



Reading Comprehension Worksheet 3 - Aesop's Fables

A Bell for Cat

Once upon a time there lived three friendly mice. They were the happiest mice in the world because they lived together in a peaceful house with an old lady who enjoyed in good food.

The first mouse was called Snowflake. She was really small, pretty and as white as snow. She was the youngest of all three mice. Her favourite season was winter. She liked hiding in the snow. Snowflakes were her best fun and her popular dessert too.

The second one was named Rose. She was bigger and a bit older than Snowflake. She liked being beautiful and wore amazing dresses that she carefully sewn herself. She was as pretty as a picture. All mice always said: »She is the cutest mouse.

The third one was a male, Peanuts. It was a funny name because he was really huge. He was the oldest, the biggest and the fattest too. He liked eating and was always stealing delicious peanuts. He was lazier than other two and he thought he was the smartest.

One day, the old lady's neighbour went on a short holiday and she asked the lady to take care of her cat. When the mice heard the conversation, they got scared. All the mice in neighbourhood knew about that terrible cat. It was catching and eating all of the mice. It was as fast as wind and as cunning as a fox.

"What can we do? What can we do?" asked the three mice. Peanuts called an urgent meeting. "We need to find a way to solve this problem." said the biggest mouse. "How can we keep that hungry cat from catching any of us?" asked the younger mouse.

The mice talked and talked and talked. No one could think of a good way to solve this problem. At least, the youngest mouse stood up. "I know what to do. The cat can sneak up on us because it is so quiet. We should put a bell around the cat's neck. Then we could hear when it is coming and run for cover." said the wise Snowflake.

"Hoorah!" shouted other two mice. "We're saved! We're saved! We'll put a bell on the cat!"

As the younger two mice shouted with joy, the oldest mouse said with a loud voice. "I think a bell on the cat is the best plan. It would give us a chance to escape that hungry cat. But, tell me, just who will put it there?"

The room became very quiet. Each mouse slowly left the room. No one wanted to bell the cat.

1. What is the moral of the story?

- a. A plan isn't any good if can't work.
- b. It's good to have a plan.

2. Answer these questions in short.

a. What was the mice's problem?

b. Why did the mice have a meeting?

c. What was Snowflake's plan?

d. How would putting a bell on the cat help the mice?

e. What happened when Peanuts asked who would put the bell on?

3. Change the underlined parts of the sentences with these words:

escape a terrible sneak bell the cat had a meeting

a. The mice got together to talk. _____

b. The mice wanted to get away from the cat. _____

c. The mice planned to put a bell around cat's neck. _____

d. It was an awful problem. _____

e. The cat would creep up on the mice. _____

