Name: _____ Date: _____

The Mice Hold a Meeting

Reading level 6 · 172 words

In a big old house lived many mice. They had one big problem. It was the cat.

She walked on soft paws. The mice never heard her coming, so they ran.

One night the mice met under the floor. "We must do something," said the oldest mouse.

A young mouse jumped up. "Let us put a bell on the cat!" he said.

"Then we will hear the bell ring when she comes. We can all run and hide!"

All the mice clapped and cheered. It seemed like a very fine plan.

Then a wise old mouse stood up. "It is a good plan," he said.

"But who will tie the bell on the cat?" The room went quiet. "Not me," said one mouse.

"I am too slow," he said. "Not me," said another. "I am too small."

Every mouse had a reason. Not one of them would do it. They all looked at their toes.

The meeting was over. The bell sat in its box. The cat slept on in the sun.

Questions

1. Where did the mice meet?

A. In a tree
B. Under the floor
C. On the roof

2. What was the young mouse's plan?

A. Move away
B. Make a trap
C. Put a bell on the cat

3. Who asked, "Who will tie the bell?"

A. A wise old mouse
B. The cat
C. A young mouse

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

A. Very loud
B. Very small
C. Full of sense

5. Did any mouse tie on the bell?

A. Yes

B. No

C. Only one

6. What does this fable show?

A. A plan is easy to make, but hard to do

B. Cats are slow

C. Mice are loud

Words to know

meeting: a time to talk

plan: an idea to do

wise: full of sense

Answer key: The Mice Hold a Meeting

1. B. Under the floor
2. C. Put a bell on the cat
3. A. A wise old mouse
4. C. Full of sense
5. B. No
6. A. A plan is easy to make, but hard to do