

The Forest Friendship Club

Learning objective: To understand the qualities of a good friend and how to resolve misunderstandings.

Read the story below carefully and answer the questions. Use full sentences where appropriate.

In the heart of the Whispering Woods, the animals held a weekly meeting to discuss friendship. One Tuesday, Max the monkey and Zara the zebra had a disagreement. Max wanted to build a tall tower using heavy logs, while Zara wanted to paint colourful murals on the forest stones. They both felt frustrated because their ideas were ignored.

Leo the lion, the leader of the group, suggested they take a moment to listen. He asked Max to explain why the tower was important and asked Zara to describe the beauty of the stones. As they spoke, they realised they were both trying to make the forest a happier place. Max realised that Zara's art brought joy, and Zara saw that Max's tower would provide a great view of the sunset for everyone. They decided to work together: Max built a sturdy base, and Zara painted beautiful patterns on the logs. By choosing to listen instead of argue, they turned a disagreement into a shared project. They learned that being a good friend means respecting different ideas and finding ways to support each other's goals.

Word bank: cooperation · empathy · misunderstanding · perspective · supportive

1. Why were Max and Zara feeling frustrated at the start of the meeting? (2 marks)

2. What does Leo the lion do to help the two friends solve their problem? (2 marks)

3. What does the phrase 'read between the lines' tell you about how the animals felt about their friendship at the end of the story? (2 marks)

4. How might the story have ended differently if Max and Zara had refused to talk to each other? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Leo is a good leader for the group? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing Max the monkey and Zara the zebra working together on their collaborative forest project.



Extension challenge: Write a short poem or a list of 'Top Three Tips' for being a supportive friend, just like the animals in the Whispering Woods.