#### All characters in this pack come in three variations



## C ( ) ) ] ] ] THE MISS BEHIND THE MYTH

Where does Cinderella come from? It's obvious, isn't it: like everyone else in Pantoland, she comes from a kingdom far, far away. Or does she? Actually, there's plenty of evidence to show Cinderella really comes from ... well, just about everywhere.

The fairytale as we know it was written down by a Frenchman, Charles Perrault, more than 300 years ago, but the lady herself is considerably older than that even if she doesn't show her age – and she's definitely not French. So where did she come from?

## DID YOU KNOW?

Walt Disney's 1950 cartoon film of Cinderella cost almost \$3 million to make and has made more than \$85 million for the studio. One of its songs, 'Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo', was nominated for an Oscar and became a hit single four times including once for the crooner Perry Como.

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One answer may be ancient Greece. You know, that place where blokes wore skirts and Olympic athletes lobbed their javelins starkers. A lot of modern stories are based on their old legends: The Wizard of Oz is a hero's quest; The Lion King is classic mythology; even sci-fi epics like the Star Wars movies are just updated versions of the same basic stories, with light sabres and Jedi knights instead of swords and gods.

Cinderella's no different. In the 1st Century BC, the Greek historian Strabo

told of a young servant girl called Rhodopis – or 'Rosy Cheeks' – who was fair and beautiful and blah blah blah. Anyway, the other servants hated her and made her do extra chores until, one day, she had her sandal nicked by an eagle, which then dumped it on the head of the king. As you do. This far-sighted pharaoh sent out messengers to find the sandal's owner, and Rhodopis was brought before the king, who promptly married her.

Among the stars to have played a version of Cinderella are Betty Boop. Julie Andrews, Drew Barrymore and believe it or not -Fred Flintstone.

The first film of Cinderella was produced in France in 1899. Since then, she's turned up in more than 50 screen versions, including German, Russian, Turkish and Japanese movies.

#### F.G.

Cinderella has inspired countless songs by major artists, among them Britney Spears, Snoop Doggy Dogg. Hannah Montana and Michael Jackson.

So far, so happily ever after. But Cinderella could also be found centuries ago in China and lots of other oriental countries, including the Philippines, Vietnam and Korea. And then there are the famous 1,001 stories of the Arabian Nights, gathered from Persia, India, Arabia and Asia.

DID YOU KINOTIR

One academic study from 1893 lists a whopping 345 different variations of the tale, although there could be thousands around the world.

In these fables, the narrator Scheherazade literally saves her neck from the executioner by telling the sultan exotic tales, night after night. Maybe she was running short of ideas - or desperate, with the axeman's blade hanging over her - but bits of the Cinderella story turn up three or four times in different episodes. One of them even retells it as a tragedy, with the young boy Judar poisoned by his jealous older brothers. The Ugly Sisters look like Blue Peter presenters by comparison.

Wherever she came from, Cinderella eventually popped up in Europe, as an opera in Italy and a fairy tale in Germany, thanks to the Brothers Grimm. That Frenchman Perrault added things like a fairy godmother, the pumpkin becoming a coach and the all-important glass slippers. After about 2,000 years traipsing the globe – no mean feat if you've only got one shoe – Cinderella finally

made it into a pantomime in 1904 at London's Drury Lane Theatre. She followed this with an appearance at the nearby Adelphi the next year and now she's the most frequently performed panto of them all.

So whether she's from Greece, China, France or Far, Far Away, she's never looked back Michael Davies © John Good

# DEAR DIARY.

### Sunday

Sitting in the dark eating leftovers AGAIN. It's cold mashed potato and burnt swan fritters today. I wouldn't mind, except it's all covered in bugs and belly-button fluff from the bins...

#### Monday

Washing day. Mixed up industrial-strength powder to the do Uglies' smelly knickers! After that I'll use the water to kill the weeds growing in the cracks in the cellar floor. Buttons says he could market it – something about going into a Dragon's Den...

## Tuesday

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Home from shopping in the pouring rain. Used this new thing called 'tweeting' to get Buttons to pick me up in a coach! Soon home in front of the fire, drying off. It worked a real tweet!

ALL DE LE DE

## Wednesday

Scrubbing again using 'Scrubbo', the new 'all-in-one super-duper deep-down anti-bacterial pineapple-and-ginseng cleaning foam'. Buttons says he polishes his buttons with it AND puts it on his hair. I wondered what the smell was...

### Thursday

Everyone has posh invites for the big ball on Saturday night (except me, of course). Buttons sent me messages on his Apple and Blackberry to cheer me up but just got juice all over himself!

A kind little Friday old lady has just told that she is my Fairy Godmother, and everything is going to be ALL RIGHT. What does she mean? It means I'm out in the garden again, all wet and soggy, looking for six white mice, six slippery lizards, and wait for it... a pumpkin...!

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#### Saturday OMG!!!

Going to the ball!!! Buttons has said everyone is going to be there! I'm sooo excited!!! I've got this amazing prom dress with glass slippers!!! I've got a coach and everything!!! Fairy Godmother says it will be ALL RIGHT, provided I'm back by midnight wonder what she means by that ...?

# PANTO PUZZLERS

## GREETINGS

Cinderella likes to say hello to children from all over the world. See if you can help her by working out which greeting on the left matches the language on the right.

Hola Guten Tag Konichiwa Witaj Bonjour **Buon Giorno** Namaste Al Salaam A'Alykum **Zdraveite** 

German Arabic Russian Japanese Italian Hindi Spanish Polish French

Sisters Should Share retes Such Shocking Chron can say this

without getting muddled!

Help the Fairy Godmother find a way through the star maze to find her wand.



## Everyone is having a lovely time at the Prince's ball, but

there are lots of things hiding in the picture! See how many of these you can find before the clock strikes midnight...

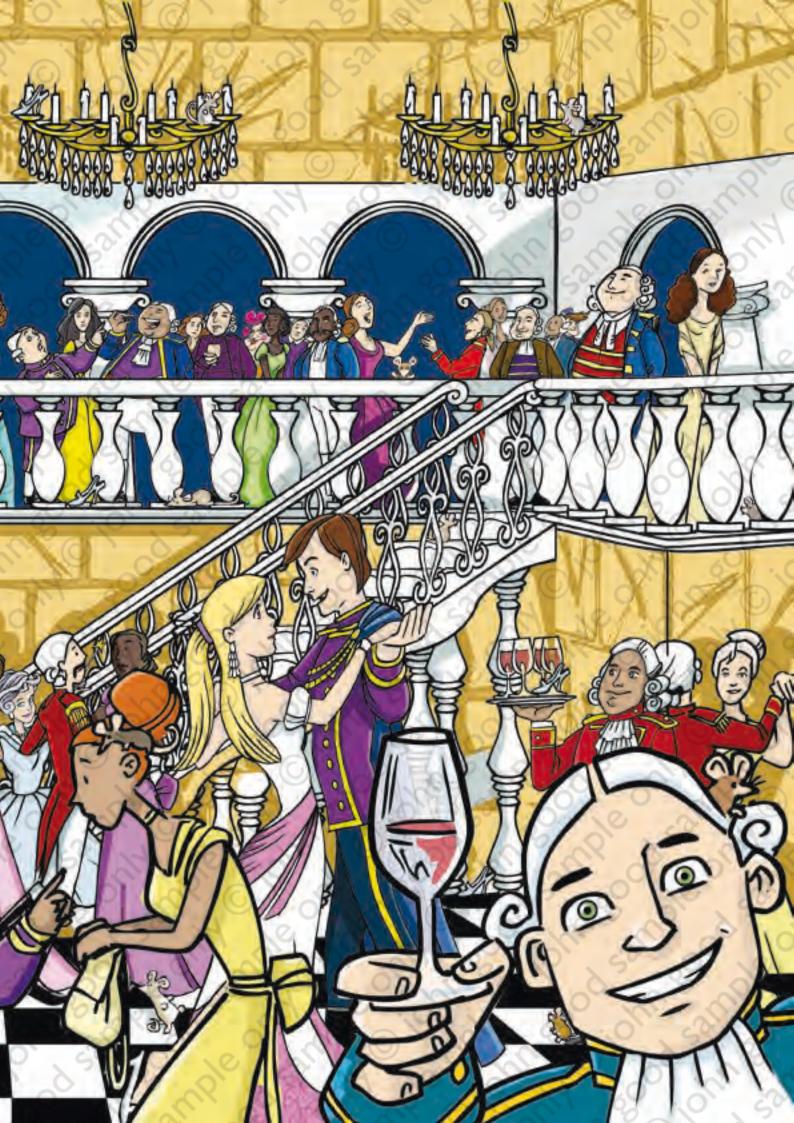


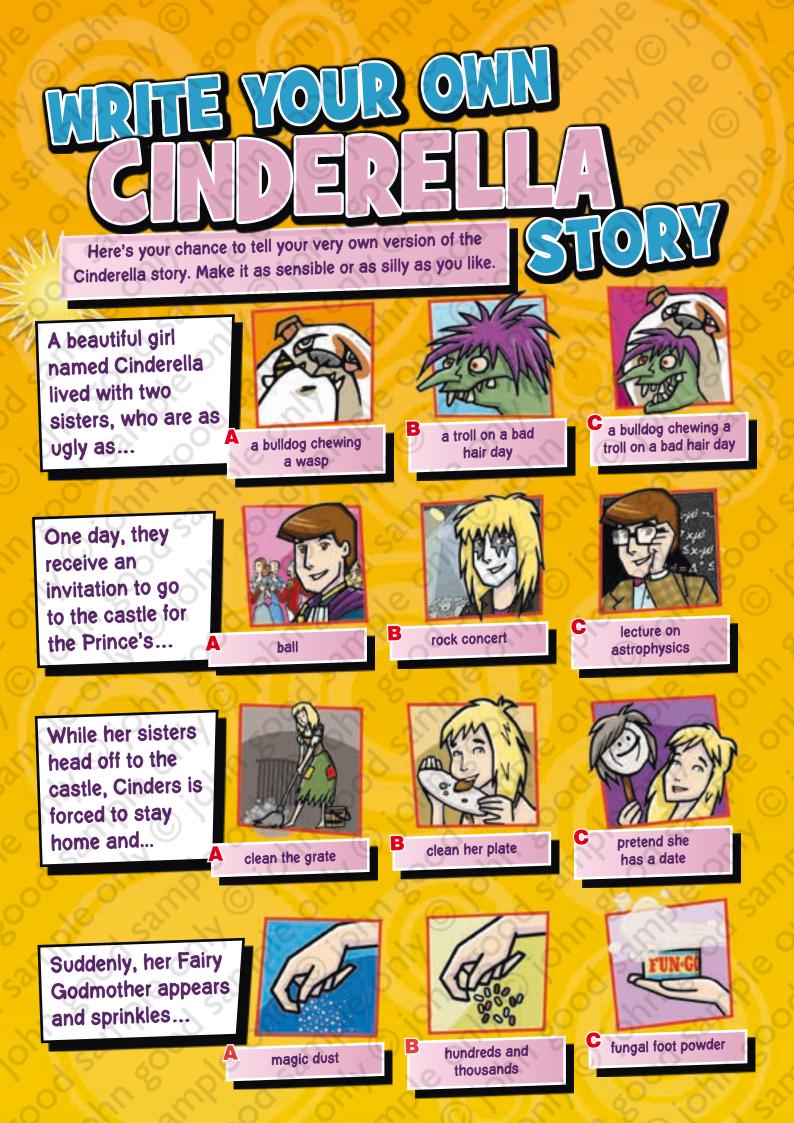
© John Good

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## TURN PACK TIME Clumsy Byttons has knocked over t

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Clumsy Buttons has knocked over the clock at the ball. Can you help him put it back together and find out what the time is?

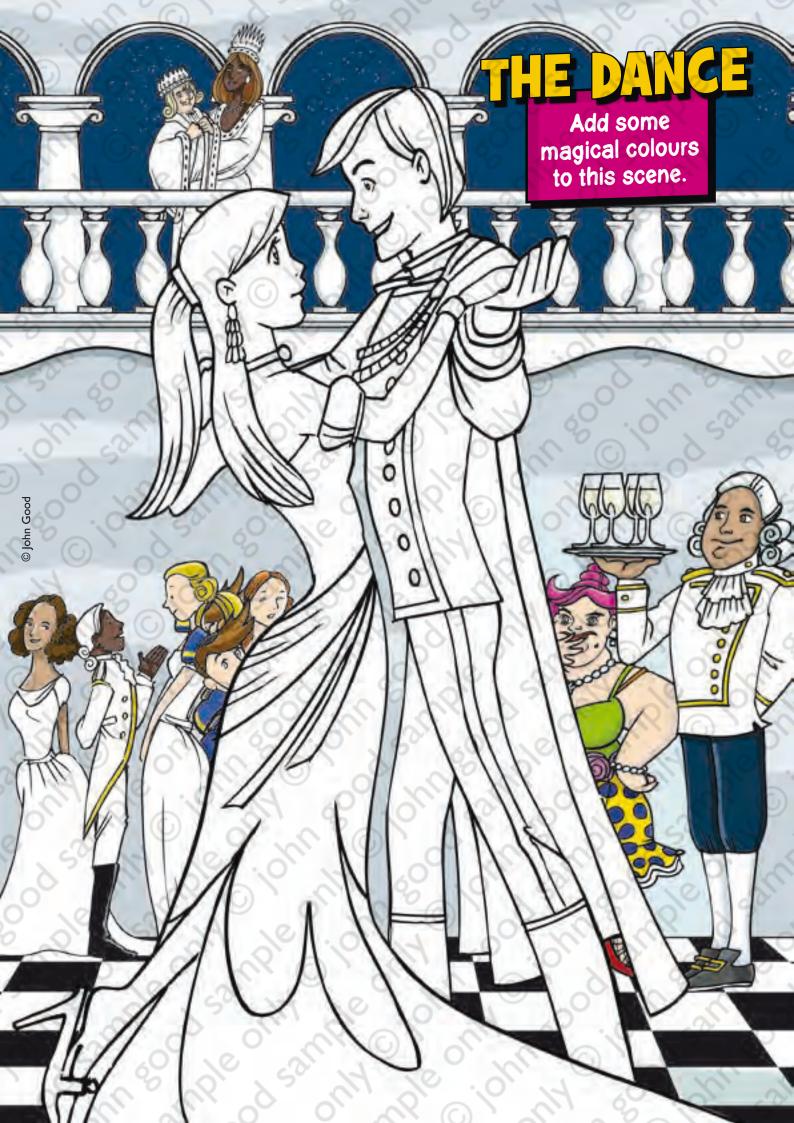
(Here's a hint: you'll need to look closely at all the jagged edges and draw the four shapes back in!)

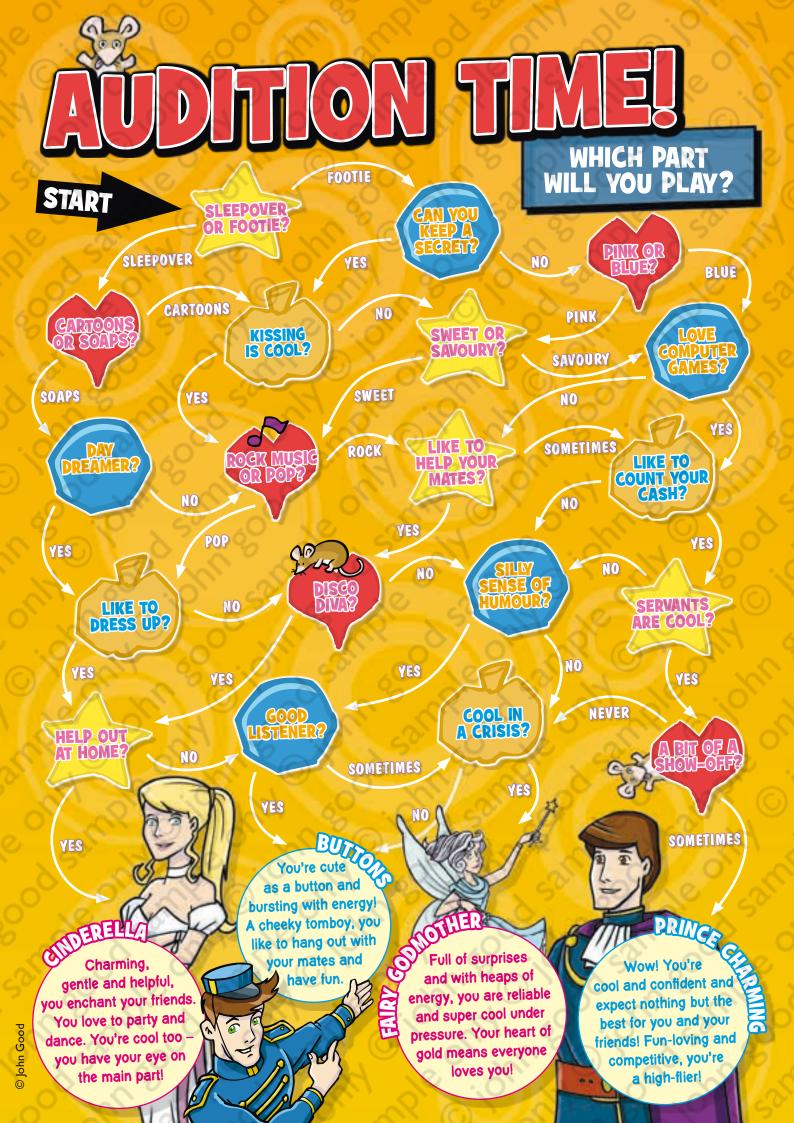


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Sign

## KING OF THE CASTLE

Make this funky sign and stick to your bedroom door to let everyone know if you're in or out!



Badges



structions

Cut out this page and glue it onto thin card.

Cut your door sign, badge and tab along the (colour) dotted lines.

AM

Fold the sign in half and very carefully cut along the dotted lines in the middle. (Ask an adult to help you with this.)

> PLEASE KNOCK!

Stick the badge onto the sign. Draw in a picture or add your own photo!

Finished Sign

Write your name on the door sign and stick it on your door.

DO NOT ENTER!

Tab.

The Fairy Godmother meant to change Cinderella's rags into a beautiful gown, but accidentally created a whole new Cinderella instead! Can you find the twelve differences between them?

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Hola = Spanish Guten Tag = German Konichiwa = Japanese Witaj = Polish Bonjour = French Buon Giorno = Italian Namaste = Hindi Al Salaam A'Alykum = Arabic Zdraveite = Russian

## WHERE'S MY WAND?

## PANTOMANIA

Ego Smoother = Mother Goose Net Paper = Peter Pan Wit When So = Snow White And Dial = Aladdin

## BUTTONS' CODEBUSTERI

Answer: HAVE FUN AT THE PANTO

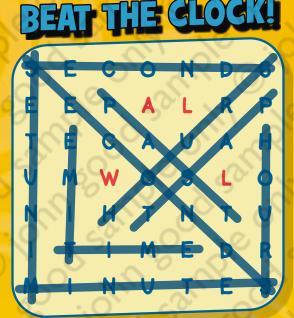
## HAVING A BALL

There are five slippers, 14 mice, one Buttons, one Fairy Godmother and two Ugly Sisters!









Answer: WALL CINDERS DRESSES Answer: B

John Good

#### DOT TO DOT ANSWERS PANTOMANIA! Ego Smoother = Mother Goose Net Paper = Peter Pan GREETINGS! Wit When So = Snow White And Dial = Aladdin Hola = Spanish Guten Tag = German Konichiwa = Japanese Witaj = Polish ERI **Bonjour = French** Buon Giorno = Italian Answer: HAVE FUN AT THE PANTO Namaste = Hindi Al Salaam A'Alykum = Arabic TURN BACK TIME Zdraveite = Russian WHERE'S MY WAND?



### NG A BALL

There are five slippers, 14 mice, one Buttons, one Fairy Godmother and two Ugly Sisters!

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Answer: WALL