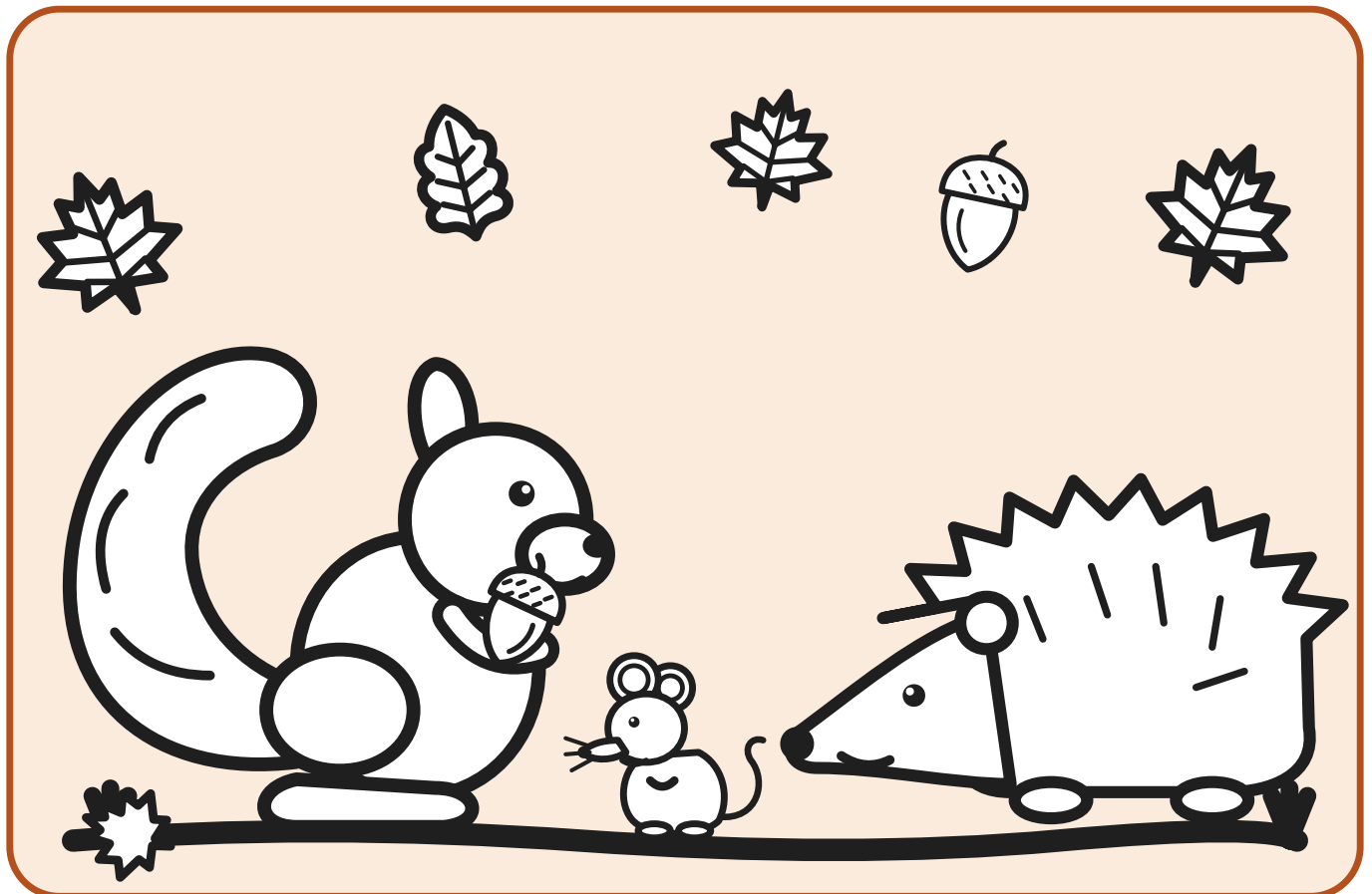


Autumn

Reading Comprehension Pack

Five cosy worksheets about squirrels, oak trees and a shy hedgehog, with each reading passage at three levels. Teacher notes and answer keys are included.



- 1** Squirrels Get Ready for Winter
Non-fiction · label a squirrel
- 2** From Acorn to Oak Tree
Non-fiction · put the stages in order
- 3** Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog
Story · feelings and predictions

- 4** Story Steps: Cut and Order
Sequencing · retell Pip's story
- 5** My Woodland Friend
Read, draw and write
- 6** Teacher notes and answer key
Curriculum links, tips and answers

★☆☆ Short ★★☆☆ Medium ★★★ Longer
Ages 6-8 · Years 2-3

Change The World With Karyn
changetheworldwithkaryn.com

Teacher and parent notes

Autumn Reading Comprehension Pack · Ages 6–8 · Years 2–3

Hello, and happy autumn! Everything in this pack is cosy and gentle: busy squirrels, a growing oak tree and a shy little hedgehog who finds a friend. Each reading passage comes in three levels, so one pack suits a mixed-ability class or a family with children of different ages. Pick the level that fits each child, read together and enjoy the chat as much as the answers.

With magic, Karyn

What is in the pack

#	Worksheet	Type	Children will...
1	Squirrels Get Ready for Winter	Non-fiction	Read about squirrels, answer questions and label a squirrel.
2	From Acorn to Oak Tree	Non-fiction	Read how an oak grows, order the stages, true or false.
3	Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog	Story	Read a story, talk about feelings, predict what happens next.
4	Story Steps: Cut and Order	Sequencing	Cut out six cards, put them in order, retell the story.
5	My Woodland Friend	Read, draw, write	Read three clues, draw the creature, write about it.

Choosing a level

Level	Passage	What helps	Good for
☆☆☆ Short	95–105 words	Big print, short sentences, picture clues, circle and tick answers.	Children just starting to read alone, or who read best with a grown-up.
★★☆ Medium	156–177 words	Longer sentences, sentence starters for writing, mixed answer types.	Children who read simple texts comfortably and can explain their thinking.
★★★ Longer	211–236 words	Headings, more detail, words to work out from the text, answers that need evidence.	Confident readers, or a stretch for the whole group.

Print the level each child needs, or let them try the next star up when they are ready. All three levels cover the same topic, so the class can still talk about it together.

Tips for using the worksheets

- **Read first, then answer.** Read the passage aloud, or together, before children work alone. At one star, echo reading (you read a line, they repeat it) works well.
- **Talk before writing.** Ask “How do you know?” and “Show me where it says that.” Children can answer out loud if writing is tiring. The key is a guide, not a tick list.
- **Labelling gets less help at each level:** a picture word bank, then a word bank, then first letters.
- **Time:** most children finish a worksheet in about 10 to 20 minutes.

Printing and accessibility

Print at 100% (“Actual size”, not “Fit to page”) on A4 paper. Black and white is fine. Print Story Steps single-sided so the cards cut cleanly, and cut them out in advance for younger children. The text is set in Andika, a typeface designed for beginning readers, at a generous size with wide line spacing.

Curriculum links

A guide to where each worksheet fits. Each level covers a selection of these skills.

#	Worksheet	US Common Core	England National Curriculum (paraphrased)
1	Squirrels Get Ready for Winter	RI.2.1, RI.2.4, RI.2.5	Year 2: answering and asking questions about non-fiction; clarifying word meanings; using headings and labelled diagrams to find facts.
2	From Acorn to Oak Tree	RI.1.3, RI.2.3	Year 2: discussing the sequence of events and how items of information are related; checking that a text makes sense.
3	Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog	RL.2.1, RL.2.3, RL.2.5	Years 1–2: making inferences from what is said and done; predicting; discussing the sequence of events and retelling stories.
4	Story Steps: Cut and Order	RL.1.3, RL.2.5	Years 1–2: retelling stories and discussing the sequence of events; saying a sentence out loud before writing it.
5	My Woodland Friend	W.1.2	Years 1–2 writing: composing a sentence out loud first, using capital letters and full stops, and re-reading to check it makes sense.

US codes are Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, grades 1 and 2 (RL = reading literature, RI = reading informational text, W = writing). The England column paraphrases the Year 1 and Year 2 reading and writing programmes of study; please check the exact wording in the national curriculum before quoting it in a plan.

Supporting and stretching

To support

- Read the passage with the child, then let them re-read one sentence at a time.
- Cover the questions you are not working on, so there is less on the page.
- Let the child say the answer, then write it together.

To stretch

- Ask for a full sentence and a reason: “I think... because...”.
- Try the next star up, or write a new question for a partner.
- Do the Story Steps challenge: draw and describe card 7.

Ideas for talking about the stories

- What did Pip do that was brave or kind? How do you know?
- Has there been a time you felt shy? What helped?
- If you could ask Pip one question, what would it be?

More from Karyn

Find more free reading and learning resources, and our free online kids’ book club, at [changetheworldwithkaryn.com](https://www.changetheworldwithkaryn.com). You can also watch the read-aloud stories on YouTube at [@StoryTimeWithKaryn](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCStoryTimeWithKaryn) and the lessons at [@LearnWithKaryn](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLearnWithKaryn).

Sharing. © Change The World With Karyn. Free for classroom and home use only. You may print as many copies as you need for your own classroom, home or homeschool group. Please do not resell the pack or upload it elsewhere; share a link to our website instead.



Squirrels Get Ready for Winter

Name _____

Date _____

Squirrels are small animals with fur. A squirrel has a big, bushy tail. It can run and jump along the branches of a tree.

In autumn, the days get short and cold. Squirrels are busy! They look for nuts and acorns . They dig a little hole and bury a nut in it.

In winter, a squirrel digs up its nuts to eat. Squirrels do not sleep all winter. They stay warm in a nest high up in a tree .

Sometimes a squirrel forgets a nut. The nut can grow into a new tree! So squirrels help trees, too.

Fact file

Label the squirrel. Write each word on a line.

Word bank



tail



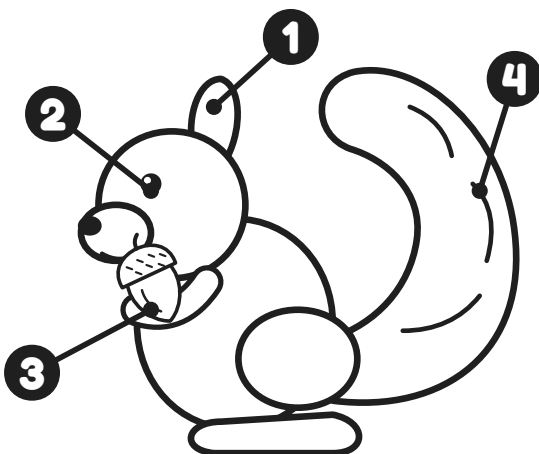
ear



paw



eye



1

2

3

4

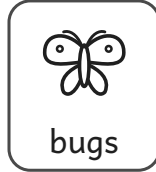
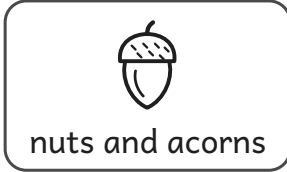
Squirrels Get Ready for Winter

★☆☆ Short

Name _____

Date _____

1 What do squirrels look for in autumn? Circle one.



2 Is it true or false? Circle one for each.

A squirrel has a big, bushy tail.

True

False

Squirrels bury nuts in holes.

True

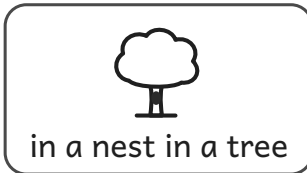
False

Squirrels sleep all winter.

True

False

3 Where do squirrels stay warm in winter? Circle one.



4 Why does a squirrel dig up its nuts in winter? Tick one.

☐ to eat them

☐ to wash them

☐ to throw them

5 What can happen to a nut that a squirrel forgets? Tick one.

☐ It can grow into a new tree.

☐ It can turn into a squirrel.

☐ It can fly away.



Squirrels Get Ready for Winter

Name _____ Date _____

Squirrels are small mammals with soft fur and a big, bushy tail. A squirrel uses its tail to keep its balance when it runs along a branch, and to keep warm, like a blanket.

When autumn comes, squirrels get ready for winter. They hurry about, looking for acorns, hazelnuts and other seeds. A squirrel digs a small hole, drops in a nut and covers it with soil. One squirrel may bury hundreds of nuts. In winter, when food is hard to find, the buried nuts are a store of food.

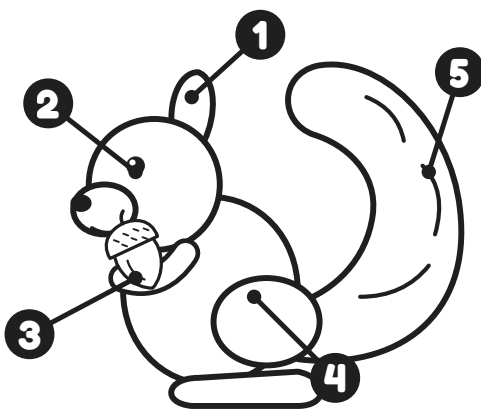
Squirrels do not hibernate, which means they do not sleep all through the winter. On very cold days, a squirrel curls up in its nest, called a drey. A drey is a round nest of twigs, leaves and moss, high up in a tree.

A squirrel cannot remember where every single nut is buried. Forgotten nuts can sprout, and some grow into new trees. That is one way squirrels help trees grow!

Fact file

Label the squirrel. Copy a word from the word bank onto each line.

Word bank tail ear fur eye paw



1

2

3

4

5

Squirrels Get Ready for Winter

★★☆ Medium

Name _____

Date _____

1 Why do squirrels bury nuts in autumn? Circle one.

☐ to have food for winter☐ to build a nest☐ to play a game

2 What is a squirrel's nest called?

A squirrel's nest is called a _____.

3 What do squirrels use their tails for? Tick two.

☐ balance☐ keeping warm☐ digging☐ swimming

4 Squirrels do not hibernate. What do they do on very cold days?

On very cold days, a squirrel _____

5 Why might a squirrel forget where it buried a nut?

I think a squirrel forgets because _____



Squirrels Get Ready for Winter

Name _____

Date _____

What is a squirrel?

A squirrel is a small mammal with soft fur, big eyes and a long, bushy tail. Squirrels live in woods, parks and gardens. They are quick and nimble. They race up tree trunks and leap from branch to branch, using their tails to keep their balance. Their strong front teeth are perfect for cracking nuts and seeds.

Getting ready for winter

As the days grow short and cold in autumn, squirrels become very busy. They gather acorns, hazelnuts and other seeds, and they bury them in small holes in the ground. This is called storing food. A squirrel may bury hundreds of nuts. Later, when food is hard to find, it digs them up and eats them.

Staying warm

Squirrels do not hibernate, which means they do not sleep right through the winter. Instead, they shelter in a drey, a round nest of twigs, leaves and moss built high in a tree. On very cold days, a squirrel curls up inside and wraps its tail around itself like a blanket. When the weather is milder, it comes out to search for food.

Helping trees

A squirrel cannot remember where every single nut is buried. Some forgotten nuts stay in the soil, and they may sprout. In this way, squirrels help new trees to grow. Even a forgetful squirrel can help a forest to grow!



A squirrel in autumn. Its bushy tail helps it balance and keep warm.

Squirrels Get Ready for Winter

★★★ Longer

Name _____ Date _____

- 1 What does the word “shelter” mean here? Circle one.

“Instead, they shelter in a drey, a round nest of twigs, leaves and moss built high in a tree.”

stay safe and warm

run very fast

make a loud noise

- 2 Which sentence tells you that squirrels help new trees to grow? Copy it.

- 3 Why do you think squirrels bury nuts in autumn instead of eating them all straight away?

I think squirrels bury nuts because _____

- 4 Which heading would you read to find out how squirrels keep warm?

Circle one.

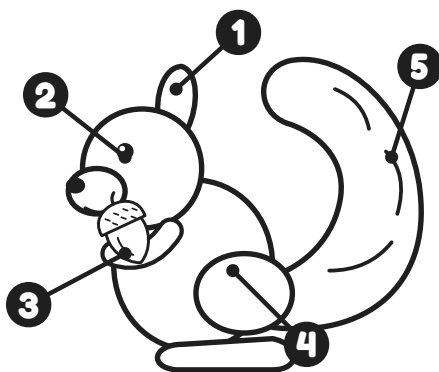
What is a squirrel?

Getting ready for winter

Staying warm

Helping trees

- 5 Label the squirrel. The first letter of each word is there to help you.



1 e _ _

2 e _ _

3 p _ _

4 f _ _

5 t _ _ _



From Acorn to Oak Tree

Name _____

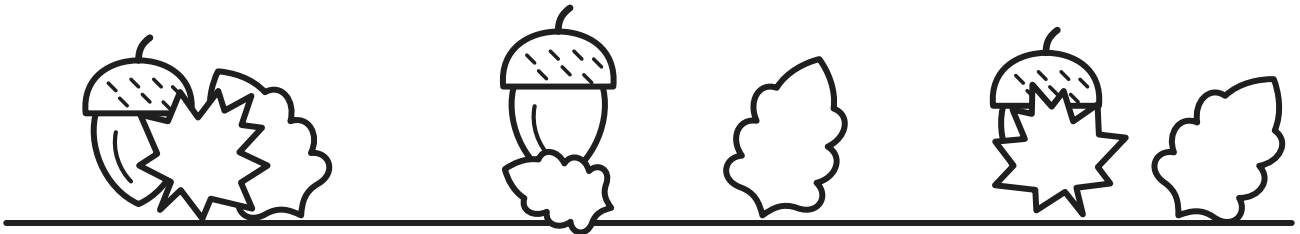
Date _____

An oak tree starts as a little acorn. An acorn is the seed of an oak tree. In autumn, acorns fall from the oak tree to the ground.

A squirrel may bury an acorn in the soil. The rain falls. The sun shines. In spring, the acorn grows a tiny sprout.

The sprout grows into a little tree. Every year, the tree gets taller and taller.

After many, many years, it is a big oak tree! Birds and squirrels live in its branches. Now the tree makes new acorns, and it starts all over again.

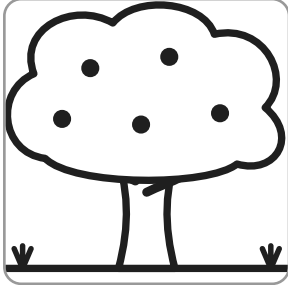


From Acorn to Oak Tree

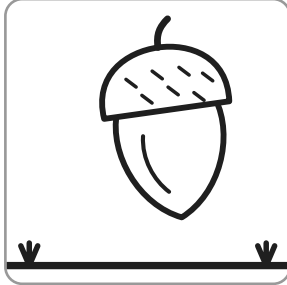
★☆☆ Short

Name _____ Date _____

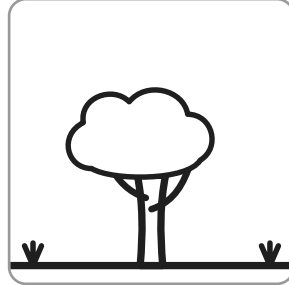
- 1 Put the pictures in order. Write 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the boxes.



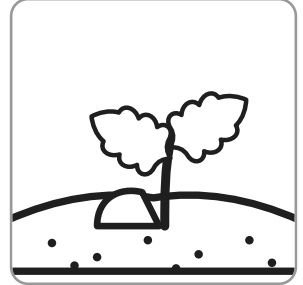
big oak tree



acorn



little tree



sprout

- 2 Is it true or false? Circle one for each.

An oak tree starts as an acorn.

True

False

Acorns fall to the ground in autumn.

True

False

An oak tree grows big in one day.

True

False

- 3 Who lives in a big oak tree? Tick one.

☐ birds and squirrels

☐ fish and whales

☐ cows and sheep

- 4 Draw a big oak tree. Then finish the sentence.

My oak tree

An acorn grows into an _____.



From Acorn to Oak Tree

Name _____

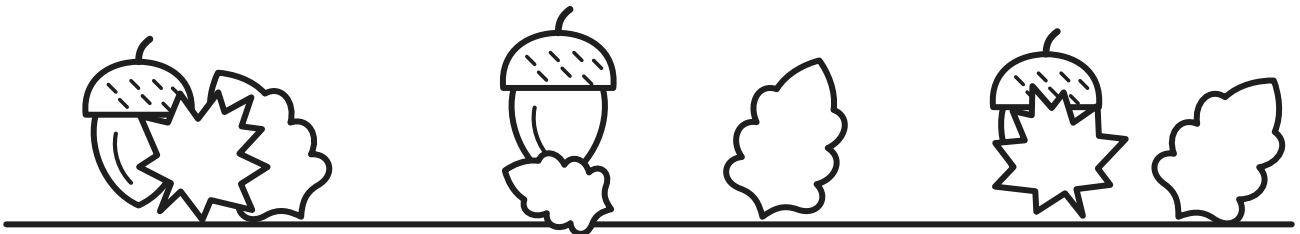
Date _____

Every oak tree begins as an acorn. An acorn is the seed of an oak tree. In autumn, acorns drop from the branches to the ground. Animals eat many of them, but a squirrel may bury an acorn and forget about it.

If an acorn lands in good soil, it can start to grow. First, a root grows down into the ground. Then a green shoot pushes up toward the light and opens its first small leaves. Now the baby tree is called a seedling.

Year after year, the seedling grows taller, and its trunk gets thicker. A young tree like this is called a sapling.

An oak tree grows slowly. It can take many years to become big and strong, and some oaks live for hundreds of years. Birds, insects and squirrels make their homes in its branches. When the oak is old enough, it makes acorns of its own, and the story begins again.

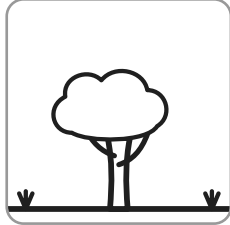


From Acorn to Oak Tree

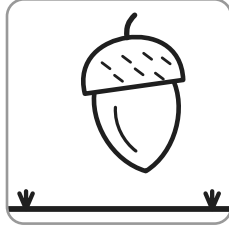
★★★ Medium

Name _____ Date _____

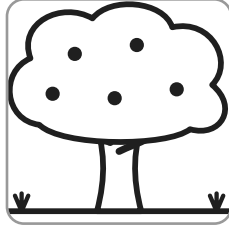
1 Put the pictures in order. Write 1 to 5 in the boxes.



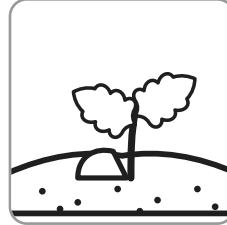
The young tree is a sapling.



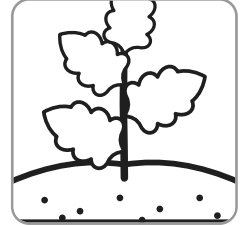
An acorn falls to the ground.



The big oak makes new acorns.



A root and a shoot start to grow.



A seedling opens its first leaves.

2 Is it true or false? Circle one for each.

An acorn is the seed of an oak tree.

True

False

A seedling is a big, old tree.

True

False

Oak trees grow very quickly.

True

False

Birds and squirrels make homes in oak trees.

True

False

3 What is a young oak tree called?

A young oak tree is called a _____.

4 How can a squirrel help an oak tree to grow?

A squirrel can help because _____

5 Which animals live in an oak tree? Write two.

1. _____

2. _____



From Acorn to Oak Tree

Name _____

Date _____

1 A seed falls

In autumn, an oak tree drops its acorns. An acorn is the oak's seed, and each one holds a tiny new tree inside its hard shell. Animals such as squirrels and jays eat many acorns, but they also bury some and forget about them.

2 The acorn rests

An acorn that lies under soil and leaves stays safe through the cold winter. It rests there until the weather warms up.

3 A root grows

When the time is right, the acorn splits open. A pale root grows down into the soil to take in water. The root also holds the little tree firmly in place.

4 A seedling grows

Next, a green shoot pushes up toward the light and opens its first leaves. The baby tree is now called a seedling. It is small and soft, so it needs sunshine and rain to grow.

5 A sapling grows

Year after year, the seedling grows taller, and its trunk gets thicker and tougher. A young tree like this is called a sapling. Saplings are still thin and bendy.

6 A mighty oak

Oak trees grow slowly. It can take many years to become a big, strong tree, and some oaks live for hundreds of years. Birds, insects and squirrels make their homes in its branches. When the oak is old enough, it makes acorns of its own, and the story begins again.

From Acorn to Oak Tree

★★★ Longer

Name _____ Date _____

1 Put the steps in order. Write 1 to 6 in the boxes.

☐

A pale root grows down into the soil.

☐

An oak tree drops an acorn.

☐

A big oak makes acorns of its own.

☐

A green shoot opens its first leaves.

☐

The acorn lies under soil and leaves over winter.

☐

The trunk gets thicker and the young tree is a sapling.

2 Is it true or false? Circle one for each. If a sentence is false, fix it below.

Every acorn grows into an oak tree.

True

False

A seedling is smaller than a sapling.

True

False

Some oak trees live for hundreds of years.

True

False

Fix the false sentence:

3 How do squirrels and jays help oak trees to grow? Use the text to help you.

Step ____: They help because _____

4 In Step 4, what does the word “seedling” mean? Circle one.

a baby tree

a hard shell

a kind of squirrel

5 Why do you think a seedling needs sunshine and rain?

A seedling needs sunshine and rain because _____



Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog

Name _____

Date _____

Pip is a little hedgehog. Pip lives in a wood with lots of squirrels.

The squirrels play a game. They shout, “HELLO!” It is very loud.

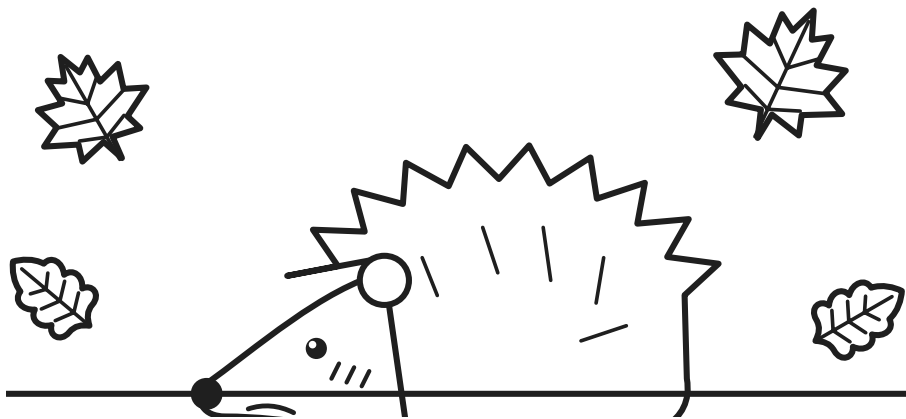
Pip wants to play. Pip tries to shout, “HELLO!” But only a tiny whisper comes out. “hello.”

No one hears Pip. Pip curls up in a ball under the leaves. Pip feels shy and sad.

Then Pip peeks out. A little mouse is holding a big red leaf. Her name is Hazel.

Pip takes a big, deep breath. “Hello,” says Pip.

“Hello,” says Hazel. She is happy! Now Pip has a friend. They make a cosy nest of leaves.



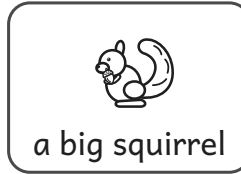
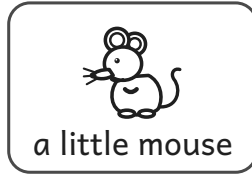
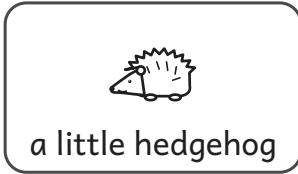
Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog

★☆☆ Short

Name _____

Date _____

1 Who is Pip? Circle one.



2 What game do the squirrels play? Circle one.

Hello

Tag

Hide and seek

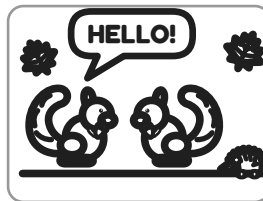
3 How does Pip feel when no one hears? Circle a face.



4 Draw a line from each picture to Beginning, Middle or End.



○



○



○

○

Beginning

○

Middle

○

End

5 What do you think Pip and Hazel will do next? Draw it.

My idea

I think they will _____



Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog

Name _____

Date _____

Pip was the smallest animal in the big, rustling wood. Every day, the squirrels played a game called Hello. The squirrel with the loudest “HELLO!” won the game.

“HELLOOOO!” shouted the big squirrels. They laughed and raced up and down the trees.

Pip wanted to join in. Pip took a breath and tried to shout. But only a tiny whisper came out. “Hello.”

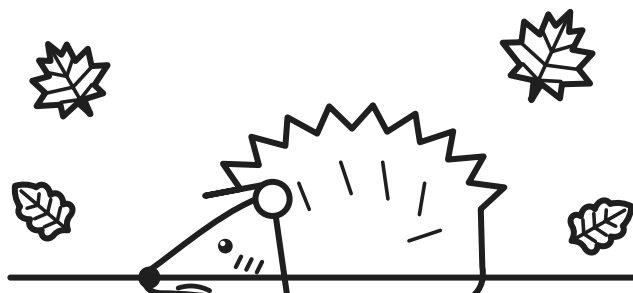
The squirrels did not hear. They raced away, still shouting. Pip felt shy and a little bit sad, so Pip curled up in a ball under a pile of leaves.

Then Pip heard a soft rustle. Pip peeked out. A little mouse was dragging a big red leaf along the path. Her name was Hazel.

Pip took a very deep breath. “Hello,” Pip said in a small voice. “Can I help?”

Hazel’s whiskers twitched. “Yes, please,” she said with a smile. Pip did not need a loud “HELLO” at all. A kind little hello was just right.

Together, the two friends built a cosy nest of leaves and watched the autumn leaves float down.



Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog

★★☆☆ Medium

Name _____ Date _____

1 Who is Hazel, and where does Pip find her?

Hazel is a _____.

Pip finds her _____.

2 Which two words tell about Pip? Tick two.

☐ shy

☐ quiet

☐ loud

☐ angry

3 How does Pip feel under the leaves? How do you know?

Pip feels _____ because _____

4 Draw a line from each part of the story to what happens.

Beginning

☐

☐ Pip curls up, then meets Hazel in the wood.

Middle

☐

☐ Pip says hello, and they become friends.

End

☐

☐ The squirrels play a loud game, but Pip can only whisper.

5 What do you think Pip will say to Hazel tomorrow?

I think Pip will say “ _____ ”

6 What would you say to Pip?



Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog

Name _____

Date _____

Pip was the smallest animal in the big, rustling wood at the end of Mossy Lane. Every day, the squirrels played a game called Hello. The squirrel with the loudest “HELLO!” won a shiny golden acorn. Rusty, the biggest squirrel, won every single time.

“HELLOOOOO!” boomed Rusty. The others cheered and scampered up the tall oak tree.

Pip longed to join in. Pip took a deep breath, puffed out both cheeks and tried to shout. But only a tiny whisper came out. “Hello.”

Nobody heard. The squirrels were far too busy chattering to notice. Pip rolled into a ball under a pile of crunchy leaves, feeling small and very alone.

After a while, Pip heard a soft rustle. Pip peeked out and saw a little mouse dragging a big red leaf along the path. She was trying to build a nest, but the leaf was far too heavy for one mouse.

Pip took a deep breath. “Hello,” Pip whispered. “My name is Pip. Can I help?”

The mouse smiled. “Hello,” she said softly. “I’m Hazel. I like quiet things. I was hoping someone gentle would come along.”

Pip felt a warm glow inside. A quiet hello was just right after all. Together, Pip and Hazel pulled the leaf along and built a cosy nest of leaves. Then they sat side by side and watched the autumn leaves drift down, and Pip did not feel small anymore.

Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog

★★★ Longer

Name _____ Date _____

- 1 What does the word “longed” mean here? Circle one.

“Pip longed to join in.”

wanted very much

was afraid

forgot

- 2 Why did nobody hear Pip? Copy the sentence from the story that tells you.

- 3 How does Pip feel? Write a feeling word and a clue from the story.

Feeling word

Clue from the story

At the start

**In the
middle**

At the end

- 4 What do you think will happen the next time the squirrels play Hello? Use clues from the story.

I predict that _____ because

- 5 What lesson does Pip learn? Circle one and say why to a partner.

You must be loud to make friends.

A quiet hello can be brave and kind.

Mice are better than hedgehogs.

Story Steps: Cut and Order



Name _____

Date _____

- 1** Cut out the six cards. **2** Put them in order. **3** Glue them on the next page.

A

Pip peeks out and sees Hazel the mouse.

B

The squirrels play a very loud game of Hello.

C

Pip and Hazel build a cosy leaf nest.

D

Pip tries to say "Hello," but only a whisper comes out.

E

Pip takes a deep breath and says, "Hello."

F

Pip curls up under a pile of leaves.

A story has three parts

Beginning

We meet the characters and the place.

Middle

Something happens. There may be a problem.

End

The story finishes. The problem is solved.

Story words First Next Then After that Last

Story Steps: Cut and Order



Name _____

Date _____

BEGINNING**MIDDLE****END****1****3****5****2****4****6**

Now tell the story in your own words. Use the story words.

First,

Next,

Then,

Last,

Challenge: What happens next? Draw card 7 on the back of this page.

My Woodland Friend

 Draw & write

Name _____ Date _____

1 Read the clues.

- ① My woodland friend is small, round and fluffy.
- ② It has a bushy orange tail and two big, shiny eyes.
- ③ It wears a scarf made of red leaves.

2 Draw your woodland friend. Then colour it in!

My woodland friend

3 Write about your woodland friend.

My woodland friend is called _____.

It has _____.

I like my woodland friend because _____.

Check your writing: ☐ capital letters ☐ full stops ☐ it makes sense

Answer key

For teachers and parents. Many answers can be worded in different ways, so accept any sensible answer that matches the text. "Ask:" prompts are good for a quick chat.

Worksheet 1 • Squirrels Get Ready for Winter

☆☆☆ Short

1. **Fact file:** 1 ear, 2 eye, 3 paw, 4 tail.
2. Nuts and acorns. ("They look for nuts and acorns.")
3. True, true, false. ("Squirrels do not sleep all winter.")
4. In a nest in a tree.
5. To eat them. ("In winter, a squirrel digs up its nuts to eat.")
6. It can grow into a new tree. Ask: "How do you know?"

★★☆ Medium

1. **Fact file:** 1 ear, 2 eye, 3 paw, 4 fur, 5 tail.
2. To have food for winter. ("... the buried nuts are a store of food.")
3. A drey.
4. Balance and keeping warm.
5. Curls up in its nest (drey). Accept "stays in its nest" or "wraps its tail around itself".
6. Open answer. Accept sensible ideas, e.g. it buries hundreds of nuts, so it is hard to remember them all. The text says it cannot remember every nut; children are inferring why.

★★★ Longer

1. Stay safe and warm. Clue: they are inside a nest in a tree.
2. "In this way, squirrels help new trees to grow." (Also accept: "Some forgotten nuts stay in the soil, and they may sprout.")
3. Because food is hard to find in winter, so they save nuts for later. Clue: "Later, when food is hard to find, it digs them up and eats them."
4. Staying warm.
5. 1 ear, 2 eye, 3 paw, 4 fur, 5 tail.

Worksheet 2 • From Acorn to Oak Tree

☆☆☆ Short

1. Left to right: 4, 1, 3, 2 (acorn 1, sprout 2, little tree 3, big oak tree 4).
2. True, true, false.
3. Birds and squirrels. ("Birds and squirrels live in its branches.")
4. Open answer. Look for a tree with a trunk and leaves. Sentence: "An acorn grows into an oak tree."

★★☆ Medium

1. Left to right: 4, 1, 5, 2, 3.
2. True, false (a seedling is a baby tree), false (oaks grow slowly), true.
3. A sapling.
4. Accept: it buries an acorn and forgets it, and the acorn can grow into a tree.
5. Any two of: birds, insects, squirrels.

★★★ Longer

1. In the order shown, row by row: 3, 1, 6, 4, 2, 5.
2. False, true, true. Fix: Only some acorns grow into oak trees (animals eat many of them).
3. Step 1. They bury some acorns and forget about them, and a buried acorn can grow into a tree.
4. A baby tree. ("The baby tree is now called a seedling.")
5. Accept: it needs them to grow; it is small and soft, so it needs help to get big and strong.

Worksheet 3 • Pip the Shy Little Hedgehog

☆☆☆ Short

1. A little hedgehog.
2. Hello.
3. Sad or shy (accept both). Ask: "How do you know?" ("Pip feels shy and sad.")
4. Leaf nest picture → End; squirrels shouting → Beginning; Pip curled up in the leaves → Middle.
5. Open answer. Accept any kind, sensible idea.

★★☆ Medium

1. A little mouse; on the path in the wood, dragging a big red leaf.
2. Shy and quiet.
3. Shy / sad / left out. Because only a whisper came out and the squirrels did not hear Pip.
4. Beginning → the squirrels play a loud game, but Pip can only whisper. Middle → Pip curls up, then meets Hazel. End → Pip says hello and they become friends.
5. Open answer, e.g. "Hello again!" Look for a reason from the story (Pip now has a friend and feels braver).
6. Open answer. Look for kind words.

★★★ Longer

1. Wanted very much.
2. "The squirrels were far too busy chattering to notice." (Also: Pip's voice was only a whisper.)
3. Examples. Start: eager / left out ("Pip longed to join in"). Middle: lonely / sad ("small and very alone"). End: happy / brave ("Pip did not feel small anymore").
4. Open answer. Look for a prediction with a reason from the text (e.g. Pip now has a friend and may feel braver).
5. A quiet hello can be brave and kind. Ask: "Which part of the story shows this?"

Worksheet 4 • Story Steps: Cut and Order

Glue boxes 1 to 6 should hold cards **B, D, F, A, E, C**, in that order.

1. **B:** The squirrels play a very loud game of Hello.
2. **D:** Pip tries to say "Hello," but only a whisper comes out.
3. **F:** Pip curls up under a pile of leaves.
4. **A:** Pip peeks out and sees Hazel the mouse.
5. **E:** Pip takes a deep breath and says, "Hello."
6. **C:** Pip and Hazel build a cosy leaf nest.

Retell (example): First, the squirrels played a loud game of Hello. Next, Pip tried to say Hello, but only a whisper came out. Then Pip curled up under the leaves. Last, Pip met Hazel the mouse, said hello, and they built a cosy leaf nest together.

Worksheet 5 • Read, Draw, Write: My Woodland Friend



Check the drawing against the clues: small, round and fluffy; a bushy tail; two big shiny eyes; a scarf of leaves (children colour the tail orange and the scarf red). Writing: look for a name or topic, one or two facts from the clues, and a closing sentence ("I like my woodland friend because...").