

LAZY JACK

Once upon a time, there was a boy named Jack who lived with his mother in a small cottage. They were very poor and Jack's mother earned some money by spinning wool to make yarn. Jack did not earn any money. All he did was lay in the sun during warm weather and sit by the hearth in cool weather.

One Monday morning, however, Jack's mother said, 'No porridge until you find some work!'

So Jack got a job with a farmer. On Tuesday, he did odd jobs for a penny. On the way home, he accidentally dropped it in a stream.

'Silly boy!' exclaimed his mother. 'Put it in your pocket next time!'

On Wednesday, Jack worked for a farmer who kept cows. He paid Jack with a jar of milk. Jack put the jar into the largest pocket of his shabby jacket. The milk spilled out on his way home.

'Silly boy!' exclaimed his mother. 'Carry it on your head next time!'

On Thursday, Jack worked for a cheesemaker. He paid Jack with a large block of cream cheese. On the way home, the cream cheese began to melt and some stuck to his hair.

'Silly boy!' exclaimed his mother. 'Carry it in your hands next time!'

On Friday, Jack worked for a baker who paid him with a large tomcat. Jack started carrying it home carefully in his hands. But the cat began to wriggle and scratch him and he had to release it.

'Silly boy!' exclaimed his mother. 'Tie string around it and lead it next time!'

On Saturday, Jack worked for a butcher who paid him with a delicious leg of lamb. Jack tied string to it and dragged it behind him in the dirt.

'Silly boy!' exclaimed his mother. 'Carry it over your shoulder next time!'

On Monday, Jack worked for a cattle farmer. Jack was paid with a donkey, which he put over his shoulders. He staggered past the home of a rich man who had a beautiful daughter. The daughter had never spoken or laughed. But when she saw Jack she laughed and laughed! Her father was very happy and gave Jack permission to marry his daughter.

So, Jack married the beautiful daughter. With his mother, they all lived happily ever after in a large mansion.

1. Lazy Jack was written to:

____(a) persuade ____ (b) inform ____ (c) entertain (d) describe

2. Write THREE characters in the folktale. _____

3. Write X next to the adjective that best describes the main character in the story?

____(a) scary ____ (b) disgusting ____ (c) amusing ____ (d) persevering

4. Order these events as the plot in the story from 1 to 4.

____(a) Jack dragged a leg of lamb behind him.

____(b) Jack moved into a mansion.

____(c) A farmer paid Jack with a donkey.

____(d) Jack's mother told him to get a job.

5. What was the conflict in the story? ____ Jack was smart ____ Jack to sleep ____ Jack needed to help

6. These words are used in the story. Write an antonym for each one.

(a) silly ____ (b) release ____ (c) poor ____

7. Write an X next to the theme of this narrative?

____ a. Do foolish things.

____ b. Take care of other people's items.

____ c. Persevere and never give up.

____ d. Not everyone is your friend.

8. What else might have made the young lady laugh? _____

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