

MEET FLAT HENRY!

You can go safely on your way and never even stumble.
(Proverbs 3:23)

WHO IS HENRY AND WHY IS HE FLAT?

Henry is a little brown hedgehog who was named after his dad, who was named after his dad, who was named after his dad, who was the caretaker of a beautiful castle in the Black Forest in Germany.



One day, Henry was playing in the armory where all the suits of armor were stored. He knew he was only supposed to look at it, but that day, Henry decided to try on one of the helmets. *It was so shiny!* Henry reached up to pull the helmet from the shelf and before he could stop it, the helmet tumbled down and landed right on top of him.

“Ooofff!” said Henry. Nothing hurt, so he slid out from under the helmet and looked at himself in its shiny reflection. Henry couldn’t believe his eyes! *He was flat!*

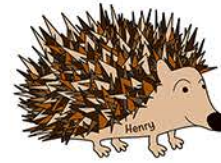
He stood there for a long while trying to figure out what to do. First, Henry took a huge breath, puffed out his cheeks, and tried to reinflate himself — but he was still flat. Next he rolled himself up and rolled across the armory floor until he was so dizzy, he had to stop — but Henry was still flat.

Then Henry thought of the moat, maybe the water would make him round again. So he jumped off the drawbridge, but there was *no splash!* Henry just floated lazily through the air and landed on the water, flat.

“What am I going to do?” Henry called out to a goose standing on the bank. The goose hissed at him, and Henry immediately remembered his Uncle Sam. If anybody could help him, it would be Sam! Henry’s uncle invented all kinds of amazing things in his workshop, so Henry dried himself off, slid into an envelope, and mailed himself to his Uncle Sam.



He didn’t know it then, but that was just the beginning of Flat Henry’s grand adventure!



GETTING FLAT HENRY READY FOR HIS GRAND ADVENTURE



STEP 1: WRITE MORE OF HENRY’S STORY

Now it’s your turn to write part of Henry’s story.

- How old is he?
- What is his favorite food?
- What is his favorite color?
- Does he have sisters or brothers?
- Does he play a musical instrument?
- Does he play a sport?
- What makes Henry sad?
- What makes him laugh?
- What scares Henry?
- What can’t he wait to try?



STEP 2: BUILDING HENRY’S ITINERARY



This is fun! You get to choose who Henry will visit next. With your mom or dad, create a short list of relatives for Flat Henry to visit. Your name and address will be the last one on the list, so Henry will come back to you when his journey is finished.

Once his itinerary is complete, slide Flat Henry into an envelope with the itinerary and send Henry off on his grand adventure. When Henry arrives, he will join your loved one for a few days, having a fun adventure. When your loved one has finished writing or drawing their short story about the adventure, they will tuck their story, the itinerary (with their name checked off), and Flat Henry into an envelope and send him on to his next stop.

STEP 3: COLLECT FLAT HENRY’S STORIES AND MAKE A BOOK

There are lots of ways to do this! Here are a few ideas:



- attach each story to a piece of construction paper, make a fun cover, and staple the left side together as a binding.
- ask your mom, dad, or an older sibling to type the stories and print them out for you. Decorate the pages and cover with crayons, markers, or glitter glue. Staple the left sides together as a binding.
- ask a grown-up to help you buy a journal. Over the next several weeks, copy each story into the journal, adding drawings and borders to create your very own handwritten Flat Henry book.

Have fun! Pull out your crayons, colored pencils, glitter glue, or paint, and create! You are God’s incredible work of art. Creativity is in your DNA.

