

Robin Hood

Introduction

Do you know the legend of Robin Hood?

Many people said that he was a real person who lived a long time ago. He was famous for having a gang of friends - called the Merry Men - and for taking things from the rich to give to the poor. Do you think that's a good idea?

One day he meets a man called John Little (who is actually really big). He challenges John to a friendly fight.

Who do you think will win?



Story written by Gill Munton
Illustrated by Tim Archbold

7

Robin Hood



As the storybooks will tell you, Robin Hood lived in the woods with his band of Merry Men, robbing from the rich and giving to the poor. To the rich he was a crook,

but to the poor that he helped, he was a good man.

In this story, a man called John Little brags that he can win a contest with Robin Hood.



9

"I am going hunting," Robin said to his Merry Men. "I will not be long."

He stepped on to the wooden bridge which crossed the fast-running brook.

On the bridge he met a man, tall, and strong-looking.
(This was John Little.)



Both men stood very still.

Then Robin said, "Let me get past, will you?"

"I will not," grunted John.

"Then I will shoot an arrow at your chest!"

Robin took an arrow from his belt.

John shook his head.

"I have only a stick in my hand," he said.

"I don't mind having a contest, but you must put that arrow back and find a stick.

Then I will set upon you, and I will win!"



So Robin cut himself a stick.

He swung it at John Little, and then sprang at him,
hitting John with his stick.



12

John gasped, and whacked Robin
with all his strength.

Robin fell off the bridge and into
the brook!

Both men began to grin. John stood on the bridge
and Robin stood up to his neck in the brook.



John hooked him out by the
foot with his stick,
and then Robin, wet to the
skin, called to his Merry Men.

13

When Robin told them what had happened,
the Merry Men wanted to push John into the brook.

But Robin said, "A man who can win a contest with me is a good man
to have for a pal.

John Little, you can be
one of my Merry Men,
and as you are so big
and tall, we shall call you
Little John!"



As they went back to the camp,
they shot ten rooks and took ten fish from the brook.
So Robin Hood and all his Merry Men had a very good lunch,
cooked by Little John!



Questions to read and answer

(Children complete without your help.)

1. Where did Robin Hood live?
Robin Hood lived in the woods / a box / a flat.
2. Where did John and Robin meet?
John met Robin on a bridge / in a stream / in a wood.
3. How did John hook Robin out of the brook?
John hooked Robin out of the brook by the chest / foot / hand.
4. Where did the Merry Men want to push John?
The Merry Men wanted to push John into the mud / sand / brook.
5. Who cooked lunch?
Lunch was cooked by Robin Hood / the Merry Men / Little John.