

Penguin



Readers

Tove Jansson



MOOMIN AND THE HAT



Penguin  Readers

MOOMIN AND THE HAT

ADAPTED FROM
FINN FAMILY MOOMINTROLL

TOVE JANSSON

LEVEL

3

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People in the story



Moomintroll



Moominmamma and
Moominpappa



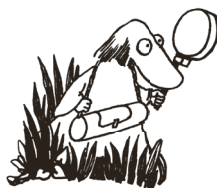
Sniff



Snufkin



Snorkmaiden



The Hemulen



Thingumy and Bob

New words



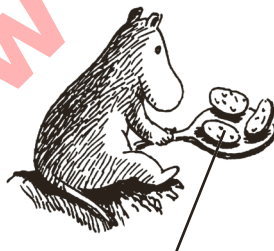
cave



handbag



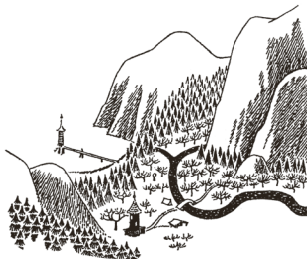
mouth-organ



pancakes



ruby



valley

Note about the story

Tove Jansson was born in Finland in 1914. She was an artist and she also wrote many books for adults and children. She drew her first Moomin in the 1930s for fun, and in 1945 she wrote her first Moomin book. Tove became famous all over the world for her Moomin stories. She wrote nine books about the Moomin family and their friends, and drew all the pictures for them.

Tove lived and worked in the city of Helsinki in the winter, and every summer she stayed near the sea for a few months. The seasons – winter, spring, summer and autumn – are an important part of *Moomin and the Hat*. The winter is long and dark in Finland while the summer nights are very light.

Tove Jansson died in 2001 at the age of 86.

Before-reading questions

- 1 Look at the cover of the book. What do you think will happen in the story?
- 2 Look at the “People in the story” on page 6. What are they like, do you think?
- 3 Read the “Note about the story” and look quickly at the pictures in the book. What is it like in the Moomins’ world, do you think?
- 4 Look again at the pictures in the book. Find:
 - a a river
 - b a mountain
 - c the moon.

CHAPTER ONE

The hat

One grey morning, the first snow began to fall in the **Valley*** of the Moomins. It fell softly and quietly, and in a few hours everything was white.

Moomintroll stood outside his house and watched the snow. “Tonight,” he thought, “we’ll go to bed and sleep all through the winter.”

All moomintrolls go to sleep about November. This is a good idea if you do not like the cold and the long, dark winter.

“The snow has come!” Moomintroll said to his mother.

“I know,” said Moominmamma. “I’ve made all our beds.”

The Moomin family and all their friends had a small meal. Then, they said goodnight and went to bed. The snow fell more heavily and nearly **covered** Moominhouse. The clocks stopped. Winter was here.

*Definitions of words in **bold** can be found in the glossary on pages 93–95.



The first bird of spring arrived in Moominvalley at four o'clock in the morning. He sang his little song and then he flew away to the east.

Moomintroll woke up and lay in his bed for a long time.

"Where am I?" he thought. "Oh, I remember!" Moomintroll still felt tired and he tried to go back to sleep. But then he saw that Snufkin's bed was empty and that his hat was not there.

"Where is Snufkin?" he thought. He went to the window and looked down. He could see the **rope ladder**. "Oh! Snufkin has gone out of the window."

He climbed out of the window and went down the rope ladder. He stood at the bottom and listened. He could hear music. Snufkin was playing his happiest song on his **mouth-organ**. Moomintroll began running towards the music.

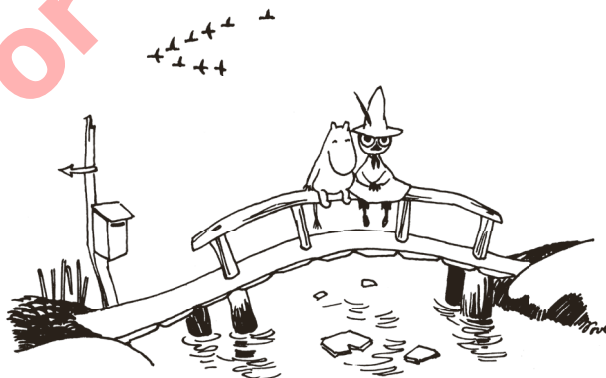
Snufkin was sitting on the bridge over the river.

“Hello,” said Moomintroll, sitting down next to him.

“Hello to you,” said Snufkin and he started playing his mouth-organ again.

They sat there for a while, feeling happy. They could remember many strange adventures on this river and meeting lots of new friends there. Moomintroll’s mother and father were always happy for these friends to come and stay. Because of this, Moominhouse was quite full. But it was a very happy house. Strange and surprising things often happened there, and nobody was ever bored.

Snufkin finished his song and put his mouth-organ in his **pocket**.



“Is Sniff still sleeping?” he asked.

“Yes,” said Moomintroll. “He always sleeps a week longer than the others.”

“Then we must wake him up,” said Snufkin and he jumped down. “We must do something special today because the weather is going to be nice.”

They stood under Sniff’s window and Moomintroll **whistled**. Three short **whistles** first and then a long one through his **paws**. This meant, “Something is happening.”

Nothing moved above, so Moomintroll whistled again. This time, he did it more loudly.

“I’m sleeping!” shouted Sniff, angrily.

“Come down and don’t be angry,” said Snufkin. “We’re going to do something special today.”

Sniff got out of bed and climbed down his rope ladder. Moomintroll, Snufkin and Sniff began to walk up the hill. Everywhere, lots of small **creatures** were waking up after the long winter. Many of them were getting their houses ready for spring.

“Happy spring!” said a little **mouse**. “And how was the winter with you?”

“Very nice, thank you,” said Moomintroll.
“Did you sleep well?”

“Fine,” said the mouse. “Please say hello to your father and mother for me.”

Moomintroll, Snufkin and Sniff kept walking up the hill. They met more people and stopped to talk to a lot of them. But higher up the hill, they saw fewer people. And near the top of the hill, there were only one or two **mice**.

It was wet everywhere.

“Ugh, horrible!” said Moomintroll. “Snow is never good for a Moomin.”

“Listen, Moomintroll,” said Snufkin. “I have an idea. Let’s go to the top of the mountain and make a pile of stones. We can show that we are the first ones there.”

“Yes, let’s go,” said Sniff and he started to walk quickly because he wanted to get there before Moomintroll and Snufkin.

When they got to the top of the mountain, they could feel the March wind around them. In the west, they could see the sea. In the east, they could see the river and more mountains. In the north, they could see the great forest.

In the south, they could see the Moominhouse **roof** and smoke, and they knew that Moominmamma was cooking breakfast. But Sniff did not see any of these things because a hat lay on the top of the mountain. A tall, black hat.

“Someone got here first!” Sniff said.



During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 What do all moomintrolls do in November, and why?
- 2 Why do Moomintroll, Snufkin and Sniff go up the mountain?
- 3 What do they find there? What is special about it?

CHAPTER TWO

- 1 What do the Moomin family use the hat for?
- 2 What happens to the eggshell when Moomintroll puts it in the hat?
- 3 What colour butterfly do Moomintroll and Snorkmaiden see? Why is that special, do you think?

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 How does Moomintroll hide from the others?
- 2 What happens to Moomintroll's body?
- 3 Why does Snorkmaiden start crying?

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 What do the Moomin family do with the hat, and why?
- 2 What is Snufkin's secret?
- 3 Why do Moomintroll and Snufkin decide to keep the hat?

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 Why do Moomintroll and his friends go to the cave?
- 2 Where is the Hobgoblin's House and what is special about it?
- 3 Is the Hobgoblin happy? Why/Why not?

After-reading questions

- 1 Why are these things important in the story?
 - a the seasons and the weather
 - b the river
 - c the mountain
- 2 The Moomin family throw the Hobgoblin's Hat in the river because they think it's dangerous. Is it very dangerous, do you think?
- 3 Which people in the story like collecting things? What do they collect? Which person doesn't like collecting things? How do you know this?
- 4 Why does everyone think the Groke is very bad? Is she very bad, do you think?
- 5 Think about the gold butterfly in Chapter Two. Was the butterfly right? How was the Moomins' summer?
- 6 Who should have the King's Ruby, do you think?

Exercises

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 Match the correct words to their definitions in your notebook.**

Example: 1 – d

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1 low land between hills or mountains | a whistle |
| 2 You climb up or down this. | b rope ladder |
| 3 You make music with this. | c paw |
| 4 You put things in this. It is usually in a jacket or trousers. | d valley |
| 5 You make this noise with your mouth. | e pocket |
| 6 Many animals have four of these. | f mouth-organ |

CHAPTER TWO

- 2 Look at the picture on page 20, and answer the questions in your notebook.**

- Who is in the picture?
The Hemulen, Moomintroll and Snorkmaiden...
- Where are they?
- What are Moomintroll and Snorkmaiden sitting on?
Where did they come from?
- What's the matter with the Hemulen?
- How do Moomintroll and Snorkmaiden try to help him?
- What happens when they go home?