

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Duchess Bakes a Cake



1. Is *The Duchess Bakes a Cake* a fairy tale? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why, or why not?

2. The duchess wants to make a “*delectable*” cake. Even if you’ve never heard the word *delectable* before, you can probably guess its meaning. What do you think *delectable* means?

**Synonyms** are two (or more) words that mean the same thing. Can you think of a synonym for the word *delectable*?

3. What is the problem in the story?

How is the problem solved? (What is the problem’s solution?)

4. How do the characters in the story arrive at the solution? (What makes them think of it?)

Did you figure out the solution before they did? If so, when?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Duchess Bakes a Cake

### Afterword:

*The Duchess Bakes a Cake* is not really a fairy tale. It is just a funny story.

It may seem that without magic the cake could not have risen so high. And, of course it couldn't have. It would have collapsed under its own weight long before it reached the clouds—even without the duchess sitting on top.

But it *is* true that the more yeast you put in dough, the faster and higher it will rise. When the author has the cake rise up to the clouds and carry the duchess with it, she is just merely *exaggerating* what would happen if too much yeast was added to the cake dough. She is telling what's called a tall-tale.

A **tall-tale** is an exaggerated story that otherwise fits in with the reader's real world experience. (Adding too much yeast really does make dough rise more than it should.) We will be reading some more tall-tells this year. Maybe you have already read some on your own.