

Little Red Riding Hood



Once upon a time long ago there lived a small girl called Red. She lived on the edge of a great forest with her mother. Red's mother was always busy and often went to work early and came home late. She also spent a lot of time out with friends and little Red was often left home alone.

Red's mother often felt guilty about the lack of time she spent with Red so she bought her presents to make up for it. One day she bought her a red riding coat with a hood so Red could ride her pony to school on cold days. Red wore the riding coat so often that people came to call her Little Red Riding Hood.

One day Red's mother was just leaving for work when she remembered that her own mother, Red's grandmother, was unwell and she hadn't been to see her. She quickly put some leftovers from her last meal out with friends into a basket and covered it with a pretty tea towel. She called Little Red Riding Hood and told her to take the basket to Granny. Before she rushed out the door to head to work Red's mother reminded Red to be careful on the way and not to talk to anyone.

Now Little Red Riding Hood's granny lived on the far side of the forest in a little cottage by another village. There was a path through the forest and also a road around the outside of the forest. Little Red Riding Hood knew that she should go via the road as the path was narrow and the forest could be dangerous. However, she had an idea that she might pick some flowers for her Granny so she decided to go via the path which was also shorter and let's be honest Little Red Riding Hood was also lazy and didn't want to walk that far.

Little Red Riding Hood set out for her Granny's along the forest path skipping happily.

In the forest there lived a huge wicked wolf. The wolf often hunted along the path where he could leap out and take his prey by surprise. Everyone in the villages around the woods knew about the wolf and never went into the forest unless they were in a group.

The wolf was out hunting and he spotted Little Red Riding Hood skipping along the path. He decided that this little human would make a perfect snack so he got ready to pounce on her and gobble her up. Just as Little Red Riding Hood was getting near the wolf he heard the sound of a woodcutting gang starting work nearby. Worried that Little Red Riding Hood would scream and the woodcutters would hear her, the wolf decided to change his plan. When Little Red Riding Hood came close, he stepped out of the trees and said, 'Hello little girl how are you today?'

Little Red Riding Hood looked with big eyes at the wolf and said, 'My Mummy said I'm not supposed to talk to anyone'

'Oh' said the wolf, 'but I'm not anyone, I'm not a person, I'm an animal...did your Mummy tell you not to talk to animals?'

'Well, I guess not' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'Well let's start again then.' said the wolf. 'Hello little girl how are you today?' he said again.

'Good thank you' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'Where are you going with that basket?' said the wolf.

'I'm taking it to my Granny who is sick, she can't even get out of bed and she is old and weak' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'Where does your Granny live?' said the wolf.

'She lives in the cottage on the other side of the woods' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'You are such a nice girl for doing that for your Granny' said the wolf. While he was saying this he was thinking, 'ah ha a nice little old lady would make a great appetiser for my little girl snack!'

'Well have a nice visit' said the wolf and with that he bounded off into the trees leaving Little Red Riding Hood standing on the path.

Little Red Riding Hood continued to skip on her way to Granny's. As she was skipping along she heard the woodcutters ahead and suddenly she came into a clearing where they were working.

'Hello' said a woodcutter, 'how are you little girl?'

'My Mummy said I'm not supposed to talk to anyone' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'Well' said the woodcutter, 'we just saw a big bad wolf running around nearby, have you seen the wolf?'

'My Mummy said I'm not supposed to talk to anyone' said Little Red Riding Hood pulling her hood over her head.

'Where are you going?' said the woodcutter.

'My Mummy said I'm not supposed to talk to anyone' mumbled Little Red Riding Hood from under her hood.

'I know you said that' said the woodcutter frustratedly, 'but the wolf is dangerous. Maybe you should go home or go back to the road around the forest, I'll even take you there if you like'.

'My Mummy said I'm not supposed to talk to anyone' screeched Little Red Riding Hood and with that she ran off into the woods.

'Well can't say I didn't warn her' said the woodcutter to himself as he went back to work, shrugging his shoulders.

'Shouldn't we make sure she's all right?' said another of the woodcutters.

'I would normally' said the first woodcutter, 'but we have 10 trees to cut and process before lunch...' He trailed off and the woodcutters all shrugged their shoulders and got back to work.

Shortly Little Red Riding Hood came across a patch of wild flowers and she started busily picking them for her Granny singing softly to herself.

The wolf had wasted no time and had run all the way to Granny's cottage. When he got there, he kicked the door open, breaking the latch and hinges, he bounded across the room and before Granny could even scream. He leapt on Granny and ate her up. When he had finished, he took the blood-stained sheets off the bed, put clean ones on and dressed in one of Granny's spare night gowns. Then he put on her sleeping cap, her spare glasses and hopped into her bed to wait for Little Red Riding Hood.

Soon Little Red Riding Hood came to the cottage and she knocked at the broken door.

'Who is it?' growled the wolf from inside.

'It's me Little Red Riding Hood' said Little Red Riding Hood, 'I've brought you some food from my Mummy.'

'Come in' said the wolf attempting to sound more like granny.

Little Red Riding Hood lifted the latch on the door and it promptly fell off its hinges as it was barely standing anyway. Little Red Riding Hood stepped over the broken door with a shrug and started walking towards Granny's bed. As she walked closer in the dim light Little Red Riding Hood noticed that Granny looked a little strange today.

'Oh Granny, what big eyes you have' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'All the better to see you with' said the wolf.

'Oh Granny, what a big nose you have today' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'All the better to smell you with' said the wolf with toothy grin.

'Oh Granny, what big teeth you have' said Little Red Riding Hood.

'All the better to eat you with!' said the wolf and with that he leapt upon Little Red Riding Hood and tore her to pieces and ate her up.

After he had eaten the wolf tore off the stained nightgown and waddled slowly off into the woods with a big fat belly.

As the wolf was waddling away the woodcutters spotted him and chased him off into the woods. The woodcutter said, 'I bet that wolf has been up to no good'. And with that the woodcutters went home and lived happily ever after...

The End