Thistledown Lane

Wake Up, Bramble!: 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-wake-up-bramble**

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

Spring has come, and Bramble wakes up from her long winter sleep. Have her friends kept their promise, and what is Moss's new Swap Shop?

The lesson

Real friends keep their promises. They'll still be there when you come back.

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, keeping promises, sharing what you have.

Year 1: Wake Up, Bramble!

Name: _____





Bramble is a little hedgehog. All winter long, she was asleep in her nest under the old hedge. One spring morning, the sun was warm. Bramble woke up!

Her legs were wobbly. She was very hungry and very thirsty. Then she remembered a promise. Would her friends still be there?

Bramble wobbled out onto the lane. There were all her friends! “Bramble! You’re awake!” said Moss. Old Wren told her all the news.

Moss took Bramble to the old tree stump. He had made a Swap Shop! You swap something you have for something you need. Bramble saw a little wooden toggle. It would hold her scarf on. But she had nothing to swap.

Bramble went home to Mam. She ate the biggest breakfast ever. “I bet you’ve got a story to tell,” said Mam. Then Bramble remembered her wonderful dream.

Bramble went back to the Swap Shop. She told Moss her dream. “Stories count,” said Moss. He gave her the toggle. Now her scarf stayed on!

Year 1 questions

Name: _____

1 Who woke up from a long winter sleep?

☐ Moss ☐ Bramble ☐ Old Wren

2 What had Moss made?

☐ a cake ☐ a Swap Shop ☐ a nest

3 What did Bramble want from the shop?

☐ a pebble ☐ a feather ☐ a wooden toggle

4 What did Bramble swap?

☐ an acorn ☐ a story ☐ a pebble

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

☐ Bramble ate a big breakfast.

☐ Bramble woke up.

☐ Moss gave Bramble the toggle.

6 True or false?

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

Bramble's friends forgot about her. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

Bramble's scarf kept falling off. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

Year 2: Wake Up, Bramble!

Name: _____





All winter long, under the old hedge on Thistledown Lane, a little round nest of leaves had been very, very still. But this morning, the sun was warm on the hedge, and the birds were singing, and something in the nest began to wriggle. First a nose. Then a yawn. Then a whole, sleepy, wobbly hedgehog.

“Oh! It’s warm. And it’s green. Everything’s green!” said Bramble. Bramble had been asleep for so long that her legs had forgotten how to walk. She took a step, and a wobble, and another step, and a bigger wobble. “I’m so thirsty. I could drink a whole puddle. And I’m so hungry, my tummy’s rumbling,” said Bramble.

And then she remembered. Before she went to sleep, everybody had made a promise. Would they still be here?

So Bramble wobbled out onto the lane. And there, as if they’d been waiting all winter, were her friends. “Bramble! You’re awake!” said Moss. “She’s awake! She’s AWAKE! Everybody, Bramble’s awake!” said Lilly.

“We’ve been coming to look at your nest every single morning,” said Sorrel. “You’re all still here. Just like you promised,” said Bramble. “Of course we are. We said we would,” said Moss.

And then, from the top of the wall, came a cheerful little voice. “And I kept watch, all winter long, just as I said. So now you need to hear all the news,” said Old Wren.

“It snowed, and it snowed again. The pond froze, and Sorrel slid all the way across it on his tummy. Lilly forgot where she’d buried every single acorn. And Moss… well. Moss has been VERY busy,” said Old Wren. “Show her, Moss! Show her!” said Lilly. “Close your eyes, Bramble. And follow me,” said Moss.

So Bramble closed her eyes, and wobbled along behind Moss, all the way to the old tree stump by the gatepost. And when she opened them, the old stump wasn’t just a stump any more. “Ding-a-ling! Swap Shop’s open!” said Moss. “A shop! Moss, you made a shop!” said Bramble.

“I planned it all winter. But it’s not the paying kind of shop. Nobody pays. You swap something you’ve got, for something you need,” said Moss. Bramble looked at all the shelves. There were acorns, and pebbles, and feathers, and string, and right on the counter, a little wooden toggle, just the right size for a scarf.

And just then, Bramble’s scarf slipped right down off her shoulders, yet again. “That toggle would hold my scarf on. Can I swap for it?” asked Bramble. “Of course. What have you got to swap?” asked Moss.

Bramble looked in her paws. She had nothing. Not an acorn. Not a pebble. She’d been asleep all winter. “I haven’t got anything at all,” said Bramble. “Then go home and have some breakfast. Things always seem better after breakfast. The toggle will still be here,” said Moss.

So Bramble wobbled home, to the little round door at the end of the lane. And there was Mam, awake too, and already busy in the kitchen. “There’s my girl! Good morning, sleepyhead. Sit down, sit down. You need a big drink of water, and the biggest breakfast you’ve ever had,” said Mam.

“Mam, why is my scarf so loose? It used to be just right. And now it keeps falling off,” said Bramble. “Because you’re thinner, love. Remember how round you were in the autumn? All winter long, while you were asleep, your body used up that round autumn tummy to keep you warm. That’s what it was for,” said Mam. “So that’s why I’m so hungry!” said Bramble.

“That’s why. And thirsty. Every hedgehog wakes up hungry and thirsty in the spring. Now, drink up, and eat up, and you’ll be round again in no time,” said Mam. And Bramble drank, and she ate, and she ate some more. It was the biggest breakfast anybody on Thistledown Lane had ever seen.

“Mam, I want to swap for something at Moss’s shop. But I haven’t got anything to swap,” said Bramble. “Haven’t you? You’ve been somewhere none of the others have been. You’ve been asleep all winter. I bet you’ve got a story to tell,” said Mam. And Bramble remembered. She had had the most wonderful dream.

So back up the lane she went, a little less wobbly than before. “Ding-a-ling! Swap Shop’s open!” said Moss. “Moss, I’ve got something to swap. It’s not an acorn, or a pebble. It’s a story. The dream I had, all winter long,” said Bramble.

“A story? Nobody’s ever swapped a story before. Go on, then,” said Moss. “I dreamed I was a little round cloud. And I floated over Thistledown Lane, all winter long. And I could see everybody down below. Lilly, and Sorrel, and Old Wren, and you, Moss. And every day, you all came and looked at my nest, to see if I was awake yet,” said Bramble.

Moss was quiet for a moment. Because that was exactly what they had done. “That’s the best thing anybody’s ever brought to my shop. I’m putting stories on the list. Stories count,” said Moss. And Moss took the little wooden toggle, and passed it across the counter.

Bramble threaded her scarf through it, and pulled it snug. And this time, it stayed right where it was. “It’s perfect. Thank you, Moss,” said Bramble. “Thank YOU. The Swap Shop’s very first swap. And it was a story,” said Moss.

“When you go away, even for a long time, real friends keep their promises. They’ll still be there. And they’ll have saved you all the news. See you soon!” said Bramble. And so the spring had come to Thistledown Lane. The sun was warm, the hedges were green, Bramble was awake, and the Swap Shop was open.





Year 2 questions

Name: _____

1 Where had Bramble been sleeping all winter? (1 mark) 1b

2 When she woke up, Bramble was "a whole, sleepy, wobbly hedgehog". What does **wobbly** mean? (1 mark) 1a

☐ shaky and not steady ☐ strong and fast ☐ cold and wet

3 Name **two** pieces of news that Old Wren told Bramble. (2 marks) 1b

4 When Bramble got home, Mam said good morning. Find and copy **one** word Mam called Bramble that shows she had been asleep a long time. (1 mark) 1a

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

- ☐ Bramble sees the wooden toggle in the Swap Shop.
- ☐ Bramble's friends find her on the lane.
- ☐ Bramble tells Moss about her dream.
- ☐ Mam gives Bramble a big breakfast.

6 How do you know that Bramble's friends kept their promise? (1 mark) 1d

7 Why did Bramble think she had nothing to swap? (1 mark) 1d

8 After Bramble told her dream, Moss "was quiet for a moment". Why? (1 mark) 1d

9 Moss said, "I'm putting stories on the list." What do you think somebody else might bring to the Swap Shop next? Use the story to explain. (1 mark) 1e

Answers

Year 1

1. Bramble
2. a Swap Shop
3. a wooden toggle
4. a story
5. 1 Bramble woke up. 2 Bramble ate a big breakfast. 3 Moss gave Bramble the toggle.
6. True; False (they came to look at her nest every single morning); True

Year 2 (total 10 marks)

1. In a little round nest of leaves under the old hedge on Thistledown Lane. (Accept: in her nest under the hedge.)
2. shaky and not steady
3. Any two, 1 mark each: it snowed, and it snowed again; the pond froze; Sorrel slid all the way across the pond on his tummy; Lilly forgot where she'd buried every single acorn; Moss had been very busy.
4. sleepyhead ("Good morning, sleepyhead.")
5. Bramble's friends find her on the lane (1); Bramble sees the wooden toggle in the Swap Shop (2); Mam gives Bramble a big breakfast (3); Bramble tells Moss about her dream (4).
6. They were all still there when she woke up. Sorrel said they had come to look at her nest every single morning. (Accept: Moss said, "We said we would.")
7. She had been asleep all winter, so she had nothing in her paws. Not an acorn, not a pebble.
8. Because her dream was exactly what they had done: they really had come to look at her nest every day.
9. Any sensible answer linked to the story, for example: another story, because Moss said, "Stories count"; or acorns, pebbles, feathers or string, like the things on his shelves.