

Lesson Plan



One day, an old woman gives a little girl a magic porridge pot. The little pot cooks some porridge. Now, there is too much porridge!

CEFR Level Pre-A1

YLE Starters

Text type: traditional tale

Word count: 149

Lexile measure: 550L

Lesson objectives

Vocabulary focus

Actions in the present simple: *cooks, gives, meets, says, stops, takes*

People: *little girl, mother, old woman, people*

Places: *house, kitchen, street, town*

General: *magic, porridge, pot*

Grammar focus

Present simple

Present continuous

Reading skills

Identifying people and places

Cross-curricular connections

History (the past)

Music (song)

Resources

Reader

Activity Book

Flashcard download 1–4

Audio download (UK/US) tracks 1, 4

Timing: 40–60 minutes

This is to be used as a general guide and will depend on group size, the pace of learning, and the children's language ability.

We would suggest 10 minutes for **Before reading**, 20 minutes for **During reading** and 10 minutes for **After reading**. Additional time can be used for further activities.

Lesson plan

Before reading

Show the children the cover of the Reader and ask questions:

What can you see in the picture? Can you see any people/animals? What's in this pot?

Invite suggestions and then tell the children that it's porridge.

Ask the children to look at Reader pages 4–5. Encourage them to look at the details, and ask questions, for example:

Who is sitting on the green chair? Who is in the street? What color is the little girl's dress?

Ask the children to look carefully at the picture, and say:

Look at the clothes. Look at the houses. Are there any cars? Are there any televisions? Is this a new town? Is this today?

Establish that it's an old town, and that this is long ago.



During reading

Read out or play the recording of the story (Audio track 1) and ask the children to follow in their Reader. After every few pages, stop and ask questions to check the children's understanding. Focus on what the people do and encourage the children to reply using the present simple, for example:

What does the old woman do? What does she say? What does the little girl's mother do?



Check that the children understand what happens in the end. Ask questions, for example:

Where is the porridge? When does the magic porridge pot stop cooking?

Read out or play the story again. After every few pages, stop and ask questions to focus on people and places in the story, for example:

Who meets an old woman? Where is there lots of porridge? Who is eating too much porridge?

From Reader page 16 onwards, encourage the children to join in with the repeated text:

But the magic porridge pot cooks and cooks.



After reading

Display Flashcards 1–4 as clues. Ask the children what they can remember, for example:

Who does the little girl meet? What does the old woman do? What's in the magic pot? What does the magic pot do?

The children can do the following activities to focus on the present simple and continuous:

- Reader activities: 2, 6, 12, 15, 19
- Activity Book activities: 6, 7

To reinforce the actions in the present simple in the story, play the song (Audio track 4) on Activity Book page 16. Encourage the children to follow in their book and join in.

Differentiation

Extra support

Do Activity Book activity 7 out loud with all the children, before asking the children to write the answers down.

Extension

Fast-finishers can work in pairs, and make up their own version of the story. They can choose what food they would like the magic pot to cook, and what words to say to start and stop the magic pot. They can act out their own story for the other children.