The Boy and the Rainbow

The boy didn't mind the rain. But the grey sky made him long for the world to be colourful again.

As if his wish had been heard, a golden sunbeam broke through the clouds. With it came a flash of light on the ground beside the trees.



The boy picked up a sparkling key. Then, he spotted a rather unusual creature searching by a tree stump.

"Oh, raindrops," said the creature. "Where could it be?"

"Are you looking for this?" asked the boy.

"You found it!" cried the creature. "Now, I can unlock the rainbow."

"Unlock... a rainbow?" gasped the boy.

"Watch the key. It will guide us as we unlock each of the colours," said the creature. "Every time it changes, a new magical door will be revealed."

The boy stared as the key turned red and a shimmering door appeared.

"Step inside!" called the creature.





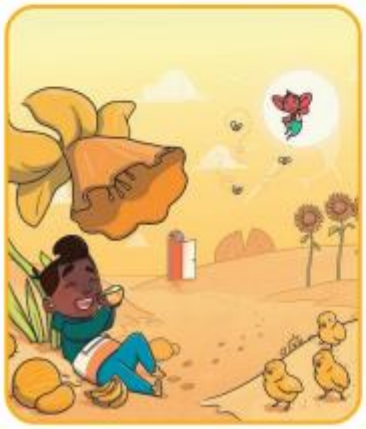
"Welcome to red!" said the creature. The boy ran into the red world excitedly. Rows of giant toadstools lined a winding path of red brick. They hopped from one to another as red parrots raced above them.

The boy breathed in the strawberry breeze and smiled. A few moments later, the key turned orange and the next door appeared.



The boy giggled as a group of friendly tiger cubs tumbled around him. A snippy little crab waved as it carved pumpkins with a grin.

The boy stared at the warm orange sunset and wished he could stay forever. But soon, the key turned yellow and the next door appeared.



The sun was high in the sky. Beneath the boy's feet was warm sand. He sat under a giant daffodil and munched on bananas, melon and mango.

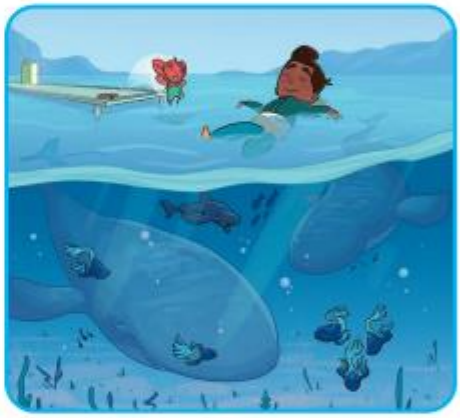
The boy closed his eyes and listened to the song of a canary. Before long, the key turned green and the next door appeared.



They stepped out onto a springy bed of moss. The boy was filled with joy as they bounced higher and higher. Vines tickled their heads and they grabbed one each to swing on.

The scent of freshly mown grass drifted around the boy's nose. After a little while, the key turned blue and the next door appeared.

They walked out onto a jetty. The cool ocean was so inviting that they dived straight in. They floated in the water calmly as fish and whales swam beneath them.



The boy had never seen the sky so clear. Then, the key turned indigo and the next door appeared.



The sky was dark and the smell of blueberries filled the air. The boy walked over smooth pebbles that led to a river of ink. He dipped his finger in and drew patterns on the stones.

The boy did not want to leave but the next colour needed to be unlocked. Finally, the key turned violet and the next door appeared.



The boy was amazed to see a vast meadow of flowers. The lovely scent of lavender wafted up his nose. Rocks made of quartz formed a pool with starfish dancing in the water.

Petals fluttered down from the sky like snowflakes and the boy lay on the ground, watching the flurry. Suddenly, the key lost its colourful glow and the door that led back home appeared.



"Every door has been unlocked," said the creature. "All the colours have been set free."

"What happens now?" asked the boy as he stepped out of the door and found himself back in his garden.

"Now, we look up," smiled the creature.

There it was. The most beautiful rainbow the boy had ever seen.

And the world was colourful once more.



Questions

1. Who is the main character in this story? **Tick one**.

- ◯ the orangutan
- ◯ the creature
- ◯ the boy

2. What does the boy find on the ground? **Tick one**.

- ◯ a key
- ◯ a book
- ◯ a coin

3. Which colour does the door turn first? **Tick one**.

- ◯ yellow
- ◯ green
- ◯ red

4. What does the boy do in the blue world? **Tick one**.

- ◯ He swims in the ocean.
- ◯ He eats a banana.
- ◯ He plays with some tiger cubs.

5. What happens once all the colours have been unlocked? **Tick one**.

- ◯ It rains.
- ◯ A rainbow appears.
- ◯ The boy falls asleep.