

# WHO FOUND THE GOLDEN COINS? (MATCH)

By Carole L. Cooney

## Definitions

Match: a person or thing similar to another.	The twins were a perfect match.
Match: a slender piece of flammable material	The match had a huge flame.
Match: a contest between two or more parties	The golf match was rained out.
Match: to compare favorably with	No one can match his sharp wit.

Setting: The King's Chamber

Narrator

King

Prince Hugh

Prince Howard

- Narrator:** Once upon a time there was a King who called his twin sons into his private chamber.
- King:** Come! my sons, sit at my knee. Today, I'm going to give you a test to see which of you is worthy of the throne when you grow up.
- Hugh:** Why, Father? I know that my brother, Howard, is three seconds older than I. He surely is heir to the throne.
- King:** In my judgment, you are both a perfect match in mind, body and skills. I think a test is best to know who shall be the next King.
- Howard:** But, father. No one can match the fact that I'm the oldest. A test is not fair!
- King:** I shall determine what is fair and what is not. So, my sons, here is the test. It is either to the east or west that you must travel to find a secret treasure chest in the palace garden. In the box you will find a matching pair of golden coins. Whoever finds them and brings them to me, he shall be the next King.
- Howard:** How do I know if I'm to travel east or west?
- King:** Patience, my son. I shall hand each of you a golden match. Strike it against the ruby stone lying on the table. The flame will answer your question, Howard.
- Narrator:** The Princes stood in front of the King. He handed each a golden match. They then walked to the ruby stone.
- King:** Howard, since you are the oldest, you may strike the golden match first.
- Howard:** Of course, Father. (thinking) "Hugh is no match for me. This test is a simple match between my superior skills and the fair skills of my brother."
- Narrator:** Howard raised the golden match and swiftly struck the ruby stone. A huge flame rose into the air and drifted toward the west of the room.
- King:** Well done, Howard. See, it goes to the west. Now, it is your turn, Hugh.
- Hugh:** Thank you, Father. I shall do my very best.

**Narrator:** Hugh lifted the golden match and gently drew it across the ruby stone. A small flame rose above the ruby stone then drifted toward the east of the room. Howard laughed at the size of the flame. He was now certain he would win the test.

**King:** Ahhh, the flame goes to the east. Well done, my sons. Now, take one servant and go find the secret treasure chest with the golden coins and bring them to me.

**Narrator:** Howard thought this was such an easy test that he sent his servant into the west section of the palace grounds to search for the treasure chest while he...

On the other hand, Hugh and his servant dashed to the east section of the palace to search the grounds together. Looking carefully under every bush they soon spotted...

*What happened next?*

Using as many definitions of match as you can, end the play.