

Lesson 6



Birbal and the Six Foolish People



4.6E (Comprehension—Make Connections) M

Weaving a Web: Brainstorm different themes or messages often found in folk tales. Write your ideas in the diagram below.

Themes/Messages Often Found in Folk Tales
--

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

4.3C (Vocabulary—Affixes/Roots) L



hesitation arrival satisfaction conceiving uproar prank
--

The box above shows some words you will read in the story. Some of the words can be separated into a root and an affix. Look at the word below.

conceiving = conceive + *-ing*

The root word (conceive) means "to form an idea."

Now, read the meanings below. Write the word from the box whose root word matches the meaning given.

1. This word's root means "to fulfill or meet expectations." **Word:** _____
2. This word's root means "to pause, due to feeling unsure." **Word:** _____
3. This word's root means "to come to a place." **Word:** _____

This page may not be reproduced.

Gypsy Learns a Lesson

The following story is based on a fable by Aesop, a slave who lived in Greece more than 3,000 years ago.

- 1 Most spiders like having eight legs and a rounded body. Their legs help them move quickly and quietly from place to place, trapping insects for dinner and carrying on with their lives. But this was not how Gypsy felt. The young spider saw how other animals moved so gracefully, and she felt very silly and clumsy in comparison. She often sat in her tree and watched other animals walk by, jealous of their beautiful movements. *Now, why can't my legs move that way?* she thought.
- 2 One day, Gypsy decided she needed to stop wishing and start doing. With a plan in mind, Gypsy crawled to the top of her tree and spun an enormous web so she would have a good view of the forest. *I will watch the animals I admire the most and then model my movements after theirs,* she thought. Her plan in place, Gypsy sat and watched.
- 3 From her perch, Gypsy saw many animals. Each was more interesting than the last. In a nearby tree, Gypsy saw an owl. Its *hoot-hoot* echoed through the forest, and the owl turned its head almost all the way around and blinked its yellow eyes in the dark. Gypsy wanted to move like the owl, but she didn't have a neck at all. This disappointed her greatly.
- 4 The next day, Gypsy watched as squirrels gathered acorns on the ground under her tree. They chattered at each other and easily rolled acorns into the hollow tree for safekeeping. "This is an idea I would like to try," Gypsy said to herself. She dropped to the ground and tried to roll an acorn, but it was too heavy. She spun some silk around the acorn and tried to pull it up to her web. After struggling all day, she finally succeeded. But as soon as she set the heavy acorn on her delicate web, the nut fell back to the ground. So, Gypsy gave up on that idea.
- 5 The following day, the little spider watched a stork walk along the edge of a pond. The stork was hunting fish. Patiently, the tall white bird placed one foot before the other. Gypsy loved how the stork walked, but she disliked the way all eight of her spider legs moved along like a blizzard of twigs. Her walk looked nothing like the gentle sway of the stork as he paced the side of the pond.

6 Gypsy dropped from her tree and tried to walk like the stork, raising four legs on one side first and slowly stepping ahead. Then she moved her other four legs the same way. Gypsy was so small that it took her a long time to move by walking this way. When the stork saw her trying to walk like him, he laughed and shook his head.

7 “Just what do you think you’re doing?” the stork asked. “You’ll never get anywhere that way.”

8 “But I’m just like you,” Gypsy replied. “See me walk? Aren’t I graceful? Aren’t I beautiful?”

9 “I’m sorry to tell you this, but you look quite foolish,” said the stork. “Spiders have eight legs for a reason. Why not use them all?”

10 “Because I want to be like you!” Gypsy said.

11 The stork shook his head again. “Only I can be like me, and I cannot be like you. You have eight wonderful legs. They let you move like an acrobat, performing such feats! You move around so fast on any surface—it is really quite amazing! Why would you want to be like anyone else?”

12 Gypsy thought about this, but she had no response. The stork flew away, and the spider returned to her web to watch the Sun set. However, this time, she walked like a spider and raced to the top of her tree, leaping from one branch to the next. *Like an acrobat*, she thought. *That’s me!* And from that moment on, Gypsy was perfectly happy to be a spider with eight wonderful legs.



Headlines 4.6G (Comprehension—Key Ideas) M

If this passage were a news story, it might have this headline.

Spider Learns to Love Her Life

On the line below, write a headline of your own about the passage.

Read & Respond

Directions: Complete the following after you read the passages.

4.6E (Comprehension—Make Connections)/4.6F (Comprehension—Inferences) H

1. How could attending more than ten schools have helped Lindbergh throughout his life?

4.3B (Vocabulary—Context) M

2. Read the sentence from paragraph 4 of “Life in Flight.”

For example, he was forced to bail out of his plane on two occasions.

Which phrase from paragraph 4 helps the reader understand what the words bail out mean?

- A *Breaking many speed records*
- B *Found the wreckage of his plane*
- C *Parachuted from the plane before it crashed*
- D *Flew letters and packages all over the country*

4.6H (Comprehension—Synthesize Information) H

3. Based on Lindbergh’s work as a barnstormer and an air mail pilot, what can you conclude about his personal character? List three characteristics on the lines below.

**Lindbergh’s
Character**

1.

2.

3.

4.7C (Response—Text Evidence) M

4. How did Lindbergh ensure he “had a proper airplane” to successfully fly nonstop from New York to Paris?

Pictures that Make Sense 4.6E (Comprehension—Make Connections)/4.7B (Response—Write Response) M–H

Directions: In the box below, write some words and phrases from “Yellowstone’s Perks” and “Yellowstone at First Sight” that describe the park’s sights, sounds, and smells (e.g., “explosion like thunder,” “sour smell”).

On the lines below, explain how these descriptions and the pictures in the passage help you imagine what it would be like to visit Yellowstone National Park. In the box below, illustrate one of Yellowstone’s attractions. Choose one that is not pictured in the passage.

This page may not be reproduced.

 **HOMework**

WP



Now and Then 4.7C (Response—Text Evidence)/4.12C (Composition—Argumentative) M–H

Directions: On the lines below, explain why you think colonial children’s lives were easier or more difficult than your life. Use evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 15 horizontal lines for writing an answer.

This page may not be reproduced.

SAMPLE

 **EXTENSION**



A New Spin 4.6E (Comprehension—Make Connections) L

With a responsible adult, visit <https://www.thecrafttrain.com/how-to-make-a-whirlygig/> (active at time of publication) to find directions on how to make a whirlygig—another simple toy colonial children made and enjoyed.