

Family  
and  
Friends **3**

# Pinocchio



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OXFORD



ONCE there was an old man called Gepetto. He was poor and he lived alone in a small town near the sea. Gepetto was a carpenter. He made things out of wood. One day Gepetto made a boy out of wood. He made a wooden puppet.



'I will call you Pinocchio!' said Gepetto.

'Put me down, Dad!' said the puppet.

'Oh!' said Gepetto. 'You can talk!'

'Of course I can!' said Pinocchio.

'Put me on the floor. I feel full of life and I want to dance.'

'Are you a good boy?' asked Gepetto.

'Of course I am!' said Pinocchio. 'I'm the best boy in the world!' Then he ran out of the door.

**carpenter**  
a person who makes things from wood

**floor**  
the ground of a building

**wooden puppet**





'Pinocchio, my son!' cried old Gepetto.

'Come back!'

The little puppet didn't listen. He just ran. But Gepetto loved his son and so he ran after him.



'Come back!' shouted Gepetto. He tried to grab the puppet but Pinocchio ran faster and faster. Gepetto was old and could not catch him, and suddenly he could not see him either.

'Puppet Boy, where are you?' Gepetto cried.

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**grab**  
take something  
suddenly



Pinocchio ran back to Gepetto's room. But no one was there, because Gepetto was still out searching for him. Pinocchio was all alone and he was hungry, but there was no food. Then he heard a voice.

'Pinocchio! Look up!' There was a green cricket on the wall, with very bright eyes.

'Boys should be good to their parents,' it said. 'Good boys go to school and help people. But you're not a good boy. You're a bad wooden puppet!'

Then Pinocchio did another bad thing. He shouted at the cricket and chased it away. So now he was alone again.



**chase**  
run after someone



**search**  
look for something

**voice**  
someone speaking



Pinocchio ran out into the dark street and knocked on someone's door.

'Oy! Be quiet!' shouted a man. 'What do you want?'

'Please, I want some bread!' said Pinocchio.

'Oh, do you?' said the man. 'Wait there.' He went inside, and then he came back to the window and poured a bucket of water all over Pinocchio.

'Here! Have a drink!' he said. 'Now go away or I'll throw the bucket at you too!'

Then Pinocchio began to cry. He was wet and cold and hungry. And he was all alone.

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knock  
hit lightly

Pinocchio ran back to Gepetto's room and fell asleep by the fire. Then his wooden feet got burnt.

When Gepetto came home, Pinocchio cried, 'Oh Dad! I'm sorry that I was a bad boy! Make me some new feet, Dad! And give me something to eat!'

Gepetto wanted to be angry. But then he saw Pinocchio's poor burnt feet.

'My poor boy!' he said. And he gave him all the food he had – three hard green pears. Pinocchio was so hungry he ate them all.



**burnt**  
so hot that they  
were on fire

**pear**  


Gepetto made Pinocchio some new feet and the little puppet hugged him.

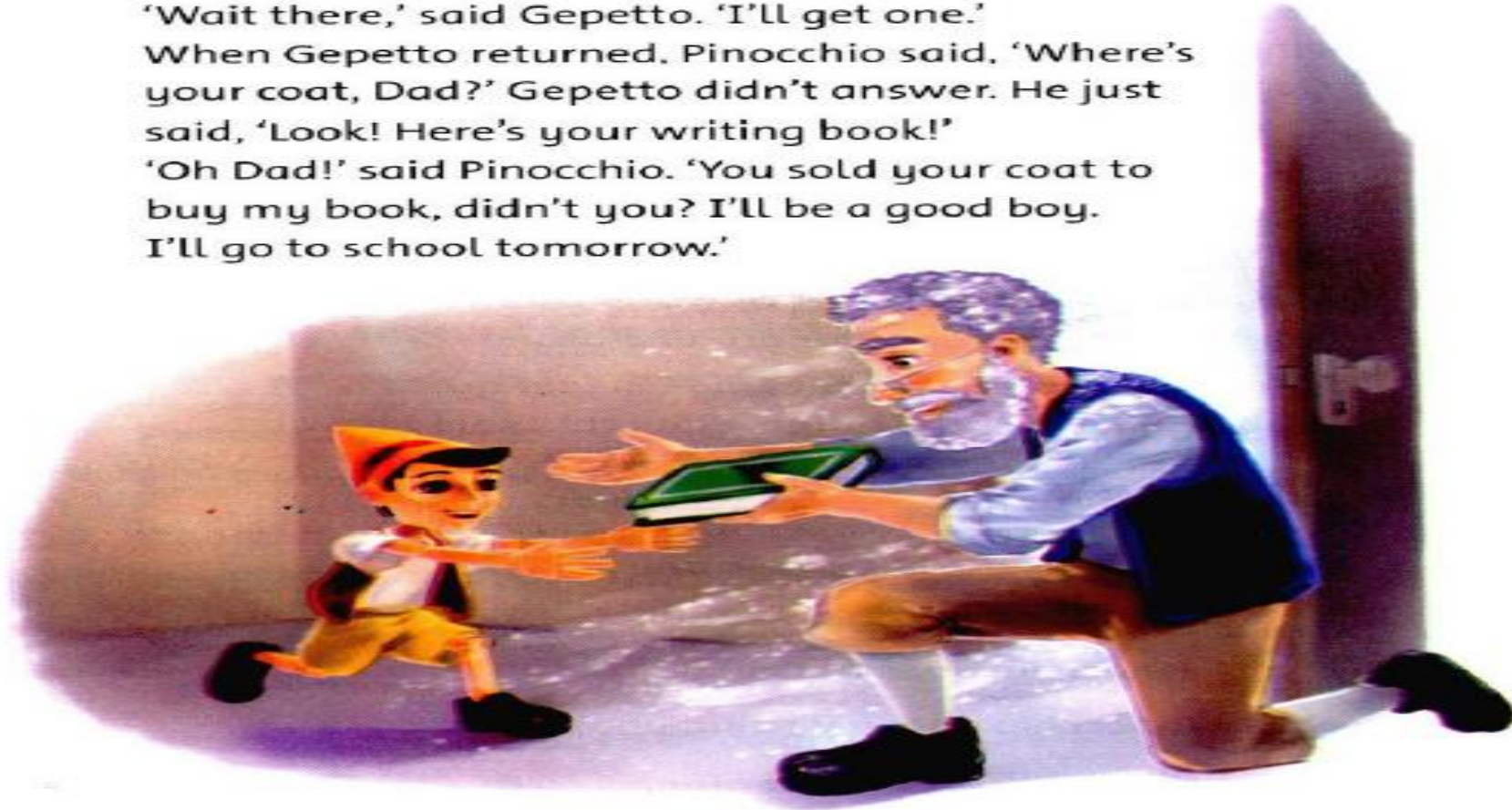
'Listen,' said Gepetto. 'You must go to school. I want you to work hard and be a good boy.'

'But I can't go to school without a writing book,' said Pinocchio.

'Wait there,' said Gepetto. 'I'll get one.'

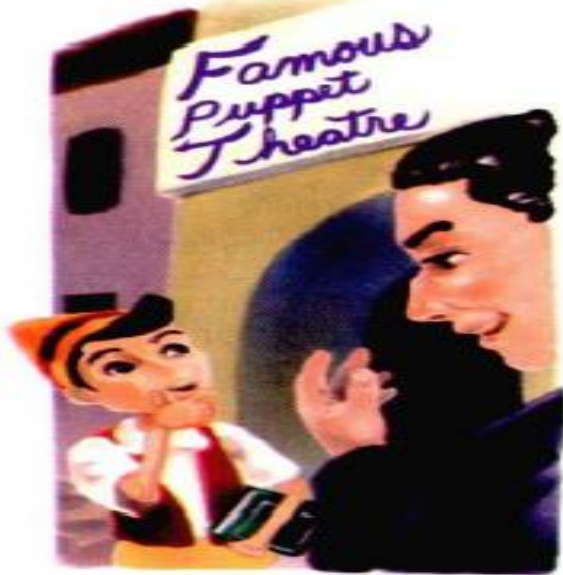
When Gepetto returned, Pinocchio said, 'Where's your coat, Dad?' Gepetto didn't answer. He just said, 'Look! Here's your writing book!'

'Oh Dad!' said Pinocchio. 'You sold your coat to buy my book, didn't you? I'll be a good boy. I'll go to school tomorrow.'



hug





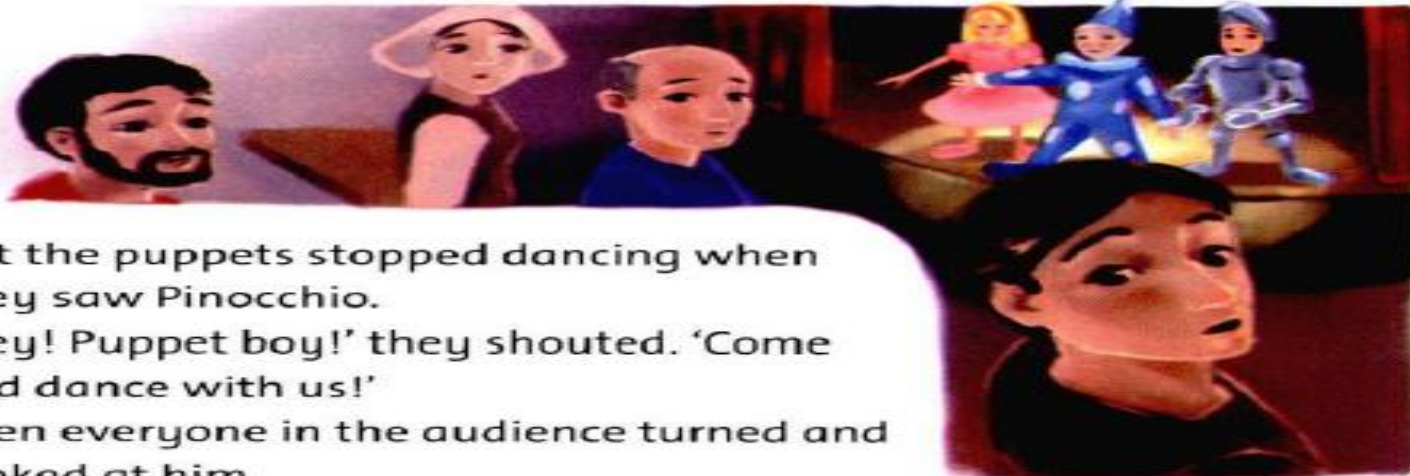
But on his way to school, Pinocchio saw something.

'Two pence,' said a man. 'It only costs two pence to see the famous puppets dance.'

'I'm going to school,' said Pinocchio. 'And I don't have any money.'

'Hey!' said the man. 'Go to school tomorrow. I'll give you two pence for that writing book. Come and see the dancing puppets!'

It did sound interesting so Pinocchio said, 'OK.'



But the puppets stopped dancing when they saw Pinocchio.

'Hey! Puppet boy!' they shouted. 'Come and dance with us!'

Then everyone in the audience turned and looked at him.

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**audience**  
the people watching  
a show





Then the nasty Puppet Master arrived. 'Why aren't you puppets dancing?' he shouted. 'And who's this?' he asked, looking at Pinocchio.

The puppets were so afraid that they could not move.

'OK!' shouted the Puppet Master. 'Time for bed!'

'But first I need some wood for the fire. I want to cook my dinner!'

He grabbed an old puppet. 'Ah! Here's some wood!' he laughed.

Then Pinocchio did something brave.

'Let him go!' he cried. 'Put that puppet down!'



**afraid**  
feeling fear

**brave**  
not afraid of danger

**nasty**  
mean