

# Adventure Story

## The Borrowers

Based on the novel by  
Mary Norton, with  
permissions from Puffin



Climbing up the side of the antique bookcase on yet another adventure, was one of the Borrowers - Pod. Using plungers to help him in his quest, he carefully scaled up the side of it towards the summit. Pod, who was diminutive yet determined, was desperate to retrieve the item he needed to borrow from the 'Human Beans'. Attached to him was a backpack holding many useful items: a church candle; a shiny pin; a sticking plaster and a plastic comb.



Like a mountaineer, Pod made his way up the bookshelf, his brow covered in sweat and his bearded whiskers quivering with excitement. Exhausted, he looked down and realised just how far up he actually was! Triumphant, he eventually reached the top with a grunt and with fear gripping his heart, he cautiously and furtively sprinted towards the box of Quality Street chocolates.

With an energised leap, Pod disappeared inside the mountain of brightly coloured delights searching for the right one and suddenly there it was - the burnt-orange wrapper. Pod heaved the chocolate, which was almost bigger than him, into his backpack and set off as quick as lightning to the edge of the bookcase and... jumped!



"Geronimo!" he shouted.



## The Borrowers ...continued

Based on the novel by  
Mary Norton, with  
permissions from Puffin



Pod, who was feeling extremely proud of himself, released his parachute (a sapphire blue sweet wrapper) and slowly descended towards the ground to safety. Suddenly, James (the grandson) returned home and as he inserted his key into the lock and the front door opened, a gust of wind blew Pod into the Christmas tree! Frantically, Pod struggled to be free, knocking a silver bauble from its branch which then bounced across the floorboards. The tree then toppled over!



“James, it’s one of the little people... trap it, trap it!” Grandma exclaimed as she woke up, grabbing a wastepaper bin.

“What are you talking about Gran,” replied James, who looked rather bewildered.

Curiously, Henry, the cat, peered under the sofa where Pod was desperately trying to hide whilst Grandma, in an attempt to suck Pod out, turned on the Hoover: an extraordinary, raucous, terrifying monster!



Underneath the floorboards, Arrietty (Pod’s daughter) became anxious as she realised her father was in grave danger. What should she do? What could she do?



Panic-stricken and distraught, Pod held on for dear life. Was this the end? Suddenly, the hoover mysteriously stopped roaring and fell silent. Pod couldn't believe his luck! In disbelief, he looked back and noticed James had unplugged the hoover. What joy!

As quick as a flash, he scrambled across the floorboards and down a miniscule hole leading to his home. Above him he could still hear Grandma telling James that she had definitely seen 'one of them' which made Pod feel that he'd had a lucky escape. Arriving home, Pod wiped his brow and sighed. A moment later, he hung up his backpack, removed a couple of items - trophies of his expedition – and triumphantly made his way to tell Homily and Arrietty about his adventure.

