

Goldilocks!

The Adventures of a Porridge Thief

by Double Act
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Once upon a time, there was a little girl called Goldilocks. On the day our story begins, she had fibbed to her Mum about attending school and had gone for a walk in the New Forest instead. She came across a lovely, neat little house and, being the curious type, decided to see who was home.

The owners of the cottage were a family of bears. They had gone for a stroll that morning, as the porridge that Mummy Bear had made for Daddy Bear and Baby Bear was far too hot to eat, so they thought they would leave it for a short while to cool down. Porridge was their favourite, always made in their magic pot!

In their absence, Goldilocks explored their home. She ate some of their porridge, sat in their chairs, and fell asleep in the smallest bed in the house. When the bears returned, they noticed that someone had been in their home and couldn't believe it when they discovered Goldilocks in Baby Bears' bed!

After a lot of screaming and rushing around, Goldilocks grabbed the magic porridge pot and ran off into the woods. Mummy and Daddy Bear decided it was time to tell Baby Bear all about her 'coming of age' quest and told her to head out into the woods, find Goldilocks, retrieve the porridge pot and secure her status as a "grown up bear".

She headed off, full of pride and feeling excited about her quest.

Goldilocks headed straight out of the New Forest and back to her home in a big house in Christchurch, where she lived with her Mum & Dad, her Aunt & Uncle, Granny & Grandpa, two brothers and quite a few pet dogs and cats. She explained how she had come to have the porridge pot and, at first, her family were a bit cross with her for stealing. However, they were pretty amazed when she showed them what the pot could do. She showed them how to start the porridge cooking. They all feasted on the porridge but didn't have the slightest idea of how to stop it. They thought it might be a nice idea to have a swimming pool of porridge in the back garden. Her Dad said there was a big hole in the garden already. Goldilocks thought that Alexa might be able to help but when she asked, Alexa simply replied "I'm sorry, I don't understand the question"..... The porridge kept growing..... And growing..... Until fairly soon it was oozing out of every door and window in the house. Goldilocks and her family jumped hurriedly into their little riverboat outside their house and floated away, off down the ever growing river of porridge.

Baby Bear, meanwhile, had followed a trail of porridge all the way to Goldilocks house and was stunned as she arrived to see the family floating away in a boat. She was even more shocked when Daddy Locks fell out of the boat! She swam bravely through the porridge and helped him out with her Quest stick, before climbing on to the boat herself. Everybody cheered! Baby Bear was so hungry after all of her heroics that she munched loads and loads of the porridge. She still wanted the porridge pot back and offered to make a deal with Goldilocks and her family. In return for the porridge pot AND a brand new chair to replace her broken one, Baby Bear agreed to alleviate some of their housing pressure by finding Granny & Grandpa Locks a better place to live.

Goldilocks and her family agreed to the deal. Daddy Locks was a carpenter so started on the chair straight away.

Baby Bear taught everyone the magic password to stop the continuing onslaught of porridge. They all shouted out 'Football – Nothing – Rugby – Petrol – Books' and the porridge instantly stopped. As the porridge subsided, a mechanical digger drove passed. They all asked the driver to increase the size of the hole in their back garden and they all filled the hole with porridge upon porridge, perfect for both swimming AND munching.

Led by Baby Bear, they all took Granny & Grandpa to the nice new home that Baby Bear promised them, a charming retirement home in Westbourne, for bears (and people who are kind to bears). There was such a feeling of kindness and sharing in the air that Goldilocks apologised for everything that she'd done. Everyone forgave her. They went back to their home, Baby Bear took the porridge pot and the beautiful new chair that Daddy Locks had made for her and went back to her Mum & dad and they all lived Happily Ever After.....