

Spelling starter

Copy out these sentences and add the missing word.

Add the word **actual** to these sentences.



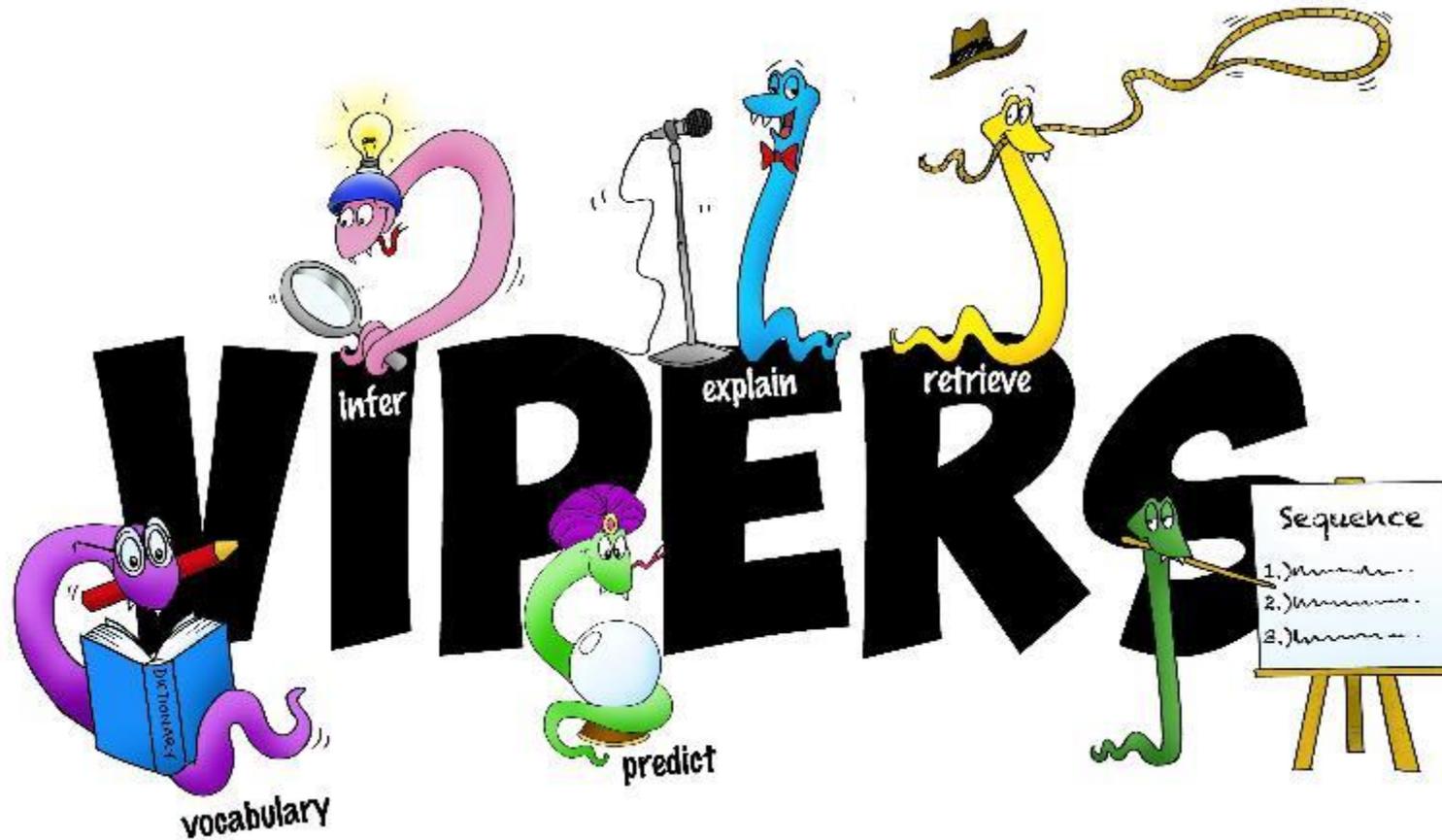
The _____ cost was £100.

“Those were his _____ words!”

Can you measure the _____ length?

The story is based on _____ events.

We are reading the story of Papa Piccolo, **so that** we can use our reading comprehension skills to answer questions.





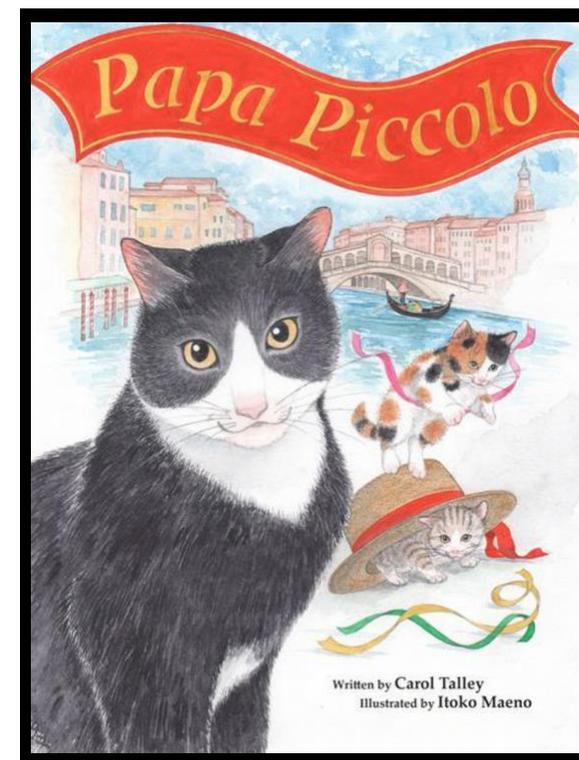
We are going to read the story of Papa Piccolo.

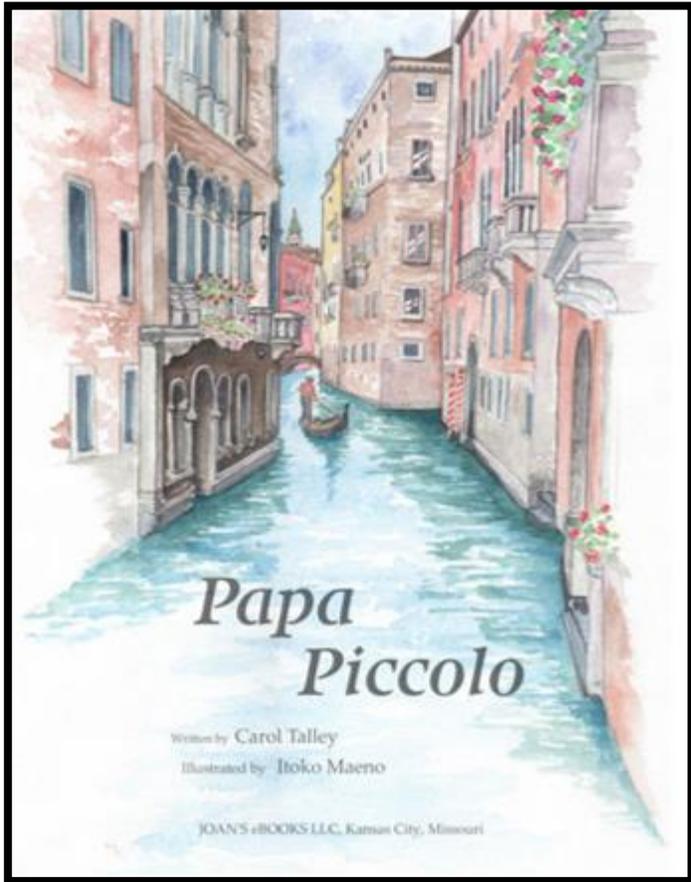


Look at the front cover.
What type of text do you think this is?

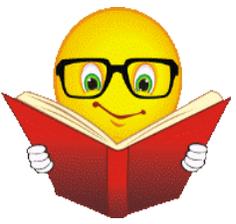


Can you make a predication of what you think will happen in the story?

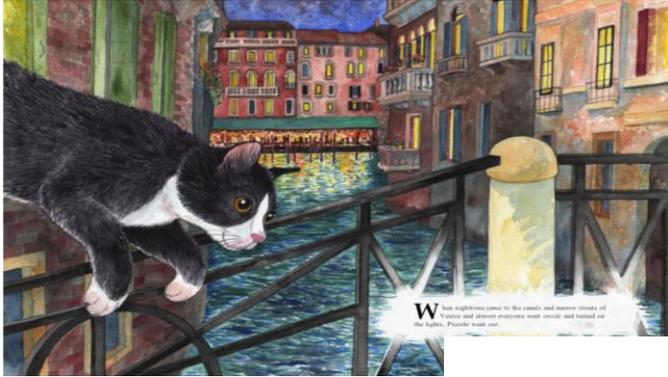




Where do you think the story is set?



Read the text



When night-time came to the canals and narrow streets of Venice and almost everyone went inside and turned on the lights, Piccolo went out.



The dark was full of possibilities. Who knew what Piccolo might find inside that open window? Perhaps a shiny trinket, a dish of cream, or a pretty yellow canary. Who knew what waited in that bin in the street? Perhaps a bit of sardine or a scrap of cheese.



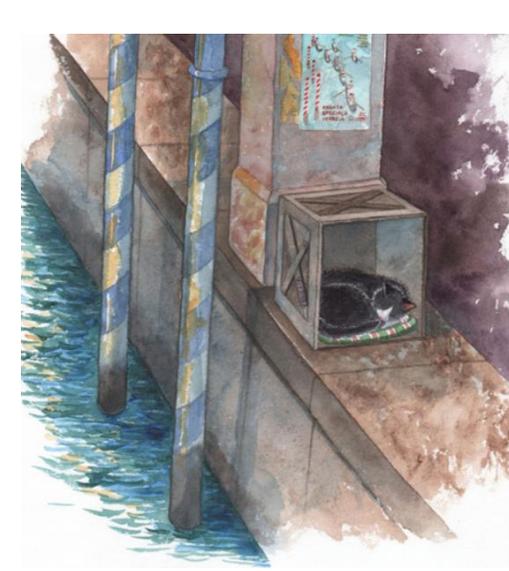
If a flower pot crashed from a window ledge or a bin lid clanged to the ground, all the better. Piccolo would be gone like magic before the signora could throw open her door. Piccolo was a tome, and he lived for adventure. Late one night, on the old stone bridge across the Canal Tolentini, Piccolo found something that startled him on his biggest adventure ever.

It was only a cardboard box, but curious Piccolo poked his nose inside. “Why look!” exclaimed Piccolo to his old friend Caesar. “Kitten! Now why are two kittens alone in a box on a bridge? Where do you suppose this mother is?”

Caesar looked into the box at the two big-eyed kittens one spotted like a leopard and one striped like a tiger. “It’s clearly a sorry situation,” Caesar said, “but what can we do? We don’t know anything about kittens”

“I know one thing,” said Piccolo. “It’s past these kittens’ bedtime!” And then Piccolo sang a little song he remembered from long ago about stardust and moonbeams and goldfish. In no time, the kittens were sound asleep.





As the bells of Venice chimed the small hours of the night, Piccolo and Caesar hurried on over the bridge. Caesar disappeared down a crooked alley, and Piccolo crept into an empty crate. “I think those kittens liked my singing,” he said to himself. And soon Piccolo was asleep too.



Of all the boats and barges and skiffs and scows in Venice, the most famous of the gondola. Piccolo awoke the next morning to the voices of the Barbaro brothers, preparing their sleek black gondolas for another day of carrying tourists up and down and around the city’s canals. Piccolo had a keen interest in gondolas and in the breakfast of gondoliers.

“Buon giorno, Piccolo!” the gondoliers called when their favourite tomcat slipped out of the shadows.

“Hey, Piccolo! What mischief are you up to today?” “How about a sweet bite, Piccolo?”

Piccolo had already seen the youngest brother, Luigi Barbaro, break off some bits of pastry and place them as usual at the edge of the canal. But Piccolo was an independent cat, and as usual he pretended not to notice.

Instead, he leaped to a nearby railing, prancing like a carnival acrobat from post to slippery post. As he enjoyed the laughter and applause suddenly out of the corner of his eye Piccolo saw two balls of fur flash by. And his pastry had vanished.



Those kittens!

Piccolo flew after the little criminals, crying.

“Stop, thieves!” He so angry!

“Taking food from bambini, Piccolo?” laughed Luigi. Piccolo skidded to a halt.



Now he felt ashamed. As the hungry kittens feasted on Piccolo’s breakfast, he turned and strutted off, declaring, “ I hate pastry anyway!”

Piccolo was halfway over the bridge when Luigi called to him again. “Hey, looks like you’ve got your hands full! Lots of mouths to feed papa Piccolo!” Piccolo wheeled around to find the two kittens at his heels. “Scram, you ragtags! I’m not a papa cat, I’m a tomcat. You’ll have to find your mama to learn to take care of yourselves!”



Answer the questions



When night-time came to the canals and narrow streets of Venice and almost everyone went inside and turned on the lights, Piccolo went out.

1. What time of day is it in Venice when Piccolo goes out?



2. Why does Piccolo go out at night?

The dark was full of possibilities. Who knew what Piccolo might find inside that open window? Perhaps a shiny trinket, a dish of cream, or a pretty yellow canary. Who knew what waited in that bin in the street? Perhaps a bit of sardine or a scrap of cheese.



If a flower pot crashed from a window ledge or a bin lid clanged to the ground, all the better. Piccolo would be gone like magic before the signora could throw open her door. Piccolo was a tom, and he lived for adventure. Late one night, on the old stone bridge across the Canal Tolentini, Piccolo found something that startled him on his biggest adventure ever.

3. Does the signora mean man or woman?

4. What does the phrase 'gone like magic' mean?

It was only a cardboard box, but curious Piccolo poked his nose inside. “Why look!” exclaimed Piccolo to his old friend Caesar. “Kitten! Now why are two kittens alone in a box on a bridge? Where do you suppose this mother is?”

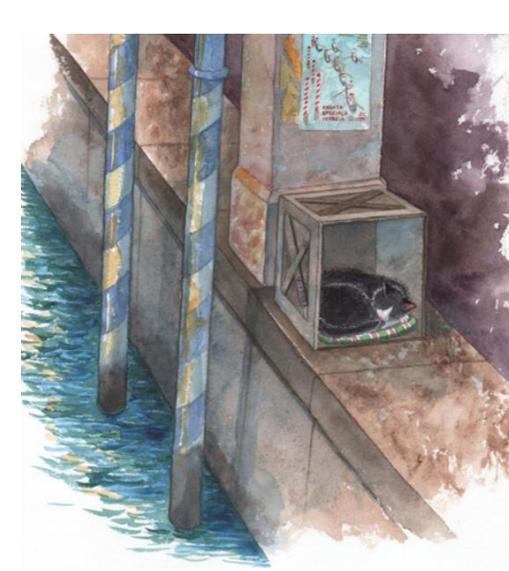
Caesar looked into the box at the two big-eyed kittens one spotted like a leopard and one striped like a tiger. “It’s clearly a sorry situation,” Caesar said, “but what can we do? We don’t know anything about kittens”

“I know one thing,” said Piccolo. “It’s past these kittens’ bedtime!” And then Piccolo sang a little song he remembered from long ago about stardust and moonbeams and goldfish. In no time, the kittens were sound asleep.



5. Why do you think there were two kittens alone in a box on a bridge?

6. What is the song about?



As the bells of Venice chimed the small hours of the night, Piccolo and Caesar hurried on over the bridge. Caesar disappeared down a crooked alley, and Piccolo crept into an empty crate. “I think those kittens liked my singing,” he said to himself. And soon Piccolo was asleep too.

7. How do Piccolo and Caesar know its time for bed?

8. Where is Piccolo's crate?



Of all the boats and barges and skiffs and scows in Venice, the most famous of the gondola. Piccolo awoke the next morning to the voices of the Barbaro brothers, preparing their sleek black gondolas for another day of carrying tourists up and down and around the city's canals. Piccolo had a keen interest in gondolas and in the breakfast of gondoliers.

“Buon giorno, Piccolo!” the gondoliers called when their favourite tomcat slipped out of the shadows.

“Hey, Piccolo! What mischief are you up to today?” “How about a sweet bite, Piccolo?”

9. What is the name of the most famous boats in Venice?

10. What do the Barbaro brothers call Piccolo?

Piccolo had already seen the youngest brother, Luigi Barbaro, break off some bits of pastry and place them as usual at the edge of the canal. But Piccolo was an independent cat, and as usual he pretended not to notice.

Instead, he leaped to a nearby railing, prancing like a carnival acrobat from post to slippery post. As he enjoyed the laughter and applause suddenly out of the corner of his eye Piccolo saw two balls of fur flash by. And his pastry had vanished.

11. How does the author describe Piccolo's movements on the railings?

12. Who takes Piccolo's pastry?



Those kittens! Piccolo flew after the little criminals, crying.

“Stop, thieves!” He so angry!

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skidded to a halt. Now he felt ashamed. As the hungry kittens feasted on Piccolo’s breakfast, he turned and strutted off, declaring, “ I hate pastry anyway!”

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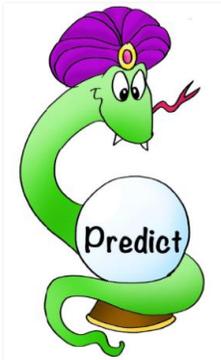


13. Find the Italian word which means baby.

14. Is Piccolo happy about the kittens following him? Explain your answer.

Plenary

Next week we will read the second part of the story.



Can you make a predication
of what you think will
happen next in the story?

Plenary

Can you number the events 1-5 in the order that they happened?

- a. The kittens followed Piccolo.
- b. Piccolo went to sleep as the bells of Venice chimed.
- c. Piccolo went to the gondoliers for breakfast
- d. Piccolo found some kittens.
- e. Piccolo went out at night to explore.

Answers

Can you number the events 1-5 in the order that they happened?

5a. The kittens followed Piccolo.

3b. Piccolo went to sleep as the bells of Venice chimed.

4c. Piccolo went to the gondoliers for breakfast

2d. Piccolo found some kittens.

1e. Piccolo went out at night to explore.

Answers

1. What time of day is it in Venice? **Nighttime**
2. Why does Piccolo goes out at night? **Possible answers - Its full of possibilities. Or He might find a shiny trinket, a dish of cream, or a pretty yellow canary a bit of sardine or a scrap of cheese.**
3. Does the signora mean man or woman? **Woman**
4. What does the phrase 'gone like magic' mean? **Disappear**

5. Why do you think there were two kittens alone in a box on a bridge? **They have been abandoned or left.**

6. What is the song about? **stardust and moonbeams and goldfish**

7. How do Piccolo and Caesar know its time for bed? **The bells of Venice chimed.**

8. Where is Piccolo's crate? **Over a bridge down a crooked alley.**

9. What is the name of the most famous boats in Venice? **Gondola**
10. What do the Barbaro brothers call Piccolo? **Buon giorno, Piccolo**
11. How does the author describe Piccolo's movements on the railings? **Prancing like a carnival acrobat**
12. Who takes Piccolo's pastry? **The two kittens.**
13. Find the Italian word which means baby. **Bambini**
14. Is Piccolo happy about the kittens following him? Explain your answer. **No he tells them to scram, and says he not a papa cat, and they need to find a mama cat.**