Name: _____ Date: _____

The Heap of Snow

Reading level 7 (3rd grade) · 242 words

One morning, Danny Meadow Mouse found his doors gone. Snow had fallen all night. It had hidden every one.

Danny did not mind. He dug a small hole up through the snow. Then he made it a little bigger.

He poked his head out and looked all around. The meadow was white and still. Far away, a hawk circled in the sky.

"That hawk is too far to bother me," said Danny. He kept on looking. There was a lot to see.

Close by was a small heap of snow. Danny did not remember it. It had not been there the day before.

Danny frowned. Heaps of snow do not just grow. Something must be under it.

He sat very still and watched. The heap sat very still, too. It did not even blink.

Then old Brother North Wind came racing over the meadow. He tossed the snow this way and that.

A handful of snow blew off the heap. Under it was a patch of red.

Danny knew that red. It was the color of Granny Fox's coat. She was hiding under the snow!

"Good morning, Granny Fox!" called Danny. "I can see you!" Then he dropped down into his hole.

Granny Fox shook the snow off her back. She had waited all morning. Danny had not come close.

She frowned and slunk away toward the Green Forest. Danny popped up again and laughed. He had a door for every day.

Questions

1. What had hidden Danny's doors?

A. Fresh snow
B. Old leaves
C. A fox

2. What did Danny see under the snow?

A. A white stone
B. A patch of red
C. A brown nose

3. What did Danny do when he saw it?

A. He ran across the meadow
B. He hid in a tree
C. He called out and ducked down

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

A. Crept away quietly
B. Jumped high
C. Sang loudly

5. How did Danny stay safe?

A. He kept watching and noticed new things
B. He ran very fast
C. He was bigger than the fox

Words to know

heap: a pile
circled: went around
frowned: looked cross
slunk: crept away

Answer key: The Heap of Snow

1. A. Fresh snow
2. B. A patch of red
3. C. He called out and ducked down
4. A. Crept away quietly
5. A. He kept watching and noticed new things