Name: _____ Date: _____

A Bell for the Cat

Reading level 5 (2nd grade) · 107 words

Many mice lived in a big house. A cat lived there too.

The cat was quiet. The mice did not hear her come.

The mice met in the night. "We must do something!"

A young mouse said, "Put a bell on the cat!"

"We will hear it ring. Then we can run and hide!"

The mice cheered. What a good plan!

An old mouse said, "But who will put it on?"

No one said a word.

"Not me," said one. "I am too slow."

"Not me," said one. "I am too small."

Not one mouse would do it.

The cat just yawned and went back to sleep.

Questions

1. Who lived in the house with the mice?

A. A dog
B. A cat
C. A hen

2. What was the plan?

A. Hide in a box
B. Run away
C. Put a bell on the cat

3. Who asked, "Who will put the bell on?"

A. An old mouse
B. The cat
C. A hen

4. What did the mice say when he asked?

A. Me, me
B. I will
C. Not me

5. What does this fable show?

A. Mice like bells

B. Plans are easy to make, but hard to do

C. Cats are kind

Words to know

bell: a thing that rings

plan: an idea to do

yawn: a big sleepy breath

Answer key: A Bell for the Cat

1. B. A cat
2. C. Put a bell on the cat
3. A. An old mouse
4. C. Not me
5. B. Plans are easy to make, but hard to do