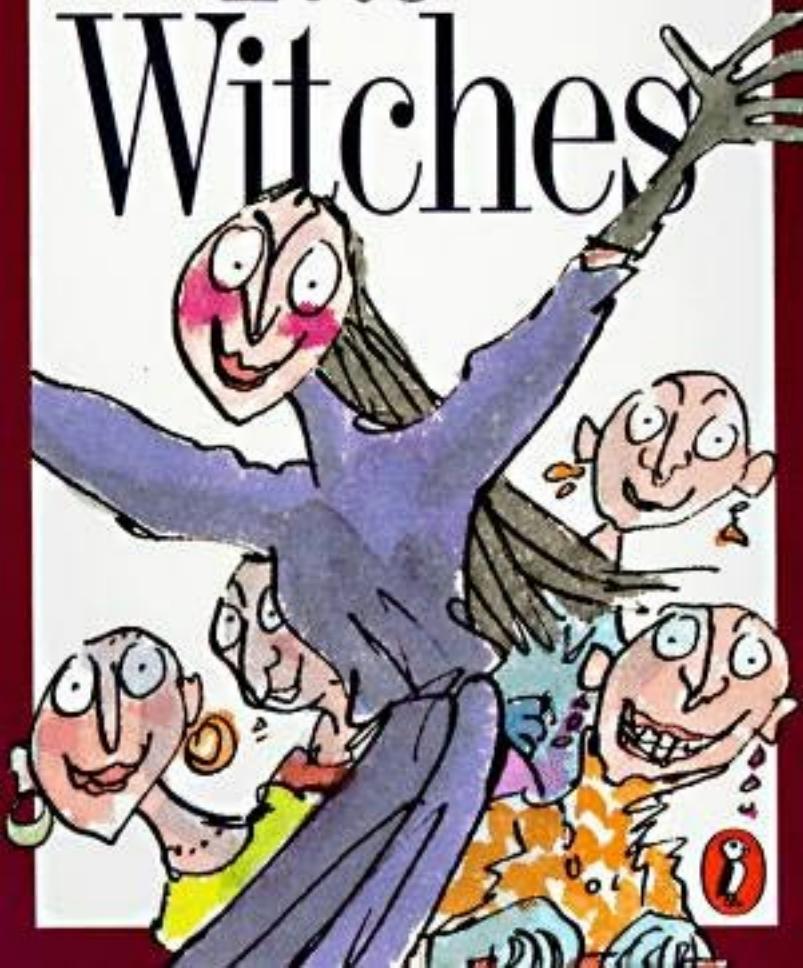


ROALD DAHL

ILLUSTRATED BY QUENTIN BLAKE


The Witches



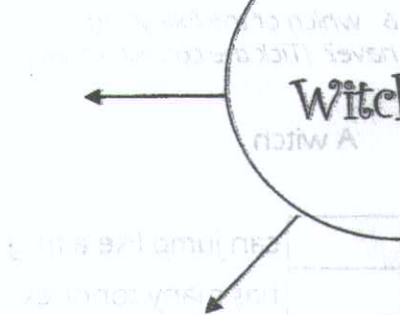
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What do you think of when you think of a witch?



Do you think it would be fun to be a mouse?



Advantages	Disadvantages
A mouse can hide in small places.	A mouse can be easily caught by a cat.



A Note about Witches

Try to predict the answers to the following questions, then listen to the passage to see if you were correct.

Tick the answers that are correct.

1. In fairy tales, witches always

- (a) wear silly black hats.
- (b) wear black cloaks.
- (c) ride broomsticks.
- (d) have big noses.

2. Real witches

- (a) dress in ordinary clothes.
- (b) look like ordinary women.
- (c) live in ordinary houses.
- (d) work in ordinary jobs.
- (e) are easy to catch.

3. A witch spends all her time

- (a) working in the supermarket.
- (b) typing letters.
- (c) driving in a fancy car.
- (d) thinking about how to get rid of children.

4. Number, from 1 – 10, the order in which a witch gets rid of a child.

- | | |
|--|---|
| | Oil boils. |
| | She treads softly. |
| | She swoops. |
| | She gets closer and closer. |
| | Skin shrivels. |
| | The child disappears. |
| | Very carefully a victim is chosen |
| | The witch stalks the child like a hunter. |
| | Sparks fly. |
| | She moves quietly. |

5. A witch

- (a) does not knock children on the head.
- (b) does not stick knives into them.
- (c) does not shoot at them with a pistol.
- (d) gets caught by the police.

6. Which of the following magic powers do witches have? (Tick the correct answers.)

A witch

- | | |
|--|--|
| | can jump like a frog. |
| | has many tongues. |
| | has magic in her fingers. |
| | can make fire flicker across water. |
| | can make stones jump about like frogs. |



7. Which of the following is true about the number of witches in the world? (Tick the correct answers.)

There are

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| | not many in the world. |
| | about 100 in England. |
| | men and women witches. |
| | only women witches. |
| | all countries have witches. |