

The Crow and the Pitcher

adapted from Aesop's Fables

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Aesop lived in Greece 3,000 years ago. He told many fables. Fables are stories that have a strong moral at the end.

Once there was a very thirsty crow. He was so thirsty he would drink anything. He saw a water pitcher. He tried to drink from it. The water covered only the bottom of the pitcher. Crow couldn't reach the water. He tried over and over to get a drink. He never had any luck. He was about to give up, but then he had a thought. He picked up a small stone in his beak. He dropped it into the water. Crow saw that the water rose slightly. He put in another stone. The water rose some more. He put in many stones. At last the water reached the top of the pitcher. Crow drank and drank until he was no longer thirsty. Now Crow knows that it often takes patience to get what you need.

COMPREHENSION

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

- 1 The crow in this story was really
 - a** smart.
 - b** lazy.
- 2 This story most likely takes place
 - a** inside.
 - b** outside.
- 3 By putting one stone at a time in the pitcher, the crow showed he was
 - a** impatient.
 - b** patient.
- 4 If the crow had not been able to get the water, he probably would have
 - a** found water somewhere else.
 - b** died of thirst.
- 5 The next time the crow finds a pitcher that is not full, he will
 - a** start putting stones in right away.
 - b** try to knock the pitcher over.

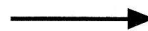
LEARN ABOUT WORDS

B A contraction is a short way of writing words. An apostrophe (') shows where letters are left out.

that's is made from *that is*

Say the contraction for each pair of words. Write the contraction.

- 1 who is
- 2 could not
- 3 there is
- 4 was not
- 5 is not



LEARN ABOUT WORDS (continued)

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

- 6 At the beginning of the story, the pitcher _____ full.
- 7 The crow _____ reach the water in the pitcher.
- 8 It _____ fun to be very thirsty.
- 9 Do you know _____ telling this story?
- 10 _____ only one correct answer.

THINK ABOUT IT

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

Yesterday the crow *wanted* a drink of water.

Today he *wants* to eat some grapes.

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

- 1 The crow hopped over to the pitcher.
- 2 He puts stones in the pitcher.
- 3 The crow filled the pitcher with stones.
- 4 Crow drinks the water.
- 5 Crow feels better.