

2.4 Story Time - Unity Is Strength.

- Listen, repeat and enact.

An old man lived with his four sons in a village. The old man was worried. His sons were always quarrelling with each other. They would never agree on any point. The old man had tried telling them many times to avoid fighting. But his sons would not listen to him. They would fight for everything.



One day, he called his four sons. He gave them a small bundle of sticks, and asked them to break the bundle into two. “It’s so easy,” said the eldest son. He took the bundle and tried to break it. He was surprised that the sticks in the bundle remained unbroken. He used more force. He tried again and again. But the bundle of sticks did not break. He gave up.

Then his brothers tried to break the bundle of sticks. They tried hard but they too could not succeed.

Their father smiled and asked them to untie the bundle. Now the sticks were separated. He gave each brother a single stick and asked them to break it. Each of the sons took a stick in hand. In no time, the sticks were bent and broken.

“A single stick is easily broken. If four sticks come together, it is impossible to break them. If you are united, help each other and live in friendship, you will be stronger than any enemy. But if you are divided among yourselves and keep fighting, you will be as weak as the single stick in that bundle. Remember,



“United we stand, divided we fall.” said the old man, giving his sons a meaningful look.

This time the brothers learnt a lesson. They stopped fighting with each other. They started to work together as a team and that really helped them.



a. Answer the following.

1. Why was the old man worried?
2. What happened when the sons tried to break the bundle of the sticks?
3. What happened with the single sticks?
4. What lesson did the sons learn?

b. Arrange the following words in a proper order to make a meaningful sentence.

1. worried man was old The.
The old man was worried.
2. everything for fight They would .

.....
3. sticks of The bundle did break not.

.....
4. easily broken stick A single is.

.....
5. stand, divided fall United we we.

c. Find the small words hidden in the big word.

1. everything - every thin very thing
2. friendship -
3. separated -
4. together -

d. Read the following sentences. Change the coloured words with new words to form a new sentence.

1. The old man was worried.
- a. The young woman was happy.
2. He took the bundle and tried to break it.

.....
3. An old man lived with his four sons in a village.

.....
4. This time the brothers learnt a lesson.

.....
5. He gave them small sticks.

e. Write the words that tell us something about the words at the center.



• **Look and say.**

worried

quarrelling

agree

bundle

sticks

surprised

unbroken

impossible

united

friendship

