

Traditional Tales (4)

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful garden in the surroundings of Tatton Park... It was the most wonderful garden that went on as far as the eye could see. Filled with colourful flowers and singing birds, but the Tatton Park Garden was no ordinary garden. You see Tatton Park Garden was the most magical of all; it holds many tales and stories within its leafy walls.

Maybe you have visited Tatton Park Gardens, or maybe you have heard some of the magical tales about them? Why not have ago at the activities below with your and see what magical tales you can create at home or in the classroom.

Activity 1: Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Once upon a time, there lived a little girl. Her name was Goldilocks because she had long, golden hair. One day, Goldilocks was walking alone in the grounds of Tatton Park, when she came across a little cottage. Goldilocks knocked on the door, but there was no answer, so she went inside. Nobody was home, so Goldilocks, being very nosey, had a look around. She saw three bowls on the kitchen table filled with porridge. "I'm so hungry" said Goldilocks, so she tried the biggest bowl of porridge first. "This porridge is too hot!" she cried. So she tried the medium bowl of porridge next. "Oh dear, this porridge is too cold!" Then she tried the smallest bowl of porridge. "This porridge is just right!" smiled Goldilocks, and she ate all the porridge up. After eating Goldilocks felt tired and needed a sit down. So she tried the first chair, "This chair is too big!" said Goldilocks. So she tried the next chair, "This chair is too big, too!" Finally she tried the smallest chair. "This chair is just right!" smiled Goldilocks.

Goldilocks suddenly felt very sleepy, so she went upstairs for a lie down. First, she tried the biggest bed. "This bed is too hard!" said Goldilocks. So she tried the next bed, "This bed is too soft!" Finally, she tried the smallest bed, "This bed is just right!" and she soon fell asleep. Soon after, the three bears came home. "Someone's been eating my porridge!" said Daddy Bear. "Someone's been eating my porridge too!" said Mummy Bear. "Someone's been sitting on my chair!" said Daddy Bear. "Someone's been sitting on my chair!" said Daddy Bear. "Someone's been sitting on my chair - and it's broken!" said Baby Bear. Then they went upstairs, "Someone's been sleeping in my bed!" said Daddy Bear. "Someone's been sleeping in my bed!" said Mummy Bear. "Someone's been sleeping in my bed - and she's still there!" said Baby Bear. Goldilocks woke up and saw the three bears. "Help!" Goldilocks shouted. She ran downstairs and into the parkland once more. She had learnt a valuable lesson and never went back to the bear's house again!





Make your own family of bears!

First, make a chain of three bears. To do this, you need to take a piece of paper and fold it into pleats. Draw the outline of a bear on the front of the pleats and cut it out. Then when you open the paper, you will have a family of bears. This website has some clear to follow instructions, but instead of a doll, you would use the outline of a bear: How to make a dollow bear chain.

Once you have your family of bears, fold them out so they are flat on the table, side by side. You can then decorate the bears, one by one. Make each bear different. You can personalise their clothes and choose their facial expressions!

Activity 2: Hansel and Gretel

Once upon a time there lived a brother and sister named Hansel and Gretel. They lived with their father, a poor woodcutter and their evil stepmother. The evil stepmother was very cruel to the children, so cruel in fact, that one day she took them down to the deepest, darkest part of the Tatton Park Gardens and left the children there all alone. Hansel and Gretel were very frightened. Lost, they walked deeper and deeper into the trees trying to find their way home. They were getting very hungry and tired. When finally, after walking for a long time, they saw a cottage made out of chocolate, candies and cake. "Look, Hansel a chocolate brick!" shouted Gretel in delight. The chocolate cottage belonged to a witch! She welcomed the children in and offered them some food. But the witch was a very wicked witch and she wanted to eat the children in a soup! She locked Hansel and Gretel in a cage while she began boiling a huge pot of water to make the soup. Just then, Gretel crept out of her cage. She gave the wicked witch a mighty push from behind and the witch fell into the boiling water. She howled!

Gretel freed Hansel from his cage. Before they left, the children gathered the witch's' sacks of treasure. They contained special items that the witch had stolen over the years from other children who had stopped by her chocolate house.

Hansel and Gretel followed the path from which they had come, through the Tatton Park Gardens until they finally reached home. There was their father, the poor woodcutter, who threw his arms around the children. He welcomed Hansel and Gretel home, apologizing for letting their evil stepmother be so cruel. To stop it ever happening again, he had banished her from their home. The woodcutter, Hansel and Gretel lived the rest of their lives happily together, sharing all their wealth with others.

Just like Hansel and Gretel, you can explore the forest for treasures. Ask a grown up to hide lots of different objects around the house or garden for you to find. You will need a list of these objects and you can tick them off as you find them. If you are very lucky, your grown up might hide some sweeties for you to find too!

