

Reading Comprehension

Set 6 Story 4

King of the birds

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

NC Level 2b

Notes to adults:

- These activity booklets are not tests. They should not be done under test conditions.
- They are to be used to teach comprehension - not test.
- The purpose is for the children to understand the story - every word, paragraph and page! In addition to this the children are also gaining valuable experience of answering SATs style questions.

Assessment

- When marking these reading comprehension booklets it is best to do this with the child. Clarify misconceptions by underlining key words and phrases, circling important sentences and discussing the text together.
- When children complete three consecutive reading comprehension booklets of the same 'set' independently they can be moved onto the next set.

These booklets are not suitable for any children who have been assessed at 2A+.

King of the birds

Parrot and Jay were sitting in the branches of a dark fir tree.
They were having a quarrel.



"We birds are always quarrelling," chirped Parrot.
"What we need is a king. A grand king of all the birds,
to see that we play fair."

Jay agreed.

They set a day for all the birds to have an important meeting.
At the meeting, they would choose a king.

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Why did Parrot and Jay decide they needed a king?

What did Parrot say to Jay?

Poor Crow was upset.

"No one will choose me," he chirped sadly.

"I look too dull to be a king.

Cockatoo looks fantastic!

And look at little Hummingbird!

As for me - I've got no chance."



What did Crow think no one would pick him to be the king?

too dull

too posh

too fantastic

too upset

Why did Crow chirp sadly?

All the birds wanted to be picked to be king, so they went to the Elephant Pond for a wash and brush-up.

Thirsty elephants, drinking at the pond, squirted the birds' feathers with water, and crocs brushed the dirt off with their teeth.



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What did all the birds go to the Elephant Pond?

drink

brush off the dirt

chat

wash and brush up

How did the elephants squirt the birds' feathers?

Crow was watching all this.

He spotted some bright feathers - red, gold and green -
that Cockatoo and Hummingbird had dropped on the grass.

When the rest of the birds had whirled off to the meeting,
he picked up the feathers and stuck them on to his back with mud.



"What a handsome bird!"
he chirped to himself.

What was Crow's plan?

Thirty birds, big and small, sat in the fir tree. The meeting began.

Cockatoo was the first to display himself.

The rest agreed that he was indeed a most splendid bird.



The second was little Hummingbird.

He twirled amidst the branches,
his bright feathers whirring
and flashing.

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How did Cockatoo and Hummingbird try to impress
the other birds?

Cockatoo _____

Hummingbird _____

The third bird was Crow.

As he pranced in front of the watching birds,
a red feather fell off his back and drifted on to the grass.

There was a stir in the branches of the fir tree,
and the rest of the birds began an angry chirping.



"You have tricked us, sir!" said Cockatoo firmly.
"You may have a handful of bright feathers,
but we can see that you are still just dull old Crow."

Crow squirmed, and three more feathers fell off.

"You're right, Cockatoo," he chirped, looking at his feet.

"I was silly to pretend. I know it was wrong."

How did the other birds feel about Crow's plan?

I may still be dull old Crow -
but that's not so bad, you know.
We can't all be as splendid as you.
Maybe a dull old Crow would be a good king."

Cockatoo nodded slowly, and so did Hummingbird,
and Jay, and then Parrot.

"You're right, Crow," said Parrot at last.
"You have admitted that you did wrong,
and that shows that you are a good bird.
That's more important than what you look like.
I think you'd be a terrific king."



And he was.

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What made the other birds choose Crow in the end?

Were they right? Who would you choose? Why?
