


Rip Van Winkle & The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

In the first of these stories, Rip Van Winkle sleeps for over twenty years, and then wakes up to a world that he no longer understands. In the other story, Ichabod Crane, the school teacher, meets a headless rider in the middle of a dark night. These two classic tales of the supernatural by Washington Irving have been popular for nearly two hundred years.

Text adaptation by Alan Hines
Illustrated by Thomas Sperling
Cover by Ashley Smith

 This book is supported by a MultiROM, containing a complete dramatized audio recording of the story plus interactive activities.

Series Editors: Bill Bowler and Sue Parminter

Word count 2,000

LEVEL	HEADWORDS
Three	1000
Two	700
One	400
Starter	250

DOMINOES
THE STRUCTURED
APPROACH TO
READING IN
ENGLISH

DOMINOES

Starter

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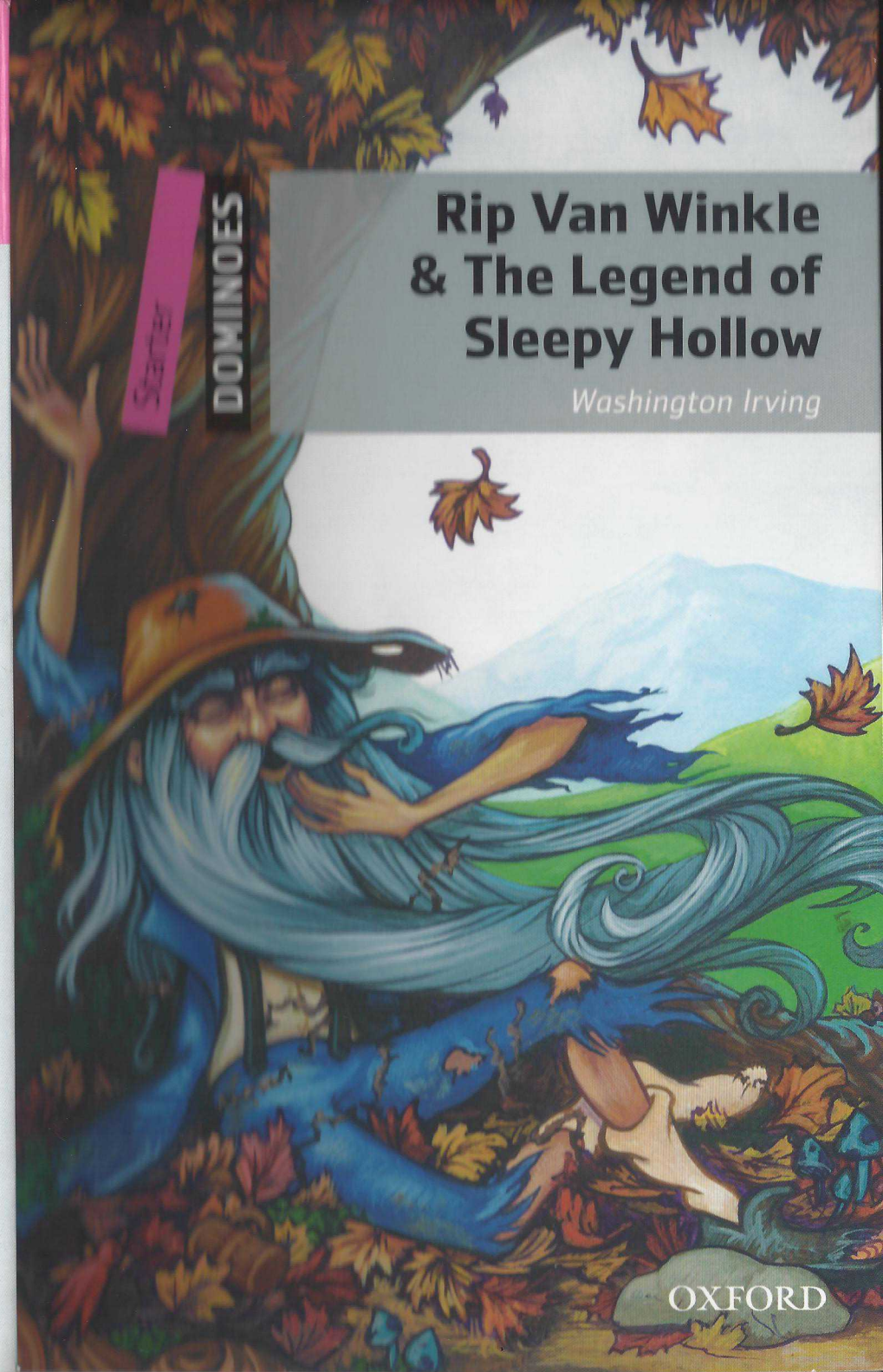
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BEFORE READING

1 This story comes from North America.

Match the names with the pictures and the descriptions.



a The first President of the USA. (1732–1799)



b The sixteenth President of the USA. (1809–1865)



c An American Indian princess. (1595–1617)



d The last British king of North America. (1738–1820)



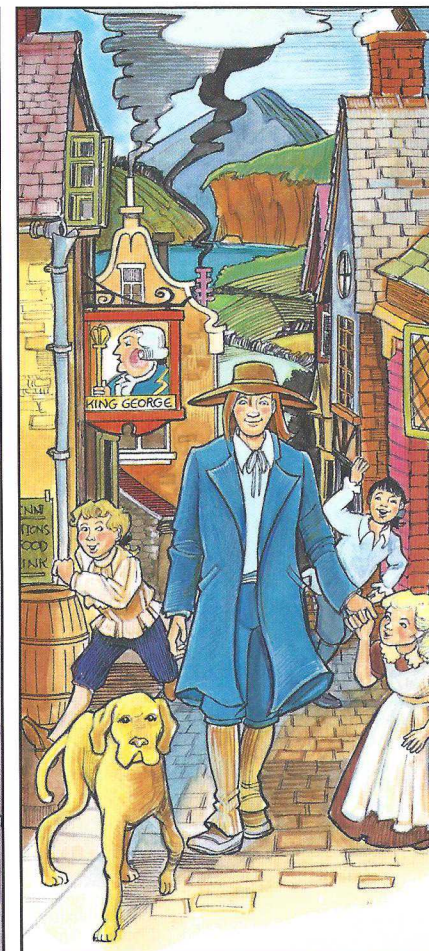
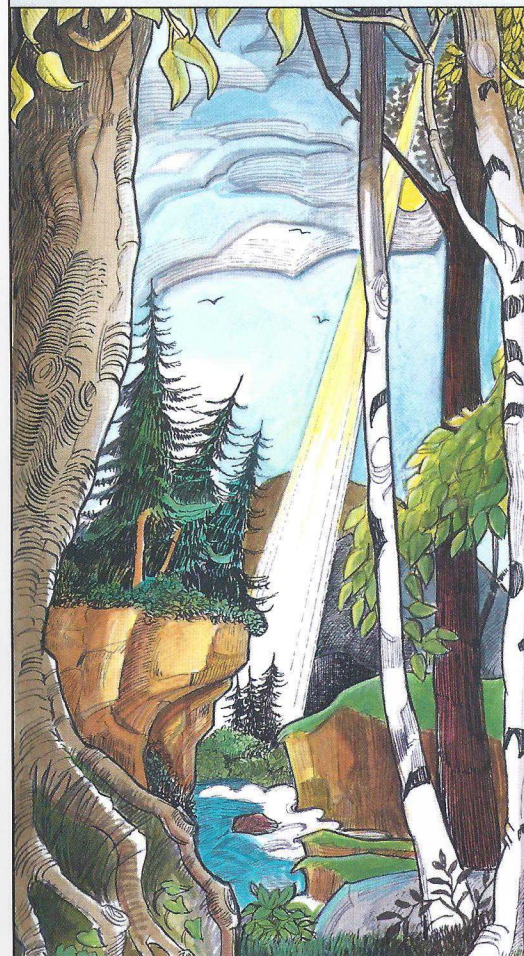
e The first white man – working for Holland – to visit different places in North America. (1570–1611)

2 Three of these people are in the story of Rip Van Winkle. Which three?

RIP VAN WINKLE

Chapter 1 The Catskill Mountains

change colour at different times of the year. Many people think that they are **magic** mountains.

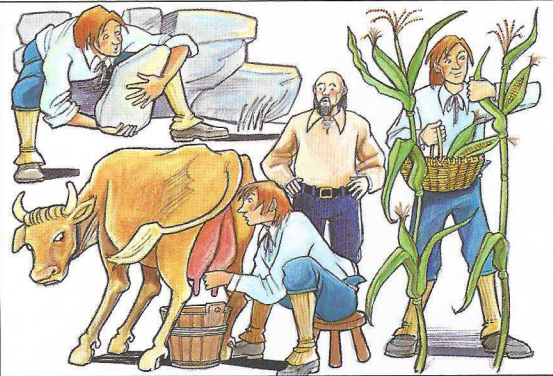
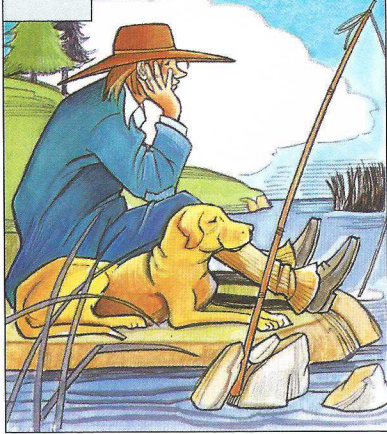


It is 1769. In a village near the Catskills lives a friendly man. His name is Rip Van Winkle. The village children love him.

mountains very big hills

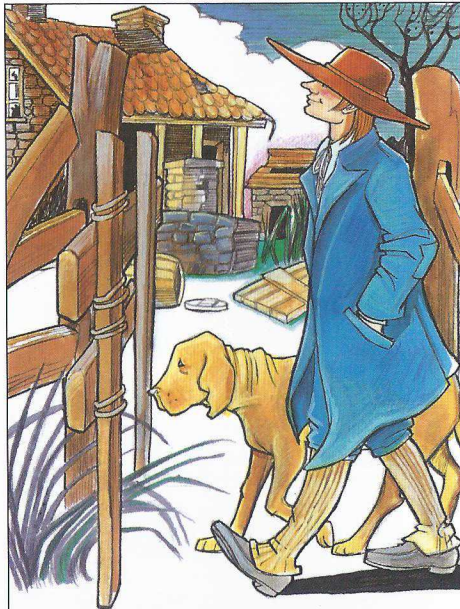
magic not usual, and with something that you can't understand

Rip loves doing nothing all day.



But when the men of the village ask Rip for help on their **farms**, he always goes and helps them.

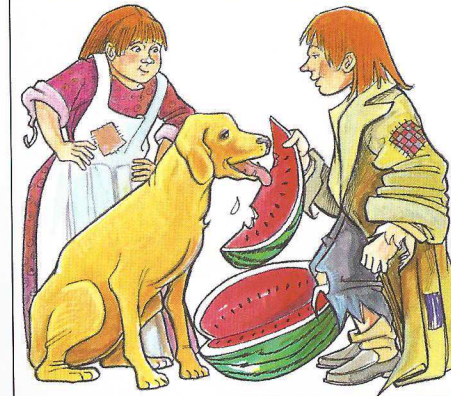
And when the women of the village ask Rip for help, he never says no.



Rip is always ready to do his **neighbours'** work – but he never works on *his* farm!

farm a house with land in the country

neighbour a person who lives near you



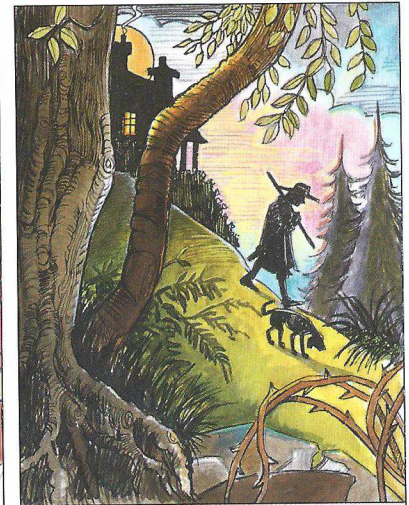
The Van Winkles have two **wild** children – Rip and Judith. Young Rip always wears his father's old **clothes**.



Morning and night Mrs Van Winkle tells him that he is **lazy**.



Rip never answers her. This makes her angrier.



One day, Rip leaves his **wife** at the farm. He calls his dog, Wolf, and they go for a walk in the mountains.

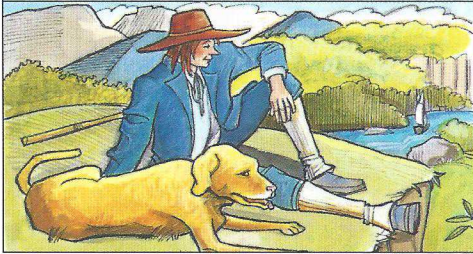
wild not quiet and not good; not staying where you want

lazy not wanting to work

wife a woman living with a man

clothes people wear these

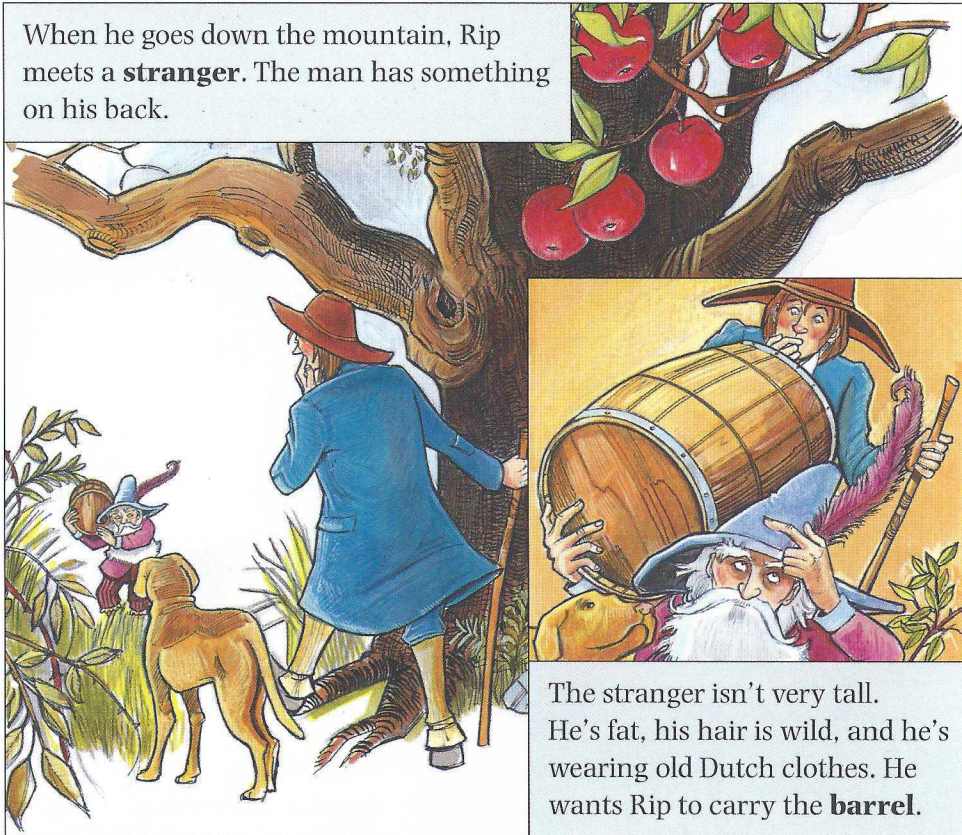
In the late afternoon, Rip sits on one of the mountains. For a long time, he watches the beautiful Hudson **River**.



Soon the sky is dark. Rip's wife always gets angry when he comes home late, so he must leave now.



When he goes down the mountain, Rip meets a **stranger**. The man has something on his back.



The stranger isn't very tall. He's fat, his hair is wild, and he's wearing old Dutch clothes. He wants Rip to carry the **barrel**.

river water that moves through the country in a long line

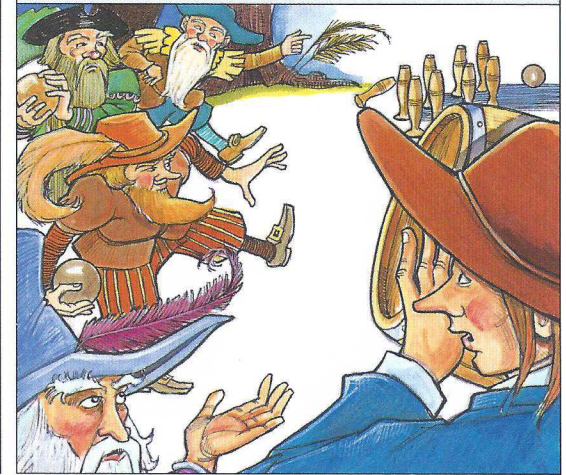
stranger someone that you don't know

barrel a tall round box; you put things to drink in it

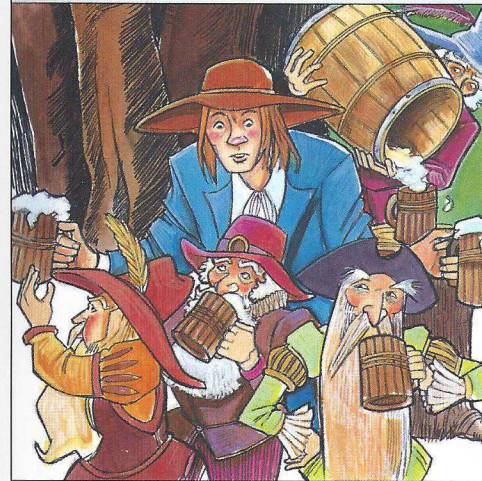
Rip walks up the mountain with the man. Sometimes he carries the barrel to help him. The stranger says nothing.



After a time, they meet a number of men in the mountains. They are all playing an old Dutch **game**, and wearing old Dutch clothes.



The man with the barrel gives them all a drink. Everything is quiet. Nobody smiles, and nobody speaks.



When the men begin to play again, Rip has a drink. He feels thirsty, so he drinks more and more.



Soon Rip is tired. His eyes close, and he goes to sleep.

game something that you play; tennis and football are games

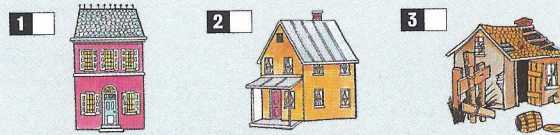
READING CHECK

Choose the correct pictures.

a Rip van Winkle lives with his ...



b He lives in a ...



c One autumn day he goes with his dog Wolf to ...

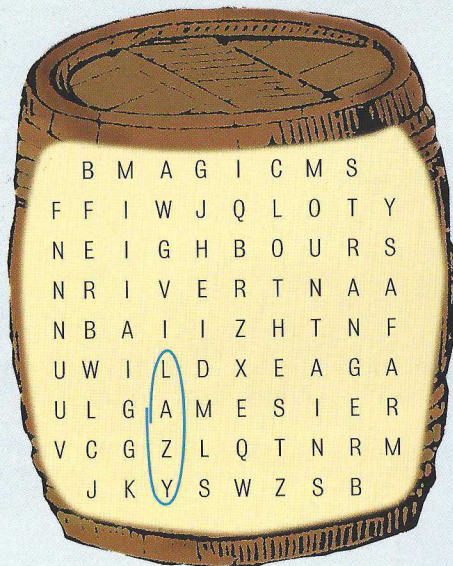


d Some ... there give him a drink and he goes to sleep.



WORD WORK

1 Find nine more words from Chapter 1 in the barrel.



2 Use words from Activity 1 to complete the sentences.

a I love working a lot. No, you don't. You're really lazy.

b Do you know him? No, I don't. He's a here.

c Do you like the people in the house next to your house? Yes, I do. They're very good

d I don't like tennis. Oh! Do you like any?

e Where is he? Fishing in the, I think.

f What are you wearing? Some new Do you like them?

g Would you like to live in a little house in the town? No. I like living on a in the country.

h Those little hills are nice. They aren't little hills. They're big

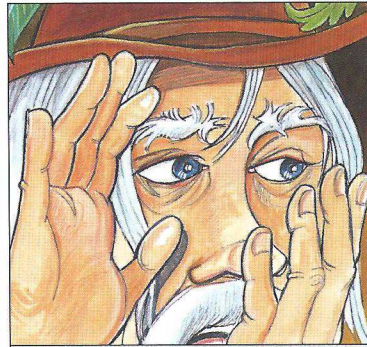
GUESS WHAT

The next chapter is twenty years later. What happens? Put these things in order. Number them 1-6.

- Rip feels old.
- Rip wakes up.
- Rip talks to his daughter.
- Rip hears his wife is dead.
- Rip sees his son.
- Rip sees different things in the village.

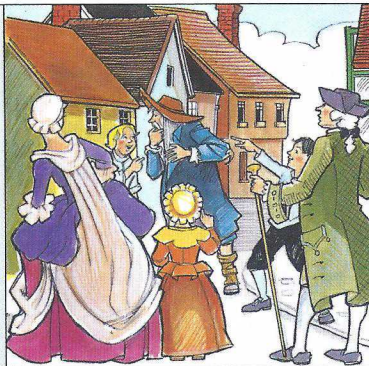


Chapter 2 When Rip opens his eyes, it's a sunny morning. 'Oh, no!' he cries. 'My wife doesn't like me to sleep away from home!'

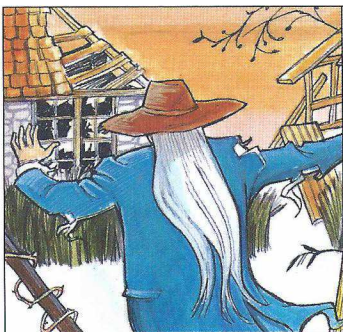


Rip remembers his night on the mountain. He stands up, but finds he can't move very easily. And where's Wolf?

In the village, some children laugh at him. The buildings, the people, and their clothes are all different. Rip feels afraid.



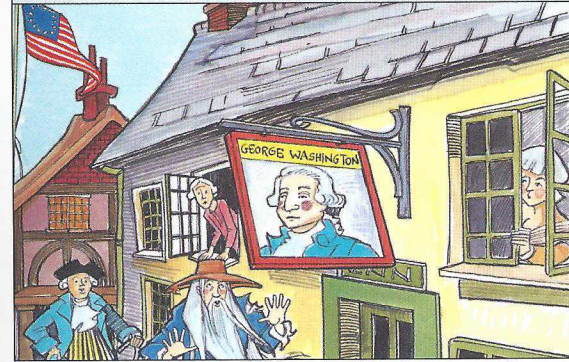
Just then, he puts his hand to his face, and finds he has a long white **beard**!



He finds his house – with no windows or door! And where are his wife and children? Rip doesn't understand.

beard the hair on a man's face

He runs to the village **inn**. Over the door, the picture of **King** George has new clothes and a new name: GEORGE WASHINGTON.



Rip doesn't know any of the people in front of the inn. 'Does nobody here know Rip Van Winkle?' he asks.

'Yes. That's Rip Van Winkle, next to the tree,' one man says. Rip sees a young man in *his* clothes. 'Is that me?' he thinks.



But before Old Rip can speak to him, a young woman next to him says to her **baby**, 'Quiet, Rip!' He hears the baby's name and turns to her.

inn an old name for a hotel where people can eat, drink and stay

king the most important man in a country; the king here is George III, King of England from 1760

baby a very young child