

Our new unit of writing is based on *The Mousehole Cat*.

You need to look at the activities and choose which is best for you.



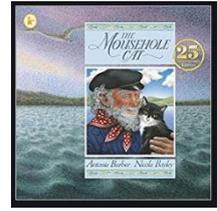
Red hot is for people who want extra challenge.



Spicy is suitable for most.



Mild is good for children who need to build confidence, or have no one to help.

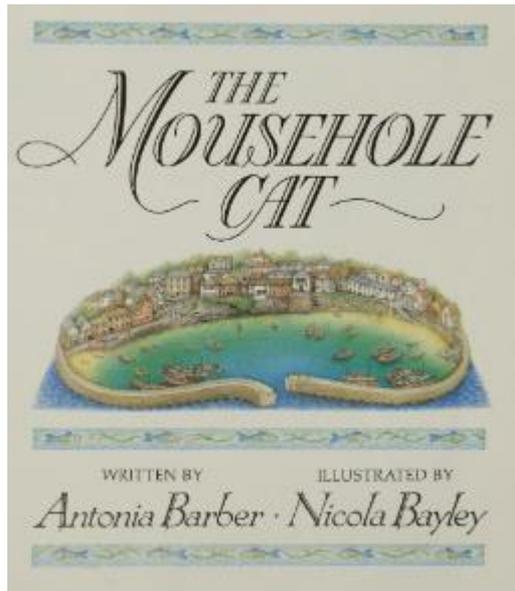


This story was inspired by the old Cornish legend of Tom Barcock. It is dedicated with affection to my neighbours and friends, the people and cats of Mousehole.

A.B.

For Sebastian Walker with love

N.B.



*A*t the far end of England, a land of rocks and moorland stretches itself out into a blue-green sea. Between its high headlands lie tiny sheltering harbours where the fishing boats hide when the winter storms are blowing.

One of these harbours is so small and the entrance between its great stone breakwaters is so narrow that fishermen called it "the Mousehole".

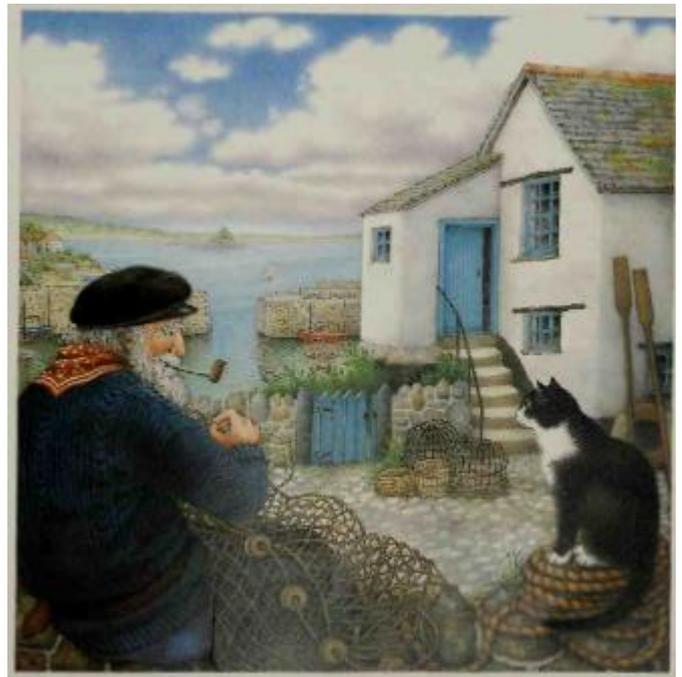
The people who lived in the cottages around the harbour grew fond of the name and they call their village Mousehole to this day.



They say it in the Cornish way, "Mowzel", but you may say it as you choose.

Once there lived in the village a cat whose name was Mowzer.

She had an old cottage with a window overlooking the harbour, an old rocking-chair with patchwork cushions and an old fisherman named Tom.



Check you know these meanings:

moorland, headlands, stone breakwaters (harbour wall), narrow, fond.

Red Hot

Read the first page of the story and check you know the meaning of difficult words.



Task

Draw a picture of how you imagine the story setting and include these labels on the drawing:

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Tiny sheltering harbour | Narrow harbour entrance | Great stone breakwaters |
| Old cottage | Window overlooking harbour | Rocking chair with patchwork cushions |

Optional extra challenge: write a short descriptive paragraph of the story setting. Try to include some of the author's vocabulary.

Success Criteria

| |
|--|
| Read the first page of the story carefully. |
| Look closely at the details in the illustrations. |
| Imagine what the setting would be like and the details described by the author. |
| Draw the setting that you imagine and write the labels pointing to the details you have drawn. |

Spicy

Read the first page of the story and check you know the meaning of difficult words.



Task

Draw a picture of how you imagine the story setting and include these labels on the drawing:

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Boats in harbour | harbour entrance | Harbour wall (breakwaters) |
| Old cottage | Tom and Mowzer | Rocking chair with patchwork cushions |

Optional extra challenge: write a few descriptive sentences of the story setting. Try to include some of the author's vocabulary.

Success Criteria

| |
|--|
| Read the first page of the story carefully. |
| Look closely at the illustrations. |
| Imagine what the setting would be like. |
| Draw the setting that you imagine and write the labels pointing to the details you have drawn. |

Mild

Ask a grown-up to read the first page of the story and talk about the pictures with you.

Write a sentence to describe each of these pictures from the beginning of the story:



| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|------------------------------|
| A B C capital letters |  finger spaces | ● full stop | Read read it again |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|------------------------------|



Tom the fisherman



Mowzer, the fisherman's cat



The fisherman's cottage

Example



The fisherman's cottage had blue windows and was next to the sea.