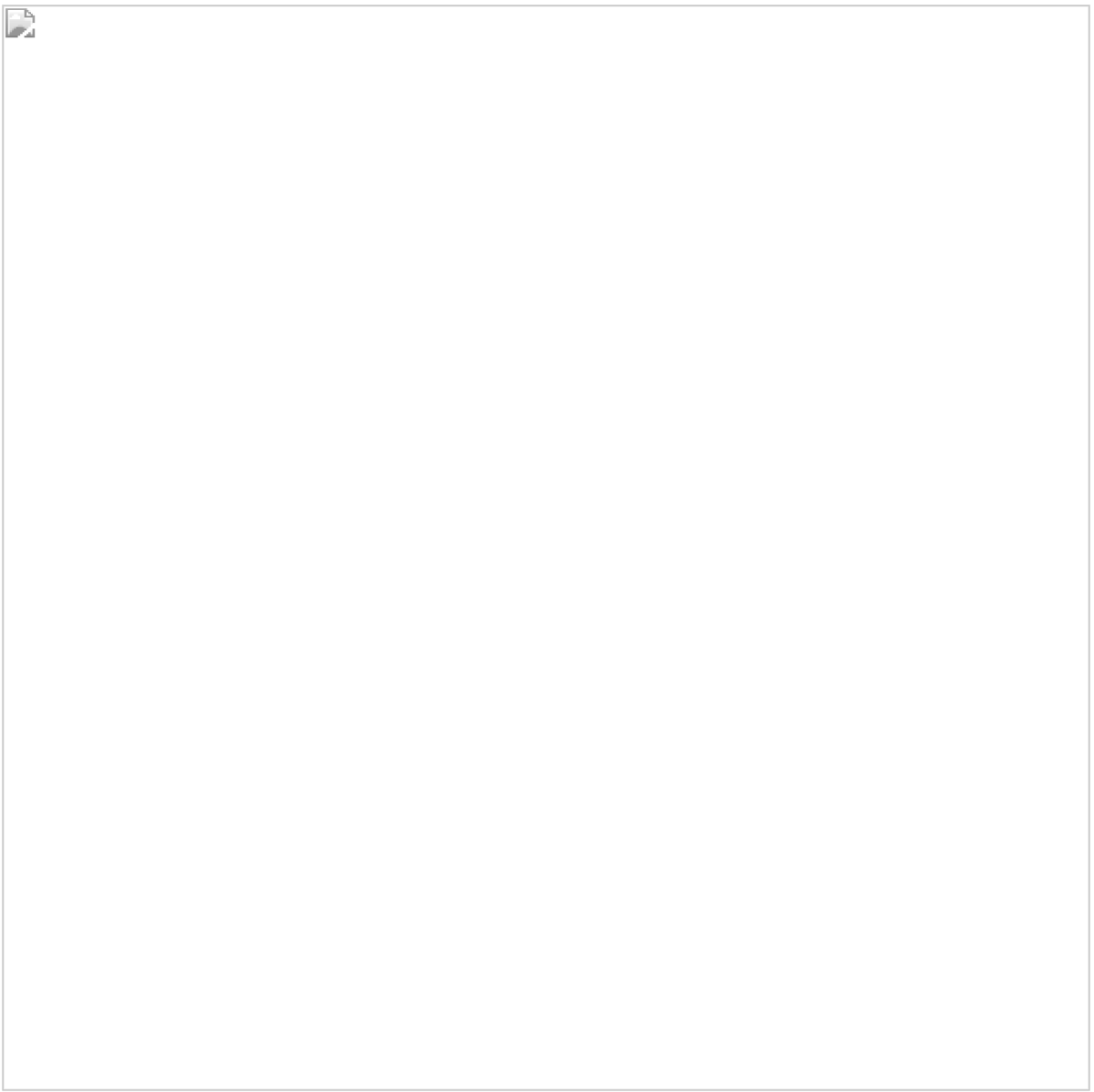
COLORING THE CLASSICS

The Jungle Book

Mowgli's Brothers and Rikki-Tikki-Tavi



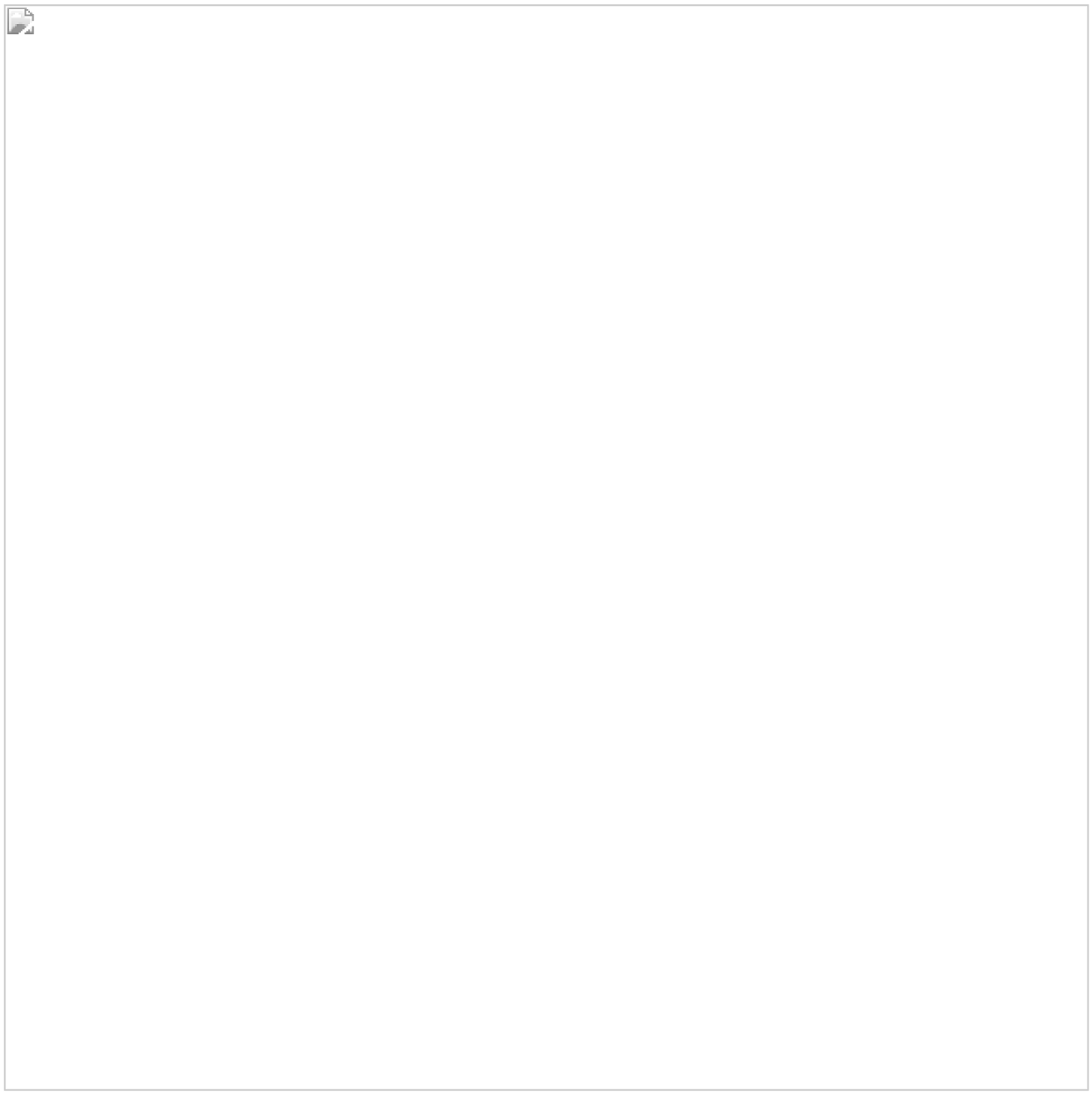
By Rudyard Kipling

TALK ABOUT IT

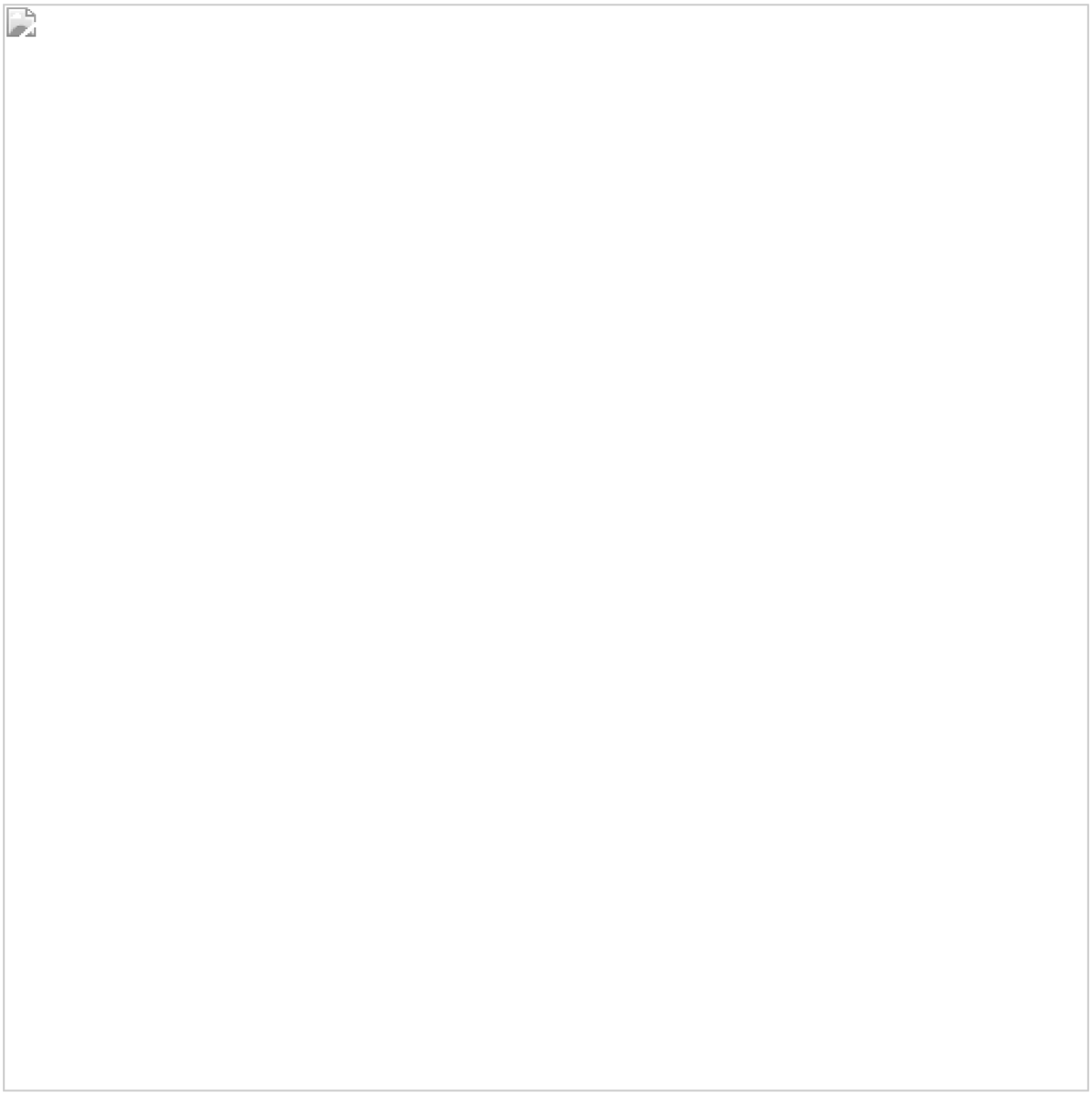
If you could talk with any animal, which one would you pick? What would you ask it?

This book belongs to _____

The Jungle Book · another picture



A Visitor in the Night



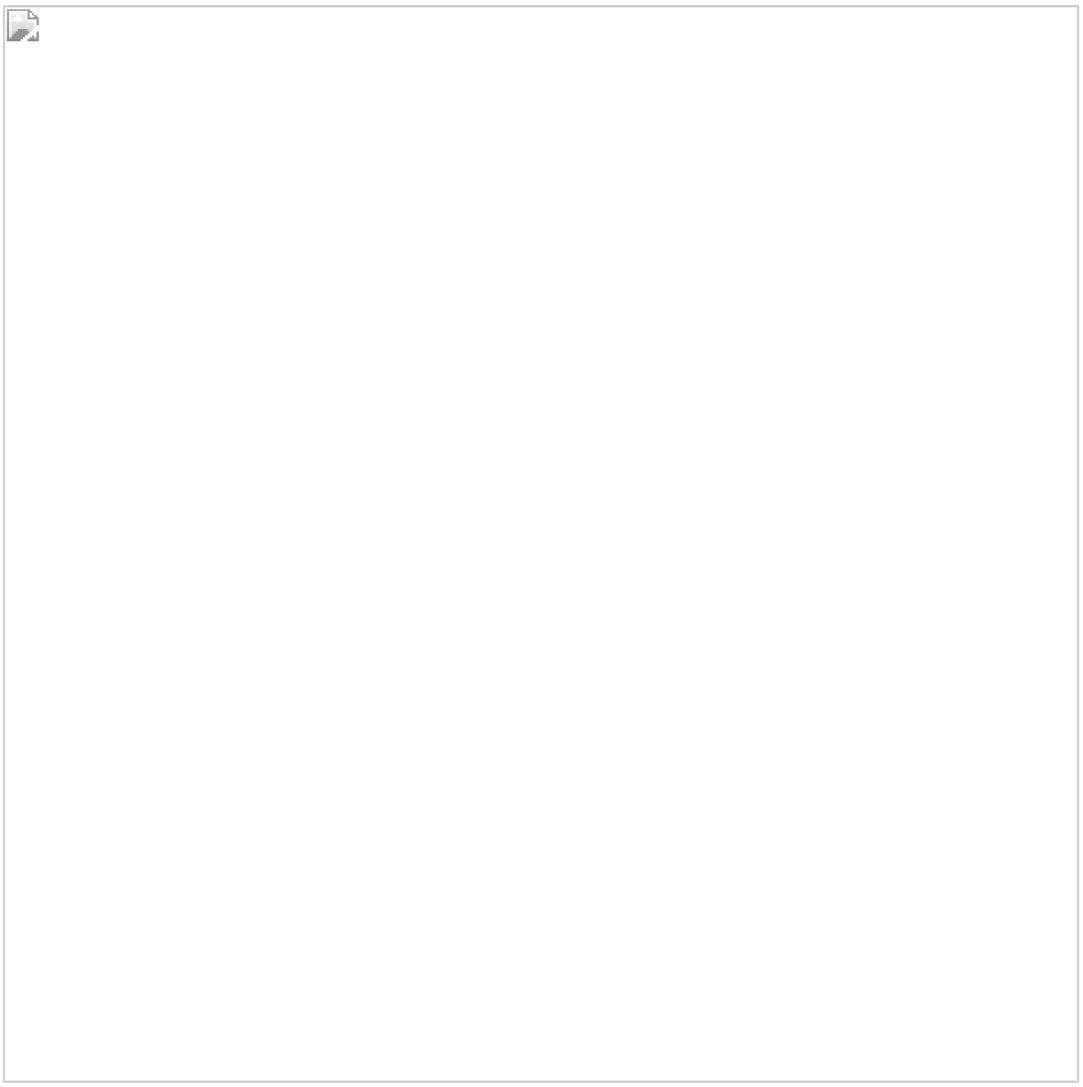
It was a very warm evening in the Seeonee hills in India. Father Wolf woke up from his day's rest, yawned, and stretched out his paws. Mother Wolf lay in the cave with her four tumbling, squealing cubs.

Just then the bushes rustled. Father Wolf got ready to leap, and then he stopped in mid-air. "Man!" he snapped. "A man's cub. Look!"

There stood a baby who could just walk, holding on to a low branch. He looked up into Father Wolf's face, and he laughed.

TALK ABOUT IT

The baby was alone in the dark and he laughed. What do you think he might have been thinking?



Think about it

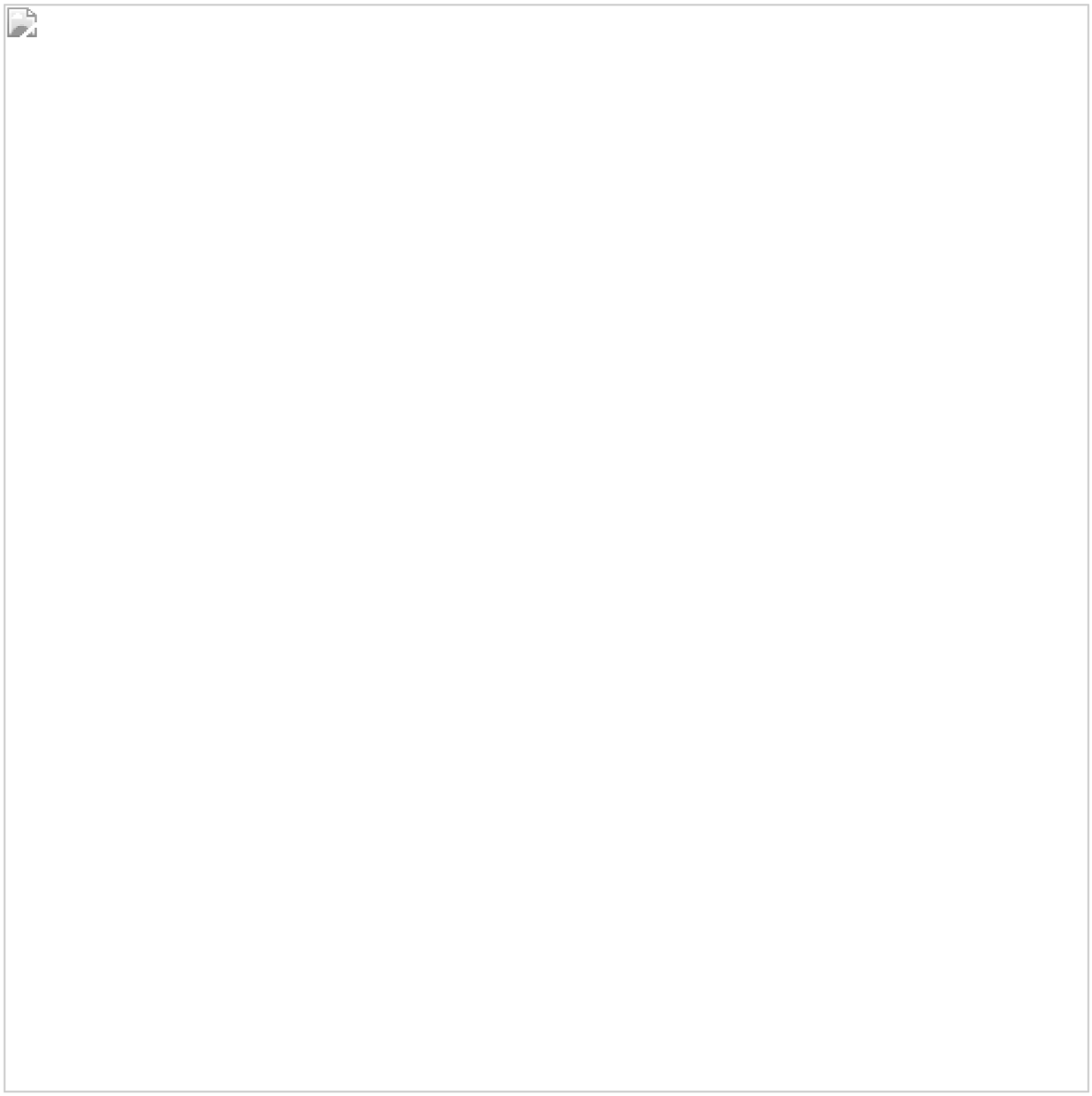
1. Who woke up in the cave?

- ○ Father Wolf
- ○ A little mongoose
- ○ A tailorbird

2. What did the baby do when he looked up at Father Wolf?

- ○ He laughed
- ○ He ran away
- ○ He fell asleep

Shere Khan at the Door



Mother Wolf said, “Bring it here.” Father Wolf set the baby down among the cubs, and the baby snuggled up to the warm fur like one of them.

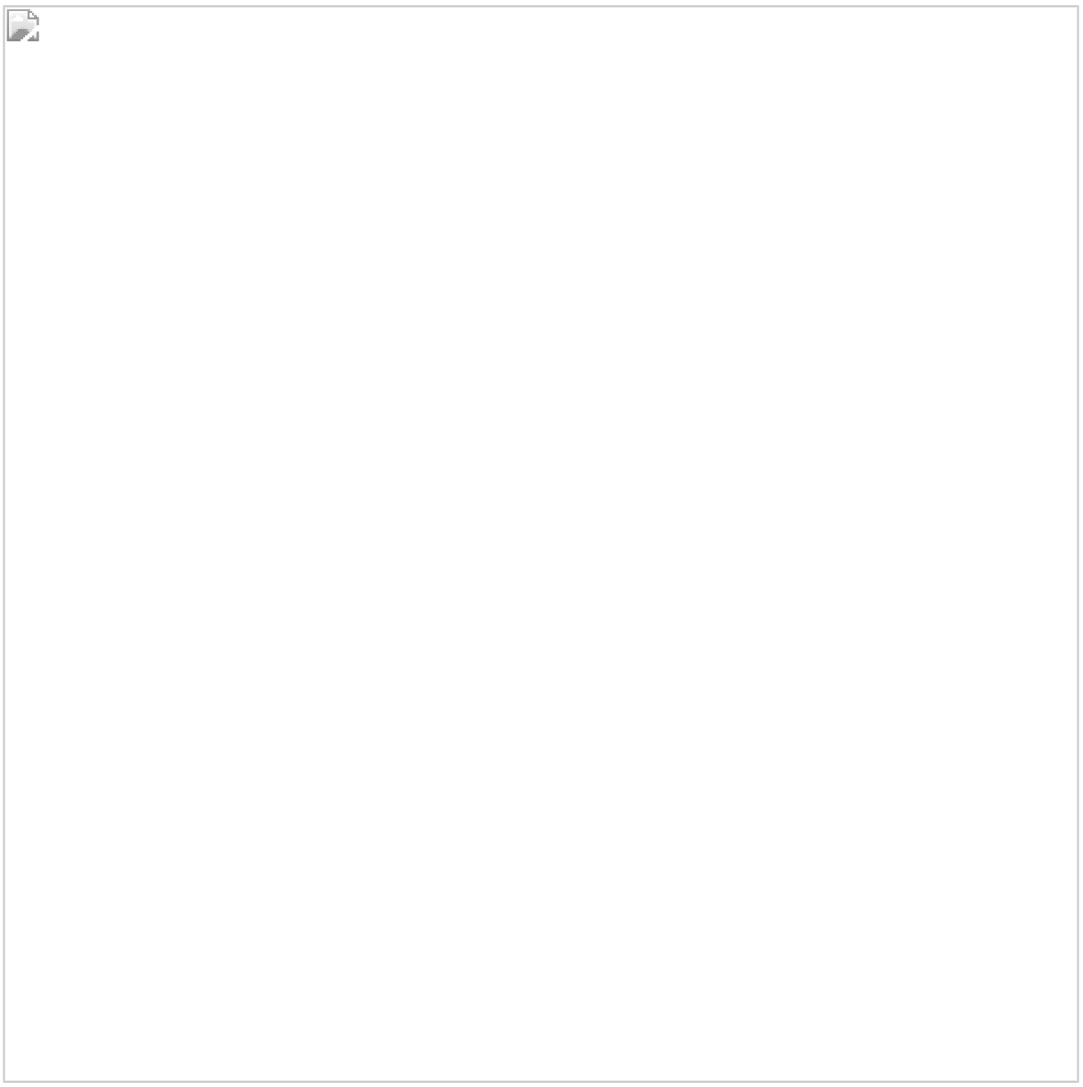
Then a great square head blocked the moonlight at the cave mouth. It was Shere Khan, the big tiger. “Give it to me,” he growled. But the cave was too narrow for him.

Mother Wolf sprang up, her eyes like two green moons. “He shall not be killed,” she said. “He shall live to run with the Pack and to hunt with the Pack.” Shere Khan backed out, growling. She named the baby Mowgli, the Frog.

TALK ABOUT IT

Mother Wolf did not even know the baby, but she kept him safe. Why do you think she did?

Shere Khan at the Door · another picture



Think about it

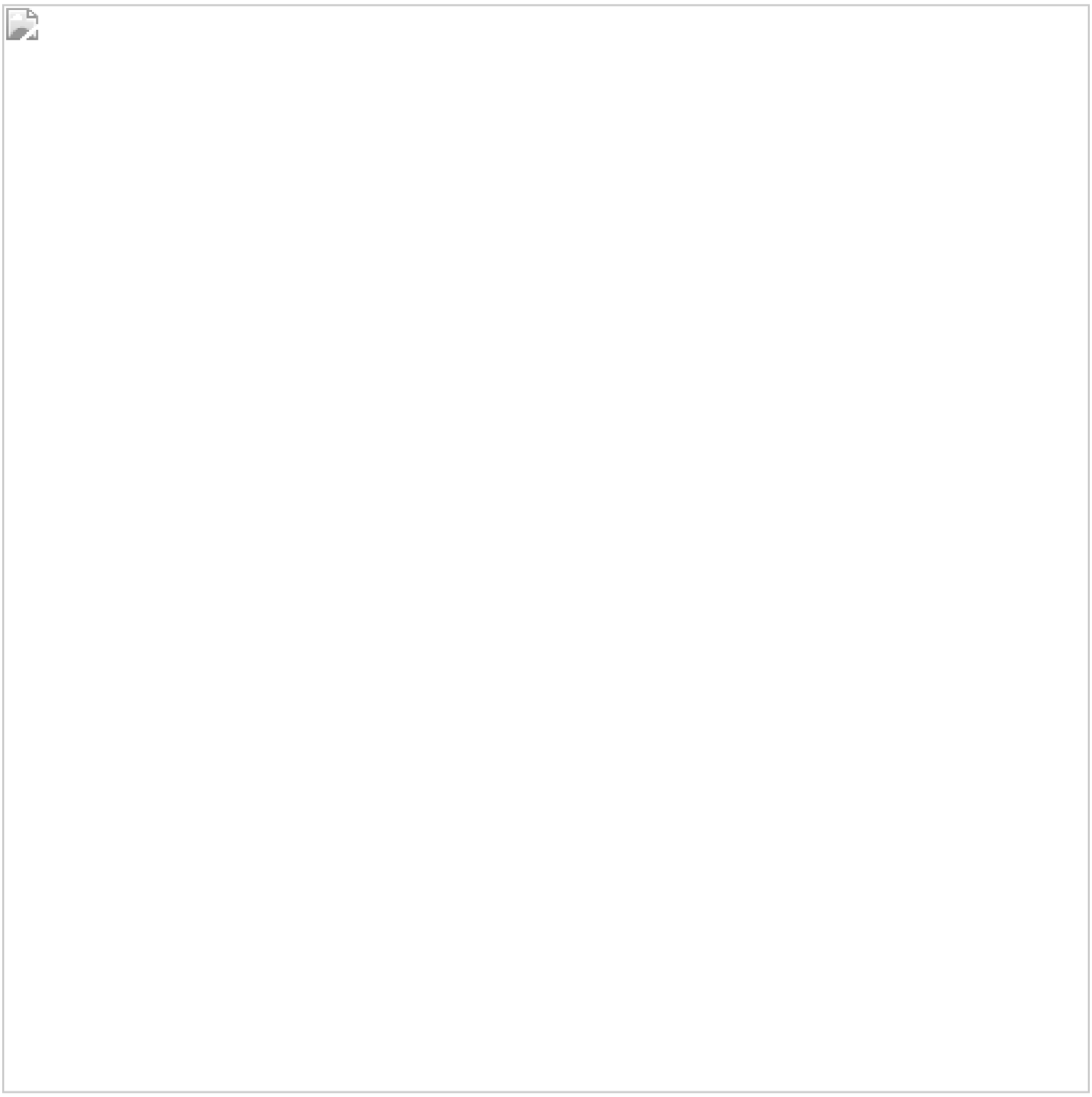
1. Who came to the cave wanting the baby?

- ○ Shere Khan, the tiger
- ○ Baloo, the bear
- ○ Tabaqui, the jackal, all by himself

2. What did Mother Wolf name the baby?

- ○ Mowgli, the Frog
- ○ Akela
- ○ Little Hawk

The Council Rock



When the cubs could run, Father Wolf took them and Mowgli to the Council Rock, where the Pack met at full moon. Their leader, Akela, called, “Look well, O Wolves!”

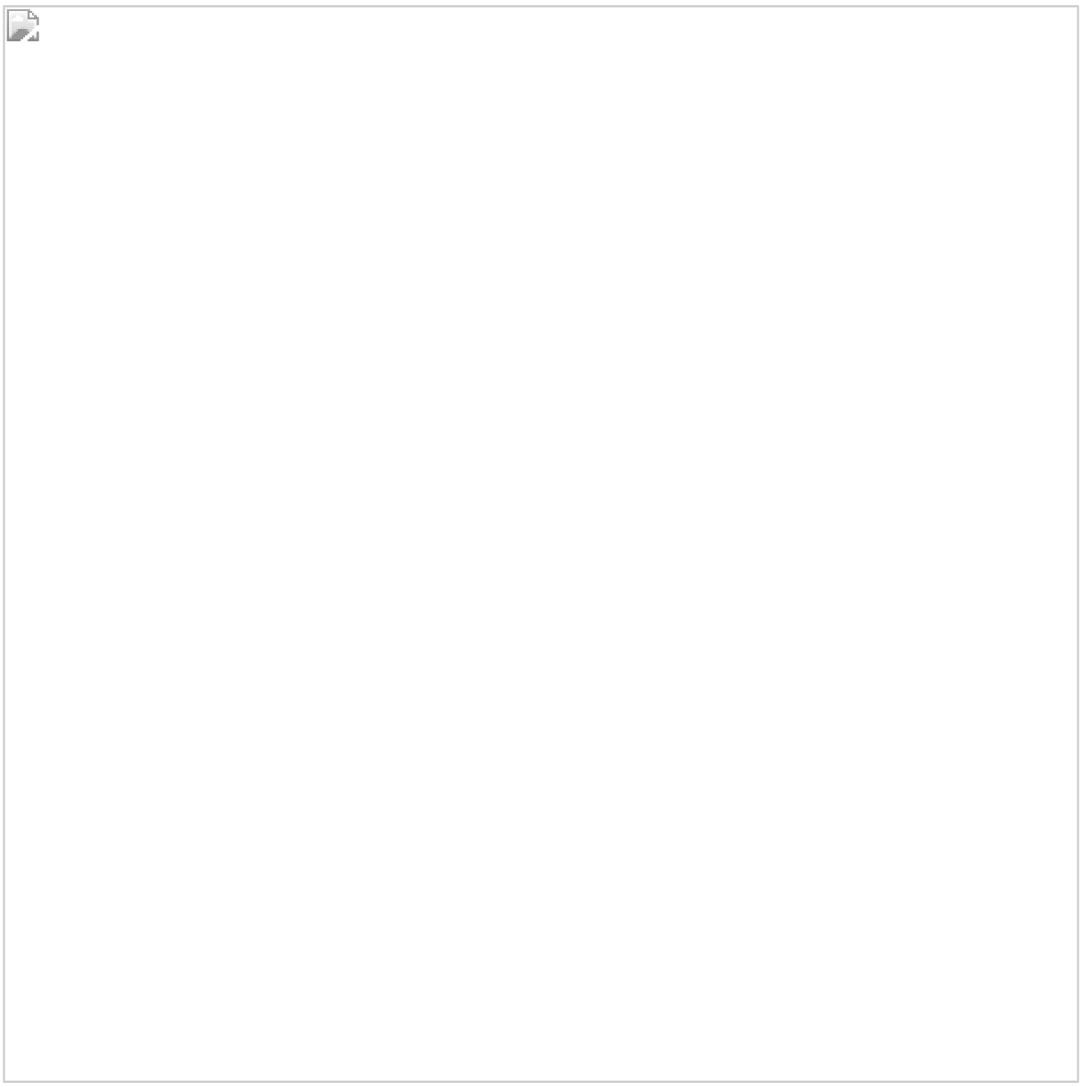
Shere Khan roared that the man’s cub was his. By the Law of the Jungle, two voices must speak for a cub.

Then Baloo, the old brown bear, stood up. “I speak for the man’s cub. There is no harm in a man’s cub.” Bagheera the Black Panther spoke too. “To kill a naked cub is shame,” he said, and he offered a fat young bull for Mowgli. So Mowgli joined the Pack.

TALK ABOUT IT

Baloo and Bagheera spoke up when nobody else did. Has anyone ever spoken up for you, or have you for someone else?

The Council Rock · another picture



Think about it

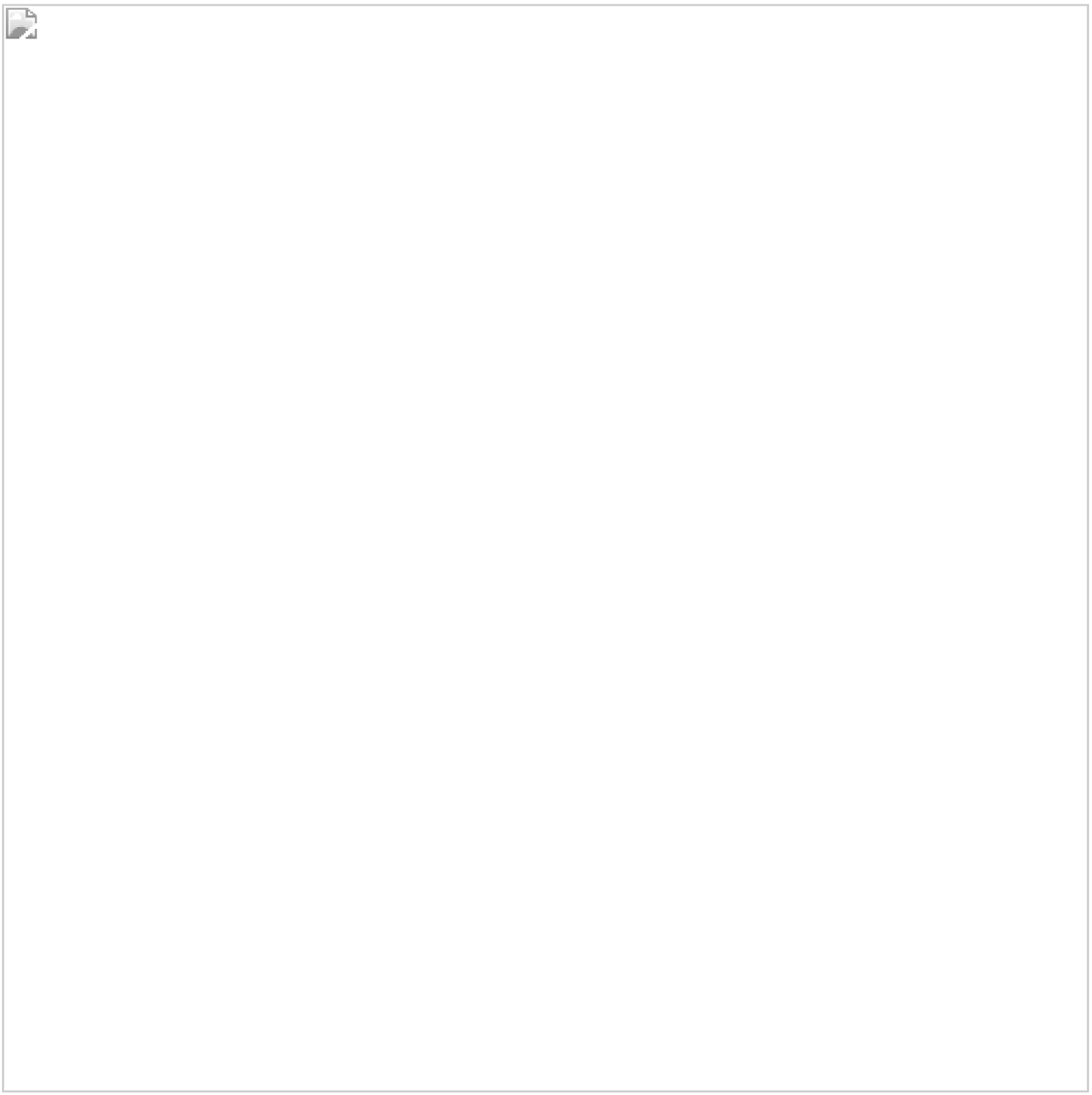
1. Who spoke for the man's cub at the Council Rock?

- ○ Baloo and Bagheera
- ○ Shere Khan and Tabaqui
- ○ Father Wolf and Mother Wolf only

2. What did Bagheera give so that Mowgli could join the Pack?

- ○ A fat young bull
- ○ A basket of nuts
- ○ A golden bell

Ten Years in the Jungle



Mowgli grew up among the wolves. Father Wolf taught him what every rustle and every night sound in the jungle meant. Baloo taught him the Law of the Jungle. Bagheera showed him how to climb for honey, calling, “Come along, Little Brother.”

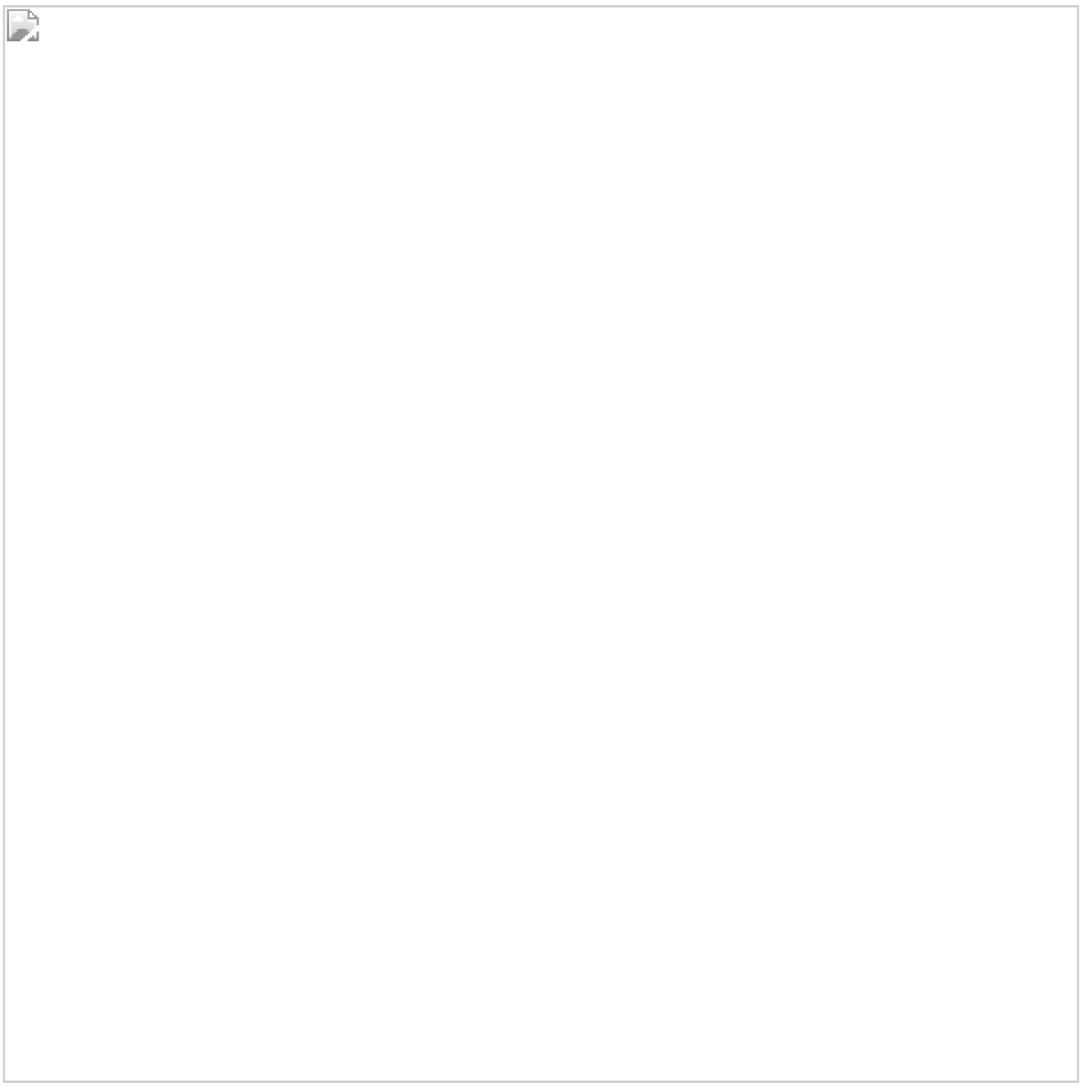
Mowgli loved the jungle, and he pulled thorns out of his wolf friends’ paws, because wolves suffer terribly from thorns.

But Akela was getting old. Shere Khan was making friends with the younger wolves and telling them they should not follow a man’s cub. Bagheera warned Mowgli, but Mowgli only laughed. “I have the Pack and I have thee,” he said.

TALK ABOUT IT

What would you most like to learn from Baloo, Bagheera, or Father Wolf?

Ten Years in the Jungle · another picture



Think about it

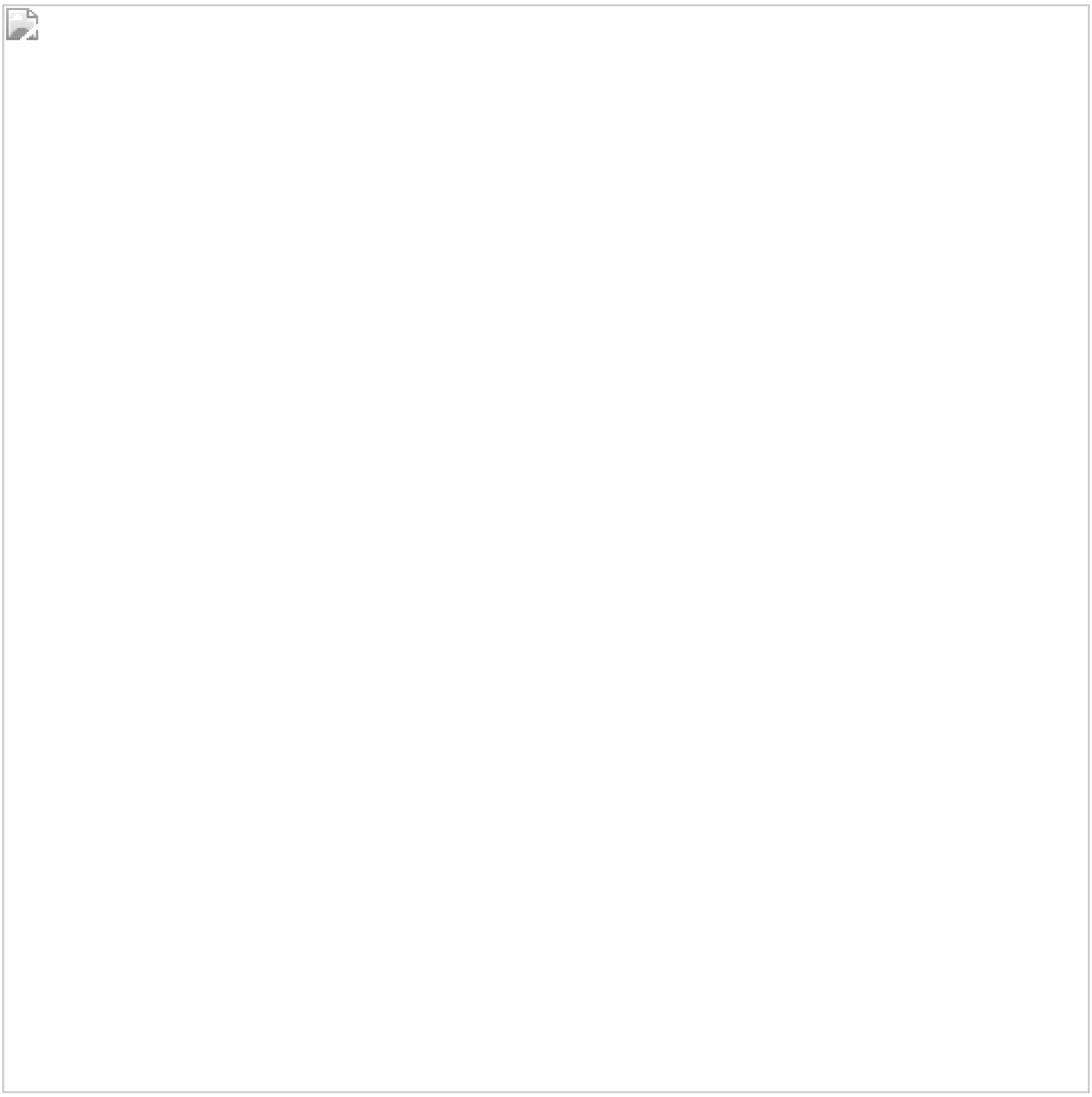
1. Who taught Mowgli the Law of the Jungle?

- ○ Baloo, the bear
- ○ Shere Khan
- ○ Darzee

2. What did Mowgli do for his wolf friends?

- ○ Pulled thorns out of their paws
- ○ Made them shoes
- ○ Told them stories

Bagheera's Secret



One warm day Bagheera told Mowgli a secret. He had been born among people, in a cage, and had never seen the jungle until one night he broke the lock and came away.

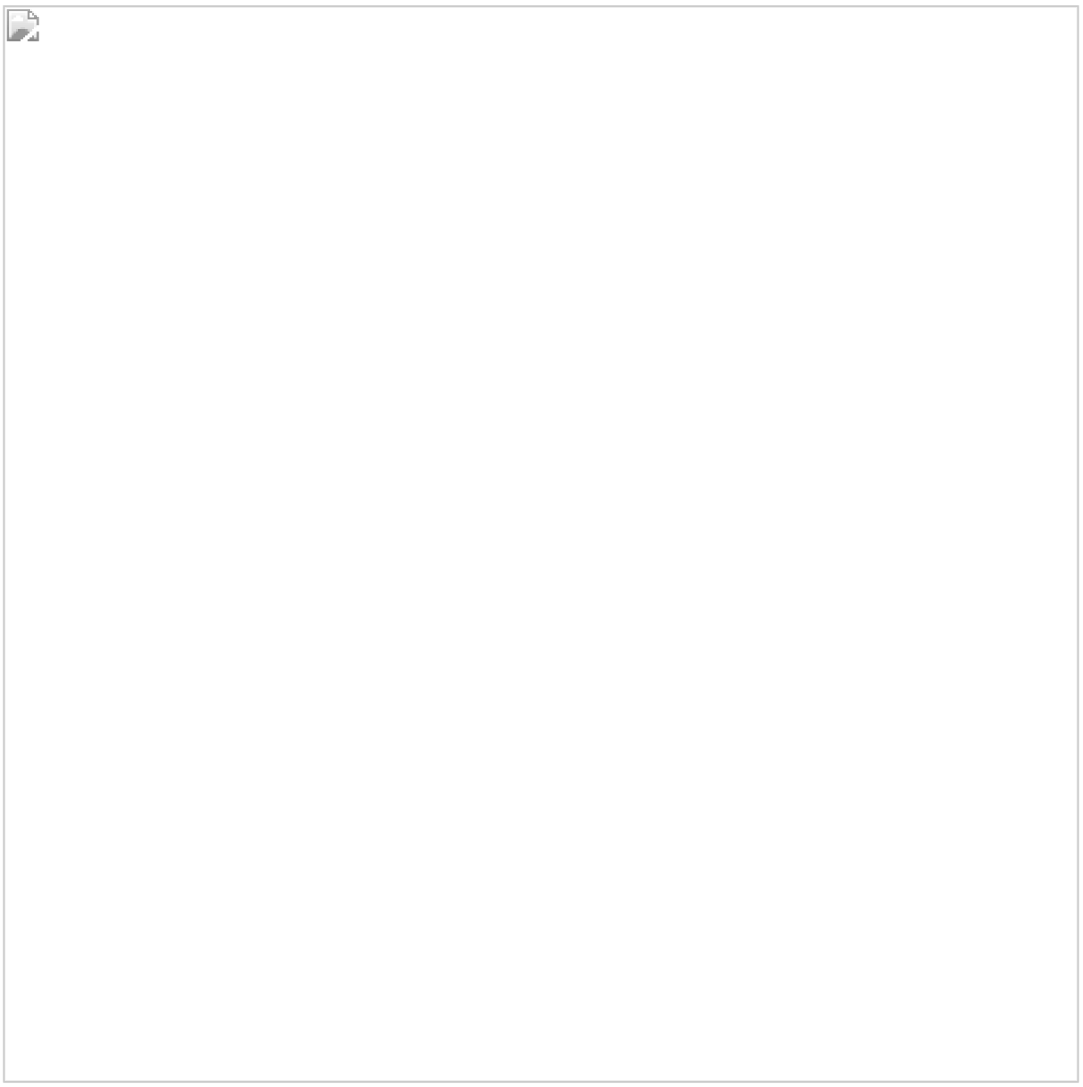
"It was because of this that I paid the price for thee at the Council," he said. The wolves could not look Mowgli between the eyes, and that was one reason some did not like him.

Then Bagheera said, "Get the Red Flower." The jungle animals will not say the word fire, so they call it the Red Flower. He sent Mowgli down to the huts in the valley to fetch some.

TALK ABOUT IT

Bagheera trusted Mowgli with a secret. What do you think makes someone a good friend to tell a secret to?

Bagheera's Secret · another picture



Think about it

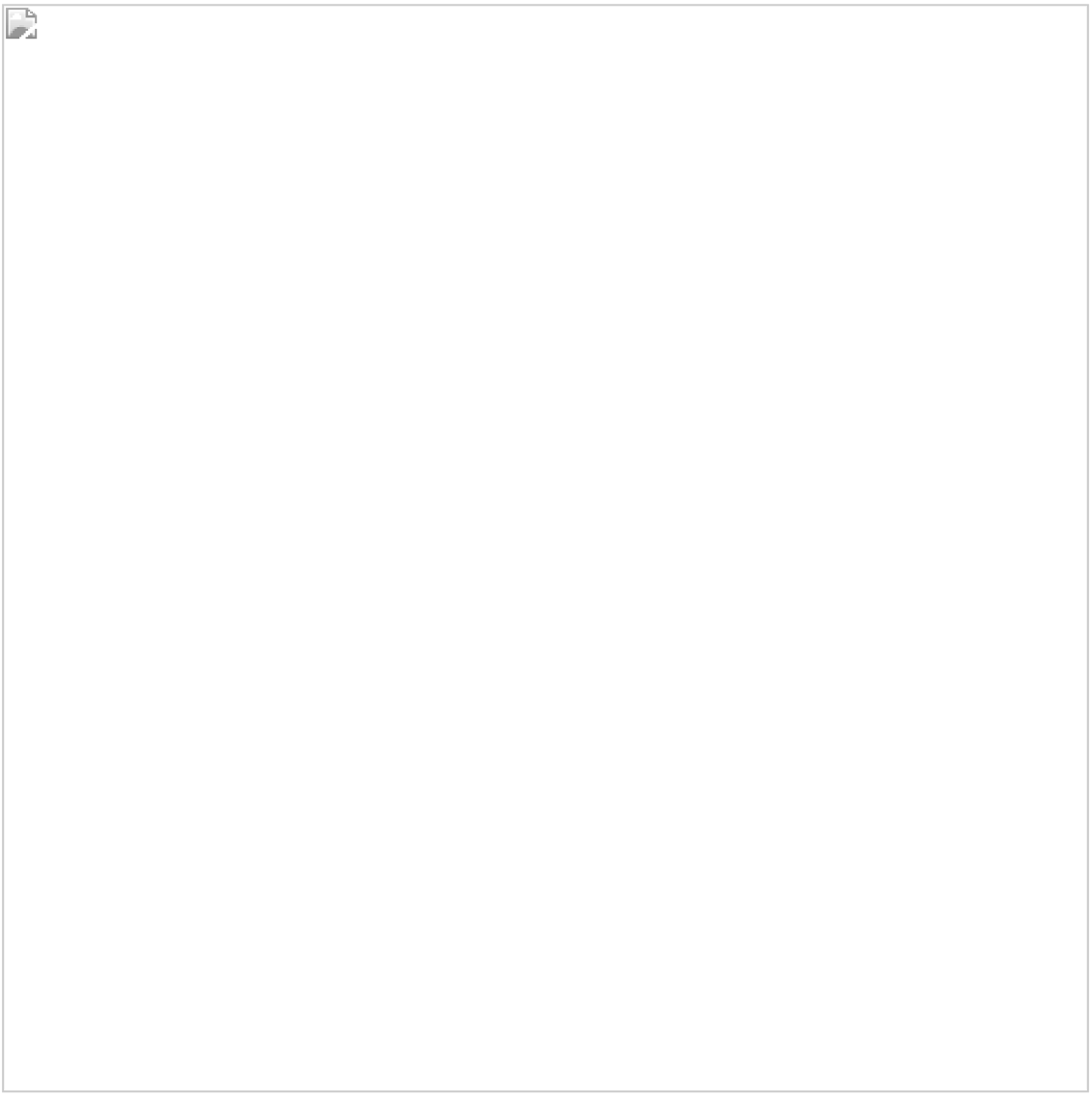
1. Where was Bagheera born?

- ○ Among people, in a cage
- ○ At the Council Rock
- ○ In Mowgli's cave

2. What is the Red Flower?

- ○ Fire
- ○ A rose
- ○ A kind of honey

The Red Flower



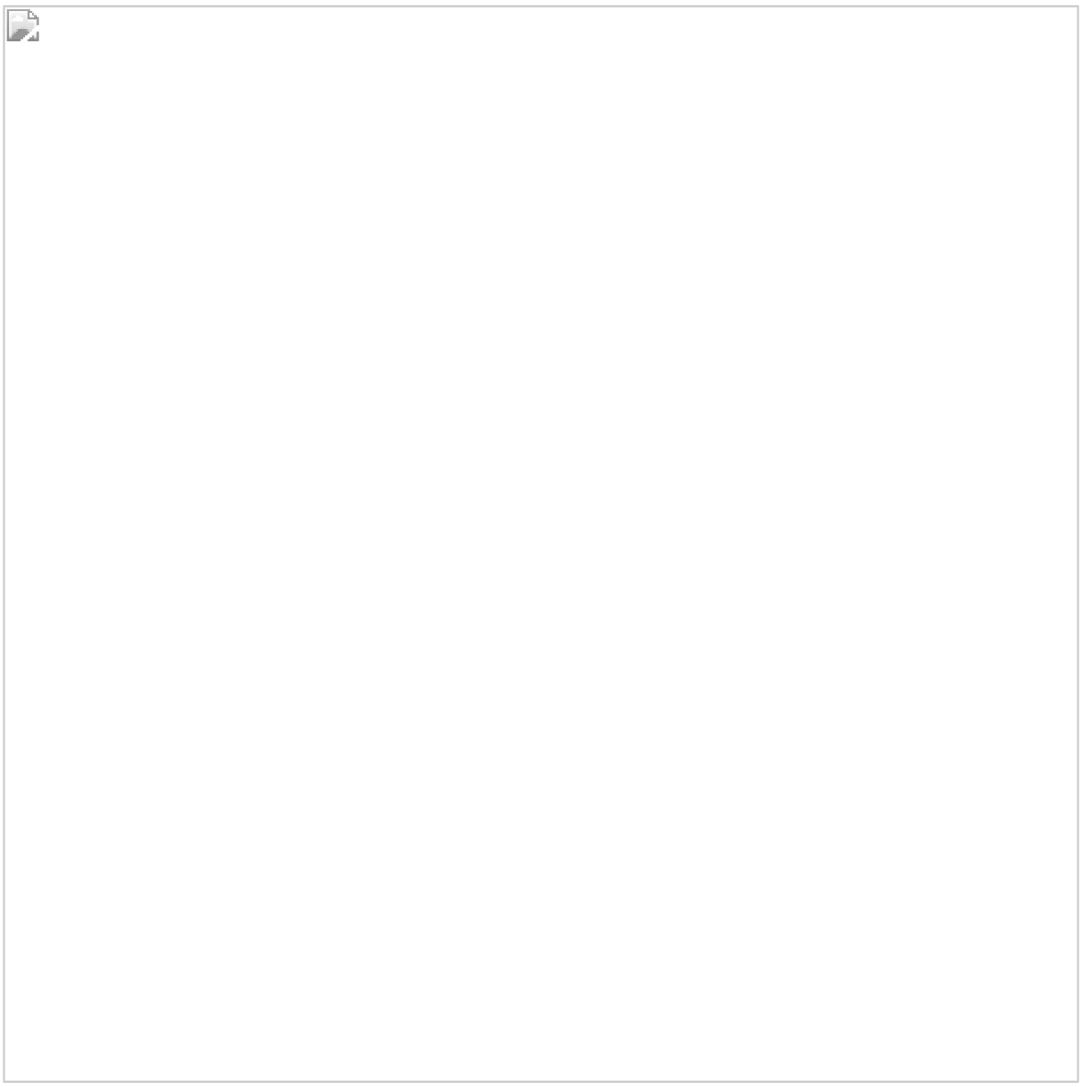
That night the Pack hunted, and Akela missed his kill. Mowgli knew the Pack would turn on Akela and on him now. “To-morrow is one day both for Akela and for me,” he said.

He crept to a hut at the edge of the fields and watched through the window. In the morning a boy filled a clay pot with glowing coals and went out to tend the cows.

“Is that all?” said Mowgli. “If a cub can do it, there is nothing to fear.” He took the pot and ran off into the mist. To Bagheera he held up the fire pot. “I am ready. See!”

TALK ABOUT IT

Mowgli was not afraid of the Red Flower. What do you think helped him feel brave?



Think about it

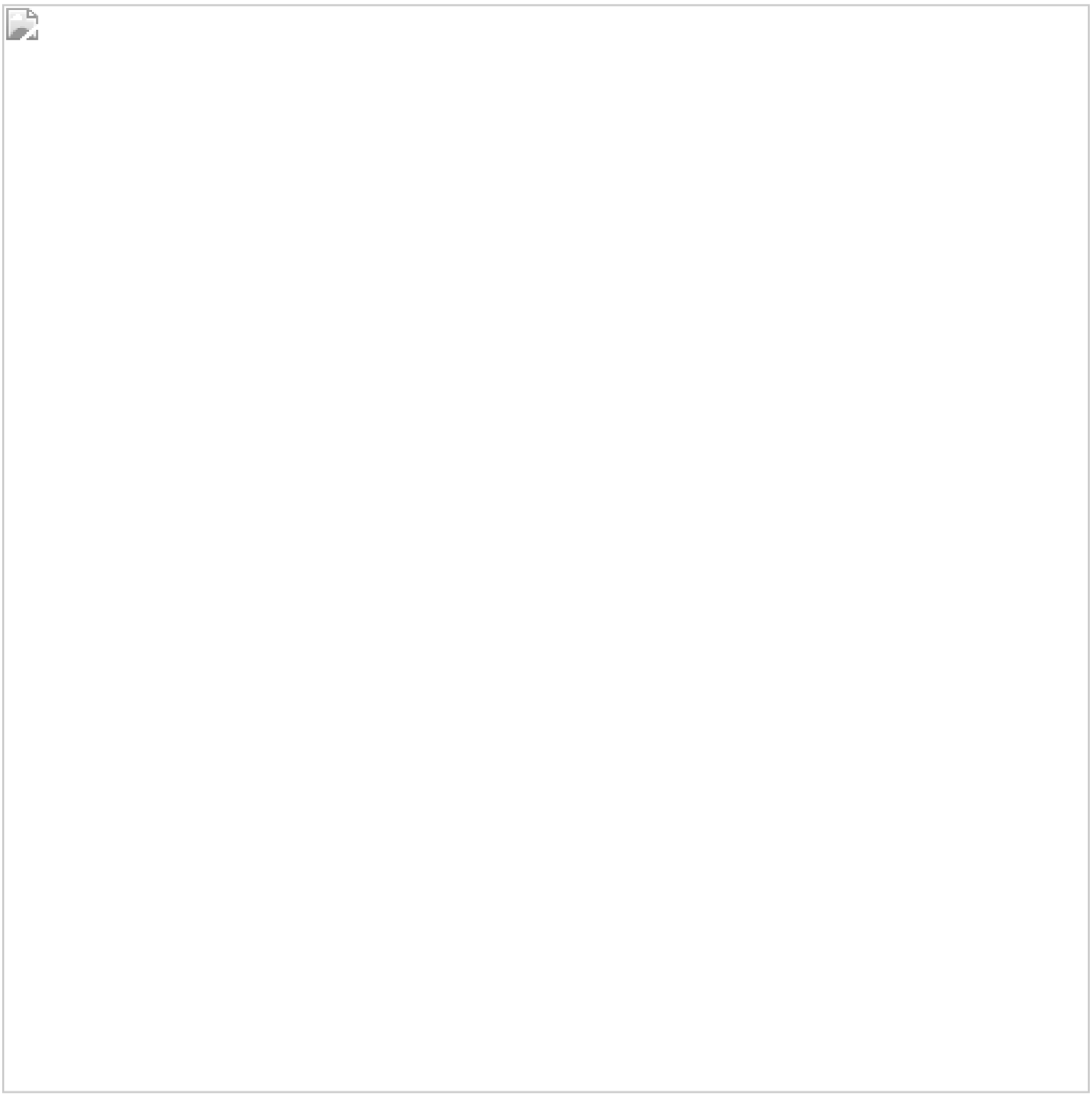
1. What was in the pot that Mowgli took?

- ○ Glowing coals
- ○ Milk
- ○ Honey

2. Who was the Pack going to turn on?

- ○ Akela and Mowgli
- ○ Baloo and Bagheera
- ○ Shere Khan

Mowgli and the Pack



That evening Mowgli came to the Council Rock with the fire pot. Shere Khan said the man's cub should be given to him, and most wolves agreed. But Akela said Mowgli was "our brother in all but blood."

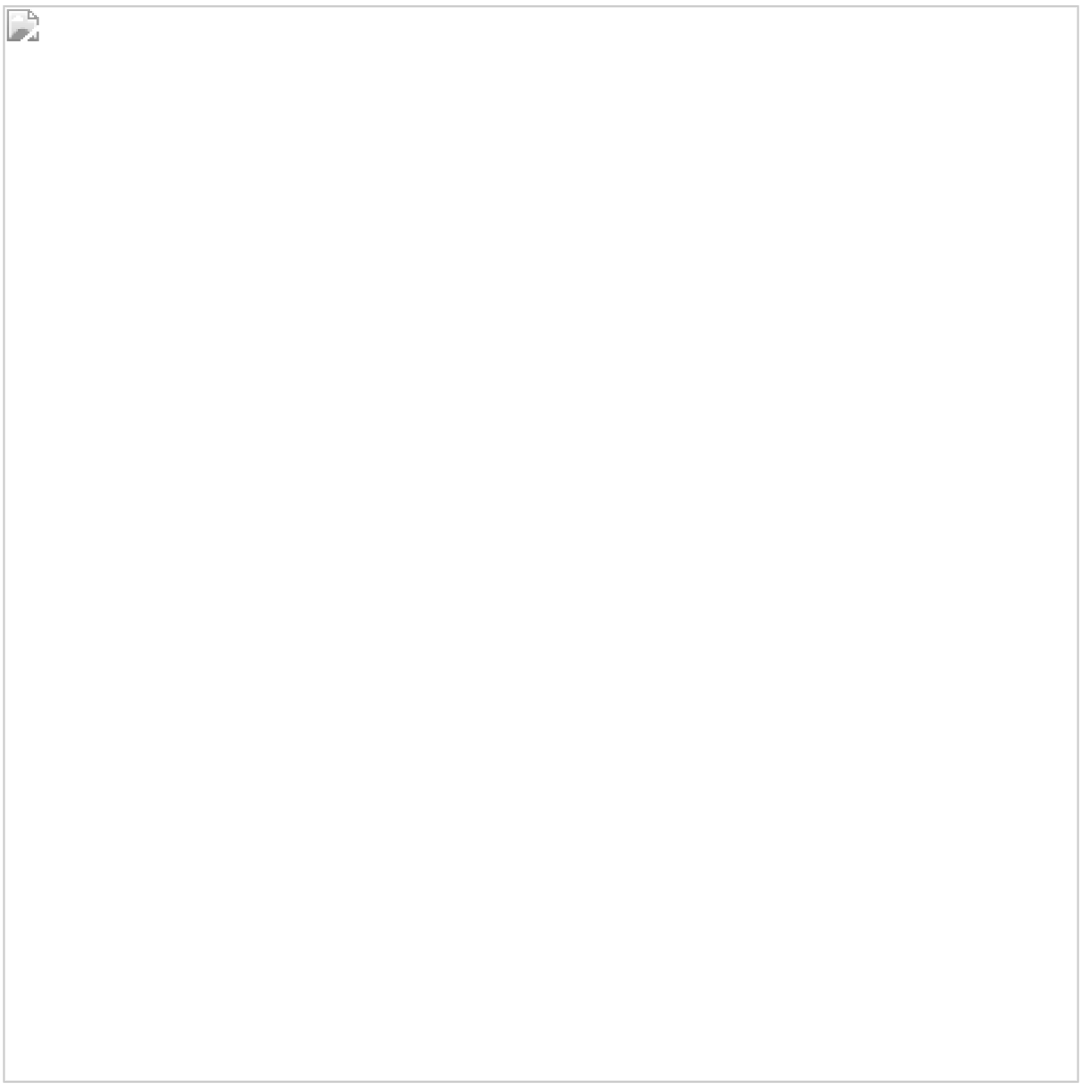
Mowgli stood, lit a dry branch, and whirled it burning above his head. The wolves drew back in terror. Akela would go free, said Mowgli, and no one should touch him.

He waved the branch at Shere Khan, who whimpered and ran. "I go from you to my own people," said Mowgli. "The jungle is shut to me." The wolves fled, all but Akela, Bagheera and a few friends.

TALK ABOUT IT

Mowgli used the Red Flower to protect Akela. What do you think was most important to him in that moment?

Mowgli and the Pack · another picture



Think about it

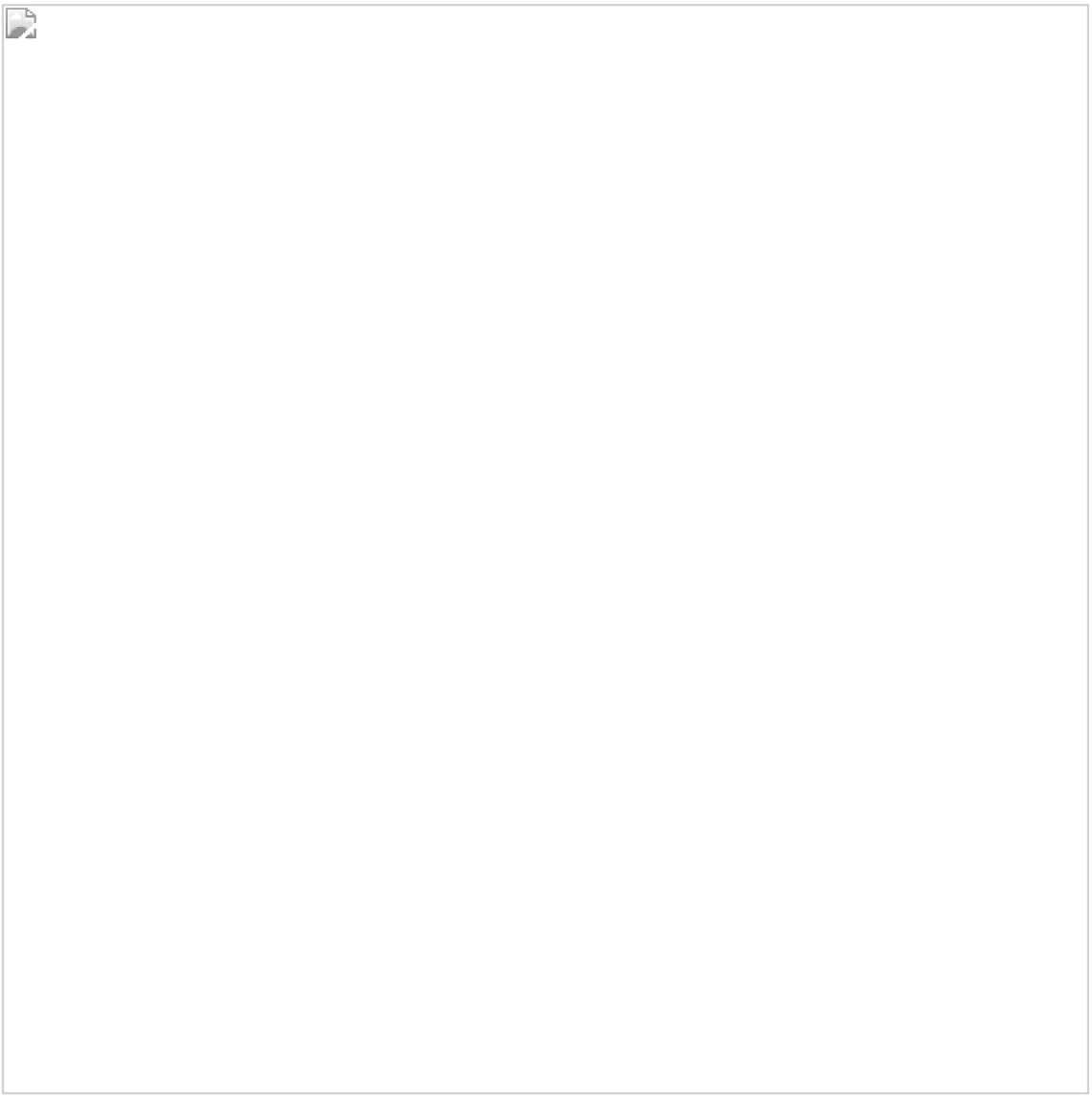
1. What did Mowgli use to stop the wolves?

- ○ A burning branch
- ○ A big stick
- ○ A loud drum

2. What did Mowgli say would happen to Akela?

- ○ Akela would go free
- ○ Akela would lead again
- ○ Akela would leave the jungle

Tears and a Farewell



Then something began to hurt Mowgli inside, as it never had before, and tears ran down his face. “What is it? What is it?” he said. “Am I dying, Bagheera?”

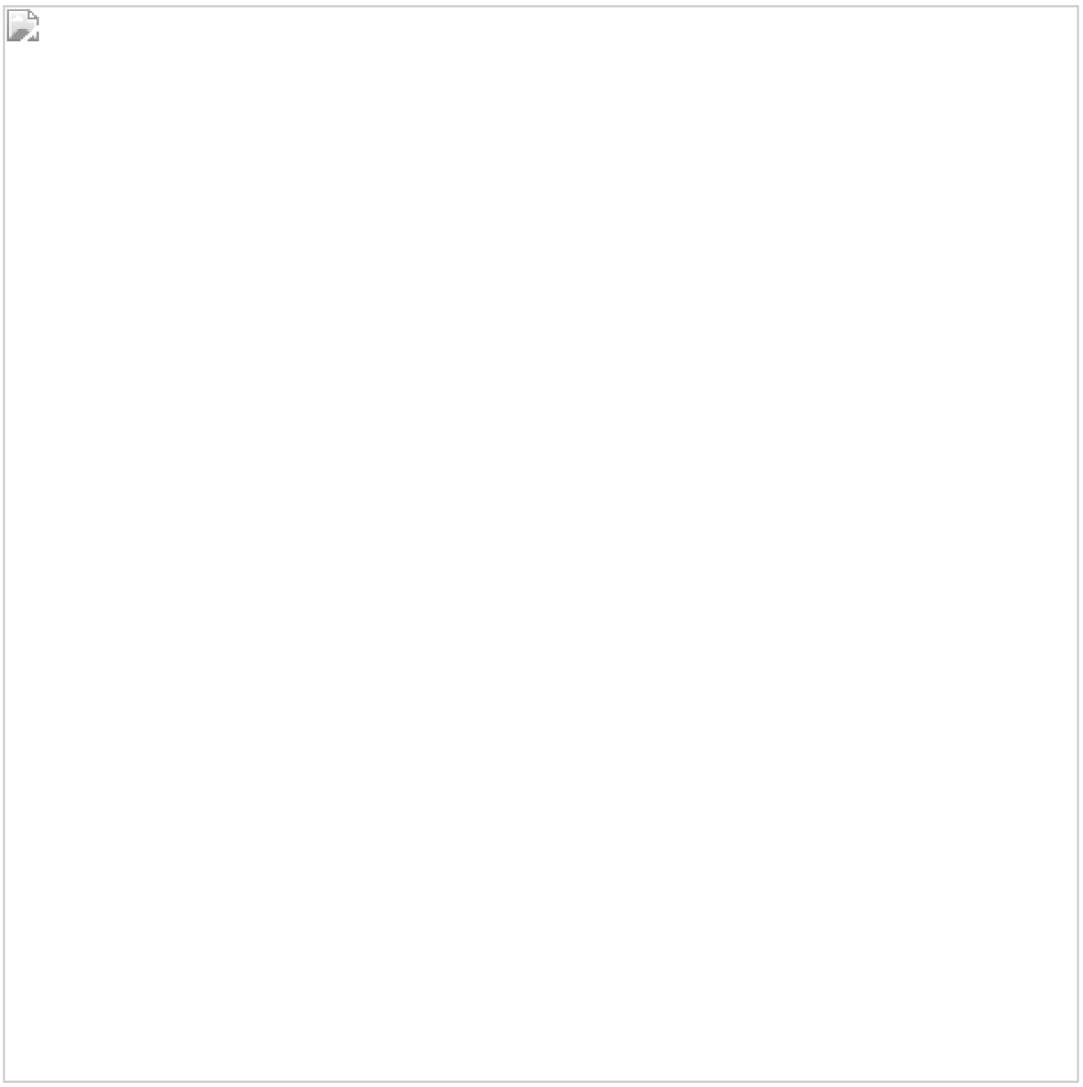
“No, Little Brother. That is only tears such as men use,” said Bagheera. “Let them fall, Mowgli. They are only tears.”

He went to the cave to say goodbye. “Ye will not forget me?” he asked. “Never while we can follow a trail,” said the cubs. “Come soon!” said Father Wolf. “I loved thee more than ever I loved my cubs,” said Mother Wolf. At dawn, Mowgli walked down the hillside alone, to meet the people.

TALK ABOUT IT

Mowgli cried for the first time when he had to say goodbye. Have you ever had to say goodbye to someone? What helped?

Tears and a Farewell · another picture



Think about it

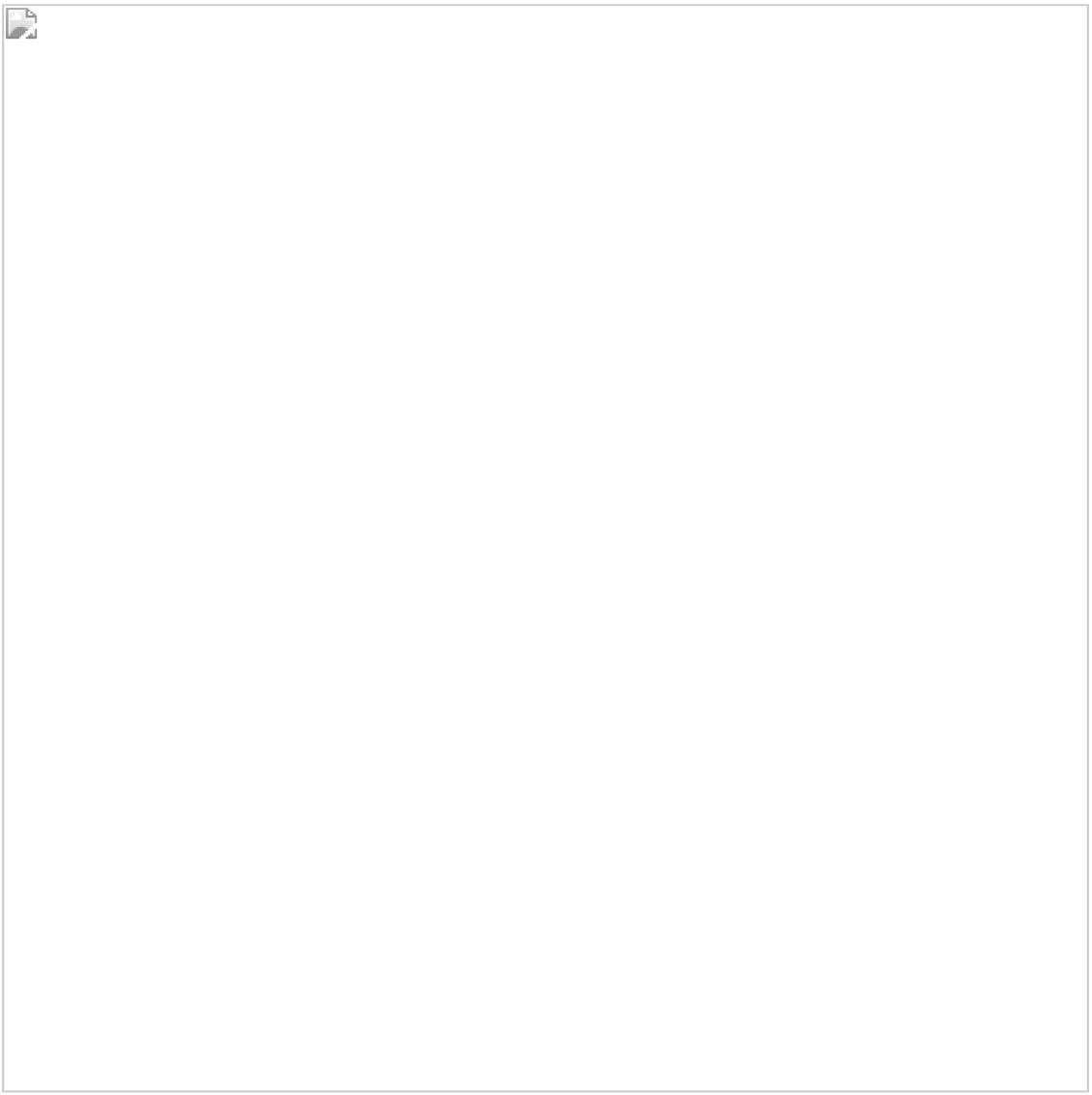
1. What did Bagheera say about Mowgli's tears?

- ○ They were only tears, and he should let them fall
- ○ He should hide them
- ○ He was very sick

2. Where did Mowgli go at the end of the story?

- ○ Down the hill, to the people
- ○ Back to the Council Rock
- ○ Up into the trees

The Mongoose and the Boy



Now for a different story. A flood washed a young mongoose out of his burrow, and he woke on a garden path, very wet and draggled.

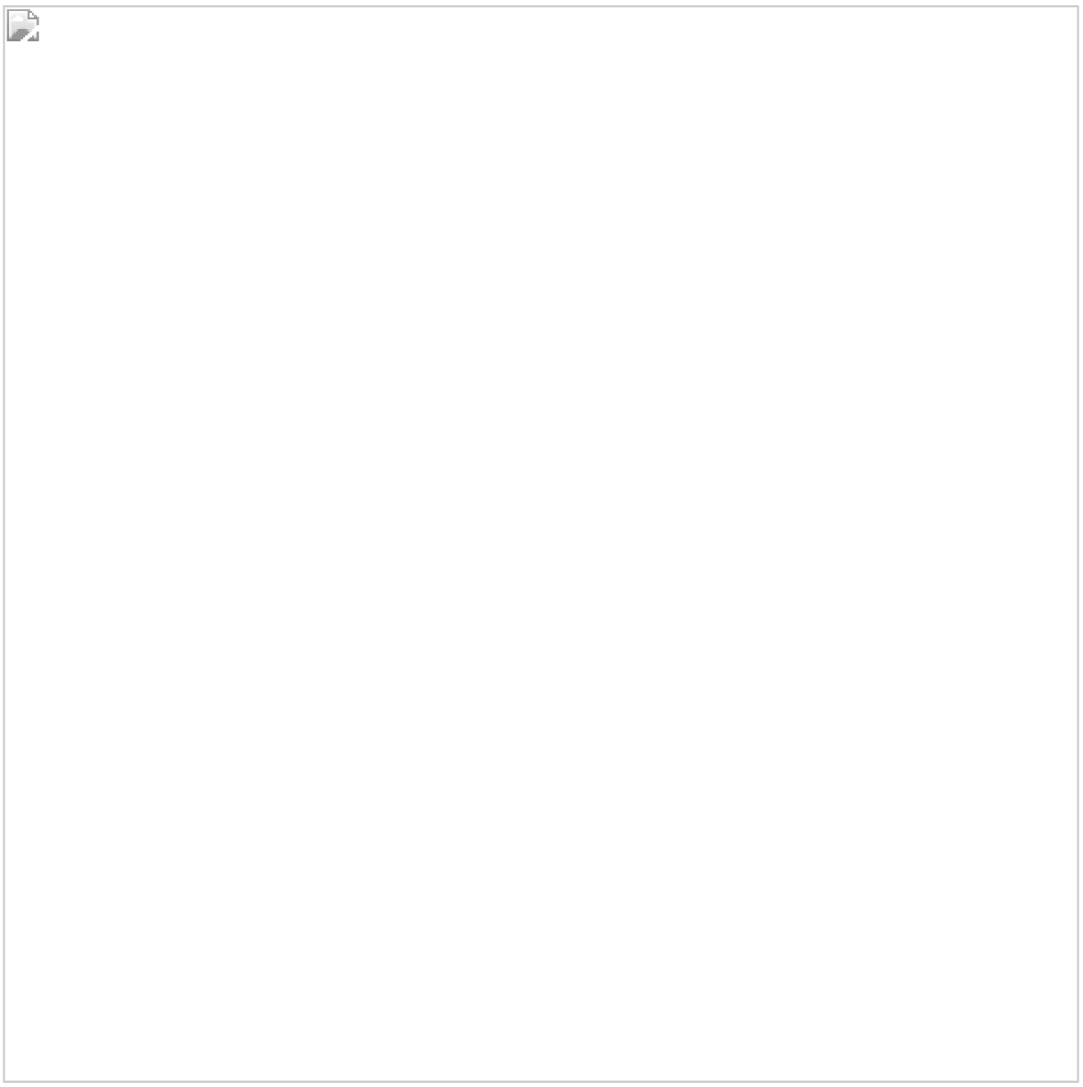
A small boy said, “Here’s a dead mongoose. Let’s have a funeral.” “No,” said his mother, “let’s take him in and dry him.” They warmed him in cotton wool by a little fire, and he opened his eyes and sneezed.

His name was Rikki-tikki-tavi. A mongoose is full of curiosity, and his family motto is “Run and find out.” When Rikki-tikki jumped on the boy’s shoulder, Teddy’s father said, “Don’t be frightened, Teddy. That’s his way of making friends.”

TALK ABOUT IT

Teddy’s family took in a wet little mongoose. What do you think made them do that?

The Mongoose and the Boy · another picture



Think about it

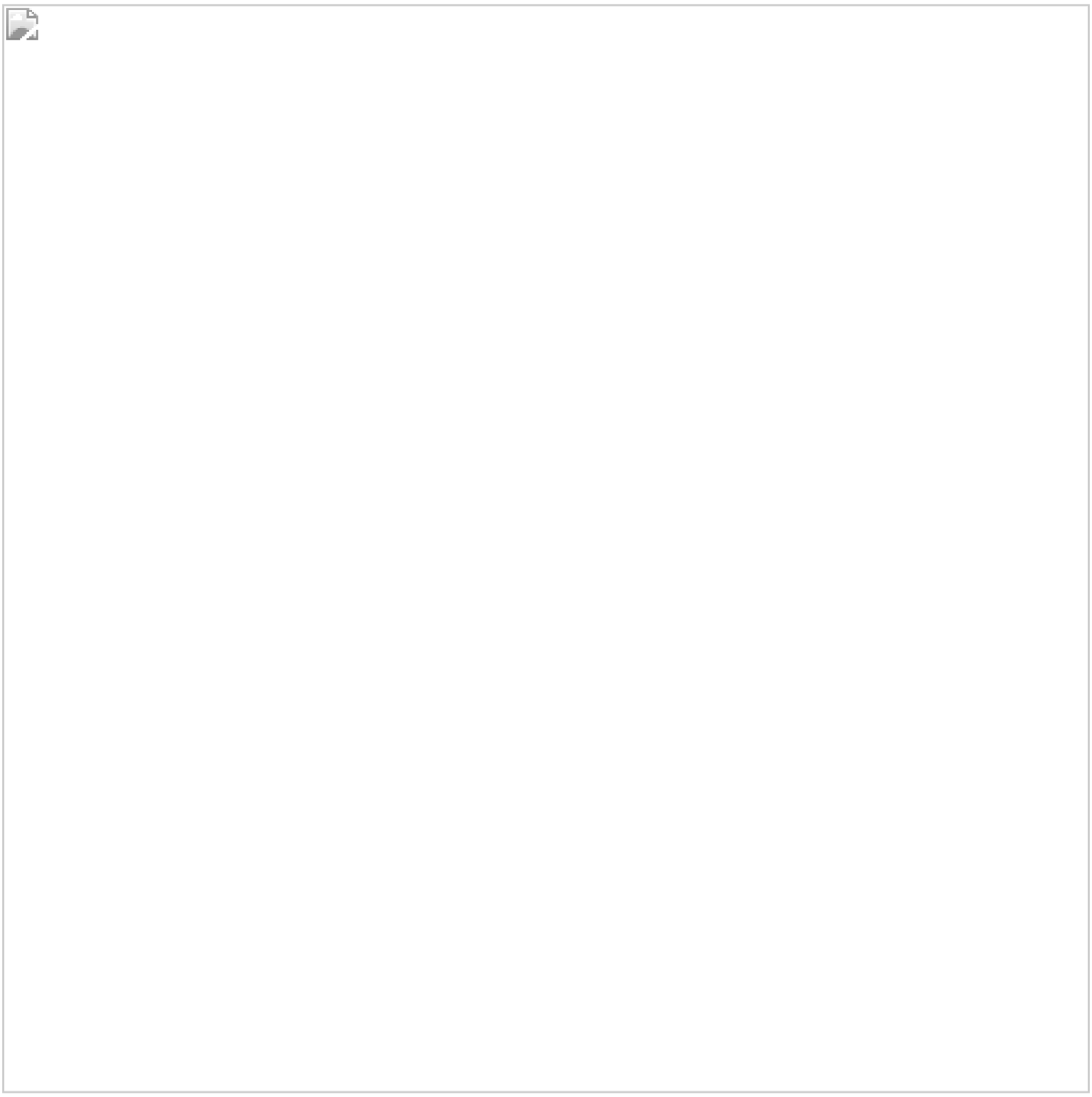
1. What is the motto of the mongoose family?

- ○ Run and find out
- ○ Sleep all day
- ○ Never get wet

2. What was the boy's name?

- ○ Teddy
- ○ Mowgli
- ○ Darzee

Nag and Nagaina



Rikki-tikki stayed with Teddy. In the garden he heard sad voices in a thorn-bush: Darzee the Tailorbird and his wife, in a nest stitched from two big leaves.

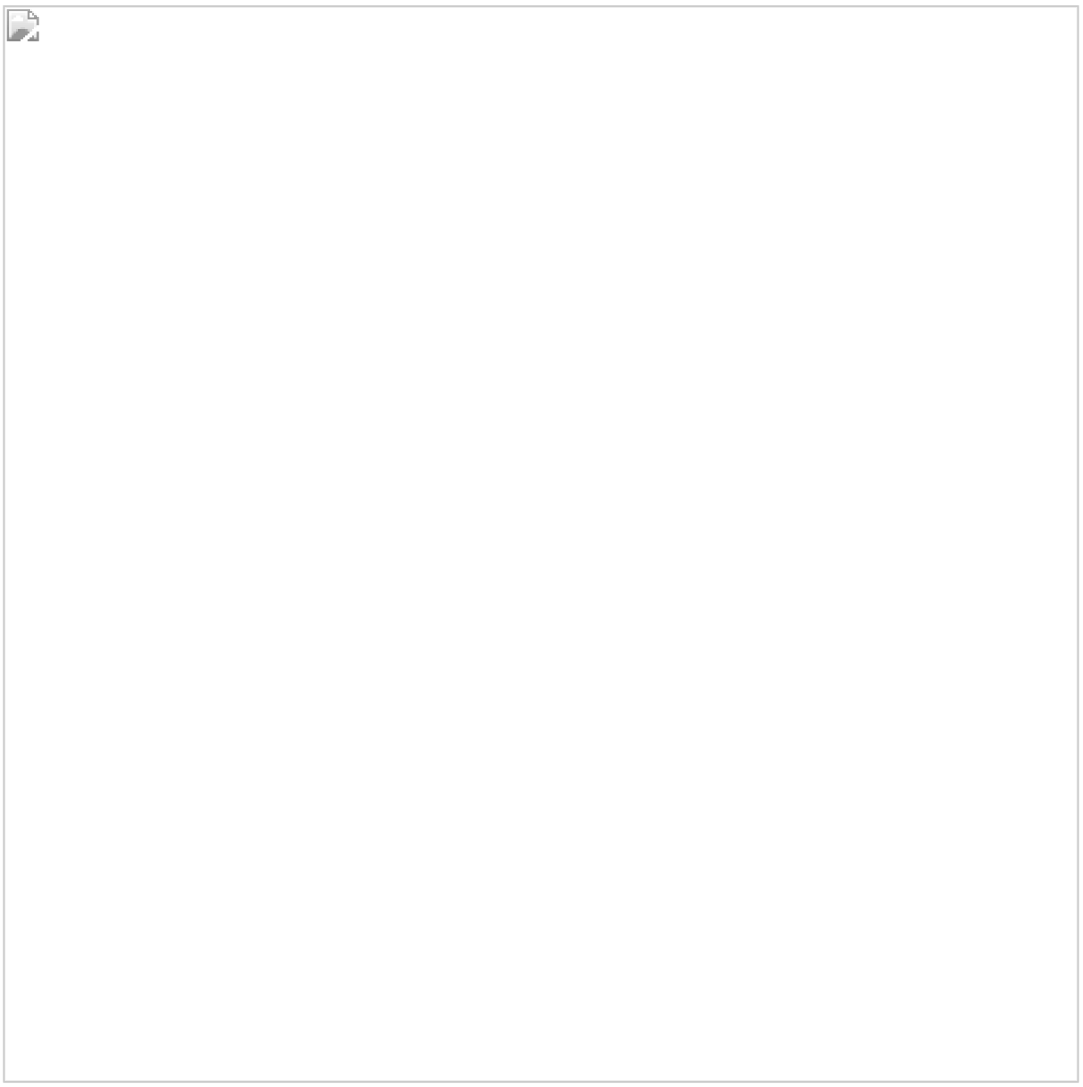
“One of our babies fell out of the nest yesterday and Nag ate him,” said Darzee. From the grass rose the spread hood of Nag, the big black cobra. “I am Nag,” he said. “Look, and be afraid!”

Rikki-tikki was afraid for a moment, but a mongoose’s work is to deal with snakes. “Behind you! Look behind you!” sang Darzee. Nag’s wife, Nagaina, had crept up behind. Rikki-tikki jumped high, her bite missed, and the snakes slid away.

TALK ABOUT IT

Darzee called out a warning just in time. When have you warned someone about something?

Nag and Nagaina · another picture



Think about it

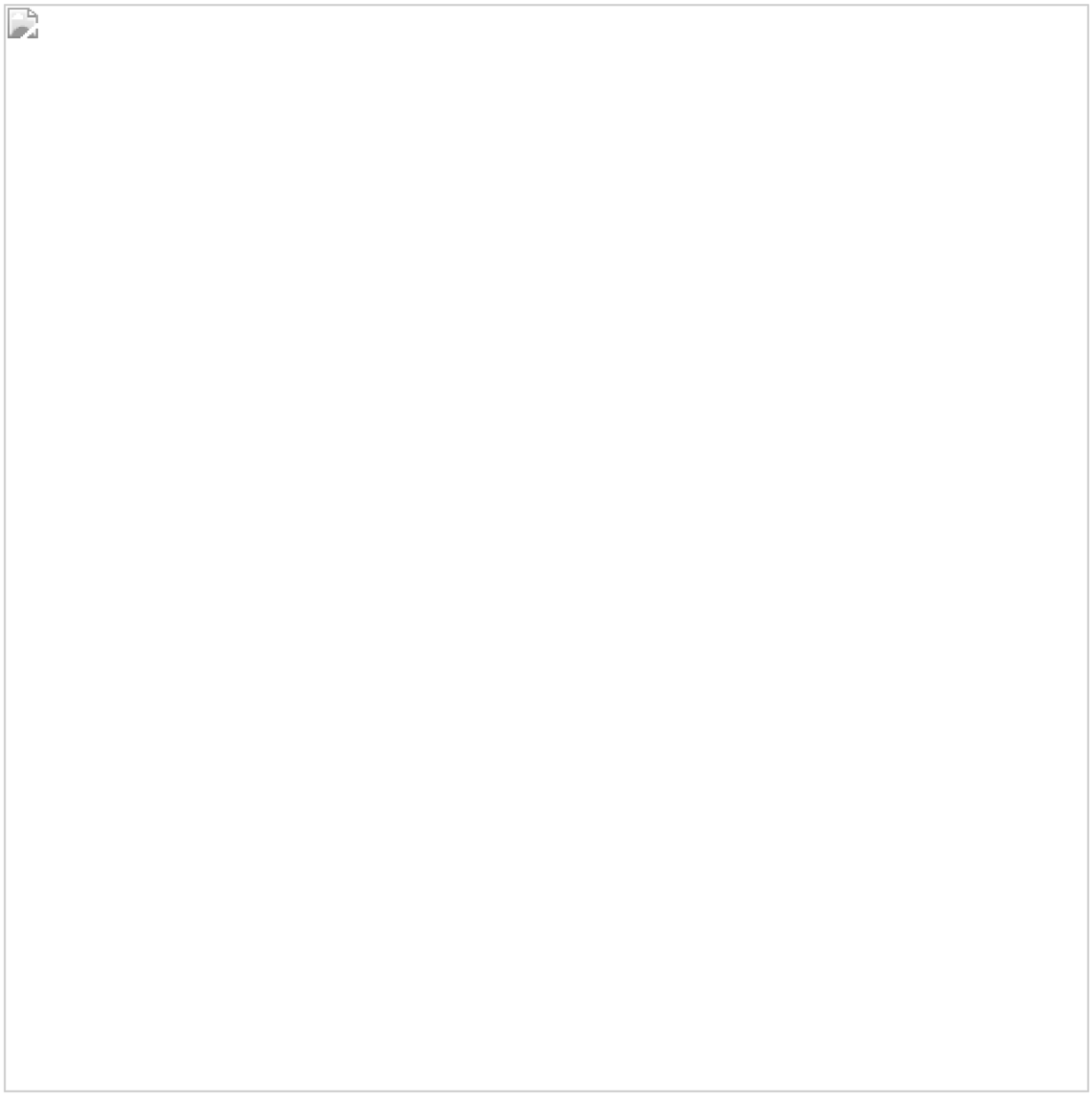
1. Who warned Rikki-tikki about the snake behind him?

- ○ Darzee
- ○ Teddy
- ○ Chuchundra

2. What kind of snake was Nag?

- ○ A big black cobra
- ○ A tiny green snake
- ○ A rock snake

Karait in the Dust



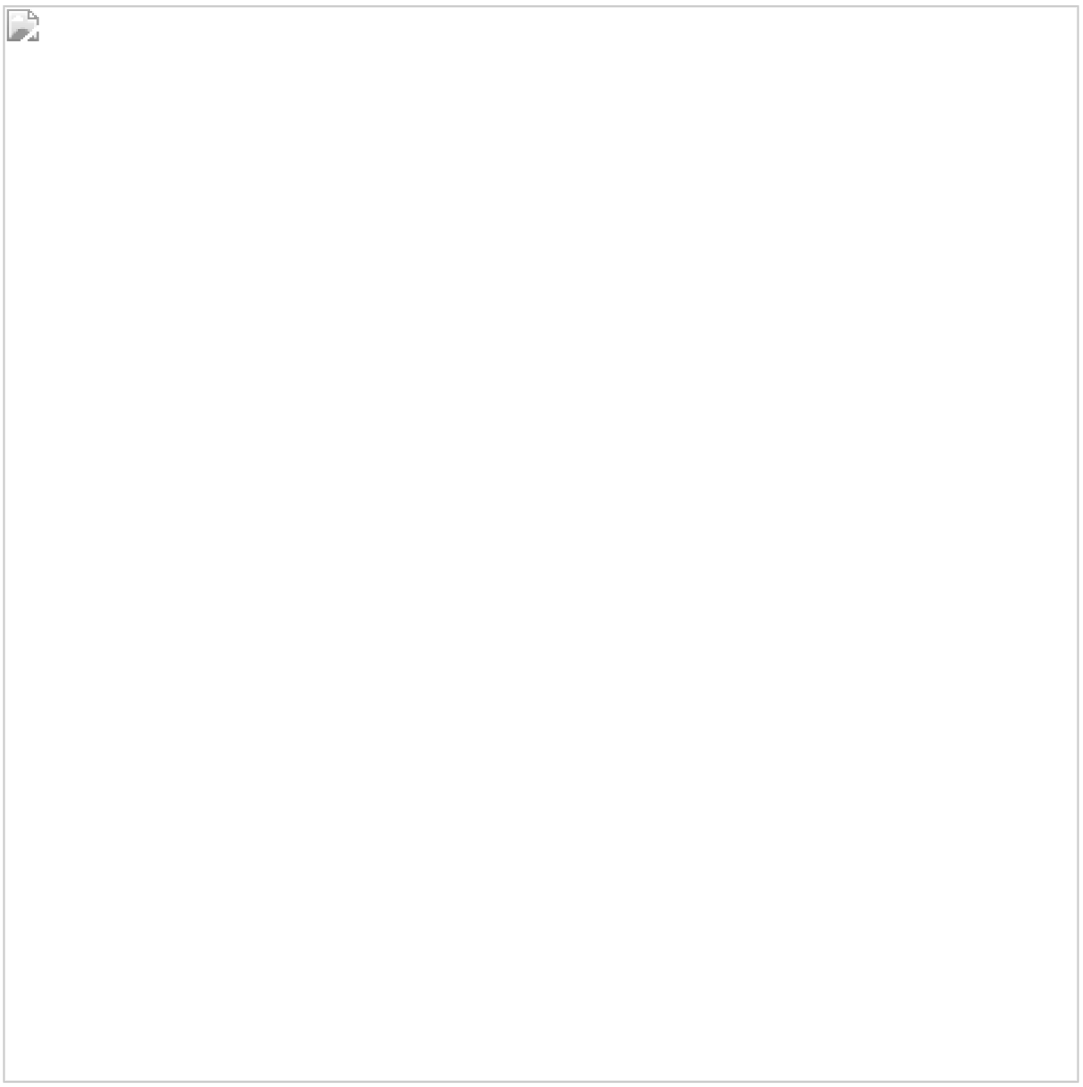
Soon Teddy came running down the garden path. Just as he was stooping to pet Rikki-tikki, something wriggled in the dust. A tiny voice said, “Be careful. I am Death!”

It was Karait, a small, dusty brown snake. He was so little that no one noticed him, but his bite was as dangerous as the cobra’s.

Rikki-tikki’s eyes turned red, which is how a mongoose’s eyes look when he is angry. He rocked and danced toward Karait, and he was quicker than the snake. Teddy’s mother hugged him afterward. She said that he had saved Teddy.

TALK ABOUT IT

Rikki-tikki did not understand all the fuss, but he stayed close to Teddy. How do you think he knew to do that?



Think about it

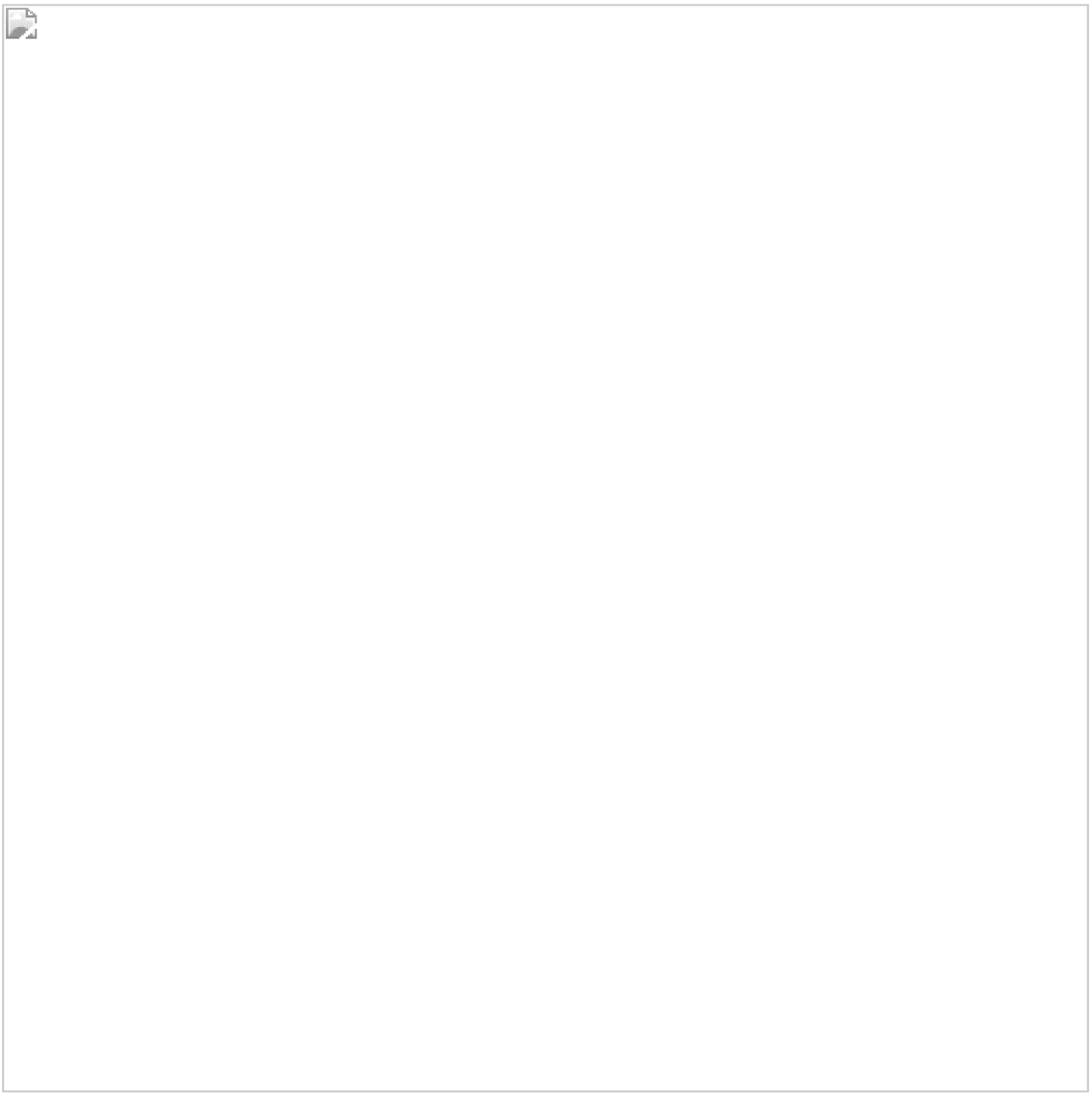
1. How did Rikki-tikki's eyes look when he was angry?

- ○ Red
- ○ Blue
- ○ Closed

2. Who hugged Rikki-tikki afterward?

- ○ Teddy's mother
- ○ Nagaina
- ○ Darzee's wife

A Night in the Bathroom



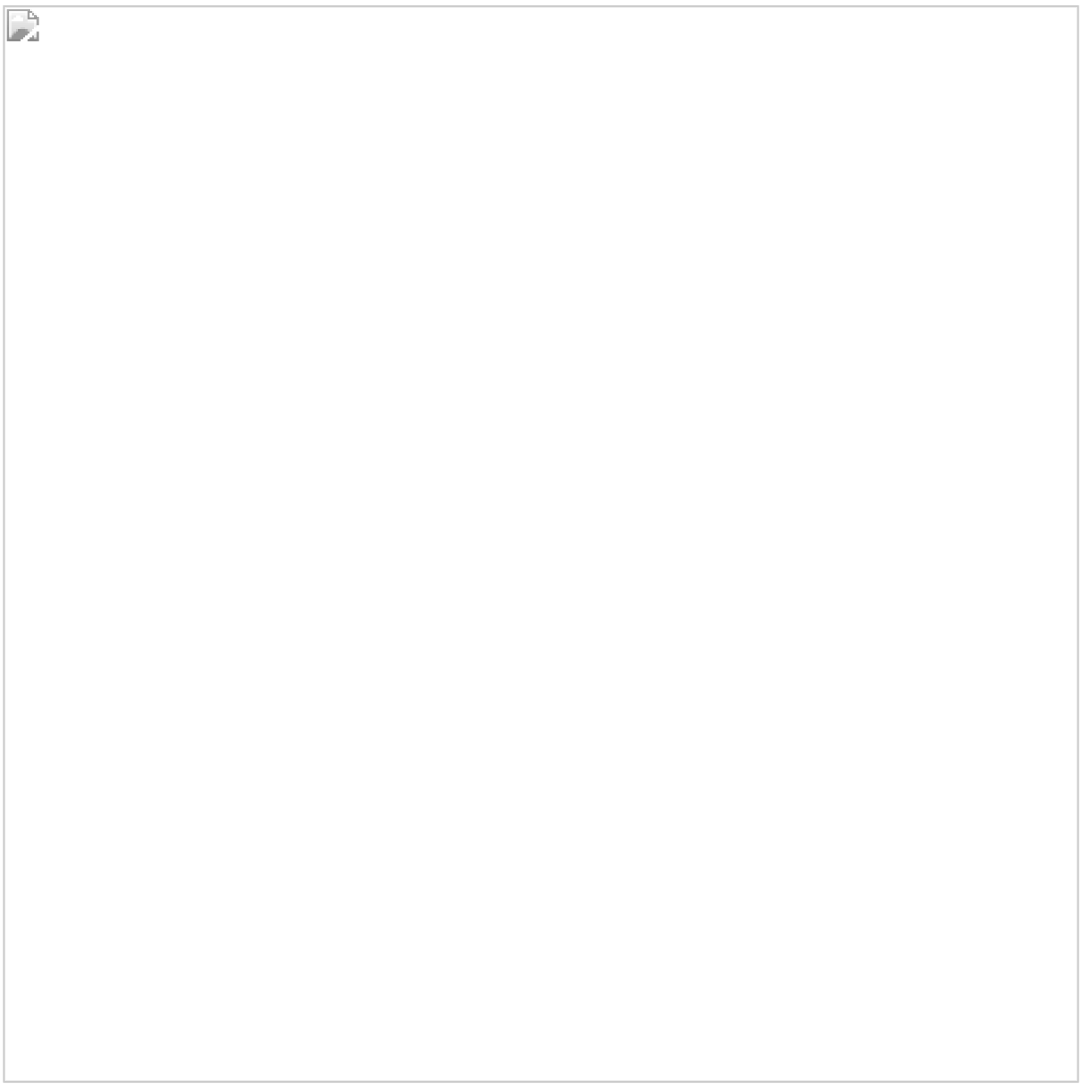
That night Rikki-tikki met Chuchundra the muskrat, who creeps along the wall. “Don’t kill me,” said Chuchundra. “Do you think a snake-killer kills muskrats?” said Rikki-tikki.

In the bathroom, Rikki-tikki heard Nag and Nagaina whispering outside. They wanted the people gone, so the garden would be theirs again. Nag came in through the drain and waited by the big water jar.

Rikki-tikki waited until Nag fell asleep. Then he bit Nag’s head and held on, though he was shaken all around the bathroom. When the noise was over, Nag was dead. “The little chap has saved our lives now,” said Teddy’s father.

TALK ABOUT IT

Rikki-tikki had to be very brave and very patient. What do you think helped him wait?



Think about it

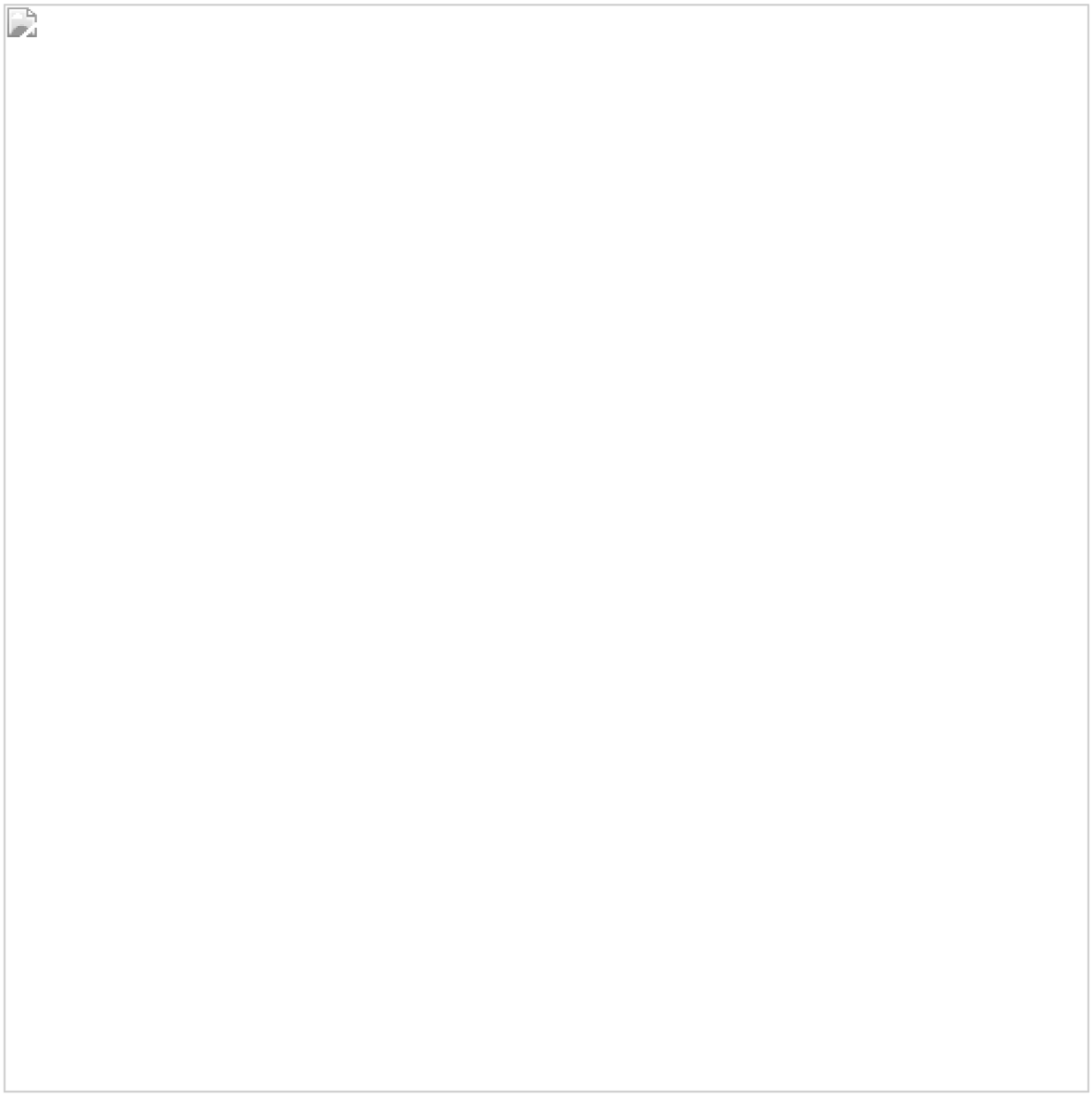
1. Where did Nag wait?

- ○ By the big water jar
- ○ In the kitchen
- ○ Under Teddy's bed

2. What did Rikki-tikki do when Nag fell asleep?

- ○ He held on to Nag's head
- ○ He ran to the garden
- ○ He woke Teddy

Nagaina's Eggs



In the morning, Rikki-tikki ran to Darzee, who was singing a song of triumph. "Oh, you stupid tuft of feathers!" said Rikki-tikki. "Is this the time to sing?" Nagaina was still alive, and she was angry.

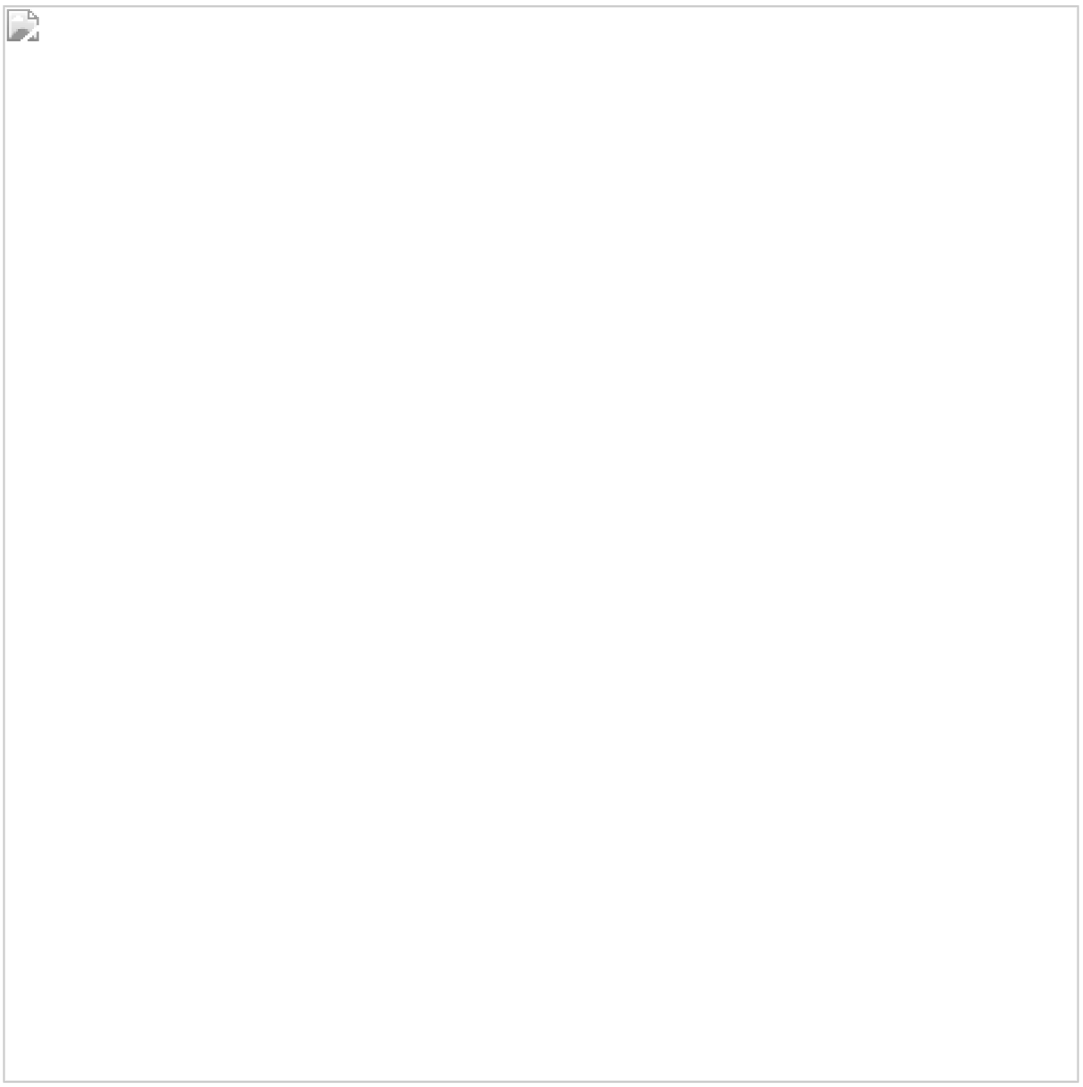
Rikki-tikki learned that Nagaina's eggs were hidden in the melon bed. Darzee's wife fluttered in front of Nagaina and cried, "Oh, my wing is broken!" and led her away from the melon bed.

Rikki-tikki hurried to the eggs and broke them, one after another, so that no more cobras would come. But he kept one egg safe in his mouth.

TALK ABOUT IT

Darzee's wife pretended to be hurt to help Rikki-tikki. What do you think of her plan?

Nagaina's Eggs · another picture



Think about it

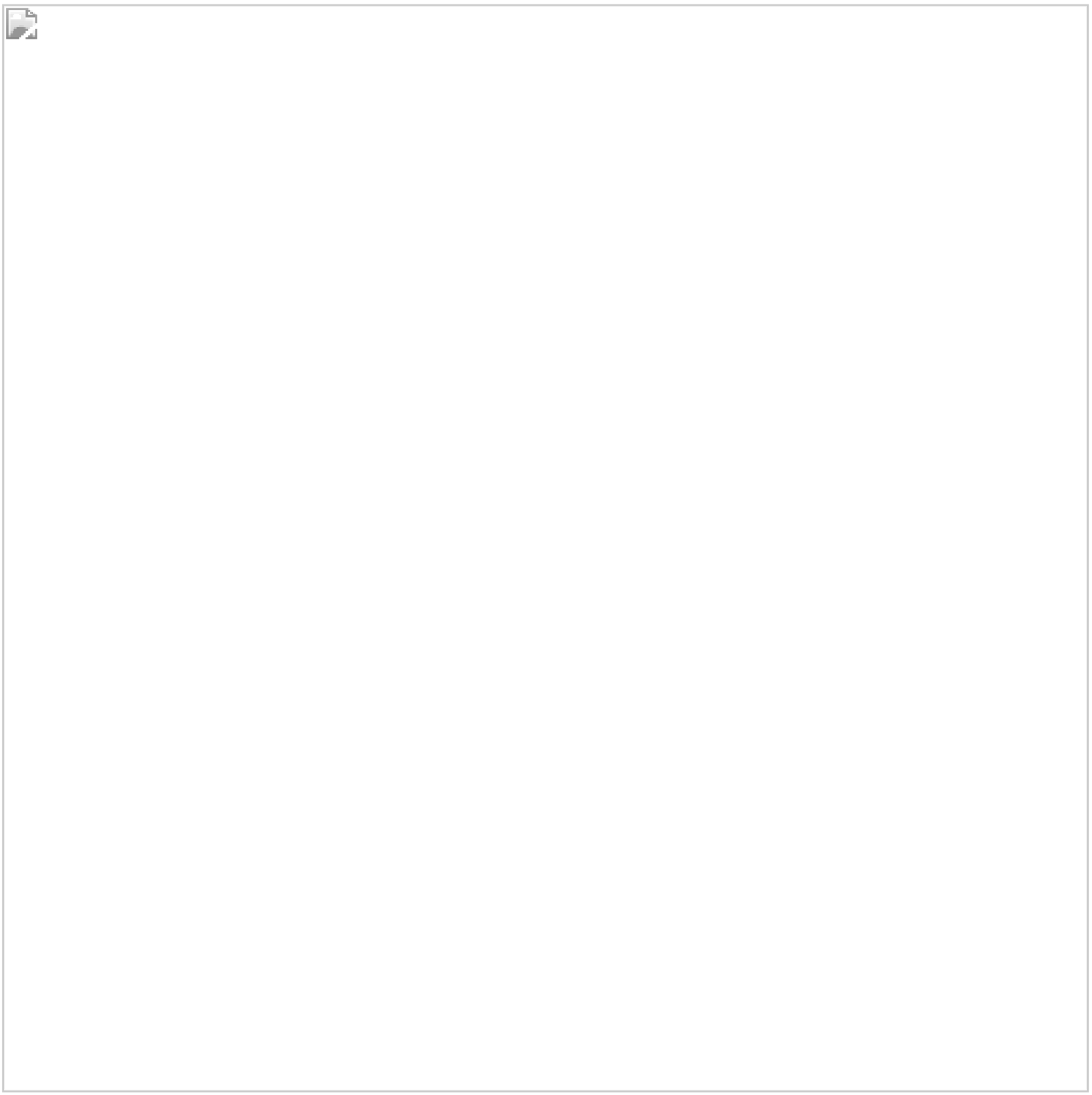
1. Where were Nagaina's eggs hidden?

- ○ In the melon bed
- ○ In the nest
- ○ In the house

2. What did Darzee's wife pretend?

- ○ That her wing was broken
- ○ That she was asleep
- ○ That she was a snake

The Veranda



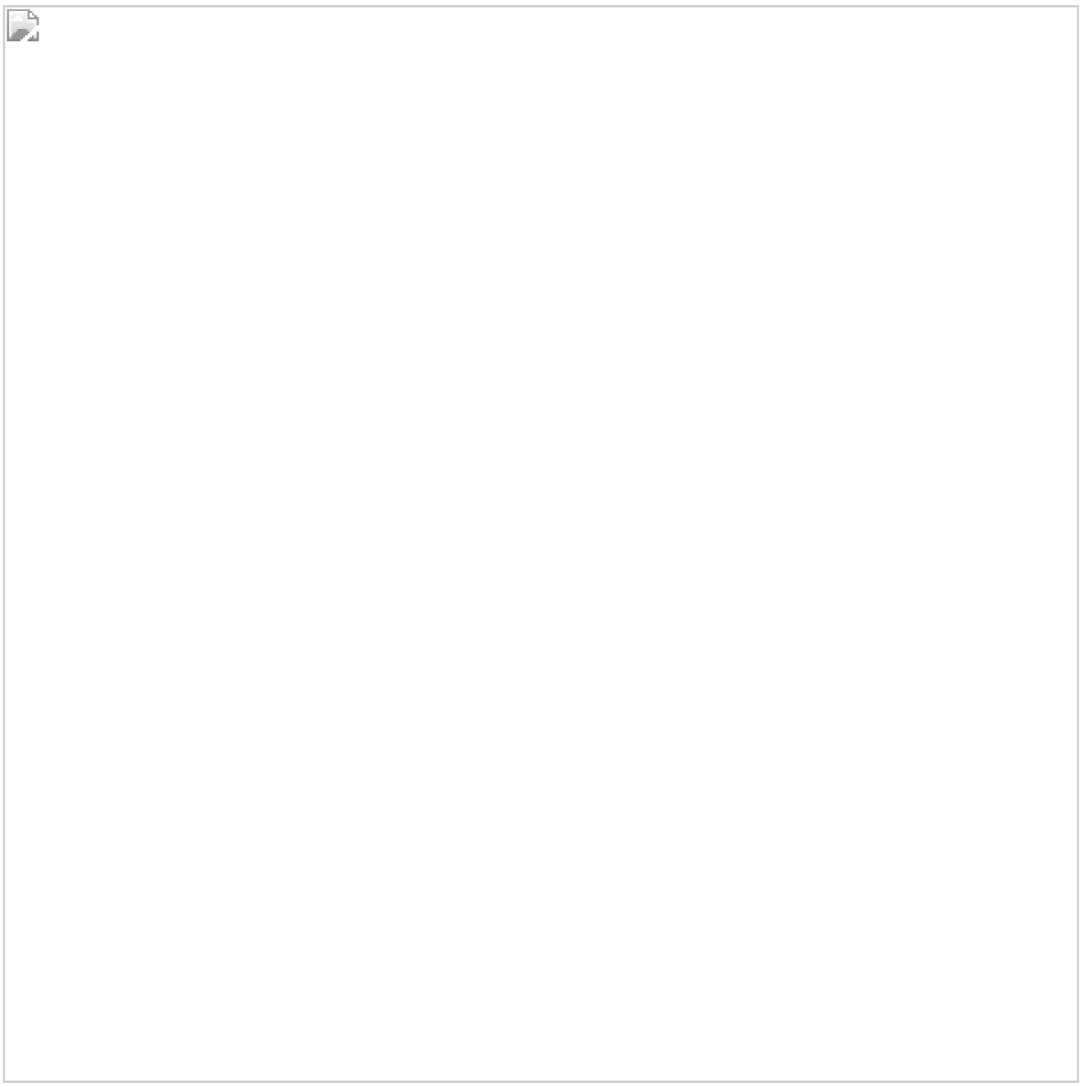
Darzee's wife called to him that Nagaina had gone to the house. Rikki-tikki ran to the veranda with the last egg. Teddy and his mother and father were sitting at breakfast, very still. Nagaina was coiled by Teddy's chair.

"Turn round, Nagaina. Turn and fight!" said Rikki-tikki. He put his paws on the egg. When Nagaina looked at it, Teddy's father quickly pulled Teddy out of her reach. "Tricked! Tricked! Tricked!" chuckled Rikki-tikki.

Nagaina grabbed the egg and slid down the path, and Rikki-tikki raced after her. Darzee's wife flapped her wings about Nagaina's head, but Nagaina only went on.

TALK ABOUT IT

Everyone was very still and afraid. What do you think helped Rikki-tikki think of a plan?



Think about it

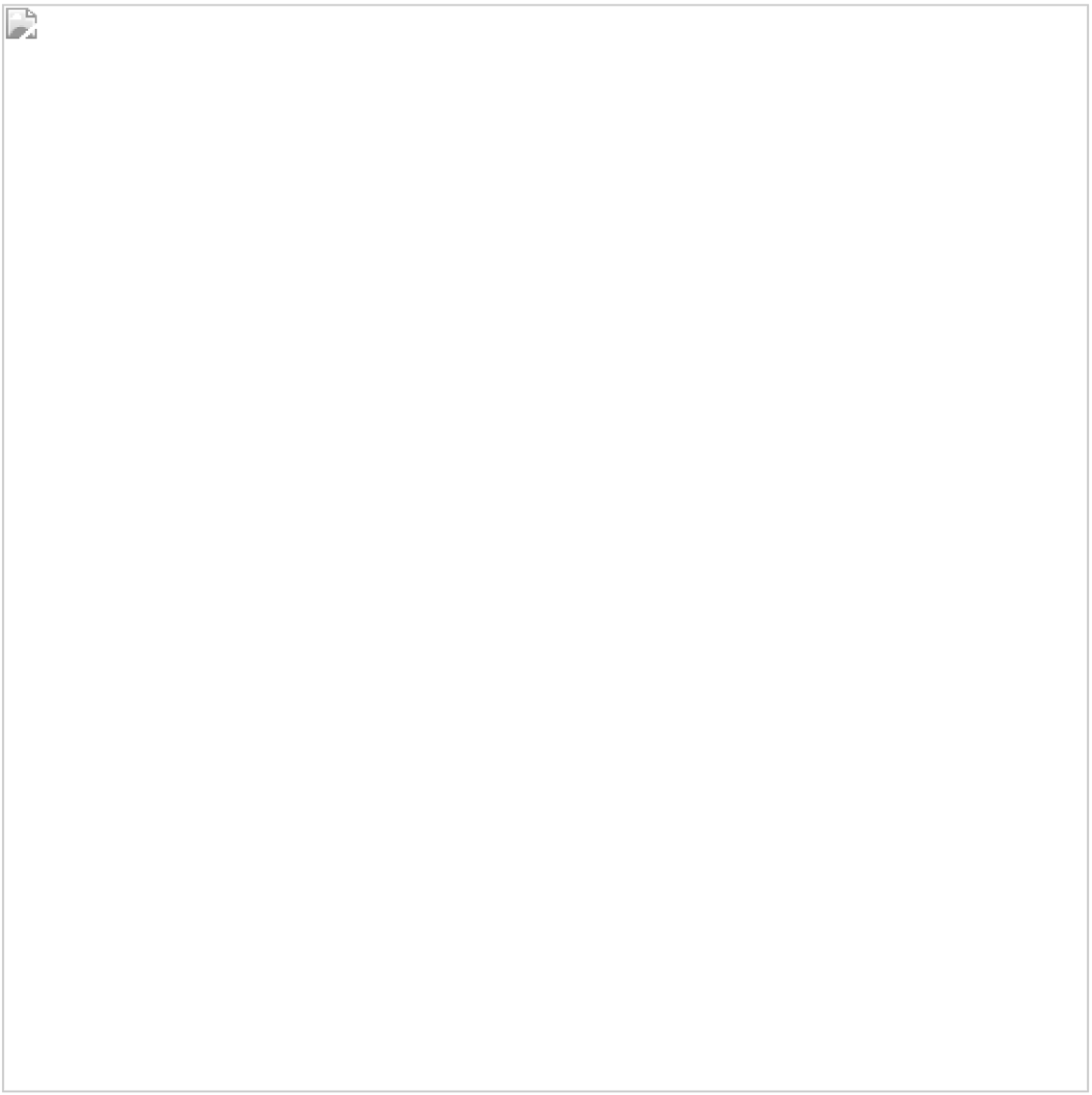
1. What did Rikki-tikki hold between his paws?

- ○ The last egg
- ○ A stick
- ○ A teacup

2. What did Teddy's father do?

- ○ Pulled Teddy out of reach
- ○ Ran away
- ○ Chased the snake

The Garden Is Safe



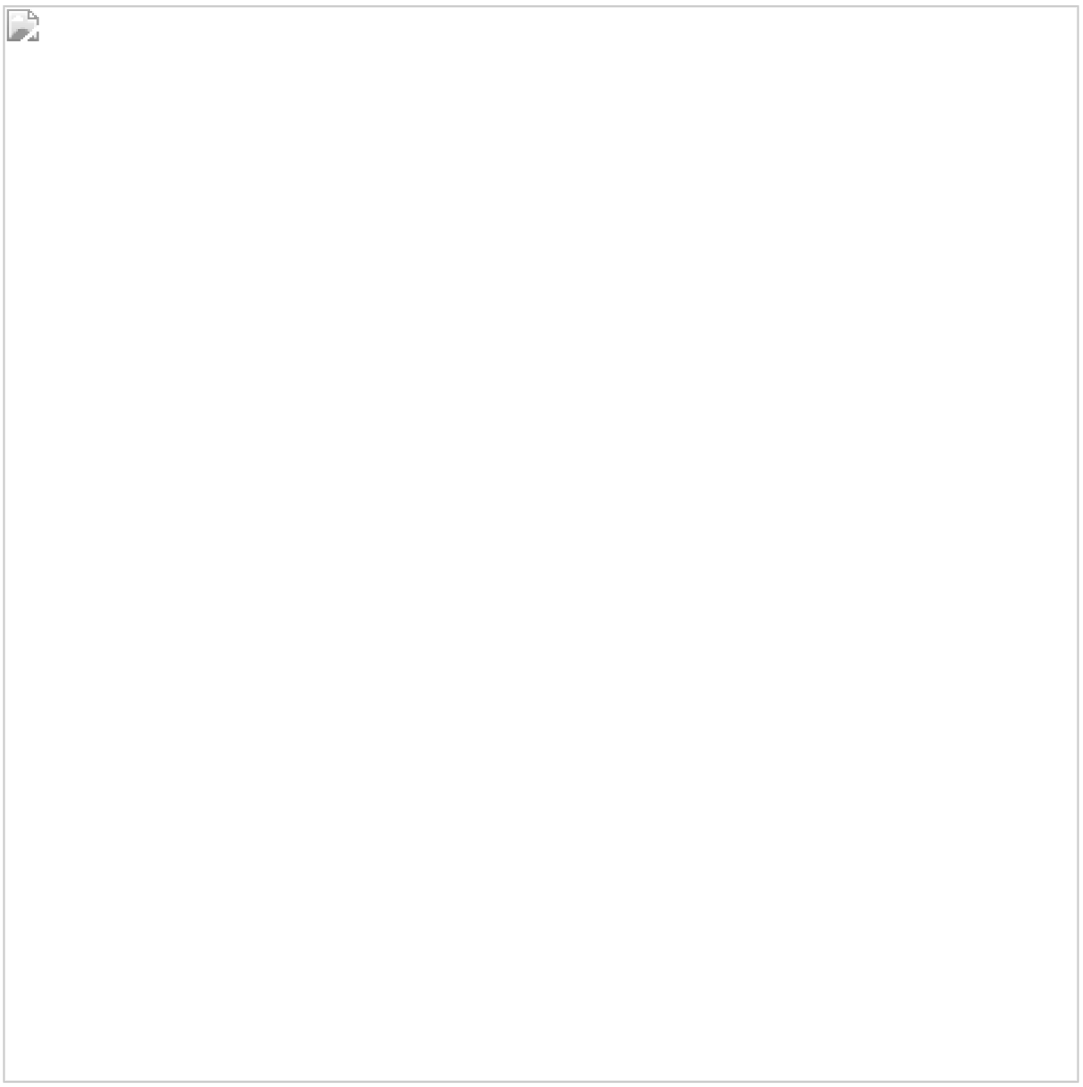
Nagaina slid into the old rat-hole, and Rikki-tikki went in after her, holding on with his teeth. The grass stopped waving. Darzee sang a sad song, thinking Rikki-tikki was gone.

But then Rikki-tikki dragged himself out, covered in dirt and licking his whiskers. “It is all over,” he said. “The widow will never come out again.”

The Coppersmith, the garden’s town crier, called the news with his “Ding-dong-tock!” That night Teddy’s mother said, “He saved our lives and Teddy’s life.” Rikki-tikki woke for a moment. “All the cobras are dead,” he said. “And if they weren’t, I’m here.” And he kept that garden safe from then on.

TALK ABOUT IT

Rikki-tikki did not grow too proud. What helps someone stay humble after a big win?



Think about it

1. Who called the news around the garden?

- ○ The Coppersmith
- ○ Chuchundra
- ○ Karait

2. What did Rikki-tikki do from then on?

- ○ Kept the garden safe
- ○ Went back to the burrow
- ○ Moved to the jungle

“There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

— Yeshua HaMashiach

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