Thistledown Lane

Bramble's Grumpy Day: Reading Comprehension

KS1 · Year 1 and Year 2

Free · with answers



- Year 1: a short retelling and 6 questions
- Year 2: the whole story and 9 questions, with reading domains
- Answers for both, and a mark scheme for Year 2

Watch the episode free at **thistledownlane.co.uk/episode-brambles-grumpy-day**

A gentle claymation series about kindness, friendship and the seasons on an English country lane.

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For grown-ups

How to use this pack

Two levels from the same story. **Year 1** is a short retelling with picture-friendly questions: tick, order and true or false. **Year 2** is the whole story as told in the episode, with questions tagged by KS1 reading content domain (1a to 1e) and a mark scheme. You can watch the episode together first, read it aloud, or use it as an independent reading task.

KS1 reading content domains

- **1a** draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts
- **1b** identify and explain key aspects of texts, such as characters, events and information
- **1c** identify and explain the sequence of events in texts
- **1d** make inferences from the text
- **1e** predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far

The story

Bramble wakes up grumpy and doesn't know why. Can her friends help her find her smile again?

The lesson

Everybody has a grumpy day. That's all right. But if your grumpy day is unkind to somebody, say sorry.

Curriculum links

English, Year 1 and Year 2 reading comprehension: listening to and discussing stories, discussing word meanings, predicting, making inferences and checking the text makes sense. PSHE: feelings and emotions, saying sorry, friendship.

Year 1: Bramble's Grumpy Day

Name: _____





One morning, Bramble was very grumpy. She did not want porridge. She did not want toast. She stomped out of the door.

Moss and Lilly were catching leaves. “Every one you catch is a wish!” said Lilly. “That’s silly,” said Bramble. So Moss let his leaves go.

Bramble marched off across the big green field on her own. She kicked the grass. It did not help. “Everything’s wrong today,” she said.

Then Sorrel the fox popped up. “Can I be grumpy next to you?” he asked. He sat down next to her and did not say anything at all. That helped a little bit.

They went back to Mam. “It’s called a grumpy day,” said Mam. “Everybody has them. Even me.” Then Mam straightened Bramble’s scarf.

Bramble said sorry to Moss and Lilly for being grumpy. Everybody laughed, even Bramble. Then Moss gave her a leaf. “That’s a wish,” he said.

Year 1 questions

Name: _____

1. How did Bramble feel in the morning?

   ☐ happy ☐ grumpy ☐ sleepy

2. What were Moss and Lilly catching?

   ☐ leaves ☐ bugs ☐ raindrops

3. Who sat next to Bramble in the field?

   ☐ Old Wren ☐ Mam ☐ Sorrel

4. What did Bramble say to Moss and Lilly at the end?

   ☐ sorry ☐ thank you ☐ goodbye

5. Put these in order. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the boxes.

   ☐ Bramble said sorry.

   ☐ Bramble did not want porridge.

   ☐ Sorrel sat with Bramble in the grass.

6. True or false?

   Bramble wanted toast. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

   Moss let his leaves go. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

   Mam has grumpy days too. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

Year 2: Bramble's Grumpy Day

Name: _____





Some mornings on Thistledown Lane begin with sunshine. This one began with a grumble. "Good morning, my love. Porridge?" said Mam. "I don't want porridge," said Bramble.

"Toast, then?" "I don't want toast. I don't want anything," said Bramble. "Ah. One of those mornings," said Mam. "It's not ONE of anything. It's just a morning." And she stomped out of the round door, and didn't close it behind her.

Out on the lane, the wind was blowing the big golden leaves off the trees, and Moss and Lilly were catching them. "Bramble! We're catching leaves! Every one you catch is a wish!" said Lilly. "I've caught four. That's four wishes," said Moss. "That's silly. Leaves aren't wishes. Leaves are just leaves," said Bramble. "Oh." "You could catch one anyway. Just for fun." "I don't want fun."

And Moss, very quietly, let his four leaves go. "Hmm. Somebody got out of the wrong side of the nest," said Old Wren. "I did NOT. And I don't live in a nest," said Bramble. And that was the moment the lane went very quiet.

Bramble marched off across the big green field on her own. She kicked a tuft of grass. It didn't help. She kicked another one. That didn't help either. "Everything's wrong today. Everything," said Bramble.

Then the grass rustled, and a small orange face popped up beside her. "Hello, Bramble," said Sorrel. "Go away, Sorrel. I'm being grumpy," said Bramble. "All right. Can I be grumpy next to you?" "...You're not grumpy." "No. But I can sit very still. I'm good at sitting still. I did it for two whole nights under a root."

So he sat down beside her in the long grass, and didn't say anything at all. And somehow that helped a little bit. "Sorrel. Was I horrid to Moss?" said Bramble. "A bit. He let his wishes go," said Sorrel.

"I didn't mean to be horrid. I just felt all scratchy inside. Like a jumper that's on backwards." "When I was stuck under the root, I felt scratchy too. I growled at a beetle," said Sorrel. "You growled at a beetle?" said Bramble. "Only a small growl. I said sorry to him after." And for the first time all day, Bramble very nearly smiled. "Your Mam would know what the scratchy feeling is. Mams know."

So the two of them walked back across the field together, the hedgehog and the fox, side by side. “Well. Look who’s back. And look who’s brought a friend,” said Mam. “Mam. What’s it called when you feel all scratchy and cross and you don’t know why?” said Bramble. “It’s called a grumpy day, my love. Everybody has them. Even me.”

“Even you?” “Even me. The trick is, you can’t always stop a grumpy feeling. But you can stop it being unkind for you.” And Mam straightened Bramble’s scarf, which had been crooked all day. “There. That’s one thing put right. Now, I think there might be another,” said Mam.

“Moss. And Lilly.” “I’ll come with you. In case you need somebody to sit still,” said Sorrel. Moss and Lilly were sitting on the wall, not catching leaves any more. “Moss. Lilly. I’m sorry I was grumpy at you,” said Bramble. “And I’m sorry I said leaves weren’t wishes.”

“That’s all right. Everybody has a grumpy day. I had one on Tuesday.” “I’ve had about forty,” said Lilly. “And I’ve had one every morning since I was an egg,” said Old Wren. And everybody laughed, even Bramble. Especially Bramble.

“Here. I saved one leaf. You can have it. That’s a wish.” “What should I wish for?” said Bramble. “You could wish for tomorrow to be a sunny one,” said Sorrel. So Bramble held the golden leaf up high, and let the wind take it.

“Everybody has a grumpy day. That’s all right. But if your grumpy day is unkind to somebody, say sorry. It’s the quickest way back to a good one.” And the next morning, on Thistledown Lane, the sun came up as bright as a bun.





Year 2 questions

Name: _____

1 Name the **two** things Mam offered Bramble for breakfast. (2 marks) 1b

2 Find and copy **one** word that tells you how Bramble went out of the round door. (1 mark) 1a

3 Bramble said she felt "all **scratchy** inside". What does scratchy mean here? (1 mark) 1a

☐ cross and uncomfortable ☐ cold and wet ☐ happy and calm

4 Number these events from 1 to 4. (1 mark) 1c

☐ Sorrel pops up beside Bramble in the grass.

☐ Bramble says leaves are just leaves.

☐ Mam straightens Bramble's scarf.

☐ Bramble says sorry to Moss and Lilly.

5 Why did Moss, "very quietly", let his four leaves go? (1 mark) 1d

6 Sorrel sat next to Bramble and "didn't say anything at all." Why do you think this helped her? (1 mark) 1d

7 Mam said, "That's one thing put right. Now, I think there might be another." What else needed putting right? (1 mark) 1d

8 Who said they had a grumpy day on Tuesday? (1 mark) 1b

9 If Bramble has another grumpy day and is unkind to somebody, what do you think she will do? Use the story to explain. (1 mark) 1e

Answers

Year 1

1. grumpy
2. leaves
3. Sorrel
4. sorry
5. 1 Bramble did not want porridge. 2 Sorrel sat with Bramble in the grass. 3 Bramble said sorry.
6. False (she said, “I don’t want toast”); True; True (“Even me,” says Mam)

Year 2 (total 10 marks)

1. 1 mark each: porridge; toast.
2. stomped
3. cross and uncomfortable
4. Bramble says leaves are just leaves (1); Sorrel pops up beside Bramble in the grass (2); Mam straightens Bramble’s scarf (3); Bramble says sorry to Moss and Lilly (4).
5. Bramble had said leaves aren’t wishes and that catching them was silly, so he felt sad or hurt. (Sorrel says, “He let his wishes go.”)
6. She was not on her own any more. He kept her company kindly without asking her questions, so she could calm down.
7. Bramble needed to say sorry to Moss and Lilly for being grumpy at them. (Bramble says, “Moss. And Lilly.”)
8. Moss
9. Any sensible answer linked to the story, for example: she will say sorry, because she learned, “If your grumpy day is unkind to somebody, say sorry. It’s the quickest way back to a good one.”