

Theme

Folktales
and Theme
for Grades
3-5



The Goose with the Golden Eggs

One day a monkey went to the nest of his Goose and found an egg that was yellow and glittering. When he took it up it was as heavy as lead. He was going to throw it away, because he thought a trick had been played upon him. Every morning the same thing occurred, and he soon became rich by selling eggs. As he grew rich he grew greedy. He wanted to have all of the gold eggs that the Goose could give. So he killed the Goose, but when he opened it he found nothing. There were no golden eggs!

Think!!!

Think about what the character does and says. What message about life do you think the author wants you to know?

What is the theme of this story?

The Fox and the Crane

At one time the Fox and the Stork were very good friends. So the Fox invited the Stork to dinner, and for a joke served the Stork nothing but soup in a shallow dish. It was too hard for the Stork to eat the soup. He could only wet the end of his long bill in it. This left him very hungry. The next night, the Crane asked the Fox to eat at his house. When they were seated at the table all there was for dinner was a very long-necked jar with a narrow mouth filled with food. The Fox could not insert his snout into the jar so he was unable to eat. He left there very hungry!

Think!!!

Think about what the character does and says. What message about life do you think the author wants you to know?

What is the theme of this story?

The Monkey and the Cookies

A monkey put his hand into a jar of cookies. He grasped as many as he could possibly hold, but when he tried to pull out his hand, he was prevented from doing so by the neck of the cookie jar. Unwilling to lose the cookies, and yet unable to withdraw his hand, he burst into tears.

Think!!!

Think about what the character does and says. What message about life do you think the author wants you to know?

What is the theme of this story?

The Dogs and the Cows

Some hungry dogs saw a number of cows standing in the river. Not being able to swim to reach them, they agreed to drink up the river. They drank so much water that they burst before they could ever get to the cows.

Think!!!

Think about what the character does and says. What message about life do you think the author wants you to know?

What is the theme of this story?
