

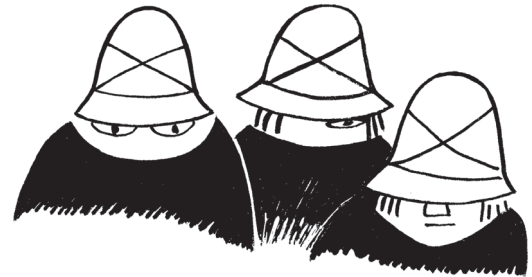
The Three Robbers

Tomi Ungerer (London, Methuen, 1961)

Note for the teacher: Enlarge these pages or put them up on the whiteboard. Write the children's responses to the questions.

Storyline

Why were most people afraid of the robbers?



Why wasn't Tiffany afraid?



Why did the robbers go stealing if they didn't want to spend the money?

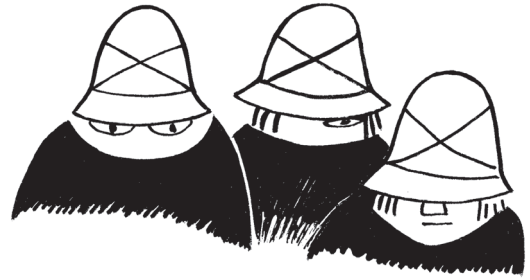


What would you have spent the money on if you were one of the robbers?



Money

Do you think the robbers used their money wisely?



Is money valuable?

Can you think of something that is more valuable than money?



Can you buy everything with money?

Can you think of something that you can't buy with money?



Are things that cost a lot valuable?

The robbers stole some wedding rings as well. Would having your wedding ring stolen be worse than having your money stolen?



Stealing

Is stealing wrong?



Is stealing always wrong?

Can you think of a situation when it would be okay to steal?



Who decides what is right or wrong?

The robbers "gathered up all the lost, unhappy, and abandoned children". Is this stealing?



If you take something that is abandoned, is that stealing?

If you take something that is unwanted, is that stealing?

Is stealing wrong because it is against the law?

Badness

If someone does something bad, does that make him or her a bad person?

How many bad things would you have to do to be a bad person?

If you were a bad person, how many good things would you have to do to change into a good person?

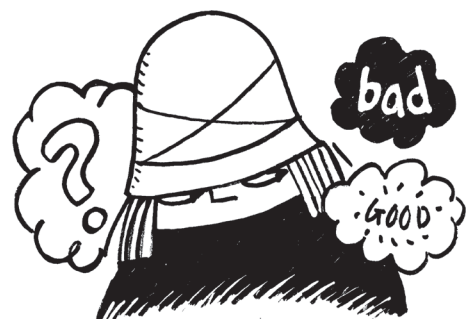
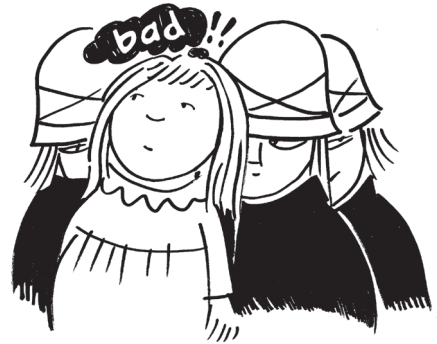
Could a good person do bad things?

Could a bad person do good things?

If you do something "bad", but for a "good" reason, is that good or bad?

Who decides what is good or bad?

Was stealing the children a good or bad thing to do?



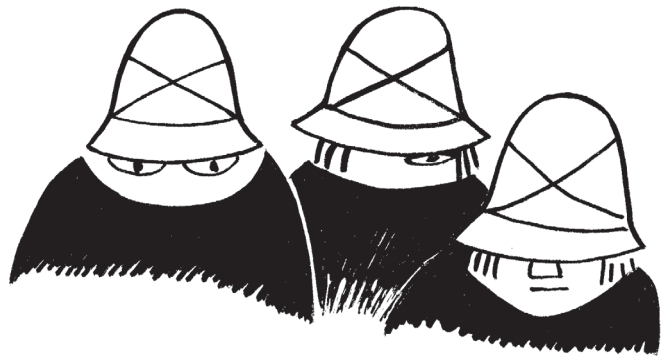
Badness (continued)

Note to teacher: Split the class into two groups for the following activity. Both groups need to remember to:

- Give reasons
- Use persuasive language
- Think about the implications for the children if the robbers are/are not set free.

Group 1

The robbers are arrested and taken to jail for “stealing” abandoned children. You are allowed five minutes to convince the judges to let them go. In pairs, prepare what you will say to the judges.



Group 2

You are the judges who will decide whether or not to let the robbers go free. You feel very strongly that stealing children is a very bad thing to do.

In pairs, prepare your argument for why the robbers should stay in jail.

