Name: _____ Date: _____

Persephone and the Seeds

Reading level 6 · 156 words

The Greeks told of Persephone. She loved flowers. Her mother, Demeter, made the plants grow.

One day Persephone found a new flower. She pulled it up. The ground shook!

Hades, a king who lived deep down, took her below. Persephone was sad. She wanted her mother.

Demeter looked and looked for her girl. She was so sad that nothing would grow.

The leaves fell. The fields went cold and bare. Winter came to the world.

At last Zeus sent Hermes down to the dark. "Bring Persephone home!" he said.

Hades gave Persephone a red fruit. She ate six seeds. Then she went up to her mother.

Demeter hugged her. But Persephone had eaten six seeds. She had to go back for part of each year.

Now Persephone is below for six months. Demeter is sad, and it is winter.

When Persephone comes home, the flowers bloom. It is spring! The sun is warm, and plants grow.

Questions

1. Who was Persephone's mother?

A. Athena
B. Demeter
C. Hera

2. What did Persephone find?

A. A gold coin
B. A red bird
C. A new flower

3. Why did nothing grow?

A. Demeter was so sad
B. It did not rain
C. The seeds were lost

4. How many seeds did Persephone eat?

A. Two
B. Ten
C. Six

5. What happens when Persephone comes home?

A. The sun goes out
B. It is spring
C. It snows

6. In this story, what does "bare" mean?

A. With nothing on it
B. Very loud
C. Full of flowers

Words to know

flower: a plant's bright bloom
seeds: small parts of a fruit
winter: the cold time
spring: when plants wake up

Answer key: Persephone and the Seeds

1. B. Demeter
2. C. A new flower
3. A. Demeter was so sad
4. C. Six
5. B. It is spring
6. A. With nothing on it