

The Spider and the Bird

There was once a very big spider. If a bug got into his web, he would **examine** it. However, he didn't eat the bug right away. He asked the bug a question first. It was always **quite** a difficult **puzzle**. If the bug's answer was correct, he let it go. If not, he ate it.

One day, a small bird on a **journey** flew into the spider's web. The spider couldn't **imagine** eating a bird. It was so big! But his **hunger** was too great. He said to the bird, "If you cannot give me a **specific** answer, I will eat you."

The bird laughed. "I could eat you!" But the bird was **actually** scared. She had used all her energy trying to get out of the web. And a spider's **bite** can be very **effective** in killing animals.

"Please don't eat me," the bird said. "I would **rather** make a **deal** with you."

"OK," the spider said. "If your answer is right, I will let you go. If not, you must give me a **gift**. It must be something of great **value**."

The bird said, "You can pick anything you want to eat. I will find it for you." The spider agreed.

"Where can you take a **trip** to the **coast**, the **desert**, and the mountains at the same time?" the spider asked.

The bird asked, "Does this place have **earthquakes**?" But the spider did not say anything. "I can see those places when I fly. Is the 'sky' the right answer?"

"**False!**" said the spider. "The answer is Hawaii! Now you must find some bugs for me."

The spider climbed on the bird's back.

They flew and ate bugs together. They

took a **tour**

of the

forest. Then

the bird took

the spider home.

From that day on,

they were friends.

And they never

tried to eat each other

again.

