Literature Central Message

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Two Goats on a Log

A narrow log bridge crossed a quick little stream. It was only wide enough for one goat at a time.

One morning, a white goat named Bela started across from one side. A brown goat named Tor started across from the other side. They met in the middle.

"Move back! I was here first," said Bela.

"No, you move back! I am in a hurry," said Tor.

Neither goat would turn around. They pushed and butted heads. Then both goats slipped off the log. Splash! They landed in the cold, shallow water. They climbed out wet and grumpy, and neither one got across.

The next morning, the two goats met in the middle again. This time, Bela thought about the cold splash. She knelt down flat on the log. "Step over me," she said. Tor stepped carefully over her back. Then Bela stood up and crossed too.

That day, both goats reached the other side, warm and dry.

1. What is the central message of this fable?
   - The goat who arrives first should always win.
   - Giving way to each other can solve a problem.
   - Goats should never cross a stream on a log.

2. Which event shows the lesson most clearly?
   - Bela knelt down so Tor could step over her.
   - Tor said that he was in a hurry.
   - Bela started across from one side.

3. What happened when neither goat would move back?
   - Bela found a wider bridge to cross.
   - They both fell into the stream.
   - Tor turned around and went home.

4. How did Bela change from the first morning to the second?

She stopped pushing and found a way to help.

She became too scared to cross the bridge.

She started pushing harder than before.

5. Why did Bela kneel down on the second morning?

Tor asked her to rest on the log.

She remembered the cold splash.

She was too tired to keep walking.

6. They climbed out wet and grumpy. What does grumpy mean?

full of joy in a bad mood very sleepy

7. Which detail is true but is NOT the lesson?

Working together helps everyone get across.

The bridge was made from a log.

Being stubborn can leave everyone worse off.

8. What would most likely happen if the goats pushed again the next day?

One goat would wait while the other crossed.

They would both get across quickly.

They would fall in the stream again.

9. Which sentence shows that the goats were stubborn at first?

It was only wide enough for one goat.

Tor stepped carefully over her back.

Neither goat would turn around.

10. What problem do the goats have in this fable?

The stream is too deep for goats to cross.

The bridge is only wide enough for one goat.

The goats cannot find the bridge in the dark.

Scan to get this marked free. No screen time for your child.
Print it · do it in pencil · scan it · PencilGo picks the next sheet.

Literature Central Message

Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Two Goats on a Log

A narrow log bridge crossed a quick little stream. It was only wide enough for one goat at a time.

One morning, a white goat named Bela started across from one side. A brown goat named Tor started across from the other side. They met in the middle.

"Move back! I was here first," said Bela.

"No, you move back! I am in a hurry," said Tor.

Neither goat would turn around. They pushed and butted heads. Then both goats slipped off the log. Splash! They landed in the cold, shallow water. They climbed out wet and grumpy, and neither one got across.

The next morning, the two goats met in the middle again. This time, Bela thought about the cold splash. She knelt down flat on the log. "Step over me," she said. Tor stepped carefully over her back. Then Bela stood up and crossed too.

That day, both goats reached the other side, warm and dry.

1. What is the central message of this fable?

   The goat who arrives first should always win.

   Giving way to each other can solve a problem.

   Goats should never cross a stream on a log.

2. Which event shows the lesson most clearly?

   Bela knelt down so Tor could step over her.

   Tor said that he was in a hurry.

   Bela started across from one side.

3. What happened when neither goat would move back?

   Bela found a wider bridge to cross.

   They both fell into the stream.

   Tor turned around and went home.

4. How did Bela change from the first morning to the second?

She stopped pushing and found a way to help.

She became too scared to cross the bridge.

She started pushing harder than before.

5. Why did Bela kneel down on the second morning?

Tor asked her to rest on the log.

She remembered the cold splash.

She was too tired to keep walking.

6. They climbed out wet and grumpy. What does grumpy mean?

full of joy | in a bad mood | very sleepy

7. Which detail is true but is NOT the lesson?

Working together helps everyone get across.

The bridge was made from a log.

Being stubborn can leave everyone worse off.

8. What would most likely happen if the goats pushed again the next day?

One goat would wait while the other crossed.

They would both get across quickly.

They would fall in the stream again.

9. Which sentence shows that the goats were stubborn at first?

It was only wide enough for one goat.

Tor stepped carefully over her back.

Neither goat would turn around.

10. What problem do the goats have in this fable?

The stream is too deep for goats to cross.

The bridge is only wide enough for one goat.

The goats cannot find the bridge in the dark.