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BEFORE READING



1 Match the different words from the story with the correct definitions.

- a) invalid b) aunt
c) doctor d) cousin

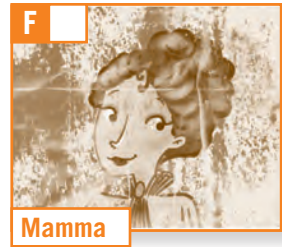
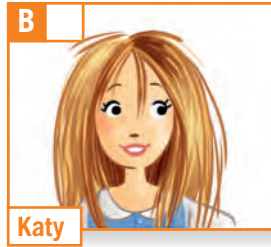
- 1 person who can make ill people better
2 person who is ill for a long time
3 your uncle or aunt's child
4 you mother or father's sister

 **2 Look at this picture of the Carr children and their friend Cecy. Work with a friend. Ask and answer these questions about family.**

- a) Have you got a big or small family?
b) Have you got brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, cousins?
c) Is anyone in your family very different from the others?
d) Describe your home.



3 Listen and match the descriptions to the characters. Number the pictures 1 to 6.



4 Listen again and complete the sentence with the correct name from Exercise 3.

- lives in Burnet, a small town in the USA. Her hair is always untidy and her dresses are always torn.
- Katy's died. The Carr children don't have a mother anymore.
-, Katy's father, is a kind and busy doctor, who is often away from home, taking care of sick people.
- lives in the house next door, and is a good friend of the Carr children.
-, Papa's sister, takes care of the Carr children. She looks old, and is very neat.
-, Papa's niece, is an invalid and lives in a very pretty room. Papa visits her twice a year.



1 THE LITTLE CARRS

4 Katy Carr lived in a small town called Burnet in Texas, America. Katy's house was a large square house on the edge of town. The house was white, with blue shutters, and it had a porch in front, with roses on it. Four tall trees were beside the path to the front gate. On one side of the house was a fruit orchard, on the other side was a barn. Behind the house was a kitchen garden. Behind that was a field with trees, and four cows – two red ones, a yellow one and a little white one named Daisy.

There were six Carr children – four girls and two boys. Katy, the oldest, was twelve years old; little Phil, the youngest, was four, and the others were in between.

Dr Carr, their Papa, was a kind and busy doctor, who was away from home all day, and sometimes all night, too, taking care of sick people. The Carr children did not have a mamma. She died when Phil was a baby, four years before the story begins.

Instead of Mamma the children had Aunt Izzie, Papa's sister, who lived in their house and took care of them. Aunt Izzie was a small, thin woman. She looked old, and was very neat. As a child Aunt Izzie loved sitting quietly and sewing in the parlor. Katy liked running around, and hated sewing.

Glossary

- **barn:** large building for animals and food
- **edge:** on the outside
- **neat:** clean and tidy
- **orchard:** group of fruit trees
- **parlor:** front room of a house
- **porch:** small area at front of a house
- **sewing:** making things with a needle and thread
- **shutters:** covers for a window
- **taking care of:** looking after

“Clover, go upstairs and wash your hands!” “Dorry, pick your hat off the floor and hang it up!” Aunt Izzie was saying things like this all day.

Clover was next in age to Katy. She had pigtails• of light brown hair, and blue eyes. Everybody loved Clover, and she loved everybody, especially Katy.

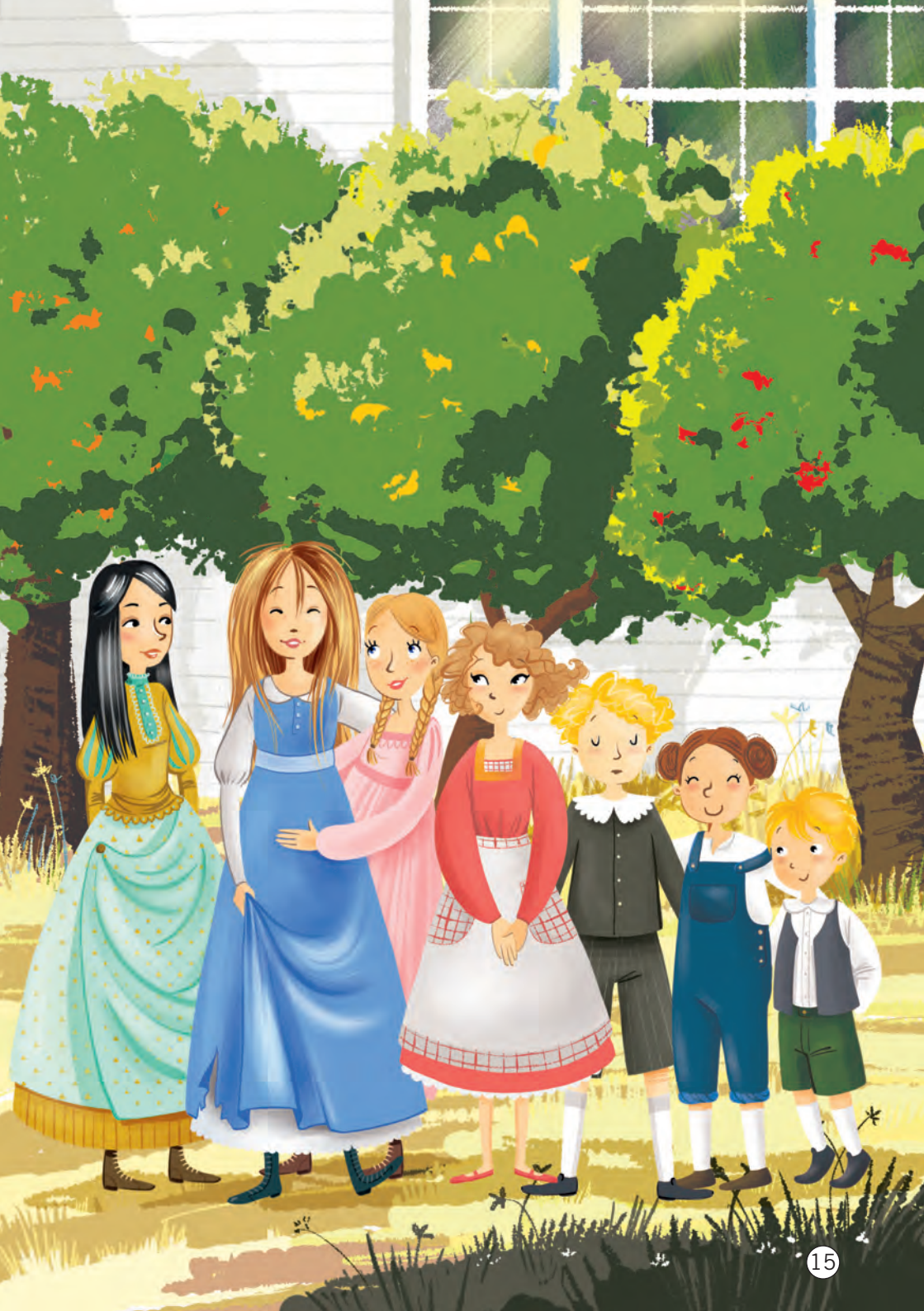
Then came Elsie, a thin, brown child of eight, with beautiful dark eyes, and short curls. Poor little Elsie was the “odd• one” among the Carrs. She wanted to go around with Katy and Clover and their friend Cecy Hall. She wanted to know their secrets. But they didn’t want Elsie, and often told her to “run away and play with the children.” Elsie hated that.

Dorry was six years old. He was a pale boy, with a serious face. Joanna, the children called her “John,” was a year younger than Dorry. John had big eyes, and a wide pink mouth. She always looked as if she was about to laugh. Dorry and John were great friends, though Dorry was like a girl in boy’s clothes, and John was like a boy in girl’s clothes. Then there was little Phil. He was only four.

Cecy Hall lived next door. She was a good friend of the Carr children. She was neat, and had black hair. She was very different from Katy! Katy’s hair was always untidy; her dresses were always torn•. She was very tall – taller than Aunt Izzie.

Glossary

- **odd:** different; strange
- **odd:** with holes in
- **pigtails:** hair in long twists



Katy made lots of good resolutions every week, but she never kept them. She wanted to set the children a good example, but she usually forgot. Katy's brains got her into trouble. She always had lots of plans and ideas, and was always dreaming about being grown-up or famous. But while she was thinking about these things she often forgot to do her homework, or to lace her boots, and then she got a bad mark, or a telling off from Aunt Izzie. But she always planned to be beautiful, like an angel.

RESOLUTIONS

Do you ever make resolutions?

How often? And what about?

Can you keep them or do you forget like Katy?



Glossary

- **example:** model; way of behaving
- **into trouble:** into a bad or dangerous situation
- **lace:** tie up
- **resolutions:** decisions to do something good
- **telling off:** things people say to you when you are in trouble

AFTER READING



Language

1 Past simple or present perfect? Circle the correct form.

- a) Katy **made** / **has made** good resolutions, but she never kept them.
- b) Cousin Helen **has hugged** / **hugged** the children, as if she really loved them.
- c) 'The big invalid and the little invalid **talked** / **have talked** for a long time,' said Dr Carr.
- d) Katy **felt** / **has felt** much better after her talk with Cousin Helen.
- e) Papa and Aunt Izzie **filled** / **have filled** the Christmas stockings with small gifts.
- f) 'Oh, girls!' exclaimed Katy, 'I **stood** / **have stood** up!'

2 Read these words and circle the odd one out. Tell a friend why.

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| a) gift | stocking | Christmas | bucket |
| b) hug | love | laugh | sulk |
| c) medicine | invalid | swing | nurse |
| d) fell | screamed | talked | exclaimed |
| e) aunt | sister | brother | chick |

3 *What Katy Did* is written in American English. Match these words from the text with their British English meaning.

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| a) <input type="checkbox"/> vacation | 1 purse |
| b) <input type="checkbox"/> parlor | 2 sweets |
| c) <input type="checkbox"/> pocket-book | 3 note |
| d) <input type="checkbox"/> bill | 4 holiday |
| e) <input type="checkbox"/> candy | 5 living room |

K 4 Read this paragraph from the story. Choose the best words, 1, 2 or 3, to complete the space.

(a) if we start the day badly, all sorts of accidents happen during the day.

(b) of all that morning Katy broke her new vase – Cousin Helen’s gift to her. Katy cried and cried. Aunt Izzie came in.

“You’re very careless, Katy. Now get dressed or (c) be late for breakfast, and don’t be a baby!” said Aunt Izzie. Katy felt more and more (d) She ate her breakfast in silence and (e)

“What are you all going to do today?” asked Dr Carr.

“Swing!” cried John and Dorry both together. “Alexander’s put (f) a swing in the barn!”

a) 1 Never

2 Always

3 Sometimes

b) 1 First

2 Second

3 Third

c) 1 you’ve

2 you’ll

3 you be

d) 1 odd

2 grumpy

3 untidy

e) 1 sulked

2 cried

3 sang

f) 1 up

2 out

3 on

