



## Seasons: Autumn



Once upon a time, there was a young boy called Tom. He was a kind and friendly little chap. His parents and friends often described him as free-spirited, with lots of imagination. Behind his rosy cheeks and innocent features, lay a true explorer, and his eyes would light up whenever a new adventure was on the cards.

One morning, Tom woke early and dug out of his wardrobe his trusty green backpack, the one that went with him on all his adventures. He quickly pulled on a pair of jeans, a thick jumper and his favourite yellow boots so he could walk, climb and jump wherever he pleased!

Once he was kitted out, Tom headed out into the woods next to his house.



Tom had always loved autumn's golden hues, and the morning sun made the colours of the woodland setting even more brilliant.

Any remaining animals that hadn't yet migrated or started their hibernation were wandering around in search of their breakfast. All was calm.

A billowy breeze rippled through the leaves, which fell from the trees, fluttering down and slowly settling on the ground.

[What's your favourite season?]



At this time of year, the woods were always teeming with the spoils of the season, and that was the very reason Tom was here today.

At a bend in the path, close by the mushrooms scattered across the ground, he stopped to collect his first find.

Leaves! Yellow, orange, red: he needed them all for his secret project!



A few steps away, while Tom was pondering the design for his idea, he found two absolutely perfect sticks! Neither too big nor too small, he placed them carefully in his backpack.

And off he went again!

[Can you guess what Tom's plan might be?]



Tom continued on his way, delighted that his plan was taking shape. He carried on walking to a place he knew well, where he was sure to find the third item on his quest: moss spreading over the big stones!

And there it was, green and soft.

Another item Tom could tick off his list!



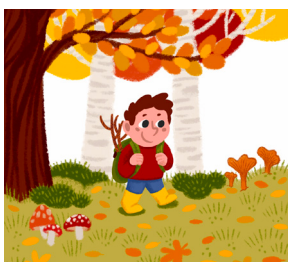
He needed to pick up the pace. Tom still had a lot to do to be ready for the evening!

Much to Tom's relief, it wasn't long before he found the last item on his list. But in his haste, he hadn't seen the spikes around the chestnut and pricked his fingers.

«Ouch! « A tear came to his eye... the life of an explorer isn't always easy!



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With his treasures now stuffed in his backpack, Tom was ready to head home.

The sun was high in the sky and his stomach was starting to rumble: it was definitely lunchtime!

But in spite of his hunger pangs and his sore finger, Tom felt proud of everything he had managed to accomplish over the course of the morning.



When he got home, Tom wolfed down his meal and quickly went up to his room.

He rummaged around the house for the other materials he needed for his project and took out of his backpack everything he had brought from the woods: the brightly coloured leaves, the two perfect sticks, the super-soft moss and the chestnut peel - everything was there!

And after several hours of hard work...



...Tadaaaa! Tom's costume was finally ready!

That's right, autumn is the season of falling leaves, pretty colours, chestnuts, moss and mushrooms, but it's also - perhaps most importantly of all - the season of Halloween! It's one of Tom's favourite occasions and he loves dressing up. This year, he knew his costume would be one of a kind!

[How about you? What is your favourite fancy dress costume?]



As the day came to an end, and the sun began to set, it was time for scary little monsters everywhere to roam the streets.

Tom was meeting his friends Lily and Hugo to trick-or-treating together.

Lily had dressed up as a witch and Hugo as a vampire. Both friends congratulated Tom on his amazing costume!



And so the three of them celebrated Halloween together. Carrying their little pumpkin baskets, they knocked on all of their neighbours' doors, calling: «Trick or treat? ».

And more often than not, the neighbours, frightened and impressed by the three eerie monsters before them, gave them sweets by the handful!



Once they had finished their walk, the three friends emptied their baskets and divided their spoils! With so many sweets, lollies and chocolate bars to get through, they'd better not forget to brush their teeth before bed tonight! Tom was overjoyed with his day, and was ready for a well-deserved good night's sleep.

And that night, Tom fell asleep thinking... about his costume for next year of course!