NAME: _____

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Read the short story. Then answer each question.

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

A boy named John was once taking care of some sheep not far from a forest. Nearby was a village, and he was told to call for help if there was any danger.

One day, he thought he would have some fun, and he cried out with all his might, "The wolf is coming! The wolf is coming!" The men came running with clubs and axes to save the boy from the wolf. As they saw nothing, they went home again and left John laughing in his sleeve.

The day before he had had so much fun, John cried out again the next day, "The wolf! The wolf!" The men came again. This time not as many as the first time. Again they saw no trace of the wolf, so they shook their heads and went back.

On the third day, the wolf came in earnest. John cried in dismay, "Help! Help! The wolf! The wolf!" Not a single man came to help him. The wolf broke into the flock and attacked the sheep. Among them was a beautiful lamb that belonged to John. Then he felt very sorry that he had deceived his friends and neighbors, and he grieved over the loss of his pet lamb.

The truth itself is not believed from one who often has deceived.

Questions:

1. Why does the boy shout, "The wolf is coming" the first time?

   A. He saw the wolf coming.
   B. He thought it would be funny.
   C. His father told him to shout "wolf" if he was afraid.

2. Why will no one help the boy when the wolf actually comes?

   A. They were busy working.
   B. They were waiting for the wolf to attack first.
   C. They thought he was fooling them again.

3. What do you think the boy learned by the end of the story?

   A. People won't believe you if you keep fooling them.
   B. People are mean, they don't really care.
   C. To be brave and act responsible.

4. What do the people's actions tell you about how they feel about wolves?

   A. People believe wolves are not dangerous.
   B. People believe wolves are dangerous.
   C. People believe wolves didn't exist.