



Level 1

Lownu Mends the Sky



OXFORD



Lownu Mends the Sky

Retold by Sue Arengo
Illustrated by Kirsten Richards



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This is China, in the old days. Every day the sky is blue. Blue, blue, blue.



And every night the sky is black.
Black, black, black.





One day a piece of blue falls. It falls out of the sky.

‘Look!’ says the big girl. ‘What is it?’

‘It’s a piece of the sky!’ says the big boy. ‘Look! Another one!’

'Look!' says the little boy.
'There's a hole! No! Two
holes! Two holes in the sky!'



Another piece falls. Another piece
of blue. And another one.



'Look! I can see the night sky,' says the little girl.
'But it's day!'



'Let's tell Lownu.'
'Yes! Yes! Quick!
Let's tell Lownu!'



Go and find the pieces.

‘Mmm,’ says Lownu. ‘Go and find the pieces. All the pieces of blue.’

‘Find all the pieces,’ says Lownu. ‘And bring them here!’





'Here's a piece!' says the little boy.

'Here's another!' says the little girl.

'Here's one!' says the big boy.

'Here's another!' says the big girl.

And the baby says: 'Blue!'

The children find
ten pieces.

'One, two, three,
four, five,' say
the children.

'Six, seven, eight,
nine, ten.'





Here are the pieces!

‘Here are the pieces!’ say the children. ‘The pieces of blue sky!’

‘How many holes are there?’ asks Lownu.

They count: ‘One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty. Oh no! TWENTY!’



How many holes are there?



‘But we only have ten pieces,’ say the children. ‘One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten!’

We can have these leaves.



‘We can have these leaves,’ says Lownu. ‘Look! Here are ten!’

‘No!’ says the little boy.

‘They’re green. The sky is blue!’



The little boy cries.

‘I want the day sky to be blue! Blue.
All blue again!’

‘Don’t cry!’ says Lownu. ‘Give me
the pieces of blue. Go and play!
I want to think.’



Night comes.
Lownu puts her
blue dress on
the table. And
her silver apron.

She cuts pieces.
Pieces from
the blue dress.
Pieces from the
silver apron.



She puts them
together.



‘Good!’ says Lownu. ‘Now I have twenty pieces! Twenty pieces to mend the sky.’

Lownu counts the holes: ‘One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty.’



Lownu has all the pieces.
And she has a spoon.

Now she goes up the tree.
The tall, tall tree. Up, she
goes. Up, up, up.

'I'm up in the sky!' she says. 'It's
time to mend the sky!'



It's time to mend the sky!



Lownu puts a piece on the spoon.
Then, 'Flip!' The piece flies.
It flies across the sky.
And, 'Flap!' It goes in
a hole.
'Yes!' says Lownu.
'Now another one!'
'Flip! Flap!'

Yes! Now another one!





Flap!

She does it again.

‘Flip!’ A piece of blue flies.
It flies across the sky.

Then, ‘Flap!’ It goes in
a hole!

‘Yes!’ says Lownu. ‘It’s in!
Now it’s time for another one!’



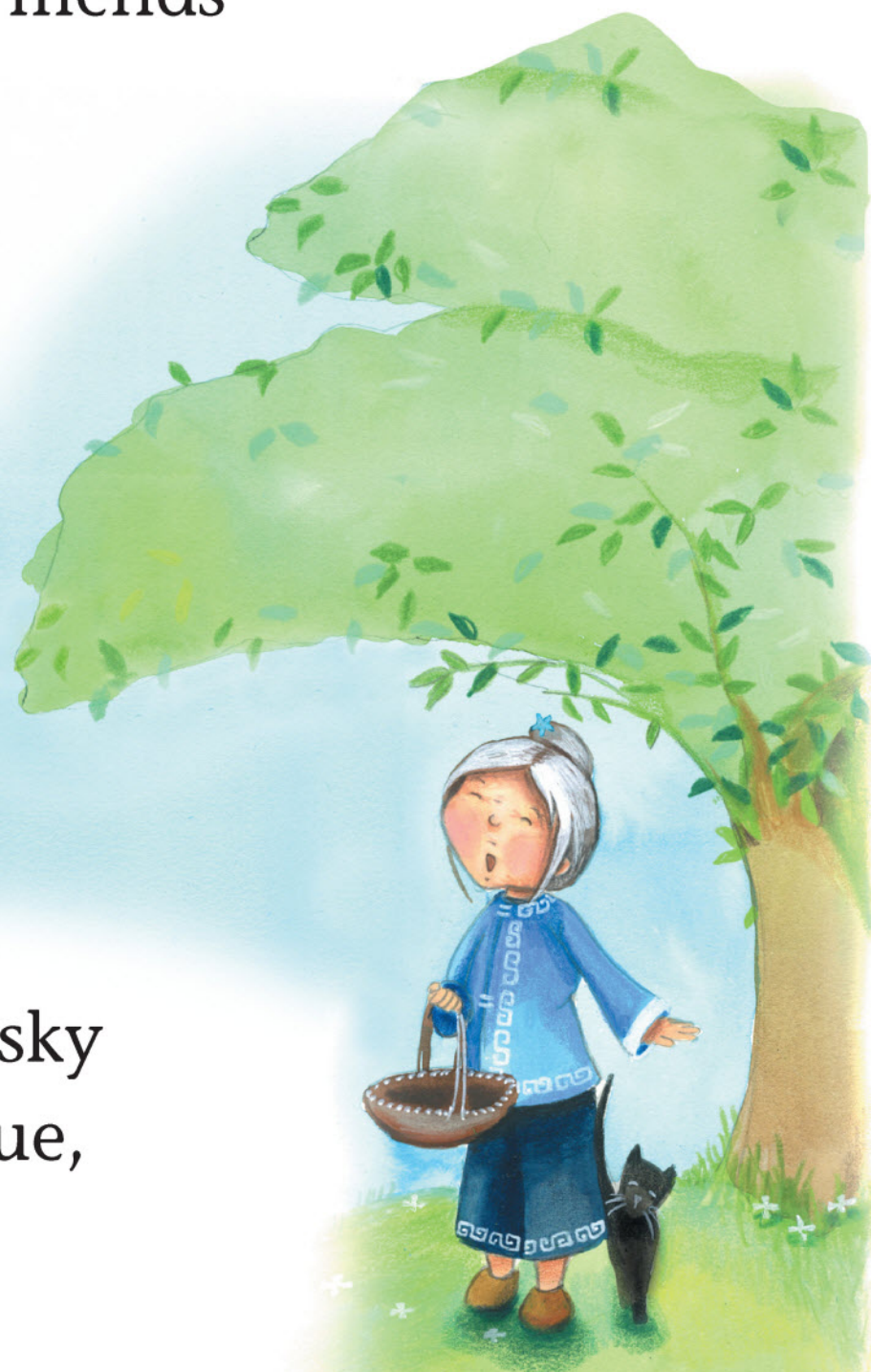
All night Lownu mends
the sky.

'Flip! Flap!'

'Flip! Flap!'

'Flip! Flap!'

Day comes. The sky
is blue again. Blue,
blue, blue.





The sky is blue!

Go and play.
Come back later.

'The sky is blue!' say the children.
'All blue again! Thank you, Lownu!'
Lownu smiles.
'Go and play,' she says. 'Come back
later. Have supper with me.'



That night the children come.
They have supper with Lownu.
'And now,' she says, 'It's time for
you to go home.'



The path is very bright.

It is dark. But the path
is bright.

'The path is very bright
tonight,' say the children.
'Why is it bright, Lownu?'



‘Look up!’ says Lownu.

‘What are they, Lownu?’
ask the children.

‘I call them stars!’ says Lownu.

‘And the big one is the moon!’

‘Stars!’ say the children. ‘The
moon! Oh, Lownu! The night

sky looks much better now!

Because it’s more ... beautiful!’



Exercises

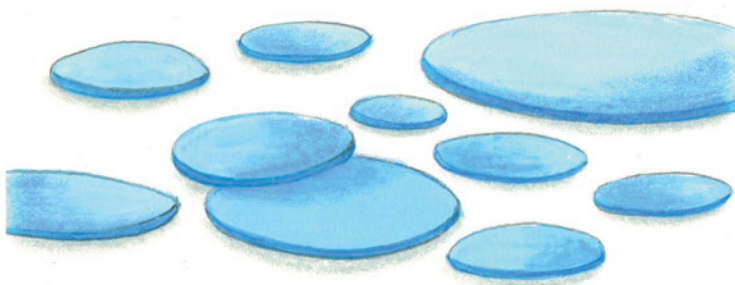
1 Write the number words.



1 four children



2 _____ holes



3 _____ pieces

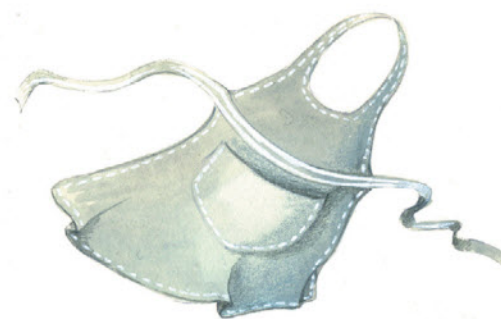


4 _____ moon

2 Write the words.



1 It's a leaf.



2 It's an _____.



3 _____



4 _____

3 Answer the questions. Write *Yes* or *No*.



- 1 Is this the day sky? No
- 2 Is this the night sky?
- 3 Are there any leaves in the sky?
- 4 Are there any stars in the sky?
- 5 Is the path bright?
- 6 Is the sky beautiful?

4 Circle the correct words.

- 1 The children find ten / twenty pieces of blue sky.
- 2 There are twenty holes / leaves in the sky.
- 3 The little boy cries because he wants the day sky to be green / blue.
- 4 Lownu makes blue and green / silver pieces.
- 5 The path is bright because there are stars / holes in the sky.

Picture Dictionary

apron



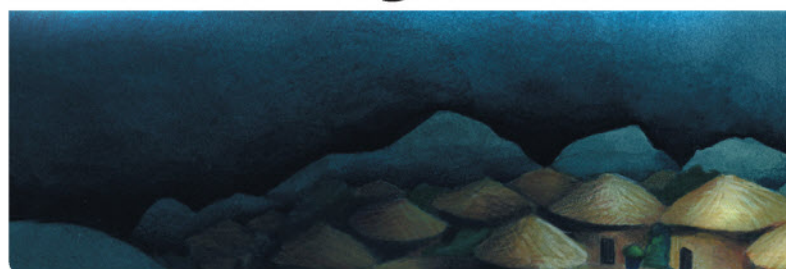
cut



bright *The sun is bright.*



dark *The sky is dark.*



China



fall



count



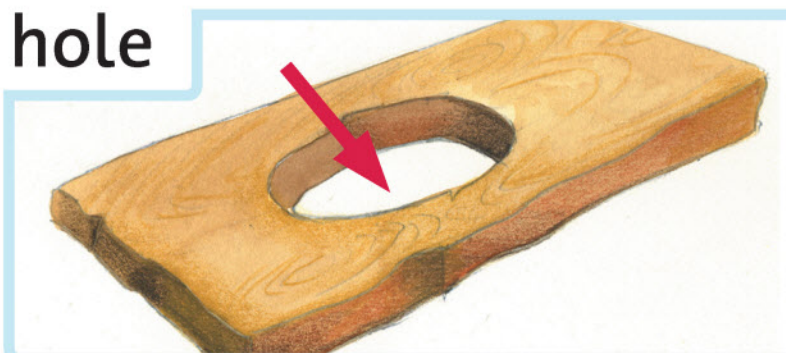
fly



cry



hole



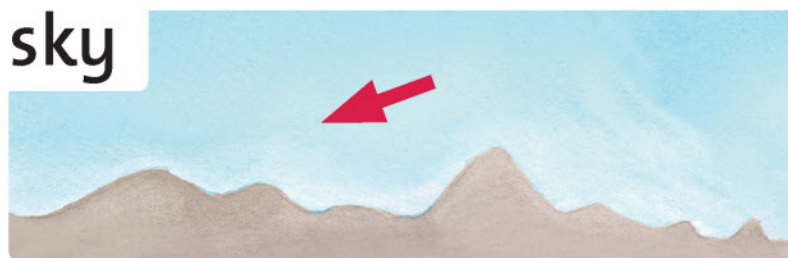
leaf



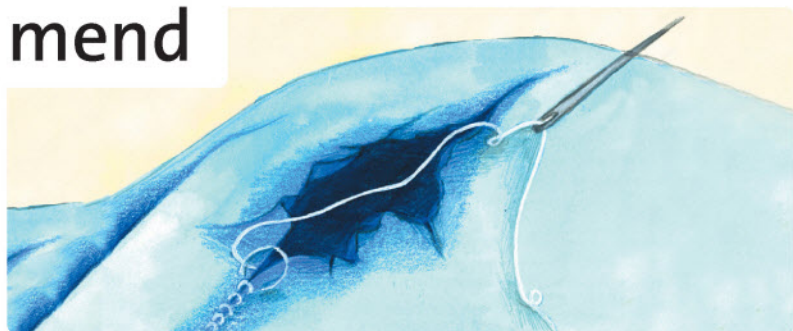
leaves



sky



mend



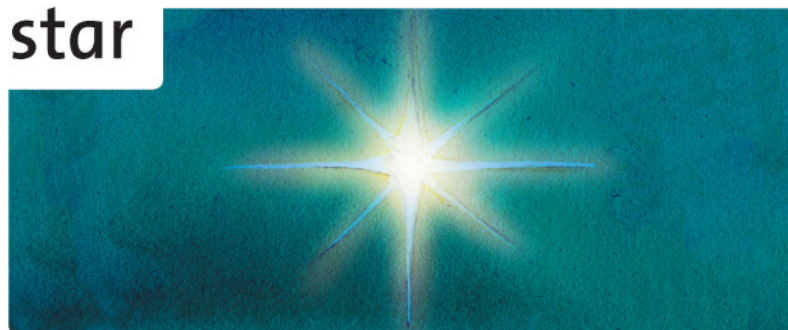
spoon



moon



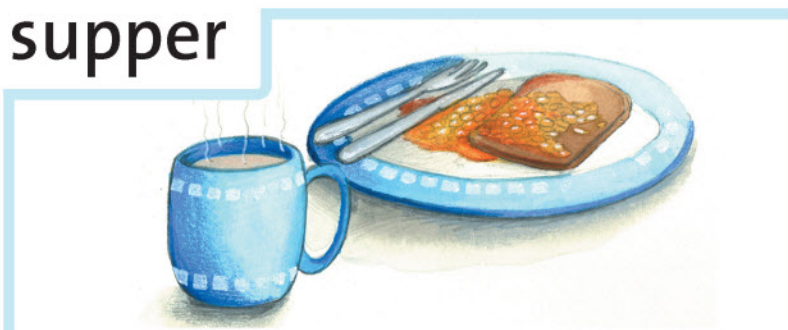
star



path



supper



piece *a piece of cake*



tall *She is tall.*



silver *silver coins*



tree



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- The Princess and the Pea
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Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

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First published in *Classic Tales* 2007

2015 2014 2013 2012

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

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ISBN: 978 0 19 423850 2

This *Classic Tale* title is available as an e-Book with Audio Pack

ISBN: 978 0 19 423853 3

Also available: Lownu Mends the Sky Activity Book and Play

ISBN: 978 0 19 423851 9

Printed in China

This book is printed on paper from certified and well-managed sources.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Illustrated by: Kirsten Richards at The Bright Agency



Level 1

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Find out how Lownu mends all the holes
in the day sky and in the night sky ...

A retelling of the classic story for learners of English

Retold by Sue Arengo

Illustrated by Kirsten Richards

**Classic Tales – bringing the magic of traditional
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The stories are carefully graded at Levels 1–5 to provide easy and enjoyable reading. Beautiful illustrations on every page work closely with the text to help understanding. Each *Classic Tale* also includes activities related to the story, and a picture dictionary or glossary.

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Level 1: 100 headwords |  Level 4: 300 headwords |
|  Level 2: 150 headwords |  Level 5: 400 headwords |
|  Level 3: 200 headwords | |

Word count for this story: 611

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ISBN 978-0-19-423850-2



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