

The Shoemaker and the Elves



Retold by Sue Arengo
Illustrated by Adam Stower

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Before you read, can you match the words with the pictures?

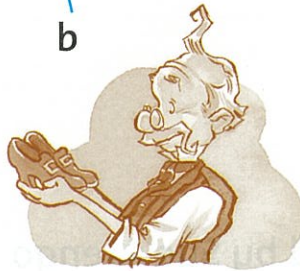
1 shoemaker

a



2 elves

b



3 shoe shop

c



4 pair of shoes

d



5 magic

e



6 gold coins

f



7 leather

g



Who's this? It's the shoemaker.
The tired old shoemaker.
It's four o'clock in the afternoon
and he's walking home.
He's got some red leather.



leather shoemaker



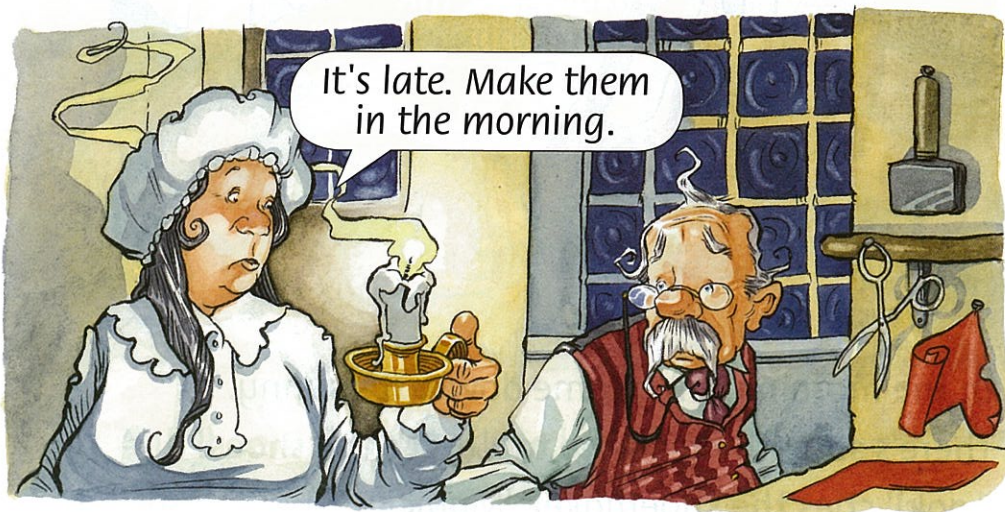
And here's his shop.
The old shoe shop.
It isn't a very good shop.
It doesn't make much money.



The shoemaker goes to his table. 'Look at this leather,' he says to his wife.
'What beautiful red leather!' she says.



'One last pair of shoes', says the old shoemaker. 'That's all I can make. I haven't got any more money.'



'It's late,' says his wife. 'Make them in the morning.' 'It's a quarter past twelve. Let's go upstairs to bed.'

pair of shoes





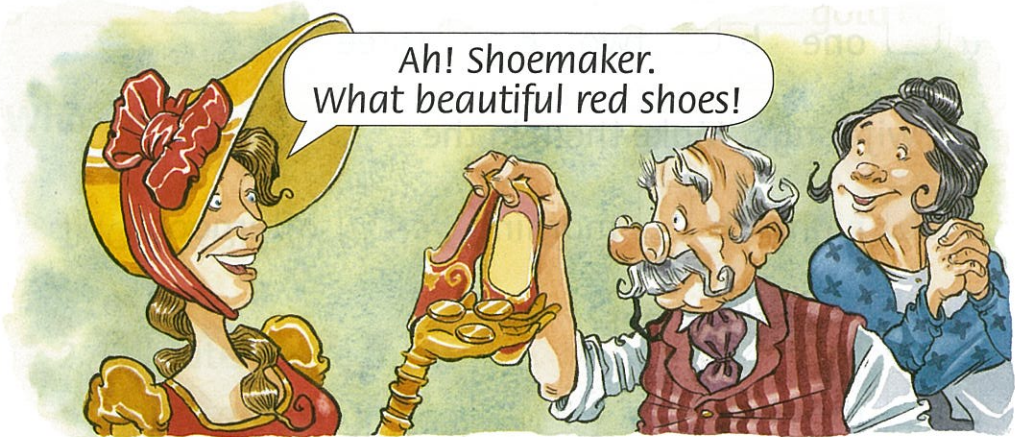
In the morning, they come down. It's sunny.
There's something on the table! It's the shoes!
'Look!' cries the shoemaker. 'Magic!'
'What beautiful shoes!' The shoemaker is happy.
'Let's put them in the shop window,' he says.
'I want people to see them.'

magic





The shoemaker puts the red shoes in the window.
A lady sees them.



'Ah! Shoemaker', says the lady.
'What beautiful red shoes!
I must have them.
I must buy them.
Here are three gold coins.'

gold coins



Answer the questions.

1 The old shoe shop doesn't make much ...

- a leather b magic c money

2 Where does the shoemaker put the leather?

- a on the floor c on the cupboard
b on the table

3 How many more pairs of shoes can the old shoemaker make?

- a one b two c three

4 His wife says, 'Make them in the ...'

- a night b morning c afternoon

5 Who makes the shoes?

- a the elves
b the shoemaker
c the shoemaker's wife



6 How many gold coins does the lady give for the shoes?

- a one b two c three

How many?



1 o n e shoe



2 _____ shoes



3 _____ gold coins



4 _____ little elves



5 _____ shoes



6 _____ gold coins

Who says it?

1 'One last pair of shoes.'

2 'It's late. Make them
in the morning.'

3 'Look! Magic!'

4 'What beautiful red shoes!'

a



b



c



d



'Three gold coins!' says the shoemaker.
'Now I've got some money.' He smiles.
He looks at the money in his hand.
'I can make more shoes now.
Two more pairs.'



He goes out and he buys some more leather.
'I've got some money,' he says.
He holds out the money in his hand.
'Look! Three gold coins!'



hold



smile



'Two more pairs of shoes,' says the shoemaker.

'I've got some green leather and some yellow leather.

I can make two more pairs now.'



'It's late,' says his wife.

'It's half past twelve. The stars are in the sky.
Make them in the morning.'



In the morning they come down.
There's something on the table! Two pairs of shoes.
'Look!' cries the shoemaker. 'More magic!'
His face is happy, his eyes are smiling.
'Let's put them in the shop window,' he says.

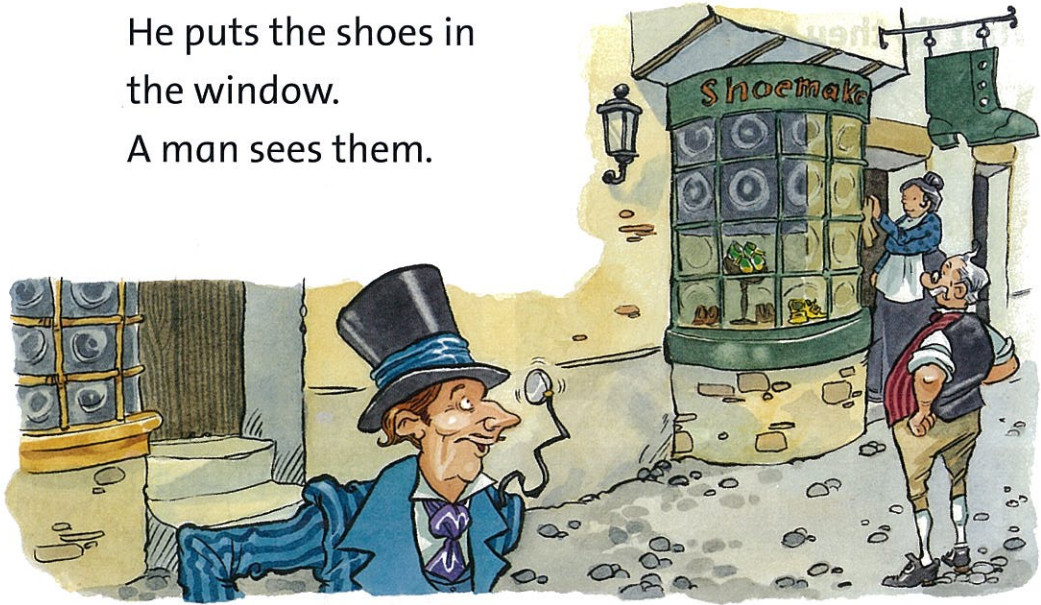
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Visi

- A
- S
- V

WV

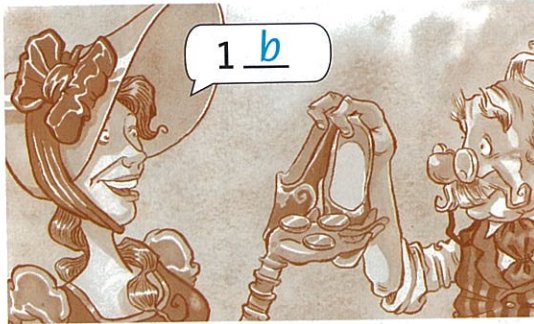
He puts the shoes in
the window.
A man sees them.



'Ah! Shoemaker,' says the man.
'What beautiful shoes.
I must buy them. I want both pairs.
The yellow pair and the green pair.
Here are six gold coins.'



What do they say?



- a I can make more shoes now.
- b What beautiful red shoes!
- c Make them in the morning.
- d Look! More magic!
- e I can make two more pairs now.
- f I've got some money. Look!



OX

Visit
• Ac
• Sc
• Vi

WW

Fill in the gaps.

can

are

've got

More

~~must~~

them

1



'I must buy them,'
says the lady.

2



'I _____ make
more shoes now.'

3



'I _____ some
money. Look!'

4



'Make _____ in the
morning,' she says.

5



'Look! _____ magic!'
says the shoemaker.

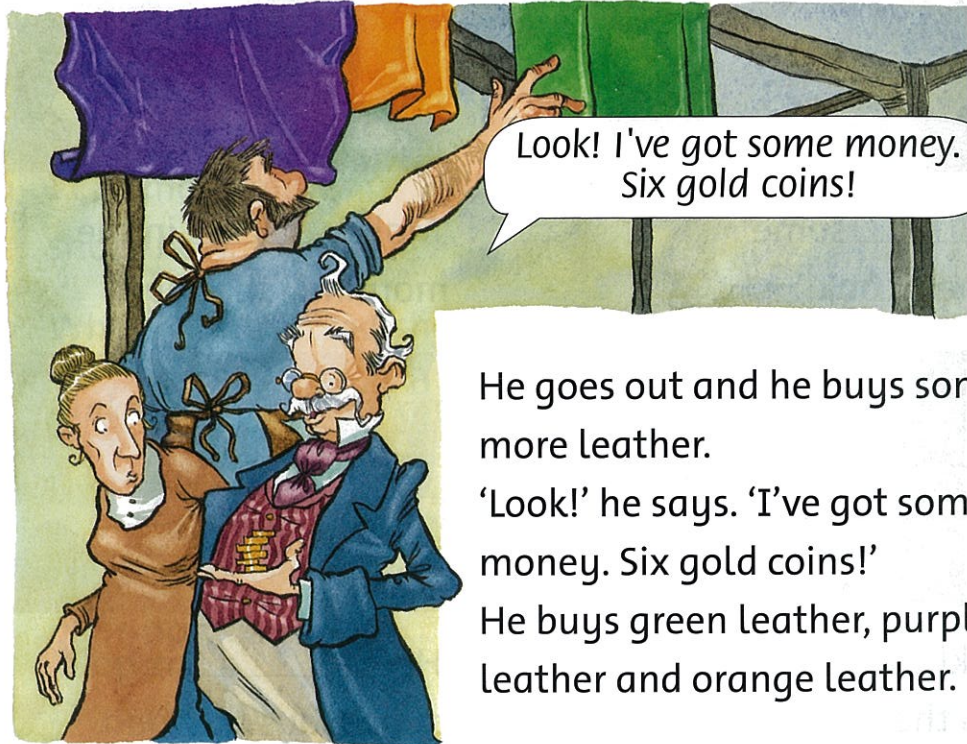
6



'Here _____ six gold
coins,' says the man.



'Six gold coins!' says the shoemaker.
'I can buy some more leather.
I can make more shoes now.
Three more pairs.'



He goes out and he buys some more leather.
'Look!' he says. 'I've got some money. Six gold coins!'
He buys green leather, purple leather and orange leather.

OX

Visit

- A
- S
- V

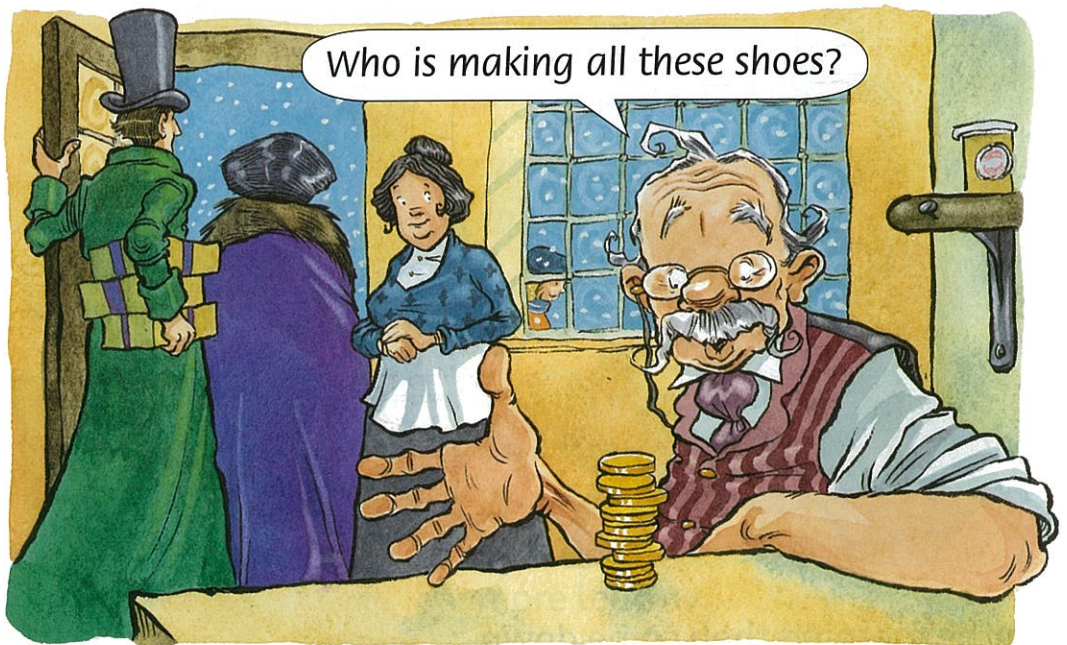
WW

'I can make three pairs
of shoes' says the shoemaker.
'It's late,' says his wife
'I'm tired. I want to brush
my hair and go to bed.'



In the morning they come down.
It's cold outside. It's snowing.
There's something on the table!
Three pairs of shoes.
'Look!' cries the shoemaker. 'Magic again!'

A family sees
the shoes.
A mum, a dad
and a little girl.
'What beautiful
shoes!' they say.
'We must buy them.
Here are nine gold coins.'



'Thank you,' says the shoemaker.
He puts the coins on the table.
'Nine gold coins,' he says.
'But...who is making all these shoes?'

family



That night the shoemaker hides.
He and his wife hide.
They hide in a cupboard downstairs. And they wait.



They are very quiet.
When the clock says twelve they see two little elves.
Two little elves are standing next to the clock.

elves

hide



Put the words in the correct order.

1 puts He the them in window .

He puts them in the window.

2 more three now He shoes pairs of make can .

3 leather He more buys some .

4 table shoes the are on The .

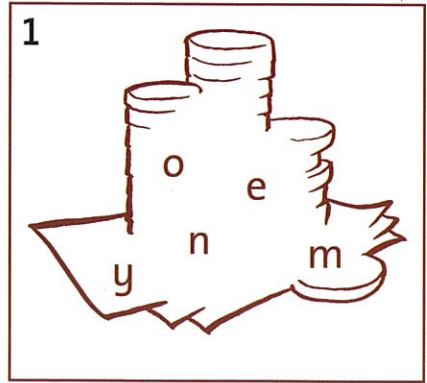
5 shoes family A sees the .

6 making these Who shoes all is ?

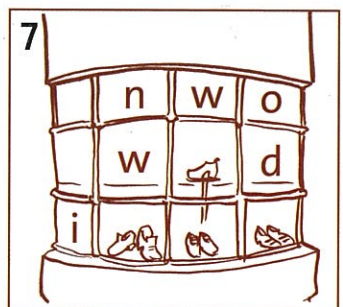
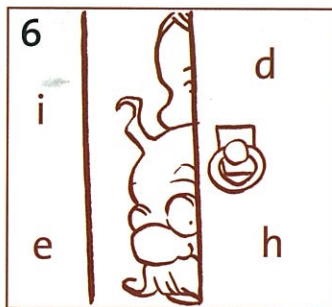
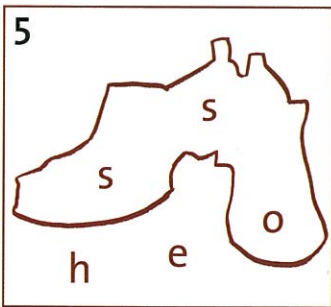
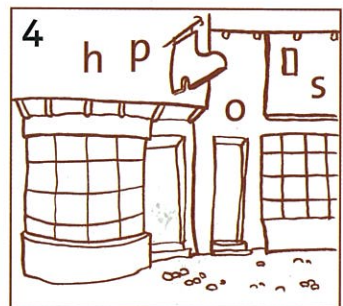
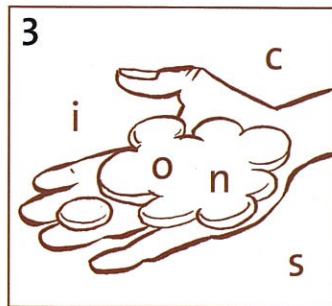
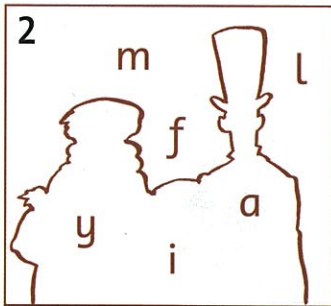


Write the words.

- coins family hide
- ~~money~~ shoes shop
- window



m o n e y



The little elves run in.

They jump onto the table.

'Here's the shoemaker's leather!' they say.

'We do good work. We work hard.

Let's work! Let's make some beautiful shoes!'



All night they work.

They work and work and work.

The shoemaker and his wife hide in the
cupboard and watch.



In the morning the elves run away.
But there's something on the table.
Four beautiful pairs of shoes!
There's a pair of white shoes. There's a pair of green
boots. There's a pair of pink shoes.
And there's a pair of blue and yellow shoes.



'Now we know,' says the shoemaker.
'We know who helps us.'
'Yes,' says his wife. 'Two little elves.
But what can we do for them?'

run away





'I know,' says the shoemaker.

'Let's make some clothes for them. They need some shoes, a new coat and a new pair of trousers.'

'Oh, yes!' says his wife. 'Yes!'

clothes



Night comes.

The shoemaker and his wife put the new clothes into little boxes.

They put the boxes on the table.

Then they hide in the cupboard.

At midnight the little elves run in.



'What's this?' they say.

'Something for us? For us? Oh, yes! It's something for us!'

They put on the new clothes and they dance.

Dance, dance, dance!

dance

midnight



'Now it's time for us to go.
Because they know!
Because they know!
say the elves.
'Goodbye, shoemaker!'
They run outside into the snow
and they run away.



The elves never come back.
But now the shoemaker makes good shoes.
Now he can buy a lot of leather.
And he works very hard. Now his shop is a good shop.
And the shoemaker and his wife are very happy.

Complete the sentences with these words.

can

~~hide~~

know

Let's

see

watch

work

- 1 The shoemaker and his wife hide.
- 2 At midnight they _____ two little elves.
- 3 They _____ in the shop all night.
- 4 The shoemaker and his wife _____ them.
- 5 'Now we _____ who helps us,' says the shoemaker.
- 6 'But what _____ we do for them?' says his wife.
- 7 '_____ make some clothes for them.'



Answer the questions.

1 How many pairs of shoes does the man buy?

a one b two c three

2 How many gold coins does the man give for the shoes?

a three b six c nine

3 Who buys three pairs of shoes from the shoemaker?

a the lady b the man c the family

4 The shoemaker wants to know who is ... all the shoes.

a buying b making c hiding

5 The elves work ...

a in the morning c all night

b at midnight

6 After the elves leave, the shop is a ... shop.

a bad b good c magic

7 The elves ... come back.

a always b never c sometimes