Name: _____ Date: _____

Wings of Wax

Reading level 6 · 172 words

Daedalus and his son lived on an island. A king would not let them leave. They looked at the sea.

Daedalus saw a bird. "The king can stop the boats," he said. "But he can not stop the sky."

Daedalus got feathers. He put them in rows. He stuck them on with wax from a candle.

Soon there were two pairs of wings. The big pair was for Daedalus. The small pair was for Icarus.

"Fly in the middle," said Daedalus. "Not too low or too high. The sun can melt the wax."

They jumped from the tower. The wind lifted them up. They flew over the sea!

Icarus was so happy. He flew up and up. "Come back!" called his father.

The sun was hot. The wax got soft. The feathers fell off like snow.

Icarus fell toward the water. His father flew down after him. A fisherman rowed up in his boat.

The fisherman pulled them in. Icarus was wet, but he was safe. "I will listen now," he said.

Questions

1. Where did Icarus and his father live?

A. In a tall tree
B. On an island
C. In a cave

2. What did Daedalus stick the feathers on with?

A. Wax
B. Glue
C. Mud

3. What was the rule?

A. Fly as high as you can
B. Fly home at night
C. Fly in the middle, not too high or low

4. Why did the feathers fall off?

A. The sun made the wax soft
B. The wind was cold
C. A bird took them

5. Who helped Icarus and his father?

A. A king
B. A fisherman
C. A bird

6. In this story, what does "soft" mean?

A. Very loud
B. Very big
C. Not hard

Words to know

wax: candle stuff
feathers: bird's covering
sun: our star
fisherman: fish catcher

Answer key: Wings of Wax

1. B. On an island
2. A. Wax
3. C. Fly in the middle, not too high or low
4. A. The sun made the wax soft
5. B. A fisherman
6. C. Not hard