

## The Snail and the cherry tree

Once upon a time, in a pretty little garden. There stood a magnificent cherry tree. The cherries looked like small red rubies shining brightly as they hung from the tree. Now in this garden, there also lived a very tiny little snail. Her name was Shelly. As Shelly strolled through the garden, admiring the beauty her stomach suddenly growled. Oh! I ate so little during winter I could eat almost anything. But what will I find in this huge garden? She looked around and her eyes then fell on the huge Cherry tree. Oh the cherry tree! I shall eat all the sweet and juicy cherries on it! I hope they're tasty. So Shelly crawled to the tree and began her climb. As she reached onto the twisted roots, a frog popped out from behind the bushes it was Shelly's friends Mr. Croaky.

*-Hello There Shelly? Where are you going on this wonderful morning?*

*-Oh Hi Mr. Croaky! I am very hungry and want to eat the cherries that grow on the very top of this tree.*

*-CROAK but Shelly my dear. There are no cherries on this tree. There are hardly any leaves.*

*-Maybe not now. But soon when I reach the top, there will be*

*- if you had legs like mine that could jump as fast as I can. You wouldn't have to work so hard. I am off to catch some flies for my breakfast CROAK! Would you like to join me?*

*- Ewww I mean mmm no thanks. I'm sure flies must be a delicious thing to you.*

*- Are you sure? Flies are just as juicy as cherries you know? Maybe even more.*

*- Yes, yes I am sure I don't want that kind of juiciness. Well good bye Mr. Croaky I must go. Enjoy your food.*

As she crawled up slowly and happily she reached the mighty trunk. There she met another friend of hers. Bumble the bee. Bumble came buzzing over as soon as she saw Shelly.

*-Shelly! What are you doing here? Are you here to enjoy the breeze?*

*-Ahaa! No Bumble. I'm here because I want to eat the sweet cherries that grow high on this tree.*

*- Cherries? But they only grow in the summer. Now there are only leaves.*

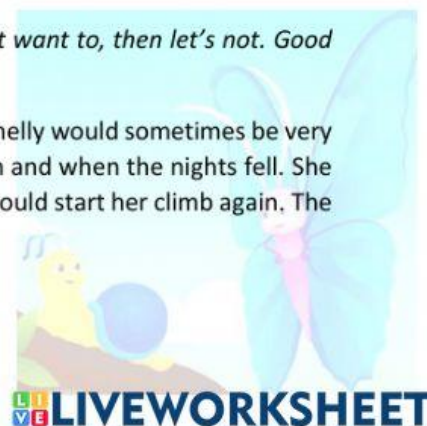
*-Yes, I see the leaves. I know the difference between leaves and cherries thanks. But I am slow. And by the time I reach the cherries, it already be summer.*

*-really? Then I'll help you. When it's time for the cherries ride on my back and I will carry you up FAST through the air!*

*- aa aaa! No, thank you! I would be too dizzy if you took me. I may even fall and roll right off.*

*-You would not fall off at all. It would be a very safe trip. But very well. If you don't want to, then let's not. Good bye! I hope you get the juiciest cherries ever.*

Shelly turned her head and crawled upwards slowly and steadily. During the days Shelly would sometimes be very tired. But she would think of the bright red cherries and would start climbing again and when the nights fell. She would sleep into her shell and take a good night's rest. And the next morning she would start her climb again. The



season was now slowly turning to summer. And little Shelly saw that the tree already had flower buds on it. while she looked she suddenly felt a strong bit of wind on her. It was her friend Wingsy!

*-Oh! Hi Wingsy. You nearly blew me away.*

*-Hello Shelly. Are you here to see the flower buds? They do look pretty, don't they?*

*-Not as amazing as they'll taste when they turn in to the cherries which I so badly want.*

*-Cherries? Is that why you are here? But there are only these flower buds. You have come too early.*

*-No Wingsy. I have not come here early. I am right on time.*

*-If you had wings as huge and magnificent as mine. You could've flown up easily to the top, look at them! Aren't they? Beautiful? Aren't they just so ... AAAAAH!*

*-Bye. Thank goodness I don't have any wings.*

Shelly continued on. There was only one way she was going and that was up. As she reached the branches, she saw the tree was now covered in beautiful white blossoms. Their fragrance filled the air and garden. As she stopped to smell the blossoms. There were two birds sitting and chirping happily to each other.

*-Hey! Isn't that Shelly? Where, where? Ooh! Yes, it is her. How did she reach up here? Hi Shelly! What are you doing here so far up the tree? Isn't it too high for you?*

*-Oh hello! Yes, I have never come so high before. I came here as I wanted to eat the sweet cherries that grow on this tree.*

*-You climbed all the way here for cherries? Wasn't that difficult?*

*-Of course it was. The climb was long and I was so hungry! But every time I thought of the cherries. I kept climbing. And it was also very fun since I also met a lot of friends on my way.*

*-That is very admirable of you. But I feel very sorry for you as there are only blossoms on the tree.*

*-Do not worry. My journey isn't over yet. I still have to climb a little more. Well goodbye you two. I must continue on my way.*

The birds waved goodbye at Shelly as she continued to climb up the branches. Very soon she reached the top of the tree and she was very tired. But as she looked around she was surrounded by the most beautiful red cherries she had ever seen.

*-Wow! They all look so JUICY! Which one should I eat? Oh it doesn't matter! I'll just eat them all! Chomp..chomp. chomppp.*

*Shelly ate and ate until she was so full she could eat no more. She had turned as fat as a cherry herself!*

*-I am sooo full. I am happy that I didn't give up. The climb was so long and hard but the result is extremely delicious!*

And indeed Shelly was happy. She had worked hard and had patience in her climb and efforts. Shelly has shown that if you really want something, you must never give up on it.





**Choose TRUE or FALSE**

1. Shelly live in a beautiful garden.
2. Shelly was angry so that she decided to climb the cherry tree.
3. Bumble is a beautiful butterfly.
4. Mr. Croaky said that he can jump so high and help her.
5. Wingsy is not her friend.

TRUE	FALSE
TRUE	FALSE
TRUE	FALSE
TRUE	FALSE
TRUE	FALSE

**Read and match the pictures. Who said this?**

*1) If you had wings as huge and magnificent as mine. You could've flown up easily to the top, look at them! Aren't they? Beautiful?*



*2) If you had legs like mine that could jump as fast as I can. You wouldn't have to work so hard.*



*3) Then I'll help you. When it's time for the cherries ride on my back and I will carry you up FAST through the air!*



*4) Oh the cherry tree! I shall eat all the sweet and juicy cherries on it! I hope they're tasty.*



*5) Hey! Isn't that Shelly? Where, where? Ooh! Yes, it is her. How did she reach up here? Hi Shelly! What are you doing here so far up the tree? Isn't it too high for you?*

