

Level 1-3
The Brave Tin Soldier

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

The Brave Tin Soldier is a story about a tin soldier with one leg.

A little boy has twenty-five toy soldiers. One of the soldiers has only one leg. The tin soldier is in love with a dancer in the playroom. She stands on one leg. He wants to meet her.

The black goblin lets the soldier out of the tin box. He tells the soldier not to look at the dancer. The soldier ignores him.

The next day, the soldier falls out of the window and into the street. Two boys put him in a paper boat. The boat goes into a drain. In the drain, he sees a rat. When the boat goes out of the drain, it sinks. The soldier falls into the water, and a fish eats him.

Someone catches the fish and sells it at the market. A cook buys the fish. He finds the soldier. He puts the soldier back in the playroom with the dancer.

The tin soldier is close to the fire. The wind blows and knocks the dancer over. She is too close to the fire, too. The two toys melt together into the shape of a heart.

2. Section Summary

► **Pages 6-13:** A little boy has twenty-five tin soldiers. One of the soldiers has one leg. The soldier is in love with a one-legged dancer. He wants to meet the dancer. The goblin opens the box for him. The next day, the soldier falls out of the window into the street.

► **Pages 14-19:** Two boys find the soldier in the street. The boys put him in a paper boat. The boat moves fast in the water and goes down into a dark drain. A rat chases the boat. When the boat sails out of the drain, it sinks underwater.

► **Pages 20-24:** A fish eats the soldier. The fish is caught and sold at the market. A cook finds the tin soldier and puts him back in the playroom. The tin soldier and the dancer get too close to the fire. The toys melt together into a heart.

B. Background and Themes

★ **Soldiers:** Soldiers serve their country and protect their fellow citizens. Some return home from war injured. Some die in battle. The tin soldier was wounded, but he remained brave until the end. He was a true soldier.

★ **Bravery:** It is important to be brave and face our fears. If we are afraid, we will never be strong enough to try anything. We will give up when life is difficult. The tin soldier is brave. He only has one leg, but he remains brave throughout the events of the story.

★ **Fate:** What is meant to happen will happen. The tin soldier fell out of the window. He sailed in a boat down a drain. He was eaten by a fish. Many times he should have been lost. But somehow, he ends up back in his home with the dancer that he loves because that was his destiny.

★ **Hindsight:** It is easy to be wise after the event. When the event is over, you can see what you should have done differently to get a better outcome. If the tin soldier had known what he was going to endure ahead of time, he may not have wanted the goblin to open the tin box.

Answer Key

Part A. Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. He wrote it in 1838.
2. He was born in Denmark.
3. He also wrote Thumbelina.

► Characters

1. Tin Soldier	2. Little Dancer	3. Black Goblin
<u>in love</u> with a dancer <u>brave</u>	stands on <u>one leg</u> <u>melts</u> by the fire	opens the <u>tin box</u>

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Beginning: Pages 6-13

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about a toy soldier.
2. I know the story called The Soldier's Night Before Christmas.
3. They need to be brave because they have to risk their lives to protect others.

B. Review Questions

1. He has twenty-five soldiers.
2. They both have only one leg.
3. A black goblin opens it.

► Middle: Pages 14-19

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the soldier sailing in a boat.
2. I think paper does not make good boats because when it gets wet, it falls apart.
3. I think the rat will eat him.

B. Review Questions

1. It makes a small stream.
2. It goes into a drain.
3. He sees a big rat.

► End: Pages 20-24

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the soldier returning home.
2. Another story is Pinocchio.
3. I think they will get married and live together in the castle.

B. Review Questions

1. The cook buys the fish at the market and cuts it open.
2. He puts the soldier in the playroom with the dancer.
3. They melt into the shape of a heart.

Mini Quiz

a. A scared heart never won a girl.

→ People who are afraid and cowardly do not win the hearts of others. Being a coward is not attractive. If you want to win the heart of a beautiful woman, you must be brave.

b. You cannot teach an old dog new tricks.

→ A person who is used to doing things a certain way for a long time cannot change.

c. Better late than never.

→ It is better to do something late than to not do it at all.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. A: Did Mary cook dinner?

B: No, she didn't.

5. A: Did you do your homework?

B: Yes, I did!

► Challenge

1. The dancer stands in front of the castle.
2. Two boys make a paper boat for the soldier.
3. The cook puts the soldier on the table.
4. The tin soldier and the dancer melt into a heart.

Part B. Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

1. rat
2. stand
3. soldier
4. start
5. listen
6. table
7. heart
8. underwater
9. market
10. stream

B.

1. sinks
2. little
3. inside
4. window
5. melts
6. shapes
7. brave
8. street
9. goblin
10. drain

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Pages 6-13

A.

1. F 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. T

B.

1. Black Goblin
2. Dancer
3. Little Boy
4. Tin Soldier

C.

1. b 2. c 3. a 4. d 5. d

► Middle: Pages 14-19

A.

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. T 5. F

B.

1. d 2. b 3. c 4. a

C.

1. c 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d

► End: Pages 20-24

A.

1. F 2. F 3. F 4. F 5. T

B.

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d

C.

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. c 5. a

Think and Write

1. window
2. street
3. boat
4. drain
5. sinks
6. fish
7. buys
8. home
9. fire
10. shape

Vocabulary Review

1. Twenty-five soldiers live in a box.
2. A tin soldier has one leg.
3. The tin soldier loves the dancer.
4. The black goblin opens the tin box.
5. The soldier does not listen to the goblin.
6. The soldier falls out of the window.
7. The rain makes a small stream.
8. The paper boat moves fast.
9. Someone takes the fish to the market.
10. The toys melt by the fire.

Summary

A.

2	4
3	1

B.

1. The black goblin opens the tin box.
2. Two boys put the soldier into a paper boat.
3. A fish eats the tin soldier.
4. The soldier and the dancer melt into the shape of a heart.

Book Report

Story c → e → d → a → b