

Read the stories below then answer the questions that follow.

The Little Bat Who Wouldn't Go to Bed by Clara Pierson

Once upon a time, a family of bats lived in a cave in the forest. One night, after flying around and chasing insects, their mother called them to go home and sleep. The youngest bat, however, wanted to stay up and see the forest during the day. His parents tried to convince him that he wouldn't enjoy it, but he refused to listen and flew away.

As he flew, he noticed that his eyesight was not as good in the daylight as it was at night. He also found the songbirds to be too loud and the sun to be too warm. He attempted to fly to a shady spot but ended up tumbling around in the grass.

A crow saw him fall and called his friends to come and see. The other animals in the forest, including rabbits, gathered around and began to taunt the young bat, making fun of his appearance and the fact that he couldn't fly properly. The young bat felt embarrassed and scared, wishing he had listened to his parents' warnings.

Meanwhile, back in the cave, the rest of the bat family was fast asleep. They had a comfortable spot to hang themselves upside down and sleep during the day, while the young bat was stuck in a dangerous situation outside.

After a while, the young bat managed to crawl into a dark corner, away from the taunts of the other animals. He felt relieved to be out of the sun and away from the teasing, but he also felt sad and alone.

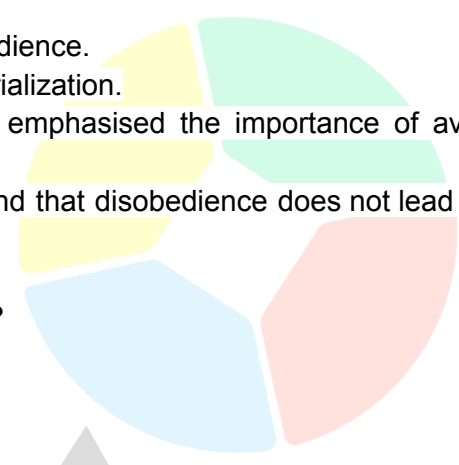
As the day went on, the young bat grew more and more tired. He couldn't find any food to eat and he missed his family. He realised that his parents had been right; the forest was not a safe place for him during the day.

When the sun began to set, the young bat felt a sense of relief. He knew that his family would be waking up soon and he could return to the safety of the cave. As he flew back, he felt grateful for his family and the comfort of their home.

When he arrived back at the cave, his family was surprised to see him. They had been worried about him all day and were relieved to see him safe and sound. The young bat apologised to his parents for not listening to them and promised to never defy them again.

From that day on, the young bat learned to trust his parents' wisdom and counsel. He realised that they only had his best interests at heart and wanted to keep him safe from harm. He also learned to appreciate the safety and comfort of his family and their home in the cave.

Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

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- 1 How did the story use the setting of the forest to reinforce its central theme?**
- A. It highlighted the potential dangers and risks of disobedience.
 - B. It illustrated the importance of urbanisation and industrialization.
 - C. It showcased the advancements in technology and emphasised the importance of avoiding nature.
 - D. It shows that the forest is a safe and secure place, and that disobedience does not lead to any dangers or risks.
- 2 What led to the young bat's eventual predicament?**
- A. His insatiable craving for bugs.
 - B. His desire to scour the forest during the day.
 - C. His habit of staying up late to watch other animals.
 - D. His fear of heights prevented him from flying too high.
- 3 How did the other animals in the forest treat the young bat when he fell to the ground?**
- A. They ignored the young bat and pretended not to see him.
 - B. They were kind to the young bat and offered him food and shelter.
 - C. They made fun of the way he looks and the idea that he could not properly fly.
 - D. They were scared of the young bat and stayed away from him because of his capability to roam in the morning.
- 4 How did the young bat feel when he finally managed to crawl into a dark corner?**
- A. He felt annoyed because the dark corner was not as comfortable as he expected.
 - B. He felt anxious about being alone in the dark corner.
 - C. He felt disappointed that he could not fly like the other bats.
 - D. He felt eased to be out of the sun and away from the teasing.
- 5 How did the young bat feel after he crawled into a dark corner away from the other animals?**
- A. Anxious and angry.
 - B. Mad and frustrated.
 - C. Unhappy and isolated.
 - D. Excited and adventurous.
- 6 How does the story demonstrate the power of familial love and support?**

- A. By showing how the young bat's family abandons him when he gets lost and does not come to his rescue.
 - B. By showing how the young bat's family was concerned about the young bat all day and appeared to see him unharmed when he came home.
 - C. By showing how the young bat's family focused on the importance of individualism and self-reliance.
 - D. By showing how the young bat's family was overprotective and smothering, which hindered his ability to develop independence and resilience.
- 7 **How does the story's resolution, where the young bat returns home and apologises to his parents, contribute to its overall message?**
- A. It backed the implication of hope, arrogance and gratitude.
 - B. It strengthened the significance of faith, self-conceit and gratitude.
 - C. It reinforced the importance of trust, humility, and gratitude.
 - D. It supported the essence of doubt, vanity, and gratitude.
- 8 **What does the young bat learn from his experience in the forest?**
- A. He learned to rely on the knowledge and guidance of other animals, rather than his parents.
 - B. He learned to value his independence over the protection and ease of his home and family.
 - C. He learned to prioritise his own interests above the protection and ease of his home and family.
 - D. He learned to believe in his parents' knowledge and guidance and value the protection and ease of his home and family.

Ethan and the Necklace

Ethan was a young man with an unquenchable thirst for adventure. He had always been drawn to the adrenaline rush of the unknown, the rush of breaking rules and living on the edge. One day, while wandering through the city streets, Ethan spotted a jewellery store. The store was filled with the most exquisite pieces of jewellery he had ever seen.

As Ethan gazed at the stunning jewellery in the store, the temptation to steal one of the pieces was too great for him to resist. He made his way towards one of the necklaces, his heart pounding with excitement and fear. And with a quick glance around the store, he started to reach out for the necklace.

Ethan's heart raced as he reached for the necklace, and a small voice in his head whispered, "This is wrong, Ethan. Don't do it." But his desire for adventure and the thrill of the unknown drowned out the voice, and he reached out to grab the necklace. As he ran through the busy streets, he felt the wind in his hair and the adrenaline pumping through his veins. "I did it!" he exclaimed, feeling invincible.

But fate had other plans for Ethan. Just as he was about to turn a corner, he collided with an elderly woman who was walking by. The necklace fell from his grasp and landed at the woman's feet. "Oh my!" the woman cried, picking up the necklace. "I saw this at the jewellery store down the street. Did you steal it, young man?"

Ethan's heart sank. "N-no, I didn't," he stammered, trying to think of a way out of the situation. But the woman was not convinced. "Help! Police!" she shouted, and before Ethan knew it, he was surrounded by officers. "Why did you steal the necklace?" one of the officers asked, his voice stern. "...I don't know," Ethan replied, feeling ashamed. "You know stealing is wrong, don't you?" another officer chimed in. Ethan hung his head in shame. "Yes, I know. I'm sorry."

The police brought Ethan to the police station so they could reach his parents. To pay for his actions, he was sentenced to community service and probation. As Ethan sat there, he couldn't help but feel like a failure. "I messed up big time," he thought to himself. But then, a thought occurred to him. "I can make this right. I can learn from my mistake and do better."

And so, he did. He completed his community service with diligence and determination, and he learned the importance of honesty and integrity. "I will never make the same mistake again," Ethan vowed to himself. "I will always strive to do what's right, no matter how hard it may be." And with that, he walked out of the police station, ready to start a new chapter in his life.

Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

9 What is Ethan's motivation for stealing the necklace?

- A. His desire to sell the necklace for a high price.
- B. His longing for venture and the rush of the unknown.
- C. His yearning to get through his financial troubles.
- D. His taste for high-quality and expensive jewellery.

10 What internal struggle did Ethan face before taking the necklace?

- A. His indecision of which colour necklace to take.
- B. His craving for pranks and the understanding of freedom.
- C. His desire for thrill and the knowledge of right and wrong.
- D. His want to become cool and the familiarity of liberty.

11 What does the small voice in Ethan's head represent?

- A. It represents his conscience.
- B. It represents his alter ego named Bob.
- C. It represents a tiny radio that plays music in his brain.
- D. It represents the physical pain he feels when he touches the necklace.

12 How did Ethan feel the moment he reached out for the necklace and ran away?

- A. He felt guilty and frustrated.

- B. He felt infuriated and remorseful.
- C. He felt frightened and apprehensive.
- D. He felt unstoppable and enthusiastic.

13 What is the significance of the elderly woman in the story?

- A. She is a figment of Ethan's imagination, symbolising his descent into madness.
- B. She serves as a catalyst for Ethan's actions to be revealed and his punishment to be imposed.
- C. She is a symbol of hope and resilience in the face of adversity and drives Ethan to commit further misdeeds.
- D. She is a comedic relief character who adds humour to the story and represents the theme of youthfulness and vitality.

14 How did Ethan react when he was surrounded by police officers?

- A. He ran away as fast as he could, hoping to outrun the police officers.
- B. He placed his hands up and confessed that he had stolen the necklace.
- C. He dangled his head in humiliation and confessed that he had pocketed the necklace.
- D. He confidently stated that he was the police chief's nephew and demanded to be released.

15 How does Ethan's experience affect his perception of adventure?

- A. He became convinced that adventure is only meant for people with a lot of money and free time.
- B. Ethan now thinks that adventure is only for older adrenaline junkies and people who enjoy putting their lives at risk.
- C. His experience made him think that adventure is always dangerous and that it is better to stay home and be safe.
- D. It caused him to reconsider the end result of his deeds and the significance of responsible behaviour.

16 What did the story of Ethan and the necklace teach us?

- A. It taught us that being selfish and putting our own needs first is the only way to succeed in life.
- B. It taught us that being caught breaking the rules is not a big deal and will not have any lasting consequences.
- C. It taught us the importance of making the right choices and the repercussion of our actions and decisions.
- D. It taught us that stealing is okay if you really need something and that lying is always the best way to get what we want.

The Generous Lion and His Companions

Once upon a time, in a far-off kingdom, there lived a group of animals that included a lion, a giraffe, a monkey, a zebra, and an elephant. They were all different from each other in size, shape, and nature, but they all shared one thing in common - a thirst for adventure.

One day, the group decided to explore the nearby forest. The lion, being the king of the jungle, led the way, while the other animals followed him. As they walked, they came across a lush green meadow filled with juicy fruits and fresh water.

The lion, being the strongest of the group, grabbed the fruits and started eating it. The other animals, who were tired and thirsty from the long journey, were left with nothing. They all looked at each other, disappointed and sad.

Just then, a wise old owl appeared out of nowhere. The owl had seen what had happened and felt sorry for the other animals. He approached the lion and said, "Oh great king, why do you not offer the fruits with your friends? They too are tired and hungry."

The lion, who was so engrossed in eating the fruits, hadn't realised that he had been selfish. He looked at the other animals and realised how hungry and thirsty they were. He felt ashamed of his actions.

The lion exclaimed, "Wow, these fruits are delicious! Hey, have any of you tried these yet?"

The giraffe replied, "No, not yet. We were waiting for you, Your Majesty."

The monkey added, "Yeah, we didn't want to start without you. You're the leader of our pack!"

The lion smiled and said, "Well, in that case, let's all dig in and enjoy these juicy fruits together. I can see there's plenty for all of us."

The wise old owl nodded approvingly and as soon as the lion offered the fruits, the other animals started eating the fruits and drinking the water. They all felt better, and their spirits lifted and continued their journey afterwards.

Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

17 What does the lush green meadow in the story symbolise?

- A. It symbolises the need for a vegan lifestyle.
- B. It symbolises abundance and prosperity.
- C. It symbolises the dangers of pollution and deforestation.
- D. It symbolises the government's control over the citizens.

18 What crisis arose in the story?

- A. The lion started consuming the fruits and left nothing for his comrades.
- B. The lion lost his sense of smell and could not find any food, causing his comrades to starve.
- C. The fruits and leaves had all gone bad, leaving the lion and his comrades with nothing to eat.
- D. The lion refused to eat any meat, causing tension among the other animals in the jungle.

19 What is the significance of the owl in the story?

- A. The owl symbolises bad luck and misfortune.
- B. The owl represents evil and darkness.
- C. The owl represents wisdom and knowledge.
- D. The owl is a sign of impending danger and doom.

20 How does the story illustrate the concept of leadership?

- A. The story illustrates that leadership means always putting your own needs first, even if it means stepping on others to get ahead.
- B. The story illustrates that leadership is all about being the loudest and most assertive person in the room, even if you do not have the best ideas.
- C. The story shows that true leadership means bearing others in mind and being willing to work together as a team.
- D. The story shows that leadership means being a dictator and not listening to others' opinions or ideas.

21 What do the giraffe, monkey, zebra, and elephant learn from the experience?

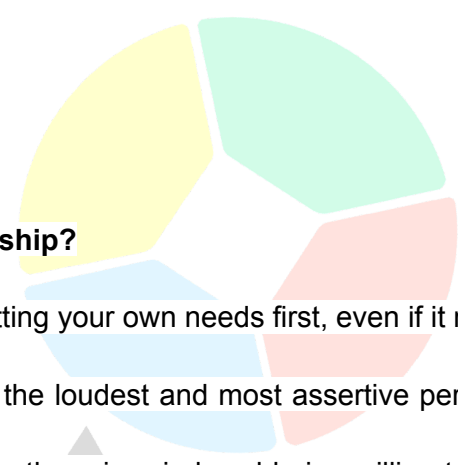
- A. They learned that they should always let others make decisions for them.
- B. They learned that they can speak up for themselves and ask for what they need.
- C. They learned that it is better to keep their needs to themselves and not bother others.
- D. They learned that asking for what they need is a sign of frailty and that they should never do it.

22 How does the lion change throughout the story?

- A. The lion changes from being a carnivore to being a vegetarian, as he realises the harm caused by eating other animals.
- B. The lion becomes more aggressive and violent, attacking his peers and causing chaos in the jungle.
- C. The lion becomes a shy and timid creature, hiding away from his friends and refusing to take part in any activities.
- D. The lion changes from being selfish and unaware of his actions to being more considerate and generous towards his fellows.

23 Why is it important to consider the needs of others?

- A. Because it is important to make others happy, even if it means sacrificing your own needs.
- B. Because it is not important to consider the needs of others, only your own needs matter.
- C. Because it promotes kindness, fairness, and empathy, which are important qualities for a harmonious society.
- D. Because considering the needs of others shows that you are weak and unable to stand up for yourself.



24 What is the moral of the story?

- A. Sometimes, it is okay to be selfish and not share your belongings with others as this will lead to financial success and happiness.
- B. Sharing is important and people should only be kind to others if they can benefit from it.
- C. It is better to keep everything to yourself and not share with others than be generous only when it benefits you personally.
- D. Sharing and generosity are important qualities that promote positive relationships, demonstrate compassion, and have a positive impact on both the giver and the receiver.

The Crab And The Seashells by Harrison Gore

A Hermit crab and a wise seahorse live together in a small cave under the sea. One day, the crab went to the house of the seahorse and asked for his help to find a new shell. The seahorse agreed and accompanied the crab on his search.

As they were walking along the seafloor, they came across a small cave, and inside they could see a seashell in the dark. The crab took the shell outside to have a closer look, but he didn't like it. It had blue and red spots all over it, and even though the inside was smooth and clean, it was not good enough for him.

The seahorse tried to convince the crab that it was a pretty shell, but the crab refused to listen. So, they continued their search for the perfect shell.

They soon found a beautiful white shell with a green swirl, and the inside was even smoother and cleaner than the last one they had seen. However, the crab was still not satisfied and rejected it.

The seahorse couldn't understand why the crab was being so difficult. He thought the shell was gorgeous, but the crab had his own ideas of what was perfect.

As they were swimming through a coral reef, a great fish suddenly appeared. The crab, in a panic, grabbed the nearest shell he could find and pushed himself into it. The fish tried to bite through the shell, but it was too hard, and the fish eventually swam away.

When the crab finally looked at his shell, he realised it was ugly, dirty, and purple. When he tried to take it off, he couldn't because the inside was too dirty and sticky.

The seahorse then said, "Crab, you'll never find the best shell because there isn't one."

The crab finally realised that he had been too focused on finding the perfect shell and had not appreciated what was in front of him. He had missed out on the beautiful shells that he had already seen, and now he was stuck in an ugly, dirty shell.

Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

25 What is the significance of the seahorse?

- A. He acts the role of a companion to the crab and they only swim together for fun.
- B. He plays the role of a discerning and patient mentor to the crab.
- C. He works as a symbiotic parasite that feeds off the crab's nutrients and harms it in the process.
- D. He serves as a nuisance to the crab, constantly getting in its way and causing trouble.

26 Why does the crab reject the first two shells that he comes across?

- A. Because he only likes green spots on the first shell, and he finds the second shell bad as it has not been blessed by a sea god.
- B. Because he does not like the size of the first shell, and he refuses to try the second shell because he thinks it looks distasteful.
- C. Because he dislikes the first shell due to the blue and red spots, and is also dissatisfied with the second shell, as it is not purple.
- D. Because he does not like the blue and red spots on the first shell, and he finds the second shell not good enough.

27 How does the seahorse feel about the shells that the crab rejects?

- A. He is afraid of the shells and swims away when the crab rejects them.
- B. He feels sad and tries to comfort the shells when the crab rejects them.
- C. He thinks that the shells are beautiful and tries to convince the crab to take them.
- D. He feels jealous of the shells and wishes he could use them to build his own home.

28 What does the great fish symbolise in the story?

- A. It symbolises the importance of clean water in the ecosystem.
- B. It symbolises the dangers and challenges that the crab faces in his life.
- C. It symbolises the protagonist's fear of water and his inability to overcome it.
- D. It symbolises the corrupt nature of the fishing industry and the harm it causes to marine life.

29 How does the crab react when he was faced with danger?

- A. He played dead until the predator left.
- B. He tried to negotiate a peace treaty with the predator.
- C. He panicked and grabbed the nearest shell he could find.
- D. He challenged the predator to a game of rock-paper-scissors to settle the matter.

30 How did the crab's stubbornness affect his search for the perfect shell?

- A. It made him ignore shells completely and try to find a new home in a puddle of mud.
- B. It made him search only for shells that were too big for him to fit into.
- C. It made him choose shells that were already inhabited by other creatures.
- D. It made him reject beautiful shells that could have been perfect for him.

31 How does the story illustrate the importance of acceptance and gratitude in our lives?

- A. When the hermit crab strives for the perfect shell, even if it means being unhappy with what we have.
- B. When the hermit crab compared himself to others and their shells, rather than being grateful for what we had.
- C. When the hermit crab never settled for less, even if it means being unhappy, because there is always a better shell out there somewhere.
- D. When the hermit crab found happiness and contentment in his less-than-perfect shell and that there is no such thing as a perfect shell.

32 What does the story teach us about the importance of gratitude?

- A. The story teaches us that gratitude is a sign of weakness.
- B. The story teaches us that we should be grateful for what we have and not take it for granted.
- C. The story teaches us that success comes from our own efforts rather than being grateful for the support of others.
- D. The story teaches us that we should focus on getting more and more without being satisfied with what we have.

Scholarly