be used differently: to create a magical new world filled with fantasy characters and events. Others didn't believe him, however, and many warned that he would lose all his money and become a laughing stock if he tried to make the film. Because all cartoons back then were very short, many people believed that no-one would want to sit through a one-and-a-half-hour-long cartoon.

His choice of Snow White was influenced by his own childhood memories of being thrilled by a silent movie based on the story, which he saw during a newsboys' cinema outing in 1916.

Far from being a flop, Disney's *Snow White* went on to become one of the biggest box office successes of its era, and established the Disney studios as one of the leading forces in Hollywood.

It also gave Walt Disney a rare position in the film industry's hall of fame when he collected not just one Academy Award, but eight – a full-sized Oscar for himself, and seven little ones for Doc, Dopey, Sneezzy, Grumpy, Sleepy, Happy and Bashful.



# Mirror, Mirror, Who's on the wall...

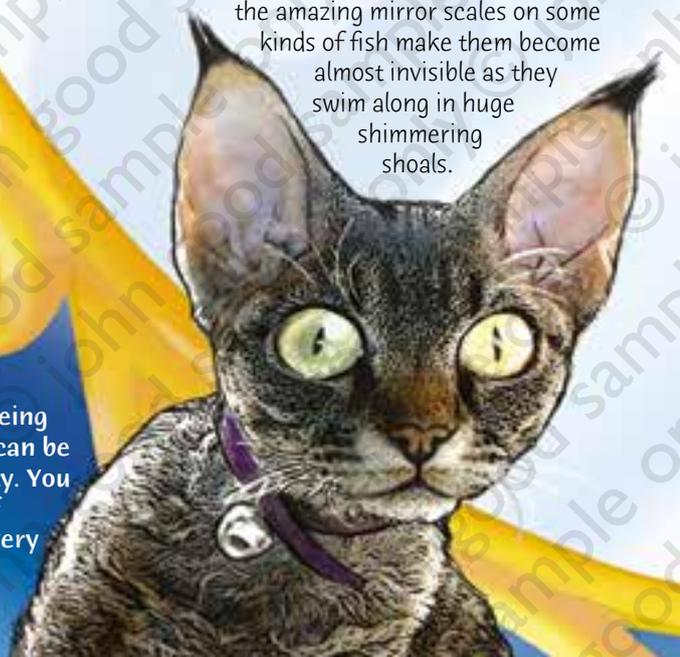
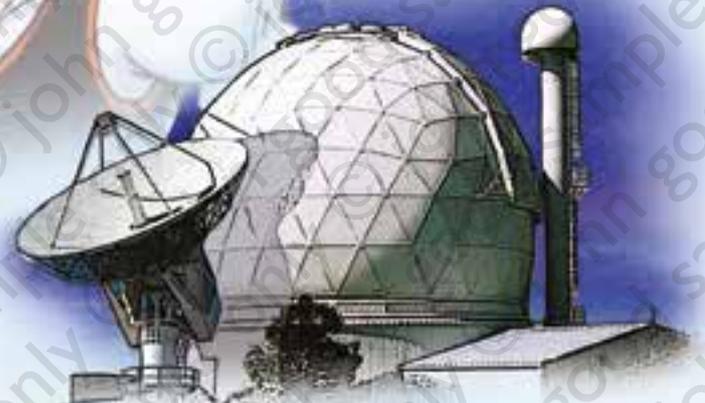
Mirrors have always been seen as magical, and used to be called 'magic glasses', although they have not always been made of glass. They are magic because, like other magic objects, they can tell the truth or tell lies to deceive us. Huge mirrors are used to make telescopes to help us find out about the stars and the planets, but mirrors can also be cleverly used here on earth by conjurors and magicians to make us believe things that are not really true.

**J**ust like Snow White's stepmother, the Queen, most people are only able to see their own reflection by looking into a mirror. Like her, they come to the mirror to see how beautiful they are and to preen themselves in front of it. But, in the story of Snow White, the Queen is in for a shock because, as Snow White grows up into a beautiful young woman and the Queen gets older, the magic mirror must answer truthfully when the Queen asks, "Who is the fairest one of all?" that Snow White has become the fairest in the land.

Of course, not everyone likes to look at themselves in the mirror, because what they see doesn't match how they really feel inside. One lady who is over a hundred years old says that she doesn't like to see all the wrinkles in her face, because she feels like the person she was before the wrinkles appeared!

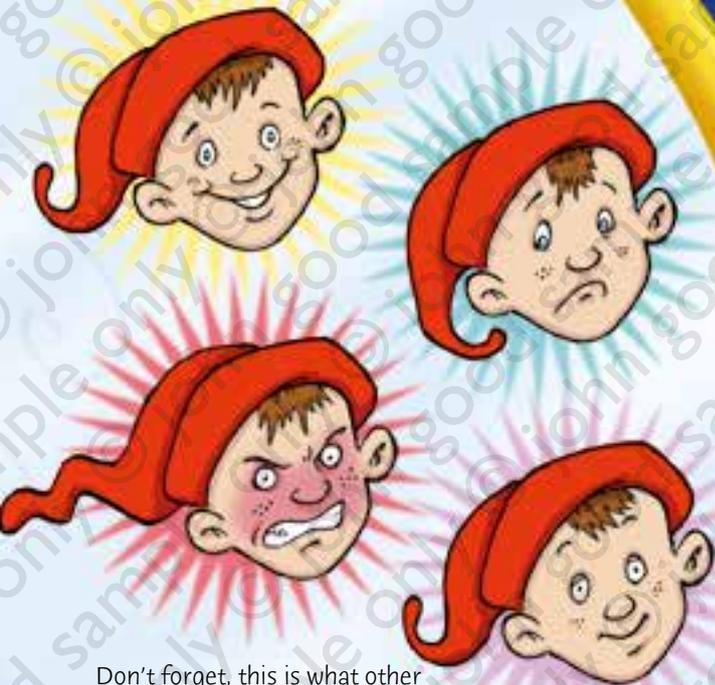
But the image we see of ourselves in a mirror is really only a reflection, just patterns of light. We cannot touch, taste or smell the reflection and it makes no sound. In fact, it is just the opposite of being blind - a blind person can't see, but can touch, taste, smell and hear. It can be difficult for our senses to tell the difference between illusion and reality. You will know about this kind of distortion if you have ever been in a hall of mirrors: some mirrors make you look very fat or very thin, and others very small or very tall.

But mirrors made by man are not the only kind of mirrors. We can also find mirrors in the world of nature. Water is a surface which will show you a reflection, but it is difficult to see your reflection in water because it is nearly always flat on the earth, in ponds and puddles for instance, so you have to lean over and this distorts the picture you see of yourself. It's also a natural mirror in a cat's eye which makes it shine in the dark, and the amazing mirror scales on some kinds of fish make them become almost invisible as they swim along in huge shimmering shoals.



## What can you see in a mirror?

Study your own face and see how you look when you are happy and sad, angry and kind.



Don't forget, this is what other people see when you are like this!

Have you ever noticed that the word **AMBULANCE** is written back to front on an ambulance? This is done so that other drivers will be able to read it the right way round through their car mirrors and can pull over quickly if the ambulance's blue light is flashing.

# AMBULANCE

Write **AMBULANCE** on a piece of paper and hold it up to the mirror – it will be reversed.

Try a few other words... 

# MIRROR

# SNOW

# WHITE

# FACE

# COOKBOOK

## Did you know?

The world's largest mirror is actually a place – the salt flat Salar de Uyuni in south-west Bolivia, South America. It measures 10,582 km<sup>2</sup> (4,085 square miles), and contains 10 billion tons of salt! When it rains, the flat surface of Salar de Uyuni becomes perfectly reflective, turning it into a gigantic mirror, and making it perfect for orbiting satellites to test their remote sensors to help them communicate with us down on Earth.



Now try the following words... 

- What happens when you turn these words upside down? The words look the same this time! This happens because of the shape of the letters which make up these words. See if you can think of any more words which behave like this

# BEECH

# DICE

# CHOICE

# KID



# Panto Puzzlers!



## Gem Code!



a	h	o	v
b	i	p	w
c	j	q	x
d	k	r	y
e	l	s	z
f	m	t	
g	n	u	

Can you work out what the hidden message says? Use this gem code to help you!

## Funny Fruit!

Unscramble the letters below to find all different types of fruit! As you find them, colour them in where they are in the apple below!

REPA	RHERCY
GROANE	CHEAP
ANNABA	MILE
MELON	PAGER
YERRUBBLE	SPARRERBY



## Broken Mirror!

There is one piece that doesn't fit - which one is it?





# Snow White's A to Z

**A** is for the **A**rrogance the new Queen shows to all,  
She is the fairest, says her Magic Mirror on the wall.

But **B** is for the **B**eauty of her stepdaughter Snow White,  
Still growing into womanhood, but such a pretty sight!

**C** is for the **C**runch day when the Mirror tells the Queen:  
You are fair, but Snow White is the fairest ever seen.

**D** is for **D**anger to poor Snow White, all unknown,  
For the Queen looks **E** for **E**vil as she sits upon her throne.

**F** the **F**ate she plans for the beautiful princess,

**G** the **G**risly end that she plots with such finesse.

**H** the **H**untsman told to kill the girl in forest deep,  
Bringing back her heart to make the wicked Queen's heart leap.

**I** is for his **I**nnner turmoil in that forest still,

**J** Snow White's **J**oy when his **K**indness cannot **K**ill.

She runs away and finds a place where she'll be safe and sound,

**L** the seven **L**ittle men whose friendship she has found.

She keeps the house while they work hard but the **M**irror knows the score,

And soon the Queen knows Snow White still lives on and curses more.



In danger there's a policy that should be Snow White's law:

**N**o hawkers and **N**o strangers should she let beyond the door.

**O** is the **O**ld woman who the Queen becomes to tempt  
Poor Snow White with a poisoned comb—her hair is so unkempt!

**P** is for the **P**erfect apple—Snow White takes a bite;

But **P** is for the **P**oison too that vanquishes her quite.

**Q** is for the **Q**ueen's delight when Snow White lies so pale,  
All attempts to save her are sadly doomed to fail.

**R** is for the **R**equiem the dwarfs hold for their friend,

**S** is for the **S**orrow that they feel will never end.

**T** is for the **T**enderness with which they guard her still

In a coffin made of glass which they set upon a hill.

**U** is for their **U**nderstanding when a passing Prince  
Falls in love with Snow White and begs to take her hence.

**V** is for the **V**ery Lucky Thing that I now quote:

The movement shook the poisoned apple from young Snow White's throat.

She woke up and the **W**onder of the Prince was deep and **W**ide,

He quickly begged the lovely princess soon to be his bride.

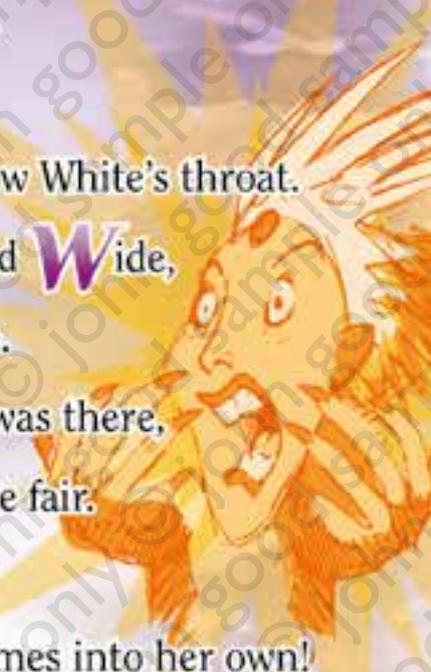
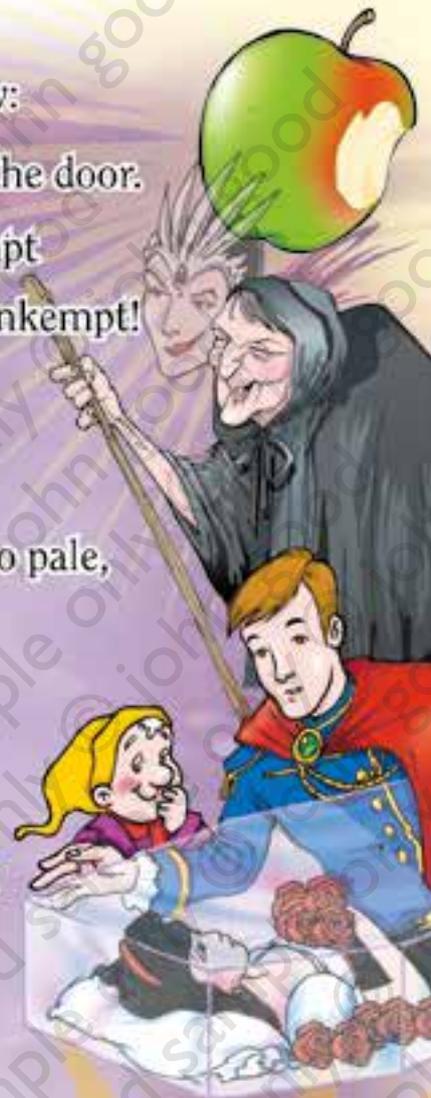
The **W**edding was a grand affair—the **W**icked Queen was there,

Her anger was e**X**treme when she looked on Snow White fair.

**Y** is for her **Y**elling, and she has cause to groan

For the Wicked Queen gets **Z**apped and Snow White comes into her own!

Elaine Peake  
© John Good



# Snow White's ADVENTURE TRAIL!

CAN YOU HELP SNOW WHITE ESCAPE THE CLUTCHES OF THE WICKED QUEEN AND RETURN HOME SAFELY? YOU WILL NEED SOME COUNTERS AND A DIE. WHOEVER ROLLS HIGHEST CAN START. GOOD LUCK!

START

1

2

26

27

28

29

AN OLD LADY SELLS YOU A POISONED APPLE!

25  
THE DWARFS AGREE YOU CAN STAY!  
GO ON 3!

24

23

22  
YOU FIND THE DWARFS COTTAGE!  
GO ON 5!

21

20

6  
THE QUEEN LEAVES YOU IN THE FOREST TO DIE.

MISS A GO!

7

8

9

10  
HEY!  
THIS BIT'S NOT BUILT YET!  
GO BACK 2!



you are the fairest of them all — so go five spaces down the hall...

4

5



6  
THE QUEEN LEAVES YOU IN THE FOREST TO DIE.

MISS A GO!



24

23

22  
YOU FIND THE DWARFS COTTAGE!  
GO ON 5!

21

20



22  
YOU FIND THE DWARFS COTTAGE!  
GO ON 5!

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10  
HEY!  
THIS BIT'S NOT BUILT YET!  
GO BACK 2!



9



29

AN OLD LADY SELLS YOU A POISONED APPLE!



25  
THE DWARFS AGREE YOU CAN STAY!  
GO ON 3!

28

26

27

2

1



2



29

AN OLD LADY SELLS YOU A POISONED APPLE!



1

START

# ADVENTURE TRAIL!

## Snow White's



47

48  
*Finish!*  
HOME SAFE AND SOUND!

39

40

46

45

38  
THE PRINCE WAKES YOU!  
GOON 3!

41

42

The Wicked Queen threatens to ruin everything!  
Go Back 3!

43

THE QUEEN IS DEPARTED!  
GOON 4!

37

36

33  
MISS A GO!

35

You're still asleep...  
Go Back 2!

30

31

OH NO! NOT ANOTHER HOLE!

32

34

NOWHERE  
SOMEWHERE  
ELSEWHERE  
ANYWHERE  
16  
YOU ARE LOST!  
GO BACK 2!

19

18

17

FALL DOWN A HOLE!  
MISS A GO!

14  
YOU GET FREE!  
RUN ON 3!

15

11

12

13

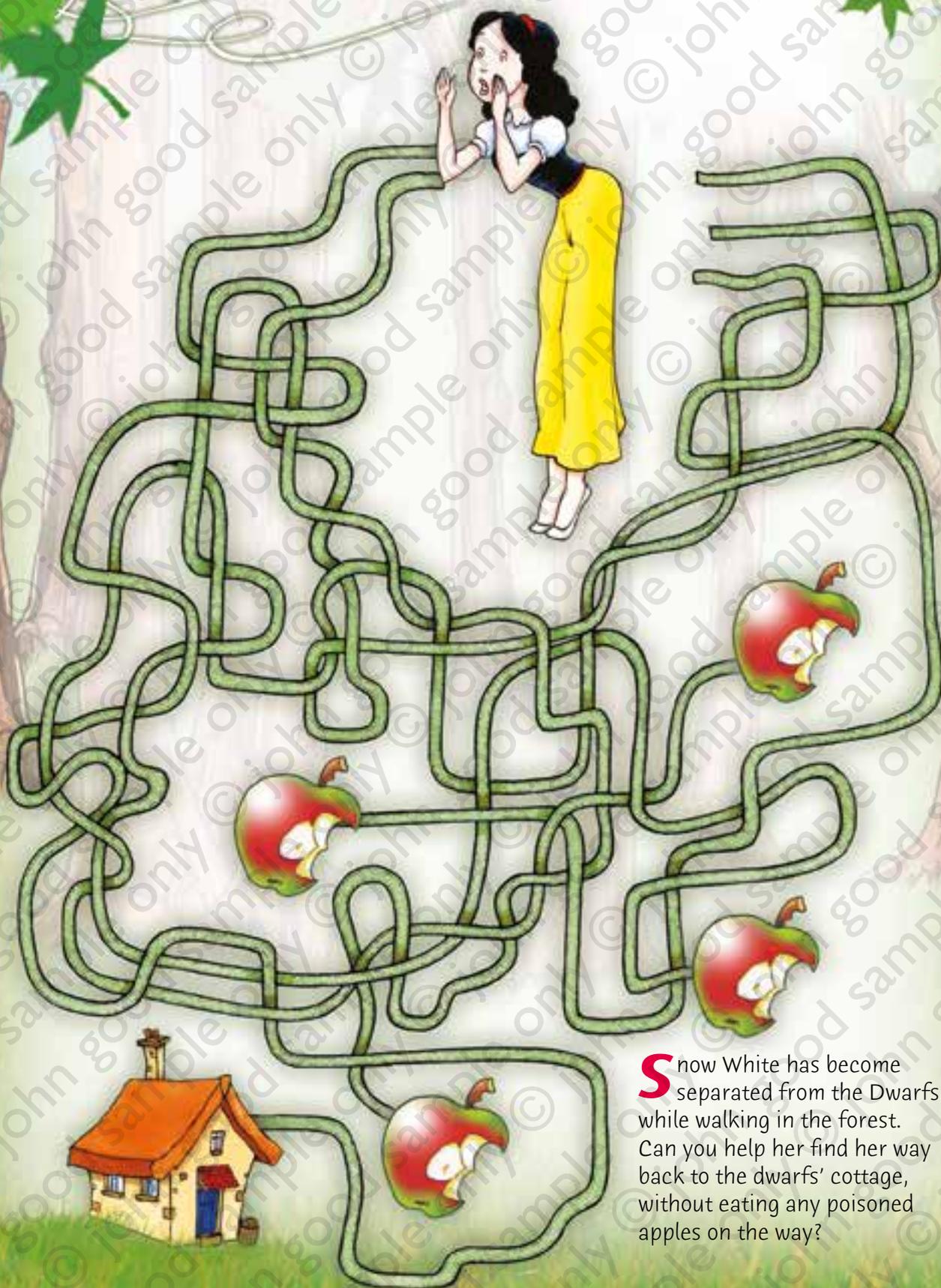


# Double Trouble!

**T**here are ten differences between these two dwarfs. Can you find them all?



# Lost in the Forest!



**S**now White has become separated from the Dwarfs while walking in the forest. Can you help her find her way back to the dwarfs' cottage, without eating any poisoned apples on the way?

# Colour Me In!



# Who Am I?



**B**y joining up all the dots, can you tell who is hiding in the forest?

# A Gem of a Game!

The dwarfs have all been hard at work mining for gold and gems. Now they have all come back to their cottage to have them valued, it's clear some dwarfs have done better than others!

Can you work out which dwarf has got the most valuable stash? And can you find out which dwarf did worst of all?



# Wonderful Wordsearch!

W S D N O M A I D H O P  
I A T C A V E R N S C R  
S P T E H M E F N A O I  
E P N R P I I O S L F N  
G L E O D M W N D S F C  
A E V R S W O L I R I E  
T E E R H I A T S N N K  
T T S I O D O R H F G R  
O T T M Y H E P F E M O  
C E A D E K C I W S R W  
L P E E L S S S A L G L

**C**an you find all the words in the list below, hidden in the wordsquare? They may run upwards, downwards, backwards, forwards and even diagonally! When you have found them all, there will be twenty-four letters left over, which will spell out a secret message!

*(A clue: it's what the Wicked Stepmother might ask the magical mirror)*

APPLE	CAVERNS	COFFIN
COTTAGE	DIAMONDS	DWARFS
GLASS	KISS	MINING
MIRROR	OLD LADY	POISON
PRINCE	SEVEN	SLEEP
SNOW WHITE	STEPMOTHER	WICKED
	WORK	





# Silly SuDoku!

**D**uring their lunch break in the mine, the dwarfs like to set each other SuDoku puzzles to solve. With no pen or paper to hand, they draw grids in the ground and use gems they have found instead of numbers!

The first ones they made had 16 squares, divided into four smaller boxes of four squares each.

The idea is to fill it so that every row and column of the large grid and every smaller 2 x 2 box contains each of the four different shaped gems. Can you solve it?

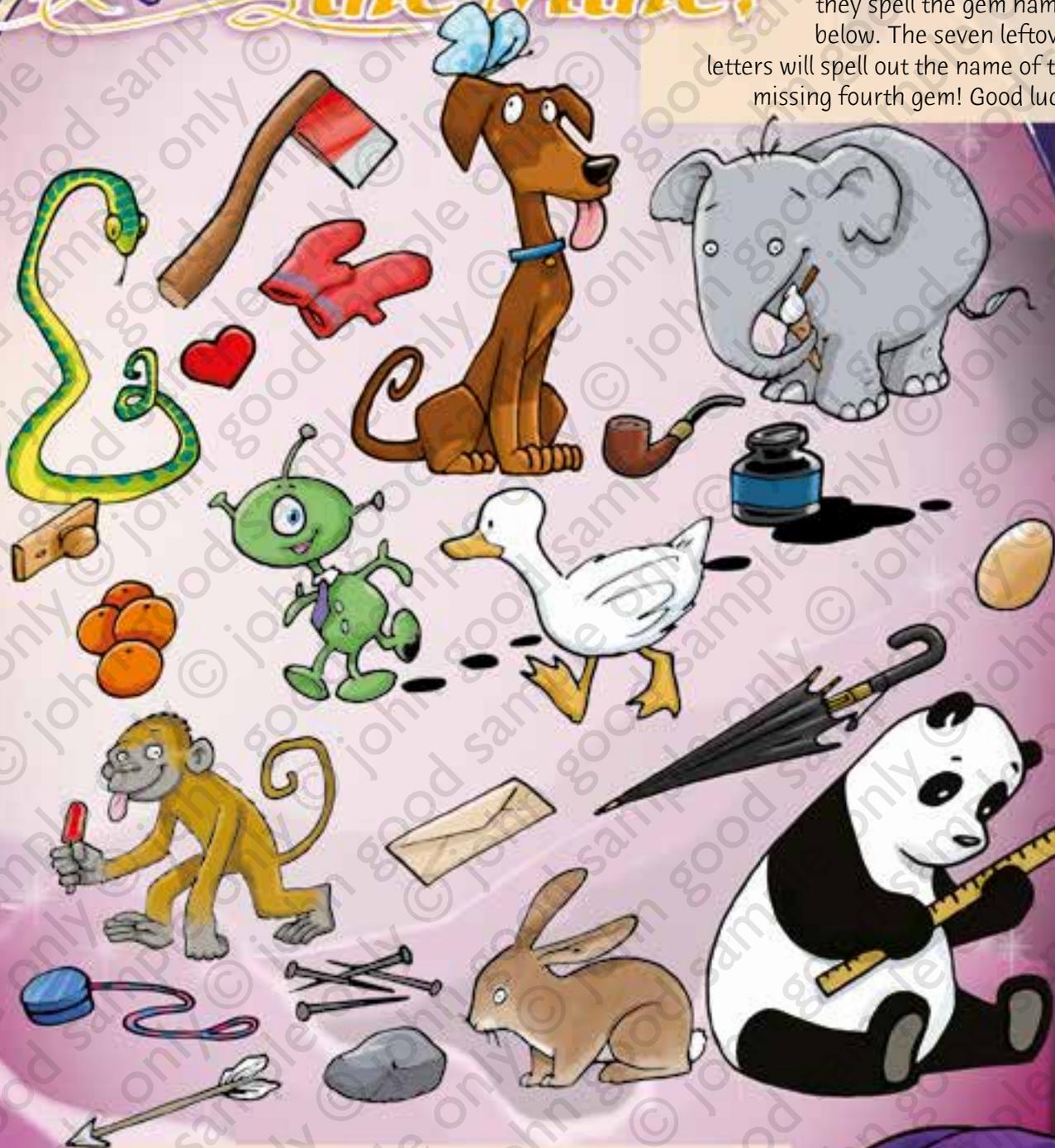


Once they had got used to the idea, they made the puzzles harder—they found another two gems and made the grid bigger, so that each row, column and box has six squares. See if you can do this one!



# What's in the Mine?

This dwarf has found four different types of gem in the mine - he knows what three of them are, but what about the fourth? He found lots of other odd things too - take the FIRST letter of each of these objects, and you will see that they spell the gem names below. The seven leftover letters will spell out the name of the missing fourth gem! Good luck!



**S** **A** **P** **P** **H** **I** **R** **E**  
**E** **M** **E** **R** **A** **L** **D**  
**R** **U** **B** **Y**



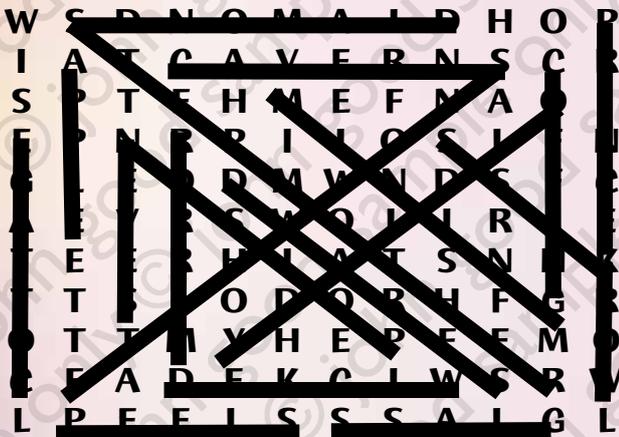


Colour by Numbers!

1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10

# Answers!

## Wonderful Wordsearch!



MESSAGE: Who is the fairest of them all?

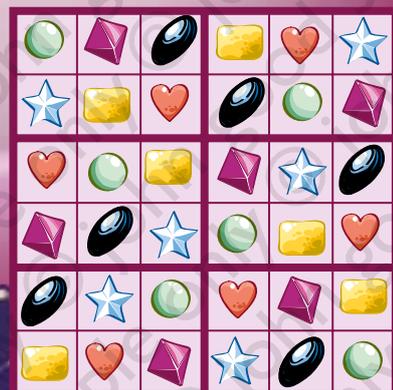
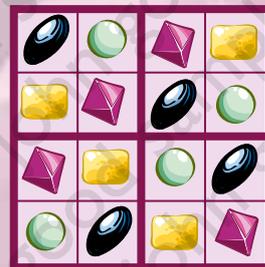
## Nutty Note!

DEAR SNOW WHITE,  
JUST A QUICK NOTE TO TELL  
YOU (GIVE) THAT THE EVIL WITCH  
WANTS TO KILL YOU!  
SHE IS THE EVIL STEPMOTHER—  
DO NOT EAT THE APPLE.  
LOVE, THE DWARFS

## Who Am I?

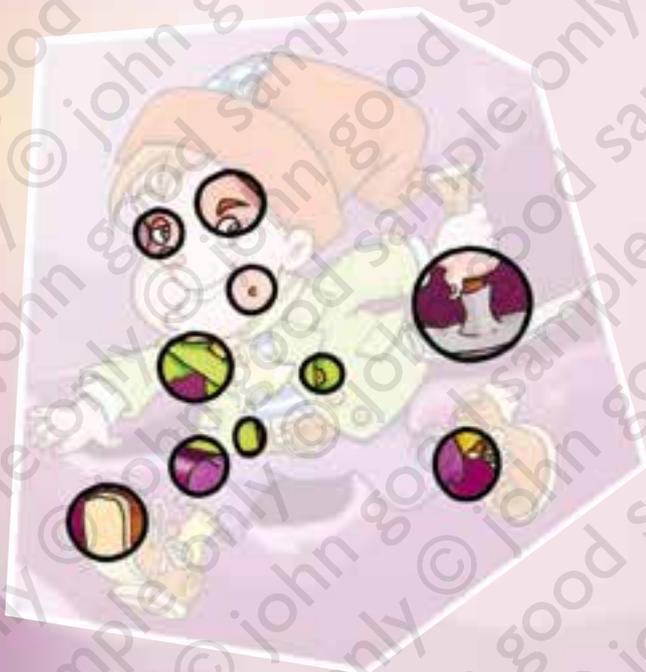


## Silly SuDoku!



# Answers!

## Double Trouble!



## Lost in the Forest!



## A Gem of a Game!



# Answers!

## Wandering Worm!



## Dot to Dot!



## Who Am I?

1. Happy 2. Mirror  
 3. Mine 4. Sneeze  
 5. Witch 6. Forest  
 Hidden person: **PRINCE**

## Funny Fruit!

PEAR		CHERRY
ORANGE		PEACH
BANANA		LIME
LEMON		GRAPE
BLUEBERRY		RASPBERRY

## Broken Mirror!



## Gem Code!

### WHO'S THE FAIREST OF THEM ALL?

In the mine there is: a snake, an axe, mittens, a butterfly, a dog, a heart, a pipe, an elephant, ink, a doorknob, an alien, a duck, oranges, a lolly, a monkey, an envelope, an umbrella, a yo-yo, nails, a rabbit, a panda, a ruler, an arrow and a rock.

The leftover letters spell **DIAMOND**.