



Free Ayito Material

This story is part of Ayito.co's collection of children's materials. On our website, you will find more stories for children, coloring pages, and free materials ready to download and print at no cost, ideal for reading, creating, and enjoying at home or in the classroom.

© Ayito.co. All rights reserved for the editing, design, and layout of this material.

TOM THUMB

Once upon a time, there was a very tiny boy named Tom Thumb. He was as small as a thumb, but he had a very clever mind and a very brave heart. He lived with his parents and his brothers in a humble little house near a great forest, full of tall trees, narrow paths, and sounds that could feel a little scary at night.

The family was very poor, and many times they did not have enough food for everyone. Even so, Tom Thumb always tried to

cheer up his brothers, because he did not like to see them sad or worried.

—Do not worry—he would say—. We will find a way.

Even though he was the smallest in the house, Tom Thumb paid attention to everything. He listened, thought, and tried to understand how he could help. He was not strong or big, but he had something very special: he knew how to stay calm when others felt afraid.

One night, while everyone was resting, Tom Thumb heard his parents speaking sadly. They were worried because they did not know how to feed the whole family. Their voices sounded tired, and their words were full of sorrow. The little boy did not say anything, but he stayed awake, thinking about what he had heard.

The next morning, the parents took their children into the forest. As they walked, Tom Thumb dropped little white pebbles from his pockets. He did it very carefully, without letting anyone notice. The forest looked quiet, but he knew it was better to be prepared.

After a while, the children realized they were alone. They looked around and saw only trees, branches, and a long silence. His brothers began to cry and looked fearfully at the path ahead.

—Do not cry —said Tom Thumb calmly—. I know how to get back home.

—Really? —asked one of his brothers, wiping away his tears.

—Yes —answered Tom Thumb—. I left a trail of little pebbles to guide us.

Then the moon lit up the small white stones, and everyone followed Tom Thumb step by step. Thanks to his idea, they made it back home. Their parents were very happy to see them, and for a moment the house was filled again with hugs and relief.

A few days passed, but food was still scarce. Worry returned, and the family had to go back into the forest. This time, Tom Thumb could not gather pebbles, so he dropped bread crumbs along the way. He thought they would help guide them back.

However, when he tried to return, he discovered that the birds had eaten all the crumbs.

—What will we do now? —asked one of his brothers, very frightened.

Tom Thumb took a deep breath and answered:

—We will keep walking. We must not give up.

The children walked for a long time among trees, dry branches, and unknown paths. The forest seemed larger and larger, and the sky was beginning to grow dark. They were already tired when, far away, they saw a small house with a light shining in the window.

—Look over there —said one of the brothers—. Maybe someone can help us.

—Let's go carefully —Tom Thumb replied—. We do not know who lives there.

They knocked on the door, and a woman welcomed them. When she saw how tired, dirty, and sad they looked, she felt sorry for them and let them come inside. But she quickly warned them that a fierce ogre lived in that house, and that they had to be very careful.

—Please, ma'am —said Tom Thumb—. Let us stay just for tonight.

The woman agreed, but asked them to remain quiet. Soon after, the ogre came home with such heavy steps that it seemed the floor was shaking. As soon as he entered, he began to smell the air and frowned.

—I smell children —he growled in a loud voice.

Tom Thumb's brothers trembled with fear, but he made a sign for them to stay still. The woman managed to calm the ogre for a moment, and when the house finally became quiet, Tom Thumb began to think of a way to escape.

—Listen to me carefully —he whispered to his brothers—. When I tell you, we will leave without making a sound.

—We are scared —said one of them.

—So am I —Tom Thumb answered—. But we must be brave.

When the moment came, Tom Thumb woke his brothers, and they all left the house in silence. They opened the door very slowly and began to run through the forest as fast as they could, without looking back.

Soon they heard the ogre's voice in the distance, echoing through the trees.

—Children! Where are you?

—He will catch us! —said one of the brothers.

—Hide here —Tom Thumb ordered.

The children hid very well among some rocks and bushes. The ogre passed near them, tired from so much running. He wore magical boots that allowed him to move very fast, but he was so exhausted that he sat down for a moment and fell asleep.

Tom Thumb watched him carefully and said in a low voice:

—Do not move. I will be back soon.

He walked slowly, without making any noise, and managed to take the magical boots. Then he returned to his brothers with a small smile of relief.

—Now we will be able to escape —he told them.

Thanks to his cleverness and courage, Tom Thumb found a way to help his family. After many difficulties, he managed to return home with his brothers and bring hope to his parents. They no

longer saw him only as the smallest child, but as someone who could think bravely in the hardest moments.

—My son —his mother said as she hugged him—. You are small, but you have done something very great.

Tom Thumb smiled. His brothers hugged him too, happy to be home again. From that day on, everyone understood that a person's size does not matter, but rather their kindness, their cleverness, and their bravery.

And so, Tom Thumb and his family lived with greater hope, always remembering that sometimes the smallest one can also be the bravest of all.

THE END

