### While reading, think about:

- . Who are the characters?
- . What is the setting?
- . What is the problem?
- . What is the sequence of events?
- . How is the problem resolved?

#### Little Red Riding Hood

Once upon a time, there was a dear little girl who was loved by everyone. She was loved most of all by her grandmother. Once, she gave the little girl a riding hood of red velvet. It suited the girl so well that she would never wear anything else. People called her 'Little Red Riding Hood'.

One day, Little Red Riding Hood's mother said, "Here is a piece of cake and a bottle of cough syrup. Take them to your grandmother. She is ill and weak and they will do her good. Set out before it gets too hot. Walk carefully and stay on the path. Do not talk to strangers."

"I will take great care and I will not talk to strangers," said Little Red Riding Hood.

Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother lived in the woods. Just as Little Red Riding Hood entered the woods, a wolf crossed her path. Little Red Riding Hood did not know what a wicked creature he was and she was not at all afraid of him.

"Good day, Little Red Riding Hood," said the wolf. "Where are you going today?"

"I'm taking some cake and cough syrup to my sick grandmother," replied Little Red Riding Hood. "Her house stands under the three large oak trees and the nut trees are just below."

The wolf decided that he must capture both the young girl and the old lady for his lunch. In his mind, he began to form a cunning plan. He walked for a short time by her side and then he said, "Look, Little Red Riding Hood! How pretty the flowers are! Why don't you pick some for your grandmother?"

Little Red Riding Hood looked around. There were pretty flowers growing in a clearing, off to the side of the path. She said to the wolf, "Grandmother likes flowers. I'm sure it would please her to have some by her bedside. It is early in the day, so I shall still get there in good time."

Little Red Riding Hood ran from the path and into the woods to look

for flowers. Meanwhile, the wolf ran straight to her grandmother's house and knocked at the door.

"Who is there?" called Grandmother.

"Little Red Riding Hood," replied the wolf. "I have brought you cake and cough syrup."

"Come in, my dear," called Grandmother. "I am too weak and cannot get up."

The wolf lifted the latch and the door sprang open. He quickly grabbed the weak old lady and threw her into the wardrobe. He put on her clothes and cap, laid himself in bed and drew the curtains.

While Little Red Riding Hood had been picking flowers, she met a woodsman. He told her to hurry on her way because there was a wolf on the loose! Little Red Riding Hood quickly ran off to her grandmother's house.

When she arrived, she was surprised to find the cottage door open. As she entered the room, a strange feeling crept over her. She called, "Good morning, Grandmother!" but received no answer. She went to the window and drew back the curtains. Her grandmother lay very still in the bed, with her cap pulled far over her face.

"Oh, Grandmother," she said. "What big ears you have!"

"All the better to hear you with, my dear," came the reply.

"Grandmother, what big eyes you have!" Little Red Riding Hood exclaimed.

"All the better to see you with, my dear," came the reply.

"But, Grandmother, what large hands you have!" Little Red Riding Hood cried.

"All the better to hug you with, my dear," came the reply.

"Oh, Grandmother, what a terrible big mouth you have!" Little Red Riding Hood said fearfully.

The wolf smiled a wide, evil smile. "All the better to eat you with!" he cried.

Suddenly, the wolf grabbed Little Red Riding Hood. He threw her into the wardrobe with her grandmother while he boiled some water to cook them in. While he was waiting, he lay down on the bed. He fell asleep and began to snore very loudly.

At that time, the woodsman was passing the house. He heard the loud snoring and thought to himself, "Goodness! That snoring is very loud for such a small old lady! I might just see if she is alright." So he quietly went inside the house.

When the woodsman came to the bed, he saw that the wolf was lying in it. Quietly, he raised his axe above his head. He yelled at the wolf in his loudest, fiercest voice, "Hey! Wolf! If you ever come back here again, I'll chop you into pieces... just like I do with the trees!"

The wolf jumped up and ran away, whimpering to himself. He was never to be seen again.

The woodsman heard Little Red Riding Hood shouting out from the wardrobe. He opened the door. The little girl sprang out. "Oh thank you, kind woodsman! How frightened we've been!" she cried. "Please help my grandmother. She is not at all well."

The woodsman helped Grandmother back to bed. They all shared the cake that Little Red Riding Hood had brought. Afterwards, Little Red Riding Hood make the decision to never stray from the path again!