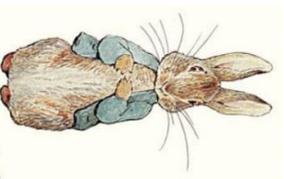




MD 2006



Peter Rabbit



[Link to The World of Peter Rabbit](#)

Once upon a time there were four little Rabbits, and their names were Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail and Peter....



On September 4th, 1893, Beatrix Potter wrote a letter to a little boy called Noel Moore. Noel was only five years old and because he was only just learning how to read, Beatrix wrote a picture letter.

The letter was all about a naughty little rabbit called Peter. Noel was ill in bed and so Beatrix wrote to him....

“My dear Noel, I don't know what to write to you, so I shall tell you a story about four little rabbits....”

Peter was a real rabbit.

Beatrix said “My rabbit Peter is so lazy, he lies before the fire in a box, with a little rug.”



Her other rabbits were called Josephine, Mopsy, Flopsy, Benjamin and Cottontail.

Benjamin was sometimes kept on a lead to stop him running away!



Beatrix Potter was born in London on July 28th 1866. Her family were rich.

Beatrix never went to school but was taught at home by a governess. She was very lonely so she kept lots of pets and there were always animals in the schoolroom. Beatrix loved to draw them.

The Potter family used to take long holidays in the country every year and Beatrix and her younger brother Bertram would go off looking for new creatures to add to their collection. There were bats, mice, rabbits, newts, lizards, tortoises, snakes and birds. Beatrix sketched them over and over again.



Some of Beatrix's little books began as letters she wrote to children.



This is the first page of a letter she wrote in September 1893 to that little boy called Noel Moore. It tells the story of Peter Rabbit for the first time!

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