

What's for Breakfast?

by Jim Aylesworth



It looked like a delicious cherry. It was red and ripe and shiny.

Mr. Jay saw it, and Mr. Crow saw it. They both flew down and landed right next to the cherry.

"Get out of my way!" said Mr. Jay. "I got here first. It's my cherry!"

"Oh, no," said Mr. Crow. "I was here first. It's mine!" Mr. Crow stared at Mr. Jay and said, "Leave!"

"I'm staying," said Mr. Jay.

And so they both sat there. They sat all day and all night.

During the night, a hungry worm crawled into the cherry. It ate and ate. Soon nothing was left but a big seed hanging on a stem.

In the morning, Mr. Jay and Mr. Crow saw it. "We were tricked," said Mr. Jay. "A worm has eaten our breakfast. You're welcome to what's left."

"You were here first," said Mr. Crow. "It's all yours."

With that, they both flew away.

COMPREHENSION

A Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a* or *b*.

- 1 The lesson this story teaches is that you may
 - a** be tricked by a worm if you do not watch out.
 - b** end up with nothing if you want everything for yourself.
- 2 The birds were ready to fight over the cherry because it
 - a** was hanging on a long stem.
 - b** would make a nice breakfast.
- 3 Mr. Jay and Mr. Crow each wanted the other to
 - a** fly away.
 - b** sit and wait.
- 4 Mr. Jay and Mr. Crow sat by the cherry because they each wanted to eat
 - a** some.
 - b** it all.
- 5 Mr. Crow said, "It's all yours," because
 - a** nothing was left to eat.
 - b** he knew Mr. Jay had really been first.

LEARN ABOUT WORDS

B *Newspaper* is a word that is made from two words, *news* and *paper*. *Newspaper* is called a compound word. Put each set of two words together to make a compound word. Write the word.

- 1 some + one = _____
- 2 after + noon = _____
- 3 break + fast = _____
- 4 day + time = _____
- 5 red + bird = _____



LEARN ABOUT WORDS *(continued)*

C Read the words you wrote. Which one best fits in each sentence? Write the word.

- 6 The worm ate at nighttime, not in the _____.
- 7 They waited all morning and all _____.
- 8 It was clear that _____ ate the cherry, but who?
- 9 "I'll eat that worm for my _____!" shouted Mr. Jay.
- 10 A _____ said, "Maybe next time you'll share."

THINK ABOUT IT

D Most verbs add *-ed* to show that something happened in the past.

Mr. Crow *landed* next to the cherry.

Birds always *land* next to their food.

Read each sentence. If it could be happening now, write *now*. If it happened in the past, write *past*.

- 1 Mr. Jay and Mr. Crow look at the cherry.
- 2 The two birds stayed by the cherry all night.
- 3 A little worm crawls inside the red cherry.
- 4 The birds landed next to the cherry.
- 5 The worm tricked them out of their breakfast.