

Book 4, The spell

Talk about the story:

Who is the tidiest person in your house?

Meet Stitch the witch. She is a very fussy witch and likes her home to be clean and tidy. Stitch the witch is cross because her cat has left paw marks on her bed. So, rather than just tell her off, she casts a spell on the poor cat.

Begin by reading the story words. Can your child 'Fred' in their head ... in other words can they sight read the words or silently decode them and then say the word out loud?

w <u>it</u> ch	off	will	<u>w</u> hisk	w <u>in</u> g	mo <u>th</u>
<u>th</u> en	slug	cob'web → cobweb	cast	spell	
be	of	<u>th</u> e	<u>yo</u>	<u>sa</u> id	my

- Remember, you can't 'Fred' a red! Use the first sound as a clue.
- Underlined sounds show 'special friends' where 2 letters = 1 sound.
- → ... Shows how you can break the word down into parts to make a longer word easier to read.



Now you are ready to read the story.

The spell

“You bad cat!”
said Stitch the witch.

“I will cast a spell on you!”
I will whisk my wand.
Then you will be ...
a frog!”



The wing of a moth ...
in the pot!

Six cobwebs ...
in the pot!

The leg of a rat ...
in the pot!



A fat slug ...
in **the** pot!

“Mix it up, mix it up ...
abracadabra!”



Ping!



We encourage the children to read the text at least twice so we know they are familiar with it. Then ask them these comprehension questions. Find the place in the text to prove your answers.

✚ What did Stitch the witch want her spell to do?

✚ What do you think her cat would think about this?

Use some power words, for example:

horrified / surprised / frightened / anxious

✚ What did Stitch put in her pot?

✚ What happened in the end?

✚ How do you think the cat is feeling now?

Use some power words, for example:

pleased / relieved / amused / 'serve you right'

Vocabulary

cast ... make (... as in the spell)

whisk ... wave (as in her wand)

Punctuation to talk about:

Capital letters ... for names and 1st sound in each new sentence.

• ... Full stop at the end of each sentence

! ... Exclamation mark to show surprise or anger.

... ... wait and see