Thistledown Lane

Moss's Hazelnut: 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-moss-hazelnut**

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

Moss has lost his best hazelnut. Bramble, Old Wren and a trail of upside-down leaves help him find it.

The lesson

If you ever lose something, ask a friend, and look together.

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: friendship, asking for help, working together.

Year 1: Moss's Hazelnut

Name: _____





Bramble is a little hedgehog. She lives with Mam on Thistledown Lane. One morning, Mam was baking hazelnut buns.

Bramble went out to play. She met her friend Moss the mouse. Moss was very sad. “I have lost my best hazelnut!” he said.

“We will find it together,” said Bramble. They looked under the leaves and behind the stones.

Old Wren was sitting on a branch. “Follow the leaves,” he said. So they did. They looked in the big field. Then they looked in the woods.

In the woods, Bramble saw a leaf the wrong way up. Then another, and another! The leaves made a trail to a big mossy stone.

Moss lifted up the last leaf. There was his hazelnut! “Thank you, Bramble,” said Moss. Then they all ate hazelnut buns with Mam.

Year 1 questions

Name: _____

1. Who lost the hazelnut?

   ☐ Bramble ☐ Moss ☐ Mam

2. What was Mam baking?

   ☐ a cake ☐ hazelnut buns ☐ jam tarts

3. How did Moss feel when his hazelnut was lost?

   ☐ happy ☐ sad ☐ sleepy

4. Who said, "Follow the leaves"?

   ☐ Old Wren ☐ Moss ☐ Mam

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

   ☐ They looked in the woods.

   ☐ Moss found his hazelnut.

   ☐ They looked in the big field.

6. True or false?

   Bramble is a hedgehog. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

   Moss found his hazelnut in a tree. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

   The leaves made a trail. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

Year 2: Moss's Hazelnut

Name: _____





Down at the bottom of Thistledown Lane, where the old stone wall goes on forever and the leaves pile up in the corners, lives a small hedgehog called Bramble.

This is her house, tucked right into the wall. And this morning, something in the kitchen smells very good indeed.

"Morning, Mam! What are we making?" asked Bramble. "Hazelnut buns for tea, my love," said Mam. "Ooh, hazelnut buns, my favourite!"

"Then run along and let me get on," said Mam. "Off you go into the sunshine." "I'll be down the lane, Mam!" "Mind the puddles!" So Bramble pulled her green scarf tight, and out she went.

The lane was bright and crunchy with leaves. Scritch-scratch, scritch-scratch went Bramble's feet. She hadn't gone far when she heard a very small, very sad sound. "Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear." "Moss?" said Bramble. "Whatever's the matter?"

"My hazelnut, Bramble. My best one. I put it down right here, and now it's gone!" "Gone?" "Gone! I looked under the leaves. I looked on top of the leaves. I even looked inside the leaves."

"Then we'll find it together," said Bramble. "Two noses are better than one." "Do you think so?" "I know so. Come on." They searched all along the wall. They looked under every leaf, and behind every stone. But there was no hazelnut anywhere.

"It's no good," said Moss. "It's gone forever." "Nothing's gone forever. Look, up there!" Perched on a branch above the lane, feathers all fluffed up against the breeze, sat Old Wren.

"Old Wren! You see everything from up there. Have you seen a hazelnut?" "A hazelnut, you say? Hmm, hmm-hmm." "I've seen leaves. Lots and lots of leaves, blown all along the lane, all the way to the big field."

"But we're looking for a hazelnut," said Moss, "not leaves." "Are you, now? Then follow the leaves, little mouse. Follow the leaves, and see where they take you." "Follow the leaves. Thank you, Old Wren!" So that is exactly what they did.

The leaves led them out of the lane and into the big green field, where the grass grew taller than Moss's ears. "It's very big, Bramble." "Then we'd better start looking. You take that side, I'll take this." They looked in the long grass. They looked under the dandelion clocks. Moss lifted a whole tuft with both paws, and found nothing at all.

“Not in the field,” sighed Moss. “Oh dear.” “Don’t droop your ears yet. Look where the leaves are going.” “Towards the trees?” “Let’s check in the woods!” And off they went, across the field, towards the trees.

The woods were quiet and golden, and the light came down through the leaves in long soft stripes. “Ooh, it’s a bit dark in here!” said Moss. “Only a bit. Stay close.”

They stepped over roots, and round the red toadstools, and all the time Bramble kept her eyes on the leaves. “Moss, look. This one’s the wrong way up.” “The wrong way up?” “All the others are brown side up. This one’s pale side up. Somebody’s turned it over.” “Somebody carrying something?” “Somebody carrying something round.”

One upside-down leaf. Then another. And another. All in a line, leading straight out of the woods. “They’re going towards the hedge!” said Moss. “Then so are we.”

Along the hedge they went, past the drifting leaves, past the puddle that looked like a little piece of sky. “Bramble, what if it’s rolled into the stream and it’s gone for good?” “Then we keep looking. That’s what friends do.”

All the way to the big mossy stone at the very end of the hedge. And there, right at the bottom… “The very last upside-down leaf!” Moss lifted it up, very, very carefully.

“My hazelnut! Oh, my hazelnut!” “See?” said Bramble. “Together.” “Together. Thank you, Bramble.”

They ran all the way back up the lane, and there on his branch, exactly where they had left him, sat Old Wren. “Told you. I see everything.” “You did, Old Wren! You did!” “Now, off home with you both. I can smell buns from here.”

Home they went, Moss holding his hazelnut up like a trophy, as the afternoon turned to gold.

“Just in time!” said Mam. “Who’s hungry?” “Me! Oh, wait. I don’t want to eat MY hazelnut, Mam.” “Of course not, my love. Yours is for keeping. These are for sharing.” “One for you, one for me, and one for Old Wren,” said Bramble.

And they ate hazelnut buns until the sky went pink. “If you ever lose something, ask a friend, and look together.” And that’s how things get found, down on Thistledown Lane.





Year 2 questions

Name: _____

1 Where is Bramble's house? (1 mark) 1b

2 Old Wren sat with his "feathers all fluffed up against the breeze". What is a **breeze**? (1 mark) 1a

☐ a gentle wind ☐ a big storm ☐ a tree branch

3 Name **two** places where Bramble and Moss looked for the hazelnut. (2 marks) 1b

4 Find and copy **one** word that tells you what the leaves in the lane sounded like. (1 mark) 1a

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

- ☐ Old Wren tells them to follow the leaves.
- ☐ Moss finds his hazelnut by the big mossy stone.
- ☐ Moss tells Bramble his hazelnut has gone.
- ☐ Bramble sees a leaf that is the wrong way up.

6 How did Bramble know that somebody had turned one of the leaves over? (1 mark) 1d

7 Bramble said, "Two noses are better than one." What did she mean? (1 mark) 1d

8 Why didn't Moss want to eat his own hazelnut? (1 mark) 1d

9 Moss said, "What if it's rolled into the stream?" What do you think Bramble would have done next if it had? Use the story to explain. (1 mark) 1e

Answers

Year 1

1. Moss
2. hazelnut buns
3. sad
4. Old Wren
5. 1 They looked in the big field. 2 They looked in the woods. 3 Moss found his hazelnut.
6. True; False (it was under a leaf by a big mossy stone); True

Year 2 (total 10 marks)

1. Tucked right into the old stone wall at the bottom of Thistledown Lane. (Accept: in the wall.)
2. a gentle wind
3. Any two, 1 mark each: under the leaves; behind the stones along the wall; in the long grass in the big field; under the dandelion clocks; in the woods; along the hedge.
4. crunchy (accept: scritch-scratch, which is the sound of Bramble's feet on the leaves)
5. Moss tells Bramble his hazelnut has gone (1); Old Wren tells them to follow the leaves (2); Bramble sees a leaf that is the wrong way up (3); Moss finds his hazelnut by the big mossy stone (4).
6. All the other leaves were brown side up, but this one was pale side up.
7. Two friends looking together are more likely to find it than one looking alone.
8. It was his best one, and he wanted to keep it. (Mam says, "Yours is for keeping.")
9. Any sensible answer linked to the story, for example: she would keep looking, because she said, "Then we keep looking. That's what friends do."