

Name: _____

College: _____

Guided Reading

Week of 6/7 - 6/11/2021



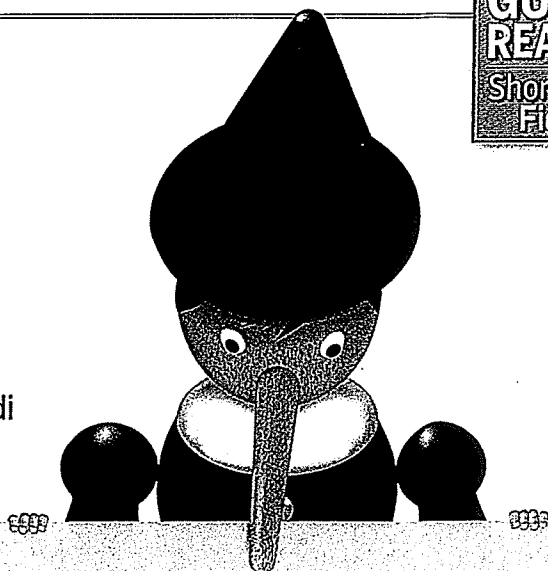
1867

HOWARD
UNIVERSITY

Antonio, a carpenter, and Geppetto, a toymaker, are neighbors in an Italian town. One day, some very strange occurrences take place.

Pinocchio

Adapted from
The Adventures of Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi



THE BEGINNING

Once upon a time there was a piece of wood. It was a common piece of firewood, the kind of thick log that someone might put on a fire in winter to warm up a cold room.

Antonio, a carpenter, decided to turn the piece of wood into a table leg. So he grabbed his hatchet and propped up the log in order to peel off the bark.

But no sooner had he lifted his arm to strike the first blow than he heard a tiny voice: "Please be careful! Do not hit me too hard!"

The carpenter nearly dropped his hatchet. Turning cautiously, he scanned the room, hoping to discover where the voice had come from, but he saw not a soul. He looked under the bench, peeped into the closet, searched among the wood shavings on the

workshop floor—no one! There was not a person in sight.

He laughed to himself. "It must have been my imagination! Well, back to work."

He then struck a solid blow upon the piece of wood.

"Oh! That hurt!" cried the same faraway voice.

This time Antonio jumped back, dumbfounded, for now there could be no doubt about it. There seemed to be a voice within the wood itself. Cautiously, he set down the hatchet and picked up a plane. Sure enough, as he smoothly worked the plane back and forth, he again heard the voice. But this time it giggled: "Stop it, please! You're tickling me."

The poor carpenter gazed in bewilderment at the talking log.

He was still scratching his head when he heard a loud knock at the door and in walked a dapper little old man. It was Antonio's neighbor, the toymaker Geppetto.

"Good day, Antonio," said Geppetto. "I have come to you to ask for a favor."

"I am at your service," mumbled the carpenter, just now returning to his senses.

"This morning I had a fine idea. I thought of making a beautiful wooden marionette, one that will be able to dance, act, and turn somersaults. With it I will travel the world, entertaining people to earn a living. What do you think?"

"Bravo!" cried the tiny voice.

Thinking Antonio had expressed approval of his plan, Geppetto continued: "So, since you agree that my idea is excellent, perhaps you can grant me the favor I ask."

The carpenter realized the misunderstanding but did not bother to explain it. "Of course, Geppetto, What is it you want?"

"I want a piece of wood to make my marionette. Will you be so kind as to give me a handsome piece like the one that is there on your bench?"

Antonio, happy indeed to do his neighbor this favor, immediately fetched the piece of wood that had so frightened and puzzled him. "You may have this log, my friend; and I wish you good luck with your plan."

Geppetto thanked Antonio and, cradling the wood in his arms, hurried home.

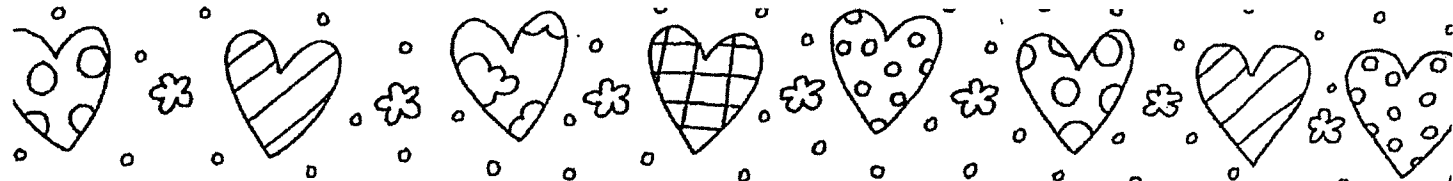
As soon as he reached the house, the toymaker began to cut and shape the wood into a marionette, which he decided to name Pinocchio. He created hair, forehead, and eyes.

Imagine his shock when those eyes moved and then stared at him!

Then, he made the nose. But the nose would not stop growing! The more Geppetto cut it, the longer it grew, and finally he gave up.

Next, he made the mouth, and the naughty toy began to laugh and poke fun at him.

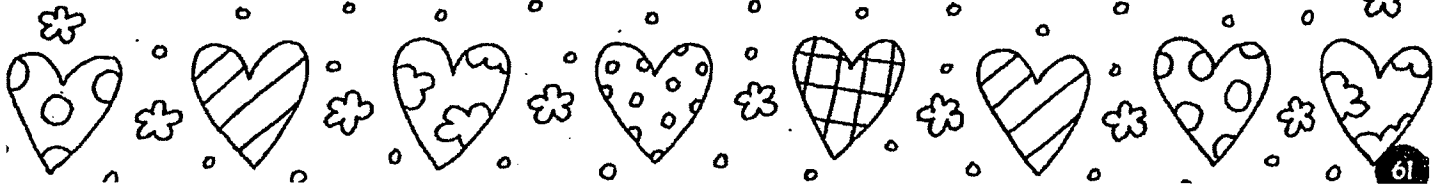
And so it went with Geppetto and Pinocchio. For the toymaker had created a prankster with no manners or common sense and who was always getting into mischief and causing trouble. It would be years before Pinocchio learned his lesson or did his "father" proud. But that is a long tale, for another time.

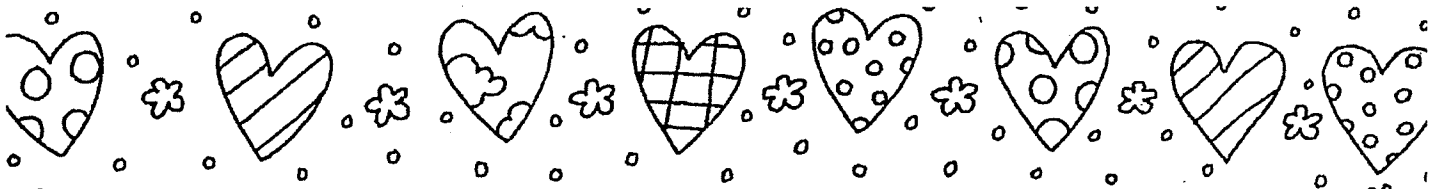


Pinocchio

What is extraordinary about the carpenter's log?

Below the title and question, there are ten sets of primary-ruled lines for writing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed midline, and a solid bottom line.





Pinocchio

Why does Geppetto want a piece of wood?

Handwriting practice area with multiple sets of lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid) for writing an answer.

