

Pieces

Tree
Peddler
Checked cap
Red cap
Blue cap
Gray cap
Brown cap
4 monkeys

Caps for Sale

By Esphyr Slobodkina

Text modified from the original.

Once upon a time there was a peddler who sold caps. Besides his own checked cap he was selling a **red** cap, a **blue** cap, a **gray** cap, and a **brown** cap.

Now the peddler had tried all day to sell his caps, but no one wanted a red cap, a blue cap, a gray cap, or a brown cap. So the peddler sat down under a great big tree and fell asleep. He was soon sound asleep.

The peddler slept for a long time. When the peddler woke up all his caps were gone, except his own checked cap.

He looked to the right of him...no caps.

He looked to the left of him...no caps.

He looked in back of him...no caps.

He look behind the tree...no caps.

Then he looked up in the tree. And what do you think he saw?

He saw a monkey wearing a red cap, a monkey wearing a blue cap, a monkey wearing a gray cap, and a monkey wearing a brown cap. The peddler didn't know what to do. So he shook his finger at the monkeys. "You monkeys, you! You give me back my caps."

But the monkeys only shook their fingers back at him.

This made the peddler angry. So he stamped his feet and said, "You monkeys, you! You give me back my caps."

But the monkeys only stamped their feet.

At last the peddler became so angry that he tore off his own checked cap and threw it on the ground. And do you know what the monkeys did? Each monkey pulled off his cap and threw it on the ground. They threw down a red cap, a blue cap, a gray cap, and a brown cap.

So the peddler picked up his own checked cap, the red cap, the blue cap, the gray cap, and the brown cap and walked slowly back to town calling, "Caps! Caps for sale!"