Name: _____ Date: _____

Grasshopper Plays All Summer

Reading level 6 · 207 words

All summer long, Grasshopper played his fiddle in the sun. He did not do any work at all.

The ants were busy. They carried seeds and corn to their nest all day.

"Stop and play with me!" called Grasshopper. "The sun is warm, and the day is long!"

"We can't," said the smallest ant. "Winter is coming, and we must have food."

Grasshopper laughed. "Winter is far away," he said. "Nobody needs to think about it yet!"

Soon the leaves fell, and the wind turned cold. Then one morning, the snow came down.

Grasshopper looked in the grass for seeds. He found nothing, and his tummy rumbled.

He shivered all the way to the ants' nest. He knocked on the little door.

"Please give me some food," he said. "I am so cold and hungry."

The smallest ant looked at him. "All summer you played," she said. "What can we do now?"

Grasshopper hung his head. "I should have worked too," he said. "I am sorry."

The ants looked at each other. Then they smiled and opened the door wide.

"Come in and get warm," said the smallest ant. "We have enough to share."

That night he played his fiddle. The ants danced until they were warm.

Questions

1. What did Grasshopper do all summer?

A. He played his fiddle
B. He carried corn
C. He slept

2. Why were the ants so busy?

A. Winter was coming
B. They liked to march
C. Grasshopper told them to

3. What did Grasshopper find in the snow?

A. Seeds
B. Nothing
C. A fiddle

4. What does "rumbled" mean in this story?

A. Made a low growl
B. Ran away
C. Fell down

5. What did the ants do at the end?

A. Shut the door
B. Let him in to share
C. Hid their corn

6. What does this fable show?

A. Get ready for hard times
B. Fiddles are loud
C. Snow is white

Words to know

fiddle: a small violin
rumbled: made a low growl
nest: a home for ants
share: give some to others

Answer key: Grasshopper Plays All Summer

1. A. He played his fiddle
2. A. Winter was coming
3. B. Nothing
4. A. Made a low growl
5. B. Let him in to share
6. A. Get ready for hard times