

Greed.

Scene1.

This scene is set in a child's party. There are a variety of children at the party, together with the mum of the child whose party it is. The scene starts with the children having a go at pin the tail on the donkey.

Narrator 1 The children here are just about to start their first game at the party, try though to work out who is being the greedy person.

Mum Right children the first game we are going to play is pin the tail on the donkey. Now who is going to go first ?

Bir Child Me, I want to go first.

Party 1 No I want to go first.

Bir Child Its my party, and I'm going to go first.

Mum OK, then Sandra you go first.

Bir Child Thanks mummy.

Sandra is blindfolded and takes the tail, though when she puts the tail on the donkey she is a long way off. The other children at the party laugh.

Mum Well better luck next time Sandra.

Bir Child I want another go now !

Mum But you have to let the other children have a go as well.

Bir Child It's my party, and I want another go now !

Mum Don't be so silly, you must let the other children have a turn.

Bir Child If I cannot have my go now I'm not going to play this game anymore.

Mum Well you need to sit over there and watch then.

Right Jason, your go next.

The children need now to rotate, so a couple more have their turns.

Mum Now time for the food.

Are you joining us Sandra ?

Sandra Suppose so.

Jason Can you pass me the crisps please Sandra ?

Sandra takes a large handful out of the dish, leaving only a few crisps and hands it to Jason. Jason tips the last couple of remaining crisps on his plate.

Nathan Sandra's taken all the crisps and there is none left for us.

Mum Don't worry I will go and get some more.

Mum leaves the stage and collects another bag of crisps.

Sandra Mum, MUm, MUM, I feel sick. I need to go to the bathroom.

Mum leaves with Sandra, and after a couple of seconds comes back to the table.

Mum Sorry children, Sandra feels really ill, and she has gone to bed.

Narrator 1 So as you can see, Sandra, even though so had the first go at the game, even though she ate most the food, she missed the rest of the party, just through being greedy.

Scene 2. Set back in the past. King Midas starts off by walking towards the front of the stage. Meeting the goblin.

Narrator 2 Our next story is set a long time in the past, again see if you can spot which person is being greedy and would you fall for the same promise.

Goblin How would you like to have the touch of gold ?

King What do you mean ?

Goblin Well for £1000, everything you touch will turn to gold.

King A thousand pound that's nothing, wait here, I will just go and fetch it.

King gives Goblin the money. Goblin dances and says

Goblin As the old spells are told.
Everything you touch will turn to gold.

King Right, back to the palace to turn the stairs, floor, walls, trees

King Servants bring me some food and wine.

Servant 1 Here's the food for you master.

King *Touches the food, each turns to gold.*

Servant 2 Here's the wine, master. *(Giving the wine to the King.)*

King How can I drink this its solid gold.

King Well I'll leave eating and drinking for now. I'll go and tell my wife about the power I have.

Wife *Bending down behind a table.*
Is that you King Midas.

King Where are you ?

Wife Over here, I'm just picking the jewels to wear tonight.

King I'll come over and give you a hand.

King *Pulls up the Queen, obviously she has been turned to gold.*

King No, no, no. What can I do, I can't eat, I can't drink and I can't even be near people. I thought this power would give me all the happiness in the world. I'll have to go and find the goblin and see if I can turn it all back to what it used to be like.
King walks around and around the stage, looking around as he moves.

Narrator 2 The king travelled for days and days before he eventually caught up with the goblin.

King Can you change back all the gold objects to what they were made of.

Goblin This will cost £10,000 pounds.

King What £10,000 pounds, that's far too much.

Goblin Well don't bother then, let everything stay as it is.

King OK you win, here take the money.

Narrator 2 So in the end the king lost a lot of money for no reason, just because he wanted to be the richest person.

<i>Scene 3.</i>	<i>Starts with a traveller sitting on a seat, the other man approaches from the left.</i>
Narrator 3.	This is also set in the past, and seems to start the same way as the last story. The main character in this story used to be a very kind, generous and helpful person, but as the story goes on you will find he changes for the worst. One day the man was walking down the street, when he saw a strange person on a seat.
Traveller	<i>Approaches the man.</i> Could I have a mouthful of water from your flask.
Narrator 5.	The man being kind, took pity on the person as the day was so hot and gave him a sip from the flask.
Traveller	For your kindness when you arrive back home there will be seven pots of gold on the kitchen floor.
Man	Thank you.
Narrator 4.	The man thought nothing more of the promise. He carried on with collecting the item from the market. Thinking that the sun had affected the person's mind.
Narrator 5.	The man arrived back home, and there as the person had said there were seven pots. Each one filled to the brim with gold apart from the seventh pot, which was only half full.
Man	I know what I'll do I put all the money I earn into the last pot until it is full.
Narrator 4.	So the man started to work all the hours he could, to raise the money to fill the last pot. But as much as he worked he could not fill the pot. So he started to sell his possessions to fill the pot with more gold.
Man	Who will buy this lovely ornament, going for only six pieces of gold.
Buyer 1	I'll give you four pieces.
Buyer 2	I'll give you five pieces.
Man	Won't anyone give me six pieces ? OK then I'll sell it to you for five.
Narrator 3.	The man then rushed home to put the gold into the pot.
Man	Even though I fill the pot more and more with gold the pot seems never to be full.
Narrator 4.	The man stopped doing anything, apart from working to fill the last pot with money. He lost all his friends, as he never had time for them. The man had one final idea to fill the last pot.
Narrator 5.	He emptied the first pot into the last, the height of the gold in the last pot went up, only a little, but it still rose. So he did the same with the other five pots, and by the time he emptied the sixth pot in the last pot was full.
Man	What have I done ? I only now have one full pot of gold. I have no possessions, no friends and I'm hungry, but at least the last pot is full.
Narrator 3.	So the man tried to take some gold to buy food and to buy back his possessions, but however hard he tried, he could not take any gold out of the last pot.
Man	Why can I not take any gold out of this last pot ?
Narrator 4.	At that point there was a knock at the door.
Traveller	Why could you not be content with six and half pots of gold, why did become greedy to fill that last pot of gold. Saving every penny you had, even though you could have spent the rest of your life as a king.
Man	I know not why, but just let me have half this pot of gold and I promise you I will share it with all the people I know.
Narrator 5.	At this point the traveller left, leaving the man with half a pot of gold, which he shared with all his friends.
Narrator 3.	It is better to be content with what you are given, rather than be greedy.

Scene 4. Four mice waiting for some food.

Narrator 6. Once upon a time in a large house there was a family of mice. They were all content on eating the food at night that the humans dropped during the day. One day though a dreadful thing happened to the mouse family, here is what happened.

Mice scratching around on the floor finding pieces of breadcrumbs.

Dad mouse These humans are such messy creatures, they always leave us enough food every night.

Mum mouse But wouldn't it be nice to have some cheese for a change.

Dad mouse Yes, but they very rarely drop cheese on the floor.

Baby mouse I've never had cheese before.

Child mouse It's lovely, the creaminess as it goes down your throat.

Mum mouse I saw some cheese last night, next to the cupboards, on a piece of metal.

Dad mouse But you know what happened to Grand-dad mouse when he took the cheese from the metal thing, the door came down and he couldn't get out. We never saw him again.

Mum mouse But I would so like some cheese, even if there is some risk.

Dad mouse Why can't you be content with the food you are given, why risk your life for something you don't really need ?

Mum and dad leave back to the hole.

Baby mouse Well tonight when we go out for food I'm going to get the cheese, I'm younger and fitter than Grand-dad, I'll get out before the door comes down.

Child mouse But you might become trapped.

Narrator 7. That night, baby mouse secretly went to the cupboards to get the cheese from the cage. Knowing that if mother mouse could escape then she would have no problem. She arrived at the cage.

Baby mouse Now I'll find out how good this cheese really is.

Starts to gnaw at the yellow cheese.

Child mouse Right you have had some cheese now quickly come out before the door closes.

Baby mouse I'll just take a couple more mouthfuls then I'll be right out.

Takes a couple more gnaws.

Seems such a shame to leave the very last bit, as it is such a lovely piece of cheese.

Child mouse Don't take the last bit of cheese !

Baby mouse takes a last couple of bites.

Narrator 6. Too late.

Just as baby mouse takes the last piece of cheese the door slams behind her.

Child mouse cannot do anything to help, the door has shut hard behind baby mouse. Just then she hears the kitchen door open. Says her final goodbyes and leaves baby mouse caught in the trap.