

Read the story.

The Peach Boy

Have you ever heard of the 'Peach boy'? It is a very old fairy tale in Japan.

Long ago, there was an old woman who did not have a child. One day, the woman went to a river and washed her clothes there. 'What's that?' The woman saw something pink floating on the river. 'Oh, it's a peach!' The woman thought the peach looked delicious, so she took it home. 5

The old woman cut the peach into pieces and ate some. The peach was magical. It made the old woman young again. When the woman's husband came home, the woman gave him a piece of peach. After he ate it, he became young too. 10

Later, the woman gave birth to a baby boy. The woman and the husband named the baby Peach Boy. Peach Boy grew up to be very brave. He heard that there was a monster on an island and people on the island were very scared. Peach Boy had an idea. He went to the island to fight the monster. On the island, he made friends with a talking dog, a bird and a monkey. Together, they beat the monster. 15

Test your understanding.

- Read line 1. A 'fairy tale' is a _____.
 A. story
 B. place
 C. person
 D. fruit
- What did the old woman do when she saw the peach? She _____.
 A. ate it
 B. washed it
 C. brought it home
 D. showed it to her husband
- Read lines 7-8: 'The peach was magical.' What does this mean?
 A. The peach was in pieces.
 B. The peach was very big.
 C. The peach was delicious.
 D. The peach had special powers.
- Read lines 12-14. What was the 'idea'?
 A. to fight the monster
 B. to scare people on the island
 C. to make friends with animals
 D. to find the dog that could talk