

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Grade: Unit 2-Kindness  
Anthology Stories

	Mushroom In The Rain	The Elves and the Shoemaker	The Paper Crane	Butterfly House	Corduroy	The Story of Three Whales	Cinderella
My GOAL							
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## Mushroom in the Rain

Retold by: Mirra Ginsburg

One day an ant was caught in the rain. "Where can I hide?"	13
he wondered.	15
He saw a tiny mushroom peeking out of the ground in a	27
clearing, and he hid under it. He sat there, waiting for the rain to	41
stop. But the rain came down harder and harder.	50
A wet butterfly crawled up to the mushroom.	58
"Cousin Ant, let me come in from the rain. I am so wet I	72
cannot fly."	74
"How can I let you in?" said the ant.	83
"There is barely room enough for one."	90
"It does not matter," said the butterfly. "Better crowded	99
than wet."	101
The ant moved over and made room for the butterfly. The	112
rain came down harder and harder.	118
A mouse ran up.	122
"Let me in under the mushroom. I am drenched to the	133
bone."	134
"How can we let you in? There is no more room here."	146
"Just move a little closer!"	151
They huddled closer and let the mouse in. And the rain	162
came down and came down and would not stop.	171
A little sparrow hopped up to the mushroom, crying: "My	181
feathers are dripping, my wings are so tired! Let me in under the	194
mushroom to dry out and rest until the rain stops!"	204
"But there is no room here!"	210
"Please! Move over just a little!"	216
They moved over, and there was room enough for the	226
sparrow.	227

## The Elves and the Shoemaker

Retold by: Freya Littledale

There was once a good shoemaker who became very poor.	10
At last he had only one piece of leather to make one pair of shoes. "Well," said the shoemaker to his wife, "I will cut the leather tonight and make the shoes in the morning."	24 36 45
The next morning he went to his table, and he couldn't believe what he saw. The leather was polished. The sewing was done. And there was a fine pair of shoes! Not one stitch was out of place.	56 67 81 83
"Do you see what I see?" asked the shoemaker.	92
"Indeed I do," said his wife. "I see a fine pair of shoes."	105
"But who could have made them?" the shoemaker said.	114
"It's just like magic!" said the wife.	121
At that very moment a man came in with a top hat and cane.	135
"Those shoes look right for me," said the man. And so they were. They were right from heel to toe. "How much do they cost?"	148 160
"One gold coin," said the shoemaker.	166
"I'll give you two," said the man.	173
And he went on his way with a smile on his face and the new shoes on his feet.	188 192
"Well, well," said the shoemaker, "now I can buy leather to for two pairs of shoes."	201 216
And he cut the leather that night so he could make the shoes in the morning.	228 232
The next morning the shoemaker woke up, and he found two pairs of ladies' shoes. They were shining in the sunlight.	243 253
"Who is making these shoes?" said the shoemaker. "They are the best shoes in the world!"	262 269
At that moment two ladies came in. They thought the shoes were pretty and perfect. They gave the shoemaker four gold coins and away they went!	280 290 295

## The Paper Crane

By: Molly Bang

A man once owned a restaurant on a busy road. He loved to cook good food and he loved to serve it. He worked from morning until night, and he was happy.	13 26 32
But a new highway was built close by. Travelers drove straight from one place to another and no longer stopped at the restaurant. Many days went by when no guest came at all. The man became very poor and had nothing to do but dust and polish his empty plates and tables.	42 54 66 79 84
One evening a stranger came into the restaurant. His clothes were old and worn, but he had an unusual, gentle manner.	93 105
Though he said he had no money to pay for food, the owner invited him to sit down. He cooked the best meal he could make and served him like a king.	118 131 137
When the stranger had finished, he said to his host, "I cannot pay you with money, but I would like to thank you in my own way."	148 162 164
He picked up a paper napkin from the table and folded it into the shape of a crane. "You have only to clap your hands," he said, "and this bird will come to life and dance for you. Take it, and enjoy it while it is with you."	176 190 204 212
With these words the stranger left.	218
It happened just as the stranger had said. The owner had only to clap his hands and the paper crane became a living bird, flew down to the floor, and danced.	229 242 249
Soon word of the dancing crane spread and people came from far and near to see the magic bird perform.	259 269
The owner was happy again, for his restaurant was always full of guests.	279 282

## Butterfly House

By Eve Bunting

When I was just a little girl I saw a small black creature like a tiny worm, and saved it from a greedy jay who wanted it for lunch.	12 24 29
I carried it inside, safe on its wide green leaf. My grandpa said it was a larva and soon would be a butterfly.	40 52
We laid the larva carefully on thistle leaves inside an empty jar, put in a twig for it to climb- then made a lid of soft white paper all stuck around with glue. My grandpa knew exactly what to do. "I raised a butterfly myself," he said, "when I was just your age."	62 77 87 98 105
How strange to think my grandpa once was young like me. "We would have been best friends if I'd been there back then," I said. My grandpa smiled. "It worked out anyhow. We're best friends now."	115 126 136 141
Up in his room we found a box. I cut a window in its side, then covered it with screen. Soon I could look inside and see my larva looking back at me.	155 166 174
What would she see? A human face so big and scary, strange and starey? What would she think?	185 192
"I want it pretty till she goes," I said. And so Grandpa and I drew flowers on colored paper. Cone flowers, purple-blue, and marigolds, lantana, bright as flame, and thistles, too.	204 214 223 224
We wedged a garden twig inside the box for her to walk on, so he wings could dry once she became a butterfly.	235 247
My grandpa knows the flowers butterflies like best. The ones where they can rest and drink the sweet, clear nectar.	255 266 267

## Corduroy

By: Don Freeman

Corduroy is a bear who once lived in the toy	10
department of a big store. Day after day he waited with all	22
the other animals and dolls for someone to come along and	33
take him home.	36
The store was always filled with shoppers buying all	45
sorts of things, but no one ever seemed to want a small bear	58
in green overalls.	61
Then one morning a little girl stopped and looked	70
straight into Corduroy's bright eyes.	75
"Oh, Mommy!" she said. "Look! There's the very bear	84
I've always wanted."	87
"Not today, dear." Her mother sighed. "I've spent too	96
much already. Besides, he doesn't look new. He's lost the	106
button to one of his shoulder straps."	113
Corduroy watched them sadly as they walked away.	121
"I didn't know I'd lost a button," he said to himself.	132
"Tonight I'll go and see if I can find it."	142
Late that evening, when all the shoppers had gone and	152
the doors were shut and locked, Corduroy climbed carefully	161
down from his shelf and began searching everywhere on the	171
floor for his lost button.	176
Suddenly he felt the floor moving under him! Quite by	186
accident he had stepped onto an escalator- and up he went!	197
"Could this be a mountain?" he wondered. "I've think	206
I've always wanted to climb a mountain."	213

## The Story of Three Whales

By: Giles Whittell

For twelve bright weeks every summer, the Arctic Ocean	9
is full of life. Blooms of plankton float among the icebergs.	20
Shellfish slide along the sea floor. Squid lurk under pitch-black	31
overhangs of rock. And whales swim up from the Pacific to feed.	43
Humpback whales, Bowhead whales and California Gray	50
whales all come to the Arctic. In the summer of 1988 one	62
particular herd of California Grays was plunging and rolling, leaping	72
and belly-flopping, off the north coast of Alaska.	81
But winter came early in 1988. The first sign was a	92
freezing wind from the east. Blizzards blew in from the top of	114
the world. Thick pack-ice spread out from the shore and its	126
shadow fell over the whales.	131
Most of the whales were quick to sense the changes. In	142
small groups, they set off on the long swim south to warmth for	155
the winter. But three of the whales failed to notice the end of	168
summer- one adult, one middle-sized, one baby.	176
Quietly the ice crept in. The ocean was changing from	186
blue to silent white. Gray whales hold their breath under water	197
for half an hour; but soon the three who had been left behind	210
would have nowhere left to surface.	216
Only the open water was safe, beyond the pack-ice. But	227
the three whales lost their sense of direction. They swam toward	238
land, into an Alaskan bay, where the still. Shallow water was	249
certain to freeze very quickly.	254
At the mouth of the bay was a shelf of ice, under water.	267
Broken pack-ice piled up against it, forming a wall. From sea-bed	280
to surface there was no way out.	287

## Cinderella

Retold By: Fabio Coen

Once there was a girl who was very kind and patient. Her	12
wicked stepmother called her Cinderella because she often sat by	22
the fireplace close to the cinders.	28
Her stepmother made her work all day long. She had to	39
light the fire, prepare the meals, wash the dishes, clean the	50
house, and make beautiful gowns for her two stepsisters, who	60
were very ugly and mean.	65
Cinderella was always dressed in rags, but she was more	75
beautiful in her rags than her stepsisters in their beautiful	85
gowns.	86
One day the King and Queen gave a ball. Cinderella	96
helped her stepmother and her stepsisters to get ready. Then	106
the three of them went to the ball.	114
Cinderella was all alone. She began to cry. Suddenly her	124
Fairy Godmother appeared. "Why are you crying?" she asked	133
Cinderella.	134
"I, too, would like to go to the ball," Cinderella replied.	145
"Then you shall go," said her Fairy Godmother. "Bring me	155
a pumpkin from the garden."	160
With one touch of her magic wand, Cinderella's Fairy	169
Godmother turned the pumpkin into a beautiful carriage. Then	178
she took six mice from a trap. A touch of the magic wand turned	192
them into six prancing horses. In the cellar Cinderella's Fairy	202
Godmother found a large rat. She turned him into a large	213
coachman with a great mustache.	218
Another touch of the magic wand and Cinderella's rags	227
turned into a beautiful silver gown covered with diamonds. On	237
her feet were a pair of little glass slippers.	246