

Fantasy

# The Wolf

by Megan Howard    illustrated by John Nez



## Read to Find Out

Are wolves a real problem for Katie and her grandmother?

### STRATEGIES & SKILLS AT A GLANCE Comprehension

- Strategy: Generate Questions
- Skill: Distinguish Between Fantasy and Reality

### Vocabulary

- ached, admire, bothering, concentrate, dangerous, passion, splendid

### Support Words

- e-mail, didn't make any sense, fairy tales, find out

### High-Frequency Words

- home, was

### Vocabulary Strategy

- Dictionary: Multiple-Meaning Words

Word count: 826

B

The McGraw-Hill Companies



Published by Macmillan/McGraw-Hill, of McGraw-Hill Education, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., Two Penn Plaza, New York, New York 10121.

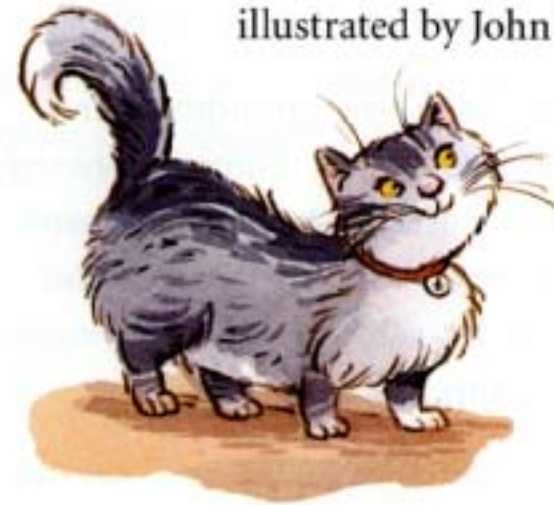
Copyright © by Macmillan/McGraw-Hill. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written consent of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., including, but not limited to, network storage or transmission, or broadcast for distance learning.

Printed in the United States of America

5 6 7 8 9 BSF 10 09 08

# The Wolf

by Megan Howard  
illustrated by John Nez



## Table of Contents

### Chapter 1

Dinner . . . . . 2

### Chapter 2

A Strange Message . . . . . 7

### Chapter 3

Katie and the Wolf . . . . . 12

Comprehension Check . . . . . 16

## CHAPTER 1

# Dinner

"You haven't eaten any dinner, Katie," Granny said. She was right. There were potatoes on my plate. My broccoli looked like little trees. And I had eaten only a spoonful of chili.

The next day, my grandmother was leaving to go to Europe. Granny was going to stay on a sheep farm in Ireland for a month. Granny had a passion for traveling. But I was worried about this trip.

"There might be wolves near the sheep," I told her. "It could be dangerous."

"You've been reading too many fairy tales," Granny said.

I had read lots of fairy tales. But I had also read many nonfiction books. I had learned a lot about sheep. "Wolves eat sheep," I said.

"That sounds awful," Granny joked. She did not eat meat. "I promise to watch out for wolves," Granny said.

I felt better. I wanted Granny to be careful.

---

fairy tales: stories that are not true





After dinner, we cleaned the table and washed the dishes.

"I'll send you pictures from Ireland," Granny told me.

"Will you e-mail me every night?" I asked.

"Yes," Granny said. Granny always sent me an e-mail to say goodnight.

"I admire you because you explore the world," I told her.

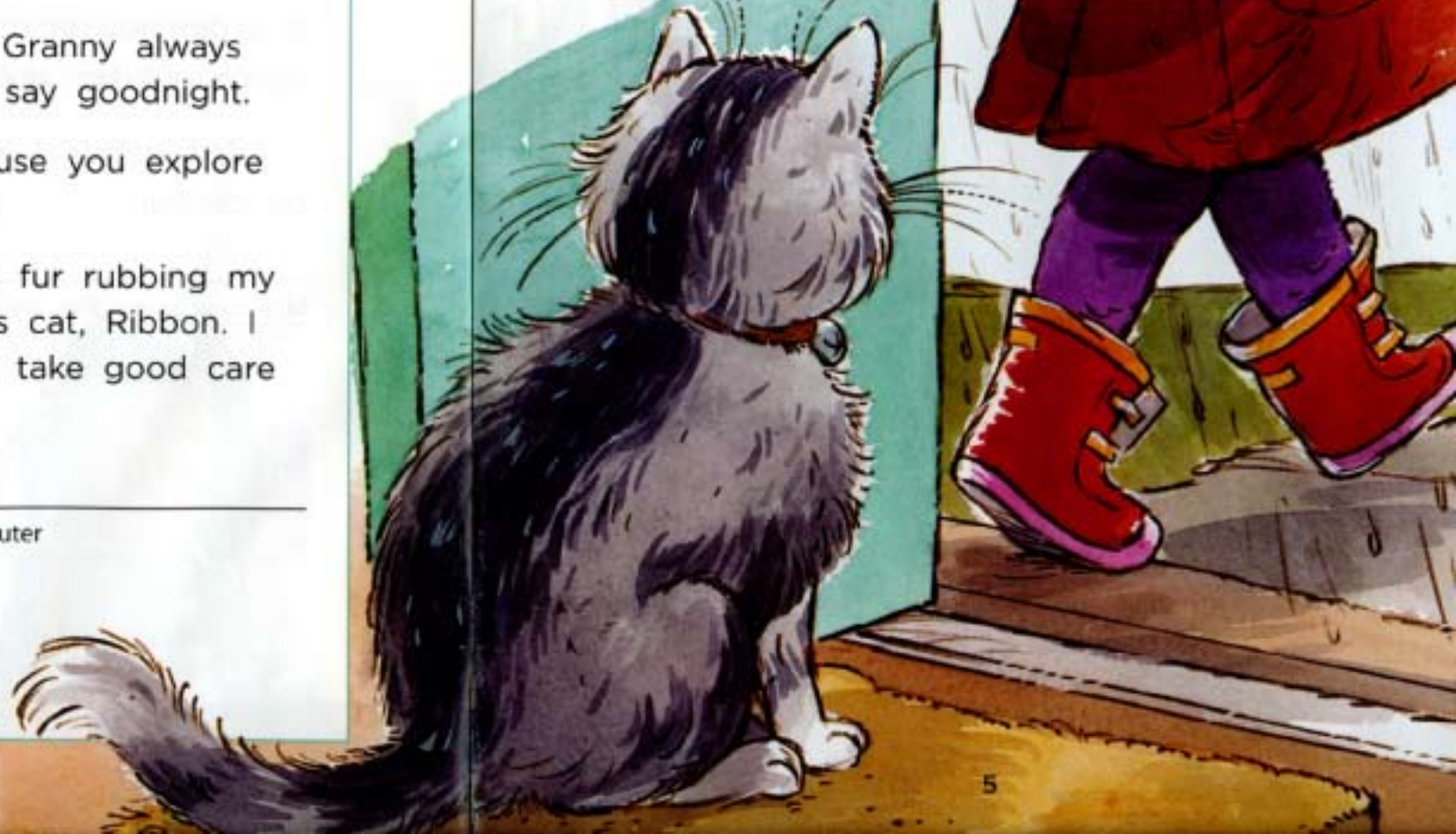
Suddenly, I felt soft fur rubbing my ankles. It was Granny's cat, Ribbon. I picked up Ribbon. "I'll take good care of her," I said.

---

e-mail: to send a letter by computer

"I know you will take care of her," said Granny. "Now go home and do your homework. I have to get ready for my trip tomorrow. Put on your raincoat. It's raining outside."

I put Ribbon on the floor. I put on my red raincoat and boots. Then I ran through the rain to my house.





## A Strange Message



The next afternoon, I ran home from school. When I got home, my legs ached. I rushed to the computer. My father was already using it.

"Can I check to see if Granny sent me an e-mail?" I asked without bothering to take off my backpack.

"I have to work, honey," Dad said.

"What if something funny happened to Granny on the airplane? She'll want to tell me," I said.

"Okay, you can use the computer," my father said. "Let's check your e-mail."

I dropped my backpack on the floor. I sat down next to Dad at the computer. There were no new e-mails. I decided to wait.



**Clue:** A period (.) is an end mark. Can you find other end marks on page 9? How do end marks change the sentence?

Suddenly, I got an e-mail. It came from someone named Ima Wolf. "Hi!" the e-mail said.

"I'm a wolf?" I laughed. "It is Granny joking about wolves."

I typed an answer. "Are you Granny?"



"Yes," Ima Wolf answered.

"How are you?" I asked.

The reply came back quickly. It said, "Hungry."

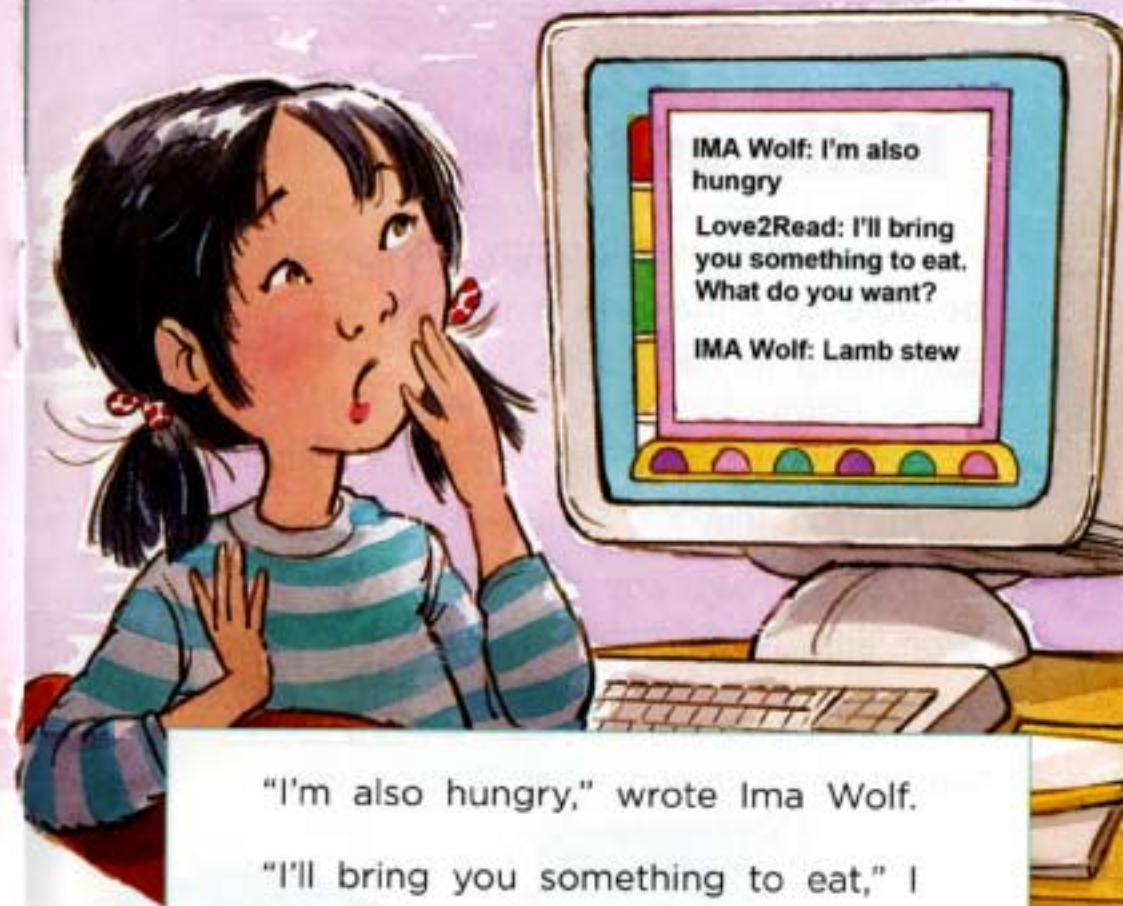
"How is your vacation?" I typed.

Her answer surprised me. "I'm not on vacation. I'm home," it said.

What happened? "Why are you home?" I asked.

"Because I'm sick," Ima Wolf replied.

Poor Granny was sick! "You should have called Dad," I wrote. "He would have helped you."



IMA Wolf: I'm also hungry

Love2Read: I'll bring you something to eat. What do you want?

IMA Wolf: Lamb stew

"I'm also hungry," wrote Ima Wolf.

"I'll bring you something to eat," I wrote. "What do you want?"

"Lamb stew," Ima Wolf answered.

Granny never ate meat! Was Ima Wolf someone pretending to be Granny?

Dad and I decided to find out if Ima Wolf was really Granny.

---

find out: learn; discover

## Katie and the Wolf

If Ima Wolf was Granny, she would be able to e-mail me a picture of something in her house.

"Granny, please e-mail me a picture of Ribbon," I typed.

"I don't have any ribbon," Ima Wolf answered.

I had tricked Ima Wolf! Granny would have known what Ribbon was.

"Ribbon is your cat," I wrote.

"Oh, yes. I forgot because I'm sick," she answered.

"A really sick person could have gotten confused," I said to Dad.

Then a photo of Ribbon appeared on my computer.

"Maybe it really is Granny," I said. How could we know for sure?

Then I had a splendid idea! I asked Granny to send me a photograph of herself. A picture appeared on the screen. It was blurry. I could not see the face clearly.



**Clue:** Picture is a singular noun. Find another singular noun on this page. Can you find a plural noun on page 14?



"Granny, your eyes are huge," I typed.

"That's because I am sick," she wrote.

"And your nose is very long," I said.

"Don't be mean," she said.

"Your teeth are so pointy," I said.

"I have new false teeth," she explained.

But one thing didn't make any sense. "Why do you have fur all over your face?"

Ima Wolf did not answer. There was someone in Granny's house, but it wasn't Granny!

---

didn't make any sense: was confusing; didn't seem correct



Who was at Granny's house? I tried to concentrate on the photograph. Then I realized that it was a wolf!

Dad called the police. Then, we went over to Granny's house.

I was right! We saw two police officers leaving Granny's house. They had a wolf in handcuffs.

When I got home, I saw an e-mail from Granny. It said, "Katie, I miss you so much. I have seen a lot of sheep. Luckily, I have not seen any wolves."



# Comprehension Check

## Summarize the Story

Complete the Fantasy and Reality Chart with the class. It will tell about the events and characters in the story. Then summarize the story. You may use the chart to help you organize your ideas.

Fantasy	Reality

## Think and Compare

1. Review the story. When did you first see that the story was a fantasy? Give examples. ***(Distinguish Between Fantasy and Reality)***
2. What do you admire about your grandparents or other older relatives? Explain why. ***(Evaluate)***
3. Why is it important to know who you are talking to on the Internet? ***(Apply)***

# Literacy Activities



## An E-mail to Granny

Work with a partner. Pretend you are Katie. Write an answer to Granny's last e-mail. Would you tell her about the wolf? Why or why not?



## Compare Wolves

Work with a partner. On a piece of paper, make a two-column chart. In one column, list things you know about fairy tale wolves. In the other column, list things you know about real wolves.

Fairy Tale Wolf	Real Wolf
can talk	can't talk

# The Wolf

Katie's grandmother is on vacation. Katie is excited to talk to her. Then Katie gets a surprising message.



## 3.2 Week 2

*The McGraw-Hill Companies*

ISBN 0-02-194201-3



3



**Macmillan  
McGraw-Hill**