Name: _____ Date: _____

The Fiddle and the Corn

Reading level 5 (2nd grade) · 158 words

Grasshopper had a fiddle. He played it all day long.

The ants had a job. They got corn for winter.

"Come and dance!" said Grasshopper. "Why do you work so much?"

"We have no time," said an ant. "Winter will come."

"We must get ready," said the ant. Grasshopper just laughed.

"There is lots to eat now!" he said. He played on.

The ants got corn all summer. Grasshopper played his fiddle.

Then the wind got cold. Snow fell on the grass.

Grasshopper had no corn. He had no seeds.

His tummy was sad and hungry. He went to the ants' door.

"Can I have some food?" he said.

"You played all summer," said an ant. "Why not play now?"

Grasshopper looked down. "I should have got ready," he said.

The ants smiled. "Come in," they said. "We have lots to share."

Grasshopper ate corn by the fire. Then he played his fiddle.

The ants danced and danced.

Questions

1. What did Grasshopper play?

A. A drum
B. A fiddle
C. A horn

2. What did the ants get?

A. Corn
B. Hats
C. Sticks

3. Why did Grasshopper have no food?

A. He did not get ready
B. The ants hid it

C. He ate too fast

4. What did the ants say at the end?

A. Go away

B. Come in

C. Not now

5. What does this fable show?

A. Ants are small

B. Get ready, and share

C. Songs are bad

Words to know

fiddle: a small violin

winter: the cold time of year

share: give some to others

Answer key: The Fiddle and the Corn

1. B. A fiddle
2. A. Corn
3. A. He did not get ready
4. B. Come in
5. B. Get ready, and share