

# The Tailor of Gloucester

by

Beatrix Potter

## Teacher & Student Guide

by Heather Hall



Principled Academy Home School

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Developed by Heather Hall

PAHS... AND PONDER

Principled Academy Home School

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# The Definition of Literature

Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines literature as:

**LIT'ERATURE**, n. [L. literatura.] Learning; acquaintance with letters or books. Literature comprehends a knowledge of the ancient languages, denominated classical, history, grammar, rhetoric, logic, geography, &c. as well as of the sciences. A knowledge of the world and good breeding give luster to literature.

You can use it for free at: <http://1828.mshaffer.com/>

## Why is Studying Literature so Important?

The purpose behind studying literature is to help reclaim the joys and riches of reading classics and to help readers become engaged in the writing of the author. The purpose behind these literature guides is to help readers hold up literature in light of Scripture to establish the Bible as the source to reason from.

## The Five Elements of a Classic:

1. Setting- this is the background of the story and it may include details such as the place, time, environment, climate, and society.
2. Characterization- these are the internal and external qualities of each individual in the story.
3. Plot- this is the sequence of events which lead to the conclusion.
4. Theme- this is the message, lesson or moral which the author is trying to convey.
5. Style- this is the way an author expresses his individuality in writing.

# My Study Schedule

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(Name)

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(Book Title)

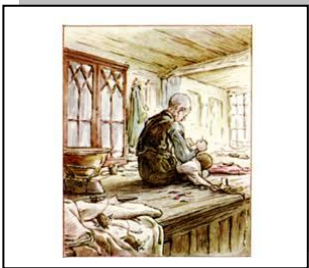
Directions: Check the box for each character after you have learned the Bible Principles regarding them.

---

  
(Date)

---

  
The Bible Principle for the Tailor and the Brown Mice



## The Author Notebook Page

The author is the person who writes the book.

A notebook page with a vertical red margin line on the left and horizontal blue lines for writing. The page is otherwise blank.

# Vocabulary

Look up the definitions in your 1828 Webster's Dictionary and copy them onto your notebook page. Check them as you look them up and copy them so you can keep track.

## The Tailor of Gloucester by Beatrix Potter

Please note: some of the terms regarding fabric may not be found in the Webster's Dictionary.

- embroidered
- lappets
- littered
- paduasoy
- snippeted
- taffeta
- tippets

1A

- fastened
- groat
- mobs
- shuffled
- wainscot

1B

- barred
- cathedral
- garret
- nicks
- parcel
- vexed

1C



## Setting- The Tailor of Gloucester

The setting is the background of the story including the place, time, society, environment, and climate. Look for descriptions of the setting in each chapter and write them down.

A large area of blue-lined paper for writing, with a vertical red margin line on the left side. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page, leaving a narrow margin on the left.







## Plot- The Tailor of Gloucester

The plot is a series of events which lead to a conclusion.

A large area of blue-lined paper for writing, with a vertical red margin line on the left side. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page, providing a template for a student to write a plot summary for the story 'The Tailor of Gloucester'.

Theme- The Tailor of Gloucester

The theme is the message or lesson the author presents.

A large area of blue horizontal lines for writing, with a vertical red margin line on the left side.

## Style

The style is the individuality of the author expressed in his writings.

A large area of blue horizontal lines for writing, with a vertical red margin line on the left side.

# Research, Reason, Relate, Record

## The Tailor of Gloucester by Beatrix Potter

### Quote:

"The stitches of those button-holes were so small- so small- they looked like they had been made by little mice!" (Potter, 2002, p.59)

### Research:

- Research the definition of *give* in Webster's 1828 Dictionary:

**GIVE**, v.t. pret. gave; pp. given. [Heb. to give. The sense of give is generally to pass, or to transfer, that is, to send or throw.]

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Research the Bible:

Read Luke 6:38- \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Reason:

When the Tailor gave to the mice, he did it without expecting anything in return. How did the mice demonstrate what you learned in Luke 6:38?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Relate:

Write about a time when you have been generous and how you received blessings from the Lord for loving, honoring and obeying Him in this area.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

OR

Draw a picture about it.

Once you have **recorded**, file it in your notebook.



**The Notebook Study of *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny* for the Parent  
Answer Key**

Dear Parent,

This Literature Guide is designed to help guide your child in learning how to reason from the Bible. It is our heart that you will see your child learn how to hold things up to the light of Scripture vs. accepting what is written by man because it "sounds good" or is the example set before them.

Books are like friends... and bad books will corrupt good character because ideas have consequences. We know the challenge of being able to read books before your child does, especially if your child is an avid reader! Therefore, the answer key is designed as a guide for you to help assess what your child is learning and to help with discussion topics between you and your child.

### **The Author Notebook Page**

Briefly, Beatrix Potter lived from 28 July 1866 – 22 December 1943. She was an English author, artist/illustrator, mycologist, farmer and a land conservationist. I encourage you to learn more about her [here](#) and include whatever details you want for your children to copy for their notes.

### **Notes About the Vocabulary**

It is entirely up to you to decide how much vocabulary to have your child look up and learn. You may or may not choose to have them copy the definitions. The format is structured so you can assign at least one box for word studies. Each box is labeled for simplicity.

### **Webster's 1828 Dictionary**

Noah Webster studied the etymology of words in varying languages and researched the Scriptures for the proper use of the words. This is why we highly recommend using Webster's 1828 Dictionary to gain a clear and accurate understanding of words. This is important because modern dictionaries have removed God from the definitions and watered them down.

If you would like to purchase a hardbound copy of Webster's 1828 Dictionary, please order one at:

[www.legacyguardian.net/store](http://www.legacyguardian.net/store)

A hardbound copy is ideal for your child to be able to practice looking up words and for copy work. However, we have included definitions in portions of the section for parents and you can copy them for your children or you may also find a free on-line version to use by visiting:

<http://1828.mshaffer.com>

## Setting- The Tailor of Gloucester

The setting is the background of the story including the place, time, society, environment, and climate.

- I. Westgate Street in Gloucester
- II. Dress in Society- swords, periwigs, full-skirted coats with flowered lappets- gentlemen wore ruffles, gold-laced waistcoats of paduasoy and taffeta
- III. The Tailor's Shop- Small leaded window-panes, sat on a table in front of the window, fabric, shears, thread, ribbons, buttons, the home to little brown mice.
- IV. Within the Walls of the Tailor's Shop- little mouse staircases and secret trap doors, long narrow passages
- V. College Court- The Tailor's nearby home, it was a small house, he was poor so he only rented the kitchen, dresser with crockery and pipkins, willow pattern plates, tea cups and mugs, hearth, mice dressed in clothing.
- VI. Winter- snow outside
- VII. Around Christmas time

# Characters

## The Tailor

Internal

External

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | <p>frugal</p> <p>auditory</p> <p>likes animals</p> <p>tired and getting ill</p> <p>stressed</p> <p>hopeful</p> <p>rested</p> | <p>a Tailor</p> <p>poor</p> <p>old man in spectacles, a pinched face, old crooked fingers, threadbare clothes</p> <p>cut his coats without waste</p> <p>talked to himself outloud</p> <p>shuffles when he walks</p> <p>He owned a cat- Simpkin. He cared for mice and would keep scraps of fabric and such for them to have.</p> <p>worn out</p> <p>He was worried about having enough time to finish the Mayor's clothing for the wedding.</p> <p>He hoped he would make his fortune by sewing the Mayor's wedding clothes.</p> <p>He was well again.</p> <p>He became prosperous and stout</p> |
|--|--|--|

## Simpkin (The Cat)

Internal

External

|  |                |   |
|--|----------------|---|
|  |                | <p>He was a brown striped cat with white feet and a cream-colored belly. He would wear black boots and a coat when he went out.</p>                   |
|  | diligent       | <p>He kept house.</p>   |
|  | a hunter       | <p>He caught mice under the tea cups.</p>   |
|  | hated the snow | <p>He did not like it in his ears or on his neck.</p>   |
|  | Obedient       | <p>He went and purchased what his was told to.</p>  |
|  | Vengeful       | <p>He did not give the Tailor his twist once he realized the Tailor had set his dinner of mice free. He spit and growled at the Tailor over this.</p> |
|  | felt remorse   | <p>He felt ashamed of his badness compared to the goodness of the mice!</p>   |

# Characters

## The Brown Mice

Internal

External

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | <p>skillful</p> <p>industrious</p> <p>thankful and helpful</p> | <p>Little Brown Mice with clothing on.</p> <p>They knew how to sew.</p> <p>They would work, too.</p> <p>They repaid the Tailor with kindness by helping him in a time of need.</p> |
|--|--|--|

## Plot

The plot is a series of events which lead to a conclusion.

The tailor is making a wedding outfit for the Mayor of Gloucester but he falls ill and behind on time. Some little helpers come to his rescue by repaying him kindness in his time of need.

## Theme-

The theme is the message or lesson the author presents.

The theme of *The Tailor of Gloucester* by Beatrix Potter is about giving and receiving.

## Style

The style is the individuality of the author expressed in his writings.

Miss Potter uses animals in her story lines and illustrations, something all children are naturally drawn to, to teach important lessons. Miss Potter uses illustrations and words to describe the setting.

# Research, Reason, Relate, Record

## The Tailor of Gloucester by Beatrix Potter

### Quote:

"The stitches of those button-holes were so small- so small- they looked like they had been made by little mice!" (Potter, 2002, p.59)

### Research:

- Research the definition of *give* in Webster's 1828 Dictionary:

**GIVE**, v.t. pret. gave; pp. given. [Heb. to give. The sense of give is generally is, to send or throw.]

1. To bestow; to confer; to pass or transfer the title or property of a thing to another person without an equivalent or compensation.

- Research the Bible:

Read Luke 6:38- "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

### Reason:

When the Tailor gave to the mice, he did it without expecting anything in return. How did the mice demonstrate what you learned in Luke 6:38?

The mice were thankful and touched by the generosity of the Tailor and they wanted to bless him in return.

### Relate:

Write about a time when you have been generous and how you received blessings from the Lord for loving, honoring and obeying Him in this area.

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OR

Draw a picture about it.

Once you have **recorded**, file it in your notebook.

**Leading Idea:**  
It pleases the Lord when we give to others.

**Bible Principle:**  
But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.  
-Hebrews 13:16



