

# The Princess and the Pea

by Lauren Child

Elaborate paper doll cutouts, detailed miniature castle replicas and dramatic fonts set the stage for the retelling of Hans Christian Anderson's classic tale about a quest to find one-true love and the challenges of passing the queen's famous test.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *What would you do if you had a pea in your bed?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder what she is doing on the ladder?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *The Princess and the Pea*

- romantic: expression of tender emotions and love
- mesmerizing: to absorb somebody's attention, to fascinate somebody or to hypnotize
- fascinating: captivating, inspiring a great interest or attraction
- royalness: relating to or belonging to a monarch family
- captured: to take somebody prisoner, to seize a place
- vain: excessively proud, especially of personal appearance
- downcast: sad and pessimistic
- perched: place for a bird to sit
- shivering: tremble or shake slightly
- impeccable: perfect or flawless as to be beyond criticism
- clattered: to make a rattling noise

### After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What did the king and queen want their son to do?
- Who did he want to marry?
- What kind of party did they throw for the prince to meet princesses?
- What kind of princesses did he meet?
- Where does the real princess live?
- Why was she in the forest?
- How did she find the castle?
- What did the queen do to the bed the princess was to sleep in?
- How did the princess sleep?
- What did the prince think of the princess?
- How did the story end?

# Do

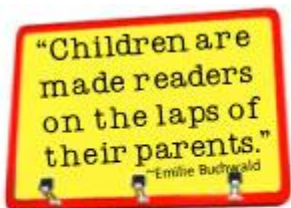
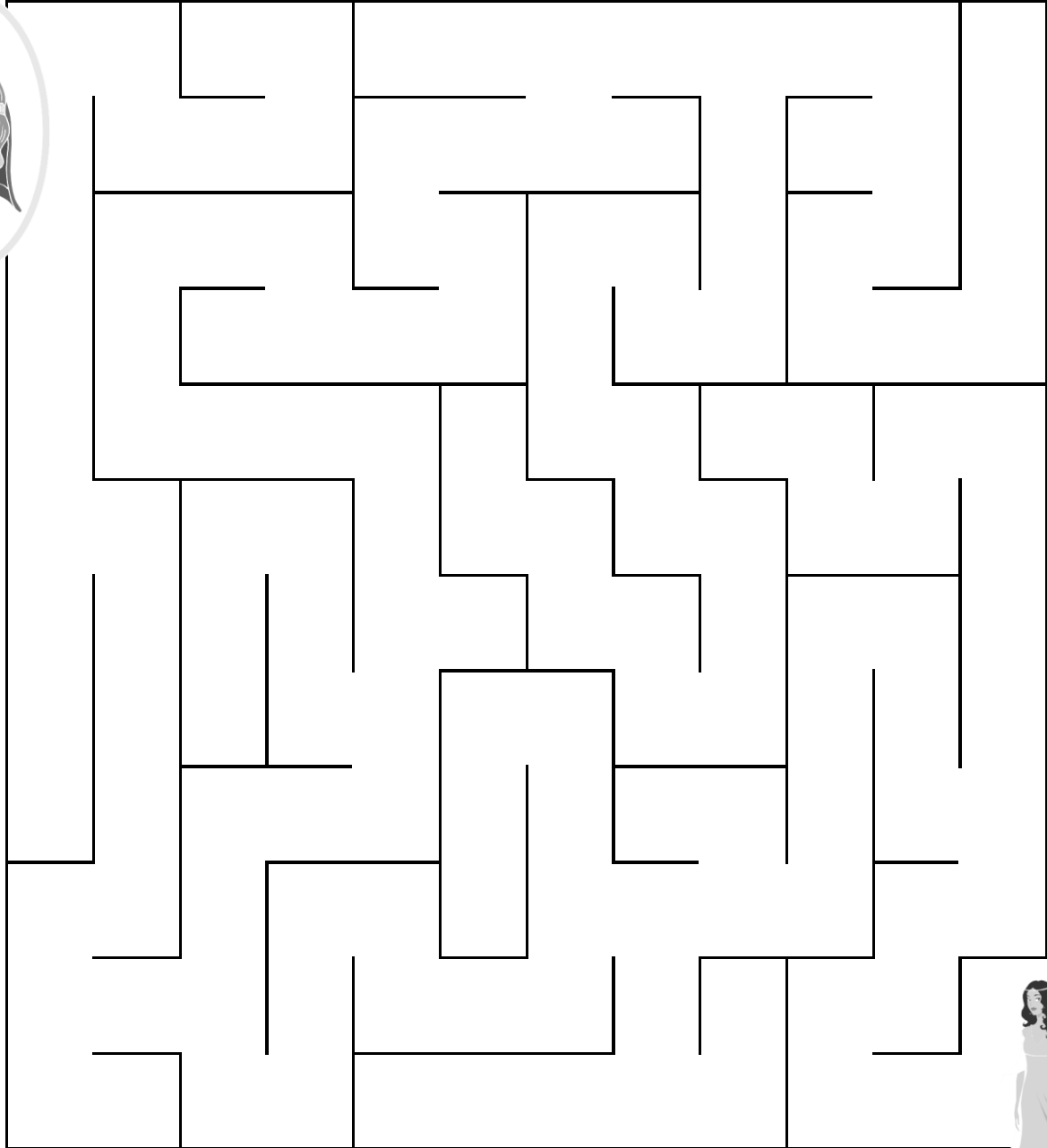
## Maze

After reading the story, hand out a copy of the "Maze" sheet to each child. If desired, the children can decorate the coloring page after they have helped the prince find his princess.

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

# “The Princess and the Pea” Maze

Help the prince find his princess!



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