A clever leprechaun



Read the story and complete the activities.

Use a dictionary to check the meaning of the words in green.

A long time ago in Ireland, there lived a small leprechaun named Liam. He was tiny, with a red beard and a green hat. Like all leprechauns, Liam had a very important job. He was a shoemaker for the fairies. Every day, he worked hard making tiny shoes, using the best leather and the finest thread. Leprechauns are very good at their work, and because of this, Liam had earned a lot of gold over the years. He kept all his coins hidden in a secret pot of gold, buried deep under a tree.

In the same village lived a man named Tim. Tim was greedy and always wanted more money. One day, while walking through the forest, Tim heard a soft tapping sound. It was Liam working on a pair of fairy shoes. Quietly, Tim followed the noise until he saw the little leprechaun sitting under a tree, fixing a tiny shoe.

Without thinking, Tim jumped forward and grabbed Liam. "Aha! I've got you!" shouted Tim. "Now, show me where your gold is!"

Liam was clever and had magic powers. He couldn't escape Tim's hand, but he thought quickly. "All right," Liam said, "I will take you to my pot of gold. But if you let me go, I can grant you three wishes instead." But greedy Tim didn't trust Liam and refused the wishes. "No! Just show me the gold!" he said.

Because leprechauns cannot lie, Liam led Tim to a big field full of bushes. He pointed to one green bush and said, "My gold is under this bush."

Tim wanted to mark the bush so he wouldn't forget which one it was. He took a red ribbon from his pocket and tied it around the bush. Then, he made Liam promise not to run away. Liam smiled and agreed.

Tim didn't have a shovel, so he ran home to get one. But when he returned, the whole field was covered with red ribbons! Every bush looked exactly the same. Liam had used his magic to trick Tim.

Tim was angry and disappointed. He had lost his chance to find the gold. Meanwhile, Liam laughed quietly from his hiding place. The clever little leprechaun had saved his treasure once again.

1 Mark the sentences true or false.

1. Liam made shoes for humans. _____
2. Liam gave his gold to Tim. _____
3. Tim tied a ribbon around the bush. _____
4. The whole field was covered with red ribbons when Tim returned. _____
5. Tim used his wishes to become rich. _____

2 Complete the sentences with five words from the box.

leprechaun, gold, shoemaker, greedy, ribbons, shovel, wishes, magic

1. Liam was a clever _____ who made shoes for fairies.
2. Liam offered to give Tim three _____.
3. Liam used his _____ to trick Tim.
4. Tim tied red _____ around the bush.
5. Tim ran home to get a _____.





LIVEWORKSHEETS