

# Puss in Boots – Lesson Guide



## Book List:

1. *Puss in Boots* by Steve Light
2. *Puss in Boots* by Jerry Pinkney
3. *Puss in Boots: Furball of Fortune (Adventures of Puss in Boots)* by Chris Cooper, Max Davison
4. *Merlin's Magic Cat Fantastic Adventures: A Fairy Tale for Children and Adults* by Dmitry Gorun
5. *The Elves Help Puss In Boots (Fairy Tale Mix-ups)* by Paul Harrison and Tim Sutcliffe

## Videos:

1. Puss in Boots starring Christopher Walken (1988)
2. Shrek movies
3. Puss in Boots starring Antonio Banderas (2012)

## Activities:

1. Color/ Trace/ Write worksheet (below)
2. Puss in Boots paper dolls (below)
3. Make a Puss in Boots hat <http://madebymommainpa.blogspot.com/2012/10/making-musketteer-hat.html>



4. Boot/ shoe matching activity – gather all the shoes in your house, mix them up and have your child match up the pairs.
5. Watch a documentary about cats, such as *DK Eyewitness: Cat* (2010) or *The Cat Rescuers* (2019)

# Puss in Boots

A retelling of the original European tale

By, Kendra Bott



Once upon a time, there was an old miller who had three sons. When he died, he left the mill to his oldest son, David. He left his donkey to his second son, Benjamin. To his youngest son, William, he left the cat.

“How am I going to make a living with only a cat?” William said.

The cat sat down next to his new master.

“If you make me a pair of boots,” said the cat. “And give me a large, leather sack. Then I will be able to help you make your fortune.”

“I know you are a clever cat. But I don’t see how you can help.”

“Trust me,” said the cat.

“Why are you so keen on helping me?” William asked.

“Your father wasted me in the barn, catching mice. I can do so much more. Like you said, I am clever. And I want to prove it.”

So, with nothing else to lose, William had the cobbler make a pair of boots on credit for his cat. He gave the cat a large, leather sack from the mill and watched the puss in boots walk down the road towards the forest.



Deep in the woods, Puss laid a trap and caught a rabbit. He shoved it in his bag and headed to the palace. He knew the king loved fresh rabbit. When he entered the throne room, Puss laid the rabbit at the king's feet with a low bow.

"I have brought you a gift from my master, the Count of Carabas," Puss said to the king.

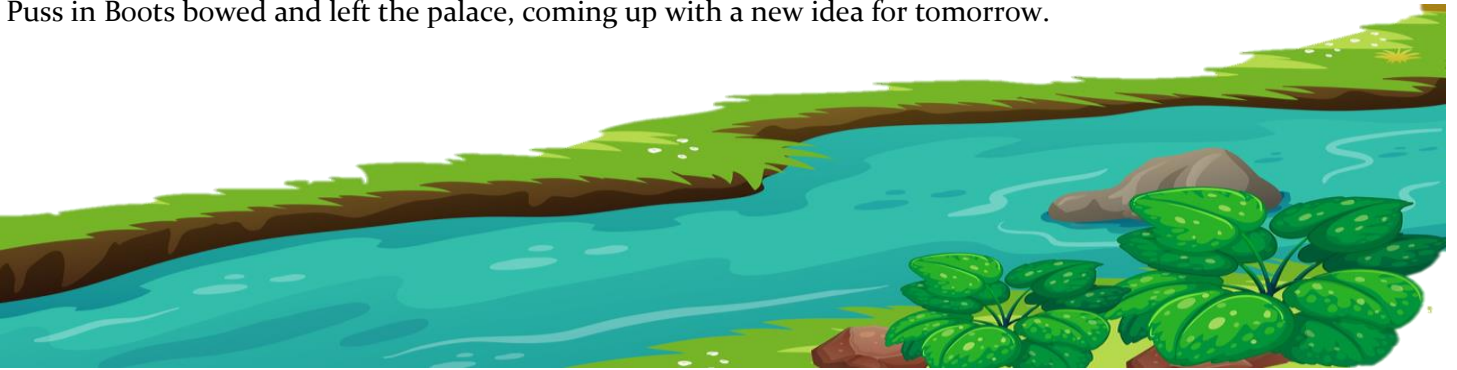
"This will make a tasty meal," said the king. "Tell your count that I appreciate his gift."

Day after day, Puss in Boots hunted and scavenged gifts for the king, a partridge, a fish, a pheasant. Each day he told the king they were gifts from his master, the Count of Carabas. The king was so grateful, he had a feathered hat made from the pheasant and gave it to Puss.

"I will be back tomorrow with another gift," Puss said.

"Oh, tomorrow I promised to take my daughter out on a carriage ride along the river," replied the king.

Puss in Boots bowed and left the palace, coming up with a new idea for tomorrow.



The next morning, Puss told William to go to the river and bathe.

"Why should I do that?" William asked.

"Trust me, I'm trying to make you your fortune. Just go bathe in the river and leave the rest to me."

William did as the cat said. While William was in the river, Puss hid his clothing. Soon, the royal carriage passed, and Puss ran to the middle of the road, waving his paws.

"Help! Help!" he called. The coach stopped and the king stepped out, recognizing Puss. "My Lord went out for a swim," Puss told the king. "And thieves came by and stole his jewelry and his coin purse and all of his clothes. He is there in the water and if he stays much longer, he'll freeze!"

Immediately the king commanded his coachman to rescue the Count. William didn't know what his cat was up to, but he played along. The king's daughter sent a footman to bring the Count new clothes and soon, William was dressed in an ensemble fit for a lord.

The king invited the Count to join him and his daughter for the rest of their journey. This pleased the princess very much, because she had never had a friend her own age to talk with.



While all this was happening, Puss in Boots ran ahead of the carriage. The land ahead was owned by an evil sorcerer. Puss met with the villagers and farmers in this land and told them that the king's carriage was passing by soon.

"You are to tell the king that this land is owned by the Count of Carabas," Puss told them. "Or else the sorcerer will grind you up and make sausage out of you!"

The people were frightened of the sorcerer and believed what the cat told them. When the carriage passed by, the king asked the farmers who owned this land that they worked.

"The Count of Carabas!" they all called.

Puss went on further and found the castle where the sorcerer lived. He found gardeners outside tending to the plants and clipping the bushes. "Tell the king, when he comes, that this castle is owned by the Count of Carabas, or the sorcerer will grind you up and make you into sausage."

The gardener's agreed.

Puss walked up to the castle steps and walked right into the castle.

"Who are you?" bellowed the sorcerer.

"I am Puss in Boots, at your service, sir."

Puss bowed low to the ground.

"I have traveled from afar to find the greatest sorcerer in the world and I have heard that you are that man."

"You've heard that, have you?" the sorcerer smiled.

"I have heard that you can turn yourself into any animal you wish," said Puss.

"Yes, yes. That is true," said the sorcerer.

"Even a big animal like a great bear?" asked Puss.

"Of course," said the sorcerer. He mumbled a spell and let out a loud roar. Just like that, he turned into a huge, wild bear. The sorcerer chased Puss around the room for a little fun and changed back into a man.

"That was quite impressive," said the cat. "Changing into something big is one thing. But I find it impossible that you could turn yourself into a small animal. How would you shrink down to the size of a mouse?"

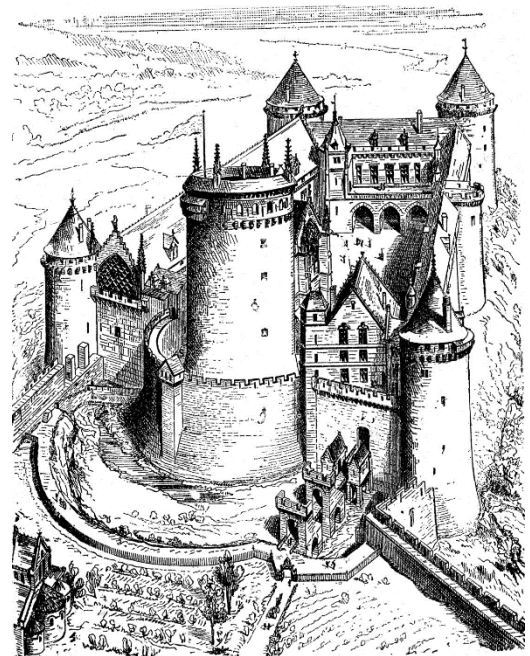
"I'll show you," said the sorcerer. Once again, he said some magic words and then let out a squeak. Just like that he was a tiny mouse.

Before the sorcerer could switch back, Puss in Boots opened his mouth and gobbled up the little mouse.

No sooner had he done that, when there was a great commotion outside. The king's carriage had arrived, and the gardeners were cheering.

"Who owns this castle?" the king asked.

"The Count of Carabas, of course," the gardeners said.





Puss in Boots was at the top of the castle steps.

“Welcome to my master’s house,” he told the king.

“Well,” the king said, putting his arm around the Count of Carabas. “Not only are you a decent man, but you have a magnificent home.”

They were led into the great hall and had a feast. The servants were pleased to serve the Count of Carabas from then on, for they were always terrified of the sorcerer. After the food was gone, the king declared that his daughter would marry the count and become the Countess of Carabas.

William was ever grateful to Puss in Boots and gave him the run of the household. Puss was grateful to live in luxury and never have to chase mice again.

The End





Puss in Boots

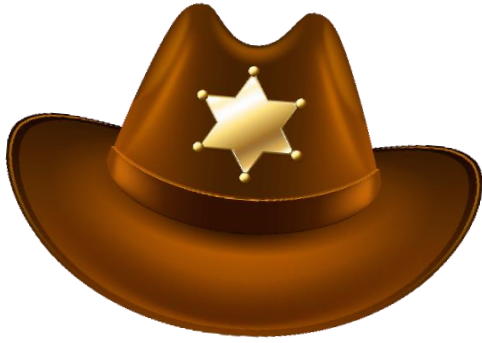
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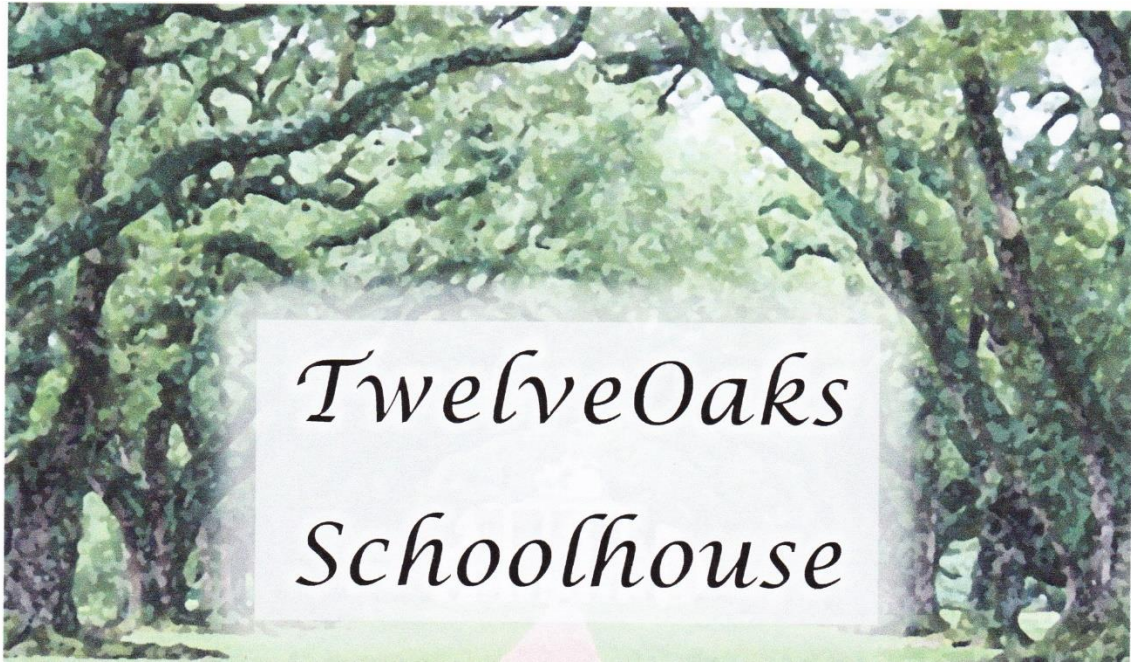
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# Puss in Boots Paper Doll

Print on cardstock and cut out. Put different hats and boots on Puss.





## *Feature Stories and Fairy Tales – Puss in Boots*

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*Kendra Bott*