

The Tale of Peter Rabbit

Peter lived with his family in a sand-bank, under the roots of a big fir tree. He was always a problem for his mother, causing trouble and getting into scrapes.

"Now, my dears," said old Mrs Rabbit one morning, "you may go into the fields or down the lane, but don't go into Mr McGregor's garden. Your father had an accident there; he was put into a pie by Mrs McGregor. Now run along and don't get into mischief. I am going out."

Flopsy, Mopsy and Cotton-tail went down the lane to gather blackberries. But Peter, who was very naughty, ran straight away to Mr McGregor's garden and squeezed under the gate!



First he ate some lettuces and some French beans; and then he ate some radishes; and then, feeling rather sick, he went to look for some parsley. But round the end of the cucumber frame, who should he meet but Mr McGregor!

Mr McGregor was on his hands and knees planting out young cabbages, but he jumped up and ran after Peter, waving a rake and calling out, "Stop thief!"

Peter rushed all over the garden, for he had forgotten the way back to the gate. He lost one of his shoes among the cabbages, and then the other shoe among the potatoes. After losing them, he ran on four legs and went faster, so I think he might have got away altogether if he had not unfortunately run into a gooseberry net and got caught by the large buttons on his jacket.

Adapted from **Beatrix Potter**

Do you remember?

Finish these sentences. Write them in your book.

1. Mrs Rabbit told her children they must not _____.
2. Flopsy, Mopsy and Cotton-tail went to gather _____.
3. Peter got into Mr McGregor's garden by _____.
4. When Mr McGregor saw Peter he _____.

More to think about

Match these questions and answers. Write them in your book. The first one has been done for you.

1. What had happened to Mr Rabbit?
Mr Rabbit had been put into a pie.
2. What did Peter eat in the garden?
3. What was Mr McGregor doing in the garden?
4. Was Peter frightened when he saw Mr McGregor?
5. What did Peter lose among the cabbages?

Peter was very frightened when he saw Mr McGregor.
Mr McGregor was planting out young cabbages.
Peter lost a shoe among the cabbages.
Peter ate some lettuces, French beans and radishes.

Now try these

1. Copy these words from the story. Then next to each, write another word the writer could have used, like this:

a) mischief	trouble	b) among
c) gather		d) rushed
2. In your book write what Mr McGregor might have said to his wife when he went in for his tea.