

The Princess and the Pea

Once upon a time, there lived a prince. He wanted to get married. The prince looked for the perfect wife, but he could not find a real princess anywhere!

One stormy night, there was a knock on his door. When the prince opened it, he saw a girl. Her hair was wet, her clothes were muddy, and she was shivering. "Hello. I am a princess. May I stay here tonight?" she asked. "Of course," he said kindly. The prince invited the girl in. "Come warm yourself by the fire. Have a cup of hot chocolate," he said. "Thank you," she said sweetly. The girl seemed very nice. Could she really be a princess? The prince had a plan to find out.

First, he put a tiny pea on a bed. Second, he piled 20 mattresses on top of the pea. "Here is your bed. Sweet dreams," he said. But the girl's dreams were not sweet. She tossed and turned. She couldn't sleep at all.

The next morning, the prince invited the girl to have some pancakes. "How did you sleep?" he asked. "I don't mean to be rude, but I slept very badly. It felt like there was a rock under my back!" she said with a yawn. The prince smiled. Then, he got down on one knee and asked the girl to marry him. Why? He knew that only a real princess could feel a tiny pea under 20 mattresses! The girl said yes, of course. Then they both lived happily ever after.