

Children's games

Írta: Vibók Ildi

Illusztrálta: Szalma Edit

The story was inspired by French composer George Bizet's piece, Children's Games (a suite of twelve miniatures, Op 22. for piano four hands). In this piece, considered Bizet's most mature, small scenes and typical games evoke the atmosphere of children's everyday life. The QR codes contain links to the given miniatures.

1.

On this picture you can see George Bizet, the famous French composer. Granny says he was a real game master. He composed lots of beautiful music pieces, and there is even one about toys. It is called Children's Games.

It is great that Granny has showed me this music, because when I listen to it, it is easier for me to invent dream games.

2.

These are my real toys. Earlier I could play with them all day long but then suddenly my new desk has moved in, with a mountain of books, a heap of notebooks as big as an elephant and a bag that is so big, I can only carry it on my back. I have a timetable, full of important stuff and now I have to deal with them all day long. Luckily, there is nothing scheduled for the nights, so I can play. In my dreams.



3.

For example, Monday I play with my favourite spinning toy, Spinny. It is stripy with a few dots, but they are only visible when Spinny rests. When it spins, the colours are totally different, and the dots disappear. It becomes like a small planet, only Spinny can humm. If I want to, I wind it up, stand next to it, spread my arms and we spin and spin, spin together. I learnt humming from Spinny. Super quietly.



4.

When spinning tires me out, I have tea with Dorci doll. She tells me what had happened in the nursery all day and asks me to move Mr.Trapp, the plush rat to the shelf below. Not because Dorci is afraid of Mr.Trapp, but he has such big teeth...

I tell Dorci about Maths lesson and the centimetre, I read out a few letters we learnt that day, then I change Dorci's clothes, comb her hair and put a bow on her ponytail.



5.

On Tuesdays I travel because I have two magic horses. One is dapple grey, is called Applesauce, and it used to be Mummy's, so it is a bit tatty, but that is visible only in daylight. Her hair gleams in the night, her mane sparkles, her eyes shine and is just as beautiful as Snowflake, who is snoot black and I got it last Christmas. We have already travelled around the world a few times.



6.

If we feel like it, we go to Africa and say hello to the giraffes or wave to the penguins in Antarctica. Or jump out to space and ride along the Milky Way.

But if we only wander around here, I take Breeze.



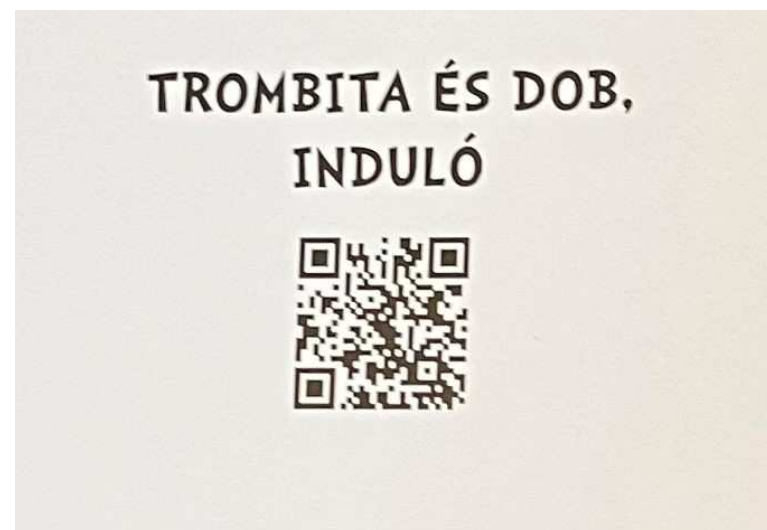
7.

Breeze is the fastest dragon in town. The smallest waft can lift him up, but he is not afraid even of tornadoes! I hold on to his long, colourful tail, he lifts up and soon we stumble and totter between the rooftops. We knock on Mrs.Linka's top window, we bring sausage to the cat by the chimneys and sometimes we fly out of the town, to a meadow where we pick flowers and I make wreaths.

8.

On Wednesdays I am a real majorette. I wear my twirly skirt and my lacy petticoat and Mummy's shoes. The shoes have high heels and are red. I march in the front row and I don't stumble, not even once. I spin my baton, sometimes I throw it up quite high, but I always catch it and I sing. Mummy and the others clap, the spectators throw flowers. We march around the schoolyard, too. You can hear the drums and trumpets, even year six are having a blast.

The show is so beautiful that the headteacher announces extra school break and orders that from now on we have zoology instead of Maths. At the end of the march we stop at the square and we take out our bubble blowers.



Gyermekjátékok I Írta: Vibók Ildi I Illusztrálta: Szalma Edit I Fordította: Forrai Csilla I Csimota Könyvkiadó I www.papirsinhaz.hu

9.

The spectators have bubble blowers, too. Misu blows the first one, he is my best friend, and after him, we all blow our bubbles. The giant, colourful bubbles just fly and float in the air, one lands on the headteacher's nose, but he is not bothered. Rather, he starts singing. Then Misu and I blow an enormous bubble that is big enough for both of us to sit in. The bubble lifts up with us, all the way to the church tower. We wave to the weathervane and carry-on flying. From up high, everything is visible! The whole world!



10.

On Thursdays I go exploring. I hang my telescope around my neck, I grab my backpack, take my compass into my hands and scientifically explore the poles. All four poles: North, South, West, and East. The last two are the hardest, because nobody has ever discovered them. I put up my tent in the West pole, then I go to the East. I quickly discover my timetable on my desk, I cross out the afterschool lessons, and instead I put in Dorci, Breeze and the others. Granny told me that the truly great explorers change the world, because they are allowed to do so.



11.

On Fridays I play having guests. I invite Daddy, Mummy and Granny and Mrs. Linka, who makes the world's best cake, fortunately she brings some now. They have to knock on the door, and I blindfold them right there. Daddy steps on a building block, but he doesn't mind. Granny accidentally sits on Mummy's lap. Then we take the blindfolds off and we watch two slide films while eating cake and drinking lemonade.



12.

When Daddy and Mummy cannot play in my dreams, I play alone. I take my skipping rope with me, it has a smiley toad handle. I skip down the stairs, out of the house, along the pavement, all the way to the playground. The other children are skipping there too, all whose parents or grandparents cannot play with them. When we have enough of skipping, we sit down and discuss whatever has happened. Just like the grown-ups.



13.

Fortunately, there is no school on Saturdays, and there are no afterschool lessons either, because even teachers have children, and everybody teaches their own children at home on Saturdays, and I can play that finally I am a grown up. I eat chocolate cake for breakfast, then I sweep up the crumbs and call Misu over. We drink tea, he builds a big blockhouse, I furnish it, then we play board games until evening. Then his Mum comes and collects him.



14.

On Sunday we have lunch at Granny's, the three of us only: Mummy, Daddy and I, but Granny keeps forgetting this and cooks the whole house full.

I take Dorci with me, dress her up nicely, because Granny has three antique porcelain dolls, who are very old now, but their dresses are beautiful, they even have fans. And while we have lunch, the dolls can go to the ball.



15.

Sometimes we take Misu with us, but then things are not calm anymore, because when Granny's big mud scraper attacks the dancers, Misu puts on his armour, and grabs his sword to save us. This is my favourite game. It is better than any dream game.

In the evening we all go home to have a rest. Then Mummy turns on George Bizet's music, I sleep and in my dream I play again.