



AUTHOR

Leigh Hodgkinson is an author and illustrator, an animation director, designer, and kids tv creator. She emigrated to the UK from Rhodesia as a child and now lives in Lewes, East Sussex, with her family & pets. She has made around 25 books including *Martha Maps it Out* (about mapping the world you live in) and *Book Hospital* (a celebration of books & the magic of reading). She is also the designer & co-creator of the CBeebies animated show 'Olobob Top'. Leigh has ADHD and is always busy and not very good at relaxing. She is happiest when being creative.

WEBSITE

<https://www.leighhodgkinson.co.uk/>

LINKS

This blog explains how Leigh became an illustrator. Ideal for older students interested in pursuing a career in arts and crafts.

<https://www.craftscouncil.org.uk/learning/craft-careers/craft-careers-how-leigh-hodgkinson-became-illustrator>

A page of resources & ideas, including an animated version of 'There was an old lady who swallowed a fly'.

<https://www.lovelybooks.co.uk/the-princess-and-the-greedy-pea>



THE PRINCESS AND THE (GREEDY) PEA

Younger Children Shortlist 2024

INTRODUCTION

Funny reworking of a **well-known rhyme** ('There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly') combined with a **traditional fairytale** ('The Princess and the Pea'). The rhyming cumulative text describes how a hungry pea gorges himself to the point of exhaustion and goes off for a snooze - in a princess's bed. Not surprisingly, the princess is cross, uncomfortable and hungry ... and the pea is about to get his just deserts!!

The picture book is a visual delight with gorgeously green endpapers, decorative patterns and a feast of **food**, listed in a variety of fonts – look at the deliciously drippy soup, for example.

ACTIVITIES

Read Look for other versions of the original rhyme and traditional story to read and compare.

As the theme for this year's National Share a Story Month (May 2024) is 'food', the book would make an ideal **read-aloud** - and inspiration for writing as well, as the text includes lots of different words associated with eating.

Write or illustrate Growing peas is easy (and inexpensive)! Watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a74LQ43Giig> and/or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtYFLspcBT8> Now write and illustrate a step-by-step guide to planting, growing and harvesting.

Create a beautifully presented menu for a royal tea party. Children will need to decide on the food and drink before compiling and decorating their menu.

NOW READ ON

There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly illustrated by Pam Adams (Child's Play International, 2000) Classic board book with die-cut holes. The publisher also sells an old lady doll and a set of bean-filled animals to use for story-telling.

The Pea and the Princess by Mini Grey (Red Fox, 2004) An alternative version of the story retold from the pea's point of view.

Midnight Feasts: Tasty Poems chosen by A F Harrold and illustrated by Katy Riddell (Bloomsbury, 2019) A moreish anthology of 50 poems about food.

Growing Green: A First Book of Gardening by Daniela Sousa (Walker, 2023) 15 edible projects (though not peas) for 5+.