

PETER PAN

JM Barrie

It might be difficult to find any child anywhere in the world who has never heard of *Peter Pan*, the only boy in all the world who never grows up. Peter Pan spends his never-ending childhood having adventures on the small island of [Neverland](#) where he leads his gang, the Lost Boys in a world of mermaids, Indians, fairies, pirates, and occasionally ordinary children from the world outside. (1)

In this extract Peter finally comes face to face with his arch-enemy, Captain James Hook, and, as Peter says “It’s you or me this time.” (2)

HOOK OR ME THIS TIME

Suddenly Hook found himself face to face with Peter. The others drew back and formed a ring around them. For long the two enemies look at one another, Hook shuddering slightly, and Peter with a strange smile on his face. (3)

“So, Pan,” said Hook at last, “this is all your doing.” (4)

“Ay, James Hook,” came the stern answer, “it is all my doing.” (5)

“Proud and insolent youth,” said Hook, “prepare to meet thy doom.” (6)

“Dark and sinister man,” Peter answered, “have at thee.” (7)

Without more words they fell to, and for a space there was no advantage to either blade. Peter was a superb swordsman, and parried with dazzling rapidity; ever and anon he followed up a feint with a lunge that got past his foe's defence, but his shorter reach stood him in ill stead, and he could not drive the steel home. (8)



Then he sought to close in and finish Peter off with his iron hook, which all this time had been pawing the air; but Peter doubled under it and, lunging fiercely, pierced him in the ribs. At the sight of his own blood, whose peculiar colour, you remember, was offensive to him, the sword fell from Hook's hand, and he was at Peter's mercy. (9)

“Now!” cried all the boys, but with a magnificent gesture Peter invited his opponent to pick up his sword. Hook did so instantly, but with a tragic feeling that

Peter was showing good form. Hook was fighting now without hope, but there was one thing left he could do - he, James Hook, was a gentleman, but before he went into the cold and dark he would show that Peter Pan was not! (10)

Abandoning the fight he rushed into the powder magazine and fired it. "In two minutes," he cried, "the ship will be blown to pieces." (11)

"Now I shall show that Peter Pan is a coward," he thought. But calmly Peter picked up the powder barrel, shook it by his ear, and just as calmly through it over the side of the ship where it exploded with a tremendous Bang! (12)

It was almost all over for Captain Hook, and he knew it. The boys danced around him, teasing him, taunting him, the youngest even daring to stick out their tongues at him. O, the shame of it! (13)

Backwards, always backwards, staggered Hook until he was the farthest end of the gangplank where so many had been forced to fall into the sea. And, seeing the boy advance towards him along the plank, he turned ready to let himself fall into the sea. (14)

But wait! We must not let Captain James Hook die such an ignoble death. He has been a grand enemy for the boy, so we shall allow him one last triumph. The man reaches the end of the gangplank. He turns his back on the boy and bends over to look into the deep blue sea. And Peter, quite forgetting his manners, boots him up the backside. And down goes James Hook, down, down, into the jaws of the crocodile who has paddled patiently around waiting for this delicious moment. (15)

"Farewell, you rude boy," he smiles, as he disappears content at last. (16)

1. What is unique about Peter Pan? (1) 1
mark
2. Why did the boys form a ring around Hook and Peter? (1) 1
mark
3. What does Peter mean: "It's you or me this time." ? (2) 1
mark
4. What disadvantage did Peter have in the duel? (8) 2
marks
5. How did Hook try to end fight? (9) 2 marks
6. What shock did Hook suddenly get? (9) 2 marks
7. How did Peter show he always played fair? (10) 2 marks
8. What did Hook want to show before Peter finished him off? (10) 2
marks
9. Why do you think Hook tried to blow up the whole ship? (11) 2 marks
- 10 How did Peter react to the danger? (12) 1 mark
- 11 Why did Hook begin to feel ashamed? (13) 2
marks
- 12 What did Hook prepare to do? (14) 1 mark
- 13 Why does the writer say "Wait!" (15) 2
marks
- 14 How does Peter forget his manners? (15) 1 mark
- 15 Why is Captain James Hook 'content' at last? (16) 2
marks

For discussion: If you were JM Barrie would you have spared Hook's life and let him live to fight another day.

Quotations from JM Barrie

"Dreams do come true, if only we wish hard enough. You can have anything in life if you will sacrifice everything else for it."

"If growing up means it would be beneath my dignity to climb a tree, I'll never grow up, never grow up, never grow up! Not me!"

"Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."

"Shall we make a new rule of life from tonight: always try to be a little kinder than is necessary?"

"If you cannot teach me to fly, teach me to sing."

"Oh, the cleverness of me!"

CARING FOR YOUR KITTEN

Bringing the kitten home

Moving to a new home is very stressful for a kitten. Give it reassurance and time to adjust to the new surroundings before making introductions to any other animals in the household. Make sure all the doors and windows are closed and that there is a guard in front of the fireplace (a dark, quiet chimney can be very inviting to a nervous kitten). Make sure that the kitten knows where the bed, litter tray and food bowls are. (1)

The kitten's bed should be a refuge to retreat to if things become too stressful. It needs to be warm, dry, comfortable and draught free. There are many types of bed to choose from or you can put some warm bedding inside a strong dry cardboard box with a hole cut in the side. Putting it in a warm secure corner (near a radiator in the winter) will make it welcoming and the kitten feel secure. On the first few nights a warm water bottle under a blanket may help to compensate for the absence of the kitten's mother or littermates. (2)

Introducing other pets and children

Introduction to other household residents should be gradual, gentle and very quiet. Excited children can easily injure a kitten unintentionally so always supervise play and do not allow the kitten to be picked up unnecessarily. Children should be encouraged to sit on the floor and wait for the kitten to explore them. Make sure

that the kitten is allowed to stop playing when it wants to and is not treated like a toy. Kittens, like many young animals, will need a lot of sleep and should be allowed time to rest. (3)

Introducing a kitten to a dog or cat needs to be undertaken carefully to avoid conflict. A bad experience can be difficult to overcome. If you have a large mesh pen in which the kitten can sit safely while the resident cat or dog can gradually get used to it, this is an ideal way to make introductions. Some dogs, especially those not used to cats or of an excitable or aggressive disposition, need extra special care for introductions. They should be kept as calm as possible on the lead and made to sit quietly. The new kitten should be given a safe position in the room and allowed to get used to the dog and approach if it wants. This may take quite some time and requires patience and rewards for the dog if it behaves well. (4)

When you first take a kitten home feed it on the same food it has been used to. A sudden change of diet combined with the stress of adapting to a new home can cause stomach upsets and diarrhoea. If you want to change the diet, do so gradually by mixing it with the kitten's usual food. Kittens have very small stomachs and have to be fed little and often, like babies. (5)

There are foods which have been specially formulated for kittens because they have different nutritional needs to the fully grown cat. Read and follow the feeding instructions carefully. If the food is marked 'complete' it contains everything the kitten needs to stay healthy. If it is marked 'complementary' it does not supply all the kitten needs and should be fed with other foods. (6)

Do not give your kitten cow's milk as it can cause diarrhoea. If you wish to feed milk use one that is specially formulated for cats. Diarrhoea that persists for more than 24 hours requires veterinary attention. Fresh drinking water should be available at all times. (7)

Going outside

Your kitten should not be allowed outside until at least a week after it has finished its first course of vaccinations at about 13 - 14 weeks old (depending on the vaccine). Once it is fully vaccinated and has become used to life in your house, you can start to let your kitten go outside. Choose a dry day (if possible) and a quiet time and accompany your kitten outside, allowing it to explore the new environment. Continue to accompany the kitten until it is used to your garden and can find its way back to the house without difficulty. It is best not to leave your kitten outside alone until it is 6 months old. (8)

1. Explain three things you should do to help a kitten settle into its new home?
(1) (3)
2. Why might a kitten feel a little lost and lonely when settling in? (2)
(2)
3. Why should children be supervised when they're playing with a kitten? (3)
(2)
4. What does the writer mean - a kitten should 'not be treated like a toy'? (3)
(2)

5. How should a kitten be introduced to other animals in the house? (4)
(3)
6. How and why should kitten be fed like (human) babies? (5)
(2)
7. Explain the difference between 'complete' and 'complementary' food. (6)
(2)
8. What should kittens not be fed cow's milk? (7) (1)
9. Why do you think a kitten needs a course of vaccinations? (8)
(1)
10. Describe how you should get a kitten used to playing outside? (8)
(3)

Cat-Meowing (and what it means)

Cats do most of their meowing when they want something but they do occasionally meow to say hello. However, there may be times when a cat starts meowing more or less constantly, and that can be quite a headache as much for you as for the cat. Most cats who constantly meow are doing so because they're trying to tell you something. Please bear in mind that your cat doesn't meow just to annoy you and the quicker you can figure out the reasons for the noise, the quicker it will stop. Try some of these. (1)

Firstly, make sure that your cat isn't meowing due to an illness or medical problem. Cats do meow to communicate, not just to demand things, so illness should be ruled out first of all. If there's no sign of illness, check these out. (2)

- **Feed on a regular basis.** Try feeding your cat at set times/regular intervals so they can anticipate when they're next going to eat. You can also try leaving down the dry cat food/biscuits so that your cat can nibble whenever they get hungry. However, if your cat has a tendency to over-eat, this may not be wise. (3)
- **Install a cat flap.** Most cats can never make up their minds if they want to be in or outside. My cat is in heaven during the summer when I can leave the back door open and he can wander in and out at much as he pleases. If your cat is always in and out, a cat flap is a great option. They're fairly cheap and easy to install and you buy ones which have magnets on them so only YOUR cat can get in; otherwise you can be sure of lots of unwelcome visitors. (4)
- **Play.** Some cats meow a lot because they want some attention and affection. Stroke and play with your cat often to keep them from feeling lonely or neglected. A bored cat is not a happy cat. (5)
- **Discipline.** Don't let your cat drive you round the bend with excessive meowing - take charge. You can either ignore them which will eventually

make them stop if you don't give in (very hard to do!) or you can try the old favourites of a squirt with a water spray or a firm 'NO' and a clap of the hands. Eventually your kitty will realise that constant meowing will get them nowhere. Please ensure you remember to praise your cat and give extra attention to them when they're not meowing. (6)

- **Try asking.** And, if all else fails, try asking him what's up. (7)

1. What is the main reason a cat may start meowing? (1)
(1)
2. What other reason can there be for a cat to meow? (1)
(1)
3. Why should you try to understand why your cat is meowing? (1)
(2)
4. What is the first thing to try and discover if your cat is meowing all the time?
(2) (1)
5. Why does a cat appreciate being fed at regular intervals? (3)
(1)
6. What kind of cats should not be provided with 'nibbles'? Why not? (3)
(2)
7. Why does most cats love having a cat-flap? (4) (1)
8. Explain one advantage and one disadvantage of providing a cat-flap? (4)
(2)
9. Why might a cat feel lonely and neglected? (5) (2)
10. What three ways of stopping a cat meowing too much are described in (6)?
(3)
11. Why should you 'reward' your cat when he is not meowing all the time? (6)
(2)
12. The writer advises asking your cat 'what's up?' if nothing else works.
How serious do you think the writer is? Explain your answer? (7)
(3)

THE CORAL ISLAND

R. M. Ballantyne

Three boys, Ralph (the narrator), Jack and Peterkin, are the sole survivors of a shipwreck on the coral reef of a large but uninhabited Polynesian island. At first their life on the island is perfect; food, in the shape of fruits, fish and wild pigs, is plentiful, and using their only possessions; a broken telescope, an iron-bound oar and a small axe, they fashion a shelter and even construct a small boat. Their first contact with other people comes after several months when they observe..... (1)

“A sail! a sail! Ralph, Jack, look! Away on the horizon there, just by the entrance to the lagoon!” cried Peterkin, as we scrambled up the rocks. “So it is, and a schooner, too!” said Jack, as he proceeded hastily to scramble into the rags of our clothing. (2)

Our hearts were thrown into a terrible flutter by this discovery, for if it should touch at our island we had no doubt the captain would be happy to give us a passage to some of the civilized islands, where we could find a ship sailing for England, or some other part of Europe, from where we could easily make out way home. With joyful anticipations we hastened to the highest point of rock near our dwelling, and awaited the arrival of the vessel, for we now perceived that she was making straight for the island, under a steady breeze. (3)

In less than an hour she was close to the reef, where she rounded to, and backed her topsails in order to survey the coast. Seeing this, and fearing that they might not perceive us, we all three waved pieces of cocoa-nut cloth in the air, and soon had the satisfaction of seeing them beginning to lower a boat and bustle about the decks as if they meant to land. Suddenly a flag was run up to the peak, a little cloud of white smoke rose from the schooner's side, and, before we could guess their intentions, a cannon-shot came crashing through the bushes, carried away several cocoa-nut trees in its passage, and burst in atoms against the cliff a few yards below the spot on which we stood. (4)



With feelings of terror we now observed that the flag at the schooner's peak was black, with a Death's head and cross bones upon it. As we gazed at each other in blank amazement, the word “pirate” escaped our lips simultaneously. (5)

“What is to be done?” cried Peterkin, as we observed a boat shoot from the vessel's side, and make for the entrance of the reef. “If they take us off the island, it will either be to throw us overboard for sport, or to make pirates of us.” (6)

I did not reply, but looked at Jack, as being our only resource in this emergency. He stood with folded arms, and his eyes fixed with a grave, anxious expression on the ground. "There is but one hope," said he, turning with a sad expression of countenance to Peterkin; "perhaps, after all, we may not have to resort to it. If these villains are anxious to take us, they will soon overrun the whole island. But come, follow me." (7)

Stopping abruptly in his speech, Jack bounded into the woods, and led us by a circuitous route to Spouting Cliff. Here he halted, and, advancing cautiously to the rocks, glanced over their edge. We were soon by his side, and saw the boat, which was crowded with armed men, just touching the shore. In an instant the crew landed, formed line, and rushed up to our shelter. Now, boys, we have but one chance left,--the Diamond Cave." (8)

We spent an anxious but quite comfortable night in the cave since we'd left food supplies there for just such an emergency as this. In the morning, I woke first and determined to discover what was up with our unexpected and undesirable 'guests'. I did not wake my friends, knowing they would do their best to dissuade me from taking such a risk. So leaving them soundly sleeping, out of the cave and off to the beach I crept. (9)

Standing on the warm, golden sand, I was thrilled and relieved to see no sign of the pirates' schooner. I scanned the horizon for a full minute, then gave vent to a deep sigh of relief: "Yes, they've gone. Those villains have been deprived of their prey this time." (10)

"Don't be sure of that, puppy!" said a deep voice at my side; while, at the same moment, a heavy hand grasped my shoulder, and held it as if in a vice. (11)

1. What do the boys live on while they are on the island? (1) 3 marks
2. What do you think is their most useful tool? Why? (1) 2 marks
3. How long is it before they see other people? (1) 1 mark
4. Who spots the sail on the horizon? (2) 1 mark
5. What type of vessel do the boys see? (2) 1 mark
6. Why are the boys so excited to see a ship? (3) 2 marks
7. Why did the boys climb to the highest point of a rock? (3) 1 mark
8. How did the boys try to attract the ship's attention? (4) 1 mark
9. How do you think the boys felt when they saw it was a pirate ship? (5) 2 marks
10. What did Peterkin think would happen if they were captured? (6) 2 marks

- 11 Why do you think Peterkin and Ralph turned to Jack? (7) 1
mark
- 12 How did the pirates know the island was inhabited? (8) 1 mark
- 13 Why had the boys left food supplies in the Diamond Cave? (9) 1 mark
- 14 Why didn't Ralph wake up his friends before he left the cave? (9) 1
mark
- 15 Ralph thought the pirates had sailed away. Why was he wrong? (11) 1
mark