THE LITTLE CLAY FIGURES IN THE KINDERGARTEN



CONTENTS

1.	WHERE DOES MIMI, HOPI AND SWAYINGY COME FROM	5
2.	THE FIRST NIGHT IN KINDERGARTEN	8
3.	THE NEW LITTLE HOUSE	13
4.	THE FIRST BIG LITTLE TRIP	17
5.	A TRIP TO THE FOREST	25
6.	HALINA THE MAGPIE AND CHARLES THE CAT	31
7.	THE MYSTERIOUS RETURN HOME	36
8.	ADVENTURE WITH ANIMALS	39
9.	A TRIP TO THE FOREST	44
10.	WHERE IS TEDDY BEAR MIRABILIS	48
11.	PANCAKES WITH FRUIT	52
12.	SKIING	57
13.	DO AS YOU WOULD BE DONE BY	62
14.	A FRIEND IN NEED IS A FRIEND INDEED	65
15.	HUBERT	68
16.	A GIFT	72
17.	ART GALLERY	77
18.	RACING	81
19.	ROAD SAFETY	86
20.	SUMMER HOLIDAY	90

1. WHERE DOES MIMI, HOPI AND SWAYINGY COME FROM

Mimi, Hopi and Swayingy are very small people made of clay. Some children in a kindergarten have invented them. Mimi was created by the six-year-old Beata. Hopi was made by John, and Swayingy was formed by Kevin.



The preschoolers love to play together and have many great ideas, and their clay dolls can do many strange things.

Swayingy is very tall and so slender that when he walks, his arms and legs swing in different directions. However, he is not bothered by this at all.

Swayingy is calm and always thinks for a long time before doing anything. He is very afraid of spiders. When he sees a spider, he screams so loud that the others have to cover their ears. Hopi is much shorter than Swayingy. He looks a little like a ball. He cannot run fast because his legs are too thin and too short. However, he can jump high. Hopi likes to help others. He is friendly and cheerful, and above all, adventurous. Thanks to him, the three friends never get bored.



Mimi has red, curly hair that is always messy. She wears a short and colourful dress. Mimi is full of energy and likes to joke. This often causes her to lead her friends into trouble.



This red-haired girl loves her pink teddy bear Mirabilis.

The teddy bear once disappeared, but that is another story.



5. A TRIP TO THE FOREST

A trip to the forest was planned for that day after lunch. Children had to wear warm clothes and rubber boots. At the last moment, Beata took the little people and hid them in her backpack. It was a little dark there, but cosy and comfortable.



The pre-schoolers left the kindergarten in pairs, holding hands. After some time, the backpack started to shake slightly because Beata was jumping over some roots and other obstacles. When the children got to a nice place in the wood, they threw their backpacks on the grass and ran to play.

Hopi was the first to peek out of the backpack with interest.

"How good it smells out here," he said delighted.



Mimi did the same. She looked for a moment, jumped outside and ran to the blueberry bush. She took one of blueberries. In her hands looked, it looked like a huge navy -blue ball.

After a while, a colourful butterfly began to fly over Mimi's head. It stopped in the air for a moment and examined her red hair. Then it flew away. The butterfly may have thought it was a flower. Mimi left the berry and ran after the butterfly.



"Mimi, wait!" Hopi shouted.

He also wanted to run, but the grass was tall, and his legs were short and thin. He started jumping up and down like a grasshopper to catch her.

Swayingy became worried.

"We shouldn't go out alone!" he shouted, but no one was listening to him.

"No one ever listens to me," he said to himself. "What if the children come back now? What should I do? I'm going after them," Swayingy decided.



He got out of the bag on all fours and got up slowly to regain his balance. He walked and swayed on his feet. On the way, he noticed a spider's web high above his head. Dewdrops that hung on the net glittered in the sun like diamonds.

Swayingy touched one of them. The spider's web shook, and at almost the same moment, a large hairy spider ran up the rope. The little man became so frightened that he began to squeak terribly. He screamed loudly and, in a voice so shrill that the spider stood on its four hind legs and closed its ears with the other four. It almost fell off its web. Mimi and Hopi heard Swayingy's voice and thinking that something bad had happened, they quickly returned. They were good friends and would never leave each other without help. Hopi bounced back like a ball. Mimi struggled through the tall grass.

"Can you ask him to stop screaming? I've got a headache from that noise," the spider asked when they both arrived.

Hopi pulled Swayingy away from the spider's web.

"He's scared of you," Mimi replied.

"Me?" the spider was surprised.

"Yes, many children are afraid of you," Mimi said.

"Is that why everyone shouts when they see me? And they often destroy my net, but I help children and I eat mosquitoes, so they do not bite them," the spider complained.

"I'm not screaming. My name is Mimi. And you?"

"I'm Ferdinand," the spider replied.

"And these guys are Hopi and Swayingy. We live in a kindergarten. We will tell the children not to be scared or scream when they see you," Mimi added.

"Right, guys?" she turned to her friends.

The boys were surprised to see Mimi talking to the spider. They understood nothing.

"Can you talk to animals?!" Hopi asked.



Before Mimi could answer, Swayingy started screaming again.

"The children are coming back!!!"

And so, they were. After a while, the children gathered near the backpacks. The scared little people did not know what to do. They waved and waved to the children, but no one paid attention. Beata had no idea that her little friends were not in the bag. Besides, she was busy talking to other girls. When all the children had taken their belongings and formed pairs, Mrs. Julia took them back to the kindergarten.









