

The Lion and the Mouse

Aesop's Fables – Douglas Perkins – 2020

Not so long ago, a lion lay sound asleep in the jungle. His great head was resting on his giant paws. A little mouse came walking by. She didn't have good eyesight, and somehow she began to walk across his back. She was standing on his nose when she looked down and realized just where she was. She squeaked, jumped, and tried to run away, but the big lion quickly woke up and laid his huge paw on her tail. He was angry, because he had been dreaming of eating a zebra, the most delicious animal to be found, until this mouse decided to use his face for a sidewalk.

"Don't kill me!" begged the poor mouse. "Please let me go. Some day, I will definitely pay you back."

The lion thought about this and laughed. After all, how could a little mouse like that ever help him? Lions are kings of the jungle, and all mice do is run around squeaking and eating cheese. But that day he felt like doing something nice, and he let the mouse go.

Some days later, the lion was out searching for zebras. He hadn't eaten for a day, and the smell of zebras was in the air. As he was walking by a tree, he got caught in a net. It was a hunter's net, a trap to catch lions, and he was in the middle of it. The lion tried to get free, but he was stuck. He roared in anger.



Not far away, the mouse heard the lion's roar. She recognized his voice, ran over to him, and chewed through the ropes until he was free.

"You laughed when I said I would help you," said the Mouse, "and now I have."

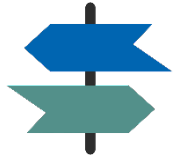
Kindness is never wasted.

The Lion and the Mouse Questions

Name:_____ Class:_____ Number:_____

PART 1 Match the word and definition.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---|
| 1. asleep | _____ | A. a person that looks for animals and kills them |
| 2. eyesight | _____ | B. forest |
| 3. squeak | _____ | C. to bite on something again and again |
| 4. beg | _____ | D. a thing used to catch animals |
| 5. definitely | _____ | E. in a deep sleep |
| 6. chew | _____ | F. a loud and high sound made by small animals |
| 7. hunter | _____ | G. surely |
| 8. trap | _____ | H. to ask someone for something really needed |
| 9. roar | _____ | I. the ability to see |
| 10. jungle | _____ | J. a loud and deep sound made by wild animals |



PART 2 Answer the questions in sentences.

1. Why did the mouse walk on the lion's back?

2. Why did the lion laugh when the mouse said that she could help him?

3. Who was caught in the hunter's trap?

4. How did the mouse help the lion?

5. Why did the mouse help the lion?
