Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Robert Southey

Goldilocks and the three bears

Once upon a time there were three bears: Father Bear, Mother Bear and Baby Bear. Father Bear was very big. Baby Bear was very small. Mother Bear was not very big and not very small – she was middle sized. The three bears lived in a little house in the forest.

Every day the bears ate porridge for breakfast. One day Father Bear said in his deep Father Bear voice, "Our porridge is too hot. We can go and walk in the forest while it is getting cool." So the three bears went out for a walk in the forest. At the same time, somebody else was walking in the forest. A little girl with golden hair. Do you know her name? It was Goldilocks. She was called Goldilocks because her hair was the colour of gold.

Goldilocks saw the bears' house. She walked up the path and knocked on the door. "Nqo-nqo-nqo." There was no answer. She peeped in through the window – it looked very nice inside. She rang the bell, but there was no answer. So do you know what Goldilocks did? Yes, she walked into the bears' house! Oh, Goldilocks!

Goldilocks saw the porridge on the table. There was a big bowl for Father Bear, a middle-sized bowl for Mother Bear and a small bowl for Baby Bear. Goldilocks was very hungry. First she tasted Father Bear's porridge, but she did not like it because it was too salty. "I don't like this porridge, it's too salty," Goldilocks said. Then she tasted Mother Bear's porridge, but she did not like it at all because

it was too sweet – there was too much sugar in it. "I don't like this porridge, it's too sweet," Goldilocks said. Next she tasted Baby Bear's porridge. "Mmm," she said, "I like this porridge, it is just right!" And she ate all Baby Bear's porridge.

Goldilocks looked around and she saw three chairs. First she sat in Father Bear's chair but it was too hard. She got off the chair and said, "I don't like this chair, it's too hard." Next, Goldilocks sat in Mother Bear's chair but it was too soft. She got off the chair and said, "I don't like this chair, it's too soft." And then Goldilocks

sat on Baby Bear's chair and it was just right. She said, "I like this chair, it's just right!" But do you know what happened? Goldilocks was too big for the chair and the chair broke and Goldilocks fell onto the floor. Oh dear, poor Goldilocks and poor Baby Bear's chair!

Goldilocks was tired now, and she wanted to sleep. Where was she going to sleep? Can she sleep on the table? No! Can she sleep on Baby Bear's chair? No! Why? Because it is broken. Do you know where she is going to sleep? Goldilocks looked for a bed to sleep in. She found the bedroom and there she saw three beds. Father Bear's bed was very big. Mother Bear's bed was middle-sized and Baby Bear's bed was very small.

Goldilocks got into Father Bear's bed but it was too hard. She climbed off the bed and said, "I don't like this bed, it's too hard." Next, Goldilocks got onto Mother Bear's bed but it was too soft. She climbed off and said, "I don't like this bed, it is too soft." And then Goldilocks got onto Baby Bear's bed. She lay down and pulled the blanket up and said, "I like this bed, it's just right!" Goldilocks closed her eyes and went to sleep.

While Goldilocks was asleep, the three bears came home. They were hungry. Father Bear looked at his bowl of porridge. He was cross and said in his deep Father Bear voice, "Who's been eating

my porridge?" Mother Bear looked at her porridge. She was cross and she said, "Who's been eating my porridge?" Baby Bear looked at his bowl. He was very cross and he said, "Who's been eating my porridge?" Then he said, "It's all gone!"

The bears looked at their chairs. Father Bear said, "Who's been sitting on my chair?" Mother Bear said, "Who's been sitting on my chair?" Baby Bear looked at his chair and said, "Who's been sitting in my chair? And look, it's broken!"

The bears went into the bedroom. Father Bear looked at his bed and said, "Who's been sleeping in my bed?" Mother Bear looked at her bed and said, "Who's been sleeping in my bed?" Baby Bear looked at his bed and said, "Who's been sleeping in my bed? He looked again and said, "There she is!"

Goldilocks got such a fright, she jumped out of bed and ran to the window. She climbed out of the window and she ran and ran and ran. The three bears never saw Goldilocks again.

And that is the end of the story.