

The Fox And The Crocodile

A long time ago, near a small village by a *glittering* lake, there lived a clever fox and his faithful friend, the crocodile.

The two friends would meet everyday in the shadow of an oak tree by the lake to discuss how they could find enough food for another day.

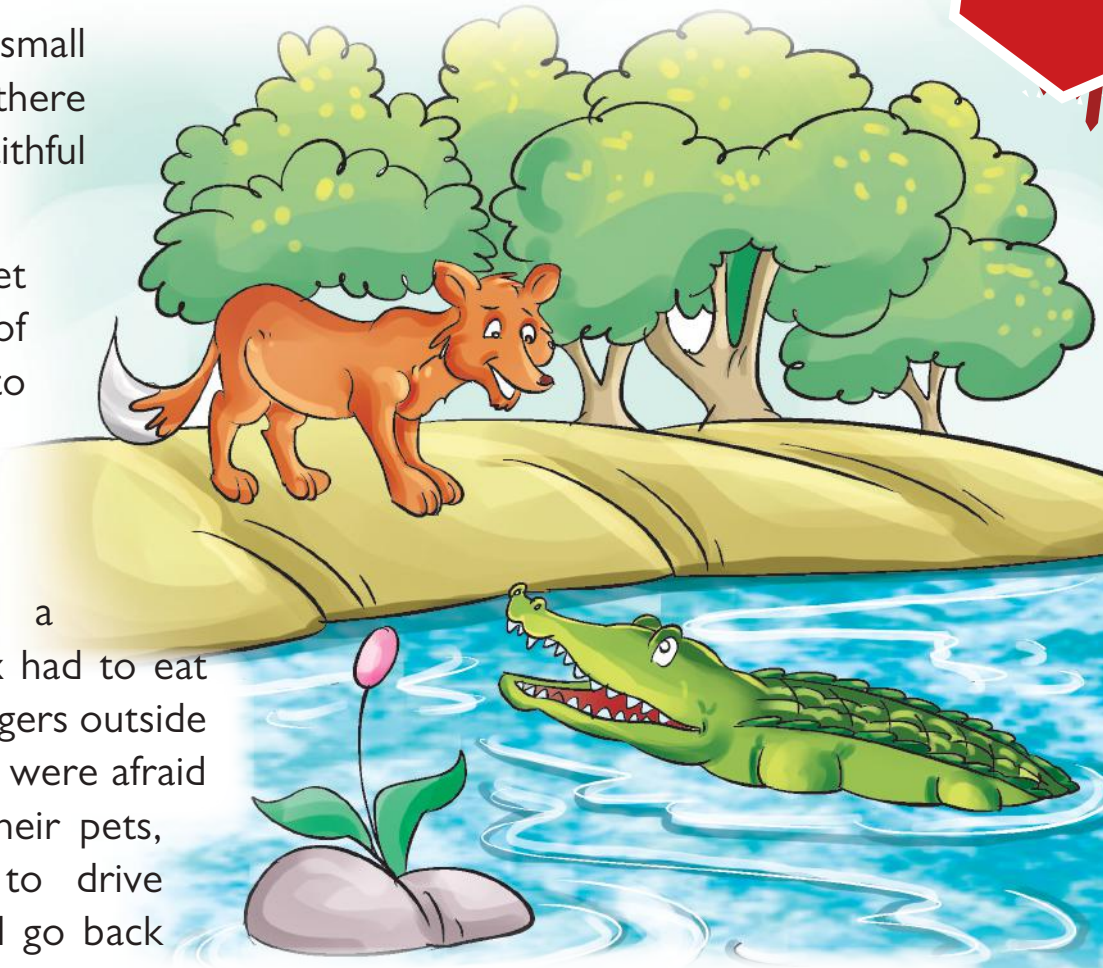
In summer, there was a *scarce* of food, so the fox had to eat the rubbish left by the villagers outside their houses. The villagers were afraid that the fox would eat their pets, so they threw stones to drive him away. The fox would go back feeling *bruised* and hungry and the crocodile would come to console him.

After a few days, an idea came to the mind of the fox. Suddenly, he met his friend, the crocodile, who spent most of his time in the water. The crocodile was not much aware about land life.

The fox said, "I have a brilliant idea. Let's grow our own food. We will grow some delicious crops."

"That's a good idea. But what crops shall we grow?" asked the crocodile.

"We could grow some rice because it grows very well near water; so, we could plant it close to your lake," replied the fox.



“That’s a good idea. What does rice taste like?” asked the crocodile.

“It’s tastier than the meat you eat,” replied the fox.

On hearing this, the crocodile helped the fox to plant grains of rice. He looked after the plants very carefully until they were tall and ripe.

Now it was time to harvest the crop and the crocodile licked his lips hungrily.

“Have patience, my dear,” remarked the fox. “Now we shall share this rice first. I know that you’ve worked so hard, so you can have all the parts that are growing under the ground and I’ll just take the top part.”

“Thank you,” said the crocodile gratefully, “You’re so kind to me.”

When they pulled up the rice plants, the crocodile saw that only thin little roots grew under the ground. The **cluster** of ripe rice seeds had been growing above the ground.

The crocodile felt silly and was annoyed with the fox.

The crocodile asked, “Shall we grow potatoes now?”

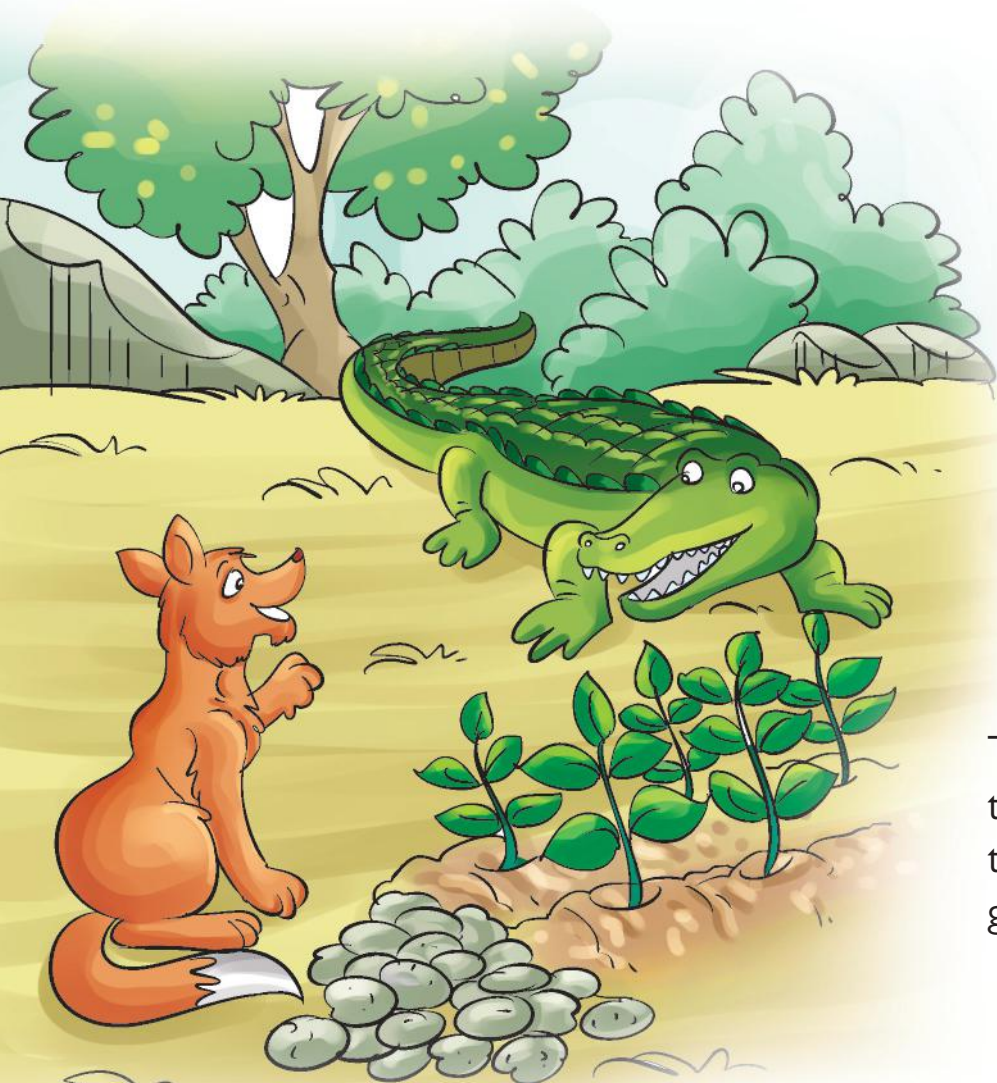
The fox agreed eagerly. So, the crocodile helped the fox to plant the potatoes.

Now, it was the time to harvest the crop and the crocodile licked his lips hungrily.

“Have patience, my dear. First we shall share these potatoes”, said the fox.

“Oh this time I’ll take the top part, if you don’t mind,” suggested the crocodile.

The **cunning** fox agreed in no time and said, “After all I took the part that grew above the ground last time.”



When they pulled up the potato plants, the crocodile was *surprised* to see all the juicy potatoes which lay beneath the ground. He tasted the leaves but he spat them out at once.

This time the fox could hardly contain his laughter. The crocodile felt stupid and cross.

Again, they grew coconuts and when they were ready to be harvested, the fox said, "This is the coconut, tasty and smooth, so you decide which part of it you would like to have- outside or inside."

By this time, the crocodile was absolutely in fury and frustration. He took a few unsteady steps towards the fox and caught him with his powerful jaws wide open, exposing his razor-sharp teeth. He tore the fox into many pieces and ate him up. The chapter of the cunning fox was closed because of his dishonest behaviour towards his friend.

Word Treasure

glittering : sparkling

bruise : damage

cunning : sly

scarce : inadequate

cluster : bunch

surprise : astonish



EXERCISE TIME

Comprehension Skills

A. Tick (✓) the correct option :

- The villagers were _____ that the fox would eat their pets.
a. surprised b. afraid c. unaware
- After a few days, an _____ came to the mind of fox.
a. thought b. understanding c. idea
- Now it was time to harvest the crop and the crocodile licked his lips _____.
a. hungrily b. selfishly c. eagerly
- The _____ of ripe rice seeds had been growing above the ground.
a. group b. herd c. cluster
- The crocodile felt _____ and cross.
a. stupid b. sad c. good

B. Fill in the blanks with the correct option :

rice, dishonest, glittering, afraid, surprised, potatoes

1. The two friends lived in a small village by _____ lake.
2. The villagers were _____ to see the fox.
3. The decided to grow the _____ for food.
4. The crocodile was _____ to see all the juicy _____.
5. The cunning fox was _____ behaviour towards his friend.

C. Write 'T' for true or 'F' for false statements :

1. We should make good friends.
2. We should help our friends in need.
3. We should have a blind faith in our friends.
4. We should not share our meal with our friends.
5. We should not be cunning with our friends.



D. Answer the following questions :

1. Who were the two friends in this story?
2. When was there a scarce of food?
3. What did the both friends grow first?
4. What did they grow second time?
5. Who lost his life at the end of the story?

Essential Grammar

E. Rewrite the following sentences into Future Indefinite form as shown :

1. Shikhar plays football in the stadium.
Shikhar will play football in the stadium.

2. Amanda speaks at the meeting.

3. We work hard for our exams.

4. Faraaz will have the ability to solve the problem.

5. Birds chirp in the morning.



F. Make questions for the following answers as shown :

1. I read in third standard.

In which class do I read?

2. Antonio is my best friend.

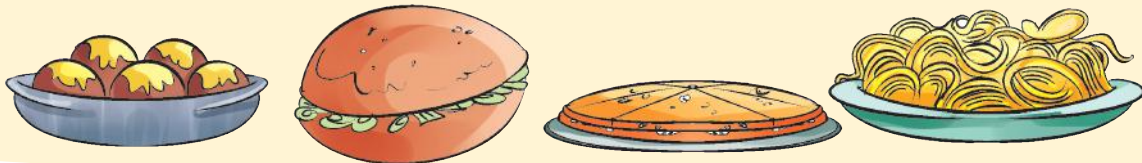
3. I watch TV in the evening.

4. They went to market in the morning.

5. My parents help me in my homework.

Essential Speaking

G. Here are given some pictures of delicious food items. Recognize them and discuss about them with your partner :



Fun to Do

H. Make a tree. Past paper leaves to it to give it real look.

