

One of our texts this half term is:



Traditional tales are old stories that have been told and retold for many years, often passed down by word of mouth before being written down. They usually teach lessons, have magical elements, and feature good vs evil.

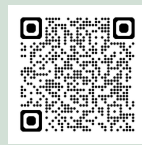
Can you name any others that you have read?

GENRE

Create a "Survival Guide" for children lost in a magical forest.

Read another version of 'Hansel and Gretel' by the Brothers Grimm.

TASKS



# HANSEL AND GRETEL

## YEAR 6 BOOK WARMER

### SUMMARY

Hansel and Gretel is a dark and magical story about two brave siblings who must face danger, hunger, and a wicked witch. Hansel and Gretel live with their mother and father in a time of great famine. When food runs out, their mother (or stepmother, in some versions) convinces their father to leave the children deep in the forest. But clever Hansel drops white stones to mark the way back. They return home safely, but the parents abandon them again—this time without any stones.

Lost and hungry, the children find a strange house made of gingerbread and sweets. They begin to eat it, but it belongs to a wicked witch who traps them. She plans to fatten Hansel and eat him! Gretel, however, tricks the witch and pushes her into the oven. The children escape, taking the witch's treasure with them, and eventually find their way home, where they reunite with their father.

This version by Neil Gaiman is beautifully told with haunting, shadowy illustrations by Lorenzo Mattotti, showing how brave children can survive even the darkest forests.

Famine: A time when there is no food, and people are very hungry.

Desperate: Feeling like you'll do anything because things are so bad.

Dwelling: A place where someone lives, like a house or cottage.

Lured: Tricked or tempted to go somewhere, usually with something nice.

Gnawed: Chewed something slowly, like a mouse or hungry person.

Gruesome: Very scary, gross, or horrible.

Malicious: Mean on purpose; wanting to hurt someone.

Wretched: Very unhappy, sick, or poor.

Emaciated: Very, very thin from not eating enough food.

Dread: A strong fear that something bad is going to happen.

Menacing: Looking dangerous or scary.

Cunning: Clever in a sneaky or tricky way.

### VOCABULARY CHECK