



Stuck in the chimney



Snow was falling heavily at the North Pole and Mrs Claus told Santa that he needed to clean the chimney. The enormous fireplace had become blocked with soot and it needed a jolly good sweeping. Santa Claus was given this job every year. He hated it!

Each year, Santa would put on his scruffy clothes and grab his long brush from the garden shed. It would take him hours to reach up into the chimney and waggle his brush around. This year, he'd had enough!

Questions

- 1) Where was the snow falling?
- 2) What job did Santa need to do?
- 3) How do you think Santa felt about having to do this job?

He put on his old clothes and grabbed an old towel from the kitchen. He was going to go up there himself and scrub it clean. Grumpily, he started to climb into the chimney. The first part was easy. Soon, all you could see were his black boots and bright white legs sticking out of the fireplace. Unfortunately, it wasn't long before his big belly was wedged against the bricks.

He wiggled and wriggled and squiggled but it didn't make any difference. All his squirming did was cause his shorts to fall down. Now he was stuck in a chimney with his spotty underpants showing!

Questions

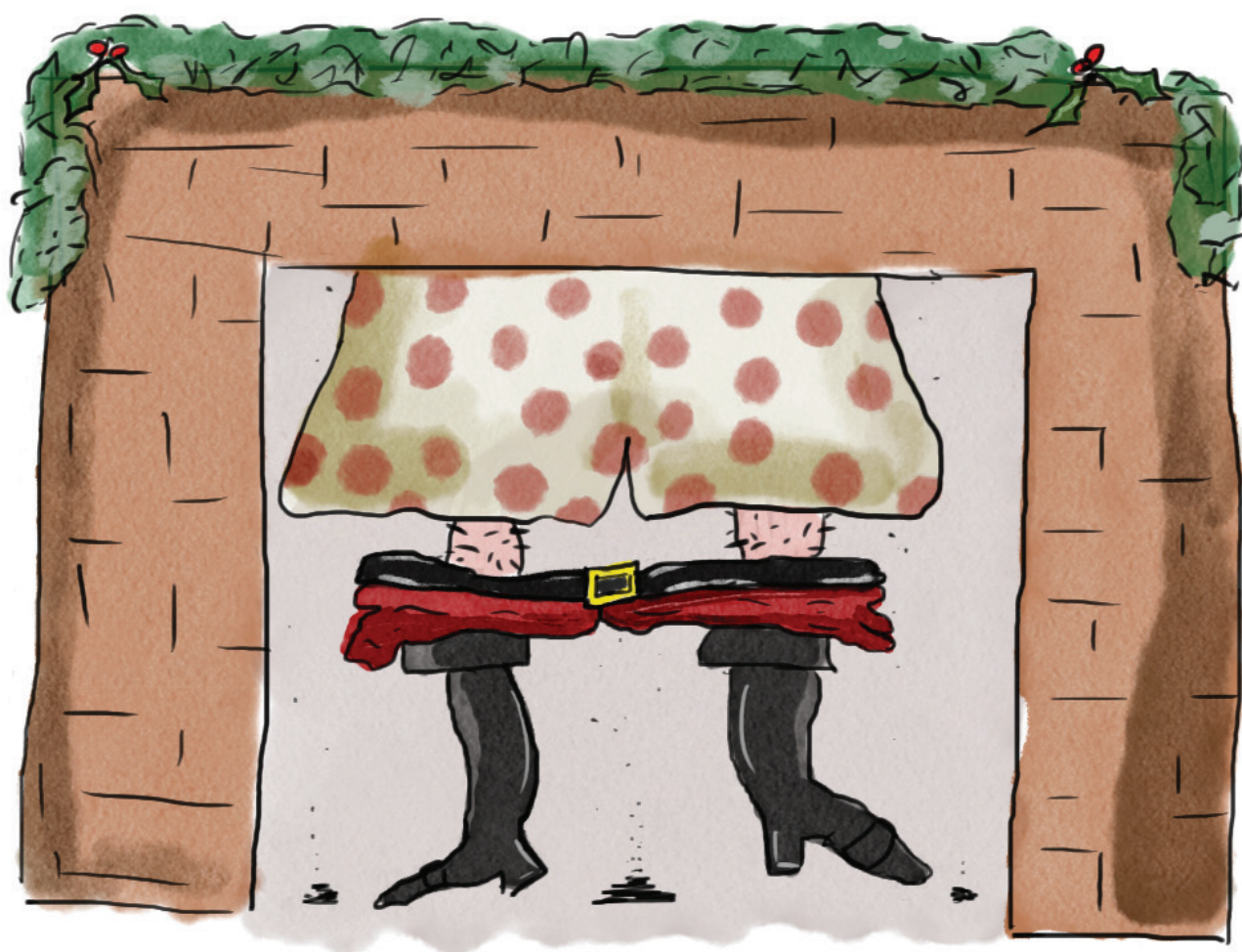
- 4) What did Santa grab from the kitchen?
- 5) How do you think Santa felt when his belly got stuck?
- 6) What type of underpants did Santa have on?

There was nothing for it, he had to shout Mrs Claus for help. When she arrived, she let out a little squeal and tried her best to pull him out. He was stuck like a cork in a bottle. She had no choice but to call for help from the villagers. One by one, they all arrived. The tinker arrived first. They still couldn't pull him out. Then the tailor arrived but Santa was still stuck. Even the candle-stick maker couldn't pull him out. Soon the living room was full. Eventually, there were a hundred people all pulling on Santa's ankles. With a loud POP he shot out onto the rug. Soot scattered everywhere.

"Next year, I think I'll use the brush!" Santa said and everybody laughed.

Questions

- 7) Explain which different people turned up to help pull Santa out.
- 8) What will Santa use next year?
- 9) Do you think he will get stuck again?



Answers:

1. North Pole
2. Clean the chimney
3. Fed up and unhappy
4. An old towel
5. Embarrassed / scared
6. Spotty
7. Tinker, tailor, candle-stick maker and the villagers
8. The brush
9. Any suitable prediction