

Heidi

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A Before Reading

- 1 The story of *Heidi* takes place in Switzerland. What do you know about this country? Write your ideas in the table.

| Swiss people | Swiss geography and countryside | Animals, plants and birds that live in the Swiss countryside | Swiss food |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| | <i>The Alps</i> | | |

- 2 14 words from the story and the picture on page 6 of the book are hidden in the wordsearch. Try to find:

- 3 animals or birds: _____, _____, _____.
- 4 parts of the countryside: _____, _____, _____, _____.
- 3 objects used for carrying things: *bundle*, _____, _____.
- 4 objects which can get hot _____, _____, _____, _____.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | J | R | M | B | E | L | D | N | U | B | R | K |
| E | Q | E | O | G | O | Y | Y | E | L | L | A | V |
| R | K | P | U | T | A | O | G | N | C | R | N | G |
| U | I | I | N | U | A | H | L | I | O | S | T | V |
| T | T | P | T | F | B | O | Y | L | O | E | D | X |
| S | T | H | A | S | E | R | M | T | K | C | X | Z |
| A | E | A | I | A | L | D | T | S | I | E | B | Z |
| P | N | W | N | C | D | P | A | C | N | M | D | P |
| V | K | K | S | K | N | B | V | I | G | T | L | A |
| Q | H | X | T | D | A | B | V | Q | P | J | U | C |
| U | G | M | O | X | C | A | D | Y | O | C | A | H |
| Z | G | H | V | Z | R | O | Q | B | T | M | R | Z |
| I | X | P | E | Y | S | G | J | S | Z | O | N | V |

3



The picture shows the heroine of the story, a little Swiss girl called Heidi. Write 3 questions to find out more about Heidi, for example *Does she have any brothers or sisters?* As you read, look for the answers to your questions.

B While Reading

4 Match the people in the story to the descriptions.

Detie

Heidi's grandfather

Mr Usher

Clara's father, who travels a lot for his work

Uncle Alp

Heidi's aunt, who moves to Germany

Grannie

The tall and thin housekeeper at Clara's house

Peter

Bridget's mother, who is blind and likes listening to stories

Mr Sesemann

Heidi's friend and companion, who is too weak and ill to walk

Bridget

Clara's grandmother, who gives Heidi a book when she learns to read

Miss Rottenmeier

Heidi's friend who looks after goats

Mrs Sesemann (Grandmamma)

The teacher in Frankfurt who teaches Heidi to read

Dr Classen

Peter's mother

Clara

The man who looks after Clara's health, but has no family since his daughter died

5 a The story is about friendship and helping other people. Keep a record of who helps who in the story and how they do this.

| Person helped | By which person? | How are they helped? |
|---------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Heidi</i> | <i>Uncle Alp</i> | <i>He makes her a chair and a bed of hay in the loft. He gives her food and drink.</i> |
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| | | |

b Has anyone helped you recently? Have you helped anyone? How did you/they do this and what was the result?

C After Reading

- 6 a The characters' lives change depending on the weather and season. Decide if the following words and phrases from the story are connected with summer or winter.

sledge warm sunshine woollen dress froze pretty flowers shawl fresh
green grass golden brown skin snowflake

| Summer | Winter |
|--------|------------------|
| | <i>snowflake</i> |

- b Add to the lists any other words which you feel are connected with summer or winter. Are spring, summer, autumn and winter very different in your country? Which is your favourite season and why?
- 7 a Many characters give and receive presents in the story. Clara sends presents from Frankfurt to the mountains. What does she send to which person? Choose words from the box below.

sausage a warm shawl and a box of cakes tobacco a thick coat with a warm hood

"Clara prepared the presents... First, there was _____ for Heidi. Next, there was _____ for Grannie. There was _____ for Heidi's grandfather, and _____ for Peter, his mother and Grannie." (p52)

- b Can you remember any other presents from the story? When do you give and receive presents in your country? What are the best and worst presents you have received?
- 8 When Clara is staying with Heidi in the mountains, Heidi says, "Let's write letters to Grandmamma. Perhaps she's worried about you up here." (p63)
Write a letter from Clara and Heidi to Grandmamma telling her what you are doing and explaining why she should not worry.