

Storytime™

50 STORIES TO READ BEFORE YOU'RE 10!

SEE OUR
AT-A-GLANCE LIST
AT THE BACK!

We're celebrating
Storytime's 50th issue
by recommending
50 AMAZING STORIES
every child should read
before they're 10!



STORYTIMEMAGAZINE.COM

TOP 10 FAIRY TALES

- 1. Goldilocks...** Because not all heroes should be goody goodies and Goldilocks is a great starting point for talking about curiosity, boundaries and saying sorry.
- 2. Cinderella...** Because everyone loves a rag-to-riches story – and, deep down, we all want to believe that dreams can come true.
- 3. Hansel and Gretel...** Because two siblings show that children can be clever and powerful too. And let's not forget the ultimate sweet-toothed fantasy – the gingerbread house!
- 4. Jack and the Beanstalk...** Because stories where the protagonist takes huge risks, has amazing adventures and defeats the bad guys are the ultimate form of escapism.
- 5. Jack the Giant Killer...** Because this Jack is even braver than Jack and the Beanstalk and he wears an invisible cloak, wields a magical sword and sports super-speedy shoes!
- 6. Three Little Pigs...** Because it shows that quick wit and practicality can save the day – and the bad guy meets a well-deserved sticky end. Kids love stories with repetition too.
- 7. The Three Billy Goats Gruff...** Because it champions adventure, intelligence and courage. But ultimately, it says if you want something badly, don't let anything get in your way.
- 8. Little Red Hen...** Because it demonstrates the value of prospering from your own hard work, and it shows that, in the real world, you don't get something for nothing.
- 9. The Emperor's New Clothes...** Because it's not only funny, it also pokes fun at how absurd power can be – especially those who willingly kowtow to it.
- 10. The Gingerbread Man...** Because, like in real life, the unexpected happens. Did he deserve to get eaten? Were you cheering him on? It provokes some interesting discussions.



TOP 10 FABLES

- 11. The Tortoise and the Hare...** Because in our fast-paced world, it's healthy to be reminded that slow and steady (and being more mindful of your goals) can win the race.
- 12. The Lion and the Mouse...** Because it empowers children and tells them that no matter how small they are, their voice matters and their contribution can make a difference.
- 13. The Dog and His Bone...** Because it's an amusing reminder to be happy with what you have and thankful for what you've got.
- 14. The Four Harmonious Animals...** Because it shows that by working together in a team, you can enjoy the fruits of your labour.
- 15. The Wind and the Sun...** Because it proves that you can get what you want through gentleness and kindness rather than brute force.
- 16. The Boy Who Cried Wolf...** Because it's a lesson in the importance of being truthful and it shows how you can lose the trust of others by being dishonest.
- 17. The Blind Friends and the Elephant...** Because it's the perfect story to kick-start conversations about seeing the world from the perspective of other people.
- 18. The Crow and the Pitcher...** Because it shows you that by thinking creatively and not giving up, you can come up with the solution to any problem.
- 19. The Goat and the Fox...** Because this fable inspired the phrase 'look before you leap' and it reveals what can happen if you don't think before you act.
- 20. Little Mouse Makes Friends...** Because it teaches children one of the most important lessons of all – to never judge people by their appearances.



TOP 10 MYTHS AND LEGENDS

- 21. The Midas Touch...** Because money isn't everything and greed can have truly dreadful consequences – and the sooner we all learn that the better.
- 22. Hercules and the Lion...** Because Hercules, the ultimate Greek hero, is forced to complete 12 terrible tasks because his stepmother doesn't like him. A fairy tale in myth form.
- 23. Pegasus the Winged Horse...** Because everyone loves a flying horse and this one helps the hero Bellerophon vanquish a fire-breathing monster.
- 24. Thor's Stolen Hammer...** Because it's funny! The Norse god has to dress up as a bride in order to retrieve his prized hammer from a giant enemy.
- 25. Finn MacCool...** Because it neatly explains the presence of the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland, and the real hero is not the Irish giant, but his clever wife.
- 26. The Sword in the Stone...** Because it's the ultimate Arthurian legend. Who doesn't wish they could pull a magic sword from a stone and hang out with a wizard?
- 27. Robin Hood and the Silver Arrow...** Because we need more folk heroes who give to the poor and outsmart those who are nasty and selfish.
- 28. Cupid and Psyche...** Because without this myth Beauty and the Beast wouldn't exist, and it shows that love can find a way against all odds.
- 29. White Buffalo Calf Woman...** Because myths don't just come from Ancient Greece. This one explains how a magical woman and a peace pipe saved Native Americans from starvation.
- 30. Ganesha the Elephant God...** Because who can resist a myth starring an elephant-headed god riding on the back of a mouse in the race of a lifetime?



TOP 10 FOLK TALES

- 31. Lazy Jack...** Because this classic fool story hammers home the importance of using your common sense – something not always taught at school.
- 32. Stone Soup...** Because there are versions of this story all over the world with the same message – it feels good to come together as a community.
- 33. Wish Fish...** Because this story teaches you to be careful what you wish for and to appreciate any wish that comes true.
- 34. The Clever Carpenter...** Because it helps you to understand why building bridges between yourself and others is better than tearing them down.
- 35. The Three Wishes...** Because, aside from featuring fairies and sausages, it will make you laugh out loud – and any story that does that is a good thing.
- 36. Elidor and the Golden Ball...** Because you'll be transported to Fairyland and discover that magic really does exist, but always at a price.
- 37. Half a Blanket...** Because it's a truly touching tale about loving and respecting the older generations of your family, no matter how busy life gets.
- 38. The Farmer and the Boggart...** Because it's funny to see how a clever farmer outwits the bad-tempered magical creature that's trying to steal his crops.
- 39. Jack and the Leprechaun...** Because it's also good to see the tables turned when a cheeky farmer tries to trick a leprechaun into parting with his gold.
- 40. The Green Children of Woolpit...** Because it's said to be a true story, and the mystery of the green children were has never been solved. Perhaps you can solve it.



TOP 10 AROUND THE WORLD TALES

- 41. Anansi and the Turtle...** Because Anansi the spider is one of Africa's greatest story heroes and the kind of trickster you can't help liking.
- 42. The Rainbow Snake...** Because stories that explain how the earth came to be are fascinating and this one tells how Australia was formed with the help of laughing frogs.
- 43. The Mouse Merchant...** Because with hard work and ingenuity you can rise from the humblest of beginnings, according to this inspiring tale from India.
- 44. The Polar Bear Son...** Because it shows that nothing can come between the love of a parent and their child, even if that child is a polar bear! A touching Inuit tale.
- 45. Wolf Lullaby...** Because the clever girl in this story outwits the big bad wolf without a single woodcutter to come to her aid. A cracking Caribbean story.
- 46. The Four Dragons...** Because you can't beat a Chinese dragon story, especially as the dragons are the good guys and save everyone in China.
- 47. Nana Miriam and the Hippo...** Because it's the only story we know which sees a powerful female shaman throw a demon hippo into space! It comes from Nigeria.
- 48. The Bear and the Trolls...** Because Norway has the best stories about trolls, and this one sees them fooled by their own greed and stupidity.
- 49. Zuleika's Gift...** Because it gives a fascinating insight into the nomadic life of Arabs and reveals how the date palm tree came to grow in the desert.
- 50. The Flower and the Hummingbird...** Because it's a love story that explains the origin of the marigold and why it's Mexico's Day of the Dead flower.



50 STORIES TO READ BEFORE YOU'RE 10: OUR AT A GLANCE GUIDE

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YOU CAN READ ALL OF THESE STORIES IN STORYTIME!



All 50 stories have been featured in the first 50 issues of **Storytime**. To find out which issues, visit:

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