

# The Wolf's Tale

## Louise Cooper

### Teachers Key

#### Pre-reading

1. Examples of well known fairy tales are 'Snow White', 'The Sleeping Beauty', 'Hansel and Gretel', 'Cinderella', 'The Wizard of Oz', etc.
2. Some of the "ingredients" are:
  - A hero or heroine
  - A wicked character (such as a wolf, a monster, a witch, a bad stepmother, evil stepsisters)
  - Magic and fantasy
  - Characters who help the hero (like the seven dwarves in 'Snow White' or the fairy godmother in Cinderella)
  - A happy ending

#### 3.

Basket: a woodsman - Little Red riding Hood - a mother - a wolf - a granny

Dustbin: a hunter – a fox – Sleeping Beauty- a fairy - a godmother - a fireman - a dwarf  
- a werewolf - two wicked stepsisters - a stepmother

#### 4.

- a 3
- b 1
- c 2
- d 6
- e 4
- f 5

#### 5. & 6.

There are different versions of "Little Red Riding Hood", so students might come out with different endings. It would be interesting to stress the differences and add a further reading activity by looking at the *Wikipedia* entry of the tale: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little\\_Red\\_Riding\\_Hood#Pre-Perrault](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Red_Riding_Hood#Pre-Perrault)

#### 7.

This may be a good opportunity to teach adjectives (the wolf is frightening, wicked, cunning...) and students may also want to try humorous suggestions.

## While Reading

Cut the section on page one as indicated to eliminate the name of the story  
9.

1. The narrator of the story is Little Red Riding Hood. NO
2. The wolf knows the real story of Riding Hood. YES
3. The wolf in the story is in fact a werewolf. YES
4. The werewolf killed and ate old Granny. NO
5. The werewolf was killed by the woodsman. NO
6. Only a silver bullet can kill a werewolf. YES
7. Little Red Riding Hood was attacked by a werewolf. NO
8. A curse is something that may change your life. YES
9. The werewolf is very happy with its life. NO
10. Little Red Riding Hood knows her granny very well. NO

10.

1. The wolf, who is a werewolf who is in fact the Granny!
2. Because the woodsman cut him open and it hurt, but it did not die.
3. A werewolf bit her.
4. We know the real story.

## Post Reading

A recorded version of Dahl's poem read by the author is available on the following webpage: <http://www.poetryarchive.org/poetryarchive/singlePoem.do?poemId=7428>.

The text is given below as a teacher's resource only but may not be photocopied or otherwise reproduced due to copyright restrictions.

### Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf

As soon as Wolf began to feel  
That he would like a decent meal,  
He went and knocked on Grandma's door<sup>1</sup>.  
When Grandma opened it, she saw  
The sharp<sup>2</sup> white teeth, the horrid grin<sup>3</sup>,  
And Wolfie said, 'May I come in?'  
Poor Grandmamma was terrified,  
'He's going to eat me up,' she cried.  
And she was absolutely right.  
He ate her up in one big bite<sup>4</sup>.  
But Grandmamma was small and tough<sup>5</sup>,  
And Wolfie wailed<sup>6</sup>, 'That's not enough!  
'I haven't yet begun to feel  
'That I have had a decent meal!  
He ran around the kitchen yelping<sup>7</sup>,  
'I've *got* to have another helping!  
Then added with a frightful<sup>8</sup> leer<sup>9</sup>,  
'I'm therefore going to wait right here  
'Till Little Miss Red Riding Hood  
'Comes home from walking in the wood<sup>10</sup>.'  
He quickly put on Grandma's clothes.  
(Of course he hadn't eaten those.)  
He dressed himself in coat and hat.  
He put on shoes and after that  
He even brushed and curled<sup>11</sup> his hair,  
Than sat himself in Grandma's chair.  
In came the little girl in red.  
She stopped. She stared<sup>12</sup>. And then she said,

*'What great big ears you have, Grandma,'*  
*'All the better to hear you with,'* the Wolf replied.  
*'What great big eyes you have, Grandma,'*  
Said Little Red Riding Hood.  
*'All the better to see you with,'* the Wolf replied.

He sat there watching her and smiled.  
He thought, I'm going to eat this child.  
Compared with her old Grandmamma  
She's going to taste<sup>13</sup> like caviar<sup>14</sup>.

Then Little Red Riding Hood said, '*But  
Grandma,*  
*What a lovely great big furry<sup>15</sup> coat you have on.'*

'That's wrong!' cried Wolf. 'Have you forgot  
'To tell me what BIG TEETH I've got?  
'Ah well, no matter what you say,  
'I'm going to eat you anyway.'  
The small girl smiles. One eyelid<sup>16</sup> flickers<sup>17</sup>.  
She whips<sup>18</sup> a pistol<sup>19</sup> from her knickers<sup>20</sup>.  
She aims<sup>21</sup> it at the creature's head  
And *bang bang bang*, she shoots him dead<sup>22</sup>.  
A few weeks later, in the wood,  
I came across<sup>23</sup> Miss Riding Hood.  
But what a change! No cloak of red,  
No silly<sup>24</sup> hood upon her head.  
She said, 'Hello, and do please note  
'My lovely furry WOLFSKIN COAT.'

## Four language glossary for the Roald Dahl 'LRRH and the Wolf'

1. To knock on the door: *to hit a door with your hand.*  
 Trucar a la porta.  
 Bater à porta.  
 Picchiare alla porta.  
 Llamar a la puerta.
2. Sharp (adj.): *pointed.*  
 Esmolat/-ada.  
 Afiado/-a.  
 Affilato/-a.  
 Afilado/-a.
3. Grin (n.): *a big smile that shows your teeth.*  
 ganyota.  
 Sorriso, arreganhar dos dentes.  
 Feroce, terribile.  
 mueca.
4. Bite (n.): *the act of biting.*  
 Mossegar.  
 Dentada.  
 Mordere.  
 Morder.
5. Tough (adj.): *strong, difficult to break or damage.*  
 Dur, fort, resistent.  
 Forte, rija, resistente.  
 Duro, forte, resistente.  
 Duro, fuerte, resistente.
6. To wail (v.): *to shout or cry with a long high sound to show you are in pain or very sad.*  
 Gemegar.  
 Gemer, lamentar-se.  
 Gemere.  
 Gemir.
7. To yelp (v.): *to make a short loud high noise, usually because you are excited, angry or in pain.*  
 Udolar.  
 Gritar de dor, uivar.  
 Gridare dal dolore.  
 Gritar de dolor.
8. Frightful (adj.): *awful, terrible.*  
 Espantós, horrible.  
 Terrível, horrível, medonho.  
 Spaventoso, orribile.  
 Espantoso, horrible.
9. Leer (n.): *an unpleasant look or smile that shows somebody is interested in a person in an evil or sexual way.*  
 Mirar de reüll.  
 Olhar de soslaio.  
 Guardare di sbiego.  
 Mirar de reojo.
10. Wood (n.): *a small forest.*  
 Bosc.  
 Bosque.  
 Bosco.  
 Bosque.
11. To curl (v.): *to form or make something form into a curl or curls.*  
 Rínxolar.  
 Encaracolar.  
 Arricciato.  
 Rizar.
12. To stare (v.): *To look at someone or something very directly for a long time.*  
 Mirar fixament.  
 Olhar fixamente.  
 Guardare fissamente.  
 Mirar fijamente.
13. To taste (v.): *to eat or dink something and experience its flavour.*  
 Assaborir.  
 Saber a.  
 Assaporare.  
 Saborear.
14. Caviar (n.): *fish eggs eaten as food, usually spread on bread.*

Caviar.  
Caviar.  
Caviale.  
Caviar.

15. Furry (adj.): *covered with fur.*

Pelut, de pells.  
Peludo.  
Peloso.  
Peludo.

16. Eyelid (n.): *one of the two pieces of skin that cover your eye when it is closed.*

Parpella.  
Pálpebra.  
Ciglia.  
Párpado.

17. To flicker (v.): *to move with small quick movements .*

Fer l'ullet.  
Pestanejar.  
Sbattere le ciglia.  
Parpadear.

18. To whip (v.): *to remove or pull something quickly and suddenly.*

Fujetejar.  
Sacar.  
Frustare.  
Azotar.

19. Pistol (n.): *a small gun that you hold in one hand.*

Pistola.  
Pistola.  
Pistola.  
Pistola.

20. Knickers (n.): *a piece of underwear for a woman's lower body.*

Calces.  
Calcinhas, cuecas.  
Mutande.  
Bragas.

21. To aim (v.): *to point a gun or an object you are throwing at something you want to hit.*

Apuntar amb una pistola.  
Apontar, fazer pontaria.  
Puntare con una pistola.  
Apuntar con una pistola.

22. To shoot someone dead(v.): *to kill or wound a person or an animal with a bullet.*

Disparar, matar a trets.  
Matar.  
Sparare.  
Disparar.

23. To come across (v.): *to meet someone or find something by chance.*

Trobar-se amb; ensopegar amb.  
Encontrar por acaso, dar de caras com.  
Incontrarsi con; inciampare con.  
Encontrarse con; tropezar con.

24. Silly (adj.): *stupid or embarrassing, especially in a way that is more typical of a child than an adult; ridiculous.*

Tonto, babau, ridícul.  
Ridículo.  
Scemo, imbecille, ridicolo.  
Tonto, bobo, ridículo.

### Further reading:

James Finn Garner, "Politically Correct Bedtime Stories"

Official author's website: <http://www.jamesfinngarner.com/>

Harry Allard, "It's so nice to have a wolf around the house"

Author's bibliography: <http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/allardbib.htm>

Lynn Roberts, "Little Red – A fizzling good yarn"

## Extension 2

These activities can be used as part of cross-curricular projects at intermediate level, particularly within a CLIL approach to language teaching.

1

APPLES  
BISCUITS  
BREAD  
BUNS  
CUCUMBER  
COKE  
CHEESE ROLLS  
CRISPS  
FLASK OF TEA  
FRUIT CAKE

HAM SANDWICHES  
HARDBOILED EGGS  
HONEY  
JAMTART  
LEMONADE  
PEACHES  
PORK PIE  
SAUSAGES  
SCONES  
TOMATOES

A	Z	W	F	L	A	S	K	O	F	T	E	A
Y	A	C	L	M	S	P	S	I	R	C	N	M
Q	M	N	D	B	Q	P	C	C	U	I	L	S
V	T	R	S	T	I	U	C	S	I	B	E	L
S	D	F	T	P	C	B	S	Y	T	H	M	L
L	K	J	O	U	K	T	E	P	C	P	O	O
E	H	N	M	D	R	N	N	I	A	E	N	R
S	C	B	A	A	O	V	W	E	K	A	A	E
B	E	C	T	H	P	D	V	B	E	C	D	S
R	U	M	O	R	N	P	R	C	L	H	E	E
D	A	N	E	A	C	D	L	B	N	E	K	E
J	K	M	S	T	A	E	D	E	G	S	O	H
B	C	M	B	R	E	A	D	G	S	S	C	C
S	A	U	S	A	G	E	S	E	N	O	C	S
H	A	R	D	B	O	I	L	E	D	I	O	S

2

To make 12 scones you need a **large bowl**. Stir together **flour**, chocolate chips, **sugar** and baking powder. Cut in **butter**.

In a **medium bowl**, beat **eggs** and **milk** together. Mix all the ingredients together. On a floured surface, roll dough 1.5 cm thick and cut it with round **cookie-cutters**.

### Extension 3

These activities can be used as part of cross-curricular projects at Upper Intermediate level, particularly within a CLIL approach to language teaching.

**1. Some information you may want to share with students:**

Wolves are not the evil killers of nice grandmothers, they are not demons and, most importantly, they are not simply big, mean dogs! Wolves are intelligent, sociable animals. Some cultures still view the wolf as a teacher, and with a great deal of respect. Tragically, however, the majority of cultures in the world do not share the same views. This is why they have been exterminated and they are now on the verge of extinction.

- **Native American cultures** worshipped the wolf as a creature who could teach, or give man wisdom about the world. They also revered the wolf for its great hunting skills and emulated this animal in ceremonies hoping to embody its characteristics.
- The **Eskimos** admired the great survival skills of the wolf. They have a story of an aged woman abandoned and forced to survive in the cold. She turned into a wolf to do so.
- **Native American shamans** held the wolf to be the source of great spiritual power. They did **wolf dances** to heal sick members of their tribe.
- The **Mongols** saw in the wolf their first ancestor.
- For the **Romans** the wolf was the symbol for Mars, the God of war.
- The wolf is also worshipped as the protector of human beings. The most famous myth may be the one of **Romulus and Remus**, the founders of the city of Rome, who were abandoned as small children. A wolf found them and raised them as her own cubs. The Luperkaliefest (celebration in honour of fertility) is celebrating this myth, during which the female wolf is worshipped each year as the symbol for motherly sacrifice and fertility.
- The *Jungle Book* has a similar theme as the main character, Mowgli, is raised by wolves.

Adapted from:

[http://www.waldwissen.net/themen/wald\\_gesellschaft/forstgeschichte/wsl\\_raubtiere\\_mythologie\\_EN](http://www.waldwissen.net/themen/wald_gesellschaft/forstgeschichte/wsl_raubtiere_mythologie_EN)

For more information, see [www.badwolf.org.uk/revelations.html](http://www.badwolf.org.uk/revelations.html)

**2. See <http://www.moria.co.nz/horror/silverbullet.htm>**

**3. Suggested answers:**

[http://www.angelfire.com/nv/tmyst/facts/wolf\\_facts.htm#general](http://www.angelfire.com/nv/tmyst/facts/wolf_facts.htm#general)

- It's about wolves and their right to exist in a wild state.
- It's one of the most adaptable ones, with a wide geographical distribution. It's an important predator of big-game animals and has played an important part in their development
- They've tried to exterminate them.
- Fear of the wolf as a predator of man as well as of domestic and semidomestic animals.
- Economic reasons and the wrong proportion of wolves and preys.
- There should be scientific wolf management programs aimed at maintaining a healthy balance in all components of the ecosystem. Wolf reduction should never result in the permanent extirpation of the species.

The text students are expected to skim for answers can be found at:

<http://www.wolftrust.org.uk/manifesto.html>

**4.**

You can tell students to contact the International Wolf Center at [http://www.wolf.org/wolves/learn/basic/wolves\\_humans/pdf/wh\\_how\\_to\\_get\\_help.pdf](http://www.wolf.org/wolves/learn/basic/wolves_humans/pdf/wh_how_to_get_help.pdf), where they can

- Become a member
- Learn about wolves
- Sign up for the e-mail list
- Volunteer
- Contact a wolf- educator
- Gain wolf-educator-certification

For a different point of view, see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big\\_Bad\\_Wolf](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Bad_Wolf)

## Additional Materials

### Extra activities on the traditional tale for homework or additional practice

#### Elementary to intermediate level

##### 1

- 1 Little Red Riding Hood took her basket AND filled it with delicious food for granny.
- 2 Granny was cursed AND became a werewolf.
- 3 The woodsman and Little Red Riding Hood thought they had killed the wolf BUT they hadn't.
- 4 Little Red Riding Hood thought she knew everything about her dear granny BUT she didn't.

##### 2

- 1 Granny was ill SO she stayed at home.
- 2 Little Red Riding Hood visited her granny BECAUSE she was ill.
- 3 The flowers were very beautiful SO she decided to pick some for granny.
- 4 The wolf was watching Little Red Riding Hood BECAUSE he was hungry.
- 5 The cottage's door was closed SO Little Red Riding Hood knocked on the door.
- 6 Little Red Riding Hood was afraid BECAUSE the wolf had a very big mouth.
- 7 The woodsman heard someone shouting for help SO he went into the house.
- 8 Red Riding Hood was happy BECAUSE the woodsman had killed the wolf.

##### 3

1. Be careful. *You must be careful.*
2. Watch out for the wolf. *You must watch out for the wolf.*
3. Talk to strangers. *You mustn't talk to strangers.*
4. Pick flowers on the way to Granny's. *You mustn't pick flowers on the way to Granny's*
5. Leave the path. *You mustn't leave the path.*
6. Forget the basket. *You mustn't forget the basket.*
7. Leave the basket unattended. *You mustn't leave the basket unattended.*
8. Be kind to Granny. *You must be kind to Granny.*
9. Help Granny with the cooking. *You must help Granny with the cooking.*

##### 4

- a) Where does Granny live?
- b) Little Red Riding Hood watches the wolf through the bushes.
- c) What does the wolf do when he enters the house?
- d) Granny cries out in her sleep.
- e) The woodsman hurries to the cottage.
- f) Granny hits the wolf's head.



**Intermediate to upper intermediate level**

**1.**

- a. careful
- b. innocent
- c. friendly
- d. cunning
- e. reliable

**2.**

- 1. couldn't
- 2. could / might
- 3. couldn't
- 4. could/might
- 5. can't
- 6. can
- 7. may/might