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# Through the Skies

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**Float** in a hot air balloon,  
**SOAR** with a straight blue arrow, and  
**glide** with a prissy puddle duck  
**Through the Skies.**

## To Teachers and Parents

*Through the Skies* is packed with thrilling tales and heart-warming values. Sharpen students' map skills and introduce them to a new world of classic literature through the writings of Beatrix Potter. Students will enjoy analyzing their favorite selections by reviewing literary concepts including title, author, main character, plot, setting, and moral.

### *Through the Skies*

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## To Teachers and Parents

Story/Character Themes are presented to encourage appreciation for God's design, recognize His plan for creation, and develop desirable character traits. Discuss themes as stories are read orally, encouraging students to emulate good character traits.

### Guide to Story/Character Themes

#### Compassion

Beatrix Potter and  
the Making of  
Peter Rabbit 98

#### Courage

Skunk Baby 71

#### Determination

The Case of the  
Crazy Clock 85  
The Tale of Jemima  
Puddle-Duck 115

#### Enjoyment

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#### Faithfulness

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#### Family

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#### Friendship

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#### God's Creation

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Clouds 95  
Beatrix Potter and  
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#### God's Power

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#### Gratitude

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Forest Fire 30

#### Imagination

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#### Kindness

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the White Giant 2  
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the White Giant 2  
The Case of the  
Crazy Clock 85



## **Obedience**

In a Minute *11*  
The Tale of Peter  
Rabbit *104*

## **Patience**

The Case of the  
Crazy Clock *85*

## **Perseverance**

Never Give Up *66*

## **Persistence**

Marcus and the  
Blue Arrow *58*

## **Prayer**

Jesus Walks on  
the Water *53*

## **Responsibility**

Which Is Which? *18*  
Blaze and the  
Forest Fire *30*

## **Selflessness**

Which Is Which? *18*

## **Wisdom**

The Tale of Jemima  
Puddle-Duck *115*





# My Red Balloon

*Bethany Roberts*

Higher than a kite, I fly,  
On breezy afternoons.  
Adventure, as far as I can see,  
I find in my balloon.

The clouds are passing right and left;  
The birds singing in tune.  
The cars and houses look like toys  
Beneath my red balloon.

I use my telescope to see  
If I will get there soon.  
I have so many lands to find  
In my hot air balloon.

Flying faster toward the sun  
And farther from the moon,  
The world is bigger than I dreamed  
In my hot air balloon.



## Parts of a Story

Watch for the **main character** in the next story. What does he look like, how does he feel, how does he act, and what does he say?

# Willie Woodchuck and the White Giant

*Adapted from Arthur Scott Bailey*

It was a chilly spring day. There had just been a heavy snowfall, and big white flakes covered the ground.

Willie Woodchuck inched his nose and whiskers out of the den just far enough to feel the cold, whistling wind.





“Brrr,” he said to himself, remembering that the weather would be warmer soon.

“The orchard is a wonderful place for a home,” he told himself. “I wonder what it looks like now.”

Willie Woodchuck scrambled out of the den and waddled through the frosty air toward the orchard.

All at once, he saw a sight that sent him darting behind a nearby tree. He hid there for a while, and something besides the whistling wind made him shiver.

Yes! Willie Woodchuck was a little bit worried, for he had caught a glimpse of a strange man. It was not the farmer or Johnnie, the farmer’s son. This was a giant.

The giant had big black eyes and a great big nose that stuck out strangely from his pale, white face. He was dressed in all white, except for an old black hat, which he wore tipped over one eye.



In one hand, he held a stick, and it seemed to Willie Woodchuck that the strange man was just about to wind up and throw it at something.

Even though Willie was afraid, he was curious. He peeked around the tree and watched the stranger in white, but the stranger did not throw the stick. He stood quite still and seemed to be waiting.

“Maybe there’s a squirrel hiding behind a tree,” Willie said to himself. “Perhaps this white giant is going to throw the stick as soon as the squirrel shows himself.”

Robin took the cookie and looked in the white container. The package had been filled with a dozen of Mom's homemade chocolate chip cookies. Robin laughed to herself and took a bite.

"Do you like your reward, Agent Robin?" asked Nate.

With a chocolate-covered grin and another salute, Robin answered,

"Sir, yes, sir!"



### **Think About It!**

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*Give the correct answer.*

1. What was Robin's secret mission?
- \*2. Why couldn't she go near Pepper?
- \*3. Was Robin a good agent? Why?



## Parts of a Story

Watch for the **moral** in this next story. Ask yourself, “Why did the author write this story?” The answer will give you a hint to the lesson the author wants you to learn.



## Words to Watch For

ministered    doubt    truly    control

# Jesus Walks on the Water

It had been a long, exciting day by the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had healed the sick, taught multitudes, and fed 5,000 people. He had ministered to the needs of others all day. Now that the people had gone home, Jesus told His disciples to climb into their boat and row over to the other side of the sea. Then He walked up the mountainside to spend time talking with His Heavenly Father. As Jesus prayed, a terrible storm arose on the sea.