

Little Acorns

A little brown acorn fell down to the ground,
one windy and wet autumn day.
The dry crinkly leaves quickly covered him up
and right there, he decided to stay.

He snuggled up warm in his big leafy bed,
deep down where he couldn't be found.
Along came a walker, who stepped on his head and
squished him right into the ground.

The weather grew colder as winter drew in
and soon he was buried in snow.
He lay there so patiently, frozen in mud,
awaiting the right time to grow.

The chill of the winter months dragged on and on;
the snow stayed around for a while.
Then finally, from behind heavy grey clouds,
the sun gave a welcoming smile.

The spring had arrived so the acorn woke up
and let out a laugh and a shout!
He gave a small wriggle, a soft gentle jiggle,
and started to grow and to sprout.

Below him stretched roots, seeking water to drink
and holding him firm where he stood.
So he could begin to grow bigger each day
and find his own place in the wood.

His roots travelled deeper, his stem grew up tall
and soon his green leaves were on show.
They reached for the sun and its warm shining light;
the breeze made them move to and fro.

The little green sapling grew slowly each day;
becoming an oak is not fast.
It takes many years to grow just big enough
to be noticed if someone walks past.



As spring turned to summer, the cool rainy days soon ended and it became dry.

Then autumn began to steal time from each day and bring long dark nights to the sky.

The seasons flew by and in no time at all, the acorn grew into a tree.

He rose up so slowly, straight up to the sky, trunk thickening for all to see.

Now, twenty years later, he's reached his full height and stands up so mighty and strong.

His branches are stretching as wide as can be, his roots now incredibly long.

The oak guards the forest by day and by night and listens for each hoot and howl.

His branches are home to the squirrels and bugs, some bats and a wise tawny owl.

All huddled together, new acorns hang on, each ready and raring to go.

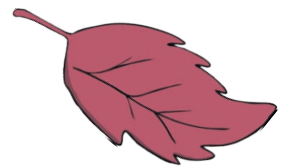
On each of his branches they sit tight and wait, excited to see what's below.

The summer soon ends; no more blazing hot days or beautiful, sunny blue sky.

As autumn returns, with its rich reds and browns, the trees wave the sunshine goodbye.

A little brown acorn falls down to the ground, one windy and wet autumn day.

The dry crinkly leaves quickly cover him up and right there, he is happy to stay.



Questions

1. What fell from the tree? Tick one.

- ☐ a little twig
- ☐ a little brown acorn
- ☐ a little bird

2. What was the acorn's bed made out of? Tick one.

- ☐ feathers
- ☐ grass
- ☐ leaves

3. Tick the two words that rhyme.

- ☐ snow
- ☐ day
- ☐ grow

4. What made the leaves move 'to and fro'? Tick one.

- ☐ the sun
- ☐ the breeze
- ☐ the rain

5. What does the little acorn grow into? Tick one.

- ☐ a flower
- ☐ an oak tree
- ☐ a bush

Answers

1. What fell from the tree? Tick one.

- ☐ a little twig
- ☒ **a little brown acorn**
- ☐ a little bird

2. What was the acorn's bed made out of? Tick one.

- ☐ feathers
- ☐ grass
- ☒ **leaves**

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5. What does the little acorn grow into? Tick one.

- ☐ a flower
- ☒ **an oak tree**
- ☐ a bush

Questions

1. Which season did the acorn fall from the tree in? Tick one.

- ☐ winter
- ☐ summer
- ☐ autumn

2. Which words describe how the acorn moved when he saw that spring had arrived? Tick one.

- ☐ hop and skip
- ☐ run and jump
- ☐ wriggle and jiggle

3. What helped the tree to stand firm? Tick one.

- ☐ the roots
- ☐ the leaves
- ☐ the flowers

4. Complete the sentence by filling in the missing word.

The little green sapling grew slowly each day;
becoming an oak is not _____.

5. Name three creatures that live in the fully-grown oak tree.

Answers

1. Which season did the acorn fall from the tree in? Tick one.

- ☐ winter
- ☐ summer
- ☒ **autumn**

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- ☐ the leaves
- ☐ the flowers

4. Complete the sentence by filling in the missing word.

The little green sapling grew slowly each day;
becoming an oak is not **fast**.

5. Name three creatures that live in the fully-grown oak tree.

Accept any three from; squirrels, bugs, bats, birds, bees, a wise tawny owl.

Questions

1. Which adjective is used to describe the autumn leaves? Tick one.

☐ crinkly

☐ smooth

☐ dry

2. Why did the acorn wake up and give a 'laugh and a shout'?

3. Find and copy one word in the text that means looking for.

4. Complete the sentence by filling in the missing words.

His roots travelled _____, his stem grew up
_____ and soon his green leaves were on show.

5. Draw a line to complete the sentences.

A little brown acorn

is not fast.

Along came a walker

new acorns hang on.

All huddled together

who stepped on his head.

Becoming an oak

falls down to the ground.

6. Why do you think the story finishes in the same way that it started?

Answers

1. Which adjective is used to describe the autumn leaves? Tick one.

☒ **crinkly**

☐ smooth

☐ dry

2. Why did the acorn wake up and give a 'laugh and a shout'?

The acorn gave a 'laugh and a shout' because spring had arrived.

3. Find and copy one word in the text that means looking for.

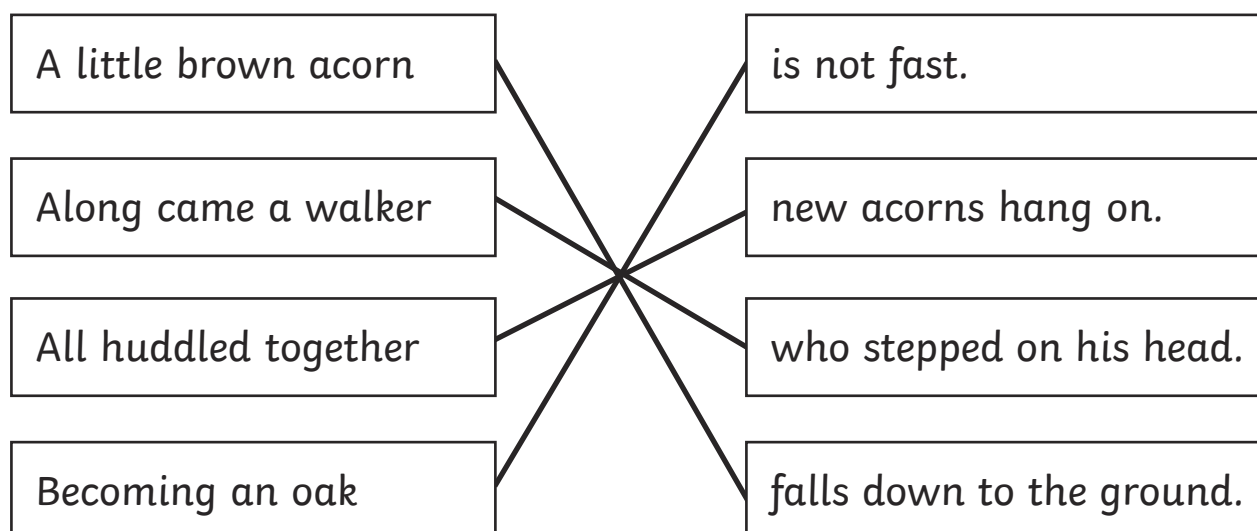
seeking

4. Complete the sentence by filling in the missing words.

His roots travelled **deeper**, his stem grew up

tall and soon his green leaves were on show.

5. Draw a line to complete the sentences.



6. Why do you think the story finishes in the same way that it started?

Accept answers referring to the life cycle of an oak tree.