



## The Rare Bird

**Topic:** Friendship

**Curriculum link:** English

**Text type:** Folk tale

**Reading level:** 23

**Word count:** 921

**Vocabulary:** agreement, astonished, cackling, celebrations, cloak, crammed, despair, drought, fisherman, forever, glum, goblin, imagination, moaned, mountains, promise, rare, rubbed, slave, squawking, trembling, wish, wriggled, wrinkled

**Possible literacy focus**

Exploring the features of a folk tale.

Developing critical literacy skills.

**Summary**

This book is a retelling of a folk tale. It tells the story of a young fisherman who is tricked by a goblin. The young fisherman finds an unlikely friend in a three-legged dog who helps him to beat the goblin.

### Task Card

## Making a Popplesnitch

You will need:

paper, feathers, cardboard, glue, sticky tape, scissors, pencils

1. Draw the outline of a Popplesnitch on a piece of cardboard.
2. Cut around your outline.
3. Cover your Popplesnitch with glue, then feathers, and decorate it as you like.
4. Display your Popplesnitch in the classroom.





Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions and statements

Read the following sentences and write **question** or **statement** beside each one.

1. 'I give up!' Bartek cried in despair. \_\_\_\_\_
2. 'You can make the fish return to the river?' he asked. \_\_\_\_\_
3. 'Done!' he said to the old man. \_\_\_\_\_
4. 'Don't look so glum,' said the voice. 'I can help you.' \_\_\_\_\_
5. 'This,' cried Bartek, 'is none other than ... the Popplesnitch!' \_\_\_\_\_
6. 'What must I promise?' \_\_\_\_\_
7. Bartek thought to himself, 'A year of good fishing and all I have to do in return is find a bird?' \_\_\_\_\_
8. 'Well then,' said the old man, 'since we have an agreement, I should tell you my name.' \_\_\_\_\_
9. The goblin cackled. 'It's too late now!' he cried. 'I'll be back in a year to see your rare bird.' \_\_\_\_\_
10. Suddenly, a voice called, 'Bartek! Where are you? The year is over, remember?' \_\_\_\_\_

With a partner, practise asking questions and making statements. Swap roles so that you each have a turn.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Character profile

Describe Bartek, Rokita or Akmen using this profile outline.

Character's name: \_\_\_\_\_

What does this character look like?

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What does the author tell us about this character?

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What are some of the things that this character says?

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Does this character have any likeable features?

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