



## PARTICIPATORY STORIES

### The Prince and the Bald Man (9 – 10 age group)

#### Learning objectives

This story is made up of 4 sheets that get more complex narratively as the children progress. Going from one level (sheet) to the next and working in small groups or pairs, the children will enrich the story of The Prince and the Bald Man with adjectives, verbs, adverbs of place, dialogue and finally create their own ending to the story.

## STORY BASE

Read the simple version of the story to children (the story base). Read expressively and emphasise key words (such as **heir, bald, squire, wig, eternal**). Then have the pupils work in groups or in pairs to enrich the story base (starting from Level 1).

Long ago, two brothers lived as kings. One brother did not have an heir, so the other brother agreed to send his son as heir. The king only warned the boy to stay away from bald men on his journey.

On his way to his uncle's kingdom, a bald man appeared and offered to be the boy's squire. The son denied him, remembering his father's warning. Then, the son came across another man who also offered to be his squire. When the boy saw how much hair the man had, he agreed.

They soon stopped at a well to get water. As the boy descended down the well, the man trapped him at the bottom. The man took off his wig and revealed his bald head to the boy. The boy agreed to be the man's servant for him to be released from the well.

When they arrived at the king's castle, the man presented himself as the king's heir. He wore his wig and the boy's armour. The king did not recognise his nephew, so he embraced the bald man as his heir.

One day, a parrot visited the kingdom. His princess had been kidnapped by another king. All who had tried to save her had failed, so the bald man gave the task to the boy as his servant.

On the journey to save the princess, the boy came across three animals. First, he avoided stepping on an ant hill with his horse. The ants thanked him and promised their help. Then, he saved a beehive from a

bear. The bees thanked him and promised their help. Finally, he sheltered a spider web from the wind. The spider thanked him and promised its help.

Once the boy finally arrived, the king prepared three tasks for him. The first was to sort a mountain of seeds. The boy thought it was impossible, but then the ants he saved appeared and sorted the seeds for him. The second task was to spin enough wool to cover the castle. The boy again thought it was impossible, but then the spider he saved appeared and spun the wool for him. The last task was to make a drink of eternal life from the flowers in the castle. The boy once more thought it was impossible, but then the bees he saved appeared and created honey that could cure any illness.

The king had no choice but to release the princess and her and the boy returned home. Once the bald man saw that the boy had completed every task, he attacked him out of jealousy. His wig slipped off and everyone in the kingdom saw his bald head.

To defend the boy, his horse kicked the bald man and he shattered like glass. Then the princess gave the boy the magic honey to drink, healing his wounds. The king approached his nephew and realised he was the true heir to his kingdom.

## LEVEL 1: WHAT ARE THEY LIKE? (ADJECTIVES)

Working in groups and pairs, pupils should enrich the story base with adjectives. The words in **blue** are suggestions – depending on the proficiency level of your pupils, decide on the number of adjectives that you would like to add before each of the targeted nouns. We recommend children choose at least 1 adjective.

Long ago, two brothers lived as kings. One brother did not have an heir, so the other brother agreed to send his **young/brave/shy** son as heir. The king only warned the boy to stay away from bald men on his journey.

On his way to his uncle's kingdom, a bald man appeared and offered to be the boy's **loyal/hard-working/smart** squire. The son denied him, remembering his father's warning. Then, the son came across another man who also offered to be his squire. When the boy saw how much **curly/brown/long** hair the man had, he agreed.

They soon stopped at a **stone/huge/deep** well to get water. As the boy descended down the well, the man trapped him at the bottom. The **evil/careless/cruel** man took off his wig and revealed his bald head to the boy. The boy agreed to be the man's servant for him to be released from the well.

When they arrived at the king's **elegant/old/enormous** castle, the man presented himself as the king's heir. He wore his wig and the boy's **silver/strong/powerful** armour. The **old/forgetful/blind** king did not recognise his nephew, so he embraced the bald man as his heir.

One day, a **colourful/chatty/nervous** parrot visited the kingdom. His **beautiful/lovely/young** princess had been kidnapped by another **cruel/menacing/hurtful** king. All who had tried to save her had failed, so the bald man gave the task to the boy as his servant.

On the **long/dangerous/scary** journey to save the princess, the boy came across three animals. First, he avoided stepping on an ant hill with his horse. The **black/plentiful/fiery** ants thanked him and promised their help. Then, he saved a beehive from a bear. The **buzzing/yellow/peaceful** bees thanked him and promised their help. Finally, he sheltered a spider web from the wind. The **hairy/long/poisonous** spider thanked him and promised its help.

Once the boy finally arrived, the king prepared three **hard/impossible/dangerous** tasks for him. The first was to sort a mountain of **small/crunchy/fruit** seeds. The boy thought it was impossible, but then the ants he saved appeared and sorted the seeds for him. The second task was to spin enough **sheep/soft/white** wool to cover the castle. The boy again thought it was impossible, but then the spider he saved appeared and spun the wool for him. The last task was to make a drink of eternal life from the **rose/fragrant/large** flowers in the castle. The boy once more thought it was impossible, but then the bees he saved appeared and created honey that could cure any illness.

The king had no choice but to release the princess and her and the boy returned home. Once the bald man saw that the boy had completed every task, he attacked him out of jealousy. His wig slipped off and everyone in the kingdom saw his bald head.

To defend the boy, his **loyal/strong/tall** horse kicked the bald man and he shattered like glass. Then the princess gave the boy the magic honey to drink, healing his wounds. The king approached his nephew and realised he was the true heir to his kingdom.

## LEVEL 2: WHERE IS IT? (ADVERBS OF PLACE)

Working in their group or pair, pupils should now enrich the text with adverbs of place. Help children write and read them along with the adjectives that they already wrote for the Level 1 sheet. The words in **green** are suggestions – depending on the proficiency level of your pupils, we recommend children write at least 1 adverb.

Long ago, two brothers lived as kings **in Italy/in the sky/in a castle**. One brother did not have an heir, so the other brother agreed to send his **young/brave/shy** son as heir. The king only warned the boy to stay away from bald men on his journey.

On his way to his uncle's kingdom, a bald man appeared **in the forest/behind his horse/on a tree** and offered to be the boy's **loyal/hard-working/smart** squire. The son denied him, remembering his father's warning. Then, the son came across another man **in the shade/on a horse/by the river** who also offered to be his squire. When the boy saw how much **curly/brown/long** hair the man had, he agreed.

They soon stopped at a **stone/huge/deep** well to get water. As the boy descended down the well, the man trapped him at the bottom. The **evil/careless/cruel** man took off his wig and revealed his bald head to the boy. The boy agreed to be the man's servant for him to be released from the well.

When they arrived at the king's **elegant/old/enormous** castle **by the sea/on the mountain/in the sky**, the man presented himself as the king's heir. He wore his wig and the boy's **silver/strong/powerful** armour. The **old/forgetful/blind** king did not recognise his nephew, so he embraced the bald man as his heir.

One day, a **colourful/chatty/nervous** parrot visited the kingdom **from another country/from afar/from the neighbourhood**. His **beautiful/lovely/young** princess had been kidnapped by another **cruel/menacing/hurtful** king **in the street/in her bedroom/in the square**. All who had tried to save her had failed, so the bald man gave the task to the boy as his servant.

On the **long/dangerous/scary** journey to save the princess, the boy came across three animals **in the forest/on the road/next to the castle**. First, he avoided stepping on an ant hill with his horse. The **black/plentiful/fiery** ants thanked him and promised their help. Then, he saved a beehive from a bear.



The **buzzing/yellow/peaceful** bees thanked him and promised their help. Finally, he sheltered a spider web from the wind. The **hairy/long/poisonous** spider thanked him and promised its help.

Once the boy finally arrived, the king prepared three **hard/impossible/dangerous** tasks for him. The first was to sort a mountain of **small/crunchy/fruit** seeds. The boy thought it was impossible, but then the ants he saved appeared and sorted the seeds for him. The second task was to spin enough **sheep/soft/white** wool to cover the castle. The boy again thought it was impossible, but then the spider he saved appeared and spun the wool for him. The last task was to make a drink of eternal life from the **rose/fragrant/large** flowers in the castle. The boy once more thought it was impossible, but then the bees he saved appeared and created honey that could cure any illness.

The king had no choice but to release the princess **from her cage/out of the trap/from the attic** and her and the boy returned home. Once the bald man saw that the boy had completed every task, he attacked him out of jealousy. His wig slipped off and everyone in the kingdom saw his bald head.

To defend the boy, his **loyal/strong/tall** horse kicked the bald man **in the head/in the belly/in his chest** and he shattered like glass. Then the princess gave the boy the magic honey to drink, healing his wounds. The king approached his nephew and realised he was the true heir to his kingdom.

## LEVEL 3: WHAT ARE THEY SAYING? (DIALOGUE)

Working in their group or pair, pupils should now enrich the text with dialogue. Help children write and read them along with the adjectives and adverbs that they already wrote for the Level 1 and Level 2 sheets. The words in **orange** are suggestions – depending on the proficiency level of your pupils, we recommend children write at least 1 sentence of dialogue.

Long ago, two brothers lived as kings **in Italy/in the sky/in a castle**. One brother did not have an heir, so the other brother agreed to send his **young/brave/shy** son as heir. The king only warned the boy to stay away from bald men on his journey. **He advised his son: “In order to be a good king, you must avoid the words of bald men”.**

On his way to his uncle’s kingdom, a bald man appeared **in the forest/behind his horse/on a tree** and offered to be the boy’s **loyal/hard-working/smart** squire. The son denied him, remembering his father’s warning. Then, the son came across another man **in the shade/on a horse/by the river** who also offered

to be his squire. **The man promised: “I will take care of you and your horse”.** When the boy saw how much **curly/brown/long** hair the man had, he agreed.

They soon stopped at a **stone/huge/deep** well to get water. As the boy descended down the well, the man trapped him at the bottom. The **evil/careless/cruel** man took off his wig and revealed his bald head to the boy. **He laughed at the boy: “I tricked you!”** The boy agreed to be the man’s servant for him to be released from the well.

When they arrived at the king’s **elegant/old/enormous** castle **by the sea/on the mountain/in the sky**, the man presented himself as the king’s heir. He wore his wig and the boy’s **silver/strong/powerful** armour. The **old/forgetful/blind** king did not recognise his nephew, so he embraced the bald man as his heir. **The old man said: “You will be a great king.”**

One day, a **colourful/chatty/nervous** parrot visited the kingdom **from another country/from afar/from the neighbourhood**. His **beautiful/lovely/young** princess had been kidnapped by another **cruel/menacing/hurtful** king **in the street/in her bedroom/in the square**. All who had tried to save her had failed, so the bald man gave the task to the boy as his servant. **He warned the boy: “You won’t succeed!”**

On the **long/dangerous/scary** journey to save the princess, the boy came across three animals **in the forest/on the road/next to the castle**. First, he avoided stepping on an ant hill with his horse. The **black/plentiful/fiery** ants thanked him and promised their help. **The ants said: “We won’t forget you!”** Then, he saved a beehive from a bear. The **buzzing/yellow/peaceful** bees thanked him and promised their help. **The bees said: “We owe you!”** Finally, he sheltered a spider web from the wind. The **hairy/long/poisonous** spider thanked him and promised its help. **The spider said: “You can count on me!”**

Once the boy finally arrived, the king prepared three **hard/impossible/dangerous** tasks for him. The first was to sort a mountain of **small/crunchy/fruit** seeds. The boy thought it was impossible, but then the ants he saved appeared and sorted the seeds for him. The second task was to spin enough **sheep/soft/white** wool to cover the castle. The boy again thought it was impossible, but then the spider he saved appeared and spun the wool for him. The last task was to make a drink of eternal life from the **rose/fragrant/large** flowers in the castle. The boy once more thought it was impossible, but then the bees he saved appeared and created honey that could cure any illness.

The king had no choice but to release the princess **from her cage/out of the trap/from the attic** and her and the boy returned home. **The princess told the boy: “I’m so happy to be free.”** Once the bald man saw that the boy had completed every task, he attacked him out of jealousy. His wig slipped off and everyone in the kingdom saw his bald head. **Everyone yelled: “He’s a trickster!”**

To defend the boy, his **loyal/strong/tall** horse kicked the bald man **in the head/in the belly/in his chest** and he shattered like glass. Then the princess gave the boy the magic honey to drink, healing his wounds. The king approached his nephew and realised he was the true heir to his kingdom. **The king said: “I was a fool to trust the bald man.”**

## LEVEL 4: HOW DOES IT END? (YOUR OWN ENDING)

Working in their group or pair, pupils should now enrich the text by expanding on the ending. Help children write and read the ending sentence(s) along with the adjectives, adverbs and dialogue that they already wrote for the Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 sheets. The sentences in **purple** are suggestions – depending on the proficiency level of your pupils, we recommend children write at least 1 sentence to enrich the ending.

Long ago, two brothers lived as kings **in Italy/in the sky/in a castle**. One brother did not have an heir, so the other brother agreed to send his **young/brave/shy** son as heir. The king only warned the boy to stay away from bald men on his journey. **He advised his son: “In order to be a good king, you must avoid the words of bald men”.**

On his way to his uncle’s kingdom, a bald man appeared **in the forest/behind his horse/on a tree** and offered to be the boy’s **loyal/hard-working/smart** squire. The son denied him, remembering his father’s warning. Then, the son came across another man **in the shade/on a horse/by the river** who also offered

to be his squire. **The man promised: “I will take care of you and your horse”.** When the boy saw how much **curly/brown/long** hair the man had, he agreed.

They soon stopped at a **stone/huge/deep** well to get water. As the boy descended down the well, the man trapped him at the bottom. The **evil/careless/cruel** man took off his wig and revealed his bald head to the boy. **He laughed at the boy: “I tricked you!”** The boy agreed to be the man’s servant for him to be released from the well.

When they arrived at the king’s **elegant/old/enormous** castle **by the sea/on the mountain/in the sky**, the man presented himself as the king’s heir. He wore his wig and the boy’s **silver/strong/powerful** armour. The **old/forgetful/blind** king did not recognise his nephew, so he embraced the bald man as his heir. **The old man said: “You will be a great king.”**

One day, a **colourful/chatty/nervous** parrot visited the kingdom **from another country/from afar/from the neighbourhood**. His **beautiful/lovely/young** princess had been kidnapped by another **cruel/menacing/hurtful** king **in the street/in her bedroom/in the square**. All who had tried to save her had failed, so the bald man gave the task to the boy as his servant. **He warned the boy: “You won’t succeed!”**

On the **long/dangerous/scary** journey to save the princess, the boy came across three animals **in the forest/on the road/next to the castle**. First, he avoided stepping on an ant hill with his horse. The **black/plentiful/fiery** ants thanked him and promised their help. **The ants said: “We won’t forget you!”** Then, he saved a beehive from a bear. The **buzzing/yellow/peaceful** bees thanked him and promised their help. **The bees said: “We owe you!”** Finally, he sheltered a spider web from the wind. The **hairy/long/poisonous** spider thanked him and promised its help. **The spider said: “You can count on me!”**

Once the boy finally arrived, the king prepared three **hard/impossible/dangerous** tasks for him. The first was to sort a mountain of **small/crunchy/fruit** seeds. The boy thought it was impossible, but then the ants he saved appeared and sorted the seeds for him. The second task was to spin enough **sheep/soft/white** wool to cover the castle. The boy again thought it was impossible, but then the spider he saved appeared and spun the wool for him. The last task was to make a drink of eternal life from the **rose/fragrant/large** flowers in the castle. The boy once more thought it was impossible, but then the bees he saved appeared and created honey that could cure any illness.



The king had no choice but to release the princess **from her cage/out of the trap/from the attic** and her and the boy returned home. **The princess told the boy: “I’m so happy to be free.”** Once the bald man saw that the boy had completed every task, he attacked him out of jealousy. His wig slipped off and everyone in the kingdom saw his bald head. **Everyone yelled: “He’s a trickster!”**

To defend the boy, his **loyal/strong/tall** horse kicked the bald man **in the head/in the belly/in his chest** and he shattered like glass. Then the princess gave the boy the magic honey to drink, healing his wounds. The king approached his nephew and realised he was the true heir to his kingdom. **The king said: “I was a fool to trust the bald man.”**

**The boy married the princess and was soon crowned as king. He still had an open heart so he chose another bald man as his squire, but this time, the man proved he was loyal and trustworthy.**

**The end!**