

Belling the Cat



Reading Comprehension Activity Book

Original Story by Æsop for Children
Group 1 – Book 6

Name _____ Date _____

By Donnette E Davis

Preface:

Welcome to our collection of comprehension activity books for early readers. I have sourced public domain material for these books and have adapted and digitally reconstructed them to fulfil the purpose of these books.

Probably the single most important aspect of your child's early academic development is learning to read and acquiring and sustaining a love of reading. Of course any child's interest needs to be perked in order for them to want to read and read and read and slowly progress from simple books with large illustrations and words to longer books with fewer illustrations and smaller words. The journey to a love of reading is rarely accomplished overnight, but once you have reached that destination, a whole new world will open up for your child where he or she can visit places only dreamed about, live in that beautiful castle, become friends with the fairies and take a safari trip to Africa, perhaps even journey to the centre of the earth!

At the end of this story you will find notes for discussion and comprehension questions. In groups 1, 2 and 3 I have no doubt that your child will require some assistance in understanding the questions. This is where I encourage fun interaction between educator and learner. It may be so that you will need to record their answers and suggestions on the pages required. This subtle exercise will go far to show you in a year or less how far your child has progressed and where his or her interests lie and to enhance and encourage a love of reading. Positive interaction between you and your child will make this a fun learning experience as he or she watches you do your "homework". Who said homeschooling isn't hands on? ☺

You will be able to decide which questions and discussion points are appropriate for your child. The purpose of this exercise is to establish the understanding of the story and the concept and to enhance concentration, listening and reading skills.

I really do hope that you and your child enjoy doing these exercises as much as Savannah, Clarissa and myself have enjoyed compiling them. I cannot stress enough the importance of allowing your child to develop at his or her own pace. There is no need to progress to a more advanced book, no matter how short, until you are your child are quite confident that he or she has grasped the first story and that he or she is quite comfortable with the discussion and questions that are an integral part of this reading comprehension activity. As always I wish you and your child a most blessed, fun and informative educational journey. ☺

The Nitty Gritty: We would love to hear your comments on this workbook. If you have a moment please email your comments and suggestions to feedback@staidenshomeschool.com

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BELLING THE CAT



The Mice once called a meeting to decide on a plan to free themselves of their enemy, the Cat. At least they wished to find some way of knowing when she was coming, so they might have time to run away. Something **had** to be done, for they lived in such constant fear of her claws that they hardly dared stir from their dens at night or during the day.

Many plans were discussed, but none of them was thought good enough. At last a very young Mouse got up and said:

"I have a plan that seems very simple, but I know it will be successful. All we have to do is to hang a bell about the Cat's neck. When we hear the bell ringing we will know immediately that our enemy is coming."

All the Mice were so surprised that they had not thought of such a plan before. But in the midst of the excitement over their wonderful idea, an old Mouse arose and said:

"I will say that the plan of the young Mouse is a very good plan. But let me ask one question: "Who will put the bell on the Cat?"

The Moral of this story:

It is one thing to say that something should be done, but quite a different matter to do it!

The End.

Comprehension Questions

Note to Parents: Your little one will probably need some assistance with the questions, in explaining some of the phrases. Allow him or her to describe their answer in detail. It may be beneficial to ask him or her to draw pictures to illustrate the answer, or, if you prefer, it is fun to record the answers yourself and refer back to them in a few months' time. You will be the best person to choose which questions are appropriate for your child.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) What was your favourite part of the story? Why?
- 2) Have you ever read another story that is similar to this? How were they the same? How were they different?
- 3) How would you change the main character?
- 4) How are you like that character? How are you different?
- 5) What could be another name for this story?
- 6) Should the character have done something differently? What? Why?
- 7) What did you learn from this story?

ANSWERS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

Can you draw a picture from this story?



What have you drawn in your picture? Can you describe it?
