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## **The Tale of Peter Rabbit**

By Beatrice Potter

Once upon a time there were four little Rabbits, and their names were—Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail, and Peter.

They lived with their Mother in a sand-bank, underneath the root of a very big fir tree.

"Now, my dears," said old Mrs. Rabbit one morning, "you may go into the fields or down the lane, but don't go into Mr. McGregor's garden: your Father had an accident there; he was put in a pie by Mrs. McGregor."

"Now run along, and don't get into mischief. I am going out."

Then old Mrs. Rabbit took a basket and her umbrella, to the baker's. She bought a loaf of brown bread and five currant buns.

Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cottontail, who were good little bunnies, went down the lane to gather blackberries;

But Peter, who was very naughty, ran straight away to Mr. McGregor's garden and squeezed under the gate!

First he ate some lettuces and some French beans; and then he ate some radishes; and then, feeling rather sick, he went to look for some parsley.



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But round the end of a cucumber frame, whom should he meet but Mr. McGregor!

Mr. McGregor was on his hands and knees planting out young cabbages, but he jumped up and ran after Peter, waving a rake and calling out, "Stop thief!"

Peter was most dreadfully frightened; he rushed all over the garden, for he had forgotten the way back to the gate.



He lost one of his shoes among the cabbages, and the other shoe amongst the potatoes.

After losing them, he ran on four legs and went faster, so that I think he might have got away altogether if he had not unfortunately run into a gooseberry net, and got caught by the large buttons on his jacket. It was a blue jacket with brass buttons, quite new.

Peter gave himself up for lost, and shed big tears; but his sobs were overheard by some friendly sparrows, who flew to him in great excitement, and implored him to exert himself.

Mr. McGregor came up with a sieve, which he intended to pop upon the top of Peter; but Peter wriggled out just in time, leaving his jacket behind him.

And rushed into the toolshed, and jumped into a can. It would have been a beautiful thing to hide in, if it had not had so much water in it.

Mr. McGregor was quite sure that Peter was somewhere in the toolshed, perhaps hidden underneath a flower-pot. He began to turn them over carefully, looking under each.

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Presently Peter sneezed—"Kertyschoo!" Mr. McGregor was after him in no time, and tried to put his foot upon Peter, who jumped out of a window, upsetting three plants. The window was too small for Mr. McGregor, and he was tired of running after Peter. He went back to his work.

Peter sat down to rest; he was out of breath and trembling with fright, and he had not the least idea which way to go. Also he was very damp with sitting in that can.

After a time he began to wander about, going lippity-lippity—not very fast, and looking all around.

He found a door in a wall; but it was locked, and there was no room for a fat little rabbit to squeeze underneath.

An old mouse was running in and out over the stone doorstep, carrying peas and beans to her family in the wood. Peter asked her the way to the gate, but she had such a large pea in her mouth that she could not answer. She only shook her head at him. Peter began to cry.

Then he tried to find his way straight across the garden, but he became more and more puzzled. Presently, he came to a pond where Mr. McGregor filled his water-cans. A white cat was staring at some gold-fish; she sat very, very still, but now and then the tip of her tail twitched as if it were alive. Peter thought it best to go away without speaking to her; he had heard about cats from his cousin, little Benjamin Bunny.

He went back towards the tool-shed, but suddenly, quite close to him, he heard the noise of a hoe-scr-r-ritch, scratch, scratch, scritch. Peter scuttered underneath the bushes. But presently, as nothing happened, he came out, and climbed upon a wheelbarrow, and peeped over. The first thing he saw was Mr. McGregor hoeing onions. His back was turned towards Peter, and beyond him was the gate!



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Peter got down very quietly off the wheelbarrow, and started running as fast as he could go, along a straight walk behind some black-currant bushes.

Mr. McGregor caught sight of him at the corner, but Peter did not care. He slipped underneath the gate, and was safe at last in the wood outside the garden.

Mr. McGregor hung up the little jacket and the shoes for a scare-crow to frighten the blackbirds.

Peter never stopped running or looked behind him till he got home to the big fir-tree.

He was so tired that he flopped down upon the nice soft sand on the floor of the rabbit-hole, and shut his eyes. His mother was busy cooking; she wondered what he had done with his clothes. It was the second little jacket and pair of shoes that Peter had lost in a fortnight!

I am sorry to say that Peter was not very well during the evening.

His mother put him to bed, and made some camomile tea; and she gave a dose of it to Peter!

"One table-spoonful to be taken at bed-time."

But Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail had bread and milk and blackberries, for supper.

**THE END**



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“The Tale of Peter Rabbit” Assignment

I. Write “S” if the words form a complete sentence. Capitalize and punctuate the sentences. Write “F” if the words are a sentence fragment. Change the fragments into complete sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ listened to their mother

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ felt sick from the vegetables

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ mr. mcgregor chased peter

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ the old mouse and the white cat

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ peter was happy to be safe at home

\_\_\_\_\_

II. Rearrange the words into a sentence. Add correct capitalization and punctuation. (Hint: The first word of the sentence is in **bold**.)

lost **Peter** jacket his garden shoes and in the

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**Mrs.** Rabbit what wondered to clothes Peter's happened

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delicious **Mr.** vegetables McGregor's was garden full of

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III. Write a question about each answer below. Be sure the question results in that specific answer.

1. Q: \_\_\_\_\_

A: to Mr. McGregor's garden

2. Q: \_\_\_\_\_

A: chamomile tea

3. Q: \_\_\_\_\_

A: Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail, Peter

IV. Complete the given sentence stem using *because*, *but*, and *so*.

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden...

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden, but \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden, so \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

V. Complete the sentences.

1. Before Mrs. Rabbit went to see the baker, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. When Mr. McGregor saw Peter in his garden, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. After Peter escaped Mr. McGregor, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

VI. Match each noun with the appositive that best describes it.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mr. McGregor

a) a naughty bunny

\_\_\_\_\_ Peter

b) the well-behaved bunnies

\_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Rabbit

c) a farmer

\_\_\_\_\_ Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail

d) the bunnies' mother

VII. Combine the given sentences into one sentence.

Mr. McGregor ran after Peter.

Peter was eating his vegetables.

Combined sentence:

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Mr. McGregor almost caught Peter.

The birds helped Peter escape.

Combined sentence:

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Mrs. Rabbit warned her children.

Mrs. Rabbit warned her children not to go into Mr. McGregor's garden.

Peter went anyway.

Combined sentence:

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VIII. Expand the kernel sentence.

Kernel: He was scared.

Who: .....

When: .....

Why: .....

Expanded sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IX. Identify the topic sentence using T.S. and sequence the supporting details.

\_\_\_\_\_ First, he snuck into Mr. McGregor's garden where he was warned not to go.

\_\_\_\_\_ Peter had a terrifying experience!

\_\_\_\_\_ Luckily, Peter was able to escape being caught by the angry gardener.

\_\_\_\_\_ After Mr. McGregor saw Peter, he chased the scared bunny.

X. Complete the following Single-Paragraph Outline by creating four details and a concluding sentence. Use the cues on the side of the details as a guide. Remember to use key words, phrases, abbreviations and symbols on the dotted lines.

Writing Prompt:

2. Peter's mood changes from the beginning of the story to the end of the story. How does Peter feel at the beginning of the story? How does he feel at the end of the story? Why does his mood change? Use details from the story to support your response.

- In your response, be sure to:
- \* explain how Peter feels in the beginning of the story
  - \* explain how Peter feels at the end of the story
  - \* explain why his feelings change
  - \* use details from the story to support your response

Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar, capitalization and punctuation.

## Single-Paragraph Outline

T.S. Peter's mood changes from the beginning of the story to the end of the story.

beginning 1. ....

beginning 2. ....

end 3. ....

end 4. ....

C.S. \_\_\_\_\_

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### “The Tale of Peter Rabbit” Assignment

I. Write “S” if the words form a complete sentence. Capitalize and punctuate the sentences. Write “F” if the words are a sentence fragment. Change the fragments into complete sentences.

1. F listened to their mother

**Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail listened to their mother.**

2. F felt sick from the vegetables

**Peter felt sick from the vegetables.**

3. S mr. mcgregor chased peter

**Mr. McGregor chased Peter.**

4. F the old mouse and the white cat

**The old mouse and the white cat did not help Peter.**

5. S peter was happy to be safe at home

**Peter was happy to be safe at home.**

- II. Rearrange the words into a sentence. Add correct capitalization and punctuation. (Hint: The first word of the sentence is in **bold**.)

lost **Peter** jacket his garden shoes and in the

**Peter lost his shoes and jacket in the garden.**

**Mrs.** Rabbit what wondered to clothes Peter's happened

**Mrs. Rabbit wondered what happened to Peter's clothes.**

delicious **Mr.** vegetables McGregor's was garden full of

**Mr. McGregor's garden was full of delicious vegetables.**

- III. Write a question about each answer below. Be sure the question results in that specific answer.z

1. Q: **Where did Peter go?**

A: to Mr. McGregor's garden

2. Q: **What did Mrs. Rabbit give Peter to help him feel better?**

A: chamomile tea

3. Q: **Who are Mrs. Rabbit's children?**

A: Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail, Peter

- IV. Complete the given sentence stem using *because*, *but*, and *so*.

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden...

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden because **his father had an accident there.**

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden, but **he went anyway.**

Peter was not allowed to go to Mr. McGregor's garden, so **his mother would be upset if she found out.**

V. Complete the sentences.

1. Before Mrs. Rabbit went to see the baker, **she warned the bunnies not to go to Mr. McGregor's garden.**
2. When Mr. McGregor saw Peter in his garden, **he chased after the rabbit.**
3. After Peter escaped Mr. McGregor, **he did not know how to get back home.**

VI. Match each noun with the appositive that best describes it.

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>c)</b> Mr. McGregor                   | a) a naughty bunny          |
| <b>a)</b> Peter                          | b) the well-behaved bunnies |
| <b>d)</b> Mrs. Rabbit                    | c) a farmer                 |
| <b>b)</b> Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail | d) the bunnies' mother      |



VII. Combine the given sentences into one sentence.

Mr. McGregor ran after Peter.

Peter was eating his vegetables.

Combined sentence:

**Mr. McGregor ran after Peter because Peter was eating his vegetables.**

Mr. McGregor almost caught Peter.

The birds helped Peter escape.

Combined sentence:

**Mr. McGregor almost caught Peter, but the birds helped him escape.**

Mrs. Rabbit warned her children.

Mrs. Rabbit warned her children not to go into Mr. McGregor's garden.

Peter went anyway.

Combined sentence:

**Mrs. Rabbit warned her children not to go into Mr. McGregor's garden, but Peter went anyway.**

VIII. Expand the kernel sentence.

Kernel: He was scared.

Who: Peter

When: after being chased

Why: b/c almost caught

Expanded sentence:

**After being chased, Peter was scared because he was almost caught.**

IX. Identify the topic sentence using T.S. and sequence the supporting details.

**1** First, he snuck into Mr. McGregor's garden where he was warned not to go.

**T.S.** Peter had a terrifying experience!

**3** Luckily, Peter was able to escape being caught by the angry gardener.

**2** After Mr. McGregor saw Peter, he chased the scared bunny.

- X. Complete the following Single-Paragraph Outline by creating four details and a concluding sentence. Use the cues on the side of the details as a guide. Remember to use key words, phrases, abbreviations and symbols on the dotted lines.

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In your response, be sure to:

- \* explain how Peter feels in the beginning of the story
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Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar, capitalization and punctuation.

## Single-Paragraph Outline

T.S. Peter's mood changes from the beginning of the story to the end of the story.

beginning 1. confident + not worried about mother's warning

beginning 2. curious about Mr. M's garden

end 3. afraid b/c almost caught

end 4. thankful / home in bed w/ family

C.S. In the end, Peter learned an important lesson about listening to his mother!