

Mom loved apples. She liked to bake pies. She liked to put them in oatmeal. She liked to eat them right off the tree.

Mom and Maria lived on a farm. They had horses and cows. They had a lot of land. One day, she planted an apple tree. “Now, we can have fresh apples,” she told Maria.

First, the tree had flowers. Then it had little green apples. Finally, the apples were red and ripe. “Tomorrow, we will pick them,” said Mom.

But the next morning, all the apples were gone. “Did you pick the apples?” Mom asked Maria.

“No,” said Maria.

“Then where are they?”

They looked and looked. Then, they saw their black pony. She was lying down. Her tummy was swollen. She looked very full.

“Look who ate the apples!” said Mom.



STORY QUESTIONS



1 Why is the pony's tummy swollen?

- a. She has eaten Maria.
- b. She has eaten a tree.
- c. She has eaten flowers.
- d. She has eaten the apples.

2 Where do Mom and Maria live?

- a. in an apple tree
- b. in the horse stall
- c. in a city
- d. on a farm

3 What is **true** about this story?

- a. Mom does not have a horse.
- b. The pony eats all the apples.
- c. Maria eats all the apples.
- d. The pony is white.

4 In this story, *lying* means . . .

- a. resting.
- b. telling a lie.
- c. being dishonest.
- d. sitting on a chair.



Once there lived a young owl. All around him, the older owls could hoot. “Who, hoo, hoo!” they cried from the trees. But the young owl could not hoot yet. He was not old enough.

He tried and he tried to hoot. He took a deep breath through his beak. He blew out air. But he didn’t make a sound. The other owls laughed at him. “I will never be able to hoot,” the owl said sadly.

His mother said, “Wait and see, little owl. Very soon, you will have your grown-up voice. Then, you will hoot.”

One evening, months later, the young owl awoke in his tree. He opened his eyes to see a crow flying straight toward him. “Who, hoo, hoo are you?” he hooted. The crow flew away. The owl flew after him, hooting happily all the while. His mother had been right!



STORY QUESTIONS



1 Why can't the young owl hoot?

- a. He is too old.
- b. He is a crow.
- c. He is a mother.
- d. He is too young.

2 A beak is an owl's . . .

- a. foot.
- b. mouth.
- c. arm.
- d. wing.

3 What flies straight toward the young owl?

- a. a crow
- b. his mother
- c. another owl
- d. an airplane

4 Why is the young owl happy at the end of the story?

- a. because he can fly
- b. because he can hoot
- c. because he can blow out air
- d. because he is too young

