

The Swiss Family Robinson

JOHANN Wyss

READERS BOOK

Hip Hip

Second Edition

Hooray!

5

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Chapter 1

A storm at sea

It was almost midnight when the family heard a terrible noise. They all woke up suddenly from a deep sleep. For a moment, they almost forgot that they were on a ship, far from home. Mom, Dad, and their four sons ran to the deck of the ship and looked at the sky. It was dark, and there was a huge storm. Everyone was leaving the ship quickly in little boats.

"The ship isn't sinking," said Dad, "so we'll be safe until the morning." They decided to sleep on the ship for one more night.





The family did not sleep well. Mom and Dad kept running to the deck, and their sons, Fritz, Ernest, Franz, and Jack, woke up every time they heard a noise.

In the morning the weather was much better. Mom noticed that there was a small island near the ship. "I can see land!" she said.

"We must go there as soon as we can," said Dad.

"But there are no little boats left," said Mom.

"We can make a raft!" cried Fritz.

"That's a good idea," said Dad. "We can use things from the ship."

The family started to make a raft to take them to the island. First, they collected some wood from the ship, and then they looked for tools. Fritz found some hammers and nails. They worked hard to make a raft big enough to carry them all.

"It looks great," they said, when they finished the raft, but it was now late at night.

Mom said, "We should eat dinner and go to sleep. We'll leave in the morning." Dad agreed.

"We need to rest," he said. "Tomorrow we're going to make our new home on the island."



The next morning was bright and sunny. The family looked in the ship for useful things to take. Fritz found some more tools, his brothers found some knives, and Mom found some books. Dad put some blankets onto the raft. "We can use these to make a tent," he said.

There were animals on the ship, too: cows, sheep, chickens, dogs, and a donkey. "We'll come back for them later," Mom said, and she gave the animals some food and water.

The boys were excited. "Let's go!" they shouted. The family climbed on the raft and sailed toward the island.





As they sailed closer to the island the children began to feel a little frightened. "There might not be any food to eat!" cried Jack.

"Don't worry," said Mom, pointing to the island. "I can see palm trees, so there must be coconuts."

Finally, the raft came to a small, sandy beach. Mom was right. There *were* palm trees! The boys ran up the beach and quickly returned with armfuls of coconuts. While Mom and Dad made a tent out of the blankets for them all to sleep in, Fritz and his brothers went fishing in the ocean.

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 tropical island. Join them as they learn
 how to live a strange new life.

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