

Journey to the Centre of the Earth

by Jules Verne

Professor Hardwigg, his nephew Harry, and Hans climbed down and down into the volcano. Professor Hardwigg opened the old map from the museum and looked at it again. 'I'm sure this is the right volcano,' he said excitedly. Hans looked worried. In Iceland there were many legends about this volcano and Hans' grandfather was an expert on these.

When they came to the bottom of the volcano, they found a mushroom forest with huge mushrooms bigger than trees, and strange animals with long legs and big eyes. 'Here's the path,' said Professor Hardwigg. 'This way to the centre of the Earth! We go straight on through this forest and then turn right.' Then he walked happily into the mushroom forest with the map under his arm and a big smile on his face.

Harry and Hans walked behind him. Harry was scared. He decided not to look round and just looked down at his feet. Suddenly, Hans shouted, 'Look out! What's that! Oh no! It's a dinosaur!' Harry jumped quickly behind a rock and put his hands over his face. Through his fingers he saw a huge dinosaur with a long neck. It pushed over a mushroom tree and started to eat. Then it walked slowly across the forest, away from Harry.

Harry came out from behind the rock, but now he couldn't see Hans or his uncle. Harry was scared and so he shouted loudly 'HANS! UNCLE! HELP!' Suddenly he saw them. They were on top of one of the mushroom trees! Harry started to laugh, 'Ha ha! Come down!' he said. 'It's OK now.'

Together, they walked quickly out of the forest. In front of them was a huge lake. 'Great!' said Professor Hardwigg, looking at the map. 'Here's the lake. We need to go across the lake and then down a waterfall. Then we come to the centre of the Earth.' 'OK,' said Harry unhappily, 'but how are we going to go across the lake?' 'Don't worry,' said Hans. 'We can make a raft from the mushroom trees.' Hans was very clever with his hands and he quickly made a raft, then off they went across the lake. They went round an island with a big mountain and suddenly Professor Hardwigg stood up on the raft and pointed. 'There's the waterfall!' he said.

 Read the story again and answer the questions.

- 1 Why did they go into the volcano? _____

- 2 Why did Harry jump quickly behind a rock? _____

- 3 Where is Hans from and why is he with Professor Hardwigg and Harry? _____

2 Read and choose True or False.

1. They climbed up a volcano.
2. The volcano was in Iceland.
3. They found a forest with small mushrooms.
4. Professor Hardwigg hid behind a rock.
5. A dinosaur ate a mushroom tree.
6. They walked quickly into the forest.
7. They made a raft from a mushroom tree.
8. They went round an island with a mountain.

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Make notes about the people in the story.

Professor Hardwigg: intelligent,

Harry: _____

Hans: _____



Watch the video again and answer the questions.

- 1 What did they use to make a boat? A giant mushroom.
- 2 Who was the bravest? _____
- 3 Who was the most scared? _____
- 4 How did they get out of the volcano? _____
- 5 Did they reach the centre of the Earth? _____
- 6 Why were Hans and Harry happy? _____
- 7 How did Professor Hardwigg feel? _____