

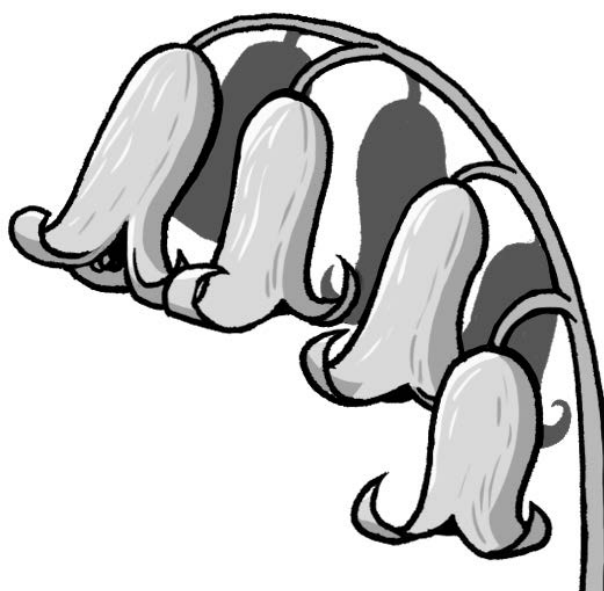
The Bog Baby

Jeanne Willis

Long ago, when we were little, me and Chrissy did something bad. We said we were going to Annie's house to play, but we didn't.

We went fishing. All by ourselves. Which wasn't allowed.

Chrissy said there was a magic pond in Bluebell Wood.



It was only ever there in spring. When it rained it made a huge puddle in the dell and pond creatures came. We would fish for newts, she said.

I won't tell if you don't. So we went.

We found the pond. It was squelchy round the edge. The bluebells squeaked under our boots.

The Bog Baby

Jeanne Willis

We fished and fished but we didn't catch a newt. We caught something much better. We caught a Bog Baby.

He was the size of a frog, only round and blue. He had boggly eyes and a spiky tail and I do remember he had ears like a mouse. He came swinging through the flower stalks and jumped into the water. He floated up and down on his back and sucked his toes.

That's when I fished him out. He didn't struggle. He sat in my hands and looked surprised. He was as soft as jelly. Like he had no bones.



Name:

Date:



Talk about this question.

What do you think the children felt when they saw the Bog Baby swinging through the flower stalks? Make up another question about the text, starting "What do you think ...?"

Write the answers to these questions.

1. What did the children do that was bad? Tick **all** the right answers.

☐

They went to Annie's house.

☐

They played together.

☐

They told a lie.

☐

They went fishing by themselves.

2. Write **two** things you know about the pond.

a.

b.

3. What did the Bog Baby look like? Tick the true sentence in each line.

☐

He was blue.

or

☐

He was green.

☐

He was the size of a newt.

or

☐

He was the size of a frog.

☐

He had spiky ears.

or

☐

He had a spiky tail.

☐

He had ears like a mouse.

or

☐

He had ears like a frog.

4. What do you think the children did next?

.....

.....

5. What do you think the Bog Baby did next?

.....

.....

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