Name: _____ Date: _____

The Mouse Who Went Home

Reading level 6 · 205 words

Mouse liked his hole under the hedge. It was quiet, and it was his own.

One day, his cousin came from town. He wore a bright coat and a tall hat.

Mouse gave him beans and a dry crust. His cousin did not like them one bit.

"You poor thing!" said the cousin. "Come to town, and I will show you real food."

They walked all day and got to town at night. The cousin led Mouse into a great house.

On the long table was a feast. There were cakes, cheese, cherries, and jam.

Mouse took a big bite of cake. It tasted like sugar and cream. It was wonderful.

Then the door creaked open. A big cat padded in, and its eyes were yellow.

The mice ran into a hole in the wall. They kept still until the cat was gone.

They crept back out. Then dogs came in, barking. Back to the hole they ran.

Mouse shook from his ears to his tail. "This is no place for me," he said.

"Keep your cake, cousin. I am going home to my hole and my beans."

That night he ate his beans under the hedge. Then he slept all the way to morning.

Questions

1. Where did Mouse live?

A. Under a hedge
B. In a barn
C. In a boat

2. What did Mouse give his cousin to eat?

A. Cheese
B. Beans and a crust
C. Cake

3. What frightened the mice in the great house?

A. A cat and dogs
B. The wind
C. A storm

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

A. Walked on soft feet
B. Sat down
C. Jumped high

5. Why did Mouse go home?

A. He lost his way
B. He was too scared in town
C. He was hungry

6. What does this fable show?

A. Peace at home is worth a lot
B. Cake is bad
C. Cats are fast

Words to know

hedge: a wall of bushes
feast: a big, grand meal
padded: walked on soft feet
crust: the hard edge of bread

Answer key: The Mouse Who Went Home

1. A. Under a hedge
2. B. Beans and a crust
3. A. A cat and dogs
4. A. Walked on soft feet
5. B. He was too scared in town
6. A. Peace at home is worth a lot