



Robin Hood

Liz Austin



1. Read. Read this extract.

Then he said, 'I have gold in my bags – six hundred pounds! But I cannot give it to you. I am going to St Mary's Abbey. This money is for the abbot.'

'That is a lot of money,' said Will, 'and the church has too much gold.'

'That is my problem,' said the man. 'The abbot wants more – five hundred pounds more – and I cannot pay him this year. Perhaps he will wait another year, but I think not. I think that he will ask for my lands – and my home too.'

'Yes,' said Robin, 'the abbot is a greedy man. Tell us your name, friend, and tell us your story too. Perhaps we can help.'

So the man told his story. His name was Richard of Lee, and his son killed a man in a fight. The man died, and the Sheriff of Nottingham's men took the boy away.

'Ah, the sheriff,' said Robin. 'Another greedy man! Did he ask for money?'

'You know him well,' answered Richard of Lee. 'He said, "Pay me one thousand pounds or your son will die!" I am not a rich man, but the Abbot of St Mary's paid the money for me. This happened last year. Now I have to pay the abbot.'

The Robin Hood stories are about a man who stole from the rich to give to the poor.

2. Read. Complete the sentences. Choose (a), (b), (c) or (d).

- Richard of Lee has six hundred pounds for _____.
(a) Robin Hood (b) the sheriff (c) the abbot (d) himself
- The man cannot pay the abbot _____.
(a) last year (b) this year (c) another year (d) next year
- Richard's son _____ in a fight.
(a) killed someone (b) was killed (c) died (d) will die
- The sheriff wanted one thousand pounds to not _____ Richard's son.
(a) die (b) kill (c) keep (d) pay
- The abbot _____ the money for Richard last year.
(a) pays (b) has paid (c) paid (d) didn't pay

3. Think. Discuss.

- Why does Robin Hood think the abbot and the sheriff are greedy? Talk to a partner.

4. Compare.

- In 12th century England, criminals were killed. Now, criminals go to prison. Is there a better solution for the future? Brainstorm in groups