



The Princess and the Pea – a Helicopter Stories version

The Prince was sad. (Will you be the prince? Can I see you pretending to be sad?) He had ridden his horse all over the world, (Will you be the horse? Can I see the prince pretending to ride his horse?) searching for a princess. (Can you pretend to be looking for a princess?) But he couldn't find one.

Sadly he returned home. (Let's see you riding the horse home?) But that night there was a terrible storm. (Shall we all pretend to be the terrible storm? What noise might the thunder and lightning make?)

Suddenly, there was a knock at the door. (Can you be the door? Can you be the person knocking?)

The Prince opened the door and there stood a princess, wet from the rain. (Can I see the prince opening the door? And can I see the princess looking cold and wet?)

The Prince and Princess sat by an open fire and talked, and talked and talked (Can you pretend to sit down by a fire and get warm? 1, 2. Can you be the fire? How would you pretend to be the flames?)

The Queen watched, hoping that the girl was a real princess. (Can you be the queen? Can I see you watching the prince and princess?) Then she had an idea.

At bedtime, the queen placed a tiny dried pea in the middle of the bed that the princess would be sleeping in. (Can you pretend to place a dried pea in the middle of the bed?)

Then she called her servants and asked them to place 40 mattresses on top of the pea. (1, 2, can you be the servants? Can I see you placing the mattresses on top of the pea?)

Then princess had to climb a ladder to reach the top of her bed. (Can I see you pretending to climb a ladder to get into bed? Then can she lie down and pretend that she's sleeping on a hard pea? Shall we all pretend we are going to sleep? Imagine what it would be like having a hard pea in the bed.)

In the morning the princess told the queen that she had had a terrible night sleep. (Can I hear Princess telling the queen that you didn't sleep very well?)

The queen smiled. (Can I see the queen smiling?) "That means you are a real princess," she said. (Can I hear you saying those words? That means you are a real princess. Or - shall we all say that?)

The Prince asked the princess to marry him. (Can I see you pretending to ask the princess to marry you?) But the Princess said No. (Can I hear you saying no.)

The Princess thought it would be much more fun to travel around the world with the prince, riding on his horse, and having an adventure. (Can I see the prince and the princess riding on the horse and setting off on an adventure?) So that is what they did.