

The Golden Compass: A Lesson in Honesty

Learning objective: To understand moral dilemmas and the importance of making ethical choices.

Read the story carefully and answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Leo the lion was leading his friends on a nature walk through the Whispering Woods. While crossing a pebbled stream, Leo spotted something shimmering in the mud. He reached down and found a beautiful golden compass. It looked very expensive, and Leo knew that if he kept it, he could use it to find hidden treasures on all his future adventures.

However, as Leo tucked the compass into his bag, he noticed a worried squirrel nearby. The squirrel was searching the grass frantically, tears in its eyes. 'I've lost my grandfather's compass!' the squirrel sobbed. 'It is the most precious thing I own.'

Leo felt a tug in his chest. He really wanted the shiny object, but he knew it didn't belong to him. He looked at the sad squirrel and then at his bag. Leo realised that keeping the compass would make him feel guilty, and the squirrel would be heartbroken. With a brave smile, Leo handed the golden compass back to its rightful owner.

Word bank: dilemma · conscience · honest · temptation · integrity

1. Where did Leo find the golden compass? (1 mark)

2. Who did the compass actually belong to? (1 mark)

3. How do we know the squirrel felt very upset about the loss? (2 marks)

4. Why did Leo describe a 'tug in his chest' before he made his decision? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Leo made the right choice? Explain why you think this using the story to help you. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Leo handing the golden compass back to the worried squirrel in the Whispering Woods.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph explaining what you would do if you found something valuable that belonged to someone else.