

Dr Swift and the young boy (a story which can also very well be played by the children)

More than two hundred years ago, the writer Jonathan Swift wrote a very famous book 'Gulliver's Travels'. Perhaps you have heard about it. It is about a Captain who after a shipwreck came ashore on the island Lilliput, where a group of very small people lived (6 inches tall!). At the time he wrote that book, he lived near a rich old lady. The lady who of course was proud that she lived near to such a famous writer, sometimes sent a boy with a present for Dr Swift. Swift was glad to take the lady's presents, but he never gave the boy anything for his trouble.

One day Swift as usual sat behind his desk and was busy with his writing. Then, the boy rushed into Swift's room, knocked some books out of the book's place, threw the parcel on the desk and said, 'my mistress has sent you two of her rabbits.'

Swift was a bit annoyed, turned round and said, 'That is not the way to deliver a parcel. Now, you sit here at my desk, in this chair and watch my way of doing it.'

The boy sat down. Swift went out, knocked on Swift's door and waited for an answer. When the boy said, 'Come in', Swift entered, walked to his desk and said, 'If you please, sir, my mistress sends her kind regards and hopes you will accept these rabbits which her son shot this morning in her fields.'

After a pause the boy answered, 'Thank you my boy. Give your mistress and her son Dr Swift's thanks for her kindness and here is sixpence for yourself.'

Swift laughed, and after that, he never forgot to give the boy a tip.