

-Little Late Riding Hood-

(based on "Little Red Riding Hood")



Characters

Mom

Narrator

Little Late Riding Hood

Tricky Monkey

Kid with Skateboard

Grandma

Narrator: There once was a young girl. She was very little and always a little late. Everywhere she went, she wore a riding coat with a hood. She was known as Little Late Riding Hood.

Mom: I've baked some banana nut bread. I want you to walk over to Grandma's house and give it to her. Now it's a bit chilly outside, so make sure and wear your riding hood. And try to be punctual.

Little Late Riding Hood: I will. I promise.

Narrator: Little Late Riding Hood walked toward Grandma's house carrying a basket of banana nut bread. Suddenly, she saw a very large monkey.

Tricky Monkey: Well, hello there little girl.

Little Late Riding Hood (a bit frightened): Hello, Mr. Monkey.

Tricky Monkey: You can drop the "Mister." Just call me Monkey. Say, where are you going with that delicious banana bread?

Little Late Riding Hood: I'm going to my grandma's house. My mom says I have to hurry.

Tricky Monkey: But it's such a beautiful day. Why don't we play hide-and-seek? I'll go first. You cover your eyes and count to one hundred. Then you can try to find me.

Little Late Riding Hood: I should hurry to Grandma's. But you're right, it is a beautiful day. Oh, why not!

Narrator: Little Late Riding Hood covered her eyes and began to count.

Little Late Riding Hood: One... two... three...

Narrator: The Tricky Monkey ran over to a boy who was riding on a skateboard.

Tricky Monkey: Hey, kid, I'll trade you my bright red mountain bike for that skateboard.

Kid: Okay.

Narrator: The Tricky Monkey jumped onto the skateboard and started skating away as fast as he could.

Kid: Hey, no fair. Where's the bike you promised? Hey! Stop, thief! Stop, Monkey!

Narrator: But the Tricky Monkey was already speeding away. Meanwhile, Little Late Riding Hood was still counting.

Little Late Riding Hood: Twenty-six... twenty-seven... twenty-eight...

Narrator: The Tricky Monkey arrived at Grandma's house. He knocked on the door and she answered.

Tricky Monkey: This is an emergency, ma'am. There has been a tornado and a hurricane spotted and an earthquake is on its way.

Grandma: Well, I don't know. It looks so sunny outside. And you're a very strange-looking young man.

Tricky Monkey: There's no time to waste, ma'am. You need to go down to the basement right away. That's the only safe place during a tornado hurricane earthquake.

Grandma: Well, all right. But I just don't know. I just don't know.

Narrator: Grandma went to the basement. The Tricky Monkey lumbered upstairs to her bedroom. He put on her pajamas and nightcap. He jumped into her bed. Meanwhile, Little Late Riding Hood was still counting.

Little Late Riding Hood: Ninety-eight... ninety-nine... one-hundred... Ready or not, Monkey, here I come.

Narrator: Suddenly, Little Late Riding Hood realized she was late to Grandma's. She didn't have time to play hide-and-go-seek with the monkey.

Little Late Riding Hood: Oh, no! Mom said not to be late to Grandma's. I lost track of time playing that silly game.

Narrator: Little Late Riding Hood ran all the way to Grandma's house. When she arrived, the door was wide open. She ran upstairs.

Little Late Riding Hood: Hi, Grandma. How are you feeling today?

Tricky Monkey (pretending to be Grandma): I feel very well, dear, thank you. Why don't you come sit down beside the bed.

Narrator: When Little Late Riding Hood sat down, she noticed how strange her grandma looked.

Little Late Riding Hood: Why, Grandma. What long hairy arms you have.

Tricky Monkey: That's from sweeping up, dear. If you sweep up your whole life your arms simply become very long and very hairy.

Little Late Riding Hood: Why, Grandma. What big ears you have.

Tricky Monkey: That's from listening to music, dear. If you listen to music your whole life your ears get very big and very weird looking.

Little Late Riding Hood: Why, Grandma. What a big funny mouth you have.

Tricky Monkey (laughing): That's for eating banana nut bread!

Narrator: With that, the Tricky Monkey reached for the banana nut bread. But just then, Grandma stepped into the room and snatched the bread away.

Grandma: Too late. No banana bread for you!

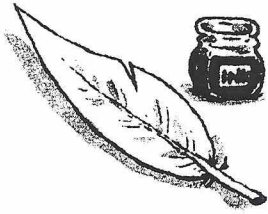
Tricky Monkey: But, but—

Grandma: Shame on you, Monkey, trying to trick an old granny. Now leave here at once or I'll call the zookeeper.

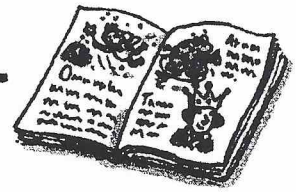
Narrator: The Tricky Monkey, still dressed in Grandma's pajamas and nightcap, ran out of the house and was never seen again.

Grandma: Little Late Riding Hood, you're right on time. Let's enjoy this banana nut bread, and I'll make us a nice cup of tea.

★the end★



-Teacher Page-



History of the Tale

The original tale features a crafty wolf. The wolf learns that Little Red Riding Hood is on the way to her grandmother's house. So the wolf runs ahead, gobbles up the grandmother, then hides in her bed waiting for Little Red Riding Hood. In most versions, the wolf gobbles her up, too. The wolf is stuffed and falls asleep. A hunter decides to check in on Grandmother. He discovers the wolf, kills him, and rescues Little Red Riding Hood and her grandmother from the wolf's stomach. This fractured version follows a similar storyline, but features a crafty monkey trying to steal some banana bread instead.

Vocabulary Boosters

This story contains several words that may be new to your class:

punctual (adj.): on time

delicious (adj.): very tasty

lumber (verb): to move in a heavy and clumsy way

Discuss these words with your students and invite them to use each in a sentence.

Discussion Starters

© Little Late Riding Hood got into trouble because she was running late. Is it important to be on time? Have you ever had things go wrong because you were running late?

© The Tricky Monkey fooled everyone: Little Late Riding Hood, the boy with the skateboard, and Grandma. But in the end, he didn't even get the banana nut bread. Is it easier for people to get what they want by being honest than by playing tricks?

Writing Prompts

© What do you think happened to the Tricky Monkey? Did he give the boy back his skateboard? Was he caught by the zookeeper? Or did he try to pull a new prank while dressed in Grandma's pajamas?

© If there's a Little Late Riding Hood, couldn't there also be a Little Speedy Riding Hood or a Little Backward Riding Hood? Think of a fun character and feature her in your own retelling of the fairy tale.