Name: _____ Date: _____

Sour Grapes, Says Fox

Reading level 6 · 188 words

A fox walked down a dusty road in the heat. He was hungry and thirsty.

Over a garden wall hung a vine. On it was a bunch of fat, purple grapes.

"Just what I need!" said the fox. He licked his lips and looked up.

But the grapes were high above his head. He stretched his neck as far as it would go.

So the fox jumped. His teeth went snap, but they closed on air. He tried again and again.

He ran at the wall and jumped high. He fell on his tail.

A crow on the wall watched him. Then it said, "Caw!" in a laughing sort of way.

The fox found a rock and climbed up on it. He jumped, and he jumped, and he jumped.

At last he sat in the dust, tired and sore. The grapes still hung there.

The fox sniffed. "Those grapes are sour, anyway," he said. "I would not want them."

He walked off with his nose in the air. Nobody could tell that he was sad.

The crow flew down and ate one. It was as sweet as honey.

Questions

1. Where did the grapes hang?

A. Over a garden wall
B. In a tree
C. On the ground

2. What did the fox climb on?

A. A box
B. A chair
C. A rock

3. Why did the fox say the grapes were sour?

A. He could not reach them
B. He had tasted one
C. A crow told him

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

A. Reached out far
B. Sat down
C. Ran fast

5. What did the crow find out about the grapes?

A. They were gone
B. They were sweet
C. They were sour

6. What does this fable show?

A. Do not scorn what you can not get
B. Foxes are fast
C. Crows are kind

Words to know

vine: a plant that climbs
sour: not sweet
stretched: reached out far
sniffed: breathed in through the nose

Answer key: Sour Grapes, Says Fox

1. A. Over a garden wall
2. C. A rock
3. A. He could not reach them
4. A. Reached out far
5. B. They were sweet
6. A. Do not scorn what you can not get