



CEC READING LIBRARY · GRADE 3 · R2 CORE

Thumbelina

9 Chapters

Day 1-9

Q3 W22-W24

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 1: A Flower Opens

VOCABULARY tiny, thumb, bloomed, appeared

A kind woman had always wished for a little child. A woman planted a magic seed in a flower pot. A beautiful flower bloomed and a tiny girl was inside. Suddenly, she appeared among the petals and smiled. ★ **She was very small, even smaller than a thumb.** The woman named her Thumbelina and loved her dearly. Thumbelina slept in a walnut shell every night. She was tiny but she had a brave and kind heart.

THINK What did the woman plant?

Chapter 2: A Walnut Bed

VOCABULARY tiny, walnut, petal, sang

Thumbelina lived in a tiny world made just for her. ★ **She was as small as a thumb and slept in a walnut shell.** Her blanket was a soft flower petal from the garden. She loved to sing and the birds listened to her songs. Every evening, she sang under the stars, and even the crickets clapped. Her mother cared for her and kept her warm and safe. But Thumbelina dreamed of seeing the big world outside.

THINK What was her blanket?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 3: Dew Drops and Butterflies

VOCABULARY butterflies, dew, adventure, wondered

Thumbelina spent happy days playing with butterflies. She sometimes rode on a butterfly's back like a tiny pilot! She washed her face with morning dew drops. ★ **She was tiny, no bigger than a thumb in the garden.** At night, she wondered if there were others like her. She dreamed of exploring the wide, beautiful world. Soon, an unexpected adventure would find the tiny girl.

THINK What did she wash her face with?

Chapter 4: Stolen by a Toad

VOCABULARY toad, took, scared, floated

One night, a big ugly toad stole little Thumbelina. The toad took her away while she was sleeping. She woke up on a lily pad in the middle of a pond. The toad wanted her to marry her son. Thumbelina was so scared that she could not stop crying. ★ **She floated away on the lily pad crying for help.** Tiny fish felt sorry for her and nibbled the stem. The lily pad broke free and carried her down the stream.

THINK Where did she wake up?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 5: Alone on a Leaf

VOCABULARY alone, missed, butterfly, stream

The lily pad carried Thumbelina down the winding stream. ★ **She floated on a leaf alone, missing her mother.** She missed her walnut bed and her warm blanket. A kind butterfly flew beside her to keep her company. The water moved slowly and the world seemed so big. Thumbelina sang a little song, and the butterfly danced in the air. Thumbelina felt small and lonely on the open water. She did not know where the stream would take her.

THINK Who kept her company?

Chapter 6: Down the River

VOCABULARY river, cold, tight, courage

The stream carried Thumbelina further and further from home. ★ **She floated down the river on a lily leaf all day.** Beautiful flowers and tall trees passed by on both sides. As the sun set, the air became cold and dark. Fireflies lit up like tiny lamps, but the air was still cold. She held on tight, even when the wind blew. Thumbelina held onto the leaf and refused to give up. She was tiny but her courage was bigger than her size.

THINK What passed by on both sides?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 7: A Warm Mouse Home

VOCABULARY winter, mouse, warm, soup

Thumbelina wandered alone until winter was near. She was cold, hungry, and very tired. A kind field mouse invited her into her warm home. ★ **She found a home and ate warm soup for the first time.** The field mouse took care of her through the cold days. The field mouse gave her a tiny bed by the fire. Thumbelina was grateful to finally have a safe place.

THINK How did she feel before the mouse?

Chapter 8: The Swallow

VOCABULARY swallow, hurt, flew, sunny

Thumbelina spent the winter in the field mouse's warm home. In spring, she found a hurt swallow and nursed him. The swallow promised to take her somewhere beautiful. ★ **She found a warm and safe home in a sunny land.** They flew high above the clouds, and the wind sang in her ears. The swallow carried her on his back over mountains. They arrived in a land full of sunshine and flowers.

THINK What did she do in spring?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 9: Happily Ever After

VOCABULARY finally, prince, wings, friends

In the warm land, Thumbelina met a tiny flower prince. He bowed and said, "Welcome, Thumbelina!" He was exactly her size and gave her beautiful wings.

★ **At last, she found a safe and happy home forever.** She was no longer alone or cold or afraid. Finally, Thumbelina felt at home. Her long adventure taught her about courage and kindness. Thumbelina lived happily ever after with her new friends.

THINK What did the prince give her?