

The Story of Baboushka



Name _____

Primary 4



Giving presents

As we get closer to Christmas we start to think about presents and gifts that we might give to friends and family and that we might get from them.

Can you think of other times that you might give someone a present? What kind of gifts would you give someone at these times? Write your answers below.

Times when I would give a present to someone	The kind of present would I give



Saying thank you.

When someone gives you a present what do you do? Do you always remember to thank them?

Look at the sentences below and tick the ones that are good ways to thank someone for a present.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. I don't say anything. | 6. I don't visit them. |
| 2. I write a thank you letter. | 7. I send them a text saying |
| 3. I send them a thank you card. | thank you. |
| 4. I don't speak to them. | 8. I say unkind things about |
| 5. I say thank you. | them |

Can you design a thank you card to send to a friend who has just given you a fantastic birthday present?

Baboushka

A long time ago, in Russia, there was a lady called Baboushka who lived in a little hut deep in a forest. She spent all of her time sewing, cleaning and cooking. Even though she lived alone, she was never lonely, but never saw many visitors.

In the middle of one cold winter when the sky was full of snow, she was amazed to hear voices approaching through the forest. The voices came from three lost, hungry travellers who needed food and shelter.

Baboushka invited them in, made them comfortable, built up a big fire to keep them warm and made them a lovely meal. The three men told her that they were searching for a baby prince but the star that was leading them was hidden by the snow storm.

Baboushka told them that as soon as they had eaten and rested she would show them the way to the road. The travellers told her that the road was no use, the star had to lead them.

Baboushka was surprised, she asked what it all meant. The travellers told her that the star was a sign of a holy child's birth. They were going to see him and they had wonderful gifts for him. Baboushka was excited and said that she would like to see him.



The travellers invited her to go along with them and help them. Baboushka said that she was too busy and too old to travel so when the men were ready and the sky had cleared, they set off without her.

Suddenly Baboushka felt very lost and lonely. She decided that she would go and rushed around packing a bundle of clothes and some toys for the baby.

The next morning she set off. She asked after the travellers but never caught up with them. She asked after the baby prince, but never found him. And to this day she travels, still looking for the baby, and giving all the babies she meets a little gift.

Making excuses

In the story Baboushka tells her three visitors that she is too busy to go with them to visit the holy child.

1. Can you list three things that you think Baboushka was busy doing?

2. Baboushka missed something really important – seeing the holy child because she made excuses that she was too busy. Have you made excuses and then found out you missed out on something.

3. How would you feel if you missed out on an important trip if your parents were too busy to take you?

In the box below can you write an excuse that you've used or heard someone say to avoid doing something?

What kind of presents?

1. What presents did the Three Wise Men bring the baby Jesus?

2. What kinds of presents do you think the shepherds brought the baby Jesus?

3. What presents would you give to a newborn baby?

4. Write a list of the kind of presents Baboushka might have packed to take to the baby Jesus.





Interview with Baboushka

Imagine that you are working for a local TV company. You are going to interview Baboushka who has come to your town looking for the holy child. What questions will you ask her? How do you think she will answer? One question has been done for you.

1. Why have you come to our town?

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Colour in this drawing of Baboushka
on her travels

