

# English Literature Activities



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## *The Star Child by Oscar Wilde*

Once upon a time there was a beautiful Princess, and she was so lovely that she was called the Star-Child. The stars shone in her hair, and her cheeks were as bright as the rose. All who saw her loved her, and when she was born the King and Queen rejoiced and said, “She is ours, our beautiful Star-Child.”

And when she grew up she was more beautiful than ever. The King was very proud of her and wanted to show her off to the world, so he invited all the princes and noblemen from far and wide to a grand ball in the palace.

The ball was a great success, and everyone admired the Star-Child. She danced with all the princes and noblemen, and they praised her beauty and grace. But in the midst of the ball, a little old woman entered the palace, dressed in rags. She was very poor and had come to beg for a little food.

The King and Queen were horrified and ordered her to be thrown out. But the Star-Child felt pity for her and went to her. “Please, don’t hurt her,” she said. “Let her stay, and I will give her something to eat.”



**After reading the text answer the questions below:**

**1 What was special about the princess?**

**2 What did the king do to show his daughter to the people?**

**3 What did the king and queen do when they saw the poor old woman?**

**4 What did the princess do after that?**



**Read the text about the writer's life and fill in the missing words:**

beauty   prison   died   university   wrote   famous



Oscar Wilde was a .....Irish writer born on October 16, 1854, in Dublin, Ireland. His family was rich and he studied at Trinity College and later at Oxford..... Wilde is known for his humor, and his clever writing. His most famous works include *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and the play *The Importance of Being Earnest*. He also .....many stories for children. He loved to challenge the rules of society and he often wrote about love and .....However, his life had many ups and downs. In 1895, he was sent to prison for two years because of his sexuality, which was a problem at that time. Wilde continued to write after he went out of.....but he had many health and money problems. He .....on November 30, 1900, in Paris, France.

**What do you think will happen after the princess meets the poor old woman? Write the rest of the story in 100 words:**

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**After reading the text answer the questions below:**

**1 What was special about the princess?**

She was very beautiful

**2 What did the king do to show his daughter to the people?**

He invited all the people to a ball

**3 What did the king and queen do when they saw the poor old woman?**

They ordered the guards to take her out

**4 What did the princess do after that?**

She wanted to give her something to eat

**Read the text about the writer's life and fill in the missing words:**

Oscar Wilde was a **famous** Irish writer born on October 16, 1854, in Dublin, Ireland. His family was rich and he studied at Trinity College and later at Oxford **University**. Wilde is known for his humor, and his clever writing. His most famous works include *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and the play *The Importance of Being Earnest*. He also **wrote** many stories for children. He loved to challenge the rules of society and he often wrote about love and **beauty**. However, his life had many ups and downs. In 1895, he was sent to prison for two years because of his sexuality, which was a problem at that time. Wilde continued to write after he went out of **prison** but he had many health and money problems. He **died** on November 30, 1900, in Paris, France.





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