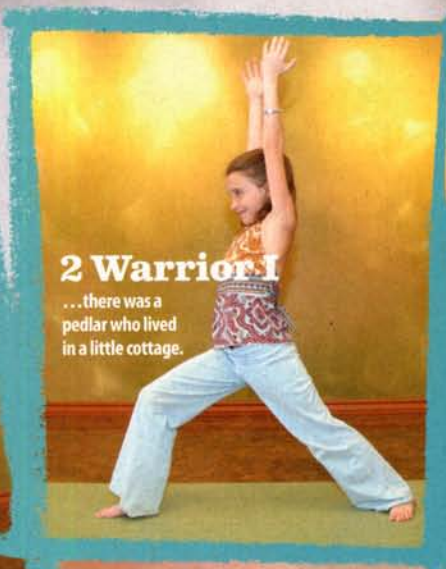


# The Pedlar's Dream

This story is a popular English folk tale, with themes about following your dreams and believing in yourself





## 4 Downward dog

The pedlar didn't mind, though, and he was very happy living there with his little dog.



## 5 Triangle (up hill & down dale)

One night, the pedlar had a dream that a voice was calling to him: "Go to London Bridge. Go to London Bridge!" Next morning the pedlar woke up and said, "What a strange dream! Well, London is so far away, I can't possibly make that journey," and he went about his business selling his wares in the town.

That night, the pedlar had the same dream: again the voice called to him: "Go to London Bridge!" The pedlar once again ignored it. The next night, however, it happened again! The same dream and this time the voice seemed to be shouting at him: "Go to London Bridge!" This time the pedlar thought, "I can't stand this any more. I must be crazy, but I'm going to London Bridge!" So he said goodbye to his little dog and his apple tree and set off. He went this way, and that way; up hill and down dale.



## 6 Bridge

Finally, the pedlar reached London and found London Bridge; what on earth was he supposed to do now?



## 8 Reclining hero

But still nothing happened. It began to get dark, so the pedlar lay down and slept.

## 7 Chair

The pedlar sat down and thought; and he sat, and he sat, and he sat. But nothing happened. So he sat, and he sat, and he sat some more.



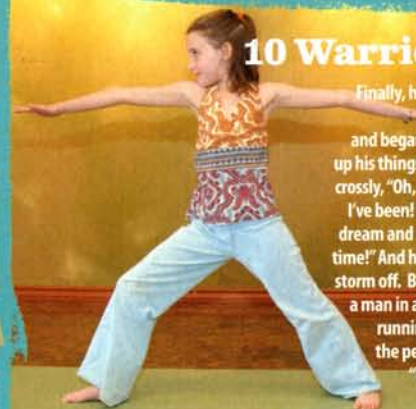
## 9 Chair

The next morning the pedlar awoke to a fine day. All day he sat and waited.



## 10 Warrior II

Finally, he ran out of patience and began gathering up his things muttering crossly, "Oh, what a fool I've been! Following a dream and wasting my time!" And he started to storm off. But just then a man in a shop came running out after the pedlar crying, "Wait, wait!"



## 11 Bound angle

The shopkeeper said, "I've seen you sitting here for two days: I can't help wondering what on earth you are doing and what you are waiting for?" The pedlar was embarrassed. "To tell the truth, I kept having this dream over and over again, night after night that said, "Go to London Bridge!" Finally I thought I had to do something. But this is all I got! Nothing!"

The shopkeeper laughed: "Oh, yes! Dreams are so silly! You know, many years ago I used to have a dream over and over, just like you. I dreamed there was a little cottage way out in the country with an apple tree whose roots were pushing up one side of the house, and beneath that apple tree was treasure!"

But the pedlar was thinking. Almost before the shopkeeper had finished speaking, he was bidding farewell. "Goodbye — and thank you!" When the pedlar got home he grabbed a spade and started to dig. What do you think he found? Treasure! In his own back garden! And all because he believed in a dream. \*

**TO THINK ABOUT:** What kinds of dreams do you have? Do you remember them? Encourage children to talk about and try to remember their dreams at night.