

“The Crow and the Pitcher” Reading Comprehension Activity

Instructions:

Read the fable below and answer the questions that follow. Be sure to respond in complete sentences.

Objectives:

I can identify key details and main ideas from a fable.
I can determine a central idea/theme of a fable.

The Crow and the Pitcher

Aesop was a storyteller who lived in ancient Greece between 620 and 560 BCE. This story is part of his collection of tales known as “Aesop’s Fables,” which did not survive in writing but were passed down by people retelling them. They have deeply influenced children’s literature and modern storytelling culture. As you read, take notes on the conflict the crow faces and how he solves his problem. Think about the lesson the author is trying to teach the reader.

In a **spell** of dry weather, when the Birds could find very little to drink, a thirsty Crow found a **pitcher** with a little water in it. But the pitcher was high and had a narrow **neck**, and no matter how he tried, the Crow could not reach the water. The poor thing felt as if he must die of thirst.

Then an idea came to him. Picking up some small pebbles, he dropped them into the pitcher one by one. With each pebble, the water rose a little higher until at last, it was near enough so he could drink.



Answer the questions below in complete sentences. Each question is worth 1 point.

What is the title of the fable?

What do you see or notice in the image?

Describe the bird in the image.

Describe the pitcher in the image.

Why did the crow put the pebbles in the pitcher?

What does the word “spell” mean as it is used in paragraph 1? (1 pt.)

- A. a saying with magical powers
- B. a type of weather
- C. a period of time
- D. a land needing water

What does the information in paragraph 2 reveal about the crow? (1 pt)

- A. He is not able to solve a problem.
- B. He is resourceful and clever.
- C. He is extremely strong.
- D. He knows when to ask for help.

Explain the theme or lesson of the fable. Use evidence from the story to support your answer. (3 pts.)