

# English Readers

STARTER LEVEL



# Task One

## *The Golden Fish*

Two brothers live by the sea. Their names are Sam and Ned. They are very poor, and they are often hungry.

Ned works all day. He catches fish to eat. One day he catches a magic golden fish.

“Please don’t eat me!” says the fish.

“Put me back in the sea, and you can have a wish.”

Ned puts the fish back, and it swims away. Then Ned goes home and tells Sam his story.

Sam doesn’t work. He sleeps all day in his bed. “I have a wish!” he shouts. “I want a new bed.”

Print the next page, cut around the dashed lines and fold back along small dotted line so you can stand up your characters on a table.

Now you can act out your own story using the characters from the book. Here are some ideas:

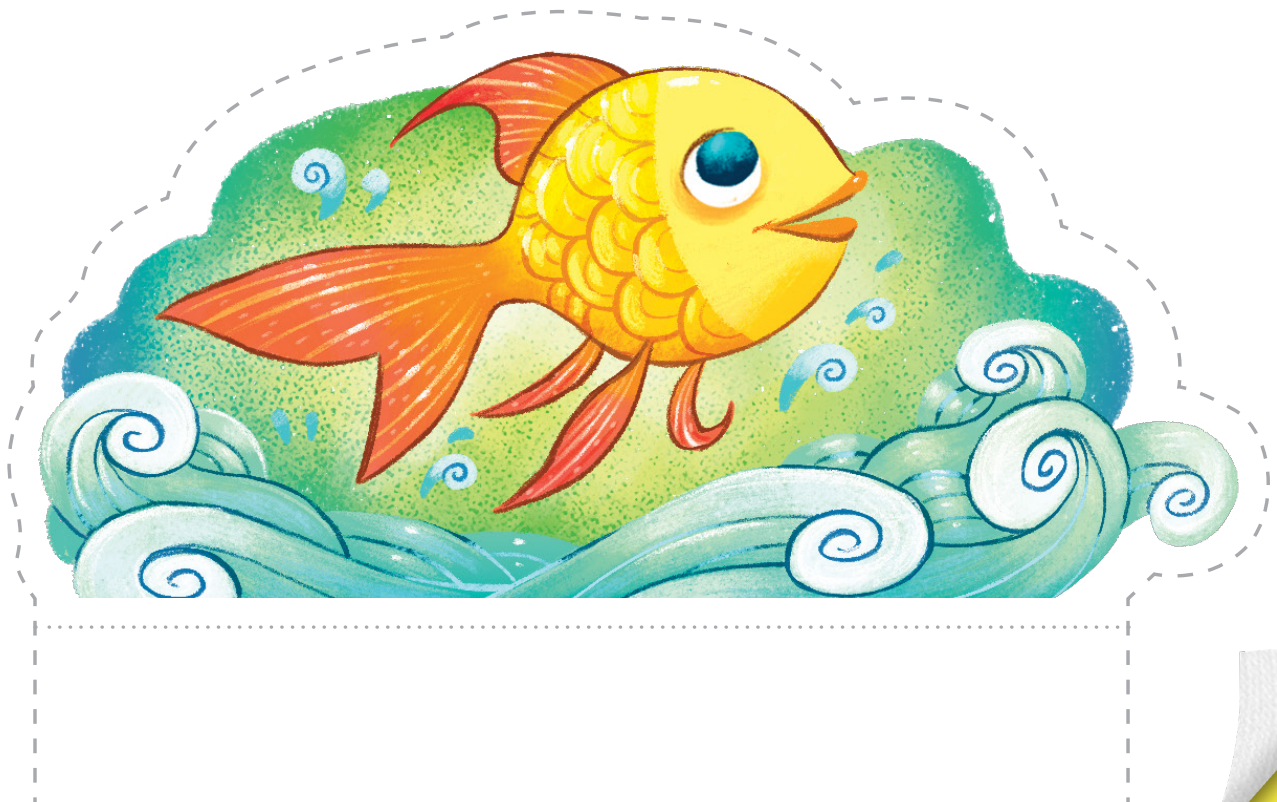
What happens next?

What does Ned wish for? Can you guess?

Sam wishes for a new bed. What next, do you think?

Does the golden fish say yes to everything?

What happens in the end?



# Task Two

## *The Sun and the Wind*

The Sun lives in the sky. He shines all day. The Wind is his friend in the sky.

The Sun and the Wind look down on the world, and they talk about the people there. Sometimes they play games.

“I want to play my new game,” says the Wind.

“Do I know it? Is it an easy game?” asks the Sun.

“Well, it’s easy for me,” says the Wind.

“Can you see that girl down there?” asks the Wind. “She’s wearing a red coat.”

“Well,” says the Wind, “Can you take her coat off? That’s the game.”

The Sun laughs. “All right, let’s play,” he says.

Print the next page, cut around the dotted lines and fold back along small dotted line so you can stand up your characters on a table.

Now you can act out this story and produce your own version. Here are some prompts:

What happens next?

What does the wind do?

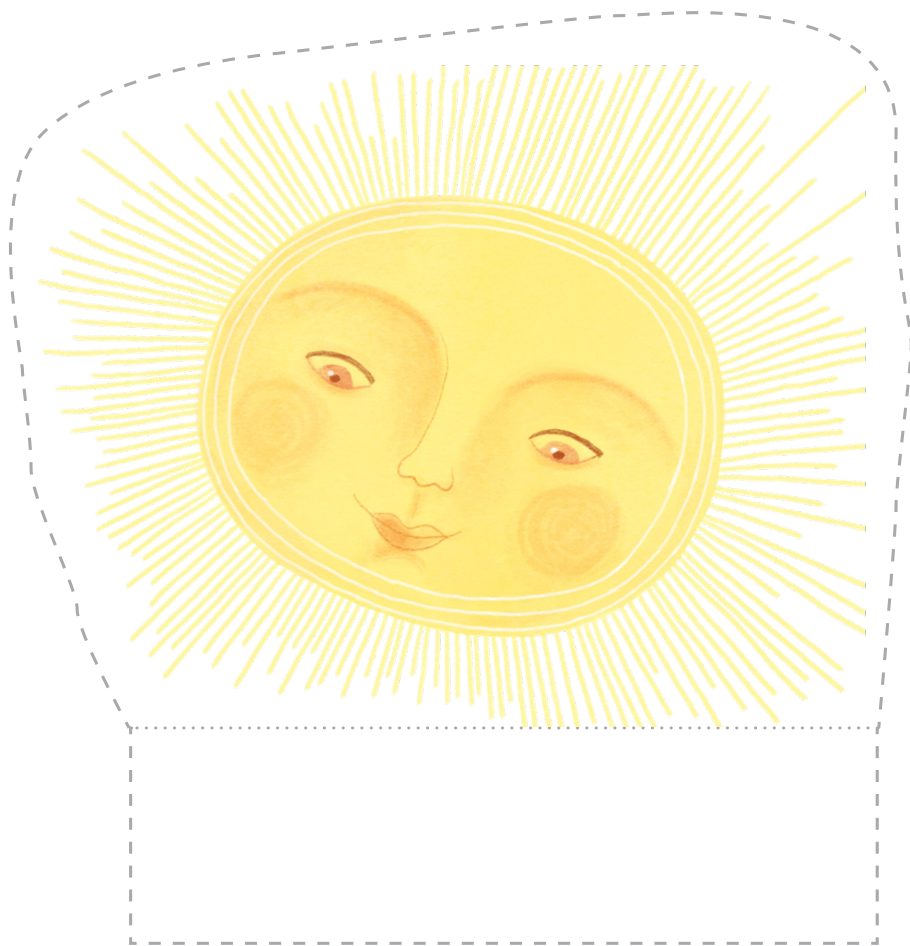
What does the girl do then?

What does the sun do?

What does the girl do then?

Who wins the game and how?





# Task Three

## *The Three Billy Goats*

These three goats are brothers. Their names are Boris, Bert and Benny. The word for boy goat is 'billy' goat. These are the Billy Goats Gruff and billy goats are always hungry.

They need some new grass but they will have to cross the bridge to reach it. There's a troll under the bridge and trolls eat billy goats.

Print the next page, cut around the dashed lines and fold back along small dotted line so you can stand up your characters on a table.

Now you can act out your own story using the characters from the book. Here are some ideas:

What happens when Benny tries to cross the bridge?

What does the troll say?

What happens when Bert tries... and when Boris tries?

Where are the goats at the end of the story?

What happens to the troll?



# The Golden Fish task

Place one of the words below into each sentence so that it has the correct meaning.

- |                 |              |                     |             |               |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. broken (adj) | 2. catch (v) | 3. frightened (adj) | 4. idea (n) | 5. palace (n) |
| 6. servant (n)  | 7. shout (v) | 8. surprised (adj)  | 9. wave (n) | 10. wish (n)  |

(A) When something happens that you don't expect, you are \_\_\_\_\_

(B) To say something very, very loudly, for example to someone far away. People also \_\_\_\_\_ when they are angry.

(C) When something isn't complete but is in two or more pieces, or when something stops working, it is \_\_\_\_\_.

(D) When water goes up and down, especially in the sea, it makes \_\_\_\_\_ s.

(E) A \_\_\_\_\_ is the home of a king or queen.

(F) Something that you really, really want. Sometimes, in stories, you need magic to make a \_\_\_\_\_ happen.

(G) To take hold of something that is moving. You can \_\_\_\_\_ animals, especially fish, for food.

(H) When you think something really bad can happen, you feel \_\_\_\_\_

(I) When you think of something new, you have an \_\_\_\_\_

(J) A person who works for another person in their home is called a \_\_\_\_\_



# The Sun and the Wind task

Place one of the words below into each sentence so that it has the correct meaning.

- |              |                 |                   |               |              |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. blows (v) | 2. boring (adj) | 3. brightly (adv) | 4. kind (adj) | 5. shine (v) |
| 6. sky (n)   | 7. still (adv)  | 8. warm (adj)     | 9. win (v)    | 10. wind (n) |

- (A) It gives light. The moon and stars \_\_\_\_\_ brightly too.
- (B) It is above us. On a sunny day the \_\_\_\_\_ is blue.
- (C) Not cold, hot in a nice way. On a \_\_\_\_\_ day, you don't need a coat.
- (D) To push air from your mouth. He \_\_\_\_\_ the birds out of the trees.
- (E) \_\_\_\_\_ people are nice to other people and want to help them.
- (F) Games are \_\_\_\_\_ if they are not fun or interesting.
- (G) When you \_\_\_\_\_ a game or a race, you are first or you do best.
- (H) Giving lots of light. The Sun smiles again. Then he shines \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (I) Air moving quickly. The \_\_\_\_\_ blows here and there, up and down.
- (J) When something is \_\_\_\_\_ happening, it doesn't change. For example, "9am: its raining.  
10am: it's \_\_\_\_\_ raining."

# The Three Billy Goats task

Place one of the words below into each sentence so that it has the correct meaning.

- |                 |                 |                  |               |                |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. bones (n pl) | 2. bridge (n)   | 3. careful (adj) | 4. goats (n)  | 5. grass (n)   |
| 6. hill (n)     | 7. strong (adj) | 8. thin (adj)    | 9. trolls (n) | 10. ugly (adj) |

(A) A kind of animal in stories. \_\_\_\_\_ are ugly and not nice.

(B) A kind of animal, a little like a sheep. \_\_\_\_\_ eat grass and often live on farms.

(C) When something is \_\_\_\_\_ it doesn't look nice, it looks bad.

(D) A green plant. There is \_\_\_\_\_ almost everywhere in the world, on hills and in fields and gardens.

(E) Your \_\_\_\_\_ are inside your body. They are hard and white.

(F) A \_\_\_\_\_ provides a way over a river, a train track or a road.

(G) When people or animals don't eat enough, for a long time, they are \_\_\_\_\_

(H) When you are \_\_\_\_\_ you can move or carry heavy things.

(I) A \_\_\_\_\_ is high ground. A very big \_\_\_\_\_ is a mountain.

(J) When something is dangerous or difficult, you need to be \_\_\_\_\_

# Answers

## The Golden Fish

1. C      2. G      3. H      4. I      5. E      6. J      7. B      8. A      9. D      10. F

## The Sun and the Wind

1. D      2. F      3. H      4. E      5. A      6. B      7. J      8. C      9. G      10. I

## The Three Billy Goats

1. E      2. F      3. J      4. B      5. D      6. I      7. H      8. G      9. A      10. C