

Family
and
Friends 5

The Jungle Book



By Rudyard Kipling

Illustrated by Francisca Marquez

OXFORD

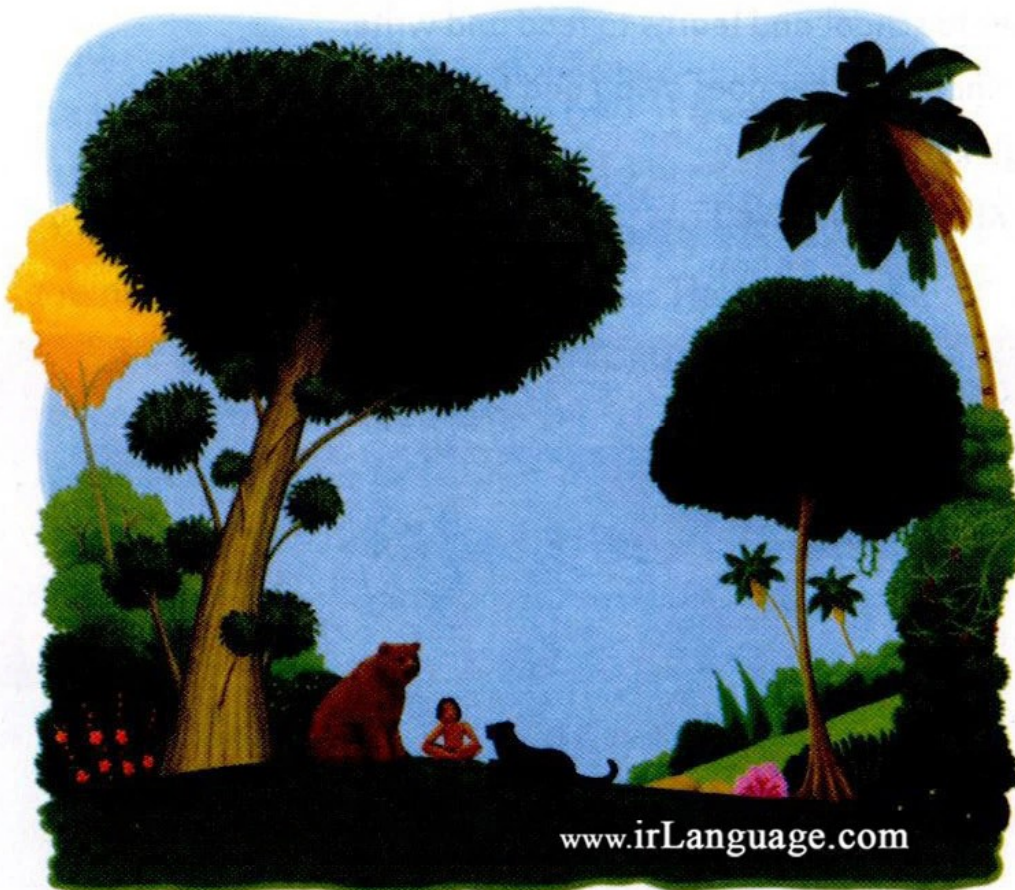


The Jungle Book

Rudyard Kipling

Text adaptation by Ralph Mowat

Illustrated by Francisca Marquez



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Activities

Before reading

This story is about Mowgli, a baby who grows up in the jungle with a Wolf-Pack. As Mowgli grows up, he has many adventures with his animal friends. But he also has an enemy – Shere Khan, the tiger. Shere Khan has wanted to kill Mowgli since he was a baby and is waiting for the right moment to attack...

1 What do you think will happen in the story? Tick the boxes.

- 1 When Mowgli grows up, some of the wolves want to kill him.
- 2 Mowgli leaves the jungle and goes to live in a village.
- 3 He goes to school and learns to read and write.
- 4 Shere Khan the tiger goes away and forgets about Mowgli.
- 5 Mowgli kills Shere Khan.
- 6 Shere Khan kills Mowgli.

Yes No

☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐



CHAPTER 1 Mowgli's brothers

One very warm evening in the Seeonee hills in Southern India, Father Wolf woke up from his day's rest. Next to him lay Mother Wolf, with their four cubs beside her.

'It's time to look for food,' said Father Wolf, and he stood up to leave the cave.

'Good luck,' said a voice. It was the jackal, Tabaqui, who eats everything and anything, even old clothes from the villages. The wolves of India do not like him, because he runs around making trouble and telling bad stories about them.

'Shere Khan, the tiger, is coming to look for food here,' said Tabaqui.

'He can't,' cried Father Wolf. 'By the Law of the Jungle he must tell us first, *before* he comes here to hunt.'

'Shere Khan has a bad leg, so he can only kill cows. In the village near him the people are angry. That is why he is coming here – to start hunting in a new place. Listen, you can hear him now,' said Tabaqui.

'He is a stupid animal,' said Father Wolf, and he listened to the angry noise of a tiger who has not eaten. 'No one will find anything to eat in the jungle now.'

wolf (*plural wolves*) a big grey animal like a dog that lives in the wild

wake up (*past woke up*) to stop sleeping

cub a young animal

jackal a wild animal like a dog that is smaller than a wolf

law something that tells you what you must and must not do

jungle a thick forest in hot, wet countries

hunt (*v*) to chase and kill animals for food

stupid not clever





'But Shere Khan is hunting man, not animal, tonight,' said Tabaqui.

The Law of the Jungle says that animals must not hunt man, because if they kill a man, other men will come with guns. Then everybody in the jungle is in danger.

Father and Mother Wolf listened to Shere Khan in the jungle not far away. Then, suddenly, they heard a noise much nearer to them.

'It's a man. A man's cub. Look!' said Father Wolf.

And there in front of them stood a baby who could just walk. He looked up at Father Wolf and laughed.

'Is that a man's cub?' asked Mother Wolf. 'I have never seen one. Bring it here.'

The baby, small and with no clothes, pushed its way between the cubs to get near to Mother Wolf. 'Look,' she said, 'he is taking his meal with the others.'

'I have heard that this has happened before,' said Father Wolf, 'but I have never seen it until now. Look at him. He is not scared.'

Suddenly, it was dark, and Shere Khan was pushing his big head in through the mouth of the cave.

'We are happy that you visit us, Shere Khan,' said Father Wolf, but his eyes were angry. 'What do you want?'

'I am hunting a man's cub,' said Shere Khan. 'Its father and mother have run away. Give it to me.'

Father Wolf knew that Shere Khan could not get inside the cave because he was too big.

'The man's cub belongs to us,' he said. 'The Pack – the other wolves and I – will decide. If we want to kill him, we will kill him, not you.'

'The man's cub belongs to me! It is I, Shere Khan, who speaks!' And Shere Khan's roar filled the cave with noise.

'No!' came the angry voice of Mother Wolf. 'The man's cub belongs to me! We will not kill him. He will live, to run with the other wolves, to be my son. Now go away, eater of cubs! Go!'

Shere Khan went. He knew that he could not fight Mother Wolf in the cave. 'But I will have this man-cub one day, you thieves!' he shouted from the jungle.

'Do you really want to keep him, Mother?' said Father Wolf.

'Keep him?' said Mother Wolf. 'Yes. He came here by night, alone and hungry, but he was not scared. Yes, I will keep him. And I will call him Mowgli, the frog.'

'But what will the other wolves of the Pack say?'

By the Law of the Jungle all wolf-cubs must come to the Pack when they can walk. The wolves look at the cubs carefully. Then the cubs are free to run anywhere because all the adult wolves know them and will not attack them.

* * *

When the four wolf-cubs could run a little, Father Wolf took them and Mowgli and Mother Wolf to the Meeting Rock. Here, the hundred wolves of the Wolf-Pack met every month when the moon was full.

belong to someone to be someone's thing

decide to think about something and then do it

roar (n, v) a long deep sound, made by animals like tigers

thief (plural **thieves**) a person or animal that takes things without asking

keep to have something that belongs to you

alone with nobody

attack to try to hurt or kill someone

The leader of the Pack was Akela, a great grey wolf. Each new wolf-cub came to stand in front of him and Akela said, 'Look well, O Wolves. Look well!'

At the end, Father Wolf pushed Mowgli into the circle of wolves. Then from the trees outside the circle they heard the voice of Shere Khan.

'The man-cub belongs to me. Give him to me!'

Akela did not move but said only, 'Look well! Who speaks for this man-cub? Two voices, who are not his father and mother, must speak for him.'

There is only one other animal who can come to these wolf-meetings – Baloo, the sleepy brown bear. His job is to teach the Law of the Jungle to the wolf-cubs.

'I speak for the man-cub,' said Baloo's deep voice. 'Let him run with the Pack. I will teach him.'

'We need another voice to speak for him,' said Akela.

Quietly, another animal jumped down into the circle. It was Bagheera the panther, black as the night, clever, strong, and dangerous.

'O Akela, will you let me speak?' said Bagheera softly.

'The Law of the Jungle says we can buy the life of a cub. It is bad to kill a man-cub. He cannot hurt you. Let him live with you, and I will give you a fat cow, newly killed, which lies in the jungle not far away.'

The voices of the wolves replied, 'Let him live.' They were always hungry and they wanted to get the dead cow. Soon they went away, and there were only Akela, Bagheera, Baloo and Mowgli's wolf family left. They could hear the angry roars of Shere Khan in the night.

'It is good,' said Akela. 'Men are clever. Perhaps this man-cub will help us when he is older. Take him away,' he said to Father Wolf, 'and teach him well.'

leader the person or animal that tells others what to do

bear a large heavy wild animal with thick fur and sharp teeth and claws

jump to move suddenly from one place to another place

panther a big, black wild cat

clever thinking well and quickly



And so, because of Baloo's good word and the present of a cow, Mowgli now belonged to the Seeonee Wolf-Pack.

* * *

The story of Mowgli's life with the wolves fills many books, but we must jump ten or eleven years now. Father Wolf, Baloo and Bagheera taught Mowgli well, and he learnt everything about the jungle. He understood every sound in the trees, every song of the birds, every splash in the water. He learnt to climb trees like a monkey, to swim in the rivers like a fish, and to hunt for his food as cleverly as any animal in the jungle.

understand (*past understood*) to know well

sound noise

song when someone or something sings

splash the noise when something goes into water fast

Activities

1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The jungle is in Southern India.
- 2 Mowgli is a wolf-cub.
- 3 Mother Wolf wants to keep the baby.
- 4 The baby is scared of Mother Wolf.
- 5 Mowgli dies when he is still a baby.
- 6 A bear and a panther are his teachers.
- 7 Shere Khan the tiger is Mowgli's friend.
- 8 Mowgli grows up with his wolf family.

T

2 Who said this? Write the names.

Father Wolf

Shere Khan

Baloo

~~Tabaqui~~

Bagheera

Mother Wolf

- 1 'Shere Khan, the tiger, is coming to look for food here.' Tabaqui
- 2 'The man's cub belongs to us.' _____
- 3 'I will have this man-cub one day, you thieves!' _____
- 4 'I will call him Mowgli, the frog.' _____
- 5 'Let him run with the Pack. I will teach him.' _____
- 6 'It is bad to kill a man-cub.' _____

3 Find the words from the letters in brackets. Complete the sentences.

- 1 Father Wolf and Mother Wolf have four cubs. (cbus)
- 2 Shere Khan has come to the jungle to _____. (htnu)
- 3 Akela is the _____ of the Wolf-Pack. (aledre)
- 4 Bagheera the panther is _____ and strong. (evrelc)
- 5 When Shere Khan is angry he _____ loudly. (orasr)

4 Match the pictures with the names.

~~Shere Khan~~

Baloo

Akela

Bagheera



Shere Khan



5 These animals are in the next chapter. What are they? Circle.



kite / deer

elephant / python

monkey / lion

CHAPTER 2 The Monkey-People

Baloo, the old brown bear, loved teaching Mowgli. He taught him how to speak to the different Jungle-People, and he taught him the important Master-Words. But Mowgli sometimes got bored with all the lessons. One day, when he was not listening, Baloo hit him, very softly, on the head, and Mowgli ran away angrily.

Bagheera, the black panther, was not happy about this. 'Remember how small he is,' he said to Baloo. 'How can his little head hold all your long words?'

'These words will keep him safe from the birds, from the Snake-People, and all the animals that hunt,' said Baloo. 'It is true that he is only small. But no one will hurt him, if he remembers all the Master-Words. Come, Mowgli!' he called into the trees. 'Come and say the words again.'

Mowgli climbed down from a tree and came to sit next to them. 'I will say the words to Bagheera, not you, fat old Baloo!' he said angrily.

'Very well,' said Baloo sadly. 'Say the words for the Hunting-People.'

'We are of one blood, you and I,' said Mowgli.

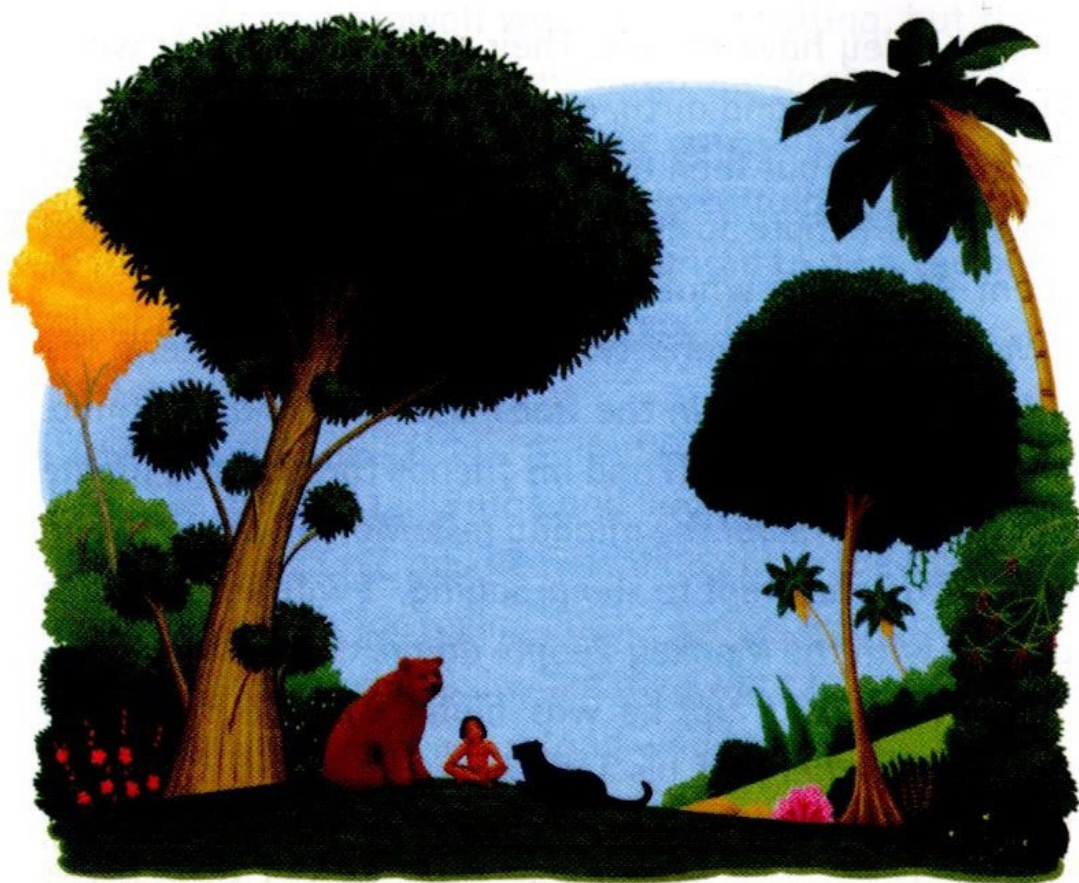
'Good. Now for the birds.'

Mowgli said the same words but with the sound of a bird.

'Now for the Snake-People,' said Baloo.

Mowgli then made the long 'ssss' sound, which was like no other noise, only the noise of a snake.

'Good,' said Baloo gently. 'One day you will thank me for my lessons. Now you will be safe in the jungle, because no snake, no bird, no animal will hurt you. You do not have to be scared of anyone.'



'And I will have my people and go with them high up in the trees,' shouted Mowgli.

'What did you say, Mowgli?' asked Baloo, surprised. 'Have you been with the *Bandar-log*, the Monkey-People?'

Mowgli could hear that Baloo was angry, and he saw too that Bagheera's green eyes were cold and hard.

'When Baloo hurt my head,' said Mowgli, 'I went away, and the grey monkeys came down from the trees and talked to me. They were kind to me and gave me nice things to eat. Then they took me up into the trees. They said that I was their brother, and they wanted me to be their leader one day. Why have you never told me about the Monkey-People? Bad old Baloo! They play all day and don't do lessons, and I will play with them again.'

'Listen, man-cub,' said Baloo angrily. 'I have taught you the Law for all the Jungle-People, but not for the Monkey-

surprised feeling that something very new is suddenly happening

dirty not clean

forget (*past forgot, forgotten*) not to know any more

follow to go after someone or something

branch part of a tree

journey when you go far

crash to fall noisily

People. They have no law. Their ways are not our ways. They are noisy and dirty, and they think that they are a great people, but then they forget everything. The rest of the Jungle-People do not talk to them, or even think about them. Remember what I tell you.'

Mowgli listened, and was sorry. But all this time the *Bandar-log* were up in the trees, listening and watching. They followed Mowgli and his friends through the jungle until it was time for the midday rest. Mowgli lay between his friends and went to sleep, saying, 'I will never talk to or play with the Monkey-People again.'

When he woke up, he was high in a tree and there were hands holding his legs and arms – hard, strong, little hands. Down below Baloo was shouting angrily, and Bagheera was climbing up the tree, but he was too heavy for the thin branches. The monkeys, shouting and laughing, carried Mowgli between them and started their journey along the monkey roads, which are high in the trees.

It was an exciting journey. The monkeys jumped from tree-top to tree-top, crashing through the leaves and



branches. At first Mowgli was scared of falling, but then he began to think. He must tell Baloo and Bagheera where he was. High up in the blue sky he saw Chil the kite. The big bird saw that the monkeys were carrying a man-cub. He flew down to look, and was surprised to hear the bird-call of the kites: 'We are of one blood, you and I!'

'Who are you?' called Chil.

'Mowgli, the man-cub!' came the reply. 'Watch where they take me, and tell Baloo and Bagheera.'

'I will,' called Chil, and he flew high above the trees and watched with his far-seeing eyes.

Monkeys can travel fast when they want to, and by now Baloo and Bagheera were a long way behind.

'We cannot follow the *Bandar-log* through the trees,' said Baloo, 'and we will never catch them. But they are scared of Kaa, the big python. He can climb as easily as the monkeys, and he eats them. Maybe he will help us.' And so Baloo and Bagheera went to look for Kaa the python.

They found him, lying in the sun – ten metres of brown-and-yellow snake, beautiful and dangerous.

'What news?' called Kaa when he saw them.

'We are looking for food,' said Baloo. He knew that you must not hurry Kaa. He is too big.

'Let me come with you,' said Kaa hungrily. 'I have not eaten for days.'

'We are following the *Bandar-log*,' said Baloo. 'Those noisy, dirty thieves have stolen our man-cub. And we love our man-cub very much, Kaa!'

'The *Bandar-log*,' said Bagheera cleverly, 'are very scared of you, Kaa. But they say bad things about you, and call you "old yellow fish", I hear.'

kite a bird with a curved beak that hunts small animals

python a very large snake

steal (past stole, stolen) to take something without asking

'Tss! Tss!' said Kaa. 'I will teach them not to call me bad names. Where did they take your man-cub? They will be tired of him quickly, and that is bad for him.'

'Up! Up! Look up, Baloo!'

Baloo looked up and saw Chil the kite, high in the sky.

'What is it?' called Baloo.

'I have seen Mowgli the man-cub with the *Bandar-log*. He knew the Master-Word. They have taken him to the monkey-city, the Lost City.'

Baloo and Bagheera knew of the monkey-city. Men used to live there once, but they left hundreds of years ago. Nobody went there now, only the *Bandar-log*.

'We must go at once,' said Bagheera. 'It is a long way.'

'I will come as fast as I can,' said Baloo, 'but you and Kaa can go faster. I will follow you.'

* * *

The Lost City was very old. There were many beautiful buildings, but the walls were broken and full of holes, and there were tall trees in houses that were now open to the sky. The Monkey-People called the place their city, and ran around everywhere, in and out of the empty houses, up and down the fruit trees in the old gardens.

Now Mowgli was in their city, and the Monkey-People were very happy. 'This boy can help us,' they said. 'He can teach us how to make things, because men are clever with their hands.' But monkeys make many plans, and always forget them five minutes later.

When Mowgli arrived in the city, he was tired and hungry. 'Give me food,' he said, and twenty or thirty monkeys ran to get fruit. But they started fighting and forgot to take any fruit back to Mowgli.

Mowgli knew that he was in a bad place. 'Baloo was

leave (*past left*) to
go away

fight (*n, v*) (*past*
fought) to hit
someone again
and again



right,' he thought. 'The *Bandar-log* have no Law and their ways are not our ways. I must try to get away. Baloo will be angry with me, but that is better than life with the *Bandar-log*.'

But when Mowgli went to the walls of the city, the monkeys pulled him back. 'You are very happy here with us. We are great. We are wonderful. We all say so, and so it is true,' they shouted.

'Don't they ever sleep?' thought Mowgli. He looked up at the sky. 'There's a cloud coming over the moon. Maybe I can run away when it's dark. But I am tired.'

Activities

1 Correct the mistakes in these sentences.

sometimes got bored with

- 1 Mowgli ~~always~~ loved his lessons with Baloo.
- 2 The Monkey-People were quiet and clean.
- 3 The monkeys carried Mowgli away to a cave.
- 4 Baloo and Bagheera asked Chil the kite for help.
- 5 Bagheera called Kaa the python an 'old yellow fish'.
- 6 Mowgli wanted to stay with the Monkey-People.

2 Find words in the word snake to complete the sentences.



- 1 Baloo taught Mowgli the important Master-Words.
- 2 The *Bandar-log* _____ Mowgli and his friends.
- 3 The monkeys took Mowgli on an exciting _____.
- 4 Mowgli asked Chil the _____ to watch where he was going.
- 5 Baloo told Kaa that the *Bandar-log* had _____ Mowgli.

3 Match the two halves of the sentences.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Baloo loved teaching Mowgli ... ☒ | a that they wanted him to be leader one day. |
| 2 Baloo and Bagheera were angry ... ☐ | b to tell Baloo and Bagheera where he was. |
| 3 The <i>Bandar-log</i> told Mowgli ... ☐ | c but Mowgli sometimes got bored. |
| 4 When Mowgli was asleep ... ☐ | d but the monkeys pulled him back. |
| 5 Mowgli called to the kite and asked him ... ☐ | e Kaa to help them get Mowgli back. |
| 6 Baloo and Bagheera asked ... ☐ | f that Mowgli wanted to spend time with the monkeys. |
| 7 When Mowgli arrived in the Lost City ... ☐ | g the <i>Bandar-log</i> took him away through the trees. |
| 8 Mowgli went to the walls of the Lost City ... ☐ | h he was very tired and hungry. |

4 What do you think happens next? Tick the boxes.

- Mowgli enjoys his time with the *Bandar-log*.
- Mowgli leaves the Lost City alone.
- Bagheera jumps into water to get away from the monkeys.
- The monkeys kill Baloo.
- Kaa the python helps Mowgli.
- Mother Wolf tells Mowgli he must stay with her from now on.

Yes	No
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

CHAPTER 3 Kaa's hunting

Bagheera and Kaa were also watching that cloud. They were now outside the city walls, but they knew they had to be careful. There were only two of them, and there were hundreds of monkeys.

'They are over there by that house, talking about the boy,' said Bagheera. 'When the cloud comes over the moon, I will attack them.'

'I will go to the higher ground at the west wall,' Kaa said, 'and come down the hill very fast. Good hunting!'

The black panther ran quickly to the crowds of monkeys and started hitting, right and left, as hard as he could. The monkeys screamed angrily, but then one of them shouted, 'There is only one here! Kill him! Kill!' And a crowd of monkeys jumped on Bagheera, biting and pulling. Another group pulled Mowgli up a wall and pushed him over. He fell down into a dark room which had no doors or windows, and he could not get out. 'Stay there,' shouted the monkeys, 'until we have killed your friend. And then we will play with you, if the snakes leave you alive.'

Mowgli heard hissing sounds in the darkness around him. 'We are of one blood, you and I,' he said, quickly.

'Sssss,' the snakes replied. 'We will not bite you, but stand still, Little Brother, because your feet can hurt us.'

Mowgli stood very still and listened to the fight around Bagheera. For the first time ever, the big panther was fighting for his life. Then Mowgli remembered something. There was a big tank of water near one of the buildings.

'Go to the tank, Bagheera! Get to the water!'

Bagheera heard and he knew that Mowgli was safe. Suddenly he felt stronger and he pulled himself slowly to

scream to cry out loudly

hiss (v) to make a long 'sss' sound, like a snake

bite (past bit, bitten) to cut something with your teeth

tank a place to keep water

the tank, fighting against the monkeys.

Then Baloo came running in from the jungle, shouting, 'Bagheera, I am here!' At once the monkeys jumped on him, and the bear started to hit them with his great strong arms. Mowgli heard a splash when Bagheera jumped into the tank. The monkeys were scared of water and could not follow him there. But they stood all round the sides, ready to jump on him if he tried to get out and help Baloo.



And where was Kaa all this time? It was a hard climb up to the west wall, and Kaa moved carefully over the stones. Now he came down the hill very quickly, hungry and wanting to kill. Kaa was ten metres long, heavy and strong. He went quietly up to the monkeys around Baloo, and he did not have to hit twice.

When they are very young, monkeys are told about Kaa, the quiet thief who can kill the strongest monkey. All monkeys are scared of Kaa. Now they ran, with shouts of 'It's Kaa! Run! Run!'



Then Kaa opened his mouth for the first time and spoke one long hissing word. The monkeys were suddenly quiet and still, and nothing moved in the city.

Bagheera pulled himself out of the tank. 'Get the man-cub out and let us go,' he said. 'I can't fight any more. And the monkeys will attack us again.'

'They will not move until I tell them to move,' said Kaa.

'We must thank you, Kaa. We could not do it without you,' said Baloo.

'I am happy to help. Where is the man-cub?' said Kaa.

'Here! In this room, but I can't get out.'

'Take him away,' called the snakes around Mowgli. 'He dances around too much and he will stand on us.'

'Stand back, man-cub,' said Kaa. 'I will break the wall.'

With two metres of his heavy body off the ground, Kaa hit the wall very hard, five or six times. A hole opened, and Mowgli jumped quickly through it. He ran and put his arms around Baloo and Bagheera.

'Are you hurt?' asked Baloo.

'Not much,' said Mowgli, 'but the *Bandar-log* have hurt you badly, my friends.'

'It is nothing,' said Baloo. 'But you must thank Kaa. He has done a lot for you tonight.'

Mowgli turned and saw the head of the python.

'So this is the man-cub,' said Kaa. 'He is like the *Bandar-log*, but not the same. Be careful, man-cub, that I do not make a mistake when I am hunting monkeys.'

'We are of one blood, you and I,' Mowgli answered. 'You have given me my life tonight. When I kill, it will be for you if you are hungry.'

'Well spoken,' said Baloo.

'You are brave, young man,' said Kaa, 'and you speak well. Now go with your friends. The moon is going down. You must not watch what I do next.'

Kaa went softly out in front of the monkeys and began

mistake
something that is
wrong

brave not afraid



to dance. His head moved from right to left, and his long body turned this way and that way, making circles that moved every second. Slowly, never hurrying, Kaa danced in front of the monkeys.

Baloo and Bagheera stood and could not move. Mowgli watched, and did not understand.

'*Bandar-log*,' said the deep voice of Kaa at last. 'Can you move?'

'Without a word from you, Kaa, we cannot move.'

'Come nearer to me,' said Kaa.

The monkeys came nearer, and Baloo and Bagheera walked forward, too.

'Nearer,' hissed Kaa, and they all moved forward again.

Mowgli put his hands on Baloo and Bagheera to get them away, and the two animals woke up.

'Keep your hand on me, Mowgli,' whispered Bagheera, 'or I will go back to Kaa, and walk into his mouth.'

whisper (v) to speak in a very low, soft voice

'It's only old Kaa dancing,' said Mowgli. 'Let us go.' And the three of them went away into the jungle.

'A python's dance is dangerous to watch,' said Baloo, 'even for us. Kaa will have good hunting tonight.'

'And now, Mowgli,' said Bagheera angrily. 'Baloo and I have fought hard for you. The monkeys have bitten us and pulled us and hit us. And all this, man-cub, was because you played with the *Bandar-log*.'

'It is true,' said Mowgli sadly. 'I am a bad man-cub.'

'The Law of the Jungle says we must punish you,' said Bagheera. Baloo was happy that Mowgli was safe and with them again, but he could not speak against the Law.

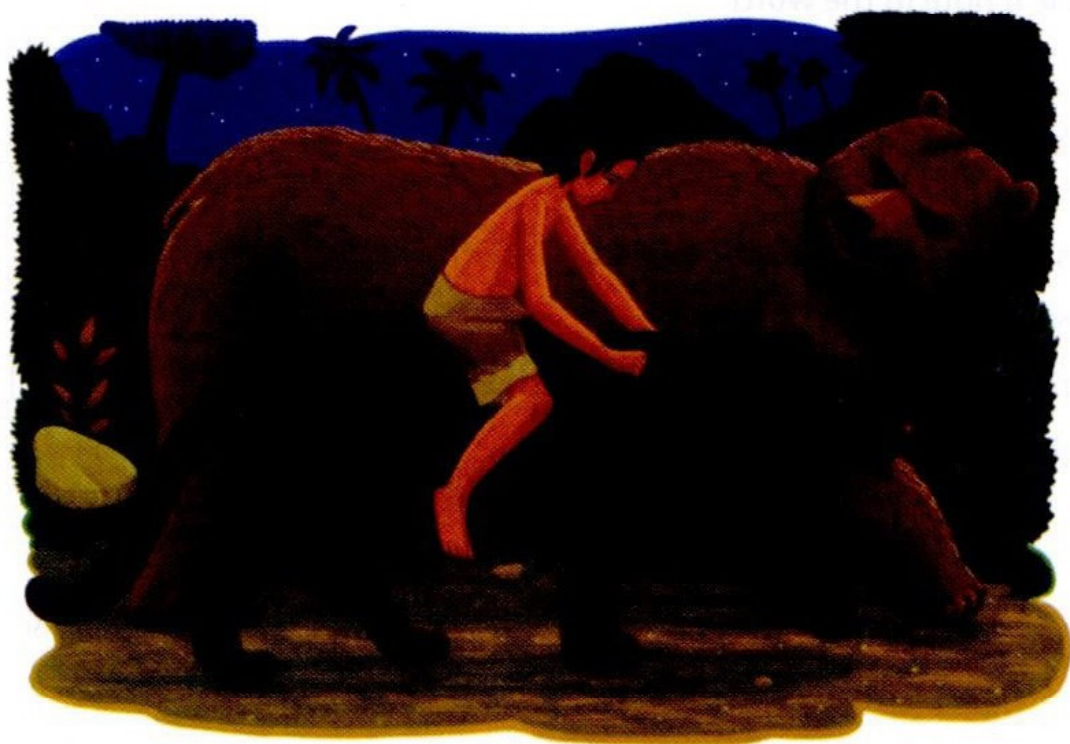
'It is right to punish me,' said Mowgli. 'I did wrong.'

Bagheera hit him, very softly for a panther, but very heavily for a little boy. Mowgli did not cry.

'Now,' said Bagheera, 'jump on my back, Little Brother, and we will go home.'

One of the good things about Jungle Law is that, after you are punished, the matter is finished.

punish to hurt someone because he or she did something wrong



Activities

1 Choose the correct answer.

1 Who attacked the monkeys first?

- a Kaa
- b Baloo
- c Bagheera

☐
☐
☒

2 Where did Kaa the python go?

- a to the house
- b to the west wall
- c to the water tank

☐
☐
☐

3 Why did Mowgli tell Bagheera to get into the water?

- a Bagheera was too hot.
- b The water was near the city walls.
- c Monkeys are scared of water.

☐
☐
☐

4 What happened when Kaa spoke one long hissing word?

- a The monkeys hit Kaa.
- b The monkeys shouted and ran.
- c The monkeys were quiet and still.

☐
☐
☐

5 Who made a hole in the wall?

- a Kaa
- b the monkeys
- c Baloo

☐
☐
☐

6 Why was Bagheera angry with Mowgli?

- a Bagheera was tired.
- b Mowgli had promised not to play with the *Bandar-log*.
- c Mowgli liked being in the Lost City.

☐
☐
☐

2 Complete the sentences using the past tense of the verb in brackets.

- 1 The snakes said (say) to Mowgli, 'Stand still, Little Brother.'
- 2 Kaa _____ (speak) one long hissing word.
- 3 Baloo was strong but he _____ (can) not beat the monkeys on his own.
- 4 Kaa _____ (break) a hole in the wall.
- 5 Mowgli _____ (jump) quickly through it.
- 6 The monkeys slowly _____ (come) nearer to Kaa.

3 Correct the mistakes in these sentences.

- 1 The ~~brown~~ black panther started hitting the monkeys as hard as he could.
- 2 Mowgli remembered there was a big hole near one of the buildings.
- 3 Kaa was fifty metres long, heavy and strong.
- 4 After Mowgli was rescued, he put his arms around Kaa.
- 5 The *Bandar-log* couldn't move when they watched Kaa eating.
- 6 Baloo and Bagheera were sad that Mowgli was safe at last.

4 What do you think happens next? Tick the boxes.

- 1 Mowgli plays with the Monkey-People again.
- 2 Shere Khan and Mowgli have a fight.
- 3 Bagheera kills Shere Khan.
- 4 Mowgli leaves the jungle.

Yes	No
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

CHAPTER 4 The fight at the rock

Mowgli always went to the meetings of the Wolf-Pack, and there he learnt something new one day. If he looked hard at any wolf, the wolf could not look into his eyes and looked away. Mowgli thought this was funny; he did not understand that he was different from the wolves.

All the Jungle-People were his friends – but not Shere Khan, of course. Mother Wolf told him that the tiger wanted to kill him. ‘One day you must kill Shere Khan. If you don’t kill him, he will kill you,’ she said. But Mowgli forgot. He was only a boy, not a wolf.

Shere Khan still came often to that part of the jungle. Akela was older now and not so strong, and Shere Khan made friends with some of the younger wolves. Akela could not stop them, and Shere Khan started to make trouble for Mowgli. ‘I hear you can’t look into the man-cub’s eyes,’ he said, laughing, to the young wolves. And the young wolves started to get angry.

Bagheera, who had eyes and ears everywhere, knew something of this and told Mowgli. Mowgli laughed, but Bagheera went on, ‘Open your eyes, Little Brother. Remember that Akela is old and he will not always be the leader of the Pack. Shere Khan has taught the younger wolves that a man-cub has no place with them. And soon you will be a man, not a man-cub.’

‘But the wolves are my brothers. Why will they want me to go?’

‘Look at me,’ said Bagheera, and Mowgli looked at him hard between the eyes. The big black cat turned his head away quickly. ‘That is why,’ he said. ‘Not even *I* can look

learn to know by
being taught

turn to move
round



in your eyes. That is why they want to kill you. You are clever. You are a man.'

'I did not know these things,' said Mowgli quietly.

'Now listen. The day will soon come when Akela cannot kill his deer in the hunt. Then at the next meeting of the Pack the younger wolves will be against Akela and against you. When that time comes, go to the men's houses in the village and take some of their Red Flower. That will be a stronger friend to you than I or Baloo.'

The Red Flower was fire. All animals are scared of it and do not call it by its name. 'I will get some,' said Mowgli. 'I will go and get it now, and keep it ready,' and he ran through the jungle to the village.

On his way he heard the sounds of the Wolf-Pack hunting a big deer. 'Show us that you are strong, Akela,' came the voices of the young wolves. 'Kill it!'

deer (plural deer)

an animal with long legs, that eats grass and can run fast

fire something red and hot that burns

Mowgli stopped and listened, and he could hear that Akela did not kill the deer. 'So the time has come already,' he thought, and hurried to the village. He watched and waited, and soon he saw a child who was carrying a fire-pot. Mowgli jumped up, took the pot from him, and quickly ran away, back to the jungle. All that day he kept his fire alive with leaves and pieces of wood.



In the evening Tabaqui came and told him that the wolves wanted him at the meeting. Mowgli laughed, and went. When he arrived, he saw that Akela was not in his place on top of the rock; he was sitting next to it.

already
happening earlier
than you think

Now another wolf could try to take Akela's place. Shere Khan was there too, with all the younger wolves around him. Mowgli sat down, with the fire-pot between his legs. Bagheera lay beside him.

Shere Khan began to speak and Mowgli jumped up.

'Free People, is Shere Khan your leader? Does a tiger belong in the Wolf-Pack?'

'There is no wolf on the rock,' began Shere Khan, but the other wolves said, 'Let Akela speak.'

Akela looked up, old and tired. 'Free People, I have been your leader for many years. In all that time no wolf has died in the hunt. But this time I did not kill my deer. The Law of the Jungle says that you can kill me now, but the Law also says that you must come one by one.'

No one spoke. Akela was old, but nobody wanted to fight Akela alone.

Then Shere Khan spoke. 'Bah! This old wolf is not important. He will die soon. It is the man-cub who has lived too long. Give him to me.'

'A man! A man!' cried most of the younger wolves angrily. 'A man does not belong in the Wolf-Pack.'

'Mowgli is our brother,' said Akela. 'He has eaten our food. He has slept with us. He has done nothing wrong. Let him go to his own place.'

'He is a man,' cried Shere Khan and most of the wolves. Mowgli stood up, the fire-pot in his hands. He was very angry, and very sad.

'You have said many times that I am a man. I was your brother, but I will not call you my brothers again. I will decide on my life or my death, not *you*. I am a man, and to show you, I have brought the Red Flower with me.'

He dropped the fire-pot on the ground and some of the

life being alive

death being dead

drop (v) to let fall down

burn to be on fire

frightened scared

stick a long thin
piece of wood

dead not alive

fire fell out. The wolves were very scared and moved back. Mowgli held a long piece of wood in the fire and the end began to burn brightly.

'You are the leader now,' said Bagheera softly. 'Help Akela. He was always your friend.'

'Good,' said Mowgli. He looked at the frightened wolves. 'I will go from you to my people – the world of men. But first ...' and Mowgli went to Shere Khan. 'This killer of cows wanted to kill me. This is what men do to killers of cows,' and he hit Shere Khan on the head with the burning stick. The tiger was very frightened.

'Go now,' said Mowgli to Shere Khan. 'The next time I come to this rock, it will be with your dead body. I tell you this also, my brothers – you will *not* kill Akela, because *I* do not want that. Akela is free to live.'

And Mowgli jumped at the young wolves with his burning stick and they all ran away. In the end there were only Akela, Bagheera and a few older wolves left. Then



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something began to hurt Mowgli inside him, and for the first time in his life, tears ran down his face.

‘What is it? What is it? Am I dying, Bagheera?’

‘No, Little Brother. You are a man, and these are men’s tears. But you must go – the jungle is closed to you now.’

‘Yes,’ said Mowgli. ‘I will go to men. But first I must say goodbye to my mother.’ And he went to the cave and cried on Mother Wolf’s coat.

‘You will not forget me?’ Mowgli said to his wolf-family.

‘Never,’ said his wolf-brothers. ‘Come to the foot of the hill when you are a man, and we will talk with you.’

‘Come soon, little frog,’ said Father Wolf, ‘because your mother and I are getting old.’

‘I will come,’ said Mowgli, ‘and I will bring the coat of Shere Khan and put it on the Meeting Rock.’

And in the morning Mowgli went down the hill alone to meet those strange things that are called men.

tears water that comes from your eyes when you cry

closed you cannot go in

strange not usual



Activities

1 Find the words from the letters in brackets. Complete the sentences.

- 1 The animals could not look into Mowgli's eyes. (syee)
- 2 One day Akela could not kill his _____ in the hunt. (reed)
- 3 The wolves said that a man did not _____ in the Wolf-Pack. (lbnoeg)
- 4 Mowgli hit Shere Khan with a _____ stick. (gbriinn)
- 5 Mowgli knew he had to go to the world of _____. (emn)

2 Choose the correct answer.

1 Shere Khan made friends with the younger wolves because

- a they were nicer than the older wolves.
- b he was afraid of Akela.
- c he wanted to cause trouble for Mowgli.

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2 The animals call fire

- a the Red Flower.
- b the Red Candle.
- c the Red Fox.

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3 The wolves didn't want to fight Akela one by one because

- a he was too old.
- b he was too strong.
- c he was too important.

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4 Mowgli cried when he went to see Mother Wolf because

- a he knew he had to leave his friends in the jungle.
- b Shere Khan had hurt him in the fight.
- c he had burnt his hand in the fire.

☐
☐
☐

3 Put these sentences in the correct order.

- a Mowgli hit Shere Khan on the head.
- b Mowgli stole a fire-pot from the village.
- c Mother Wolf told Mowgli that Shere Khan was his enemy.
- d The next day Mowgli left the jungle to go to live in a village.
- e One day Mowgli could hear Akela did not kill the deer.
- f Mowgli dropped the fire-pot on the ground.
- g Mowgli went to the meeting of the Wolf-Pack that evening.
- h Shere Khan said Akela would die soon.

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4 What do you think happens next? Tick the boxes.

- 1 Mowgli forgets all about his wolf-family.
- 2 He learns the language of men.
- 3 He makes friends with other boys.
- 4 He stays in the village for the rest of his life.
- 5 Shere Khan makes a plan to kill Mowgli.
- 6 The people of the village help Mowgli to kill Shere Khan.

Yes	No
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☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐



CHAPTER 5 Tiger-Tiger

enemy person who is not your friend

buffalo a big animal like a bull

Mowgli knew that he had enemies now and he went far away. He ran until he came to a village in a place with many rocks. Everywhere Mowgli could see cows and buffaloes. Some little boys were looking after the cows, but when they saw Mowgli, they shouted and ran away. Mowgli walked on until he came to the village.

He sat down by the gate. When a man came out of the village, Mowgli opened his mouth to show that he wanted food. The man ran back into the village and came back with a hundred other people. They all looked at Mowgli.

'Look,' said a man, 'he is a wild child who has come from the jungle.'



'He is a handsome boy,' said one of the women. 'Messua, he looks like your little boy that was taken by the tiger.'

'Let me look,' said Messua. 'Yes, he is thin, but he looks like my son.'

'Take him to your house, Messua,' the villagers said. 'The jungle took your boy, and the jungle has given you this one back.'

The woman called Messua took Mowgli to her house and gave him milk and bread. This was Mowgli's first time in a house, and he did not like it. It felt like a prison.

'But I am a man now,' he thought, 'and I must do what men do. I must also learn to speak like men.' He knew all the many languages of the jungle, and so it was easy for him to learn the sounds of men. That first evening he learnt many words from Messua.

But that night he did not want to sleep inside the house. So he climbed out of the window and went to sleep in a field near the village. Before he went to sleep, a soft grey nose touched his face. It was Grey Brother, the oldest of Mother Wolf's cubs.

'Wake up, Little Brother,' he said. 'I bring news. Shere Khan has gone away. You burnt his coat with the Red Flower. But he says that, when he comes back, he will kill you.'

'I remember also what I said about Shere Khan,' said Mowgli. 'But it is good to have news. Will you always bring news, Grey Brother?'

'Yes, Little Brother. But you will not forget that you are a wolf? You will not forget us when you are with men?'

'Never,' replied Mowgli. 'I will always remember that I love you all.'

* * *

thin not fat

prison a place where people must stay when they do something wrong

language the words people from the same country use to talk to each other

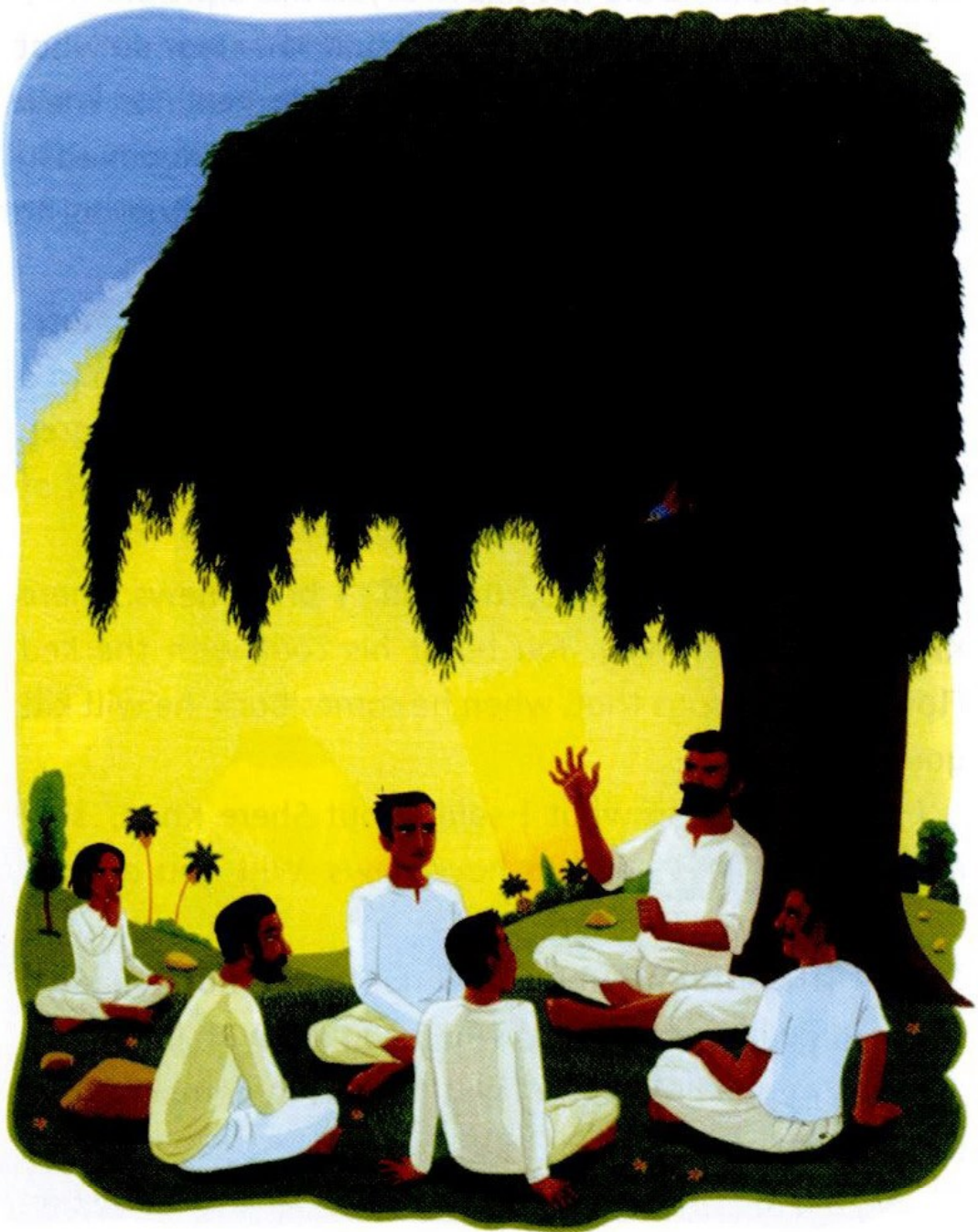
field a piece of land that a farmer has

touch to put something right next to someone so that they can feel it

news something to tell someone that they don't know yet

For three months Mowgli learnt how to be like a man. He had to wear clothes, learn how to use money, and how to work in the fields. In the evenings he sat with the villagers under a great tree, while the men told stories about the jungle and the animals.

Once, when Buldeo, the village hunter, told a story about a tiger, Mowgli had to hide his face because he was laughing. At the end he said, 'Buldeo's stories are stupid. He knows nothing about the jungle.'



The villagers did not like this, and after that they sent Mowgli out every day with the other boys, to look after the cows and buffaloes while they ate. Mowgli liked this work, and usually went on alone, with a big group of cows and buffaloes.

One day he saw Grey Brother under a tree near the jungle. 'Shere Khan has come back, but he is waiting for a while. Then he is coming to kill you,' said Grey Brother.

'Very good,' said Mowgli. 'Tell me when he comes. Meet me at the river, by the big *dhak*-tree with golden flowers. I will watch for you there every day.'

Day after day Mowgli went out with the cows and the buffaloes, but there was nobody at the *dhak*-tree. Then at last the day came when Grey Brother was waiting for him.

'Shere Khan has waited for a month, and is hoping that you have now forgotten about him,' said the wolf. 'He's going to wait for you at the village gate this evening. But now he is hiding in the big dry ravine of the Waingunga. I met Tabaqui this morning –' here Grey Brother showed his teeth a little – and before I broke his back, he told me all about Shere Khan's plan.'

'Has Shere Khan eaten today, or is he hungry?' The answer was life or death for Mowgli.

'He killed and ate this morning. And he has drunk, too.'

'How stupid he is!' said Mowgli. 'Does he think that I shall wait until he has slept?' He stood and thought for a while. 'The ravine of Waingunga! I can take the buffaloes round to the top end and chase Shere Khan down the ravine. After a meal, he cannot fight or climb easily. But I need a big group of cows at the bottom end of the ravine, to stop him running away. Then we will catch him

ravine a long narrow place with high sides of rock

between the buffaloes and the cows. Can you help me, Grey Brother?’

‘Not I alone,’ said Grey Brother, ‘but there is someone here who will help me.’ And the big grey head of Akela came out from the trees.

‘Akela! Akela!’ said Mowgli. ‘So, you haven’t forgotten me.’ The two wolves ran here and there, and soon the cows and buffaloes were in two groups. Already, they were getting excited and dangerous. The other boys, who were watching a long way away, ran back to the village with the news.

‘Keep the cows together, Grey Brother,’ called Mowgli. ‘Drive them into the bottom end of the ravine and keep them there until we come down. Akela, you and I will take the buffaloes round to the top.’

They drove the buffaloes round in a big circle uphill. It took a long time because they did not want Shere Khan to hear them. At last Mowgli was ready. He stopped and shouted down the ravine.

‘Shere Khan! It is I, Mowgli. It is time for our meeting!’

Mowgli rode on the back of Rama, the biggest of the buffaloes, and Akela chased the animals from behind. The buffaloes began to run down the ravine, faster and faster, and the sound of their heavy feet was very frightening.

Shere Khan heard the noise and woke up. He knew what it was, and he began to run down the ravine. No tiger can hope to stand against lots of buffaloes when they are moving fast. He looked for a way to get out, but the ravine was narrow, with high rocky walls. He had to go on, heavy with his dinner and his drink. Then he saw the cows at the bottom of the ravine, and turned. But it was too late. He fell under the feet of the buffaloes, and they ran over him

**drive (past
drove)** to run
behind, making
animals go
forward



like a river running down a mountain.

The buffaloes did not stop until they crashed into the cows. Mowgli jumped off Rama's back and shouted to Akela and Grey Brother.

'It is done! Shere Khan is dead! He died the death of a dog, not a fighting tiger.'

Mowgli took his knife and started to cut the coat from Shere Khan's body. It was hard work. After an hour Mowgli was still working when suddenly he felt a hand on his back. It was Buldeo, the village hunter.

'Go and look after your buffaloes,' he cried angrily. 'I will take this tiger's coat. I can sell it for a hundred rupees.'

'No,' said Mowgli. 'I want this coat.'

'Listen, boy!' shouted Buldeo. 'I am the village hunter, and I will take the coat, and keep all the money.'

Then Mowgli spoke to Akela in the wolf-language, and suddenly Buldeo was lying on his back on the ground with a big grey wolf standing over him.

'Buldeo,' said Mowgli, 'for a long time this tiger has wanted to kill me. But I have killed him.'

Buldeo was very frightened. Who was this boy who could talk to wolves and kill tigers? 'Great King,' he said to Mowgli, 'I am an old man. I thought you were just a boy. Let me go now, and I will go away.'

'Go, and peace go with you,' replied Mowgli, and he went on with his work.

It was nearly dark when at last he and the wolves pulled the great coat away from the tiger's body.

'Now we must hide this and take the cows and the buffaloes back to the village,' said Mowgli.

But when Mowgli came near the village, there were a lot of people waiting for him at the gate. 'Go away, wild

rupee money
used in India

peace a time
when there is no
fighting or trouble

dark when there
is no light

child!' they shouted. 'Go away, or we will kill you!'

Mowgli did not understand. Shere Khan – the tiger who killed cows and stole children – was dead, but people were angry with him. He turned away and looked up at the stars in the sky. 'No more sleeping in houses for me, Akela. Let us get Shere Khan's coat and go away.'

The moon climbed high in the sky, and the frightened villagers watched while Mowgli began to run across the fields, with the two grey wolves running at his side.

* * *

The moon was going down when Mowgli and the two wolves came to Mother Wolf's cave. 'The men do not want me, Mother,' called Mowgli. 'I have come home, and I have brought the coat of Shere Khan.'



Mother Wolf came out of the cave, very happy to see Mowgli again, and to know that Shere Khan was dead.

From the jungle came the deep voice of Bagheera. 'Little Brother, we are happy to see you.'

Then Mowgli took the coat of Shere Khan and put it on the great rock at the wolves' meeting place. Akela called, 'Look well, O Wolves!' And the Wolf-Pack came and looked, and saw that Shere Khan was dead.

'Now,' said Mowgli, 'I do not belong to the Wolf-Pack or to the Man-Pack. I will hunt alone in the jungle.'

'And we will hunt with you,' said Grey Brother and the rest of Mother Wolf's cubs.

And Mowgli went away into the jungle and lived and hunted with his brothers, the wolves.



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1 How did Mowgli kill the tiger Shere Khan? Match the two halves of the sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 One day Grey Brother came to tell Mowgli that ... ☒ d | a and Grey Brother drove the cows to the bottom of the ravine. |
| 2 When Mowgli heard this he made a plan ... ☐ | b while Mowgli and Akela took the buffaloes to the top of the ravine. |
| 3 They put the cows and buffaloes into two groups ... ☐ | c and asked Grey Brother and Akela to help him. |
| 4 Grey Brother kept the cows there ... ☐ | d Shere Khan was hiding in the ravine of the Waingunga. |

2 Complete the story of the death of Shere Khan.

high

noise

~~buffaloes~~

dinner

feet

ravine

fast

cows

When the buffaloes began to run down the _____, Shere Khan

heard the _____ and woke up. He too began to run but he could not run

_____ because he was heavy with his _____ and his drink. The

ravine was _____ and narrow so he could not climb out of it, but he could

not get past the _____ at the bottom. There was no way for him to get

out, so he died under the _____ of the buffaloes.

Activities

- 3 Here is a new illustration for the story. Find the best place in the story to put the picture, and answer these questions.



The picture goes on page _____.

- 1 Who are the characters in the picture? _____
- 2 What did the man do? _____
- 3 Why is he frightened? _____

Now write a title for the illustration.

Title: _____

4 Who do these sentences describe? Write the names.

Monkeys

Shere Khan

Tabaqui

~~Baloo~~

Kaa

Bagheera

- 1 Baloo teaches the Law of the Jungle to the wolf-cubs.
- 2 _____ is brown and yellow, and ten metres long. His dance is dangerous to watch.
- 3 _____ are noisy and dirty. They make many plans and forget them five minutes later.
- 4 _____ has green eyes and is as black as night. He is clever, strong and dangerous.
- 5 _____ kills cows and steals children. He is afraid of fire.
- 6 _____ eats anything and makes a lot of trouble.

5 Many people have written stories about animals who can talk. Look at these ideas. Do you agree (A) or disagree (D) with them?

- 1 Animals can't talk. ☐
- 2 Maybe animals can talk, but humans don't understand their language. ☐
- 3 Maybe wolves can talk to wolves and monkeys to monkeys, but wolves can't talk to monkeys. ☐
- 4 Animals can't speak like humans, but they use a language of things like sounds and smells. ☐
- 5 Some animals are cleverer than humans. ☐

6 Which animal did you like best in *The Jungle Book*? Explain why. _____

And which animal do you like best in real life? Explain why. _____

Project

1 What do you know about jungles? Choose the best answers to these questions.

1 What is the weather like in a jungle?

- a It rains a lot.
- b It never rains.
- c It snows in winter.
- d It is very cold.
- e It is very hot.
- f It is warm, but not hot.

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2 Which of these countries have jungles?

- a Italy
- b Brazil
- c Canada
- d Spain
- e India
- f Japan

☐
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☐
☐

2 Which of these things do you find in jungles? Circle.

beaches

birds

buses

chickens

cinemas

cows

elephants

flowers

fruit

gardens

hills

monkeys

rivers

sheep

shops

snakes

tigers

trees

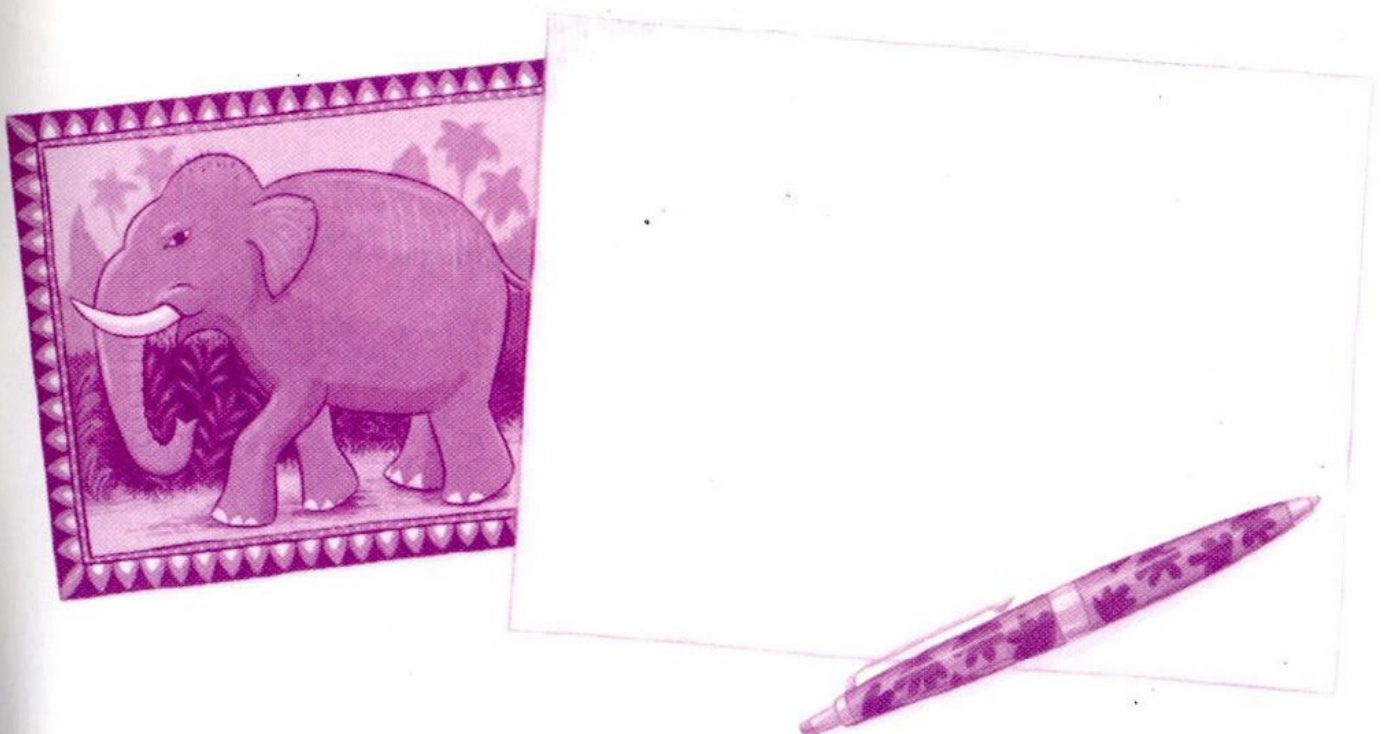


Project

- 3 Imagine you are going to a jungle. Circle ten important things you would pack for your trip.



- 4 Write a postcard to your parents describing an animal you have seen and how you felt about being close to it.



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