



# 1 Beautiful words

## Reading

### Aesop's Fable

One day a fox was looking around for something to eat. His stomach rumbled like thunder because he was very hungry.

Suddenly he noticed a crow in a tree high above him. She had a piece of meat in her beak. The fox had an idea.

'Miss Crow!' he shouted. 'You look lovely today. Your feathers are as smooth as silk and your eyes are bright like diamonds.' The crow looked pleased.

'Is your voice as beautiful as your eyes?' he asked. 'If it is, you must be the Queen of the Birds. Please sing for me.'

The proud crow opened her mouth to sing and the meat fell from her beak. As quick as a flash, the fox caught it.

'You foolish bird!' laughed the fox and he gobbled up the meat.

After his delicious meal, the fox felt thirsty. Fortunately, there was a well nearby. As the fox looked down at the water, he fell in. 'The sides of this well are smooth like glass,' he groaned. 'How can I climb out?'

Just then a thirsty goat came to the well. 'What are you doing?' he bleated. 'I'm drinking this delicious water,' said the fox, pretending that everything was fine. 'You should try it,' he said. 'It's as sweet as honey. Just jump down.'

'OK,' said the goat and he leaped into the well.

'There is one small problem,' said the fox. 'This well is very deep and it's difficult to get out. Could you kindly put your feet on the wall? You'll be like a ladder.'

The goat did as the fox asked. The fox climbed onto the goat's back, up onto his head and jumped out of the well.

'Help! What about me?' cried the goat from the bottom of the well, but the fox was gone.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Post-reading

**Write the answers and blacken ● the circles.**

1 Read Paragraph 5: *As quick as a flash, the fox caught it.*  
What does 'it' refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Find a word that means 'jumped'.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Why couldn't the fox get out of the well?

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Why did the fox say that the water was as sweet as honey?

\_\_\_\_\_

5 Why was the fox in the well?

- A. He jumped into the well to drink some water.
- B. He was in the well by accident.
- C. He wanted the goat to get into the well.
- D. He wanted to look at the water in the well.

6 Read the last paragraph. How did the goat feel?

- A. angry
- B. happy
- C. worried
- D. amazed

7 What can we learn from the fable?

- A. We should not be greedy.
- B. We should not jump into wells.
- C. We should not talk with our mouth full.
- D. We should not believe everything others say.