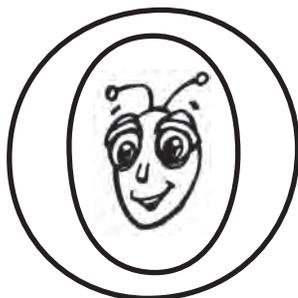


An Aesop Fable

Aesop was a famous story-teller who lived about 2500 years ago in Greece. Each of his many stories, often about animals, points out a rule of behaviour that we should or should not follow. This rule is called the *moral* of the story.

The Ant and the Grasshopper



One summer's day, in a lush field, a grasshopper was enjoying himself in the sunshine. He gaily chirped as he hopped around. "This is the life," he said. Just then he noticed an ant carrying a grain of wheat upon its back. As the ant struggled under the weight of the wheat the grasshopper said, "Why don't you come and play with me? Why do you want to work so hard?"

"I'm sorry, but I can't stop to play," the ant replied. "I am busy storing food for the winter."

"Winter is a long way off and we have plenty of food. Come and play," persisted the grasshopper.

But the ant stuck firm and replied, "No, I must prepare for the winter months now and I suggest you do the same." With that, the ant went on its way gathering food, while the grasshopper played.

"I can't understand it. Why would you want to work all day instead of enjoying yourself?" the grasshopper thought to himself.

Time passed and soon winter arrived. The grasshopper was cold and found himself dying of hunger. Too weak to move, the grasshopper saw the ants distributing food amongst each other from their food store. And while the ants happily munched away, only then did the grasshopper understand.

Did you understand this Aesop fable?

- ① In what season did the ant and the grasshopper first meet?

- ② What was the ant carrying on its back?

- ③ Why was the ant working?

- ④ What did the grasshopper want to do?

- ⑤ How did the grasshopper feel when winter came?

- ⑥ Why were the ants happy during the winter?

- ⑦ Do you think the grasshopper learnt a lesson? Give a reason for your answer.



- ⑧ Circle the lesson to be learnt from this fable.
 - a Grasshoppers are lazier than ants.
 - b Make hay while the sun shines.
 - c While the sun shines play and enjoy yourself.



- ⑨ Find words in the passage that mean:

observed _____	advise _____
answered _____	feeble _____
collecting _____	sharing _____

Moving on

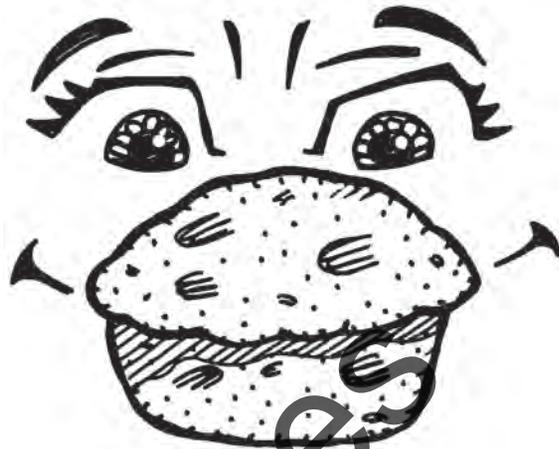
Rewrite the story in your own words in the form of a zig-zag book, and illustrate it.



Banana Chocolate-chip Muffins

Ingredients

- 1½ cups of self-raising flour
- ½ teaspoon of cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda
- ½ cup of chocolate bits
- ½ cup of brown sugar
- 1 banana (the riper the better)
- ¼ cup of vegetable oil
- ¾ cup of milk
- 1 egg



Method

Step 1 Sift the flour, cinnamon and bicarbonate of soda into a bowl.



Step 2 Add the chocolate bits and the brown sugar.



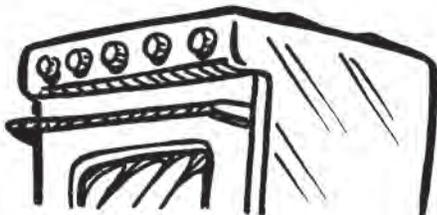
Step 3 Mash the banana with a fork. Add the oil, milk and egg and mix together. Stir this mixture gently into the dry ingredients.



Step 4 Lightly grease the muffin tray with butter. Fill the muffin tray with the mixture.



Step 5 Bake in a moderate oven for 20–25 minutes (180°C).



Step 6 Remove from the oven. Allow to cool before removing from tin. Great for play lunch or a snack after school.



Note: Cooking should be done under adult supervision.

Making Banana Chocolate-chip Muffins.

① How much cinnamon is used in this recipe?

② What type of flour is used in the recipe?

③ Which ingredients are sifted?

④ What are the dry ingredients?

⑤ What is mixed with the mashed banana?

⑥ Why do you need to grease the muffin tray?

⑦ How long do the muffins take to bake?

⑧ At what temperature do you need to set the oven?

⑨ Why would you allow the muffins to cool before removing them from the tray?

⑩ See if you can list eight different pieces of equipment you would need to make this recipe.

Moving on



Find a recipe in a newspaper or magazine. Cut it out and paste it onto a sheet of paper. Underneath the recipe write one question about the recipe. Collate the grade's recipes to make a Grade Recipe Book. Also, have a go at making Banana Chocolate-chip Muffins.



Mac and Dad

- Mac:** It's about time you helped me in the garden.
- Dad:** But it's a lovely day.
- Mac:** These are the days you're supposed to be out in the garden!
- Dad:** I'll only help you if I can rest for the rest of the day.
- Mac:** At least that's something you're good at. You get plenty of practice. Come on, let's get started. Now we need to do the leeks.
- Dad:** I'll just put some holes in the bottom of the watering can.
- Mac:** No, we have to plant the leek seedlings. Why do I bother? What did you do with the corn?
- Dad:** I put some plaster on it. The doctor says my foot should be as good as new.
- Mac:** Not that corn! The sweet corn! The sweet corn! Is there a stake over there?
- Dad:** I wish there was. I'm hungry.
- Mac:** Look, when I say stake, I don't mean steak, I mean stake.
- Dad:** Oh, I see. When you say stake, you don't mean steak, you mean stake.
- Mac:** That's right.
- Dad:** And you reckon I'm silly!
- Mac:** That thing. That's a stake.
- Dad:** Oh, that?
- Mac:** Now I'll hold it and you get the hammer.
- Dad:** The hammer. (*picks up hammer*)
- Mac:** Now when I nod my head you hit it.
- Dad:** Hit it? You want me to hit it?
- Mac:** That's right.
- Dad:** Poor fellow.
- Mac:** Ready – now! What are you doing?
- Dad:** You told me to hit your head when you nodded it.
- Mac:** The stake! You hit the stake – not me! I give up. Here, put on this old coat and hat and stand there against the stake with your arms out, and don't move. That's one way you can rest.
- Dad:** I suppose so, but what a funny way to rest.
- Mac:** It's about all you're good for. See you later.



Who is it (Mac or Dad) who ...

- ① ... didn't want to do the gardening? _____
- ② ... held the stake? _____
- ③ ... needed the leek seedlings? _____
- ④ ... gave the other person an old hat and coat?

- ⑤ ... held the hammer? _____
- ⑥ ... wanted to put holes in the bottom of the watering can? _____
- ⑦ ... said "When I nod my head you hit it"? _____
- ⑧ ... thought the corn was the one on his foot? _____
- ⑨ ... thought the other one was silly? _____
- ⑩ ... thought that lovely days were the best time for gardening? _____



Wordsearch

You will find the answers to these clues hidden in the wordsearch (look across and down):

- ① you hit nails with it
- ② a kind of meat
- ③ how you feel when you want food
- ④ a place to grow things
- ⑤ your brain is in it
- ⑥ a vegetable that is sweet
- ⑦ a name for father
- ⑧ a thing used for watering
- ⑨ something you put on a corn on your foot

P	N	P	H	U	N	G	R	Y
L	O	D	G	W	F	A	S	G
A	H	A	M	M	E	R	T	C
S	E	D	T	Q	I	D	E	A
T	A	R	Z	F	U	E	A	N
E	D	Z	C	O	R	N	K	R
R	L	P	O	D	O	E	B	L

Moving on

Find a partner and act out *Mac and Dad*. Ask your teacher if you can put on this play for your grade or another grade. Rehearse the play with your partner so that you can both remember what to say without looking at the script.

New Nursery Rhymes

Ding dong dell
Pussy's in the well
Who put him in?
I don't know, but the RSPCA will be after him.

Jack and Jill went up the hill
To fetch a pail of water
Jack fell down and broke his crown
And Jill didn't even know he was a king!

Three blind mice, three blind mice
See how they run, see how they run
They all ran after the farmer's wife
She cut off their tails with a carving knife
And that's the end of their tale.

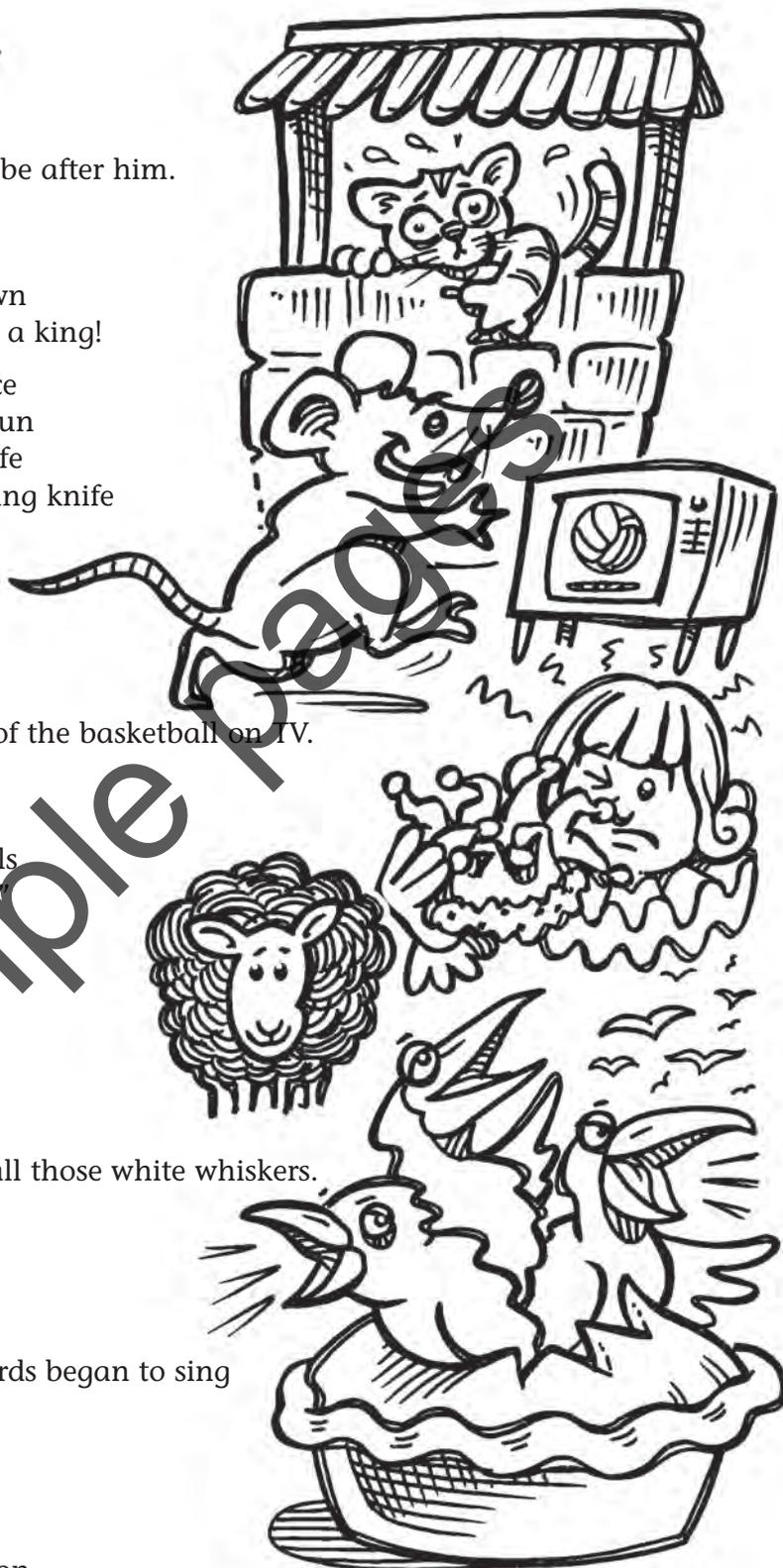
Hickory dickory dock
The mouse ran up the clock
The clock struck ten
The mouse ran down
Because it was time for the start of the basketball on TV.

Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
"With silver bells and cockle shells
And plenty of Smith's Grow Plus."

Baa, baa black sheep,
Have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir
Three bags full.
One for the master
And one for the dame,
And one for Santa who's sick of all those white whiskers.

Sing a song of sixpence
A pocket full of rye
Four and twenty blackbirds
Baked in a pie
When the pie was opened, the birds began to sing
'Rock Around the Fairy Ring'.

Diddle, diddle dumpling
My son John
Went to bed with his britches on
One shoe off and the other shoe on
Wouldn't you think at sixteen he'd know how to get into his PJs?



Draw a tick to show whether these sentences are true or false.

- | | T | F |
|--|---|---|
| ① Mary's garden grows better with Smith's Grow Plus. | — | — |
| ② The blackbirds sang a song of sixpence. | — | — |
| ③ The three blind mice don't watch basketball on TV. | — | — |
| ④ John put on his pyjamas by himself. | — | — |
| ⑤ Jill was a queen. | — | — |
| ⑥ Santa wants black whiskers. | — | — |
| ⑦ We know who put pussy in the well. | — | — |
| ⑧ The farmer cut off the tails of the mice. | — | — |
| ⑨ John has only one shoe. | — | — |
| ⑩ There are 24 blackbirds in the pie. | — | — |



Name these New Nursery Rhyme characters.

- ⑪ Who wants black whiskers? _____
- ⑫ Who wants to know how to get ready to go to sleep? _____
- ⑬ Who was a member of the royal family? _____
- ⑭ Who knew the game started at 10 o'clock? _____
- ⑮ Which characters liked singing rock 'n' roll? _____



Moving on

- a Make up five more true or false questions about the New Nursery Rhymes. Pass them to a classmate to mark them true or false.
- b Now try making up your own New Nursery Rhymes. Start with the usual words, then add an ending that will surprise readers.

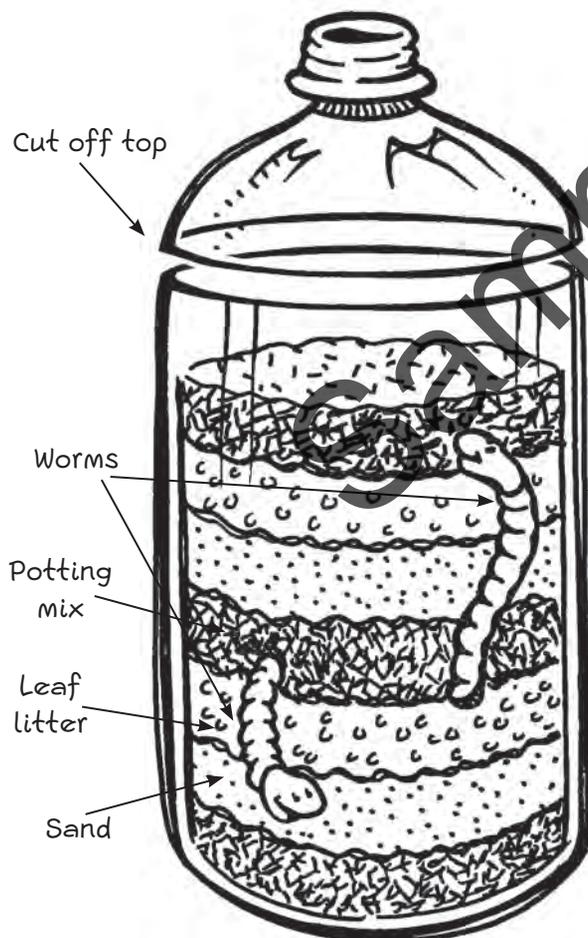
Make a Wormery

Earthworms can produce their own weight in manure each day and can produce two-and-a-half centimetres of topsoil in five years, whereas nature takes 500 years.

Make your own wormery so that you can observe the important role that worms play. The worms will burrow into the soil, which will loosen it (this lets in air and water, which are vital for keeping plants healthy). Worms also assist in spreading manure by eating dead plants mixed with the soil. The waste they produce is passed through their bodies and left behind as tiny lumps of fine fertile soil known as 'worm casts'.

You will need

- a two-litre plastic soft drink bottle
- potting mix
- sand
- leaf litter
- several worms



Step 1 Cut off the top of the soft drink bottle. Get an adult to do this for you.

Step 2 Add potting mix to a depth of approximately four centimetres. (If potting mix is not available, damp soil from the garden can be used.)

Step 3 Add a layer of sand approximately two centimetres deep.

Step 4 Add a two-centimetre layer of leaf litter.

Step 5 Repeat steps 2, 3 and 4.

Step 6 Add a final layer of potting mix approximately two centimetres deep.

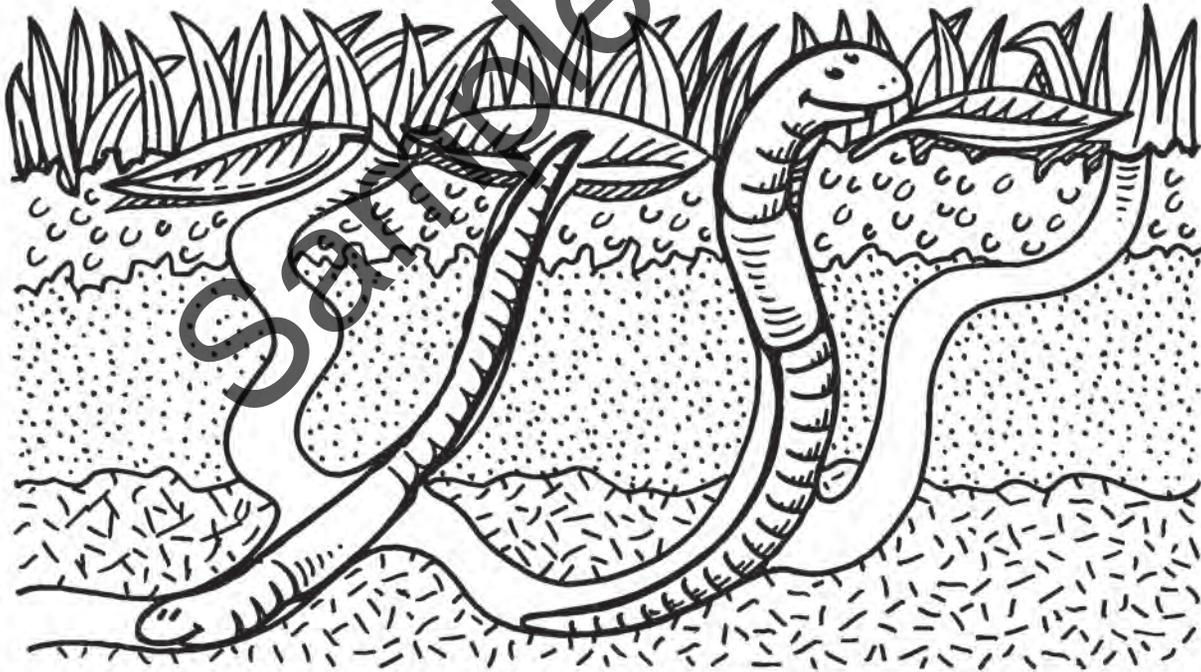
Step 7 Finally, add some worms to your wormery.

Returning the worms When you have finished with your wormery, remember to return the worms to the garden. Do this in the cool of the evening.

Extra information Worms have been known to burrow as deep as 30 metres in search of water. As they do this a sticky fluid they release prevents the walls from collapsing.

Fill in the missing words.

- ① Worms _____ the soil by burrowing through it.
- ② Worm casts are tiny _____ of waste that have been passed through the worm.
- ③ A two-litre soft drink bottle made from _____ is needed to make the wormery.
- ④ An _____ should cut off the top of the plastic bottle for you.
- ⑤ Damp _____ can be used instead of potting mix.
- ⑥ After adding layers of potting mix and sand, a layer of _____ is added.
- ⑦ The final layer added is _____ approximately two centimetres deep.
- ⑧ The _____ are added to the wormery in Step 7.
- ⑨ Worms should be returned to the garden in the _____.
- ⑩ While burrowing, worms produce a _____ that prevents the tunnel walls from collapsing.



Moving on



Follow the instructions to make your own wormery at school or at home.