

# RIPE PLUMS IN SPRING

Bob was as strong as an ox.

But Bob was so poor that he was dressed in rags.

“One day I will ask the king to let me be his man,” said Bob. 5

“Kings need strong men. But how can I get to see the king when I am dressed in rags?”

Bob went into the wood one day in spring. The trees were full of green buds. 10  
But one tree was full of ripe plums.

“Ripe plums in spring?” cried Bob.  
“I have never seen such a thing! I will pick them for the king. Then I can get to see him, and he may let me be his 15  
man.”

So Bob took off his hood to put the ripe plums in. When it was full, he put green weeds on top. The green weeds kept the ripe plums fresh.

5 Then Bob set off with his hood of ripe plums, to go to the king.

He went to the king's gate. The king's porter was sitting there. The king's porter saw Bob's rags.

10 "Be off with you, beggar!" he shouted. "Or I will box your ears till you see stars!"

"Good sir, let me in," said Bob. "I have a present for the king."

15 The porter took the green weeds from the top of the hood. He saw it was full of ripe plums.

"Ripe plums in spring?" cried the porter. "I have never seen such a thing!"



The king will pay you well for this. I will let you in. But you must give me a third of what you get."

"I will," said Bob.

5 So the king's porter let Bob in at the king's gate. And Bob went on to the door of the king's hall.

The king's doorkeeper was sitting there. The king's doorkeeper saw Bob's  
10 rags.

"Be off with you, beggar!" he shouted. "Or you will feel your ribs rattle!"

"Good sir, let me in," said Bob. "I have a present for the king."

15 The doorkeeper took the green weeds from the top of the hood. He saw it was full of ripe plums.

"Ripe plums in spring?" cried the doorkeeper. "I have never seen such a  
20 thing! The king will pay you well for

He took the sack and the spear. He went up the cliff and into the wood.

In the wood, he went from tree to tree, picking up nuts, till his sack was full. 5

The mad wild boar smelt the smell of man in the wood. His eyes went red. Froth fell from his lips.

Now the mad wild boar rushed after that smell of man — 10

*dash, clash,*  
*crash, splash,*  
*smash!*

Prince Barry fled up a tree. The mad wild boar rushed at the tree. 15

His tusks were long. His tusks were strong. At each rush of the mad wild boar, Prince Barry felt the tree rock. At each rush of the mad wild boar, Prince Barry felt the tree shake. 20



never seen a bell before. His country had no bells then.

“Black Sheep,” he said, “if I hang a bell from your neck, it will help me to find you the next time you get lost. What do you say to that?” 5

“Baa-aa-aa!” said Black Sheep.

Otto the Shepherd and Black Sheep went down from the hilltop. The moon was up now, and lit the path back to the sheep-fold. 10

Next day, Otto the Shepherd saw that Black Sheep’s wool was full of gold dust. If he sold some wool now and then, he would have everything that he needed. 15

He took some wool to the blacksmith.

“This is for a bell to hang from Black Sheep’s neck,” Otto the Shepherd told him.

“A bell?” said the blacksmith. “What is a bell?” 20

Otto the Shepherd told him.

Otto the Shepherd got his bell. He hung it from Black Sheep's neck. *Chink-chink, clink-clink* went the bell when  
5 the sheep went up on the hills to get fat. *Chink-chink, clink-clink* went the bell, and helped Otto the Shepherd to find Black Sheep when she got lost.

10 And that was how sheep got sheep-bells.



|                               |                                                                                        |                                       |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| box on the ear                | blow on the side of the head                                                           | Ohrfeige                              |
| to see stars                  | I hit my head so hard that I began <i>to see stars</i> .<br>* <i>to see, saw, seen</i> | ,Sterne sehen'<br>(nach einem Schlag) |
| to feel                       | She <i>felt</i> the baby's hand in hers.<br>* <i>to feel, felt, felt</i>               | fühlen; spüren                        |
| ribs                          | The horse kicked him in the <i>ribs</i> .                                              | Rippen                                |
| to rattle                     | The windows <i>rattled</i> in the storm.                                               | rasseln                               |
| to sweep someone off his legs | to push someone hard so that they fall down<br>* <i>to sweep, swept, swept</i>         | zu Boden schmeißen                    |

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|                  |                                                                      |                                |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Good heavens!    | <i>You say this when you are surprised at something.</i>             | Du lieber Himmel!              |
| to need          | To live, we <i>need</i> water.                                       | brauchen                       |
| strong           | If you are <i>strong</i> you can do hard work and lift heavy things. | stark; kräftig                 |
| He got his wish. | He got what he wanted.                                               | Sein Wunsch ging in Erfüllung. |

#### THE PRINCE WHO KEPT PIGS

#### PAGE 13

|           |                                                                                    |                           |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| to keep   | ( <i>here</i> ) to take care of ( <i>animals</i> )<br>* <i>to keep, kept, kept</i> | ( <i>Schweine</i> ) hüten |
| pig       | farm animal with short legs and a fat body                                         | Schwein                   |
| son       | They have three daughters and a <i>son</i> .                                       | Sohn                      |
| still     | He <i>still</i> hasn't finished his homework.                                      | (immer) noch              |
| to die    | to stop living; He <i>died</i> at the age of 76.                                   | sterben                   |
| lord      | powerful man with a lot of land                                                    | Herr; Lord                |
| to become | In winter the weather <i>becomes</i> colder.<br>* <i>to become, became, become</i> | werden                    |

|                   |                                                                                |                            |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| new               | Do you like this <i>new</i> song? <i>Opposite</i> : old                        | neu                        |
| to send           | She <i>sent</i> some pictures of the new baby.<br>* <i>to send, sent, sent</i> | schicken                   |
| <i>Hog Rock</i>   |                                                                                | <i>„Schweinefels“</i>      |
| had to            | She <i>had to</i> help me do my homework.                                      | musste(n)                  |
| on each side      | Grill the steak for six minutes<br><i>on each side.</i>                        | auf jeder Seite            |
| sea               | Most fish live in the <i>sea</i> .                                             | Meer                       |
| all the way<br>to | Did you really walk <i>all the way to</i><br>school?                           | (den ganzen Weg)<br>bis zu |
| sky               | where we see the sun, moon and stars                                           | Himmel                     |
| clear             | The sky was <i>clear</i> , with no clouds.                                     | klar                       |
| to see            | If you shut your eyes, you can't <i>see</i> .<br>* <i>to see, saw, seen</i>    | sehen                      |
| cliff             | steep (= <i>steil</i> ) side of a mountain                                     | Klippe                     |
| a long way<br>off | The North Pole is <i>a long way off</i> .                                      | in weiter Ferne            |
| country           | England and Germany are <i>countries</i> .                                     | Land                       |
| to tell           | He <i>told</i> us some funny stories.<br>* <i>to tell, told, told</i>          | sagen; erzählen            |
| to try            | The little boy was <i>trying</i> not to cry.<br><i>to try, tried, tried</i>    | versuchen                  |
| to get to         | We have <i>got to</i> Chapter 5 in the reader.<br>* <i>to get, got, got</i>    | erreichen                  |
| people            | The streets were full of <i>people</i> .                                       | Leute; Menschen            |
| to live           | They <i>live</i> in England.                                                   | leben; wohnen              |
| in fear of        | afraid that ( <i>something may happen</i> )                                    | in Angst vor               |
| mad               | wild and uncontrolled; crazy                                                   | wahnsinnig                 |
| boar              | big wild pig                                                                   | Eber                       |
| <b>PAGE 14</b>    |                                                                                |                            |
| for               | because                                                                        | denn                       |
| if                | <i>If</i> it rains we will stay at home.                                       | wenn                       |

# Exercises

## RIPE PLUMS IN SPRING

### Exercise 1 – Who (page 3)

1. Who was as strong as an ox?
2. Who was dressed in rags?
3. Who need strong men?
4. Who do kings need?
5. Who will Bob get to see?
6. Who will pick the ripe plums?
7. Who may let Bob be his man?

### Exercise 2 – Short Answers (page 3)

1. Was Bob strong?
2. Was he poor?
3. Was Bob a king?
4. Do kings need strong men?
5. Are kings dressed in rags?
6. Were all the trees full of ripe plums?
7. Will Bob pick the plums for the king?

### Exercise 3 – What and Where (pages 3–4)

1. What was Bob dressed in?
2. Where did Bob go one day in spring?
3. What were the trees full of?
4. What was full of ripe plums?
5. What will Bob do for the king?
6. Where did Bob put the ripe plums?
7. What did he put on top?

### Exercise 4 – Find These Words in the Story! (page 3)

1. ... *stark* ...
2. ... *in Lumpen gekleidet* ...

3. ... *ging in den Wald hinein* ...
4. ... *eines Tages* ...
5. ... *im Frühling* ...
6. ... *voll mit reifen Pflaumen* ...
7. ... *ich werde sie pflücken* ...

**Exercise 5 — Who and Where (pages 4–6)**

1. Who set off to go to the king?
2. Where did Bob go?
3. Who was sitting at the king's gate?
4. Who was the "beggar" in "*Be off with you, beggar!*"?
5. Who says he will box Bob's ears?
6. Where did the porter take the green weeds from?
7. Who will pay well for the present?

**Exercise 6 — Either/Or (page 4)**

1. Was Bob's hood full of plums or full of weeds?
2. Did the porter see the plums or Bob's rags?
3. Whose ears will the porter box — Bob's or the king's?
4. Who is the "beggar" in "*Be off with you, beggar!*" — the king or Bob?
5. Was Bob's present for the porter or for the king?
6. Was the hood full of plums or full of rags?
7. What has the porter never seen — a hood full of plums or ripe plums in spring?

**Exercise 7 — Short Answers (page 4)**

1. Did Bob take off his hood?
2. Did he put green weeds on top of the plums?
3. Did the weeds keep the plums fresh?
4. Did Bob go to the king's gate?
5. Did he see the king there?
6. Was the hood full of ripe plums?
7. Were the plums a present for the king?